

**GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

HERITAGE ITEM NAME Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool

ADDRESS Haupiri River

PHOTOGRAPH



(WCRC, 2023)

TTPP PLAN ITEM NO. HHxx **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** N/A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Parcel 23676024, NZ Gazette 1940 p. 1785

GDC FILE NUMBER xx

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1906

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Public Works Department, designer/builder

STYLE Utilitarian

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

A rectangular bathing pool with sides projecting above the terrain and remnant steps. Inlet and outlet water pipes.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Concrete.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Unknown, if any.

SETTING

The bathing pool is located on the west side of the Haupiri River, immediately south of its confluence with Cone Creek; the site is part of a large block within the DoC estate. The extent of setting is limited to the immediate surrounds of the pool, rather than the land parcel as a whole.

HISTORY

By the spring of 1902 efforts were under way to make the sulphurous hot springs at Haupiri accessible to visitors. Tenders for a cottage at the springs were called in March 1905. Subsequently referred to as the 'government hut', the two-room cottage stood within a 'few yards' of a concrete bathing pool that was built in 1906. The hot springs project was championed by local MP Arthur Guinness (1846-1913). There remained interest in the tourism potential of the hot springs into the mid-1940s; however difficulty in accessing the site was always a constraint on development. The pool is still accessed and in use today.

HISTORIC AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has historic and social significance for its association with the early 20th century development of the Kopara Hot Springs for therapeutic and recreational purposes.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of hot springs users and visitors.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has aesthetic value for its utilitarian design by the local office of the Public Works Department.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has craftsmanship value for its rustic concrete construction by the local office of the Public Works Department.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has contextual significance as a historic feature within the Haupiri River valley.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

The site of the Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool may have potential archaeological value relating to the discovery, development and use of the springs.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has overall heritage significance to Haupiri and the Grey District. The pool has historic and social significance for its association with the early 20th century development of the Kopara Hot Springs for therapeutic and recreational purposes and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of pool users since 1906. The Kopara Hot Springs bathing pool has aesthetic and craftsmanship values for its utilitarian design and concrete construction by the local office of the Public Works Department and contextual significance as a historic feature within the Haupiri River valley. The pool's site may have archaeological value relating to the early use and development of the hot springs.

REFERENCES

- *Grey River Argus* 3 March 1905, p. 3; 7 February 1906, p. 2; 3 November 1926, p. 2; 4 November 1927, p. 2; 10 December 1927, p. 5.
- *Greymouth Evening Star* 23 September 1902, p. 3; 10 December 1927, p. 8; 22 March 1928, p. 3; 14 December 1945, p. 4.
- *New Zealand Mail* 23 May 1906, p. 26; 29 August 1906, p. 26.

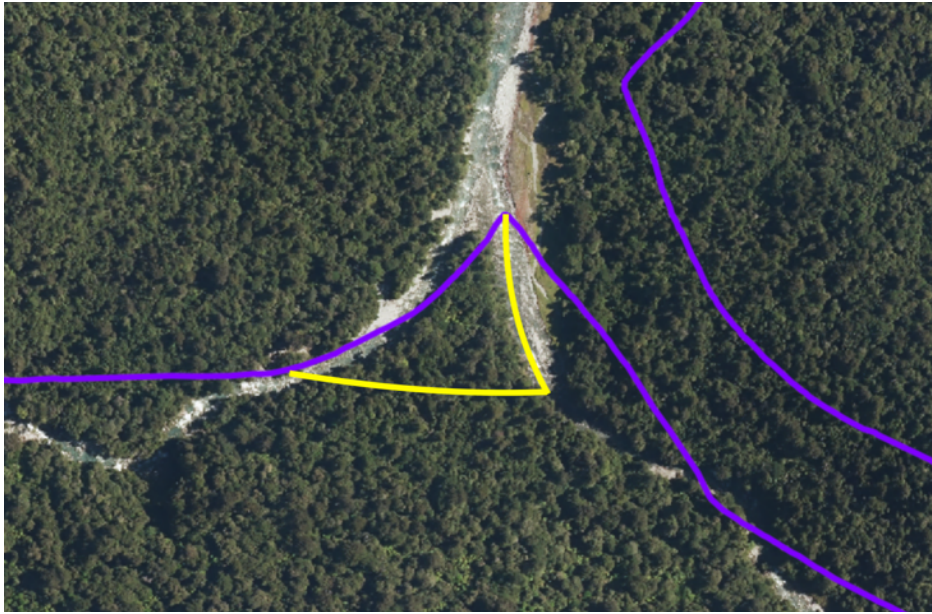
- *Dominion* 11 November 1927, p. 16.
- *Otago Witness* 24 June 1930, p. 56.
- *Nelson Evening Mail* 4 August 1938, p. 12.
- *Press* 5 September 1987, p. 22.

