

Te Whiti: 1885-1972. 11 Kilometres on the Gladstone Road just before the memorial oaks. Used by St Johns as a camp for a number of years.



Buildings

1885 Room 506 square feet

1954 addition of 632 square feet

1953 Residence built £3895

Site for residence purchased 1954 for £52-19-9 (*Dates are correct*)

Block 1X Otāhūoa Area 2 acres

March 1930 Septic Tank built cost £220

15th October 1953 Negotiations for an extra 1/2 acre of land owned by Mr R Pike

1969 Transferred back to crown

Writing in Tempus Sans 12 is from National Archives

Writing in italics are comments by Robin Carlyon

All other work not acknowledged is from Papers Past

1882

19th Dec 1882 respect to a third application of the same nature from Taueru (Te Whiti), the matter was left in-the hands of Mr. W. C. Buchanan (*Re a school*)

1883

30th May 1883 Mr. W. C Buchannan wrote In reference to the erection of a school at To Whiti, urging that the work should be proceeded with aa soon as possible The Chairman mentioned that a sum for the building was on the estimates, and tenders would be called as soon as the site is secured

27th June 1883 On the motion of Mr. Buchanan it was decided to call for tenders for the erection of a schoolhouse at Te Whiti, the residents to defray the cost

19th Dec 1883 New districts were formally constituted at Cross Creek, Te Whiti,

1884

10th Jan 1884 The election for Te Whiti District will be made at the residence of Mr. John Pyke

30th Jan 1884 Estimate of 320 pound for building School

1885

5th Jan 1885 THE Board of Education invite tenders for the Erection of a School at Dreyerton, at Te Whiti, and for Additions to the Masterton School, on or before Wednesday, the 14th of January next.

Tenders to be addressed to the Secretary of the Board. Plans and specifications at my office, and at the office of the Wairarapa Daily. THOMAS TURNBULL, Architect to the Board.

20th January 1885 Mr John Montgomery, of Masterton, is the successful tenderer for the new schools at Eketahuna, Dreyerton, and Te Whiti. The amounts for which the contracts have been let are, - Eketahuna school, . &c.£351, Dreyerton £249, Te Whiti, £251

16th March 1885 Teacher Te Whiti School Salary £140 if certificated PP

25th March 1885 Henry W Lillington appointed Teacher
Henry William Lillington

26th August 1885 The application from the Te Whiti School Committee, who asked for a pump and a grant in aid of fencing, was referred to Mr. Buohanan to report upon.

25 Nov 1885 A grant for a pump was given to the Te Whiti Committee

1886

14th April 1886 Inspector Lee examined the To Whiti School on Friday last, and out of 22 children brought up 19 passed. This reflects great credit upon the schoolmaster, Mr Lillington, who is evidently a painstaking teacher

1st April 1887 The annual examination of the Te Whiti school took place on Friday by Mr Lee, Inspector, and the results, which are as follows, speak volumes for the Master, Mr H. W. Lillington

Standard IV.— Frank Dorset,-Ernest Robieson, Charles Robieson.
Standard III.—Ethel Pike, Hugh McKenzie, William Renall, Arthur Renall.

Standard 11.—Frederick Dorset, Jessie Dorset, Margaret McKenzie.
Standard I,—Colin McKenzie, Joshua McKenzie, Kenneth McKenzie
John McKenzie, Walter Pyke. Joseph Renall, Maude Renall. Number presented.18; passed, 17; the one failure being-in Standard IV
4th April 1887 Te Whiti. — Presented, 25; failed, 1; passed, 17.
General condition satisfactory. Writing should improve considerably.

1887

25th July 1887 applications from the Kilbirnie School Committee for a shelter shed, and from Te Whiti for a teacher's residence were ordered to stand over, there being no funds available

28th Sept 1887 A letter was read from Mr. Joseph Renall, of Te Whiti, near Carterton, offering, on behalf of the committee, to erect a teacher's residence on condition that the Beard voted 100 pound towards the cost. The writer explained that as the master was now a married man it was very desirable a house* should be set apart for his use. On the motion of Mr. Bunny, it was decided that. the Te Whiti Committee should furnish a. plan and call for tenders, which must be sent to the Beard unopened.

26 Oct 1887 The acceptance of a tender for the erection of a teacher's residence at Te Whiti was postponed

1888

29th August 1888 Transfer Mr Charles Harper from Featherston to Te Whiti

4th September 1888 WHITI. A meeting of settlers was held in the schoolroom Thursday last, for the purpose of presenting the master of the local school; Mr H W Lillington with a testimonial prior to his resigning the appointment. Mr Joseph A Renall, chairman of the C presided and remarked that he had much pleasure in presenting the testimonial to Mr Lillington in recognition of his eminent services as a teacher. The fact they were in a position to do so was gratifying seeing that four years ago they had considerable difficulty to get a school established there at all. He referred to the steps to get a site and how eventually the two acres on which the school now stood was obtained from Messrs. Burnett and Pike. They had erected a handsome and commodious school with a shelter shed that was a pattern of comfort; very different from the educational cattle pens attached to such buildings as the Masterton school. He paid high compliment for the way to Mr Lillington for the painstaking way he had a=carried out his duties as master and referred at some length the excellent progress made by the children as a result of his tuition He then read the following address

To Mr H W Lillington On the occasion of you leaving Te Whiti School with the view of traveling to Victoria we fell it a duty which we owe you as teacher to express our high opinion of the enlightening and efficient manner in which the school has been conducted for the last three years The marked -progress of the children is sufficiently shewn by the Inspector's reports, and apart from the attention which their education has received,- your example 'and good relationship has won your services and companionship, and we trust that in new fields, your abilities will be as highly recognised as they have been in this part of New Zealand, On behalf of the parents and children, we wish Mr and Mrs Lillington: and family a. pleasant and happy voyage. J A Renall, Chairman,

Mr Lillington, in reply, said Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman| most sincerely do I thank you for the splendid testimonial with which you:..-. have through. the hands of our/very/worthy and respected chairman Mr Renall,,,,, etc.

