

NSW
ARCHITECTURE
AWARDS 2024



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Institute of
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FROM THE NSW CHAPTER PRESIDENT



ADAM HADDOW RAIA
NSW CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Our profession helps give our communities character, making physical the ambitions and aspirations of our society. The buildings we deliver create a rich and unique fabric – accommodating our everyday lives.

Great architecture elevates us, helping deliver more equitable, sustainable, and healthier places to live. Our responsibility is not just to the clients who commission us, but to the generations who come after – we must make buildings that will sustain. At this time of housing crisis and climate emergency our role in the strategic and systemic change of our cities could not be more critical, which is why it is exciting to see more projects proactively reusing, reworking, and recycling.

While I may be biased, I think that the architecture we make in NSW is the very best in the world. Congratulations to everyone who submitted and to everyone who has been awarded.

We should be incredibly proud of the collective knowledge and consciousness of our profession and the potential we have when we act collegiately, to change the world for the better. Our challenge will be heightened over the next decade – we need to drive societal change faster and more radically than ever before.

Together we can reduce carbon and deliver world leading sustainable outcomes while making room for people to live happily. We will do this together, and we can do it with beauty, delight, and joy.

Adam Haddow RAIA
NSW Chapter President

FROM THE CHAIR OF JURIES



TIM HORTON FRAIA
CHAIR OF JURIES

In the depths of pandemic, it may have been hard to see a return to life and activity in our community. But we have. We see it in the numbers choosing to gather in person at events that bring together our broad profession. And we see it in a new record number of entries into the 2024 NSW Architecture Awards; up by a third on last year to a new record of 250 entries.

The first challenge of such a vibrant awards program is to distil the entries into a shortlist. Doing so is difficult, but such was the first task of our thirty-three jurors who have invested such enormous energy and commitment to the awards process since the initial presentations in February 2024.

This year, 126 sites were shortlisted for a jury visit; around 20% of which were in regional NSW.

In all of the awarded projects we see a profound contribution to the public good and the public interest; mediating between private interests and the public domain – not only in the carefully porous physical relationship between public and private land, but in how projects have sought to recognise the place, memory and experience of aboriginal people on those sites.

We see the public interest advanced in the continued rise of projects that seek to reduce the total greenhouse gas emissions of our buildings; requiring less energy to produce, fewer resources to extract, employing both timeless proven passive or active environmental systems.

We also see the public interest in the retention and reuse of building fabric; recognising that the act of demolition comes with its own carbon intensity, whether or not it reaches the threshold of heritage significance.

The culminating task of the jury chairs is to deliberate on the selection of the highest award designation; the NSW Architecture Medallion, which is chosen from among the Named Awards in each category; the Blacket Prize for a significant regional project, and the COLORBOND® Award for Steel in Architecture for innovation in the use of steel.

On behalf of the Institute, I thank all the Jurors for the time, dedication and care they have shown to a truly rigorous awards process. I extend a particular thanks to the Jury Chairs for their stewardship of the process, and the care with which they steered deliberations. I would also like to thank Peter Fry and the entire NSW team at the NSW Chapter for the meticulous management of a complex program. Finally, I thank all the architectural practices who submitted projects to the fire of peer review and congratulate all who have been awarded.

TIM HORTON FRAIA
Chair Of Juries
Architect and Commissioner, Land and Environment Court

2024 JURY

CHAIR OF JURIES

Tim Horton
Architect and Commissioner,
Land and Environment Court



PREMIER'S PRIZE

The Honourable Chris Minns,
Premier of New South Wales



LORD MAYOR'S PRIZE

The Right Honourable,
The Lord Mayor of Sydney,
Clover Moore AO



COLORBOND® AWARD
FOR STEEL ARCHITECTURE

Nathan Blackwell



NSW ARCHITECTURE MEDALLION

Tim Horton, Chair of Juries

Daniel Bourke, fjcstudio

Jason Fraser, Woods Bagot

Jonathan Jacka, Jon Jacka Architects

Lindsay Johnston, Architecture Foundation
Australia

Thierry Lacoste, Lacoste + Stevenson

Belinda Pajikovic, Atoma Design

Mark Raggatt, ARM Architecture

David Welsh, Welsh + Major Architects



2024 JURY

PUBLIC & EDUCATIONAL
ARCHITECTURE

Thierry Lacoste, Lacoste + Stevenson (Chair)
Hannah Bolitho, UNSW Cities Institute
Martina Novakova, Government Architect



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE
- HOUSES (NEW)

Jonathan Jacka, Jon Jacka Architects (Chair)
Rory Brooks, Rory Brooks Architects
Caroline Kite, Studio KaaKi
Julie Power, Sydney Morning Herald



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE
- HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND
ADDITIONS)

David Welsh, Welsh + Major Architects (Chair)
Dana Tomic Hughes, Yellowtrace
Mitchell Thompson, Retallack Thompson
Kate Goodwin, Independent



RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE
- MULTIPLE HOUSING

Jason Fraser, Woods Bagot (Chair)
Connie Argyrou, Architectus
Joseph Loh, BVN



2024 JURY

COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE
AND URBAN DESIGN

Mark Raggatt, ARM Architecture (Chair)
Rebecca Donoghue, SJB
Duncan Corrigan, AJC Architects



HERITAGE

Daniel Bourke, fjcstudio (Chair)
Linda Babic, Heritas Heritage & Conservation
Jason Elsley, Derive Architecture & Design



INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

Belinda Pajkovic, atoma design (Chair)
Tomek Archer, Archer Office
Giulia Conti, Architectus



SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

Lindsay Johnston, Architecture Foundation
Australia (Chair)
David Haseler, fjcstudio
Jamileh Jahangiri, Studio Orsii



2024 JURY

ENDURING ARCHITECTURE

Caroline Pidcock, Pidcock – Architecture
+ Sustainability (Chair)
Paulo Macchia, Government Architect NSW
Leone Lorrimer, GHD Design



BLACKET PRIZE

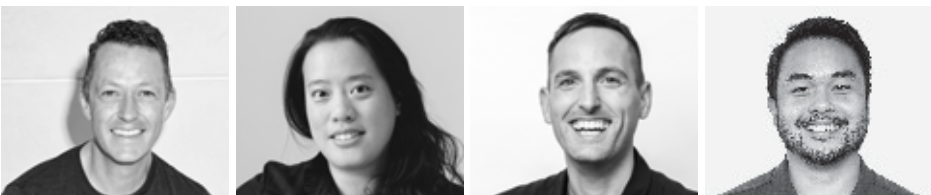
Phoebe Glanville (Chair)
Megan Eiman
Elise Honeyman
Chris McNerney
Cherry Parsons
Ed Rosier
Tina Tziallas



2024 JURY

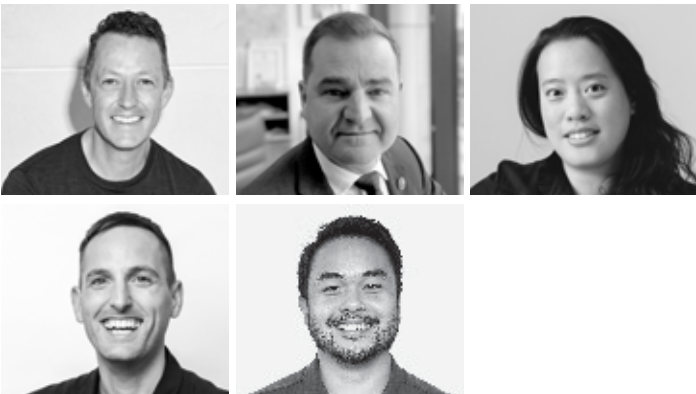
EMAGN PROJECT AWARD

Adam Haddow, SJB (Chair)
Sally Hsu, Bates Smart
Ben Peake, Carter Williamson Architects
Sean Wong, Wardle



EMERGING ARCHITECT PRIZE

Adam Haddow, SJB (Chair)
Tim Horton, Architect and Commissioner,
Land and Environment Court
Sally Hsu, Bates Smart
Ben Peake, Carter Williamson Architects
Sean Wong, Wardle





NSW ARCHITECTURE MEDALLION

NORTH HEAD VIEWING PLATFORMS

by
CHROFI AND BANGAWARRA
WITH NATIONAL PARKS
AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Builder: Glascott Landscape and Civil

Photographer: John Spencer/DCCEEW
and Clinton Weaver

Designing for, and with, Country embodies a profound commitment to honouring First Nations perspectives and values, and cultural and environmental sustainabilities within the landscape. When done well, it can transcend conventional design paradigms by prioritising the interconnectedness of land, people, and culture.

The two new viewing platforms at North Head at a pragmatic level do what they need to, respectfully and with longevity in mind, whilst also providing a vehicle to share stories of Car-rang-gel (Country now known as North Head), a place that has always been an important ceremonial ground for local peoples.

At its core, this project is about fostering relationships with Country that are reciprocal and respectful. It involves engaging with Indigenous knowledge and recognises that Country is not merely a backdrop for human activities but a living entity with its own agency and significance. Both the southmost platform, Burragula (the time of sunset), and the northern viewing platform, Yiningma (a cliff edge) understands its responsibilities to engage meaningfully; creating poetic, generous ways to share stories and opportunities for learning, and create a truly meaningful connection with Country.





THE PREMIER'S PRIZE

NIGHTINGALE MARRICKVILLE

by
SJB

Builder: CD Construction Group

Photographer: Tom Roe

This mid-rise apartment building provides much needed, well-located, affordable rental housing. Nightingale Marrickville demonstrates that a well-designed architectural response to increased density can simultaneously reflect the neighbourhood context and create outstanding homes.

The building form delivers an active street edge while stepping at the rear to create a scale appropriate to the residential character. The project skilfully delivers well-designed, tightly planned living units leveraging the NSW Boarding House requirements of the Housing SEPP. Importantly, these are complemented by generous communal spaces with access to natural light, ventilation, and outdoor landscaped areas.

Ambitious initiatives to reduce embodied and operational energy (including removing wall and ceiling finishes, designing to material modules, 100% electrification and a large bike storage space) maximise the opportunities afforded by the build-to-rent model of ongoing ownership. This project showcases affordable alternatives for communal living through a successful collaboration between a not-for-profit client, Nightingale, and the design team.





THE LORD MAYOR'S PRIZE

REDFERN STATION

by
DESIGNINC

Builder: Novo Rail Alliance

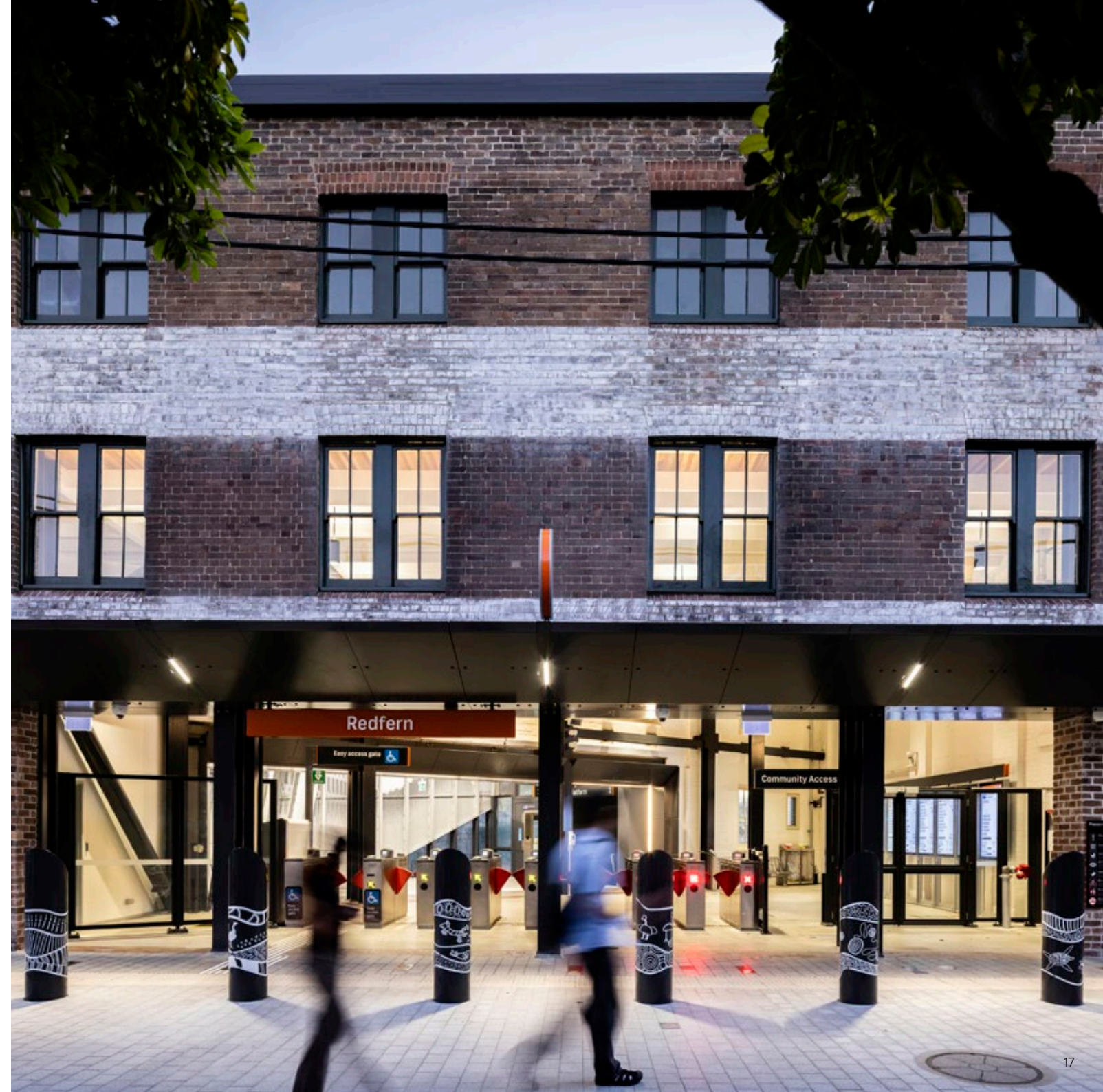
Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

The upgrade of Redfern station delivers not only a highly functional solution to the need for universal access to the fifth-busiest station on our network, but it provides a welcoming and positive experience which sets a bar for other transport infrastructure projects.

The new southern concourse provides an elevated connection across the rail lines connecting the narrow platforms below and provides a vital link reconnecting the two sides of Redfern: from Little Eveleigh Street in the west to Marian Street near the Watertower development in the east.

High quality urban design considers the integration of the landing connections on both sides: the adaptive reuse of a former broom factory/warehouse on Little Eveleigh and a generous open paved and green setting at Marian street. This embraces the level of integration and design with the surrounds needed by once-in-a-generation projects.

Importantly, the open community gateway provides a neighbourhood level cross rail connection for the diverse community that may or may not have travel cards. The everyday experience of walking the concourse is both generous and airy - filled with light during the day and providing excellent visibility and improved safety through careful design in the evening. This is particularly important for the women and the large and diverse student cohort that travel through Redfern station every day.





BLACKET PRIZE

SOUTH EAST CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART (SECCA)

by
SIBLING ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Lloyd Group and Bega Valley Shire Council

Photographer: Katherine Lu

The South East Centre for Contemporary Art (SECCA) is awarded the 2024 Blacket Prize for achieving design excellence in a regional context.

The proposed SECCA building is an extensive refurbishment and expansion of the former Bega Valley Regional Art Gallery. With the aim to forge stronger connections between the community and art, the revitalised gallery is not just a cultural hub but a driver of cultural tourism.

The clever design incorporates a well resolved, carefully detailed and cost-effective addition to the original outdated and restrictive building. Encompassing an area of over 500sqm, the expansion strategically reprograms existing functions, bringing gallery spaces to the periphery to showcase exhibitions through large openings in the textured aluminium facade screen. The project has provided a vibrant and playful new facade which engages with the surrounding landscape and civic precinct.

The South East Centre for Contemporary Art is a worthy recipient of the Blacket Prize as it demonstrates an innovative and sensitive architectural revival to an existing building and strengthens ties with the local community, providing a new fit for purpose Art Gallery in the regional town of Bega.





EMERGING ARCHITECT PRIZE

JENNIFER McMASTER TRIAS

Jennifer McMaster has been awarded the 2024 Australian Institute of Architects NSW Chapter Emerging Architect Prize.

As a Founding Director of TRIAS, Jennifer's contribution to architecture is multi-layered: design excellence in practice, a fascination with research and innovation, and a deep commitment to the profession and society more broadly.

Her work is driven by a profound dedication to addressing two of the most critical challenges of our time: housing and sustainability.

In practice, Jennifer has co-led many award-winning projects at TRIAS, showcasing a clear commitment to creating buildings that are solid, simple, and beautiful. Her leadership in these projects reflects a consistent pursuit of design excellence and sustainability.

Recently appointed as a Professor of Practice at the University of Sydney, Jennifer is leading students to critically consider embodied carbon, regenerative materials, and the contemporary material economy. Research intended to be shared with the profession at large.

