



## PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement No. 498

20 April 1975

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR WHITLAM AND THE  
PREMIER OF VICTORIA, MR HAMER

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### AREA IMPROVEMENT AND NATIONAL ESTATE AGREEMENTS SIGNED

The Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, and the Premier of Victoria, Mr Hamer, have signed formal agreements providing for the expenditure in Victoria of \$4,250,000 under the Area Improvement Program and \$1,119,000 under the National Estate Program during 1974/75.

Under the agreements, the Australian Government will provide financial assistance to Victoria for expenditure on programs prepared by the State, in collaboration with the Commonwealth.

Grants under the Area Improvement Program will be made for projects in 28 metropolitan and near Melbourne municipalities which are designed to improve community facilities and other public areas in Melbourne's western, northern, north western and outer eastern region.

The grants made in the National Estate agreement will help conserve Victoria's national heritage.

Under the program for this year, historic buildings will be restored, land will be acquired for public conservation purposes and conservation studies will be undertaken.

"We are pleased that these two agreements have been finalised and we look forward to the successful execution of the projects in the programs and the beneficial effect they will have on urban development and the environment in Victoria," Mr Whitlam and Mr Hamer said.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.