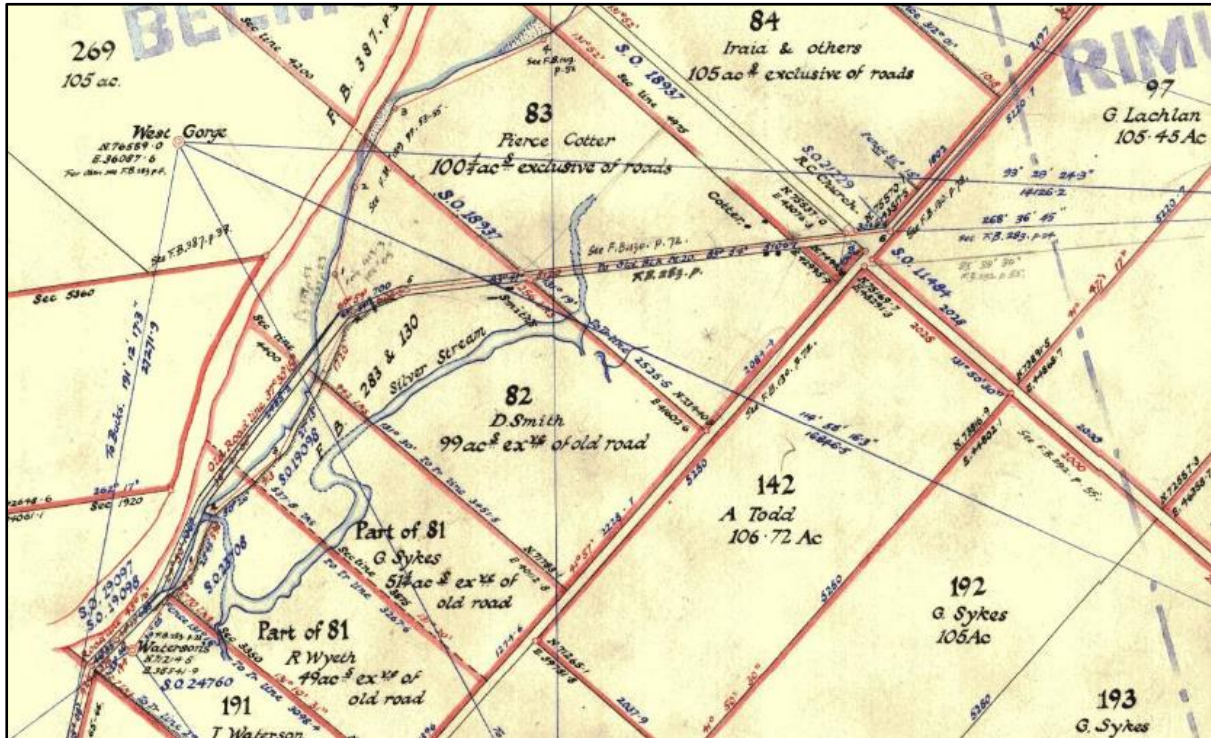


## Pumpkin Cottage - Silverstream

There are many stories about “Pumpkin cottage” in Silverstream. Who built it, who lived in it and who named it “Pumpkin cottage”? I have tried to put all the stories together then try to locate information to confirm or disprove some of the stories.

The story at the beginning of this document written by Roger Haybittle a descendant of the Haybittle family I believe is the true story regarding the naming of “Pumpkin Cottage”. Roger’s gave me written permission to publish his story in this document for which I am most grateful.

### Section No 82 or 83 - Silverstream



(Reference Survey Map saved as Map1860sUHSilverstreamJGillardWNC\_SO\_10985\_L1.jpg)

It is not known if Pumpkin cottage was situated on Section No 82 or No 83 in Silverstream. By researching the early survey maps, surveyor field books, land and deeds documents we will in time find the answer and locate when the cottage was built.

### ‘Pumpkin Cottage’ Silverstream Wellington - By Roger Haybittle

Much has been said written and referenced about the artists who banded together to form the Wellington Art Club and whose members travelled from Wellington to Silverstream in the late 1800s through to the mid-1900s to paint in the area. Silverstream was renowned for its light qualities and those who came often stayed in a little wagoner’s cottage that was to become known as ‘Pumpkin Cottage’, and, in turn, become part of New Zealand Art history.

