

TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

HERITAGE ITEM NAME former Aspinall's / Buxton's / South Canterbury Farmers' Agency Company's Grain Store

ADDRESS cnr Commerce Street & Hally Terrace, Temuka

PHOTOGRAPH



(www)

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

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Part Lot 9 DP 7259

VALUATION NUMBER 2477030601

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1889

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Unknown (John Hayhurst?)

STYLE Industrial vernacular

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Single storey-building with rectangular footprint and arched roof. 'Gable end' of building overlooks Commerce Street, having large sliding door, panelled entrance door and multi-pane windows, including a large one above the loading bay. Three sliding doors with hoods on east and west elevations. Sliding door with loft opening on south elevation. Remnant painted lettering on north-facing loading door.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Timber, concrete, corrugated iron.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

New window at east end of north elevation (date unknown).

SETTING

The building stands on the south side of Commerce Street, immediately adjacent to its intersection with Hally Terrace. The former Temuka Fire Station is directly to the north-east; to the west are scheduled commercial buildings at 7 Commerce Street (heritage item # 116) and the former Beehive Stores (heritage item # 117) on the opposite side of Commerce Street. The South Island Main Trunk railway reserve lies to the east. The extent of scheduling is the parcel on which the building is located.

HISTORY

John Hayhurst built a grain store in Commerce Street in the autumn of 1889 to provide storage in relation to the flour mill he had recently established on the outskirts of Temuka. The store was directly across the road from the railway line for ease of shipping. Both Hayhurst's mill and store were taken over by WG Aspinall, a local lawyer, later in 1889; the grain store was then acquired by Thomas Buxton in 1896. A grain and produce merchant in his early years, Buxton (c.1863-1939) was later Mayor of Temuka and a member of parliament (1908-14), serving as a minister without portfolio in the Mackenzie government in 1912. A fire in late October 1901 had damaged some of Buxton's buildings on the site but did not reach the grain store. In 1912 the store may have been used to provide accommodation for men attending the Presbyterian Bible Classes' Conference held in Temuka in December of that year. In 1913 the newly established South Canterbury Farmers' Agency took over the grain store and the eastern portion of the new building to its west, which had just been erected by John Hayhurst's son Colonel John TM Hayhurst. After 1922 the property was taken over by the farmer supply store Pyne, Gould Guinness Ltd. In 1967 the Canterbury Farmers' Co-operative Association acquired the property; historic aerial photographs show a timber yard between the offices and store. Today the former grain store is unoccupied; its site having been subdivided from the rest of the block through to King Street by Amelia Hayhurst (nee Brown) in 1923.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former grain store has historical significance for its association with John Hayhurst, Thomas Buxton and the farm supply companies that held the property in the 20th century. The building is associated with the grain industry, for which South Canterbury is known nationally, as well as the operation of the railway station at Temuka as it shipped produce to and from the township.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former grain store has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former owners, business proprietors, their employees and customers.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former grain store has architectural significance as an industrial vernacular structure that was designed to be fit for purpose. The provision of loading doors on all four elevations is notable and suggests how the building may have been used in the past.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former grain store has technological and craftsmanship value for its timber structure and distinctive corrugated iron cladding. The builder of the store is currently unknown.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former grain store has contextual significance as a distinctive historic feature on the edge of the Temuka town centre and for its relationship with the commercial buildings at 7 Commerce Street. The former store is also related to 'Green Hayes' (heritage item # 90), the former home of the Hayhurst family, as evidence of the business interests of John Hayhurst and his heirs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the building pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the colonial development of the property.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former grain store has overall heritage significance to Temuka and Timaru district as a whole. The building has historical significance for its association with John Hayhurst, Thomas Buxton and the district's grain industry and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former proprietors and their customers. The former grain store has architectural significance as a vernacular industrial structure and technological and craftsmanship value for the building's timber and iron construction. The former grain store has contextual significance as a distinctive historic feature on the edge of the town centre; the building's site has potential archaeological significance in view of its 19th century development.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

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REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 20 April 1889, p. 3; 26 October 1901, p. 3.
- *Temuka Leader* 16 August 1888, p. 4; 26 February 1889, p. 2; 9 May 1889, p. 2; 14 September 1889, p. 2; 14 June 1890, p. 1; 19 February 1891, p. 2; 12 March 1891, p. 3; 20 February 1896, p. 3; 31 October 1901, p. 2; 18 April 1903, p. 3; 5 August 1911, p. 3; 20 November 1913, p. 3; 9 December 1913, p. 2.
- *South Canterbury Times* 4 May 1889, p. 4.
- *NZ Herald* 24 July 1891, p. 5; 30 December 1912, p. 7; 30 May 1939, p. 10.
- *Evening Post* 29 May 1939, p. 11.
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand – Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.



Extent of setting, corner of Commerce Street and Hally Terrace, Temuka.