



## The Auckland Project

<https://www.aucklandproject.org/>

[@aucklandproject](https://twitter.com/aucklandproject)

### **Describe your organisation in a few sentences:**

Jonathan Ruffer established Auckland Castle Trust in 2012 with an ambitious vision: to transform a 900-year-old bishop's palace from an unknown private dwelling into a world-class art, faith and heritage destination of international significance.

We have come a long way since then and have become The Auckland Project.

The desire to reinvigorate the town of Bishop Auckland and the wider region through social and economic regeneration is at the heart of this plan.

New life is being breathed into historic buildings across Bishop Auckland as plans to create a cultural destination of international significance become reality. But it is the community and people of Bishop Auckland, the community groups, schools and organisations that we work with, that lie at the heart of our mission.

Within five years this project should attract over 200,000 visitors and inject £4 million per year into Bishop Auckland and the surrounding area. When this plan is realised it will give the people of County Durham new opportunities through employment, volunteering and participation, and stimulate opportunities for local enterprise.

**How many internships do you plan to offer?** Up to 2

**Where will the internship(s) be based?** The Auckland Project, Bishop Auckland (Vinovium House, Saddler Street) with occasional research days at Palace Green Library, Durham.

**Duration of internship:** 6-12 weeks

**Dates of internship, if fixed:** Negotiable within June-September

**Working hours / hours per week:** 37.5 hours - flexible depending on deadlines and business needs.

**Brief description of internship opportunity:** This is an exciting opportunity to become part of the Curatorial Department at The Auckland Project, working closely with both our Collections and Conservation Team, and Curators.

*Core responsibilities:*

- To research objects in the collection, and undertake archival research at Palace Green Library centred on the collections at Auckland Castle.
- To assist and support the Collections and Conservation Team, and Curators at The Auckland Project with cataloguing the collection and updating documentation.
- To update records on the Collections Management Database with training and supervision from Collections and Conservation Team.
- To assist and support the Collections and Conservation Team with collections care, including: handling objects to check their condition and location, packing objects safely and securely.
- To support the Collections and Conservation Team in preparing for the creation of new stores to house our collection, including learning about safe storage and transport.
- There is further opportunity to assist Curators with preparing for temporary exhibitions and displays, including writing interpretation and preparing objects for display.

*Opportunities:*

- To learn about The Auckland Project's policies and procedures for collections care and documentation as an accredited Museums Service.
- To learn and use museum-based skills including delicate object handling.
- To learn about and then using curatorial computer software, including a Collections Management System.
- To learn what goes on 'behind the scenes' at a museum, including preparations for exhibitions and displays.
- To learn about the wider activities of The Auckland Project.

**Do applicants have to be studying a particular subject or in a particular Faculty, or would a particular subject be preferable? If so, please specify:**

- History of Art
- History
- MA in Visual Culture

- MA International Cultural Heritage Management
- MA Museum and Artefact Studies
- MA Conservation of Archaeological and Museum Objects

We are happy to discuss training and development opportunities tailored to the applicant's research interests, experience, and career options.

**Do applicants have to have any specific skills or existing knowledge?**

Ideally studying a relevant discipline – History of Art, Museum Studies, Cultural Heritage Management

An interest in working in museums, or with museum collections.

**Do applicants have to be DBS checked? No**

**Describe your ideal intern in five words:** Enthusiastic, Motivated, Focused, Conscientious, Flexible

**Will you be offering a paid internship / expenses only / no remuneration? (the College has committed to providing free room-only accommodation in Durham City to all students undertaking internships and limited travel subsidies to students undertaking unpaid internships during the summer vacation 2020):**

Expenses only.

**How would you like students to apply for this opportunity?**

Please send an up to date electronic CV accompanied by video application of no more than 4 mins telling us a little about yourself, and what you feel you could bring to The Auckland Project, to Michele Armstrong at [michele.armstrong@aucklandproject.org](mailto:michele.armstrong@aucklandproject.org) by 5pm April 14 2020

**If our students have any questions prior to submitting their applications, who should they contact?** Michele Armstrong at [michele.armstrong@aucklandproject.org](mailto:michele.armstrong@aucklandproject.org)

**Why has your organisation chosen to support the Intern:NE initiative, and why do you feel that our students should consider staying in the NE after graduation?**

The Auckland project has embarked on an ambitious programme of projects in Bishop Auckland to create an internationally significant heritage destination and regenerate the town and surrounding area. This and other major initiatives in the North East are providing opportunities that mean that individuals no longer need to leave the North East in order to gain job satisfaction and development. Keeping talent in the North East will help to inspire entrepreneurship, develop growth and keep pride in the North East alive. The Auckland project is on an incredible and ambitious journey, having you join us even for a small part of that journey will be both rewarding and inspirational for us and you.

