

The Clouston VIA is a long and thorough document containing good images, much of which is, however, of little relevance because in most of the more distant and complex views analyzed, the Sydney Modern Proposal is of insignificant size and its visual impacts predictably low, or it can barely be seen.

However, the VIA's analyses of critical, mostly close up, views (11 – 20) that are in or of an area of high heritage and landscape value, because of the criteria applied in their analyses, reaches unbalanced conclusions that are inconsistent with the “before and after” images provided.

The bulk of the proposed building is misleadingly said to “cascade lightly” down to the Oil tanks. However where it is:

- adjacent to Mrs Macquarie's Road,
- seen from the Land-bridge lawn
- seen from within the Art Gallery building, and
- seen from the Woolloomooloo Gate to the Botanic Gardens

it would appear as white, largely un-articulated, boxes replacing a substantial stand of trees and views to The Harbour (and a glass-roofed entry structure that relates to nothing and will be of limited utility in this exposed location).

The Comparative Analyses of Visual Impacts on Table 1, below, demonstrates why the visual impact of the Sydney Modern proposal is unacceptably HIGH.

The EIS asserts that the proposed building “speaks of the future”. It would be more accurate to say that it shouts about it. **The visual relationship between the existing Art Gallery Building and its important setting and the proposed Sydney Modern Building is one of extreme and intrusive contrast.**

It is also worth noting that the claimed views from the terraces of the proposed building would be severely compromised or completely blocked by the substantial substation building to its north.

VP	VIA PAGES	LOCATION & DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	EIS ASSES SMENT	THIS ASSESSMENT
11	50-51	Opposite the Woolloomooloo RBG Gate, this view demonstrates an unsympathetic total change in character	MOD	HIGH
12	53-54	View of gallery from road looking Sth is almost totally blocked	MOD	HIGH
13	55-56	View East from road across Landbridge is largely obscured	HIGH	HIGH
14	56-57	From the Pavilion Café a large sector of the view is substantially changed from being natural (and also a distant view) to that of a large modern building.	MOD	HIGH
15	58-59	Views 15, 16 & 17 are experienced by pedestrians arriving at AGNSW on foot across the Domain	MOD	MOD/HIGH
16	60-61	and by motorists and pedestrians using Art Gallery road and Mrs Macquarie's Road		HIGH
17	62-63	At present the Art Gallery building is seen within the natural setting provided by the stand of trees to the north of the land-bridge	MOD/ HIGH	HIGH

lawn. This visually significant stand would be destroyed and replaced by the proposed Sydney Modern.

18	64-65	As can be seen, a view of the Harbour is eliminated from the most important public outlook from AGNSW and in a most unsympathetic manner	MOD	HIGH
19	66-67	It is unclear why the existing trees on the Land-bridge have been eliminated (vegetation to be removed) as they are located in the only position (over structure) where they can enjoy adequate soil depth. This is not a significant façade of the AGNSW building. The new trees shown are unlikely to be feasible.	MOD	MOD/HIGH
20	68-69	It is very unfortunate that the <u>continuity</u> of tree-line on the eastern ridge of the Domain (an important feature) would be destroyed – as can be seen from this view, and probably also from view-points further to the east.	MOD	HIGH

TABLE 1. ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL IMPACTS using the images from critical View Points provided in the submitted Visual Impact Assessment – as shown on the pages noted in Column 2.