

Mountain echo

Featuring local schist and looking to Lake Wanaka and Treble Cone skifields, this gable-roofed home is fully immersed in its scenery





Previous pages: The triple peaks of this pavilion home by Condon Scott Architects echo the rugged mountains that the home's living spaces and bedrooms look out to. Locally sourced schist stone and standing seam steel cladding provide the appropriately durable skin for the home and connect with the hues of the environment.

Above: The home's kitchen is at the back of the main living pavilion. The schist wall supplies the splashback, protected by glass, while the island is fronted in corten steel which will patina over time.

The architecture of a home does much more than offer comfortable living spaces and the best possible outlooks. Sometimes, the way of using the space and how family members can have privacy or come together is all written into the blueprint.

This home by architect Barry Condon is located on a suburban site looking to Lake Wanaka and the Southern Alps.

"Based overseas and with young children, the owners were after a design that would work well in the short term as a holiday base but in the long term could be

a permanent family home," says Condon.

"They liked the idea of using gabled forms along with low upkeep cladding. Plus, they requested that all the primary spaces enjoy unobstructed views to the lake and mountains."

In other considerations, the house had to achieve privacy from near neighbours on either side and also offer protection from the prevailing wind.

With all of the above in mind, Condon designed the house with three gabled pavilions, running from east to west. The



peaked forms are clad in locally sourced schist and durable standing seam steel.

"The primary central pavilion is taller than those to left and right, and as such has a soaring interior, with a feature cedar ceiling that leads the eye out to the views," Condon says. "This pavilion contains the open-plan living spaces, including the kitchen, dining and living areas – with the kitchen, at the rear of the space, getting the early morning sun."

The kitchen island is fronted in Corten steel that will verdigris over time, while

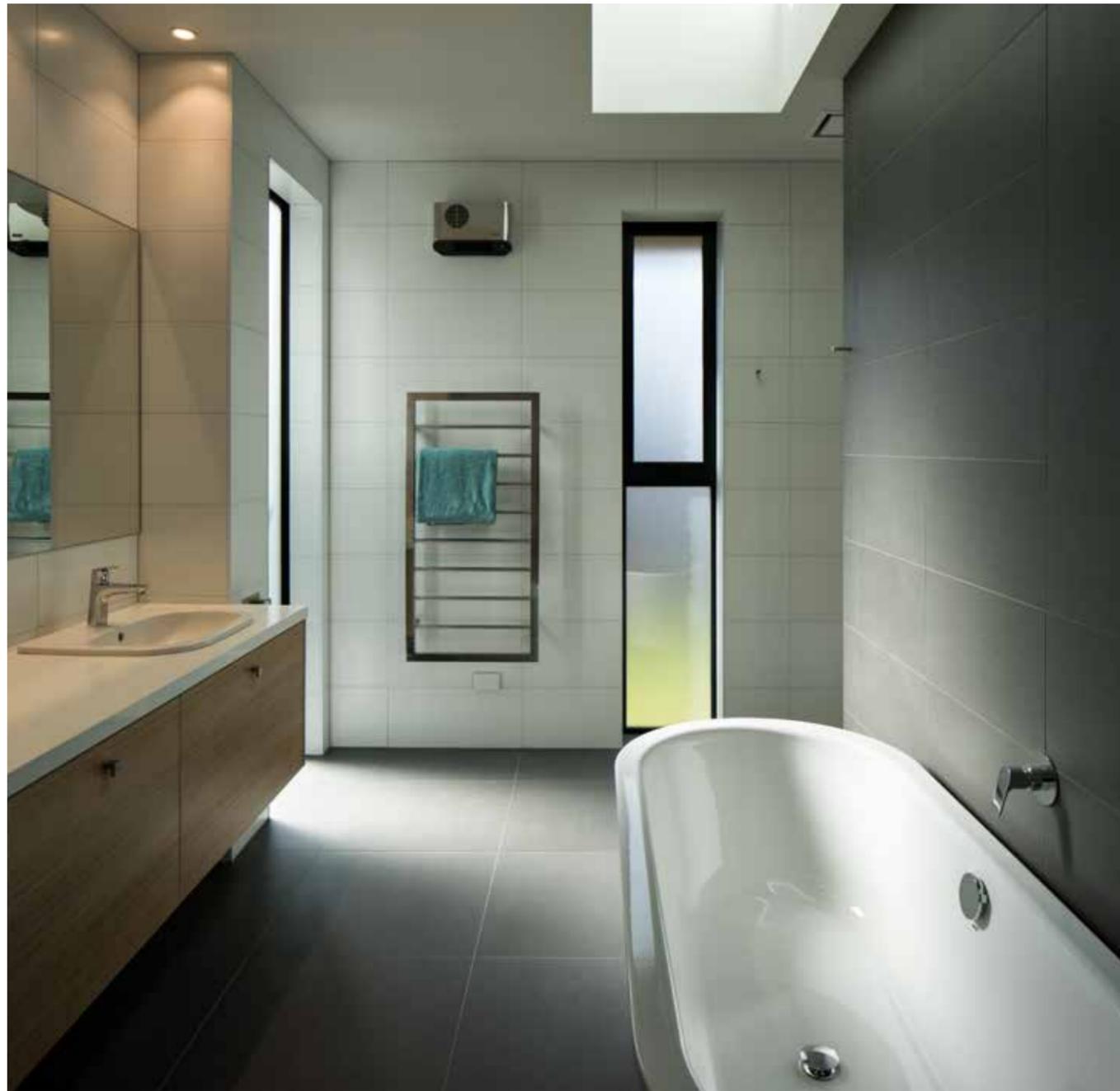
the splashback is essentially the schist wall behind – the rugged stone is protected behind a sheet of glass to keep it pristine.