29th August 1888 Resignation of Mr Henry W Lillington Pupil Teacher accepted PP *I don't think Henry was a pupil teacher Teacher at end of year Charles H Harper*

1889

27th April 1889 The following Members have been elected on the Te Whiti School Committee:— Joseph Renall (Chairman), James McKenzie, John Pike, Wm. Fairbrother, Mrs McKenzie. Mrs Pike and James Robieson. PP

1891

30th September 1891 The Te Whiti School Committee applied for a subsidy for- painting their shelter-shed. The consideration of the application was postponed for a month

1892

Teacher at end of year Still Charles H Harper. Appointed to Featherston school January 1886 at a salary of £160 per annum.

1893

2nd June 1893 Charles Henry Harper, school teacher, of Gladstone, was brought to Masterton to-day, by Constable Darby, having been

arrested on a charge of lunacy. Drs Beard and Douglas have examined him, and find him to be insane He will probably be sent to Wellington this afternoon

16th August 1893 Death of Charles Henry Harper at Wellington. Buried at Karori Cemetery

6th Dec 1893 Education Beard, Wellington, 1st December, 1893. APPLICATIONS will be received up to Monday, the 11th of December, for a Head Teacher for the Kilbirnie School ; salary about £200, with residence; also Head Teacher, Te Whiti School; salary .£100, no residence. Application must be made on forms to be obtained from the office. A. DORSET, Secretary

Rev HENRY EDWARD TUCKEY.

The death occurred yesterday morning of the Rev. Henry Edward 'i'uckey, who for many years was closely associated with the Anglican Church in this district, and also with educational matters, with which he never quite lost touch.. In 1859 he married Miss Fanny Isabel Bryant, daughter of Mr. James Bryant, of Bath, and, coming to New Zealand, took to pastoral and farming pursuits in the Nelson district, with the late Mr. F. Blundell. In 1867 he came to Wellington, and conducted a school with Mr. W. S. Hamilton. That school ,was the nucleus of what is now the Wellington College, of which he was for years classical master. Afterwards he was engaged in teaching in various positions in Wellington. Featherston, and Rangiora, later for about two years, taking up Archdeacon Stocks duties at (St. Peter's Church), Wellington. Then he became supernumerary master for the Wellington Education Board, and held that position until it was abolished in 1893. Since then he has been engaged in educational work and assisting in various parishes until advancing years necessitated his retirement from active service. *This made Mr Tuckey about 70 when teaching at Te Whiti*

13 Dec 1893 Applications for the positions of head masters at Kilbirnie and Te Whiti were opened, and it was decided to forward them to the local committees. There were 2 applications for Kilbirnie, and 12 for Te Whiti.

1894

26th April 1894 A teacher at Te Whiti School had recently come from Dunedin. The board agreed that a reply should be sent to the Otago board that Otago teachers were not boycotted

John Bee teaching went to Mangamahoe School

1895

20th March 1895 TE WHITI SCHOOL. EXAMINATION. The following is the list of scholars of the above school, who passed at the annual examination held yesterday, March the 19th:-

Standard VII .—Fanny Dorset,; May Fairbrother, Elizabeth Mc-' Kenzie.

Standard VI.—Lottie Renall, Lillian McKenzie, Frederick Pyke, Frank Robieson.

Standard V—Leonard Pyke.

Standard IV.—Wilhelmina Dorset, Minnie Fairbrother, Annie Renall, John Gordon.

Standard III,—Blanche Dorset, Annie Pyke, Olive Renall, Norman Robieson.

Standard 1.-Cyril Fairbrother

27 March 1895 The Chairman moved that the salaries of the teachers at Scarborough, Waingawa, Tauherenikau, and Whiteman's Valley

schools be fixed at £100 per annum, thus raising them from the status of aided schools to State schools, and that the salaries attached to the Whakataki, Te Whiti, Stokes' Valley, and Kaitoke Schools be reduced, after due notice, to £80 per annum, they having fallen below the status of Board schools. The motion was carried.

10th August 1895 APPLICATIONS are invited for the Teachership of the Te Whiti Aided School. Salary about .£80 per annum. Full particulars on application to J. A. RENALL, Chairman Te Whiti School Committee, Masterton

An aided school was one with a small roll where the Government paid a sum per head of children on the roll and the Locals provided everything else.

12th September 1895 The appointment of Miss Martha Burns, formerly of Wellington, but now in Hawke's Bay, as head teacher at the To Whiti School, has been approved, and she is to take charge as soon as possible *In 1894 teaching at Upper Pohangina actually in the Manawatu*

1897/1801 Martha Burns George Henry Hooper

25 Sept 1895 Teacher of Te Whiti Aided School: Miss Burns

1896

29 April 1896 Consideration of an application for the payment of a salary to the teacher of the aided school at Te Whiti was deferred, as the Chairman has given notice of his intention to move at next meeting that the Board pay a salary to each teacher of an aided school instead of making a grant to the settlers

1897

30 June 1897 The resignation of Miss Mattie Burns, Te Whiti School, was accepted

26th July 1897 Head Teacher, Te Whiti School, near Gladstone attendance, 17 : salary, 80 pound

7th August 1897 Miss (*Marcella*) Lamb of Canterbury has been appointed to the Te Whiti School PP 14th August Miss Lamb recently appointed to the charge of Te Whiti School expects to take up her duties next week

16th August 1897 Miss Mattie Burns, who for some time has been teacher at the To Whiti School, was presented by the school with a handsome writing case on leaving as a mark of the esteem in which she is held.

