GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL

HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

HERITAGE ITEM NAME	former Carmody house
ADDRESS	45 Wentworth Street, Gore
PHOTOGRAPH	

(October 2021)

DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO. (at time of assessment)	n / a	**HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY**	n / a
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Part Lot 3 DP 4793		
GDC FILE NUMBER	3248645		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	c.1888		
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/ BUILDER	Thomas Carmody, owner/builder		
STYLE	Double-bay villa		

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Single-storey building with rectangular footprint plus service wing at rear (east); centre-gutter hipped roof with cross gabled bays. Bullnose-roofed porch shelters principal entry, which is flanked boxed bay windows. Double-hung sash windows, slender porch posts with decorative valance and brackets, corbelled chimney pots. Main entrance door has side- and fanlights.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Brick, cement trim, corrugated metal roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Front door replaced (date unknown). Rear extension (pre-1954).

SETTING

The house stands on the east side of Wentworth Street, opposite its intersection with Burrows Street. The house is set back from the roadway behind a picket fence; a central path leads to the main entry. A driveway is located along the southern boundary and the rear of the property has a rural aspect. The scheduled setting is the land parcel on which the building is located.

History

The land parcel on which this villa is located was part of a block, bounded by Wentworth and Talbot Streets, that was transferred to Thomas Carmody, a carpenter and contractor, in 1887. Carmody (1856-1933), who had been born in County Clare, Ireland, married Bridget Cloherty in 1878 and the couple had eight children, one of whom (Delia) was still living with them when they later moved to Ardwick Street. It would appear that Thomas Carmody built two bay villas in the same style as his East Gore home in Ardwick Street in 1911, selling one (no longer extant) and keeping the other. The Carmody family moved into 2 Ardwick Street in the spring of 1918 and they were farewelled with a party in their Wentworth Street house; at the time it was reported that they had been residents of East Gore for over 40 years. Thomas Carmody was an exhibitor at the 1925-26 New Zealand and South Seas International Exhibition in Dunedin. A cello, a viola and several violins that had been made by Carmody from native timbers were displayed in the Southland Provincial Court at the exhibition. The property in Wentworth Street was transferred to Samuel Graham, a retired farmer, in 1918 and was the home of accountant Alex Latham by the early 1930s. Graham's estate transferred the block to Margaret Rouxel in 1945; three years later it passed to Leonard Delahunt, a painter. Delahunt undertook as number of subdivisions in the early 1950s; the subject property was subdivided to its current extent in 1954. The house has since passed through other hands and remains in private residential use.

Historic And Social Significance

The former Carmody house has historic and social significance for its association with Thomas and Bridget Carmody and their family and, more generally, the residential development of East Gore.

Cultural And Spiritual Significance

The former Carmody house has cultural value as it demonstrates the way of life of its original and later occupants.

Architectural And Aesthetic Significance

The former Carmody house has architectural significance as a double-bay villa that was designed and built by its owner. The house demonstrates the popularity of the villa form in the late 19th century and Thomas Carmody's desire to convey his taste and skill as an artisan builder.

Technological And Craftsmanship Significance

The former Carmody house has technological and craftsmanship significance for the quality of its brick construction and detailing. Historically, as is the case today, builder's houses were typically built to a high standard in order to convey the competencies others could expect if they were to engage the owner/builder.

Contextual Significance

The former Carmody house has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the streetscape and as a reminder of the 19th century development of East Gore.

Archaeological and Scientific Significance

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

Summary of Heritage Significance

The former Carmody house 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

Thomas and Bridget Carmody and their family and, more generally, the later 19th century residential development of East Gore. The former Carmody house has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early occupants and architectural significance as a double-bay villa designed by its owner/builder. The former Carmody house has technological and craftsmanship significance for the quality of its brick construction and detailing and contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the streetscape and as a reminder of an earlier phase of residential development in East Gore. The property has potential archaeological value in view of the building's age.

REFERENCES

- *Mataura Ensign* 22 October 1896, p. 6; 14 July 1904, p. 7; 23 May 1911, p. 7; 8 August 1911, p. 7; 28 May 1912, p. 7; 24 November 1917, p. 4; 17 September 1918, p. 4.
- *Otago Daily Times* 25 January 1887, p. 2; 3 January 1924, p. 8; 14 October 1933, p. 10.
- *Evening Star* 9 February 1926, p. 4.
- *Southland Times* 19 October 1907, p. 2.

REPORT COMPLETED 13 May 2022

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Extent of scheduling, former Carmody house, 45 Wentworth Street, Gore.