
GIPPSLAND AND MIRBOO TIMES OFFICE (FORMER)



Gippsland and Mirboo Times Office (former)



Gippsland and Mirboo Times Office (former, 2000)

Location

40 RIDGWAY, MIRBOO NORTH, 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 -

What is significant?

The former Gippsland and Mirboo Times Office and residence at 40 Ridgway, Mirboo North, built in 1907 is significant. The simple weatherboard office has a transverse roofline and Victorian symmetrical dwelling has a hipped roof. The front office building has a high timber parapet with curved central pediment. The straight roof verandah is original although the metal frame supporting the roof is not original, but in the same style and outline. The front windows are also sympathetic but not original, as the original timber windows now have new aluminium frames.

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

How is it significant?

The former Gippsland and Mirboo Times Office and dwelling are of local, aesthetic and social significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically the dwelling is believed to be one of the oldest extant residential properties in Ridgway. This building demonstrates the early phase of residential development on Ridgway prior to commercial development. The Times Office illustrates the commercial growth in the area. The Times Office is the oldest extant newspaper office in the South Gippsland Shire, opening in 1907, and demonstrates the importance of local newspapers, especially in the early development of the Mirboo North and surrounds. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, the Times Office, and the residence behind it, significantly contribute to the aesthetic and historic character of Ridgway and Mirboo North. In particular, the property represents both the residential and the commercial stages of the Ridgway precinct and Mirboo North. (Criterion E)

In 1907, when the Times Office first opened, newspapers were a vital part of the communications network of the South Gippsland region, as the population were so spread out and travelling within the region was difficult. The Mirboo Times continues to be one of the four main newspapers within the Shire, with high circulation across the region. The Times Office is a physical representation of the longevity of the newspaper and this of communication within South Gippsland. (Criterion G)

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1907, |
| Other Names | thematic, |
| Hermes Number | 30910 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The former Gippsland and Mirboo Times Office is a simple transverse gabled weatherboard building with a corrugated iron roof. It has an early straight roofed street verandah with the former timber posts replaced by steel pipe. A high metal sheeted parapet has a curved central pediment bearing an early Mirboo North Times sign on a banner ground with the proprietor's name (KL Martyn). The front windows have been replaced with new aluminium frames, but their original outline can be seen in the weatherboard infills.

A short distance behind the office is a hip roofed Victorian cottage with a symmetrical facade, which pre-dates the office. There is an altered Victorian shop at No. 42.

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/>