

Building locations

15 Challenge Garage

This building dominates the corner and until recently belonged to Alex Smith & Sons who had it purpose built as a garage and service station in the 1950's.

16 St. John Ambulance Station

Previously the offices of Jamieson, a lawyer and then the stock agent company National Mortgage. In 1997 the building was extended and refurbished to include housing for the ambulances which previously had been garaged at the hospital.

17 Ranfurly Town Hall

Built to replace the original Town Hall that was burned down in 1931. The building was extensively refurbished and a new foyer added in 1998.

18 Style Corner

Built by the Mitchell's in the late 1950's to house Miss Grant's Drapery.

19 Old Ranfurly Post Office (now backpackers)

Opened in 1922 it housed the first manual telephone exchange for the area. On 4th June 1943 people queued to use the phones for news of relatives who may have been involved in the Hyde Railway accident in which 21 people were killed.

20 Fraser McDonald Martin

Ranfurly's 'law centre' built in the 1930's.

21 Central Otago District Council

Built in 1935 when the Maniototo County Council decided to relocate its administrative headquarters from Naseby.

22 Mt. Ida Lodge

This building was also shifted down from Naseby.

23 Fenton Library

Built in 1924 thanks to a bequest of £600 from local benefactor Mr John Fenton. Until 2004 it was the local radio station. It is now home to 'Classic Gold Radio'.

Turning left up Stafford Street note house numbers 4, 19, 23 and 26. They are marvellous examples of Art Deco design buildings or surrounding walls.

28 Sacred Heart Catholic Church

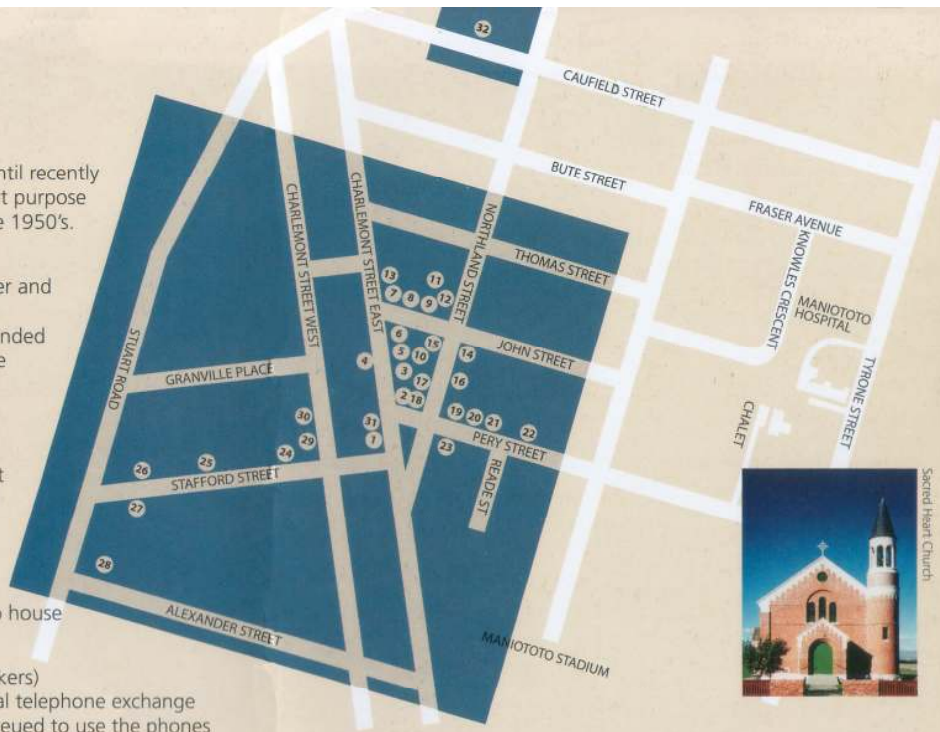
Built in 1926, it was designed by the Italian influenced Mandeno & Fraser.

29 Old Brick Home

A lovely old character home built in the 1930's.

30 Concrete Flats

The first purpose built flats in Ranfurly. Note the Art Deco fences.



Sacred Heart Church

Also observe, on the same side of the road, the Victorian shop fronts which were part of Ranfurly's original main street. Across the road and over the old railway line you will find a refurbished, original railway house. The railway line is now part of the Central Otago Rail Trail – the original Central Otago Branch Line was closed in 1990. Visit the Machinery Park of the Art Deco movement.

31 Railway Station

View the interior and exterior of this building. The platform is facing you as you approach the station.

