

**SYDNEY'S HISTORIC**

**WALKS**



***INSIDE***



- \* *History of Sydney Town*
- \* *Includes 3 Maps to print*
- \* *64 History Sites with photos*
- \* *12 km of Walks in Sydney*

# THE MACQUARIE HERITAGE TRAIL:

## SYDNEY'S HISTORIC WALKS

YOUR PERSONAL GUIDE TO EXPLORING  
SYDNEY'S COLONIAL SITES ON FOOT

Almis Simans

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**Governor Lachlan Macquarie    NSW 1810 - 1821**

# WELCOME TO

## SYDNEY'S HISTORIC WALKS

**THIS GUIDE BOOK IS DESIGNED TO -**

**SHOW YOU SYDNEY'S COLONIAL HERITAGE:**

including sites of historic and cultural significance,

**OVER TWO EASY WALKS:**

**WALK 1 – SYDNEY HERITAGE**

**WALK 2 – SYDNEY GREEN**

Each walk is about six (6) kilometers long and takes between 2.5 and 3 hours to complete, not including any extra time you may like to spend at any of the sites.

Sydney is Australia's oldest settlement and contains a surprising amount of heritage sites, many associated with Governor Lachlan Macquarie and his twelve year tenure in New South Wales from 1810 – 1822. Macquarie's wife Elizabeth played a role in the design of some of these sites.

### **THINGS TO TAKE FOR YOUR WALKS**

Sun hat, Comfortable shoes,

Water bottle,

Day pack, Rain coat,

Camera, Snacks.

# SYDNEY TOWN

## THE BEGINNING:

### FROM 1788 TO MACQUARIE'S ARRIVAL IN 1810.

#### 1788: FIRST FLEET ARRIVES.

Our story begins during the reign of the British monarch, King George III. In 1788 **Captain Arthur Phillip, Lieutenants John Hunter and Philip Gidley King**, 750 convicts, three hundred guards and assorted personnel arrived with the First Fleet at Sydney Cove to set up a penal colony.

The guards were marines who were not trained as convict keepers and objected to such "civilian" duties. Within six months Phillip, now the governor, found himself opposed by the marines' commanding officer, the recalcitrant Major Ross, and sent a dispatch to London requesting the marines to be replaced. The Colonial Office decided to create a military regiment for the specific purpose of maintaining order at Sydney Cove, popularly known as Botany Bay.

#### 1790: SECOND FLEET & NSW CORPS

When the first detachment of **N.S.W. Corps** under the command of Captain Nicholas Nepean arrived at Sydney Cove in 1790 with the Second Fleet, they found a world for the taking. Officers of the Corps were often deeply in debt and sought every opportunity to make extra money. They expected to receive added benefits for having to serve at such an isolated post. One of the passengers on the Second Fleet was **D'Arcy Wentworth**, a trainee surgeon who had been charged with highway robbery but never convicted.

On arrival in Sydney Cove he was posted to Norfolk Island as Superintendent of Convicts. Also arrived with the Second Fleet were **Captain John Macarthur and his wife Elizabeth. Major Francis Grose** and a second detachment of soldiers arrived soon after, completing the full assignment of the Corps. Governor Phillip returned to England in 1792.

With an increasing sense of power, the Corps was mostly free to do as it pleased. Grose granted land to his officers and convict labour for its cultivation. His subordinate, Captain John Macarthur was made Officer of Public Works. This important position, combined with Grose's easy going manner and habit of delegating responsibility, allowed Macarthur who was based at Parramatta, to become the master of the colony's agricultural development. At the time Parramatta's population outnumbered Sydney's. Sydney primarily served as the site of the military's headquarters and the colony's seaport.

Officers and emancipists (freed convicts) who were granted land, needed convict labour to clear and plow it, plant crops and tend livestock. Many convicts were reluctant to do any hard physical work even when threatened with the lash. However, many of them craved spirits. Their thirst for alcohol was their greatest motivator. Convicts and landless emancipists would work hard for rum.

## **RUM**

Rum became a passion, and anyone with a surplus of the precious commodity would sell it at whatever exchange rate the nearest thirsty drinker would pay. The one positive economic result of this was that numerous acres of land were soon under cultivation.



**NSW Corps**

### **1800: GOVERNOR PHILIP GIDLEY KING**

In 1800 King arrived to replace the beaten John Hunter, determined to regain control over the colony but soon found himself in similar straits to that of his predecessor - hampered by a meagre budget and a shortage of labour.

Due to natural attrition, the New South Wales Corps had positions to fill. The Napoleonic Wars had depleted the stock of usually available candidates, so the Corps resorted to recruiting ex-convicts, resulting in a rough and ready regiment, popularly known as “Botany Bay Rangers,” or the “Rum Puncheon Corps”.

