

PCU079788

1.
Attention: To Whom it May Concern.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment,

Powerhouse Submissions,
Level 16,
12 Mary Street,
Parramatta 2150.

Department of Planning
Received
9 JUL 2020
Scanning Room

This is our submission in support of keeping the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (aka more affectionately as 'Our Powerhouse') at its present site in Ultimo.

We believe that such historic homes as the very early, maternity hospital, Willow Grove, and St George's Terrace, both of which were built in the mid 1800's, should not be sacrificed for such an ugly, white elephant-milk crate-type design of a building. These are beautiful buildings of heritage value and are to be demolished so this monstrosity can be constructed on the side of Parramatta River which is flood prone!

This is madness. It is vandalism, and it is a crime... disguised as a 'gift' to the people in

in Western Sydney) from the Premier... and the only people thanking her for it will be the developers. No one here wants it!

We object passionately to the New South Wales Government destroying our Powerhouse and the new location is not at all viable for any decent museum. I have lived in Greystanes for nearly 35 years and Parramatta is where I shopped. David Jones, on the 'Riverbank' used to flood often, because it was built too close to the river. Eventually, it moved and the fruit shop and other assorted retailers that moved in next (in the same building!) frequently had problems with water flowing down the inside steps. Then, as recently as last year when diving down Church St, the weir (even though we were in drought) was flooding once again and I said to my husband, "and they want to build a museum here ???!" (Pondle Hill Creek, Finlayson's Creek, Cooper's Creek & Joongabbie Creek rise and flood over the weir). Parramatta Museum and Heritage Centre plus the Riverside Theatre do not have this problem. Even though quite close to the river, they are located on the northern (higher!) side of the river!

Three years ago, when we heard that this was a possibility, I went up and down Willow Street asking people what they thought about the idea of demolishing the Powerhouse in Sydney and moving it to Parramatta. My responses were:- "What's the Powerhouse?" and "Don't go to Museums!" and "Definitely, will not be going to the Powerhouse, if it

moves to Parramatta, because there is only one Powerhouse... and they, better not move it !!'

At our street Christmas party last year, the mood had changed significantly. There was still a few who were not 'interested in museums', however, by then many of the young children had been taken to the Powerhouse with the school and others had been taken to the Powerhouse by their parents. Most of these people in Willow St., now understood that destroying museums was/is just so wrong.

So, we are really, really, upset about the dismantling of the Powerhouse in Ultimo and the very, very real possibility of selling, lending or sending pieces of such historical significance, hither and thither; some to Parramatta, to storage at Castle Hill, around New South Wales or possibly, around Australia, into private collections.

I can't believe that a Government, of any party, could be so reckless and so opportunistic that they would even consider breaking up or selling off priceless pieces donated over many years to this to this museum. Not only is this wrong, but if it is the case and they get scattered, it is a criminal and illegal act, as these artefacts and historic pieces are the property of the people of Sydney, N.S.W. and Australia. Many people have now been asking for their donated items to be returned to them, as they fear that they

will not be looked after and given the same excellent care that the Soufrouva has been able to provide up until now.

The Soufrouva tells the story of our country, good and bad, with all its faults, flaws, blunders and imperfections. It teaches our children social skills and how to overcome bigotry, ignorance and racism and how to get along with each other. It shows how people discovered other ways of doing things... how necessity became the mother of invention! Children and adults, too, learn from the panels on exhibitions that are a feature of the museum.

How to change from 'braving' her to making 'hand-danitions' (and 'making marks') for the people of 'today'; is another innovation which people have easily been able to adapt to, when we've discovered the folly of having most things 'made in China'!

Every man, woman and child comes away from the Soufrouva with a feeling of wonderment! There is just no other place like it in A.D. W. and (not why) the government wants to destroy such a living treasure continues to adorn us all!

The Soufrouva shows us what educationalists have achieved in the past and what we might be capable of achieving in the future, through technology and manufacturing! We all meet the Soufrouva.

