

Sydney and Melbourne Buildings

Sunday 9 February 2020

To: cityrenewal@act.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam.

This submission is on behalf of the National Trust of Australia ACT who wish to have the Sydney and Melbourne Buildings, which are of heritage significance and classified by the National Trust, conserved in the best possible way. The Conservation Management Plan needs to be updated and then conservation work implemented to present the building as an integrated building by whatever means is feasible. The buildings have been left to deteriorate by the owners and there is a lack of uniform treatments and condition which is unfortunate especially as it is at the focal centre of Canberra City. The plan needs to consider the best solutions with the courtyards to make them inviting and safe spaces.

The other places of heritage significance in and around the city also need to be conserved and acknowledged to protect and promote heritage. This includes the planning elements of Griffin, the landscape such as city hill, other buildings, the lake and views to and from places. An overarching and integrated plan that identifies the heritage elements and then develops a plan around them to conserve them before any planning is implemented is essential. The other aspect is that consultation with the community is important at all steps of the process.

Regards,

Eric Martin, AM