



1 July 2020

Department of Planning, Industry  
and Environment  
PO Box 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

**ATTENTION:** Marcus Jennejohn

Dear Sir

**SAVE POWERHOUSE MUSEUM AND CEASE WILFUL DESTRUCTION OF PARRAMATTA  
HERITAGE**

I object to the Powerhouse Parramatta project.

I strongly object because:

- 1) In the early 1960s, there was a large, stately mansion which was reminiscent of Old Government House in Parramatta Park, that Rheem demolished despite strenuous objections, simply to make way for a carpark. The house was named Subiaco. A beautiful, rare example of early colonial Georgian architecture destroyed. Now it is happening again. That part of our history has gone and so has Rheem. But someone got a carpark!
- 2) All major cities in the world have several museums. Why can't we have a second museum in Parramatta that could house special exhibitions and leave the Powerhouse as it is now and where the majority of people want it to stay?
- 3) The proposed building looks great but the façade is simply a copy of a building overseas and why is it being allowed to cannibalise Willowgrove and St George Terraces? Both of these properties have significant histories.
- 4) Parramatta is an old settlement and the state government should be highlighting its history and making it an interesting historic destination, not wilfully destroying it because some foreign developer can see an opportunity to make more money. Isn't the history of places and buildings why we all travel overseas? The proposed building is no Opera House.
- 5) The NSW government has a long, sad and sorry history of completely disregarding the wishes of the people of NSW, the people they claim to represent. A stadium pulled down on the eve of an election, the Parramatta swimming pools ripped out, trees cut down, businesses bankrupted, roads choked, public waterfront land handed over to development, government offices sold to the highest bidder. All in spite of loud objections from experienced people. All very discomfiting.
- 6) It is being called a relocation but to the rest of us it is wilful destruction of 3 important, irreplaceable pieces of NSW history.

- 7) The Powerhouse is being purposely destroyed. Six years in planning and \$14 million in consultants' fees. And we still have no clear idea of what exactly is proposed for the Powerhouse site. People with experience in running museums have all said the proposed design is completely unfit for purpose.
- 8) There is a need in Parramatta for a fabulous exhibition centre but not at the expense of destroying the Powerhouse museum and its contents being lost. Parramatta and the rest of us should be able to have both.

I have made no donation, reportable or otherwise, to any political party whatsoever.

Thank you and please, Marcus, DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN. It can never, ever be replaced.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kay Violet', with a stylized, cursive script.

Kay Violet