

Sources:

When *Architecture NZ* commissioned a series of articles to mark the NZIA centenary in 2005, the first cab off the rank was New Zealand's architecture "journals, magazines, bulletins and squibs" (January, pp. 69-85). Douglas Lloyd Jenkins provided the historical overview and others, including past editors, reflected on specific journals.

Out-of-Print 3: Journals

In *World Architects in their Twenties*, a book of interviews with international big-shots such as Renzo Piano, Jean Nouvel and Frank Gehry, each architect spoke about their education and early years in the profession. Asked if they had any advice for young architects, they all commented that youngsters should be wary of the architectural media; Renzo Piano went so far as to say "I think too much information's like a drug ... a very bad drug ... So I have a suggestion: don't buy any more ... architecture magazines." Such an attitude is surprising – and perhaps ingenuous – from those whose rise in the profession has relied on the support of such journals. Magazines, it seems, are paradoxically necessary but unhelpful. The internet is altering the way we receive information, but we in NZ have been heavily reliant on international journals to keep up with overseas developments. What, then, is the place of local journals in our smaller architectural culture? Our nation's production of architectural books has been intermittent and uneven, and as a result local magazines have formed our primary historical record. Although the advent of the digital age may alter the balance, magazines continue to serve as a key source for most people. The development of our magazines mirrors closely the development and changing priorities of the profession. The following chronological presentation emphasizes themes and developments over time. It shows, for example, that one or two magazines have been founded in most decades since 1900. The chances of a new journal lasting beyond five years, however, are quite slim. There's a second danger point around the 15 year mark; make it over that hurdle, and it seems you're part of the publishing establishment. Our short-lived magazines have been the initiative of one or two or three people, all with something to say. The longer running magazines have also been pushed in different directions by strong-minded editors – Gerald Melling's truncated editorship of *NZ Architect* is a case in point; it's not always true that local architects and commentators are too shy to express opinions. Our magazines also demonstrate changing ideas and values. For example, the latter 60s and the 70s are associated not only with free love but also free thinking and free speech, and in Kiwi architectural publishing three new titles – the *AAA Bulletin*, *Designscape* and *Offcentre* – provided new opportunities for expression in that period. The new journals of the 80s were a different breed, reflecting the expansion of the history and heritage movements at a time when much of our built heritage was tumbling to the ground. In the 90s, there are other shifts – to theory, to modernism and, in turn, slick neo-modernism. In 2005, *Architecture NZ* stopped publishing architects' statements alongside building reviews. While this policy rescued readers from some dreary prose, it also placed them at some remove from the thinking behind the designs. As a consequence we now know far more about what Bill McKay and Douglas Lloyd Jenkins think about contemporary architectural issues than about the thoughts of our leading architects. This policy was well intentioned, but has left architects silent. We're fortunate to have the services of able and informed critics, but many of our leading architects are also articulate writers. We'd like to see our journals encourage rigorous thinking and vigorous debate by more regularly publishing texts by these practitioners. Otherwise, Renzo's journal detox may be the healthier option. *Andrew Barrie & Julia Gatley*

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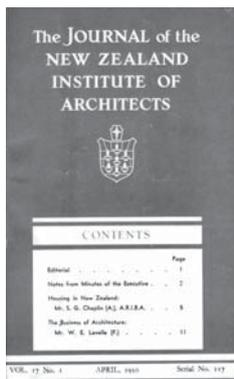
1905-1979

Progress
Building & Allied Trades
Auckland



Started in the same year that the NZIA was founded, this journal is the best-illustrated record of our early architecture. A highlight was its publication in 1912 of the competition drawings for Parliament House. The magazine changed its name to *NZ Building Progress* in 1914 and ceased publishing in 1924. When it returned as *Building Progress* in 1935, it was oriented more to the construction industry than designers, before eventually succumbing in 1979. Helpfully for scholars, this journal has been indexed by the Alexander Turnbull Library.

2 1913-
NZIA Journal of Proceedings
 NZIA
 Wellington



In its early days, this pocket-sized journal was primarily a record of the Institute and of developments within the profession. The journal's name and format meandered over the years, becoming *Proceedings/NZIA* in 1918, the *Journal of the NZIA* in 1922, the *NZIA Journal* in 1963, *Journal (NZIA)* in 1973, *NZ Architect* in 1977, and finally *Architecture NZ* in 1987. It wasn't published from 1938-49 due to WWII, with the *NZIA Year Book* appearing in its stead and then continuing in parallel until 1963. Bit by bit it became bigger and more colourful, and continues to be our first port of call for info on contemporary NZ practice.

