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# GREAT SOUTHERN STAR OFFICE



Great Southern Star Office



image138

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## Location

36 MCCARTIN STREET, LEONGATHA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 19, 2022

### What is significant?

The Great Southern Star office, at 36 McCartin Street, Leongatha, built in c.1920, is significant. This single storey concrete block Interwar building has a rendered exterior and stepped parapet that features 'cricket bat' decorative moulds below each step. The central doorway is flanked by double hung sash windows and features a moulded six-pointed star and the name of the newspaper 'The Great Southern Star' painted on the exterior. Non-original alterations and additions, other than those specified above, are not significant.

### How is it significant?

The Great Southern Star office is of local historic, aesthetic, technical and social significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

### Why is it significant?

Historically, the offices for the Great Southern Star was constructed in around 1920, though the paper was circulated since 1890. This building demonstrates the association between the long-standing publication of the

newspaper and Leongatha. This building also illustrates the importance of communications and publishing within the Shire in its prominent position in Leongatha, close to key public buildings. (Criterion A)

The Star office, with its rendered cream exterior and stepped, embossed parapet, is a visually significant part of McCartin Street and the Leongatha commercial area. It is also a representative and intact example of an Interwar office within a commercial area. (Criterion E)

Technically, the Great Southern Star office is significant as it is made of concrete blocks, locally manufactured from Knox's Quarry (see LE-NE-530) and demonstrates community interest and investment by the newspaper. This construction material is locally rare and required technical skills to work with. (Criterion F)

Socially, the Great Southern Star is one of the oldest newspapers in the South Gippsland Shire. Newspapers help the community to connect, grow and gain knowledge and understanding of the events and issues within the Shire. This building is a physical representation of this long-term relationship between newspaper and community. (Criterion G)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1920, 1920, 1920,
Architect/Designer	Unknown,
Other Names	-, History,
Hermes Number	30804
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The Great Southern Star office is a single storey building constructed of concrete blocks with zero setback to street frontage. The rendered symmetrical facade is composed of a narrow, centrally located doorway flanked by timber sash windows which have textured render lintels and smooth render architraves and sills. The roof is concealed by a stepped, capped parapet, with three raised . The painted signage features a central six-pointed star with 'Est. 1890' and 'The Great Southern Star' in traditional script.

*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/>*