

Department of Planning and Environment 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street Parramatta NSW 2124

SSD-10416
NCA/2/2020
Paul Sartor
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20 June 2022

ATTN: Thomas Piovesan,

COUNCIL SUBMISSION NOTICE OF EXHIBITION OF RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS REPORT FOR THE PARRAMATTA POWERHOUSE (30B PHILLIP ST, PARRAMATTA)

I refer to the above application and the request to provide advice on the proponent's modification report to the St Georges Terraces and eastern rooftop. Council has reviewed the supplied report and wish to make the following comments:

St George Terraces

Council remains supportive of the retention and active reuse of the St George Terraces, however, our previous comments have not been adequately addressed. Our previous comments allow for the retention and reuse of the building, but also result in a better heritage outcome overall for the façade of the St George Terraces than the proposal. The applicant has made no changes following our comments and as such, we do not support the current proposal in relation to heritage outcomes.

We would like to reiterate our previous response and provide the following comments in response to the applicants RTS amendment report:

- The large and generous opening at the rear and the removal of the chimneys together with the missing interpretation and reinstatement of the Victorian street presentation (veranda and balconies) of this row would completely change the street frontage presentation by creating a confusing reading of the existing proportions.
- The applicant is concerned that Council has requested changes to the doors and windows that would appear as an imitation. This is not the case, Council requests a design inspired by the Victorian proportions that would allow an appropriate interpretation of the original façade prior to the unsympathetic 1970s changes. The new elements requested are not supposed to appear as an imitation.

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- The veranda reinstatement would make a significant contribution to the street view and overall heritage preservation. St George Terraces are a rare example of its typology of terraces within the Parramatta LGA and Parramatta CBD and should be restored to its maximum potential.
- The paving to the front of the terraces should also be differentiated from the rest of the development floor treatment. This should be seen not as a limitation but as an opportunity for heritage interpretation.
- Respectful preservation and appropriate interpretation of the original façade features are required to achieve an exemplary sample of heritage adaptive reuse of the existing and remaining of the Victorian heritage façade.

Powerhouse Museum is set to become a major attraction and a destination for Parramatta. The heritage façade of the St George Terraces itself represent an opportunity to provide a better understanding of the history and historical interface of the Parramatta residential buildings and restore the building to its original built form.

This facade is the only opportunity remaining within the site and the larger urban context showcasing Victorian architecture of Parramatta, as such it is important to take a sensitive approach by restoring the terraces to its former design.

Eastern Roof

Council appreciates the clarification regarding the number of trees on the eastern rooftop and has no further comments regarding this.

Conclusion

It is noted that this submission is made by Council officers and has not been endorsed by Council.

Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above application and we look forward to continued collaboration on this project.

Should you wish to discuss the above matters, please contact Paul Sartor (Development Assessment Officer) on the details listed above.

Yours sincerely

Fanery McNally

Myfanwy McNally MANAGER, CITY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT