



Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

# The New and Permanent Parliament House Canberra

First Report of the Joint Standing Committee  
on the New and Permanent Parliament House

<b>DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE</b>	
PAPER No.	604
DATE	
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Clerk of the Senate	

'...construction and occupation of stage 1 of the permanent Parliament House... by 26 January 1988 is both feasible and practical.'

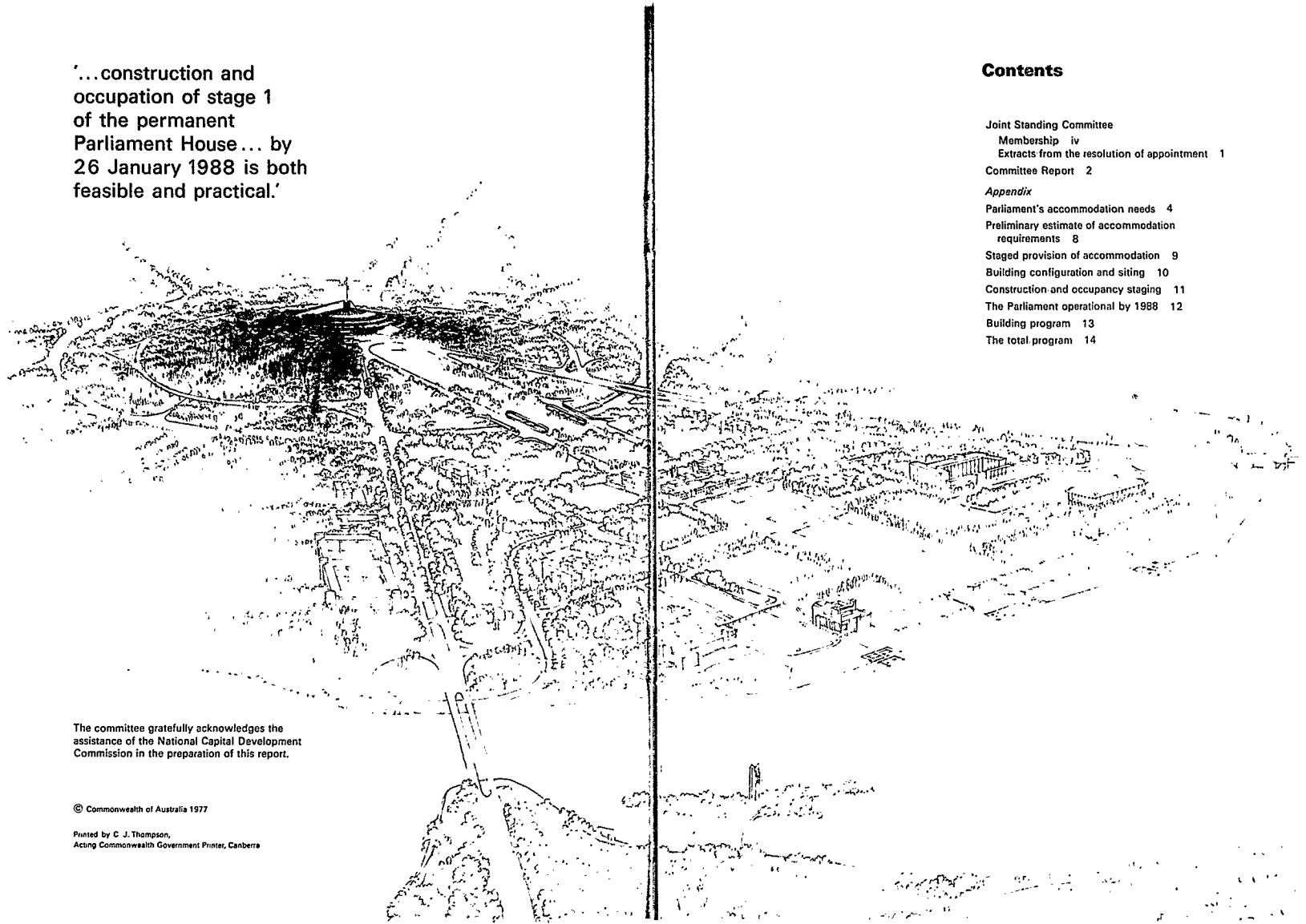
## Contents

Joint Standing Committee	
Membership	iv
Extracts from the resolution of appointment	1
Committee Report	2
<i>Appendix</i>	
Parliament's accommodation needs	4
Preliminary estimate of accommodation requirements	8
Staged provision of accommodation	9
Building configuration and siting	10
Construction and occupancy staging	11
The Parliament operational by 1988	12
Building program	13
The total program	14

The committee gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the National Capital Development Commission in the preparation of this report.

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## Membership of the Committee

(30TH PARLIAMENT)

### JOINT CHAIRMEN

Senator the Honourable C. L. Laucke,

*President of the Senate*

The Right Honourable B. M. Snedden, Q.C., M.P.,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives*

### MEMBERS

The Honourable A. A. Staley, M.P.,

*Minister for the Capital Territory*

Senator the Honourable T. C. Drake-Brockman, D.F.C.,

*Chairman of Committees in the Senate*

Senator G. D. McIntosh

Senator J. I. Melzer

Senator A. J. Missen

Senator J. O'Byrne

Senator H. W. Young

The Honourable K. M. Cairns, M.P.

The Honourable R. V. Garland, M.P.

Mr L. K. Johnson, M.P.

The Honourable P. J. Keating, M.P.

Mr B. Lloyd, M.P.

Mr G. G. D. Scholes, M.P.

