

heritage solutions



Tasmanian Heritage Council

 **Tasmania**
Explore the possibilities

Note on this reprint

Heritage Solutions was first published in 2008. The case studies in this booklet have not been revised, so they reflect the progress of works, ownership and staffing within the State Government at the time of initial publication.

Reprint June 2012

Cover page photography: Renee Hodskiss (main image), Chris Bonner and Robyn Shaw



Depression era home receives a makeover

Heritage Tasmania Advisor, Chris Bonner, is passionate about protecting Tasmania's heritage, and his 1933 interwar vertical board Launceston home has received a sympathetic makeover thanks to his heritage expertise.

"The house is a humble domestic residence built during the 1930s depression years," Mr Bonner said. "The cladding is rough-sawn vertical timber, but the unusual feature is the front portico which has segmented timber columns tapered in classical proportions."

The place was in a poor state of repair when Chris and Jen Bonner purchased it but they were keen to undertake a restoration sympathetic to the original structure. "We first fixed the site drainage and then looked at what parts of the building had been modified. We used that as a departure point for the new addition," Mr Bonner said.

Accordingly, the dilapidated lean-to kitchen at the rear of the building was removed as it was not part of the original structure.

"A guiding principle was to fit the new addition below the original roof line and have a visible separation of new work from the original building."



"The addition looks like a new but sympathetic structure which is consistent with guidance provided by the Burra Charter," Mr Bonner said.

"We now have a modern kitchen and dining room too," he said.

Materials were chosen that complemented the traditional materials and finishes of the era. For instance, the new cedar door and window joinery match the windows of the old house, and modern aluminium frames clearly show the new work. Oiled plywood and corrugated iron cladding differentiates new work from the original fabric, but still fits the character of the depression style architecture.

The vertical boards which were once oiled had been painted over. When Chris and Jen Bonner decided to re-paint the house, they did so with great consideration. "We used colours that best pronounced the building detail and fitted with the surrounding area," Mr Bonner said.



Saving the old Carlton Post Office

The old Carlton Post Office, south-east of Hobart, has been saved from collapse thanks to the enthusiasm of one devotee of Tasmania's heritage.

Dr Laurence Herst was looking for a property to do up when he saw the circa 1841 old post office by the picturesque Carlton River. "We saw the property had a for sale sign on it," Dr Herst said. "It was the type of place I was looking for because it had lots of history, it needed a ton of work, and had a spectacular location just on the river – it was unbelievable."

"Most people thought I was nuts and said it would fall down," Dr Herst said. He bought it anyway and has been gradually restoring the rendered split timber slab structure with assistance from tradespeople who specialise in

heritage buildings, consultants and advice from Heritage Tasmania about how to sympathetically undertake the restoration. "So many people have helped with this project," he said.

That help has also included financial assistance from the Tasmanian Heritage Council.

Funding was provided through the Heritage Conservation Funding Program to assist with the restoration because of the building's heritage significance. The place operated as a government post office and was also the departure point for a ferry that ran across the Carlton River in the 1800s. Dr Herst had the vision to see the building's potential and has saved an important part of Tasmania's history from collapse.

Dr Herst recognises the place's importance to the community and is happy to share it. "It's kind of amazing to have this place," he said. "Years ago there was such an effort in the community to save the post office. They had dances to raise money for it."

The restoration of the Carlton Post Office is fulfilling Dr Herst's dream, but it is also saving an important piece of Tasmania's historic heritage.

useful tip

The Heritage Council has a grants program which provides up to \$25,000 for urgent and essential works on heritage places.

For further information visit [Heritage Tasmania's website](http://HeritageTasmania.com.au).



Photography: Peter Whyte



Photography: Peter Whyte

A new exhibition space

The adaptive reuse of an historic barn into a performance and exhibition space at the Rosny Historic Centre has produced an exceptional outcome.

Community Arts Officer for the Clarence City Council, Tracey Cockburn, said until its redevelopment the Rosny Barn was sitting unused and in poor repair. “We kept looking at the barn trying to work out what to do with it and how we could engage the community with it,” Ms Cockburn said. “Then we identified a grant funding opportunity and decided to apply for funds to create a place for the community to use for arts and cultural activities while preserving the unique structure of the barn. The redevelopment started from there,” she said.

