

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former National Bank of New Zealand Building

**ADDRESS** 129 Stafford Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** No. 45      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 2074 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Pt Lot 21 DP 1

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500048500

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1881-82

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** FJ Wilson, architect; George Filmer, builder

**STYLE** Neoclassical

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Multi-level building with rectangular footprint and gabled roof forms. Façade reads as one floor having a three-bay classical arcade with engaged columns, entablature bearing building name and solid parapet. Tympanum with key stones over side entry and window openings; latter are framed by colonettes. Stone base (dolerite) set with rectangular plaques in contrasting stone.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, Oamaru stone, dolerite, corrugated iron.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Pediment removed from parapet (date unknown). Internal remodelling (post-1980).

**SETTING**

The former bank occupies the full extent of its site and stands on the east side of Stafford Street, south of its intersection with George Street. Across the road stand the Theatre Royal (heritage item # 46) and the former Criterion Hotel; to the south is the former Union Bank of Australia and the former Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works building (heritage item # 43). To the north is the former Government Life Building (heritage item # 47). The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located, in view of the potential archaeological values of the site.

## **HISTORY**

The National Bank of New Zealand was established in 1872 and it had offices in Timaru by June of the following year. The bank moved from temporary premises further north on Stafford Street in to its new, purpose-built premises south of George Street in May 1882. A sitting room and two bedrooms on the first floor were provided for banking officers required to sleep on site. The bank moved out in December 1980 and thereafter the building was converted for use as a restaurant. After a fire damaged the interior of the building it was renovated and used as a 'fun parlour' and night club. The former bank was put on the market in late 2015 and is currently unoccupied.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former National Bank of New Zealand building has historical significance for its association with the early banking history of Timaru and almost a century of use by the National Bank of New Zealand. In the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries there were three banks on the east side of Stafford Street between George Street and the former Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works building (National, Union and the Bank of New South Wales).

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former National Bank of New Zealand building has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former staff and customers. Banking staff were typically provided with on-site accommodation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; historically the former National Bank therefore combined commercial and residential functions.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former National Bank of New Zealand building has architectural significance as the work of early Timaru architect FJ Wilson. South African-born Francis John (Frank) Wilson (c.1836-1911) was said to have 'practically rebuilt Timaru after the big fire' of 1868 (*Poverty Bay Herald* 21 April 1911, p. 5). Wilson is reported to have arrived in Timaru in c.1855 and not only worked as a contractor and architect but also as a publican, holding licenses for hotels in Timaru and Washdyke in the mid-1860s. Wilson also designed the Criterion/Excelsior Hotel in Stafford Street (1872-73), Timaru Main School (1873-74) and the former Bank Street Methodist Church (1874-75, item # 51). He and his wife Emily had ten children and although Frank Wilson died in Gisborne in 1911 he was remembered at the time as one of the 'prominent citizen(s) of Timaru in the early days' (*Timaru Herald* 28 April 1911, p. 7). Wilson left Timaru in the 1880s and, after a period spent in Australia, he later lived and worked in Wellington, Palmerston North and Gisborne. Frank Wilson's son Frank was also an architect and his grandson Francis Gordon Wilson (1900-59) became Government Architect of New Zealand (served 1952-59).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former National Bank of New Zealand building has technological and craftsmanship significance for its brick and stone construction. The building represents a response to the March 1869 council bylaw stipulating masonry construction in the central business district, which was passed after the December 1868 fire that destroyed around 30 buildings in the town centre. George Filmer was a local contractor from the early 1870s and was also involved in local body politics. One of his former employees, William Hall-Jones, later entered national politics and served briefly as Prime Minister (1906).

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former National Bank of New Zealand building has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the historic character of Stafford Street and in relation to a number of nearby heritage buildings. The building's presence in close proximity to the Excelsior Hotel, Theatre Royal (heritage item # 46), former Union Bank of Australia and the former Timaru

and Gladstone Board of Works building (heritage item # 43) attests to the historic importance of the southerly section of Stafford Street for the financial and commercial development of the city.

#### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The site of the former National Bank of New Zealand building has potential archaeological significance relating to the early development of Timaru and its central business district. The 1875 town plan (South Canterbury Museum) appears to show that the site was vacant before the bank was erected in 1881-82.

#### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former National Bank of New Zealand building has overall heritage significance to Timaru and the district of Timaru. The former bank has historical significance for its association with the development of Timaru's banking sector and the evolution of Stafford Street. The former National Bank of New Zealand building has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former staff and customers and architectural significance as the work of colonial architect FJ Wilson. The former National Bank of New Zealand building has technological significance as a masonry building with classical detailing and contextual significance for its contribution to the historic streetscape of Stafford Street. The former National Bank of New Zealand building has potential archaeological significance relating to its construction and early use.

#### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

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#### **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 30 June 1873, p. 2; 28 January 1881, p. 2; 22 May 1882, p. 3; 13 June 1893, p. 3; 14 June 1906, p. 5.
- *South Canterbury Times* 23 September 1881, p. 3; 30 December 1881, p. 2; 2 May 1882, p. 3; 1 December 1882, p. 3; 23 July 1886, p. 3.
- *Poverty Bay Herald* 21 April 1911, p. 4.
- *New Zealand Times* 12 April 1911, p. 8.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2074>



Extent of setting, 129 Stafford Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME**

Theatre Royal

**ADDRESS**

118-124 Stafford Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(Dr A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.**  
(at time of assessment)

No. 46

**HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY**

5393 / 2

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Lot 8 DP 9843 & Lot 3 DP 18106

**VALUATION NUMBER**

2500051200

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION**

[1869-70/1877/1882-83] 1911 / 1962-63 / 1992-93

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER**

HE White, architect (1911); Barry Bracefield, architect  
(1992-92)

**STYLE**

Post-Modern with Edwardian auditorium

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Multi-level building with rectangular footprint and varied roof forms. Symmetrical façade, with recessed wing on northern boundary, has suspended veranda with central pedimented canopy and projecting pediment over large arched window. Columns framing entry, cornice, open-bed pediment and frieze motifs pay homage to earlier 1911 classical façade. Building extends the width and length of the property; 1911 auditorium is largely original.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, concrete, cement plaster, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Ongoing programme of partial demolition and redevelopment (see dates above).

**SETTING**

The Theatre Royal is located on the west side of Stafford Street, to the south of its intersection with George Street. Other heritage buildings in the vicinity include the Excelsior Hotel, the former Gladstone Board of Works building (heritage item # 43), the Oxford Buildings (heritage item # 47) and the former National Bank (heritage item # 45). The extent of scheduling encompasses the two land parcels on which the building is principally located.

## **HISTORY**

The first Theatre Royal opened on this site in 1877. The original structure had been built as a stone store by Richard Turnbull in 1869/70; it was known as Turnbull's Hall by 1876. The hall was remodelled by local architect Maurice Duval for JL Hall in 1877 and for Moss Jonas in 1882-83. Shops on the street front flanked a hallway that led to the theatre beyond until at least the early 1960s, when the foyer was rebuilt. The auditorium dates to 1911 and the façade and foyer were reconstructed to local architect Barrie Bracefield's design in 1992-93. The building was acquired by Timaru City Council in 1961 and remains in council ownership and management today.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Theatre Royal has historical and social significance for its association with the civic and social life of the community since 1877. The building is associated with a wide range of social and theatrical events and its long history of redevelopment demonstrates the continued value of the theatre to its owners and audiences.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Theatre Royal has cultural significance as a site of community identity and historic continuity.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Theatre Royal has architectural value as a composite building that combines an Edwardian auditorium with a Post-Modern façade and entrance foyer. Architects involved in the building's repeated remodelling over the years include Maurice de Harven Duval, HE White, and Barrie Bracefield. White (1876-1952) was a builder turned architect who specialised in theatre design. The Theatre Royal in Timaru was one of his early theatre designs, his best-known New Zealand work being St James' Theatres in Wellington (1912).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The Theatre Royal has technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and decorative auditorium plaster detailing.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Theatre Royal has contextual significance as a historic landmark on Stafford Street. There are a number of other heritage buildings in the vicinity and together these items contribute to the historic character of the town's principal thoroughfare.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As there has been development on this site since 1869/70, the property has potential archaeological values relating to its colonial use and development.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The Theatre Royal has overall significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the civic and social life of the community since the mid-1870s and cultural significance as a site of community identity and historic continuity. The Theatre Royal has architectural value as a composite building with an Edwardian auditorium behind a Post-Modern facade and technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and interior detailing. The Theatre Royal has contextual significance as a historic landmark within the town centre of Timaru.

## HERITAGE CATEGORY

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## REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 15 September 1869, p. 2; 26 June 1872, p. 2; 22 April 1876, p. 3; 28 April 1876, p. 3; 12 August 1876, p. 2; 14 July 1877, p. 3; 16 November 1882, p. 3; 17 May 1883, p. 8; 14 March 2017 (available online).
- *Daily Telegraph* 26 April 1883, p. 3.
- *Nelson Evening Mail* 24 April 1911, p. 3.
- *NZ Herald* 24 April 1911, p. 5.
- *South Canterbury Times* 22 November 1881, p. 2; 10 October 1884, p. 2.
- *Wairarapa Age* 25 March 1911, p. 5.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/5393>



Extent of scheduling, 118-124 Stafford Street, Timaru.



**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** Oxford Buildings  
**ADDRESS** 148 Stafford Street, Timaru  
**PHOTOGRAPH**

(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)



**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** No. 47      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 2058 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 2 DP 51949

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500050501EE

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1924-25

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Messrs Turnbull & Rule, architects; A Kennedy, builder

**STYLE** Inter-war classical

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Four storey-building with rectangular footprint and hipped roof. Principal elevations overlooking George and Stafford Streets have symmetrical, centre-and-ends compositions with longer elevation on Stafford Street (east elevation). Chamfered corner, suspended veranda with clerestory windows above. Rusticated end bays topped by arch motif with oversize voussoirs and keystone. Parapet and fanlights have inset Union Jack motifs. External fire escape stairs and balconies on Stafford Street elevation; balcony at third floor of George Street (north) elevation.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Reinforced concrete.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Unknown, if any.

**SETTING**

The building stands on the south-west corner at the intersection of Stafford and George Streets. Cains Terrace is directly to the north. There are a number of other heritage buildings in the vicinity, including the former Landing Service building (heritage item # 44), Meehan's building (heritage item # 20), the Theatre Royal (heritage item # 46), the Excelsior Hotel, and the former National Bank (heritage item # 45). The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located.

## **HISTORY**

The Oxford Buildings were erected for DC Turnbull & Co. in 1924-25. Initially it was intended to erect a three-storey building at 'Gabites' corner' but the decision was made in late 1924 to build to four storeys. The commercial building was the tallest in Timaru at the time of its construction and it replaced an earlier structure built by Richard Turnbull that was occupied by Arthur Gabites, a drapery and clothing company established as Gabites and Plante in 1872. Arthur Gabites took possession of the corner shop in the new building, with three other retailers in the smaller shops along Stafford Street. The local branch of the *Press* and the *Weekly Press* moved into an office on the first floor in April 1927. Government Life Insurance purchased the building in the early 1950s, having earlier had rooms in Hay's Buildings further north along Stafford Street. The building has changed hands but remains in commercial use today.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Oxford Buildings have historical and social significance for their association with DC Turnbull & Co. and the inter-war commercial development of the Timaru town centre. David Clarkson and Richard Turnbull were early Timaru merchants and two generations of the Turnbull family were responsible for erecting three buildings in all at the corner of Stafford and George Streets, the third being Oxford Buildings.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Oxford Buildings have cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the building's tenants and their customers, especially those associated with the drapery business Arthur Gabites, after whom the street corner was known for many years.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Oxford Buildings have architectural significance as the work of Timaru architectural practice, Turnbull and Rule. Timaru-born James Turnbull (1864-1947) trained in Melbourne and then established a practice in Timaru in c.1895. The son of Richard Turnbull (1826-90), a prominent Timaru businessman and politician, and the brother of David Clarkson Turnbull (1868-1951), who founded the merchant company DC Turnbull & Co. in 1894, Turnbull also designed Job Brown's Beehive Stores (heritage item #117, 1901-2) in Temuka, Chalmers Church (heritage item #38, 1903-4) and a large number of Timaru houses. Turnbull went into partnership with Percy Watts Rule in c.1920, after which time Rule was the principal designer in the firm. The firm designed the Timaru Boys' High School War Memorial Library (1924, heritage item # 16), Temuka Library (heritage item #118, 1926-27), St James' Anglican Church at Franz Josef (1928-31) and the 1930 additions to the Bank Street Methodist Church (heritage item # 51). Rule was awarded a Gold Medal from the NZ Institute of Architects for his design of the Surgical Wing at Timaru Hospital (1936-40) in 1939.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The Oxford Buildings have technological and craftsmanship value for their reinforced concrete construction and classical facade detailing.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Oxford Buildings have contextual significance as a notable historic feature within the Timaru town centre. The concentration of scheduled heritage items and historic character buildings lining Stafford Street, and in the vicinity of the port and railway station, gives Timaru's principal CBD thoroughfare its distinctive identity and sense of place.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the building post-dates 1900 its site may have potential archaeological significance relating to its earlier development and use. The first building on the site pre-dated the 1868 fire that destroyed a large number of buildings in central Timaru.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

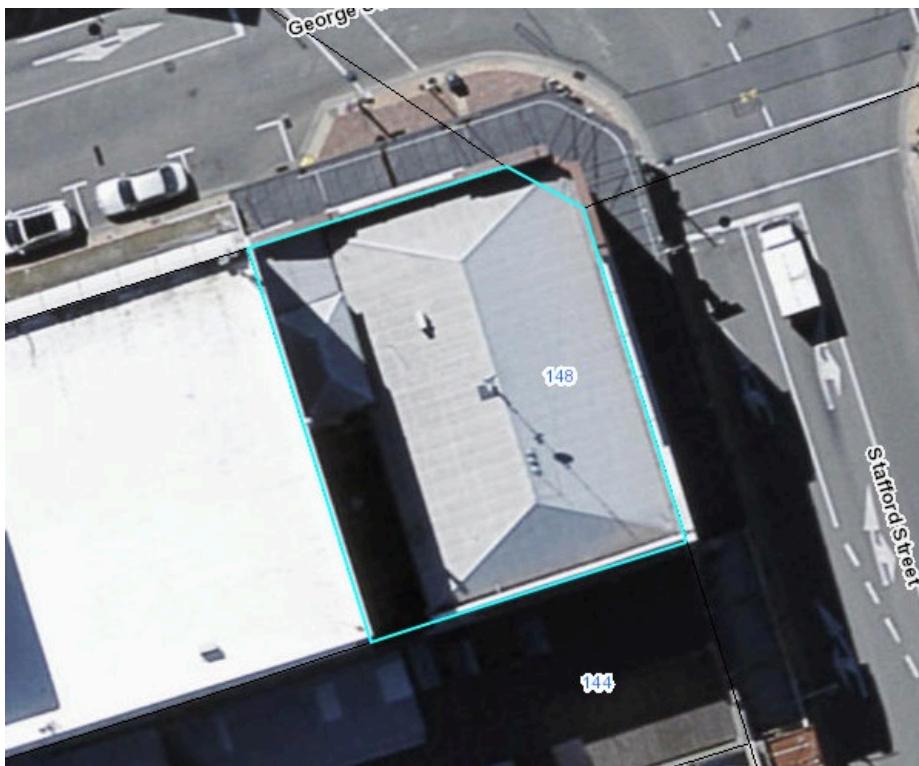
The Oxford Buildings have overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The buildings have historical and social significance for their association with DC Turnbull & Co., Arthur Gabites and the interwar development of the town centre, and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of their former tenants and their customers. The Oxford Buildings have architectural significance as the work of successful Timaru architects Turnbull & Rule and technological and craftsmanship value for their reinforced concrete construction and ornamental classical detailing. The Oxford Buildings have contextual significance for the contribution they make to the Timaru town centre streetscape and the building's site may have potential archaeological significance in view of the colonial use of the property.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

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## **REFERENCES**

- *Temuka Leader* 15 March 1927, p. 4.
- *Press* 8 May 1924, p. 4; 24 December 1924, p. 2; 12 March 1926, p. 7; 11 April 1927, p. 4.
- *Timaru Herald* 11 May 1866, p. 6; 11 June 1914, p. 3; 31 October 2014 (available online).
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2058>
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2055>
- <https://www.kpirothschild.co.nz/properties/ref/148/>
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/the-oxford-building>
- <https://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/articles/1898>



Extent of setting, 148 Stafford Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Timaru Public Library and Borough Council Municipal Offices / Timaru District Council Offices facade

**ADDRESS** 2 King George Place, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** HHI62      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 2075 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lots 1-3 DP 1490

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500053000

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1908-9, 1911-12 + later additions

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Walter Panton & Son, architects; Messrs Werry & Hunt (library) & BR Tooth & Son (municipal offices), builders

**STYLE** Renaissance palazzo

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Ornamental façade on two-storey building with L-shaped footprint and varied roof forms. Modern additions to the east. Principal elevation (north-facing) has centre and ends composition with central clocktower; first floor balcony over an arched opening on the ground floor. Balcony motif is repeated at the centre of eastern bay. Solid parapet, arch-headed windows on first floor, rusticated ground floor with engaged columns flanking entries. Recessed central bay has segmental and semi-circular pediments over first floor windows. Southern section of shorter, west-facing elevation is set back slightly. Ventilation grilles set within the base of the building feature the architect's name. Frieze carries words 'Municipal Offices' and 'Public Library' in relief.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Bluestone foundation, Oamaru stone façade with Scotch granite columns, reinforced concrete.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Additions in matching style to library (1913-14) and to council offices (1926-27). Clocktower erected (Victor Panton, architect; WJ Harding, builder; 1933-34). Lamp of Remembrance installed atop clock-tower (1946). Additions to east end (1958). Pediments and parapet

ornamentation removed (1962). Library converted to offices (1979); new offices and council chambers erected to the east (1983). Building rebuilt behind stone facades (2005).

## **SETTING**

The building stands on the east corner at the intersection of King George Place and Latter Street. To the north is the Timaru Post Office precinct and the South Canterbury Museum is beyond that to the north-west. A cluster of residential buildings is to the south-west and to the east, along George Street, is the Timaru Railway Station and Stafford Street. The extent of scheduling is limited to the footprint of the building defined by its historic facades, rather than the council offices as a whole. This is consistent with the HNZPT list entry.

## **HISTORY**

Timaru's Carnegie Library was erected by the Borough Council in 1908-9, one of eighteen built in New Zealand with funding provided by the American steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The library replaced the Mechanics' Institute (est. 1864), which was located in North Street and sold to help finance the new building. Originally the library was five bays long on its King George Place frontage and six on the elevation overlooking Latter Street. It was officially opened on 3 June 1909 and Mayor James Craigie was hailed at the time as the driving force behind the library's construction. 15% of the population were members within two years of the library's opening and by 1934 that figure had increased to almost 30%. Average library membership across New Zealand, Australia and Britain at this time was 10%, according to historian Susan Liebich. In April 1913 Evelyn Culverwell was appointed chief librarian, the first woman appointed to this position in New Zealand. The Timaru Borough Council erected municipal offices next to the library in 1911-12, both elements of the building were extended in the mid-1910s and mid-1920s respectively. A reinforced concrete clocktower was added in 1933-34 following a design competition held by the council. It was built to house a clock donated by Mayor Craigie in 1913 that had previously been housed in the Post Office across the road. A new library opened in 1979, after which time the building was fully occupied by the council. In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century Timaru District Council demolished the original library and municipal offices, retaining the two façades of the historic building and rebuilding within its envelope. The building remains the headquarters of Timaru District Council today.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has historical and social significance for its association with the town's civic infrastructure, with the Carnegie library construction programme, and as one of the earliest free public libraries in New Zealand.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has cultural value as a valued reminder of the provision of free library services in Timaru since 1909 and its association with the staff and elected officials of Timaru town and district since 1912. The building also has a commemorative function in regard to the World War II memorial Lamp of Remembrance installed in 1946.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has architectural significance as the work of successful Timaru architect Walter Panton. Panton (1848-1931), who won the 1907 design competition for the Timaru Town Hall project, including a library and municipal offices, was born and served a building apprenticeship in England. After a period in the United States he reportedly lived in Australia before commencing work as a builder and architect in Southland in c.1895. After a period in Dunedin Panton was practising in Timaru by 1905; his son Victor (c.1887-1946) joined him in practice in 1909. Walter Panton was accepted as a Licentiate of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1911 and both father and son registered as

architects in New Zealand in 1914. The firm was also responsible for the additions to the Empire Hotel on Church Street (1906) and the former Public Trust Office in Sophia Street (1922-23, heritage items # 32). The façade of the Timaru District Council offices demonstrates the typical classical styling of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Carnegie libraries throughout the United States and internationally.

### **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has technological and craftsmanship significance for its stone construction and the quality of its classical detailing. Timaru builder William Henry Hunt was in partnership with William Werry from 1895. Werry and Hunt erected a number of commercial buildings in central Timaru as well as undertaking extensive water-race construction in the North Island. The firm also erected Thomson's Coronation Buildings (1902, heritage item # 34) and the former Hay's Buildings in 1907-8 (heritage item # 29). Local stonemason Samuel McBride undertook the stonework for the original library building; McBride also designed and manufactured Timaru's Troopers' Memorial (1904, heritage item # 18).

### **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has contextual significance as a notable historic feature on the edge of the Timaru town centre. The building forms a civic and governmental precinct with the post office precinct on the north side of King George Place.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the building post-dates 1900 its site may have limited potential archaeological values. An 1875 map of Timaru (South Canterbury Museum) shows Lot 192 was undeveloped at that time.

### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the Carnegie library system and the evolution of local government in the township and cultural value for its association with the community's civic infrastructure since 1909. The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has architectural significance as the work of successful Timaru architectural practice Walter Panton & Son and technological and craftsmanship significance for its Oamaru stone masonry construction and ornamental classical detailing. The façade of the Timaru District Council offices has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the Timaru town centre streetscape; its site may have limited potential archaeological significance in view of its post-1900 development.

### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

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### **REFERENCES**

- *Temuka Leader* 22 May 1924, p. 3.
- *Timaru Herald* 13 August 1908, p. 7; 18 February 1909, p. 7; 31 December 1910, p. 2; 4 July 1911, p. 6; 1 July 1912, p. 4; 15 July 1913, p. 5; 10 March 1914, p. 5; 19 June 1914, p. 8; 2 December 1916, p. 8; 7 September 1918, p. 2; 26 November 1919, p. 2; 22 April 2008, & 24 June 2017 (available online).
- *Press* 6 March 1909, p. 12; 12 October 1926, p. 14; 26 November 1927, p. 7; 19 May 1931, p. 8; 14 February 1933, p. 11; 23 May 1933, p. 5; 16 January 1934, p. 5.
- *NZ Times* 14 September 1900, p. 3.
- *Progress* 1 July 1907, pp. 28, 29.
- *Mataura Ensign* 29 March 1895, p. 3.

