PHILIP THALIS  
Philip Thalis is principal of Hill Thalis Architecture + Urban Projects, founded in 1992. The practice is recognised for its design skills and independent standpoint, winning over 40 awards, commendations and competitions for architectural, urban, public domain and heritage projects across a range of project types and scales. Philip actively promotes the culture of architecture and city making, combining directing the practice with teaching, research, conference papers and public lectures, architectural criticism and expert opinion. The recent book, Public Sydney: Drawing the City, with Peter John Cantrill, brings together many strands of his work, interests and enquiry.

PETER JOHN CANTRILL  
Peter John Cantrill is a Director of Tzannes Associates Architects, where he has worked for over 25 Years. In the City of Sydney he was the design director for the Sydney Harbour Youth Hostel/Big Dig Archaeology Centre, which has received over 20 awards including UNESCO. In joint venture with Cox Richardson he won the design excellence competition for the Carlton United Brewery site in Sydney’s Broadway, and has participated in other studies, projects and design juries. Peter John Cantrill and Philip Thalis met at the University of Sydney in 1978. They have taught together in Design and Urban Studies at UTS for over a decade.

Public Sydney: drawing the city  
by Philip Thalis and Peter John Cantrill

PUBLISHED BY
Historic Houses Trust of NSW and Content, Faculty of the Built Environment, University of New South Wales

Public Sydney: drawing the city makes a major contribution to understanding our shared architectural heritage. It provides the fundamental knowledge required for the ongoing conservation and heritage management of key heritage sites from the late 18th century (the site of first Government House) to the present day. It encompasses Sydney’s history and present state but also anticipates its future, providing an invaluable resource not only for architects and planners, but also for 21st-century government agencies and corporations in their management of Sydney’s public places.

In drawings, images and commentary, the book presents all the significant public places and buildings in central Sydney – among them Circular Quay, Customs House, Hyde Park, Central Station, the cathedrals, the Opera House, Royal Botanic Garden, Town Hall, State Library, Hyde Park Barracks, Art Gallery of NSW and Queen Victoria Building – studying their genesis and evolution, and in some cases examining their individual public rooms. The book affords a comprehensive overview of the growth and evolution of public buildings in Sydney.

Public Sydney thus becomes a guide for those who will define the city’s future urban character. Knowledge gained from the drawings and the authoritative consideration of the forces behind urban change will positively influence the city’s future. Contemporary planners and designers from every discipline can readily use this material in their assessment of new proposals in any urban context, and teachers, students, researchers and historians of all disciplines related to the built environment can use the understanding of Sydney’s evolution it provides to develop critical thinking skills in the design of public places.

Members of the public are welcome!

Time & Date: Thursday 22nd May 2014, 5.30pm for 6.00pm start.
Cost: Members $10, non-members $15 payable at the door. Wine and nibbles will be provided.
Venue: Godden Mackay Logan, 78 George Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016.
RSVP: Miss Jane Vernon janev@gml.com.au or 02 9319 4811. RSVP is essential as places are limited.