

# Hokowhitu School

211 Albert Street, Palmerston North

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NZHPT Registration Number: 1260  
NZHPT Registration Type: Historic Place – Category II  
NZHPT Registration Date: 02/07/82  
City/District Council: Palmerston North City Council  
District Plan Status: Category II



## Brief History

The school was opened on 5 February 1926 by James Nash, the local Member of Parliament. It was needed because of overcrowding at the nearby College Street and Terrace End Schools and 208 pupils were enrolled. The first headmaster was GK Hamilton. The School baths were opened in 1931 and, in the same year, the school made room for pupils from Napier following the earthquake. In December 1941 the army requisitioned the school for a time. Extensive remodelling took place in the 1970s - an adventure playground was established, the school library opened in 1973 and in 1974 the brick entrance on Albert Street was removed and the baths remodelled. The Golden Jubilee was celebrated in 1974 and the Diamond Jubilee in 1984.

The Albert Street frontage, the original part of the school with the distinctive bell tower and the sash windows has heritage value. The original brass bell disappeared in the 1940s. The school has been added to extensively in a variety of styles, however when the architectural firm MICASMA designed a

new classroom, administration block and library in 1998 they set out to achieve empathy with the original building by the use of matching cladding, colour schemes, details and joinery.

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*Principal Sources:*

Manawatu Branch NZHPT Record 010046.

*The Tribune* 13/11/1983, p15.

*Evening Standard* 31/8/1999, p12.

MICASMA Resource Consent Application 25/3/98.

Palmerston North City Library Photograph Collection. SC34, 35, 64, 65, 66, 73, 80,88,119-124; Hoko 11.