

INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Name: Variations to Proforma B

Number received: 184

A Parramatta site might be handier to the western suburbs, but it is well placed for access from the centre of Sydney, which is better for most rather than Parramatta, which for many can involve a trip to the centre of Sydney (or even Strathfield) to get to Parramatta.

Margaret Sharpe #1

As an Honorary Associate and long term supporter of the PHM I would regard the moving of museum as a great loss to urban Sydney and the wonderfully appropriate (heritage) site it is on.

Jolyon Warwick James #2

As a pre-service teacher I am very concerned about the increased cost of access to the Powerhouse Museum should it move. At this moment it is accessible by train which makes excursions more affordable for all students. Moving the site to somewhere like Parramatta would mean a large cohort of NSW students would need to be transported by private, hired coach which means a significant cost burden to individual students. Keep these spaces accessible if you want to support Quality Teaching in NSW.

Emma Roberts #3

I am the President of the NSW Chapter of the Art and Antique Dealers Association of Australia. At our recent AGM all present expressed their dismay at the suggested moving of the museum which is most closely associated with antiques and decorative arts. The Powerhouse is our equivalent of the awesome Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The AAADA strongly supports the views expressed by Jamie Parker.

Hartley Cook #4

What a loss it would be to sell off this extraordinary site that holds so many educational opportunities to developers, rather than working to reignite it's spark and utilise an amazing resource right in the heart of the city.

Bronte Currie #7

No city in the world would consider moving one of its prime attractions to an outer suburb which is difficult and time consuming to travel to. Potential visitors would put it in the too hard basket!

Annette Percy #8

The Powerhouse is the keystone in the design and tech hub that has evolved around it due to it's history and position. This hub will lose complexity and may die if you remove the Powerhouse, it can't be artificially replaced elsewhere. If it is sold will it be auctioned off or will this be another 'commercial in confidence' mates' deal?

Saul Deane #9

The Powerhouse museum belongs to the people of NSW & Sydney is the most convenient place for it to be located. It's ludicrous to relocate it - unless of course its really about building apartments on the valuable land?

Sue Paterson #10

A very poor decision which will look tawdry as years go by.

Bernard Huxtable #25

Added to this hasty ill conceived idea regarding the PHM is the ill conceived idea of Sydney Modern. The NSW Government should put this gallery in Western Sydney near the geographic heart of Sydney. There should not be attrition of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain land was insightfully set aside by our forefathers. The Art Gallery should address the needs of Greater Sydney and not make land grabs of prestige Harbour locations.

Paulune Markwell #26

Although I am an American who lives in Chicago I have often used the Powerhouse for my aviation research and the staff at the Powerhouse have always been extremely helpful and friendly. What an invaluable resource and asset you have in the Powerhouse. It would be criminal to destroy simply to build yet more luxury housing for the privileged. Sad to see political land grabbing like what is all too common here in Chicago. Please keep the Powerhouse as is and where is!

Timothy Kalina #27

Any proposal to relocate the PHM collection will require storage of the collection until the new facility is completed and this will result in loss or damage to artefacts. Scratch the surface of any proposal to close a museum and you will find greed, corruption or ignorance or any combination of the three.

Ron Cuskelly #28

As a father of 3 young boys who are interested in their history I am dumbfounded by the logic behind moving such a valuable educational establishment such as the Powerhouse Museum from the centre of Sydney. Whilst I am supportive of providing another site in Sydney's West and the benefits that will provide I cannot do so if it means losing the Ultimo site at the same time. The Museum's extensive collection deserves to be on display for all of the children and general public of Sydney to see and the NSW Government would be well served in providing multiple sites to provide the opportunity for all regardless of where they might reside.

Luke McLean #29

As a Foundation Member of the Powerhouse who joined because of the Museum's links to the heritage to the area I am appalled by this heartless so-called economic decision. Please can we maintain some 'heart' in the city. My granddaughter was devastated when I told of the plans to move it, She has been there so often over the years and has loved it and its history. People need connection to history. If the Powerhouse Museum is moved it will no longer be the 'Powerhouse' Museum - just another building holding exhibits from another place with no 'roots' in the new location.

Bernice Melville #30

As a member of the Powerhouse Museum I am totally against the idea of moving the museum to Parramatta. The Powerhouse should be kept as is and a new museum built in Parramatta.

Emine Sermet #31

As a practicing engineer - the Powerhouse Museum sits in my memory as an inspiration for what can be done. Ultimo and the old power house gave this context and its relocation loses this. Parramatta as the founding of NSW white governance and the stories of where aboriginal and white people first met has its own history and a separate museum with context makes sense.

Antony Lewis #32

As a regular visitor to this wonderful institution (both personally and as an Early Childhood Educator bringing young children into the Powerhouse from the Western suburbs) I strongly disagree with reasons given by the State Government regarding the Powerhouse . There is also a huge amount of stored items which still do not fit on display in the 2 satellite institutions at Castle Hill and Casula. Leave the Powerhouse IN the Powerhouse -a magnificent, relevant ,much loved Museum. Moving the engines alone would be ridiculous !

Jenny Matulovich –Medo #33

Build another museum in the West, leave the Powerhouse where it is.

Peter Wolfe #35

I cannot understand the desire to move the Powerhouse Museum - a grand place in a special setting. Something NEW for Parramatta, yes - but please don't touch the PHM. What next - the Sydney Opera House?

Peter Madvig #36

I know that Mr Baird is under immense pressure but please do the right thing by the people and leave the Powerhouse Museum where it is. Thank you.

Patrick Niland #39

Do not sell the Powerhouse in Ultimo, it is a major tourist attraction and should not be sold to fund one in Parramatta.

