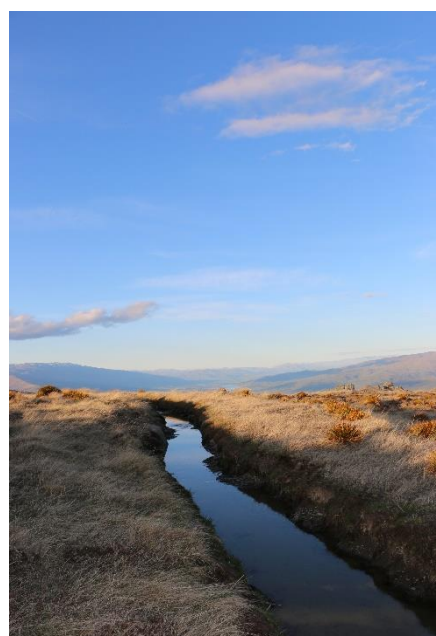


Central Otago Heritage Strategic Plan 2024 - 2026



Protecting, preserving & celebrating our 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), Marco Creemers, Russell Garbutt, Kate Goodfellow, Warwick Hawker, David Hurd, Pene Morris & Ross Naylor. Ann Rodgers (CODC Liaison). Maggie Hope (Heritage Coordinator).

Our Members

- Aukaha (*Kai Tahu*)
- Alexandra Riverside Trust
- Bodeker Scientific
- Cambrian Valley Trust
- Central Lakes Trust
- Central Otago District Council
- Central Otago Environmental Society
- Central Otago Libraries
- Central Otago Museums Trust
- Central Otago Oral History Group
- Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery
- Clyde Community and Enviroschool's Ecological Restoration Group
- Clyde Museum
- Clyde Primary School
- Cromwell Museum
- Cromwell & Districts Community Trust
- Department of Conservation
- Drybread Cemetery Trust
- Goldfields Mining Centre
- Haehaeata Natural Heritage Trust
- Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
- Historic Clyde
- Maniototo Early Settlers Association
- NZ Society of Genealogists – Alexandra Branch
- Old Cromwell Inc
- Otago Central Rail Trail Trust
- Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust
- Promote Dunstan
- Queenstown Historical Society
- St Bathans Heritage and Environmental Protection Society
- Te Papa Tongarewa National Service Te Paerangi
- Teviot District Museum
- Tūhura Otago Museum
- Upper Clutha Historical Records Society
- Vallance Cottage Working Group

WHAT IS HERITAGE?

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

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 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, art, 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 presence, 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.

Note: Updating the community's aspirations for heritage is long overdue. We expect that the community engagement associated with updating the heritage provisions of the Central Otago District Plan will help refresh these aspirations. (Consultation is planned to commence late 2024).

OUR VISION AND GOALS

This 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 two years.

OUR VISION

Central Otago's heritage is respected, valued, protected, preserved and celebrated for present and future generations.

OUR GOALS

1. Supporting the efforts of our members and the wider community in their efforts to identify, record, protect and preserve our heritage.
2. Working together to enable and enhance best practice for protecting and managing our heritage.
3. Celebrating Central Otago's heritage.

OUR VALUES

- Proactive** making things happen by identifying needs and opportunities.
- Collaborative** achieving more through positive engagement with others.
- Responsive** being receptive and ready for change.
- Innovative** seeking creative ways to solve problems.
- Accountable** accepting responsibility for achieving common goals.
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OUR STRATEGIC PLAN: 2024 - 2026

Our two-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 efforts of our members and the wider community in their efforts to identify, record, protect and preserve our heritage.

#	Tasks	Project Group(s)	Priority	Notes
1.1	Review and advocate for heritage matters, including RMA plan changes, consents and legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ ORC ▪ HNZ ▪ CODC 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participate in CODC review of heritage provision in the District Plan (late 2024/2025). ▪ Prepare submissions as required.
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 and expand the work of the Oral History Project add value to existing and future oral history recordings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Museum sector 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pilot the development of theme-based podcasts using existing oral history recordings. ▪ Pursue funding to digitise oral history recordings held in our Central Otago museums ▪ Oral History in Schools (see 3.3 below).
1.5	Continue an investigation into a cost-effective online repository for the MemoryBank.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing.
1.6	Continue to advocate for a district-wide Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CODC ▪ COHT ▪ CODAT 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing.

1.7	Work with the Department of Conservation to identify ways in which we can encourage and facilitate community engagement to protect and preserve heritage sites on conservation land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ DoC ▪ COHT Members ▪ Wider Community 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with DoC to identify suitable priority sites.
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Goal 2: Working together to enable & enhance best practice for protecting and managing our heritage

#	Tasks	Project Group	Priority	Notes
2.1	Work with our members and the wider community 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"> ▪ Identify training needs across the sector and coordinate cost-effective solutions.
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 Pouhere Taonga 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keep abreast of changes in heritage policies and processes (National, Local Govt, Heritage NZ Pouhere Taonga), and communicate these changes to our members and the wider community.
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 ▪ CODC ▪ Heritage NZ Pouhere Taonga 	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue progress on establishing a Heritage Award at CODC biennial business awards. ▪ Promote current incentives e. g. 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 promote funding sources and opportunities for protecting preserving and celebrating Central Otago heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with current and new funders to develop and promote a list of opportunities that are suited to heritage projects.

2.5	Support the Central Otago Museum Trust to work as a network to foster greater sharing of ideas and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COMT ▪ COHT 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide COHT membership as Trustee on the Central Otago Museums' Trust.
2.6	Maintain, strengthen and develop 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. ▪ Identify and promote membership to organisations concerned with safeguarding and celebrating Central Otago heritage.
2.7	Review COHT Heritage Plan every three years, including the role and responsibilities of COHT Trustees.	<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	Promote heritage events across tourism, arts, and news calendars and channels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Members ▪ CODAT ▪ Museum Sector ▪ CODC ▪ Tourism Central Otago 	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heritage-related events are widely promoted to raise awareness of our heritage offerings.
3.2	Develop a 'Central Otago Heritage Trails' digital brochure/map.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Museum Sector ▪ Tourism Central Otago ▪ DoC 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A self- drive tour map that highlights heritage-related activities, sites, heritage precincts, museums etc.

3.3	Identify ways we can support Central Otago schools in incorporating heritage into primary and secondary school curricula.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COHT ▪ Central Otago schools & educators 	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Form a working group to initiate discussions with schools on how we can support and contribute to their curricula. ▪ Include ways in which oral history can benefit educators and students.
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"> ▪ Ongoing ▪ Promote news, events, and the image library on our website more widely to grow our audience and increase the visibility of our activities. ▪ Encourage further contributions to the image library.
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	Continue to publish a quarterly print and digital Central Otago Heritage newsletter 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"> ▪ Continue the 'Heritage Talks' programme. ▪ Explore the possibility of running a 'Heritage Walks' programme during the warmer months. ▪ Keep abreast of research and projects taking place outside of our region that inspire new ways of thinking and the development of new projects.