

# HERITAGE COUNCIL DETERMINATION

Determination Date	7 February 2019	
Place/Object Name	Memorial Hall	
Location	147 Commercial Road, Koroit	
VHR Number	H2222	
Category	Registered Place Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place	

At a meeting of the Heritage Council of Victoria on 7 February 2019 it was determined that, in accordance with Section 62 of the *Heritage Act 2017*, the Victorian Heritage Register entry for the above place should be amended. This decision was reached having considered the assessment against the Heritage Council's criteria and other information, including the proposed amendments contained in the attached report and submissions received in response to the Executive Director's recommendation.

The Heritage Council endorses and adopts the attached report for the purposes of making its decision.

Professor Stuart Macintyre AO Chair, Heritage Council of Victoria

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# Recommendation of the Executive Director and assessment of cultural heritage significance under Part 3 of the *Heritage Act 2017*



Name Memorial Hall

**Location** 147 Commercial Road Koroit, Moyne Shire

**Date Registered** 3 December 2009

VHR Number VHR H2222
VHR Categories Registered Place

Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place

Hermes Number 112818





Memorial Hall, Koroit (September 2009).

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE HERITAGE COUNCIL:**

To amend the existing registration for Memorial Hall, Koroit (VHR H2222) in accordance with s.62 of the *Heritage Act 2017* by including Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place in the registration of the Memorial Hall, Koroit.

## Reasons for the proposed amendment:

This registration requires an amendment because a number of objects integral to the cultural heritage significance of the place could not be included when the place was registered in 2009 under the *Heritage Act (1995)*. With the passage of the *Heritage Act (2017)* it has become possible to include Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place in VHR registrations. It is proposed that the objects of significance are included now.

The existing registration documentation is provided at Attachment 1 of this report.

STEVEN AVERY Executive Director

Recommendation Date: 19 November 2018

Advertising period: Monday 26 November 2018 – Monday 21 January 2019

This recommendation report has been issued by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria under s.37 of the Heritage Act 2017.

# AMENDMENT BACKGROUND

#### **Application to Amend**

An application to amend the registration of the Memorial Hall VHR at Koroit (VHR H2222) was made by the Executive Director and accepted on 27 September 2018. This place was included in the Victorian Heritage Register on 3 December 2009 under the *Heritage Act (1995)*. At this time, the Heritage Victoria assessor identified a number of significant objects surviving at the place and held at a local historical society, namely original cinema and theatre equipment. It was not possible to include these objects in the registration at that time for the following reasons.

#### **Capacity to Register Objects Under the Heritage Act**

Between 1995 and 2004 it was possible to include 'Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place' in VHR registrations under the *Heritage Act 1995*. From 2004, however, *Act* amendments unintentionally removed this capacity. Between 2004 and 2017 there was a 13-year period in which the Executive Director was unable to recommend the inclusion of 'Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place'. The Koroit Memorial Hall was gazetted as a Registered Place during this time. In 2017 the capacity to include 'objects integral' was restored under the *Heritage Act 2017*. See table below for a summary of the Act changes.

Version of Act	Dates in force	Capacity to Register Objects in their Own Right (if they are of State Level Significance). Their significance does not depend on their location at or association with a VHR place.	Capacity to Register Objects Integral to a Place (may or may not be of State Level Significance in their own right). Their significance does depend on their location at or association with a VHR place.
Heritage Act 1995	1995- 2004	Yes	Yes
Heritage Act 1995 (Amendments made in 2004 unintentionally removed the capacity to include Registered Objects Integral to a Registered place)	2004- 2017	Yes	No
Heritage Act 2017	2017-	Yes	Yes

**Table 1:** Summary of the Capacity to Include 'Objects Integral to a Place' in a VHR Registration.

## **Purpose of this Proposed Amendment**

The purpose of this proposed amendment is:

- To include objects which are associated with the functions of projecting and viewing films and staging other entertainments, in the registration of the Memorial Hall, Koroit.
  - o These are objects integral to the cultural heritage significance of the Memorial Hall.
  - Some of these objects are located at the place, and others are located at the Koroit Historical Society.

