
LESSER'S STORES (FORMER)



23314 Lesser s Store Former
86 Whyte St Coleraine 1486

Location

88a Whyte Street, COLERAINE VIC 3315 - Property No 1092

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 19, 2003

What is significant?

The two brick stores known as Lesser's Stores which are located on the south side of Whyte Street, between Gage and Winter Streets in the Central Business District of Coleraine. These stores have been much altered, and converted into a Supermarket. The stores have corrugated iron gabled roofs and a large brick storehouse attached to the rear. The shopfront and verandah are much altered, as is the timber parapet. These stores were built in 1859 by Abraham Lesser, an important local businessman. The Lesser family continued to operate their business from these stores for nearly 80 years. The buildings are the earliest remaining stores in Coleraine, providing a focal points of the town since their establishment in 1859.

How is it significant?

The former Lesser's Stores are of historical significance to the township of Coleraine and Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former Lesser's Stores are of historical significance to the township of Coleraine and the surrounding district as the earliest surviving stores in Coleraine. They have continuously provided a commercial focal point for the town for nearly 150 years. The stores are of further historical significance for their association with the Lesser family, who were an important and influential family within Coleraine upto the 1930s.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1859,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	COLERAINE IGA SUPERMARKET,
Hermes Number	23314
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

much altered.

Physical Description 1

The former Lesser's Stores are located on the south side of Whyte Street, between Gage and Winter Streets, in the centre of Coleraine. The building, which is now used as a supermarket, comprises two brick stores with corrugated iron gabled roofs and a larger brick storehouse with corrugated iron gabled roofs attached to the rear of the building. The shopfront, verandah and parapet have been much altered. The timber parapet still retains some of its decorative timberwork, but the facade of the building has been modernised, with large plate glass windows and an electric sliding door. The original verandah has been replaced by a modern pavement verandah.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.12 Feeding people

3.12.5 retailing foods and beverages

3.19 Marketing and retailing

Usage/Former Usage

Supermarket

Integrity

The interior of the building has been altered substantially, as has the shopfront, facade, verandah and pediment.

Physical Description 2

William Smith, first owner of the land 1852-1859

Abraham Lesser, storekeeper, owner/occupier 1859-1886

Leon Lesser, storekeeper, owner/occupier of Lesser's Stores 1886 -1932

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/>