The exact age of the cottage is unknown but its earliest recorded occupant was around 1860. It is also understood that Thomas Cotter lived there for a period before his first marriage in 1868 but more on the Cotters’ later.

As a result of the art exhibition ‘Bohemians of the Brush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists’ touring galleries in New Zealand recently the cottage, and its role in early New Zealand art, became better known to the general public. The exhibition was based on the Pumpkin Cottage paintings collection generously given by Ernest and Shirley Cosgrove to the Expressions Trust for the people of Upper Hutt. The exhibition told the story of the Scottish born artist James (Jimmy) MacLauchlan Nairn. In 1892 he stimulated the development of impressionism as a style

of painting through his teaching at Wellington Design School, which later became Wellington Technical College Art School. In doing so, he brought together many artists, including Mabel Hill, Mary Tripe, Nugent Welch, Fred Sedgwick and others. The curator of the exhibition was Jane Vial. James had a great love for the outdoors but suffered from poor health and came to New Zealand in the hope that the climate would assist his recovery. Sadly this was not to be and he died in 1904, aged 44.

He was also instrumental in forming the Wellington Art Club, which continued many years after his death. Artists William Wauchop, Carl Laugensen and others continued to frequent this unassuming little cottage at Silverstream, treating it as a base for their painting excursions up until 1945.

However, this story is not a lesson in art history but about how this cottage came by its name.

It relates to an event involving my Grandfather Ralph Haybittle and his brother Charles around 1900. It was a story my Grandfather often told my father and in turn, my sister and I heard many times as children. It became one of those family stories we fondly remembered. Whilst time often dims the mind my father fortunately recorded it in the family records he painstakingly wrote back in 1984. A little family/local history at this point is necessary to explain just how the family was connected to the cottage.

My Great Grandfather William George Haybittle, formerly a mariner, as was his brother Richard Brignell, ran a successful lightering business in Wellington for a number of years. This involved carrying goods from ship to shore in a small vessel known as a lighter and was the standard means of getting goods ashore before Queen's Wharf, the first public wharf, was built in the 1860s. They were quite entrepreneurial, trading as coal merchants and ferrying gold prospectors to the goldfields in Marlborough in their vessels, the "*Mosquito*" and the "*Sandfly*". Other enterprises followed, and William George and his wife Emma finally settled in Trentham in 1876 where he became a storekeeper until his death in 1898. He and Emma had 15 children and my Grandfather Ralph was the younger of the two surviving males. The other, being his brother Charles. Both attended Upper Hutt School, as did other siblings from the family.

Emma Ann [Haybittle], the eldest of the children, married widower Thomas Cotter, who owned and farmed land locally. The area included the property on which '*Pumpkin Cottage*' sat, as well as a substantial holding across the road. Both holdings totalled some 600 acres which was later sold to the Catholic Church. On the larger holding across the road, St. Patrick's College was subsequently built. Emma and Thomas had four children with another four from his previous marriage. Emma's sister Edith, as a teenager, assisted in looking after the children.

Wilhelmina [Haybittle] married Charles Seagar who was a well-known Wellington marine engineer. He had both foundry and shipping interests and lived on a 400-acre property at Silverstream. He named it '*Sherwood*', which was his mother's maiden name. While they had no children, the property became a focal point for social events for this large close-knit family.

My father recalls the mischief he and his cousins got up to there during their holidays, especially with the Hutt River across the road. Later on, his mother spent a long period of convalescence after being hospitalised with an illness. That meant he boarded with his Aunt who was then widowed (Charles Seagar had died in 1911) and went to Banks College in Wellington, travelling to and from Silverstream daily by train. I mention this because he often talked about '*Pumpkin Cottage*' and seeing it frequently from a young age meant the details surrounding it and its name were indelibly etched in his memory. Incidentally, on the death of Wilhelmina in 1937 the land was sold to the government and used to build a naval hospital for the Americans in support of the Pacific campaign later in WWII. At the end of hostilities it continued as a hospital for geriatric patients for many years and was known as Silverstream Hospital.

Other siblings of my Grandfather married lived and farmed locally.

