

And it may be that we who live
In this new land apart, beyond
The hard old world grown fierce and fond
And bound by precedent and bond
May read the riddle right and give
New hope to those who dimly see
That all things yet shall be for good,
And teach the world at length to be
A vast united brotherhood.

"Song of the Future"
A.B. Paterson.

HYDRO SCHEME

In 1913 the Town Board decided to call a meeting for ratepayers to decide whether they wanted to borrow thirteen thousand four hundred pounds for Water, Electric Light and Drainage, or twelve thousand two hundred pounds for Water and Electric Light. The latter plan was carried and the money borrowed from the New Zealand Government Sinking Fund Commissioner at 5%.

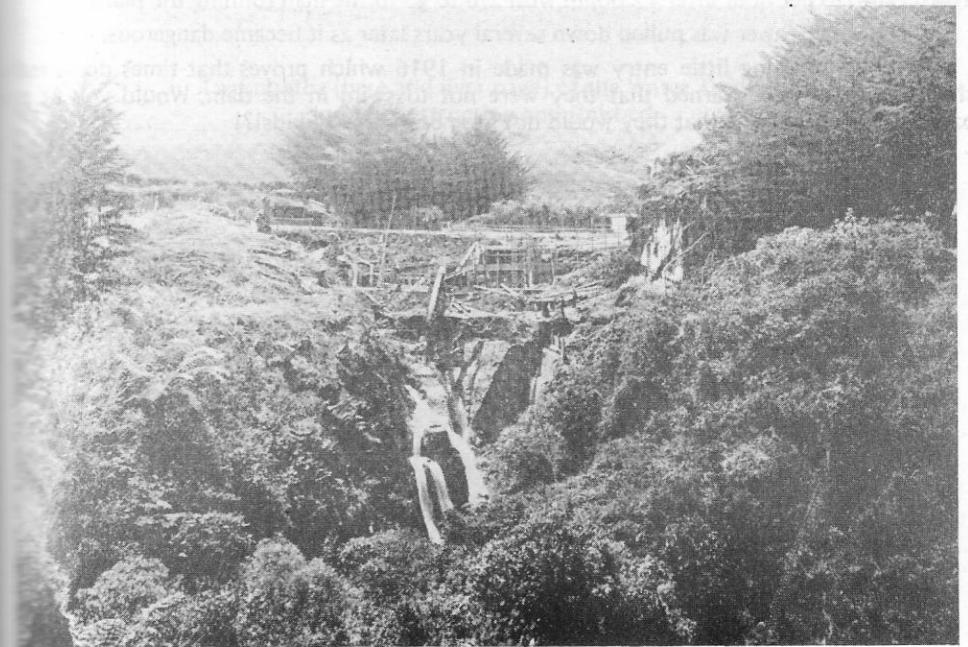
Tenders were called for the erection of the hydro plant, water mains, water tower and wall and dam. Turnbull and Jones' tender of three thousand five hundred and fourteen pounds was accepted for the plant with Westinghouse pumps totalling an extra thirty pounds.

Burrell's tender of three thousand and ninety-eight pounds, fourteen shillings was accepted for the water mains and W.G. Jones' tender of eleven hundred and ninety-five pounds, ten shillings was accepted for the water tower. The wall and dam was tendered for successfully by Walpole, Darlington and Patterson at the sum of six hundred and ninety pounds.

As so often happens, the lowest quote of all was to cause the most trouble in the long run.

The Board having already procured the old flour mill and water rights, tenders were called for the removal of the unused mill. The first tender of one pound was turned down as were the next group. Finally Christenson Brothers' tender of one hundred and thirty-seven pounds, fifteen shillings was accepted, but their tender to move the machinery was declined. The Pelton wheel was removed by Walls for a tender of nine pounds.

As well the Board had called for tenders for building a power house, and the engineer was asked to advise whether the building would be better built in timber and iron or concrete. As the Board eventually called for tenders for concrete construction, the engineer must have decided that concrete would be more durable, and indeed he was right as it still stands. Walpole, Darlington and Patterson's tender of two hundred and thirty-nine pounds, ten shillings was accepted. At the same meeting this tender was accepted it was decided



that the flour mill would be given six weeks for removal, and two weeks would be given for the removal of machinery.

In 1914 work seemed to be progressing nicely with the project until the retaining wall of the dam collapsed, being washed away. The engineer responsible was dismissed and Messrs Climie and Son were called in to advise on the best method to repair the damage. In the meantime the clerk was advised to inform the people concerned that all work on the dam was to cease until further notice, and that owing to the state of the wall all Turnbull and Jones' machinery placed in the powerhouse was left there at their own risk.

It was resolved to return Walpole, Darlington and Patterson's tender and that Messrs Climie and Son arrange for work to be done by day labour. Their estimated cost would be two thousand and sixteen pounds, and in fact the Board in addition to the loan of twelve thousand two hundred pounds, had been forced in 1914 to borrow an additional six thousand two hundred pounds to repair all the damage. In its October 1916 report the Bank of Australasia notes that "This expenditure will for some years to come be a heavy drain on the ratepayers who now pay rates on the improved value basis of 5/8d in the pound.

As well as financial problems, quite some hassles occurred until arbitration was concluded with contractors for the dam.

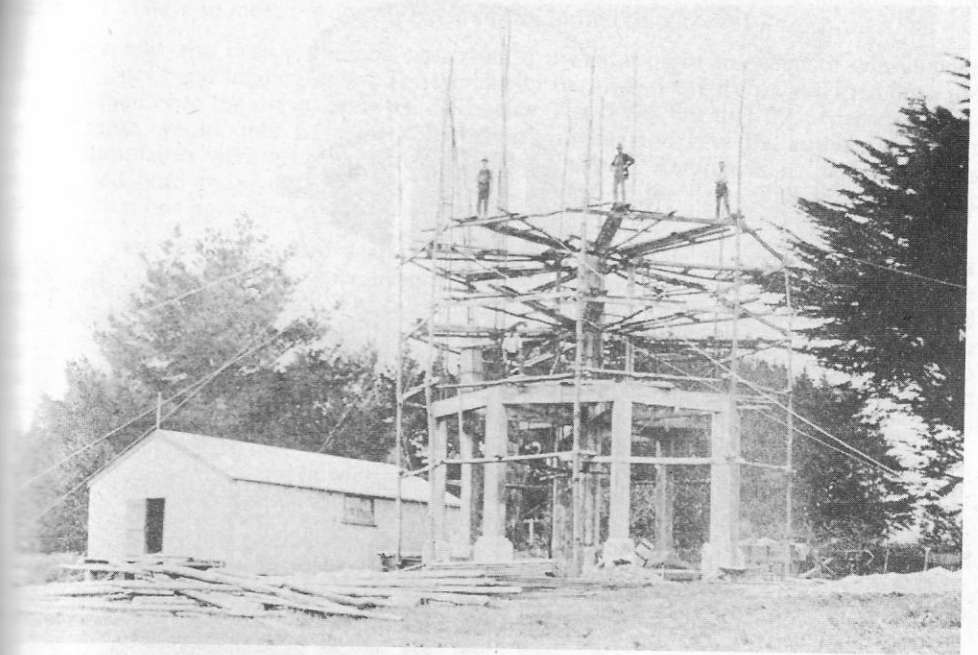
When concluded, the Board operated a 60kw a.c. hydro plant. The Brown-Overturbine ran under a 60' head with the alternator producing a three-phase supply at 2,200 volts.

The high voltage was fed over an all aluminium overhead line to three transformers in the township. The wire was later replaced as it kept breaking.

Mr Wallace was the second engineer employed by the Board and he stayed with the project until 1927 when the power board purchased the plant for eight thousand pounds. By this time there were 204 consumers who enjoyed the power from dusk till midnight (including street lights) and an additional three hours were provided on Tuesdays from 2-5pm so that housewives could do their ironing. There were also provisions for the Town Hall to have extra lighting after twelve if necessary. In 1919 it was decided to charge the Town Hall 7/6 per hour after 12.00pm with 2/6 to go to the man running the plant!

The water tower was pulled down several years later as it became dangerous.

An illuminating little entry was made in 1916 which proves that times don't really change. People were warned that they were not to swim in the dam. Would you be prepared to wager with me that they would not have been mostly kids!?!



Two photos (here and over page) of the Water Tower during construction and finished.

RAILWAYS

The contractor who built the railway from Waitotara to Waverley was Mr John Wilkie who later went on to Australia becoming a millionaire building railways there. The railways, it is recorded, paid sixteen pounds per acre for the land the railway ran through.

In 1881 the railhead reached Waverley, not without teething problems. In December of that year a petition was at Billon's Hotel for locals to sign exhorting the Government to spend some money on the road to the railway station. It was considered an injustice for the local board to have to meet the cost of repairs with limited resources at its disposal.

There had also been grumbling earlier on in the year about the want of convenience unloading trucks and loading drays. Timber had to be thrown off trucks and then onto the bank and then onto the drays, being handled twice. The critics felt that the expense of leveling the bank would only be a trifle and couldn't understand why the authorities didn't bother. Complaints were also made about yards for stock. References to mobs of horses being loaded onto trains off the platform were printed in the Patea Mail and amazement expressed that one never broke a leg or was injured.

1881 was certainly a bad year for complaints. This quote also came from the Patea Mail. "A special train was to have been run from Wanganui to Waverley yesterday for the opening of the Catholic Church. The rail authorities required a sixteen pound guarantee, and if any sum was obtained over that it would go to the railway and not a penny to those who chartered the train. The railway policy seems stupid in this matter. If private parties are to guarantee a minimum number of passengers they should be allowed to profit by getting more if they can do it. What other inducement is offered?"

Certainly by 1887 policy had changed with concessions being offered for footballers, cricketers, tennis players and bowlers for teams of not less than 15 men. (Under this system, 2nd class tickets could be used as 1st class.)

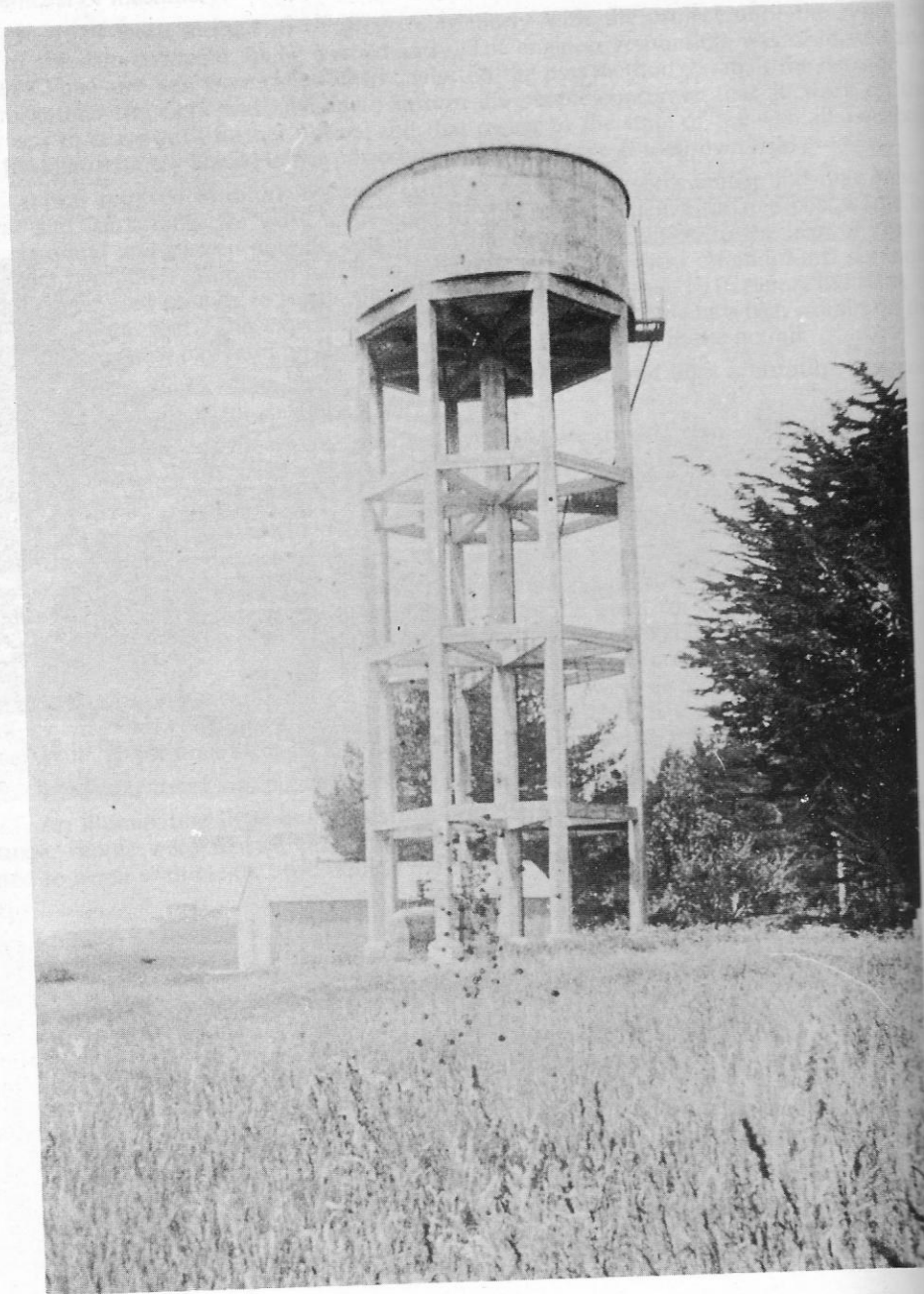
Originally the rail worked in with Cobb and Co. In the 1880's the firm was advertising a link-up with the train at Waverley. Passengers could leave Wanganui at 7.40 arriving at Waverley 9.30. The connecting coach arrived at Patea 11.10, considerably shortening the tedious journey.

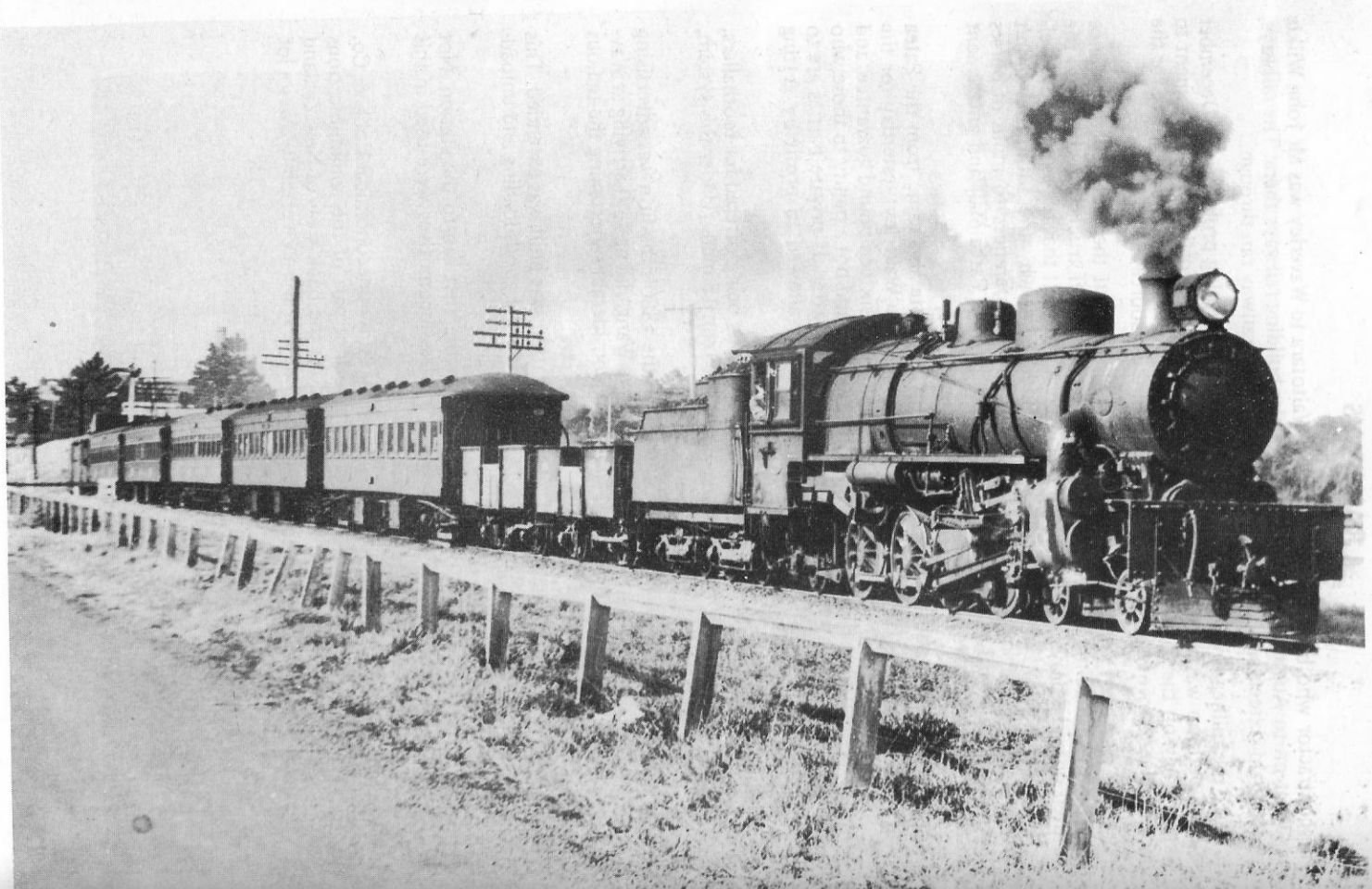
By 1907 the cattle yard siding erected when the station was built was extended. This was to provide accommodation for stock wagons away from the goods loading and unloading area and in 1912 a verandah was built on the station.

Cornelius Dempsey (ref P.O. and Wairoa Hotel) ran the first cab to the station. Not much information is recorded on the railway station. F class locomotives were used in this area, as were "mixed" (passenger and goods) trains.

The railways, when established properly, pushed the slow uneconomical Cobb & Co. coaches off the road, thereby taking with them an important part of the communications system of the pioneering days. The railways also opened up the back areas of New Zealand and were then, perhaps more than now, of inestimable value. Waverley certainly owes a lot to the service.

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One of the mixed (passenger and goods) trains running between New Plymouth and Wanganui between 1880-1920.
 Photo: Railways Publicity Department



This team belonged to Mr W.H. Anderson of Waverley. Photo taken at Waverley Station about 1894. Mr Anderson standing behind the bullocks with crook. Also present are his sons Jack and Frank and Jim with dog Carlo. Others present are Alf Davis and Harry Pepper. Names of Bullocks are Pap, Spot, Stout, Ranger and Leader etc. Horses names are Duke, Smiler, Nugget etc. Chaff cutter and engine in background. Bullocks are pulling a steam engine for driving the chaff cutter.
 Photo: Wanganui Museum

FIRE BRIGADE

Before the formation of a fire brigade in 1907 by Pat Duffy and Syd Oakenfall there was no organised method of fighting the number one enemy. Individuals or chain gangs of buckets when possible made little impression against the fires.

The newly formed brigade took over the old town hall which housed the first fire engine.

