GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL

HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

HERITAGE ITEM NAME	former J & J Galt's workshop / foundry
ADDRESS	48 River Street, Mataura
PHOTOGRAPH	

(October 2021)

DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO. (at time of assessment)	n / a	**HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY**	n / a
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Lot 3 DP 2600		
GDC FILE NUMBER	3208231		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	1893?		
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/ BUILDER	Unknown		
STYLE	Light industrial vernacular		

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Single-storey building with L-shaped footprint and gabled roof. Gable end is built to face the street and set with barn doors flanked by rectangular windows. All windows are barred. Lower height wing extends at right angles to main structure at rear of site.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Brick, metal roof.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Roof ventilator removed (date unknown).

SETTING

The building stands on the west side of River Street, in the block bounded by Bridge Street in the north and Lodge Street in the south. It is built right up to the north-west and south-west boundaries of the lot. The town's main commercial area is located to the north of the property and the scheduled setting is the land parcel on which the building is located.

History

James and John Galt established a smithy in Mataura in 1892. The Galts were also responsible for erecting their business premises at 18-22 Bridge Street in 1908. It appears that the River Street building was where the Galts had their foundry, while their ironmongery department was housed in the Bridge Street building. The Galts made agricultural implements and the scale of their business can be gauged from the building development they undertook on River and Bridge Streets. James Galt left Mataura in 1900, while John continued the business and served as a borough councillor and Mayor of Mataura (1906-7). In 1909 Peter Currie announced in the local newspaper that he was taking over the premises vacated by the Galts and would be starting business as a blacksmith and farrier. The property was still in Galt family ownership in 1942 but has since changed hands; it remains in light industrial use.

Historic And Social Significance

The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has historic significance for its association with James and John Galt and their successful business as well as, more generally, the commercial and agricultural development of Mataura district.

Cultural And Spiritual Significance

The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has cultural value as a reminder of the late 19th century development of Mataura.

Architectural And Aesthetic Significance

The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has architectural value for its modest industrial vernacular styling. The designer of the building is currently unknown.

Technological And Craftsmanship Significance

The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has technological and craftsmanship value for the evidence it can provide about late Victorian masonry construction methods and materials. The contractor for the building is currently unknown.

Contextual Significance

The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has contextual significance for its contribution to the historic character of River Street and for its relationship with a number of other heritage buildings in the vicinity, particularly the former J & J Galt building in Bridge Street.

Archaeological and Scientific Significance

As the building pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological values relating to its early use and development.

Summary of Heritage Significance

The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has overall heritage significance to Mataura and to the district of Gore as a whole. The building has historic significance for its association with James and John Galt, their business and contribution to the agricultural development of Mataura district. The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has cultural value as a reminder of the later 19th century development of the township and architectural value as a late Victorian vernacular industrial building. The former J & J Galt workshop/foundry has technological and craftsmanship value for the evidence it can provide of late 19th century building methods and materials and contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the historic character of River Street, particularly in relation to other heritage buildings in the vicinity, including the former J & J Galt building on Bridge Street. The property has potential archaeological value.

REFERENCES

- *Mataura Ensign* 22 July 1892, p. 3; 30 August 1902, p. 3; 3 June 1909, p. 1.
- *Otago Witness* 2 August 1905, p. 44.
- *Southern Cross* 31 March 1893, p.9; 25 November 1893, p. 5.
- *Southland Times* 31 July 1911, p. 5; 7 November 1911, p. 5.
- http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-Cyc04Cycl-t1-body1-d7-d123-d24.html
- http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-Cyc04Cycl-t1-body1-d7-d123-d25.html

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AUTHOR Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services

Extent of scheduling, former J & J Galt workshop, 48 River Street, Mataura.

The building in 1905. Mataura Museum. The photograph shows a bullock wagon of the sort that the Galts exported to South America in the early 20th century.