Charles Richard, the eldest brother, dairy farmed the portion of land owned by his brother-in law Thomas Cotter on which '*Pumpkin Cottage*' was situated, together with a larger adjacent dwelling in which Charles lived. My Grandfather Ralph was an engineer in his brother-in law's foundry in Wellington at that time. However, he also assisted his brother Charles in farming duties from time to time. At that time both boys were single and would have then been aged 24 and 31.

The [*Pumpkin Cottage*] story is as follows:

One Saturday Charles travelled to Wellington by train with the intention of returning in the afternoon and going onto Upper Hutt to a dance that evening. Before he left he arranged with his brother Ralph that if he required assistance with the evening milking he was to signal him and he would not go to Upper Hutt but would get off the train at Silverstream to give him a hand. It was decided that Ralph would light a fire in the cottage for Charles to see the smoke from the cottage chimney as he passed in the train. Bear in mind, of course, that the railway line ran much closer to the property in those days than it does now.

What transpired was that Ralph, had become preoccupied working in the garden but when he heard the train's whistle as it was leaving Hayward's Station across the Hutt River, suddenly remembered the arrangement. By then it was too late to light a fire, and as there was a ladder leaning against a wall of the cottage he carried up a long stick and put it in the chimney as a substitute signal. However, it then occurred to him that the stick might not be visible from the train so he picked up a large golden shade pumpkin from the garden, took it to the roof, thrust it on the end of the stick and put it back in the chimney.

Much to the amusement of many the pumpkin remained in place until it fell down on its own accord some months later. The stick and the pumpkin was still in place when Jimmy Nairn next visited the cottage. He asked about the stick and the pumpkin and being told the circumstances, was so amused that he painted on the cottage wall facing the road a pumpkin on a stick with the caption "*Ye Signe of Ye Golden Pumpkin*". The walls in those days were painted red and the sign was in a golden-yellow shade. My father noted that other artists maintained the painting in good order for many years and he could well recall seeing it often when he lived with his Aunt Wilhelmina Seagar.

Efforts were made locally in the 1970s to try and restore the little historic cottage but unfortunately politics intervened. The owners of the day argued it was being beyond repair and sadly, it was demolished in the early hours one morning in 1980.

There is a plaque mounted on a stone wall marking the former location of '*Pumpkin Cottage*' and lists the names of the artists who stayed there over the many years. It is an appropriate acknowledgement of the part this little cottage played in local history. Its name will continue to live on in the narratives and works of those pioneer New Zealand impressionist artists who are now documented in our art history.

Footnote: Many member of that early branch of the Haybittle family referred to above died locally and are buried at St John's church, Silverstream [Trentham]. They include: William George and Emma Haybittle; Charles Haybittle; his sisters Clare, Emma Cotter and her husband, Wilhelmina and her husband Charles Seagar and Edith Allen (nee Haybittle). Carl Laugensen, one of the member artists who frequented '*Pumpkin Cottage*' in later years and whose name appears on the plaque, was an art teacher at Wellington Technical College and taught the writer in 1954/55.

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### **Chief Te Kaeaea – Taringa-kuri - Whirinaki**

Whirinaki / Wirinaki was the early name given to the Silverstream area by local Maori. The Whirinaki Chapel also referred to as the Maori Church was once situated on land now occupied by the St Patrick's college tennis courts. Some believe the Maori church was closer to the Home of Compassion which is further north from the college.

One publication states that the Whirinaki church and kainga existed in 1837. The New Zealand Company settlers arrived at Port Nicholson in 1840. The early documents and survey field books record that no Maoris appear to be residing in Upper Hutt in the 1840s. [The surveyors recorded travelling to Petone to talk to the Maori requesting information about the tracks through the Upper Hutt district – If there were Maori in the Upper Hutt district they would not have travelled to Petone to request the information]. Early records do however record that Maori had settled in the Silverstream district in the early 1850s on the Native Reserve land Section No 84. So perhaps the Whirinaki church was established in 1847 or 1857.

Across the road from the Church was the Whirinaki kainga (village) where the resident chief was Te Kaeaea also known as Taringa Kuri (dog's ears) or Whitoa Taringakuri. Near the kainga and southeast of Pierce & Thomas's Cotters property was a dwelling known as Te Whare o Turingakuri. This is where the chief resided when he visited the kainga.

