

A1 Mill Cottage

The Dundee Saw Mill was the first saw mill at Henderson and was built in 1849. The mill was built by Charles Marsden for Henderson and McFarlane. It is possible that the mill cottage was built at this time but there is no documentary evidence detailing which buildings were built and at what time. The building was used as a cookhouse for the mill. In 1875 it changed its use from cookhouse to schoolroom. It remained the schoolroom until the school moved to its present site on the corner of Great North Road and Vitasovich Avenue. Sometime later it was converted into a dwelling house and it was renovated in the 1930s. The building was shifted to its present site on Sel Peacock Drive in 1993 and restored to its present condition.

A2 Henderson's Mill

The land for the saw mill was the subject of prolonged dispute between Henderson and McFarlane, the government and the Maori Chiefs who had traded the land for the schooner Lucidan. In 1848 Governor Fitzroy brokered a resolution that saw Henderson and McFarlane granted some land and purchasing the other land they needed. The mill was established in 1849 and named Dundee Saw Mill by Thomas Henderson.

A3 Mill Dam

A dual purpose dam was built for the mill. It was intended to hold back kauri logs and to power the approximately 5 metre diameter water wheel. The dam and the water wheel were constructed from timber. A model wheel has been constructed on the site and the foundations of the dam are still visible in the stream bed

A4 Cranwell Park

The land now Cranwell Park was part of the holding of Henderson and McFarlane. In 1857 'Shepherd' John McLeod came to Henderson's Mill to manage this farm which extended from the site of the park on the delta at the confluence of the Opanuku and Oratia Streams back up the valley. Early in the 20th Century Ben Cranwell, who had learned his skills from his father pioneering orchardist Robert, established an orchard on the delta. Some old pear trees still grow and fruit on the site. A descendant, Lucy Cranwell, is an eminent New Zealand biologist now resident in the USA.

A5 Delta Point Landing

Until the arrival of rail in 1880 the streams provided the main transport routes between Henderson and Auckland. The Great North Road was notorious for being difficult to negotiate, especially in wet weather. There were a number of landings along the stream banks where goods brought from Auckland could be offloaded. The remains of the Delta Point Landing can still be seen on the river bank.

A6 Tui Glen Concrete Wharf

The concrete wharf at Tui Glen was a key focus for stream-based entertainment. The site of Tui Glen was acquired by Claude Brookes in 1912. It opened as a camping ground in 1925. The first wooden wharf was built about 1924. The derrick, the remains of which are still there, was used to raise and lower rowing boats and canoes. By 1930 Tui Glen was one of Auckland's major tourist attractions.

A7 Manuka Shade

"Manuka Shade" was not brought to Tui Glen until 1964. It was originally built in 1908 in Henderson Valley Road. The first cabin at the camp ground was the master's cabin off the Union Steam Ship Company's 'Wainui' which was purchased and brought to Tui Glen in 1921. Other ship's cabins followed and other cabins were constructed on site out of packing cases.

A8 Tui Glen

The Brookes developed their property with picnic grounds. For 6d. (5c.) a head people could spend the day at Tui Glen enjoying a range of leisure activities. In 1925 Tui Glen was registered as New Zealand's first motor camp.

A9 Mill River

This was the name given to the stretch of river from the confluence of the Oratia and Opunuku Streams out to the end of Selwood Road. It was named Mill River by Commander Drury in 1854 but local usage has always called it Henderson Creek.

A10 Swan's Arch

Swan's Arch, also known as Swan's Bridge, was built by Henry Swan sometime after he moved to Henderson in 1904. Much of the detail about its construction is a mystery. One suggestion is that he built it for a hobby and to demonstrate and teach brick laying skills to his young visitors. He was a solicitor who in 1904 gave up his practice and sailed his yacht up the creek to Henderson where he lived out his life as a recluse.

A11 Falls Park and Falls Hotel

Falls Park was established by the Henderson town Board in the 1920s. In 1996 the Falls Hotel was brought from its Railside Avenue site to Falls Park for restoration. It has been reopened as a restaurant and café with meeting rooms and offices upstairs. The hotel was built on its original site in 1873. The original licensee was "Shepherd" John McLeod. The Hotel was named the Oratia Hotel after the stream nearby. The Hotel gained its present name in 1897 when it regained the license it had lost in 1890.

