

Duncan SINCLAIR (1846-1920)

Wellington Independent 06 Jul 1865 Firing for Provincial Government Rifle Prizes

Provincial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 29th June, 1865. The following Return of the Firing for the Provincial Government Prizes is published for general information. The successful competitors are informed that the amounts respectively due to them will be ready for payment, at the Provincial Treasury, on and after the 12th July. A. Follett Halcombe, Provincial Secretary. Hutt District: 1st - £12 – Private Duncan Sinclair, Hutt Rifle Volunteers with 41 points out of a highest score of 60. 2nd - £8 – Private John Hunt, Taita Rifle Volunteers with 40 points; 3rd - £5 – Private Thomas Harris, Taita Rifle Volunteers with 40 points. Ties fired off at 400 yards, five shots, two Targets. Hutt District at 40 points: Private John Hirst 10 points and Private Thomas Harris 6 points.

Nominal Roll Hutt Rifle Volunteers 1867 and 1868 – Archives NZ Wellington Reference Arm 41 Box 12 Items 1874/1o and 1874/1p

Privates John and Duncan Sinclair, enrolled 01 June 1863. Both attended 13 parades and each received £2 10s capitation grant.

Wellington Independent 24 Oct 1868 Upper Wainuiomata Highways District

Provincial Secretary's Office, Wellington Oct 6, 1868. It has been notified to this Office under the hand of the undermentioned Chairman, that at the annual meeting of the Ratepayers of the above District, held on the 19th September, 1868, the following Ratepayers were elected Wardens for the two years next ensuing, viz: Mr Duncan Sinclair, William A. Fitzherbert, Robert Dick, John C. Dick, John Crowther, George Allen (Chairman), also, that Mr Duncan Sinclair has been elected as Treasurer to the Board. A. Follett Halcombe, Provincial Secretary.

Nominal Roll Hutt Rifle Volunteers 1869 – Archives NZ Wellington Reference Arm 41 Box 12 Item 1874/1q

Corporal Duncan Sinclair and Private John Sinclair, enrolled 01 June 1863. Both attended 15 parades and each received £1 5s capitation grant.

Nominal Roll Hutt Rifle Volunteers 1870 – Archives NZ Wellington Reference Arm 41 Box 12 Item 1874/1r

Corporal Duncan Sinclair and Private John Sinclair, enrolled 01 June 1863. Both attended 13 parades and each received £1 5s capitation grant.

Marriages solemnised at St John's Presbyterian Church, Willis St, Wellington

16 May 1870 at the Terrace – Thomas Gray, labourer to Emma Mann. Witnesses Duncan Sinclair, Elizabeth Sinclair

1870-1871 Hutt Electoral Roll

Hugh Sinclair, Wainuiomata, Freehold, Hutt district, house and land, Section 2; Duncan Sinclair, Moness, Wainuiomata, Freehold, Glentill, Wainuiomata, sections 37 and 38, 200 acres; John Sinclair, Wainuiomata, Freehold, Wainuiomata house and land, 100 acres, section 47

Evening Post 15 Feb 1872 Marriage

On the 15th inst., by the Rev. James Paterson, Duncan, second son of the late Hugh Sinclair, of Wainuiomata, to Martha, only daughter of Henry Hibbs Mowlem, of Carlton, Melbourne.

Capitation Roll Wainuiomata Volunteers – Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8790 ARM41/17 1877/1bc

Sergeant D. Sinclair, enrolled 01 Jun 1863 attended 11 Government inspection parades and 2 Company parades and received a Capitation Grant of £2 up to the year ended 31st March 1873. His entry is struck through and Captain George Wood, Officer commanding the Corps noted at the bottom of the roll that “D. Sinclair was transferred to Highland Corps in October [1872] and Capt Wood under impression it was a temporary transfer – retained him in his Roll... him credit for his drills in Wellington. He is shown in Highland Roll.”

Evening Post 13 Aug 1873 Notice

We, the undersigned Saw Mill Proprietors, in the province of Wellington, beg to inform our customers that, in consequence of the high price of horse feed and increase of tolls, an additional sum of one shilling per one hundred feet (100 feet) on all descriptions of timber will be charged on and after the 1st of September 1873. Wallis & Laurence; John Chew; J. & D. Sinclair; W. Booth; A. Harris

Wellington Independent 21 Feb 1874 Wellington Rifle Association

The Second Meeting of the above Association will take place at the Lower Hutt rifle range on Monday and Tuesday, 23rd and 24th instants. The firing to commence at 8 a.m. sharp. Coaches will leave Prosser’s Hotel, at 6 a.m., sharp. D. Sinclair, Hon. Sec. Wellington 20th February 1874.

Wellington Independent 28 Jan 1874

Wanted, a Bullock Driver, Wainuiomata Saw Mill. Apply to J. and D. Sinclair.

Wellington Independent 13 Mar 1874

The following appointments by his Excellency were gazette yesterday:- In the Wellington Highland Rifle Volunteers – Charles McKirdy to be Captain, date of commission 25 Sep 1873; Duncan Sinclair to be Sub-Lieutenant, date of commission 08 May 1873.

Evening Post 16 Apr 1874 Notice

All Volunteers interested in the Rifle Association are requested to meet at Donecker’s Hotel on Friday at 8 o’clock p.m. The Committee will meet at 7.30 p.m. D. Sinclair, Hon. Treasurer.

Wellington Independent 03 Jun 1874 Notice

Any person trespassing with dogs or guns on the properties of the undersigned will be prosecuted. John Mowlem, J. & D. Sinclair – 4th May.

