

**Submission
No 1**

INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Name: Mrs Marilyn Hogg
Date received: 16 November 2017

As a resident of North Richmond for twenty five years I would like to state categorically that I'm opposed to disturbing Thompson Square for any reason. The historical significance of this site has been well documented but unless you're from the Hawkesbury you can't comprehend just how precious it is to the people who gather there. My great great grandfather was Captain John Grono, a well known ship builder and trader who had an established shipyard on the Hawkesbury River and who sold his goods both in Sydney and Thompson Square in Windsor, an area of historical and financial importance to the young colony. It has been unchanged for over two hundred years and yet the NSW government despite a petition of thousands and thousands of protesters, has begun to just tear it asunder and vandalise it with little or no regard for its importance. They have been exceedingly lax with the truth and in some instances have deliberately misconstrued reports and completely ignored significant evidence by eminent professionals about the true situation of the Square. This is criminal and should be dealt with straight away, not years down the line when the damage cannot be reversed. As a one time local I urge you to consider other alternative routes for a second crossing, a decision that should be easy to accomplish with so much weed growth and clear land both up and down stream. This present project should not go ahead. We are a relatively young country but not that young that we should not respect and cherish our past and the historical remnants that are left to us. To carry on with the current demolition is historical vandalism and should never have been considered in the first place. I beg those considering this thoughtless plan to consider what will be lost forever and take action to save a landmark of priceless significance. In your hands lies a jewel of our past that people have fought hard to protect for more than four years of continuous occupation twenty four hours, seven days a week.. Please don't let it be in vain.