

New Zealand Architecture Awards 2016

Gisborne/
Hawkes Bay

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**New Zealand
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Architecture
Awards 2016**

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In New Zealand less than five per cent of buildings are designed by architects, and this fact is reflected in the quality of our built environment. However, it is through events such as the 2016 Gisborne / Hawkes Bay Architecture Awards that we can showcase the creative benefits and innovations that architects are able to bring not just to a project, but to wider communities.

Our journey through the best recent architecture in the Gisborne and Hawkes Bay regions began with a visit to a culturally significant heritage church. At this project, clear evidence was provided of exactly how an architect's personal commitment – across 15 years – and ability to innovate is fundamental to a project's success. While the Toko Toru Tapu Church provided lessons in how to deal sympathetically with older structures requiring restoration and earthquake strengthening, we were also privy to very contemporary design responses and interpretations. Throughout Te Kura, for instance, a colourful modern learning centre, are interwoven stories of culture and environment. This building is, rightly, an inspiration to staff and students.

In contrast to this work, we also witnessed city-based builds: an inspiring workplace

adapted to the constraints of an existing structure; an example of how to build better – and revitalise the streetscape for the wider community – on a busy, 'big box' retail strip; and, at the port, a well-detailed building that responds well to its environment and the industrial context.

Of the houses we visited, a particularly striking chord was the ability of architects to incorporate emotive qualities into their designs, to create a series of intimate personal spaces forged both by a building's relationship with the environment and the inhabitants. Finally, we witnessed how a simple colourful public amenity, formed from a palette of robust materials, can add vibrancy to a small reserve.

In short, we experienced architecture – and, in each instance, success was the result of client and architect working together to achieve something they were both very passionate about.

John O'Bryan

Jury Convenor

NZIA Gisborne/Hawkes Bay

Each year since 1927, the New Zealand Institute of Architects has offered an awards programme that presents high quality architecture in New Zealand. Resene Paints has been the proud sponsor and awards partner of the NZIA since 1990. The winning projects featured in this publication – all designed by NZIA Architect members who work in NZIA Practices – represent the best architecture produced in Gisborne and Hawkes Bay during the past year.

Local Architecture Awards are run by each of the NZIA's eight branches. Each year, they celebrate high-quality architecture in the following categories: housing (new, multi-unit, additions and alterations), public, commercial, education, small project, interior, and retail and hospitality architecture. There are also honours available for planning and urban design, and for 'enduring' architecture: buildings more than 25 years old that have stood up well to the tests of time.

As Local Architecture Award winners, the projects featured in this booklet can be shortlisted for the New Zealand Architecture Awards, the top tier of the NZIA's annual architecture awards programme. There are three tiers of award at national level:

- New Zealand Architecture Award: conferred across the categories recognised at local level.
- Named Awards: the Sir Ian Athfield Award (housing), the John Scott Award (public architecture), the Sir Miles Warren Award (commercial architecture) and the Ted McCoy Award (education) are conferred to a single project considered best in its respective category.
- At the culmination of the awards, a single project is awarded New Zealand's highest architectural honour, and as such is recognised as the 'best of the best'.

At any level, local or national, the New Zealand Architecture Awards are an opportunity to raise a wider awareness of the values of architecture by promoting excellence in design. The awards encourage informed public debate on how we can make our cities and towns better places to live and work. And they are a means of promoting environmentally responsible practices and solutions.

Commercial Architecture

- 9. Aon Hastings by Matz Architects
- 11. Hawke's Bay Business Hub by Paris Magdalinos Architects
- 13. Napier Port by Paris Magdalinos Architects

Education

- 15. Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Kahungunu o Te Wairoa by RTA Studio
- 17. EIT Campus Amenities by Paris Magdalinos Architects

Heritage

- 19. Toko Toru Tapu Church, Manutuke by Architects 44

Housing

- 21. Karl Residence by Brendon Gordon Architecture
- 23. Nicol Holiday Home by Clarkson Architects

Interior Architecture

- 25. Aon Hastings by Matz Architects

Small Project Architecture

- 27. Clifton Road Reserve Public Toilets by Citrus Studio Architecture



Photo: Richard Brimer

Aon Hastings Matz Architects

This office building illustrates how, through the modulation and scale of the façade elements, a degraded stretch of Karamu Road in Hastings can be improved. Aon revives the street edge through contrasting horizontal and vertical elements – glazing interspersed with off-form concrete walls – that contribute towards a vibrant and environmentally responsive design. The visual mass of the building has been diminished by the set back of the upper floor, while vertical louvres provide a consistent rhythm across the façade. The entire design concept re-reclaims the street and provides an inviting space for the company’s staff and for the wider community.



Photo: Jeff Brass

Hawke's Bay Business Hub

Paris Magdalinos Architects

It is fitting that the concept design for the new Hawkes Bay Business Hub is so sympathetic to the rich industrial tradition of Ahuriri, Napier. The design references the materials and proportions of what was once a tobacco warehouse, but the reconfigured interiors and considered adaptations to the exterior have successfully refashioned the building into a vibrant contemporary workspace. Warm materials and paint finishes highlight the new insertions and complement the building's existing structural rhythms. The semi-industrial aesthetic is set up from the outset. A reception desk cut from an old boiler and an exposed steel stair are highlights of a reception that is more café than corporate lobby, and the stylistic consistency continues through into a workplace of plywood-lined pods and glazed partitions.



