





The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone

REPORT RELATING TO PROPOSED WORKS IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ZONE

NATIONAL LIBRARY LAKESIDE PODIUM ELECTRICITY UPGRADE COMMENCEMENT COLUMN PLAQUE PARLIAMENT HOUSE - LOADING DOCK CARPARK/GARDENERS' STORAGE AREA

JULY 1992

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JULY 1992

MEMBERSHIP OF THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE PARLIAMENTARY ZONE

(Thirty-sixth Parliament)

Joint Chairmen

Senator the Hon K W Sibraa President of the Senate

Hon L B McLeay MP Speaker of the House of Representatives

Members

Senator B R Archer

Senator J Coates

Senator M A Colston

Senator M E Reid

Senator K W Sowada

Hon J D M Dobie MP

Mr R G Halverson OBE MP

Hon A C Holding MP

Mr C Hollis MP

Mr M J Lee MP

Secretary to the Committee

Mr P F Bergin

PROPOSED WORKS IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ZONE

Under paragraph 1 of its Resolution of Appointment, the Joint Standing Committee is authorised to consider and report on matters coming within the terms of Section 5 of the Parliament Act 1974 by resolution of either House of the Parliament or by the Minister responsible for administering the Parliament Act 1974.

Section 5 of the <u>Parliament Act 1974</u> gives Parliament control over the erection of buildings or other work within the Parliamentary Zone which is defined in the Act.

No building or other work is to be erected on land within the Parliamentary Zone unless:

- (a) if the land is within the precincts as defined by subsection 3(1) of the Parliamentary Precincts Act 1988 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives jointly have;
- (b) in any other case the Minister has; caused a proposal for the erection of the building or work to be laid before each House of the Farliament and the proposal has been approved by resolution of each House.

BACKGROUND

The Minister for Arts and Territories referred two items to the Committee for inquiry and report. The National Library Lakeside Podium was referred to the Committee on 15 May 1992 and on 19 May 1992 a proposal for the upgrade of the Electricity Network was referred to the Committee.

A proposal for the placement of an explanatory plaque for the Commencement Column was referred to the Committee by the Presiding Officers at the suggestion of the Minister.

The Committee was briefed on the proposals by representatives of the National Capital Planning Authority on Friday 29 May 1992.

On 1 May 1992 the Committee also inspected and was briefed on a two stage proposal for the development of a Loading Dock Carpark and a Gardeners' Storage Area. These works are planned for inclusion in the Parliament's Capital Works Program for the 1992-1993 financial year. All of the work is in the Parliamentary zone and part is in the Parliamentary precincts.

Another matter considered by the Committee was an application to hold a showjumping event in the precincts during January 1993.

THE PROPOSALS

The National Library Lakeside Podium

The proposal is for the construction of a non-permanent outdoor food facility on the lakeside podium of the National Library which will serve up to 60 people. The facility will cost around \$70,000 of which \$35,000 has already been expended. It represents the final stage of the upgrade of the Library's public facilities.

It will be possible to remove the facility at some time in the future as the building elements are independent and totally demountable. It has been developed to be able to withstand the exposures to the high winds in the area.

The facility is an endeavour to create an outdoor "Paris Cafe" within the Zone. The cafe will link with the developments on the lakeshore and within the Library building.

The Committee approves of the proposal.

Electricity Upgrade

The Australian Capital Territory Electricity and Water Authority proposes to upgrade the existing High Voltage Feeder Network within the Zone. The cost of the proposal is \$260,000 and work is due to commence in July 1992.

The existing feeder cables were installed many years ago and the work will relieve the demands placed on those cables. New cables will be laid and this involves the digging of trenches within the Zone. It also requires the supply and installation of additional switchgear in the Old Parliament House sub-station.

The Committee approves of the proposal.

Commencement Column Plaque

The proposal is for an interpretive sign for the Commencement Column which commemorates the naming of Canberra by Lady Denman on 12 March 1913. The location of the sign is indicated in the briefing notes as is the location of the column and the proposed interpretive sign which will form part of the Parliament House Trail. There will be a small separate bronze plaque at the original location of the Column on the Forecourt.

