

Australian Museum Alterations and Additions

Review of compliance of access for people with a disability

September 2018

Prepared by: Access Associates Sydney

Document QA

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1. Introduction

1.1 Method and key issues of access review

This access review addresses the access provisions for people with disabilities in the DA drawings for the proposed alterations and additions of the Australian Museum to meet compliance requirements required by the Building Code of Australia Part D3 (2016); referenced Australian Standards on access and mobility (AS1428 parts 1 & 4.1), the Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010 and the Disability Discrimination Act's (DDA) obligations of equitable and dignified access.

This includes meeting the requirements of people who use wheelchairs, people who have ambulatory disabilities and people with cognitive or sensory impairments. The DDA extends beyond buildings to include outdoor spaces and areas within the building, to address furniture, fittings and practices and is concerned with providing equitable, dignified access to services and facilities for people with a disability.

The Museum's Accessibility and Inclusion Action Plan 2018-21 (AIAP) focuses on social and physical inclusion rather than disability. The goal is to create social change, which changes the perception and behavior towards museum visitors and staff living with disability.

The Museum is committed to best practice and will strive to become a leader in the Australian and international arts communities by implementing the following actions:

- *Access solutions will adhere to the principles of social equity, inclusion and dignity.*
- *Access requirements will be embedded in the planning stage of new initiatives.*
- *Initiatives will comply with relevant disability and access standards, and aim to go beyond compliance.*
- *Consultation with individuals with disability will be undertaken for all future key initiatives.*
- *Access solutions will be addressed while respecting the AM's heritage obligations. Access is crucial to the Museum and will be championed in front and back-of-house areas, and at all levels of management.*

It is our understanding that the Museum Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Panel have reviewed the proposed redevelopment design and provided comment to the Master Plan Project Team.

The inclusion of universally accessible facilities is proposed, as far as is possible within the limitations of the existing structure, in the provision of a touring exhibition space on the basement level of the existing building in conjunction with the inclusion of new internal links to/from the Crystal Hall, a new shop, new sanitary facilities, the provision of group and education areas as well as refurbishment of the members area, atrium, cafes and areas for children.

To meet the objectives of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) – section 23, which focuses on equitable and dignified access for all users of a building or facility, the key issue is the provision of a continuous accessible path of travel.

To meet the objectives of the Australian Museum Action Plan, intent of the DDA, and the Access to Premises Standards, appropriate access for all persons is to be provided to the new work in the Museum via continuous accessible paths of travel:

- to and through the existing principal pedestrian street entry on College Street
- to and through the proposed group entry from William Street

- to and through new exhibition areas
- to and through the refurbished public and staff areas - cafes and a children's area
- linking to the existing accessible areas of the building and display
- to links to back of house areas used by staff and volunteers
- to accessible sanitary facilities

1.2 Drawings Reviewed

All comments written in this access review have been made after discussions with the design team and reviewing of the following PDF copies of For Approval architectural drawings by Neeson Murcutt Architects/ Hames Sharley received at this office on 03 September 2018 Drawings dated 31/08/18.

