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Preston Lane Architects

ST CANICE RESIDENCE

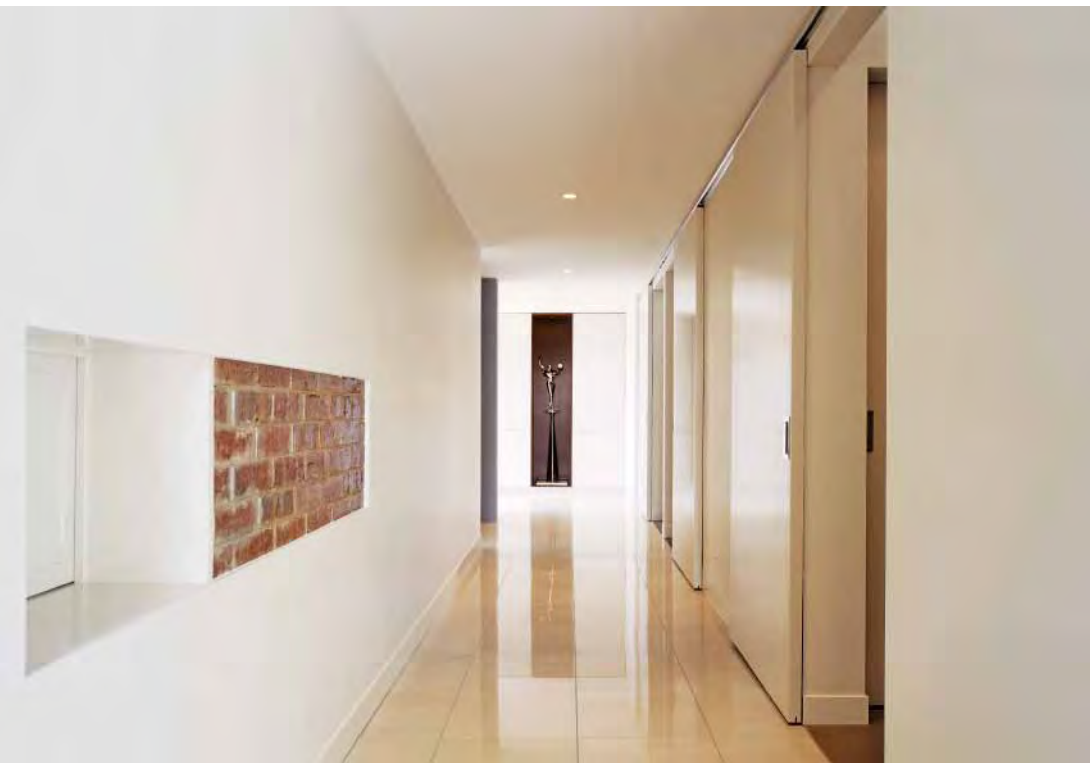
Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia

This project involved a major alteration and extension to an existing 1920's house in Sandy Bay, close to the center of Hobart. It presented a unique opportunity to provide two separate additions: an inward-focused rear extension containing a gallery, bedrooms, and services, and a projecting living addition to the front of the house responding to the panoramic views of the Derwent River. || A key feature of the original house is the sandstone retaining wall that originally housed stables and over the years had been built in with a series of ad hoc extensions. The architects identified the key original elements—the sandstone wall and the majority of the original double brick house—and then inserted a new contemporary extension that contrasts with and highlights the original features. || The rear extension focuses on **revealing and highlighting sections of the original sandstone wall** and its unique deep reveal highlight windows. The light-filled gallery space to the west provides a secondary entry into the house and access to the rear bedrooms as well as a cellar in the south corner and a laundry extending onto a new deck to the southeast. A singular sliding door track provides neat concealment of the bedrooms; feature joinery and natural off-form

concrete provide highlights down the hallway. || The original entry to the house has been maintained and a concealed sliding door to the dining room ensures this space feels light and open, but provides the flexibility to close the living spaces from the rest of the house. The living room extension projects from the line of the original house and is composed of a series of different-height windows that frame specific views from within and control views from close neighboring houses. Some major steel beams were required where the old meets the new and the resultant bulkheads were visually simplified by the insertion of a suspended timber ceiling lining over this area. A large deck opens up from the living room to the northeast and bifold doors allow the space to nearly double in size. Through careful detailing of concealed retractable blinds, and a television screen that rises from the crafted joinery unit, the expansive living room view can be closed off and is easily converted into a home theater. || Externally, a simple palette of materials provides a contrast with the original house. Most of the new walls are clad with painted cement sheet; oiled Tasmanian oak shiplapped timber boards provide a textural highlight and contrast with black aluminum window framing.

- 1 Exterior view of gallery at dusk
- 2 Projecting extension to the north





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- 3 Rear hallway
- 4 Exterior view of living room deck
- 5 Interior view of gallery
- 6 Bathroom detail
- 7 Ground floor plan
- 8 New living room and views beyond

Photography: Ralph Alphonso (1-5,7); Daniel Lane (6)



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