

Reducing Recidivism Not Rights

Rethinking Interior Architecture as a solution for New Zealand's failing prisons

By

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Abstract

This thesis argues that the design of the built environment of a prison can have a huge impact on lowering recidivism rates of prisoners in New Zealand. It proposes that this can be achieved through the development of a new health model/framework that facilitates positive relationships between families, prison staff and other inmates; supports spiritual, mental and physical health; equips inmates for participation to society upon release; and gives them a sense of identity. It further argues that this framework can then be applied to the design process to create a new precedent for prison design that effectively rehabilitates and reintegrates its inmates into society. The work of key architects, and theorists such as Hohensinn Architektur and Dominique Moran, have been analysed to help translate their successful designs and theories into a New Zealand model of correctional facility.

Prisons are institutions of deprivation and isolation. Marginalised by and separated from community, they are maintained by physical and psychological structures designed only to isolate. Imprisonment results in individuals embittered and hardened by the experience, who are likely to reoffend, and become lifelong participants in the criminal justice system.

New Zealand's prison population has been substantially increasing since the 1980s. The current imprisonment rate per population is the second highest in the Western World, second only to the United States. This increase is due to a combination of changes in political economy, an attitude of exclusion of minority groups by the criminal justice system and a rise in penal populism. New Zealand currently imprisons 212 people for every 100,000, and has a recidivism rate of 50 percent. Māori represent over 50 percent of our prison population, whilst only 15 percent of the overall New Zealand population. These statistics are self-evident; our prisons aren't working. They are not successfully rehabilitating and reintegrating inmates into society.

This design-led research investigation offers a new process for prison design: one that strives to design for humans, humans of intrinsic moral worth. This is based on the premise that all people are capable of change and improvement; creating impactful change through design to the extremely high recidivism rates of inmates in New Zealand.

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Prisons are institutions of deprivation and isolation. (Consedine, 1990) Marginalised by and separated from community, they are maintained by physical and psychological structures designed only to isolate (Consedine, 1990). Imprisonment results in individuals embittered and hardened by the experience, who are likely to reoffend, and become lifelong participants in the criminal justice system.

New Zealand's prison population has been rising since the 1980s, due to changes in political economy, an attitude of exclusion of minority groups by the criminal justice system and a rise in penal populism (Workman & McIntosh, 2013). New Zealand has the second highest imprisonment rate in the western world according to the "World Prison Brief", with 212 prisoners per 100,000 people (2017). In a report by Arul Nadesu, it was identified that 52 percent of prisoners reoffended and returned to prison at least once during a 60-month follow up period (2009). The likelihood of a convicted criminal reoffending is called recidivism (English by Oxford Dictionaries, n.d.). Prisoners reoffending is in part a cause of the record high prison population. It shows the system isn't working, as inmates are not being successfully rehabilitated but rather returning again to the

prison system. Māori make up over 50 percent of our prison population, whilst only 15 percent of the overall New Zealand population (Department of Corrections, 2017). These statistics are self-evident; our prisons aren't working. They are not successfully rehabilitating and reintegrating inmates into society.

The future of prison architecture needs to adopt a new mindset and this is what this project aims to achieve. Designers and practitioners have the power to make impactful change in this world. Designing spaces to facilitate the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates into society, and considering of the diversity of inmates, can ultimately lead to a reduction in crime rates and recidivism in New Zealand.

1.2 Aims and objectives

The principal aim of this design-led research is to investigate ways in which Interior Architecture can facilitate the reduction of recidivism rates of offenders in a New Zealand context.

The principal objectives of this design-led research investigation are to:

- establish a framework for design that facilitates the reduction of recidivism rates of offenders
- utilise an iterative design process to test and develop design solutions
- design a minimum to low-medium security correctional facility using the established framework.

1.3 Research question

How can the design of New Zealand's correctional facilities facilitate a shift to focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of its inmates into society?

1.4 The Approach | Methodology

Research through case studies

Critically examine case studies in both a New Zealand and an International context that focus on rehabilitation and challenge the current standards of prison design around the world.

Research through literature review

Critically review research from key theorists. With a specific focus on recidivism rates and their relationship to the built environment; what successful prison design is; and principles to design by to facilitate the successful rehabilitation of inmates.

Research through design experimentation

The key knowledge taken from the review of precedents and literature will then be applied to design exercises. Each of the exercises explore different aspects of the design. This starts with the master plan of the prison complex, and continues to the detail of interior spaces such as the visitation rooms and prisoner accommodation. This uses the process of brainstorming and sketching to digital modelling, to conduct the design exercises.

- Within scope
- Outside of scope

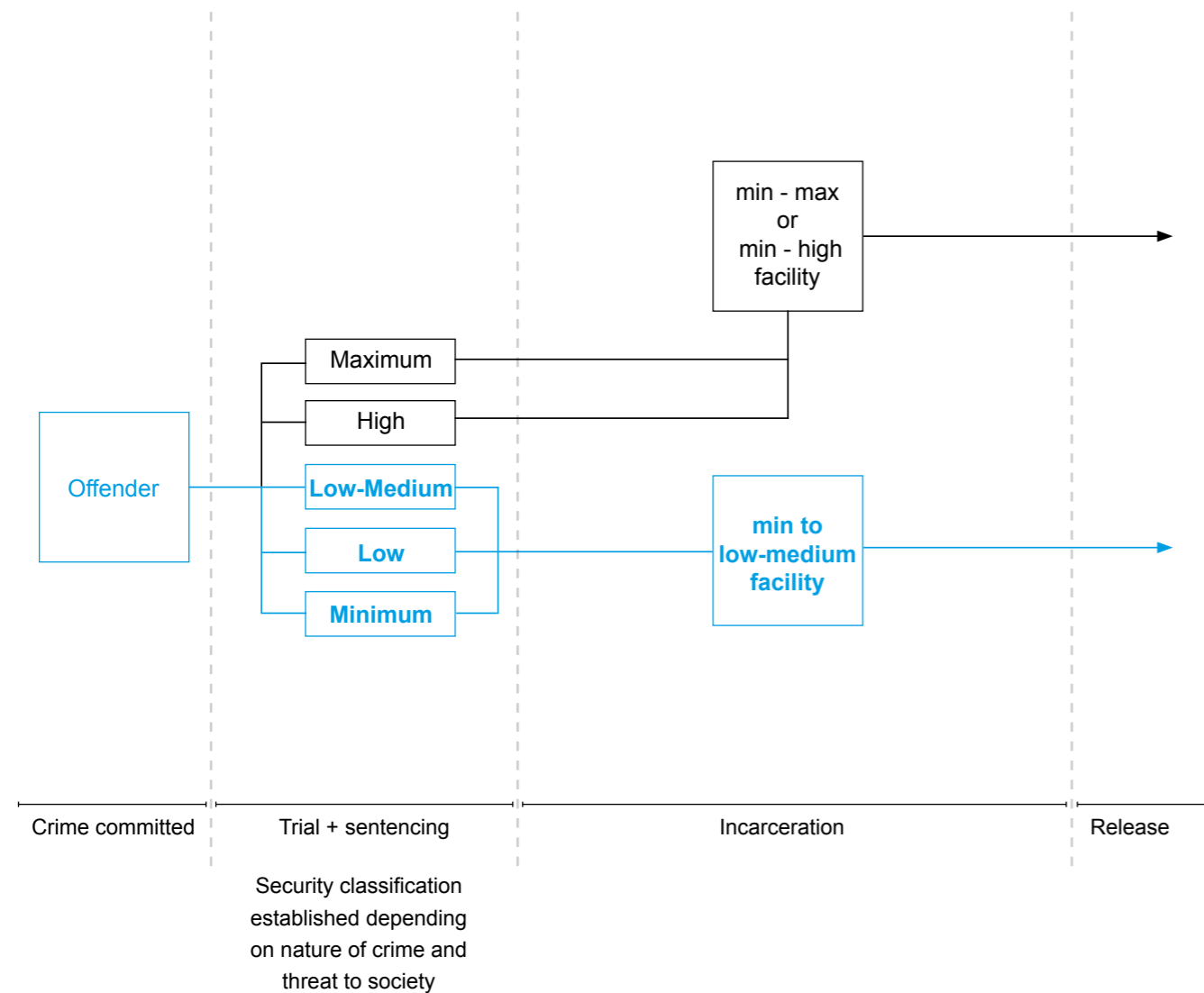


Figure 1. Diagram outlining the scope of project in terms of inmates and their security level

1.5 The Scope

According to the Department of Corrections, minimum to low-medium risk offenders make up 80 percent of the New Zealand prison population and the high to maximum risk offenders make up less than 20 percent (2017).

The scope of this project deals with offenders who are classed as minimum to low-medium risk; the majority (security classifications are detailed in section 5.1). The scope does not accommodate the high to maximum risk offenders. (See Figure 1.)

This project has a focus on the inmates and their journey, whilst still considering the staff and their accommodation. These general facilities for staff will be located off site, outside of the scope.

This project is designed to operate within the current criminal justice system, providing a built environment and journey for offenders that can make a positive impact on their lives.

The assumption of governance of the correctional facility designed in this thesis follows the principles of 'Good governance for prison health in the 21st century,' a report published by the World Health Organisation; "Prisoners share the same right to health and well-being as any other person" (2013, p. 8).

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Sir Clinton Roper

Sir Clinton Roper lays out a set of principles in the 1989 Government sponsored Prison Review report on habilitation in relation to New Zealand's punishment system (1989).

The principles:

- “the objective of all social policy is to create the conditions necessary for human wellbeing and the achievement of potential
- all individual human persons are of intrinsic moral worth and these persons have interests which provide the basis for an equal claim to consideration
- all individuals are worthy of respect in some fundamental or residual way
- human beings are social beings; and can realise their nature or individual potential, only in a community
- human wants are in principle unlimited, and resources limited. In any society which permits freedom of choice, scarce resources must be allocated between conflicting claims in a way that is fair and just, as well as efficient. Justice is a moral requirement that all organisations and institutions should meet. Social stability depends on individual differences in material conditions being recognised as just” (Roper, 1989).

Roper proposes that habilitation is the way forward as the focus of New Zealand's punishment system, and the mindset that human beings have worth and potential needs to be adopted to make a change to the current system (1989). Considering the needs of inmates as human beings is so vital to creating an environment where a person can be successfully rehabilitated. This report (1989), by Roper is from the late 1980s but is still extremely important, as many of the principles that Roper states are still not being addressed in current prison design in New Zealand.

2.2 Jim Consedine

Jim Consedine discusses the New Zealand prison system and the 1989 Prison Review report in 'A Poison in the Bloodstream' (1990).

Consedine states that for too long the community has relied upon simplistic 19th century philosophies of punishment based on vengeance (1990). This outdated philosophy has resulted in a harsh and inhumane prison system (Consedine, 1990). New Zealand's prisons are closed institutions, remote from the community and maintained by physical and psychological walls designed to segregate and isolate (Consedine, 1990). Unfortunately 50 percent of prison inmates are under 25 years of age with a whole lifetime ahead of them and a vast majority of all crimes are committed by ex-inmates (Consedine, 1990).

Consedine agrees with Sir Clinton Roper and the Prison Review report, stating that the report produced a radical yet common sense solution, with the recommendation of the establishment of habilitation centres (1990). Recognising the need to identify and convict offenders, but to help them to change so that they don't reoffend, is what the focus of the justice system should be.

Consedine raises a common recurring point; the 19th century philosophies of punishment are based on vengeance, and these have come to inform the prison architecture itself (1990).

On critical reflection of Consedine's points, a shift needs to be taken to where an offender has the capability of being rehabilitated, and the built environment should also replicate this shift, to guide and support the inmates so they can be successfully rehabilitated, and do not reoffend.

2.3 Norman Johnston

Norman Johnston was a professor at Beaver College in Pennsylvania, lecturing extensively about the sociology of crime and corrections (2000).

In 'Forms of Constraint,' Johnston discusses the history of prison architecture, and how it has evolved throughout history (2000). Public attitude towards the incarcerated has always been ambivalent, with cycles of humane concern and reform quickly being replaced with impatience and a more rigorous justice process (Johnston, 2000).

Johnston discusses the future of prison architecture with several goals that should guide the designers. "Architects should take some responsibility for the unintended injustices and consequences caused by their work:

- Prisons should be designed with the understanding that group living situations come with pressures and consequences and that consultations with policy makers, guards and the prisoners may be required in the design process.

- The architectural environment must be created so that physical and psychological risks are minimised as much as possible, for both the guards and the prisoners.
- Prison environments should be stimulating and humane through the use of varied colours, surfaces and spaces.
- Prisons should be modest in size" (Johnston, 2000).

Johnston provides a set of clear goals to guide the future of prison design. On reflection, these goals define key parameters for the design of a successful prison, goals that can be considered and integrated into the design process.

2.4 Dominique Moran

Dominique Moran discusses prison visitation in relation to recidivism in 'visitation and recidivism called Carceral Geography and the Spatialities of Prison Visiting: Visitation, Recidivism, and Hyperincarceration' (2013).

Moran discusses prison visitation and its relation to recidivism, specifically how prison visiting has a positive influence on inmates, improving their likelihood of successful reintegration on release, and thereby reducing their rates of recidivism (2013). Prisoners who maintain active family relationships are more successful on release than those who do not (Moran, 2013).

Moran states that the actual spaces of prison visiting are intensely significant in terms of the nature of the contact that takes place, and the ways in which the spaces are socially constructed by those who occupy them (2013).

She states an example; women who participated in family visits in bungalows in a correctional facility in San Quentin, California, rarely ever described feelings of being confined (Moran, 2013). They considered their family visits, with children running around and barbeques as a space neither 'in' or 'out' (Moran, 2013). They would create a pseudo domestic

space, bringing in personal traditions, food and belongings to fabricate a romanticised home, to make it more familiar like the outside world (Moran, 2013).

The prison provided the base space for the visit as a family bungalow, and the inmates added to the facade and created their own romanticised home (Moran, 2013). The women realised the spaces were neither 'in' nor 'out' but nonetheless encouraged positive family interactions, supporting the health and wellbeing of the inmates (Moran, 2013).

Moran goes on to state that by contrast visitors who entered cafeteria style rooms where they sat opposite inmates at tables, expressed feelings of 'being incarcerated too,' encouraging negative family interactions (2013).

Moran discusses examples of prison visitation spaces that affect the nature of interaction (2013). On reflection, these examples can be applied to this project in a New Zealand context to impact positive family interactions, and in turn lead to the reduction of recidivism rates of inmates.

2.5 Dr Marayca López

Dr Marayca López, a Senior Corrections Analyst with an extensive background as a criminologist discusses prison design and infrastructure as a tool for rehabilitation in 'How to build for success: prison design and infrastructure as a tool for rehabilitation' (2014). López explores how forward thinking architects are moving away from classical models of prison architecture (2014). They are beginning to experiment with innovative spatial concepts which better align the physical environments of correctional facilities with the concepts of humane treatment and contemporary priorities of inmate rehabilitation and successful reintegration (López, 2014). López outlines a series of vital features that the design of a correctional facility should follow in order to function as a tool for rehabilitation:

- “be based on the premise that people are capable of change and improvement
- be based on “evidence-based practices”
- make a “good neighbour”
- be right-sized
- promote safety, security, ease of supervision, and circulation

- provide a healthy, safe environment
- provide a normative (less institutional, more residential-like) and spatially stimulating living environment for occupants
- be program and services-oriented and provide a variety of spaces” (López, 2014).

López outlines a series of vital features to follow that lead to the successful design of a correctional facility (2014) These features can be applied to this project as a set of criteria to evaluate the design exercises against, to lead to a design output that functions as a tool for rehabilitation.

2.6 Chapter conclusion

Roper, Johnston, and López all offer key principles that the design of a correctional facility should be based on (2000; 1989; 2014). The key crossover principles between the theorists that stand out are that prisons should be designed to:

- consider people as human beings
- be modest in size
- be more residential and less institutional
- have a focus on the health of occupants
- be programme and services oriented (2000; 1989; 2014).

These principles will help to establish a model/framework that can be applied to the design process to reduce recidivism rates of offenders.

Consedine states key failings of the New Zealand prison system, and puts forward shifts that need to be made to change the system so that criminals are given a chance and rehabilitation (1990).

Dominique Moran outlines the visitation space as a space within a prison where the design of the built environment can significantly influence interactions between families and inmates (2013). She discusses these interactions in relation to recidivism rates, specifically how prisoners who maintain positive family relationships in the prison are more successful upon release (Moran, 2013).

These key theorists all offer extremely valuable and critical insight into incarceration in a New Zealand and International context. They all outline key principles of where future prison architecture and its design process needs to be to support inmates health and well-being and reduce their rates of recidivism, to ultimately benefit society as a whole.