Project architect, James Morrison from Morrison and Breytenbach, said the key challenges were preserving the integrity of the existing barn, translating a complex brief into an architectural form, and providing a flexible multi-functional performance and exhibition space.

“The barn was a good example of an early 19th century rural stone structure and we wanted to show that off,” Mr Morrison said. “So basically, it was an exercise in doing as little as possible. This was a conscious approach. The barn itself was a beautiful stone structure with a timber roof, and we wanted to keep its integrity...and show the story and evolution of the barn.”

“Having said that, it was quite a demanding brief to create a contemporary performance and exhibition space, while keeping the building raw and natural,” he explained.

The results speak for themselves. Indeed, Morrison and Breytenbach won a heritage award at the Australian Institute of Architects (Tasmania) awards for the quality of this design.

As a heritage-listed building it was necessary to seek approval for the works from the Tasmanian Heritage Council.

Mr Morrison said that dealing with the Tasmanian Heritage Council’s works approval process was straightforward, particularly since significant conservation preparatory work had been undertaken by consultant Mary Knaggs before commencing the design phase.

“A conservation management plan was prepared, and during that process we established the conservation principles, therefore we knew quite clearly what we could and couldn’t do,” Mr Morrison said.

The works application passed through the Heritage Council without any difficulty.

Tracey Cockburn said the place is working very well. “It’s going fantastically. The space is flexible and adaptive to a whole range of purposes,” Ms Cockburn said.



From derelict to delightful

For Linda and Donald Boden, the owners of an 1830s Georgian cottage in Launceston called Dumbledale, the transformation of their place from derelict dump to restored beauty has been more than worthwhile.

When Mrs Boden bought the place about 11 years ago it was in a terrible state. “The original fire-surround, staircase, doors, internal walls and architraves had all been removed,” Mrs Boden said. “The north facing wall was almost falling away, the now fully restored windows were rotting, the stumps and original floor supports were decaying, the north-west corner of the house had significantly dropped and there was a structural fracture.”

Heritage Advisor with Heritage Tasmania, Chris Bonner, explained that the lack of original fabric created challenges for the restoration process.

useful tip

Speak to an insurance broker if you experience difficulty in acquiring insurance for a heritage-listed property.

A broker should be able to provide advice on the best options for your circumstances.

“The condition of the building was very poor so there were judgement calls which had to be made about which aspects of the heritage fabric to retain given the level of previous disturbance,” Mr Bonner said.

“Retaining the original rear door and windows as an internal feature has worked well and preserves these significant elements.”

Mr Bonner said he recommended that the passage wall to the new addition at the rear of the place be set back by about 700mm so that the integrity and form of the original structure could be maintained.

“The design of the addition developed by the architect was already complementary, but by setting the passage wall back it helped define the addition as new work belonging to a different period than the 1835 cottage. Making new work readily identifiable is consistent with the *Burra Charter* which guides the conservation and management of places of cultural significance throughout Australia,” Mr Bonner said.

Dr Boden said the restoration resulted in the replacement of the trimmings of the home such as the handcrafting of new period fire surrounds and architraves. “What we’ve done has kept this place as a living house for the next 100 to 200 years,” Dr Boden said.



Reviving Riversdale

Restoring Riversdale House at Swansea, on Tasmania's East Coast, has been a journey of discovery for owners Ros Hunt and Janna Johnstone.

Riversdale is a beautiful colonial Georgian farmhouse constructed in 1838 which had fallen into disrepair by the time the current owners bought it. "There was no kitchen floor. It went down to the dirt," Mrs Hunt said. "The verandah was falling off the back and the upstairs floor had dropped on one side so it was on a sloping angle."

The owners have undertaken a range of works including reconstructing the front verandah; replacing the rear verandah; repairing the fascia and floors; replacing the roof, gutters and flashings; re-pointing; and removing a buttress.

In undertaking their restoration, the owners have made some great discoveries. "During the work the original shingle roof was exposed," Mrs Hunt said. "It was a magnificent sight to see it there."

Heritage Officer from Heritage Tasmania, Richard Hawson, said Riversdale had been vacant for some years and most of the building was original, with the exception of an enclosed rear verandah, a buttress, and bay window cut into the north wall.



"We've provided free advice to the owners about how they can best proceed with the restoration, and the Heritage Council provided some funding through the Conservation Funding Program," Mr Hawson said.