The Committee approves of the proposal.

Loading Dock Carpark/Gardeners' Storage Area.

The first stage of the proposal is to provide permanent car parking facilities in the vicinity of the Parliament House loading dock for use by contractors who access Parliament House through the loading dock.

Currently contractors park beside the loading dock access road. This is hazardous and presents problems for large transports using the roadway. The House of Representatives underground carpark is often full and contractors do not have security passes for times when these are required. This car park is not close to the loading dock so the carrying of stores and equipment to the loading dock poses problems.

The second stage of the proposal is to construct a concrete apron from the existing storage bins to the loading dock access road. The area is currently compacted dirt which poses problems in both wet and dry weather.

The Committee approves the proposal.

World Cup Showjumping Event

The National Capital Planning Authority informed the Committee of an application to conduct the 1993 World Cup Qualifying Event in Parkes during January 1993. The application had the in principle support of the National Capital Planning Authority. The two day event involves showjumping and dressage and is expected to attract 7000 spectators. The Committee has no objections to the proposal on the understanding that any damage is repaired.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends the approval of the following works in the Parliamentary Zone:

- (a) the National Library Lakeside Podium;
- (b) the upgrade of the Electricity Network;
- (c) the Commencement Column Plaque Interpretive Sign.
- (d) Parliament House Loading Dock/Gardeners' Storage Area.

(KERRY W.

President of the Senate

(LEO McLEAY)
Speaker of the House
of Representatives



The Hon Wendy Fatin MP Minister for the Arts and Territories Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women

House of Representative

for by Sphr

The Hon Leo McLeay MP Speaker of the House of Repres

Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600 15 MAY 1992

RECEIVED 1 9 MAY 1992

SERJEANT-AT-ARMS OFFICE

Dear Speaker

I am writing to you in your capacity as Joint Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone.

The National Library of Australia has sought approval from the National Capital Planning Authority for the construction of a non-permanent outdoor food facility on the Lakeside podium of the National Library. Attached is a copy of a letter from the National Library outlining the proposal, together with detailed drawings of the proposed cafe.

As the proposed work is within the Parliamentary Zone, it will be necessary for the proposal to be approved by both Houses of Parliament, in accordance with the Parliament Act 1974.

I wish to refer the proposal to the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone for inquiry and report. If you agree, I will have officers of the National Capital Planning Authority arrange with the Committee Secretariat a time for presentation.

I have written in similar terms to the President of the Senate.

Yours sincerely

WENDY FATTN





16 April 1992.

CANBERRA ACT 1-500 AUSTRALIA
TELEPHONE (IG), 25-1111
TELEGRAPHIC CODE #-00PESS
"ALIBALIST (ANBERRA
"ELEPHONE TYPEWPITEP NUMBER
(008) 026-372
NATIONAL UBRARY FACSIMIE
601-257 73

The Executive Director National Capital Planning Authority 10 Brisbane Ave. BARTON, A.C.T. 2600

Attention Mr. Michael Grace.

Dear Sir

OUTDOOR FOOD FACILITY - NATIONAL LIBRARY LAKESIDE PODIUM

PURPOSE.

To seek approval to the construction of a non-permanent outdoor food facility on the Lakeside podium of the National Library sympathetic to the existing building and landscape. It will service up to 60 clients at any one time, with a display refrigerator, portable barbecue and service area. At this stage it is proposed that it will operate during normal Library opening hours, however depending on the trade it may open beyond these hours in the future.

BACKGROUND.

During the past eighteen months the Library has undergone extensive refurbishment to architecturally reorganise internal layout and facilities to provide visitors, users and staff with greater access to information and display of the wealth of material in the collections. These refurbishment works costing \$2.7m for ground floor has opened up the internal space with a new visitor orientation space, a new exhibition gallery, friends lounge, extension to the main reading room and an expanded shop. Construction of a quality cafe in the foyer at a cost of \$600000 is included in the \$2.7m.

The purpose of the redevelopment was to achieve a number of objectives:-

- a. Improved access by users.
- b. improved organisation of service points,
- c. greater visibility of services.
- d. better exhibitions and display facilities, and
- e. improved service for the book shop and catering facilities.

