

WANAKA

PHOTOGRAPH/NEGATIVE: Wanaka Heritage Working Party & RReid



Photo 2004



Photo July 2005

NAME (including former names)

Wanaka Store

LOCATION/ADDRESS

74 Ardmore Street, Wanaka

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Archaeological Value

✓ **Architectural Value**

Moderate – High

Cultural/Traditional Value

✓ **Historical/Social Value**

High

✓ **Landscape/Townscape Value**

High

✓ **Rarity/Representative Value**

High

Technological Value

OVERALL HERITAGE VALUE Moderate - High

AGE/DATES	Constructed circa 1876
ARCHITECT/BUILDER	??
MATERIALS	Concrete & plaster
LOCAL AUTHORITY LISTINGS	
Local Authority NZHPT	No
VALUATION NUMBER	2905202600
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Lot 4 DP 17535
TYPE/USE	Commercial, Four Square
CURRENT OWNERS	Lyndon and Shaz Murray
CURRENT CONDITION	Good, however recent alteration to façade – removal of “General Merchants” signage

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wanaka store is an important tangible reminder of the reliance a remote community once had on the “General Merchants” business. The fact that a commercial store has been operating on this site for almost 130 years, gives it strong historical value. This continuity of use provides a very real connection to its past in the present.

The store façade makes a strong architectural statement in what is still one of Wanaka’s main streets and provides a clue as to where the main commercial centre was, from the mid 1870s onwards. It has significant streetscape and rarity value being the last of the historic commercial style buildings left in

Wanaka. The front part of the interior space provides an important historical connection to the building's use and gives an idea of the typical style and space required to run the store business.

The Wanaka Store plays a significant role in defining the streetscape of the past and the present.

DESCRIPTION

The building is a grocer store constructed of concrete and timber, with a corrugated iron roof. It is located on Ardmore Street a main street in Wanaka, and strongly contributes to the streetscape being the only commercial building left that dates to the 1870s era of architecture. The building is recognised as an historic landmark.

HISTORY

The local "General Merchant" store would have been of great importance to the local Pembroke community particularly in the early days of the Pembroke settlement. It appears that a store was operating on this site at least by 1876.

The Deposited Plan for this site was originally made up of four sections. George Arnold Barker was the first owner of section 31 Block IX circa 1876. (to the rear of the street frontage)⁸⁴ Sections 29, 30, and 57 Block IX were taken up initially by Robert McDougall in 1876.⁸⁵ (Block 29 and 57 were on the Ardmore street frontage.) McDougall was a renowned storekeeper in the area, who was born in Glasgow. He operated stores at Cardrona, Criffel and Wanaka and also at Arrowtown and Macetown previously.

McDougall and his wife, Elizabeth Paterson, came out to New Zealand in 1864 to seek business opportunities on the goldfields. Robert concentrated on storekeeping and played a major role in bringing the necessities of life to families settled in remote locations. He apparently had a great sympathy for miners in need and was not adverse to helping them get ahead, providing them with food and equipment.⁸⁶

Robert and Elizabeth brought up nine children and Robert junior helped to manage the Cardrona Store from the age of 14.⁸⁷ It appears that Robert senior moved to Pembroke/Wanaka to establish the family business "Robert McDougall and Sons, in his fifties. He had some competition from another General Merchant in town, William Monteith, however, McDougall was said to have run a very comprehensive business. Robert McDougall, senior, was active in community life being chairman of the Pembroke School Committee, Justice of the Peace, and first elected member of the Lake County Council to name a few of his positions. He was known as the "Father of Pembroke"⁸⁸

In 1910 the store's title was transferred to his son Peter McDougall and then in 1914 was transferred to David Anderson Jolly. The Jolly family had the building until 1939 when the Wanaka Stores Company brought it. Since that date it has been owned by a range of different Wanaka Stores Companies and in 1966 Foodstuffs (Otago Southland) Limited brought it.⁸⁹

There have been a number of other owners since then including the Gillespies, Karen and Ken White, and the present owners are Lyndon and Shaz Murray.⁹⁰

The General Merchant store now operates as a Four Square and the tradition of running a store on this site has continued for about 130 years. This continuity of use provides a very real connection to the buildings history of servicing the local Wanaka community with necessary store supplies.

⁸⁴ DAHG OT64/252 held in National Archives Dunedin Regional Office

⁸⁵ DAHG OT38/70 held in National Archives Dunedin Regional Office

⁸⁶ Mountain Scene Article, *Rock Solid Roots* by Peg Mathieson, May 1st 1986.

⁸⁷ *ibid*

⁸⁸ Irvine, Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957, pp115 & 266

⁸⁹ DAHG OT 38/70, held in National Archives Dunedin Regional Office

⁹⁰ A further title search is required to ascertain chronology of owners.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The store façade is intact and authentic, a good example of commercial buildings of its time, and the only commercial building of its era in Wanaka. However it has recently had the old General Merchants wording removed from its façade and the new signage does not reinforce the form of the building in the same way.

The large display windows are original but the main doors appear to have been replaced. The concrete steps up to the store form part of the façade and contribute to its presence in the street, emphasising its importance at the point where Ardmore Street changes direction.

The building is a single storey open space measuring 51" x 30" 6" with the original lightweight timber and steel trusses spanning the open shop area, and original sarking still visible under the corrugated steel roof.

The interior of the main store is more or less intact with minor changes to upgrade services. The addition to the building at the rear has resulted in a new opening in the west end of the north wall. The other opening was the back door of the store, which is still in the same location. The façade with its steps and the interior of the main store are worthy of retention, with the original roof structure and space, which give some representation of the typical style and layout of a store building.⁹¹

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

The Wanaka Store building is a prominent feature in Ardmore Street. Its strong façade makes a statement in the street and this would have been vital part of its initial design to attract customers. It is the last example of a commercial style building left in Wanaka that dates back to the 1870's era. The Wanaka Store plays a significant role in defining the streetscape of the past and the present.

SOURCES

DAHG OT64/252 held in National Archives Dunedin regional Office

DAHG OT 38/70, held in National Archives Dunedin regional Office

Mountain Scene Article, *Rock Solid Roots* by Peg Mathieson, May 1st 1986.

Roxburgh, Irvine, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society

FILE NOTES

Recommendation

The protection of the façade along with the obviously older front part of the interior space needs to be considered. Having this portion plus the façade protected would provide a better historical reading of the typical store, connecting the historical frontage with the building's historical use within the interior space.