In 1803 **Matthew Flinders** circumnavigated the land known as Terra Australis Incognita and showed it to be an island continent. New South Wales was not necessarily the “hell penal colony” it appeared to many people. It was one’s station in life that mostly determined one’s level of comfort or misery in the colony.

Governor King experienced many of the problems that had beset Hunter. He managed to diminish the N.S.W. Corps’ stranglehold

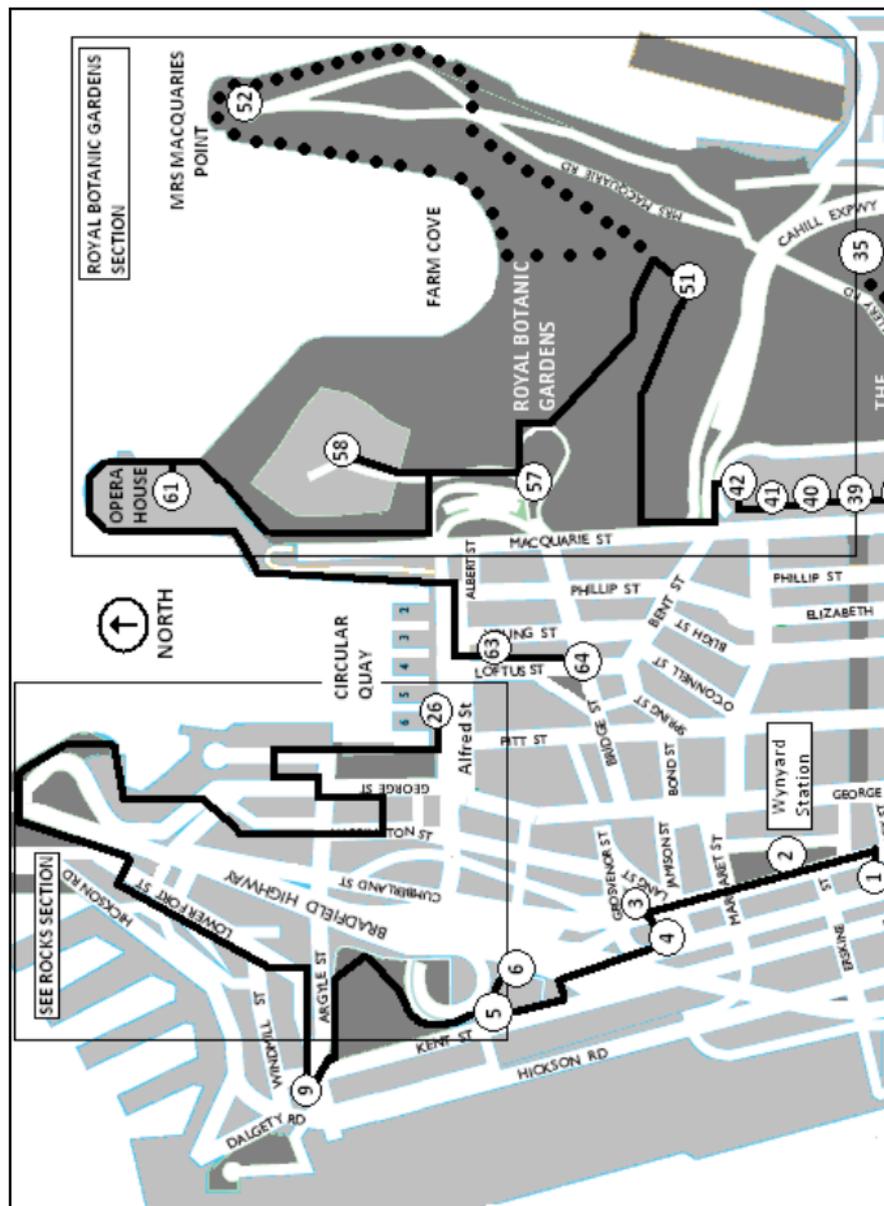
Ultimately, **Lt. Col. Lachlan Macquarie** was posted to the penal colony of New South Wales and took up his position of Governor on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1810.

**THIS GUIDE BOOK WILL SHOW YOU THE SYDNEY –**

**THAT LACHLAN AND ELIZABETH MACQUARIE LEFT TO US AS A LEGACY OF THEIR 12 YEARS IN THE COLONY.**



**St Phillip's Church c. 1809**



**Map of Walk 1 (sites 1 – 26)**

## MACQUARIE TRAIL WALK 1: SYDNEY HERITAGE



and visitors. 483 George St, **M-F 8.30-5**

**START from the STEPS OF TOWN HALL** (near Town Hall Rail Station). We begin our walking tour of Sydney in Sydney Square on the steps of Sydney's Town Hall. **TOWN HALL (1869 - 1889)** The Town Hall sits on the site of Sydney's oldest official burial ground, which by 1820 housed approximately 2,000 bodies. These days it is a focal meeting point for Sydney-siders



### 1. BARRACK ST

This was once the perimeter of Macquarie's Wynyard Barracks where soldiers were housed till 1848 when the troops were relocated to the Victoria Barracks in Paddington.



