HOLMES CONSULTING GROUP<br>Structural AND CIVIL.ENGINEERS

# STRUCTURAL REPORT 

## OFFICE:BUILDING

249 MADRAS STREET

## Prepared for

CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL
by Holmes Consulting Group, Christchurch

in association with Buddle Findlay Limited and Schulz Knight Consultants Limited

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## 1.0

## INTRODUCTION

Holmes Consulting Group Limited were engaged on 24th January 1990 by Buddle Findlay - Limited and Schulz Knight Consultants Limited to prepare a structuial report on the office development located at 249 Madras Street. The building was completed during 1987 and is currently untenanted:
-;
Developer ... Prime West Corporation

Contractor Williams Construction Limited
Architect
Structural Engineer
Alua Wilkie Architects

Mechanical Consultant
Electrical Consultant
Soils Consultant
Soils \& Foundations Limited

## CONCLUSIONS

Due to the limited time available for the report, our review has been limited to a brief inspection of the building and documents, and approximate calculations. No materials testing has been undertaken, and inspection bas been limited to such areas as were readily accessible. Given these qualifications, our conclusions are as follows:-

1. The building is in a condition appropriate to its age and the contractor-as-developer form of construction.
2. The layout and design of the building is quite simple and straight forward and generally complies with current design loading and materials codes.
3. A vital area of non-compliance with current design codes, seen in the documents, is in the tying of the floors to some of the shear walls. This item is under review with the original consultants, but if confirmed will require potentially expensive remedial work. However, this cost is a matter for discussion between the current owner and. their consultants.
4. Apart from ongoing maintenance costs which should be minor, no major costs are anticipated in association with the structure, subject to 3 . above.

A full set of Architectural drawings, and some structural drawings were made available - from Alun Wilkie Architects.

In addition, we were able to view the full design, documentation, Soils Investigation and complete set of drawings at the office of Alan M. Reay Consulting Engineer, on 26 January 1990. The original design engineer was unavailable for comment, having since left the company, but Mr Geoff Banks was available for comment on aspects of the design.

- We have spoken to Mr Bryan Bluck, Buildings Control Manager at the Christchurch City Council, to discuss any concerns relating to the building permit and construction process.

An inspection was made on 30th January 1990. Levels 1 and 4 were unavailable for inspection, but the remaining floors were taken as representative. Access was gained to the Lift Machine room, Cooling tower and onto the roof.
. 1. No. storeys and occupancy:
2. Gross Floor dimensions:
3. Foundation type:
4. Suspended Floors:
5. Roof construction:
6. Floor Design liveloads:
7. Lateral load resistance:
8. Exterior Cladding:
9. Exterior maintenance:

5 storeys office (floor to floor height typically 2600 clear) and ground floor parking.
approx. $31 \mathrm{~m} \times 22.5 \mathrm{~m}$.
Shallow strip footings and fourdations pads, with large foundation walls under structural shear walls:

200 mm overall insitu concrete on metal tray, supported by precast concrete beams on insitu columns on a $7.5 \mathrm{~m} \times 7.0 \mathrm{~m}$ grid gemerally.
Lightweight metal cladding on steel purlins and beams, supported on insitu concrete columns.
2.5 kPa typically (minimum load level required by NZS 4203 : 1984).
This is via a reinforced concrete coupled shear wall on the south face of the building, and a system of reinforced concrete walls around the service core on the north face of the building.

400 deep $\times 100 \mathrm{~mm}$ precast spandrel panels with glazing between, or on West elevations 140 mm blockwall to level 4 with metal cladding above perforated for windows.

No allowance for a Building Maintenance Unit. has been made. Access for exterial cleaning is through windows. With opening windows restricted to a single pair approx. 1.0 m wide per7.5 m bay, this is limited, although the spandrel panels are sufficiently wide for a person to stand safely.

### 6.1 Foundations

From the soils investigation report prepared by Soils and Foundations
Limited, we note that settlement was highlighted as a potential problem, particularly in the north-east corner of the site, causing differential settlement concerns. The pad and strip foundations were sized using the recommendations of the report on maximum allowable stresses. However the recommendations of the report on a maximum pressure to limit settlement appear not to have been followed. It is not known whether any ground improvement work was undertaken to compensate for this.

