



**AUSTRALIAN CIVIC TRUST**

**CIVIC REVIEW**  
**2018**  
**AWARDS & BRICKBATS**

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# WELCOME

Welcome nominators, professionals and members of the public to the Civic Review for 2018.

We have only one brickbat this year, related to a lack of foresight for planning the safety for bicycles in traffic (at least the brickbat for lack of planning is a reliable one). Other potential brickbats were being considered but for various reasons were not submitted in time. As often happens, once the reality of the current program enters the public imagination, people realise further nominations could be included but then it often becomes too late.

A welcome inclusion was the conservation of the Mortlock Library, one of the buildings that mark Adelaide in Australia's colonial history. Reed House in the Anglican School for Girls on Unley Road was another, faithfully conserved for the future.

The trend towards outback areas, foreshadowed last year with the Rooraa Reserve and the conservation work in Farina, is increasingly to the fore, as exemplified this year by the work at Boolcoomatta. Suburban projects featured well, such as Willunga Mainstreet, which received the Stuart Hart award, and elsewhere in South Australia, such as the Kangaroo Island Airport upgrade, which received the Bob Such award.

The KI Airport upgrade is seen as a game-changer for the Island, as it provides the ability for additional domestic passengers from east coast capital cities to more directly and cost effectively access the Island, which should provide a significant uplift in international visitation

A cautionary note was submitted based on a commendation in the 2013 Review for an external Living Wall project that was aimed at setting a precedent for greater inclusion of greenery in local architecture. However, this particular installation suffered from heat and a lack of maintenance over time, particularly simply the lack of water, and hence had died. The lesson is for greater attention to design and placement for green walls and a commitment to effective maintenance, as this project did not appear to be well planned or its needs appreciated.

There was an interesting nomination for the acquisition of land in the vicinity of the Adelaide Airport for public safety reasons. When the airport was privatised, profit became the driver for planning, as distinct from the previous government's general public-based planning. As a result, shoulder land was sold for profit, which now needs to be reversed.

Other excellent projects also featured, as seen in these citations.



Darian Hiles  
Chairman, Australian Civic Trust Inc.  
Incorporating the Civic Trust of South Australia

7<sup>th</sup> November 2018



# COLONEL WILLIAM LIGHT AWARD

## MORTLOCK LIBRARY CONSERVATION

*Conserving one of North Terrace's greatest buildings*

**Recipients: G-Force Building and Consulting**

**Design Team: Studio 9 Architects (Justin Cucchiarelli, Director/Architect)**

**Project Leader: James Biven, G-Force Building and Consulting**



Photo c/o G-Force Building & Consulting

The Mortlock is an Adelaide treasure, opened in 1884 as a Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery, but in recent years the stonework had begun deteriorating, dangerously in parts, and the roof has started leaking.

G-Force Building & Consulting engaged a wide team of specialists of many kinds to faithfully restore the stonework, including consolidating the existing, seeking new matching stone from NSW to match where necessary and restoring the roofing, finials and other items in need of attention.

Cast iron crestings to the tower and ridge were

removed and restored, including recasting of unrecoverable segments.

Extensive timber repairs were carried out, including repainting. The finials on the east and west ends were badly deteriorated. They were restored and a pigeon deterrent scheme implemented.

Minimal impact to the heritage fabric was achieved throughout. Even the complex scaffolding was designed by experts in the field to avoid contact with the original stonework. Credit is due to All State Constructions for their highly skilled design and implementation of this part of the project.

# IAN MACDONALD AWARD

## Best in the Urban Category



Image c/o G-Force Building & Consulting

Flightpath Architects engaged G-Force Building & Consulting in 2017 to undertake external conservation works to the historic Reed House building in Walford Anglican School for Girls. Constructed in the 1870s-80s, the building reflects the design, details and building materials commonly in use at that time but it had suffered from disrepair, with significant water damage to the timber and cast iron elements.

Work by G-Force included complete roof replacement, stonework repointing and verandahs rebuilt.

