



HEBDEN ARCHITECTS

ADAPTABLE

SUSTAINABLE

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECTURE + NATURE Pt.1

To be in nature is to connect to our essence as human beings. It frees us from the routine of daily modern life, particularly those of us who live in cities. Winter and even early Spring can keep a lot of us indoors but, some like to embrace the opportunities that the Snowy Mountains can offer and our principal, Andrew Hebden is one of them. He loves the clean air, pristine environment and the perspective he gets from being in the highest part of the country. Springtime in the alps is a bit quieter than mid-winter and a lot of native wildlife begins to emerge. Nature has always provided inspiration to people, particularly creatives. Architecture is inherently connected to it, physically, psychologically and emotionally so, nature and architecture are closely related.



ICONIC BUILDING: THE ROSE SEIDLER HOUSE

Rose Seidler House was built in 1949-50 in the [International modernist](#) style, designed for the mother of renowned architect Harry Seidler. It was one of the first of its kind for Australia at that time, and is an outstanding example of mid-century-modern domestic architecture. Located on a bushland site in the north of Sydney, Seidler described the house's spatial design, which was characteristic of his approach in the rest of his life's work: "...this house explodes the surfaces that enclose a normal house or space, and turns it into a continuum of free-standing planes, through which the eye can never see an end.." It's beautifully preserved, managed by the Historic Houses Trust, and open to the public to visit.



TIPS FOR DEVELOPING IN A BUSHFIRE ZONE, Pt.1

What is a Bushfire Zone and how is it determined?

Some parts of a Local Government Area (LGA) are affected by Bushfire Attack at various levels, depending on topography, vegetation, etc. These contribute to the intensity of a bushfire and the level of energy (in the form of heat) that is produced, and is expressed in levels of kilojoules / square metre on a structure or "Bushfire Attack Level" (BAL). This ranges in intensity from BAL 19 to BAL FZ (Flame Zone), the most severe.

Be aware of the zoning of your property

The extent of development: will depend on the zoning. You should be made aware of this at the time of purchase. However, zoning or classifications to individual properties can be revised without notice, so get a planning certificate to confirm. In areas recently affected you may be able to build at all

Solutions

There are many aspects of a house that need protection from wall construction to openings like windows and doors. For BAL FZ, solutions for protection of openings include window shutters and fire rated glazing.



The image above is of the side of our Noth Rocks House which faces a native forest. The window opening on the left is part of the original house and we were able to install a new roller shutter in the eaves above, it's virtually undetectable. Our addition on the right uses large areas of fire rated glazing. It was expensive but, our client felt it was worth it for the view!

in FOCUS: Henriette Masmeyer, Real Estate Agent

Hebden Architects Principal, Andrew Hebden had coffee with local leading Real estate agent Henriette Masmeyer and asked her about the market, what they want and living locally:

What do you like most about the Inner west? "The eclectic mix of cultures."

How long have you been operating here? "About 30 years, the last 10 in Haberfield."

What's the most challenging property you've sold? "A small one in Bland St, Haberfield, it was highly dilapidated!"

Do you see any future trends in the market? "Hard to say but, Haberfield is always in high demand, currently stock levels are very low. I expect they will increase next year, but demand has always been higher than supply".



In PROGRESS: project in Summer Hill

Our alteration and addition to 33 Wellesley St is completed! The challenge included excavating below the existing under-croft level close to neighbouring houses. Being close to an overland flow path in the rear lane high-lighted concerns about drainage, particularly from the cavities walls below ground. Also, heritage controls limited height, bulk and scale and of course we wanted to work in with the existing character and setting, including the original toilet, which was re-purposed for storage! A generous master suite replaced the old kitchen, complete with north facing bay window, and a new living area connects to the backyard below.

