
Post Office Arcade (former Post Office Hotel), 88 Main Street, STAWELL



SL 194 - Post Office Arcade - former Post Office Hotel



SL 194a - Stawell Historical Society Collection



SL 194b - State Library of Victoria Picture Collection.

Location

88 Main Street STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 10, 2024

What is significant?

This property has been reviewed as part of the Stawell Main Street Precinct in 2024, and its heritage category is now Contributory.

How is it significant?

The property is Contributory to the precinct.

Why is it significant?

Text from the 2004 heritage study:

The Post Office Arcade building at the corner of Wimmera and Main Streets, Stawell, makes a significant contribution to the architectural and visual amenity of the predominantly 19th and early 20th century commercial

streetscape. Originally built with a wooden facade in 1875 for W.C. Richards, the building was altered in 1878-79 to a brick design by George Inskip, architect. In 1977, extensive alterations were carried out converting the building into the present arcade and shops, and it appears to be in good-fair condition when viewed from the street.

The Post Office Arcade building is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. Although extensively altered, it still demonstrates original or early design qualities of a Victorian style. These qualities include the rectangular form with a chamfered corner, projecting dentillated stringcourse and low parapet that terminates into the balustraded parapet with flanking scrollwork at the corner. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the brick wall construction, single storey height (at the front), asymmetrical composition, window openings on the Wimmera Street facade. The rear two storey wing also contributes to the significance of the place with its hipped roof form clad in galvanised corrugated iron, brick wall construction, and regular bays of single window openings.

The Post Office Arcade building is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of hotels in Stawell in the 1870s. In particular, this building has associations with W.H. Richards, original owner who instigated construction in 1875. The building has associations with many hotel keepers and publicans in the 19th and early 20th century, including Harry Kuhl between 1946 and 1967, former Victorian Football League footballer. The building also has associations with George Inskip, architect, who designed the brick alterations in 1878, and with Diment and Bond, Renovators, Neville Carkeek and Bill Garlick who were responsible for the major alterations in 1971.

Overall, the Post Office Arcade at the corner of Wimmera and Main Streets is of **LOCAL** significance.

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004; Stawell Main Street Precinct peer review, Landmark Heritage PL, 2024; |
| Other Names | Post Office Hotel, |
| Hermes Number | 112478 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The Post Office Arcade building at the corner of Wimmera and Main Streets, Stawell, contributes to the architectural and visual amenity of the predominantly Victorian and interwar streetscape.

The asymmetrical, two storey, painted brick, Victorian styled Post Office Arcade building is characterised by a rectangular form having a chamfered corner and a projecting dentillated stringcourse above which is a low parapet that terminates into a balustraded parapet with flanking scrollwork at the corner. The central arched opening on the Main Street facade has been introduced, replacing an earlier door opening, and the shopfront windows on this facade have also been introduced. The corner window represents new work, replacing an earlier doorway, but the single windows on the Wimmera Street elevation appear to be early.

The rear two storey hipped wing with regular bays of single window openings is early. It has a painted galvanised corrugated iron and painted brick wall construction. The rear brick wall with arched opening and first floor weatherboard wall cladding with a chamfered corner, skillion projecting and glazed area represent later work.

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/>