



THE PEEL FOREST PLAN

Coopers Creek to Mesopotamia

November 1997





THE PEEL FOREST PLAN

consideration of the Peel Forest area from
Coopers Creek to Mesopotamia.

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through
local

A public workshop was held at the Peel Forest Hall, on Sunday 9 November from 2 pm, and Monday 10 November from 9 am. Some 70 people attended on Sunday, and 45 on Monday.

With local assistance in inputting workshop data, Lucas Associates (Di Lucas, Ines Stager & Jeremy Head) then worked for several days investigating solutions and documenting the plan.

On Tuesday, locals gathered to discuss the plans and colours for community buildings, for example, the Hall and Fire Station.

A first draft of the Concept Plan was displayed in the hall during November 1997, for the workshop participants to check, correct and suggest changes. Following discussion of the comments, Lucas Associates provided further draft Concept Plans in December and then March 1998 for perusal, consideration and refinement.

T H E P E E L F O R E S T P L A N

together sticking
Peel Forest on the road
to management of its
special character

from 2 pm Sunday 9 November, Bar & que afterwards
9am to 4 pm Monday 10 November

venue PEEL FOREST HALL

ISSUES:

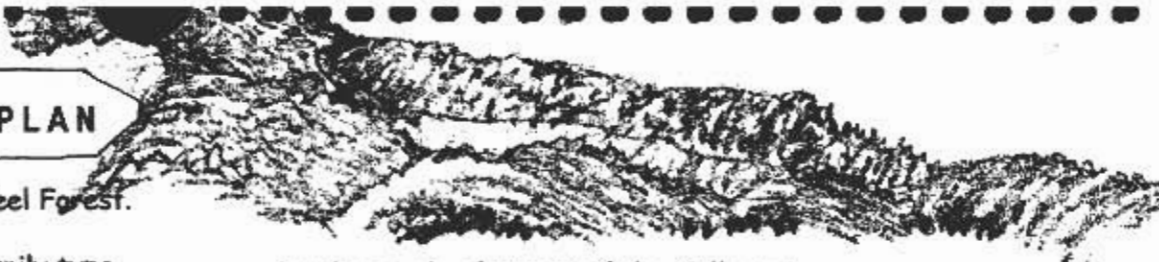
ISSUES:

- retaining the special character
- traffic speed through village
- village services - drainage
- waste management
- Hall surrounds
- weeds & pests

Kowhai Stream & De
Peel Forest Park's future



2. AGREED GOALS & ACTION PLAN

- 
- ⇒ Maintain and enhance the special character of Peel Forest.
 - ⇒ Continue emphasis on Peel Forest as providing family type attractions.
 - ⇒ Maintain the forest and walkways.
 - ⇒ Maintain our support for the Peel Forest Store and Mail Run as essential community services/assets.
 - ⇒ Re-open the Information Centre - include the history of our area.
 - ⇒ Provide adequate public toilets and telephones.
 - ⇒ Establish a suitable transfer station for waste management.
 - ⇒ Upgrade the village and Blandswood water supplies.
 - ⇒ Development of a pro-active plan for Kowhai Stream flood mitigation/management.
 - ⇒ Effective representation of local issues in Timaru District Council and Canterbury Regional Council decisions.
 - ⇒ Investigate utilising the Peel Forest School grounds and buildings as a resource for the Community.
 - ⇒ Landscape development of the Hall area:
paint the Hall in colours sympathetic to the surrounding environment; and, improve the utilisation of the Hall.
 - ⇒ Be united in maintaining our appearance eg. low buildings, sensitive colours, discreet placement of plastic wrapped baleage, planting and maintaining trees.
 - ⇒ Support the growth of cottage industries.
 - ⇒ Encourage responsible Eco-tourism that is sensitive to the local environment eg. bush-walking, rafting, fishing, hunting, horse trekking, viewing salmon spawning, etc.
 - ⇒ Develop codes of practice (or protocols) to encourage ecological and community responsibility in land and visitor management practices, eg. weed prevention & management.
 - ⇒ Encourage conservation of the native vegetation, bush, shrub and tussocklands, even small remnants.
 - ⇒ Retain the open vista looking from White Rock up to Mesopotamia.
 - ⇒ Create an entrance to Peel Forest village to help slow through traffic.



T H E P E E L F O R E S T P L A N

ACTION PLAN cont'

PFEG = Peel Forest Enhancement Group
BRA = Blandswood Residents Association
OPC = Outdoor Pursuits Centre
TDC = Timaru District Council
CRC = Canterbury Regional Council
DOC = Department of Conservation

PEEL FOREST PARK

Consider establishment of a Peel Forest Park advisory committee under the Reserves Act, to ensure local liaison and involvement in Park management.

Options:

- ⇒ Establish Peel Forest Park Guardians under the Conservation Act.
- ⇒ Establish a local Aoraki Conservation Board sub-committee for Peel Forest Park management liaison.
- ⇒ OPC formalise a maintenance relationship with DOC for Peel Forest Park.

BLANDSWOOD

Planning:

The flood problem is largely beyond human intervention. Therefore plan future development for Blandswood that recognises this problem eg. the appropriateness and location of further buildings, bridge/all-weather access.

BRA, PFEG, CRC, TDC

Gravel extraction:

Current gravel extraction is from Scotsburn Stream. Formalise a mechanism between local group and CRC to encourage local extraction of gravel from Kowhai Stream to reduce threat to Dennistoun Bush and Blandswood.

PFEG, CRC (Bruce Scarlett)

Riparian management:

Establish riparian vegetation management programme for Kowhai Stream to minimise flood risk through riparian fencing, reducing animal and plant pests, and encouraging forest regeneration.

Nigel Buttery, CRC in liaison with Bob Hall

LANDFILL

Advance proposed Peel Forest Transfer Station

PFEG & TDC (Brain Gallagher, Solid Waste Manager
ph. 0800 484 632 ext. 8065)

If existing land fill poses a threat to the River.

contact CRC, PFEG, CRC (Neil McDonald 03 688 9069)

LAND TRANSPORT

Copy of The Peel Forest Plan/relevant sections to go to (Barry Knight, T.D.C. Land Transport Manager ph. 0800 484 632 ext. 8084).

Speed restriction review public comments to be sought in January. Speed management proposals to Brian Ward TDC (ext.8111) - note the Land Transport Safety Authority sets speed limits.

Review 70 km speed limit for village and Blandswood. Remove 100 km signs at the intersection of Peel Forest Road and Dennistoun Road east and west, replace with 50 km signs, set back from the intersection.

DISTRICT PLAN

Seek a District Plan variation to revise zone boundaries to relate rural zones to land types.

PFEG & TDC

Map notable old trees and add to District Plan schedule.

PFEG & TDC

Establish guidelines for farm building setbacks, location and screening.

PFEG & TDC

Introduce the colour palette as a performance standard, so that conformity does not require a resource consent process.

VILLAGE

Finalise hall colour selection and paint hall.

HALL COMMITTEE = ACTION

Exclude corporate signage that does not conform to the Peel Forest style.

TDC

Establish village guidelines for subdivision, built form, materials, planting, signs and street furniture.

PFEG with TDC

Contact Telecom re: undergrounding wires upstream from campground. Overhead wiring possibly removed 1999 pending technological advances. (Robin Stevenson 03 684 0069)

PFEG



3. APPEAL

Note the values that make this place special and appealing.

Landscape Character:

- ⇒ Unique native bush - podocarp forest, the protection, the Big trees
- ⇒ Rare stand of podocarp forest in South Canterbury - Dennistoun Bush
- ⇒ Pockets of bush
- ⇒ Tremendous native birds /wildlife
- ⇒ Oasis with plains around us - microclimate
- ⇒ "Mini National Park"
- ⇒ Influence of river makes it very special, the gorge, braiding and adjoining creeks
- ⇒ Mountains
- ⇒ River/streams
- ⇒ Landscapes
- ⇒ Mt Peel

- ⇒ Mt Peel and Big Mt Peel are distinctive landmarks from long distances
- ⇒ Rangitata Gorge to Mesopotamia - magnitude, contrasting road, mountains
- ⇒ Most significant piece of DOC managed land in the area (after Aoraki Mt Cook National Park)
- ⇒ Balance of contrasts between agriculture and native bush, DOC
- ⇒ Views
- ⇒ Historical values
- ⇒ Depth of history, family, housing
- ⇒ Large historic properties
- ⇒ Very English feel
- ⇒ Exotic trees
- ⇒ Hedges

- ⇒ Buildings
- ⇒ Settlements
- ⇒ Culture

Atmosphere & Climate:

- ⇒ Peace & quiet/low tourism
- ⇒ Peace & solitude & escape
- ⇒ Open spaces
- ⇒ Outdoors
- ⇒ Environmentally appealing
- ⇒ Isolation
- ⇒ Fresh air
- ⇒ Positive feelings about Peel Forest
- ⇒ Not too commercialised - good balance
- ⇒ Not too developed
- ⇒ Lack of traffic

- ⇒ Always lush, green and clean in Peel Forest,
- ⇒ Dry in the gorge
- ⇒ Clear air, serenity, contrast between mountains / landforms and bush / forest.

Social character:

- ⇒ People - permanent and casual
- ⇒ The "Brigadoon" nature of area.
- ⇒ Village atmosphere
- ⇒ Active community spirit
- ⇒ Low density housing
- ⇒ Cohesion
- ⇒ Village facilities - store/community hall, well maintained
- ⇒ Lifestyle
- ⇒ Home-based Industries

APPEAL cont'

- ⇒ Limited freedom to develop properties (as opposed to greater restrictions)
- ⇒ Safety (relative)
- ⇒ Friendly people

Activities & Access:

- ⇒ Pastoral
- ⇒ Uniqueness, intensive farmland, National Park, open wilderness type landscape of Rangitata Gorge and mighty Rangitata River all in a small area.
- ⇒ All year round appeal - not seasonal.
- ⇒ Continued development eg, deer farming has been done sympathetically
- ⇒ Established recreational opportunities (eg, park, tracks, camp-ground)

- ⇒ Free access
- ⇒ Peel Forest Park is a family park frequented by mostly New Zealanders, not foreign tourists.
- ⇒ Guiding
- ⇒ Great fishing & spawning: salmon
- ⇒ Rafting (outdoor recreation)
- ⇒ Swimming
- ⇒ Recreation available is challenging and diverse
- ⇒ Picnicking areas
- ⇒ No through traffic
- ⇒ Readily accessible
- ⇒ Tracks: tramping / trails
- ⇒ Handy to the Rangitata Gorge
- ⇒ Access to high country
- ⇒ Educational - 1st class Outdoor Pursuits and Environmental educational possibilities
- ⇒ Rangitata Rafts & Outdoor Pursuits utilises



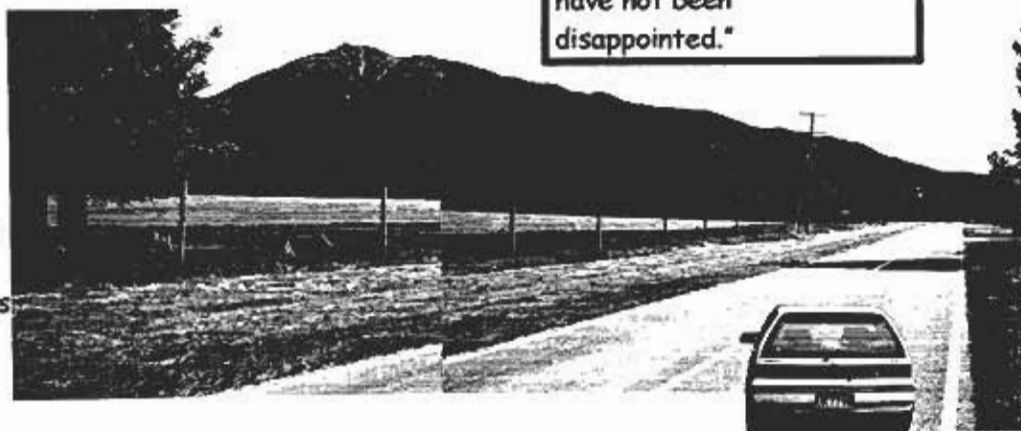
our natural wonderful resources and also brings outside money into the area while being sympathetic to our resources.

- ⇒ Arts and crafts

Services & organisations:

- ⇒ Volunteer services
- ⇒ The church
- ⇒ The local store keepers
- ⇒ DOC
- ⇒ School
- ⇒ Camp ground - well-maintained - be proud of
- ⇒ Arundel free camp-ground

"I settled here because of the bush, mountains, river and the tranquillity, also the village appealed as a remnant of a milling settlement and the established residents as far as I knew them were the kind of people I identified with and liked. I have not been disappointed."



P E E L

F O R E S T P L A N



4. THREATS

Identify existing or foreseen issues. What are the threats to the specialness of the Peel Forest area? Comments from each group are recorded and categorised. Note, they are not necessarily unanimous views.

CROWN PROTECTED LANDS

- ⇒ DOC diminished presence and involvement
- ⇒ Administration of Park threatened with no DOC presence in the village
- ⇒ Cuts in funding for conservation - reduction of funding for DOC is a local threat
- ⇒ Falling DOC budget for this area means local involvement is needed.
- ⇒ Maintenance programme threatened ie. track maintenance
- ⇒ Failure of maintenance in bush and on tracks, toilets, disposal of rubbish - Need better management
- ⇒ Government Policy
- ⇒ Maori land issues

COUNCIL CONTROLS

- ⇒ Local body by-laws
- ⇒ Regional Council controls
- ⇒ Red tape from Resource Management Act - District Plan, etc.

- 
- ⇒ Over protection - too many rules
 - ⇒ Too restrictive & inconsistent
 - ⇒ What you can't do with your land
 - ⇒ District Plan as rules-based and expensive and becomes a disincentive to responsibility.
 - ⇒ Overly restrictive district plan - no shops, houses, colour restrictions, more input ourselves, needs to be community based, excavations requiring consent etc.
 - ⇒ Too much bureaucracy - need balance.
 - ⇒ Environmental conflicts
 - ⇒ Sub-division - regulations/future policy
 - ⇒ Trying to target the wrong type of people
 - ⇒ Lack of consultation & local input
 - ⇒ We do need some control of how the village develops - it should be developed in consultation with community in conjunction with the council.
 - ⇒ Cross boundary issues between local authorities

THREATS cont'

COMMERCIALISATION

- ⇒ Commercial ventures in the area - need control on what if any at all.
- ⇒ Accommodation & hotel & tourist development
- ⇒ Signs proliferating
- ⇒ Roadside stalls
- ⇒ Over promoting the area as a tourist attraction
- ⇒ Want people to come here for the place as it is now - not to change the place to suit tourism demands eg, we don't want Queenstown type of commercialisation where tourists demands are actually forcing the locals out of the area.
- ⇒ Commercialisation - how far?
- ⇒ You may lose the appeal of Peel Forest by trying to make it too flashy and may put off the people who come here now.

VIABILITY

- ⇒ Population - too much, not enough
- ⇒ Economic viability of population
- ⇒ Economically forced changes
- ⇒ Need to encourage use of camping site in Peel Forest to support existing commercial services.

TRANQUILLITY ERODED

- ⇒ Excessive noise
- ⇒ Disturbing the peace with machinery and traffic
- ⇒ Threats of over-crowding
- ⇒ Uncontrolled or over-commercialised tourism could destroy the area.

FIRE

- ⇒ Fire & its control
- ⇒ Bush Fires - Do you put it out on DOC land?
- ⇒ Fire threat in valley - campers uncontrolled, no designated areas, no signs to warn of dangers
- ⇒ Need to encourage use of camping site in Peel Forest as opposed to valley because of fire risk and support existing commercial services.

ECOLOGICAL DEGRADATION

- ⇒ Threat to our specialness & clean green image
- ⇒ River pollution
- ⇒ Damage to trees with deer paddocks
- ⇒ Milling and erosion threats
- ⇒ Stock control - native bush
- ⇒ Kowhai Stream flooding destroying Dennistoun Bush
- ⇒ Irresponsible land owners

THREATS cont'

PEST PROLIFERATION

- ⇒ Introduced fauna and flora threatening indigenous values
- ⇒ Lack of weed & pest control
- ⇒ Predators - stoats, cats, possums
- ⇒ Browsers - possums, rabbits
- ⇒ Wild pigs in park TB release threat and ramifications of area becoming restrictive under TB control
- ⇒ Dump by river - cats & vermin
- ⇒ Control of invasive plants - sycamore, gorse, broom

VISUAL & AMENITY DEGRADATION

- ⇒ Visual pollution along road and river corridors
- ⇒ Non bio-degradable plastic products, eg silage wrap
- ⇒ Silage rows and wrapping along roadsides etc. a visual issue. White, light and bright silage baleage causes visual pollution
- ⇒ Derelict buildings. Appearance and maintenance of properties
- ⇒ Incompatible colour schemes
- ⇒ Unsympathetic planting which blocks views
- ⇒ Impact on landscape with tree removal at bach or permanent residences.
- ⇒ Loss of grass verges
- ⇒ Smell of silage
- ⇒ Burn offs
- ⇒ Prominence of deer fences

NEW STRUCTURES

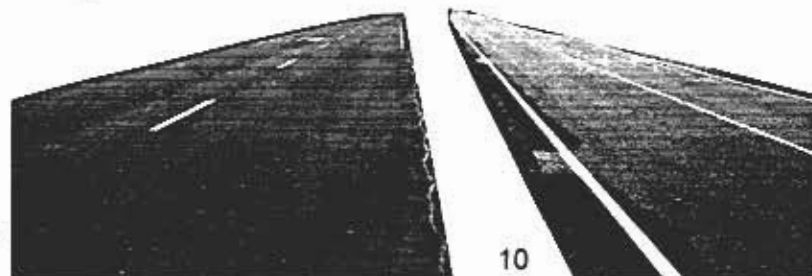
- ⇒ Indiscriminate buildings - particularly in Blandswood area
- ⇒ Subdivisions eg. at back of village
- ⇒ Property development - unsympathetic types of buildings
- ⇒ Inappropriate industries - commercial industrial
- ⇒ Lack of maintenance of historic buildings
- ⇒ Population growth and higher density housing
- ⇒ Colour of buildings as a community decision
- ⇒ Dominating bulk and location of buildings
- ⇒ Building code limiting shape, height, colour, and utilisation
- ⇒ Damming the Rangitata River

VEGETATION CHANGE

- ⇒ Restriction on tree plantings - need to build on existing base
- ⇒ Kowhai Stream flooding a threat to Dennistoun Bush & Peel Forest Estate farmland and access.
- ⇒ Forestry logging - where taken out
- ⇒ Tree planting/lack of tree maintenance
- ⇒ Inappropriate land uses (exotic trees, pigs)

TRAFFIC

- ⇒ Traffic speeds. Future traffic flow and speeds
- ⇒ Excessive vehicle speed from village to the camp ground
- ⇒ Unorganised vehicles and parking, thus potential congestion in village
- ⇒ Bridge over the upper river, just below gorge, thus losing destination status
- ⇒ Inadequate road maintenance
- ⇒ Chips Park - go-cart venue - a future traffic threat



THREATS cont'

WASTE

- ⇒ Threat to water quality and land-care from people & from land-fill
- ⇒ Dump - too close to river, Viable? Acceptable? Future?
- ⇒ River erosion into dump area even if closed
- ⇒ Inadequate control of dumping.
- ⇒ Potential pollution from septic tanks/sewerage
- ⇒ Water Pollution

SUPPLIES

- ⇒ In Village, limited water supply restricts the number of residents
- ⇒ Water supply impacts - tapping creek-water changes the flora.
- ⇒ Loss of store through lack of patronage and subsequent loss of 'centre' of village

VULNERABLE COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- ⇒ Peel Forest School - closure due
- ⇒ Mail delivery
- ⇒ Public Phone availability
- ⇒ SAR (Search & Rescue)
- ⇒ Civil Defence adequacy
- ⇒ Publicly maintained roads
- ⇒ Safe environment maintained
- ⇒ Information Centre
- ⇒ Loss of identity - keeping people involved

- ⇒ Withdrawal of DOC services and the maintenance issues which have followed - especially Dennistoun Bush

VISITOR FACILITIES

- ⇒ Lack of public rest-rooms in village
- ⇒ Public toilets access and maintenance
- ⇒ No toilet facilities to cater for increasing recreational users especially up the valley
- ⇒ Lack of official Information Centre

RECREATION EFFECTS

- ⇒ Incompatible recreational activities
- ⇒ Uncontrolled recreational shooting





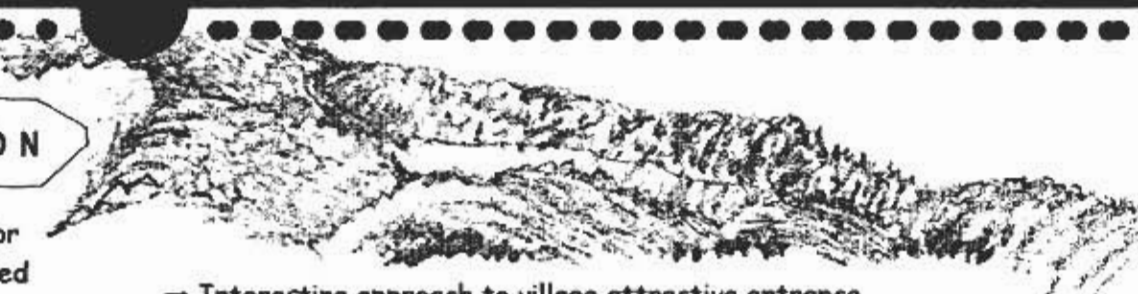
5. OPPORTUNITIES & VISION

Groups identified the opportunities they perceive for the Peel Forest area. They described their preferred vision for the Peel Forest area in 20 years time...

