Rangi Marie

3 Rangiora Avenue, Palmerston North

NZHPT Registration Number: 1268

NZHPT Registration Type: Historic Place – Category II

NZHPT Registration Date: 02/07/82

City/District Council: Palmerston North City Council

District Plan Status: Category 2



Brief History

A large section on Featherston Street was bought in 1902 by Charles M Ross, the founder of the department store C M Ross & Co in the Square, now the City Library. The house was built in 1908. Ross died in 1924 and the property passed to his widow Keren who lived there until her death in 1954. In 1940 Mrs Ross sold 20 acres (about 8 hectares) surrounding the house to the government, which was acquiring land for state housing, and the subsequent development of Rangiora and Moheke Avenues reduced the extensive grounds of the house. Other nearby land was purchased by the State and the whole area was called the Ross Block until in 1948 the suburb was named Roslyn. During the period 1959 -1988 the property changed ownership several times, it being a Rest Home, student flat and private residence. In 1988 it was purchased by J Jobson and N Hope. It is currently owned by J Jobson and M Le Fevre.

The distinguishing feature of the house is the symmetrical front elevation with a small flight of steps between to two reception rooms with projecting, gabled bay windows set on the diagonal at each corner.

External decoration includes stickwork walls, ornate fretwork to the gables, porch and veranda, and brackets under the eaves. The small entrance leads to a study and the larger main entrance is to the left. The hall is panelled on walls and ceiling and ends with a fine arch leading to a side hall. Prior to registration as an historic place the original stained glass entrance and stained glass fan lights were removed. The interior has been extensively altered from time to time and a new wing was added in the 1920s. Several of the old fireplaces retain the original surrounds. The original stables still stand and were upgraded in 2009.

Principal Sources:

Historic Places Manawatu-Horowhenua Record 010066.
Ian Matheson City Archives, C M Ross sub series 2/23/2.
Wright, E R & Woodhouse E D, *Colonial Homes of Palmerston North,* Wellington, AH & AW Reed, 1975.
Palmerston North City Library Photograph Collection: Bur 68, 273.
M. Le Fevre personal communication, October 2013.

Woolahra

781 Rangitikei Line, RD 5, Palmerston North

NZHPT Registration Number: 1273

NZHPT Registration Type: Historic Place-Category II

NZHPT Registration Date: 25/11/82

City/District Council: Palmerston North City Council

District Plan Status: To be confirmed following recent district boundary

change



Brief History

In 1876 Thomas Cooper bought a block of native forest and about 1882, during the stumping period, a local carpenter built a lean-to pioneer cottage on the property. This was retained for nearly one hundred years and until 1989 was the last remaining pioneer dwelling on Rangitikei Line. In 1888 the land was sold to Sibbit John Podevin, in 1897 to Edward Turner and Jessie Ann Skerman, in 1900 to Arthur John Podevin and then in 1901 to Alex McCulloch JP, a farmer from Trentham. He bought 211 acres extending from Rangitikei Line through to Gillespies Line. In 1901 a new front section, designed by H C Collinson, Clerk of Works for the Palmerston North Borough Council, was added to the cottage. The house was given the name Woolahra but from 1912-1920 it was known as Holly Lodge. In 1907 McCulloch retired from farming and employed a series of managers until 1922, when his son Alex McCulloch junior took over the farm. On his retirement in 1962, the farm was divided and the section on which the house stood was sold to Kevin O'Donnell.