The overall philosophy has been to make the National Library a people friendly environment. It has only been partially achieved with the ground floor refurbishment. There is opportunity to extend the philosophy further.

We understand from discussions with members of your organisation that the planners of Canberra have the objective to make the Parliamentary Triangle a "people place" and humanise a formally planned architectural and landscaped stage. The National Library identifies with this important fundamental philosophy and is committed to take advantage of its unique physical opportunity to reinforce the notion of a people precinct. By creating an outdoor "Paris Cafe" we believe we are following this planning philosophy.

In recent years the completion of the National Science and Technology Centre, the maturing of the soft landscape and more recently the introduction of pedestrian concourses and lake foreshore pathways has made this part of the Parliamentary Triangle an inviting pedestrian area.

Presently the National Library podium platform is under utilised. The potential exists to encourage public focus and enjoyment of the vista from this feature of the Library.

A temporary cafe facility has been established on the podium utilising potted plants, non-fixed tables and chairs and Italian Market style umbrellas to gauge market reaction and public acceptance of such a facility. It is clear that a more permanent style structure incorporating a Paris Cafe style concept would be viable and would indeed facilitate and link comfortably with the developments that are taking place in the lake foreshore development and within the Library building.

ARCHITECTURAL CONSIDERATIONS.

As stated earlier in this document, design of the facility will be sympathetic to the existing building and surrounding landscape.

Size of facility:- It is considered desirable to provide an outdoor cafe which will cater for up to sixty people.

Cost of facility: To date \$35000 has been expended on furnishing and outfitting the temporary facility. It is estimated that an additional \$35000 to \$40000 will be required to complete the project to the specifications described in this paper.

Non permanent form of physical elements:- Strong design constraints have been established which preclude any form of interference, attachment or structural modification to the existing podium. Any form or building elements are to be independent and totally demountable leaving the podium unaffected if the need arises to discontinue with the facility for any reason in the future.

It has been developed as a self sufficient form with structural integrity to withstand exposure to high wind loadings and utilise the existing drainage for storm water run off. A false floor system provides both a structural membrane to brace perimeter glass breeze screens, tie down shade umbrellas and protect the existing podium paving from soiling or damage which could be caused through the activity of the outdoor cafe.

The only form of temporary modification which will be necessary is the temporary removal of a full height door size window which has been converted to an automatic door providing convenient access to the podium cafe from Chapters restaurant. The form of the automatic door has been detailed to match the detail of the existing windows so that the facade appearance is not compromised.

Sun Protection:- A series of demountable umbrellas, arranged to provide either a continuous or partial canopy as the need arises, for sun protection or solar gain, reinforce a lightweight form, informality and flexibility of the facility and take full advantage of Canberra's climate.

Breeze Protection: To extend the period of outdoor usage of the proposed podium cafe space it is considered desirable to provide a breeze screen surround to modify exposure to prevailing winds and breezes to this area of the podium. A safety glass perimeter would maintain user comfort against moderate breezes and allow solar gain during periods of colder air temperatures. The openness and lightweight form would also be maintained.

Controlled and defined area:-The combination of perimeter glazed breeze screens, false floor and umbrella canopy reinforce, identify and confine the outdoor case space. The activity of the case is restricted to a set and determined area reducing uncontrolled use beyond this space.

Location:- The proposed location satisfies several Library requirements:

- (1) Proximity to Chapters restaurant allows for direct circulation and servicing
- (2) Visitor circulation around the podium space is not obstructed or in conflict with the proposed cafe location.
- (3) The existing podium elements of balustrade edge and raised planter bed provide a natural boundary to the proposed facility space.
- (4) The Northern and Western balustrade edges allow the opportunity to locate the facility in a position of elevation with panoramic views.

Public and Environmental Health:-The Library has been in regular contact with the ACT Department of Health Public and Environmental Health Service to ensure that food preparation and serving arrangements comply with the requirements of ACT public and environmental health regulations. Toilet facilities for the facility will be provided within the Chapters restuarant.