3 1937-
Building Today
 Grimphorpe Press
 Auckland



This is a magazine characterized by constant transformations of name and format. Begun in 1936, the first few issues were published as *Building Today*, before becoming *Home & Building Today* in 1937 and then *Home & Building* later that year. *H&B* provides the best photographic record of our mid-century architecture. The journal was re-titled *NZ Home & Building* in 1976; had sections on food and wine added when it became *NZ Home and Entertaining* in 1999; and renewed its focus on houses when it became *Home NZ* in 2007. The magazine cemented its place in our architectural culture when it established the *Home of the Year* award in 1995.

4 1946
Planning
 Architectural Group
 Auckland



Much hyped, this magazine is limited to one issue, written and published by Auckland University College's disgruntled second year students, who went on to become the Group Construction Company in 1949 and Group Architects in 1951. The magazine's famed content includes a harsh critique of Cecil Wood's design for St Paul's Cathedral in Wellington, and a letter of support from Richard Neutra. A copy was also sent to Mies van der Rohe, who is reported to have read the cover as "I, Planning". It is surprising that a group so vehement in proclaiming their interest in indigenous modernism so actively sought international recognition and acceptance. Surviving copies are few and far between, so if you are offered one or see one for sale, grab it!

5 1948-1953
NZ Design Review
 Architectural Centre
 Wellington



While Auckland had the Group, Wellington had the Centre, and *Design Review* was the first of its various journals and publications. *Design Review* is believed to have taken its name from the *Architectural Review*, the shift from 'architectural' to 'design' reflecting its, and the Centre's, multi-disciplinary interests. Its graphic design is also a highlight. Creating a fabulous resource for mid-century fans, scans of every page of every issue are now available online at NZ Electronic Text Centre: www.nzetc.org/tm/scholarly/tei-corpus-DesignReview.html. See also Paul Walker's analysis of it in *Architecture NZ*, Sep-Oct 1996, pp. 46-48.

6 1966-1979
AAA Bulletin
 Auckland Architectural
 Association



The AAA was founded by acknowledged Group leader, Bill Wilson, in 1965, to act as an informal club or society for discussion, exhibition and, from 1966 when the *AAA Bulletin* was started, publication. The *Bulletin* is a terrific record of Auckland architectural activity and personalities of the day, injected with the kind of humour that predates political correctness. The *Bulletin* continued as the *AAA Journal* (1979-82). Today the AAA runs one of the most interesting architecture websites in NZ, with their "Architecture for Sale" section having redeemed a few otherwise dull Saturday afternoons with open home-cum-site visits.

7 1969-1983
Designscape
 NZ Industrial Design Council
 Wellington



Primarily intended to promote industrial design, this journal also covered disciplines such as interiors, graphic design, and ceramics. Emanating what now seems an Austin Powers-ish grooviness, the magazine included some of the best coverage of 70s architecture – particularly Athfield, Walker and the other Wellington heroes. The magazine gave extensive coverage to important projects such as the NZ Pavilion at Expo 70 in Osaka, the Hannah Playhouse and the Beehive, looking at the contribution of every design discipline. The Beehive issue, for example, covered architecture, art, and wall hangings through to flower arrangements and the design of the coasters at Bellamy's.

8 1969-1984
Offcentre
 Architectural Centre
 Wellington



Particularly under the editorship of Chris Cochran, this variously formatted journal was the vehicle by which Centre members gave attention to heritage issues in the 1970s when more and more of Wellington's old buildings were being pulled down. A particular highlight is the issue that records the Centre's vote on whether or not John Campbell's Edwardian Baroque Public Trust Office (1908) should be retained. The young hippies argued for its retention, while retired modernist Cedric Firth railed that the old building was "robust"... also "fussy" and "vulgar" and there is enough of this around anyway!

9 1974-1990
NZIA News
 NZIA
 Wellington

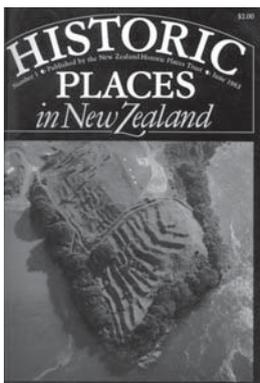


A photocopied news bulletin rather than a journal, *NZIA News* was replaced in 1990 by *Detail* and in 1997 by *Cross Section*. Due to the current economic situation, *Cross Section* recently switched to an electronic format, distributed by email. The NZIA has also supported local newsletters – the Wellington Branch published the *Wellington Architect* (1993-95) and Auckland, Pete Bossley and Pip Cheshire's photocopied broadsheet, *Big Issues* (1990-92), followed by the slick but short-lived *Transgressions* (1993-94) and then the long-running *Architext* (1994-2007), edited by Geoffrey Richards. *Block* has served as Auckland Branch newsletter since 2007.

