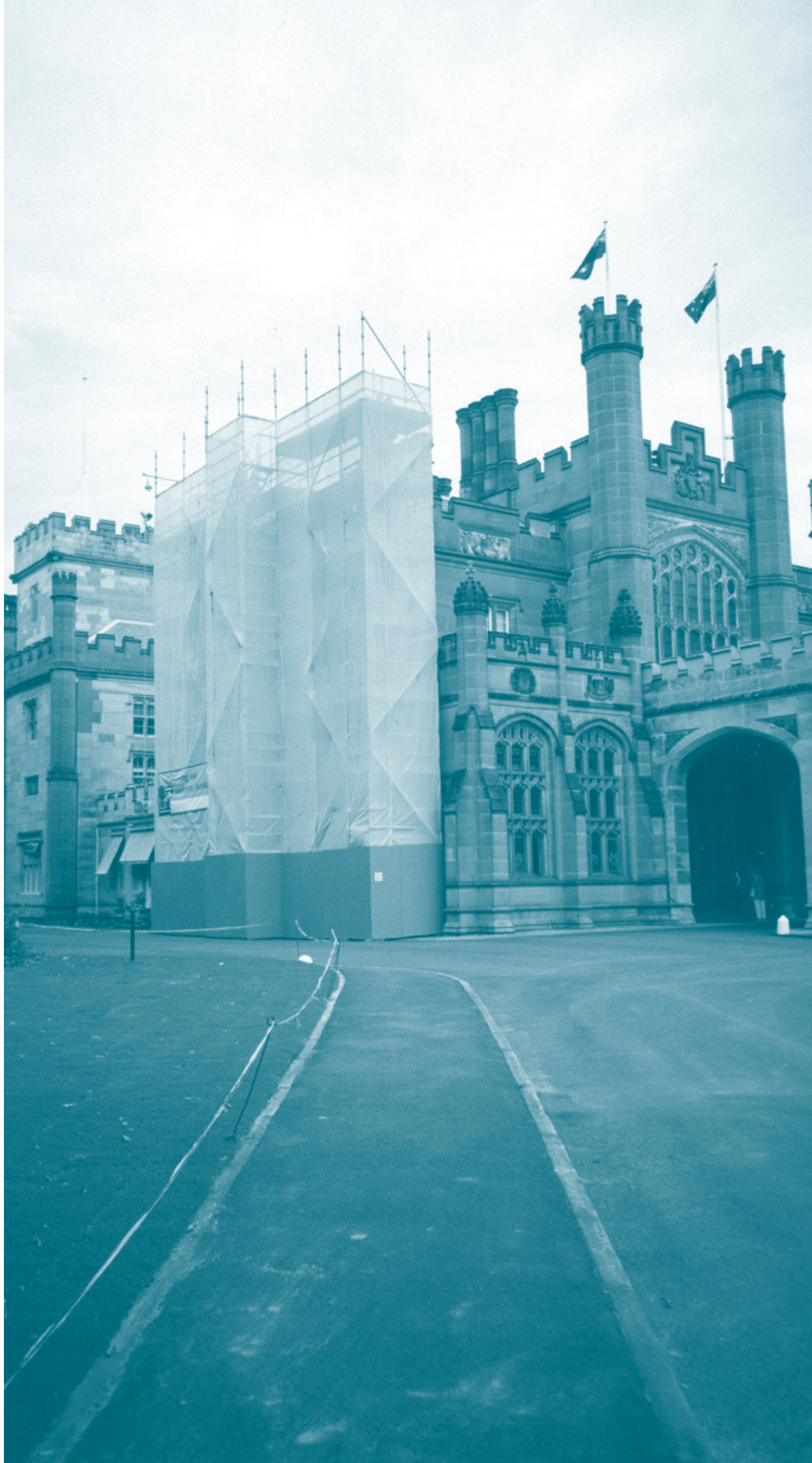


# Program 2002 Achievements 2003

**centenary stonework program**

McKell Building 2-24 Rawson Place Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: 02 9372 8526 Fax: 02 9372 8544 [www.commercenewsw.gov.au](http://www.commercenewsw.gov.au)

Government House



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Sydney Hospital  
Scaffold Art



## FOREWORD

In the year to 30 June 2003, the Government's Centenary Stonework Program carried out stone conservation work on some of Australia's finest sandstone heritage icons, including Sydney Hospital, the State Library of NSW, East Sydney TAFE (former Gaol site), Darlinghurst Courthouse, as well as stone carving for the Australian Museum and Darlinghurst Fire Station.

