

This 245-square-metre house is located on the crest of Bonnet Hill, approximately 10 kilometres south of Hobart. It has views to both the mouth of the Derwent River to the southeast and the Wellington mountain ranges to the west.

The main challenge of this project was responding to the harsh microclimate of such an exposed site and organising a series of living spaces, both interior and exterior, that provide shelter at different times of the day and year, along with allowing the remarkable views to be experienced from within.

Responding to this challenge, the house is constructed on a single level and consists of two adjacent pavilions, connected by a central circulation spine that houses joinery and provides informal niches for display and seating. The larger pavilion houses the main living spaces and master bedroom that orient to the northeast and the smaller pavilion provides a separate space for the children's bedrooms and bathroom. The garage and services are located to the southwest and create the opportunity for a protected courtyard that captures the setting sun behind Mount Wellington late in the afternoon.

The spaces within the pavilions are organised between masonry blade walls that run north-south and are located to maximise passive solar opportunities while providing shelter from the prevailing winds. The etched face block work has been used internally as a feature wall dividing the living and study and, in combination

with the concrete slab in the study, acts as a heat bank in winter. East-west views through the building are gained through the combination of bi-fold doors and a section of the central spine being left open.

The building's simple organisation is expressed through the form of the roof, which rakes from the south to the north in both pavilions and is connected by the flat roof of the central spine. The masonry blade walls terminate well below the roofline and allow the roof to appear as a floating, lightweight lid rising up the hill. Inside, the varied ceiling heights set up a series of contrasting volumes that compress through the central circulation spine and open up in the living room and study. This, in combination with carefully positioned windows that frame and open specific views, provides a series of different spaces.

- 1 View looking south down the central circulation spine
- 2 East elevation at dusk showing views through the living room to the west



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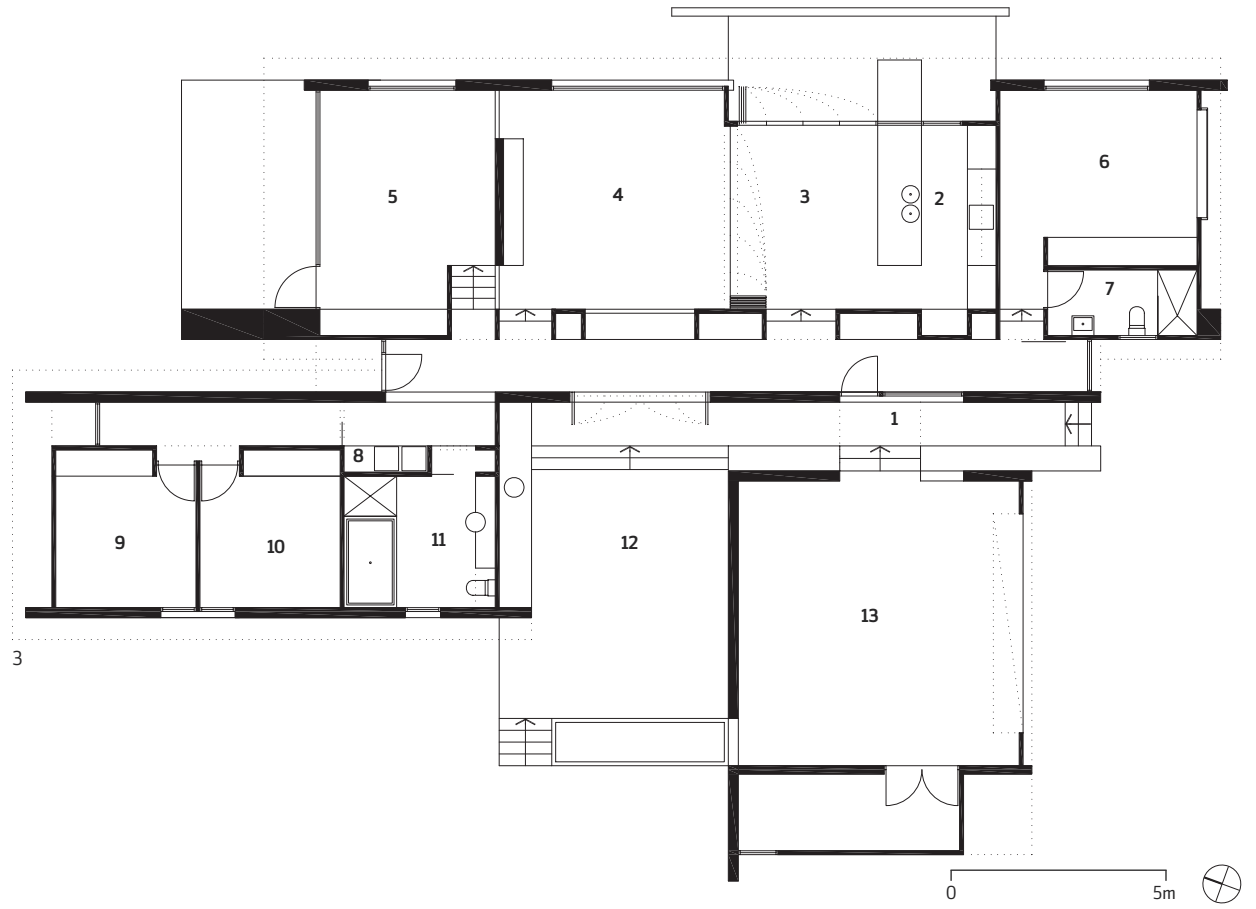
Preston Lane Architects

Bonnet Hill House

Bonnet Hill, Tasmania, Australia



- 1 Entry
- 2 Kitchen
- 3 Dining
- 4 Living
- 5 Study
- 6 Bedroom
- 7 Ensuite
- 8 Laundry
- 9 Bedroom
- 10 Bedroom
- 11 Bathroom
- 12 BBQ
- 13 Garage





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- 3 Floor plan
- 4 View of sheltered external deck and BBQ area
- 5 Living room and kitchen beyond
- 6 Detail of change in level through central spine
- 7 Interior view of central spine showing joinery detailing and seat cutout

Photography: Ralph Alphonso