

OPEN

MINUTE ITEM

ATTACHMENTS

**Ordinary meeting of the
Hearings Panel - Other**

**Thursday 5 September 2019
Commencing at 8.30a.m.
Ruma Marama**

Civic House

110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson

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AS REQUESTED BY
NGATIMOTI
K D I
MOTUEKA

HOCTON APPO

The first known Chinese settler in New Zealand was Wong Ah Poo Hoc Ting (Appo Hocton) who was a ships steward on board the 'Thomas Harrison' which arrived in Nelson in 1842

Appo was born in Wai Jie Chong village in Zhongshan China in c1817 His father was Fook Ting and his mother Pae See Ting.

Appo left China about nine years of age, serving on various English ships as a cabin boy and ships steward

On arrival in Nelson he deserted ship, and hid in the Port hills (Moana location) until caught, and was sentenced to 30 days in 'The House Of Correction' A story has it that Dr Renwick the ships Surgeon paid Appo's fine hence his not serving time in jail.

Appo became an astute and respected business man in Nelson, running a carting business, and building a number of houses in the Hastings St Washington Valley area.

His first marriage was to Jennifer Rawling on 10th July 1856 They had one son William. Jennifer died 10 March 1865

His second marriage to Ellen Snook took place at Appo's residence in Washington Valley on 12 September 1865 They had three children; Appo Louis b20 June 1866, Albert Ah Lina b23 May 1868 and my Grandmother Eirena Jane b12 October 1871

In 1876 the Hocton family left Nelson to live and farm in Dovedale on the corner of Brandy Creek, where he ran cows, sheep, and was one of the first to grow hops in the valley.

On the 12 June 1879 a terrible tragedy occurred, when Appo Louis accidentally shot his eleven year old brother while rabbiting; the story goes that this was witnessed by my Grandmother Eirena.

Eirena (Renee) married John Thomas Inwood, a son of William and Elizabeth (nee Sherman)

Appo lived until he was 103 years old, and is buried in the Dovedale Cemetery. Up until the year 2000 there was no headstone for either Appo or his wife Ellen. But through the instigation of Tony and Diana Clark (nee Inwood) a headstone was made, a plaque engraved, and an unveiling ceremony took place in January 2000, where many of Appo's descendents attended. A fitting memorial for one of Nelson's earliest pioneer settlers.

compiled by Diana Clark
127 Tipahi St
Nelson

AUG 2004

Hocton Archives

12 July 2008

Chief Executive
Nelson City Council
P.O. Box 645
Nelson

Att.
Richard Palmer

Re Naming of new streets

Dear Richard

My Great Grandfather Appo Hocton was the first Chinese man to settle in N.Z.

As a ships steward, - he 'jumped ship' from the Thomas Harrison when it berthed at Nelson in 1842. He was also the first Chinese person to become Naturalized. This took place in 1852.

During his life in Nelson he became an astute business man, owning his own Carting Business, and helped to form a number of early Nelson streets including Trafalgar and Milton streets.

He also built a number of houses in Washington Valley, where several still stand today.

Because he is such a well known and highly regarded early settler, - I as the 'Family Archivist' on behalf of his extended family ask if you might consider naming a street after him in recognition of the colourful contribution he made to our then fledgling city.

For what they are worth may I suggest a few street names?

Hocton Heights

Hocton Haven

Hocton Hollow

Appo Hocton Heights

Appo's Way

Thank you for considering this letter, and I look forward to your response.

Kind Regards

Diana Clark
Family Archivist/Historian
127 Tipahi St
Nelson
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Proposed Walkway named after Appo Hocton Hocton [Wong Ah Poo Hoc Ting]

5th September 2019

My name is Diana Clark the Gt Granddaughter of Appo Hocton..... I am here to support Appo's name being used for a proposed walkway off Washington Road

- My reasons for naming this walkway after him are:
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- Way back in 2008 I sent a letter requesting that one of the new roads at the top of Washington Valley should bare his name [see attached letter] unfortunately I did not receive reply
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- It would be fitting to honour this astute and well respected man
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- After all he was the first Chinese person to settle in Nelson and N.Z.
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- In 1852 he was the first Chinese person to become a Naturalised New Zealander
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- He was also one of the invited guests at the Old Settlers Dinner held in Nelson on the Anniersary of Queen Victoria's Accession to the throne
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- He worked very hard for our City. With his bullocks and dray he helped form Trafalgar Street, Milton Street.and put in Tenders for other Nelson Streets
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- As a family we were lucky to have a book written about his life here in Nelson. Have you read it?????
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- Not only did he build 6 houses in Washington Valley [which still stand] he also built a number of houses in Dovedale for his extended family
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- He was astute, clever, with an innate ability to intergrate into the European Community of the 1840's. He could read, write and speak English, which would have gone doen very well with the English and Irish settlers.
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- Just to add that he was rather a ladies man. He jumped the fence of his next door neighbour, who was alewady married and consequently she became pregnant, as one does ...
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- I think it would be a great idea to see little photos with information, on plaques ...dotted along the walkway depicitng the life of this respected man
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- Finally I would dearly love to have both Appo's names [English & Chinese] on the walkway sign board i.e.Appo Hocton Way [Wong Ah Poo Hoc Ting]

Diana M. M. Clark
127 ~~A2260497~~ *St John St*
Nelson

Diana Clark, Public Forum
Hearings Panel - Other
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