Dwg. No.	Title	Scale@A1
DA000	COVER SHEET & LOCATION PLAN	1:1000
DA101	SITE PLAN - EXISTING	1:500
DA121	SITE ANALYSIS PLAN	1:500
DA122	SITE PLAN - PROPOSED	1:500
DA123	PUBLIC DOMAIN PLAN	1:250
DA150	GFA PLAN - PROPOSED	1:1000
DA151	GFA PLAN - PROPOSED	1:1000
DA152	GFA PLAN - PROPOSED	1:1000
DA200	FLOOR PLAN - LOADING DOCK - EXISTING	1:200
DA201	FLOOR PLAN - BASEMENT - EXISTING	1:200
DA202	FLOOR PLAN - LOWER GROUND - EXISTING	1:200
DA203	FLOOR PLAN - LOWER GROUND MEZZ - EXISTING	1:200
DA204	FLOOR PLAN - GROUND FLOOR - EXISTING	1:200
DA205	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 1 - EXISTING	1:200
DA206	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 2 - EXISTING	1:200
DA207	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 3 - EXISTING	1:200
DA208	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 4 - EXISTING	1:200
DA209	ROOF PLAN - EXISTING	1:200
DA210	DEMOLITION PLAN LOADING DOCK	1:200
DA211	DEMOLITION PLAN - BASEMENT (WILLIAM STREET)	1:200
DA212	DEMOLITION PLAN - LOWER GROUND	1:200
DA213	DEMOLITION PLAN - LOWER GROUND MEZZANINE	1:200
DA214	DEMOLITION PLAN - GROUND FLOOR	1:200
DA215	DEMOLITION PLAN - LEVEL 1	1:200
DA216	DEMOLITION PLAN - LEVEL 2	1:200
DA217	DEMOLITION PLAN - LEVEL 3	1:200
DA218	DEMOLITION PLAN - LEVEL 4	1:200
DA220	FLOOR PLAN - LOADING DOCK - PROPOSED	1:200
DA221	FLOOR PLAN - BASEMENT LEVEL - PROPOSED	1:200
DA222	FLOOR PLAN - LOWER GROUND - PROPOSED	1:200
DA223	FLOOR PLAN - LOWER GROUND MEZZANINE - PROPOSED	1:200
DA224	FLOOR PLAN - GROUND FLOOR - PROPOSED	1:200
DA225	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 1 - PROPOSED	1:200
DA226	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 2 - PROPOSED	1:200
DA227	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 3 - PROPOSED	1:200
DA228	FLOOR PLAN - LEVEL 4 - PROPOSED	1:200
DA229	ROOF PLAN - PROPOSED	1:200
DA401	WILLIAM STREET ELEVATION - EXISTING	1:200
DA402	EAST & WEST ELEVATION - EXISTING	1:200
DA411	DEMOLITION ELEVATION	1:200
DA420	WILLIAM STREET ELEVATION - ARTISTS IMPRESSION	1:250
DA421	WILLIAM STREET ELEVATION - PROPOSED	1:200
DA422	CRYSTAL HALL ELEVATIONS - PROPOSED	1:100
DA423	WILLIAM STREET ELEVATION - PROPOSED	1:100
DA424	ELEVATION PARKES FARMER WING	1:100
DA451	ELEVATION - PARKES FARMER WALL - HERITAGE INTERFACE	
DA452	ELEVATION CRYSTAL HALL INTERNAL - HERITAGE INTERFACE	
DA453	SECTION - PARKES FARMER WING - HERITAGE INTERFACE	
DA501	LONG SECTION - EXISTING	1:200
DA502	CROSS SECTION - EXISTING	1:200

DA511	DEMOLITION - CROSS SECTION	1:200
DA512	DEMOLITION - LONG SECTION	1:200
DA520	LONG SECTION - PROPOSED - LOOKING NORTH	1:200
DA521	LONG SECTION - PROPOSED - LOOKING SOUTH	1:200
DA522	CROSS SECTIONS - PROPOSED	1:200
DA901	MATERIALS & FINISHES	
DA921	PERSPECTIVE VIEW WILLIAM STREET	
DA922	INTERACTIVE PERSPECTIVE VIEWS	
DA923	INTERACTIVE PERSPECTIVE VIEWS (INTERIOR)	

LANDSCAPE Drawings

DA02	Landscape Plan Crystal Hall Entry
DA03	Landscape Plan Biodiversity Garden
DA05	Landscape Plan Access
SK09	Landscaped Combined

1.3 References

This report references the following legislation, standards and guidelines.

Building Code of Australia BCA (2016) - Parts D3, F2.4 and E3.6
AS1428.1 – 2009 Design for access and mobility Part (Incorporating Amendment No. 1): General requirements for access – New building work.
AS1428.4 – 2009 Design for access and mobility Part 4.1 (Incorporating Amendment No. 1): Means to assist the orientation of people with vision impairment -tactile ground surface indicators
AS1735.12 -1999 Lifts, escalators and moving walkways Part 12: Facilities for persons with disabilities
City of Sydney DCP access requirements
Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)
Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standard 2010
Australian Human Rights Commission Guideline on the Application of the Premises Standards 2013
Australian Museum - Disability Action Plan 2010-2012

1.4 Legislative background

In accordance with the principles of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) and the Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010, best practice is to be emphasised in the provision of access for people with a disability in the design of the proposed new Museum entry.

