

Aims of the Queenstown & District Historical Society

1. That we use our power to advise, concerning the saving of historical aspects of the district.
2. Preservation of and education in all aspects of historical research and interest.

Officers of the Society:

President: Brian Bayley

Past President: Malcolm Boote

Secretary: Karen Boulay - 442 8564

Treasurer: Robert Blair

Other committee members:

Mike Lynch and Karen Boulay (*Courier*)

John Heenan (*trips*)

Ray Clarkson (*submissions*)

Elizabeth Macdonald (*submissions*)

Barbara Hamilton

Colin Cassels

Verona Cournane

Jocelyn Robertson

Danny Knudson

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Corporate membership: \$ 50 per annum

Life membership: \$100 per person

The *Courier* is included in the subscription.

**All correspondence and accounts should be addressed to
P.O Box 132, Queenstown**

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The Queenstown Courier

Summer 2006

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The historic Kawarau Falls flourmill, long since shifted, and much modified, hangs in the balance.

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One of the first professional instructors at Coronet, Otto Von Allmen, in the 1950s.

The Swiss were here early in the piece. Two early instructors, Bernie Graf and Rolf Liechti, married local girls.

The families remain in the district.

The era revisited, page 9.

Queenstown and District Historical Society

President's Report 2005

Another busy year, with its many highs and lows, overshadowed by the Environment Court proceedings and its crippling financial effect. However the year of 2005 has seen a remarkable recovery from those devastating times, but for a considerable period I did believe that records would show that my period of office had seen the demise of the Society in the present format. Results proved that although on its knees, the membership could be relied upon; the appeal for funds was so successful that towards the end of the year it has been very much business as usual. I express the thanks of the committee and the whole Society to those who made a contribution. It has been greatly appreciated.

In spite of our vigorous challenge, it was a disappointment that the Judge saw grounds to award costs of \$5000 against the Society. This sum was duly paid to Ngai Tahu in full settlement of their claim. Although not successful with proceedings at the Court there have been benefits resulting; our case had a good foundation, with only minor comments of deviation from the Judge. A degree of respect for the standing of the Society has resulted and many of the architects, planners and developers now take time to meet and discuss their plans, usually at the very early stages of development. Your committee has made a priority of turning its attention to areas where the Society can be most effective, confirming the intention to submit only on planning matters that are heritage-related within the District.

Heritage concerns -2005

Redevelopment of heritage sites in Queenstown and Arrowtown continues to be of concern. Major proposals are in the pipeline in Queenstown: the new Court building on the Ngai Tahu site means that the old Courthouse will be destined for alternative use. The Mountaineer site between Beach and Shotover Streets is subject to redevelopment plans. Marine Parade has changes, the roof area of the Masonic Lodge is due for restoration and a new development has been approved for the adjacent site.

In Arrowtown, new plans have been submitted, all within the Central Heritage Area. The villa from Laurel Bank will go to Caernarvon Street. There are changes planned for the Stables, the Emporium, the rear of the

Postmaster's House and at the medical centre corner, plus completion of the controversial Royal Oak – most fronting on to Buckingham Street through to Arrow Lane. All these, together with changes at the Museum and pressure for redevelopment at the Coachman's Hall and the rear of the miners cottages in Buckingham Street, call for special care. This volume has meant a huge workload for our planning sub-group: Ray Clarkson, Elizabeth Macdonald and Karen Boulay. They have continued with their onerous task and there will be a huge workload continuing into the future. The Society continues to participate in the regular heritage meetings held jointly with QLDC and Historic Places Trust.

Preservation of heritage trees in the whole of the QLDC area is another matter of concern. The Society, through stalwarts like John Newman and Bruce Hamilton, was responsible for the original listings of protected trees in the District Plan. The Society has also planted many specimen trees in the area. The protection, replacement and policy on heritage trees is currently under review by QLDC and the Society continues its involvement with consultations with the QLDC Parks Manager and Director.

The Trustees of the One Mile Powerhouse Restoration Trust were delighted to celebrate the completion of the restoration work and held a very successful opening day on the 25th February, 2005. The building restoration, static display of power generating equipment and display panels were well received, and the site was set off by the QLDC contribution to the superb landscaping and improvements to the creek, access and parking. This project saw an important addition to the heritage assets of the district. It was a great honour to be singled out in April 2005 for the Historic Places Trust Certificate of Merit for four years work on the powerhouse project.

The Society's publication "Historic Sites of Queenstown: a walking guide," continues to be well received by visitors to the area. The Society commenced the task of placing high-quality plaques on all the sites and buildings included in the guide, cross-referencing numbers to the guide. The first are now in place; all will have the owners' permission.

The Rees Prize, for the best historical essay from pupils of participating secondary schools continues to be promoted; submissions for consideration for the current year are not due until late November.

The normal high-quality effort went into producing two editions of the Courier. Thanks to Karen Boulay and Mike Lynch on an outstanding job. Karen has taken on more of the publishing responsibility so more of the work remains in-house. Members please continue to contribute articles of historic interest for future issues.

The organisers of the trips were very disappointed to have to cancel two trips due to lack of support from members. There was a splendid Christmas lunch at Thurlby Domain and a very well-supported visit to Arcadia and Paradise in February, followed in March when a huge gathering listened to Lloyd Veint and Tom Bryant telling tales of their early days at the head of the lake. Lloyd brought along his oil paintings of that area, an unbelievable talent by a self-taught artist. Thanks are due to John Heenan for a great effort and we look forward to better support for another exciting programme planned for the months to come. I remind you of the vast amount of work that goes into planning and organising each trip.

The Society continued its participation on the Museum board. Thanks are due to our representatives Jocelyn Robertson and Barbara Hamilton. We look forward to the extension of the archives room due to start soon. This will allow an expansion to the already over-crowded facility, providing a much improved area for heritage research.

I would like thank treasurer Peter Mills for the splendid job done in another testing year. Peter has indicated a desire to hand over the reins. Please come forward that accounting newcomer. Thanks also to secretary Jocelyn Robertson and of course to the whole Committee for their dedicated support. I make a special mention of one member who is not seeking re-election. It is a sad loss that Rupert Iles is standing down after 12 years as committee member, vice-president, president and past-president. He will be missed. Thank you and good luck for the future.

It is sad to record the death of Margaret Templeton, one of our greatest stalwarts. Her shining example will be sorely missed.

I remind you that every social event and field trip organised for and enjoyed by members is self-funding. This policy has allowed us to maintain subscriptions at the very reasonable level for very many years. We do welcome your donations as we pride ourselves in feeding back to our community all our surplus funds. This has resulted in tens of thousands of dollars of support for heritage projects in the district. This year we have invested in the heritage plaques and support for museum equipment.

