



Library

PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

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AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES HEADQUARTERS

The Commonwealth Government has decided that a headquarters building for the Australian Archives will be built in Canberra.

The new Australian Archives Headquarters is estimated to cost more than \$30 million and is to be located on a site adjacent to the National Library.

The Government had decided that only a high quality building would be appropriate to serve the National Archives Headquarters in Canberra and cater properly for the research, cultural and social aspects of archival operations.

On this site in the Parliamentary Triangle the National Archives Headquarters will join other buildings of great cultural and social significance - the National Library, the Australian National Gallery and the High Court of Australia.

The Government's decision was yet another example of its continuing commitment to the development of Australia's National Capital.

The Commonwealth Government's public works building programme for the National Capital totals a record \$146 million this year and I am pleased that private enterprise is responding magnificently to our initiatives. Just three years ago the private enterprise building programme in Canberra was less than \$30 million - this year it could be as high as \$70 million.

The National Capital Development Commission has been authorised to commence design work in the current financial year. Modern archives were proving to be not just repositories of historic documents - but places of great historical, artistic and cultural significance, and of particular benefit in the fields of education and tourism. This new project will further enhance the character of Australia's National Capital.

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