

OFFICIAL

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2024

Andrej Stevanovic
Project Director, Infrastructure NSW

I note that my Design Principles have been quoted in documents in the EIS for the so-called Powerhouse Ultimo Revitalisation Project.

I hold copyright for these Design Principles which relate to the Sulman award-winning 1988 Powerhouse Museum, the culmination of a 10year architectural and museum project for the adaptive reuse of the Ultimo Power House and Ultimo Tram Shed for the Powerhouse Museum Complex.

I do not give my permission for my Design Principles to be quoted in any form in the EIS. I request that all references to my Design Principles be removed from the document. The use of these Design Principles without my permission as selective quotes in this document misconstrues their purpose.

Please withdraw all references to my Design Principles and re-issue the documents with the date of reissue. Given the misleading inferences of inclusion of the Design Principles without my permission, please extend the date for public consultation.

It is professionally discourteous to say the least, for the Government and the architects of the project to have made no efforts to contact me as the Architect of Record when the project changed course – ostensibly to a 'heritage revitalisation' – more a heritage demolition. It is clear to me that both parties have never bothered to refresh their limited, if any, understanding of the Burra Charter.

I also note that in all the years – since 2021 in fact, that Curio Projects have been struggling to develop a coherent conservation management plan the Powerhouse Museum, they have never contacted me as required under Article 4 of the Burra Charter. This lack of professionalism, not to mention courtesy, is no doubt why all their work on the Powerhouse Museum has been, in my opinion, way below standard and consequently irrelevant. Indeed, the Curio Heritage Assessment completely ignores the 1988 Powerhouse Museum contrary to the Articles and Conservation Principles of the Burra Charter.

Furthermore, I note that the Curio's hopelessly misguided Heritage Impact Statement in the EIS fabricates a contested history for the Powerhouse Museum as a Bicentenary project. The statements in 3.7 and 5.2 are entirely without foundation and have no relevance to the design and opening of the Powerhouse Museum in 1988. In fact, the Museum was initially planned to open in 1985. It was never a Bicentenary project.

The Powerhouse Museum was a project initiated by Premier Neville Wran, planning began in 1978 and the project took 10 years to deliver.

The PHM project was my responsibility as the Principal Architect Public Buildings.

The Bicentennial Projects were the responsibility of Special Projects Architect, Andrew Andersons.

Note also, the Powerhouse Museum was not a Darling Harbour development project. The Powerhouse Museum site was the derelict Ultimo Power House when the site became available with the move of the Sydney Markets Haymarket to Flemington. The Minister for Public Works, Jack Ferguson was adamant that it did not become associated with the development of Darling Harbour. (industrial action + awards!)

The Powerhouse Museum happened to open on March 10, 1988 - not as a Bicentennial project.

Bicentennial Park, Homebush Bay was the first of many identified Bicentennial projects. It was opened on January 1st, 1988, by Prime Minister Bob Hawke. I designed the Bicentennial Park buildings.

Other Bicentennial projects among others were:
Australian Museum, College St
Macquarie Street Bicentennial Redesign and Decorations
Art Gallery of NSW.

By the twisted logic of the heritage assessment, all these Bicentennial works should be demolished.

Your approach to me at the 11th hour when the sham 'heritage revitalisation' project is so far advanced is, quite frankly, an insult to my professionalism and standing.

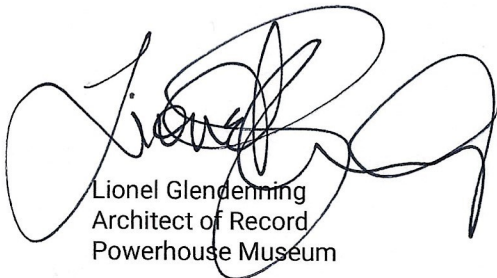
The 'new' plans are a variant on the same old museum demolition plans. The result will not be a museum in any way, shape or form and the architects have shown no understanding nor regard for the heritage values and significance of the Powerhouse Museum.

Your email on the 3rd April was months after public consultations on the plans and, after the Powerhouse Museum was closed to the public.

The Museum is being disappeared as intended by the CEO whose stated goal is *Breaking the Museum*.

I will send a further email re asserting my Moral Rights as the Architect of Record.

Sincerely,



Lionel Glendenning
Architect of Record
Powerhouse Museum

By email: jenniferl.sanders@yahoo.com