Rhonda Green #40

Does the current NSW government's audacity, foolhardiness and arrogance have no bounds? Or its unabated greed? Or its dictatorial manner of governance?

Xenia Iona #41

Don't make the mistake of culling all of the entertainments available for families in Darling Quarter: you may find it becoming a 'dead precinct' with no one but convention goers and residents therein. Sydney city deserves a world class technology museum such as The Powerhouse!

Carol Lynch #42

Don't rob Peter to pay Paul. It makes no sense. Let the Powerhouse stay here and give Parramatta something of their own.

Rhondda McMurray #43

The process of announcing the move of the Powerhouse from its home without consultation with any local community or serious group of museum, education and tourism experts gives the impression of an unacceptable agenda driven by an developers and an election.

Duncan Bourne #44

I oppose the sale of a wonderful historic building in Ultimo. I know many overseas, country and interstate tourists visit Powerhouse Museum and I believe they are unlikely to visit Parramatta. Though it is a population centre visitors will stay near the harbour and CBD.

Elizabeth Bailey #46

Even Blind Freddy can see it makes no sense to sell the land and close the museum.

Andrea Kindryd #47

Flogging off the Powerhouse Museum to a property developer to permit the building of yet more expensive apartments is an appalling proposition. Nobody is fooled by the State Government attempts to pit Western Sydney against Eastern Sydney. Leave The Powerhouse Museum alone! Leave the Powerhouse Museum in the former Powerhouse building in Ultimo which gave the museum its name. Parramatta deserves to have a separate branch of the Powerhouse Museum; this would expand the available exhibition space and permit more of the museum's collection to be on exhibition.

Leigh Howlett #49

For Sydney to maintain its international status it must have high level attractions aimed at the widest possible demographic. And they must be in Sydney!

Marius Webb #50

Good idea to build a new museum in Parramatta as a creative partner to the Powerhouse in Ultimo.

Liz Fell #53

The Government needs to be more responsible about preserving culture and heritage. The motivation to develop in the inner west seems to be mainly motivated by greed.

Jennifer Bestel #54

Hands off our Powerhouse Museum! It's part of our social-cultural precinct at Ultimo - a close buddy of the ABC, Sydney Institute as well as UTS. We want it to stay where it is. The state government hasn't got exclusive right to decide what stays and what doesn't in our own city.

Rosanna Perillo-Boutin #55

We can do both. Parramatta and Sydney. Go for it.

Ian Cameron #57

I agree with setting up a museum of Arts and Applied Sciences in Parramatta, but not at the cost of moving the Ultimo MAAS. The Government talks about this being the 'Smithsonian' of Sydney. Did you know the Smithsonians in Washington have several locations? if you want to serve the people of Sydney, build more museums, and don't move the current one. It's in the great spot for tourism, accessible by all across Sydney. Not many will travel to Parramatta from outside Sydney's west to get to the museum, especially international guests. Please, build a MAAS at Parramatta and share the museum's content between the two. Besides this whole thing looks like a property grab which is quite poor form. Museum belongs in Ultimo, leave it there.

Michael Rohanek #58

I am very concerned about deals being done without public scrutiny relating to future use of the existing Powerhouse site. It has great access for residents in the eastern part of Sydney. An additional new museum in Parramatta or Penrith could offer additional facilities for displaying the heritage of NSW.

Les Johnston #59

I do not support moving cultural institutions out of the city. It makes for a dead city no one wants to come to.

Gina Pronesti #60

I feel this decision is short sighted and highly doubt a purpose built new Powerhouse to house existing and new items won't come at a ridiculously high cost.

Valli Davis #61

I fully support this submission and it's better idea to create a similar kind of museum in Parramatta. It's part of our culture as Australians and deepens us as a people.

Mariana Moonsun #62

I have spoken to many people about the issue of re-locating the PHM to Parramatta and they all say that it is very unlikely they will ever visit this new Museum, except for very special exhibitions. Leave the PHM where it is, so everyone can visit it. Most overseas tourists only have a short stay in Sydney and would not be able to include a visit to the Museum in Parramatta. Also the cost of re-locating to Parramatta is too much for the taxpayer to take on. There are many exhibits in storage which could be displayed in a NEW Museum in Parramatta, leaving the present PHM in Ultimo where it has always been.

Harold Bruce #63

I have spoken with many tourists visiting Sydney. They would never go to Parramatta to see a show at the Powerhouse Museum. It's a big mistake to move it.

Barbara Hush #64

I have walked along the old upgraded goods line and the Powerhouse Museum is in a fantastic location for everyone and especially for tourists. PLEASE put the needs of NSW citizens before property developers.

Jo Hobson #65

I live in regional NSW and am extremely distressed that the NSW Government is considering selling the Powerhouse Museum to developers, and relocating it to Parramatta. Having visited the Powerhouse Museum several times over the years, when I have been in Sydney and will again, however I most certainly would not purposely visit the museum at Parramatta unless I happened to be there. The Powerhouse museum is situated in a Historically valuable building and it doesn't seem that long since it was refurbished and it is one of the most historically significant buildings in the city easily accessible to visitors to Sydney. I also understand that there is so much historically significant material in storage that rather than go to the enormous expense of relocating the present Powerhouse Museum that another be built at a suitable site at Parramatta. This is a land grab by money hungry developers and a greedy government. The cost of moving the Powerhouse to Parramatta would be much higher overall than building a completely new Museum at Parramatta and leaving the one in the city of Sydney where it is.

