The Wilkinson Eyre design for the hotel at Barangaroo South

British based Wilkinson Eyre Architects (WEA) has been chosen to design the six star Crown Hotel at Barangaroo South after it was unanimously selected by a joint judging panel.

WEA's selection follows a comprehensive six month international design competition that involved some of the world's leading architects including Renzo Piano Building Workshop, Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture and Kohn Pederson Fox Associates.

WEA's design proposal for the Crown Sydney Hotel Resort follows a sculptural form that takes its inspiration from nature. Its elegant twisting tower was developed to create a sense of movement and also to maximise views of the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House from this unique location.

Crown Resorts Chairman, James Packer, thanked the judging panel and congratulated Wilkinson Eyre and its key architects Chris Wilkinson and Paul Baker “Wilkinson Eyre has an incredible record of achievement and I am certain they will deliver Sydney an iconic building we can all be proud of. This great city deserves a building that is truly special and Wilkinson Eyre’s design delivers it.”

Chris Wilkinson, Founding Director, Wilkinson Eyre Architects added “Sydney is one of the most beautiful cities in the world and it is a great privilege to design such a significant building on the waterfront.”

WEA are twice winners of the prestigious UK RIBA Stirling Prize. Past projects in Asia include the Guangzhou International Finance Centre, currently the eighth tallest building in the world, and the giant, sustainably-cooled conservatories for the Gardens by the Bay in Singapore. Most recently they were the designers behind the new Mary Rose Museum in the UK and designed the acclaimed Basketball Arena for the London 2012 Olympics.
After more than one million hours of work on site over the past 18 months, Barangaroo South has started a new construction phase. On May 23, employees from anchor tenant Westpac, Lend Lease and the Barangaroo Delivery Authority came together to celebrate the first concrete pour for the basement ground slab of Tower 2, at International Towers Sydney.

Lend Lease’s Group Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Steve McCann and Westpac’s Chief Operating Officer, John Arthur, hosted the celebration event where a one metre high cake, weighing over 15 kilograms designed as a scale replica of the Tower 2 building was presented to the Westpac team.

Mr McCann congratulated everyone involved on reaching this important construction milestone and said “International Towers Sydney will be globally recognised as the world’s most sustainable high rise office buildings and one of the best places to work in Australia. I look forward to watching the building arise to join the Sydney city skyline.”

John Arthur expressed Westpac’s delight in being part of the day’s celebrations and also excitement at the opportunities that relocating members of their team to International Towers Sydney will offer. Westpac will occupy space in Tower 2 from mid-2015.

The relocation of the hotel from its approved location on a harbour pier was a request by the NSW Government following an independent Barangaroo Review in 2011. The proposed new location remains subject to an agreement with the Barangaroo Delivery Authority and the NSW Government.

At the appropriate time, the hotel will also require a development application to be lodged with the Department of Planning & Infrastructure for their review, assessment and approval. As is the usual process, there will be a period of public exhibition and review when comments will be sought.

For more information visit www.crownsydneyhotel.com

In addition to involving some of the world’s best and most established architects on Barangaroo, Lend Lease’s Design Excellence Strategy also includes an objective to support and inspire the next generation of Australian architectural talent.

An example of this in action is the recent design competition to select an architect for the building with the working name ‘R1’ – a low-rise waterfront building that sits between the residential apartments on the waterfront promenade and King Street Wharf.

The winner was recently announced as Surry Hills-based firm Collins and Turner for their unique design resembling stacked bamboo bowls. R1 is intended to be a two storey building with a roof terrace and will house a single world class food and beverage operator.

The competition for R1 was only open to emerging NSW architectural firms. It started with a long list of over 300 firms nominated by Lend Lease, the Barangaroo Delivery Authority and City of Sydney Council. From this, 15 emerging architectural firms were invited to submit Expressions of Interest to participate in the competition and then from this, a shortlist of six firms was selected to take part in the limited design and ideas competition.

Andrew Wilson Managing Director of Barangaroo South said “This competition is one of many opportunities we have identified for local and emerging practices to be involved in such a high profile project and to work with Lend Lease. R1 is a unique waterfront building that will showcase Collins and Turner on the world stage.”

Collins and Turner’s winning entry for the R1 building
5 MINUTES WITH... ANITA MITCHELL, GENERAL MANAGER OF SUSTAINABILITY

This edition, we profile our General Manager of Sustainability, Anita Mitchell, to gain an insight into what it is like working on the project leading the charge in setting global benchmarks in sustainability.

How would you describe your role on the project?
I am responsible for delivering the environmental and social sustainability initiatives at Barangaroo South. I consider the key focus of my job to be ensuring that the precinct is future ready, leaves a positive social legacy and respects the resources we utilise in constructing and operating the precinct.