ENTERED BY: Rebecca Reid

DATE ENTERED: July 2005

⁹¹ Architectural Comment provided by Ann Salmond, Salmond Architecture, Wanaka

PHOTOGRAPH/NEGATIVE: RReid July 2005



St Ninian's Presbyterian Church



Rear of church

NAME (including former names)

St Ninian's Presbyterian Church

LOCATION/ADDRESS

Kane Road, Hawea Flat

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Archaeological Value

- ✓ **Architectural Value**
Moderate – High
- ✓ **Cultural/Traditional Value**
High
- ✓ **Historical/Social Value**
High
- ✓ **Landscape/Townscape Value**
High
- ✓ **Rarity/Representative Value**
Moderate representative value

Technological Value

OVERALL HERITAGE VALUE Moderate - High

AGE/DATES	Constructed 1937-38
ARCHITECT/BUILDER	R.S.D.Harman (architect) George Needham builder (original portion 1938) Bill Hogan (builder 1953 addition)
MATERIALS	Concrete, mud brick and wood with wood shingle roof.
LOCAL AUTHORITY LISTINGS	Local Authority NZHPT No
VALUATION NUMBER	2908217800
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Part Section 11 Block V Lower Hawea SD
TYPE/USE	Presbyterian Church
CURRENT OWNERS	Otago/Southland Synod
CURRENT CONDITION	Very good, recent maintenance to shingles and paint work.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The St Ninian's Church is an excellent example of a modest country church. Its style and materials reflect the practicalities of the day and the initial omission of the vestry, (added later) provides some insight into the limited means provided for church construction at the time.

There is strong community association with this place, having long been a focal point for meeting and worship. The building continues to serve this purpose for the small rural community. It has cultural significance having provided a spiritual place for local Presbyterians in the district for almost 70 years.

The church is still true to its original design and reflects the 1930s- 50s era. It is intact and well maintained with the retention and maintenance of original details such as the roof shingles. The use of both concrete (1938 portion) and mud brick (1953 portion) wall construction with plaster render provides interest and insight into the building technique of the time.

The St Ninian's Church is a landmark at Hawea Flat. It sits sympathetically in its surroundings and has spatial quality being a "stand alone" building. It forms a significant part of Hawea Flat's built heritage and helps provide an insight into the wider community's history and identity. It represents the importance of religious activities in the rural area and contributes to our understanding of who settled here.

DESCRIPTION

The original part of the church is constructed of reinforced concrete and the 1953 vestry addition is made of dried mud brick. The church is located on a road fork and as such it makes a statement in the Hawea Flat landscape. It adds history and meaning to the Hawea Flat community.

HISTORY

The Reverend Charles Connor was one of the earliest apostles to the Wanaka District who settled in the area in 1879. He arrived to take up a teaching position at the Pembroke School.⁹² He continued to serve the district as Minister and led weekly services in the area. In the early years of Presbyterian worship, the locals of Hawea Flat gathered in the local school, however the services were not very regular out to Hawea Flat, Cardrona and Albert town, due to the difficulty and distances of travel.

On the 24 March 1880, 62 residents of the district petitioned the Southland Presbytery to appoint Reverend Connor to cover the Wanaka and Hawea districts. However the petition was not granted. Reverend Connor's son in law, Reverend Mr Morrison became the first ordained Minister in 1886.⁹³

Church services at Hawea Flat continued to be held at the school, until 1938 when the St Ninians Church was finally opened. Apparently the people of Hawea had a chance to build a church 35 years earlier, when an acre of land was offered to them, but they were said to be content to continue to hold services at the school.⁹⁴

Finally in 1931 a section of land was secured at Hawea Flat,⁹⁵ however seven more years went past before the church was constructed. On the 1st April 1936, a meeting of elders and managers of the Wanaka Presbytery Church committee was held at Pembroke. A decision was made to abandon the previous idea of removing the Pembroke Church to Hawea Flat and rebuilding a church at Pembroke. Instead, it was agreed that a manse be built at Pembroke and a church, to seat 60 -70 people, be built at Hawea Flat. This involved the raising of about £950 by the parish, with a possibility of the cost being £1100. It was expected that the Otago and Southland Synod would provide a grant for this purpose.⁹⁶

On 15 December 1936 a letter was received from the Otago and Southland Synod confirming that they would fund pound for pound up to £600 for the new church.⁹⁷

Tenders were called for the architects and builders for the church and manse and apparently different architects were used for each building. Dr A.H. Elmslie, the convenor of the church building committee, employed Mr R.S.D. Harman, a chartered architect from Christchurch to draw up the plans. It seems from

⁹² Irvine Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957, p 155

⁹³ Irvine Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957, p 157

⁹⁴ *ibid*, p209

⁹⁵ *ibid* p209

⁹⁶ Upper Clutha Parish, Deacons Court Minute Book 1912- 63, p98, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin.

⁹⁷ Church Board, Property letters file, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin

the specifications that the work did not originally include a vestry.⁹⁸ The vestry was thought to have been omitted due to the mounting costs of the building and it was decided to go for quality not quantity. However apparently it was always planned to be added at a later date.⁹⁹ The foundation stone of the new church was laid on 28 November 1937¹⁰⁰ by James Arthur Drake.¹⁰¹ There is a story that George Needham, the foreman of the Christchurch building firm undertaking the construction, came up with an innovative solution to reinforce the apex in the porch. Apparently he used an old motorbike frame for the purpose.¹⁰²

The foundations and walls were constructed of reinforced concrete. The church committee had decided that this was a cheaper and more practical option than wood, brick or stone and the architect had stated that “*a concrete church need not be a monstrosity.*”¹⁰³ The specifications stated that the walls were to be made up of 5 parts washed shingle, 2 parts washed sand and 1 part Portland cement. The exterior was to be rendered with 2 parts sand one part cement and thrown on from a trowel. Thirty four air vents were built into the foundations. The internal joinery was to be built of heart totara, dovetailed. There is also reference to heart rimu joinery and if this was not available Southland red beech was to be used. This was the timber to be used for the pulpit, which was designed to be octagonal in shape. The roof was to be built of heart rimu battens and covered with pacific cedar shingles of random widths. These were dipped in petroleum and fixed with galvanised nails.¹⁰⁴

On the 9th October 1938 the St Ninians Church at Hawea Flat was officially opened and dedicated. A large congregation gathered for the event and Mr Robert Kingan, elder of Hawea Flat for many years, turned the key. The opening service was conducted by Reverend Allan L. Cardno, the Minister of the Parish. The church was dedicated by Reverend Charles M. Sullivan, a former minister of the parish who also preached a sermon.¹⁰⁵

On 14 November 1950, Dr Elmslie reported to the church building committee “*that some £319 had been collected to date for the purpose of completing the Hawea church by the addition of a vestry.*” He stated that there were further seams of money in sight and that the services of an architect be employed.¹⁰⁶

The vestry additions are thought to have been completed in 1953. Plans for the addition of a vestry, ministers room and kitchen and bathroom facility were drawn up by the original architect of the building, R.S.D. Harman and dated June 1953.¹⁰⁷ The addition is in the same style and scale of the original and the execution by the original architect is noticeable. This time however the architect chose to build the walls of dried mud brick that were plaster rendered. The floor was built of concrete and the roof was made of shingles continuing in the original style.

