

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

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** 'Sterndale' Stable with Granary Loft

**ADDRESS** 965 Cleland Road, Totara Valley

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(HNZPT)

**FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** No. 76      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 2001 / 2  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** RS 14159

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2481010400

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** c.1877

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Messrs Williamson and Scott [?]

**STYLE** Rural vernacular

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

One-and-a-half storey farm building with gabled roof, rear lean-to and rectangular footprint. Square door and window openings; eastern gable has loading door and cathead to access loft. Multi-pane windows. Adjacent farm building on western side.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Limestone, timber & corrugated iron.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Lean-to addition (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The stable stands within a cluster of farm buildings at the western terminus of a driveway coming off the west side of Cleland Road, immediately south of its intersection with Middle Road. The current homestead is located to the south-east. The extent of setting is limited to the immediate setting of the stable, granary and former homestead (heritage items 75 & 73), rather than the land parcel as a whole. The setting for the 1903 homestead (heritage item 74) is separate from that of the former homestead and farm buildings cluster.

## **HISTORY**

A rural section in the Totara Valley was purchased by Charles Shaw in c.1870. CR Shaw (1829-1906) emigrated from England to New Zealand, after four years in Australia, in 1857. He worked for the provincial government as a district surveyor on Banks Peninsula for four years and then transferred to Timaru in 1861. Shaw was twice married and had 14 children; his primary residence appears to have always been in or near Timaru. Shaw's son Geoffrey (c.1857-1920) farmed at Sterndale until it was sold to TB Garrick in 1898. The latter built a new homestead in 1903. Tertius Bruce Garrick (c.1869-1941) served on the Levels County Council, the Timaru Harbour Board, and was a director on a number of companies. After his death the Fraser family purchased the property in 1942 and has run an Angus cattle stud on it ever since.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The 'Sterndale' stable has historical significance for its association with the Shaw, Garrick and Fraser families, farming operations on the property and, more generally, in Totara Valley.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The 'Sterndale' stable has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the building's users since it was erected.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The 'Sterndale' stable has architectural significance as an example of a Victorian farm building rendered in permanent materials. Messrs Williamson and Scott, civil engineers and architects of Timaru, called tenders for a stone stable in Totara Valley in October 1877. This may have been for Geoffrey Shaw.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The 'Sterndale' stable has technological and craftsmanship significance for its locally quarried, stone masonry construction. A number of other limestone houses, farm buildings and bridges in the area attest to the use of the local building stone in the 1870s and 1880s.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The 'Sterndale' stable has contextual value as a historic feature within a farm property that includes three other scheduled heritage items.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the stable pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the structure's construction and the development of pastoralism in the Totara Valley.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The 'Sterndale' stable with granary loft has overall heritage significance to the Totara Valley and Timaru district as a whole. The stable has historical significance for its association with the Shaw, Garrick and Fraser families and their farming operations and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its past and present users. The 'Sterndale' stable has architectural significance as a Victorian vernacular farm building and technological and craftsmanship significance for its masonry construction using locally quarried limestone. The 'Sterndale' stable has contextual value as a historic feature in relation to three other scheduled heritage items on the property. The 'Sterndale' stable has potential archaeological significance in view of its pre-1900 date of construction.

## HERITAGE CATEGORY

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## REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 15 August 1873, p. 4; 5 January 1874, p. 3; 30 October 1877, p. 1; 3 January 1880, p. 4; 10 January 1881, p. 2; 28 September 1881, p. 1; 28 January 1884, p. 3; 22 July 1884, p. 1; 7 August 1884, p. 2; 6 May 1887, p. 3; 26 June 1888, p. 1; 7 April 1898, p. 3; 9 February 1899, p. 1; 11 December 1900, p. 1; 5 August 1902, p. 2; 22 October 1904, p. 2; 16 April 1906, p. 4.
- *South Canterbury Times* 11 May 1885, p. 3; 18 June 1897, p. 3.
- *Press* 2 August 1941, p. 16; 25 February 1942, p. 8; 29 November 1941, p. 10; 11 March 1942, p. 8.
- <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nzlscant/artists.htm>
- CR Shaw diary (1866-1872), Christchurch City Libraries; available online.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.
- *Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives* 1892, Session I, p. 77 (available online).
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- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2001>
- <http://sternangus.co.nz>
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- <http://christchurchcitylibraries.com/Heritage/Publications/Art/Platts-19thC/Platts-19thCArtists.pdf>

**REPORT COMPLETED**

30 August 2018

**AUTHOR**

Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services

**REPORT UPDATED**

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**AUTHOR**

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**PEER REVIEWED**

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**REVIEWER**

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Extent of setting, stable marked by star, 965 Cleland Road, Totara Valley.



Land parcel as a whole.



TA Babington 'Sterndale, Totara Valley, South Canterbury', undated. View shows homestead, stable and granary. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.