# practice profile

#### architects

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tangentyere design



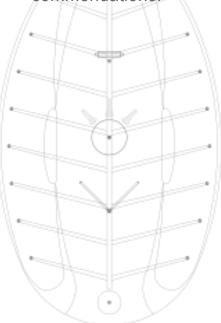
# tangentyere design

Tangentyere Design is an award – winning architectural practice with a distinguished history of professional work throughout central Australia and into Western Australia and the Top End. We provide architectural services - from concept design to construction management.

Our clients include government agencies, not-for-profit entities – including remote and regional communities, commercial enterprises, and private homeowners.

Our project experience includes private single-family homes, social housing, art centres, health clinics, community stores, office fitouts, childcare centres, recreation facilities and tourist attractions.

Tangentyere Design's work has been honoured by its peers, receiving numerous Australian Institute of Architects awards and commendations.





Watarrka National Park Visitor Information Shelter 2016 Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory and Watarrka Traditional Owners

Tangentyere Design has a history that extends to the 1970s with the founding of its parent organisation, Tangentyere Council, a pre-eminent Aboriginal social service and advocacy organisation, working on behalf of Aboriginal Australians living on the Town Camps of Alice Springs.

Formally established as a social enterprise of Tangentyere Council in 1999, our vision and mission aligns with our Charitable Trust status, with a focus on providing best practice, culturally appropriate architectural services to address people's building needs. Our surplus income is directed to projects aimed at benefiting Aboriginal Australians living in central Australia, including through research and advocacy.

Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre 2015 (with Brendan Meney) NT Department of Chief Minister



Tangentyere Design works with communities and other organisations to develop project responses through a human-centred design approach. As a member of the Australian Institute of Architects we deliver a full suite of professional services. In our day-to-day practice we have a particular focus on:

**Community Consultation** Tangentyere Design sees the commencement of each project as an opportunity to work with stakeholders to develop their briefs and ensure the best outcomes.

**Knowledge and Resources** Tangentyere Design's current staff has decades of architectural experience, and is able to draw on the knowledge and resources of Tangentyere Council's social service divisions in the areas of social research, health, housing, aged care, and families and children, bringing a unique depth of experience to project proposals.

**Partnering** We have enduring relations with a range of longstanding, reputable building contractors and consultants who are attuned to best practices for our locations. Our staff has contributed to numerous publications, including the key 'Housing for Health: The Guide' published by Healthabitat and been published in major industry journals.

In 2016 Tangentyere Design commenced a relationship with the University of Newcastle's School of Architecture and Built Environment, coordinating an elective program with architecture students to bring new ideas to community design challenges.

**Environmentally Sustainable Design** Tangentyere Design considers ESD to be a fundamental part of best practice in the building industry. We ensure that all of our projects integrate smart, low-cost passive design principles and appropriate technologies aimed at improving environmental performance.

A focus on these important aspects of the built environment continues to shape Tangentyere Design's long-standing reputation for delivering positive building outcomes for community well-being.

## people

Tangentyere Design has enjoyed a diverse mix of talented and committed architects over its many years of service. A number of these architects have gone on to establish successful practices of their own after formative experiences here in central Australia. Our current team includes practitioners with a depth of experience and talent.

#### Robyn Shaw, BArch, RAIA Reg. No. AR561

Senior Project Architect

Robyn is a professional architect with over 25 years experience in providing architectural and project administration services throughout Melbourne and Regional Victoria, where she ran her own practice. Since moving to Central Australia in 2006, Robyn has worked across a range of architectural and landscape design projects.

She has worked successfully on a range of commissions, from domestic house extensions and commercial office fit outs to facilities for remote Aboriginal communities. She has extensive experience in design, documentation and contract administration, and consultation in varying cultural and climatic contexts.

#### **Tangentyere Council**

Tangentyere Design enjoys the support of Tangentyere Council and its various administrative services, including People and Culture, Finance, Payroll, Fleet Management and Information Technology.

# social impact

Tangentyere Design operates within a commercial environment, competing with other design consultancies for both government supported and privately funded work. Unlike other commercial architectural practices, Tangentyere Design reinvests its surplus earnings into projects aimed at benefiting Aboriginal Australians living in the Central Desert.

Few architectural practices in Australia have the capacity or interest (outside of conventional fee-for-service work) in delivering a range of socially responsible initiatives to underserved communities.

Tangentyere Design regularly offers architectural advice on a probono basis to Town Camp residents, and to the social service divisions at Tangentyere Council. This may take the form of report and grant application writing, design workshops and preliminary costings for proposed capital works.



Tangentyere Artists Studio and Gallery 2014 Tangentyere Artists

In 2011, Tangentyere Design funded an 18-month Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) of Alice Springs town camp housing constructed under the National Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program. Recommendations from the POE continue to inform further project development. The final report can be found on the Tangentyere Council's website at this address: <u>https://tangentyere.org.au/publications/</u> Since 2016, Tangentyere Design has been hosting architecture students from the University of Newcastle, who have worked on a range of community driven building initiatives, including community centre upgrades, urban design for community safety, housing additions and alterations and disability access. Students consult with community members and develop designs and costings to assist Tangentyere Council in its advocacy and funding applications, helping to make the projects a reality.

## awards

Tangentyere Design has been recognised over the years with a number of Australian Institute of Architects awards.

#### Megafauna Central, 2019

AIA NT Awards, Commendation for Interior Architecture

#### Watarrka Visitor Information Shelter, 2017

AIA NT Awards, George Goyder Award for Urban Design AIA NT Awards, Colorbond Award for Steel Architecture

### Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre, 2015

AIA NT Awards, Commendation for Public Architecture

#### Venice Biennale, 2012

*'Formations: New Practices in Australian Architecture' catalogue entry* 

#### Kiwirrkurra Art Centre, 2011

AIA NT Awards, Indigenous Community Architecture Award

#### **Institute for Aboriginal Development, 2005**

(in association with Susan Dugdale Architect) AIA NT Awards, *Public Building Award – Commendation* 

## Nyinkka-Nyunyu Art and Culture Centre, 2004

(in association with X Squared Design) AIA NT Awards, *Tracey Memorial Award* AIA NT Awards, *Public Buildings Award* AIA NT Awards, *Indigenous Community Architecture Award* AIA NT Awards, *Colorbond Steel Award* 

#### Yuendumu Respite Centre, 2001

AIA NT Awards, Public Buildings

#### The Lolly Houses, 2000

AIA NT Awards, *Tracey Memorial Award* AIA NT Awards, *President's Award* (*Recycled Buildings*)

#### Family Court of Australia, 2000

AIA NT Awards, Interior Award (Commendation)

## CATIA Visitor Information Centre and Offices, 1998

AIA NT Awards, Interior Award

#### **Central Land Council Regional Office, 1998**

AIA National Awards, *President's Award* (*Recycled Buildings*)

#### **Tangentyere Council Office, 1997**

AIA NT Awards, Corporate and Office Design Award

#### **Tregenza Extension and Bungalow, 1997**

AIA NT Awards, Burnett Award

#### Julalikari Council, 1995

AIA NT Awards, *Tracy Memorial Award* AIA NT Awards, *Corporate and Office Design Award* 



#### **Tangentyere Design**

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