
KORUMBURRA POST & TELEGRAPH OFFICE (FORMER)



Korumburra Post & Telegraph Office (former)



image87

Location

24-26 BRIDGE STREET, KORUMBURRA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO53

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 7, 2022

What is significant?

The former Korumburra Post & Telegraph Office complex comprising the brick post office and timber outbuilding, designed by J.B. Cohen and constructed by Neil Falconer in 1904, at 24 Bridge Street, Korumburra. The former Korumburra Post & Telegraph Office is a single storey brick building with unglazed terra cotta tile roofs in

Federation Queen Anne style. It is characterised by the complexity of its roof forms and detail. The roof is basically of two major gables intersecting at the corner where the junction is emphasised by an octagonal cone with broken roof pitches. At the Bridge Street side, the residence is identified by two projecting gables and a contiguous verandah. On the Mine Road side, a porch and one projecting gable define the staff and operational section. The public section is accessed by a projecting gable porch diagonally placed on the octagonal corner element. Other notable elements include:

- The finial capping the corner cone.
- Chimneys with roughcast bands and terra cotta pots.
- The heavily bracketed flying gable ends with roughcast and louvre vented panels.
- The roughcast band around the corner octagon.
- The tiled window hood with decorative brackets over the office windows.
- The stained glass decoration to the windows of the public section.
- The elaborate verandah to the residence with paired turned posts and arched ladder frame frieze.
- The original weatherboard outbuilding.

How is it significant?

The former Korumburra Post & Telegraph Office complex is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, it was the first Post & Telegraph Office in the Shire to be constructed on behalf of the newly formed Commonwealth Postmaster-General's office and is believed to be only the third in the State. It is therefore highly important in both a local and regional sense as a notable piece of architecture that demonstrates the impact of Federation and the importance of Korumburra at that time. (AHC criteria - A.4, C.2 and D.2)

Aesthetically, it is a fine example of Federation design by a government department, featuring a full range of inventive decorative elements and forms, with a distinctive address of the slightly acute street corner. Its extravagant style makes it one of the most notable buildings in the Shire, which demonstrates the importance of Korumburra during the Federation period. It is complemented by the intact original outbuilding. (AHC criterion - E.1)

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1904, 1904, 1904, |
| Architect/Designer | Public Works Department, Cohen, JB, JB Cohen, |
| Other Names | -, |
| Hermes Number | 30658 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

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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/>