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# SHOP (FORMER ANDERSON'S FURNITURE WAREHOUSE)



885 High Street, Thornbury

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## Location

885 HIGH STREET, THORNBURY, DAREBIN CITY

## Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO309

## Heritage Listing

Darebin City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

### *What is significant?*

The building at 885 High Street, Thornbury is a two-storey rendered brick inter-war former furniture showroom on the west side of High Street, Thornbury directly opposite Pender Street. It was erected by 1926, at a time when the High Street shopping centre was establishing itself as one of the major retail strips in the northern suburbs. The shop was for many years the premises of the furniture retailer, Andersons, who at one time had five stores

across Melbourne.

The facade of the first floor, which is relatively intact, is significant. It is divided into three bays. The central bay has large windows with multi-paned glazing at their heads, and is flanked by end bays that project slightly, each containing a similar window in terms of scale, proportion and embellishment. The end bays are formed by Classical-inspired pilasters. A cornice extends across the facade above the windows and a stepped parapet forms the top of the building.

Later alterations and/or additions, including the ground floor shopfront, the cantilevered awning and the electrical illuminated signage fitted to the first floor facade are not significant.

#### *How is it significant?*

The former Anderson's Store at 885 High Street, Thornbury is of local historic, architectural and aesthetic significance to Darebin City.

#### *Why is it significant?*

Historically, the former Anderson's Store is significant as a representative example of a major furniture retailer's premises that illustrates the significant phase of High Street in the 1920s when it became one of the most important shopping centres in the northern suburbs of Melbourne. It is historically significant for its long associations with Andersons, an important retailer in the mid twentieth century (AHC criteria A.4, D.2, H.1).

The former Anderson's Store is architecturally significant as a representative example of an inter-war furniture retail premises designed in a Free Classical-style. It has aesthetic significance as a landmark building within the High Street, Thornbury retail precinct. (AHC criterion D.2)

Heritage Study/Consultant Darebin - Darebin Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2011;

Construction dates 1926,

Hermes Number 27288

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

A two-storey rendered brick inter-war former furniture showroom on the west side of High Street, Thornbury directly opposite Pender Street. Its ground floor shopfront is glazed, set in an aluminium/steel frame of recent origin. A cantilevered awning extends across the High Street elevation between the ground and first floors. The facade of the first floor is relatively intact. It is divided into three bays. The central bay has large windows with multi-paned glazing at their heads. This central bay is flanked by end bays that project slightly, and each contains a similar window in terms of scale, proportion and embellishment. The end bays are formed by Classical-inspired pilasters. A cornice extends across the facade above the windows and a stepped parapet forms the top of the building. An illuminated sign is fixed to the facade in front of the middle window of the central bay.

*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/>*