



FORMER BHP HOUSE, 140 WILLIAM ST

Address: 140 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
Architects: Yuncken Freeman with SOM
Completed: 1972

"BHP House is the archetypal tower and plaza high-rise designed to be viewed as a three-dimensional monolith separate from surrounding cityscape. Designed by Barry Patten of Yuncken Freeman with SOM, the design is an expression of the Australian corporate image with innovative and extensive use of BHP's steel technology."

– Jim Gardner, Director, GJM Heritage

Key Features:

- One of the key architectural icons of Melbourne
- Celebrates the early breakthrough development of glass and steel skyscraper buildings following the international Movement led by Mies Van Der Rohe
- Successfully tested several innovative steel technology and engineering principles at large scale



NARRM NGARRGU LIBRARY AND FAMILY SERVICES

Address: 141 Therry Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
Architects: Six Degrees Architects
Landscape Architects: Bush Projects
Completed: 2020

"Formerly owned by the Munro family, this new city precinct sits alongside the Queen Victoria Market and is home to the narm ngarrgu Library. The project includes one of Australia's largest public art works and introduces a new network of laneways for the city."

– Michael Frazzetto, Director, Six Degrees

Key Features:

- Mixed-use development that integrates varying community functions into a cohesive civic experience
- Celebrates Indigenous heritage through a meaningful Wurundjeri collaboration
- Achieves 5-star Green Star and WELL sustainability ratings
- Exemplar landscaped rooftop terrace



QUEEN AND COLLINS

Address: 376-390 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000
Architects: Kerstin Thompson Architects and BVN
Completed: 2021

"A creative reinvention of spatial, urban and architectural identity from a detached ensemble of lofty 19th-century gothic revival mercantile buildings. The space interfaces with a tall, post-modern gothic commercial tower on an epic scale; an empty corporate foyer, formerly collectively known as the Gothic Bank Complex, has been transformed into a multifaceted mixed-use urban quarter that is inviting, beautiful and full of spatial drama, visual interest, and atmospheric spaces."

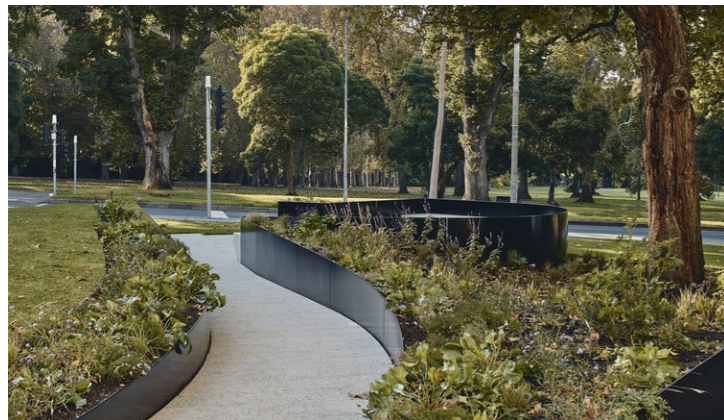
– Ann Lau, Director, Hayball

Key Features:

- Exemplar through-block link that enhances pedestrian experience at the podium level
- Tactile celebration of contextual history
- Aligns generous urban design strategy with celebration of heritage



DESIGN EXCELLENCE POCKET BOOK



VICTORIAN FAMILY VIOLENCE MEMORIAL

Address: St Andrew's Reserve, East Melbourne VIC 3002
Architects: Muir Architecture
Landscape Architects: Openwork
Completed: 2022

"Empathetic and creative place-making, where landscape, architecture and design are integrated to create a meaningful place for reflection and contemplation. It is a memorable, nuanced, multilayered and beautiful place, and a powerful memorial of dignity and grace to victims who experience tremors of family violence."

– Ann Lau, Director, Hayball

Key Features:

- Creative placemaking with a powerful storytelling and artistic framework
- Exemplar integration of landscape and architecture for a multilayered design outcome
- Contemporary memorial

Photo Credit: Peter Bennetts



RMIT UNIVERSITY PRECINCT

Address: RMIT City Campus, Melbourne VIC 3000
Architects: Lyons, Harrison and White, MvS Architects, NMBW Studio and Maddison Architects
Landscape Architects: TCL
Completed: 2017

"Wander the precinct and the buildings and experience the way the existing building fabric has been changed over time; new pieces of contemporary architecture have been added to stitch together old buildings and accommodate new uses and contemporary urban spaces, all working towards an urban campus that can be enjoyed by their community."

