NEW HOME FOR MACQUARIE STATUE

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, today unveiled the statue of Governor Lachlan Macquarie at its new location in the grounds of the Mint Building on Macquarie Street.

“Governor Macquarie played a vital role in laying the foundations of Sydney and of modern day Australia and it is only fitting that this statue should remain on the street that bears his name,” Mr Kelly said.

“Its new site is in the grounds of a building that Governor Macquarie played a leading role in establishing and in the heart of the precinct of Sydney that he played an influential role in developing.

“It is also appropriate that he is looking back down Macquarie Street, towards what is today Parliament House, located in another part of his hospital,” Mr Kelly said.

“Unveiling the statue today is a fitting end to the celebrations that have been held throughout the year to mark the bicentenary of his swearing-in as Governor of New South Wales,” Mr Kelly said.

Kate Clark, Director, Historic Houses Trust, welcomed the arrival of the statue.

“We are delighted that Governor Macquarie will be located here at our head office in front of The Mint – the ‘Rum Hospital’ that he built in his attempt to give the fledgling colony the public buildings it deserved,” she said.

The bronze statue of the Governor in uniform and draped in a cloak was designed by John Dowie in 1973 and cast in the FJ and I Lemon Foundry in Victoria.

It was donated to the State by FAI Insurances Ltd in 1998 to the memory of Larry Adler, who originally commissioned it. The stature was previously housed in the grounds of Parliament House but was removed last year to make way for new security facilities.