

David and Brenda Sorensen

We have lived in Taniwha Street Frankton for over 30 years.

As part of FERG we requested in our submission (11/9/22) that “**all** of Taniwha St” be included in the proposed HHA and pointed out that

“The housing area on the north side of the railway line is one of the important Frankton suburbs and falls within Frankton with the gully the outer boundary.

The streets of Norton Road, from Wye Street to Wha Street are **all** part of the 1910 subdivision of Frankton for housing primarily Frankton working class families.”

Whilst the boundary of the HHA has been extended, as members of FERG we wish to point out that the properties at 18, 20,22,and 24 Taniwha St represent the Early Post-War expansion of development in Taniwha Street in the late 40’s – early 50’s. These properties border the gully, which marks the edge of the Jolly farm.

At least one of these houses, also has historic ties to the Frankton Village Commercial HHA, as it was built for Ernie Ellis, a Frankton butcher from the 1930’s onwards. He purchased the land at 22 Taniwha Street in 1947 and the house was completed by 1950. It has remained largely unchanged since then apart from minor renovations and painting.

The inclusion of these houses 18, 20,22,24 (and 16a, 20a, 26) Taniwha St in the HHA would;

- i) provide an accurate picture and record of the continued expansion of Taniwha Street during early Post-War Expansion (1940’s and early 1950’s).
- ii) help to retain the integrity and authenticity of the HHA as they are visually at a similar scale, character and height to the proposed HHA.
- iii) connect the HHA to the historic gully (and proposed SNA)
- iv) reduce the impact future development would /could have on the HHA and the Natural Environment of the historic gully (and proposed SNA) which borders these properties.

Also 24 Avon St was originally part of 14 Taniwha St.

One former long term resident, Paddy McDowell, grew up at 10 Taniwha Street. He and his wife purchased the property at 14 Taniwha Street, they lived in a cottage, at the rear of the property and later built a house at the front. Subsequently the section was subdivided and the one with the cottage became 24 Avon Street.

It is important to preserve the history, character and natural environment of **all** of Taniwha St (as part of Frankton East Residential HHA) before it is lost forever.

Summary

We agree with the extension of the HHA recommended by Mr Knott but request that 18,20,22,24,(16a, 20a & 26) as well as 24 Avon Street also be included for the above reasons





The Faces that go with the Places

Frankton Village has historic significance both for its Farming and Railway activities from 1867 when Thomas and Mary Jolly bought their farm and offered land for the railway.

The first train arrived in 1877 and the subdivisions of land were sold. By 1910 over 80 trains arrived in Frankton Station each day.

In 1913 Frankton (named after Thomas & Mary's son Frank) became a Borough that had its own electricity before Hamilton did. Frank became Mayor of Frankton in 1913.

Windemere House was built for Frank and his wife in 1910.

Over the years significant buildings have been removed or demolished or destroyed. For example the Carnegie Library to make way for the road, the Frankton Hall was demolished as funds were not available for maintenance, while others were damaged or destroyed (some by the devastating 1948 tornado.)

We have noted that the history of Frankton Village is disappearing as buildings are being removed or demolished and new apartments built.

The community consider Frankton and Frankton Village to be part of their heritage and what is left of it should be preserved for future generations to appreciate its history and unique identity. (Evident with the Frankton Community Plan 2016)

Acknowledging Commerce Street from Kent Street to High Street as an HHA is a start in recognising and valuing Frankton and its rich history.

This area includes Sandford Clarke's General Store (1911 & 1923)
The Frankton Hotel (1929) The Post Office (1913) Coronation Building (1937) Belgraves Drapery (building 1960 but the business started in 1908 on the same site) 205 Commerce St (built in the 1920's)

Puna Building (Sam Spence Menswear) with its rare cast iron pillar and curved verandah (1920's).

We appreciate this area of Commerce St and High St being made an HHA and request that the nearby Gosling Building at 62 High St be included in the HHA.

