



## HERITAGE AND FIRE SAFETY

The preservation of heritage buildings - as originally constructed, with a refurbished interior or as an adaptive reuse - is of great importance to society and requires appropriate levels of fire safety. Achieving this within the constraints of a heritage building can present significant challenges. Often, prescriptive building code compliance is not possible, and enforcement may be more detrimental to the heritage fabric of a building than an actual fire event.

To overcome this significant restraint, Holmes Fire's performance based fire engineering solutions not only provide appropriate levels of fire safety but are also sympathetic to the heritage nature of the building. We are able to supplement the inherent features of older buildings with key fire safety systems and risk management procedures that do not compromise the architectural and heritage features. We can also design a fire safety upgrade strategy, providing a high degree of property protection, and preserving as much of the building fabric as possible in the event of a fire.

Holmes Fire has developed fire engineered solutions that have allowed our client's buildings to retain decorative plasterwork, pressed metal ceilings, timber floors, open stairways, non-compliant stairways and balustrades, ornate timber doors, limit the intrusion of fire services - such as fire hose reels - and omit the need for drenching and fixing closed or screening openings in close proximity to boundaries.

Our ability to effectively communicate with key project stakeholders, including the client, architects, heritage consultants and approval authorities, enables us to rationalise their combined requirements and deliver fire safety solutions that are acceptable to all parties while being heritage sensitive, timely and affordable.

Some of our most recent heritage projects are listed as follows:

- Sydney Town Hall, Sydney
- David Jones House, Sydney
- 160 Pitt Street, Sydney
- 352 Kent Street, Sydney
- The Burns Philp Building, Sydney
- 661 George Street, Haymarket
- Taito House, Haymarket
- Tablet House, Pyrmont
- The Rocks Police Station, The Rocks
- Quarantine Station, Manly
- Kerever Park Conference Centre, Burradoo
- Crows Nest Hotel, Crows Nest
- Coach and Horses Hotel, Randwick
- New Plymouth Opera House, New Plymouth, NZ
- Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, NZ
- Christchurch Art Gallery, Christchurch, NZ

