

Old Anglican Vicarage to go

Sadly the former Anglican vicarage behind St Stephen's Church on Burnett Street has become a victim of the Canterbury earthquakes and is most likely up for demolition. As this home is listed on the Ashburton District Council Heritage Schedule, the property had to be advertised so submissions both against and for could be made.

After reading the information, including initial engineering reports, our group decided more evidence was needed and put in a submission asking for this.

Although not listed with Heritage New Zealand, we organised for them to visit last December. Unfortunately the news was not as good as hoped for and unless a buyer with plenty of money for strengthening etc should suddenly come forth the future of this building looks gloomy. Upon our request the owners have agreed to save any heritage features that can be reused elsewhere.



Did you see these?

Living Heritage

Articles in The Courier Newspaper Supplied by Historic Places Mid Canterbury



The Last Post – Old Methven Post Office. This article featured end of January, written by Marian Martin and is a very interesting and informative article.

Victorian Villa Peter Street, Ashburton

Featured end of February, written by Julie Luxton who fell in love with the home.



How do heritage listings work?

Historic Buildings and Sites, important to our past, may be listed with Heritage New Zealand and/or Ashburton District Council.

Heritage New Zealand (formerly Historic Places Trust New Zealand) is responsible for the **National Register** of our Heritage. There are two categories; Cat I is issued for buildings/sites of National significance. In Mid Canterbury we have four buildings in this category: Holy Name Catholic Church, The Pipe Shed, The Ashburton Glass Works and Longbeach (buildings both Cat I and Cat II.)

Cat II is for buildings of Regional/Local significance. We have a number of buildings in Mid Canterbury which come under this category.

Heritage New Zealand is notified by the Ashburton District Council if the owner of any of these buildings applies for consent to alter or demolish. All of these buildings/sites appear on the Ashburton District Council Schedule of Historic Heritage.

The Ashburton District Councils Schedule of Historic Heritage Values and Protected Trees, lists buildings and sites as either A (higher significance) and B (significance).

It is the **Ashburton District Council Schedule of Historic Heritage** that gives some protection to the listed buildings and sites. You can look up the council website to see the summary of activity permitted, restricted discretionary, discretionary or non-complying.

Buildings/sites listed on this schedule include many more than that on Heritage New Zealand's register.

To demolish or alter one of these buildings, resource consent is needed by the owner. The Ashburton District Council will advertise in the newspaper. The public can then make submissions, both for or against. Heritage NZ are only notified if it is on their list.

Therefore it is necessary to have a watch-dog type group to 'keep an eye' on our historic buildings. This role is very much a learning curve for our Society, but a very important one to make sure that as a high growth community we don't just 'roll-over' and let our heritage simply disappear!