



John Kinder Library

202 St Johns Road, St Johns



The aims of this project were to update and extend the range of facilities for the Theological Community, as well as reflect the Maori, Pacific and Pakeha partnerships with the Church. The new facilities include after hours and outdoor areas, as well as a quiet study space, seminar and casual meeting spaces. This has been achieved with great success. The very creative transformation of this unique treasure has been met with wide acclaim.

This building represents an intermeshing of three cultures – Maori, Pacific Island and Pakeha. We have referred to this as the 'Three Kete of Knowledge' and reflected this with a 'weaving' concept throughout the building.

We identified a contemporary 'standard' of library as a place that communicates visually, a building that speaks of its cultural history but also speaks of the flow and function of the spaces within the building.

A key aspect to the improvement of the office spaces is to allow more approachability between the students and the library staff. The reconfigured glazed partition system assists this, and the 'reception counter' becomes more of a median of communication rather than a physical barrier between the student space and the staff space.

The office areas have undergone a reshuffle to improve the economy of space and maximise the area for storage

Architectural Specifier: Xsite Architects

www.xsite.net.nz

Building Contractor: Robert Cunningham Construction Ltd

Interior Designer: Xsite Architects

Painting Contractor: Contract Coatings

Photographer: Simon Devitt

Colours Used: Resene Alabaster, Resene Crowshead, Resene Grey Friars, Resene Limed Ash, Resene Limed Oak, Resene Stun

Products Used: Resene Enamacryl Metallic, Resene Woodsman, Resene decorative paints

 Resene Fantail

and book maintenance. We created a new group study room, information commons area, which is also accessible after hours, and a quiet study room. The T-Wall glazed partition system creates a cost effective contemporary aesthetic and allows a visual connection identifying the spaces and their intended purposes.

Having assessed the existing toilets, it was evident that an overhaul in this area was required. A number of compliance issues relevant to this were addressed with regards to disabled persons, privacy issues, improvement in noise reduction, increased energy efficiency, improved maintenance of specified surfaces, and general visual aspects.

On the floor, new porcelain tiles continue the theme of weaving by alternating textured tiles with smooth surfaced tiles to create a pattern reflective of a Maori motif (Te Hikapuhi).

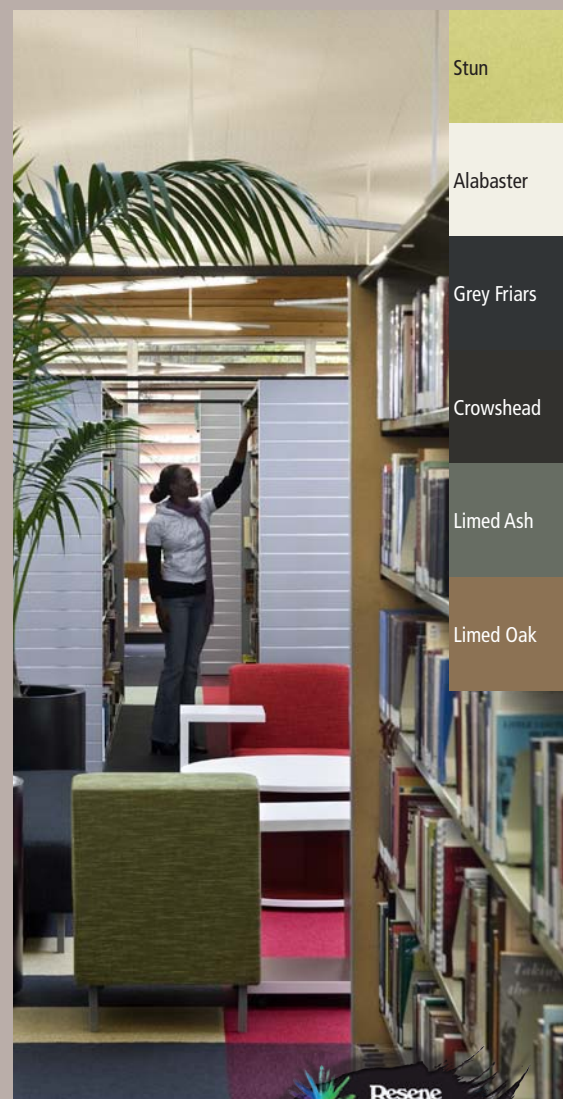
Inside the library, the weaving concept is continued by alternating the orientation of the carpet tiles by 90 degrees to achieve the pattern. A European tartan pattern is also worked into the weaving theme with a black base and an accent colour in continuous strips throughout the spaces.

Coordinating the patterning helps highlight the individual spaces and traffic flow paths in and around the library.

An entry canopy makes an inviting gesture as it undulates and leads into the

heart of the building. The arrangements of the timber battens and the way in which they overlap and fit into each other, speak of a traditional Maori thatching construction and reference woven 'basket of knowledge' theme.

The relationship with the carpet and tile layout begins to build a cultural connection by telling a story, similar to the way a story is told across the barge boards and internal decoration of the Whareniui (meeting house) of a Marae.



Stun

Alabaster

Grey Friars

Crowshead

Limed Ash

Limed Oak

