

IMAGINE A CITY

200 years of public architecture in NSW

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Government Architect



STATE LIBRARY®
NEW SOUTH WALES

'This is **IMPACTFUL ARCHITECTURE,**
BOTH FUNCTIONAL AND
INSPIRATIONAL, providing a greater public good
than just the sum of individual buildings.'

- Peter Poulet, 23rd NSW Government Architect, 2016



FOREWORD

For 200 years New South Wales has been shaped by the ideas and imaginings of a unique group of architects. The legacy of their service as government architects lies in the design and realisation of many thousands of buildings. Not all survive; not all were even built, existing today only in description or perhaps in plans. Yet as today's Government Architect, Peter Poulet, comments, their legacy is architecture with enormous impact that amounts to far more than the sum of the individual buildings, an impact that continues in our cities and towns.

We are delighted to join with the Government Architect and his staff to celebrate their extraordinary history and legacy at their 200th anniversary. Over many months, curator Dr Charles Pickett has delved through our collection

weaving together plans, images and other items, applying his inimitable knowledge of this state's architectural and social history. It is a story and an exhibition that touches us all. It is hard to imagine our towns, our cities and our lives without the ubiquitous public buildings created by our government architects. It is a story that touches us as we walk our streets, visit towns, go to school, attend court, seek medical aid, read in a library.

It is fitting to hold this exhibition in the State Library as our buildings — including the earlier one on the corner of Bent Street — have been designed and adapted by the Government Architect's offices. We value the partnership between our historic institutions, a partnership which has endured and matured since my predecessor WH Ifould

wrote despairingly that he hoped soon 'there will be a new Government Architect and may be a new and less "pigheaded" Principal Librarian'.

In addition to the Government Architect and his staff, we acknowledge the support of a number of our partner cultural institutions which have generously lent items, in particular, State Records NSW, the Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences, the National Archives of Australia, the Australian Institute of Architects, the National Art School, and the University of Sydney Archives.

ALEX BYRNE

NSW State Librarian & Chief Executive



LEFT: SKETCH DESIGN FOR A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1883
WATERCOLOUR AND INK SKETCH
BY JAMES BARNET, PRESENTED 1933
PXD 45/4

Imagined but never built, this design for a public library and technological museum was intended for the site occupied by the Hyde Park Barracks.

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FROM RIGHT: (DETAILS) **DESIGN FOR A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1883** (P. ii); **STATE OFFICE BLOCK, 1968** (P. 2); **GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY, 1892** (P. 22); **ROZELLE PUBLIC SCHOOL, 1885** (P. 20); **SUPREME COURT HOUSE, SYDNEY, 1845** (P. 19); **MACQUARIE LIGHTHOUSE SOUTH HEAD, 1885** (P. 34)

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD

Alex Byrne, NSW State Librarian
& Chief Executive **iii**

AN INSPIRING AND IMPACTFUL ARCHITECTURE

Peter Poulet, NSW Government Architect **3**

IMAGINE A CITY

Dr Charles Pickett, exhibition curator **6**

WALK WITH ME - *pullout*

Join Dr Charles Pickett
on a self-guided Sydney
walking tour

**centre
pages**

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

Building for the future:
The first government architect **16**

Temples of justice:
Designing law and order **18**

Educating a democracy:
Spaces for learning **20**

A city to be proud of:
Sydney becomes a metropolis **22**

'A monument in every town'
Landmarks and statements **24**

This belongs to you:
Sydney's arts buildings **26**

THE OFFICE

200 years of NSW government architects **30**

LIST OF WORKS **35**

SOME FURTHER READING **40**

STATE OFFICE BLOCK, 1968
PHOTOGRAPH BY MAX DUPAIN
© MAX DUPAIN & ASSOCIATES
PXD 720/ 87

Part of the 1960s skyscraper boom, the State Office Block demonstrated the government architect's continuing capacity to create innovative city buildings. Until surpassed by Australia Square a few years later, the 35-floor tower was Sydney's tallest building. Seen here through the Palace Garden gates designed by James Barnet, it was demolished in 1997 to make way for a tower designed by 'starchitect' Renzo Piano.



AN INSPIRING AND IMPACTFUL ARCHITECTURE

Architecture is powerful. Our public buildings frame our public life, contributing to our collective psyche and to our understanding of ourselves and our aspirations. Our most successful public buildings can endure physical changes as well as changes in attitudes, uses and the make-up of the population they serve.

Buildings can be fearless, buildings can be of their time and buildings can be controversial. This exhibition highlights the role of public architecture to affect the character and form of our cities. As Government Architect, I am responsible for achieving design excellence in our public buildings and in the public realm, making design synonymous with liveability throughout the state. I am also the custodian of the work of my predecessors. The success of my office in doing this has been acknowledged by winning awards for our work over many years.

This year the role of the NSW Government Architect celebrates its bicentenary, making it one of the oldest continually operating architectural practices in the world. For 200 years this office has created public buildings that define our past and our present. The history of the Government Architect's office also charts the evolution of architecture in Australia since European settlement. The office has made significant contributions to the public realm of our cities and towns and the architecture created — both functional and inspirational — provides a greater public good than just the sum of individual buildings. Collectively, these projects exemplify the community aspirations of their time.

Buildings can be **FEARLESS**, buildings can be **OF THEIR TIME** and buildings can be **CONTROVERSIAL**.

Since Francis Greenway, the ambition of government architects has been to design public buildings and places for the good of the public. Every successive government architect has promoted the value of investing in good design to develop healthy, liveable and prosperous communities — environments that people want to live and work in. The Government Architect's office has always encouraged government and industry to innovate, particularly in design and technology. Our challenge is to find new and better ways to source and deliver the very best ideas and newest methods from industry. This exhibition reveals many examples of new ideas and innovation which meet the needs and aspirations of the times.



PETER POULET,
NSW GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT
COURTESY GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECT'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
SERVICES AND INNOVATION

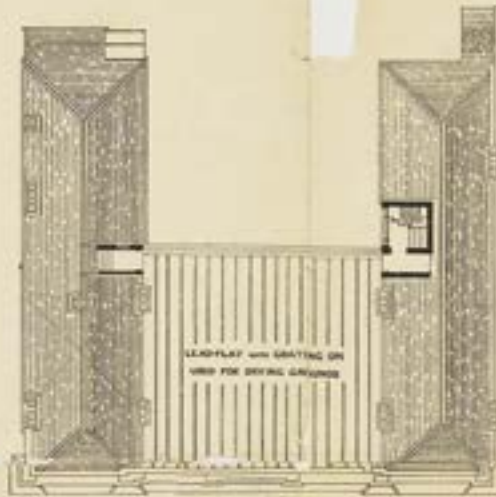
Nº 2

77

METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADE STATION SYDNEY



SECTION ON LINE A.B



ROOF PLAN



SECTION ON LINE C.D



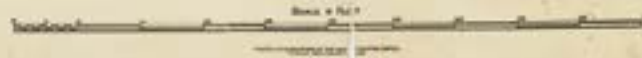
BACK ELEVATION



FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION



James H. Watson & Co.
Architects
Sydney

PAID 100.00

Good architecture is relevant to its time. The earliest examples by Francis Greenway reflect the aspirations of a small but growing settlement. Most of the work of the 19th-century civil architects was designed in a grand neo-classical style, to convey solidity, power and strength, as typified by the overwhelming scale and character of Barnet's post offices and courthouses.

The approach of Federation and the appointment of Walter Liberty Vernon as head of the new Government Architect's Branch heralded a more Australian flavour to our public buildings. These schools, fire stations, police stations and post offices were often smaller, using humbler materials than his predecessor, providing everyday facilities in increasingly suburban contexts.

From the 1930s, many of our projects reflected the growing international architecture trends of modernism and the more expressive brutalism, particularly in health and education. At this time, the Government Architect's Branch had a staff of over 400, producing approximately 60 hospitals, 300 schools and technical colleges, 30 courthouses, police stations and gaols, 20 university buildings, and 10 office blocks per year.¹

The post World War II baby boom required rapid methods of increasing school facilities, leading to the introduction of Binishells in the 1970s and demountable classrooms from the 1980s. Since the 1960-70s, the Government Architect's offices have increased their diversity in terms of skills with the introduction of specialist services such as heritage conservation, landscape design, urban design and an increasing range of engineering skills. More recently, projects have been subtle exercises in good design, sometimes involving clever adaptive reuse.

'As we now know, good design is a cornerstone of developing
**HEALTHY, LIVEABLE and PROSPEROUS
COMMUNITIES.'**

Over the coming decades, population growth will be concentrated in our major cities. Our challenge will be to make places of wellbeing that will be inspiring, resilient and last well into the future, while working in partnership with a robust and mature industry. This will only be achieved through the Government Architect continuing to champion design leadership, vision and creativity — much like Macquarie and Greenway did 200 years ago.

PETER POULET

23rd NSW Government Architect

LEFT: METROPOLITAN FIRE STATION,
SECTIONS AND ELEVATIONS, 1888
LITHOGRAPH BY JAMES BARNET
PXD 532/FOLDER 29/1

As taller buildings became common, fire became a major danger in cities, a fear heightened by the Garden Palace fire of 1882. In response, the NSW government established the Metropolitan Fire Service in 1884, modelled on its London counterpart.

¹ Architecture in Australia, Vol 54 no.3, p72.

IMAGINE A CITY

On 1 March 1816 Francis Greenway was appointed acting Civil Architect on a wage of three shillings a day.

The British government had earlier rejected the request of NSW Governor Lachlan Macquarie to appoint a government architect, and insisted that Greenway's job be temporary. Yet Greenway became the first of 23 NSW government architects whose

collective tenure spans two centuries. While their titles and job descriptions have varied, their role has remained essentially the one pioneered by Francis Greenway.

Lachlan Macquarie's ambition was to make a handsome town of Sydney, a goal at odds with London's insistence that the new colony be managed as a deterrent address offering only the most basic subsistence.



In contrast Greenway:

'considered it **FALSE ECONOMY TO BUILD ONLY FOR THE PRESENT DAY**, and to erect works which, in a few years, would become perfectly useless ... while at the same time they are neither suitable nor elegant, but rather **A DISGRACE** to the Colony and to the Mother Country ...'¹

— *Australian Almanac and General Directory*, 1835, p. 217

¹ Francis Greenway, *Australian Almanac and General Directory*, 1835, p. 217

For 200 years, the government architect's offices have followed Greenway's ambition to design for the future and set the architectural standard for Sydney and NSW.

'**SYDNEY IN ALL ITS GLORY**' (DETAIL),
c. 1817-1840
WATERCOLOUR BY EDWARD
CHARLES CLOSE FROM HIS
NEW SOUTH WALES SKETCHBOOK:
SEA VOYAGE, SYDNEY, ILLAWARRA,
NEWCASTLE, MORPETH
SAFE / PXA 1187



01 **CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC WITH FIRST STUDENTS, 1916**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION
GPO1 31627



/01

02 **MEMORANDUM, 4 JULY 1817**
SIGNED BY GOVERNOR LACHLAN MACQUARIE AND ASKING GREENWAY TO DRAW UP PLANS FOR A FORT, COURT, OFFICES AND STABLES ON BENNELONG POINT.
A 1451 (SAFE 1 / 229)



/02

The Office

The office of the Government Architect is one of the oldest architectural practices in the world. It is also one of few in the world to have designed most of the government buildings within its jurisdiction over its two centuries of work, bestowing an extraordinary influence on our built environment. Post offices, hospitals, courts, schools, police stations, gaols, lighthouses, forts, museums — the basic elements of European society — took form from the pen of the Colonial Architect and his staff.

In western nations government buildings are normally the work of private architects selected through competition, tender or patronage. But in early New South Wales the lack of a mature design and building industry forced colonial governors to fill the vacuum with government architects and builders, before representative government created a pattern of patronage where political success depended on the delivery of public buildings. As in Greenway's time, the lavish scale of the resulting structures became an issue.

Contemplating the grand new Bathurst courthouse, the *Sydney Morning Herald* wondered 'whether it is possible to continue the policy in which we have so freely been indulging, and how far it is the business of the present generation, in the construction of public offices, for example, not to provide for present wants but to erect palatial structures that will be the equal of ages to come'².

² *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 July 1884, p. 4.

³ Peter Bridges and Don McDonald, *James Barnet Colonial Architect*, Hale & Iremonger, 1988, p. 121.

⁴ *Report of the Commissioner of Inquiry, on the State of Agriculture and Trade in the Colony of New South Wales*, House of Commons, London, 1823.

