

**4 March 2002**

## **Harbour Trust starts work on shopfront**

Work commenced recently on converting the old garage and Q-Store at Chowder Bay into a shopfront for the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.

Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, Mr Geoff Bailey, said there was a need for somewhere to hold public board meetings, exhibit plans and make resource material available and accessible to all.

“We need to provide an exhibition and resource area that can be easily visited by people with disabilities, parents with prams, and the elderly,” Mr Bailey said.

“In preparing our plans, we are gathering together reports, books, photographs and other useful material on the history of the sites, the natural environment and the buildings and structures they contain.

“The shopfront will enable this material to be accessed by researchers and members of the community.”

Mr Bailey said that although there were numerous buildings at Chowder Bay, the old storeroom and garage was most suitable for a shopfront because of its low heritage value and its proximity to the Harbour Trust’s offices at the site. The building is alongside the entry road and can be accessed directly from ground level.

“The building will make an ideal display space for people to come and see proposals for all of the Harbour Trust lands around Sydney Harbour,” he said.

“We will also use the shopfront to hold the public board meetings that are a requirement of our legislation; the Sydney Harbour Federation trust Act.”

It is anticipated that the shopfront will be completed by early May. The works involve minor alterations to the inside of the building to accommodate the meeting room, reception, exhibition space and library / resource area.

The storeroom and garage was built in 1988 when the Army Maritime School was at Chowder Bay. The building was known as the ‘Q-Store’ or ‘Quartermaster’s Store’ where equipment and supplies were issued to Army personnel.

Since the Harbour Trust established its offices at Chowder Bay in 1999, the building has been used as a base for the security guards and a storeroom.

**ENDS**

For more information, contact:  
Kate Langford ph 02 8969 2100 or 0418 625 887