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# MacRobertson Bridge



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## Location

Grange Road TOORAK, STONNINGTON CITY

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO465

## Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Relevant themes from the City of Stonnington Environmental History are indicated by TEH.

### *What is Significant?*

MacRobertson Bridge is three-span steel arched road bridge crossing the Yarra River at Grange Road, Toorak. It was built 1933-1934 using funds donated by Sir Macpherson Robertson to mark the centenary of Victoria.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The original form, materials and detailing of the bridge
- The generally high level of intactness to its original form
- Unimpeded views to the bridge from street level and from the river and its banks
- Early signs and commemorative plaques.
- The general absence of modern signage on the bridge and its immediate environs.

Modern elements including the addition to the northern end of the bridge are not significant.

#### *How is it significant?*

MacRobertson Bridge is of local historical and architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

#### *Why is it significant?*

MacRobertson Bridge is historically significant for its association with prominent confectionary manufacturer and philanthropist Sir MacPherson Robertson (Criterion H). The bridge has added historical significance as the site of a crossing point on the Yarra dating back to the establishment of the Twickenham ferry service in the 1880s (TEH 4.2.3 MacRobertson Bridge Criterion A).

Architecturally, the bridge is significant as a prominent landmark, embellished with Art Deco style elements in the pillars, parapets and metal guard rails (Criterion E).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Heritage Places in the City of Stonnington - Heritage Citations Project, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2013;
Construction dates	1933,
Architect/Designer	Victorian Railways,
Hermes Number	195692
Property Number	

## Physical Description 1

MacRobertson Bridge crosses the Yarra River at Grange Road, Toorak. It is a three-lane road bridge, built using a three-span arched steel structure with concrete piers and abutments. At street level, rendered pillars and low rendered walls mark the Richmond and South Yarra approaches. Four more pillars are located along the length of the bridge, two on each side. The pillars are square in plan, tapering as they rise, with stepped Art Deco style plinths. Each pillar supports a pair of decorative cast iron and glass lamps. Metal railings between the pillars are relieved by a stylised fan design.

## Local Historical Themes

MacRobertson Bridge illustrates the following theme, as identified in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, 2006):

### 4.2 Bridges (4.2.3 MacRobertson Bridge)

*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/>*