Highly skilled stonemasons and heritage professionals from the Department of Commerce (formerly the Department of Public Works and Services) carry out the stone conservation work and program management.

I am proud to oversee the program, regarded by many as a very significant heritage initiative.

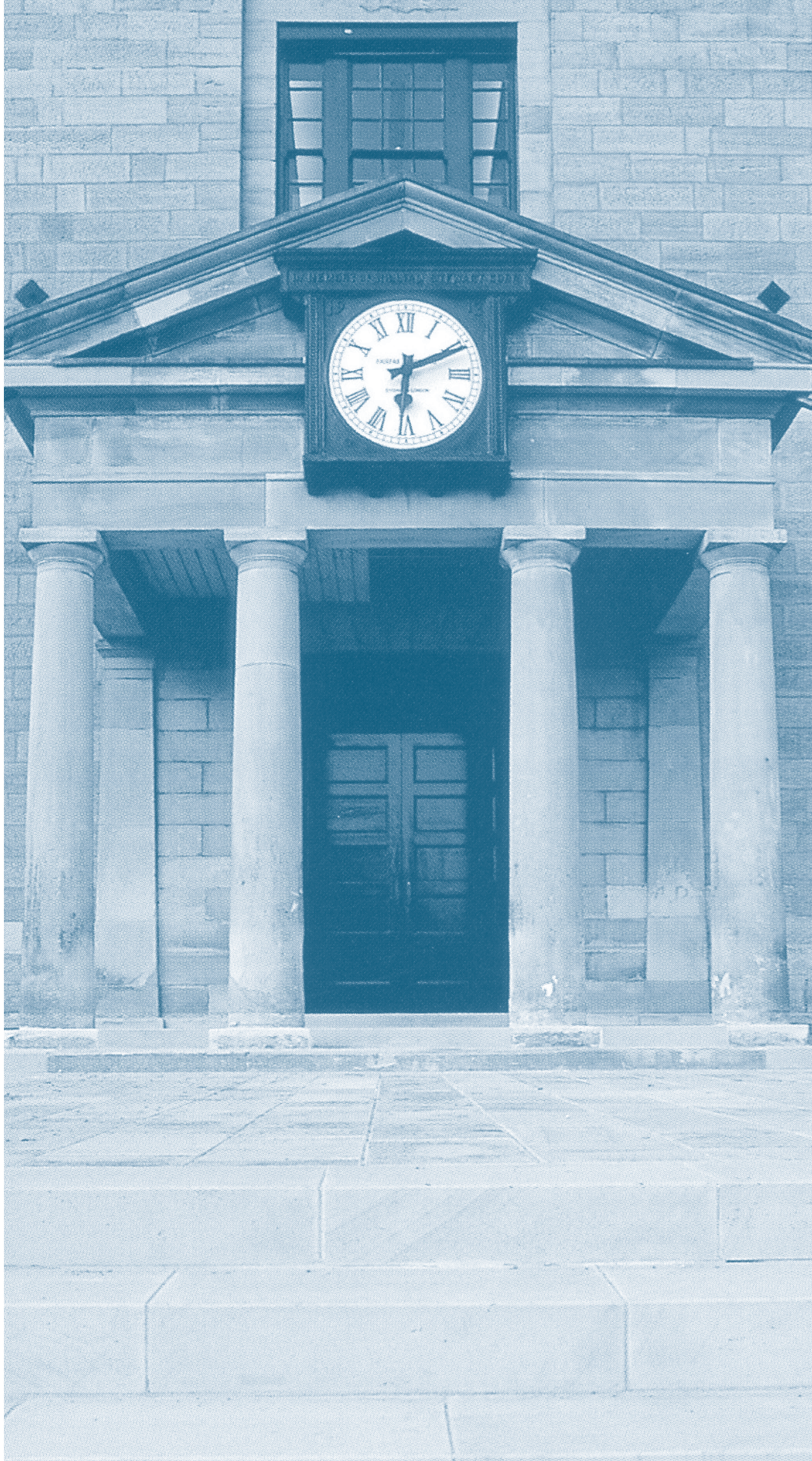
The Department's commitment to heritage trades training remained strong throughout the year. One of our stonemason apprentices topped the State, and another achieved the distinction of being the State's first female TAFE stonemasonry graduate, coincidentally taught by the Department's first female stonemasonry apprentice over 20 years ago.