Mrs Hunt has appreciated the assistance she's received.

"We've got nothing but praise for the staff at Heritage Tasmania and the Heritage Council – we couldn't have done it without them," Mrs Hunt said.

"We've received lots of great advice. Our builder, Andrew Fahey, was fantastic. He's worked on heritage places and that experience was invaluable," she said.

The restoration is not yet complete, but enormous steps have been taken toward a sympathetic restoration of this important piece of Tasmania's historic heritage.



Photography: Stuart Wells



A new home for heritage

In January 2007 Heritage Tasmania moved to the grand circa 1866 former Commercial Bank in Hobart.

Heritage Tasmania Director, Pete Smith, said this provided an opportunity to demonstrate by example some of the principles that staff apply in their work. “Our relocation to refurbished premises meant we moved to a central location, in heritage-listed premises and immediately became much more accessible to the public,” Mr Smith said.

During the 1990s works were carried out to restore the bank chamber’s ceiling and in 2006-07 further works were undertaken including providing level access, installing an equal access toilet and contemporary work stations that suited the premise’s impressive cedar fittings.

A priority of the refurbishment was to make the entry ramp discrete and not damage the 140 year old façade. Contemporary art was installed in the foyer to highlight the diversity of Tasmania’s historic heritage and show that heritage and contemporary design can happily coexist.

A false wall that blocked the view of the ornate ceiling was removed, because, when built, the ceiling was a feature intended to generate awe and impress upon clients that the bank was prosperous and therefore trustworthy. The original safe and basement were also adapted for use as filing and storage space.

“Another important feature has been our use of various methods to interpret the building’s history and show heritage’s importance through art, photography, interpretation, a written history and original design elements,” Mr Smith said.

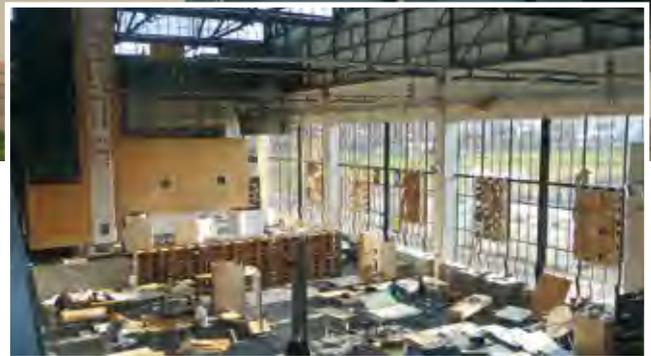
The 1990s works also included the addition of the modern ANZ Centre office tower at the rear of the block, which is discretely interconnected to the historic building at 103 Macquarie Street.

As with many heritage places, as time passes more is learnt about the building. “The building continues to hold a number of secrets and reveal more of itself over time through the stories of visitors, discovery of new records and as we use and adapt the building to meet changing needs,” Mr Smith said.

useful tip

Heritage Tasmania regularly updates information on its website.

Keep an eye out for these changes and contact us if you have any suggestions about what you’d like to see.



Transforming spaces

The adaptive reuse of a heritage-listed diesel train workshop in Launceston into the UTAS School of Architecture shows that excellent design can transform an industrial space into a cutting edge learning environment while protecting its heritage values.

The former diesel train workshop sits in the Inveresk Rail Yard site in Launceston. The site includes a collection of buildings associated with the development of Tasmania's rail system. The workshop was constructed circa 1950 and is representative of an industrial style.

Heritage Tasmania Works Manager, Ian Boersma, said the new design for the building was sympathetic to its industrial heritage. "The building retains a large expanse of open space typical of an industrial building and the saw-tooth roof, much of the original machinery and the overall concrete structure remain," Mr Boersma said.

"The southern facade still has the overall outline of the diesel workshop. So the place's original use is still quite clear," Mr Boersma explains.

"At the same time, the space provides a light and airy learning environment for architecture students. This is a great heritage outcome."

The retention of the building's heritage integrity resulted in Six Degrees Architects and Sustainable Built Architects winning the Australian Institute of Architecture (Tasmania) Heritage Architecture Award, and the National AIA Lachlan Macquarie Award for Heritage. The design also won the Tasmanian AIA Sustainability Architecture Award and the National AIA Award for Sustainability in 2007.