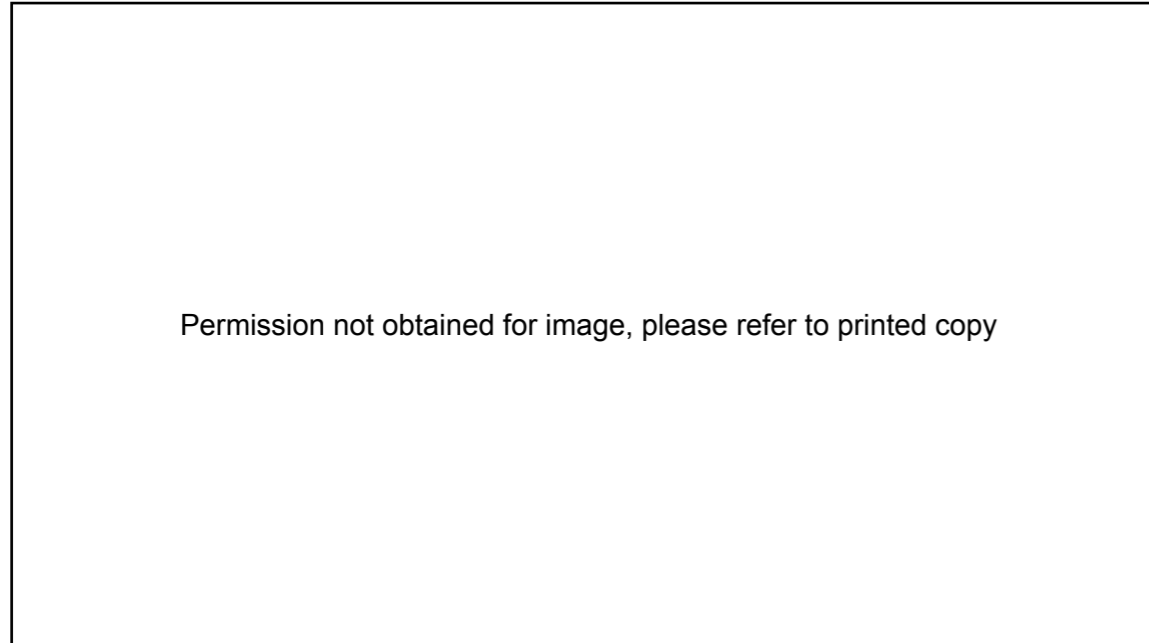


Figure 2. Accommodation exterior - Halden Prison

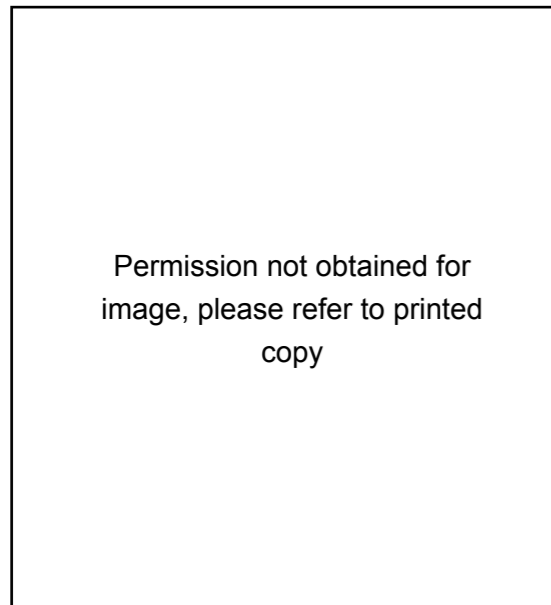


Figure 3. Perimeter wall - Halden Prison

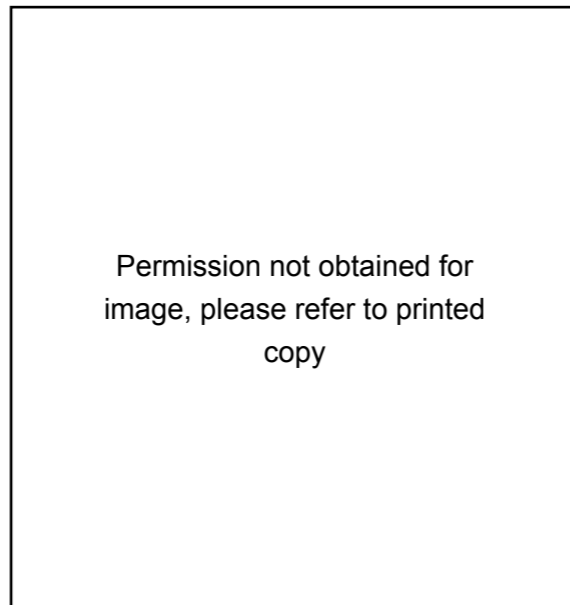


Figure 4. Prison grounds - Halden Prison

3.0 Case Studies

3.1 Halden Prison (Halden fengsel)

Halden Prison in Norway was designed by Erik Møller Architects and HLM Arkitektur and was built in 2010 (Benko, 2015). The treatment of inmates at Halden is focused on helping the inmates prepare for a life when they are released back into society and is described by many as the world's most humane prison (Benko, 2015).

The criminal justice system in Norway was very similar to New Zealand's until the end of the twentieth century when Norway's Ministry of Justice shifted its focus to be on the rehabilitation of prisoners through education, job training and therapy, and then from that to rehabilitation (Benko, 2015). This is why the design of the facilities is intended to make the transition through the prison to more closely reflect general society.

The architects identified two primary responsibilities of the Correctional Service — detention and rehabilitation — which are in perpetual tension with each other, and they felt that a single wall could represent both, to serve as a symbol and an instrument of punishment (Benko, 2015). This defining feature is visible everywhere the inmates go, functioning as an inescapable reminder of their imprisonment.

Halden Prison capitalises on the role of nature in rehabilitation, with the architects understanding the benefits of sunlight, and fresh air in treating depression.

This concept could be reflected in a New Zealand context as both countries spend around \$90,000 a year per inmate, but have radically different experiences for inmates (Kofman, 2015; Rudman, 2015).

Halden Prison is a great example of a precedent with a focus on rehabilitation and reintegration. This is evidenced by Norway's low incarceration rate of 75 per 100,000 people incarcerated. Norway has one of the lowest recidivism rates in the world at 20 percent (Benko, 2015). When inmates in Norway leave prison, they remain unincarcerated.



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Figure 5. Inmate in their cell - Halden Prison



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Figure 6. A card game between inmates - Halden Prison

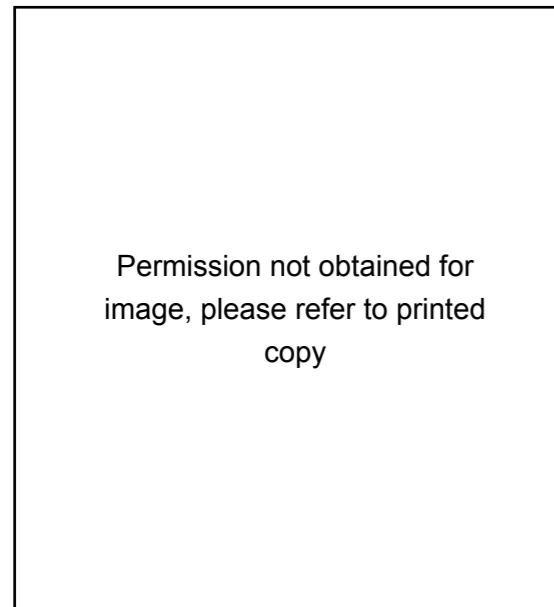


Figure 7. Cell - Leoben Judicial Complex

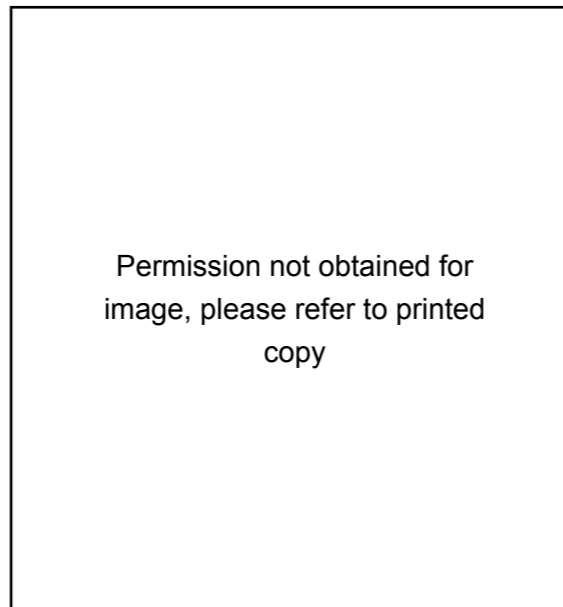


Figure 8. Outdoor loggia - Leoben Judicial Complex

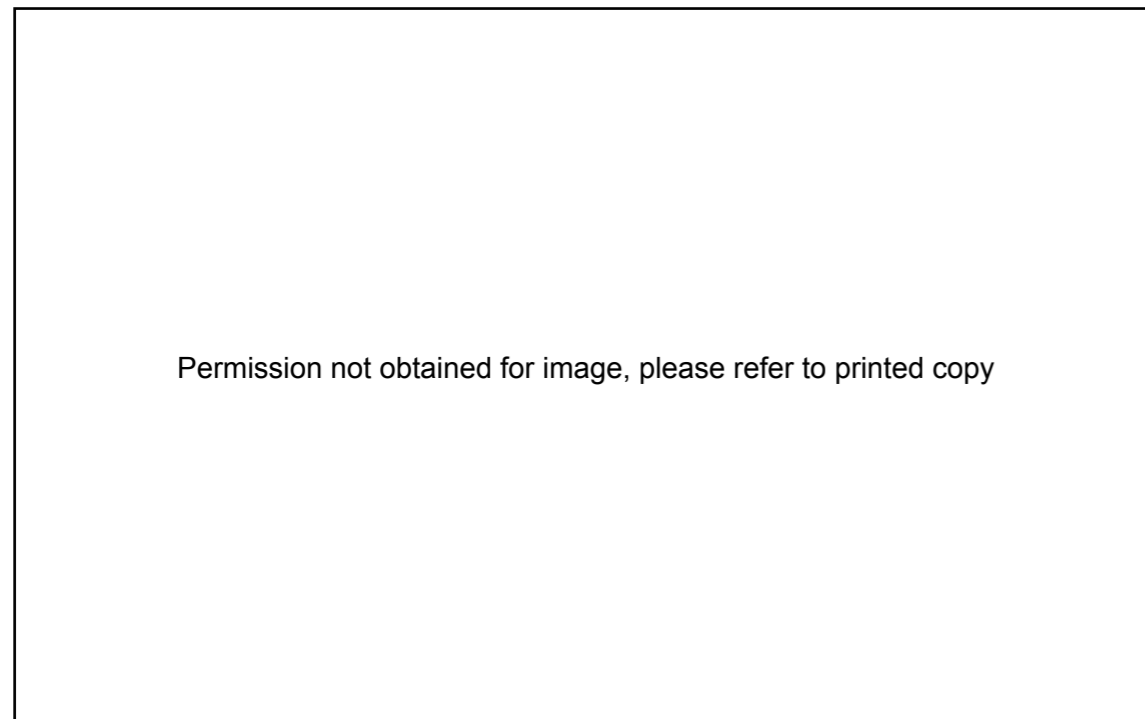


Figure 9. Inmate playing ping pong in outdoor area - Leoben Judicial Complex

3.2 Leoben Judicial Complex

Leoben Judicial Complex is located in Leoben in Styria, Austria and was designed by Hohensinn Architektur (2004). According to Austrian tradition, a judicial complex is always a combination of a courthouse and a prison (Thoerig, 2009). The prison houses 200 men, women, and day release prisoners in separate areas. The courthouse houses district and regional courts and a public prosecution service unit (Thoerig, 2009).

The concept for the Leoben Judicial Complex was to have a design criterion that optimised the quality of experience for both employees and inmates as occupants (Hohensinn Architektur, 2004). Similar to Halden Prison, Hohensinn Architektur designed the living conditions to be akin to everyday life in terms of home, work and leisure, making the re-socialisation of its inmates as effortless as possible (2004).

The detainments are designed like flat-sharing communities, with fifteen people per unit and a small kitchen, sanitary room, gym and day room (Hohensinn Architektur, 2004). There is also a loggia that allows inmates to step outside, extending internal freedom (Hohensinn Architektur, 2004). The work and leisure facilities are set up so that inmates can access them independently, alleviating the burden from staff (Hohensinn Architektur, 2004).

Leoben Judicial Complex offers key design interventions that can be successfully applied to this project in a New Zealand context. This includes an outdoor loggia, the design of the accommodations, which are akin to flat sharing communities, and setup of facilities to allow inmates independent access and internal freedom. The accommodation being arranged in flat sharing communities is essential in replicating the outside world, encouraging positive social interaction and giving the inmates some internal freedom extends responsibility to the inmates.

Leoben Judicial Complex has key aspects that can be drawn from it, however it includes barred windows and doors and has a lack of connection to nature, all things that can be detrimental to the experience of an inmate. Overall the Leoben Judicial Complex is a key precedent to New Zealand's failing prison system. It focuses on people, in a modern and sophisticated way, which accordingly helps to facilitate the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates into society.



Figure 10. Inmates walking around outdoor area - Leoben Judicial Complex

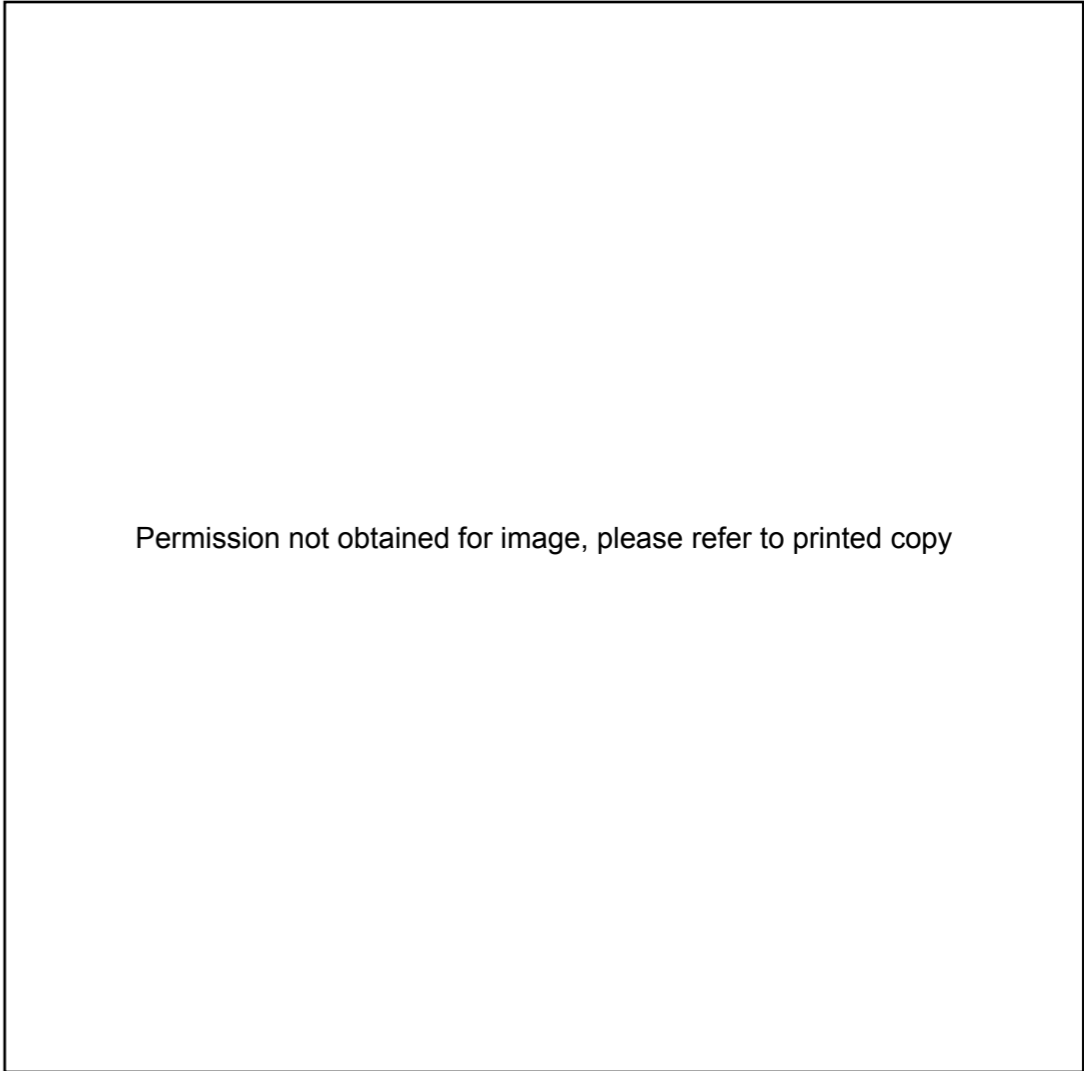


Figure 11. Inmates sitting in shared kitchen area - Leoben Judicial Complex

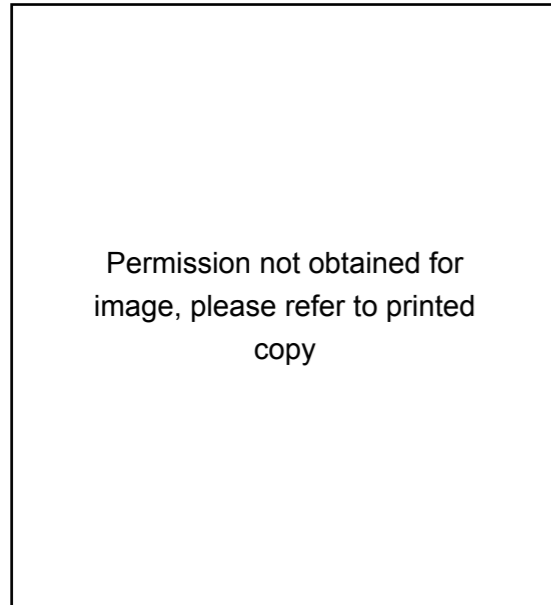


Figure 12. Accommodation block - ASCF

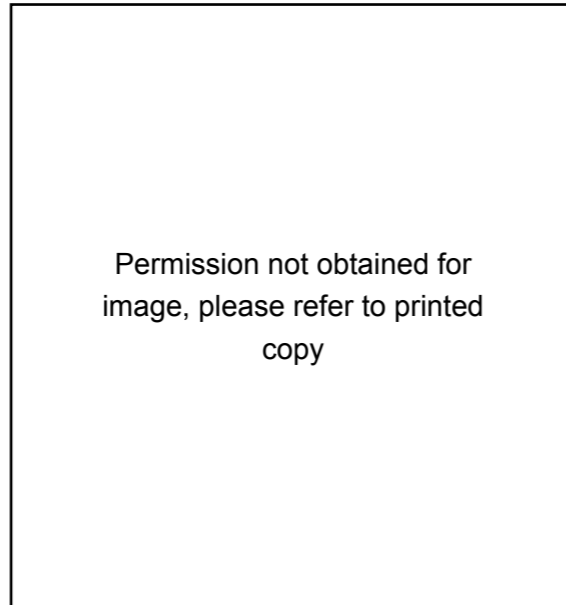


Figure 13. Double-bunk cell - ASCF

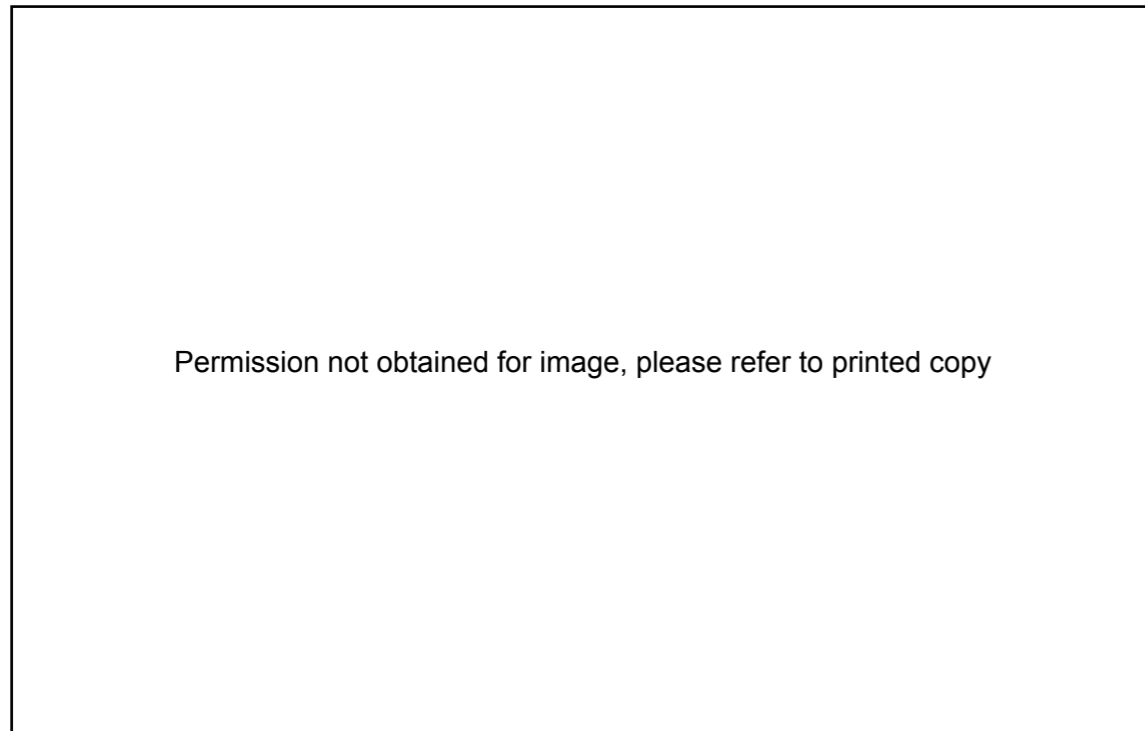


Figure 14. Infographic - ASCF

3.3 Auckland South Corrections Facility (ASCF)

Auckland South Corrections Facility (ASCF) was designed by Mode Design of Australia and Peddle Thorp and was completed in 2015, it is located in Wiri, Auckland (Fletcher Construction, 2015). ASCF is designed with the focus to encourage prisoners to take personal responsibility for their actions, to prepare themselves to leave and to contribute positively back into society (Fletcher Construction, 2015).

