

+ Refined design a winner

by LIZ MCDOUGALL

THE transformation of the Manly Visitors Bureau to a thriving restaurant has won Manly Council's design award.

Nine properties were nominated in the Manly Council 2002 Design Awards which were announced last night.

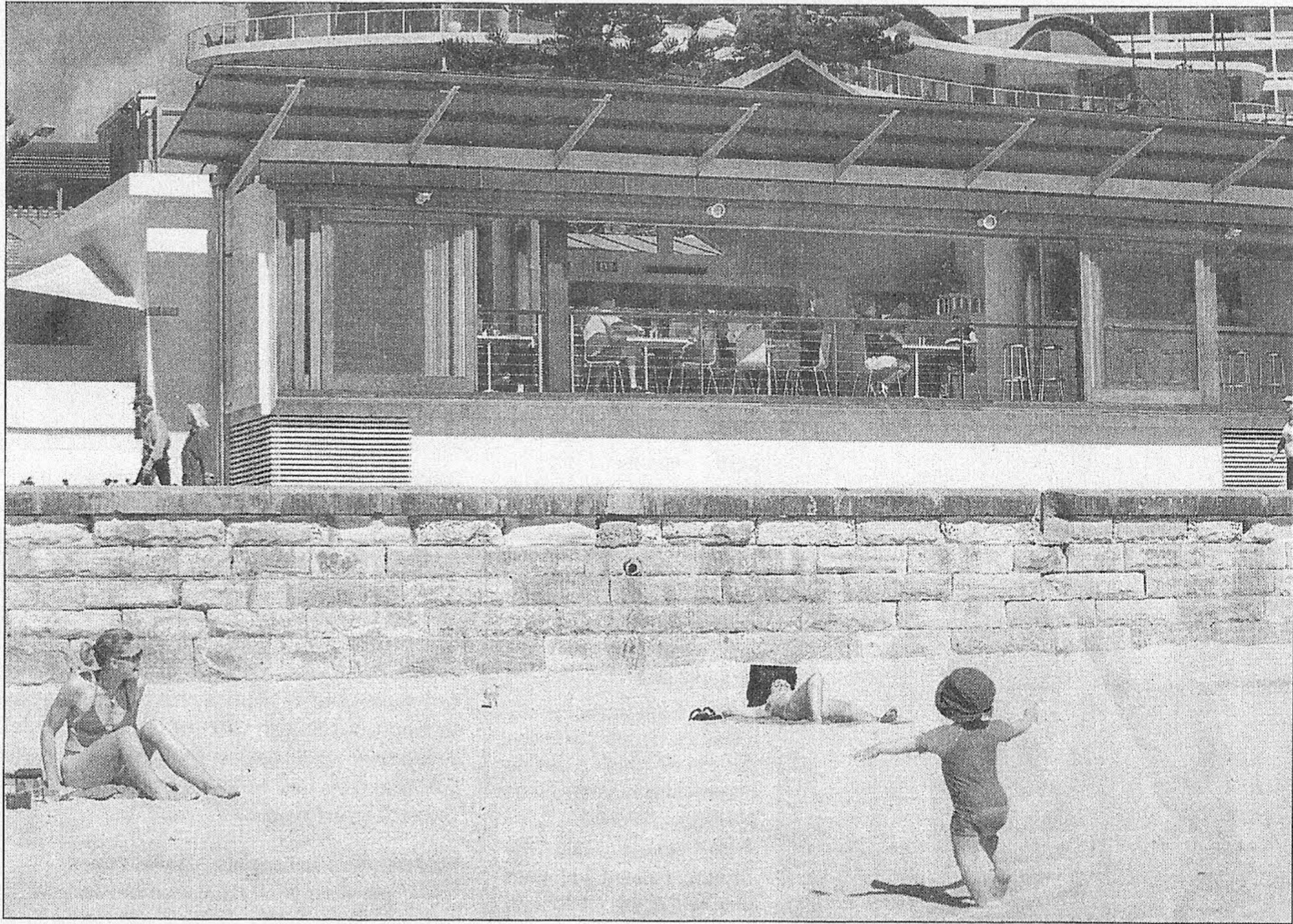
The Manly Ocean Beach House Restaurant won Manly Council's Design Award and two homes, at 125 North Steyne, Manly, and 17 Lauderdale Ave, Fairlight, were awarded merit certificates.

The two homes were designed by Blackmore Design Group architect. Although they have similarities in that they have spectacular waterfront positions they were commended for their differences.

The judging panel, which included council staff, architects and community representatives, toured the buildings, which included two residential and commercial buildings in the heart of Manly, three apartment blocks, two houses and the restaurant.

Design jury chairman Sebastian Arena, who is Sebastian and Thomas Arena Architects principal and chartered architect, said all the nominations were of a very high standard.

The information centre was transformed into the restaurant by the owner/lessee Raner Felix and architects Lesiuk and Associates.



Transformation . . . Manly Ocean Beach House Restaurant, above, has won a design award

"The former acrylic-domed information kiosk has been ingeniously transformed into a very successful building with quite stunning results," Mr Arena said.

"The jury was impressed

with the selection and use of materials considered appropriate for the location and the incorporation of some environmentally friendly features such as solar heating.

"All contributed to a most

successful result." Mr Arena said 17 Lauderdale Ave had a successful, clean, light and elegant design, and an almost marine atmosphere. He described 125 North Steyne as an ingenious design which fitted

two quite spacious three-bedroom apartments on a relatively small block of land. The awards promote public awareness of good design, environment ideals and building standards.