We now have better access to tradespeople able to replicate the high quality work of the past. The Government has a stockpile of Yellowblock sandstone, recently quarried from the original sources at Pyrmont and The Rocks to replace badly weathered parts of buildings.

I am confident that the future of the state's heritage stone structures is assured.



John Della Bosca MLC  
Minister for Commerce



# P ROGRAM SUMMARY

During the 2002 to 2003 financial year we achieved the following:

- The conservation team turned its attention to one of Sydney's most significant sandstone structures, Sydney Hospital. Some minor repairs were done in the 1980's limited by the absence of good quality replacement stone.
- Work also commenced on the State Library with the objective of completing stone conservation work by 2010 as part of the building's Centenary Celebrations.
- The inaugural George Proudman stonemasonry Fellowship recipient completed an overseas study tour.
- The Centenary Stonework Program achieved full expenditure of the allocation of \$4.5M for conservation work.
- The program achieved full expenditure of an allocation of \$0.56M for purchase of sandstone and management of the stockpile. Achievements included the relocation of about 10,000 tonnes of sandstone quarry blocks to the storage facility at Sandy Point and the acquisition of "Ravensfield" type sandstone suitable for restoration of Maitland and Singleton Courthouses from private land at Rothbury North.
- The program contributed to the conservation of 15 (not including makesafes) significant State owned heritage structures and undertook a number of makesafe inspections.
- The program provided funding and specialist expertise to 9 Government Agencies.
- 22 Department of Commerce stonemasons including 5 apprentices contributed to the processing, carving and installation of approximately 200 cubic metres of sandstone.
- Professional staff from AES provided specialist heritage advice and prepared documents for stone conservation.

Ron Powell  
Program Manager

Carving of new pier.  
Local Central Court  
Fence



# ADDITIONAL WORK RESULTING FROM PROGRAM

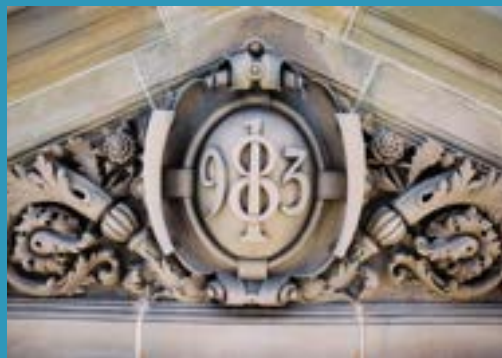
The Centenary Stonework Program generated, or was the catalyst for other stonework projects funded by clients, separate from the Treasury allocation.

This outcome is a reflection of the beneficial effect the program has in “marketing”, the department’s heritage expertise and services. The additional work included:

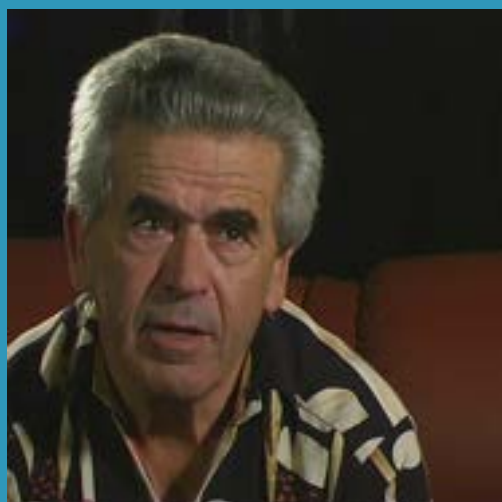
- Attorney General’s Department - Local Central Court New Fence
- Centennial Park - Anzac Parade Gate Piers conservation
- TAFE Sydney Institute - East Sydney TAFE Library internal repairs
- Liverpool TAFE
- State Library - General building maintenance
- Surry Hills Water Reservoir
- Prince of Wales Hospital - Condition Report
- Alexandra Canal Conservation Study



Sydney Hospital Interpretation Banner on Australia Day viewed by thousands of visitors when Macquarie Street was closed for Australia Day 2003



Sydney Hospital 3D Recording of carvings



On Location "The Man Behind our Sandstone"  
Alf Pires, Stonemason - Department of Commerce

## NEW INITIATIVES FOR 2002-2003

### Scaffold Art - Sydney Hospital

An interpretative art work on scaffold fabric and hoarding providing an attractive scaffolded historic building, erected in time for Australia Day, 2003.