1898

18th May 1898 TE WHITI SCHOOL

ANNUAL EXAMINATION. The annual examination of this school took place on May 11th and out of sixteen scholars presented, fourteen passed in their respective classes. Mr Lee was the Inspector, and the following names are those of the successful candidates
Standard VI.—Whilimena Dorset, John Gordon. ‘

Standard V.—Julia Butler, Blanche Dorset.

Standard IV.—Cyril Fairbrother,

Standard III Emily Butler, Hector Fairbrother

Standard II.—Henry Gordon.

Below Standard II.—Grace Gordon, Nellie Pyke, Apeke Rerie, Apeke Rerie, Mervyn Fairbrother, Fenton Butler.

After two days' holiday, the children re-assembled at the school on Monday morning. At 2 p.m. the same day, the prizes were distributed by Mr Peter Gordon, Chairman of the School Committee. Each scholar received a book for general progress during the past year, and some special prizes were given to the following pupils Attendance .Norman Robieson, Grace Gordon (prize given by Mr E. Robieson.) Arithmetic Whilimina Dorset. Spelling.—Emily Butler. Writing.—Cyril Fairbrother. Drawing. John Gordon, Hector Fairbrother, Henry Gordon, Hec Rerie.

Sewing—Blanche Dorset, Whilimena Dorset, Julia Butler, Annie Pyke, Emily Butler, Grace Gordon, Nellie Pyke. After the Chairman had made a few remarks upon the work of the year, he called for three cheers for Miss Lamb, the schoolmistress, and for the donors of the prizes, Recitations were then given by Misses Blanche Dorset, Julia Butler and Grace Gordon, and by Masters John Gordon and Cyril Fairbrother. Afternoon tea was then dispensed by several of the ladies of the district, and after full justice had been done to the excellent repast, the schoolmistress called for three cheers for the ladies who had provided the tea, and for the Chairman of the Committee, After these cheers had been heartily given, the merry company dispersed. PP

1899

1st June 1899 Both the Whareama and Te Whiti Committees recommended Miss E. Scott for appointment, and it was left to her to decide which position she will accept (*Elizabeth Scott accepted Te Whiti School*)

1900

27th April 1900 The following are the names of the Te Whiti school committee elected on Monday night, viz., Peter Gordon (chairman) George Butler, Joseph Chesham, John Pyke, Thomas Barker

1901

31 January 1901 Te Whiti E Scott current wage 48 pound, 15 shillings rise 16 pound 15 shillings

4th April 1901 The annual examination at the Te Whiti School was conducted on Friday the 29th March, by Inspector Lee and was of a highly satisfactory nature, all the children presented passing creditably, showing the painstaking care of the teacher, Miss E. A. Scott. The following show the results—

Standard I: Harriet Chesham, Apake Reiri, Lucy Ropoama.

Standard III: Heke Reiri, Fred Chesham, Nellie Pyke,

Standard IV: Grace Andrews Gordon,

Standard V; Henry Milyain Gordon

8th Oct 1901 A TEACHER is required for the Aided . School at Te Whiti, near Masterton. Salary from 65 to .£70. All applications to be sent to Mr. P. Gordon. Chairman School Committee, Te Whiti, Masterton 10th Oct 1901

12th Oct 1901 The Levin School Committee has confirmed the appointment by the Education Board of Miss Scott, of Te Whiti School, as assistant at Levin School

12th Oct 1901 The Otaki School Committee has rescinded the resolution previously passed by it in connection with Inspector Lee's dismissal. Its Secretary has written to Mr. Hogg that the committee had not previously had all the facts before it. The Kaituna, Wairere

and Te Whiti School Committees have passed votes of confidence in Messrs. Hogg, Bradey, Robertson and Young.

28th November 1901 Miss Cran to take charge at Te Whiti

11th April 1888 Resolved that Miss Elizabeth Cran be appointed pupil teacher at the Hokitika State School, appointment to commence from beginning of quarter

24th February 1892 The following passed the Westland Teacher's Examination included Elizabeth Cran

1894 Teaching at Lower Kokatahi Westland On The Hokitika River

1902

12th May 1902 The Te Whiti Public School was examined by Inspector Fleming on May the 13th, and all the children passed creditably, showing that good work had been done by Miss E. B. Cran, during the six months she has had charge of the School. The following were presented., viz.

Standards VI., Henry Gordon;

V., Grace Gordon;

IV., Heke Reiri, Ernest Rayner, Joseph Stringer, Frederick Chesham, Grace Rayner, Nellie Pyke;

111., Edward Stringer;

11., Apiki Reiri., Harriet Chesham;

1., Bertram. Rayner, Tuckey Roapoama, Percy Rowe;:

Primers., Samuel Pritoa, Clarence Chesham, Maggie Reiri. PP

13th August 1902 AT Te Whiti Average Roll 15 Salary 80 pounds

13th Aug 1902 Ballance School Committee has approved the

appointment of Miss Cran as assistant! teacher at the school. Miss Cran is at present at the Te Whiti School

10th September 1902 Miss Armit, until recently on the teaching staff of the Riddiford-street School, and at present on relieving work in the country, has received a permanent appointment to the Te Whiti School, just beyond Masterton

29th September The school children at To Whiti were given a "treat" on Thursday afternoon last, the occasion being a farewell picnic in honour of their school teacher, Miss E. B. Cran, who leaves for Levin, (*Actually Ballance school in the Bush*) and bears away with her the hearty good wishes of both children and parents of those attending the Tc Whiti school, where she has proved most efficient and painstaking in the discharges of her duties PP

1903

27th April A Voice From Gladstone. —A Tribute to Mr J.A. Renall. [to the editor.]

