

Victorian Heritage Database Report  
**Cameo Cinema**

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**Location:**

1628 Burwood Highway (Main Street), Belgrave VIC 3160 - Property No 57198, 83743

**Heritage Status / Level of Significance:**

Included in Heritage Overlay

**Heritage Inventory (HI) Number:**

Listing Authority: HI

**Heritage Overlay Number: HO94**

**Statement of Significance:**

What is significant?

The Cameo Cinema at 1628 Burwood Highway, Belgrave.

How is it significant?

The Cameo is local historic and aesthetic significance.

### Why is it significant?

The Cameo cinema is of high local significance as the only Interwar cinema still operational in the city and with a generally intact interior. It illustrates the increasing popularity of cinema during the Interwar period and has been an important focus of community activity.

RNE Criterion A.4

The Cameo Cinema is also of aesthetic significance, primarily embodied in the extant Art Deco features of the original 1935 cinema auditorium. RNE Criterion E.1

### Description

The facade has been extensively remodelled with only the stepped parapet recalling the form of the original building. Internally the auditorium features the original Moderne plaster ceiling and pilasters and a set of bracketed torchieres. Most original seats have recently been replaced although the original foot-warmers have been retained.

The only comparable interwar cinema in Yarra Ranges is the Healesville Cinema. It is located in the 1923 Healesville Memorial Hall and features a polished timber ticket booth in the vestibule. This building, however, was built as a multi-purpose hall and not solely as a cinema, as was the Cameo. The Healesville Cinema also lacks the architectural decoration that still survives at the Cameo.

The early 20th-century Upper Yarra Arts Centre in Warburton also shows movies, but it was originally a theatre and not a purpose-built cinema.

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Heritage Study / Consultant | Yarra Ranges - Shire of Yarra Ranges Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2000 |
| Construction Date Range     | 1935 - 1935                                                                |
| Architect / Designer        | Scarborough, Robertson & Love                                              |
| Municipality                | YARRA RANGES SHIRE                                                         |
| Other names                 |                                                                            |
| Hermes number               | 115189                                                                     |
| Property number             | 57198,                                                                     |

*This place/object may also be State heritage listed. Check the Victorian Heritage Database. For further details, contact the local Council or go to Planning Schemes Online*