

Working for the Council: an introduction to Christchurch City Council Archives

Heritage Highlights

Tuakiri | Tūranga - March 29th 2023

What we are covering today

- 160 years of Christchurch City Council
- Background of Christchurch City Council Archives
- What we hold
- Examples from our collection
- Amalgamated authorities
- Family History resources
- Searching our webpages
- Digitised resources
- Where to find us

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

160 years of Christchurch City Council

160 years of Christchurch City Council

Christchurch was officially founded in 1850 with the arrival of about 800 Canterbury Association settlers from the United Kingdom on the first four ships (Charlotte Jane, Randolph, Cressy, Sir George Seymour).

Christchurch was initially governed by the Canterbury Association until 1852 when the Canterbury Provincial Government was established (along with provincial governments in Auckland, Nelson, New Plymouth, Otago and Wellington). The provincial governments had responsibility for the whole of the region for land surveys, land legislation, immigration, public works and harbours, education and hospitals – while the local work was progressively delegated to Road Boards, Borough Councils and City Councils.

The provincial governments were abolished in 1876 (with the Abolition of Provinces Act 1875 and the move to central government) and these records are held by Archives New Zealand.

Original Land Office, 1851 – the first public building erected in Christchurch. Where the first Christchurch City Council meeting took place and the site of the first Municipal Council Chambers built in 1885. Source: CCC Archives CH430/26



160 years of Christchurch City Council



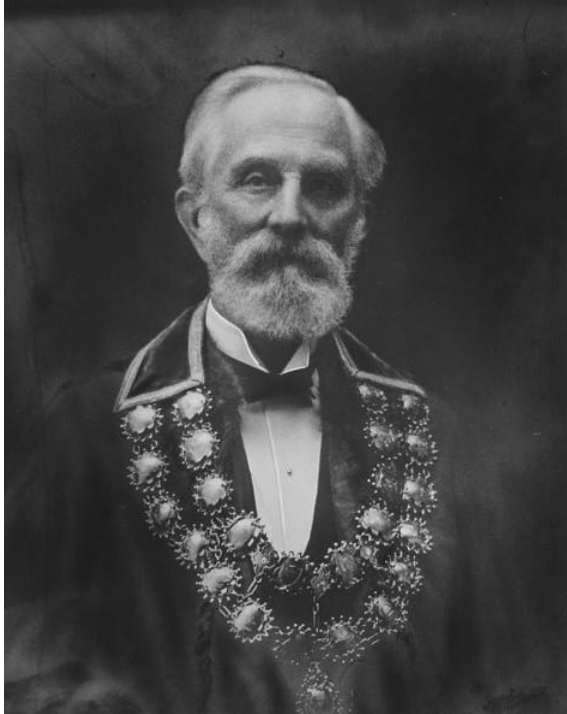
Early Armagh Street, looking west towards Riccarton Bush, 1863.

Source: Christchurch Star (Canterbury Stories, CCL-StarP-01736A)

We became New Zealand's first city, by Royal Charter, in 1856 as it was a 'seat' for a bishop (the Reverend Henry John Chitty Harper was made a bishop by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1856).

The Canterbury Provincial Council passed the Canterbury Municipal Ordinance in 1859 to permit the establishment of local government. The ordinance received the assent of the Governor of New Zealand in 1861.

160 years of Christchurch City Council



Sir John Hall
First Chairman of the
Christchurch Town
Council
1862-1863.
Source: CH430/10

The Christchurch City Council was therefore established in 1862 when the population was around 3000. The first meeting of the Christchurch Municipal Council took place in the Land Office and John Hall was elected the first Chairman of the Municipal Council. The Christchurch City Council Archives collection has records dating back to 1862 and are therefore a rich resource for the history and development of our city.



Market Place (now Victoria Square), looking north east, 1862.
Source: Christchurch City Libraries

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Background

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection - Background

As well as the records of original Christchurch City Council dating back to 1862, the Christchurch City Council Archives Collection also includes records from a variety of amalgamated local authorities. We currently holds records of around 60 authorities that have amalgamated over the years (including Road Boards, Borough Councils, County Councils, District Councils, Domain Boards, and Power Boards). Major amalgamations between Christchurch City Council and local authorities occurred particularly in 1903, 1921, 1989 and 2006.

Up until the major 1989 amalgamation (when Christchurch City Council amalgamated with Heathcote County Council, Riccarton Borough Council, Waimairi District Council, part of Paparua County Council and the Christchurch Drainage Board) the custody and care of records and archives were spread across a variety of organisations and places. The councils and other authorities held some records while some of the older material was also held by Christchurch City Libraries and the Canterbury Museum.

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection - Background

After the nationwide reform of local government in 1989, the Christchurch City Council archives were kept and maintained by the Christchurch Regional office of Archives New Zealand.

When the amalgamation with Banks Peninsula District Council occurred in 2006 the archives began to be transferred back into the Council's care and housed at Recall (now Iron Mountain) – a document management facility, with the collection managed by the Council Archivist. It was initially held in Recall Braeburn Drive and then was transferred to the 'Archives Vault' of the new facility in 2014. Recall was bought by Iron Mountain in 2016.

Background

In addition to the collection that came from Archives NZ (the majority of which went into the Archives Vault), the Christchurch City Council Archives Collection also holds material:

- from the Banks Peninsula District Council amalgamation, which was mainly listed on a Council records management database (TRIM) and was not all sent to the Archives
- Archives that were held in many Christchurch City Council locations and the Tuam St site that were transferred to Recall with the move to the new Civic Offices on Hereford St (again not all sent to the Archives)
- Archives continue to be transferred from Service Centres, Community Boards, Council Departments as material comes to light.
- Still a lot of work to do in the collection and can take some time to find things!

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

What do we hold?

What do we hold?

Under the provisions of the Public Records Act 2005 Christchurch City Council is required to preserve corporate records deemed as having long term Interest ('protected records'), to both aid accountability ***and enhance and promote the historical and cultural heritage of the city.***

Some of the key requirements under the Act:

- Create and maintain records
- Declares some local authority records to be protected records
- Local governments must adhere to mandatory standards
- Provide adequate protection and preservation
- Classify access status
- Allow free public inspection of open access archives



What do we hold?

Majority of our collection is made up of:

- Minute Books
- Correspondence
- Cemetery Records
- Valuation Rolls
- Maps and Plans
- Records of Council Departments
- Photographs (limited)



Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Examples from our collection

The collection

From 1862 Christchurch City Council has worked to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of our community. Our archives represent the work that has been, and continues to be, done on behalf of the citizens of the city since that time.

It includes resources on:

Our built environment

- Roading
- Bridges
- Buildings
- Parking

Services

- Electricity
- Health Board
- Abattoirs
- Milk delivery
- Fire Brigade
- Drainage / Water

Culture and Community

- Libraries
- Swimming Pools
- Bath houses
- Theatres

The Garden City

- Parks and Reserves
- Domain Boards



Cathedral Square looking down Colombo St c1930

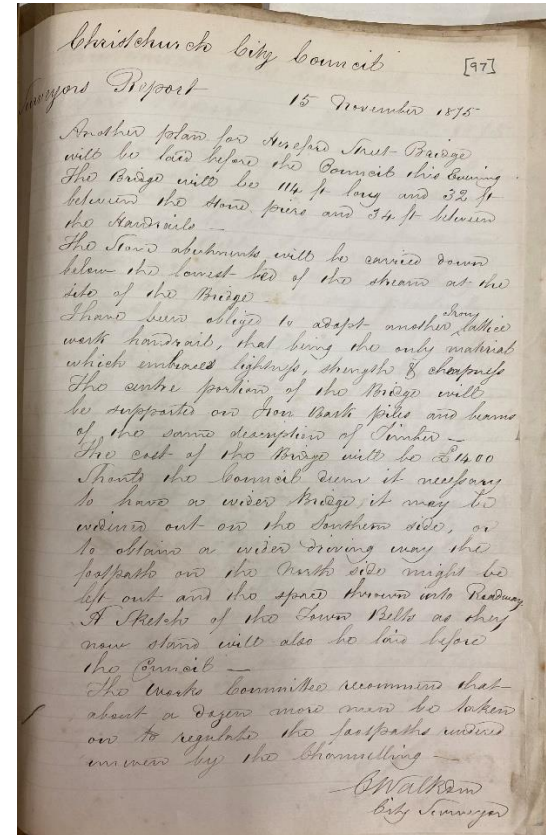
Source: 14/217103

The collection includes archives relating to ...

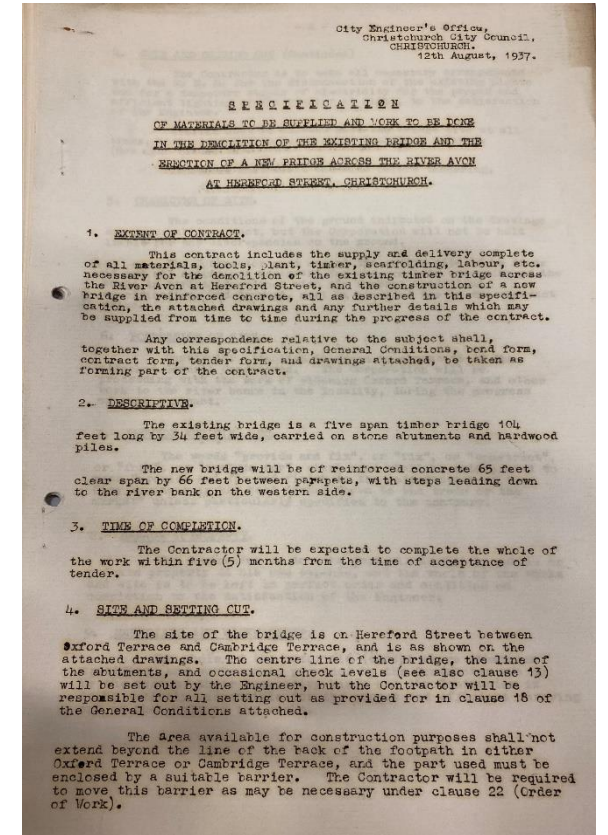
- Our built environment – the history of our buildings, bridges, streets



Christchurch Drainage Board:
Sewer construction east end of Tuam St c1905
Source: CH659/100 – 10/208470

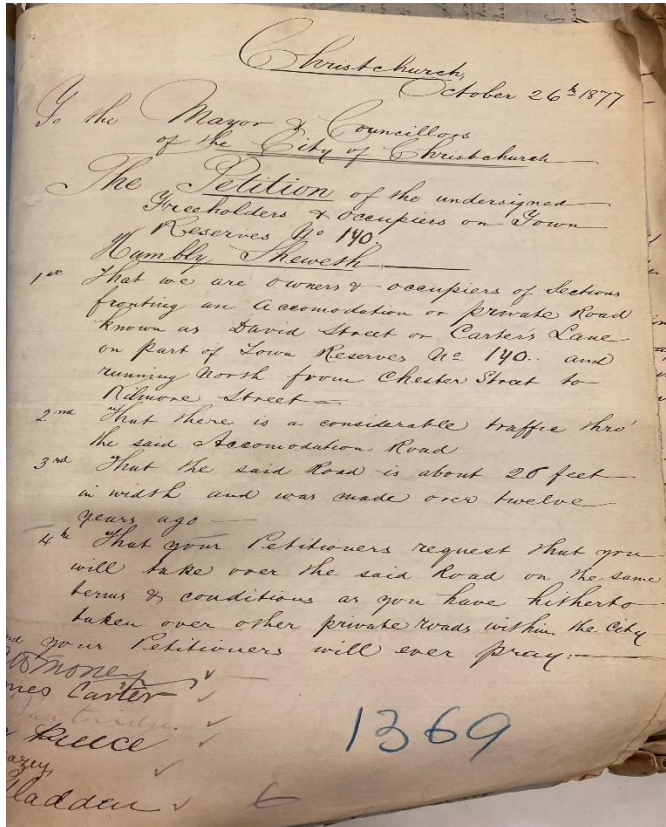


Original Hereford St Bridge 1877 and reconstruction 1938
Source: CCC/ARC/343/96 and CH335/338



The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Our built environment – the history of our buildings, bridges, streets



Petition for Carters Lane 1877
Source: CCC/ARC/343/23



Victoria Jubilee Clock Tower – 1897 competition drawings



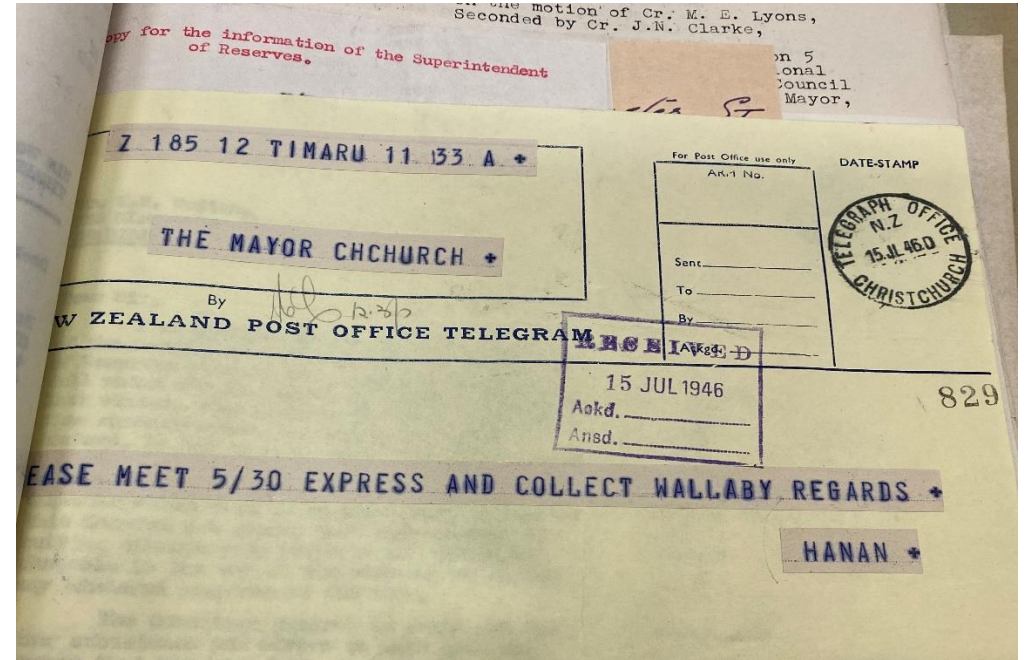
Original Carlton Mill Bridge c.1920's
Source: 14/187240

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Our Garden City – the history of our parks, reserves and domains



Bowker Fountain, Victoria Square, c.1930's
Source: 10/209040



Wallaby delivery – Woodham Park 1946
Source: CH377

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Our services – including drainage, electricity, milk, fire, abattoirs, health and transport



