Mt Victoria 1870-1890

The first Wellington settlement was on the flats, for obvious reasons – it was easy to build, everyone walked.

By the 1870's, though, Mt Vic was peppered with residences. Growth in the city centre led to an increase in the subdivision of the town acres on Mt Vic.

By the 1890's, there was a huge increase in subdivision. New streets were created and developers were building multiple houses. Some of the common names of builders here were Baker, Menelaws & Riggs, JE Miles

The golden age of building in Victorian Wellington was from the 1870's to the 1890's.

In the 1890's most people walked. A sign of wealth amongst the residents would have been owning private transport – say a brougham or landau. Most of the streets were not sealed, although electric street lighting had been introduced in 1889. Contractors damped down the streets to keep the dust down. Privately-surveyed, narrow streets became a burning issue for the Council and there were many in Mt Vic. The Council moved to regulate their dimensions, densities and services and many were taken over by Council in the 1880's?

[Private streets: Claremont Grove, Queen St, Moir St (taken over 1889, Doctors Commons, Batham Drive]

[street lighting in Mt Vic]

Mt Vic wasn't home to the wealth seen in Thorndon during this period, but by the 1890's there were many reasonably affluent businessmen resident here.

One can't talk about "eminent" Victorians without discussing those whose contrasting status gives them their "eminence". The poor were another story. There was a depression from the late 1870's to the mid 1880's and unemployment was rife. Though not generally well organised, on one occasion the unemployed called a grievance meeting on the top of Mt Vic. Not a lot turned up but the Press did wonder how "after climbing such a distance any of them could be considered unemployed". (NZ Mail February, 1880) There was a Salvation Army Rescue Home in Majoribanks St and a Salvation Army Maternity Home for Unmarried Mothers in Mt Vic (in 1900).

House ownership wasn't achieved by many Wellingtonians at this time.

All the houses we're going to see were built of heart totara, matai and rimu.

Crossways

The land on which Crossways sits was originally part of Town Acre 312, one of two Town Acres (also 311) bought by William Nicol from the New Zealand Company in 1857. William Nicol was an early settler in Wellington, being listed on the burgess roll for the first municipal elections in 1843, with an address of Pipitea Pah, but little more is known of him.

In 1873 Town Acre 312 was bought by Thomas Whyte Young, along with 311 and 313, and he had his residence there. Young was a Wine and Spirit Merchant with his business on Jervois Quay. He had arrived in New Zealand from Scotland in 1859, with his brother. They established their business in about 1865, and were direct importers with connections throughout the North Island and most of the South Island. Their premises on Jervois Quay were significant – three storeys high with about 8000 feet of storage.

We know Young's house, which now forms the basis of Crossways, was built by 1891 because it appears on Thomas Ward's Survey Map in virtually the same form it is today. The map tells us it was a 12 room residence.

In 1902 part of Town Acres 312 and 313 was taken by Wellington City Council to form the lower part of Elizabeth Street. Three years later another slice was taken off Young's land on Town Acre 312 to widen Brougham and Elizabeth Streets for the Kilbirnie tramway extension¹. Trams required much gentler, wider curves in their tracks than the old roads allowed.

General

The main streets of Mt Victoria were laid out in the survey of 1841 but much of the land was farmed (along with most of the Town Belt) until late in the century. One of the large farms was Tutchen's dairy farm between Pirie and Ellice Streets, Brougham and Austin Streets (town acres 323, 330 and 331).

Development and subdivision began in the late 1870's, with the formation of Port, Stafford, Lloyd and Elizabeth Streets, and peaked in the late 1880's. By 1910, Mt Victoria would have been nearly as densely built on as it is today.

