

Thanks (mostly) to *Outrageous Fortune*, the inner west of Auckland has developed a reputation for being, well, proudly boganic. But there's an outpost of civility in the mid-west: Titirangi, a bastion of culture with Bohemian roots, snugly nestled in the mossy armpit of the Waitakere Ranges.

Over the decades, the ward of Titirangi has provided a home for some of New Zealand's most creative souls, and on this tour you'll visit places that illustrate the rich cultural chops of the region. In the 1950s, for instance, Colin McCahon lived in a small cottage that now serves as a "small museum with big stories to tell" about the artist. The interpretive exhibition (2008) was designed by Pearson & Associates Architects, while the adjacent Parehuia Artists' Residency (also 2008), designed by Bossley Architects, reaches for light in the arboreal setting. Coincidentally, the 'Westie' Architecture Tour arrives at Te Uru, a bold new contemporary art gallery designed by Mitchell & Stout, on one of the last days of 'A Table of One's Own', an exhibition celebrating works by Anne McCahon. Another celebrated 'Westie' is Magnum photographer Brian Brake, whose Brake House (1977), designed by Ron Sang, floats above native bush off Scenic Drive.

For an expression of earlier modernism, the tour includes the Donner House (1947), a masterwork by Austrian émigré and former Auckland Council Chief Architect Tibor Donner. And, for a response by contemporary architects to Waitakere conditions, the tour takes in Dorrington Atcheson Architects' award-winning Easterbrook House.

From the Viaduct Events Centre you will be transported by mini-bus bus to each project, where you will have 30 minutes to inspect the surroundings. Please note that only exterior photography is permitted at the Brake House. Please remove footwear before entering any residential project. Lunch, catered by the Deco Eatery, will be taken on the rooftop terrace of Lopdell House (note: lunch includes one beverage – a cash bar will be in place for any additional drinks).

8.45am	Meet at the entry to the Viaduct Events Centre – please be prompt
9.00am	Depart for Titirangi
9.45am	Arrive at the designated project to start the tour
12.00pm	All groups meet on the rooftop at Lopdell House in Titirangi Village for lunch catered by Deco Eatery

- 1 Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary Gallery
- 2 McCahon Museum & Artist House
- 3 Easterbrook House
- 4 Brake House
- 5 Donner House
- L Lunch: Deco Eatery



'Westie' Architecture Tour 2017

Saturday 11 February

in:
situ.



McCahon Museum & Parehuia Artists' Residency

Pearson & Associates Architects; Bossley Architects

67 Otitori Bay Road

Selected Awards:
2008 New Zealand Architecture Award
2007 Auckland Architecture Award

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This artist's residency, located on the site adjacent to the cottage in which Colin McCahon lived with his family and painted during a seminal period of his career, accommodates scholarship recipients and operates in conjunction with a small museum in the original building. The new building – one part studio; one part residence – is a complex form carefully designed to sit between the many trees (mainly kauri) on the site, which are especially significant given the role they played in the paintings McCahon produced in his shift towards abstraction. While the residence nestles against the land, the studio pushes up into the trees on light steel framing that touches the site only lightly.



Brake House

Ron Sang – Architect

73 Scenic Drive

2001 Enduring Architecture Award
1985 Auckland Branch Award

Please note: photography not permitted within the house

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Completed over 40 years ago, this house reflects the fruitful collaboration between Sang Architects and the original owner, internationally renowned photographer Brian Brake. Structurally ambitious, with influences from the Far East, the house is deftly positioned to make the most of views near and far. Sheathed in weathered cedar, the house straddles a wet valley and stream, the bottom of which has been developed as a pond and water garden. The house floats above the mature bush with the north deck and Tatami Room supported on a single column. The theme of working with, not against the site, has been carried through the entire design.



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Donner House

Tibor Karl Donner – Architect

50 Kohu Road

The Donner house in Titirangi was built in the late 1940s by Tibor Karl Donner, chief architect to the Auckland City Council between 1946 and 1967. As Bill McKay writes in *Modern Houses in the West* (published by the Block Foundation), Donner's Titirangi house is "tall and glass-walled with a graceful curved facade that acknowledges the splendid panorama of Auckland city. It is not a suburban house; it is very vertically oriented with cabin-like rooms and a rooftop sun terrace in the manner of a European apartment. Inside, the use of delicately curved timber veneer joinery, Modernist furniture, tiles and marble create a sense of Continental refinement, grace and sophistication."

Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary Gallery and Lopdell House

Mitchell & Stout Architects

420 Titirangi Road

Selected Awards:
2015 Auckland Architecture Award (Heritage), 2015 New Zealand Architecture Award (Public Architecture), 2015 Auckland Architecture Award (Public Architecture)

Te Uru gallery once resided within Lopdell House – the five-storey structure designed by William Bloomfield and built in 1930 as the "Titirangi Hotel". In 2014, after much fund-raising, the refurbishment of Lopdell House and the construction of a new art gallery on the adjacent site began. At Lopdell House, decades of accretion were stripped away to reveal and celebrate original features. Next door, Te Uru's galleries were wrapped in green pre-coated aluminium panels and stacked up to a height that replicates the scale and proportions of the building next door. Together, the completed buildings provide Titirangi's main street with a cohesive yet contrasting visual anchor.



Easterbrook House

Dorrington Atcheson Architects

2 Deidre Place

Selected Awards:
2015 Auckland Architecture Award (Housing)

Sited for sun, seclusion and views of the surrounding bush, this Titirangi house is comprised of a main dwelling and a 'mini me' cousin with a similar planning structure. The primary home, conceived as a barn-like pavilion, situates bedrooms for adults and children at opposite ends. The rectangular shape is just four metres wide, however the mono-pitched roof and full-height glazing brings a feeling of spaciousness to the main living area, while a low-key palette of glulam beams, plywood walls and ceilings, aluminium joinery and concrete floors lends a casual holiday feel.