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

- ⇒ As far as possible to retain the character of the area. Hopefully we would like it to stay the way it is, ie. with its unique character.
- ⇒ Not a collection of baches but a small thriving permanent community
- ⇒ A cheap and accessible destination.
- ⇒ Continue to be a destination for families.
- ⇒ To build on what is already here with regard to the special character of this place. Maintain and develop the character, not become commercialised.
- ⇒ Maintain look of village - low buildings, well-treed, no silage wrappers.
- ⇒ Need to learn to treasure our jewel - locals learning to appreciate our area in order to maintain it.
- ⇒ Encouragement for the protection and enhancement of the natural values wherever they are driven by the local landowners.

⇒ Maintenance & retention of the status quo of this area

- 
- ⇒ Interesting approach to village attractive entrance through from Arundel
 - ⇒ Development of properties like Peel Forest Estate - more stone walls, bridges, good way to use the stones in paddocks
 - ⇒ Retention of what we have (eg bush, tracks)
 - ⇒ Need retention of visual impact of dramatic open landscape from White Rock to Mesopotamia.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

- ⇒ Continue to enjoy the unpretentious community character.
- ⇒ Keeping the same atmosphere with small controlled growth.
- ⇒ Need people to enable viability of services.
- ⇒ Supporting the school, church and retaining the basic village culture.
- ⇒ Maintain family values.
- ⇒ Alternatives to decreasing DOC management.
- ⇒ Re-establish vibrant and pro-active information centre with community involvement.
- ⇒ Effective collective representation for the area.
- ⇒ Enlarge community spirit.



T H E P E E L F O R

OPPORTUNITIES & VISION

- ⇒ Development of a community meeting place.
- ⇒ That Peel Forest attracts community-based persons.
- ⇒ Develop a resource of experienced locals to assist with particularly tree planting, aesthetic values, sustainability, etc.
- ⇒ A clear vision agreed for the village



- ⇒ Safe environment for children.
- ⇒ No vandalism & crime
- ⇒ A local input and running of OUR park.
- ⇒ Develop a greater rapport with territorial authorities
- ⇒ Increase our involvement in local government, decisions eg, community board annual plan, etc.
- ⇒ More meetings like this!!!

SERVICES, FACILITIES

- ⇒ Playground at Peel Forest village.
- ⇒ Better utilisation of the Hall.



- ⇒ Landscape development around the Hall - potential children's play area.
- ⇒ Visitor centre operating with info and leaflets on area
- ⇒ Improved water supply to Blandswood and Peel Forest Village
- ⇒ Underground wiring
- ⇒ Peel Forest fireman / caretaker perhaps
- ⇒ Mown grass verges
- ⇒ Recycling depot
- ⇒ Improve waste management facilities - locals as key-holders
- ⇒ Education area. Re-established school.
- ⇒ Constructive use of DOC building ie, historical records, etc.
- ⇒ Environmental conservation of tracks, etc.
- ⇒ We do need a large enough community to maintain the facilities



OPPORTUNITIES & VISION

ACTIVITIES & COMMERCE

- ⇒ Eco-tourism rather than commercial tourism development.
- ⇒ Village/area able to be sustained by eco-viable local economy.
- ⇒ More permanent homes and residences to help support local economy.
- ⇒ Hospitality Industry - Bed-&-Breakfast.
- ⇒ Timeout Therapy Centre.
- ⇒ More emphasis on outdoor pursuits.
- ⇒ Recreational tourism - bushwalking, fishing, rafting, hunting, horse trekking, etc.
- ⇒ Special educational programmes.
- ⇒ Expansion of the Outdoor Pursuits Centre/Environmental Education utilising available resources (school, information centre, people).
- ⇒ Eco-tourism.
- ⇒ Commercial Cottage Industries - these are compatible with the village ethos.
- ⇒ Fairs, Arts, Crafts.
- ⇒ School perhaps become a cultural arts and crafts centre.
- ⇒ The school as a community centre or education centre which maintains the natural and cultural heritage here in Peel Forest.
- ⇒ River-rock - building/landscaping resource.

- ⇒ Mid stream turbine electricity generating potential perhaps.
- ⇒ Degree of desired commercialisation identified by the community, re. village inn and other potential business developments.

ECOLOGY

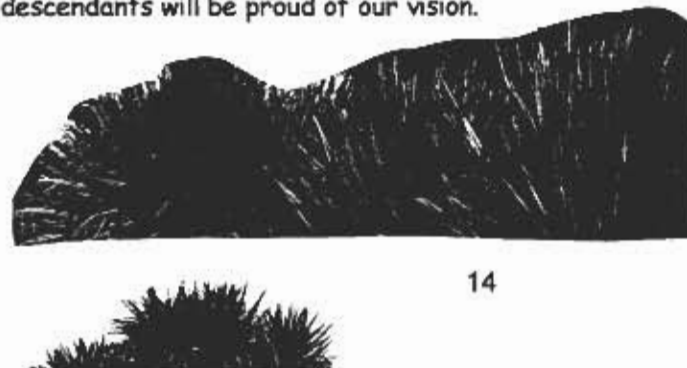
- ⇒ Native Forest protected & maintained, eg. work toward a cat- and dog-free community, and bird protection from magpies.
- ⇒ Wood pigeons and bell-birds retained - magpies managed
- ⇒ Emphasis on environmental awareness and protection of the area's natural assets.
- ⇒ Removal of invasive weeds eg. Old Man's Beard.
- ⇒ Address the threat of sycamore tree invasion.
- ⇒ Explore bio-control opportunities.

VEGETATION CHANGE

- ⇒ Continual retention and restoration of existing native forest.
- ⇒ retain native vegetation on road verges eg. Rangitata Gorge Road.
- ⇒ Roadside tree plantings from Coopers Creek to Peel Forest village.
- ⇒ Contour planting - encourage more tree-planting so that in 20 years time our descendants will be proud of our vision.



T H E P E E L F O R E S T A N



OPPORTUNITIES & VISION

- ⇒ Village improvements through, landscape development, trees.
- ⇒ Well planned planting through the village.
- ⇒ Retain grass verges.
- ⇒ Diversion of water ditch from Hall down roadside into Peel Forest Estate property.



BLANDSWOOD

- ⇒ Keep it the same.
- ⇒ Grass verges.
- ⇒ Slow down mechanism/speed control at junction of Brake Rd.

trunks of trees
minimum 2m
back from
edge of seal.



Brake Rd

junction of Brake
& Blandswood Rds
on the edge of the
forest with the
Kowhai Stream down
below the terrace
suggests a 'soft'---

planted threshold
option. River stones
not so appropriate
up at this level,
removed from
river system.

Blandswood Rd



note: private
property/fencelines
not shown. Possibilities
of planting into
private land/fencing
to be detailed further.

NEW STRUCTURES

- ⇒ Encourage emphasis on special unique style of buildings for the area
- ⇒ Maintain look of village with low buildings
- ⇒ Preservation and promotion of heritage.
- ⇒ No cellular aerials/towers.

ROADING

- ⇒ Announcement of entry to village.
- ⇒ Speed control.


- ⇒ Safe slow area through Blandswood Hill/Road.
- ⇒ A public Lookout in the Blandswood area. A "change down" sign at bottom of existing lookout road.
- ⇒ Improved water supply for Blandswood.
- ⇒ 'Free' removal of stone and shingle from Kowhai Stream around ford and beyond - Regional Council to pursue.
- ⇒ Explore potential for Kowhai Stream floods to be contained so no longer a threat to native bush, homes and property. A safe area protected by proper flood protection. [refer later Blandswood section appended]



SAMPLE VISIONS

A Vision for 20 years

- ⇒ *"Resource Plan consulted on and effective in maintaining the identified values"*
- ⇒ *"Eco-Enviro Ed Centre - established centre for outdoor education but also for Env & Eco Studies - could become a unique centre in SH"*
- ⇒ *"Maintain look of village - low buildings, well-treed, (careful location of silage / used silage wrappers responsibly handled"*
- ⇒ *"Expansion of the OPC/Education"*
- ⇒ *"Cottage Industry"*
- ⇒ *"Arts/Crafts/B&B/Timeout Therapy/Day courses at Peel Forest school buildings"*
- ⇒ *"Maintain family values"*
- ⇒ *"Local involvement - rafting, horse trekking"*



Another Group's 20 year Vision:

- ⇒ *"To not have changed too much"*
- ⇒ *"Peel Forest fireman/caretaker?"*
- ⇒ *"The school as a community centre, or education centre which maintains the heritage and culture here in Peel Forest"*
- ⇒ *"To see that Peel Forest has avoided change commercialisation and development that is rife in the rest of the world"*
- ⇒ *"Preservation/Promotion of heritage"*
- ⇒ *Opportunity to use Peel Forest School as an Eco. Education centre"*
- ⇒ *"Mesopotamia school - supported when being used by Tourism"*



6. INFRASTRUCTURE

Note infrastructure & services for the Peel Forest area (Coopers Creek to Mesopotamia) existing (adequate?) and realistically achieved in 10 years.

HALL

- ⇒ Painting, colour, landscaping, landuse, toilets.
- ⇒ Functional picnic area
- ⇒ "Landscaping", play area, barbecue
- ⇒ Hall management group to deal with issues.
- ⇒ Define role of the Residents Association

SCHOOL

- ⇒ Establish management committee for campus resource.
- ⇒ With local input, get buildings purchased.
- ⇒ Potential to be a satellite school for environmental education for Geraldine Primary School.
- ⇒ Education Centre for eco-education for schools.
- ⇒ Potential Outdoor Pursuits Centre.
- ⇒ Potential eco/educational/environmental specialist camp for all primary children.
- ⇒ Potential Information Centre location too.
- ⇒ Art/craft opportunities.
- ⇒ Re-open swimming pool.
(rent out keys)
- ⇒ Continue this facility

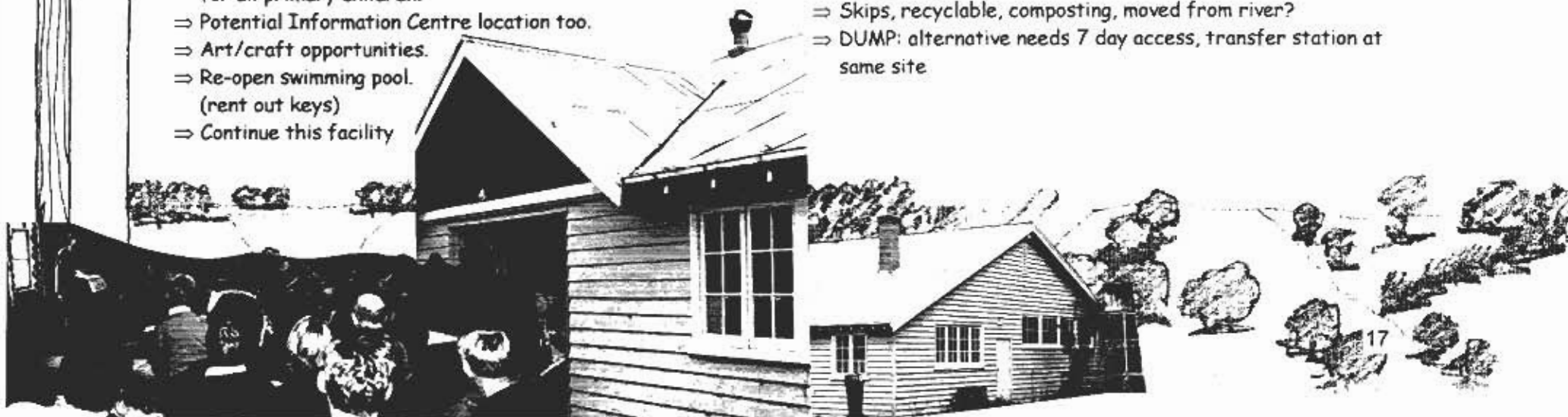


INFORMATION CENTRE

- ⇒ Information Centre reinstated.
- ⇒ Village community is keen to use the former DOC HQ facility for the purpose it was intended, ie. for information. It needs continuing support (currently leased out, but a great asset).
- ⇒ There needs to be a centre in some form, either at old DOC HQ or at school.
- ⇒ Organise voluntary labour to open.
- ⇒ Include local history information. Museum.
- ⇒ Also use Centre for Civil Defence, activities, rafting, etc.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- ⇒ Rubbish Dump: unsustainable / inadequate to 2000
- ⇒ Aiming for a Transfer Station logical conclusion using skips, make it a local dump only
- ⇒ Clothing/Recycling Bin: in Peel Forest possibly wooden
- ⇒ Rubbish Dump: Better maintenance, needs big tidy up
- ⇒ Programmed Improvement
- ⇒ Skips, recyclable, composting, moved from river?
- ⇒ DUMP: alternative needs 7 day access, transfer station at same site



EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRE STATION

- ⇒ The Station must be retained and needs invigorating. A need for more volunteers
- ⇒ TDC established new system.
- ⇒ Reinstate voluntary fire brigade?

MOUNTAIN SEARCH & RESCUE

- ⇒ Establish an Intentions Book
- ⇒ Coordinated effort needed.
- ⇒ Better promotion, activities.

CIVIL DEFENCE

- ⇒ Inadequate
- ⇒ Needs re-vamping

TOILET FACILITIES

- ⇒ Public toilets in Village urgently needed.
- ⇒ Toilet at Information Centre needs better signs. But who cleans? Who pays?
- ⇒ Consider locating adjacent to Hall - but building, sewerage and cleaning all required.
- ⇒ Shop prepared to permanently provide fitted-out building, 24-hour public access, and cleaning. Suggest TDC provide for sewage.
- ⇒ Blandswood adequate with two public toilets.
- ⇒ No public toilets in the Gorge.



SHOP

- ⇒ Obtain licence to serve alcohol as a small sideline within a 'dining' setting
- ⇒ Prepared to provide public toilets.
- ⇒ Community support essential to ensure shop survives.

COMMUNICATIONS

MAIL SERVICE

- ⇒ Rural mail service maintained

TELEPHONE LINES

- ⇒ Improve existing line up Gorge.
- ⇒ Poles potentially removed from Mt Peel flats to prevent problems with electric fence interference for Gorge residents and reduce landscape effects.
- ⇒ Camp Ground provides 24 hour, all year public phone.
- ⇒ 24 hour public phone sought for Village - but unlikely unless installed and maintained by community.
- ⇒ Shop provides public phone for their considerable business hours

ROADING

- ⇒ ROAD ISSUES: Extend sealing
- ⇒ Will have increase in heavy logging traffic
- ⇒ Bridge over Kowhai Stream (not feasible probably!)
- ⇒ Preserve Speargrass tall tussock native roadside vegetation from Waikari Hills to White Rock.
- ⇒ Establish more roadside planting and contour planting
- ⇒ Ongoing maintenance - in the hands of the Council/Gorge/Blandswood (Bridge, Flood) should be improved - investigate flooding funding.

INFRASTRUCTURE cont'

- ⇒ KOWHAI STREAM: access to West Bank residents - Bridge, by maintained ford
- ⇒ ROAD LIGHTING: needs light at top of Lookout Rd NB: poor services relative to rate take.
- ⇒ SPEED LIMIT: lower for Blandswood, Village, use effective methods

ACCESS

- ⇒ Adequate roading network maintained - in view of new proposed funding structure
- ⇒ PUBLIC ACCESS TO RANGITATA RIVER: Controlled designated access to river with appropriate signs at Gorge
- ⇒ Address inadequate bridge over Forest Creek
- ⇒ WALKS: maintained.
- ⇒ Dennistoun Bush tracks/access maintained

POWER

- ⇒ Need better notification for power cuts to Peel Forest
- ⇒ Underground wiring installed to Blandswood

WATER SUPPLY

- ⇒ Need real information and feasibility study for a water supply scheme for Peel Forest village and Blandswood.

- ⇒ Water supply for Village and Blandswood revamped, to provide an adequate supply, not contaminated.
- ⇒ Improved quantity and quality for both areas
- ⇒ Improve water quality, possibly via a bore or submersible pump
- ⇒ Improve water availability for fire fighting

PEST & WEED CONTROL

- ⇒ Inadequate control within bush: possums, old man's beard
- ⇒ Address redistribution of noxious weeds through road fill, gravel.
- ⇒ Weed priorities were identified by one group - weed list appended.

SERVICES:

- ⇒ Tennis courts maintained.
- ⇒ Memorials maintained.
- ⇒ Notable native and exotic trees preserved.
- ⇒ Promotion: better promotion of outdoor events (Mountathlon, Bike Race)



7. BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

In each land type or settlement, what built change is appropriate/inappropriate?
The groups' responses have been combined and developed.