Photo: Jeff Brass

Napier Port

Paris Magdalinos Architects

This clean-lined, completely formed building consolidates the port's operations and management into a single structure while efficiently resolving the technical segregation required by public and port users. Carefully and appropriately anchored to its site, via a plinth that alludes to the riprap-rock walls that are part of the port's water's edge, the building is imbued with abstract nautical and industrial references. Pronounced windows, segmented into vertical and horizontal elements, recall the visual effect of stacked containers viewed from a distance, while the distinctive 'herringbone' patterning, created by the composition of structural and shading elements, contributes a defining character and rhythm.



Photo: Patrick Reynolds

Education Award

Resene Colour Award

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Kahungunu o Te Wairoa RTA Studio

The strong, cloaking roof forms of this Māori immersion school enclose classrooms that radiate out from a central hall. It is a cohesive design, strongly organised around environmental cues. The school is orientated to a north-south axis that prioritises natural light and the warmth of the sun, however a wide, covered transition between inside and out protects each learning space from excess heat and light. This work is true architecture, interwoven with references to the past that will now inform the future, and with significant cultural and environmental elements that have been adapted into physical form with great finesse.

Rich colours tie the school to the environment and to the students who helped select them. A base colour of purple is complemented by varied greens, to reference native flora, and a vibrant yellow that brings the sun down to earth.



EIT Campus Amenities

Paris Magdalinos Architects

This multipurpose facility for EIT illustrates a contemporary approach to the design of learning spaces. The centrepiece of the campus is a new atrium, which also fulfills a role as a learning hub and communal space for students. The atrium responds to the varied and complex interfaces around its edges with a clean and legible form. Inside, structural elements – concrete plinths with glulam ‘branches’ – acknowledge the well-established tree canopies in the adjacent courtyard, blurring the distinction between natural and built forms, and visually and metaphorically relating the common space back to the exterior.



Photo: Brennan Thomas

Heritage Award

Toko Toru Tapu Church, Manutuke Architects 44

For more than 15 years the architect has made a contribution that goes well beyond a typical design engagement. Heritage preservation, the drafting of funding submissions and physical contributions to the internal preservation work were all part of a role that has resulted in an enhanced building preserved for future generations. Toko Toru Tapu Church is one of the most important Māori churches in New Zealand, and this discreet structural upgrade retains the integrity of the original building. Carbon-fibre, inserted behind exceptional whakairo (carved wooden panels), helps bring the church up to code, while appropriate materials, including a roof sourced from the USA, have restored – or perhaps even improved upon – the church’s former glories.



Photo: Amanda Aitken

Karl Residence Brendon Gordon Architecture

A confident and dramatic design beautifully constructed from understated materials – that’s one way to describe this wonderful house. Strong and symmetrical, the house sits serenely above what can only be described as a commanding view. It is spacious and calm, with well-proportioned spaces that open out into a succession of exterior ‘rooms’. Throughout the interior, a rich and contemporary atmosphere has been achieved through weighty dark timber beams that clearly express the building’s inherent geometries. On the exterior, dark-stained and clear-oiled cedar provide a compositional blending that allows the structure to recede into the landscape when viewed from a distance.



Photo: Richard Brimer

Nicol Holiday Home Clarkson Architects

On arrival, an unassuming entry resides between concrete block walls. Almost austere, it conceals an intimate pavilion-style house, cleverly constructed from robust materials, that sits lightly in the landscape thanks to a neutrally toned palette of materials. Surrounded by open-air walkways and orientated for sea views, this house evokes the atmosphere of a traditional bach while providing occupants with wide views through expansive windows. Cannily, for the coastal environment, the living experience has been extended through a private courtyard that provides shelter from prevailing winds.



Photo: Richard Brimer

Aon Hastings Matz Architects

The overwhelmingly positive staff reaction to their new work environment speaks volumes of the success of this interior project. Confident and vibrant, the design benefits from consistent detailing across both 'hard' and 'soft' fitout elements. The result is a cohesive and complete interior experience. The architect has succeeded admirably with a varied material palette that includes vibrant hexagonal coloured pads, various timbers, and soft furnishings that bring warmth and texture. Well-crafted details, such as interior window projections and faceted timber panels, lift the entire experience well above the prosaic and contribute to a warm, rich and humanly scaled workplace.



Clifton Road Reserve Public Toilets

Citrus Studio Architecture

Robust and practical, but also vibrant and cheerful – this well considered toilet block is happy to be seen in the round. Cleverly sectioned into two simple forms, the building's precast concrete walls anchor the structure and ensure its durability. In contrast, the roof 'floats' above, allowing fresh air and natural light to filter between the third material element, hardwood battens, that provide a sense of natural texture and shadow play. The smooth, bold-red finish expressed against the playful 'WC' inscription is a bold focal point for the surrounding reserve.

Congratulations to all this year's winners.

The 2016 Gisborne/Hawkes Bay Architecture Awards jury was comprised of:

John O'Bryan

(convenor) Boxclever

Hilary Finn

Paris Magdalinos

Architects

Marcellus Lilley

Studio of Pacific

Architecture

Ashley Hartley

(lay juror)

In assessing a project for an award, the judges look at:

- the relationship of the building to its site, context and presence;
- user satisfaction, value to the client and acceptability of solutions to the brief;
- the degree of consistency and completeness in expressing the relationship between concept, form, and structure;
- light, colour, texture and spatial qualities;
- structure, construction, materials and issues of durability and detail;
- environmental performance; and
- contribution to the advancement of architecture as a discipline and the enhancement of the human spirit.

Additional photos and information about these award-winning projects can be found on the New Zealand Institute of Architects website and social media channels.

www.nzia.co.nz

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