

Te Kāhui  
Whaihanga  
New Zealand  
Institute of  
Architects



## 2021 New Zealand Architecture Awards winners announced



SCION Innovation Hub - Te Whare Nui o Tuteata by RTA Studio and Irving Smith Architects, Rotorua. Photo: Patrick Reynolds

Two social housing projects, transportable tiny houses for at-risk youth, a Christchurch Kōhanga Reo and a 'build to rent' development are among the winners at the prestigious 2021 New Zealand Architecture Awards, announced 2 December.

Across 13 categories, 26 projects have been presented with Te Kāhui Whaihanga New Zealand Institute of Architects New Zealand Awards, which are peer-reviewed by a judging panel of four highly experienced architects.

The jury visited 52 projects across the country - from Queenstown to Nelson, Wellington to Whanganui, and Rotorua to the Coromandel Peninsula (with many places in between) - before deciding on a final list of the best new architecture in Aotearoa.

“It was a privilege to visit these projects in reality,” awards jury convenor, architect Sharon Jansen, says. “As jurors, we aim to assess the essence of each project - its siting, its expression and function, its place in the built environment, and how it contributes to the life of its occupants and community.

“This year we saw many excellent entries in the Housing - Multi Unit category, which is significant as our property market changes and adapts to new residential living models.

“In this time of urgent need for housing across the spectrum of our society, we found ourselves needing to break our own rules by adding a fourth winner to this category, where two vying for a place were inseparable,” Jansen says.



Our House by studio LWA, Auckland. Photo: Sam Hartnett.

In the Housing category of the awards, the jury looked to celebrate what makes a good home, regardless of budget or size.

Jansen says that with this year’s winners, the jury recognises excellent design in housing is not only about ‘a beautiful photograph’, but also space, thermal performance, functionality, and connection to place.

In the Commercial category, this year's winners are Auckland's Hotel Britomart by Cheshire Architects and Commercial Bay by Warren and Mahoney Architects, Woods Bagot and NH Architecture in association, also in Tāmaki Makaurau, and Rotorua's SCION Innovation Hub - Te Whare Nui o Tuteata by RTA Studio and Irving Smith Architects, which houses the Crown research institute.

In Education, the winners were Te Hohepa Kōhanga Reo by Bull O'Sullivan Architecture, in Ōtautahi Christchurch, and Auckland's New Shoots Early Childhood Education Centre by Copeland Associates Architects.

Both the Christchurch Town Hall, recently restored after the Canterbury earthquakes, by Warren and Mahoney Architects, and Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira, Te Ao Mārama and Cenotaph Galleries by Jasmx, FJMT, designTRIBE and Salmond Reed Architects, took home Heritage architecture awards, with the Town Hall also winning an Enduring Architecture award.

The museum added a gong for Public Architecture to its trophy cabinet today, while Tuitui, the cafe and bistro designed by Jack McKinney Architects that sits in its southern atrium, won the Hospitality award.



Kāinga Ora - Social Housing Redevelopment by Rohan Collett Architects, Rangiora

In the Housing category, winners are Our House by studio LWA, in Auckland's Westmere, Threepwood Passive House by Team Green Architects at Lake Hayes, a beach house at Te Arai by Fearon Hay Architects, Crosson Architects' Light Mine in the Coromandel Peninsula and Awaawaroa by Cheshire Architects on Waiheke Island.

In the Housing - Alterations and Additions category, a former office-turned-home on Christchurch's Oxford Terrace, by Dalman Architects got a nod from the jury, as did Recrafted Art House in Auckland, also by Crosson Architects.

Housing - Multi Unit winners included two Kāinga Ora projects - one in Rangiora by Rohan Collett Architects, and Auckland's Waterview Court by Ashton Mitchell. Two other category wins went to Warren and Mahoney Architects for the University of Auckland's Waipārūrū Hall, and to Architectus for One Central - Bedford Apartments & Bedford Terraces in Christchurch.

In the Interior Architecture category, the five Green Star rated Hotel Britomart by Cheshire Architects took home a second award, and Whare Koa - Māngere Community House by Burgess Treep & Knight Architects was also recognised as a winner.

In the International Architecture category, Māori architect Anthony Hoete's Costa Street, a built-to-rent block of houses on the former site of what tabloids called ['the most expensive shack in Britain'](#), was recognised by the jury as a typology that could inform architectural thinking in Aotearoa.



Te Hohepa Kōhanga Reo by Bull O'Sullivan Architecture, Christchurch. Photo: Sam Hartnett

In the Planning and Urban design category, both Commercial Bay and One Central - Bedford Apartments & Bedford Terraces picked up a second win.

In the Public Architecture category, Auckland Museum's Te Ao Mārama and Cenotaph Galleries, Gisborne Airport by Tennent Brown Architects and Architects 44 in association, and Tiaho Mai Acute Mental Health Inpatient Unit at Middlemore Hospital by Klein, picked up awards.

And finally, awards in the Small Project Architecture category went to Elegant Sheds by Common Space - a garden shed and carport on a Bay of Plenty farm; The Cube by First Light Studio - a tiny but generous home built out the back of a Petone villa; and the transportable My Whare homes by SGA - Strachan Group Architects, which are designed to house West Auckland rangatahi transitioning out of community care or homelessness.

