

Lawrence

Welcome to Lawrence, the gateway to the Otago gold rush!

Step back in time at Gabriels Gully, where gold was first discovered in 1861. Nestled among its idyllic walking trails, you will uncover tales of pioneers and prospectors.

For heritage enthusiasts, Lawrence offers glimpses into the past in its varied architecture and historic sites. Lawrence's heritage isn't just history; it's a living presence, waiting to be explored.

Positioned at the heart of the Clutha Gold Cycle trail, Lawrence is the ideal base camp to your cycling adventures. Strategically located at the trail's midpoint, you can set off on your cycling journey with ease and convenience.



HISTORIC BUILDINGS

A Former Courthouse 1866 Initially the Lawrence Lands and Survey Office and Magistrates Court. Served as a courthouse until 1953 and then as a base for various government departments. Designed by architect David Humphrey.

Brormer Post Office 1866 This landmark of early New Zealand architecture was designed by famed architect R.A. Lawson (1835-1902). Originally built as a Warden's Court, and later used as a Post Office.

G Former County Office 1878 Designed and built by S.A. Millar. The Tuapeka County Council was established in 1876 to administer an area with boundaries reaching from Lawrence to Roxburgh and Tapanui. The mining industry and the opening up of agricultural land around the County forced the rapid development of roads and bridges.

D Former Presbyterian Church 1886 Designed by R.A. Lawson. The church was originally red brick on stone foundations with plaster detailing. This was the first Presbyterian church in Otago to use instrumental music in divine service.

Former St Patrick's Church 1892 Designed by Francis Petrie, the building is red brick but was covered in plaster in an attempt to protect it from decay. Some of the stained glass windows were made in Munich's famous Zettler factory.

() Former St. Patrick's Presbytery 1902

G Former St Patrick's School 1872 This Gothic-style building was opened on St. Patrick's Day. For nearly 20 years it served as a church and school, then as a community centre. Designed by R.A. Lawson.

(1) Anglican Sunday School 1882

O Former Anglican Church & Bell Tower The Bell Tower was part of the original timber church built in 1868.

J Former Methodist Church 1873 Built for £300 the original Methodist church on Colonsay Street was demolished when it was found to have been built partially on Roman Catholic Church property.

(Visitor Centre & Museum c1880 Originally built as a seed cleaning depot and grain store for Herbert & Co, – the longest-running business on the Otago goldfields. Tour the museum and discover the rich history of the area.

C Former Bank of NZ 1886 This impressive building was designed by John Arthur Burnside, reflecting the high status and development of Lawrence at the time. The bank manager's accommodation was located on the upper floor, with banking rooms, a kitchen, and a dining room on the ground floor.

W Anthem House 1902 This prominent seven-room house was built for J.J. Woods, composer of the New Zealand National Anthem.

() The Arches 1985 Site of the former swimming pool, built in 1935. A roof was added in 1985. In 2018 the pool was demolished, but the roof's distinctive beams remain as a community greenspace.



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CLUTHA GOLD CYCLING & WALKING TRAIL

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