

**Submission  
No 14**

## **INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES**

**Name:** Ms Alice Kershaw

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I would like to make a submission about the Powerhouse Museum. This museum has been in Ultimo for over 100 years. I have gone to it ever since I was a child. The museum must stay where it is because of the following reasons.

**EASE OF ACCESS FOR EVERYONE** The position near Central is magnificent and is easily accessible from all areas of the State. The train and bus services are good.

**BUILDINGS** The buildings are purpose built and reflect Sydney's heritage. The buildings are large enough to accommodate the plane and the train. There is enough space to store the artifacts, and everything else they have. The conservators have enough space to work.

**RETURN FROM SELLING THE LAND** There would be a sum of approx \$200million - Mike Baird's estimate - if the site was sold. That sum would not cover the cost of the move and the erection of the "New Powerhouse". There would be no money for ongoing conservation. Therefore, it would be uneconomic to move.

**FLOODING OF PROPOSED SITE IN PARRAMATTA** The site by the river floods. Everyone around Parramatta knows this. It flooded in the last big rain. How would you protect the artifacts that would be stored underground at the site? **BAD ACCESS TO SITE AT PARRAMATTA** No one is going to go out to Parramatta from either the north or south coasts or other parts of Sydney, The public transport is not so good and they do trackwork most weekends and the trains are replaced by buses - my daughter lives at Granville and it takes her 2 hours to get to Sydney at the weekend.

**SOLUTION** There should be a new museum at Parramatta - **NOT IN A FLOOD ZONE PLEASE** - with the Powerhouse mounting exhibitions from their storerooms. As well regional museums should be encouraged to mount specific exhibitions relating to agriculture, etc. As well there should be a Museum of Migration - where every community of New South Wales should be asked to contribute.

In closing, leave the Powerhouse where it is and with some of money from the poles and wires, build a world class museum at Parramatta with government funding.