Sic, —I am exceedingly glad to notice that Mr Joseph Renall, whom we Gladstonians have known favourably for a long term of years, as an excellent settler, is offering himself for the Mayoralty of Masterton. While he was here, no man made himself more popular in every direction. If anything had to be done for the public good, Mr Renall was in demand. When Mr Renall recently stood for the County, he had a block vote for the places which knew him best. Te Whiti school he established, and for ten years was chairman, secretary, and treasurer of the School Committee. In the face of considerable difficulty he had a fine public hall erected at Gladstone. An enterprising settler, and a good and respected colonist. Herein I

think Masterton will act wisely and honour itself by placing him in the position of Mayor. Let me add that the retirement of Mr Joseph Renall and his family from this part of the district has been greatly regretted, but our loss has been Masterton's gain PP

30 April 1903 Painting at Te Whiti 13 pound 12 shillings and 9d

5th May 1903 Sole Teacher, Te Whiti; average, 15. Salary £80.

13th Jun 1903 As the Te Whiti School is in want of a teacher, the Education Board is sending Mr. William Jennings there to take temporary charge He will begin his duties on Monday.

26 June 1903. Wellington Education Board agreed to continue temporary arrangements

25 September 1903 Mr. Jennings appointed permanent teacher

25th September 1903 Mr William Jennings to Te Whiti School in temporary charge

1904

26th April 1904 Te Whiti. —Messrs P. Gordon (chairman), Henry Rayner, Edwin James, Jas. McKenzie, Joseph A. Chesham.

1st June 1904 Miss Manning has been appointed mistress

1882/10940 Manning	Catharine Agnes	Catherine Emily	Ralph
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1905

31st May 1905 TE WHITI SCHOOL.

(Special to Daily Times),

The annual gathering in connection with the Te Whiti school was held on 24th May, when the presentation of prizes to the scholars

took place. Although the weather was very unfavourable, there was a large attendance of parents and friends. Mr Chesham (Chairman of School Committee) presented the prizes, and stated that very much credit is due to Miss Manning's teaching for the past year. Mr Chesham greatly regretted losing their late Chairman (Mr Gordon), who is shortly leaving Te Whiti. Mr Gordon was accorded three cheers from the scholars. Afternoon tea was provided by the ladies, for which they were given three hearty cheers. There were a number of children's races, and great interest was taken in the Ladies' Nail-driving Competition, which resulted Miss B. Dorset first, and Misses J. Robinson and E. McKenzie tied for second place. In the Ladies' Race, Miss B. Dorset and Mrs Groube tied for first place, Miss G; Rayner being third. In the evening, Mr Martin gave a magic lantern lecture, and the Misses Martin contributed a number of songs (illustrated). Dancing was kept up till midnight.

1906

21st May 1906 The Te Whiti School held its annual picnic on Friday in the school grounds. The day was beautifully fine and there was a large attendance of children and their parents and friends. Races for the children and games of all descriptions were indulged in by both the children and their elders. In the evening a dance was held in Mr A. Turner's shed, which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion. Mr W Pike supplied the music and a most enjoyable time was spent.

23rd May 1906 (From Our Own Correspondent). Monday. The annual picnic in connection with the Te Whiti School was held on Friday. The prizes won by the School children were presented as follows:—

Standard VII. —Frederick Chesham. Standard VI.—Harriet Chesham, Bessie Turner and Alfred McKenzie. Standard V.--Bertram Rayner. Standard III.—Jane Snell, William Snell and Clarence Chesham. Standard II—Eva James, Edwin, James, Frank Snell. Maggie Reri and Ruby Chesham Infants —George James, Annie Ngairo and Jack Snell. Silver medals for attendance Ruby Chesham, Eva James, Edwin James, Clarence Chesham and Harriet Chesham. The members of the School presented gold brooch to Miss Manning, teacher at the Te Whiti School.

Sports were held during the afternoon with the following results:—

Girls' Race—Eva James 1, Bessy Turner 2.

Boys' Hurdle Race—C. Chesham 1, Bert. Rayner 2.

Girls' Hurdle Race---M. Keri 1, H. Chesham 2.

Affinity Race—W. Snell and B. Turner 1, B. Rayner and Jane Snell 2.

Boys' Flat Race—Frank Snell 1, F. Chesham 2.

Girls Three-legged Race —J. Snell and W. Chesham 1, M. Reiri and R. Chesham 2.

Cross Country Handicap—B. Rayner 1, F. Chesham 2.

Boys' Three-legged Race—P. Rowe and F. Chesham 1, W. and F Snell 2.

High Jump—B. Rayner 1, F. Chesham 2.

Apple-bobbing—B. Rayner 1, F, Chesham 2.

Addition Race—E. James 1, C. Chesham 2.

Alarm Race—F. Chesham 1, W- Snell 2.

Little Girls' Race—Annie Ngairo I, Eva James 2.

Little Boys' Race—J. Snell and G. James (dead heat) 1, F. Snell 2.

Consolation Race—Bessie Turner 1.

Ladies' Race—Miss A. Pyke 1,. Miss Freeth and B. A. Dorset (dead heat) 2.

Nail-driving— Mrs White 1, Miss B. A. Dorset 2,

Old Men's Race—J. Snell 1, Turner 2.

1st September 1906 Owing to several families leaving Te Whiti the school there will most likely be closed. The roll number at present is only about four.

20th November 1906 Miss Manning, head teacher of Te Whiti school, has been appointed to the position of sole teacher at the Ponatahi school. Mr Gibb, of Wellington, is in charge at Te Whiti.

