

# NEWCASTLE ARCHITECTURE AWARDS 2024







**PHOEBE GLANVILLE**  
JURY CHAIR

The Newcastle Architecture Awards include Architecture throughout Newcastle, The Hunter and the Central Coast regions and are an important fixture in the Australian Institute of Architects Awards programme.

The Newcastle Architecture Awards is a great opportunity to promote and recognise Architects and Architecture outside of major capital cities. It is vital to the region's growth and development that we demonstrate and showcase the diverse and exceptional architecture in the region. It provides a platform for public and peer recognition of the outstanding and innovative works ranging from small to large scale projects.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding quality of this year's 23 submitted projects which were submitted over nine different categories. I would also like to make note that these projects would have all been designed,

constructed and completed through what has been a very hard time in the construction industry facing the pandemic, rise in material costs and other external pressures.

I would also like to thank and recognise the commitment of the Awards Jury; Aaron Cook, Chris Mullaney, Ben Berwick and Sophie Woodcock, who visited all the projects over a three-day period. A task that is both challenging and time consuming, yet ultimately rewarding through a detailed exposure of the projects and an opportunity for both clients and Architects to present directly to the jurors in the context of the buildings themselves.

I wish to thank the Institute staff, Peter Fry, Wayne Egelton, Wendie Ridgley, Melena Dirou and Juanita Moon for their support and direction. Without their commitment, the awards program, would not be possible.

I also wish to thank my fellow Regional Committee members, for their commitment to the Regional Committee and their ongoing support to regional practices and architects.

On behalf of the Regional Division for the Institute, I would like to thank everyone who has submitted a project and congratulate those recognised within the in the Newcastle Architecture Awards and thank you to all our members for their ongoing support.

**PHOEBE GLANVILLE**  
NSW REGIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIR



**BEN BERWICK (CHAIR)**  
PREVALENT



**SOPHIE WOODCOCK**  
URBAN VILLAGER



**AARON COOK**  
NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
AND ENVIRONMENT



**CHRIS MULLANEY**  
MUCI





# NEWCASTLE MEDAL

## MAITLAND ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

MAITLAND CITY COUNCIL, BVN,  
PTW AND EJE

PHOTOGRAPHY: BEN GUTHRIE  
BUILT BY: HANSEN YUNCKEN

The Maitland Administration Centre is a masterful testament to the principles of architectural harmony, historical continuity, and functional excellence. It stands as an exceptional addition to the fabric of Maitland, preserving the city's rich history whilst revitalising the High Street streetscape, skilfully knitting together a diverse ensemble of architectural eras with its block-wide approach.

The jury was impressed by the project's approach, marked by a graceful simplicity in form, where vertical elements are meticulously designed to resonate with the surrounding context. The deliberate

use of masonry as a grounding material bestows the Administration Centre with a sense of permanence, echoing the civic and cultural significance it holds within the community.

The Maitland Administration Centre is a beacon of architectural prowess, redefining the city's civic identity. The jury wholeheartedly awards it for its exceptional contribution to the built environment and its respect for Maitland's history and future.







COLORBOND® AWARD FOR  
STEEL ARCHITECTURE

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY  
SCHOOL LOCHINVAR

SHAC

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEX MCINTYRE  
BUILT BY: RICHARD CROOKES CONSTRUCTIONS

St Patrick's Primary School Lochinvar stands as a testament to exemplary architectural craftsmanship and an unwavering commitment to holistic design principles. The school's use of COLORBOND® steel finds its resonance not merely as a matter of aesthetic taste, but as a profound demonstration of sustainability and community-centric design.

COLORBOND® steel, employed in external cladding, roofing, rainwater tanks, and exposed framing, intertwines effortlessly with the broader architectural tapestry. A symphony emerges, where the play of light and shadow,

texture and form, evokes a sense of place and purpose. Resilience and continuity resound through the use of COLORBOND® steel in the pedestrian walkways, central gathering space, and covered outdoor learning areas.

This award pays tribute to St Patrick's Primary School Lochinvar's embrace of COLORBOND® steel, an attestation to the school's vision and sustainable future.







COLORBOND®  
COMMENDATION FOR STEEL  
ARCHITECTURE

**MAGGIE STREET**

CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEX MCINTYRE  
BUILT BY: BUILT BY ELI

Maggie Street's application of Zinalume® in both facade and roofing is a remarkable testament to architectural innovation. The fusion of Zinalume® with red cement-bonded cladding not only introduces a varied textural dimension but also invokes a profound sense of familiarity and vitality within the development.

This masterful use of COLORBOND® steel exemplifies the capacity of materials to breathe life and character into architectural spaces, setting a new standard for design and construction.







## AWARD FOR COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

### MAITLAND ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

MAITLAND CITY COUNCIL, BVN, PTW AND EJE

PHOTOGRAPHY: BEN GUTHRIE  
BUILT BY: HANSEN YUNCKEN

The Maitland Administration Centre is a triumphant embodiment of architectural excellence, seamlessly weaving the past and present to enhance the rich tapestry of Maitland's urban heritage. Situated within the historical High Street streetscape, the project emerges as a harmonious addition to this vibrant corridor, where historical significance meets modern functionality.

Abundant natural light, public accessibility, and focus on staff wellbeing define the interior spaces, creating a welcoming and inspiring environment for both staff and the community. Moreover, the project successfully reconfigures the

site, enhancing pedestrian access and civic amenity, exemplifying a commitment to urban sustainability.

The Maitland Administration Centre stands as a testament to architectural excellence, seamlessly intertwining the past, present, and future of this vibrant urban centre. Its positive, welcoming, and community-oriented design makes it a deserving recipient of this award.







## AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

### ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LOCHINVAR

SHAC

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEX MCINTYRE  
BUILT BY: RICHARD CROOKES CONSTRUCTIONS

The jury is pleased to award St Patrick's Primary School Lochinvar, recognising the project's exceptional achievements in architectural design and masterplanning. This project, conceived as a manifestation of the three-leaf clover, has transformed an existing educational institution into a flourishing haven for learning.

The design philosophy, characterised by its modest yet purposeful structures, demonstrates the art of doing more with less. A careful clustering of buildings has not only redefined the school's identity but also fostered an environment conducive to innovative teaching and

collaborative learning. The open, flexible indoor and outdoor spaces, arranged in triads, encourage interaction and resource-sharing amongst students and educators, making learning a seamless and communal experience.

This project exemplifies the successful fusion of architectural finesse, pedagogical excellence, and environmental consciousness. It demonstrates the power of thoughtful design in shaping a thriving educational community. Congratulations to the entire team for their outstanding work.







## COMMENDATION FOR HERITAGE

## NISSEN HUT – BELMONT NORTH: ADAPTIVE REUSE, ADDITIONS & ALTERATIONS & CONSERVATION WORKS

NIMBUS ARCHITECTURE + HERITAGE  
PTY LTD

The renewal of the Nissen Hut promotes awareness and respect for this compelling historical form. Nimbus's design solves a 'square peg/round hole' puzzle by accommodating contemporary living within the quintessential semi-cylindrical form.

Nimbus and their client, MHNSW (formerly Sydney Living Museums), are to be congratulated for an exemplary conservation and reactivation of the Nissen Hut, by incorporating fragments of original structure with a contemporary material palette to create a functional suburban home.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDREW MERRY  
BUILT BY: T. WHITE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION







COMMENDATION FOR HERITAGE

QT HOTEL NEWCASTLE

SJB

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARK LANE / TOM ROE  
BUILT BY: RICHARD CROOKES CONSTRUCTION

SJB have demonstrated great skill in their arrangement of the hotel floor plan across the misaligned floor plates of the former Scotts building and Mitchell & Co. warehouse, to retain the fenestration and other key features of the original façades.

SJB's effort, care and attention to detail are evident in the reinvigorated exterior, which contributes to the preservation of the character of Newcastle's old city centre.







## COMMENDATION FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

## OLIVE TREE HOUSE

BASTIAN ARCHITECTURE

The interior of Olive Tree House is a testbed for unexpected combinations and experimental details. The material palette is playful but unpretentious and durable, anticipating everyday wear as well as weekends at the beach.

Commercial-grade floor coverings sit comfortably alongside polished timber, and cost-effective gyprock walls are offset by warm plywood linings. Colour has been cleverly used as the unifying element, allowing a large variety of textures to come together cohesively.

PHOTOGRAPHY: KATHERINE LU  
BUILT BY: SMART ADDITIONS







COMMENDATION FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

SINGLETON ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

BKA ARCHITECTURE

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT BOARDMAN  
BUILT BY: LAHEY CONSTRUCTIONS

Careful planning and material selection have extended a limited budget to deliver a pragmatic, contemporary gallery space for the Singleton community.

BKA deserve recognition for their economical use of linear gallery space, modestly inserted behind the retained Information Centre, and their use of elevated volumes and dynamic roof forms to catch the attention of the New England Highway.

BKA are to be congratulated for their commitment to the effective delivery of this important cultural asset.







AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL  
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES  
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

ARU HOUSE

CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN AARON  
BUILT BY: BUILT BY ELI

Weatherboard cottages have historically neglected considerations of prevailing breezes, orientation, and gardens. Aru House, meaning “insect” in the Awabakal language, masterfully interconnects sensory amplifiers and augmentations to rekindle a long-forgotten sense of place within this typology.

These augmentations, thoughtfully integrated into the existing structure, yield substantial benefits. The introduction of adjustable apertures and adaptable living spaces, achieved with minimal floor area expansion, enhances the home’s efficiency and programmatic richness. The addition of a side deck and

reconfigurable living threshold further underscores the house’s responsiveness to seasonal variations, blurring the boundaries between interior and exterior.

Aru House is proof of architecture’s capacity to elevate human experience, melding quality, craft, and innovation to instil joy, delight, and a profound sense of place. It is with great enthusiasm that we celebrate Aru House as a beacon of architectural excellence and an exemplar of the transformative power of design.







## AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

### KAREN'S PLACE

STUDIO DOT

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRIGID ARNOTT  
BUILT BY: BUILDSMART CONSTRUCTIONS

Karen's Place is an exceptional and meticulous transformation of a heritage terrace house, that showcases a profound commitment to preserving historical character while simultaneously responding to the evolving needs of its occupants.

The reuse of 10,000 salvaged bricks, along with the incorporation of convict bricks with unique markings, tells a compelling narrative of heritage preservation and familial connection. The project's impressive ability to seamlessly connect indoor and outdoor spaces, ushering in natural light and ventilation, is a hallmark of its thoughtful

design. From the reimagined kitchen to the rooftop gardens, Karen's Place offers a fresh perspective on residential living, perfectly combining function and aesthetics.

This project is an exemplary achievement in architectural design, one that transcends a simple renovation. It is a testament to the enduring value of preserving history while embracing the future, a sanctuary reborn with a multi-generational vision.







## AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

### OLIVE TREE HOUSE

BASTIAN ARCHITECTURE

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN AARON AND KATHERINE LU  
BUILT BY: SMART ADDITIONS

Olive Tree House presents a delightful model for increasing the density of our suburbs, cleverly navigating planning controls to deliver a comfortable family home on half the average lot size.

Despite the modest building footprint, the living spaces feel dynamic and generous due to the courtyard arrangement and connections to the broader landscape. The house wraps around a large, existing olive tree at the centre of the plan and opens up to the side lane, taking advantage of the relatively private outlook while inviting casual interactions with passing neighbours.

Careful internal planning and inventive details ensure that every square metre is working hard. Rooms and circulation spaces take on multiple functions and extensive built-in furniture doubles as storage. Material selections, such as the painted sheet cladding, proprietary awnings and timber windows, are appropriate to their context as well as the aspiration that others might follow this house's lead.







COMMENDATION FOR  
RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE –  
HOUSES (NEW)

10/30 HOUSE

MATT THITCHENER ARCHITECT

Extensive setbacks required on this flood-prone site reduced the available building footprint to 12% of the total lot area, on the steepest section of land.

10/30 House successfully responds to these constraints, employing a simple form to maximise the use of the permissible building zone and limit the height to two storeys. The required level changes become moments of delight, projecting the interiors out towards the generous garden and bushland beyond.

PHOTOGRAPHY: LUKE BUTTERLY  
BUILT BY: GLEN MCFARLANE







COMMENDATION FOR  
RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE –  
HOUSES (NEW)

KARUAH RIVER RETREAT

SHAC

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE  
BUILT BY: BUILT BY ELI

The simple, agricultural forms of the Karuah River Retreat, belie the ingenuity that brought it into being. The brief for a highly passive house set deep in the bush led the architects to use prefabricated timber cassettes that could be built in a controlled environment with minimal waste and then transported to the site for faster assembly.

The project has been a valuable learning experience for those involved and showcases the potential of this skill and capacity being developed in Newcastle.







COMMENDATION FOR  
RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE –  
MULTIPLE HOUSING

DENT STREET DOUBLE

CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: CLINTON WEAVER  
BUILT BY: BUILT BY ELI

Challenging the typical semi-detached model for urban infill, the Dent Street Double's considered design generates two Torrens title homes that present an alternative to the status quo.

By rejecting the typical inclusion of double garages, Curious Practice unlock the site. Permeable paving maintains parking amenity and allows space for a generous entry sequence, opening to light-filled interiors. Kitchen, living, and dining spaces flow into the courtyard and the outdoor spaces, formed through the move to split and separate.







COMMENDATION FOR  
RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE –  
MULTIPLE HOUSING

HUNTINGTON

SJB

PHOTOGRAPHY: TOM ROE  
BUILT BY: BLOC

Huntington by SJB earns commendation for its quality contribution to the Honeysuckle foreshore. Its contemporary, low-maintenance design successfully balances private residential needs within a highly visible precinct.

The building's distinct monolithic brick and concrete structure is carved to reveal vertical silo-like brick balconies with playful pink soffits that subtly reference the harbour context. The civic presentation to Honeysuckle Drive, opens to the water with fine grain convex balconies and steel detailing, that engages with the slower pedestrian pace of the foreshore.







AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL  
ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE  
HOUSING

MAGGIE STREET

CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEX MCINTYRE  
BUILT BY: BUILT BY ELI

Maggie Street demonstrates that urban infill and densification can be nuanced, sustainable and respectful to an existing neighbourhood’s character and rhythms.

The experimental and collaborative relationship between the builder as the developer and Curious Practice has resulted in expertly executed details, from the crisp exterior flashing junctions to the bespoke joinery. The planning plays with flexibility. Unprogrammed spaces offer generosity to the changing lives of occupants. Opportunity is found within setbacks for variation of volume within the section, generating moments of constriction and expansion that add

richness to the interior and open spaces alike.

The four stand-alone homes are all electric, with solar, void-forming water tanks in low carbon concrete capture and reuse precious resources, while the permeable driveway and low water native landscaping slow urban runoff. The robust materials consider end-of-life recyclability and reduce maintenance. These Sustainable principles embedded within its fabric will set new standards for this typology.







AWARD FOR SMALL PROJECT  
ARCHITECTURE

PRINCES STUDIO

CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN AARON  
BUILT BY: F & D DEVITIS BUILDING

Finely crafted partitions and joinery have been carefully assembled within a 41-square-metre floor plan to create an abundance of space and amenity. A floating roof provides a sense of space, and external wall openings are arranged to respect the privacy of neighbours. The considered use of timber for structure, linings and many of the fixtures engender a beautiful, warm and sustainable building.

This freestanding studio is an inspiring example of design excellence being combined with affordable and sustainable construction practices, to create a delightful living experience for a young family.





2024 NEWCASTLE ARCHITECTURE AWARDS– ALL ENTRIES



COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

**MAITLAND ADMINISTRATION CENTRE**  
MAITLAND CITY COUNCIL, BVN, PTW AND EJE  
PHOTOGRAPHY: BEN GUTHRIE



COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

**PARRY ST, NEWCASTLE**  
BKA ARCHITECTURE  
PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT BOARDMAN



EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

**ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LOCHINVAR**  
SHAC  
PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE



HERITAGE

**NISSEN HUT – BELMONT NORTH: ADAPTIVE REUSE, ADDITIONS & ALTERATIONS & CONSERVATION WORKS**  
NIMBUS ARCHITECTURE + HERITAGE PTY LTD  
PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDREW MERRY



COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

**ST PHILIP'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION – CENTRAL OFFICE**  
SHAC  
PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE



COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

**WATT ST COMMERCIAL**  
CKDS ARCHITECTURE  
PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE



HERITAGE

**QT HOTEL NEWCASTLE**  
SJB  
PHOTOGRAPHY: TOM ROE



INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

**OLIVE TREE HOUSE**  
BASTIAN ARCHITECTURE  
PHOTOGRAPHY: KATHERINE LU



2024 NSW COUNTRY DIVISION ARCHITECTURE AWARDS– ALL ENTRIES



PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

SINGLETON ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

BJA ARCHITECTURE

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT BOARDMAN



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

KEMP STREET

SDA

PHOTOGRAPHY: KATIE WADE



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

ARU HOUSE

CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN AARON



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

KAREN'S PLACE

STUDIO DOT

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRIGID ARNOTT



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

KILLCARE HOUSE

SOUTHMARC ARCHITECTURE

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT BOARDMAN



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

LORN HOUSE

SDA

PHOTOGRAPHY: MURRAY MCKEAN



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (NEW)

GYMEA BEACH HOUSE

TRUE NORTH ARCHITECTS

PHOTOGRAPHY: ISABELLA G WILD



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (NEW)

10/30 HOUSE

MATT THITCHENER ARCHITECT

PHOTOGRAPHY: LUKE BUTTERLY



2024 NEWCASTLE ARCHITECTURE AWARDS– ALL ENTRIES



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (NEW)

**KARUAH RIVER RETREAT**  
SHAC

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (NEW)

**OLIVE TREE HOUSE**  
BASTIAN ARCHITECTURE

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN AARON



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - MULTIPLE HOUSING

**HUNTINGTON**  
SJB

PHOTOGRAPHY: TOM ROE



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - MULTIPLE HOUSING

**MAGGIE STREET**  
CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - HOUSES (NEW)

**POKOLBIN HOUSE**  
MATTHEW WOODWARD ARCHITECTURE

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT BOARDMAN



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - MULTIPLE HOUSING

**DENT STREET DOUBLE**  
CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: CLINTON WEAVER



SMALL PROJECT ARCHITECTURE

**PRINCES STUDIO**  
CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUSTIN AARON



2024 NEWCASTLE ARCHITECTURE AWARDS– ALL ENTRIES



COLORBOND®

**MAGGIE STREET**  
CURIOUS PRACTICE

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE



COLORBOND®

**ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LOCHINVAR**  
SHAC

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALEXANDER MCINTYRE

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# NEWCASTLE ARCHITECTURE AWARDS 2024