Roma Freeman #66

I live locally and have been a frequent visitor to The Powerhouse Museum for over 17 years, colluding to destroy the Powerhouse at Pyrmont as an excuse to move the Museum to Parramatta reflects the values of the current NSW Government, we have had enough of over building in this area and need to maintain this icon of education and exhibition

Teresa Wilkinson #67

I live near Orange NSW. The Powerhouse Museum, in its current location, is far more accessible than Parramatta as I generally stay in the city where the proximity of multiple museums, galleries and theatres always makes a visit worthwhile.

Ken Dally #68

I see no reason to remove the Powerhouse Museum from its present location.

Malcolm Sinclair #69

I share Jamie Parker's cultural and financial concerns regarding the move of the Powerhouse Museum to Ultimo as an alleged "solution" for culturally enriching the West in a financially-responsible manner.

People in the city on business who have just a couple hours to spare can pop in to see one or two of the museum's special exhibits. I even made the point of visiting the Powerhouse during a 27-hour layover I had in Sydney some years ago. Of all the things I could do in Sydney, THAT and dinner with a friend were the main things I chose to do during my time in the city.

Its industrial and technical focuses different from other city museums, which tend to be more conventionally arts focused. Also, it is linked to the industrial heritage of the Ultimo area. That diversity and link to local past is why it makes sense to keep it in the city, where it is as accessible to tourists and the many others from regional areas that come to the city for cultural, business, or shopping reasons.

As certain Liberal officials frequently tell people when speaking on this issue, Parramatta is located near many residential neighbourhoods that house people who could become visitors to a museum constructed in Parramatta. But this applies equally -- and maybe more so -- to ANY museum constructed in Parramatta. It may well be that given a menu of options suggested by community leaders, residents in that area would prefer dollars invested in some other type of museum in their area. Parramatta has its own rich history of aboriginal lands, early sandstone buildings, and Australia's convict past.

It has a fascinating "if walls could talk" type of historic precinct that was recently heritage listed, which locals feel strongly about, and on which Jack Mundy has announced a Green Ban -- the same industrial action that saved buildings in Sydney's historic Rocks district from demolition decades ago. What's already IN Parramatta is likely a great focus for enhancing its cultural environment, and for investing dollars in, to preserve.

Perhaps if more access to cultural treasures that have been centralised in the CBD is desired, a "best-of" exhibit hall in Parramatta's historic precinct that offers 1 or 2 concurrent every-6-months changing exhibits from various cultural venues in the city that some of those living in the West say that they find challenging to visit - the MCA, the Australian Museum, the Maritime Museum, the Art Gallery of NSW, the Powerhouse Museum, and other smaller historic exhibit spaces - would be interesting and offer a diversity of cultural experience that is not provided by relocating the full campus of JUST ONE of NSW's key museums to that area.

If the government is trying to address an issue of perceived cultural deprivation in the West, why not include all CBD museums' collections in what is shared with Parramatta? Community polls could drive the topics of exhibits, to ensure that the locals they want to visit, would find the exhibits relevant and worth their time.

Large items, difficult and costly to move, such as the locomotive and other industrial objects could remain in place, in Ultimo, at the main campus of the Powerhouse Museum, while smaller exhibits could be on loan to the "Cultural Gallery" in Parramatta. There would even be opportunity for fusion BETWEEN COLLECTIONS of various museums under one roof, with multiple museums curating a selection of pieces around a single theme.

A focus on smaller works would also allow more creativity in site selection. Right now, the proposed site of the Powerhouse Museum is at an old car park that experiences flood events regularly. This is not an ideal location for any sort of museum, because of the humidity inherent in flooded premises, but if someone's heart is set on it, it can be made to work by adding costly dehumidification equipment and focusing the display in that building on small, easy to transport pieces that can be QUICKLY relocated to higher ground or offsite when storms threaten.

I am willing to be a witness to the committee to discuss these and other reasons I am against the proposed move of the Powerhouse Museum, from the perspective of an international visitor and a local resident.

Helen Oboyle #70

I simply can't make sense of any of the NSW government's plans to move the Powerhouse - financial, cultural, heritage- anything. This has to be stopped before this enormous waste of money and resources gets underway.

Glenn Watson #71

I strongly urge the Government to consider retaining the Powerhouse Museum on its present site, and building a Powerhouse West satellite museum in Parramatta. This is a better use of public funds than the proposed \$460 million extension to the Art Gallery of NSW.

Mark Stiles #72

I support the Powerhouse Museum remaining in Ultimo. We now have a much bigger population than when it was first established, so really should be able to support both sites. We also have enough exhibits to fill both. Adding to that, visitors to Sydney are much more likely to visit the museum in Ultimo, closer to the many other attractions closer to the city.

Anita Beuthien #73

I think the Power House Museum should remain where it is at Ultimo. It is more centralized. Easy for those to get there. Compared being at Parramatta is most awkward and being out of the way.

Paul Vonwiller #74

I welcome a Western Sydney Powerhouse, but it should not replace the current inner city museum. Our family visits it regularly, which we would not do if it were to move.

Emily Higginson #75

I worked for the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. I worked on seeing this project through from beginning to end in 1988. I saw the progress it made. I met Russian Astronauts and so many incredible people. I saw the Boulton & Watt Steam engine going in to place. I saw them making the Mad Max scene in what was to become one of Australia's most incredible museums! How dare you think it can all be sold off and moved elsewhere! How dare you think an incredible piece of history can just be trashed for your greedy pockets! I weep for the destruction you are reaping on Sydney ... I weep for the loss of so much hard work and love that went into its creation. I weep that you think it is just a piece of real estate to be sold to the highest bidder. Shame on you. Absolute shame!

Meredith Dorham #76

I worked when I was young for the architect Lionel Glendenning, who won the Sulman Award for the powerhouse museum. The building itself combined with the restoration of the old building is of architectural significance by a significant Australian architect and should be preserved on that basis alone. Anything else is ignorant and barbaric.