1907

Sole Teacher 60 pound and 10 pound HA 9 Feb 1907

25th March 1907 Miss Turner has been asked to take temporary charge of Te Whiti School

2nd August 1907 Owing to the large tangi being held at Te Whiti, it has been found necessary to close the school until next week.

1908

27th May 1908 The Te Whiti school picnic was held in the school ground last Friday. It was an exceptionally fine day and there was a good number present, and one and all had a good time. Things were kept merry all the afternoon. Children's races were run, and games of all description were played. The prizes won by the children during the year were also presented, after which 3 cheers given for the teacher, E. Turner. The children are having their usual week's holiday. Miss Turner is spending her vacation in Woodville.

1909

25th June 1909 Miss Mason of Gladstone has been appointed to the charge of Te Whiti school vice Miss Turner resigned. *Miss Ethel Turner went to Masterton School as a pupil teacher*

1911

28 Feb 1911 Miss J K Mason resigned

15 March 1911 Te Whiti aided school 50 pound and lodging (near Masterton

11th April 1911 Te Whiti Aided School Miss K Caverhill

1912

10th Oct 1912 Te Whiti (Masterton district)— Sole Teacher, £90 to £120, and £10 h.a. *Housing allowance means no school residence*

12th Nov 1912 Sole Teacher at Te Whiti Miss L Robinson

1917

24th October "OUR DAY."

RED CROSS EFFORT.

Donation from Te Whiti school Children Rangi Ngaire 5s, May Pyke 3s Rita Pyke 3s, Ruth Graham 2s 6d, Martha, Reiri 2s 6d, Lennie Rivri 1s 3d Isaac Rutene Is, Molly Merhana Is, Nina Whale 6d, Kinni Hemi 3d; total, £1 Os 6d.

1919

ST Miss Grace Warner 2 April 1919 sister of Educationalist Sylvia Ashton Warner

1898/2402	Margaret	Maxwell	Francis Ashton	
1900/17387	Warner Grace		Margaret	Francis Ashton
1902/1759	Warner	Francis Ashton	Margaret	Frances Ashton
1903/2721	Warner	Lionel Allan Cromwell	Margaret	Francis Ashton
1907/15534	Warner	Daphne Ella	Margaret	Francis Ashton
1909/3199	Warner	Sylvia Constance Ashton	Margaret	Francis Ashton
1910/21594	Warner	Norma Maurine Ashton	Margaret	Francis Ashton
1913/7894	Warner	Marmaduke Maxwell Shirley	Margaret	Francis Ashton

9th June 1923 Mrs. Francis Ashton. Warner (Te Whiti) has been appointed to the Rangitumau school, and will take up her duties on the 1st July. Mrs Warner mother of Grace then went to Bideford School where the school was closed because of her.

1925

14th August 1925 Letter to Wellington Education Board from Mr A D McLeod MP asking for a lease of quarter acre of land for a hall

11th August 1925 Letter from W A Cave Chairman School Committee and J E Semell Chairman Te Whiti Social Committee to Mr A D McLeod MP quoting Me McLeod's brother Mr R McLeod asking for support of lease of 1/4 acre of school land for hall

1st October 1925 Wellington Education Board to Director of Education That after careful consideration and visit on one of the officers because of the nature of the site na small rea available it was inadvisable to give a lease of a portion of the land

The Board has however been enabled to meet the desires of the settlers by granting permissions to add to a building already on site

1929

15 Jan 1929 Mr CR Russell Sole Teacher PP

5th May 1929 Application for a septic tank made to Wellington Education Board

11th May 1929 Letter from Wellington Education Board to Director of Education

Roll 30 with average attendance of 26

a) Two years ago the School Committee built additions to the school which is a somewhat infereior building

b) It is impossible to get effective sanitary service performed

21st May Department regrets cannot supply a septic tank for schools below Grade III

25th May Letter from Wellington Education Board to Director of Education Quoting a Departmental circular that the Department could pay up to half the cost of a septic tank if the Board covers equal amount The Te Whiti School Committee have promised £71.15.0 towards the cost

15th July 1929 Letter to T W McDonald MP re septic tank included The Department suggests that pits should be sunk and from time to time earth and disinfectant should be utilised

This is the most economical method and should cause no trouble from the hygienic point of view

7th October 1929 Te Whiti School is in Grade II Estimated cost of septic tank £150

1930

14th March 1930 Letter from Wellington Education Board to Director included

- a) Repeated requests for a septic tank
- b) The matter was brought to the attention of the Minister on his visit to Wairarapa and I have bene directed to present the application again for renewed consideration
- c) Department paid £150, Board paid £136.7 and School Committee paid £70

15 March 1930 Miss Hughes appointed Sole Teacher PP

19th March 1930 Telegram from Harry Atmore Minister of Education to Colonel McDonald MP Have approved a grant to cover costs of installation

21st March 1930 Letter of thanks from Mr Cave from Te Whiti School Committee

27 May 1930 Miss D I Nichol Sole Teacher

1931

3rd September 1931 Letter from director of Education to Wellington Education Board the total cost of £222.8.0 leaves too much of the cost of the septic tank to the Department

16th September 1931 The Board agrees that the amount found by your department £93.10.0 and as you have already paid £125.0.0 we will refund the £31.10.0 overpaid

1932

July 1932 Visit of Chief Inspector Grade II 27 pupils Miss J Rayne appointed to replace Miss D I Nicol this term

Workbook For each week or month there is a central topic which at present is Africa (Standard 3- Standard 6)

Scheme On the advice of the inspector Miss Rayne is using those prepared by her predecessor

1939

11th October 1939 A Hand written note from someone at Wellington Education Board included

