

Sarjeant Gallery

Redevelopment

Information Sheet **SEPTEMBER 2019**

The Sarjeant Gallery Redevelopment Project

- The Sarjeant Gallery Redevelopment Project is a partnership between Whanganui District Council, Whanganui Iwi, central Government, large and small private donors and Trusts.
- The redevelopment project will double the size of the existing facility
- The redevelopment project includes earthquake strengthening and restoration of the existing 100 year old Sarjeant Gallery; and the addition of a new, modern wing which will be joined to the rear face of the Gallery.
- The new wing will house a temperature and humidity controlled storage area for the Sarjeant's nationally significant permanent collection, further gallery spaces, an education facility, event and function areas, staff offices, a board room, reception area, a café and retail space.
- The new wing will honour the memory of Sir Archie Te Atawhai Taiaroa, for his contribution to leadership in the Manawatū-Whanganui region and will be known as te Pataka o Sir Archie John Te Atawhai Taiaroa.
- Te Pataka o Sir Archie John Te Atawhai Taiaroa has been designed by Warren and Mahoney Architects. The design arrived at as the result of an Australasian design competition run in 1999.
- The Sarjeant Gallery Redevelopment Project is forecast as a two year construction with completion scheduled for the end of 2021
- Reopening will occur after the construction period has finalised and the building has been tested and fitted out.
- The redeveloped Sarjeant Gallery te Whare o Rehua Whanganui is currently projected to reopen in early 2022.
- A more definitive date will be made available once the project's main contractor has been appointed.

Current Redevelopment Timeline

- Planning for site monitoring of archaeology at Pukenamu Queen's Park is in progress
- Tendering for the main contractor role is due to be completed at the end of September 2019. The name of the contractor will be announced shortly thereafter and construction work is expected to begin promptly thereafter.
- Final design method for seismic strengthening is subject to negotiation with the main contractor
- April 2019: Expression of Interest document made public in Australia and NZ calling for interested contractors
- January 2019 – current: Appointed consultants access the site to undertake preparations

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- January 2019 – current: Detailed design project underway
- December 2018: Gaye Batty appointed as Project Director, Sarjeant Gallery Redevelopment. As Project Director Len Lye Centre Gaye Batty successfully delivered the Len Lye/Govett Brewster redevelopment project within budget and on time and has most recently as project Director led the redevelopment of the New Plymouth Airport Terminal Development
- 2016: Developed design drawings are prepared
- 2016: Unencumbered resource consents granted for the project
- August – September 2018: Design phase workshops occurred to ensure building plans fit for purpose
- December 2017 – April 2018: Key consultants engaged
 - Warren and Mahoney – Architects
 - Clendon Burns Park – Structural Engineers
 - Pacific Consulting – Building Services
 - Pacific Fire – Fire Design
 - BlackYard – Electrical Design
 - Rider Levett Bucknall – Quantity Surveyors
- December 2017: Council approved the appointment of RCP to undertake Design Management to the completion of the Detailed Design.
- Oct 2017: Council approved the procurement plan developed by RCP.
- Feb 2017: Design managers RCP appointed as procurement consultants

Funding

- The funding for this project comes from a combination of sources: Whanganui District Council; Ministry for Culture & Heritage; Significant Projects Fund (DIA); New Zealand Lottery Grants Board; Provincial Growth Fund (MBIE); public and private trusts and a multitude of individual donations both large and small.

Sarjeant Gallery History

- The Sarjeant Gallery was founded in 1912 with a bequest of £32 000 from Whanganui farmer and land-owner Henry Sarjeant. This represents approximately \$70M in today's money (this is based on a calculation of % of GDP).
- Building commenced in 1917 and was completed in 1919, and the Gallery was opened to the public for the first time on 6 September 1919.
- The Sarjeant Gallery, clad in Oamaru stone, is situated on an historically important site on Pukenui Queen's Park overlooking Whanganui.
- It is one of New Zealand's oldest purpose built galleries.
- The neo-classical Greek-cross style building with its distinctive dome was designed by architect Donald Hosie, from the office of Edward Anson (Dunedin).
- The building is listed as a Category 1 heritage building by the Heritage New Zealand. It also won an award in 2012 for Enduring Design from the New Zealand Institute of Architects.
- The Gallery currently meets only 5% of the current building code.

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- The Sarjeant Gallery staff, operations and collection have been relocated to temporary premises - Sarjeant on the Quay at 38 Taupō Quay near the centre of Whanganui.
- In 1995 the Sarjeant Gallery was gifted the Maori name Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui. Meaning 'House of Inspiration'.
- The re-location costs of around \$2.68 million over five years were funded by a \$472k Lottery Grant and Whanganui District Council

The Collection

- The Sarjeant Gallery collection has approximately 8,300 pieces spanning 400 years of international and New Zealand art history.
- Outside the main centres, the Sarjeant's collection is the largest art collection held in a regional art gallery in New Zealand.
- Included in the collection are works in a broad range of media from paintings and works on paper to sculpture, installations, ceramics and glass.
- The Sarjeant Gallery was the first in New Zealand to begin collecting photography with the acquisition of the Denton Collection in 1925.
- The Denton Collection is the largest collection of pictorialist photography in Australasia and is of international significance, with works by photographers from Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand.
- The Sarjeant Gallery holds the largest collection of works by Edith Collier, over 400 items are held in the Edith Collier Trust Collection.
- Contemporary collecting is led by the Tylee Cottage Artist in Residence Programme, the longest running artist residency in New Zealand and forms a significant body of work responding to the Whanganui Region and history.
- The entire collection can be viewed on the Sarjeant Gallery's multi-award winning digital collection portal [Explore the Collection](#)
- The collection has been appraised by both Art + Object in Auckland and Christie's of London and was valued at approximately \$30 million in 2019.
- The collection is temporarily housed at Sarjeant on the Quay in a climate controlled facility using state of the art storage systems until the redevelopment is completed.