Paul Desney #77

I would like the NSW Govt. Planning to seriously consider providing TWO Powerhouse Museums. Create a new Museum in the Parramatta/West Precinct, thus maintaining the existing Museum for Sydney Central citizens and for tourists. There are sufficient items now in storage to furnish both venues with excellent displays, and for the Education of our school children. Normally in any major city in the advanced western world we find museums located close to the centre of the city eg Madrid London New York etc. Why is the current Powerhouse Museum being sold? It doesn't make good sense for the future generations!

Judith Johnson #78

I write as a resident of regional NSW. Keep the Powerhouse where it is and fund another museum for Western Sydney.

Peter Greenland #79

If it is demolished, and (some of) the Powerhouse collection is moved to Parramatta, it will not be accessible to the many school students from regional NSW who visit Sydney to experience the significant museums in their capital city.

Mary Mortimer #81

If the Powerhouse at Ultimo is closed, it is no longer practical for me to remain a member which I have been for some years.

Tim Davis #82

If you can find \$17billion to fund the destruction of Inner Western Sydney through WestConnex, then \$600million to build something constructive like a museum in Parramatta is cheap by comparison. Leave the original Powerhouse Museum where it is.

Jacqui Sykes #83

I'm very sad about the Powerhouse departing from Sydney to Parramatta, surely we can have two museums, it's really silly to take our Powerhouse away from Pymont.

Wendy Crane #84

In short, we need to keep the existing Powerhouse Museum, and the unique building that houses it, for the people of Sydney and NSW in general, and to build a second, though maybe smaller and more specialised, museum for the people of Parramatta and the far western suburbs of Sydney at Parramatta.

David Pollard #85

Insanity to move it! Give Parramatta their own museum but leave the Powerhouse in the city! Only morons would move it.

Sarah Newton #86

It doesn't make sense to close a unique community resource in the inner city and substitute it with a newly built substitute inaccessible to travellers and the current communities served by the Powerhouse. Build whatever is required in Parramatta but not at the loss of the wonderful historically significant Powerhouse Museum. You could sell off the Opera House and move it to the west if you applied the logic of the Baird government to it.

Peter Mitchell #87

It is imperative that the Powerhouse stays in Ultimo and that the land does not get sold to developers leading to more overcrowding and traffic problems along Harris St. Why not build an additional branch of the Powerhouse in Parramatta and leave the one in Ultimo which serves a great purpose to everyone. I enjoy taking my grandchildren for a day at the powerhouse and exploring new things but there is no way I would do this if it was located to Parramatta.

Chris Cameron #88

It is important that the Powerhouse remain one of the complex of museums in and around the CBD in Sydney which make the city such a cultural attraction. It would be great to develop an equivalent museum in Parramatta but not at the expense of the Ultimo Powerhouse.

Martha Ansara #89

It is so important that our premier design museum remains in the city in Ultimo!

Margot Jolly #90

It is time to stop selling off buildings in Sydney to developers. It only advantages the developers while disadvantaging everyone else in Sydney and NSW. The Powerhouse Museum is in a convenient location for all Sydney-siders to reach by public transport. It must stay where it is, in an historic building which should be preserved.

Narelle Skinner #91

It is uneconomic to move such a valuable cultural asset vital to the CBD of Sydney.

Lesley Strachan #92

It is unthinkable that the NSW Government could contemplate selling off part of our industrial and engineering heritage that houses the Powerhouse Museum/Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. One only has to walk along the Goods Line from Central station to realise what an important heritage profile the Powerhouse has.

To remove the building from the streetscape and replace it with another high rise contemporary building removes the whole context of the history of Ultimo - between Central and the Powerhouse site.

Could there be a better building to house an enviable collection of transport related exhibits? I seriously doubt it. To hear the exclamations of visitors, young and old, as each area of the museum opens up its wonders confirms the validity of the collection and its method of display.

I believe the Government has a responsibility to conserve this built heritage and to continue supporting the museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in their mission to present and display pieces in their extensive collection to the people of NSW, interstate and international visitors.

This does not mean that I do not support a museum in Parramatta, I certainly do, but not at the cost of losing the heritage site at Ultimo.

Maureen Gibson #93

It is vital that the Powerhouse Museum remains in its current location. It is a wonderful resource both for our children and children who come to visit as tourists with their parents.

Catherine Brock #94

It makes sense to keep museums in the capital city where tourists are more likely to visit. Only greedy developers want them moved to the outer suburbs.

David Lloyd #95

It should be unthinkable that any responsible government could contemplate shutting down and selling off an iconic, perfectly functional, public asset of great historic, cultural and social value in the heart of a major city. Equally, that it should be done for some short lived financial gain that will be far less than the credible replacement value of the asset.

Peter Murray #96

It's a long way to Parramatta.

Lorraine van Schie #97

I've just returned from Milan, Italy....a city and country already with an embarrassment of riches in terms of cultural institutions....and they still found the foresight and money (in an economy FAR worse than NSW's) to develop the Fondazione Prada in an old distillery and HangarBicocca in an old Pirelli factory.

Institutions like this add depth and interest to any city and provide an opportunity for human focus, interaction and awareness. Society in general (and Sydney in particular) need this more than ever before in the face of the online and digital onslaught.

Get corporate support, develop an industrial site at Parramatta/Rhodes/Homebush and use it to display some of the Powerhouse collection that's languishing in archives, but don't sell the Powerhouse to developers for a once only financial gain.

Judith Maher #98

Keep The Powerhouse where it is. Sydney needs cultural institutions close to public transport.

Jennifer Kent #101

Leave the Powehouse and contents in Ultimo and build a new museum in Parramatta, there are enough historical items for both. In Most international there are several museums.

