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Diana Blake of Diana Blake Design NZ won the Highly Commended Award for Residential Alterations and Additions for her work on Obsidian Harbour in Whangamatā.



This Whangamatā home was designed by Diana Blake who won a Highly Commended Award for Residential Alterations and Additions

Photo: Bohde Studio



Before: The house had a painted concrete block and clinker brick exterior.

The original bach was built by the client's father in 1978 but needed renovations and more connection to the harbour.

Judges said the renovation exemplifies the art of keeping a home vibrant across generations, a testament to the thoughtful and respectful approach of the designer. "Through skilful interventions, the project breathes new life into the home while preserving its cherished character and history. It stands as a shining example of how to navigate the delicate balance between tradition and innovation with finesse and care."



The Whangamatā project now has a modern kitchen with an easy flow to the outdoors.

Photo: Bohde Studio