

Hamilton New Zealand Temple Facts



Location: 509 Tuhikaramea Road,
Temple View

Renovation Start Date: 24 July 2018

Public Open House: 26 August 2022 to
17 September 2022

Rededication: 16 October 2022

Property Size: 14.164 hectares

Building Size: 4,204 square metres

Building Height: 47.5 metres from the main
entrance to the top of the spire

Architects: Naylor Wentworth Lund
Architects, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

Contractor: Westland Construction,
Orem, Utah, USA

The Hamilton New Zealand Temple was the first temple built by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the southern hemisphere. It was announced on 17 February 1955 and dedicated on 20 April 1958 by Church President David O. McKay. After extensive renovations, it will be rededicated on 16 October 2022.

EXTERIOR FEATURES

BUILDING: The historic painted concrete masonry on the exterior of the temple remains unchanged in this renovation. The blocks were manufactured on site by the original construction crew, most of whom were labor missionaries who donated their time.

GLASS: Historically, an acid-etched glazing was present on the exterior. This historic glass type was restored during the renovation.

FENCE AND WALKWAYS: The existing steel and masonry fencing around the perimeter of the site was not changed during the renovation. The walkways and main entry plaza are finished concrete with concrete masonry pavers.

INTERIOR FEATURES

FLOORING: Most of the carpet in the building is a simple loop pattern woven in nylon in a soft green color. It is manufactured by Bentley Mills in California. The carpets in the celestial room and sealing room are a nylon-cut pile broadloom in a soft cream color, also woven by Bentley Mills. The wool area rugs in the lobby and bride's room were designed by NWL Architects in Salt Lake City. The stone used in the flooring throughout the building is a light yellowish cream limestone called Butter Silk that was quarried in Palestine.

MURALS: The historic murals in the baptistry and celestial room were restored during the renovation. The baptistry mural was painted by Paul Forster in 1957. Dale Jolley painted the celestial room mural in 1993.

DECORATIVE PAINTING: The patterns were derived from local Maori patterns used in weavings, bone carvings, and wood carvings. The design was done by NWL Architects in Salt Lake City, Utah.

LIGHTING: The lights in the temple are a combination of metal and opal glass or crystal done in a clean mid-century style. The fixtures were designed by NWL Architects in Salt Lake City and were supplied by Ciana Lighting of Heber City, Utah.

MILLWORK: The millwork and casework is made of Victorian Oak with a slightly tinted stain. It was created and installed by Fernlea Cabinetry & Joinery in Hamilton.

BAPTISMAL FONT: The original font was restored during the renovation. The font and oxen were made in Switzerland using the same molds as the Swiss Temple. The railings are decorative bronze following the historic railing patterns found in the temple. The railings for the stairs leading to the font are bronze with beveled glass panels, while the railing into the font itself is stainless steel.

DOORS AND HARDWARE: The pattern for the door hardware is a stylized silver fern designed by NWL Architects in Salt Lake City and supplied by Sopersmac of New Zealand.

WALLS: Most of the walls in the building feature a vinyl covering that will be durable and easy to maintain. Most are simple textures in creamy and gold colors. The walls in the instruction rooms have a stylized fern-like pattern reflective of local Maori patterns. The wall coverings are all standard products from mills in the United States. The Celestial Room walls feature a historic mural that was not removed during the renovation.

CEILING: The majority of the ceilings in the temple are painted gypsum board on steel framing. Most ceilings are flat or have minimal stepping, which reflects the historicity of the original temple. In more sacred areas of the temple, there is a decorative paint pattern or simple gold linework on the ceiling with plaster moldings around the perimeter.