- *Southland Times* 25 January 1896, p. 1.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2075>
- *Directory of British Architects, 1834-1914*: Vol. 2 (L-Z) available online.
- <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/Panton.htm>
- Susan Liebich 'Connected Readers: Reading Practices and Communities Across the British Empire, c.1890-1930' PhD thesis, Victoria University of Wellington, 2012 (available online).



Extent of setting, limited to three land parcels on which the historic façade is located, 2 King George Place, Timaru.



Land parcels making up 2 King George Place, Timaru.



**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** Wrecks Monument / *Benvenue & City of Perth* Memorial

**ADDRESS** cnr Perth & Sophia Streets, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, July 2018)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** No. 49      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 2045 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 1 DP 56548

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500053900

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1883/1885

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** T Roberts, architect; S McBride, stonemason

**STYLE** Obelisk

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Obelisk mounted on stepped octagonal base; inset with memorial panels.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Concrete foundation, Bluestone and dolerite base, Aberdeen granite obelisk, bronze plaques.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Addition of fourth plaque engraved with the names of the two ships (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The memorial is set within a paved reserve bounded by Perth and Sophia Streets immediately adjacent to, and north of, the Timaru Telephone Exchange (1957). A flagpole relocated from Caroline Bay in 1989 stands between the exchange building and the monument. The setting is the triangular parcel on which the memorial is sited, which is consistent with the HNZPT extent of listing.

## **HISTORY**

On 14 May 1882 two ships were wrecked at Timaru, the *City of Perth* and the *Benvenue*. This was the worst day in the district's shipping history with nine dead and the *Benvenue* lost. The dead men had come from the shore to attempt to sail the *City of Perth* out in to the harbour. The harbourmaster of the day, Captain Alexander Mills, was one of the men killed. The Benvenue Cliffs were subsequently named for the ship that foundered on them. Plans for a memorial to the lives lost were soon in train and public subscriptions raised to fund it. The monument was erected in two stages, the base being installed in March 1883 and the obelisk, once it had arrived from Scotland, erected upon it in August 1885. The monument was completed on 20 August 1885, in front of a large crowd, but Samuel McBride then made alterations to the setting of the bronze memorial plaques in early September. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the wreck of the two ships was marked with a procession of school children and an acknowledgement of the three survivors known to still reside in Timaru.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Wrecks Monument has historical significance for its association with a disastrous day in Timaru's shipping history and, more generally, the rigours and dangers of the harbour. It is directly connected to the people, their families and descendants, whose names are inscribed upon the memorial.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Wrecks Monument has cultural significance as a place of community identity and commemoration.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Wrecks Monument has aesthetic value as a memorial obelisk. Thomas Roberts called tenders for the monument in September 1882. He was the engineer to the Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works in the early 1870s and also advertised his services as an architect and licensed surveyor. Roberts also designed the Sealy house (1875), which is now known as Shand House at Craighead Diocesan School (heritage item # 9).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The Wrecks Monument has craftsmanship value for the quality of its construction and detailing. The memorial was the work of local stonemason Samuel McBride who also designed and built the Timaru Troopers' Memorial (1904, heritage item # 18). The original three bronze plates on the memorial were engraved by N Wolfe of Christchurch.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Wrecks Monument has contextual significance as a local landmark set within its own grassed reserve. It is associated with the Ex-Royal Navalmen's Association flagpole (1955/1989) and the Post Office buildings located to the south of the memorial reserve.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the memorial pre-dates 1900, its site may have archaeological significance relating to the monument's erection and use.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The Wrecks Monument has overall heritage significance to Timaru and the district of Timaru as a whole. The memorial has historical and social significance for its association with the men who died as a result of the wreck of the *Benvenue* and the *City of Perth* and cultural significance given its commemorative purpose. The Wrecks Monument has aesthetic value for

its design by architect and engineer Thomas Roberts and craftsmanship value for the quality of its construction and detailing by stonemason Samuel McBride. The Wrecks Monument has contextual significance as a local landmark in the town centre and its site may have pre-1900 archaeological value.

#### HERITAGE CATEGORY

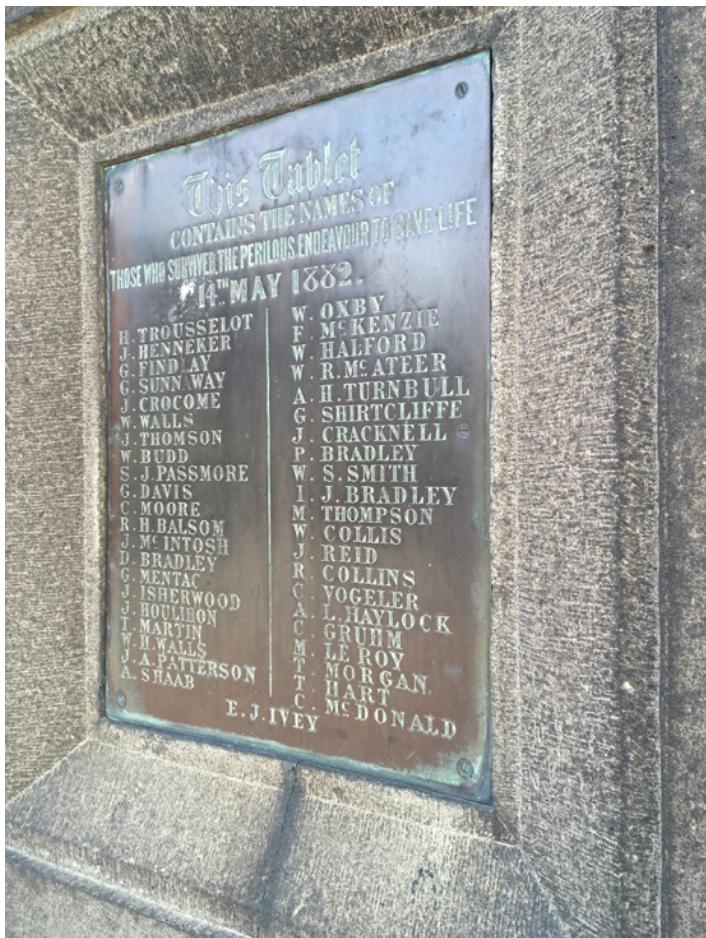
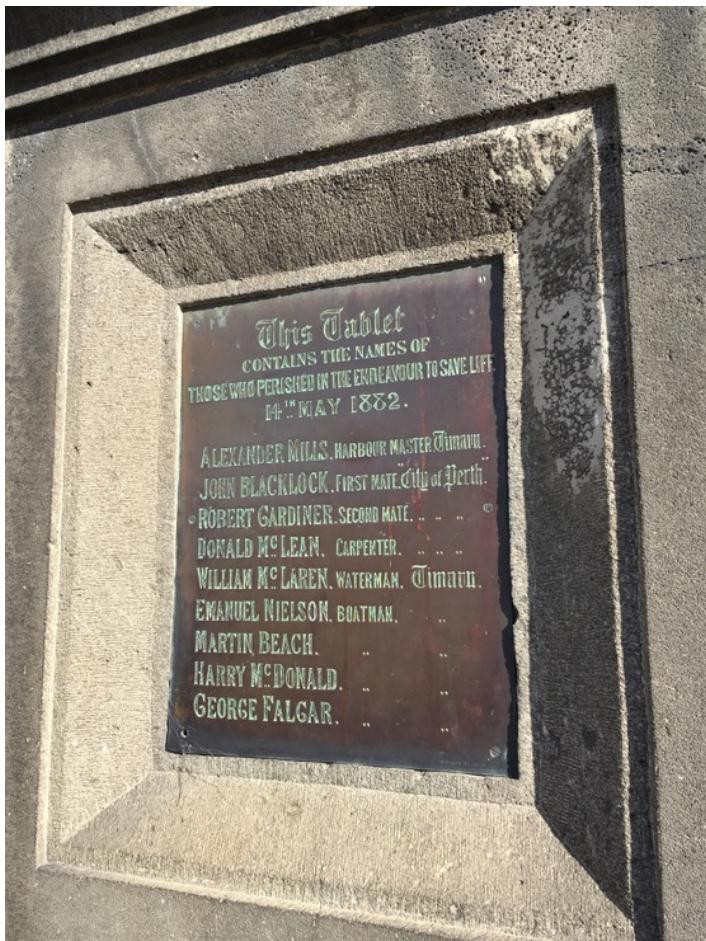
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Extent of setting, plot bounded by Perth and Sophia Streets, Timaru.



**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** St Mary's Anglican Church

**ADDRESS** 22A Church Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(Dr A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** No. 50      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** 328 / 1  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 1 DP 81293, Part Lot 323 DP 1, Part Lot 1 DP 8897, Part Lot 1 DP 1739

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500055100

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1880-86 + 1907-09

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** WB Armson & Collins and Harman, architects; Messrs McGill, Clayton & Wilson (1880-86) & Samuel McBride, contractors (1907-9)

**STYLE** Gothic Revival

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Gothic Revival style church with L-shaped footprint and gabled roof forms. Crenelated entrance tower in Perpendicular Gothic style on north side, apsidal choir room to the south. Spirelet on principal ridgelines, octagonal clerestory windows, buttresses, quoins & rose window at west end.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timaru bluestone (basalt) and Oamaru stone, timber, Welsh slate.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Tower and chancel completed (1907-10). West door entrance porch added (1961). Stained glass windows installed (various dates).

**SETTING**

The church stands on a large corner site bounded by Church Street to the north-west and Perth Street to the east. St Mary's Church Hall (1929) is located to the south-west on Church Street, separated from the church by a right of way. The South Canterbury Museum is located to the south along Perth Street and the Wrecks Monument (heritage item # 49) and former Timaru Chief Post Office site is on the other side of Perth Street. The extent of setting

encompasses the multiple land parcels on which the church is located, partly in view of the potential archaeological values of the site.

## **HISTORY**

Prior to Timaru's establishment as a town, Bishop Harper visited South Canterbury from Christchurch and conducted services in several homesteads and, in 1858, at Timaru. In 1859, the Anglican Church posted George Foster to Timaru with responsibility for all of South Canterbury. The following year the foundation stone of the first St Mary's Church was laid. It was dedicated on 28 April 1861 and the church was enlarged in 1868. In 1875 Archdeacon HW Harper (a son of the bishop) took up his position as vicar of St Mary's, a post he held until 1911. The replacement in stone of the original St Mary's was designed by the noted Christchurch architect WB Armson towards the end of his career. The foundation stone was laid in September 1880, and the nave and side aisles finally completed to Armson's design and the church consecrated on 26 August 1886. Part of the old church was connected to the new in order to create a temporary chancel and vestry, pending completion of the building when finances allowed. It has been reported that Armson's successors Collins and Harman modified his design but the account of the laying of the foundation stone in 1880 mentions a tower to be built at the north-east corner of the church. Between 1907 and 1909 the chancel was built along with a Lady chapel, the octagonal choir room and the tower; a second foundation stone having been laid on 14 July 1907. The church reopened on 6 May 1909. Over the years a number of notable memorial windows were installed in St Mary's, including a World War II window funded by the town of Worthing in Sussex, England, in appreciation of the food parcels sent from Timaru during the war. Besides the church, the parish built a two-storey brick vicarage on Theodosia Street, behind which, in 1903, was a wooden Sunday school room which could seat around 500 people. A larger Sunday school was erected on a nearby site in 1929; the earlier hall subsequently being demolished. A Conservation Plan for the church was prepared in 2000; the building was closed between 2012 and 2015, due to concerns about seismic performance, and it closed once again in January 2018 for strengthening and conservation. Services are currently being held in the adjacent hall until the refurbishment has been completed.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Anglican Church has high historical and social significance as a place of Anglican worship and communion since 1886 and as a demonstration of the congregation's sustained commitment to the staged construction of the church, over almost 30 years, as funds permitted.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Anglican Church has cultural and spiritual significance as a demonstration of the way of life of the clergy and congregation who have worshipped in the church since 1886 and for its continued use as a place of remembrance and commemoration. The church's World War I Shrine of Remembrance was dedicated on 1 December 1921. The memorial chapel of St Michael and All Angels was dedicated on 28 June 1953 in memory of the South Canterbury servicemen who died serving in World War II.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Anglican Church has high architectural significance as the last and most important ecclesiastical work by leading New Zealand architect William Armson (1834-83). Armson modelled his design on St Luke's Anglican Church in Oamaru, for which he had acted as supervising architect in 1865. He died before the church could be completed; the work being taken over in 1883 by the successors to his practice, JJ Collins (1855-1933) and RSD Harman (1859-1927). The firm also designed a number of houses for members of Canterbury's rural elite in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including 'Blue Cliffs' for RH Rhodes in 1889, AEG Rhodes' town house 'Te Koraha' (1883-1903), and 'Meadowbank' homestead for George Rhodes in 1891. The 1903 *Cyclopedia of New Zealand* noted of the practice's houses that

'[t]hese are amongst the finest family residences in New Zealand, and in point of design and architecture they are unsurpassed in the colony.' Collins' most well-known ecclesiastical work is the Nurses' Memorial Chapel at Christchurch Hospital (1925-27). Local architect Walter Panton was engaged by the church building committee in c.1908 to supervise the stages designed by Collins and Harman.

### **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Anglican Church has high technological and craftsmanship significance as a composite late-Victorian and Edwardian bluestone and Oamaru stone building. The interior is notable for woodwork was carved by noted Canterbury craftsman Frederick Gurnsey and Fiona Ciaran has catalogued the stained-glass windows installed in the church from c.1891 in her PhD dissertation. One window, the *Benedicte Canticle* (1953) was partly based on drawings by South Canterbury artists Esther Hope.

### **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Anglican Church has high contextual significance as a landmark historic feature and for its relationship with the St Mary's Church Hall and other heritage churches in Timaru, including the former Methodist (heritage item # 51) and Presbyterian (heritage item # 38) churches that are located to the south-west and north-west of St Mary's. The church's elevated site and proximity to the South Canterbury Museum and the Wrecks Monument also enhances its contextual significance within the town centre.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the church pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the building's construction and use. The church was built on the site of the first St Mary's (1860-61).

### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Anglican Church has high overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The church has high historical and social significance for its association with local Anglicans for over 130 years and cultural and spiritual significance as a place of Christian worship and fellowship. St Mary's Anglican Church has high architectural significance as a Gothic Revival style building designed by William Arsmson and the successors to his leading architectural practice and high technological and craftsmanship significance for its masonry construction using locally quarried basalt and Oamaru limestone. St Mary's Anglican Church has high contextual significance as a local landmark and in relation to other historic churches in the central city. The site of St Mary's Anglican Church has potential archaeological significance in view of its pre-1900 date of construction.

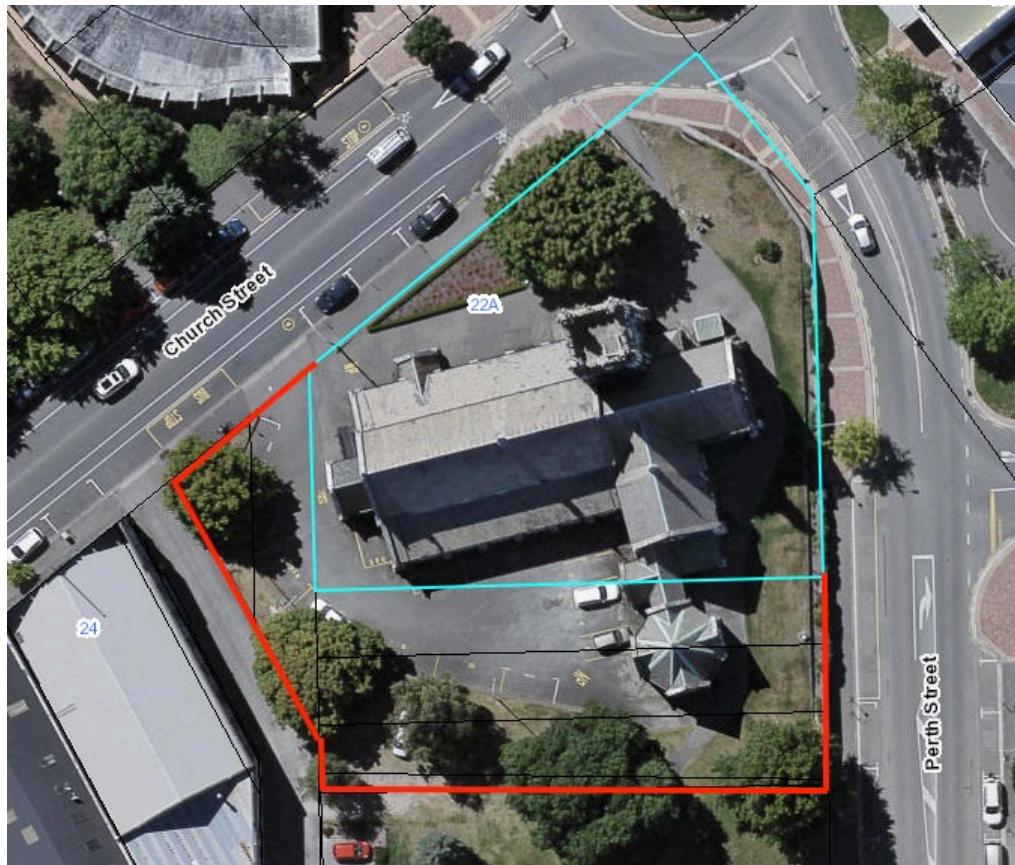
### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

A

### **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 25 July 1880, p. 2; 24 July 1880, p. 1; 6 October 1880, p. 5; 7 July 1881, p. 3; 19 February 1884, p. 1; 22 April 1886, p. 2; 11 May 1886, p. 2; 27 August 1886, p. 3; 26 March 1896, p. 3; 6 December 1906, p. 2; 15 July 1907, p. 6; 29 May 1908, p. 3; 7 May 1909, p. 6; 12 November 2016 (available online).
- *Press* 26 August 1886, p. 3; 29 August 1927, p. 2; 13 December 1927, p. 10; 14 December 1927, p. 4; 3 September 1929, p. 6; 8 October 1929, p. 4.
- *North Otago Times* 10 September 1880, p. 2.
- *South Canterbury Times* 9 September 1880, p. 2.
- *Ashburton Guardian* 22 December 1906, p. 3.
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Extent of setting, 22A Church Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Bank Street (Wesleyan) Methodist Church

**ADDRESS** 38-40 Bank Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(Dr A McEwan, 11 July 2018)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** No. 51      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** 3155 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lots 285 & 287 DP 1

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500056900

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1874-75 + 1890/1930

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Francis Wilson, architect; Messrs Jones & Peters,  
stonemasons (original structure)

**STYLE** Early English Gothic Revival

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Gothic Revival style hall type church with rectangular footprint and gabled roof. Crenelated entrance tower at north-east corner has tall copper-clad steeple. Gabled chancel and vestry at west end. Lancet arched windows, large window in east gable end having delicate tracery. Quoins and cement dressed door and window surrounds. Diamond-pattern leadlight windows and two stained glass memorial windows opposite one another in the nave. Concrete and wrought iron boundary fence. Cross atop steeple and metal finials at east gable end and south-east corner.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timaru bluestone (basalt), concrete/cement, timber, brick, corrugated metal and copper.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Nave extended and chancel added (Robert Harvey, architect, 1890). Stained glass windows installed (1922 & 1931). Brick vestry and entrance tower added, original entry converted in to a window, chancel and vestry stuccoed (Turnbull & Rule, architects, 1930). Ventilators removed from ridgeline (date unknown). Conversion to current use (1992).

## **SETTING**

The former church stands on the west side of Bank Street, south of its intersection with Church Street. The building is centrally located on its site, which consists of two land parcels. The neighbouring streetscape is light industrial in nature. The extent of setting is both land parcels on which the building is located, partly in view of the potential archaeological values of the site, and includes the boundary fencing.

## **HISTORY**

The first Wesleyan Methodist church services in Timaru were held in a private home in Sandytown in 1863. A site for a Methodist church was gifted by the Rhodes brothers and a timber chapel subsequently built in Bank Street in 1866. This chapel was extended in 1868. A new stone church on the same site opened on 21 March 1875; the chapel was then moved to the rear of the site for use as a Sunday school (demolished post-1930). The church's nave was extended to the west in stone and a timber chancel erected beyond it in 1890. In 1930 a stone entrance tower with steeple was erected; the church reopened on Saturday 1 November 1930. The church celebrated its centenary in 1965. In 1991 the church closed and the building was leased to South Canterbury Funeral Services for use as a funeral home and chapel.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Bank Street Methodist Church has high historical and social significance as the first and oldest surviving Wesleyan Methodist church built in South Canterbury. The church is the oldest in Timaru and its use since 1992 as a funeral chapel is sympathetic to and consistent with its 116-history as a church. The former church has added historical significance for its association with church member Laurel McAlister (1892-1981), who was the national president of the Methodist Women's Guild Fellowship from 1959 until 1962. McAlister was actively involved with the Bank Street Sunday school from 1916 until 1942 and was also a founding member of the Timaru Townswomen's Guild. She was awarded an MBE for her work during World War II in 1946.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Bank Street Methodist Church has cultural and spiritual significance as a former place of worship, as a demonstration of the way of life of local families who worshipped in the church between 1875 and 1991, and for its continued use as a place of remembrance and commemoration. The building has added commemorative value as the site of two New Zealand-made memorial windows, including *Christ Giving the Crown of Life to a Soldier* (1922), which is a World War I memorial.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Bank Street Methodist Church has high architectural significance as the work of early Timaru architect FJ Wilson. South African-born Francis John (Frank) Wilson (c.1836-1911) was said to have 'practically rebuilt Timaru after the big fire' of 1868 (*Poverty Bay Herald* 21 April 1911, p. 5). Wilson reportedly arrived in Timaru in c.1855 and not only worked as a contractor and architect but also as a publican, holding licenses for hotels in Timaru and Washdyke in the mid-1860s. Wilson also designed the Criterion Hotel, of which he was the proprietor (1872-73), and the Timaru Main School (1873-74). He and his wife Emily had ten children and although Frank Wilson died in Gisborne in 1911 he was remembered at the time as one of the 'prominent citizen(s) of Timaru in the early days' (*Timaru Herald* 28 April 1911, p. 7). Wilson left Timaru in the 1880s and, after a period spent in Australia, he later lived and worked in Wellington, Palmerston North and Gisborne. Frank Wilson's son Frank was also an architect and his grandson Francis Gordon Wilson (1900-59) became Government Architect of New Zealand (1952-59). Robert Harvey, who undertook the 1890 additions to the church, was a Timaru architect and builder in the 1880s. The 1930 additions to the church were designed by local architectural partnership Turnbull & Rule.