- a) Roll 28
- b) Obsolete type classroom 53 years old.
- c) Orientation Correct

d) Ventilation fairly good, oblique air current

e) Light Good

f) Open Fireplace

g) Floors worn

h) Lining fairly sound recently renovated brighter colours desirable

i) Artesian water supply elevated tank, electric pump, two wash hand basins outside under hood

j) Built on blocks

k) Baseboard below surface of asphalt

l) Roof painted, paint satisfactory

m) Generally worth minor maintenance only

n) Shelter shed in annex of a community hall a fairly good building on school property

o) WC's patent closet, urinal and stall

Grounds

p) About 1 acre, level good grass playing area, rather small

q) Buildings wrongly placed

r) Small paved area

s) Tumbledown board front fence; some lawn, nice flower plots fairly good situation

4th Dec 1939 Miss R C Hunter Sole Teacher

1949

14th July 1949 Notes from a deputation with the Minister of Education Mr T H Tombs

Mr Malmo Chairman of School Committee Mr Tilyard Secretary of School Committee Mr McWilliams Member of School Committee \ Mr G H Mackley MP

Included

- a) A residence had been promised since 1946
- b) The Secretary Chairman and Architect of the Wellington Education Board visited last week but the School Committee did not know of the visit and did not meet them
- c) It was stated that the residence was again deferred and would get a residence until a married teacher appointed
- d) Beginning of 1949 school roll was 32 and by September estimated that roll would be 37
- e) The school had a roll which entitled to two teachers
- f) Mr T L Harp a returned serviceman wished to get married His grading was good and he would have no difficulty in going up with the grading He was marrying a schoolteacher and she could teach in the other position
- g) He would stay if he could get a house otherwise he was gone
- h) The Minister replied that the Education Board had never applied for a the erection of a residence
- i) The Board's problem was it could not get an architect to draw up the plans
- j) Although standard plans were used these had to be adapted
- k) If the Education Board built a house could the School Committee find a builder to build it at a reasonable price
- l) Mr Tilyard said they could
- m) Mr McWilliam asked about the classroom which was 42 square feet housed 32 children and was badly overcrowded
- n) The Architect said a new school would go up in a year or two but the School Committee thought this very vague

- o) Although the school was not on private land the grounds were and it was thought that it should have been erected on the other side of the road in Education Board land

26th August 1949 Wellington Education Board to Department The Board has placed the work on next years list to be considered

28th August Application for £598.0.0 from Department for a prefabricated latrine block The original latrine are nearly 60 years old and are in a dilapidated condition that cannot be made good

1945

25th June 1945 Miss E McLaren

1952

25th March 1952 Grading rolls 1949, 33 1950, 34, 1951,,31, 1952 30, 1953 40

Proposed addition 1 room 624 square foot timber building
Basic plan to be used cost applied for £3500

To question is conveyance a better alternative answer no- Well attended meeting of householders voted against consolidation

Existing classroom besides being very old is of a sub standard type

8th September 1952 That only one tender was received for school residence that of Dixon and McKinlay for £4,689.14.6

The Board considers this is far too high and is consequently calling fresh tenders

19th November Tender s J M Coradine 19th November
3895.0.0 R M Minton 3980.00

Area of residence 1065 sq foot

12th December Approved by Department

1953

7th May 1953 Tender of James Laurie construction on 19th November

7338/10 be accepted for additions

Following changes to plans 19th November

19th November

£1,105 reduction was made in cost

14th August 1953 Letter to Mr Cooksley MP advising him of additional classroom to be erected at Te Whiti

15th October 1953 Negotiations for an extra ½ acre of land owned by Mr R Pike

1969 Transferred back to crown

1961

24th May 1961 Learners pool approved £450 is Board's grant

Filtration plant School Committee asks for another £ 200 subsidy to finance filtration plant

1967

11th April Inspectors report included

- a) Mr J A Ellis Roll 17
- b) Miss P Windsor Roll 17
- c) There is a pleasing tone evident in the school

- d) All rooms and equipment are kept clean and hygienic
- e) The grounds are maintained in good order by the School Committee which takes a great interest in the school and its activities
- f) The removal of old trees and preparation for planting a new shelter belt, the painting of the baths and additions to the hall have all been part of the School Committee activities
- g) Full use is made of the school library service
- h) The publishing of a book of children's' writings and the newspaper and television interest shown in social studies programme are to be commended
- i) Successful calf and lamb days and Garden Club projects are held

1968

1968 Consolidation Notes included

- a) From beginning of 1969
- b) Present roll 137
- c) Gladstone a 2 teacher school Building erected 1968 Roll 38
- d) Householders In Favour 49 Present Parents 24 Pre School 12
- e) Householders against 33 Present Parents 12, Pre-schoolers 2

1969

22nd May 1969 Public Meeting a motion that there be a domain board lapsed for want of a seconder