Despite some development within the HHA being in the 1960's it does not detract from the relationship that exists between the Historic buildings in the HHA as they are similar in size and scale to the Historic buildings. This area should be preserved, restored and further enhanced to reflect its early history.

Acknowledging and preserving remaining **individual** buildings from the 1890's -1940's (Late Victorian and Edwardian, and after inter-war growth) such as, 119 Commerce St 1920's (Dairy and Confectioners) is also important.

There are other significant buildings within the Frankton commercial area which should also be considered as Historic and valuable including those built in the 1940's, 1950's (and 60's & 70's) Post-War and Post-Tornado development.

Many of these are on Commerce Street and Kent Street and include but not limited to

Commerce Street

Garveys 1955

**Proudlocks rebuilt
after 1948 Tornado**

Keddell Street

former Gospel Hall

Norton Road

Dairy Factory

Kent Street

Leongs 1950's

Police Station

Police House

Drycleaners

Saleyards

former Masonic Lodge

Empire Street

NZR buildings

Some family run businesses, have been trading long before these particular buildings were built Leongs (1917) Proudlocks (1932) Garveys (early 1930's) Lala (almost 80 Years)

The significance of these buildings also needs to be valued and their integrity shouldn't be compromised by inappropriate development.

Unfortunately we don't always get a full picture of the Historical significance of Frankton due to each aspect being looked at separately and in isolation. We need an integrated approach which acknowledges the Natural, Social and Historic significance of this very important suburb in Hamilton's history.

Murals of early days in Frankton and plaques (or maybe Apps or QR codes) could be used to acknowledge Frankton's History and create a Heritage Trail. A Station Cafe in High St could display old photos of how Frankton Village used to look.

Timeline and Other Notes

In the Frankton East Residents Group submission Plan Change 9 Historic Heritage and Natural Environments

We stated

The main commercial block of Frankton dating from the 19th Century to early 20th Century, has been identified for heritage review and potential historic area status for many years and is part of the agreed Frankton Community Plan.

Remaining heritage of the famous railway town is not identified and continues to be demolished. We seek heritage identification of High and Commerce Streets so that there is a historic Frankton railway town historic area within Hamilton City,

Historic and Social significance

Brief History

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1867 | Thomas and Mary Jolly arrive in Hamilton and purchase farmland. |
| 1877 | Frankton's original railway station constructed
December 19 th 1877 First train arrives.
First subdivisions of land sold.
Frankton Hotel site bought for £32 |
| 1879 | Branch line to Hamilton |
| 1884 | Railway Station officially called Frankton Junction, named after Frank Jolly, Thomas and Mary's oldest son |
| 1885 | Frankton Hotel fire, nothing could be saved |

- 1888 Patients arrived by train to go to the new Waikato Hospital were trundled on luggage trolleys to the northern edge of Lake Rotoroa. They were then rowed across the lake to the hospital by a house surgeon.
- 1890 Thomas Jolly killed by his own Jersey bull, the first bull in the Waikato
- 1901 Huttons factory opens
- 1906 Frankton population 502
- 1908 Frankton becomes a Town District in the Waipa County
- 1908 Completion of the Main Trunk Line enhanced Frankton's strategic importance
- 1910** Frankton was firmly established as a railway town with over 80 trains and 1,000 wagons arriving each day. The first signal box arrived.
Windermere House built for Frank and Elizabeth Jolly
- 1911** On the corner of High St and Commerce St was a wooden General Store (Sanford Clarke's) this replaced by a double storied concrete building completed in 1911 and added to in 1923 then registered as Frankton Junction Supply Store.
- Frankton Town Hall opens on April 20th
Frankton Primary School opened
Gosling Building at 62 High St built

1913 Frankton had a Post office at the Railway Station then at Sanford Clarke s then its own building on Commerce and Kent Street corner in 1913. Though the building has been added to the bones of the original structure are still evident.