Christchurch Milk Board - Peacock Street 1960

Source: 14/509269



Christchurch Drainage Board – street sewer construction c.1950s

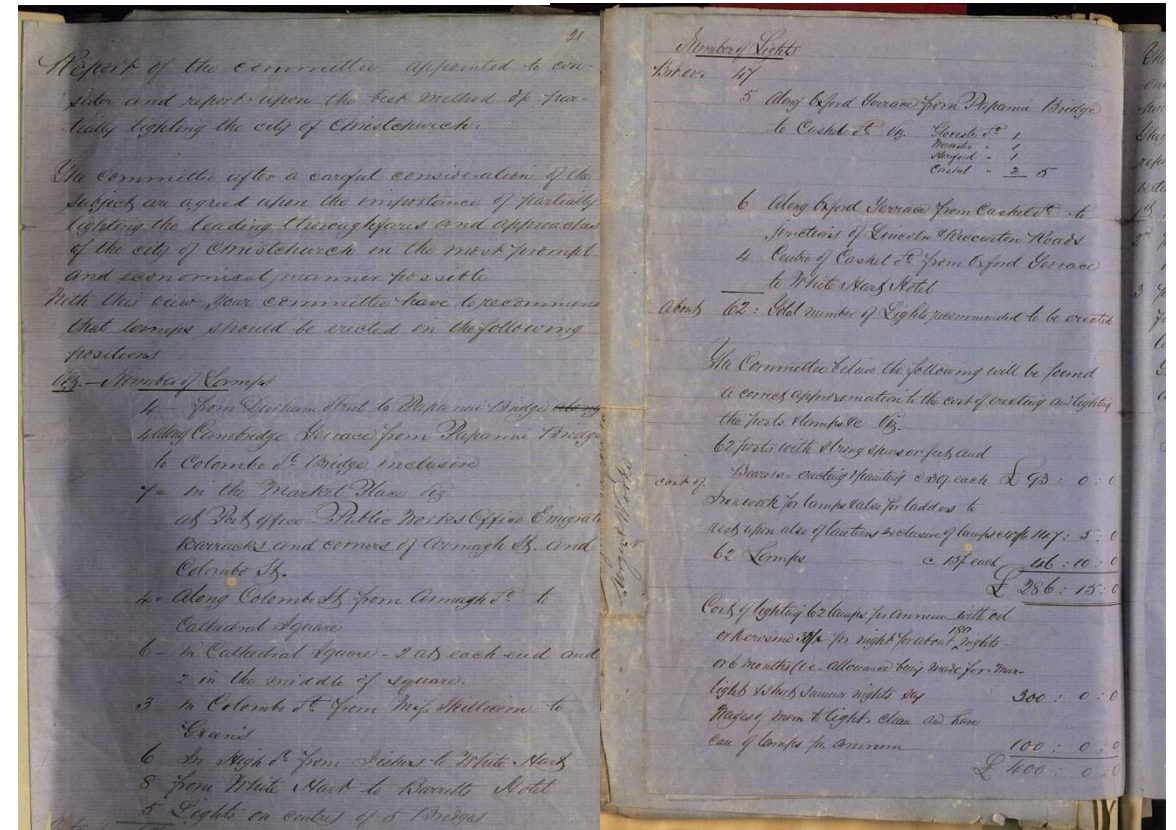
Source: 14/523374

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Our services – including drainage, electricity, milk, fire, abattoirs, health and transport



Health Inspector Tony Taylor 1964
Source: 10/607626



Lighting the city streets – Reports to Committee 1862-1867
Source: CCC/ARC/343/68

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Our services – including drainage, electricity, milk, fire, abattoirs, health and transport



Christchurch Tramways Board c1900

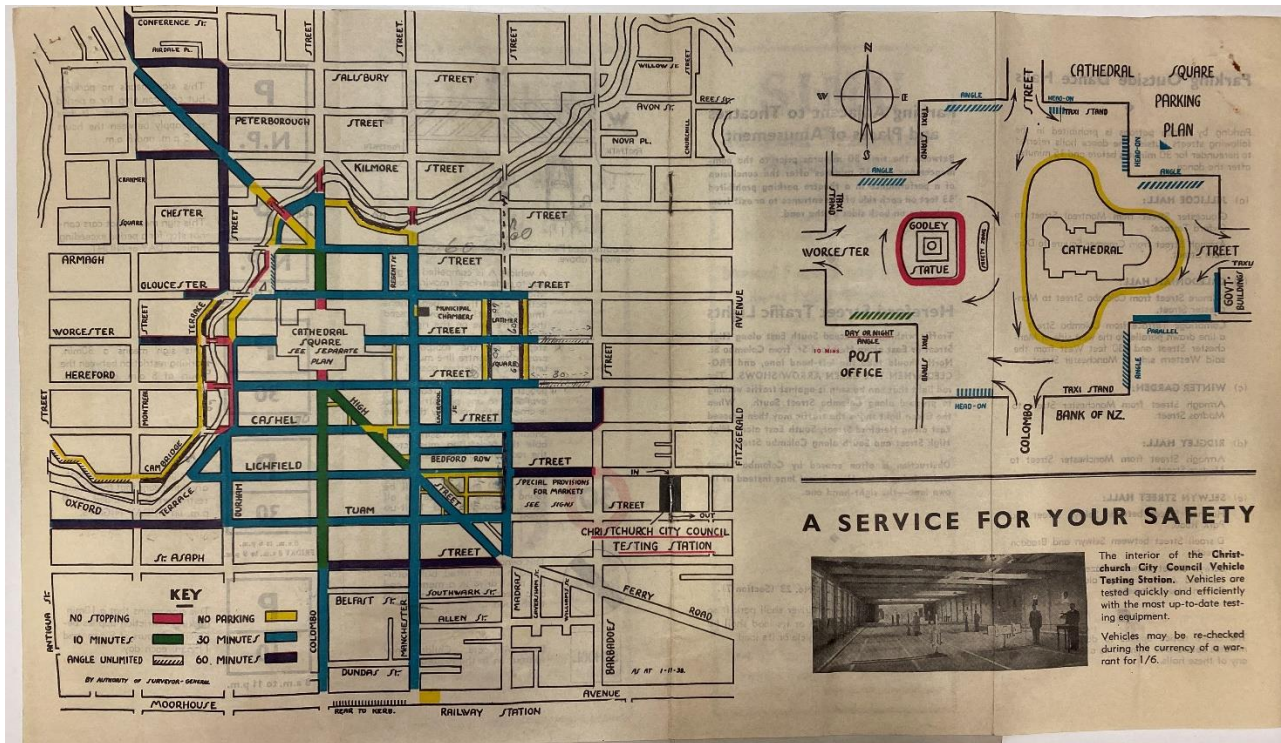


Christchurch Transport Bus c.1960's

Source: CH338 14/510709

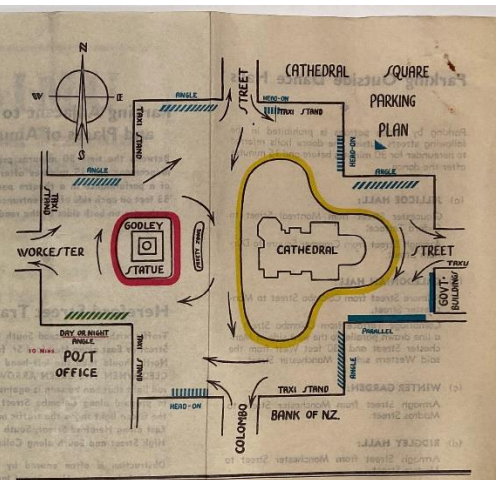
The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Our services – including drainage, electricity, milk, fire, abattoirs, health and transport



Official Parking Map for the City of Christchurch 1938

Source: CH340/49



A SERVICE FOR YOUR SAFETY



The interior of the Christchurch City Council Vehicle Testing Station. Vehicles are tested quickly and efficiently with the most up-to-date testing equipment. Vehicles may be re-checked during the currency of a warrant for 1/6.

Parking Outside Dance Halls

Parking by dance patrons is prohibited in the following streets outside the dance halls referred to hereunder for 30 minutes before and 15 minutes after the dance.

- (a) **JELlicoe Hall:**
Gloucester Street from Montreal Street to Oxford Terrace.
Armagh Street from Cranmer Square to Durham Street.
- (b) **CALEDONIAN HALL:**
Kilmore Street from Colombo Street to Manchester Street.
Cambridge Terrace from Colombo Street to a line drawn parallel to the west side of Manchester Street and 330 feet West from the said Western side of Manchester Street.
- (c) **WINTER GARDEN:**
Armagh Street from Manchester Street to Madras Street.
- (d) **RIDLLEY HALL:**
Armagh Street from Manchester Street to Madras Street.
- (e) **SELWYN STREET HALL:**
Harman Street between Selwyn Street and Park Road.
Disraeli Street between Selwyn and Braddon Streets.
Selwyn Street between Hazeldean Road and Fairfield Avenue except along frontage of Selwyn Street Cemetery.

The above notice applies to dance patrons 30 minutes before and 15 minutes after the dance in any of these halls.

Parking Adjacent to Theatres and Places of Amusement

Between the time 30 minutes prior to the commencement and 15 minutes after the conclusion of a performance in a theatre parking prohibited 33 feet on each side of the entrance to or exit from a theatre on both sides of the road.

Hereford Street Traffic Lights

Traffic wishing to proceed South East along High Street or East along Hereford St. from Colombo St. North should take the left-hand lane, and PROCEED WHEN THE GREEN ARROW SHOWS. The red light that can be seen is against traffic wishing to proceed along Colombo Street South. When the Green light shows the traffic may then proceed East along Hereford Street, South East along High Street and South along Colombo Street.

Obstruction is often caused by Colombo Street traffic being in the High Street lane instead of its own lane—the right-hand one.

CHRISTCHURCH BYLAW No. 23 (Section 7).

When parking a vehicle no driver shall park it so that no part of such vehicle or its load shall be within 3 feet of any other vehicle or its load.

S·I·M·U

Mutual Insurance Association

FOUNDED 1926
on purely Mutual principles.
Profits belong only to Policyholders.

Invested Funds exceed £120,000
Liberal Policy Benefits
Low Premium Rates
Prompt Settlement of Claims.

The Underwriting Surplus returned to Policyholders every year

£4,380 returned for year 1937-1938
£6,854 reserved for return during year 1938-1939

FULL INFORMATION CHEERFULLY AFFORDED

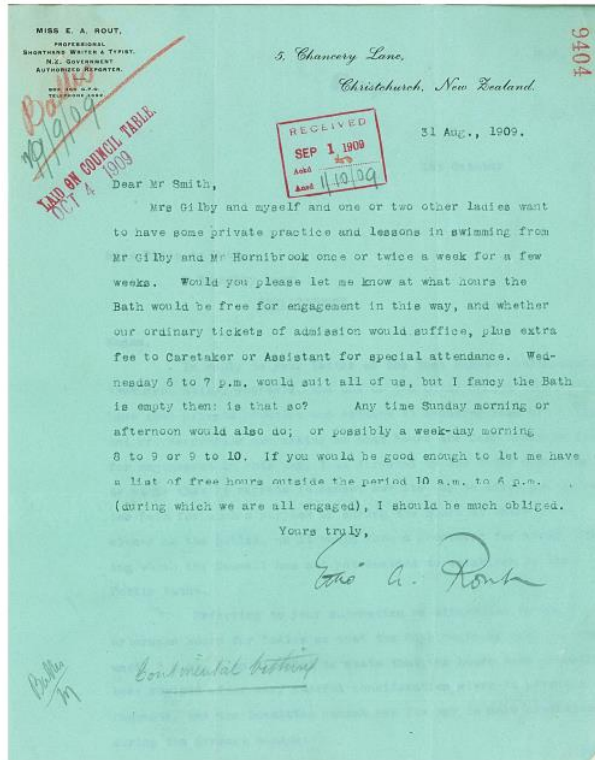
Christchurch Agents:
J. S. HAWKES (A.A. Canterbury)
151 Worcester Street. Phone 30-880
C. LEEMING (Pioneer Sports Club)
Phone 36-010

Branch Offices at Invercargill and Dunedin.
Agencies at all points.

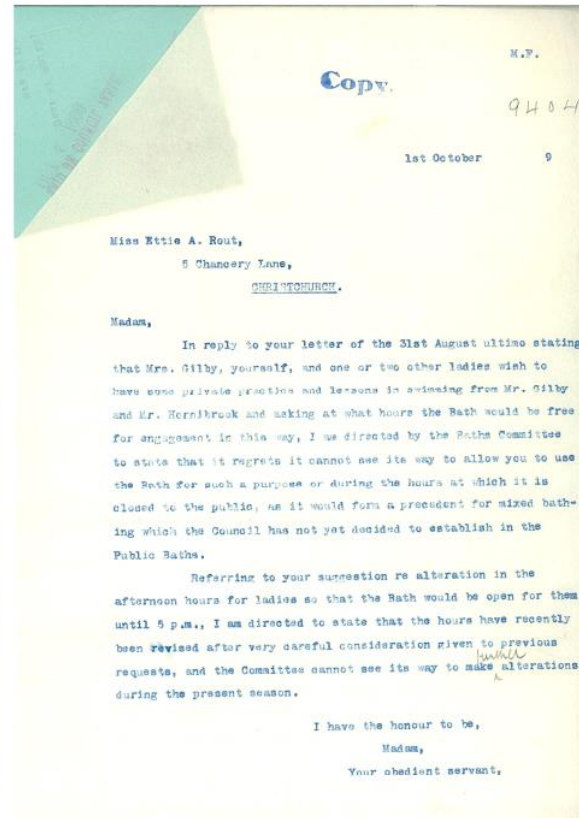
South Island Motor Union
Mutual Insurance Association
Head Office: 151 Worcester St., Christchurch

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Culture and Community – swimming pools, bath houses, libraries, theatres



Ettie Rout letter – re Tepid Baths 1909
Source: CH342



Opening of Jellie Park Lido Pool 1964
Source: CCC/ARC/357 - 10/210177

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Culture and Community – swimming pools, bath houses, libraries, theatres



