

# TEMPUS TWO WINERY

VISUALLY STUNNING –  
STRUCTURAL STEEL FORMS  
AN ARCHITECT'S DREAM

**CLIENT**

Tempus Two Wines

**ARCHITECT**

Suters Architects

**INTERIOR**

Pike Withers

**BUILDER**

W Stronach

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**

Low &amp; Hooke

**FABRICATOR**

Lindsay &amp; Lange

**STEEL DETAILER**

Amalgamated Drafting

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Greg Callan





## Two simple concepts – the traditional portal frame steel shed and the semicircle – have been married into a spectacular design that was to win Suters Architects the Dangar Award for Recreational Buildings in the Lower Hunter Civic Design Awards

The brief for the Tempus Two Winery was every architect's dream. On a gently sloping, northern greenfield site, Suters Architects were asked to create something completely out of the ordinary that would be a focal point for the Pokolbin region.

Lisa McGuigan wanted a visually stunning, but low maintenance winery, in materials that would cope with the humid environment of the vineyards.

Using structural steel as the primary structural material, Philip Manns, of Suters Architects, has delivered a dramatic structure which curves softly into the landscape without intrusion on the horizon when viewed from the approach roadways.

Philip Manns said that: "The sales image for Tempus Two is modern, quality, and sharp. The building had to echo these images with the colours and finishes reflecting the Tempus Two label image of pewter and black."

"The use of galvanized structural steel in a modern, dramatic and controlled way was ideal to achieve these aims. It allowed expressive forms to be created, which could be both eye catching and functional. The traditional country shed and timber pergolas have been reinvented in a 21st Century interpretation. Clean strong lines, robust finishes and imagery have all been combined to meet Lisa McGuigan's brief."

The project has been designed to look like a group of buildings forming a semicircle and nestling into the side of the natural gully.

Mr Manns said that: "Seven pavilions, echoing the traditional country shed, have been constructed of simple steel portal frames and clad with a zinc/aluminum coated insulated panel system. The exposed steel structure is in a natural galvanized finish, with both the interior and exterior surfaces of the insulated roof and wall panels maintained as flat natural zinc/aluminum sheeting."

Chris Lindsay of Lindsay and Lange, fabricators on the project, referred to the unique design. "The buildings" he said "are visually strong and solid but the exposed steelwork, while a feature of the

project, is not overpowering.

The solid look belies the actual weight of the building, which is a comparatively light portal frame design, constructed primarily with 200UB's from OneSteel's 300PLUS® range of structural open sections.

The exposed structural steel has been hot dip galvanized. This natural metallic finish discourages the growth of yeast mould, a common problem in the vineyards, and blends with the roof and wall zinc panel sheeting."

The entry to each of the seven pavilions from the public plaza area creates the sensation of walking into a cellar. Each pavilion façade to the plaza incorporates a dark masonry sloping wall with a deeply recessed pair of pewter clad entry doors.

Richard Kidd of Low and Hooke, engineers on the project said that: "A deep awning roof over each entry slopes back 20 degrees and adds to the sense of enclosure on approach to the entry. The awnings are supported by overhead pretensioned steel rods which attach to 300PLUS® 410UB columns set back behind the façade at 45 degrees to the side of the building."



**"The use of galvanized structural steel in a modern, dramatic and controlled way was ideal..."**



"The plaza links the pavilions with the amphitheatre and incorporates an extensive pergola. The pergola roof slopes back at 12 degrees and gives weather and shade protection. The supporting steel columns are OneSteel's 300PLUS® 250UB and TUBELINE® 100x100 SHS. The rafters are T sections cut from 300PLUS® 250UB members.

The hi-tech look of the galvanized steel framed pergola is a modern interpretation of an old concept. The line follows the partial semi-circle and reflects design elements from the main pavilions. "

Mark Selby of Amalgamated Drafting, steel detailers on the project, said that the most challenging part of the project were the awnings with the roof supported from concrete panels by steel masts and tension rods.

## Visually stunning with the low maintenance of galvanized structural steel

The plaza incorporates a tower that acts as a focal point to the development and reinforces the semi-circular design. The plaza also connects the buildings with the vineyard, with extensive covered areas providing the link with the out-of-doors.

The interior shells of each building express the raw functional nature of the pavilions with the galvanized structure exposed in its natural form and finishes. Although the steelwork is exposed, fine detailing ensures that the impact is subtle.

Contributing to the subtlety is the use of OneSteel's TUBELINE® galvanized Structural Hollow Sections as purlins and girts. Insulated sandwich panels have

been attached to the hollow sections for a smoother, lower maintenance finish.

A combination of lighting systems has been chosen to suit individual areas and especially to illuminate the steelwork to create atmospheric affect for 'music in the vines' entertainment.

The project was completed in 10 months and is already attracting international attention. At the spectacular opening concert in March 2003 held in the winery's amphitheatre, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa's finale was the Maori Farewell sung to a hushed crowd with the spot lit steel creating the dramatic backdrop.

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