

A quick guide to using this book

This book has been arranged to provide an efficient guide when buying or building housing.

WHERE TO START

The first five chapters have been written as an introduction for everybody.

- 1 Buying or building, it's an investment decision
- 2 First, choose where to live
- 3 Everybody wants to be comfortable
- 4 The right housing for you
- 5 Sooner or later you will have to sign a contract

Chapter 4 is also a guide to using the rest of the book, and provides a *decision tree* connecting the chapters to your housing choices.

IF YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO BUILD

For those who have decided they are going to build, they should read Chapters 1-5, proceed to Chapter 6 'The perfect block of land', and then dip into the following chapters.

- 7 Architect designed
- 8 Builders and drafting services
- 9 Project builders
- 10 Designing your own home
- 11 So you'd like to be an owner-builder

You especially need to keep in mind Chapter 3 'Everybody wants to be comfortable', and Chapter 5, 'Sooner or later you will have to sign a contract'.

IF YOU'RE UNDECIDED

For those who are undecided whether to build or buy, Chapter 12 'Buying housing—a chapter for everybody' could be your starting point after reading Chapters 1-5. Then pick and choose as you like.

IF BUYING IS YOUR CHOICE

If you have made up your mind to buy your starting point is Chapter 12 after reading Chapters 1-5. Then pick and choose from:

- 13 Buying to alter
- 14 Terrace houses—townhouses of the 19th century
- 15 Townhouses and villas
- 16 Home units
- 17 High-rise apartments

THINKING OF RETIREMENT HOUSING?

For those contemplating retirement housing, the following chapters should be read after reviewing Chapters 1-5:

- 12** Buying housing—a chapter for everybody
- 18** Buying for retirement
- 15** Townhouses and villas
- 17** High-rise apartments

CHAPTER 20

'Further help' provides the names, addresses, telephone numbers and a brief description of organisations which can provide further advice or assistance.