

# Te Tai Poutini Plan

## Heritage Schedule for Buller District

In respect to recommended deletions from Schedule 1A



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**HERITAGE  
CONSULTANCY  
SERVICES**

## Context

In 2024 Heritage Consultancy Services was engaged to prepare assessment reports for the heritage items and areas included in Schedule1A of the Te Tai Poutini Plan. In the course of that work the following items have been assessed but found not to meet the threshold for significant heritage value meriting protection under RMA s6f. Consequently no heritage assessments reports have been prepared for the following items and it is recommended that they be deleted from SCHED1A.

### HH10 – former University of Canterbury geological field station, 40 Queen Street, Westport



The early history of this house is unknown; it was possibly built in c.1900 for George and Martha Aitken. Modifications include fire escapes installed on the north and east walls and the east gable end being reclad with battened panels (pre-1989). The University of Canterbury's Department of Geology's field station opened in Westport in August 1965. The building had been acquired from the Buller Hospital Board and was intended to provide accommodation for 20 people as well as housing a workshop, laboratory and drafting office. The building entered private ownership in c.1992 and remains in residential use. It is listed by HNZPT as a category 2 historic place (list # 5024) but its heritage significance cannot be substantiated by available evidence.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A.

### HH14 – House, 32 Henley Street, Westport



The house may have been built in c.1890 for Dr Alfred Wright. In 1900 Wright defaulted on his mortgage, having been declared bankrupt in c.1894, and the property was transferred by mortgagor Richard Warne to Elizabeth Hughes. It is listed by HNZPT as a category 2 historic place (list # 5028) but is considerably modified on both road frontages and its heritage significance cannot be substantiated by the available evidence.

Recommendation: delete the building from SCHED1A.

### HH15 – House, 51 Queen Street, Westport



Title for this property was first issued to Alfred Pearson Rawson, a surveyor, in 1875. Rawson transferred the property to Mary Watts, the wife of ET Watts, a local hairdresser, in October 1902. Historic electoral rolls and street

directories point to the house being built by the Watts in c.1903. Ernest Watts died in 1909 and Mary subsequently relocated to Wellington; the house was transferred to James Hepburn, a builder, in 1912 and thence to Ernest Alfred Hagedorn, a cabinetmaker, in 1920. The house is listed by HNZPT as a category 2 historic place (list # 5026) but its heritage significance is not substantiated by the available evidence. The building has historic character rather than significant heritage value.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A.

#### HH16 – House, 55 Queen Street, Westport



This house may have been built in c.1890 for local draper Arthur Green. The house is listed by HNZPT as a category 2 historic place (list # 5025) but has been considerably modified, with new fenestration and large-scale extensions to the side and rear. The house's heritage significance is not substantiated by the available evidence.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A.

#### HH17 – Veranda, 168-172 Palmerston Street, Westport



The veranda is located in the road reserve but is attached to a privately held commercial building on Palmerston Street. Historically the building at this address seems to have been owned and occupied by William Scanlon, an ironmonger. In c.2009 the cast iron decorative frieze between the metal veranda posts was reduced to brackets framing the posts. It is not best practice to schedule just a part of a building and it appears that only the posts and remnant decorative frieze can be described as historic fabric. The veranda is not listed by HNZPT and its heritage significance is not substantiated by the available evidence.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A.

#### HH29 – Horse trough, 15 Shiel Street, Reefton



This is a relocated horse trough that is now a garden feature at the former Free/Lawry house in Reefton.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A and incorporate it into heritage item HH28 (former Free/Lawry house & municipal horse trough) as per assessment report.

### HH39 – Reefton Historic Area



The historic area identifies the location of a group of buildings and structures that are already scheduled for their individual heritage values. Listed by HNZPT (list #7050), the Reefton Historic Area arbitrarily connects multiple properties containing scheduled items and also encompasses the former site of the Catholic convent (now demolished). Beyond the heritage values of each individual heritage item, there is no evidence to substantiate a level of significance for the area per se.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A; consider development of a local design guide to promote sympathetic development in the context of the town's history and heritage.

### HH41 – former United Methodist Free Church / Blacks Point Museum, 28 Franklyn Street, Blacks Point



The former church was built in c.1876 and used as a schoolroom in its early years. Substantial changes and modifications have been made to the building over many years. Relocated on its site (1912). Reclad (1950s?). Enlarged (1976). Archives room added (2008); display building and lean-to erected (2009); reroofed (2013). The building is not listed by HNZPT and lacks sufficient authenticity and integrity to merit scheduling, notwithstanding its value to the community as a local history museum.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A.

### HH42 – former Hunt/Bell log cabin ruins, Maruia Springs



The ruins of a log cabin built for Joe and Madge Hunt in c.1930 stand to the east of the Maruia Springs Hotel. The remnant building features and materials are known as Miss Bell's log cabin, thanks to their association with Myrtle Bell, a Reefton nurse and school teacher (1895-1988). Miss Bell hosted various groups at the cabin, including school groups and Boy Scouts, and in 1969 was awarded the British Empire medal for services to the community. The building is now in ruins and has insufficient authenticity and integrity to merit scheduling. The building is listed by HNZPT as a category 2 historic place (list # 7135), located on a Scenic Reserve (NZ Gazette 1994, p. 63), and actively managed by the Department of Conservation. HNZPT recommended scheduling the ruins in the TTPP but the ruinous state of the former cottage begs the question as to what purpose might be served by scheduling this ruin.

Recommendation: Delete item from SCHED1A.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light green rectangular background. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read 'Ann McEwan'.

Dr Ann McEwan