

**Submission
No 52**

INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Name: Mrs Joni Leimgruber

Date received: 6 January 2018

To: Portfolio Committee No.5 – Industry And Transport Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge replacement project

Submitted by:
Joni Leimgruber

Dear Committee

As a Hawkesbury resident and regular user of the Windsor Bridge, I'm concerned by the loss of important and valuable architecture, which holds historical and cultural relevance for the area and also for Australia.

These are my three main concerns regarding the proposed changes to Thompsons Square and the Windsor Bridge:

- Thompsons Square: valuable heritage
- Wharf: valuable heritage
- Changes are irrevocable

THOMPSONS SQUARE: VALUABLE HERITAGE

Thompson Square was named after Jack Thompson, one of the very first convicts who managed to carve himself out a successful career. Gov. Macquarie named the square in Thompson's honour after he died saving people in one of the region's infamous floods. Thompson personifies the Australian spirit of working hard to succeed, and helping others along the way. To lose this important and valuable area would be to devalue this vital Aussie value.

WHARF: VALUABLE HERITAGE

The wharf, of which the ruins are still visible, is a valuable piece of Australian history for two main reasons. In it's time, was highly valuable in feeding and growing the colony. The Hawkesbury acted as a type of food bowl for the growing colony and so the wharf enabled food to be transported to Sydney Cove. It is also significant in the fact that it was designed by Francis Greenway, another example of an Australian working hard to succeed, having come here as a convict.

CHANGES ARE IRREVOCABLE:

Any changes made to this area are permanent and it seems irresponsible to make these changes despite sincere and consistent public outcry.

In conclusion, my opinion is that it seems shortsighted to demolish valuable heritage architecture for what seems to be an impractical solution.

Kind regards

Joni Leimgruber
January 6th, 2018