

Basket Bridge/Keilor Road Bridge



1933a - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study 2000

1933b - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study 2000

Location

Old Calder Highway, KEILOR VIC 3036 - Property No 16

Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1427

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO2

Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 1, 1998

The former Keilor Road bridge is of State historical and scientific significance as a rare and intact example of nineteenth century Victorian engineering, constructed as a direct response to the transport demands of the gold rushes. The bridge is also important as a rare surviving example of the work of Enoch Chambers and as one of the earliest fabricated iron bridges in Victoria.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000; Brimbank - Melbourne Western Region Industrial Heritage Study, G. Vines & A. Ward, 1989;
Construction dates	1868,
Architect/Designer	Chambers, Enoch,
Hermes Number	106268
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

This wrought-iron, box girder, single-span bridge sits on bluestone abutments with decorative pillars and wingwalls. An overhead stiffening arch was removed in 1963 and replaced with a steel-fabricated rectangular portal, to provide greater clearance for trucks. The original arch, stored for many years at Calder Park raceway, was recently restored and refitted. The main boxed girders encase arch beams which spread the load, and appear to have included some pre-tensioning, as the bridge itself has a slight curvature. The stonework includes ashlar and rock-faced coursed bluestone with pyramidal caps on the pillars at each end. The road deck is of longitudinal planking, evidently having been replaced in the last few decades.

Condition/integrity

The bridge has been restored, and has been bypassed with the construction of a new concrete bridge on the downstream side in 1963. The through traffic was again diverted from that bridge, and Keilor itself, with the construction of the twin bridges for the Calder Freeway, this time upstream, in 1987.

Physical Conditions

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Historical Australian Themes

3 Developing local, regional and national economies
3.8 Moving goods and people

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/>