



**LOCAL**  
BY JEN BHATI



# Hickson Street Featherston

**JEN BHATI**

LOCAL REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

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The documents provided in this information pack are review copies only, many provided by third parties and may not be current or complete. The records and reports are subject to update at any time. The information contained is therefore only being provided for basic introductory purposes and should not be relied upon by purchasers. Purchasers are encouraged to obtain their own copies of any records and seek independent legal and professional advice.





## CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

Your Featherston lifestyle canvas awaits.

Sitting on a generous 8,094sqm (more or less), this Hickson Street section is the kind of opportunity that rarely comes up — a blank slate with room to dream big, live bold, and create the lifestyle you've always imagined.

With space for a family home, home-and-income setup, intergenerational living, tiny-home option, or even grazing for horses, the only real limit here is your imagination. Want gardens? Paddocks? A studio? Space for the toys? You decide.

Sections of this size, in this location, are tightly held — and this one is ready for someone with vision.

For more information get in touch with Jen today.

Please note that the official address is still being confirmed by the South Wairarapa District Council.

**Land Area:** 8094m<sup>2</sup>  
**Rates:** \$3890  
**CV:** \$475000

### View Online:

<https://localhq.co.nz/property/hickson-street-featherston>

### Open Homes:

Contact Jen for viewing times

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# Vendor Transparency Document

Address: 18 Hickson Street Featherston

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This form is completed by or on behalf of the vendor to set out information about the property known by the vendor, or to the best of the vendors knowledge. It is provided to purchasers as initial background information only. The statements are not to be relied on by the purchaser or any third party. Nothing in this form constitutes a warranty, guarantee, or obligation of the vendor.

The vendor agrees that if after signing this form, they become aware of any additional information as described in this form or that may be of any interest to the purchaser, they will notify the Licensee immediately to arrange an update to the form which will be provided to the Purchaser. The vendor also agrees that anything additional discovered by the Licensee may be noted at any time to be disclosed to any potential purchasers.

Additional details or forms verifying information may also be included as an appendix if there is not enough space.

Is the Vendor aware of any weather tightness, structural or geotechnical issues (including any past damage)?

Geotech report dated 3 July 2024 (address referred to as 16 Hickson St which is the neighbouring property that was previously owned by the Turners) is attached for reference. Currently the report is with Earth Sciences New Zealand for review post a request to have the fault zone removed from the GIS Maps (referenced in the report). This document will be updated once more information / progress is recieved.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is the Vendor aware of any other damage or defect to the property including cladding, internal walls, roof, guttering, piling or any other hidden or underlying defects etc?

N/A - Bareland

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the Vendor aware of any hazards including weatherside cladding, asbestos, dux quest plumbing, scrim or any other similar item that in the vendors discretion, considers may be relevant to a purchaser?

N/A - Bareland

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the Vendor aware of any chattel, fixture or fitting that does not work or is damaged?

N/A - Bareland

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the Vendor aware of any issues regarding the neighbourhood including road changes, planned developments, phone towers or received any notice or demand from any local or government authority or other statutory body, from any tenant of the property or any other party? Has the vendor given any consent for neighbouring builds, developments or renovations or any other matter?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is the Vendor aware of any criminal activity, drug use or creation, deaths (other than as a result of natural cause) or other activity or event that in the vendors discretion & opinion, considers may be relevant to a purchaser?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is the Vendor aware of any outstanding payments on the property including any building work, insulation, chattels, or items that have been agreed to be added to the rates?

N/A - Bareland

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the Vendor aware of any work done at the property by any person at any time that was not correctly permitted, consented, signed off or completed in accordance with the applicable laws or Council requirements?

N/A - Bareland

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the Vendor aware of any matters concerning the boundaries, fencing or title that at the vendors discretion, may cause a prospective purchaser concern? (Eg fencing issues, unclear boundaries or disputes, title complications or requisitions etc)

☐ Yes ☒ No



# Vendor Transparency Document

## Additional Information Provided by the Vendor:

Has the Vendor completed a Healthy Homes Assessment if tenanted? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does the property have a Healthy Homes Certificate? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

Are there any retaining walls on the property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has a Code of Compliance Certificate been issued ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

Is this a legal Home and Income? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has a Code of Compliance Certificate been issued? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

Is there a wood burner or other fire appliance? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has a Code of Compliance Certificate been issued? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NA

Is the property insulated? ☒ No ☐ Under Floor ☐ Walls ☐ Roof **N/A - Land Only**

For all of the above where applicable has the relevant documentation been:

- 1) Provided by vendor ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA
- 2) Sited by the agent ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

Geotech Report (attached) dated 3 July 2024 - Refer NOTE C

Describe any renovation work done (even if no consents or certificates were required)?

Is any other information provided by the Vendor or the Licensee (eg Title, District Plan, LIM Disclosures)

- Bottom section partially in flood zone as per Greater Wellington Regional Council Flood Maps REFER NOTE A.
- Proposed flood map for Featherston has the section falling in an area being referred to as "Donalds Creek Parcel" REFER NOTE B.
- Have been advised that services are available, but do not appear to be connected. Further investigation would be required.
- Natural spring on the section.
- Council drain runs into section.
- May require drainage to mitigate water runoff from Bell St in heavy rains (vendors completed drainage work at 16 Hickson St to mitigate the water pooling and that had solved the problem to date).

