



**Strict embargo until [11:30pm Friday 16 June 2023 \(AEST\)](#)**

## Victoria's top architecture honours revealed: 2023 Victorian Architecture Awards

The winners of the highly anticipated 2023 Victorian Architecture Awards have been unveiled, celebrating collaboration and sustainability in design and paying tribute to the influential role of architecture in shaping the way we live, work and play across Melbourne and regional Victoria.

A total of 16 Named Awards, 23 Architecture Awards and 25 Commendations, were granted from a competitive pool of 130 shortlisted projects following in-person assessments by independent juries. The *University of Melbourne Student Precinct* and *Nightingale Village* emerged as the most awarded projects of the year, demonstrating a commitment to collaborative design, sustainability, and community.

The *University of Melbourne Student Precinct* received the Victorian Architecture Medal, the highest honour awarded by the Victorian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects annually. Designed by a collection of Australia's foremost designers, the project also received the esteemed named awards in the Educational Architecture and Urban Design categories as well as an Architecture Award for Heritage Architecture – Creative Adaptation

**Victorian State President, David Wagner FRAIA** said the *University of Melbourne Student Precinct* was made possible through a co-design process, a demonstration of the transformative power of architecture that reflected broader outstanding design outcomes in this year's awards.

"This year's awards recipients have indelibly shaped our built environment, showcasing the world-class ingenuity and expertise that resides in our state. The impressive range and diversity of winning projects are a testament to the strength of the architectural profession in Victoria, illustrating architecture's broad reach in urban, suburban, and rural contexts," Wagner said.

As part of a strengthened commitment to supporting projects that provide a sustainable built environment for Victorians, this year's Victorian Architecture Awards saw the introduction of a new Sustainability Checklist as a key component in the awards assessment.

**Victorian State Manager, Daniel Moore RAIA** said: "Winners of this year's Victorian Architecture Awards represent a milestone in the field, showcasing the importance of sustainable design principles in the best projects. The juries in each category have demonstrated that good architecture can be both subjectively evaluated for beauty and objectively measured in terms of energy efficiency. It was a pleasure to see winning projects across all categories demonstrate a strong commitment to environmental, economic, and social sustainability considerations."

In honour of influential female architects Dimity Reed and Maggie Redmond, two new named awards were introduced this year, paying tribute to their ongoing influence and marking the first time that named awards have recognised living and practising designers.

The Maggie Edmond Enduring Architecture Award was awarded to *Brambuk: The National Park and Cultural Centre*, which has functioned as a vital cultural hub and interpretation centre for the Gariwerd (Grampians) National Park for more than three decades. Designed by Burgess in close collaboration with Jadawadjali and Djab Wurrung people, *Brambuk* was constructed by using traditional building techniques married with advanced timber technology to realise a responsive, organic building.



**University of Melbourne Professor Philip Goad** said “Since its opening in 1990, Brambuk has become a powerful symbol for the many ways in which architecture can be a tool for reconciliation. Today, for its visitors and First Nation communities, *Brambuk* continues to speak convincingly across cultures, landscapes, and time.”

*Nightingale Village* was the recipient of the Dimity Reed Melbourne Prize, The Allan and Beth Coldicutt Award for Sustainable Architecture and architecture awards in the Urban Design and Residential Architecture - Multiple Housing categories. It was among a series of winning projects that explored, challenged and reinforced the evolutionary growth of Melbourne,

Winners in the Heritage Architecture category exhibited a variety of impressive achievements in seeking to preserve Victoria’s history – including long-overdue acknowledgement of pre-Colonial heritage – with the top award granted to *Queen Victoria Markets Shed Restoration A - D, H – I*.

Capturing exemplary examples of public, urban, and residential design, the overall strength and number of winning projects from Victoria’s regions stood out in this year’s awards. The Regional Prize winner, *Warrnambool Library and Learning Centre* was heralded for its triumphant contribution to the local community, further receiving an Architecture Award for Public Architecture.

The highest honour in Commercial Architecture was awarded to *Delatite Cellar Door* by Lucy Clemenger Architects, in recognition of the project’s focus on immersive, multisensorial experiences and understated details showcasing local craftsmanship and locally sourced materials.

Another outstanding addition to regional Victoria, The William Wardell Award for Public Architecture recipient *Bendigo Law Courts* delivered a bold environmental sustainability agenda, engaging with Dja Dja Wurrung Traditional Owners and local trades to deliver a project that works as a beacon for reconciliation and longevity.

