

**Submission  
No 100**

**INQUIRY INTO INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND  
GALLERIES**

**Name:** Mr Frank Johnson

**Date received:** 10 August 2016

---

Hi, It is with great relief that we welcome this enquiry. I would like to add my own thoughts to the information that is attached, as compiled by K. Winkworth. We are surprised that there is not one museum dedicated to the history of NSW, even though it is the founding state of Australia. As a resident of the Orange area, where gold was first discovered in Australia, there has not even been a museum for many years, let alone one dedicated to the history of the exciting story that gold played in NSW (a very small museum is currently under construction). It is important that NSW also consider a museum focused on migration, a neglected but important part of Australia's history. A high quality museum with an online database would attract many overseas visitors as well as being attractive to the growing numbers of Australians pursuing their family stories. Our stories are all linked to the rest of the world. The NSW National Trust organisation is a very important entity that is trying to preserve our built heritage, requires a stable government supported funding base. It must be included in this review. Also, the overall funding and hence quality, of museums in NSW is far below the standard that we see as frequent travellers abroad. We travel a lot and usually include a range of museums and galleries along the way. The Powerhouse Museum has many times the number of items in storage compared to the number on display. This museum has been well funded in the past, allowing it to amass this important collection. As a public asset, would these items not be better utilised by being displayed in various museums across NSW, rather than hidden away in an expensive storage facility? This would allow those smaller museums to improve the value and attractiveness of their displays, while keeping the items in the public realm. I exhort you to fully consider the attached submission that was compiled by Kylie Winkworth. thank you Frank Johnson