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**From:** Brian Andersen [mailto:Brian@aasurvey.co.nz]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 December 2011 4:16 p.m.  
**To:** Stephen Mills  
**Subject:** Street Address Records And Confusion In Emergency Response

Dear Sir

I hope this is not too late to be of use, but this morning's Press headline concerning placard confusion regarding 593 Colombo St has prompted me to advise you of an issue I know of that can cause a building to be misidentified in the recording of damaged buildings during an emergency response. This issue may have possibly been a factor in the placard confusion of 593 Colombo St. I would like to think that a lesson can be learned for future emergencies.

The matter came to my attention soon after Feb 22 when I discovered that the list of red stickered buildings included our office block at 192 Cashel St (a strong, modern concrete building with little apparent damage), but clearly it was the older brick building next door at 182 Cashel St that had been assessed as requiring a red sticker. While I took this up successfully with council staff at the Civil Defence HQ I soon learned they were using the street numbers as recorded in the council's rating database to record building damage status. As a land surveyor I have access to Terraview and LINZ's Landonline, which also record street numbers. It didn't take much time to discover the council's rating database records only 1 single street address for each independent land title, which is all that is needed for administering the rates. This database produced graphically showed the parcel boundaries but did not record individual buildings on a title, nor every street entrance (and hence street address) a particular title may have. The property adjoining 192 Cashel St has three legal street addresses recorded in Landonline and Terraview (Numbers 178 & 182 Cashel and number 130 Manchester) but the rating database for that title shows only number 178 Cashel. The title identified as number 178 Cashel St contained two separate buildings within its boundaries, one of which was the building at the address recorded as number 182 Cashel in Landonline which had sustained major damage. It is easy to see how the person on the ground issuing the red sticker saw this building as being physically the second building along from the corner, looked at his rating database graphical plot showing just the numbers 178 and 192 Cashel and so identified the building as matching the second of these addresses and land parcels along Cashel from the corner shown thereon, which was our address 192 Cashel.

Such misidentification could also account for stories we heard of the wrong buildings being demolished and building owners being hard to locate

There are many titles in the central city with multiple street entrances, each entrance onto the street having its own official street address recorded in Landonline. These are reflected in Terraview and other GIS products, which also have the capacity for an aerial photo overlay that clearly shows buildings relating to street addresses. The rating database being used for the emergency showed only 1 representative street address for each rateable title and the title boundaries but showed no buildings within that title, making it a very poor tool indeed on which to manage a major emergency that principally involves buildings.

Attached is an annotated copy of Terraview at the Cashel/Manchester street corner showing the street numbers listed in the rating database (178 & 192) and also those omitted from the rating database (182 & 194 Cashel, 136 & 130 Manchester and 1 Bedford Row), number 182 being the entrance to an entirely separate building from that at number 178, with a second page showing the buildings on those titles in an aerial photo overlay (note the buildings appear to lean eastward in the photo relative to the parcel boundaries due to their height and the position of the aerial photo's centre of frame)

On a second attachment I have also shown the same style of dataset for 593 Colombo St. In this case the number 593 appears in the rating database, but has clearly been superseded by 593A & 593B Colombo, and also 187 St Asaph which no doubt reflected the street entrances to that building but which are omitted from the rating database.

Note the process for entering formal street numbers into the record is for the council to issue the numbers and advise LINZ who enter them into their Landonline Database and maintain them there as the formal record.

Please feel free to call me if you wish to explore this issue further.

Regards

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Lat: 43° 31' 59.57" S ½ Long: 172° 38' 24.83" E

DP 5257

Lot 5  
DP 6296  
0.0111  
8F/765, Patel Parwatiben Ramesh  
8F/765, Patel Ramesh Budhabhai

595

Lot 4  
DP 6296  
0.0111  
8B/204, Chang Wu Shwu-Shen  
8B/204, Chang Chih Yen  
8B/204, Chang Ho-Chou  
more...

593B \*

RDB = 593

Lot 3  
DP 6296  
0.0111  
8B/204, Chang Wu Shwu-Shen  
8B/204, Chang Chih Yen  
8B/204, Chang Ho-Chou  
more...

