

6. RESIDENTIAL - NEW

Award: Bretts House Rocky Hills - by Rosevear Architects

This modernist glass pavilion designed as a coastal retreat, is very well resolved in plan, section and materiality. Its rectilinear plan aligns south, its lithe steel frame and glass skin hovering in contrast to the strong silhouette of its rocky headland.

The low pitched butterfly roof provides an extended horizontal scale which belies an unfolding sequence of internal and external spaces. They offer containment and release as appropriate to their use. An additional western uplift above the kitchen releases the roof plane to provide late western light as well as a view to the Rocky Hills behind. The restrained material palette serves to accentuate the natural character of the site while providing an uncompromising platform from which to appreciate the extended coastal view. Joinery and furniture (much of it designed by the architect) are finely crafted.

The dramatic site on the ocean side of the Tasman Highway ensures this will remain one of the states most recognisable dwellings. Thankfully it is a project handled with care and commitment by the owner, and uncompromising skill by the architect.