

Attention, Chair, Senator Helen Polley.

Proposal for a plaque acknowledging Romaldo Giurgola AO as the Principal Architect of the Australian Parliament House

In my seven years of working as Parliamentary Guide in the Australian Parliament House almost every day I am being asked by visitors the same question: “Who designed this place?”

On 9 May 2013, it will be 25 years since the grand opening of this iconic building, the first permanent home of the Federal Parliament. And yet, till today, within the building itself there is no formal acknowledgement of Romaldo Giurgola as the Principal Architect of the Australian Parliament House.

With my submission I would like to support Ms Pamille Berg’s suggestion, put forward during Public Hearing on 16 November 2011. Namely, that a commemorative plaque be made and displayed in the Parliament House, plaque which would acknowledge that Romaldo Giurgola is the Principal Architect of the Australian Parliament House, designed by Mitchell/Giurgola and Thorp.

Such plaque could be unveiled during the ceremony commemorating the 25 anniversary of the opening of the building in May next year. It would be an ideal opportunity to acknowledge the significant contribution of Romaldo Giurgol to the history of our city and nation.