

Newtown House



This project presented the unusual prospect of a double sized building allotment within Sydney's heavily built inner west, where one half was occupied and the other half not.

The occupied half contained a late Victorian terrace house. The front of the terrace was intact, and contained a double Living room downstairs and two bedrooms upstairs. It has been retained and repaired. The rear had suffered major changes and has been demolished. The unoccupied half of the site became the primary building site for the project.

A new two-storey infill containing a Kitchen and Dining space downstairs, and Studio upstairs is set to the Terrace house alignment. It mirrors the massing of the original terrace, but defers to the older building as the functional and ceremonial point of entry. On the rear laneway alignment, a new Garage/Workshop has been built.

The meeting of old and new fabric is articulated with a recessive joint between the two buildings containing a ground level toilet and new stairs. The new two-storey Kitchen/Studio volume is composed of masonry bookends that define a vertical light strip facing east and west. The light strip contains sliding aluminium framed glazing alternating with fixed panels of translucent polycarbonate. An external layer of fixed and moveable timber batten panels is applied to the vertical light strip to provide privacy, sun control and security.

Client: Private
Completed: 1999

Awards

1999

Finalist Belle House of the Year; Commendation Marrickville Medal from Marrickville Council

