

GRAND DESIGNS AUSTRALIA

**PETER
MADDISON**
ANSWERS
YOUR QUESTIONS
PLUS
**TV HOUSE
REWIND**
KING ISLAND
WHALE TAIL

**PLANNING
YOUR GRAND
DESIGN**
THE FIRST STEPS
TO ACHIEVE YOUR
DREAM HOME

**SPECIAL
FEATURE**

30
interior
design
ideas



10

ways to create
a smart home

ORIGAMI TREEHOUSE

An Adelaide Hills home that's all about the angles

Issue 8.2
AUS \$9.95*
NZ \$12.99 (Incl. GST)



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PROJECT
CHURCH HOUSE

DIVINE INTERVENTION

A righteous renovation and two-storey extension that will restore
your faith in modern residential architecture

WORDS LOUISE SMITHERS **PHOTOGRAPHY** CATHY SCHUSLER

PROJECT
CHURCH HOUSE



Crisp, clean lines
outline the extension



DETAILS

HOUSE Church House
LOCATION Norman Park, Qld
BUDGET \$250,000
DATE COMPLETED 2017

Transforming Brisbane's heritage-listed Church of Transfiguration into a comfortable hillside home took planning, prayers and plenty of hard work. Blessed with sweeping city views, the elevated parcel of land was awash with religious revelry in 1924 when the former Anglican Church was erected in the centre of the sacred site. Retired from service since 2009, the Church possessed a number of additions that had been tacked on in the 1980s and '90s. These were removed to make way for the new residence, which was to serve as the family home for owner-builder Glen Williams and his wife Gabrielle. In need of a house that could grow and change with their active young kids, they specified an open-plan ground floor living space with connected outdoor living zones as their top priority.



EDITOR'S FAVOURITE
THE DARK ZINC FORM THAT CONNECTS
THE CHURCH WITH THE EXTENSION



WE LOVE THE FRAMED VIEW OF THE CHURCH FROM THE DINING TABLE



ARCHITECTURAL VOIDS WERE USED INTERNALLY TO LINK THE GROUND AND UPPER FLOORS AND PROMOTE INTER-LEVEL INTERACTION

The church's orientation proved challenging. Situated on the traditional religious east-west axis, it was tricky to capitalise on the outlook without adversely affecting the home's passive performance. Careful spatial planning was implemented to solve the issue. "The use of thermal massing and opportunities to frame vistas of the church and CBD may have been lost if responding to a more desirable orientation," architect David Hansford explains. "The home incorporates elements of subtropical design and emphasises a connection to the natural and built context of the site."

The responsive extension is reverent in its context, scale and materiality. Connecting the old structure with the new building is a dark zinc form. Architectural voids were used internally to link the ground and upper floors and promote inter-level interaction. "The layout of the extension generates social hubs as well as private retreats, creating a home that can grow with the family," David explains.

Numerous elements of the design were only possible through collaborative problem

solving by the consultant team, such as suspending the upper-floor concrete slab from the steel-framed roof. This stroke of genius has created an 8m cantilevered mezzanine floor that seems to float above the ground level. "By hanging the second floor from the roof structure we were able to allow unobstructed sight lines not only from the rear to the front of the block and across the pool to the mountains beyond, but also from the kitchen across the dining area to the

church's exterior," explains Georgia Cannon, interior designer.

With kids and pets in mind, the five-bedroom, three-bathroom abode has incorporated robust, sturdy finishes without compromising on glamour. "One of the key challenges when selecting finishes was to resolve the relationship between the traditional, red-brick fabric of the church with the metal-wrapped glass and concrete shell of the new extension," Georgia points out.