Sally Lloyd #102

Leave the Powerhouse Museum where it is, as an attraction in the city itself , and not out west.

Boyd Hore #103

Leave the Powerhose Museum in Sydney , so much easier to get to than Parramatta.

Diann Scott #104

Leave the Powerhouse Museum where it is & share the exhibits (& others for which there is currently a lack of room) with the new intended museum at Parramatta. Share the cost of admission with both museums & add a ferry ride thus creating a tourist attraction for both Sydney & Parramatta.

Robert Alexander #105

Move the Castle Hill exhibits to Parramatta instead.

Dave McKeough #106

Moving the Powerhouse would sadly destroy its genius loci: that is, the sense of its important historical connections with the present site. Parramatta deserves a new branch of the Powerhouse designed on modern principles and representing a different culture: compare the old and new Tate Galleries in London.

Graham Pont #107

No reason for transplanting the museum in Parramatta. It should be an annex to Ultimo.

Drew Tait #108

Now linked by a wonderful pathway from Central Station, the Powerhouse is accessible to millions and its exhibitions are always inspiring.

Robyn Kremer #109

Our family regularly visited the Powerhouse even when we live in outer Western Sydney. Its position allows for a fabulous day in town. Why make it service a smaller regional audience. With the number of exhibition pieces we could certainly have more than one Powerhouse !!

Irene Stariha #110

Parramatta is deserving of its own cultural centres like a museum - but this should not be at the expense of the current location of the Powerhouse Museum. There is room and in fact a need for two such museums.

Tim Wong #111

Parramatta Powerhouse wil fail we'll make that happen, because tourists won't visit it.

Martin Barr-David #112

Please keep the Ultimo Powerhouse as an Arts Museum or something similar, at the Ultimo site. Please do not destroy the Ultimo Powerhouse.

Patrick Crook #113

People love this Museum in THIS location and are fighting long and hard for it. We all see through the land grab behind the sale. Leave it be Mr Baird!

Anne Wale #114

Pkease think of the generations to come...man must know and celebrate his roots. Diversity of Culture is vital to us HUMANS.

Elena Abagi #116

Please consider the weight of community concern, local, national and international. Please ensure that this results in the only sensible conclusion - retention of Ultimo and the provision of excellence in Parramatta. Thank you.

Andre Tammes #117

Please don't move the Powerhouse, it's where it belongs!

Jon Firth #118

Please keep the Powehouse Museum where it is.

Peter Morris #119

Please keep the Powerhouse and make it the flagship of many other museums all over Australia, to safely house our cultural history.

Lianne Clark #120

Please keep the Powerhouse and open a second muesum in Parramatta.

Monika Baumann #121

Please keep the Powerhouse Museum in its current location. Enough is enough Mr Baird, stop selling off our public assets to your developer mates.

Sandra Langtree #122

Please leave the Powerhouse Museum where it is and build another one in Parramatta as there is enough items in the archives for both museums

Janette Williams #123

Please leave the Powerhouse museum where it is. It's not yours to sell off or move. It belongs to the people of NSW and we want it left where it is in Central Sydney!

Lesley Garrett-Jones #124

Please remove the development value of the PHM site from the equation and come up with a decision based on the best cultural outcome for both the CBD and Western Sydney.

Janine Cooper #125

Please stop ripping out our cultural heart! I loved this museum as a kid and I took my kids there many many times. The educational holidays programs for school children, in particular, have been a huge boon to working parents. Don't relocate, replicate!

Sharyn Wise #126

Selling off the Powerhouse Museum and substituting a lesser museum in the suburbs is unworthy of a city the size of Sydney and culturally ignorant and destructive.

Elaine Diffey #128

Shame on you if you sell the Powerhouse in Ultimo, but please build a second affiliated and equally decent Powerhouse at Parramatta.

Jennifer Wang #129

State Government, our employees: stop selling our assets. Stop destroying our cultural heritage. Stop being so short-term in your thinking. If you sell this real estate and the NSW people will never have it back. Enough already.

Barbara Hoffman #130

Surely a city of 5 million people deserves more than one technology museum - build one for Parramatta but keep the Powerhouse open - it belongs to the people of NSW not developers!!

Michelle Brown #131

Sydney and Parramatta should both have Powerhouse museums. We have sufficient collections in storage for exhibition.

Jim Morris #132

Sydney is an international city. It is important that Sydney has a range of high-quality, relevant, flag-ship museums near the CBD to cater to the millions of tourists we wish to attract from around the world, particularly the Chinese middle-class. Therefore, the Powerhouse, which often showcases Australia-specific exhibitions, should remain where it is. It is close to Darling Harbour and the City, and major transport routes.

Locals can access the Powerhouse via these major transport routes too. We live on the Central Coast, and regularly visit the Powerhouse using the train to Town Hall Station. It's exciting to come into the city for this purpose.

An adjunct to the existing Powerhouse could be based at Parramatta or a similar location in the greater Sydney area. As I understand it, there are plenty of display items of immense interest available in storage. It would be wonderful if we could see more of them, via the two locations.

Marion Braslin #133

Sydney is big enough to support several museums and Parramatta certainly deserves to have it own but not at the expense of the Powerhouse museum which is a favourite place to visit for all of my family. The purpose built building is wonderful so much space to house a first class collection. The push by the State government to relocate the museum is only so they sell the site and get their greedy hands on yet more money. Shame on you!

Kerri Heavens #134

Sydney needs to keep the Powerhouse Museum at its current convenient location at Ultimo in order to draw the greatest number of visitors possible to view its fine collections.