\* 187

\* 593A

Colombo Street

\* = Not in rating database.

FB 2034 42

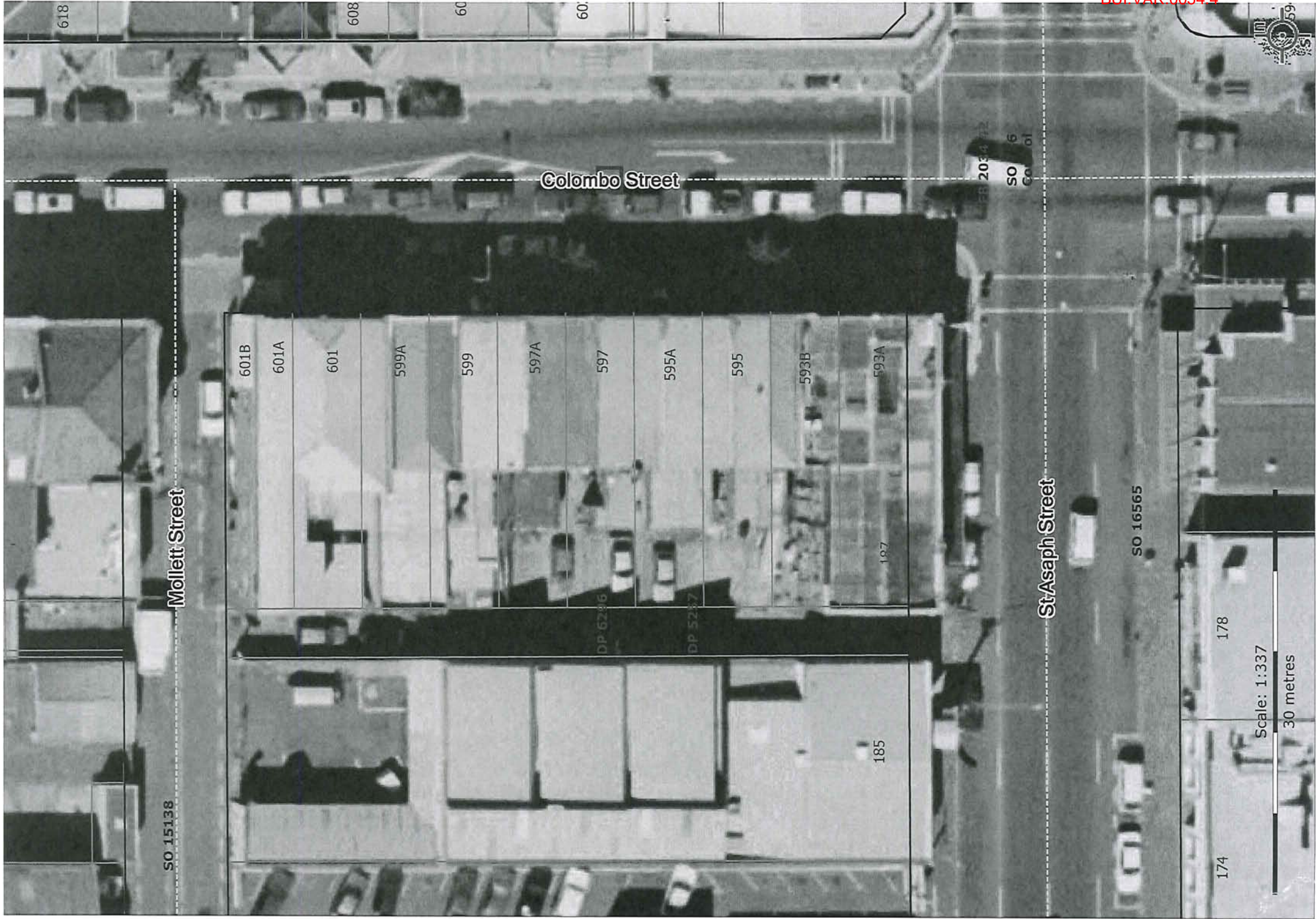
SO 786  
Control

St Asaph Street

Scale: 1:150

20 metres





BULVAR 0054 4



SO 15138

Mollett Street

