

Wilson house

Address Dicky Beach, Qld

Practice John Railton

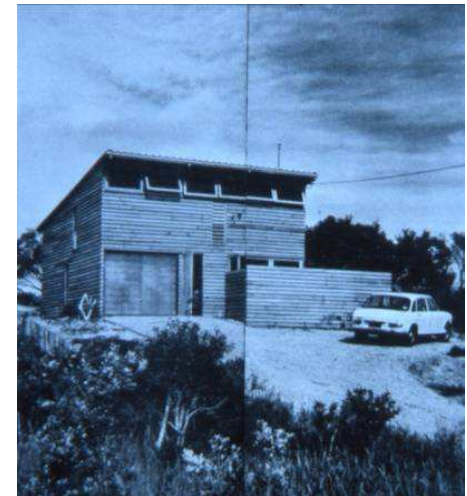
Designed c1969 Completed c1969

History & Description
Built as a holiday beach house and located on a dune on the Pacific Ocean front, this small timber house on the Sunshine Coast was built as "a robust box" that contained "all the requirements including the car in a large open interior space". The house contains 2 floor levels with a double height space nearest the beach with a wall of 6 large double hung windows with solid panel and glass compartments tall enough to walk under. Hopper windows and louvre panels provide ventilation on the other walls. Finishes were almost "packing case" in nature with sawn Oregon weatherboard cladding Hessian lining straw board ceiling and concrete floor. The interior was heated by a Swedish stove centrally placed. A drying yard of similar materials and enclosure to the exterior walls protected the back door entry and contained an outdoor shower. The simple economic traditional methods of construction used define the essence of Railton's architecture in pushing form to create a refined and pleasing result



Statement of Significance
Melbourne trained Railton was hugely influential with his work in Brisbane. Of the few houses completed before he left for a career in Colorado this is the best preserved and provides a solution to simple beach living that has been rarely bettered.

Criteria Applicable
N1 – Significant heritage value in demonstrating principal characteristics of a particular class or period of design.
N2 – Significant heritage value in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.
N5 – Having a special association with the life or works of an architect of significant importance in our history.



Images: R Stringer, *Architecture in Australia*, 1971

