

**ORIGINS OF  
RANGIORA AND  
SOUTHBROOK  
STREET NAMES**

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Waimakariri District Council

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Waimakariri District Libraries

## INTRODUCTION

The information on the origin of the current street names in Rangiora is the result of research at the Rangiora Museum, the study of published resources, the author's personal knowledge and information supplied by local residents.

More information on any street is welcomed.

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## RANGIORA STREET NAMES

AINTREE PLACE	Arlington Park subdivision. Aintree is the site in Liverpool England of the Grand National
ALBERT STREET	Albert, Prince consort of Queen Victoria. Original name New Street.
ALFRED STREET	Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, second son of Queen Victoria. First called New Market Street. Also Princess Alice Street west of Victoria Street, and Leech Street east of Victoria Street.
AMBROSE PLACE	Thomas Ambrose was headmaster of Rangiora Borough School from 1898 to 1921.
ANDREW STREET	Andrew Benton Blackett, son of Henry Blackett – Mayor 1899-1901; Councillor 1892-9, 1909-10. This area was part of the Blackett family land.
AQUILA STREET	Aquila Ivory, early settler – Mayor 1883-85; Councillor 1879-83, 1889-92.
ARCHER PLACE	The Archer family of Southbrook. Family members owned flour mill still known by the name of Archers.
ARLINGTON BOULEVARD	Arlington International Racecourse, Chicago, USA. It was felt that with the proximity to the Rangiora Racecourse, the names of well-known racecourses or races would be appropriate for this subdivision
ASCOT PLACE	Arlington Park subdivision. Ascot Racecourse in England.
ASHGROVE STREET	Mr Jack Kelcher was the landowner and subdivider of this area.
ASHLEY STREET	Lord Ashley, (later Seventh Earl of Shaftesbury) a member of the Canterbury Association. Very early maps have Mt Grey Road. The road leading to Ashley River and township.
AVON STREET	The name appears on old maps – was situated near Lillybrook corner between Victoria and Newnham Streets.
AYERS STREET	Samuel Ayers, a stonemason and bricklayer, was the subdivider in 1908 of the block of land north of High Street from King Street through to Ayers Street, including Seddon Street. Many of the brick houses in this area were built by Mr Ayers and his son, Cecil. Councillor 1903-12.
BALLARAT ROAD	This area was previously an apple orchard owned by the Banfield family.
BALMORAL LANE	Arlington Park subdivision. Racecourse in Illinois USA
BANKS PLACE	William Alexander Banks, a school teacher and farmer. Mayor 1921-23, Councillor 1916-19.

BACK STREET	Off Cone Street – no longer there.
BELGRAVE DRIVE	Street names in the Kensington subdivision have a London theme.
BELL STREET	Charles William Bell – Mayor 1908-10, Councillor – 1901-8, 1910-13. Also Jonathan Bell, father of Charles was an early settler of the West Belt area. The railway flag station, Bells, at the corner of West Belt and Oxford Road was named after the family.
BELMONT AVENUE	Name of racehorse stables and farm at this site. The Belmont Stakes is one of the Triple Crown Races in the USA.
BLACKETT STREET	Henry Blackett, an early resident, arrived in 1858 from Durham. He was a draper. His general store, the biggest in town was opposite the present Post Office. A popular figure, he assumed political leadership in the young township. The first Mayor – 1878-80 and 1887-88 Councillor 1883-87 and 1889-92. Blackett Street was previously Railway Terrace and the section from Ashley Street to the Railway Station was Station Road.
BLAKE STREET	Mr Blake was the engine driver on early trains on the Rangiora – Oxford line. Previously named Coe's Lane.
BOYD STREET	Hugh Boyd arrived in 1864 – Builder and Contractor. Mayor 1885-87. Councillor – 1878-85, 1911-21.
BOYS ROAD	John Cowell Boys a fellow surveyor with C O Torlesse. Boys built one of the first homes in Rangiora, near the Torlesse home south of the North Brook. His farm was named "Betshanger".
BRICK KILN ROAD	Thomas Hills brick maker came to Rangiora in 1858. His first kiln was in King Street South. His second was on the site of Brick Kiln Road. The clay in this area was of a superior quality and the company manufactured the much in demand red bricks and drain-pipes, until the early 1900s.
BRIDGET LANE	William Bridget, an early settler, had a shoe store, residence and boot and shoe factory at the corner of High and Victoria Streets. He died in the 1918 influenza epidemic.  Councillor – 1908-1913.
BROOK STREET	On early maps – went from High Street, through about where Victoria Park is now, down Murray Street and Ward Place to the North Brook.
BUCKHAM STREET	George Buckham – telegraphist. First full-time Postmaster in Rangiora. He sold the land to the Council for this street and that was the only street that the Council had to buy.

