Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, has launched a new website, Baseline, which will operate as a virtual museum and heritage portal.

Mr Kelly launched the site when he opened the exhibition 1810: Expanding Sydney, which examines Lachlan Macquarie’s vision for the development of colonial Sydney.

“The exhibition holds rarely seen items from the collection of LPMA and is on display at the Museum of Sydney for three months, until June,” Mr Kelly said.

“The online version of the exhibition can also be seen on the Baseline website.

“The new website was developed to showcase the diverse range of heritage projects that the LPMA undertakes.

“Baseline is a source of information for our clients, allowing both internal and external users to access a vast array of heritage data.

“The site aims to incorporate the LPMA’s unique and multifaceted heritage, including our historical collections, cultural heritage sites and archival projects.

“This web site and project has been named Baseline after the New South Wales survey baseline standard.

“This physical line was made up of stainless steel rods set in bedrock against which surveyors’ bands were measured until the early 1900’s.

“Today, the baseline remains a major feature of the old Department of Lands building in Sydney’s CBD.

“Baseline is an ongoing project. The launch of Baseline in April 2010 is the beginning of our continuing effort to promote our cultural heritage through projects such as new online exhibitions and collaborations with other agencies and institutions.”