Evening Post 27 Aug 1874

Messrs Bethune and Hunter's sale of horses yesterday was much impeded by the rain, but most of the stock offered fetched good prices, ranging from £32 to £57, several being quitted at the latter figure. The stallion Young Blackleg did not bring so high a price as was anticipated, probably owing to so many of that class of horses having been in the market lately. He was sold for £60, Messrs J. and D. Sinclair, of Wainuiomata, being the purchasers. All that fine shipment of horses imported by Messrs Bethune and Hunter per s.s. Otago now has been disposed of at very satisfactory rates.

New Zealand Times 19 Oct 1874 Birth

On October 16, at Courtney-place, the wife of D. Sinclair, of Wainuiomata, of a son.

1875-1876 Wellington Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, residing at Courtenay Place, Leasehold Part of Section 216, Courtenay place

1875-1876 Hutt Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, Moness, Wainuiomata, Freehold Glenhill, Wainuiomata, sections 37 and 28, 200 acres; John Sinclair, Wainuiomata, Freehold Wainuiomata house and land, section 47, 100 acres

Evening Post 03 Sep 1875 Wellington Highway District Board Elections No.5 Ward

The nomination of a warden for this Ward took place at the Wainuiomata School-room yesterday; Mr Henry Ashton presiding. Mr Richard Prouse, the retiring member, was proposed by Mr R. Dick, seconded by Mr J. Dick. Mr Duncan Sinclair was proposed by Mr J. M. Hind, and seconded by Mr G. Wood. Both candidates addressed the meeting, answering a great many questions put to them by the ratepayers present. On a show of hands being called for, four were held up for each candidate. The presiding officer giving his casting vote in favour of Mr D. Sinclair, and Mr R. Prouse demanding a poll, it was fixed to take place at the shool-house, Wainui, on Monday, 13th September, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Evening Post 23 Sep 1875

It is notified in the Provincial Government Gazette that the following persons have been elected members of the Wellington Highway Board:- Ward No.2, Mr James Taylor; Ward No.3, Mr Richard Smith; Ward No.4, Mr David Speedy; Ward No.5, Mr Duncan Sinclair; Ward No.6, Mr Thomas Mason; Ward No.7, Mr Frank Seranke; and that His Honor the Superintendent has appointed Mr Patrick Monaghan member for Ward No.1. The first meeting of the Board is to be held at the Lower Hutt, on Saturday, 2nd October, at noon.

Evening Post 16 Feb 1876

Lost, from the Wainuiomata Hill Road, a Bay Horse, branded H with) over on near shoulder, white feet and star on forehead, no shoes. Any person giving information as to its whereabouts will be rewarded on application to J. and D. Sinclair

Evening Post 16 Nov 1876 Wellington Districts Highway Board

A letter was read from J. and D. Sinclair, enclosing a cheque for £7 3s 6d, as a contribution towards the improvement of the Wainui Road.

Evening Post 18 Nov 1876 The Hutt Agricultural Society

A public meeting was held of this Society on last Thursday evening, when the rules as read were adopted. The following resolutions were carried:- "That the Governor be respectfully requested to become the patron of the society;" and "That the Hon. W. Fitzherbert be elected President of the society." The following office-bearers were elected, viz:- Vice-Presidents – Messrs Cruickshank, Upper Hutt; P. A. Buckley, Lower Hutt; James Knight, Lower Hutt; William Beetham, Taita; D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata; N. Valentine, Lower Hutt; A. Braithwaite, Lower Hutt; William Buick, Petoni; C. F. Worth, Taita; J. H. Corbett, Taita; J. Grace, sen., Wainuiomata; G. Buck, sen., Taita; J. G. F. Wilford, Hutt; W. A. Fitzherbert, Hutt; and J. Walker, Stoke's Valley. Committee – Messrs John White, D. Buick, Job Mabey, G. Hill, P. Bruce, R. T. Mellow, W. Russell, H. Russell, D. Knight, T. Caverhill, A. Pringle, D. Speedy, W. Browne, E. Hollard, and S. Mason. Treasurer – P. A. Buckley, Esq.; secretary – J. H. Corbett, Esq.,; auditor – W. S. Milne, Esq. The meeting was closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Evening Post 07 Dec 1876 Wellington Districts Highways Board

It was resolved that the contribution in aid of rates of J. and D. Sinclair of £4 18s towards the repairs of the Wainuiomata road be accepted with thanks, and that it be handed over to Robert Hunter, for work done in Wards 4 and 5 - £1 8s to No.4 Ward, and £3 10s to No.5 Ward.

Evening Post 08 Jan 1877 Birth

On the 5th January, at Wainuiomata, the wife of D. Sinclair, of a daughter.

Evening Post 07 Mar 1877 The Hutt Show

The Hutt Agricultural, Horticultural, and Pastoral Association's Show took place to-day in a paddock belonging to the Hon. W. Fitzherbert, at the Lower Hutt... The prizes for 4-tooth ewes were taken by J. and D. Sinclair and A. Braithwaite respectively...

Evening Post 03 May 1877 Wellington District Highways Board

The donation of £41 14s 4d, by Messrs J. and D. Sinclair, as a contribution towards making the Moore's Valley Bridge, was accepted with thanks.

Evening Post 05 Jun 1877 Hutt County Council – Tenders

The tender of Messrs Sinclair for supplying totara and black birch timber, delivered at any part of the county, at £1 per 100 superficial feet, was accepted.