The interior space of the church is notable for its wood finishing’s and elegant furniture. This includes an oak Baptismal Font that was donated by the Reverend C.M Sullivan and his wife in 1949 in memory of their daughter, Margaret, who was killed a year earlier while climbing in the Southern Alps.¹⁰⁸ The Pulpit is made of oak and each of its exposed panels bears one of the Evangelist’s signs carved in slight relief. The Minister’s chair, communion table and elders stalls are all made of oak with some distinctive carvings.

The St Ninian’s Church has recently had its northern facing shingle roof replaced by builders Ken Smith and Graeme King. This was undertaken by securing grants from the Capel family and the Central Lakes Trust. The remainder of the roof still has its original timber shingles intact.¹⁰⁹

⁹⁸ R.S.D. Harman, Architect, *Specifications for new Presbyterian Church, Hawea Flat, Otago*, BN 9/4, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin

⁹⁹ The Outlook, *A modern County Kirk, St Ninians, Hawea*, No.23 Vol XLVII, June 5 1940, [Presbyterian Church Publication]

¹⁰⁰ Irvine Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957, p209

¹⁰¹ Lorimer, Shona M, *Hawea Patchwork*, Hawea Community Association, 2002, p38

¹⁰² *ibid* p38

¹⁰³ The Outlook, , *A modern County Kirk, St Ninians, Hawea*, No.23 Vol XLVII, June 5 1940, [Presbyterian Church Publication]

¹⁰⁴ R.S.D. Harman, Architect, *Specifications for new Presbyterian Church, Hawea Flat, Otago*, BN 9/4, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin

¹⁰⁵ Upper Clutha Session Minute Book, 1908 -1958, p118, , held at Knox College Archives, Dunedin

¹⁰⁶ Upper Clutha Parish, Deacons Court Minute Book 1912- 63, p170, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin.

¹⁰⁷ Architectural plan drawings of addition to St Ninians Church, Hawea Flat by R.S.D. Harman, Architect, June 1953

¹⁰⁸ The Outlook, February 2 1949, p 4 [Presbyterian Church Publication]

¹⁰⁹ Wanaka Sun article, *Generosity puts St Ninian’s in good stead for future decades*, July 21 2005

The St Ninian's Church continues to serve the local people of Hawea Flat and remains as a monument to the efforts and determination of the small community to establish a Presbyterian place of worship in the district.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

St Ninians Church was designed by architect R S D Harman built in two stages, the main part of the Church in 1938 and the vestry added later in 1953.

The church has a traditional form with a 55 degree gabled roof and a distinctive stepped gable over the main entrance.

The main Church is built of reinforced concrete roughly rendered with a sand cement render. The timber roof framing is clad in cedar shingles. Curved mullions separate the windows.

Windows are simple steel windows with stained glass. Timber doors have wrought iron handles. The interior is finished in a selection of timbers including totara, rimu and red beech.

The small windows kept costs down and also keep the heat out during the summer while adding to the atmosphere of the timber interior.

The vestry addition is made from mud brick plastered to match the rest of the Church. It was designed by the same architect. Apart from minor differences such as the square profile mullions and more detailed windows the vestry was designed to match with the original church and fits well with it.

The church is both typical and unique. Its planning, form and timber interior are typical of its time, but the construction methods, timber furniture and carvings and stepped gable are particular to this Church. It has been well maintained and is still in its 1953 form. It is significant both for its design and its landmark location.¹¹⁰

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

The St Ninians Church occupies a corner fork of two roads at Hawea Flat and is a strong feature in the landscape. It sits sympathetically in its surroundings and has spatial quality being a "stand alone" building. It forms a significant part of Hawea Flat's built heritage and helps provide an insight into the community's history and identity.

SOURCES

Harman, R.S.D. *Architectural plan drawings of addition to St Ninians Church, Hawea Flat*, June 1953, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin

Lorimer, Shona M, *Hawea Patchwork*, Hawea Community Association, 2002

Presbytery of Central Otago (formerly Dunstan) Minute Book 1918 -1941, held at Knox College Archives, Dunedin

Roxburgh, Irvine, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957

Roxburgh, Irvine, *Rev-ving it up in the farback Wanaka Parish of the 1950s*, Cadsonbury Publishers, Christchurch 1998

Specifications for New Presbyterian Church, Hawea Flat, Otago, BN 9/4, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin

¹¹⁰ Architectural Description provided by Ann Salmond, Salmond Architecture, Wanaka

DRAFT QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT HERITAGE REGISTER

The Outlook, , *A modern County Kirk, St Ninians, Hawea*, No.23 Vol XLVII, June 5 1940, [Presbyterian Church Publication]

The Outlook, February 2 1949, [Presbyterian Church Publication]

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society

Upper Clutha Parish, Deacons Court Minute Book 1912-63, held at Knox College Archives Dunedin. 85/16/13, BN911

Upper Clutha Session Minute Book, 1908-1958, held at Knox College Archives, Dunedin, 85/16/8 BN 911

Wanaka Sun article, *Generosity puts St Ninian's in good stead for future decades*, July 21 2005,

FILE NOTES

There has not been time to gather a complete social history of the church including events and activities. Talking to local people with a long involvement in the church would provide this balance for a fuller historical account.

ENTERED BY: Rebecca Reid

DATE ENTERED: July 2005

PHOTOGRAPH/NEGATIVE: Wanaka Heritage Working Party



NAME (including former names)

Wanaka School

Albert Town School

LOCATION/ADDRESS

Previously 71 Tenby Street, Wanaka, now relocated to Albert Town on Dave Power's property.

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Archaeological Value

√ **Architectural Value**
Moderate

Cultural/Traditional Value

√ **Historical/Social Value**
High

√ **Landscape/Townscape Value**
Moderate

√ **Rarity/Representative Value**
Moderate – High representative value

Technological Value

OVERALL HERITAGE VALUE Moderate – High

AGE/DATES Constructed c:1911
ARCHITECT/BUILDER James Robertson
MATERIALS Wood and iron
LOCAL AUTHORITY LISTINGS
 Local Authority
 NZHPT No
VALUATION NUMBER
LEGAL DESCRIPTION New location @ Albert Town legal descript?
TYPE/USE Colonial Education, classroom
CURRENT OWNERS Dave Power
CURRENT CONDITION Moderate - Good

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

This modest school building is important for its long association with education in the area. It is a typical New Zealand country school that provided a pioneer education to many children living in a remote area.

It is relatively intact and true to its original form even though it has had a history of being moved from school to school as well as being closed and reopened a number of times. This history provides interest and reflects the ever changing nature of the rural population and the effect it had on the school roles of the time.

