



1 Office space from mezzanine above 2 Stairs in the completed office space 3 Connection detail implemented onsite 4 Skylights and insulation during construction 5 Street view after strengthening and repair works.

## 180-184 Durham Street South

**Project Location:** Christchurch

**Engineering Design Consultants Ltd for The Westall Trust**

**Disciplines:** Structural Engineering



At a time when more than 90% of the Unreinforced Masonry Buildings (URM) in the Christchurch Central Business District were being demolished, an inspired owner and a motivated project team consisting of EDC, Intrados Architecture and Bushnell Builders went against the grain and decided to repair, strengthen and convert the industrial warehouse at 180-184 Durham Street into a modern office and retail space.

The building had a low seismic strength before the earthquakes, leading to damage. The client's brief to the project team was to create a building which was safe for its occupants, modern in its function, while retaining the character, charm and heritage of the original structure.

Through the hard work of the project team the building has been rejuvenated to create stunning office and retail spaces. New and old elements of the building integrate seamlessly, while the historic elements of the building, namely the sawtooth roof and brick masonry walls, have been exposed and presented as features. The result is a beautiful structure which gives the people of Christchurch a snapshot of the pre-earthquake CBD.

While the vast majority of URM buildings in central Christchurch have been demolished, this building stands out as a beacon of what can be achieved when a commitment is made to restoring one of the city's heritage buildings.

### Judging & Copyright Statement

This project is a Finalist entry in the 2016 INNOVATE NZ Awards of Excellence competition. The winners will be announced on Friday 2 September, 2016.

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