# **CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION**

<u>Previous</u> <u>Current</u>

Registered Place Registered Place

Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place

# **EXTENT OF REGISTRATION**

All of the place shown on Diagram 2222 encompassing all of all of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 6329 Folio 601, and all of the objects integral to the place being:

#### **Location - Projection room**

- 1. Two Gaumont-Kalee GK19 film projectors with President carbon arc lamp houses and flues
- 2. Slide projector (unknown maker) with carbon arc lamp house and flue
- 3. NTS GK National Selenium twin channel 65 rectifier (Model 2SR 42/65/1)
- 4. Knife switch for the rectifier
- 5. Gaumont-Kalee Duosonic Sound Amplifier
- 6. The curtain and masking control switchboard
- 7. The monitor speaker for the projection room
- 8. Raycophone storage cupboard with spare parts for amplifier
- 9. "Deaf" amplifier for hearing aid sound system
- 10. Bank of 5 dimmer switches
- 11. Wall mounted sliding shutters (6) to the projection room ports
- 12. Projection room switchboard
- 13. Stool with legs made of black electrical conduit
- 14. Clock
- 15. Two narrow timber benches

## **Location - Rewinding and splicing room**

- 16. Two-part motor driven film rewinder mounted on timber bench
- 17. Timber bench with shelves above and film reel holders below
- 18. Film reels (6)
- 19. Pyrene fire extinguisher and stand (originally in the projection room)
- 20. Holder for film repair fluid plus two bottles of "Film cement" and "Weld set"

#### **Location - Dress Circle**

- 21. 'Dunlopillo' seating in the dress circle upholstered in red and green
- 22. Timber chairs (12) in the Crying Room

# Location - Stage and area behind and under

- 23. Piano and one stool
- 24. Projection screen
- 25. Speaker (possibly Vitavox brand) located behind the projection screen
- 26. Original red stage curtain, black masking curtain and their winches and tracks
- 27. Footlights at base of stage and frames for holding colour medium
- 28. Stage switchboard

## Other locations

- 29. 'Dunlopillo' seating upholstered in red from the stalls, now located in various areas of the building
- 30. Piano in supper room
- 31. Original fireplace insert from the upstairs foyer fireplace, now located in the downstairs switch room
- 32. Original fridge in the secondary kitchen area behind the stage
- 33. Original stove from the kitchen now located in the storage shed

## **Location - Koroit Historical Society**

- 34. Glass advertising slides (89)
- 35. One lead printing plate used to advertise the cinema in the local newspaper.

# **EXTENT DIAGRAM**



The extent of registration of Memorial Hall in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 2222 including the land, the building (including the exteriors, interiors and fixtures) and objects integral to the place.

Note: The extent diagram remains unchanged from 2009 registration.

# **RATIONALE FOR EXTENT**

There is no change to the land included in the original 2009 extent of registration. The only change is the inclusion of 'Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place' in the registration. The objects have been included because they relate to the original function of the building as a cinema and are part of the State Level cultural heritage significance of the place.

The recommended extent is the same as the nominated extent.

## **BACKGROUND**

#### WHAT IS AT THE PLACE?

Memorial Hall, Koroit is constructed of steel portal frames, which are exposed internally in the auditorium. Cream brick is used for the walls and the external casing of the nine portal frames. The front facade of the theatre has a cantilevered verandah with a large cement rendered panel above, containing a horizontal row of windows which light the bio box (projection room) behind. The lower facade incorporates a set of three pairs of timber framed doors and flanking plate glass windows. The original cinema projection equipment, seating, fittings and decoration survives. Glass advertising slides are located at the Koroit Historical Society.

#### WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE PLACE?

In 1957 architects Cowper Murphy & Associates of Melbourne were commissioned to design the Memorial Theatre by the Diocese of Ballarat for the very large Catholic community around Koroit. Films were screened three nights a week until the mid-1960s, with the choice of films screened, presumably influenced by Catholic values of the times. The building also served as a memorial to those men of the Koroit Catholic Parish who were killed during the Second World War.

