



10 August 2006

Coastal Gun rolls into Mosman

An historic coastal gun formerly used to protect Australian ports and harbours during the first half of last century has arrived in Mosman for restoration and display.

Geoff Bailey, Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, said the gun will be an important addition to Headland Park, Mosman and further help to explain the important role of the fortifications at Georges Heights in the defence of Sydney.

'The gun is a 6-inch Mark XI. It is the only intact gun of its type in NSW and will be the first of its type displayed in a fortification,' Mr Bailey said.

Guns of this type were originally used by the navy on ships, and the gun that has arrived in Mosman was most probably from HMAS *Brisbane* – a Town class cruiser built at Cockatoo Island Dockyards in 1916.

In 1943, after the threat of the Japanese invasion had passed, the gun was moved to Proof and Experimental Establishment at Port Wakefield in South Australia for testing of ammunition and has been there ever since.

'We would like to thank the Proof and Experimental Unit for allowing the gun to be relocated and the Royal Australian Artillery National Museum (North Fort) for the long term loan of the gun and their assistance in the relocation of the gun from Port Wakefield,' Mr Bailey said.

'North Fort's team of artillery experts will begin restoration work on the gun in late August. The community is invited to view the team at work,' he said.

Restoration of the gun will take approximately six months to complete. It will then be mounted on a gun carriage and placed in the B42 gun emplacement at Lower Georges Heights.

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For more information and to arrange photo opportunities, contact:

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