**2. WYNYARD PARK (1788) (and WYNYARD RAIL STATION) (1927)** This was the parade ground of the first military barracks established shortly after the foundation of Sydney in 1788. Macquarie subsequently enlarged the

barracks. Originally the park was much larger in area, extending from Barrack Street in the south to St Phillip's Church in the north. The small square now left as Wynyard Park is only a remnant of the large barracks complex. British troops garrisoned in the colony lived here.



#### **24. FIRST FLEET PARK**

Visit the huge circular map of old Sydney. This map shows the shoreline and buildings of early Sydney Town, overlaid by the current shoreline of Circular Quay.



#### **25. TANK STREAM FOUNTAIN (1981)**

The Stephen Walker sculpture was donated to the City by John Fairfax and Sons Ltd. in 1981 and is located in Herald Square at Circular Quay. The cascading Fountain with bronze animals is

dedicated 'to all the children who have played around the Tank Stream.'



#### **26. SEMI-CIRCULAR QUAY (and CIRCULAR QUAY RAIL STATION)**

Sydney Cove was the site of the initial landing of the First Fleet in Port Jackson. Originally Circular Quay was mainly used for commercial shipping and slowly

developed into a transport, leisure and recreational centre. The Circular Quay railway station was opened in 1956 and the elevated Cahill Expressway was opened in 1958. Once known as Semi-Circular Quay.

### **YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED WALK 1.**

From here you can catch a ferry, train or bus to other adventures.

## MACQUARIE TRAIL WALK 2: SYDNEY GREEN

### SYDNEY SQUARE

**START** From the **STEPS OF TOWN HALL** (near Town Hall Rail Station).

We begin our walking tour of Sydney in Sydney Square on the steps of Sydney's Town Hall. We have covered the history of Town Hall in Macquarie Trail Walk 1.



### **30. ST. ANDREW'S (1868)**

Macquarie had grand plans for the city of Sydney and he knew that it would eventually require a cathedral. In 1819 with his architect Francis Greenway, who had been transported to Sydney for forgery in 1814, the governor planned a church 200 feet square possibly with the seating and galleries facing inward from three sides. But this design was never completed. Only a few foundations were laid before the plan was abandoned. Macquarie was severely criticised by London and malcontents in the colony for planning beyond the colony's means.

In 1842 Edmund Blacket presented himself to the Bishop with a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury in England recommending his architectural talent and experience in both the Classical and the Gothic styles.

Blacket designed two universities, three cathedrals and fifty or more parish churches as well as banks, offices, bridges, mansions and countless shops, cottages and terraced houses. He became the official Colonial Architect from 1849-1854 and was known as the “Wren of Sydney”.

St. Andrew’s Cathedral was consecrated in 1868 and is the mother church for the Sydney diocese. Ask the vergers to show you a copy of Macquarie’s foundation plaque.

## **HYDE PARK**



### **31. OBELISK (1857)**

**The Obelisk** is one of the earliest monuments, courtesy of a Sydney mayor. It was erected in 1857 and unveiled by the Mayor, George Thornton. The monument is actually a sewer vent. Soon enough, it was known around town as ‘**Thornton’s Scent Bottle**’.



### **32. ARCHIBALD FOUNTAIN (1932)**

A gift to the City of Sydney bequeathed in the will of J. F. Archibald. It commemorates the association between Australia and France in World War One, and is the work of French sculptor Francois Sicard. It depicts a bronze Apollo surrounded by other mythical figures.



### **51. Macquarie Wall (1812)**

Built by Macquarie in 1812 to fence off the Government Domain from the public area.

**YOUR OPTION** is to walk to Mrs. Macquarie's Chair (**52**) or to continue to Wishing Tree (**53**)



### **52. Mrs Macquarie's Chair (1816)**

**(OPTION)** Mrs Macquaries Chair was carved out of stone for Elizabeth Macquarie. She loved to come by carriage to Yurong or Anson's Point, to sit and look at the harbour. Yurong is

the aboriginal name. John Anson, a carpenter, later held the lease to the farmlet in this area. Macquarie Point Battery, not to be confused with Fort Macquarie on Bennelong Point, was built here in 1856, and remained until 1870.