Mr L. M. Barlin,

*Clerk to the committee*

## New and Permanent Parliament House Joint Standing Committee

EXTRACTS FROM THE RESOLUTION OF  
APPOINTMENT

### *Paragraph (1)*

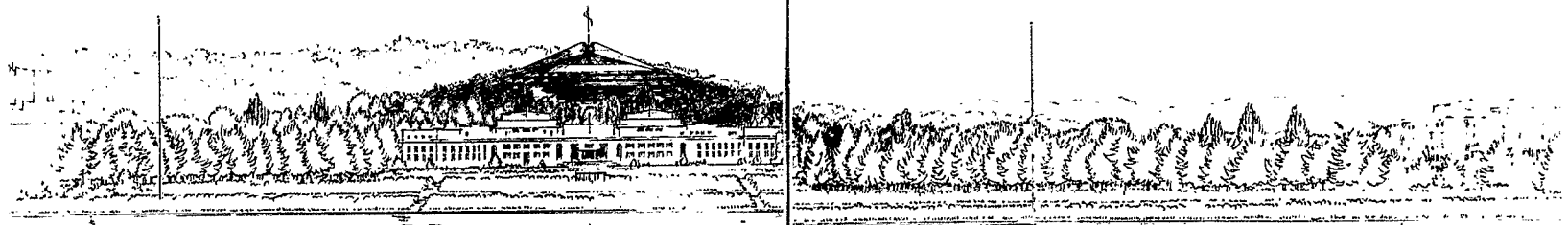
That a Joint Standing Committee be appointed to act for and represent the Parliament, as the client for the new and permanent Parliament House, in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House and all matters incidental thereto.

### *Paragraph (2)*

That the committee reconsider and, as necessary, amend the recommendations of the former Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House contained in its report dated March 1970, which when revised shall be used as the basis of the construction of the new and permanent Parliament House.

### *Paragraph (17)*

That the committee be authorised to provide, on behalf of the Parliament, all necessary information concerning the functional requirements for the new and permanent Parliament House and matters incidental thereto direct to the National Capital Development Commission as the Authority responsible to Parliament to undertake or arrange for the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House.



## COMMITTEE REPORT

1. In its report presented to the Senate and the House of Representatives on 8 April 1970, the Joint Select Committee on the proposed new and permanent Parliament House recommended that in all phases of planning and construction of the new building there be a close liaison between planning authorities and parliamentary authorities and for this purpose there be established a 'client' committee consisting of representatives of Senators, Members and the Parliamentary Departments.
2. This recommendation was given effect in the 29th Parliament when, on 26 August 1975, there was established a Joint Standing Committee 'to act for and represent the Parliament, as the client for the new and permanent Parliament House, in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House and all matters incidental thereto'.
3. Under its resolution of appointment, the committee is required to 'reconsider and, as necessary, amend the recommendations of the former Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House contained in its report dated March 1970, which when revised shall be used as the basis of the construction of the new and permanent Parliament House'. The committee is 'authorised to provide, on behalf of the Parliament, all necessary information concerning the functional requirements for the new and permanent Parliament House and matters incidental thereto direct to the National Capital Development Commission as the Authority responsible to Parliament to undertake or arrange for the planning, design and construction of the new and permanent Parliament House'.
4. The committee was re-established in the 30th Parliament on 18 March 1976.

### WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE

5. As required by its resolution of appointment, the committee has been engaged in a review of the recommendations contained in the 1970 Report and in a re-assessment of the estimates of space requirements for the new building. A good deal of progress has been made in this regard although the issues have not, by any means, been determined finally.
6. All Senators and Members of the House of Representatives in the 29th Parliament were invited to submit comments on the 1970 recommendations. Again in the 30th Parliament all Senators and Members were invited to make their views known to the committee.  
The committee thanks those Senators and Members who responded and extends a continuing invitation for all to do so. The involvement of Senators and Members throughout the planning process is regarded by the committee as essential to the development of an adequate and functional new Parliament House.

### PROGRESS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE

7. The 1970 Report of the Joint Select Committee estimated net accommodation requirements in the new Parliament House as 70 766 sq metres (764 280 sq ft) by A.D. 2000, increasing ultimately to 81 858 sq metres (884 065 sq ft). Since that report was presented the needs of many occupants have increased, further enlarging the size of the new building.
8. Recognising the problems, physical and financial, of constructing the new Parliament House of that size in a one-stage operation, the committee had its officers and officers of the National Capital Development Commission undertake a study of staging construction of the new building. In particular, the group was

asked to conduct a feasibility study of constructing and occupying stage 1 of the new building by 26 January 1988—the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia.

9. Two alternatives were considered for the stage 1 1988 concept. The first consisted of constructing the new chambers, halls, foyer and central 'core' areas only with the retention of Senators, Members, Ministers and parliamentary departmental accommodation and other services in their present location. The working group concluded that the proposal was impractical because of the significant disruption to the efficient functioning of the Parliament which would be caused by the physical separation of Senators, Members, Ministers and staff from the chambers. With this conclusion the committee unanimously agreed.
10. The second alternative was to construct as stage 1 a building of about twice the size of the existing provisional Parliament House capable of providing improved accommodation for Senators, Members, Ministers, essential parliamentary staff, services and the press by 26 January 1988. Non-essential staff and some services would remain in the present building until completion of the next stage when further accommodation would be provided for Senators, Members, Ministers, Parliamentary Departments, services and the press.
11. A feature of the design of the building in a staged concept would be its practicability for progressive enlargement in the event of further increases in numbers of Senators and Members.
12. The working group concluded that construction and occupation of stage 1 of the permanent Parliament House comprising about 51 850 sq metres (558 000 sq ft) by 26 January 1988 is both feasible and practical. The provisional Parliament House presently provides 16 830 sq metres (181 400 sq ft) and the Parliament occupies an additional 2200 sq metres (23 660 sq ft) in the former Hotel Canberra, as well as an area within the Government Printing Office.
13. The committee has examined the bases on which the finding of the working group was reached. The attached appendix sets out in graphic form part of the submission which was made to it.

