



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

12 April 1985

### JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER AND PREMIER OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Forrest Place, in the heart of Perth, is to be enlarged and redeveloped at a cost of \$5 million in time for the 1988 Bicentennial, the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, and the Premier, Mr Burke, announced today.

The project will be jointly funded under the Commonwealth/State Bicentennial Commemorative Program, which aims to provide lasting memorials to the 200th anniversary in all States and Territories.

The Federal Government has allocated \$48 million to the Commemorative Program, of which Western Australia will receive \$5 million, to be matched from its own resources.

Other Western Australia commemorative projects which will receive Federal funding include:

- . establishment of a Ningaloo Marine Park and tourist facilities, \$1 million;
- . restoration of Fremantle's Arthur Head precinct, including the Round House, \$1.5 million;
- . development of a network of heritage trails throughout the state, \$1 million.

The two governments have also agreed to provide substantial funding for an Aboriginal Commemorative project and a sail training vessel for young people. Details of these projects are at present being finalised by the Western Australian Government.

Mr Hawke said the Commonwealth Government had allocated nearly \$200 million for a wide ranging national program of projects and events to mark the 1988 bicentenary.

"Our aim, which is reflected in the diverse range of projects to be carried out in Western Australia, is to provide something that will appeal to everyone.

"The National Program has been initiated and is now being implemented by the Australian Bicentennial Authority. They are to be congratulated for their success in putting a Program of such breadth and complexity together.

"We want 1988 to be a peoples Bicentenary, to be shared and enjoyed by every Australian. Just as these projects illustrate our Bicentennial theme 'Living Together' by providing another example of Commonwealth/State co-operation, so too will our Bicentennial celebrations throughout the year provide the opportunity for all Australians to get together and ensure a memorable year for all."

Mr Burke said the financial commitment of the Commonwealth and State Governments to the Bicentennial Commemorative Program would give the State projects lasting value.

"Each of them will enhance our heritage in some way", Mr Burke said.

"The Forrest Place redevelopment will provide Perth with a true city square, highlight the grace of the old General Post Office and Commonwealth Bank and link the central business district with the exciting cultural centre development.

"At Fremantle, the Arthur Head project will protect the State's oldest building and make the historical precinct more attractive and accessible.

The Ningaloo marine park contains some of the State's most outstanding scenic treasures and as a Bicentennial Commemorative Project will also be protected and made more accessible.

"The development of heritage trails will enable Western Australians to better enjoy some of the state's most appealing environments.

"The sail training project will not only impart new skills to young Western Australians, but also assist in the development of leadership qualities for the future.

"The Aboriginal project will be a proper recognition that the human occupation of Australia pre-dates white settlement by thousands of years."

"The State Government is delighted to be associated with all of these worthy projects", Mr Burke said.