

APPENDIX C

ANNUAL REPORT ON BUILDINGS BY THE GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT

The GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT to the Hon. the MINISTER OF WORKS

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit the following report on the activities of the Architectural Branch for the year ended 31st March, 1944.

During this period defence works started to fall off and the carrying-out of certain civil works of an essential character was possible, as the following figures show :—

Capital cost of defence buildings		£4,953,000
Number of men employed (average)		3,727
Capital cost of civil works		£744,500
Number of men employed (average)		535

I have been privileged to take part in the work of the Standards Institute in promulgating new standards, which will make a valuable contribution to the building trade generally. I have also been privileged to be of some assistance in formulating rehabilitation schemes in respect of building projects as well as giving assistance to individuals. The review of buildings schemes proposed by local bodies has been carried out on behalf of the Local Government Loans Board, and structural designs for earthquake resistance as protection to life were fully investigated and brought up to the necessary standards.

In addition to the defence building programme, the following works were carried out :—

Department of Agriculture.—At Lincoln College, Christchurch, buildings were erected in connection with the installation of a poultry unit, and in other localities numerous buildings were erected in connection with Services vegetable production.

Education Department.—Additions to the New Plymouth Girls' High School are in course of erection, and a hospital annexe is being constructed at the Richmond Special School, Nelson.

Health Department.—At Kawakawa a twenty-bed ward and laundry block were erected and a nurses' home is being built. A thirty-bed hospital was built at Kaikohe. A nurses' home was built at Kaitaia, and a clinic and nurses' home are in course of erection at Kohukohu. The Remedial Training Camp at Rotorua was completed, and a cottage is being built at Te Kaha for the District Nurse. At the Palmerston North Hospital a ward block, nurses' home extensions, kitchen block, and ancillary buildings were erected, and the erection of the out-patients' block is nearing completion. At the Wairau Hospital a new wing to the nurses' home, a kitchen, and change room were erected, and a ward and an administration block are approaching completion. A new ward block is being built at Nelson Public Hospital. At the Queen Mary Hospital, Hatter, a new laundry block was built and fitted up, a new massage block is in course of erection, and other buildings have been extended.

Industries and Commerce Department.—Accommodation and quarters were erected at the linen-flax factories at Oxford, Blenheim, and Tapanui, and a marine glue factory was built at Penrose. Extensions were made to the tanneries at Onehunga and Green Island, and a camp is being erected for freezing-workers at Avondale.

Internal Marketing Division.—Dehydration factories are in course of erection at Pukekohe, Motueka, and Riccarton.

Justice and Prisons Department.—The Arohata Borstal Institution, near Wellington, was practically completed.

Mental Hospitals Department.—Three new villas and a residence for the Assistant Medical Superintendent were built at Porirua.

Ministry of Supply.—A steel-supply store was built at Thorndon, and another is being built at Aotea Quay, Wellington.

Native Department.—Some Native-housing work was carried out, and more is in hand in the Whangarei and Auckland districts.

Police Department.—New police-stations were built at Cambridge, Taihape, Feilding, and Port Ahuriri, and are in course of erection at Kerepehi, Ashhurst, Oxford, and Riversdale. A constable's house is being built at Te Aroha, and a garage erected at Kanieri.

Post and Telegraph Department.—New post-offices were built at Lower Hutt, Motueka, Cronadun, Wanaka, and Owaka, and the erection of a new post-office at Kaitaia and a line store at Balclutha are in hand. A garage and store depot were built at Whangarei.

Public Works Department.—An office block for the Hydro-electric Division was built in Museum Street, Wellington. A plant depot was built at Lower Hutt, and camps were erected at Waiheke, Haitaitai, and Nae Nae.

Railways Department.—A station store was built at Kaipara Flats, a maintenance depot at Kaiwarra, new office and extension to goods-shed at Blenheim, station and other buildings at Kaikoura, and four staff cottages at Inangahua Junction.

Scientific and Industrial Research Department.—The Physical Testing Laboratory at Lower Hutt was completed.

Miscellaneous.—A building is being erected for the Rehabilitation Board Training Centre in Dunedin.

Maintenance, repairs, alterations, and other works were attended to. A start was made removing air-raid protections, and earthquake damage was made good.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the continued loyalty and efficient service of my staff; the willing co-operation of the master builders and their men and of all associated with the implementation of this large building programme.

I have, &c.,

R. A. PATTERSON, A.N.Z.I.A.,

Government Architect,