From the outset the conversion of this building was undertaken with the intention of adopting high sustainable environmental design standards. Not only does this building reuse the existing fabric, it includes low emission materials and recycled and sustainably resourced materials.

The précis provided for the Tasmanian AIA sustainability award says the results of this planning include achieving a 40-50 per cent running cost saving over comparable university buildings, a 54 per cent water use reduction and a 40 to 50 per cent greenhouse gas reduction.

The new interior provides an environmentally friendly and contemporary space for students and staff that also protects the heritage fabric for future generations.



Contemporary design gives spectacular results

A 1912 heritage-listed property, an award winning contemporary design and a bright and airy addition have come together for one delighted owner in South Hobart.

An Edwardian house in the art and craft style, it was one of three constructed by famous Tasmanian jam-manufacturer Henry Jones for his three daughters.

Owner, Ms Brett Torossi, was keen to leave the original fabric of the property intact but to also have a new spacious extension that succeeded in combining the old and new fabric in an innovative way. So she kept the original redbrick external wall and it now forms part of the internal wall in the new extension.

“I wanted to leave the original wall. Lots of people would probably have rendered it. A lot of other things are quite clean in the room, and that’s not ... I just love it,” Ms Torossi said.

The extension is light and bright and this was a key component of Ms Torossi’s concept. “The house needed some light ... it needed some morning sun and north light,” Ms Torossi said.

When walking into the mainly glass extension, which comprises a modern kitchen and living area, the amount of light, space and breeziness is immediately evident.

Glass doors at the rear of the extension open on to a beautiful reflection pond which has the effect of blending the indoor and outdoor space. An overhead skylight captures the image of a very beautiful and old poplar tree.

Leading Tasmanian architects Craig Rosevear and Martin Stephenson from Rosevear Designs were the designers and were recognised by their peers when they won the ‘Residential Alterations Additions Award’ at the 2007 Australian Institute of Architects (Tasmanian) Architecture Awards.

Martin Stephenson said he and Mr Rosevear collaborate closely on designs and working with Ms Torossi to develop her concept was an appealing part of the project. “Brett had a very clear idea about what she wanted. The pragmatics were laid out – making a contemporary living space on the back of an older building,” Mr Stephenson said.

The poplar tree was a very important motivation in Ms Torossi’s overall concept. “Brett had an instinct about the poplar tree and the skylight which allowed the extension to catch a bit of sun,” Mr Stephenson said.

“The skylight area is just about being able to see the tree. Because the tree is amazing – it’s really old. It was a big deal for me,” Ms Torossi said.



The addition is largely comprised of clear and opaque floor to ceiling glass. In the morning the white opaque glass captures the shadows of the trees growing in a neighbouring property. The design combines privacy with the opaque glass but allows a view in sections. “In the morning all the patterns of the trees come onto the glass. It looks like a light-box of the trees with them all moving. The shadow play is beautiful. Really special,” Ms Torossi said.

The amount of glass in the dwelling provides an excellent view of the surrounding yard and properties including old trees, brick walls and peeling paint on roofs. This modern structure actually immerses the individual into the surrounding environment.

Because the property is heritage-listed, permission was needed from the Tasmanian Heritage Council to undertake the addition. Ms Torossi was always confident the design would be approved because of its quality and the retention of original features, despite its contemporary nature. Indeed, the works passed without issue.

Heritage Tasmania Works Manager, Ian Boersma, explains that when the Heritage Council is making an assessment of the appropriateness of a proposed design, a range of factors are taken into account.

“We assess impacts on the place’s heritage values. This includes impacts on significant features and how the design contributes to its setting,” Mr Boersma said. “Being a very contemporary, modern structure, our assessment looked closely at the extension’s relationship to the house and the surrounding

streetscape. The proposal involved surprisingly little alteration to the original house, and the garden was considered to have little heritage significance. The placement of the extension also meant that it was mostly invisible from the street,” Mr Boersma said.

The Heritage Council recognises the importance of balancing retention of the heritage value of houses while at the same time meeting community expectations about what a home in the 21st Century needs to provide.

“In this case, the architectural difference between new and old afforded a vibrant and successful design solution which was unique and yet did not compromise the integrity of the historic place”, Mr Boersma said.