¹ City Engineer's file, 00009:585:36/322, Wellington City Archives

Brougham Street

Named after the store ship *Brougham* possibly, which brought the artist Brees to NZ, or directly after Lord Brougham

70 Brougham Street

Built in

Baker, George, Builder and Contractor

Mr. Baker was born in London in 1840, and arrived at Wellington, by the ship "Lady Nugent," with his parents in 1841. When he was old enough, he worked with his father, George Baker senior, who was one of the pioneers of the building trade. He lived for many years at 70 Brougham St. He later went into business on his own account, building mostly private residences and for a long time was essentially a developer – which the Cyclopaedia of Wellington in 1897 describes as "building properties on his own account." He had 12 children – five sons and seven daughters.

72 Brougham Street

Houston Francis Logan (c. 1838-1922)

Measured by property, Houston Francis Logan is estimated² to have been among the top ten richest people in Wellington in 1882. He was by far the wealthiest person to live in Mt Victoria in the 1880's. Most wealthy people at that time, and for quite some time after, lived in Thorndon. Logan had inherited property from his father, had two grocery shops, a number of rental properties in his own right and rural properties running two flocks of sheep.

He arrived in Wellington in 1840 from Scotland as a 2 year old on the *Bengal Merchant* with his parents. He ran grocery businesses in Lambton Quay and Cuba St from 1866 until 1884, when he retired. He also represented Te Aro Ward on the City Council from 1877 to 1893.

Logan owned substantial property on Town Acres 672 and 673 in Mt Victoria from some time in the 1870's until some time in the 1890's as well as other Mt Victoria properties. He lived in the large house on Town Act 673 (at the extreme south end of Brougham Street across Ellice St) from about 1880 to 1887. Then he returned to Mt Victoria in the late 1890's to live the last 25 or so years of his life in a house where No 72 Brougham St now stands.

He was also one of Wellington's best known climbers and botanists of the period. An article he wrote for the *New Zealand Times* on "A trip to Mount Holdsworth" in 1882 gives us a feel for the personality and sense of humour of the man. For instance, he talks about unsuccessfully botanising on the banks of the Waingawa but instead coming across a field of potatoes, gooseberries and raspberries "which decency prevented our experimenting in the owner's absence, priding ourselves upon the moral improvement this restraint would have." One day on the mountain, he talks about it being "too wet to do anything", so "we took a long lie and a tea breakfast – a Scotchman's Sunday treat."

² By Jeremy Lowe, researcher, Thorndon Society.

Gray Estate

The land on which some of the residences we're going to see now, and soon in Armour Avenue and Porritt Avenue, was one of the last major subdivisions in Mt Victoria. It was bought by William Gray about 1870. He and his wife arrived from Aberdeen on the "Simlah" in 1852 and settled first in New Plymouth. He became Postmaster in New Plymouth, Chief Clerk at Nelson, Secretary at Dunedin and Auckland and Inspector of Post-offices and then Secretary of the General Post Office. He died in 1874. (Son William arrived with them on the Simla, aged 8).³ In September 1893, Catherine Gray, his widow, sold 5 town acres – sections 320, 321, 326, 327 and 328 – which only had 2 houses on them. They also owned (Catherine, David and Alexander) Town Acres 325 and 329.⁴

89 Brougham Street and its first resident

The house at 89 Brougham Street was built in 1896 and today still looks almost exactly the same from the exterior as it did the day it was built.

Francis Penty

The house was designed by Francis Penty, a well-known early Wellington architect and sanitary engineer. He was born in England in 1841 and came to New Zealand in 1887. His training and experience as an architect in England made him very highly respected in Wellington. By 1896 he had designed 150 private houses, as well as commercial premises.

Penty also took part in public affairs and served as a councillor representing Cook Ward from 1892-1895. He was apparently an energetic councillor and a member of the Electric Lighting, Public Library, Private Streets and Public Works Committees. His forte was, understandably, sanitation and he was credited with doing much to forward the work of improved drainage in the city at the time.

Interestingly, he was of the view that "so far as the City Council is concerned, politics should be left severely alone, and that all should conspire together for the general good of the city as a whole" and that "matters of necessity should claim the attention of the Council first, and luxuries subsequently"!

John Cole Edwards

Penty designed 89 Brougham Street for JC Edwards. Edwards was born in England in 1854 but in 1862 his father came to New Zealand as the schoolmaster of the Non-conformist Settlement north of Auckland.