Frankton becomes a Borough
Frank Jolly elected first mayor of Frankton

Empire Hotel opens

Prime Minister W F Massey turned on Frankton
Borough Councils electricity generator and water supply

1914 Mobilisation of Waikato troops began in Frankton

1915 Thousands of people welcomed the Hospital Train carry wounded soldiers

1917 Frankton and Hamilton Boroughs amalgamated
Frankton Saleyards open

1922 Frankton Movie Theatre opened April 1922

The House Factory began production of railway staff cottages and rail buildings, producing 8,000 feet of dressed timber a day.

1923 Frankton Library built on land donated by the Jolly's.

1926 During the Christmas season, Frankton Junction carried 400 trains and 84,000 passengers.

- 1929** The earlier new Railway Hotel was shifted back on its property and the existing 1929 Hotel was built around it.
- 1931 Fire in the Frankton Hotel incinerator room but little damage.
- 1945 Nearly 1,000 railway employees living in Frankton
- 1946** Grand Hotel burns to the ground
Forlongs Opens in the Coronation Building (built in 1937)
Frankton Business Associations is formed
- 1948** 25th Aug 1948 Frankton Tornado strikes causing 3 deaths and many injuries. Damage to 150 homes, 50 businesses and to other superstructure amounted to about £1 million about \$60 million equivalent today.
- 1950's Many buildings rebuilt after the tornado as well as other new ones on Commerce, Kent and Keddell Streets. Leongs, Garvey's the Police Station were some.
- 1960's Griffin and Sons factory in King Street
- 1962 Frankton West renamed Dinsdale
- 1967 Frankton Movie Theatre demolished
- 1984 The Station Masters house relocated to the entrance of Hamilton Gardens
- 1986 Massey Street overbridge opened

- 1987 Frankton Town Hall demolished
First Frankton Market held
- 1995 Five die in Empire Hotel fire
- 2011 Frankton Primary celebrates being 100 years old
- 2012 Good George opens its doors in Frankton using the
historic St Georges Church in Somerset Street
Classic Car Museum opens in Frankton showcasing an
amazing collection of classic cars
- 2014 Huttons factory closes.

Frankton Commercial history is not just events and buildings but is very much people and families. Many businesses established during the 1920's and 30's were still owned by the same families seventy or eighty years later.

- **Belgraves Drapery** and Clothing Store was established in 1911 on the corner of Kent and Commerce Streets, by Maurice Belgrave. His son Barry built the existing new building in 1960. The family business continued trading until 1983.
- The building at **205 Commerce Street** is divided into two shops. For 80 years the left hand one was a succession of butchers while the one on the right was occupied by Chemists for 60 years. The last chemist, Ian Jennings redeveloped the property next to him in 1974 and moved in to that site and continued there until 1990. It is now used by Kershaw training,
- **Sam Spence** ran a Menswear shop in what is now called the Puna building (at 221-229 Commerce Street) during the

1920's and he continued in business there for about 60 years. He never seemed to bother with modern conveniences like cash registers, preferring to keep different denominations of coins and notes in different cardboard boxes.

- On the opposite side of Commerce Street in 1930, Dayla Lala began a fruit and vege business. This remained in his family for almost 80 Years.
- Between them and the Post Office from 1934 -1997 was a hardware business that then relocated over the street to the Belgrave building.
- Many other families have thrived in businesses in Commerce Street and the Streets in the immediate area. The Leongs (from 1917) Garveys (from the early 1930's) Proudlocks (since 1932) Forlongs (1946 – 2016)

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Lost Heritage

Demolished

Town Hall 1911 - 1967

Library 1923 -

Movie Theatre 1922 -

Plunket rooms

Destroyed by Fire

Empire Hotel 1913 - 1995

Grand Hotel - 1946

The Railway Hotel 1878 – 1885

Removed to Another Location

Station Masters House

Frankton Signal Box

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