10

1983-

Historic Places in NZ
NZ Historic Places Trust
Christchurch

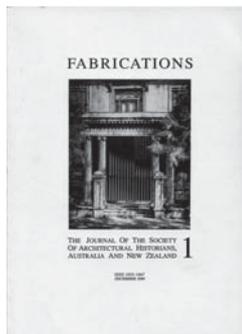


This, the official magazine of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, presents all manner of heritage-related material, from architecture to history, culture and archaeology. The journal blossomed for many years under the editorship of John Wilson, including issues with a geographic focus that have become a useful resource for information on the architecture of New Zealand's regions and smaller towns. More recently, the highlights have been Michael Findlay's regular articles on modern heritage. The journal was renamed *NZ Historic Places* in 1990, before becoming *Heritage NZ* in 2002.

11

1989-

Fabrications
SAHANZ
Australia



Following an irregular start, the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand* is now published twice a year, comprising scholarly papers and book reviews. Inaugural editors Desley Luscombe and Stan Fung, of the University of New South Wales, were seen as young theory upstarts in a sea of historians, but they only lasted two issues. Local editors since that time have included Deidre Brown, Andrew Leach and, currently, Paul Walker. The December 2004 issue (Vol 14, nos 1 & 2) has resonance for New Zealanders, being a special issue on the architecture of this country, inspired by Mike Austin's research, writing and influence.

12

1991-

Interstices
Enigma Publications
Auckland



Begun by Ross Jenner and Nigel Ryan at the University of Auckland's School of Architecture, this journal of architecture and related arts served as an outlet for the intensely theoretical thinking and writing that then dominated the School. It appeared sporadically for the first few years, but has been annual since 2005, when publication became collaborative with AUT. The inclusion of drawings, reviews, interviews and opinion pieces helps to widen its appeal to a general readership. The first issue is sold out, but later issues are still available from www.mercurysubs.co.nz.

13

1993

Glory Glory
Salvo Publishers with
Architectural Centre, Wellington



In the great tradition of *Planning 1*, *Glory Glory* combined bold ambitions and a very short life – only one issue was ever published. Editors Tim Nees, Tommy Honey and Paul Walker began the issue with a brilliant manifesto which, paraphrasing Blam Blam Blam, was entitled "There is no expression in New Zealand" and proclaimed: "If our country wasn't so beautiful, our culture would be much more advanced than it is." Published around the time of the Auckland Art Gallery's *1950s Show*, and including an article on Plishke & Firth's Massey House in Wellington, *Glory Glory* was embedded in a resurgence of interest in Kiwi modernism.

14

1995-1997

Modern New Zealand
Unitec
Auckland



The interest in modernism continued with *Modern NZ*, the seven issues of which were edited by Bill McKay and Douglas Lloyd Jenkins (both then teaching at UNITEC), thus heralding the dawning of their age as prominent writers on New Zealand architecture and design. Their hand-produced magazines discussed design in its broadest sense, from architecture to advertising, book design and ceramics. Each issue contained a small gift, such as a postage stamp of a Mrkusich stained-glass window, and a reproduction Henry Moore exhibition catalogue. One issue includes a review by the suspicious sounding author, Glen Innes.

15

1998-

Urbis
AGM
Auckland



When *Urbis* first appeared, it saw itself as the local equivalent of then uber-cool global glossy, *Wallpaper**. The comparison was, to be fair to *Wallpaper**, a bit optimistic, but the magazine boldly supported local designers by showcasing their work. In recent years, it seemed to lose its way somewhat, favouring what often seemed fairly random selections of international design over local content. The magazine recently celebrated its 10th anniversary and a new editor has been appointed to take on the challenge of injecting more local design and design writing.

16

2006-

Houses NZ
AGM
Auckland



Edited by the astonishingly productive John Walsh, the quarterly *Houses NZ* emerged as a sister publication to AGM's Australian journal, *Houses*. This journal is aimed at more of an architectural audience than the popular *Home NZ*. It isn't part of the NZIA magazine package, but it's worth splashing out on a subscription for the extended interviews with local architects. These provide a point of difference between this and the various other house and home magazines out there. They also make it one of the few venues in which we gain a more in-depth understanding of the development and ideas of local stars.

Also:

NZ Architectural & Building Review (1926-1928) Aimed at a broader readership than *NZ Building Progress*.

Yearbook of the Arts in NZ (1945-1949) Later published as *Arts Yearbook* (1950-1951).

Te Ao Hou (1952-1975) A valuable source on Maori architecture.

NZ Modern Home & Garden (1957-1970) A popular magazine surveying modern homes and gardens.

Architects Designbook (1989-1991) Published by the Christchurch Design Centre.

Prodesign (1992-) Official journal of the Design Institute of NZ.

NZ House & Garden (1994-) More floral fabrics and country cottages than *Home NZ* or *Houses NZ*.

Monica (1996-1997) An art magazine with occasional architectural flurries.

Modos (2001-) Final year work from architecture students at The University of Auckland.

Urbis Landscapes (2004-2008) Recently merged with *Landscape NZ* to form *Landscape Architecture NZ*.