



How to Find Cool Masonic Places in New Zealand's South Island

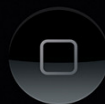
When travelling around the South Island there are interesting Freemason-related locales to visit while you travel. Use this as an opportunity to share Freemasonry with partners /friends and encourage non-Freemasons to also search these out.

Lake Lodge of Ophir, Queenstown: At 13 Marine Parade is one of the first permanent material buildings to be erected in Queenstown and is a Historic Place Category 1 building. The oldest Masonic Lodge building in New Zealand its foundation stone was laid in 1863. The Lake Lodge of Ophir was formally constituted on 18 July 1864, the name of the Lodge deriving from the Old Testament and refers to a fabled region of gold. As the only stone building in Queenstown for some years the lodge was a distinctive feature of the early town.



Arrow Kilwinning Lodge: Not far from Queenstown in Arrowtown is another Historic List Category 1 building at 9 Fifeshire Street.

Most Southern Freemason Hall: The Masonic Hall at 80 Forth St Invercargill is the third of the three Category 1 Historic Masonic buildings in New Zealand. Considered probably the most impressive of any lodge buildings in the country it is a Greek Revival building. It was designed by Broderick & Royd with completion in 1926.



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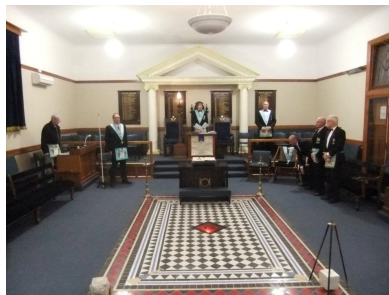
1st Freemasons Gathering in NZ: If driving around Banks Peninsula, a journey to Port Levy will take you to the site of the first New Zealand meeting of Freemasons which occurred in 1837 with a gathering of French Masons on board the whaling ship *Le Comte de Paris*.

Grave of the GLNZ 1st Grand Master MW Bro Henry

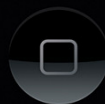
Thomson: He died on 13 September 1903 and was laid to rest a week later in the Linwood Cemetery, Linwood Ave, Christchurch. The grave situated in Plot 4, Blk 14 was recently repaired after earthquake damage and rededicated in a ceremony officiated by Grand Master MW Bro John Litton.



Ferrymead Heritage Park - Sumner Lodge Hall: Also while visiting the Christchurch area if visiting the Ferrymead Heritage Park you will find the Sumner Lodge Hall which was shifted here from its site in Sumner back in 2004. Today it is the home of Lodge of Unanimity Sumner No 3 and has been carefully restored after the Canterbury earthquakes. Photos of the relocation can be found on their lodge Facebook site at: https://www.facebook.com/SumnerMasonicLodge242/photos_stream



The Sign of the Takahe, Cashmere, Christchurch: Up Dyers Pass Rd at 200 Hackthorne Rd is this Category 1 Historic Building. Used as a restaurant and function centre it is presently closed until late 2016 as it undergoes repair and strengthening work due to the Canterbury earthquakes. Among the set of stained glass windows in the building you will find in the porch two 'lights' forming a 1990mm x 1360mm



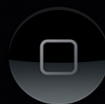
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window called ' *Masonic Symbols in an Idealised Landscape* '. This commemorates 'the goodwill of the Masonic Order'. The windows were donated by 'The Freemasons of Canterbury in AD 1938 AL 5938' with the 'Press' recording that every masonic lodge in Canterbury Province contributed to the cost. Designed by C.L. Allen and executed in 1938 by Frederick Mash (1867-1955), a stained glass designer and executant (who was working for Smith & Smith, Ltd Christchurch), the window was handed over to Christchurch citizens in a ceremony on 31 Oct. 1948. While visiting take a look at the other four windows in the building called: *The Arms of England and France; The Antrobus Anns.; The Rhodes Anns; The Wauchop Anns* all executed by F. Mash but with different designers and donors.



Shantytown Heritage Park: You will discover in Shantytown a replica of the Greymouth Masonic Lodge room (now demolished), gifted to Shantytown by the Lodge in 2000. The building is the first Masonic Hall in an outdoor museum in NZ and is the home of The Advance Mawhera Lodge No.61 as well as The Greymouth Lodge No 1233EC plus the Star of the South Rose Croix. The address is Rutherglen Rd, Paroa, Greymouth. The Lodge rooms are open for public viewing every day that Shantytown is open and attracts a lot of interest from both visitors from NZ, but more noticeably, from those from overseas.



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Other Historic Buildings: There are a number of buildings around the South Island classified on the Historic Building list as Category 2 being buildings of '*historical or cultural significance or value*'. These include: -

- Masonic Hall (Phoenix Lodge), 160 Rue Jolie, Akaroa
- Former Lodge Hall, 6 Davids St & Sumner Rd, Lyttelton
- Former Masonic Hall, 38 Shiel St, Reefton
- Former Lodge Hall, 51 Russell St, Westport
- Public Hall & Former Masonic Lodge, 57 Bledisloe St, Kurow
- Former Lodge Hall, Ravensbourne Rd, Ravensbourne, Dunedin
- Former Port Chambers Marine Lodge, 29 Wickcliffe Tce & Currie St, Port Chambers
- Former Lodge st George, 5 Colonsay St, Lawrence
- Former Clyde Town Hall & Public Library, now the Dunstan Masonic Centre found at 26 Sunderland Cres, Clyde
- The Cromwell Kilwinning Lodge No98 found at 69 Melmore Terrace, Cromwell
- Cultural Hall / former Masonic Hall, Nith St & Forth St, Invercargill