Timaru-born James Turnbull (1864-1947) trained in Melbourne and then established a practice in Timaru in c.1895. The son of Richard Turnbull, a prominent Timaru businessman and politician, Turnbull also designed Job Brown's Beehive Stores (1901-2) in Temuka, Chalmers Church (1903-4, heritage item # 38), and a large number of Timaru houses. Turnbull went into partnership with Percy Watts Rule in c.1920, after which time Percy Rule was the principal designer in the firm. The firm designed St James' Anglican Church at Franz Josef (1928-31) and Rule was awarded a Gold Medal from the NZ Institute of Architects for his design of the Surgical Wing at Timaru Hospital (1936-40) in 1939.

### **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Bank Street Methodist Church has high technological and craftsmanship significance as a mid-Victorian bluestone building that was added to using the same material in 1890 and 1930. Harding & Co. were the contractors responsible for the 1930 additions. The two stained glass windows installed in the nave in 1922 and 1931 are believed to have been designed and made by John Brock of Dunedin.

### **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Bank Street Methodist Church has contextual significance as a local landmark and for its relationship with other heritage churches in Timaru, including the Anglican (heritage item # 50) and Presbyterian (heritage item # 38) churches that are located to the north and east of the Bank Street building. The steeple of the Bank Street church is a notable feature of the central city skyline and the historic boundary wall and fencing enhance the contextual values of the property within its light industrial streetscape.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the church pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the building's construction and use. An earlier timber chapel (1866) stood on Lot 287, immediately north of the existing building.

### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Bank Street Methodist Church has high overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The church has high historical and social significance for its association with local Methodists for over 110 years and cultural and spiritual significance as a demonstration of the way of life of past congregations and their clergy. The former Bank Street Methodist Church has high architectural significance as a Gothic Revival style building designed by Timaru architect Francis Wilson, with sympathetic later additions, and high technological and craftsmanship significance for its masonry construction using locally quarried basalt. The former Bank Street Methodist Church has contextual significance as a local landmark and in relation to other historic churches in the central city. The former Bank Street Methodist Church has potential archaeological significance in view of its pre-1900 date of construction.

### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

**A**

### **REFERENCES**

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Extent of setting, including the historic fencing on the eastern boundary, 38-40 Bank Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Criterion Hotel / former Excelsior Hotel/Tavern

**ADDRESS** 132 Stafford Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 11 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.** New      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** n/a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Pt Lots 47 & 49 DP 1

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500051000

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1872-73

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Francis J Wilson (architect); D West (architect, 1878 additions)

**STYLE** Victorian commercial classicism

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two storey-building with irregular rectangular footprint; flat and half-hipped roof forms. Façade has five openings on the ground floor and six on the first floor; exposed stonework with plastered window surrounds and entablature at first floor level. Side entry at north end of street front has ornamental leaded glass fanlight. Quoins frame ground floor façade with pilasters above, at first floor level. Double-hung sash windows. Suspended veranda, ramp access to first floor at rear; entry sheltered by lean-to canopy.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timaru bluestone (basalt), brick, timber and corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Brick additions to rear (D West, architect, 1878). Interior alterations (1890). Suspended veranda erected (pre-1970). Panel framed by decorative brackets removed from parapet; plasterwork stripped from façade (post-1995). Forward hip roof removed; replaced by flat terrace (late 1990s).

**SETTING**

The hotel stands on the west side of Stafford Street, south of its intersection with George Street. To the south stands the Theatre Royal (118-122 Stafford Street, heritage item # 46) and the former Gladstone Board of Works building (95 Stafford Street, heritage item # 43).

To the north of the hotel are the Oxford Buildings (148-154 Stafford Street, heritage item # 47) and the former National Bank (129 Stafford Street, heritage item # 45). The extent of scheduling is the two land parcels on which the hotel is located, in view of the potential archaeological values of the site as a whole and the development of the building in two stages during the 1870s.

## **HISTORY**

The Criterion Hotel had opened for business by early March 1873; its first proprietor, and designer, was local architect Francis J Wilson. After the 'big fire' of December 1868 buildings in the town centre had to be of masonry construction, hence the use of bluestone and, later, brick in the hotel. Wilson had acquired the lease of the property in June 1872 and he advertised the hotel for sale in March and April 1873, noting at the time that it was located beside the *Timaru Herald* office. Wilson's sale plans appear to have been thwarted for a time and as he held the lease on the land until October 1877, when it was transferred to John Stansell. In June 1878 Stansell transferred the lease and the license of the hotel to Josephus Murphy, who soon after made extensions in brick to the rear of the building. George Newey was the lessee from 1880 until 1890, when Daniel McGuiness took it over and refurbished the interior. The hotel then passed through a number of hands before it was renovated by its new proprietor Ralph Porter in 1906; Porter renamed the hotel the Excelsior at that time. By the 1920s the hotel was owned, not leased, by its publican and since that time it has changed hands a number of times. The Timaru District Council purchased the property in June 2018 as part of its plans for developing a cultural hub in conjunction with the Theatre Royal.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Criterion Hotel has high historical significance for its continuous use as a hotel for over 145 years and as an example of the role and value of hotels in early Timaru. The hotel is associated with the reconstruction of the town centre after the fire of December 1868 and appears to be one of the oldest surviving post-fire buildings in central Timaru.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Criterion Hotel has cultural importance as a demonstration of the way of life of its former publicans and their patrons. Built to house the publican and his family, as well as accommodating guests and bar patrons, the hotel is valued by members of the community for its age, location and construction materials.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Criterion Hotel has high architectural significance as the work of early Timaru architect FJ Wilson. South African-born Francis John (Frank) Wilson (c.1836-1911) was said to have 'practically rebuilt Timaru after the big fire' of 1868 (*Poverty Bay Herald* 21 April 1911, p. 5). Wilson is said to have arrived in Timaru in c.1855 and not only worked as a contractor and architect but also as a publican, holding licenses for hotels in Timaru and Washdyke in the mid-1860s. Wilson also designed the Timaru Main School (1873-74) and the former Bank Street Methodist Church (1874-75, item # 51). He and his wife Emily had ten children and although Frank Wilson died in Gisborne in 1911 he was remembered at the time as one of the 'prominent citizen(s) of Timaru in the early days' (*Timaru Herald* 28 April 1911, p. 7). Wilson left Timaru in the 1880s and, after a period spent in Australia, he later lived and worked in Wellington, Palmerston North and Gisborne. Frank Wilson's son Frank was also an architect and his grandson Francis Gordon Wilson (1900-59) became Government Architect of New Zealand (1952-59). The 1878 brick additions to the rear of the hotel were designed by local architect Daniel West (c.1828-1910) and the 1890 interior improvements were designed by another Timaru architect, Maurice de H Duval.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Criterion Hotel has high technological and craftsmanship significance for its stone construction. The building represents both a response to the March 1869 council bylaw stipulating masonry construction in the central business district, which was passed after the December 1868 fire that destroyed around 30 buildings in the town centre, and the use of a building material that is closely identified with Timaru's colonial building tradition.

### **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Criterion Hotel has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the historic character of Stafford Street, due to its exposed stone masonry façade and in relation to a number of nearby scheduled heritage buildings.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As both stages of the former Criterion Hotel date to the 1870s, the hotel and its site have potential archaeological significance relating to the early development of Timaru and its central business district.

### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Criterion Hotel / Excelsior Hotel/Tavern has high overall heritage significance to Timaru District. The hotel has high historical significance for its association with the rebuilding of Timaru's town centre after the catastrophic fire of December 1868 and its continuous use as a hotel for over 145 years. The hotel has cultural importance as a demonstration of the way of life of its former publicans and their clientele and high architectural significance as the work of Frank Wilson, a colonial architect and contractor who was also the hotel's first publican. The former Criterion Hotel has high technological significance as a Timaru bluestone and brick building that dates to the reconstruction period following the fire of December 1868 and contextual significance for the visible expression of the building's stone construction and contribution to the historic streetscape of Stafford Street. The former Criterion Hotel has potential archaeological significance relating to its two stages of construction during the 1870s.

### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

A

### **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 22 July 1865, p. 8; 2 January 1869, p. 6; 27 March 1869, p. 2; 15 December 1869, p. 4; 5 June 1872, p. 2; 5 February 1873, p. 2; 5 March 1873, p. 2; 10 March 1873, p. 1; 21 March 1873, p. 1; 13 May 1876, p. 3; 13 May 1878, p. 1; 5 June 1878, p. 4; 28 June 1878, p. 3; 7 November 1884, p. 2; 21 April 1906, p. 6; 23 February 1910, p. 7; 28 April 1911, p. 7; 16 September 2009, available online.
- *Lyttelton Times* 18 April 1865, p. 6; 27 April 1867, p. 3; 9 March 1885, p. 3.
- *South Canterbury Times* 7 November 1884, p. 3; 18 September 1890, p. 2.
- *Star* 8 December 1868, p. 2.
- *Grey River Argus* 10 December 1868, p. 2.
- *Poverty Bay Herald* 21 April 1911, p. 4.
- *New Zealand Times* 12 April 1911, p. 8.
- *Hawera & Normanby Star* 21 April 1911, p. 7.
- <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/pubs.htm>
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/3155>
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2076>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/5w36/wilson-francis-gordon>



Extent of setting, 132 Stafford Street, Timaru.



'Stafford Street South, Timaru, NZ' in c.1903. The Criterion Hotel is in the centre of the street view, above the figure seated in the carriage. Object # 2177, South Canterbury Museum.



Guests' private entrance; the style of the fanlight suggests that the entry was part of the 1906 improvements to the building. A McEwan, July 2018.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Union Bank of Australia  
**ADDRESS** 119 Stafford Street, Timaru  
**PHOTOGRAPH**

(A McEwan, 11 July 2018)



**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** HHI71      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 20 DP 1

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500048300B

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1876-77

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Thomas Roberts, architect; Thomas Machin,  
contractor

**STYLE** Victorian commercial classicism

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two storey-building with irregular rectangular footprint and hipped and gabled roof forms. Suspended veranda across plastered façade, with modern shop fronts on ground floor and six window openings above. Bluestone construction is exposed on the side (south) and rear (east) walls. Double-hung sash and casement windows. Single-storey gabled extension at rear with hip roofed brick outbuilding beyond that.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timaru bluestone (basalt), cement plaster, brick, slate and corrugated iron.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Façade remodelled and suspended veranda installed; modern shop fronts erected in front of original building facade (pre-1970?).

**SETTING**

The former bank stands on the east side of Stafford Street, south of its intersection with George Street. Across the road stand the Theatre Royal (heritage item # 46) and the former Criterion Hotel; to the south is the former Gladstone Board of Works building (heritage item # 43). To the north are the former Government Life Building (heritage item # 47) and the

former National Bank (heritage item # 45). The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located, in view of the potential archaeological values of the site.

## **HISTORY**

The Union Bank of Australia completed its new premises in Stafford Street in March 1877. The building contract was in the region of £3000 and occupation by the bank was delayed slightly when the contractor was declared insolvent and one of his creditors took possession of the building in lieu of payment. The Union Bank of Australia had issued its first prospectus in London in 1837 and became the first bank to operate in New Zealand, opening a branch in Wellington in 1840. The bank established a branch in Timaru in 1867 and at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the bank was run by a manager and six banking officers. Charles Grierson was the manager at the time that the new bank building opened in 1877. The Union Bank merged with the Bank of Australasia in 1951, the new entity being named the ANZ Bank. Archives of all three banks are held by ANZ. The building was thus occupied by the Union Bank of Australia for 74 years. It would appear that the facade was extended and remodelled in the 1950s or 1960s. The Timaru District Council purchased the property in September 2018 to facilitate development in the area.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Union Bank of Australia has historical significance for its association with the early banking history of Timaru and, more generally, the reconstruction of the town centre after the fire of December 1868.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Union Bank of Australia has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former bank managers, their families and customers. Bank managers were typically provided with on-site accommodation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; historically the former Union Bank therefore combined commercial and residential functions.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Union Bank of Australia has architectural significance as the work of early Timaru architect Thomas Roberts, who was born and trained as an engineer in England. Roberts emigrated to Canterbury in 1870 and was engineer to the Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works in the early 1870s before establishing a private practice as an architect and licensed surveyor. Roberts also designed the Sealy house (1875), which is now known as Shand House at Craighead Diocesan School (heritage item # 9) and called tenders for the Wrecks Monument (heritage item # 49) in September 1882. In 1890 Roberts joined the NZ Midland Railway Company and five years later he was appointed Assistant Engineer in charge of Nelson district for the Public Works Department. By December 1901 he had returned to private practice in Nelson, leaving that city in c.1905. Although the façade of the former Union Bank has been remodelled the building retains a high level of authenticity on its east and south elevations.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Union Bank of Australia has high technological and craftsmanship significance for its stone construction. The building represents both a response to the March 1869 council bylaw stipulating masonry construction in the central business district, which was passed after the December 1868 fire that destroyed around 30 buildings in the town centre, and the use of a building material that is closely identified with Timaru's colonial building tradition. The contractor Thomas Machin was later to practise as an architect, which was permissible in the era before registration and the protected status of the term 'architect' was introduced in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Union Bank of Australia has contextual importance for the contribution it makes to the historic character of Stafford Street and in relation to a number of nearby scheduled heritage buildings. The building's presence in close proximity to the former Gladstone Board of Works building, the former Landing Service building (heritage item # 44), and the former National Bank attests to the historic importance of the southerly section of Stafford Street for the commercial development of the city.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The site of the former Union Bank of Australia has potential archaeological significance relating to the early development of Timaru and its central business district.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Union Bank of Australia has overall heritage significance to Timaru and the district of Timaru. The former bank has historical significance for its association with the rebuilding of Timaru's town centre after the catastrophic fire of December 1868 and the development of Stafford Street. The former Union Bank of Australia has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former managers, their families, staff and clientele and architectural significance as the work of colonial architect Thomas Roberts. The former Union Bank of Australia has high technological significance as a Timaru bluestone building that dates to the reconstruction period following the fire of December 1868 and contextual importance for its contribution to the historic streetscape of Stafford Street. The former Union Bank of Australia has potential archaeological significance relating to its construction and early use.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 23 December 1874, p. 4; 6 September 1875, p. 3; 20 September 1875, p. 2; 3 July 1876, p. 1; 3 August 1876, p. 3; 24 August 1876, p. 2; 14 February 1877, p. 1; 10 July 1877, p. 3; 13 February 1878, p. 1; 21 February 1893, p. 2.
- *Globe* 16 March 1877, p. 2.
- *Press* 19 March 1877, p. 2; 14 January 1944, p. 6.
- *Temuka Leader* 29 December 1927, p. 3.
- *South Canterbury Times* 16 May 1882, p. 3.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2306>
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2138>



Extent of setting, 119 Stafford Street, Timaru.



Side elevation.



Rear elevation.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** South Canterbury Club

**ADDRESS** 1 The Terrace, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** New      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Pt Lot 107 DP 1 & Lot 2 DP 1052

**VALUATION NUMBER** 25000767000A

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1904

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** S & A Luttrell, architects; E Hall, builder

**STYLE** Edwardian villa

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single storey-building with L-shaped footprint and multiple hip roof forms. South-west elevation overlooking the roadway has central gabled porch flanked by pairs of shallow arch-headed windows. Porch has half wall in brick with timber posts above; gable end has decorative relief work with portrait in medallion motif. Hip-roofed lantern structure behind north-east facing elevation; latter has cross-gabled roofs with battened gable ends. Enclosed veranda between bays; double-hung sash windows. Gabled squash court immediately adjacent to road boundary is positioned to the north of the club building. Decorative wire fence and signage on road boundary with formal garden framing path to main entry. Monopitch roof over modern extension at rear of squash court.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, timber, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Alterations & additions, including addition to south wall? (1922). Squash court erected (TO Fox, architect; WJ Harding, builder, 1935). Modern addition on northern boundary east of the squash court; north-east-facing veranda enclosed (post-1951).

**SETTING**

The building is set back from the road boundary and stands on the north-east side of The Terrace, north of its intersection with Strathallan Street. The DC Turnbull & Co. site is to the south (heritage item # 27) and the club overlooks the port of Timaru from its elevated site

above the South Island Main Trunk railway line. The extent of scheduling is the two parcels on which the club and its squash court are located.

## **HISTORY**

The South Canterbury Club was established in August 1890 as a gentlemen's club for local businessmen. Initially it met in the Club Hotel in George Street; purpose-built premises in Le Cren's Terrace were erected in 1904. The building was ready for occupation in early 1905 and the club continues to occupy the venue today. The club purchased a section on the northern boundary of the property in 1928 and subsequently a squash court was built on this parcel (1935). In 1988 the club's rules were amended to allow women to join as associate members.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Canterbury Club has historical and social significance for its association with the South Canterbury Club and, more generally, the early 20th century development of Timaru and its town centre. The South Canterbury Club is a notable omission from the roll call of 19<sup>th</sup> century gentlemen's clubs that are listed by *Te Ara*, the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand. The club building represents the continuation of the gentlemen's club model over more than a century against a backdrop of social change.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Canterbury Club has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its past and present members and the staff who attend them.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Canterbury Club has architectural significance as an Edwardian villa style club building designed by Christchurch architects S & A Luttrell. The Luttrell Brothers, who specialised in the design of racing grandstands and the use of modern construction technology, established their New Zealand practice in 1902. Both Alfred and Sidney Luttrell had been born, educated, trained and initially practised in Tasmania, Australia. The Luttrells introduced the Chicago skyscraper style to New Zealand and designed the Theatre Royal (1906-7) in Christchurch, one of a small number of their major commissions that survived the Canterbury 2010-11 earthquakes. The brothers were also architects to the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The South Canterbury Club building is distinctive for the architectural treatment given to both the seaward and street frontages and the lantern roof form is typical of the design of billiard rooms in such clubs.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Canterbury Club has technological and craftsmanship significance for its brick construction and timber detailing. The bricks came from Crum's brickworks in Ashburton and the new building was lit with acetylene gas when it first opened. Danish-born Emil Hall was a local contractor who was responsible for the foundations and plasterwork on the Customhouse (1901-2, heritage item # 22). For that building Thomas Pringle had been the principal contractor. Pringle (1847-1923) was a Scottish-born builder and contractor who spent some time in the United States before emigrating to New Zealand in 1878. He established his Timaru business in 1890 and undertook the woodwork for the South Canterbury Club.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Canterbury Club has contextual significance as a historic feature within the Timaru town centre. The concentration of scheduled heritage items and historic character buildings lining Stafford Street and in the vicinity of the port and railway station gives Timaru's principal CBD thoroughfare its distinctive identity and sense of place. The building enhances

the historic residential character of The Terrace and also complements the brick construction of the neighbouring DC Turnbull & Co. site (heritage item # 27).

#### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the building post-dates 1900 its site may have archaeological values relating to the earlier use and development of the property. An 1875 map of Timaru (South Canterbury Museum) shows the site was vacant at that time, with the Government Landing Service on the beach directly below the future club site. The club history records that there was a rental cottage on the property when it was purchased in 1902. The Timaru lighthouse (known as Blackett's lighthouse, 1877-78, heritage item # 11) stood on Lot 110, to the north of the club site, until it was moved to Maori Hill in 1980. The former harbourmaster's house is still extant on the former lighthouse site.

#### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Canterbury Club has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the South Canterbury Club since 1905 and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its past and present members and staff. The South Canterbury Club has architectural significance as the work of leading Christchurch architects S & A Luttrell and technological and craftsmanship significance for its brick construction and timber detailing by two successful local contractors. The South Canterbury Club has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the Timaru town centre streetscape; its site has potential archaeological values in view of the pre-1900 use and development of the property.

#### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

#### **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 10 March 1904, p. 1; 21 April 1904, p. 2; 9 May 1904, p. 2; 23 August 1904, p. 3; 24 January 1905, p. 4; 21 February 1905, p. 2; 10 June 1905, p. 2; 25 July 1905, p. 2; 5 September 1905, p. 1; 6 September 1905, p. 4; 12 September 1905, p. 4; 22 November 1905, p. 1.
- *Ashburton Guardian* 4 July 1904, p. 2.
- *Temuka Leader* 26 January 1905, p. 3.
- *Press* 5 April 1904, p. 7.
- *Evening Post* 18 November 1939, p. 15.
- *South Canterbury Times* 30 April 1890, p. 2.
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/mens-clubs>
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand - Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903 (available online).
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/3l16/luttrell-alfred-edgar>
- <http://www.scclub.co.nz>
- A McEwan 'From cottages to 'skyscrapers': the architecture of AE & ES Luttrell in Tasmania and New Zealand'. MA thesis, University of Canterbury, 1988.



Extent of setting, including the squash court site on the northern boundary of the primary parcel, 1 The Terrace, Timaru.



Detail of 1910 view of Timaru, with cottage on adjacent site to club, 1/1-08810-G, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** Queen's Hotel  
**ADDRESS** 2 Barnard Street, Timaru  
**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 11 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** (at time of assessment) **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 190 DP 1

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500039200

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1878

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Thomas Machin, architect; J Simpson, builder

**STYLE** Commercial classicism

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two storey-building with irregular rectangular footprint and hipped roof with centre gutter. Cross gables at rear (west elevation). East and south elevations address the roadway and meet at a rounded corner with segmental pediment atop the solid parapet. Circular opening in the pediment was intended to be fitted with a clock. Simple cornice, arch-headed double-hung sash windows. Rusticated ground floor. First floor fire escape balcony on both principal elevations. Monopitch extension to west on North Street has two storeys but is not as high as original façade. Single storey addition to north on Barnard Street repeats rusticated wall surface but has metal fenestration.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, corrugated iron roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

West and north lower-level extensions, first floor facades plastered (mid-20<sup>th</sup> C?).

**SETTING**

The building occupies a corner site on the west side of Barnard Street, with North Street to the south. The Timaru Police Station and Timaru Courthouse (heritage item # 41) are on the opposite side of North Street. The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the hotel is located.

