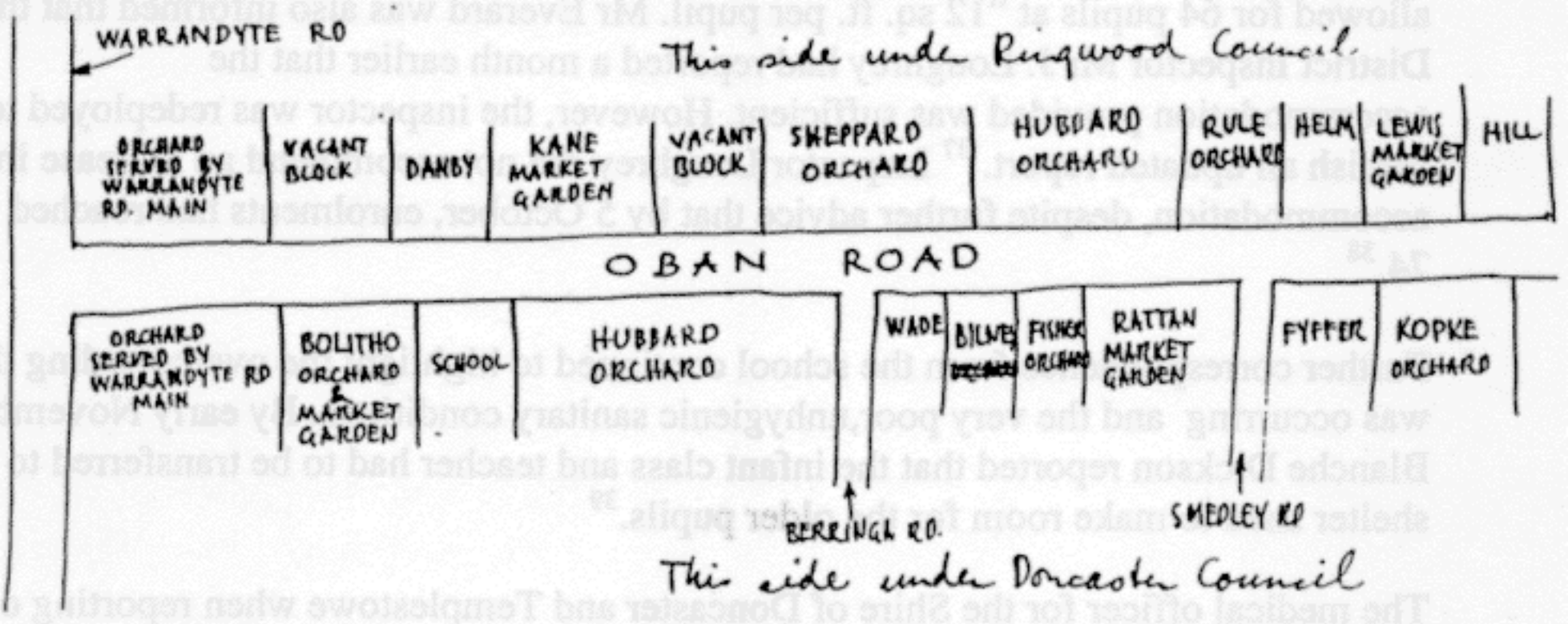
Ringwood North was not saved from cases of diphtheria or scarlet fever during the 1930's either. Head Teacher Edwin Garing reported in April 1937 [42] a case of diphtheria and during August a case of scarlet fever.[43] In neither of these cases could he confirm that the diseases were contacted at the school. But the need for septic system was paramount.

The secretary of the school committee John Rule reported on accommodation difficulties in November 1944 to local Member of Parliament W.Everard. He reported that the water tanks at the school were leaking and had been certified by a local plumber as beyond repair. "The small amount of water in the tanks is dirty and unfit for consumption. The scholars are at present taking water to school in bottles…this is unhygienic and does not provide a cool or refreshing drink during the summer."

Residents in the vicinity of the school: as at December 1944.[44]



Of pressing concern were the unsatisfactory sanitary arrangements. He continued: "The school is not served by the pan-collection system and this unpleasant task is …carried out in the school grounds." [45] Residents along Oban Road (see above) during this period made application to have access to the Board of Works water services. If the school were to be connected then the installation of a septic tank system would significantly improve student hygiene.

A concerned parent, dissatisfied with the unsanitary conditions wrote to the Education Department requesting a transfer for her daughter. "I live in the Ringwood postal area also closer to Ringwood State School. I am informed that it (transfer) cannot be granted unless I move, surely a parent has a little say to the bringing up of one's child." She continued: "..have I to publish my business to all my neighbours because I wish to pick another school which is run under a more hygienic condition and nearer

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[42] School Correspondence Files,(VPRS: 640, Box 3211), Garing to the secretary, Education Department: 27 April 1937.
[43] School Correspondence Files, (VPRS: 640, Box 3211), Garing to the secretary, Education Department: 19 August 1937.
[44] School Correspondence Files, (VPRS: 640, Box 2970), Board of Works sketch contained in correspondence to John Rule, 14 December 1944.
[45] School Correspondence Files, (VPRS: 640, Box 2970), John Rule to W.H.Everard: 24 November 1944.