



Palmerston North and the Manawatu: A Historical Approach

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ABSTRACT The city of Palmerston North lies in a geographical district of New Zealand called the Manawatu. The river, bush, and land set constraints on human populations, but also offered rich opportunities for those able to master difficulties and see potential. The early history of this region began with Maori, and especially Rangitane people, who settled and lived successfully here for hundreds of years. The author then traces the later advent of European settlement and colonialisation, discusses the resulting changes in the patterns and styles of life, and tells about the current culture as seen by himself as an observer from a different culture.

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