

RESTORATION AUSTRALIA

SEASON 5

RESTORING HERITAGE RUINS
INTO LIVING HOMES

RESTORING HERITAGE RUINS INTO LIVING HOMES



Across the country, thousands of heritage buildings lie in ruins – forgotten, neglected and slowly decaying into the landscape. But these are more than just crumbling old homes – they are touchstones to our past.

Transforming a revered wreck of a building into a glorious celebration of architecture takes courage, commitment and often eye-watering dollops of cash. But in Series 5 of *Restoration Australia*, we follow the progress and pitfalls of single-minded restoration enthusiasts who'll stop at almost nothing to revitalise their beloved buildings.

From a young couple who buy a crumbling church with a credit card and turn it into an extraordinary family home, to a pair of artisans who transform a tiny miner's cottage into a showpiece of sustainability and old-fashioned craftsmanship, we witness the triumph of determination over difficulty.

And in every restoration, safeguarding Australia's architectural past is paramount. But the series also celebrates our architectural future, and we see eco-friendly developments.

Throughout the series, host and architecture professor Anthony Burke crosses the country providing expert commentary, wise counsel and timely support to owners as they grapple with the restoration of some of Australia's most treasured old buildings.

7 x 60'
Australian Broadcasting Corporation
FORMAT AVAILABLE

EPISODES

DUNCAN HOUSE

Self-confessed 'Architecture Nerds' Annette and Michael own the smallest of all the Walter Burley Griffin designed houses in Castlecrag – they want to restore and extend the house in keeping with Griffin's original vision – but with all eyes on such a significant house, will the pressure be too much to bear?

PINNAROO

In one of the most unusual first-home owner schemes ever conceived, young dreamer Campbell uses a credit card to buy a century-old church in his remote hometown and orders plans over the internet to turn it into a luxe pad. The web is also where he aims to learn all the skills to do it himself. Then he meets Caroline and now this couple have wildly differing views about how to create a family home.

WEST END

Angie and Kath have a growing son, a flock of chickens and a puppy and are bursting out of their little house in Brisbane's colourful West End. The dilapidated house next door is their ideal upsizer but when they buy it, Angie is struck by a rare brain cancer. Can they turn the next-door nightmare into a therapeutic, eco-friendly haven, keep stress in check and not imperil Angie's recovery?

MINER'S COTTAGE

Jess and Krys run a sustainability-focussed business hand-making beautiful, durable shoes and leather goods. They're aiming to turn a tiny timber relic of the 19th century gold rush into a comfy family home and a stunning showcase of hand-crafted quality and stylish, sympathetic functionality.

NEW TOWN ORPHANGE

When Bob and Kristen buy a Hobart orphanage as an investment, they have no intention of restoring it. But, charmed by its size, they decide to take on the challenge of turning it into a family home. But the heritage features are buried beneath layers of shoddy building work – and how do you bring warmth and laughter back to a building with a confronting past?

DOROTHY

When a charming old Queenslander travels 800 kilometres south of the tropics to an eco-village, it needs a complete retrofit to become uber energy efficient – but will this come at the expense of its heritage?

ST MARTINS

Simon and his family want all-in on a holiday house that will cope with big family get-togethers. But instead of a large, low-maintenance place they buy a small stone church, with no bathroom and no kitchen and make their plans for restoration and transformation. Trouble is the townsfolk wanted their local church preserved and honoured for its foundation purpose – a war memorial.

