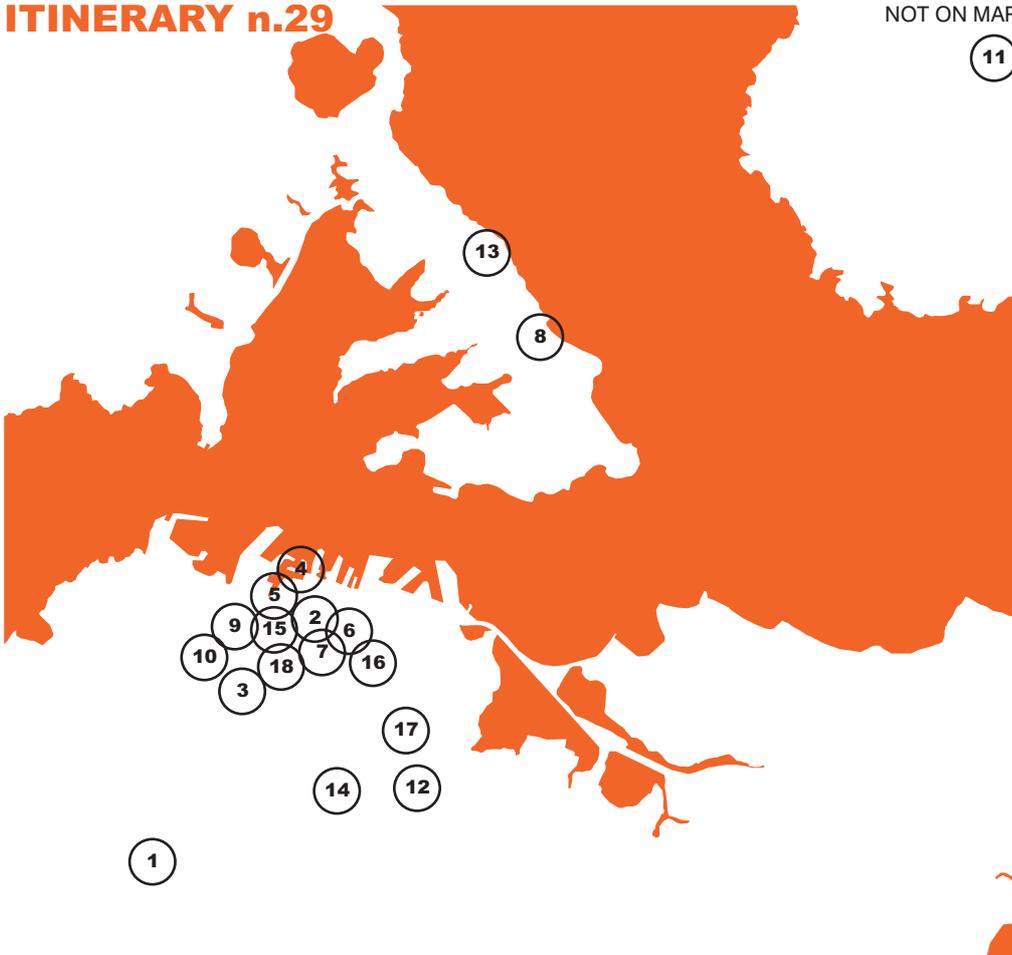


ITINERARY n.29

NOT ON MAP



Photos: Andrew Barrie

In summertime many Aucklanders abandon the city for the beach, but they seem to be replaced by out-of-town visitors asking what new buildings they should go and check out. This guide introduces some of the city's best recent architecture.
Andrew Barrie

1 2010
 Eden Park
 Reimers Ave, Kingsland
 Jasmx and HOK Sport



With all the drama surrounding Queens Wharf, it is likely that the new stands at Eden Park will be Auckland's sole architectural offering for the Rugby World Cup. Such projects inevitably become political, er, footballs, and what is currently being built is a scaled-back version of more comprehensive redevelopment schemes for the site. Following other high profile sports facilities such as Allianz Stadium and the Beijing Watercube, the new stand makes extensive use of an ETFE skin. But where in those buildings the layout of the ETFE followed their structural logic, Eden Park inserts a silver fern symbol. Speaking of critical regionalism, that giant inflatable football thingy doesn't appear in any of the renderings, but if Queens Wharf doesn't go ahead...