However, inspection of the site revealed no sign of any significant settlement. Given that most settlement occurs within a relatively short time of construction, this should not become a significant problem in the future.

### 6.1 Gravity Structure

From our perusal of the drawings, and our investigation of the building, it appears the gravity structure is sound and complies in all respects with the appropriate design loading and materials codes. Furthermore it was noted in the documeritation that although only a 2.5 kPa standard office live load was called for, the floor will withstand a live load of up to 3.4 kPa . This would be subject to further confirmation.

### 6.3 Lateral load resistance

Resistance to lateral loads is via reinforced concrete shear walls.
The shear walls themselves appear to have been generally well designed to the requirements of the correct design loading and materials codes. The building was apparently analysed using a a dimensional computer analysis progranme checked by a static hand analysis.

An area of concern however has been discovered in the connections of the : structural floor diaphragm to the shear walls. While this is not a concern on the coupled shear wall to the south of the building, connections to the walls at the North face of the building are tenuous, due to penetrations for services, lift shafts and the stairs, as detailed on the drawings.
The result of this would be that in the event of an earthquake, the building. would effectively separate from the shear walls well before the.shear walls themselves reach their full design strength.

Discussion has continued on this matter with Mr Geoff Banks of Alan Reay Consulting Engineer, and it currently appears that there may have been some provision made for this during construction. However, no documentation apparently exists, so it would only be safe to assume that this aspect fails to comply with current design codes.

### 6.4 Roof

Due to its light weight nature, the roof is prone to deflections, particularly in wind. A brief check shows that the deflections should be within allowable limits, as prescribed in the current codes. However, in our experience; movement may be quite perceptible and disconcerting for the occupants and in extreme wind, may cause damage to ceiling tiles.

Furthermore, it was noted on inspection that the internal butynol lined gutters at roof level have only one dompipe with no provision for an overflow. This is a potential problem in the event of a blockage to a downpipe.

### 6.5 Fire Escape

On the south face there is a steel cantilevering fire escape. This is currently in good condition but it should be noted that this type of construction is prone to corrosion and should be the subject of an on-going maintenance programme.

### 7.0 CONDITIONREPORT

As expected for a building of this age, the structure appears generally in sound. condition. Although mainly concealed by carpets and ceilings, those parts of the structure accessible to view reveal no signs of diptress.
Standards of workmanship are adequate although finishes and details appear to have been given the minimum of effort. This is commensurate with the type of development and the time at which it was built.

There has been some water damage to ceiling tiles at level 5 adjacent to the wall between the lifts and the stairwell. This is probably due to a failed flashing:
During the inspection it was noted that there is evidence of cracking on the end of the spandrel panels on either side of the fire escape. The finish in these areas is different to the rest of the panels. It appears that the crack has formed at the interface between the spandrel panel itself and the beam supporting it. In the worst instance this crack may propagate above floor level and cause waterproofing problems.
The roof is mainly in good condition, although several panels of the Trimdek roofing have been dented quite badly. Furthermore, there is evidence of some ponding in the gutters which appear to have minimal fall. (refer to section 6.4 for further comment).

The Trimdek cladding should be subject to a performance guarantee. This would have to be checked with the current owners.

ALAN REAY CONSULTANTS LMMTED

ALAN M. REAM
E.E.(Hons.), PhD.
M.N.Z.I.E.

Geglstared Engineer
Structural Consultant

147 KILIMORE STREET BOX 25-028, VICTORIA ST CHRISTCHURCH 1
Telephone: 660-434
Fax No: (03) 723-981
File $3600^{\circ}$

FACSIMILIE TRANSMISSION.
DATE: 2/02/90
TD: HOLMES CONSULTNE GROUP
ATTENTION: RANT WILLCINSCA
CITY:_CItRSTCARECt
RECEIVERS FAX NO: (03) 792-169
FROM: $\qquad$
MESSAGE:
RE: 249 MADRAS ST
Attached Letter and sketch as discussed.
Regrade, Col .

PLEASE CONTACT IMMEDIATELY IF ?.PAGES (INCLUDING THIS) ARE NOT RECEIVED.

ALAN REAY CONSULTANTS LIMITED

## RE: 249 MADRAS STREET

Further to our discussions by telephone this morning, we confirm that the scope of the possible non-compliance referred to in your report on the building is the connections between the walls on gridiines $D$ and $D / E$, as shown on the attached sketch SKI from levels 2 to 6 inclusive (Level 1 being the ground floor carpark).

