

□ VISITOR CENTRE: Tennent+Brown Architect's Te Wharehou o Waikaremoana is at one with nature in its lakeside setting.

Lake wharehou regional winner

LAKE Waikaremoana's Te Wharehou o Waikaremoana has won its category at the Gisborne/Hawke's Bay Architecture Awards.

The building was shortlisted for the New Zealand Institute of Architects' public architecture branch award.

Local architecture awards honour the best new architecture in each of the NZIA's eight regional branches.

Winners of local architecture awards may be considered for further honours at a national level.

Te Wharehou o Waikaremoana was named winner at the Hastings Art Centre Ceremony on Friday after a jury visited 15 shortlisted projects.

Jury convenor Sol Atkinson said the Wharehou o Waikaremoana design took advantage of Lake Waikaremoana's natural environment and of the connection Ngai Tuhoe has to the area.

"The expression of ahi ka — the home fires of occupation — in the charred timber entrance panels, begin to tell the arduous road that led to the manifestation of the building."

National award winners will be announced in November.