### CONCLUSIONS

14. The committee has endorsed the conclusions of the working group. It has approved unanimously the stage 1 concept and agreed with the timetable which would enable construction and occupation of the first stage of the new and permanent Parliament House by 26 January 1988—the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia.
15. In the present overcrowded, inadequate and poorly designed building, Senators, Members (particularly) and necessary support staff are attempting to work under totally unsatisfactory conditions. The stage 1 1988 concept offers an opportunity for a substantial improvement for all who are, or should be, located in the parliamentary building.
16. Detailed examination of the 1970 recommendations, scrutiny of the estimates of accommodation requirements and consideration of functional relationships and requirements is proceeding to permit the preparation of a statement of user requirements for the new building.
17. It is the committee's intention to keep the Parliament fully informed of its progress and further reports will be presented from time to time.

C. L. LAUCKE  
*President of the Senate  
Joint Chairman*

B. M. SNEDDEN  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Joint Chairman*

30 March 1977



Handwritten signatures of C. L. Laucke and B. M. Snedden.

## **Parliament's accommodation needs**

The 1970 Report of the Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House highlighted the growing inadequacies of the provisional building. The report also provided proposals on space allocation and functional relationships to be used as the basis for planning and design of the new and permanent Parliament House.

The 1970 Report showed that the halls and chambers are, in both symbolic and operational terms, the focal point of the Parliament and that all other functional areas compete for locations close to these areas. The current feasibility study concluded that a fully functioning Parliament can be constructed in stages and confirmed that the first stage can be completed and occupied by 26 January 1988, the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia.

**KEY TO AREAS**

- 1** Senate Chamber
- 2** House of Representatives Chamber  
President of the Senate  
Speaker
- 7** Chairman of Committees—Senate  
Chairman of Committees—H of R  
Federation Hall

- Foyer and Interview Rooms  
Theatrette and Viewing Rooms  
Parliament Hall  
States Hall and Interview Rooms  
Galleries to Chambers

- Deputy Chairmen  
Leader and Deputy Leader of the  
Opposition—Senate  
Leader of the Third Party—Senate  
Private Senators' Suites  
Government Party Rooms—Senate  
Opposition Party Rooms—Senate  
Other Party Rooms—Senate  
Chamber Officers—Senate  
Administration—Senate Department

- Deputy Chairmen—H of R  
Third Party Leader and Deputy—H of R  
Fourth Party Leader and Deputy—H of R  
Private Members' Suites  
**26** Government Party Rooms—H of R  
**27** Opposition Party Rooms—H of R  
**28** Third and Fourth Party Rooms—H of R  
**29** Chamber Officers—H of R  
**30** Administration—H of R Department

- 31** Committee Rooms—Senate  
Committee Branch—Senate Department  
**33** Committee Rooms—H of R  
**34** Committee Branch—H of R Department

- 35** Bars and Lounges  
**36** Dining Rooms  
**37** Kitchens and Stores

- 38** Billiards, Pool, Squash Courts

- Reading Rooms—Library  
Research Directors and Executive—Library  
Research Groups and CIS—Library  
Reference, Services and Stacks—Library

- 43** Administration  
**44** Service Personnel—Attendants, Police,  
Cleaners, Housekeeper  
**45** Plant Rooms, Stores and Workshops

- 46** Administration, Reporters and  
Transcription—Hansard

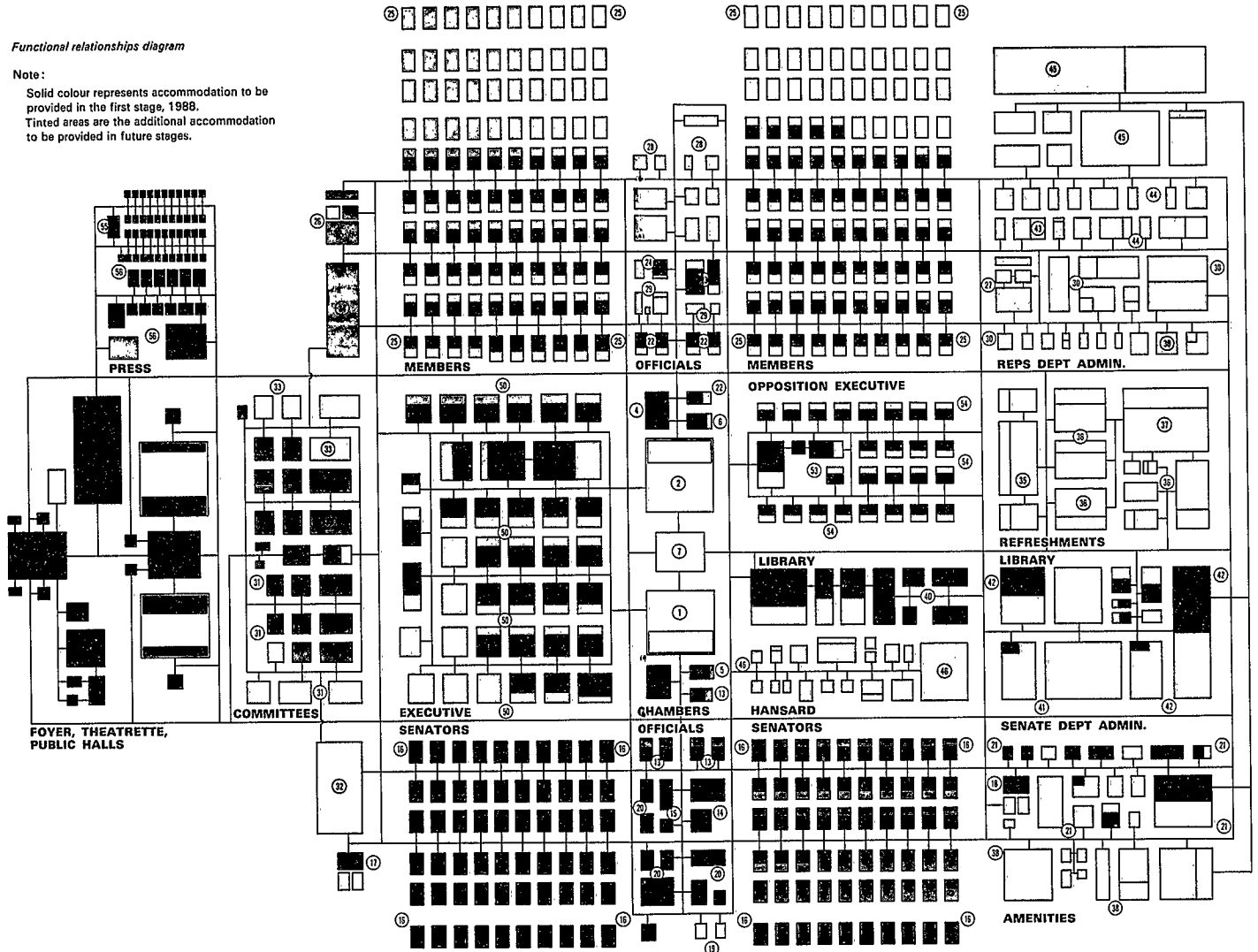
- Prime Minister's Suite  
Cabinet  
Deputy Prime Minister's Suite  
Ministers' Suites  
Leader of the Government in the Senate

