

Faculty of Environment, Society and Design Summer Research Scholarships 2021-2022

PROJECT DETAILS

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Funder:

Building Better Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities National Science Challenge

Contact person: Mike McKay, AgResearch

Project title: Jetties and small settlement regeneration in Banks Peninsula

Project Description:

Across Banks Peninsula are a number of small jetties, providing interface between the land and the marine environment. Initially providing a connection for boats, over the years many have fallen into disrepair. In the aftermath of the Canterbury earthquakes several were closed or partially closed, with the costs to repair them deemed too high by the Christchurch City Council. However, these closures have been contested by communities that lie around the rim of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour, including in Governors Bay and Church Bay, and in Akaroa Harbour, including Robinsons Bay. These efforts to restore jetties have often been integrated into wider efforts to regenerate and rebuild small settlements, through community-led projects, following the Canterbury earthquakes.

This project will explore the role of jetties in the regeneration of these small settlements. At the boundaries of the shore and the sea, jetties are characterised by intertwined networks of relationships, between people, built and natural environments. They can provide a basis for established community relationships with the ocean, providing places to recreate and wander, as well as a means for connection between places by boat or ferry. Restoration efforts can also provide a basis for community organising and interaction with local council.

Project Outcomes:

Three case study reports - Takamatua, Church Bay and Governors Bay Jetties - addressing their genealogy and role in regeneration of the communities they serve.

Tasks to be performed by student:

- Document collection and analysis relevant to the jetties
- Identifying potential participants and setting up and undertaking interviews with key community members to consider how the jetty has shaped community conceptions of the possibilities of settlement regeneration
- Transcribing key aspects of the interviews, and coding to identify core themes
- Contribute towards the drafting of a journal article.
- To carry out all these tasks following ethical practice

Prerequisite skills (if applicable):

- Demonstration of a high level of analytical ability through their study.
- Willingness to participate in qualitative fieldwork.
- Experience with in-depth interviewing is beneficial, but not required.
- Completion of SOCI204 or SOCI602 is beneficial, but not required.

Please indicate if Ethics Approval is necessary: Yes

Date: 27/8/21