Vendor: Sign: MW Turner Print Name: Martin Turner Date: 1/12/25

Vendor: Sign: KAT Print Name: Kerry-Anne Turner Date: 1/12/25

Vendor: Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT NOTE FOR PURCHASERS:** Any Consents and Compliance Certificates or Reports that have been made available to the Licensee will be included in the information pack. It is strongly recommended the Purchaser and/or their lawyer review these documents (which may or may not have been made available to the Licensee). The vendor may not have disclosed all information about the property or may have no knowledge of issues that are important or relevant to the purchaser and the Licensee may not have specialist knowledge or expertise to comment on aspects of the property. As such, this document is not represented as including everything that a purchaser 'should' be aware of. The purchaser must not rely on this information as complete or accurate and must make their own enquiries and seek professional advice in all respects to fully satisfy themselves as to the condition/suitability of the property and any other matters relevant to the purchaser prior to entering into any contract for sale and purchase.









**NOTE B**

Featherston  
Station

St

Featherston

t

Hickson St

Pox St

Fitzherbert St

s St

Bound



3 July, 2024

Michael Hewison  
Hewison Engineering Ltd  
Marshall Rd  
Carterton  
Wairarapa

Review of mapped fault, 16 Hickson St, Featherston

Dear Michael

In response to your email query to Dr Ian Brown dated 20 June 2024 regarding the possible presence of an active fault on or near the property at 16 Hickson St, Featherston, we have obtained the following data sets.

- 1) the current mapping and Fault Avoidance Zone polygons as prepared by GNS for the District Plan
- 2) the relevant LiDAR DEM data from the 2013-14 Wellington Rural Survey from LINZ
- 3) relevant historical vertical aerial photograph from Retrolens, being SN180/250/5 dated 13/2/1943
- 4) Land parcel data for the area from LINZ

IRBA have previously reviewed the same mapped fault trace for a site at 89 Harrison St.

GNS<sup>1</sup> described this fault as follows:

*A possible trace of the Wairarapa Fault has been mapped on the east side of Featherston. This trace appears to displace an alluvial fan and is inferred to have reverse sense of movement because of its curved shape and vertical step across it. However, it is sub-parallel to a small unnamed stream and so has been designated as a possible fault, as a fluvial origin cannot be ruled out (i.e. it could instead be a terrace riser or channel margin).*

We have used the LiDAR data to provide a shaded and coloured relief map (Figure 1). This map then enables interpretation of the geomorphology of the area. We have identified the

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<sup>1</sup> Litchfield NJ, Coffey GL, Morgenstern R (2022): Active fault mapping for the South Wairarapa, Carterton and Masterton districts. GNS Science Consultancy Report 2021/117, Oct 2022.

following main elements in the landscape within the Wairarapa plains on the north side of Featherston:

- 1) A small alluvial fan derived from Boar Creek, which is immediately north of the town limits. The drainage across the fan surface runs in a SE direction from the fan apex for 1km, then the drainage turns to the south across the north end of the scarp (see below). In 1943, Boar Creek was discharging debris and forming a small alluvial fan on the land east of the scarp.
- 2) A much larger alluvial fan derived from the Tauherenikau River, 4km north of the town, which extends at least to the south side of the town. This fan has approximately ½ the surface gradient of the small fan. Typical fluvial channel patterns are preserved on the fan surface. This fan is younger than the Boar Creek fan.
- 3) A scarp between the two fans, located south of where the Boar Creek channel is diverted. The scarp faces east and is up to 7m high. The scarp is not linear, but comprises various arcuate scoops, as is typical for fluvial erosion scarps. (We do note that the northernmost arcuate scoop is a former railway formation, dating to pre-1943).
- 4) The scarp itself has a relatively smooth profile, suggesting that it is not actively forming or being eroded.
- 5) There is no surface deformation, such as warping or slope reversal, as would be expected along a reverse fault trace.
- 6) It is clear from the 5m contour lines that where the Tauherenikau fan intersects the Boar Creek fan, the latter has a higher elevation. Thus the Tauherenikau Fan will erode the toe of the Boar Creek Fan, resulting in scarp formation.
- 7) It is also clear from the contour lines that the surface across the mapped scarp represents two separate landforms, and not a displaced surface of a once-continuous landform.
- 8) There may have been some additional erosion along the small stream gully between the fan surfaces.

GNS have mapped this scarp as an active fault trace, described as a reverse fault downthrown to the east or southeast. The mapping is in three segments, one at the scarp and two northern sections. Such a fault description implies that the northwest side must be uplifted. In order to achieve this, the land surface would also have to be tilted. The LiDAR data



indicate that the Boar Creek fan surface has an approximately uniform slope from the apex of the fan to the toe located south of SH2. There is nothing to suggest that this surface has been tilted.

North of Boar Creek, where no scarp is present, the 5m contour lines show clearly that the two mapped fan surfaces are present with uniform gradients, and without any apparent deformation or uplift. Small streams also cross the mapped fault line with no disruption.

