

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 6.1

Metro Tunnel Project and Management of Burke and Wills Memorial

7 February 2017

Presenter: Rob Moore, Project Executive Melbourne Metro Rail, Michelle Ely, Acting Manager Arts Melbourne

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to advise Council that the Metro Tunnel Project (MTP) work around the City Square will require the temporary removal of the Burke and Wills Memorial (Memorial) and to seek Council endorsement for its subsequent management including conservation while in storage and return to the current site.
2. The Memorial is an asset owned by Council currently located on the Swanston Street footpath near the corner of Collins Street. It was re-located from within the City Square in 1994 following consultation with stakeholders including the Royal Society Victoria and the National Trust (Inc).
3. The MTP includes the construction of an access shaft requiring full occupation of the City Square and the construction of a new underground station to be partially constructed at City Square. The draft Environmental Performance Requirements (EPR) that form a part of the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) for the MTP include requirements for the protection of the Memorial. The Melbourne Metro Rail Authority has determined that to adequately protect this important cultural asset and to manage access around the City Square when it is occupied, the Memorial must be temporarily removed. An experienced conservator will be engaged for the removal works.

Key issues

4. The Burke and Wills Historical Society Inc. made a submission to the EES and the Inquiry and Advisory Committee public hearings requesting that the Memorial be permanently re-located to the grounds of The Royal Society of Victoria at 8 La Trobe Street Melbourne. This request was supported by submissions from The Royal Society Victoria and the National Trust (Vic). Refer Attachment 2 for all submissions.
5. The location of the Memorial was considered by Council in February 1993 and its current location endorsed on the recommendation of a specially formed Committee. The Committee comprising Councillors, officers and stakeholders, including the Royal Society of Victoria and the National Trust (Vic), conducted a lengthy process of deliberation. Four sites were considered. At that time the Royal Society of Victoria's preference was that the Memorial be re-located to its land.
6. The Committee's recommended site selection took into account aesthetics, the intent of the artist, history, urban design and civic prominence. These criteria remain relevant and applicable.
7. The current site encourages a more contemporary reading of this important artwork and provides very high public exposure within a central CBD location. It is also consistent with its original location at the corner of Collins and Russell Streets where it acted as a roundabout until the installation of tram lines in 1883.
8. The City of Melbourne Art and Heritage Collection Program Advisory Panel recently considered the issue of location. The panel was approved by Council and is composed of collection and public art experts, including Prof Kate Darian-Smith (Chair), Professor of Cultural Heritage in the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne, Dr Steven Tonkin, Curator, Arts Centre Melbourne and Guy Abrahams, Director, Climarte. Prof Darian-Smith has provided a statement in support of the Memorial being returned to the current site at the conclusion of the MTP. Refer Attachment 3.
9. When removed, the Memorial can be transferred to a secure storage facility to assess and conserve what is Melbourne's oldest piece of public sculpture. The costs for the removal and related restorative works, storage and re-installation will be met by the MTP. The cost of the conservation work is approximately \$30,000 which will be allocated from Council's Capital Maintenance budget for the Art and Heritage Collection.
10. While a City Square artwork such as Larry LaTrobe might be temporarily re-located during the works, this approach would not be appropriate for the Memorial given its size. Multiple movements of the Memorial significantly increase the risk of damage and would be expensive.

Recommendation from management

11. That the Future Melbourne Committee:

- 11.1 notes that the Burke and Wills Memorial needs to be removed by specialist conservators from the current location at the City Square site both for its protection and to facilitate Metro Tunnel Project works
- 11.2 approves the Memorial being stored during the Metro Tunnel Project works and being thoroughly conserved
- 11.3 approves the Memorial being returned to its current location when the Metro Tunnel Project works are complete.

Attachments:

- 1. Supporting Attachment (page 3 of 16)
- 2. Burke and Wills Historical Society Submission to Melbourne Metro Rail Authority (page 4 of 16)
- 3. Statement, Professor Kate Darian-Smith, Art and Heritage Collection Panel (page 16 of 16)

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. No direct legal issues arise from the recommendation from management.