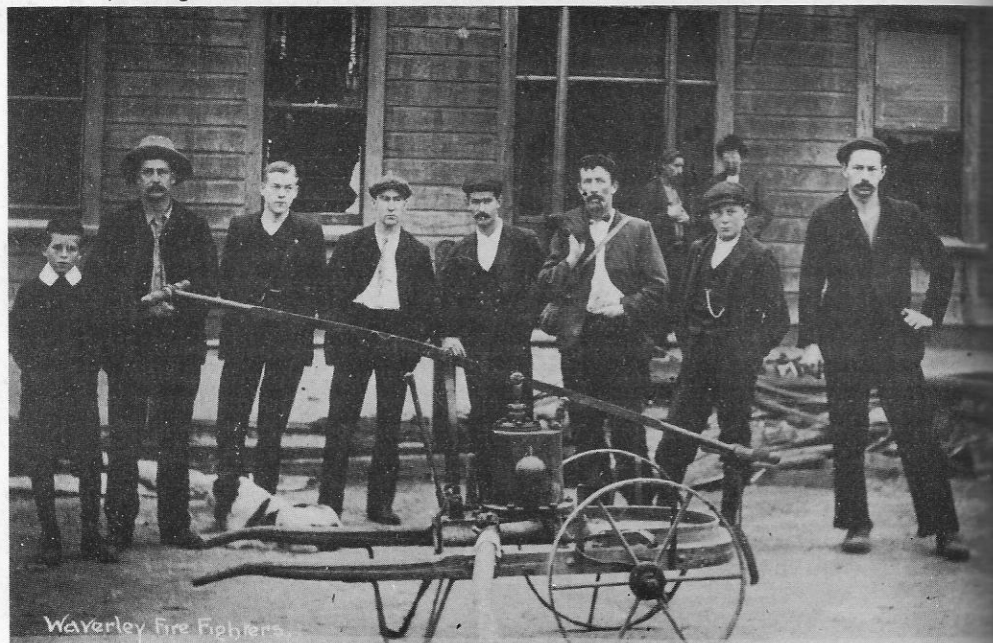
The first fire engine resembled in size and structure a wheel barrow with the tray removed. It ran on two largish wheels instead of one small one. Where the tray should have been sat a suction pump with long handles worked with a see-saw action by two men. A hose leading from the nearest water supply to play on the flames completed the outfit.

Outside the fire station was a crude belfry in which hung an iron bell. The first man to reach the station rang the bell wildly and at its noise every citizen leapt out of bed and rushed to the station, with firemen pulling on their uniform jackets and hats, the rest with coats over night attire. The first there dragged out the machine and headed for the fire.

Later this one-man-power affair was replaced by a more elaborate and heavier machine. This was drawn instead of pushed by a central shaft intended for two galloping horses, not very practical in little Waverley. Two rows of galloping men did the job instead and a very capable one it was. The hoses, though were prone to punctures so that at times the minimum of water reached the actual fire.

Next to the fire brigade and most big buildings was a large ground tank, carrying, it is estimated, approximately 4,000 - 5,000 gallons. This was filled with water off the roofs and each in their own way contributed toward keeping Waverley alive. It took approximately one hour to empty each tank.

One of the fire hazards in New Zealand, according to Bill Cunningham, was the big macrocarpa hedges in town.



Taken about 1907, the original Fire Brigade
Left to Right: Archie Williams (on his way to school), Owen Williams, Syd Oakenfull, —, —, Jim Prouse, Pat Duffy, —.

They became tinder dry, and under them was a frequent resting place for drunks on their way home from the pub. Upon wakening the first thing they would do was light a cigarette with disastrous results!

Eventually fences were built each side of the hedges to eliminate the problem. (Bill can also remember lying on top of the hedge by the Commercial to watch the fights in which such weapons as swingle trees were used. Amazingly no-one was ever seriously hurt!)

1910 — Williams, Duffy and Bishop approached the Board re financial help and the Board resolved to canvas the town for assistance.

In 1911 Prouse, Bishop and Duffy comprised a deputation from the Fire Brigade and asked that the Board endeavour to arrange a shed opening on the main street for the fire engine, and a larger pipe was requested leading from the water tank to the main street.

As a result the Board selected a committee composed of Messrs Palmer and Merriman to set up to discuss the best way of altering the Town Hall with the power to call tenders.

1911 — Fire Brigade Supply Company be allowed 20% on the sale of the small fire engine and accessories at twenty pounds. Engine to be advertised for sale.

1913 — Fire inspector requested by Board.

1918 — Granted twenty-five pounds to purchase hose. Band also collected donations.

1920 — Resignation of the Fire Brigade be accepted. (Now administered by the Fire Board.) Insurance for Fire Brigade plant, one hundred pounds, increased to one hundred and fifty pounds.

1920 — Fire plugs to be painted and the chains on the caps lengthened. When Fire Brigade raised seventy-five pounds, Board granted them twenty-five pounds.



Waverley Volunteer Fire Brigade (About 1914)
Back Row: Tom Tucker, D. Nicholls, A. Harlen, A. Williams, P. Duffy, J. Knight, D. Morrison, T. Harlen.
Second Row: G. Beer, R. Langdon, O. Williams, J. Prouse, J. Quin, S. Oakenfull.
Sitting: T. Harlen, W. Nicholls

WAVERLEY NURSING HOME



The first nursing home.

On the steps are Mrs Janet Edwards, Ethel Edwards, Jack Hair, about 1908.
This was on the corner of Smith and Suther Streets.

The Waverley Nursing Home came into being about 1907-08. The midwife, Janet Edwards, was a strong resourceful young woman, still in the process of bearing and rearing a large family (fifteen to be exact, although not all survived), when she started with Dr Harvey. It wasn't uncommon for her to take a baby up in front of the saddle with her at times, and when travelling by gig, a baby often lay at her feet in its basket. There are people in Waverley who were delivered into the world by her, and they in turn can remember stories of how she used to travel about the homes in Waverley with her own babies.

It suddenly struck both her and Dr Harvey, that instead of travelling to deliver babies it would be a great deal easier if the women came in to town. Mrs Edwards owned a two storied home in Waverley and what better idea could there be than to turn it into a nursing home? The home was then a private one, and patients had to pay to go there. Lizzie, who had spent most of her life raising her siblings seemed a logical choice to run it.

A small thin bustling woman, Lizzie ran the home singlehanded, with occasional help in the laundry and kitchen. Lizzie is rumoured to have had a rather traumatic experience in love and afterwards devoted herself to her profession, never marrying.

In 1912 when the Home was being fumigated Lizzie left one of the lamps used in the process too close to the windows and that was the end of the home.

The new home built at the corner of Suther and Smith Streets was more modern,

spacious and less labour intensive. A verandah flanking one side of the home was ideal for recuperating mothers and babies, and Lizzie threw her heart into running the home.

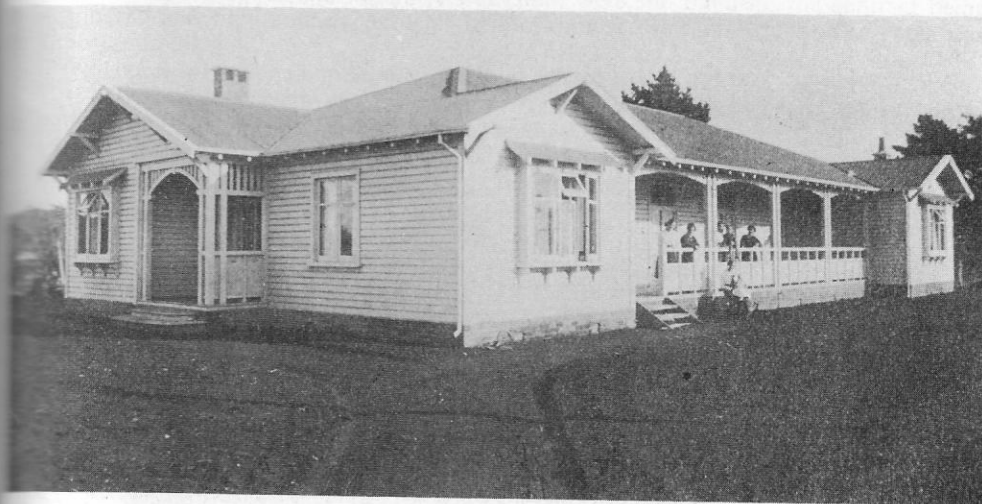
There was no nursery, so babies were kept in the halves of dress baskets often under the kitchen table while Lizzie ironed or cooked dinner. Although such practices would probably raise the hair on the heads of most medical people nowadays, the idea obviously worked well, and many of the residents of Waverley will attest, having survived it!

When the phone was established, there was eventually a link straight to Dr Harvey's home for emergencies.

People arrived at the home in many different ways. One was the Doctor's F.N. car, another popular one was Jimmy Dalton's butcher's phaeton. Jimmy being an obliging sort of fellow lent it freely, in fact to such an extent that he is alleged to have said that he had the greatest difficulty in ever getting his horse past the home!

The home was eventually bought by Waverley Citizens Committee in 1943, then fell into the care of the Wanganui Hospital Board.

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The present home after it had been rebuilt.

WAVERLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Originally the Waverley Presbyterian Church was an off shoot of St Paul's in Wanganui. Probably the first service conducted here was one of thanksgiving taken by the Rev John Elmslie, uncle of early settler Peter Elmslie, who had received message of soldiers killed by Maoris — one of which was supposedly Peter. As the message was incorrect, Rev Elmslie, having travelled so far to hold what he thought was a burial service, held instead one of thanksgiving.

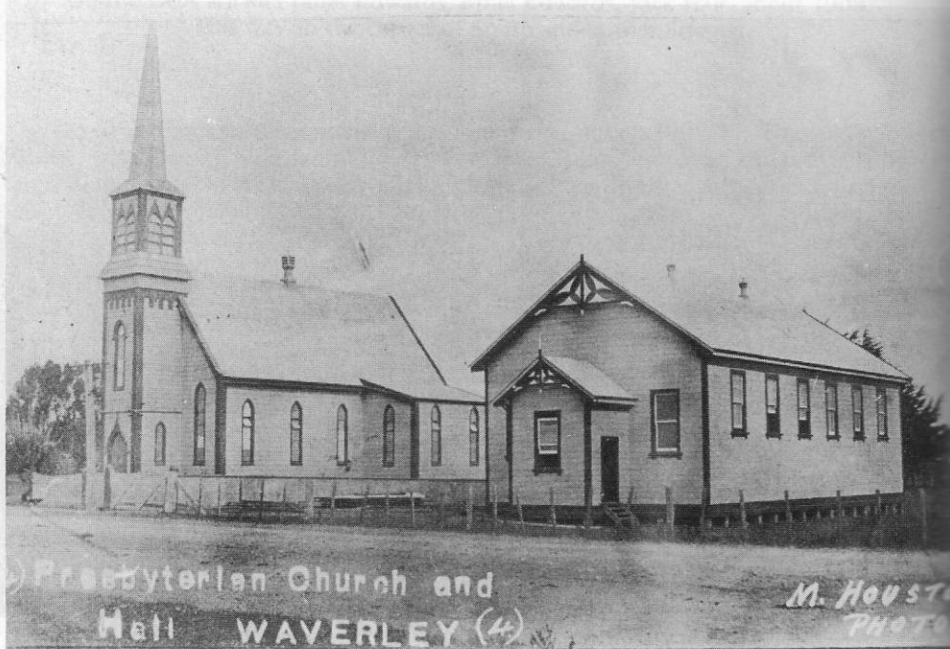
He was also instrumental in gaining the services of Rev Neil McCallum. Having met the Rev Elmslie on the road, he accepted the call to Wanganui in spite of just after receiving a call to the North Shore and soon after losing his wife.