SUMMARY.

The proposed facility represents the final stages of the Library's Public Facilities upgrade. It will compliment the upgraded ground floor facilities and provide Library users and visitors with a facility that will compliment and enhance the Parliamentary Zone.

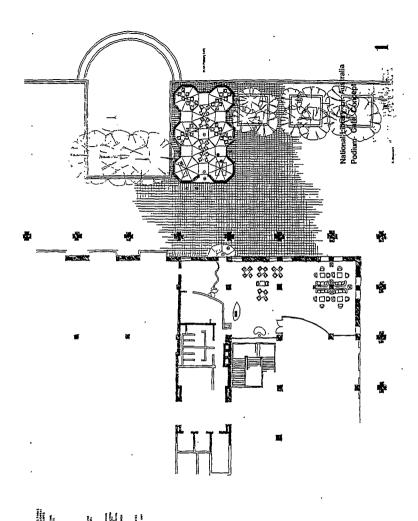
The attached drawings further describe the proposal.

Senior Library personnel and the architect responsible for the concept drawings are available to make a presentation to the relevant committee if considered appropriate.

Yours Faithfully

Eric Wainright

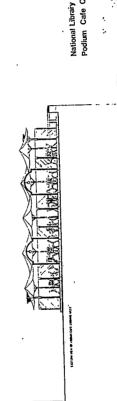
Acting Director-General



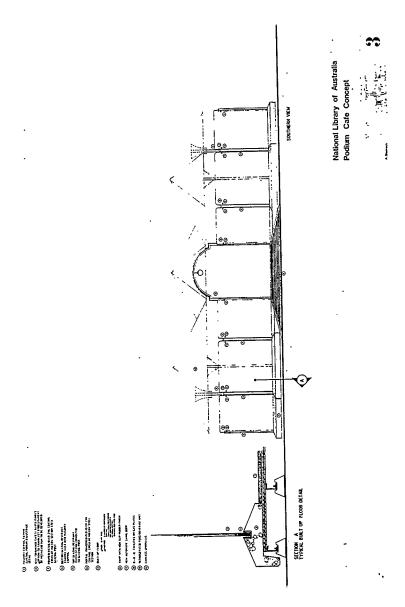
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National Library of Australia Podium Cafe Concept



PARLIAMENT ACT 1974

WORKS IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ZONE

OUTDOOR FOOD FACILITY - NATIONAL LIBRARY LAKESIDE PODIUM

The National Library of Australia has sought permission from the National Capital Planning Authority (NCPA) to construct a non-permanent outdoor food facility on the Lakeside podium of the National Library.

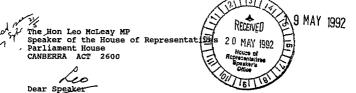
The cafe would service up to 60 clients at any one time, with a display refrigerator, portable barbecue and service area. Any form of building elements are to be independent and totally demountable, leaving the podium unaffected should the facility be removed in the future. It is proposed that the cafe will operate during normal Library opening hours. However, extended opening hours may be considered at a later date.

The National Capital Planning Authority supports the proposal.

The total cost of the cafe is estimated at \$70,000 to \$75,000. Detailed sketches are attached.



The Hon Wendy Fatin MP Minister for the Arts and Territories Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women



I am writing to you in your capacity as Joint Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone.

ACT Electricity and Water (ACTEW) has sought approval from the National Capital Planning Authority (NCPA) to upgrade and alter its existing High Voltage Feeder Network within the Parliamentary Zone, to relieve existing overloaded feeder cables which were installed many years ago. A copy of the request from ACTEW, dated 1 April 1992, is attached.

The proposal includes digging of trenches 600mm to 800mm wide and 850mm deep, laying new cables in these trenches and replacing the turf removed. A map showing the location of the proposed work is attached.

It is the opinion of the Australian Government Solicitor's Office that the laying of new underground cables is not a building or other works to be erected on land within the Parliamentary Zone in the context of the <u>Parliament Act 1974</u>. The works as described cannot be said to be erected and therefore do not require tabling in Parliament in accordance with Section 5(1) of the <u>Parliament Act 1974</u>.