The St Johns Ambulance have expressed a desire to purchase the whole land

3rd December 1969 Land gazetted and transferred to the crown

Notes from Jubilee Book

1885- 1960

- a) Parents were required to send children aged from 7 to 13 for at least half a year if they resided within 2 miles of the school
- b) Free from 5 to 15 years children
- c) I have this day 15th June 1885 taken full charge of Te Whiti School in the presence of the chairman of the School Committee Mr I R Robieson, School Committee members Messrs Dorset, L Pike, and J A Renall and 24 children there being 4 females and 20 males. Five of the boys being Maori. Henry W Lillington
- d) The grounds were unfenced.
- e) The first schoolroom was in the hall, a school building not being erected until the 1890's
- f) Swearing, Fighting and Shooting apparently occupied some of the boys time in 1885. The chairman bearing an official notice to the teacher to Chastise with the cane any boy swearing or fighting and the teacher delivering instructions to the children not to shoot during the lunch hour. No Boy had passed Standard 3
- g) That The school had been unfortunately sited because it was closed for three days in May 1886 because of flooding
- h) 1890: Behaviour of the children had not improved markedly. The second teacher Mr C H Harper had to forcibly point out the "evil and absurdity of making marks on the school walls with greasy fingers"
- i) The school grounds began to receive attention in 1891 with the replanting of two hundred ornamental trees and the delivery gravel to the school entrance
- j) One of the Most frequent log references is to wet weather and seasonal work on farms On one occasion in 1903 the boys took most of the afternoon off to put out a fire on the flats
- k) In 1900 the inspector called on the School Committee to find a better means of disposing of rubbish than placing it in a heap by a corner of the fence
- l) Mr Harper died while still teaching in 1893 and records show he was an outstanding teacher
- m) Proficiency examinations finished in 1936
- n) 1895 First women teacher is Miss M Burns and the girls received lessons in needlework
- o) In 1895 the school was closed for a period of 5 months because no teacher was available.. The Inspector noted the consequent serious drop in standards of attainment
- p) 11th February 1901. All children played truant to see the Imperial Troops in Masterton
- q) The water pump was constantly being repaired. In 1914 a new well was dug.
- r) By 1902 Inspector T R Fleming reported
 - i) Fences and windows broken
 - ii) Toilets primitive
 - iii) School needed painting
- s) One teacher (unnamed) resigned when salary was reduced where the Inspector's report stated that an uncertificated teacher would need to be appointed as the salary would be insufficient to cover board and lodgings
- t) Miss Manning made a good impression and left in 1906

- u) The school was used for district functions and in 1912 an inspector had to recommend that the temporary erection in front be removed to an inconspicuous place
- v) 1913 Miss W Dorset took charge of the school for six years and did her best to make the grounds more attractive On arbour day in 1913 she and the pupils made gardens and planted trees and went to the bush to get ferns
- w) In 1914 Miss Dorset planted the remaining two sides with shelter trees. She saw to it that all broken and cracked window panes were replaced and that a new water tank was erected.
- x) 18th November 1918 The school was closed until February for the Influenza Epidemic
- y) 29th April 1919 Miss Grace Ashton- Warner took charge of the school. She took the opportunity to improve the grounds.
- z) Mrs Margaret Aston- Warner took over from her daughter in 20th December Sunday service was held in the school and she took pain to make sure it was suitably clean. She recorded 100% attendance at a householders meeting
- aa) Mrs Ashton-Warner was commended by the Inspectors for her firm and sympathetic treatment of her students while demanding a high standard of work (*See Bideford*) She took her pupils swimming in the summer and made them cocoa in the winter and encouraged them to enter drawing contests and sit Junior National Scholarships. All this with 8 children of her own and an invalid husband
- bb) Succeeding teachers, Miss Currie, Mr. Birkby, Miss Gunn and Miss Stoddart. Miss Stoddart left in 1928
- cc) 28th March 1929. First shop day was to raise money for improving the conveniences.
- dd) Mr Russell rode his motor bike to school from Masterton for six months of his one year stay. This sometimes let him down
- ee) Miss D I Nicol closed the school because of a heavy snow storm
- ff) 24th September 1930. Electric Light installed in the school
- gg) The Napier earthquake of 5th February 1931 was felt quite severely. The school picnic fund was used £2/2/6 was sent to Napier
- hh) Miss J Rayne commenced teaching in 1932 and stayed until 1936. The school gardens were kept going were kept going. A night time raid of the vegetable gardens gave tribute to their excellence
- ii) Miss Admore taught from 1937-1939 and was greeted by an outbreak of infantile paralysis closing the school
- jj) Miss R C Hunters time 1942-1944
- kk) Mr. P A Cannons was called up for active service after 2 months stay
- ll) Miss T Major 1942-1944 arranged for the children to receive religious instruction from the Reverend A C Lane.
- mm) The school hall proved a useful classroom in 1942 when the earthquake damage was repaired. In earlier days the hall had also been partially converted for the living quarters for one teacher
- nn) 25th June 1942 Miss Major reported that the heavy earthquake had knocked the chimney down disarranged the classroom and upset attendance. School was closed for the afternoon. The school hall proved a useful classroom in 1942, when the earthquake damage was being repaired. In earlier days the hall had also been partially converted as living quarters for one teacher
- oo) March 1943 The apples in school scheme as a relief measure for New Zealand Orchardists
- pp) IN 1943 Te Whiti school was using the National Library Service
- qq) In 1944 Miss Majors organised the Milk in Schools scheme started. This was later discontinued and recommenced in 1957

