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# GLENELG WANNON WATER BOARD OFFICE (FORMER)



23110 Copy of 2888 Glenelg  
Wannon Waterboard Office  
Former 86 W

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## Location

88A Whyte Street, COLERAINE VIC 3315 - Property No 109

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 8, 2003

What is significant?

The former Glenelg Wannon Water Board Office at 88A Whyte Street, Coleraine is a small single storey, single fronted brick shop with a residence at the rear. It was built as early as 1859 as a store, possibly for Robert Gage, and was subsequently owned by the brothers, Louis and Abraham Lesser, who were storekeepers in Coleraine in the latter quarter of the nineteenth century. The year 1859 has been suggested for its construction, a claim which is reinforced by the unusually small bricks which were used in its construction. The building has been much modified and now appears in a condition which reflects the mid twentieth century. For at least ten years it was

used as the principal office of the Glenelg and Wannon Water Board. It is presently used as professional rooms.

How is it significant?

The former Glenelg and Wannon Water Board Office is of scientific and historical significance to the township of Coleraine and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former Glenelg and Wannon Water Board Office is of scientific significance to the township of Coleraine and the Southern Grampians Shire as it represents the introduction and administration of reticulated water supply and sewerage disposal within the township of Coleraine and surrounding area. It is of historical significance for its associations with the Lesser family, who were important local businessmen. The building is also of historical significance as potentially the oldest surviving commercial building in Coleraine.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002; |
| Construction dates        | 1859,  |
| Other Names               | MCCLARTY ARCHER & CO,  |
| Hermes Number             | 23110  |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Conditions

The building is in good condition.

## Physical Description 1

A single storey, single fronted brick shop, now much altered from its original design, with a residence at the rear. The facade now has a large plate glass window and a single door with a simple stepped pediment above. Importantly, the bricks used in the carcass of the building are very small and locally made (Troeth, 59). This reinforces the claim that the building is the oldest surviving commercial building in Whyte Street if not Coleraine. The roof is corrugated iron.

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.11 Altering the environment

3.11.1 Regulating waterways

3.11.3 Irrigating land

3.11.5 Establishing water supplies

3.19 Marketing and retailing

Theme 4: Building settlements, towns and cities

4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia

Theme 7: Governing

7.6 Administering Australia

7.6.1 Developing local government authorities

7.6.6 Providing services and welfare

## **Usage/Former Usage**

Accountants' offices

## **Integrity**

Poor degree of external intactness, has not been internally inspected.

## **Physical Description 2**

Robert gage, original owner

Louis Lesser, early storekeeper

Abraham Lesser, early storekeeper

Glenelg Wannon Water Board

## **Physical Description 3**

PT CA 4 Sec 1

*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/>*