

Submission
No 338

INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Organisation: Hawkesbury Historical Society

Date received: 26 February 2018



(Founded in 1956)

Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.
PO Box 293 WINDSOR NSW 2756

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BY:

The Director, Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project, Upper House Committee, Parliament of New South Wales;

The Honorable Dominic Perrottet MP
Member for Hawkesbury;

The Honourable Gladys Berjiklian, Premier of New South Wales.

Dear Parliamentarians,

I write to you on behalf of the members of Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc. on the subject of the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project.

Our members are conscious of the need for continuous improvement in infrastructure for the Hawkesbury region. However our charter is **“to promote and encourage the study of the history of the Hawkesbury and to collect and preserve matter relating to the history of the Hawkesbury”**.

We are, therefore, extremely concerned regarding the future of Thompson Square, Windsor and believe it should be preserved at all costs.

Thompson Square is a unique example of an 18th Century civic square in Australia. Unquestionable documentation exists to show the Thompson Square, begun in 1795, took its form and shape by 1799. The plan to build a new bridge across the Hawkesbury River, which will continue to funnel an increasing amount of heavy traffic through the Square will destroy the nature and character of what should be a peaceful and welcoming civic area and a national tourist destination.

We are also very concerned that important and rare historic relics will be destroyed if the Roads and Maritime Services continue their current excavation activities and object to the disregard of the heritage of this unique precinct and the failure to consider its built heritage.

We request therefore that you represent our concerns in the strongest possible terms to halt the current works in Thompson Square, provide

President: Professor Ian Jack

Secretary: Neville Dehn



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further funding, and promotion of an alternative proposal which will include a Windsor Bypass. This will prevent Thompson Square from being further damaged and eventually allow the historically significant 1874 bridge to be returned to local usage only, as it was originally intended, and retain the unique character of Windsor.

Regards

Neville Dehn
Secretary,
Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.