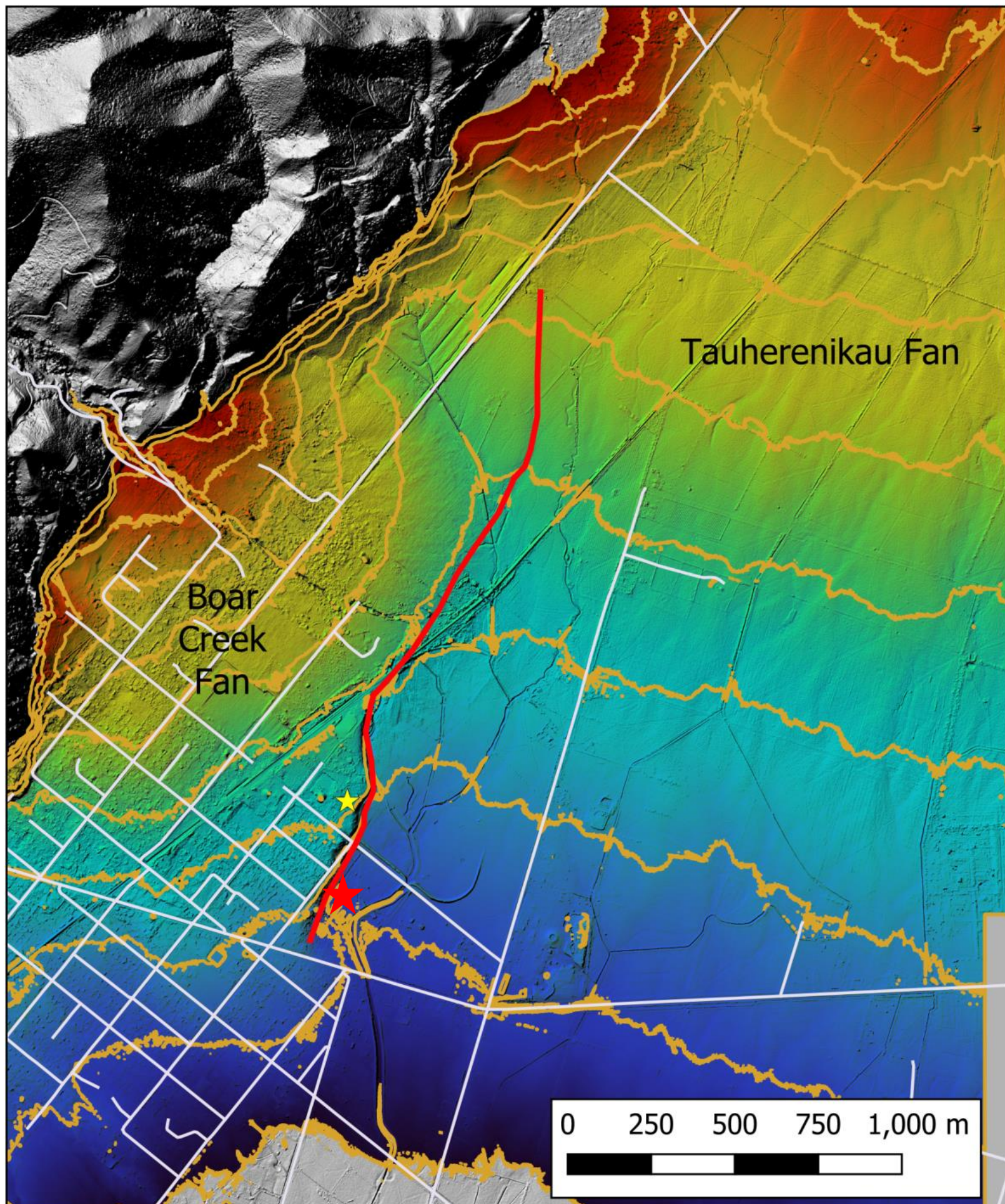


Figure 1. Shaded and coloured LiDAR relief map. 5m contour interval. Previous site reviewed marked with yellow star, current site marked with red star. GNS fault mapped in red.



A more detailed view of the LiDAR relief data (Figure 2) confirms that the two fan surfaces continue south of the mapped fault trace, at the same slope angle as seen further north. Immediately south of the site, the small channel of Boar Creek has clearly caused some erosion, though it is presently constrained within stop banks.

