



Websters, 12 Devon Street West

c.1930

Themes in development: transport and trade, cultural and social.

Cultural heritage values: historic, architectural, technical, townscape and group values.

Not registered.

Owner

Brownson N.P.Ltd
PO Box 156
New Plymouth

Title

Lot 3 Storehouse Res & DP 504
ID: 013570

Use

Retail and restaurant

Description

Websters Building is a two-storeyed reinforced concrete building, modest in its size and architecture. The main facade is divided into three sections each with square-headed casement windows with fanlights above; in the two outer sections the windows project to form bays and are supported on simple cubic corbels. There are other abstract geometric decorative details that add interest to an otherwise straightforward piece of commercial architecture of the 1920s. The first floor facade has remained unaltered while shops on the ground have been modernised; the verandah has always been suspended as it is today.

History

The early history of the building is not known, although it was almost certainly built for shops on the ground floor and offices above. Permits for various alterations were issued in 1969, 74, 82 and 88.

Architect

The architect is not known.

Statement of Significance

Websters Building has modest architectural interest as a typical commercial building of the 1920s. Its main value is its townscape quality for its scale and decoration.

Sources

New Plymouth District Council building file 152/10.