- rr) Miss F McLaren (1945) records that 3 ex servicemen teachers visited Te Whiti before returning to their classrooms
- ss) From 1946 to 1948 Mr J Davies an ex serviceman was teacher. Mr Davies recalled the first combined country school sports to which he conveyed the children.
- tt) In 1947 The Committee purchased a radio
- uu) Another polio epidemic closed the school from 1st December 1947 to 1st March 1948 and once again correspondence lessons prepared by the Department were necessary
- vv) Mr T L Harp arrived in 1948 He further improved the grounds which were not in a good state. Mr Harp reports the extension of specialist teacher services in the school specialists in Physical Education, art, traffic safety, agriculture and nature study.
- ww) A public meeting was called in 1949 by the Wellington Education Board to consider the future of the school The Board asked the settlers to vote on amalgamation on Masterton before plans were completed for a new room and residence. The proposal was narrowly defeated.
- xx) Mr P G Ridgway (1951-56) saw the school develop into a two teacher school in 1953 for £6000
- yy) In 1951 the toilet block was erected but so poor was it that by 1959 it had to be resheathed and repaired.
- zz) New building started on 21st of August 1953
- aaa) The Home and School was developed on 29th April 1929
- bbb) Tenders were called for a school residence. First asked for in 1887 and again in 1947 A letter was written to Mr Guy Fredrickson stating that the residence was deleted from the 1947 plans
- ccc) The residence was erected in 1954
- ddd) September 15th 1952 the school roll allowed for a second teacher. Miss Derbyshire was appointed. The hall was used for a classroom while the school was being extended.
- eee) From May to July 1953 No assistant was available and Miss Colleen Wilton of Te Whiti filled in
- fff) 1956 Wairarapa Music Festival began and Te Whiti took part
- ggg) Children visited Christchurch in 1957 on a social studies trip during the August Holidays accompanied by the teacher and his wife and Mr C Fink
- hhh) Departmental School bus arrived. Mr P J Borthwick's efforts in providing transport for this run over several years was much appreciated.
- iii) 1958 Manual Training for Form 1 and 2 commenced in Masterton weekly
- jjj) Hall remodelling decided on in 1958 for upcoming jubilee.
- kkk) Tennis court extended 1958
- lll) 1953 Secondary transport to Wairarapa College arranged
- mmm) New school bus delivered 1959

Memories of Teacher 1919- 1922 Mrs Margaret Ashton Warner
Started in August 1919.

Mr Len Pike drove us to Te Whiti in the trap Our furniture was at Palmerston north stretchers and utensils were put in a 3 roomed shack for our accommodation. There were only two sound rungs to a small tank and the verandah boards were rotten and broken
The shack was in a vast paddock surrounded by sheep There were eleven of us when we were all at home and I was the bread winner
In our leisure time we swam in the Tauaru River and the Children rode Mr Len's Pike's horses in the river
There was a Maori Orchard nearby with the inevitable result of pillage by young children In the swamp was Pukeko and various Maori Huts enclosing the belongs of recent deceased.
In the front of our dwelling was a Maori Cemetery and when I was teaching music to Queenie a Maori Girl as dusk drew near her

traditional fears drove her in a fury to mount her pony and flee from ghosts haunting the cemetery and pursuing her

Down the paddock was a deserted house and the Maoris came up regularly to scrub it throughout. There was an ancient piano there and a small boy with nothing to do, pulled it to pieces, bit by bit.

On washday the children and I went to a well near the deserted house to obtain water to fill a kerosene tin which we boiled on an open fire. If the well was dry we resorted to the Taueru River whose waters were brown from the birch trees further up. A rope line between the trees and bushes served as a clothes line. Then we would refresh ourselves with a swim and the elder girls would throw the three year old to an angry river and then catch her round the bend. Naturally she could swim at 3 years old.

The meat we had was sheep's heads which Mr Len Pike gave us. They looked fairly weird when with eyes open they boiled fiercely in a big iron boiler

Once a month I played the organ for a service at the school, for ministers to reach to high places

1884		Te Whiti	Not Yet Open			
1885	22	Te Whiti	Lillington	Henry W	Master	£100
1886	17	Te Whiti	Lillington	Henry W	Master	£100
1887	20	Te Whiti	Lillington	Henry W	Master	£100
1888	19	Te Whiti	Harper	Charles H	Master	£150
1889	19	Te Whiti	Harper	Charles H	Master	£150
1890	20	Te Whiti	Harper	Charles H	Master	£150
1891	20	Te Whiti	Harper	Charles H	Master	£150
1892	13	Te Whiti	Harper	Charles H	Master	£150
1893	14	Te Whiti	Tuckey	Henry E	Master	£150
1894	16	Te Whiti	Bee	John	Master	£100
1895		Te Whiti	Burns	Mattie	Female	£56
1896	15	Te Whiti	Burns	Mattie	Female	£70

The time came when a Minister of a church complained of the teacher's accommodation and I was transferred to Rangitumau- I was presented with a white cow and a silver pencil

School Picnic 1923

Held on the Stop Bank of Fryer's farm This day in February turned out well when suddenly a thunderstorm hit the district at 2 pm

1897	15	Te Whiti	Lamb	Marcella		Female	£70
1898	14	Te Whiti	Lamb	Marcella		Female	£80
1899	11	Te Whiti	Scott	Elizabeth		Female	£37
1900	13	Te Whiti	Scott	Elizabeth		Female	£48
1901	15	Te Whiti	Cran	Elizabeth B		Female	£90
1902	15	Te Whiti	Armit	Catherine N		Female	£80
1903	13	Te Whiti	Jennings	William H		Headmaster	£80
1904	14	Te Whiti	Manning	C A		Female	£72
1905	14	Te Whiti	Manning	C A	Licensed	Female	£80
1906	10	Te Whiti	Gibb	George		Master	£84
1907	5	Te Whiti	Turner	Ethel		Female	£84
1908	6	Te Whiti	Turner	Ethel		Female	£30
1909	7	Te Whiti	Mason	Janet		Female	£42
1910	7	Te Whiti	Mason	Jane K		Female	£42
1911	9	Te Whiti	Caverhill	Kathleen		Female	£90
1912	8	Te Whiti	Caverhill	Kathleen		Female	£90
1913	10	Te Whiti	Dorset	Whilimena		Female	£90
1914	10	Te Whiti	Dorset	Whilimena		Female	£90
1915	12	Te Whiti	Dorset	Whilimena		Female	£110
1917	15	Te Whiti	Dorset	Whilimena		Sole	£117
1919	10	Te Whiti	Warner	Grace		Sole	£140
1921	18	Te Whiti	Warner	Margaret Mrs	D	Sole	£200
1923	17	Te Whiti	Birkby	John S D'H		Sole	£155

