
STAR CINEMA THEATRE (FORMER)

Location

66 BRUNSWICK ROAD,, BRUNSWICK VIC 3056 - Property No 160

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO36

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

The former Star Cinema Theatre is of local historical Significance. It is a relatively early example of an cinema established in a 'primitive' factory like building, in keeping with the phenomenon of factories being converted at night into cinemas (e.g. Brunswick's first cinema (Oxford Hall) in Penders Nail Factory c.1909), of which no evidence remains. The building has been substantially altered, and has little architectural Significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant Moreland - Northern Suburbs Factory Study, Vines, G and M, Churchward, 1992;
Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999;

Other Names E. C. Luckman (stair builder),

Hermes Number 59000

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The former Star Cinema Theatre at 66 Brunswick Road, Brunswick, is a large timber-framed building, clad with corrugated iron. The lower sections of the walls are concrete. It has a gabled corrugated iron roof. The entrance is a single storey section, with a simple parapet line that reflects the form of the main building. Recent alterations have included the re-surfacing of the front section, and the incorporation of an adjoining red brick building to the west. New mouldings appear to have been added to the openings, as has a plain string course.

Key Architectural Elements: corrugated iron wall cladding
gabled roof form

Context: While this building may have begun life as a cinema, it operated as a small factory for the following 65 years. Several cinemas in Melbourne were run from the converted factory buildings, for example, Brunswick's first cinema, Oxford Hall opened in Pender's Nail Factory c1909. Many more cinemas were converted to commercial or manufacturing uses later on.

The tramway electricity substation on the east side is of a similar style and form although executed in different material.

Comparative Analysis: An unusually large brick, timber and iron building comparable to Hall Bros Woolscour and parts of Box's Hair Works, both in Clifton Hill.

Conservation Guidelines: preferably remove 20th century alterations to north elevation

Principal Historic Themes: association with provision of entertainment and recreation facilities
lines and networks of communication

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>