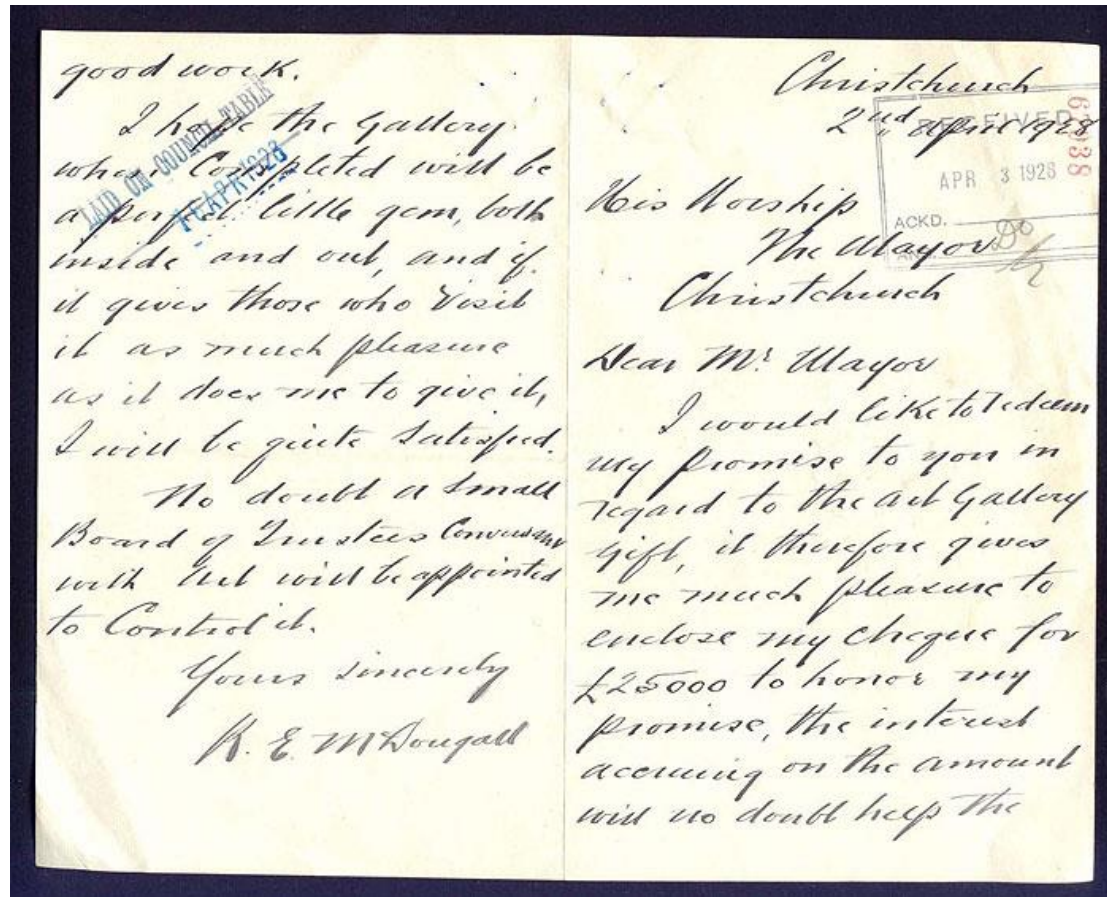
Canterbury Public Library 1983
Source: 18/562356



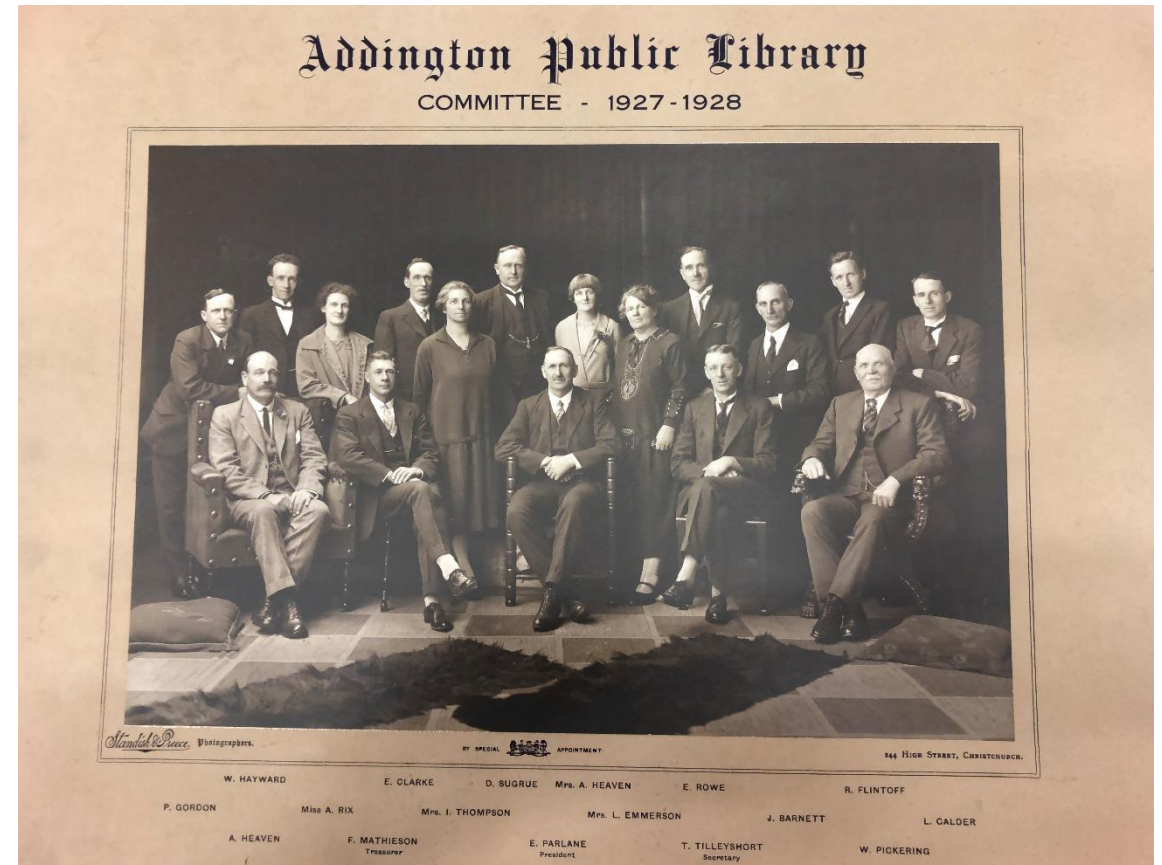
Municipal Concert Hall 1928 (renamed the Civic Theatre in 1929)
Source: CH430/26

The collection includes archives relating to ...

- Culture and Community – swimming pools, bath houses, libraries, theatres



Robert McDougall Bequest 1928



Addington Public Library Committee 1927-1928 (CH430)

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Amalgamated Authorities

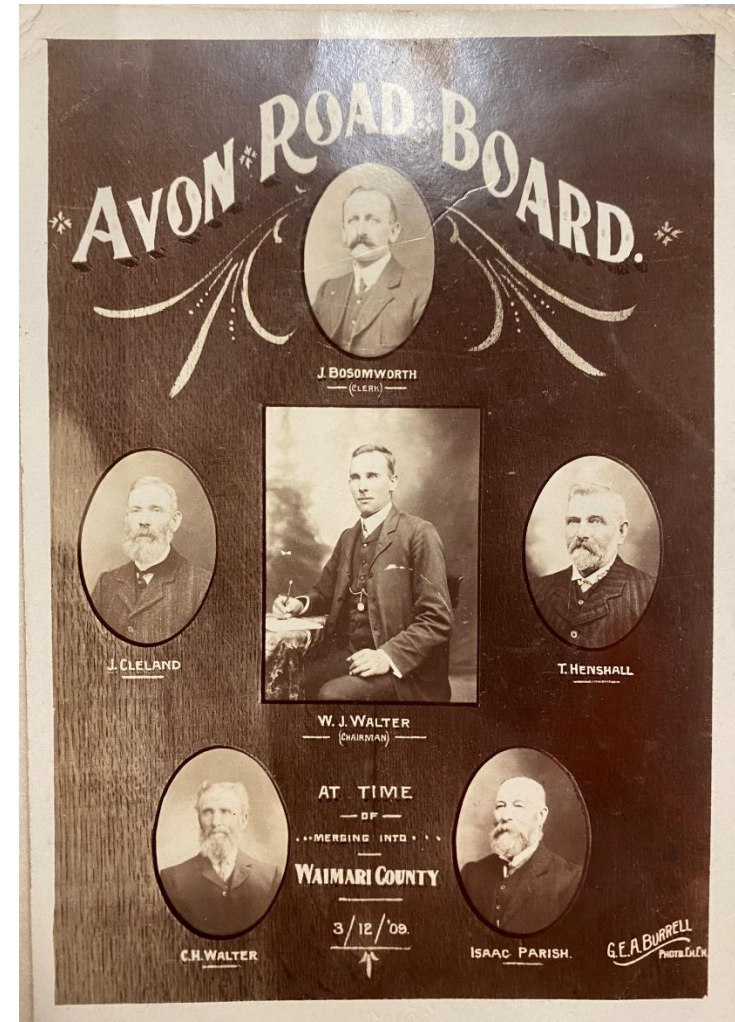
Amalgamated Authorities

The four avenues (Moorhouse, Fitzgerald, Bealey and Rolleston) created the original boundaries of the Christchurch City Council in 1862.

Road boards, borough councils, county councils and district councils existed outside of these boundaries.

Amalgamations between Christchurch City Council and these authorities began in 1903 with the most recent being the amalgamation of Banks Peninsula District Council in 2006.

We hold the records for a number of these superseded authorities – with series for nearly 60 authorities represented in our collection.



Source: CCC/ARC/357/139

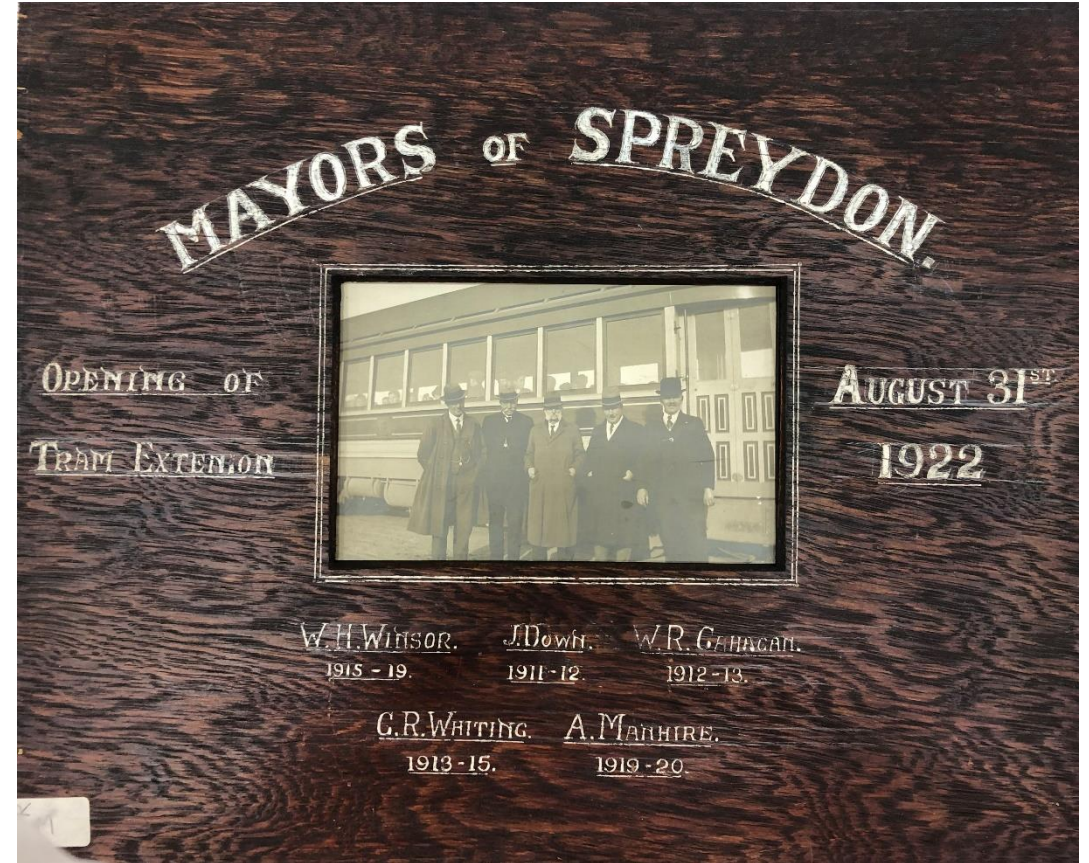
Amalgamated Authorities

Former Local Authority records that we hold:

Borough Councils: Riccarton, Sydenham, New Brighton, Spreydon, St Albans, Sumner, Linwood, Woolston

County/District Councils: Banks Peninsula, Heathcote, Mt Herbert, Paparua, Selwyn, Waimairi, Wairewa

Road Boards: Avon, Heathcote, Linwood, Little River, Riccarton, Spreydon, Sumner, Tai Tapu, Woolston



Mayors of Spreydon [Borough Council] 1922

Source: CH430

Amalgamated Authorities

Former Local Authority records that we hold include Road Boards:

Avon, Heathcote, Linwood, Little River, Riccarton, Spreydon, Sumner, Tai Tapu, Woolston



Sumner Post Office 1901

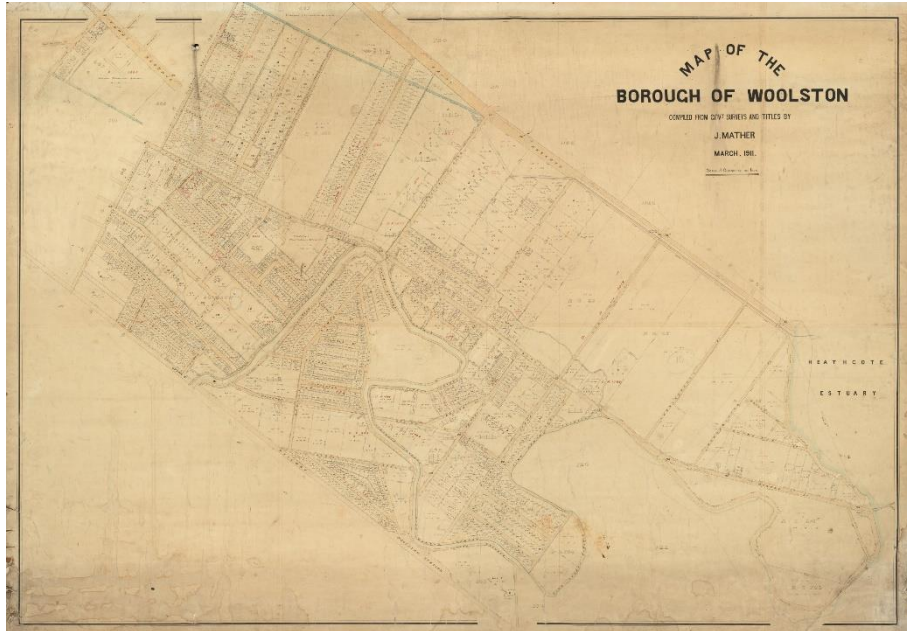


Halswell Quarry c1930

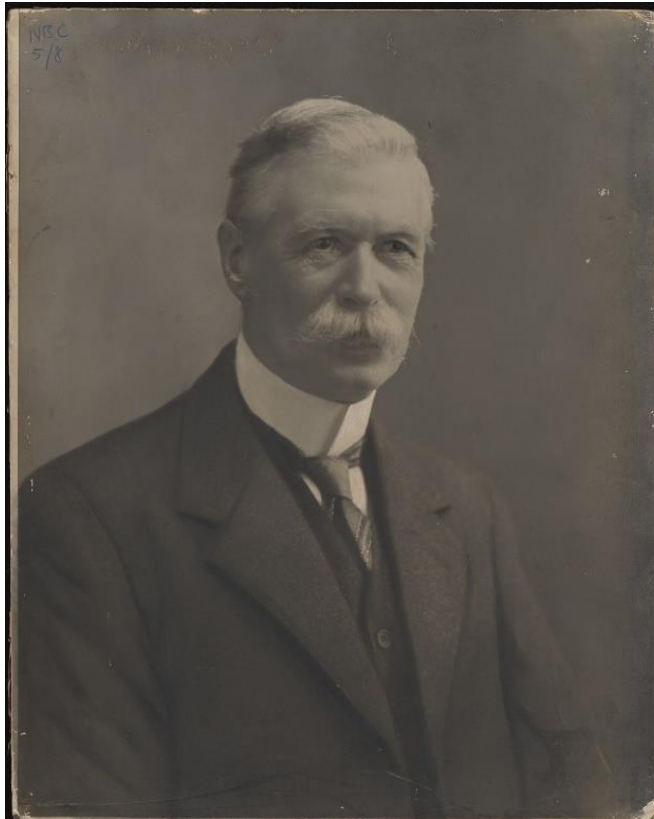
Source: 09/456856

Amalgamated Authorities

Former Local Authority Records that we hold includes Borough Councils:
Riccarton, Sydenham, New Brighton, Spreydon, St Albans, Sumner, Linwood, Woolston