601B

601A

601

599A

599

597A

597

595A

595

593B

593A

187

185

DP 6286

DP 5287

SO 2034 12

SO 16

St Asaph Street

SO 16565

174

178

Scale: 1:337

30 metres

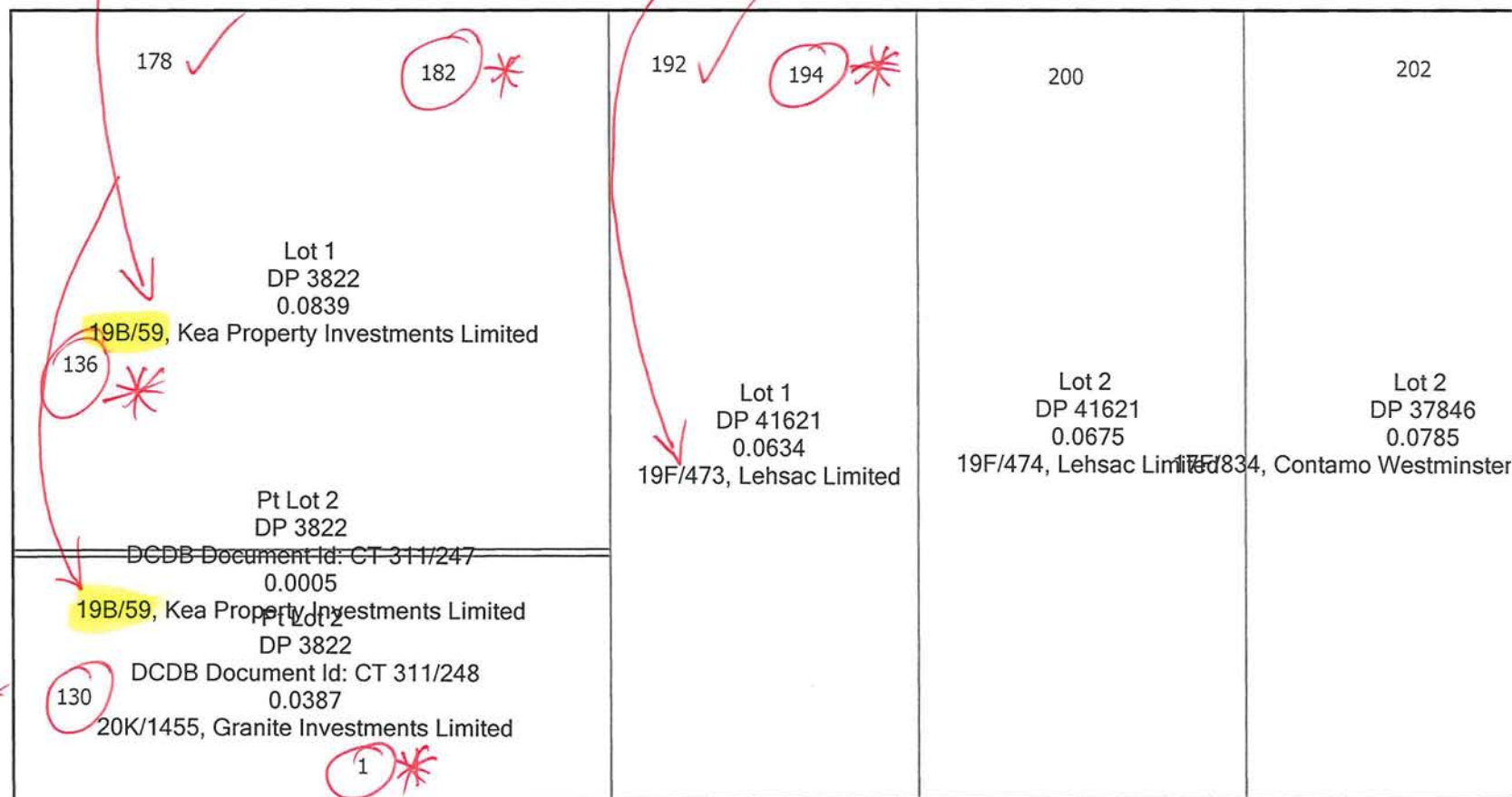


Cashel Street