This historic home now has a contemporary edge and provides an exceptional example of how harmony can be achieved between the old and the new.



A schoolhouse with a culinary purpose

A passion for quality fresh produce and Tasmania's four seasons lured Sydneysiders Rodney Dunn and Severine Demanet to purchase a schoolhouse in southern Tasmania and create a cooking school of a very contemporary kind.

Located in Lachlan, which is off the beaten track about half an hour's drive north of Hobart, this weatherboard, Victorian-style schoolhouse is surrounded by a rambling garden in an idyllic rural landscape.

Once a school for local youngsters, and more recently a private residence, the circa 1888 building is finding new life as a cooking school for people with an interest in harvesting produce from the newly planted garden, then cooking and sharing the bounty with their classmates.

Before undertaking any alterations, the new owners sought early advice from Heritage Tasmania in order to clarify the requirements of the Tasmanian Heritage Council. Accordingly, an Advisor from Heritage Tasmania, Deirdre Macdonald, recommended retaining as much of the character and heritage fabric as possible.

"We wondered if we could remove a wall and sliding door. Deidre visited and advised that the removal would require approval from the [Heritage] Council. As it turned out we decided to keep it. But the whole process was very straightforward," Mr Dunn said.

Ms Macdonald said the original opening with sliding door between the classroom spaces was a significant feature of the place, so the owners' decision to retain the feature maintained the heritage integrity of the original structure.

The alterations undertaken by the owners have included the modification of the existing kitchen to allow group activities, the installation of equal access toilet facilities, a new gravel car parking area, and the establishment of a vegetable garden and orchard.

"Because the changes were relatively minor with negligible heritage impact, Heritage Tasmania was able to provide works exclusion certificates which meant the owners did not need Heritage Council approval," Ms Macdonald said.

"The new use for the schoolhouse complemented the building beautifully and the works proposed involved no major changes to the existing structure."



Heritage values with a contemporary purpose

Set in the former working class suburb of Wapping in Hobart, the former St David's Mission Church is finding new life as a contemporary art space.

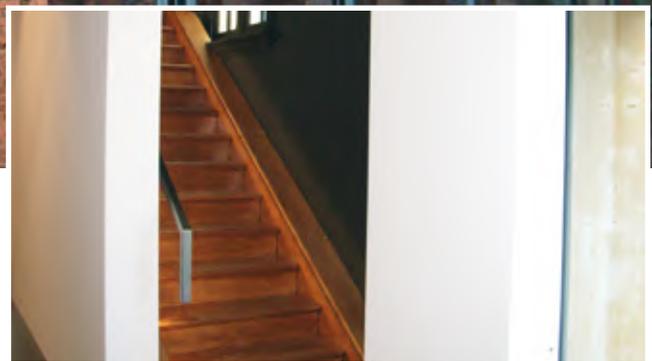
Built in the Victorian Free Gothic style at the end of the nineteenth century, the former church lends itself to the creation of an artistic space. The high gothic roof trusses with the original dark timber purlins and rafters provide a dramatic contrast to the open space that appears below.

Heritage Tasmania Advisor, Danielle Pacaud, said the combination of clever design and retention of the features of the original church was impressive. "The space provides an ingenious arrangement of movable walls giving the flexibility the gallery needs, while protecting its heritage fabric," Ms Pacaud said.

useful tip

Works on heritage-listed places can sometimes be excluded from the formal approval process of the Heritage Council.

Check out the works section of our website or call us for further information.



An original stained glass window in vibrant blue, yellow, red and green at the rear of the building is highlighted against the white walls of the gallery and grabs the visitor's attention. The window was the subject of a condition placed by the Tasmanian Heritage Council in the conversion of this church, which owner, Penny Clive, was more than happy to comply with.

"It has been easy dealing with the Heritage Council with our discussions resulting in smooth and positive outcomes," Ms Clive said. "The heritage advisors understood the project and the need for a contemporary and relevant renovation and conversion of an historic building."

"The church needed to be utilised—there was no point it sitting there unused," Ms Clive said.

The new gallery is a welcome addition to Tasmanian cultural life. Not only is it a beautiful space but it combines heritage values with a contemporary purpose.

State of the art lighting and wiring used to highlight modern media artistic works, combines modern technology with the original heritage fabric.

