

CASE STUDY

Berry House





Location

Berry, NSW

Developer

Vitale Developments

Architect

Vitale Design

Interior Architect

Ciara Tapia Design

Builder

Project Building & Carpentry

Clients Needs

Berry House is a substantial renovation project that transformed an existing South Coast acreage residence into a refined contemporary country home defined by craftsmanship, materiality and meticulous attention to detail.

Acacia was commissioned to create a collection of bespoke timber doors and architectural joinery that would become a defining feature of the home. The extensive package utilised a carefully curated palette of timbers, with New Guinea Rosewood specified for the entry door and window units, Grey Ironbark for the pool house doors, American White Oak for the bespoke internal feature doors, and Flooded Gum with a painted finish for much of the external joinery. Together, these materials provided warmth, durability and a refined level of detail tailored to each application.

Challenges

While the project incorporated a diverse range of bespoke joinery elements across multiple timber species, the custom-clad feature doors presented the most significant challenge. Unlike conventional clad doors, the bespoke designs combined vertically orientated timber boards with a carefully proportioned horizontal band detail that interrupted the cladding pattern and created a strong architectural statement. Achieving perfect alignment between boards, maintaining consistent shadow lines and ensuring seamless transitions across multiple oversized door leaves demanded extraordinary precision throughout both the design and manufacturing process. The wire-brushed finish further elevated the level of craftsmanship required, accentuating the natural grain and texture of the American White Oak while exposing even the smallest imperfections.

The project also included two glazed pivot door assemblies with highlight windows serving the master suite and study. These highly detailed units combined solid-clad panels, frameless glazing and concealed pivot hardware within a single composition. Without the visual weight of traditional jambs and framing, every junction, alignment and tolerance became critical to both the appearance and long-term performance of the doors.



Solutions

Acacia combined advanced manufacturing technology with traditional craftsmanship to realise the project's ambitious design vision. Detailed CAD modelling was employed to resolve every component of the custom door designs prior to production. This enabled critical details, proportions and junctions to be refined and coordinated before manufacturing commenced, ensuring consistency across the entire joinery package.

Significant care was taken in selecting premium American White Oak boards, with colour, grain and character carefully considered to achieve continuity throughout the home. The distinctive cladding layouts were machined using precision CNC technology, allowing the complex horizontal band detail to be produced with exceptional accuracy while streamlining assembly and preserving the architectural intent.

The pivot door units required equally meticulous attention. Custom manufacturing techniques were employed to integrate glazing, solid-clad panels and specialist pivot hardware into refined, visually seamless assemblies. Each element was carefully finished by hand, ensuring the completed doors met the exacting standards expected throughout the residence.

Outcome

The completed doors have become defining architectural features within the home. From the New Guinea Rosewood entry doors and Grey Ironbark pool house doors to the painted Flooded Gum external joinery, each element contributes to a cohesive material palette. The warm, wire-brushed American White Oak feature doors introduce richness and texture to the restrained interior palette, while the distinctive horizontal band detail establishes a consistent design language throughout the home.

For Acacia, the project remains a standout example of what can be achieved when design ambition is matched by exceptional craftsmanship. The custom-clad American White Oak doors were unlike anything previously manufactured by the team, resulting in a collection of architectural features that feel both timeless and entirely unique to the home for which they were created.



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