



THE DEREK WRIGLEY AWARD
FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

LITTLE LOFT HOUSE

LIGHT HOUSE ARCHITECTURE
& SCIENCE

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BEN WRIGLEY

Little Loft House seizes the opportunity to transform the quintessential 1980's suburban archetypal home. This project promotes the application of practical energy efficiency measures to a common building typology synonymous with poor performance.

Working to a modest budget the client and architect threw out the notion of the knock-down-rebuild and embraced the challenge to re-use and re-imagine. With the exemption of modest 13m² extensions, the project retained the majority of the timber framed brick veneer construction.

Greatest gains are achieved through improvements to the home's thermal envelope. High performance UPVC double glazing was retrofitted to the existing openings.

Internal perimeter linings were replaced with the maximum amount of insulation the structure would permit. And special attention was paid to correctly detailing junctions between materials to ensure draft-free construction. Thermographic imaging ensured energy losses are minimised, resulting in energy savings of up to 80% of that of the typical Canberra home.

Through the use of recycled materials, rain water harvesting and efficient all-electric appliances, Little Loft House sets the example for the future sustainable homes in the ACT. A future where longevity means treading lightly and healthy, liveable homes are achieved through regeneration.



PHOTOGRAPHY
NICK BURROWS