BURT STREET	William Alfred Burt – a businessman who was at various times a carter, grain merchant and farmer. On the first Council – 1878-79 and 1880-82.
BUSH STREET	The Rangiora Bush covered most of this area. Originally called Schmidt's Lane after an early settler – and later Breach's Lane.
BUSS STREET	William Buss, an early businessman, who by 1863 had established himself as a commission agent dealing in land, stock and grain. He also established the saleyards in Victoria Street.
CALAVANDRA GROVE	Named after the Motueka farm of the family of one of the subdividers.
CARMANA GARDENS	An Italian, Noel Carmana arrived in Rangiora about 1938. He had a fish and chip shop in High Street for many years, and cultivated a garden in the vicinity of this street.
CHAMBERLAIN LANE	The subdivider/developer.
CHARLES STREET	Previously Roebuck's Lane. In May 1879, there was a more orderly naming of Rangiora's streets, but many names with historical associations were lost.  Margaret Luxton in her book "The pioneer Luxton Family in New Zealand 1851 to the 1900's" notes that 'Luxtons Road was changed to John Street. There were three Councillors at the time named John. However four streets, John William, Charles and George were also the names of John Luxton's adult sons.'
CHARTWELL CLOSE	Part of Kensington subdivision. Neil Aitken the landowner was an admirer of Sir Winston Churchill whose home was name "Chartwell".
CHELSEA COURT	London theme name
CHURCH STREET	St John Baptist Anglican Church built on the corner of High Street and this street. This was one of the original accommodation roads.
COATES PLACE	The Coates family lived at the south end of Bush Street. Coates family members have served many years in the Rangiora Fire Brigade.
COES LANE	Early name of Blake Street.
COLDSTREAM ROAD	John Macfarlane, a Scotsman, owned land from 1851, first at Loburn and Whiterock and then bought 1300 acres of swamp land near Rangiora, naming the place Coldstream.
COLLINGWOOD PLACE	When the land for Matawai Park was purchased by the Council, the portion north of William Street was purchased by the then Mayor, Les Farr who subdivided it. He suggested the name 'Collingwood', the name of his dwelling in High Street (present site of the Waimakariri District

	Council offices). The house had previously been owned by Dr. Will, a popular Rangiora identity. [see Will Place].
COLLINS STREET	Unknown
CONE STREET	George Cone, Mayor 1891-92. Councillor 1878-80 – (first Council) – and 1882-90, 1893-98. Was previously Queen Street.
DOGGETT PLACE	Doggett family – early settlers in this area – arrived in 1857. Matilda Doggett ran cottage school classes after her husband William died.
DONCASTER PLACE	Arlington Park subdivision. Doncaster Racecourse in England.
DOUGLAS STREET	Named by Mr Palmer, the subdivider, after his grandson Douglas Palmer.
DUKE STREET	Original name <u>OF</u> street, as part of Edward, Prince of Wales street naming. Later changed to Duke Street.
DURHAM STREET	Blackett family came from Durham England. Was first known as Kinley's Lane.
EARNLEY STREET	Named by Rev. B W Dudley after his first parish in England.
EAST BELT	Originally called Horniblow's Road after settler James Horniblow, when it was a rural paper road.
EBERT PLACE	Tony Ebert – Gold medallist in weightlifting at the Christchurch Commonwealth Games in 1974. Three streets in this subdivision were named after gold medallists from Christchurch.
EDWARD STREET	Edward, Prince of Wales. First known as Fitzgerald Street and also Station Street.
ELIZABETH STREET	Named by subdivider.
ENVERTON DRIVE	Named after the Banfield family orchard which used to be here. Enverton was a Cornish place name from where the Banfields originated.
EPSOM DRIVE	Arlington Park Subdivision. Epsom racecourse in England and the Epsom Derby.
FAIRVIEW BRIARS	Named by subdivider.
FOSTER PLACE	Thomas W Foster, first proprietor of the Red Lion Hotel. William Foster owned the property in King Street where Holmwood home and hospital is now. Foster family also owned the land where Foster Place is situated. J W Foster, Councillor 1894-1911 W H Foster, Councillor 1892-95
FOWLER LANE	John Fowler developer.

