

BUILDING COULD RUIN QUAY PLAN



Mr McCusker

A RAILWAYS Department building proposal would "wreck" a multi-million pound scheme to redevelop Circular Quay.

Head of Sydney University Town Planning Department, Professor Denis Winston, said this today.

Prof. Winston is a member of a committee which has put forward a plan for pooling land in the Quay area to allow erection of tall buildings with open spaces between.

The Railways Department proposes to allow private enterprise to build a multi-storey office block on land it owns fronting the

Quay and has called tenders for a 99-year lease.

Railways Commissioner, Mr McCusker, was asked today if he would co-operate in the scheme.

He said he would make no comment.

Prof. Winston said if the Railways developed its land individually, it would seriously jeopardise replanning of the Quay as a whole.

A large building on the Railways' land would prevent a "pleasing disposition" of buildings around the Quay.

"The land is an awkward block and not well adapted for the erection of a big building," Prof. Winston went on.

"SHOULD SHOW THE WAY . . ."

"The department, as a public body, should give the lead in a scheme which will greatly benefit the city.

"It should agree to give away part of its land in exchange for an adjoining area to form a better building block.

"This should also suit the successful tenderer," he added.

The land is a 22,655 square foot site at the western end of the Quay, bounded by Pitt, Alfred and George Streets.

Minister for Local Government, Mr Hills, has suspended the area from the County of Cumberland scheme and has the power to veto building plans.