# GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

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| **HERITAGE ITEM NAME** | former Pullar house |
| **ADDRESS** | 6 Crombie Street, Gore |
| **PHOTOGRAPH** | |

(April 2022)

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| **DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.** (at time of assessment) | n / a | **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** | n / a |
| **LEGAL DESCRIPTION** | Lot 7 DP 164 | | |
| **GDC FILE NUMBER** | 3269651 | | |
| **DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** | c.1910 | | |
| **ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/ BUILDER** | Albert Hartley, designer/builder? | | |
| **STYLE** | Corner bay villa | | |

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single-storey building with rectangular footprint and gabled roof forms. Return veranda is carried on paired timber posts with decorative brackets and fretwork; cross-gabled bay at north-east corner has fish scale shingles in the gable end. Ornate gabled porch shelters steps to entry, which is flanked by a faceted bay window beneath a double gable. The same double gable design is repeated on the east elevation but without the fretwork. Double-hung sash windows, entrance door has side- and fanlights; capped chimneys.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timber framing & weatherboard cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Lean-to garage added to service wing at south-west corner (pre-2008).

**SETTING**

The house stands on the south side of Crombie Street and is centrally located between Elsie Street in the west and Main Street in the east. The house is set behind a hedge and picket fence and a driveway extends along the western boundary. The scheduled setting is the land parcel on which the building is located.

## HISTORY

Title for the subject lot, and those immediately to the east and west, was issued to Martha Ward, the wife of Blenheim sheep farmer Joseph Ward, in 1888. After Martha Ward's death in 1893 the three lots passed to her heirs and then, in 1909, to John Pullar of Gore. Upon his death in 1910 the property passed to his brother Alexander and thence to Alexander's wife Elizabeth in 1914. Alexander and Elizabeth Pullar married in c.1880 and had four daughters; prior to Alexander's death in 1914 they farmed 'Birnam Farm' at Pullar's Siding in the Waikaka district. Elizabeth (1845-1941) sold the lot which is now 8 Crombie Street in 1926 but the other two lots passed to her estate upon her death in December 1941. Elizabeth Pullar's executors sold Lot 6 (4 Crombie Street) to the Presbyterian Social Services Association in 1974; in 1982 the subject house lot was sold. The house remains in private residential use.

## HISTORIC AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Pullar house has historic and social significance for its association with Elizabeth Pullar and her family and, more generally, the early 20th century residential development of Gore. It was common for farming families to build town houses in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to which to retire to; alternatively, the Pullar house may have been built to provide a town home for Alexander and Elizabeth's daughters in order for them to engage with local society.

## CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Pullar house has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early occupants.

## ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former Pullar house has architectural significance as an Edwardian bay villa that, judging from its style and decorative treatment, was likely designed and built by local builder Albert Hartley, who also built the Casey house at 15 Hyde Street (1906/7). Hartley built the MacGibbon building in Gore in 1901 and was the successful tenderer for additions to the Criterion Hotel in Invercargill in 1907. Elected to the Gore Borough Council in 1898, Hartley moved to Invercargill in late 1910.

## TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former Pullar house has craftsmanship significance for the quality and integrity of its timber construction and detailing.

## CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Pullar house has contextual value for the contribution it makes to the historic character of the residential streetscape in southern Gore.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the building post-dates 1900, and its site appears to have been undeveloped before the Pullar house was erected on it, the property may have limited potential archaeological value. DP 164, dated June 1885, shows the subdivision undertaken for Thomas Spear that created the eastern portion of Crombie Street.

## SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former Pullar 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 Elizabeth Pullar and her family and, more generally, the residential development of Gore in the early

20th century. The former Pullar house has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its early occupants and architectural significance as an Edwardian bay villa that was likely designed and built by local builder Albert Hartley. The former Pullar house has craftsmanship significance for the quality and integrity of its timber construction and detailing and contextual value for the contribution it makes to the established residential character of north Gore. The building's site may have limited potential archaeological value.

**REFERENCES**


- *Mataura Ensign* 29 September 1898, p. 3; 22 July 1910, p. 4; 9 April 1914, p. 5.
- *Otago Daily Times* 3 October 1890, p. 2; 20 July 1898, p. 2; 8 July 1941, p. 1; 25 November 1941, p. 1.
- *Oamaru Mail* 25 October 1910, p. 4.
- *Evening Post* 13 February 1918, p. 8.


**REPORT COMPLETED** 18 May 2022

**AUTHOR** Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services

Extent of scheduling, former Pullar house, 6 Crombie Street, Gore.