

GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

HERITAGE ITEM NAME former Gore Fire Station

ADDRESS 19 Hokonui Drive, Gore

PHOTOGRAPH



(October 2021)

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

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Lot 1 DP 2354

GDC FILE NUMBER 3264456

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1924

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Unknown

STYLE Commercial classicism

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Two-storey building with irregular rectangular footprint, gable and half-hipped roof forms. Symmetrical facade has stepped parapet and central flagpole; decorative motifs in contrasting bricks, dentilled parapets and name of building in relief. Casement and fanlight type fenestration.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Brick, cement plaster, timber, corrugated steel.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Ground floor of principal, east-facing elevation altered; central truck doors and side windows replaced by modern shop fronts (c.2010?).

SETTING

The former Gore Fire Station stands on the west side of Hokonui Drive, near the centre of the block bounded by Irwell Street in the south and Traftord Street in the north. The town centre is to the south and the immediate setting is mixed use in character. The scheduled setting is the land parcel on which the building is located.

HISTORY

The Gore Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded in 1886. Within a few years a fire station had been built (before 1892) on the east side of Main Street, between Medway and Traford Streets. This building was replaced by a new station on the other side of Main Street, now Hokonui Drive, in 1924. A new station further north along Hokonui Drive was erected in c.1980; the 1924 building was subsequently used as backpackers' accommodation for a number of years. In 2018-19 the building was remodelled and it is now in commercial use on the ground floor with three, two-level apartments on the first floor.

HISTORIC AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Gore Fire Station has historic and social significance for its association with the 135-year history of the Gore Volunteer Fire Brigade and the provision of firefighting services to the community by local people.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Gore Fire Station has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of the volunteer fire fighters who lived and worked in the building for over 50 years.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former Gore Fire Station has architectural significance as an example of inter-war commercial classicism. The designer of the building is currently unknown.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former Gore Fire Station has technological and craftsmanship significance for its former use and brick masonry construction and detailing. The contractor of the building is currently unknown.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Gore Fire Station has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the historic character of Hokonui Drive at the northern end of Gore's town centre.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the building post-dates 1900, any potential archaeological significance its site may have would likely relate to its earlier use and development. DP 2354, dated December 1923, shows that there was a house on the site before the fire station was built.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former Gore Fire Station has overall heritage significance to Gore and to the district of Gore as a whole. The building has historic and social significance for its association with the Gore Volunteer Fire Brigade (est. 1886) and cultural value for its demonstration of the way of life of the brigade's former members. The former Gore Fire Station has architectural significance as an inter-war commercial classical style building and technological and craftsmanship significance for its former use and brick construction and detailing. The former Gore Fire Station has contextual significance as a notable streetscape feature at the northern end of the town centre; its site may have archaeological value in view of its earlier development.

REFERENCES

- *Mataura Ensign* 21 October 1892, p. 4; 29 February 1896, p. 4; 20 March 1900, p. 2; 13 January 1910, p. 4; 12 January 1912, p. 4; 5 July 1912, p. 6; 8 July 1919, p. 3.

- *Otago Daily Times* 2 April 1925, p. 16; 6 July 1935, p. 19.
- *Southland Times* 18 January 1887, p. 2.
- *Evening Star* 9 March 1927, p. 4.
- <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-Cyc04Cycl-t1-body1-d5-d51-d42.html>
- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/fires-and-fire-services>
- <https://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/homed/latest/117085576/gores-version-of-the-block-nz-is-another-fire-station-conversion>

REPORT COMPLETED

13 May 2022

AUTHOR

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Extent of scheduling, former Gore Fire Station, 19 Hokonui Drive, Gore.



The Gore Fire Station in the early 1940s. PAColl-8887, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.