

it may be better not to create it.

4. Ultimately, the electronic library must operate on a cost recovery basis. Many academic staff do not wish to pay for a service, however much improved, which was free when it was print-based.
5. The extensive staff development program required to operate the electronic library, to navigate Internet or search and obtain documents using commercial online services, requires not only considerable basic

skills but constant updating.

The purpose of this overview is not to describe a how-we-did-it-good scenario. We do not know that. Nor is it obviously a well-researched critical and detailed analysis identifying all problems, real or prospective (e.g. career paths, demarcation issues, cost recovery). The overview aims to outline a possible response to change which may be of interest to other former CAEs and to academic librarians generally. ■

Faith, hope and construction

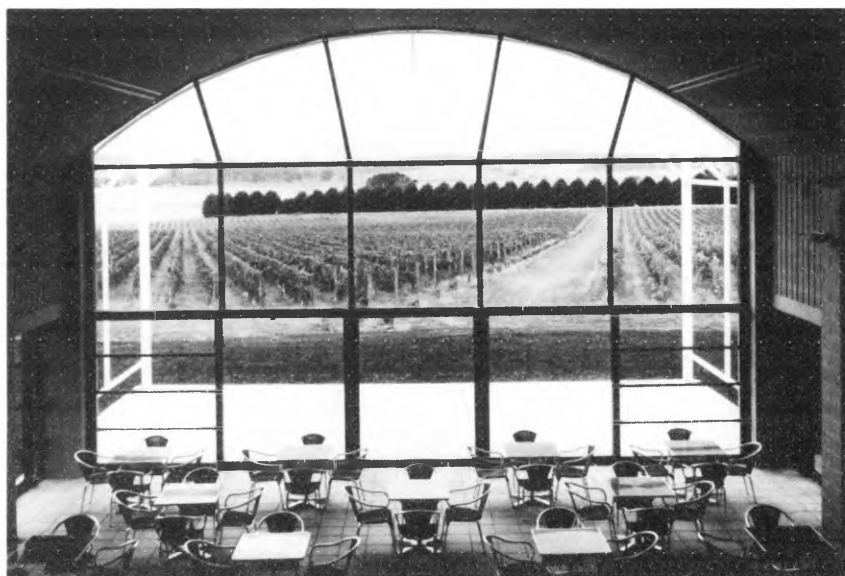
A new exhibition at the SLNSW examines Australian buildings from 1976 to the present

Is there such a thing as Australian Architecture?

A new exhibition to be held at the State Library of New South Wales will address this question and other important questions about contemporary Australian visual identity. The exhibition, of which BHP Steel is a major sponsor, will include 170 colour photographs by New York photographer Scott Francis. There will be background documentation on forty-five selected Australian building projects carried out between 1976 and the 1990's.

A range of buildings will be featured, by famous names such as Seidler, Cox and Murcutt, together with examples by architects such as the Corrigan and Edmond team who are currently transforming the way we think about Australian Architecture. Also in the exhibition will be some of the Mitchell Library's unique collection of architectural plans and drawings.

Faith, Hope and Construction is being jointly created by the Library's exhibition team (whose recent successes include *The Lewis Morley*, *Faces of Australia* and *David Moore Exhibitions*) and



Domaine Chandon Winery, Yarra Valley, Victoria. Allen Jack and Cottier, 1987-90. Rural traditions have recently become a source of popular imagery in Australia. These traditions are sometimes superficially recovered through a nostalgic materialism. However, Allen Jack and Cottier's use of material in this project avoids an overt display of kitsch.

Sydney Architect Graham Jahn, editor of the new architectural quarterly *Monument*.

Graham Jahn's new book, *Contemporary Australian Architecture*, will be launched at the time of the exhibition. It explores the development of architectural practice and thinking since the 1970's. Like the exhibition, the book

raises questions about the different ways we choose to look at buildings and the historical and cultural environment which has nurtured recent Australian architecture.

The exhibition will be located in the Galleries, State Library of New South Wales from Easter Saturday 2 April 1994 to 21 August 1994. Admission is free. ■

Gosford library study

The report is now out, and Meredith Wallace announces its availability

Gosford City Library Service (GCLS) has recently completed a study of its operations, *Gosford Library Study*, jointly funded by the Gosford City Council and the State Library of New South Wales. The study was undertaken by Sharyn Briggs of the consultants Briggs and Mortar (now 3BC Consultant Planners).

The study aimed to 'assess the

perceptions and needs of library users and non-users within the Gosford City area in order to provide information to improve the provision of library services, and make that service more responsive to the needs of the community'.

The findings of the study incorporate information from users and non-users, as well as comments made by staff at discussions

held over a twelve month period. All NSW public libraries will receive a free copy of the report *Gosford Library Study* and its appendices under an arrangement with the State Library. Other interested people can obtain a copy from the Library Services Manager, Gosford City Library, PO Box 21, Gosford, NSW, 2250, price \$25. ■