

## WHARF 7, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

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### Client

Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM)

### Project

Wharf 7- Maritime Museum

### Location

Darling Harbour

### Value

\$19.5m

### Completion

1998



### APP Corporation Pty Ltd

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In 1996 APP was appointed to assist with a major extension to the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM) at Darling Harbour. The objective was to house all items currently in offsite storage, administration activities and curatorial functions, preferably on an adjacent site earmarked for commercial development.

The extension requirements were calculated at 8,600sqm in the short term with an additional 2,500sqm later. ANMM's budget for the project was \$19.5m including land acquisition.

APP developed a proposition to meet ANMM's needs for \$15 million using innovative building techniques and technology usually applied to health and industrial sector developments. This included 2,500sqm of premium water view office space which could generate rental income in the medium term. APP then facilitated acquisition of the adjacent site through a series of high level meetings between NSW government agencies, Premier Carr and the Museum.

APP was appointed to project manage the development in 1997 with a deadline for completion in 1998.

The Wharf 7 development is a unique concept in Museum design. Located on a rectangular site of 30m width x 85m length, it includes a 10m wide historic wharf used for public enjoyment and events.

The philosophy of open pedestrian flows, visibility, light and access to Wharf 7 building continues to all floors except for 2,000sqm of secure office area.

The building is an innovative structure as it utilises technology that is more common in other building sectors. At 4 stories high, with approximately 22m to the gable, it is constructed on a massive Raft Slab to overcome significant adverse ground conditions.

The structure is a light steel frame with sandwich panel cladding and roofing. The combination of these two elements provided a very economical facade manufactured off site to meet the tight deadline for completion. Curatorial areas utilised industrial solutions to ventilation of fumes and storage of hazardous materials. The end result is a new building purpose-built for the Museum, steeped in maritime character and history. It houses the Museum's extensive permanent exhibition of 18' skiffs and is a prominent feature of Sydney's harbour.



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