The complex is designed with accommodation for the different security classifications from minimum to high (Fletcher Construction, 2015). Prisoners can move up through the accommodation as a reward for good behaviours; the lesser the security classification, the closer they are to the exit of the prison, the closer they are to exiting (Fletcher Construction, 2015). Inmates also earn more responsibility, being able to cook and create their own meal plans, do their own laundry and as this is earned the quality of the facilities improves also (Fletcher Construction, 2015).

On reflection the concept behind Auckland South Corrections Facility could be successful in theory as it puts the prisoner's responsibility and freedom into their own hands and guides them to earn their place back into society. The focus however, is

incorrect, as the quality of the facilities improving as the inmates journey through the facility, should not be the reward. The inmates upgrading from a stainless steel to a porcelain toilet does not teach the inmates anything about responsibility, nor does it prepare them for reintegration upon release. If anything it shows that the worse their offence, the less human they are considered.

Although ASCF hasn't successfully introduced this concept, it remains a key precedent to this project. The concept of inmates earning their responsibility and freedom of independence, and ultimately their place back into society is crucial in relation to recidivism rates. It simply needs to be executed with a more humane approach.

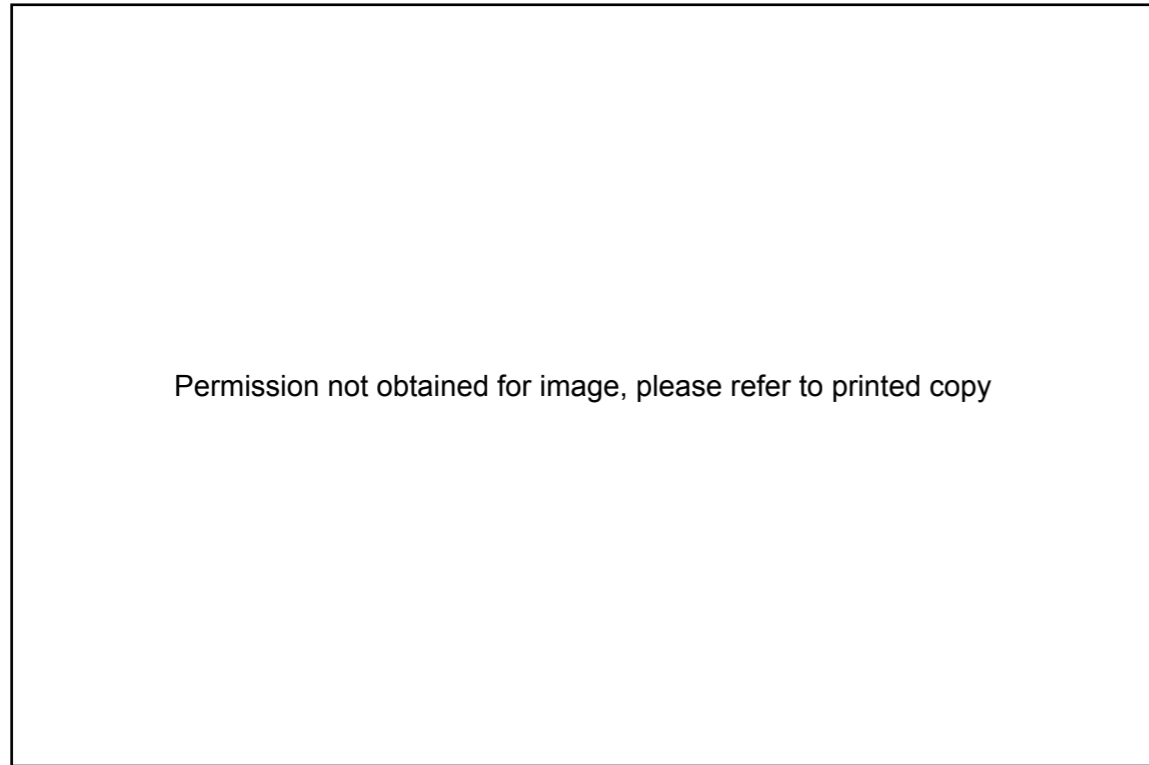


Figure 15. Exhibit at the Triennale of Milan in 2013 - Freedom Room

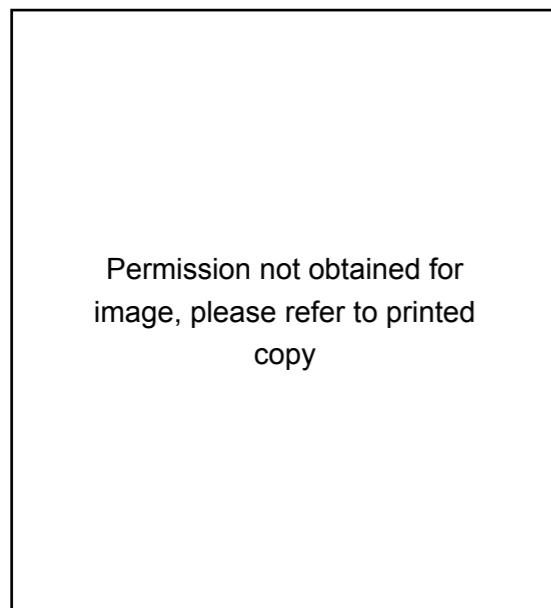


Figure 16. Interior view - Freedom Room

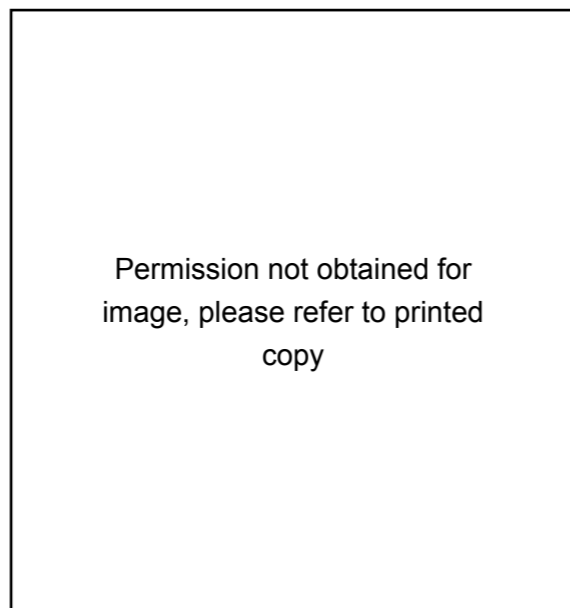


Figure 17. Sketch of interior showing amenities - Freedom Room

3.4 Freedom Room

The Freedom Room is a low cost, essential housing module that was exhibited at the Triennale of Milan in 2013 (Meinhold, 2015). The project was a collaboration between Cibic Workshop and Comodo and was developed with inmates from one of Italy's High Security Prisons, the Spoleto correctional facility. (Meinhold, 2015).

The team worked with the inmates to generate new ideas for 'low cost living' (Meinhold, 2015). The design uses the parameters of the inmates' cells at 2.7m x 4m, and effectively uses space and multi-functional furniture to show how micro-housing can be reinvented to improve social housing, hostels, temporary housing and most importantly jail cells (Meinhold, 2015).

Designed in collaboration with prison inmates, who utilise their cells every day to become their bedroom, library, or gym, meant that designers were able to come up with an extremely functional design that cleverly utilised the parameters of a cell (Meinhold, 2015). The inmates considered privacy when designing the Freedom Room, including a closed off bathroom and toilet; something they don't get in prison (Meinhold, 2015).

This is a key precedent for prisoner accommodation that could be implemented into a New Zealand context as it has been designed in collaboration with inmates of a prison. Together they have come up with the ideal use of space for a prisoner, one that is essential to their quality of life, which provides all of the amenities one would need to be mostly self-sufficient. This contributes to the inmate's sense of identity, worth, and potential. Essentially, this provides a tool to facilitate the rehabilitation of inmates and in turn lead to a reduction of recidivism rates.



Figure 18. Interior view of accommodation - Ny Anstalt

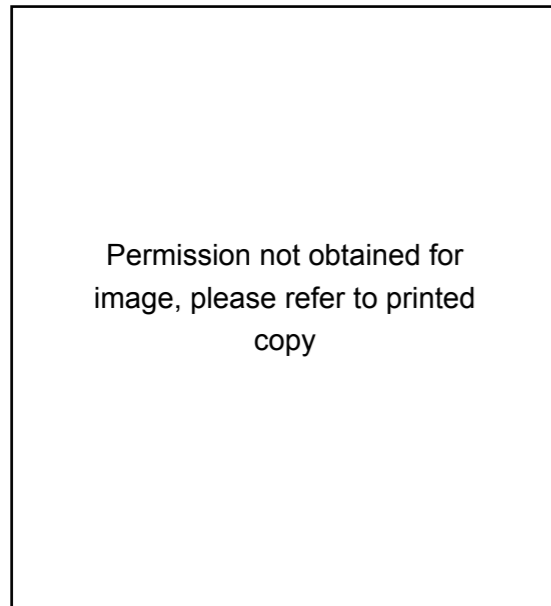


Figure 19. Exterior view including sports court - Ny Anstalt

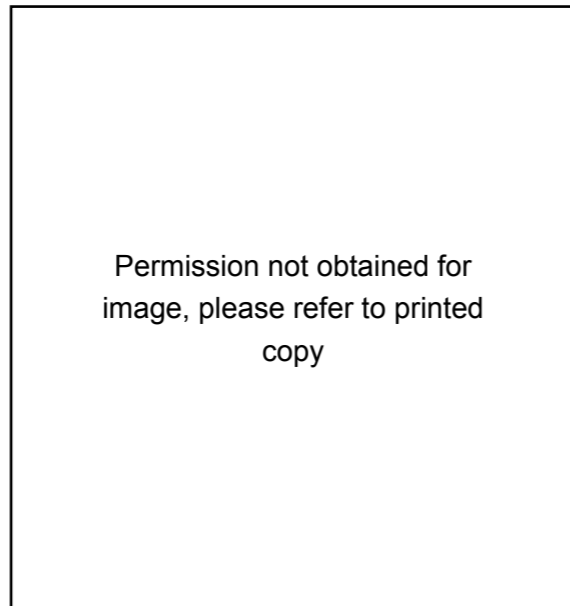


Figure 20. Landscape - Ny Anstalt

3.5 Ny Anstalt Correctional Facility (under construction)

Ny Anstalt is a correctional facility currently under construction in Nuuk, Greenland. Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, in collaboration with Friis & Moltke won a competition to design the facility in 2013 (Furuto).

Ny Anstalt is designed with the leading values of openness, views, security and flexibility (Furuto, 2013). The overall aim of the design is to maximise on qualities that assist in rehabilitation and diminish violence (Furuto, 2013). The facility consists of five residential units with accommodation for up to 76 inmates (Furuto, 2013). The design of these units offers sweeping views of the surroundings and contrasts of nature, from snow and ice to moss and rocks (Furuto, 2013).

Ny Anstalt is a modern and progressive precedent for the design of correctional facilities. The focus of the design is on qualities that assist rehabilitation. This allows inmates to access the outdoors, to see beyond a 'wall', and to observe nature change in the surrounding landscape (Furuto, 2013).

Architecturally, Ny Anstalt is comprised of simple shaped blocks, which are positioned to follow the contours of the landscape (Furuto, 2013). The simple design really maximises the relationship between nature and the built environment, one as a balance of beauty and roughness. The concept is designed to reflect the focus of the Danish Prison and Probation Service, a balance of punishment and rehabilitation (Furuto, 2013).

The concept behind Ny Anstalt could be applied to this project and a New Zealand context, through the connection to nature, a connection shown to be beneficial in terms of rehabilitation.



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Figure 21. Exterior night view - Ny Anstalt



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Figure 22. Plan view - Ny Anstalt

3.6 Chapter conclusion

The precedents discussed in this chapter all offer modern and sophisticated responses to prison design. Halden prison offers key attributes to a prison with a focus on rehabilitation, with a complex filled with trees and plants and maximising the amount of natural light in the design, to a boundary wall which serve as the symbol of punishment, a constant reminder, visible from all points of the complex (Benko, 2015).

The Leoben Judicial Complex offers a system of accommodation that could be very successful in a New Zealand context: housing inmates in flat sharing communities and designing the facilities so inmates can access certain areas independently, alleviating the burden from staff (Hohensinn Architektur, 2004).

Auckland South Corrections Facility (Fletcher Construction, 2015), introduces a concept designed to facilitate inmates rehabilitation, but misses the mark in terms of the design execution, the focus needing to shift from the quality of facilities to the worth and potential of the inmate.

The Freedom Room offers a revolutionary concept for a prison cell, designed by inmates, for inmates. It efficiently uses the space to provide a fully self-contained room with many attributes that support the inmates' health and wellbeing (Meinhold, 2015).

Ny Anstalt, still under construction, maximises the connection to its surroundings, and the benefits that this connection and environmental qualities can have on the rehabilitation of its inmates (Furuto, 2013). Ny Anstalt is very effective where it finds its balance, between punishment and rehabilitation (Furuto, 2013).

All of these precedents are crucial to the future of prison design, one that has a focus on the rehabilitation of its inmates. Drawing inspiration from all of these designs, and their most successful features, can lead to a precedent that can make serious impactful change to the design of correctional facilities in a New Zealand context, and facilitate the reduction of recidivism rates of offenders.



Figure 23. Miramar Peninsular - Te Motu Kairangi

4.0 Context Analysis

4.1 Site background - Miramar Peninsula - Te Motu Kairangi

The site for this project is located on the Miramar Peninsula; Te Motu Kairangi.

Māori legend indicates that the explorer Kupe landed on the island of Motu Kairangi when he first arrived in Aotearoa (Wellington City Council, n.d.).

The island was named Motu Kairangi which means "Precious island," as it was once mostly cut off from the mainland and teeming with native New Zealand flora and fauna (Te Motu Kairangi Miramar ecological restoration, n.d.).

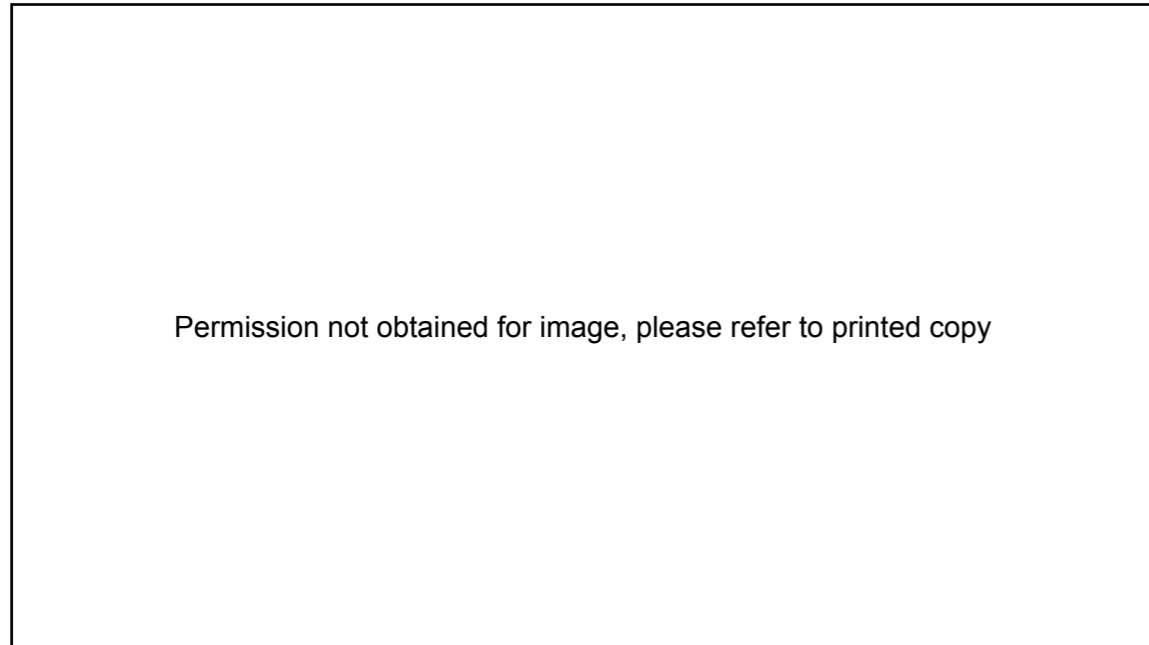


Figure 24. Mt Crawford Prison



Figure 25. Camera mounted on wall, 2017

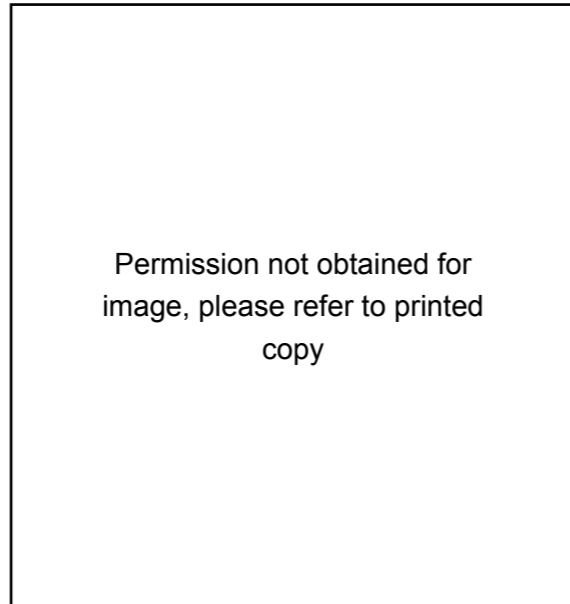


Figure 26. Mt Crawford Prison cell

4.2 Mt Crawford Prison - Wellington Prison

Mt Crawford Prison also known as Wellington Prison, a decommissioned corrections facility, is situated on top of Miramar Peninsula.

Mt Crawford prison opened in 1915 and became a women's only prison in 1919. Then in 1924 it became a reform school for both men and women (Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand, n.d.). In 1927 it operated as Mt Crawford Prison again until 2008 when it closed and reopened again in 2009 as Wellington Prison, until closing permanently in 2012.

The prison facilities catered for 120 prisoners, although it held up to 200 prisoners at times of overcrowding (Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand, n.d.). The facilities consisted of a gym, chapel, outdoor exercise yards, workshops and accommodation wings, as well as staff facilities within and outside the prison walls. The prison was a segregated facility with prisoners broken up into high, medium and low security classifications.