⁵ *Annual Report of the Public Works Department*, 1903-4, p. 53.

Most other Australian colonies also appointed government architects but discontinued the position during the twentieth century in favour of competitive commissions for private architects. NSW would have followed the same course from 1890 had not the Minister for Public Works awarded the second such commission to a mate. The resulting scandal secured the government architect's status into the twentieth century.³

A model to the public

The Colonial Architect for the boom decades of the late 1800s was James Barnet, who noted in his 1890 letter of resignation that during his 25-year tenure his office had designed 169 post offices, 130 courthouses, 155 police stations and 20 lighthouses.



/03

The results of this prodigious output still surround us in numerous main streets, where government architect-designed courthouses and post offices, often the first substantial buildings of the town, inspired similarly styled hotels, banks and other commercial buildings. The office set the standard and the private sector followed, a phenomenon noticed as early as Greenway's time.

John Bigge, sent to Sydney by the Colonial Office to control the architectural ambitions of Greenway and his patron Lachlan Macquarie, conceded that 'the style of architecture' in Sydney 'is gradually improving under the direction and taste of Mr Greenway the colonial architect ...'⁴ Eighty years later, Walter Liberty Vernon assured the government that his office designed



/04



/05

buildings which would 'serve as a model — as Government buildings should do — for the building operations of the public'.⁵

As well as being the first government architect, convicted forger Francis Greenway remains the best known and his city buildings and suburban churches are well loved.



/06

- 03 **PRISONERS BARRACKS, HYDE PARK, 1836**
LITHOGRAPH BY ROBERT RUSSELL
PXA 622
- 04 **ST JAMES' CHURCH, SUPREME COURT HOUSE, 1836**
LITHOGRAPH BY ROBERT RUSSELL
PXA 581
- 05 **POST OFFICE & COURTHOUSE, BATHURST, C. 1892-1900**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION
PX*D 116/ 96
- 06 **CHANCERY SQUARE AND KING STREET, SYDNEY, 1892-1893**
PHOTOGRAPH BY FRED HARDIE FROM PHOTOGRAPHS OF SYDNEY, NEWCASTLE, NEW SOUTH WALES AND ABORIGINALS FOR GEORGE WASHINGTON WILSON & CO
PXD 754



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE COLONIAL ARCHITECT'S OFFICE, SYDNEY, 1886
 WATERCOLOUR POSSIBLY BY WILLIAM ANDREWS, WHO WAS A DRAUGHTSMAN IN THE OFFICE
 DG SV1 / 59

As a result of Greenway's ambitions for Sydney, his conflicts with the Colonial Office and local grandees have become one of Australia's founding myths, retold during 2014 in a new biography by Alasdair McGregor⁶ and a polemical interpretation by Luke Slattery⁷.

In his own time, the highest profile government architect was undoubtedly James Barnet, Colonial Architect from 1865 to 1890. Whereas Greenway was from all accounts as difficult an individual as he was resourceful as an architect, Barnet embodied Victorian-era rectitude and respectability. Both Greenway and Barnet transformed Sydney's public realm, creating buildings

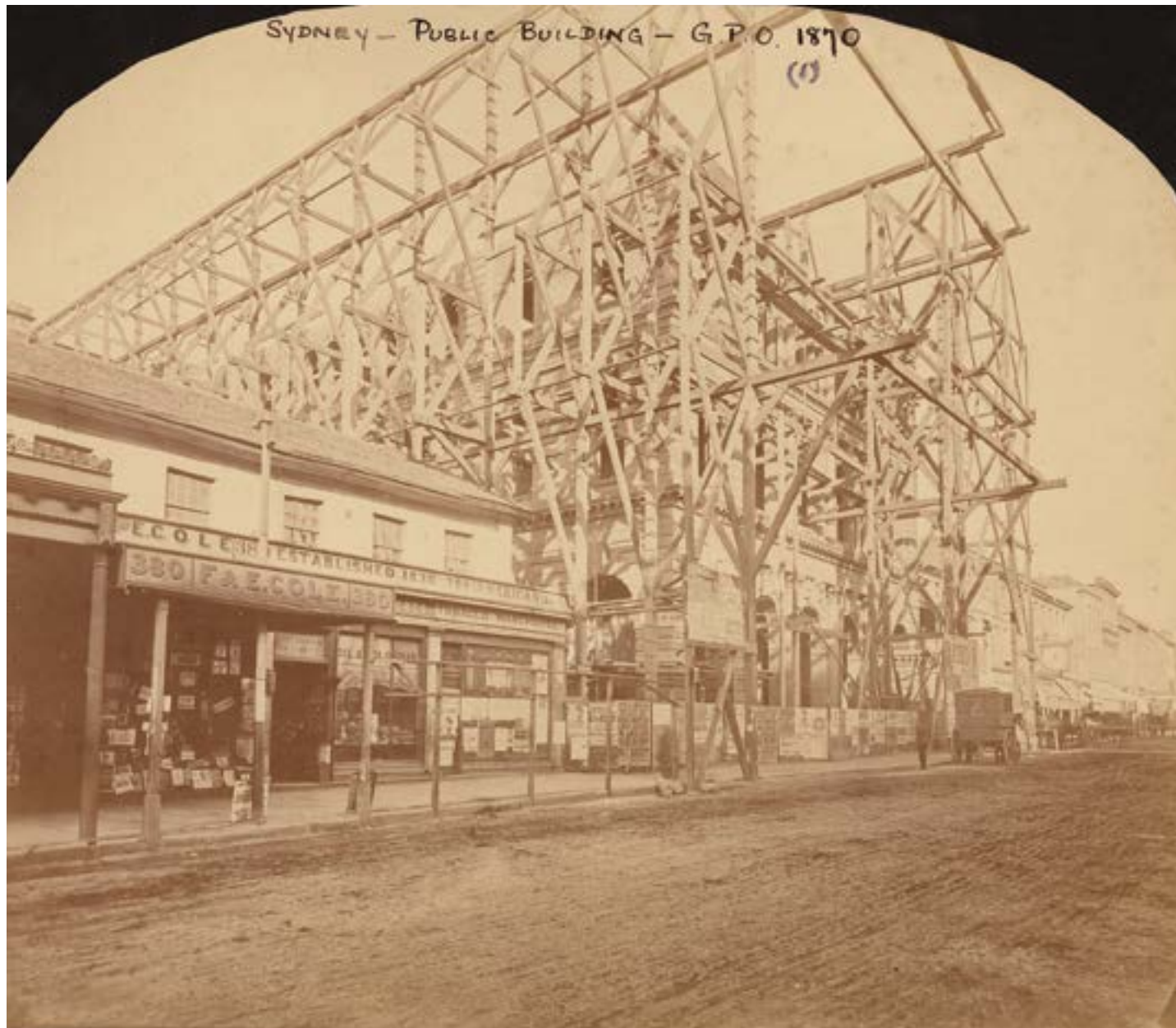
and spaces which give the lie to the lazy slander that Sydney's built environment merely despoils its setting. Sydney would be a poorer place without the Barracks and St James', bookending Macquarie Street, without Martin Place and Barnet's General Post Office, or the sandstone palazzos of Bridge Street.

Like many architects of his time, Barnet believed that the status and purpose of a building should be obvious from its architecture. He achieved this aim, most particularly in the intimidating presence of many of the police stations and courthouses designed by Barnet and his assistant Edward Rumsey. CBD examples include Liverpool Street Court and George Street North police station (now a cafe complete with iron cell doors). All government buildings of the Barnet era proclaim their official standing through size, symmetry, siting and sculpture. They are frequently humanised by pedestrian arcades like that of Sydney's GPO, creating meeting places, shelter and animating the building façade.

Barnet's successor, Walter Vernon, the first to adopt the title Government Architect, was both more vocal in public and more accommodating to existing townscapes. Although he created similarly impressive city buildings, including the Mitchell Library and the Art Gallery, most of Vernon's work adopted the new looks and ideas of Arts and Crafts, Queen Anne and Art Nouveau — the decorative styles often bundled together in Australia as 'Federation' — moving beyond historic precedent to architecture as a statement of artistic and cultural identity. The fire stations, police offices and post offices produced by Vernon's office mostly have a suburban scale and playfulness lacking from Barnet's oeuvre.

⁶ *A Forger's Progress: The Life of Francis Greenway*, NewSouth Books, 2014

⁷ *The First Dismissal*, Penguin Books, 2014



GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
UNDER CONSTRUCTION, 1870
PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT
PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION
SPF/278

**Taken from George Street,
this photo shows the
first stage of the GPO
on a narrow site between
George and Pitt streets.**



GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT
TED FARMER (RIGHT) AND
ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT
CHARLES WEATHERBURN ON THE
CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE STATE
OFFICE BLOCK SITE, 1960s
PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN
COURTESY GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECT'S OFFICE

Urban politics

As society became more complex during the twentieth century, the focus of public architecture broadened to urban efficiency rather than splendour. Congestion, plague and other 'old world' urban problems saw The Rocks

and wharves reconstructed, the tramway system expanded to the suburbs and, after delay enforced by the First World War, construction of the City Railway and Harbour Bridge.

At the same time other areas of government took responsibility for the design of specific building types, for example railway stations and public housing. Local governments, notably the City of Sydney, also began to design and construct their own buildings.

Although the Government Architect's office took a role in the beginnings of modern Sydney — for example the design of Central Station — the two decades between the world wars saw its profile fall. However its head design architect Harry Rembert anticipated the way forward during the 1930s, designing functionalist buildings for Sydney and Newcastle technical colleges and introducing modern design principles applicable across a range of purposes.

The population and economic boom of the 1950s and 1960s created a vast demand for education and health buildings and the office was again at the centre of NSW public architecture. Fortunately the Government Architect's office did not lack the talent for this and during the post-war era employee architects sometimes eclipsed the standing of their boss. Ken Woolley, Michael Dysart, Andrew Andersons, Peter Hall, Alec Tzannes, Beverley Garlick and Lionel Glendenning are just a few of those to shine before moving on to fine careers in the private sector — reflecting the successful traineeship programs and access to high-profile projects

introduced during the reigns of Cobden Parkes and his successor Ted Farmer.

When Michael Dysart began at the office during the mid-1950s these positions attracted few applicants; when he left a decade or so later competition for traineeships was fierce among thousands of applicants — the Government Architect's office was the place to be for ambitious young architects. In 1962 Ted Farmer began to enter projects for Australian Institute of Architects awards with immediate success; Ken Woolley's design for Sydney University's Fisher Library winning the Sulman Prize for best new building in NSW, the first of many such triumphs.

The confident decades from 1960 to 1990 formed a highpoint of the office's history. With a vast schools and universities output, the city-defining Opera House project and city office towers for government staff, culminating with the Wran government's urban ambitions including the redesign of Macquarie Street, the Opera House and Circular Quay precincts and cultural projects including the

'The GAO was the place to be for **AMBITIOUS YOUNG ARCHITECTS.**'



PROJECT ARCHITECT
BEVERLEY GARLICK AT THE
PETERSHAM TAFE SITE, 1983
COURTESY BEVERLEY GARLICK

Wharf Theatre and Powerhouse Museum. Among changes to the office culture was a broadening of the staff demographic and outlook, highlighted in 1982 when Beverley Garlick became the first woman architect to be awarded for a NSW public building with her design for Petersham TAFE. During the 1970s, a team of heritage architects was established to care for significant public buildings, which continues to this day, working closely with the Public Works Stoneyard.



MORTIMER LEWIS HOLDING
AN ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING,
1860-1865
AMBROTYPE IN LEATHER CASE
MIN 367

In 1995, Government Architect Chris Johnson established the Merrima Aboriginal Design Unit within the office to develop responses to Indigenous input at a local level. This resulted in several outstanding projects, including the Girrawaa Creative Work Centre (within Bathurst Correctional Centre), which trained Indigenous inmates with minimum-security classification in creative and business skills. At the same time, environmental design became a central dynamic of education architecture as exemplified by Kate McElhone's Nemingha School near Tamworth.

In recent decades the NSW government returned to the privatisation agenda first tried back in 1890 with many designs entrusted to the private sector, while the Government Architect and staff took on planning and facilitation roles for major projects including Darling Harbour and Olympic Park. The role of the government architect aims to ensure a balance between public benefit and private gain.

New beginnings?