Borough of Woolston Map 1911
Source: 09/423274



James Gamble – New Brighton Mayor 1921-1927
Source: CH430/3



Surveyors Drawing – Sydenham Borough Council 1886
Source: CH470

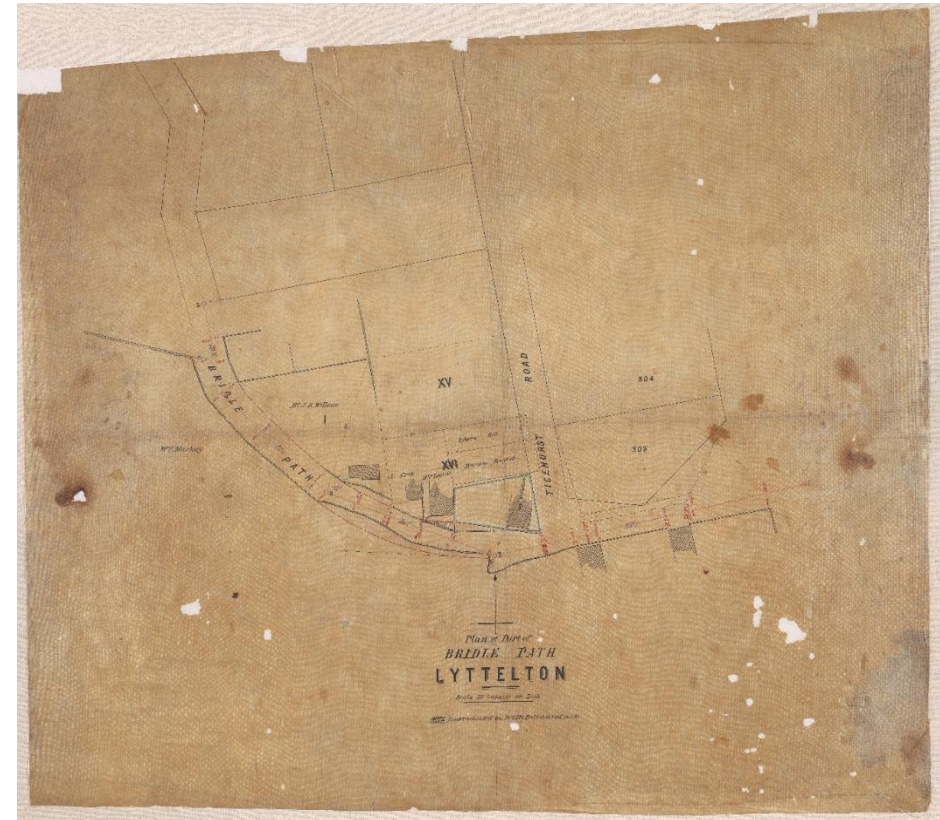
Amalgamated Authorities

Former Local Authority Records that we hold includes County/District Councils:
Banks Peninsula, Heathcote, Mt Herbert, Paparua, Selwyn, Waimairi, Wairewa



Waimairi District Council, Planners, 1980

Source: CCC/ARC/357



Plan of Part of Bridle Path c1880s

Source: CCC/ARC/22-002/1

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Family History Resources

Family History Resources

Please see our website [Christchurch City Council.govt.nz/council-archives](https://www.christchurchcitycouncil.govt.nz/council-archives) for further information on the following family history resources:

Dwellings

Valuation lists, rating lists, burgess rolls, building permit registers

Correspondence

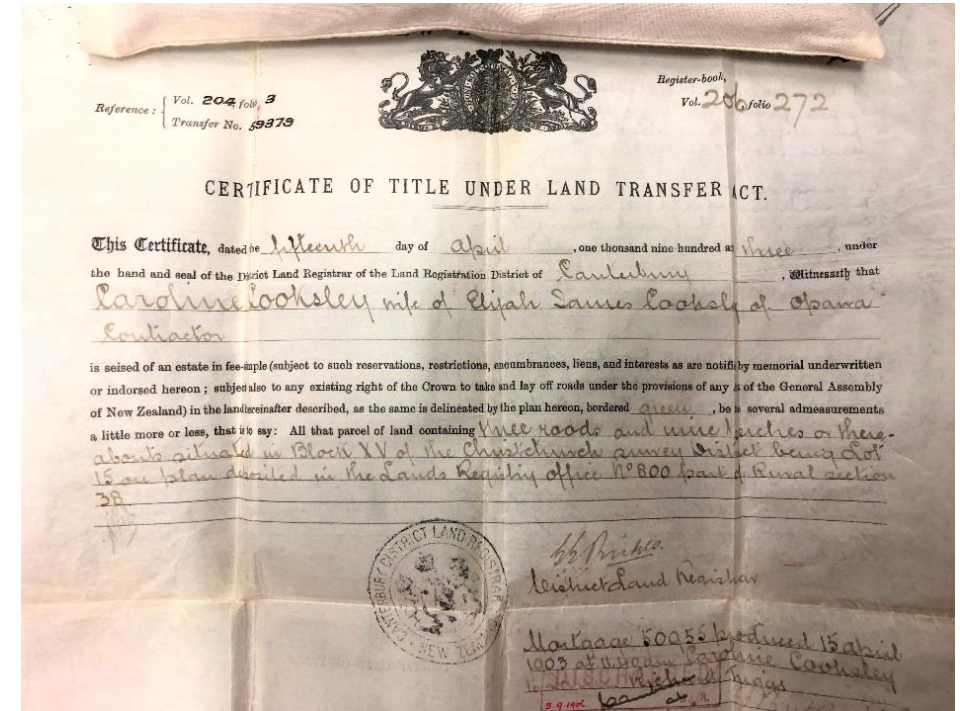
Including outward and inward inward correspondence, some indexed, from 1862 onwards

Cemeteries

Cemetery registers – purchase and interments, plot plans, Cemetery Board minutes, sextons returns
Please see : ccc.govt.nz/cemeteries

Electoral Rolls

Limited electoral rolls for amalgamated authorities

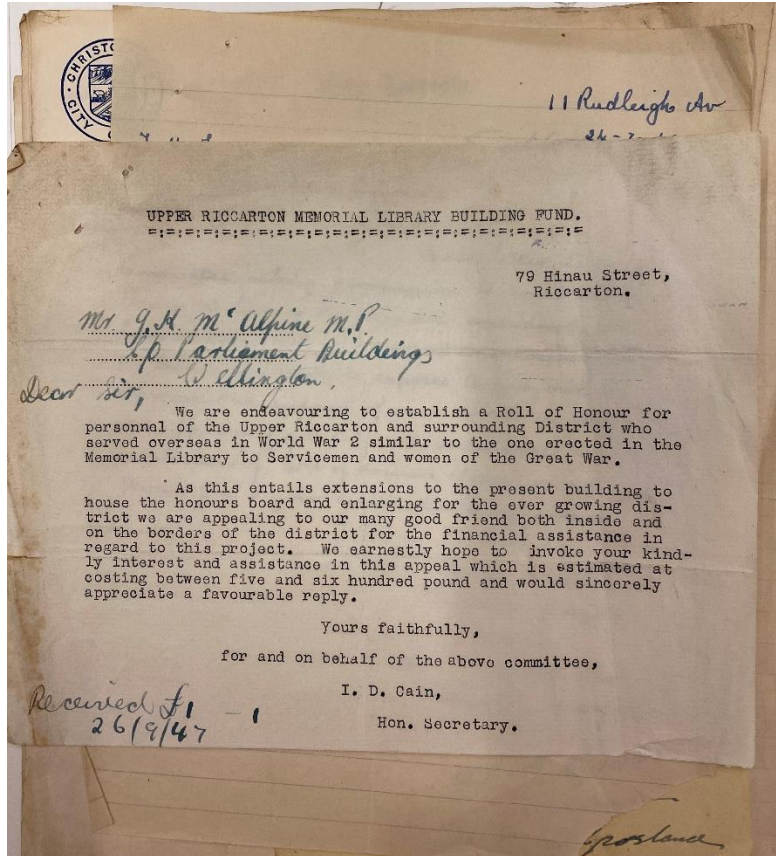


Property Unit Deed 1903

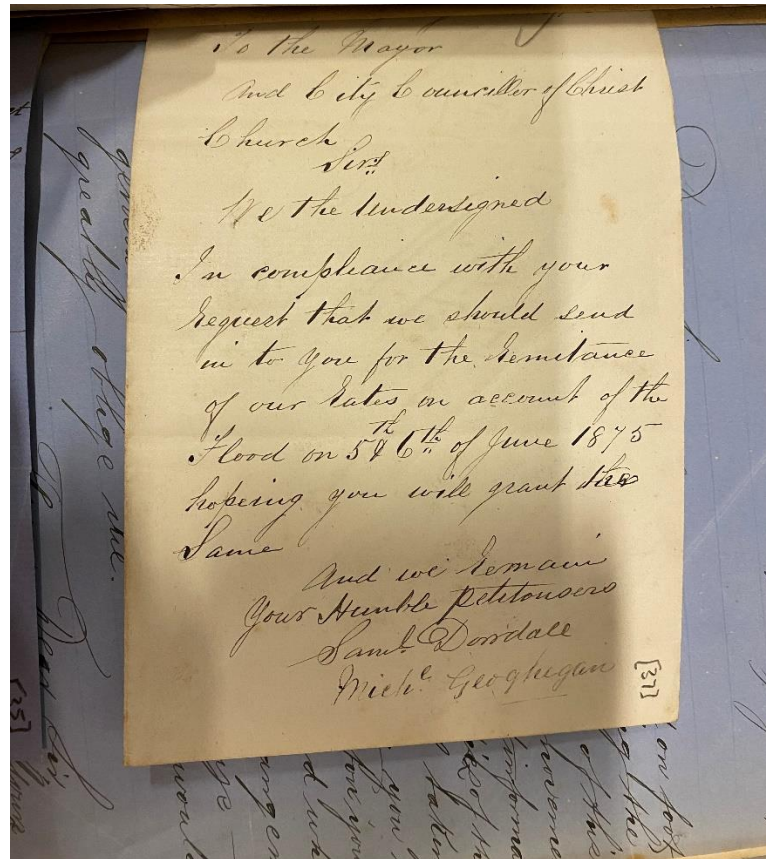
Source: CCC/ARC/500/94

Family History Resources

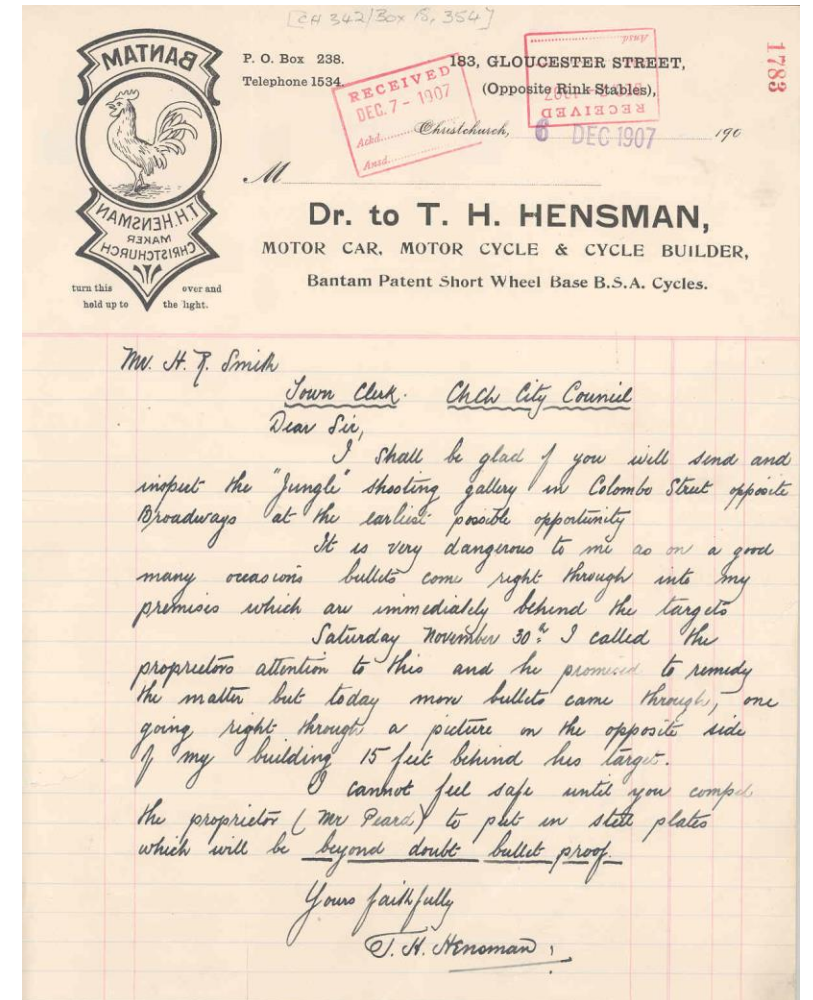
Correspondence:



CH334/273 – Waimairi CC Registered Files



CH343/14a/37 – CCC Inwards Letters 1875-1876



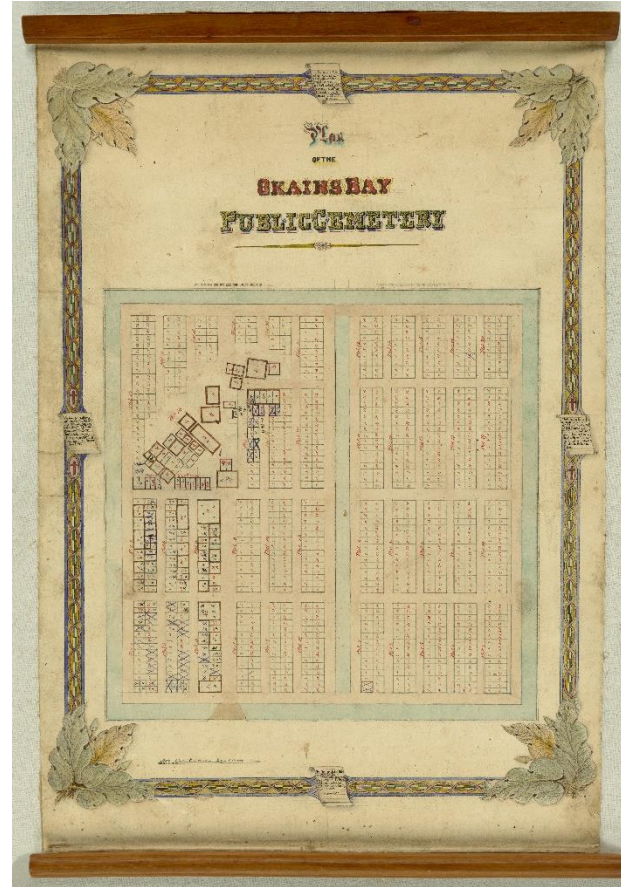
CH342/18/354 – CCC Inwards Correspondence 1904-1962