4.3 Why this site?

The demand for accommodation in prisons in NZ is steadily increasing. Instead of redesigning or adding to existing overcrowded facilities there is an opportunity to create a new precedent for prison design.

The site of Mt Crawford prison, which operated until very recently, provides the opportunity to work with a site already used for this purpose.

The site is unique for a prison facility as it is located in the central Wellington area very close to the Maupuia community, providing unobstructed views of Wellington harbour and surrounding suburbs, a factor that can be incorporated into the design of a new facility to assist with rehabilitation.

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Figure 27. Plan of the Panopticon

4.4 A Brief History of prison architecture

Norman Johnston discusses prison architecture and its history in 'Forms of Constraint - A History of Prison Architecture' (2000). Johnston states that throughout history prison architecture has evolved to reflect the ideals of imprisonment in relation to the era (2000).

The functions and goals of a prison throughout history have mostly included, punishment, custody and safekeeping of inmates, reformation of prisoners, maintenance of prisoner health, prevention of corruption of prisoners and supervision of both prisoners and their keepers (Johnston, 2000). As these goals have shifted and changed, new structures of the ideal prison have been created (Johnston, 2000).

An example of a shift includes a dramatic surge of public consciousness in relation to the conditions of prisons in the late 18th century (Johnston, 2000). This is when prison architecture began to take distinctive forms, such as Jeremy Bentham's Panopticon, designed in the late eighteenth century (Johnston, 2000). The Panopticon was designed as a circular structure with a watch tower in the middle, where inmates could be observed by a single watchman without the inmates knowing when they were being watched (Johnston, 2000). The Panopticon was essentially a symbol of power and control.

Toward the end of the nineteenth and early twentieth century the focus began to shift to an emphasis on rehabilitation but public support became disenchanted with its results and prison architecture shifted again, backwards towards the traditional aims of imprisonment (Johnston, 2000). It has since stayed relatively the same until the early 21st century where radical designs, especially in Scandinavia began to emerge and challenge the previously held ideals of prison architecture.

4.5 Māori incarceration overrepresentation

Māori incarceration rates are disproportionately high in New Zealand, with a rate six times higher than non-Māori (Workman & McIntosh, 2013). This is due to a failure of New Zealand's monocultural criminal justice system, which enforces British individualist and punitive British legal system onto Māori (Jackson, 1990).

Tikanga Māori, based on concepts such as collective justice, retribution, fairness, and equity, was used by Māori as dispute resolution. The individual was never solely responsible, rather the offence affected the mana of the whole hapu, iwi or tribe. (Jackson, 1990). The focus of the retribution was therefore to restore the mana, and the equilibrium in society, as opposed to punishment.

The New Zealand system, taken directly from the British system, had no regard for Māori and their values and beliefs, and resulted in their mass imprisonment (Workman & McIntosh, 2013). This project insists that incorporating Māori ideals and their values and beliefs into the design process is crucial to move from a monocultural, to a bicultural approach, that facilitates the reduction of recidivism rates for both Māori and non-Māori.

4.6 Chapter conclusion

The Context Analysis helped to establish a set of key principles that can be incorporated into the project:

- a design that utilises the site in relation to rehabilitation, restoring the native NZ flora and fauna that used to thrive on Te Motu Kairangi
- a design that reflects contemporary society, focusing on rehabilitation and reintegration, and the spaces and qualities that can facilitate this
- a health framework that reflects Māori values and beliefs and covers all parts of health in relation to rehabilitation.

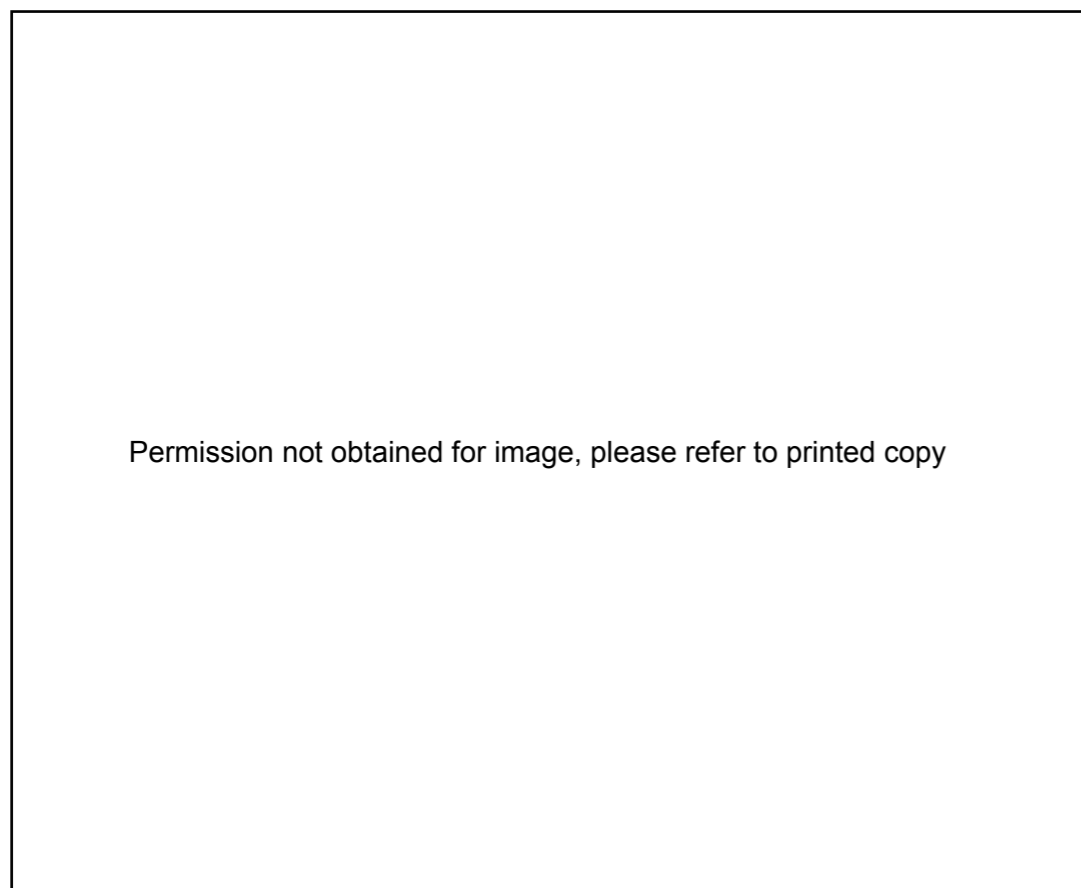


Figure 28. Security Classification of Sentenced Prisoners, 2017

5.0 Programme Analysis

5.1 Security classifications

Security classifications in New Zealand corrections facilities are minimum, low, low-medium, high, maximum. According to the Department of Corrections, 27.7 percent of prisoners are classed as minimum, 24.5 percent are classed as low, 28.6 percent as low-medium, 16.3 percent as high and 1.5 percent as maximum (2017).

The security classification is assigned by determining the risk the person poses internally within the prison, to staff and other inmates, and externally to society (Department of Corrections, 2017). All inmates with the classification from high to maximum are deemed to be too dangerous to be able to work outside of the prison grounds.

This project deals with the offenders that are classed as minimum to low-medium, as they make up over 80 percent of the prison population, and to varying degrees they are deemed safe enough to work outside of the prison grounds, under supervision. This project does not cater for the high to maximum prisoners as they make up less than 20 percent of the overall population, and have committed much more violent and harmful crimes.

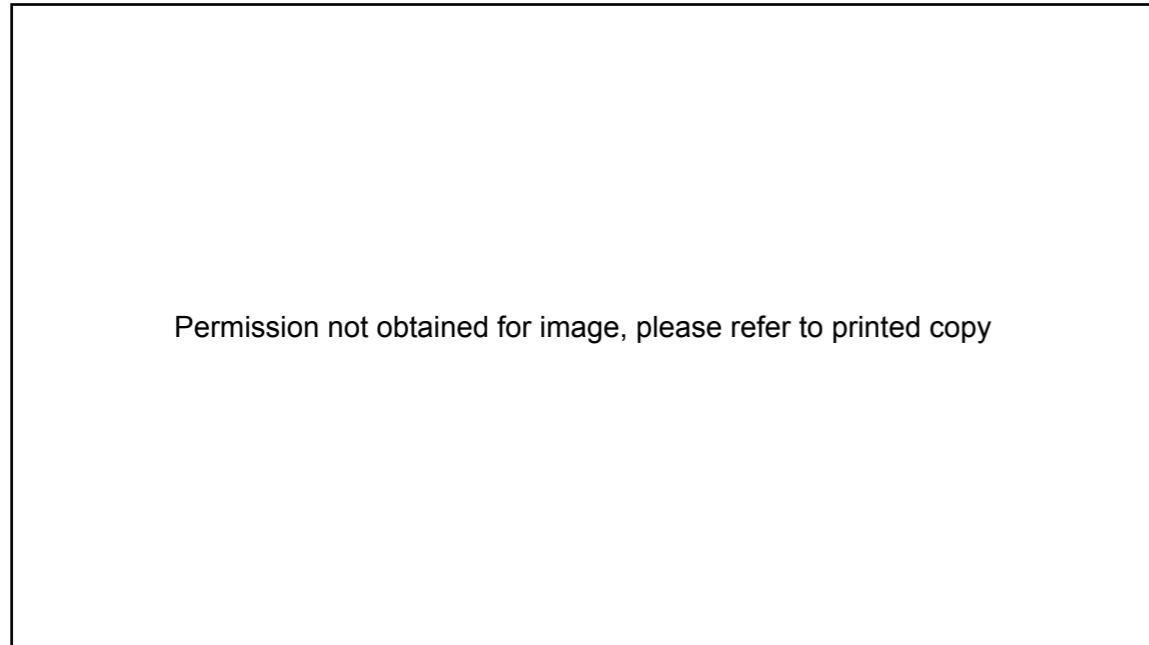


Figure 29. Mt Crawford Prison gym panorama

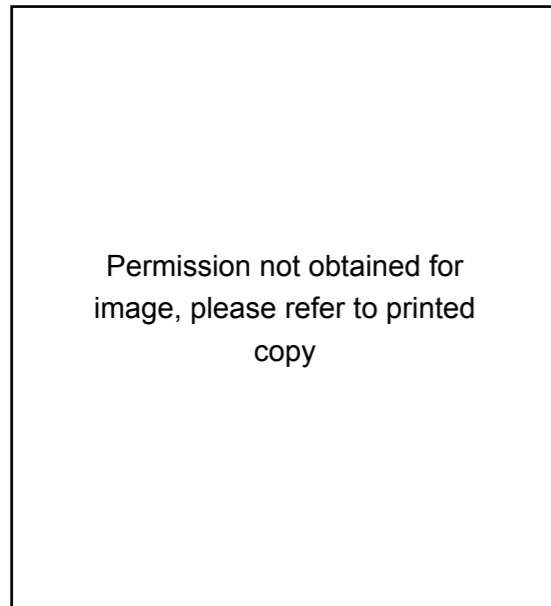


Figure 30. Supervision room for visitation

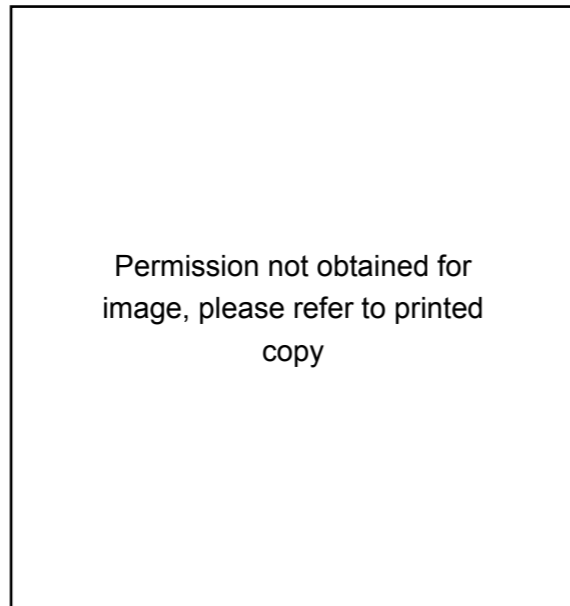


Figure 31. Exterior prison wall

5.2 Site Visits - Mt Crawford Prison

Two site visits were conducted during this project, one to the surrounding area of the existing prison, and one inside the buildings of the prison.

The first visit involved walking the perimeter of the facility, documenting photographs and getting a sense of the scale and environmental conditions of the site. The site is quite exposed sitting on the peak of the peninsular, with panoramic views of Wellington. An access road services the site, coming up from Maupuia and around and down to Karaka Bays.

The second site visit involved going inside the prison, walking through the buildings, documenting the interior from the accommodation wings, to the murals painted by previous inmates inside the gym.

Both site visits combined gave a good sense of the site, understanding the scale from different points of the site. It would have been beneficial to get a sense of the grounds from above, but the elevated section to obtain this view is on private property.

5.3 Prison visiting application process

Contact was made with the Department of Corrections on more than one occasion to obtain access to Rimutaka and Arohata prisons in the Wellington region.

The first contact was at the beginning of this investigation to conduct a series of interviews with prisoners about their built environments. These interviews were to gather information from the inmates themselves: people who experience a prison environment daily. It was important to gain an understanding of how the built environment affects their rehabilitation and to gather knowledge on their connection/lack of connection to the outside world.

The Department of Corrections responded to this request one month later to decline access on the grounds of their emphasis on safety and security of their prisons. (See Appendix A)

It was advised after many phone calls and discussions to apply to visit the facilities and get a tour of their built environments, but not to conduct any interviews. This request was again denied one month later on the grounds of their emphasis on safety and security (See Appendix B).

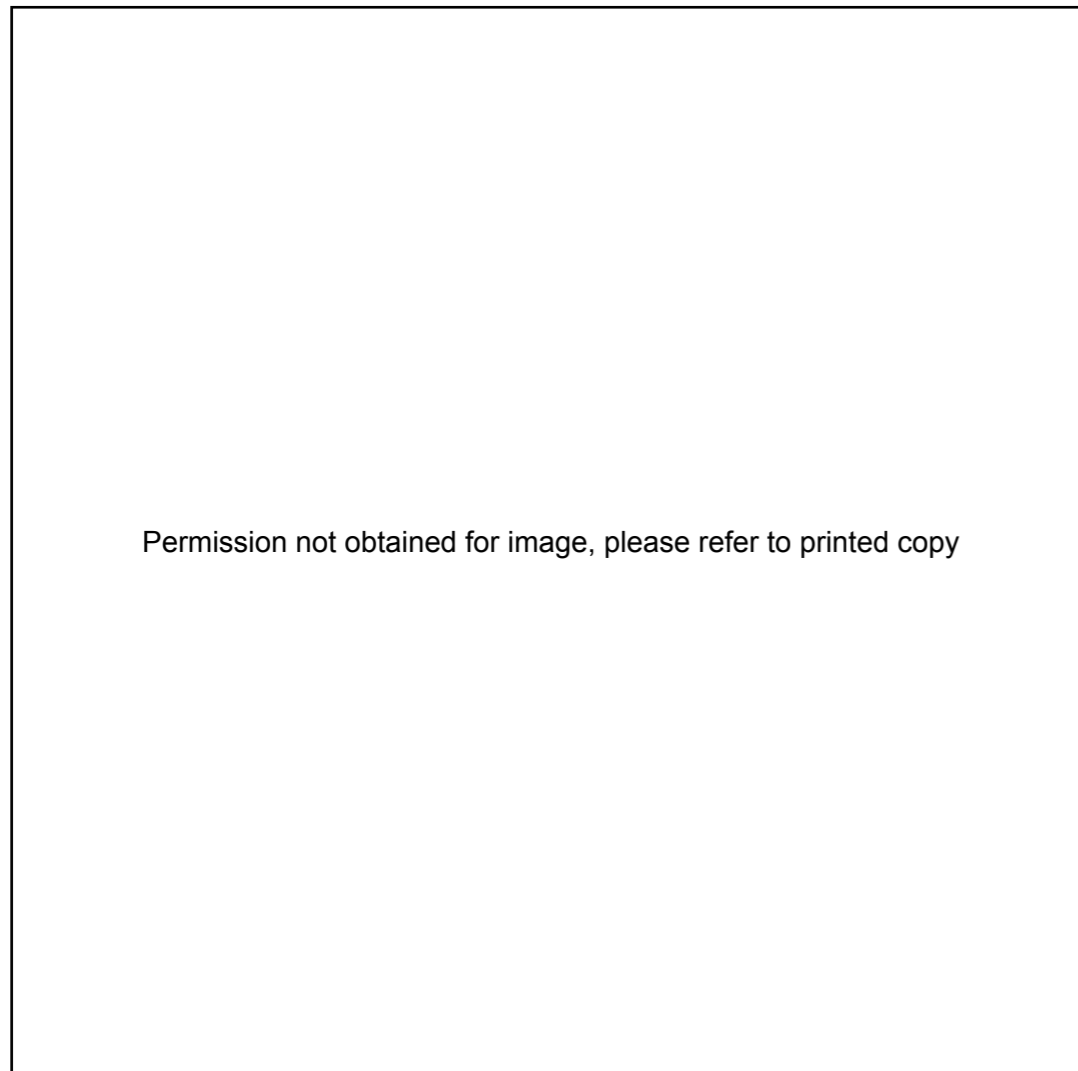


Figure 32. Te Whare Tapa Whā

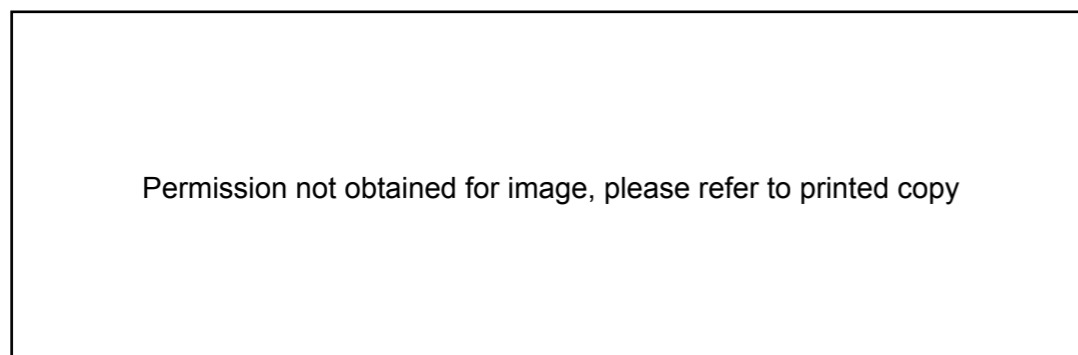


Figure 33. Te Wheke

5.4 Māori health models

Māori philosophy of health is based on an overall wellness model. This thesis investigated three different Māori health models used by the Ministry of Health, Te Whare Tapa Whā (the four cornerstones of Māori health), Te Wheke (The Octopus), and Te Pae Mahutonga (Southern Cross Star Constellation) (2015).

Te Whare Tapa Whā (the four cornerstones of Māori health) was developed by Mason Durie. It consists of four dimensions; taha tinana (physical health), taha wairua (spiritual health), taha whānau (family health) and taha hinengaro (mental health) (Ministry of Health, 2015).