The story goes that the dwelling known as Te Whare o Turingakuri was actually '*Pumpkin cottage*'.

Te Kaeaea was injured when a horse and trap capsized over the Upper Gorge bank and fell onto the chief. Te Kaeaea was taken back to Silverstream where he died on Monday 02<sup>nd</sup> October 1871. Perhaps Te Kaeaea died at the dwelling known as Te Whare o Turingakuri.

Another story records that Thomas Cotter built "Pumpkin Cottage" in 1874 but Te Kaeaea died in 1871. Thomas would have had to have built the cottage before 1871 and not 1874 to collaborate the story about the dwelling of Chief Te Kaeaea known as Te Whare o Turingakuri.

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## Thomas Cotter

Thomas Cotter's descendants state that it was Thomas who built Pumpkin cottage in 1874 and another stated that the cottage existed in the 1860s. The story also records that it was a member of the Cotter family who placed the pumpkin on the chimney of the cottage. The cottage's name came about due to a signal devised by brothers who farmed the land. When one brother wanted to let the other brother know he should get off the train at Silverstream to help milk the cows, he would hoist a pumpkin onto the cottage's chimney as a signal.

Thomas Cotter (1847-1889) married 1868 Susannah Anne nee Dixon (1843-1877). Susannah died and was buried at St Johns churchyard in Trentham. They had four children, Margaret Louisa Sarah born 1870, Percy Charles born 1872, Thomas Arthur born 1874 and John born 1875.

In 1879 widower Thomas Cotter married Emma Ann Haybittle (1859-1929). Emma was the daughter of Emma (1840-1903) and William George Haybittle(1822-1898). They had three children, William Stanley born 1880, Evelyn May born 1884 and Lilian Maud born 1886. Thomas Cotter died 24 May 1889 at Silverstream and was buried at St John's churchyard in Trentham.

Emma Cotter's nee Haybittle younger brothers were Ralph Stanley Haybittle (1876-1960) and Charles Richard Haybittle (1871-1907). The brothers may have helped on the Cotter farm and one of them placed the pumpkin on the chimney before Pumpkin cottage was rented to James Nairn around 1895. The story at the beginning of the document matches this theory.

It may have been the widow Emma Cotter who rented the cottage to James Nairn around 1895. Emma may have also employed her brothers to assist on the farm but this would have to have been before 1895 for them to have been the first to name the dwelling "*Pumpkin cottage*".

It is important to locate what Section No in Silverstream that "*Pumpkin Cottage*" was situated on, and who owned the land around this time period.

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## Haybittle and Seagar family

How the cottage got its name – The cottage name came about due to a signal devised by the sons of Charles and Emma Haybittle who farmed the land and lived just behind the cottage. When young Ralph Haybittle wanted to let his brother know he should get off the train at Silverstream to help milk the cows, he would hoist a pumpkin onto the cottage's chimney.

*(Reference source Maurice Crompton-Smith to Stanley Edwards 1939)*

Looking at the statement above it shows that the details about Emma and Charles Haybittle are not correct. Emma's (1840-1903) husband was actually William George Haybittle (1822-1898) not Charles.

Emma and William George Haybittle resided in the Wallaceville and Trentham area not in Silverstream. William's close friend was Charles Seagar (1833-1918) who lived at "*Sherwood House*" in Silverstream. Charles's land is where the Silver Stream Railway Museum is now situated and included part of the old Silverstream hospital and landfill land. This land was in the neighbourhood of the Pumpkin cottage.

Charles's wife Frances Emily Seagar (1835-1909) died and was buried at St Johns churchyard Trentham. In 1911 Charles Seagar married Wilhelminia Haybittle the daughter of the late Emma and William George Haybittle. Charles Seagar (1833-1918) died and was buried at St John churchyard Trentham. Charles's widow Wilhelminia Seagar inherited "*Sherwood House*" and her siblings were known to have assisted in farming the land. Some of Wilhelminia's siblings lived, died and were married at "*Sherwood House*". Wilhelminia (1869-1937) died and was buried St Johns churchyard Trentham.