The first Colonial Architect to enjoy an extended tenure — 15 years from 1835 — was Mortimer Lewis, whose office consisted of himself as sole architect, a draughtsman, a clerk and a clerk of works who managed the building sites — a tiny staff considering its prolific output. James Barnet's office expanded to 70 staff during the boom decades of the 1870s and 1880s, establishing a system of specialised groups for particular building types, a model maintained by most of his successors. By the 1970s era of government architects Peter Webber and Charles Weatherburn, the office was still one of the largest architectural practices in Australia with a staff of almost 1300 spread across Sydney and district offices. In recent years, the office has become multi-disciplined, with architects, landscape architects, urban designers, heritage specialists and all the disciplines of building engineering.

The governance of Sydney has transformed in stages from colonial power to capitalist democracy. In turn these moves have set the discourse for the government's role in the architecture of the city.

Just as government patronage has waxed and waned with the state's economic fortunes, so too have the size and influence of the Government Architect's office. Today, in its 200th year, the Government Architect's office stands on the verge of transformation from an architectural practice to government adviser and custodian of the urban domain. The Government Architect will partner with architects to make the public buildings and public space of the future. After all, the common goal of all government architects has been to improve the design and procurement of public buildings and spaces, enhancing the quality of the built environment and creating a legacy for the future.

Against this uncertain background *Imagine a City* is a timely appraisal and celebration of NSW's heritage of public architecture and the government architect's role in its creation, underlining the value of our public buildings and spaces. It also highlights the State Library's collection and its own history of design by the Government Architect's office.

DR CHARLES PICKETT
Exhibition curator



THE AWARD-WINNING WINANGALI ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE, GUNNEDAH, 2013
PHOTOS © BRETT BOARDMAN FOR THE NSW GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S OFFICE
COURTESY GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S OFFICE



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

The first government architect

On 1 March 1816 Francis Greenway was appointed 'Civil Architect, and Assistant to the Engineer, in superintending and directing the Planning and Execution of the Government Public Works'.

This was a newly created position, paid by the day 'from the Colonial Police Fund' and intended to be temporary. That Greenway became the first of 23 NSW government architects, whose collective tenure spans two centuries, underlines the degree to which he exceeded expectations.

In six years he designed Australia's first courthouse, first lighthouse, some of its first churches and other pioneering structures when Sydney was a town barely worthy of the name.

Greenway did more than that. Although restricted by shortages of materials and skilled labour, Greenway created public architecture so successfully that several of his designs still define Sydney spaces. So successfully, that the Colonial Office protested the urban landmarks gracing their far-flung gaol.

This founding conflict set the scene for two centuries of debate on the role of public architecture: should the government architect build for the future or merely provide the basics?



LEFT: **FEMALE FACTORY** (DETAIL), **PARRAMATTA, ELEVATION, 1824**
FROM STANDISH LAWRENCE HARRIS, REPORT & ESTIMATE OF THE VALUE OF THE IMPROVEMENTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF SYDNEY C226

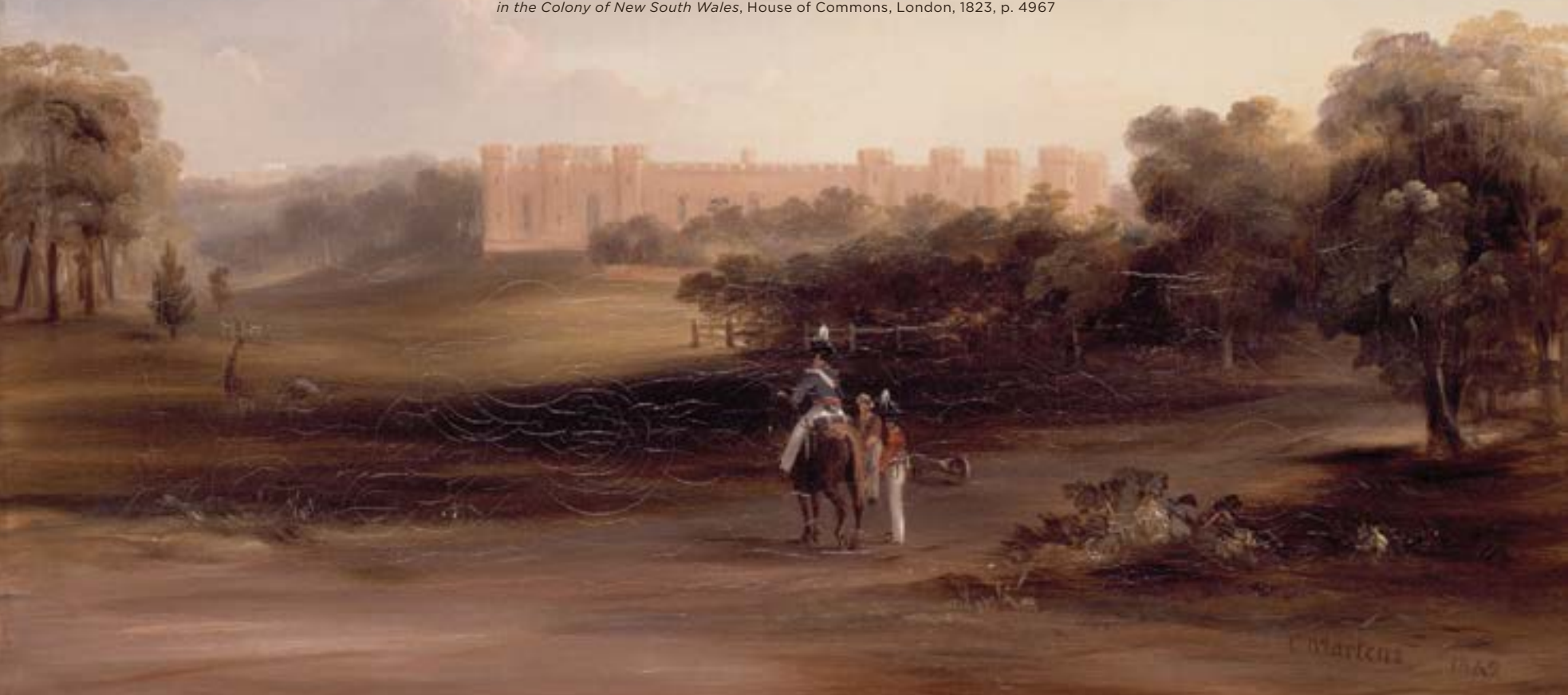
ABOVE: **CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC WITH FIRST STUDENTS, 1916**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION GPO1 31627

RIGHT: **GOVERNMENT HOUSE STABLES, 1842**
OIL PAINTING BY CONRAD MARTENS DG 51

'the style of architecture of the houses in Sydney is
GRADUALLY IMPROVING under the direction
and taste of **MR GREENWAY** the colonial architect ...'

- **Commissioner Bigge to Macquarie, 6 June 1820**

*Report of the Commissioner of Inquiry, on the State of Agriculture and Trade
in the Colony of New South Wales, House of Commons, London, 1823, p. 4967*



TEMPLES OF JUSTICE

Designing law and order

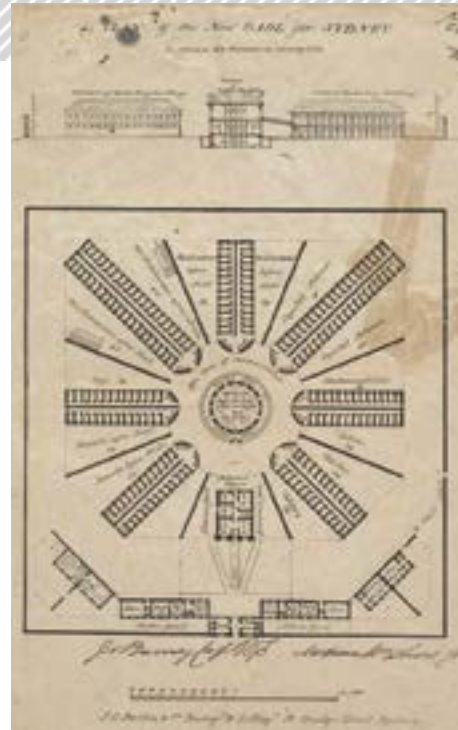
Founded as a vast prison, Australia's European settlement quickly adopted a new, apparently humane idea: prisons could reform as well as deter via the rigid separation of inmates.

The advent of reformatory prisons necessitated a vast building program, as did the creation of a professional police force and court system. Courthouses, prisons and police stations embody the law's reach and power, expressed in an architectural investment of physical and symbolic power.

However, there were contradictions at the heart of this program and the problems set the justice system and its architects may well be largely insoluble, embodying the unresolved questions of the efficacy of punishment and rehabilitation.



/02



/01



/03

An endeavour has been made to utilise **THE MOST MODERN IMPROVEMENTS**; and it is undoubted that these institutions in New South Wales will compare most favourably with those elsewhere and in most cases **ARE IN MARKED ADVANCE.**

- Government Architect **Walter Liberty Vernon, 1904**

Report of the Department of Public Works, Legislative Assembly NSW (1903-1904)

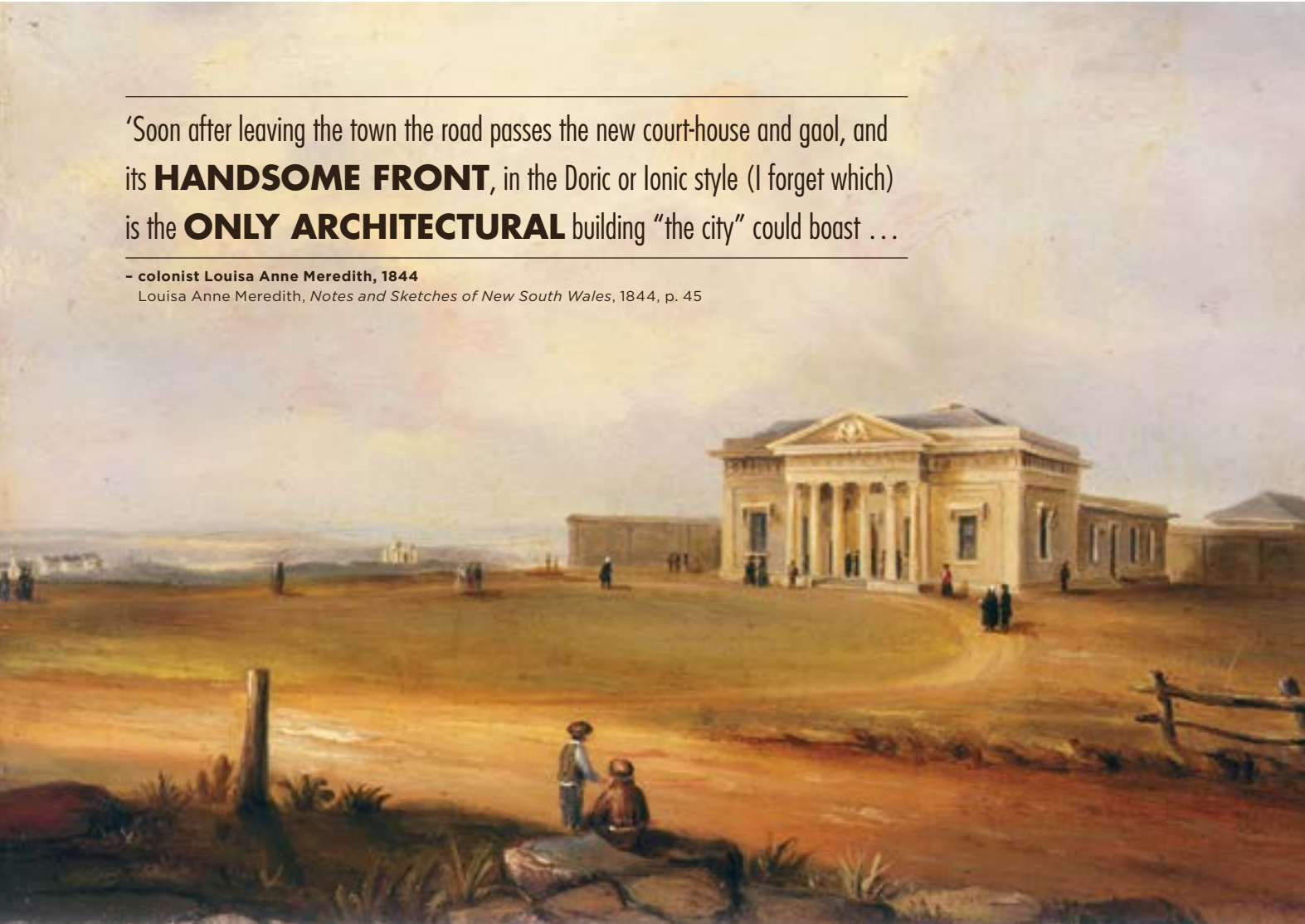


/04

'Soon after leaving the town the road passes the new court-house and gaol, and its **HANDSOME FRONT**, in the Doric or Ionic style (I forget which) is the **ONLY ARCHITECTURAL** building "the city" could boast ...

