



# MEDIA RELEASE

**The Hon Peter Garrett MP**

*Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts*

**Senator Annette Hurley**

*Senator for South Australia*

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19 June 2009

## **\$400,000 HELPS RESTORE BURRA'S HISTORIC PLACES**

Five places in Burra, South Australia—Redruth Gaol, the Old Courthouse, the Police Stables and Lock Up, Bon Accord Mine and the Market Square Museum—will receive total funding of \$400,000 for important conservation work.

The Federal Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, Peter Garrett and Senator for South Australia, Annette Hurley, today announced funding will be provided through the Australian Government's \$650 million *Jobs Fund*. The economic stimulus package includes \$60 million for heritage conservation projects.

"This investment by the Australian Government will support important work at these Burra places," Mr Garrett said.

"Activities include conserving historic stonework, reducing the impact of salt damp, repairs to joinery, flooring, roofing and drainage, improving water collection, upgrading electrical services and painting both the interiors and exteriors of these historic places.

"It is extremely fitting that Burra's heritage places will benefit from this funding, as the town has a special place in our nation's heritage. Burra was the site of Australia's first great mining boom in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and it was here that the landmark *Burra Charter*, which underpins Australia's heritage conservation principles, had its genesis in the 1970s," Mr Garrett said

"As a result of this investment there will be local jobs for local people and at the same time the future of a vital piece of our local history is protected," Senator Hurley said.

"The project involves essential maintenance works to five buildings which are on the local Passport Trail. This will also increase tourism to the area, which brings additional economic benefits for the community.

"This investment by the Australian Government is a major boost for Burra. Works will help develop skills in local workers, meaning jobs and skills for future projects will stay local" Senator Hurley said.

"The \$60 million set aside for heritage projects under the Jobs Fund is one of the largest investments in heritage conservation ever to be undertaken in Australia. It is designed to support and create jobs and develop skills that build both community and social infrastructure.

"This major investment in Australia's historic, Indigenous and natural heritage provides real economic stimulus by focusing on projects that have an immediate employment impact, as well as ongoing economic benefits.

"I commend the National Trust of Australia (South Australia) for securing this investment by the Australian Government," Senator Hurley said.

The \$60 million for community heritage projects has been developed in consultation with Senator Bob Brown as part of the Government's \$42 billion Nation Building - Economic Stimulus Plan.

For more information on Australia's heritage projects visit [www.heritage.gov.au](http://www.heritage.gov.au)