

**Sarjeant Gallery**



**Redevelopment**

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## **Information Sheet**

### **DECEMBER 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 both the new and old gallery's heating and ventilation systems have been fully commissioned so the artwork can be installed.
- The redeveloped Sarjeant Gallery te Whare o Rehua Whanganui is currently projected to re-open in mid 2022.

#### **Current Redevelopment Timeline**

- Current - Planning for cultural and archaeological monitoring and treatment of any findings unearthed during the excavation of the site at Pukenui Queen's Park is in progress
- Current - The revised design of the seismic strengthening solution for the existing gallery is complete and subject to negotiation with the main contractor to ensure efficiency of construction and best value.
- November 2019 – the existing gallery was blessed by Te Runanga o Tupoho so that work can commence on the lifting and protection of the timber floors ahead of restoration works.
- November 2019: Resolution by Council to proceed with construction and award the main construction contract to McMillan & Lockwood PN Ltd.
- September 2019: \$12M PGF funding announced

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- August 2019: Request for Proposals (RFP) closed
- May 2019: Post tension strand accepted as the seismic strengthening method and revised detailed design for the Sarjeant gallery building underway
- April 2019: Expression of Interest document made public in Australia and NZ calling for interested contractors
- January 2019 – Detailed design underway for the new wing and alternatives sought for the seismic strengthening method to ensure best value outcome for the 100 year old building
- 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
- 2018: October - Cost estimate provided by quantity surveyors for developed design exceeded funds raised.
- 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.
- 2016: Developed design drawings are prepared with cost estimate of \$34M
- 2016: Unencumbered resource consents granted for the project

### 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.

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- 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.
  - 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.