– James Legge, Director, Six Degrees

Key Features:

- Unique design collaboration resulting in diverse contemporary architectural outcomes
- Dynamic materiality and spatial experiences that seamlessly stitch into a cohesive city campus experience
- Enhanced pedestrian permeability throughout the campus



THE DOME (LA TROBE READING ROOM)

Address: 328 Swanston St, Melbourne VIC 3000
Architects: Bates, Peebles & Smart
Completed: 1913

"The grand octagonal domed La Trobe Reading Room is the centrepiece of Victoria's State Library. It was designed to be the equal of the British Museum Reading Room in London and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. At the time of its construction in 1913 it was the largest reinforced concrete dome in the world, spanning 35.5m."

– Jim Gardner, Director, GJM Heritage

Key Features:

- Melbourne's key historical landmark with an iconic reinforced concrete dome, the largest at the time of its construction
- Exceptional neoclassical architecture with rich details and proportions that enhances the experience of the space

The Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) provides expert design review of significant proposals. The panel is an independent group of 16 design experts and 8 technical advisers.

This pocket book comprises examples of exemplary design in central Melbourne, as chosen by MDRP members. The buildings and spaces encompass old and new, demonstrating how architectural styles and approaches have evolved, and continue to evolve, in the city.



Interpreter Services

We cater for people of all backgrounds
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For more information, contact City of Melbourne
 Telephone: **03 9658 9658**

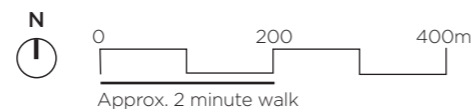
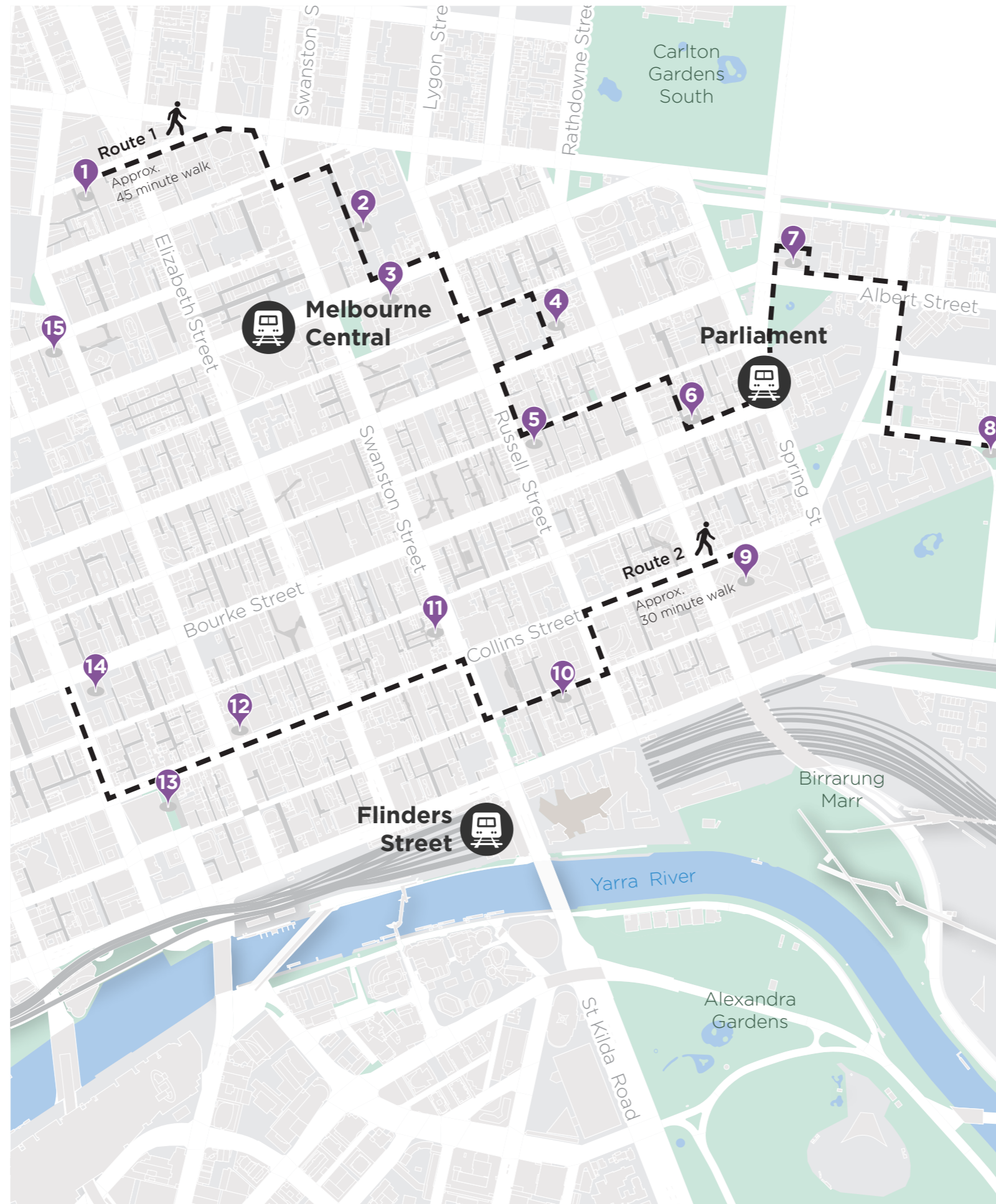
melbourne.vic.gov.au