Te Whare Tapa Whā considers the different dimensions of a person's overall health and wellbeing as walls of a whareniui. If one of these walls is damaged or missing, it weakens the whole house as it becomes unbalanced (Ministry of Health, 2015).

Te Wheke (The Octopus) was developed by Rose Pere to define family health (Ministry of Health, 2015). The head of the octopus represents te whānau (the family); the eyes represent waiora (total wellbeing for the individual and family); and each of the eight tentacles represents a dimension of health:

- “Wairuatanga – spirituality
- Hinengaro – the mind
- Taha tinana – physical wellbeing
- Whanaungatanga - extended family
- Mauri – life force in people and objects
- Mana ake – unique identity of individuals and family
- Hā a koro ma, a kui ma – breath of life from forbearers
- Whatumanawa – the open and healthy expression of emotion” (Ministry of Health, 2015).

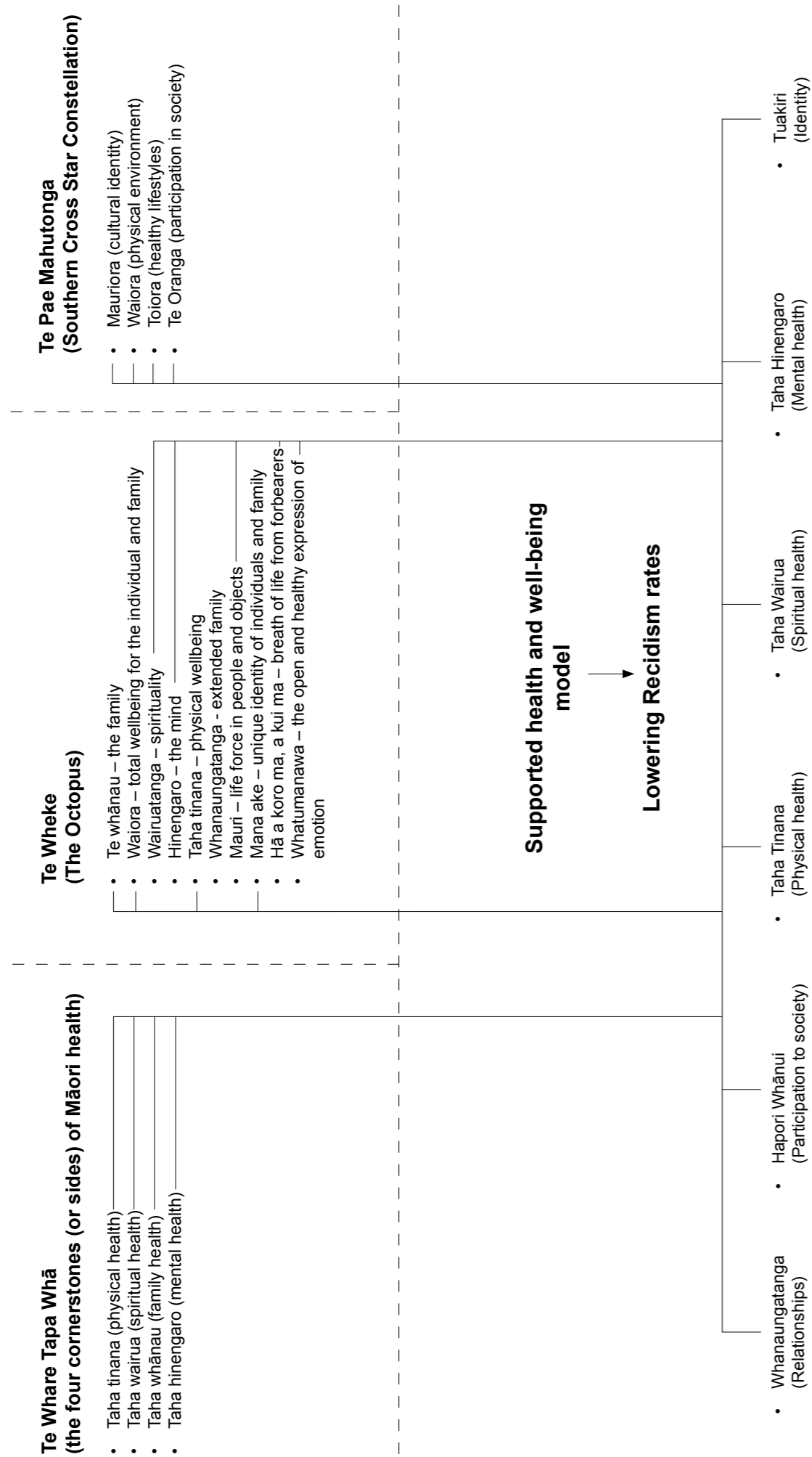
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Figure 34. Te Pae Mahutonga

The third health model is Te Pae Mahutonga (Southern Cross Star Constellation), also developed by Mason Durie. This model brings together elements to form a more modern health model (Ministry of Health, 2015). The four central stars in the constellation represent four key parts of health promotion:

- Mauriora (cultural identity)
- Waiora (physical environment)
- Toiora (healthy lifestyles)
- Te Oranga (participation in society).

The two pointer stars represent Ngā Manukura (community leadership) & Te Mana Whakahaere (autonomy) (Ministry of Health, 2015).



5.5 Design Framework

Three different Māori Health models were investigated to begin to establish a framework: Te Whare Tapa Whā (the four cornerstones of Māori Health), Te Wheke (The Octopus), and Te Pae Mahutonga (Southern Cross Star Constellation) (Ministry of Health, 2015). By analysing the models against each other, it became apparent where the crossovers between the models were, and from there these were condensed down to form an overall health model/framework.

The model/framework consists of six different components:

- Whanaungatanga (Relationships)
- Hapori Whānui (Participation to society)
- Taha Tinana (Physical health)
- Taha Wairua (Spiritual health)
- Taha Hinengaro (Mental Health)
- Tuakiri (Identity).

These components when combined, give the person going through the prison system the support they need to successfully be rehabilitated and reintegrated into society, to stop the vicious cycle of reoffending and becoming stuck in a broken criminal justice system.

The development of this model is crucial to the rehabilitation of inmates going through a correctional facility, especially for Māori. It was identified when analysing the different models that elements such as Taha Wairua (spirituality) are absent from the majority of modern health models, but for Māori are just as important as the physical symptoms of illness. If one element is missing the person can become unbalanced (Ministry of Health, 2015).

Figure 35. Developing the health model/framework

5.6 Chapter conclusion

The programme analysis defined the scope of the project and helped to understand the context; analysed Māori health models; and produced a health model/framework.

The scope of the project caters for the majority of prisoners incarcerated in New Zealand correctional facilities: the eighty percent of minimum to low-medium risk offenders.

Site visits were conducted to Mt Crawford Prison, to both the prison itself and the surrounding grounds; to get a better sense of the scale and environment of the site.

Access to Rimutaka and Arohata Prisons was requested and denied by the Department of Corrections on the grounds of emphasis on the safety and security of their prisons.

A health model/framework for inmates in New Zealand was created through the analysis of current Māori health models. The model/framework designed to specifically support inmates and their health and wellbeing while going through a correctional facility. Defining all the aspects that need to be supported in terms of the built environment, which will give an inmate the best chance to be successfully rehabilitated and reintegrated upon release. This framework is crucial to the development of a successful design.

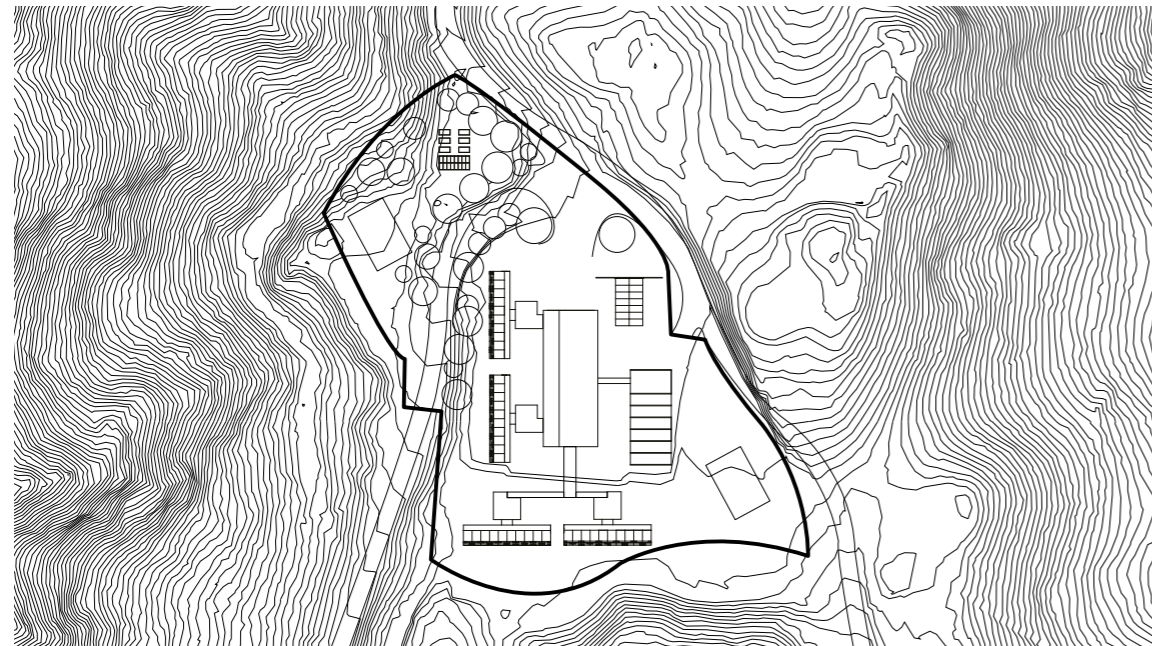


Figure 36. Master plan accommodation

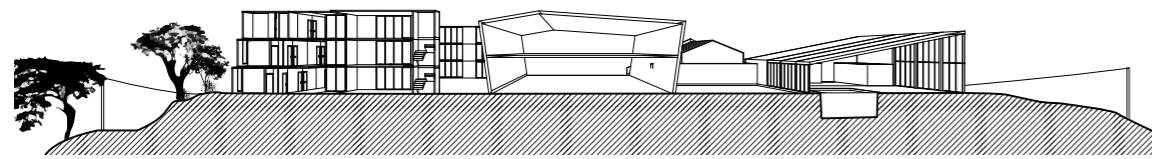


Figure 37. Section through complex

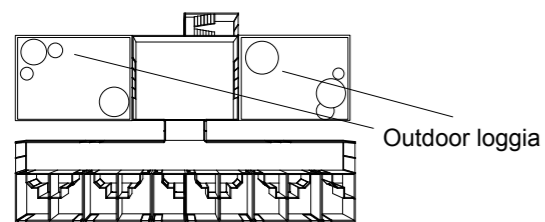


Figure 38. Accommodation layout

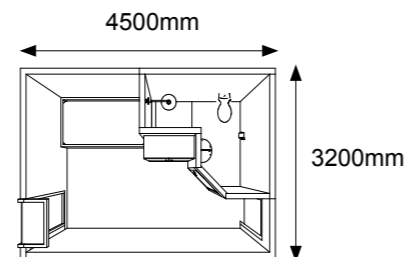


Figure 39. Room perspective plan

6.0 Preliminary Design

6.1 Design ex.1 master plan - accommodation

The first design exercise explores creating a master plan within the parameters of the site. It has a specific focus on the accommodation for the prisoners.

The room for this concept is designed to house its own shower and toilet to provide privacy for the inmate and has a large window providing natural light.

The complex also includes a Marae, which inmates are welcomed onto when they arrive to the prison. A gym and community garden are also included, where the produce gathered will be used in the prison kitchens and offered to the surrounding communities, to begin to forge positive relationships.

The output from design exercise one starts to put together a rough concept of a prison complex; however, the different spaces feel disconnected and have no real relationship with the site.



Figure 40. Design ex 1. Community garden where inmates cultivate fresh produce for the prison and the surrounding communities



Figure 41. Design ex 1. Room with large window for maximum natural light

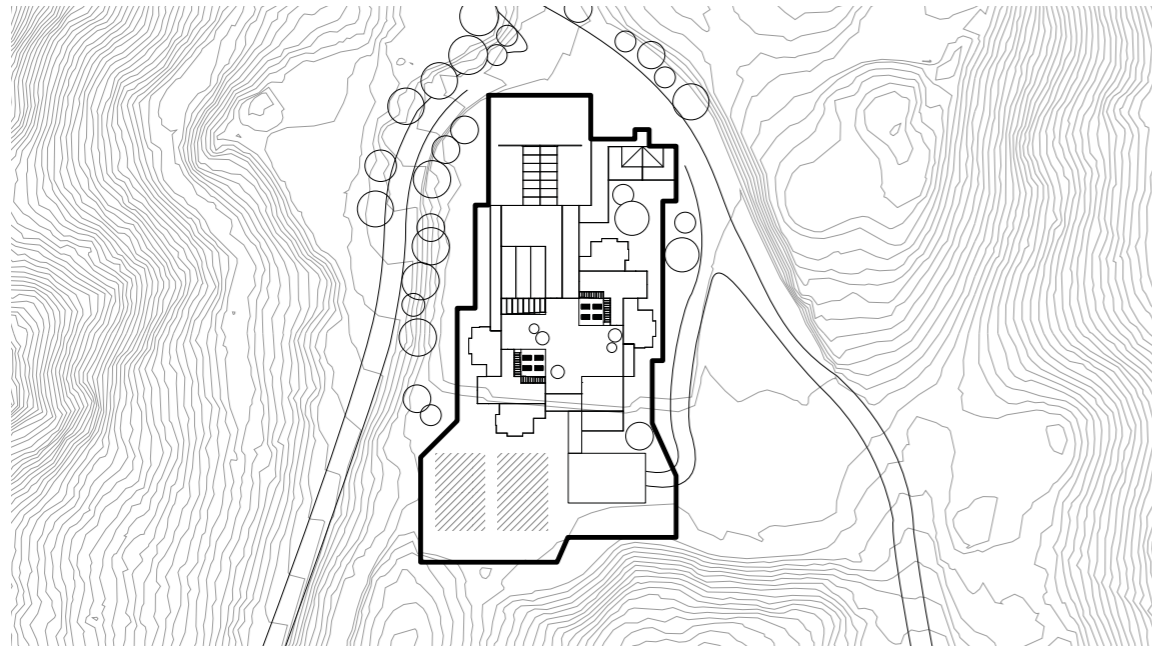


Figure 42. Master plan integrated

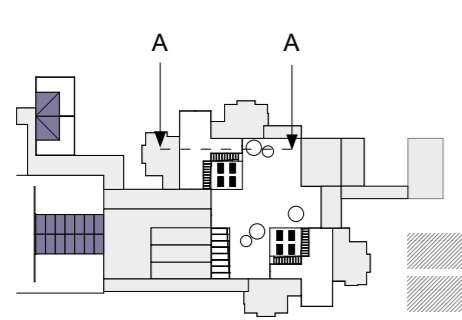


Figure 43. Plan

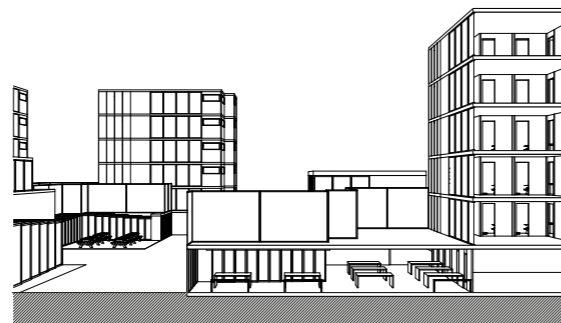


Figure 44. Section A-A

6.2 Design ex.2 master plan integrated

The second design exercise builds upon the first exercise but instead follows a campus style arrangement, drawing inspiration from the Leoben Judicial complex. This concept is designed around a central outdoor area, with all of the facilities facing inside.

The exercise explores how the accommodation could stack on top of each other to form blocks, with five rooms per floor, providing accommodation for 25 people per block. There are also separate kitchen and dining areas for the blocks, to break up the inmates into different areas, and an outdoor loggia that prisoners could access independently.

This output is still relatively disconnected, although starting to consider breaking up the areas so there is less concentration of inmates, reducing rioting risks. This exercise also begins to explore the environmental qualities of natural light and fresh air with large sliding doors/windows in the pool exercise area and kitchen/dining area (See figures 45 & 46).