However, I refer this proposal to you to determine the interest of the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone in the matter. If required, I will have officers of the National Capital Planning Authority arrange with the Committee Secretariat a time for presentation.

I have written in similar terms to the President of the Senate.

Yours sincerely

went entry

WENDY FACTIN





G64/214/10705.3

1 April 1992

Chief Planner NCPA BARTON

ATTENTION: MR D Wright

BARTON UNDERGROUND FEEDERS STAGE 2 - PARLIAMENTARY TRIANGLE

1. PURPOSE

ACTEW speks to augment its High Voltage Feeder Network in the Parliamentary Zone. These works will relieve existing overloaded feeder cables which were installed many years ago.

2. EXTENT OF WORK

The works includes the supply and installation of

- . 11kV switchgear in substation 2844 in old Parliamentary House
- . 1850m of 300 mm² high voltage cables and
- . Internal modification to the sub 2844.

3. COSTS OF WORK AND TIMING

The total estimated cost of the works is \$260,000.00. The full cost will be borne by ACTEW. This work has been programmed for commencement within July 1992.

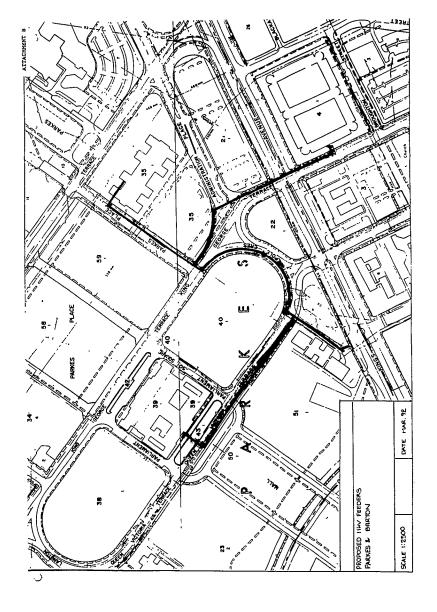
4. BENEFITS

This feeder cable will upgrade and improve the reliability of high voltage reticulation to the Administration Building in Parkes Place, the Edmond Barton Building in Mecouarie Street and Old Parijament House.

Yours faithfully

ledwan

Design & Program Engineer





The Hon Wendy Fatin MP
Minister for the Arts and Territories
Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women

15 16/5

The Hon Leo McLeay MP Speaker of the House of Representatives Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Speaker

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I write to you concerning a proposal for works within the Parliamentary Precincts.

The Joint House Department has requested the National Capital Planning Authority (NCPA) to arrange for the provision and placement of an explanatory plaque for the Commencement Column located north of Parliament House within the Parliamentary Precincts, on the grassed area north of the Parade Ground.

The proposal has three elements:

- An interpretive sign for the Commencement Column;
- Extension of the existing paved area around the new interpretive sign;
- c) A plaque marking the original location of the Commencement Column.

Figures 1 to 7 attached illustrate the location and nature of the proposed works.

The proposed interpretive sign is an etched stainless steel plate fastened to a low blue stone plinth, the same stone as the column base, and would be located on the concrete path north of the cross axis road. The existing concrete paved area would be extended for ease of access to the interpretive sign.

The proposal includes the installation of a separate small bronze plaque marking the original location of the Commencement Column and replacing four of the red granite setts in the Forecourt. The work would form part of the Parliament House Annulus Interpretive Trail System, Part 1 of which has been referred to the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone for its inquiry and report. A sketch showing the Interpretive Trail System is Figure 3.

Refer to Comuti.

As the proposed work is within the Parliamentary Precincts, it will be necessary for the proposal to be approved by the Parliament in accordance with subsection 5(1) of the Parliament Act 1974. Subsection 5(1) provides:

No building or other work is to be erected on land within the Parliamentary Zone unless:

- (a) if the land is within the precincts as defined by subsection 3(1) of the <u>Parliamentary Precincts Act</u> <u>1988</u> - the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives jointly have; or
- (b) in any case the Minister has;

caused a proposal for the erection of the building or work to be laid before each House of the Parliament and the proposal has been approved by resolution of each House.