This meeting ends my fourth term of office and will be the last. It has been a very arduous term but I have enjoyed the pressure that the years as president and the previous three as vice-president brought with it. The moment has come to move on and I hope that the new regime enjoys more peaceful and rewarding times.

As I have said, I do hope that the direction the Society has taken on heritage matters will be continued, as we are established as a respected voice within the community. I really believe that serious consultation can achieve better results than venturing to the Environment Court with the ridiculous costs involved.

Thank you to all members and committee colleagues who have supported me, and particularly to my wife Trish who has given total support through some troubled times.

Malcolm Boote 9th November, 2005

Hot off the press is news that society members, especially past-president Malcolm Boote, have garnered another award for the restoration of the One Mile Powerhouse.

The Powerhouse has won the Historic Places Trust David Cox Memorial Award 2005 for restoration projects. It pipped the Wanakarua Bridge, Oamaru Police Station and Lower Shotover Bridge restoration.

The award ceremony will be held in Queenstown, perhaps in April, and perhaps involving the Prime Minister.

The Tipperary mine - A De La Mare

The Gallant Tipperary

Alan De La Mare

The *Gallant Tipperary* was a quartz mine on the north bank of the Upper Shotover River about two miles beyond Skippers. It operated for almost 40 years with varying results. It was known by other names at different times including the *Nugget*, the *Cornish* and the *Shotover Quartz Mining Company*.

The mine was first opened up about 1867, and probably owed its origin to the reef being able to be traced in places on the surface. The power for the battery and the associated plant was generated by a pelton wheel driven by water from the Ballarat Creek on the opposite side of the river into a race and carried over the river by suspended pipes.

Initially the operation did not have much success, but by 1877 the main adit tunnel had been advanced several hundred feet and a hopper built capable of holding 200 tons of quartz plus a tramway between the adit and the battery which had also been upgraded.

In the mid 1880s, when under the name of the Gallant Tipperary, good stone was struck and returns were profitable, some 10 men being employed. In the latter years of the 1880s and the 1890s returns were profitable and the number of men employed at times reached 18. In 1893, 363oz of gold was recovered from 1170 tons of quartz, in 1894, 377oz from 781 tons, and in 1895, 203oz from 855 tons.

After 1895, because of poor returns, the mine was for sale and it was reported 11,490 tons of quartz had produced 4390oz of gold since 1885.

In 1898 the Gallant Tipperary went into liquidation and was purchased by a new company called the *Shotover Quartz Mining Company No Liability*. The new company commenced a new tunnel about 50 feet above the river with view to striking payable stone. This work continued through 1889, and good stone was struck in 1901 when the drive had been driven 1300 feet.

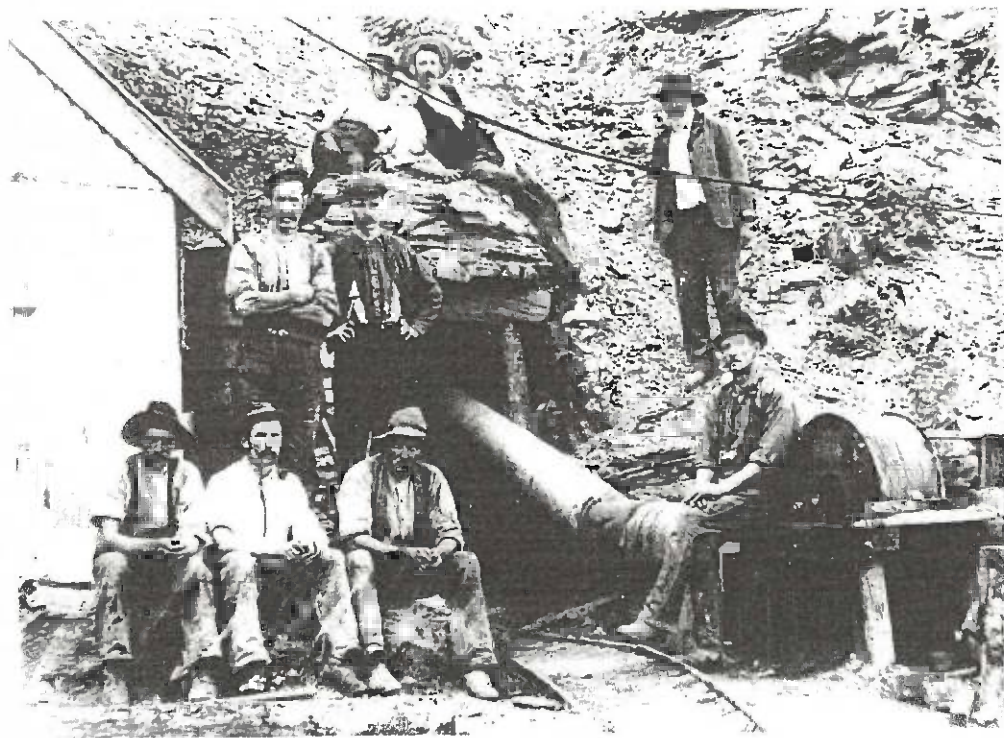
In 1903 a new 10-head battery was installed, together with a cyanide plant, and 15 men were employed. The mine continued to be worked with varying success until 1909, when results were poor and the mine closed.

Quartz mining on the Shotover was like all quartz mining, with good returns when good stone was found, but often the lode disappeared and so did the profits. Finding the lode or a new one was a gamble, and often it was lost. The method of mining was labour and capital intensive, involving underground tunnelling

and expensive plant in the form of batteries, tramways and ventilation gear. Alluvial mining was by comparison a breeze.

Those employed at the Gallant Tipperary mostly lived in houses or huts above the mine but some chose to live at Skippers. It was a very isolated place and the only access was a narrow track from Skippers or by a cage over the Shotover. A few years ago some work was done on the track by DOC and it is probably possible to still use it and inspect the battery which remains.

A book worth reading is "*I DUNCAN, FROM SKIPPERS*" which is an informal account of his childhood in the area about the turn of the last century by Duncan Macnicol.



The Nugget mine about 1903.

Top row: Eddie Sainsbury-Moyles. Standing: Colin Macnicol, Mr Bishop (Manager), Charles Wood Senior.
Seated: Charlie Wood Jnr, Jack Tripp, A. Jacobsen, Charlie Lewis.

Queenstown in the 1950's - Judith Venning Queenstown Revisited

Judith Venning (Simpson)

I first hit Queenstown in June 1954, at the tender age of 20. My big OE and escape from parental care started on July 4, 1953 when I sailed from Liverpool on the *Tamaroa*. I had heard so much about New Zealand from my father who had come here in about 1926 to escape the Depression in England. He set up a photographic business in Invercargill, sent for my mother from England, and they were married here. My brother, sister and I were born in Invercargill, then went back to England in 1937, straight into pre-war London, and so we experienced the unpleasant years of WW2, bombing, evacuation and rationing. So New Zealand was a very tempting thought and a very exciting prospect.

