

Copyright is owned by the Author of the thesis. Permission is given for a copy to be downloaded by an individual for the purpose of research and private study only. The thesis may not be reproduced elsewhere without the permission of the Author.

A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF THE NEW ZEALAND TEXTILE
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE
TO THE WELLINGTON REGION

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts in Geography
at Massey University

by
Evan Wakefield Vickery

1975

ABSTRACT

This thesis is a study of the New Zealand textile manufacturing industry and its components. It investigates the nature of location patterns, the changes within the components of the industry and the changes in industrial organisation which have occurred since 1950. The location of factories engaged in manufacturing textiles is detailed, shifts in components of the industry are analysed and early location factors in the industry are discussed. It is argued that technological advances in various facets of the industry have been influential in determining the present day location of the factories in the industry. The impact of technology and its requirements within the industry are examined specifically in terms of process product and organisational adjustments. The resulting developments, particularly the form of intra- and inter-industry linkages are outlined. In addition the form of industry intra-urban linkages are explored with particular reference to the Wellington Region.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Grateful acknowledgement is made to the many people, librarians, lecturers, friends, companies and organisations - who helped find the necessary information to complete the research for this thesis.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance from individual members of the New Zealand textile manufacturers without whose help this thesis would not have been possible.

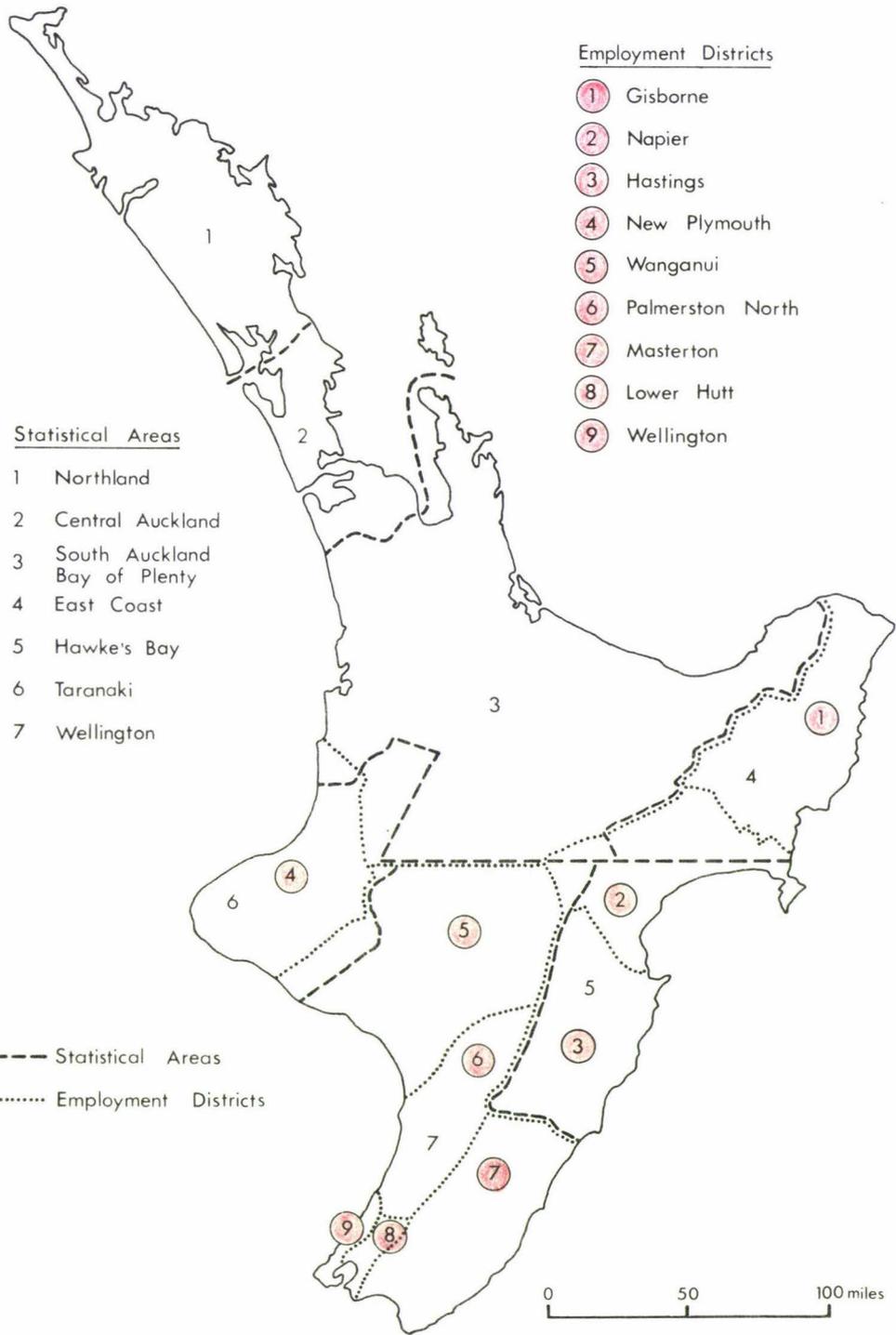
I would also like to thank my tutor, Dr R. Le Heron of the Department of Geography, Massey University, for his helpful guidance and criticism throughout; and for the general help from the department, especially the Cartographic unit.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
Content and Organisation	1
Methodology	1
CHAPTER 2 INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND LOCATION CHANGE	8
Components of the Industry	8
Scouring	8
Woollen Mills	10
Other Spinning and Weaving	11
Hosiery and Other Knitting Mills	11
Phormium and Linen Flax	11
Textiles n.e.i.	12
Location Patterns	12
Factories and Mills	32
Location Factors and Location Changes	40
CHAPTER 3 REASONS FOR LOCATION CHANGE	45
Location Satisfaction and Alternative Locations	45
Existing Site Advantages and Disadvantages	47
Government Assistance	50
Problems of Manufacturing and Location	53
The Role of Technology	54
Early Changes	54
Company Organisation	56
Machinery	56
Machinery Information	61
Purchase Patterns	62
Machinery Agents and Servicemen	64
Buildings	65
Management	66
Research	66

CHAPTER 3	CONTINUED	
	Integration, Rationalisation and Specialisation	68
	Linkages in Purchase and Sales	73
	Transport	79
	Future Developments	81
	Summary	82
CHAPTER 4	NATURE OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN THE WELLINGTON REGION	83
	Location	83
	Hawkes Bay/Gisborne	85
	Palmerston North/Feilding	86
	Levin (Including Shannon)	88
	Wellington/Hutt Valley	91
	Other Areas	92
	Summary	92
CHAPTER 5	CONCLUSION	94
	Structure of Industry Components	94
	Location Changes and Factors	95
	Technology	95
	The Wellington Region	97
APPENDIX 1	Sample of Questionnaire Used	98
APPENDIX 2	Brief History of Major Companies	106
BIBLIOGRAPHY		109

NORTH ISLAND STATISTICAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT DISTRICTS



SOUTH ISLAND STATISTICAL AREAS

