



**ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA**

**IAN MAITLAND
JOHN MONASH MEDAL 2012**

Ian Maitland has over 40 years of experience as a practicing structural engineer. Prior to 1990 he served as engineer and director in several major national consulting firms. He then established 'Maitland Consulting Structural Engineering' and continues today as its Principal.

In the last 15 years Ian's firm has specialised in providing structural and general building advice for heritage projects. This now constitutes the majority of its practice, having been commissioned for over 150 heritage assignments, almost all of which he has handled personally. Projects include reports, assessment of heritage significance, heritage impact studies, conservation management plans, structural design checks, documentation of solutions and contract administration for individual elements and whole building structures and fabric.

The projects tackled are enormously varied, including such icons as the WA Museum, The Golden Pipeline pump-stations, Rottnest Island buildings and various hospitals, churches, town halls and many other historical buildings and ruins. Clients include the Heritage Council of WA, the National Trust, government departments, local authorities, insurance companies, historical societies, architects and members of the public.

By applying his more general structural engineering expertise to the conservation and reuse of heritage buildings, and marketing his business specifically within the heritage sphere, he highlights to the profession that heritage buildings require special application of an engineer's skills. This includes an understanding of the behaviour of traditional materials with recognition of how their properties change over time. It also requires an ability to use modern materials in a style that is sympathetic to the heritage character of a building, or clever ways of hiding the presence of modern remedial support to a structure.

Ian is member of ICOMOS Australia and one of only four engineers currently registered with Engineers Australia National Engineering Registration Board in the Heritage and Conservation Engineering category. This is a rare distinction in Australia, and reflects his strong conviction and dedication to heritage.

Ian's commercial work has been recognised in many ways. In 2008 his work on St George's Cathedral (Perth) earned an Engineers Australia WA Engineering Excellence Award and was a finalist at the national level. The same year he was the recipient of a Master Builders Association Excellence in Construction Commendation. In 2009 the Heritage Council of WA cited him for Outstanding Contributions to Heritage. In 2011 he received a Certificate of Commendation in the Bankwest Excellence in Construction Awards, and in 2012 a High Commendation and Certificate of Merit in the City of Perth Heritage Awards for his work on Trinity Church in Perth.

While Ian has made heritage engineering his career, he also contributes his time, resources and advice on a voluntary basis to several heritage causes. He has served on the Rottnest Island Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee (2005-2009) and is a member of Engineering Heritage WA. In this latter capacity he led and prepared most of the recent successful nomination of the NASA Carnarvon Satellite Tracking Station for heritage recognition. He regularly gives presentations on his work and the importance of engineering heritage to professional and community groups, the National Trust and at Curtin University.

Ian exemplifies practical heritage engineering and is a role model for other engineers. He has committed much of his career and life to conservation of heritage structures and is a worthy recipient of the John Monash Medal.