We've taken all our neices and nephews to the Powerhouse in Sydney, at different times, just like we've taken them to the Australian Museum, the Mitchell Library, the Art Gallery, The Observatory and the Justice Museum but they've always wanted to go back to the Powerhouse! We just wouldn't have been able to manage it, if we'd needed to go to Campbelltown or Gosford... Ultimo is easy to get to - it would be such a shame if it disappeared!

I'm writing this submission the day after the unions placed a green ban on our historic homes at Parramatta. At long last.... someone has decided to do the right thing, and try to save them from being demolished! Even though Jack Munday, out of desperation joined the Greens to advocate for the climate, he would have been so proud of them and so pleased that the unions were trying to protect these historic homes. He was at our protest outside Willow Grove in 2018, not long before he died.

Once gone - gone forever!

Union slaps green ban on Powerhouse project

Every single day, in the Herald there are 7-8 letters - all about the removal of the Powerhouse - I have seen 2 saying it is a

good idea. Most of the letters in support of keeping the Powerhouse at Ultimo have come from places like Castlereagh, North Sydney, Woolahra, Wolstonecraft, Turramurra, the Eastern suburbs etc. — most of these suburbs just happen to be in Liberal electorates! However, I don't think our Premier happens to read the Herald." What a pity! If she did she might not be chasing the 'almighty' dollar so much, rather she'd be caring more about the people who live in this state that she is supposed to represent (NOT destroying everything that we cherish)!

Yours sincerely,

Lyn Champion
on behalf of

1/7/20

John Cronin, Jim Champion, (who took primary
(fitter & turner) school children on excursions to
the Powerhouse)

Julie & Stan & Family
(historians from Campbelltown)

Our hairdresser
in Willow St.

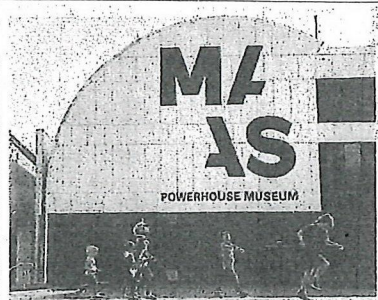
The McKinley Family, Eddy Klammo (our neighbour
and graphic artist)

Our neighbour, Shaz, ^(who) took her school children to
(a teacher) the Powerhouse)

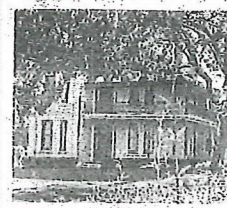
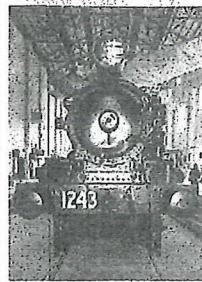
and the many people from our Christmas Party
who simply just do not have a voice but wish to
have their say too.



Us at the Powerhouse ...



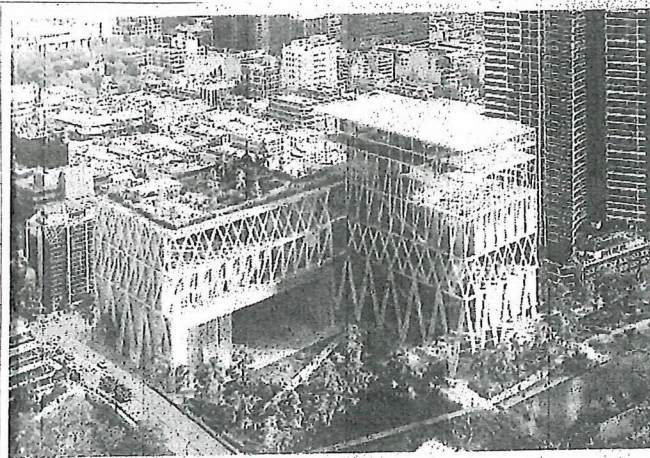
Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo.



Parramatta's
historic
Willow
Grove.

*Protesting about the demolition of Willow Grove and
the vandalism that the New South Wales Government
is continuing to do.*

Who would want this built



to replace a national treasure?!!