Finance

2. The conservation costs of the Memorial will be expended from the 2016/17 Capital Maintenance budget.

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Stakeholder consultation

4. Management has been in regular communication with Burke and Wills Historical Society (Inc) and Royal Society Victoria regarding this matter, including a meeting held at the latter's premises on 6 October 2016. Both external parties have been consistent in their view that the memorial should be re-located to the land occupied by Royal Society of Victoria and communications have been in that context.
5. The Burke and Wills Historical Society Inc, the Royal Society of Victoria (Inc) and the National Trust (Vic) have been formally advised that the management of the Memorial will be considered by Council and have been provided the opportunity to make a submission.

Relation to Council policy

6. The recommendation is consistent with Council Plan, Arts Strategy 2014-17 and the Heritage Strategy 2013.

Environmental sustainability

7. The Melbourne Metro Rail Project is informed by the Melbourne Metro Rail Authority Sustainability Policy.

**Submission to the Inquiry and Advisory Committee
MELBOURNE METRO RAIL AUTHORITY
Potential environmental impacts to
THE BURKE AND WILLS STATUE,
its relocation and future.
Panel Hearing
Culture and Heritage Monday 19
September 2016 at 3.05 pm**

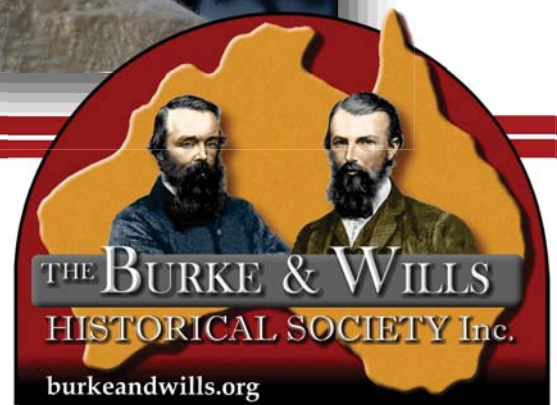


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1. Introduction

The Burke and Wills Historical Society in its earlier submission to the Inquiry and Advisory Committee, set out its concerns about the potential environmental impacts to the Burke and Wills Statue associated with the site works scheduled for the MMRA CBD: South Precinct.

In this short presentation, the Society proposes to expand on these concerns and to also receive confirmation / update from the Statue's asset holder (the City of Melbourne) concerning formal details of their proposals, which we understand amount to the removal of the Statue into storage and its ultimate relocation to the City Square at the conclusion of site works to a re-configured city square site - actual plans unknown at this stage.

The Burke and Wills Historical Society is an incorporated association in Victoria, with an active membership of 40 members comprising academics, historians, surveyors and persons interested in Australian exploration history. The Society has been actively engaged in the events leading up, during and subsequent to the 150th anniversary commemorations of the Burke and Wills Expedition 2010-2011, both within Australia and Overseas and apart from continually 'debunking' myths surrounding the expedition, it has recently been active in contributing to the Conservation Management Plan for the Dig Tree Site in South East Queensland and the announcement (January 2016) by the then Minister for the Environment Hon. Greg Hunt on the Australian Heritage Council's National Heritage listing of Burke and Wills Expedition sites along the Cooper on the Queensland-South Australian border.

2. The Society's Submission

The Society's original submission submitted July 2016, was based on the information that the Burke and Wills Statue; *'may have to be removed'* or *'left protected at its present site'*, as a result of the proposed works involved with the construction of the South entrance of the CBD: South Precinct.

Attendance at the CBD: South site inspection has strengthened the Society's resolve to see the relocation of the Statue in the light of the City of Melbourne's proposals, which appear to be entering into yet another phase of temporary storage and ultimate relocation to the unsuitable city square setting, the type of unsympathetic treatment which the Statue has faced in its 151-year history of movement around Melbourne's CBD.

