

## SHOPS & RESIDENCE



Shops and residence, 82-94  
Whitelaw Street



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Shops and residence (2000)



image175

### Location

82-94 WHITELAW STREET, MEENIYAN, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 19, 2022

### What is significant?

The commercial building at 82-94 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyan, constructed in c.1890 with additions in 1904, is significant. The single storey commercial weatherboard complex consists of a pair of commercial buildings with attached residences to the rear. These separate structures are combined by a common parapet and street verandah and look to have been constructed at different stages. The eastern most building has a simple shopfront with the hip of the roof and the parapet being separate. The western building has a roof that is attached to the parapet, and the roofline shows that the house to the west was built at the same time. Other features of this site include a weatherboard stall with a panelled diagonal board stall in the shop, a splayed entry and stepped twin parapet. The main building has a straight roofed verandah with chamfered posts, and has tri-part, double hung windows. The hipped roof extends to the rear of the main building, while the most Western building has a projecting hip bay to the Whitelaw Street boundary. Some original decorative elements, such as the cast iron frieze are lost.

Non-original alterations and additions are not significant.

#### **How is it significant?**

The commercial building at 82-94 Whitelaw St, Meeniyan is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

#### **Why is it significant?**

Historically, this commercial complex is the oldest extant commercial property in Meeniyan. These buildings demonstrate the early development of Meeniyan and surrounds in the wake of the opening of the South Eastern Railway in 1892. The complex has been a commercial hub for over 100 years. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically this group of buildings are a substantially intact group of shops and attached residences, and makes a significant contribution to the historic character of Whitelaw Street and Meeniyan. This building also illustrates a superior level of this type of architectural form, particularly within the South Gippsland Shire. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1890, 1890, 1904, 1890, 1904,
Other Names	Former baker and butcher, Former Baker and Butcher, Extra, thematic,
Hermes Number	30896
Property Number	

## **Physical Description 1**

The shops and dwelling at 82-94 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyan, is a single storey weatherboard complex on the north side of the main street of Meeniyan, comprising a pair shops to the east with an attached residence to the west. The shops have separate structures combined by a common parapet and street verandah, which would appear to confirm the theory that the building was constructed in stages. This is also suggested by:

- The space between the two is built in with a blank (original?) weatherboard infill at the front and the distinct shopfront to each.
- The roof of the eastern shop is a simple and separate hip abutting the parapet at the front, while the roof of the central element is combined with the roof of the adjacent house to the west, which suggests that they were constructed at the same time.

Other notable elements include the shopfront of the first, which has a weatherboard stall, while that of the wider central shop has a panelled diagonal board stall and splayed ingoing entry. The parapet of the shops has a raised triangle terminating in a stepped horizontal peak which is now sheeted in iron.

The dwelling has a projecting hip bay to the street boundary, with a tri-part double hung window, enclosing a straight roofed recessed verandah with splay chamfered posts. The cast iron frieze and neck moulds are missing. Its hipped roofs are extended to the rear, terminating in a pyramidal hip at the north west corner. Various

elements at the rear, though integrated with the front structures are probably additions over time.

At the rear of the site is a separate weatherboard gabled warehouse/store.

*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/>*