In its second year as an award, and first with a dedicated jury and site visits, the EmAGN Project Award recognising early-career designers, set new benchmarks in the breadth and scale of projects. The 2023 winner, Office Mi—Ji’s *AB House* was commended for its thoughtful and technical detailing, bringing to life an industrialised steel aesthetic with confident sensitivity.

Many notable winners in the residential categories, including *Sunday* by Architecture architecture and *spring creek road farm house* by architect brew koch, were small in scale and footprint, but revealed new possibilities beyond the expected norms of a typical house, highlighting flexibility, ambiguity and openness to new ways of living.

Celebrating Victoria’s top honours for architecture, the 2023 Victorian Architecture Awards were revealed at a ceremony hosted by the Victorian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects on Friday 16 June. Projects that received an architecture award or a named award will now progress to compete in the National Architecture Awards program, announced in November.

The winners image gallery can be viewed here: <https://www.architecture.com.au/vic-awards>

**ENDS**

**Note to editors:**

**The 2023 Victorian Architecture Awards winners are to remain strictly confidential until 11.30pm Friday 16 June 2023. Winners are not to be contacted for comment prior to Saturday 17 June.**

The full winners list is below.

When using images, please credit the Institute, the architect, and the photographer.



**For more information, interviews and images please contact:**

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**About the Australian Institute of Architects – Victorian Chapter Awards**

The Victorian Architecture Awards enables public and peer recognition of the innovative work of the Institute's members and promotes architects and architecture across Victoria and Australia.

**About the Australian Institute of Architects**

The Australian Institute of Architects is the peak body for the architectural profession, representing over 11,500 members across Australia and overseas. The Institute actively works to improve the quality of our built environment by promoting quality, responsible and sustainable design. Learn more about the Institute, log on to [www.architecture.com.au](http://www.architecture.com.au)

## 2023 Victorian Architecture Awards winners

### VICTORIAN ARCHITECTURE MEDAL

**University of Melbourne Student Precinct** | Lyons with Koning Eizenberg Architecture, NMBW Architecture Studio, Greenaway Architects, Architects EAT, Aspect Studios and Glas Urban

### Commercial Architecture

The Sir Osborn McCutcheon Award for Commercial Architecture  
**Delatite Cellar Door** | Lucy Clemenger Architects

Architecture Awards  
**Encore Cremorne** | Fieldwork  
**JCB Studio** | Jackson Clements Burrows

Commendation  
**CONO Business Park** | Particular Architects

### Educational Architecture

The Henry Bastow Award for Educational Architecture  
**University of Melbourne Student Precinct** | Lyons with Koning Eizenberg Architecture, NMBW Architecture Studio, Greenaway Architects, Architects EAT, Aspect Studios and Glas Urban

Architecture Awards  
**Box Hill North Primary School** | Sibling Architecture  
**Centre for Higher Education Studies** | Fieldwork + Brand Architects  
**Macleod College** | Kennedy Nolan

Commendations  
**Carlton Gardens Primary School** | Six Degrees Architects  
**Meadows Primary School** | Project 12 Architecture



## Heritage Architecture

### The John George Knight Award for Heritage

**Queen Victoria Markets Shed Restoration A - D, H - I** | NH Architecture with Trethowan Architecture

### Architecture Awards – Conservation

**Fitzroy Town Hall Ceiling** | Conservation Studio Australia

**Prahran Arcade Façade Conservation** | RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants

**Royal Exhibition Building - Promenade** | Lovell Chen

### Architecture Award – Creative Adaptation

**University of Melbourne Student Precinct** | Lyons with Koning Eizenberg Architecture, NMBW Architecture Studio, Greenaway Architects, Architects EAT, Aspect Studios and Glas Urban

### Commendation – Conservation

**Doherty House** | RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants

### Commendation – Creative Adaptation

**Albert Park Primary School Performance Hub** | Searle x Waldron Architecture

## Interior Architecture

### The Marion Mahony Award for Interior Architecture

**Three Springs Architectural Interiors** | KGA Architecture

### Architecture Awards

**Bass Coast Farmhouse** | Wardle

**Science Gallery Melbourne** | Smart Design Studio

### Commendations

**Hermon** | WOWOWA Architecture

**Somers House** | Kennedy Nolan

**The Mental Health Beds Expansion Program at McKellar Centre** | NTC Architects with BG Architecture

## Public Architecture

### The William Wardell Award for Public Architecture

**Bendigo Law Courts** | Wardle

### Architecture Awards

**Dianella Community Centre** | Canvas Projects

**Melbourne Holocaust Museum** | Kerstin Thompson Architects

**Warrnambool Library and Learning Centre** | Kosloff Architecture



### Residential Architecture - Houses (Alterations and Additions)

The John and Phyllis Murphy Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (Alterations and Additions) **Sunday**

Architecture Architecture Awards

**Armadale House** | Neeson Murcutt Neille

**Helvetia** | Austin Maynard Architects

**Mary Street House** | Edition Office

Commendations

**Fitzroy House** | Andrew Child Architect

**Wrong Champ** | WOWOWA Architecture

### Residential Architecture - Houses (New)

The Harold Desbrowe-Annear Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (New)

**spring creek road farm house** | architect brew koch

Architecture Award

**Merricks Farmhouse** | Michael Lumby with Nielsen Jenkins

Commendations

**AB House** | Office MI—JI

**Bass Coast Farmhouse** | Wardle

**Mori House** | MAArchitects + Aires Mateus

### Residential Architecture - Multiple Housing

The Best Overend Award for Residential Architecture - Multiple Housing

**Kerr Street Residences** | Kerstin Thompson Architects

Architecture Awards

**38 Albermarle St, Kensington** | Fieldwork

**Nightingale Village** | Architecture architecture, Austin Maynard Architects, Breathe, Clare Cousins Architects, Hayball and Kennedy Nolan

Commendations

**Fenwick** | Edition Office with Flack Studio

**Viv's Place** | ARM Architecture

### Small Project Architecture

The Kevin Borland Award for Small Project Architecture

**Victorian Family Violence Memorial** | MUIR+OPENWORK

Architecture Award

**Joyce Chapel Bridge** | Searle x Waldron Architecture

Commendations

**Firbank Sandringham Curiosity Centre** | Studio Bright

**Lily's Shed** | Oscar Sainsbury Architects



### Urban Design

The Joseph Reed Award for Urban Design

**University of Melbourne Student Precinct** | Lyons with Koning Eizenberg Architecture, NMBW Architecture Studio, Greenaway Architects, Architects EAT, Aspect Studios and Glas Urban

Architecture Award

**Nightingale Village** | Architecture architecture, Austin Maynard Architects, Breathe, Clare Cousins Architects, Hayball, Kennedy Nolan, Openwork and Andy Fergus

Commendation

**Bell to Moreland Level Crossing Removal Project** | Wood Marsh Architecture

### Sustainable Architecture

The Allan and Beth Coldicutt Award for Sustainable Architecture

**Nightingale Village** | Architecture architecture, Austin Maynard Architects, Breathe, Clare Cousins Architects, Hayball and Kennedy Nolan

Architecture Award

**ANMF House** | Bayley Ward

Commendations

**Bendigo Law Courts** | Wardle

**Glenroy Community Hub** | DesignInc Melbourne

**spring creek road farm house** | architect brew koch

### COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture

COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture (VIC)

**AB House** | Office MI—JI

Commendation

**That Old Chestnut** | FIGR Architecture Studio

### Dimity Reed Melbourne Prize

**Nightingale Village** | Architecture architecture, Austin Maynard Architects, Breathe, Clare Cousins Architects, Hayball and Kennedy Nolan

### Regional Prize

**Warrnambool Library and Learning Centre** | Kosloff Architecture

### Maggie Edmond Enduring Architecture Award

**Brambuk: The National Park and Cultural Centre** | Gregory Burgess Architects



EmAGN Project Award

AB House | The EmAGN Members of Office MI—JI

Emerging Architect Prize

Claire Scorpo RAIA | Agius Scorpo Architects

Bates Smart Award for Architecture in Media

Advocacy Award

The Age / Opinion Pieces | Michael Smith

State Award

Architectural Criticism in The Saturday Paper | Naomi Stead, RMIT, The Saturday Paper

National Award

Deadly Djurumin Yarns | Deadly Djurumin and Parlour



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About Polestar

Polestar (Nasdaq: PSNY) is the Swedish electric performance car brand determined to improve society by using design and technology to accelerate the shift to sustainable mobility. Headquartered in Gothenburg, Sweden, its cars are available online in 27 markets globally across North America, Europe and Asia Pacific. The company plans to create a truly climate-neutral production car, without offsetting, by 2030. In Australia, Polestar is based in Sydney, NSW.