## **HISTORY**

Thomas Bell Jones opened the Queen's Hotel opposite the Timaru Courthouse on 1 October 1878. Jones (c.1841-1907) was a blacksmith and had previously been declared bankrupt in 1875. He held the license until September 1880, at which time it was transferred to T Hurt. By 1893 AF Anderson was in possession of the hotel and it has passed through a number of hands since. In 2014 it was announced that the hotel was closing but new owners were found and the hotel continues to operate today.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Queen's Hotel has historical and social significance for its association with its early publicans and their patrons and, more generally, the commercial and social development of Timaru's town centre.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Queen's Hotel has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former publicans and their patrons, whether as hotel guests or visitors to the bar.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Queen's Hotel has architectural significance as a mid-Victorian commercial classical building designed by local builder turned architect Thomas Machin. As a contractor Machin was responsible for the Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works building (1874, heritage item # 43) and the former Union Bank of Australia (1876-77), both in Stafford Street, as well as Bruce's Royal Flouring Mills (1881-82, heritage item # 39). Machin also practised as an architect, which was permissible before registration and the protected status of the term 'architect' was legislated in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Machin described his approach to the construction of buildings and the design of hotels for fire safety in a letter to the editor of the *Timaru Herald* in September 1879. His comments about the dangers of oversize cornices would suggest that the Queen's Hotel was designed in part to reflect Machin's advocacy of life safety over architectural ornament.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The Queen's Hotel has technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and simplified classical detailing. The architect's concern for fire safety (see above) is notable in the design and execution of the building.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Queen's Hotel has contextual significance as a notable historic feature and for its relationship with other contemporary Timaru hotels, including the Excelsior (1872-73), the Dominion (heritage item # 36), and the Old Bank Hotel (heritage item # 33). North Street formed the boundary between the government town and Rhodes town in the early colonial period. The proximity of the Queen's Hotel to Timaru's police station and courthouse maintains the historic relationship between the town's justice precinct and the nearest hospitality provider.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the building pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The Queen's Hotel has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its 140-year history as a hotel and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early proprietors and their patrons.

The Queen's Hotel has architectural significance as the work of local builder/architect Thomas Machin and technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and simplified classical detailing. The Queen's Hotel has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the Timaru town centre streetscape and its site has potential archaeological significance in view of the building's age.

#### HERITAGE CATEGORY

B

#### REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 7 July 1875, p. 2; 20 February 1877, p. 4; 8 June 1878, p. 1; 13 June 1878, p. 4; 26 September 1878, p. 3; 28 September 1878, p. 2; 2 October 1878, p. 2; 12 October 1878, p. 2; 6 November 1878, p. 3; 15 September 1879, p. 2; 8 September 1880, p. 1; 13 June 1882, p. 3; 26 September 1884, p. 2; 21 October 1893, p. 2; 26 February 1907, p. 4; 27 August 2014 & 23 September 2014 (available online).
- *South Canterbury Times* 8 June 1880, p. 2; 5 March 1881, p. 2; 16 May 1882, p. 3; 23 June 1886, p. 3.
- *Temuka Leader* 21 April 1898, p. 1.
- *Globe* 20 June 1878, p. 3.
- *Taranaki Herald* 30 September 1907, p. 2.
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/queens-hotel> [Note date of hotel and the architect responsible are both incorrect on this web page].



Extent of setting, 2 Barnard Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** Orari Buildings  
**ADDRESS** 327-341 Stafford Street, Timaru  
**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

<b>DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.</b>	New	<b>HNZ LIST NO. &amp; CATEGORY</b>	n / a
<b>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>	Part Lot 1 DP 5826		
<b>VALUATION NUMBER</b>	2500075600		
<b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</b>	1925		
<b>ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/ BUILDER</b>	Herbert Hall, architect; JT Hunt, builder		
<b>STYLE</b>	Commercial classicism		

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two storey-building with triangular footprint and monopitch roof. Rounded corner with principal elevation facing Stafford Street and secondary elevation overlooking Port Loop Road. First floor windows are set within arched mouldings, some with swag motifs. Small decorative balcony beneath glass doors on Port Loop Road elevation. Solid parapet above dentilled cornice. Steel-framed casement and fanlight type windows. Modern shopfronts, suspended veranda along Stafford Street frontage wraps around the corner of the building. Lower height section overlooking The Terrace has enclosed first floor loggia.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, metal roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Loggia enclosed (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The building stands on the north-east side of Stafford Street, immediately adjacent to its intersection with Port Loop Road. The building is opposite the Dominion Hotel on Stafford Street and overlooks Caroline Bay on its northern frontage. The irregular triangular land parcel on which the building is located is bordered to the east by The Terrace. The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located.

## **HISTORY**

The Orari Buildings were erected in 1925 by WK Macdonald (William Kenneth, 1863-1927) of Orari Station. When he died two years later it was said of Macdonald that the 'most conspicuous among the buildings which the late Mr Macdonald erected, and through which he helped to change the appearance of Timaru from borough to city status, were the handsome block known as the "Orari Buildings" ... and the Hydro Hotel'. The latter had been built by Macdonald in 1912 to the design of local firm Hall and Marchant. Macdonald commissioned Hall, then practicing on his own, to design the Orari Buildings. When built the building comprised 7 shops and a tea rooms on the first floor. Occupants of the Orari Buildings in the early 1930s included Richard Hill, electrical engineer, the tea rooms of the Misses L & D Ransome, Mrs Vickers' library exchange, Mrs Lewis, hairdresser, and a furniture dealer. The building was lavishly decorated for the Royal visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 1954; ten years later a large neon sign advertising Players cigarettes was removed from the roof of the building. It had been a Timaru landmark for many years. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries the building was known as Mascot House, named for its principal occupant Mascot Finance. It remains in commercial use.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Orari Buildings have historical significance for their association with the post-World War I building boom that took place in the Timaru town centre. The building is also associated with a second-generation member of a notable runholder family and demonstrates the commercial interests of some of the district's wealthy farmers.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Orari Buildings have cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former owners, occupiers, their customers and patrons.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Orari Buildings have architectural significance as the work of noted Timaru architect Herbert Hall. Hall (1884-1940) was born and educated in Christchurch and trained with Fred Barlow and the Luttrell Brothers before establishing his own practice in Timaru in c.1910 and registering as an architect in 1918. He also designed the South Canterbury War Memorial in Timaru (1925, heritage item # 17), St David's Pioneer Memorial Church at Cave (1930) and the Chateau in Tongariro National Park (1928).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

Orari Buildings have technological and craftsmanship value for its brick masonry construction and the quality of its classical facade detailing.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Orari Buildings have contextual significance as a defining historic feature within the Timaru town centre. The concentration of scheduled heritage items and historic character buildings lining Stafford Street, and in the vicinity of the port and railway station, gives Timaru's principal CBD thoroughfare its distinctive identity and sense of place. With the demolition of both the Hydro Grand Hotel (former heritage item # 37) and the redevelopment of the site at the corner of Sefton and Stafford Streets, the contextual significance of both the Orari Buildings and the Dominion Hotel (heritage item # 36) has greatly increased.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the building post-dates 1900 its site may have potential archaeological significance relating to earlier activity undertaken on the property. A photograph taken in c.1880 (Te

Papa Tongarewa Museum of NZ) shows a small cottage on the corner of the site; the footprint of the same is shown on the 1875 map of Timaru (South Canterbury Museum).

## SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Orari Buildings have overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with WK Macdonald and the interwar commercial development of the town centre and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former owners, occupiers and their customers. Orari Buildings have architectural significance as the work of noted Timaru architect Herbert Hall and technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and ornamental classical detailing. Orari Buildings have contextual significance for the contribution they make to the Timaru town centre streetscape and their site may have potential archaeological significance in view of its location and earlier development on the property.

## HERITAGE CATEGORY

B

## REFERENCES

- *Temuka Leader* 29 December 1927, p. 1.
- *Timaru Herald* 20 August 1910, p. 2; 12 May 2007 (available online).
- *Press* 15 May 1924, p. 4; 22 December 1925, p. 6; 1 February 1928, p. 13; 16 February 1940, p. 5. 19 August 2009 (available online)
- *NZ Truth* 30 August 1930, p. 9.
- *Progress* 2 May 1910, p. 21.
- *Wise's Post Office Directory* 1933. Available online.
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/may-24th-2016>



Extent of setting, 327-341 Stafford Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Unitarian Hall  
**ADDRESS** 65 Church Street, Timaru  
**PHOTOGRAPH**



(Dr A McEwan, 11 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** HHI80      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 4 DP 1139

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2495000300

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1911-12

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Harold Broadhead, architect

**STYLE** Neoclassical

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single-storey hall type church with rectangular footprint and gabled roof. Hip-roofed lean-to at rear. Facade is symmetrical about porticoed entry with semi-circular fanlight. Gable end on façade conceals roof beyond and is set with lancet louvre and rondel motifs flanking entry. Windows are casement-and-fanlight type with multi-pane uppers. Short side wings frame the façade. Pilasters along side elevations. Vehicle access to the rear of the site.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Entrance porch enclosed (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The former church stands on the north side of Church Street, in the block bounded by Grey Road to the west and Theodosia Street to the east. To the east of the building are a number of historic ecclesiastical buildings, including the former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School (1907) and the former Bank Street Methodist Church (heritage item # 51). The neighbouring streetscape is light industrial and residential in nature. The extent of setting is the land parcel on which the building is located, partly in view of the potential archaeological values of the site.

## **HISTORY**

The first Unitarian church to be erected in the South Island was built in Timaru in 1911-12. The foundation minister, the Rev James Chapple, had resigned from the Presbyterian Church in September 1910 following condemnation of his actions by the Timaru Presbytery in relation to his socialist views and involvement in the Unitarian church. The Unitarian congregation Chapple formed met in the Forrester's Hall until, with generous financial backing from local benefactors George and Mrs [sic] Wells, a hall was erected in Church Street. Unitarianism has its origins in 16<sup>th</sup> century Europe and Britain and there was also an influential movement in the United States. The church was known for its commitment to gender equality and developed a strong women's club in Timaru. Tenders were called in September 1911 and the foundation stone was laid on 16 November of the same year. The church, hall and Sunday School was subsequently opened on 4 May 1912. The building was reported as having cost £2400, of which half was provided by the Wells. Chapple, who was Timaru librarian between October 1910 and March 1913, caused controversy and sparked protest action in May 1915 because of his support for New Zealand becoming a republic. He left Timaru in the same year and was later charged with sedition (May 1918) for speaking out against the war. Chapple was subsequently convicted and sentenced to eleven months imprisonment, after which he resumed his ministerial duties in Christchurch and, later, Auckland. He was to become the model for the central character in his grandson Maurice Gee's novel *Plumb* in 1978. The Timaru Unitarian Hall hosted services until the late 1920s and was also used for political meetings and social events. From c.1935 until 2010 it was occupied by the Church Street Bible Chapel. More recently it has been used as a dance studio.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Unitarian Hall has historical and social significance as the first Unitarian church built in the South Island. The former church has added historical significance for its association with James Chapple (1865-1947) and the Wells family, as well as the Church Street Bible Chapel.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Unitarian Hall has cultural and spiritual significance as a former place of worship and as a demonstration of the way of life of local families who worshipped and congregated in the church between 1912 and 2010.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Unitarian Hall has architectural significance as a building designed by Timaru architect Harold Broadhead. Broadhead (1887-1950) was the son of Timaru builder and contractor John Broadhead and he (Harold) appears to have commenced practise in 1911. Broadhead was registered as an architect in 1914 and, amongst a variety of residential, commercial and ecclesiastical commissions, he extended the Highfield Presbyterian Church in 1913 and added the porch to St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Totara Valley in 1925 (heritage item # 77). Broadhead also designed the Temuka Fire Station (1930).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Unitarian Hall has technological and craftsmanship value as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century brick building.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Unitarian Hall has contextual significance as a historic feature on Church Street and for its relationship with other heritage church buildings in Timaru, including the Anglican (heritage item # 50), Presbyterian (heritage item # 38) and former Methodist (heritage item #?) churches that are located closer to the town centre.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the church post-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological value relating to the earlier development of the property. A brick and timber duplex building is shown on DP 1139, which is dated June 1894.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Unitarian Hall has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The church has historical and social significance for its association with JHG Chapple and the early history of the Unitarian Church in New Zealand and cultural and spiritual significance as a demonstration of the way of life of past congregations and their clergy. The former Unitarian Hall has architectural significance as a Neoclassical building designed by Timaru architect Harold Broadhead and technological and craftsmanship value for its brick masonry construction and detailing. The former Unitarian Hall has contextual significance as a historic feature in Church Street and in relation to other historic church buildings in the central city. The former Unitarian Hall has potential archaeological value in view of the property's pre-1900 use and development.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

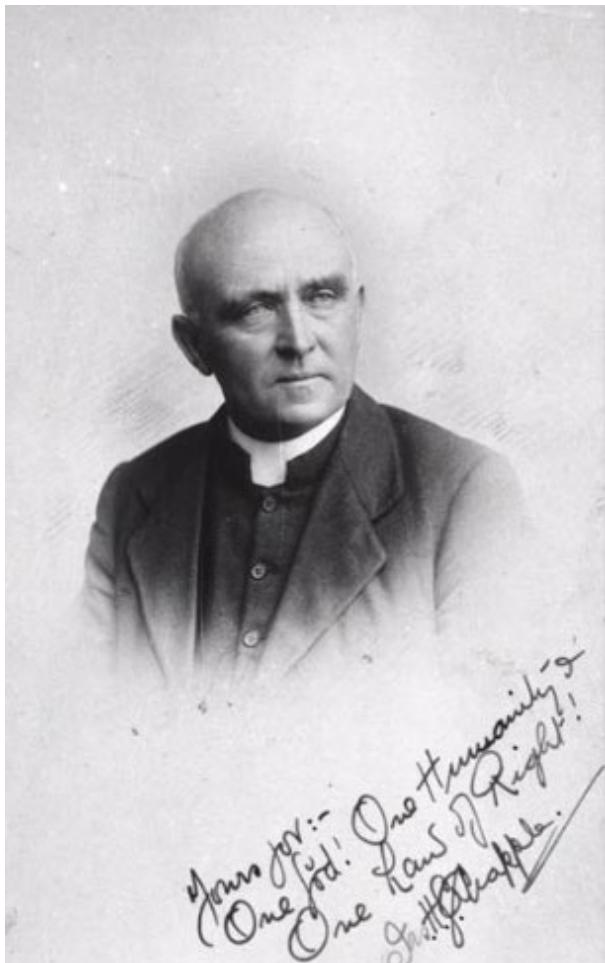
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## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 21 March 1911, p. 7; 16 September 1911, p. 3; 27 August 1912, p. 5; 24 September 1920, p. 7; 28 December 1920, p. 7.
- *Otago Daily Times* 14 September 1910, p. 4; 18 May 1918, p. 8; 1 September 1921, p. 3.
- *Evening Post* 17 November 1911, p. 3.
- *Dominion* 13 November 1911, p. 7.
- *Colonist* 25 May 1915, p. 2.
- *Northern Advocate* 18 May 1918, p. 2.
- *Greymouth Evening Star* 23 March 1918, p. 7.
- *Grey River Argus* 17 November 1911, p. 5.
- *Rangitikei Advocate & Manawatu Argus* 5 October 1917, p. 8.
- *North Otago Times* 1 July 1912, p. 4.
- *Lyttelton Times* 23 September 1913, p. 3.
- *Poverty Bay Herald* 25 May 1915, p. 7.
- *NZ Herald* 6 May 1912, p. 9.
- Peter Lineham 'New Zealand Religious History Bibliography', Massey University, Auckland, 2015 edition; available online.
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/3c12/chapple-james-henry-george>
- <https://aucklandunitarian.org.nz/about/our-history/>
- <http://churchstreet.church/faith.html>
- <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/churches2010.htm>



Extent of setting, 65 Church Street, Timaru.



Rev James Chapple. Te Ara – The Encyclopedia of New Zealand.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME**

former James Shepherd's Store

**ADDRESS**

Shepherd's Corner, 36 Stafford Street & 11 A North Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**

(www)



**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.**  
(at time of assessment)

New

**HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY**

n / a

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Lots 1 & 2 DP 7522

**VALUATION NUMBER**

2500040900A

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION**

1880-81

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER**

Daniel West, architect

**STYLE**

Victorian commercial classicism

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two storey-building with an irregular footprint and sloping roof forms. East and south elevations overlook the roadway and meet at a chamfered corner. Solid parapet, bracketed cornice; arch-headed windows at first floor are framed by pairs of engaged columns or pilasters. Miniature wreaths on entablature between floors. Suspended veranda on Stafford Street elevation. Rusticated wall surface on both floors. Single-storey extension to west (North Street) has two blocked entries and modest classical detailing.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, corrugated iron roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Painted (2018).

**SETTING**

The building occupies a corner site on the west side of Stafford Street, North Street is to the south. The Timaru Courthouse (heritage item # 41) is to the west along North Street and the former Belford Flour Mills is to the east along the same street (heritage item # 40). The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located. It is noted that Lot 2 of DP 7522 is the party wall adjoining 38 Stafford Street.

## **HISTORY**

James Shepherd (1837-1912) is said to have selected a town section at the north-west corner of the intersection of Stafford and North Streets (Lot 77 DP 1) because of its strategic location at the meeting of Timaru's 'Rhodes town' and 'government town'. By early 1871 he had erected a timber building at the corner of the site, which was known by then as Shepherd's Corner. Shepherd erected brick shops on Stafford Street north of the corner in the later 1870s. These buildings survived the fire that destroyed the corner building in June 1880. Thereafter local architect Daniel West called tenders in October of the same year for a new building on the corner site. James Shepherd's nephew (or cousin) James Martin Shepherd briefly occupied the corner store; after he was declared bankrupt James Shepherd took over occupancy in June 1882. Shepherd was a Timaru Borough councillor from 1878-82 and a warden of St Mary's Anglican Church; there is a memorial brass in his honour inside that building (see heritage item # 50). In 1925 Shepherd's estate, which was said to be considerable at the time of his death, subdivided the corner plot on which the shops at 38-46 Stafford Street and the building at 13 North Street are also located. The corner building remained in commercial use but is currently vacant.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former James Shepherd's Store has historical and social significance for its association with James Shepherd and, more generally, the commercial development of Timaru's town centre. Advertisements placed in the *Timaru Herald* in 1908 stated that James Shepherd's was 'the oldest established business in Timaru'.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former James Shepherd's Store has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former proprietors and their customers.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former James Shepherd's Store has architectural significance as a Victorian commercial classical style building designed by local carpenter turned architect Daniel West. West (c.1828-1910), who also designed shops for James Shepherd on the Stafford Street frontage of his property in 1879, was later in partnership with Robert Barber (1881 until 1886). Messrs West and Barber designed the Italianate style 'Green Hayes' homestead for John Hayhurst in 1881 (heritage item # 90) and succeeded Maurice Duval as architects to the South Canterbury Education Board in mid-1883. The firm also undertook additions to the Dominion Hotel (heritage item # 36) in 1885-86 and West alone extended the Royal Hotel (heritage item # 25) in 1890.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former James Shepherd's Store has technological and craftsmanship significance for its brick construction and ornate classical detailing. The contractor responsible for erecting the store is currently unknown.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former James Shepherd's Store has contextual significance as a defining historic feature at the south end of the Stafford Street commercial heritage precinct. The concentration of scheduled heritage items and historic character buildings lining Stafford Street, between Sefton Street in the north and North Street in the south, gives Timaru's CBD streetscape its distinctive identity and sense of place. The locale was known as Shepherd's Corner well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the building pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance. A timber building that preceded the former James Shepherd's Store can be seen in outline on the 1875 town plan (South Canterbury Museum).

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former James Shepherd's Store has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with James Shepherd and the commercial development of the town centre since 1881 and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early proprietors and their customers. The former James Shepherd's Store has architectural significance as the work of local architect Daniel West and technological and craftsmanship significance for its brick construction and ornate classical detailing. The former James Shepherd's Store has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the Timaru town centre streetscape and its site has potential archaeological significance in view of the development that has occurred on the property since at least the early 1870s.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 29 March 1871, p. 2; 1 April 1871, p. 2; 10 July 1874, p. 4; 26 February 1878, p. 2; 1 February 1879, p. 1; 20 May 1879, p. 4; 6 March 1880, p. 2; 21 May 1880, p. 4; 11 June 1880, p. 4; 29 June 1880, p. 3; 25 August 1880, p. 1; 28 August 1880, p. 3; 18 October 1880, p. 1; 20 October 1880, p. 4; 4 November 1880, p. 7; 31 January 1881, p. 1; 25 May 1881, p. 1; 9 May 1882, p. 1; 16 June 1882, p. 2; 26 June 1882, p. 1; 12 August 1882, p. 3; 13 December 1882, p. 3; 26 March 1884, p. 1; 30 May 1889, p. 1; 12 June 1907, p. 6; 24 March 1908, p. 6; 20 April 1909, p. 3; 11 January 1912, p. 5; 6 November 1912, p. 5; 21 December 1915, p. 6; 16 October 1920, p. 2.
- *South Canterbury Times* 29 June 1880, p. 2; 17 February 1882, p. 1; 4 August 1884, p. 3; 15 November 1886, p. 3; 21 December 1887, p. 3; 14 January 1888, p. 3.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District Christchurch*, 1903; available online.
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/shepherds-corner-building>



Extent of setting, 36 Stafford Street & 11A North Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former World War II Timaru Borough Council Public Air Raid Shelter

**ADDRESS** Station Street (23 Cains Terrace), Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**

(TDC)



**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** HHI82      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 2 DP 80381

**VALUATION NUMBER** 250008000

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1941

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** RJ Comrie, Timaru Borough Council engineer

**STYLE** Utilitarian

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

c.18 metre tunnel dug out of clay bank with three entries at right angles to the shelter tunnel screened by metal grilles. Boundary wall inset with brick panels opposite shelter entries.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Clay, metal, concrete & brick.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Unknown, if any.

**SETTING**

The former air raid shelter runs parallel to Station Street on its west side. It appears to be located both within the road reserve and beneath the car park at 23 Cains Terrace. The former Canterbury Farmers' Co-operative Association buildings are directly to the north, beyond them the former Customhouse (heritage item # 22). The Timaru Railway Station is to the south-east and the Port of Timaru is located to the east.

