



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero – Report for a Historic Place
Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand, TAIHAPE
(List No. 9843, Category 2)



Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand, Jamie Jacobs, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 2 February 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to provide evidence to support the inclusion of Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand in the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero as a Category 2 historic place.

Summary

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand on Kokako Street was designed by architect Oscar Albert ('O.A') Jorgensen and built in 1924 as part of improvements to the recreation grounds (now Memorial Park) in Taihape. The grandstand reflects the development of sports and recreation amenities in Aotearoa New Zealand during the late nineteenth – early twentieth centuries and is closely connected to the history of club rugby. The grandstand is architecturally significant as a well-preserved representative example of grandstand from this era and is of considerable social significance to the Taihape community.

Taihape is located at the heart of the Mōkai Pātea rohe which was first settled by Ngāti Hotu. The tangata whenua of Mōkai Pātea are Ngāti Tamakōpiri, Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Hauiti and Ngāti Whitikaupeka, who all trace their whakakapapa back to sons of celebrated explorer Tamatea Pōkai Whenua of the Takitimu waka. The four iwi of Mōkai Pātea arrived over a period of seven generations, driving out Ngāti Hotu, and became closely related through intermarriage. In the late 1860s the first Pākehā arrived to settle in the northern part of the rohe, where they took up sheep runs after negotiating private leases on land such as the Ngāti Whitikaupeka-owned Oruamatua-Kaimanawa block.

Taihape was established in September 1894 following the Crown acquisition and partitioning of the substantial Awarua Block at the heart of the Mōkai Pātea rohe, extending from Mangaweka to Moawhango. Sections on Awarua 4A1 (formerly part of the Ngāti Tamakōpiri block Awarua 4A) were made available for settlement under the Liberal Government's Farm Improvement Settlement Scheme. When the first colonial settlers arrived from Christchurch and Wellington, Taihape (originally known as Hautapu, then Otaihape) was little more than a rough clearing in dense native bush, but by the end of 1897 extensive bush clearance had been undertaken and Taihape was developing into a fledgling township. It included a large recreation reserve which became more commonly known as the 'Oval Domain' following improvements in the early 20th century. A grandstand had long been proposed at the Oval Domain, and was even suggested as a fitting World War One memorial for the town, but it wasn't erected until 1924 after the Taihape Borough Council sought plans and specifications as part of further ground improvements.

The grandstand was designed by Palmerston North architect O.A. Jorgensen and built by Taihape builder Henry Hesketh on the south-western perimeter of the Oval Domain, facing onto the playing fields. Jorgensen's 1923 architectural plan shows a large two-storey timber grandstand comprising 10 rows of tiered bench seating with amenities underneath – a central refreshment room with a ladies' and men's cloak room either end.

The Rangitīkei Agricultural and Pastoral Association was reportedly the first 'organised body' to use the grandstand during their fourteenth annual show in January 1925, but many other groups and associations have made use of it over the years, and it has been the venue for numerous civic events. The grandstand is most closely connected with rugby and the local clubs - the Taihape Rugby and Sports Club and Utiku & Old Boys Rugby Football Club. Countless matches have been played at Memorial Park, with spectators filling the grandstand and players utilising the facilities underneath. There have been some changes to the grandstand over the years, most of which relate to the ground floor interior, but it largely retains its original exterior form. The future of the grandstand is currently (2022) being investigated; anticipated strengthening works and community support will help ensure its preservation for future generations to enjoy.

1. IDENTIFICATION¹

1.1. Name of Place

Name

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand

Other Names

Grandstand

Taihape Grandstand

Taihape Memorial Grandstand

1.2. Location Information

Address

12 Kokako Street

Taihape Memorial Park

TAIHAPE

Manawatū-Whanganui

¹ This section is supplemented by visual aids in Appendix 1 of the report.

Additional Location Information

E1840304 / N5604273 (NZTM) - taken from approximate centre of the grandstand in aerial view.

Local Authority

Rangitikei District Council

1.3. Legal Description

Sec 1 Blk X Town of Taihape (*NZ Gazette* 1899, p.259), Wellington Land District²

1.4. Extent of List Entry

Extent includes part of the land described as Sec 1 Blk X Town of Taihape (*NZ Gazette* 1899, p.259), Wellington Land District and the building known as Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand thereon. (Refer to map in Appendix 1 of the List entry report for further information).

1.5. Eligibility

There is sufficient information included in this report to identify this place. This place is physically eligible for consideration as a historic place. It consists of a building that is fixed to land which lies within the territorial limits of New Zealand.

1.6. Existing Heritage Recognition

Local Authority and Regional Authority Plan Scheduling

Not scheduled in Rangitikei District Plan, Operative 3 October 2013.

Reserve

The Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand is located within a reserved public recreation ground (Sec 1 Blk X Town of Taihape, Pt Sec 42 and Secs 43-44 Block XIV Ohinewairua SD, *NZ Gazette* 1899, p.259; Secs 97-99 Blk XIV Ohinewairua SD, *NZ Gazette* 1907, p.449; Sec 2 Blk X Town of

² The land was temporarily reserved as a public recreation ground under Section 235 of the Land Act 1892, then permanently reserved as such under Section 236 of the Act.

Taihape, *NZ Gazette* 1956, p.195), which is managed and administered by the Rangitikei District Council in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.³ The Taihape Memorial Park is considered a Crown-derived recreation reserve under this legislation.⁴

2. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1. Historical Information

Mōkai Pātea

Mōkai Pātea in the central North Island extends from the Desert Road in the north to just south of Rātā near Marton, eastwards to the Ngaruroro River and the summit of the Ruahine ranges, and ends just west of State Highway 1 and Taihape.⁵ The four iwi of the Mōkai Pātea rohe are Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Hauiti, Ngāti Whitikaupēka and Ngāti Tamakōpiri, and all descend from the common founding ancestor, celebrated explorer Tamatea Pōtai Whenua of the Takitimu waka.⁶ Tamakōpiri was the son of Tamatea Pōkai Whenua and his wife Taanewhare; Te Ohuake descended from Kahungunu, son of Tamatea Pōkai Whenua and his wife Iwipūpū; and Hauiti and Whitikaupēka were cousins and the great-grandsons of Punua who descended from Ruaehu, son of Tamatea Pōkai Whenua and his wife Kahukare.⁷

Tamatea Pōkai Whenua had journeyed into Mōkai Pātea where he named a number of places and left several mōkai (pets) as an indication of his mana and claiming of the land.⁸ The

³ Rangitikei District Council, 'Taihape Memorial Park Management Plan', 2010, p.5, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/general/Parks-Reserves-Management-Plans/Memorial-Park-Reserve-Management-Plan-Part-2.pdf>, accessed 5 July 2022.

⁴ Rangitikei District Council, 'Taihape Memorial Park Management Plan', 2010, p.5, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/general/Parks-Reserves-Management-Plans/Memorial-Park-Reserve-Management-Plan-Part-2.pdf>, accessed 5 July 2022.

⁵ 'Mōkai Pātea trust takes steps towards Titiri settlement', *Stuff*, 24 March 2021, <https://www.stuff.co.nz/pou-tiaki/124626978/mkai-ptea-trust-takes-steps-towards-titiri-settlement>, accessed 18 August 2022. See map 'Mōkai Pātea Nui Tonu Area of Interest', *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/appendix_c-mkai_ptea_nui_tonu_area_of_interest.pdf, accessed 18 August 2022.

⁶ See 'Mōkai Pātea Nui Tonu Whakapapa Lines', *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/appendix-a-mokai-patea-nui-tonu-whakapapa.pdf>, accessed 30 August 2022.

⁷ 'Mōkai Pātea Nui Tonu Whakapapa Lines'; Tony Walz, 'Tribal Landscape Overview', Wai 2180 Taihape Hearing District, 2013, pp.73, 78-90, available from *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/documents/>, accessed 18 August 2022; 'Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust Newsletter', Edition 3, August 2013, *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/mpwctpanuiaugust2013.pdf>, accessed 18 August 2022; 'Ngāti Tamakōpiri', *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/ngati-tamakopiri/>, accessed 18 August 2022; 'Ngāti Hauiti', *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/ngati-hauiti/>, accessed 18 August 2022.

⁸ Tony Walz, 2013, pp.59-60; 'Ngāti Tamakōpiri'; Terry Steedman, Part I of 'Chapter 1 Te Awarua-Rui-o-Puanga' in Denis Robertson, *1894 – 1994 "...Give me Taihape on a Saturday Night"*, Heritage Press, Waikanae, 1995, p.26; Bruce Stirling and Evald Subasic, 'Taihape: Rangitikei ki Rangipo Inquiry District', Technical Research Scoping Report, 2010, p.13,

bestowing of names and leaving of mōkai provided a take (claim) under which his descendants could return and the people of Mōkai Pātea arrived over a period of seven generations, driving out the original Ngāti Hotu people, about whom little is known.⁹

The Arrival of Pākehā

The people of Mōkai Pātea had certainly felt the impact of Pākehā by the mid-1860s, but there were essentially no Pākehā residing in their rohe at that time, and tangata whenua there 'remained largely unknown to the outside world'.¹⁰ That soon changed following the arrangement of leases with private runholders in the late 1860s in the northern part of the rohe.¹¹ In 1868 brothers Captain Azim and William John Birch were the first Pākehā to settle in Mōkai Pātea after negotiating with Ngāti Whitikaupeka to lease a sheep run on the Oruamatua-Kaimanawa block, northeast of Moawhango.¹²

Other early runholders followed but transportation of wool was an issue with no road or rail access.¹³ In 1883 the 'Gentle Annie' road from Napier finally connected to Moawhango, which went on to become the 'business centre' of inland Pātea, and access was also improving in the southern part of Mōkai Pātea.¹⁴ A bridle track was cut along the survey line of the Main Trunk Railway in the mid-1880s and by 1888 the railhead had reached Kaikarangi, just north of Hunterville.¹⁵ At this time the future site of Taihape was still dense native bush on the banks of the Hautapu River, reachable only by the rough bridle track which was described by one rider in 1889 as 30 inches (76 centimetres) deep in mud and impassable on foot.¹⁶ The area started to assume some importance as a key roading junction where the

available from *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/taihapescopingsfinalstirling2.pdf>, accessed 18 August 2022.

⁹ Walz, 2013, pp.59-60; Stirling and Subasic, 2010, p.13; 'Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust Newsletter', Edition 3, August 2013; Steedman in Robertson, 1995, p.16. Very little is known about Ngāti Hotu – some state that they were associated with the Tainui waka and named after Hotonui, a descendant of Hoturua - see Walz, 2013, pp.55, 57; Steedman in Robertson, 1995, p.16.

¹⁰ Walz, 2013, pp.406, 408; Stirling and Subasic, 2010, p.25.

¹¹ Walz, 2013, p.408; Stirling and Subasic, 2010, p.82.

¹² Karen Astwood, 'Birch Homestead', *Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga*, 2013, <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/2736>, accessed 19 August 2022; R.A.L. Batley, 'Part II The Coming of the Paheka' in 'Chapter 1 Te Awarua-Rui-o-Puanga', Robertson, 1995, p.19. For further detail about the Birch brothers' 1868 lease, see Martin Fisher and Bruce Stirling, *Sub-district block study – Northern aspect*, Taihape Inquiry District: Technical Research Programme, 2012, <http://www.nhnp.nz/images/custom/research-documents/taihapenorthernblocks.pdf>, accessed 19 August 2022.

¹³ Anne Potaka and Jackie Eustace, 'Chapter 2 Establishment' in Robertson, 1995, p.24.

¹⁴ Batley in Robertson, 1995, p.21; Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.24.

¹⁵ Batley in Robertson, 1995, p.21; Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.24.

¹⁶ 'Taihape's Early Days', *Dominion*, 17 December 1940, copy in *Taihape: articles from various newspapers on Taihape history, 1940-1968*, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

bridle track connected with Field's Track to Mataroa to the west and Moawhango Track to the east, and it became a stopping point for the coaches heading north.¹⁷ The establishment of Taihape by Pākehā settlers was still several years off though – its site was within the substantial Awarua Block, on land that the Crown had not yet acquired.

The Awarua Block: Title Investigation, Partitioning and Crown Acquisition

The large Awarua Block (circa 256,000 acres) was at the heart of Mōkai Pātea and encompassed the land between Mangaweka and Moawhango.¹⁸ This land is of deep significance to the people of Mōkai Pātea, being where their settlement was concentrated, and the Awarua Block has been described as 'rohe pōtae'.¹⁹ It was also of immense importance to the Crown as the proposed route of the Main Trunk Railway passed directly through the western part of the block.²⁰

The Awarua block had 'a turbulent and protracted history in the Native Land Court' – the title was first investigated in 1886 and the block was vested in 437 Māori owners, descendants of Ohuake, Hinemanu, Hauti, Whitikaupeka and Tamakōpiri.²¹ Partition hearings were undertaken during 1890-1891 and the Awarua block was partitioned into nine smaller blocks, with the Ngāti Tamakōpiri block Awarua 4A (Pukeanua) being of specific relevance to this report.²² The Crown's interest in Awarua 4A was determined through a further partition hearing in 1894; Awarua 4A was divided into three blocks, with Awarua 4A1 and 4A2 awarded to the Crown.²³ Later that year the first Pākehā settlers would arrive and establish Taihape on Awarua 4A1, where they had been offered 12 sections of 12-15 acres.²⁴

¹⁷ 'Taihape's Early Days', *Dominion*, 17 December 1940; 'Looking Back', *Evening Post* ('EP'), 31 October 1917, p.9; Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.25.

¹⁸ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.25; Evald Subasic and Bruce Stirling, *Sub-District Block Study – Central Aspect*, Taihape Enquiry District, 2012, p.69, available from *Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust*, <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz/documents/>, accessed 21 August 2022.

¹⁹ Subasic and Stirling, 2012, p.69; Stirling and Subasic, 2010, p.82.

²⁰ Subasic and Stirling, 2012, pp.69-70.

²¹ Subasic and Stirling, 2012, pp.70-71.

²² Subasic and Stirling, 2012, pp.74-87. The partition hearings commenced in July 1890 in Marton, against the express wishes of iwi who had requested they be held in Moawhango.

²³ Subasic and Stirling, 2012, pp.86, 143-144.

²⁴ 'Annual Report on Department of Lands and Survey', *Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives (AJHR)*, 1897, C-1, p.98. Jurgens, 1994, p.3 notes that the sections ranged from 12 to 15 acres and another sources state that they ranged from 12 to 17 acres – for example see 'Taihape's Early Days', *Dominion*, 17 December 1940.