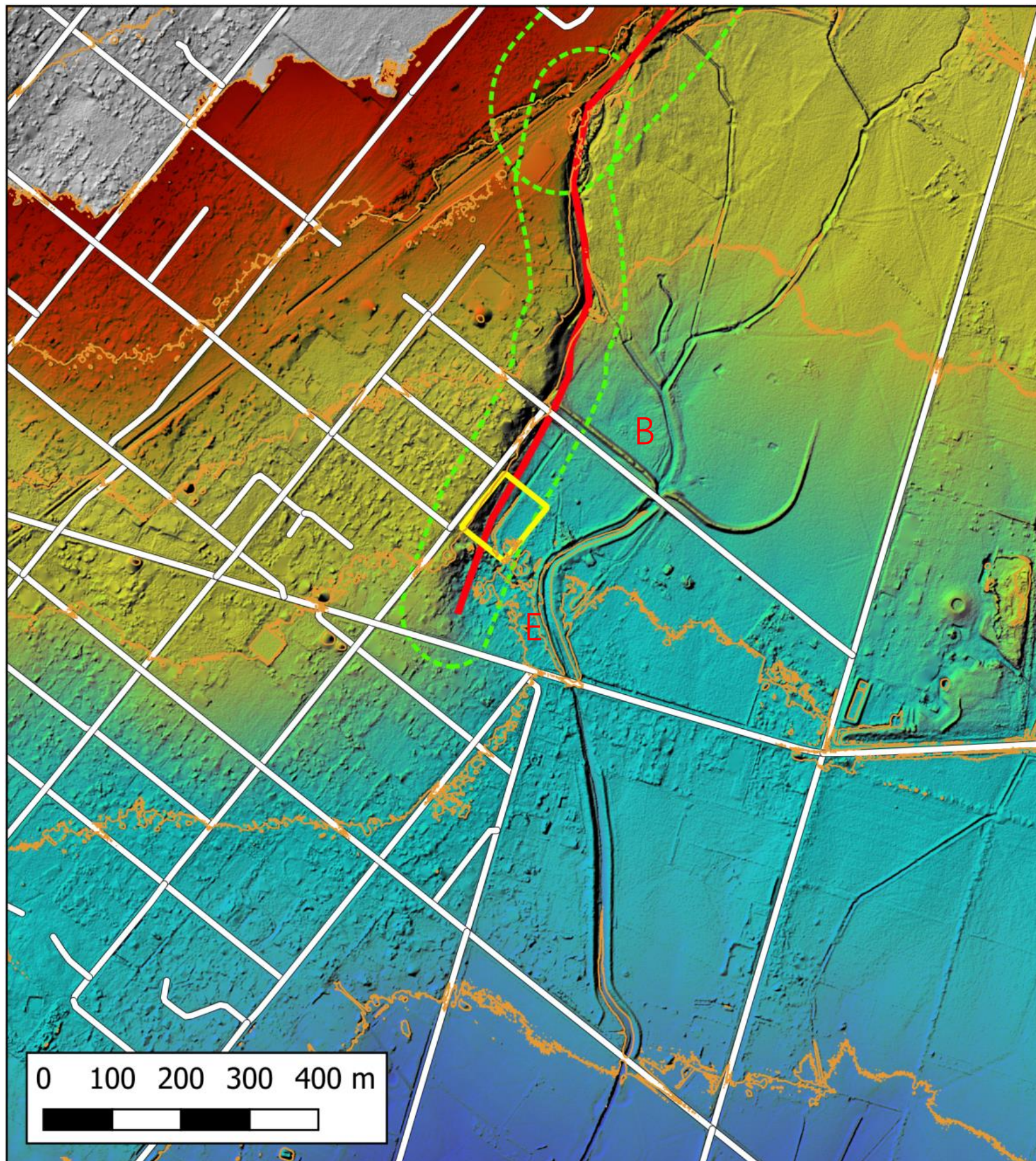


Figure 2. Detail of LiDAR data for southern end of mapped “fault” trace (marked in red), green dashed line is GNS Fault Avoidance Zone, site marked in yellow. Contour interval = 5m. Former area of erosion (E) by Boar Creek (B) marked.



From our inspection of the LiDAR data, we conclude that:

- 1) The scarp feature can be explained by the interaction between the two alluvial fan surfaces, and normal fluvial erosion effects.
- 2) No active faulting is required, and indeed the landscape does not support the assertion that a reverse fault is present.
- 3) North of Boar Creek, there is no scarp, therefore there is no basis for the northern continuation of the mapped active fault.
- 4) The proposed site development does not need to consider the potential effects of an "active fault".
- 5) We recommend this feature is removed from the "active fault" dataset.

Yours sincerely  
Ian R Brown Associates Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Ward', with a stylized, flowing script.

Simon Ward  
Senior Geological Consultant



# Understanding Your Title

The information below are some common 'interests' that may be listed on a property title with simple explanations about the restrictions or rights that could affect the property. Some interests, district plan information, LIM information or other information that has come to the Agents attention may be further detailed on the documents supplied. Some documents may not have been made available to the agent such as the LIM report which means the agent may not have been able to verify some information about the property.

These explanations are not intended to be legal advice or to be relied on by a prospective purchaser. Reading and interpreting the documents is a specialist area. It is the purchaser's sole responsibility to ensure they fully understand the title and related documents from their own investigations and independent professional advice, and the purchaser must not rely solely on the information provided by the Agent or Vendor prior to entering into an agreement to purchase the property. It is strongly recommended that the purchaser seeks advice and explanation about the Title, LIM, District Plan and other relevant documents from their own lawyer or registered conveyancer.

## Easements

An easement is the granting or benefit of rights in land that do not include possession. Usually easements allow one party to cross another party's land for a particular purpose, such as rights of way, rights to convey water, gas, electricity or telecommunications, or rights to drain stormwater or sewage. The location of such easements will usually be shown on the plan of the property attached to the certificate of title. "Subject to" means the property gives the benefit to another property. "Appurtenant hereto" means the property has the benefit of the easement.

Easements are not always for the benefit of neighbouring land. An easement in gross has no beneficiary. It is usually in the form of a grant to a territorial authority, or a utility company such as Spark or Vector. The territorial authority or utility company will have the right to access the land for maintenance work.