The building represents the typical early school building form and its very modest size reflects the Albert Town population at the time and perhaps the lack of confidence the designers had in the possibility of a rural population boom.

The fact that it is now back in Albert Town gives it increasing historical connection to its 1911 beginnings. It now forms part of a wider network of heritage sites in the Albert Town landscape and once again contributes to the character and identity of the township.

DESCRIPTION

The school building has been moved many times and has recently been relocated from the Wanaka Primary School grounds back to Albert Town (not the original site). The building, constructed of wood and iron, is still in its original form and is in good condition.

HISTORY

This small school building, built circa 1911¹¹¹, has association with schooling in the Wanaka district however it was not the first Albert Town School. The building has had a history of relocation around the district. Perhaps its size and sturdy wooden structure has made it easy to shift about depending on where the population was at the time.

The earlier Albert Town school was the first in the Wanaka district and was opened about 1868 or 1869 according to Richard Norman (a pupil at the time) writing in the Otago Witness 23 May 1922.¹¹² The school was located on the flat, 100 yards from the Cardrona River near the present road junction.¹¹³ It was closed in 1876¹¹⁴ because of a falling role. However it was reopened in 1886 by the residents of Albert Town, Maungawera and Mt Barker districts and located between Pembroke and Albert Town.¹¹⁵ The site was chosen as a compromise to try and service all the various areas. The first teacher was Mrs Mathews. It became known as the Wanaka School from 1888 – 1902¹¹⁶ even though it was located nearer to Albert Town. (This Wanaka School was never as large as Pembroke School which the majority to Wanaka children attended.)¹¹⁷ It was closed between 1902 and 1906 due to very few enrolments. When it reopened in 1906 the classes were held in the dining room of the Albert Town Hotel and there were 20 pupils enrolled.¹¹⁸ In 1911, it is thought that this small classroom was constructed¹¹⁹ and named Wanaka School. Its name was changed to Albert Town again in 1940. It was finally consolidated into the main Wanaka School in 1946.¹²⁰

In the 1950's when the dam was being built at Lake Hawea, the numbers of school aged children suddenly increased. In order to cope with this boost in numbers, this Albert Town school was shifted out to adjoin the Hawea Flat School in 1956. By 1966 it was no longer required here and was shifted to the present day Wanaka Primary School site at 71 Tenby Street where it was used as a classroom for high school students at the Wanaka District High School and later Wanaka Area School. In 1987 Mount Aspiring College opened and the Tenby Street site reverted to a primary school. The old building continued to be used for various purposes until the maintenance on it was escalating.¹²¹

¹¹¹ Letter from Otago Education Board to Moira Fleming, Principal Wanaka Primary School, 1987. Cited by Ken Thomlinson

¹¹² Otago Witness, 23 May 1922, p61

¹¹³ Irvine Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957 p111

¹¹⁴ www.hakena.otago.ac.nz, Wanaka school, Hocken Library, Dunedin

¹¹⁵ Irvine Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957, p159. The writer presumes that this was a new site for the school as compared to the original site near the Cardrona River.

¹¹⁶ www.hakena.otago.ac.nz, Wanaka school, Hocken Library, Dunedin

¹¹⁷ Irvine Roxburgh, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957, p159.

¹¹⁸ Albert Town School Register, of admission, 1886 – 1945, held in Upper Clutha Historical Records Archives, Wanaka Library.

¹¹⁹ Letter from Otago Education Board to Moira Fleming, Principal Wanaka Primary School, 1987. Cited by Ken Thomlinson

¹²⁰ www.hakena.otago.ac.nz, Wanaka school, Hocken Library, Dunedin

¹²¹ Information supplied by Ken Thomlinson, upper Clutha Records Society, Wanaka.

Within the last year, it was sold to Dave Power who has relocated it out to Albert Town again. It seems that the building has come the full circle.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This is classic simple single room school building built of wood, with four pane sash windows. It has remained fairly true to its original form even though it has been shifted many times.

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

The school is presently in a paddock near Albert town and has been relocated many times. Over the years it has lost its historic context to a certain extent however it has remained associated with school sites. The fact that it is back in Albert Town gives it increasing historical connection to its early 1911 beginnings. It now forms part of a network of other heritage sites in Albert Town and contributes to the landscape character of the township.

SOURCES

Albert town School Register, of admission, 1886 – 1945, held in Upper Clutha Historical Records Archives, Wanaka Library.

Discussion with Margaret and Ken Thomlinson, Upper Clutha Historical Records Society members, by Rebecca Reid, July 22, 2005.

Otago Witness, 23 May 1922, p61

Roxburgh, Irvine, *Wanaka Story, A history of the Wanaka, Hawea, Tarras and surrounding districts*, Otago Centennial Historical Publications, 1957

www.hakena.otago.ac.nz, Wanaka school, Hocken Library, Dunedin

FILE NOTES

More research is required to glean social history of the school and lists of teachers and pupils could be provided from the records held at the Upper Clutha Historical Society archives in Wanaka.

ENTERED BY: Rebecca Reid

DATE ENTERED: July 2005

PHOTOGRAPH/NEGATIVE: RReid July 2005



NAME (including former names)

Luggate Road Bridge

“Grandview Bridge”

LOCATION/ADDRESS

On State Highway 8A, Kane Road, Luggate Rural

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT	
	Archaeological Value
√	Engineering/Architectural Value High
	Cultural/Traditional Value
√	Historical/Social Value High
√	Landscape/Townscape Value Moderate-High
√	Rarity/Representative Value High representative value
√	Technological Value High
OVERALL HERITAGE VALUE	High

AGE/DATES	1915
Designed	J.S. Menzies & E.F. Roberts (engineers)
Official opening	28 th October 1915
ARCHITECT/BUILDER	J.S. Menzies design, T. Wilkinson builder/contractor
MATERIALS	Concrete, steel, wood
LOCAL AUTHORITY	
LISTINGS	
Local Authority	
NZHPT	No
VALUATION NUMBER	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Road and River Reserve
TYPE/USE	Vehicle Bridge
CURRENT OWNERS	
CURRENT CONDITION	Good

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Luggate Road Bridge provides a direct link to the history and development of the Upper Clutha area. It represents the importance of a transportation network and the reliance on bridge linkages that opened up the surrounding country and connected people living in small rural communities. The opening of the Luggate Bridge provided easier access across a major river for people, stock and freight boosting overall economic growth of the area.

The bridge reflects the local community's determination to progress the area and meet increasing traffic demands and the national and local government's response in finally committing funds to its construction at this site.

The bridge is representative of steel truss construction in the 1915 era and the typical engineering design of the time. Its design is associated with two well known engineers who contributed a lot to the engineering profession in the lower part of the South Island. The Luggate Bridge has been described as "one of the most attractively proportioned steel truss road bridges in the country."¹²² Today it remains as an intact, excellent example of a steel truss bridge providing an insight into the design, use of materials and technical skill required to ensure the longevity of the structure.