- Leader of the Opposition—H of R  
Deputy Leader of the Opposition—H of R  
Opposition Executive's Suites

- Press Bureaus  
Studios and Press Conference Room

*Functional relationships diagram*

Note:  
Solid colour represents accommodation to be provided in the first stage, 1988.  
Tinted areas are the additional accommodation to be provided in future stages.



## Preliminary estimate of accommodation requirements

Year	1977 (existing)	1988	2000+
Senators	64	88	120
Members	127	170	240
<i>Areas in square metres</i>			
Chambers	1 400	9 050	9 050
Senators	900	4 000	9 000
Senate Department	1 300	2 300	3 900
Members	1 400	7 300	13 700
House of Representatives Department	1 400	2 400	4 300
Committees	500	2 700	6 300
Refreshments	2 100	4 100	6 000
Amenities	400	1 200	1 650
Library	1 600	3 300	8 400
Joint House Department	2 500	5 000	8 900
Hansard	450	900	1 800
Executive	2 400	5 100	9 200
Opposition Executive	-	2 250	3 150
Press	500	1 600	1 700
Hotel Canberra	2 200	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>19 050</b>	<b>51 100</b>	<b>87 050</b>

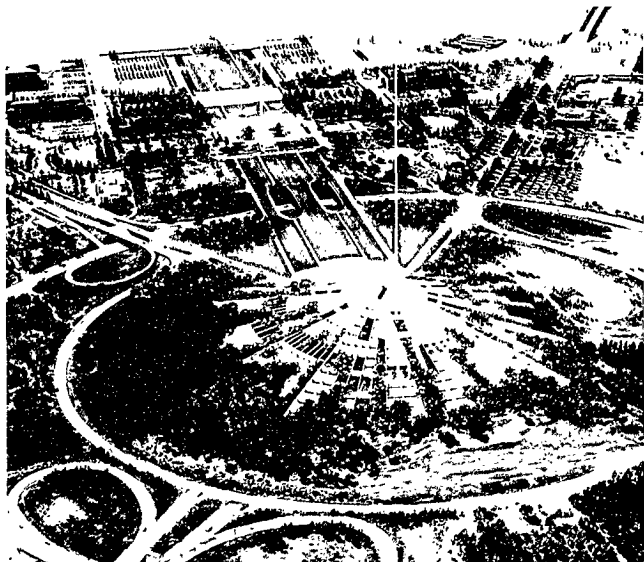
## Staged provision of accommodation

The first stage of the new building will provide an area of approximately 51 000 m<sup>2</sup> accommodation for the Halls and Chambers, 88 Senators and 170 Members of the House of Representatives, personal staff, and components of Parliamentary Departments directly servicing the Parliament. An area of at least 4000 m<sup>2</sup> will be retained in the provisional building to accommodate those components of Parliamentary Departments which are not closely involved with the day to day operation of Parliament.

Further stages will increase accommodation to the full area standards recommended in the 1970

Report of the Joint Select Committee on the New and Proposed Parliament House and will allow all parliamentary functions to be located in the new building.

It is estimated that at some point beyond the year 2000 the number of Members of Parliament may increase to 120 Senators and 240 Members of the House of Representatives, at this stage some 87 000 m<sup>2</sup> will be required. This area can adequately be provided on the Capital Hill site.





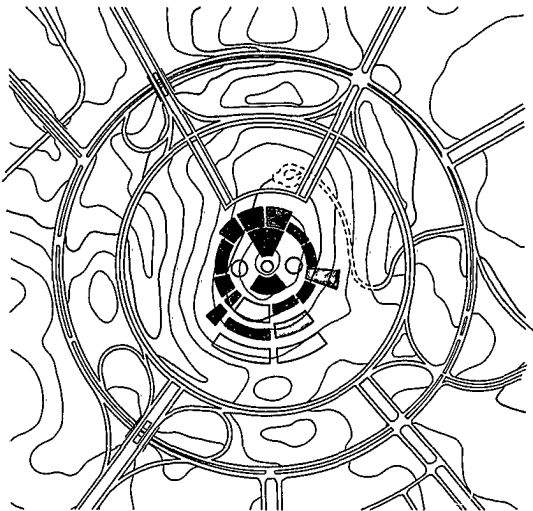
## Building configuration and siting

Capital Hill forms the apex of the Parliamentary Triangle and is the focal point of a major radial road pattern. The hill form is basically symmetrical with a slight ravine formed on the western side. As a consequence, the relationship and shape of the functional areas must be adjusted to take account of these natural and man-made influences. There are a number of ways by which this can be done. For example, the line of the roads may be visually extended into the core areas and the whole building set slightly to the east of the hill top.

In this configuration the maximum spread of building in 1988 will not extend beyond a radius of 130 m. The building will, therefore, retain its impressive natural landscape setting and still leave adequate space for recreation areas, gardens and future building expansion.

The maximum building spread beyond the year 2000 need not exceed a radius of 170 m. Again a good relationship between the building mass and the site area can be maintained. Some further expansion can be contemplated without compromising the attractiveness and prominence of the site.

