

there was some hairline cracking of in-situ concrete and a small amount of cracked plaster.

A few other reports of minor cracking have been made but these have not been verified to date.

(b) Private Dwellings

Damage to walls and ceilings was partly a result of plaster cracking, which in some cases ruined wallpaper as well. Unfortunately, the available records do not show whether this interior wall and ceiling damage occurred more in the flexible weatherboard houses rather than the stiffer masonry veneer houses. A number of masonry veneer houses did suffer cracking damage to the outside walls.

Roof damage is not fully detailed in the claim records, though it would appear that most of the damage occurred with tile roofs.

There were many cases where some cracking of parts of the building existed before the earthquake and here the cracks were merely extended by the vibration. One two storey house which suffered damage was about 70 years old and not in a very good condition before 24th May. The effect of the earthquake was merely to accelerate its ageing.

(c) Roads and Bridges

No damage was reported concerning bridges. The only road damage observed after the earthquake were a number of depressions in State Highway 7 near the top of the Lewis Pass, on the Canterbury side. These were not fully caused by the earthquake as they had also occurred previously.

## DAMAGE FROM GREYMOUTH TO HOKITIKA

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Greymouth is approximately 100 km from the epicentre and Hokitika approximately 130 km. The intensity of damage changed significantly over this distance, there being considerable damage at Greymouth but only slight damage at Hokitika. Some Hokitika commercial buildings of construction similar to buildings which suffered moderate damage in Greymouth had virtually no damage at all.

The first author inspected only 4 commercial buildings which suffered structural damage, and 3 of these were for trivial amounts.

Some brickwork out-buildings in Hokitika which were almost in a state of collapse before the earthquake were apparently no worse off following it.

The incidence of cracked or fallen chimneys was much less in Hokitika than in Greymouth though the damage was still significant.

Embankments at approaches to bridges were all observed to have slumped, but the amount was very slight by the time Hokitika was reached, compared with significant slumping in the Greymouth area.

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