

**WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall

**ADDRESS** 35 Maioro Road, Otatau

**PHOTOGRAPH**



[www]

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM No.** xx                      **HNZ LIST No. & CATEGORY** N/A

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Allots 216 & 367 Waiuku West Parish

**FILE NUMBERS** 3000893

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** c.1954

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Unknown

**STYLE** Vernacular

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION & SIGNIFICANT FEATURES**

Rectangular portal with curved underside frames a pair of metal gates. Piers on either side of the opening have lancet arched niches with a painted bundled rod motif above. A granite plaque is centred above the entry between O-M & B-C relief lettering. Stucco finish to gates and wall. Pipe metal railing carried on shallow uprights set into low boundary wall.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Concrete, granite.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Unknown, if any.

**SURROUNDINGS, CONTRIBUTION TO CONTEXT & EXTENT OF SCHEDULING**

The gates and boundary wall form the road (western) boundary of the former Otatau Memorial Bowling Club green. On the opposite side of the road is the Otatau Hall, to the south are Otatau School and the Otatau Church (heritage item 29). The club pavilion is located on the southern side of the bowling green and there are a number of other auxiliary buildings, including bowlers' shelters, on the property. The extent of scheduling includes the gates and boundary wall, the bowling green, its pavilion and auxiliary buildings, rather than the two land parcels on which the former bowling club is located.

- **HISTORY OF SITE/STRUCTURE/PLACE/AREA**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club was formed in 1950 and four years later, on 20 November 1954, it opened a green on land that had been part of the local education reserve. A plaque on the memorial gates records that the structure was dedicated to the local war dead of both World War I and II. A World War II Honour Roll had earlier (1946) been installed in the hall across the road from the bowling green. Funding came from local donations and the pound government subsidy offered for war memorial projects. A club pavilion was erected in 1963. The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club became an incorporated society in 1971; the club was dissolved in 2013. The club pavilion remains in use by local groups.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

As the Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall post-date 1900 their site may have limited potential archaeological value. The Otatau School, upon whose land the bowling club became established, was extant by 1895.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have aesthetic value for their mid-century vernacular styling with modest design elements on the former that evoke both Gothic Revival and classical motifs.

**CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have cultural significance as a place of community identity and commemoration.

**HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have historic significance for their association with the local people who formed the Otatau Memorial Bowling Club and thus created an amenity that was typical of the functional memorials that were erected after World War II.

**SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have scientific value for their potential to provide further information about their design and construction.

**TECHNOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have technological value for their mid-century construction methods and materials.

- **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have overall significance to Waikato District. The former bowling green site may have limited potential archaeological value and the gates and boundary wall have aesthetic value for their vernacular styling and simplified decorative motifs. The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have cultural significance given their commemorative purpose and historic significance for their association with the recreational and commemorative efforts of the district's residents. The Otatau Memorial Bowling Club Gates & Boundary Wall have scientific and technological value for their research potential and mid-century construction methods and materials.

- **RECOMMENDED CATEGORY OF HISTORIC HERITAGE LISTING**

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## REFERENCES

- *New Zealand Herald* 13 November 1933, p. 6.
- K Mercer 'Otaua War Memorial Bowling Green' Heritage NZPT summary report (P170391, BDG 1700), 5 June 2015.
- <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/otaua-war-memorial-bowling-green>
- Chris Maclean and Jock Phillips *The sorrow and the pride: New Zealand war memorials* GP Books, Wellington, 1990.

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<b>AUTHOR</b>	Dr Ann McEwan / Heritage Consultancy Services
<b>REPORT UPDATED</b>	xx
<b>AUTHOR</b>	xx
<b>PEER REVIEWED</b>	xx
<b>REVIEWER</b>	xx



Extent of scheduling, limited to former bowling club grounds, 35 Maioro Road, Otaua.