FRASER PLACE	J M Fraser, long serving Town Clerk, 1926-51.
GEDDIS STREET	Geddis family owned this land. Ivy Horton Geddis and her sister May operated a dressmaking business in High Street for many years. Ivy was also associated with the work of the Salvation Army in Rangiora. She celebrated her 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday in 1992.
GEORGE STREET	[See Charles Street.] The section from Percival Street to Victoria Street was originally Chapel Street.
GERALD BEATTIE LANE	Gerald C Beattie taught at Rangiora High School from 1919 until 1955, during the time of J E Strachan. Also a long serving member of the Rangiora Rotary Club. Mr Beattie lived until he was 102 years old.
GOLDING AVENUE	John Golding was a builder and contractor. With Arthur Vincent, he built the Borough Council Chambers and the bowling clubrooms. His sons Albert and Cyril traded in the hardware business for many years.
GOOD STREET	This was a narrow track to the west of Edward Good's store on High Street. Originally called Carter's Lane, and Mile's Lane.
GOODALL LANE	(Edward Street extension) – Bishop Maurice Goodall founded the original Mt Grey Centre for alternative education whilst Christchurch City Missioner.
GRANT PLACE	Named for R G Grant and later his sons, who together with other carriers, formed Transport North Canterbury in 1939. Transport N.C. was the former owner of the land.
GREEN STREET	First called Thompson's Lane – changed to Green Street in 1879. Presumed to be for the Samuel Green who once had the Masonic Hotel at Southbrook. Probably one of Torlesses' labourers.
GOODWOOD CLOSE	The name of Neil Aitken's farm, on this site – named by Matsons who owned the farm before Mr Aitken.
GROVE PLACE	An extension of Ashgrove Street.
GROSVENOR LANE	Kensington subdivision. London theme name.
HARROD PLACE	Harley Turnbull and Rodney Venning, the developers
HAWKINS PLACE	Hawkins Family – Harry Hawkins began in the grocery business about 1910 – continued by his sons Lance and Lawrence. Lawrence D Hawkins served many years with St John Ambulance Brigade and Lance I Hawkins the Rangiora Rugby Football Club. Donald N Hawkins wrote "Beyond the Waimakariri" and "Rangiora the passing years and people in a Canterbury country town".
HEGAN PLACE	Hegan family had a dairy farm here and the area around Lillybrook corner for many years.



HIGH STREET	First known as Harewood Forest Road. It became High Street in 1879, when names were formalised.
HINTON PLACE	Jack Hinton VC. He was the licensee for a period at the Plough Hotel adjacent to this new street.
HOLCROFT COURT	Holcroft family home was near here. Harry Holcroft was for a time in the early 1900s the proprietor of Parrot's grocery store in High Street, opposite Ivory Street. Monty Holcroft the journalist, was a son.
IVORY STREET	William Emms Ivory, one of the earliest settlers, established his nursery garden here, and the track known as Ivory's Road, and also Red Lion Street, can be described as the first residential street in the town. One of the original accommodation roads.
JAMES STREET	No longer a street – part of Matawai Park, [see Charles Street]
JANELLE PLACE	Developer, Allan Fowler's daughter
JENNINGS PLACE	Originally Payne Street after early settler who worked for the Council. Changed to Jennings Place about 1938. The Jennings family home was on the corner of Jennings Place and Ashley Street. Charles Ivory Jennings was a most prolific holder of office in Rangiora's municipal, social, cultural and sporting institutions. Mayor – 1896-1898 and during the difficult years of the First World War 1914-1921.
JOHNS ROAD	First known as Luxton's Road. The name used to change from John Street to Johns Road at the borough boundary. After the amalgamation of the two Rangiora Councils in 1986 it was thought that "road" fitted an urban area better than "street" did a rural area and the difference was confusing, so Johns Road it became. [see Charles St]
KEIR STREET	Part of Blackett Street, but Railways Department forbade a road crossing. Was changed to Keir Street in 1962. Charles Keir, who owned a menswear shop in High Street, lived on the corner. Also the Keir family, Builders have been in Rangiora from the very early days.
KELDON AVENUE	A derivation of the name 'Kelcher'. Jack Kelcher was owner of land in this area.
KENSINGTON AVENUE	One of a group of streets in a subdivision with names associated with London.
KING STREET	North of High Street was first called Oddfellows' Road because the Oddfellows' Lodge Hall was here, and also at one time North Street. South of High Street was South Street and a part was School Street. Changed to King Street in 1879.
KINGSBURY AVENUE	Named by John Kingsbury Fraser after his mother, Ruby Jane (nee Kingsbury) Fraser. This road was formed when