Wilhelminia's younger brothers were Ralph Stanley Haybittle (1876-1960) and Charles Richard Haybittle (1871-1907) may have helped to farm Charles Seagar's land before their sister married Charles in 1911. However it is more likely that the brothers Ralph and Charles Haybittle assist in farming their other sister Emma and her husband Thomas Cotter's land which included the Pumpkin cottage.

Thomas died in 1889 and his widow Emma Cotter nee Haybittle may have owned Pumpkin cottage and rented it to artist James Nairn around 1894-1895. If Ralph and Charles Haybittle farmed the land where the Pumpkin Cottage was once situated then it would have been before 1895.

It is important to locate what Section No in Silverstream that "*Pumpkin Cottage*" was situated on, and who owned the land around this time period.

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## James (Jim) NAIRN – The Bohemian Artist

How the cottage got its name – Quote "Nairn got a small [pumpkin] tied it to the end of a small stick which he stuck under the gable roof & painted on the wall beneath the legend "*Ye signe of ye golden pumpkins*". Later the pumpkin fell away & he made a yellow drawing in place of it on the gable

*(Reference source Maurice Crompton-Smith to Stanley Edwards 1939)*

This same story has been attached to James Nairn above and the Haybittle & Cotter families.

James McLachlan Nairn was born 18 November 1859 Kirkentilloch Glasgow Scotland and studied Art. Due to ill health James emigrated to New Zealand in 1890. At one time James was the president of the Wellington Art Club.

James rented the dwelling in Silverstream known as 'Pumpkin cottage' around 1895 until his death on 22 February 1904 in Wellington New Zealand. Other publications state that James rented the cottage to use as an art school from 1894 to 1904.

Free Lance newspaper 05 March 1904

For two or three seasons Mr Nairn went away to Silverstream to an abode he christened "Ye Sign of Ye Golden Pumpkin". Here art students foregathered and lived in Arcadian simplicity assisted thereto by the presence of a Maori dug-out canoe and much bathing. At these times the artist, happy beyond words, painted and piped, wore the kilts, and made the bush resound to the skirt of the 'chanter'.

(Reference papers past website Free Lance newspaper 05 March 1904)

**0- James McLachlan NAIRN** born 18 November 1859 Kirkentilloch Glasgow Scotland died 22 February 1904 Wellington New Zealand married 17 March 1898 Silverstream New Zealand  
**Ellen SMITH** born 1879 New Zealand died 23 December 1955 New Zealand

#James Maclachlan NAIRN married 1898 New Zealand Ellen SMITH reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1898 folio website 1898/503

#James McLachlan NAIRN died 22 February 1904 peritonitis New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1904 folio website 1904/1186 age 45 born about 1859

#Ellen NAIRN married 1910 New Zealand Alfred MILES reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1910 folio website 1910/6394

#Alfred MILES died 1912 New Zealand reference RGO NZ death registration 1912 folio website 1912/296 age 44 born about 1868

#Ellen MILES married 1916 New Zealand Frederick TAYLOR reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1916 folio website 1916/6477

0-1- Mari Bhan NAIRN born July 1898 Wellington New Zealand married 1915 New Zealand Frederick Charles HAYCRAFT born 1865 died 1963 New Zealand

#Mari Bhan NAIRN born July 1898 Wellington New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1898 folio website 1898/8177 parents Ellen and James Maclachlan

#Marie Bhan Og NAIRN married 1915 New Zealand Frederick Charles HAYCRAFT reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1915 folio website 1915/14681

#Miss Bahn Ogh Nairn daughter of the late Mr J M Nairn and of Mrs E Miles (formerly Mrs Nairn) of Wellington and Mr F Haycraft of the Wellington branch of the State Fire Insurance whose engagement was recently announced were married at St Paul's Pro-Cathedral Wellington on Saturday last. The Rev Mr Fancourt was the officiating clergyman. The bride who was attended by her sister (Miss Ellen Nairn) wore a cream tailored costume with a cream crepe de chine hat trimmed with black velvet pansies, and carried a bouquet of pink carnations. The bridesmaid's costume was a navy coat and skirt, with which she wore a white tagel hat. Her bouquet was of violets and snowdrops. Lieut. A Sievwright acted as best man. The rooms at Sayes Court, where, the reception was held, were decorated with pink white flowers. The bride's mother was attired in a smart checked costume, with which she wore black fox furs and a cream tagel hat. Mrs L Smith (an aunt of the bride) wore a black tailored costume, with ermine furs, and black velvet hat. Mr and Mrs Haycraft left for the north, on their honeymoon tour, the bride wearing a gabardine coat and skirt, and a brown tagel hat reference Papers past website

0-2- Ellen May Victoria NAIRN born July 1901 Wellington New Zealand

#Ellen May Victoria NAIRN born July 1901 Wellington New Zealand reference RGO NZ birth registration 1901 folio website 1901/14887 parents Ellen and James Maclachlan Nairn (Sun newspaper 27 July 1915 page 4)

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### Miscellaneous information relating to Pumpkin Cottage

By recording the details below from various sources and researching the details we will eventually work out what stories are incorrect and hopefully locate the true story about the "Pumpkin Cottage".

### Historical Homes in Upper Hutt – Pumpkin Cottage

Built in the 1860s the cottage was used by Thomas Cotter a dairy farmer from about 1874 to the 1890s. About 1894 artists James Nairn started using the cottage as headquarters for the Wellington Art Club. Many famous Wellington artists painted there and they became known as the Silverstream School. The club continued to use it intermittently until 1949. After it was used as staff accommodation by St Patricks College until it fell into disrepair and was destroyed in 1980. A memorial stone and plaque were installed on the original site in 2000.

*(Reference Upper Hutt City Library recollect website Historic Homes of Upper Hutt publication)*

### Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists

An exhibition held at the Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre based on the Pumpkin Cottage paintings collection gifted by Ernest and Shirley Cosgrove was curated by Jane Vial. A brochure was produced and contained paintings and information about Pumpkin cottage. In the publication there are various paintings and photographs of Pumpkin cottage and the surrounding area of the Upper Hutt district. There is also a photograph of James Nairn and the famous photograph of the cottage taken by James Chapman-Taylor.

*(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 4-5)*

For about 50 years Pumpkin Cottage was a retreat for bohemian artists to paint, discuss and develop a unique New Zealand style of impressionism.

*(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 4-5)*

Nairn first rented the cottage in about 1895 near the train line at Silverstream. The building was unremarkable in itself a two room pitched roof cottage with veranda, built of local matai. Ngati Tama chief Te Kaeaea stayed there when he visited the nearby Whirinaki Pa from the 1850s. Pumpkin cottage was moved further up Hutt Main Road to its present site sometime after Te Kaeaea's death in 1875 [sic].

*(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 6-7)*

How the cottage got its name – The cottage name came about due to a signal devised by the sons of Charles and Emma Haybittle who farmed the land and lived just behind the cottage. When young Ralph Haybittle wanted to let his brother know he should get off the train at Silverstream to help milk the cows, he would hoist a pumpkin onto the cottage's chimney.

Quote "Nairn got a small [pumpkin] tied it to the end of a small stick which he stuck under the gable roof & painted on the wall beneath the legend "Ye signe of ye golden pumpkins". Later the pumpkin fell away & he made a yellow drawing in place of it on the gable reference source Maurice Crompton-Smith to Stanley Edwards 1939.

*(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 6-7)*

By 1930 the cottage was in poor shape. St Patrick's College had bought the land and cottage in 1926 and extended it to be used as accommodation for the College, restored and extended it again to artist until 1949 when the lease was revoked. By 1970s the cottage was run down and despite a concerted campaign beginning in 1974 the move to save the building failed. St Patrick's College demolished it in 1980 but the Fergusson Drive site, now Pumpkin Cottage Reserves was marked in 2000 by a Hutt River boulder donated by Ernest and Shirley Cosgrove

*(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 30)*

A local Upper Hutt history records how the cottage got its name. "*Pumpkin cottage name came about due to a signal devised by the sons of Charles and Emma Haybittle, who farmed the land and lived just behind the cottage. When young Ralph Haybittle wanted to let his brother know he should get off the train at Silverstream to help milk the cows, he would hoist a pumpkin onto the cottage's chimney*".