PROJECT
CHURCH HOUSE



A statement staircase leads upstairs

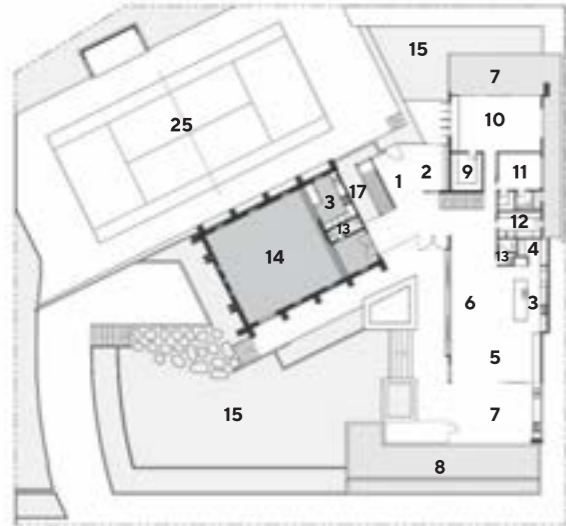


Modern bathing amenities are luxurious and practical

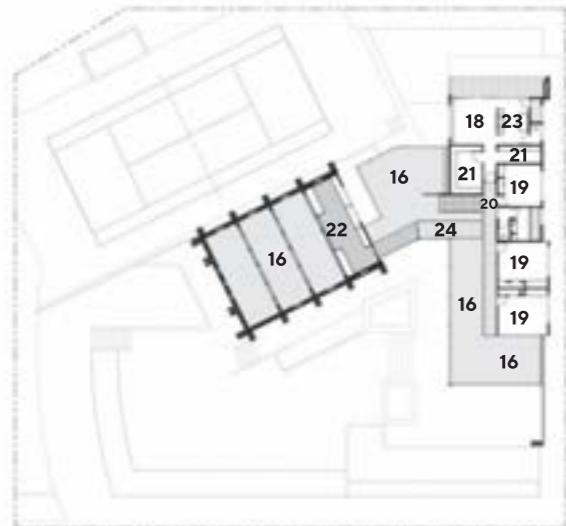


Pops of brass bring the space to life

PROJECT
CHURCH HOUSE



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

LEGEND

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Entry | 9 Servery/store | 17 Garden |
| 2 Sitting/reading | 10 Rumpus | 18 Master bedroom |
| 3 Kitchen | 11 Bedroom | 19 Bedroom |
| 4 Scullery | 12 Laundry | 20 Bathroom |
| 5 Living | 13 Powder room | 21 Robe |
| 6 Dining | 14 Entertainment room | 22 Office |
| 7 Outdoor living/ barbecue | 15 Yard | 23 Ensuite |
| 8 Pool | 16 Void | 24 Walkway |
| | | 25 Tennis court |

SERVICES

Joiner Jason Gannon Cabinetmakers, jgcabinets.com.au
Foundation architect Raymond Clare Nowland
Heritage architect Michael Kennedy

FIXTURES & FITTINGS

Tiles Classic Ceramics, classicceramics.com.au
Balustrades Thump Balustrades, thumpbalustrades.com.au
Bricks Austral Bricks, australbricks.com.au
Windows Brett's Architectural Window Solutions, bretts.com.au/windows-and-doors

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS

Window furnishings A Curtains and Blinds, acurtainsandblinds.com.au



The bones of the church were preserved and celebrated

PROJECT TEAM

ARCHITECT DAH Architecture (David Hansford), daharchitecture.com.au
INTERIOR DESIGNER Georgia Cannon, georgiacannon.com
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER MacStructure, 0429 803 459
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT Conlon Group, conlongroup.com.au



THE RESPONSIVE EXTENSION IS REVERENT IN ITS CONTEXT, SCALE AND MATERIALITY

"We deliberately selected a modern brick profile to clad the functional zone on the lower level as a subtle reference to the history of the original building, while the rest of the finishes were kept pared back so as not to compete with the bricks." Touches of timber and brass work to warm and soften the palette.

The all-important wet areas of the home count functional, elegant joinery as their main drawcard. Water harvesting and photovoltaic solar power join comprehensive shading elements to keep the house comfortable and efficient without breaking the bank or harming Mother Nature.

Integrated landscaping boosts the indoor/outdoor connection, pandering to the energetic nature of the client's family. Proof of their athleticism is the tennis court and pool.

An adventurous addition that is simultaneously sympathetic to its heritage roots is quite an achievement, and one that deserves the title of "miracle". We'd go so far as to call it Heaven on the Hillside. 🌱