

**WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

2021 District Plan Item No.

HH087

HERITAGE ITEM NAME

St Alban's Anglican Church

ADDRESS

528 Mill Road, Ohoka

PHOTOGRAPH



(www)

DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.
(at time of assessment)

H123

HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY

n / a

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Lot 2 DP 10011

VALUATION NUMBER

2174004300

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION

1882

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/
BUILDER**

James Barker, designer; Robert Miller, builder

STYLE

Colonial Gothic Revival

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Single-storey church with rectangular footprint and gabled roof. Apical end (east elevation) and combined entrance/belltower (south-west corner). Vestry on north side. Lancet arched windows set with diamond pattern leadlights. Tripartite window in apse, hood moulds over windows, lancet arched louvred vents in belltower.

MATERIALS/STRUCTURE

Concrete foundations, timber frame and stucco cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

Stucco cladding over original board and batten (date unknown). Church hall erected on the site (1950s).

SETTING

The church is located on the north side of Mill Road, roughly midway between Bradleys Road in the west and Whites Road in the east. The former vicarage (H041) is to the west of the church. A mid-century auxiliary building is located beside the church to the west. The extent of setting is the land parcel on which the church and belltower are located.

HISTORY

St Alban's Anglican Church at Ohoka was consecrated on 31 May 1882 by Bishop Harper of Christchurch. The Rev FR Inwood was then the curate of the parish and on the same day a part of the public cemetery between Ohoka and Mandeville was consecrated for Anglican burials. In 1909 Te Wai Pounamu, a Maori girls' college, was established in the church vicarage (1879) next door, which had become vacant with the merger of the St Stephen's Tuahiwi and St Alban's parishes. Today St Alban's is part of the Kaiapoi parish and services are held on the second Sunday of each month.

HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

St Alban's Anglican Church has historical and social significance for its association with the Anglican congregation of Ohoka and, in the early 20th century, the establishment of Te Wai Pounamu Maori Girls' College.

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

St Alban's Anglican Church has cultural and spiritual significance as a place of Anglican worship and fellowship.

ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

St Alban's Anglican Church has architectural significance as a colonial Gothic Revival style church built to the design of local builder-farmer James Barker. Barker (1828-1906), a carpenter from Cambridge, emigrated from England with his wife Mary and their three children in 1858 and settled in North Canterbury in the following year. Barker built Rangiora's first Anglican church in 1860 and also farmed at Ohoka. It was reported that he gave the design for the church free of charge.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE

St Alban's Anglican Church has technological and craftsmanship value for its construction and detailing by Eyreton contractor Robert Miller.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

St Alban's Anglican Church has contextual significance as a historic feature in Ohoka and for its relationship with the former church vicarage (H041) which is located nearby.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

As the church pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological value relating to the structure's construction and early use.

SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

St Alban's Anglican Church has overall heritage significance to Ohoka and Waimakariri district as a whole. The church has historic and social significance for its association with the Anglican congregation of Ohoka and cultural and spiritual significance for its religious use and purpose. St Alban's Anglican Church has architectural significance as a colonial Gothic Revival style church designed by local builder/farmer James Barker and technological and craftsmanship value for its construction and detailing. St Alban's Anglican Church has contextual significance as a historic feature at Ohoka and for its relationship to the former vicarage, which is also a scheduled heritage site. The church property has potential archaeological value in view of the structure's pre-1900 construction.

HERITAGE CATEGORY

B

REFERENCES

- *Press* 12 August 1872, p. 3; 3 December 1881, p. 4; 15 May 1882, p. 1; 1 June 1882, p. 2; 26 September 1883, p. 3; 2 June 1906, p. 10; 7 June 1906, p. 1; 24 May 1930, p. 4; 7 May 1932, p. 4.
- *Star* 22 May 1882, p. 2; 5 March 1909, p. 1.
- *Globe* 5 June 1882, p. 2.
- *Lyttelton Times* 7 March 1882, p. 4; 31 May 1906, p. 1; 1 June 1906, p. 6; 3 May 1907, p. 2.
- *North Canterbury Gazette* 4 May 1934, p. 3.
- <https://libraries.waimakariri.govt.nz/heritage/local-history/places-of-the-waimakariri/surrounding-areas/history-of-the-churches-of-clarkville,-eyreton,-flaxton,-ohoka-and-swannanoa>
- <http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/3738>
- <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-Cyc03Cycl-t1-body1-d4-d22.html>
- <http://thecommunityarchive.org.nz/node/67072/description>
- DN Hawkins *Rangiora: the passing years and people in a Canterbury country town* Rangiora, 1993.

REPORT COMPLETED

10 February 2019

AUTHOR

Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services



Extent of setting, St Alban's Anglican Church, 528 Mill Road, Ohoka.