He went into the publishing and printing industry and by 1878 had started his own business. His firm became well-known throughout New Zealand for printing the *Law Reports*, the *Industrial Gazette*, and other important publications. He sold his firm in 1894 to one of the firms involved in the production of the New Zealand Cyclopedia. This change was made to allow him to give more time to the Cyclopedia company, of which he was also a director.

From 1885 to 1888, Edwards was also a representative of Cook Ward on the Council. He was obviously a good people- person - a committee of councillors had been conferring for months with a committee of the Harbour Board, with the object of agreeing a limit for the Te Aro Reclamation – but with so little success that the report was ordered to be "laid on the table for six months". The

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³ Cyclopaedia of NZ

⁴ WCC Deed for Right of Way

problems seemed insurmountable. Edwards didn't see it this way, however. He immediately tabled a motion for a conference of the whole membership of both organisations. The conference went ahead and, to the surprise of all, the points which had been in dispute for months were amicably settled in two hours.

Edwards married Fanny Bradford of Ballarat in 1879. They had no children and Fanny devoted much of her time to hospital visiting and other charitable and church duties. Apparently, her amiability and exceptional tact made her many friends. Unfortunately she died just six years after they married, while visiting friends in Victoria.

91 Brougham St

Built for AE Rowden in 1898, Architect Thomas Turnbull

Thomas Turnbull was born in 1824 and worked in an architectural office in Edinburgh before emigrating to Melbourne in 1851, where he practised as an architect. In 1861 he moved to San Francisco where he did well, but seeking a less stressful working environment, he came to Wellington in 1871 and when into practice on his own in 1872. Italianate wooden houses had been highly fashionable in San Francisco while Turnbull practised there so he was ideally suited to Wellington in the 1870's when the style became fashionable here. (The best known of Turnbull's designs that survive are St Peter's and St John's churches in Willis St). He achieved international recognition for his work in 1883 and 1884 and became the first president of the Wellington Association of Architects.

95 Brougham St

built 1897 for JJ Kerslake

John Jury Kerslake (1848-1922) was Overseer of Works in Wellington City Council's Engineer's Department for 38 years until he retired in 1920. His wife Kate died in 1936. He was also Treasurer of Horticultural & Florists' Society, which maybe gives an indication or slightly different interests.

96 Brougham St

Town Acre 298 Built for CW Wycherly, 1907

97 +99 Brougham St

Built 1899 for Mrs K Kerslake

136/138 Brougham Street

Section 1 Town Acre 293 Built 1905

The Rev John Moir, after whom Moir Street was named, was the minister at St John's Church in Willis Street. He came to Wellington from Scotland in 1853 to take charge of the congregation of St John, which split off St Andrews, at the invitation of some 70 Wellington Presbyterians of the

Free Church of Scotland. He spoke 7 languages and apparently delivered well-attended sermons at St Johns. He resigned in 1867.

He purchased Town Acre 294, through which Moir Street runs, in 1859. He didn't build on it for many years, but there is a tiny one-room cottage in the back of 134 Brougham St which is possibly one of the oldest houses in Mt Vic. No. 1 Moir St, also built on his property, is two original cottages joined together and was built on Brougham St in the 1870's. The tenant in 1879 was James Laurence, a fireman. He and his wife Elizabeth had been living there for at least 3 years before he bought the property from the Rev Moir in 1882. The second cottage was probably built in the late 1880's. Moir Street, though, was just a track across the Reverend's land until it became a private street in 1882.

The Reverend didn't live on his land until the end of his life. He died in 1895 and in 1905 his widow built 136/138 Brougham St and lived there until her death in 1932.

Paterson Street

It was originally called Laureston Street by Mr Harry Crump, who carried out its construction, but a request to the City Council (8.2.1904) from Messrs Brandon, Hislop and Johnston was granted for the name change.

