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# SUN THEATRE



SUN THEATRE SOHE 2008



1 sun theatre ballarat street  
yarraville front view

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## Location

6-12 BALLARAT STREET YARRAVILLE, MARIBYRNONG CITY

## Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0679

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO23

## VHR Registration

December 23, 1987

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 9, 1999

The Sun Theatre, Yarraville, which opened in 1938 was the fourth cinema built for the promoter EC Yeomans. The building was designed by architects Cowper, Murphy & Appleford. The streamlined Moderne facade of the theatre with its elaborate sun motif is its most striking and original external feature. At night the front elevation was illuminated by sodium tube flood lighting with the tower surmounted by a flashing sun in red and gold. Neon light illuminated the name of the theatre in cut cement letters at the top. The interior of the cinema is also significant.

The Sun Theatre was the first Melbourne cinema to be built with a floor parabolic in the shape where the elevated seats are approached from a separate foyer entrance. The auditorium comprised an ornate ceiling with a honeycomb diamond of diffused interior lighting. A large foyer contained the usual ticket box and reservation office, a terrazzo floor in different tones of red, green and black with the theatre insignia inscribed in brass strips.

The Sun Theatre remains one of the few fully articulated (internally and externally) Moderne style cinemas to remain in Victoria. Built as a consciously modern attraction for citizens of the western suburbs, the sun theatre is also a legacy of a form of social entertainment that reached a peak in the 1930s and 40s. The cinema played an important role in the community life of the district and was an important landmark for the Yarraville district. The cinema is also of interest as one of the few to remain in private hands until the Yeomans family sold it in the 1960s.

[Source: Historic Buildings Council]

## 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	1938,
Architect/Designer	Cowper, Christopher,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,

Hermes Number 1255

Property Number

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## **Extent of Registration**

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 679

Sun Theatre, 8 Ballarat Street, Yarraville, to the extent of the whole of the land and buildings contained in Certificate of Title Volume 4335, Folio 997.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G50 23 December 1987 p. 3495]

*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/>*