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## PIPE MAKERS PARK COMPLEX



PIPE MAKERS PARK  
COMPLEX SOHE 2008



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1 former melbourne meat  
preserving company building  
van ness ave maidstone end  
view dec1981



former melbourne meat  
preserving company buildings  
van ness ave maidstone side  
elevation dec1981

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### Location

2 VAN NESS AVENUE MARIBYRNONG, MARIBYRNONG CITY

### Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

### Level of significance

Registered

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1503

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO64

## VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

## Amendment to Registration

May 23, 1998

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 19, 1999

1. The complex is a memorial to one of Australia's pioneer industrial enterprises - meat-canning - which was an example of advanced technology in 1868. Its establishment at Maribyrnong was followed by the formation of other meat preserving companies at Footscray, Colac, Warrnambool, Echuca and Ballarat in the meat canning boom of 1869-187?

In the 1870s the Maribyrnong works was described as "one of the largest factories of its kind in Australia," (Argus 26 February 1870, p.7) and even in the world (Argus 6 October, 1874, p6).

2. It was the location of the first ventures of the Australian frozen meat export company, which developed the Victorian export trade in frozen meat and was, for a time in the early 1880s, the largest exporter of frozen meat in Australia.

3. It was an early example of a major Australian factory complex, built of bluestone (rubble) it was an open plan factory, split level in the main building with segmented arches and columns. The iron truss roof in 1874 building could be original. It is an interesting colonial adaptation of English industrial design.

4. The buildings have national significance also, as part of the Humes complex since the First World War. Described as "the largest manufacturers of steel re-enforced concrete pipes in Australia" (Sunshine Cavalcade, 1951, p77), Humes is a concern which has played a very important part in the industrial development of Australia.

5. The factory and its site are an important part of the history of Melbourne, especially industrial development in the western suburbs.

6. A number of leading Melbourne merchants, stock and station agents, as well as pastoralists were the financiers founded the meat preserving works.

7. The company's works were originally built and designed by a Melbourne civil engineer and its machinery was originally supplied by a Melbourne firm (except for the boiler which was from Glasgow).

*[Source: National Trust of Victoria.]*

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1850,
Architect/Designer	Purchas, Albert,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	HUMES PIPE WORKS, FORMER MELBOURNE MEAT PRESERVING CO BUILDINGS, PIPEMAKERS PARK, LIVING MUSEUM OF THE WEST,
Hermes Number	670
Property Number	

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## History

Associated People: Assoc.People SAMUEL S RITCHIE

## Extent of Registration

Amendment of Register of Government Buildings  
Sunshine City

Former Melbourne Meat Preserving Company Buildings, Van Ness Avenue, Maidstone (Humes Pipes Site - the bluestone and part bluestone buildings on land within Certificates of Title Volume 9323 Folio 300 and Volume 9193 Folio 001).

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3094]

Transferred to the Victorian Heritage Register 23 May 1998 (2 years after the proclamation of the Heritage Act 1995 pursuant to the transitional provisions of the Act)

*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/>