

13 May 2015

Central Regional Office
Heritage NZ
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Re: Proposed Entry of the Executive Wing (the Beehive), 40 Bowen St, 1 Molesworth St and Museum St

Thank you for informing us of the proposal to enter the Executive Wing (the Beehive) , Wellington, on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero as an historic place.

The Architectural Centre supports the listing of the Beehive. This is a nationally significant, and iconic, building which visually represents our Parliament and Wellington as a capital city. Its idiosyncratic design has meant that it has become an icon in a way that the Parliament House, the Parliamentary Library, and Bowen House have not captured the public imagination, and attained such wide-spread popular symbolic meaning.

We also appreciate that inclusion of the Beehive on the Heritage NZ list will productively add to the representation of modernist buildings, and we look forward to further such inclusions on the List.

We do note however that the relatively recent (early 2000s) re-design of the Beehive interior ground floor, which removed the native timber slatted lining, have somewhat reduced the historic heritage value and interest of this space. We appreciate the restoration and reinstatement of the John Drawbridge mural in the banquet hall, especially as he had close connections with the Architectural Centre.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed listing of the Beehive. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



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