

170 Russell Street

Corner Russell Street and Grey Street, Palmerston North

NZHPT Registration Number:	1264
NZHPT Registration Type:	Historic Place – Category II
NZHPT Registration Date:	02/07/82
City/District Council:	Palmerston North City Council
District Plan Status:	Category 2



Brief History

The house was built by L T Arnott, a local building contractor, as his own home. Construction took 18 months and the house was completed in 1923. It was constructed of cavity brick, plastered over with concrete cast from moulds to resemble logs. Its style is that of a Californian bungalow with the appearance of a Canadian style log cabin. It is unique in Palmerston North and the unusual style has been termed 'dendritic' or 'dendromorphic'. The structure took about 85,000 bricks and these are known to have been made at the Hoffman kiln in Featherston Street, Palmerston North. A feature of the interior of the home is a magnificent fireplace carved in Italy. Arnott also built another smaller house using the same basic floor plan on the corner of Grey and Amesbury Streets.

The concrete log fence at the front and the fence on the Amesbury Street house were constructed by Arnott and his bricklayer.

Though there are similar fences at 157 and 155 Russell Street, it is not known if Arnott built these. The fences were built by using tubes of wire netting filled with a coarse concrete mix. When this had dried the structure was plastered over. Chips of brick were added and plastered to give the branchlet effect.

Principal Sources:

Historic Places Manawatu-Horowhenua Record 0100016.

Pilkington, D, *Palmerston North City Heritage Trail*, Palmerston North, Palmerston North City Council, 1993.