This access review prepared at the DA stage of the design addresses the requirements for access by people with a disability, to the proposed facilities for visitors of all ages, staff and volunteers and reviews the key legislative requirements the Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standard and the Building Code of Australia (BCA).

DDA

The objectives of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) – section 23, focus on the provision of equitable, independent and dignified access to services and facilities for people with mobility, sensory and cognitive disabilities.

Under subsection 31(1) of the DDA, the Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standard 2010 clarifies how approval authorities, building professionals and owners can meet their responsibilities under discrimination law to ensure new buildings are accessible to people with a disability. The Access to Premises Standard commenced on 1 May 2011.

The Premises Standards apply to any new part, and any affected part, of an existing building. A part of a building is a new part of the building if it is an extension to the building or a modified part of the building about which an application for approval for the building work is submitted, to the competent authority in the State or Territory where the building is located. Affected part upgrades require upgrade of access and facilities for persons with disabilities when building work is proposed. Proposed building work anywhere in an existing building could trigger a need for enhanced access at the main building pedestrian entry and from that entry to all areas of the building that are subject to the building work.

BCA

The BCA (2016) includes the following relevant parts to meet the deemed to satisfy provisions to satisfy the performance requirements DP1, DP4, DP6, DP8, DP9 and FP2.1:

D3 Access for People with Disabilities outlines the general building access requirements, it includes:

- Table D3.1 which outlines the parts of the building required to be accessible that must comply with AS1428.1 (2009)
- D3.2 access to buildings which outlines requirements for accessways, doors and entrances
- D3.3 the parts of buildings required to be accessible and meet the requirements of AS1428.1 (2009)
- D3.4 exemptions
- D3.5 accessible car parking requirements
- D3.6 signage requirements for identification of accessible facilities, services and features
- D3.7 hearing augmentation requirements
- D3.8 tactile ground surface indicators
- D3.9 wheelchair spaces in Class 9b Buildings
- D3.10 swimming pools
- D3.11 ramps
- D3.12 glazing on an accessway

Specification D3.6 Braille and tactile Signs

Specification D3.10 Accessible water entry/exit from swimming pool

E3.6 outlines the requirements for passenger lifts in accessible buildings.

F2.4 outlines the requirements for unisex accessible sanitary facilities, accessible showers and cubicles for people with ambulant disabilities designed to meet the requirements of AS1428.1 (2009).

AS1428.1 (2009) (incorporating Amendment No. 1)

AS1428.1 (2009) is referenced in BCA 2016. The 2009 version of AS1428.1 adopts in principle the increased circulation space requirements of AS1428.2 (1992) developed to satisfy the needs of people within the 90th percentile of the population of people with a disability in an age range 18-60 years.

1.5 Management Strategies

In addition to the provision of accessible facilities and paths of travel, it will be necessary to develop an operational management strategy that includes the proposed intention to provide additional services and equipment and to adapt areas within the Museum as required, to meet the specific individual requirements of staff and also visitors with a high level of disability whose requirements may be outside the design requirements of AS1428.1.

An operational management strategy acknowledges the need to meet full accessibility compliance through the provision of policy strategies. A design that has the potential to be modified as required to suit individuals with a disability is desirable and the inclusion of facilities such as changing places toilets and quiet areas are proposed to facilitate inclusive access to the Museum.

The Museum, anticipate that large numbers of people will attend temporary exhibitions and proposes to manage the movement of groups of visitors by providing a separate group entrance on William Street on the lower ground floor level of the building and facilities for groups, the majority of whom are anticipated to be school age children. While it is proposed to design paths of travel and circulation spaces within the proposed new building works to meet the intent of the Disability Discrimination Act, the Museum recognise that the topography of the William Street footpath does not include gradients suitable for movement by a significant number of people with mobility impairment and may limit the ability of these people to use the group entry. These issues while outside the Museum Campus are proposed to be addressed by operational management strategies to facilitate equitable access to the site as far as is possible.

