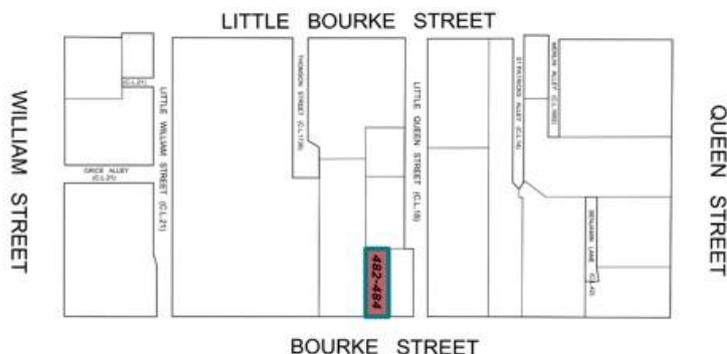


## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**Heritage Place:** Former Victorian Amateur Turf Club



**PS ref no:** Interim HO1241



### What is significant?

The four-storey commercial building at 482-484 Bourke Street, constructed as the office of the Victorian Amateur Turf Club in 1926.

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

- The building's original external form, materials and detailing;
- The building's relatively high level of integrity to its original design;
- The parapet, cornice, vertical piers, balconette and rectangular nameplates; and
- The pattern and size of fenestration, steel framed windows and crossed mullions.

Later alterations at ground level and above ground floor openings alterations are not significant.

### How it is significant?

482-484 Bourke Street is of local historic and representative significance to the City of Melbourne.

### Why it is significant?

482-484 Bourke Street is of historic significance for its association with the history of horseracing in Victoria and for its use for over 30 years as the clubrooms of the Victorian Amateur Turf Club Pty Ltd. The Victorian Amateur Turf Club, as the forerunner of the Melbourne Racing Club, oversees all major horse racing venues in Melbourne and was formed by thoroughbred enthusiasts keen to provide an organisation to support and transition amateur riders into competition. (Criterion A)

482-484 Bourke Street demonstrates the characteristics of the interwar classical revival style in a commercial building. It combines a decorative classical façade with modern building materials including concrete structural framing and steel framed windows. The classical revival style follows the tradition of architectural patterns from previous eras, and this tradition is expressed through the horizontal composition of the façade arranged as a base, shaft and cornice and its further articulation by piers, between which are located vertically proportioned windows. While some alterations have taken place to the façade at ground level, 482-484 Bourke Street remains highly legible in its upper levels. (Criterion D)

**Primary source**

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Hoddle Grid Heritage Review (Context & GJM Heritage, 2020)