My sister and I had worked in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch as waitresses, then hitch-hiked down to Queenstown hoping to get similar work in one of the hotels and explore the world of SKIING.

We managed to get a lift from Cromwell to Queenstown in a Mount Cook bus. The trainee driver and the trainer were the only people on board so it was highly illegal to pick us up. So we were dropped off before the Arrowtown turn-off with a promise of being picked up again if no one had offered us a lift. We hadn't been walking far before our next lift came along - a grader. We found the trip very slow, but quite hilarious, as the old grader driver was a real character. When we reached the next Arrowtown turn-off there was the bus waiting for us. The driver offered us a bed for the night - his wife "wouldn't mind a bit", he assured us. John and Margaret Mills were so kind, helped us find jobs and were so hospitable.

My job at Eichardt's Hotel was a real eye-opener. In those days the staff lived in a cottage behind the hotel, now (sadly) demolished. Across the road was a huge barn - the laundry - and that is where I worked, washing all the sheets, pillow cases, towels, tablecloths and serviettes for the hotel. To say it was primitive would be an understatement. In one corner was a copper, which I had to light each morning to heat the water. I dipped it out into two ancient Beatty washing machines which took turns to die and visit Dunedin for major surgery. This of course took ages so I ran one machine for much of the time. The washing was rinsed in cold (as in freezing) water. To empty the machines I would just open the drain taps and let the water run out over the floor. There were huge holes where the walls met the floor, so it disappeared satisfactorily. It also kept the floor clean. If I had two days off, I came back to a mountain of washing as no one did it if I was off. As I threw the washing over the lines it would freeze in mid-air, so I had to pull them apart along the lines. This was before the sun rose above Queenstown Hill.

The coal for the copper was brought over from the hotel on a trolley by the night porter each morning. The clean sheets etc would go back on the same trolley. I went from a skinny muscle-free kid from London to having muscles for the first time in my life.

The kitchen in the hotel was very old and dilapidated. The floor was full of holes, and if we visited the hotel in the evening when the kitchen was in darkness, the floor would move in a hurry when we put the lights on - all the rats scuttled home down the holes. One day one of the waitresses was in the pantry filling jam dishes for the tables from a large square tin of jam. As she put the spoon in, a huge rat shot out. She had disturbed his breakfast.

The cottage was pretty rickety too. My sister and I had the lounge as our room. It was a super room with an open fire and wood panelling. When other staff members left, we would raid their rooms for all the best bits of furniture, armchairs etc, so our room became the meeting place for all the staff and we had some great times there. It was extremely cold, of course. One morning we opened our door, which opened into the kitchen, and were greeted by a wall of ice, and the floor was an ice rink. The water tank in the roof had leaked all night and run down the walls and frozen.

One evening we were sitting by the fire when two new staff members were brought in and introduced to us all. They had just arrived by plane and were dressed up like models. One I remember had a grey suit, high-heeled shoes and a little "pill box" hat. When the general standard of dress was baggy corduroys and thick sweater, they stood out like sore toes.

They soon melted into the picture and we didn't see the suits again. The one in the grey suit was Jess - we celebrated our 70th birthdays together last year: one of my dearest friends.

All these memories were "dug up and stirred" during a recent visit to Queenstown when we stayed with family friends Alan and Una De La Mere, and Alan asked me to put it in writing. What a different place Queenstown is now. No old Mount Cook shed on the front where we hired our great long skis and wet leather boots; no old bus to chug up to Coronet Peak, driven by "Snow" Hansen, with his big old sheepdog, who woke up and walked to the front of the bus when we reached the corner where he was let out to run the rest of the way. We always wondered how he knew when to move. We often had to get out and walk part of the way too.

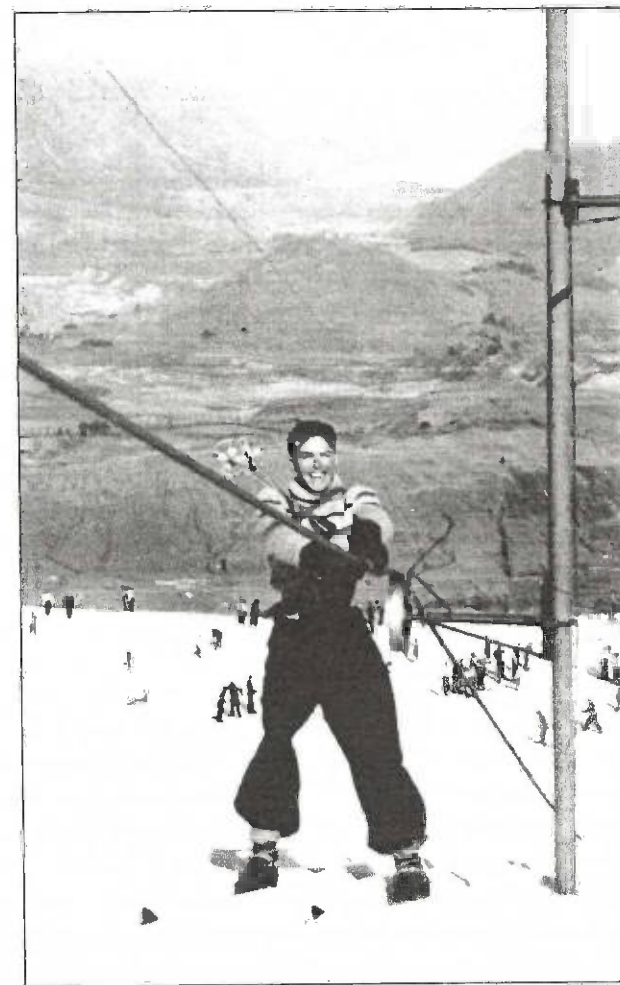
So many high-rise buildings, thousands of tourists. Not the same old Queenstown, but still the glorious views. Who else remembers me and my sister Madelaine, Jess and lots of others? Peter Bush, who spotted a "chick" with a blonde ponytail and red corduroys. He tracked me down to Eichardt's laundry and started his "laundry shift" after he had finished his night porter shift at the White Star. He introduced me to tramping in the back country, up the moonlight Valley and Moke Lake.

What an experience. Great memories. I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

The Coronet rope tow in the 1950s. The competent looking skier is a long-time society member. He has chosen to remain anonymous, but his impish smile remains.

The tow was something of an art form. At times the rope took the skier a metre or two off the ground. Accidents did happen, especially with teenagers who tried to get away without hiring a towbelt, and jump their hands over the pulleys. It was a pretty scary undertaking.

When there was a double pulley, it was a real leap of faith.



