

Out with the old

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Going, going: A mechanical claw spells the end of the Regent Building as demolition begins yesterday in preparation for the new Len Lye Centre in New Plymouth's Queen St. The demolition of the former Red Cross and Regent buildings is expected to take four weeks and will entail the use of large excavators and pneumatic breakers. The Regent Building and site was bought in 2006 by the New Plymouth District Council at a cost of \$715,000. The building has stood since 1931. It was built by Mr GT McConnell at a cost of £2000. It was named after the picture theatre next door, which closed in 1964 and reopened in 1970 as the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery.

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