



42 Egmont Street

1922

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

**Cultural heritage values:** historical, architectural, technical, townscape and group values.

**Not registered.**

<b>Occupier</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Use</b>
Chapman & Oulsnam Holdings Ltd PO Box 585 New Plymouth.	Lots 1 &2 Pt Lot 5 DP 4067 ID: 015116	Offices

### **Description**

The building at 42 Egmont Street is dominated by two full-height composite Ionic-Corinthian columns with bronze entablature and pedestals supporting a plain moulded cornice and framing the central door. The wall surfaces have exaggerated pointing to imitate stone blocks with a cast bronze framed window on each side of the columns on each floor. Delicate Classical detailing enhances the door opening and the central raised parapet. Special internal features are the stairwell with cast iron balusters and newels and marble dado. The building is two storied with a full basement.

### **History**

The building was built for the State Fire Insurance Company by JJ Julian & Son Ltd, the construction documents being signed on 4 December 1923.

State Fire Insurance was established in New Plymouth in April 1908 and occupied the building until 1978.

The present use is as professional offices.

The present owner holds a copy of part of the original contract drawings and the Council holds records of alterations made in 1982 and 1984.

### **Architect**

The architect was Thomas Bate and his signature appears as witness on the contract drawings.

### **Statement of Significance**

The building has architectural interest as a well ordered Classical composition dominated by the two full-height columns framing the entrance. It has important townscape quality for its scale and detail in an area of a high concentration of period buildings.

### **Sources**

New Plymouth District Council building file 172/ ...

Chapman & Oulsnam Holdings Ltd, part of set of original contract drawings.

Taranaki Musuem, one drawing (of a set of four) signed Thomas Bates, 1922.