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

In general:

- ⇒ 8 m maximum height of structures.
- ⇒ Materials, structures and colour sensitive to surrounds.
In particular, natural materials such as timber, river stone and local stone.
- ⇒ Appropriate introduced material, eg. corrugated steel, painted or pre-coloured.
- ⇒ Traditional rural and bach building styles.
- ⇒ Dairy conversion - sympathy with tourist route. Sheds painted in sympathy with the environment.
- ⇒ Landscape guidelines for future development including colour, height, building materials, planting e.g. D. Lucas "Landscape Guidelines for Rural South Canterbury" - colour range (attached and added to) preferred to that in District Plan.
- ⇒ Seek that Timaru District Council better publicise the guidelines already in the District Plan.
- ⇒ Establish a liaison group for consideration of appropriate built environment and controls - community driven.

⇒ ENSURE REQUIREMENTS NOT EXCLUSIVE, AS INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES NEED CONSIDERATION - ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS AND PERSONAL PREFERENCES.

INAPPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES IN ALL LAND TYPES:

- ⇒ Wind farms
- ⇒ High density - inadequate space around buildings
- ⇒ High rise building - greater than 8m or 2 storey
- ⇒ Large white concrete structures
- ⇒ Poor garage positioning.
- ⇒ Commercial style motels - with neon type signs, etc.
- ⇒ Large canopied petrol outlets

From workshop discussion and relationship to each land type in the area, and considering what is provided for in the Proposed District Plan, a guide to new buildings considered appropriate or not has been developed for each of these types of country.



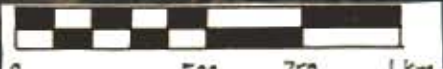
RANGITIKA RIVER

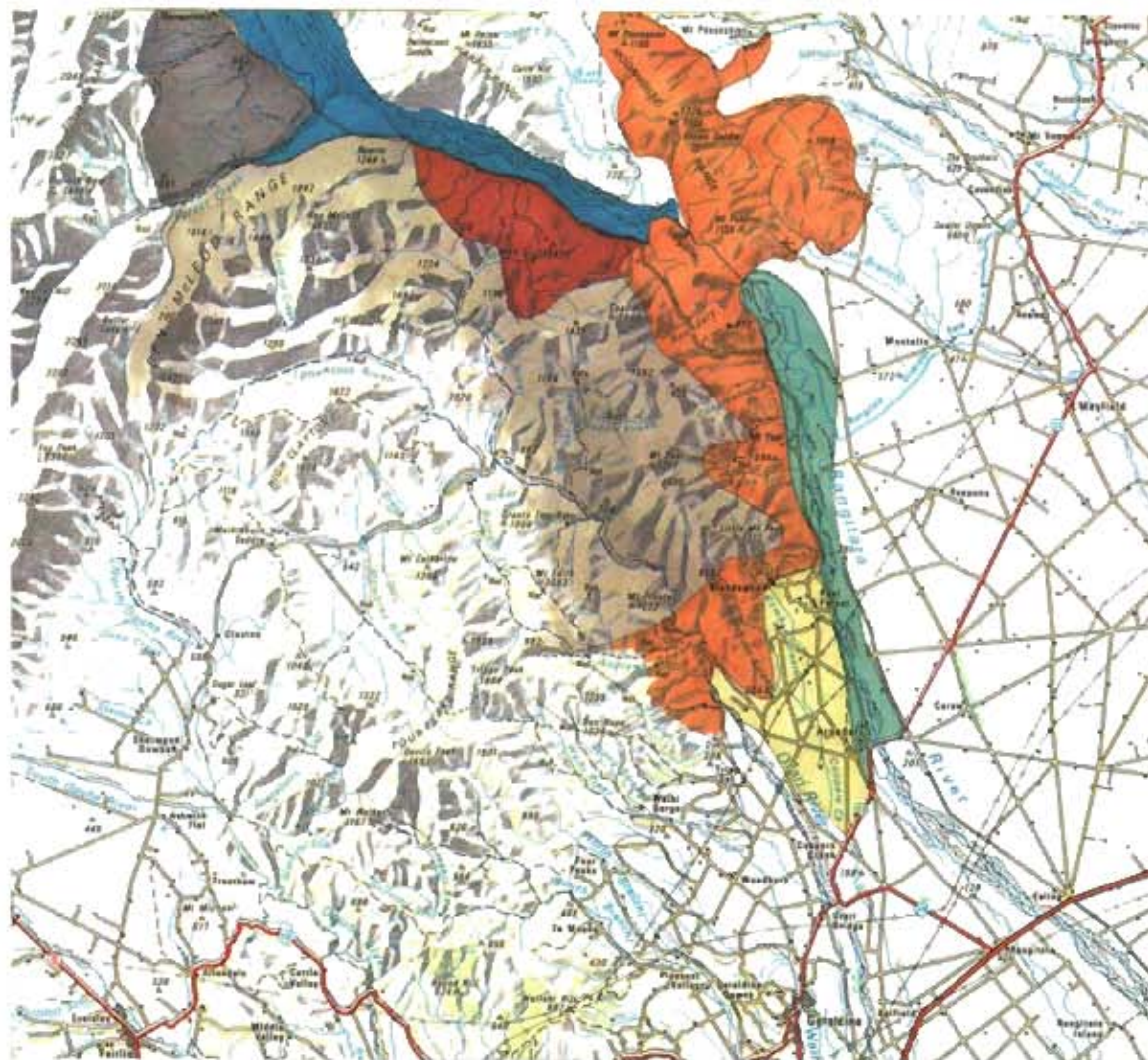
BLANDSWOOD

KOWHAI STREAM

PEEL FOREST VILLAGE

PEEL FOREST AREA





KEY

High Country

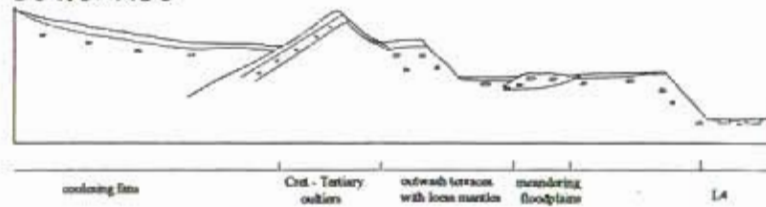
- Riverbed (H1)
- Flats (H5)
- Volcanic Hills (H16)
- Range (H10)

Lowlands

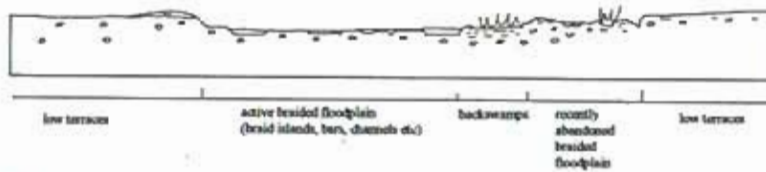
- Riverbed (L4)
- Flats (L3)
- Hard Hills (L22)

LAND TYPES

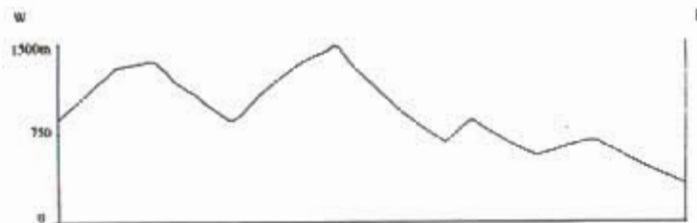
LOWLANDS



L3 UPPER PLAINS LAND TYPE

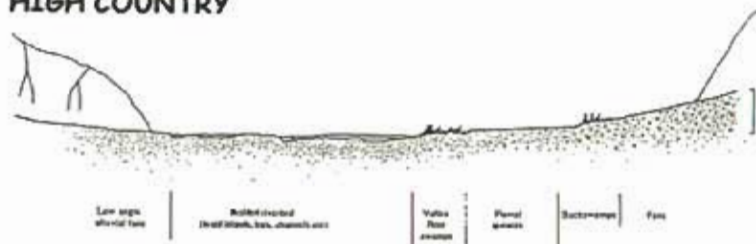


L4 PLAINS - RECENT FLOODPLAINS AND LOW TERRACES LAND TYPE

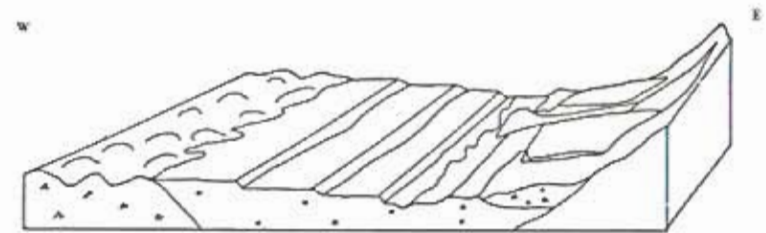


L22 SOUTHERN HARD ROCK HILLS AND MOUNTAIN LAND TYPE

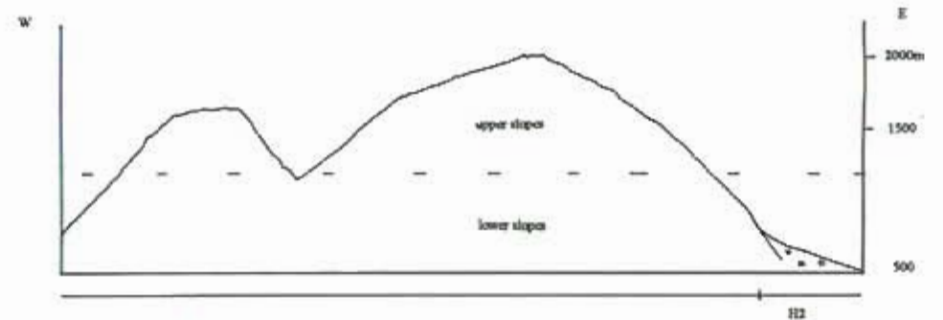
HIGH COUNTRY



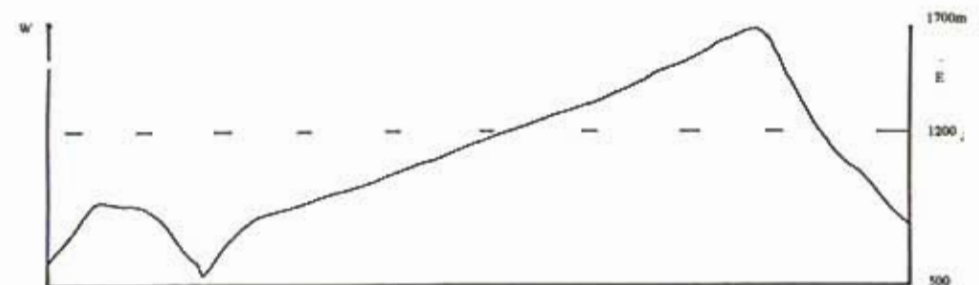
H1 MAJOR RIVER, VALLEY FILL LAND TYPE



H3 GLACIAL AND FLUVIAL BASIN FLOOR LAND TYPE



H10 SOUTHERN EASTERN FRONT RANGE LAND TYPE



H16 IGNEOUS MOUNTAIN RANGE LAND TYPE

LOWLANDS

FLATS (*regional land type L3*)

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

Appropriate buildings are:

- ⇒ Well setback
- ⇒ Low density
- ⇒ Of environmentally sympathetic materials and colours.
- ⇒ Low rise and rural in character
- ⇒ Single or clusters of small buildings rather than any large, bulky building.
- ⇒ Spaciousness retained by adequate setback from roads
 - minimum of 30 m. in rural zones, 10 m. in settlements, to maintain character of area (eg village vs. rural)
- ⇒ Side yards to ensure low density rural character - minimum of 20 m. in rural zones, 5m. in settlements.
- ⇒ Barns/Farm Sheds/Deer Sheds/Dairy Sheds/Pig Farms well set back, well-screened or visually softened by vegetation: trees located so buildings don't dominate landscape.
- ⇒ Rural lowlands require common sense (re. landscape impacts) - present codes appropriate.
- ⇒ Low key chalets and small cabins, tucked into vegetation.
- ⇒ Guesthouses/farmstay/hotels/motels that are small, low key, with natural materials, colours and landscape development.
- ⇒ Signs, ensure sympathetic small size, natural materials and colours. (Not bright, light, flashy or large.)
- ⇒ Colours - not necessarily all "natural", some appropriate "cultural imprints" - e.g. barn red.
- ⇒ Appropriate Hall colours are natural earthy colours, green, olives. e.g. charcoal/dark green roof, ochre related wall colours.
- ⇒ Consider the distinctive red & white as a unique signature of Peel Forest Estate.
- ⇒ Open wire fencing is appropriate in rural and settlements.
- ⇒ Ensure unobtrusive fence-lines, with unpainted timber posts, not painted white.
- ⇒ River stone walling appropriate for low, solid barriers.
- ⇒ For taller barriers, use live hedging. Avoid high free-standing walls and paling fences as inappropriate to rural character.
- ⇒ All structures, including toilets, designed sympathetically.

LOWLANDS

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES CONT.:

- ⇒ Children's play area incorporated with picnic area (south end of hall) of natural materials, not bright plastic.
- ⇒ VILLAGES - need a "village character" encouraged for ALL buildings.
- ⇒ Landscape plan should be part of building consent, as appropriate planting is an important part of village character.
- ⇒ Spacious through adequate building setback and separation.
- ⇒ Structure to be in keeping with character eg. NO plaster monsters, tinted windows, towers, etc.
- ⇒ That is, appropriate low key building forms, traditional and natural materials, not light, bright or shiny.
- ⇒ Limited building adjacent to existing buildings, and of sensitive and unobtrusive form, scale, materials and finish.
- ⇒ Unobtrusively sited satellite dishes and masts - ensure not visible beyond the site, and no potential to become visible.
- ⇒ Certain signs with community approval.
- ⇒ Limited subdivision in keeping with the village in layout, scale and spaciousness, with sympathetic building and plantings.

⇒ GUIDELINES NEEDED as well as performance standards and rules.

INAPPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

FLATS (*regional land type L3*)

- ⇒ Further development on left-hand side of road through Peel Forest.
- ⇒ Obtrusive finishes, such as highly reflective structures, particularly where very obvious (eg. sleep-out on property adjacent to information centre).
- ⇒ Plaster monsters, tinted windows, towers, etc.
- ⇒ Large buildings within park buffer area and Rural 3 zone.
- ⇒ Large-scale commercial development.
- ⇒ Commercial multi-storey.
- ⇒ Industrial buildings.
- ⇒ Communications facilities - towers and masts - visible beyond the site.
- ⇒ Motor sport facilities.
- ⇒ Further development of Blandswood on north side of creek.

RIVERBED FLATS *(regional land type L4)*

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

- ⇒ Buildings associated with agricultural activities (Mt Peel flats).
- ⇒ On river lands, no buildings are likely.

INAPPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

- ⇒ Any buildings - no buildings likely except on Mt Peel flats.
- ⇒ Boating sheds or complexes
- ⇒ Hydro buildings
- ⇒ Aquaculture complexes on a large scale.

HARD HILLS *(regional land type L22)*

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

- ⇒ Homesteads
- ⇒ Hunting Lodge
- ⇒ Public toilet up the Gorge - Coal Hill?
- ⇒ Buildings that retain visual integrity.
- ⇒ Buildings located within folds of the hills.
- ⇒ Roading located within folds of the hills.
- ⇒ Building scale, form, materials, colours that "snuggle in" to hills. Having controls and guidelines is necessary.
- ⇒ Location on lower slopes only - no structures on upper slopes, ridge-lines, skylines or crests.
- ⇒ Restrictions on clearing indigenous vegetation.

INAPPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

- ⇒ Hotels and motels.

HIGH COUNTRY

RIVERBED & FLATS *(regional land types H1 & H3)*

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

- ⇒ as per the controls for Rural 1 (R1, Timaru Dist. Plan).

HILLS & RANGES *(regional land types H10 & H16)*

APPROPRIATE BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES:

- ⇒ On hill slopes, character buildings only e.g. musterers' huts.



8. VEGETATION

The Peel Forest area from Coopers Creek to Mesopotamia was divided into the various lowland and high country land types (refer map).

Define appropriate vegetation change in each land type or settlement, whether exotic or native, planted or voluntary.

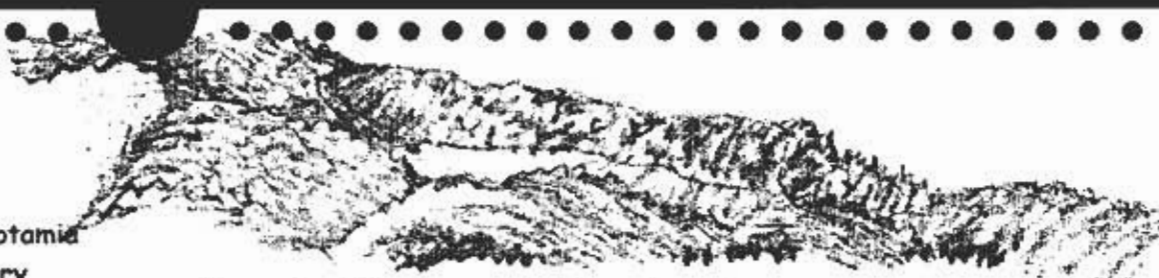
The very different landscape character of higher and lower country was recognised by participants. The hills and upper Rangitata being more wild, open and un-treed. The lower areas being more cultivated, treed and of more intimate scale, but overwhelmingly rural and substantial - not fussy and garden-style. The groups comments are combined:

HIGH COUNTRY

(above gorge - refer map)

RIVERBED (regional land type H1)

- ⇒ Maintain open nature.
- ⇒ Retain natural feature of riverbed - remove noxious and invasive plants.
- ⇒ Lupins not appropriate - prevent their colonisation.

- 
- ⇒ Prevent wilding tree establishment - and remove.
 - ⇒ Remove broom, gorse and other shrub-weeds.
 - ⇒ Ensure vigilance in maintaining clear (upper) Rangitata River plain.
 - ⇒ Conserve native remnants, wetlands, shrublands, etc. and encourage natural regeneration.
 - ⇒ Plantings for river protection, amenity, shelter, etc. located and designed to ensure grand, open and wild landscape character retained.

encourage natural regeneration
& conservation of remnants

HIGH COUNTRY FLATS (regional land type H3)

- ⇒ Encourage natural regeneration and conservation of remnants - wetlands, shrublands, stone-fields, etc. and plantings - shelter belts, etc.
- ⇒ Carefully consider vistas and open landscape - wilding spread must be controlled.
- ⇒ Group planting located and designed for:
 1. Maintaining views
 2. Aesthetically pleasing
 3. Good tree health
- ⇒ Forestry? - what is appropriate, & where? Care needed.
- ⇒ If in doubt, don't plant!



group planting to maintain
vistas / aesthetically pleasing

VOLCANIC HILLS (regional land type H16)

- ⇒ Maintain present vegetation as the first priority.
- ⇒ Encourage natural regeneration of existing species.
- ⇒ Recognise that top dressing encourages all plants - care needed to address appropriate long-term vegetation.
- ⇒ Use of pastoral improvement OK goal to maintain tussock and shrublands. Over-sowing tussock is a livelihood issue.
- ⇒ Care to not spoil the raw, windswept, majestic high country landscape and vistas with poorly designed woodlots and shelterbelts.
- ⇒ Acknowledge trend towards forestry in this land type - acceptable on lower slopes provided the plantings are sympathetic with landform pattern, not across prominent slopes, and are well-managed to stop wilding spread.
- ⇒ Woodlot location and design, ensure:
"Area" or scale of planting is not as important, as location, pattern, and management. Irregular boundaries related to landform pattern.
- ⇒ Shelterbelts of mixed species related to landform pattern - avoid lines encroaching on prominent slopes.



