

# DRAMATIC LANDSCAPE INSPIRES WINNING DESIGNS

The rugged coastline and dramatic landscapes of Banks Peninsula provided the ideal inspiration for three award-winning designs at the Canterbury Architecture Awards.

Patterson Associates, the architectural firm headed by renowned architect Andrew Patterson who designed Christchurch's Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre, created the three properties for Annandale, a historic working coastal farm located in Pigeon Bay.

Annandale has been a working farm since 1843. Set in rural isolation on 4000 acres of coastal pasture, it features spectacular views across the Pacific Ocean towards the Kaikoura Ranges, as well as into Pigeon Bay itself.

"When designing in beautiful natural environments like these, it helps to take the positive view that human beings, and our buildings, are a natural part of the planet. Like the rocks and the trees, we are children of mother

earth, but with that relationship comes responsibility and respect," says Andrew.

Housing awards were given for two of the designs, Seascape and Scrubby Bay House, both of which are luxury accommodation accessed by helicopter or by a 40-minute drive in a 4WD vehicle across cliff-top farm tracks. A third project, called Olive Grove, received a Small Project Architecture Award.

A remote beachside cottage, Seascape is set into an exposed rocky escarpment in a tiny cove. The cottage is designed as a honeymoon retreat for paying guests and consists of three rooms – a lobby, a living/sleeping room and a bathroom.

The architectural firm describes the cottage's plan as an interlocking



Olive Grove  
Photo by Simon Devitt



Seascape  
Photo by Simon Devitt

geometry to respond to two views – a three quarter outlook along the face of the cove and a far view aligning with a double rock arch called 'The Comb.' The Comb's form has changed over the years, collapsing into a simple rock spire during the February 2011 earthquakes.

The retreat is constructed largely from rock quarried near the site, with an earth turfed roof and concrete floors poured in situ. The structure is integrated into the escarpment above to protect occupants from falling debris, and lined with marocarpa timber. This lining then forms integrated joinery, wall and ceiling panels. Double glazed low e-glass, in steel and shatter-proof mullions, utilise earthquake-resistant sliding heads.

Special attention has been paid to a sustainable approach, both in its construction and with on-site water harvesting and wastewater treatment. Seascape also incorporated a sub-

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Scrubby Bay  
Photo by Stephen Goodenough

project of extensive reforestation and re-vegetation.

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The second house is set in the centre of Scrubby Bay, a large symmetrical north-facing beach surrounded by rugged farm land. The robust structure accommodates up to 14 guests, with its dimensions difficult to appreciate against its surroundings.

The house is a vernacular verandahed form which belies its massive scale – the apex height is at 5.5 metres

and its knee at 3.4m. It has a fully macrocarpa interior, with traditional detailing juxtaposed against black steel fittings. At the centre of the house is a stone fireplace, constructed from rock quarried from the station, with the majority of fittings, door hardware, furniture, lighting, oak grills and handles custom-designed for the house. During storms, and when unoccupied, the entire building can be closed up with storm shutters.

The third award-winning property by Pattersons on the Annandale farm is the Olive Grove. Here, a two-way spanning, cantilevered timber roof forms the structure, which contains a multi-purpose room, changing rooms

and a north-facing terrace overlooking a swimming pool and tennis court. Named for the existing olive grove which surrounds the building, it is located on a gentle west-facing slope overlooking the Annandale Homestead and Pigeon Bay.

All three of the designs at Annandale are wonderful representations of Pattersons' work, aligning stunning and functional design with the natural beauty of the New Zealand landscape.

For more information, contact Pattersons on 09 303 4004 or visit [www.pattersons.com](http://www.pattersons.com).

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