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House, 105 Molesworth Street (Eliot St cnr) c.1875(?)

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**Themes in development:** cultural and social.

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

**Not registered.**

**Owner**  
S Sones  
11 Eliot Street  
New Plymouth

**Title**  
Pt Sec 1339  
ID 012450

**Use**  
Dwelling

### **Description**

The house at 105 Molesworth Street is a single storey cottage. The early part of the building is clad in vertical board and batten with the northern part, extending forward as a gabled form, is clad in modern sheet material with shingles in the gable end. It has two-part casement windows under the verandah of the early part, and galvanised iron roof. It is a simple building with no decoration, typical of the cottages of the first decades of European settlement in New Plymouth.

### **History**

The date of construction of the house is not known, although judging from its style alone, it is likely to be c.1875. There has been one major addition, the gabled extension at the northern end.

### **Architect**

The architect is not known. Being a vernacular building of traditional type, it was probably designed by the builder or owner.

### **Statement of Significance**

This building has architectural interest as an example of the simple board and batten cottages that were the typical vernacular style of domestic architecture in the first decades of European settlement. It has technological value for this reason too. The cottage forms part of a residential area, close to the central city, and has modest townscape value on a corner site. It has rarity value in the CBD, the other similar building being the Young Street cottage, item Y1.

### **Sources**

*Old New Zealand Houses 1800 - 1940*, Jeremy Salmond, Reed Methuen, 1986.