ARCHITECTURE AUSTRALIA
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014

Cover image
CS Alexander College, Tocal by Ian McKay and Philip Cox, Architects in Association. Photography: Max Dupain

DIRECTION

9 Foreword
Letter from David Karotkin, National President of the Australian Institute of Architects

10 Reflection
Editorial director Cameron Bruhn muses on the Zeitgeist of global architectural discourse

YEAR IN REVIEW

13 A look back at a selection of events that shaped Australian architecture in 2014

DOSSIER

21 Reverse ruins: The 2014 Venice Architecture Biennale
Karen Burns reflects on this year’s Biennale, which explored relations between past and present

26 Anne Zahalka’s portrait of a building
Susie Atkinson reviews photographer Anne Zahalka’s latest commission, which documents the life inside Canberra’s Parliament House

31 David Adjaye on geographic specificity
At the 2014 National Architecture Conference in Perth, Anna Tweeddale spoke with Adjaye about the peculiarities of place

37 Parametric thinking:
Trifolium by AR-MA
Sam Spurr talks to Robert Benson about Trifolium, commissioned by the Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation

NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE AWARDS

44 Jury Overview
Jury chair Paul Berengemeier on the deliberations of the National Architecture Awards jury

46 Public Architecture
The Sir Zelman Cowan Award
UQ Advanced Engineering Building by Richard Kirk Architects
Hassell Joint Venture

National Awards
Prince Alfred Park + Pool Upgrade by Neeson Murcutt Architects in association with City of Sydney
Australian PlantBank by BVN
Donovan Hill

UTAS Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies by John Wardle Architects + Terreno, in Association with Dallas Brooks Community Primary School

2014

46 Dandenong Mental Health Facility by Bates Smart Whitefield McQueen
Irwin Ahoy Joint Venture

National Commendation
North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club by Durbach Block Jaggers in association with Peter Colquhoun
South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute by Woods Bagot

56 Residential Architecture – Houses (New)
The Robin Boyd Award
House at Hanging Rock by Kerstin Thompson Architects

National Award
Oxley Drive House by James Russell Architect

National Commendation
Southern Outlet House by Philip M. Dinges
Hovey House by Bower Architecture

62 Residential Architecture – Houses (Alterations and Additions)
The Australian Institute of Architects Award
Bellevue Terrace
Alterations + Additions by Philip Stejskal Architecture

66 Residential Architecture – Multiple Housing
The Frederick Romberg Award
The Commons by Breathe Architecture

National Award
UNSW Kensington Colleges by Bates Smart

National Commendation
Gantry by Bates Smart

72 Commercial Architecture
The Harry Seidler Award
White Bay Cruise Terminal by Johnson Pilton Walker

National Awards
8 Chifley Square by Lippman Partnership / Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners

Bread in Common by spaceagency

National Commendation
Prahran Hotel by Techen Architects

78 Heritage
The Lachlan Macquarie Award
Eternity Playhouse by Tonkin Zulaikha Greer Architects

National Commendation
Former Police Station, 127-129 George Street, The Rocks by Welsh + Major Architects with Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

82 Interior Architecture
The Emil Sodersten Award
UQ Advanced Engineering Building by Richard Kirk Architect Hassell Joint Venture

National Awards
Hotel Hotel by March Studio
Garangula Gallery by Fender Katsalidis Mirams Architects

Sustainable Industries Centre by CPH Architects + Architectus in association

Bread in Common by spaceagency

90 Urban Design
The Walter Burley Griffin Award
Prince Alfred Park + Pool Upgrade by Neeson Murcutt Architects in association with City of Sydney

National Award
GASH Stage 02 by Room 11

94 Small Project Architecture
The Nicholas Murcutt Award
Bicheno Surf Life Saving Club + Boat house by Birebelle Art + Design + Architecture

National Awards
Balmain Apartment by Durbach Block Jaggers
Kew Studio by Sean Godsell Architects

National Commendation
Studio 127 by Amalie Weight & Richard Dunn

100 Sustainable Architecture
The David Oppenheim Award
The Commons by Breathe Architecture

National Awards
The Wayside Chapel by Environa Studio
Australian PlantBank by BVN Donovan Hill

UQ Advanced Engineering Building by Richard Kirk Architect Hassell Joint Venture

106 Enduring Architecture
National Award
CB Alexander College, Tocal by Ian McKay and Philip Cox, Architects in Association

109 Steel Architecture
The National Colourbond Award
White Bay Cruise Terminal by Johnson Pilton Walker

110 International Architecture
The Jorn Utzon Award
Stonehenge Exhibition + Visitor Centre by Denton Corker Marshall Award
Shelter/Reinforest by Marra + Yeh Architects

NOV/DEC 2014 AA 7
UQ ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING
RICHARD KIRK ARCHITECT HASSELL JOINT VENTURE

The jury was greatly impressed by this project, which has been designed as an open vessel for learning. Facilities and learning processes are highly visible to inspire both students and visitors. The architects have taken an extremely complex program including teaching spaces, a 500-seat auditorium, laboratories, research facilities and office spaces – and resolved a building that is also a delightful space to occupy.

Set within the subtropical climate of the University of Queens and St Lucia campus, the building houses the School of Civil Engineering and the Queensland Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing. Three volumes feed off a central “street,” a scheme which works both in plan and in section. A sense of discovery pervades the building, with key spaces open to view and explained to assist the learning process.

Clear planning, innovative, flexible spaces and laboratories that allow for progressive teaching contribute to the success of this building. The large foyer has been used as a showcase for manufactured goods, displaying manufacturing processes and materials.