	Mr Fraser subdivided his land, and the street name 'Fraser' was already in use.
KINLEY STREET	Mr R R G Kinley owned land in this area.
KIPPENBERGER AVENUE	Major General Sir Howard Kippenberger was one of New Zealand's foremost military commanders in World War II. He had been a barrister and solicitor with an office in High Street and a Councillor from 1927 to 1935. A former captain of the Rangiora cricket team and commander of the local territorials.
KOWHAI AVENUE	Kowhai tree.
LEECH PLACE	Leech family, early settlers. George John Leech owned the first freehold farm in Rangiora district.
LINDON STREET	John Lindon – Councillor 1923-7. The present Town Hall stands on land once owned by Mr Lindon.
LOWE PLACE	Eric and Fay Lowe owned the land 1964-1970 and Mrs Lowe's parents Eric and Ursula Allen were the owners 1945-1964. The reserve in Lowe Place is Allen Reserve
LUDLOW LANE	Arlington Park subdivision. Ludlow Racecourse in Hereford England, a National Hunt Course.
LUXTON PLACE	John Luxton and family, early settlers who farmed near this street for many years. Councillor 1878-80.
McALPINE PLACE	George McAlpine, timber merchant, operated from premises in High Street next to the Presbyterian Church, later moving to Southbrook. His property behind his home in Good Street was formed into McAlpine Place. Councillor – 1938-53.
McKENZIE PLACE	John A McKenzie, draper, with a shop in High Street. Councillor 1968-71 and Mayor 1971-1980.
MANCHESTER PLACE	The Manchester Unity Friendly Society was involved in this subdivision.
MARTYN STREET	Frank Martyn, a farmer and builder, had a dairy farm in this area. Councillor 1931-44.
MATAWAI CLOSE	Adjacent to Matawai Park (source of springs). This park is a re-creation of the Rangiora Bush, planted in native flora.
MATSON CLOSE	Matson family owned the land before Mr Aitken – H Matson & Son were Stock and Station Agents.
MELFORD CLOSE	Charles Torlesse, Rangiora's first settler came from Melford. This was the name of Charles Merton's farm to the west of Rangiora. Mr Merton had married the nurse to the Torlesse family.
MILESBROOK CLOSE	Bruce Miles, developer.