Concrete Remnant of Different Days



Just 200 metres down the Glenorchy Road from the One Mile roundabout is a rare and virtually forgotten remnant of Queenstown's past. It is now almost gone – a victim to wind and waves – but at the turn of the last century played an important part in the community, our role in Empire, and part of a national mobilisation to stave off what was (erroneously) seen as an invasion threat from the pesky Russians.

It is the last remnant of a series of rifle butts, where local volunteers drilled and shot against a series of targets along the beach. It was in use until at least the 1920s.

As part of the recent Queenstown Lakes District Council Heritage Variations to the District Plan the history of the butts was researched by local historian Becky Reid. As a result, God and the elements willing, the remains will now have a degree of protection. Part of her gleanings follows.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The remains of the rifle butt structure are an important tangible reminder of the existence of local militia in the Wakatipu district at the turn of the century (1900). It is the only subtle clue known in the district that links to an era where local measures were taken to ensure there was a ready armed defence force to ward off “would be” intruders.

Rifle Butts and Range - Queenstown

It reflects a time when keen local men volunteered to join the rifle corps and undertake training, organise local gatherings, and practice target shooting during an atmosphere of possible invasion from the Russians. The remains have a strong association with the protection of the Queenstown area and its residents and reflect a degree of patriotism and a will of individuals to serve for their district at home in the early 1900s.

DESCRIPTION

The remains of the rifle butt structure are located on the Lake Wakatipu foreshore just below the Queenstown - Glenorchy road along the first straight between the One Mile and start of the Sunshine Bay walking track. It was constructed of stacked stone and covered with coarse concrete on the southern (firing) side and shows evidence of having been reinforced with iron. There is evidence of the use of old iron bed heads and lengths of steel for reinforcement and these are being exposed as the structure erodes.

HISTORY

This structure is an important tangible reminder of the existence of local militia in the Wakatipu district. It is the only subtle clue known in the district that links to an era where local measures were taken to ensure there was a ready armed defence force to ward off “would be” intruders.

This fear became particularly real world wide in 1885 with the Russian Invasion of Afghanistan placing the security of India in jeopardy. Fear of the Russian domination of the world became a very real threat and this was mirrored in New Zealand. The Government set about quickly gathering additional troops and protecting major ports with batteries, mines and torpedoes. Within a very short time massive guns and emplacements were in position to repel any Russian invasion. The role of the local militia assumed greater importance and rifle corps, artillery batteries and hussars were given a new lease of life.¹

Around the country thousands of rifle volunteers joined the local militia and Queenstown and Arrowtown were no exception. This was witnessed by the Easter Parade held in Queenstown in 1885. A training weekend and general get-together was organised and volunteers came from Bluff, Riverton, Cromwell, Arrowtown, and Invercargill to join in the action. Many camped on the Peninsula [now Kelvin Heights] and various bands provided evening music. During the day sports meetings were held including rifle shooting contests and a sham fight. In all there were 305 taking part in the events.²

On 3rd May 1900 a letter was sent to Lieutenant Colonel Webb, Commanding Officer of the Otago and Southland District from the Acting Captain E. W. Steele stating:

"I attended an influential meeting held here in the Garrison Hall. It was decided to form a Rifle Volunteer Corps in Queenstown...64 men have been enrolled... I would point out that so far as I know there is no volunteer corps on the Goldfields, the nearest corps being at Gore fully 100 miles away. Queenstown would be the headquarters. There is a good rifle range up to 600 yards with butts, targets etc on the shore of Lake Wakatipu in a safe situation. There is also a large store drill shed (the Garrison Hall) in the town.. also a magazine in a safe position for ammunition storage." ³



Volunteers shooting on the butts, early 20th Century

Another letter dated 30 October 1900 again to Colonel Webb states;

"There is a fair rifle range on the shore of Lake Wakatipu with a range up to 600 yards. At the present time the range is quite safe and the firing will not inconvenience the public but a new road will shortly be made in the vicinity which will necessitate fresh arrangements being made or perhaps a new range being sought." ⁴

It is most likely that the remaining rifle butt dates at least to this time and it seems possible that the existing location matches the above description. However on 30 November 1901 a letter was written to Lieutenant Colonel Robin C.B., commanding Otago District Dunedin by Captain Steele, Captain Commander in reference to the rifle range;

"We have just completed new butts at a cost of about 18 pounds and we have now an effective range of up to 900 yards. The butts have been well and substantially built, but new expenditure for a new company is heavy. Do you consider we have any chance of getting assistance from the government in the matter by way of a grant for a portion of the whole of the expenditure." ⁵

Finally on 4th April 1902 the Minister of Defence granted 9 pounds (being half the cost) for the Queenstown rifle range.⁶



1903 Beach Bay [Walter Peak] Rifle Team

Back row from left: A J Wither, J A Wither, Co Sgt G Reid -- Drill Instructor, A H McLean, Alexander Mackenzie

Centre: Peter Mackenzie, Hugh Mackenzie Jnr, A McLean, John Mackenzie

Front: Herbert Von Tunzelman, William Mackenzie, H Griffiths

It perhaps goes without saying that the Mackenzies of Walter Peak, especially Hugh, were the mainstay of the Wakatipu Volunteers.

It is unclear at which location the new butts were constructed in 1901, but the evidence above makes it clear that rifle butts were at least in use in the Wakatipu District by 1900 and probably before. The association of the rifle butts to early defence measures in the Wakatipu district makes this rifle butt relic an interesting and significant one helping to provide some insight into the activities and importance of the rifle volunteer corps of the time.



Wakatipu volunteers and supporters, Walter Peak 1920s

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

The remaining part of the rifle butt structure reveals construction of stacked schist rock on the northern side and a layer of coarse concrete on the south side. On close inspection at the point where the wall anchors into the bank, there is evidence of a horse hair type cloth wrapped around the concrete face with a number of holes in it. This may have been to deaden the sound of the projectiles hitting the wall. The structure is eroding due to its location on the lakeshore and a number of rusting old iron bed heads are protruding from the north side of the wall along with a larger steel beam. These appear to have been used as reinforcement material. The structure is in relatively poor condition being constantly eroded by floods and storms over the years. The wall is consequently on a lean with a large crack running across the concrete face and parts of the rock covered with concrete can be seen broken from the wall in the immediate vicinity.

The structure as it is measures approximately;

Height	1.90m
Length of low (eroded) part of wall	3.4m,
Length of higher portion	5m.
Total length of wall approximately	8.4 - 9m
Width; varies from	.65m - 1m

LANDSCAPE/TOWNSCAPE SUMMARY

The structure provides a degree of visual interest and intrigue and can be seen easily from the road or beach on the foreshore of Lake Wakatipu. It remains in this landscape as a subtle clue to a part of the Wakatipu's early defence history.

