

Delivering design&build abilities

London has Lords. Paris has the Stade de France. In New Zealand, Wellington has the Cakatin and Auckland has Eden Park. Nelson wanted something just as authentic and iconic for Saxton Field's new cricket, athletics and football sporting hub — the Saxton Pavilion.

The new state-of-the-art sporting centre, designed by Arthouse Architecture and built by Scott Construction, will be opening in Nelson soon. The two companies have worked together in the past to build the Saxton Oval Utility Building which was finished at the start of 2010.

Arthouse Architecture's brief was to create an iconic sporting centre on a thin piece of land for a relatively small budget.

"The day we started designing it, our server had crashed," the company's co-director Jorgen Andersen remembers.

"So we got the whole team together and we brainstormed and came up with the idea of a long slender oval form that responded to the site. We took that broad concept and found a way of building it for the council's budget.

"We developed a steel portal system which could be repeated eighteen times inside, then the roof put on it so the builders could then build underneath without the weather being a factor," he says.

Appropriate aesthetics

"We worked hard to ensure the aesthetics of the portal were appropriate to the scale of the building, as people interact closely with them as they pass through the building.

"The curving roof was also problematic. After assessing various cladding options we settled on corrugated iron both for both budget reasons and its ability to be curved to the tight side radius.

"We have used a curved plywood lining system underneath that also provides bracing between the bays.

"The plywood has softened the feel of pedestrian boulevard and the interior spaces. Already, before the project has been completed, the building is looking really good and the spaces in and around are working very well."

Justin Candish, Scott Construction's managing director agrees. "It was a challenging construction due to its shape and exposed finishes. Another challenge was the steel not arriving on time from Christchurch due to the earthquake. Instead of waiting, we moved ahead and worked on other parts until it arrived. Despite the delay, we are aiming to have it completed by the World Cup."

The Saxton Pavilion will be a high-use area, used by not only local sports teams and for national events like the Masters Games, but by international sports teams too.

For example, the Italian rugby team will be training there for the Rugby World Cup and the cricket ground has been designed to international standards so it can hold international games.

Green features

Other Arthouse Architecture projects include a \$6 million build of a three storey medical centre. In this project, the company used its considerable skills in green building design.

The project has been designed to offer tenants the ability to connect to a heating and cooling system where the windows are linked with the building's temperature and mechanical ventilation and cooling system.

On a warm day, the windows can automatically open when the building reaches a certain temperature and then close when it gets cooler. The design incorporates use of double glazing, high levels of insulation, heat recovery for the hot water system, external sun shading devices to regulate overheating and natural ventilation where possible.

ALL ABOUT... Scott Construction

- Owned by Kevin Scott and Justin Candish
- Experienced at handling residential and commercial work
- The competent team includes project managers, a quantity surveyor and 25 carpenters
- Has an independent concrete placing team
- Scott Construction is a member of the Certified and Master Builder Associations and has a number of licensed building practitioners
- Has won numerous awards for its builds
- Has an array of machinery
- The company is committed to being the best construction firm in the region.



ALL ABOUT... Arthouse Architecture

- The directors are Jorgen Andersen and David Wallace
- Has a team of eight, who work creatively together
- Has a long-standing commitment to sustainable and energy efficient design principles, supported by ongoing project-related research
- Works on commercial and residential projects
- Has won numerous architecture and colour awards
- Will work on large and small projects and enjoys the different challenges associated with the variety of scales.

Above: An artist's impression of a new medical centre designed by Arthouse Architecture, completed with the full range of green features.

Right: The Saxton Oval Utility Building, finished at the start of 2010, was a joint project involving Arthouse Architecture and Scott Construction.



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The Saxton Pavilion, designed by Arthouse Architecture and being built by Scott Construction.

It will also be constructed and clad mostly in naturally based, long-life, low maintenance, recyclable materials. Using sustainable methods for designing structures is one of Arthouse Architecture's points of difference.

"Using green design principles saves money in the long-term and produces a more comfortable and productive working and living environment," Andersen says.

Scott Construction has also been hard at work on a number of projects in the Nelson area. Justin Candish believes they were awarded the Saxton project because of the company's attributes, competitive pricing and the fact it has worked on a number of buildings for the council in the past.

A recent one was refurbishing the customer services area for the Nelson City Council, which was completed last year. This project received a Gold Award and Local Category Winner Medal at the 2010 Registered Master Builders Commercial Project Awards.

Scott Construction has won a number of Master Builder Awards since it started competing for them only a few years ago. Candish says the company's point of difference is the wealth of experience it can draw on.

"We've been going for 40 years, and have a team of 35 permanent staff — some of them are long-serving, many have been here for over 20 years. Kevin Scott, who started the business in 1970, remains very involved in the company," he says.

"We have the ability to work to tight time frames and still deliver quality.

"We have a full-time quantity surveyor in the office, meaning we don't outsource so we can provide budgets and estimates for our clients early on."

Scott Construction also has a wealth of resources, including a pre-cast concrete plant, all terrain telescopic crane, bucket truck, 12 tonne digger and a multitude of smaller machinery.

Both Arthouse Architecture and Scott Construction also specialise in designing and building high-end residential homes.

Future goals

Looking to the future, Candish says the company will "continue to focus on high end commercial and architectural projects in the Nelson area, delivering on quality to our customers, as we have been doing for forty years."

Andersen from Arthouse Architecture says the rebuild of Christchurch, where he was born and bred, offers plenty of opportunity for thoughtful redesign. The practice is considering opening a satellite office in the city next year.

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— Advertising Feature



The Tasman District Council offices, BNZ Nelson and Countdown Nelson fit-outs, all projects carried out by Scott Construction.



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