



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/1113
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:

Press statement: International Hotel Project

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/1113

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

PRESS STATEMENT FROM THE PREMIER (MR. DUNSTAN)

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL PROJECT.

14/7/71.

The South Australian Government is to seek overseas and Australian backing for a new first-class hotel of international standard on a site in Victoria Square, the Premier (Mr. Dunstan) said today.

Details of the scheme are set out in a brochure aimed at possible investors which Mr. Dunstan will take on his South East Asian tour which starts tomorrow.

Copies are also to be distributed to possible investors in Australia, America and Britain.

In the brochure, Mr. Dunstan, who is also Development Minister, notes that the number of overseas and interstate business and holiday visitors to Adelaide has increased from 442,000 in 1962 to 871,000 last year.

By 1980 it is projected that this will have risen to 2,250,000.

"My Government has embarked on a vigorous programme to further expand tourism and business investment and is fostering development of an important site in the main city square as a first-class hotel of international standards", the Premier said.

Amplifying his remarks in the brochure, Mr. Dunstan said today that three major development consortia have already indicated their effective interest in the hotel scheme, but it has been decided to place the scheme publicly before developers equally and fairly.

"The Government regards the development of such international class hotel facilities as of prime and urgent importance". The Victoria Square site is regarded by town planners as ideal and of fundamental importance to the development of the total Victoria Square area.

The site of the projected hotel is on the western side of Victoria Square bounded by Grote Street on the northern frontage and Victoria Square on the eastern.

The western side is adjacent to the City council markets and the southern is adjacent to Moore's retail store.

About half of it is vacant and now in use as a car park. The property on the western side will be acquired by the Government and demolished to permit overall development as one site.

The Government will acquire the privately owned portion following the submitting of a resolution to both Houses of Parliament. The brochure says it is estimated there is at present a need for 950 first class hotel rooms which it is anticipated will rise to 1,500 by 1975 and 2,100 by 1980.

On the facilities required for the proposed hotel, the brochure says it should contain an adequate number of suites to meet the expected tourist demand over the next decade for first class hotel accommodation of international standard. It would also provide conference facilities with adequate entertainment, eating, banqueting and meeting rooms with provision of international standard services such as multi-lingual personnel, commercial stores, secretarial services and parking facilities.

"It would need to have sauna and swimming pool facilities, massage, and a restaurant providing Japanese food.

"It would also be desirable to have either a floor or wing of the hotel catering for Japanese tourists and businessmen in a fully detailed traditional way."

The brochure also details the type and range of Government assistance which could be provided to the backers.

Mr. Dunstan said today he intended to have discussions on the project with possible members of a consortium to support the scheme during his visits to Singapore, Japan and Hong Kong. He was also contacting other Australian, American and British hoteliers and businessmen who could be interested in the project. The brochure does not put a firm estimated cost on the scheme nor does it detail the type of hotel to be built.

But it provides estimates based on actual hotel building costs relative to South Australia.

A 253-suite, 11-floor hotel including basement car parking, ground floor reception, administration and hotel facilities is estimated to cost \$18,300 per suite furnished.