The practice of concealing scaffolds with meaningful designs has been common in Europe for approximately 10 years, such as the Doges Palace in Venice, this is a first for Sydney, and possibly Australia.

The fabric panels have been designed to be reused many times throughout the restoration of Sydney Hospital.

### Sydney Hospital - 3D Recording of Carvings

The Program seeks to have one significant architecture and sandstone recording project annually. This year recording of the sandstone carvings commenced at Sydney Hospital, taking advantage of the close access provided by the scaffold on the Macquarie Street elevation of the Administration Building of Sydney Hospital. This elevation contains a high proportion of the beautiful carvings at the site.

This recording project includes a specialist team including the in-house expertise of the Heritage Design Services, and external consultants for architectural photography, research of the carvings and 3D digital scanning of the carvings. The recording project will be presented as an A3 publication for archival storage, and is being undertaken to record the condition of the carvings at this time. The recording is intended to contain enough information to recarve these elements in the future if required, and as an interpretative and educational tool for a range of future uses such as news articles, exhibitions and publications, either specifically on the Sydney Hospital or sandstone carvings of Renaissance / Victorian Sydney.

The majority of the project this financial year has been to research the potential of this 3D technology for recording and its use in association with traditional recording and reproduction techniques in the conservation and interpretation of historic buildings. This technology also provides the opportunity to electronically store information now, and in the future use this information to recreate or represent the carvings in an exhibition or publication for example. We are aiming to collaborate with the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (Powerhouse Museum) in this regard.

### Oral History - "The Man Behind our Sandstone" Alf Pires, Master Stonemason

Alf has worked in the stone industry for 50 years, over half of those being for the NSW Government since he joined the Public Works Department in 1973.

The Department has a fine tradition of orally recording its history through the experiences of its expert staff. Through the traditional audio taped interview process with Alf, a quite remarkable "story" emerged and it was decided to take the process one step further.

A short video entitled "The Man Behind Our Sandstone" provides a range of powerful images to Alf's story. The video, in addition to proudly becoming part of the Department's archives, has been offered to ABC for consideration as an "Australian Story" episode.

Australian Museum  
stone carving



# NEW INITIATIVES FOR 2002-2003

## DEVELOPING OUR WORK PROCESSES

### Heritage Design Services Site Office

A site office was established at Heritage Services Alexandria Workshops for the conservation architects of Heritage Design Services.

### Stonework Liaison Officer:

The Stonework Liaison Officer is a Development Opportunity position established in 1999 for members of the Stonework team to further develop skills in heritage stonemasonry. Conservation Architect Catherine Macarthur was the Stonework Liaison Officer in 2002/03.

The position provides assistance to the Manager of Heritage Stonemasonry, facilitates efficient and effective communication between team members and promotes experience in project/construction management.

The Liaison Officer position optimises the quality of our service, promotes teamwork and innovation and is an effective way of providing expertise and training. Due to the benefits of the position, this development opportunity is planned to continue in 2003/04.

### 2001-2002 Program Achievements Report

The first Program Achievements Report was initiated in 2001.




Adam Taylor was awarded the 'Florence Taylor Award' for the most outstanding trade graduate in the State.



Katie Hicks, the first woman to complete the Stonemasonry course.







Rebecca Green, winner of the National Association of Women in Construction Award in the category "PricewaterhouseCoopers Legal Scholarship for Outstanding Student".