2 2009
 Deloitte Centre
 80 Queen Street, City
 Warren & Mahoney



Designed by W&M in association with Woods Bagot, this new building for the BNZ got off to a controversial start when it seemed the 1937 Jean Batten Building might be demolished. A revised scheme, however, saved the façade, but this prompted unfavorable comparisons to the BNZ's earlier trial of 'facadism' across Queen Street. It all seems OK now, as the completed building resolves the complex contextual and technical issues into an elegant, highly sculptural composition that works as well at street level as it does above. It was also designed to have lots of Green Stars. Nice.

3 2009
 Ironbank
 150 Karangahape Road, City
 RTA Studio



Spanning across a city block from K' Road to Cross Street, this retail and office complex is arranged around a path that connects the two streets. The path expands at the mid-way point to create a plaza, and the highly sculptural composition is further enlivened by the rich textures of pressed metal, corten, and coloured glass. The generous and urbane sensibility behind this design was acknowledged in its being awarded a "Highly Commended" citation at the recent World Architecture Festival. See *Architecture NZ* Sept./Oct. 2009. Be sure to check out the Cross Street façade, and then take a look at RTA's refurbishment for the same client just down the street at 582 K' Road.

4 2009
 Voyager NZ Maritime Museum
 Viaduct Harbour, City
 Pete Bossley Architects



Built as an extension to the NZ Maritime Museum, this building was designed to house NZL32, "Black Magic", the yacht with which Sir Peter Blake won the Americas Cup for New Zealand in 1995. The exhibition housed in the building also includes a tribute to the life of Sir Peter Blake, and a number of beautiful small yachts that represent the history of New Zealand yachting. The Museum is open 9am-5pm everyday, and admission for adults is \$16. It's now more than 10 years since Te Papa opened, and its great to finally see Pete realize an institutional scale project in Auckland!

5

2009

NZI Centre
1 Fanshawe Street, City
Jasmax



This building's diagrid glazed façade makes it one of Auckland's most striking new commercial buildings, but there is further excitement in the five-storey atrium within. Those too shy to simply stroll around the foyer might take the opportunity of visiting the public café. It's a great spot to take in all the spatial and corporate drama unfolding on the floating floor slabs, flying stairs and projecting meeting rooms. The building picked up Timber Design and NZIA Auckland Architecture Awards in 2009. See *Architecture NZ* Sept./Oct. 2009. Fans of Jasmax's workplace design might also like to see how they housed themselves at their new studio at 2 Marsten Street, Parnell (2009). See *Architecture NZ* July/Aug. 2009.

6

2009

Wintergarden at
The Northern Club
19 Princess Street, City
Fearon Hay Architects



The Northern Club's website explains that the Club provides "a sense of belonging in a dignified atmosphere where old traditions have meaning and value because they have been tested and retained." The Club recently complimented its decorous traditional facilities with a set of sleekly glamorous reception spaces tucked discretely behind a façade of louvered black steel. The black-on-black interior infuses a stripped-back Mies-ian modernism with an almost oriental exoticism. The project won the spatial design category of the Best Awards and an NZIA Auckland Award in 2009.

7

2009

Hotel DeBrett
2 High Street, City
Mitchinson Simiona with
Gascoigne Assocs



First opened in 1841, this site is home to one of Auckland's oldest hotels. The current building dates from 1925, having replaced a building destroyed by fire. The hotel re-emerged last year following extensive renovations, although the project includes as many references back to the building's history (especially its Art Deco days) as to contemporary design. The House Bar and the now enclosed light well is a great spot for a drink, and the hotel is probably the best place in the city to lodge visitors with designer sensibilities.

