

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

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Elcock Farmhouse  
**ADDRESS** 11 St George Street, Timaru

**PHOTOGRAPH**



(TDC)

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

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Lot 2 DP 21601

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2502231300

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** c.1895

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Unknown (William Elcock, owner/builder?)

**STYLE** Vernacular cottage

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single storey dwelling with L shaped footprint and hipped roof. Principal elevation has a central entry flanked by double-hung sash windows. Panelled entrance door with fanlight; all façade openings have plastered Gibbs surround with gable detail. Painted brick quoins. Coursed and random rubble stonework. Rear lean-to and carport/garage along northern boundary.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timaru bluestone (basalt), brick, cement plaster, corrugated metal.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Lean-to and carport additions (date unknown).

**SETTING**

The cottage stands on the western side of St George Street within the block bounded by Otipua Road to the north and Cornwall Street to the south. It is set back a little from the roadway behind a picket fence and cottage garden. The extent of setting is the land parcel on which the house is located.

## **HISTORY**

Rural Section 2351 was subdivided by Timaru businessman Fulbert Archer in 1893. The suburb of Watlington, on the east side of St George Road (later street), had been subdivided by 1882, but even in the mid-1920s former RS 2351 was still partly in large lot, rural use. William (1852-1936) and Hannah Elcock (1839-1903) immigrated from England in 1892, William's occupation being listed as 'farmer' on the shipping record. In New Zealand William became a market gardener and the Elcocks were in possession of the plot on which they built a stone house by October 1897 (see DP 1332). The property was leased by Elcock to John Hurdley for a year in 1900-1 and was then offered for sale by tender in May 1901. It was owned by S Hughes, M Higgins and AE Taylor consecutively through the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The house lot was subdivided to its present size in 1960 for government housing purposes. The former farmhouse remains in residential use.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Elcock farmhouse has historical significance as the former home of William and Hannah Elcock and for its association with the development of Timaru, including the conversion of rural land to suburban use in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Elcock farmhouse has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former residents.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Elcock farmhouse has architectural significance as a vernacular cottage built, which may have been built by its first owner. The quoins and other plaster detailing on the facade of the cottage attest to an Italianate influence and the desire of the builder to give a modest building some architectural pretensions.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Elcock farmhouse has technological and craftsmanship significance as a late Victorian stone masonry dwelling built from a locally sourced building material that is closely identified with Timaru's colonial development.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Elcock farmhouse has contextual significance as a historic feature within the streetscape of suburban Temuka. The cottage provides evidence of the rural development in St George Street, in contrast to the later state housing development that occurred in the locale.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the farmhouse pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to its colonial use and development.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Elcock farmhouse has overall heritage significance to Timaru and the Timaru district as a whole. The cottage has historical significance for its association with the Elcock family and the development of outer Timaru from market gardens to suburban residential use. The former Elcock farmhouse has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its past residents and architectural significance as a vernacular cottage with Italianate influences. The former Elcock farmhouse has technological significance for its Timaru bluestone construction and plaster detailing and contextual significance as a local historic

feature. As the former Elcock farmhouse pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological significance relating to the development of the property.

### HERITAGE CATEGORY

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### REFERENCES

- *Timaru Herald* 28 May 1901, p. 1; 2 December 1901, p. 1; 9 November 1903, p. 2.
- *Temuka Leader*
- *Press* 5 May 1879, p. 2.
- *South Canterbury Times* 22 December 1894, p. 3; 27 February 1897, p. 3; 12 July 1901, p. 3.
- *Star* 8 July 1892, p. 3.
- *Lyttleton Times* 1 March 1911, p. 10.
- *Otago Daily Times* 13 August 1884, p. 2.
- *Ashburton Guardian* 5 July 1905, p. 2.
- NZ Shipping Lists; available online.
- Births, Deaths and Marriages Online.



Extent of scheduling, 11 St George Street, Timaru.