Evening Post 22 Sep 1877

Prospectus of the Northern Loan & Building Society of Wellington. To be incorporated under the Building Societies Act 1877. Capital £100,000. In 10,000 Proprietary Shares of £10 each... Provisional Directors... Duncan Sinclair, Esq. (of Wainuiomata)...

Evening Post 13 Oct 1877

Complete List of Subscriptions received for presentation to Mr S. W. Alcorn... Wellington... Duncan Sinclair £2 2s...

Evening Post 19 Oct 1877 Prospectus

The Northern Land, Loan and Building Company, of Wellington (Limited). To be incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act. Capital £250,000. In 25,000 shares of £10 each, of which 10,000 are now offered to the public. It is proposed to call up £5 per Share, as follows, viz:- Two shillings and sixpence per share on application; two shillings and sixpence per share on allotment; and the remainder by instalments of two shillings and sixpence each, at intervals of one month. Provisional Directoris: The Hon Randall Johnson, M.L.C., Charles J. Johnston, Esq., (Messrs Johnston and Co.); J. B. Harcourt, Esq. (Messrs A. P. Stuart and Co.); **Duncan Sinclair, Esq. (of Wainuiomata)**; J. S. M. Thompson, Esq., (Messrs Thompson Shannon and Co.); Charles Tringham, Esq.; J. R. Blair, Esq. (Messrs Lyon and Blair); J. F. E. Wright, Esq., J.P.; Robert Port, Esq., Wellington; William Dawson, Esq. (Messrs Wm. Dawson and Co.); J. H. Wallace, Esq., J.P.; Alexander Johnston, Esq., M.D. Bankers – National Bank of New Zealand. Solicitors – Messrs Buller and Lewis. Managing Director – The Hon Randall Johnson, M.L.C. Secretary -. The rapid growth and increasing prosperity of the City of Wellington and its country districts during the past few years warrant the opinion that a Company formed under the Joint Stock Companies Acts, having a local directory and offering wide scope for the employment of capital, is now needed, and will meet with a large measure of success. The present company is accordingly formed, and with the following special objects, viz:- To provide a safe and profitable investment for capital. To receive money on deposit at interest. To grant loans on freeholds and other approved securities. To acquire land. And generally to afford every legitimate facility to both borrower and investor. The directors further intend to offer to the public the same facilities for the erection of buildings as are now offered by existing societies. The share list will close on Wednesday, 31st October 1877. For further information, and also for forms of application, apply to J. H. Wallace, Esq., Hunter-street, Wellington; or, to The National Bank of New Zealand, Wellington and Country Branches or Agencies.

Evening Post 20 Oct 1877

To let, cheap, a Small Farm of 80 acres land, with cottage, at Wainuiomata; conveniently situated, and suitable for market gardening. Apply to D. Sinclair.

Evening Post 31 Oct 1877

A public meeting to set on foot a subscription list in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Fund was held in the Mechanics' Institute, at the Lower Hutt, on Monday evening last, the chair being occupied by Mr William Beetham. The Rev T. Fancourt was appointed treasurer, and a subscription list opened forthwith, the sum of £29 13s 4d being subscribed in the room. A committee, consisting of Messrs Beetham, A. Collett, J. Knight, McIlvride, Ransom, S. Sanson, P. Smith and W. R. Welch, undertook to canvass the district for subscriptions. The meeting requested the chairman to communicate with Mr Duncan Sinclair, of Wainuiomata, asking that district to join in the movement.

Evening Post 31 Oct 1877

To let, cheap, a Small Farm of 80 acres land, with cottage, at Wainuiomata; conveniently situated and suitable for market gardening. Apply to D. Sinclair.

Evening Post 03 Nov 1877

To let, that portion of the Lowry Bay estate known as the Waiwitu Flat – 25 acres more or less – of well grassed land, with cottage, fronting the East Harbour Road and adjoining the property of Dr Grace. Apply to D. Sinclair, Mr McIntyre, Wellington, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 05 Nov 1877 Notice

All cattle, horses, &c., found trespassing on the Lowry Bay Estate from this date will be impounded. Also, all persons whose property adjoins are required to have their half of the fences repaired at once. By order of D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 20 Nov 1877

Wanted, a Man to drive the engine. Apply, at once, to J. & D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata Sawmill.

New Zealand Times 30 Nov 1877

The treasurer at the Hutt has received the sum of £25 from Wainuiomata towards the Indian Famine Relief Fund. The names of subscribers will be advertised in a supplementary list.

Evening Post 12 Dec 1877 Highways Office, Hutt

12 Dec 1877. The following persons have been appointed Assessors for the Wellington Highway District for the year 1878, in accordance with Rating Act 1876:- No.1 Ward – Mr David Braid; No.2 Ward – Mr Thomas Smith; Nos 3, 5 and 6 Ward – Joseph Brown; No.4 Ward – Duncan Sinclair. By order. Henry Ashton, Clerk W.D.H. Board.

Evening Post 15 Dec 1877

The following rangers have been appointed under "The Protection of Animals Act, 1876":- Messrs G. H. Luxford, Berhampoor; W. Bramley, Botanical Gardens, Wellington; H. Cook and W. Cook, Makara; John Alpin, Upper Kaiwara; Charles Duncan, Porirua; Henry Damant, Horokiwi Road; D. Sinclair, J. Sinclair, John Grace and Welby Jackson, Wainuiomata; Frank Fisk, Taita; T. Cotter, Silverstream; James Brown and James Cruickshank, Upper Hutt; R. Elliotte and W. Blackie, Pahautanui; G. Best, Ohariu; Andrew Maxwell, Wellington.

