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# SHOPS



Shops, 8-10 Bair Street  
(2020)



Shops, 8-10 Bair Street  
(2000)

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## Location

8-10 BAIR STREET, LEONGATHA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Rec for HO area contributory

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 19, 2022

### What is significant?

The pair of commercial buildings at 12 Bair Street, Leongatha, built in 1894, are significant. These pair of wide commercial buildings have features including a decorative rendered parapet with a central triangular pediment surmounted on an acroterion. There is also decorative solid plaster mouldings on the parapet featuring four projecting piers, cornices with dentils, and panels with raised moulds and bosses. The reset entrances are covered with a straight verandah across both buildings, although this verandah is not original. Non-original alterations and additions, other than those specified above, are not of heritage significance.

### How is it significant?

The commercial shops at 12 Bair Street, Leongatha are of historic and aesthetic significance for the South Gippsland Shire.

### Why is it significant?

Historically, the pair of shops are among the oldest extant shops in South Gippsland Shire and were built for Robert Bair. It is believed that these buildings were the third significant commercial building built in Bair Street after the Bair's Otago Hotel and the former Thomas Ridgway store (see LE-BA-016 and LE-BA-018). This pair of buildings demonstrate the early commercial development of Leongatha after the opening of the South Eastern Railway. It also reflects the importance of commercial enterprises for Leongatha and the South Gippsland Shire. (Criterion A)

These buildings are aesthetically significant as they are a superior and rare example of Victorian single storey shops constructed of brick. They are notable for their elaborate parapet and contribute to the aesthetic and historical character of Bair Street and Leongatha. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1894, 1894, 1894,
Architect/Designer	Owens, R.,
Other Names	-,
Hermes Number	30751
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The building at 8-10 Bair Street, Leongatha is a pair of wide shops located under a substantial and decorative rendered parapet with a central triangular pediment. The parapet is distinguished by its decorative solid plastering featuring four projecting piers, cornices with dentils, panels with raised moulds and bosses and the pediment surmounted by an acroterion. The urns which once capped the four piers have since been removed.

A sympathetic and simple new post verandah has been added, and, although neither shopfront is original, the interwar shopfront on the right is a good example of its type. The shops may also retain some original interior detail behind the later additions of false ceilings and partitions.

*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/>*