



Art Gallery of NSW Forecourt Upgrade, far left (top and bottom); Parliament House, Canberra, below middle; Keperra House in Brisbane, left and two pictures below

**National Awards for Small Project Architecture**  
**Art Gallery of NSW Forecourt Upgrade**

Johnson Pilton Walker  
 Visitors in wheelchairs or with a stroller no longer have to enter one of Australia's busiest art galleries via the rear loading dock, thanks to a forecourt upgrade that allows all visitors to enter through the sandstone portico. "The key move is to disguise the ramp's length as a generous curve, minimising its obstruction of the 1902 entry portico by Walter Liberty Vernon and reducing its scale to that of the other sculpture interventions in the forecourt," the jury observes.

"In this single, comprehensive stroke, the scheme serves function, enhances accessibility, is sensitive to heritage, enhances the urban forecourt and creates a delightful architectural object."

**Keperra House, Brisbane**  
 A-CH (Atelier Chen Hung)  
 A brief for a one-person house in Keperra,

a suburb northwest of Brisbane, offered an opportunity to rethink the "granny flat", the architects say. The house, which is sited against the rear boundary opening up to a natural creek reserve, "recalls caravans and shearing sheds in its robust material palette, parsimonious planning and humility", the jury observes.

The architects contained the footprint to 45sqm to "amplify a sense of dwelling in nature" and define a garden space surrounding a mature jacaranda tree. A string of three connecting rooms makes up the elongated plan, each framing a distinct view of the landscape. The jury calls it "a beautifully fine-tuned response to a specific place".

"This project demonstrates a model for suburban density that retains the sense of house-in-garden by treating the secondary dwelling as a swollen, programmed fence. It addresses the increasing number of single-person families, older children staying at home, the desire to age in place and the need for increased density in our suburbs."

**National Commendations for Small Project Architecture**  
**Third Wave Kiosk, Victoria**

Tony Hobba Architects

**Abbotsford Convent Breezeway, Melbourne**

Jackson Clements Burrows

**National Award for Enduring Architecture**

**Parliament House, Canberra**

Mitchell Giurgola and Thorp  
 "Twenty-five years after its completion, Parliament House is a place of public character and identity. It remains both classic and of its time; at once grand and endearing, reflecting the dignity and humanity of citizens in their work," the jury asserts in giving the award on the centenary of Canberra and the 25th anniversary of Parliament House.

In its design for a three-dimensional form for Australia's democracy, Mitchell Giurgola and Thorp sited the building within Capital Hill but not on top of the

hill "as this would symbolise government imposed upon the people. The building should nest within the hill, symbolically rising out of the landscape".

"The enduring design integration evidenced by Parliament House is peerless in Australia," the jury says.

It praises the way the furniture, flooring, wall linings, lighting, sculpture and the hardware were all crafted by Australians and integrated into the architecture of the building.

"The design of carpets reflects the paving of internal courtyards; the planting is intended to speak of Australia's domestic gardens; and the lawn covering the building to allow the people to roam above the parliament, is an ultimate statement about the nature of Australia's democracy," the jury says.

"Twenty-five years have seen very little change to the integrity of this striking design integration, and Parliament House remains both classic and modern in the materiality and form produced by this approach."