The removal of the Statue from the work site, thus avoiding the attendant major construction activities with dust, vibration, etc., is to be commended. Yet to confine that Statue to temporary storage (not-with-standing the lack of custodianship which took place with the Statue's earlier storage - (refer section 3.3) could result, in the absence of an achievable construction time table which could run into years, depriving generations of Victorians from viewing the Statue and learning about this historic expedition.

Why waste a golden opportunity and grasp the only sensible solution in the 151-year life of the Statue, and remove it to a significant permanent site, which for the first time will meet all the conservation and heritage principles of the Burra Charter.

The Society's argument for the permanent relocation of the Statue away from the City Square is further based, *inter alia*, on the disappointing planning, siting, management decisions concerning the Statue and the manner in which it has been deployed in its City Square locations in the past.

Charles Summers went to great lengths in his design and positioning of the iconic Statue with its height giving a skyline view reflecting its presence and stature. It was never designed to be locked into a modern city streetscape and by viewed against a backdrop of tall high-rise buildings with unsympathetic facades with viewing perspectives defying all contemplative public viewing. In short the city square setting has never met the Burra Charter principles.

3. The Burra Charter

The arguments and appraisal put forward by the Society are based on an essential interpretation of an application of the Principles of the Burra Charter (1979), the now accepted time honoured benchmark upon which the recognition and conservation and management of heritage features are measured in Australia. The reference to the Burra Charter is glibly quoted as a reassurance in the Issues and Potential Impacts statement (14.13.1) in relation to the care and maintenance of the Statue.

However, under the Burra Charter, bureaucracies, persons, etc., involved in the conservation of heritage places, features. etc., should understand the place and its cultural significance of the heritage feature, including its meaning to the people, before making decisions about its future and involve the communities associated with the place.

The Call for Submissions and the resulting Panel Hearing today is in recognition of the Charter's first principle in this regard.

Other principles call for:

- care for its cultural significance and other significant attributes, taking account of all aspects of significance;
- care for the place's setting;
- provide an appropriate use;
- provide security for the place;
- use available expertise;
- make records of the place and changes to it, and the reasons for these decisions;
- interpret and present the place in a way appropriate to its significance.

Accordingly, the Society argues that the deployment of the Statue in the City Square has never met the principles of the Burra Charter and only the permanent relocation of the Statue to the Royal Society of Victoria site will finally meet the application of all the principles of the Burra Charter and provide for the future of the Statue, its significance to the exploration history of Australia and to future generations of not only Melbournians and Victorians, but to all Australians.

Specifically:

3.1 Its Cultural Significance

The Society regards the Statue as being of the highest heritage and cultural significance, (rather than “*likely to be of high level of significance*”, as the Issues Statement suggests), not only to the State of Victoria and its citizens, but to the City of Melbourne. The Statue not only commemorates the State’s only expedition to explore the then unknown interior of Australia, but the first expedition to cross the Australian continent from South to North. Furthermore, the Monument is the first to be commissioned by an Australian Colonial Government, designed and cast in Australia (at Charles Summer’s studio, 92 Collins Street East) and to be erected in a State Capital. Accordingly, its overall significance to the nation is unbounded.

3.2 Its Sense of Place

Since its unveiling on 21 April 1865 in the middle of the intersection of Collins Street and Russell Streets, the Statue’s siting around the Melbourne CBD has been dogged by controversy as well as being a casualty of the development of Melbourne’s public transport system. Following removal to storage in 1973 its subsequent partial re-assembly and siting in the City Square in 1979 over a large waterfall literally ‘takes the cake’ in the oddest of all planning and conservation decisions.¹ Even its present location on the footpath at the north eastern cnr of Swanston and Collins Streets does not do justice to the Statue and in addition to facing west, the setting is ridiculous and it appears to have been simply dropped there as an afterthought.

Fortunately, the Statue’s permanent placement at the Royal Society of Victoria site will meet the basic Burra Charter’s principles for a sense of place.

