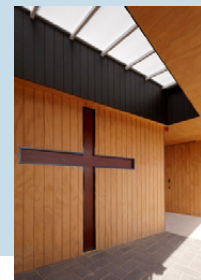
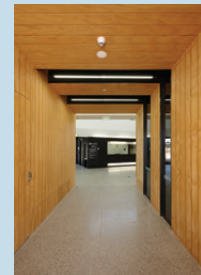


MELBOURNE MEDICAL SCHOOL

CASE STUDY

ARCHITECT - DesignInc
PROJECT
University of Notre Dame Australia
Medical School in Werribee
PHOTOGRAPHY - Dianna Snape



The natural feel and textural qualities of Shadowclad® plywood cladding helped inventive architects, DesignInc, achieve an ambitious design for the University of Notre Dame Australia Medical School in Werribee, Victoria presented with a site with few redeeming features and limited outlook, DesignInc's proposal was to create a building and a landscape at the same time.

According to Designer and Project Architect, Jane Sayers, "The built form undulates in mimicry of an imagined past topography of land and trees." The shape, cutaways and colour scheme were inspired by the constructs of a burnt and fallen tree so it was necessary to find a cladding that offered the look and qualities of weathered wood.

The range of finishes was also seen as a benefit to the design. The grooved panels were used to express the exterior of the form and the textured panels were used on the underside of eaves to express the cutaways."

The complexities of the angles in the building demanded flexible materials and Sayers says this was another strength of Shadowclad.

"Its workability on site was a bonus and enabled us to wrap and angle the facade to form the topography of the building."

In an interesting twist on traditional exterior applications, Shadowclad was also used inside the medical school. "Shadowclad was used internally to reinforce the connection between the interior and exterior and connect its inhabitants with the new landscape the building provided," Ms Sayers explains. "It also adds a layer of texture and warmth to the interior spaces."

The University of Notre Dame Australia Medical School project illustrates the the range of possibilities Shadowclad offers and how it can help a building come alive, inside and out.

"We looked at a range of timber claddings but Shadowclad stood out for its on-site workability and cost efficiency," states Ms Sayers.