



New Lynn Community Centre

Project Details

Client: Waitakere City Council
Location: Auckland, New Zealand
Approx. Value: \$3m
Floor Area: 1100 m²
Completed: 2001

Contact

malcolm.bowes@architectus.co.nz

Awards

NZIA, Resene NZ Award for
Architecture, 2001
NZIA, Resene Branch Award for
Architecture, 2001

‘At New Lynn, the building – a unified “community of rooms” plus a vestigial porch, deck and verandah – has been generated as much by an essentially humanist attitude towards civic place and occupation as it has by site conditions, planning, sustainability, materials and local technique.’

– Charles Walker, Architecture New Zealand,
September/October 2001

The brief stated by the Waitakere City Council called for a multi-purpose community facility that emphasised the City’s commitment to eco-design principles and issues of sustainability, specification of building materials, environment and servicing strategies, and the well-being of users.

Extensive effort was made to ensure the project not only related to the community context but also made a contribution to surrounding neighbourhoods. As such the Community Centre provides a new public square and courtyard, which connect the existing shops beyond, Plunket Rooms, public meeting rooms, a multi-purpose performance hall and similar-scaled half-court games space.

The design approach sought to distance the building as far as possible from the railway; to carefully organise the elements of the plan in such a way as to insulate sensitive activities from noise and vibration and to select materials that assist acoustic and thermal performance as well as meeting Waitakere City’s environmental objectives.