Named after the Rev. Jas Paterson, one of the Colony's leading churchmen, who retired from the charge of St. John's Presbyterian Church in 1903. Paterson was also Governor of Wellington College and, from 1877 to 1903 a member of the Senate.

7 Paterson Street, Waring Taylor

Described as a fine example of "fancy colonial" style by Terence Hodgson⁵: "The verandahs have been given a juicy assortment of decoration including brackets, lattice work, pierced balustrading and bold expanses of glazing" although the walls were sheathed with corrugated iron.

Built by William Waring Taylor (after whom Waring Taylor Street is named). Born 1819? In Yorkshire, he emigrated to NZ and arrived in Wellington in 1842. He established a general business and importing agency and dealt in land, wool, cattle, clothing: "and piece goods and commodities of every kind. Even leeches appear now and then in his advertisements. At one stage he owned Customhouse Wharf, which he bought in 1860.

In 1845 his sister, Mary Taylor, arrived in Wellington. He helped his sister Mary and her cousin set up their shop, including teaching them bookkeeping.⁶ He had estates in the Rangitikei districts as well as property in Wellington. (1856 still residing in Herbert St)

Mary was born in 1817 in Yorkshire and, while attending school in 1831, became a close friend of Charlotte Bronte. Mary's life took a dramatic turn in 1840 when her father died and the family household was broken up. By 1841 her unorthodoxy became apparent when she declared that she proposed to emigrate to New Zealand with her youngest brother, Waring (after whom Waring Taylor St is named). Family were confused by this decision, but Charlotte Bronte clearly understood Mary better. She wrote to her sister, Emily:

"Mary Taylor and Waring have come to a singular determination, but I think under the peculiar circumstances a defensible one, though it sounds outrageously odd at first. They are going to emigrate — to quit the country altogether. Their destination unless they change is Port Nicholson, in the northern island of New Zealand!!! Mary has made up her mind she can not and will not be a governess, a teacher, a milliner, a bonnet maker nor a housemaid. She sees no means of obtaining employment she would like in England, so she is leaving it!"

Mary continued her correspondence with Charlotte Bronte. Now her connection with Mt Victoria. When she received a first-edition copy of *Jane Eyre* from Charlotte, she wrote back:

"About a month since, I have received and read *Jane Eyre*. It seems to me incredible that you had actually written a book. Your novel surprised me as being so perfect as a work of art . . . Such events did not happen when I was in England. After I had read it, I went on to the top of Mt Victoria and looked for a ship to carry a letter to you. There was a little thing with one mast, and also *H.M.S. Fly* and nothing else. If a cattle vessel came from Sydney she would take the mail, but we have had East wind for a month and nothing can come in."

Mary leased a section of land on the corner of Cuba and Dixon Streets and, by 1850, had erected a shop where Deka stands today. The shop prospered and the business expanded. Charlotte Bronte died in 1855

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⁵ Terence Hodgson, Proud Possessions

⁶ Joan Stevens, Mary Taylor: friend of Charlotte Bronte, Letters from New Zealand and elsewhere

and, while Mary doesn't dwell on the death of her closest friend, correspondence to another friend shows that this is when loneliness and depression lead her first to consider returning to England. In 1859, Mary went back to England, leaving her shop to be managed by her assistant, Miss Smith. In 1868, she sold it, James Smith (no relation to her assistant), who changed the name of the shop to his own – James Smith's.

9 + 11 Paterson St

Built for H Crump Town Acre 673 1892?1902?

17 Paterson St

Built by H Crump for himself

19 Paterson St, Ettrick Cottage

Actually one of the first houses in Austin St, dating from 1874-75, built for Samuel Atkins, a former sergeant in the Seaforth Highlanders. Sam Atkins, who probably came from Ettrick in Scotland was for many years an old identity in Wellington. Built of heart rimu with detached workshop. Colonial style with original decorated bargeboards, finials and period name plate.