## **HISTORY**

By 20 December 1941 air raid shelters had been constructed in Station Street, in Perth Street, at each end of Caroline Bay and at a number of other sites around Timaru. It appears at least 34 shelters were built in the town, including a number at local schools. The shelters were part of a nationwide programme of air raid shelter construction that took place in late 1941 and early 1942. The bombing of Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941 likely expedited the provision of public and private air raid shelters throughout New Zealand but many, including the Station Street shelter, were already in place by the time of the air attack on Hawaii. No new shelters were built after 1942 and, with the threat of invasion receding, the council resolved to seal the Station Street shelter in March 1944, with a view to possibly using it as a carpark at the future date. Thus was the shelter preserved, whereas others were filled in during later 1943 and early 1944. The shelter remains much as it was built, although the incursion of water and silt has reduced the height of the structure over the years.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former World War II Timaru Borough Council public air raid shelter has high historic and social significance for its association with the town's preparedness for foreign invasion during World War II. While Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga lists a number of buildings at which air raid shelters were constructed, the former shelter in Station Street appears to be a rare example of stand-alone public shelter erected by the local council.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former World War II Timaru Borough Council public air raid shelter has cultural significance as a place of community identity and public esteem. The former air raid shelter demonstrates the way of life of Timaru people during World War II and is esteemed as a local historic place.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former World War II Timaru Borough Council public air raid shelter has aesthetic value in the ornamental treatment of the entry grilles and adjacent boundary wall, which contributes to the historic character of the streetscape.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former World War II Timaru Borough Council public air raid shelter has technological and craftsmanship significance for the nature and quality of its excavation, construction and detailing. Robert Comrie was appointed engineer to Timaru Borough Council in January 1940; he had previously served as engineer in charge of the northern division of Dunedin City Council's Works Department.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former World War II Timaru Borough Council public air raid shelter has contextual significance as a local historic feature in close proximity to the town centre, railway station and Port of Timaru.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the former air raid shelter post-dates 1900, its site may have potential archaeological value relating to its excavation, construction and use during World War II.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former World War II Timaru Borough Council public air raid shelter has high overall heritage significance to Timaru and the district of Timaru as a whole. The former air raid

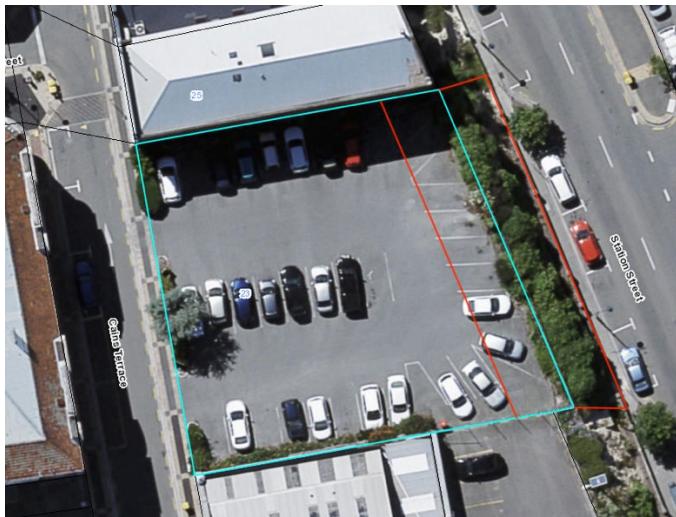
shelter has high historical and social significance for its association with the town's World War II preparedness and as a rare surviving example of a public air raid shelter. The former air raid shelter has cultural significance as a demonstration of the way of life of Timaru people during World War II and for the esteem in which it is held as a local historic place. The former air raid shelter has aesthetic value for the treatment of its gated entries and technological and craftsmanship significance for the quality of its excavation, construction and detailing. The former air raid shelter has contextual significance as a historic feature close to the town centre, the railway station and Port of Timaru; its site has potential archaeological value relating to the evidence it provides of human activity in building and using the shelter during World War II.

#### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

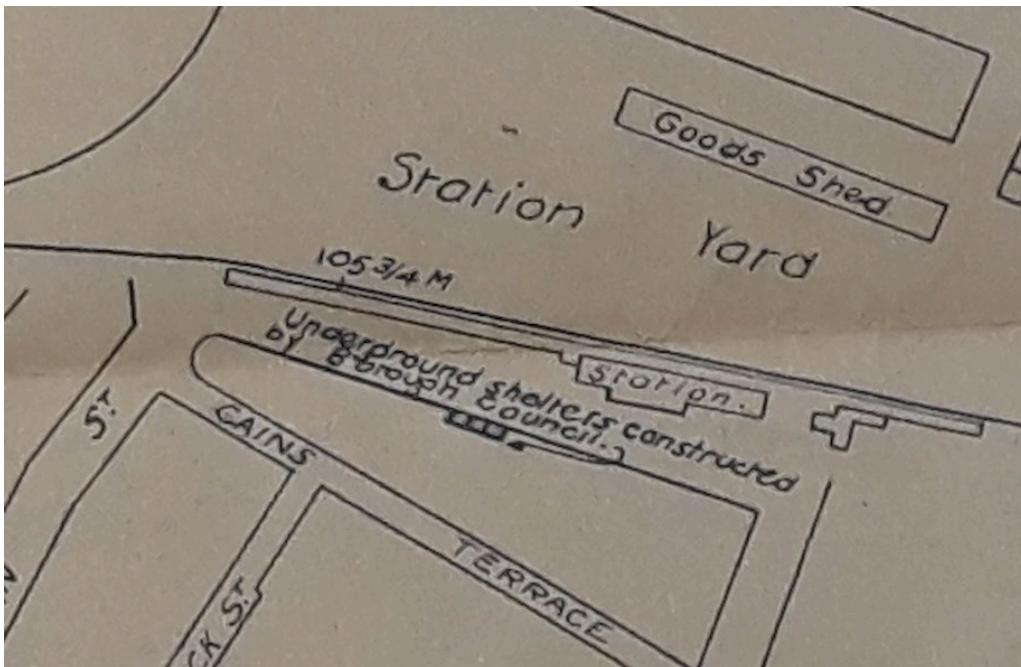
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#### **REFERENCES**

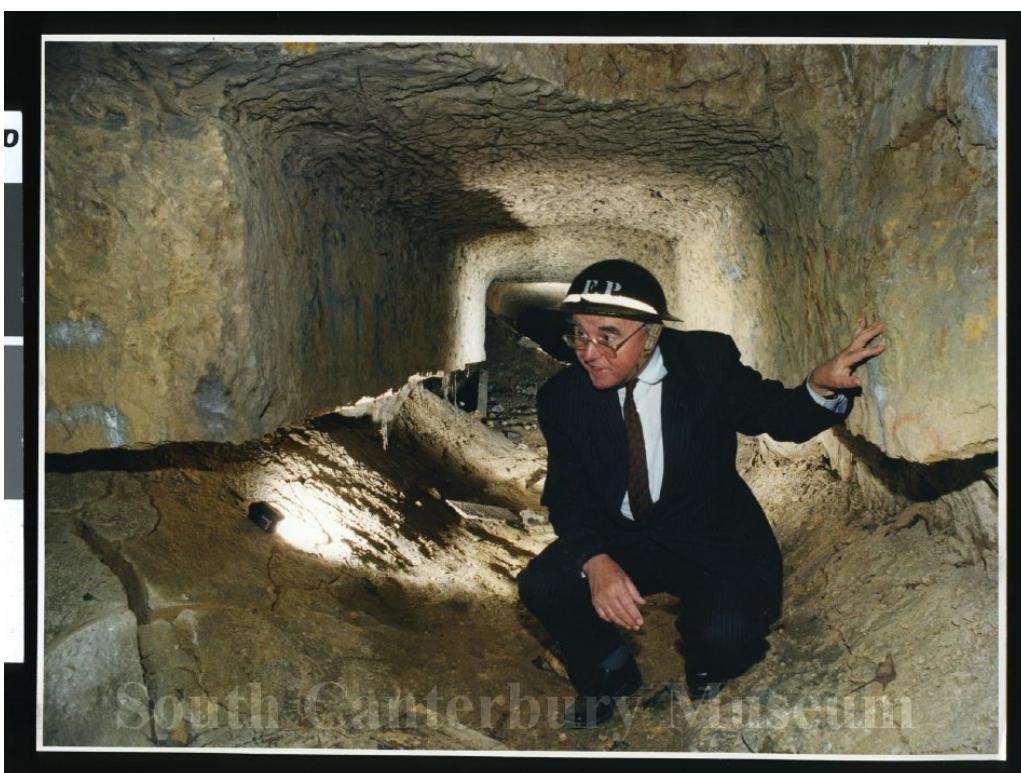
- *Timaru Herald* 20 December 1941; 27 April 1942 & 22 March 1944, np.
- *Press* 5 January 1942, p. 4; 18 July 1942, p. 6.
- *Otago Daily Times* 16 December 1941, p. 8; 13 April 1942, p. 2.
- *Ellesmere Guardian* 19 December 1941, p. 4.
- *NZ Herald* 24 January 1940, p. 11.
- *Gisborne Herald* 24 January 1940, p. 4.
- National Archives, Wellington.
- Nancy M Taylor *The Home Front – Volume 1* Wellington, 1986, p. 455; available online.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/7758>



Extent of setting, limited to extent of tunnel shelter and entries off Station Street, Timaru. West boundary subject to survey.



Detail from plan showing 'Timaru - Air Raid Shelters Near Wharves', c. May 1942. National Archives, Wellington.



Interior of shelter, 1996. South Canterbury Museum.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office Building

**ADDRESS** 21 Church Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(www)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** New      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 1 DP 7427

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500063300

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1929-30

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Cecil Wood, architect; WJ Harding & Co., contractors

**STYLE** Art Deco classicism

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Three storey-building plus basement with rectangular footprint and flat roof. Steel-framed windows framed by fluted piers. Flat dentilled cornice has scalloped panels and decorative plasterwork referencing Maori, Mayan and Art Deco motifs. Decorative flame motif in spandrels between windows. Suspended canopy over main entry off Church Street. Entry framed by recessed piers with koru-style plaster motif. Additional fenestration on plain north-west elevation.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Reinforced concrete, cement plaster.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Internal modifications (R Munro, architect; early 1950s). Canopy and keystone motif over entry added (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The building stands at the north corner of the intersection of Church and Sophia Streets. To the south-east is the former Public Trust Office (heritage item # 32), to the west the Timaru Library and to the south is St Mary's Anglican Church (heritage item # 50). The South Canterbury Museum, the Timaru Post Office precinct and the Timaru District Council offices (heritage item # 48) are further to the south. The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on

which the building is located. It is noted that it appears the building extends beyond the lot boundary on its Sophia Street frontage.

## **HISTORY**

The State Fire Insurance Office was established by central government in 1903 in response to increasing premiums by private insurers. Timaru Borough Council had taken a leading role in advocating for state provision of fire insurance in the late 1890s. The new government department, which was the first in the British Empire and only the second such company in the world, commenced business in January 1905. Timaru people were served by either agents or a branch office before purpose-built premises were erected in Church Street in 1929-30. The South Canterbury Hospital Board and the Transport Department originally occupied the upper two floors of the building. Later the Government Life Insurance Department and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) also had offices in the building. In the 1980s the State Insurance Office moved to a new building in Church Street, at which time the Transport Department took over the whole building. In 1994 the building was taken over by a real estate agency. It remains in commercial use today.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has historical and social significance for its association with the State Insurance company and the inter-war development of the Timaru town centre. The building also represents central government's efforts to provide public access to affordable insurance and its role in constructing substantial office buildings in provincial New Zealand.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the staff of the State Fire Insurance Office, as well as those of other government departments previously accommodated in the building.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has architectural significance as a notable commercial design by preeminent Christchurch architect Cecil Wood (1878-1947). Wood trained in the office of Frederick Strouts and attended classes at Canterbury University College. After working in London and practising for a time in partnership with Samuel Hurst Seager, he established his own practice in 1909. Wood also designed the Hare Memorial Library (1916) and Memorial Dining Hall (1923-25) at Christ's College, and he later designed the State Fire Insurance Office building in Christchurch (1933-35). Construction of the Timaru branch office was overseen by local architects Walter Panton & Son and the Macmillan Brown Library at the University of Canterbury holds drawings for the building. Ruth Helms has demonstrated that the modern classical styling of Wood's late 1920s commercial buildings was influenced by his study tour of the United States.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has technological and craftsmanship significance for its reinforced concrete construction and the quality of its facade detailing. The government favoured robust, fire resistant materials for the construction of their insurance and Public Trust Office buildings, hence the use of reinforced concrete and steel-frame windows. William Harding (c.1873-1963) was a local builder who also erected the former Public Trust Office and the 1933 clock tower addition to the Timaru Borough Council Offices in conjunction with Panton & Son.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has contextual significance as a notable historic feature on the edge of the Timaru town centre. Together with the former Public Trust Office building (Walter Panton & Son, architects, 1922-23, heritage item # 32), the former State Fire Insurance building frames the entry to the eastern portion of Church Street.

#### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the building post-dates 1900 its site may have potential archaeological significance relating to its earlier development and use. An 1875 map of Timaru (South Canterbury Museum) shows a building on Lot 99 and it is recorded that the previous building was demolished to make way for the new insurance office.

#### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the State Fire & Accident Insurance Office and the interwar development of the town centre and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former staff and their clients. The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has architectural significance as the work of leading Christchurch architect Cecil Wood and technological and craftsmanship significance for its reinforced concrete construction and ornamental plaster detailing. The former State Fire & Accident Insurance Office building has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the Timaru town centre streetscape and its site may have potential archaeological significance in view of the colonial use of the property.

#### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

#### **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 11 May 1905, p. 1; 4 January 1911, p. 1; 11 February 2017 (available online).
- *Press* 12 September 1936, p. 20.
- *NZ Herald* 4 September 1933, p. 16.
- *Hawera & Normanby Star* 30 March 1898, p. 3.
- *NZ Truth* 21 November 1925, p. 8.
- *Dominion* 13 August 1909, p. 8.
- R Helms 'The Architecture of Cecil Wood' PhD thesis, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, 1996.
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/insurance/page-2>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/insurance/page-3>
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/cecil-wood>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/4w25/wood-cecil-walter>



Extent of setting, 21 Church Street, Timaru.



**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Government Buildings / Timaru Post Office

**ADDRESS** 12-16 Sophia Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** New      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 3 DP 56548

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500053800

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1879-1881 +

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** RA Lawson, architect; Messrs Tubb & Targus[e], contractors

**STYLE** Italianate

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two/three-storey building with slightly irregular rectangular footprint and multiple hipped roof forms. Principal elevations, facing north-east and south-east, have rusticated walls and classical door and window surrounds. Two-storey wing overlooking King George Place has symmetrical façade with centre and ends composition. Off-set balustraded first floor balconies above entries with entablatures and Doric columns. Single storey elevation on Sophia Street has balustraded parapet and classical portico motif. Building is three stories in height at rear due to sloping site. Double-hung sash windows other than where modern fenestration has been installed.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, concrete, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Telephone exchange added (1885). Additions along Sophia Street (1919-22). Removal of clock and demolition of tower (1933). Masonry detailing at parapet level removed (c.1950). Windows cut down to ground level on Sophia Street frontage (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The building stands on the southern portion of the triangular block bounded by Perth and Sophia Streets and King George Place. On the opposite side of King George Place are the Timaru District Council offices (heritage item # 48); the South Canterbury Museum is across Perth Street to the west. To the north-west is St Mary's Anglican Church (heritage item # 50)

and to the north across Sophia Street is the Royal Arcade. The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the former post office stands; it includes the former post & telegraph garages and the stone wall on the Perth Street/King George Place boundary.

## **HISTORY**

Timaru's first post office was erected in c. 1862; it was replaced in 1879-81 by Government Buildings built to the design of Dunedin architect RA Lawson. The new premises housed the town's post and telegraph offices as well as the Government Insurance Office, the Customs office, and the Board of Education. A new telephone exchange was opened in the building on 16 October 1885. The importance of the government precinct in the town's civic affairs was underlined with the erection of the Wrecks Monument on the north corner of the site in 1883/1885 (heritage item #49) and a drinking fountain to mark the jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign outside the main entry in 1887. The latter was later moved to the botanic gardens (1960). By 1903 the exchange had 174 subscribers and the South Canterbury Board was responsible for 70 schools, between the Rangitata and Waitaki Rivers. The building began as a two-storey block on King George Place with a lower-level wing at the rear. It was enlarged to the north in the early 1920s and safety concerns prompted by the 1931 Napier earthquake led to the clocktower being removed in 1933. The clock that had been installed in the tower in 1913, a gift from Mayor James Craigie that replaced the original clock, was then transferred to the council chambers across the road. A new automatic telephone exchange was built directly to the north of the post office in 1957. The building is no longer occupied by the Post Office and has been in commercial use for some time.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Government Buildings / Timaru Post Office has historical and social significance for its association with the development of the town's governmental infrastructure and the former staff and their customers of the various government departments housed in the buildings over the years.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has cultural value as a site of community identity and as a demonstration of the working life of dozens of government employees over many decades.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has architectural significance as the work of leading New Zealand architect RA Lawson. Lawson (1833-1902) had earlier designed the Lawrence Warden's Court/Post Office (1866) and he secured the commission for the Timaru Post Office and the Seacliff Lunatic Asylum (1878) at a time when the Public Works Department had devolved responsibility for South Island public works to its Dunedin office. Born and trained in Scotland, Lawson emigrated to Australia in 1854 and arrived in New Zealand in 1862. Known for his design of First Church (1862-73) in Dunedin, Lawson designed over 40 churches and was also responsible for an early Bank of New Zealand building in Timaru (demolished). Lawson designed Larnach Castle (1871-76) on Otago Peninsula and the Dunedin Municipal Chambers (1878-80), which was the model for his Timaru Post Office design. He moved to Melbourne in 1890 but returned to Dunedin in 1900. Lawson died during a family visit to Sutherlands near Pleasant Point in 1902.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and the quality of its classical detailing. Messrs Tubb & Targus[e] were Dunedin contractors.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has contextual significance as a notable historic feature on the edge of the Timaru town centre. The building forms a civic and governmental precinct with the Timaru District Council buildings on the south side of King George Place.

#### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the building pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the colonial development of the government precinct within the town centre.

#### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the provision of central government services in the township and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former staff and their customers. The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has architectural significance as the work of preeminent Dunedin architect RA Lawson and technological and craftsmanship value for its plastered brick masonry construction and classical detailing. The former Government Buildings / former Timaru Post Office has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the governmental precinct in King George Place and its site has potential archaeological significance in view of its pre-1900 development.

#### **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

#### **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 18 July 1879, p. 2; 13 March 1880, p. 2; 30 July 1880, p. 3; 14 September 1880, p. 2; 22 October 1914, p. 3; 14 May 1919, p. 6; 8 November 1919, p. 2; 28 August 1920, p. 10; 31 January 2009 (available online).
- *Otago Daily Times* 22 September 2013 (available online).
- *Otago Witness* 26 July 1879, p. 9.
- *Temuka Leader* 11 December 1879, p. 2; 19 October 1911, p. 3.
- *Lyttelton Times* 31 July 1879, p. 6.
- *South Canterbury Times* 24 August 1880, p. 3; 7 January 1882, p. 3.
- *Progress* 1 December 1919, p. 23; 1 April 1922, p. 24.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.
- Peter Richardson 'Building the dominion: government architecture in New Zealand, 1840-1922' PhD thesis, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, 1997. Available online.
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/timarus-chief-post-office>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/2l5/lawson-robert-arthur>
- Archives New Zealand.



Extent of setting, including former post & telegraph garages on Perth Street and stone wall on Perth Street/King George Place boundary, 12-16 Sophia Street, Timaru.



**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School

**ADDRESS** 34 Church Street / 37 Theodosia Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(Dr A McEwan, 11 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.** New      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Part Lot 290 & Part Lot 288 DP 1

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500056600

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1907

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** JS Turnbull, architect; Messrs Baird & Son, builders

**STYLE** Edwardian Baroque

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two-storey building with rectangular footprint and gabled roof with hipped lean-tos on west, south and east sides. Symmetrical façade has single-storey wings on either side of central section crowned by open-bed pediment. Façade ground floor windows have Gibbs' surround and keystones. Twin entries frame central bay; doors are framed by pilasters and topped by broken pediments and circular windows. Palladian arch motif on first floor beneath central pediment. Dentilled cornices and casement type windows with multi-pane fanlights. Hall is lit by clerestory windows above lean-to 'skirt' around building. Boundary fencing emphasises the symmetry of façade.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, cement plaster, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Painted and 'Methodist Sunday School' relief lettering removed from within central pediment; 'Harlequin Sports Club' painted in its place (c.2009).

**SETTING**

The former Sunday School stands on the south side of Church Street, east of its intersection with Theodosia Street (SH 1). The building is centrally located on its site, which consists of two land parcels. The neighbouring streetscape is light industrial and residential in nature.

The extent of setting is both land parcels on which the building is located; it includes the historic plastered brick and wrought iron fencing along Church Street.