Not only will the Statue be in a proper landscaped position and face North, but it will be in a setting with a grand 1859 building where the Burke and Wills Expedition (aka Victorian Exploring Expedition) was launched and where the full expedition met in person on 18 August 1860 prior to their departure from Royal Park on Monday 20 August 1860. It is here that the remains of Burke and Wills were returned by Howitt in December 1862 and subsequently *lay in State* prior to the State Funeral which the citizens of Melbourne attended on 21 January 1863. It is here also that Charles Summers’s plaster Marquette of the proposed Statue is held, along with other Burke and Wills memorabilia. Furthermore, as the Royal Society is open to the public, the Burke and Wills

¹ See Burke and Wills Statue 1979 City Square Picture Appendix A

Historical Society will be pleased to arrange for appropriate interpretative signage to be incorporated with the re-erection of the Statue. (*Interpretative signage has never been included in the City Square deployments*).

3.3 Security of the Statue.

During the removal of Statue from its Spring Street location in December 1979 to 1993, it is reported that, “**no particular care was taken to ensure the safe keeping of the historical important work**”.² Initially, the Statue was unceremoniously dumped in the Carlton South Gardens and later removed to the City of Melbourne’s Green Street, North Melbourne workshop, where a large piece of the bronze decorative skirt was mysteriously cut off and stolen. Police were called, but no arrests were made.

Clearly, a proposal for the temporary removal of the Statue while the CBD: South work is in progress, is definitely not supported given the previous lack of security and custodianship experienced during the period of the Statue’s temporary storage. Accordingly, it is strongly argued that a permanent relocation is essential, if the Statue is to avoid a similar experience of the lack of proper security and custodianship.

Furthermore, the permanent siting of the Statue at the Royal Society, an area close to the heritage walk to Museum Victoria and the Exhibition Buildings, a CBD area regarded as ‘safe’, yet enjoyed by thousands of citizens and visitors to Melbourne alike, will ensure the future security of the Statue, further enhanced by CCTV surveillance from the Royal Society building with its resident caretaker.

3.4 The Statue’s Conservation.

In December 1991, the Melbourne City Council’s Department of Cultural Development to its credit, initiated a program to conserve and restore the Statue leading to its removal from the City Square in 1993 to the Meridian Foundry in Fitzroy.

This was the first attempt of a full conservation examination of the Statue, since the casting of the Statue took place 130 years ago in Charles Summers foundry in Collins Street West. We understand that a cyclical program of cleaning and waxing of the Statue has been instituted since the conservation report in 1993. The location of the Statue at the Royal Society site will present easy access and application of these regular conservation and maintenance tasks.

² Maxwell, P. T. & Dean, S. Conservation of the Oldest Outdoor Bronze Statue Cast in Australia; in AICCM Bulletin Vol. 20, No 2 pp. 39-46, 1995.

3.5 Storage / Relocation Budget.

The Society assumes that the costing & budgeting for the Relocation to Storage (or relocation to permanent site) has included a sufficient sum in the Early Works tender for the CBD: South Precinct, the site works of which we understand will take place early in 2017.

Clearly, active discussions between the parties should take place immediately, if a one-off relocation to a permanent site is to be achieved. However, given the shortening time frame now available, the temporary relocation to a workshop site where the cyclical cleaning and waxing of the Statue could take place pending the completion of site works to receive the Statue at the Royal Society of Victoria site, may have to be considered.

4. Where do We go from Here?

The Society believes that the argument for the permanent relocation of the iconic Burke and Wills Statue to the most suitable setting in the Melbourne CBD, has been well made.

The Royal Society of Victoria's triangular site bounded by Victoria, La Trobe and Exhibition Streets, a site protected by a special Act of the Victorian Parliament, literally 'ticks' all the boxes of the Burra Charter.

The relocation of the Statue is supported by the Royal Society as per the President's letter of 5 September 2016 (Appendix B), and also by the National Trust of Victoria.

Clearly, the whole issue of the relocation of the Statue, its future and its ongoing conservation, etc., needs proper discussion and consultation and the appointment of an Advisory Group of key stakeholders, comprising the City of Melbourne, The Royal Society of Victoria, the National Trust of Victoria and the Burke and Wills Historical Society, plus community representation.