Family History Resources

Cemeteries: www.ccc.govt.nz/services/cemeteries

2052	Thomson Ann	16
2057	Williams Cecil	18
2052	Hitchins Mary Ann	17
2053	Wittamson Alice Maud	19
2054	Still born child of Mrs Kay	19
2055	Long Walter	21
2056	Meynell Robert Henry	22
2057	Ellis Edith Jane	21
2058	Murray Margaret Susan	27
2059	Henderson	27

CCC/ARC/400/1 Addington Interments 1858-1882



Okains Bay Public Cemetery Plot Plan c1870

Plot	Name of Purchaser	Date of purchase	Who lies buried
21	Mrs Mrs White	Oct 12 1885	Mrs Mrs White
22	do do	do do	Parents name Mrs H. White
23	Samuel Priest	no record	Infant of S and S Priest
24	Mrs Morgan	Aug 22 1885	Henry Morgan
25	do do	do do	
26	H. Morgan	Dec 28 1903	Elizabeth Morgan aged 37, 1903
27	do do	" " 1903	George Knud Knudsen aged 33, 1917
28	Knudsen Bro's	April 26 1905	Andrew Knudsen aged 73, 1905
29	do do	do do	Francis Ernest Stody Maskeu aged 45, 1907
30	W Knudsen	Oct 15 1921	Mrs (Pimrah) Knudsen aged 73
31			
32	David Hunt	Sept 5th 1913	Hannah Hunt aged 77, 11/3/1914
33	do do	" " "	Jeremiah Hunt aged 75, 1885
34	do do	June 10th 1935	David Hunt in date 24 & 25 - 3 May 1937
35	do	do	Margaret Hunt. died 13.9.1885
36			
37	H. Cross (Crops)	January 1888	Sarah Cross aged 60 Written in Burial Register as 11 Crops..
38	" "	" "	William Cross Aged 64 " " " " " "
39	Jeremiah Hunt	Sept 4th 1891	Annie Hunt - Aged 64
40	" "	Decr 1897	Charles Bailey aged 81

CCC/ARC/22-004/1 - Pigeon Bay - Purchase Register 1883-1998

Family History Resources

Photographs: Including mayors, councillors and staff



Mayor Michael Brannan Hart 1874

Source: CH430/14



Christchurch Drainage Board 1909

Source: CH659/101



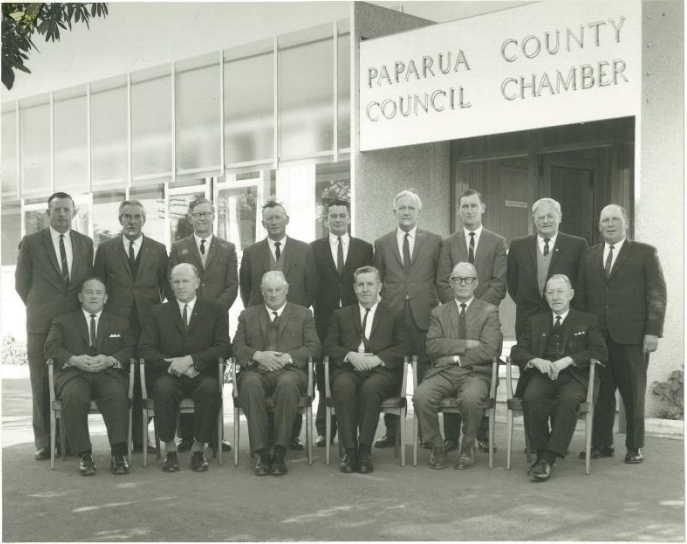
Teresa Green, Christchurch City Council
Councillor 1954-1956

Source: CH342

Family History Resources

Photographs: Including mayors, councillors and staff

PAPARUA COUNTY COUNCIL 1968



Back Row: D. P. GRAHAM W. L. RAGG E. C. BRITNELL L. P. MANION L. J. CUTLER P. WYNN-WILLIAMS
 A. Y. SHUKER R. S. MAYER J. Y. PETHIG
 Front Row: D. S. GOULDING A. KELLY D. H. WARREN H. W. BENNETT A. DYHRBERG A. T. STEVENSON
(County Clerk) (Chairman) (Deputy Chairman) (County Engineer)

Paparua County Council 1968

Heathcote County Council
 OFFICE STAFF — 1932



Miss E. M. SUCKLING P. ALLEN J. H. McALLIFFE Miss P. A. CARTER
Assistant Clerk Henry Street Clerk A.P.A. 1922, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Heathcote County Council – Office Staff 1932
 Source: CH430/4



QEII Staff 1989

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Searching our webpages

Searching our webpages

- Some of our accession lists and finding aids are available to search online: <https://ccc.govt.nz/council-archives>
- The resources are organised by general subject order
- It is not a complete set of our accession lists – but those we have the most demand for
- Please always contact us if you can't find what you are looking for!



- Pay
- Report
- Apply
- Have your say
- Book

Log in

- Home
- Services
- Consents & Licences
- Transport
- Environment
- Rec & Sport
- Parks & Gardens
- Culture & Community
- News & Events
- Council

Home > Council > How the Council works > Council history > Council archives



Council archives

The Christchurch City Council archives are a rich resource for the history and development of Christchurch. Our records date back to when the Council was first established in 1862 and include records from amalgamated local authorities.

[Expand all](#) | [Collapse all](#)

- About the Council archives
- Correspondence records
- Digitised records

- ### Related links
- Council history
 - Heritage in the city
 - Coat of arms
 - Council offices
 - Past chairs and mayors
 - Architectural heritage booklets
 - Chronology
 - Buildings
 - Christchurch Heritage Festival 2022

Expand all | Collapse all

About the Council archives



Correspondence records



Digitised records



Local government electoral rolls



Minute books



Records of former local authorities



Dwellings



Parks and reserves



- Heritage in the city
- Coat of arms
- Council offices
- Past chairs and mayors
- Architectural heritage booklets
- Chronology
- Buildings
- Christchurch Heritage Festival 2022
- Heritage Strategy

ABOUT THE COUNCIL ARCHIVES

Correspondence records

The Christchurch City Council Archives Collection holds inwards and outwards correspondence dating back to 1862 for both Christchurch City Council and many amalgamated local authorities

Some of this collection has been extensively catalogued and gives a fascinating picture of the early and developing city.

Christchurch City Council correspondence

- **CCC ARC 343 Christchurch City Council Correspondence [PDF, 308 KB]**
Includes correspondence for the Christchurch City Council as early as 1862, including the Inspector of Nuisances, the City Surveyor, reports on reconstruction and maintenance of City Highways and Bridges (1928), Christchurch Domain Board Minutes and correspondence.
The first volume of the City Surveyor Reports, featuring letters, notes and documents from the City Surveyor 1862-1863 (CCC ARC 343 89) has now been digitised and is available to view from [Canterbury Stories](#).
- The first volume of inward correspondence from February 1862 to March 1863 (CCC ARC 343 4) has now been digitised and is available to view from [Canterbury Stories](#). This volume has been indexed (please see below):
 - **CCC ARC 343 4-23 Christchurch City Council Inwards Letter Index February 1862- June 1877 [PDF, 2.7 MB]**
- **CCC ARC 343 78-81 Christchurch City Council - Inspector of Nuisances: Sanitary Commission, Minutes and Reports 1862-1868 and Correspondence 1862-1882 [PDF, 1.7 MB]**
The first volume of the Inspector of Nuisances 1862-1864 (CCC ARC 343 78) has now been digitised and is available to view from [Canterbury Stories](#).

Christchurch City Council outward correspondence

- **CH341 Christchurch City Council Outwards Letters [PDF, 348 KB]**
- CH341 correspondence collection series dates from 1862 to 1972. Some of the records have been extensively listed. The following are available to view:
- **Box 1: March 1862-February 1869 [PDF, 1 MB]**
 - **Boxes 9-12: October 1901-February 1905 [PDF, 4.7 MB]**

Christchurch City Council inward correspondence

- **CH342 Christchurch City Council Inward Letters 1904-1962 [PDF, 277 KB]**
- The CH342 inwards correspondence collection covers the period from 1904 to 1962. The letters for the period 1904-1908

- Past chairs and mayors
- Architectural heritage booklets
- Chronology
- Buildings
- Christchurch Heritage Festival
- Heritage Strategy

Set Microsoft Edge as the default application for reading PDF files? [Set as default](#)

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ARCHIVES

CCC Archives Accession No: CCC/ARC/343 (Archives NZ Ref No: CH343)
Record Series: Christchurch City Council Correspondence: Guard Books of Inwards Correspondence
Items Lists of Individual Boxes: CCC/ARC/343/4-16 (CH343/6a-16a)
Date Range: Feb 1862-June 1877

CCC Archives Accession List:

Archives Ref/Box	Item No	Date	Description
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CH 343/6a	Item 2	26.2.1862	G Turner for Provincial Secretary - tells Resident Magistrate he is appointed chairman of meeting called to elect Municipal Councillors for Christchurch.
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CH 343/6a	Item 4	1.3.1862	G Turner for Provincial Secretary - In reply to petition from residents of Windmill Road and Montreal Street re drainage, Government suggests property owners should agree to a deep ditch with an outlet into Windmill Road.

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

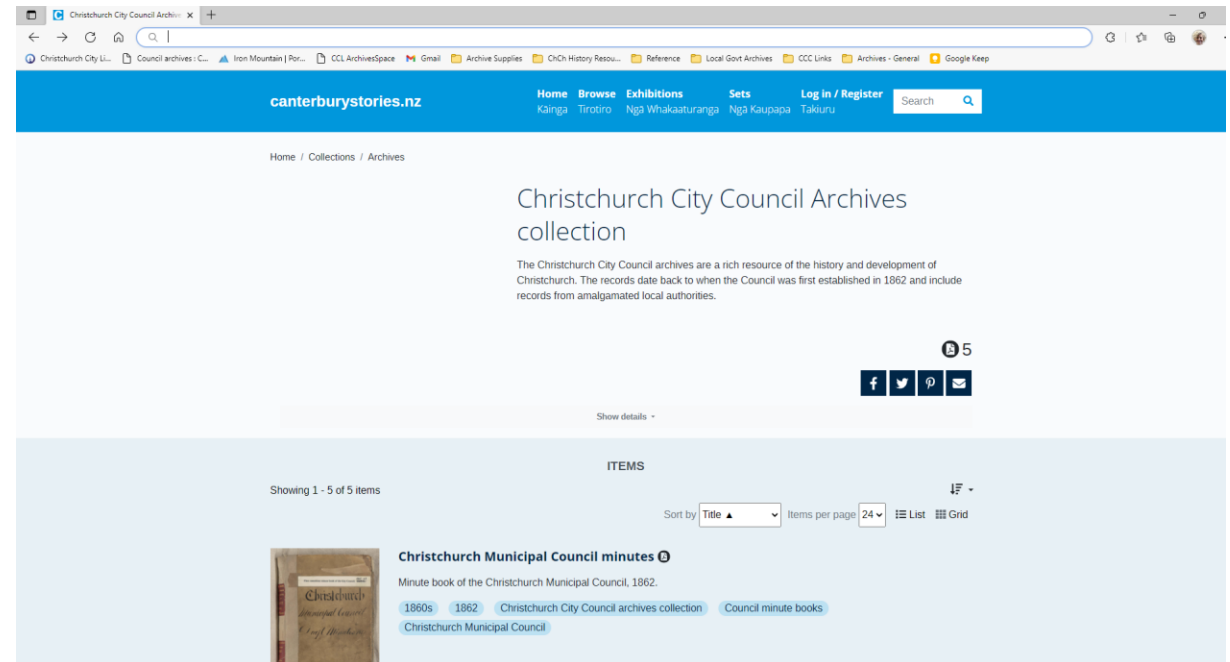
Digitised Archives on Canterbury Stories

Digitised archives available

- The CCC Archives are beginning to digitise and make publicly available some of our most vulnerable, fragile and fascinating early records of the Council.
- hosted by our friends at Christchurch City Libraries via Canterbury Stories:
 - <https://canterburystories.nz/collections/archives/cccarchives>
- with links to also from our CCC Archives webpages:
 - <https://ccc.govt.nz/council-archives>

First five items:

- Inspector of Nuisances 1862-1864
- City Surveyor Reports 1862-1863
- Inward Correspondence 1862-1863
- CCC Minute Book 1862
- Lyttelton Borough Council 1862-1864



CCC/ARC/343-89 City Surveyor Reports 1862-1863

Wages
Contract

I enclose the wages sheet for the past week -

As the tender for two contracts are to be given on Wednesday 4 p.m. it might be well for the despatch of business to hold a meeting on that evening as there seems a likelihood of considerable competition.

Should such a meeting take place I will make it my business to lay before the Council a statement relative to the respective costs of stone & wood curbing -

Instead of buying wood & stone I would suggest that timber be ordered for the supply of hard timber & pine at 100 milled - in large quantities and at a price as may be required.

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen
Your obedient servant
Rowland Clouston

To the
Municipal Council
Ch

In... In May 5th 1862

Gentlemen

I have the honor to Report as follows.

Cashel Street } Mr. Gimmel who accepted the Contract for repairs in Cashel Street has not appeared.

St. Asaph Street } The estimated cost of St. Asaph Street is £52.0.0

Colombo Street } The estimated cost for improvements in Colombo St is £36.0.0

St. Asaph Street } The works in St. Asaph Street commenced this morning I would recommend formation and Metalling the street.