MILLTON AVENUE	W N Millton and Sons, at various times owned early runs at Okuku, View Hill and Birch Hill. M V Millton was the captain of the rugby team to Australia in 1884. His brother E B Millton was also in the team.
MONTROSE GARDENS	Kensington subdivision.
MURRAY STREET	Walter Lewis Murray, a butcher and Labour Party stalwart. Councillor 1919-1925.
NEWNHAM STREET	Originally Thorne's Road. Newnham was Frederick Thorne's hometown in Forest of Dean, England. (see Thorne Place).
NORTHBROOK ROAD	The North Brook Stream is just south of here. First called Brook Road.
OAKGROVE DRIVE	Northbrook Estates subdivision – an existing mature Oak Grove by the railway line in this subdivision.
OAKTREE LANE	Off Rowse Street. Oak trees in the vicinity.
OAKWOOD DRIVE	Name for main thoroughfare through new subdivision. Names to be on a tree theme. The property was previously a tree nursery.
PALMER STREET	Mr R A Palmer was the owner and subdivider of this area.
PALMVIEW DRIVE	To recognise the palms along the recreational lake of the Northbrook Estate subdivision.
PARK STREET	This street leads to the main gates of Dudley Park. Robert McIntosh, Mayor 1925-27, gifted the land for this street so that an entrance to the park could be constructed.
PARKHOUSE DRIVE	Jaynie Parkhouse, gold medallist in swimming at the Christchurch Commonwealth Games in 1974.
PEAR TREE LANE	New cul-de-sac off Northbrook Road – for the nashi pears that have been growing there.
PENTECOST ROAD	Pentecost family farmed on the western boundary of the Rangiora township from the 1850s. Was originally part of West Belt until the late 1980's. It was renamed because it did not line up with the rest of West Belt.
PERCIVAL STREET	Westby Hawkshaw Percival, a colourful character, and his wife Sarah arrived in Rangiora in 1862. Mr Percival was one of the businessmen at the forefront of having the railway pass through Rangiora – he died on the day of the official opening. The site of Victoria Park was bought by the Council from the Percival Estate. Mrs Percival also gave the land for the Roman Catholic Church, cemetery and school. Previous names were Main Street and Mandeville Street.

PRINCE STREET	Part of the Edward, Prince of Wales street naming.
QUEEN STREET	Queen Victoria. First called Percival Street. The part between King Street and Church Street was School Street. Between Victoria and Ivory Streets is a recent addition.
RATA STREET	Rata tree. Part of this street was an extension of Lindon Street but was changed in 1961 when the present Rata Street was completed.
RAYMOND ORR MEADOWS	A private road off South Belt. Named after the subdivider's grandfather.
REGENT AVENUE	Kensington subdivision.
REX PLACE	Kensington subdivision.
RICKTON PLACE	Ricton farm was here, named by early settlers Frank and Robert Rickman. Other owners were prominent businessmen William Burt and later William Buss.
RIVER ROAD	Near Ashley River.
RIVERVIEW STREET	Off River Road.
ROWSE STREET	William Arthur Rowse – Mayor 1923-25 and 1931-36. Councillor – 1915-23.
ROYAL TERRACE	Developed about the time of Queen Elizabeth's coronation.
SCOTT STREET	Scott family lived on corner.
SCOTSWOOD PLACE	'Scotswood' was in honour of the previous owner of the land, Colin McBeath Mackenzie.
SEDDON STREET	Richard John Seddon – Prime Minister of New Zealand 1893-1906. The area was subdivided by Samuel Ayers in 1908.
SLOAN AVENUE	Kensington subdivision.
SPARK LANE	Adjacent to the Spark family dairy farm. Family members have been associated with community groups for many years. Richard Spark has established the Northbrook Museum containing a large collection of local and New Zealand memorabilia.
STEPHENS STREET	Solomon Stephens, arrived with his wife in Rangiora about 1859. He was the first proprietor of the Plough Inn (hotel). Solomon was very involved in civic, social, school and church affairs. Also a nurseryman with property in the area. Councillor 1879-85, 1888-91.
STRACHAN PLACE	James Ernest Strachan, Principal of Rangiora High School 1917-48. Mr Strachan was well known for his pioneering experiments in rural and community education.
SOUTH BELT	Was the southern boundary of the Borough