Arrival of the Collinsville Settlers in Taihape

In September 1894, 12 colonial settlers and their families arrived in the Upper Rangitīkei to create a new cooperative settlement.²⁵ They were members of the Collinsville Cooperative Settlement Association established in Christchurch and named after one of its sponsors William Whitehouse Collins, M.H.R. for the City of Christchurch.²⁶ The association was founded at a time when employment was scarce, and the Liberal government had established the Farm Improvement Settlement Scheme which enabled settlers (individually or collectively) with little or no capital to take on smaller areas of land under lease.²⁷ The settlement was never actually known as Collinsville as its name was changed to Hautapu (after the Hautapu River) after the House of Representatives advised they wanted Māori names to be retained.²⁸ Its name changed again to Otaihape after the Otaihape Stream which skirted the settlement, before finally becoming known as Taihape after the 'O' was dropped.²⁹

Taihape - From Muddy Frontier Settlement to 'Progressive and Prosperous' Township

Conditions were extremely tough for the new settlers who were lacking 'pioneering experience', but by the end of the first year some had progressed from tents to slab whare and they had also cleared the native bush from 150 of their 200 acres of land.³⁰ The land which would form the central part of the adjoining township went up for sale in January 1895, comprising 39 quarter-acre sections, and further surrounding land was being surveyed

²⁵ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, pp.25-26; Jurgens, 1994, p. 1; 'Ohingaiti', *New Zealand Mail* ('NZM'), 21 September 1894, p.27. An exception to this was the family of settler John Cryer who arrived in October 1894.

²⁶ 'Looking Back', *EP*, 31 October 1917, p.9.

²⁷ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.25; 'Liberal Land Policy for Closer Settlement, 1891-1911', from *An Encyclopaedia of New Zealand*, edited by A. H. McLintock, originally published in 1966. *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/1966/land-settlement/page-6>, accessed 15 August 2022.

²⁸ 'Ohingaiti', *New Zealand Times* ('NZT'), 20 September 1894, p.4; Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.23; Jurgens, 1994, p. 2; 'Taihape', *New Zealand Gazetteer*, Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand, <https://gazetteer.linz.govt.nz/place/41189>, accessed 12 August 2022. The source for the New Zealand Gazetteer information is A.W. Reed (revised by Peter Dowling), *Place Names of New Zealand*, Raupo, Rosedale, 2010.

²⁹ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.23; Jurgens, 1994, p.2; 'Taihape', *New Zealand Gazetteer*. The name was changed due to confusion with other places named Hautapu – there was a Hautapu in the Waikato for example – see 'Hautapu Annual Picnic', *Waikato Times* ('WT'), 22 March 1894, p.9; 'Hautapu', *New Zealand Gazetteer*, <https://gazetteer.linz.govt.nz/place/22401>, accessed 12 August 2022. There are different explanations as to why the name was changed from Otaihape to Taihape - it's thought that the 'O' was mistakenly omitted when the township was gazetted in November 1894, but another source notes that the 'O' was dropped due to confusion between Otaihape and nearby Ohingaiti. Storekeeper Mr Ellis of Ellis Brothers and Valder at Hunterville found that the firm's goods for Otaihape ended up in Ohingaiti and so 'an effective complaint was made' - see 'Taihape', *New Zealand Gazetteer*, <https://gazetteer.linz.govt.nz/place/41189>; 'Building a Town', *WC*, 19 May 1926, p.6.

³⁰ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.26; Jurgens, 1994, p.6; 'Taihape Notes', *Wanganui Herald* ('WH'), 12 September 1895, p.2; 'Taihape Settled 64 Years Ago', *Taihape Times* ('TT'), 7 December 1958 – copy in *Taihape: articles from various newspapers on Taihape history, 1940-1968*, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

for farms and balloted for sale.³¹ By the end of 1897 the fledgling township of Taihape had a number of buildings of civic and commercial buildings with some settlers continuing in their trades whilst developing their small holdings.³² Others felled the bush and built roads, bridges and culverts.³³ The establishment of a local saw-milling industry helped boost the growth of Taihape, as did the advancement of the Main Trunk Line which reached the 'thriving bush township' in 1904, helping to end its isolation.³⁴ Taihape was gazetted as a borough in 1906, at which time there were 1269 residents within its boundary.³⁵ It was finally shaking off its reputation as a muddy frontier settlement with 'all the parasites of rough pioneering' and transforming into a 'prosperous and progressive township'.³⁶

Development of Taihape Oval Domain/'The Rec'

The town plan for Taihape included a ten-acre recreation reserve on Block X to the east of the main street, off Kokako Street.³⁷ A working bee comprising local residents and the 'enthusiastic' athletics club began felling the bush in 1898, and the land was formally declared a recreation reserve in February 1899.³⁸ In 1906 work began on the first of several 'proposed improvements' at the Taihape Recreation Ground, which included the formation of a new large sports oval with running track and interior cricket pitch and football ground; erection of a band rotunda; access improvements such as new gated entrances; and a 'commodious grandstand'.³⁹ The grandstand was to have a number of ground floor rooms

³¹ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, p.29; 'Page 1 Advertisements', *NZT*, 31 January 1895, p.1, 'Taihape Notes', *WH*, 12 September 1895, p.2.

³² Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, pp.28-29; Jurgens, 1994, pp.7-9, 11; 'Taihape Settled 64 Years Ago', *TT*, 7 December 1958; 'Forest Hamlet...' in Edward Dollimore, *Taihape New Zealand: From Bush Clearing to Modern Town*, Taihape Borough Council, in conjunction with the Taihape Chamber of Commerce and Taihape Rotary Club, Taihape, 1952 (no page numbers).

³³ Jurgens, 1994, p.9; 'Taihape Settled 64 Years Ago', *TT*, 7 December 1958; 'Forest Hamlet...' in Dollimore, 1952.

³⁴ Potaka and Eustace in Robertson, 1995, pp.29-30; '...Borough Town' in Dollimore, 1952; 'Taihape', *New Zealand Herald* ('*NZH*'), 17 June 1904, p.3; 'Taihape and Moawhango', *Manawatu Standard* ('*MS*'), 23 November 1903, p.5.

³⁵ Robertson, 1995, p. 32; '...Borough Town' in Dollimore, 1952; 'Local and General', *EP*, 1 June 1906, p.4; 'Census Returns', *NZT*, 30 May 1906, p.5; *NZ Gazette* 1906, p.1381; plan B 459, Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand.

³⁶ 'Looking Back', *EP*, 31 October 1917, p.9; Robertson, 1995, pp.30-31. Cyclopedica Company Limited, *The Cyclopedica of New Zealand [Taranaki, Hawke's Bay & Wellington Provincial Districts]*, The Cyclopedica Company Limited, Christchurch, 1908, p.635, available from the *New Zealand Electronic Text Collection*, <https://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-Cyc06Cycl-t1-body1-d3-d19-d10.html>, accessed 16 August 2022.

³⁷ See SO 14228, Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand; *NZ Gazette*, 1899, p.259. The reserve was technically 9 acres, 3 roods and 24 perches, though some round this up to 10 acres – for example see 'Taihape Notes', *WC*, 18 August 1898, p.3.

³⁸ 'Taihape Notes', *WC*, 26 May 1898, p.2; 'Taihape Notes', *WC*, 18 August 1898, p.3; 'Recreation Too....', Dollimore, 1952; See SO 14228, Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand.

³⁹ 'Taihape Recreation Ground', *WC*, 8 August 1906, p.2.

including refreshment rooms, a kitchen, secretary and stewards' rooms and cloak rooms.⁴⁰ It was 'not intended to undertake the whole of these improvements at once' though, and as it transpired, the grandstand wasn't built for another 18 years.⁴¹

A Memorial Grandstand?

It's a commonly held understanding within the Taihape community today that the grandstand was built as a World War One memorial in a project initiated by rangatira Kingi Topia O.B.E. with strong tangata whenua support. In 1919 Kingi Topia, J.C. Whenuaroa and other tangata whenua residing in the Taihape area started a campaign to raise funds for a soldiers' memorial in the town.⁴² An initial public meeting was held in the Taihape Town Hall on 3 November 1919 and though attendance was poor, there was considerable public discussion about the form that the memorial should take over the ensuing months.⁴³ One leading suggestion was the erection of a memorial grandstand at the recreation ground – 'a spot where the boys had spent the earliest years of their boyhood and manhood in recreation'.⁴⁴ This was likely to be an expensive proposal though and others supported a purely commemorative memorial such as a cairn, with the Triangle (a small land parcel on the corner of Hautapu and Huia Streets) suggested as an appropriate location.⁴⁵

In the end, not many were in favour of a utilitarian memorial; returned soldiers and tangata whenua had both expressed their preference for 'a memorial of a monumental nature' and at a public meeting on 2 July 1920 'there was not a single advocate for a memorial of a utilitarian kind'.⁴⁶ Consequently, the Taihape community agreed to erect a purely commemorative memorial, its exact form and location to be determined, and a committee was set up to see the project to completion.⁴⁷ Taihape still got its much-needed grandstand though a few years later.

⁴⁰ 'Taihape Recreation Ground', *WC*, 8 August 1906, p.2.

⁴¹ 'Taihape Recreation Ground', *WC*, 8 August 1906, p.2. Meanwhile, the recreation ground (which became more commonly known as the 'Taihape Oval Domain') was enlarged by an additional 3.8 acres in 1907 - Sections 97-99 (closed road) were added declared as public recreation reserve and added to the grounds – see *NZ Gazette*, 1907, p.449.

⁴² 'Page 1 Advertisements', *TDT*, 1 November 1919, p.1; 'Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 4 November 1919, p.5.

⁴³ 'Page 1 Advertisements', *TDT*, 1 November 1919, p.1; 'Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 4 November 1919, p.5; 'A Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 20 November 1919, p.5; 'A Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 21 November 1919, p.4.

⁴⁴ 'Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 4 November 1919, p.5

⁴⁵ 'Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 4 November 1919, p.5.

⁴⁶ 'Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 3 July 1920, p.5; 'Taihape Notes', *RA&MA*, 20 July 1920, p.5.

⁴⁷ 'Soldiers' Memorial', *TDT*, 3 July 1920, p.5; 'Taihape Notes', *RA&MA*, 20 July 1920, p.5. The Taihape War Memorial ended up being a large marble square-sided obelisk, erected on the Triangle. It was officially unveiled on 17 May 1927 by Governor-General Sir Charles Fergusson and his Aide-de-Camp Captain Boyle, in front of a 'large assemblage of people

Construction of the Grandstand

In May 1922, the Taihape Borough Council recommended that the Taihape Oval Domain Committee obtain an estimate for ground improvements and the erection of a grandstand at the Oval Domain.⁴⁸ The works were greatly needed to accommodate the large numbers of people using the Oval Domain for different sports throughout the year - the grounds were in use nearly every Saturday for athletics, rugby, hockey and cricket.⁴⁹ The Committee consequently recommended that the Town Clerk approach local builders seeking plans and estimates for a grandstand capable of seating 750 people with various rooms underneath including a luncheon room, dressing room, secretary's office and ladies' cloak room.⁵⁰ Seven local builders appear to have approached in July 1922, but plans may not have been forthcoming as in October 1923 the Oval Domain Committee subsequently approached Wanganui architect Mr James and Wellington architects L.A. Anderson and Clere and Clere for a preliminary plan and estimate for a grandstand which could seat '750 to 1000 persons'.⁵¹ The grandstand was to be erected 'on the original site being on the west side of ground with back to Kokako St'.⁵²

It's unclear how Palmerston North architect Oscar Albert ('O.A') Jorgensen became involved with the grandstand project, but in December 1923 the Oval Domain Committee recommended the adoption of Jorgensen's grandstand 'sketch plan'.⁵³ Jorgensen was responsible for a number of commercial, civic and residential buildings throughout the

from all parts of the Main Trunk'. Kingi Topia welcomed the Governor-General on behalf of tangata whenua and presented him with woven mats – see "Taihape War Memorial Unveiled", *MT*, 18 May 1927, p.8.

⁴⁸ Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 13 June 1922, Baths, Reserves and Domains Committee 1915-1921, Oval Domain Committee (1921-1924) Minute Book, RDC 00160:1:1, Archives Central, Feilding.

⁴⁹ Letter from the Town Clerk to W.S. Glenn Esqr., 21 August 1923, Domains and Reserves: Oval Domain Correspondence, Grandstand, Loan 4,000; Loan 28,000 (600 transferred to Oval Domain), RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding.

⁵⁰ Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 13 June 1922, RDC 00160:1:1, Archives Central, Feilding.

⁵¹ Letter from the Town Clerk to Mr James, Wanganui, Clere and Clere, Wellington and L.A. Anderson, Wellington, 31 October 1923, RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding. There is a plan of another grandstand in the records held by Rangitikei District Council – this is undated and appears to have been drawn by someone with the last name 'Gardiner'. It bears no resemblance to the grandstand as built.

⁵² Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 25 October 1923, RDC 00160:1:1, Archives Central, Feilding. Some sources state that local farmers moved the grandstand to the western side of the park by tractors and rollers by this is not substantiated by research undertaken for this report. It appears that it was always intended for the grandstand to be built on the western side of the park, and it is shown in that position in a historic photograph from 1935 – see [Figure 11](#). Bruce Dickson comes to the same conclusion in his conservation report - see 'Conservation Report – Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand', unpublished report for Rangitikei District Council, 2021, p.6.

⁵³ Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 4 December 1923, RDC 00160:1:1, Archives Central, Feilding; Letter from the Town Clerk to Mr O.A. Jorgensen, 11 December 1923, RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding. The Town Clerk asked Jorgensen to prepare plans and specifications at his earliest convenience. As his blueprint plan is dated 15 December 1923, this implies it was probably already drawn – see Dickson, 2021, p.7. The location of Jorgensen's specification document is unknown.

Manawatū including the re-built King's Theatre in Taihape 1916, and had previously designed grandstands built at the Dannevirke Showgrounds and Dannevirke Racecourse in 1913-1914.⁵⁴

Jorgensen's subsequent plan of 15 December 1923 shows a two-storied timber grandstand with 10 tiers of bench seating accessed via a central set of stairs and landing, with single set of stairs towards both ends.⁵⁵ The ground floor had a large central refreshment room with cooking facilities and a ladies' and men's cloak room at either end. Access to the ground floor was via a set of doors under the central stairs, with separate entrances into the two cloak rooms and two doors to the rear of the grandstand into the refreshment room. The building's structural system involved reinforced concrete columns.⁵⁶ Tenders were called in mid-December 1923, and the successful tenderer was local builder Henry Hesketh, with the lowest price of £1973.⁵⁷

Construction had begun by late January 1924, by which time the wider ground improvements were well underway.⁵⁸ A 'big working bee' had undertaken initial preparation work at the Oval Domain in early 1923 and contractors Messrs MacKenzie and Snow were subsequently awarded the tender to excavate and level the grounds which would have two playing fields, a hockey ground and seven tennis courts when completed.⁵⁹ The ground improvements and grandstand were funded by way of a £4000 loan authorised under legislation and approved by a poll of Taihape ratepayers.⁶⁰ The grandstand was erected by November 1924 though some of the rooms underneath were still being fitted out.⁶¹ There are references to the room at the south end being 'converted into a ladies' rest room' in December 1924 and a fence was

⁵⁴ 'A New Picture Theatre', *TDI*, 15 April 1916, p.4; 'Page 1 Advertisements', *MT*, 11 July 1913, p.1; 'Dannevirke Racecourse', *MT*, 28 February 1914, p.5.