*Stage One—1988*



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## Construction and occupancy staging

There are two methods of providing a building which is capable of expansion:

(i) Construct a portion of all functional areas and allow for the staged expansion of each area.

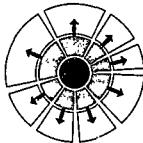
*Problem:* to design a building which looks complete at the end of each stage and also remains cost effective.

(ii) Construct ultimate area required for some functions and do not construct the remainder. Occupants are 'decanted' into their permanent building as future stages are constructed.

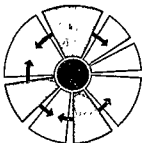
*Problem:* some functions will be occupying space which is not their ultimate location and does not fit their precise accommodation needs. This may impair relationships and cause disruption as future stages are constructed.

The final solution will probably be a combination of both alternatives but this will be evaluated as part of the detailed design so that site, technical and construction problems can be taken into account.

Expand

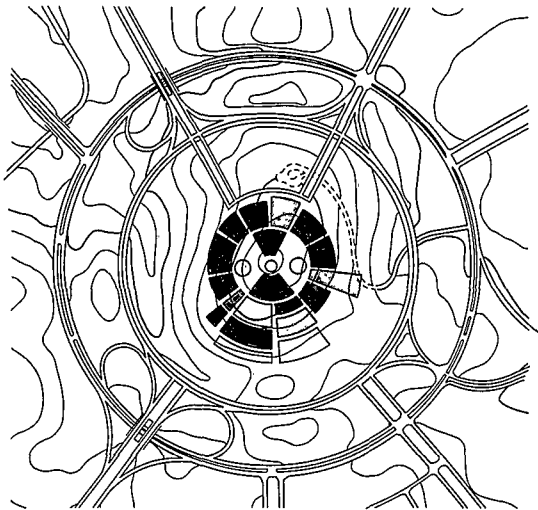


Decant



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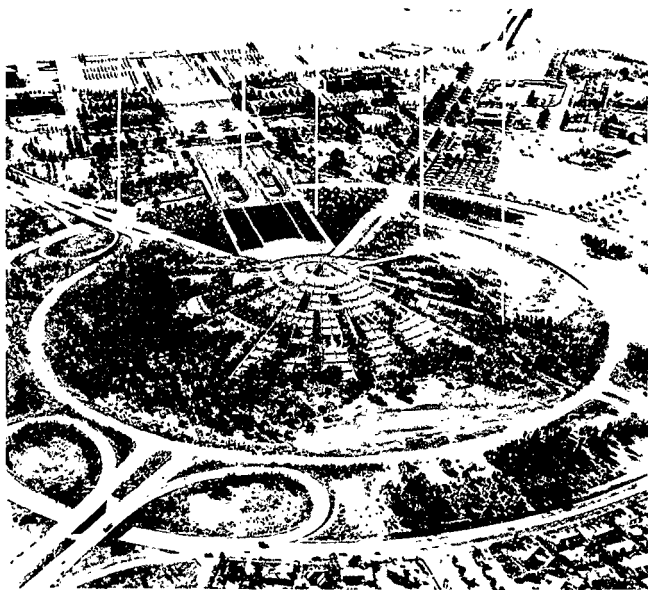
*Likely ultimate stage*



## The Parliament operational by 1988

Stage 1 of the new and permanent Parliament House, including all associated site works and approach areas, can be constructed and occupied by 29 January 1988. The major steps in achieving this target are:

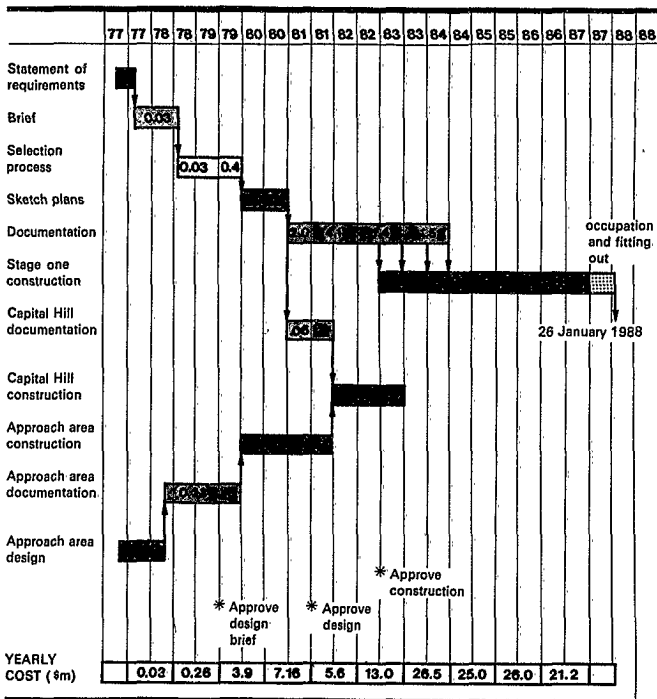
- 1980-81 major road approaches completed
- 1981-82 approach area between the provision and permanent building completed
- 1983-84 building site works completed
- 1984-85 formal layout of the new Parliament completed
- 1987-88 new and permanent Parliament House completed and occupied



## Building program

The new Parliament will be designed and constructed in a series of normal, well-proven steps. To ensure achievement of the 1988 target date the design and construction of the Parliament building will proceed concurrently with the design and construction of associated works, all projects culminating in the completion of the new and permanent Parliament House.