Evening Post 19 Jan 1878

To let, within ten minutes' walk of the Lower Hutt Railway Station, a ten-roomed House. Apply to Messrs Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 29 Jan 1878 Lowry Bay Estate

Mr George Roxburgh having been appointed Agent for the above Estate, all applications for lease or rental of cottages or land are to be made to him. Two furnished Cottages now to let. D. Sinclair.

Evening Post 18 Apr 1878 Obtaining Goods by False Pretences

Owen Cameron was charged on remand with obtaining goods and money of the value of £10 from Messrs Wilson and Richardson, drapers, of Lambton Quay, by means of a valueless cheque. Henry Frederick Davis, assistant to Messrs Wilson and Richardson, stated that on a recent date the prisoner purchased at their shop a suit of clothes and other goods of the value of £3 19s, and tendered in payment a cheque on the Bank of New Zealand for £10, signed "J. and D. Sinclair." He represented that he had been working for Messrs Sinclair, of the Wainui-o-mata saw-mills, and that the cheque was given to him in payment of his wages. On the faith of these representations the cheque was accepted, and the change handed to the prisoner. Mr Richardson, one of the principals of the firm, said he paid the cheque into their account at the National Bank, when it was returned, with an intimation that the Colonial Bank might be tried. Mr Duncan Sinclair, of the firm of J. & D. Sinclair, of Wainui-o-mata, stated that the cheque produced was not signed by either himself or his brother. The prisoner had been working for them, but left about three weeks ago. His wages were generally paid by cheques. Witness's firm had no account at the Bank of New Zealand. Mr Richardson, re-called, stated that he presented the cheque at the Colonial Bank, and was informed that it was a forgery. The prisoner was then charged with obtaining goods and money from Mr George Pirie, of Tory-street, by similar false representations. The evidence was of the same nature as that in the last case, excepting that the cheque was on the Bank of Australasia. The prisoner obtained goods of the value of £4 13s 6d, receiving the balance (£5 6s 6d) in money. When paid into the bank the cheque was returned "no account." Mr Sinclair stated that the firm had no account at the Bank of Australasia, and that the signature was a forgery. George Harold Norman, teller at the Bank of Australasia, said that when the cheque was presented for payment it was returned, as Messrs Sinclair had no account at the bank. The prisoner said he had been drinking heavily for three weeks, and he did not recollect anything about the cheques. Prisoner was then fully committed for trial on both charges.

Evening Post 16 May 1878

Good grazing for horses on reasonable terms. Apply on premises, Lowry Bay. D. Sinclair.

Evening Post 25 May 1878

To let, two houses at the Lower Hutt, opposite English Church. Apply to D. Sinclair, Wainui-o-mata; or Moss, Hutt Toll Gate.

Evening Post 12 Oct 1878

Wanted, an experienced Bullock Driver. Apply at once to J. & D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 28 Oct 1878 Hutt County Council

The nomination of the Hutt County Council took place today at noon, at the Lower Hutt, Mr Fitzherbert, County Engineer, being the Returning Officer. There are nine seats, and for these the following gentlemen were nominated:- ... Wainuiomata Riding (one seat) Robert Dick and Duncan Sinclair...

Evening Post 14 Nov 1878 The County Elections

The elections for the Hutt County Council, which took place yesterday in the various Ridings, resulted as follows:- ... Wainuiomata – one member R. Dick 32, D. Sinclair 13

Evening Post 19 Feb 1879 Birth

On the 18th February, at Wainuiomata, the wife of D. Sinclair, of twin daughters – all well. Father delighted.

Evening Post 27 Jul 1880

The following tenders have been received by the City Council:- Cartage of pipes for Wainui waterworks – Accepted: Charles McKirdy, 9s 7d per ton. Declined: W. F. Oakes, 13s 6d; John McLean, 18s 9d; E. Daly, £2 7s 6d; E. O'Malley, 6s to 30s; P. Scally, 6s to 25s; J. and D. Sinclair, 9s 6d to 19s 6d; J. Kelliher, 8s to 21s 6d; George Pudney, £1.

Evening Post 19 Aug 1880 Advertisement

To let, land suitable for Small Farms. Apply to D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 07 Oct 1880 Grass Seeds

On Sale – Italian, Rye, and Cocksfoot. McIntyre & Co. To Contractors and others. The undersigned is prepared to receive orders for all kinds of Sawn and Dressed Timber, for building purposes, at low rates. W. R. Waters, Hunter-street. Agent for J. & D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

1880-1881 Hutt Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, farmer, freehold, sections 37, 38 Wainuiomata; John Sinclair, farmer, freehold, section 47 Wainuiomata

1880-1881 Te Aro Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair residing at Abel Smith Street, sawmiller, freehold Part section Martin square; John Sinclair, residing at Wainuiomata, sawmiller, freehold Part section Martin street.

1880-1881 Wellington Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, sawmiller, Wainuiomata, freehold Part of section 216 Courtenay place

Evening Post 18 Jan 1881 Advertisement

To Let, Land suitable for Small Farms. Apply to D. Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 26 Oct 1881 To the Electors of the Hutt

Gentlemen, Being a candidate for the honour of representing this district in Parliament, I beg to solicit your support at the election. I will invite you to hear me state my political views in the several parts of the district at an early date, of which due notice will be given. Yours faithfully, Duncan Sinclair.

