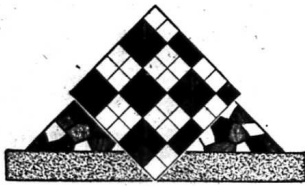


We supplied the POLISHED FACING PANELS and are happy to have been associated with Roebuck Construction and the Ministry of Works architects on this fine building.



For the very best in Reconstructed Marble, trust the trade mark that is your Guarantee.

# TERRAZZO (NZ) Ltd

P.O. Box 294 PALMERSTON NORTH Phone 78169

# INTERIOR FURNITURE THROUGHOUT THE NEW ATKINSON BUILDING

# RECEPTION COUNTERS

# COAT CUPBOARDS

# WORK BENCHES

MANUFACTURED BY

# Jones

AND

# Sandford Ltd

South Road, New Plymouth, Phone 5425  
Sawmillers, Timber Merchants, Builders, Joinery Manufacturers, Glaziers, and Suppliers of Natural Minerals Parkstone and all Marine Requirements.

# History of the site

The Atkinson Building sprawls over a closed street (Silver Street) and 41 perches of land which was a Crown grant to Henry Garret Key on August 18, 1866.

Interesting information about the site of the Atkinson Building, courthouse and old Post Office buildings is contained in the files of the Lands and Deeds office, which is now located in the new Government building.

An obliging official helped Herald reporter through the bewildering to the untitled system of searching titles. It was found that Henry Key died in about October 1876, and the land, now part of the Atkinson Building site, became part of a trust administered in Britain.

**Bought for £450**  
In October, 1893, William Bayly, a butcher and farmer, bought the land for £450.

Mr Bayly died in 1902 and the land was administered by Mrs D. G. Bayly, Mr F. Bayly and Mr Newton King as trustees. The property was leased for various periods to George Riddell in 1904, Harry Jelliffe and Harry Harvey (1916).

It was transferred to the beneficiaries, Miss Elizabeth Mary Bayly (1-6th share), Mrs Constance Deborah Hempton (1-6th), Mr Carroll Maggie Giblin (1-6th), Mrs Bertha May Noble (1-6th) and Mr William Mary Bayly (1-6th) in 1917. Harry Harvey's lease was later renewed.

### Proclamation

The land was taken for the purposes of a courthouse by proclamation in the New Zealand Gazette on September 1, 1908. At the same time an adjoining block of 37 perches the site of the new courthouse was taken for similar purposes.

Silver St. of 56.6 perches was declared closed for the purposes of land for a courthouse on October 13, 1903.

The land on the eastern side of Silver St. the sites of the old Post Office buildings and old courthouses in two titles, a small block on the north-eastern corner and an L-shaped block surrounding it.

### Superintendent

The land was a Crown grant to the Superintendent of Taranaki on August 20, 1858. It was surrendered to the Crown by

the then superintendent, Frederick Carrington on July 14, 1871, and has remained Crown land ever since.

The larger block of 89.5 perches was also a Crown grant to the Superintendent of Taranaki in 1858. He sold it to the School Commissioner of Taranaki on September, 1894, the owner was Frederick Carrington.

No other transactions are recorded and when the title was transferred in under the Land Transfer Act in September, 1894, the owner was the Crown.

A Gazette notice on September 2, 1904, declared that these two blocks of land had been set aside for Government building.

# 70 YEARS IN INADEQUATE PREMISES

For more than 70 years the Labour Department has been established in New Plymouth. And for most—if not all—of that time department staff and the public have conducted business in inadequate premises.

The department has moved into the Atkinson Building from Hart's Building which it has occupied since 1950.

The department's present district office is Mr S. J. McConnell, who took up the position in 1965 on the retirement of Mr R. J. Pickwell.

The department has always had a close association with the public and many people will recall other district officers in the post-war years.

Mr S. C. Bincham 1946-49, Mr S. Corbinley 1949-

St. 1930 to the State Fire Insurance Building in Egmont St. 1933 to the Lands and Deeds Building on the corner of Robe and Bowdlerham Sts. 1943 to White's Building on the corner of Currie St and Currie Lane and in 1958, to the premises just vacated a former billiard saloon in the Mayfair Building.

The New Plymouth office became a district office in 1950.

Mr McConnell says that this policy has been particularly successful in Taranaki where it has been found that employers are most cooperative in the acceptance of the advice given.

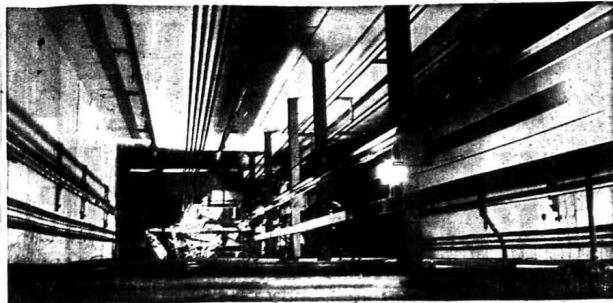
Industrial relations here have always been much more harmonious than in many other areas in New Zealand.