The Luggate Road Bridge, with its red steel truss formation, is a prominent feature in the landscape. This industrial structure provides visual and historical interest in its Clutha River setting with the backdrop of Mount Grandview and other adjacent mountain peaks creating a picturesque scene.

DESCRIPTION

The Luggate Road Bridge is a steel truss bridge with concrete abutments and piers founded on concrete piles to support a 61metre main Baltimore through truss, another 30.5m truss and a 12.2m rolled steel joist end span totalling 103.7metres. It crosses the Clutha River en route from Luggate to Tarras or Luggate to Hawea Flat.

HISTORY

Before the Luggate Road Bridge came into being, a river punt was relied on to ferry everything across this stretch of the Clutha River. The punt began here in 1882 and was said to be sited just downstream of the current bridge. In 1888 the punt reportedly sank when the Luggate flour mill's laden wagon caused the front of the boat to collapse.¹²³ At this time a bridge was considered further downstream but the punt was revived and operated here for a further quarter of a century.¹²⁴

The Upper Clutha area was developing fast at the turn of the 19th century and the punts struggled to cope with the increase in traffic. The monthly tally for the punt in 1910 was for 400 people on foot, 250 on horseback and 500 vehicles.¹²⁵ The locals started putting the pressure on for a bridge to cope with demand.

The Vincent County Engineer at the time J.S. Menzies started on the design of a steel truss structure in 1908. However government grants did not come easily and the locals had to petition Parliament before a sum was allocated in the Public Works Department (PWD) in 1911.¹²⁶

Because the Vincent County needed PWD approval of the bridge design, E. F. Roberts, a well known consulting engineer from Dunedin was employed to assist Menzies. Edward Roberts was an apprentice for J. Sparrow and Sons metal workers and in the 1880s became their works manager. He later took over his father's consulting engineering business and was involved in many engineering projects in the lower South Island.¹²⁷ He became renowned for his designs of early gold dredges throughout the district.¹²⁸

By April 1913 a tender was let to Tom Wilkinson of Clyde for £9508¹²⁹ to construct the truss bridge. The imported steel work was fabricated in Dunedin by A & T Burt and Company.¹³⁰ The work was by all accounts difficult, particularly through the winter months when the river levels were so variable. It was reported that "Wilkinson intends to erect a temporary structure across the 200 ft span and has taken up these old suction dredge pontoons to carry the pile driver"¹³¹

¹²² Geoffrey Thornton, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001, p164

¹²³ Stanley Kane, *Luggate, A Story of a district and its people from 1860*, S.A. Kane publisher 1991, p34

¹²⁴ Geoffrey Thornton, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001, p164

¹²⁵ *ibid* p164

¹²⁶ *ibid*

¹²⁷ www.hakena.otago.ac.nz, Robert S Edward Fletcher papers held in Hocken Library Dunedin.

¹²⁸ Geoffrey Thornton, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001, p296

¹²⁹ Robert Edward Fletcher papers, Luggate Bridge held Hocken Library Dunedin, AG – 857/014

¹³⁰ Geoffrey Thornton, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001, p164

¹³¹ Robert S Edward Fletcher papers, Luggate Bridge held Hocken Library Dunedin, AG – 857/014, Letter to Roberts from Menzies, 6 April 1913.

The bridge was officially opened on 28 October 1915 by Mrs Sheppard, wife of the Vincent County Chairman the presence of local Member of Parliament the Hon. William Fraser (Minister of Public Works).¹³² It was named "Grandview Bridge" by the County Chairman, John Sheppard, in honour of John Kane of Grandview Farm nearby. He had been the County representative for 20 years (1890 – 1911).¹³³ The opening was followed by a banquet at Luggate.

The steel work on the bridge was painted in traditional red oxide which emphasised the lines of the trusses well against the backdrop of Mt Grandview and the adjacent peaks. The bridge is still coloured red and is very authentic to its original design. There appears to have been an upgrade of the wooden decking on the bridge recently which has replaced the original decking. The specifications for the bridge stated that this was made up of 14 ft long "Brush Box" wood. All other timber used was said to be Australian hardwood - Jarrah.¹³⁴

The Luggate Road Bridge has been described as "one of the most attractively proportioned steel truss road bridges in the country."¹³⁵

ENGINEERING DESCRIPTION

The Luggate Road Bridge is a Steel Truss bridge made up of a 61metre "Baltimore through truss" a 30.5m Pratt truss and a 12.2m rolled steel joist end span totalling 103.7metres in length. A truss is defined as „A frame of timber, iron or steel or reinforces concrete built from members in compression and tension to carry a bridge.“ A "through truss" is defined as being "where the carriageway or deck is at the level of the bottom chord and the top chords are tied transversely." A "Pratt Truss" is where "vertical and diagonal members are in tension" and a "Baltimore Truss has subdivided steel panels."¹³⁶

The bridge is supported by cylinder shaped concrete piers that are reinforced with triangular mesh.¹³⁷ The deck level is at 130.5 ft.

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

Geoffrey Thornton, describes Truss bridges as "*Triangles in Space*" which seems an apt description, particularly when standing beneath these types of bridges. The Luggate Road Bridge, with its red steel truss formation, is a prominent feature in the landscape. This industrial structure provides visual and historical interest in its Clutha River setting with the backdrop of Mount Grandview and other adjacent mountain peaks creating a picturesque scene.

SOURCES

Roberts, Edward Fletcher, papers, *Luggate Bridge*, held Hocken Library Dunedin, AG – 857/014

Kane Stanley, *Luggate, A Story of a district and its people from 1860*, S.A. Kane publisher 1991, p34

Menzies, J.E. *Luggate Road Bridge over Clutha Drawings 1-6*, held National Archives, Dunedin Regional Office, DADE D448/28

Menzies, J.E. *Specification for contract No. 650 with Vincent County Council, Erection of a Steel traffic Bridge over the Clutha River at Luggate*, held in Robert Edward Fletcher papers, Luggate Bridge held Hocken Library Dunedin, AG – 857/014

Thornton, Geoffrey, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001

¹³² Geoffrey Thornton, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001, p65

¹³³ Stanley Kane, *Luggate, A Story of a district and its people from 1860*, S.A. Kane publisher 1991, p36

¹³⁴ Menzies J.E. *Specification for contract No. 650 with Vincent County Council, Erection of a Steel traffic Bridge over the Clutha River at Luggate*, held in Robert Edward Fletcher papers, Luggate Bridge held Hocken Library Dunedin, AG – 857/014

¹³⁵ Geoffrey Thornton, *Bridging the gap, Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830 -1939*, Reed Publishing Ltd Auckland, 2001, p164

¹³⁶ *ibid* p86

¹³⁷ Menzies, J.E. *Specification for contract No. 650 with Vincent County Council, Erection of a Steel traffic Bridge over the Clutha River at Luggate*, held in Robert Edward Fletcher papers, Luggate Bridge held Hocken Library Dunedin, AG – 857/014

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT HERITAGE REGISTER

Web site; www.hakena.otago.ac.nz, Robert Edward Fletcher papers held in Hocken Library Dunedin.