Operational management strategies will be required to be developed by the Museum to address the following:

- the facilitation of entry to the Museum by groups, which may include people who are unable to access the William Street entry via the College Street entry.
- facilitation of access to the internal lift at basement level for group members who are unable to use the stairs proposed at the William street entry
- facilitation of the use of the proposed adult change facility
- facilitation of access to accessible baby change facilities and quiet areas (not currently identified) as required
- management of exhibition layouts to include accessible paths of travel to and though temporary displays and provision of signage and wayfinding for temporary displays that will assist people with sensory impairment

2. Site and Building Description

The new work as part of the Australian Museum Phase 1 work is proposed to include:

- Access via the existing principal entry to the Museum from College Street via the Museum Walk which includes ramps linking to the existing building via the Crystal Hall. Entrance and exit doorways are proposed to be modified.
- Extension of the Crystal Hall to provide additional ticketing facilities and queuing areas
- The provision of a bus stop on William Street with a link to a proposed new entry to a landscaped open space and Kiosk.
- New external stairs linking from the forecourt area on William Street designed to provide group access to the lower ground floor group assembly and education areas and a link to internal stairs to the ground floor touring exhibition area.
An alternate accessible link is proposed via an existing internal lift on the basement level which links to the lower ground and ground floors.
- A new accessible link to the ground floor level and temporary exhibition entry from the Crystal Hall and ticketing area
- New stairs and walkways linking the Museum entry level on College Street and the entry to the touring exhibition and the atrium level
- A new Museum and Exhibition shop
- New ground floor toilets including 2 unisex accessible sanitary facilities linked to the entry/exit path of travel via a 1:20 and 1:33 grade walkways
- Refurbishment to the Great Hall area to provide an area of level floor at the lift landing.
- Provision of a handrail to the wall of the existing ramp link to the Atrium
- Refurbishment of the existing ramp linking the level of the entry to the Vernon Wing
- On the lower ground floor level, refurbishment of the existing area to provide a groups assembly area, extended members lounge and toilet facilities. An entry link to the new external stairs
- On the basement Level, provision of a touring exhibition space linked to the entry level on the ground floor via escalators and a lift.
- A bio diversity garden and entry from the William Street footpath and a café accessed from William Street.
- Level 1 refurbishment to include amenities in the Parkes Farmer Wing
- Level 2 refurbishment of the Parkes Farmer and Still Addition to provide exhibition and education spaces and toilet facilities including an adult change facility
- Level 3 refurbishment to include amenities in the Parkes Farmer Wing

BCA Classification and usage on each level of the building is as follows:

Exhibition spaces on Ground Floor, Lower Ground, Levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 – Class 9b

Shop Level 1 - Class 5

3. Access provisions

3.1 External links

To meet the Access to Premises Standards and the BCA part D3.1 a continuous accessible path of travel complying with AS1428.1 is provided to link:

- the footpath on College Street via the existing principal entry ramp, which includes 3 sections of ramp (maximum gradient 1:14) and landings, to the Crystal Hall.
- the site boundary on William Street via the proposed paved landscape area to a basement level entry. (proposed as a group entry). Principal pathway is proposed to include gradient of maximum 1:20 and crossfalls of maximum 1:50.
A link to the proposed kiosk via a walkway, maximum gradient 1:20 and anticipated crossfall of maximum 1:24.

A bus drop off area is proposed in William Street, adjacent to the pedestrian entry at the basement level of the Museum. It is anticipated that the inclusion of this facility will improve the access to the Museum for people who have ambulant disabilities. The existing topography of William Street will limit the ability of some people with mobility impairment to safely use this area of footpath, however it is our understanding that the Museum Accessibility and Inclusion Panel are of the opinion, that the improvement of this proposed new arrival point, for a significant number of people with ambulant disabilities will be of benefit to a significant number of potential Museum visitors.

