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(Sydney Morning Herald)

Powerhouse problems

How grateful we must be that Andrew Taylor ("[Plans to move the Powerhouse 'don't add up'](#)", October 26) is telling it like it is. There are no plans for the hijacking of the Power House Museum so the site can be flogged off to developers, no actual acquisition of land, no credible costings for the proposed move, no plans for the building, no nominated architect and an inexperienced director who seems not to be up to the job. The Baird government is attempting to paper over the yawning cracks in its cultural policy with the appointment of a silvertail celebrity committee to rubber stamp its plans. These aesthetic overlords – there are fifteen of them! - are well known in the modish world of contemporary art but have zero to little experience of museum practice and collection management.

It's ironical that in its in-house, on line survey of public attitudes to the Powerhouse, now retro-brand the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, the current board places more emphasis on fashion than on decorative arts, one of the strongest elements of the Powerhouse collection.

Leo Schofield Potts Point