Orienting to the mountain views, the living volume opens up to a large courtyard on the side – enclosed between the central pavilion and the master bedroom pavilion. This arrangement has the added advantage of also bringing privacy from the neighbour beyond the bedroom wing. And similarly, the guest wing with garage screens the other near neighbours.

Back-to-back fireplaces set in a shared-

Above: Large bifold doors lead out from the living pavilion to a sheltered courtyard – and the master bedroom can be seen beyond this. Already replete with picture windows and large doors that connect to the outdoor decks, the home is made even lighter with the addition of clearstory windows. Furniture pieces are kept low in terms of design to allow the rear spaces, such as the kitchen, to still take in the dramatic views.





Previous pages: Polished concrete floors run through the home. Besides toning in with the mountain environment, the dense concrete acts as a heat sink, soaking up warmth during the day and releasing it into the colder rooms at night.

Above: The master ensuite has a quiet palette and a wood vanity with double basins. Frosted glass windows ensure privacy on what is the front of the home, while a skylight adds more natural light.

Facing page: Shutters under the eaves of the master bedroom – and the eaves of the living volume – bring control over the low winter sun.

schist surround service the living areas and the courtyard, another example of the schist doubling as an interior wall – effectively, bringing the outside inside.

As well as screening the neighbours left and right, the home’s layout serves as an effective buffer in other ways, as well. The master suite pavilion – complete with bedroom, walk-in robe and large ensuite – is fundamentally separated from the guest pavilion by the central living pavilion.

“This creates a more private retreat for the homeowners and means if parents or

guests are staying they can close off the guest pavilion, which has three bedrooms, the main bathroom, a separate toilet and the laundry,” says Condon. “This design also futureproofs the home, in that if the couple do move here permanently, their children will occupy the guest wing and have a sense of separation themselves.”

Contrasting the dramatic living space, there’s a snug family room that connects the master and living pavilions. This will also be useful in later years when family members want their own space.





Architect: Barry Condon, Condon Scott Architects
Builder: Turnkey Homes
Kitchen designer: Condon Scott Architects
Landscape: Ecco Landscapes
Cladding: Eurotray by Calder Stewart; cedar from Rosenfeld Kidson; schist, sourced locally
Roof: Eurotray by Calder Stewart
Window/door joinery: APL Design Windows
Main flooring: Polished concrete
Paint: Resene
Kitchen cabinets: Resene White Pointer, Resene Chicago
Benchtops: Caesarstone Raven
Splashback: Custom glass over schist

Sink: Blanco Subline and Blanco Metra
Taps: Hansgrohe Talis, Hansgrohe Variac
Oven: Fisher & Paykel
Cookstops: Fisher & Paykel Induction and Gas
Ventilation: Schweigen Vera rangehood
Refrigerator: Fisher & Paykel, French door
Dishwasher: Bosch Series 8
Vanity cabinetry: Custom in oak by Masterwood Joinery
Basin: Duravit
Taps: Hansgrohe Focus mixer
Shower fittings: Hansgrohe Export Valve shower mixer, Hansgrohe Raindance showerhead
Bath: Starlet Flair Oval

Tiling: Walls – white matte tile, floor – Reptile D Grey M, by Parallel Tiling
Pendants: Secto 4200, from Simon James Design
Blinds and Drapes: McKenzie and Willis

Awards: Trends International Design Awards (TIDA) Homes – Runner Up

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Above: Centre of attention – to ensure the central pavilion is the most prominent, the architect stepped the garage-and-guest bedroom pavilion. This achieved the volume required for that pavilion without overshadowing the central pavilion and also helped with the owners request that all rooms access the views. This way a part of the rear guest bedroom looks past the front guest bedroom.

Left: Over-sized bifold doors connect most areas of the home to the outdoors. The standing seam steel used for sections of cladding also forms the home's roof.



Tallest peak – the central pavilion is taller and more prominent than its flanking pavilions in this home by Condon Scott Architects.



On this home by Condon Scott Architects, the foremost central pavilion also looks across the front of the adjacent pavilions to take in side views right down the valley.



Corten steel was an apt material choice for this rugged mountain home by Condon Scott Architects.



On this home by Condon Scott Architects, extensive plantings will eventually mature to further nestle the architecture into its landscape.



Part of a cosy family room at the front of a home by architect Barry Condon, this study area features a topographical map of the wider geographical area.



The master suite pavilion and central living pavilion partly enclose a shared courtyard on this house design by architect Barry Condon.



The far pavilion – the guest wing of this home includes a double garage, finished in standing seam steel as is half of the cladding and the roof. Solar roof panels offer a hint of the home's sustainable focus.