Expenditure to completion is spread over eleven years and is contained to manageable annual amounts. Only during construction in the period 1982-83 to 1986-87 is significant annual expenditure incurred:

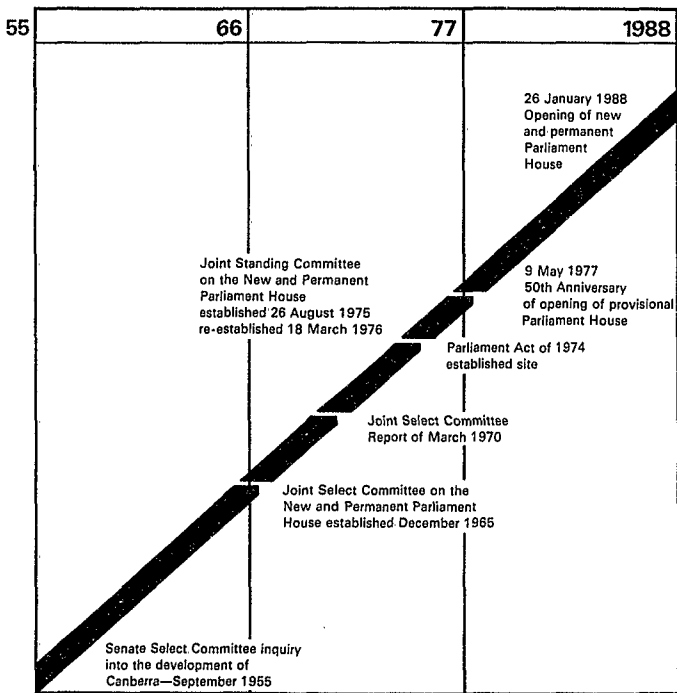


All figures are at February 1977 costs.

## The total program

9 May 1977 marks the anniversary of the opening of the provisional Parliament House. It is a time to remember the service given by the temporary building. It is also a time to consider the growing inadequacies of the building and to reflect upon the progress already made in the planning of the new and permanent Parliament House.

The opportunity now lies ahead to mark the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia by opening the first stage of the new and permanent Parliament House on 26 January 1988.



JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AND PERMANENT  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Minutes of Proceedings

Twenty-ninth Parliament - First Meeting  
Parliament House, Canberra

Tuesday, 7 October 1975 - 1 p.m.

Present

Senator the Hon. Justin O'Byrne, President of the Senate	)	
Hon. G.G.D. Scholes, M.P., Speaker of the House of Representatives	)	Joint Chairmen
Senator J.L. Carrick	)	
Senator J.J. Webster, Chairman of Committees and Deputy Leader of the National Country Party of Australia in the Senate	)	
Senator R.G. Withers, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate	)	
Mr E.N. Drury, C.B.E., M.P.	)	
Hon. R.V. Garland, M.P.	)	
Mr L.K. Johnson, M.P.	)	
Mr L.J. Keogh, M.P.	)	
Hon. T. Uren, M.P., Minister for Urban and Regional Development.	)	

Senator the Hon. Justin O'Byrne took the Chair.

Entries in the Votes and Proceedings Nos. 83, 85, 88 and 97 and Journals of the Senate No. 102 regarding the appointment of the Committee and the appointment of members to the Committee were reported by the Chairman.

The Chairman advised that he and Mr Speaker had agreed that Mr L.M. Barlin would be Clerk to the Committee and that Mr H.C. Nicholls would be Senate Liaison Officer, would attend all meetings, would act as Clerk to Sub-committees as required and would rank as No. 2 in the Committee secretariat.

The Committee agreed that the Joint Chairmen be authorised to provide additional clerical assistance for the Committee secretariat, as required.

On the motion of Mr Drury, it was agreed - That the papers prepared by the Joint Chairmen entitled "Statement by the Joint Chairmen" and "Comments on the Recommendations" which had been circulated to members of the Committee be taken as read.

On the motion of Senator Carrick, it was agreed - That (1) each of the Parliamentary Departments and (2) the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery Committee, be asked to revise their estimated accommodation requirements as set out in the 1970 Report of the Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House and that the revised estimates be supplied to the Committee by 6 November 1975.

On the motion of Senator Carrick, it was agreed -

- (1) That all Senators and Members be supplied with a summary of the 1970 Committee's recommendations and invited to submit their views on the recommendations by 11 November 1975, and
- (2) That the Prime Minister and the Party Leaders be invited to submit their views also on any likely Parliamentary developments which they can foresee and which may affect requirements in the New and Permanent Parliament House.

Ordered - That a representative or representatives of the National Capital Development Commission be heard at the next meeting to advise on work that has been undertaken by the Commission in relation to the New and Permanent Parliament House.

On the suggestion of Mr Uren it was agreed -

That copies of the Minutes of Proceedings should be provided for the National Capital Development Commission.

The Committee adjourned until Monday, 20 October 1975, at 7.30 p.m.

Confirmed

*(Sgd) Justin O'Byrne*

Chairman

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AND PERMANENT  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Minutes of Proceedings

Twenty-ninth Parliament - Second Meeting  
Parliament House, Canberra

Monday, 20 October 1975 - 7.30 p.m.

Present

Senator the Hon. Justin O'Byrne, )  
President of the Senate ) Joint Chairmen  
Hon. G.G.D. Scholes, M.P., )  
Speaker of the House of Representatives )

Senator J.L. Carrick  
Senator J.I. Melzer  
Senator J.J. Webster, Chairman of Committees and Deputy  
Leader of the National Country Party  
of Australia in the Senate  
Senator R.G. Withers, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate  
Mr E.N. Drury, C.B.E., M.P.,  
Hon. R.V. Garland, M.P.,  
Mr L.K. Johnson, M.P.

Senator the Hon. Justin O'Byrne took the Chair.

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 7 October 1975,  
which had previously been circulated to members, were taken  
as read and confirmed.

Resolved : That the assistance of the Postmaster-General and the  
Minister for the Media be sought in having officers of the  
Postal and Telecommunications Commissions and the Australian  
Broadcasting Commission update the 1970 estimates of accommodation  
requirements for communication services in the new building.

The Chair was vacated by Senator the Hon. Justin O'Byrne and  
taken by the Hon. G.G.D. Scholes, M.P.

Mr A.J.W. Powell, Commissioner of the National Capital Development  
Commission, Mr H.L. Westerman, Associate Commissioner,  
Mr P.S. Reid, First Assistant Commissioner, Architectural  
Division, and Mr R.T. Dooley, Executive Officer, National  
Capital Branch, were called and examined.

