

HISTORIC BUILDING OFFICES

WELLINGTON



Located in the lower level of a historic building, we were tasked to convert the space into open plan workspaces, private offices and communal areas. This project evolved, from concept to completion, over a short 18 month process (including lockdown).

Previously, the floor was used to store numerous periodicals within compactor shelving. Once the shelving was removed there was just over 1500m² of clear floor area to convert into offices, meeting rooms, storage rooms, staff kitchen and bathrooms.

Gaining as much natural light was crucial, along with creating a bright and engaging space. Work areas were orientated to take full advantage of natural light. These areas will be occupied by the staff who tend to be at their desks for longer periods of time. Offices that are not occupied all the time were placed internally, where these all have floor to ceiling glazing to maximise borrowed light.

Support areas such as the kitchen, meeting space and break out space are located in the centre. Direct and indirect lighting was used to help bounce light around and create a sense of openness. This included using wall washers and aluminium extrusions to provide up/down lights.

The common areas provide a mix of private, quiet and social space that support and enhance the work environment. A range of communal furnishings such as booths, pods and couches have been provided to encourage collegial working in a collaborative environment.

Using New Zealand companies and local products was important to the client. Air miles and environmental aspects were also taken into consideration when selecting materials.

Custom shelving was designed as a subtle nod to the original use of the space, with angled shelves to provide display surfaces for notices, artwork and greenery.

A neutral colour palette was provided to allow the occupants to bring their own personality and colour to the space.

