



Bower Studio 2014 Titjikala, NT Day 2

Monday 28 April

The big day finally arrives! The location for the first outdoor living area is Stephanie's house, a house with no verandas and little shade from vegetation.

Preliminary preparation of the site saw the steel from Stramit moved from the Titjikala Shire work shed, where it was stored, to Stephanie's front yard. Discussions with Stephanie and James (from Natural Direction) finalised the preferred location of the outdoor living area and the build commenced! Groups of four went about digging the footing holes, measuring and bolting the main structural columns to the overhead beams, and gathering the required materials for the concrete pour. A quick stop at the Titjikala general store for tuna sandwiches and icy-poles refuelled the group, definitely needed in the heat of the day!

We were lucky to welcome Paddy and Andrew mid-afternoon who introduced us to a number of the younger local guys eager to give us a hand, and together we were able to raise the staples (structural columns attached to main beam) into the footing holes and pour in the concrete. Children from the neighbouring houses were curious and came to give us a hand.

During this time, a group of students spent the afternoon on a small tour of the greater Titjikala community with a few of the locals, to discuss together how people like to use the outdoor spaces surrounding their homes. Most commented that an outdoor living area, like the one we are building at Stephanie's, would complement their homes and their time spent outdoors, which was great feedback for Bower and the projects Bower facilitates. Overall, it was a fantastic first day on site, but still much work to complete – we are all looking forward to another great day tomorrow!

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