CULTURAL CENTRE, NOUÉA, NEW CALEDONIA
ARCHITECT
RENO PIANO BUILDING WORKSHOP

plus (scale approx 1:3500)

1 village (interpretation gardens, performance quay)
2 rima (centre for local arts, multimedia)
3 Rima 1, Rima 2, Rima 3
4 gallery
5 auditorium
6 public library (1840s)
7 outdoor theatre (1980s)
8 restaurant
9 parking
10 car-park
11 hotel
12 apartments
13 beaches

detailed plan of pyramid roofs

Piezo seismic isolation test

planted and curved into with terraces and clearings for public extensions of the building as open-air exhibition and performance spaces. And for the pedestrian route round the peninsula perimeter which introduces visitors to the flora of the place and its mystic meanings, which are very powerful in Kanak culture.

externally, the roofs stretch their curves along and over the tall verticals and horizontals of the plants and eucalypts, making a kinetic dance against the sky which is punctuated by reflexions rippling in the lagoon. Piano hopes that the sun-proof接入 xilob will weather to the same pale silver-grey as the trunks of the indigenous palm trees. As well as being an abstracted hut, each xilob is a sort of throne. Each curved outer rib is lined with a straight vertical one which forms part of the structure of the perimeter of the enclosed space. The curved ribs carry horizontal slats, which have some effect on modifying the effects of the often high winds, and internal conditions are controlled by a passive system which uses water at the base of the perimeter wall and the oceanea fous of the complex. They are opened and closed according to wind.