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## Former Moonee Ponds RSL Hall



RSSILA Hall Holmes Rd 1.jpg



RSSILA Hall Holmes Road.jpg



Moonee Valley Heritage Review 1998

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### Location

30 Holmes Road MOONEE PONDS, Moonee Valley City

### Municipality

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

### Level of significance

-

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO233

### Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The former Returned Soldiers' and Sailors' Imperial League of Australia Essendon Branch building at no. 30 Holmes Road, Essendon, was erected in 192~21 following the formation of the Branch in 1919. It is historically and aesthetically important It is historically important (Criterion A) in that its presence in the Holmes Road streetscape

recalls the importance of the former RSSILA just after the Great War whilst its design (Criterion E) is expressive of the emotionally charged times in which it was built through its use of monumental Neo Classical forms with upper level loggia from which the public could be addressed on special occasions. The later additions have compromised this significance by concealing the original facade and by reducing the space for public gatherings at the front.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moonee Valley - City of Moonee Valley Heritage Study, Andrew Ward, 1998;
Construction dates	1920,
Other Names	RSSILA Hall,
Hermes Number	125555
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

An imposing Neo Classical public building of the inter-war period now with wings extending to Holmes Road. The original facade, now partially obscured by the wings, has an arcaded lower level with a surmounting loggia of three bays, the bays on either side having windows and the entire composition being subdivided into three parts by red brick pilasters with stylised cement decoration in lieu of capitals.' The Complete facade is unified by a simple frieze and plain parapet treatment.

## Integrity

Condition: Sound. Integrity: Medium, paint colour scheme unsympathetic.

## Historical Australian Themes

8. Developing cultural institutions and ways of life. 8.5 Forming associations.

## Veterans Description for Public

The former Returned Soldiers' and Sailors' Imperial League of Australia Essendon Branch building, at 30 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds, was erected in 1921 following the formation of the Branch in 1919. The foundation stone for which was laid on October 31st 1920, by the Governor General Lord Forster. The ceremony was then followed by a memorial service. The Branch had an astounding membership of 3,000, compared to the Victorian state-wide membership of 40,000. The hall described initially as a "clubroom", was completed by honorary builder C.W.H.Mears. Activities of the Branch over the years included organising Armistice Day celebrations and conducting Appeals.

*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/>*