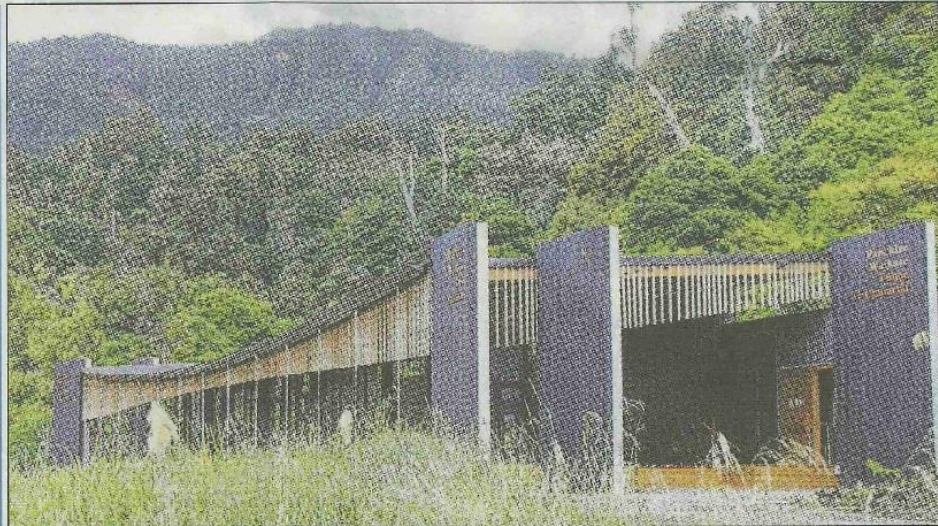


Lake base shortlisted in NZ Architecture Awards



□ Te Wharehou o Waikaremoana is shortlisted in the 2017 New Zealand Architecture Awards in the public architecture category.

TE WHAREHOU o Waikaremoana, by Lake Waikaremoana, is one of seven public buildings to make the shortlist for the 2017 New Zealand Architecture Awards.

Built using sustainable building practices, it followed living building principles in its design and build.

Te wharehou caters for manuhiri visiting Te Urewera and houses staff from the Waikaremoana Tribal Authority.

Decorative whakairo are embossed on concrete panels at each end of the deck, representing Tuhoe hapu, Te Whanau Pani, Nati Hinekura, Nati Tawhaki, Tamakaimoana, Te Urewera and the Tuhoe ancestor Te Umuariki.

Designed by Tennent Brown Architects, Te Wharehou opened late last year and cost about \$6 million.

Project lead Hugh Tennent said the late Ivan Mercep initiated space planning for the project, with Tennent Brown reconceiving the building form and developing the arrangement of spaces in a revised design.

“The new concept draws from the geomorphology of sandstone slabs at nearby Onepoto Bay, which originated from a slip that formed the lake many millennia ago.

“The roof drapes between precast elements, expressing the basin of the lake, with exposed rainwater cables from which rain falls to lake stone swale below.”

Ngai Tuhoe elected to over-clad the precast with burnt timber, giving expression to “ahi ka”, the home fires of occupation.

The broad overhanging draped roof provides generous veranda spaces for trampers and visitors.

The main space provides manaakitanga and wananga with supporting administration, retail, kitchen and cafe spaces.

Constructed with minimal site time, prefabrication was used to mitigate the risks and costs of building remotely.

The project team prioritised the use of locally-sourced materials and labour.

Ngai Tuhoe have also used

the Living Building Challenge at Te Whare Kura in Taneatua.

“LBC aims to transform how we think about our built environment, providing a framework to achieve a toxic/chemical-free building industry, championing energy, water and waste-neutral buildings and communities.”

In May te wharehou won its category at the Gisborne/Hawke’s Bay Architecture Awards.

Te wharehou is part of a Ngai Tuhoe, post-settlement renaissance in Te Urewera as third project Te Tii, a \$12 million community hub begins in Ruatahuna.

Buildings in the categories of housing, commercial, education and public architecture will be considered for signature awards named for four influential New Zealand architects: Sir Ian Athfield, Sir Miles Warren, Ted McCoy and John Scott.

Fifty-one projects have been shortlisted in the architecture awards programme. Winners of this year’s awards will be announced in November.

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