- colonist Louisa Anne Meredith, 1844

Louisa Anne Meredith, *Notes and Sketches of New South Wales*, 1844, p. 45



- 01 **PLAN OF THE NEW GAOL FOR SYDNEY TO CONTAIN 400 PRISONERS IN SOLITARY CELLS, DARLINGHURST, 1840**
LITHOGRAPH BY JG AUSTIN & CO.
PRESENTED 1962
SSV1 / GAO / DARH / 1
- 02 **CONTROL ROOM, KATINGAL, 1978**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
COLLECTION
GPO3 44822
- 03 **ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF SYDNEY POLICE CENTRE (DETAIL), 1980**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
COLLECTION
GPO3 36027
- 04 **STONEYARD AT GOULBURN GAOL, C. 1892**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
COLLECTION
PX*D 116/50
- 05 **SUPREME COURT HOUSE, SYDNEY, 1845**
OIL PAINTING
BY GEORGE PEACOCK
ML 659

EDUCATING A DEMOCRACY

Spaces for learning

Coinciding with the French and American revolutions, Australia's European colony was ripe for the new ideals of democracy and opportunity. The universal right to education was one of these new values.

As a result most people have attended school and many of us have also experienced tertiary education at college or university. It is likely that the education design of the Government Architect's offices has touched more people than in any other area of life.

The design of schools, colleges and universities has seen the office at its productive and innovative best, responding to changes in educational and government philosophy, to new design thinking and the expanding role of education into out-of-school time care and other forms of community engagement.

There were **FIVE COLUMNS** of desks with **SEVEN DESKS IN EACH COLUMN.**

The five most academically able boys **SAT IN THE BACK** five desks and so on down the line ...

- Clive James, 1980
Unreliable Memoirs, p. 32



/01



/02



/03



/04

'We don't win awards because we have endless financing and endless time. Ninety per cent of our work is in hospitals, **SCHOOLS, TECHNICAL COLLEGES** and we've won many awards for schools that were simply **ORDINARY BUILDINGS, very WELL HANDLED.'**

- Government Architect Ian Thompson
Sydney Morning Herald, 16 June 1988, p. 4



/05



/06

- 01 **ROZELLE PUBLIC SCHOOL, 1885**
 (ORIGINALLY BALMAIN WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL)
 PHOTOGRAPH ANNOTATED "MY FIRST SCHOOL, J.R. TYRRELL"
 SPF / 734
- 02 **WALTER VERNON'S FISHER LIBRARY (NOW McLAURIN HALL), UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, 1910**
 PHOTOGRAPH BY AE FOSTER ON 30/BOX 41
- 03 **INTERIOR VIEW OF THE NEW FISHER LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY (DESIGNED BY KEN WOOLLEY), 1963**
 PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION
 GPO2 18779
- 04 **PENNANT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL, 1967**
 PHOTOGRAPH BY MAX DUPAIN © MAX DUPAIN & ASSOCIATES
 PXD 1013/109
- 05 **MODEL OF TURRAMURRA (KU-RING-GAI) HIGH SCHOOL, C. 1964**
 PHOTOGRAPH BY MAX DUPAIN © MAX DUPAIN & ASSOCIATES
 COURTESY MICHAEL DYSART
- 06 **BINISHELL AT NARRABEEN NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL, 1975**
 COURTESY GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S OFFICE

A CITY TO BE PROUD OF

Sydney becomes a metropolis

From 1860 the Government Architect's office created a series of city structures expressing the wealth of the colony and its government. Inserted into the ramshackle streetscape of colonial Sydney, these buildings created new public spaces and transformed existing ones. They embodied core functions of government: public works, treasury, lands and education.



Arrayed above Sydney Cove, Bridge Street became the centre of these purposes while the GPO inspired a new city centre and created an architectural and practical connection with the cities of the Old World. Encrusted with sculpture and statuary, the GPO and the Bridge Street offices embodied colonial confidence and idealism.

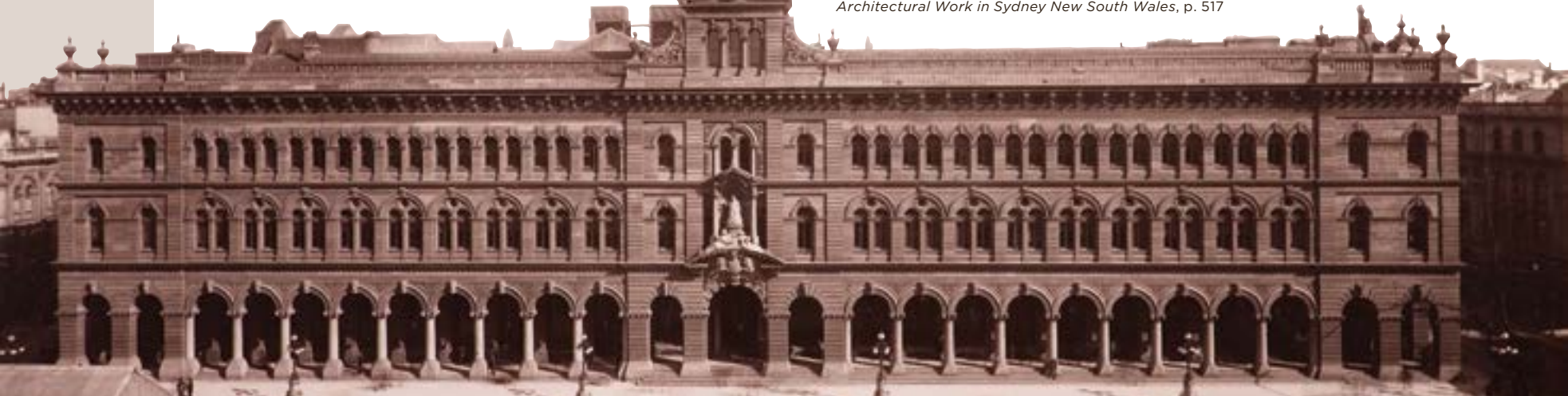


/02

Carving in stone is **FREELY APPLIED** to many of the Sydney buildings, the **SANDSTONE** being very suitable and easily cut ...

- Government Architect James Barnet, 1899

Architectural Work in Sydney New South Wales, p. 517



/01

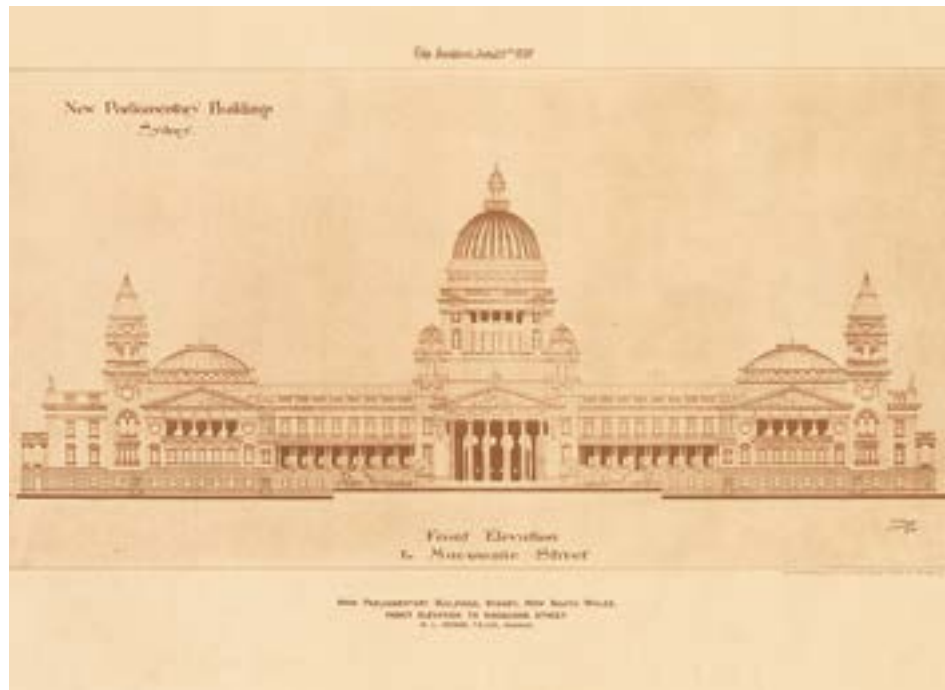
As well as bringing a new urban scale to Sydney, the government buildings expressed the classical ideal of architecture as an ornament to the city, an inspiration and theatre for public gatherings and an aesthetic education for its citizens. Despite changes in purpose and meaning, they continue to anchor the cityscape.



/04



/03



/05

- 01 **GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY, 1892**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION
PRESENTED 1969
PX'D 116
- 02 **THE MAIN CONCOURSE AT CENTRAL STATION, SYDNEY, 1965-67**
PHOTOGRAPH © EDWARD RICHARDS
PURCHASED 2010
PXA 1281/124
- 03 **COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 1880**
PHOTOGRAPH BY CHARLES BAYLISS
SPF/250
- 04 **PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE AND RAISE BELMORE PARK TO THE LEVEL OF CENTRAL STATION'S MAIN PLATFORMS, 1909**
PLAN 25 BY RCG COULTER FROM THE REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF SYDNEY AND ITS SUBURBS
F981.1/N
- 05 **NEW PARLIAMENTARY BUILDINGS, SYDNEY (DETAIL), 1897**
DESIGN BY WALTER LIBERTY VERNON
V1 / PUB / PARL / 1

'A MONUMENT IN EVERY TOWN'

Landmarks and statements

The government architect created the essentials of European society across the colony and state. This infrastructure of law and order, education and health was not merely functional. It also formed the markers of a new society and was a vast exercise in place-making.

Part of the government architect's output was literally navigational, notably lighthouses and observatories. Yet post offices, by creating a centre point for towns across the state, marked

out places as surely as a lighthouse. They also connected NSW to the world via the new phenomena of cheap postage, universal timekeeping and telephony — the internet of the 1800s. Between 1865 and 1890 the office designed 169 post and telegraph offices.



/03



/01



/02



/04

The office's role included designing monuments for various purposes. As well as memorials and celebratory arches, these included buildings designed as statements of social and economic progress, most notably the Sydney International Exhibition's Garden Palace and the State Office Block.

'W.L. VERNON, the retiring Government Architect of New South Wales
... leaves **A MONUMENT IN** nearly **EVERY TOWN.**'

