

## THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS CITATION FOR LIFE FELLOWSHIP – PHYLLIS MURPHY

*Phyllis Murphy is one of a small number of women architects with significant involvement in the profession in the post World War II period. Following graduate from The University of Melbourne in 1950, she and her husband, John Murphy, set up practice as 'John and Phyllis Murphy', initially designing modest houses and additions to private schools.*

*In 1952 the competition for Melbourne's Olympic Pool brought together a team of young architects: the Murphy's, Kevin Borland, Peter McIntyre and engineer Bill Irwin. Their design was successful and the project was completed in time for the 1956 Olympics. The dramatic design is still recognised as one of Melbourne's most significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century buildings.*

*Both Murphy's were involved in the competition design, however after the win, John stayed with the pool project and Phyllis ran the Murphy office and its projects.*

*Over the next two decades the practice completed a range of industrial and educational projects and over 50 residential projects. Neil Clerehan wrote that 'their houses were modest but their version of contemporary design was elegant and timeless'. They also produced a series of houses for The Age / Royal Victorian Institute of Architects Small Houses Service run by Robin Boyd and then Neil Clerehan.*

*From 1958 Phyllis and John were Honorary Advisors to The National Trust, carrying out restoration of important colonial buildings, designing conservation policies and techniques new to the period.*

*Following their retirement in 1982 Phyllis continued working with the conservation of historic interiors specialising in wallpaper curating exhibitions for The National Trust and the Historic Houses Trust and writing for Australian and European journals.*

*Phyllis, now aged 84 years, continues to maintain a lively interest in the profession. Neil Clerehan described the Murphy's as 'Victoria's most notable husband and wife architectural team'. As a member of that team, Phyllis Murphy is a most worthy candidate for Life Fellowship.*