Was in two flats when moved. Approval was given to move it in 1991. In 1994 developer removed it cottage from 7 Austin St

Ellice Street

Commemorates an 1840 director of the New Zealand Company, Russell Ellice

One of the interesting residents of Ellice Street in the 1890's was EW Petherick. He was an architect and designed a number of houses in the area, one of which we'll see soon. But as well as being an architect, Petherick was one of those species of mankind which reached their peak in the Victorian era – a collector. In 1896 he constructed a building on his land in Ellice Street to be used as a Museum⁷. In 1902, however, he donated his collection of curios to the Wellington City Council. It consisted of numerous rare and valuable collections of birds, mammals, fishes, reptiles and curios, and was seen by Council to be of great intrinsic value and of enormous benefit to the City for educational, recreation and other purposes.

The Council proposed building a museum to house these treasures but the expenditure could not be justified. Eventually, the lecture room of the recently-built Newtown Branch Library was fitted out to house Petherick's curios.

Owned a building in Ellice St (did alterations in 1892)
Also built a building in Austin St 1896
He designed alterations to Victoria Bowling Club in Claremont Grove in 1906 00053:126:7032
We have entries for him till 1915

80 + 82 Ellice St Built 1906

71 Ellice St

Built 1900 for Mr T H Gill, MA, LLB was headmaster of Newtown School for 8 years from 1899-1907. He then became an Inspector.⁸

68 Ellice St

(Queen Anne) Section 2 TA 674 There in 1891

69 Ellice Street

Section 5 Town Acre 325 Built for GRC Raikes in 1910, architect W. Gray Young

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⁷ Permit No.

⁸ Newtown School Jubilee Souvenir 1879-1934 [ATL]

Porritt Avenue

First named Tutchen Street, when it didn't extend all the way through from Pirie to Ellice Streets. The full street was formed after the subdivision of the Gray Estate and originally called Ellice Avenue. The name commemorates one of the 1840 directors of the New Zealand Company, Russell Ellice. (It was later named Porritt Avenue after the Governor-General, Sir Arthur Porritt.)

49 Porritt Ave

(Horgan's) Section 4 TA 325

54 Porritt Ave

Built for Clara Anne Ekins, 1898 Architect: EW Petherick

52 Porritt Ave

Built 1899 for D R Purdie Architect: G Stevenson

48 + 50 Porritt Ave

Section 11, Town Acre 326 Built for G W McGill, architect James McGill 1908

46 Porritt Ave

Section 12, Town Acre 326 Built for Robert Miller, 1910

36 Porritt Ave

Built 1900 for W J Gaudin

Gaudin was a city councillor for a total of 25 years; from 1920-25 and 1927-47 His family owned WJ Gaudin & Son Coal and Grain Merchants

34 Porritt Ave

Built for W Andrews in 1898

Armour Avenue

Formed after the subdivision of the Gray Estate and originally named Brougham Avenue, after Lord Brougham Changed to Armour Avenue, to remove the duplication of names which caused the fire brigade problems.

19 Armour Ave

Built 1897 for Mrs TL Ward

17 Armour Ave

Built 1898 for J McGrath

15 Armour Ave

Built for Beckingsale, 1901

13 Armour Ave

11 Armour Ave

Built 1897 for Mr John Paul

9 Armour Ave

Built 189? George McLean (Hon?)

7 Armour Ave

1 Armour Ave

Built for AH Peterson (1920's additions)

Albany Ave

Formed after the subdivision of the Gray Estate. Originally called Victoria Avenue⁹

11 Albany Ave

Built 1901 for FC Hall

⁹ WCC drainage plan for 12 Albany Ave

19 and 21 Porritt Ave

Built for AM Lewis, 1900¹⁰ The two houses were built for £750

Alfred Maurice Lewis was one of Wellington's best-known businessmen. Born in London he was apprenticed to the aerated water trade and came to NZ at the age of 17. He came to Wellington after a year in Auckland and worked with Strike and Fairlie Ltd in Wellington and Nelson. He later bought the business and carried on in partnership with Alec Thomson, acquiring premises in Tory St. In 1903, the journal *Freelance* described him as having supplied the brains of the business, while Thomson supplied the capital and the name. From 1903 he carried on the business himself and later expanded its premises and set up provincial branches.

