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## Masonic Lodge No. 226



1788 - Brimbank City Council  
Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 1999



Masonic Hall.JPG



Site 125 - former Masonic  
Lodge (No 226).jpg

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### Location

93 Hampshire Road, SUNSHINE VIC 3020 - Property No 125

### Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

### Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO126

### Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 1999

#### Individual place statement of significance::

Architecturally, the Sunshine Masonic Lodge is outstanding within the City of Brimbank as a major and well-preserved quasi-public building from pre-World War Two. Its location marks the social and civic centre of Sunshine in the pre-World War Two period.

#### Precinct statement of significance::

This McKay housing subdivision is of national historical and social significance as a part of a suburb created by Australia's leading industrialist and as a milestone in the development of the industrial suburb under the influence of the Garden City movement. Sunshine became a yardstick for planning and housing reformers, with H.V. McKay being regarded as an expert on planned industrial housing. The McKay estate is of regional architectural significance as it marks a crucial phase in the development of Sunshine, housing the resident work force which promoted further industrial development.

The group of houses in the precinct represent the type of houses built either by or for company employees and managers during the period of H V McKay's dominance of Sunshine's economy and development. Most of the remaining commercial premises, which formed the nucleus of the suburb west of the railway line, have been included in a separate precinct centred on the corner of Sun Crescent and City Place. While a number of original houses have been demolished, the remaining stock provides a representative sample of homes that are generally typical of the period, with several distinctive architectural designs, some of which can be ascribed to J Raymond Robinson, who might be considered the defacto company architect for the McKay Sunshine Harvester Works.

Characterised generally by steep gabled corrugated iron clad roofs (with hipped roofs on some of the earliest examples), weatherboard cladding and timber trimmed verandahs, the houses are also set on generous allotments, often with deep setbacks. These elements contribute to the garden suburb character that was intended in the original town planning designs, and perpetuated in the perceptions of Sunshine's character. It should be remembered that in the early 20th century, Sunshine's generous suburban estates were atypical of working class housing of the period.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000; |
| Construction dates        | 1926,  |
| Hermes Number             | 106128   |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Description 1

### Description

This imposing two-storey face red brick and cemented hall is on the Corio Street corner, close to the site of the former Braybrook Shire municipal offices, which were built in a similar era. Near the hall in Corio Street is the former municipal library. The hall was then at the social and civic centre of Sunshine, located opposite the local cinema. This cinema and the two halls were extended or rebuilt in the 1930s, as part of a local building boom. The design is typical of the various classical revival modes used in Masonic halls in the inter-war period but is nevertheless outstanding in the City of Brimbank as a quasi-public building from pre-World War Two. Drawing from the Baroque revival of the earlier 1920s construction stage, the hall has been added to in the 1930s and the style has been extended rather than altered. The change in colour on the side wall brickwork is a clear indication of the stages. Around the doorway is a minor pressed-cement portico, with smooth ashlar treatment to the flanking piers. The doorway is arched and the door panelled, with rectangular multi-paned windows symmetrically placed either side. The upper level is cemented, as an indication of changes to the facade. The piers extend up to and beyond the parapet with small 'pepper and salt' domelets set on top.

### Physical Conditions

Condition/integrity

The memorial stones have been removed or defaced and the fence has been removed.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.5 Forming associations

*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/>*