



# New 'heritage' neighbours old

A new office tower to be built in central Christchurch will showcase the "heritage of today" while creating the "heritage of tomorrow", according to engineering consultancy Beca.

The Club Tower - next to the heritage-listed Canterbury Club in Cambridge Terrace - promises to become an "iconic Christchurch building, just like its historic neighbour", says Beca's South Island regional manager, Craig Price.

The Club Tower building has been designed by Weir Walker Architecture for developer Latitude Group.

Beca is providing mechanical and engineering services to developer Latitude Group for the project.

Price says the building has been designed using energy-efficient, "green" building principles,

which are part of the growing international demand for environmentally sustainable design.

The Canterbury Club will be restored and extended as part of an affiliated project being led by Wilkie & Bruce Architects.

"Heritage buildings stand the test of time through both their durability and their flexibility to remain useful," says Price.

By their nature, heritage buildings of tomorrow will be "green", he says.

"Green buildings are becoming very popular around the world, mainly because of growing support for environmentally sustainable practices.

"Green buildings are designed to be energy-efficient and to make less of an impact on their environment by reducing energy usage, re-using water, incorporating passive environmental

features (such as solar heating and natural lighting) - all to create a more comfortable building."

Beca has been involved with the construction of the South Christchurch Library and is working on a new project (the ICT building) for the University of Canterbury, which will also include green features.

And, says Price, the company is involved in a research project for Singapore's Building Construction Authority to design Singapore's first "zero-energy" building.

Today's generation has a responsibility to undertake development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, he says.



**Mixed heritage: An artist's impression of the Club Tower building, with the Canterbury Club in the foreground.**