It must be noted that some easements, such as old drainage easements, may not be recorded on the certificate of title, but will usually appear on district plan maps. There are also a number of "universal" easements, such as those protecting against the undermining of a neighbour's property through excavation. These are common law easements, and not normally registered on the title. May affect use of the property so it is highly recommended to investigate further and seek legal advice.

## The easements created by Easement Instrument.... are subject to Section 243 (a) Resource Management Act 1991

The reference s243(a) of the Resource Management Act 1991 simply means that the easement created under easement instrument .....cannot be surrendered by the owner of the title without prior consent of the council.

## Resource Management Act 241(2)

Refers to details in the RMA section 241(2) likely in relation to the subdivision of the property.

## Consent Notice pursuant to Section 221 Resource Management Act 1991

A consent notice registered against the Title gives notice of the conditions of the subdivision consent under which the land was subdivided which bind the owners going forward. This may affect your use of the property so it is highly recommended to seek further legal advice and view any relevant documentation.

## Lease of Flat 1 & 2

Relate to the cross lease of the property. This may affect your use of the property so it is highly recommended to view memorandum of lease for further details and to seek further legal advice.

## Fencing Covenant

Fencing covenants are used by subdividers and developers to enable them to avoid their contribution to a fence between their property and adjoining land, as provided for in the Fencing Act 1978.. Fencing covenants are recorded on the certificate of title, but expire at the time of sale of the adjoining land by the first purchaser, or at the end of 12 years. However, the covenant is not automatically removed from the certificate of title. Please note that fencing covenants registered on titles that adjoin Crown lands – for example, reserves – may run with the land. Do not confuse a Fencing Covenant with a Fencing Agreement (below).

## Fencing Agreement

Is an agreement between adjoining neighbours to do or not do something that would otherwise be permitted. (It contains rules about fencing etc that must be adhered to by various parties.). May affect use of the property so it is highly recommended to view the relevant document and seek further legal advice if there is a Fencing Agreement registered on the title.

## Land Covenant

Contains various rules/regulations in relation to the property as private agreements between parties or imposed by the council. This may affect your use of the property so it is highly recommended to view relevant documentation for specific details and it is recommended to seek further legal advice and a full explanation from your solicitor.

## Building Line Restriction

A building line restriction may limit where you can build on the property. Recommended to investigate further based on your requirements for the property and to confirm there are no obvious encroachments from existing dwellings. Note that some building line restrictions may not be included on the title but are included on the District Plan. It may affect your intended use of the property so it is highly recommended to view relevant documentation and to seek further legal/technical advice for the full details.





### **Marginal Strip**

A Marginal Strip is Crown land adjacent to foreshore, lake, rivers or streams greater than 3 metres wide that is sold or otherwise disposed of, the strip of land no less than 20 metres wide is deemed reserved. This means that the owner of the ex-Crown property located adjacent to the waterway does not own the first 20 metres of that property. This may affect your use of the property so it is highly recommended to seek further investigation/technical advice for full details.

### **Limited as to Parcels**

This means that the property has never been properly surveyed and as such the dimensions of the site it refers to are not guaranteed. This is usually not found in the interests but at the top of the title document. If this is on the title it is highly recommended to seek further legal and specialist advice.

### **Additional Interests/Subject to various acts**

Additional interests may not be common interests on a title and the salesperson may not be familiar with the implications of these interests. It is highly recommended to seek further legal/technical advice.

## **Identifying & Managing Property Risks**

**Buying a property is a significant investment, and it's essential to be aware of potential risks before making a decision. This guide helps buyers identify key issues in a property and understand the necessary due diligence steps to avoid costly surprises.**

**It's important to note that real estate agents and vendors are not specialists in identifying structural, environmental, or legal issues. While they may provide general advice, it is important to seek professional advice from building inspectors, surveyors, and legal experts and other specialist reports.**

### **Recognising Property 'Warning Signs'**

If a property exhibits any of the following warning signs, further investigation is necessary before proceeding with a purchase.

#### **Structural and Material Concerns:**

- Monolithic or Weatherside cladding – These materials may pose water-tightness issues.
- Cracks, chips, or bubbling of cladding – Could indicate structural or moisture problems.
- Flat roof or narrow/no eaves – May require more maintenance and have lower weather resistance.
- Recessed or sloping windows sealed by silicone – Check for leaks or improper sealing.
- Concealed guttering and downpipes – Hidden drainage systems can lead to undetected damage.
- Complex architectural designs – More intricate designs may require specialized inspections.

#### **Interior and Plumbing Issues:**

- Signs of dampness – Look for mold, water stains, or musty odors as potential moisture indicators.
- Scrim wall linings – These older materials can be a fire hazard.
- Asbestos materials – Professional assessment may be required for safety.
- Dux Quest plumbing – This type of plumbing has known failure risks and may need replacement.

#### **Structural Risks and Compliance Issues:**

- Decks over 1m in height – Ensure they meet stability and council compliance standards.
- Retaining walls over 1.5m – Structural integrity should be carefully assessed and CCC requirements.
- Subsidence concerns – Investigate land stability and foundation strength.
- Obscure boundary lines – Verify property boundaries to avoid legal disputes.