Mr McConnell says that the move into the fine new premises on the ground floor of the Atkinson Building cannot fail to improve the department's drive for better service to the public.

### The Atkinson Building



### Taranaki Herald Special Feature



A VIEW the public will never see. This shows the twin lift wells in the Atkinson Building during the recent installation of the two lifts.

# Three inches apart

The Lands and Survey Department, the oldest-established Government Department in New Plymouth, has been located next to the Atkinson Building for 91 years.

Although there have been thousands of files to shift to the new building—it was only a short distance to travel—the two buildings are only three inches apart.

A man with professional associations with this department put New Plymouth on first housed in a stack. The map in about 1840. He

# First planned 30 years ago

"The Atkinson Building—or its equivalent—was planned for New Plymouth at least 30 years ago.

A newspaper report on June 14, 1928, stated that a proposal for a new courthouse (completed in 1927) and a block of buildings to house state departments was being advanced.

It was understood, by negotiations for part of the Roman Catholic property extending from Powderham St along the western side of Silver St.

The article continued: "Although plans have not yet been seen at New Plymouth, it is believed the new courthouse will be placed on or near the present site."

**Intention**  
"The Rastly estate projects planning from Devon St. along the western side of Silver St. has already been purchased by the Government and the intention is to close Silver St. this was done in 1963 as a public thoroughfare, thus enlarging the property available for building."

**Street layout**  
Mr Carter pointed out that the two corners could not be 1966.

There is no indication at New Plymouth when demolition or alterations of the existing buildings on the pre-

# ON TOP AGAIN

THIS TIME ON THE ATKINSON BUILDING  
**BROWN BUILT ROOFING:**  
Brownbuilt roofing is available in all types of materials in any lengths required.

**ESSO BUTYNOL GUTTERS:**  
Esso Butynol is an American material manufactured in N.Z. under strict American supervision. It has been used for all gutters and parapet wall flashings to gutters in the Atkinson building. The versatility of Esso Butynol lends itself to all types of flat roofs, walk-out decks, gutters, etc. and farm reservoirs. Esso Butynol is guaranteed by the Esso Coy. for 20 years (reinforced grade, 25 years).

**WALL CLADDING:**  
"Vetrolac" baked enamel wall cladding has been fixed to the Atkinson Penthouse to ensure long maintenance-free life.

**VYNCLAD JOINTLESS PVC WALL COATING:**  
All interior concrete and plaster walls in the Atkinson building have received an application of Taubman's VYNCLAD PVC jointless wall coating. This is ideal for interior walls where a durable finish is required for long term protection and decoration.

For all types of Roofing and Wall Cladding, contact: The Roofing Specialists—

**ASHMAN'S ROOFING SERVICES**  
Head Office: New Plymouth, P.O. Box 3067, Phone 83767

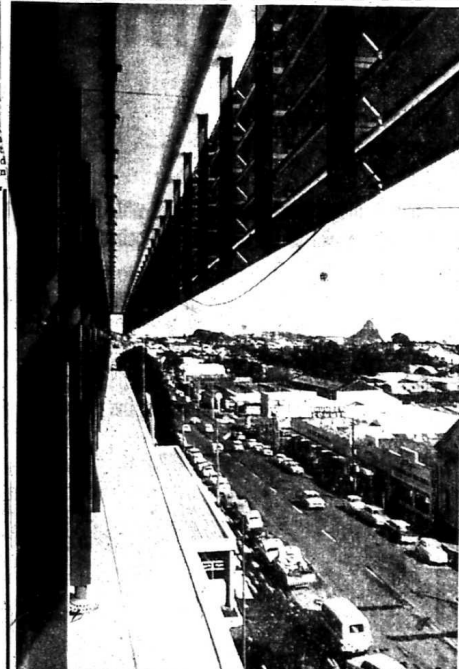
**GUNAC PROTECTIVE COATING**  
All Gunac coatings are long lasting and give a decorative, waterproof, maintenance-free finish.

All exterior concrete work of the "Atkinson" has been waterproofed with Gunac.

FOR ALL YOUR WATERPROOFING PROBLEMS, CONTACT THE WATERPROOFING SPECIALISTS:

**GUNAC (TARANAKI) LTD.**  
Head Office: NEW PLYMOUTH, P.O. Box 3067, PHONE 83767

# A WORKING PLATFORM



PROJECTING floorlabs on the Atkinson Building provide a good working platform for wind cleaners and maintenance men—and something to attach the sunscreens to. But it's a long way to the ground, so there is a rail (top center) to take running safety harness for workmen.

# IT'S HEATED! IT'S VENTILATED!

It was H. T. HUGHES LTD. who were responsible for the installation of these essential commodities in this fine building. Sanitary and storm water drainage was also our responsibility.

For all Plumbing, Heating, Drainage and Sheet Metal work, contact . . .

# H. T. HUGHES LTD

460 Devon St. East, Fitzroy, NEW PLYMOUTH  
Telephone 84819; after hours 82716