B1 Mill Cottage

The Dundee Saw Mill was the first saw mill at Henderson and was built in 1849. The mill was built by Charles Marsden for Henderson and McFarlane. It is possible that the mill cottage was built at this time but there is no documentary evidence detailing which buildings were built and at what time. The building was used as a cookhouse for the mill. In 1875 it changed its use from cookhouse to schoolroom. It remained the schoolroom until the school moved to its present site on the corner of Great North Road and Vitasovich Avenue. Sometime later it was converted into a dwelling house and it was renovated in the 1930s. The building was shifted to its present site on Sel Peacock Drive in 1993 and restored to its present condition.

B2 Coronation Bridge

This bridge was opened in 1911, the year of King George V's coronation. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr Cochrane, Chairman of the Waitemata County Council. Now restricted to pedestrian use it was the main accessway north and remained in use for over 50 years.

B3 Corban's Wine Depot

Prohibition was voted in in Henderson in 1909 with the rail line marking the boundary between "wet" and "dry" areas. The Corbans bought a small section across the railway line and built the wine depot to allow them to continue trading. The current brick building was built in 1914.

B4 Methodist Chapel

This was the site of the Henderson Race Course established in 1858. The track was carved out of the gorse and manuka and a large platform in one corner served as a grandstand. In 1876 the Henderson Turf Club was formally recognised and shifted to a new site including what is now Henderson High School.

Although there had been services held in various places the church built at the intersection of Great North, Swanson and Lincoln Roads was the first purpose built church. People of many denominations attended services run by the Presbyterian Church until 1911. In 1911 Henderson also formed its own Catholic Parish.

B5 Original site of the old Anglican Church

The Church of St Michael was built on this site in 1914 with half the cost being donated by Mrs Phillipson and the other half donated by Henry Swan. The foundation stone was laid on the 5th of April and the new church was dedicated on September 13th. The first vicar was the Reverend Jecks. The church made way for a new one in 1962 and was moved to its present site in the Corban Winery in 1997.

B6 Corban's Winery

Assid Abraham Corban came to New Zealand in 1892. He decided to try winemaking and after considering several sites he bought 4 hectares of land in Henderson in 1902. Grapes were planted over about half the land and when the first grapes were ready a winery was built in 1907. Early crops were processed by hand. The large homestead was not completed until 1923.

B7 The Original Site of the Falls Hotel

The hotel was built on this site in 1873. The original licensee was "Shepherd" John McLeod. The Hotel was named the Oratia Hotel after the stream nearby. The Hotel gained its present name in 1897 when it regained the license it had lost in 1890.

B8 Railway Station

In 1880 the rail line was extended from Waikumete (Glen Eden) to Henderson. The first train arrived in Henderson on December 21 1880 and work continued on towards Kumeu which was reached in July 1881. Many local men got work on railway construction. The railway station became a focus for town development. The Laurie brothers built their general store across the road. The station name was painted up dropping the original 's to become Henderson Mill and later simply Henderson.

B9 Town Hall Site

Waitakere City is unusual in not having a town hall. The old borough of Henderson used to have a hall but it was gone long before amalgamation. Henderson's first civic hall was a kauri hall built on this site in 1896, which burned down thirty years later. In its place the Henderson Town Board constructed a new reinforced concrete Town Hall, opened in January 1927, which later became the Civic Theatre. Forty years later it, too, was destroyed by fire, on 20 July 1967.

B10 Catherine Street

All the central Henderson streets were named after members of Thomas Henderson's family. Apart from Catherine Street, named after Thomas Henderson's wife Catherine (1811-1867), all have been renamed or no longer exist. Other streets named after the family were Thomas, Henry, John, Mary and George Streets. Catherine Street is now the site of the walkway of stars remembering modern heroes as well as Henderson's first lady.

B11 Henderson School

Henderson School opened in 1873. The first teacher was Mr Tom George followed by Miss M Laurie. Classes were held in the Mill reading room. Later they shifted to the cookhouse which could be heated. Miss Laurie continued until 1878 when demands for a proper school were acceded to. The school moved to its present site, donated by Thomas Henderson, in 1880. The first teacher at the new site, Miss Helen Hanson, lived in a house which once stood in the Baptist Church car park across the road opposite the school.

B12 Newey's Corner

Miss Eileen Newey, who lived on this corner, was a teacher at Henderson Primary School, where she taught for eleven years, finally as infant mistress from 1959 to 1963. She remained a well known local identity right up to her death in 1987. She left her property to the Henderson Borough Council for development as a park.