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# \$65,000 proposed for heritage buildings



## Heritage

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More than \$60,000 dollars could be spent to preserve two of New Plymouth's heritage buildings if councillors give their blessing at a meeting today.

The Red Post building on Devon St East could be given \$50,000 towards the estimated \$1.3million cost of earthquake strengthening work, while the Val Deakin Dance Centre, on St Aubyn St, has applied for \$15,000 towards the estimated \$60,000 cost of replacing the 127-year-old building's corrugated iron roof.

New Plymouth District Council's Community Funding Invest-

ment Subcommittee will be told that the Red Post building, built between 1910 and 1911, has a long history, which includes being used as a furniture shop and factory.

"It stands out in the local street for its height, and for its detail and visual interest, against its unremarkable modern neighbours," the heritage buildings report says.

The Val Deakin Dance Centre was built in 1891 and was owned by the St Aubyn Methodist Church and used as a Sunday school. The building is now used by the Val Deakin Dance Theatre Trust for a variety of activities, and also community uses.

But a report to councillors says there is rust over most of the

roof and the guttering needs repair. The repairs are described as "crucial" because the building is used by many in the community.

The committee will also consider spending \$33,800 on protecting two areas of native bush.

If approved, \$15,120 would go towards fencing off 370 hectares on the Onaero River headwaters, at the top of Mataro Rd, and \$18,711 would be spent on fencing off 16.5 hectares at the top of Durham Rd. Both parcels of land are privately owned but are protected with an open space covenant under the Queen Elizabeth II Trust - a legal agreement between QEII and the landowner to permanently protect a special open space feature.



The Funding Investment Subcommittee will discuss a grant of \$50,000 towards the seismic strengthening of the Red Post Building, now owned by Tech Trust Ltd. GRANT MATTHEW/STUFF