  
NATIONAL TRUST

**EnergyAustralia National Trust**  
**heritage awards 2003**

**freshwater** - water, waves and wanderings


  
+
 
  
+
 
  
=
 


**commendation**

**H1 ELECTRONIC**


Corporate/Government

Sandstone, Ghosts, Wind and Water Video

Submitted by Bruce Pettman for the  
Department of Public Works and Services



AWARDS SPONSORED BY



National Trust Awards received "commendation" 2003

# AWARDS

## Adam Taylor

Adam Taylor, located at Heritage Services, HABS has successfully completed his Stonemasonry Course. He came first in his course at Miller TAFE and in so doing topped the State. Adam was one of two recipients of the 'Florence Taylor Award' for the most outstanding trade graduate in the State. This annual award is sponsored by the Australian Institute of Building (AIB) in each of the traditional 'architectural' trades. The award was presented to Adam at the AIB's NSW Chapter's 2003 Professional Excellence Awards at the Sydney Convention Centre on 16 May 2003.

## Katie Hicks Graduate of TAFE

Katie, Stonemason at Heritage Services, HABS, has successfully completed her Stonemasonry Course at Miller TAFE and received an Achievement Award for coming second in her class and for being the first woman to complete the Stonemasonry course.

Katie also received a 'Pride of Workmanship' award from the Rotary Club of Liverpool West. This award was won from 10 candidates each of whom underwent an interview process and were required to submit a paper to the Rotary Club.

Katie was also nominated for a NAWIC Award, specifically, The Acoustic Logic Award for contribution by a trades person. Katie's excellent stone work at Darlinghurst Court House is the basis for this nomination.

## NAWIC AWARD - Rebecca Green

Rebecca Green, second year Stonemason Apprentice at Heritage Services, HABS, was the proud winner of the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Award in the category "PricewaterhouseCoopers Legal Scholarship for Outstanding Student". The nomination required the preparation of an essay addressing the topic "How can opportunities in the construction industry be improved for and by the participation of women".

## National Trust Awards - "Sandstone, Ghosts, Wind & Water"

National Trust Award received in 2003 for video "Sandstone, Ghosts, Wind & Water" made in 2001-2002.



Looking up the facade at the Houses of Parliament, Westminster.



Paul Thurloe, the first recipient of the George Proudman Fellowship at the Tetrarchs, in St Mark's Square.



Boxroof showing the finials at Oxford



The Florence duomo



The village of Azzano where I attended the marble carving course, the stonemasonry niche at the Firenze Guild Hall, and the work site at Stowe Landscape gardens.

# AWARDS

## George Proudman Fellowship

The George Proudman Fellowship was created to honour the legacy of the late George Proudman, who was instrumental in revitalising the craft of stonemasonry in New South Wales. His legacy can be summarized as promoting and preserving heritage buildings through the maintenance of stonework, expertise and training.

Stonemason Paul Thurloe was the first recipient of the Fellowship, and has used the opportunity to fund a seven week work and study tour to further his understanding of the craft.

This tour began by traveling to the United Kingdom to observe and compare work practices. This included visiting the stonemason's yard at St Paul's Cathedral in London, spending a week with the renowned Birmingham firm William Sappcote and Sons at their various sites, and working at Stowe Landscape Gardens with IJP Conservation.

Paul noted that one of the more apparent differences in work practices was the extensive use of hydraulic limes instead of cement in mortars for restoration.

Italy was Paul's next destination, to attend a two-week marble sculpture course near the world famous Carrara, in the Apuan Alps, which allowed him to hone his carving skills and knowledge in this unfamiliar material.

An international stone trade fair in Verona called Marmomacc was next on the agenda, which has proved useful in providing information and contacts on the latest machinery and tools on offer.

Another benefit of the visit to Italy can be termed 'inspiration'. "With such a wealth of art, architecture and history, it can make you reassess your benchmarks for carvings and ornamentation." said Paul.

Before heading home, Paul returned to the United Kingdom to undertake a 3-day course at West Dean College, Chichester that focused on the theory of conservation mortars for heritage sites.

The opportunity of going overseas with the George Proudman Fellowship has enabled Paul to undergo training not available in Australia, learn new work practices and techniques, and make valuable contacts. This information, through talks and articles, is currently being disseminated to other stonemasons and interested parties, thus continuing the Proudman legacy.

Aerial photo of stockpile  
of Minister's sandstone at  
Sandy Point



## PROJECT TEAM

The program is undertaken for government using predominantly in-house Department of Commerce resources from 3 major groups which provide the following services:

- Program Management
- Heritage Consulting
- Project Construction and Management
- Stonemasonry, Banker and Stone Carving and Stone Fixing.

The three sections work closely as a team and meet frequently at HABS Stone Processing Facility.