RDB = 178

RDB = 192

Manchester Street



\* = not in Rating Database

Scale: 1:350

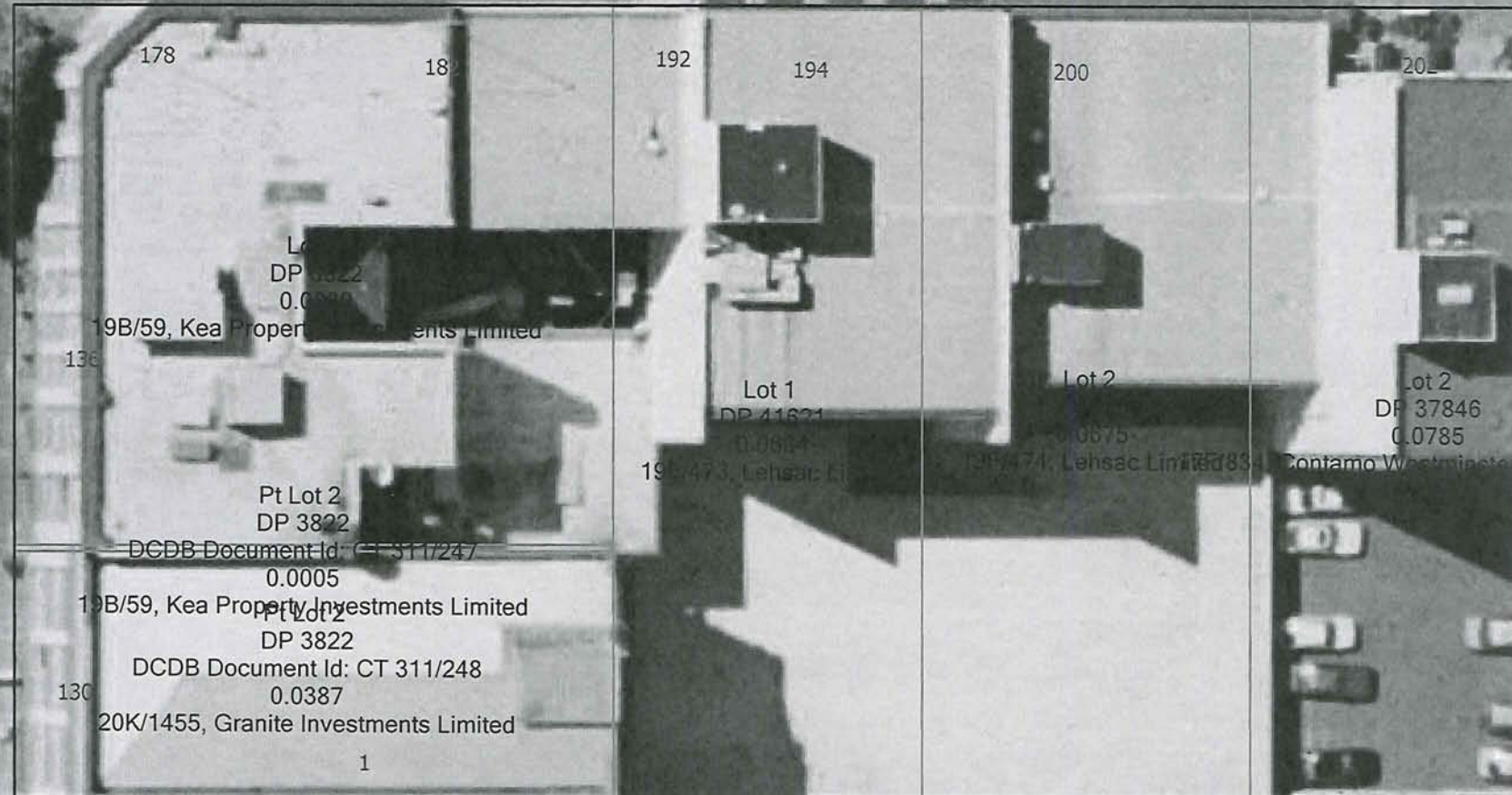
45 metres

Bedford Row



Cashel Street

Manchester Street



Scale: 1:350

metres

Bedford Row