⁵⁵ See [Figure 9](#).

⁵⁶ See [Figure 9](#) - Jorgensen had used reinforced concrete in several previous building designs -; Jorgensen's biography in the **Construction Professionals** section below and Dickson, 2021, p.16.

⁵⁷ 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 17 December 1923, p.6; Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 2 January 1924 in RDC 00160:1:1, Archives Central, Feilding.

⁵⁸ 'Local and General', *WC*, 24 January 1924, p.4.

⁵⁹ 'Country News', *AS*, 6 February 1923, p.6; 'Local and General', *WC*, 24 January 1924, p.4. Mackenzie and Snow were awarded the tender

⁶⁰ Letter from the Town Clerk to W.S. Glenn Esqr., 21 August 1923, RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding; Minutes of the Taihape Borough Council, 27 July 1923 and 14 December 1923, Taihape Borough Council Minute Books, 1923-1927, RDC 00021:6:6, Archives Central, Feilding; Section 64, Reserves and Other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act 1923, *New Zealand Legislation*, <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1923/0035/1.0/whole.html#DLM197590>, accessed 23 August 2022

⁶¹ 'Taihape Borough Council', *WC*, 24 November 1924, p.2.

also added around the perimeter of the grandstand.⁶² In total, the grandstand cost £2018 to build (including the ladies' rest room) and had a seating capacity of 800.⁶³ In 1925 sanitary facilities (shower room, toilet and urinal) were installed in the men's cloak room.⁶⁴ The new grandstand appears to have had an impact on other organisations as in 1926 the Hamilton Rugby Union inspected the grandstand and were 'so much impressed' that they requested the original plans.⁶⁵ Similarly, the Dannevirke Borough Council asked for 'the particulars' of the grandstand in 1928.⁶⁶

Use of the Grandstand

-Taihape and Districts A.&P. Show

The inaugural Rangitikei Agricultural and Pastoral Association show was held at the Oval Domain in 1912 and the association was the first 'organised body in the district to have use of the new recreation ground and grandstand', during their fourteenth annual show on 14-15 January 1925.⁶⁷ An account of the show's opening day noted that the new grandstand provided a 'long-felt want' and was well utilised in the afternoon.⁶⁸ The association continues to hold their annual show at Taihape Memorial Park (formerly the Oval Domain). It remains a landmark event in the local calendar, and has incorporated the equally popular Gumboot Day since 2020.

- Rugby

As with many rural towns across New Zealand, rugby is 'big in Taihape' and the grandstand's most enduring and significant association is with rugby.⁶⁹ Rugby teams have utilised the ground floor facilities and spectators have filled the stands above for close to 100 years. It

⁶² 'Taihape Borough Council', *WC*, 24 November 1924, p.2; Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 4 November 1924, RDC 00160:1:1, Archives Central, Feilding. The fence was likely erected in late 1924/early 1925 – there is reference to a fence around the grandstand in a document titled 'Conditions of Tender for Painting Grandstand and Town Clerk's House', RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding. See various tenders from May 1925, RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding.

⁶³ Dickson, 2021, p.8 – quoting from the Annual Report of the Taihape Borough Council for the year ending 31 December 1924.

⁶⁴ Minutes of the Oval Domain Committee, 8 May 1925, Oval Domain Committee (1925-1929), Abattoir Committee (1925-1926) and the Traffic Committee (1925-1929) Minute Book, RDC 00160:1:2, Archives Central, Feilding. See various tenders from May 1925, RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding. It appears the shower was only cold water based on the tender documents and subsequent 1935 request from the Taihape Rugby Union to install hot showers.

⁶⁵ Minutes of the Taihape Borough Council, 15 October 1926, RDC 00021:6:6, Archives Central, Feilding

⁶⁶ 'Taihape', *WC*, 18 June 1928, p.2.

⁶⁷ 'Rangitikei A.&P. Association', *Dominion*, 19 January 1912, p.8; 'Page 7 Advertisements', *WC*, 23 January 1912, p.7. The January 1925 show was to be held over two days – see Robertson, 1995, p.203.

⁶⁸ 'Rangitikei A. and P. Show', *WC*, 15 January 1925, p.9.

⁶⁹ 'New report due on the future of Taihape's iconic grandstand', *Feilding-Rangitikei Herald ('F-RH')*, 15 October 2020, p.8.

appears that the relationship between the Taihape Rugby Union and Taihape Borough Council was not always 'smooth sailing' though in the initial years after the grandstand's construction. For example, in 1930 there was a much-publicised dispute about the percentage of takings that the Taihape Rugby Union and other bodies using the grandstand would be given.⁷⁰

The grandstand is most closely connected with the Taihape Rugby and Sports Club and Utiku & Old Boys Rugby Football Club, which both have their origins in the early years of Taihape rugby. The Taihape Rugby and Sports Club (previously known as the Taihape Rugby Club) was formed in 1999 when the Huia Rugby and Sports Club and Taihape Pirates Rugby Club amalgamated and their clubrooms are nearby on Kuku Street.⁷¹ Huia was formed in 1897 in Moawhango (though rugby had been played there even earlier) and was principally a Māori rugby club.⁷² The original organisers were Hiraka Te Rongo, Hakoha Te Ahunga and Pine Tuakau and the first captain was Punch Pine.⁷³ Taihape Pirates Rugby Club was founded in 1909 and traditionally included workers from around the town, including the railways 'fraternity'.⁷⁴ Utiku & Old Boys is also a merger club and has a mostly rural membership – it was formed in 1949 when the Utiku Rugby Club (1922) combined with the Old Boys Club (1921) and erected club rooms just to the south-east of the grandstand.⁷⁵

The grandstand has borne witness to countless matches over the years, including one memorable game in 1936 when Huia was about to commence play against Mangaweka. One of the Huia players was missing their jersey and as the team was about to file out on the field, an aeroplane was heard overhead, and it swooped down and dropped a brown paper parcel in front of the grandstand. There were roars of laughter from the spectators as a 'ubiquitous small boy retrieved and unwrapped the missing jersey'!⁷⁶

⁷⁰ For articles about the dispute – see 'Rugby Football', *AS*, 10 April 1930, p.19; 'Main Trunk', *WC*, 28 April 1930, p.2; 'Main Trunk', *WC*, 30 April 1930, p.3; 'Taihape Affairs', *AS*, 3 May 1930, p.16; 'Main Trunk', *WC*, 12 May 1930, p.2; 'Finally Settled', *AS*, 13 May 1930, p.18.

⁷¹ 'Club History', *Taihape Rugby & Sports Club*, <https://www.sporty.co.nz/taihaperrugby/Club-History/NewTab1>, accessed 4 July 2022.

⁷² 'He Pitopito Korero', *Te Ao Hou*, November 1957, p.48; 'Taihape Notes', *WC*, 6 June 1898, p.3.

⁷³ 'He Pitopito Korero', *Te Ao Hou*, November 1957, p.48

⁷⁴ 'Support for local rugby derby', *WC*, 20 April 2016; Pirates Rugby Football Club (Taihape) Incorporated, *75th Jubilee 1909-1984*, The Club, Taihape, 1984, p.7, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

⁷⁵ 'Decision to Form New Rugby Football Club at Utiku', *WC*, 19 March 1949, p.3; 'Support for local rugby derby', *WC*, 20 April 2016.

⁷⁶ 'News of the Day', *AS*, 15 June 1936, p.6.

-Other Uses

The grandstand has also been used by many other groups and clubs over the years, and for a range of different activities from sports matches and event days to civic functions, Christmas celebrations and even political meetings and events. On 4 April 1930 for example, the Right Hon. J.G. Coates and Mrs Coates visited Taihape and were entertained at a garden party at the Oval Domain organised by the Reform League.⁷⁷ The 'grandstand, enclosure and basement were tastefully decorated for the occasion and the tables were attractively set out'.⁷⁸ Other groups paid to specifically use the ground floor space of the grandstand for storage and other activities such as band practice.⁷⁹ In 1940 during the Second World War, troops on leave in Taihape were granted use of the Town Hall and rooms underneath the grandstand for entertainment purposes on Saturday and Sunday nights.⁸⁰

The grandstand is still used today for purposes other than rugby matches and the annual A. & P. show. The local Fire Brigade use the staircases for training for example and Mōkai Pātea Services also use the grandstand and other facilities at the park when running iwi-led projects and initiatives.⁸¹

Subsequent Changes to the Grandstand (1930s-2019)

There have been several changes to the grandstand since it was constructed, most of which relate to the ground floor interior layout. A ticket office was installed towards the north-western end of the grandstand and in the mid-1930s a door was added in the north-western elevation to provide direct access to the office.⁸² In 1945 the north-western end of the grandstand was enclosed to provide shelter and safety and in 1950 a St John's Ambulance room was added to the south-eastern end by partitioning off part of the ladies' cloak room and adding a separate external door.⁸³

⁷⁷ 'Leader of the Reform', WC, 4 April 1930, p.6.

⁷⁸ 'Leader of the Reform', WC, 4 April 1930, p.6.

⁷⁹ 'Main Trunk', WC, 22 April 1929, p.2; 'Taihape', WC, 24 June 1930, p.3; 'Taihape', WC, 9 July 1932.

⁸⁰ 'Taihape Notes', WC, 21 November 1940, p.2.

⁸¹ Copeland Associates Architects, 'Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand Feasibility Report', October 2020, p. 4; Letter from Mōkai Pātea Services to the Rangitikei District Council's Council Chamber, 18 January 2022, tabled as part of the Mayor's Report – January 2022, Rangitikei District Council, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/meetings/council-meetings/2022-01-27/Tabled-as-part-of-the-Mayors-Report-Mokai-Patea-Services.pdf>, accessed 24 August 2022.

⁸² 'Taihape', WC, 24 October 1934, p.3; see letter and sketch plan from builder and contractor H.D. Gray to W.T. May, Chairman of the Reserves Committee, Taihape Borough Council, 10 June 1945, RDC 00160:1:2, Archives Central, Feilding. The ticket window in the north-western elevation also likely dates to the same time. The ticket office door has since been closed over again.

⁸³ 'Representative Rugby', WC, 19 August 1950, p.8.

The grandstand was also incorporated into a wider commemorative landscape in the early 1950s with the creation of the Taihape and Districts War Memorial Park ('Memorial Park') through an extension of the Oval Domain.⁸⁴ A memorial garden and memorial plaque were added inside the main entrance gate to the park ('memorial gate') on Kokako Street in 1953, just to the north-west of the grandstand, and it's presumed that the arched iron 'Memorial Park' sign was added to the top of memorial gate at this time.⁸⁵

The interior layout of the grandstand was reconfigured around 1980 to provide multiple changing rooms along the north-eastern elevation and showers on the south-western side, and a mezzanine floor was added at the south-eastern end.⁸⁶ On 16 August 1980 the grandstand was in use during a football match when a sudden and strong gust of wind lifted the roof and the grandstand was consequently evacuated and closed off.⁸⁷ Repairs and strengthening work were undertaken and it's understood that the roof was subsequently replaced.⁸⁸ The original chimney associated with the former public refreshment room was recently (post-2017) removed from the south-western elevation and in 2019 three local rugby club murals were affixed along the back wall at the top of the grandstand – they were painted by Year 9 art students at Taihape Area School, under the supervision of teacher

⁸⁴ In 1949 Taihape residents had voted by postal ballot to create a memorial park to remember those from the 'town and district who lost their lives in World War II' - Rangitikei District Council, 'Taihape Memorial Park Management Plan' (Part Two: Legislative and Policy Framework specific to Memorial Park, Taihape), 2010, p.3; 'Taihape Residents Vote for Park as War Memorial', *WC*, 23 June 1949, p.4; 'Page 1 Advertisements', *WC*, 25 June 1949, p.1. The memorial park (funded with the assistance of a £1 for £1 government subsidy and public donations making up the shortfall) was originally intended as a new park in the Main South Road but this proposal was replaced by the scheme to extend the Oval Domain instead - 'Taihape News', *WC*, 28 August 1950, p.2; 'Another Ballot To Be Taken on Memorial', *WC*, 2 November 1950, p.7; 'Taihape News', *WC*, 9 November 1950, p.7.

⁸⁵ The main entrance gate was completed in 1926 at the same time as the adjoining gate into the former Taihape District High School and the school added a marble tablet to one of their gate's pillars which listed the names of four teachers and 20 students who had lost their lives in the First World War – see 'Taihape', *WC*, 27 August 1926, p.2; 'Taihape News', *WC*, 16 October 1926, p.2. A second marble tablet was added to honour those who had given their lives during the Second World War. The school apparently gifted their entrance gate to Memorial Park when it closed in 1963 – see Rangitikei District Council, 2010, p.4.

⁸⁶ Copeland Associates Architects, 2020, p. 4; 'Mezzanine Floor Under the Public Stand at Taihape Recreation, Floor Plan, Mezzanine Floor, Elevations and Detail', RDC 00253:4:6, Archives Central, Feilding, <https://archivescentral.org.nz/rangitikei-dc/record/mezzanine-floor-under-public-stand-taihape-recreation-floor-plan-mezzanine>, accessed 6 September 2022

⁸⁷ Contract: Specification for Repairs and Strengthening work to Recreation Ground Grandstand, RDC 00086:2:48, Archives Central, Feilding. Engineers Payne Sewell & Partners of Wanganui inspected the damage and recommended repairs to the trusses as well as replacement of the longitudinal timber beam and four cast iron columns to make it safe for use again.

⁸⁸ 'Contract: Specification for Repairs and Strengthening work to Recreation Ground Grandstand', RDC 00086:2:48, Archives Central, Feilding. Engineers Payne Sewell & Partners of Wanganui inspected the damage to the grandstand and recommended repairs to the trusses as well as replacement of the longitudinal timber beam and four cast iron columns to make it safe for use again. Dickson, 2021, p.21 notes that the roof was understood to have been replaced in the 1980s.

Timoti Pekamu depicting the Taihape Rugby Club, Utiku & Old Boys Rugby and Football Club (1949) and Huia Rugby Club (1897).⁸⁹

A Community Icon in Need of Restoration

The condition of the grandstand and its future viability have been the subject of discussion within the Taihape community for several years.⁹⁰ The poor condition of the ground floor amenities was of particular concern (especially for the rugby union), as were the power connectivity issues, and structural issues had been identified.⁹¹ In February 2020 the Rangitikei District Council voted in favour of building a new amenities block at the southern end of the rugby field, giving rise to community concerns that the grandstand would be left 'to flounder'.⁹²

In July 2020, the Taihape Heritage Trust presented a 648-signature petition (48% of the town's population over 15 years of age) to the Council which requested that they retain and upgrade the amenities under the grandstand.⁹³ The Council subsequently delayed their decision to proceed with a new amenities block and undertook further community consultation and specialist investigations.⁹⁴ After considering the further information, the Council voted to proceed with the new \$2.1 million amenities block in December 2020, and ground works began in March 2022.⁹⁵ The Ngā Awa Block is due for completion at the southern end of the rugby field in January 2023.⁹⁶

Meanwhile, the Council has set aside \$1,000,000 in their 2021-2031 Long Term Plan for the strengthening of the grandstand which was identified in July 2021 as having a New Building

⁸⁹ Copeland Associates Architects, 2020, p. 4; see posts from Timoti Pekamu on 9 November 2019, 21 November 2019 and 3 December 2019 in the 'Alternative Taihape Community Board' public group on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/423384954802486>, accessed 24 August 2021. See **Figure 3**.

⁹⁰ 'New report due on the future of Taihape's iconic grandstand', *F-RH*, 15 October 2020, p.8; Rangitikei District Council, 'Framing Our Future Long Term Plan 2021-31' (Consultation Document), *Rangitikei District Council*, 2021, p.22, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/general/LTP-2021-31/Long-Term-Plan-Consultation-DocWeb.pdf>, accessed 27 August 2022.

⁹¹ 'Taihape Heritage Group petition to save grandstand at Memorial Park', *WC*, 30 July 2020.

⁹² 'Petition to restore mana of historic grandstand', *MS*, 25 July 2020.

⁹³ 'Green light for \$2.1m amenities block at Taihape Sports Ground', *MS*, 29 December 2020.

⁹⁴ 'New report due on the future of Taihape's iconic grandstand', *F-RH*, 15 October 2020, p.8.

⁹⁵ 'Green light for \$2.1m amenities block at Taihape Sports Ground', *MS*, 29 December 2020; 'Ngā Awa Block | Taihape Amenities Building', *Rangitikei District Council*, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/projects/taihape-amenities-building>, accessed 24 August 2022.

⁹⁶ 'Ngā Awa Block | Taihape Amenities Building', *Rangitikei District Council*, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/projects/taihape-amenities-building>, accessed 24 August 2022.

Standard (NBS) rating of 17% when in use.⁹⁷ Community consultation on the Long Term Plan revealed ‘strong support’ for the grandstand.⁹⁸ The Council is currently awaiting a report (due spring 2022) that will detail the full strengthening costs for the grandstand and is anticipating the need for additional fundraising to ensure the long-term preservation of one of Taihape’s key heritage buildings.⁹⁹

Associated List Entries

N/A

2.2. Physical Information

Current Description

Setting



Figure 1: Memorial Park entrance on Kokako Street, Taihape, looking south-east towards the grandstand, Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022

⁹⁷ ‘Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand’, Rangitikei District Council, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/projects/taihape-memorial-park-grandstand>, accessed 24 August 2022.

⁹⁸ Rangitikei District Council, Framing Our Future Long Term Plan 2021-31’, *Rangitikei District Council*, 2021, p.41, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/general/LTP-2021-31/Framing-our-Future-Long-Term-Plan-2021-2031-Adopted-8-JulyWeb.pdf>, accessed 27 August 2022.

⁹⁹ ‘Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand’, Rangitikei District Council, <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/projects/taihape-memorial-park-grandstand>, accessed 24 August 2022.

Memorial Park is located one block east of State Highway 1 as it passes north through the Taihape town centre. Access is off Kokako Street which forms the south-western border of the park (from the corner of Tui Street to Weka Street), with Taihape Area School to the north-west and native bush and the Hautapu River to the north-east and east. The grandstand is on the south-western side of the park, backing onto Kokako Street and facing over playing fields 1 and 2 which are bordered by a low fence. The grandstand is accessed via memorial gate just to the north-west along Kokako Street. This northern area of the park is also home to the memorial garden, children's playground and skate park, public toilets and a large Redwood. The clubrooms of the Utiku & Old Boys Rugby Football Club are directly south-east of the grandstand along with an old store building and the southern end of the park also encompasses the squash clubrooms along with various playing courts and the new amenities block (Ngā Awa Block) currently under construction at the time of writing.

Grandstand - Exterior



Figure 2: Looking across grandstand to the south-east, showing detail of the benched seating and exposed roof trusses above, Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022



Figure 3: Rugby club murals affixed above the top stand of seats at the grandstand in 2019 – these signs are for the Utiku Old Boys Rugby Football Club (established 1949), Taihape Rugby Club (established 1999) and Huia Rugby Club (1897-1998), Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022

The grandstand is a large timber building (30.9 metres by 10.5 metres) and comprises ramped seating with ground floor amenities underneath.¹⁰⁰ The ramped seating is original – it's supported by a rimu beam and consists of 10 rows of plank benches (possibly tōtara), divided into three sections by stairs which run up from the main staircases.¹⁰¹ A bituminous 'malthoid' flooring was used to waterproof the native timber flooring beneath the bench seating and is showing considerable deterioration.¹⁰² There is a low balustrade of vertical timber cladding in front of the bottom tier of seating which provides safety to spectators and three rugby club murals are affixed to the wall above the top tier of seating.

The central staircase features two sets of open tread stairs with timber handrails on the north-eastern edge – these converge on a central landing leading up to the seating. The timber handrails have replaced the original solid timber balustrade.¹⁰³ There is a single set of open tread stairs either side of the central stairs – these are replacements added at an unknown date (possibly post-1970s) and have metal handrails on each side.¹⁰⁴ Double doors beneath the central stairs lead into the ground floor amenities – these appear to have been

¹⁰⁰ Copeland Associates Architects, 2020, p. 4.

¹⁰¹ Copeland Associates Architects, 2020, p. 4.

¹⁰² Dickson, 2021, p.20; Copeland Associates Architects, 2020, p. 5.

¹⁰³ Dickson, 2021, p.37.

¹⁰⁴ Dickson, 2021, p.8.

modified as the original architectural plan shows two pane half lite doors. There is a single timber framed window either side of the central stairs at ground floor level and four other sets of double windows along this north-eastern elevation, some of which have been covered over.

The grandstand has a dutch gabled roof running north-west to south-east with an additional dormer gable on the front (north-eastern elevation) with '1924' on its facade. The roof also overhangs over along the front elevation, providing partial shelter over the stairs. All three gables have a flagpole, though the flagpole on the south-eastern gable end is broken. The roof is clad in overlapping sheets of short sheet roofing iron and the roof trusses are exposed to the seating underneath and have been covered with a light netting as a bird control measure. Four steel columns support the roof along the front elevation – decorative ironwork (cast and wrought iron) is attached to the top of the north-western and south-eastern circular columns which gives the appearance of capitals (the central two columns are steel square hollow section replacements). A small wooden sign is affixed to the two central columns which reads 'ANY PERSON DESTROYING THE PROPERTY OF THE TAIHAPE BOROUGH COUNCIL Will Be Prosecuted'. A steel beam also runs along the length of this elevation, helping to support the timber trussed roof.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰⁵ Dickson, 2021, p.21. It's likely this was added during the repairs and strengthening work undertaken in the early 1980s following storm damage, replacing the original timber beam.



Figure 4: North-western elevation of grandstand, Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022

The north-western end of the grandstand is almost completely enclosed by horizontal weatherboards (added during the mid-1940s), and other changes to this elevation include an additional door (since closed over) and a small 'ticket window' type opening on the ground floor, which appear to be associated with the ticket office added during the 1930s.

Open steel mesh has been fitted to the south-eastern end of the grandstand which retains all three original steel columns topped by decorative ironwork. At ground level, modifications have occurred as a result of the addition of the St John's Ambulance room in 1950. The original St John's sign is still in place about the entrance doors which are covered by a canopy roof. One of the windows on this elevation appears to have been extended then closed in, and there is also a door towards the eastern end which isn't shown on the original plan by Jorgensen. The rear (south-western) elevation of the grandstand is largely original, with the exception of the three small, louvred windows added for the St John's Ambulance room and the original chimney associated with the former public refreshment room which was removed post-2017.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰⁶ Copeland Associates Architects, 2020, p. 4.



Figure 5: South-eastern elevation of grandstand, Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022

Grandstand – Ground Floor Amenities

The ground floor amenities are accessed via the door in the north-western elevation, with rugby teams running out onto the field by way of the double doors in the north-eastern elevation. As previously noted, there has been a considerable amount of change to the ground floor of the grandstand – a central ‘corridor’ space leads to five changing rooms on the north-eastern side, with communal showers, toilets and urinal (the latter potentially dating to 1925) on the south-western side.



Figure 6: Communal showers underneath the grandstand, along south-western elevation, Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022



Figure 7: Example changing room underneath the north-western end of the grandstand. Note the original 1924 walls on both visible elevations, Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 29 April 2022

The changing rooms have very basic facilities such as narrow bench seating around the perimeter (mostly affixed to the walls with some free-standing benches in use). The former St John's Ambulance Room is located at the south-eastern end of the ground floor, along with a room used for general storage with mezzanine floor added above. The original 1924 walls

dividing the cloak rooms at either end from the central ‘public refreshment room’ are still extant, as are the five reinforced concrete columns which run along the centre of the ground floor amenities to support a 390 by 150-millimetre timber beam.¹⁰⁷ The column at each end is incorporated into the timber-framed wall.¹⁰⁸

*Comparative Analysis*¹⁰⁹

Grandstands were built across Aotearoa New Zealand from small rural settlements to large cities - they were generally constructed as part of racecourse and/or showground complexes, though some were built specifically for sporting venues and town domains. Whilst there has been no definitive survey of heritage grandstands in Aotearoa New Zealand, initial comparative work has been undertaken which indicates that grandstands from the late nineteenth – early twentieth centuries are becoming increasingly rare. A number of examples have been demolished over the past decade, such as those at Sanson’s town domain (demolished 2013), Foxton Racecourse (demolished 2013 after arson attacks in 2011), Waverley Racecourse (demolished 2016), Blenheim A. & P. Showgrounds (demolished 2020) and Mangatainoka Domain (destroyed by arson in 2020).¹¹⁰ Other remaining examples have an uncertain future, such as the ornate reinforced concrete grandstand at Waikouaiti (built in 1930) and the Grand National Grandstand at Riccarton Racecourse.¹¹¹

There are currently (August 2022) ten grandstands entered on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero (‘the List’) – nine as Category 2 historic places and one as a Category 1

¹⁰⁷ Dickson, 2021, p.24.

¹⁰⁸ Dickson, 2021, p.24.

¹⁰⁹ Comparative analysis has been undertaken in this case to assess claims about the building’s rarity as a surviving example of an early 20th century timber grandstand.

¹¹⁰ ‘The end of the Sanson grandstand’, *MS*, 5 July 2013, <https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/8882839/The-end-of-the-Sanson-grandstand>; ‘The final act of an arsonist’, *MS*, 30 December 2013, <https://www.pressreader.com/new-zealand/manawatu-standard/20131230/281479274248276>; ‘Waverley Racecourse Grandstand Demolished’, *Patea & Waverley Press Te Karere o Patea me Te Wairoaiti*, May 2016, issue, https://issuu.com/cathsheard/docs/may_2016; ‘Historic grandstand bites the dust at Blenheim A&P Park’, *Marlborough Express*, 2 February 2020, <https://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/business/119205787/historic-grandstand-bites-the-dust-at-blenheims-ap-park>; ‘Teenager arrested after Mangatainoka Grandstand razed in fire’, *Stuff*, <https://www.stuff.co.nz/sport/rugby/122537061/teenager-arrested-after-mangatainoka-grandstand-raised-in-fire>, all accessed 28 August 2022.

¹¹¹ The Waikouaiti grandstand has an uncertain future due to the relocation of the Waikouaiti Race Club to Wingatui – see ‘Sports and Equestrian Facilities’, *North East Otago Discoveries*, https://www.northeastotago.nz/newpage6de0bc23/Waikouaiti_Racing_Club, accessed 28 August 2022. The Canterbury Jockey Club has applied for a resource consent to demolish the heritage-listed Grand National Grandstand at Riccarton Racecourse – see ‘Demolition of Grand National Grandstand, 165 Racecourse Road’, Christchurch City Council, <https://www.ccc.govt.nz/the-council/haveyoursay/show/513>, accessed 28 August 2022.

historic place.¹¹² The Category 1 grandstand is the Kensington Park Grandstand in Whangārei which is architecturally significant for its barrel-vaulted roof.¹¹³ There are also two grandstands entered on the List as part of a wider historic area – the 1910 grandstand at Solway A. & P. Showgrounds Historic Area, Masterton and the 1930 Jubilee Pavilion within the Marton Park Historic Area.¹¹⁴

The twelve grandstands on the List range in date from 1879 to 1930 and most are of timber construction, the exceptions being Waimea Grandstand at Richmond Park, the Logan Park Grandstand, Dunedin and Basin Reserve Pavilion, Wellington. Four of the grandstands on the List were built for A. & P. showgrounds; three for racecourses; and five as part of town domains/recreation grounds. Some of the grandstands were replacements for earlier structures at the same time –the Cricket Ground Pavilion at Auckland Domain, Waimea Grandstand, Richmond Park, Basin Reserve Pavilion and Jubilee Pavilion, Marton are all replacement structures.

There are also several other grandstands from the late nineteenth - early twentieth centuries which aren't entered on the List; these include the timber Golden Bay Grandstand, Tākaka (built in 1899); the timber grandstand at Elizabeth Park, Masterton (built in 1895); the reinforced concrete public grandstand at Trentham Racecourse, Upper Hutt (built 1924); the timber grandstand at the Waimarino A.& P. Showgrounds, Raetihi (built 1924); the brick grandstand at Dannevirke Domain (built in 1930); and the aforementioned reinforced concrete grandstand at Waikouaiti (1930).

In comparing the Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand against these other examples, it is notable among the timber grandstands for its high level of authenticity and intactness. Other examples have undergone significant change and two have been relocated (the grandstand at

¹¹² Kensington Park Grandstand, Whangārei ([List No. 3829](#), Category 1 historic place); Cricket Ground Pavillion, Auckland Domain, Auckland ([List No. 569](#), Category 2 historic place); Grandstand – Claudelands Showgrounds, Hamilton ([List No. 4198](#), Category 2 historic place); Makaraka Racecourse Old Grandstand, Makaraka, Gisborne ([List No. 3523](#), Category 2 historic place); Grandstand, Eketāhuna ([List No. 3971](#), Category 2 historic place); Basin Reserve Pavilion, Wellington ([List No. 1339](#), Category 2 historic place). Waimea Grandstand, Richmond Park, Richmond ([List No. 2987](#), Category 2 historic place); Racecourse Grandstand, Reefton ([List No. 1687](#), Category 2 historic place); Kumara Racecourse Grandstand, Kumara ([List No. 1692](#), Category 2 historic place); Logan Park Grandstand, Logan Park, Dunedin ([List No. 2193](#), Category 2 historic place).

¹¹³ The Kensington Park Grandstand was relocated in 1996, though within the same land parcel. The Golden Bay Grandstand, Tākaka also has a curved roof.

¹¹⁴ Solway A. & P. Showgrounds Historic Area, Masterton ([List No. 7488](#)) and Marton Park Historic Area ([List No. 7587](#)). The Basin Reserve Pavilion in Wellington is also included within the Basin Reserve Historic Area ([List No. 7441](#)).

Claudlands Showgrounds, Hamilton and Kensington Park Grandstand in Whangārei). The Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand remains at its original location, was the first grandstand to be built there, and retains a high proportion of original fabric. Whilst its internal ground floor amenities have been much altered, this is common across the extant examples as facilities have evolved to meet user needs, and the grandstand's external form and character remain largely unchanged. The Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand is probably most comparable to the 1913 grandstand at Eketāhuna; the Eketāhuna grandstand is smaller than the Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand but also retains its basic form and character, and was similarly erected on a recreation reserve, in a small rural town where rugby remains a prominent feature of community life. It's also similar in design and construction to the grandstand at the Waimarino A.&P. Showgrounds, Raetihi which was built the same year, and its roofline and front elevation are comparable to those of the grandstand at Claudlands Showgrounds, Hamilton.¹¹⁵

Construction Professionals

Oscar Albert Jorgensen (1883-1967)– Architect¹¹⁶

Oscar Albert Jorgensen was born in Hillerød, Denmark in 1883 and emigrated to New Zealand in 1902, aged 19 years, with one of his four brothers.¹¹⁷ Jorgensen applied for naturalisation in 1905 and that same year the rest of his family arrived from Denmark.¹¹⁸ He initially worked as a cooper in Wellington and also established a building and contracting firm with his brother Valdemar and Carl Johann in Newtown, Wellington.¹¹⁹ There are references to 'Jorgensen Bros. and Johann' tendering for various Wellington building works from 1907 and they advertised themselves as builders, contractors and cabinetmakers as well as shop and office fitters and makers of air-tight show cases.¹²⁰ The partnership dissolved in 1909, at

¹¹⁵ Further research would be required to ascertain how the grandstand at the Waimarino A.&P. Showgrounds compares to the Taihape Memorial Grandstand in terms of authenticity and intactness.

¹¹⁶ Also spelled 'Jorgenson'.

¹¹⁷ 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert, 1883?-1967', *National Library*, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22449321>, accessed 27 July 2022; 'From: Oscar Albert Jorgensen, Wellington Date: 22 April 1905 Subject: Memorial for naturalisation', ACGO 8333 1905/857 Box No.943, R24847455, Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga, Wellington, https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE39536797, accessed 27 July 2022.

¹¹⁸ 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert, 1883?-1967', *National Library*, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22449321>; 'From: Oscar Albert Jorgensen, Wellington Date: 22 April 1905 Subject: Memorial for naturalisation', ACGO 8333 1905/857 Box No.943, R24847455, ANZ.

¹¹⁹ 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert, 1883?-1967', *National Library*, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22449321>, accessed 27 July 2022.

¹²⁰ For example, see 'Page 6 Advertisements', *EP*, 11 March 1907, p.6; 'Page 4 Advertisements', *NZ Truth*, 10 August 1907, p.4; 'Te Aro Baths and Newtown Library', *EP*, 26 August 1908, p.8.

which time Oscar Jorgensen carried on the business under the same name, though he soon became insolvent.¹²¹

In July 1910 Jorgensen applied for a patent for a casement window faster and in 1911 he had opened his own independent architectural practise in Palmerston North.¹²² He opened a second office in Dannevirke in August 1911.¹²³ Later that year Jorgensen submitted a design for the Parliament Buildings architectural competition.¹²⁴ He went on to design a number of buildings throughout the Manawatū-Whanganui region, including several in reinforced concrete, and he registered as an architect with the New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA) in 1914, becoming an Associate in 1915.¹²⁵ Examples of Jorgensen's early work included the grandstand and totaliser building at Dannevirke Showgrounds (1912-1913); a second grandstand at the Dannevirke Racecourse (1913-1914); Dustin's Railway Refreshment Shop, New Plymouth (1913); a cheese factory for the Glen Oroua Co-operative Dairy Co., Rangiotu (1913); the Picture Palace, Palmerston North (1915); a butter factory, Makino (1916); the re-built King's Theatre, Taihape (1916); additions to Dannevirke Hospital (1917) and Waipukurau Hospital (1919) and the Dannevirke Soldiers' Institute (built 1919).¹²⁶ He also designed a number of residential buildings throughout the Manawatū.¹²⁷

¹²¹ 'Page 1 Advertisements', *NZT*, 7 October 1909, p.1; 'Page 10 Advertisements', *EP*, 24 March 1910, p.10; 'Page 1 Advertisements', *EP*, 30 August 1910, p.1. Jorgensen ended up in a civil case against his former business partner Carl Johann – see 'Allegations of Fraud', *NZT*, 23 November 1910, p.1; 'Conspiracy to Defraud', *EP*, 29 November 1910, p.7.

¹²² 'Applications for Patents', *Progress*, Volume V, Issue 10, 1 August 1910, p.333. Jorgensen reportedly started working as an architect in Palmerston North circa 1907 – see 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert, 1883?-1967', *National Library*, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22449321>, accessed 27 July 2022. However, the earliest references found for Jorgensen working as an architect in Palmerston North date to 1911 – for example, 'Building Notes', *Progress*, Volume VI, Issue 11, 1 September 1911, p.814; 'Injunction and Damages Claimed', *MS*, 5 December 1916, p.5.

¹²³ 'Items of Interest', *Bush Advocate* ('BA'), 15 August 1911, p.4; 'Untitled', *Manawatu Times* ('MT'), 27 December 1911, p.4.

¹²⁴ 'Parliament Buildings Architectural Competition', *EP*, 2 November 1911, p.16; 'Design, By O.A. Jorgensen, Palmerston North', *Progress*, 1 December 1911, p.

¹²⁵ Wendy Pettigrew, 'The Grandstand at Taihape Memorial Park', July 2009, p.6, unpublished report – copy held on Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga ('HNZPT') Central Region file 12009-1064.

¹²⁶ See 'Page 8 Advertisements', *BA*, 4 August 1911, p.8; 'Page 8 Advertisements', *MS*, 19 July 1912, p.8; 'Page 8 Advertisements', *MS*, 13 February 1913, p.8; 'Page 1 Advertisements', *MT*, 11 July 1913, p.1; 'Page 1 Advertisements', *MT*, 11 October 1913, p.1; 'Events Worth Noting', *MS*, 7 July 1914, p.6; 'Dannevirke Racecourse', *MT*, 28 February 1914, p.5; 'Page 10 Advertisements', *EP*, 28 January 1915, p.10; 'Local and General', *MT*, 3 March 1916, p.4; 'A New Picture Theatre', *Taihape Daily Times* ('TDT'), 15 April 1916, p.4; 'Page 8 Advertisements', *MT*, 25 May 1917, p.8; 'Page 12 Advertisements', *EP*, 30 May 1919, p.12; 'Dannevirke Soldiers' Institute', *Progress*, Volume XIV, Issue 7, 1 March 1919, p.453. Note that the Dannevirke Racecourse grandstand was sadly destroyed by fire in November 1915 – see 'Fire at Dannevirke', *MT*, 13 November 1915, p.4. It appears that the original 1913 grandstand at the Showgrounds/Dannevirke Domain is no longer extant – the current brick grandstand there dates to 1930, as detailed in the comparative analysis section of this report. See also Dickson, 2021, p.12 for other buildings designed by Jorgensen in the 1910s.

¹²⁷ For example, see 'Building Notes', *Progress*, Volume VI, Issue 11, 1 September 1911, p.814; 'Building Notes', *Progress*, Volume VII, Issue 4, 1 December 1912, p.221; 'Bungalow in Cole Street, Dannevirke O.A. Jorgensen, Architect', *Progress*, Volume VIII, Issue 11, 1 July 1913, p.550; 'Buildings by Mr O.A. Jorgensen, Architect, Palmerston North', *Progress*, Volume

Jorgensen entered into partnership with Ebenezer Hislop ('E.H.') Jamieson in September 1919 and the firm 'Jorgensen and Jamieson' designed buildings such as the Manakau Hotel (1920), children's wards at Dannevirke Hospital (1921), and business premises for Hosking Engineering Co., Lombard Street, Palmerston North (1922).¹²⁸ The partnership of Jorgensen and Jamieson dissolved in March 1923, after which both parties continued with separate businesses, despite Jorgensen subsequently going bankrupt in 1926.¹²⁹ Examples of Jorgensen's work during the 1920s include the Elgin Building, Cuba Street (1923); Methodist Church, Cuba Street (1923); a cordial factory for Messrs Dixons Ltd., Fitzherbert Street (1924) and a brewery building for Burton Brewery Co. Ltd, Ferguson Street (1929), all in Palmerston North.¹³⁰ He also designed numerous residential buildings and had several commissions in Taihape, including the grandstand at the Oval Domain (1924) and abattoir (1925).¹³¹ By the late 1920s Jorgensen was also advertising his services as a structural engineer and in 1929 he was the architect for the Victoria Estate, Lower Hutt where he prepared plans 'for residences and bungalows in the Old English, Elizabethan, Tudor, and Colonial designs'.¹³²

By late 1930 Jorgensen had relocated to Lower Hutt and in 1931 he was suspended from the NZIA, potentially as a result of the various court cases he had been involved with over preceding months.¹³³ There is evidence that he continued to practise as an architect though

IX, Issue 4, 1 December 1913, p.818.

¹²⁸ 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 14 October 1919, p.6; 'Page 8 Advertisements', *EP*, 8 April 1921, p.8; 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 29 June 1922, p.6. Jorgensen also briefly worked in a brewery during the period June-August 1921 due to 'slackness in the office' – see 'Bankrupt Architect', *MT*, 9 June 1926, p.15.

¹²⁹ See tender notice from 'Jorgensen and Jamieson' – 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 14 October 1919, p.6; 'Bankrupt Architect', *MT*, 9 June 1926, p.15; 'Bankrupt Architect', *MS*, 9 June 1926, p.2; 'Bankruptcy Notices', *NZ Gazette* 1926, p.1626. 'Various misfortunes' are said to have resulted in Jorgensen being without a shilling to his name after working hard for 15 years. In the year prior to Jorgensen's bankruptcy for example, his family home at 170 College Street, New Plymouth had been totally destroyed by fire – see 'Outbreak of Fire', *MS*, 26 October 1925, p.6.

¹³⁰ 'Elgin building, 137-143 Cuba Street', Ian Matheson City Archives, *Mō Manawatū Heritage*, <https://manawatuheritage.pncc.govt.nz/item/a4d7a425-39ee-4a3f-99a4-53750627505b>, accessed 28 July 2022; 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 4 August 1923, p.6; 'Page 12 Advertisements', *EP*, 2 July 1923, p.12; 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 4 July 1924, p.6; 'Page 2 Advertisements', *MS*, 15 December 1926, p.2. For examples of residential buildings see: 'Page 6 Advertisements', *MS*, 5 July 1924, p.6; 'Page 2 Advertisements', *MS*, 14 January 1926, p.2; 'Page 6 Advertisements', *EP*, 23 February 1929, p.6.

¹³¹ 'Page 1 Advertisements', *WC*, 2 February 1925, p.1, see blueprint plan for 'Grand Stand, Oval Domain, Taihape', O.A. Jorgensen, A.N.Z.I.A, 15 December 1925, Rangitikei District Council, copy held on HNZPT Central Region file 12009-1064.

¹³² 'Page 2 Advertisements', *MS*, 9 July 1928, p.2; 'Page 6 Advertisements', *EP*, 23 February 1929, p.6; 'Page 13 Advertisements', *NZ Truth*, 14 March 1929, p.13; 'Page 12 Advertisements', *EP*, 30 March 1929, p.12.

¹³³ 'Hutt Road Smash', *EP*, 11 December 1930, p.10; Pettigrew, 2009, p.6; 'Index to the Journal of the New Zealand Institute of Architects, ResearchArchive – Te Puna Rangahau Victoria University of Wellington, <https://researcharchive.vuw.ac.nz/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10063/1301/paper.pdf?sequence=4>, accessed 12 August 2022. Jorgensen was involved with several court cases during the period December 1930 to May 1931, such as his case against hotel broker Thomas Dwan, Wellington to claim for the recovery of professional fees (settled out of court); his

as in 1936 he designed a residential conversion in Hawkestone Crescent, Wellington and he also worked for the Housing Construction Branch, State Advances Corporation in the 1930s.¹³⁴ Jorgensen was declared bankrupt again in 1939 - at which time his occupation was noted as 'Engineer' - and appears to have remained an undischarged bankrupt through until his later years.¹³⁵ He died in Wellington in 1967.¹³⁶

Henry Hesketh (1886-1952) – Builder¹³⁷

Henry Hesketh was born in Burscough, Lancashire, England on 24 May 1886.¹³⁸ He appears to have emigrated to Sydney, Australia aboard the *S.S. Ortona* in August 1905, before travelling on to New Zealand a few months later, landing in Napier.¹³⁹ Sources differ as to when and where Hesketh met fellow builder Herbert John Barrett but it's understood that they both worked in Wellington as carpenters before Hesketh relocated to Taihape in 1908 and Barrett

case against John Grant to claim for fees for work on a proposed hotel at Plimmerton (Jorgensen was unsuccessful); and his subsequent case against his lawyer Patrick Fitzherbert who represented him in the case against Dwan – see 'Fees Allegedly Due', *EP*, 11 December 1930, p.10; 'Court Case Settled', *AS*, 12 December 1930, p.9; 'Hotel Plans', *EP*, 19 February 1931, p.12; 'Claim Fails', *MS*, 20 February 1931, p.8; 'Architect's Grievance', *EP*, 6 May 1931, p.11. Jorgensen was also involved with numerous court cases during the 1910-1920s, and his 'litigation experience' was referred to in the case against Dwan.

¹³⁴ 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert: Conversion of residence, Hawkestone Crescent, into five residential flats for Gordon Harcourt Esq. Wellington, 16 March 1936', Plans-90-1569/1570, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington; 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert, 1883?-1967', *National Library*, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22449321>, accessed 27 July 2022. See also 'Jorgensen, Oscar Albert, 1883?-1967: Housing misconstruction [Open letter to Hon R Semple]. 4 July 1945', Ref Eph-B-HOUSING-1945-01, Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, which explains why Jorgensen resigned from the Housing Construction Branch.

¹³⁵ 'Page 5 Advertisements', *EP*, 5 August 1939, p.5; 'List of Undischarged Bankrupts', *Supplement to the NZ Gazette*, 28 October 1964, p.1912.

¹³⁶ NZ Society of Genealogists Burial Locator V2 as cited in Pettigrew, 2009, p.6. Jorgensen is buried in Karori Cemetery.

¹³⁷ Note that Dickson, 2021, p.13 refers to the builder as 'Harry Hesketh', but documentary records accessed for this report indicate that his name was 'Henry Hesketh'. He may well have gone by both names given Harry is a shortened version of Henry.

¹³⁸ Henry Hesketh was born to Robert and Margaret Hesketh and baptised on 13 June 1886 – see 'Henry Hesketh', Tioro Family Tree, *AncestryLibrary*, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/75458623/person/190014918549/facts>, accessed 25 July 2022 and Lancashire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1911 - Parish Registers, Ormskirk, St John Burscough Bridge, 1858-1894, Pr 2913/2, p.382, *AncestryLibrary*, https://www.ancestrylibrary.com.au/imageviewer/collections/2575/images/32883_276513-00350, accessed 25 July 2022.

¹³⁹ See 'Mr H Hesketh' in UK and Ireland, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-1960, *AncestryLibrary*, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com.au/discoveryui-content/view/46660528:2997>, accessed 25 July 2022. There is also a record of a 'Mr Hesketh' arriving in Auckland on 16 October 1905, aboard the *Mararoa* from Sydney. Hesketh had a contract to land at Napier and was among a group of steerage passengers who worked as labourers and domestics – see 'New Zealand, Archives New Zealand, Passenger Lists, 1839-1973,' database with images, *FamilySearch*, <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:2:QKSN-TNXL>, Entry for Hesketh, 16 Oct 1905; citing ship, Archives New Zealand, Wellington; FHL microfilm 00443783, accessed 28 July 2022. The location of Napier and arrival date of 1905 aligns with the biographical information provided about Hesketh and Barrett's friendship in the latter's obituary – see 'Taihape News – Obituary', *WC*, 7 September 1949, p.8; obituary for Hesketh in *WC*, 23 June 1952, p.7.

followed not long after.¹⁴⁰ Hesketh and Barrett were responsible for alterations to the Taihape Post Office (1913) and construction of the Kakahi Post Office (1914).¹⁴¹ It seems that Barrett initially worked for Hesketh who advertised his services as a 'Builder & Contractor' in the *Taihape Daily Times* during the period 1914-1915, having taken over the workshop of A.L. Luke on Kaka Road, Taihape.¹⁴² In late 1919 Hesketh commenced work on 'a ladies' rest room and conveniences' at the Oval Domain and in 1920 he was noted as the builder of a new brick mechanic garage for Mr V. Nicholls on Tui Street, described as 'an example of skilful and conscientious workmanship'.¹⁴³ In 1924 Hesketh constructed the new grandstand at the Taihape Oval Domain (now Taihape Memorial Park) and by the mid-1920s Hesketh and Barrett had entered into formal partnership as 'Messrs Barrett and Co'.¹⁴⁴

Taihape buildings erected by Messrs Barrett and Co. included the British Imperial Oil Company Offices (1926) and a four-storey brew house at the Cascade Brewery site (1938).¹⁴⁵ They also constructed numerous state houses in Taihape, including seven houses in Lark Street (1938) and four houses in Thrush Street, Taihape (1939).¹⁴⁶ Barrett and Co. won the tender to construct a further 13 state houses in 1948, at a time when there was an acute demand for state housing in Taihape.¹⁴⁷ Barrett and Hesketh died in September 1949 and

¹⁴⁰ Barrett's obituary notes that Hesketh met Barrett in Napier in 1905 whereas Hesketh's obituary notes that he met Barrett in Christchurch when they were both there around 1906/1907 for the New Zealand International Exhibition – see 'Taihape News – Obituary', *WC*, 7 September 1949, p.8; *WC*, 23 June 1952, p.7. Barrett's obituary also notes that he relocated to Taihape in 1913, five years after Hesketh. 1911 electoral rolls for Wellington list 'Barrett, Herbert, 9 Oxford Terrace, carpenter' – see New Zealand, Electoral Rolls, 1853-1981 – Wellington Central Supplementary Roll, p.29, *AncestryLibrary*, https://www.ancestrylibrary.com.au/imageviewer/collections/1836/images/32452_226078__0001-00223, and New Zealand, Electoral Rolls, 1853-1981 – Wellington East Roll, p.10, *AncestryLibrary*, https://www.ancestrylibrary.com.au/imageviewer/collections/1836/images/31832_225955__0002-00118, accessed 25 July 2022. The earliest reference located for Barrett in Taihape is a 1917 ballot for the No. 6 (Manawatu) Recruiting District which lists 'Barrett, Herbert, care of Hesketh, builder, Taihape' – see 'The Sixth Ballot', *Rangitikei Advocate and Manawatu Argus* ('RA&MA'), 17 April 1917, p.4.

¹⁴¹ 'Taihape News – Obituary', *WC*, 7 September 1949, p.8.

¹⁴² For example, see advertisement in *TDI*, 9 November 1914, p.2. An advertisement in the *MT*, 27 May 1912, p.1. confirms that A.L. Luke previously operated from Kaka Road, Taihape. As noted above in footnote 135, a 1917 ballot for the No. 6 (Manawatu) Recruiting District lists 'Barrett, Herbert, care of Hesketh, builder, Taihape'.

¹⁴³ 'Local and General', *TDI*, 22 November 1919, p.4; 'Progress of Taihape', *TDI*, 16 April 1920, p.5.

¹⁴⁴ Letter from Town Clerk to H.E. Townshend, C. Wrighton and J. Sharp, 3 January 1924, 'Domains and Reserves: Oval Domain Correspondence, Grandstand, Loan 4,000; Loan 28, 000 (600 transferred to Oval Domain), 1909 -1937', Identifier RDC 00104:1:7, Archives Central, Feilding. This letter advises that H. Hesketh's tender was accepted for the construction of the grandstand at the Oval Domain, Taihape. For evidence of the formal partnership of 'Messrs Barrett and Co' see 'Progress of Taihape', *TDI*, 16 April 1920, p.5.

¹⁴⁵ 'Taihape', *WC*, 11 October 1926, p.2; 'Taihape', *WC*, 20 May 1938, p.12; 'Taihape News – Obituary', *WC*, 7 September 1949, p.8. They were also responsible for remodelling of the Gretna Hotel (1936).

¹⁴⁶ See 'Taihape', *WC*, 10 September 1939, p.14; 'Town Talk', *WC*, 19 August 1939, p.8; 'Taihape Borough', *WC*, 28 April 1941, p.3.

¹⁴⁷ 'Taihape News', *WC*, 19 March 1948, p.3; 'Taihape News', *WC*, 31 July 1948, p.3; Henry Hesketh (Will), 10 July 1952, AAOG 23650 151/52, R22948421, Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga, Wellington,

June 1952 respectively and Barrett and Co. passed to Hesketh's three sons, two of whom were also builders (Robert and Harry).¹⁴⁸

Construction Materials

Timber (rimu, heart mataī, oregon), corrugated iron, steel (posts), reinforced concrete (columns), cast and wrought iron

Key Physical Dates

1924 / Original Construction

1925 / Modification / Addition of sanitary facilities to men's cloak room

1930s / Modification / Installation of ticket office at north-western end

1945 / Modification / Enclosure of north-western end of grandstand

circa 1950 / Modification / Partition of ladies' cloak room at south-eastern end of the grandstand and creation of St John's Ambulance room

Post-1970 / Modification / Replacement of stairs either side of central staircase

1980/ Damaged / Storm damage

1980s / Refurbishment/renovation / Reconfiguration of ground floor amenities; repairs and strengthening work following storm damage; roof replacement

Post-2017/ Modification / Removal of original brick chimney from former public refreshment room on south-western elevation

2019 / Modification / Addition of three rugby club murals above top tier of seating

Uses

Civic Facilities – Grandstand

Health – Health Services – other (Former)

2.3. Chattels

There are no chattels included in this List entry.

https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE64843465, accessed 26 July 2022. Under the terms of the will, clerk John Hesketh was instructed to sell his share of the business to his brothers Robert and Harry (both builders).

¹⁴⁸ 'Taihape News – Obituary', WC, 7 September 1949, p.8; Henry Hesketh (Will), 10 July 1952, R22948421, Series 23650, AAOG, ANZ. Hesketh had sons Robert, Harry and John with wife Sydney Broughton (1890-1945) of Bulls, whom he married in 1917 – see 'Sydney Broughton', *FamilySearch*, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/KFG7-P3T/sydney-broughton-1890-1945>, accessed 27 July 2022; 'Deaths', WC, 28 June 1945, p.1; WC, 23 June 1952, p.7 (as quoted in Dickson, 2021, p.13).

2.4. Sources

Sources Available and Accessed

Information about the iwi of Mōkai Pātea and the Crown acquisition of Māori land was sourced from Waitangi Tribunal reports and other documents available from the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust website: <https://mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz>. Information about the settlement of Taihape in 1894 was sourced from newspaper articles and several key secondary publications on Taihape, particularly the 1995 book by Denis Robertson - “...Give me Taihape on a Saturday Night”. Newspaper articles and records of the former Taihape Borough Council held at Archives Central, Feilding provided key information about the early history of the grandstand and wider Oval Domain development, though it should be noted that the Taihape Daily Times has only been digitised up until 1920 on *Paperspast*.

The original architectural plan by O.A. Jorgensen and 2021 conservation report by Bruce Dickson were extremely useful in understanding the changes to the building over time. Further local research may yet uncover historic photos. The recent history of the grandstand and discussions about its future restoration were sourced from online newspaper articles, social media and information provided by/accessible from the Rangitikei District Council. The grandstand was visited by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga staff on 29 April 2022 and both the exterior and interior (ground floor amenities) were accessed, with the exception of the toilets and former St John’s Ambulance Room at the south-eastern end.

Further Reading

Copeland Associate Architects, ‘Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand Feasibility Report’, 2020, report prepared for the Rangitikei District Council.

Bruce Dickson, ‘Conservation Report – Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand’, unpublished report for Rangitikei District Council, 2021.

Denis Robertson, 1894 – 1994 “...Give me Taihape on a Saturday Night”, Heritage Press, Waikanae, 1995.

3. SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT¹⁴⁹

3.1. Section 66 (1) Assessment

¹⁴⁹ For the relevant sections of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 see Appendix 4: Significance Assessment Information.

This place has been assessed for, and found to possess architectural, historical and social significance or value. It is considered that this place qualifies as part of New Zealand's historic and cultural heritage.

Architectural Significance or Value

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand is architecturally significant as a strong representative example of late nineteenth – early twentieth century grandstand architecture in Aotearoa New Zealand. Grandstands from this period are becoming rarer, and of the remaining examples, the Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand has a high level of authenticity and intactness. Whilst there have been changes to the ground floor amenities, modifications to the grandstand's exterior form have been minimal and it exhibits little change from the original 1923 architectural plan. It also retains a significant proportion of original fabric, notably the tiered timber bench seating and weatherboard cladding, and its structural system (involving in-situ concrete columns and exposed structural steel columns) adds to its architectural interest.

Historical Significance or Value

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand has historical significance through its association with the development of sport and recreation facilities in Aotearoa New Zealand. Sport and recreation are key contributors to our national identity and the grandstand reflects the efforts of local authorities to provide suitable amenities to support people's leisure activities during the late nineteenth – early twentieth centuries. The grandstand also has historical value through its enduring association with Taihape rugby as well as the annual A. & P. show, a significant event in the community calendar since 1912. The grandstand's inclusion within a wider commemorative landscape with the development of War Memorial Park in the early 1950s adds a further layer of historical value.

Social Significance or Value

Sport, particularly rugby, is a large part of social life in Taihape and fosters a sense of community. Memorial Park (formerly the recreation ground/Oval Domain) has been the focus of sporting life in Taihape since the late nineteenth century, and the erection of the grandstand in 1924 was a significant milestone in the development of park amenities. It provided a sheltered space from which to enjoy sport and the ground floor facilities were utilised by rugby teams, something which continues to this day. The grandstand has also

played a key role in the annual A. & P. show at Memorial Park and various other civic events, and is regarded as an icon in the Taihape community as a place that has brought people together for close to 100 years. Recent discussions over the future of the grandstand have clearly demonstrated strong community support for its retention and restoration, as evidenced by the 648-signature petition presented to the Rangitikei District Council and submissions on the Council's 2021-2031 Long Term Plan consultation document.

3.2. Section 66 (3) Assessment

This place was assessed against the Section 66(3) criteria and found to qualify under the following criteria a, e, h, j and k. The assessment concludes that this place should be listed as a Category 2 historic place.

- (a) The extent to which the place reflects important or representative aspects of New Zealand history

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand is strongly connected to the history of sport and recreation in Aotearoa New Zealand and retains a significant proportion of original fabric, with minimal change to its exterior form. It reflects the late nineteenth – early twentieth century development of sport and recreation facilities to enable people to come together for leisure, particularly within rural communities where such facilities often became a cornerstone of community life. The grandstand's most significant and enduring association is with the local rugby clubs, and it reflects the importance of rugby within Aotearoa New Zealand where communities across the country continue to gather together every weekend over winter to enjoy our national game.

- (e) The community association with, or public esteem for the place

The Taihape community hold the Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand in high esteem and regard it as a community 'icon' and one of the town's most significant heritage places. Community consultation over recent years has demonstrated their strength of connection to the grandstand and their commitment to its preservation and restoration. In 2020 nearly half of the town's population signed a petition presented to Rangitikei District Council which favoured upgrading the grandstand's ground floor amenities over construction of a new separate amenities block. Consultation on the Rangitikei District Council's 2021-2031 Long Term Plan also revealed strong support for the grandstand. For many in Taihape, the grandstand is imbued with fond memories of time spent with family and friends, and it is still

a place where people come together most weekends to enjoy rugby, other sports and community events such as the annual A.&P. show.

(h) The symbolic or commemorative value of the place

Whilst it was not originally built as a war memorial, the grandstand has taken on commemorative value through its inclusion within the clearly defined boundary of War Memorial Park. War Memorial Park was created as a Second World War memorial through the extension of the Oval Domain in the early 1950s and the grandstand is closely connected to the memorial gates and memorial garden, which are located to its immediate north-west.

(j) The importance of identifying rare types of historic places

Numerous grandstands were built across Aotearoa New Zealand during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but surviving examples are becoming increasingly rare, with the demolition of several grandstands from this period over the last decade. Late nineteenth – early twentieth century grandstands are significant for reflecting the early colonial history of sports and recreation in Aotearoa New Zealand and the construction of suitable amenities to enable people to enjoy their leisure time. Of the remaining examples of grandstands from this period, the Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand is especially noteworthy as it is particularly intact, includes a significant proportion of original fabric, and largely retains its original exterior form.

(k) The extent to which the place forms part of a wider historical and cultural area

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand is a key feature within the wider historic landscape of Memorial Park, which has its origins in the development of the Taihape recreation ground in the late nineteenth century and encompasses native bush, playing fields and a range of sport and recreation amenities. Of particular historical note are the memorial gate and memorial garden just to the north-west of the grandstand. The clubrooms of the Utiku & Old Boys Rugby and Football Club are also thematically linked to the grandstand, and are located just to its south-east.

Summary of Significance or Values

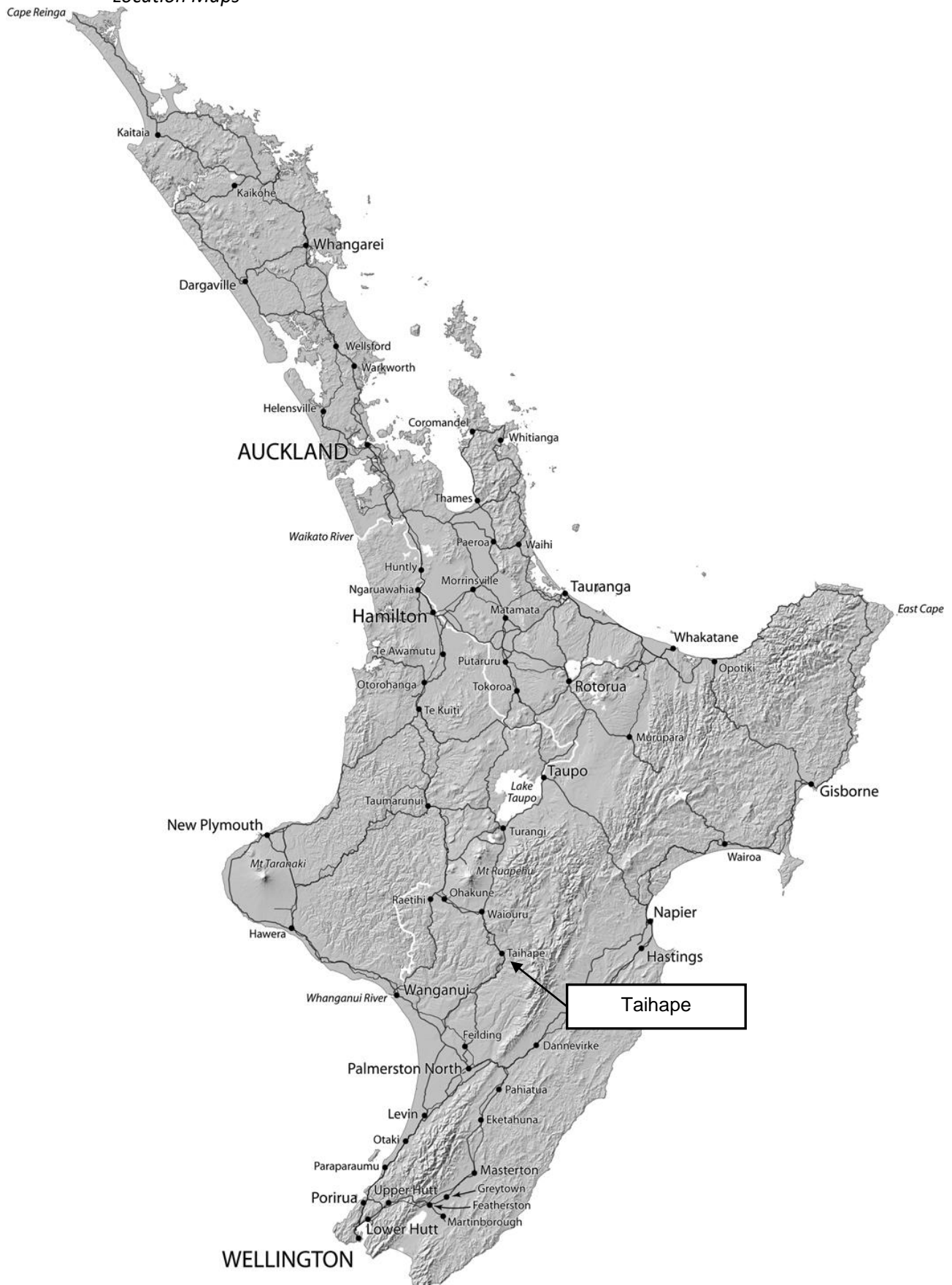
Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand clearly meets the threshold for entry on the List as a Category 2 historic place. It is associated with the history of sport and recreation in Aotearoa New Zealand and reflects the provision of suitable facilities to support people's leisure activities during the late nineteenth – early twentieth centuries. The grandstand has a

significant and lengthy association with rugby in particular and is architecturally significant as a well-preserved representative example of an early 20th century grandstand. It has strong social value as a key focus of community life in Taihape for close to 100 years, where residents have enjoyed countless rugby matches and various other sporting and cultural events. The grandstand is held in high esteem by the Taihape community who want to see it restored for future generations to enjoy.

4. APPENDICES

4.1. Appendix 1: Visual Identification Aids

Location Maps



Map of Extent



Figure 8: Extent as shown by the blue dashed line. Extent includes part of the land described as Sec 1 Blk X Town of Taihape (*NZ Gazette* 1899, p.259), Wellington Land District and the building known as Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand thereon (Source: Property Map, Rangitīkei District Council GeoHub, 1 July 2022)

FEB. 2.]

THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE.

259

Lands permanently reserved.

RANFURLY, Governor.

WHEREAS by the two-hundred-and-thirty-fifth section of "The Land Act, 1892," it is enacted that the Governor may from time to time, either by general or particular description, and whether the same has been surveyed or not, reserve from sale temporarily, notwithstanding that the same may be then held under pastoral license, any Crown lands which in his opinion are required for any of the purposes in the said section mentioned:

And whereas by the two-hundred-and-thirty-sixth section of the said Act it is provided that land temporarily reserved under the said two-hundred-and-thirty-fifth section may, at the expiration of one month but not later than six months after the publication in the *Gazette* of notice of such temporary reservation, be permanently reserved, and that notice of such permanent reservation shall be published in the *Gazette*:

And whereas the lands specified in the first column of the Schedule hereto were, by the warrant the date of which is specified in the third column of the said Schedule, and the notification of which was published in the *Gazette* specified in the fourth column, temporarily reserved under the authority of the said Act for the purposes specified in the second column of the said Schedule:

Now, therefore, I, Uchter John Mark, Earl of Ranfurly, the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority vested in me by the said Act, do hereby permanently reserve the lands so temporarily reserved as aforesaid, and enumerated in the first column of the Schedule hereto, for the purposes specified in the second column of the said Schedule, being the same purposes for which the said lands were so temporarily reserved as aforesaid.

SCHEDULE.

First Column. DESCRIPTION OF RESERVES.					Second Column.	Third Column.	Fourth Column.
Land District.	Locality.	Section.	Block.	Area.	Purpose for which Land reserved.	Date of Warrant.	Gazette.
Wellington	Kaitawa S.D.	61 and 62	X.	17 2 0	Preservation of forest and scenery	1898. 2 Dec.	No. 87, 8 Dec.
"	Manganui S.D.	16	VIII.	2 1 0	Gravel reserve	"	"
"	"	12	XIII.	2 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	30	XIV.	2 0 0	"	"	"
"	Mangawhero S.D.	40	VII.	4 0 0	Site for roadman's wharf	"	"
"	"	8	XII.	1 0 0	Depot for road-materials and use of roadmen	"	"
"	"	9	"	1 0 0	Ditto	"	"
"	"	10	"	1 0 0	"	"	"
"	"	11	"	1 0 0	"	"	"
"	"	7A	"	5 0 0	Public school site	"	"
"	Makotuku S.D.	4	V.	13 3 0	"	"	"
"	"	24A	VIII.	7 1 15	Public cemetery	"	"
"	Town of Ohakune	1, 2	II.	0 2 0	Site for public buildings of the General Government	"	"
"	"	12, 13	"	0 2 0	Municipal purposes	"	"
"	Manganui S.D.	35	XIV.	23 0 0	Road and bridge reserve	"	"
"	Makotuku S.D.	25	VI.	6 2 0	"	"	"
"	Mangawhero S.D.	22	X.	1 2 16	Reserve for a ford, and approaches thereto	"	"
"	Makotuku S.D.	24B	VIII.	132 1 8	Preservation of forest and scenery	"	"
"	"	24C	"	96 1 0	Public recreation-ground	"	"
"	Town of Taihape	14	I.	0 1 0	Municipal purposes	"	"
"	"	10	II.	0 3 33	"	"	"
"	"	16	IV.	0 1 8	"	"	"
"	"	15	VI.	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	10	VIII.	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	14	"	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	7	X.	9 3 24	Public recreation-ground	"	"
"	"	14	XII.	0 1 0	Municipal purposes	"	"
"	"	1	XIII.	0 1 20	"	"	"
"	"	5	XIV.	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	6	"	0 1 10	"	"	"
"	"	16	XV.	0 1 36	"	"	"
"	"	9	"	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	13	XVI.	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	"	2	"	0 1 0	"	"	"
"	Suburbs of Taihape	35	XVIII.	1 0 0	Municipal purposes	"	"
"	"	38	"	41 3 10	Public recreation-ground	"	"
"	"	"	"	2 8 19	Preservation of scenery, and public recreation	"	"
"	"	39	"	7 2 30	Ditto	"	"
"	"	40	"	2 3 10	"	"	"
"	"	41	"	4 0 14	"	"	"
"	"	42	"	8 2 0	"	"	"
"	"	43	"	10 2 10	"	"	"
"	"	44	"	19 0 10	"	"	"
"	Momahaki S.D.	12	XIV.	9 2 16	Public landing-place	"	"
"	Apti S.D.	92C	XIII.	17 0 0	Public recreation-ground	"	"
"	Village of Hawaonga	20	"	8 2 11	Public cemetery	"	"
"	"	44	"	10 0 0	Public recreation-ground	"	"
"	"	21	"	2 0 30	Gravel reserve	"	"

As witness the hand of His Excellency the Governor, this twenty-eighth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

JOHN McKENZIE,
Minister of Lands.

B

4.2. Appendix 2: Visual Aids to Historical Information

Historical Plans

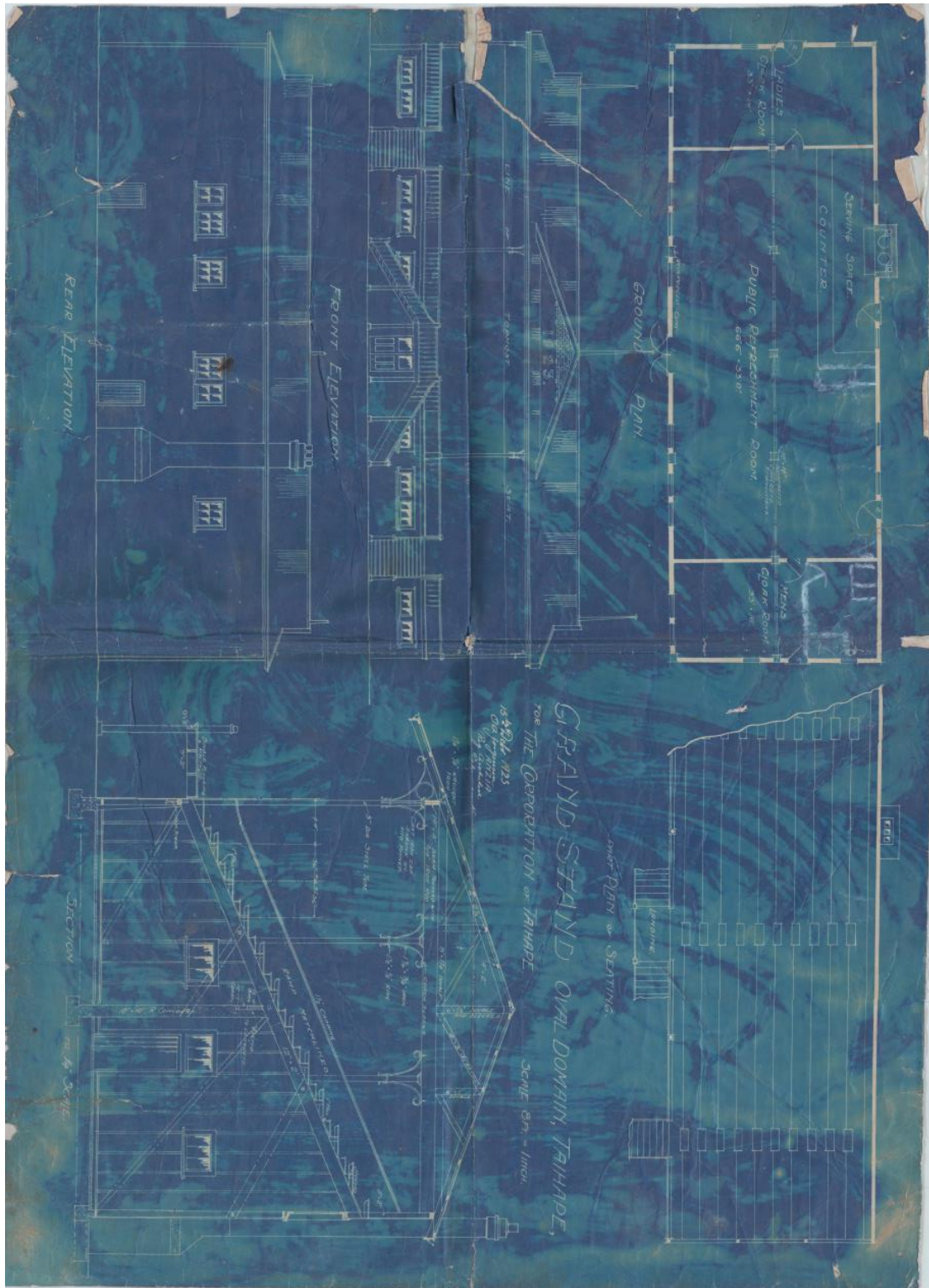


Figure 9: 'Grandstand Oval Domain, Taihape', blueprint architectural plan by Oscar Albert Jorgensen, 15 December 1923, Rangitikei District Council

