

Notes on the development of hues for the Resene Heritage Chart by Ian Bowman

Background

The Resene Heritage Colour Charts was prepared in the early 1990s. The colour chart was based on:

- Research of paint actual colours using in situ, or thin section samples under a microscope;
- Australian, American and UK historic and recent heritage colour charts;
- Originals and facsimiles of painters guides;
- Historical research into the Nelson paint company;
- Literature searches into paint analysis (especially APT), traditional paint colours, painter's guides, colour mixing etc;
- Oral histories from painters.

Since then, I have undertaken paint analysis on a great number of buildings and many of the buildings listed below have been analysed since the Colour Chart was produced. This has reinforced that the colours on the Chart, based more on academic research than practical discoveries, were accurate and authentic heritage colours.

The following list shows the paint colours and one example of where they have been used in actual buildings. Many of the colours have been used extensively, but it is assumed that only one building per colour is required. While the age of the particular building may be slightly different to the age range suggested in the chart, the older colours continued to be used in the later periods. For example, the Palmerston North Regent Theatre, built in 1929, used a traditional dark crimson usually found in buildings of the Victorian and Edwardian period. Seven examples of paint colours suggested by research have not been found on buildings, but were included in the 1930s BS 381C and that published in "New Horizons in Colour". Research suggests that these colours were used on buildings and, as they were in a widely used colour chart of the period, it can be safely assumed that these colours are authentic to the period. My practice has been involved with few buildings from the 1930s and later and hence the dearth of examples of colours from this period. I am, however, increasingly involved with buildings from this period, and I am sure that I will find these colours.

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Buildings and colours

Colour	Where used
Resene Amulet	Langley Dale, Marlborough
Resene Astra	Cable Car Winding House, Wellington
Resene Blue Night	105 Oxford Blue, BS 381C (1930)
Resene Bowman	Katherine Mansfield's, Wellington
Resene Bright Red	68 Britannia Heights, Nelson
Resene Brown Pod	Petone Railway Station, Petone (demolished)
Resene Buff	St Augustine's, Petone
Resene Burnt Umber	Siddenham Building, Feilding
Resene Burnt Sienna	Homestead, Quail Flat, Clarence Reserve
Resene Butter	Sexton's Cottage, Wellington
Resene Chamois	St Peter's, Waipawa
Resene Cobalt	Azure Blue, 104 BS, 381C (1930)
Resene Dark Buff	St Augustine's, Petone
Resene Dark Crimson	Palmerston North Regent
Resene Earth Green	Wellington Town Hall
Resene Envy	Ngarata, Golden Bay
Resene Fawn Green	10 Patrick Street
Resene Flesh	Langley Dale, Marlborough
Resene Florentine Pink	Langley Dale, Marlborough
Resene Fudge	St James Theatre, Wellington

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Colour	Where used
Resene Green House	National War Memorial and Carillon
Resene Green Mist	Chest Hospital, Wellington
Resene Ivy Green	Star Boating Club
Resene Kaitoke Green	Wellington Chest Hospital
Resene Light Beige	Ngarata, Golden Bay
Resene Light Tan	414 Golden Brown, BS 381C (1930)
Resene Mahogany	Acton, Gisborne
Resene Melon Orange	557 Light Orange, BS 381C (1930)
Resene Merino	Sexton's Cottage, Wellington
Resene Milk Chocolate	Massey University/fmr Museum
Resene Nelson Red	10 Patrick Street, Petone (Nelson haematite paint: In the early 1870s T B Louisson and Daniel Johnston established a paint manufacturing company in the Parapara area of Golden Bay. They sold their shares to the New Zealand Paint Company in 1879 who in turn sold the business to H P and A J Washbourn in 1881 and they continued at least until 1907).
Resene Oak	Petone Railway Station, Petone (demolished)
Resene Olive Green	Dunedin Lawcourts, Dunedin
Resene Red Ochre	Star Boating Club
Resene Rich Cream	Langley Dale, Marlborough
Resene Sand	Katherine Mansfield's, Wellington
Resene Scrub	10 Patrick Street, Petone
Resene Sienna	Wellington Rowing Club

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Colour	Where used
Resene Slate Brown	Wellington Rowing Club
Resene Soapstone	St James, Lower Hutt
Resene Soft Apple	Daylight Green, "New Horizons in Colour"
Resene Soft Mint	Light Sage, "New Horizons in Colour"
Resene Soft Pink	Candy Pink, "New Horizons in Colour"
Resene Stack	Woodstock, Nelson
Resene Terracotta Pink	National War Memorial and Carillon
Resene Thistle	Wellington Town Hall
Resene Toffee	Massey University/fmr Museum
Resene Twine	Shed 11, Wellington

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Additional notes (2008):

Some colour names were changed in 2008 from the original colour names used. The colour hues remain unchanged.

Four additional colours were introduced to the palette in 2008 - Colonial White, Danube, Bali Hai and Copper Rust.

- Bali Hai - dates from 1920s to 1950s from "New Horizons".
- Colonial White - dates from 1920s and 1930s from BSS 381C.
- Copper Rust dates from 1940s and 1950s from "New Horizons".
- Danube - dates from 1940s and 1950s from "New Horizons".

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