

Charles Sowerwine is a Lecturer in History at the University of Melbourne.

The author wishes to thank the following for advice and encouragement:

- Mr. Richard Allen, Urban Planner, City of Fitzroy;
- Dr. Fred Charlton, Head of the Department of Marketing, Deakin College Business School, Deakin Institute of Technology;
- Professor Frank Wilkinson, Department of History, Monash University;
- Mr. John Jones, Mayor, Melbourne City Council;
- Mr. John Jones, M.P.

1888 STREET: A PROPOSAL FOR A MUSEUM OF

Dr. Peter Selinger, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, University of Melbourne.

VICTORIAN HOME AND STREET LIFE

A Note on the background of this proposal

In 1989, I discussed with Dr Trevor Huggard, the Exhibition Trusts' plans to restore the building and develop it as a tourist attraction. I suggested that the Fitzroy neighbourhood across Nicholson Street had corresponding tourist potential which should be developed. I spoke of this to Dr Elaine Nelson, then Mayor of Fitzroy, who supported the concept enthusiastically. When I read Peter Chandler's article attached as Appendix II, I determined to develop a five proposal. With Trevor Huggard's suggestion, Richard Allen, Peter Chandler, John Jones, and I met with the Trustees of the Royal Exhibition Building on Thursday, 21 June 1989, at 11.30am or earlier. The discussion was fruitful and positive in regard to the proposals presented for the proposal. The difficulties raised, work of Huggard, Allen, and Jones. It was agreed that Peter Chandler and the Trusts would attend to the funding for a feasibility study, while I would develop the proposal. A five-point plan for the proposal is the result. The funding plan is set out in the report of the work of Dr R. G. Lewis and other members of the Exhibition Trusts.

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The author wishes to thank the following for advice and encouragement:

Mr. Richard Allen, Urban Planner, City of Fitzroy;

Mr. Peter Chandler, Head of the Department of Marketing, David Syme Business School, Chisholm Institute of Technology;

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Mr. Chris Jacobson, M.T.A.;

Dr. Miles B. Lewis, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Architecture, University of Melbourne;

Dr. Stuart Macintyre, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, University of Melbourne;

Councillor Ralph McLean, formerly Mayor, City of Fitzroy.

A Note on the background of this proposal

Late in 1984, I discussed with Cr Trevor Huggard the Exhibition Trustees' plans to restore the building and develop it as a tourist attraction. I suggested that the Fitzroy neighborhood across Nicholson Street had corresponding tourist potential which should be developed. I spoke of this to Cr Ralph McLean, then Mayor of Fitzroy, who supported the concept enthusiastically. When I read Peter Chandler's article (attached as Appendix I), I determined to develop a firm proposal. At Trevor Huggard's suggestion, Richard Allen, Peter Chandler, Ralph McLean, and I met with the Trustees of the Royal Exhibition Building on Thursday, 20 June 1985, to discuss my proposal. The discussion was fruitful and positive in regard to the sympathy expressed for the proposal; the difficulties raised, were, as always, those of finance. It was agreed that Peter Chandler and the Trustees would attempt to find sources for funding for a feasibility study, while I would develop the concept so as to have a firm basis for discussion. This proposal is the result. In its final form, it owes much to the expert advice of Dr M. B. Lewis, who contributed several significant portions.

Amended 22 October 1985

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Proposal.....	5
Appendix 1 'Tourists miss our mark' by Peter Chandler.....	12
Appendix 2 Nicholson and Gertrude Streets: Analysis of Building Stock, Streetscapes, and Historical Notes on Occupants in 1888 by Charles Sowerwine.....	14
Appendix 3 Excerpts from South Fitzroy Conservation Study by Jacobs Lewis Vines and Dr. Miles B. Lewis.....	20
Appendix 4 The Potential for Use of Vintage Trams between the City and the Royal Exhibition Buildings by Charles Sowerwine and Chris Jacobson.....	28
Appendix 5 Excerpts from the Swanson Report on Melbourne's Parks and Gardens	31
Appendix 6 A Museum of Melbourne? by Graeme Davison	58