St. Asaph Street } Sham Street being a leading thoroughfare it would be well to the Municipal Council

is metal it before the winter }
The cost would not exceed }
£4-0-0 per Chain. }
The estimated cost of forming }
Salisbury street from the }
Wheatly Road to Antigua St }
is £20-0-0. }
If under the West side of }
St. Asaph Street }
A. Culvert will be required at }
an expense of about £3.11.0 }
Colombo street south from }
Litchfield St to St. Asaph St }
needs levelling and forming }
I do not think the cost of such }
improvements will exceed }
£2-0-0 per Chain. }
I regret to say that I am }
unable to report as to the heat }
mode of draining the block of }
land situated between the }
Windmill Road and Montreal St. }

CCC/ARC/343-78 Inspector of Nuisances 1862-1864

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ARCHIVES		
<p>CCC Archives Accession No: CCC/ARC/343/78-81 (Archives NZ Ref No: CH343/61a-62a, 87a) Record Series: Christchurch City Council Correspondence, Reports of Council Committees and City Surveyor. Sub Series: Inspector of Nuisances: Sanitary Commission, Minutes and Reports 1862-1868; Inward/Outward Correspondence 1862-1882. Date Range: 1862-1882</p>		
CCC Archives Accession List:		
Archives Ref	Description	Date

CCC/ARC/343/78/23 (CH343/61a)	<p>Mr Moore, City Surveyor</p> <p>Sir, The time having expired which was given to those persons not having pans to provide them. I thought it best to report on the same.</p> <p>Mr Parker, Publican, Cashel Street – objects to the pan because he considers it a greater nuisance than his present plan of a deep cesspool.</p> <p>Mr Swinbourne, High Street – objects because he is a weekly tenant and positively refuses to provide one. Mr Brooks – objections are that the pans are a great nuisance and another reason it would have to be carried through the house having no back entrance.</p> <p>Mr Heath? Complied with</p> <p>[Unknown] – objects to a pan because those that have them make such great complaints. And she has also been to great expense in having her present cesspool sunk deeper.</p> <p>Mathews, High Street – I wrote to him about providing a closet in his dwelling house and shop and when I called at the expiration of the time given he said there was no room in his yard to erect one but on examining the back premises I found sufficient room and have given him 10 days to provide one.</p> <p>Mr Coates, Colombo Street – Having placed a case lined with lime in the grounds to hold the soil, and with the intention of having it emptied when necessary and considering it much better than the pan he refuses to provide one but wishes the Council distinctly to understand its with no intention to go against their views but because he thinks the pans a great nuisance.</p> <p>[Unknown] – Beg to inform the City Council that he has complied with the letter sent him with respect to providing a pan and since then the pan has been in use. He has found it a great nuisance and wishes to call the City Council's attention to the general dissatisfaction the use of the pans have given.</p> <p>Others have ordered pans.</p> <p>The cow that was reported last week as being a great nuisance on account of mauling a deceased head? has been killed and taken down to the Sand Hills</p> <p>I remain Sir etc, Mr Coker, Inspector of Nuisances</p>	1 June 1863
CCC/ARC/343/78/24 (CH343/61a)	<p>Sir, I have sent in the Tenders from Mr Sellars for the emptying of ash boxes.</p> <p>I made the account but against Mr Swinbourne for the cleaning of water closet and providing pans to the same. He objected as before to pay and according to the orders of the City Council I have summonsed him to the Resident Magistrate's Court. The case will come up on 30th of this month. During the past week I have visited the whole of the places where I have had occasion to leave notices and with exception of the pans and Mr Oakes of the "Fleece", they have been attended to. I believe Mr Oakes would have attended to the notice left if he had not been confined to his bed. And in the case of notices left respecting the pans great many have ordered them and not yet received them from Mr Thompkins. A few I think will wait for the decision of the Court in Swinbourne's case. I have also had to report Mr Thompkins again on the filthy condition of his water closet. I got an order from the Resident Magistrate for Sergeant Major Pender to inspect the same which he did and reports the closet is in a filthy state and not fit for Public use.</p> <p>I remain Sir etc, Mr Coker, Inspector of Nuisances</p>	5 June 1863
CCC/ARC/343/78/25 (CH343/61a)	<p>Mr Moore, City Surveyor</p> <p>Sir, According to the orders of the City Council I had the privy of Mr Swinbournes cleaned out and provided the same with a pan and sent him an account of the same. He refuses to pay the account on the same grounds that I mentioned in my last report, that he is a weekly tenant. The closet was in a most filthy condition. I have also to report that Mr Thompkins has at last complied with the notices left him with respect to his back premises and water closet – having had a new closet and urinal erected. Mr Fuller, Mr Green and Mr Elliot of Colombo Street report that Mr Thompkins has stopped the roadway leading to their back premises and the above parties object to having the pans carried through the houses. Great complaints</p>	8 June 1863

CCC/ARC/343/78/28 (CH343/61a)	<p>Gentlemen, I have to Report that during the week I have been engaged in making myself acquainted with facts necessary to be known in connection with my duties. That I have had an interview with Mr Birdsey of the "British Hotel" and found the notice served by Mr Coker, the late Inspector, not attended to. Mr Coker having (according to Mr Birdsey's statement) undertaken to get it done. I desire to be informed whether notice having been given to remove a nuisance I have authority to engage the Contractor to do the work at the expense of the person receiving the notice, he being the occupier of the premises. That I have inspected Mr Woodman's premises in Durham Street. He has not attended to the notice served upon him to provide a pan to his water closet; there appeared to be no immediate necessity. I desire to be informed whether the use of pans can be enforced out of the specified districts. That the accumulation of rubbish and refuse of every description in the "Triangle" increases daily. I desire to be informed whether the Council will hold out hopes to the inhabitants of the temporary means of alleviating the existing evil. That the nuisance complained of Mr Cook, Butcher are of a permanent character; the pigs kept being fed upon offal and skins if remaining on the premises only a short time become offensive. That the notices left on Mr Gardiner Morse and Edwards in Kilmore Street have not been attended to, the tenants prefer to leave the houses rather than do what is required. The landlord Mr Gosling, also declines at present, as the matter is urgent I desire to be informed what steps I am to take in the matter.</p> <p>I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently William Pearce, Inspector of Nuisances</p>	13 July 1863
CCC/ARC/343/78/29 (CH343/61a)	<p>Gentlemen, I beg to report that I have again visited the premises of Mr Cook, Butcher, the skins have been taken away and he is building pig styes and premises for the manufacture of tallow beyond the Town Belt; at present tallow is manufactured on his premises in Manchester Street. I have given an order to Sellars to empty the cesspool on Mr Birdsey's premises and left notice to remove rubbish and fill up stagnant water hole. I have called upon the persons who had not complied with the notice to provide cesspans; in some cases the order had been given and not completed. Mr Thompkins is waiting for material. Mr Cooks is provided with a zinc lined case which he contends meets the views of the Council and alteration would be expensive. Mr Brooks if provided with a cesspan, would have to take it thro' his house. Miss Skillicom is provided with a closet, the altering of which would be expensive. This closet is cleanly and in no way offensive. I wish to be informed whether I have a discretionary power or whether the Council insist on the use of pans in every case in the prescribed district. I have inspected the Brewery in Cashel Street; it is drained into several water holes on the premises, the quantity is far too large to be removed by the Contractors cart and Mr Brown is about to expand the Brewery when a much larger quantity of water will be used. I desire to be informed what steps I am to take in the matter. I have inspected the premises of Mr Green, Pork Butcher in Colombo Street. He has a boiler on his premises used in his business for melting fat. People in the neighbourhood complain of it being offensive. The house is drained into the street and the premises are as cleanly as the nature of the business permits. The closet on Mr Gosling's premises reported it in my last, has been emptied by the Contractor, Mr Gosling complaining that the work was not properly done. I had an interview with Sellars on the subject and as to other work of the like nature not being done he explained that the emptying of the cesspans employed his time principally. Persons express their willingness to comply with requests made to them; but are unable to get the work done.</p> <p>I have the honor to be Gentlemen, your obedient servant, William Pearce, Inspector of Nuisances</p>	20 July 1863
CCC/ARC/343/78/30 (CH343/61a)	<p>Gentlemen, I beg to report that I have collected the money due for cesspan emptying excepting cases noted in the collecting book and have handed the same over to the Town Clerk. Mrs Mazely, St Asaph Street refuses to pay the sum of 8 shillings and 9 pence due from her. She pleads poverty and says at the time of signing the Contractor's book she thought she had no option but has since ascertained that her neighbours are exempt. The Contractor has discontinued to call at her house. I wish to be informed whether the Council prohibit the sinking of cesspools within the City. I suggested to Mr Gosling, Kilmore Street who has lately had a cesspool on his premises emptied; a pit of sufficient size to receive ashes and rubbish as well as night soil. He much approved it but the Contractor objected, saying he would not be allowed to empty it in the day time and that his night cart was adapted for night soil only. In some cesspools that have come under my notice their evils have been much lessened by being substantially brick lined. I beg to call the attention of the Council to the state of the West side of Colombo Street between Cashel Street and Hereford Street. The drainage from the houses under the footpath remains in the road causing great complaints in the neighbourhood. I have to report to the Council that a notice served on Mr Money, Stable keeper in Armagh Street to remove stagnant water has not been attended to. It could only be effectually done by filling up a hollow of considerable extent. This Mr Money objects to as it would inundate his stables. He is about to apply for permission to drain his stable yard into Armagh Street.</p> <p>I have the honor to be Gentlemen, your most obedient servant, William Pearce, Inspector of Nuisances</p>	27 July 1863

CCC/ARC/343/4 Inwards Correspondence 1862-1863

89

Provincial Secretary's Office
 February 19th 1862

Dear Sir

Referring to the subject of an endowment of waste lands for the municipality of Christchurch I am directed by Sir John the Superintendent to state that he is prepared to reserve in conformity with the 4th clause of the Waste Lands Regulations 500 acres of land in favor of the corporation of the city of Christchurch, to be selected by their Council in blocks not exceeding 500 acres in extent.

The Provincial Government will also prepare measures to be submitted to the next session of the Provincial Council for the purpose of transferring to the

John Hall Esq
 12

18 opens

Christchurch, June 6th 1862

We the undersigned, inhabitants of Montreal Street South and the immediate vicinity, beg to call the attention of the Municipal Council to the state of that part of the Street, lying South of St. Asaph Street, which has become quite impassable, the surface water having accumulated, at one part, to the depth of at least two feet, the whole width of the Street, and trust that they will deem it desirable, that measures may be adopted to remedy the inconvenience, a slight attention to the drains being all that would be required.

Francis Franks
 Rose Ostler
 Burnett Parkinson
 John Parkinson
 E. P. Stevens
 Thomas Becken
 Charles Hagstaff
 J. Henry
 William Paddy
 Henry Paddy
 William Burrows

Page in B. 18/63

Woodhouse Messrs
 14 July 1862

Dear Sir

I have offered to supply horse on behalf of the Provincial Government to apply to the Municipal Council for permission to remove the River from the Street to Montreal St. - I think the situation is worthy of a public hedge & the expense including planting will not exceed 4 or 5⁰⁰ per chain, - by the time the wooden fence is erected there will be a secure hedge that the same time highly

application was also made to the Provincial Government to temporarily enclose a portion of the ground with a movable fence during the winter months. This application was granted and I am now desired to ask the same privilege from your body. -

I have the honor to enclose a

John Hall Esq
 Chairman
 Christchurch M. Council

CCC/ARC/343/4 Inwards Correspondence 1862-1863

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ARCHIVES

CCC Archives Accession No: CCC/ARC/343 (Archives NZ Ref No: CH343)

Record Series: Christchurch City Council Correspondence: Guard Books of Inwards Correspondence

Items Lists of Individual Boxes: CCC/ARC/343/4-16 (CH343/6a-16a)

Date Range: Feb 1862-June 1877

CCC Archives Accession List:

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CH 343/6a	Item 5	5.3.1862	G Turner for Provincial Secretary - Sends copies of an ordinance for use of Municipal Councillors.
CH 343/6a	Item 6	6.3.1861	Chas Bowen Provincial Treasurer -has not yet received any warrant for payment to Municipal Council.
CH 343/6a	Item 7	10.3.1862	W Turner Manager Bank of NSW - asks council to construct a footpath on south side of Hereford Street between Colombo St and Oxford Tce. Bank and others are willing to contribute to cost.
CH 343/6a	Item 8	26.3.1862	T W Maude - Provincial Government allocates 10,000 acres to council and a grant of £3000.
CH 343/6a	Item 9	3.4.1862	W Turner Bank of NSW - has received £3000 for council; £2000 put on fixed deposit and £1000 in current a/c.
CH 343/6a	Item 10	10.4.1862	G Turner for Provincial Secretary - permission granted for Christchurch Municipal Council to use the room over the Judge's Chamber at the Court House.
CH 343/6a	Item 11	11.4.1862	G Turner for Provincial Secretary - sends engineer's report on drainage between Windmill Rd and Montreal St South. Attached 25.2.62 E Dobson Provincial Engineer - report suggests deep boundary ditch with outlet to Windmill Rd, all parties need to agree to this.
CH 343/6a	Item 12	25.4.1862	T W Maude - Provincial Government to transfer site of Court House, site reserved for Mechanics' Institute, Market south of the Avon and Slaughter House Reserves to Municipal Council with some conditions.