The witnesses withdrew.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved : That, for the information of Senators and Members,  
the National Capital Development Commission be requested to  
arrange in Parliament House a display of the material relating  
to the construction of the new building which had been shown  
to the Committee at this meeting.

The Committee adjourned until Monday, 24 November 1975, at 7.30 p.m.

Confirmed *Certified true record.*  
*L.M. Bargin*  
to



JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AND PERMANENT  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Minutes of Proceedings . . .

Thirtieth Parliament - First Meeting  
Parliament House, Canberra

Tuesday, 4 May 1976 - 10 a.m.

Present

Senator the Hon. C.L. Laucke, )  
President of the Senate )  
The Rt Hon. B.M. Snedden, Q.C., M.P., ) Joint Chairmen  
Speaker of the House of Representatives )

Senator the Hon. T.C. Drake-Brockman, D.F.C., Chairman  
of Committees in the Senate  
Senator A.J. Missen  
The Hon. K.M. Cairns, M.P.  
The Hon. R.V. Garland, M.P.  
Mr L.K. Johnson, M.P.  
Mr B. Lloyd, M.P.  
Mr G.G.D. Scholes, M.P.  
The Hon. A.A. Staley, M.P., Minister for the Capital Territory

Senator the Hon. C.L. Laucke took the Chair.

Entries in the Votes and Proceedings Nos. 10, <sup>(11)</sup> and 18, and Journals of the Senate Nos. 12 and 15 recording the appointment of the Committee and the appointment of members of the Committee were reported by the Chairman.

The Chairman presented revised estimates of accommodation requirements prepared by each of the Parliamentary Departments.

The Chairman presented replies received from Senators and Members in response to the Committee's invitation of 8 October 1975 seeking comment on the recommendations contained in the 1970 Report of the Joint Select Committee on the New and Permanent Parliament House.

Resolved : (1) That the Committee's appreciation be extended to those Senators and Members who had responded to the request and an invitation be extended to provide any further comment they may wish to make, and

(2) That all other Senators and Members be invited to submit comments on the recommendations.

Resolved : That the NCDC be requested to arrange for the display of material relating to construction of the new building to be re-erected in Parliament House during September to encourage the participation of all Senators and Members in the Committee's activities.

The Committee deliberated on the matter of the funding of costs to be incurred in planning the new Parliament House.

Resolved : (1) That staff of the Committee confer with officers of the NCDC for the purposes of identifying any problems likely to occur if funds required for planning the new Parliament House were provided to the Parliament rather than the NCDC, and

(2) That, on report from the Committee staff, the Joint Chairmen confer with the Minister for the Capital Territory to determine the desirability of the funding proposal.

The Chairman informed the Committee that the former Postmaster-General (Mr Nixon) had advised that the Postal and Telecommunications Commissions would be pleased to assist the Committee in up-dating the space requirements for communication services in the new Parliament House. The Minister for Post and Telecommunications had been advised of the Committee's request for similar assistance from the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

The Chairman advised that no reply had been received from the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery Committee in relation to up-dated estimates of space requirements for a Press Wing in the new building and a reminder had been sent.

The Chairman presented a letter written by Mr J.B. Howes of Hornsby, N.S.W. regarding seating arrangements in any new Senate Chamber.

Ordered - That the letter be acknowledged and forwarded to the President of the Senate for consideration.

The Committee deliberated in respect of the future course of its inquiry.

Resolved : That officers of the Committee and the National Capital Development Commission liaise and provide for the Committee at its next meeting -

- (1) A review of the revised estimates of space requirements in the new building in comparison with those which were considered by the earlier Committee;
- (2) A review of the recommendations contained in the 1970 Report, not for the purpose of reconsidering them, but to ascertain which need up-dating to take account of new or changed circumstances, and
- (3) An identification of other issues for decision not covered by the 1970 Report.

The Committee will then proceed to set out a program to enable it to arrive at a complete design brief which is required of it under the terms of reference.

The Committee adjourned until a date and hour to be determined by the Joint Chairmen.

*Confirmed*  
(594) B. H. Snedden Chairman

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AND PERMANENT  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

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Minutes of Proceedings  
Thirtieth Parliament - Second Meeting  
Parliament House, Canberra

Wednesday, 1 December 1976 - 6 p.m.

Present

Senator the Hon. C.L. Laucke, )  
President of the Senate ) Joint Chairmen  
The Rt Hon. B.M. Snedden, Q.C., M.P., )  
Speaker of the House of Representatives )  
Senator the Hon. T.C. Drake-Brockman, D.F.C.,  
Chairman of Committees in the Senate  
Senator A.J. Missen  
Senator J. O'Byrne  
The Hon. K.M. Cairns, M.P.  
Mr L.K. Johnson, M.P.  
The Hon. P.J. Keating, M.P.  
Mr B. Lloyd, M.P.  
Mr G.G.D. Scholes, M.P.

The Rt Hon. B.M. Snedden took the Chair.

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 4 May 1976, which had previously been circulated to members, were taken as read and confirmed.

The following papers were presented:

Submission to the Committee, dated August 1976, prepared by officers of the Committee and the National Capital Development Commission in response to the resolution of 4 May 1976.

Recommendations by the Joint Chairmen to members of the Committee, dated 20 October 1976.

Replies from the following Members and Senators in response to the Committee's request for comments on the 1970 Recommendations:

Rt Hon. J.M. Fraser, M.P.  
Hon. D.J. Killen, M.P.  
Hon. P.R. Lynch, M.P.  
Hon. I.McC. Sinclair, M.P.  
Hon. A.A. Street, M.P.  
Senator M.S. Walters  
Senator the Hon. J.J. Webster  
Senator I.A.C. Wood

Reply dated 13 August 1976 from the Acting Secretary and Manager, National Capital Development Commission in response to the Committee's resolution of 4 May 1976 relating to the provision of funds required for planning the new Parliament House.

Letter dated 3 November 1976 from the Minister for the Capital Territory supporting the views expressed by the National Capital Development Commission in relation to the funding proposal.

