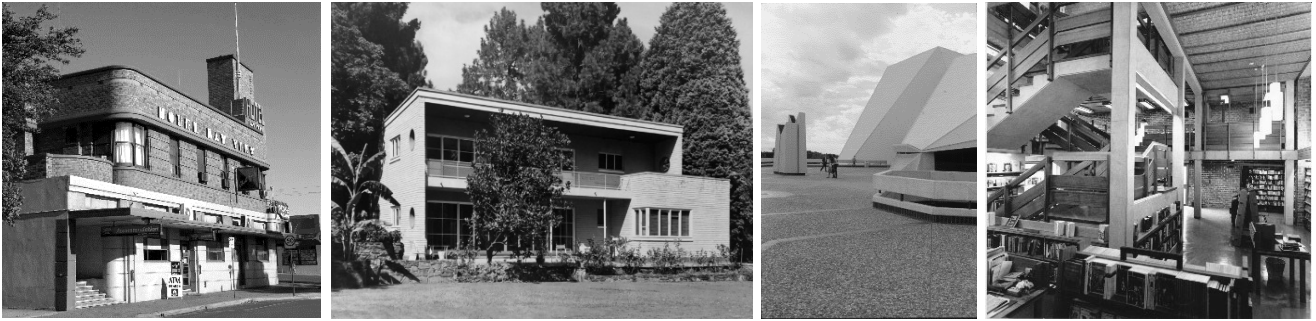


We invite you to join us for the Architecture Museum 2025 symposium:

## Modernism and the Everyday: A South Australian Perspective



**Friday 21 February 2025, 9.30am–4.30pm**

**Pridham Hall, level 2, University of South Australia, City West, 213 Hindley St, Adelaide  
Free - All welcome - one-day public symposium**

**Register now to attend at Humanitix:**

<https://events.humanitix.com/symposium-modernism-and-the-everyday-a-south-australian-perspective>

Join us for an inspiring day of talks uncovering the South Australian experience of modern architecture and design with presentations by respected professionals, academics and emerging scholars. With the idea of design in everyday things as a provocation, our expert speakers will take you on a journey back through the mid-twentieth century to explore South Australian buildings, places and objects, the architects and designers who created them, and the people whose daily lives this everyday modernism touched.

Topics will include:

- Local modernism – architecture, interiors, and industrial design.
- Exploration of imported ideas, theoretical viewpoints, and the reception of modernism.
- Case studies of buildings, objects, places, architects and designers.
- Sustainability and heritage discussions around preserving and reusing modernism.

Architectural and design practice in Australia has its roots in international movements, something which makes the balancing of the narrative of global histories with regional ones essential. With much of modern design a response to local factors including climate, geography, material availability, lifestyles, social and cultural factors, the understanding of the role of such influences in designed outcomes has the potential to inform both today's practice and heritage decisions.

While considerable work has been done on modern architecture in Australia, the narrative about modernism in South Australia can be overlooked. This symposium hopes to explore modernism beyond dominant historical narratives and enhance them by focussing on local examples.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Speakers and Presentation titles</b>
9.30am	<b>Welcome and acknowledgements</b>  <b>Dr Julie Collins (Architecture Museum)</b> Introduction to SA Modernism
9.45am	<b>Tim Reeves (Writer and University of South Australia)</b> <i>Anything but the Everyday: Adelaide Modernism: 101 Houses</i>
10.00am	<b>Jet O'Rourke (Cumulus Studio)</b> <i>Among the Gumtrees: The everyday modernism of Hubertus (Huub) van der Pennen in South Australia</i>
10.15am	<b>Will Shaw (Forum Studio) and Perri Sparnon (Forum Studio and University of Adelaide)</b> <i>The City is a Large House: The Works of Brian Polomka</i>
10.30am	<b>Discussion and questions</b>
10.45am	<b>BREAK – tea and coffee and biscuits provided</b>
11.00am	<b>Dr Stephen Schrapel (Swanbury Penglase Architects) and Dr Amit Srivastava (University of Adelaide)</b> <i>The Everyday Innovators: Italian Migrants and Architectural Modernism in South Australia</i>
11.15am	<b>Tin Do and Dr Amit Srivastava (University of Adelaide)</b> <i>Prefab Dreams and the Legacy of the Thiersch/Niggemann House - A German Contribution to Adelaide Modernism</i>
11.30am	<b>Dr Joshua Nash (University of South Australia and Some Islands)</b> <i>Adelaide Brutalism?</i>
11.45am	<b>Discussion and questions</b>
12.00noon	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b> – catering not provided, but there are many good lunch spots close by. <b>(tea and coffee/biscuits/nuts available in venue)</b>
13.00pm	<b>Dr Nathan Crane (University of South Australia)</b> <i>Educational Blueprints: archiving South Australia's Modernist design pedagogy</i>
13.15pm	<b>Michael Queale (Heritage SA, DEW)</b> <i>Lost Modernism – fragments of my memory rooms</i>
13.30pm	<b>Dr James Curry (University of South Australia)</b> <i>The Cunning of John Chappel's Cottle House (1958)</i>
13.45pm	<b>Discussion and questions</b>
	<b>Short break</b>
14.00pm	<b>Dr Glenn Harper (University of Sydney)</b> <i>John Morphett and Architectural Collaboration: Becoming the Everyday in the Architectural Practice of HASSELL</i>
14.15pm	<b>Dr Catherine Howell (Heritage SA, DEW)</b> <i>'Far from everyday work'? Designing with injection-moulded plastics in postwar South Australia</i>

14.30pm	<b>Paul Mazourek (City of Whyalla)</b> <i>Whyalla Architecture: From Tents to Streamline Moderne</i>
14.45pm	<b>Discussion and questions</b>
15.00pm	<b>BREAK – tea and coffee and biscuits provided</b>
15.15pm	<b>Dr Louise Bird (Heritage SA, DEW and University of South Australia)</b> <i>'That's just hideous': perspectives from a South Australian heritage practitioner in protecting Modern architecture 'the problem child of heritage'</i>
15.30pm	<b>Meherzad Schroff (University of Adelaide) and Dr Amit Srivastava (University of Adelaide)</b> <i>Burnside Community Art &amp; Crafts Centre: Timber and Adaptive Reuse in South Australia in the 1970s</i>
15.45pm	<b>Sam Rosenzweig (Swanbury Penglase Architects)</b> <i>Conserving Modernism – Repeopling Union House</i>
16.00pm	<b>Discussion and questions</b>
16.15	<b>Concluding Remarks</b>
16.30	<b>Close</b>

More Information online at: <https://unisa.edu.au/connect/galleries-museums-and-centres/architecture-museum/>

Enquiries to Architecture Museum +61 8 8302 9235 (Mon-Wed) [architecturemuseum@unisa.edu.au](mailto:architecturemuseum@unisa.edu.au)

Venue: [Pridham Hall, level 2, University of South Australia, City West, 213 Hindley St, Adelaide](#)

*'Modernism and the Everyday' is being held in the Pridham Hall function room and we acknowledge the generosity of alumnus Andrew Pridham, benefactor of Pridham Hall.*

City West campus map: <https://www.unisa.edu.au/siteassets/campus-facilities/maps/city-west-campus-and-access-map.pdf>

*'Modernism and the Everyday' is being held at the University of South Australia on Kaurna Country, the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs, and relationship with the land, and we acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.*

Images: Bay View Hotel, Whyalla, Glover and Pointer, 1941, Russell S. Ellis House, Springfield, 1942, Adelaide Festival Centre, Hassell, McConnell and Partners, 1973, University of Adelaide Union House, Adelaide, Dickson and Platten, 1975.