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ARCHIVES

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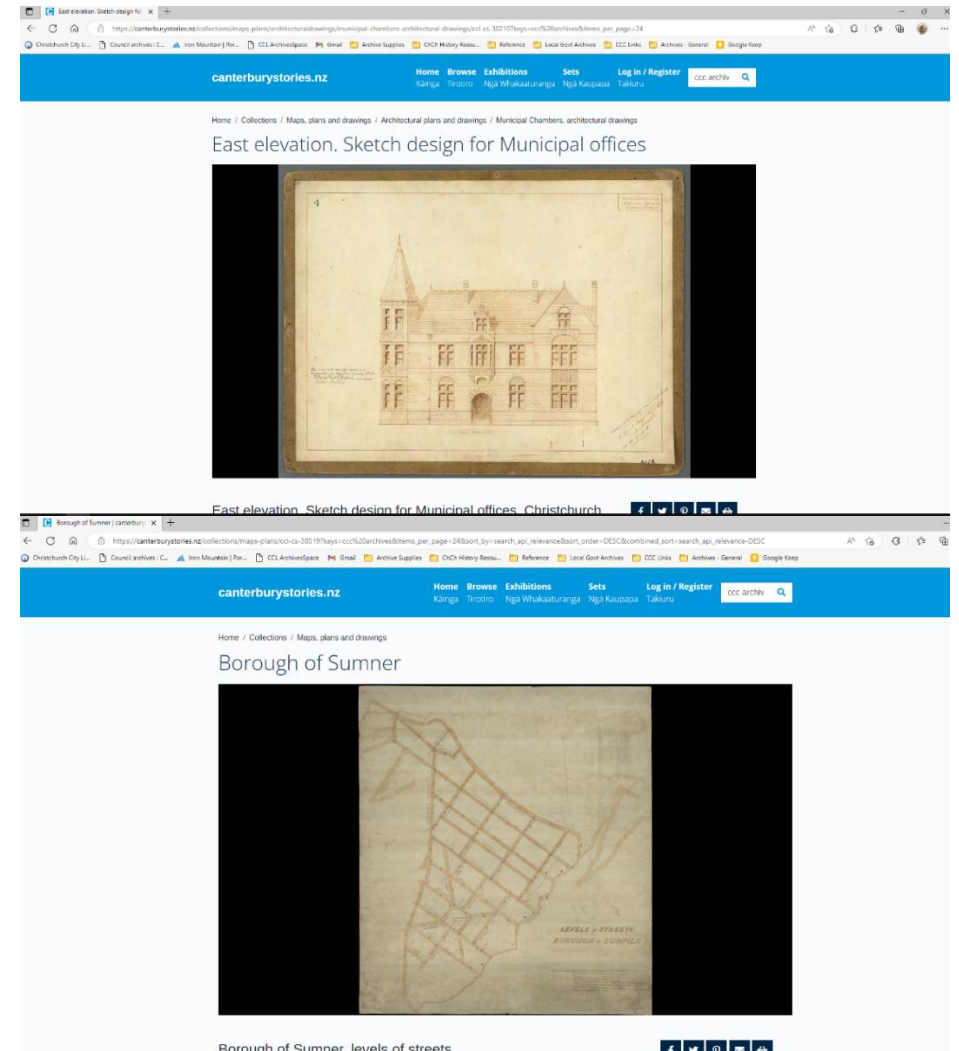
Archives Ref/Box	Item No	Date	Description
CH 343/6a	Item 58	21.7.1862	T W Maude - Provincial Government will attend to main roads complained of by Municipal Council.
CH 343/6a	Item 59	22.7.1862	Edward B Bishop Cranmer Square - asks for Montreal Street to be formed and metalled from the Montreal St bridge to Whatley Rd. Attached petition signed by 37 persons re above request.-21.7.62 John Raven - asks for his name to be attached to above petition.-19.12.62 Further petition asking for formation and metalling of Montreal Street from Cranmer Square to Whatley Rd. - signed by John Raven, E B Bishop, E Minchin, S S Stedmad, Jas Geo Hawkis ?, Fredk Crouls ?, William Harrington.
CH 343/6a	Item 60	24.7.1862	T W Maude - asks for permission to remove gravel from the Government Domain on condition that holes are later filled with good soil and levelled.
CH 343/6a	Item 61	26.7.1862	A F N Parkinson - has received description of footpaths in Christchurch to be proclaimed as footpaths.
CH 343/6a	Item 62	1.8.1862	Petition from inhabitants of St Asaph and Manchester Streets re cuttings needed for draining the area. - signed by W Widdowson, E Ford, James Woodham, Edward Broder & Son, Joseph Milsom, James L Fleming, Frederick Brown, James Fawcett, W Gladden, Thos Spark Brown, Jabez Hitchingman, Charles Kiver, Luck & Clark, James Grant, C F Krelschan ?, E Brady, Stewart Blanchard.
CH 343/6a	Item 63	4.8.1862	T W Maude - Provincial Government will pay half the cost of a long culvert in Ferry Rd near junction with Lichfield Street and half the cost of metalling Durham Street in front of the Government buildings.
CH 343/6a	Item 64	4.8.1862	Fredk Moore ? Christchurch Town Surveyor - considers he is underpaid compared with Provincial Government officers and asks for an increase in salary.
CH 343/6a	Item 65	11.8.1862	Frederick Thompson. Northern Assurance Co - re fire risks with American petroleum, Rock Oil or Kerosene.
CH 343/6a	Item 66	11.8.1862	Thos R Fisher - asks for improvements to gully adjacent to his home.

Digitised archives also available

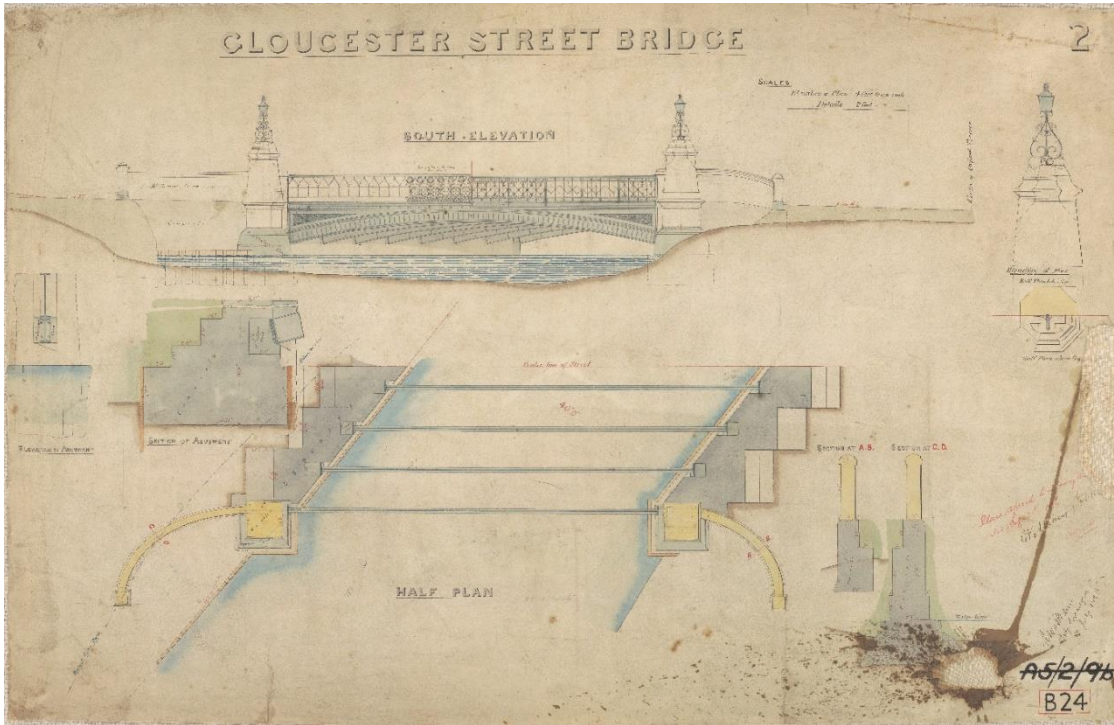
Other archives from our collection have also been digitised, many of which are available from Canterbury Stories:

Search on 'CCC Archives' for:

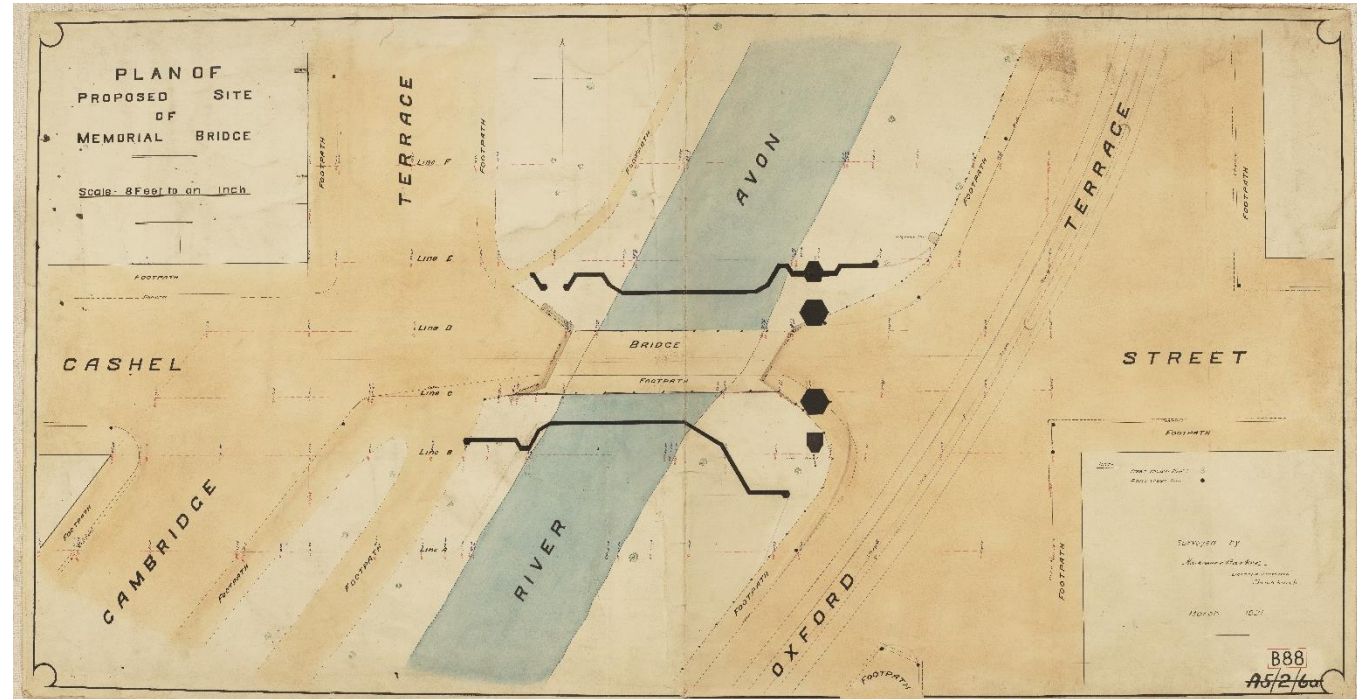
- Maps
- Architectural drawings
- Cemetery registers
- Early bridge plans (coming shortly)



CCC/ARC/22-008 – Early Bridges

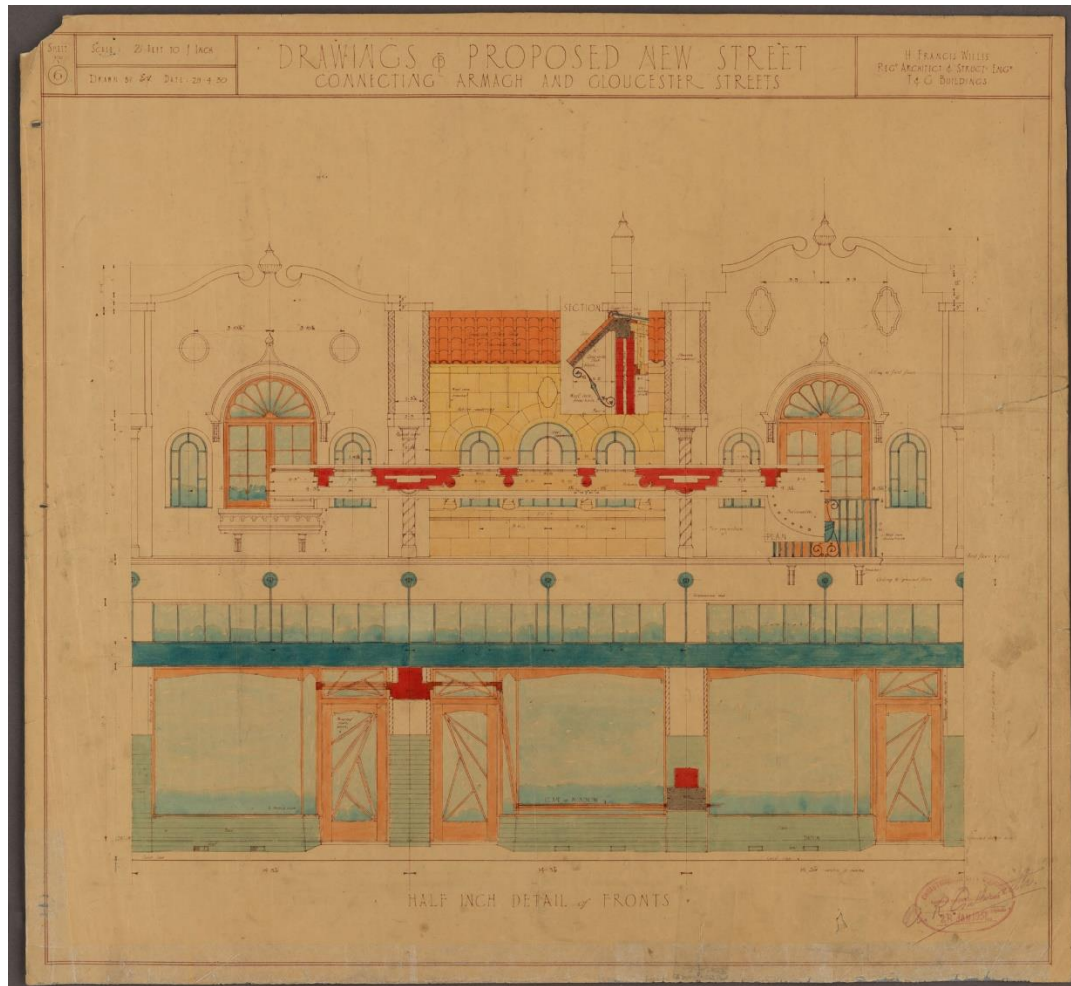


CCC/ARC/22-008/B24 - Gloucester Street Bridge 1884

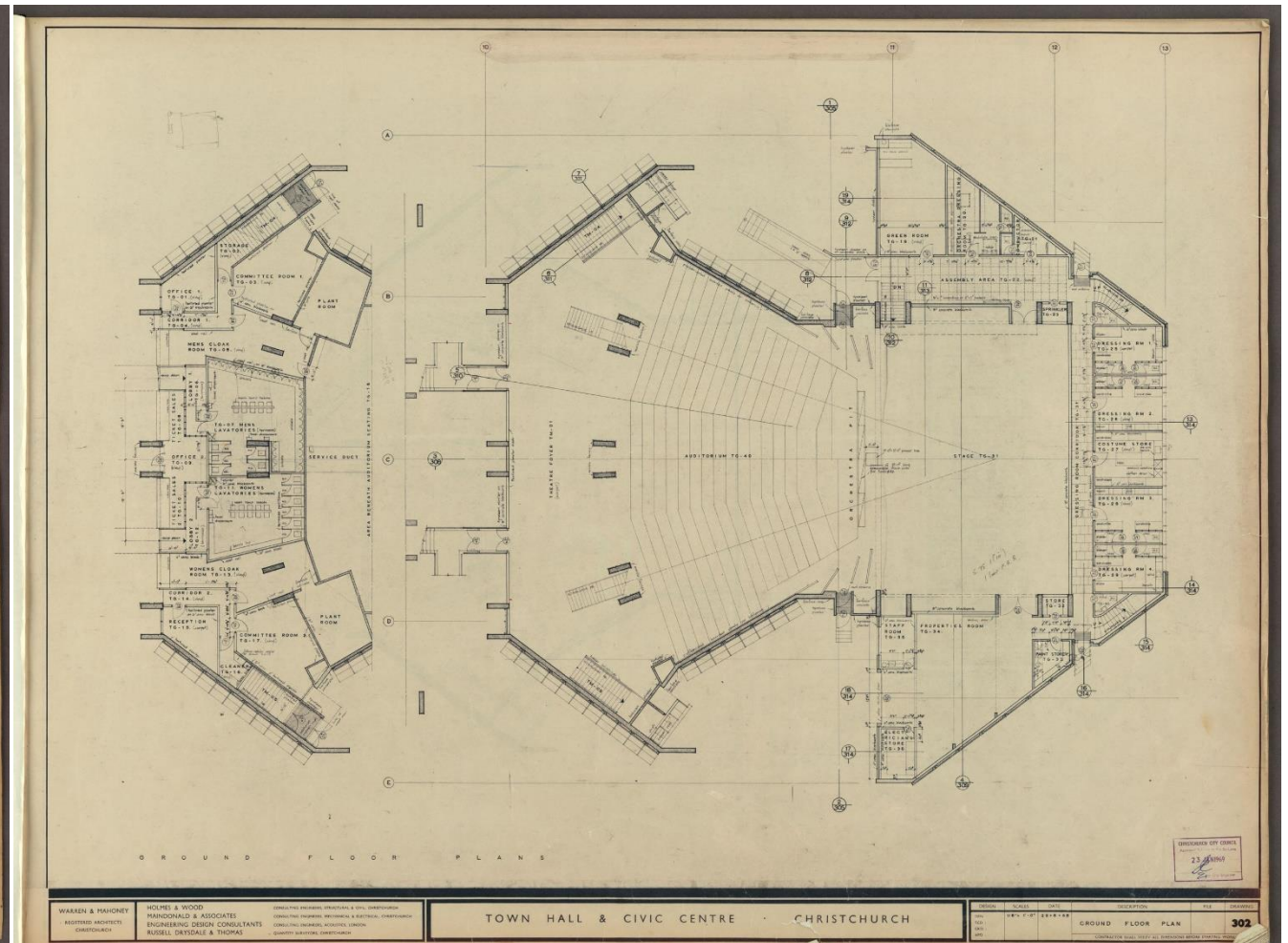


CCC/ARC/22-008/B88 - Plan of Proposed Site of [War] Memorial Bridge 1921

Architectural Plans



New Regent St 1931
(14/515328)