## **HISTORY**

The first Wesleyan Methodist church services in Timaru were held in a private home in Sandytown in 1863. A site for a Methodist church was gifted by the Rhodes brothers and a timber chapel subsequently built in Bank Street in 1866. This chapel was extended in 1868 and superseded by a new church in 1875; the chapel was then moved to the rear of the site for use as a Sunday school (demolished post-1930). A new Sunday School was erected in Church Street in 1907, the church and school properties connecting at the centre of the block. Local merchant and former Mayor of Timaru John Jackson (1837-1909) funded the site and gifted money for the new school in memory of his wife Martha (nee Warrington, c.1832-1904). The foundation stone was laid on 14 March 1907, tenders having been called in the previous November. The building was officially opened on 5 August 1907. The church celebrated its centenary in 1965 but closed in 1991. The Sunday School was subsequently purchased by the Harlequin Rugby Football Club in 2009. The club refurbished the building before officially moving in on 10 October 2012. Previously, the Harlequins RFC amalgamated the Star and Zingari clubs in 1998.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has historical and social significance for its association with John and Martha Jackson and the former Bank Street Methodist Church, which was the first and oldest surviving Wesleyan Methodist church built in South Canterbury. The former Sunday School has added historical significance for its association with church member Laurel McAlister (1892-1981), who was the national president of the Methodist Women's Guild Fellowship from 1959 until 1962. McAlister was actively involved with the Sunday School from 1916 until 1942 and was also a founding member of the Timaru Townswomen's Guild. She was awarded an MBE for her work during World War II in 1946.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of members of the Bank Street Methodist Church community for many years. More recently its heritage values have been appreciated and conserved by members of the Harlequins RFC.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has architectural significance as an Edwardian Baroque style building designed by noted local architect JS Turnbull. Timaru-born James Turnbull (1864-1947) trained in Melbourne and then established a practice in Timaru in c.1895. The son of Richard Turnbull, a prominent Timaru businessman and politician, Turnbull also designed Job Brown's Beehive Stores (1901-2) in Temuka, Chalmers Church (1903-4, heritage item # 38), and a large number of Timaru houses. Turnbull went into partnership with Percy Watts Rule in c.1920, after which time Percy Rule was the principal designer in the firm. The firm designed St James' Anglican Church at Franz Josef (1928-31) and Rule was awarded a Gold Medal from the NZ Institute of Architects for his design of the Surgical Wing at Timaru Hospital (1936-40) in 1939. Turnbull & Rule also undertook the 1930 additions to the Bank Street Methodist Church (heritage item # 51).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has technological and craftsmanship significance as an Edwardian brick and plaster building with ornate classical detailing. William Baird & Sons were also responsible for erecting the Temuka Presbyterian manse in 1910.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has high contextual significance as a landmark on Church Street and for its relationship with the former Bank Street Methodist Church. As its name suggests Church Street is associated with some of Timaru's most notable churches. The western boundary of the Sunday School site was altered when the underpass on Theodosia Street / State Highway 1 was created in the early 1990s.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the former Sunday School post-dates 1900 its site may have archaeological values relating to its prior use and development. The 1875 plan of Timaru (South Canterbury Museum) shows a building on the south side of Lot 288 and both that lot and Lot 290 were part of the landscaped garden of a dwelling on Lot 289. Between 1875 and 1882 the site was the residential property of Archdeacon HW Harper of St Mary's Anglican Church.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

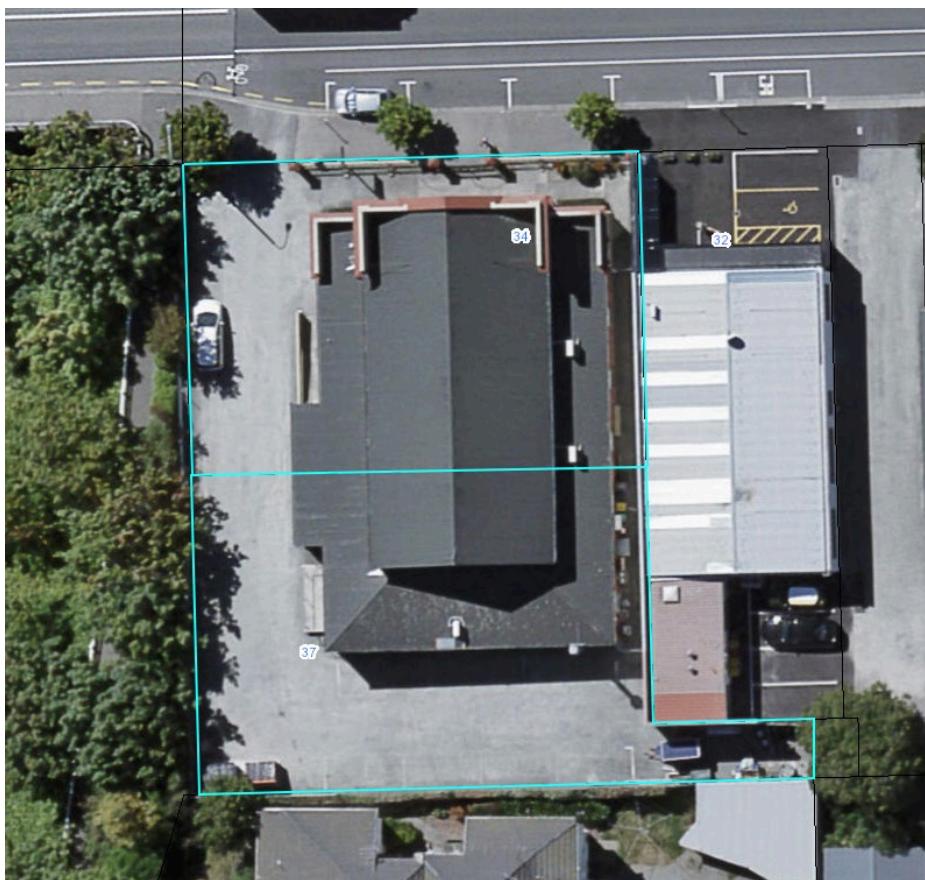
The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with Martha and John Jackson and the Bank Street Methodist Church community and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of past Sunday School pupils and their teachers. The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has architectural significance as an Edwardian Baroque style building designed by Timaru architect James Turnbull and technological and craftsmanship significance for its masonry construction and classical detailing. The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has high contextual significance as a local landmark and in relation to the former Bank Street Methodist Church. The former Jackson Memorial Methodist Sunday School has potential archaeological significance in view of the pre-1900 development that occurred on the site.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 27 July 1904, p. 2; 30 November 1906, p. 7; 1 December 1906, p. 3; 15 March 1907, p. 7; 6 August 1907, p. 6; 11 October 1907, p. 6; 15 August 1910, p. 2; 27 March 1920, p. 5; 31 January 2009, 11 October 2009 & 6 June 2017(available online).
- *Temuka Leader* 19 March 1907, p. 4; 20 July 1909, p. 4.
- *North Otago Times* 19 July 1909, p. 2.
- *South Canterbury Times* 17 January 1881, p. 3; 1 December 1882, p. 1; 9 March 1883, p. 3.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.
- J Wilson 'Timaru's Collection of Old Churches' *Historic Places* June 1989, pp. 7-10.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/3155>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/5m1/mcalister-laurel-grace-barker>
- <http://www.methodist.org.nz/files/docs/mcnz%20admin%20office/archives/2014/parish%20archives%20collection%20south%20canterbury.pdf>



Extent of setting, 34 Church Street / 37 Theodosia Street, Timaru.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory

**ADDRESS** 24 High Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(www)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** New      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 3157 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 1 DP 55633 & Lot 2 DP 55633

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2501101202 & 2501101201

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1916 + 1924-25

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Thomas Pringle (1916 mill plant); Herbert Hall, architect; Shillito Bros, builders (1921-22/1924 flour mill); Herbert Hall, architect; Messrs Munro & Prosser, builders (1924-25 biscuit and chocolate factory)

**STYLE** Industrial vernacular / American daylight factory style mill

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Multi-level building cluster (one, two, three and five storeys in height), with irregular footprint and hipped and gabled roof forms. Multi-pane, steel-framed casement windows, concrete lintels in contrast colour to exposed brickwork. 'JR Bruce Ltd' lettering at top of former flour mill tower. Sawtooth roof on south-west wing. Classical door surround on office building at street front; pilasters, cornice, panelled door with fanlight.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, concrete, timber, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Reinstatement of mill building and biscuit factory additions (1941).

**SETTING**

The former flour mill and biscuit factory stand on the east side of High Street, north of its intersection with Catherine Street and immediately west of the Timaru railway line. The town centre lies to the north, the port of Timaru to the north-east and Timaru Hospital is to the south. The former railway reserve, on which was built a turntable in 1880, is immediately to

the south of the subject site. The extent of setting is both land parcels occupied by the former mill and factory. It is noted that the Heritage NZPT list entry relates only to Lot 1 DP 55633.

## **HISTORY**

A company comprised of Messrs Wilson, Hutchison, Macaulay and Bruce established the Dominion Roller Flour Mill in High Street in 1915. The managing director, James Russell Bruce (1859-1941) was a nephew and son-in-law of Timaru mill owner James Bruce (see heritage item # 39). JR Bruce was also a member of the South Canterbury Electric Power Board and the South Canterbury Development League. Before building the Dominion mill, which produced the 'Silo' brand, Bruce had been involved in milling and land sales. A larger mill was built beside the small original mill in 1921-22. When the new mill was destroyed by fire in November 1923, Bruce erected a new five-storey flour mill, which was itself damaged by another fire in March 1941. The mill was once again reinstated, the roof and uppermost floor having been lost but the remainder of the building being gutted rather than destroyed by the blaze. In 1925 James R. Bruce Ltd began making biscuits, production of which continued in Timaru until 1955. The biscuit factory was a well-known visitor 'attraction' and it was featured in a 1931 film encouraging New Zealanders to buy New Zealand-made products. Production was doubled when a second oven was added in 1927 and during World War II over 4000 tons of biscuits were sent overseas to armed services personnel. In 1964 the Evans Atlas company and JR Bruce Ltd merged (Bruce Evans Ltd) in an attempt to compete with the dominant Timaru Milling Company. Less than a year after the merger the new company was bought out by AS Paterson and the flour mill converted to stock food production. The site was then taken over by the Timaru Milling Company in 1966. The property was divided in to the two subject parcels in 1989 and the former mill and factory are now owned and occupied by Coupland's Stock Feeds.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has historical significance for its association with JR Bruce, the 'Silo' and 'Bruce's Biscuits' brands, and the continued importance of milling in South Canterbury through the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former operators and employees over many decades.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has architectural significance as an industrial complex designed in large part by noted Timaru architect Herbert Hall. Hall (1887-1939) also designed the South Canterbury War Memorial in Timaru (1925, heritage item # 17), St David's Pioneer Memorial Church at Cave (1930) and the Chateau in Tongariro National Park (1928). At the time of his death in February 1940 Hall was reported as being the only New Zealander to have won a gold medal from the British Institute of Architects. Hall was architect to the Timaru Hospital Board, chairman of the Timaru Fire Board, and advisor to the Canterbury Electric Power Board, of which JR Bruce was a board member.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has technological significance as a large-scale early 20<sup>th</sup> century flour mill and biscuit factory. Of the latter it was said when it opened 'that there is not another biscuit factory in Australasia that is so modernly equipped' (*Timaru Herald* 24 March 1925). The factory was initially run by electricity generated on site via a gas suction system. The earliest sections of the mill were built by local contractor Thomas Pringle (1847-1923), who was a Scottish-born builder and

contractor who spent some time in the United States before emigrating to New Zealand in 1878. Pringle was also the contractor for the Customhouse (1901-2, heritage item # 22).

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has contextual significance as a local landmark on High Street and as one of a number of large industrial structures that line the western boundary of the railway line as it passes through Timaru. It is the most recent and southern-most of the heritage mills in Timaru: the former Bruce's 'Royal Flavouring Mills' / Timaru Milling Company mill (1881-82, heritage item # 39), former Belford Flour Mills (1877-78, heritage item # 40), and the former Evans Atlas Flour Milling Company grain stores and mill (c.1879, 1888, 1895 & 1897 +, heritage item # 42).

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the former mill and biscuit factory post-dates 1900 its site may have archaeological value in view of the location of the site and its proximity to the railway line and the original site of the turntable (1880) that was located at the eastern terminus of Catherine Street.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building complex has historical significance for its association with JR Bruce and the brands of flour and biscuits he manufactured and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of those who operated the mill and factory. The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has architectural significance as an industrial structure designed in large part by noted Timaru architect Herbert Hall and technological significance for its brick construction and detailing. The former JR Bruce's Dominion Roller Flour Mills & Biscuit Factory has contextual significance as a local historic feature; its site may have archaeological value in view of the building's location.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 26 October 1903, p. 3; 27 October 1904, p. 3; 5 April 1905, p. 1; 9 September 1916, p. 6; 11 September 1916, p. 1; 13 October 1917, p. 1; 7 June 1920, p. 7; 1 October 1920, p. 7; 27 May & 30 September 2009 (available online).
- *Press* 13 October 1923, p. 20; 14 November 1923, p. 12; 15 November 1923, p. 6; 29 November 1923, p. 4; 8 May 1924, p. 4; 13 May 1925, p. 14; 22 December 1925, p. 5; 19 November 1930, p. 4; 16 February 1940, p. 5; 29 March 1941, pp. 1 & 12; 10 April 1941, p. 12; 1 December 1941, p. 6; 15 April 1942, p. 3.
- *Temuka Leader* 13 October 1921, p. 2; 25 January 1923, p. 2; 1 November 1928, p. 3; 23 July 1931, p. 2.
- *Otago Daily Times* 20 September 1939, p. 1.
- *NZ Truth* 30 October 1930, p. 9.
- N Crawford 'In a Land of Wheat: Timaru's Flourmills' *The Past Today – Historic Places in New Zealand* (ed. J Wilson) Auckland, 1987.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/3157>
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/239>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/agricultural-processing-industries/page-5>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/agricultural-processing-industries/page-6>
- <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/mills.htm>
- <https://www.ngataonga.org.nz/set/item/33>
- <https://www.nzmuseums.co.nz/collections/3359/objects/94239/tin-biscuit>
- <https://www.nzmuseums.co.nz/collections/3359/objects/94233/tin-biscuit>



Extent of setting, 24 High Street, Timaru.



Mid/late-1920s view of JR Bruce's flour mill and biscuit factory. Note mansard roof on flour mill building, this was not reinstated after the 1941 fire. Pan-1481-F, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former South Canterbury Times / former Geraldine/Levels County Council building

**ADDRESS** 16 Church Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** New      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 1 DP 20652

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500067100

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1884

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Messrs West & Barber, architects; George Hornsey,  
contractor

**STYLE** Commercial classicism

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two-storey building with an irregular rectangular footprint and hipped roof. Symmetrical façade has recessed entry beneath arched opening with keystone. Rusticated pilasters frame ground floor bays; entry flanked by large windows. String course between floors; three arched windows with ornamental keystones on first floor are framed by fluted pilasters with Ionic capitals. Dentilled cornice with solid parapet. Narrow alleyway on west wide accessed via timber gate. Single-storey lean-to at rear.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Brick, plastered cement, corrugated metal roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Classical ornamentation added to façade; arched window on east side of main entry replaced by large window; fenestration replaced with metal sashes (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The building stands on the south side of Church Street, mid-way between Sophia Street in the west and Stafford Street in the east. The former Empire Hotel is immediately to the east and further to the west is the former Public Trust office (heritage item # 32). The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located.

## **HISTORY**

In 1884 EG Kerr erected a building to house the *South Canterbury Times* newspaper, of which he was the proprietor. Previously the newspaper (est. 1873) had occupied other premises, including Lane's Buildings on the other side of Church Street. Kerr (1845-1906), a former Mayor of Kaiapoi, had bought the paper from Robert Stansell in August 1881; six years later he acquired the *Timaru Herald* (est. 1864). The *South Canterbury Times* closed in 1901 and the *Herald* became a limited liability company, with Kerr as its first general manager, in December 1905; the Kerr family then published the *Herald* for another 80 years. The Levels County Council was established in 1894 and on 1 February 1895 it took over the offices of the Geraldine County Council (est. 1876) in Church Street. The GCC had been in the former SCT building since at least 1891, Kerr having transferred the *Times* to the *Herald's* Sophia Street premises in 1887. The LCC's territory was bounded by the Opihi River in the north, the Tengawai (sic) River and Pareora and Cave Roads in the west, the coastline in the east and the Pareora River in the south. Timaru Borough was separate from the county, although both councils had their headquarters in Timaru. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the population of Levels County was in the region of 5,500 with 1700 ratepayers. At that time the council occupied the ground floor of the building in Church Street with tenants on the first floor. In January 1923 the newly constituted South Canterbury Electric Power Board met for the first time in the county council offices. After the merger of the Geraldine and Levels County Councils in 1974 the Church Street property was vacated by the council and it has been in private commercial use since that time.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Levels County Council building has historical and social significance for its association with EG Kerr, the *South Canterbury Times* and the administration of local government in the district for over 80 years.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Levels County Council building has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the newspaper and local government staff who occupied the building, in addition to its early commercial tenants.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Levels County Council building has architectural significance as the work of Timaru firm West and Barber. Local carpenter turned architect Daniel West (c.1828-1910) was in partnership with Robert Barber from 1881 until 1886. The practice designed the Italianate style 'Green Hayes' homestead at Temuka for John Hayhurst in 1881 (heritage item # 90) and succeeded Maurice Duval as architects to the South Canterbury Education Board in mid-1883. The firm also undertook additions to Timaru's Dominion Hotel (heritage item # 36) in 1885-86. West alone extended the Royal Hotel (heritage item # 25) in Timaru in 1890 and later designed the Timaru Customhouse (heritage item # 22, 1901-2). A photograph of the former Levels County Council building in c.1888 (see below) shows that the classical ornamentation on the facade was a later addition. The designer and date of that alteration, which nevertheless preserved the overall classical composition of the façade, is currently unknown.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Levels County Council building has technological and craftsmanship value for its late Victorian construction and later decorative detailing.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Levels County Council building has contextual value for the contribution it makes to the historic character of the town centre. The concentration of scheduled heritage items and historic character buildings lining Stafford Street, and in the vicinity of the port, railway station and governmental precinct, gives Timaru's principal CBD its distinctive identity and sense of place. The building is also associated with 'Harlau', the former Kerr residence in Beaconsfield Road, Salisbury (1890) and, historically, with the present-day *Timaru Herald* offices in Sophia Street.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the building pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former South Canterbury Times / former Geraldine/Levels County Council building has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical significance for its association with EG Kerr, the *South Canterbury Times* and its history of local government use. The former Levels County Council building has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of those who have worked in the building and architectural significance as a commercial classical design by Messrs West & Barber. The former Levels County Council building has technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and classical detailing and contextual value for its contribution to the historic streetscape of the town centre. The building's site has potential archaeological significance in view of its pre-1900 construction.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

**B**

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 15 August 1881, p. 2; 9 August 1887, p. 2; 13 July 1893, p. 2; 17 October 1906, p. 5; 4 July 2015 (available online).
- *South Canterbury Times* 20 November 1879, p. 2; 22 July 1880, p. 3; 9 June 1884, p. 3; 20 June 1884, p. 2; 2 February 1886, p. 4; 14 May 1887, p. 3; 14 December 1887, p. 3; 30 January 1895, p. 3.
- *Star* 16 October 1906, p. 3.
- *West Coast Times* 3 July 1884, p. 2.
- *Waikato Times* 17 October 1906, p. 2.
- *NZ Herald* 17 October 1906, p. 8.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District Christchurch*, 1903 (available online).
- Archives New Zealand.



Extent of setting, 16 Church Street, Timaru.



View of building before the extension of the Empire Hotel and the added classical detailing on the facade, c. 1888. ½-031035-F, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Timaru Milling Company office

**ADDRESS** 1 Stafford Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(Dr J Wilson, 12 September 2018)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** New      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 1 DP 346228

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2500022701

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1941-42

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Turnbull & Rule, architects

**STYLE** Art Deco Moderne

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single-storey building with square footprint and hipped roof. Principal elevations face north and west. Entry is housed within a rounded bay at the north-west corner. Bay features a pleated parapet, name of company in painted lettering above cornice over central door with flanking windows. Six-pane steel-frame windows on north and west elevations have a single opening casement and relief panels above and below. Vestigial classical detailing above entry and at parapet level. Elevation overlooking Mill Street has planar wall and unadorned window openings. Chamfered corner with downpipe at Mill and Stafford Streets intersection. Flagpoles mounted on Stafford Street elevation and small garden court on north elevation.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Concrete [?], corrugated metal roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

New door at entry (date unknown). Building erected on garden site to north of office (later 1970s).

**SETTING**

The former mill office stands on the east side of Stafford Street, opposite its intersection with Browne, King and High Streets. The building is bordered by Mill Street to the south. The former Timaru Milling Company flour mill is to the east along Mill Street and the town centre and port of Timaru lie to the north. The extent of setting is largely limited to the footprint of the office building, notwithstanding the potential archaeological values of the site as a whole.

