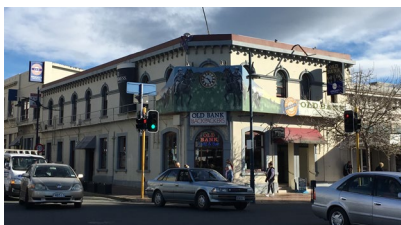


TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

HERITAGE ITEM NAME Old Bank Hotel
ADDRESS 232 Stafford Street, Timaru
PHOTOGRAPH



(A McEwan, 9 July 2018)

FORMER DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO. NO. 33 **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** 3159 / 2
(at time of assessment)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Lots 1 & 2 DP 6763

VALUATION NUMBER 2500062600

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1876

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Daniel West, architect; Henry Thornton, builder

STYLE Commercial classicism

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Two storey-building with a rectangular footprint and hipped roof. North-east and south-east elevations address the roadway and meet at a chamfered corner. Bracketed cornice, arch-headed windows on first floors and at corner bay of ground floor. String course is level with springing of window arches on first floor. First floor fire escape, double-hung sash windows. Clock mounted at corner above former entry.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Brick, cement plaster, corrugated iron roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Interior renovations (Turnbull & Rule, architect, 1938). Façade plastered over (mid-20th century?). Clock installed and corner door replaced by window (date unknown). Modern signage (pre-1993).

SETTING

The building occupies a corner site on the western side of Stafford Street, bounded by Church Street to the south-east. The former Hays building (heritage item # 29) is across Stafford Street. The extent of scheduling is the footprint of the building which occupies the full extent of the land parcels on which it is located.

HISTORY

The Old Bank Hotel was erected in the latter half of 1876, it replaced the Old Bank Tavern that dated to c.1864. Previously a small timber building erected on the site housed an agency of the Bank of New Zealand in 1862, hence the tavern/hotel's name. The hotel passed through numerous publican's hands over the years and survived a fire in 1882 that destroyed some of the neighbouring buildings. Renovations to the interior were delayed in the latter part of 1938 because of a shortage of skilled labour. The building continues to provide hospitality and visitor accommodation today.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Bank 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. The hotel's location at the western terminus of Strathallan Street meant that it was handy to the railway station and port as well as to traffic on the main south road.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Bank 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 Old Bank Hotel has architectural significance as a mid-Victorian commercial classical building designed by local carpenter turned architect Daniel West. West (c.1828-1910) was later in partnership with Robert Barber (1881, if not earlier, 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 Old Bank Hotel has technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and classical detailing.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Bank Hotel has contextual significance for its relationship with other 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings in the vicinity and 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 CBD streetscape its distinctive identity and sense of place.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

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

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Bank Hotel has overall heritage significance to Timaru and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the commercial and social development of the town centre since 1876 and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early proprietors and their patrons. The Old Bank Hotel has architectural significance as the work of local architect Daniel West and technological and craftsmanship value for its brick construction and classical detailing. The Old Bank 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 development that has occurred on the property since the early 1860s.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

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REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 1 October 1864, p. 8; 31 December 1864, p. 2; 5 December 1866, p. 1; 9 March 1867, p. 1; 29 February 1868, p. 8; 2 May 1868, p. 5; 16 September 1868, p. 2; 24 October 1873, p. 1; 19 February 1875, p. 2; 2 June 1876, p. 3; 6 June 1876, p. 3; 20 October 1894, p. 2; 19 December 1895, p. 2; 23 February 1910, p. 7; 11 June 1918, p. 4; 3 August 2009 (available online).
- *South Canterbury Times* 22 June 1882, p. 3; 3 September 1900, p. 4.
- *Otago Daily Times* 2 October 1862, p. 4.
- *Auckland Star* 19 September 1882, p. 2.
- *Lyttelton Times* 19 June 1876, p. 2; 8 July 1876, p. 2; 27 December 1895, p. 8.
- *Press* 26 April 1862, p. 12; 10 May 1938, p. 6; 21 October 1938, p. 7.
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/3159>
- <http://www.bushtown.co.nz/strathallan.html>



Extent of setting, 232 Stafford Street, Timaru.