The reuse of this former church into a contemporary space has breathed new life and purpose into a heritage building.



Photography: Jody Steele, Parks and Wildlife Service

Transforming an historic courtyard

Recent works to an important site have done much to protect its heritage fabric and enhance the visitor experience.

Richmond Gaol, east of Hobart, is the oldest intact convict gaol in Australia and was built between 1825 and 1827 by convicts.

It was used by the Municipal Police until 1928, and was then handed to the Scenery Preservation Board in 1945. Today it is owned by the Crown, managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) and leased to a private operator.

Until recently, visitors to the site would have noted the English cottage garden and grassy expanse. However, after the completion of a conservation management plan it was



decided that urgent conservation works were required to protect the heritage fabric.

PWS Heritage Officer, Jody Steele, said that over time roots from trees and bushes were starting to destroy these important buildings and watering near sandstone walls was also starting to create problems with rising damp, making the walls decay.

The solution came with a grant from the PWS maintenance fund. The grant funded the removal of damaging plants, an archaeological investigation, installation of a gravel base and new interpretative displays.

“One of the great outcomes of this project was that while the intervention was simple, it meant a real difference to our ability to protect historic fabric. It’s also easier to be proactive with maintenance and it can save money in the long term,” Ms Steele said.

The courtyard also looks more like it would have when it was a gaol so a visit is more authentic. Now visitors can read the space as it was designed, which helps put them in the shoes of the convicts it once housed.

useful tip

Researching the history of your home is a great project to do with your kids.

Gathering old photos, stories from neighbours and old house plans can give another layer of meaning to homes and our historic heritage places.



Pitt Farm survives fire

The second oldest farmhouse in Australia is being lovingly restored despite being nearly destroyed by the ravages of a house fire in April 2007.

Pitt Farm is a circa 1812 colonial Georgian farmhouse located in Hobart. And although a relatively modest home, it was constructed in a style that emulated the grander houses of the period with two storeys, a wide verandah, ten main rooms and a cellar.

When owners Fiona Bovill-Escott and Paul Escott bought Pitt Farm in 2000 they engaged a consultant to develop a conservation management plan to guide their restoration. The considerable care and emotional and financial investment made by the owners in restoring the property, made the fire in 2007 all the more distressing.

Although Pitt Farm survived the fire, it was significantly damaged. Mr Escott said the fire was a shocking experience but puts it in the context of the place's history. "We were devastated at the time, but when you stand back and look at it, it's all part of Pitt Farm's history," Mr Escott said.

Heritage Tasmania Works Manager, Ian Boersma, said the owners engaged a heritage consultant immediately after

the fire to guide the reconstruction process in accordance with sound heritage and conservation practices.

"In a way the fire helped reveal the original form of the place that had been covered by work that had taken on some significance in its own right. So it is possible to see a positive side to the situation," Mr Boersma said.

Mrs Bovill-Escott said that although the fire was very traumatic, the reconstruction had been a straightforward process.

"We thought this would be terrible having to deal with the Heritage Council, the insurance company and builders, but everyone's been fantastic," Mrs Bovill-Escott said.

The owners are pragmatic about the fire and see it as part of the place's history even integrating it into the heritage fabric of the place. "The ceiling is blackened in the kitchen from the fire. As far as we're concerned this is all part of the history and we're going to leave it as it is," Mrs Bovill-Escott said.



Restoring Lonsdale

Allan Townsend is completing what can only be described as a labour of love at the 1820s homestead of Lonsdale in Kempton. While he first thought of getting trades in to help with the restoration, a lack of money meant Mr Townsend has completed much of the work himself, learning as he goes.

“Having limited money has turned out to be a fantastic thing,” Mr Townsend said. “It has forced me to do the work excruciatingly slowly, but I’ve uncovered so much history. That in turn propels you to think about what you are doing and wanting to do a great job.”

“When I began restoring the kitchen the floor was covered with carpet squares from the 70s, a layer of carpet, several layers of lino and a layer of concrete.

“Then I found these amazing flagstones. I want to keep the wear pattern that runs through the kitchen and out on to the verandah. That’s generations of people walking through here – it’s worth preserving,” Mr Townsend said.

Removing the masonite from the ceiling also uncovered original staircase pieces which has allowed Mr Townsend to rebuild the staircase to the attic rooms.