DESIGN EXCELLENCE IN THE CITY

- 1 **Munro Development and narm ngarrgu Library**, ●●●
141 Therry Street
Architects: Six Degrees Architects
Landscape Architects: Bush Projects
- 2 **RMIT University Precinct, City Campus** ●●●●
Architects: Lyons, Harrison and White, MvS Architects, NMBW Studio and Maddison Architects
- 3 **La Trobe Reading Room, State Library of Victoria**, ●●●●
328 Swanston St
Architects: Bates, Peebles & Smart
- 4 **Wesley Place**, 140 Lonsdale St ●●
Architects: Joseph Reed, Cox Architecture and Lovell Chen
Landscape Architects: Oculus
- 5 **Total House**, 180 Russell Street ●
Architects: Bogle & Banfield Associates
- 6 **Pellegrini's Espresso Bar**, 66 Bourke St ●
Architects: Smith, Tracey, Lyon and Brock
- 7 **Orica House**, 1 Nicholson Street ●
Architects: Bates Smart
- 8 **Victorian Family Violence Memorial**, ●●
St Andrews Place
Architects: Muir Architecture
Landscape Architect: Openwork
- 9 **The Great Space**, 45 Collins Street ●●●
Architects: Pei and Partners, Bates Smart and McCutcheon
- 10 **Journal Cafe**, 253 Flinders Lane ●
Architects: Rabindra Naidoo and Nest Architects
- 11 **Capitol Theatre**, 113 Swanston Street ●●●
Architects: Marion Mahoney Griffin and Walter Burley Griffin
- 12 **Queen and Collins**, 376-390 Collins Street ●●●●
Architects: Kerstin Thompson Architects and BVN
- 13 **Market Street Park**, 43/55 Market Street ●●
Landscape Architects: Oculus
- 14 **Former BHP House**, 140 William Street ●
Architects: Yuncken Freeman with SOM
- 15 **Republic Tower**, 299 Queen Street ●
Architects: Fender Katsalidis

DESIGN FEATURES

- **Through-block links**
New publicly accessed pedestrian connections
- **Cultural place**
Place that celebrates culture, community and history
- **Exceptional design detail**
Contextually responsive and human scale design
- **Sensitive heritage treatment**
Considered response to heritage context
- **Welcoming public space**
An inviting open space for all
- **Architectural significance**
Significant, memorable and excellent design



Access and opening hours for all venues and spaces may vary. Please check with the venue before arriving.

Information correct at time of printing, July 2024.

WHAT IS DESIGN EXCELLENCE?

The City of Melbourne's Design Excellence Program promotes the value of excellent design across Melbourne's built environment. Every new building and public space has the potential to improve our quality of life, attract investment and elevate the city's reputation as a design city.

The program responds to our Council Plan 2021-25 and includes the Melbourne Design Review Panel, the Design Excellence Advisory Committee, design competitions, awards and advocacy. These initiatives work to improve the quality of Melbourne's architecture, landscape architecture and urban design by:

- Advocating for design excellence across industry, academia and the community
- Recognising and rewarding design excellence
- Shaping and influencing significant private developments
- Supporting creativity and innovation in design
- Promoting the value of excellent design in contributing to thriving communities

Legend

- 1 Design Excellence location
- Nominated by current MDRP members
- Recommended walk
- 🚉 Train station

Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong / Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection they have maintained to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We accept the invitation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and are committed to walking together to build a better future.