
ROYAL STANDARD HOTEL



Royal Standard Hotel (2015)



Royal Standard Hotel (2015)



Royal Standard Hotel, showing 1939 additions at left (2015)



Royal Standard Hotel (2000)



image245

Location

39 VICTORIA STREET, and 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 Royal Standard Hotel, at 39 Victoria Street, Toora, built in 1889, is significant. This two-storey brick and roughcast render Victorian hotel has a two storey timber verandah with straight roof and a timber Federation balustrades c.1900. A rendered straight parapet with splayed corner, urn bases and basic cornices conceals a hipped roof. Other key features include:

1889 building

- Semi-circular pediment with a small acroterion cap and embossed elements such as 4 stars and the date of establishment, 1889.
- Stop chamfered posts on both floors with original posts on the lower level as they are not continuous to those on upper level
- Arched windows on Stanley Street ground level (later addition)
- Roof without parapet (later addition)

1939 extension on Stanley Street (North of verandah)

- Larger hip element to roof
- Two shopfronts on ground level
- Ground floor windows closest to splayed corner have been altered. Original windows and doors were arched on both Stanley and Victoria Streets

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

How is it significant?

The Royal Standard Hotel, at 39 Victoria Street, Toora, is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, the Royal Standard Hotel in Toora is the oldest extant hotel within the South Gippsland Shire, being built in 1889, less than one year after the first land sales for Toora. The early construction of the building shows the optimism surrounding the new township of Toora and the establishment of the South Eastern Railway. This hotel also demonstrates the wealth and development of Toora over time to establish itself as one of the main towns in South Gippsland. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically this hotel is a rare example of an intact early hotel, with other early hotels such as the Commercial Hotel, Leongatha (see LE-BA-002) and the Austral Hotel, Korumburra (see KOR-BR-20) having significant extensions and alterations made. The Royal Standard is a local landmark within Toora as it is on the corner of two main roads, Stanley and Victoria Streets. The building is integral to the historic and aesthetic character of Stanley Street, Victoria Street and the town of Toora. (Criterion E)

Socially, the Royal Standard Hotel would have been a place for connection and community during the early establishment of Toora and continues to be such today. (Criterion G)

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1889, 1939, 1889, 1939, 1889, 1939, |
| Architect/Designer | O'Connor, PJ, |
| Other Names | thematic, -, |
| Hermes Number | 31020 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The Royal Standard Hotel at 39-43 Stanley Street, Toora, built in 1889 and extended in 1939, is a two storey brick structure with hipped roofs and a rendered parapet. The 1889 building has a two storey timber verandah, which is extended at the lower level on the Victoria Street frontage. To the north of the verandah section on the Stanley Street frontage is the 1939 extension, which is a larger hip element, without a parapet and with two shopfronts in the ground floor. It is possible that there is an earlier extension between the 1889 and 1939 buildings, roughly that element with the arched windows on the Stanley Street ground floor. This is also identified by a roof of intermediate size and without a parapet.

The rendered parapet is straight with former urn bases above a basic cornice. The splayed corner has a small semi-circular pediment with an inset panel containing four stars, a vermiculated panel and the date 1889. A small acroterion caps the pediment.

The verandah has a straight roof and stop chamfered posts on both floors, possibly with fret or cast iron brackets and neck moulds removed. The upper balustrade is of tapered and drilled timber balusters in Federation style, suggesting a remodelling of the original verandah detail, or the later construction of the whole verandah with the first extension c. 1900. The extension of the lower level of the verandah towards Victoria Street appears integral with the original construction as the posts are set back central to the total span and are not continuous with those on the upper level.

The original wall surfaces have been covered in roughcast render and the ground floor windows closest to the corner have been altered (probably in the 1939 renovation). The arched windows to both the Stanley and Victoria Street facades and the arched doors suggest that this was the original pattern. Early photos should be consulted to confirm the original appearance. The brick dado and quoins to the doors have been added more recently.

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/>