In a project undertaken by the Maniototo Lions and the Community Board the old parking area and station frontage were transformed into gardens and a photographic display centre.

This is the end of your guided walk around our Rural Art Deco town. Note the other buildings of interest still within walking distance or, you may feel you could better see them from a car.

Caufield Street and Dungannon Street both have examples of Art Deco style homes.



View the Hospital

in Tyrone Street which was built in 1930. Now owned by the community it was substantially upgraded in 1996 on the inside leaving the exterior intact. It now has a Category 2 Historic Places Trust registration.

32 School Community Library

Revamped in Art Deco style in the 1990's.



Maniototo Visitor Information Centre

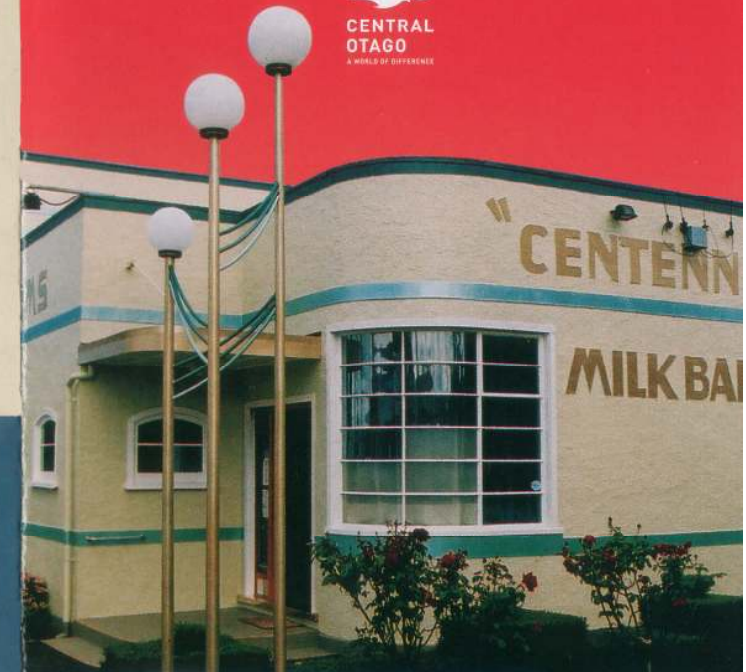
Phone: 03 444 1005

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RURAL ART DECO RANFURLY-WALK



CENTRAL
OTAGO
A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE



WELCOME TO RURAL RANFURLY ART DECO WALK

Ranfurly's Art Deco origins began following a series of disastrous and suspicious fires in the early 1930's that destroyed many of the town's buildings.

Looking for a way to replace these buildings that was inexpensive, quick and easy to erect local architects H McDowell Smith and builder JM Mitchell & Sons chose the simplistic Art Deco style of the Northern Hemisphere. They were constructed of concrete, plaster or brick and were adorned with moulded embellishments, decorations and colours. These buildings were to become the cornerstone for Ranfurly's continued existence many years down the track.

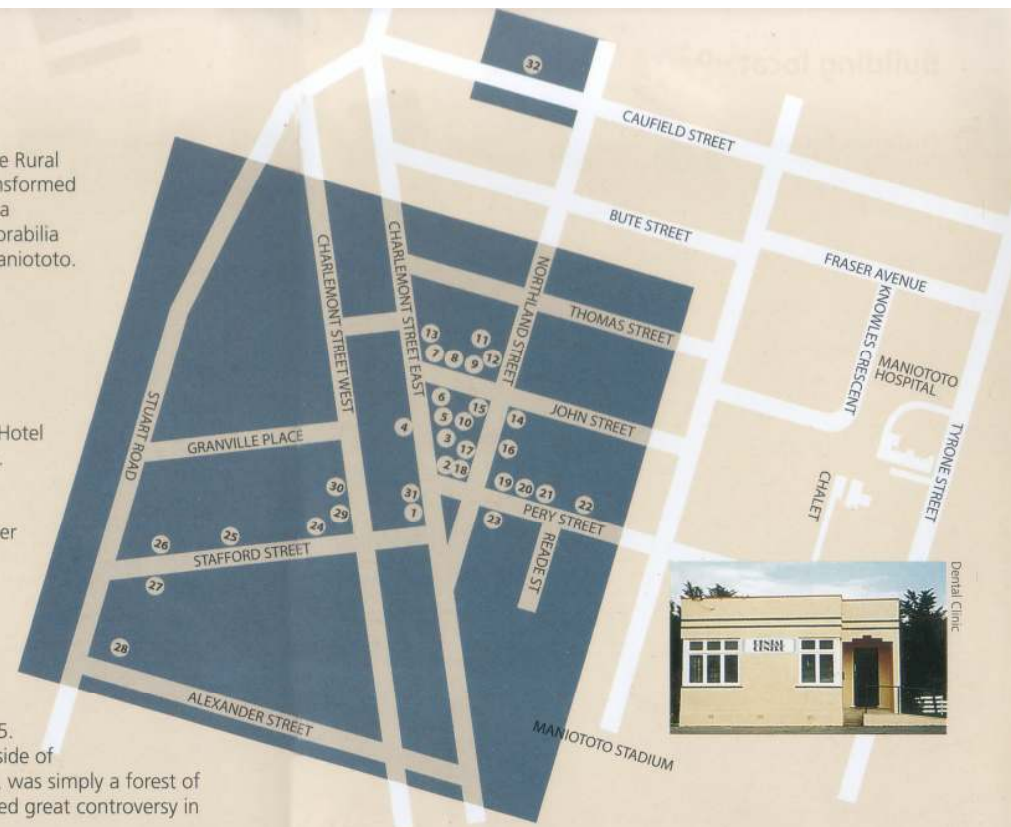
Following the economic decline of the 1990's the local community looked at ways to fight back rather than give up. In 1999 a workshop was held to look at ways to promote the town and Edna McAtamney set in motion the idea of Ranfurly as a Rural Art Deco tourist destination.

