

## Heritage



### New Zealand Loan & Mercantile Agency Company Woolstore (former)

#### Key details

<b>Also known as</b>	No. 5 RAAF Transportation and Movements Office (former)
<b>Addresses</b>	At 14 Bowen Bridge Road, Spring Hill, Queensland 4000
<b>Type of place</b>	Warehouse
<b>Period</b>	Federation 1890-1914
<b>Lot plan</b>	L32_SP232285; L34_SP252316; L40_SP252275; L14_SP232285; L496_SL12309; L691_SL12309
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Information — June 2011

New Zealand Loan & Mercantile Agency Ltd was originally established in England in 1865. The main purpose of the company was to provide investment and loan of monies in trade and commerce. It was heavily involved in the wool industry. The company erected this woolshed circa 1909, adjacent to other woolsheds in Victoria Park. These woolsheds were located on the Exhibition branch railway. During WWI wool was stockpiled by the Commonwealth Government in the Victoria Park sheds, for use in the war effort. Again in WWII, the RAAF took over the stores as part of its Transportation and Movements Office.

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## History

It originally planned to confine its operations to New Zealand but decided to extend business to Australia in 1874. Operations were soon extended to various Australian colonies. Australian operations were separated from those of New Zealand and operated under their own local board from 1889. NZL Properties (Australia) Pty Ltd was formed in 1952 to hold properties for use by the parent company and was later used as a holding company for subsidiaries. NZL&MA merged with Dalgety & Co Ltd in Nov 1961 to form Dalgety & New Zealand Loan Ltd.

No.5 RAAF Transportation and Movements Office (TMO) was formed in 1942 to oversee the speedy transfer of Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and Women's Australian Auxiliary Air Force (WAAAF) personnel and supplies through Brisbane. It operated from multiple sites at Albion, Bulimba, Hamilton, Herston and Meeandah. . It had another detachment operating from the New Zealand Loan & Mercantile Agency Company warehouse near the Bowen Bridge railway overpass at Herston. This allowed No.5 TMO to access supply stocks from the main RAAF supply depot in Brisbane – No.3 Base Supply Depot (BSD) that located next door in Victoria Park, Spring Hill. It also allowed No.5 TMO to utilise the rail facilities operated by No.3 BSD.

While most of the TMO units in southern states were disbanded in early 1946, the heavy volume of traffic flowing through Brisbane meant that No.5 TMO was not disbanded until 28 September 1948. Of the nine Transportation and Movements Offices established by the RAAF during World War two, No.5 TMO was the last to cease operation.

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## References

1. Units of the Royal Australian Air Force Vol.6
2. [http://www.gabr.net.au/gabr\\_home.html](http://www.gabr.net.au/gabr_home.html)

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**Note:** This information has been prepared on the basis of evidence available at the time including an external examination of the building. The statement of significance is a summary of the most culturally important aspects of the property based on the available evidence, and may be re-assessed if further information becomes available. The purpose of this information is to provide an informed evaluation for heritage registration and

information. This does not negate the necessity for a thorough conservation study by a qualified practitioner, before any action is taken which may affect its heritage significance.

**prepared by** — Brisbane City Council (page revised March 2023)



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