The proposed remedial work, if required, would consist of a total of two ties per.floor, tying the walls to the floor. diaphragm.

The agreed maximum tie load is 300 kN per tie. We underistand that this load would be reduced on lower floors in accordance with the "Parts and Portions" section of NZS 4203:1984.

Please contact this office today if your understanding of the situation is not as outlined above.

(B) Idu tare, HupI $9-00$ am.

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## CALCULATIONS

ALAN M. REAY
CONSULTING ENGINEER
CHRISTCHURCH

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| FILE | 3608 |
| DATE | $29 / O 1 / 90$ |

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- ALAN REAY CONSULTANTS LIMITED

147 GILMORE ST BOX 25-028, VICTORIA ST . CHRISTCHURCH 1
Telephone (03) 660-434
Fax No. (03) 793-981
FAXED
FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
fie 360 .

DATE: $10 / 10 / 91$
TO: CBLS Conempuctien
ATTENTION: JIM FRET
CITY: $\qquad$
RECEIVERS FAX NO: 3842817
FROM: $\qquad$
MESSAGE: 299 MADRAS ST

- Attached are air updated detcicls as dxansed.
- Cautact Barry OM Neil at Otis re access for
ALAN M. REAY Consulting Engineers



147 KILMORE ST BOX 25-02B, VIGTORIA ST CHRISTCHURCH 1

Telephore (03) 660-434 Fax No. (03) 793-981

11 October 1991

Mr M. Rogers
Ministry of Transport
Marine and Industrial Section
Private Bag
CHRISTCHURCH

Dear sir
RE: LIFT SHAFT - 249 MADRAS STREET
As discussed. with you yesterday, we: confirm that we wish to install a structural steel angle in the lift shaft at levels 6,5 , and 4 , as shown on the attached sketches $3608 / \mathrm{CDI}, 2,3$. The angle is a structural tie only, and is not supporting any additional services.

We understand that this detaìl is acceptable to you, and that the work may proceed.
please contact the writer if you have any further queries. .

Yours faithfully

G.N. Banks

Encl:


## CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

WALL TE TO SLAB. GRID LINES D, $4 / 5$.

| PAGE | CD 2. |
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| SECT | WAL TIEG |
| FILE | 3608 |
| OATE | FEB 1990 |




MARINE \& INDUSTRIAL

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A Service of the Maritime Transport Division

$\frac{\text { Ministry of Transport }}{\text { Te Manatū wanna }}$
151.153 KILMORE ST PRIVATE BAG CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND TELEPHONE (03) 635-63S PACSIMILE (03) 665-748

Our Ref : 41/3/1
Your Ref : 3608

18 October 1991.

Alan Reay Consultants Ltd
P.O. Box 25-028

Victoria street Christchurch

Attention:- G. N. Banks

Dear Sir

## LIFT SHAET - 249 MADRAS_STREET

Thank you for your letter of 11. October concerning the above lift shaft.

I confirm that the details as shown on sketches $3608 / C D 1,2$, and 3 are acceptable.

Yours faithfully

R. M. Rodgers

For Southern Operations Manager


## C.B.D <br> CONSTRUCTION <br> LIMITED




FOR:
JEFP BANKS

OF: alan reay consultants limited

FAX NUMBER: 793-981
DESTINATION: cHRISTCRURCH

NO. OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS HEADER): 2
PLEASE PHONE 842-455 IF THE PAGES ARE NOT WELL RECEIVED.

MESSAGE:

## CBD

 CONSTRUCTION LIMITED1:O. Box 10-318, Christchurch. Telephone (U3) 384-2455, Fax (03) 384-2817

15 October 1991

Alan Reay Conaulcancs Limiled
E O Box 25~028
CHRISTCHURCH

Dear Sit
RE: 249 MADRAS STREET

Our quotation to eupply and fix angle brackels as per deciaila including rapedial to floofs broken oul for investigation, $\$ 4,633.50$ (FOUR thoushnd SIX HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THREE DOLLARS AND FIPT'Y CEN'IS ONLY) PIUG G.S.T.

Yourg faithfully

G.M Blackmore QUANTITY SURVEYOR

