

‘Architecturally Speaking!’

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There has always been one fundamental and clear intention about the use of the words ‘*Architectural*’ or ‘*Architecturally designed*’; that being to ‘imply’ the building is of a ‘higher standard’ than if the building did not have these ‘architectural features-attributes’.

The clear intention is to imply these ‘features + attributes’ were created by someone trained in ‘architecture’..or simply was ‘**architect designed**’.

When an architect designs a project, the final result is the consequence of a complex and time consuming design process which is not only comprehensive, but artistic in its creation of the final forms and spaces, marrying functionality with creative innovation.

Architecture, is a creative process and students usually spend 8 years training and gaining practical work experience to enable examination (AACA) and if successful, then apply for registration as an architect with the NSW Board of Architects (NSW-ARB).

However, the terms ‘*Architectural*’ and ‘*Architecturally Designed*’ has been increasingly misused by non architects to gain greater credibility for a project and in so doing, been engaging in a very *clear deception of facts*. In short, pretending to be an architect.

Recently, the NSW Government acted to protect the Public from this *deceptive behaviour*.

The NSW Government amended the Architects Act of 2003 via the ‘Architects Regulation 2012’ to clarify that *any use* of the words ‘*architectural*’ or ‘*architecturally designed*’, if not the work of an architect registered with the NSW-ARB, is now an *illegal deception of fact* and carries penalties of up to \$22,000 for each breach of this new regulation.

Today, the NSW Government accepts anyone can call themselves a Building Designer.

However, it is now illegal to use words which infer they have similar skills to an architect and deem this behaviour as deceptive and not in the Public’s best interest.

Yours Faithfully,

Patrick Mahedy, PIA, CPP

Architect + Town Planner

NSW Architects Registration Board No. 4770

Certified Practising Town Planner No. 5463RUE

Vincentia 444 16 444

Gerringong 42340-444

Mail: P.O. Box 323 Gerringong NSW 2534 Email: patrick@prmarchitects.com.au A.C.N 136 888 581

Director: **Patrick Mahedy, Architect, Bachelor of Architecture UNSW, Town Planner, Master of Town Planning UTS**
Patrick Mahedy, Architects Registration Board No. 4770 is the **Nominated Architect** for PRM Architects + Town Planners P/L.

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