### **53. Second (Replacement) Wishing Tree (1935)**

This is the second Wishing Tree to be planted in the Gardens. In earlier times folk believed that you could make a wish by touching various trees or by walking around them three times forward and then three times backward. This is where the term "touching

wood" originated. - Give it a try.

## ABORIGINAL HERITAGE AND WALKS

Walking tracks have provided the Aborigines with access to hunting grounds, ceremonial areas and trading routes for thousands of years. Aboriginal sites may be sacred sites or occupational sites.

**Sacred sites** are places of special significance to Aboriginal culture but usually contain no artifacts – eg, Three Sisters rock formation which is sacred to the Gundungurra people and is associated with the "Seven Sisters Dreaming".

**Occupational sites** are places which contains evidence of Aboriginal activity. These sites include rock surfaces with axe grinding and spear grinding grooves, cave art sites, scarred trees and sites with archaeological relics including tools and weapons.

Objects such as flaked stone tools and scrapers may appear to be "insignificant", but such simple tools were vital for the survival of the early Australians. They are also important in documenting Aboriginal society and the early history of Australia itself.

### **54. Kangaroo and Dog Dance Site (pre-1788.)**

At the head of Farm Cove (near the Palm Grove Centre) was an Aboriginal initiation ground. This was documented as the site of the 'Kangaroo Dance' and the 'Dog Dance', in which young Aboriginal men had a hole bored in their nose to hold a bone or reed and sometimes a front tooth was hit out.

## HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS:

Historic Houses Trust – [www.hht.net.au](http://www.hht.net.au)

(02) 9692 8366 – VAUCLUSE HOUSE, HYDE PARK BARRACKS

National Trust – [www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au)

(02) 9258 0123 – S.H. ERWIN GALLERY

## HISTORICAL SOCIETIES:

St James Church [www.stjameschurchsydney.org.au](http://www.stjameschurchsydney.org.au)

Scottish Australian Heritage Council [www.pip.com.au/~sahc/](http://www.pip.com.au/~sahc/)

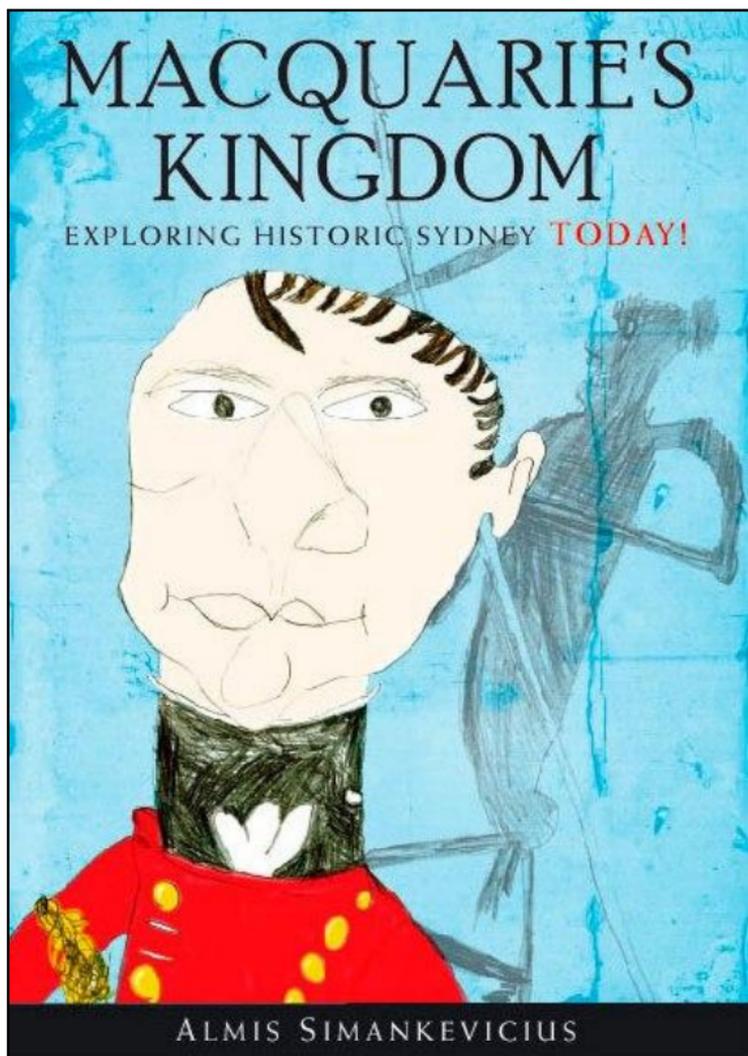


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For Further Explorations of Historic Sydney and NSW look at:



A Great Guide to the Macquarie Era in NSW

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