

## PETER HAYNES LOVELL

Doctor of Architecture, *honoris causa*

Born in 1953, Peter Haynes Lovell graduated with a Bachelor of Building from the University of Melbourne in 1976. His postgraduate research in conservation from 1977 to 1979 led to the important technical reports, 'Dwelling Repair and Renovation' (1978) and, with Professor John Scrivener, 'The renovation and rehabilitation of older Australian dwellings' (1979). He established his sole practice, Peter Lovell Building Maintenance & Restoration in 1979. Lovell's commitment to heritage had begun early: as a student, he was a founding member in 1975 of the Fitzroy Housing Repair Advisory Service, an architect-led community service that provided free advice and referral on housing repair and building issues for those who could otherwise not afford it, while conserving Fitzroy's at-risk historic housing stock. In 1981, with Anne and Peter Latreille, he wrote the book *New Uses for Old Buildings*. Lovell's specialization in conservation expanded nationally in 1981 when he formed Allom Lovell & Associates with Brisbane-based conservation architect Richard Allom. When architect Pru Sanderson joined the practice, the Melbourne office became Allom Lovell Sanderson & Associates from 1984, before reverting to Allom Lovell & Associates in 1987. The practice became Lovell Chen in 2005, when Lovell and architect and fellow University of Melbourne graduate Kai Chen, who had joined the practice in 1991 as principal designer, rebadged the firm with a combined heritage and design focus.

Over more than forty years, Lovell established his firm as one of Australia's leading conservation practices, involved in the heritage assessment and conservation of countless iconic, historic Australian buildings and places, including - just in Melbourne alone - the Windsor Hotel, the former ES&A 'Gothic' Bank, the Athenaeum and Regent Theatres, Trades Hall, Fitzroy and Collingwood Town Halls, the Immigration Museum, Melbourne GPO, State Library of Victoria, the Shrine of Remembrance, Parliament House and the UNESCO World Heritage-Listed Royal Exhibition Building, as well as Werribee Park, Government Houses in Perth and Melbourne and 'Yarralumla', Government House, Canberra.

Similarly, at the University of Melbourne, Lovell has been instrumental in the management, conservation, and restoration of the campus's most important historic buildings, including the Old Quadrangle, the Gate Lodge, the 1888 Building, Ormond College, the System Garden tower, as well as award-winning conservation and new works for the Grainger Museum, Beaurepaire Centre, Melbourne University Boat Shed and the Police Stables at the Victorian College of the Arts.

Lovell has been a key member of numerous heritage committees, government reviews and professional organizations, including the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Heritage Victoria's Archaeological Advisory Committee and the Executive Council of Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites). His expertise has been consistently sought for decades in presenting to bodies like the Heritage Council of Victoria and the Victorian Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal. He has been a keynote speaker at numerous academic, professional, and public symposia on heritage issues. Lovell also served as founding Board Member of the Australian Centre for Architectural History, Urban and Cultural Heritage (ACAHUCH), located within the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning (ABP), where he has been a guest lecturer for more than thirty years. Especially respected for his on-site explanations of materials conservation and the complex role of heritage in large-scale urban redevelopment, he has been a generous mentor to students' intent on making a career in heritage and conservation. His office has trained successive generations of heritage practitioners, in large part building the heritage profession in Victoria from within his office. His promotion of conservation practice was recognized when he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects in 2007.

Peter Lovell's contribution to the stewardship of Australia's built heritage has been outstanding. Erudite and accomplished, he is a champion for the continuing role and legacy of historic buildings in Australian cities. He is a worthy recipient of the degree, Doctor of Architecture, *honoris causa*, from the University of Melbourne.