

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

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Rangatira Valley – Te Awa/Winchester Settlement School Building / Te Awa Hall

**ADDRESS** Te Awa Road, Te Awa, Temuka

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(www)

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

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** RES 3873

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2468009800

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1886

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/BUILDER** Messrs West & Barber, South Canterbury Education Board architects

**STYLE** Victorian educational vernacular

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single-storey building with rectangular footprint and gabled roof. Gabled entrance porch at east end. Double-hung multi-pane sash windows. Windows on north elevation have hood mouldings. Lean-to at rear (south elevation). Louvred vent in gable end.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timber framing and weatherboard cladding, concrete & corrugated iron.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Relocated to Te Awa (1917).

**SETTING**

The former school building is set back from the roadway on a large reserve on the east side of Te Awa Road. The site is roughly midway between Winchester Hanging Rock Road in the north and the Temuka Orari Highway in the south-east. There are some mature trees on the reserve, but the former school building is visible from the roadway. The extent of scheduling is limited to the immediate environs of the building, which are fenced, rather than the land parcel as a whole.

## **HISTORY**

A school was erected at Rangatira Valley north-west of Temuka in 1886; the locality was otherwise one of scattered farms without a centre. In 1912 the government surveyed a number of small farms for renewable lease near Winchester; five years later the school building from Rangatira Valley was relocated to the public reserve on Te Awa Road to serve the Winchester Settlement community. Inclement weather apparently prevented the official opening of the school at Te Awa in late September 1917. The school, which was also known as the Winchester Settlement School, closed in 1954, after which time it became the local hall. It continues to be run by a volunteer committee, which received funding from Timaru District Council in 2017 to upgrade the building.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Rangatira Valley/Te Awa School building has historical and social significance for its association with the Rangatira Valley and Winchester Settlement communities and past teachers and pupils of both schools.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Rangatira Valley/Te Awa School building has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of two rural communities in the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and historic education practices. The contemporary use of the former school as a community hall enhances its cultural values.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Rangatira Valley/Te Awa School building has architectural significance as the work of Timaru architects Messrs West & Barber. Local carpenter turned architect Daniel West (c.1828-1910) was in partnership with Robert Barber between 1881 and 1886; the firm succeeded Maurice Duval as architects to the South Canterbury Education Board in mid-1883. West and Barber also designed the Italianate style 'Green Hayes' homestead for John Hayhurst in 1881 (heritage item # 90) and the Kakahu Bush School building in 1884 (heritage item # 67). The firm 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 designed the Timaru Customhouse (heritage item # 22, 1901-2).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Rangatira Valley/Te Awa School building has craftsmanship value for the quality of its timber construction and detailing.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Rangatira Valley/Te Awa School building has contextual significance as a local historic feature.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the former school building pre-dates 1900, its present site may have limited archaeological values in view of the building's relocation there in 1917.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Rangatira Valley – Te Awa/Winchester Settlement School building has overall significance to Te Awa and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the past teachers and pupils of both the Rangatira Valley and Winchester Settlement schools and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of two rural communities in the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The former Rangatira

Valley/Te Awa School building has architectural significance for its design by South Canterbury Education Board architects West & Barber and craftsmanship value for its timber construction and detailing. The former Rangatira Valley/Te Awa School building has contextual significance as a local historic feature; its site may have limited potential archaeological values in view of the relocation of the school to the property in 1917.

## HERITAGE CATEGORY

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## REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 22 January 1886, p. 4; 19 March 1886, p. 4; 2 April 1886, p. 3; 7 July 1917, p. 3; 12 September 1917, p. 1; 28 September 1917, pp. 1 & 4; 10 October 1917, p. 6; 13 July 1918, p. 6.
- *Temuka Leader* 19 December 1896, p. 2; 1 January 1907, p. 4; 23 December 1911, p. 3; 14 May 1912, p. 3; 19 June 1913, p. 3; 18 October 1917, p. 1; 21 May 1918, p. 2; 4 March 1919, p. 3; 11 December 1919, p. 2; 10 March 1921, p. 3.
- *Otago Witness* 12 June 1912, p. 17.
- *Sun* 8 March 1918, p. 6.
- *Star* 6 June 1887, p. 3; 6 July 1917, p. 5.
- *Press* 23 July 1928, p. 7.
- Archives New Zealand.
- NZ Society of Genealogists 'South Canterbury Branch Newsletter' Vol. 20, No. 5, September-October 2016 & Vol. 21, No. 2, March-April 2017; available online.



Extent of scheduling, limited to the immediate environs of the former school building, Te Awa Road, Te Awa, Temuka.