SOURCES

Queenstown Rifle Volunteers Correspondence held in the Lakes District Museum Arrowtown. Reference N120 and N 152
De La Mare, Alan, Tales of Southland History 1994 pp 1-4

FILE NOTES

Site visited and measured on 26/5/05 by Becky Reid.

FOOTNOTES

- ¹ De La Mare, Alan -Tales Southland History 1994 pp. 1-4
- ² ibid
- ³ Queenstown Rifle Volunteers correspondence, Lakes District Museum Arrowtown, Reference; N120
- ⁴ Queenstown Rifle Volunteers correspondence, Lakes District Museum Arrowtown, Reference; N120
- ⁵ Queenstown Rifle Volunteers correspondence, Lakes District Museum Arrowtown, Reference N152, p.105
- ⁶ Queenstown Rifle Volunteers correspondence, Lakes District Museum Arrowtown, Reference N152, p.158

Thanks to Lindsay and Diane Westaway, Walter Peak, and Real Journeys for help in sourcing the historic photos.

The Otago Armed Constabulary Badge of Merit

J Bryant Haigh

Otago Province in the South of the South Island of New Zealand was founded in early 1848 by settlers from Scotland and a small provincial police force was set up. Following the discovery of gold in the interior (Central Otago) in 1861 a wave of prospectors and miners flooded into the Province bringing with them numerous thugs and villains.

To counter the violence and lawlessness on the gold fields the Otago Armed Constabulary came into being. Modelled on the Royal Irish Constabulary, most of the Force was recruited direct from the Victorian (Australian) Mounted Police and a large number had service prior to that in the Royal Irish Constabulary.



Otago Armed Constabulary Badge of Merit.

Their first commander was Commissioner St John Branigan (1824 – 1873) late of HM 45th Regiment of Foot, who prior to serving in the Victorian Mounted Police had seen action in the Kaffir Wars of 1850-52 with the Cape Police. Under his stern and competent rule, his tough, experienced and smartly uniformed troopers, armed with revolver, carbine and sword, soon brought law and order to the unruly mining shantytown of the goldfields. The Otago Armed Constabulary began an escort service to the coaches taking gold from the diggings to the coast, including outrider patrols to check likely ambush sites along the route.

“As regards escort duties, the advance guard should be carefully selected and instructed minutely to examine every spot where it is likely an advantage would accrue to an attacking party ... to exercise the utmost vigilance and caution, and the revolver should be carried in hand in such spots.” AOC General Order No 48 26th May 1862.

A water police detachment was also set up to keep order among drunken seamen, prevent illegal smuggling of gold, and often (illegally) forcibly preventing suspicious and dubious characters from entering the country.

Commissioner Branigan, who promoted men regardless of seniority in recognition of particularly noteworthy service, saw the need to create a higher level of recognition and in March 1862 wrote to the Superintendent of Otago Province requesting: “... the institution of a Badge of Merit ... only to be awarded for examples of conspicuous gallantry...” This was agreed, together with a suitable monetary gratuity, (presumably?) payable on discharge in recognition of having been awarded a Badge of Merit.

The Badge of Merit is in silver, 2in x 2in and consists of the words “Otago Armed Constabulary” within an oval surrounded by the words “Badge of Merit” within a Garter Surrounded by a laurel wreath, the stems of which cross and are tied with a ribbon bow, all surmounted by the Victorian Crown. The badge was worn on the lower left arm of the tunic.

Only three awards of this, New Zealand’s first indigenous official gallantry award, (it predates the New Zealand Cross by seven years) are known to have been made before the Otago Armed Constabulary became part of the NZ Constabulary became part of the NZ Constabulary Force in 1877.

The present NZ Police Force came into being in 1886.

Badge of Merit recipients

No 9 Sgt Maj Hugh Bracken, 1862

No 214 Constable James Carroll, 1866

No 116 Sgt 1st Class Robert Bullen, 1968



*Tunic button
1861-1877.*

The Otago Armed Constabulary included a number of Crimean War veterans, two of whom Sgts John Bevan (1831- 1892) and Samuel Wilson (1829-1884) had taken part in the Charge of the Light Brigade as privates in the 8th Hussars. Also serving in the Otago Constabulary for a short time was Constable Timothy O’Hea VC (1846-1874). He moved to Australia in 1873 and died in the “outback” desert the following year.

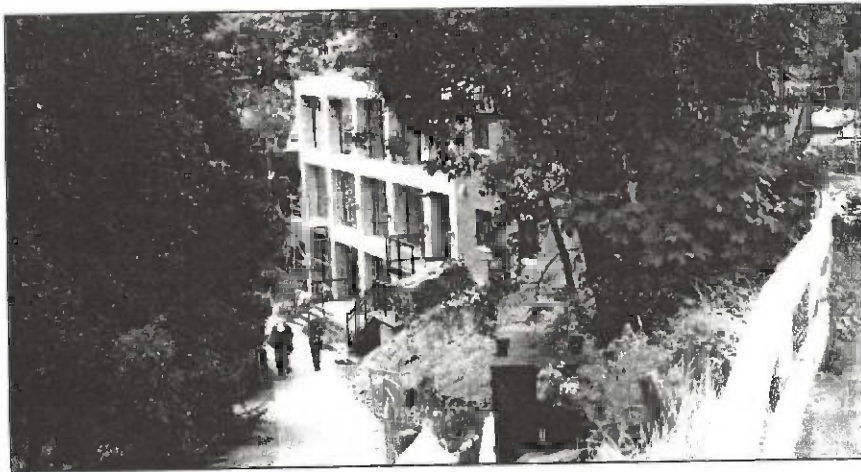
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Hotop's Rise

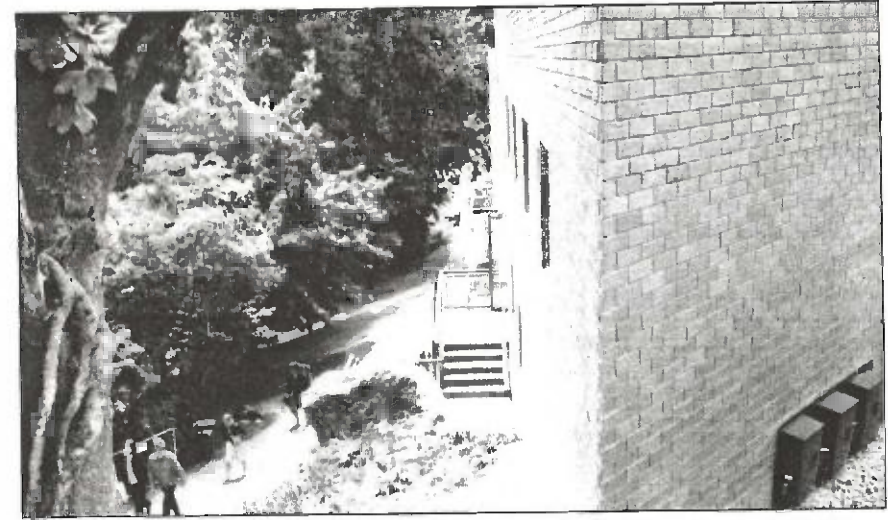


Six months ago, there was a view from Centennial Drive in Queenstown down to the lake. No more; a five-storey language-school building is now there. But what has irked society members even more is the way the building has intruded on the long-sacrosanct Hotop's Rise.



