

ADNZ GIB® ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOUR

In collaboration with Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland

THE CLOCK TOWER 22 Princes Street, Auckland CBD | Old Arts Building

Formerly known as the Old Arts building, the ClockTower was designed by R.A. Lippincott, a Chicago-trained architect and brother-in-law of Walter Burley Griffin, designer of Canberra.

The 54-metre tower, faced with Mount Somers stone, was inspired by the famous Tom Tower of Christ Church, Oxford. It has come to symbolise the University. The octagonal interior is vaulted and galleried with a mosaic floor and piers.

For many years, the building housed all Arts departments, Architecture, Law, Music and the Library as well as the University Hall. The rear wing provided extremely limited student amenities until the Student Union Building was opened in 1968.

Between 1985 and 1988, the main wing was renovated, strengthened and cleaned, regaining the whiteness which originally suggested the popular name of 'the wedding cake'. This major reconstruction work earned an award from the Institute of Architects.



Photos: Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland



THE OLD CHORAL HALL 7 Symonds Street, Auckland CBD

Classed as a Category 1 heritage building, the original hall was built in 1872 to a design by pre-eminent Auckland architect Edward Mahoney. The Neo-Classical Old Choral Hall was the third performance venue built by the Auckland Choral Society after the previous two buildings were destroyed by arson in January and December 1871 respectively. Since opening, these spaces have been variously added to, and modified, serving for some time as the University Science Building following the addition of several new wings in 1917 and again in 1925. The removal of the original masonry portico at the Symonds Street entry around the time of the Napier earthquake resulted in the building's 'incomplete' appearance.

Refurbishment has been carried out to accommodate the Faculty of Education and Social Work (EDSW), providing space for administration areas and students. Spread across two levels, the project provides a mixture of student-facing areas and informal social spaces on the ground floor with workspaces for support staff and the EDSW executive team on the upper floor. Additional interventions include upgraded amenities and shared learning spaces.



Photo: Simon Devitt and Mark Scowen



B201 – ARTS BUILDING 10 Symonds Street, Auckland CBD

B201 has fast become a favourite meeting point for students and staff, even for people outside the three faculties it houses.

The reinvigorated building, with design by Jasmax and engineering by Beca, is also winning plaudits from outside the University.

On 15 May, at the New Zealand Architecture Awards for the Auckland region, the revamped building on 10 Symonds Street was a winner in the Education section and will now go forward to the National Awards.

It has been well-publicised that the building is a shining example of sustainable refurbishment and achieved a 6 Green Star rating for its design, but the Auckland Architecture Award judges highlighted another feature that is equally important.



Photo: Michael White

