

UNSW Kensington Colleges

Bates Smart

The redevelopment of the Kensington Colleges at the University of New South Wales creates a vibrant student community of five colleges, which provide accommodation for more than 900 students. These new buildings integrate the existing Goldstein Hall to form a new campus precinct.

Arranged around a landscaped courtyard, the colleges feature faceted walls of glazed brickwork, presenting a playful expression of colour, texture, dappled light and shade. These facades use three bricks. A blend of sixty percent Dynasty Brushed Leather brick and thirty percent Karrington Silver brick is common across all of the colleges. The remaining ten percent comes from the Burlesque series, with a customized accent colour used in each college to reinforce its individuality.

The rectilinear external facades respond to the mid-century brickwork of the surrounding buildings by using a blend of three shades of face brick as a contemporary interpretation of the original clinker brick.

Project Builder: Richard Crookes Constructions
Project Contractor: Lamio
Manufacturer: Austral Bricks and Bowral Bricks
Brick Collection: Dynasty Brushed Leather, Karrington Silver, Burlesque series, Bowral Purpose-Made Commons, Simmental Silver and Ultra Smooth in Tempo

This compelling suite of buildings exploits the inherent qualities and innovative potential of brick to great effect. Designed with an enviable attention to detail, this project sets a new benchmark for the student housing typology.

WINNER
+
GRAND PRIX
WINNER



Peter Bennetts