

District Plan – Submission on Proposed Plan Change to the Mackenzie District Plan

Plan Change 28 Historic Heritage

Details of Applicant:

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I acknowledge that the submission will be made public.

I do want to be heard (depending on the date of hearing)

I would consider a joint case.

Date 19/1/25

Background: I first visited Burkes Pass in 1983 when I was teaching design at the University of Canterbury. Over the next seventeen years my wife and I continued to visit New Zealand and Burkes Pass on a regular basis. In 1999 we purchased the Burkes Pass school and added living space to the rear of the building while maintaining the historic portion of the school. For the last twenty five years we have continued to use the school as our home in New Zealand.

I believe that Burkes Pass provides a unique visual connection between the past history of the region and natural majesty of the Mackenzie basin. It is an essential element in the fabric of the kiwi experience that is both unique and unforgettable.

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are as follow: The recommendations by Richard Knott in his assessment 4 July 2024.

- *Te Kopi-o-Ōpihi / Burkes Pass Heritage Overlay*

I support the Te Kopi-o-Ōpihi / Burkes Pass Heritage Overlay as recommended by heritage expert Richard Knott in his assessment 4 July 2024. A heritage expert developed this overlay after inspection of the site, direct consultation of those involved and access to previous work of spatial planning.

- *Potential new individual heritage items*

I support the inclusion of all the heritage items recommended by Richard Knott.

The reason(s) for my submission are: The extensive report based on accepted NZ heritage methodology states: “Overall the area has high heritage significance and contributes to an understanding and appreciation of the history and cultures of the district and the district’s identity and should be added to the schedule of heritage places within the Mackenzie District Plan.”

1. I support for the Te Kopi-o-Ōpihi / Burkes Pass Heritage Overlay as recommended by heritage expert Richard Knott in his assessment 4 July 2024 is because: the overlay as proposed in this version provides a visual continuity between the heritage sites as well as providing an open space for resting, walking and parking.

3. I support for the inclusion of all the heritage items recommended by Richard Knott especially the schoolteachers house, Burkes Pass Accommodation house (former Paddy’s Market homestead) Elm Tree cottage and Highfield cottage is because: these few remaining

structures strengthens the concept of a heritage village. Preserving historic buildings offers many unique benefits. One major advantage is that these buildings become links to our past, allowing us to connect with our history. They tell stories and teach us about our culture. Questions like, "What are the advantages of preserving historical buildings?" have clear answers: these structures boost local pride and help people learn about their roots.

Submission Request

That the Te Kopi-o-Ōpihi / Burkes Pass Heritage Overlay as recommended by heritage expert Richard Knott in his assessment 4 July 2024 be reinstated (including building guidelines)

That for all the heritage items the following should be Non Complying Activities

- inappropriate alterations as viewed from the road
- structures erected to compromise the view of the heritage item from the road.