

SHOPS AND RESIDENCES



Top of the Town (2020)



Top of the Town (2000)

Location

33 BRIDGE STREET, KORUMBURRA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 7, 2022

What is significant?

The 'Top of the Town' building, at 33 Bridge Street, Korumburra, built in c.1894, is significant. This substantial two storey brick terrace building has a skillion roof to the upper floor concealed behind the high front parapet with a rendered facade. The building features narrow windows, with those windows closest to the carpark are original, and the verandah along the building frontage, which is a later addition. Other contributory features include:

- Notable steps at the side
- Shallow strong course and upper floor fenestration

Non-original alterations and additions, other than those specified above, are not significant.

How is it significant?

The 'Top of the Town' building, at 33 Bridge Street, Korumburra is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, there is evidence that this building may have been built between 1892-1894 although the exact date is unknown. The early development of the immediate area surrounding the intersection of Bridge Street, Commercial Street and Mine Road support this early date. This building demonstrates the commercial development of Korumburra at the beginning of the 20th Century when it was the largest and most prosperous town in the South Gippsland region. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, this building remains one of the most significant landmarks in the Shire and originally held space for four commercial properties. This imposing two storey building significantly contributes to the historic and aesthetic character of Bridge Street and Commercial Street. Although now painted and adapted, the brick building is still a key feature of the town due to its location on a main thoroughfare through Korumburra. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1892, 1894, 1894,
Architect/Designer	Unknown,
Other Names	Top of the Town, Shop, Temperance Hotel, history, title, -,
Hermes Number	30660
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The "Top of the Town" building at 33 Bridge Street, Korumburra is a substantial two storey brick terrace of originally four shops with a skillion roof to the upper floor resulting in a very high parapet at the front and notable steps at the sides. Although a dominant built mass, its high rendered facade is almost devoid of relief except for shallow string course and the upper floor fenestration. A new bullnose verandah has been added. There is evidence of an earlier bracketed timber verandah which suggests a construction date of post 1910.

The "Top of the Town" makes an important contribution to the historic streetscape at the intersection of Bridge Road with Mine Road and Commercial Street, which also includes the two storey Austral Hotel, and former Post & Telegraph Office (both opposite), and adjacent Masonic Lodge. (see separate citations)

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/>