The Society is not sure just what jurisdiction the MMRA Committee of Inquiry and Advisory Committee has in this matter relating to the future location of the Burke and Wills Statue, except to have some responsibility in ensuring that all aspects of the MMRA's immense undertaking are properly addressed by all parties concerned and that satisfactory outcomes are eventually achieved. It would welcome the advice of the IAC in this regard.

The Burke and Wills Historical Society Inc. remains ready to work with the parties to achieve a satisfactory outcome for the relocation of Melbourne's iconic Burke and Wills Statue.

David Dodd JP, BCom (Melb)

For and On Behalf of the President and Members of the Burke and Wills Historical Society Inc.,
Melbourne 11 September 2016.

Appendix A.

The Burke and Wills Statue in 1979, City Square, Melbourne.



Appendix B.

The Royal Society of Victoria
Founded 1854

Promotion and Advancement of Science and Technology

Patron

The Hon. Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria

President

Dr William D. Birch AM

5 September, 2016

Ms Kathy Mitchell
Chair, Inquiry and Advisory Committee
Melbourne Metro Rail Authority
PO Box 4509
Melbourne, VIC 3001

Dear Ms Mitchell,

I write to convey the Royal Society of Victoria's strong support for the relocation of the Burke and Wills statue to the Society's site in response to the Melbourne Metro Rail Project works currently getting underway along the Swanston Street corridor. We are in receipt of the Burke and Wills Historical Society's submission to your Committee, which our Executive Committee fully supports. We understand the National Trust is also supportive of the move.

The statue's permanent relocation to a position on our site would be a fitting acknowledgement of the Society's commissioning and governance role in the historic expedition, and a welcome enhancement to the existing heritage character of the "Golden Mile" Exhibition Gardens precinct. Hopefully, this will also mitigate the chronic and repeated vandalism of the statue reported in its current location.

The Royal Society of Victoria does not have the capacity to contribute financially to such a project, but can certainly contribute its land. We understand all costs associated with the statue's relocation would need to be borne by either the Melbourne City Council or the Melbourne Metro Project. Notwithstanding our enthusiasm, the relocation would be subject to the Society's agreement on appropriate siting and finishing.

Representatives from the Society would be pleased to meet with you, members of your Committee and others concerned with the proposed relocation to discuss specifics.

Yours sincerely,



Dr William Birch AM
President

cc. Dave Phoenix, President, Burke & Wills Historical Society



12 September 2016

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**National Trust of Australia (Victoria) submission-in-chief
Melbourne Metro Rail Project EES hearing**

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment regarding the Melbourne Metro Rail Project (MMRP). We are cognisant of the strategic justification for the project, and we understand that heritage is but one factor that will constrain the MMRP design and construction.

Although the tunnelling method adopted will avoid many impacts on heritage, where works are required at street level they often intersect with places of heritage significance, which should be avoided wherever possible, particularly with regard to the Domain where it is very important to provide certainty that the landscape will not be negatively affected.

1 PRECINCT 1—TUNNELS

1.1 Domain Parklands H2304, HO398 - Tom's Block

The National Trust has heard the evidence of Mr Patrick and Mr Shears and retains serious concerns about the effect of soil stabilisation using 'grouting' techniques on trees in Tom's Block. It was the evidence of Mr Lovell, Mr Shears, and Mr Patrick that the alignment should preferably go under CityLink to avoid impacts on the Domain.

It is our submission that the alignment option above CityLink would have an unacceptable detrimental impact on the heritage of the Domain, which is characterised by a parkland of scattered trees dotted across lawns, divided by avenue plantings along winding roads and paths.

1.1.1 Significance

Domain Parklands is included on the Victorian Heritage Register, and the statement of significance includes the following reference to the plantings:

Hugh Linaker's design of the King's Domain with its avenue plantings, winding pathways and lawn areas with scattered specimen trees struck a balance between the strong geometry and regimented planting of the Shrine and Guilfoyle's picturesque landscaping around Government House...