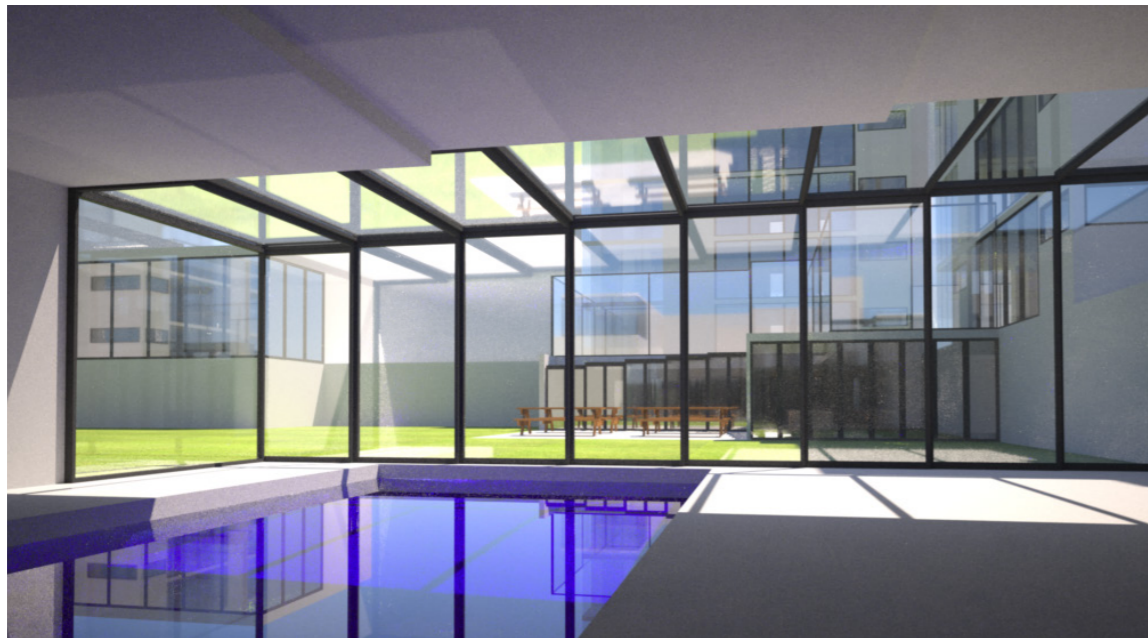


Figure 45. Design ex 2. render showing pool opening out onto central grass area



Figure 46. Design ex 2. Inmates standing in communal dining area

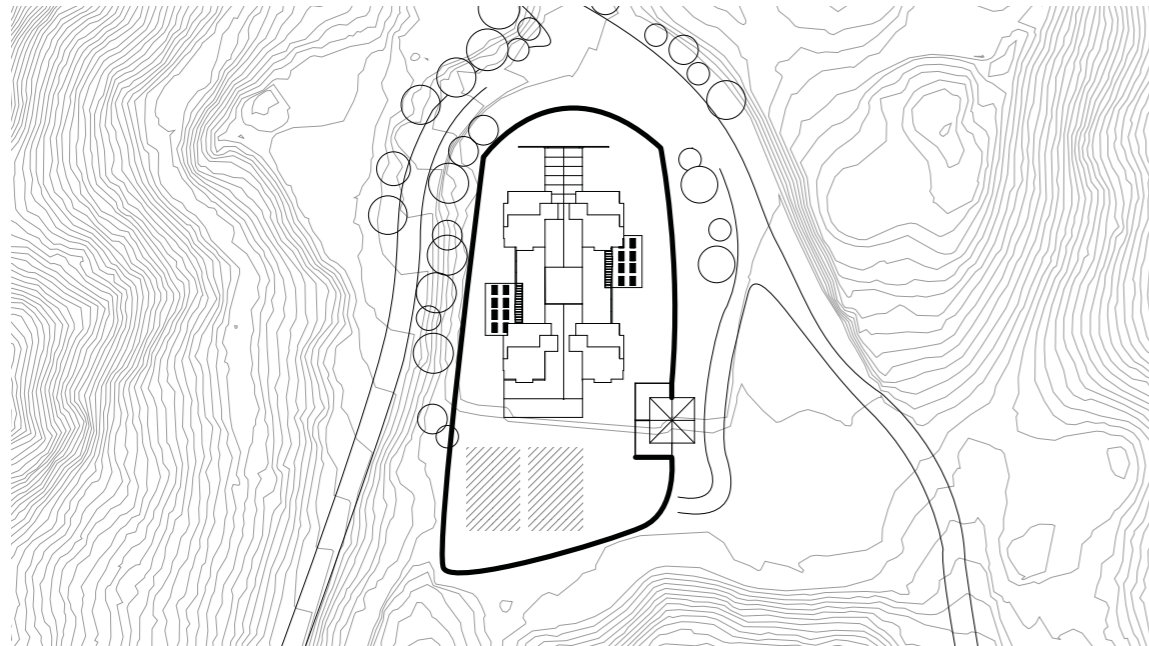


Figure 47. Master plan abstracted



Figure 48. Exterior view of complex

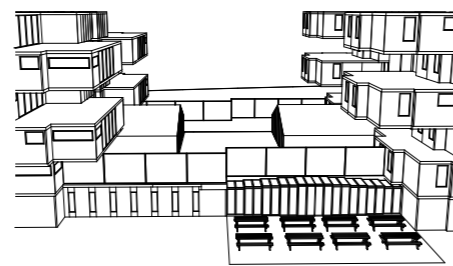


Figure 49. Exterior view of outdoor areas

6.3 Design ex.3 master plan abstracted

The third design exercise builds upon the previous design, but this time taking principles from Halden Prison by arranging all of the facilities so that the wall is visible from nearly all vantage points, serving as the symbol of the taking away of freedom.

This exercise also begins to experiment with the scale and form of the buildings, with the Marae acting as the spine of the complex, with all the other facilities housed inside or attached to it.

This exercise starts to abstract the complex, making for a very interesting output. All of the facilities essentially housed in one section work well as the wall is visible from most vantage points, but this creates limitations in the amount of space in the complex forcing the buildings to be multiple stories. This is an interesting exploration but there is still room for further development.



Figure 50. Design ex 3. View showing Marae as the spine of the complex

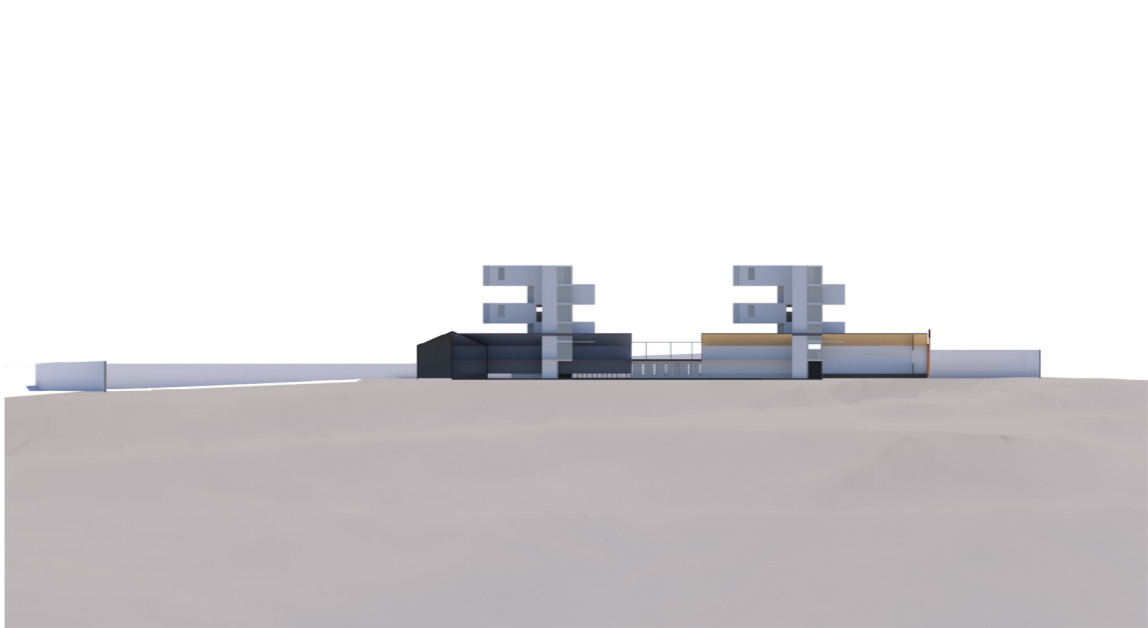


Figure 51. Design ex 3. Section through complex

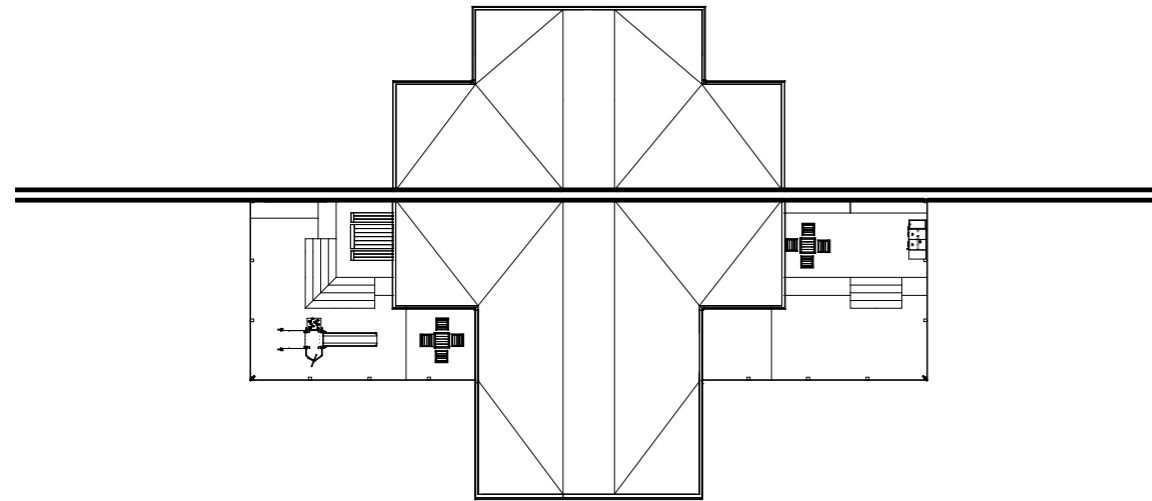


Figure 52. Visitation plan



Figure 53. Sketch developing visitation outdoor area

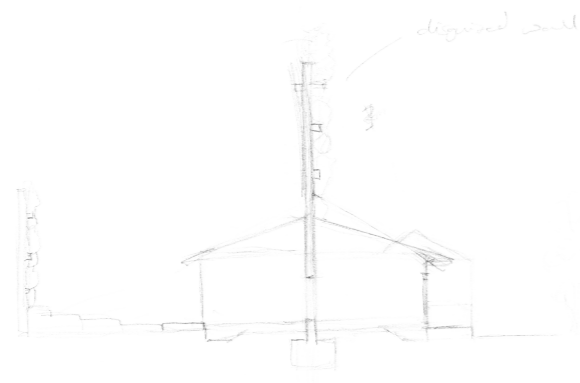


Figure 54. Sketch showing development of visitation area

6.4 Design ex.4 visitation

In design exercise four, there was a shift to focus in on the interior spatiality. This specifically explored the concept of the visitation area, drawing on the key ideas from Dominique Moran, who discusses the spatialities of prison visitation and its relation to recidivism (Moran, 2013).

Moran discusses that the spaces in which the inmates are maintaining active family relationships is intensely significant, in terms of the nature of contact and intimacy (2013). Women visiting their families in bungalows within a correctional facility in San Quentin, California, rarely described feelings of confinement or captivity (Moran, 2013). The bungalows were associated with barbecuing and children playing, all positive elements of home life (Moran, 2013).

By contrast, visitors entering the cafeteria-style rooms in many prisons around the world, where visitors sit at tables opposite prisoners were made to feel as if they are incarcerated too (Moran, 2013).

In this visitation concept, the inspection area is only for the prisoners before entering the visitation area and removing it for the visitors, so that the entrance from the outside to the visitation room is as non-invasive/intrusive as possible, especially for children. Visitors will arrive at the

visitation section on a separate side to the arrival section for prisoners. Here the visitors can check into a reception and then get escorted through to the visitation rooms. The visitors will pass through the wall, through a hallway and large reinforced steel door, with the wall as the only key feature representing where they are.

The interior of the visitation spaces are laid out as family living rooms with a small outdoor backyard equipped with lawn, decking, seating for meals and a barbeque and children's playground. These interventions are designed to promote positive family/social interactions during visits.

The visitation rooms' location right against the wall is deliberate to ease the transition for the visitor in and out of the prison, with the idea of making the transition and smooth as possible.

This exercise was quite successful in establishing a concept for a visitation room that would contribute positively to reducing recidivism rates. The only limitation is that there are only two visitation rooms in this concept, but this could be developed further to include more.



Figure 55. Design ex 4. Section render

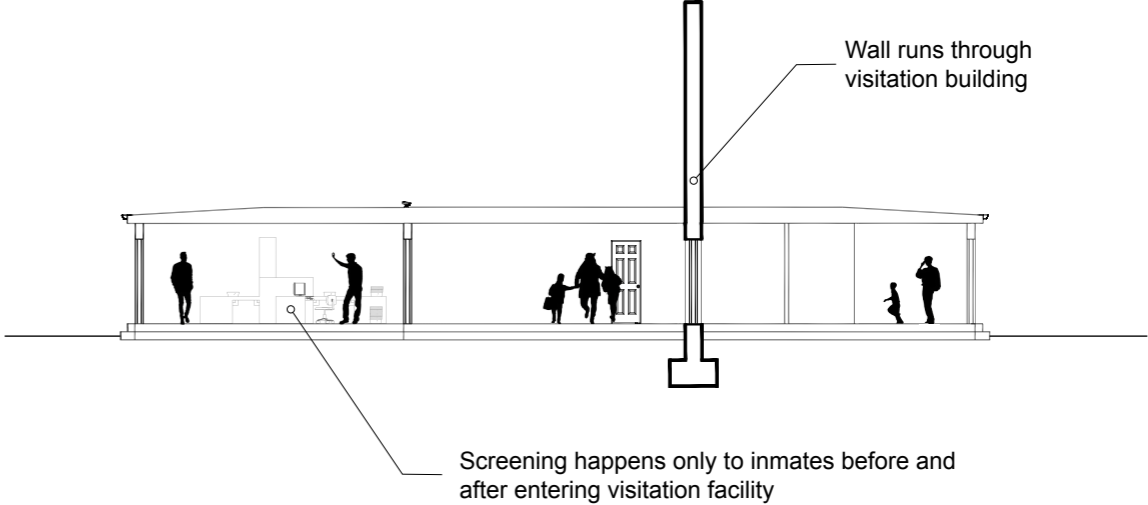


Figure 56. Design ex 4. Section line drawing

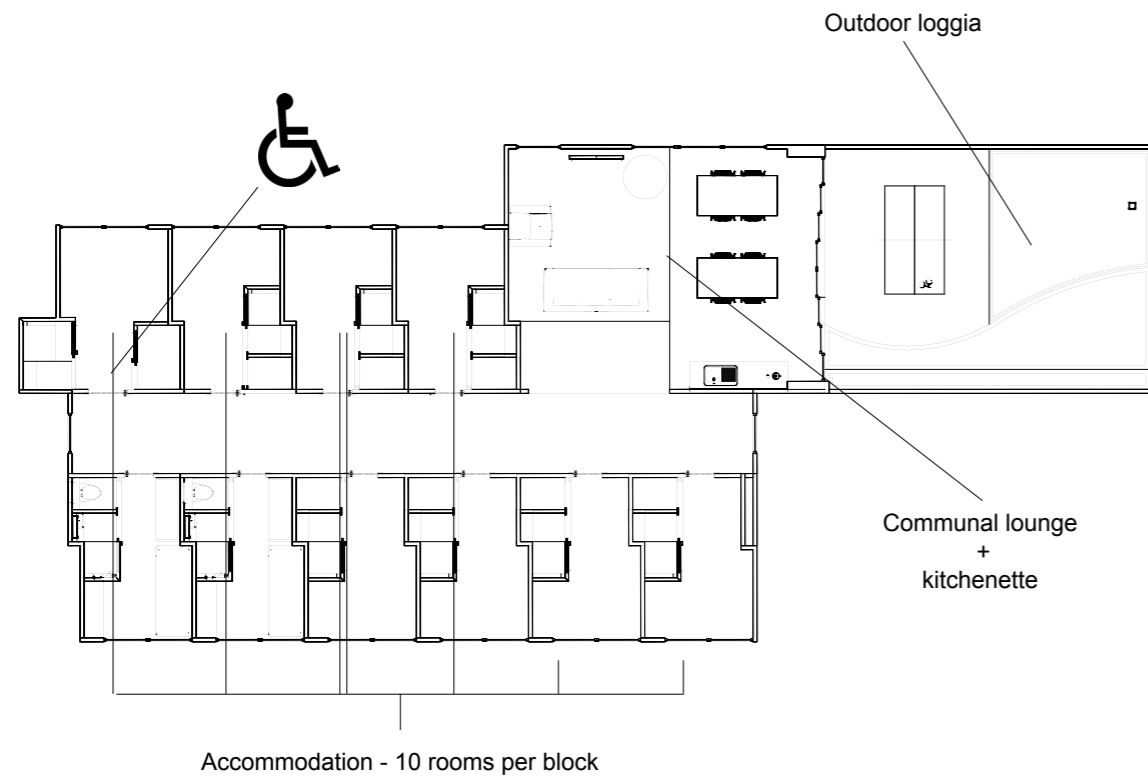


Figure 57. Accommodation plan

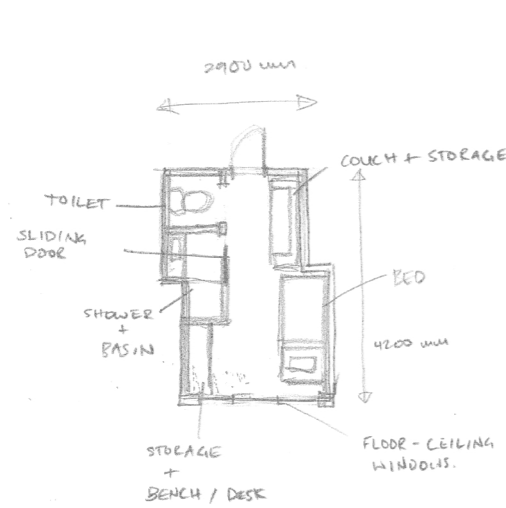


Figure 58. Sketching room layout

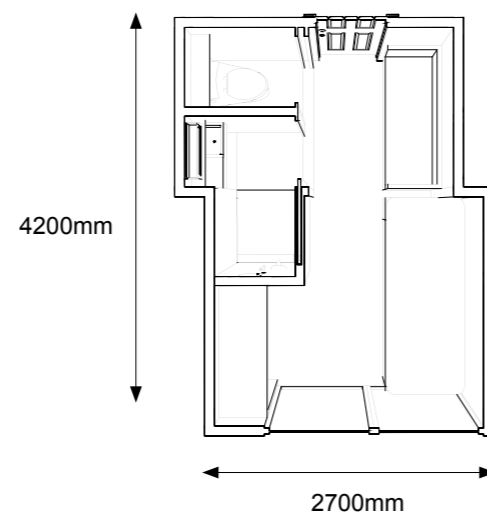


Figure 59. Room plan

6.5 Design ex.5 accommodation

Design exercise five continues with the focus on interior spaces, specifically developing the accommodation. On reflection of exercise one, the previous accommodation exploration, it was identified this area needed further development.

This concept draws inspiration from the Freedom Room by Cibic Workshop & Comodo in collaboration with inmates from an Italian prison (Meinhold, 2015). The concept for the room includes shower and toilet facilities; a bed and couch; and a small kitchenette and storage space. Large floor to ceiling windows allow for maximum natural light and this gives the inmate their own sense of identity, through privacy, comfort and healthy living conditions.

The concept for the room configuration is designed in small flat sharing style blocks to reduce the risks of rioting and to facilitate positive connections between inmates and prison staff. This builds on concepts from the Leoben Judicial Complex, including a communal kitchen/dining and living area, and also outdoor loggia, with grass, plants and trees.

This concept works well, building on ideas from key precedents that would fit well in a New Zealand context. However, this concept is limited by the design of its outdoor area, inhibiting its connection to the surrounding environment.