The Centennial Milk Bar, destined for fire fighting practice, was the Art Deco Society's first project. This derelict building was transformed with the help of volunteers into the Rural Art Deco Gallery filled with exhibits and memorabilia from the Maniototo area. With 44 Art Deco buildings, a library (1926), a store (1927), a hospital (1930), a hotel (1934) and various other buildings covering the 1930-1950 period there is plenty for the Art Deco enthusiast to see.

The Ranfurly Art Deco Walk takes approximately 50 minutes and explores the unique architectural style of Ranfurly. Commencing with the Centennial Milk Bar just follow the numbers on the map – all you will need is a camera and a good pair of walking shoes.

Building locations

- 1 The Centennial Milk Bar**
This is the town's flagship building in the Rural Art Deco Maniototo project. It was transformed into a Gallery in early 2000 and houses a permanent collection of Art Deco memorabilia donated or lent by the people of the Maniototo.
- 2 Maniototo Supermarket**
This building was built in 1927 for the Gilchrist family.
- 3 Ranfurly Lion Hotel**
Following a disastrous fire the Ranfurly Hotel re-opened for business on July 7th 1934. This building was the first to be built in compliance with the new by-laws introduced in the aftermath of the Napier earthquake. The dining room, on the right hand side of the foyer, is an outstanding example of Art Deco design.
- 4 Decollectables**
Built by James Mitchell this shop was originally opened as a pharmacy in 1955. It was the first building erected on this side of Charlemont Street which, up until then, was simply a forest of pine trees. The felling of the trees caused great controversy in the town at the time.
- 5 Hanrahan's Old Shop**
Hanrahan's opened in 1907 as a tobacconist and men's hairdresser.
- 6 Ranfurly Auto Repairs**
This is a marvellous example of Art Deco architecture with its classic lines and form. Constructed in the 1950's a record of sorts was set when 1,132 bricks were laid in 7 hours. The outer wall was built in front of and around an existing garage which was then demolished as the new building neared completion.
Take the time to view the Westpac Trust Bank, at the junction of Charlemont Street East and John Street. The building has had a presence in the town since 1923 when it was moved down from Naseby as the Bank of New South Wales.
- 7 Maniototo Paint and Hardware**
This building began life as the premises of the stock firm New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Ltd.
- 8 Maniototo Butchery**
Another building built in the late 1950's by Mitchell's – a name long associated with building in the Maniototo. Note the creative concrete fence next door.
- 9 Maniototo Op Shop**
Built to house Central Stores (a grocery shop), it has since been Ranfurly Drapery, Alex Smith Electrical Ltd and then a laundrette.
- 10 Water Tank (Lion Hotel) and**
- 11 Water Tank (Northland Street)**
Both of which were purpose built to hold water pumped from a well.
- 12 Dental Clinic**
Built in 1950 by Teddy Woods for the first dentist in the area.
- 13 Moyola Guest House**
Built in 1928 by the Mawhinney Family who came from the Moyola Estate in Ireland. Moyola is totally refurbished in Art Deco style.
- 14 Reid Farmers** Built in 1950.



Dental Clinic