# WHO ARE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS/REGISTERED ABORIGINAL PARTY(IES) FOR THIS PLACE?

This site is part of the traditional land of the Gunditimara people.

# STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

#### WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT?

The Memorial Hall, Koroit, constructed in 1957 as a multi-use complex with full cinema and entertainment facilities including original projection and sound equipment. Significant elements include the exterior and interior features, including the stainless-steel candy bar, original seating, carpet and lino, light fittings, signage, heating and other services, box office, kitchen fixtures and architectural detailing as well as its original seating as well as projection, sound and related equipment, as well as glass advertising slides (held at the Koroit Historical Society).

## **HOW IS IT SIGNIFICANT?**

The Koroit Memorial Hall is of architectural, and historical significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

#### **Criterion A**

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

#### Criterion B

Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history.

#### **Criterion D**

Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects.

#### WHY IS IT SIGNIFICANT?

The Koroit Memorial Hall and the objects integral to the place are significant at the State level for the following reasons:

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is historically significant as one of the last purpose-built cinemas in rural Victoria. The Hall is also significant for its association with the Catholic church and for its demonstration of the moral and spiritual influence the church exerted on the lives of Catholics in that period. [Criterion A]

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is architecturally significant as an outstanding late example of the work of Cowper Murphy & Associates, one of the most important and prolific firms of cinema architects in Australia. Its high degree of integrity, including a stainless-steel candy bar, original seating, carpet and lino, light fittings, signage, heating and other services, box office, kitchen fixtures and architectural detailing, is unusual. It is also of note as possibly the largest building of several constructed at this time using portal frame construction. [Criterion D]

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is significant as a mid-century cinema for its retention of its original seating as well as projection, sound and related equipment, and glass advertising slides. These objects add to an understanding of the cinema's operation. [Criterion D]

# **PERMIT POLICY**

#### **Preamble**

The purpose of the Permit Policy is to assist when considering or making decisions regarding works to a registered place. It is recommended that any proposed works be discussed with an officer of Heritage Victoria prior to making a permit application. Discussing proposed works will assist in answering questions the owner may have and aid any decisions regarding works to the place.

The extent of registration of Koroit Memorial Hall in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 2222 including the land, all buildings (exteriors, interiors and fixtures) and objects integral to the place. Under the *Heritage Act 2017* a person must not remove or demolish, damage or despoil, develop or alter or excavate, relocate or disturb the position of any part of a registered place or object without approval. It is acknowledged, however, that alterations and other works may be required to keep places and objects in good repair and adapt them for use into the future.

If a person wishes to undertake works or activities in relation to a registered place or registered object, they must apply to the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria for a permit. The purpose of a permit is to enable appropriate change to a place and to effectively manage adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of a place as a consequence of change. If an owner is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that Heritage Victoria be contacted.

Permits are required for anything which alters the place or object, unless a **permit exemption** is granted. Permit exemptions usually cover routine maintenance and upkeep issues faced by owners as well as minor works or works to the elements of the place or object that are not significant. They may include appropriate works that are specified in a conservation management plan. Permit exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.49(3) of the Heritage Act) or after registration (under s.92) of the Heritage Act). It should be noted that the addition of new buildings to the registered place, as well as alterations to the interior and exterior of existing buildings requires a permit, unless a specific permit exemption is granted.

#### **Conservation management plans**

It is recommended that a Conservation Management Plan is developed to manage the place in a manner which respects its cultural heritage significance.

#### Other approvals

Please be aware that approval from other authorities (such as local government) may be required to undertake works.

### **Cultural heritage significance**

## Overview of significance

The Koroit Memorial Hall, Koroit is significant as one of the last purpose-built cinemas constructed in rural Victoria and as a rare example of a cinema built for the Catholic Church and run as a commercial venture. The building retains a high degree of integrity. Important elements include the exterior and interior features, including the stainless-steel candy bar, original seating, carpet and lino, light fittings, signage, heating and other services, box office, kitchen fixtures and architectural detailing as well as its original seating as well as projection, sound and related equipment, and glass advertising slides (held at the Koroit Historical Society). The alteration or removal of any of these elements would require a permit application.