8

2009

Narrow Neck House
13 Old Lake Rd., Narrow Neck
Mitchell & Stout Architects



This adventurous house combines architectural elements in a totally original way - precast concrete panels that give bunker-like massiveness; high-techish colored steelwork; jaunty planes of corrugated polycarbonate that evoke the makeshift quality of Asian villages. The main house and adjacent flax-on-the-roof atelier represent a reconceptualisation of the suburban home and its relation to both to site and climate (here, even rain water collection becomes high drama). Like Mitchell & Stout's previous self-designed house in Freeman's Bay, this building will no doubt be recognized as a key point in the development of local architecture.

9

2009

Via Centro
22 Centre Street, City
Herbst Architects



This cleverly designed mixed-use building was created by demolishing an existing building back to its concrete structural frame and excising a parking ramp. The reconstruction inserted apartments and office spaces, arranged around a courtyard that brings in light and air. A carefully composed new façade of brick, steel, and cast alloy panels brings the building back out to the street line. This is the kind of thoughtful urban architecture that Auckland needs more of. See *Architecture NZ* Sept./Oct. 2009. While you are here, pop around to 33 Sales Street to see Fearon Hay Architects' Clooney Bar (2006), recipient of an NZIA NZ Award in 2008.

10

2008

Cook House
49 Franklin Rd., Freemans Bay
Cook Sargisson & Pirie



This house was designed by Auckland architectural icon Marsh Cook, for the use of his own extended family. John Walsh wrote that it "exhibits the wit, urbanity and gregariousness, and some of the bloodmindedness for which its author is reknowned. . . . this is a house shaped by a sociable impulse; in contrast to many forlorn exemplars of contemporary domestic architecture it expresses the joy to be found in a life lived among family and friends." The house was a Home of the Year finalist in 2008. See *Architecture NZ* Nov./Dec. 2008 and *Home NZ* Aug./Sept. 2008.

11

2006

Colin McCahon's Cottage
67 Otitori Bay Rd., Titirangi
Pearson & Assocs
+ Graeme Burgess



McCahon and his family lived in this cottage, which stands in the dripping Titirangi Bush, from 1953 to 1960. In awarding the renovation an NZIA NZ Award in the Heritage category, the jury praised it as "a cleverly thought through insertion of interpretive elements that maintains and enhances the atmospheric integrity of the house, intensifying its sense of place and the importance of Colin McCahon as a creative thinker." The cottage won an NZIA Auckland Award in 2009, and is open Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays (except public holidays) from 10am to 2pm. While you are there, check out Pete Bossley's Adjacent McCahon Artists' Residence (2007), which won an NZIA New Zealand Award in 2008.

12

2008

Whare Mahanga/Twin House
11 Middleton Road, Newmarket
Scarlet Architects



In the 1960s and 70s, our best Kiwi architects were experimenting with a full range of residential building types - row houses, mews, apartment complexes, communal housing. In recent years, however, excursions outside the norms of the suburban, single-family house have been rare. In the face of this conservatism, these side-by-side houses for Jane Aimer and Lindley Naismith of Scarlet Architects stand out as one NZ's most adventurous housing projects of recent years. The building was a Home of the Year finalist and won an NZIA Auckland Architecture Award, both in 2008. See *Home NZ* Aug./Sept. 2008.

13

2008

Wilson School
1a St. Leonards Rd., Takapuna
Opus Architecture



The first recipient of the NZIA's new NZ Architecture Medal, this building is a school built to serve the special needs of kids with severe mental and physical disabilities. The demands on such buildings are severe, but the Award jury described the school's spaces as having "a generosity of spirit that makes them uplifting to be in." See *Architecture NZ* May/June 2009.

While you are there, see Haughey Fox & Partners' NZIA Enduring Award-winning Wilson Home Chapel (1965), and pop across the road to Architecture Brewer Davidson's new buildings at Takapuna Grammar. See *Architecture NZ* Mar./April 2009.

14

2007

Auckland Grammar School
Old Boys' Pavilion
55 Mountain Rd., Epsom
Architectus



Accommodating function rooms and squash courts, as well as storage and changing rooms for the adjacent sports fields, this elegant building had a less seemly media moment as the backdrop to the now infamous Auckland Grammar – Kelston Boys rugby brawl. The different functions are clearly articulated architecturally as well functionally – each can be used independently. See *Architecture NZ* July/Aug. 2008. This area is now the best spot to see Architectus' work, with three other buildings by the firm on the AGS site (technology block, classroom block, and gym), and several more just next door at St Peters.

