

GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

HERITAGE ITEM NAME former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James

ADDRESS 6 Matheson Road, Waikaka

PHOTOGRAPH



(April 2022)

DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO. n/a **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** n/a
(at time of assessment)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Lot 3 DP 4103

GDC FILE NUMBER 3282060

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1914

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Charles Roberts, architect; Thomas Latham,
contractor

STYLE Gothic Revival

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Single-storey building with T-shaped footprint and gabled roof forms. Main ridge lies on north-west/south-east axis; nave is flanked by entrance porch and sanctuary, which have lower roofs. Gablet roof ventilators with finials, exposed rafters and open arcade spire at western end. Cross-gabled vestry wing on northern elevation has external chimney on east wall. Lancet arched and rectangular windows, some having X-pattern tracery.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Timber framing and weatherboard cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Conversion to residential use (post 2012).

SETTING

The former church stands on a large plot that is bounded to the west by Waikaka Road and to the east by Matheson Road; access to the property is via the latter. The building is situated to the south-east of the village centre and, closer by, the Waikaka War Memorial. A signboard bearing the name of the church is located to the north-west of the building. The scheduled setting is limited to the immediate surrounds of the former church, rather than the land parcel as a whole.

HISTORY

After several years of fundraising, an Anglican church at Waikaka was opened by the Bishop of Dunedin on 3 May 1914; previously occasional services had been held in the settlement by visiting clergy. The church's vestry, which was provided with a fireplace, was built to accommodate Sunday School classes and church meetings. In 1949 the church property, on which the local war memorial had been erected in c.1922, was subdivided to its current extent by the Dunedin Diocesan Trust Board. In 2012, the church having been closed, the stained-glass altar window was installed in the former Mandeville Anglican Church at the Hokonui Pioneer Village in Gore. The former church at Waikaka is now in private residential use.

HISTORIC AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has historic and social significance for its association with the local Anglican congregation and their efforts to build their own place of worship in the early 1910s.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has cultural significance as a former place of Christian worship and fellowship and as a place of community identity.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has architectural significance as a Gothic Revival style building designed by Invercargill architect Charles Roberts. Roberts (1869-1942) was born and educated in North Otago and initially trained as a builder. He served his articles with JA Burnside in Dunedin and then commenced practice on his own account in 1895. Roberts also designed the first stage of H & J Smith's department store in Gore (1912) and a number of churches around Otago.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has craftsmanship significance for the quality of its construction and detailing by Thomas Latham, a Gore contractor. Latham also worked with Charles Roberts in the erection of the H & J Smith department store in Gore.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has contextual significance as a local historic feature and as the backdrop to the neighbouring Waikaka War Memorial.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the building post-dates 1900, any potential archaeological value its site may have would likely relate to its earlier use and development. It appears that the site was undeveloped before the church was built.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has overall heritage significance to Waikaka and to the district of Gore as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the local Anglican congregation and cultural significance given its former ecclesiastical purpose. The Waikaka War Memorial has architectural significance as a Gothic Revival style building designed by Invercargill architect Charles Roberts and craftsmanship significance for the quality of its construction and detailing by Gore contractor Thomas Latham. The former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James has

contextual significance as a local historic feature and as the backdrop for the neighbouring war memorial; its site may have limited potential archaeological value.

REFERENCES

- *Mataura Ensign* 11 May 1911, p. 4; 15 July 1912, p. 5; 16 November 1912, p. 4; 3 May 1913, p. 4; 25 April 1914, p. 2; 4 May 1914, p. 5.
- *Southland Times* 7 February 1916, p. 2; 18 October 1927, p. 4.
- <http://www.hokonui pioneervillage.co.nz/Attractions/>

REPORT COMPLETED

19 May 2022

AUTHOR

Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services



Extent of scheduling, limited to the immediate surrounds of the building, former Anglican Church of St Philip & St James, 6 Matheson Road, Waikaka.