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# TOORA MASONIC TEMPLE



TOORA MASONIC TEMPLE image238

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## Location

30 HARRIET STREET, TOORA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

### What is significant?

The former Toora Masonic Temple, at 30 Harriet Street, Toora, built in 1926, is significant. It is a simple rectangular hall constructed of concrete blocks with a Dutch-gable roof. The building has a projecting porch with recessed doorways framed by Tuscan columns, set into the walls, a half-timbered gable end and high set windows on the side elevations.

Non-original alterations and additions are not significant.

### How is it significant?

The former Toora Masonic Temple is of historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

### Why is it significant?

Historically, the Toora Masonic Temple was the first in Toora and is associated with the significant growth in Freemasonry that occurred after World War I and demonstrates the important role that it played in cultural life of towns during the twentieth century. It also associated with the growth and development of Toora during the interwar period. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, while of a simple design it is notable for the inset paired columns to the porch, which is a simplified reference to the classical 'in antis' temple design, that is often used in more elaborate Masonic Temples. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1926, 1926, 1926,
Other Names	-, thematic, Masonic Hall,
Hermes Number	73392
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The Toora Masonic Lodge Temple is an interwar gabled hall, which is constructed of concrete blocks. It has a iron roof with dutch gables. The centrally located entrance door is flanked by two columns.

*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/>*