Don't spoil majestic high country with poorly designed woodlots and shelterbelts.



Avoid stark geometric patterns & contrasts.

HIGH COUNTRY RANGE (regional land type H10)

- ⇒ Maintain present vegetation.
- ⇒ Encourage natural regeneration of existing species.
- ⇒ Encourage good vegetation management.
- ⇒ Pastoral use and improvement inputs acceptable for management seeking to maintain tussock and shrublands.
- ⇒ Forestry? - What is appropriate? And where?
- ⇒ Require sympathetic plantings for forestry, shelter and soil conservation - avoiding prominent slopes; following landform patterns and contours; avoiding stark visual contrasts and geometric patterns.
- ⇒ Consider and prevent potential adverse effects on the grand, natural, panoramic landscape of the Upper Rangitata valley that is largely non-treed country.
- ⇒ Strict control and management to prevent invasive species overtaking the natural character.
- ⇒ Wilding spread must be prevented and controlled.



Mix species in shelterbelts & relate to landform pattern

LOWLANDS

(Gorge and below - refer map)

RIVERBEDS (regional land type L4)

- ⇒ Weeds are a constant concern of Canterbury Regional Council.
- ⇒ Manage willows. Balance, cultural imprint vs. potential invasive and maintenance problem.
- ⇒ Riverbank & margins, where practical, manage to encourage establishment of native species. Develop native corridors from sea to highlands.
- ⇒ Small limited amounts of planting at landowners' expense where required/appropriate for erosion control.
- ⇒ Consider forestry for river control and weed control.

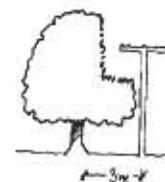
FLATS (regional land type L3)

- ⇒ Common sense and present District Plan methods.
- ⇒ In general, any trees are good trees.
- ⇒ Continuance of existing shelter belts, avoiding excessive shading of road.
- ⇒ Continuance of "Roadside Pride" plantings.
- ⇒ Conservation of notable old trees, map and display locally - label some.

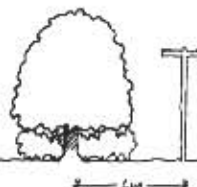


where practical, manage riverbanks & margins with native species

- ⇒ Encourage landowners to plant and replace - in keeping with local aesthetic value.
- ⇒ Encourage protection & nurturing of native areas.
- ⇒ Encourage fencing off of whole areas of remnant native trees, rather than protection of individual trees and small groups. Individual protection is short term with no regeneration possible. Allow or help under-storey to quickly re-establish from prolific local seed sources.
- ⇒ Encourage shelter belt planting on flat areas for future protection.
- ⇒ Ecological and landscape considerations for consent for proposals for any large area to be planted in commercial tree blocks.



Keep plantings far enough away from power lines so that treatment is required

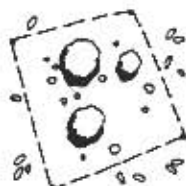


Minimum of 6 metres to allow unimpeded spread of tree's crown. Underplanting will prevent weed growth & costly maintenance.

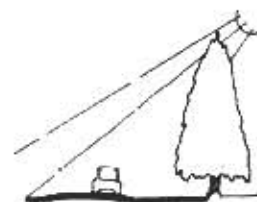
HARD HILLS (regional land type L22)

Conservation:

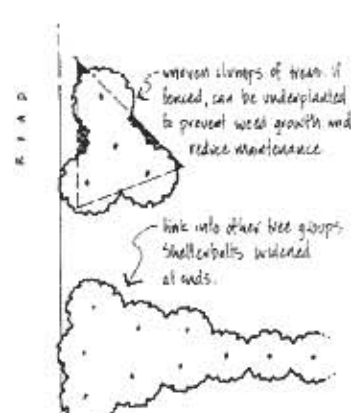
- ⇒ Encourage protection & nurturing of native areas. Encourage fencing off of whole native groves rather than short term protection of individual trees or small groups.
- ⇒ Protection of native boundaries, thus encouraging regeneration or increasing areas of native bush.
- ⇒ Encourage private protection of remnant areas of native bush.



fence off whole areas of native remnants, not just individual trees.



If planting avenues, use trees with rounded forms. Plant at 6m or more spacings



uneven clumps of trees, if fenced, can be underplanted to prevent weed growth and reduce maintenance

link into other tree groups. Shelterbelts widened at ends.



where appropriate, allow
bush recovery through
tussock...

- ⇒ Keeping stock (and browsing pests) out of native remnants and recovering shrubland, will be of greatest benefit to achieving native forest health.
- ⇒ Maintain a diverse age range in native areas - old trees, mid-age trees to young trees.
- ⇒ Tussock is a secondary vegetation (originally native forest). Where appropriate, allow native forest recovery.
- ⇒ Destocking Kowhai Stream riparian areas and above is important to help reduce flooding of Blandswood and Dennistoun Bush.
- ⇒ Careful management required next to Park.
- ⇒ Protection of roadside indigenous vegetation (tall tussock, etc.), e.g. Rangitata Gorge road over these hard hills.
- ⇒ Sympathetic planting to areas where development has taken place i.e. Boundary Creek road changes.

Planting:

- ⇒ Correct placing and management of plantings to control potential off-site impacts.
- ⇒ Forestry OK - but consideration of landscape integrity, vistas, wilding potential, logging effects, also applies.
- ⇒ Recognise the balance with other land-uses (pastoral, conservation), visually and physically.
- ⇒ Ensure planting patterns are sympathetic to land form shapes, patterns and scale - use contour planting, avoid straight edges.



Keep potentially
dominating plantings
off ridge-lines and
prominent faces.

- ⇒ Acknowledge trend towards forestry in part L22 land types. Acceptable on lower slopes provided the plantings are sympathetic with landform pattern., are well-managed to stop spreading wild.
- ⇒ Keep potentially dominating plantings off ridge-lines and prominent faces.
- ⇒ Avoid potentially invasive species - through species selection and careful management, consideration of relation to wind patterns and bush.
- ⇒ Consider other than *Pinus* spp.
- ⇒ Where tracks are in poor condition impacts on forest are felt eg. walking around mud, etc.
- ⇒ Woodlots appropriate: Need management plan.
- ⇒ Assess practicalities of maintaining productivity of land as pasture OR convert to exotic or native forest.
- ⇒ Areas where weed control is a problem and hill-face land lends itself should be allowed to be planted in plantations - avoiding trees that become pests. Or, if forestry has significant potential adverse effects, consider regeneration to native forest.

Regeneration:

- ⇒ Where appropriate, encourage land to revert to indigenous vegetation as a result of de-stocking and allowing gorse/broom to act as a nurse crop to native forest development.

- ⇒ Information on indigenous recovery through scrub-weeds available from CRC. Display at Information Centre, and, establish local demonstration areas.

PEEL FOREST VILLAGE

- ⇒ "English Tree" tradition needs recognition. Recognise preference for northern hemisphere exotics to maintain English setting (as opposed to Australian hardwoods - eucalypts, etc.) as well as local natives.
- ⇒ Village is a transition area exotic/native so planting should reflect that (appropriate mixing).
- ⇒ Protect trees in paddock from stock.
- ⇒ Clump landscape plantings around the Village, with trees of mixed variety on roadside to create drive into the village area.
- ⇒ Recognise the value of open spaces and vistas as well as the groves, groups trees.
- ⇒ Roadside:
 - ⇒ Use planting to control traffic speed.
 - ⇒ Continue "Roadside Pride" programme.
 - ⇒ Maintain Mt. Peel vista from road and houses.

- ⇒ Encourage "tasteful landscaping" through guidelines.
- ⇒ Protect existing natives and (non-spreading) exotics.
- ⇒ Develop a landscape plan for the Hall, including waterway outside hall into Peel Forest Estate paddock.
- ⇒ Conserve and enhance local aesthetic values with appropriate trees. Encourage bach owners, councils, builders and new house builders with landscape guidelines for plantings.

SOUTHERN ENTRY TO PEEL FOREST VILLAGE

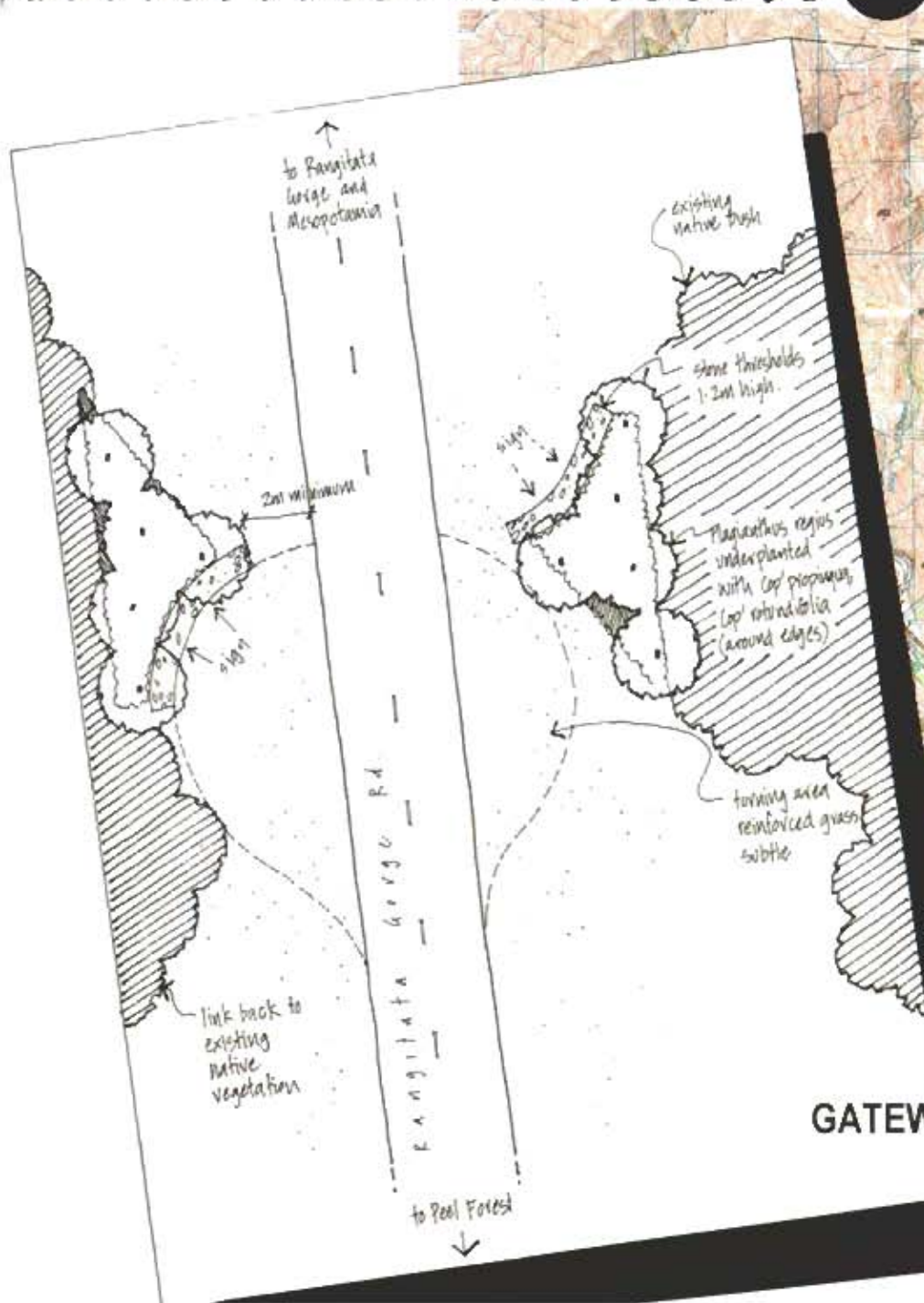


approach to Peel Forest. These street frontages either side of road 'unwind' in long, thin strips extending around the 'bath' (existing) provide visual road narrowing 'pinch point'. It also helps to slow traffic down & 'unwind' children, signs at Peel Forest School to provide motorists with up to date

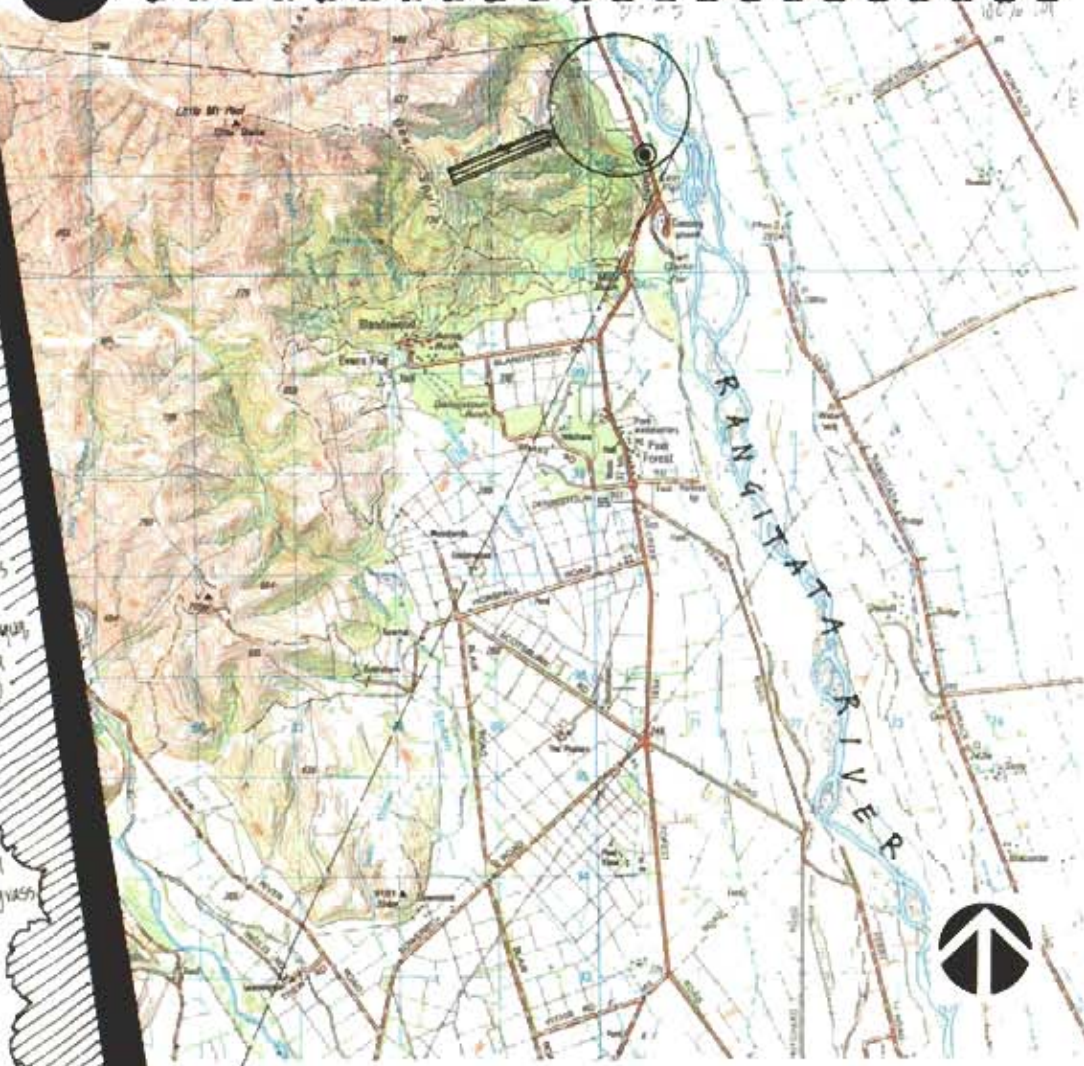


create 'gateways' / 'pinch points' to slow traffic down using large scale planting.





GATEWAY TO THE RANGITATA GORGE & MESOPOTAMIA



BLANDSWOOD

- ⇒ Native domination should stay, within reason.
- ⇒ Establish a community supply of eco-sourced native plants.
Re-establish a local nursery, have contract grown or seek that Peel Forest stock be available from nearer South Canterbury native plant nurseries.
- ⇒ Provide guidelines on local native plant use.
- ⇒ Favour (non-invasive) exotics planted away from the Park.
- ⇒ Need somebody responsible for weed awareness and helping with removal.
- ⇒ Encourage awareness/education of plant threats, particularly of shade tolerant invasive exotics.
- ⇒ Exotic weeds are encroaching into the forest e.g. Old Man's Beard; *Cotoneaster*; Elderberry; Sycamore; Periwinkle, *Hypericum*, Whistlewood ??
- ⇒ Plant Pests controlled as National Surveillance plants include the shrubs and trees:

<i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>	barberry
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	buddleia
<i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i>	cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i>	cotoneaster
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn
etc.	

Care is needed to avoid planting such potential pests.

- ⇒ Ensure potentially invasive non-local natives not encouraged eg. foreign *Coprosma* spp. Nor red beech close to forest.
- ⇒ Guidelines indicating non-spreading exotics as Good Plants, otherwise use local natives only, to be safe.

See full list appended.



BARBERRY
Berberis glaucocarpa
Description: Evergreen, semi deciduous, spiny shrub to 7m tall.
Other names used: None known
Risk areas: Forest margins, scrub, secondary and planted forests, pasture, wasteland.



BUELLEIA
Buddleia davidii (not including hybrid)
Description: Deciduous shrub up to 4m high.
Other names used: Buddleia davidii, butterfly brush
Risk areas: Forest margins, river and streambanks, open areas, quarries, exotic forests.



COTONEASTER
Cotoneaster glaucophyllus, *C. franchetii*
Description: Spreading, evergreen shrub 1-4m high.
Other names used: None known
Risk areas: Low and disturbed forest, islands, forest margins and gaps, streambanks.



HAWTHORN
Crataegus monogyna
Description: Spiny, deciduous, small tree up to 10m high.
Other names used: Neapolitan medlar, whistlberry, white hawthorn.
Risk areas: Low and disturbed forest, forest margins, wasteland, pasture.

NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE Plant Pests

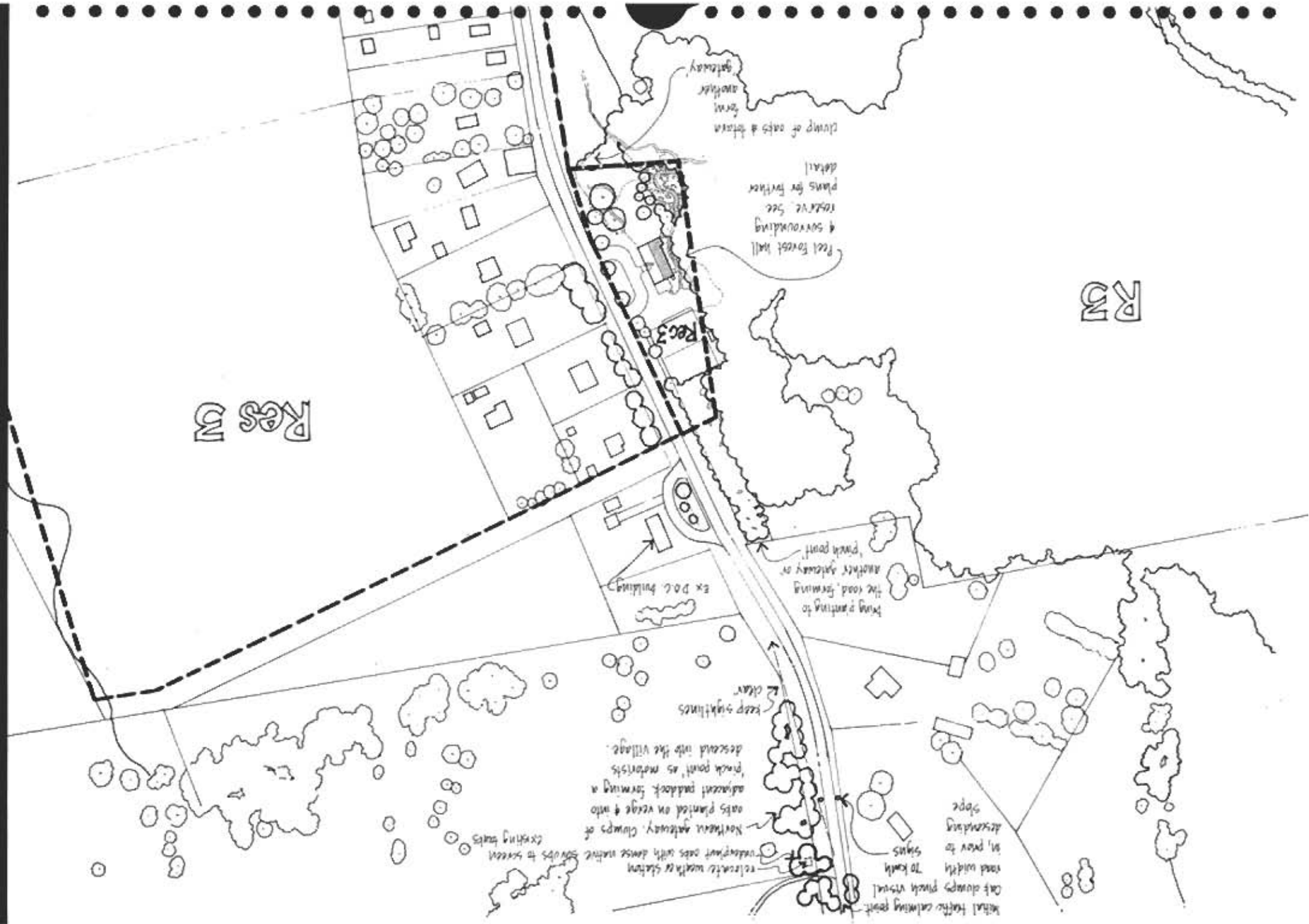


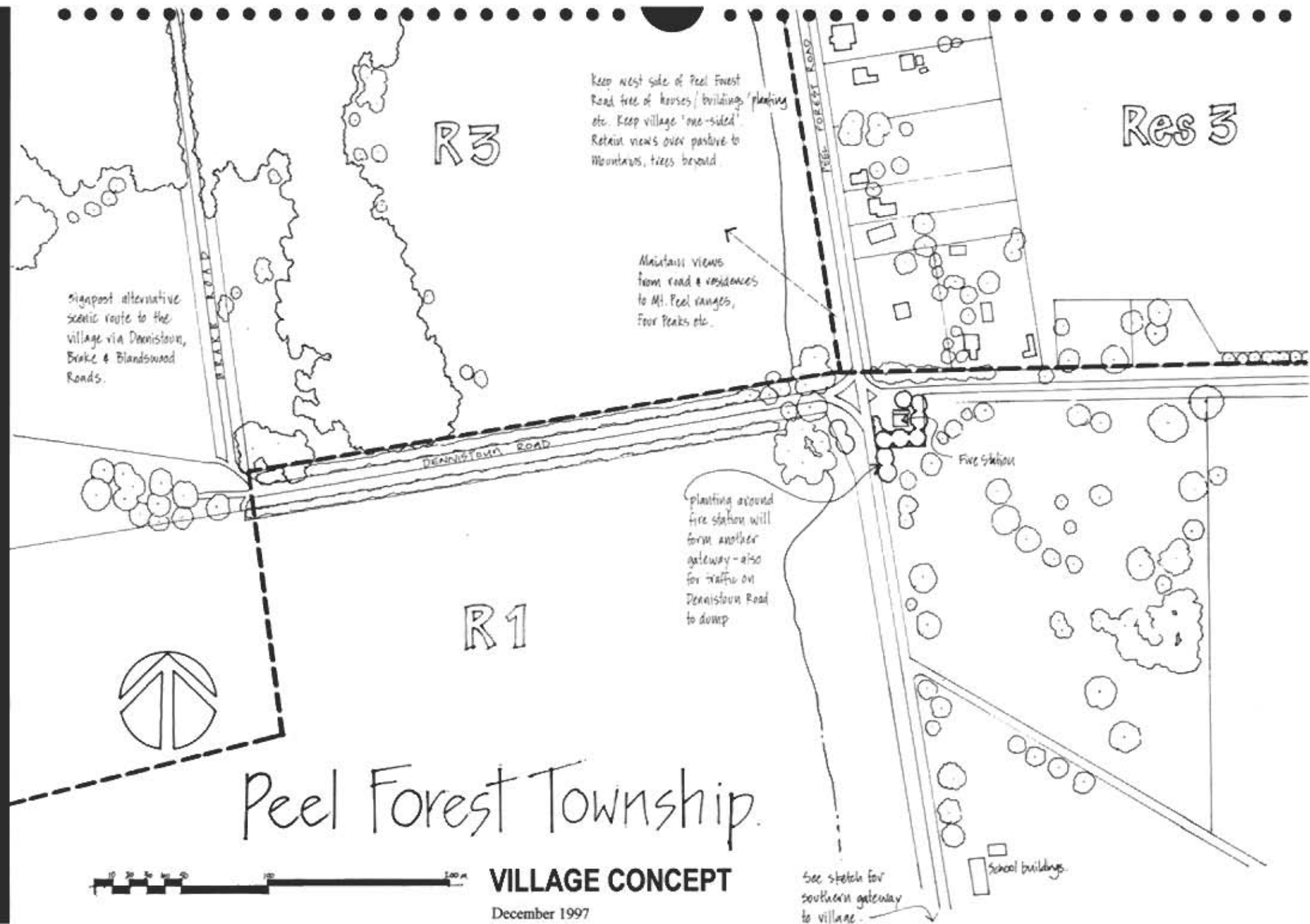
9. VILLAGE PROPOSALS

- ⇒ PEEL FOREST TOWNSHIP - VILLAGE CONCEPT
- ⇒ OVERALL CONCEPT - PEEL FOREST HALL RESERVE
- ⇒ PEEL FOREST HALL - COLOUR OPTIONS
- ⇒ DETAIL - PEEL FOREST HALL RESERVE
- ⇒ IDEAS FOR PEEL FOREST STORE
- ⇒ PEEL FOREST COLOUR PALETTE



THE PEEL FOREST PLAN







option 1
NB: darker wall colour will weather faster, require more maintenance...



roof, spouting



walls, window frames etc. doors



front doors



chimney, ventilators, bargeboards

option 2.



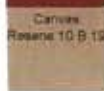
roof, spouting



walls



chimney, ventilators, front doors, bargeboards

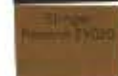


window frames etc. other doors.

option 3



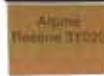
roof, spouting



walls



chimney, ventilators, front doors, bargeboards

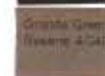


window frames etc. other doors.

Fire Station colours & screen planting



roof, spouting, bargeboards



gable end, door architraving etc.

to reduce stark appearance of building, plant up 1 metre strip against north west wall with *Hebe salicifolia*. Mulch with river stones, extending around base of entire building as a mowing strip. Put posts in corners of planting as protection when fire hoses are dragged around the building

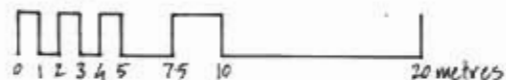
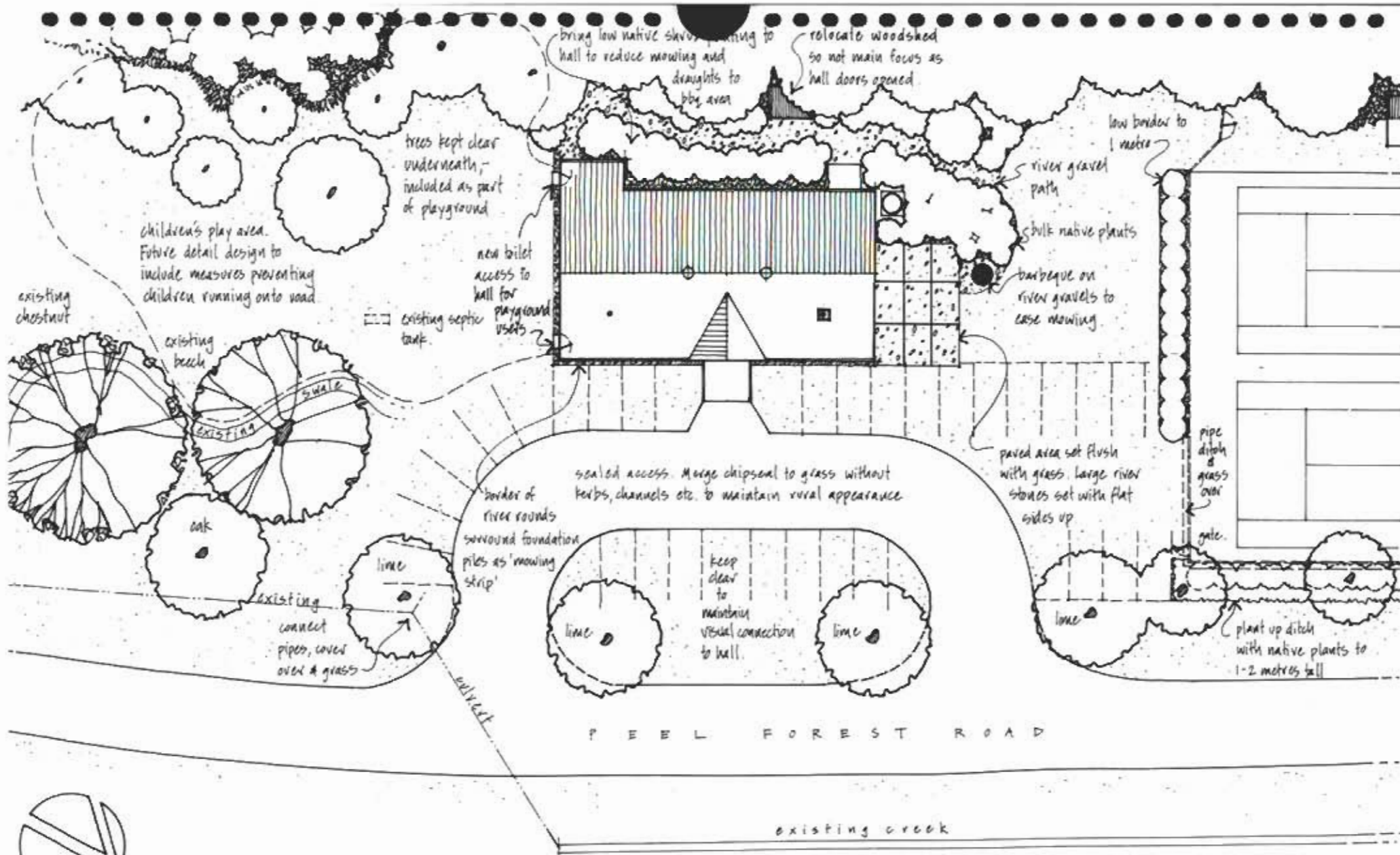


roof, spouting, chimneys, window frames, doors, ventilators, bargeboards



walls

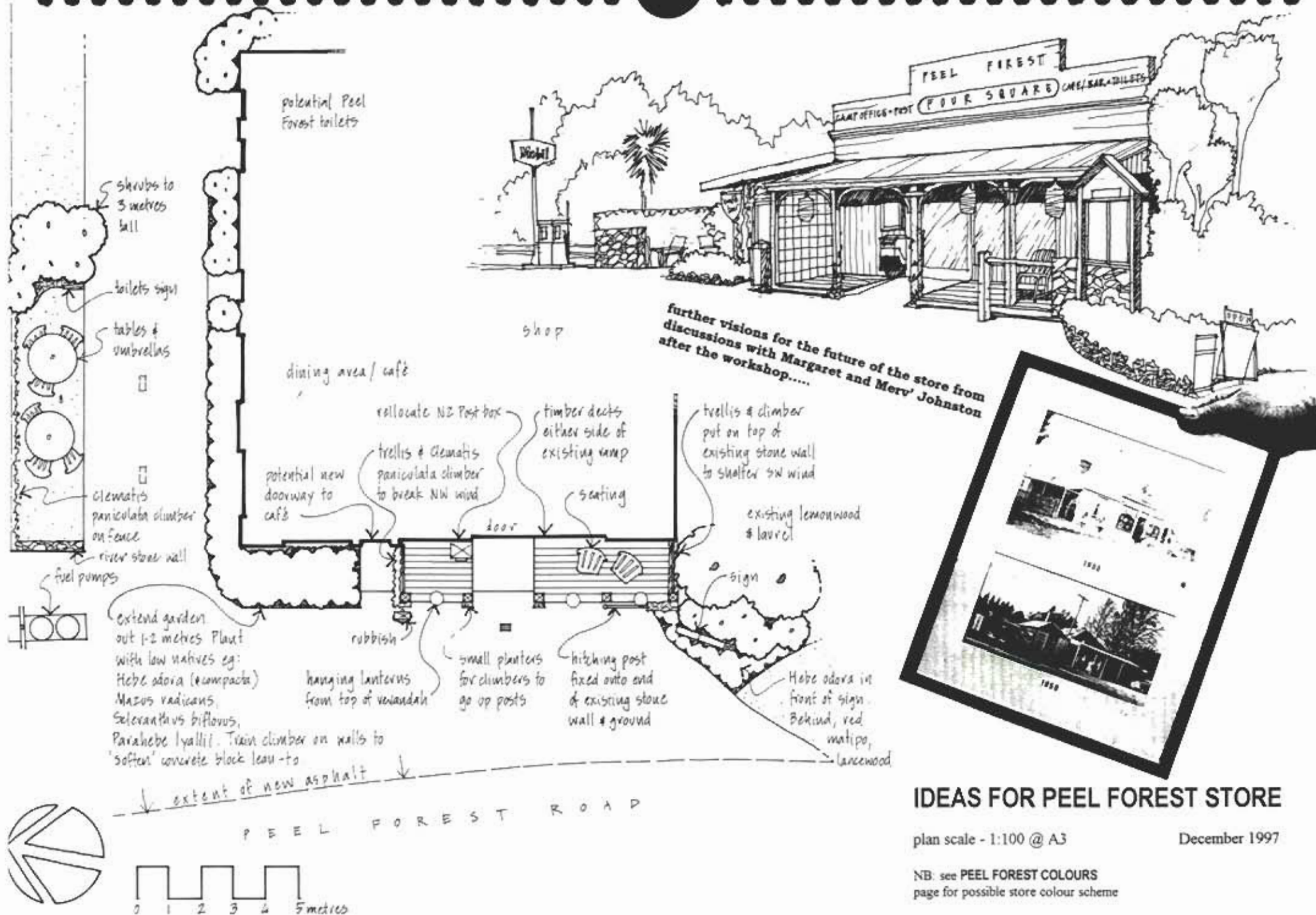
PEEL FOREST HALL COLOUR OPTIONS



DETAIL PEEL FOREST HALL RESERVE

scale 1:250 @ A3

December 1997



IDEAS FOR PEEL FOREST STORE

plan scale - 1:100 @ A3

December 1997

NB: see PEEL FOREST COLOURS
page for possible store colour scheme

SUGGESTED COLOURS FOR STRUCTURES

LIGHT-TONE LANDSCAPES					Tussock, rough pasture, stoney, dry, country.				
For roofs and trim –									
Lichen Brown Resene 12 B 25	Amber Resene 3-028	Dark Tan Resene 04 D 31	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Dark Resene 10 A 11					
For walls, small structures, tanks –									
Squirrel Resene 08 B 21	Canvas Resene 10 B 19	Grain Green Resene 10 B 21	Delta Resene 10 A 05	Teak Resene 3-043					
MID-TONE LANDSCAPES					Lush, pastoral Downlands, irrigated, cropping and horticultural Plains.				
For roofs, trim and large silos –									
Birch Resene 10 B 27	Tobacco Resene 06 B 27	Firebrick Resene 3-024	Dark Blue Resene 05 C 26	Chocolate Resene 19 B 27					
For walls, small structures, tanks, small silos –									
Pale Sky Resene 42 R 45	Clay Resene 3-033	Fair Grey Resene 9-096	Pine Cone Resene 02 B 23	Hot Curry Resene 06 C 17					
DARK-TONE LANDSCAPES					Bush-clad and forested country.				
For roofs and trim –									
Rampart Green Resene 12 B 25	Moire Resene 10 B 26	Cobalt Tan Resene 04 B 29	Havana Resene 04 B 28	Cinder Resene 10 B 25					
For walls, small structures, tanks –									
Dark Resene 10 B 26	Fire Resene 10 B 24	Amber Stone Resene 06 B 43	Ironstone Grey Resene 10 A 02	Dark Red Resene 3-028					

Colours from BS 5252 & BS 2660 ranges plus, Resene Total Colour System

SUGGESTED COLOURS FOR STRUCTURES

LIGHT-TONE LANDSCAPES					Tussock, rough pasture, stoney, dry, country.				
For roofs and trim –									
Medusa Resene 10 C 39	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25		Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Graphite Resene 4-051					
For walls, small structures, tanks –									
Bandicoot Resene 03 D 10	Canary Resene 3-038	Blue Smoke Resene 7-078	Alpine Resene 3Y 020	Ironstone Resene 10 A 02					
MID-TONE LANDSCAPES					Lush, pastoral Downlands, irrigated, cropping and horticultural Plains.				
For roofs, trim and large silos –									
Marigold Resene 7-068	Woodstock Resene 10 B 19	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25					
For walls, small structures, tanks, small silos –									
Blue Sky Resene 42 R 45	Clay Resene 3-033	Fair Grey Resene 9-096	Pine Cone Resene 02 B 23	Hot Curry Resene 06 C 17					
DARK-TONE LANDSCAPES					Bush-clad and forested country.				
For roofs and trim –									
Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25		Graphite Resene 4-051							
For walls, small structures, tanks –									
Woodstock Resene 10 B 19	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25	Dark Taupe Resene 05 C 25					