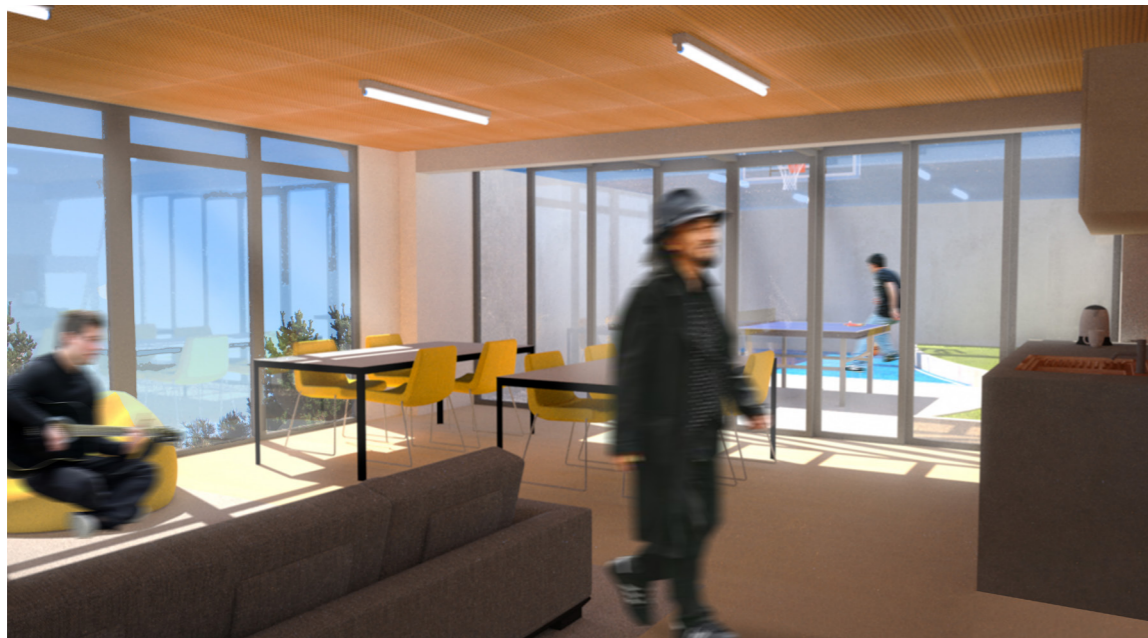


Figure 60. Design ex 5. Interior of accommodation



Figure 62. Design ex 5. Inmates playing basketball in outdoor loggia



Figure 61. Design ex 5. Section showing interior of Rooms



Figure 63. Section render of contemplation space

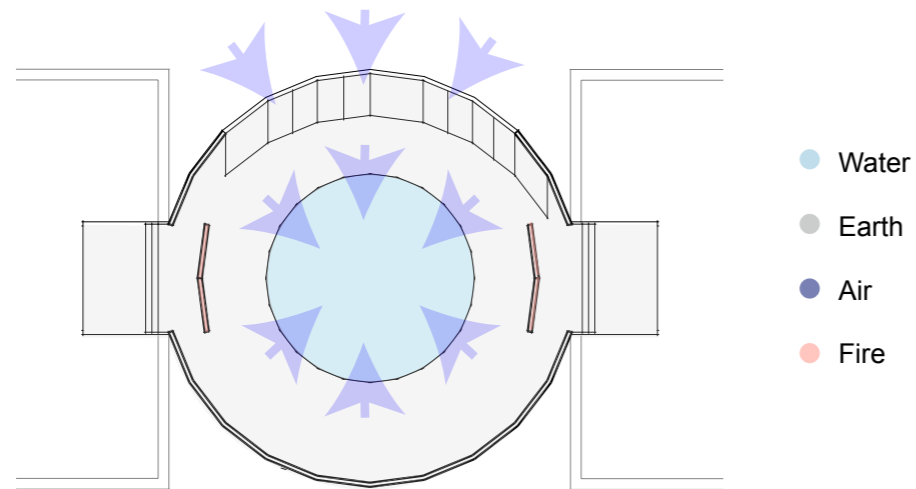


Figure 64. Plan of contemplation space

6.6 Design ex.6 contemplation

Design exercise six explores a contemplation space. In the framework generated from the different Māori Health models, the spiritual aspect was identified as a very important part of overall health and wellbeing.

The initial response to this exercise was to look into different religions and identify overlaps and contrasts between different sacred spaces. Key aspects that stuck out were the atmospheric qualities of light and space, but designing a multi-faith space often led to a very neutral response.

This exercise looked into Māori spirituality and its connection to New Zealand as the provider of life. For Māori, nature, elements, flora and fauna are all sacred, and provide a connection with ancestors. As this connection is quite key in many other religions, this concept maximises on the connection to nature.

The concept is a two-level cylindrical design constructed out of concrete, with large openings on either side that open out to a corridor through the complex of native NZ flora and fauna. There is also an opening between the two levels where cascading water descends into a pool below. The water symbolises cleansing, purification and transformation, all key elements to the rehabilitation of a criminal offender.

This concept was really successful as it generated a design which really connects with its surroundings, with water moving constantly and plants and trees on either side which can grow into, and over, the structure. The concept could be developed to be further integrated with nature.

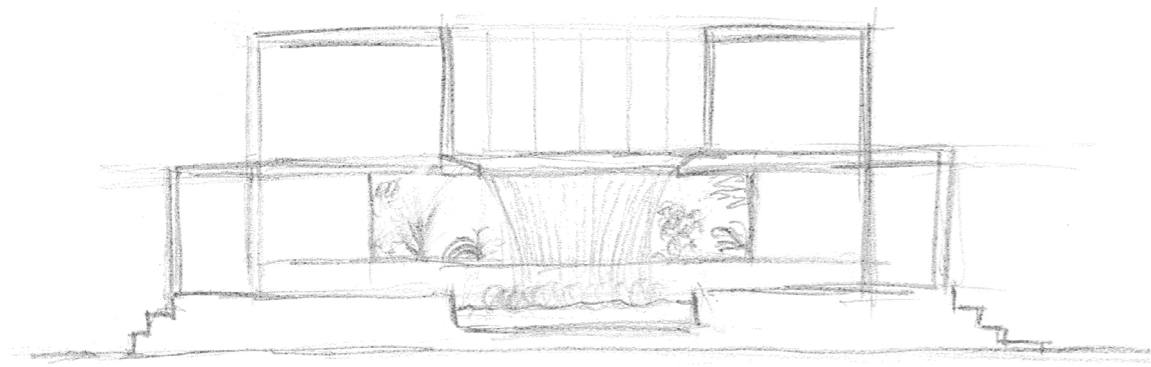


Figure 65. Design ex 6. Sketch developing contemplation space



Figure 66. Design ex 6. Interior view showing cascading water



Figure 67. Section through accommodation and main building



Figure 68. Contemplation space

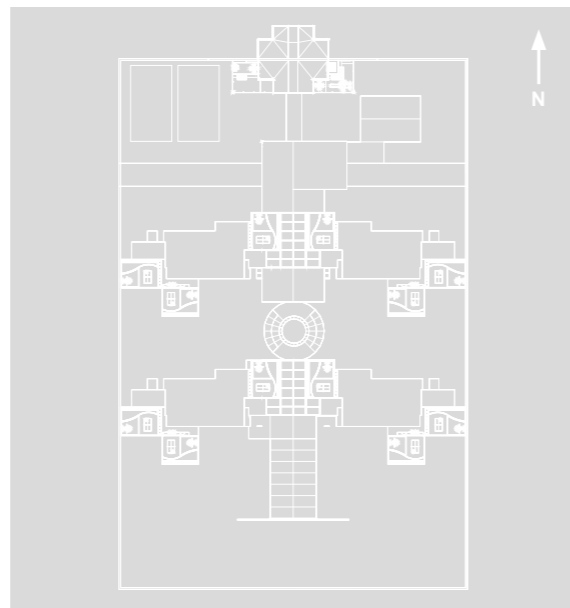


Figure 69. Plan of developed complex

6.7 Design ex 7. developed complex

All of these six design exercises work together to become design exercise seven: the developed complex.

To create the overall complex, the key spaces were identified from the previous exercises and the rest of the facilities arranged around them.

The complex is open and accessible for a diverse range of people, with long sightlines for safety and security. It includes education spaces, important as many current inmates in New Zealand prisons are illiterate; and a lecture theatre and classrooms, where inmates can also study towards qualifications while in prison. There is a workshop, where inmates can learn trades and gather valuable work experience to help them more easily find work when they reintegrate into society.

The developed complex is where the overall complex starts to take shape in a more detailed and realised way.

This exercise unveils issues and underdeveloped aspects of the design, for example the lack of interaction with the site. The design does not take full advantage of the impact the natural environment can have in relation to rehabilitation. This can be further developed so that inmates can have access to, and interact with, the outside environment, much like the way Ny Anstalt was designed.

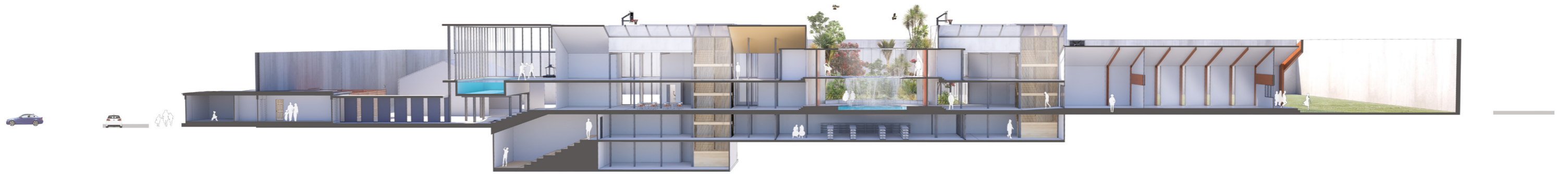


Figure 70. Design ex 7. Sectional perspective render

6.8 Chapter conclusion

These seven design exercises make up the preliminary design. The exercises build on the ideas of the key theorists and precedents and begins to address the research question.

The first three exercises explore the overall configuration of the correctional facility, playing with form and function, building on the previous exercise each time. The last three exercises focus in on three key interior spaces within a prison complex that are important in the successful rehabilitation of an inmate. These spaces identified from the health framework and research.

The concepts then explore these key spaces in terms of their layout, function and environmental qualities in direct relation to inmates' health and well-being.

The preliminary design utilises an iterative design process to generate ideas for a design that facilitates the reduction of recidivism rates of offenders.

These concepts come together to form and influence the last design exercise: the developed complex. This exercise forms a more detailed picture of the overall complex and identifies issues in the design, allowing for further development.

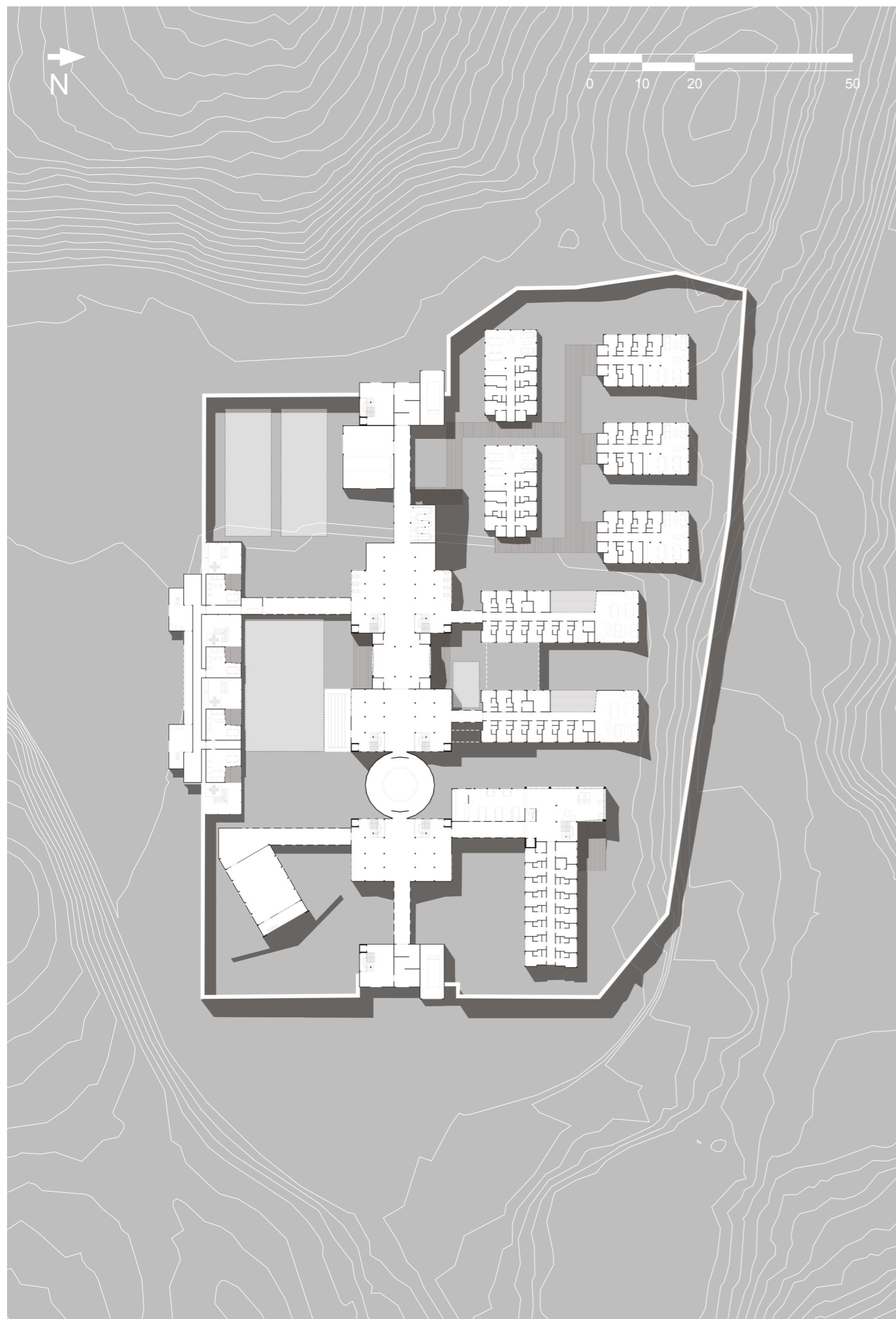


Figure 71. Master plan

7.0 Developed Design

7.1 Current design

The current design: Te Motu Kairangi Rehabilitative facility, consists of:

- three accommodation blocks housing up to 90 inmates
- education spaces including, a greenhouse, computer labs and lecture theatre and workshop
- marae
- family visitation rooms and separate entrance
- community garden
- contemplation space
- hub, social space
- gym
- sports field and basketball/netball court
- admin and inmate processing facilities + supervision hub

The whole design is accessible and designed with long sightlines for safety and security. A seven-metre-high concrete wall encloses the site; like Halden Prison it serves as a constant symbol of where the inmates are. The wall dips with the contours of the site along the accommodation blocks to allow sweeping unrestricted views of Wellington, establishing a connection to the nature and the outside world which is known to aid in rehabilitation.

When offenders arrive at the facility they are processed into the accommodation block in relation to their security classification. The inmates then move through the accommodation blocks as a reward for good behaviour. Drawing inspiration from Auckland South Corrections Facility, the inmates move closer to the exit, and exiting the prison as their security level decreases. As they move through the different levels of accommodation, the inmate's internal freedom and responsibility is extended each time. They are moving from being unable to leave their rooms without supervision to being able to leave their accommodation and access some facilities independently. This process is designed so the inmate earns their place back into society by proving themselves through good behaviour. The units in accommodation levels minimum and low, are separated into male and female for safety, but are mixed in the low-medium accommodation as inmates cannot access anything independently or without supervision.

The room design is inspired by the 'freedom room' designed by Cibic Workshop. The rooms are identical across all security levels of accommodation, as this was defined as the optimal use of space in terms of

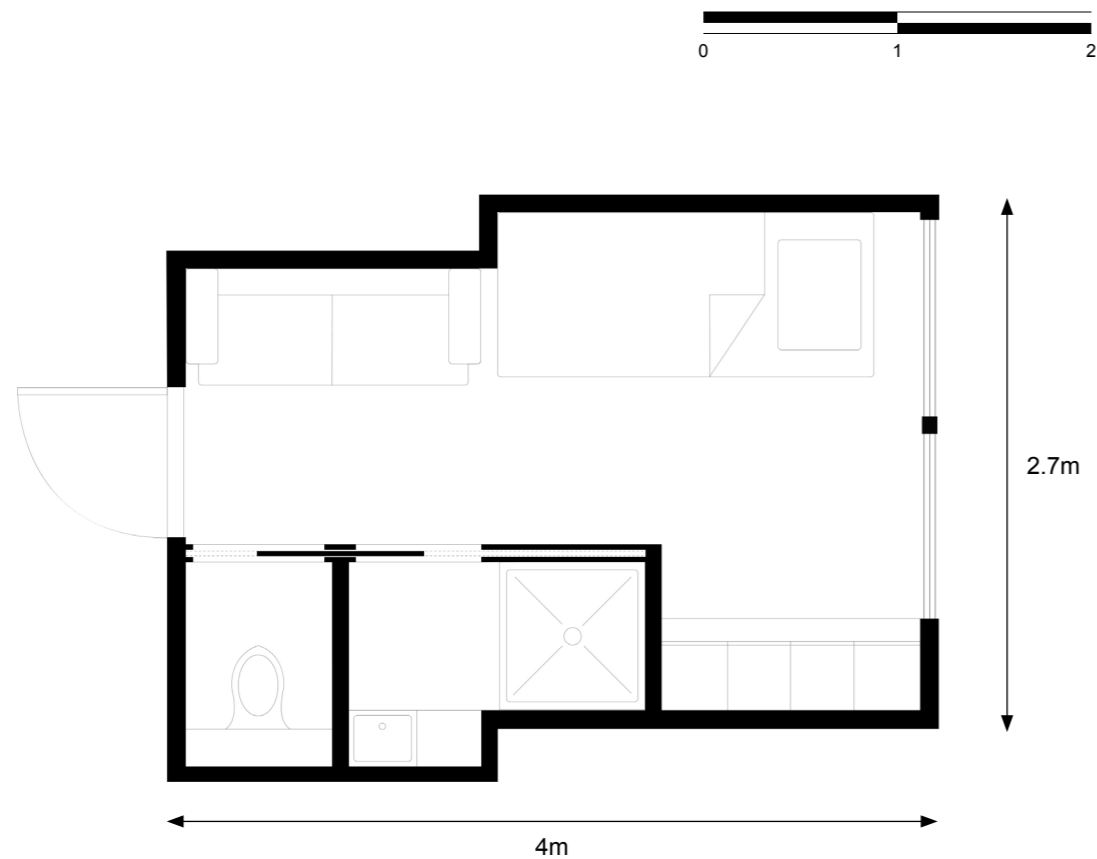


Figure 72. Plan - Room floorplan

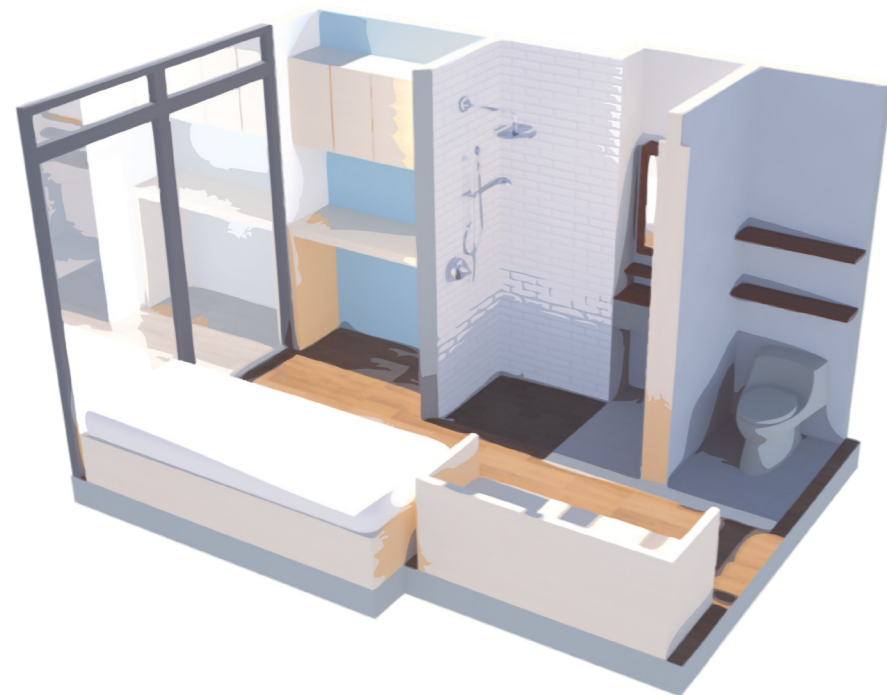


Figure 73. Room cut-away perspective

size and functionality for a room in a correctional facility. The room consists of a shower room and toilet; bed; couch; desk and storage; and large floor to ceiling windows. The design builds on the freedom room, giving the inmate all the necessary amenities to be mostly self-sufficient, giving them privacy and independence contributing to the inmate's sense of identity, worth, and potential. This essentially provides a tool to facilitate the rehabilitation of inmates and in turn leads to a reduction of recidivism rates.

