

OHOKA STREAM HISTORIC WALK



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Sponsored by Ohoka Farmers Market

OHOKA STREAM HISTORIC WALK

Approximately 40 minutes
Starting from and finishing at Ohoka Domain,
corner of Whites and Mill Roads

Includes map with suggested route

489 Mill Road

The Ohoka and Eyreton Recreation Ground was brought under the management of the Public Domains Act in 1877. The present pavilion was built by public subscription in the 1950s and added to in the 1960s. This domain has served as the venue of many sports fixtures such as cricket, horse racing, tennis, rugby and netball. Sports are still played here and it is the venue of the Ohoka Farmer's Market on Friday mornings.

456 Mill Road - Eyre House

This was the original Eyre County Council Offices. Eyre County Council was formed 23rd April 1912. It is now a private residence with a "C" classification from the Historic Places Trust. The large blue gum tree at the entrance dates from the 1800s.

The entrance to the Ohoka Stream Walk is via Keetley Place opposite Eyre House on the northern side of Mill Road. This walk follows the stream that borders some lovely gardens sited within Ohoka village. There are views of the Vicarage at 532 Mill Road. You will exit at the western end of the township after crossing a small bridge on Bradleys Road. The walk back along the road to the Domain passes several places of historic interest.

The Bradley family home was located on the south east corner of Mill and Bradleys Roads. Behind the house now in its place, remnants of the railway line that connected Ohoka to Kaiapoi and Christchurch in Feb 1879 can be seen. This provided a daily service to transport not only people but timber, wool, and other goods; a welcome commercial opportunity for the area. The early train was called the "Ohoka Punt" as the train slowly and steadily moved across what appeared to be still waters and reedy banks as much of the area was still swamp. Services declined as road transport improved and the line was finally closed in 1965.

Wool Scour Manager's house.

The cottage on the north west corner of Mill and Bradleys Roads was built in 1858. The cottage housed the manager for Mr Eckersly's newly opened flax mill which employed 20 men. In 1884 the business burned down and was replaced by a wool scour. Many of the workers' cottages still stand on the north side of Mill Road. One of the most original is at 484 Mill Road.

582 Mill Road - St Albans Anglican Church

This 130 seat church consecrated on 31st May 1882, was designed by William Mountford. The original bell still rings to call worshippers to regular services. This wooden building was enhanced with the addition of a Guild Hall in 1952 to provide a meeting place for the Ohoka Ladies Guild who raised the money to build it.

532 Mill Road - Vicarage then Te Waipounamu Maori Girls College

This building was used as a vicarage from 1879 until 1909 when it was converted into a College for young Maori women until the college was relocated to Ferry Rd in Christchurch in 1926. It was condemned but saved and fully restored to a family home in 1981. This beautiful home has extensive landscaped gardens to enhance its old world charm.