Recommendations:

- (i) We recommend the Museum develop an operational management plan to:
 - facilitate use of the College Street accessible entry and the internal lift to link to the group assembly area and education space for people who are unable to use the proposed bus set down space and topography of the William Street footpath.
 - Accessible parking / drop off information is provided to the public on the Museum website to assist people to plan their visit including:
 - information on the limitations of the access of the bus stop and topography of the footpath,
 - details of the existing accessible parking space in William Street (south side) on the opposite side of the William Street and College Street intersection, accessible parking at the carpark at Cook and Phillip Park and bus set down provisions on College Street adjacent to Cook and Phillip Park.
- (ii) Ensure in ongoing design the new entry pathway complies with AS1428.1 clause 6 and includes a crossfall no steeper than 1:40, slip resistant surfaces and lips at abutting surfaces of not more than 3mm, or 5mm with bevelled edges.

3.2 Principal Entries

To meet the Access to Premises Standards and the BCA part D3.2 continuous accessible paths of travel complying with AS1428.1 are provided:

Via modification of the College Street Crystal Hall link proposed to include:

- A wider entry located on the northern side of the walkway and automated sliding doors. Circulation space is indicated to meet AS1428.1.
- A separate pedestrian exit via a new hinged door on the southern side of the walkway is proposed to include circulation space and is indicated to meet AS1428.1.

At the William Street entry proposed to include:

- new external stairs linking to a lower ground floor entry via an airlock and double set of outward opening hinged doors which provides a link to the members and groups areas on this level.
- A basement level groups entry via an outward opening hinged door. The door externally is proposed to include an automated door opener, as a performance solution to the provision of latch side circulation space externally which is restricted by the heritage constraints of the external wall. Performance solution to be prepared at CC design review.

Recommendations:

- Ensure in ongoing design to meet the intent of the DDA all controls including intercoms and digital access readers are located on level landings and at a height of not less than 900mm and not more than 1250mm to comply with AS1428.1 clause 14.
- Ensure in ongoing design to meet the BCA part D3.12 (2016) that any unframed glazed doors and walls are provided with visual indicators to fully comply with AS1428.1 clause 6.6 (2009) and that doorways are provided with luminance contrast to meet the requirements of AS1428.1 (2009) clause 13.1.

3.3 Internal Paths of travel

To meet the Access to Premises Standards and the BCA parts D3.1 and D3.2 continuous accessible paths of travel complying with AS1428.1 are proposed to provide accessible links to and within all areas normally used by the occupants as following.

3.3.1 Ground Floor

The **Crystal Hall** provides an open space with flexible ticketing counters and queuing areas. The area is linked via a wide opening to the existing facility from where it is proposed to provide:

- level entry to the proposed new shop,
- a 1:20 walkway linking to a level north south passage way with access to proposed new sanitary facilities.
- a walkway with a gradient of 1:33 is proposed on the southern side of the shop to link to the upper level ground floor and entry to the touring exhibition space.

Refurbishment of the **Atrium** to provide level floor in the main body of the space facilitates level entry to the lift. A **Touring Exhibition** area (proposed to be fitted out for each exhibition and not detailed in the current design review), escalator and lift links are proposed to connect the entry level of the exhibition space to the main temporary exhibition space on the basement level.

Minor refurbishments of the **Great Hall** include raising of the floor to provide compliant level lift landings, handrails and modification to the existing ramp on the southern side of the space proposed to be refurbished to include gradients, landings, handrails and circulation space to meet AS1428.1.

3.3.2 Basement

New work on the basement level is proposed to include a **Touring Exhibition** area which is proposed to provide a large open area for the installation of temporary exhibitions.

3.3.3 Lower ground Floor

Entry from a north south corridor is proposed to a new **Members Entry and Lounge** and a **Groups Assembly area** and **Education area** via outward opening double doors. Toilets located in this area are located off the Groups assembly area.