Letter dated 18 June 1976 from the Minister for Post and Telecommunications advising that officers of the Australian Broadcasting Commission would be available to assist the Committee.

Letter dated 10 November 1976 from the Secretary, Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery Committee relating to Press requirements in the new Parliament House.

Letter dated 29 July 1976 from the President, Commonwealth Parliamentary Staffs' Association relating to the provision of adequate recreational and staff facilities in the new Parliament House.

The Committee deliberated.

The Committee re-affirmed the need for an early commencement of the construction of the new and permanent Parliament House.

Resolved : That officers of the Committee and the National Capital Development Commission prepare for the Committee at its next meeting, a feasibility study of the possibility of the completion and occupation of a first stage of the new and permanent Parliament House, of approximately twice the size of the present Parliament House, by 26 January 1988 - the 200th anniversary of the settlement of Australia.

The Committee adjourned.

Confirmed.

*Sybil C. L. Lawrence*

Chairman

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AND PERMANENT  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Minutes of Proceedings

Thirtieth Parliament - Third Meeting  
Parliament House, Canberra

Tuesday, 15 March 1977 - 10.15 a.m.

Present:

Senator the Hon. C.L. Laucke,  
President of the Senate

The Rt Hon. B.M. Snedden, Q.C., M.P.,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Hon. A.A. Staley, M.P.,  
Minister for the Capital Territory

Senator the Hon. T.C. Drake-Brockman, D.F.C.,  
Chairman of Committees in the Senate

Senator J.I. Melzer

Senator A.J. Missen

Senator J. O'Byrne

Senator H.W. Young

The Hon. K.M. Cairns, M.P.

The Hon. R.V. Garland, M.P.

Mr L.K. Johnson, M.P.

The Hon. P.J. Keating, M.P.

Mr B. Lloyd, M.P.

Mr G.G.D. Scholes, M.P.

Senator the Hon. C.L. Laucke took the Chair.

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 1 December 1976, which had been circulated previously to members, were taken as read and confirmed.

The Chairman reported that officers of the Committee and the National Capital Development Commission had carried out a feasibility study of constructing and occupying the first stage of the new and permanent Parliament House by 26 January 1988, the 200th Anniversary of European settlement in Australia. It was proposed to call officers of the N.C.D.C. to make a presentation to the Committee in relation to the study.

Mr P.S. Reid, First Assistant Commissioner (Architecture), Mr J.D. Fowler, Divisional Executive Officer and Mr J. Eglington, Project Architect, National Capital Development Commission, were called and examined.

Paper: Mr Reid presented the following paper :

Summary of material presented to the Joint Standing Committee on the new and permanent Parliament House, 15 March 1977.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved: That the Committee accepts the conclusion reached by the working group that it is not a practical proposal to construct as stage 1 of the new Parliament House, the nucleus only of the building, i.e. the Chambers, Halls, and central "core" areas, with Senators, Members and Ministers' accommodation and other services being retained in the present building until the completion of the next stage.

Resolved: That the Committee accepts the conclusion reached by the working group that it is a feasible proposition to have stage 1 of the new Parliament House, consisting of essential accommodation and services, completed and occupied by 26 January 1988, and agrees in principle with the proposed timetable to achieve this objective.

Resolved: That the opportunity presented by the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the provisional Parliament House should be used by the Committee to further its aim of achieving acceptance by Senators, Members and others of the reality of completing the occupying the 1st stage of the new and permanent Parliament House by 26 January 1988.

Resolved: That the Committee report its findings to the Parliament at the earliest opportune time.

Resolved: That the Committee support the National Capital Development Commission in using the 50th Anniversary King's Hall display to further its aim of achieving acceptance of the 1988 stage 1 proposal.

Resolved: That the National Capital Development Commission be requested to arrange a permanent display in the public basement area of Parliament House relating to the new and permanent Parliament House.

Resolved: That, in accordance with sub-section 2 (2) of the Parliamentary Papers Act 1908, and subject to the prior approval of the Joint Chairmen, this Committee authorises publication by the National Capital Development Commission of the summary of material presented to the Committee at this meeting for the purposes of the 50th Anniversary presentation in Parliament House.

The Committee adjourned until a date and hour to be determined by the Joint Chairmen.

Confirmed.

(Sgd) B. M. Smedden

Chairman.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NEW AND PERMANENT  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Minutes of Proceedings

Thirtieth Parliament - Fourth Meeting  
Parliament House, Canberra

Wednesday, 30 March 1977 - 1 p.m.

Present: Senator the Hon. C.L. Laucke,  
President of the Senate  
The Rt Hon. B.M. Snedden, Q.C., M.P.,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
The Hon. A.A. Staley, M.P.,  
Minister for the Capital Territory  
Senator the Hon. T.C. Drake-Brockman, D.F.C.,  
Chairman of Committees in the Senate  
Senator J.I. Melzer  
Senator G.D. McIntosh  
Senator J. O'Byrne  
The Hon. K.M. Cairns, M.P.  
Mr L.K. Johnson, M.P.  
Mr B. Lloyd, M.P.  
Mr G.G.D. Scholes, M.P.

The Rt Hon. B.M. Snedden took the Chair.

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 15 March 1977, which had been circulated previously to members, were taken as read and confirmed.

The Joint Chairmen brought up their draft First Report together with a mock-up of the lay-out of the report.

Draft report, by leave, taken as a whole.

Paragraphs 10, 11, 12 and 15 amended, and agreed to.

Draft report, as amended, agreed to.

Mock-up of lay-out of report agreed to, subject to the final approval of the Joint Chairmen.

Resolved: That the Draft Report, as amended, be the Report of the Committee to the House.

Resolved: That officers of the Committee and the National Capital Development Commission prepare for the next meeting, a paper setting out matters which need to be determined by the Committee, together with a program for their determination.

The Committee adjourned until Wednesday, 27 April 1977, at 1 p.m.

Confirmed

*(Sgd) C. L. Laucke*  
Chairman.