At this time there was no building belonging to the church, but Mr Aitchison, one of his chief supporters in Patea, drew the plans for a manse, and local builder Macfarlane built it. The next year in 1875 a site was bought from one Mr Fyfe and to buy this Rev McCallum set about raising money. He succeeded in collecting one hundred pounds aided by Mr West, a teacher at the Presbyterian Church School in Wanganui. The reason that the money had to be raised was that when the town was being laid out, those Presbyterians living in Waverley hadn't put in subscriptions for land quickly enough.

The church had already put down its roots, with prayer meetings being held once a week in the manse, and about this time Mrs Henry Collins (nee Charlotte Waters) started a Sunday School in a small iron house not far from where St Andrew's Church now stands, moving later to the town hall when the number of children increased. Later when the new hall was built that was used for the Sunday School which was undenominational.

On 29 June, 1876 the Rev R.J. Allsworth was inducted — stipend two hundred pounds per annum, services he held being at Waverley, Maxwelltown, Patea and Hawera.

The Rev James Treadwell of Wanganui was the interim moderator for McCallum. He left in 1876. Soon after Rev Ralph Allsworth was inducted by Rev J. Doull who preached the induction sermon on 29 June 1876.



All spick 'n span and ready to go. Probably just after completion.



Another later photo of the Presbyterian Church. Some years later as trees behind have really grown.

By April 1884 the roll numbered 168 members.

In the meantime money had been raised for a church, and on Wednesday, 7 June 1877 the foundation stone was laid by the Hon W. Fox. It was decided that the church would be a Gothic structure 52' long and 27' wide with seating for 250 people. The porch was to be 8' and the spire 85' tall. The team that built this church consisted of Mr Turnbull, Wanganui Architect, Jones and Peachlly, Wanganui, were the builders, the contract being seven hundred and fifty pounds, ten shillings and sixpence and Mr Aitchison of Patea was the inspector of the building.

The church was opened on Sunday, 16 December 1877.

At this time the parish was divided into wards, and an elder had oversight of each. Later this year it was arranged for fortnightly meetings to be held instead of monthly ones.

Rev Treadwell was moderator during the vacancy until Rev Neville came in 1885. At first he came only to take services, and stayed in the manse in the weekends, then in 1885 it was proposed that an ordained minister should be sought, and so Rev Neville was installed and regular services began again.

In January 1888 Rev and Mrs James Mountain conducted a mission and in August of the same year Rev Neville resigned.

The Rev Thomas McDonald was inducted in June 1889, and the church flourished in his time. The parish was divided into elders' districts including Kohi, Mill Road Waitotara and Moturoa and services were well attended.

Unfortunately in 1890 Mrs McDonald's health failed, and in November 1890 Rev McDonald resigned in order to take her back to Scotland. This left the church with no replacement until 1892 when it was learned that the Rev McDonald was returning to New Zealand and the church offered him the call and a stipend of two hundred and fifty pounds which he accepted, with his induction for the second time on 11 May, 1892.

By this time there was sixty-five pounds set aside for a fund to enlarge the church and in October 1893 separate prices and plans were called for either two wings or a gallery. A

congregation meeting decided on two wings and a contract was taken up with Mr Swinbourne for one hundred and ten pounds. However after an unfortunate accident during the building of the wings, Macfarlane the builder was called in to finish the erection of the wings.

In 1894 the Rev McDonald was called to Hawera and Rev Charles McDonald of New Plymouth was called to Waverley and inducted on 29 August 1895.

In 1897 shelter trees were planted on the south side of the manse and horse yard; the following year the manse was painted at a cost of twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and the following year a wash-house was erected for twenty-five pounds.

In 1902 Rev Catherwood conducted a mission in the Waverley church and the following year McDonald resigned, the Rev Ivo Bertram being moderator during his vacancy.

On 17 September the Rev William White, MA, was inducted, and services began at Moumahaki, and the following year it was agreed to drop services at Waitotara and to conduct services alternatively with Kohi and Moumahaki.

Significant happenings in the church in the next two years were the addition of two new rooms to the manse in 1903 and the branch of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union.

In 1909 lino was purchased for the church floor, and the following year the erection of a Sunday School hall was brought forward. One hundred and four pounds was made available and the congregation agreed with the proviso that the building cost no more than six hundred pounds. Plans were drawn up by T.W. Wall and supervised by same.

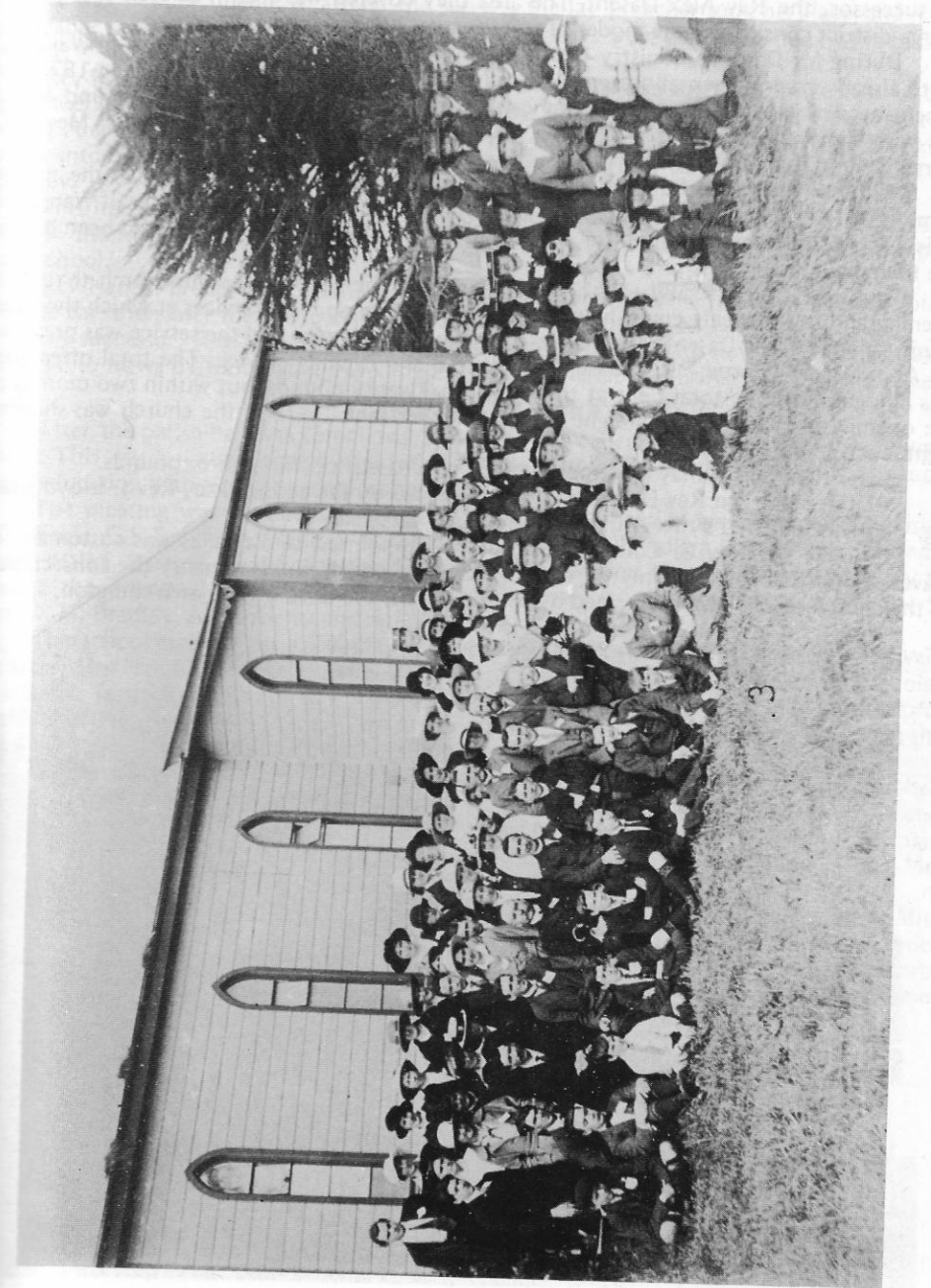
The hall, it was decided, would be built parallel with the front and 40' from the church and it is recorded that it took six months to build. The hall was opened in 1911 at a total cost of nine hundred pounds which was paid off by 1921, the Ladies' Guild contributing six hundred pounds in all.

In July 1913 plans were approved to build a new manse, and the original manse was sold and relocated so that the new one could be built on the same spot. S.J. Price was the contractor for this building. The next year it was proposed to install an electric light in the manse, church and hall, but this didn't happen until 1917, but in this year the pulpit was raised 1' (30½cm) and one hundred and fifty-five pounds was donated to repairing and painting the church.

1914 War broke out, and changes were made in the services. Maxwell broke off from the parish, Kohi meetings were held monthly and Upper Waitotara members agreed to come to the Ngutuwera services. Other small improvements were made to the church in the form of a frame to hold the hymn numbers, and the P.M.M.U. financed the installation of a phone in the manse; the other most significant change being the adoption of a new church praise.

The church also erected a memorial in the school grounds for members and adherents of the congregation who were killed in WWI.

(Ref. Centennial Booklet)



Sunday School, 1916.