#### **Legal and Unpermitted Work:**

- No flashings on windows or doors – This can lead to leaks and weatherproofing failures.
- Signs of unauthorized work – Ensure all renovations or extensions have council approvals.
- Built in the early 1990s to early 2000s – Some properties from this era may have known building issues such as untreated timber.
- Possible criminal activity (drug use/manufacturing) – Look for signs such as chemical odors, covered vents, or unusual wiring.







## Scan to access

- S&P Agreement Guide
- Agency Agreement Guide
- Code of Conduct
- In-house Complaints prodecure





**RECORD OF TITLE**  
**UNDER LAND TRANSFER ACT 2017**  
**FREEHOLD**  
**Limited as to Parcels**  
**Search Copy**



  
R.W. Muir  
Registrar-General  
of Land

**Identifier** **WN349/32**  
**Land Registration District** **Wellington**  
**Date Issued** 22 May 1928

**Prior References**

DI 13/318      DI 13/320

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**Estate** Fee Simple  
**Area** 8094 square metres more or less  
**Legal Description** Section 318 and Section 320 Town of  
Featherston

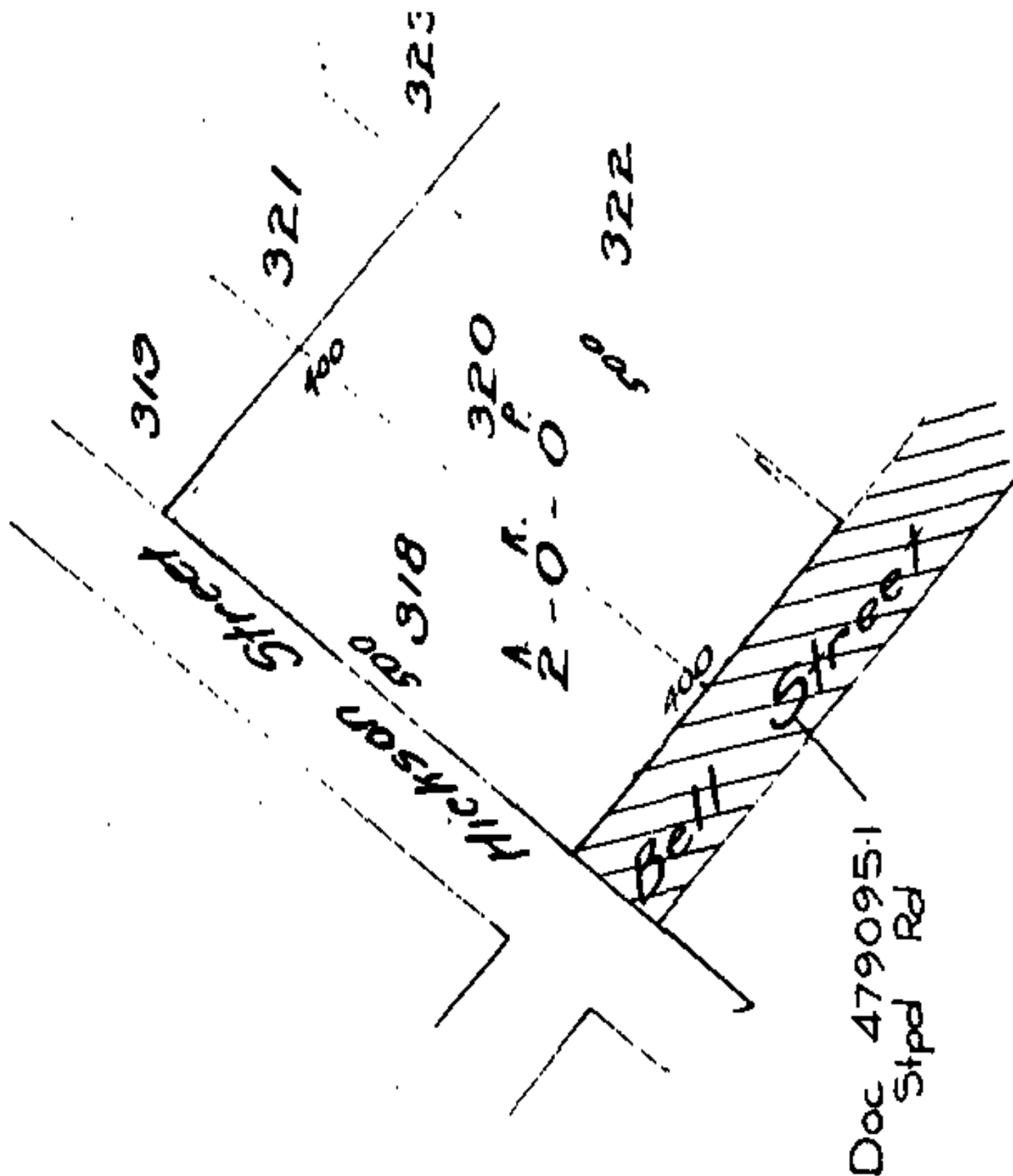
**Registered Owners**

Martin William Turner and Kerry-Anne Turner

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**Interests**





# Buying or selling your property?



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New Zealand Residential Property  
Sale and Purchase Agreement Guide







## This guide tells you...

what a sale and purchase agreement is

what's in a sale and purchase agreement

what happens after you sign the sale and purchase agreement

what happens if you have a problem

where to go for more information

### Where to go for more information

This guide is available in other languages. You can find translated copies of this guide on [rea.govt.nz](https://rea.govt.nz) and [settled.govt.nz](https://settled.govt.nz).

