

# Ranfurly Street

House Group Numbers 40,42,44

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NZHPT Registration Number: 2851  
NZHPT Registration Type: Historic Place - Category II  
NZHPT Registration Date: 02/07/82  
City/ District Council: Palmerston North City Council  
District Plan Status: Not Listed



## Brief History

Section 1054 was granted to James O'Shea (merchant) in 1875, subdivided in 1890 and bought by JP Innes (law clerk) in 1905. Lots 5 and 6 were sold to Richard Smith (builder) who probably built the three houses. These were rented for a number of years and then sold to different owners in 1920. The houses are three narrow cottages, all alike, though slight alterations to the frontages have occurred over the years. They are constructed of timber, probably totara, on solid totara piles and have an 11ft stud. During painting, houses 40 and 42 were lined with gib board. The roof is corrugated iron. They were built about the same time as 239 and 241 Ruahine Street and have the same floor plan, typical of cottages designed to fit on narrow urban sections. Two bedrooms open off a short passage that then leads to a living room and kitchen, which span the width of the house. The front windows are however slightly different in the two groups of houses.

From 1920-1971 the houses had the following owners:

No 40: 1920 Walter Leonard Rochstraw, motor mechanic  
1922 John Piper, labourer  
1923 William Ritchie, land agent  
1946 Alfred Mervyn Tongs, compositor  
1951 Catherine Mitchell McLeod, married woman  
1966 Agnes Nevill, spinster (d.1968) estate passed to  
1971 Sheila Doreen Wainright.

No 42: 1920 Sylvia Lindsay, wife of James Lindsay, carpenter  
1924 Richard Burke, settler  
1946 Bertram Potter, insurance agent  
1953 Emily Blenkiron, widow  
1971 George Wainright, farmer.

No 44: 1930 Sarah Jessica Bassett, married woman  
1929 Arthur Lockwood, settler  
1941 passed as estate to Ellen Johnson, widow  
1968 George Wainright, farmer.

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*Principal Sources:*

Manawatu Branch NZHPT Record 010042.