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### **Escalator Proposal : Sydney Opera House Concert Hall and Opera Theatre Staircases**

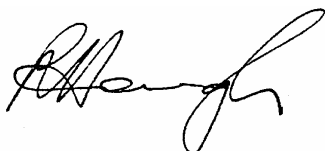
We refer to current proposals to instal escalators in the public staircases of both Opera Theatre and Concert Hall, connecting Level 30' and Level 42', and as depicted on the Architect's drawings (JPW Architects and Utzon Architects, Architects in Association), over recent months.

Regarding the implications of the proposals for the existing and new structural works, we confirm the viability of the proposed escalators.

The likely impact of the proposals on the structure of the Sydney Opera House is as follows.

- Slots will be cut in the existing reinforced concrete stair structures to allow escalator installation.
- New support will be provided to the existing stair structure as part of this process.
- Support will also be provided to the new elements to be introduced, being the escalators themselves, and the new upstand precast-concrete-clad walls that will be constructed adjacent to the escalator.

The new support structures noted above are likely to involve the installation of new columns from underside of stairs down to basement slab level below, at least for the Concert Hall escalator. New structure will be designed to relevant BCA requirements.



Richard Hough,  
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