15

2007

St Patrick's Cathedral
Restoration
43 Wyndham Street, City
Warren & Mahoney



NZIA NZ Architecture Award in 2009 the citation read: "The conservation and restoration work . . . required painstaking research and investigation. The building was in a severe state of disrepair with some of its original elements lost or covered over time. The causes of existing damage and deterioration had to be identified and remedied and a full structural upgrade was required. This investigation allowed a discovery and re-gathering of some the building's lost integrity. In completing the work a new life has been returned to this important landmark building and the quality of its surrounding spaces and Diocese buildings has been greatly enhanced." See *Architecture NZ* May/June 2009.

16

2007

University of Auckland
Business School
12 Grafton Road, City
FJMT with Archimedia



This building was commissioned as the result of a competition, Sydney-based FJMT beating out high-profile local firms including Jasmax and MAP. The completed building has prompted very mixed reactions – Prof. John Hunt, a member of the competition jury, called it "disappointing". Complaints have focused on the arrangement of circulation and functional spaces, and on the building's response to its street-level context. On the positive side, Bill McKay called the fluid forms of the glazed superstructure "distinctive and memorable". The project received an NZIA NZ Award in 2009. See *Architecture NZ* Jan./Feb. 2008.

17

2006

Auckland
War Memorial Museum
Domain Drive, Parnell
Noel Lane Architects



relatively minor re-workings of the interior of the Grierson Aimer & Draffin building (1922-29), Lane's "Grand Atrium Project" inserted a number of new galleries and support facilities into a lightwell at the rear of the Museum. The drama of the ground-level atrium space has been somewhat overshadowed by the fact that the new dome and its views over the city are not generally accessible to the public, used only as special function space. See Douglas Lloyd Jenkins scathing review in *Architecture NZ* MArch/April 2007, and Museum director Rodney Wilson's refutation in the magazine's following issue.

18

2004-

Auckland City CBD Streetscape
Queen, Quay & Lorne Sts, City
Architectus



This ambitious project spans the entire length of Queen Street from the Ferry Building to Karangahape Road, and snakes outwards along Quay Street, Lorne Street and the currently-under-construction Aotea Square. The project integrated paving, landscaping, lighting, artworks, and specially commissioned street furniture by Humphrey Ikin and John Edgar. The stone of the paving has been inscribed with historical information and – in a charming, almost subliminal touch – the occasional fern leaf or shell. The project won an NZIA New Zealand Award in the urban design category in 2009. See *Architecture NZ* May/June 2009.

Other Addresses:

Stamford Residences (2008)
26 Albert Street, City
Peddle Thorp Architects
Recipient of a NZIA Auckland Award in 2009.

Old Devonport Post Office (2008)
10 Victoria Road, Devonport
Salmond Reed Architects
In 2009, this project received an NZIA Auckland Award.

Waitakere Civil Defence HQ (2008)
7 Elcoat Avenue, Glendene
Architectus
NZIA Auckland Award 2009

Yellow Treehouse (2008)
State Highway 1, Pohuehue
Pacific Environments
Built on a site 6kms south of Warkwarth, the building received a Best Award and an NZIA Auckland Award in 2009, and was shortlisted at the World Architecture Festival.

Macs Brew Bar (2006)
23-27 Nuffield Street,
Newmarket
Jasmax

Bell Tea Company Office (2008)
43 Crooks Rd, East Tamaki
Wingate + Farquhar
NZIA Auckland Award winner in 2009.

Alfriston College (2004-)
550 Porchester Rd,
Manurewa
Warren & Mahoney
This staged construction project was the recipient of an NZIA New Zealand Award in 2008

AUT Lecture Theatre & Conference Centre (2009)
90 Akoranga Drive, Northcote
RTA Studio

Sovereign House (2008)
74 Tarahoto Rd., Takapuna
Bligh Voller Nield with Jasmax
Winner of an NZIA New Zealand Award in 2008.

Mixed-Use Building
30-32 Drake Street, City
Architectus (photo below)

