



79-87 Devon Street East

c.1910?

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

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

Not registered.

Owner	Title	Use
Constellation Enterprise Ltd	Pt Lot 1 DP 2248, Pt Sec 881 DP 1122, Pt Lot 897 DP 2248 Town of New Plymouth ID: 013653	Retail and office

Description

The building at 79-87 Devon Street East is a two storey reinforced concrete structure, the concrete generally plastered. It is a well-ordered classical design with the main Devon Street elevation divided by five Corinthian pilasters supporting a moulded and bracketted cornice. A small triangular pediment caps each of the four bays. Each window is framed with a hood supported on scrolled brackets, the original timber joinery now replaced with aluminium.

History

The first owner of the building is not known, but it may have been the Red Post Furnishing Company who occupied the whole of the ground floor as "complete house furnishers" early in the 20th century. The verandah was rebuilt in 1949, a new suspended structure replacing the original cast iron posts; additions were made in 1955 by Jones and Sandford Ltd; Laurenson Robinson and Jim Boon designed extensions in 1984, and further alterations were made in 1987 and 1992. These alterations were to the ground floor or the inside, so that the main elevation above the verandah level is little changed from its original form.

Architect

The architect is not known.

Statement of Significance

The building at 79-87 Devon Street East is an interesting piece of classical design, significant principally for its appropriate scale and streetscape value. All original decorative work above the verandah level remains intact.

Sources

New Plymouth District Council building file 151/79 -87.

Alexander Turnbull Library photo no 21316 1/2.



Red Post Furnishing Co, c.1910?
Showing the original verandah and signage.
Alexander Turnbull Library, no 21316 1/2.