Accordingly, I request that you table the proposal in the House of Representatives. Should you wish to refer the matter to the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone for inquiry and report, I will have officers of the National Capital Planning Authority arrange with the Committee Secretariat a time for presentation.

I have written in similar terms to the President of the Senate.

Yours sincerely

WENDY FATIN



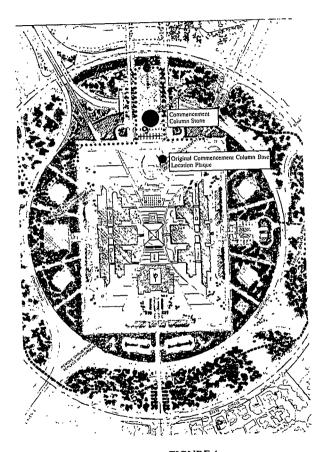


FIGURE 1 LOCATION OF PROPOSED WORKS Installation of Plaques interpreting the Commencement Column Monument

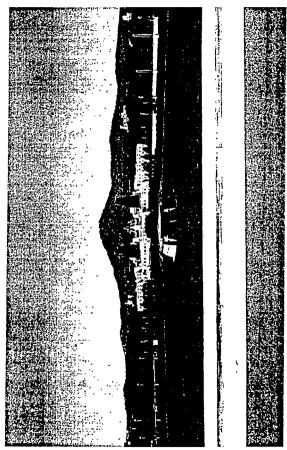
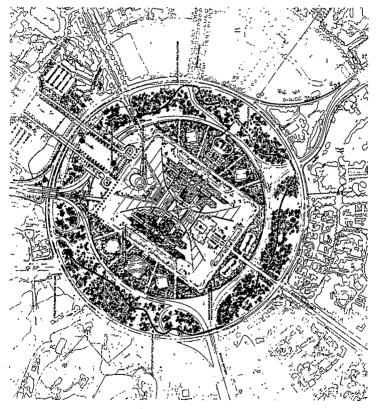


FIGURE 2 Commencement Column on the Land Axis

NEW PARLAMENT HOUSE ANNULUS INTERPRETIVE TRAIL ANTOMA CARTAL PLANNON FINAL ENTER PLAN FINAL LAYOUT COGNOCOTION CONTRACTOR



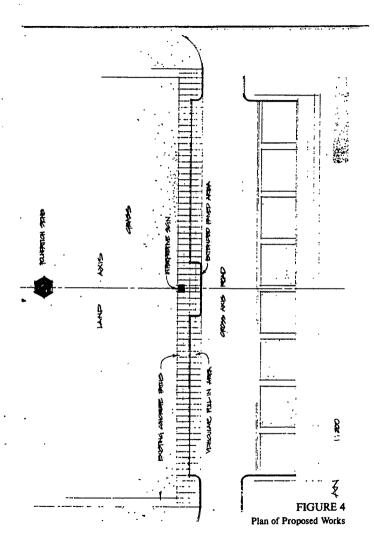
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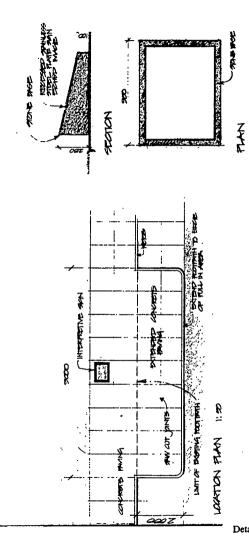
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FIGURE 3
PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNULUS
INTERPRETIVE TRAIL SYSTEM





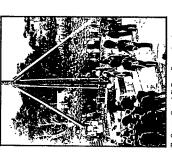
FOURTION MONTH

FIGURE 5
Detail of Proposed Works

The Foundation Stone for the Commencement Column

commemorates the naming of Canborra by Lady Denman, wife The foundation stones for a proposed Commencement of the Governor-General, Lord Denman, on 12 March 1913. Column, located on the grassed area north of this site

laid by I.ord Denman, the Prime Minister Andrew Fisher, and To mark the occasion stones in the base of the column were the Minister of State for Home Affairs, King O'Malley.