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, WAVERLEY

The first Anglican clergy in Waverley were the Rev H.M. Kennedy based at Patea and his successor, the Rev Alex Dasent. The area they covered was from Patea to Waitotara – a large district considering the modes of transport available.

During Mr Dasent's ministry it was decided to build an Anglican Church in Waverley, a site already having been allocated to the church when the town was laid out. In 1878 Rev Dasent became the guiding force in the campaign to raise money for a building fund. Working with him were the treasurer, Mr G. Nicholls and the committee members, Messrs T. Hone, F. Fookes and W. Winchcombe.

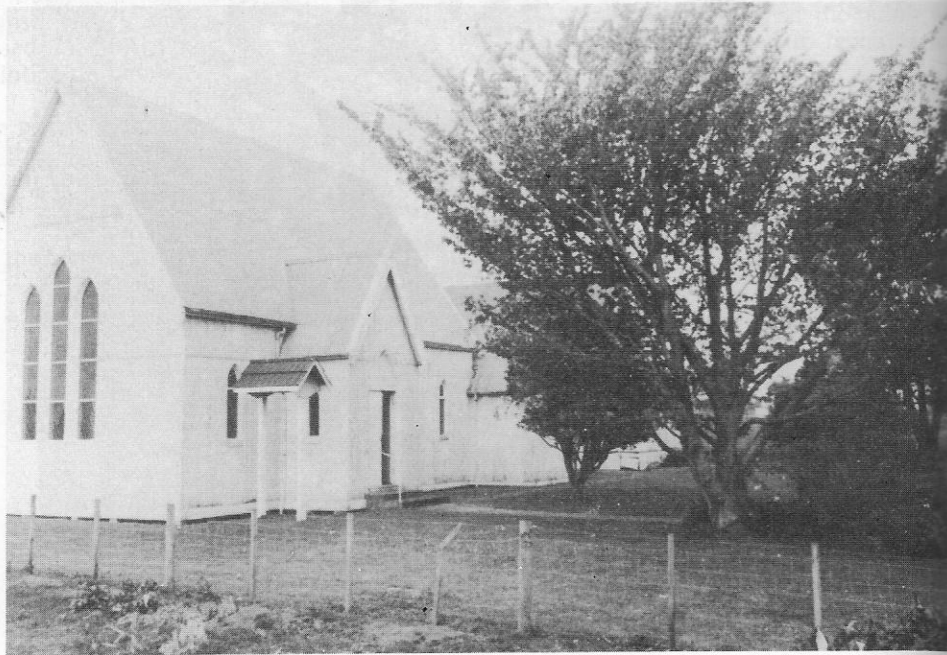
Within a year one hundred and four pounds had been raised and with the money coming steadily in the building began, being built by the contractor, Mr Porter of Wanganui. This was a significant milestone for the church as, until now, all meetings had been held in the town hall.

The new church could seat 118, but such was the support for the church that at its opening another 50 seats could have been added for the opening services at which the Patea Choir sang. The Rev Dasent read prayers at the morning service and the service was preached by Archdeacon Thorpe; Rev Dasent conducted the evening service. The total offertories was nine pounds. The total debt at this point was twenty pounds, but within two months of the opening it was reduced to eight pounds, and by January 1881 the church was showing eightpence credit.

Later that year in May a harmonium was purchased for thirty-three pounds.

At this stage the Rev Dasent had been replaced by the acting vicar, Rev J. Lloyd Keating, who was followed by Revs E. Whitehouse and C.P. Clarke.

In 1893 the Rev C. Coleridge Harper was appointed to Patea as was customary, as Waverley was at this stage only part of an extensive parish. In his ministry the consecration of the church took place, performed by Bishop Wallis, the third bishop of Wellington.



St Andrew's Church.

Photo: Jenny Clark

On 19 April 1896 the service was Holy Communion, there being 32 communicants, and in the afternoon the Bishop confirmed three males and seven female candidates.

Some of the difficulties of this period can be appreciated by the fact that if the minister was sick, or unable to attend the service, the lay preacher took his place, and if he was unable to attend, there was no service at all. Services were also cancelled owing to bad weather.

Rev Harmon was appointed in 1900 and left in 1910 and the Waverley section of the parish was joined to the Waitotara and Maxwelltown area, which had previously been part of the old Aramoho District. With the formation of a new parochial district, Rev R. Franklin moved into the old Waitotara vicarage and then into the new home in Matangi Road in Waverley.

This house was sold in 1915, his successor the Rev Hands living in a house behind the shops in the main road, and then moving to the new vicarage in Brassey Street by the primary school.

Rev Hands' predecessor used a horse and gig. Rev Hands used first of all a motor bike and side car, then later the first parish car was bought – a Ford.

His successor, Rev H.F. Wilson, with perhaps a mistrust of this new fangled invention, preferred to travel by foot, often travelling as far as Ngamatapouri or Kohi to take a service.

ST STEPHEN'S DAY SCHOOL

After the parish hall was completed, a meeting was called to consider opening a church school. This was a natural enough follow-on for the church which wished to provide a good cheap education with a religious atmosphere.

The meeting was conducted by Rev Hands, and the meeting was attended by Messrs C.D. Dickie, C.J. Dickie, A. Wade, S. Barrow, A.J. Wallace, A.J. Adlam and Mesdames Hands, Scoon, Halke, Barrow, Cox, Irvine and Eames and Master Cox. Appointed by the vestry to manage the proposed school was the vicar, and Messrs J.A. Rutherford, C.J. Dickie, S. Barrow, M. Bradley, A. Warberry and A.J. Adlam.

The school opened on a Tuesday in February 1918 at 9.15am. Those present were the vicar, Mrs Hands, the teacher, Miss V. McCarter, and eight pupils. They were, for a point of interest, Jessie Saunders, Nancy Barrow, Mary Harvey, Margaret Halke, Alan Rutherford, Claude Barrow, Carteret Corfe and Cyril Miller. By the end of February there were 18 on the roll and by 24 August Mrs Hands was teaching the primers (unsalaried).

The headteacher left at the end of the year and volunteers taught until Miss Mitchell arrived. The roll was now 42, and Mrs Hands was teaching in a schoolroom at the west end of the church. It was soon moved by Mr Rutherford's bullock team to the end of the main school room. An assistant teacher finally arrived – Miss Metcalfe – to assist Mrs Hands. Mrs M. Light was appointed head teacher in 1919.

The school remained open until 1922 with 34-40 children, the last teacher being Miss Lillian Fraser. Assistants included Dorothea Harvey and several volunteers. Financial problems and a national recession caused the school to close and in 1922 the pupils were absorbed along with their teacher, Miss Harvey, into the Waverley School when the Church School finally closed its doors.

CHURCH WARDENS:

Peoples Wardens:

1895-97 W.A. Fields
1897-98 J. Death
1898-1900 A. Platt
1900-11 H.P. Butts
1911-35 A. Adlam

Vicar's Wardens:

1897-1910 W.R. Davis
1911-16 H. Dickie
1916-17 L. Dickie (H. Dickie on active service)
1917-20 H.J. Dickie
1920 A. Wallace

CLERGY OF THE CHURCH – To 1920

As part of the Patea Parochial District.

1870-79 A. Dasent
1881-82 J. Lloyd Keating
1884-87 E. Whitehouse
1887-93 E.P. Clarke
1894-1900 C. Coleridge Harper
1900-10 E. Harmon

As part of the Waverley-Waitotara Parochial

District:
1910-15 R. Franklin
1915-20 W.J. Hands

Ref. Church Centennial Booklet

WAVERLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Taken in the early days of the School.
About 1890's.

The Waverley Primary School was first officially recognised by the Wellington Provincial Education Board in 1873. Mrs Home had actually been teaching for two years before this, first in a house near the old Jackson and Company saleyards in Brassey Street and then in the town hall when it was built. She did not carry on long after the school was officially recognised, being succeeded by Mr Rowland. He was succeeded by Mr C. Hansard from Wellington. His wife assisted teaching but her health was such that in 1876 the inspector, Mr Lee, recommended that a full time teacher be appointed at twelve pounds per annum as the school now warranted two full time teachers.

By October 1875 the building of the school began, and was opened on 18th January of the following year. This was followed by a new house for the headmaster.

By 1878 the school was outgrowing itself, and by November that year the builders were at work on the extensions.

Mr Hansard resigned in 1879 after four years, followed by David Scott.

Through 1880 the roll increased to 165 pupils and there were four pupil-teachers. Mr Scott was plagued with absenteeism and unreliable pupil teachers. In 1882 Mr Scott became ill, and in 1883 was at school only a month before he died.

Mr T. Ellis took over and was plagued by the same problems that Mr Scott had; illness and absenteeism.

While Mr Ellis was at school the attendance increased to 200 with an average attendance of 140. The school was also enlarged in 1885 when two more classrooms were added.

Ellis resigned in 1885 when he married. Mr Hill, his successor was a strict disciplinarian. He also ran against opposition when he tried to stamp on the absenteeism, getting particular antagonism from the school committee which called for his resignation, but public support was growing for him, and the eventual outcome was for the community to call for the committee's resignation.

In 1890 Mr Milne entered the school. He had an MA, and extended the subjects taught. His roll was 206. He became an inspector and was seen about the school until 1920 when he retired.

Mr F. Newcombe spent only 2½ years at school leaving for England; he also established the end of year concert. The school reached its highest roll number of 225.

Mr D. Low who followed had been a pupil teacher at the school before and was a popular teacher and community figure. In 1904 he left to teach in Palmerston North.

When James Banks took over the school in 1904 he began service as the longest serving headmaster until 1922.

