

Building:	Footbridge	Significance:	B
Address:	Old Heidelberg Road (Darebin Creek), Alphington	Melway Map Ref:	31 E11
Building Type:	Footbridge	Construction Date:	1914
Architect:	Unknown	Builder:	Unknown



Intactness:		Condition:	
G[x] F[] P[]		G[] F[x] P[]	
Existing Heritage Listings:		Recommended Heritage Listings:	
Victorian Heritage Register	[]	Victorian Heritage Register	[]
Register of the National Estate	[]	Register of the National Estate	[x]
National Trust	[]	Heritage Overlay Controls	[x]

History

The location of the Darebin Creek Footbridge, near the eastern end of Old Heidelberg Road, had been a crossing point of the creek for many years before the bridge was built in 1914, connecting Charles Trescowthick's property Flowerdale, the property later occupied by Parade College, and currently by Alphington Grammar School, with the east side of the creek. Prior to the construction of the bridge, the creek was crossed on unstable timber planks which were often washed away in floods. Trescowthick, who had long allowed locals wishing to cross the creek access across his property, co-operated with the Heidelberg Council to erect the bridge in 1914. The bridge was constructed with steel girders taken from an earlier, demolished bridge in the Eltham area. The span of the bridge is 90 feet, and the deck is 4'2" wide. The side girders are 3' high.¹

Description

The footbridge is a double-span riveted iron girder bridge crossing the Darebin Creek, connecting the City of Yarra with the City of Banyule. There are three cross-braced iron supports; one in the centre of the creek, and one on each of the banks. The girders comprise cross-braced riveted iron members, and have shallow segmental arched upper chords. Metal tube balustrading has been added to girders, and the deck has been concreted.

Significance

The footbridge is of local historical and architectural significance. Historically, the bridge marks pedestrian movements through Alphington when it was a largely rural area. Architecturally, the bridge is a simple iron structure over the Darebin Creek, and is a picturesque element along the Creek.

1 National Trust File No. 3929.