



**FLORIS SMITH ARCHITECTURE** PTY LTD

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**CURRICULUM VITAE**

## CURRICULUM VITAE

# FLORIS J G SMITH

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## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

### Background

I was born in South Africa where I qualified as an architect in 1976. After returning to South Africa from the USA where I completed a Master of Architecture degree in 1980, I practiced in South Africa until 1996 when I emigrated to Australia.

In Australia I practiced as a director from 1996 until 2007 when I was invited to join a practice as a partner in the Middle East. I was appointed as the Design Principal and Deputy Managing Director of DSA Architects International in Dubai from 2008 until 2019 when I returned to Sydney, Australia.

### Design

To me design is the *process* through which clearly stated objectives are achieved.

My competence is in physical design and the management of the design process.

I measure my success as an architect not only by the numerous projects successfully delivered and design awards received, but by the joy of working with many talented people from all over the world who shared my inspiration and enthusiasm in searching for the best possible outcomes.

### Character Strengths

Strong communication, interpersonal and presentation skills.

Interacts well in a group situation both as leader and in a key support function.

Excellent staff management, motivational and training skills.

Works well under pressure in deadline and financially high risk situations.

Flexible, innovative and creative in adapting and applying knowledge and experience to different circumstances and environments.

## PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

NSW Architects Registration Board

Society of Engineers, UAE

Founding Member of The Australian Architecture Association.

Previously: RAIA, RIBA, Institute of South African Architects, Council of South African Architects.

## EDUCATION

Master of Architecture

1980

University of Pennsylvania, USA – Studied under Prof Aldo van Eyck.

Recipient of the Arthur Spade Brooke Memorial Prize (Gold Medal) for best architectural design.

Bachelor of Architecture

1976

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Recipient of the Hernstad Prize for Best Thesis.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### April 2019 -Current

Floris Smith Architecture  
Sydney, Australia  
Position: Director

Appointed for beach side resort hotel, Seef, Manama - Bahrain.  
Design Consultant to Housingplus - Australia.  
Master plan, Chongming Island, Shanghai - China  
High-rise 'Totem' residential tower - Kuwait  
High-rise 'Domus' residential tower - Kuwait  
Grand Hyatt Resort, Jaipur - India  
Luxury Apartments, Cremorne, Sydney - Australia  
Design Consultant to Architectus on university, art gallery and herbarium projects, Sydney - Australia  
Residential subdivision , Kurraba Point, Sydney - Australia  
Farm House, Joadja - Australia

### 2008 – 2018

DSA Architects International  
Dubai, UAE  
Position: Design Principal and Deputy Managing Director

Leadership of design studio and member of senior executive board of the company.  
Delivered numerous projects across The Middle East, Africa and Asia.  
Building types: hospitality, residential, retail, commercial, educational, mixed use master planning and private family villas.  
Member of Architecture Advisory Board – American University in Dubai.  
Visiting critic – Canadian University in Dubai.

### 1999 – 2008

JPR Architects  
Sydney, Australia  
Position: Director

Responsible for design, from inception to construction documentation, extending over numerous building types.  
Involved with all aspects of practice management, including marketing, client liaison and coordination of external consultants.  
Extensive experience in interactive process with local authorities and development approvals.  
Management of human resources portfolio.

### 1997 - 1999

Kann Finch & Partners  
Sydney, Australia  
Position: Project Director

Responsible for design leadership of high rise office and hotel tower in Perth, WA.  
Responsible for large range of design concepts as basis of feasibility studies and investigations.  
Appointed by Meriton for façade design of large scale residential towers in St Leonards, Sydney.  
Participated in various design competitions.

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## PROFFESIONAL EXPERIENCE

**1996 – 1997**

Woods Bagot Pty Ltd  
Australia  
Position: Project Director

Responsibilities included identification of potential development sites in North Sydney (several of which are now developed).  
Responsible for design and documentation teams of various projects.  
Submissions to various universities for campus building projects.

**1977 – 1995**

Floris Smith and Meyer Pienaar  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
Position: Chairman

Invited to join prominent design practice Meyer Pienaar after graduation.

Promoted to director upon return from post grad studies in USA.  
Project Partner on numerous award winning buildings.

Krugersdorp Civic Centre  
Marine Parade Holiday Inn - Durban  
Vaal Triangle Technikon  
Mabopane Technikon  
Johannesburg Technical College  
Chamber of Mines Building - Wits University  
Johannesburg Art Gallery  
Nelson Mandela Square  
South African Reserve Bank

Appointed as Chairman in 1990 until emigration to Australia in 1996.

## GENERAL

Over the years built up and enjoyed the confidence and respect of colleagues, clients and the architectural profession as a whole.  
For several years served as external examiner in Final Year Design at the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Pretoria.  
Part time supervising tutor at the University of Technology (UTS) Sydney.