Eleonore Eyre #135

Sydney, as an international city, needs MORE CULTURAL EVENTS AND SITES rather than less. The Powerhouse Museum with the new walkway from Central Station (built at taxpayers' expense) is now even more accessible for local, state, interstate and international visitors. Many of my friends and visitors from overseas complain about the lack of culture in Sydney, that if you don't like beaches than there isn't much to do here. Closing the Powerhouse would be a giant step backwards for attracting visitors to our city.

Lesley Carnus #136

The attrition of staffing and service mimics the tactics of General Motors and the Great American Trolley Car Conspiracy. Dismantling by stealth the light rail systems of America and replacing them with buses, done through a front company of stooges. All done in the name of "efficiency". It is now costing billions to restore light rail in America and Australia. Lessons not learned?

Gilbert Grace #137

The Baird government must stop its wanton destruction of culture and heritage in its singular focus on financial gain.

Jason Koh #138

The capital city of this prosperous state deserves the Powerhouse where it is AND a good museum out west for the kids out there. Kids who regard school as a kind of punishment have a great time at a well run museum.

Martin Hadley #139

The current locaton of the Powerhouse Museum is more accessible to most of Sydney and NSW than any proposed site at Parramatta. Leave the Powerhouse Museum where it is.

Ross Mewton #140

The either/or argument is a fallacy. The museum should remain where it is, in Ultimo. Another should be built in the west, further than Parramatta, perhaps in the Penrith district.

Tracey Clancy #141

The Government currently has the opportunity to extend the current World Heritage Area in Parramatta to include the Cumberland Hospital / Fleet Street / Gaol precinct thus incorporating numerous highly significant heritage buildings into the World Heritage Area. This has the potential to create certainly the most significant heritage site in Australia. This is what we, the people of Western Sydney, want. We don't want high rise buildings within this heritage precinct as is planned by the Government and we don't want a greatly diminished version of the Powerhouse Museum dumped on a flood prone site in the CBD.

David Payne #142

The greed of this NSW government, lack of transparency, not heeding expert advice and destruction of heritage and cultural institutions is galling. Leave the MAAS where it is - there is no way it can be replicated elsewhere.

Valerie Odewahn #143

The historic Powerhouse Museum should be conveniently available to international visitors in Australia's largest city NOT obscurely located in Parramatta Park ! And Not moved for the convenience of rapacious developers. This highly undesirable move is proposed by a haircut in a suit. Son of Bus Top Baird who as Transport Minister allowed at least THREE children to be killed at bus stops before he realised that some long delayed preventive measures should be implemented by his putty set party.

James Cassidy #144

The latest in a string of idiotic moves by this government. The idea of shifting it to Parramatta is ludicrous. There is no viable reason other than a land and development grab. Invest in the present site, promote it and it can still be a vital part of Sydney's culture.

Sacha Zunic #145

The MAAS report to Government clearly indicates that significant interest in the PH collection, as reflected in geographic origins of PH attendees, is not from Western Sydney. Give Western Sydney people the museum/arts facilities that they need & want & don't reduce the interest among traditional attendees (particularly tourists & regional attendees) by making it more difficult for them to attend. ANY initiative that reduces the tourist potential of Sydney is a negative one to the NSW economy.

Barry Daniel #146

The Museum should be left where it is. It is in the middle of many Sydney tourist attractions. Bugger the developers. They have destroyed enough of Sydney as it is, along with Chopper Baird's reputation.

Tony Shorter #147

The museum's current location is perfect for the heritage of the building and its accessibility to ALL Sydney and tourists. We must also ensure that ALL the exhibits are preserved and the collection expanded.

Frank Johnson #148

The Power House is brilliantly situated, close to Central Station where it is now, for residents in the whole of Sydney to access. Please be sensible and leave it where it is.

Fergus Fricke #149

The Power House museum is a great place to visit when in Sydney. It is close to the city and easy to get too. I want the government to stop selling the people's assets without getting permission from the people. I am sure there are people who elected this government who did not realise they were going to sell our assets. It needs to stop now. If it doesn't stop next thing will be the botanical gardens and other wide spaces which all residents can enjoy.

Fiona Lawless #150

The power of place and place in history should never be undervalued but its worth should not be measured in future monetary worth alone. Heritage places sustain us all - the young who, happily, can see worthwhile things can last, and the old who receive personal affirmation because the conserving of worthwhile things sustains and serves them in their declining years.

John Tozer #151

The Powerhouse at Ultimo is a Sydney icon which must be retained. My local and international family (as tourists) sings its praises.

Elvina Weissel #152

The PowerHouse at Ultimo is deeply connected with the Educational infrastructure of TAFE and University of Technology Sydney. The collection and its accessibility is of critical importance to the integrity of TAFE, UTS and the International Convention centre at Darling Harbour.

Kevin Heys #153

The Powerhouse building is a valuable resource that is well placed & connected with transport that makes it accessible for locals & tourists alike. It's a link to our past, our history & heritage. We need our publicly owned spaces to be protected & preserved for future generations not sold off for a quick buck for governments & developers. The politicians will move on leaving a trail of destruction & secret deals behind them & our Commonwealth will be gone with them. It's not theirs to sell.

Alesoun Marsden #154

The Powerhouse has been a great attraction in the city for many years, why change its location now and lower the attendance for Sydney dwellers and visitors.

Ray Beharrell #155

The Powerhouse has heritage significance, is an important cultural asset, It was awarded the Sulman medal for its outstanding architectural achievement. To provide equitable cultural emphasis in the metropolitan area, a new gallery for the arts, possibly a branch of the Art Gallery of NSW should be a greater priority for the west of Sydney.

Andrew Kremer #156

The Powerhouse is an integral part of Ultimo and the new Darling Harbour.