The building (given 95% site coverage by the QLDC, rather than the mandatory 80%) was built right up to the Hotop's reserve boundary. Very late in the piece, the developers applied for a fire escape on to Hotop's Rise.

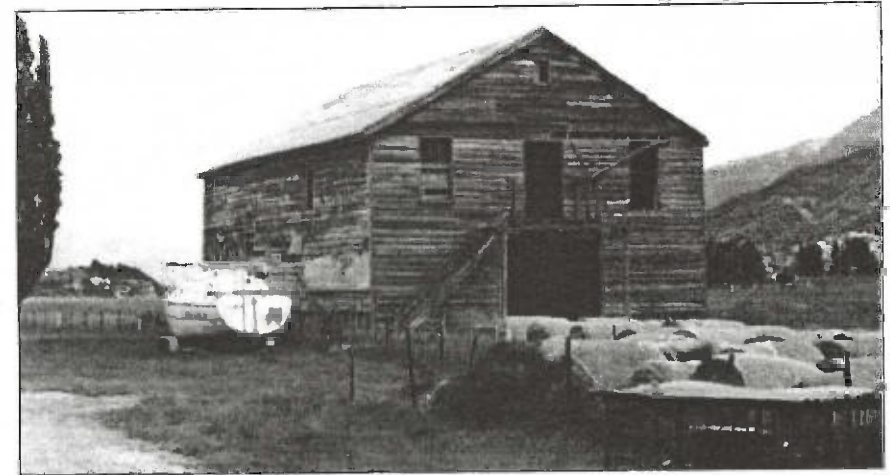
Suddenly, this transmogrified into steps and a main entrance onto the reserve, and a further entrance into a cafe. In the process a big rock and a public seat have gone. Improvements to the reserve have been promised; little has happened.



The developer's lease on the reserve is apparently "at the pleasure of the council."

Flourmill Suddenly An Issue

About the last remnants of the Wakatipu Basin as the granary of Otago are in the balance.



The stables, woolshed, substantial trees and other farm remnants on the Nineteenth-Century McBride farm (down Grant Road at Frankton) are now owned by the Queenstown Airport Corporation. The site is likely to be developed as an airport extension for light aircraft.

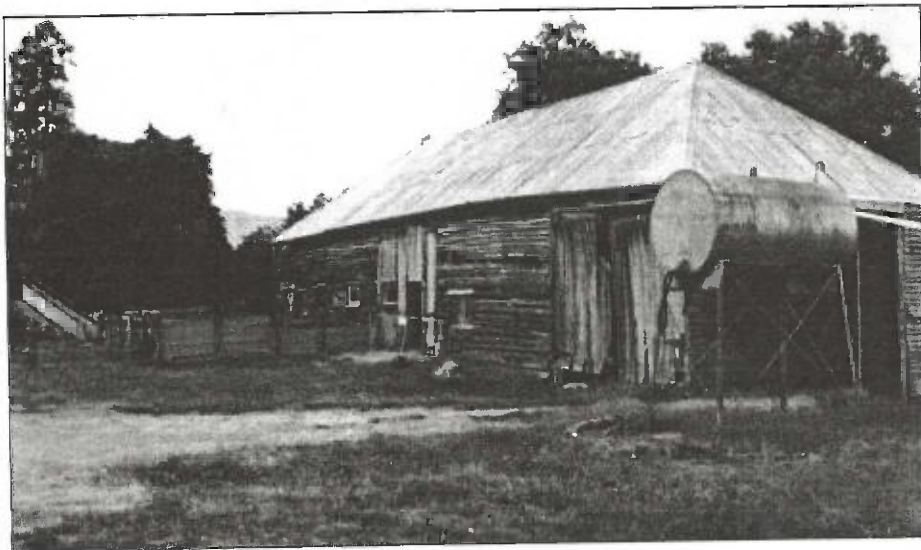
Mc Bride Farm and flour mill - Grants Road



The two-storey stables was formerly part of the flourmill by the Kawarau outlet; the single-storey woolshed (below) is unique of its kind.

There is apparently a willingness on the part of the QAC to preserve these buildings, or perhaps shift and incorporate them into adjacent proposed development.

Support, or pressure, is needed.



Financial Reports 2005

QUEENSTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC ENVIRONMENT COURT APPEAL ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS	total	2005	2004	2003
Environment Grant	22500.00		22500.00	
Auction	2100.00		2100.00	
Appeal Donations	26601.44	600.00	25816.42	185.02
	51201.44	600.00	50416.42	185.02
PAYMENTS				
P Beavan	9000.00		9000.00	
T Oxnevad	16283.85		12825.80	3458.05
T J Shiels	18915.32	3448.12	15467.20	
Ngai Tahu Settlement	5000.00	5000.00		
Sundry	364.34	52.44	273.59	38.31
	49563.51	8500.56	37566.59	3496.36
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS	1637.93	-7900.56	12849.83	-3311.34

Auditor's Statement

I have examined the financial records of the Society which in my opinion have been properly kept. I have obtained the information and explanations I required. In common with other similar organisations, control over income and sundry donations prior to its being recorded is limited, and there are no practicable audit procedures to determine the effect of this limited control. In my opinion the financial statements presented above give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Queenstown and District Historical Society Incorporated for the year ended 30 September 2005

D. Warrington BCom CA

QUEENSTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year Ended 30 September 2005

2004	Receipts	2005
7750	Bank Balances Fwd	21997.96
3000	Subscriptions	3160.00
25	Donations	587.88
31	Sundry receipts	
1236	Trips <i>Net</i>	268.91
	Luncheon	144.50
348	Interest	563.49
530	Qn Historical Book Sales <i>Net</i>	930.75
50416	Ngai Tahu Appeal Receipts	600.00
-----		-----
63338		28253.49

2004	Payments	2005
850	Subscriptions	3345.00
382	Subs, Grants and Donations	391.09
63	Printing, Stationery, Typing	83.33
43	P.O. Box	38.00
	Bank Fees	
1490	Couriers	2010.47
	Trips	
24	Luncheon	
84	Hall Hire	97.80
113	AGM & Meeting Expenses	164.59
453	Bronze Plaques & Signs	90.00
150	Prizes	175.00
	Qn Historical Book	
37567	Ngai Tahu Appeal Payments	8500.56
122	Sundry	40.00
21998	Bank Balances Closing	13317.65
-----		-----
63338		28253.49

Bank Balances @ 30 Sep 2005

Current Account	1264.58
Term Deposit Bldg Socy	4000.00
Term Deposit Bldg Socy	1637.59
Term Deposit Bldg Socy	6415.48
Bonus Saver A/c	0.00

	13317.65



An interesting relic from the late Margaret Templeton's bookshelf is this 1937 Stone's Directory. The book can be accessed at the Lakes District Museum.

