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Powerhouse promise

Sydney Morning Herald

The people's Powerhouse Museum is not being renovated, as claimed by the CEO Lisa Havilah (["Powering up for the biggest museum move in 50 years"](#), August 13). At great risk to its priceless collection and a cost to taxpayers of more than \$400 million, the 36-year-old museum is being demolished. Only the walls of the original Ultimo Power House and the outline of the Wran building will be left once the wreckers have left. And for what? Events, parties, immersive experiences, contemporary art and performances a la White Bay Power Station and Carriageworks. No Powerhouse Museum – three priceless objects shunted back into giant voids: the 1785 Boulton & Watt engine after being prised out of its "bullet-proof" box (what a farce), No 1 Locomotive and the Catalina – all to be pointless remnants of the lauded Powerhouse Museum. Labor was voted in on their promise to save the Powerhouse, the only museum of industry, science and design in the country, one which has inspired generations to become aviators, astronauts, scientists and designers. But now Labor is breaking their promise to the people and depriving future generations of their much-loved museum. Premier Minns, stop this wasteful, cultural crime and actually save the Powerhouse Museum as promised. **Jennifer Sanders, Russell Lea**