## **HISTORY**

James Bruce (c.1831-1903) was a Scottish millwright who arrived in New Zealand in the early 1860s and worked as a builder and contractor in North Otago before eventually settling in Timaru and setting up a sawmill in Grey (Mill) Street. Bruce then built a brick flourmill, known as the Waitangi Mills, on the same site in 1878; this mill burnt down on 21 May 1881. A new flour and oatmeal mill was erected in its place and was in production by September 1882. It was the first in New Zealand fitted with roller milling plant. By early 1883, after the death of his business partner in December 1882, Bruce had closed the mill and was seeking buyers for it. A meeting in May of that year proposed the formation of a limited liability company to own and operate Bruce's Royal Flavouring Mills. The company was duly formed and in April 1886 its shareholders resolved to change the name to the Timaru Milling Company Ltd. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the Timaru Milling Company's mill was said to be the largest in New Zealand, with a capacity 25 sacks of flour per hour. The company produced pictorial collectors' cards from the late 1930s until the early 1950s and also produced oatmeal. In 1941 it was granted the sole New Zealand licence to produce macaroni; thus was founded the well-known Diamond pasta range. In 1941-42 a macaroni factory was erected to the west of the flour mill. Previously the land had been held by the Timaru Borough Council and occupied by the army. A new office was built at the same time as the pasta factory at the corner of Mill and Stafford Streets. The Timaru Milling Company closed in 2005; later owners used the buildings on the mill site until early 2012. The former company office is currently vacant.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Timaru Milling Company office has historical significance for its association with the Timaru Milling Company, the history of flour milling and food production in South Canterbury, and the modernisation of the New Zealand milling industry. The former office has added historical significance for its association with the Diamond pasta range, which is still in existence and was launched in the early 1940s to overcome the import restrictions and wartime conditions that were hampering New Zealanders' access to macaroni. The adjacent flour mill produced the raw material needed for pasta production, using wheat that was produced following years of research at Lincoln College (*Press* 6 November 1941, p. 3). The new factory was widely reported at the time of its construction and was a destination for visiting dignitaries.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Timaru Milling Company office has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former owners and employees.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Timaru Milling Company office has architectural significance as an Art Deco Moderne style building designed by leading Timaru architects Turnbull and Rule. Timaru-born James Turnbull (1864-1947) trained in Melbourne and then established a practice in Timaru in c.1895. The son of Richard Turnbull, a prominent Timaru businessman and politician, Turnbull also designed Job Brown's Beehive Stores (1901-2) in Temuka, Chalmers Church (1903-4, heritage item # 38) in Timaru, and a large number of Timaru houses. Turnbull went into partnership with Percy Watts Rule in c.1920, after which time Rule was the firm's principal designer. The practice designed the Timaru Boys' High School Memorial Library (1923-24, heritage item # 16), Temuka Public Library (1926-27, heritage item # 118), St James' Anglican Church at Franz Josef (1928-31) and Rule was awarded a Gold Medal from the NZ Institute of Architects for his design of the Surgical Wing at Timaru Hospital (1936-40) in 1939. Originally the milling company office overlooked a garden that ran along the Stafford Street frontage, hence the architectural treatment given to the north elevation, which is now largely obscured by the factory extension built on the garden site.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Timaru Milling Company office has technological and craftsmanship value as an example of war-time construction methods and materials.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Timaru Milling Company office has contextual significance as one of a number of heritage buildings associated with the milling industry that are located in or near to the town centre. The former Timaru Milling Company mill stands on the adjacent property at the east end of Mill Street (1881-82, heritage item # 39). Mill Street was originally named Grey Street; by 1926 it had assumed its current name, presumably in honour of the mills erected along it. the former Timaru Drill Hall stands on the opposite side of Mill Street.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the office building post-dates 1900, its site has potential archaeological value relating to the earlier development of the property. Before 1941 the property at the corner of Mill and Stafford Streets was a council reserve. The 1875 town plan shows the footprint of a 'Barrack' on the site and while this building had been removed by 1925, the block plan of Timaru prepared in that year shows the South Canterbury Battalion Band Room on the same lot, to the east of the office building site.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

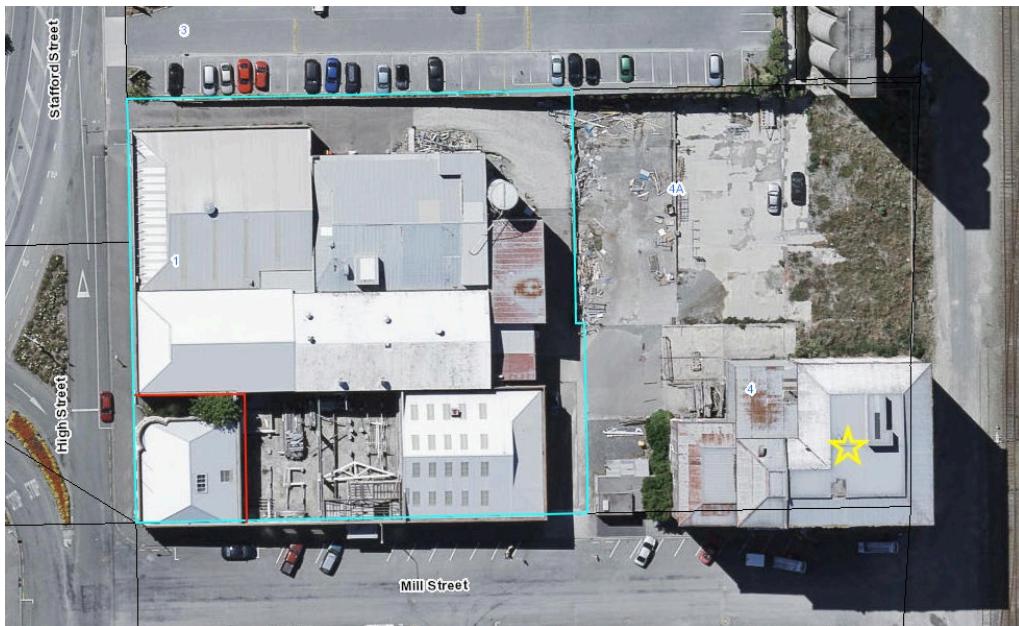
The former Timaru Milling Company office has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical significance for its association with the Timaru Milling Company and its pioneering production of pasta for the New Zealand market and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the company's owners and employees. The former Timaru Milling Company mill has architectural significance as an Art Deco Moderne style building designed by leading Timaru architects Turnbull & Rule and technological and craftsmanship value for its interwar construction and detailing. The former Timaru Milling Company office has contextual significance as a local historic feature and for its relationship with the former Timaru Milling Company flour mill. The building's site may have archaeological value in view of the pre-1900 development that occurred here.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 18 September 2011 & 15 November 2011 (available online).
- *Press* 5 August 1941, p. 6; 6 November 1941, p. 3; 15 April 1942, p. 3; 19 November 1942, p. 6.
- *Dunstan Times* 16 March 1942, p. 2.
- *Waikato Independent* 20 August 1941, p. 4.
- *Opunake Times* 12 August 1941, p. 7.
- *Evening Post* 22 July 1944, p. 8.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand - Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903 (available online).
- N Crawford 'In a Land of Wheat: Timaru's Flourmills' *The Past Today – Historic Places in New Zealand* (ed. J Wilson) Auckland, 1987.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/239>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/agricultural-processing-industries/page-5>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/agricultural-processing-industries/page-6>
- <https://turnbullememera.tumblr.com/post/154490001448/the-timaru-milling-company-issued-picture-card>
- <http://diamondmeals.securehost.net.nz/Diamond-History/>



Extent of setting, limited to office footprint and garden court at south-west corner of site, 1 Stafford Street, Timaru. The former Timaru Milling Company mill (heritage item # 39) is marked by yellow star.



Building detail. Dr J Wilson, 12 September 2018.

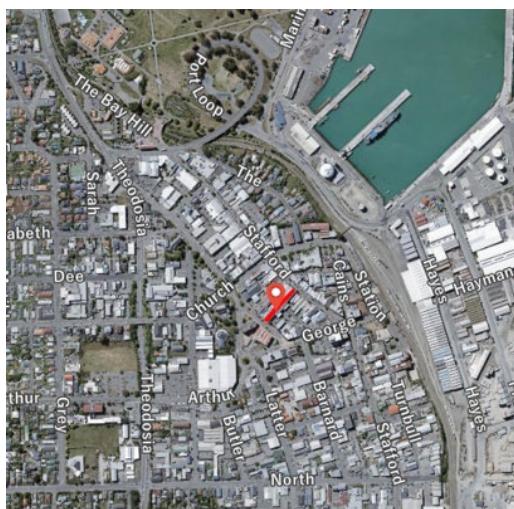
**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** Ross' Royal Arcade / Royal Arcade

**ADDRESS** 196-200 Stafford Street, 8A, 10-14, 14A, 15-26 Royal Arcade, & 23-29 Sophia Street, Timaru

**LOCATION**



**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.**  
(at time of assessment)

New    **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** N/A

**LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS**

Lot 2 DP 1110, Pt Lot 89 DP 1, Pt Lot 3 DP 1110, Lot 1 DP 78749, Lot 2 DP 11697, Lot 2 DP 49305, Lot 1 DP 49305, Lot 9 DP 1110, Unit B DP 67660 on Lot 2 DP 64444, Lot 1 DP 64444, right of way DP 1110

**VALUATION NUMBERS**

2500068300, 2500068400 (part), 2500068500,  
2500068501, 2500068600, 2500068701,  
2500066400, 2500066200, 2500066100B,  
2500068700, 2500066300

**OVERVIEW**

This historic heritage item is comprised of multiple building lots flanking a right of way that extends on a north-east to south-west axis between Stafford Street and Sophia Street. Initially known as Ross' Royal Arcade, the historic heritage area represents the private development of commercial and retail space in central Timaru, principally between 1887 and 1907.

Comprising a suite of, predominantly, commercial classical style buildings, the Royal Arcade is a rare example of a late Victorian/Edwardian commercial arcade. The Royal Arcade adds depth and variety to Timaru's historic central business district and its conservation in the 1990s demonstrates local recognition of its heritage values. The historic heritage item demonstrates the individuality and consistency achieved by a number of architectural practises using the same commercial classical idiom; the intimacy of the arcade offers a unique urban experience in the district.



Side and rear elevation of former Ross, Sims & Co. building. Dr A McEwan.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION & SETTING

- The Royal Arcade is a pedestrian laneway that extends between Stafford Street in the north-east and Sophia Street in the south-west. It is located in the block bounded by Church Street in the north and George Street in the south and forms a connection between Timaru's principal shopping street and its historic government precinct.
- The right of way running through the centre of the arcade is capped by a modern glazed roof carried on decorative posts. Commercial classical-style facades bookend the arcade overlooking Stafford and Sophia Streets. At its mid-point the arcade is bridged at first floor level; this marks the boundary between the town sections on which the arcade was developed and the point at which the right of way widens at its southerly end.
- The arcade is a pedestrian-only precinct with service lanes, near the mid-point town section boundary, on both sides. Buildings lining the arcade are two-storeys in height and many have cellar or basement levels.

## HISTORY

David Mitchell Ross was in business in Coromandel and Dunedin before settling in Timaru in c.1874 and establishing a high profile as a businessman and local politician. Ross was a land broker, valuator, trustee and commission agent; initially in partnership with Edward Tate and then, from September 1877, with William Sims. It would appear that in 1877 Ross acquired the land on which he was to develop the Royal Arcade. He was also a Timaru Borough councillor and served as Mayor of Timaru from 1888 until 1891.

Ross shingled the footpath through the arcade in May 1886 and commissioned a number of the early buildings erected along its length. The oldest building that remains in situ is the former offices and printery of the *Timaru Herald* (est. 1864), which were erected on the Sophia Street frontage in 1885-86. On the opposite corner of the arcade Ross had built the United Friendly Societies' Dispensary building in 1887, the same year in which Messrs Priest and Holdgate erected their new Vulcan Warehouse on the south side of the Stafford Street entry to the arcade. In 1888 Ross himself designed premises for Ross, Sims and Co that were erected at the centre of the arcade on its north side; directly opposite his office building Ross also oversaw the construction of shops and offices, subsequently taken over by Priest & Holdgate, at the rear of the Vulcan Warehouse.



Sophia Street scene showing *Timaru Herald* and UFS Dispensary buildings (either side of lamp of the Jubilee fountain).  
Priest & Holdgate's yard extends beside the Oddfellows' Hall (demolished), c. 1903. South Canterbury Museum.

In 1902 a single-storey building on the north side of the Stafford Street entry was replaced by a two-storey structure by William McKeown and four years later an addition to the rear of the Priest and Holdgate building included Budd's Arcade Café on the first floor. In 1907 McKeown added four shops to the rear of his building and draper turned land broker Charles Bowker erected Arcade Chambers on the north side, south of the Ross, Sims building. Finally in 1953-54 the former Dispensary building, which had been occupied by the Women's Rest during the 1920s, was extended by Wilmott's Workwear (est. 1930). With the exception of this extension the Arcade was therefore complete by 1907.

Both Ross, Sims & Co. and DM Ross individually were declared bankrupt in August 1892 and Ross's properties were auctioned in the spring of 1893. Messrs Priest and Holdgate bought four lots, which included their shop on Stafford Street and the first floor 'bridge' office at mid-block, but the remaining lots were not sold at that time. The official assignee of Ross's estate was still involved in the arcade in the mid-1930s, at which time Timaru Borough Council took over ownership of the right-of-way running through its centre. Ross's fall from grace in Timaru was complete when he was sentenced to prison for embezzlement in September 1892. After his release he left New Zealand and settled in the United States where he reportedly practised as an attorney.

More successfully, William Priest and Edward Holdgate established their partnership as purveyors of hardware and ironmongery in 1879; the business continued until 1950. William McKeown junior took over his father's saddlery business in 1898 and thereafter erected a new building across the arcade from Priest and Holdgate's building. In 1907, when McKeown added a four-shop, seven-office wing at the rear of his building, Begg & Co's music store moved into one of the new shops, having been a tenant in the Stafford Street building since 1902; by the mid-1920s the firm occupied almost all of the combined building.



Priest & Holdgate building (1887) photographed by William Ferrier, c. 1900.  
<http://canterburyphotography.blogspot.com/2008/09/blog-post.html>

Other early occupants of the arcade included William Ferrier, whose photographic studio on the first floor of the Ross, Simms & Co. building was purpose-built for him. The Arcade Photographic Studio was later occupied by JR Stewart; HH Kingham ran a photographic supply store in the Arcade in 1920. King and Coe drapers were in occupation in October 1888 and music teacher R Laidlaw Toshach in early 1890. In February 1898 Albert Prosser announced he had taken over the Cash Boot Shop at one of the Stafford Street corners of the Arcade; in the same newspaper Alex Montgomery, a deputy official assignee, gave his address as the arcade. The architect Daniel West had his office in the arcade in 1895; as did fellow architect Herbert Hall when he commenced practice in 1910. Messrs A Brown & Co took possession of a large consignment of tea for their new shop in the arcade in December 1907 and Brunsden's Fruit Stores was in occupation in the following year. Tobacconist Tertius Munro advertised his business within the arcade for sale in 1925. More recently Boobs, a second-hand clothing store, was a longstanding tenant from the mid-1970s.

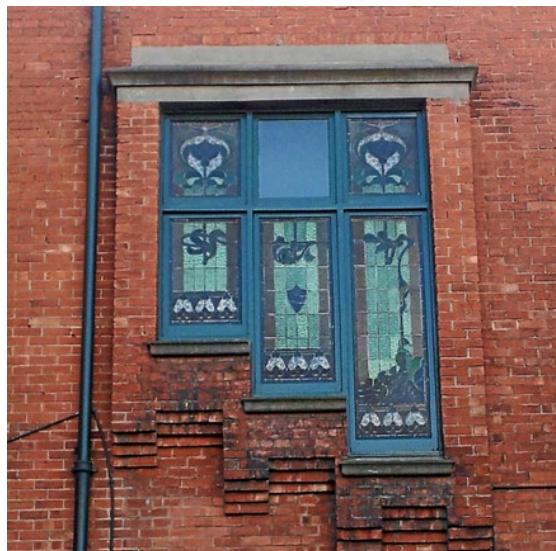
Ross's intention to roof his arcade with an arched glass canopy was not realised until the right of way was upgraded in the mid-1990s. The growing interest in Timaru's heritage buildings in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century was the catalyst for the restoration of the Royal Arcade, which reopened on 31 May 1996. Today the Royal Arcade accommodates retail and office tenancies, just as it has always done.



Reopening plaque. Dr A McEwan.

## HISTORIC NAMES

The arcade was named by and for David Mitchell Ross, its developer. Melbourne's 'Royal Arcade' is the oldest shopping arcade in Australia (1870) and there were also 'Royal Arcades' built in Dunedin, Tauranga and Wellington; the name denoting a sense of majesty and grandeur without direct reference to the reigning monarch.



Detail of Budd's Arcade Café window, 1906. James Turnbull, architect; F Palliser & Sons, contractors.

## HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Royal Arcade has high historical and social significance as a rare example in New Zealand of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century/early 20<sup>th</sup> century shopping and commercial arcade. Dunedin's older Royal Arcade (1875) was demolished in 1931; the Strand Arcade in Auckland (1899-1900, rebuilt 1909-10) is listed by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Toanga as a Category 1 historic place on the basis that it is 'believed to be the earliest surviving purpose-built arcade in the country'. In fact Ross's Royal Arcade predates the Strand by over 20 years, notwithstanding the staged construction of its component parts. The Royal Arcade demonstrates the late Victorian/Edwardian development of Timaru's central business district and is also notable for its association with former Mayor DM Ross, the *Timaru Herald* and the other early owner/occupiers of the buildings within it.

## CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Royal Arcade has cultural value as a site of community identity, esteem and historic continuity since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The arcade is included in the 'Central Timaru Historic Walk' (see below) and is valued as a unique urban space within the central business district.

## ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Royal Arcade has high architectural and aesthetic significance for its suite of commercial classical style buildings that are associated with a number of prominent local architects and which use a common palette of classical design elements to create a varied but generally unified urban streetscape.

## TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The Royal Arcade has technological and craftsmanship significance for the materials and methods used in the buildings lining it. The use of Timaru bluestone in the basement and ground floor of the former Ross, Sims & Co. building (1888) is particularly notable; as are the concrete foundations, sunk to a depth of over 6 metres, of the former *Timaru Herald* building owing to the infill land beneath the building. Brick is the predominant building material used in the arcade

and the detailing of the 1885-86 former *Timaru Herald* building and the 1907 Arcade Chambers demonstrates the craftsmanship of the major building firms involved in the arcade's construction.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Royal Arcade has high contextual significance as one of the defining urban features of the township of Timaru. The buildings of the arcade constitute notable individual elements within a cohesive group of late Victorian and Edwardian commercial classical style edifices. The narrowness of the laneway creates a sense of intimacy and a unique experience within the central business district.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the land on which the Royal Arcade is located had been developed by 1875 (see 1875 town map detail below), the historic heritage area has potential archaeological significance. The area has scientific value due to its potential to provide further information about the arcade's historic use and development

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

Ross's Royal Arcade has high overall historic heritage significance to the Timaru district. The historic heritage area has high historical and social value as a rare, in New Zealand, late 19<sup>th</sup> / early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial arcade and cultural value as a valued site of community heritage value. The Royal Arcade has high architectural and aesthetic significance for its architecturally-designed buildings by a number of noted local architectural firms and technological and craftsmanship significance for the materials and methods used in its construction. The Royal Arcade has high contextual significance as a unique element within Timaru's central business district. Given the development of the arcade site since the early 1870s, if not earlier, archaeological values may be present; the area has scientific value due to its potential to provide further information about the area's historic use and development.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

A

## **REFERENCES**

- *Timaru Herald* 18 October 1871, p. 2; 12 July 1875, p. 4; 3 October 1877, p. 2; 22 May 1878, p. 3; 28 August 1879, p. 4; 10 May 1882, p. 1; 24 August 1882, p. 4; 21 October 1885, p. 3; 31 October 1885, p. 4; 5 November 1885, p. 7; 3 May 1886, p. 3; 19 May 1886, p. 2; 19 July 1886, p. 2; 14 June 1887, p. 3; 30 September 1887, p. 2; 12 October 1887, p. 2; 28 December 1887, p. 3; 23 January 1888, p. 3; 6 July 1888, p. 4; 25 July 1888, p. 1; 3 August 1888, p. 1; 30 October 1888, p. 2; 14 June 1889, p. 1; 24 January 1890, p. 3; 15 September 1893, p. 3; 2 October 1893, p. 2; 30 March 1895, p. 4; 19 June 1895, p. 1; 5 February 1898, p. 1; 12 August 1898, p. 2; 16 August 1898, p. 1; 6 February 1902, p. 2 (supplement); 8 April 1902, p. 2; 11 April 1902, p. 2; 20 October 1902, p. 2; 8 January 1906, p. 5; 4 June 1906, p. 1; 8 October 1906, p. 6; 9 October 1906, p. 4; 2 March 1907, p. 2; 25 June 1907, p. 4; 3 July 1907, p. 2; 3 August 1907, p. 2; 5 September 1907, p. 7; 21 December 1907, p. 5; 4 January 1908, p. 7; 18 August 1909, p. 2; 17 September 1909, p. 1; 25 September 1909, p. 8; 2 November 1909, p. 1; 20 July 1910, p. 2; 7 May 1917, p. 1; 6 June 1918, p. 4; 27 September 1918, p. 1; 12 October 1920, p. 5; 19 October 1920, p. 5; 1 December 1920, p. 7; 30 December 1920, p. 6; 24 June 2008, 31 January 2009, 25 April 2014, 4 July 2015, 1 June 2016, 13 August 2016, 20 August 2016, 18 March 2017, 21 September 2017 & 15 December 2019 (available online).
- *South Canterbury Times* 16 October 1879, p. 2; 6 September 1881, p. 2; 16 October 1885, p. 3; 14 June 1887, p. 4; 11 October 1887, p. 3; 5 July 1888, p. 3; 9 October 1888, p. 3.

- *Temuka Leader* 18 August 1892, p. 2; 6 September 1892, p. 4; 21 January 1893, p. 4; 13 January 1906, p. 2.
- *Press* 3 August 1892, p. 6; 3 July 1925, p. 15; 14 August 1934, p. 6.
- *Lyttelton Times* 29 September 1893, p. 5.
- *Daily Southern Cross* 11 June 1872, p. 1.
- *Otago Daily Times* 23 January 1877, p. 2.
- *Waimate Daily Advertiser* 20 November 1902, p. 2.
- *Auckland Star* 19 November 1888, p. 8.
- [http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/Royal\\_Arcade.htm](http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/Royal_Arcade.htm)
- <http://canterburyphotography.blogspot.com/2008/09/blog-post.html>
- <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/123>
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/royal-arcade>
- <http://www.timarucivictrust.co.nz/activities/previous/7>
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District Christchurch*, 1903; available online.

\* See also B Bracefield & D Holman 'Timaru Inner City Heritage Audit, Volume 2, A Category Buildings' Timaru, 1995.



Extent of setting, Royal Arcade, Stafford and Sophia Streets, Timaru.

### **Individual buildings constituting the historic heritage item**



Former *Timaru Herald* building, 1885-86. Meason & Merchant, architects; Jones & Palliser, contractors. Extended along the Arcade (1906, James Turnbull, architect); extended north along Sophia Street (1928); new press room and paper store built at rear (1954). Dr A McEwan.



Side elevation of former *Timaru Herald* building with 1906 addition at rear. Dr A McEwan.



Former United Friendly Societies' (UFS) Dispensary. Maurice Duval, architect. Dr A McEwan.



Priest & Holdgate's Vulcan Warehouse, 1887 (at left) & McKeown buildings, 1902 & 1907 (right). James Hislop, architect & Jones & Palliser, contractors; Vulcan Warehouse. 1902 McKeown's building Daniel West, architect; Messrs Werry & Hunt, builders. 1907 addition, Walter Panton, architect; Palliser & Sons, contractors. Dr A McEwan.



Former Ross, Simms & Co. building, 1888. DM Ross, designer; Samuel McBride (stonework) & Emil Hall (brickwork), builders. Dr A McEwan.



Arcade Chambers (first floor elevation), 1907. Messrs West & Hall, architects; Messrs Petrie & MacDougall, contractors. Dr A McEwan.

