



awards 07



## KUMUTOTO BAY BACH

**We and our Christchurch clients Tony and Sue Hewitt are delighted that their Kumutoto Bay bach designed by Jeremy Smith has garnered two design awards this year.**

### **Winner of 2007 NZIA Resene Local Award for Architecture**

The judges said: "The scheme is an architectural response to inhabitation without losing the joys of holiday camping in the bush. The inverted roof structure provides a clever solution with the muted timber palette forming soft, natural spaces, openings in the building skin letting in light similar to breaks in the forest canopy"

### **Winner of 2007 Carter Holt Harvey Supreme Award for Residential Architecture in New Zealand.**

The judges said: "This bach responds effortlessly to the challenging task of forming a permanent structure for the owners' tranquil, secluded camp spot. Simple detailing and the use of folded planes and natural materials harmonise to playfully sculpt the changing quality of light and shadows, mimicking the effect of the surrounding landscape". Our design approach is informed by an intimate knowledge of The Sounds (both Jeremy and Ian have baches there). The challenges of climate, remote location and often difficult contour are more than rewarded by the opportunity to make special places to relax and rejuvenate within such a beautiful environment.



## WASHBOURN OFFICES

### Winner of 2007 NZIA Resene Local Award for Architecture

In briefing project architect Jeremy Smith, Washbourn Investments director John Palmer stipulated design excellence as an objective. Endorsing this achievement, the jury observed "This pair of two storey office buildings provides an ambitious urban infill on the edge of the Richmond CBD. A central entrance corridor between the buildings provides a simple transition space, providing a link with the Washbourn Gardens opposite. A strong initial design concept has been followed through with crisp refined detailing. The resulting buildings are flexible in plan, environmentally successful and provide a strong presence to the streetscape".

## COMMENT

# sustainable bureaucracy

**Globally, nationally, regionally and locally, we are on the cusp of change. In a world of finite resources and burgeoning growth, life as we have known it is unsustainable. On many fronts we must face up to the challenges of change to maintain a viable world.**

In our last issue, Aspect pointed up the need to focus on designing buildings which take less energy to run, are made from sustainably manufactured and harvested products, cycle rainwater for re-use, capture and hold the sun's heat, utilise passive (natural) systems of environmental control, incorporate components which themselves may be recycled for future use, and promote the physical and mental health of their occupants.

Perhaps the biggest impediment to this imperative lies in the ever expanding regulatory environment we seem to have to negotiate to get a practical outcome. Surely the compliance industry must be outstripping all others in growth. Every year it seems another government department is created or restructured, another set of codes written, another series of time-consuming and costly hurdles put in place for both Councils and those working the coalface. Much is prepared in haste, is ill researched and creates confusion and cost within the building industry while educational seminars are set up and anomalies sorted out. Good ideas and practical alternatives are discouraged by the processes required to have them tested and accepted.

A standards base is necessary, but only in sufficient depth to ensure acceptable levels are met within a simple framework where the 80/20 rule can be applied, ie 80% of the result is achieved with 20% of the effort. There is a need for sensible overview, so that, for example, the new rules regulating insulation against heat loss do not counter the desirable energy benefits of capturing solar heat gain. Within Councils, there is a need for educated pragmatism rather than slavish adherence to rules sometimes written by people who failed to grasp their wider implications. Exposure to liability now seems to be the litmus test, often at the expense of workable outcomes.

# across the board

Leading up to Christmas and 2008, we can reflect with satisfaction on a busy year with numerous projects completed, under way or in the design phase. Look at our website for details.



## **Residential**

Around 20 houses and holiday homes throughout Nelson, Marlborough, the Sounds and Golden Bay, and as far south as Balclutha. And our first residential commission in America.

## **Commercial**

Office buildings in Nelson and Richmond

## **Health and education**

A new medical centre for Stoke  
Te Tari Maori Studies building at NMIT

## **Tourism and recreation**

Orinoco Winery  
The next stage of Wakefield Quay's waterfront development  
The Nelson Marina precinct



## PRACTICE NEWS

### Irving Smith Jack Awards and Publications, 2007

NZIA National Award - Waimea Inlet house

NZIA Local Awards - Kumutoto Bay bach and Washbourn Offices, Richmond

Carter Holt Harvey Supreme National Timber Design Award – Kumutoto Bay bach

Houses New Zealand magazine Issue 2 – Waimea Inlet House

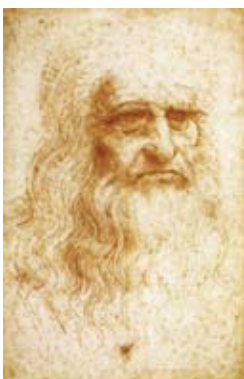
The New 100 Houses, Images Publishing, Australia – Vineyard House, Marlborough



“Campbell Cliffs House, Arizona, by Line and Space”.

## PRAISE FROM ABROAD

“Extraordinarily thoughtful architecture that fits comfortably amongst the best work anywhere”, commented prominent USA architect Les Wallach as he and his wife Susan joined us on a tour of our recent work. Building on a connection forged during Ian Jack’s 2005 visit to Arizona, we were fortunate to be able to host a national lecture series by Les, whose firm Line and Space has received multiple awards and international recognition for its environmental buildings in the Arizona Desert. With additional financial assistance from Resene and The Laminex Group, Ian introduced Les to audiences in Nelson, Wellington and Christchurch, within a framework of ongoing professional education for members of the NZ Institute of Architects. Irving Smith Jack derived additional benefit through having Les spend time in our office. Les observed that, although we work in quite different environments, our philosophies were very similar, striving for an architecture which has a natural fit with the landscape.



## DA VINCI MACHINES

Architect, artist, engineer, inventor, writer and acute observer and recorder of the natural world, Leonardo da Vinci has been accorded status as the greatest genius of all time. Nelson has scored a major coup in attracting an outstanding exhibition of Leonardo’s machines, on show here until 28 February. Irving Smith Jack is a proud sponsor, and also delighted that the display is showcased in the Nelson Provincial Museum for which Andrew Irving was the architect.

## STAFF NEWS

Judith Barr has moved north from Christchurch to join our production team. Her considerable experience and aptitude with 3D computer imaging has already proven a great asset. We have also welcomed Lani van Schreven, an honours graduate architect returned to New Zealand from Perth. Lani is a gifted young designer of some pedigree, her sister Abby recently being voted by Fashion Quarterly as Young Designer of the Year. Andrew and Stacey have a new son, Zac, their first child, very good looking. Chris Jones and his wife Louise also have a new son, Michael, and Chris has taken leave to assist with parenting duties.

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