Stuart Read Heritage NSW

Powerhouse Museum Complex Notes re Heritage Council and Curio nonsense

• Due to open in 1985, the Powerhouse Museum was a '100 year investment' that opened in 1988 – by chance.

The PHM project came approx. 100 years after WE Kemp's Technological Museum (1893), Harris St – the last major building for the Powerhouse Museum. 'Investment' refers to the 100year interval for funding the new Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences since the previous new building, WE Kemp's Museum, as part of the Sydney Technical College Complex 1893 – for which Kemp was also the architect.

Bi means two! centennial years **(200)**. The operative reference to the Museum is the 100year investment as the Government's Bicentennial program only began in the early 1980s – 2 years after the PHM funding was established.

Confusing the initial funding for the PHM project with the later Bicentennial funding is counter factual – it was a separate project!

- Any reference to Darling Harbour is also not based on facts as it was more a consequence of a rock concert at Moore Park that was a 'Mudfest". Premier Wran initiated the Sydney Entertainment Centre, EMTB, as a covered venue in the Haymarket before Darling Harbour began.
- Harris St 'Visibility' of the PHM.

The buildings of the Ultimo Power House were hidden behind one & two storey buildings along the Harris frontage – from its beginning, the UPH was never 'visible' as the complex fronted William Henry St, later Pier St with the UPH's Administration building and the Ultimo Post Office. The Turbine Hall and Boiler Hall all addressing William Henry Street and Pier Street Bridge.

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