Jennifer has already demonstrated a commitment to generously sharing within the profession. As Co-Chair of the NSW Medium Practice Forum, she has been instrumental in fostering a culture of listening, sharing, and collaborative learning; creating an environment where practitioners can exchange knowledge and support each other's growth.

Jennifer's advocacy is considered and approachable. Her ability to engage and inspire others highlights her role as a leader in advancing sustainable and innovative architectural practices.

Jennifer McMaster exemplifies the qualities of an emerging architect. Her achievements and dedication make her a deserving recipient of the Emerging Architect Prize.



EMAGN PROJECT AWARD

MAVIS TERRACE

by
PASQUAL ARCHITECTS

Builder: Alpine Designer Homes

Photographer: Jason Pasqual | Zac Dimi
Photography

We are living in a time of housing crisis that calls for more varied and better solutions that help us live closer. With tenacity and passion, Pasqual Architects have delivered one of the most challenging project briefs: multiple housing. Emerging practices are often excluded from meaningful roles on multi housing projects due to a lack of experience in the complexities of program and construction. In a chicken and egg scenario this often locks them out of engaging in housing projects by developers. This simple fact is perhaps one of the greatest challenges of delivering housing diversity - getting a diverse array of architects, with divergent backgrounds and experiences, engaged in the delivery of multiple housing typologies.

Circumventing this, Pasqual Architects delivered a project very close to their heart. After purchasing their lifelong neighbours' home, they became architect/developer with a tenacity and naivety that saw the demolition of quaint but unremarkable adjoining Californian Bungalows to deliver nine Strata terrace homes.

Navigating the economic environment of development, overlaid with the COVID 19 restrictions on movement and lending, the delivery of this project has been a remarkable success. Not only has the project delivered housing diversity, but it has allowed their aging mother to age in place, with family around, and in a familiar location.





EMAGN PROJECT AWARD

TERRACE HOUSE MIRAGE

by
ALCAMI ARCHITECTURE

Photographer: David Wheeler

This delightful rethinking of an inner-city worker's terrace is quirky, specific, and imaginative. Rooted in strong theoretical ambitions about family, culture and film, the adaptive reuse of the terrace balances luxury on a shoestring – genuflecting to simplicity and unfussiness rather than overworked detailing. There was passion abounding in the project, capturing the collaborative spirit of the client and architects working relationship.

ALCAMI Architecture has shown how narrow our interpretation of a terrace house reworking has come to be – instead this project oozes delight and joy, it is idiosyncratic and perfect for someone who believes it to be. It is perhaps not everyone's cup of tea – but it is most certainly the owner's cup!

Congratulations to the architects for showing us that diversity comes in many forms and that a personal interpretation of space, of opening up and closing down, of stretching and limiting are relevant investigations at a time when diversity in housing is important and genuine.





**THE COLORBOND® AWARD
FOR STEEL ARCHITECTURE**

ROSEDALE HOUSE

by
SCALE ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Owner Builder – Tom Zubrycki
Photographer: Tim Clark Photography

Rosedale House is a celebration of the use of steel. It embraces both its aesthetic qualities as a roof and walling material, and its performance attributes, with steel allowing the home to achieve the BAL ratings required for a bushfire rebuild.

Despite the small scale and budget, Scale Architecture worked tirelessly with fabricators and consultants to design the prefabricated building elements – floor cassettes, walls frames and precut roof frames – to help minimise installation time onsite.

Clad entirely in COLORBOND® Steel's Manor Red®, the hip-roof profile is an unashamed reference to the modest tin shacks that once lined our coastal towns. The monochromatic response might appear in contrast to this coastal suburban bush context, but at the same time it is so fitting, it almost hides in plain sight.

Rosedale House is a reminder of the aesthetic and functional power of steel in a bushfire prone setting, honestly expressed at every scale – from its offsite DFMA engineered structure to the bold choices of colour – to create architecture of enduring value and appeal.





ENDURING ARCHITECTURE AWARD

GLASS HOUSE

by
RUTH AND BILL LUCAS

Builder: Peter Lucas

The Glass House is an exemplar of how housing can honour its location while using minimal resources, enabling communities to thrive and providing inspiration on many levels.

Authored by Ruth and Bill Lucas, working collaboratively with their engineer Peter Miller, Director of Miller, Milston and Ferris, the design touches the sloping rocky ground adjacent to a cascading water course with extreme care, lightness and respect, allowing nature to flow freely around it. The minimal structure, inherent to the house's design, connects with the unaltered rocks below in as few places possible.

The land (including two adjacent sites) was purchased with Bill's War Service Loan 1950, and the house was designed within a period of material scarcity of post-war Australia. Drawing on the frame and screen approach of eastern cultures in the design, each piece of standard sized material works hard to contribute to the structure, purpose and beauty of the house.

The process of construction helped the Lucas' build their family and practice, with many Sydney architects and students assisting and learning along the way. Additionally, as they lived and worked on the site, the Lucas family contributed to the development and enrichment of the communal facilities of Castlecrag.



The pair designed many homes that only strengthened the great legacy of Walter Burley and Marion Mahoney Griffin.

The home was designed to be adaptable to changing needs, as demonstrated in the recent work, and it would also be possible to disassemble and leave little trace on the site.

A respectful restoration has been recently commissioned by the new sympathetic owners and completed by Cracknell & Lonergan Architects who worked closely with Ruth and Bill's son Peter who was engaged as the builder.

While the highly transparent envelope, offering minimal thermal protection, might not be the right approach for everyone or every place, it has been enjoyed by its many inhabitants and visitors in this location.

The Glass House's connectedness with nature, celebration of resourcefulness and rich contribution to the architectural and Castlecrag communities is an inspiring and enduring benefit for us all.



THE SULMAN MEDAL FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

PARRAMATTA AQUATIC CENTRE

by
GRIMSHAW AND ANDREW
BURGES ARCHITECTS
WITH MCGREGOR COXALL

Builder: Lipman

Photographer: Peter Bennetts

The Parramatta Aquatic Centre, a collaboration between Parramatta City Council, McGregor Coxall Landscape Architects, Grimshaw and ABA, is an example of a different way of conceptualising aquatic centres.

The masterplan is clever in its simplicity. The siting of the pool responds to the park's topography and context and is located to maximise retention of existing trees. The circular design is cut into the park, maximising public views in, out and over the facility. This makes the experience of visiting the pool more about the landscape experience than the built form, appropriate given the location within World Heritage Listed Parramatta Park. The facility is functional and rational in its internal planning, with materials chosen for strength and durability. Natural light filters through to the internal programmed spaces.

This project is an incredible addition to 'Public Sydney' and demonstrates the importance and value of strong urban design and landscape input to drive the best public outcomes.





AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

119 REDFERN STREET

by
AILEEN SAGE, DJINJAMA,
JEAN RICE, DR NONI BOYD
AND THE CITY OF SYDNEY

Builder: Rogers Construction Group

Photographer: Hamish McIntosh

The transformation of 119 Redfern Street into a First Nations community hub by the City of Sydney with Aileen Sage, Djinjama, Jean Rice and Dr Noni Boyd is an extraordinary example of the power of collaborative design. The program is restrained and functional but executed with thoughtful detailing. The building has been sensitively stripped back to reveal and celebrate its original state, being true the indigenous economic “theory of enoughness” that has driven all design and planning decisions.

This project and its process should be studied as a demonstration project for how we as architects respond to briefs in today’s context with the hugely significant climate and wellbeing stressors we are facing. This project demonstrates how a design problem is answered through the filter of Country, with all voices in the collaboration heard and with the benchmark of not needing to add anything for the sake of adding something.





AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

LONG REEF SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

by
ADRIANO PUPILLI
ARCHITECTS

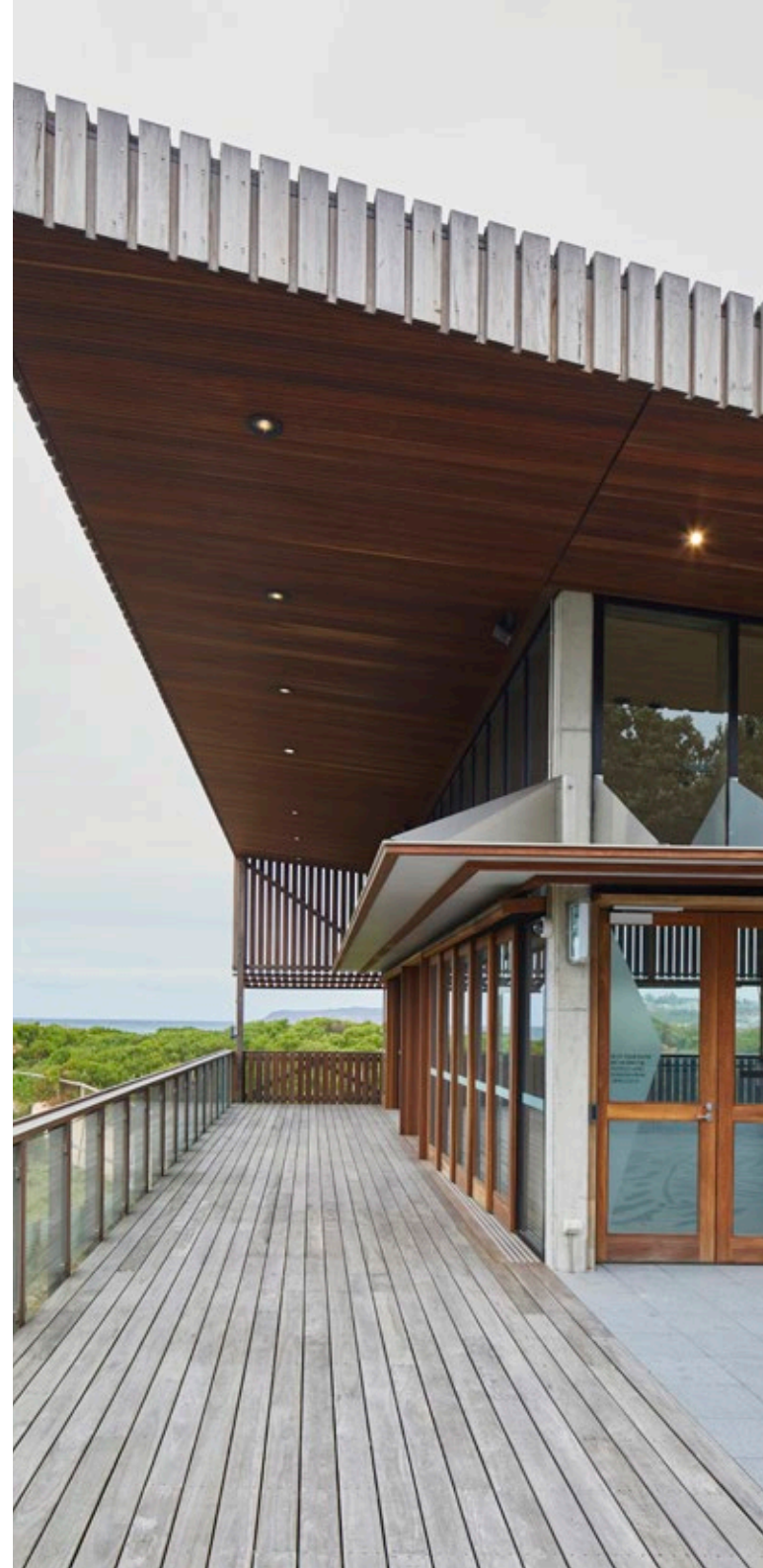
Builder: Grindley Interiors

Photographer: Martin Mischkulnig

The Long Reef Surf Life Saving Club, a collaboration between Long Reef Surf Club, Adriano Pupilli Architects and Tyrell Studio Landscape Architects, is a thoughtful and nature-based design response.

It has a functional, flexible layout which enables the spaces to be used by different groups at different times. The pavilion structures are clustered around a central courtyard space, located to retain existing mature trees on site, demonstrating the strong landscape and urban design principles driving the masterplan. It is designed to be visually recessive, with timber batten facades and durable concrete finishes to maintain the primacy of the incredible natural setting in which it sits, nestled behind the sand dunes.

This is a great example of a strong landscape-driven masterplan leading the design process. The building sits beautifully in the context and creates a series of lovely in between outdoor communal areas for use by the whole community.





AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

POWERHOUSE CASTLE HILL

by
LAHZNIMMO ARCHITECTS

Builder: Taylor Construction

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

Powerhouse Castle Hill by lahznimmo architects is a beautifully realised storage facility for the Powerhouse collection which also incorporates space to support research, conservation, public exhibitions, and engagement programs. The sculptural and well-proportioned massing emerges confidently from the ground yet pays reverence to its surroundings. This is achieved through the quietness of the softly mirrored facade which also expresses the institution's respect for history and the stories contained in the facility's stored objects.

The corrugated aluminium facade acts as an ephemeral veil that opens and closes to deftly announce points of entry and interaction, to offer glimpses into the interior and to provide solidity and privacy where needed. The jury commends the design team for achieving a building of exceptional refinement which extends well beyond its base function to deliver a sublime space for all to appreciate.





AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

SOUTH EAST CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART (SECCA)

by
SIBLING ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Lloyd Group and Bega Valley Shire Council

Photographer: Katherine Lu

South East Centre for Contemporary Art (SECCA) by Sibling Architecture deftly transforms the Bega Valley Regional Gallery into a renewed cultural hub for Bega's thriving cultural and arts community through a series of precise and playful insertions into the fabric of the existing building.

A softly undulating steel mesh wraps the existing structure and is punctuated by boldly coloured steel framed window openings. The ground plane of the forecourt folds up into these window openings to create seating opportunities, offering intimate moments for rest and gathering. The jury commends the design team in their controlled use of these elements to create a unique and highly recognisable public address, infused with character and joy, which invites broad community interaction and gives rise to a new and compelling place identity.





COMMENDATION FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

THE PAVILION PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE SUTHERLAND

by
CHROFI AND NBRS

Builder: ADCO Constructions

Photographer: Alexander Mayes Photography

The Pavilion Performing Arts Centre Sutherland by CHROFI and NBRS transforms the former Sutherland Entertainment Centre through strategic adaptations and insertions that celebrate the character of the original 1970s building while reinforcing and reinterpreting its role as a cultural focal point for the community through a generous new entrance structure.

The old brutalist facade is quietly celebrated and subsequently softened through the use of mass timber and expansive glazed openings which create an inviting, civically scaled address to the well-articulated public domain and Peace Park to the north. The project demonstrates how the careful reuse of an existing built form and meaningful community, and First Nations engagement can create enduring social value for communities while minimising whole-of-life impacts.





COMMENDATION FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

SYDNEY FOOTBALL STADIUM (ALLIANZ STADIUM)

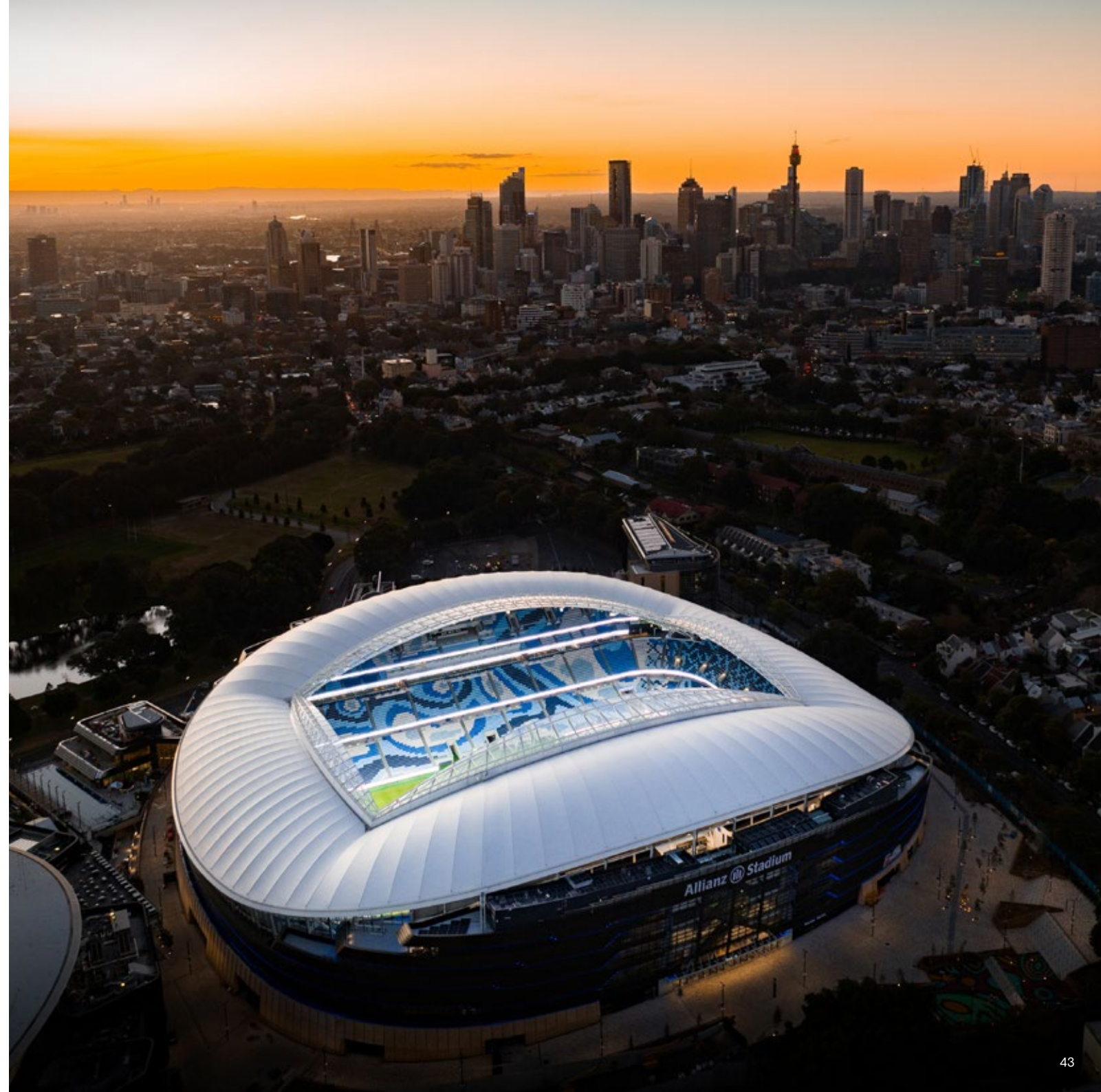
by
COX ARCHITECTURE

Builder: John Holland Group

Photographer: Christopher Frederick Jones
and Courtesy of Venues NSW

Constructed to enhance patron experience, the new Sydney Football Stadium significantly enhances the adjacent public space. Its intuitive circulation system transforms the spectator journey, highlighted by a dramatic entry level which offers sweeping panoramas of the field and seating areas.

Anchored by a sandstone-hued concrete and cooper colour cladding base, its lightweight roof, resembling a cloud, ingeniously minimises steel usage. Supported by four thin pillars, the canopy stands out as a unique landmark against the cityscape.





COMMENDATION FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

REDFERN STATION

by
DESIGNINC

Builder: Novo Rail Alliance

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

The Redfern Station Southern Concourse by DesignInc in collaboration with state and local government provides a new, accessible experience for pedestrians travelling east-west across the train tracks, with lifts and stairs down to each platform. The clever use of metal screening enables natural light into the walkway as well as visual sightlines in and out. A generous open pavilion type of roof creates a clear marker for wayfinding on the western side.

On the eastern side, the walkway links through an adaptive reused heritage building onto a newly pedestrianised Little Eveleigh Street – a project collaboration with the City of Sydney. The bridge is functional and robust and creates a significant improvement to pedestrian walkability through the area.





THE WILLIAM E KEMP AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE: SCIENTIA BUILDING

by
BVN

Builder: Hansen Yuncken

Photographer: Tom Roe

The Scientia Building at St. Patrick College Strathfield is strategically positioned within the campus grounds. It's simple yet striking volume is characterised by windows on all sides, ensuring natural ventilation and a seamless connection to the surrounding environment. This design ethos prioritises flexibility and adaptability, catering to diverse educational needs and future uses.

Promoting an innovative pedagogical approach, the building's layout accommodates various learning styles, with flexible zones for cross-curricular workshops and small-group study. Classrooms and laboratories seamlessly connect with central learning spaces and versatile verandahs.

Emphasising the importance of outdoor education, the Scientia Building features numerous outdoor learning areas, further enriching the educational experience. A unified facade treatment with folded sunshading elements enhances the building's aesthetics and maximises transparency.

The design optimises access to daylight, fresh air, and views, enhancing the classroom atmosphere and overall learning experience. The podium level of the building capitalises on the site's natural features, offering an array of amenities such as an undercover outdoor gathering space, canteen, café, and dining area. Additionally, the signature tiered grandstand overlooking Breen Oval adds a distinctive feature to the architectural landscape, serving as a focal point for both academic and social activities.





AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

DARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

by
FJCSTUDIO

Builder: AW Edwards

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

Darlington Public School's architectural design follows a clear and simple diagram. Its footprint is organised into two main components – double sided and cross ventilated learning spaces and a semi outdoor space – which together facilitate flexible learning methods. The protective screens surrounding outdoor learning terraces provide both safety and aesthetic appeal, casting dappled light reminiscent of the surrounding landscape.

The design, born out of extensive community consultation, reflects the school's identity as a community hub with deep connections to Aboriginal culture.

Darlington Public School prioritises community accessibility, with publicly available facilities such as a community hall, Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA), and library. The construction masterplan, implemented in two stages, ensures continuous school operation while minimising relocation costs.

Sustainability is a core aspect of the design, incorporating passive elements like sawtooth roofs for optimal sunlight exposure, high-level glazing for indirect daylight, and curved screens for filtered light. Additionally, the design celebrates the school's rich Indigenous culture and artistic heritage, preserving and showcasing an extensive collection of Aboriginal artworks throughout the campus.





COMMENDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

BARKER COLLEGE MATHS AND STUDENT HUB

by
ARCHITECTUS

Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography
and Martin Mischkuling

The Barker College Maths and Student Hub, designed by Architectus, exemplifies a harmonious blend of functionality, sustainability, and aesthetic appeal. Strategically positioned on the escarpment overlooking the heritage-listed Barker campus, its thoughtful design fosters an inspiring learning environment. The building's simple organisation comprises a podium featuring social areas, study spaces, and a dining common; promoting collaboration and social interaction.

Above the podium, two levels with a mass timber structure houses 23 traditional classrooms.

This timber superstructure is striking. It imbues the classrooms with a warm and welcoming ambiance, enhancing the learning experience. The incorporation of timber adds aesthetic value but also significantly reduces the building's carbon footprint, showcasing a commitment to environmental sustainability.

The design incorporates natural elements such as abundant daylight, natural ventilation, and passive heating and cooling strategies, further minimising the building's environmental impact.





COMMENDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

BLACKTOWN EXERCISE AND SPORTS TECHNOLOGY HUB (BEST)

by
ARM ARCHITECTURE WITH
ARCHITECTUS AND CO.OP
STUDIO

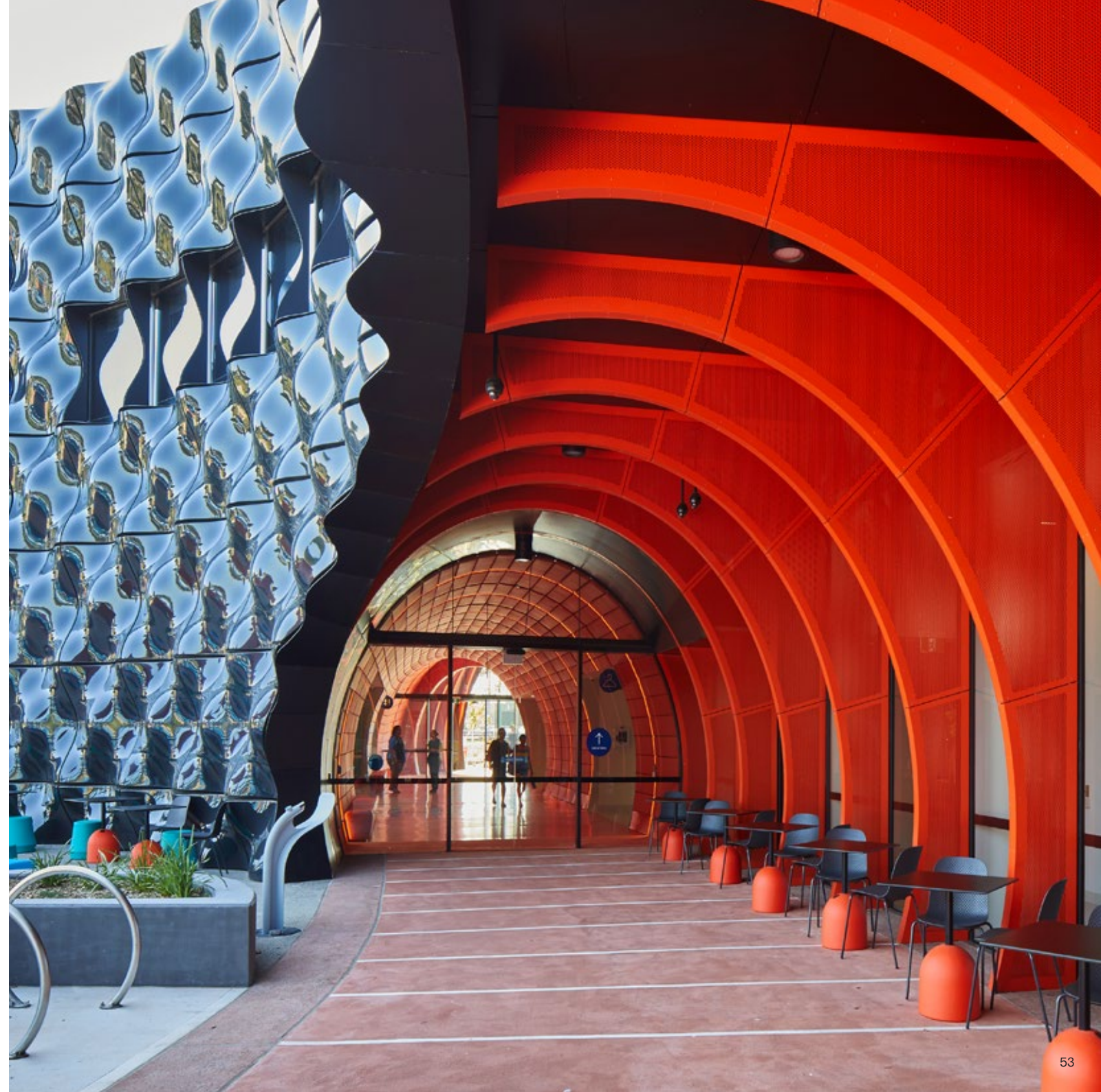
Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: Blacktown City Council
and Martin Mischkulnig

Blacktown Exercise and Sports Technology Hub (BEST) by ARM Architecture with Architectus and CO.OP Studio is a vibrant testament to innovative design principles, combining shiny materials and bold colours to create a dynamic atmosphere that blends fun and cutting-edge technology. With a primary focus on improving health outcomes for the Western Sydney community, the project caters to diverse needs with a variety of programs.

Inspired by the multicultural vernacular of Western Sydney, the design draws from elements of Indian temples, Turkish bathhouses, and Chinese gardens, influencing aspects such as colour schemes, circulation patterns, and material choices. This infusion of cultural influences not only celebrates ethnic diversity but also materialises identity aspirations, transforming what was once a secure and limited-access domain into a public space that embraces plurality.

ARM's Blacktown Exercise and Sports Technology Hub embodies a fusion of health, technology, and cultural identity, enriching the community's physical literacy and wellbeing while celebrating the vibrant diversity of Western Sydney.





COMMENDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

HILLTOPS YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

by
HAYBALL

Builder: Joss Construction

Photographer: Martin Mischkulnig

The strong collaboration between Hayball, Michael Mossman Architect, Hilltops Young School and Hilltop Young Council is reflected in the Hilltops Young High School Library. It is a clever design facilitating shared use of the facility by the community, including a dedicated Wiradjuri learning centre and dedicated community mental health response centre.

The scale of the building sensitively responds to the adjacent heritage courthouse. The façade is stepped to enable separate internal and external gathering spaces for the community so the building can be used by multiple different users at any one time. Cultural artefacts are embedded in exhibition spaces as well as the building materials, telling stories both of local First Nations community as well as the Chinese and European community.

The Hilltop Young High School is the output of a truly integrated and collaborative design process.





COMMENDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LOCHINVAR

by
SHAC

Builder: Richard Crookes Constructions

Photographer: Alexander McIntyre

The new St. Patrick's Primary School in Lochinvar is a charming testament to thoughtful design and community-focused education. Reminiscent of a tranquil village, the school exudes a gentle country atmosphere that fosters a strong sense of community and wellbeing among staff and students alike.

The innovative layout, with each year housed in a separate pavilion, promotes a sense of belonging and allows for personalised learning experiences. These pavilions, interconnected by covered walkways, seamlessly blend indoor and outdoor spaces, encouraging exploration and creativity.

The school achieves remarkable functionality and sustainability. Utilising robust yet inexpensive materials and simple traditional construction methods, it ensures cost-effectiveness and durability. Natural ventilation, ample daylight, and thermal mass materials further enhance the learning environment, creating spaces of comfort and tranquillity.





WILKNSON AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

MAITLAND BAY HOUSE

by
STUDIO BRIGHT

Builder: Cochran Constructions

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

Maitland Bay House by Studio Bright is a special house; finely tuned and beautifully crafted. Modest in scale, it celebrates the majesty of the angophoras, sea, and cliffs of the central coast of NSW. The home neither dominates nor recedes.

As a social family home, it opens to the street and invites the community in. The house sits high on the escarpment overlooking Maitland Bay and is set within an informal garden that celebrates its location within the temperate rainforest. On approach, visitors and passers-by are offered a view of the living areas and ocean beyond.

A subtly sculpted form, the house sits gently within its context. The use of brick as the primary building material, selected to match the colour of the angophoras, strikes an immediate relationship with the context and, at the same time, responds to the risk of bushfire.

The program is familiar – common living areas, a bedroom wing and separate rumpus room. Through the sophisticated arrangement of these spaces, the adoption of a casual geometry, and careful consideration of shelter – balancing engagement with and protection from the elements – the house presents a beguiling sense of calm and nurture.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE
– HOUSES (NEW)

CLIFTON HOUSE

by
ANTHONY GILL ARCHITECTS

Builder: Robert Plumb Build
Photographer: Rory Gardiner

Clifton House is a jewel of a family home in Bondi – an oasis of calm, beautiful spaces in a diverse, tightly knit suburb.

The design of the house and its resolution is exacting. The architect was selected by a highly-skilled and thoughtful client in builder and landscape architect partnership, Robert Plumb Collective, steeped in a vision to promote the best of architecture in our city.

Clifton House can be read in two interrelated parts: A ground floor of precise measurement providing a calm order to communal life and a first floor of bedrooms, buttressed by fibreglass-clad greenhouses, offering an otherworldly environment, and providing privacy to neighbours. Skylights to the ground floor emanate a soft light filtered by the fiberglass.

It's a beautiful and inventive diagram that a testament to the skill of the architect and client/builder team – the collaboration a model to promote.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

BLOK BELONGIL

by
BLOK MODULAR AND
VOKES AND PETERS

Builder: Todd Knaus Construction and
Connolly Land Holdings

Photography: Christopher Frederick Jones

Blok Belongil in Byron Bay is a house that challenges assumptions.

As a modular building it challenges typical building methods. Its form, responding to the triangular site, challenges assumptions of what a modular house can be. In plan, it challenges the way a house is conceived for immediate and future residents.

The house is located at the “gateway” to a new residential area with expansive views over Belongil Beach. Living spaces, a generous deck overlooking the ocean, and a bedroom are located at the first floor – similar to a self-contained apartment. At the ground floor, a suite of bedrooms off an external hall could be the kids’ bedrooms of a typical house or, alternatively, short-stay accommodation or other household arrangements not yet envisaged.

Factory built, the detail and resolution far exceed that of a typical house built to the same budget. Blok Belongil presents an exciting alternative for the future.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

SHED HOUSE

by
BREAKSPEAR ARCHITECTS

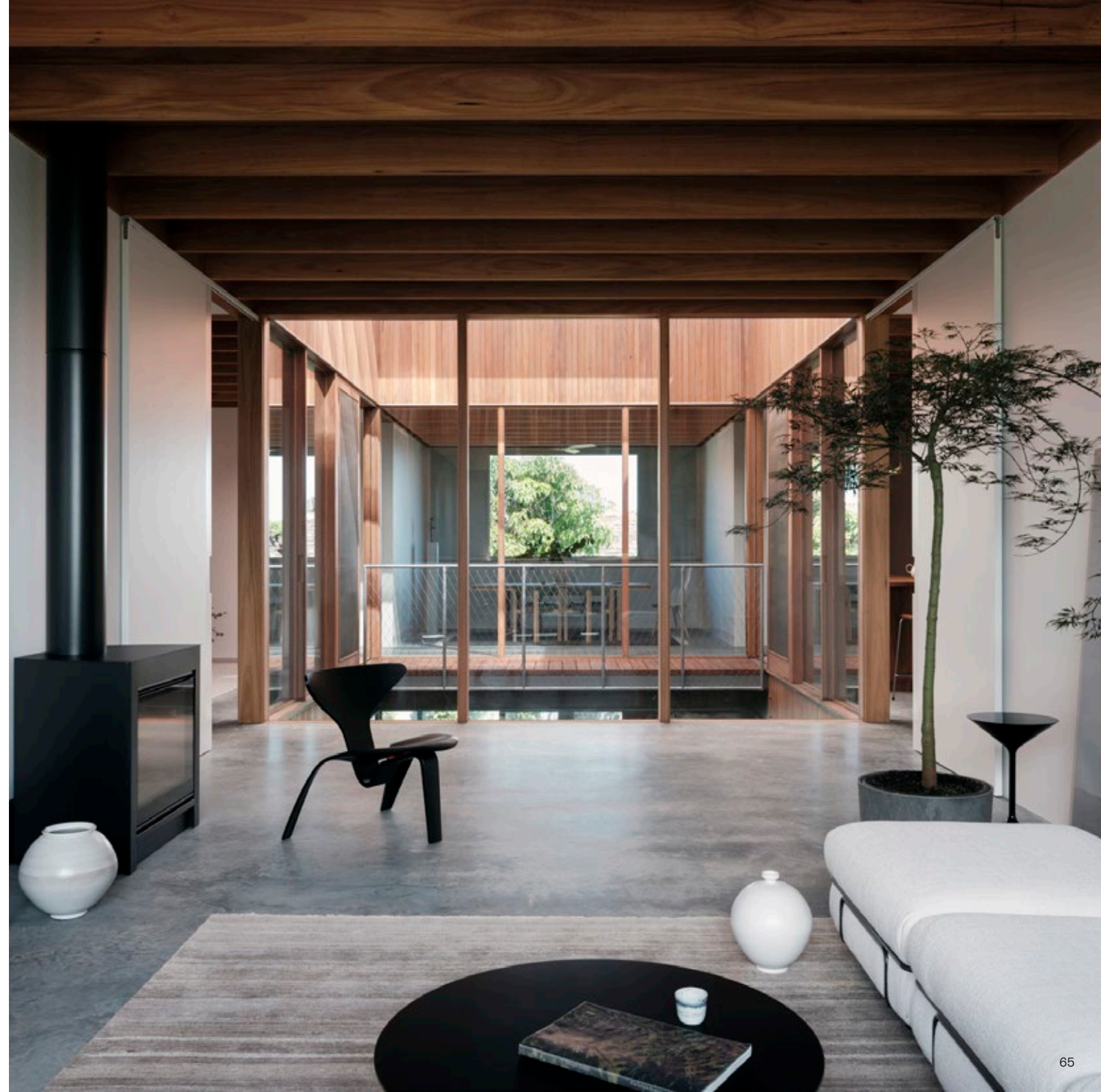
Builder: A.M. Custom Builders

Photographer: Tom Ferguson

Shed House, in Sydney's Earlwood, promotes an alternative housing model for our suburbs. It presents a work-live, environmentally responsive housing type set to change our suburbs for the better.

Accommodating the needs of a family's furniture business on site, Breakspear Architects have fashioned a house that pushes beyond the typical. The ground floor, a workshop space, is adaptable for family uses, parties and guests. The house itself is located at the first floor with a unique floorplate – a cruciform of living spaces arranged around a central courtyard with bedrooms at each corner. The plan provides for windows to all rooms at front and rear – a masterstroke in planning suggesting a new kind of terrace house arrangement, repeatable across a suburb.

The house is exquisitely detailed with all attention and no fuss. It's a house that puts forward a positive alternative to the future development of our suburbs.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

KIDMAN LANE

by
PLUS MINUS DESIGN

Photographer: Clinton Weaver

Kidman Lane in Sydney's Paddington is an exemplary model for affordable, compact, and joyful city living – a bright spark in the street.

In its context, the house is both an anomaly and a perfect fit. It is modest in budget but rich in detail. It's small yet spacious. It's both dark and light. This little building works hard within its small footprint to provide an experiential richness beyond its size.

The plan is refreshingly simple. The ground floor is open to the gardens at the front and rear, expanding its perceived scale. The first floor is a simple arrangement of four rooms of non-prescribed use. Timber-framed walls provide for future adaptability. There are also a few hidden surprises: the fabulous powder room, a secret store under the stairs, and a bin room under a bench seat.

Kidman Lane is testament to the architect's energetic and relentless drive to bring this building to life.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

SHIPLAP HOUSE

by
CHENCHOW LITTLE

Builder: Building with Options

Photographer: Peter Bennetts

Shiplap House, opposite the South Head Signal Station and Macquarie Lighthouse in Sydney's east, stands as a viewing tower above the neighbouring residences. It's a finely crafted, refined work of architecture.

More viewing tower than a response to historical precedent, the house presents an alternative model within its context. The house is stacked over three levels – from garden room, bedrooms at the first floor, and living areas above. The chiselled plan provides expansive windows positioned for views to Sydney Harbour while preserving those from neighbours.

The house presents a counterpoint to suburban development worth further exploration.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

LITTLE YOUNG STREET
4A & 4B

by
DAVID LANGSTON-JONES

Builder: TOKI Construction
Photographer: Anthony Browell

Little Young Street 4A & 4B is an exemplary urban infill project on a tiny site on a laneway in Redfern. Both rational and idiosyncratic, the house sparkles with ideas and innovation, a blueprint to increase housing in our inner-city neighbourhoods and bring life to Sydney's backstreets.

The house is a model for compact living and a masterclass in experimentation, invention, and detail. Windows carefully edit views to the garden and sky. The planning and detail are exacting; walls act as storage, a colourful palette and a Japanese raked garden – 'straight out of Shogun' – provides space for the owners' personality.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

FISH RIVER HOUSE

by
INCIDENTAL
ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Bailey Homes and Constructions
Photographer: Clinton Weaver

Located below the Blue Mountains, this house sits quietly on the bank of Fish River, a tributary to the mighty Macquarie. The house has a calming quality referencing the simplicity of the vernacular Australian shed.

The house is environmentally responsive. It's off-grid and roof lines are set to provide sun and shade as the seasons change. Through careful planning, compartmentation of distinct areas for heating, and incorporation of efficient hydronic systems, the house maintains comfort year-round in a changeable environment.

The attention to small details and their careful resolution sets this house apart.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

IRRAWADDY

by
INCIDENTAL
ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Avalon Constructions

Photographer: Clinton Weaver

Irrawaddy is a two-storey family home that captures the owners' memories of life in Myanmar where houses are elevated on stilts, and extended family gatherings are routine.

Designed for a family of eight, the architects have crafted a fit-for-purpose home unlike any other. Children's bedrooms are typically 2m x 2m and open to common areas shared by all. The plan includes secret hiding spaces, monkey bars, a children's library, a bathroom for the girls, and another for the boys. The ground floor is dedicated for large gatherings but intimately arranged for family life.





**THE HUGH AND EVA BUHRICH
AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)**

ARU HOUSE

by
CURIOUS PRACTICE

Builder: Built by Eli

Photographer: Clinton Weaver

An exemplar project that combines a thorough understanding of context, environmental awareness, and material capability, Aru House (Awabakal word for “insect”) is a project that has carefully considered its outward contribution to context just as carefully as it has resolved its inward response to the brief to create an enlightened family home.

Using the architect’s own words of ‘reviving’, Aru House is a strategic response to create new layers that are not simply additions to an existing structure but considered augmentations to the original dwelling. An entire site response – from letterbox to back shed, landscaped area on site and view corridors beyond – enables the house to create meaningful dialogues with its neighbourhood.

A small addition to the building footprint has enabled the architects to expand the possibilities of the original house exponentially. Materials have been salvaged and repurposed where possible. Skilled detailed exercises in the craft of making have given the project a depth of character and meaning, and a true expression of care: a trait that enables the house to make a truly worthwhile contribution to contemporary architecture.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

TERRACE HOUSE MIRAGE

by
ALCAMI ARCHITECTURE

Photographer: David Wheeler

True to its name, Terrace House Mirage is an utterly unexpected and delightful interpretation of urban living that captures the essence of constrained spaces with a finesse that borders on the miraculous.

Behind an unassuming front door, the interior unfolds as a captivating narrative from the point of entry down the entire length of the terrace. A masterstroke of spatial choreography is the insertion of mirrored walls that dissolve and expand the perception of spatial boundary.

Drawing from the client's Spanish heritage and his deep love of orange, the design response is an inventive ode to Spanish tradition with bold moments of colour applied with confidence and aptitude, particularly in the bathroom.

At its core, this project celebrates the fluidity of indoor/outdoor living, a theme woven intricately into every detail. From the introduction of an interior courtyard to the insertion of the kitchen 'desk' (a cooktop that transforms into an outdoor dining table commonly found in Spain), each element serves to blur the boundaries between inside and out, inviting the sky, the landscape and natural elements into the fabric of the design.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

BLUE MOUNTAINS HOUSE

by
ANTHONY GILL ARCHITECTS

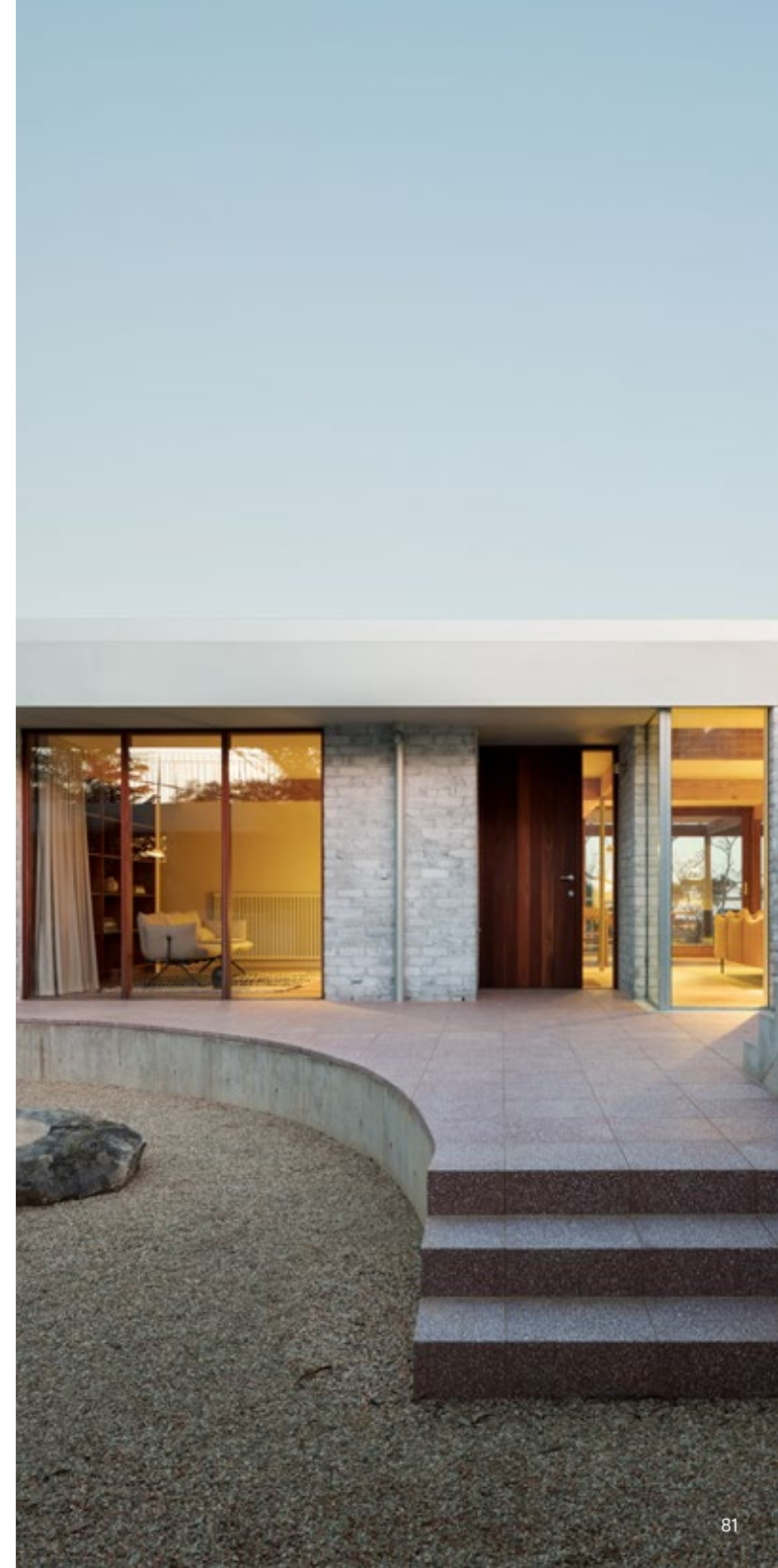
Builder: Robert Plumb Build

Photographer: Clinton Weaver

An engaging dialogue between past and present, Blue Mountains House unifies a modified 1970s family home and a new guesthouse with graceful landscape gestures that embrace its surroundings with grace. Respecting the essence of the original Pettit and Sevvitt Lowline building, the architectural response creates a dynamic composition that celebrates movement across the entire site.

From the street, the facade conceals as much as it reveals, creating a sense of anticipation for the theatre within. The two houses meet in form and scale to form a cohesive ensemble, but not without delivering a sense of visual tension. The pre-set kit of materials prescribed by the existing house – namely bricks and timber – is contrasted with a robust and sculptural insertion of concrete, blockwork and a smattering of marble applied like jewellery. The blush-tone terrazzo seen on all external horizontal planes provides a touch of delight to the otherwise monochromatic architectural experience.

Climbing up to the top of the guesthouse offers a different perspective on the expansive view of the majestic valley beyond. As one traverses the terrazzo terrace, transitioning from elemental to sculptural realms, the project reaffirms the ability of all fine examples of architecture to evoke emotion and inspire awe.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

LEE HOUSE

by
CANDALEPAS ASSOCIATES

Builder: Jason Boyle Constructions – JBC
Constructions

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

The Lee House is a sensitive and highly crafted exercise in consideration of a house at all the scales. It is 'neighbourly' in its form and acknowledgement of the local heritage, it is bold and rigorous in its internal organisation, and humane in the detailing of items where occupants come into close and direct contact.

A thickened concrete wall at the main living level serves to clearly anchor the 'served' and 'service' spaces. The wall supports a multitude of necessary domestic activities: the welcoming of guests, the storage of 'things', and protective spaces for reading and contemplation. It presents as a wonderful ambiguity – massive and omnipotent in materiality, yet proportionate and scaled to be petite and delicate. Our expectations of the use of concrete in a domestic setting are subverted in the best way throughout.

The jury agreed that Lee House is demonstrative of an architecture that can render a sublime atmosphere through the carefully and meticulous study of all the small moments of a home.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

ARCADIA

by
PLUS MINUS DESIGN

Builder: Bright Build Contructions

Photographer: Clinton Weaver

Arcadia is an exemplar transformation of a 1920s home: a complex and multilayered architecture that's full of surprises. Although highly resolved and meticulously detailed, the house never feels uptight and is unafraid to break with convention while introducing multiple moments of delight.

Precise sightlines connect spaces from front to back and above to below, offering unexpected views. Careful material selection and craftsmanship lift and refine the heritage elements, elevating its original character.

The great care for materials and details crescendo in finesse and refinement as one ascends to the extension above and out to the back wing, which sits across the sandstone pond uncovered during construction. The pond now serves as the home's centrepiece while aiding in temperature regulation across the seasons.

Designed for clients that initially had no interest in architecture (it was their son who convinced them an architect would respect the home's heritage better than a project builder would), this meticulously crafted house isn't too precious to receive the client's non-designer furniture and many knickknacks accumulated over a lifetime. It's a sign of any great project that meets its user exactly where needed to provide a perfect backdrop for real life to unfold.





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

BAYVIEW TREE HOUSE

by
WOODWARD ARCHITECTS

Builder: PCM Projects

Photographer: Luke Shadbolt Photography |
PCM Projects

The Bayview Tree House is a consummate transformation of a mundane 1970s beach house into an extraordinary family home. Drawing inspiration from the elegant simplicity of Japanese design and echoing the ethos of wabi-sabi, this project finds beauty in imperfection, embracing the raw and unrefined with a quiet elegance.

Mirroring the rhythm of the adjacent spotted gum forest, every aspect of the design reflects a connection to the environment – from the choice of natural materials to the placement of sliding timber windows and doors that function as a harmonious bridge between indoor comfort and the splendour of its natural surroundings.

Beyond its undeniable aesthetic appeal, this home speaks to a deeper narrative of collaboration and shared vision. The synergy between the architect and builder-client has yielded a level of craftsmanship made possible through mutual understanding and slowing down to achieve something remarkable. This project also speaks to the potential of architectural ingenuity to transcend the ordinary, offering a glimpse into a world where beauty, functionality and environmental sensitivity converge in perfect harmony.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

HOUSE IN SURRY HILLS

by
ARCHITECT GEORGE

Builder: Marsh to Mansion

Photographer: Martin Siegner

House in Surry Hills is a thoughtful response to inner city living that utilises colour, light, and material texture to create a considered contemporary home on a small site.

The original 1880s terrace has been augmented with two new colourful pavilions. Here, their sculptural, angular forms are carefully positioned to establish light filled outdoor courtyard spaces, whilst the utilisation of their roof planes as extensions of the elevations create a lively urban response to the streetscapes.

These moves combine to transform the site into a house that is an emotionally intelligent, environmentally responsive contemporary urban home.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

HOUSE IN LILYFIELD

by
CHARMAINE PANG
ARCHITECT

Builder: BCM Australia

Photographer: Tom Ferguson Photography

House in Lilyfield demonstrates how a relatively small architectural insertion into an existing dwelling can have positive effects across the entire house. Whilst only two new rooms are created in a modest footprint, they provide a variety of different spatial experiences, new connections to gardens and the street, and alleviate the growing pressure of a young family with parents that work from home.

Externally, the addition is modern in form, conventional in materials, and proportionately appropriate to the context. It shows a delightful approach to managing the updates of ageing weatherboard cottages that is novel and respectful.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

VESSEL

by
MADELEINE BLANCHFIELD
ARCHITECTS

Builder: Ivison Constructions Pty Ltd

Photographer: Tom Ferguson Photography

Vessel holds the essence of the past and creates a bespoke environment to live today. Throughout the project the grandeur and generosity of the Victorian architecture is amplified and finds a counterpart in the new modern extension. Dramatic angled vaulted brick skylights create an entertaining wing of equivalent beauty to the original building.

Extreme care has been taken with the interiors, working with the client to meet the specificity of their needs and aesthetic sensibilities to assure calm and order throughout. The design intent is executed with precision, and a restrained colour and material palette provides clarity and pureness to the experience.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES
(ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

BELLEVUE HILL HOUSE

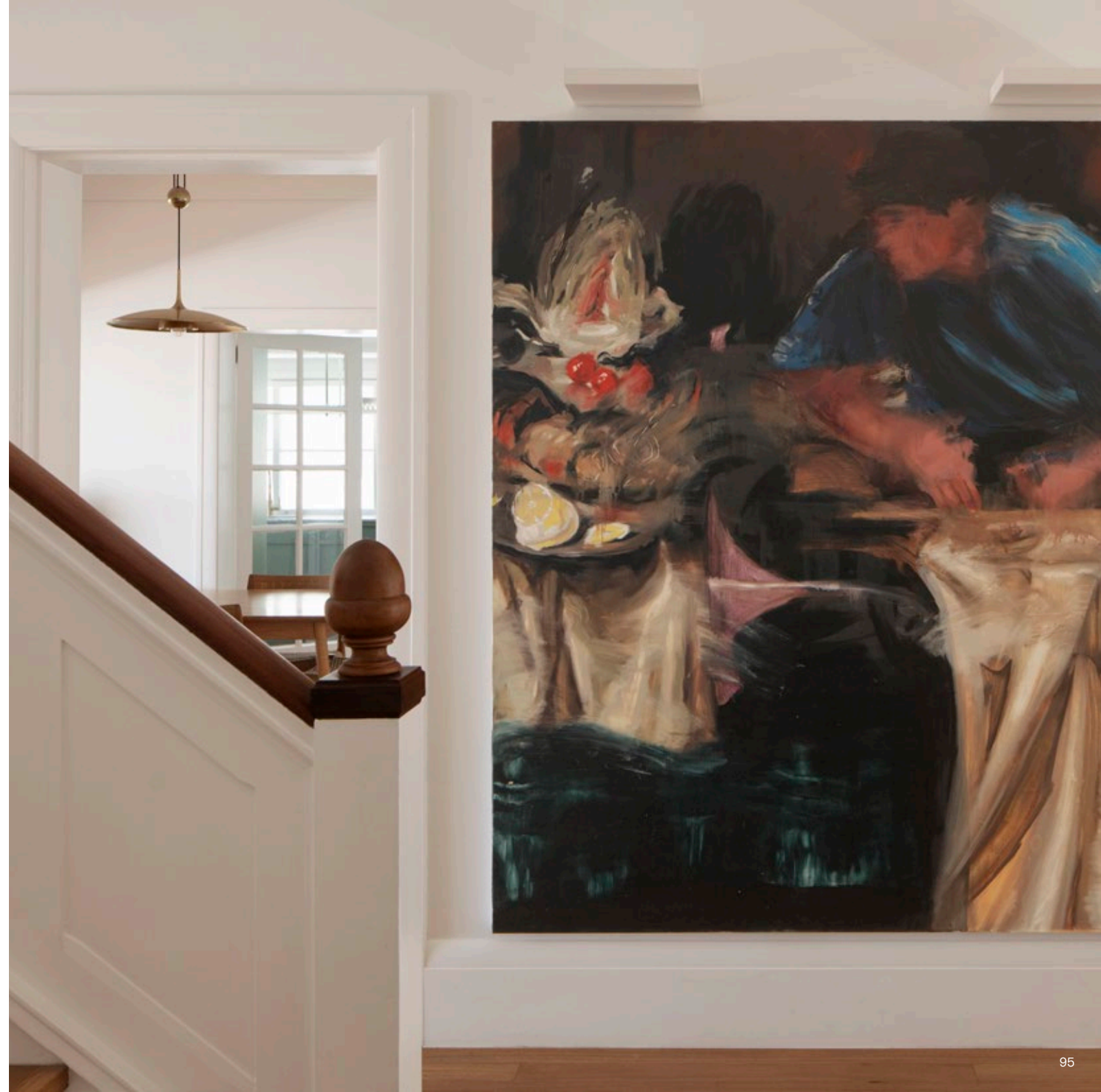
by
TRIBE STUDIO
ARCHITECTS

Builder: Laycock
Photographer: Ben Hosking

This is an exemplary extension to an existing house that is respectful whilst not deferential. The project celebrates the spirit and intent of the grand Arts and Crafts house, adding an imaginative flare to the original design. New additions, such as a barrel-vaulted verandah tucked beneath the deep sloping eaves, gives the house a distinct personality and a touch of exuberance.

In a subtle act of translation, beautiful joinery expresses the Arts and Crafts aesthetic afresh, giving the sizeable interiors coherence and offering moments of intimacy.

The wallpaper lined dressing room is an unexpected delight, honouring daily rituals.





**THE AARON BOLOT AWARD
FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE
– MULTIPLE HOUSING**

IGLU MASCOT

by
BATES SMART

Builder: Icon Construction
Photographer: Felix Mooneeram

Iglu Mascot by Bates Smart represents a highly considered, exceptional architectural outcome. The project engages with the existing community and new residents alike and stands out from the moment you approach along John Street. In an environment where previous developments have instilled a sense of fear in the community, Iglu provides an exemplar for positive change, demonstrating the impact and value of good design.

The project shows qualities at urban, architectural, and human scales. The massing is composed of three primary elements in response to adjoining apartment buildings, creating separation and solar access. It repairs the anti-social environment that had previously arisen in the adjacent laneway through creation of a through-site link and the addition of amenity spaces that connect to the lane, enhancing both the internal and external environments.

The journey from the street, through the lobby, to the inner courtyard and amenity spaces promotes social experience and engagement with the sustainable initiatives embedded in the building.



The spatial configuration of this journey through amenity is rich in connection, outlook, and openness to landscape encouraging use. These spaces further show a growth of the student accommodation model with a more sophisticated palette of materials and uses.

All these factors are then completed in a rigorous architecture that cleverly incorporates the needs of the building's program.



AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

HORIZON APARTMENTS

by
CKDS ARCHITECTURE,
HILL THALIS ARCHITECTURE
+ URBAN PROJECTS

Builder: Bloc Constructions

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

Horizon Apartments sits at the western end of the Honeysuckle precinct looking over the harbour. The project responds to its place between the harbour and city, cleverly breaking the preconceived masterplan massing into three buildings that allow a greater connection.

The resulting apartments are a delight to be in, particularly due to sightlines that enable you to look out onto the harbour from all parts of the building. Carefully considered apartment plans have maximised the relationship between the facade and the internal area, emphasising the connection to open space and the quality of internal spaces.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

MAGGIE STREET

by
CURIOUS PRACTICE

Builder: Built by Eli

Photographer: Alex McIntyre

In a low-scale residential neighbourhood on the fringe of Newcastle's centre, Maggie Street appears as a modern, robust, yet refined single building sitting respectfully within the streetscape. However, hidden deceptively within this facade are four detached, affordable, two-storey dwellings that elegantly use simple and durable materials with thoughtful detailing and strong composition.

Internally there is a generosity to the spaces as you move within the compact footprint, this together with crafted joinery and retrained yet tonal colour palette makes these small dwellings special homes to live in.





AWARD FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

HUNTINGTON

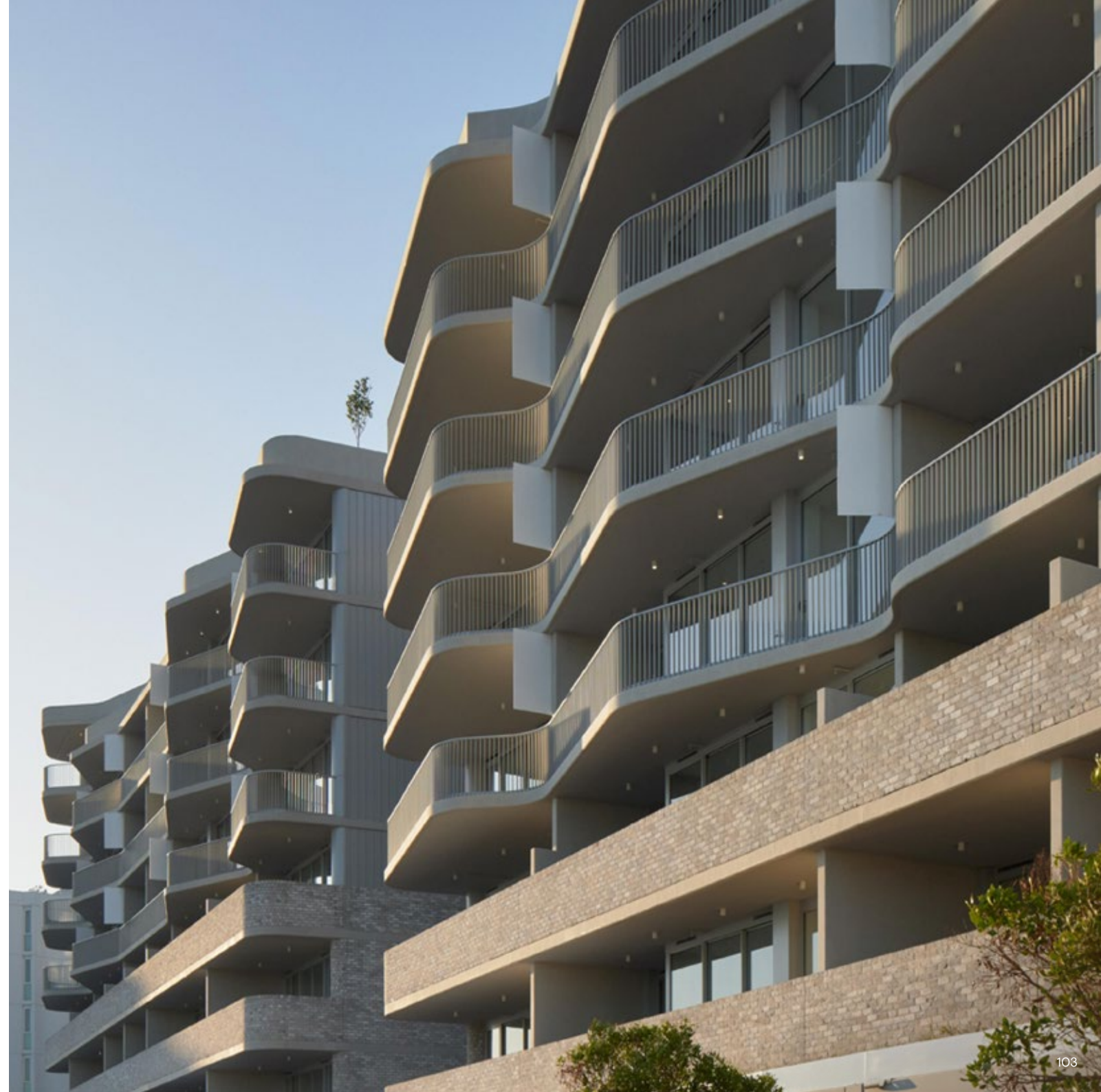
by
SJB

Builder: BLOC

Photographer: Tom Roe

Huntington by SJB, located on the harbour in Newcastle, is a beautiful project that clearly responds to its context. The architecture and materiality are rich, responsive to the environment, and includes a subtle use of colour and texture. Forms reminiscent of the area's industrial history present as sculptures to the city, while an increasing open-ness addresses the landscape of the foreshore and harbour.

The reduction of the building footprint to the harbour creates an extension of public space at the fold in the foreshore promenade, promoting a positive retail and landscape outcome.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

BOTANY ROAD

by
CANDALEPAS ASSOCIATES

Builder: Waterside Constructions

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

Botany Road is two multi residential buildings that are situated parallel to each other and nestled in the heart of Greens Square. The project is a standout amongst those around it, with both buildings strong in composition, with carefully crafted facades that are dynamic whilst maintaining restraint.

The building facades take on unique identities, with repetitive elements utilised to draw the eye to the length of the structures. The detailing of the screens, the angled bay windows, and the hit and miss bricks that create privacy and shadow play are all a standout.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

THE SURRY

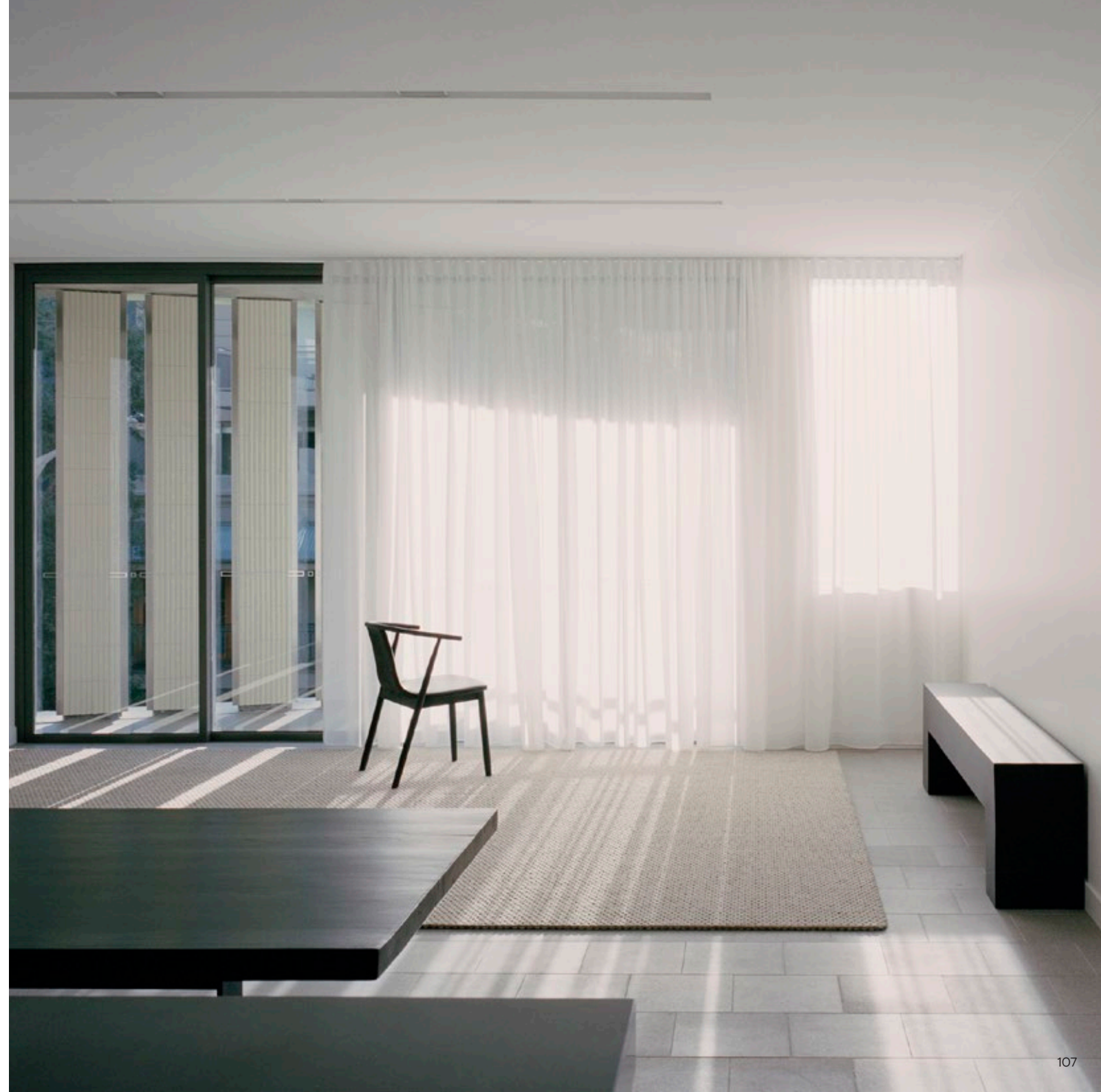
by
CANDALEPAS ASSOCIATES

Builder: Growthbuilt

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

Off the traffic-laden main street, down a gritty service lane, and wedged between a driveway and some fire services there stands a fine gate. Entering the lobby of The Surry you feel a transition to calm; soft light bounces through a high-level opening and you see an unexpected landscape beyond.

The Jury commend Candalepas Associates for their clever detailing and considered floor planning that moderates the urban grunge of this site and creates an oasis for the residents within.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL
ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

ZIGGY'S VILLAS

by
HARLEY GRAHAM
ARCHITECTS

Builder: Stehn Build

Photographer: Andy Macpherson

There's something special about Ziggy's Villas and you feel it as soon as you cross the threshold of the jagged brick wall that secures the perimeter of the site. The very private courtyard expands into an unusually large, covered living space with double height ceilings, built in planters and thriving vegetation. In the sub-tropical climate of Byron Bay, the primacy of this space suggests how the villa is best experienced.

The Jury was unanimous that this project should receive recognition for the beautiful interplay of space, and the harnessing of light and shade to create truly memorable architecture.





COMMENDATION FOR RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

NIGHTINGALE MARRICKVILLE

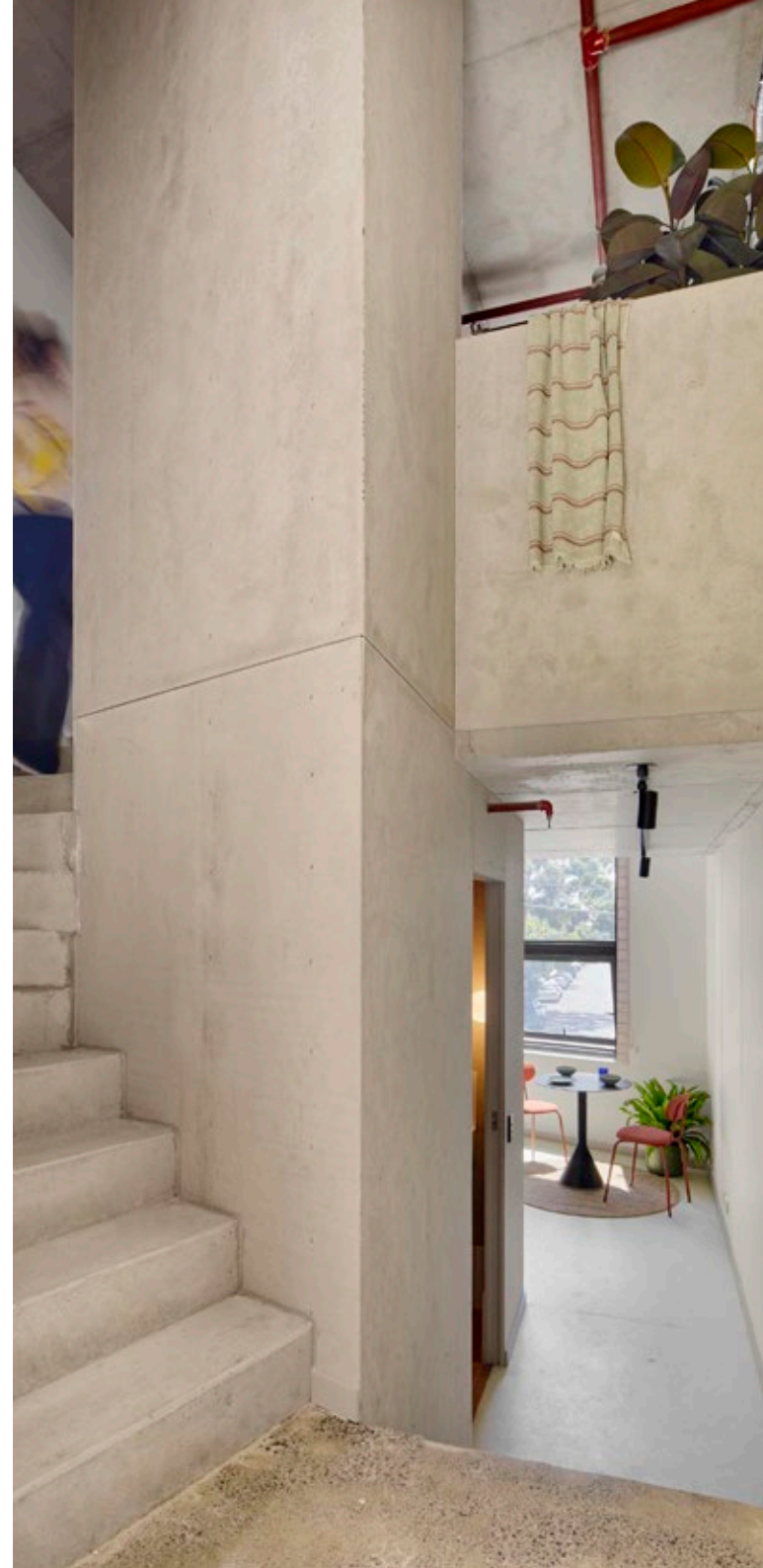
by
SJB

Builder: CD Construction Group

Photographer: Tom Roe

Nightingale Marrickville can be described as affordable housing with a social and environmental conscience. The brief challenged the architects to question the need for each and every material – nothing should be superfluous or applied, so there are no external screens and surfaces are mostly unpainted.

The Jury commends SJB for their outright creativity, composing bare essentials into vibrant private and communal spaces, breezy and light. This place feels like new beginnings not just for those who live there, but for how we might broaden our approach to housing.





THE SIR ARTHUR G STEPHENSON AWARD FOR COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

CAMPBELL HOUSE PRIVATE OFFICE

by
TONKIN ZULAIKHA GREER

Builder: Buildcorp
Photographer: Cieran Murphy

The Campbell House Private Office sets an intriguing precedent for the future of commercial design. This small building points to a larger framework relevant to the wider future of commercial architecture: a need for the typology to be adaptive, environmentally responsible, and communal.

Through adaptive reuse and sustainable practices, the building marries historical preservation with forward-thinking design. Transforming a Federation-style house into a multi-tenanted contemporary office space, the project blends commercial imperatives with a communal, collective attitude.

A central 'town hall' gathering space fosters collaboration and sustainability, integrating convincingly with the heritage structure, and improving the experience of the original building. A triple-height glazed roof, adorned with solar blades, creates a luminous atrium while harnessing solar energy.



The design diffuses the lines between interior and exterior, inviting nature and daylight deep into the building. Notably, the inclusion of a mature Weeping Fig Tree within the building serves as a central focal point which the offices clustered around and above it. Symbolising the continuing life and evolution of the project, it will improve with age.

Campbell House Private Office exemplifies the symbiosis of heritage preservation, sustainable innovation, and contemporary functionality, earning acclaim for insight and excellence in commercial architecture.



AWARD FOR COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

THE PORTER HOUSE HOTEL

by
CANDALEPAS ASSOCIATES

Builder: Hutchinson Builders

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

The Porter House Hotel offers a moment of visual clarity that stands out from all angles despite its position deep within the CBD of Sydney. Encompassing the heritage-listed Porter House in its podium, the design creates a conversation between heritage and modernity; one which occurs at multiple scales from touchpoint to tower.

The architects demonstrate an adroit commercial acumen, deftly managing the interaction of multiple typologies. Design thinking and commerciality are combined to enable the project's realisation in a pragmatic and competitive landscape, all the while enabling heritage renewal and contributing to the evolving life of Sydney's CBD.

Thoughtful planning invites the public into the precinct, where ground-level activation contributes to and draws on the vitality of the city to enhance the overall experience of both. Expressive facades encourage curiosity and invoke architectural heritage and nostalgia for an urban grace that appears nearly lost.

The tower's cantilevered form and intricately articulated podium memorialise the textures and forms of the city. Balancing tradition and modernity, the architecture is refined, underscored by craftsmanship rooted in the site's history.





AWARD FOR COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

THE SYDNEY SWANS HQ AT THE ROYAL HALL OF INDUSTRIES

by
POPULOUS

Builder: FDC Construction & Fitout

Photographer: Scott Burrows

Housed within the iconic Royal Hall of Industries (RHI), Sydney Swans HQ embodies a remarkable integration of culture, heritage, athleticism, and responsibility in a workplace.

Oriented by the footprint of the historic building, a range of public, sports and corporate spaces orbit an indoor playing field. It is clear that the design process involved close collaboration with the Swans organisation – spaces for players, coaches, support and organisational staff are laid out based on functional, aspirational and pastoral considerations. The Club's daily operations, interactions with an interested public, and celebration of the team on Game Day all find manifestation in the architectural layout. Traditional hierarchical structures were dismantled to foster collaboration through communal areas and consultation space, giving the architecture a key role in the ongoing evolution of the football club, by encouraging inclusion and the wellbeing of athletes.

By repurposing and revitalizing the RHI, the Sydney Swans HQ is a successful adaptive reuse that shows the potential of collaboration with an informed client. Its thoughtful design respects the Hall's storied past and positions it as a dynamic hub for the team's contribution to the broader sporting landscape. The building deserves recognition for its significant contribution to architecture and organisational development.





COMMENDATION FOR COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

GOODHOPE

by
THOSE ARCHITECTS

Builder: Reimer Developments

Photographer: Luc Rémond

Goodhope represents an innovative approach to commercial architecture, revitalising a mechanic's workshop while honouring a family legacy. The building aims at the intersection of architecture and film, evoking cinematic qualities in its varied design. Handmade bricks and a cohesive material palette unify the space, while creating delight and complexity in close conditions.

Goodhope is commended for its sophisticated blend of functionality and aesthetic finesse.





COMMENDATION FOR COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

BLUE & WILLIAM

BY
WOODS BAGOT

Builder: FDC Construction
Photographer: Trevor Mein

Blue & William presents as a handsome addition to the North Sydney skyline. The terracotta-framed floor-to-ceiling windows are beguiling at a distance and rewarding at closer inspection. Variegated floorplates offer diversity in a competitive commercial landscape, and a sense of interest as you circulate the building.

Considered landscaping and a dramatically excavated sandstone wall create a distinctive workplace, which is commended for its contribution to the surrounding environment and deft architectural response to a complex site.





THE GREENWAY AWARD FOR HERITAGE

THE PORTER HOUSE HOTEL

BY
CANDALEPAS ASSOCIATES

Builder: Hutchinson Builders

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

Originally completed as the 'Dixon & Sons' tobacco factory building in 1883, Porter House has since housed a series of businesses including furniture makers, leather merchants and grinders.

A new hotel, restaurant, bar, and conference facilities are expertly configured behind the restored Victorian Classical sandstone Castlereagh Street facade, inserted within the original factory floor levels. The existing timber structural frame has been faithfully exposed with sensitively detailed augmentations.

Reconstruction of the entry level ground plane, reinstatement of the original bald face facade and liberation from non-original awnings ensures clear legibility of the complete heritage item from the public domain. Unique hotel interventions and interior elements are choreographed as crafted elements, tuned in balance with the retained manufacturing building.

A healthy dialogue is established between old and new, balanced and without overt subservience or dominance.



Successful interpretive strategies to celebrate the site's cultural richness include conservation and display of discovered artefacts, restored murals, and interpretive signage. Each measure enables enriched appreciation and tangible connection to the stories of yesterday and today.

This highly successful reawakening for The Porter House Hotel is a celebrated exemplar for the combination of embraced conservation methodologies intertwined with a responsive commercial operation, within an important heritage building of cultural significance.



AWARD FOR HERITAGE
– CONSERVATION

THE GLASS HOUSE

by
CRACKNELL & LONERGAN
ARCHITECTS

Builder: Peter Lucas

Photographer: Marika-Perrow | Unknown

Completed in 1957 and designed by Bill and Ruth Lucas as their own home, 'Glass House' has faithfully served the Lucas family and subsequent owner's families with a connected way of living. It is an exceptional example of Sydney School modernism. Bill's signature light-touch is evident in the outlooks upon landscape, economy of construction, feathery connections to the earth, passive ventilation, and natural light – all in harmony.

Painstaking repairs, remediation and considered replacement of original parts of the seductively slender timber and steel structural frame, glass panels, doors, decks, windows, and finishes have all been informed by original drawings, sketches, photos, and hand-written notes archived by Bill himself. In their focused pursuit of doing as much as necessary with as little as possible, the current custodians of owners and architect have remained steadfastly true to both the principles of conservation, and indeed the original concept. Bill and Ruth's exemplary design is now complemented with exemplary conservation works.





AWARD FOR HERITAGE – CREATIVE
ADAPTATION

REDFERN STATION

by
DESIGNINC

Builder: Novo Rail Alliance

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

The State Heritage Listed Redfern Station Group, opened in 1884 as a collection of brick and stone structures, is associated with engineer-in-chief of the NSW Railways, John Whitton, and was originally served by the Eveleigh Railway Workshops and nearby residences. The new southern concourse entries at Marion and Little Eveleigh Streets demonstrate thoughtful and substantial interpretation of context by references to historiographical users of the site including First Nations pre-settlement ecology and 20th Century industry, transport, and engineering themes by interpreting both wetland mists and steam motifs through a continuous perforated veil canopy.

DesignInc have been careful to preserve built form whilst maintaining key bridge concourse alignments by the adaptive reuse of the former industrial warehouse flatiron structure, a contributory non-listed building, as a new entry way that spills onto the enclosed laneway. This approach has elevated the significance of this corner building by inhabiting it with a modern use to ensure a high degree of ongoing intactness. The jury was impressed by the efforts to conserve buildings evidenced by the relocation of the 1891 brick office building on platform 1 and the subsequent recording of the move.





COMMENDATION FOR HERITAGE – CREATIVE ADAPTATION

119 REDFERN ST

by
AILEEN SAGE, DJINJAMA,
JEAN RICE, DR NONI BOYD
AND THE CITY OF SYDNEY

Builder: Rogers Construction Group
Photographer: Hamish McIntosh

119 Redfern St proposes a sequence of deftly restrained interventions of an 1883 Victorian Italianate former Post Office Building. Located at a prominent Redfern intersection, this is a truly collaborative approach between community, Indigenous designer, client, heritage architect, and lead architect.

The project practices a fine grain re-reading through the lens of Country which honours and respects place, and sensitively introduces an architectural strategy of 'enoughness', that is: utilising existing resources and only taking more if necessary. This is demonstrated through the extensive reuse of onsite materials, the careful nomination of locations for new works to have the least impact on the existing building fabric, and the skillful blending of existing structure alongside new cultural themes.

The result of this approach has enabled the embedding of deep memory into a building that will live and grow with the community.





COMMENDATION FOR HERITAGE
– CREATIVE ADAPTATION

THE SYDNEY SWANS HQ AT THE ROYAL HALL OF INDUSTRIES

by
POPULOUS

Builder: FDC Construction & Fitout

Photographer: Scott Burrows

Over 111 years, an immense number of Australians across multiple generations have experienced the Royal Hall of Industries (RHI) as Royal Easter Show patrons, soldiers during both World Wars, influenza patients, dancers, skaters, and Mardi Gras revelers.

New strategically placed Sydney Swans functions occupy two-story internal additions housing corporate functions and training rooms, carefully inserted wholly within the original structures.

Commendable restraint has been shown to locate additional functional spaces beyond the RHI in separate buildings. Crucially the original and immense long-span central exhibition hall serves as a perfect all-weather practice green, preserving appreciation of the technological and cultural significance of this important Sydney landmark.





COMMENDATION FOR HERITAGE – CREATIVE ADAPTATION

PARRAMATTA NORTH, WESTERN SYDNEY STARTUP HUB

by
TKD ARCHITECTS

Builder: FDC Construction & Fitout + Beach
Constructions

Photographer: TDK Architects | Anthony Fretwell

The Parramatta North, Western Sydney Startup Hub is a commendable adaptive reuse aligning a historical site of trauma with the healing capacity and spirit of renewal. The original Parramatta Female Factory campus of buildings and subsequent important contributory layers are easily interpreted.

The project shines in its willingness to allow layers of history to be revealed, most notably with the inserted café, Havenstone, and at original cells and doors readapted at new office areas. Works have allowed the liberation of the campus from stalled opportunities into an important historic record of women's incarceration, within which the Startup Hub is a pivotal component.



THE SIGNIFICANCE
OF THE PARRAMATTA
NORTH HERITAGE
PRECINCT





COMMENDATION FOR HERITAGE
– CONSERVATION

PARRAMATTA TOWN HALL

by
DESIGNINC SYDNEY,
LACOSTE+STEVENSON,
MANUELLE GAUTRAND
ARCHITECTURE AND
TKD ARCHITECTS

Builder: Built
Photographer: Martin Mischkulnig | Grant Leslie

Parramatta Town Hall has served its community for more than 140 years. Built to a design by George Mansfield, the structure is remarkably intact, retaining much of its exterior and interior Victorian form, fabric, and presence. The project conserves the original building and adds a small glass addition, linking it to the new Civic Centre, Phive.

The works demonstrate a substantial depth of research informing the scope of intervention and conservation, and sympathetically integrates modern audio-visual functionality with respectful interfaces against the existing fabric.

The lightweight addition facing Parramatta Square allows the original Town Hall to remain the showpiece, while enhancing the user experience. The interpretive installation throughout is commendable.





THE JOHN VERGE AWARD FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

477 PITT ST

by
WARDLE

Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: Tali Gordon | Peter Marko

A lobby has been masterfully transformed and showcases a rich interior experience through strategic spatial alterations, carefully selected materials, and generosity in its relationship with the context.

Interventions into the existing facade through large, framed windows and verandas restore a much-needed relationship with the street, filling the space with a pleasant and soft indirect light. The sculpted multi-functional concrete and terracotta table – a centerpiece of the composition – offers a multitude of experiences, promoting interactions as well as quiet personal time.

The deletion of part of an existing low height slab demonstrates the power of simple strategic intervention in invigorating spaces. Similarly, this approach underlines an inherent sustainability in reinventing existing buildings with sensitive alterations.

The project shows maturity in the selection and use of materials. The exposed existing concrete is celebrated, while the new interventions are not overwhelming.



New materials are chosen for their tactile qualities, sustainability value, and their ability to bring warmth to the revitalisation.

447 succeeds in inviting the public and users to discover its lobby spaces and the creative reuse of the Australian Gas Light showroom, bringing a sense of belonging, calmness, and intimacy to a typology that often is simply a transitional space.



AWARD FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

BLACKTOWN EXERCISE AND SPORTS TECHNOLOGY HUB (BEST)

by
ARM ARCHITECTURE
WITH CO.OP STUDIO

Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: BCC | Martin Mischkulnig

Establishing a new standard for a typology that is often protective and closed, the BEST Hub greets the community with contagious energy and joyfulness, redefining and expanding the expectations of its use.

Walking through the intuitive circulation of this playful and dynamic architecture, conceptualised around movement and transformation, it becomes clear that the use of colour is considerate and meaningful and a necessity of the concept of the building. The materiality of the surfaces is equally evocative and tactile, which enhances the chromatic experience with the more technical components of the building smartly integrated.

The bold, curvaceous and colourful public areas are counterbalanced by quite austere and rudimental tenant areas, functional but well connected to the public spaces and natural light. The budget is carefully considered with emphasis on the community and public interface, a welcome gesture that places the accent back on the final user: the community.





AWARD FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

LEE HOUSE

by
CANDALEPAS ASSOCIATES

Builder: Jason Boyle Constructions – JBC
Constructions

Photographer: Rory Gardiner

In a thoughtful yet unconventional intervention on a modest seaside cottage, a lightweight timber-framed structure becomes the shell for solid and sculptural concrete insertions that form and frame the interior spaces.

The result is an entirely new internal spatial experience, where a compact central functional zone is pulled away from the existing cottage roof form, liberating space for more playful architectural explorations and mindful living.

Almost inconspicuous from the street, Lee House surprises with a remarkable collection of delightful interior moments. Framed, intimate, welcoming, and caring gestures of hospitality characterise the interior architecture, shaping the relationship between the house, its owner, guests, neighbours and ultimately with the context itself.

While the house remains a cottage at its core, the interiors are hardworking. New life is detailed into interiors with minimal and uncomplicated materials, powerful geometries, and oddities that transform the cottage into a home.





COMMENDATION FOR INTERIOR
ARCHITECTURE

TRANSURBAN

by
BATES SMART

Builder: MPA Construction
Photographer: Rohan Venn | Nicole England

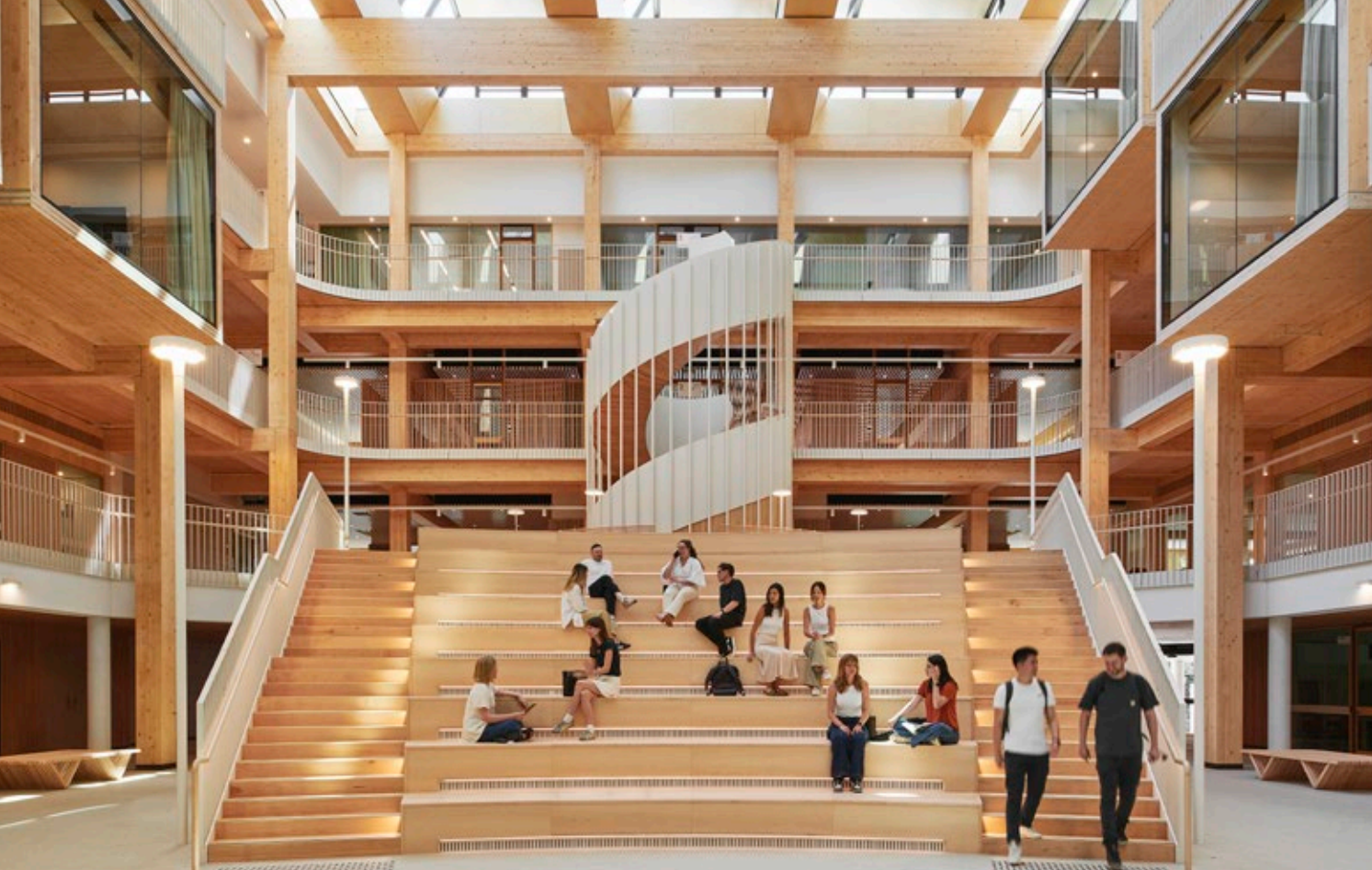
Exceptional integration and design of lighting, unexpected compression and release strategies, and a creative use of materials are just some of the aspects that make this project an outstanding example of interior workplace design.

Abstract light-filled lanterns complement the rugged materials and textures that reference the client's earth works.

The overall layout, material detailing, and digital artwork integrations are skillfully executed.

The project successfully integrates the strong identity of the client and the existing architectural shell in a sophisticated design.





COMMENDATION FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

MICHAEL KIRBY BUILDING

by
HASSELL

Builder: FDC Construction (NSW)

Photographer: Nicole England

The internal courtyard of the Michael Kirby Building embraces the visitors with a delightful sensory experience. The limited palette and tightly coordinated services maintain a calm legibility of the timber structure, whilst glazing to the perimeter connects faculty rooms with the surrounding tree canopy.

The interiors are inviting and filled with natural light, drawing the public into the building with its open vertical circulation. There is democracy to the interior space which is inspired by the building's location in the heart of the campus.





COMMENDATION FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

CAMPBELL HOUSE PRIVATE OFFICE

by
TONKIN ZULAIKHA GREER

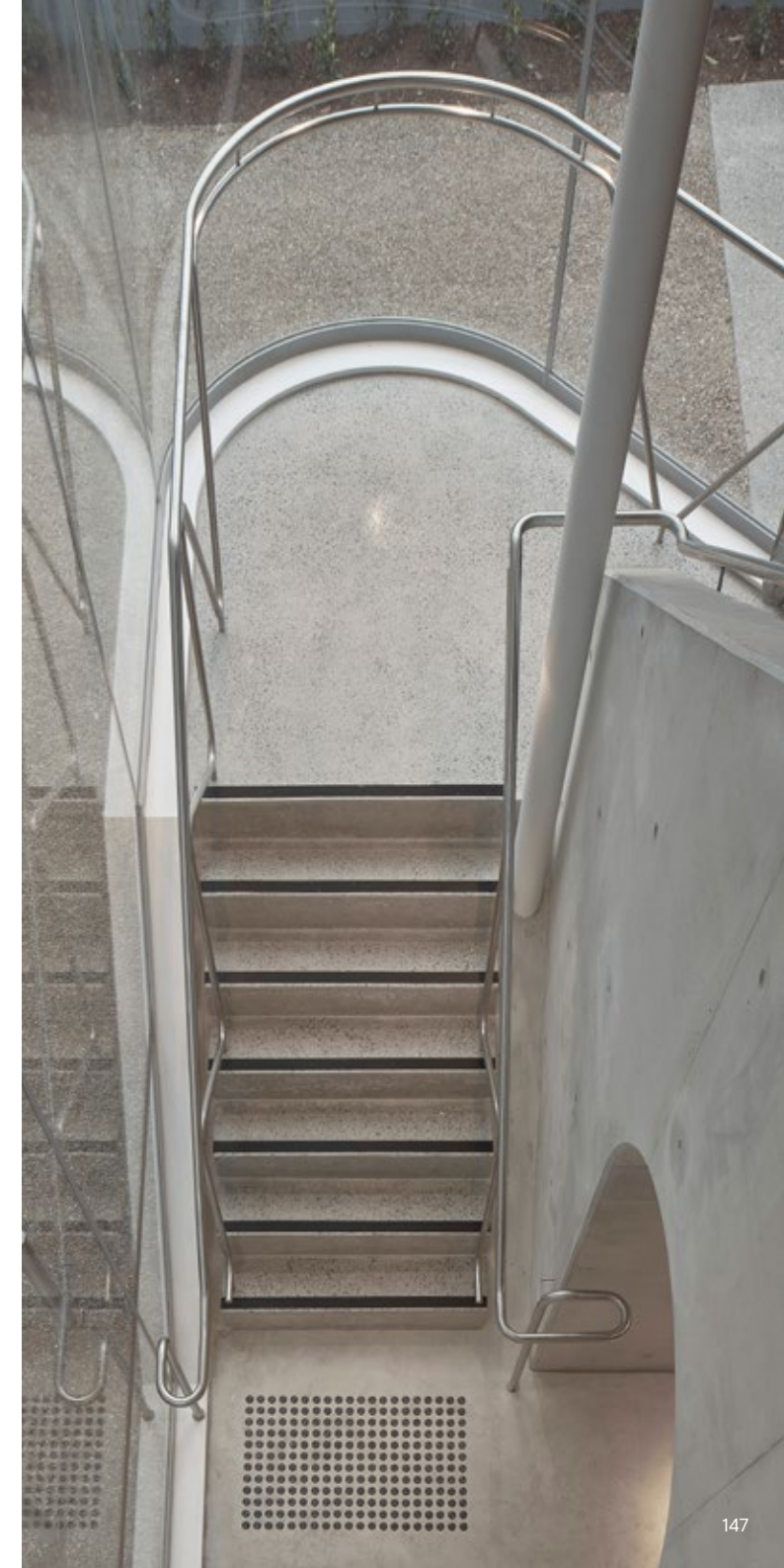
Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: Cieran Murphy

Campbell House Private Office exemplifies creative reuse, where new fabric is strategically stitched in to rationalise the existing building, resulting in a new cohesive internal office space.

The internal courtyard connects with the surrounding spaces, blurring the interior and exterior. The use of deep steel frames and curved glass as new internal facades encloses offices and meeting rooms and successfully juxtaposes the original brick fabric.

The use of mirrors is particularly outstanding, strategically employed to reference the building's original features, negotiating varying floor heights and celebrating the original roofline.





THE ROBERT WOODWARD AWARD FOR SMALL PROJECT ARCHITECTURE

NORTH HEAD VIEWING PLATFORMS

by
CHROFI AND
BANGAWARRA WITH
NATIONAL PARKS AND
WILDLIFE SERVICE

Builder: Glascott Landscape and Civil
Photographer: John Spencer/DCCEEW

The North Head Viewing Platforms are an exemplar in designing on, with, and for Country.

The two new viewing platforms do what they need to – respectfully and with longevity in mind – whilst also providing a vehicle to share stories of Car-rang-gel (Country now known as North Head) a place that has always been an important ceremonial ground for local peoples.

Following a bushfire in 2020 and a series of significant rockfalls in the area, the architects saw the remediation of the landscape and the pragmatic need to address public safety as an opportunity to reframe the cultural heritage and future identity of North Head.

The two platforms wrap around two new ceremonial circles where all people can gather, learn and share stories. Both the southmost platform, Burragula (the time of sunset), and the northern viewing platform, Yiningma (a cliff edge), create poetic and generous ways of sharing of stories and opportunities for learning, and create a truly meaningful connection with Country.





AWARD FOR SMALL PROJECT
ARCHITECTURE

HURLSTONE MEMORIAL
RESERVE COMMUNITY
CENTRE

by
SAM CRAWFORD
ARCHITECTS

Builder: 2020 Projects

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

This modest Community Centre, located towards the rear of a park, is a joyous and unexpected discovery at the end of a suburban street.

A red mesh screen confidently announces the pavilion's presence and physically unifies this outwardly public project. Sitting a couple of metres from the ground, the screen wraps around the timber clad pods of the community centre and public toilet, while a raised platform creates a pleasant outdoor room. It echoes the colours of the suburban vernacular, to create a positive uplift and complement to the local area.

The Y-shape plan invites approach from multiple directions and creates varying activations of the park along its edges. Once inside, it is a double height and beautiful space.

The interior of the community space is also elegant and pleasing. Care has been taken on material specification and detailing to assure it is inviting, yet robust and versatile.

The project demonstrates what can be achieved by an imaginative architect and landscape architect, and a brave client determined to create a project of public and community value.





COMMENDATION FOR SMALL PROJECT
ARCHITECTURE

BOBBIN HEAD AMENITIES

by
AILEEN SAGE

Builder: Westbury Constructions
Photographer: Hamish McIntosh

The Bobbin Head Amenities buildings by Aileen Sage present as a significant architectural advancement in the lineage of NSW National Parks’ servicing of patrons. Rather than an ‘object in the landscape’, materiality, composition and location all serve to make the building a quiet and respectful backdrop to the magnificent natural beauty of the place.

The amenities’ operation is highly legible and its precisely arranged architectural elements (from common steel sections) give a sense of brevity to all the parts of the building. It is a sensitive and sensible response to a typology that demands robustness and longevity.

These small, but vital amenities buildings exemplify excellence in their ability to deftly navigate constraints to deliver architecture that feels immediately ‘of its place’.





THE MILO DUNPHY AWARD FOR
SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

BARKER COLLEGE MATHS AND STUDENT HUB

by
ARCHITECTUS

Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: Grant Leslie | Martin Mischkulnig

Barker College Maths and Student Hub is an exemplar education building that demonstrates a comprehensive approach to environmental sustainability without recourse to complex technical systems.

The project is intelligently sited, taking advantage of the expansive western aspect over the playing fields to create a boardwalk and central breezeway aligned with a campus axis. Existing trees are carefully negotiated and respected. Issues of orientation, with long facades to east and west, have been exceptionally well resolved with appropriate and innovative solar control screening devices and deep overhangs, including operative louvres for natural ventilation.

A major feature of the building is the mass timber structure, predominantly prefabricated off-site and constructed on a concrete ground floor podium giving useful thermal mass. Secondary components, including staircases, are also formed in cross-laminated timber. These timber elements significantly reduce embodied carbon and enhance the quality and character of the interior spaces.



The building is all-electric (except gas kitchen hobs) with energy requirements supplemented by an extensive array of solar panels on the roof. Monitors throughout the building inform students of the amount of energy being produced. Interior thermal comfort, and access to fresh air, can be regulated by occupants, supplemented by a heat recovery air-conditioning system. Services are discretely integrated into the structure and finishes, and water is harvested from the roof for irrigation of adjoining native gardens and playing fields.



AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

POCKET PASSIV

by
ANDERSON ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Mindful Building

Photographer: Tom Ferguson Photography

Pocket Passive is a highly effective reimagining of a 27m2 under-utilised patch of land in an inner-city location which is close to amenities and services. The project demonstrates the value of infill housing with an efficient building envelope to deliver a resilient, comfortable and compact dwelling.

Within a constrained envelope that protects solar to a neighbouring garden, Pocket Passiv is carefully configured in relation to context. The two-level building form provides separate sleeping and living space with clever integration of wet areas, storage, and services. It offers balanced natural light and cross ventilation through high performance windows and skylight.

The efficient envelope, all-electrical appliances, solar panels, and heat recovery system achieve an outcome that balances energy generation and use. Pocket Passiv successfully unites the sustainability and architecture aspirations of the client and architect in a compact city dwelling.





AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

OLIVE TREE HOUSE

by
BASTIAN ARCHITECTURE

Builder: Smart Additions

Photographer: Katherine Lu

Olive Tree House is an innovative two-storey single-family home of modest size, on a vacant portion of an urban block, creating inside/outside living options. The house opens up and closes down, responding well to orientation and sun control, and catching the coastal breezes.

North to the street with a wide side lane to the west, the house is configured around an outside living deck and existing olive tree. The lower floor is concrete and combines with an elevated roof garden over the living room to deliver effective thermal mass.

Strategically positioned high level opening apertures allow heat to escape. Solar panels on the roof, all-electric appliances, underfloor heating and hot water by electric heat pump enable the house to be energy neutral in operation.





AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

CAMPBELL HOUSE PRIVATE OFFICE

by
TONKIN ZULAIKHA GREER

Builder: Buildcorp

Photographer: Cieran Murphy

Campbell House Private Office is a deft transformation of a significant, yet poor performing, manor house into an open, light, and airy workplace accommodating diverse client enterprises.

The primary intervention is the central naturally ventilated atrium arranged between conditioned work zones in the retained fabric, above which a horizontal brise soleil integrates an array of photo voltaic panels and collects rainwater. The solar panels deliver renewable energy for the buildings operation and two batteries provide power storage for nighttime functions. Within the central atrium, a Weeping Fig is thriving, planted in the natural ground and giving dappled light to the shared gathering and breakout spaces.

The generosity of natural light and consistency of the material palette are an achievement considering the extent of heritage fabric retained. Campbell House Private House provides a delightful work environment with a clear sustainability focus on its design and operation.





COMMENDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

LONG REEF SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

by
ADRIANO PUPILLI
ARCHITECTS

Builder: Grindley Interiors

Photographer: Martin Mischkulnig

A highly responsive building to its exposed coastal environment, Long Reef Surf Life Saving Club is appropriately robust and elegantly delivers outstanding facilities for a range of community users.

Here, sustainability is at the heart of all design decisions. Natural materials, recycled content, shading, and natural ventilation are cleverly integrated in the design response. The surf club creates an open-air community gathering space that is sheltered and well scaled.

Concrete and steel are used for strength and longevity with timber employed extensively on the upper-level enclosure of the generous and breezy main club room.





COMMENDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

FUN HOUSE

by
ASA

Builder: Souter Built
Photographer: Barton Taylor Photography

Fun House exemplifies a pioneering approach to sustainable urban living, skilfully integrating small-scale architecture with cutting-edge environmental design. Through meticulous attention to life cycle assessment, energy efficiency, and material selection, Alexander Symes Architect has set a new standard for sustainable urban infill.

Their commitment to sustainability principles and dedication to adaptive reuse and minimal environmental impact establishes Fun House as a beacon of innovation and inspiration for sustainable development in urban contexts.





COMMENDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

THE PAVILION PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE SUTHERLAND

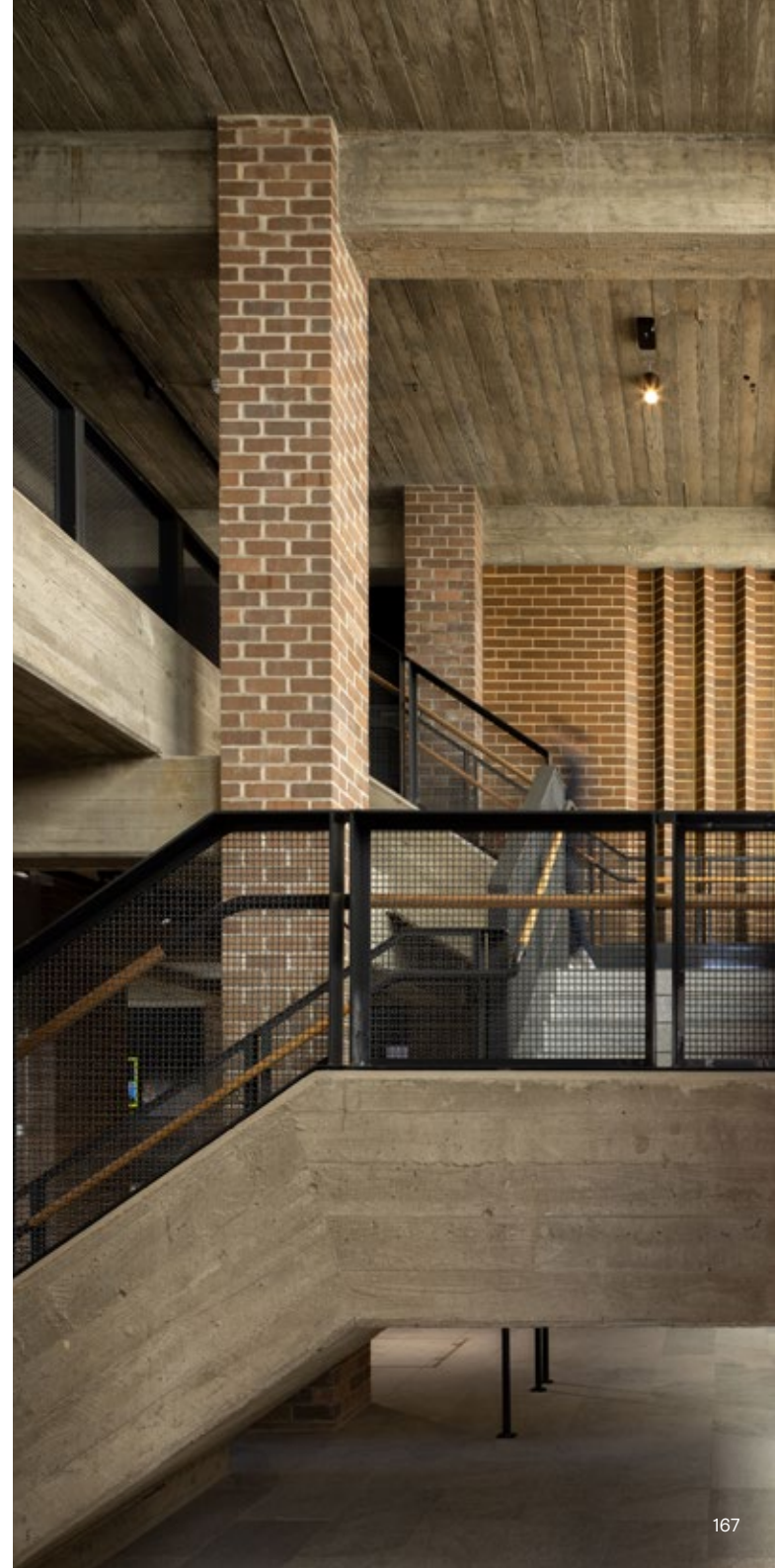
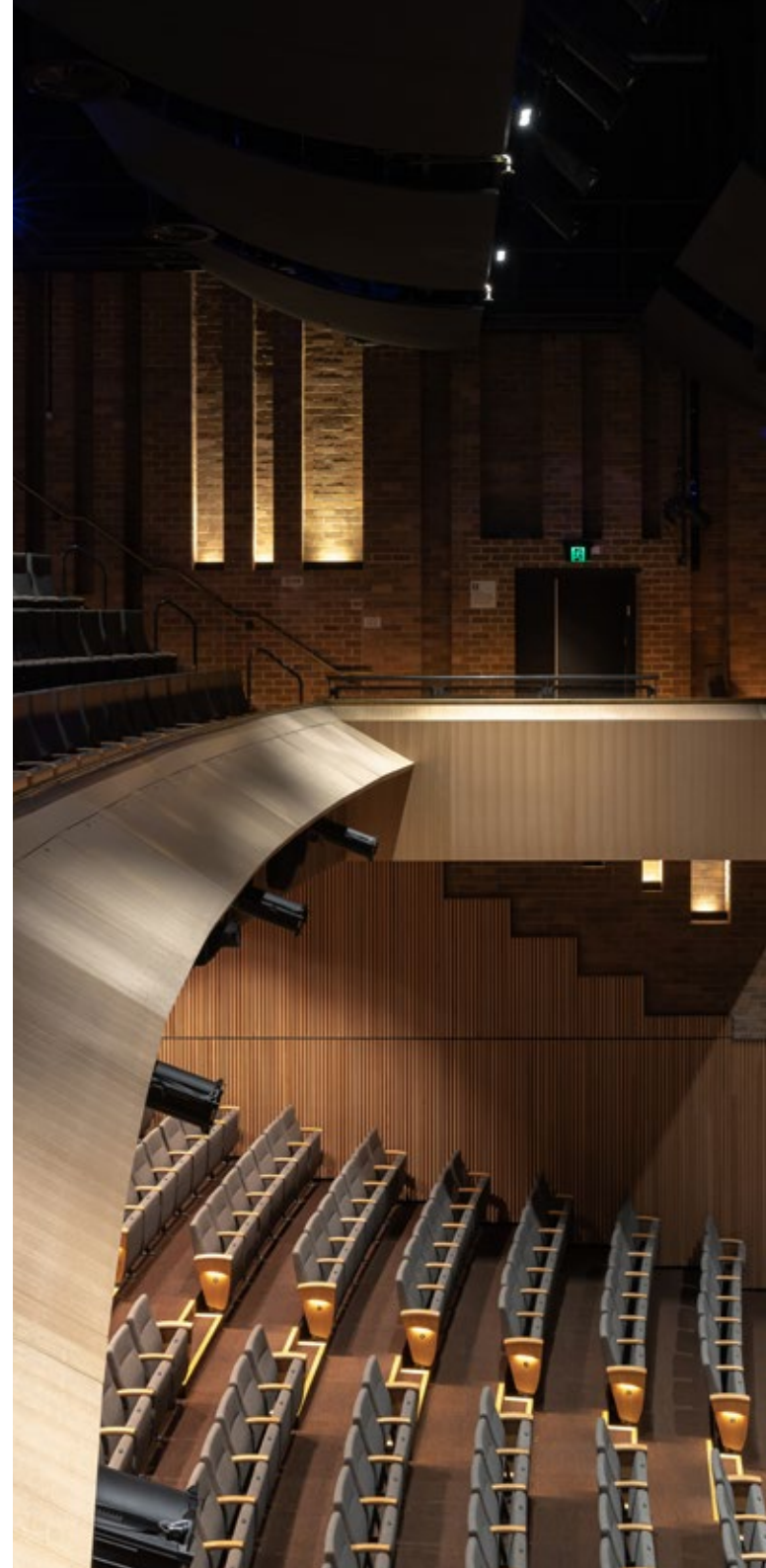
by
CHROFI AND NBRS

Builder: ADCO Constructions

Photographer: Alexander Mayes Photography

The Pavilion Performing Arts Centre Sutherland embodies a thoughtful approach to sustainability, utilising adaptive reuse and innovative design strategies to minimise environmental impact. By incorporating locally sourced materials and preserving existing building fabric, the project demonstrates a commitment to reducing embodied energy. Integrating renewable energy systems and water conservation initiatives further exemplifies its dedication to sustainable practices.

The Centre is fostering community engagement while preserving the rich heritage of the Sutherland precinct.





THE LLOYD REES AWARD FOR URBAN DESIGN

SYDNEY FOOTBALL STADIUM (ALLIANZ STADIUM)

by
COX ARCHITECTURE
WITH ASPECT STUDIOS

Builder: John Holland Group

Photographer: Christopher Frederick Jones
and Courtesy of Venues NSW

The Sydney Football Stadium is a transformative achievement, delivering long-term urban benefits to the Moore Park precinct. Transcending the typically cordoned stadium building, the design expands the surrounding public domain, replacing the blank walls and fencing of the previous stadium with a legible and accessible public realm.

This activated realm caters to diverse needs, offering intimate spaces, dedicated play areas, and grand civic gestures that come alive on event days. Crucially, the design excels at accommodating large crowds while maintaining a human-scaled experience for non-event days through varied spatial arrangements and programmed activities.

This public ribbon joins the Kippax Stair as a catalyst for ongoing renewal, the generous new public realm around the Stadium is already helping knit the neighbourhoods together by creating spaces for everyday use.

The jury commends the decision to establish visual connections into the stadium bowl from surrounding public areas; a rare and impressive achievement for this typology.



Patrons within the stadium enjoy outward vistas, while passers-by glimpse the energy inside the stadium.

This insightful approach to the public realm sets a benchmark for integrating large-scale sporting facilities into the urban fabric, promoting daily experiences and public benefit beyond game day and outside the pay wall.



AWARD FOR URBAN DESIGN

PARRAMATTA AQUATIC CENTRE

by
GRIMSHAW AND ANDREW
BURGES ARCHITECTS
WITH MCGREGOR COXALL

Builder: Lipman

Photographer: Peter Bennetts

The Parramatta Aquatic Centre (PAC) transcends the typical, transforming itself into an oasis both within and outside the centre.

It fosters a sense of discovery where pool users and passersby can connect and interact. Criss-crossing public pathways through, above, and into the centre expand the facility's purpose from its core function to make the building itself an expansive public space.

The key challenge – accommodating 15,000sqm within a public park – is resolved through a singular insight: burying the building beneath gardens that together form a perfect circle. This innovative design prioritises camouflaging the building's physical footprint, embedding connections between the building and parkland.

The PAC breaks away from the sterile steel boxes often associated with aquatic centres, drawing inspiration from the surrounding landscape. Recycled construction waste form the retaining gabion walls, with concrete and native planting creating a sense of inevitability to the outcome. The park's flora is extended into the heart of the centre, reinforcing its connection to nature.

Adding another layer of significance, the PAC incorporates a tapestry of First Nations interpretive elements. This project is an exemplar for local governments seeking the greatest value for their projects, prioritising community, sustainability, and cultural connection.





AWARD FOR URBAN DESIGN

CHARLES STREET SQUARE

by
LAHZNIMMO ARCHITECTS
WITH SMM

Builder: Regal Innovations

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

Lahznimmo Architects, in collaboration with landscape architects Spackman Mossop Michaels, have delivered an outstanding contribution to the urban landscape through the creation of Charles Street Square. This transformative project links Charles and Phillip Street to Parramatta River, integrating the ferry wharf terminus into a vibrant public space now known as Parramatta Quay.

The Charles Street Square illustrates the designers' innovative problem-solving in navigating complex and dynamic challenges. The design mediates between three distinct levels: Riverfront, Mid terrace, and Street level with a continuous landscaped ramp that was observed in constant use. The thoughtful arrangement ensures accessibility and fosters engagement with the riverfront as a theatrical experience by incorporating sweeping amphitheatre seating.

Flooding of the site is an inherent condition to the precinct. The jury's visit following a significant flooding event provided firsthand confirmation of the project's exceptional performance under duress, further validating its effectiveness and durability.



The project's engagement with local First Nations representatives resulted in meaningful interpretative pieces that emphasise the riverfront condition and serve as a poignant reminder of shared history and collective resilience.

Charles Street Square presents itself with a sense of permanence and propriety and provides a fittingly prominent riverfront gateway into Sydney's second CBD.



COMMENDATION FOR URBAN DESIGN

REDFERN STATION

by
DESIGNINC

Builder: Novo Rail Alliance

Photographer: Brett Boardman Photography

The upgrade of Redfern Station expanded what could have been an insular project brief into a neighbourhood-defining public realm project. Dramatically improving accessibility and public amenity, the station now boasts new public spaces, over-rail connections and a completely transformed Little Eveleigh Street.

The jury particularly commends the efforts to retain an unlisted building to create uniquely well integrated station entrance leading into Darlington. This project exemplifies resourceful integration of urban, architectural, and landscape design, promising enduring support for Redfern's evolution.





COMMENDATION FOR URBAN DESIGN

TRANSPORT ACCESS PROGRAM – TRANCHE 3

by
TRANSPORT FOR NSW
URBAN DESIGN (PUBLIC
TRANSPORT & PRECINCTS)

Builder: ABI Civil Contracting, Arenco, Downer Group, Haslin Constructions, Gartner Rose, Van Mel Group Construction, Degnan, Laing O'Rourke, North Construction & Building

Photographer: Simon Anders | Trent Middleton

Transport Access Program – Tranche 3 ('TAP3') inserts a client-side architect in every station upgrade, helping define project briefs that make room for bespoke responses and advocating design value in every subsequent discussion.

The jury commends Transport for NSW in championing the role of the architect in delivering equitable, high-quality transport infrastructure that puts urban design on an equal footing with core engineering requirements.



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GALLERY