

# RTS Response Statement

## Heritage Interpretation

Date: 22 November 2022

Project: TOGA Central

### 3.8 Heritage Interpretation Feedback

The HIS identifies four key themes for interpretation. A key theme that has not been included is the role and function of the building as the former Parcel Post building and its relationship with the whole of the Central Railway Group.

The HIS fails to identify key actions related to the retention, conservation and restoration of significant fabric, spaces and relationships within the site. As noted in CMP Policy 99, this is the highest form of interpretation.

#### Recommendation 1:

- The HIS should be revised to consider the role and function of the building as the former Parcel Post building and its relationship with the whole of the Central Railway Group.

#### FRD Response:

- The Heritage Interpretation Strategy will be revised to add greater emphasis to the relationships that existed between the Parcel Post Office and other buildings in the Central Station precinct, such as the inward and outward parcels facilities, the subterranean system of tunnels at the station, the station's platforms and nearby department stores. This will seek to explain the symbioses and complex operational relationships that characterised the station precinct in the past. The building's significance as a node in the vital railway and postal networks will be explained to visitors, highlighting the significance of these networks to the nation's economic development.

#### Recommendation 2:

- The interpretation strategies within the HIS should include more pertinent locations relating to the building itself. Interpretation should be located on each facade, within the building on each level and in the more frequented space such as lift lobbies.

#### FRD Response:

- The Heritage Interpretation Strategy has proposed locations for interpretation that maximise their exposure to and impact on visitors, taking into account the circulation patterns throughout the site. FRD will review these locations in collaboration with Bates Smart, Urbis and Arcadia, to be further developed in the Heritage Interpretation Plan.

#### Recommendation 3:

- The HIS should acknowledge significant elements to be retained, exposed and interpreted in accordance with the CMP. Where development or works are proposed, there is a significant opportunity to reinterpret the original character of the place by stripping back the contemporary fitout and retrieving the open character of the spaces. There is also an opportunity to reinterpret known original finishes in a contemporary manner.

**FRD Response:**

- The theme 'A very fine building' will be revised to highlight retained and re-exposed heritage fabric to a greater extent. The Heritage Interpretation Strategy will consider where opportunities may exist for in-situ interpretation of remaining original building finishes and design features. This approach is consistent with that adopted on the neighbouring Atlassian site.