Jansen says this year's jury experience was different, as Covid-19 impacted the tour several times, delaying shortlisting, causing two strandings in Australia, and finally halting the tour itself.

"As well as having to assess the last five projects virtually, we were conscious that we lacked an international juror - that overseas arbiter who gives such a valuable perspective to our national-level projects," she says.

"But through many robust discussions and extended deliberations, we worked hard to look at each project on the continuum of excellence achieved by New Zealand Architecture Award-winning projects."

In the end, Jansen said the winning projects were those that brought joy to the jurors.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Te Kāhui Whaihanga New Zealand Institute of Architects Awards were presented online, across the Institute's [website](#) and social media channels this year.

On 9 December, an additional three supreme [Named Awards](#) winners will be announced online, from among this year's New Zealand Architecture Awards winners.

The Institute hopes to celebrate in person with the winning practices, clients, and generous sponsors Resene and APL, in February 2022.

### **Background:**

Te Kāhui Whaihanga New Zealand Institute of Architects is a membership-based professional organisation that represents more than 90 percent of registered architects in Aotearoa and promotes architecture across the country.

First established in 1905, the Institute currently has around 5000 members. Approximately 50 percent are registered architects working in New Zealand, with the balance of

membership made up of New Zealand architects working overseas, architectural graduates, architecture students, teachers of architecture and retired architects.

**About the awards:**

The Institute has operated an awards programme, in some form, since 1927. The aim of the New Zealand Architecture Awards programme is to recognise excellent achievement and to encourage architects to produce high-quality work that benefits their clients and their communities. At the national level, the awards programme is expected to showcase projects that indicate a way forward for architecture in New Zealand – work that demonstrates that architects are aware of pressing issues and are producing meaningful responses. The shortlisted and winning projects are chosen by a four-person jury composed of registered architects, usually including an international juror.

**The 2021 New Zealand Architecture Awards jurors were:**

- Sharon Jansen, Sharon Jansen Architect (convenor)
  - Grant Edwards, Edwards White Architects
  - John Hardwick-Smith, Athfield Architects
  - Gary Lawson, Stevens Lawson Architects
- 

**Full list of 2021 New Zealand Architecture Awards winners:**

**Commercial Architecture**

- The Hotel Britomart by Cheshire Architects, Auckland
- Commercial Bay by Warren and Mahoney Architects, Woods Bagot and NH Architecture in association, Auckland
- SCION Innovation Hub - Te Whare Nui o Tuteata by RTA Studio and Irving Smith Architects, Rotorua

**Education**

- Te Hohepa Kōhanga Reo by Bull O'Sullivan Architecture, Christchurch
- New Shoots Early Childhood Education Centre by Copeland Associates Architects, Auckland

**Heritage**

- Christchurch Town Hall by Warren and Mahoney Architects, Christchurch
- Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira, Te Ao Mārama and Cenotaph Galleries by Jasmax, FJMT, designTRIBE and Salmond Reed Architects, Auckland

### **Enduring Architecture**

- Christchurch Town Hall (1972) by Warren and Mahoney Architects, Christchurch

### **Hospitality**

- Tuitui by Jack McKinney Architects, Auckland

### **Housing**

- Our House by studio LWA, Auckland
- Threepwood Passive House by Team Green Architects, Lake Hayes
- Te Arai by Fearon Hay Architects, Mangawhai
- Light Mine by Crosson Architects, Coromandel Peninsula
- Awaawaroa by Cheshire Architects, Waiheke Island

### **Housing - Alterations and Additions**

- Oxford Terrace by Dalman Architects, Christchurch
- Recrafted Art House by Crosson Architects, Auckland

### **Housing - Multi Unit**

- Kāinga Ora - Social Housing Redevelopment by Rohan Collett Architects, Rangiora
- Kāinga Ora - Waterview Court by Ashton Mitchell, Auckland
- Waipārūrū Hall by Warren and Mahoney Architects, Auckland
- One Central - Bedford Apartments & Bedford Terraces by Architectus, Christchurch

### **Interior Architecture**

- The Hotel Britomart by Cheshire Architects, Auckland
- Whare Koa - Māngere Community House by Burgess Treep & Knight Architects, Auckland

### **International Architecture**

- Costa Street by Anthony Hoete: WHAT\_Architecture, London

### **Planning and Urban Design**

- One Central - Bedford Apartments & Bedford Terraces by Architectus, Christchurch
- Commercial Bay by Warren and Mahoney Architects, Woods Bagot and NH Architecture in association, Auckland

### **Public Architecture**

- Auckland War Memorial Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira, Te Ao Mārama and Cenotaph Galleries by Jasmx, FJMT and designTRIBE architects, Auckland
- Gisborne Airport by Tennent Brown Architects and Architects 44 in association, Gisborne
- Tiaho Mai Acute Mental Health Inpatient Unit, Middlemore Hospital by Klein, Auckland

### **Small Project Architecture**

- Elegant Sheds by Common Space, Te Puke
  - The Cube by First Light Studio, Wellington
  - My Whare by SGA - Strachan Group Architects, Auckland
-