The Governor General, Sir Tomas Denman, lays the first of three foundation stones for the Commencement Column on Capital Hill on the 12 March, 1913.



The Prime Minister, Andrew Fisher, calls for three cheers after Lady Denman has announced the name of the Capital is "Canberra"

each of the original States. A four sided granite obelisk 8m in height and symbolising the four comers of the British Empire The column base consists of six granite blocks representing was to rise above this base, but owing to the outbreak of the

The column base was originally sited on Capital Hill, in what is now the Forecourt of the Parliament House. It was relocated to World War I was not constructed,

its present location and rededicated on 12 March 1988.

Commencement Column

Original location of the 1913 Commencement Column base. Relocated in 1988 to the land axis north of the Parliament House In reply please quote:

DW92.039 File No: 92/260

The Sergeant at Arms Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600 1 9 MAY 1992

Attention: Mr. Phil Bergin

Secretary

Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone

Dear Sir.

WORLD CUP SHOWJUMPING EVENT - SECTION 56 PARKES

The Authority recently received an application from the World Cup 95 Bid Committee seeking approval to conduct the 1993 World Cup Qualifying Event on Section 56 Parkes in January 1993.

This event which involves some 200 riders and up to 600 horses was staged in Glebe Park last year and attracted an estimated 7000 spectators. It is the most prestigious event in the Australian Equestrian calender and the 1993 event is of particular importance as the committee responsible for selecting the venue for the finals of the 1995 World Cup will be in Canberra to assess the City's bid.

The event is a two day event involving show-jumping and dressage events and the setting up and restoration will involve the use of the site for a total of one week. The event is scheduled for the last weekend in January.

The Authority has given support in principle to the application subject to consideration by the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone should you believe that to be necessary. A formal Application for Works Approval is likely to be considered in October.

Should you require any further information please contact David Wright, the Authority's Director (Statutory Planning) on 2712840.

MALCOLM SMITH Executive Director (Planning

Makon (mit

Executive Director (Planning) 15 May 1992



The Hon Wendy Fatin MP 1 7 AUG 1992 Minister for the Arts and Territories Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women



The Hon Leo McLeay MP
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Speaker

I am writing to you in your capacity as Joint Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone.

On 15 April 1992 the Joint House Department submitted Plan number 4907/P1 to the National Capital Planning Authority for consideration. The Plan is for a long stay car parking facility for the loading dock at Parliament House. A copy of the plan is enclosed.

I understand you have already referred to the Committee for its inquiry and report the component of the works that impinges on the Parliamentary Precincts.

As the work crosses the boundary of the Parliamentary Precincts, I wish to formally refer the remaining component of the proposal to the Committee, as Minister responsible for the Parliamentary Zone.

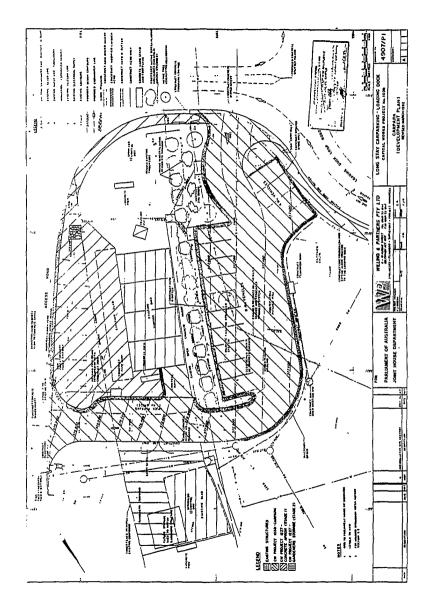
Officers of the National Capital Planning Authority will be available to provide a presentation on the proposal, if the Committee wishes.

I have written in similar terms to the President of the Senate.

Your sincerely

WENDY FATIN







The Hon Wendy Fatin MP Minister for the Arts and Territories Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women

1 1 AUG 1992

Senator the Hon Kerry W Sibraa President of the Senate Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600

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Your sincerely

WENDY PATIN