



## New Zealand Institute of Architects Incorporated

### Awards show strength of Hamilton's architectural revival

Twenty-three buildings have received awards in the 2019 Waikato Bay of Plenty Architecture Awards, among them several projects that show the community benefits resulting from architects' sustained involvement in urban centre revitalisation.

- **Information under strict embargo until 9 pm, Friday 3 May**
- Download awards galleries: [High res gallery](#) or [Low res gallery](#)
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The Awards jury convenor, Hamilton architect Evan Mayo, said it was encouraging to see high-quality public, commercial and educational buildings in Whakatāne, Tauranga, Rotorua and Te Awamutu.

“These buildings are real community assets, and some of them offer valuable precedents for the provision of important services.”

Mayo also noted the prominence in the Awards of houses in well-known resort areas, including the Coromandel Peninsula and Taupō.

“These houses continue the region's reputation for high quality, well-crafted homes that are specifically tailored to their environmental conditions,” Mayo said.

Mayo said that as a local architect, he was particularly pleased by the recognition of the jury, which included fellow Hamilton architect Matt Grant, Wellington architect James Fenton and United Kingdom-registered architect Leonie Neuweger, of projects that are playing an important role in the improvement of Hamilton's central city area.

Whakatāne also has a new museum to complement existing high quality buildings, and the urban quality of the town centre has been given a real, community-centred lift, Mayo said.

Edwards White Architects is one Hamilton practice leading the way in Hamilton's revitalisation.

This year, the practice won four Waikato Bay of Plenty Architecture Awards: a Planning and Urban Design Award for Riverbank Lane, a “vital link between Victoria Street, Victoria on the

Park and the Waikato River”; an Interior Architecture Award for its own studio, which occupies a mezzanine within Riverbank Lane; a Housing Multi-unit Award for Parkhaven, a city apartment building that “cleverly integrates usable exterior space into a vertical living arrangement”; and a Heritage Award for Wiseman Central, a 1917, a restored heritage-listed building on a prominent CBD corner.

“Edwards White is a prolific and versatile practice that is as adept at organising public space as it is at stripping back and detailing heritage buildings so that the best of their characteristics really sing,” Mayo said.

The Whakatāne Museum and Research Centre Te Whare Taonga ō Taketake, designed by Irving Smith Architects, won a Public Architecture Award.

The Museum is the second stage of a project that commenced in an abandoned retail store 10 years ago.

“It is the result of planning, patience and the vision and sees a previously under-utilised city asset transformed into a well-used research and education facility.”

GHD Woodhead Creative Spaces won a Public Architecture Award for Rotorua’s Te Aka Mauri Children’s Health and Library Hub, a combined healthcare and library facility that is a “daring move away from hospital-based health practices to holistic health and wellbeing approaches”, Mayo said.

An Education Award went to Design Tribe Architects for The New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute Precinct Development Ngā Kete Tuku Iho. The Awards jury said this new base for Aotearoa’s pre-eminent carving school “had been delivered with passion and clarity.”

Cambridge architect Christopher Beer’s “skilful modernisation” of the near-derelect Spectrum Building in Te Awamutu received an Interior Architecture Award. The jury praised the restoration and refurbishment of the collection of buildings for the retention of the traditional shop front “that has preserved the local streetscape.”

In the Commercial Architecture category, a close working relationship between Chow:Hill Architects and Trust Waikato Te Puna o Waikato has resulted in an award for the Trust’s new offices.

“This is prominent new building with rich contextual character and great public visibility which draws upon the cultural histories of the site,” the jury said.

The Kollektive, designed by Wingate Architects on a challenging former swamp site, is “a highly considered building that sits lightly on the land,” the jury said. “It is one of the first co-working platforms in Tauranga, and will surely spawn many more.”

## **Housing awards**

Twelve awards were awarded in the Housing and Housing–Alterations and Additions categories, including four on the Coromandel Peninsula.

The jury was impressed by the planning of the Johnston Architects-designed Pauanui Beach House, which “recreates the feeling of a camping experience in a way that meets the many needs of a multi-generational family”.

The organisation of the similarly named Pauanui Beach Home also impressed the jury. Designed by Peddle Thorp Architects for a “superb coastal site”, the arrangement of bedrooms around the entrance path and cooking pit takes “clear delight in the act of greeting, eating and living together,” the jury said

‘Checkers’, the third Pauanui winner, was this year’s sole Housing–Alterations and Additions Award winner. Designed by Wendy Shacklock Architects, the project is a “carefully considered addition with calmly composed details” that shows how an architect’s skill can give a formerly nondescript beach home “a wonderful second life”.

