



Artist Neil Carter works on a painting for Geikie Gorge Information Centre.
Photo by Allen Grosse

Geikie display

ARTWORK for a new visitor information centre at Geikie Gorge National Park is being prepared by local Aboriginal artist Neil Carter.

Neil was initially employed on contract by CALM. He is currently employed on contract with the Darlŋgunaya Aboriginal Corporation.

The octagonal information centre that will house his paintings was built in 1990 by West Kimberley staff.

It was designed especially to accommodate the Kimberley wet - during floods the entire structure could be a metre underwater. It is basically a roof on a timber frame.

The movable information panels will be removed and stored during every wet season.

All the hardware for the display has been purchased and is in place and it is hoped the information panels will be ready during this visitor season.

The panels cover several themes, such as Aboriginal culture, geology and flora and fauna of the park.

Neil has already completed 'Working together' (reproduced in the Spring 1993 issue of *LANDSCOPE*), 'Bunuba Dreaming' and several others.

Other paintings will include 'Devonian Sea', 'Living Limestone', and 'Gender Bender' (on the barramundi).

"An advantage of Neil's involvement is that all the artwork will be painted by one person, giving the display a uniform style," CALM West

Kimberley District Manager Allen Grosse said.

The text panels were written by former CALM employee Kathy McGregor, Allen and wildlife officer Peter Trembath.

"Geikie Gorge has a wonderful cultural history, an amazing geology and a complex ecosystem, so the information centre is a great opportunity to educate people about the natural environment," Allen said.

"The centre will be an excellent interpretive facility that will provide an in-depth insight into these facets of the Gorge.

"It will tie in well with the two boat tours run by rangers and Aboriginal people for tourists."

Geikie Gorge is one of the major attractions of the Kimberley, with more than 25 000 visitors per year.