(Ref. Waverley School's First Century)

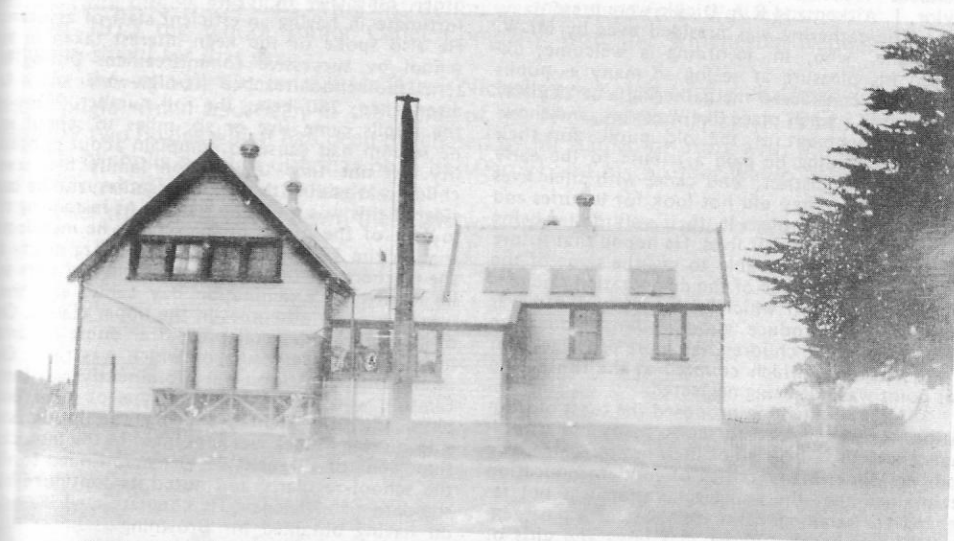


Photo taken in the 20's, rear of the building, looking towards Gloag Street.



The front of the building the way it looked early this century. Sited approximately where the dental clinic is now.

The 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Waverley Public School was celebrated on Friday last.

A function held at the Town Hall was well attended. Three of the first pupils, Messrs D. Taylor, T. Aitken and R.A. Dickie were present.

The gathering was presided over by Mr W. Macfarlane, who, in according a welcome, expressed his pleasure at seeing so many ex-pupils present. He considered the gathering a particularly fine one for a small place like Waverley, and showed the attachment of the old pupils for their school. Proceeding he paid a tribute to the early settlers of the district, who came with their lives in their hands. They did not look for luxuries and were prepared to rough it, their only desire being to live clean and honest lives. He hoped that future generations would be able to say the same of the present one. He spoke of the democratic principles of State education which had produced and was continuing to produce good citizens. Education had advanced, the children had more privileges, but it was character which counted at the finish, and this point was not being neglected.

Mr F. Johnstone proposed the toast of Education. He was pleased to see so many old schoolmates present; also two of their masters, Mr Lowe and Mr Milne. Many critics of modern education maintained that the rising generation was not receiving the same education as those of a past generation, but he considered that boys and girls of today were better equipped to fight life's battles. Mr Browning was taking a keen interest in the boys and girls, and was obtaining a grip over them that would lead to the best results. He also spoke appreciatively of the work being done by Miss Cleary, the assistant teacher, of the services rendered to the cause of education by the late Mr Bridge and now by his successor, Mr W.A. Collins.

Mr Hemingway, in responding to the toast, said that the Board was very fortunate in having such a man as Mr Collins at its head. He was one of the finest men for the position in New Zealand. Frequently one heard criticism of the system of education, but it was generally from those who knew the least about the subject. If there was any proof required of the success of the present system, it was found in the names on the local roll of honour, and of persons like Sir E. Rutherford and many other successful New Zealanders who had gone to the State schools of this country and though now held important positions in other parts of the world. The system of education was not going back, but it was improving year by year. A great French general, speaking to some recruits and desirous of giving them an example of fine conduct, referred to the New Zealanders. Mr Hemingway said he did not think the system could be bettered; it was the best in the world. If one wanted to criticise the system, let it be constructive, not destructive.

Mr T.J. Davis proposed the toast of Past and Present Teachers.

Mr J. Milne, who responded, received a great ovation. He said that in looking back over his 54

years' teaching experience he could truthfully say that the happiest period of that time was spent in Waverley. He had not been long in the colony before he was sent to Waverley. He found that Mr Hill, his predecessor, had left the school in fine order, especially in regard to discipline. He was fortunate in having an efficient staff of assistants. He also spoke of the keen interest taken in the school by successive committeemen. During his term the school reached its high-water mark for attendance, 280 being the roll number. Many of the pupils came five or six miles to school and he seldom had cause to complain about punctuality. At one time the Lupton family had seven children attending the school together, and he considered this was a unique record. As instancing the loyalty of the pupils of the school, he mentioned that in the 1890 epidemic of influenza nearly all the teachers and pupils were affected, and were ill to attend. Examination day came, and there were very few absentees in the upper classes. One of the Johnstones collapsed after doing his arithmetic paper, every sum of which was right. One of the lads who stood out prominently was James Elmslie, who was a very fine type of a lad, both physically and mentally. From the headmastership he (Mr Milne) was appointed to the inspectorship, and for the next 25 years continued to visit the school regularly and noted its continued high standard of efficiency. He congratulated Waverley on having obtained Mr Browning as headmaster. He had known him as a boy at school, and he was well qualified for the position.

Mr D.W. Lowe also spoke. He said it was nearly 45 years ago since he first came to Waverley. There were no trains in those days, and he came up in one of Cobb and Co's coaches. The speaker, after putting in a term as pupil teacher, left Waverley, returning 20 years later to take up the headmastership. Mr J.C. Hill was another old headmaster who had impressed his personality on the school. The speaker met him in Palmerston North the other day and found him to be of excellent health and spirits.

Mr Browning, the present headmaster, also spoke of the aims and objects of present day teachers, which were not only to inculcate a sound grounding in the three R's, but to build up character. He felt that with the traditions of the school behind it he would not fail.

Mr C. Dickie proposed the toast of the ladies, which was responded to by Mr R. Howie.

The final toast was to the promoters, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" concluded the most enjoyable function.

(From an old newspaper clipping)

WAVERLEY SCHOOL CADETS

Mr Banks was the headmaster of the school 1904-22 and was interested in introducing military training for the boys.

In June 1906 the Waverley Public School Cadet Detachment was officially recognised. In March of the following year Mr Banks took 24 cadets to the Christchurch Exhibition Public School Encampment for a week's military exercises.

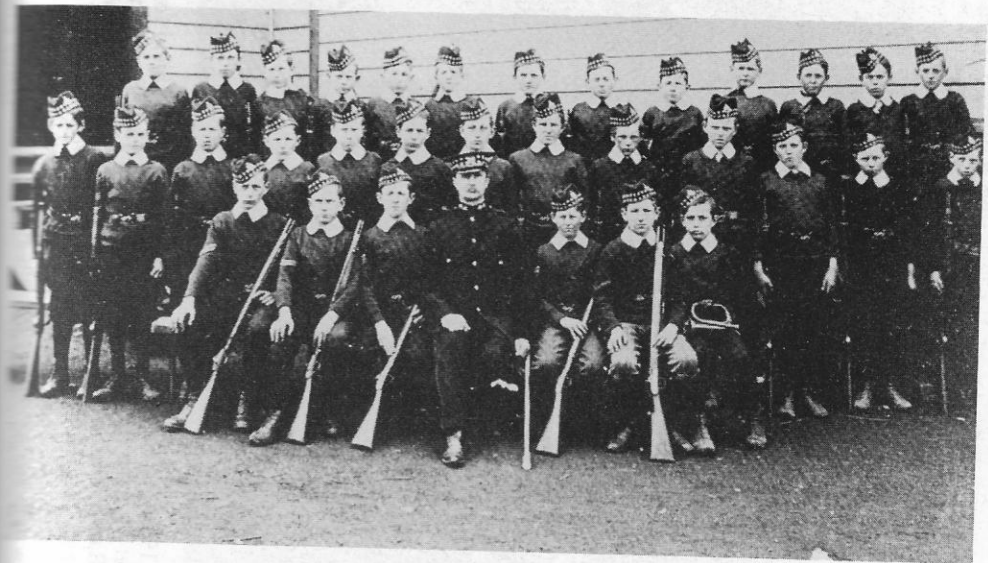
In 1910 a small bore rifle range was opened at the school and large quantities of ammunition, targets and class firing instruction were received from Wellington.

In 1915 the school Junior Cadet Company won the Winchester Repeating Arms Company shield for that year.

At the school's Centennial Mr Darcy Nicholls presented to the chairman the original school bugle which had been in the hands of the Nicholls' family since 1914. There were originally two bugles which had been purchased by Mr Banks for using with the cadets.

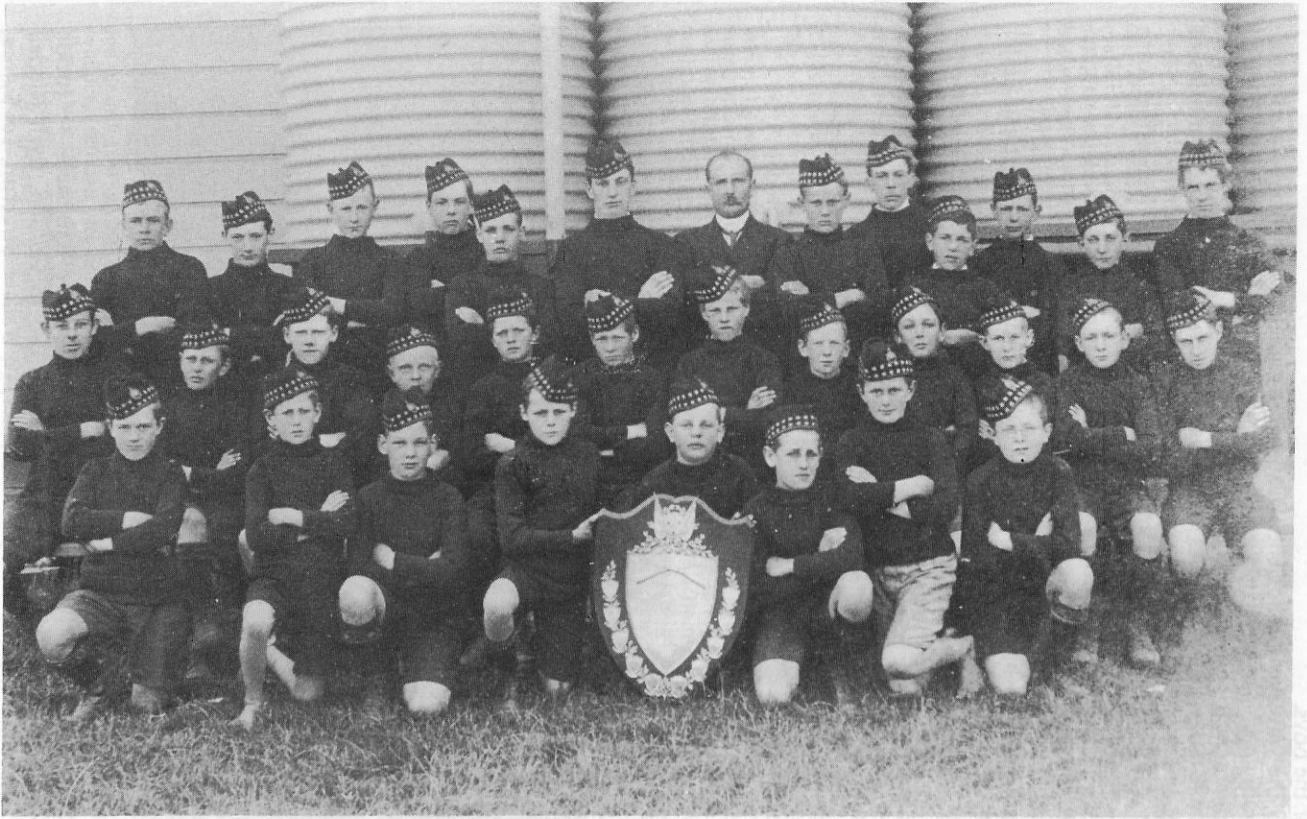
Mr Nicholls pointed out that both he (Darcy) and his brother Waldo, Bert and Lester had all served as buglers for the cadets.

