
ABC Radio Mast and transmitter station



2026 - Brimbank City Council
Post-contact Cultural
Heritage Study 1998

Location

Sydenham Road, SYDENHAM VIC 3037 - Property No 50

Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Overlay Numbers

Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 1, 1998

The ABC radio mast at Sydenham is of considerable historical importance because of its association with the early years of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, established in 1932, eleven years after the first experimental broadcast in Australia. As the transmitter for 3LO and 3AR, the Sydenham mast (built in 1938) is a link with earlier radio structures in the region notably a transmitter at Braybrook. The 705 foot mast was a major technical achievement and is still amongst the highest radio masts in Australia.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1938,
Hermes Number	106360
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Steel lattice radio mast with wire stays standing 705 feet high (215 metres). The tower is a triangular lattice Cream Brick transmitter building generally reflecting the Commonwealth public works architecture of the 1950s. A notable feature is the 'anti-fading' radiator incorporating the 'facility of simultaneous operation of both transmitters on the one mast'. Smaller masts are scattered around the site which occupies a large triangle of land between Sydenham Road and Taylors Road. The location was evidently chosen for its relatively high position on the edge of the metropolis which provides uninterrupted signals to the north and west of Melbourne.

Physical Conditions

In good condition with most early elements intact. Small modern structures (including some of the other masts) have been added in recent decades.

Intactness

Substantially intact.

Historical Australian Themes

- 4 Building settlement, towns and cities
- 4.2 Supplying urban services

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/>