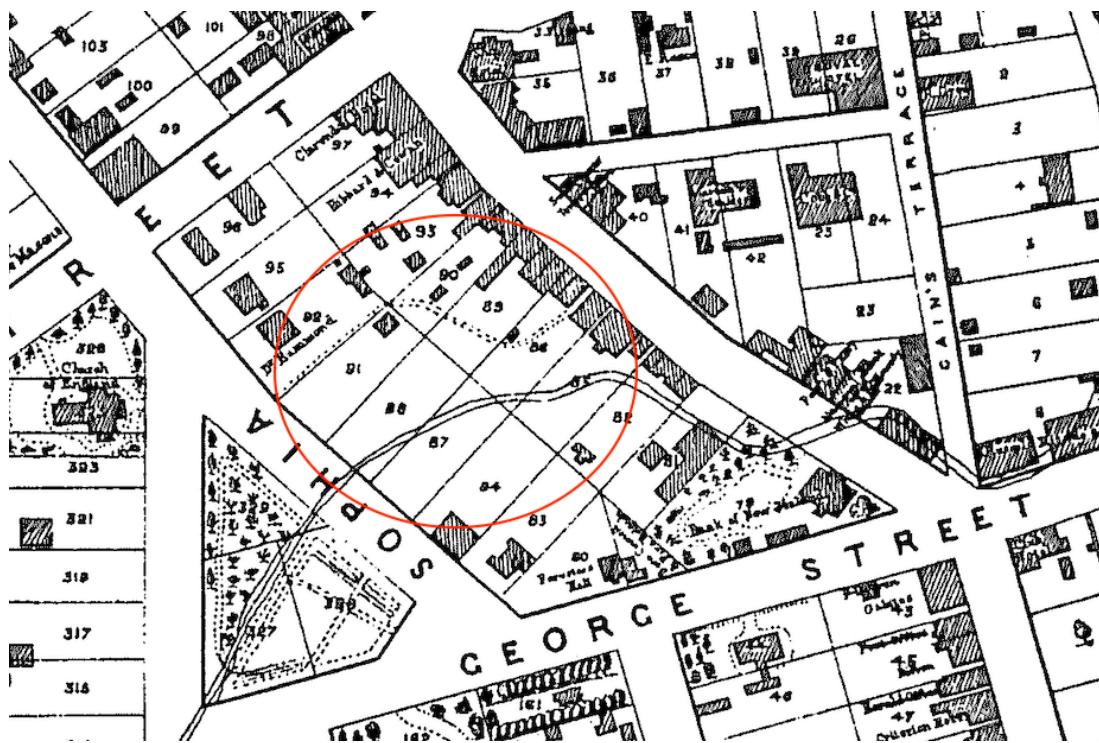


1906 Priest & Holdgate addition. Dr A McEwan.

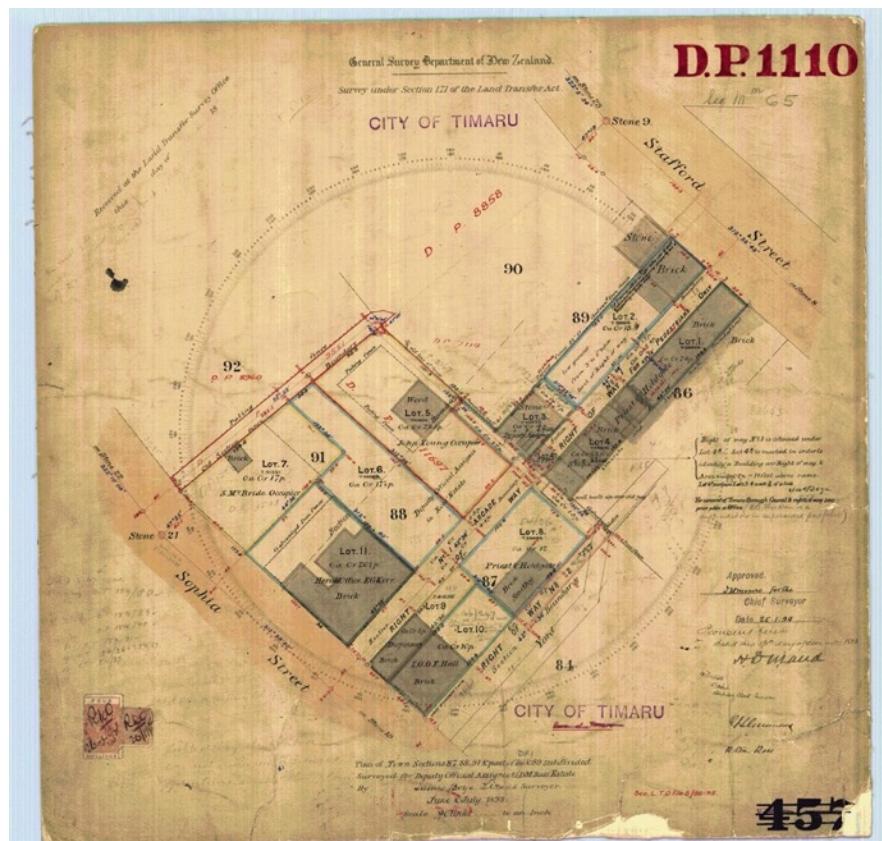


Wilmott's Workwear addition, c.1953-54. Dr A McEwan.

## Additional visual information

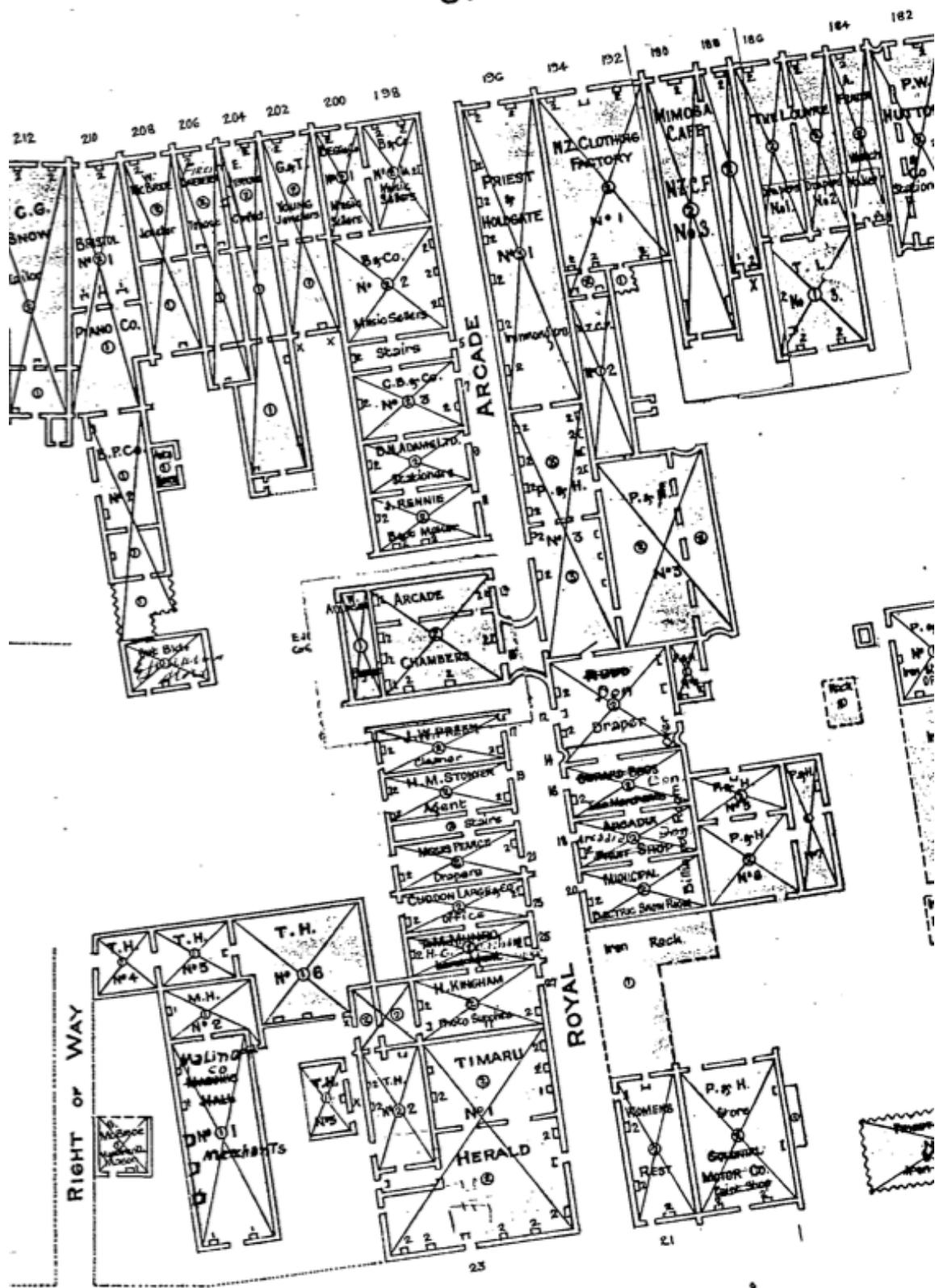


Detail from 1875 'Plan of Timaru Townships' showing town sections on which the Royal Arcade was developed. Sections 86 and 89 fronting Stafford Street have already been built on by this date. South Canterbury Museum.



DP 1110, dated June and July 1893, showing state of arcade development at the time of DM Ross's bankruptcy proceedings. LINZ.

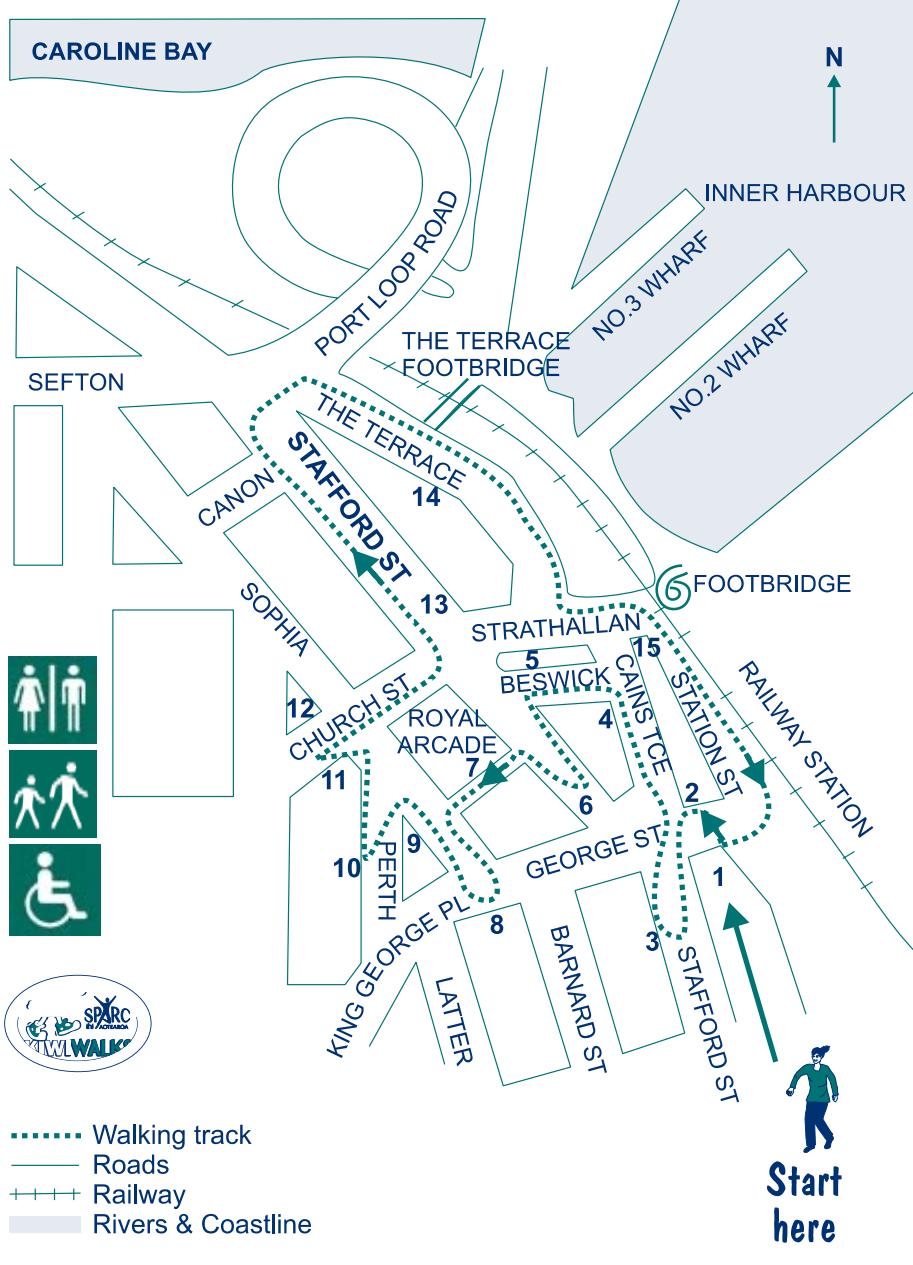
# STAFFORD STREET



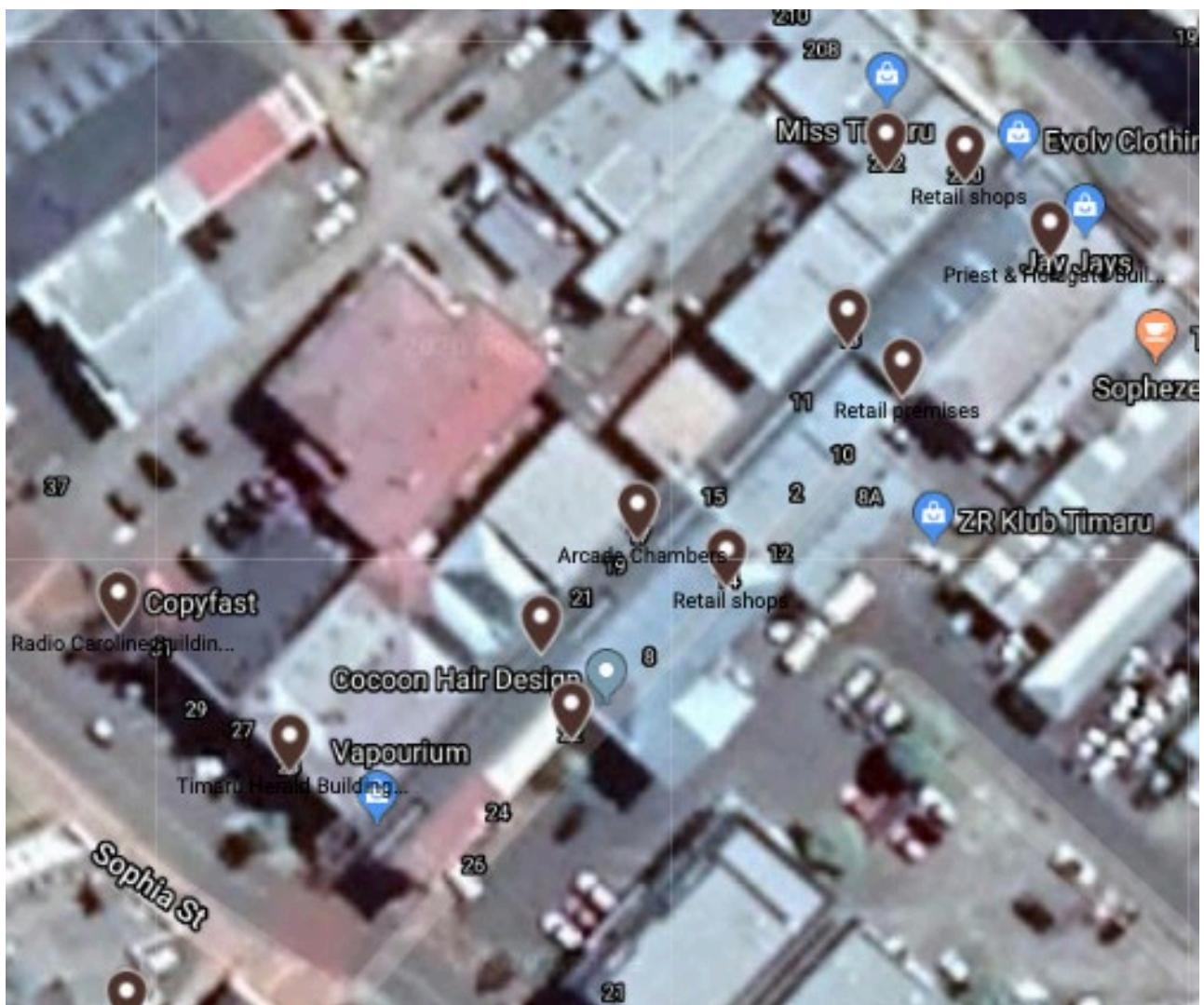
Detail from 1925 Timaru inner-city block plan showing Royal Arcade. Timaru District Council.

## No.2 Central Timaru Historic Walk

Time: 30 minutes



TDC Central Timaru Historic Walk; available online.



TDC Built Heritage Google Map. Brown pins mark structures of historic significance and/or interest; 9 pins are located within the heritage area. Accessed 20 January 2020.

**TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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<b>HERITAGE ITEM NAME</b>	St Mary's Hall		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	24 Church Street, Timaru		
<b>PHOTOGRAPH</b>			
(Dr A McEwan, 9 July 2018)			
<b>DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.</b> (at time of assessment)	New	<b>HNZ LIST No. &amp; CATEGORY</b>	n / a
<b>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>	Lot 3 DP 1739		
<b>VALUATION NUMBER</b>	2500054900		
<b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</b>	1928-29		
<b>ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/ BUILDER</b>	Turnbull & Rule, architects; JT Hunt, contractor		
<b>STYLE</b>	Collegiate Gothic		

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Two-storey building with trapezoidal footprint and gabled roof. Symmetrical façade with central entry beneath oriel window and pediment breaking through castellated parapet. Multi-pane casement windows, string course above first floor windows, incised oval motifs between ground and first floor windows; name of building in relief above oriel window. Shallow lancet arched entrance flanked by lamps fixed to framing buttresses. East elevation also finished with cement plaster; has string course and decorative parapet. Fire escape stairs and secondary external entries on east elevation. Rear lean-to section designed to fit irregular shape of lot.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Concrete, cement plaster, timber, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Unknown, if any.

**SETTING**

The church hall occupies the full extent of its site on the south side of Church Street, between Bank Street in the west and Sophia Street in the west. St Mary's Church (heritage item #50) is located to the east on Church Street, separated from the hall by a right of way. The extent of setting is the land parcel on which the hall is located.

## **HISTORY**

Prior to Timaru's establishment as a town, Bishop Harper visited South Canterbury from Christchurch and conducted services in several homesteads and, in 1858, at Timaru. In 1859, the Anglican Church posted George Foster to Timaru with responsibility for all of South Canterbury. The following year the foundation stone of the first St Mary's Church was laid. It was dedicated on 28 April 1861 and the church was enlarged in 1868. The foundation stone of a new stone church was laid in September 1880; the partially completed church was consecrated on 26 August 1886. Between 1907 and 1909 the church was completed; it reopened on 6 May 1909. Besides the church, the parish built a two-storey brick vicarage on Theodosia Street, behind which was a wooden Sunday school room which could seat around 500 people. A new, larger Sunday school opened beside the church on 7 September 1929; the foundation stone having been laid on 25 November 1928. Dean Julius, the former vicar of St Mary's, opened the hall. The site had been purchased by the church in 1925 and was previously privately owned. The earlier hall was subsequently demolished. The new parish hall was designed to house, on the ground floor, the vicar's office, Sunday School library, a Guild Room, hall with stage and wall panels to create nine small Sunday School classrooms, and a kitchen. A basement was to be used by the Boy Scouts and on the first floor an infants' department and women's clubroom were provided for. St Mary's Anglican Church closed in January 2018 for strengthening and conservation; church services are currently being held in the hall until the refurbishment has been completed.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Hall has historical and social significance as a place of Anglican education, administration and socialising since 1929.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Hall has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the church community and the varied activities in which its members have been involved.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Hall has architectural significance as the work of Timaru architectural practice, Turnbull and Rule. Timaru-born James Turnbull (1864-1947) trained in Melbourne and then established a practice in Timaru in c.1895. The son of Richard Turnbull, a prominent Timaru businessman and politician, Turnbull also designed Job Brown's Beehive Stores (heritage item #117, 1901-2) in Temuka, Chalmers Church (heritage item #38, 1903-4) and a large number of Timaru houses. Turnbull went into partnership with Percy Watts Rule in c.1920, after which time Rule was the principal designer in the firm. The firm designed the Temuka Library (heritage item #118, 1926-27), St James' Anglican Church at Franz Josef (1928-31) and the 1930 additions to the Bank Street Methodist Church (heritage item #51). Rule was awarded a Gold Medal from the NZ Institute of Architects for his design of the Surgical Wing at Timaru Hospital (1936-40) in 1939. The Collegiate Gothic style was popular between the world wars, particularly for educational buildings associated with the Anglican church.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Hall has technological and craftsmanship significance as a reinforced concrete building with cement plaster detailing. John Thomas Hunt (1880-1966) was the son of Timaru builder William Henry Hunt, who was in partnership with William Werry from 1895. Werry and Hunt erected a number of commercial buildings in central Timaru as well as undertaking extensive water-race construction in the North Island.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Hall has contextual significance as a local historic feature and for its relationship with St Mary's Anglican Church.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the hall post-dates 1900 and covers all of the land parcel on which it is located, its site probably has limited potential archaeological significance. The site may have previously been vacant, judging from a 1909 photograph in the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

St Mary's Hall has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The church hall has historical and social significance for its 90-year association with the congregation of St Mary's Anglican Church and cultural value as a place of Christian education and fellowship. St Mary's Hall has architectural significance as a Collegiate Gothic style building designed by local architects Turnbull and Rule and technological and craftsmanship significance for its concrete construction and detailing. St Mary's Hall has contextual significance as a local historic feature and for its relationship to St Mary's Anglican Church. The site of St Mary's Hall is likely to have limited potential archaeological significance in view of the building's complete coverage of the site and post-1900 development.

## **HERITAGE CATEGORY**

B

## **REFERENCES**

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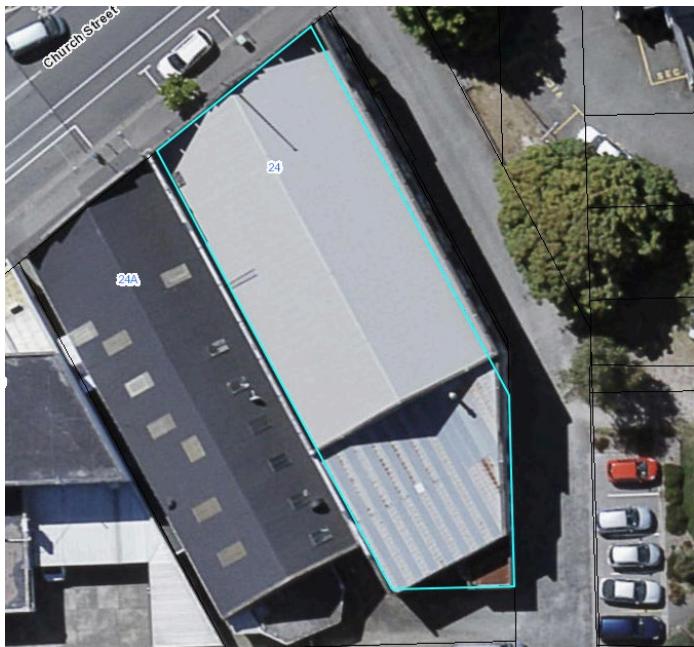
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**REPORT UPDATED** XX

**AUTHOR** XX

**PEER REVIEWED** XX

**REVIEWER** XX



Extent of setting, 24 Church Street, Timaru.