After the school burnt down the bugle was one of the few relics of the early years.



Waverley School Cadets 1908

Back Row: Bert Nicholls, Francis (Wingie) Christiansen, —, Willie Catanach, —, Joekie Morrison, Archie Christiansen, Arthur Cox, —, Joe Knight, —, Jo Gordon, Cyril Riddell
 Middle Row: Tom Lupton, Harry Catanach, Toby Symes, —, Wallace Strachan, Tui Symes, Laurie Bradley, Harvey Millar, —, Alf Wicks, Charlie Giles, Ray Parkinson, —
 Front Row: Stan Symes, Jack Cunningham, Merson Brett, James Banks (Headmaster), Walter Blennerhasset, Raymond Bremer, Waldo Nicholls.



In 1916 the Waverley Primary School won the shield for Wanganui Education Board Shooting Competition
 Back Row: Douglas Laidlaw, Melvyn Bremer, Jack Emerson, Lester Nicholls, Hector Southcombe, Herbert Morrison, James Banks (Headmaster), Herbert Dyke, Neville Coghill, Wilfred Gosnell, Charles Hair, Jack Jopson, Arthur Lind.
 Middle Row: Reg Hone, Carlton Hair, Peter McDonald, Bill Rutherford, William Pepper, Frank Ireland, Fred Lind, Don McIvor, Maurice Cox, Leslie McDonald, Ken Cox, Dennis Pankhurst.
 Front Row: Darcy Adlam, Ray Wall, Ronald Harre, Gordon Beer, Hugh Pepper, Russell Southcombe, Percy Metcalfe, Darcy Emerson.



Opening of War Memorial at the School in 1920. Miss Elsie Southcombe is doing the honours. It is interesting to note the drinking fountain. There was originally one each side but they were required to be removed by the Health Department as they were considered a health risk!

KOHI PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Kohi Primary School was almost certainly built in 1876, the year the School Committee consisting of Messrs Kenah, J. Riddell, P. Bremer, J. McLean and T. Harris was formed.

Although no early photos exist, ground plans do, and the Kohi School Centennial Booklet states, "The dimensions were 9' x 24' giving a floor space of 216sqft. The walls were horizontal weatherboard, unlined, with a small porch on the eastern, or road end, three narrow windows facing north and a shingle roof. Sometime later, heating was provided by means of a small wood burning stove, with a thin stovepipe poking through the roof. The only relic left is the shelter shed which stood on the edge of the gully above the swimming pool. This was finally moved close to the present residence and used as a garage."

The building arrangements weren't entirely satisfactory as the first teacher was to find out. Only a few weeks after its opening the first teacher, Miss J. Wilkinson, deemed it impossible to teach in for much longer. At her insistence the committee promised to carry out repairs and install heating which they did some three months later. Reports from Inspector Vereker-Bindon in 1885-6 indicate that the teacher was not the only one to share views



Kohi School 1893

Back Row: Leslie Mackie, George Mackie, Ted Miller, Laurie Fleetwood, George Miller, Willie Walker, Robert Johnstone.

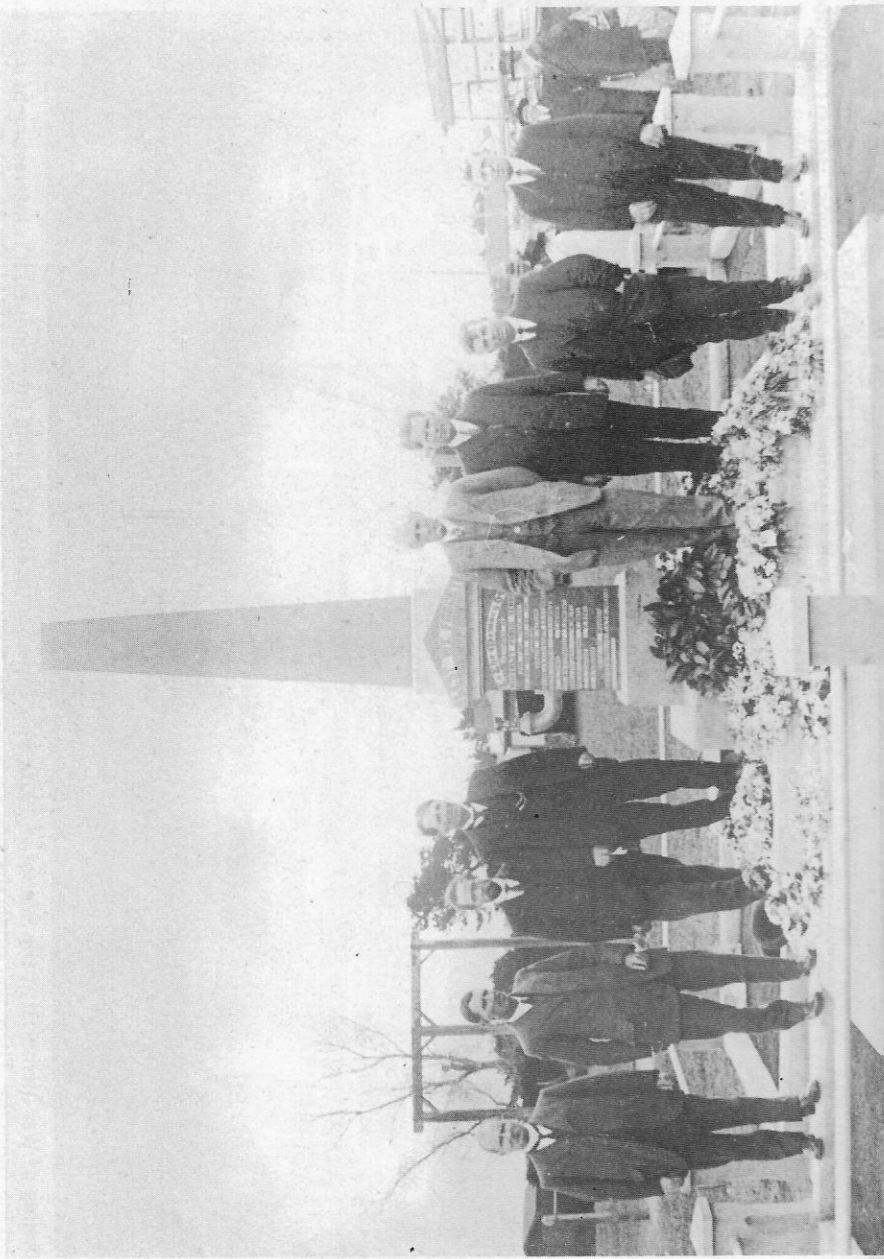
2nd Row (Girls): Nellie Howie, Mabel Howie, Beatrice Bennett, Edith Wilkins, Edith Dickie, Ada Walkinton, Adelaide Bremer, Betty Walker, May Johnstone.

3rd Row (Boys): James Riddell, Walter Watkins, David Walker, Norman Walker, Willie Johnstone.

4th Row (Girls): Mary Howie, Agnes Watkins, Maud Bennett, Millie Howie, Louise Wilkins, Annie Johnstone, Olive Walker, Maggie Riddell, Jeannie McLean, Lizzie Walker, Pearl Hone, Violet Hone.

Front Row: Willie Bremer, Jack Bennett, Gordon Walker.

James Banks, Andrew Elmslie, T.W. Wall, Charles Southcombe, Hugh Middleton, Percy Farris, W.P. Wallace, George Beer.



on the inadequacy of the building and amenities. References to leaking roof, inadequate heating, no toilet facilities, and a general state of poor repair, indicate that the lot of a country teacher, no matter how enthusiastic he/she was, was not an easy one!

In spite of all these complaints the first building did service for nineteen years, the roll at times expanding to 36 pupils, under very trying conditions.

In 1895 a new school was built where today's school stands. The wooden building consisting yet again of one room (440 sqft) was added to in 1926.

The School residence was built in 1879-80.

The School's first teacher was Miss Jane Wilkinson, appointed in 1876 by the Wellington Education Board, receiving a salary of sixty-four pounds per annum. Miss Wilkinson served with the Board at Kohi for almost two years, when she went the way of so many young country school teachers – being snapped up by Adolph Bremer at whose home she had boarded. A look at the Bremer family trees shows that some of the Bremers descended from her are still in Waverley. She was also the feature of an article in Petticoat Pioneers.

The second teacher, Mr MacOmish, was appointed by the school committee but three weeks after his appointment the Board closed the school as his appointment could not be confirmed. The Board failed to find another teacher and after waiting two months MacOmish was appointed on a temporary basis which lasted almost a year.

