

INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 11 July 2016

Partially
Confidential

The Powerhouse Museum should be extended to include a much larger facility in Parramatta. The Ultimo museum should not be moved. When Museums around the world outgrow their original sites they are not moved. Satellite museums are built which offer the public much that has not been possible to put on exhibition because of lack of space. My personal experience with the Powerhouse has been one of disappointment as has that of friends I have spoken to. On my most recent visit to PM (Powerhouse Museum) I did not pay the entrance fee (too expensive) and did not enter. I asked the staff at the entrance about items I was interested viewing, and none were available (except by appointment). Some items are on the PM website, but I suspect the website has a tiny fraction of the items held. This is often the case with old museums like PM. As more people become users of digital technology, the more important this aspect of all museums becomes. A vast number of people need to be brought in to get this up to date. If there was a great new PM#2 at Parramatta, it could show the kinds of exhibitions that the Ultimo museum has been showing for a number of years now to pull in the crowds, freeing up Ultimo to exhibit more of Applied Arts which have never seen the light of day. PM#1 for Applied Arts and PM#2 for Science.