REPORT COMPLETED

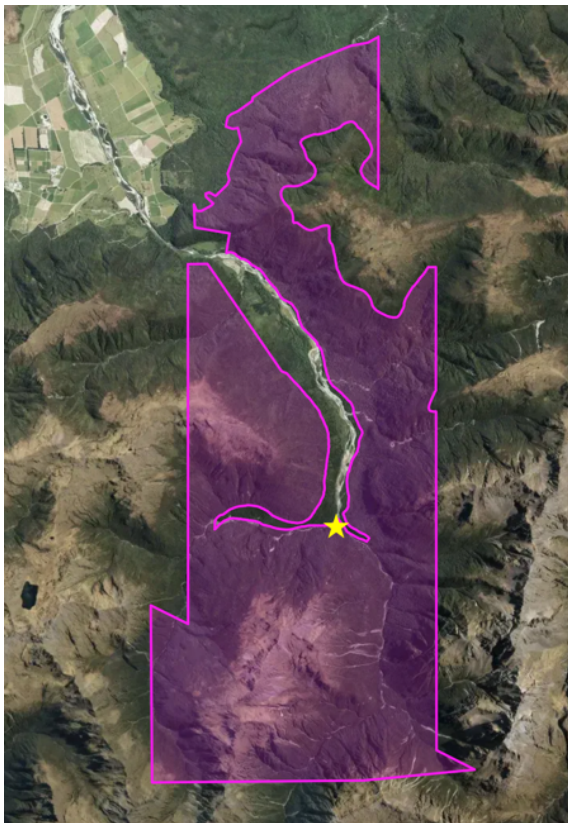
18 September 2023

AUTHOR

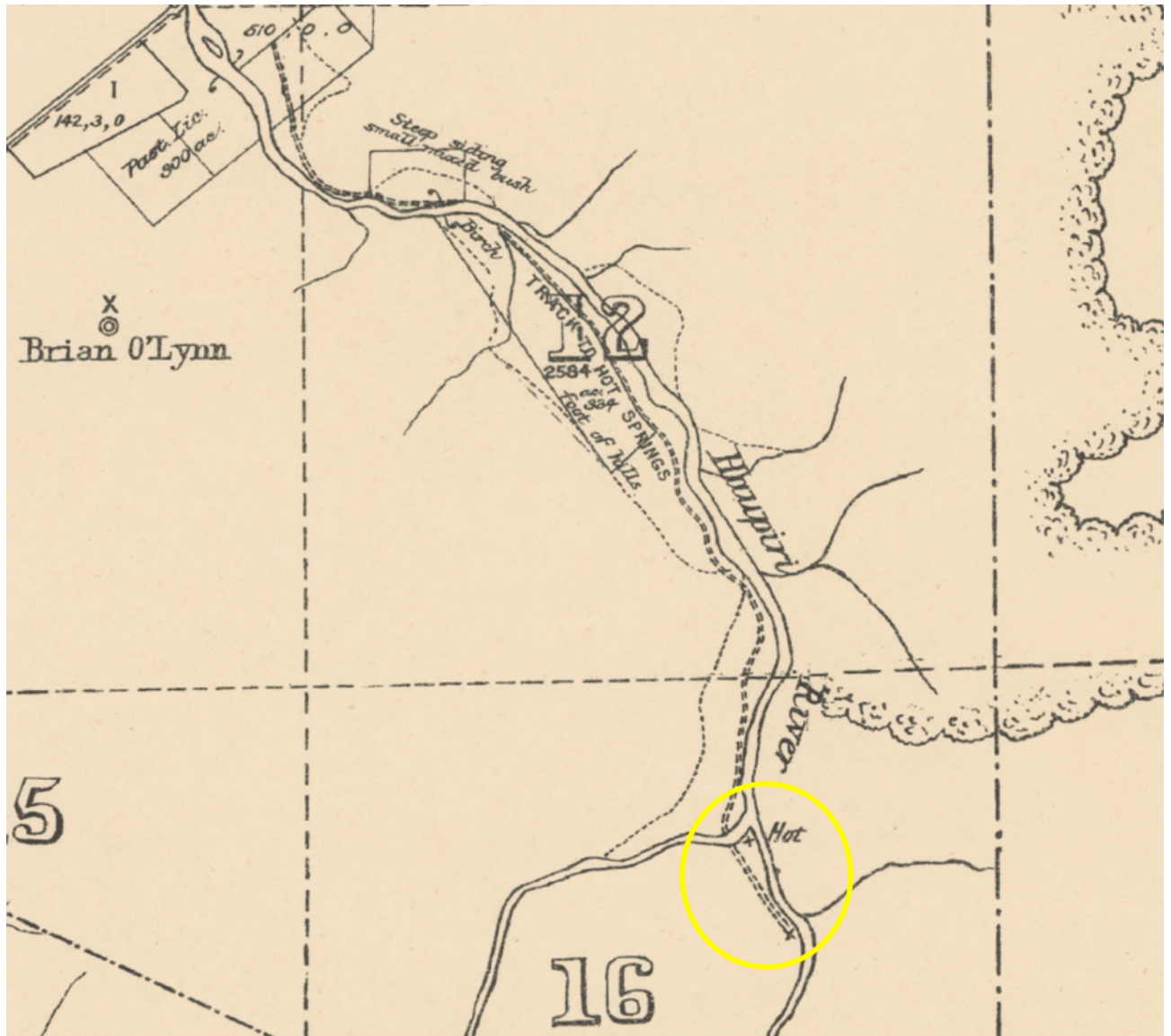
Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services



Extent of setting, limited to immediate surrounds.



Parcel as a whole with pool site marked by star.



1949 survey map showing site of hot springs and, presumably, the government hut to the south. Maps Past.