Evening Post 22 Oct 1881 Election Intelligence

Mr Duncan Sinclair announces that he is a candidate for the Hutt District, and will address the Hutt electors at an early date, of which due notice will be given. To the Electors of the Hutt District. Gentlemen – Being a candidate for the honour of representing this district in Parliament, I beg to solicit your support at the election. I will invite you to hear me state my political views in the several parts of the district at an early date, of which due notice will be given. Yours faithfully, Duncan Sinclair.

Evening Post 12 Jan 1883

There was a large attendance at the Homestead, Wainui-o-mata, yesterday afternoon, when Messrs T. K. Macdonald & Co. offered at auction a number of stock in the assigned estate of Messrs J. and D. Sinclair, sheep farmers and sawmill proprietors. The cattle realized from £10 to £15 per head; calves, £5; cross-bred calves, £2 10s; cross-bred milking cows, about £7 10s; sheep (mixed flock), 7s 3d, including lambs; and horses (draught), from £15 to £20 each. The standing crops were not sold, pending arrangements, we understand, with the mortgagees. Some of the stock was also reserved for the purpose of carrying on the work of the mill, but will be disposed of next month.

Evening Post 26 Feb 1883

Tomorrow Messrs T. Kennedy Macdonald and Co. hold a sale of landed properties, at their auction rooms, Panama-street, at 2 o'clock, which includes the following properties, viz., two building allotments in Martin-street, and six sections in Fitzherberton, being sold in the estate of J. and D. Sinclair; a valuable property in Willis-street, and a five-roomed house in Ghuznee-street.

Evening Post 08 Mar 1883

A Meeting of the Wellington Highway District Road Board was held yesterday... The tender of D. Sinclair for work in Lowry Bay Road and in Moore's Valley for £13 10s and £15 5s respectively was accepted.

Evening Post 16 May 1883 Tenders for Cartage of Sawmill Plant – Wainuiomata to Railway Wharf

Tenders are invited till Noon of Saturday, the 19th instant, for the conveyance of from 19 to 20 tons of Sawmill Plant from Messrs J. & D. Sinclair's old Mill at Wainui-o-mata to the Railway Wharf, Wellington. Plant to be delivered within one week from the date of acceptance of tender. For further particulars apply to Mr John Sinclair, Wainui-o-mata; or Messrs T. Kennedy Macdonald & Co., Panama-street, Wellington.

Wairarapa Archives – Masterton School Register of Admission, Progress and Withdrawal

Entry No. 879 Hugh G. S. Sinclair born October 1872. Date of admission: July 1883. Parent: Duncan Sinclair, Wainuiomata.

Evening Post 10 Feb 1885

Mr Duncan Sinclair, late of Wainui-o-mata, has obtained letters patent in the United States and a provisional patent in Great Britain for an improved marine record preserver which he has invented. The preserver, a photograph of which we have seen, consists of a balloon-shaped vessel made of copper. Screwed into its mouth is a cylinder of brass containing a printed form, which is to be filled up with the particulars of a casualty on board ship. The preserver, which floats in the water in an upright position, a small weight being attached to the bottom, is covered with phosphorous, and is luminous at night time as it bobs up and down in the sea. Mr Sinclair has not considered it worth his while to take out a patent in New Zealand.

Evening Post 02 Mar 1885

Mr Duncan Sinclair, of Wellington, who is the successful tenderer for the construction of the Marton waterworks, is about to make a start with the work. A quantity of plant and a staff of 15 or 20 labourers will leave for Wanganui, *en route* for Marton, by the 'Stormbird' this evening.

Evening Post 07 May 1885

We hear that Mr D. Sinclair, late of Wainui-o-mata, contractor for the Marton waterworks, is making splendid progress with the work. Three days after signing the contract he was on the spot with a good body of workmen, being desirous of taking every advantage of the remaining months of fine weather. Mr Sinclair has now forty picked men and ten days at work. The works are being carried out by Mr N. Marchant, C.E., of Wellington, for the Borough Council of Marton. On several occasions Mr Sinclair has been congratulated by the people of Marton and the Press for the energy he has displayed and the straightforward and businesslike manner in which the contract is being carried out. The pipes have been ordered from Home some time ago, and by the time they arrive the other work will be well advanced. Eight months are allowed for doing the work, and if the weather proves at all favourable, Mr Sinclair expects to get it done within the contract time.

Evening Post 30 Oct 1885

We are informed that the Marton waterworks have just been completed by Mr Duncan Sinclair, the contractor, and that there is a very good supply of water in the reservoir. It is noteworthy that the water pipes only arrived by the 'Tongariro' on the 22nd ult., that they were transshipped to Wanganui by steamer, carried thence by rail to Marton, and laid within the space of 21 days. The Marton Borough Council may be congratulated upon having entrusted the work to such a business-like man as Mr Sinclair, and Mr Nicholas Marchant, the engineer of the works, also deserves credit for his able discharge of his duties. Notwithstanding that considerable delay occurred in the shipment of the pipes from London the contractor has completed the work some time before the date specified in the conditions.

