## Apartment block as artistic backdrop

By Steph Maker

An eight-storey block of apartments in Kangaroo Point will provide a photographic backdrop to heritage listed property Thornclyffe House, said Kenlynn Development Manager Andrew Travers.

Mr Travers said the vision for the development at 162 Lambert Street draws on the photographic effect 'bokeh' – an artful blurring of focus –— and will place emphasis on the residence in the future streetscape.

"From an architectural perspective the focus is the design foreground, and the heritage house," Mr Travers said.

"The new building will create a backdrop to the heritage setting, it will read as out of

focus relative to the more prominent heritage place."



Thornclyffe House was built in the 1880s and Mr Travers said the latest vision for the property is sensitive to its history.

"Under the previous development approval we inherited, the apartment tower was approved for 13 storeys," he said.

"We've reduced the height of the tower to eight storeys, which makes for a smaller project, but also reduces the impact the tower has on the heritage property.

"It's a significant reduction in terms of scale and impact.

"It is quite unusual to reduce the height of the apartment tower, and the yield of the site.

"One of the considerations in that was to reduce the impact of the tower on the heritage house."

The removal of a wall surrounding the property will also help to enhance the site, Mr Travers said.

"Although it's been heritage listed, you haven't been able to see it.

"For a decade it's been somewhat hidden behind a big masonry block wall, so from a streetscape perspective it hasn't been visible or prominent.

"What we're doing is removing that big ugly block wall that's around the house currently.

"We'll have a nice fence, nice landscaping, so people will be able to see the architecture and the heritage of the house.

Mr Travers said the home will be maintained for residential use, and that previous plans had not used the building to its full effect.

"Thornclyffe house was treated as a piece of common property – a communal lounge space, but we didn't see a lot of value in the house for that purpose."

As part of the project, Mr Travers said Thornclyffe House will undergo "a complete renovation" which will include a "new contemporary extension to the back of it, which will add a new master suite."

The home's history gives "a unique selling point to the project" and the apartments and the residence will be "very well suited to the owner-occupier market," Mr Travers said.

















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