

Heritage Update Locomotive Workshop

Workplace health and safety, retro style!

Resting in Bay 1 of the Locomotive Workshops sits 'Sutho's Shed', a one-room demountable building once used as the Sub-Forman's office in the late 20th century. Since the site ceased operations, the space has accumulated plenty of old files and furniture without a home, as well as a number of trinkets and random objects.

Early in the development, Curio Projects was part of the team working to pack and relocate heritage items to keep them out of harm's way during the major works. Amidst the 'random' objects was this curious little fellow.

Standing about 45cm tall, this wooden mannequin, when activated, appears to be demonstrating how to safely pick-up heavy items while bending his knees and keeping his back straight... Is this an 'old school' workplace health and safety demonstration, used before the days of online instructional videos? Does this little guy have a name? We don't know the full story yet, but we're looking into it!

Now that Sutho's Shed is back in place, the Curio team are looking to use the shed and nearby interpretive installations to help tell the stories of the complex relationship between the workers and management, including the importance of safety in such a hazardous environment, and the longstanding battles for better working conditions.

If you have ever met our small timber friend in person, we would love to hear from you!



Heritage Interpretation Update

Since our last update, and a few weeks off over Christmas to regroup, Curio, and the greater Mirvac and consulting team have been busy moving forward with the installation of some of the elements that will form the major exhibition and interpretative element in the Locomotive Workshops. In physical terms, that has meant the installation of joinery, in Bays 1 & 2 ground floor and mezzanine. Multiple interpretive panel frames have been located across all 15 bays to allow the stories of the many machines throughout to be told. The majority of the tools have been treated by our conservation experts and planning for return to site has commenced. Concurrently the digital team at Buchan have been consolidating Curio's collated historical information into exciting new formats, allowing our story telling of this amazing place to be accessible, vivid and engaging.

The Curio team would like to thank the amazing teams at the NSW State Archives & Records and the State Library of NSW for all of their help sourcing large scale digital copies of historic images and plans. We'd also like to thank the members of the Community Liaison Group and the Australian Railway Historical Society for offering connections, contacts and information when we've asked.



Undated image of the Davy Press in operation – State Archives and Records Office