

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

2021 District Plan Item No. HH097
HERITAGE ITEM NAME former CW Bell's tailor shop
ADDRESS 214/216 High Street, Rangiora
PHOTOGRAPH



(Dr A McEwan, 11 October 2018)

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

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Lot 1 DP 24864

VALUATION NUMBER 2166117300

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1900?

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Unknown

STYLE Colonial vernacular

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Two-storey building with narrow, rectangular footprint and composite hipped and gabled roof form. Lean-to at rear (north elevation) and side (east); veranda across south-facing façade. Multi-pane casement and double-hung sash windows. Lean-to veranda carried on cast iron posts with decorative brackets. Recessed shop entry at east end of principal elevation. Roller door on west elevation. Advertising signage atop and around veranda.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Timber framing and weather board cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Facade reclad (post-2000).

SETTING

The building stands on the north side of High Street within the Rangiora town centre. Durham Street is to the west of the site and Percival Street is to the east. On the opposite side of High Street is the Waimakariri District Council's offices. The extent of scheduling is the land parcel on which the building is located as well as that portion of the footpath (road reserve) in to which the veranda extends.

HISTORY

Charles William Bell (1872-1955) was born and educated in Rangiora. He served his tailoring apprenticeship in the town and then worked for some years in Wellington with Messrs Veitch and Allan. Following his return to Rangiora Bell established his own business in c.1896; five years later he was elected to the Rangiora Borough Council. Bell married Agnes Patterson in 1893 and the couple had four children. He served as Rangiora's mayor in 1908-10 and was also active in a number of local groups and organisations, including the Beautifying Society and the Poultry Club. Bell's shop in High Street was the third premises he occupied within the first decade of his business commencing; it had a shop and cutting room on the ground floor and a work room on the first. In c.1903 Bell employed ten hands in the business, but he did not own the premises as these were held by Henry Blackett, Rangiora's first mayor, and then his son William and William's brother-in-law John Sansom. The building remains in commercial use today.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former CW Bell's tailor shop has historical and social significance for its association with CW Bell and the early commercial development of Rangiora.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former CW Bell's tailor shop has cultural value as a town centre historic feature that is appreciated by members of the local community.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former CW Bell's tailor shop has architectural value as a vernacular commercial building that was designed to be fit for purpose. The designer is currently unknown.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former CW Bell's tailor shop has technological and craftsmanship value for the evidence it provides of turn of the 20th century construction methods and materials.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former CW Bell's tailor shop has contextual significance as a historic feature within the Rangiora town centre. The building's veranda, narrow width and overall form is in contrast to the modern commercial buildings in its immediate environs, serving as a reminder of an earlier era of town centre development. Historic photographs show that the building once stood out from its neighbours because of its veranda over the footpath.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the building appears to date to the turn of the 20th century, its site may have limited potential archaeological value

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former CW Bell's tailor shop has overall heritage significance to Rangiora and Waimakariri district as a whole. The building has historic and social significance for its association with CW Bell and the commercial development of the town centre since the turn of the 20th century and cultural value as a historic feature held in esteem by members of the community. The former CW Bell's tailor shop has architectural value as a late-Victorian vernacular commercial building and technological and craftsmanship value for the evidence it provides of turn of the century construction methods and materials. The former CW Bell's tailor shop has contextual significance as a historic feature within the Rangiora town centre streetscape; its site may have limited potential archaeological value.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

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REFERENCES

- *Press* 28 October 1908, p. 10.
- *Lyttelton Times* 1 March 1894, p. 2; 20 March 1894, p. 2; 11 March 1902, p. 2.
- *Star* 27 December 1897, p. 1; 18 December 1902, p. 3; 31 August 1903, p. 3; 30 January 1903, p. 6; 12 July 1907, p. 3.
- <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-Cyc03Cycl-t1-body1-d4-d10-d1.html>
- DN Hawkins *Rangiora: the passing years and people in a Canterbury country town* Rangiora, 1993.

REPORT COMPLETED

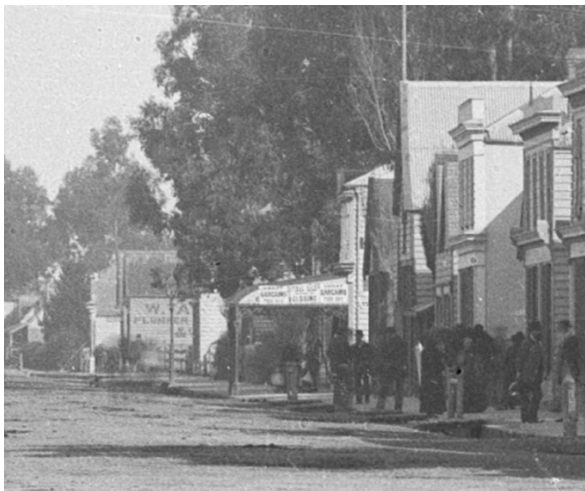
3 July 2019

AUTHOR

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Extent of setting, including that part of the road reserve sheltered by the veranda, 214/216 High Street, Rangiora.



CW Bell shop at centre with signage on veranda fascia. C.014279, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa.