

Central Otago Heritage Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024



*Protecting, preserving & celebrating
Central Otago's heritage*

ABOUT US

The Central Otago Heritage Trust, established in 2008, comprises member groups and organisations within the local heritage community. The role of the Trust is to represent the collective interests of these groups in protecting, preserving, and celebrating our unique heritage. It is governed by trustees nominated and elected by members.

Our Trustees

David Ritchie (Chair), Greg Bodeker, Russell Garbutt, Lynda Gray, John Kerr, Ross Naylor, Kristy Rusher & Graye Shattky. David Campbell (Council Representative).

Our Members

- Aukaha (*formerly Kai Tahu ki Otago*)
- Alexandra Miners Village & Riverside Park Trust
- Bodeker Scientific
- Central Otago Environment Society
- Central Lakes Trust
- Central Otago District Council
- Central Otago Libraries
- Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery
- Clyde Museum
- Cromwell Museum
- Department of Conservation
- Drybread Cemetery Trust
- Heritage New Zealand
- Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust
- Otago Museum
- Promote Dunstan
- St Bathans Heritage and Environmental Protection Society
- Teviot District Museum
- Upper Clutha Historical Records Society.

WHAT IS HERITAGE?

Heritage is widely recognised as an important element in defining a 'sense of place' and providing a tangible link with the past. Heritage also plays an important role in the economic well-being in contributing to its attractiveness as a place in which to live and invest, and in helping create a desirable destination for domestic and international tourism.

A Definition

Heritage is that which is inherited from past and current generations, cared for in the present and handed on for the benefit of future generations, and includes:

Built heritage - the legacy of man-made buildings, structures, and objects and associated intangible attributes.

Natural heritage - the legacy of natural places, objects and intangible attributes encompassing the rural and natural environment, including flora and fauna.

Cultural heritage - comprises two components: the tangible – artefacts, ecofacts, buildings, gardens, landscapes, historic places, relics of the past, material remains big and small; and the intangible - folklore, language, music, dance, manners, memories, customs, traditions, histories and notions of identity.

Archaeology - a place or item associated with pre-1900 human activity, where there may be evidence relating to the history of New Zealand. Archaeology includes both in-ground and above ground remnants and can include any of the heritage resources mentioned under Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage above.

CENTRAL OTAGO'S RICH HERITAGE.

Central Otago's rich heritage starts with our powerful landscape, sunny, dry and brown with weathered ancient mountains and fast-flowing rivers. From early Māori settlements, pioneering pastoral farmers, the rush for gold, to fruit and wine – all bringing a mix of cultures, customs, traditions and architecture and giving us a unique sense of place. Heritage surrounds us - it is part of our every day. We live within it, use it, build businesses around it, record it, preserve it, restore it, adapt it and celebrate it.

COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS FOR HERITAGE

The 2012 'Towards Better Heritage Outcomes for Central Otago' (TBHO) consultation document sets out eight community-inspired recommendations for managing Central Otago's heritage into the future. These eight recommendations are as follows:

Protecting and Preserving our Heritage

1. Central Otago's heritage is identified and recorded.
2. The community needs to have a good understanding of the statutory and regulatory requirements and access to the processes relating to heritage.
3. Ensure relationships are strong between agencies with an interest in heritage.
4. There is a range of incentives that facilitate the preservation of heritage preservation.
5. Museums are adequately resourced to care for, collect and celebrate our heritage effectively.

Celebrating our Heritage

6. Heritage is innovatively promoted to ensure the community understands its value and visitors are enticed to come here.
7. Communities share and celebrate heritage in ways that resonate with them.

Funding

8. To ensure that funding for heritage is improved and accessible.

OUR VISION AND GOALS

This strategic document sets out the vision and goals for the Central Otago Heritage Trust's role in progressing the recommendations set out in the TBHO. It also provides a framework and plan for our programme of work over the next three years.

OUR VISION	Central Otago's heritage is respected, valued, protected, preserved and celebrated for present and future generations.
OUR GOALS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Supporting the guardians of Central Otago heritage to identify, record, protect and preserve our heritage.2. Working together to enhance best practice for protecting and managing our heritage.3. Celebrating Central Otago's heritage
OUR VALUES	<p>Proactive making things happen by identifying needs and opportunities</p> <p>Collaborative achieving more through positive engagement with others</p> <p>Responsive being receptive and ready for change</p> <p>Innovative seeking creative ways to solve problems</p> <p>Accountable accepting responsibility for achieving common goals</p>

OUR PLAN: 2021 – 2024

Our three-year plan sets out our programme of work that will deliver on three strategic goals. Each of these goals has an assigned set of tasks that, together, will result in tangible, positive outcomes for safeguarding and promoting Central Otago’s heritage:

Goal 1: Supporting the guardians of Central Otago heritage to identify, record, protect and preserve our heritage

