



New Life City Church, 28 Egmont Street**1898**

Themes in development: cultural and social.**Cultural heritage values:** historic, architectural, technical, townscape and group values.**Not registered.****Owner**New Life Christian Fellowship
PO Box 800
New Plymouth**Title**Lot DP 4853
ID: 015089**Use**

Place of worship

Description

The New Life City Church is a two storey timber building, clad in bevel-back weatherboards with large single-pane double-hung windows. The form is asymmetrical with a prominent bay and gable to the north end of the street elevation, and a similar but splayed bay to the south corner set at 45 degrees; this bay is obscured by the adjoining Hookers Building. The main entrance between these bays is marked by a single-storied gabled porch and flagpole. There is some modest half-timbering decoration in the gables.

History

The building began as single-storied clubrooms, the first permanent premises of the Taranaki Club; it was built in 1898 to the design of Sanderson and Messenger by R Coleman for the sum of £1,068. This came at the end of two years of negotiation by the Club with several architects and several schemes for the new building that proved to be unsatisfactory or too costly.

The first floor was added in 1906 following exactly the outline of the plan of the existing; it is presumed that the roof was raised and the new floor inserted under the roof, or alternatively the whole building could have been raised with a new ground floor built underneath. The cost of this work was about £750 with a further £200 for furnishing. During the 1930s the building was used as sample rooms and cabaret; it saw use by the R.S.A (the dates are not known), and has most recently been in use as a place of worship.

Architect

The architects for the first single-storied building were Sanderson and Messenger; the addition of the extra floor was designed by James Sanderson.

Statement of Significance

The building has architectural interest as a substantial timber building of vigorous form, still relatively unmodified on the exterior after major changes in 1906. It has townscape value for its scale and form (although this is reduced by the close juxtaposition of Hookers Building), and technical interest for its enlargement with an extra floor. The social historical value of the building derives from its early history as the first permanent home of the Taranaki Club

Sources

New Plymouth District Council building file 172/ ...

Taranaki Museum, one Messenger drawing of 1905, "Suggested Alteration to the Taranaki Club" (a proposal that was not acted on), also a summary of the first volume of the Taranaki Club minutes.



28 Egmont Street

In its original form as the single storey building of the Taranaki Club,
between 1898 and 1906.

Taranaki Museum photo.