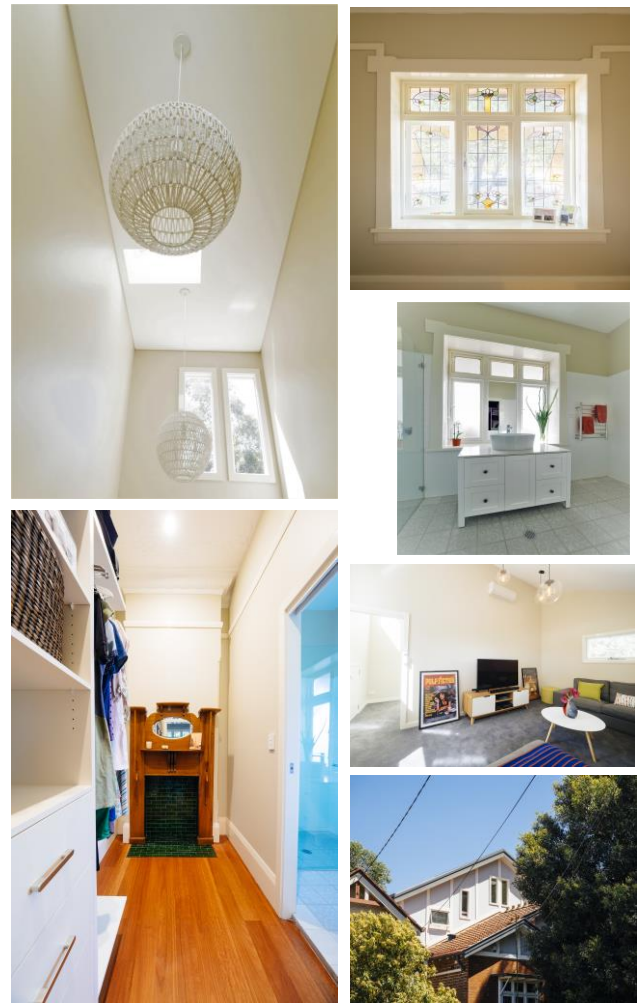


FEATURE PROJECT – DULWICH HILL HOUSE #1

A family of five needed room to grow in their federal era bungalow in Dulwich Hill. A previous addition had extended the ground floor out onto their precious rear yard so, they wanted to go up! They needed two bedrooms, a bathroom a rumpus/ guest room for the teenagers.

Downstairs the parents wanted an ensuite & walk-in-robe off their bedroom. The space adjacent was the original sitting room with immaculate fire place and bay window but, this had been semi-enclosed to create a (4th) bedroom.

It was a simple matter of creating a doorway from the adjoining bedroom & installing internal partition to form the master suite. It also accommodated the stairway to the new first floor addition. It connected to a central gallery space, with high ceiling & skylights. This allowed natural light & ventilation into the hallway at the middle of this house, which had previously been very dark. The two bedrooms were located on the south side of the addition, which minimized solar radiation from the north and there were of virtually identical size, which minimized arguments between siblings! The rumpus room opposite offered glimpses of the city skyline through the trees beyond, not unlike a tree-house. Its high south wall allowed the owners to display their collection of movie posters & the room provided the right atmosphere to watch them on the home theatre. Externally, the new second storey presented as large gable very similar to the original one at the front. As it was set back some distance, was not obtrusive and complemented the streetscape. It created no noticeable over shadowing to the neighbours and no privacy issues. The whole process went very smoothly and the owners were very happy. They have a house that will allow the whole family to live there for the long term



CLIENT TESTIMONIAL – DULWICH HILL HOUSE #1

“Maggie and I chose Andrew to design our renovation and we were very pleased with everything that followed. Our house is an older Federation house in Dulwich Hill and presented a challenge from a design point of view. We required two additional bedrooms, a rumpus room and an extra bathroom. We had the additional concern of what the council would permit in this area. Andrew was able to visualize the space and come up with a design that gave us all what we required and satisfied the council's concerns. We retained Andrew throughout the design and building phase and were very pleased we did. We'd recommend Andrew to anyone contemplating a similar renovation as we had a really hassle-free and rewarding experience!”

Mark Lovell and Maggie Barry



Contact us today about making your dream home a reality with our unique Hebden Home Design Method. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

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