

Square Civic And Community Building in Parramatta, Australia by Manuelle Gautrand Architecture

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The ambition of the City of Parramatta was: "We want this development to be unique and spectacular – a building that will be recognized around the world and help to put Parramatta on the map".

A cutting-edge glass construction featuring a wave-shaped façade of crystalline blocks has been selected as the winning design for Parramatta Square's landmark civic and community building.



Image Courtesy © Manuelle Gautrand Architecture

- **Architects:** Manuelle Gautrand Architecture, Lacoste+Stevenson, Designinc
- **Project:** Square Civic And Community Building
- **Location:** Parramatta Square District, Parramatta, Australia
- **Client:** City of parramatta
- **Estimated Construction budget:** 38 million \$AUD (26 million €)
- **Net area:** 12.000 sqm
- **Competition:** 2016
- **Studies:** 2016 – 2017
- **Construction work:** 2018-2019



Image Courtesy © Manuelle Gautrand Architecture

The design has been endorsed by Parramatta City Council after a jury voted unanimously to award the international design competition to a consortium of French firm Manuelle Gautrand Architecture and Australian firms DesignInc and Lacoste + Stevenson.

"The jury was tasked with selecting an iconic design and they have certainly fulfilled that brief. The architects have produced a contemporary and thought-provoking design that is sure to become a must-see destination for visitors to Parramatta, and we congratulate the team on producing a spectacular winning design" Lord Mayor of Parramatta Cr Paul Garrard Cr Garrard said.



Image Courtesy © Manuelle Gautrand Architecture

The eye-catching design encapsulates and extends above the historic Town Hall with a cantilevered structure providing a platform for the Council Chambers.

"This design truly cements 5 Parramatta Square as the civic heart of our City. The transparency of the glass façade makes the building inviting and open for the community to explore the library of the future, public roof garden, customer contact center, visitor experience center, community meeting rooms and technology hub. All this is within a building that is designed to achieve at least a 5-Star Green Star rating."



Image Courtesy © Manuelle Gautrand Architecture

Core to the building design is a stack of transparent glass that gradually rises to the north-east with a large LED screen for the public art projections. Built into the entire lower levels of the southern façade will be a LED screen for multimedia projections, which will be able to display images such as public art and event programs.

The upper levels of the southern façade will also be able to be used for projections of public art.



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"This will be a building that defines Parramatta as a Smart City. The interactive nature of the building and library of the future will be something that locals and visitors will be able to enjoy for decades to come. It has also been cleverly designed to pay respect to heritage and merge together the past, present and future" Cr Garrard said.

In announcing its decision the jury said: "The winning scheme is an exemplary architectural masterpiece that delivers a 21st century solution within Parramatta City Council's modern smart-city metropolis."

(excerpt)

Lien internet : <http://www10.aecafe.com/blogs/arch-showcase/2016/05/01/square-civic-and-community-building-in-parramatta-australia-by-manuelle-gautrand-architecture/>