



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE

20 February 2025

Bruce Lay
Heritage Solutions
By email lay.heritage@gmail.com

Dear Bruce

Powerhouse

I refer to your email about the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's (the Department) Powerhouse Revitalisation project.

State heritage listing

As you are aware, our heritage assessment by Lovell Chen architects identified the whole of the site had heritage significance, including the Harwood Building and the 1988 adaptive reuse and extensions (referred to as the Wran Building). This informed the City of Sydney's recent planning proposal to revise our existing heritage listing, and to increase the existing curtilage.

A revised State Heritage Register (SHR) listing for the site was gazetted in July 2024, which included the broader site of the Powerhouse Museum and the Harwood Building. The boundaries of our proposed revised listing and the revised SHR boundaries are the same.

Given this, the CSPC and Council resolved to defer consideration of the Planning Proposal – Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment, to enable a review of the purpose and additional benefit of the local listing against the recently expanded state heritage listing. Staff expect to have this review to Council in the first half of 2025.

State Significant Development

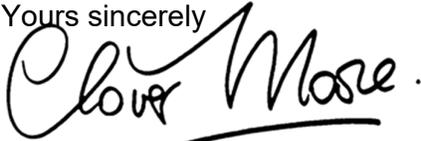
As you know, the project is State Significant Development currently under assessment by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (the Department).

The City made submissions to the Department about the redevelopment. We have consistently sought to ensure the site remains a museum showcasing the history of arts, design and technology, while protecting the amount of exhibition space and heritage significance. I have strongly advocated for the museum to remain in Ultimo at a time when it was slated to be relocated.

While the City supports the renovations in principle, we remain concerned that there has not been an adequate grading of heritage significance for all of the components, spaces and fabric of the place prior to proceeding with a new design for the Powerhouse Museum.

If you would like to speak with a Council officer about our work to protect the Powerhouse's heritage, you can contact Matt Devine, Senior Specialist Planner Heritage, on 02 9265 9333 or at mdevine@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clover Moore." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the name.

Clover Moore AO
Lord Mayor of Sydney