

Houses of distinction

Curves create award-winning beach home

Designed by local firm Odden Rodrigues Architects, this award-winning beach house on the outskirts of Perth features a spectacular curved roof which bends around to become the southern wall of the home.

The roof-wall made from Surfist COLORBOND™ steel provides protection from the weather while opening the home to the warmth and light to the north.

The design creates an upstairs apartment for the semi-retired owners and substantially separate accommodation for their son on the lower level.



Award winning beach home in Cottesloe.

Internally the wall-ceiling relationship of the contemporary design is blurred on the upper floor, emphasising the spacious design and views to the west and north.

“Materials for

the home were selected carefully to ensure longevity and the areas within the home are large and functional, maximising light and warmth,” Mr Odden said.

The house, which won the COLORBOND steel award at the recent WA chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects awards, has spatial qualities in relation to its narrow site.

The RAIA Jury noted that: “The main spaces for the house are contained in an astonishing two-storey high curvilinear volume made possible only by the daring use of steel.”

“The design purpose of using COLORBOND steel was just as much a driving force as the product’s economy and maintainability,” Mr Woolard of Studio 101 said.

An angled blade wall made from Shale Grey COLORBOND which runs along the western side of the home is an important feature of the building. The wall emphasises the extruded length of the house.

Internally, the raked ceiling and eaves made from the steel breaks down the barrier between the interior and exterior, particularly through the high level windows.

“Designed for a very lean budget, the use of lightweight materials fixed to the structural steel frame, produced a powerful yet cost effective result,” Mr Woolard said.

“We suspect the project has challenged some of the public’s preconceptions about the acceptability of boldly expressing steel with an exciting fusion of materials for small-scale residential projects.”

Bush retreat exudes character

Located in the suburb of Blackwood, 15 minutes from Adelaide, this new family home relies heavily on the use of steel to create its distinctive design.

Architect Jason Pruszinski of Woodhead International designed and built the house for his family over the past two and a half years.



Zincalume roof and wall cladding distinguish this bush house.

“The design was inspired by the location and the site’s unique influences,” Mr Pruszinski explained.

The home sits comfortably in the native bushland through the use of both roofing and wall cladding made from ZINCALUME steel.

“Steel is a convincing option for lightweight walling and roofing and has a unique Australian identity,” Mr Pruszinski said.

The home features two distinct zones. A ‘private’ zone incorporates two bedrooms, bathroom and laundry and is firmly bedded into the ground, providing both privacy and security.

A transparent ‘public’ zone – suspended within the tree canopy – houses the living, dining and kitchen areas.

A balcony runs the full length of the house, while underneath sits a garage and 22 kilolitre rainwater tank - made from AQUAPLATE steel - for bushfire fighting purposes.

Structural steel beams and custom-made furniture using pressed steel sections complete the look and feel of this steel oasis.

Heritage precinct is home to contemporary design

Architect Peter Woolard, from Studio 101 Architects, turned to steel to create a contemporary split-level townhouse on a small and narrow site in a council-designated heritage precinct of Geelong.

The use of COLORBOND™ steel on the roof, ceiling, eaves and a feature blade wall resulted in a cost effective, low maintenance, aesthetically striking building.



Steel on the roof, eaves and a feature blade wall create a striking split-level townhouse.