

THE ~~NEW~~ AGE

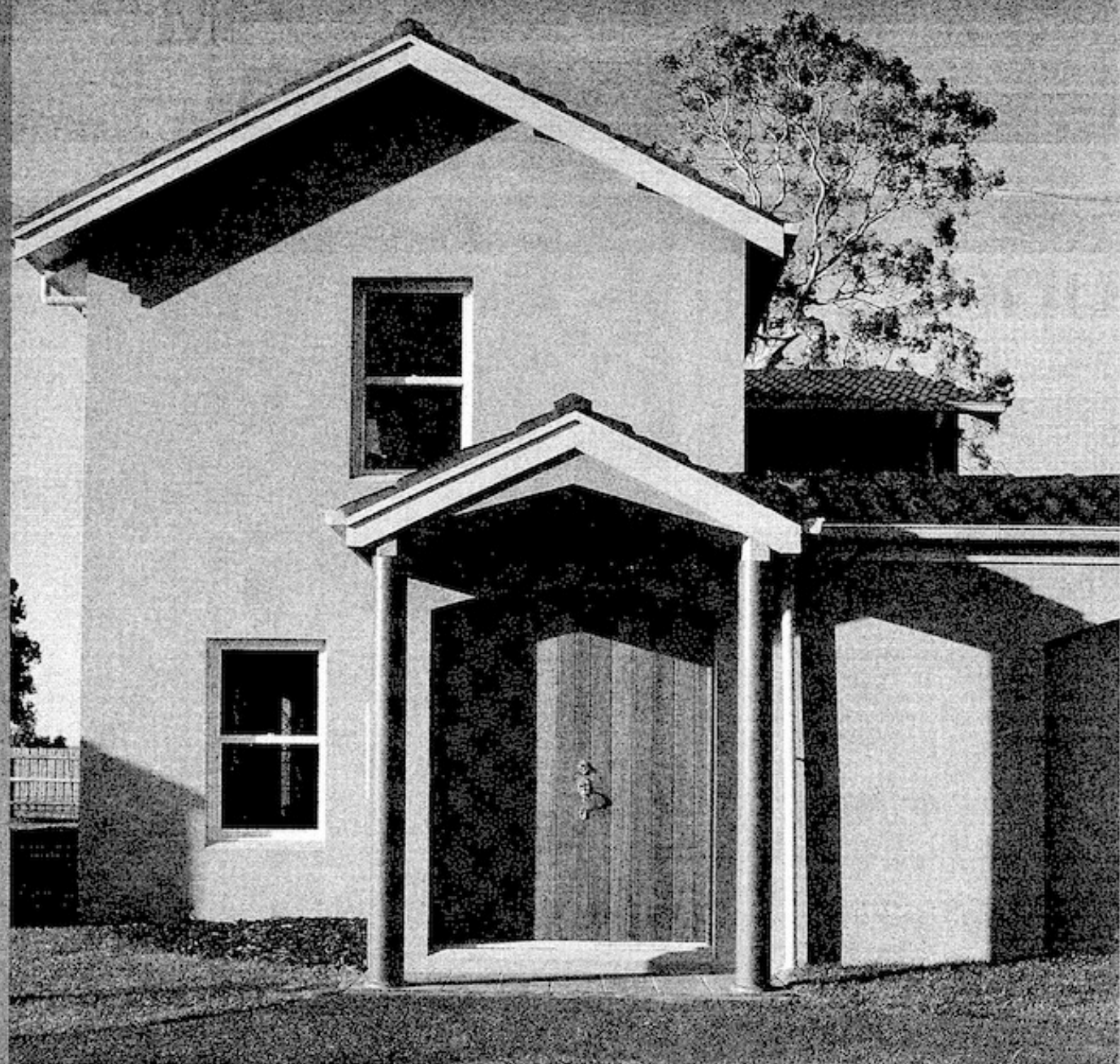
NEW property

Saturday 24 August 1996

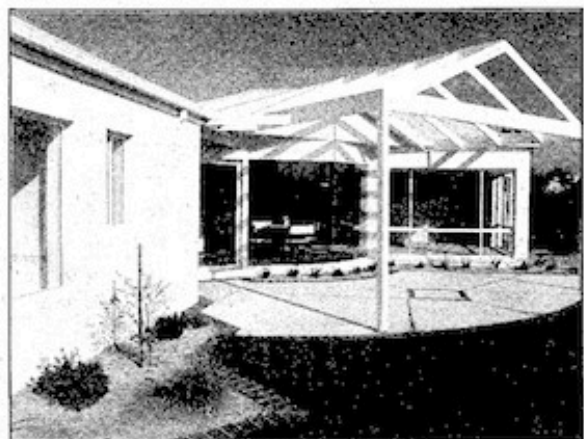
Edited by Veronica Ridge

Stylish LIVING ON A BUDGET

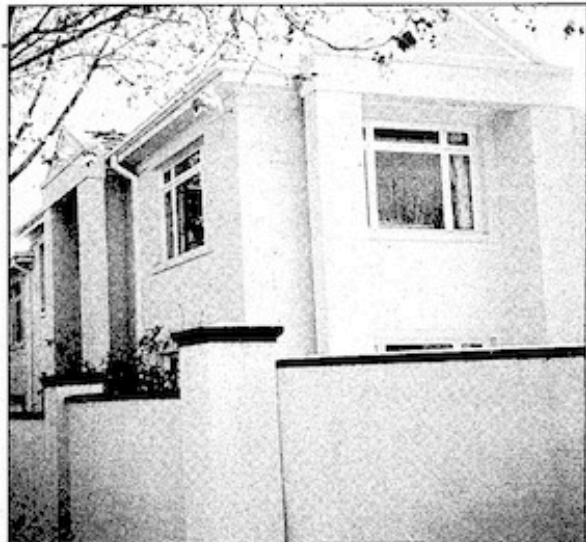
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Designers' night of recognition



