



## **Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia**

**70 Glen Road, Kelburn**

**Wellington, New Zealand**

The Embassy's building in 70 Glen Road, Kelburn, was designed by architect William Gray Young in 1914 according to traditional Georgian style, with wooden walls and Marseilles-type rooftiles.

Work on the building was begun by a builder named W.H. Bennet on 25 November 1914 for the "Society of Friends", a religious institution also known as the Quakers, to provide accommodation for young men and women who came to Wellington from towns throughout New Zealand to study Christianity.



After the Quakers, the next owner of the building was recorded as a farmer, Donald Hammond Murray, from Levin. Mr. Murray sold the building to the New Zealand Government with a lake in Levin as an exchange. After the trade, the building was used as a dental nurses' hostel.

The Indonesian Government won an auction to purchase the building with a bid of NZ\$250,000. The final payment was made on May 18, 1981 and the right of ownership of the building was transferred to the Indonesian Government on October 13, 1981.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Indonesian Ambassador to New Zealand, H.E. Sukanto Sayidiman, officially opened the building in 70 Glen Road as the new Indonesian Embassy in Wellington in a ceremony on February 17, 1983. The ceremony was attended by 100 guests including the representative for the New Zealand Government, the Minister of Defence the Rt. Hon. D.S. Thomson. In his speech, Minister Thomson congratulated the Indonesian Ambassador and staff members for the opening of the new Embassy.