FILE NOTES

ENTERED BY: Rebecca Reid

DATE ENTERED: July 2005

PHOTOGRAPH/NEGATIVE: RReid July 2005



Close up view of Glebe Stone house



Distant view from street showing addition and original

NAME (including former names)

Glebe Stone House

LOCATION/ADDRESS

135 Stone Street, Wanaka

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Archaeological Value

√ **Architectural Value**

Moderate -High

Cultural/Traditional Value

√ **Historical/Social Value**

Moderate -High

√ **Landscape/Townscape Value**

Moderate

√ **Rarity/Representative Value**

Moderate – High representative value

√ **Technological Value**

Moderate -High

OVERALL HERITAGE VALUE Moderate-High

AGE/DATES	Constructed 1949
ARCHITECT/BUILDER	G, Burgess, stone mason
MATERIALS	River stone and wood
LOCAL AUTHORITY LISTINGS	
Local Authority NZHPT	No
VALUATION NUMBER	2905371001
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Lot 1 DP 24047
TYPE/USE	Residential
CURRENT OWNERS	Brian Anderson
CURRENT CONDITION	Very good

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Glebe Stone House is important for its association with a prominent early medical doctor that served the Wanaka district for many years. Dr Elmslie's wider contribution to the community and church was also notable.

The location, construction and style of the house reflects to a certain extent a "Doctor's" residence of the time and provides some insight into the personality and way of life of this man of high social standing.

Architecturally the house was unique for its era. It was well designed, practical and structurally sound, with obvious attention to detail, particularly in the stone masonry and mud brick construction. The house is a good representative of this building technique. It also has association with a successful innovative early water supply that was also adopted for neighbouring houses. At the time this would have been recognised for its technological value.

Apart from the alteration of the living room, off the kitchen and the replacement of original wooden roof shingles, the Glebe Stone House is authentic inside and out with original details well maintained.

DESCRIPTION

The Stone Glebe sits on an elevated site accessed off Stone Street, Wanaka. The original 1949 house was substantially added onto as a residence in 2002 by the current owner Brian Anderson. However the original house has been left intact externally and internally apart from some alteration to a room that now forms part of a modern bathroom.

HISTORY

The site of the present house was once part of a much larger section (240 acres) and was originally owned by runholder Henry Campbell from 1875- 1889. About ten acres was then sold to the Otago Presbyterian Church Board of property.¹³⁸ This became the church glebe. The surrounding land was run as a farm for some time and some of the property may have been set aside for a manse.¹³⁹

In 1937 the land was subdivided and the area this house sits on was sold to Dr Alexander Harper Elmslie. He was the local doctor in the Pembroke/Wanaka district from about 1925 – 1938 and again during the 1950s and 60s? He was a well known man in the community and was involved in the Presbyterian Church having acted as the convenor of the local building committee and was also an organist and choir master.¹⁴⁰

This two bedroom stone house was built for Dr Alexander Elmslie in 1949. The stone mason was George Burghess. There is an etched stone to this effect on one of the original outside walls of the building, now enclosed as part of a walk through between the old and the new parts of the house. There is a story that some of the stone came from a stone wall site previously out near Hawea, but this has not been confirmed.¹⁴¹ The interior walls are made of mud brick which were apparently made on the property. Mr Geoff Gallaway (now deceased) spoke of helping make the mud bricks on land behind the present house. The land was cultivated and a sprinkler created the mud slop, before they were put into wooden moulds.¹⁴²

Dr Elmslie made sure the house had a running water supply and instigated an innovative hydraulic water ram that pumped water up from Bullock Creek nearby to a tank on the section. This was thought to be one of the first houses to have a running water supply. Apparently other houses adopted this scheme in this part of town and the click and clack of the rams were said to be quite orchestral in the area.¹⁴³

Dr Elmslie sold the land to Lindsay Ralph Morris 1965.¹⁴⁴ The Morris's lived in the stone house until they sold it to Brian and Jessie Anderson in c 2000? In 2002 the large stacked stone addition was added on by the Andersons. The stone mason was Jessie Andersons son, Dean Weastell. The addition, although large in scale, has been executed using many of the same features as the 1949 Glebe house. The window lengths, stone sills, and stone masonry detail, including the tapered external walls has been repeated. The original part of the building covers approximately 110 square metres and the newer addition is about 170 square metres.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The house was said to be an advanced design for the time. It has large steel framed windows and low window sills lined with stone inside. The exterior stone walls are tapered slightly at the bottom reflecting English stone masonry. The interior was plastered over mud brick walls and there was a living and a dining room. The dining room has an arched ceiling. There is a relatively small kitchen on the colder side

¹³⁸ Certificate of Title, OT 87/95

¹³⁹ It has not been ascertained where the manse was built at this stage, but mention is made of it in 1937 in the Upper Clutha Parish Deacons Court minute book 1912-63, held at Knox College Archives, Dunedin.

¹⁴⁰ Otago Daily Times, 23/3/1938, p14

¹⁴¹ Pers comm. Brian Anderson, 22 July 2005.

¹⁴² Pers comm. Brian Anderson, 22 July 2005.

¹⁴³ Irvine Roxburgh, *Rev-ving it up in the farback Wanaka Parish of the 1950s*, Cadsonbury Publishers, Christchurch 1998

¹⁴⁴ Certificate of Title, OT 428/20

of the house. This originally had a living room off it but this has now been incorporated into a bathroom. Apart from this alteration, the original Elmslie house is still very authentic. The rimu barn style doors, steel framed windows, and layout of the rooms are the same as in 1949. The house originally had a wooden shingle roof but this was changed to a more modern shingle roof during the larger house addition for practical reasons.

“The steel windows are original Crittel windows from Dunedin. The main room has a very large window for its time.

The curved roof in the living area is also unusual.

The timber floors sit on wooden piles.

The original fireplace and stone hearth are still in place with the wood box adjacent

The original stainless steel kitchen bench has been reused in the laundry.

The bathroom has a vent open to the sky to ventilate the house and keep it healthy (and cold!)

The original joinery is still in place including a wide shallow trouser drawer.