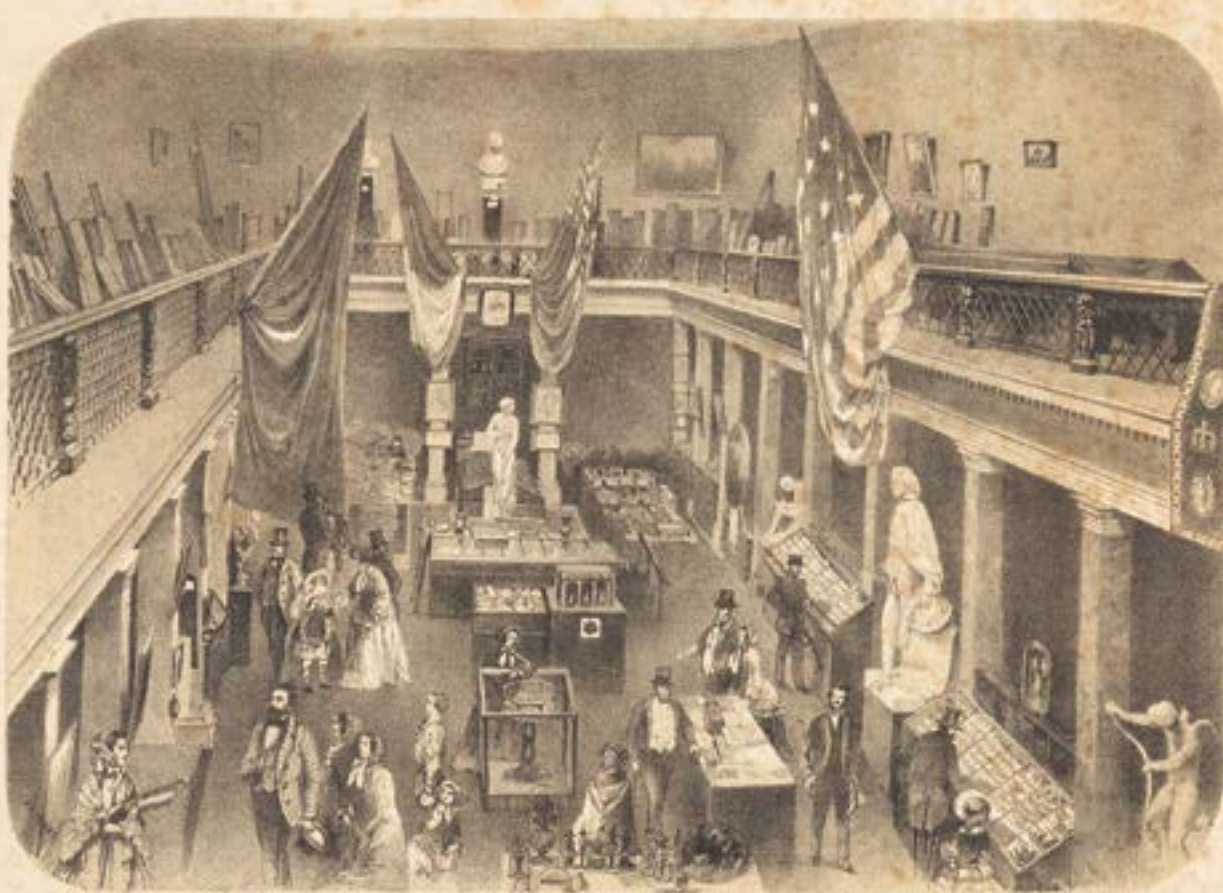
- *Evening News*, 25 May 1911, p. 10



- 01 **MACQUARIE LIGHTHOUSE, OLD AND NEW, 1884**
PHOTOGRAPH FROM GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE COLLECTION SPF/1014
- 02 **THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION 1879, FROM THE SPIRE OF ST JAMES' CHURCH, 1879**
LITHOGRAPH BY W MACLEOD PRESENTED BY MRS EJ ARMSTRONG, 1960 V1/PUB/GAR P/5
- 03 **LA PEROUSE'S MONUMENT, 1836**
LITHOGRAPH BY ROBERT RUSSELL DL PD14
- 04 **CUSTOMS HOUSE, NEWCASTLE, 1892**
PHOTOGRAPH BY FRED HARDIE PXD 754/190

THIS BELONGS TO YOU

Sydney's arts buildings



FIRST EXHIBITION HELD IN THE MUSEUM, SYDNEY, N. S. W., 1855.

TAKEN FROM A DAQUERRETYPE BY GOW, 54, GEORGE STREET.

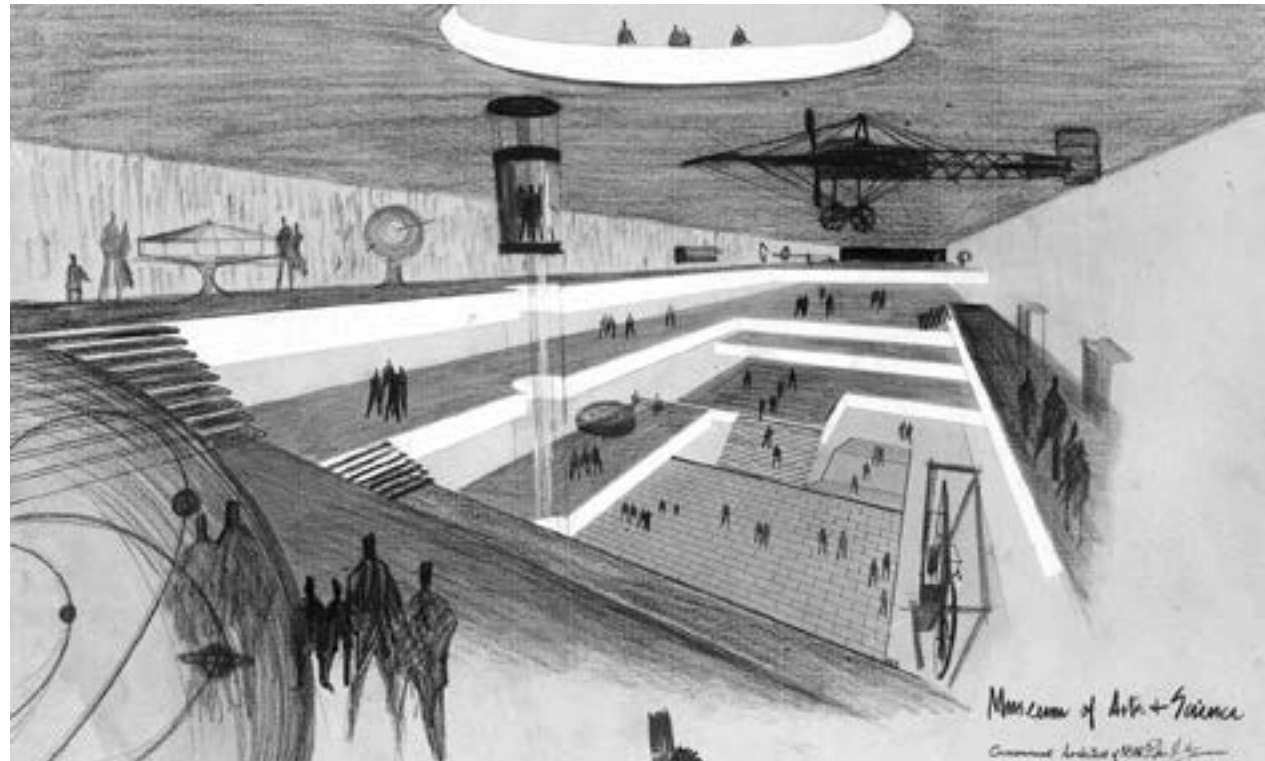
Arts buildings embody the value and potential of public architecture. These buildings and their treasures, which belong to all of us, are statements of the value and potential of public ownership.

The Australian Museum, Art Gallery, State Library, Opera House and Powerhouse Museum — social aggregators, bringing people together for education, entertainment and sociability — are constantly repurposed for different audiences and functions. They are also Sydney landmarks and logos. The Opera House demonstrated the power of arts architecture as a place-maker, a strategy now followed across the world.

In the architecture of the arts, the strategy is to create welcoming public space for a variety of audiences and uses, with destination status the goal.



/02



/04



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- 01 **FIRST EXHIBITION HELD AT THE [AUSTRALIAN] MUSEUM, SYDNEY, 1855**
LITHOGRAPH BY FC TERRY
BEQUEST OF SIR WILLIAM DIXSON, 195?
DG V*/ GENERAL/ 7
- 02 **BRITISH COURT, NATIONAL ART GALLERY, 1892**
PHOTOGRAPH BY FRED HARDIE
PRESENTED BY THE SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT, UNSW,
IN MEMORY OF PROFESSOR JM FREELAND, 1985
PXD 754/64
- 03 **POWERHOUSE MUSEUM (DETAIL), 2007**
PHOTOGRAPH © NEIL FENELON
PURCHASED 2007
PXD 1016/8
- 04 **DESIGNS FOR MUSEUM OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, 1962**
BY MICHAEL DYSART
COURTESY MICHAEL DYSART



/01

01 **PUBLIC LIBRARY READING ROOM,
1955**

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERN
MACQUILLAN, AUSTRALIAN
PHOTOGRAPHIC AGENCY
PRESENTED 1988
APA 00790

02 **PORTRICO DETAILS,
NATIONAL LIBRARY, 1935**

INK DRAWING BY
COBDEN PARKES
PXD 363/ F.395

03 **MITCHELL LIBRARY,
EXTERIOR VIEW, 1923**

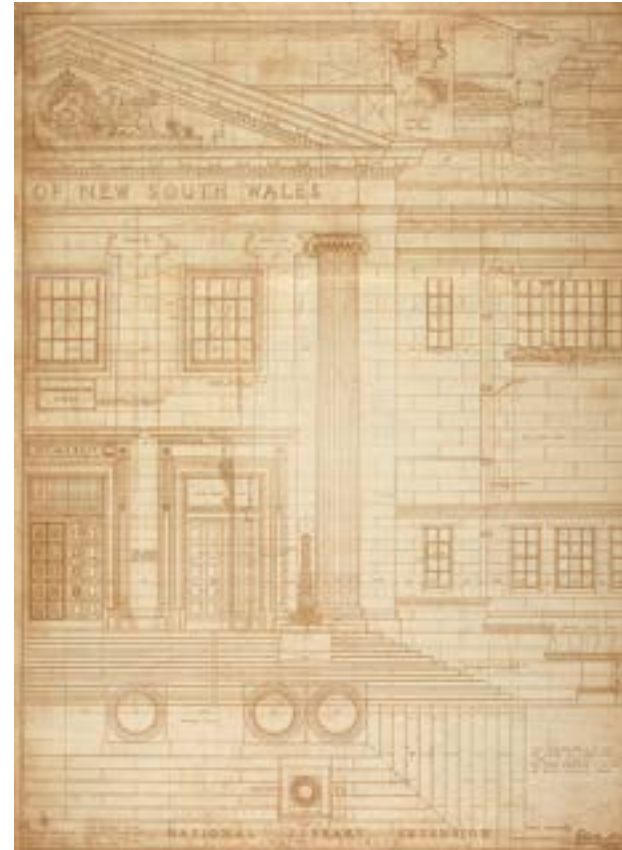
PHOTOGRAPH FROM
THE *DAILY MAIL*
ON7/5

04 **ARCHITECT'S PERSPECTIVE,
MACQUARIE WING, 1985**

DIAZO PRINT BY GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECT'S OFFICE
PIC.ACC.7077

05 **PROPOSED NATIONAL LIBRARY,
SYDNEY, 1925-1930**

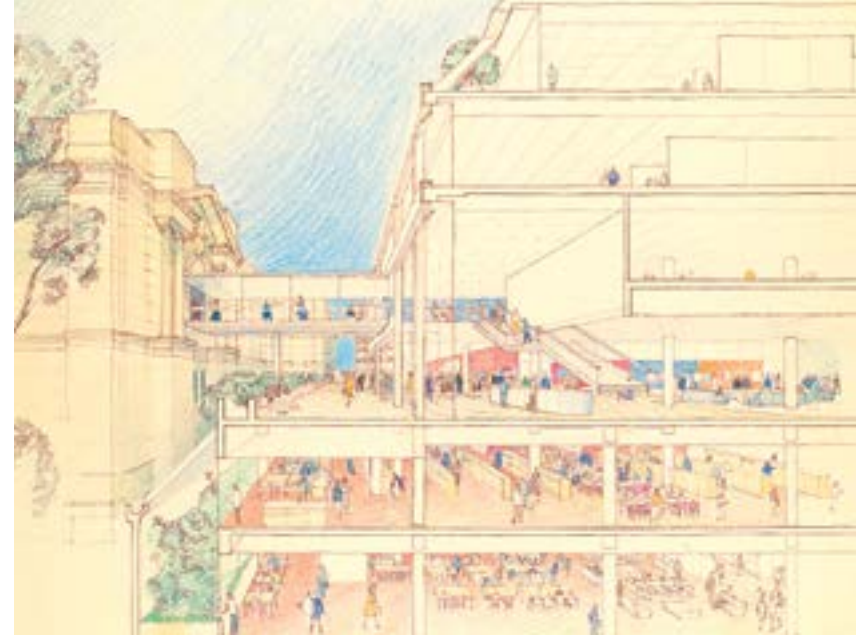
WATERCOLOUR BY
ROBERT CHARLES COULTER
V1 / LIB / PUB / 2



/02



/03



/04

‘With the combination of **BEAUTIFUL PROPORTION** and **GOOD COMPOSITION**, [Vernon] has produced an **ARTISTIC GEM**. The fine stonework is one of its admirable features.’

Construction and Local Government Journal,
18 June 1924, p. 7



/05

THE OFFICE

200 years of NSW government architects

Many of the older staff wore **HARD COLLARS**,
They seemed to me **FUNNY OLD MEN** living

1800

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR has been pleased to appoint Mr. **FRANCIS HOWARD GREENWAY**, to act as **CIVIL ARCHITECT**, and Assistant to the Engineer, in superintending and directing the Planning and Execution of the Government Public Works; with a Salary of Three Shillings per Diem, commencing from the First of the present Month of March, and to be paid from the **COLONIAL POLICE FUND**.