10. PARTICIPANTS

Day 1 - Sunday

John Acland, Mount Peel
 Johnny Acland, Mount Peel
 Rosemary (Ro) Acland, Mount Peel
 Rosemary (Rose) Acland, Mount Peel
 Bruce Allan, Wattie Bush, Peel Forest
 Rosa Allan, Wattie Bush, Peel Forest
 Donald Aubrey, Rangitata Gorge
 Mark Bang, Timaru District Council
 Joy Boyd, Christchurch
 Brent Bruce, Blandwood & Christchurch
 Judith Bruce, Blandwood & Christchurch
 Doug Buchanan, Ashburton
 Bill Burdon, Coopers Creek
 Lee Burdon, Coopers Creek. Cr. TDC
 Graham Carr, Peel Forest
 Angus Chapman, Kakahu. Federated Farmers
 Terry Crawford, Dennistoun Road, Peel Forest
 Ruby Coleman, Christchurch
 Joanna Dalton, Peel Forest
 Austen Deans, Te Omanga, Peel Forest
 Jenny Deans, Peel Forest

Liz Deans, Te Omanga, Peel Forest
 Mike Deans, Peel Forest
 Robyn Deans, Peel Forest
 Stephen Deans, Peel Forest
 Angela Dolton, Mt. Peel
 Gill Evans, Peel Forest
 Nellie Frame, Waikari Hills, Mount Peel
 Alex Gaulter, Geraldine
 Ian (Gus) Guthrie, Peel Forest
 Jeremy Head, Lucas Associates, Christchurch
 Sue Harrison, Peel Forest
 Margaret Johnston, Peel Forest
 Tina Johnston, Peel Forest
 Heike Kollermeyer, Blair Road, Peel Forest
 Harry Langham, Christchurch
 Gillian Linton, Peel Forest
 Di Lucas, Lucas Associates, Christchurch
 Bill McCook, Black Bush, Peel Forest & Christchurch
 Jan McCook, Black Bush, Peel Forest & Christchurch
 Murray McDougall, Blair Road, Peel Forest
 Peter McKenzie, Geraldine & Horsfall Road, Peel Forest
 Ross McKenzie
 Les Maxwell, Geraldine. Cr. TDC



John Millward, Blandwood
 Des Nolan, Blair Road, Peel Forest
 Pam Nolan, Peel Forest
 Jan Palmer, Christchurch & Blandwood
 Ron Palmer, Christchurch & Blandwood
 Esme Robinson, Blandwood
 Ken Rutherford, Silverton Road, Coopers Creek
 Annie Scott, Wainoni Farm, Coopers Creek-Peel Forest
 Stuart Scott, Wainoni Farm, Coopers Creek-Peel Forest
 Di Skidmore, Blandwood
 Doug Smith, Blandwood & Timaru
 Jenny Smith, Houhere, Peel Forest
 Matthew Smith, Houhere, Peel Forest
 Orma Smith, Blandwood & Timaru
 Grant South, Peel Forest
 Ines Stager, Lucas Associates, Geraldine
 John Talbot, Aoraki Conservation Board
 John Thatcher, Peel Forest Road
 Victoria Thatcher, Coopers Creek-Peel Forest
 A. Tindall, Blandwood
 Eve Wallace, Woodbury
 Celia Warren, Silverton, Peel Forest
 Martin Warren, Silverton, Peel Forest
 Anne Weschenfelder, Geraldine & Peel Forest
 Cary White, Peel Forest
 Helen Wooding, Peel Forest



Day 2 - Monday

Ro Acland, Mt. Peel
 Rose Acland, Mt. Peel
 John Acland, Mt. Peel
 Johnny Acland, Mt. Peel
 Bruce Allan, Scotsburn, Peel Forest
 Rosa Allan, Scotsburn, Peel Forest
 Donald Aubrey, Rangitata Gorge
 Mark Bang, Timaru District Council
 Joy Boyd, Christchurch
 Brent Bruce, Christchurch
 Nigel Buttery, Timaru, Canterbury Regional Council
 Sarah Caldwell, Scotsburn, Peel Forest
 Graham Carr, Peel Forest
 Adrian Cogle, Geraldine, Department of Conservation.
 Ruby Coleman, Christchurch
 Mike Cuddihy, Christchurch, Department of Conservation
 Joanna Dalton, Peel Forest
 Austen Deans, Te Omanga, Peel Forest
 Jenny Deans, Peel Forest
 Mike Deans, Peel Forest
 Robyn Deans, Peel Forest
 Stephen Deans, Blandwood
 Angela Dolton, Mt. Peel
 Alf Dowell, Pleasant Point
 Gill Evans, Peel Forest



T H E P E E L F O R E S T P L A N

Nellie Frame, Waikari Hills
 Gary Foster, Timaru District Council
 Edna Guthrie, Ashburton
 Sue Harrison, Blandswood
 Jeremy Head, Lucas Associates, Christchurch
 Merv Johnston, Peel Forest
 Tina Johnston, Peel Forest
 Heike Kollermeyer, Blair Road, Peel Forest
 Harry Langham, Christchurch
 Di Lucas, Lucas Associates, Christchurch
 Bill McCook, Black Bush, Peel Forest, & Christchurch
 Murray McDougall, Peel Forest
 Peter Mannion, Wattie Bush
 Sam Martin, Christchurch
 John Millward, Blandswood
 Ron Palmer, Christchurch & Blandswood
 Carol Prosser, Peel Forest
 Peter Prosser, Peel Forest
 Don A. Prouting, 'The Tui', Rangitata Gorge
 Helen Prouting, 'The Tui', Rangitata Gorge
 Wynne Raymond, Mayor, Timaru District
 Esme Robinson, Blandswood
 Fraser Ross, Timaru. South Canterbury Forest and Bird.
 Orma Smith, Blandswood
 Grant South, Rangitata Rafts
 Ines Stager, Lucas Associates, Geraldine
 D. Tindall, Blandswood



Helen Wooding, Peel Forest

TUESDAY RE. HALL ETC.

Rose Acland
 Bruce Allan
 Rosa Allan
 Mike Deans
 Angela Dolton
 Troy Dolton
 Ella Evans
 Gill Evans
 Gus Guthrie
 Harry Langham
 Merv Johnston
 Doreen Smith
 Jenny Smith
 Evan Thatcher
 Helen Wooding



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Organising committee
 Inputting notes : Joanna Dalton &
 Sue Harrison-South
 Child Care: Julia Allan, Esther Deans,
 Ella Evans, Rachel Linton
 Funding: Blandswood Residents Association
 Geraldine Licensing Trust
 Peel Forest Promotions Group
 Peel Forest Enhancement Gr



T H E P E E L F O R E S T P L A N

Lucas Associates

Peel Forest Enhancement Drive

Jill Evans, Secretary,
Postal Centre,
Peel Forest.

Dear Di,
I would like to thank you for attending the public meeting held at Peel Forest on the 8th. August, 1997. Your enthusiasm certainly helped the people there to make a unanimous decision to go ahead with a concept plan for Peel Forest.

The committee formed that evening has held their first meeting at which we decided to definitely work with Lucas Associates on this project.

Could we please have a contract with you outlining for us what we will receive for our money, and also a plan of action for us leading up to the workshops in early November 1997.

We are looking forward to working with Lucas Associates

Yours faithfully,

Jill Evans (Secretary)

Flood problems for meeting

Flooding problems from Kowhai Stream and its effects on Denistown Bush and downstream farmland will be discussed at a meeting of all concerned parties on Friday.

The meeting is being hosted by the Peel Forest Enhancement Group and chairperson Rosemary Actland said it stemmed from a community meeting in November when members of the community were asked to identify what they liked about living in Peel Forest, as well as the threats to that lifestyle.

The effect of flooding on the bush was raised as an issue. Representatives of the Canterbury Regional Council, Timaru District Council, district planners, the Department of Conservation and

both permanent and holiday residents had been invited to the meeting.

The native forest was the last substantial stand of mixed podocarp left in Canterbury and the effect of flooding on it needed to be assessed.

"We are hoping that at this meeting we will be able to get some answers. We are not just there to hear reports once again. We really are hoping to find out now and for all if there is anything to do and if we can do it," she said.

The meeting is at the

PEEL FOREST WORKSHOP FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PEEL FOREST DISTRICT to identify the community's desired future for the area

EAS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE:

- building colours
- playground potential
- park buffer & surrounds
- Blondwood development
- Kowhai Stream & Denistown Bush
- Peel Forest Park's future management
- landscape protection & threats
- toiling the special character
- traffic speed through village
- village services - drainage
- waste management
- Hall surrounds
- weeds & pests



our choice to stick
Peel Forest on the road
to management of its
special character

2 PM SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER
community Bar 6 que afterwards
9AM TO 4 PM MONDAY 10 NOVEMBER
venue PEEL FOREST HALL

getting it in motion.....

Residents plan for future Peel Forest's development community affair

and making the vision a reality.....

Peel Forest has become the first community in South Canterbury to initiate a plan for the area's future development. Reporter Jill Worrall spoke to some of the people involved in developing this blueprint.

Peel Forest — a village with lush green hills, a river, and a mountain backdrop — is a special place, not just for the people who live there, but for the thousands of tourists who visit each year.

No community, no matter how small, says the words for area development, and recently some Peel Forest residents began to consider their district were completely appropriate. And there were a few beautification projects being carried out, seemingly without full community consultation.

The outcome of this, said resident Rosemary Actland, was a decision to call a meeting to see how the community felt about developing a plan that would cover the district from Menopontia in the Rangitikei Valley down to the Arundel-Choppers Creek area on the plains.

The idea got the thumbs up and a committee was set up to work with the task of contacting every resident — permanent and the next step — to tell them about the workshop.

It was designed to produce the basic information from which the plan would be developed. In total, the plan was to be held in the village.

Involved from this point was Lucas Associates, a firm of landscape planners and designers. Working in professional time with some scepticism by some locals, in fact the whole idea of a community-based plan was met with considerable

suspicion in many quarters. Mr Actland said:

"Not only, planners or consultants, but also those people who expect, on Sunday, November 9, they see our 50 chairs in the hall — and 10 people."

Participants were split into good size groups which met a day residents, workers, and holiday-time residents.

Included among them were Timaru mayor Wynne Kaymond, district councillors and staff, Cllr and DCC representatives including the regional councillor Mike Cuddihy.

The group's first task was to define the special qualities of the forest, the diversity of the landscape, the river, the diverse but relatively sparse population, and all features that came

through strongly. The issues residents felt could threaten these qualities were inappropriate handling of commercial tourism, native forest areas under threat, and badly conceived buildings and colour schemes.

The planners were impressed with the enthusiasm shown at the workshop, and the way in which the participants so accurately focused in on the issues under discussion.

Asked to look at the area's potential, the residents highlighted economic and various pressures for the school buildings (Peel Forest School has voluntarily decided to close) and for the former DCC information centre.

Two topics discussed on day two included restoring services and those residents would like to see developed, along with possible guidelines for future development.

"Residents made it very clear for example that they weren't happy to see the Kowhai Stream wiped out. Denistown Bush and as a result of that reaction the CRC is already looking at alternative protection methods," Mr Lucas said.

Armed with this information, the planners began preparing a draft plan to present to the community for discussion. Once it is finalised it will be presented to local authorities and will become a resource from which the community can work.


Committee member Bruce Actland said the whole process had brought the community together in a way that they had never before and people had just much of their fear of change started.

"We now have a mandate from the community to go ahead with projects that will benefit the area," Mrs Actland said.




Checking out details to be included in the Peel Forest development plan are (from left) Rosemary Actland, JB Evans, Bruce Allen and Rose Allen.





12. APPENDICES

- 
- ⇒ KOWHAI STREAM & ITS EFFECT ON DENNISTOUN BUSH
 - ⇒ THRESHOLDS
 - ⇒ GOOD PLANT GUIDE
 - ⇒ LOCAL NATIVE VEGETATION
 - ⇒ BUILDING GUIDELINES
 - ⇒ FENCING GUIDELINES
 - ⇒ CONTROL & SURVEILLANCE WEED LIST
 - ⇒ REFERENCES



THE PEEL FOREST PLAN

Kowhai Stream & its effect on Dennistoun Bush

The Peel Forest Enhancement Group called a meeting of local residents, interested parties, and representatives from the Canterbury Regional Council (CRC), the Timaru District Council, (TDC) Department of Conservation (DOC), Aoraki Conservation Board, Forest & Bird Society and Lucas Associates, at Blandwood at 1 pm on Friday 6th March 1998.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the flooding of the Kowhai Stream and its effects on Dennistoun Bush, roading and private property in the Blandwood area. This has been an ongoing concern for many years and was one of the important issues raised by many people at the Peel Forest workshop. The meeting was chaired by Bruce Allan who welcomed the 35 people who attended and called on Bob Hall to describe the Kowhai Stream.

Bob Hall, a private consulting engineer, who had carried out a very thorough study of the whole Kowhai catchment following the disastrous flood of 1975, was able to give us a very clear picture of the past history of the area and the problems now faced. 120 years ago, when the area was settled, the natural buffer of native hardwood trees eg. Kowhai, Kotukutuku or Tree Fuchsia, Makomako or Wineberry, was removed, thus extending the flood plain into Dennistoun Bush. Bob described

the sequence of major and minor events of the past, surprisingly describing the 1975 flood as a minor event, the last major flood occurring about 250 years ago. As a result of his study it was suggested that the baches on the flood plain be relocated. Bob concluded by pointing out that any action taken, such as removing up to 20,000 cubic metres of shingle from the river bed annually, would merely have a "bandaid" effect. Nature could not be tamed.

Jeremy Johnson, manager of Peel Forest Estate, then described the downstream effects of flooding on their farm. He prefers to maintain the status quo with the stream flooding through the bush in many small channels, because the damage done to farmland & fences is minimal. Peel Forest Estate has made provision to channel the water that flows towards Brake Road into a stream which eventually feeds into Coopers Creek, thus with-holding too much damaging flow from the Kowhai Stream.

Adrian Cogle from the DOC agreed that shingle and flood debris is affecting Dennistoun Bush, but pointed out that this is a natural cyclic process and DOC. will do nothing except realign tracks if necessary.

Phillip Lees from the CRC explained the significance of the rainfall monitor located on the left hand side of the road on the west side of the Kowhai Stream., which records the

rainfall continuously. The rainfall can be read every 15 minutes at the CRC in Timaru and when 70 mm is recorded within a 14 day period the system sets off an alarm. CRC notifies local residents, Alastair Tindall and John Millward who adjust the flood warning signs to Danger. This warns the residents plus the many visitors to the area, of potential flood hazard.

Conclusions & Actions

Although we realise that major flooding events are unstoppable we agreed to take action to provide effective bandaid remedies for minor events.

1. The meeting agreed that the Enhancement Group have three possible options open to them to action removal or movement of shingle in the vicinity of the ford.

Option 1 To approach the TDC to ask them to make provision for funds, for them to do miscellaneous work on the Kowhai Stream to maintain the crossing. TDC. would apply for a consent from the CRC.

Option 2 Local Residents to apply to the CRC for a long term consent to move/remove shingle especially in emergencies

Option 3 For maximum flexibility both the TDC & Local residents apply for a consent from the CRC so that the TDC do the routine work on the Stream & allowing the Locals to act in emergencies.

2. There is a need to look into an alternative fenced road access for residents who own properties on the western side of the river.
3. The meeting was in favour of encouraging the local landowners to shut up areas of bush in the vicinity of the Peel Forest Park for regeneration.
4. Maintenance of the bush walks is important. The work of the Conservation Corp, supervised by Wayne Keenan (Outdoor Pursuits Centre), in helping to maintain these tracks is appreciated and must continue.
5. An approach to the CRC to explore methods of Bio-control of broom, gorse & old man's beard.

THRESHOLDS

Some relevant excerpts out of Draft Discussion Document - RTS 15

“Guidelines for Rural Thresholds (LTSA Working Group).

- Vehicles continue to decelerate for at least 700 metres after passing speed restriction.
- Rural thresholds have been found to reduce vehicle speeds by between 2 km/h to 15 km/h depending on actual design and location (Burden 1993, Herrstedt 1992...)
- There is almost universal agreement that rural threshold treatments should be used in conjunction with main road traffic calming treatments throughout a township to maintain speed reductions at appropriate levels along a route and to gain maximum safety benefits.
- Buffer zones 100 - 70 - 50 seem to be ineffective in NZ unless combined with a visual signal eg “gateway” planting.
- Ideal siting of threshold 300 metres outside the “built up” area.
- Pinch points are very effective in reducing vehicle speeds because “they interrupt the parallel lines of long views along straight roads as well as producing the psychological effect that the roadway is closing in” (RTSRC 1994).

- Any trees and shrubs planted within 10 metres of the carriageway edge-line must be frangible, this means having a trunk diameter at majority of less than 100 mm measured 400 mm above ground (not hardwood).

(It is appropriate to bring planting to within 3-4 metres of sealed edge of road, with approval of Timaru District Council, as done with the Roadside Pride planting programme.)

It was felt that police would not come and enforce speed controls. People may wish to contact truckies or other fast drivers.
(The logging trucks often roar past - they could be easily reminded of the desirability to slow down. There was a time when truck firms encouraged people to ring in and comment on drivers behaviour on the road.)

Good Plant Guide

Exotic Plants that are NOT expected to spread or cause problems.

Relevant excerpts from The Good Plant Guide (1996)

None of the plants listed are invasive in your garden or the environment.

