



THE CASE STUDY

PROJECT DETAILS

Location
Remuera, Auckland

Architect
10x10 Architecture

Project Lead
Elaine Cheung

FEATURED PRODUCTS

• Oblique™ Weatherboard 200 and 300mm

A traditional gable roof meets a contemporary material palette across five family homes, offering proof that affordable housing can still carry architectural gravitas.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project was developed for a small-scale residential developer who wanted to build five family-size dwellings for the always-on Auckland housing market.

"The brief was to create contemporary, practical family homes that would appeal to the broader residential market, while balancing architectural quality with budget, programme and buildability considerations," says Elaine Cheung, Project Lead at 10x10 Architecture.

That brief shaped the roof form from the

outset, with a traditional pitch favoured for buyer appeal, as well as being low-maintenance and space-efficient.

The gabled roofs also provided practical benefits, including additional roof-space volume for services, ventilation and ducting, as well as a straightforward and robust approach to roof construction and weather protection.

Layered over this familiar form is a contemporary, gable-driven architectural language. Simple, refined shapes and a cohesive material palette define the look, with dark charcoal cladding set against warmer natural timber tones for contrast.

For the cladding, 10x10 Architecture specified Oblique™ Weatherboard, installed vertically in a mix of 200 and 300mm widths across the five homes. "The variation in profile widths was intended to introduce subtle visual variety. Using variations in the cladding pattern helped give each elevation a slightly different character while maintaining a cohesive overall architectural language."



OBLIQUE™ WEATHERBOARD

Oblique™ Weatherboard is a ship-lapped fibre cement weatherboard with a distinctive splayed edge that creates clean lines and subtle shadow effects. Available in multiple profiles and suitable for both horizontal and vertical applications, it offers exceptional design flexibility

A distinctive white portal frame at each entry adds a further layer of definition, marking out each home's front door within the wider streetscape.

Vertical timber was considered as an alternative cladding, but Oblique™ Weatherboard was ultimately preferred because it offered a similar clean vertical aesthetic while providing greater durability and lower ongoing maintenance requirements. Its ability to achieve a strong architectural appearance in darker tones was also an important consideration.

"For a multi-unit development, we consider the long-term performance and maintenance requirements of the external envelope to be particularly important, both from an owner's and a developer's perspective."

Fire performance was also a key factor in material selection. James Hardie's Fire & Acoustic Design Manual helped coordinate fire and acoustic requirements across the design and construction teams. "Fire separation was an important consideration for this multi-unit development. We used the JHETGO30V Fire and Acoustic Rated Wall System by James Hardie for the relevant boundary walls."

On the construction side, familiarity helped keep the programme moving. "Oblique™ Weatherboard's established use within the residential construction industry meant that the builders were already familiar with the installation methodology. This helped provide consistency and supported an efficient construction process."

The finished development presents a row of gabled, dark-clad homes, each given its own identity through subtle cladding variation and a bright portal entry. For 10x10 Architecture, it's an example of how a familiar architectural form, paired with the right cladding system, can meet the practical demands of a multi-unit development while still delivering an aesthetically pleasing result.

"The variation in profile widths was intended to introduce subtle visual variety. Using variations in the cladding pattern helped give each elevation a slightly different character while maintaining a cohesive overall architectural language."