

PETERS ICE CREAM

NEW HOME AMONG THE GUM TREES.



Peters Ice Cream's 2250sqm Head Office for Charter Hall accommodates 180 staff and creates a direct link with the existing Peters Ice Cream factory at the rear of the site on Wellington Road, Mulgrave.

A large Peters sign formed into a precast concrete retaining wall directs staff and visitors to the entry via a stair from the external carpark but the roofline is the key feature of the design.

The single storey office building explores a slightly different typology compared to a typical urban office building. Its position on a natural fall in the land encouraged an innovative design response which resulted in several key features that enhance the building's lightness of touch in the landscape.

The challenge was to ensure that the head office had a presence on site when viewed in context with the existing factory buildings and surrounding environment.

The roofline is used to maximise a sense of arrival for staff and visitors with a dramatic upward tilt at that creates a clear architectural link between the external approach and main entry. A timber look Trespa canopy extends into the reception area to accentuate the connection between the exterior architecture and interior while textured glass panels is a subtle homage to the honeycomb pattern façade of the original Peters Ice Cream Head Office.

A double-glazed curtain wall and a series of angled external columns on the north side, create the illusion of a two-storey structure that lightly touches the ground. On the south side, the slender columns or sticks, which were inspired by a line of existing gum trees, are replaced with angular precast concrete panels to maintain thermal comfort using passive design principles and to frame views to the surrounding landscape.

Perforated anodised metal screens suspended between the sticks provide additional sun-shading and are coloured to match the colours found in the gum trees.

The butterfly roof features wide Alucobond eaves that form a bullnose edge. The roof's three degree rake conceals a centrally located mechanical plant that sits below the perimeter line and above the core that houses the amenities. Internally, the raked ceiling ranges in height from 2700mm to 4200mm resulting in a series of clerestory windows; a feature which is rarely seen in a typical office typology.

Peters Ice Cream Head Office was designed to achieve a minimum 4.5 star NABERS Energy Rating.