QUEENSTOWN. — Lake Cnty.; Central Otago Elect. Dist. 196 m. N.W. fr Dun. & 22 m. N. fr Kingston riv. terminals by rail, steamer & bus. A post & tel. office, county town & municipality. Mails: el. Dun., daily, 6.30 a.m.; arr. here 7.30 a.m.; el. here 8.30 a.m.; also twice daily from Invercargill. Half-holiday Wednesday.

Bank—N.Z.
 Aburn Stephen Saml, inspctr of works
 Allan Thos, miner
 Anderson Agnes Brechin
 Anderson Henry, labr
 Anderson Wm Arth, surgeon
 Angelo Harry Robt, orchdst
 Angelo John Walter, rabbister
 Angelo Michl, deck hand
 Ardagh Cyril Edgar (Rev R.C.)
 Armour Hugh Douglas, carpenter
 Atby Alfons, baro inspctr
 Bailey Fredk Wm, postmstr
 Bank N.Z.: A H Cooke, mgr
 Barclay Saml Maxwell, sbd-master
 Barnett Alfd Penrose, frmr
 Barnett Geo Edwd, miner
 Battin Edwd, labr
 Bennett Richd John, mech
 Bevin Henry Arthur, labr
 Bizzett Geo, crpntr

Boyd Ernest Samul, deck hand
 Boyd Archd Neil, gold miner
 Boyd David Kirkland (Rev Pres)
 Royle Jane, Mrs
 Braden Alfd Hermann, inspctr of nuisances
 Braden Douglas, carrier
 Bryant Albert Ernest, groom
 Buckham Arth, bus driver
 Buckham Henry Chas, brewer
 Burnett Jas, sheep frmr
 Burns Alex Brown, fireman
 Cable Millicent (Mrs)
 Cable Robt, labr
 Campbell Keltb, miner
 Chalmers Annie, Mrs "Strathcona" Private Hospital
 Chalmers Geo Alex, saddler
 Clayton Ernest Oswald, civil engr
 Cockburn Jas, mech
 Cockrill Percy Wm J, clerk
 Magistrates Court and Mining Registrar & Cole Wm Arth, fancy goods dealer
 Collings Leo Cutlbert, gold miner
 Collins John Stephen, mining expert
 Cooke Alex Harley, bank mgr
 Cosgrove Denis Jas, labr
 Curtis Beatrice, Mrs (McBride's Family Hotel)
 Dagg Barbara, Mrs
 Dagg John McArthur, motor garage

Davidson Bros Ltd, butchers
 Davidson Robt, frmr
 Davidson Robert Alex (of Davidson Bros Ltd)
 Davidson Thos
 Davidson Thos, engr
 Davidson Wm Henry (of Davidson Bros Ltd)
 Davies Bros (H & W), carriers
 Davies E, Miss (Golden Terrace Tourist House)
 Davies Geo Herbt, tourist bureau & marble bar
 Davies Humphrey (of Davies Bros)
 Davies Jas
 Davies Wm (of Davies Bros)
 Davis Margt Riley, Mrs
 Davis Wm Lovell
 Deer Alfd Victor, labr
 Domlattan Convent (R.C.)
 Downey Ellen, Mrs
 Downey John, shphrd
 Drieberg Leslie, bus driver
 Duncombe Fredk Lionel, power house atdnt
 Dwyer Terence Jos, rly clk
 Earland Helen Alice (Lakeside Boarding-house)
 Eason Chas Robt, grdnr
 Eastlake Roy, clerk
 Edgar John
 Edwards Hotel, P N Elms, manager
 Edwards Walter J F, hair-dresser & thecnst
 Elliot Wm Mathias, runholder
 Elms Percy Nell, hotel mtr
 Farrant Alfd Ernest, labr
 Farrant Mary Noble, Mrs
 Flix John Peter
 Flahive Jas Maurice M, hair-dresser & thecnst
 Fodde James, labr
 Fraser John, boat builder
 Fuller Richard John, bank officer
 Gardner Jas Walter, tourist bureau & store
 Gavin Francis Joseph (J.P.), bnkr
 Gavin Mary Elizabeth, Mrs
 Geisow Catherine Wilhelmina, Miss, agent
 Goodman John Norman (Rev, Angl)
 Gordon Wm, frmr
 Gough Robt Fletcher, labr
 Gray Donald Ross, linesman
 Griffin Alex Rhfld, county clk
 Gunn D H, inspctr stock
 Haggitt Kenneth Alec (Houdermar Rural Dairy)
 Haines John, crpntr, &
 Haines Thos Edwd, stockpr
 Hales & Lobb (Mrs B H Hales & Miss E Lobb), drapers
 Hales Emma Helena, Mrs (of Hales & Lobb)
 Hales Ethel, Miss
 Hales Walter, fireman
 Hall Norman Mansfield, electn
 Hamilton Margt & May (Misses) (Hamilton Hse)
 Hamilton Dan Rankin, baker
 Hamilton John Brown, dairy frmr
 Hannay Jos, deck hand
 Harman Thos Lauret, clk
 Herbert Geo Amos, officer in charge Wakatipu Steam Service
 Holland Wm, labr
 Hood Jeannette, Mrs
 Hore Wm Jos, telegraphist

Queenstown—continued.