By Command of His Excellency,
The Governor, J. T. CAMPBELL, Secretary

- *Sydney Gazette*, 30 March 1816, p. 1

WALTER LIBERTY VERNON AND STAFF, 1896
PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN
NSW PUBLIC WORKS HISTORY COLLECTION, COURTESY GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, SERVICES AND INNOVATION

Walter Liberty Vernon (sitting, fifth from left) succeeded **James Barnet** in 1890 as the NSW government reorganised the office to administer and implement design competitions for public buildings. Vernon was able to demonstrate that his office could design buildings more cheaply and efficiently and by 1896 was in charge of a busy program. As well as new buildings, Vernon's office was responsible for the condition of the 900 or so public buildings of NSW.

1816-22

1. Francis **GREENWAY**

Notable works:

Hyde Park Barracks
Macquarie Lighthouse
St James' Church, Sydney
St Matthew's Church, Windsor
St Luke's Church, Liverpool
Government House Stables
Fort Macquarie
Windsor Courthouse
King Street Courthouse
Female Factory, Parramatta
Liverpool Hospital
Police Office, George Street

1822-24

2. Standish Lawrence **HARRIS**

Notable works:

Reviewing the condition of the colony's public buildings

1825-26

3. George **COOKNEY**

Notable works:

Memorial to French explorer Jean-Francois de la Pèrouse, La Perouse

1832-35

4. Ambrose **HALLEN**

Notable works:

St Brigid's School, Millers Point
Berrima Gaol

1835-49

5. Mortimer **LEWIS**

Notable works:

Darlinghurst Gaol
Customs House (first version)
Courthouses including Goulburn, Bathurst, Berrima and Hartley
Gaols including Berrima, Maitland, Bathurst and Goulburn



BLACK ALPACA JACKETS, and A GOLD WATCH AND CHAIN.

in a kind of ancient Public Service fog, which dated back probably to Mr. Commissioner Bigge ...

- Ted Farmer, recalling his first days at the GAO in 1939

Russell Jack, *The Work of the NSW Government Architect's Branch, 1958-1973*, 1980, p. 31

1849-54

6. Edmund Thomas **BLACKET**

Australian Museum

Tarban Creek Lunatic
Asylum (later Gladesville
Hospital)

Treasury Building,
Bridge Street

King's School, Parramatta
Circular Quay

Notable works:

Water Police Court,
Circular Quay

Abattoirs, Glebe Island

Gabo Island Lighthouse

1854-56

7. William **WEAVER**

Notable works:

Government Printing
Office

1856-62

8. Alexander **DAWSON**

Notable works:

Sydney Observatory

Sydney Registry Office

Point Stephens
Lighthouse

Hornby Lighthouse

Albury Courthouse

1862-90

9. James **BARNET**

Notable works:

General Post Office

Chief Secretary's Building

Customs House

Lands Building

Australian Museum,
College Street wing

Medical School,
University of Sydney

Callan Park Lunatic
Asylum

Garden Palace

Mortuary Station

Macquarie Lighthouse

Gaols, courthouses and
post offices at Bathurst
and Goulburn

Newcastle Customs House



1900

1890–1911

10. Walter Liberty **VERNON**

Notable works:
Central Railway Station
Art Gallery of NSW
Registrar General's Building
Mitchell Library
Veterinary School,
Engineering School,
University of Sydney
Jenolan Caves House
Public housing and shops,
The Rocks
Inebriates Institution,
Hawkesbury River
Courthouses at Hay,
Maclean, Newcastle,
Parramatta, West
Maitland, Redfern, Junee,
Condobolin, Braidwood,
Moree, Wagga Wagga
and Temora
Female Prison,
Long Bay Gaol
Fire stations at Glebe,
Darlinghurst, Pyrmont,
Woollahra and
Drummoyne
Post offices at Newtown,
Burwood, Broken Hill,
Mount Victoria, Lismore,
Newcastle, Summer Hill,
Armidale, Annandale,
Randwick

Lands offices in Sydney,
Moree, Dubbo, East
Maitland, Forbes,
Tamworth

Woolloomooloo Baths

1911–23

11. George **McRAE**

Notable works:
Education Building,
Bridge Street
Clock tower and offices,
Central Railway Station
St James and Museum
stations
Parcels Post Office,
Railway Square
Taronga Zoo entrances
and Elephant House
Cessnock Courthouse
NSW Conservatorium
of Music
Hospitals at Coledale,
Balranald, Cessnock
and Macleay
Manly Surf Pavilion
Homebush Abattoirs
Cordeaux Dam
superstructure
Coast Hospital, Little Bay
Sydney Harbour Bridge
approaches

1926–27

12. Gorrie McLeish **BLAIR**

Notable works:
Several war memorials
Additions to Katoomba
Court House
Wards 24 & 25,
Rozelle Hospital

1927–29

13. Richard **WELLS**

Notable works:
Sydney Girls High School
North Sydney Girls
High School
High schools at Albury,
Bathurst, Fort Street,
Goulburn and Parramatta
Travers Building,
University of Sydney
Dixon Wing,
State Library of NSW
Nurses' home,
Maitland Hospital
Maternity wing,
Crown Street Hospital

1929–35

14. Edwin **SMITH**

Notable works:
Blackburn Building,
University of Sydney
Tea Gardens Courthouse
Quirindi Courthouse
Lismore District Works
Office
Lismore Police Station

1935–58

15. Cobden **PARKES**

Notable works:
Reading room
and portico,
State Library of NSW
Hoskins Block,
Sydney Technical College
Newcastle Technical
College

1958–73

16. Ted **FARMER**

Notable works:
St Margaret's Hospital
chapel and nurses' home
Chemistry School
and Fisher Library,
University of Sydney
Roundhouse and
Goldstein College,
University of NSW
Robb College, University
of New England
Library, Macquarie
University
William Street wing,
Australian Museum
Belmont Primary School
High schools including
Turramurra, Lurnea,
Pennant Hills
Taree Technical College
Mona Vale Hospital
Mitchell College, Bathurst
Sydney Opera House
completion
Ku-ring-gai College

THE MOST INTERESTING, THE MOST EXCITING, THE MOST ARCHITECTURALLY

they have a better chance to be creative, to do their own thing, than in most private offices.

2000

- 'State work sets high standard', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 November 1970, p. 32

1973-74

17. Peter **WEBBER**

Notable works:

Captain Cook wing,
Art Gallery of NSW
Platypus House, Aviary,
Taronga Zoo
Parliament House
new offices
Ryde Food School

1974-78

18. Charles **WEATHERBURN**

Notable works:

Institute of Technology
(UTS)
Goodsell Building
McKell Building
Westmead Hospital
Alexander Mackie College

1978-88

19. Ian **THOMPSON**

Notable works:

Powerhouse Museum
Macquarie Wing,
State Library of NSW
Ballina Police Station
Western Plains Zoo
Gardens Restaurant,
Royal Botanic Gardens
(in assoc. with Ancher
Mortlock & Woolley)
Bicentennial Park
Riverside Cultural Centre,
Parramatta
Parklea Prison
Circular Quay and
Macquarie Street upgrade
Petersham TAFE
Bathurst Gaol
redevelopment
Sydney Police Centre
Wharf Theatre
(in assoc. with Vivian
Fraser & Associates)

1988-95

20. Lindsay **KELLY**

Notable works:

Schools program,
colleges, hospitals
Art Gallery of NSW
extension
Moruya TAFE College

1995-2005

21. Chris **JOHNSON**

Notable works:

Sydney Olympics planning
(in assoc. with Hargreaves
Associates)
NSW Conservatorium of
Music redevelopment (in
assoc. with Daryl Jackson
Robin Dyke)
George Street and Railway
Square upgrade
Manly Hydraulics
Laboratory
Victoria Park
Public Domain
Australian Technology
Park, Redfern
St Mary's Cathedral
redevelopment
Kirkbride Callan Park
college development
Apartment Design
Handbook

2005-11

22. Peter **MOULD**

Notable works:

Urban Green Cover
Technical Guidelines
Police Stations Program
Hunter Children's Court
Bankstown Courthouse
Aboriginal Health College
West Circular Quay
Public Domain
Museum of Contemporary
Art upgrade (in assoc.
with Architect Marshall)

2011- present

23. Peter **POULET**

Notable works:

Crown Street Mall
Cameraygal
Aboriginal Family
& Childcare Centres
Schools Program
Redfern Waterloo
Urban Design Study
Sydney Green Grid

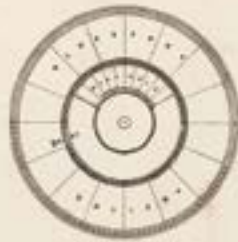


**THE DRAFTING OFFICE OF THE
GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S OFFICE,
1963**
PHOTOGRAPH BY DON McPHERON,
AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC
AGENCY
PRESENTED 1988
APA 14219

MACQUARIE LIGHTHOUSE
SOUTH HEAD

Lighted with the Electric Light since 1885.

SCALE IN FEET



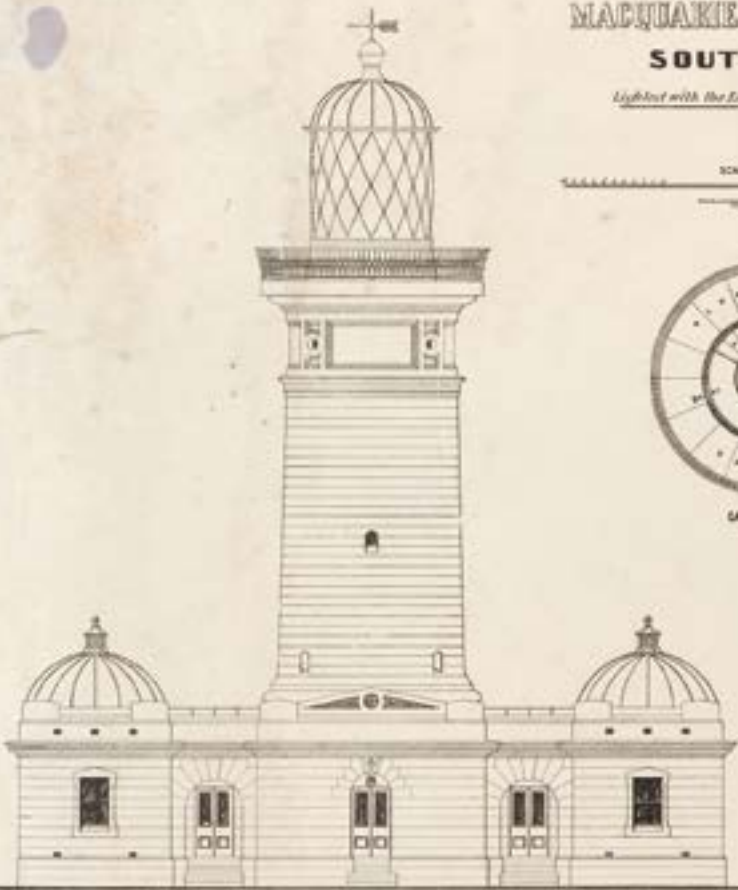
GALLERY PLAN

FIRST
OPTIC
REVOLVING

ORDER
REFRACTAL
WHITE LIGHT



SECTION



FRONT ELEVATION



END ELEVATION

James Barnet
Architect
1885

MACQUARIE LIGHTHOUSE
SOUTH HEAD, 1885
SITE PLAN, PLANS SECTION AND
ELEVATION BY JAMES BARNET
PURCHASED 1947
PXD 784/1

LIST OF WORKS

* Items included as reproductions

Building for the future

***Design by Gordon Andrews for Australia's first \$10 note (front), 1966**
from *Australian Notes: The Change to Decimal Currency*, special edition, Reserve Bank of Australia, 1966
Q655.318/1A1

Plan and Elevation of the Governor's Stable and Offices at Sydney, New South Wales, 1820
ink and wash drawing by Francis Greenway
V1 / Pub / Gov S / 1

Government House Stables, 1842
oil painting by Conrad Martens
DG 51

***Conservatorium of Music with first students, 1916**
from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 31627

Memorandum, 4 July 1817
signed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, this memorandum asks Greenway to draw up a plan for a fort, court, offices and stables on Bennelong Point.
A 1451 (Safe 1 / 229)

Photographs of Public and other buildings, 1872
album by Charles Pickering
PXD 524

Sydney Infirmary, 1870
photograph by Charles Pickering
SPF/176

****Advertisement, Contract for the Building of a General Hospital', *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 19 May 1810, p. 1.**
printed newspaper
RB/F0450 F8/55-F8/74

