

TOORA POST OFFICE



Toora Post Office (2000)



Toora Post Office

Location

15 STANLEY STREET, TOORA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Rec for HO area contributory

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

What is significant?

The Toora Post Office at 15 Stanley Street, Toora, built in 1914, is significant. The brick Federation Post Office with transverse gable roof has a projecting gable to the front boundary with the Western arm of the gable roof forming a front porch. The gable ends are roughcast with narrow louvred vents and three double hung windows on the projecting gable. Other key features include:

- Projecting string course above brick work
- Multi-pane windows above sash in front windows
- Shallow piers segmenting front windows
- Rectangular, rendered opening to porch
- Small moulded hood above entryway to porch

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

How is it significant?

The Toora Post Office at 15 Stanley Street, Toora is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire community.

Why is it significant?

Historically, the Toora Post Office is one of three Post Offices in South Gippsland to be constructed by the Commonwealth Government prior to World War 1. The Toora Post Office was constructed in 1914, by local contractors the Rispin Brothers. This building, along with the Post Office residence at 13 Stanley St (see TO-ST-013) are the only example within the Shire of a separate post office and residence. The Toora Post Office is one of the first physical manifestations of the Commonwealth Government in Toora and the surrounding region. The decision to build the Post Office in Toora illustrates the importance of Toora and the community as a centre for commercial and community services in the immediate surrounds and the South Gippsland Shire more broadly during this pre-war period. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, the Toora Post Office is a superior and intact example of a Federation public building within the South Gippsland Shire. The clean lines, lower pitched roof, narrow windows and brick exterior display the classic features of a Federation building. The building, and its contemporary residence at 13 Stanley Street (see TO-ST-013), significantly contribute to the aesthetic and historic character of Stanley Street and Toora more broadly. The continued use of the building as a Post Office supports the integrity of the building. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1914, 1914, 1914,
Architect/Designer	Public Works Department, Department Of Works,
Other Names	-, thematic,
Hermes Number	31014
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Post Office at 15 Stanley Street, Toora is a red brick Federation style building with a transverse gable roof and a slightly lower projecting gable to the front boundary at the south side, which is carried down at the same pitch to form the front porch. The treatment of the building is relatively simple, with three double hung windows in the projecting gable and a rectangular opening to the porch with rendered reveals and a small moulded hood above. Other significant elements include:

- The soldier course at the top of the brickwork with a projecting string course above.
- Shallow piers on either side of the front windows.
- The roughcast gable ends with narrow louvred vents.

The Post Office is situated adjacent to the contemporary Post Office residence. (see separate citation.)

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/>