



Awards season for architectural designers

It's awards season for architectural designers, and three Kapiti-based firms have picked up gongs in the ADNZ Resene Architectural Design Awards.

Gil-plans Architecture, Essence Design and AD Architecture all picked up awards in the Wellington and Wairarapa region at a ceremony on Friday night.

Ben Gilpin of Gil-plans Architecture received recognition for two projects. The first is an Otaki farm house designed for a retiring couple, and the second is a funeral home in Waikanae.

Gilpin's Otaki farm house design received a residential new home between 150 and 300 square metres architectural design award, and a Resene colour in design award. A warm, light, contemporary and vibrant farm house, the house is open plan and features a monopitch roof.

Gilpin also ensured it is sympathetic to the natural landscape, with black stained cedar, teal Titan board, cedar battens and crisp white fascia detailing.

The judges said at first glance this is a simple 'object in the landscape' type of project.

"However on approach, a level of complexity is revealed through stepping levels and shifting wall planes articulated in strong hues and timber highlights."

Gilpin's Waikanae Funeral Home received a commended in the commercial/industrial category. Judges said the project presents an elegant division of spaces for commemoration and funeral preparation, within a well-enclosed envelope.

Robyn de la Haye, of Raumati

Beach-based Essence Design Limited won a residential alterations and additions architectural design award.

The award-winning space was a caretaker's apartment, built at the rear of a decorating firm. de La Haye said she was inspired by

New York lofts, as she looked to lighten up an interior that was dark and oppressive.

"The large amount of glazing

allows the changing light of the day to filter through the apartment, creating atmospheric mood and drama."

AD Architecture's Peter Davis, based in Paraparaumu, also won a commended award, in the residential interiors category. His entry is a beach house in Kapiti. Inspiration came from an amalgamation of Cape Cod style with pitched roofs and gables, boat

houses for a coastal feel, Danish long rooms with open plan but distinctive areas, and rural farm buildings for material selection and exterior features.

The winning entries will go forward for national judging in late October.



Waikanae Funeral Home, designed by Ben Gilpin, which won two awards at the ADNZ Resene Architectural Design Awards for the Wellington and Wairarapa region.