# PERMIT EXEMPTIONS (UNDER SECTION 49(3) OF THE HERITAGE ACT)

It should be noted that Permit Exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.49(3) of the Heritage Act). Permit Exemptions can also be applied for and granted after registration (under s.92 of the Heritage Act).

**General Conditions: 1**. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.

**General Conditions: 2.** Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible.

**General Conditions: 3.** If there is a conservation policy and plan endorsed by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: The existence of a Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan endorsed by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

**General Conditions: 4**. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

**General Conditions: 5.** Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable.

## **Specific Exemptions**

**Minor Works:** Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works may submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

#### **Exterior:**

Installation or removal of external fixtures and fittings such as, non-original hot water services and taps.

#### Interior:

- Installation, removal or replacement of projection and sound equipment (excluding Registered Objects Integral to the Place) providing this does not harm, destroy or remove the fabric of the place or integral objects, or involve structural alterations.
- Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings in colours to an exact match to the original 1959 colours, provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of original paint or other decorative scheme.
- Installation, removal or replacement of carpets (excluding early carpet integral to the place in the dress circle and upstairs foyer) and/or flexible floor coverings (excluding early linoleum integral to the place in the kitchen, projection room and film winding room).
- Installation, removal or replacement of screens or curtains, including cinema screens and curtains (and associated structure), curtain tracks, rods and blinds, other than where structural alterations are

- required (excluding the original projection screen, red stage and black masking curtains and associated winches, tracks, ropes and pulleys).
- Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted art works.
- Removal or replacement of non-original door and window furniture including, hinges, locks, knobsets and sash lifts.
- Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating (excluding the original diesel fired furnace under the stage) provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and that the central plant is concealed.
- Installation, removal or replacement of public address systems, detectors, alarms, emergency lights, exit signs, luminaires and the like on plaster surfaces (excluding original exit signs and light fittings).
- Installation of new fire hydrant services including sprinklers, fire doors and elements affixed to plaster surfaces.
- Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring.
- Installation, removal or replacement of fixed seating (excluding early or original seating in the dress circle).

## Non-fixed objects

The temporary relocation or movement of non-fixed objects (excluding the dress circle seating) within the Memorial Hall building or the Koroit Historical Society Building does not require permit approval by the Executive Director pursuant to the *Heritage Act 2017* where the activity is performed in accordance with the accepted standards, policies and procedures of the National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries. This includes movements resulting from works to the building(s) which house the Collection. The Executive Director must be notified of all such activities.

Temporary external movement, relocation or loan of non-fixed objects (excluding the dress circle seating) to Australian or Victorian government cultural institutions which have materials conservation departments does not require permit approval by the Executive Director pursuant to the *Heritage Act 2017*, where the activity is undertaken or supervised by qualified conservators, and performed in accordance with the accepted standards, policies and procedures of the borrowing organisation concerned. The Executive Director must be notified of all such activities.

# RELEVANT INFORMATION

**Local Government Authority** Moyne Shire

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register No Other Listings No

Other Names Koroit Theatre

#### **HISTORY**

The History in the original registration does not need updating for the purposes of this amendment.

#### **CONSTRUCTION DETAILS**

The construction details of the building in the original registration does not need updating for the purposes of this amendment.

## **INTEGRITY/INTACTNESS**

<u>Intactness</u> – The Koroit Memorial Hall and its associated fixtures and objects have an excellent level of intactness. Most of the original cinematography, functional and decorative items associated with the operation of a cinema remain at the place. (October 2018)

<u>Integrity</u> – The place has a very high degree of integrity. All the room, fixtures and fittings together enable a very clear understanding of how the cinema operated and the cultural heritage values are intact. (October 2018)

#### CONDITION

The place is in excellent condition. Most of the fixtures and objects are in good to fair condition as noted in the table below. There are some extraneous objects currently stored in the projection and film winding rooms which are not original to the place. These items are partially obscuring the view and access to some fixtures and objects. (October 2018)

An asbestos audit undertaken in 2010 was damaging. A number of components were removed from most historic electrical items and disfiguring asbestos warning signs were applied. This has rendered previously operable items inoperable. With some modifications and insertion of new components it may be possible to return the items to working condition.