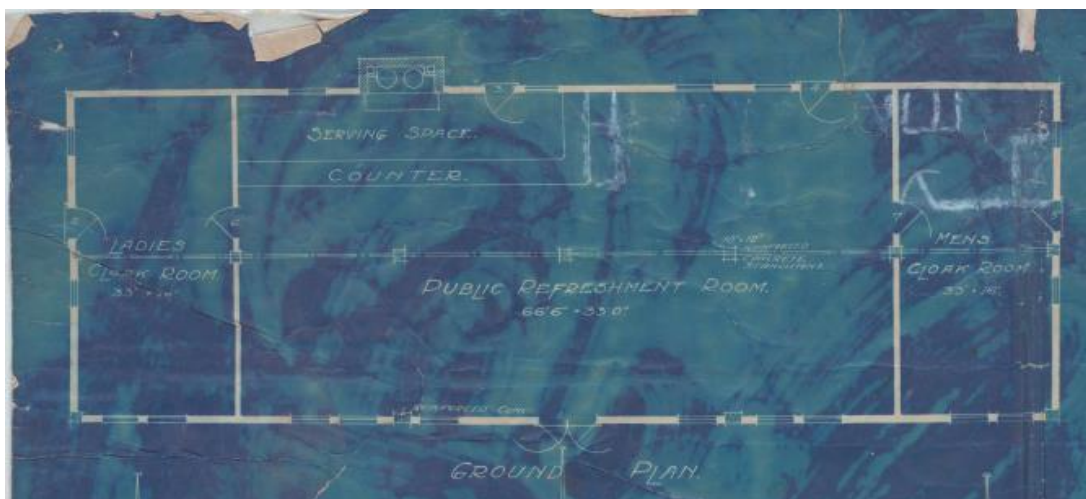


Figure 10: Detail from Jorgensen's 1923 blueprint architectural plan showing original layout of the ground floor amenities

Historical Photographs

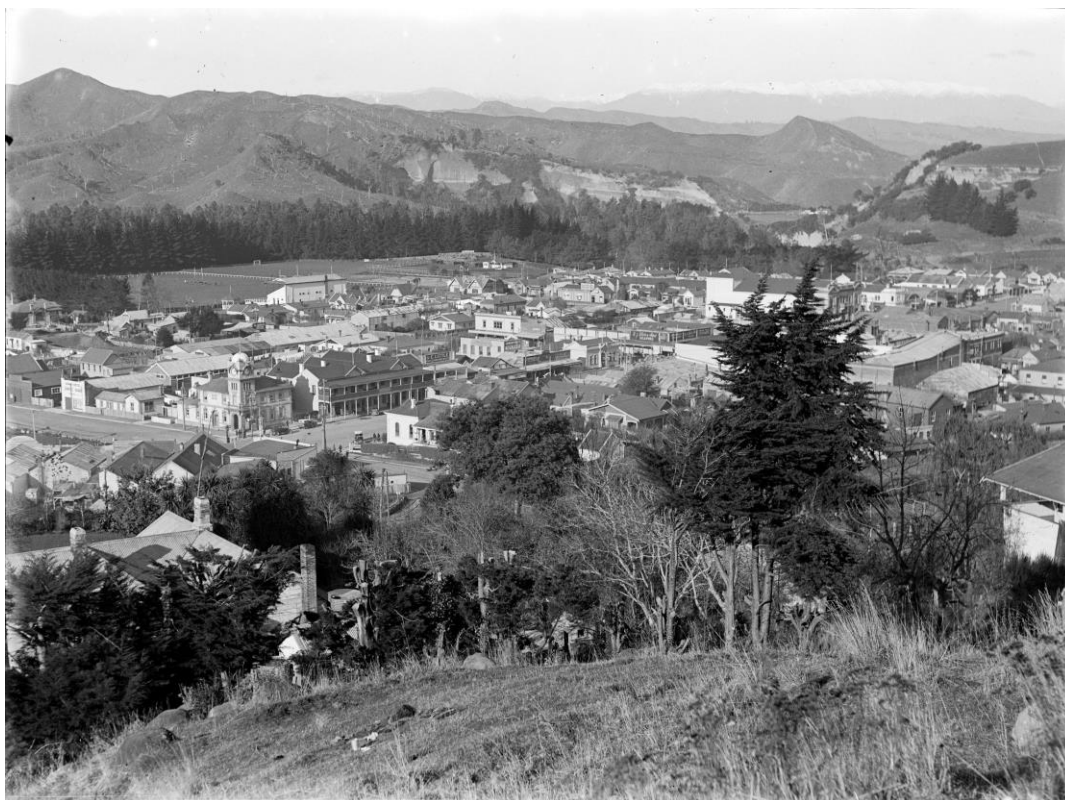


Figure 11: Taihape, New Zealand Herald Glass Plate Collection, Auckland Libraries, 1370-649-02, photographer W. C. Bergman, 1935. Note the grandstand towards the rear left of the photo, on the edge of the Oval Domain.

4.3. Appendix 3: Visual Aids to Physical Information

[illegible]

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga – List Entry Report for a Historic Place, List No. 9843 45

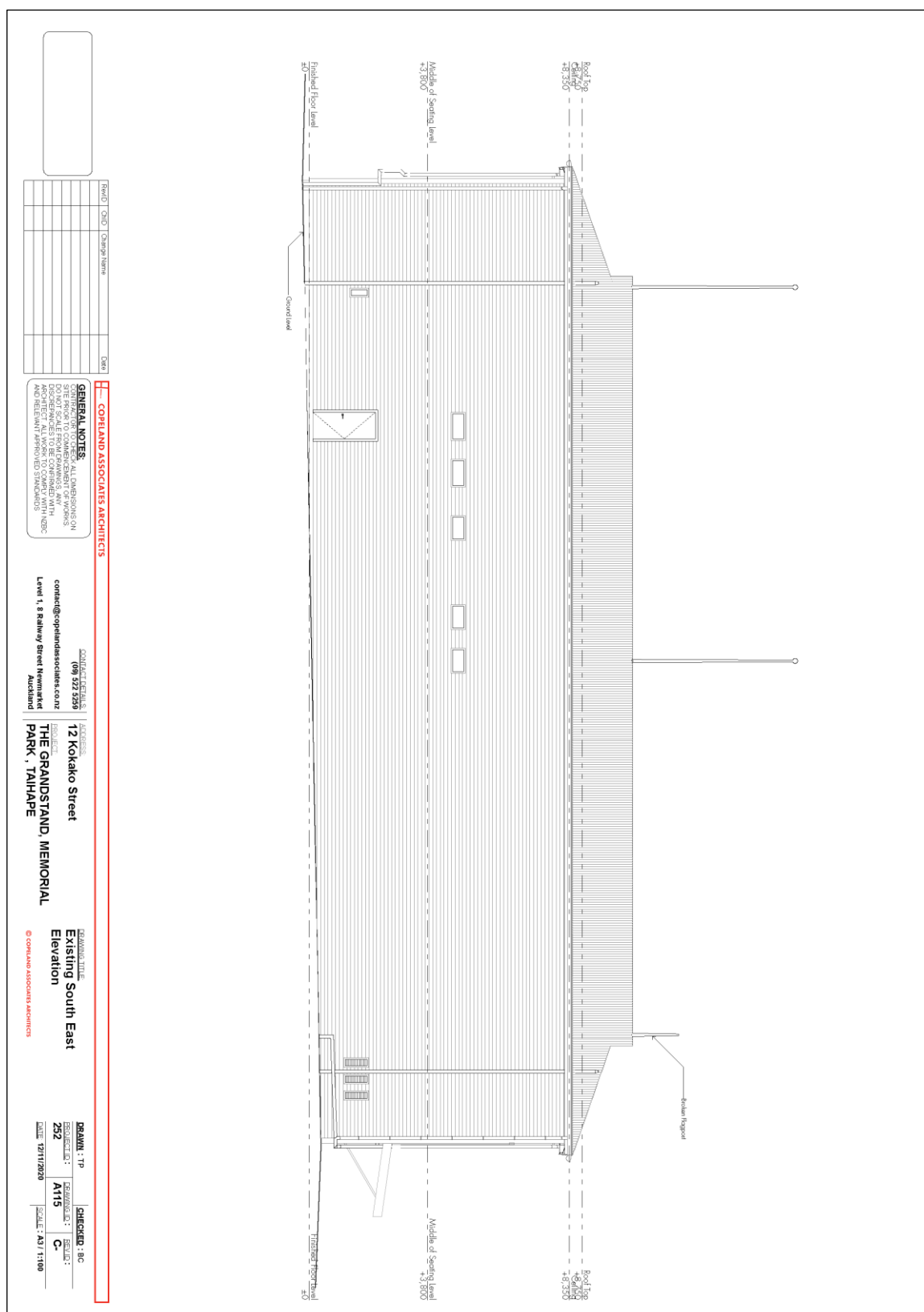


Figure 13: South-west elevation, Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand, Copeland Associates Architects, A115, 12 November 2000, plan supplied by Rangitikei District Council¹⁵⁰

¹⁵⁰ Note that plan A115 incorrectly labels this elevation as ‘south-east’

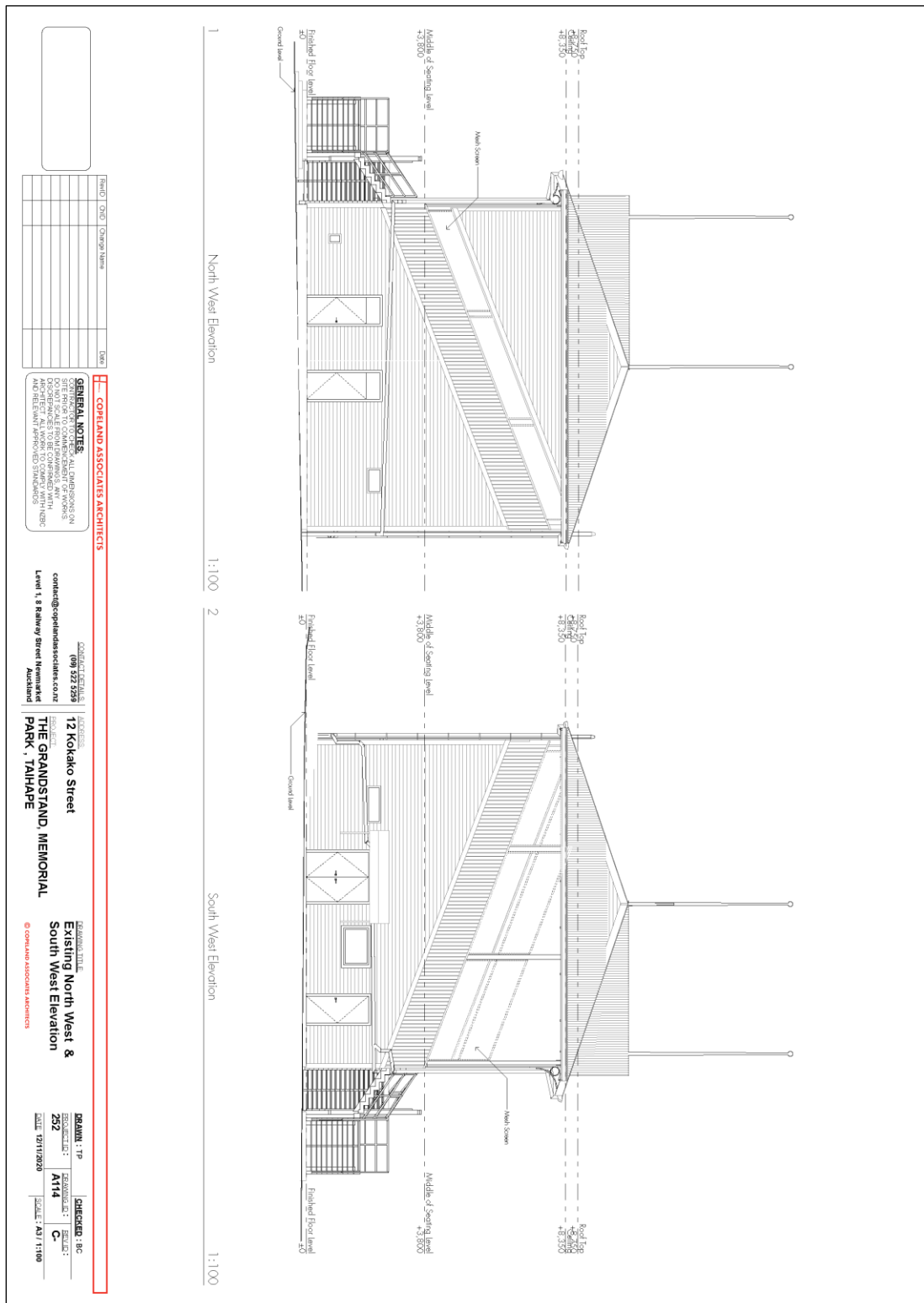
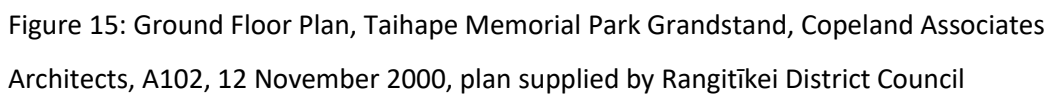


Figure 14: North-west and south-east elevations, Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand, Copeland Associates Architects, A114, 12 November 2000, plan supplied by Rangitīkei District Council¹⁵¹

¹⁵¹ Note that plan A114 incorrectly labels one of the elevations as ‘south-west’ instead of ‘south-east’.



4.4. Appendix 4: Significance Assessment Information

Part 4 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Chattels or object or class of chattels or objects (Section 65(6))

Under Section 65(6) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, an entry on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero relating to a historic place may include any chattel or object or class of chattels or objects –

- a) Situated in or on that place; and
- b) Considered by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga to contribute to the significance of that place; and
- c) Proposed by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga for inclusion on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero.

Significance or value (Section 66(1))

Under Section 66(1) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may enter any historic place or historic area on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero if the place possesses aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, technological, or traditional significance or value.

Category of historic place (Section 66(3))

Under Section 66(3) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may assign Category 1 status or Category 2 status to any historic place, having regard to any of the following criteria:

- a) The extent to which the place reflects important or representative aspects of New Zealand history
- b) The association of the place with events, persons, or ideas of importance in New Zealand history
- c) The potential of the place to provide knowledge of New Zealand history
- d) The importance of the place to tangata whenua
- e) The community association with, or public esteem for, the place
- f) The potential of the place for public education
- g) The technical accomplishment, value, or design of the place
- h) The symbolic or commemorative value of the place

- i) The importance of identifying historic places known to date from an early period of New Zealand settlement
- j) The importance of identifying rare types of historic places
- k) The extent to which the place forms part of a wider historical and cultural area

Additional criteria may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act for the purpose of assigning Category 1 or Category 2 status to a historic place, provided they are not inconsistent with the criteria set out in subsection (3)

Additional criteria may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act for entering historic places or historic areas of interest to Māori, wāhi tūpuna, wāhi tapu, or wāhi tapu areas on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero, provided they are not inconsistent with the criteria set out in subsection (3) or (5) or in regulations made under subsection (4).

NOTE: Category 1 historic places are 'places of special or outstanding historical or cultural heritage significance or value.' Category 2 historic places are 'places of historical or cultural heritage significance or value.'