*(Reference Upper Hutt The History by J A Kelleher 1991 Upper Hutt City Council)*

Another publication gave another story about the cottage

*"Nairn first rented the Pumpkin cottage in about 1895 near the train line at Silverstream. The building was unremarkable in itself a two room pitched roof cottage with veranda, built of local matai. Ngati Tama chief Te Kaeaea stayed there when he visited the nearby Whirinaki Pa from*

the 1850s. Pumpkin cottage was moved further up Hutt Main Road to its present site sometime after Te Kaeaea's death in 1875".

(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 6-7)

"Nairn got a small [pumpkin] tied it to the end of a small stick which he stuck under the gable roof & painted on the wall beneath the legend "Ye signe of ye golden pumpkins". Later the pumpkin fell away & he made a yellow drawing in place of it on the gable" reference source Maurice Crompton-Smith to Stanley Edwards 1939.

(Bohemians of the Bush – Pumpkin Cottage Impressionists page 6-7)

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## Pumpkin Cottage – draft time Line

### 1860-1874

Between the 1860s or 1874 the cottage was built but when and by who?

### 1871

In 1871 Chief Te Kaeaea died in Silverstream

### 1894-1895

In 1894-1895 James Nairn rented the cottage for artists associated with the Wellington Art School.

### 1904

James Nairn died in Wellington but the Wellington Art School continued to meet at the Pumpkin Cottage in Silverstream

### 1913

Otago Art Society – E Killick of Wellington is showing in Dunedin for the first time. One of his works is a nice study of trees and he has got the sunshine property on "Pumpkin Cottage" reference Papers past website Evening Star newspaper 12 June 1913

### 1919

Academy of Fine Arts – Annual Exhibition – The popular Pumpkin Cottage at Silverstream so intimately associated with the name of the late Mr Jimmy Nairn is a prominent feature in a sound and soberly painted landscape. The quiet evening effect with its felling of simple repose is faithfully and sincerely portrayed reference Papers past website Dominion newspaper 03 October 1919

### 1926

In 1926 St Patrick's College bought the land and cottage.

### 1928

At Silverstream down near Wellington is a quaint old dwelling which goes by the name Pumpkin Cottage. It has now fallen into disrepair but a little while ago was a rendezvous for artists and here it was that many New Zealander's best pictures were planned and painted. A well-known Scottish artist James Nairn built the cottage and lived there for some time. Mr Nairn was arts master at the Wellington Technical School and was a decided acquisition to art in the Dominion. His work is now almost unprocurable and commands high prices Reference Papers past website Stratford Evening Post newspaper 12 April 1928

### 1930

Art Exhibition – The works purchased included "Hutt Stream" and "Pumpkin Cottage" by Mr Sydney Higgs reference Papers past website Bay of Plenty newspaper 17 February 1930  
By 1930 the cottage was in poor shape.

### 1944



Art Exhibition – The well-known “Pumpkin Cottage “has attracted Carl Laugesen and has not lost any of its artistic attractions in its delineation by the artist reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 27 November 1944

#### 1949

In 1949 a story states that the cottage was extended to be used as accommodation for the College, restored and extended again to artists until 1949 when the lease was revoked. Originally on the land where St Patrick’s college was built was a two story villa built by the Cotter family. [Part of the story above covering accommodation may have been connected to the two storey villa - the story covering the lease to artists was connected to the Pumpkin cottage]

#### 1953

Acre Section the Plateau Te Marua flat and cleared very sunny fenced. Small concrete foundation suitable for Bach or garage already down. Price £325. Will accept £150 deposit balance 12 months. Apply Pumpkin Cottage Main Road Silverstream reference Papers past website Upper Hutt Leader 23 July 1953 volume X number 28

#### 1970s

By 1970s the cottage was run down and despite a concerted campaign beginning in 1974 the move to save the building failed.

#### 1980

In 1980 the cottage was owned by St Patrick’s College and they authorised the cottage to be demolished

#### 2000

In 2000 the former site of Pumpkin Cottage on Fergusson Drive site was designated as Pumpkin Cottage Reserves. A large Hutt River boulder was donated by Ernest and Shirley Cosgrove on the reserve to mark the site of the former “Pumpkin cottage”.

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