He was one of the founding members of the Courtenay Place Congregational Church in 1887 and on its first management committee. In 1912 the church decided to move to a new location. AM Lewis owned the land on Cambridge Terrace and as it was too large for his purposes he sold them the corner frontage. He became a Trustee for the church site. When the church came to be built in 1916, he gave funds to build a gallery in it. Unfortunately, owing to a disagreement arising between a Church Meeting in 1922 and Lewis on a certain policy, Mr and Mrs Lewis asked for their transfer to the Newtown Congregational Church. He had been secretary on three different occasions, totalling 19-20 years. He was also choirmaster for 27 years and successfully led the choir in the Congregational Choir Competitions in 1907. In the Wellington Grand Choir Competitions of 1911, the choir gained third place under his baton. He assisted the Church to obtain a pipe organ. In 1910 he was elected Chairman of the Congregational Union of New Zealand. It was his vision and determination that brought the plans which to change site and erect a new building to fruition.

He was extremely generous in his gifts to the Church throughout his life. He was one of the "strong men" of Wellington Congregationalism. "Although a man of strong and forceful opinion and possibly not always easy to work with, nevertheless the Church owes a great debt to him and his family."

He was very interested in music, being the Honorary Secretary of the Wellington Music Union for many years, including in 1904, the year it provided the inaugural concert for the opening of the Town Hall.

His wife was formerly Miss Lilian Tonks, daughter of William Tonks, one of Wellington's early settlers. They had 6 children: the sons were AH, EW, WG and V Lewis.

22 Porritt Ave

Built for Mr E Sunley in 1895

20 Porritt Ave

Section 46 of the "Victoria Block" (on building permit and drainage plan)
Built by George Baker in 1897 as one of two cottages off the same plan. The other one is on Albany Avenue and sited as the mirror image.

18 Porritt Ave

1.0

¹⁰ WCC drainage plan for 19, 21 Porritt Ave

¹¹ The Cambridge Terrace Congregational Church Wellington, 1877-1967

17 Porritt Ave

Built in 1897

In 1897 the Courtenay Place Congregational Church decided to build a new manse and the suggestion was made that they purchase a section on the Victoria Block (Section 43 Ellice Avenue), the total cost of the section and building to be £650. A 36ft frontage was bought. Mrs Williams of The Terrace Church offered to advance the necessary money if the church could raise £150. The manse finally cost about £800 and in 1911 there was still £200 owing on it. Thomas Ward map of 1900 shows it as 6 rooms with a verandah. In 1916 the Church added a washhouse (00053:188:10299)

15 Porritt Ave

Built for George Read in 1901

Tutchen Avenue

Tutchen's dairy farm was between Ellice and Pirie Streets, Brougham and Austin Streets. Town Section 331 was originally granted on 22 October 1862 to Josiah Tutchen. The Tutchens were early residents on Brougham Street, being recorded as one of the only 10 residents in 1863.

In 1874, John Waters and Jessie Tutchen (widow) became joint tenants of 3 acres comprising Sections 323, 330 and 331 (323 was originally granted in 1853 to Robert Ker and others and 330 was originally granted in 1852 to James Wallace). John Waters had married Eleanor Tutchen in 1857

2, 4, 6, 8, 10 Porritt Ave

Built 1903 on Town Section 331.

Jessie Tutchen died on 6 November 1902 and the property transferred to Nathaniel and Archibald Sutherland. Nathaniel Sutherland was John Waters' stepfather.

On 29 April 1903 part of the land was bought by the Presbyterian Church Property Trustees (CT 125/2) and on 30 April 1903 the balance was sold to Eliza Budd. In 1903 seven dwellings were built on the corner of Pirie and Tutchen Street, five of which fronted Tutchen Street. (The other two are 68 and 70 Pirie Street). They were built for F&W Perkins, Architects, Builders & Financiers. At the time, the land was owned by the Presbyterian Church, however, so it is assumed F&W Perkins were not the actual owners of the land. The Presbyterian Church owned it until 1921¹². 00053:101:5723

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¹² not very clear on title copy but sure it is 1921

Pirie Street

Named after another New Zealand Company director of the 1840's, Sir John Pirie.