The New Zealand Residential Property Agency Agreement Guide is also available on [settled.govt.nz](https://settled.govt.nz). The guide tells you more about the agreement you sign with the agency helping to sell your property.

**We welcome any feedback you have on this publication.**

The information in this guide was accurate when published. However, the requirements this information is based on can change at any time. Up-to-date information is available at [rea.govt.nz](https://rea.govt.nz).



# Key things to know about sale and purchase agreements

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- A sale and purchase agreement is a legally binding contract between you and the other party involved in buying or selling a property.
- You must sign a written sale and purchase agreement to buy or sell a property.
- You need to read and understand the sale and purchase agreement before you sign it.
- Even if a standard sale and purchase agreement is being used, you should always get legal advice before you sign the agreement and throughout the buying and selling process.
- You can negotiate some of the terms and conditions in a sale and purchase agreement.
- You can include additional clauses, such as what to do if there are special circumstances. Your lawyer plays an important role in providing advice on what the sale and purchase agreement should say.
- A sale and purchase agreement becomes unconditional once all the conditions are met.
- In most cases, the real estate professional is working for the seller of the property, but they must treat the buyer fairly.
- If your real estate professional or anyone related to them wants to buy your property, they must get your written consent to do this. They must also give you a valuation of your property by an independent registered valuer.
- The sale and purchase agreement is only available in English. You may need assistance interpreting it if English is not your primary language.

## What a sale and purchase agreement is

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A sale and purchase agreement is a legally binding contract between you and the other party involved in buying or selling a property. It sets out all the details, terms and conditions of the sale. This includes things such as the price, any chattels being sold with the property, whether the buyer

needs to sell another property first or needs a property inspection and the settlement date.

A sale and purchase agreement provides certainty to both the buyer and the seller about what will happen when.





# What's in a sale and purchase agreement

Your sale and purchase agreement should include the following things.

## Basic details of the sale

Different sale methods like tender or auction might mean the sale and purchase agreement can look different, but all sale and purchase agreements should contain:

- the names of the people buying and selling the property
- the address of the property
- the type of title, for example, freehold or leasehold
- the price
- any deposit the buyer must pay
- any chattels being sold with the property, for example, whiteware or curtains
- any specific conditions you or the other party want fulfilled
- how many working days you have to fulfil your conditions (if there are any conditions)
- the settlement date (the date the buyer pays the rest of the amount for the property, which is usually also the day they can move in)
- the rate of interest the buyer must pay on any overdue payments (such as being late on paying the deposit or the remaining amount at the settlement date).

## General obligations and conditions you have to comply with

The sale and purchase agreement includes general obligations and conditions that you will need to comply with. For example, these may include:

- access rights – what access the buyer can have to inspect the property before settlement day
- insurance – to make sure the property remains insured until the settlement date and outline what will happen if any damage occurs before settlement day
- default by the buyer – the buyer may have to compensate the seller if they don't settle on time, for example, with interest payments
- default by the seller – the seller may have to compensate the buyer if they don't settle on time, for example, by paying accommodation costs
- eligibility to buy property in New Zealand – people who have migrated to New Zealand may not be permitted to immediately buy property or may need to get consent from the Overseas Investment Office.

Your lawyer will explain these clauses to you.

### Check...

Always check your sale and purchase agreement with a lawyer before signing.

Buying or selling a property where the owner isn't able to participate, like a mortgagee sale or deceased estate, can mean the real estate professional has limited information about the property. It pays to allow for this when deciding what conditions the buyer and seller might need.

### Remember...

Before you sign a sale and purchase agreement, whether you're the buyer or the seller, the real estate professional must give you a copy of this guide. They must also ask you to confirm in writing that you've received it.

## Specific conditions a buyer may include

Some buyers will present an unconditional offer, which means there are no specific conditions to be fulfilled. Some buyers will include one or more conditions (that must be fulfilled by a specified date) in their offer such as:

- title search – this is done by the buyer's lawyer to check who the legal owner of the property is and to see if there are any other interests over the property such as caveats or easements
- finance – this refers to the buyer arranging payment, often requiring bank approval for a mortgage or loan
- valuation report – a bank may require the buyer to obtain a valuation of the property (an estimate of the property's worth on the current market) before they agree to a loan
- Land Information Memorandum (LIM) – provided by the local council, this report provides information about the property such as rates, building permits and consents, drainage, planning and other important information
- property inspection – a buyer paying for an inspection provides an independent overview of the condition of the property rather than relying on an inspection that has been arranged by the seller

- engineer's or surveyor's report – similar to the above but more focused on the entire section and the structure of the property
- sale of another home – the buyer may need to sell their own home in order to buy another.