### REED HOUSE CONSERVATION

**Project Leader: Zoe Last, G-Force Building & Consulting**

**Design Team: Flightpath Architects (Simon Xotta-Dickson, Architect)**

**Recipient: G-Force Building & Consulting**

*Historically significant conservation*

The cast iron columns and lace detail were painstakingly restored and the original slate sills laid carefully back in place. The work provided an opportunity to create a new restroom facility for students and also improve access at a modern standard with the provision of a ramp. Paving and seating around the building were also increased.

Reed House is now used as the reception area and STEMS (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) facilities for the Junior School.

## URBAN AWARD

### DARLING BUILDING

*Saved from dereliction*

**Recipient: Williams Burton Leopardi**

The Advertiser reported in 1916 that this building by architect E.H. Mc Michael “will form an important addition to city architectural improvements. The interior is to be elaborately fitted with the main office being similar to an ordinary banking chamber. Every convenience will be provided for the staff, including luncheon and retiring rooms”. Recently derelict after 20 years of vacancy and neglect, it has now been resurrected while holding to its original design principles.



Photo c/o Williams Burton Leopardi



# THE STUART HART AWARD

## Excellence in Urban Planning

### WILLUNGA MAINSTREET



Image c/o Mulloway Studio

**Recipients:** Mulloway Studio, WAX Design, the City of Onkaparinga

**Design Team:** Mulloway Studio

**Project Leader:** Anthony Coupe, Director, Mulloway Studio

#### *Urban form shaped by history*

The redevelopment and upgrades to the main streets of Willunga utilise story-telling as the main design driver, with reference to the form of a gallery and an emphasis on repair rather than replacement.

The design incorporated the functional requirements of upgraded stormwater, amenity infrastructure, carparking and wayfinding based on the narrative, while ensuring that in such areas, the designs do not erode that character and the understanding of the significance of the place, as this is key to sensitive and sympathetic built outcomes.

Willunga was the first town surveyed outside of the Adelaide metropolitan area and has a unique history that has shaped its urban form. The interrelationship between the surveyed grid and the natural hilly terrain gives Willunga much of its character. This was built on.

Many of the buildings remaining in the main street are heritage listed, either at a local or State level, and these formed another starting point as tangible evidence of that history, together with a series of oral histories and recollections that provide further illumination of the underlying stories.

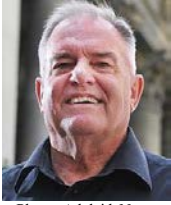


Photo: AdelaideNow

## BOB SUCH AWARD Design for Social Benefit

### KANGAROO ISLAND AIRPORT UPGRADE

*A game-changer for Kangaroo Island*

**Design Team: Ashley Halliday, Ashley Halliday Architects**

**Recipient: Andrew Boardman, Chief Executive Officer, Kangaroo Island Council**



Photo: c/o Kangaroo Island Council

This project is a significant game-changer for Kangaroo Island, addressing the time, ease and cost of access issues that have limited high-value visitation. A potential to fly upwards of 30,000 additional domestic passengers per year from east coast capital cities is expected, together with the ability to more directly and cost effectively access the Island, thus giving a significant uplift in international visitation.

The Airport was constructed to promote environmentally sustainable development initiatives and to optimise use of power from the Council's existing 50KW Solar Icon Project, which delivers sustainable power to the airport for 90% of the day-to-day operations.

Designed to meet the needs of Code 3 aircraft – typically 100-120 seat regional jets and turbo-prop aircraft suitable for direct flight services from the Eastern Seaboard to Kangaroo Island, it was successful not only in upgrading the runway/airside facilities and constructing a new terminal but also attracting new and improved airline services and creating an entry statement for the Island.

A detailed Business Case for improved runway and terminal facilities was prepared in 2012 by the Kangaroo Island Council with assistance from the Kangaroo Island Futures Authority and the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island. The Australian Government's National Stronger Regions Fund provided \$9 million and this was matched by the South Australian Government's commitment for a total project cost of \$18 million.



# COMMENDATIONS

## BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

### Normanville

**Recipient: Nigel Morris**

**Project Leader: Helen Sampson**

**Design: Peter Fowler**

District Council of Yankalilla recently purchased a block of vacant land in Normanville bordering Main South Road and Bungala River with a view of opening it up for public leisure and recreational activities, and then designed and built a creative and accessible bridge crossing. This not only secured needed access for walkers but also added an appealing and aesthetic structure to enhance the community space, which has been emphatically embraced by the local community.



