

Renovate

The brief

Add another level to a 1980s, single-storey, clinker-brick home to take advantage of ocean views and expand the living areas, with an emphasis on using recycled materials.



ARCHITECT
David Boyle (pictured)
and James Fraser,
David Boyle Architect
davidboylearchitect.com.au

BUILDER
B & W Paterson
0428 434 584

THE SOURCE
Upper level cladding Clear finished fibre cement sheeting, James Hardie, jameshardie.com.au
Lower and upper cladding Western red cedar cover battens, Walker Brothers Timber, walkerbrothers.com.au
Front steps Salvaged railway sleepers and bricks, Statewide Sleepers, statewide sleepers.com.au
Interior flooring Character grade wormy chestnut, Britton Timbers, brittontimbers.com.au
Internal walls Grimm Virogrove boarding, Mister Ply&Wood, misterplywood.com.au

BEFORE



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Light-filled

Balancing the need to maximise the view to the south while also attracting northern light and cross breezes was a challenge during the design stage. Architect James Fraser says: "The home sits on the saddle of the hill and it was really about developing the views to the south and reinforcing that through the design. The upper and lower decks are poised out there almost free of the building, creating this viewing platform which gets the northern light in. On the northern side we've installed glass louvres because they pick up those northeast breezes and are an efficient way of ventilating a space. The northern windows are full height vertical slit windows and are louvred."



The upper and lower decks bring in northern light and southern views.

Seeing is believing

This coastal site finally has a house worthy of its view, writes Ben Pike

The owners of this elevated Copacabana site were captivated by its sweeping coastal views. They were much less fussed about the project home from which they were looking.

Wanting to integrate the property with the landscape and better enjoy its ocean and bushland views, they brought in architects David Boyle and James Fraser from David Boyle Architect.

"Our aim was to somehow repair the design wound the 1980s urban brick bungalow inflicts on the coastal ridge, balanced against the economic need to retain as much of the existing structure as possible," the owners say.

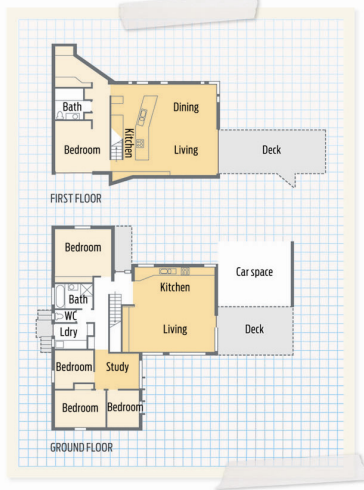
"The home seems to have been erected without consideration for its specific coastal environment, making little reference to ocean, wind, sun, geographic orientation, native vegetation and coastal lifestyle."

David and James's solution was to make wholesale changes while preserving much of the old structure. The stunning result last week won an award for Residential Architecture (Houses) at the 2012 NSW Architecture Awards.

Major changes

Having a big extended family with a love for holidays on the Central Coast, the owners wanted to have the option of independent living between the upper and lower floors.

As part of the plan a new kitchen, living space and bedroom were

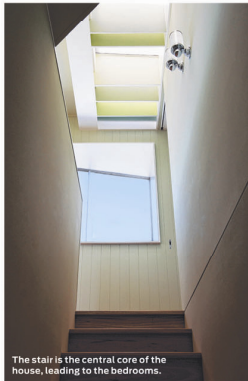


Ocean connection

Much of the inspiration for the renovation came from its location. James says: "From the street you don't get a sense of its position with regards to the sea because the street is slightly lower. Much of the inspiration came from that feeling of when you walk through Boudi National Park and you come across a point on a rock platform, and have this connection to the rest of the sea."

It was about making it work with sunlight and catching the breeze."

RENOVATE



The stair is the central core of the house, leading to the bedrooms.

→ installed on the upper floor as well as a decking area that looks south.

A second decking area was created on the ground floor to take full advantage of the ocean views, with a kitchen and other amenities remaining on that level.

The decks were installed at the expense of the original garage.

A new staircase is central to the whole property, James says.

"A stair is inserted into the ground floor and this provides a central core for the upper level rooms to be planned in a pinwheel arrangement," he says.

"As you arrive and come up the stairs, that is when the view hits you. That main window is composed and slightly inflected towards the sea.

"It was about maximising the view and framing it well. That is a custom window. We site-glazed that so getting all the detail right was important."

Green credentials

A pergola, which will eventually be covered with vines, provides a green horizontal border between the original house and the new upper level.

The tiled roof was replaced with flat steel and a 2kW photovoltaic system was installed. Exotic palms were replaced with native plants, while a 6100-litre rainwater tank supplies the toilets, washing machine and taps. Old railway sleepers and bricks were reused for the front entry.

James says there has been a big emphasis on trying to preserve as much as possible while still creating a new project.

"Rather than knocking it all down and putting it all into landfill it was about having an option for saving all that accommodation."

pikie@dailylegaph.com.au

Pictures Brigid Arnott

GET THE LOOK

Aged and vegetable dyed, this rug screams authenticity. Persian Garadgeh woollen carpet, \$2800, from [nazarrug galleries.com.au](http://nazarruggalleries.com.au)

This modern rocking chair features a fibreglass seat, stainless steel legs and timber runners. Replica RAR Rocker Chair, \$265, from lifeinteriors.com.au



This stool/mini table is a constant friend when sitting out on the deck, whether it be holding a cup of tea or good book. Frosta Stool, \$14.99, from ikea.com.au