***Panorama of Sydney, 1829**
drawing by Thomas Woore.
Presented 1936
SAFE / SV1 / 1829 / 1a-f

Copy of drawing by Greenway showing part alteration of Sydney Hospital roof, 1819-1820
ink drawing attributed to MH Ellis
Presented to Royal Australian Historical Society, 1949
SSV1 / Hos / Syd / 1

Hyde Park Barracks and Legislative and Executive Council Chambers, 1848
engraving based on drawing by Joseph Fowles
Sydney in 1848: Illustrated by Copper-Plate Engravings of its Principal Streets, Public Buildings, Churches, Chapels, etc., Sydney, J Fowles, opp. p. 80
DL Q84/56

View from the south side of Woolloomooloo Bay, Sydney, showing Hyde Park Barracks, St. James's, and Sydney Hospital, 1830
pen and ink wash drawing attributed to Sir Charles Henry Darling
SSV1 / Pub / 1

'A Statement of the quantity of Spirits received into His Majesty's stores ... for the erection of a General Hospital in Nov. 1810 to Dec. 1812'
manuscript, papers relating to the Sydney Hospital Wentworth family correspondence, 1817-1820, p. 76.
Presented by Fitzwilliam Wentworth, 1912
A 761 (Safe 1/343)

Hyde Park, St James' Parsonage Dispensary, afterwards the Mint, and Emigration Barracks, 1842
watercolour by John Rae
DG SV* / Sp Coll / Rae / 16

Female Factory, Parramatta, plan and elevation, 1824
from Standish Lawrence Harris, *Report & Estimate of the Value of the Improvements which have taken place in the Public Buildings of Sydney*
C226

St James' Church, 1890
drawing by Varney Parkes
Presented by Dr Watson, 1911
XV1 / Chu St Ja / 3

***Chancery Square and King Street, Sydney**
photograph by Fred Hardie from *Photographs of Sydney, Newcastle, New South Wales and Aborigines for George Washington Wilson & Co.*, 1892-1893
PXD 754

Prisoners Barracks, Hyde Park, 1836
lithograph by Robert Russell
PXA 622

***Immigration Barracks, 1871**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 05643

St James' Church, Supreme Court House, 1836
lithograph by Robert Russell
PXA 581

The Top of King Street, Sydney, 1915
etching by Sydney Ure Smith
DL Pd 408

Old Convict Barracks, top of King Street, 1921
photograph by Harold Cazneaux
SPF/21

****Sydney in all its glory'**
watercolour by Edward Charles Close from his *New South Wales Sketchbook: Sea Voyage, Sydney, Illawarra, Newcastle, Morpeth*, c. 1817-1840
SAFE / PXA 1187

Temples of Justice

Supreme Court House, Sydney, 1845
oil painting by George Peacock
ML 659

***Prisoners in uniform, Darlinghurst Gaol, 1896**
from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 06642

Mortimer Lewis holding an architectural drawing, 1860-1865
ambrotype in leather case
MIN 367

Plan of the New Gaol for Sydney to contain 400 prisoners in solitary cells, 1840
lithograph signed by George Barney and Mortimer Lewis
SSV1 / Gao / Darh / 1

Plan of Darlinghurst Gaol, 1900
National Art School archive

Autograph letter, 1905
signed by Henry Lawson from Darlinghurst Gaol, to Bland Holt, asking for financial help
ML MSS 8105

Photographic copy of Plan and Elevation, Forbes Street Gate and Scaffold, 1850 (Part A & Part B)
Lent by National Art School archive

The Gallows from the Keep Yard, c. 1891
pen and ink sketch 'drawn by a Confinée'
SSV1/Gao/Darh/2

Darlinghurst Gaol, 1891
watercolour by Henry Louis Bertrand
SV1 / Gao / Darh / 2

Goulburn Gaol, about 1892
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
PX*D 116/50

Post-riot Bathurst Gaol, 1978
photographs by Department of Public Works Public Works Photography Collection, Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***Reconstructed cell block, Bathurst Gaol, 1982**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO4 11450

Architectural model of 'Girrawaa Creative Work Centre at Bathurst Jail', 1998
made of balsa wood, plastic, sand, corkboard and wood by Merrima Aboriginal Design Unit, Government Architect's Office
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Purchased 2000
2000/71/1

***Official opening of Parklea Prison, 1984**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO4 36282

'Close Katingal: Close the Hell Cells at Long Bay', c. 1979
poster from the Close Katingal Campaign
Posters 243

***Control room, Katingal, 1978**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO3 44822

***The Opening of the Courthouse at Nyngan, NSW, 1902**
photograph by Kirkham's Studio
At Work and Play 03505

Police Office, George Street, 1836
lithograph by JG Austin
PXA 581

***Police Station, George Street North, 1890**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 05327

***Artist's impression of Sydney Police Centre, 1980**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO3 36027

***Hartley Courthouse, 1870-1875**
photograph by American and Australasian Photographic Company
ON 4 /Box 1/ No 17742

***Measured drawing of Bathurst Courthouse, 2014**
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***Post Office & Courthouse, Bathurst, c. 1892-1900**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
PX*D 116/ 96

***Central Police Court, Liverpool Street, 1986**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO 4 44951

***Muswellbrook Courthouse, 1980**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO 3 15717

***Lunatic Asylum Parramatta, main entrance, about 1850**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 06120

Lunatic Asylum ground plan, Parramatta, 1855
drawing by Colonial Architect's Office
V1B/Parr/5

Photographs of Callan Park Mental Hospital, 1903
PX*D 241/77

Educating a democracy

***Rozelle Public School, 1885**
(originally Balmain West Public School)
photograph annotated 'My first school, J.R. Tyrrell'
Presented 1959
SPF/734

Datestone from Sydney Technical College, 1891
Pyrmont sandstone, maker unknown
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of New South Wales Department of Commerce, 2008
2008/175/1

***Maroubra Junction Public School, 1946**
photograph by Sam Hood
Home and Away 11435

Forbes Public School (now infants school), Plan, elevations and sections, 1881
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW
NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings SB570/38

Plans of Public School and Teacher's Residence, Kogarah
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW
NRS 4338 [X15/10] Plans and specifications of schools and school residences

Furniture and Apparatus for Public School at Kogarah
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW

NRS 4338 [X15/10] Plans and specifications of schools and school residences

Sketches and plans of Hospitals and Technical Colleges
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW

NRS 4345 [7/4132] Sketches and plans of Hospitals and Technical Colleges

Model and views of Turramurra (Ku-ring-gai) High School, 1964-66
photographs by Max Dupain
Courtesy Michael Dysart

Pennant Hills High School, 1967
photographs by Max Dupain
PXD 1013/109

Model of Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre, Gunnedah, 2013
made by Cathy Kubany, Government Architect's Office
Lent by Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre**
photographs by Brett Boardman
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***Nemingha Public School, 1995**
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

University Union (Round House), University of NSW, 1958
sketch plans by EH Farmer
PXD 484/f.4

***Official opening, the Roundhouse, University of NSW, 1961**
photograph by Don McPhedran
APA 10929

***Fisher Library, University of Sydney, 1910**
photograph by AE Foster
ON 30/Box 41

***Fisher Library, University of Sydney, 1962**
elevations by EH Farmer
FM1/1169

***Interior view, Fisher Library, University of Sydney, 1963**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO2 18779

***Robb College, University of New England, 1964**
photograph by Max Dupain
Courtesy Michael Dysart

Ku-ring-gai College (UTS Ku-ring-gai), 1978
photographs by Max Dupain
Lent by Australian Institute of Architects, NSW Chapter

Taree Technical College, 1965
photographs by Max Dupain
Courtesy Michael Dysart

Taree Technical College, 1965
cross-sections by EH Farmer and M Dysart
FM1 / 1173-80

***Petersham Technical College, 1985**

Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

Alexander Mackie College, 1980

photographs by Max Dupain
Courtesy Colin Still

A city to be proud of

***General Post Office, Sydney, 1892**

photograph from Government Printing Office collection

Presented 1969

PX*D 116

Formwork quadrant from Sydney General Post Office construction, 1874

wood, maker unknown
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of Australia Post, NSW Headquarters, 1998
98/2/2

General Post Office under construction, 1870

photograph from Government Printing Office collection

SPF/278

***James Barnet standing on granite column during GPO construction, 1880**

photographer unknown
Courtesy National Archives Australia

Palazzo Ducale, Venice, 1885

photograph purchased by James Barnet

Lent by University of Sydney Archives

General Post Office Pitt Street extension, northern elevation, 1881

ink and wash on linen by Colonial Architect's Office
From the collection of the National Archives of Australia

***Design of General Post Office, Sydney, 1877**

photograph from Government Printing Office collection

GPO1 05837

General Post Office, Sydney, 1874-1878

photographer unknown
SPF/282

General Post Office Sydney, Pitt Street Extension, Elevation to Pitt Street, 1881

ink and wash on linen by Colonial Architect's Office
From the collection of the National Archives of Australia

General Post Office Sydney, Pitt Street Extension, Section on line G-H, 1881

ink and wash on linen by Colonial Architect's Office
From the collection of the National Archives of Australia

Henry Lawson, 1930

painted plaster maquette by George Lambert

Lent by Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

Unveiling of Henry Lawson Statue, 1931

photograph by Sam Hood
Purchased 1993

PXE 789, vol.14/43-44

Panorama of Palace Gardens and Farm Cove, 1903

photograph by Melvin Vaniman
Bequeathed by Sir William Dixon, 1952

DL Pg 40

Carved head of Queen Victoria

sandstone, maker unknown
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of NSW Government Printing Office, 1989
89/1340-1

***GPO sculptures, 2014**

photographs by Michael Nicholson

Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

Colonial Secretary's Office, 1880

photograph by Charles Bayliss
SPF/250

***Interiors Chief Secretary's Building, 2005**

photographs by Eric Sierins
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

Sydney Public Works and Chief Secretary's Building

On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW

NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings
PB31/A591

Statue of Mercy by Achille Simonetti, 1885

mounted photograph signed by James Barnet

Lent by University of Sydney Archives

Lands Office tower during construction, 1888

photographer unknown
Lent by University of Sydney Archives

The Lands Office, 1926

ink drawing by Lloyd Rees
Bequeathed by Sir William Dixon 1959

DG SSV1A/44

Sydney New offices for the Department of Public Instruction, copy of elevation to Bridge Street, No. [Number] 9

On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW

NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings
PB18/A1960

Sydney Treasury Buildings, additions

detail of entrance portico, front and side elevation
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW

NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings
PB25/47

Sydney Treasury Buildings, elevation of building when completed

signed by architect Walter Vernon
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW

NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings
PB25/16

***Treasury Building, 1870**

photograph by American and Australasian Photographic Company,

ON 4 Box 58 No 303

***Press photographers at the dismissal of the Lang government, Treasury Building, 1932**

photograph by Harry Freeman
Home and Away 3464

***Staff group, Hotel Intercontinental, 1987**

photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO4 32121

New Parliamentary Buildings, Sydney, 1897

design by Walter Liberty Vernon
V1 / Pub / Parl / 1

Presentation trowel, mallet and case

made of silver, wood & fabric by H & T, England, 1890-1891, presented to EW O'Sullivan, Central Railway Station, 1902
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of Royal Australian Historical Society, 1981
A7842

New Parcel Post Office at Central Railway, detail of front facing George Street, 1910

ink and wash drawing by Walter Vernon
From the collection of the National Archives of Australia

Proposal to enlarge and raise Belmore Park to the level of Central Station's main platforms, 1909

Plan 25 by RCG Coulter from the Report of Royal Commission on the Improvement of Sydney and its Suburbs
F981.1/N

A monument in every town

La Pérouse's Monument, 1836

lithograph by Robert Russell

DL PD14

***People's Arch, Park Street, Federation Celebrations, 1901**

photograph by AJ Perier
Home and Away 34373

The International Exhibition 1879, from the Spire of St James' Church, 1879
lithograph by W MacLeod
Presented by Mrs EJ Armstrong, 1960

V1/Pub/Gar P/5

***View of the Mines Department exhibit, International Exhibition, 1879**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 05958

Officers and foremen, International Exhibition, Sydney, 1879
photograph by City Photographic Company
Presented 1996
SSV/32

Garden Palace, 1879
photograph by Charles Bayliss
SPF/267

Architectural model of Macquarie Lighthouse, c. 1880
made of wood & plastic by the Department of Navigation, Sydney
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of Port Authority of New South Wales, 2015
2015/30/1

Macquarie Lighthouse, old and new, 1884
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
SPF/1014

Macquarie Lighthouse South Head, 1885
site plan, plans section and elevation by James Barnet
Purchased 1947
PXD 784/1