In the case of Matarangi Cabins, designed by CAAHT Architects, it was the equal weighting given to “resident comfort, quality of detailing, aesthetic principles and practical design aspects” that impressed the Awards jury.

Four awards have gone to houses in Tauranga and Mount Manganui.

The jury described Mt Maunganui’s Split House by Cummings Studio Architects as a “suburban home on a busy street that cleverly balances the provision of ocean views with appropriate levels of privacy”.

Visiting the Appleford Residence, by Brendon Gordon Architects, the jury found “a comfortable and informal Mt Maunganui beach house, resplendent with natural light and generous indoor and outdoor living areas”.

Designgroup Stapleton Elliot’s Matua House is a “finely resolved Tauranga house lovingly crafted by an architect son into a retirement haven for his parents”.

The Pōhutukawa House, designed by Stufkens + Chambers Architects, is a careful balance of new and old a small, cleverly crafted house that incorporates materials salvaged from the previous dwelling on site".

Taupō's Fraser Cameron Architects received two Housing Awards for local projects, including one for Whanarua Bay House which has a "rich aesthetic reflective of its powerful and uncompromising setting", the jury said.

Fraser Cameron Architects' second winner, Kuiwai House "successfully delivers relaxed and well-considered living spaces for the whole family to enjoy".

Xsite Architects' specification of composite panels to clad a Kinloch house "formed the basis for a cost-effective, energy-efficient and low-maintenance house".

"The external envelope has been carefully manipulated to encapsulate the outstanding views of the site without jeopardising the integrity or finish of the product," the jury said.

Aotea Harbour Holiday Home by PAUA Architects also benefits from an exceptional outlook. Sited on an "exquisite promontory", the Kāwhia house overlooks a historic pā and Aotea harbour. Shelter from prevailing winds was a challenge that has been "successfully negotiated by arranging three building forms in a way that creates pleasant courtyards", the jury said.

Treetop Home (1977) at Taupō, by John Wilson Architect, received an Enduring Architecture Award, given to buildings of more than 25 years of age that have lasted well and continue to have relevance.

"This house takes us back to a time in history when Taupō consisted entirely of small batches scattered in relaxed informality near its lake," Mayo said. "This has informed the architect, and from the street, the house, rising above the surrounding trees, appears like a cluster of cabins in the distance. The house is as delightful today as it was 42 years ago when it was first constructed."

The Waikato Bay of Plenty Architecture Awards are part of the New Zealand Architecture Awards programme run by the New Zealand Institute of Architects with the support of Resene. Through the awards, the NZIA shows why good architecture matters to New Zealand's cities, towns and communities

All 2019 award winners are listed below.

For more information, images of winning projects or to arrange an interview with jury convenor Evan Mayo or the architects of specific projects, please contact:

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2019 Waikato Bay of Plenty Architecture Awards, winning projects:

**Commercial Architecture**

Trust Waikato Te Puna o Waikato – Office Development, Hamilton; Chow:Hill Architects  
The Kollektive, Tauranga; Wingate Architects

**Education**

The New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute Ngā Kete Tuku Iho – Precinct Development,  
Rotorua; Design Tribe Architects

**Enduring Architecture**

Treetop Home (1977), Taupō; John Wilson Architect

**Heritage**

Wiseman Central, Hamilton; Edwards White Architects

**Housing**

Appleford Residence, Mount Maunganui; Brendon Gordon Architects  
Matarangi Cabins; CAAHT Studio Architects  
Split House, Mt Maunganui; Cummings Studio Architects  
Matua House, Tauranga; Designgroup Stapleton Elliott  
Whanarua Bay House, Taupō; Fraser Cameron Architects  
Kuiwai House, Taupō, Fraser Cameron Architects  
Pauanui Beach House, Johnston Architects  
Aotea Harbour Holiday Home, Kāwhia; PAUA Architects  
Pauanui Beach Home, Peddle Thorp Architect  
Pohutukawa House, Tauranga; Stufkens + Chambers Architects  
Callesen House, Kinloch; Xsite Architects

**Housing – Alterations and Additions**

Checkers, Pauanui; Wendy Shacklock Architects

**Housing – Multi-unit**

Parkhaven, Hamilton; Edwards White Architects

## **Interior Architecture**

Spectrum Building, Te Awamutu; Christopher Beer Architect  
EWA Studio, Hamilton; Edwards White Architects

## **Planning & Urban Design**

The Riverbank Lane, Edwards White Architects

## **Public Architecture**

Te Aka Mauri Children's Health and Library Hub, Rotorua; GHDWoodhead creativespaces  
Whakatane Museum Refurbishment – Te Whare Taonga o Taketake; Irving Smith Architects