

St Lucia House

The St Lucia House re-addresses the potential of indoor - outdoor space; a contemporary evolution of sub tropical housing types in which the verandah is the prime living space.

The site, although a small 20 x 20 metres, was home to 3 major trees, two mangoes and a poinciana, arranged remarkably symmetrically with the sculptural poinciana centre stage. The house occupies the southern edge of the site, allowing the retention of the magnificent trees for shade, privacy and beauty.

Designed for the architects and their then teenage sons, the house is arranged across 5 half levels for both sociability and privacy. The living zone, the core of the house, is a 'piano nobile' suspended at tree canopy level with a huge north facing operable glazed window wall admitting filtered light and breezes.

Completed: 1998

Client: Elizabeth Watson Brown and Peter Skinner

Architect: Elizabeth Watson Brown and Peter Skinner

Photos: John Gollings

