



DONNYBROOK RAILWAY PRECINCT

The Transformation of Donnybrook's Goods Shed is a beautiful example of how heritage architecture can be revived to serve modern needs while preserving its historical essence.

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Architect

MCG Architects PTY LTD

Builder

Perkins Builders

Fabricator

LGA

Capral Products

AGS 400 Narrowline Single Glazed

AGS 600 Narrowline Single Glazed

AGS 225 Hinged Door

AGS 950 Sliding Window

24mm Glazing Channel

CAPRAL
ALUMINIUM

REVIVING HISTORY

Nestled in the heart of Donnybrook, Western Australia, the precinct has been an integral part of the town since 1894. Once a vital hub during the timber industry boom, the gold rush, and the region's agricultural production, the Goods Shed now serves a new purpose, offering visitors a glimpse into the past while creating fresh opportunities for the local community.



The Donnybrook Railway Precinct, with its towering oak tree and well-preserved features, holds a significant place in the town's collective memory. Though the station ceased operations in 1986, its presence is still felt, with the tourist bureau operating from the station building and the site remaining a gathering point for residents and visitors alike. In breathing new life into the precinct, the restoration team—led by Perkins Builders and MCG Architects—honoured its rich history while transforming it into a modern space. The revitalised Goods Shed has become a centrepiece, bridging the area's public spaces with the nearby Apple Fun Park and drawing people to explore Donnybrook's past.

A crucial part of the project's success was the seamless integration of Capral Aluminium Window and Door Systems. These modern systems not only enhanced the functionality of the building but also maintained the integrity of its historic design. Local fabricator LGA played an essential role in bringing this vision to life, using their expertise in architectural window fabrication to ensure the new elements were both practical and aesthetically aligned with the original structure.

Capral's 400 and 600 Series Narrowline window systems were chosen for their slim profiles, which provided a contemporary yet unobtrusive look. Their sleek appearance worked harmoniously with the building's heritage character, preserving its old-world charm while offering modern-day benefits like structural performance and energy efficiency. In addition to these, Capral's 950 Series Sliding Windows were installed, creating wide, unobstructed views that allow natural light to flood the space. The ease of operation and modern functionality of these windows contributed to the airy, open feel of the Goods Shed, making it an inviting place



for tourists and locals alike.

The installation also included Capral's 225 Door Frame, which provided a sturdy and reliable entryway. This door frame, designed to endure heavy use, was ideal for a space that now welcomes large numbers of visitors. Capral's 24mm Glazing Channel was another vital component, ensuring the building met modern energy standards. The use of double-glazed panels improved insulation and reduced external noise, creating a comfortable environment for people to explore the shed's history, even with the nearby railway tracks.

The success of this project demonstrates the remarkable potential of blending modern materials with heritage architecture. Capral Aluminium Window and Door Systems not only contributed to

the building's aesthetic appeal but also enhanced its functionality, ensuring that it would serve the community well into the future. The thoughtful collaboration between Perkins Builders, MCG Architects, and LGA made this possible, showcasing how modern innovation can coexist with historic preservation.

The Donnybrook Railway Precinct's Goods Shed is more than just a building; it is a living testament to the town's history, now revitalised for the modern age. As it continues to play a central role in Donnybrook's cultural and economic landscape, it stands as an example of how heritage sites can be transformed, not just preserved, offering a new chapter in the life of a town while honouring the stories of its past materials.