The earth for the bricks came from the rear of the site. The sludge for the earth bricks was made by pulling the horse around with a cultivator to loosen the earth and mix it with water.¹⁴⁵”

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

The Glebe Stone house is now part of a much larger residence but the original 1949 part sited to the south end of the house can still be read. The original Glebe house is consequently a more minor part of the structure and its townscape value has been reduced. However the setting of the whole residence on the top of the hill in Stone Street, with its fantastic views over Lake Wanaka, spacious garden and reserve land in front, provides some understanding of what the original Glebe land would have been like before it was subdivided.

SOURCES

Certificate of Titles, OT 87/95, OT 428/20 held at LINZ Office, Dunedin

DAHG records, National Archives, Dunedin Regional Office

Discussion with current owner, Brian Anderson by Rebecca Reid, 22 July 2005.

Otago Daily Times article, 23/3/1938, p14

Roxburgh, Irvine, *Rev-ving it up in the farback Wanaka Parish of the 1950s*, Cadsonbury Publishers, Christchurch 1998

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society

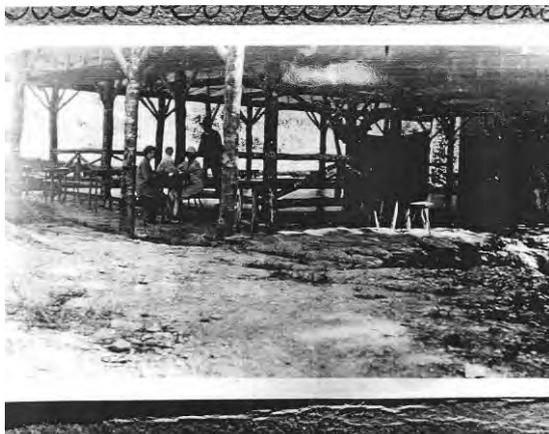
FILE NOTES

ENTERED BY: Rebecca Reid

DATE ENTERED: July 2005

¹⁴⁵ Architectural description provided by Ann Salmond, Salmond Architecture, Wanaka

PHOTOGRAPH/NEGATIVE: Upper Clutha
Historical Society
Photos



Cabaret Building, Ruby Island, Lake Wanaka
Circa 1927



Cabaret Building, Ruby Island, Lake Wanaka, circa
1927

NAME (including former names)

Cabaret Buildings Foundation

LOCATION/ADDRESS

Ruby Island, Lake Wanaka

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

✓ **Archaeological Value**

Moderate

Architectural Value

✓ **Cultural/Traditional Value**

Moderate

Historical/Social Value

High

✓ **Landscape/Townscape Value**

Moderate

✓ **Rarity/Representative Value**

High representative value

Technological Value

OVERALL HERITAGE VALUE Moderate

AGE/DATES 1927 - 1930

ARCHITECT/BUILDER John Hunt

MATERIALS Beech posts and
corrugated roof, wooden
dance floor set on car
tyres

LOCAL AUTHORITY

LISTINGS

Local Authority

NZHPT

No

VALUATION NUMBER 2906122700

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Ruby Island Lower
Wanaka SD

TYPE/USE Social venue in 1920s

CURRENT OWNERS QLDC Recreation
Reserve ¹⁴⁶

CURRENT CONDITION Old piles remain on-site

¹⁴⁶ Recreation Reserve, Gazette 1983, p1934

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ruby Island Cabaret site serves as a reminder of the innovative commercial operation that was set up here for social entertainment by a local couple. Thousands of locals and tourists visited this site to join in the fun, picnics and dancing.

The history of the site reflects the era when you had to “make your own fun.” It represents the social way of life in the late 1920s in an isolated small lakeside town and the determination of locals to provide opportunities for social activity. The Cabaret history provides an interesting insight into a slice of Wanaka’s social and cultural life at the time that is still cherished today. The application of kiwi ingenuity in the building of the structure, and the power supply is notable.

Ruby Island is a focal point in most lake views from the township and is a familiar and well appreciated landmark by the local people. It has a long association with public recreation having always been open as a picnic and boating /walking destination. The island has a strong link to the memory of the days of the Cabaret operation. The setting and views of the surrounding landscape from the site, give some idea of the atmosphere and ambience that was created here during these memorable social occasions.

DESCRIPTION

Today the remains of the Cabaret are in the form of foundation piles from the Cabaret structure and the site of the old dance floor. It is possible from these to understand the siting of the Cabaret and imagine the ambience at this unique island and lake setting.

HISTORY

Entertainment and socialising reached an all time high with the construction of a Cabaret building on Ruby Island, Lake Wanaka in 1927. The island was in an excellent position close to the township about 500 metres off the South West shores of the lake. Mr and Mrs John and Sybil Hunt were the instigators of this Cabaret idea.

John Hunt stated *“I ran these boats and ferry services [on the lake] but it still wasn’t enough to keep me occupied. So then I got the idea of building a Cabaret on Ruby Island. One day I had climbed up on the Island and saw this magnificent view and I thought – what a place for tourists.. there was no entertainment at the time unless you thought it up yourself... Pembroke was a gay wee place, people came for holidays, it was a good set up on Ruby island with a sheltered landing bay on the west side and a natural hollow on top of the island among the trees. So I went ahead and built the Cabaret up there and it was all in the rough too, we didn’t touch any of the trees or spoil anything at all on the island.”*¹⁴⁷

After finally obtaining a building permit from the local Domain Board, John Hunt had birch [beech] trees cut up at Makarora and then towed them down the lake. *“The rough logs were used as pillars around the dance floor. There was just a lean-to roof with no sides. The dance floor was built on hundreds of old car tyres and we had big paved stones outside and manuka tables with four stools around them.”*¹⁴⁸

There was a kitchen, small shop, toilets and accommodation for the permanent staff of one. He was an ex navy chef who had previously worked at the Wanaka Hotel.¹⁴⁹ The power to drive the gramophone and lighting was via a generating plant that John Hunt constructed from an old car from Tarras. Old car batteries were also used. *“We had this priceless music. There was only short records, no long playing records like there are today.. it was a full time job for someone to stand by the gramophone and wind it up and change the records.”*¹⁵⁰

The Cabaret was held in the evenings and was reserved for dancing. The tyres beneath gave the dance floor the desired “bounce” and apparently it was as good as any sprung dance floor. The floor was said to

¹⁴⁷ Christine Hunt, *Something in the Hills*, John Hunt interview script, cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers, contributed by John Weaver .

