



## Ridgeline house avoids dominance

A house overlooking Hekerua Bay is among those recognised in the Auckland-Northland Resene Architectural Design Awards for 2017.

Creative Arch architects received a highly commended for the new-build on the Hauraki Road ridgeline which enjoys commanding northerly views.

The home on a steep site was positioned to maximise coastal views on a limited budget, architectural designer Mark Callander said. "Our approach was to design a simple cedar-clad box running parallel with the site contours."

The exterior features vertical dark stained cedar, contrasting horizontal natural stained cedar and aluminium joinery, with dark timber battening used

at the entry and as handrails/screens.

Extensive glazing on the north side maximises sea views which are available through the house from the southern courtyard area.

"We worked to ensure that outdoor living could be maximised without undue exposure to the elements," Mr Callander said.

The lower level was retained to the southern side to sink the house lower on the site, keeping it within planning restraints and reducing dominance on the ridge.



The living room is set back from the northern face to provide visual privacy to the neighbour on the western side.

The firm also won a commended for another entry in the awards organised by Architectural Designers New Zealand.

• *Geoff Cumming*