

## **Entrant No. 7084**

### **Explanatory Statement**

The concept is strongly driven by axial development of Walter Burley Griffin's Canberra Plan. The design took its initial point of departure from the geometry of the context around Lake Burley Griffin. Two axes meet at the site, one from Parliament and the other from Civic, in which dissects the site into formalised spatial distribution. A balanced form resulted from the formal gesture reminds of the democratic politics, performing as private residence (private wing) on one side and public function (formal wing) on the opposite. The site articulation gained particular functional significance as sensitive response in terms of spatial massing, to both climate and visual/view. The PM's residence faces north for optimum climate quality with extensive enjoyment of the lake. View sharing is a critical component in governing the positions of various functions within the building.

A symmetrical overall massing layout is juxtaposed with climatically governed parametric roofs and walls, which aims to benchmark the environmentally sustainable design within the contemporary architecture context. This resulted in a series of different facade expression along different orientation. The continuum of architectural elements establishes a harmonised aesthetic: continuous folded roof blends into blade walls, continuous high level louvres wrapping the built form. Furthermore, the continuous folded roof incorporates downpipes within the blade wall cavity for rainwater collection. Skylights and clerestory are introduced where required for optimum daylighting.

With the massing adapted to existing topography, the landscape flows smoothly around and into the building. This is evident in the landscaped ramp along the main axes with distinctive alignments, as well as internal green corridor within the private residence. The Parliament axis culminates with common courtyard, with extensive views into Black Mountain region across the lake. The Civic axis culminates with views of National Museum of Australia and silhouette of city centre. Various native plants with various seasonal characteristics are employed across the project area.

Within the formal wing, the formal function room employs open plan system with outdoor area to two sides which is flexible for occasions of various scales. The concentrated function areas together with permeable facade and proximity of PM's residence encourage unity and act as a mixing chamber for celebration. Staff and service areas are concentrated under the formal wing for improved management and administration. The built form and internal function configuration provide subtle spatial demarcation between the private, staff and public areas. Internal and external galleries in both wings provide opportunity for showcase of Australian art.