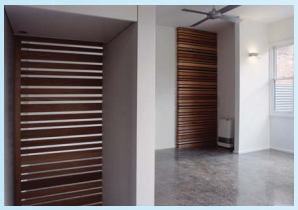
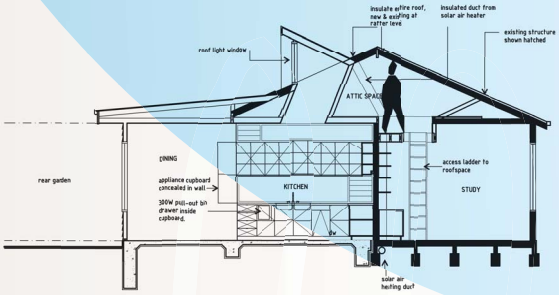
Skycatcher

by Ande Bunbury Architects





section

"Good communication and a shared commitment to the project's goals resulted in a creative and satisfying solution – a beautiful, comfortable house with a tiny eco-footprint."

Drawing on the principles of sustainability and good design, Ande Bunbury Architects turned a dilapidated weatherboard cottage into a spacious, green, stylish home.

Ande Bunbury Architects believe the relationship between the architect and the home owner is imperative for a great sustainability outcome. Working together, the team ensured that the heritage elements of the house were enhanced in accordance with the Heritage Overlay. By using materials already on site from the partial demolition, the builders reduced the amount of raw materials required for the task. Additional materials were selected for their low embodied energy and low toxicity.

Extensive North facing windows, an exposed concrete slab floor and a roof light window that draws light into the central kitchen are some of the methods the team used to ensure the house in North Fitzroy remains comfortable throughout the year. These design choices, in combination with a selection of energy-efficient appliances and a 1kW photovoltaic panel array that on average provides 4kW of power per day, means the house now uses 90% less electricity than the daily household average and feeds energy back into the grid.

Combined with low flow shower heads, rain water tanks, built-in composting bins and a solar hot water system, Skycatcher has well and truly fulfilled the design goals of green and stylish.

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existing plan

new ground floor plan

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