

Residential Architecture

# Harper Court beach house



A beach shack is no longer just a simple fibro box & a place to store your surfboard. The land itself is a large investment & the buildings we put on them are a retreat from the city lifestyle, & a home away from home.

Generated from the concept of a traditional shack, this design embodies the inherent character of a beach house, with a simple structure, large airy living spaces and a relaxed atmosphere.

The profile of the house was created as a response to the building envelope restrictions at Casuarina and the need to design a form that would minimize overshadowing to the south. Form was also influenced by the long, narrow site, and a need to capture ocean views. Requirements for durability and material-lifecycle became part of the design language, with use of concrete block and aluminum instead of steel in a coastal environment.

Sun control is used as a feature as well as a functional element, with four scale-like curved blades running the length of the north facing glass curtain wall. The blades create a fine, feathered edge to the volume of the house and balances its proportion. They also extend around to the social spaces at the beach end of the house, which opens to a large deck from a cathedral-like roof space and kitchen.

The beach end of the house functions as the living area and engages with the public walkway to the beach, yet it is private enough to be comfortable and provides a great vista of the beach. The sleeping end of the building is divided by the entry and stairway that informs the viewer of the profile of the building. This also creates a sense that the internal rooms are floating inside the space.



The modern beach house is contemporary yet comfortable.

architecture • interiors • landscape • planning

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