What excites you most about being involved in creating Barangaroo South?
As an environmental scientist I get excited about working on a project that is striving for world’s best practice in sustainability. Barangaroo has amongst the toughest sustainability targets of any project globally so what we learn and deliver here, will help Lend Lease to continue to lead the field in environmental and social excellence as a business.

What are the key challenges you face in your role?
Making sure that Barangaroo meets the needs of today, whilst being able to adapt to meet the needs of the future is always going to be a great challenge. Delivering a precinct that is carbon neutral for the next 99 years or more requires us to bring the best people, knowledge and technology together in the one place.

What advice would you give to people starting out in the construction industry?
I would tell anyone with a passion for sustainability that it is often daunting, especially on large projects, however, knowing you have made a difference at the end of the day is a great feeling.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP: SUBCONTRACTOR IN PROFILE – THUROONA

A robust Asbestos Management Plan is in place which governs the way asbestos is handled on site at Barangaroo South. A key component of Lend Lease’s approach to managing asbestos has been engaging accredited occupational hygienists and asbestos removal contractors on site. In late 2012, Thuroona was selected to assist in the identification of asbestos and to monitor correct asbestos control measures.

Thuroona is a solely owned and operated indigenous small business, who is accredited and licensed to undertake asbestos removal on construction sites. To provide support to the recently established company, Lend Lease partnered Thuroona with experienced occupational hygienist company, Noel Arnold and Associates already engaged on the project to mentor and help develop their capabilities. Over a period of nine months, a rotational training and mentoring program was implemented between Thuroona and Noel Arnold and Associates to give them invaluable site experience and one on one time with an experienced subcontractor.

Lend Lease Engineer Nick Pritchett spent time with Thuroona to further develop their knowledge of Barangaroo South. Nick highlights the close relationship that has been formed since Thuroona started on the project. “By partnering with an indigenous business such as Thuroona, we have been able to develop their skills, knowledge and experience in the asbestos removal industry. We have seen Thuroona grow as an organisation, which is extremely rewarding, especially knowing they have gone on to win work beyond Barangaroo based upon the experience gained here.”

Excavation is nearing completion on site with over 600,000 tonnes of material removed.
PROTOTYPE ENHANCES DESIGN PRECISION

A trial prototype of the key elements of International Towers Sydney has proven a great success and has provided direction for the construction and logistics of the project.

The structure and façade prototype was built at Ropes Crossing near Penrith. The two storey prototype was created to mimic a quarter of the actual tower floor-plate and features a double height vertical village. Construction Manager of Tower 2, Tom Waters, said the prototype provided a template for leasing discussions, fit out design and materials selection with potential and confirmed tenants.

“The prototype has provided great benefits in better understanding how materials will be packaged and delivered to site. This will in turn increase safety in the delivery of all aspects of the job,” he said.

“We will use the prototype to review the design of the three commercial towers as well as the finishes and services for each building.”

LIMITED CONSTRUCTION WORK ON SUNDAYS

From early August, limited work at Barangaroo South will now be carried out on Sundays.

Construction will be limited to low impact activities that are inaudible outside of the site boundary. The work will be undertaken between the hours of 8am to 6pm only.

Our current project approval and Noise and Vibration Management Plan allows for these limited works to take place. For further information, contact the Barangaroo South Community Enquiry Line on 1300 039 733.

The Tower 2 façade prototype

Barangaroo South is committed to increasing indigenous participation in the construction industry, through education and training, direct or indirect employment and through supporting indigenous businesses.

To recognise this commitment, Lend Lease recently participated in a range of activities to celebrate National Reconciliation Week and the achievements of indigenous Australians and indigenous communities.

A highlight of the week was an onsite visit by indigenous players from the South Sydney Rabbitohs including Nathan Merritt, Beau Champion, Nathan Peats, George Burgess, Adam Reynolds, John Sutton and Greg Inglis, as well as a number of other Sydney based indigenous NRL stars from St George, Manly and Canterbury.

General Manager of Sustainability, Anita Mitchell said Lend Lease has developed a range of strategies and initiatives to provide indigenous participation opportunities at Barangaroo.

“To date, we have engaged five indigenous businesses on the project, providing services in excess of $100,000. We have also engaged 67 indigenous people directly and indirectly to work on the project to date, including the commencement of three apprentices within Lend Lease’s Project Management and Construction team. This is a great achievement and something we are really proud of,” she said.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

Barangaroo South is a partnership between Lend Lease, the Barangaroo Delivery Authority and NSW Government.

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