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# LEONGATHA BUTTER & CHEESE FACTORY



Leongatha Butter & Cheese Factory



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## Location

1 YARRAGON ROAD, LEONGATHA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO8

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

### What is significant?

The Leongatha Cooperative Butter and Cheese Factory, designed by R. Kerr and constructed in 1905 with later additions, at 1 Yarragon Road, Leongatha.

### Why is it significant?

The Leongatha Cooperative Butter and Cheese factory is of local historic, aesthetic and technical significance to

South Gippsland Shire.

Historically, it is one of the oldest extant butter factories in the Shire and demonstrates the important development and expansion of the dairy industry during the Federation period. The opening of the Factory in 1905 and its subsequent expansion in 1931 led to significant growth in the town of Leongatha and the surrounding district. (AHC criteria - A.4, B.2 and D.2)

Aesthetically, it is the superior example in the Shire of a Federation butter factory constructed in brick, which demonstrates the importance of the dairying industry. (AHC criterion - E.1)

Technically, it is important as a relatively intact example of an early brick butter factory where the production process is clearly expressed in the form of the building, which can be viewed from all sides. As the original surviving element of what is now one of the largest dairying industry complexes in the Southern Hemisphere, it is highly important for the ability to illustrate the development of the dairying industry over the past 100 years. (AHC criteria - B.2 and F.1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1905, 1931,
Architect/Designer	Barlow, Marcus, Kerr, R,
Hermes Number	30863
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The former Leongatha Co-operative Butter and Cheese Factory, constructed in 1905, comprises a brick gable structure parallel to the road with the delivery bays below a verandah at the front. The design demonstrates the use of the gravity method of production in use at that time: Symmetrically at the rear, on the down hill side, the production floors step down in the form of parapet gables, the second and longer of which has a tall narrow gable clear storey lantern. The whole of the complex is roofed in corrugated iron. The transverse front section has a projecting gable at the centre with a large sign (Leongatha Butter and Cheese Factory Coy Ltd. 1905) in cement render on a roughcast background.

A photograph of the original building in the Devondale office foyer opposite the new butter factory shows the former verandah with bracketed square posts and a gable end frame and finial above the sign panel.

*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/>*