HERITAGE DESIGN SERVICES,  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Names left to right front row: Marietta Sioutas, Joy Singh. Names left to right back row: Catherine Macarthur, Milena Crawford, Helen Andronis, Vivian Sioutas, Des Corby, David McBeath. Missing: Angus Donald



MANAGEMENT,  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Names left to right: Col Power, Ron Powell, Bruce Pettman



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Names left to right: Alf Pires (Master Stonemason), Ron Powell



HERITAGE SERVICES - ADMINISTRATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Names left to right: Jim Narris, Bunito Wangsa, Bob Kavanagh, Merinda Danks.



HERITAGE SERVICES - STONEMASON FIXERS,  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Names left to right front row: Mark Adamson, Gary Rimmer, Louke Witjes, Adam Taylor, Matthew Barnes, Manuel Pereira. Names left to right back row: Gregory Paul, Glen Fuller, Michael Smart, Craig Miller, Paul Connell.



HERITAGE SERVICES - BANKERMASONS,  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Names left to right front row sitting: Paul Sherring, Katie Hicks, David Poyner. Names left to right standing first row: Fernando Ferreira, Custodio Lima, Adel Amin, Tyrone Toby, Ben Donhardt, Ben Smith. Names left to right back row: Bill Thomas, Ruben Varfi, Peter Stelzer, Rebecca Green, Ben Gardner, James Lees, Lew Macdonnell, Paul Thurloe, Adam Stewart.



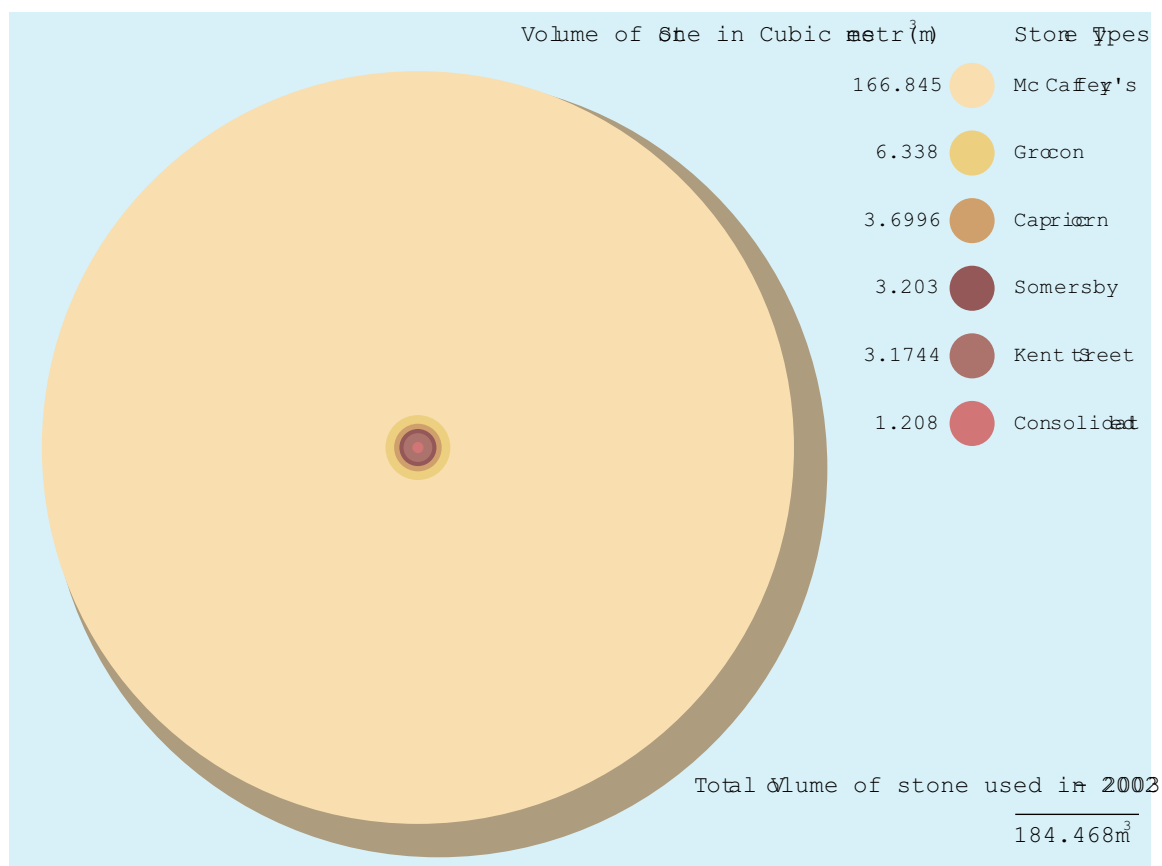
HERITAGE SERVICES - ROOFERS, DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMERCE

Names left to right front row: Keith Shaw, Peter Trick, Peter Reece, Chris Rowe. Names left to right back row: Mark Stevens, Lee Adamou, Phil Hilder, Chris Loughman, John Poulson, Merv Spowart.

Cleveland Street Intensive  
English Centre High  
School - Block 2A



# VOLUMES OF QUARRY BLOCK



# LIST OF PROJECTS

Major Works projects in progress or started in 2002-2003	Expenditure 2002 - 2003	Minor Works	Expenditure 2002 - 2003 in dollars \$
Australian Museum	516,250	Makesafes -	
Government House	190,753	Australia Street Public School	3,801
Sydney Observatory	367,176	Newtown Arts High School	950
Art Gallery of NSW	298	Arncliffe Public School	20,789
State Library	692,430	Tempe Public School	3,914
Supreme Court	325,988	School Inspections	10,673
Sydney Hospitals -		Darlinghurst Fire Station	5,048
Prince of Wales Hospital	33,923	Darlinghurst Courthouse	3,899
Sydney Hospital	532,913	Sydney Hospital	3,388
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	60,906	Gladesville Hospital	30,370
DET Projects -		Annual Provisions	170,437
Rozelle Public School	11,618	Public Monuments -	
Cleveland Street Intensive		RGB Rose Garden Piers	9,911
High School	27,589	Outer Domain Gates	5,350
East Sydney Campus,		Alexandra Canal	19,964
Building 28	682,014	Public Monuments 5 Year Plan	3,095
Ryde Public School	49,881	Miscellaneous Projects	121,624
Various Schools Condition		Darlinghurst Fire Station	90,174
Surveys	2,502	Old Kings School	46,347
Darlinghurst Court House	420,084	Former Mining Museum	8,120
		Dawes Point Sentry Box	2,556
		Singleton Courthouse	8,084
	3,914,325		568,494
<b>total \$4,485,563</b>			
\$2,041,600	\$928,504	\$809,930	\$423,982
Ministry for the Arts	NSW Dept of Health	Dept of Education and Training	Attorney General's Department
			NSW Fire Brigade
			Ministry of Planning
			Ministry for the Environment
			Ministry of DPWS
			Sydney Harbour Foreshore

Major Works	Minor Works
projects in progress or started in 2002 - 2003	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Australian Museum</li> <li>* Government House</li> <li>* Sydney Observatory</li> <li>* Art Gallery of NSW</li> <li>* State Library</li> <li>Supreme Court</li> <li>Sydney Hospitals -</li> <li>* Prince of Wales Hospital</li> <li>* Sydney Hospital</li> <li>* Royal Prince Alfred Hospital</li> <li>DET Projects -</li> <li>* Rozelle Public School</li> <li>* Cleveland Street Intensive High School</li> <li>* East Sydney Campus, Building 28</li> <li>* Ryde Public School</li> <li>* Darlinghurst Court House</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makesafe -</li> <li>* Newtown Performing Arts High School</li> <li>* Australia Street Public School</li> <li>* Arncliffe Public School</li> <li>* Tempe Public School</li> <li>* Gladesville Hospital</li> <li>* Various Makesafes and Condition Surveys</li> <li>Annual Provisions</li> <li>Public Monuments -</li> <li>RGB Rose Garden Piers</li> <li>Outer Domain Gates</li> <li>* Alexandra Canal</li> <li>* Public Monuments 5 Year Plan</li> <li>Miscellaneous Projects</li> <li>* Darlinghurst Fire Station</li> <li>* Old Kings School</li> <li>* Former Mining Museum</li> <li>* Dawes Point Sentry Box</li> <li>* Singleton Courthouse</li> </ul>

project and information sheets currently available



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[www.commerce.gov.au](http://www.commerce.gov.au)