The whole project has become a “living building” to allow for finite measuring and monitoring of its performance in climatic and structural terms. The aim of the building is to be a lifelong learning tool directly related to the student curriculum.

As a public facility, this building excels. It has also been designed as a 5 Star Green Star building and therefore forms a new benchmark in sustainability in the subtropical region. This is an important achievement, with the potential for broad application throughout the community.

UQ ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING WAS REVIEWED BY HANK DECK AND JACQUELINE COOZEER MARSHALL ARCHITECTURE AUSTRALIA JANUARY 2014. SEE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW ARTICLE ON ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING.

ARCHITECT: Richard Kirk Architect Hassell Joint Venture / Project team: The Jenn, Peter Hamilton (project architect) Richard Kirk, Mark Longhurst (design architect), Paul Chung, Andrew Dunsdon, Federico Medek, Jonathan West, Stephen Churcher, Adam Laming, Mitch Read, Kirk Sittick, Mark Warden, Mark Craig, Daniel Lee, Troy King, Bill Loh, Siygen Lu, Max Young, Catherine Van Der Heide STRUCTURAL, CIVIL, ELECTRICAL, LIGHTING AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANTS Arup MECHANICAL, HYDRAULIC AND SERVICES CONSULTANTS 3DQ Consultants LANDSCAPE Hassell INTERIOR DESIGN Hassell SHORT LIST CONSULTANTS Aiken Consulting IPG Primetest Builtform PROGRAMMING CONSULTANTS JTB Design PROJECT MANAGER Peter Sampson, University of Queensland PROJECT MANAGER Peter Sampson, University of Queensland PHOTOGRAPHER Peter Bunnell
UQ ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING

RICHARD KIRK ARCHITECT

HASSELL JOINT VENTURE

The UQ Advanced Engineering Building has a highly complex program, with a number of buildings and spaces designed to achieve a great sense of openness, transparency, and natural light. The building is designed to be environmentally sensitive and sustainable, with a focus on energy efficiency and natural light.

Clear planning, flexible spaces, and a variety of configurations allow the building to adapt to the needs of the users. The design of the building is intended to create a sense of openness and collaboration, encouraging collaboration and interaction among the occupants.

The building's design incorporates sustainable materials and technologies, such as solar panels, which help to reduce the building's energy consumption.

The UQ Advanced Engineering Building is a net-zero carbon building, which means that it generates as much energy as it consumes. This is achieved through the use of innovative design and technology, including solar panels and energy-efficient lighting.

The building's design is intended to create a sense of openness and collaboration, encouraging interaction among the occupants. The building is designed to be environmentally sensitive and sustainable, with a focus on energy efficiency and natural light.
UQ ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING
RICHARD KIRK ARCHITECT HASSELL JOINT VENTURE

JURY CITATION

Part of the brief from the University of Queensland was that this building should establish a new benchmark in sustainable design. The result, which has received a 5 Star Green Star rating and which has innovative sustainability features throughout, is a significant achievement, with the potential for broad application throughout the tertiary sector and the community beyond.

The building, which houses the School of Civil Engineering and the Queensland Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing, is set within the subtropical climate of the University of Queensland’s St Lucia campus. Brisbane has one of the world’s most benign climates; seven out of ten days are at a comfortable temperature, meaning the building can largely be naturally ventilated. Several fine-grain modes of climate control or blended systems are used as a backup for times when ambient temperatures go above or below the comfort range. A large thermal labyrinth beneath the building is used to temper air supply to the HVAC system – helping to reduce the load on the system. Modelling demonstrates total carbon production at thirty kilograms per square metre of gross floor area per annum.

The building incorporates Glulam timber for the structure and facade, all produced and manufactured in Queensland, demonstrating the appropriateness of this technology as an alternative to steel and aluminium. The project leads the way in making extensive use of locally sourced renewable resources, local industry and local manufacturing.

This project demonstrates the potential for innovation to achieve outcomes beyond established targets and to promote inherently sustainable local industries. The jury was thoroughly impressed by the building, which not only sets a new benchmark in sustainability, but is also a delight to experience.

UQ ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING WAS REVIEWED BY HAG BECK AND JACKIE COOPER IN ARCHITECTURE AUSTRALIA JAN/FEB 2014.
SEE ARCHITECTUREAU.COM/ARTICLES/ADVANCED-ENGINEERING-BUILDING

ARCHITECT Richard Kirk Architect Hassell Joint Venture / project team: Peter Hastings, Yee Jen (project architect); Richard Kirk, Mark Loughman (design architects); Paul Chang, Andrew Drummond, Fedor Melek, Jonathan West, Stephen Chandler, Adam Laming, Mitch Reed, Erik Sztarni, Mark Reehrs, Mark Craig, Daniel Loo, Troy King, BP Loh, Nguyen Luu, Mac Young, Catherine Van Der Heide STRUCTURAL, CIVIL, ELECTRICAL, LIGHTING AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT Aurecon MECHANICAL, HYDRAULIC AND SERVICES CONSULTANT WSP Group LANDSCAPE CONSULTANT Hassell INTERIOR DESIGN Richard Kirk Architect and Hassell ACoustIC CONSULTANT Arup COST CONSULTANT Rider Levett Bucknall PROGRAMMING CONSULTANT RMT BUILDER Watpac PROJECT MANAGER Peter Sampson, University of Queensland PHOTOGRAPHY Peter Bennetts