



This family home in Yarraville celebrates sun, seasons and togetherness, drawing in abundant light, making the most of the leafy garden, and introducing multiple spatial opportunities for family and friends to engage with.

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The existing home and site presented a number of challenges common to residential projects in inner Melbourne. The brief was typical: a beautiful, durable, functional home, to time and budget. This is how we did it:

**Comprised functionality of existing floor plan**  
 Minor reconfiguration of existing layout significantly improved internal functionality with minimal costs.

**Budget concerns**  
 Quantity surveyor integrated early into the design process and exacting documentation mitigated construction variations

**Design solution that will last 20+ years**

- Low maintenance quality materials specified and robust construction techniques employed
- 'Future proofing' – design layout can adapt to family as it grows

**Heritage controls govern works**  
 Distinction provided between old (private bedroom wing) and new (public living areas) via courtyard and sunken lounge with low roof that nestles under the higher forms of the adjacent heritage roof and new living areas.

**Underutilised and exposed block**  
 Variety of external spaces introduced; first floor balcony, courtyard, informal meals and large covered deck area with outdoor kitchen for larger gatherings and passive surveillance of the pool.

**Insufficient storage in current house**

- Roof space converted into easily accessible attic storage
- New storage created throughout old and new sections of house including walk in pantry
- External storage areas integrated into the house and landscape

**Overlooking from apartments next door**  
 Roof and wire trellis covering external deck wrap down southern wall to screen views to and from flats. Screening vegetation planted.

**Utility prices and comfort in summer and winter**

- Passive solar design including exposed thermal mass, high specification insulation, double glazing, adjustable and fixed shading, excellent cross ventilation and judiciously sited landscaping features reduces need for additional heating and cooling
- Solar panels with option to include battery backup in future
- Greywater and rainwater harvesting and re-use

# GUILD ARCHITECTS

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