Houston Thos
 Hunter Marion Hannah, Mrs
 Hunter Robt, frmr
 Inder Alfd, labr
 Inglis John, bldr
 Inglis Richmond, builder
 Inglis Chas Matheson, town clerk, comn & insce agent
 Ives Arth, Jun, boilermaker
 Jardine Dickson, runholder (Kawarau Falls Station)
 Johnston Margt, Mrs
 Jones David Chas, taxi drvr
 Jones Geo Jas, grader driver
 Jones Isabel, Mrs
 Jordan John, shop asstnt
 Kelly Catherine, Mrs (Bay View House)
 Knowles Edith, Mrs
 Lake County Council: Alex F Griffin, clerk
LAKE WAKATIPU MAIL:
 Wm. D. Warren, manager
 Lake Wakatipu Steam Service: Geo Amos Herbert, officer in charge
 Landrobb Alfd Andw, baker & pastrycook
 Laurie Catharine Lees, Miss stationer
 Lewis Leslie Roy, labr
 Lindsay Jas Leslie, builder & funeral director
 Lloyd Robt David, labr
 Lobb Ethel, Miss (of Hales & Lobb)
 Lobb J H, Mrs
 Lowen Ernest John, plumber
 Luckie Misses A & W M (Palmyra House)
 Luckie Ellen, Mrs
 Luckie Thos Raymond, seaman
 Lynch Joseph Paul, frmr
 Lynch Lawrence Jun, store
 Lynch Patrick Thos (J.P.), miner
 McBride John Jas, agt
 McCarthy Mary Ann, Mrs (Mountaineer Hotel)
 McCaughan Archd Patk, shp frmr
 McConville Royal John, telegraphist
 McCormick Kate, Mrs, Closeburn Station
 MacDonald Jas, runholder
 McFellin Felix, labr
 McFellin James, labr
 McHenry Helena, Mrs
 McInnes Wm McLean, engr
 McKay Chas Henry, sletr
 McKenzie Peter, Mrs
 McLean Wm, sheep frmr (Coronet Peak)
 McLeely Mary Catherine, Mrs
 McNeil Anne Bella, Mrs
 McNeil Thos Wm, labr
 McNeill & Tripp (J J McNeill & A Tripp), grocers
 McNeill Edna (Mrs)
 McNeill John Jos (of McNeill & Tripp)
 McSorley Thomas Matthew (Beach House)
 Malaghan Annie, Mrs
 Meredith Wm Geo, labr
 Miles Saml Geo, labr
 Mills John Robt, confctnr & fancy goods
 Monson Edward, frmr
 Mount Cook Southern Lakes & Tourist Co, launch & garage proprs
 Mount Cook Tourist Co of N.Z. Ltd; A G Wigley, manager

Mulholland W & M, Misses, tea rooms
 Muaro Alex, master mariner
 Muaro Allister Wilfred, Jynn butcher
 Murchison Donald Finlay
 Nelson Wm Henry, plumber & electn
N.Z. INSURANCE CO., LTD:
 A. Simson, agent
 Norris Irwin Leslie, labr
 Olsen John, sta mgr (Cecil Peak)
 Overton James
 Overton Oliver, motor propr
 Overton Wm Harold, service station & propr Laurel Bank
 Pascoe Martha A, Miss, dress-maker
 Perke Raymond John, labr
 Petersson Sven B, Mrs, Jwlr
 Philip Catherine M, Mrs, nurse
 Philip Geo Jas, labr
 Philip Wm Geo, labr
 Pirie Lucy Martha, Mrs
 Powell Jas Henry, labr
 Powell Richd Jas, road inspektor
 Powell Thos John, labr
 Powell Wm Henry, grdnr
 Prior Eliza, Mrs
 Public Trust Office: J S Royds, agent
 Queenstown Borough Council:
 C M Inglis, town clerk
 Regatr b. d. & m., The p.m.
 Reldy John, labr
 Robertson John Brunswick (J.P.)
 Robins Henry Jas, painter
 Robins Robt, baker's asstnt
 Roberts John, dredge mstr
 Rodarique Cyril, miner
 Roland Chas Richd, electn
 Routledge John, plasterer
 Roycroft Wm, police const
 Royds J S & Co, storekprs
 Royds John Slater (of J S B & Co)
 Ryan Septimus Theodore, surveyor
 Sainsbury Ernest, grdnr
 St. Omer Francots
 Salmund John, crpntr
 Scandrett Ernest Victor
 Scheib Alfd Alex, rabbit skin dealer
 Scott Jas Cleland, crpntr
 Scott Winifred Nellie, Mrs, fruiter
 Seokup J, bus driver
 Stefferovich Matthew, miner
 Sew Hoy Henry Wm, mech
 Short Allen Edgar, dredge engr
 Sim Harry, bus driver
 Simson Andw (J.P.), orchdst
 Smith Noel Norman, hotel mgr
 Smith Sidney Martin, mech
 Smith Wm Henry, miner
 Stanton Jas, clerk
 Stewart Wm, bus driver
 Stroud Wlfr Thos, labr
 Summers Wm, butcher
 Sutherland Donald Fintalson (J.P.), coroner
 Sutherland Donald Fintalson, Jun, butcher
 Tallentire Thomas Harrison, printer
 Thomas A M, Mrs, brdg-hse (Rossford House)
 Thompson David Wm, orchdst
 Thompson John, brdg-hse
 ... (Bureka House)

Thompson John, Jun, mech
 Thomson J, Mrs, fish restrnt
 Thomson Elizabeth, Mrs, bdng-house (Tutulla)
 Thomson Jas Augustus, ship mate
 Thomson Wm, grdnr
 Tomkies Horace, launch propr
 Tripp Alfd Andw (of McNeill & Tripp)
 Truher Robt Wm J, rly clk
 Turner Herbt Fletcher, frmr
 Veint Wm, butcher
 Walker Henry Dalton, telegraphist
 Walsh John, labr
 Warren Margt Sarah, Miss, Journalist
 Warren Wm David, mgr Wakatip Mail
 White Star Hotel: Noel N Smith, mgr
 Wigley Alex Grant, coy mgr
 Wilkinson Gordon Victor, chemist
 Wilson Thos Johnstone, fireman
SKIPPER'S. — (Including Skipper's Point & Skipper's Reef.) — Lake County: Central Otago Elect. Dist. 212m. N.W. fr. Dun., via Waituna and Queenstown, 125m. from Invgll. A post office & tel. office & mining settlement. Conveyance, see Queenstown, thence 18m. by road. Mails el. Invgll. W., 6.30 a.m.; arr. here F. noon; el. here W., 3.30 p.m.
 Baird Jas Douglas, shphrd
 Bowden Gordon Jas, miner
 Cain John Swaney, miner
 Crighton E, labr
 Dick Wm Leonard, labr
 Duff Jas, surfaceman
 Gillin Edwd, miner
 Gilmchrist Ferdinand Wm, miner
 Irvine John Giltb
 McCallum Bruce, miner
 McDonald Norman Murdoch, miner
 McDougall Vernon Bowers, miner
 McFelin Felix, miner
 McInish Ralph, miner
 Morrison Archd, miner
 Muir Allan, labr
 Ramsay Andw, miner
 Rodgers Eric Newton, miner
 Sainsbury Ebert, mgr Skippers Shifting Co
 Scott Geo, labr
 Skippers Shifting Co, E Sainsbury, mgr
 Smith Lawrence, miner
 Smith Ronald Algerson, miner
 Tripp Aubrey, gold miner
 Tripp John Richd, mine mgr
 Williams John Henry, miner
 Williams Ronald, miner