None of them are poisonous, spiny or cause dermatitis.

botanical name	common			
<i>Abelia floribunda</i>	abelia	<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>		<i>Dicentra formosa</i> , bleeding heart
<i>Abelia schumannii</i>	"	<i>Campsis grandiflora</i>	bignonia	<i>Dicentra spectabilis</i>
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	"	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>		<i>Drimys winteri</i>
<i>Acer davidii</i>	maple	<i>Caryopteris x clandonensis</i>	blue piraea	<i>Drosera</i> species (all)
<i>Acer ginnala</i>	maple	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Spanish chestnut	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
<i>Acer griseum</i>	maple	<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	bean tree	<i>Enkianthus campanulatus</i>
<i>Acer japonicum</i>	maple	<i>Ceanothus impressus</i>	Californian lilac	<i>Epimedium alpinum</i>
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	maple	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	cedar	<i>Eremurus x Shelford</i>
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	shad bush	<i>Centaurea moschata</i>	cornflower	<i>Erinus alpinus</i>
<i>Amelanchier lamarckii</i>	shad bush	<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i>		<i>Eryngium giganteum</i>
<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	strawberry tree	<i>Ceratostigma willmottianum</i>		<i>Eucryphia glutinosa</i>
<i>Astilbe "Fanal"</i>		<i>Cercidophyllum japonicum</i>		<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> european beech
<i>Astilbe chinensis</i>		<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	judas tree	<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>
<i>Azalea</i> species (all)		<i>Citrus</i> species (all)		<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>
<i>Azara microphylla</i>	vanilla tree	<i>Clethra arborea</i>		<i>Freesia</i> species (all)
<i>Banksia</i> species (all except <i>B. integrifolia</i>)		<i>Correa</i> species (all)		<i>Fuchsia thymifolia</i> , <i>F. x hybrida</i>
<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i>		<i>Corylopsis spicata</i>	winter hazel	<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>
<i>Boronia</i> species (all)		<i>Corylus avellana</i>	hazelnut	<i>Garrya elliptica</i>
<i>Brachyscome iberidifolia</i>		<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>	smoke bush	<i>Gentiana</i> species (all) gentian
<i>Calliandra bodinieri</i>		<i>Crambe maritima</i>		<i>Geum parviflorum</i>
<i>Callistemon "Western Glory"</i>		<i>Cupressocyparis x leylandii</i>	leyland cypress	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> maidenhair tree
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>		<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>		<i>Grevillea</i> spp.
<i>Camellia</i> species (all)		<i>Cycamen coum</i>		all except <i>G. robusta</i> & <i>G. aspleniifolia</i>
<i>Campanula lactiflora</i>		<i>Deutzia gracilis</i> , <i>D. scabra</i>		<i>Hemerocallis</i> hybrids
		<i>Dianthus chinensis</i>		<i>Heuchera sanguinea</i>

Hosta fortunei, *H. lancifolia*,
H. sieboldiana
Hydrangea paniculata, *H. petiolaris*
Hypericum japonicum
Hyssopus officinalis
Iberis sempervirens
Juniperus species (all)
Kniphofia "Maid of New Orleans",
K. ensifolia, *K. uvaria*
Koeleruteria paniculata
Lavandula angustifolia
Linum monogynum, *L. perenne*
Liquidamber styraciflua liquidambar
Liriodendron tulipifera tulip tree
Lysimachia punctata
Magnolia species (all)
Malus species (all) crab apple
Meconopsis betonicifolia Himalayan poppy
Mespilus germanica medlar
Metasequoia glyptostroboides d. redwood
Michelia doltsopa, *M. figo* (*M. fuscata*)
Morus alba, *Morus nigra* mulberry
Myrtus communis myrtle
Nandina domestica sacred bamboo
Nyssa sylvatica black tupelo tree
Oenothera missouriensis evening primrose
Orchids (all species)
Osmanthus fragrans
Pachysandra terminalis spurge
Pachystachys lutea
Paeonia species (all) paeony rose

Parrotia persica
Parthenocissus quinquefolia,
P. tricuspidata virginian creeper
Penstemon barbatus, *P. eterophyllus*,
P. gloxinoides
Phebalium species (all)
Philadelphus spp. orange blossom
(all except *Philadelphus cymosus*)
Photinia glabra, *P. serrulata*
Pieris forrestii lily of the valley shrub
Prostanthera rotundifolia, *P. ovalifolia*
Protea species (all)
Pulmonaria angustifolia
Pulsatilla vulgaris
Pyrus communis pear tree
Pyrus pyrifolia, *P. pashia*,
Pyrus ussuriensis
Quercus palustris pin oak
Quercus coccinea scarlet oak
Rhodohypoxis baueri
Rosa banksiae banksia rose
Rosa x hybrids
Rosmarinus officinalis rosemary
Saxifraga caespitosa, *S. paniculata*
Sequoiadendron giganteum Wellingtonia
Skimmia japonica
Styrax officinalis
Teucrium fruticans
Thuja occidentalis
Thujopsis dolabrata
Tsuga canadensis

Tulipa species (all)
Verbascum nigrum, *V. olympicum*
Verbena laciniata, *V. x hybrida*
Veronica spicata, *V. prostrata*
Viburnum carlesii, *V. farreri*,
V. opulus, *V. plicatum*, *V. x burkwoodii*
Zelkova serrata (elm-like tree)



NORTHLAND
 REGIONAL
 COUNCIL

CARING FOR NORTHLAND AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

Local Native Vegetation

Participants sought the diversity of native vegetation be conserved, from Forests, to shrublands, grasslands and herbfields. Some of the main species are noted for different land units:

Podocarp forests

terrace, slope, base

Dacrycarpus dacrydoides kahikatea

Coprosma rotundifolia

Griselinia littoralis broadleaf

Meliccytus micranthus manakura

Neomyrtus pendunculata rohutu

Pseudowintera colorata horopito, peppertree

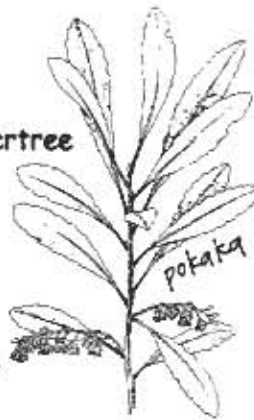
floor

Uncinia uncinata hook sedge

Nertera dichond

Blechnum discolor fern

Microlaena avenacea bush rice grass



near stream

*Carpodetus serratus*putaputaweta, marbleleaf

Shefflera digitata pate

Fuchsia excorticata kotukutuku, tree fuchsia

Pseudopanax arboreus five-finger

Hebe salicifolia koromiko



ferns including *Blechnum fluviatile*, *B. lanceolatum*

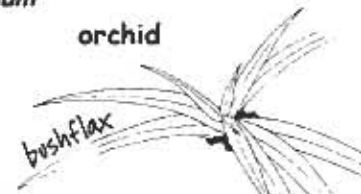
Asplenium bulbiferum hen & chicken fern

Polypodium diversifolium

Pterostylis banksii orchid

Stellaria parviflora

Pratia angulata



drier floor

Astelia nervosa

Polystichum vestitum

Asplenium bulbiferum bushflax

Myrsine australis puniu, shield fern

Prumnopitys taxifolia hen & chicken fern

Elaeocarpus hookerianus red matipo, mapou

Pseudopanax arboreum matai

Pennantia corymbosa pokaka

bushflax

puniu, shield fern

hen & chicken fern

red matipo, mapou

matai

pokaka

fivefinger

kaikomako



steep terrace slopes

Podocarpus totara

lowland totara

upper terrace flats

kahikatea, matai, totara, pokaka

broadleaf, five finger, pate, marbleleaf, kohuhu

horopito, *Coprosma rotundifolia*, *C. rhamnoides*

kotukutuku, makomako, *Metrosideros umbellata*



Between tall tussock grassland and forest

Dracophyllum shrubland

Dracophyllum longifolium (abundant) grass tree, inaka

Gaultheria depressa snowberry

Lycopodium fastigiatum clubmoss

Anisotome aromatica

Cyathodes juniperiana

Blechnum capense

kiokio

Poa spp.

tussocks

Festuca spp.

tussocks

Hebe odora

Coprosma parviflora

mikimiki

Cassinia fulvida

cottonwood

Gaultheria antipoda, *G. rupestris* snowberry

Phormium cookianum

mountain flax

Astelia cockaynei

a bush flax

Aciphylla colensoi

a speargrass



Tall tussock grassland (700 - 1300m) is the most extensive association at Mount Peel

Fell-field

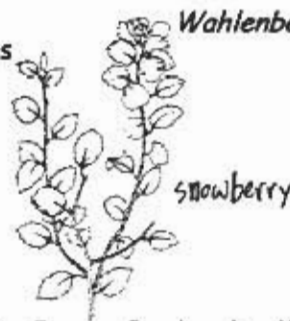
Celmisia lyallii, *C. viscosa*, *C. spectabilis* mountain daisies

Poa colensoi

Carmichaelia monroi, *Corallorhizidium crassicaule*

NZ brooms

Myosotis traversii, *Craspedia uniflora*



Herb-field

small extent at Mount Peel

Celmisia lyallii dominant

Lycopodium fastigiatum, *Poa colensoi*, *Carex Wakatipu*,

Luzula campestris *Anisotome aromatica*, *Gentiana*

corymbifera, *Celmisia haastii*, *C. viscosa* *Viola cunninghamii*

Shingle slips Middle Mount Peel

Poa sclerophylla, *Ranunculus haastii*, *Cotula atrata*

Epilobium pycn., *Anisotome filifolia*, *Myosotis traversii*,

Acaena glabra, *Craspedia alpina*

Rangitata riverbed

Bare riverbed to *Raoulia*, *Epilobium* to *Discaria toumatou* (matagouri) shrubland. *Coprosma* shrubland low tussock grassland.

Carex secta pukio swamp occurred after clearance of forest in process of returning to forest.

Hydrocotyle novae-zealandiae, *Blechnum capense*, bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*), *Epilobium*, *Mimulus*

Upper subalpine rock communities 1700 m

Danthonia setifolia, *Agrotis subulata*, *Poa colensoi*, *Hebe*

cheesemania, *Raoulia eximia*, *Leucogenes grandiceps*,

Celmisia incana

less common *Hebe amplexicaulis*, *Coprosma propinqua*,

Wahlenbergia albo-marginata, *Pimelea traversii*



COLOURS



Subtle colour use can do much to make buildings a greater asset to the rural landscape. Even mismatched groups and badly proportioned structures can be better related to one another and to the landscape through the use of suitable colour.

Remember the colours of nature are mostly very muted, they are soft and neutral. Bright colours are confined to small, well-defined areas set against the muted background. Aim for similar colour use on buildings. Study the background, the landform and vegetation. Consider the relationship of buildings and different parts of a building, to the background elements. Develop colour schemes to blend and contrast subtly with the background.

Natural materials have their own characteristic colour. It is best not to change this unless essential. Colourless preservatives can be used where necessary.

Concrete tanks usually look best left unpainted.

If a building is lighter than the general colour of the landscape, or has shiny surfaces, it draws attention to itself, and looks bigger and somewhat shapeless. Usually it is best if rural buildings are not focal points in this way.

Aim to co-ordinate the colours of various buildings in an area, even on neighbouring properties, to make them look as though they all really do belong to that particular landscape.

Within each property be sure to co-ordinate the colours of all buildings and structures - house, garage, sheds, silos, etc.

Some notes on colour use which may be useful when deciding on a colour scheme.

As roofs reflect more light than walls, they appear lighter if the whole building is painted the one colour. Roofs usually need to look darker than the walls to visually anchor the building down to the ground. Thus the roof must be painted quite a lot darker than the walls to compensate for the higher reflectivity, and eventual greater fading.

Merely painting the roofs of sheds darker can help a lot to reduce their impact.

Silos grouped with buildings, particularly tall ones up to or above roof height, should be painted the same dark colour as adjacent roofs. Smaller ones may be better matching the walls. Where tall and short are mixed, paint all dark. For very tall silos, seek specific advice.

Most houses look better if they are not light or bright focal points. Often merely painting the trim darker improves the look of a house considerably, particularly if the roof and walls were already darker.

With thanks for comments by David McBride, Barrie Bracefield McBride Limited, Design Consultants, Timaru.

Buildings of different shapes and sizes that can be seen in the same view can be better related if the same roof and wall colours are used on each one.

To define the shape of buildings, the junction between the roof and walls can be accented. But this accent line, the barge board and gutter, should be darker than the walls, probably the same colour as the roof, or darker. Do not pick out this line in a light colour.



Paint the whole of small buildings in one colour (tanks, small sheds, etc.). Any colour changes and accents will just make them look even smaller and fussier. Use one colour that relates to the landscape - the same as the walls of any adjacent buildings. Do not use a very dark colour unless sited against dark vegetation.

Accenting large doors with the darker colour will help to break up large shed walls. Small or poorly proportioned features should not be accented - just paint all the same colour as the walls (window frames, trim, etc.).

A simple method to choose colours to nestle a building into a particular landscape:-

1. Assess the colours of that landscape from the middle distance. Photograph at different times to see the changes.
2. With colour samples choose a colour that blends with that backdrop throughout the different seasons. Camouflage is not the aim, so the colour should not be a perfect match. The backdrop colour will vary with the seasons, with different lighting, etc. so that a match is impossible. Greens should not be chosen as a near miss can appear as a clash. It is important to choose a colour of about the same depth as the background, not lighter nor much darker.

Use this colour for the walls of buildings.

3. Now select a much darker colour comparable with this wall colour, and with the landscape, for the roofs, gutters and barge boards.

4. For more precise selection methods refer to the booklet 'Colour for Structures in the Landscape' Tim Heath, Lincoln College, 1978. \$7.50.

No.2 BUILDINGS

Buildings are major interest points in any landscape. Because they are focal points, care is needed with their siting and design. No building should look as if it has just been dropped somewhere. Each building, and its approach, needs to be partly concealed to create some air of mystery.

Buildings in every type of South Canterbury landscape should look snug; look as if they belong there and could be nowhere else. In this way buildings can actually enhance the landscape and add to local character. Buildings should not be in strong contrast to the local character - not be too showy or obvious.

Unfortunately, the prominent sites, very large size, shallow roof pitch, high walls, and uniform light, shiny cladding of many new farm sheds create visual conflicts with other buildings and with the landscape. The sheds appear alien and obtrusive. They conflict with house designs of a smaller, more human scale and variety in cladding materials. The sheds conflict with and dwarf lower walled, steeper (often hip) roof older sheds which sit so much better in the landscape. The required wall height of new farm buildings should be carefully thought out. Very few buildings need high walls. Many farm buildings would be greatly improved with lower walls.



A farmhouse should not be designed in isolation, but as part of a complex of buildings which is the heart of the farm. Even if not sited very close together, all buildings on a farm are best to be related in form, colour, and if possible, materials too.

It is preferable that every building be individually designed to best suit each particular site and use. The form and shape should be designed to relate to the very landform in which it will sit, to its own purpose, and to any buildings present.

Seek good advice. A farm accountant or farm advisor may know about finances, but not necessarily about buildings!

STANDARD DESIGNS

If considering using standard building designs, great care must be taken to find a type that suits both the site and any existing structures. Whether building a house, garage, shed, covered yards, silo, hut or tank, it is very important that the appropriateness of the design is carefully considered. An existing group of buildings can so easily be ruined by the addition of just one large or small structure of the wrong shape or materials.

Farm buildings need to be designed to suit their use.

Farm sheds need only be large enough to enclose their particular use. Why build so high if there is no use for the upper space, no hay loft, etc? Many sheds appear designed for urban industrial use rather than to suit a farm. Many houses look better suited to suburban living.

Any rural house needs such standard building elements as roomy verandahs; deep overhangs to keep out hot sun or shed snow; covered, sheltered areas for putting the gumboots and feeding the cat.

Some thought is needed before deciding if there is a suitable structure available on the market. Hasty decisions for a cheap and easy solution often become an expensive regret. A better answer often requires more initial thought and care, not necessarily more money.

On many sites if care is taken in choosing appropriate structures, and with care in siting the structures in relation to one another and to the land, a complex of standard farm buildings could be an asset in the landscape. Careful ground excavations and reshaping, some planting and painting are all usually necessary for a complex to nestle comfortably into the landscape.

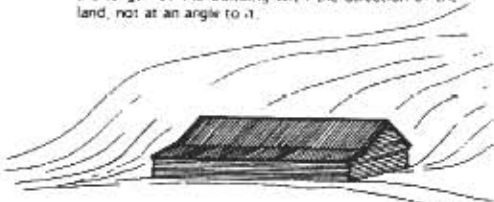
SITING BUILDINGS

When viewing buildings from any distance in the countryside, it is their siting and grouping which are critical.

Often there are several alternative building sites that could be considered. Sometimes a small shift, a change in elevation or orientation would make a building look more comfortable in the landscape, and may better exploit local microclimate.

When siting a building aim to:

1. Have a backdrop of land, not sky. The skyline should not be broken by any building if it can be avoided, especially as seen from main viewpoints. The hill or terrace behind should frame the building, and possibly reduce wind exposure too.
2. Be near a change in landform e.g. at the base of a hill; on a terrace part way up the hillside; at the base of a small terrace such as found on the plains or tucked down in a fold of the ground.
3. Align the building with the land. Run the length of the building with the direction of the land, not at an angle to it.



4. Minimise excavations. Where a platform is cut to sit the building down into the landscape, the cut and fill slopes should be carefully shaped to blend them into the surrounding landform. There should be no harsh lines or sudden changes. Carefully reshape the ground up around buildings in the scale and direction of the natural landform. Once finished the buildings should look tucked down into the natural landform shapes - no artificial looking bumps or banks.

5. Keep well back from the road. Surround rural buildings with productive land. They should not cling to the roadside as in urban properties.

6. Be viewed amongst or against trees. Trees help considerably in relating a building to the landscape, and providing shelter and shade. The trees should swing around the ends of gable buildings especially, and follow the landform, linking into the general planting framework. The trees must be large or dense enough to relate to the size of the building - perhaps a casual mixture of fast and slow growing species.



7. Take care with views. Do not site a building where it will interrupt a view unnecessarily. When building to take advantage of the west and north-west mountain views, do not leave exposed to the north-west winds. Instead preserve vistas. Provide shelter and seclusion, peeking and framing small portions of the mountain views. Vary the views from different parts of the building, different parts of a site. Remember too the views of the farm land.

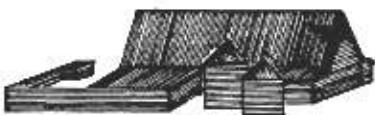
8. Group with other buildings. Place parallel or at right angles to other buildings to (even partially) enclose a space. Group as close as possible allowing for maneuvering and expansion. Do not site any building at skew angles to another if they can both be seen from the same viewpoint. Create sheltered enclosures for pens, yard, or court.

The grouping is especially important on flat land where the relationships between buildings become more significant than the relationship to the landform.

9. Relate to other buildings of similar scale, shape, materials and colour. Create a building complex which will be a better asset in the landscape than a number of scattered buildings. Do not place buildings of a different size and shape near each other as their differences will be emphasised.

10. Take care with the siting of every structure. It is pointless to carefully site a house if a shed, garage, or silo is just plunked down without thought to how it relates to the house or to the landscape.

11. Do not leave a small structure on its own. Either attach to another building (e.g. as a lean-to), link with other structures with walling, fencing or planting; or, dig it right into the ground.



12. Cluster tanks and silos close together, and close to buildings. Keep them below the skyline, against a bank, hillside or vegetation. Do not place them equidistant in a straight line. With a single tank on a hill, place below the brow or dig it in so that it does not break the hill silhouette.

DESIGNING BUILDINGS

Building design should be part of the character of the local landscape. The same type of building should not be used in all the different types of landscapes. For building design should express the shapes, textures and colours of the particular landscape in which it sits.

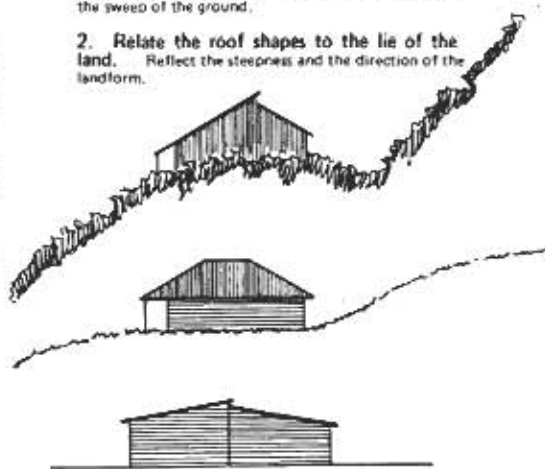
So many newer rural buildings appear unsuited to their landscapes. Often an old barn looks more appropriate than the new, expensive homestead! Some newer buildings are described as 'cheap and nasty' others ostentatious, or even as 'visual pollution' in our beautiful countryside. Although every person is different in their likes and dislikes, there are some very basic principles of design that apply to all of us.

It is sad that both prefabricated buildings and expensive houses frequently show little relationship to the design principles which make a building look right in itself, and right in the landscape. Many look so stark and alien that frantic attempts are made to soften their impact with planting. It is much better to design the structure carefully from the outset than attempt to cover-up later.