5.1 Trees around CBD North Station – Swanston Street, Franklin Street, A’Beckett Street & vicinity

Loss of mature healthy trees in this area has been limited by the station box being mined, and the National Trust is pleased to see the plane trees along Swanston Street with high landscape value are largely being retained. Trees in this vicinity should be avoided wherever possible, given the minimal amount of natural heritage in this part of the city. The dearth of natural heritage in this corner of the city means it is particularly important that trees lost due to construction for the CBD North works should be replaced in situ or nearby as advanced trees as part of the project to ensure no net loss of green infrastructure. There are five mature Spotted Gums (CN 058, CN059, CN060, CN077 and CN076) slated for removal from the corner of Franklin Street and Victoria Street which are located at the edge of the construction area – we strongly encourage detailed design to retain these trees as they provide an attractive contribution to the streetscape and have high amenity value both for pedestrians (including thousands of RMIT students) and for drivers travelling west along Victoria Street.

6 PRECINCT 6—CBD SOUTH STATION

As noted in the Lovell Chen report, the CBD South precinct is the most sensitive in heritage terms, comprising a high concentration of registered heritage places. The Trust’s key concerns are outlined below:

6.1 Flinders Street Station

We note that the proposed works to Flinders Street Station include the demolition of two shopfronts, internal wall structure and interiors of retail premises to Flinders Street (currently occupied by Scissors and Cignall); demolition of floors and ceilings to these spaces and floors and internal walls to level one above the escalator to access the concourse. This work should be undertaken in accordance with the Flinders Street Station Conservation Management Plan (Lovell Chen, 2012), and impacts on heritage fabric should be minimised through sensitive design.

6.2 Federation Square

The EES identifies two locations for station entrances in Federation Square; one utilising the “western shard” in which the Melbourne Visitor Centre is currently located, and one between the “western shard” and the entry to the “eastern shard”. Although not currently a registered heritage place, perhaps due to its relatively recent construction, Federation Square clearly demonstrates heritage significance for aesthetic, social and historic reasons; when imagining Melbourne 100 years from now, it is easy to imaging Federation Square as one of the city’s iconic heritage places.

As such, a heritage assessment should be undertaken as soon as practicable to guide work at this location, ensuring that insertions do not adversely impact the aesthetic and architectural significance of the place. Project Architects Lab Architecture and Bates Smart should be consulted during the development of detailed design to ensure that new work is integrated into the overall design.

We share the following concerns outlined by the City of Melbourne with regard to the impact on Federation Square and views to and from St Paul's Cathedral:

The City of Melbourne is concerned the construction of any new structures within the existing open space within Federation Square. This outcome would likely interrupt the significant views of St Paul's Cathedral from St Paul's Court and elsewhere in the square. The view of St Paul's is currently successfully framed by the eastern and western shards. The public space between these two shards is a popular gathering space that would be lost if the proposed entrance were to be constructed in this location. (Environmental Effects Statement City of Melbourne Submission, p75)

We note that the remains of Princes Bridge Station are located underneath Federation Square and run parallel to and abut with Flinders Street. The most easterly portion of the platform can be seen from the back of Federation Square. These remains are included in the HV extent of registration for Flinders Street Station (VHR H1083 and HO649). Any impacts on these remains should be assessed as part of the design process.

6.3 City Square

The Elm tree on the corner of Swanston and Collins streets (CS026) has local significance for the contribution that it makes to the landscape, and is also significant as an unusual horticultural specimen, having been transplanted as a mature specimen to its current location during the redevelopment of City Square. If this tree cannot be retained in situ during construction, the redesign of City Square should include a landmark tree near this street corner that provides a similar contribution to the streetscape as the established elm. Given pest control issues with elm trees, another deciduous species with a similar form could be more appropriate. We understand that arborists are providing advice regarding the most appropriate species choices over station boxes, and the National Trust Significant Tree Committee would welcome being consulted with regard to this particular location given the significance of this specimen.

