

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

2021 District Plan Item No. HH119
HERITAGE ITEM NAME former Reynox Private Hotel
ADDRESS 153 High Street, Oxford
PHOTOGRAPH



(Dr A McEwan, 10 July 2019)

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

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Lot 3 DP 13963

VALUATION NUMBER 2153259600

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c.1914?

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER** Unknown

STYLE Villa

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Two-storey building with rectangular footprint and half-hipped roof form. Return veranda and first floor balcony on north and east elevations; bracketed posts and straight balustrading. Veranda over former shop front extends over the footpath and is also balustraded between the posts. Double-hung sash windows. Two-light panelled doors and exposed rafters.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Timber framing and rusticated weatherboard cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Alterations to ground floor fenestration on north elevation (date unknown).

SETTING

The building stands on the west side of High Street, north of its intersection with Transport Lane. It is centred on the site and built to the road boundary; the wider setting is mixed-use in character. The extent of scheduling is limited to the immediate surrounds of the building, rather than the land parcel as a whole.

HISTORY

William and Rose Annie Reynolds acquired a parcel of land in Oxford East in January 1911. William was a Christchurch blacksmith at the time; the couple had married in 1888 and appear to have had no children. The property was transferred to Rose Reynolds (nee Browning, 1865-1937) alone in September 1913; by November of the following year she was advertising the Kia Ora Boarding House. This suggests that the building had been erected during the year. Known as the Reynox by 1919, Rose Reynolds' private hotel had its own shop and was advertised as being centrally located for hunters and fishers. It also provided a venue for wedding receptions and, for example, offered accommodation to a visiting party of Anglican Sunday School teachers in May 1937. The local branch of the Women's Division of the NZ Farmers' Union had first met at 'Reynox' in July 1933. Rose Reynolds sold the property to Margaret McCleary in 1926 but then repurchased it in 1931, having spent the intervening years running a tearooms at Ashley Gorge. After Reynolds' death the boarding house was sold to Florence Mitchell in 1937. Ten years later title was transferred to Lynn's Stores Ltd, having ceased to be run as a boarding house by Mrs Mitchell in October 1938. Lewis Maxwell Lynn appears to have operated a store in the former boarding house in to the early 1950s. The building is now in private residential use.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Reynox Private Hotel has historical and social significance for its original use as a private hotel, shop and function venue and for its association with the women who ran the business in the 1910s, '20s and '30s.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Reynox Private Hotel has cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its past proprietors and their patrons. It is esteemed by members of the local community as one of Oxford's historic feature.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The former Reynox Private Hotel has architectural significance as a purpose-built villa style hospitality building that retains a high level of external authenticity. The designer of the building is currently unknown.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The former Reynox Private Hotel has technological and craftsmanship value for its early 20th century timber construction and detailing. The builder is currently unknown.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The former Reynox Private Hotel has contextual significance as a local landmark on one of Oxford's two main thoroughfares and for the evidence it provides of the early 20th century development of Oxford East.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the building post-dates 1900 its site may have limited potential archaeological value.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The former Reynox Private Hotel has overall heritage significance to Oxford and Waimakariri district as a whole. The building has historical and social significance for its association with the provision of hospitality in Oxford East in the early decades of the 20th century and cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of its former proprietors and their patrons. The former Reynox Private Hotel has architectural significance for the authenticity of its villa

styling and technological and craftsmanship value for its early 20th century timber construction and detailing. The former Reynox Private Hotel has contextual significance for the contribution it makes to the historic character of Oxford's High Street; its site may have limited potential archaeological values given the age of the building.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

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REFERENCES

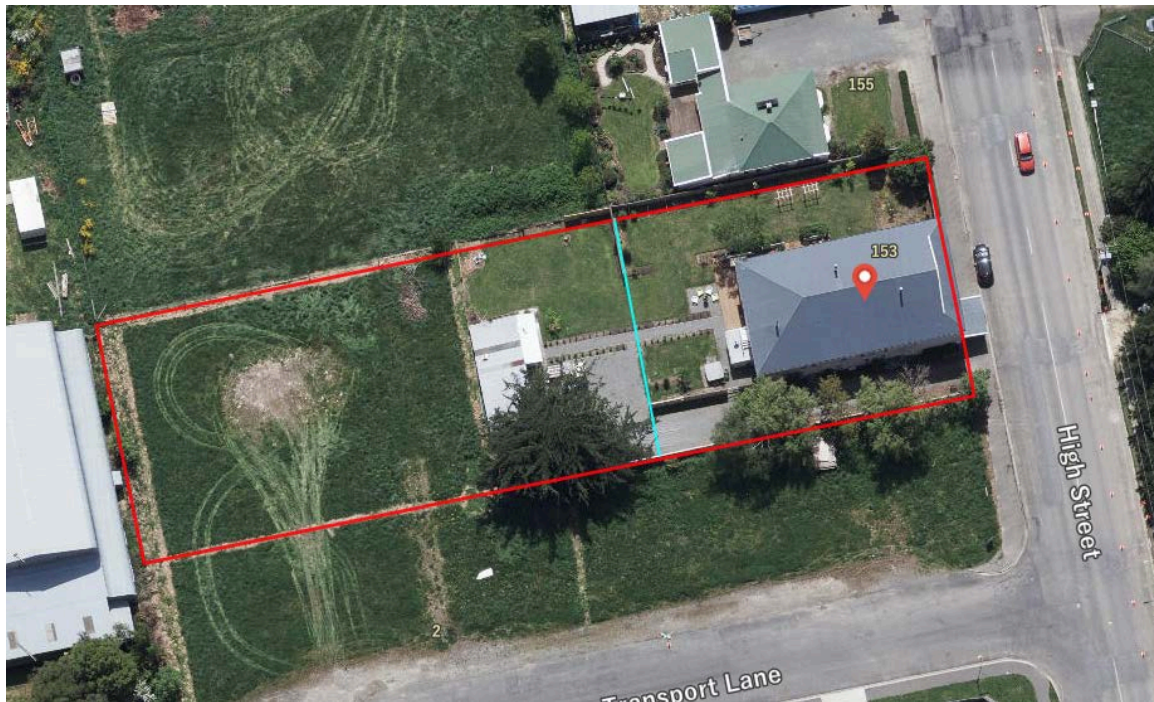
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- Macdonald Dictionary of Biography, Canterbury Museum (available online).
- *Cyclopedia of New Zealand - Canterbury Provincial District* Christchurch, 1903; available online.

REPORT COMPLETED

14 August 2019

AUTHOR


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Extent of setting, limited to immediate surrounds, 153 High Street, Oxford.



Undated photograph of the 'Reynox'.



THE "REYNOX"
A SUPERIOR PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE,
on Main Road to Ashley Gorge, OXFORD EAST.

First-class accommodation for Visitors and Travellers.
Shop attached. Fresh fruit daily. Confectionery and
Summer Drinks. Catering for Picnics, Parties, Ban-
quets, Dinners, etc., a speciality.

Mrs. R. A. REYNOLDS, Proprietress

Press 14 March 1924, p. 17. PapersPast.