Wanganui Chronicle 03 Sep 1886 North Island Main Trunk Railway

(Per United Press Association.) Wellington, September 2. The following tenders have been received for the North Island Main Trunk railway, Hunterville contract:- Accepted, Jesse Coates (Palmerston South), £14,242. Declined:- Matheson Bros (Dunedin) £16,750; Alexander and McFarlane (Wanganui) £17,184; Scally and O'Connor (Wanganui) £17,478; A. and D. Wilkie and J. Wilson (Wanganui) £18,143; M. Danagher (Wellington) £19,200; Mace and Basset (Belgrove) £20,348; Thomas Denby (Wanganui) £20,397; **Duncan Sinclair (Wellington) £20,940.**

1890 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, contractor, Palmerston North

1893 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, contractor, Palmerston North; Martha Sinclair, domestic, Palmerston North

1896 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, contractor; Duncan H. H. Sinclair, contractor; Hugh Gordon John Sinclair, contractor; Martha Sinclair, domestic duties – all residing in Palmerston North.

1900 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Agnes Martha Sinclair, artist; Duncan Henry Hobbs Sinclair, contractor; Duncan Sinclair, contractor; Martha Sinclair, domestic duties;

Manawatu Standard 24 Aug 1900 A Distinguished Palmerstonian

The friends of Mr Duncan Sinclair, junr., who is now serving with the Australian Bushmen in South Africa, have received news by the last mail that he had been specially mentioned in Lieut-General Baden Powell's despatches for conspicuous gallantry at Zeerust. The particulars of the engagement in which Trooper Sinclair distinguished himself are not yet to hand, but it is highly gratifying to the residents of Palmerston to know that one of their townsmen has proved himself such a worthy son of the Empire; and it also shows the absurdity of the redtapism which governed the selection of our contingents, for it will be remembered that Trooper Sinclair's services were rejected in New Zealand because he had not been a member of a volunteer corps, and rather than be denied he went to Sydney and joined the Australian Bushmen. Thus, while we rejoice in the knowledge that one of our own men has received the commendation of so gallant a soldier as Baden-Powell, we regret that through the cast iron methods of our officials the credit will be lost to New Zealand.

Manawatu Standard 26 Sep 1900 Trooper Sinclair

Some time ago we announced that Trooper Duncan Sinclair, at present in South Africa with the Australian Bushmen, had been specially mentioned by Baden-Powell for bravery. The recent Sydney papers give brief particulars of the incident, the following being B.P.'s dispatch on the subject. Rustenburg, July 10. "For gallantry in action. The general officer commanding has much pleasure in placing on record the following instances of gallantry in action by non-commissioned officers and men of the New South Wales contingent. Sergt Airy, and Troopers Allison and Sinclair, in the attack on the 7th inst., displayed conspicuous coolness and readiness in bringing a wounded comrade out of action under hot fire." It appears that in the engagement in question one of the men at the Maxim gun was wounded seriously, and left on the field; and upon the position of the Maxim being changed, Sergeant Airey asked if he might be allowed to go and carry the wounded man out of fire. He was allowed to do so, and with the aid of troopers Allison and Sinclair he went, and together they improvised a stretcher by lashing rifles together and carried him out under a very heavy fire.

Nominal Roll of Details for Seventh Contingent which sailed from Auckland in S.S. 'Surrey' on 1st Feb 1902 (Colonel Davies in Command)
Appendices to the Journal of the House of Representatives 1902 Section H6 p15
No. 6376 Harold Lionel Aynsley Sinclair, Clerk, Terrace End, Palmerston North – Father: Duncan Sinclair, same address

Manawatu Standard 18 Apr 1903 Presentation to Mr D. Sinclair

By Telegraph, Special to Standard. Pohangina, This day. Mr Phillpotts, Chairman of the Pohangina County Council, presented Mr D. Sinclair, the retiring Engineer, with an illuminated address at the close of today's meeting on behalf of the residents. The address is the work of Mr L. J. Watkin and is beautifully done.

New Zealand Mail 6 May 1903 p32a

Palmerston North. Mr and Mrs Duncan Sinclair leave Palmerston tomorrow on a visit to the Old World. They propose going to Canada and then across to England and the Continent, after which Mr Sinclair will in all probability pay a visit to Africa. During the course of their tour Mr and Mrs Sinclair will be accompanied by their son Norman.

New Zealand Mail 12 Aug 1903 p55a

Palmerston North. Mr D Sinclair, late engineer to the Pohangina County Council, writing to a friend in Dannevirke from Cowley, ?inchos Creek, Alberta, Canada, says:- "We are having a real nice trip; so far good mild weather all the way, which has been very enjoyable."

New Zealand Mail 16 Mar 1904 p25b

Palmerston North. Mr and Mrs D. Sinclair, who left Palmerston North ten months ago on a visit to America and England, returned to this town on Wednesday evening. Their two sons, Duncan and Harold, are still in South Africa. Mr Harold Sinclair was married recently, and has settled in Pretoria.

1905-1906 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Agnes Martha Sinclair, spinster; Alice Maud Sinclair, spinster; Duncan Sinclair, contractor; Martha Sinclair, married; Norman Herbert Sinclair, clerk – all residing at Church street east.

Manawatu Times 09 Mar 1908 Marriage

At Palmerston North, by Rev Isaac Jolly, on March 7, John, youngest son of the late Mr T. B. Louisson, of Nelson, to Agnes Martha, second daughter of Mr Duncan Sinclair, Terrace End.

Feilding Star 17 May 1909 Pohangina County Council – London's Ford Bridge – A Tender (£1900) Accepted

Waita, May 17. The Pohangina County Council, at a special meeting held on Saturday, accepted the tender of Mr T. Dillon, of Wellington, for the erection of London's Ford Bridge over the Oroua river at Kimbolton. The price is £1990 1s. There were ten tenders received, the highest being £2377. Tenders were received from Rangiora, Blenheim, Dannevirke, Woodville, Palmerston, Wellington and Masterton. The Government is paying one-half the cost, and the Pohangina County Council three-fourths and the Kiwitea County Council one-fourth of the remainder. Mr Duncan Sinclair, of Palmerston North, is the engineer for the contract.