“The pieces had been chopped up and recycled as framing for the masonite ceiling, but I could still come up with a complete plan of how the staircase was built.”

Taking cues from other joinery within the house, Mr Townsend has replicated the slightly thicker and “strategically irregular” tongue and groove, and ground down nails to match the rough, convict nails that remain elsewhere.

“I’m not trying to fake it, I just want it to appear, at least at first glance, that it looks like it’s always been there; but there are signs that it’s not original,” explains Mr Townsend.

“If I hadn’t been doing all this work myself, I would never have bothered to uncover the story of the property. There is history to the place, hidden away mostly, but it’s there and it’s fascinating.”

useful tip

Maintaining your property saves money over time. For instance, repainting before paintwork peels protects your building and makes the job of repainting easier.



Saving Woodbury

A fabulous farming complex in Tasmania's Midlands is undergoing a massive restoration process thanks to the commitment of its owner.

Woodbury, located south of Tunbridge along the Heritage Highway, is a single storey Georgian homestead set amongst the farm's original shearing shed, worker's cottages, barns and stables.

A specialist builder in restoration and conservation, Mr Alan Cooper was on the hunt for a Tasmanian property to restore when he spotted Woodbury House by chance.

"We were travelling to Launnie and the weather was atrocious – snow, rain and icy winds that cut you in half. Then we saw through the mist this sad but romantic property – huge barren trees, tumbledown barns and outbuildings, and in the midst a glimpse of an old derelict farmhouse," Mr Cooper said.

Mr Cooper subsequently purchased the place and has been undertaking an ambitious restoration involving the whole complex of buildings, including cobbled areas, gardens and surrounds on the property – a significant amount of work requiring a large injection of time and money.

Consequently, Mr Cooper sought assistance from the Tasmanian Heritage Council and its Heritage Conservation

Funding Program. "The grants are a marvellous vehicle to conserve and preserve items of cultural significance that would not have been saved without funding," Mr Cooper said.

He also appreciates the assistance he has received from Heritage Tasmania. "I have found all staff to be approachable and willing to discuss different aspects of the project without bias," Mr Cooper said.

Heritage Tasmania Works Manager, Ian Boersma, said there are many 19th Century homesteads scattered throughout Tasmania, all of which are an important aspect of Tasmania's rural heritage, and indeed Australia's heritage.

"Many of these homesteads have outbuildings that are significant but in poor condition," Mr Boersma said. "Their heritage values are often exceptionally high, but as they no longer serve a purpose in today's modern farming practices, maintenance is often no longer the farmer's immediate priority."

"Mr Cooper's vision to conserve the homestead as well as the outbuildings will provide Tasmania with a complete example of an early 19th Century homestead complex in a prominent location," Mr Boersma said.



Photography: Cornelian Bay Boatsheds, Stewart Wells

Who are we ?

The Tasmanian Heritage Council is the statutory body responsible for implementing the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*, including making decisions about which places to enter on the Tasmanian Heritage Register and determining works applications for those places.

Heritage Tasmania in the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment co-ordinates historic heritage activity for the State Government, supports the work of the Tasmanian Heritage Council, helps to facilitate the development of the sector and runs a community education program.

For further information visit www.heritage.tas.gov.au



Photography: OakHouse, Stewart Wells



Photography: Renee Hodskiss



Photography: Evandale, Renee Hodskiss

To keep up-to-date about heritage events, funding opportunities or unusual heritage places, subscribe to Heritage Tasmania's free e-news bulletin.

To subscribe or find out more, simply contact us.

For more information contact

Heritage Tasmania
Department of Primary Industries,
Parks, Water and Environment

GPO Box 618
HOBART TAS 7001

1300 850 332 (local call cost)

enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au
www.heritage.tas.gov.au

Hobart:

103 Macquarie Street
Hobart
P: 6233 2037
F: 6233 3186

Launceston:

Level 1, 53 St John Street
Launceston
P: 6336 5249
F: 6336 5230



*The historic environment
is an important feature of
the Tasmanian landscape.*

*It inspires locals and visitors
alike in its original form and the
way owners use and enhance it.*

*This booklet provides insight into the
achievements of some passionate
custodians of our heritage.*

*It is dedicated to the people
who help generate exceptional
heritage outcomes.*