When constructing or extending a building, take care to:

1. Aim for low lying buildings. The proportions should be much wider than high to relate the buildings to the ground. The building should hug the sweep of the ground.

2. Relate the roof shapes to the lie of the land. Reflect the steepness and the direction of the landform.



Keep the ridge lines of all buildings parallel; also at right angles on flat sites.

Very steep roofs with low walls can look very top-heavy. A-frames should be avoided except in rugged, steep, conifer country.

3. Have the same roof type and proportions on all buildings in an area. e.g. Do not build a circular or lean-to structure if there is already a gable one, nor a low pitch if there is a high pitch there. Have all circular or all lean-to, but not mixed. If a different form must be used, keep it quite separate, ensure it is sited where different types cannot be seen at the same time.

4. Reduce the impact of large sheds. Although many farm sheds now need to be very large, with careful design they need not look so big. Break and vary the roof height, vary the width or break into an L-shape. Lower the total height and the wall height to the minimum required.



5. Improve high, gable sheds by adding lean-to structures. Add to the sides not the ends: the greater width and lower walls will make the whole building lower and less dominant.



Pergolas and conservatories carefully added to houses can be similarly effective, & for climate control. Lean-to additions usually look better than separate buildings placed alongside.

6. Avoid visible basements or foundations. Keep the floor closely related to ground level. The house or shed can then settle into the landscape. It also encourages better indoor-outdoor contact.

It is better to step the building down the slope than have large foundations. This relates the building to the site and reduces its apparent size.

7. Ensure houses look like they belong. Use the traditional shapes of the area that settle in well. Often very simple and timeless, with all houses and sheds of similar form e.g. single storey, hip roof, with wide verandahs on the houses. To continue using such forms is much preferable to using sharply contrasting styles. No urban, suburban or foreign styles look comfortable.

It is to everyone's advantage if all houses in each landscape type relate to one another, to other buildings and to that landscape. They are best not to conflict and compete: not be obvious or fashionable and so date quickly.



8. Deepen facades. Houses and sheds will nestle well into the countryside, and be much more inviting, if they have depth which is visible even at a distance. Spacious verandahs should be part of every rural house as they are useful, inviting zones between outside and inside.

9. Have an overhang, or eave, especially on higher buildings. This gives a shadow line between roof and walls which reduces the apparent size of the building and anchors it down to the land. Do not make the eaves very deep on small buildings.



Angled overhangs make lean-to sheds look very unbalanced. Avoid these.

MATERIALS

Look around at buildings in your area. There will be materials that look appropriate in their environment and probably some that don't. Take note of which materials suit particular types of backgrounds. What suits a conifer background; subtle tussock country; the lush rolling downlands; or dry stoney plains?

Some points to note when choosing building materials:

1. Whenever possible build in materials that occur, or are used traditionally, in the local area.

2. Use a minimum number of different materials in any complex. Aim for unity by carrying through some materials the same on every building.

3. Preferably use a different material on the walls to the roof, to better define the shape.

4. Wall materials often suitable include timber boarding, galvanised plywood, coarse plaster, horizontal corrugated iron and corrugated asbestos, adobe brick, grey and fawn concrete block, sawn limestone, and other local stone. Vertical hit and miss boarding can be an effective cladding on semi-enclosed sheds.

5. Roofing materials most suitable have a strong directional texture such as standing-seam sheet metal, particularly for larger, steeper buildings, and corrugated iron. But they must be coloured (or have the oxidised finish - Lyten).

Dull, dark tiles are sometimes successful, but look too fussy in the open landscape, particularly if glossy.

6. All building materials should look like they happily belong to that landscape. Bright, light, fancy and foreign materials should be avoided, as should stone from other areas.

7. Always use materials honestly. This means avoiding asbestos that has been shaped to represent brick or timber; avoiding steel roofing sheets shaped to represent tiles; and, avoiding concrete patterned to look like stone. Also resist pseudo-colonial features especially those made in modern materials.

All materials should express their functions and qualities honestly, which they cannot if pretending to be something else.

Although some of these materials may have initial appeal, their dishonesty often becomes irritating.

8. Clad a building in materials that enhance the proportions and better relate it to the site. Corrugated materials, timber boarding, etc. used horizontally will make a building look lower and sit it more comfortably in the landscape. Vertical textured cladding will emphasise its height.

9. Never change the kind of cladding at a corner of a building as two walls can be seen at once.

10. Always carefully match materials when a building is extended.

11. With a low-pitched gable on a smaller building, continue the wall cladding to the top of the gable. A low-pitch gable looks very mean if picked out in contrasting material.

12. Try to avoid roof-light patches. Instead place translucent sheets in gable ends, or as a strip along below the eave. Or use a clerestory building form.

13. Use timber in preference to concrete, steel, etc. wherever possible. Timber is not as harsh and thus suits the rural landscape better. Exposed framing and foundations, ramps, steps, tanks, bins, troughs, etc. can be built in timber (poles, boarding or plywood) rather than concrete.

In most South Canterbury landscapes it is preferable that fences are as unobtrusive, as invisible, as possible. Unfortunately many existing fences detract from our rural landscapes because of bad siting or unsuitable design. Some basic design principles to better fit fences into our landscape are listed.

SITING

When fencing, or refencing, consider the alternatives and try to:

1. **Site each fence as a logical division of the land.** Relate to, and encourage, variation in land use and land management. Separate different soil types, different gradients and aspects.

2. **Relate the fence line to the landform.** Follow the base of a hill or terrace, side up around a slope where practical. Often existing rigid grids are not necessary.

3. **Avoid disrupting skylines.**

Site for a background of land or vegetation.

4. **Avoid interrupting significant views.**

5. **Follow changes and edges carefully.**

Vary the fence line to fit the natural line as closely as practical. Do not erect extensive straight fence lines just in the general direction of the natural change, but respect and follow some of the subtleties of nature. Following even minor terraces and swales on the plains relates the landscape pattern so much better to the underlying land. Hug the base of terraces where ever practical.

Follow built changes too, keeping square with buildings when near them — not at skew angles.

6. **Avoid scarring with fence line preparation**

If earthworks are necessary, the siting of the fence must be sensitively handled. There should be no banks or bumps left visible. The strip should be revegetated to match the cover alongside. Fence line accessways also need to be sited, constructed and revegetated with care to minimise their impact.

Long-term scarring from fence line preparation has been very destructive to many South Canterbury hill landscapes. Much greater care is needed as such lines should be invisible in the general landscape, within a year of construction.

7. The rapid increase in permanent all-electric fencing causes conflicts in the landscape. Designed as psychological rather than physical barriers to stock, they are becoming lighter and less of a visual barrier. Whilst this is good in visual terms, ironically they are becoming a greater physical barrier to people. The restrictions these hostile barriers place on people's access, particularly children, should be carefully considered before deciding on their use and siting.

8. The siting of supposedly insignificant post and wire fencing may not seem to be very critical. But if badly sited they can be most distracting under certain light conditions, when the line is reinforced by the contrast of colour and texture on either side with different cover or management; or, if ever used as the line for a shelter belt or stone heap. Thus care should be taken in siting even generally invisible fences.

No.4 FENCING

DESIGN

The design of rural fences should be as simple and unobtrusive as possible. They should not be features. They should never compete for attention with the landscape nor detract from landform or vegetation, but be a very minor insignificant part of any scene. If there is a local fence type and it seems appropriate, then it should be used. **The less variety of fence type the better.**

Great care is needed if fences of different design are to join up. Try to site where the actual change cannot be seen — or plant to camouflage the change.

Post and Wire Fencing

1. Tanned timber post and multi-wire fencing is very satisfactory for both farm and garden use where no visual break in the flow of land is wanted. With careful siting the post and wire does not break up landscape patterns — it allows visual links between house, garden and farm.

2. The horizontal line of the fence needs to be emphasised to flow with the land. Thus verticals need to be as far apart, low, and insignificant as possible.

3. Avoid concrete posts, they are obtrusive and so break the flow of the fence line. Likewise do not paint or stain wooden posts to contrast with the general colour of the background. Timber fits in well if left to weather, or possibly dark stain if against a dark conifer forest.

4. Preferably use just one kind of upright in a fence, and at a maximum, two. Avoid any uprights between posts where possible. Perhaps just a wire dropper where needed. Or timber battens. Do not use posts, wire and droppers, as this becomes a very fussy looking fence. A greater number of wires with less or no battens is better.

5. Posts should be as small a diameter as practical (even 90 mm timber posts average three times stronger than concrete ones). Ensure the posts are put in the way they grew — thinner end up.

6. A number of plain wires is preferable to wire netting where viewed at close range, such as between garden and paddock. With no reflective wires this fence would become more or less invisible — generally more suitable than a ha-ha.

7. Fences of steel standards and wires can be most successful in rugged country. With strainer posts being the only timber used. Avoid mixtures of frequent wooden posts with several standards between.

8. Avoid adding obvious outriggers or vertical extensions to posts. They look clumsy and make-shift and ruin the simple line of a fence.

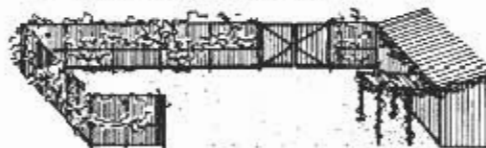
9. Stays should not be too obvious. Preferably place at an angle to the ground.

Timber Fences

For a fence with partial visual enclosure, use simple timber post and rail. Leave to weather, or where against dark vegetation, apply dull, dark stain to both posts and rails. Siting of such a fence is critical. It has to look logical and be half-solid for a reason unless following a change in slope. It is not adequate to divide a grassed area, so should be reinforced with substantial planting. It can divide a planted area from an open area, or a slope from the flat. A rail fence should not go up a slope or across at an angle. Curves can be effective.

A rail fence should never just end or openly change to a less visible fence. It must enclose a space or link with hedging, buildings or more solid timber fencing.

A solid hit-and-miss paling timber fence should be above eye level in height (1.8 to 2 metres). It should be linked to buildings and enclose a space, keeping square with buildings and returning at right angles. Keep the top level, or parallel with the ground, but do not step it. Use wooden posts and rails. Keep the design simple, with one pattern used for all fences in an area and on any gates. Always soften with planting. Remember a permeable structure provides better general shelter than a solid impermeable one which causes wind turbulence. Finer palings (50 to 100 mm) usually look better than heavy 115 to 200 mm ones and finer balings in a permeable fence require less timber overall.



Stock Yards

Try to site yards at the base of a slope or next to a clump of trees to nestle them in. Planting shade and shelter can also help. Natural timber yards look most suitable in all landscape types. Shiny steel can be very intrusive — an unwanted focal point. Built in timber the curved yard designs are not only very practical, but when well sited they can be a real asset in the landscape.

Gates

A gate should be visible as the entry point. Theoretically it should be more see-through than the adjoining fence. Obviously this is rather difficult with our post and wire fences. Gates in these fences should not look obvious in heavy — lightweight, weathered, timber gates are suitable. The high reflectivity of white-painted and steel gates makes them look too prominent. But darker, duller steel gates would be suitable.

A gate should be the same height as the adjoining fence or wall, with a level top. Try to use the same material for the gate as is in the adjoining fence e.g. a timber gate for a timber post and wire, or all timber fence. Dark steel-framed gates with timber rails are also suitable for timber railing fences.



Walling

Some of the stone available on South Canterbury sites can effectively be used for walling. The wall must appear to belong, to have "grown" out of the site. Stone should never be brought from another area. This destroys rather than develops any local character.

Use limestone in sawn blocks to display its character; not bolstered as this is a pseudo-natural finish. Preferably leave it to weather, to soften and merge better in the landscape.

Try to use greywacke boulders in tapered, dry walls. If any mortar must be used for stability, tint it dark grey and recess so that it is not visible. Construct the capping layer carefully to form a neat line of matched stones only one stone wide.



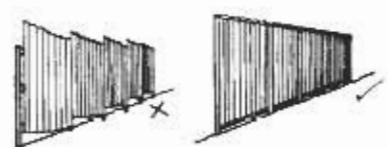
The only brick or concrete that should be used as walling is an actual extension of a building of the same material. Extend out as a high wall to link buildings or create courtyards. Concrete or brick walling should not be used as separate structures. Their urban character is not suited to the rural landscape. (If such a concrete wall exists, paint it dark and cover with vegetation — or remove it).

Don't mix materials in a wall e.g. not concrete or stone with timber. It is usually best to keep to just the one material.

Corrugated Iron Fencing

Associated with rural buildings, corrugated iron fencing can be very effective. But to be successful the top must be level, not stepped. The wooden posts and top rail should come right to the top of the iron.

A wooden capping board should be placed on top of the posts, iron and top rail. The iron can be laid horizontally. The fence should be eye-level height — probably 1.8 m. The iron needs to be painted a dull, dark, earthy colour, on both sides, to match adjacent buildings. Paint or stain posts, rails and capping to match iron. Site the fence to enclose a space. Attach to buildings, keeping square with them, returning the fence at right angles.



Entranceways

Avoid fancy or urban-style entrance gateways. Instead keep the entrance rural in character. Timber gates are preferable. Do not use concrete, brick, alien stone, etc. Not even if the house is built of these materials. The entrance should be part of the farm landscape, not an extension to the house.

If there is stone on site, with very careful siting, design and construction, stone entranceways can be successful. But sadly they often appear as isolated monuments rather than an integral part of the farm.

CONTROL & SURVEILLANCE WEED LISTS

Canterbury Regional Council. Regional Pest Management Strategy (1998)

Plant Pests

Control Plant Pests

Common Name	Scientific Name
African Feather Grass	<i>Pennisetum macrochloa</i>
African Love Grass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>
Baccharis	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Bur Daisy	<i>Calotis lappulacea</i>
Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Entire Marshwort	<i>Nymphoides geminata</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>

Surveillance Plant Pests

The sale, propagation and distribution of these plants is prohibited.

Common Name	Scientific Name
All Stipa (except natives)*	<i>Stipa spp.</i>
Alligator Weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
Artillery plant*	<i>Galeobdolon luteum</i>
Australian sedge	<i>Carex longebrachiata</i>
Banana Passionfruit	<i>Passiflora molissima, Passiflora mixta</i>
Barberry*	<i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>
Bartlettina	<i>Bartlettina sordida</i>
Bathurst Bur*	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>
Blackberry (wild aggregates)*	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>
Bladderwort	<i>Utricularia gibba</i>
Blue Morning Glory*	<i>Ipomoea indica</i>
Blue Passion Flower*	<i>Passiflora caerulea</i>
Bag Bean	<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>
Boneseed*	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>
Boxthorn*	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>

Montpellier Broom	<i>Teline manspessulona</i>
Nassella Tussock	<i>Stipa trichotoma</i>
Nodding Thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Old Man's Beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Saffron Thistle	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>
Taurian Thistle	<i>Onopordum tauricum</i>
White Broom	<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>
White-Edged Nightshade	<i>Solanum marginatum</i>
Broomsedge	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>
Buddleia*	<i>Buddleia davidii (excluding hybrids)</i>
Burdock*	<i>Arctium minus</i>
Cape Honey Flower*	<i>Melanthus major</i>
Cape ivy*	<i>Senecio angulatus</i>
Cathedral Bells*	<i>Colbaea scandens</i>
Chinese Pennisetum	<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i>
Chilean Needle Grass	<i>Stipa neesiana</i>
Clasped Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton perfoliatus</i>
Climbing Asparagus	<i>Asparagus scandens</i>
Eel Grass	<i>Vallisneria (Lake Pupuke, Meola Creek varieties)</i>
Egeria Oxygen Weed	<i>Egeria densa</i>
Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>
Fringed Water Lily	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
German Ivy*	<i>Senecio mikanoides</i>
Goats Rue*	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
Green Cestrum	<i>Cestrum parqui</i>
Hawthorn*	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Heather*	<i>Calluna vulgaris (excluding double flowered cultivars)</i>

Hemlock*
 Himalayan Honeysuckle*
 Hornwort
 Horse Nettle
 Horsetail*
 Houttuynia
 Hydrilla
 Italian Buckthorn*
 Japanese Honeysuckle*

 Japanese Spindle Tree*
 Lagarosiphon Oxygen Weed*
 Lodgepole Pine*
 Manchurian Wild Rice
 Mexican Daisy*
 Mignonette Vine*
 Mile-a-Minute
 Mistflower
 Moth Plant*
 Nardoo*
 Naogoona Bur
 Nutgrass
 Oxylabium
 Palm Grass
 Pampas Grass*
 Parrots Feather
 Perennial Nettle*
 Phragmites*
 Phragmites*
 Plectranthus*
 Plumeless Thistle*
 Port Jackson Fig
 Privet - Chinese*
 Privet - tree*
 Sagittaria*
 Senegal Tea*
 Sheeps Bur*
 Skeleton Weed

Conium maculatum
Leycesteria formosa
Ceratophyllum demersum
Solanum carolinense
Equisetum arvense
Houttuynia cordata
Hydrilla verticillata
Rhamnus alaternus
Lonicera japonica (including cultivars but not hybrids)
Euonymus japonicus
Lagarosiphon major
Pinus contorta
Zizania latifolia
Erigeron karvinskianus
Anredera cordifolia
Dipogon lignosus
Ageratina riparia
Araujia sericifera
Marsilea mutica
Xanthium occidentale
Cyperus rotundus
Oxylabium lanceolatum
Setaria palmifolia
Cortaderia selloana, *C. jubata*
Myriophyllum aquaticum
Urtica dioica
Phragmites australis aquaticum
Phragmites australis
Plectranthus ecklonii, *P. ciliatus*, *P. grandis*
Carduus acanthoides
Ficus rubiginosa
Ligustrum sinense
Ligustrum lucidum
Sagittaria graminea ssp. *Platyphilla*
Gymnocoronis spilanthoides
Acaena agnifolia
Chondrilla juncea

Smilax*
 Spanish Heath*

 Spartina*
 Spiny Broom
 St Johns Wort*
 Sweet Briar*
 Sweet Pea Shrub*

 Tuber Ladder Fern*
 Tutson*
 Variegated Thistle*
 Velvet Groundsel*
 Water Poppy
 Water Primrose
 White Monkey Apple
 Wild Cotoneaster*
 Wild Elaeagnus*
 Wild Elaeagnus*
 Wild Lantana*

 Wild Ginger*
 Woolly Nightshade
 Yellow Flag*
 Yellow Water Lily

Asparagus asparagoides
Erica lusitanica (excluding double flowered cultivars)
Spartina spp.
Calicotome spinosa
Hypericum perforatum
Rosa rubiginosa
Polygala myrtifolia (excluding cultivar "Grandiflora")
Nephrolepis cordifolia
Hypericum androsaemum
Silybum marianum
Senecio petasitis
Hydrocleys nymphoides
Ludwigia peploides ssp. *Montevidensis*
Acmena smithii
Cotoneaster glaucophyllus, *C. franchetii*
Elaeagnaceae x reflexa
Elaeagnus x reflexa
Lantana camara var. *aculeata* (Yellow-pink and Yellow-red varieties)
Hedychium gardnerianum, *H. flavescens*
Solanum mauritianum
Iris pseudacorus
Nuphar lutea

* Known to be present in Canterbury as at 1 April 1996.

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