



Butcher's Shop

Ohura Rd, Whangamomona

1902

Use:	None	Historic Value:	2 out of 5
Materials:	Rusticated weatherboard façade, iron sides and roof	Architectural Value:	2 out of 4
NZHPT Registered:	Historic Places Category II	Technical Value:	- out of 2
Legal Description:	Lot 1 DP 2714 Lot 1 DP2787 Lots 1&2 DP3890 & Secs 9&10 Pt sec11 Whangamomona Tnsp	Symbolic Value:	- out of 3
		Rarity Value:	1 out of 2
		Townscape Value:	- out of 2
		Group Value:	- out of 2
		Overall Heritage Value:	5 out of 20



The survey of Wangamomona (the 'h' was added later) started in April 1892, with the area being opened as a small farm settlement in November 1894, even though there was only basic and undeveloped access available. The area was divided into 111 sections, which started to be bought from 1895. The land had a reputation for being fertile and rich, and as a result, after three years there were 187 people in the district. Town sections started to be bought, a stable and boarding house were erected, schools were built, and the McCluggage brothers built a new General Store.

In 1902, the McCluggage brothers opened the butchery, in the same year that a baker, billiards room, blacksmiths, hall and hotel were erected in the township. Mr. B.E. Phillips became the first butcher for the town, with Archie Brodie and J. Wright packing the meat for him. (Wright later became the slaughter man for McCluggage's General Store).



Geever's then took over for a large number of years, followed by Charlie Gilmour. Charlie owned the butchery during the great fire on 2 December 1943, when the bakehouse, drapery and billiard rooms were burnt down. Charlie pulled the butchery down during the fire, to avoid the buildings to the west of it being burnt.

It was rebuilt, presumably straight away, and the Marin's became the new owners. Eventually, due to the continual decline in the Whangamomona population, the butchery could no longer afford to stay open, with the doors being closed for the last time in 1970.

The building still remains, but has slipped into a state of decay, verging on derelict. It still holds historical value, however, as a symbol of what Whangamomona once was like – a prosperous, hard-working rural town.

Bibliography

Whangamomona 75th Jubilee
Church, Ian, *The Stratford Inheritance*, The Heritage Press (1990) p84-86