



ONCE-IN-A-GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

CLIENT : University of Melbourne
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Kane Constructions
CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$168 million
TYPE : Education

The University of Melbourne Student Precinct is a world-class student hub with both new and refurbished buildings that includes a new Arts & Cultural Building, ERC Library, Student Pavilion, building refurbishments and more.

In December 2019, Kane Constructions was awarded the Design & Construct contract to deliver the University of Melbourne Student Precinct. The precinct includes six buildings and will deliver 37,050m² of new or refurbished internal and external buildings and landscape space.

The scope of work included a new Arts and Cultural Building which includes a state-of-the-art theatre, the refurbishment of the ERC Library, Building 168, Building 189, and the 1888 Building. Kane Constructions also completed landscaping for Amphitheatre North, and the refurbishment of Amphitheatre South, which when complete will deliver a world-class student hub.

The project makes a significant contribution to the transformation of the on campus student experience at Parkville by co-locating student services and activities closer to the new heart of the campus, and to primary transport links.

“This has been an amazing project,” said Kane Constructions Project Manager, Jason Malmur. “The buildings are all unique within the precinct and together they really stand out, which is something the University of Melbourne was keen to see come to life.”

“Kane’s brief was the design and construct of the entire precinct which meant there was not a single set of consultants but rather a different set of architects and trades for each building,” explained Jason.

“We were dealing with the mix of refurbishments and new buildings, the varying stages of demo, in ground contamination of the soil, the heritage aspects of buildings – including internal aspects, as well as the façades – not to mention the heritage listed trees.”

The site itself is complex and constrained, and traffic across the precinct is complicated by a 6m level drop north to south.

Kane was responsible for managing the multitude of consultants, trades and subcontractors across one timeline. As project managers they also had to ensure consistency in terms of the university requirements in all the builds, despite their differences.

“The whole team really came together to navigate through this process. The Kane family, including the delivery teams in each building, maintained such a high level of motivation and drive from 2020 when we commenced onsite, throughout COVID and right through to the completion of each building,” said Jason. “It’s fantastic that each building in the precinct has been really well received by both the University and the students.”

Kane Constructions is a multi-award winning, privately owned commercial construction company active in all sectors of the industry. Kane Constructions commenced operations in Melbourne in 1973, and the company operates throughout the east coast of Australia from offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Canberra.

Kane Constructions was awarded the 2016 and 2019 National Construction Master Builder of the Year by Master Builders Australia



and the Master Builder of the Year in Victoria for 2016, 2017, and 2019 by the Master Builders Association of Victoria.

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