

Builder's joinery skills in demand

► Kim Newth

Proceed Building Ltd is a trusted name in Christchurch's residential and commercial markets, with a reputation for skill and expertise that extends to detailed joinery work.

Company founder, Sumner-based Ian Mayer, completed his apprenticeship in the mid-1970s.

He started out working for renowned Christchurch builder Maurice Carter, spending years in the joiners' shop and on building sites before moving to Nelson to work as a builder there. Ian later switched to dairy farming for a few years before taking up his trade again.

Since launching, Proceed Building more than a decade ago, the company has grown to a team of 10 that includes his son Richard - also a fully qualified builder - and daughter Gabrielle, who manages the office and administration needs of the business. Some builders working with Ian have been with him for 10 years; it is a stable, loyal team.

At Proceed Building, there is a shared commitment to going the extra mile for clients. The company is fully equipped to complete internal fit-outs that require joinery know-how.

"We can build cupboards, wardrobes and shelves and other such bespoke items," Ian says. "We don't draw up the plans - we're not designers - but if people come to us saying 'I like this material and I want it to look like this' we can certainly work with them to achieve what they want."

Projects led by Ian over the past 10 years include hotel fit-outs through to home renovations and repairs.

One of the company's bigger commercial contracts was a \$5 million earthquake remediation project on a Durham St building involving foundation re-leveling, repairs and an extension.

"Since then we have done other projects with the same client and we're currently working on apartments in Oxford Terrace to complete a modern renovation including recladding and fit-out," says Gabrielle.

Chippindale House, a double award winner at the 2020 Canterbury Architecture Awards, was a particularly memorable project for Proceed Building.

Dennis Chippindale, principal architect at Stephenson & Turner, designed the house.



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Built into a lava flow embankment and with very precise internal panel jointing, this was a challenging site and a challenging build.

"It was one of those jobs you only come across once or twice in a lifetime," says Ian. "It was demanding in the detail, from the cedar

cladding to the European birch ply lining with zig zags and crosses on top."

The team also crafted book shelves for a curving hallway and the home's wardrobe joinery.

"We did everything on-site, it was like a

joiner's shop! It was a good achievement for our guys."

Currently, the team is working on an insurance repair contract involving a three-storey home in Mount Pleasant, in order to bring the building up to code for the owner.

Proceed Building proudly supports the annual Special Children's Christmas Party. In the community, Ian's expertise has also made a difference over the years on various heritage projects.

When not on a building site, Ian loves to swap his builder's tools for a surfboard. "You've got to love where you live!"







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