Te Motu Kairangi Rehabilitative facility is designed following the health model/framework that was developed in programme analysis. All spaces in the facility are designed to represent and support segments of the health model/framework (See Appendix C).

Whanaungatanga (Relationships)

The facility has large open spaces with campus style living arrangements to facilitate positive relationships between inmates and staff. A study by Karin Beijersbergen, a researcher at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement, concluded that building styles, floor plans, and other design features have a significant impact on the way Dutch prisoners perceive their relationships with prison staff (2016). Prisoners, who were housed in leaky dungeon-like panopticons, tended to feel more estranged from guards. If they were living in campus-style arrangements, or apartment-style high-rises, they

perceived the relationships as more supportive (Beijersbergen, Dirkzwager, Van der Laan, & Nieuwbeerta, 2016). The promotion of healthy family relationships was also important to the design, something proven to reduce recidivism rates of inmates (Moran, 2013). The feeling of incarceration from the visitor perspective uncovered in design exercise four has been addressed in the family visitation area. Inspection has been removed for visitors and the spaces are located separate to the main entrance to allow for the most non-invasive/intrusive experience for visitors, especially children.

Taha Wairua (Spiritual health)

Taha Wairua (spiritual health) was identified as a really important part of the health model as it was identified that the spiritual element was missing from many modern health models. The design response to this is the contemplation space, designed as a space that connects the inmate to nature with large openings on either side that open out to a corridor through the complex of native NZ flora and fauna. Here cascading water falls into a pool to symbolise cleansing, purification and transformation, which are all key elements to the rehabilitation of a criminal offender.

Inmates are welcomed into a Marae when they arrive the facility. The Marae also serves as a place of refuge, community, religion, spirituality, and for the celebration of Māori culture.



Figure 74. Marae



Figure 75. Sportsfield & stands

Taha Tinana (Physical health)

A gym, sports field and basketball/netball court support the inmate's physical health while at the facility. The gym includes exercise equipment and a pool to incentivise inmates to keep fit and refreshed. The sports field and basketball/netball court encourage positive social interaction between inmates with a small set seating stand where other inmates can be involved and support other inmates.

Hapori Whānui (Participation to Society)

The facility provides a community garden where the inmates work to provide fresh produce for the surrounding community, facilitating positive relationships with society. Education and workshop facilities also provide inmates with spaces where they can gain trade skills and industry-recognised qualifications that can help them set up a life upon release.

Taha Hinengaro (Mental health)

All spaces within the facility are designed to maximise natural light with large windows and a variety of outdoor spaces, providing access to fresh air and nature. Each room has floor-to-ceiling windows which maximise this also.

Tuakiri (Identity)

The rooms are designed especially to allow for the inmates to express their identities. The single occupancy rooms maximise giving the inmate privacy and control over their own environment. There are also spaces of interaction where inmates can form an identity as a community.



Figure 76. Low-medium accommodation kitchen/dining



Figure 77. Low-medium accommodation outdoor area

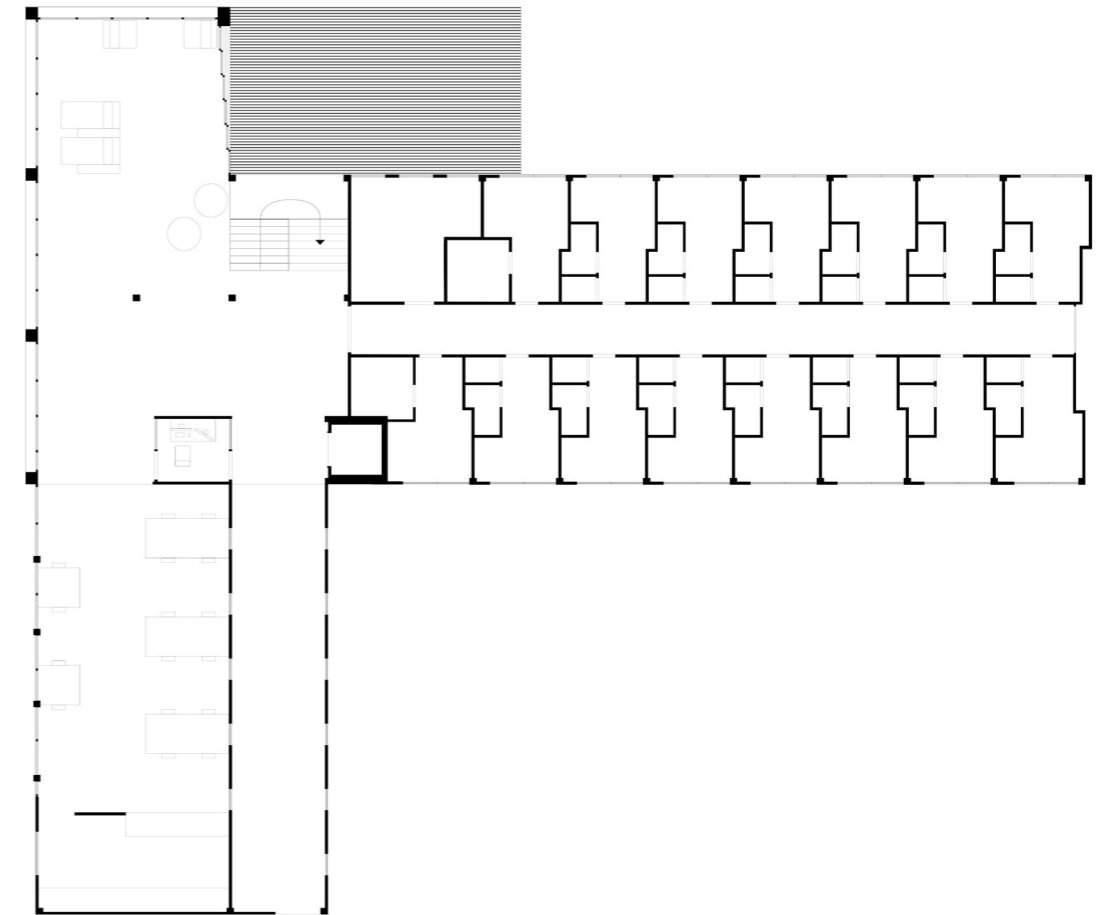


Figure 78. Plan - Low-medium accommodation



Figure 79. Low accommodation outdoor area



Figure 80. Low accommodation living/kitchen/dining

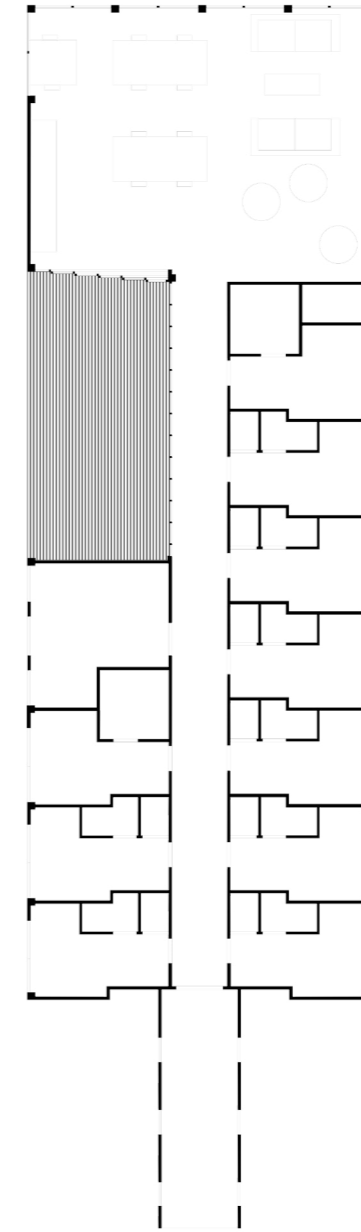


Figure 81. Plan - Low accommodation



Figure 82. Minimum accommodation kitchen/living



Figure 83. Minimum accommodation access/outdoor area

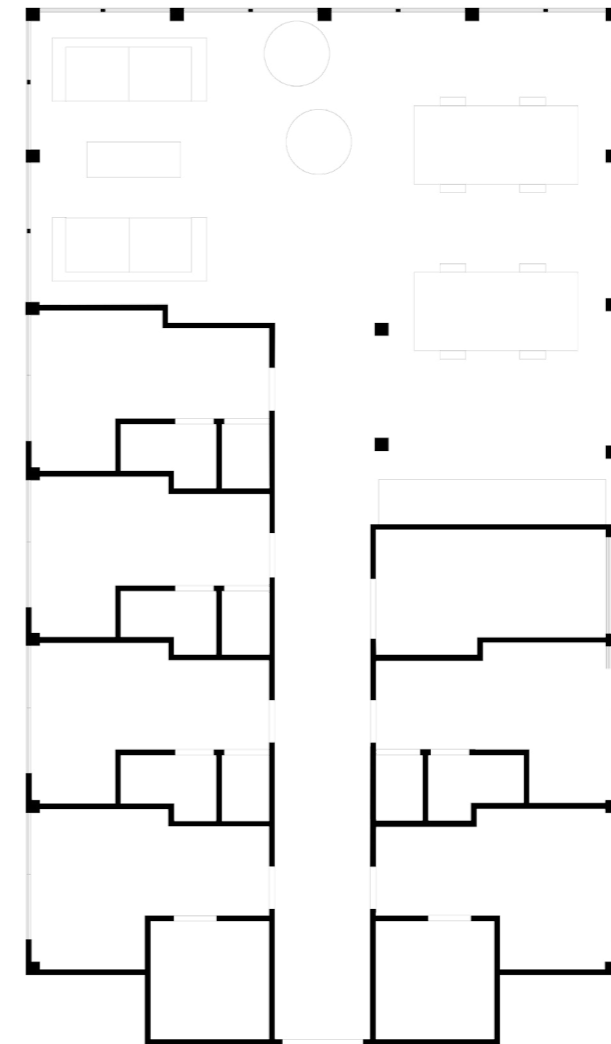
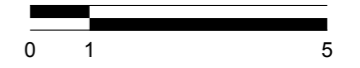


Figure 84. Plan - Minimum accommodation



Figure 85. Contemplation space



Figure 87. Gym



Figure 86. Community garden



Figure 88. Education space - Lecture theatre



Figure 89. Sectional perspective render

7.2 Chapter conclusion

A health model/framework generated from three different Māori health models and a series of design exercises forms the developed design.

The developed design is the culmination of an iterative design process, a process that explored the built environment of a correctional facility in relation to the health and wellbeing of its inmates.

The health model/framework applied to the design process, offers a new approach to the design of correctional facilities in a New Zealand context. This approach, considers the overrepresentation of Māori in New Zealand prisons and seeks to support an inmate so they can be successfully rehabilitated and reintegrated into society.

8.0 Conclusion

8.1 Conclusion

Prisons are institutes of deprivation and isolation. Marginalised by and from community, they are maintained by physical and psychological structures designed only to separate and isolate. Imprisonment results in individuals who are embittered and hardened by the experience, are likely to reoffend, and become lifelong participants in the criminal justice system.

New Zealand's prison population has been substantially increasing since the 1980s, due to changes in political economy; an attitude of exclusion of minority groups by the criminal justice system; and a rise in penal populism. With the rise in population comes the rise in recidivism rates, with 50 percent of inmates reoffending within five years of their release.

This design-led research investigation explored a different approach to prison design to address this problem through the iterative testing of design ideas focusing on rehabilitation and reintegration, and considering the diversity of people that occupy prisons in New Zealand. This is inspired by existing precedents that somewhat successfully address these issues such as Halden Prison and the Freedom Room. It takes aspects from these case studies that cultivate an environment that facilitates rehabilitation and reintegration

and considers the disproportionate population of incarcerated Māori and what can be done to address this.

The principle aim of this design-led research was to investigate ways in which Interior Architecture can facilitate the reduction of recidivism rates of offenders in a New Zealand context. The process followed a series of design exercises, starting at the master planning level, taking inspiration from precedents such as Halden prison and the Leoben Judicial Complex. The process then magnified into more detail exploring key interior spaces. This approach allowed for the generation of design responses to the research question, building on each exercise to reach the current design.

The principal objectives of this design-led research investigation are to:

- establish a framework for design that facilitates the reduction of recidivism rates of offenders
- utilise an iterative design process to test and develop design solutions
- design a minimum to low-medium security correctional facility using the established framework.

Acknowledging the disproportionate population of incarcerated Māori led to the development of a new health model/framework. As Māori are overly represented in the New Zealand prison population, this meant understanding why this is, and what can be done to address it. The approach was to apply Māori values and beliefs as a tool to target the marginalisation of Māori in the New Zealand criminal justice system. It analysed three different Māori health models, used by the Ministry of health, to come up with a new health model/framework to give a person going through the New Zealand prison system the support they need to successfully be rehabilitated and reintegrated into society.

This health model was then applied to the design process and informed the design exercises in terms of the make-up of a prison complex and the key interior spaces. The exercises tested how these spaces would work in themselves and in relation to the rest of the complex.

The current design supports inmates' health and wellbeing through the six components of the health model/framework. This provides tailored spaces that facilitate successful rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates, such as appropriate family visitation facilities where families can support each other in safe and non-intrusive environments. It is a facility

where inmates are not isolated and disconnected from society, which has spaces to facilitate positive relationships with the surrounding communities, through the actions of growing and providing produce in a community garden. Spaces are provided for education and work experience so the inmates can learn trades and gain qualifications to positively move their lives in a direction where they can contribute back to society as functioning human beings.

Interior Architecture tools and practices have the potential to influence a change to incarceration in New Zealand. This research project has explored this thoroughly, arriving at a design response that considers prisoners as human beings: human beings of intrinsic moral worth, who have the potential to be successfully rehabilitated. The future of prison architecture needs to reflect and adopt this mindset to reduce recidivism rates of offenders in New Zealand. Focusing on rehabilitation, considering diversity and designing spaces, tools and support for inmates, can ultimately lead to a reduction of recidivism rates in a New Zealand context. Reducing Recidivism, Not Rights.

8.2 Critical Reflection

The methods of research through literature, precedents and design worked well. Analysing relevant key theorists and case studies gave a good depiction of the current state of prison design and its relation to rehabilitation of inmates. This project gathered key information relevant to a New Zealand context and also successful theories and precedents from an international context.

The scope of the project dealt with offenders classed as minimum to low-medium risk: the majority. The scope did not accommodate the high to maximum risk offenders. This was important as the majority, 80 percent of the incarcerated population, pose much less of a risk to society than the minority 20 percent and have higher potential for rehabilitation and successful reintegration upon release.

The current design output reflects clearly what was set out at the beginning of this design-led research investigation, responding directly to the outset aim and objectives. This project investigated prison design and explored through an iterative process how a correctional facility in a New Zealand context can have a focus on rehabilitation and reintegration.

Although the current design output clearly reflects what the project set out to do, on reflection there are some limitations in terms of the form of the design. The design could still be further developed to explore a more fluid approach to the form. This would involve extrapolating further the concepts explored in the design exercises, like the symbolisation of cleansing in the contemplation space.

Overall this design-led research investigation produced a radical new approach to prison design. It produced a health model/framework that supports inmates in a prison environment; a new precedent for prison design, one that challenges the status quo and considers inmates as human beings; and starts an important conversation New Zealand needs to have.

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9.2 Appendix



8 June 2017

C85693

Luuk Abernathy
luuk.abernathy@hotmail.co.nz

Dear Mr Abernathy

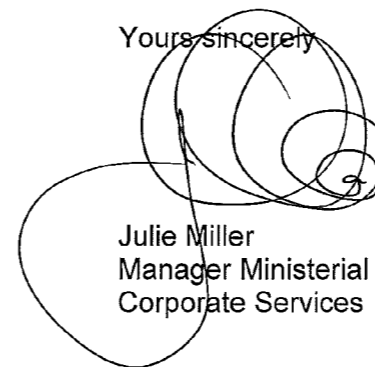
Thank you for your email of 12 May 2017, requesting to conduct a series of interviews with prisoners and guards at Rimutaka and Arohata prisons.

The Department places significant emphasis on the safety and security of our prisons and for this reason we are unable to provide you such access to our prisons.

However, we would like to assist you any way we can. If you have any questions you think we may be able to answer, we would be happy to hear from you.

While I appreciate this may not be the response you were hoping for, I hope you can understand the Department's position on the matter.

Yours sincerely



Julie Miller
Manager Ministerial Services
Corporate Services



4 July 2017

C86502

Luuk Abernethy
Luuk.abernethy@hotmail.com

Dear Mr Abernethy

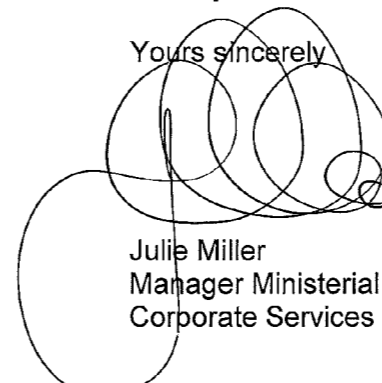
Thank you for your email of 12 June 2017, requesting to visit both Rimutaka and Arohata Prison's in order to assist with your research project.

As mentioned in my previous response, the Department places significant emphasis on the safety and security of our prisons and for this reason we are unable to grant you the access you have requested.

If there is any other way we can be of assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.

I wish you the best of luck with your future studies.

Yours sincerely



Julie Miller
Manager Ministerial Services
Corporate Services

Reducing Recidivism Rates

Hapori Whānui (Participation to Society)

- Workshop facility - learn trade skills
- Education spaces - gain industry recognised qualifications
- Spaces that facilitate earning of independence and freedom

Taha Tinana (Physical Health)

- Gym/exercise facility
- Pool - incentive for people to keep fit and refreshed
- Sports pitch - group sports, competition, support
- Courts for basketball/netball

Taha Wairua (Spiritual Health)

- Marae - refuge/community/religious space/celebration of Māori culture
- Contemplation space - connection to the elements, running water symbolising cleansing
- Flexible multi-use spaces for ritual/religious practice

Whanaungatanga (Relationships)

- Family visitation spaces that create a safe positive environment - to encourage positive interactions between families
- Campus style layout with long sightlines to facilitate positive relationships between staff and inmates and for safety and security

Taha Hinengaro (Mental Health)

- Abundant Natural light
- Access to outdoors and fresh air
- Spaces that encourage social interaction
- Spaces that facilitate positive connections between inmates and staff

Tuakiri (Identity)

- Single room accommodation
- Privacy for the inmates
- Spaces for interaction