TAUNTON PLACE	Arlington Park subdivision. Taunton, Somerset England, a National Hunt Course.
THOMAS LANE	Given name of the subdivider's father. (Chamberlain). When name was allocated it was also noted that Captain Thomas was the chief surveyor for the Canterbury Association.
THORNE PLACE	Frederick Thorne was a fellmonger near the North Brook Stream. - On the first Council 1878-1880. Newnham Street was originally Thorne's Road.
TREFFERS AVENUE	Mark Treffers, Gold medallist in swimming at the 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth Games.
TYLER STREET	Charles William Tyler – Mayor with the longest continuous service 1936-61. Councillor 1925-36. Chief Fire Officer 1924-61
VICTORIA STREET	Queen Victoria. In the early days was the direct route from Kaiapoi known as Boys Direct Road. Later known as Market Street. Victoria Street extended as far as South Belt, but the name of the section from Lillybrook to the South Belt was made an extension of Percival Street. This section was also known as Drain Road in the 1870s.
WALES STREET	Part of the Edward, Prince of Wales naming.
WALKER PLACE	Geoffrey Wade Walker, the developer. Mr Walker was responsible for developing several new housing areas in Rangiora, in the 1960s.
WALLACE PLACE	E D R Wallace had an extensive apple, pear, tomato and cherry orchard in this area for many years.
WARD PLACE	Ronald Ward, Town Clerk 1956-1972.
WATKINS PLACE	(Off Kippenberger Avenue) Watkins Family lived on the corner.
WATSON PLACE	Jim Watson was the landowner.
WEST BELT	Early name Bell's Road, a rural paper road. The northern end was once Racecourse Road.
WESTON PLACE	At the west end of High Street.
WHITE STREET	William White – On first Council 1878-9 and again 1880-82. Was Bean's Lane.
WILL PLACE	Doctor Thomas Arthur Will practised in Rangiora from about 1905 until his death in 1938. A popular man, remembered for his kindness to the poor, and as a loyal supporter of the town's sporting clubs.
WILLIAM STREET	Originally Day's Lane. [See Charles Street].

WILTSHIRE COURT	John Fowler – developer.
WINDSOR COURT	Kensington subdivision naming.

### **SOUTHBROOK STREET NAMES**

BROOKVALE PLACE	New street off Buckleys Road. Brookvale was chosen to keep the brook theme.
BUCKLEYS ROAD	Buckley Family, early settlers in the area. James Buckley was on early Southbrook School committees.
CLEARBROOK LANE	New street off South Belt, ex Hegan's Farm
CORONATION STREET	Originally part of Torlesse Street – changed to Coronation Street in 1910, to commemorate the coronation of King George V. The Coronation Hall was also built at this time.
COUNTRY LANE	New street off South Belt alongside Southbrook Park. The first portion off South Belt was a paper road.
DENCHS ROAD	About 1869 Thomas Dench started a butcher's business near where the school is today.
DUNLOPS ROAD	Ronald Dunlop farmed here. He bought the property in 1943 from G W Pearson. This was the site of Pearson's first sawmill
ELLIS ROAD	Unknown – however is on early maps and N and H Ellis were among the first settlers in the nearby Flaxton/Ohoka area (1903 Cyclopedia)
FLAXTON ROAD	A very swampy area when first settled. Flax mills were a feature of early Southbrook.
GEFKINS ROAD	Conrad Gefkin. His family was here from the 1880s.
HIGHFIELD LANE	Unknown
LINESIDE ROAD	This was originally the Direct Road from Kaiapoi, now alongside main trunk railway.
MARSH ROAD	First named Rivermarsh Road. Charles Torlesse purchased a block of land in the fork of the North Brook and South Brook Streams, and named the farm "Rivermarsh".
MARSHALL STREET	In 1863 a carpenter, John Marshall purchased a block of land on the north bank of the South Brook and built a large house, obtained a hotel licence and named it "The Freemason's Tavern". The Brook Hotel is still on the site.
PEARSON LANE	George William Pearson and his family operated the Company G W Pearson and Sons. Their first sawmill was by Dunlops Road. Their second and best known premises were on the site of the present timber company on Lineside and Railway Roads. The firm's activities included tree-felling, sawmilling, building and bridge construction, and

house removals.

The sound of the mill whistle could be heard for miles around and was a time signal for residents of Southbrook and south Rangiora.

RAILWAY ROAD

Railway Road runs parallel to the main trunk railway

RYANS PLACE

Off Rangiora Flaxton Road in new industrial area. Named after Ryan Butler, son of the subdivider, Bill Butler

STATION ROAD

Road leading to where Southbrook Railway Station stood.

TODDS ROAD

David Todd farmed in this area. In the 1860s he was one of the first to settle on the Rangiora Swamp

TORLESSE STREET

Charles Obins Torlesse – surveyor for the Canterbury Association, and early colonist. He was the first settler in Rangiora in 1851. There is a plaque in Johns Road marking the site of his dwelling.

TOWNSEND ROAD

James Townsend arrived with his family on the “Cressy” in 1850. The Townsend farm was on the stream that flowed along the southern flank of Rangiora Bush, the South Brook as it was then called. He named his property Southbrook, running the words together.

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