In 1892 Mr Fred Mason was appointed. A man of drive and energy and perhaps ambition, Mason's ideas swept through the school like a breath of fresh air.

Under his guidance a new school was built, grounds levelled and grassed and tennis became a popular past time in the community.

Miss C. Slattery came to Kohi in 1899, and taught through to 1909. A firm believer in discipline, she lavished the cane frequently. She also lived outside the district, and her non-residence led to serious neglect of the school house and grounds. After her leaving and through the depressed war years little was done to improve either.

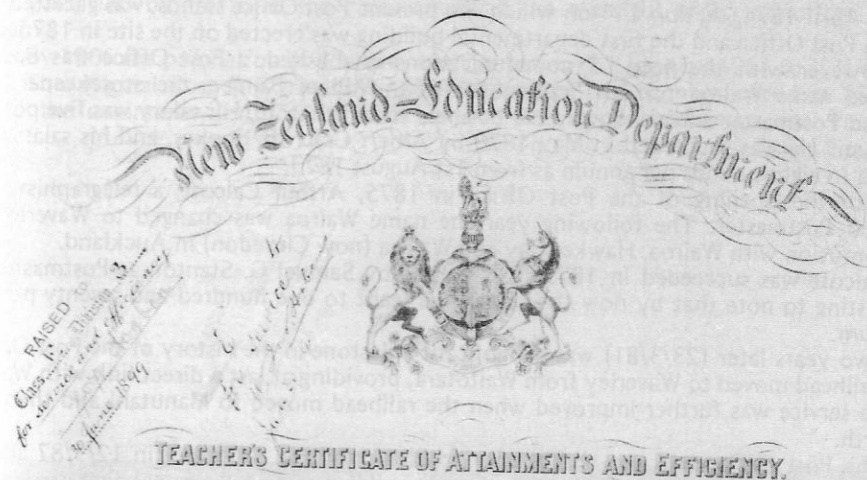
After 1920 things improved dramatically, and the later of the school's history can be read in the excellent School Centennial booklet.

It is important to remember that teachers of this period throughout New Zealand battled against overwhelming odds as the education system went through its teething problems, and the problems facing Kohi were only indicative of hundreds of other small country schools.

TEACHERS:

1876-78	Miss Jane Wilkinson	1891	Mr F. Strombom
1878-79	Mr P. MacOmish	1892-97	Mr F. Mason
1879-81	Mrs E. Hall	1898	Mr A. McCurragh
1881-83	Miss A. Verdon	1898-1909	Miss J.C. Slattery
1883-87	Mrs J. Watt	1910-12	Mr N. Murray
1887-90	Mr M. Lissaman (May have been one who went into the butchery and bakery with Wallace?)	1913-15	Miss M. Taylor
		1916	Mr R. Tregurtha
		1917-18	Mrs A. Williams
		1919-1921	Mrs A. Beardmore
1890	Mr R. French		

(Ref. Kohi Centennial Booklet)



Class & Division 5

This is to certify that Martha Mary Farr has given satisfactory evidence of attainments in learning entitling her to be placed in Class E of Teachers holding Certificates under the Education Act 1877 that her experience as a Public School Teacher and her practical skill in the art of Teaching and School Management qualify her for Division 5 and that she is accordingly rated as Class E Division 5

Wellington April 11th 1895

Edward Hill 7th Floor 177

Minister of Education

Inspector General of Schools

EXTRACTS & FROM ORDER IN COUNCIL, SEPT. 24th 1878.

1. There shall be five classes of certificates distinguished from the highest to the lowest by the letters A, B, C, D, E.
 2. In each class there shall be five divisions distinguished from the highest to the lowest by the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
 3. The class for which a certificate is granted shall depend upon attainments in learning as proved by examination. The division in the class upon experience and practical skill in the art of teaching and of school management.
 4. The relative values of certificates shall depend in equal degree upon attainments in learning and upon practical skill as indicated in the certificate and in which the latter and former divisions may vary. Certificates shall apply to the letter and number which in any other column denote a certificate of equal value.

SCALE OF PROMOTIONARY TABLES					in Each
Class	Div.	1	2	3	Year
A	1	10	10	10	10
A	2	10	10	10	10
A	3	10	10	10	10
B	1	10	10	10	10
B	2	10	10	10	10
B	3	10	10	10	10
B	4	10	10	10	10
B	5	10	10	10	10
C	1	10	10	10	10
C	2	10	10	10	10
C	3	10	10	10	10
C	4	10	10	10	10
C	5	10	10	10	10
D	1	10	10	10	10
D	2	10	10	10	10
D	3	10	10	10	10
D	4	10	10	10	10
D	5	10	10	10	10
E	1	10	10	10	10
E	2	10	10	10	10
E	3	10	10	10	10
E	4	10	10	10	10
E	5	10	10	10	10

In the month of June in each year a list of teachers holding certificates and licenses shall be issued by the Minister of Education and such list shall set forth in every case of promotion the higher class or division to which such certificate or license shall be entitled upon evidence that such teacher has been so promoted shall be entitled upon evidence that such teacher is the Minister to have a record of his promotion entered upon his certificate.

Teaching Certificate of Martha Farr, 1st teacher at Moumahaki.

WAVERLEY POST OFFICE

In April 1874, section 144 on which the present Post Office stands, was gazetted as a site for a Post Office and the first departmental building was erected on the site in 1875.

However with the need for communications established, a Post Office was opened under the name Wairoa on 9th September 1868. William Palmer, the storekeeper, was appointed Postmaster and conducted his business from the store. His salary was five pounds per annum. He was succeeded in May 1870 by Albert Cracroft Fookes, and his salary was increased to eight pounds per annum as from 1st August 1873.

With the opening of the Post Office in 1875, Arthur Calcott, a telegraphist, was appointed Postmaster. The following year the name Wairoa was changed to Waverley to avoid confusion with Wairoa, Hawkes Bay and Wairoa (now Clevedon) in Auckland.

Calcott was succeeded in 1879 (1st March) by Samuel G. Stanton as Postmaster. It is interesting to note that by now the salary had leapt to one hundred and seventy pounds per annum.

Two years later (23/3/81) was a significant milestone in the history of the Post Office, as the railhead moved to Waverley from Waitotara, providing at last a direct link with Wanganui. The service was further improved when the railhead moved to Manutahi and then further north.

The Post Office was not without its problems though. An entry in 12/5/87 advises that the mail service from the Post Office to the railway station "is now being carried out by sureties, owing to drunkenness of the contractor, G. Dempsey!"

The services that the Post Office had to offer extended with the opening of the telephone exchange on 7th July 1902. There were eleven subscribers at the time. Dr A.C. Harvey was No 1, and the Railway No 2 respectively probably the two most important services in the community.

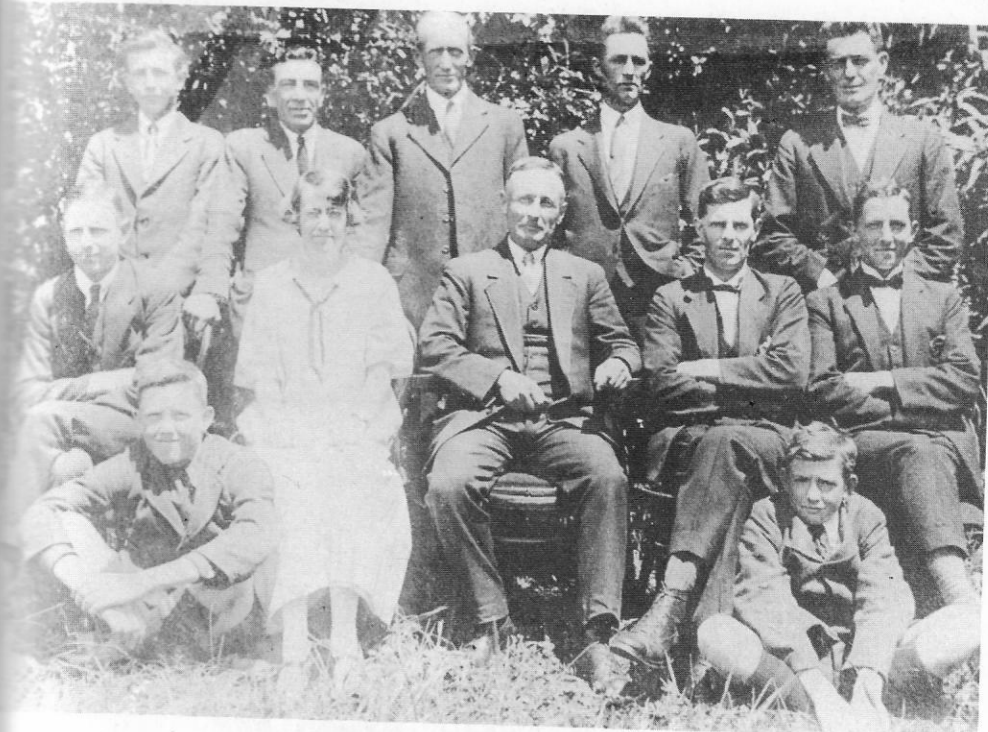


The old Post Office.

With the increasing number of people settling in Waverley it was requested on 26/6/05 that a letter carrier be employed for the village. This was established on 10th August of the same year, and by this time the Postmaster had the oversight of 15 sub-offices and six bureaux.

By 1906 the population of Waverley had jumped to 471, and by 1911 to 1,318. The original Post Office consisting of two rooms had been extended in 1884, and served the community until early 1928 when it was demolished and a new Post Office built.

Ref. P.O. Archives



Post Office Staff 1925

Designation of Officers as at time of photo.

Row: T.W. Leo (Exchange Clerk), C. Rumford (Faultman), R.C. Fincham (Line Foreman), J. Hair (Temporary Lineman), T.J. Fitzgibbon (Junior Lineman).
 Middle Row: T. Barnett (Postman), Miss F.E. White (Exchange Attendant), F.J. Andrews (Postmaster), J.H.C. Halliday (Telegraphist), C.C.W. Meyer (Cadet)
 Front Row: D.W. Prouse (Temporary Message Boy), G.M. Leo (Message Boy).
 Absent: S.A. Howie (Message Boy)