William D'Anthes #157

The Powerhouse itself is an important element to the history and development of inner Sydney. Having its more recent use as a museum only add to this value. Attempting to relocate it to make money from redevelopment of the site is a poor short term fix that should NOT be contemplated any further. There is plenty of material not currently on display that could be used at a second museum at Parramatta.

Peter Adrian #158

The Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo forms a long cherished key part of the cultural life of Sydney. Any government interested in the advance of Australia as a developed society would vigorously maintain this strong communicative link between society and the scientific community at the heart of Australia's premier city.

Steven Spencer #159

The Powerhouse Museum is a valuable asset to the residents of Sydney and the many tourists.

Barbara Steven #160

The Powerhouse Museum is an amazing resource for children in particular. Western Sydney deserves one too, not instead.

Eran Segev #161

The Powerhouse museum is an integral part of the CBD and needs to remain in its current location.

Jane Stephens #162

The Powerhouse Museum is an international museum with a highly significant 180 year old collection. This is sheer vandalism. Would they destroy the V&A in London for a property developer to construct apartments?

Stephen Thompson #163

The Powerhouse Museum is an international standard treasure in a heritage building, of interest to locals and overseas visitors. By all means give western Sydney a museum, but it would be shortsighted vandalism to demolish the present museum

David Phillips #164

The Powerhouse Museum is an intricate part of Sydney and plays an important role in being an accessible museum for people from all walks of life. Moreover, a museum in Parramatta ought to be an independent matter and does not warrant the destruction of a heritage listed site like the Powerhouse to receive funds. It is an insult to the history of Sydney to suggest the destruction of the Power House and will make us an even lesser player as a sophisticated tourist attraction.

Barbara Ickl #165

The Powerhouse museum is iconic and must not be relocated. Parramatta should get its own museum but not at that expense.

Eva Raik #166

The powerhouse museum is one of Sydney's great drawcards it has been a favourite of city kids as well and everyone knows that the idea to move it is just a greedy land grab by a development-addicted govt. There is plenty of stock in reserve for a new museum in Parramatta without the need to haul the present Powerhouse's permanent collection to a new venue.

Mary Coupe #167

The Powerhouse Museum is part of the heritage fabric of inner Sydney and loved by locals and visitors alike - it must not be allowed to be moved from its present site.

Brian Addison #168

The Powerhouse Museum is perfect where it is.

Alan Cinis #169

The Powerhouse Museum is situated in the CBD and is a living visible vestige of Sydney's sharing, like London, in the 19th century embrace of technology. It takes its place in that world and now the world of today with its emphasis on design and science. DO NOT close it down. Leave it as part of our diminishing 19c heritage. Build a museum for Western Sydney that embraces their HISTORY.

Maria Brandl #170

The Powerhouse Museum is so special for Darling Harbour & should not be sold off for any price. A new museum must be built at Parramatta for the community of Western Sydney to also have ease of access to the fabulous facilities that we all love so much.

Jill Hartley #171

The Powerhouse Museum is wonderfully well located at its present site at Ultimo and is an iconic facility for the public who visit from all parts of the country as well as the many overseas visitors. A cultural centre / museum would be of much benefit to Parramatta, but not at the expense of removing this important, purpose built treasure at Ultimo.

Michael Cox #172

The Powerhouse Museum should remain in Ultimo as part of a vital network of Museums in inner Sydney. The Powerhouse building should be retained for public use not sold to developers for yet more apartments.

Melanie O'Mahony #173

The Powerhouse Museum should stay in the accessible heart of Sydney.

Colina Huxtable #174

The Powerhouse should remain in its city location, accessible by tourists and residents, as in other global cities; and remain in its appropriate and purpose-restored building.

Jennifer Jungheim #175

The Powerhouse should stay where it is accessible to visiting tourists. The building is perfectly utilised for large exhibits.

Francesca Harriman #176

The Powerhouse(although they have taken away its name)is already is a major tourist attraction and is on the hop on hop off tour bus trip. It houses the oldest (of its type) Boulton and Watt steam engine in a building that fits so well with all its displays. It shows innovative technology of the past which must be revered as a pointer to what future technology and innovation is possible. Parramatta does not have a comparable site in terms of industrial and technological significance. It is situated at the hub of technology with UTS, Ultimo TAFE, the ABC and many new tech startups in the area. There is a synergy between these enterprises that must be fostered rather than splitting them up and losing that coming together of minds that new tech needs for innovation and creativity.

Danny Christensen #177

The proposal to move the museum is another short sighted cash grab. There will be no benefits for tourists, the costs of moving the museum to a new site will vastly outway the cash produced, and Sydney's ambience will be left the poorer.

Tamsin Clarke #178

The relocation would inconvenience the majority of museum visitors, as Parramatta is a fair way to travel. Would another option be to build residential floors above it?

Alissa Ho #179

The Ultimo site's significant technological, creative and educational precinct partners include the UTS, Sydney Institute of TAFE and the ABC. It has ready accessibility through the train and bus hub from Central Station's Devonshire Street Tunnel via the Goods Line, proudly unveiled by Planning Minister Rob Stokes in August 2015 who said at the time will be a link to the arts, education and cultural institutions.

Robert Britton #180

There is no reason why Sydney can't have more than Powerhouse museum, just like the Tate in the UK has several regional outposts. This is just more short-sighted development by the Baird Government designed to put profits above people.

Pauline Lockie #181

There will always be opportunities for government to make money through development, but there is only one opportunity to keep and improve the PHM in its unique, and appropriate position.

Lesley Gibson #182

This government has failed to develop a fair and equitable decision. Robbing Peter to pay Paul - is immature and flawed. It has caused divisions in our community in terms of cultural equity and harmony. The true financial figures for this proposal shows a loss. This is reckless and does not demonstrate sound government.