71 Pirie Street

Built for James Searle, 1902

69 Pirie Street

Built for Mrs JB (Eliza) Redward, 1902

65-67 Pirie Street

Built for Charles Whithingham Wycherley¹³, 1902

61-63 Pirie Street

Built for Mrs (Mr?)¹⁴ Tattle, 1903

George Tattle¹⁵ was born in Wellington in 1842, the son of one of the early Port Nicholson settlers. He completed an apprenticeship in 1862 then went to the Otago gold diggings. On his return he became overseer of the *Independent* office. In 1867 he entered the Government Printing Office as a compositor and jobbing hand. He was promoted to Overseer of the Jobbing Department there in 1892. He was a member of the Antipodean Lodge. For ten years up to 1897 he had been a member of school committees, first of Te Aro and then Clyde Quay.

In 1867 he married Miss Tyler, daughter of Mr William Tyler, and they had 7 sons and 4 daughters. Mrs Tattle was a prominent member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, of which she was twice president. Their eldest son was an athlete and won 3 gold and 3 silver medals for swimming, as well as winning prizes in Sydney.

56 Pirie

Town Acre 324 Section 6

Vacant land purchased by Eleanor Waters in 1883, then property purchased by William Harrington Atack in 1890. House was there in 1891 - 2 stories, 8 rooms

Eleanor Waters was Eleanor Tutchen. She married John Waters and they celebrated their diamond wedding in 1917, still hale and hearty. She had had 15 children – 8 daughters and 7 sons.

Russian Orthodox Church

¹⁴ Plan says "Mrs", covering letter from builder says "Mr and Mrs"

¹⁵ Cyclopaedia also has a Charles Tattle, plumber etc.

¹³ Rate book 1903-4

58 Pirie Street

(Victoria House)

Town Acre 324 Section 5

Purchased by George Winder in 1884. Altered it to make a two-storey house in 1892¹⁶ built stables in Tutchen Ave, 1902. He was still there in 1913.

George Winder, Ironmonger on James Smiths corner in 1904¹⁷. He was also a City Councillor from 1899 to 1907 and *Freelance* described him in 1904¹⁸ as the most popular councillor, according to the poll. He was Irish, from Dublin, and clearly proud of it because it was frequently referred to in the press (Free Lance). He was chairman of the Street Widening Committee on Council and it considered him responsible for widening the streets in Wellington which had been widened and a very successful business man. He was president of the Wellington Branch of the Liberal and Labour Federation in 1908. The *Free Lance* described him in running for national elections in 1908¹⁹ as "the people's George" and "he goes to the top of the poll as easily as he jumps a counter or sells a razor"

Had four children: George junior, Holly, Arthur and their sister Jessie.²⁰

57 Pirie Street

Built for William Wright in 1902

55 Pirie Street

Built for Edward Andrew Bonthorne Esq in 1902

59 Brougham Street

The building on the corner of Brougham and Queen Streets was originally 2 buildings. The Reverend William Powell occupied it in 1891. Hart Langdon, who lived at 21 Queen Street, bought it in 1895 and it became a store and dwelling with a bakehouse. In 1899 he rebuilt the bakehouse. Langdon had stables at the back of 21 Queen Street and the horses were used to do bread deliveries, general cartage and coal deliveries (to the Wellington Gas works in Tory Street).

He also built the 2 semi-detached houses on the other corner of Brougham Street and Queen Street in 1910.

¹⁶ 00053:5:13 (described as "on the Tutchen Estate" and "Pirie St fronted"

¹⁷ Louis Ward

¹⁸ The New Zealand Free Lance April 16, 1904

¹⁹ The New Zealand Free Lance October 10, 1908

²⁰ Pat Lawlor, More Wellington Days