

IAN POTTER MUSEUM, FEDERATION SQUARE



Successful design and construction of Federation Square is an achievement of immense proportions, not just because of the cost and magnitude of the project, its architectural complexity, the diversity of its features and the logistics of managing such a project in a central city location, but because from its conception stage until completion it was subjected to a degree of change never before experienced in such a major development.

The project was recognised for its engineering ingenuity, by winning a prestigious "Institute of Engineers Excellence Award" at both State and National level.

Bonacci Group designed the Ian Potter Centre, which is the largest single structure on Federation Square, featuring 7,250 square metres of exhibition floor space, in 8 large, open galleries, over 3 levels.

The building structure is a full structural steel frame on vertical steel columns, supported at deck level directly above the concrete crash walls separating the train tunnels below.

From the outset, it was realised that the complex geometry, exacting spatial and aesthetic considerations of the building would present significant building difficulties. It was therefore decided to keep the structure as simple as possible, so that the complex façade and internal walls and ceilings could be attached.

Location:
Melbourne CBD, Victoria

Client:
Multiplex/Office of Major Projects

Architect:
Lab + Bates Smart

Construction Cost:
\$355 million