Plan of Observatory Time Ball Tower and Observer's House, 1856
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW
NRS 13992 Parramatta and Sydney Observatory Correspondence and Reports Plan 2431

Sydney Observatory, 1860
photographer unknown
SPF/301

***Sydney Observatory and Signal Station, 1871**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 05276

***Third dome at Sydney Observatory, 2015**
photograph by Douglas Frost
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***Post Office staff, Jerilderie, 1915**
photographer unknown
BCP 05859

Bondi Post Office, 1900-1927
photographer unknown
Presented 1970
PXA 635/68

Goulburn Post and Telegraph Office elevations and plan, 1878
ink and wash drawing by James Barnet
Lent by National Archives of Australia

Summer Hill Post and Telegraph Office, half-inch details, 1900
ink drawing
Lent by National Archives of Australia

Mosman Post and Telegraph Office, 1905
ink and wash drawing by George McRae
Lent by National Archives of Australia

Customs House, Newcastle, 1892
photograph by Fred Hardie
PXD 754/190

Additions to Customs House, Sydney, 1898
ink drawing by Walter Vernon
Lent by National Archives of Australia

Metropolitan Fire Station, sections and elevations, 1888
lithograph by James Barnet
PXD 532/Folder 29/1

***Darlinghurst Fire Station, 1912**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
Courtesy State Records NSW

State Office Block, 1968
photograph by Max Dupain
PXD 720/ 87

Archival sample boards, 1997
assembled by Conybeare Morrison International Pty Ltd from materials salvaged during the demolition
Lent by Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***New Standard furniture booklet, 1968**
published by NSW Public Service Board
Q651.230994/1

***Ted Farmer (right) with Charles Weatherburn at the State Office Block site, 1960s**
photographer unknown
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

***Fountain to forecourt of Premier's Wing, State Office Block, 1963**
plans by Ken Woolley
Courtesy Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

Workmen's Dwellings, Lower Fort Street, 1910
On loan from the State Records Authority of NSW
A3135 Maritime Services Board Plan 2990

***Children's playground, High Street Miller's Point, 1910**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 47209

***Workers housing, Windmill Street, 1912**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 30606

***Mortuary Station, Rookwood, 1871**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 05423

***The Elephant House at Taronga Zoo, 1916**
photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 18414

Site model, site, Sydney Olympic Park, 1992
made for the Sydney Olympics 2000 Bid Ltd
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (SOCOG)
97/123/7

The office

***Walter Vernon and staff, 1896**
NSW Public Works History Collection
Courtesy the Government Architect's Office, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation

Drawing set, c. 1830-1840
owned by Edmund Blacket
Presented 1998
LR 77/1

***Colonial Architect's Office, College Street, Sydney, c. 1870-1872**
photograph by Charles Pickering
SPF/251

***Colonial Architect's Office, 1886**
pencil and watercolour by William Andrews
DG SV1 / 59

***Drawings of the New City Hospital, Sydney, 1881**
photogravures in album, presented to His Royal Highness, Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward of Wales, by the architect, Major Rowe, July 29, 1881
PXD 48

***The Drafting Office of the GAO, 1963**
Photograph by Don McPhedron,
Australian Photographic Agency
Presented 1988
APA 14219

***Project architect
Beverley Garlick on the site
of Petersham TAFE, 1983**
Courtesy Beverley Garlick

**Government Architect's office
award winners, 1988**
Public Works Photography
collection, Government
Architect's Office, Department
of Finance, Services and
Innovation

***The office staff, 2015**
photograph by Michael
Nicholson Photography
Courtesy Government
Architect's Office, Department
of Finance, Services and
Innovation

This belongs to you

***Free Public Library, Bent
and Macquarie Streets, 1875**
photograph by American and
Australasian Photographic
Company
Presented 1954
ON 4/ Box 58/ No 301

**Design for a Free Public
Library, 1883**
watercolour and ink sketch
by James Barnet
Presented November 1933
PXD 45/4

**New South Wales State Library,
North Elevation, 1905**
ink drawing from the office
of Walter Vernon
PXD 363 / f.5

**A corner of the
Mitchell Library, 1926**
ink drawing by Lloyd Rees
DG SSV1A/42

**Portico details,
National Library, 1935**
ink drawing by Cobden Parkes
PXD 363/ f.395

Writing case
owned by David Scott Mitchell,
1880-1900
Bequeathed by DS Mitchell,
1907
R15

**Proposed National Library,
Sydney, 1925-1930**
watercolour by
Robert Charles Coulter
V1 / Lib / Pub / 2

***Mitchell Library, exterior view,
1923**
photograph from the *Daily Mail*
ON7/5

***First floor Mitchell Reading
Room, 1923**
photograph from the *Daily Mail*
ON7/2

***Public Library Reading Room,
1955**
photograph by Ern MacQuillan
Presented 1988
APA 00790

**Architect's perspective,
Macquarie Wing, 1985**
diaz print by Government
Architect's Office
Pic.Acc.7077

**State Library of NSW showing
proposed access ramps and
rooftop restaurant, 2014**
cardboard model by
Nadia Brogan, Government
Architect's Office
Lent by Government Architect's
Office, Department of Finance,
Services and Innovation

**Skeleton Gallery,
Australian Museum, 1950**
photograph by Brian Bird
Presented by Brian Bird, 1983
ON180/57

**First exhibition held at the
Museum, Sydney, 1855**
lithograph by FC Terry
Bequest of Sir William Dixon,
1957
DG V*/ General/ 7

**Sydney Museum, drawing of
proposed completed building,
1869**
design by James Barnet
PXA 2113 / Box 57/ 1

**Design for Library Art &
Sculpture Galleries, 1869**
lithograph by James Barnet
from *Report of the Select
Committee on the Sydney
Museum*, 1874
Q328.9106/8

**Australian Museum,
Sydney, 1870**
photograph by
Charles Pickering
SPF/242

***Upper Gallery New Wing
Australian Museum, 1866**
photograph by William Hetzer
Courtesy State Library Victoria

***College Street, 1860**
photograph by William Hetzer
from *Album of Views,
Illustrations and Macarthur
family photos*
Presented by Lady Stanham
1957
PXA 4358

***Australian Museum,
showing new third floor, 1938**
photograph from Government
Printing Office collection
GPO1 27407

***Proposal for new William
Street Entrance, Australian
Museum, 2014**
concept design by Kit Ku,
Government Architect's Office,
design development and
documentation by Neeson
Murcutt Architects
Courtesy Government
Architect's Office, Department
of Finance, Services and
Innovation

***Visitors to William Holman
Hunt's painting *The Light of
the World*, 1906**
photograph by Government
Printing Office
Courtesy Art Gallery of NSW

**Design for the National Art
Gallery, New South Wales, 1892**
lithograph by John Horbury
Hunt
PXD 573/163

**National Fine Art Gallery
Sydney, Details of roof and
clerestory, 1884**
watercolour and ink on linen
by John Horbury Hunt
PXD 573/110

**British Court,
National Art Gallery, 1892**
album of photographs
by Fred Hardie
Presented 1998
PXD 754/68

**National Art Gallery
South Gallery under
construction [?] Sydney
National Art Gallery. Extension,
Front elevation, sections No 2**
On loan from the State Records
Authority of NSW
NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings A524

**Sydney National Art Gallery.
New Sculpture Galleries,
Sections, elevations and
part plan**
On loan from the State Records
Authority of NSW
NRS 4335 Plans of Public Buildings A514

**National Art Gallery
under construction, 1897**
photoprint
PXA 2113/Box 59

**Captain Cook Wing, Art Gallery
of New South Wales, 1972**
photographs by Max Dupain
Presented by Dr EH Farmer
in 1986, 1994 and 1997
MLMSS 7703/Series 2/Box 15/File H

***Lady Lloyd Jones drawing
a raffle at the Art Gallery of
NSW, 1957**
photograph by Don McPhedran
Presented 1988
APA 04472

**Joanne and Edmund Capon,
Biennale launch, Art Gallery
of NSW, 1988**
photograph by William Yang
Presented May 1998
PXE 790/5

SOME FURTHER READING

***Peter Hall with British High Commissioner Sir Charles Johnston and Lady Johnston, 1970**

photograph by David Hickson
Presented 1988
APA 35125

***Opera House judging committee at Art Gallery, 1957**

photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO2 08373

***Jørn Utzon at Bennelong Point, 1957**

photograph by Ken Redshaw
Presented 1988
APA 03802

(Working) model of minor hall ceiling elevation, 1962

timber and wire
Presented by Jørn Utzon, 1972
LR76

Petition addressed to the Department of Works (copy), 1966

Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of Port Authority of New South Wales, 2015
2007/39/4

'Retraction' statement, 1966

written by some members of the Government Architect's Branch of the NSW Department of Public Works, Sydney
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of Port Authority of New South Wales, 2015
2007/39/5-5

Bring Utzon Back, 1967

poster designed and possibly printed by John Kinstler and Karen Herrle
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
Gift of Ted Mack in memory of John Kinstler, 2007
2007/39/1-2 Poster

***Technological Museum, 1893**

photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 08200

***TV exhibit, Technological Museum, 1946**

photograph from Government Printing Office collection
GPO1 40649

Stage 2 of the Powerhouse Museum, 1980s

polystyrene model by Department of Public Works
Lent by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney
MRS/281-2

***Designs for Museum of Arts and Sciences, 1962**

photographs by Michael Dysart
Courtesy Michael Dysart

Lionel Glendenning, Powerhouse Museum, 2007

photograph by Neil Fenelon
Purchased 2007
PXD 1016/8

Decorative Arts Wing, Powerhouse Museum, 1988

photographs by Scott Francis
Purchased 1994
PXE 730

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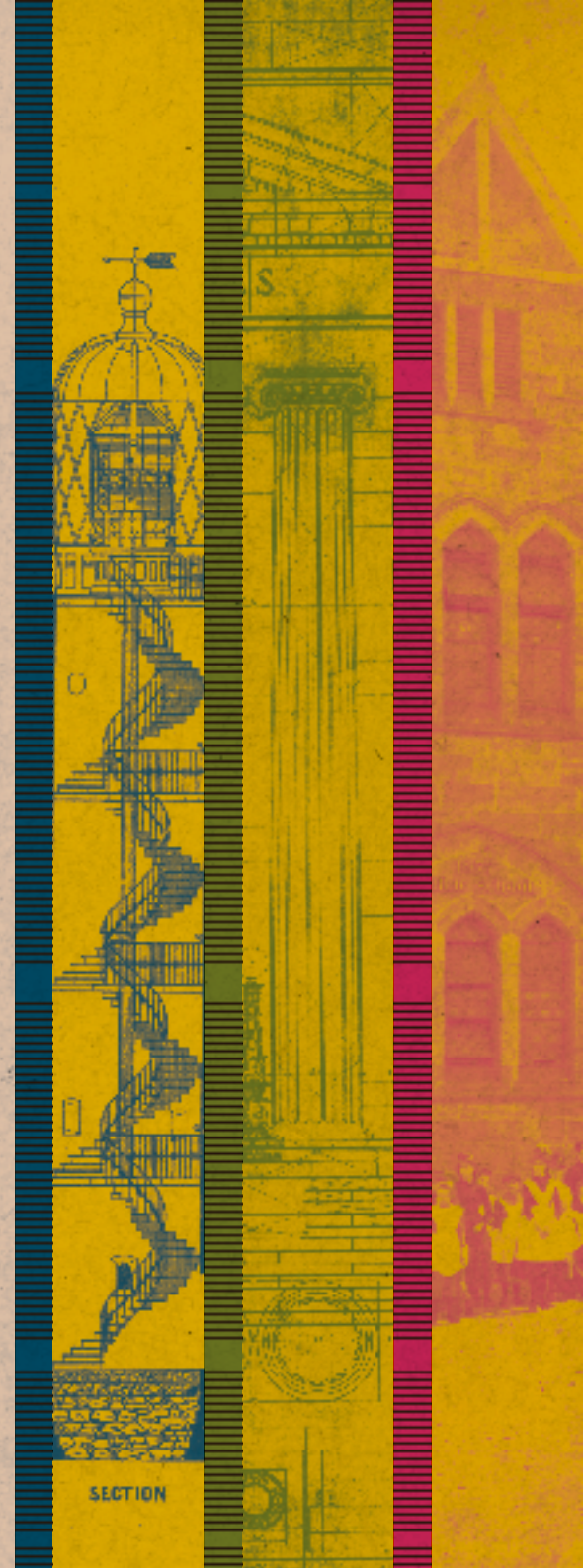
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