We note that the Burke and Wills Statue may need to be relocated and stored during construction, or permanently relocated due to the new configuration of pedestrian access to the CBD South station. Rather than put the monument in storage for the duration of construction, the National

Trust and the Royal Society of Victoria are united in their recommendation that the Burke and Wills monument should be relocated to the grounds of the Royal Society of Victoria (RSV) on Victoria Street. The RSV were the sponsors of the ill-fated expedition. Later, when Burke and Wills were laid out for mourning in the hall of the RSV, 86,000 Melbournians were reported to have filed past to pay their respects. The RSV is a logical and respectful location for the monument to Burke and Wills. The dismantling, storage and reinstatement/relocation of the Burke and Wills State should be supervised by a suitably qualified conservator.

Other public artworks which may be impacted by works, including Larry La Trobe and the John Mockridge Water Fountain should be placed in storage and reinstated following the completion of works.

6.4 Flinders Gate Precinct

We note the proposed demolition of a number of graded buildings in the Flinders Gate precinct. The Trust's key concerns with regard to individual places are outlined below. However it is important to recognise that the proposed works as a whole, including demolition, buildings, structure and landscaping, also have the potential to impact on the values of the precinct as a whole. This must be addressed through sensitive detailed design which is sympathetic with the precinct's heritage values.

6.4.1 65 Swanston Street, HO505

The National Trust opposes the demolition of this building as an unacceptable detrimental impact to the precinct. If pedestrian access is required, the façade should be retained above street level and no rear addition should rise above the parapet.

6.4.2 Graham Hotel, 67-73 Swanston Street, HO505

Post-war hotel and shopfront, façade has been substantially altered with the metal and tile cladding all removed in 1982. The hotel opened in 1956 in time for the Olympic Games. The side of the building still bears a stylised sign reading 'The Graham' in mid-century typography, which could make an interesting addition if retained and reinstated on a new building.

6.4.3 222 Flinders Street, HO505

We note Lovell Chen's assessment that this building "is considered to be of a higher level of significance than the C-grading would suggest." We agree that the building should be retained in full to the extent of all original external fabric, with the carriageway utilised to provide pedestrian access from the station through to Flinders Street. Conservation works should also be undertaken to provide a positive heritage outcome.



22 December 2016

Re: Public Artwork in City Square

The Art and Heritage Collection Advisory Panel has carefully considered the complex issues associated with the public artworks currently in the City Square and its immediate vicinity during the forthcoming construction of the Melbourne Metro Rail Project (MMRP). Our deliberations have been informed by documentation provided by Eddie Butler-Bowdon, Program Manager, Art and Heritage Collection, City of Melbourne on 7 December 2016.

The Panel is of the unanimous view that the proposed recommendations for the accommodation of each artwork, as outlined in Attachment A of the documentation, are the most appropriate approach to be taken by the City of Melbourne. We note that these recommendations are based on expert curatorial advice at the City of Melbourne that demonstrates a commitment to the care of the artworks during the MMRP construction period, and to the continuation of the City Square as an important location for public and site specific artwork once the MMRP is completed.

In relation to the Charles Summers 'Burke and Wills Monument' (1865), the MMRP construction offers an opportunity for this large work to undergo necessary conservation treatment during its temporary storage. The Panel was of the strong view that Summers' iconic colonial sculpture of a key historic moment for Melbourne should be re-installed in the City Square after the MMRP works are completed. This would ensure that the Monument can be widely appreciated by the public and recognize the centrality of Melbourne's history in the built and cultural fabric of the city.

The Panel also noted that with the Burke and Wills Monument off public display during the MMRP construction period, this presented an opportunity for the City of Melbourne to develop a communication strategy to highlight the conservation and research undertaken on the work in the lead-up to its re-installation.

Professor Kate Darian-Smith

***Professor of Australian Studies, History and Cultural Heritage, University of Melbourne
Chair, Art and Heritage Collection Advisory Panel***

Kate Darian-Smith, FASSA

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