



Australian Institute of Architects

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Spotlight on Esmond Dorney at Open House Hobart THIS WEEKEND

Tasmania's most popular architecture and design event, Open House Hobart, is on this weekend 5–6 November. This year there are 44 buildings open to the public over the two-day event. It is the major event in Hobart Architecture and Design Month, which runs for the month of November.

Renowned Tasmanian architect JH Esmond Dorney will be in focus with his internationally significant home built atop the fortifications on Porter Hill open 10am-4pm Sunday 6 November.

The property is now owned by the Hobart City Council, which is currently calling for expressions of interest for the “adaptive reuse” of the building and 40ha site with panoramic views of the Derwent Estuary and kunanyi / Mt Wellington. The EOI is expected to attract international interest.

Dorney, who trained in the office of celebrated architects Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahoney, is often credited with bringing Modernism to Tasmania. He is the architect of Australia's first Modernist church, Pius X Catholic Church in Tarooma, which is also open to the public 10am-4pm Sunday 6 November.

Last year, more than 10,000 locals and tourists enjoyed a look behind the scenes of Hobart's built environment to see how others live, work and play, see how the city's infrastructure works and take in the incredible views from different vantage points around town.

For most buildings, members of the public need only turn up during the opening hours advertised. However, some buildings require registration to visit. In true Tassie style, it's first in, best dressed! So be sure to reserve your place online at [openhousehobart.org](http://openhousehobart.org).

Organised and run by the Tasmanian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects, Open House Hobart is the local version of a global event first held in London in 1992 and now staged in more than 30 cities around the world.

Hobart's built environment is a unique tourism asset for Tasmania,” says Open House producer Dale Campisi. “It includes some of Australia's oldest examples of colonial architecture, such as the country's oldest military barracks, Jewish synagogue, shot tower and real tennis court, all of which are free to visit at this year's Open House.”

“But Open House is not all about ye olde architecture. Visitors can this year explore the past, present and future of Wrest Point and see inside a number of contemporary homes, schools and hotels. Twenty events scheduled throughout November delve deeper into the design and planning issues currently facing Hobart.”

### **For photo opportunities/media inquiries contact:**

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