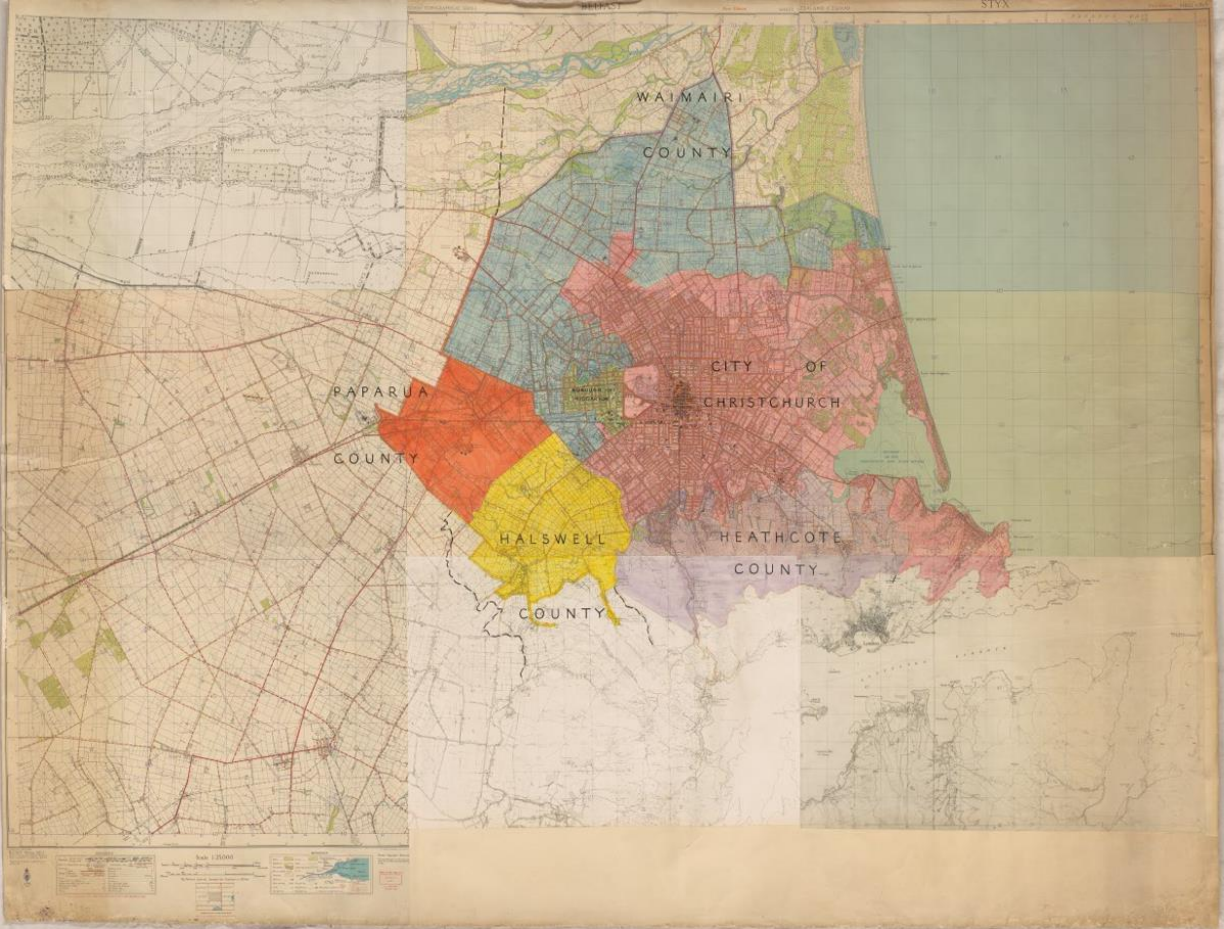


Christchurch Town Hall 1969
(14/515092)

Maps

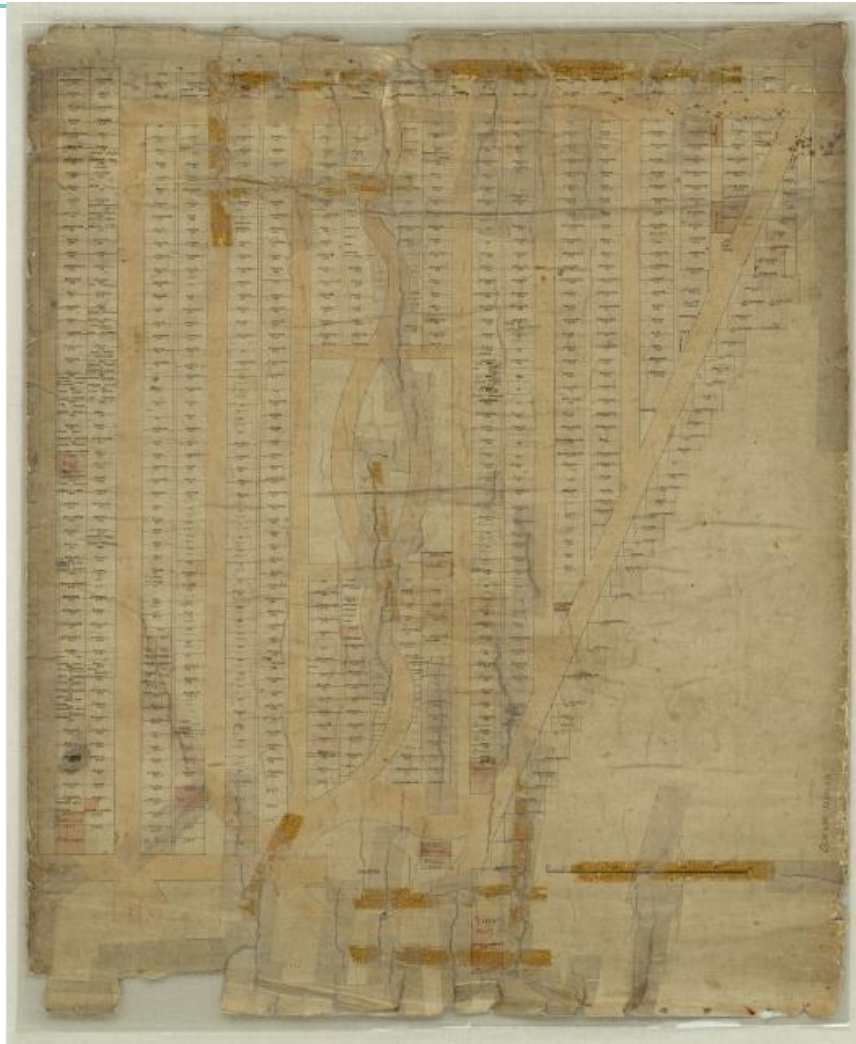


Christchurch & Environs 1910 (09/423270)

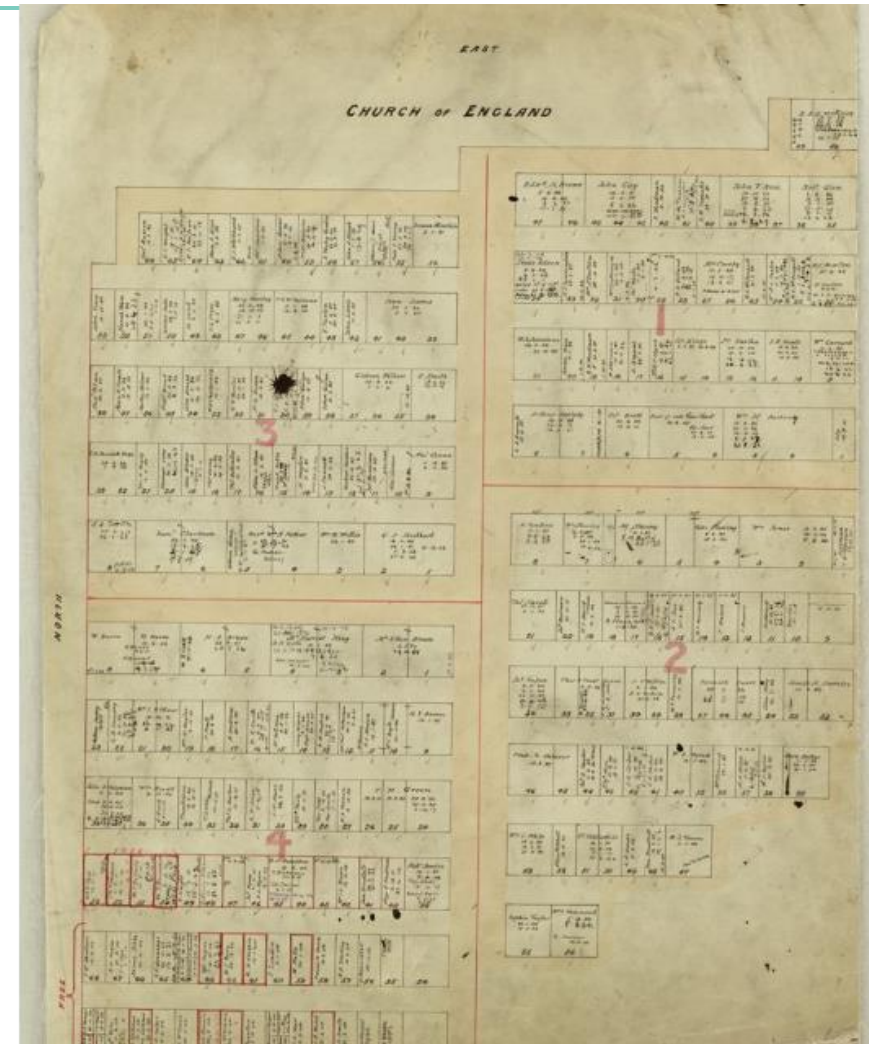


CCC/ARC/22-002/3 Christchurch and surrounding areas 1949

Cemetery Plot Plans



CH430/6C Barbadoes Cemetery



CH430/1 Linwood Cemetery

Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Contact information

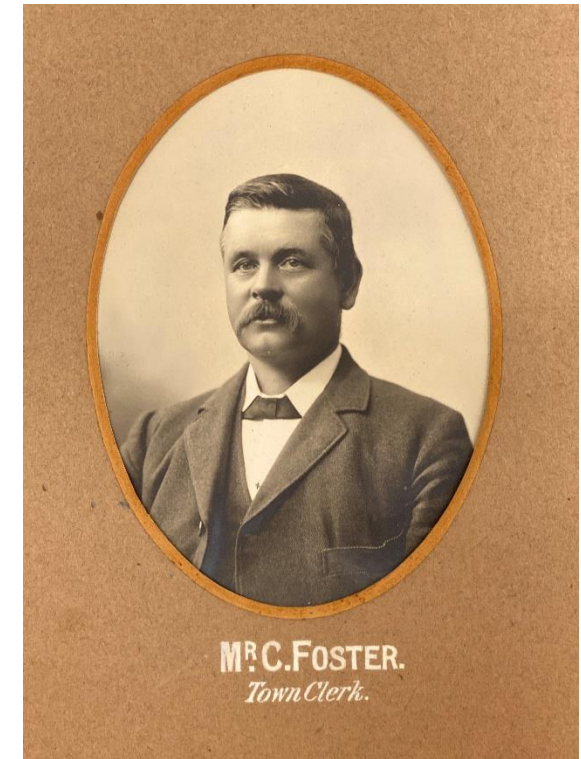
Who can we help?

The Christchurch City Council Archives Collection can help both internal and external customers to access historical Council information.

Viewing is by appointment only – please contact us at:

archives@ccc.govt.nz

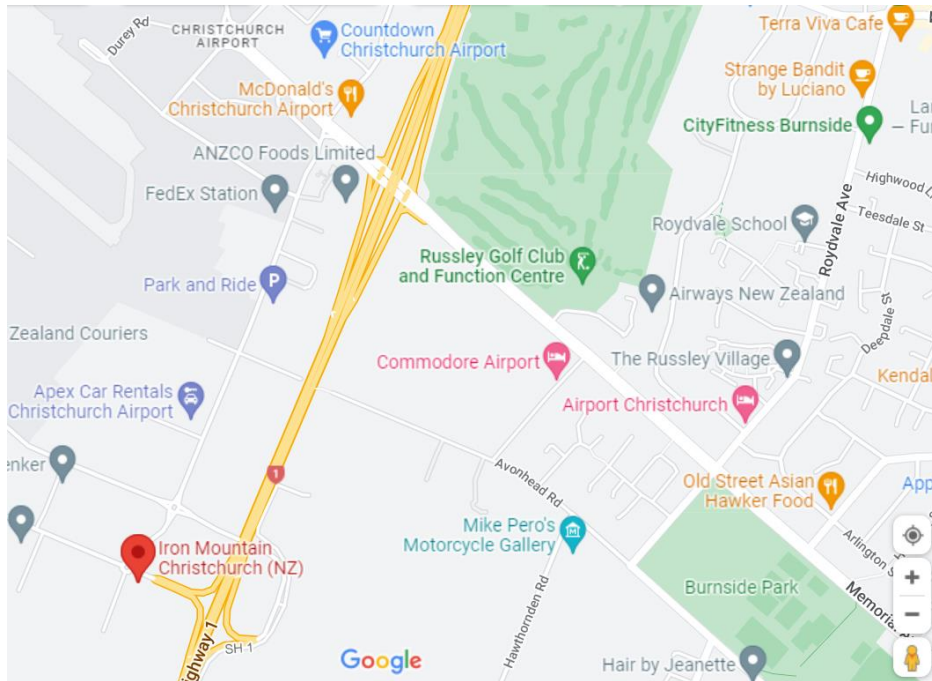
ph: 941 8424 / 027 305 2569



C Foster, Town Clerk, 1904-1905

Where is the collection?

The collection is now housed at the document management company **Iron Mountain**, located at 3 George Bellew Drive:



Christchurch City Council Archives Collection

Protecting our history, inspiring our future