# **OBJECTS INTEGRAL TO THE REGISTERED PLACE**

See table below for a physical description and photo of the objects proposed to be Registered Objects Integral to the Registered Place.

	Object	Physical description and condition	Image
1.	Two Gaumont- Kalee GK19 film projectors with President carbon arc lamp houses and flues in the projection room	Two steel film projectors with carbon arc lighting systems. The exteriors are covered with mustard coloured enamel paint and the interior is white enamel and chromed metal. They are bolted to the floor in the projection room facing towards the stage. Each has an aluminium flue attached to the ceiling. The external flues remain on the roof.  The projectors are in good condition externally with their original surface finish and film winding equipment still present. Damaged by asbestos removal.	
2.	Slide projector (unknown maker) with carbon arc lamp house and flue	One steel glass slide projector with a carbon arc lighting system and chimney. It may have been cobbled together using parts from various manufacturers. The exterior is covered with mustard coloured enamel paint. It is bolted to the floor in the projection room facing towards the stage.  The slide projector is in fair condition externally with some corrosion under the original surface finish. Damaged by asbestos removal.	

3.	04-A NTS GK National Selenium twin 65 rectifier (Model 2SR 42/65/1) in the projection room	This metal-oxide (selenium) rectifier would have provided DC power for the carbon arc lamps used in all three projectors.  Damaged by asbestos removal.	
4.	Knife switch for the rectifier	This was designed so that power could be supplied to one of the 2 film projectors and the slide projector at any one time.	WARNING ASPESTICA CONTAINING MATERIAL CICE Table and mindred Part of the destroyed Containing the containing th
5.	Gaumont- Kalee Duosonic Sound Amplifier	The Sound Amplifier forms the sound system for the theatre. The main amplifier is housed in the bottom part of the box.  The two horizontal rods extending from the right-hand side of the top silver box, pass in front of both the projectors (which are located to the right of the amplifier) to control the volume and the changeover of sound from one projector to the other. Both rods can be turned from either projector's operating position.  Damaged by asbestos removal.	
6.	The curtain and masking	A black switchboard. One row of buttons (labelled 'Curtain') opens and closes the red stage curtains.	

	control switchboard	The other (labelled 'Screen') is to control the black masking curtains which change the width of the screen from normal size picture of 1.85:1 ratio out to 2.35:1 ratio for Cinemascope pictures.	
7.	The monitor speaker for the projection room	Silver speaker	
8.	Raycophone storage cupboard with spare parts for amplifier	Black enamelled metal box affixed to the wall. This type of cupboard was often provided by Raycophone and other manufacturers to store spare parts for their sound amplifiers.	RAYCOPHONE
9.	"Deaf" amplifier for hearing aid sound system	Mustard coloured metal case with no brand name. This provided the sound to the hearing aid sound system.	

10.	07-A bank of 5 dimmer switches in the rewinding and splicing room	Pierced aluminium housing, bakelite knobs and red painted numerals. It appears to be a simple resistance type and would have been used to dim the house lights at the start of the show and raise them again after each screening.  Damaged by asbestos removal.	
11.	Wall mounted sliding shutters one to each of to the six projection room ports	There are two ports per projector. The top one is the observation port and the lower one is the projection port. The sliding shutters were used to quickly shut the projection booth off from the rest of the theatre in case of fire. Fires were common when flammable nitrate film was projected.	
12.	Projection room switchboard	This was separate to the switch board for the remainder of the building. Some modern switches are present.	