Reconfiguration of the material conservation area is a back of house area is located on an accessible path of travel. Internally it is our understanding this area will meet the BCA part D3.4 as an area where access would be inappropriate because of the particular purpose for which it is used.

3.3.4 Level 2

New work is proposed to include

- Still Addition Exhibition/education space
- Parkes Farmer Exhibition space “search and discover” education space
- Café and servery
- Accessible baby change x2
- Staff amenity
- adult change facility
- Male / female toilets

Are proposed to be linked via continuous accessible paths of travel via exhibition areas not detailed in the DA design review.

Recommendations:

- (i) Ensure in ongoing design all entries meet AS1428.1 clause 13 to include circulation space and a clear opening of 850mm at the active leaf.
- (ii) Ensure in ongoing design circulation spaces in corridors meet AS1428.1 clause 6.
- (iii) Ensure in ongoing design to meet the BCA part D3.12 (2016) that unframed glazed doors and walls are provided with visual indicators to fully comply with AS1428.1 clause 6.6 (2009) and that doorways are provided with luminance contrast to meet the requirements of AS1428.1 (2009) clause 13.1.
- (iv) Ensure in ongoing design reception counters include an accessible counter which meets the height requirements of AS1428.2, for visitors on the external side and circulation space for staff internally to meet the requirements of AS1428.1 clause 6.5.
- (v) Ensure in ongoing design any built in amplification system includes hearing augmentation to meet the BCA part D3.7. We recommend AS1428.5 be used as a guidance document for hearing augmentation design.

3.3.5 Level 3

New amenities proposed on this level are proposed in ongoing design to be linked via accessible paths of travel compliant with AS1428.1.

3.4 Vertical Access

Proposed existing vertical links and new work to provide vertical access to meet the Access to Premises Standard and the BCA parts D3 and E3.6 include

Continued utilisation of existing Lifts 1, 2 and 3 with modifications to landings and reconfiguration on Level 4 to meet AS1428.1 and AS1735.12.

Basement - new external stairs linking outdoor garden to lower ground floor entry level
Escalators linking ground floor exhibition entry to basement exhibition level
New lift compliant with AS1735.12 linking ground to basement exhibition level

Ground Floor refurbishment of existing stairs linking main entry level and upper ground floor levels
 Removal of non-compliant ramp linking entry and upper levels and replacement with stairs
 Installation of walkway linking entry Level and upper ground floor levels
 Refurbishment (external) of lifts accessed from this level
 Lower Ground Floor new fire egress stair (refuge included)

Stair 1 is proposed to be extended and modified to meet the BCA part D3 and AS1428.1.

Recommendations:

- (i) To meet the Access to Premises Standards and the BCA (2016) part D3.3 (a) stairs which are refurbished are required to comply with AS1428.1 clause 11.
- (ii) Ensure in ongoing design ensure ramps which are refurbished or new meet AS1428.1 clause 10.3 to include:
 - A constant gradient between level landings of maximum 1:14
 - Handrails on both sides that include a 300mm horizontal extension at the top and bottom and set back by a minimum of 300mm so that the handrail does not protrude into the transverse path of travel as per AS1428.1 (2009) figure 17
 - Tactile ground surface indicators (tgsi) in a band 600mm deep set back 300mm from the top and bottom of the ramp (1:14 gradient).
- (iii) Ensure in ongoing design to meet AS1428.1 clause 11 (f) the fire stairs are provided with highlighting strips at the nosing each tread includes a strip not less than 50mm and not more than 75mm deep across the full width of the path of travel. The strip is required to have a minimum luminance contrast of 30% to the background.
- (iv) Escalators do not form part of an accessible path of travel however they are required to meet AS1428.4.1 to include tgsi top and bottom
- (v) Ensure new lift linking to exhibition space meets the BCA part E3.6 and AS1735.12.

