

GORE'S BUILDINGS

› Railway Stations
› The Thomas Green

Key Ideas History is not only in books but in the buildings that we see everyday. Historical buildings are a physical link to our past and from them we can learn what people valued and how they lived.

In 1875, the first train arrived in Gore.
These are the first and second railway stations.



FUN FACT: When the first train arrived in 1875 with carriages full of people from Invercargill the Railway Hotel built by Thomas Green had barely been finished (it was opposite the Railway Station). The wallpaper was still so wet people feared it might fall from the walls.



RAILWAY STATIONS

Described by Mayor Poppelwell when he opened it in 1905 as 'handsome', this was Gore's third railway station. It was demolished 90 years later when the passenger train service was discontinued.



WHAT CAN YOU SEE?

1. What is the main difference between the three railway buildings?
2. What sort of train do you think this is?
3. What would have been used to heat the station?
4. What do you think the station was used for?
5. Why do we no longer have a train station?

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:

1. Name three businesses that operated from the Thomas Green building.
2. When was it constructed?
3. Why is the building important to the RSA?
4. What is a phrase that Thomas Green is known by?
5. Name 3 businesses Thomas Green was involved with?

BONUS QUESTIONS:

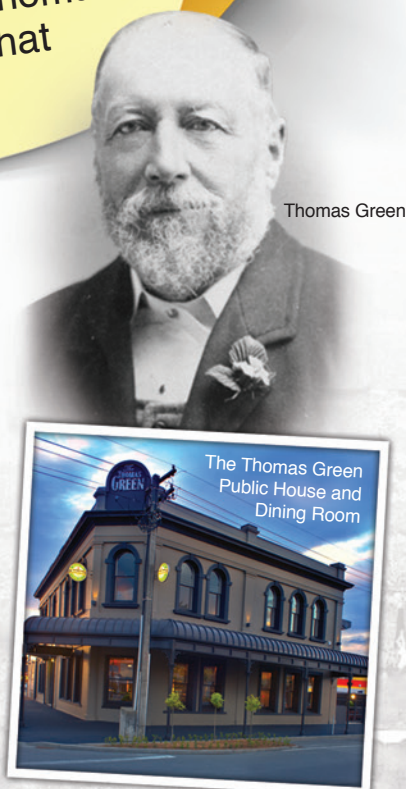
1. What does façade mean?
2. What business was Thomas Green involved with that still operates today?

THE THOMAS GREEN

Did you know? Thomas Green never owned the building that is named after him. Instead it was Mary and Thomas Ambrose who build the original building in 1906. Mr Anderson, a baker, was one of the first to run his business from the building. Mrs Learmont took over the building in 1907, running it as a boarding house. Many businesses followed including a fish and chip shop, grocery store, motorcycle shop, hairdressers, charity shop and dressmakers. Gore's RSA had their social headquarters upstairs from 1921-1936.

When the MLT decided to build a new restaurant-bar in town, they looked back on Gore's history to find a name and inspiration for their site. Thomas Green, Gore's first mayor, was chosen. Known as 'the father of Gore', Thomas Green was involved in many projects social, political and business.

He started Gore's first flour mill, saleyards, horse bazaar (equivalent to car sales), coalmine and brick kiln. He was involved in railways, the Gore Dairy Factory, Croydon Meat Co, and the Mataura Ensign. There was very little he was not involved with!



Images courtesy of the Gore Historical Museum Collection



GORE'S BUILDINGS

H&J Smith
Post Offices

Key Ideas

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Fruit Cocktail
.....
Leg of Lamb and Mint Sauce
Baked Ham with Pineapple
Steamed Chicken
.....
Steam Potatoes Garden Peas
.....
Tomato and Cucumber Salad
with Chicken Aspic
Asparagus
.....
Strawberries Raspberries
Fruit Salad
Peach Pavlova Cake
Ice Cream Whipped Cream
.....
Cheese Straws Coffee

Gore Women's Club 28th January, 1954

DID YOU KNOW?

Queen Elizabeth II
dined in the H&J Smith
building when she
visited Gore in 1954.

Q: What would you
have on the menu if
the Queen dined
here again?

The Queen's dining
table, H&J Smith

The Queen's Menu



Queen Elizabeth II outside
H&J Smith, January 1954



H&J Smith c.1913



H&J Smith c.1913

H&J SMITH LTD

H&J Smith first opened a shop in Gore in 1905 opposite the Railway Station. By 1913 they were expanding and built on the corner of Main and Irk Streets. C H Roberts of Invercargill was the architect and local builder T Latham was contracted. His budget was about £4000 (\$648,000 in 2015). Extensions were added in 1925 and 1930 to make it the building we know today.



POST OFFICES

DID YOU KNOW ?

Gore's postal services have had seven different homes.

1. The first was Moreton's Accommodation House, Gore's first building.
2. Brennan's Hotel (1872). Ned Brennan was known for emptying the mail bag on the hotel bar and allowing people to find their own.
3. Railway Station (1875).
4. Gore's Post & Telegraph Office. It had the town's first phone in 1878.
5. Opened in 1902 the building housed the town clock from 1906.
6. In 1958 this building housed post, telephone and banking services. It still houses rural post services.
7. Where we can post our mail today?

2. Brennan's Hotel corner Medway & Ordsal Streets c. 1875



4. Gore Post & Telegraph Office, 1878



Post Office 1906



6. Post Office 1958



RIDDLE

What begins with "P"
and ends with "e" and
has thousands of
letters in between?

Where
We Live
Project Turangawaewae