Evening Post 13 Dec 1909

Mr Duncan Sinclair, son of Mr D. Sinclair, of Terrace End, is expected to return to the Dominion after an absence of ten years by the Tongariro, due in Wellington to-morrow. Mr Sinclair went through the South African campaign. His father and mother are in Wellington to meet him and his wife.

Evening Post 23 Dec 1909

Mr Duncan Sinclair, son of Mr Donald Sinclair, of Palmerston North, who has been eight years in South Africa, returned by the Manuka yesterday. He was in the New South Wales Bushmen's Contingent, and was decorated for bravery in the war. He has since been engaged in the farming and pastoral industry in South Africa.

1911 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Alice Maud Sinclair, spinster; Duncan Sinclair, contractor; Martha Sinclair, married; Norman Herbert Stanley Sinclair, manager – all residing at 311 Main Street East.

1914 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, contractor; Frances Ethel Sinclair, married; Martha Sinclair, married; Norman Herbert Stanley Sinclair, manager – all residing at 311 Main Street East.

Evening Post 19 Sep 1916 Letters to the Editor – City Water Supply – Orongorongo work in hand

Sir, The old adage is true – “Where ignorance is bliss, ‘tis folly to be wise.” I was not aware that the above work was in hand, but now see from the Mayor’s remarks at the council meeting that such is the case, and also indicating the points from which the connection is to be made; also that a name has been given to one of the several streams which flow towards Orongorongo in that locality. This implies that some preliminary work has been done, if only with the aneroid. Huia Creek is a very appropriate name for such a tributary, if the royal “Hetrulochra-acutirastris” is yet in possession of that particular locality, which I am inclined to doubt, although there were quite a number of them there half a century ago. It is satisfactory to know that the Orongorongo Stream can be tapped so low down, and can be brought into George’s Stream. The Irishman said it was a “rocky road to Dublin” and a “long way to Tipperary.” If he were induced to have a walk over there he would say it was a “little of both” where if he saw the place for a dam he would hear of quite a number of others. From the nature of the country it will require some time to carry the scheme through, for want of access. The question of the Scotchman and the whisky might apply. When asked if he would have it hot or cold, he said: “Cold while the hot was being made ready.” It might be necessary to do the smaller tunnel while the larger scheme was in progress. Unfortunately the trend of the hills and gullies opposite George’s Stream does not naturally help to shorten the distance. Now, sir, while we are on the George’s Stream track, I will introduce your readers to a little matter which may prove of interest to visitors in that locality a bit later; it may not be very far from the line of the proposed tunnel. What might be termed a “phenomenon” or natural curiosity is a block of stone or rough rock which, by some earthquake or volcanic action, has been tilted up on end, from the side of the hill. There is quite a recess in the hillside from where it has been tilted out. This block of stone stands some feet above the standing birch trees; it can only be approached from the back or hillside. The top of this rock is flat, with room for eight or ten men to stand, while in the centre there is a loose block of stone, from two and a half to three feet through, suitable for a good seat. This peculiar rock is bleached with the weather, and at a distance resembles a small tent standing on top of the green trees. It was named by the lads J. and D. Sinclair, over 50 years ago, the “throne in the wilderness.” This phenomenon is worthy of a visit by anyone who may be in that locality, and no doubt will be visited by the young tourist with a camera, from which a good view of all the upper Orongorongo Valley can be obtained. It can be easily found by going up the central spur from where the George’s Stream forks, where this spur joined the main range. There is a rather prominent point on the spur which leads over towards the Orongorongo (from that point), looking about north-east along the main ridge, about three-quarters of a mile, and just down on the Orongorongo side a little distance can be seen this “throne in the wilderness.” Ten or 15 minutes’ walk from the junction of the ridges named will bring the visitor to this spot, where, if the day is clear, he will be rewarded with a beautiful landscape view, where the hills and valleys are clad in a many-coloured robe of foliage, where the wood pigeon may be seen as it sweeps on the wing from one hill to another, and the “wheep-wheep” of the poipoi (turangara-taugara) is heard from the valley below. As the tourist is seated on that “throne in the wilderness” and views the surrounding country, he will admit the scene is one to which beauty has lent its charms, and sublimity its grandeur. The tourist would return satisfied that this description is no romance, and that the spot is worth a good walk to see it. It is to be hoped the surveyors will locate this spot, and cut a line to it that it may be more easily found by future visitors. I am, etc. Duncan Sinclair, Palmerston North, September 15, 1916.

1919 Palmerston North Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, contractor; Hugh Gordon John Sinclair, county engineer; Martha Elizabeth Sinclair, married – 167 Church Street
Frances Ethel Sinclair, married – 196 Ferguson Street
Norman Herbert Stanley Sinclair, manager – 10 Alan Street

1919 Tauranga Electoral Roll

Duncan Sinclair, civil engineer; Martha Sinclair, married – both at Mission Street, Tauranga

Evening Post 13 Dec 1920 Manawatu

Mr Duncan Sinclair, who passed away suddenly at Tauranga on Monday, was for many years a resident of the Manawatu district. He was born at Lowry Bay, Wellington, 74 years ago, and was for some years engaged in contracting and sawmilling. Later he was appointed engineer to the Pohangina County Council, which position he held for 12 years, resigning two years ago. He was at times a member of various local bodies and was a lay reader in the Broad-street Methodist Church Circuit. The late Mr Sinclair is survived by four sons and three daughters – Messrs Hugh and Norman (Palmerston North), Duncan (Tauranga) and Harold (Auckland), Mrs J. Louisson (Tauranga), Mrs D'Anvers (Te Puke) and Mrs W. Grace (Wellington).

