

Brass band building razed

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A few pieces of rubble scattered around an empty lot are all that remains of the Hawera Brass Band building.

Hawera's first casualty of the National Building Standard (NBS), the earthquake-prone building in Princes St was felled on Sunday as a small crowd watched.

Band chairwoman Christine Cameron said watching the demolition had been tough.

"Watching it crumble like a deck of cards proved it was the best decision we could've made," she said.

A recent assessment found the building met just 10 per cent of the NBS.

The band had to vacate the



Curtain call: The demolition of the Hawera Brass Band building.

Photo: PETRA FINER/FAIRFAX NZ

premises and cordon it and the surrounding footpath off from the public.

Already fighting declining membership and lacking a musical director, the band would wait to replace the building, said Cameron.

Until then, it has found a new home, with the Hawera Pipe Band.

Cameron said the goal was to secure a musical director and future for the group.

The Hawera Brass Band was officially formed in 1878 and celebrated 135 years of music last year.

They have performed up and down the country and trained thousands of musicians.