



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Wednesday 30 June**

### **Governor Macquarie site to be saved thanks to government grant**

With Governor Lachlan Macquarie one of the most important men in Australia's colonial history, the National Trust is proud to accept \$10,000 from the Australian Government to restore his tomb.

This morning, Australia's Environment Protection minister, Mr Peter Garrett, announced the grant as part of the Commemorating Eminent Australians grants program.

The money will be spent on restoration works for the founding governor's tomb on the Island of Mull in Scotland. The tomb was gifted to the people of NSW in recognition of the late governor's contribution to the state.

"Lachlan Macquarie's tomb site includes faded inscriptions referring to his career as governor and is visited annually by many Australians," Graham Quint, Advocacy Manager of the National Trust, said.

"The National Trust welcomes this grant which is vital to help preserve the tomb for the benefit of future generations.

"It will allow Australians to continue to visit the site which reflects an important chapter of Australia's history.

"Born on the Scottish island of Ulva in 1762, Lachlan Macquarie served as governor of NSW between 1810 and 1821, when he was struck down by illness.

"Known as the Father of Australia, his career focused on improving the morale and physical infrastructure, before becoming one of the most recognisable characters of Colonial Australia.

"The program gives funding to help recognise the lives of eminent Australian's who have made a significant impact on Australia – and no one positively impacted modern Australia quite the way Governor Macquarie did."

Restoration works to be undertaken using the grant includes stonework repairs to the structure, restoration of the inscriptions detailing Governor Macquarie's achievements, the design and installation of a new interpretative panel and signage to inform visitors about the governor's career, and improved pedestrian access to the site.

The tomb site is cared for by the National Trust for Scotland on behalf of the NSW people, through an arrangement with the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

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