Photo c/o Yankalilla Council

## BOOLCOOMATTA CONSERVATION RESERVE

**Recipient: Bush Heritage Australia**



Boolcoomatta bush campground with hot and cold showers using roof runoff and groundwater. 14/04/2017 N° 8038 Photo DM Trebilcock

A former sheep station covering 63,000 hectares with an abandoned copper mine, Boolcoomatta, near the New South Wales border north of Mingary, was established as a conservation area in 2006.

Bush Heritage Australia has achieved reclamation and economic stimulation of Boolcoomatta through accommodation and administration facilities at the adapted homestead and shearers' quarters with 4-wheel drive tracks and a basic campground with hot showers, including increased interpretation of the land, indigenous culture and European economic development beyond the conditions of the conservation listing.

## JAMES BRICK KILNS

**Recipient: City of Charles Sturt**

12 years' work to preserve these historic kilns and open them to the public has recently been completed, with a cover over the best-preserved site to prevent further deterioration. Interpretive signage is in place with samples of brickmaking machinery in a garden setting.

The site is now a visible reminder of our brickmaking past, with the potential for a future more comprehensive display.

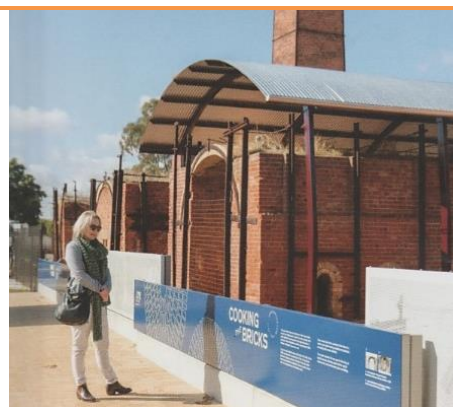


Photo c/o City of Charles Sturt



# BRICKBAT

## LAND NOT ALLOCATED FOR BIKE LANES



West Lakes Boulevard, West Lakes. Land not clawed back from new development (facilitated by SA Government) to allow bicycle lane extension, west of The Pinery. Looking to east along West Lakes Boulevard. Date 20180703 N° 7798



West Lakes Boulevard, West Lakes AAMI stadium grounds before subdivision of land for housing, showing possibility of widening road reserve to extend on-road bicycle lane, even to providing off-road bicycle lane.

Opportunities should be seized when land is redeveloped, particularly when the redevelopment instigator is the SA Government and its agencies, such as land of the former AAMI stadium in West Lakes.

West Lakes Boulevard feeds into Military Road and is popular for training with

sporting cyclists as one of the most direct means of accessing the beaches from the mid-western suburbs.

Here, a relatively minor allocation of land for traffic safety seems to be warranted. Regency Road and West Lakes Boulevard are marked as cycle routes on Bike Direct maps and are popular for training.

## JURY

Mr Darian Hiles, Analyst (Convenor)  
Mr Richard Muncey, Engineering & Planning  
Professor John Mayo, Historian  
Mr Leo Noicos, Engineer  
Mr Andrew Dyson, Surveyor  
Mr Andrew Steinkopf, Heritage Consultant  
Mr Steve Harding, Project Officer

(each contributing within their area of interest and withdrawing from areas where there may be a conflict of interest)

The jury was also supported by other specialist expertise

# PEOPLE'S CHOICE

## HERITAGE AWARD

Mortlock Library Conservation

## URBAN AWARD

Willunga Mainstreet

## Overall popularity (top 5)

<u>Nomination</u>	<u>Score (%)</u>	<u>People's Decision</u>	<u>Jury's Decision</u>
Mortlock Library Conservation	14.6	Award	Col Light Award
Willunga Mainstreet	14.6	Award	Stuart Hart Award
Darling Building	14.2	Award	Award
Reed House	13.9	Award	Ian MacDonald Award
Bike Lanes Planning	11.4	Brickbat	Brickbat

Cover images, both c/o G-Force Building & Consulting:  
Cover: Mortlock Library after conservation  
Rear: Mortlock Library scaffolding during conservation









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