Kiri Valsamis #183

This is a fine purpose built renewal- exemplary of how old and valuable buildings can be given new life and purpose. To destroy this, built at citizens expense, would be an act of wanton barbarism. Parramatta deserves an art museum which contains the visual arts as well as technology. The AGNSW has a huge collection in storage-rarely seen. The Powerhouse cannot be moved. It will be partially or wholly destroyed. Part of its collection could be shared with a new comprehensive art centre in Parramatta. Anything less is a patronising gesture to the 'Westies'. The whole notion of moving the Powerhouse is poorly conceived by the culturally and city planning ignorant who refuse to take unbiased expert advice.

Swetik Korzeniewski #184

This is not a genuine solution for the people of Parramatta or Ultimo. If Baird does not think we see how cynical this exercise is to help his developer mates, he is wrong.

Rebecca Spindler #186

This is the most short-sighted quick-fix response to Sydney's cultural heritage that will result in a lose-lose for all the residents of Greater Sydney. We can do better than a firesale of irreplaceable assets to rapacious developers -how about enforcing existing planning laws for a start ?

Gilian Clapham #187

This NSW government decision is one of the silliest and potentially most unnecessary expense a government has ever made.

Trevor Kennedy #188

This proposal has no merit and destruction of this historic building would be criminal. The only sensible solution would be to make the Powerhouse viable in its current location and create a museum with a different theme in the west.

Jan O'Leary #189

This proposal to move the Powerhouse is cultural and heritage vandalism, and without any vision or insight at all.

Robyn Lee #190

This unthinkable vandalism of public institutions and public and Crown Land is becoming the hallmark of the Baird Government's management of its social and environmental responsibilities. The embracing of a singleminded, narrow economic rationalist policy approach is harming our public estate and our civic life. The inevitable long term consequence of such oppression of community in favour of vested interests will ultimately feed the flames of social unrest and shatter the consensus to be governed. Our social fabric and environmental sustainability are threatened by activities which could result in legislative challenge if the community had the resources to take such costly action. By the time government understands the consequences in political terms it will be too late for the planet and for maintaining community harmony and culture. As David Suzuki noted on his last Australian visit: 'the Barbarians are in charge!'

Kay Williams #191

This is a form of historic cultural genocide the removal and demolition on the Powerhouse Museum building which is listed on the National Trust's register not to mention the risk of damage to rare historic items in the relocation. This idea is just crazy and makes no sense. We need to have museums in our major capital cities to attract international tourists! Please do not remove the Powerhouse!

Timothy Bidder #192

Two museums are better than one for our growing population. Don't sacrifice another of Sydney's cultural assets for more residential development. It's not just about the Harbour - it's more about quality of life regardless of where people choose to live. What will be this generation's legacy to our descendants?

Priscilla Pun #193

We don't need more apartments or hotels, Darling Harbour needs facilities that entertain and educate the locals and visitors.

Robyn Connor #194

We go to the museum regularly. It's a huge asset to the people of central Sydney. A western Sydney museum should be ADDED not shifted at great expense!!!

Bryan Milliss #195

We must keep the Powerhouse in Sydney. It is one of our major tourist attractions. However tourists will not go out to Parramatta.

Julianne Adamo #196

We need this wonderful museum in the city where more people can access it.

Dereka Ogden #197

We need two Museums, one at Ultimo and one in the West.

John Pretty #198

We rely upon you to do the right thing, please make us proud.

Wendy Kain #199

Why not build another Casino in the place where Powerhouse once educated and delighted kids and adults not mention TOURISTS who have "done" our meagre cultural offerings?

Liz Thornton #200

With recent restrictions in foreign lending giving pause to the market, if you give the Powerhouse to developers in a falling market, it will look foolish and corrupt and bad government. Don't make yourselves look like corrupt fools stealing public assets - you'll end up vilified forever. Take care of public assets - and you might actually have a conscience you can live with!

David Green #201

With the increased density of apartments around the CBD, the current location of the Powerhouse Museum is ideal for recreational and cultural pursuits of residents, let alone tourists to Sydney. Central and Town Hall stations are accessible by the majority of Sydneysiders, whilst Parramatta is not convenient for SW, Northern, Eastern or Northern Beaches residents.

Judy Schneider #202

Why does this government think it can continually sell off public land to developers without proper public consultation? The money that the government achieves from the sale of the current Powerhouse Museum site will not fund even the construction of a new museum at a much reduced size in Parramatta.

The sums don't stack up!! Why won't the government put money into the current site and continue to build on the world class museum currently there, accessible to everyone!!! The government continue to claim that Darling Harbour is a world class cultural development, so why don't they want a world class cultural institution which has such a long standing association with the site maintained and improved?

The sooner there is an independent investigation into this government's links to large construction companies and developers the better. The secret land deals made without public knowledge to benefit only these groups must be exposed and the politicians behind them made to account.

Premier Baird's brown paper bag deals must stop or Inner Sydney will become another cultureless high rise slum of the future.

David Matthews #407

As a pre-service teacher I am very concerned about the increased cost of access to the Powerhouse Museum should it move. At this moment it is accessible by train which makes excursions more affordable for all students. Moving the site to somewhere like Parramatta would mean a large cohort of NSW students would need to be transported by private, hired coach which means a significant cost burden to individual students. Keep these spaces accessible if you want to support Quality Teaching in NSW.

Emma Roberts #408

What a loss it would be to sell off this extraordinary site that holds so many educational opportunities to developers, rather than working to reignite it's spark and utilise an amazing resource right in the heart of the city.

Bronte Currie #410