13.	Stool with legs made of black electrical conduit	Legs made of metal electrical conduit, timber seat, possibly made by Ray Ogle (whose electrical business was advertised on the glass slides)	
14.	Clock	Appears to have a paper dial. The paper is cockled due to damp.	
15.	Narrow timber benches	Running around the wall with the projection ports and switch boards	
16. 17.	Two-part motor driven film rewinder mounted on timber bench	Unpainted steel film winder stand and motorised winder	
17.	Timber bench with		

nd	
s 4 of 2000-foot spools and 2 of 1000-foot spools	
Brass. Originally mounted between the external windows in the projection room. The area where it was removed is still visible.	
Bottle of acetate film repair fluid embedded in a timber surround to stop it falling over	
o nii	r Bottle of acetate film repair fluid rembedded in a timber surround to stop it falling over

and "Weld set"



21. 'Dunlopillo' seating in the dress circle upholstered in red and green

Timber seats joined by small brass plates at the back. The seats appear to be filled with foam and not sprung. The seats and back of the dress circle seats are alternating red and green vinyl with the opposite colour used as the trim.

The seats have numbers stencilled on the back. Some of those next to the aisles have two prong power points and bakelite downlight shields on the sides for the hearing aid sound system.



The seats are in very good condition with no obvious damage





22.	11-Timber chairs (12) in the Crying Room	Plywood folding chairs with metal legs in banks of four; possibly from an earlier theatre in Koroit. This room was used by mothers and babies.  Some surface damage to timber	
23.	Piano and one stool	Currently located on the stage. It appears to be in good condition.	
24. 25.	Projection screen Speaker (possibly Vitavox brand)	White coated fabric laced onto a frame. Speaker behind the screen.  Timber frame covered with black fabric.  It is not possible to ascertain condition of screen or speaker	

26.	Original red stage curtain, black masking curtain and their winches and tracks	The current stage curtains are red, and the masking curtains are black. Both are thought to be original. The masking curtain winch mechanism is located next to the stage and appears to be original. The stage curtain winch mechanism is located under the stage but was not viewed. Both winches were originally controlled from the projection room.	
27.	Footlights at base of stage and frames for holding colour medium	Row of screw globes at base of stage	No image
28.	Stage switchboard	This was separate to the switch board for the remainder of the building.	No image
29.	'Dunlopillo' seating upholstered in red from the stalls, now located in various areas of the building	Timber seats joined by double timber rails. A few single seats are also present. The seats appear to be filled with foam and not sprung. The seats and back of the dress circle seats are red with red trim.  The seats have numbers stencilled on the back.  The seats are in very good condition with no obvious damage	
30.	Piano in supper room	Poor condition	No image
31.	Original fireplace insert from the upstairs foyer fireplace	Now located in the downstairs switch room	No image

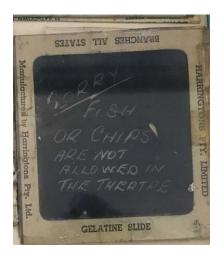
32.	Original fridge in the secondary kitchen area behind the stage		anaties.
33.	Original		No image
	stove from the kitchen now located in the storage shed		
34.	Glass advertising slides. A collection of 89 glass slides held at the Koroit Historical Society	These slides are positives made of a coloured emulsion between one or two layers of glass. The slides made of two layers of glass are held together with tape. The tapes are marked "Val Morgan Cinema Advertising" or "Gunn's Slide"  There are four types of slides:  Coloured slides advertising national brands such as Coty with the addresses of local suppliers  Coloured slides advertising local companies e.g. Ogle's Radio Slides made locally with typed text  Blank slides with hand written text. Some of these appear to have been written with felt tip pen indicating recent origin.	

		Some slides have broken glass, damaged emulsion, lifting tape and old pressure sensitive tape repairs.	
35.	One lead printing plate used to advertise the cinema in the local newspaper (no image)	Held at the Koroit Historical Society.	NA



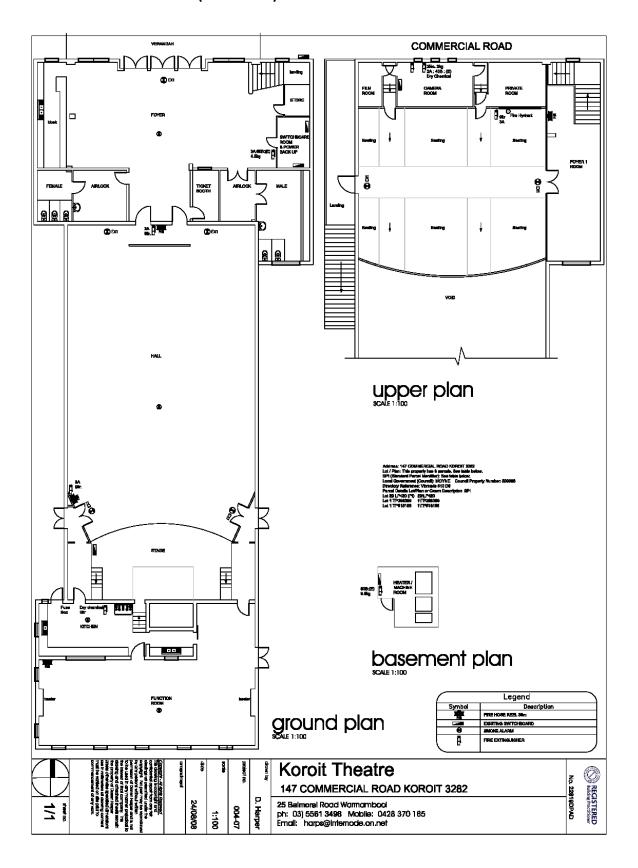






Examples of 10 of the 89 glass advertising slides held at the Koroit Historical Society

# FLOOR PLAN OF THE PLACE (JUNE 2010)



# **KEY REFERENCES USED TO PREPARE ASSESSMENT**

Doyle, Helen with Context Pty Ltd, *Moyne Shire Heritage Study*, Site ID 2264

Kennedy, Gerry, *Cinema Record*, Issue 7, April 1995.

Heritage Matters Pty Ltd, *Jaffas Down the Aisles – A study of Cinemas in Country Victoria*, June 2008

# **ACKNOWLDEGEMENTS**

Richard Twentyman, Cinema and Theatre Historical Society of Australia Inc., (CATHS)

John Gunn, Committee of Management, Koroit Theatre

Jacqueline Anderton, Moyne Shire

# ATTACHMENT 1 PREVIOUS REGISTRATION DETAILS SUPERSEDED BY THE FOREGOING RECOMMENDATION

# PREVIOUS CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION

Heritage place

# PREVIOUS EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

- 1. All of the building marked B1 on Diagram 2222 held by the Executive Director.
- 2. All of the land marked L1 on Diagram 2222 held by the Executive Director being all of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 6329 Folio 601.



# PREVOUS STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

## What is significant?

The Memorial Hall, Koroit, constructed in 1957 as a multi-use complex with full cinema facilities, was one of the last single-screen cinemas built in Victoria. It was commissioned by the Diocese of Ballarat for the very large Catholic community around Koroit including the Parishes of St Patrick, Koroit, St Patrick's, Kirkstall and St Brigid's, Crossley. A local Catholic cinema had been mooted as early as the 1930s, but circumstances delayed its construction until the mid-1950s. Films were screened three nights a week until the mid-1960s, with the choice of films screened, presumably influenced by Catholic values of the times. The building also served as a memorial to those men of the Koroit Catholic Parish who were killed in the Second World War.

Architects Cowper Murphy & Associates of Melbourne were commissioned to design the Memorial Theatre. It was one of the last works of this firm of prolific cinema designers in Australia, which by this time were well known in this field.

The building is constructed of steel portal frames, which are exposed internally in the auditorium. Cream brick is used for the walls and the external casing of the nine portal frames. The front facade of the theatre has a cantilevered verandah with a large cement rendered panel above, containing a horizontal row of windows which light the bio box behind. The lower facade incorporates a set of three pairs of timber framed doors and flanking plate glass windows. A vertical cream brick section on the side of the facade, with a vertical strip of windows lighting the stairwell, creates a subtle asymmetry.