Winners: top left, Peter J. Jackson's holiday retreat; top right, design up to 250 sq. m., R.L. Watts; above left, alterations over \$90,000, Robert McLauchlan; above right, medium density, R.L. Watts.

By ANGELA NOEL

THIB Building Designers Association of Victoria (BDAV), an industry-based organisation that acts for building design professionals, last night held its inaugural building design awards.

The association's members are involved in all aspects of the building design industry — residential, commercial, industrial and institutional — but only the residential awards are reported here.

In Victoria, people providing building design services now have to be registered as building practitioners under the various categories, in accordance with the Building Act 1993. The BDAV has a seat on the registration board.

The BDAV claims that its members carry out much the same work as that of architects and have designed many of our finest buildings.

They point to significant changes in training during the past 30 years, including many architecture-related courses such as degree, diploma, associate diploma and certificate courses that equip graduates to undertake some of the vast range of building design work available.

A recent survey showed that BDAV members collectively were involved in more than \$2 billion of construction in Victoria last year. A

BDAV AWARDS: RESIDENTIAL WINNERS

- Best design of a new home up to 250 square metres. R. L. Watts Design Pty Ltd. Private residence at Ringwood.
- Best design of a new home over 250 square metres. R. L. Watts Design Pty Ltd. Private residence at Glen Iris.
- Best design of alterations and additions to an existing home up to \$90,000. Winner: Earnshaw and

- Associates Design. Private residence at Surrey Hills. High commendation: Peter J. Jackson Building Design Consultants. Private residence at East Malvern.
- Best design of alterations and additions to an existing home over \$90,000. Robert W. McLauchlan and Associates Pty Ltd. Private residence at Donvale.
- Office of Planning and Heritage

- award for best medium-density design. R. L. Watts Design Pty Ltd. Two two-storey town houses at Armadale.
- Urban Land Authority award for best design for a small allotment. Peter Condos Building Design. Two-storey dual occupancy at Altona.
- Best design for a holiday retreat. Peter J. Jackson Building Design Consultants. New beach house at Inverloch.

non-profit organisation, the BDAV was founded in 1983 and is a member of the national organisation, the Building Designers Association of Australia, which represents more than 1300 building design professionals across the country.

For the first awards, the BDAV selected eight categories of residential design in which members could submit their work. They encompass a wide range of buildings, from large urban family houses to holiday homes and including small lot, medium density and alterations and additions. The number of entries reflect the enthusiasm of members and the winners were, without exception, highly competent and attractive design solutions.

The winner in the Best Design of a New Home of more than 250 square metres was R. L. Watts Design, for a Victorian-style house in Glen Iris. Lauded by the judges as "sensitive to the client's brief and a worthy winner", it features two half octagonal rooms which, combined with a slate roof and bull-nosed veranda, project a strongly Victorian presence, reinforced by traditional wrought-iron railings that enclose the front garden.

Internally, the three-bedroom house has three-metre ceilings to allow for Victorian finishes, while the kitchen and meals area take advantage of winter sun from the north and provide access to a private back garden. A carport was

chosen in preference to a garage, so as not to block natural light.

Another eye-catching winner was Robert W. McLauchlan & Associates' Best Design of Alterations and Additions to an Existing Home, over \$90,000. The brief was to upgrade the facade of a house in Donvale, to transform it into a new style resembling a photograph of a property from an overseas magazine, as well as providing a new main bedroom.

This major undertaking included re-pitching the main roof to accommodate steeply pitched dormer windows. The problem of linking two roof lines of differing heights was brilliantly solved by the use of a turret that tricks the eye

into ignoring the difference.

There was much use of recycled materials and the extensive use of timber internally made the carpenter's work especially interesting.

The judges were greatly impressed with the quality and attention to detail in this project.

The winner of the Office of Planning and Heritage Award for best medium-density design was two townhouses in Armadale, designed by R. L. Watts Design.

Each town house has three bedrooms, and privacy and noise insulation were provided by the high masonry fences. The judges pointed out that it was not merely a matter of squeezing more than one house on to a site, and that medium-density was about careful integration with and enhancement of the streetscape — a requirement met by this project.

The best design for a holiday retreat was won by Peter J. Jackson Building Design Consultants for a new beach house at Inverloch.

It picked up the beach theme with its bagged and painted brickwork, Colorbond roof and pergolas that accentuate the outdoor living areas. There was planning input from local estate agents, builders and residents to create the house.

Angela Noel was on the judging panel of the residential section of the BDAV awards.