

# AUSTRALIAN CIVIC TRUST INC.

## AWARDS & BRICKBATS 2010: NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

The Australian Civic Trust Incorporated was created in 1969 as the result of a public meeting of over 300 community leaders from South Australia and interstate to address the problems of urban blight and uncoordinated development. Ren De Garis, Don Dunstan, Hugh Stretton, Dame Roma Mitchell and many others have played their part.

The annual awards program was initiated and later enhanced by the brickbats, and since then the program has developed into an invaluable public forum for constructive public discussion and debate in the civic arena.

As a proudly independent and voluntary association, the Trust coordinates responses to community praise and concerns through panels comprised of community representatives, leaders and experts to encourage higher standards in the civic environment.

### AWARD CATEGORIES

**Human** – Equity & inclusion, Community, Business, Culture and Education, for example:

- Social planning and policy, including equity, intergenerational value, capital, inclusion and cohesion.
- Community networks, including communication and consultation with the involvement of communities and stakeholders.
- Community development, including plans, business involvement and social action (cultural, urban, resources, services and political empowerment).

**Natural** – Diversity, Resources, Natural productivity, Water and Ecological balance, for example:

- Restoration or enhancement of biodiversity.
- Conservation or re-use of resources.
- Protection or improvement of natural features or landscapes.
- Economic programs that enhance communities and their environment.
- Clean and green food production that maintains genetic variety and contributes to public health.
- Promotion of an ethic of care for the environment.

**Material** – Infrastructure, Design, Buildings, Heritage, Transport and Land use, for example:

- Planning processes, including community and business involvement, effective land use, cultural & aesthetic design and support of the environment.
- Infrastructure and services, covering integrated design, environmental issues, safety, support services, transport and its inter-relationships.
- Buildings – adapted and new, relationships to services, adaptability to change, responsiveness to resource availability, climate and water and reduction of energy use.
- Maintenance of valuable assets, both heritage and modern.

Nominations across categories are accepted.

Note that the juries may choose to extend their deliberations beyond specific points raised in a nomination and hence may extend their comments to broader associated issues.

## **GENERAL CRITERIA**

Awards are given for projects that:

- Enhance the strength and evolution of the civic environment for present and future generations.
- Assist in the restoration and preservation of the natural environment.
- Improve the accessibility, quality and cultural sensitivity of the public realm.
- Support social developments that enable greater social interaction between individuals and cultures and across generations.
- Are environmentally and socially sustainable.

Brickbats are given for projects that detract from the civic environment according to these criteria.

## **BENEFITS OF NOMINATING**

- Successful award nominations raise the public profile of exemplary projects and present them as potential models for the future.
- Brass plaques are available for awards winners at nominal cost.
- Brickbat nominations identify problem areas to assist in the development of better solutions.
- All nominations contribute to the ongoing discussions and the progressive development of a vision for our civic environment.
- People's Choice awards will also be given to the most popular nominations in the Awards and Brickbats categories.
- The Awards & Brickbats process invariably attracts prominent media attention.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

- Nominations may be submitted by any member of the public. The criteria are guidelines only and are designed to encourage the nomination of any project seen as beneficial to the civic environment.
- There is no entry fee.
- The judges' decision is final.

## **EXAMPLES – Awards & Brickbats**

- Australian Refugee Association's Circle of Friends project (Award)
- RiAus – Adaptive re-use (Award)
- Port Augusta Courts Development (Award)
- Roma Mitchell Garden (Award)
- Port Stanvac oil refinery site (Brickbat)
- Victoria Square – lack of action (Brickbat)