The real estate professional helps the buyer and the seller to include the conditions they each want. Even though the real estate professional works for the seller, they also have to deal fairly and honestly with the buyer. While they're not expected to discover hidden defects, they can't withhold information and must tell the buyer about any known defects with the property. If a buyer needs time to check a property for defects, including a property inspection condition may be important.





# What happens after you sign the sale and purchase agreement

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Signing the sale and purchase agreement is not the end of the sale or purchase process.

## Both parties work through the conditions until the agreement is unconditional

A conditional agreement means the sale and purchase agreement has one or more conditions that must be met by a specified date and before the sale goes through.

The buyer pays the deposit. Depending on what the sale and purchase agreement says, the buyer may pay the deposit when they sign the agreement or when the agreement becomes unconditional. If the deposit is made to the real estate agency, it must be held in their agency's trust account for 10 working days before it can be released to the seller.

## An agreement for sale and purchase commits you to buy or sell

Once you've signed the sale and purchase agreement and any conditions set out in it have been met, you must complete the sale or purchase of the property.

The length of time between the conditions being met and the settlement date varies. Settlement periods can be lengthy if the property hasn't been built yet or the sale and purchase agreement includes conditions for one party to buy or sell another property. The real estate professional has obligations to keep you informed of important updates that come up during this time.

## Pre-settlement inspection

This is the chance for the buyer to check the property and chattels are in the same condition they were when the sale and purchase agreement was signed and to check that the seller has met any conditions, for example, there is no damage to walls or chattels haven't been removed from the property.

It's important to raise any concerns you find at the pre-settlement inspection with your lawyer and the real estate professional as soon as possible to allow enough time for an issue to be resolved. If it's less than 24 hours before settlement, the vendor may not be obligated to set things right.

## Payment of a commission

Once the sale is complete, the seller pays the real estate professional for their services. The real estate agency usually takes the commission from the deposit they're holding in their trust account. The seller should make sure the deposit is enough to cover the commission. The real estate professional cannot ask the buyer to pay for their services if they have been engaged by the seller.

## The buyer pays the rest

The buyer pays the remainder of the amount for the property on the day of settlement, usually through their lawyer.

## Buying a tenanted property

If the property is tenanted, the agreement for sale and purchase should specify this. It may also contain a specific date for possession that may differ from the settlement date.

If the buyer requires the property to be sold with 'vacant possession', it is the seller's responsibility to give the tenant notice to vacate in accordance with the tenant's legal rights.

It is recommended that you seek legal advice if you are buying a property that is currently tenanted.

## What happens if you have a problem

If something has gone wrong, first discuss your concern with the real estate professional or their manager. All agencies must have in-house procedures for resolving complaints.

If you can't resolve the issue with the real estate agency or you don't feel comfortable discussing it with them, you can contact the Real Estate Authority (REA). We can help in a number of ways if your complaint is about the real estate professional. For example, we can help you and the real estate professional or agency to resolve

the issue and remind them of their obligations under the Real Estate Agents Act 2008. When you contact us, we'll work with you to help you decide the best thing to do.

Call us on **0800 367 7322**, email us at [info@rea.govt.nz](mailto:info@rea.govt.nz) or visit us online at [rea.govt.nz](http://rea.govt.nz)

## About settled.govt.nz



### Settled.govt.nz guides you through home buying and selling.

Buying or selling your home is one of the biggest financial decisions you will make. It's a complex and sometimes stressful process with potentially significant emotional and financial impacts if things go wrong.

**Settled.govt.nz** provides comprehensive independent information and guidance for home buyers and sellers. You can find information about the risks and how they can impact you and get useful tips on how to avoid some of the major potential problems.

**Settled.govt.nz** will help to inform and guide you through the process from when you're thinking of buying or selling right through to when you're moving in or out. You'll find valuable information, checklists, quizzes, videos and tools. From understanding LIMs, to sale and purchase agreements, to when to contact a lawyer, **settled.govt.nz** explains what you need to know.

**Settled.govt.nz** is brought to you by the Real Estate Authority – Te Mana Papawhenua (REA).

### For more information

For more information on home buying and selling, visit [settled.govt.nz](http://settled.govt.nz) or email [info@settled.govt.nz](mailto:info@settled.govt.nz)





# About the Real Estate Authority – Te Mana Papawhenua (REA)

REA is the independent government agency that regulates the New Zealand real estate profession.

Our purpose is to promote and protect the interests of consumers buying and selling real estate and to promote public confidence in the performance of real estate agency work.

## What we do

Our job is to promote a high standard of conduct in the real estate profession and protect buyers and sellers of property from harm.

- We provide independent information for people who are buying and selling property through our [settled.govt.nz](https://settled.govt.nz) website.
- We provide guidance for real estate professionals and oversee a complaints process.
- We license people and companies working in the real estate industry.

- We maintain a Code of Conduct setting out the professional standards real estate professionals must follow.
- We maintain a public register of real estate professionals that includes information about disciplinary action taken in the last 3 years.

The Real Estate Agents Authority is a Crown agent, established under the Real Estate Agents Act 2008. The Real Estate Authority is the operating name of the Real Estate Agents Authority.

## For more information

To find out more about  
REA, visit [rea.govt.nz](https://rea.govt.nz),  
call us on **0800 367 7322**  
or email us at  
[info@rea.govt.nz](mailto:info@rea.govt.nz)



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