



---

**2 -4 Young Street Cottage****1840 - 50**

---

**Themes in development:** early settlement, cultural and social.

**Cultural heritage values:** historical, architectural, technical, rarity, townscape and group values.

**Registered.** Category II under the Historic Places Act, 1993

Category II on the New Plymouth District Planning Scheme.

**Owner**

The Combined Taranaki Club  
PO Box 168  
New Plymouth

**Title**

DP 1645 DP 4715 DP 3960  
subj. to R/W  
ID: 014774

**Use**

Dwelling for Club

### **Description**

The cottage is a typical building of the early settlement period of New Plymouth, timber framed, single storey and clad in vertical board and batten. The steep-pitched gable roof is sheathed in corrugated iron. Windows are double-hung with small six-pane sashes, and there are five to the Young Street (south) elevation. There is a (modern) brick chimney at the west end, and sundry additions, including the entrance, on the north elevation.

### **History**

Devonport was the name given to a small tract of land set aside by the New Zealand Company, sub-divided into eighth acre lots, for the construction of temporary dwellings for new arrivals in the developing town. The sections were available for lease for two years at a rental of sixpence per year. The land was generally that bounded by St Aubyn Street, Dawson Street, Young Street and Queen Street. While popular and serving its intended purpose in the early years of settlement, after the leases expired the pattern of sub-division was aligned with the present street lines and somewhat more permanent houses were built on the land. This cottage is today the sole survivor of a number that were built in the 1850s and 60s, although itself possibly dating from several decades later. It is lived in still, by staff of the Combined Taranaki Club, and it has served in this role for the Club since 1921.

### **Architect**

A vernacular building of traditional type, it was therefore probably designed by the builder or owner.

### **Statement of Significance**

The cottage has great historical significance as it provides a tangible link with the early years of settlement. It is one of the few examples left (and the only one in the central city) of a building type that was once common, that is the small gable-roofed cottage clad in board and batten. It has technological value for this reason too.

### **Sources**

Taranaki Museum, photos.

*Tales of Old North Taranaki*, Murray Moorhead, New Plymouth Official Project, 1991.