

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM

2021 District Plan Item No.

HH094

HERITAGE ITEM NAME

Sefton Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial

ADDRESS

Sefton Domain, 2 Vaughan Street, Sefton

PHOTOGRAPH



(www)

DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.
(at time of assessment)

n / a

HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY

n / a

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Res 4049

VALUATION NUMBER

2144025300

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION

1920

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER**

Unknown

STYLE

Column type monument

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Classical column with square cross-section and pedimented copings; mounted on a stepped base and surmounted by a cross. Memorial inscriptions on south face. Concrete surround and pipe rail fencing with entrance gate on south boundary.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Scotch granite, concrete, & pipe railing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Addition of further names commemorating service in World War II (date unknown).

SETTING

The war memorial is located on the Sefton Domain near the northern boundary of the land parcel. The domain is bounded by Vaughan Street in the west and Cross Street in the south; access to the memorial is via the former. A 1919 peace oak is planted to one side of the memorial, which is fenced off from the rest of the domain. The extent of setting is limited to the immediate environs of the memorial and includes the 1919 peace tree.

HISTORY

At a public meeting in March 1920 it was decided that the residents of Sefton and Mount Grey Downs would erect a fallen soldiers' memorial. A committee of returned soldiers was formed to raise funds for the monument, which was duly unveiled in the Sefton Domain on 16 January 1920 by the Hon GW Forbes, MP. The memorial remains the focus for local ANZAC Day commemorations.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Sefton War Memorial has historic and social significance for its association with the local commemoration of World War I and II and, more generally, the proliferation of ornamental war memorials that were erected throughout New Zealand in the 1920s. It is directly connected to the people, and their families, whose names are inscribed upon the monument. Contrary to national war graves policy the ranks of the soldiers named on the monument are supplied.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Sefton War Memorial has cultural significance as a place of community identity and historic continuity. The memorial has commemorative significance and remains the focus for local ANZAC Day commemorations.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Sefton War Memorial has aesthetic value as a conventional column type monument which combines classical and Christian motifs.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

The Sefton War Memorial has craftsmanship value for the quality of its stone construction and detailing. The maker of the monument is currently unknown.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Sefton War Memorial has contextual significance as a historic feature within Sefton Domain and for its relationship with the adjacent peace oak, which was planted on 19 July 1919.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the memorial post-dates 1900, any potential archaeological significance of the site would likely relate to its earlier use and development. The domain was extant by the late 1880s.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Sefton Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial has overall heritage significance to Sefton and the district of Waimakariri. The memorial has historical and social significance for its association with the local men who died serving in World War I and II and cultural significance given its commemorative purpose. The Sefton War Memorial has aesthetic value as a conventional column type monument and craftsmanship value for the quality of its stone construction and detailing. The Sefton War Memorial has contextual significance as a historic feature within the Sefton Domain and for its relationship with the 1919 peace oak. Any potential archaeological values of the site would likely relate to the colonial use and development of the domain.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

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REFERENCES

- *Press* 17 January 1921, p. 2; 24 April 1923, p. 3.
- *Sun* 23 March 1920, p. 4.
- *Lyttelton Times* 19 June 1920, p. 11.
- *Star* 3 September 1889, p. 3; 25 July 1919, p. 6.
- J Phillips & C Maclean *The Sorrow and the Pride – New Zealand War Memorials* Wellington, 1990.
- <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/sefton-memorial>

REPORT COMPLETED

12 June 2019

AUTHOR

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Extent of setting, limited to immediate environs and including the 1919 peace tree, Sefton Domain, 2 Vaughan Street, Sefton.