

Information for - *Mary Donald, Taranaki Museum*
Prepared by - *Don Grant, Westgate Port Taranaki,*
Date - *October 1997*

Re - Amenities Hall
Wharf Street, Port Taranaki.

ARCHITECT - Messenger Griffiths & Taylor, Registered Architects

BUILDER - not known

DATE COMPLETED - original plan dated 1929
Wording on the front of building reads -
New Plymouth Watersiders Union 1929

ORIGINAL FUNCTION - (building owned by Taranaki Harbours Board)
To provide an administration centre for the Watersider's Union, and facilities for the staff and workers employed at Port Taranaki. The main hall area was also used for staff social functions. The original plans show an office, and large main hall (heated by 2 open fires) a reading room, a locker space, a boiler room with drying space, showers, washing and toilet facilities. Adjacent to the building the plans show a very large cycle shed.

The building was modified in 1953 to accommodate a kitchen, and a committee meeting room

PRESENT FUNCTION - (building owned by port company - but has been let to the Westgate Social Club)

To provide a social facility for the members of the Westgate social club. The facility has a bar, a kitchen and the original shower/toilet facilities as per the original building layout. The building was given an internal facelift in 1984.

Adjacent to the Amenities Hall, in a building that once housed a large mobile crane, the port company have participated in the development of a gymnasium for the use of port company staff, opened in 1992. The gymnasium is monitored and managed by the social club committee members. The original cycle shed still remains, with not a cycle in sight.

PLANS AVAILABLE - the following plans are available from the port company -
Index No. 31-03-08 Job No. 1770
(*Original plan, sheet 3 prepared by architect. Sheets 1 & 2 prepared by others, probably by Taranaki Harbours Board*)

Sht	1	Floor plan alterations	dated 1953	M/film No.	892
	2	Floor plan alterations	1953		893
	3	Original Floor plan	1929		791