

MCG Great Southern Stand

Address Brunton Avenue, East Melbourne 3002

Practice Daryl Jackson Pty Ltd in association with Tompkins Shaw & Evans Pty Ltd

Designed 1989 **Completed** 1992

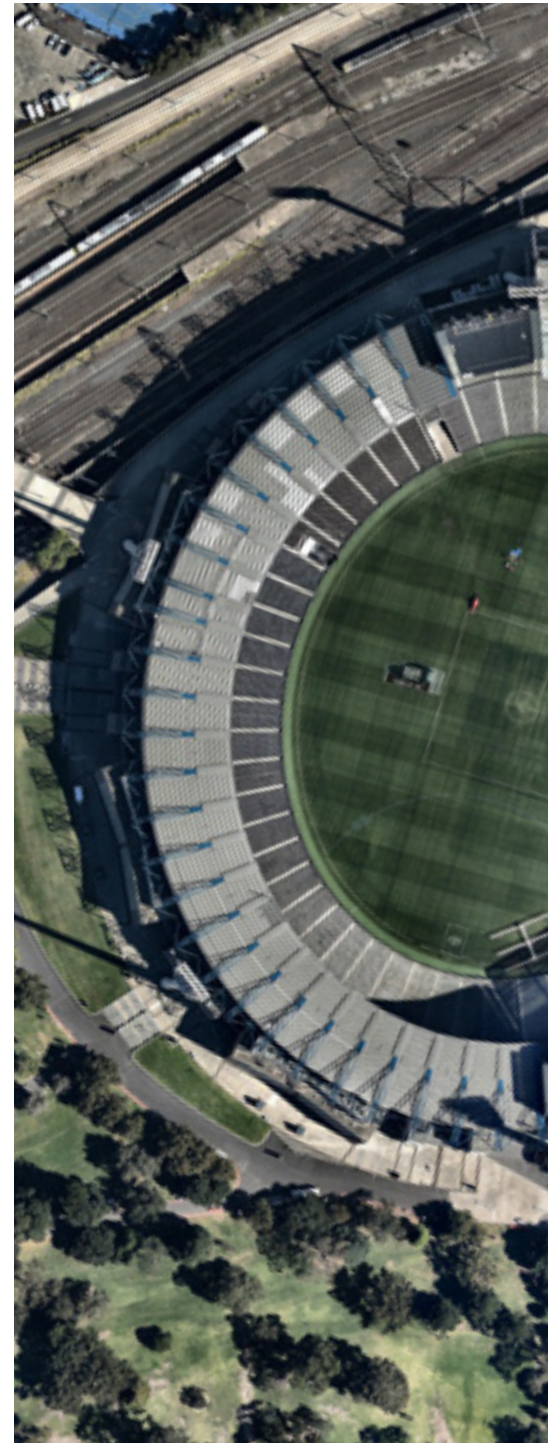
History & Description Built to replace the 1937 Purnell and Pearce Southern Stand, the Great Southern Stand marks the point at which the MCG in partnership with the VFL, fully engaged with contemporary stadia design trends for large-scale, multi-use, multi-tiered buildings that offered spectators improved view lines, viewing distances and a corporate box experience. Jackson summarised the design intent as: “clear sightlines, close proximity to the action, comfortable seating, adequate services, food and drink facilities” with a “sense of arrival at the outside ticket box, a celebratory progression to one’s designated seat, and the anticipation of a spectacle.” Designed to seat 60,000 spectators, each with uninterrupted column-free view lines, the hybrid structure of post tensioned concrete frame, top-hung cantilever steel roof and precast concrete secondary elements creates an expressive and dynamic architecture. From the concourse that extends out over Brunton Avenue and into Yarra Park on an earth podium, to the rear elevation of inclined ramps and switch back stairs articulated with porthole windows and horizontal incisions, and internal public concourse and view corridors to the arena, the building provides spectators with directional and visual clues to assist with navigating the monumental space and making it of a more human scale.

Statement of Significance Renowned in Australia for his expertise in sporting structure and stadium design, the Great Southern Stand placed Daryl Jackson as an international player in the field of stadium design and redevelopment. The Great Southern Stand marked the renaissance of the MCG as a great multi-sport and events arena, paving the way for the gradual replacement of all the earlier stands with modern stadia culminating with the Northern Stand project. Known as the ‘peoples ground’ the MCG is the oldest and largest capacity contained sporting venues in the world, one of the best known international cricket grounds and the main venue and symbolic home of Australian Rules Football. 1992 RAIA Victorian Chapter – Victorian Architecture Medal. 1992 RAIA National Sir Zelman Cowen Award for Public Building

Level National

Criteria Applicable

- S2 Significant heritage value in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.
- S3 Significant heritage value in establishing a high degree of creative achievement.
- S5 Having a special association with the life or works of an architect of significant importance in our history.
- S6 Significant heritage value in demonstrating a high degree of technical achievement of a particular period



Aerial view of the Southern Stand, nearmap.com



Side view of the Southern Grandstand, John Gollings



Exterior View of the Southern Stand, Jackson Architecture