3.5 Sanitary Facilities

To meet the Access to Premises Standards and the BCA part F2.4 the following are proposed. Detailed design is not included in this review:

- Ground floor at entry level 2 unisex accessible sanitary facilities. Toilets for use by people with ambulant disabilities in the male and female toilets.
- Lower ground floor in the Members and group area, a unisex accessible sanitary facility. Unisex toilets which include toilets for use by people with ambulant disabilities.
- Level 2 male and female toilets, accessible baby change facility, accessible adult change facility, unisex accessible sanitary facility.
- New amenities on Levels 3 and 4.

Recommendations

- (i) Ensure the unisex accessible sanitary facility and cubicles for people with ambulant disabilities include fittings and circulation space to meet AS1428.1 clauses 15 and 16
- (ii) Ensure in ongoing design adult change facility meets approved guidelines; consider certification of the facility.
- (iii) Signage compliant with the BCA Part D3.6 and specification D3.6 is required.

3.6 Wayfinding and facilities to assist people with sensory, cognitive and mobility impairment

A wayfinding system that creates a legible space will enhance the overall visitor experience, encouraging repeat visits and attracting a diverse group of new visitors. Better wayfinding

offers a more inviting experience for all. To comply with the objectives of the DDA, Australian Museum must ensure that signage and wayfinding systems are equitable for visitors with a disability. This may mean providing alternative formats.

Recommendation:

We recommend that in ongoing development of signage the Australian Museum consider:

- strategies used for wayfinding and signage should communicate effectively to the broadest group possible including people with a wide range of sensory abilities, intellectual abilities, literacy levels, languages and physical statures
- Appropriate identification and directional signage where required must comply with BCA D3.6 and Specification D3.6 to include Braille and tactual information, use of contrast, international symbols and pictograms.
- The provision of easily identifiable paths of travel, particularly to the lifts is proposed. The use of colour contrast and/or texture change in the floor finish will assist people with low vision.
- A luminance contrast of 30% provided at doorways is required to comply with AS1428.1 (2009) clause 13.1 and will assist in identification by people with low vision.
- All glazing which is unframed and which is capable of being mistaken for a doorway or opening is to be provided with highlighting to meet the requirements of AS1428.1 (2009) clause 6.6. A solid strip 75mm high is to be provided 900-1000mm AFFL with a minimum 30% luminance contrast with the floor surface when viewed from either side.

3.7 Emergency Egress

To meet the objective of the DDA and AS3745 (2009) Planning for Emergencies in Facilities all users of the facility are to be provided with a means of egress from the premises to a place of safety. People with disabilities should be provided with the same level of protection as other premises users.

Proposed accessible provisions include:

- Ground Floor accessible exit route via the Crystal Hall and entry ramp to College Street
- Lower ground floor assisted egress via stairs – use of external stair landing as refuge
- Basement accessible egress route via existing corridor (gradient 1:25) at rear of Exhibition space and linking to groups entry and link to outdoor garden

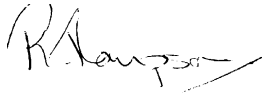
4. Conclusion

Following review of the DA drawings received for the proposed AM Alterations and Additions, it is our opinion that with the inclusion in ongoing design of the details in the **recommendations** of this report, the access provisions for people with physical and sensory disabilities will comply with the functional requirements of the Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards and the BCA (2016) parts D3, E3.6 and referenced Australian Standards AS1428.1 and AS1428.4.1.

Consequently, it is our opinion that with the inclusion of the **recommendations** as detailed in operational management strategies, the proposed new temporary exhibition area and associated refurbishment work will meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act through its intention to provide non - discriminatory access and the equitable and dignified use of the proposed facilities for visitors and staff.

I also certify that I am an appropriately qualified and competent person practising in the relevant area of work. I have recognised relevant experience in the area of work being certified. My company is holding appropriate current insurance policy to the satisfaction of the building owner or the principal authorising the installation work being certified.

Robyn Thompson



Access Associates Sydney

Qualifications: Diploma of Occupational Therapy, Cumberland College of Health Sciences (Sydney) 1976.

ACAA Certificate of Continuing Accredited Membership 2013

Affiliations: Registered Occupational Therapist (no: OCC0001726124)

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