Bay of Plenty Times 30 Dec 1920 An Interesting Career – The late Mr Duncan Sinclair

With the death of Mr Duncan Sinclair at his residence on the Camp last week there passed away one of the few remaining links with the early history of Wellington and the Dominion. His parents arrived in Wellington in 1838, and shortly afterwards took up land at Wainui o Mata, the present locality of Wellington's main water supply. It was here that the deceased gentleman was born, and spent his early life in farming and sawmilling. He owned and sold to the Wellington City Council the site of the present reservoirs, to which he also gave access through a mile and a half of his land. The sawmill which the late Mr Sinclair ran at Wainui o Mata was one of the first in the North Island and was at that time the largest. Possessed of a foresight which was strongly characteristic of his many undertakings he early recognised the value of steel rails in the working of his mill. These he imported from England and simultaneously obtained from Hobart a steam engine which he named the "Pio Pio." The task of getting the engine from Wellington to the mill was a most formidable one – to all but its enterprising owner. By almost everyone it was declared impossible, the latter portion of the sixteen mile journey being over a very steep hill. The task was, however, safely accomplished with the aid of twelve bullocks and six horses. In 1871 Mr Sinclair was married at Wellington by the Rev. Jas. Patterson to Miss Mowlem sister of the late Captain John Mowlem (one of the pioneer skippers of the Shaw Savill and Albion Company's clippers) of Palmerston North. Captain Mowlem married Mr Sinclair's twin sister. The deceased gentleman's first move from Wainui was to Lowry Bay – just across the hill and on the shores of Wellington harbour. This estate – consisting of some 584 acres – he purchased from the Government which had previously acquired it as a residence for Sir George Grey. After a short time there he moved north and went in for contracting on a large scale making Palmerston North his headquarters. Amongst the works which were constructed under his supervision were the Marton waterworks and the Apiti bridge, besides several other important undertakings. Subsequently, Mr Sinclair was appointed engineer to the Pohangina County Council, and while in this position he undertook a world tour, and was enabled to apply the knowledge gained by his extensive travel to the Council's benefit during the twelve years he was associated with that body. He was succeeded as engineer by his son, Mr Hugh Sinclair. The deceased gentleman took a keen and intelligent interest in all matters of public moment, and for some time he occupied a seat on the Palmerston North Borough Council. A keen student of nature, he was an authority on New Zealand flora, and had, besides, a remarkable knowledge of many other branches of natural history. It is interesting to note that one native plant, discovered by Mr Sinclair, bears his name. In this connection he was a valued member of the defunct Manawatu Beautifying Society, his remarkable knowledge being always available in the interests of the town. He rendered yeoman service in building up the local museum, many gifts he made having been found by him in exploring little known places when engaged in valuing timber lands (a good deal of which he did for the Government) or in his many journeys over the high lands of the Pohangina County. On many occasions Mr Sinclair had found around Apiti fossilised remains of sea life. A staunch Wesleyan, he was a prominent member and lay reader of the Broad Street Methodist Church for 25 years, and regularly preached in the churches of Bunnythorpe, Ashhurst and other district townships. For many years too, he was a member of the Terrace End School Committee. In all respects he was one of nature's gentlemen, and his quiet and unassuming character earned for him the affection and goodwill of all whom he met. As already stated Mr Sinclair came here to reside some two years ago. He is survived by his widow, four sons and three daughters: Messrs Hugh and Norman (Palmerston North) Duncan (Tauranga) and Harold (Auckland) and Mesdames Louisson (Tauranga), D'Anvers (Papamoa) and W. Grace (Wellington).

Evening Post 27 Sep 1935 Death

On September 23, 1935, at a private hospital, Palmerston North, Martha, relict of the late Duncan Sinclair; in her 94th year.

Evening Post 27 Sep 1935 Obituary – Mrs Duncan Sinclair

The death is announced of an old identity of Palmerston North, Mrs Duncan Sinclair, at the age of 94. Mrs Sinclair was born at Swanage, Dorset, in 1842, and was the sister of Captain John and Messrs J. and F. Mowlem. The family left in 1854 for Australia, and their father took part in the erection of the Melbourne Post Office, and also in the historic Pentridge prison. Captain Mowlem was master of the ship 'Electra', which traded between England and New Zealand. In 1870 Mrs Sinclair came to Wellington with her parents, and was married, the ceremony being performed by the late Rev James Patterson. They took up their residence at Wainui-o-mata, and in 1882 Mr Sinclair purchased the Lowry Bay estate, where they resided till they left for Palmerston North in 1885. Mrs Sinclair was predeceased by her husband and two daughters, Mesdames Watchorn and _ . Danvers, also two sons, Messrs Duncan and Leonard Sinclair. Those remaining are three sons, Messrs Hugh, Norman and Harold Sinclair, and two daughters, Mesdames J. Louisson and C. A. Bierre, all of Palmerston North, also 22 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Both Mr and Mrs Sinclair were good church workers, and Mrs Sinclair will be much missed by fellow-workers and by many friends.