#	Tasks	Project Group(s)	Priority	Notes
1.1	Support and advocate for the updating of heritage aspects as part of the District Plan review and any relevant plan changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ OGHT ▪ CODC 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participate in CODC review of heritage provision in the District Plan (late 2021/2022)
1.2	Maintain support for the Otago Goldfields Heritage Site Review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ OGHT 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with OGHT to progress next steps on the heritage site review
1.3	Identify, encourage, promote and provide advocacy for work being undertaken by heritage groups across Central Otago District.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update list of projects being undertaken by heritage groups
1.4	Continue the work of the Oral History Programme based on the proven systems and processes developed in the pilot phase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Museum sector 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuation of the programme for another two years is reliant on the success of funding applications. ▪ Progress finding a long-term, sustainable ‘home’ for the Oral History Project
1.5	Conclude investigation into a cost-effective online repository and management plan that is suitable for the MemoryBank and Oral History projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scoping document completed (Kinski Ltd) ▪ Review ‘Recollect’ programme with Central Otago Libraries as an alternative platform

Goal 2: Working together to enhance best practice for protecting and managing our heritage

#	Tasks	Project Group	Priority	Notes
2.1	Work with Central Otago Museum sector and heritage groups to identify and implement heritage training opportunities focussed on best practice for protecting heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Museum sector ▪ Members 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging skills and expertise from Te Papa, Heritage New Zealand and Otago Museum for relevant Museum network events
2.2	Provide up-to-date information on NZ's heritage framework & heritage best practice to member groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Heritage NZ 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keeping abreast of changes in heritage policies and processes (National, Local Govt, Heritage NZ). Any such changes would be communicated to our members and the wider heritage sector
2.3	Identify and promote awareness of incentives that encourage property owners to maintain and enhance Central Otago's heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Heritage NZ 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue progress on establishing a Heritage Award at CODC biennial business awards. ▪ Promote current incentives e. g. Heritage Equip, CODC resource consent waivers, others? ▪ Advocate for greater incentives in District Planning process ▪ Review what other districts are doing in this area.
2.4	Identify and develop new funding sources for Central Otago heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with current funders to develop and promote a list of opportunities that are suited to heritage projects.
2.5	Support the Central Otago Museum Sector with the implementation of the newly established District Museum Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ CODC ▪ Museum Sector ▪ Otago Museum 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to provide co-ordination support to the sector until such time as the sector has a resourced self-sustaining model of operation. ▪ Provide COHT membership as Trustee on the proposed Central Otago Museums' Trust and provide recommendations for an independent Chair.

2.6	Maintain and strengthen relationships with our members and provide advocacy and support to their endeavours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COHT 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to strengthen relationships to understand member heritage priorities and provide support as required
2.7	Review COHT's relationship with our members and the heritage sector every two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COHT Members 	Every 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and promote membership to organisations concerned with safeguarding and celebrating Central Otago heritage
2.8	Review the role and responsibilities of COHT Trustees every three years during the COHT Heritage Plan review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COHT Members 	Every 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure we have the right mix of skills amongst Trustees to achieve our objectives
2.9	Review COHT Heritage Plan every three years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COHT Members 	Every 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure ongoing engagement with members to re-confirm our current direction and anticipate future needs and opportunities

Goal 3: Celebrating our heritage

#	Tasks	Project Group	Priority	Notes
3.1	Maintain and promote a calendar of heritage, culture, tourism, and arts events within Central Otago.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COHT Members CODAT Museum Sector CODC Tourism Central Otago 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand events calendar to include relevant culture, tourism, and the arts. Events are listed and promoted on our website, social media and newsletters
3.2	Work with the Central Otago Museum Network and Tourism Central Otago to develop a 'Central Otago Heritage Trails' digital brochure/map.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COHT Museum Sector Tourism Central Otago DoC 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This goal is also included in the Draft Museum Sector Strategy

3.3	Work with Central Otago schools and educators to develop relevant ways of using Oral History as a learning tool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Central Otago schools & educators 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progress discussions with Terrace Primary and Dunstan High schools
3.4	Maintain a heritage website and media presence that promotes and celebrates Central Otago heritage to the wider community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heritage website launched in December 2020 and Facebook page in February 2021. ▪ 2021-2024: Ongoing development and maintenance
3.5	Use existing communications channels to network with heritage groups from the wider Otago region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Otago Key stakeholders include: Wakatipu Heritage Trust, Otago Museum, Early Settlers Museum, Heritage South, Upper Clutha Records Society, Queenstown Historical Society.
3.6	Publish a quarterly Central Otago Heritage publication with input from member and heritage groups from the wider Otago region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Members 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage member contributions to each newsletter
3.7	Identify opportunities to develop heritage educational and networking events that are relevant to members and the wider community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Members 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Run heritage seminars and presentations (e.g., Winter series: Heritage Café) ▪ Keep abreast of research and projects taking place outside of our region that inspire new ways of thinking and the development of new projects