¹⁴⁸ ibid

¹⁴⁹ Mountain Scene article, Ruby Island Sparkles, 29 January 1987

¹⁵⁰ Christine Hunt, *Something in the Hills*, John Hunt Interview script, cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers, contributed by John Weaver .

hold 50 couples and was 40ft x 50ft.¹⁵¹ It was by all accounts great fun with technically no alcohol. However, the locals brought their own drop and through a well thought out boat mask signalling system, the local cop never found any liquor on the island.¹⁵²

The Hunts ran three launches on the lake and these were kept busy with the demand to have the "Ruby Island experience." During the day, morning and afternoon teas were offered. Mrs Hunt was apparently a great cook and did all the cooking on a Perfection kerosene stove. Girdle scones, pike lets and Devonshire teas were always on the menu. Suppers including coffee and biscuits were supplied to dancers at the Cabaret. It cost five shillings for a return trip to the Cabaret.¹⁵³

The highlight of the year was the New Years Eve fancy dress balls which are still fondly remembered by some. These were obviously great social events. Live bands were called in for these occasions and played until all hours. Sometimes there would be "*about 300 guests at these functions which were very informal in lovely surroundings. The view and the setting was really marvellous.*"¹⁵⁴

The Cabaret got a really good go for about four seasons, it was really popular for a few years. But the seasons were too short for it and it really was twenty years too early for its time... then the Depression came and whole thing flopped, everyone was out of work and money was scarce. I sold the Cabaret for £30 and that was that."¹⁵⁵

Mrs Hunt says "*we never made a fortune out of it but it was an awful lot of fun*"¹⁵⁶

The Hunts bought a farm in 1930 and started to concentrate on that. Everything was sold at the Cabaret site apart from the dance floor. However this was destroyed by fire in 1936.¹⁵⁷

And so ended three years of summer socialising on Ruby Island but the memories live on.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

Remains of the Cabaret are in the form of foundations only. A map of the remains would be useful.

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

Ruby Island is a focal point in most lake views from the township and is a familiar and well appreciated landmark by the local people. It has a long association with public recreation having always been open as a picnic and boating /walking destination. The island has strong association to the memory of the days of the Cabaret operation and the setting and views of the surrounding landscape from the site give some idea of the atmosphere and ambience that was created here during these memorable social occasions.

SOURCES

Hunt, Christine, *Something in the Hills* script, cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers, contributed by John Weaver .

Gillespie, Jan, Major assignment, Ruby Island for New Zealand Natural Heritage, 1991, cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records.

Mountain Scene article, Ruby Island Sparkles, 29 January 1987

Mountain Scene article, Ruby Island revisited June 17 1982, p7

¹⁵¹ Ian McCrone, Upper Clutha Society article, date? cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers, Jan Gillespie, Major assignment, Ruby Island for New Zealand Natural Heritage, 1991

¹⁵² Jan Gillespie, Major assignment, Ruby Island for New Zealand Natural Heritage, 1991, cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records.

¹⁵³ Christine Hunt, *Something in the Hills* John Hunt interview script, cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers, contributed by John Weaver .

¹⁵⁴ Ibid

¹⁵⁵ ibid

¹⁵⁶ Mountain Scene article, Ruby Island revisited June 17 1982, p7

¹⁵⁷ Ian McCrone, Upper Clutha Society article, date? cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers

McCrone, Ian Upper Clutha Society article, date? cited in Upper Clutha Historical Records, Ruby Island Papers,

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society

FILE NOTES

The site would come to life and provide an historical connection for visitors if some heritage interpretation was provided, based on its significant social history association.

ENTERED BY: Rebecca Reid

DATE ENTERED:

July 2005



NAME

Showground Building

LOCATION/ADDRESS

McDougall Street, Wanaka

Constructed - 1920's

Building Type/Use - Sporting/Recreation use

Materials – Wood and iron

Style - Colonial pavilion

Architect -

Builder -

NZHPT Register -

District Plan Status -

Valuation number - 2905342500

Legal Description- Section 12 Block XV Town of Wanaka

Heritage Assessment

Historic and Social Value - High

Cultural and Spiritual Value - Moderate

Architectural Value – Moderate - High

Townscape and Context Value - High

Rarity and Representative Value - Moderate

Technological Value - Low

Archaeological Value - Low

Overall Heritage Value - Moderate - High

DESCRIPTION

The building is a significant sporting centre constructed of wood and iron. It is located within the A & P showground with the site designated as a recreation reserve

HISTORY

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE AND ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The building has a high association with the social growth of the town. It has high social, historic and townscape values. It is consider as a landmark and represents symbolic values associated with as town and country sport.

The original part of the building has not been altered, there have however been additions.

SOURCES

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society

ENTERED BY: Wanaka Heritage Working
Party

DATE ENTERED: October 2002 – Jan
2003



NAME

Cob Cottage

LOCATION/ADDRESS

324 Luggate-Tarras Road, Hawea Flat

Constructed - 1860's

Building Type/Use - Was residential, currently no use.

Materials – Cob and iron

Style - Colonial

Architect -

Builder -

NZHPT Register -

District Plan Status -

Valuation number - 2908211800

Legal Description – Part Section 3 Blk VII Tarras SD

Heritage Assessment

Historic and Social Value - Significant/High

Cultural and Spiritual Value - Moderate

Architectural Value - Moderate to High

Townscape and Context Value - Low

Rarity and Representative Value - High

Technological Value - Low

Archaeological Value - Moderate to High

Overall Heritage Value - High

DESCRIPTION

The cottage is in its original form and is well maintained. It is set within a rural setting and is currently used as a museum

HISTORY

The cottage was a very early rural dwelling and for many years was the only rural home in that area.

It was at some stage used as the cookhouse for the Grandview station.

It is associated to early families and the Morven Hills run.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE AND ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The Cob cottage is important for its historic, social and cultural associations. Consequently it has significant historic, social and representative values. It is recognised for its cultural value as the Presbyterian Minister Drake stayed at the cottage when visiting the District. There are not many cottages left within the District of this style and in good condition. The technology and style used however is considered to be not too different to the others of its time.

SOURCES

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society

ENTERED BY: Wanaka Heritage Working
Party

DATE ENTERED: October 2002 – Jan
2003



NAME

McPherson House

LOCATION/ADDRESS

Lake Hawea-Albertown Road

Constructed - 1900's

Building Type/Use - Residential

Materials - Wood

Style - Bungalow

Architect -

Builder -

NZHPT Register –

District Plan Status -

Valuation number -

Legal Description-

Heritage Assessment

Historic and Social Value - High

Cultural and Spiritual Value - Low

Architectural Value - Moderate

Townscape and Context Value - Low

Rarity and Representative Value - High

Technological Value - Low

Archaeological Value - Low

Overall Heritage Value - Moderate

DESCRIPTION

The house is a bungalow constructed of wood. It has recently been relocated from his original site to a property on the Lake Hawea-Albertown Road.

HISTORY

The bungalow was constructed in the 1900's for the manger of the Wanaka Station.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE AND ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The house is important for it's association with significant local history and has high historic, social, and representative values. The house it not on its original site, however it still representatives a way of life and important social patterns, and it considered to be in good condition and well maintained.

SOURCES

Upper Clutha Historical Records Society.

ENTERED BY: Wanaka Heritage Working
Party

DATE ENTERED: October 2002 – Jan
2003