The flat floor auditorium is devoid of decoration and the square proscenium arch is decorated by simple flutes. The curved front edge of the stage contains a bank of spotlights. The seats have been removed from the lower auditorium, however the entire original 'Dunlopillo' seating in the dress circle, dramatically upholstered in alternating pink and green vinyl, the carpet and the wall lights remain. The projection room retains what appears to be its complete suite of original projection and sound equipment including apair of Gaumont-Kalee President projectors; a Raycophone sound system; an NTS GK National Selenium twin 65 rectifier (Model 2SR 42/65/1); a Gaumont-Kalee Duosonic Sound Amplifier; a slide projector (possibly by Gaumont-Kalee); a bank of 5 dimmer switches in the rewinding and splicing room; and a collection of 22 glass slides.

The building was sold to the Moyne Shire in the 1990s. The refreshment bar and ancillary areas, such as the kitchen and supper room, retain their integrity. The original kitchen fittings and equipment survive, including the refrigerator and stove.

# How is it significant?

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

# Why is it significant?

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is of historical significance for its association with the Catholic church and for its demonstration of the moral and spiritual influence the church exerted on the lives of Catholics in that period.

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is of historical significance as one of the last purpose-built cinemas in rural Victoria.

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is of historical significance for its retention of original projection and sound equipment and its collection of rare glass slides which add to an understanding of the cinema's operation.

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is of architectural significance as an outstanding late example of the work of Cowper Murphy & Associates, one of the most important and prolific firms of cinema architects in Australia. Its high degree of integrity, including the service areas, is of great significance. It is also of note as possibly the largest building of several constructed at this time using portal frame construction.

# PREVIOUS PERMIT POLICY

The purpose of the Permit Policy is to assist when considering or making decisions regarding works to the place. It is recommended that any proposed works be discussed with an officer of Heritage Victoria prior to them being undertaken or a permit is applied for. Discussing any proposed works will assist in answering any questions the owner may have and aid any decisions regarding works to the place. It is recommended that a Conservation Management Plan is undertaken to assist with the future management of the cultural significance of the place.

The Memorial Hall, Koroit is significant as one of the last purpose-built cinemas constructed in rural Victoria and as a rare example of a cinema built for the Catholic Church and run as a commercial venture. The building retains a high degree of integrity. Important elements include the exterior and interior features, including the original seating, the carpet and the wall lights in the dress circle, the suite of original projection and sound equipment and the box of glass slides in the bio box, and original fittings and equipment in the refreshment bar, the kitchen and supper room. The alteration or removal of any of these elements would require a permit.

Permit exemptions will only be granted for the objects 01-08, as identified in the extent of registration, where a Conservation Management Policy [CMP] has been developed for the objects and this CMP has been endorsed by the Executive Director. Once an endorsed CMP has been implemented, the object type may be subject to a review to enable a class of standard, or specific, permit exemptions to be granted.

The purpose of the permit exemptions is to allow works that do not impact on the significance of the place to occur without the need for a permit.

# PREVIOUS PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.

General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan endorsed by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: The existence of a Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan endorsed by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable.

Minor Works: Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works may submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the

applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

#### **Exterior:**

Minor repairs and maintenance.

Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.

Installation and repairing of damp proofing by either injection method or grout pocket method. Installation or removal of external fixtures and fittings such as, hot water services and taps.

## Interior:

Installation, removal or replacement of projection and sound equipment (excluding early or significant equipment), providing they do not adversely impact on significant elements, or involve structural alterations. Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings in appropriate heritage colour schemes, provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of any original paint or other decorative scheme. Installation, removal or replacement of carpets (excluding early carpet) and/or flexible floor coverings. Installation, removal or replacement of screens or curtains, including cinema screens and curtains (and associated structure), curtain tracks, rods and blinds, other than where structural alterations are required. Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted art works.

Removal or replacement of non-original door and window furniture including, hinges, locks, knobsets and sash lifts.

Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and that the central plant is concealed. Installation, removal or replacement of electric clocks, public address systems, detectors, alarms, emergency lights, exit signs, luminaires and the like on plaster surfaces.

Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.

Installation of plant within the roof space, providing that it does not impact on the external appearance of the building or involve structural changes.

Installation of new fire hydrant services including sprinklers, fire doors and elements affixed to plaster surfaces.

Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring.

Installation, removal or replacement of fixed seating, other than early or original seating.