

ATTACHMENT A

**BRONZE MONUMENTS – LOCATION AND
BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

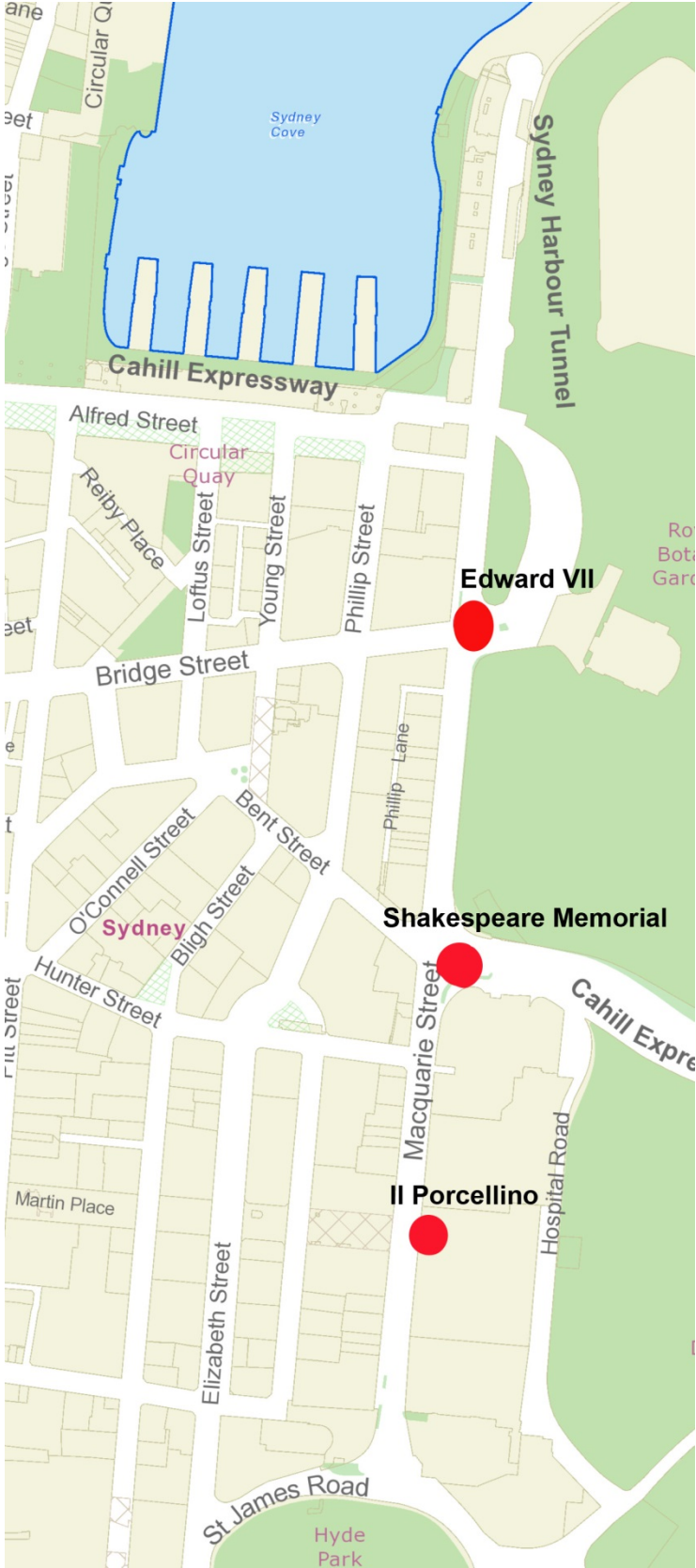
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Bronze Monument Conservation Work - Location and Background Information

- **Il Porcellino**
- **Shakespeare Memorial**
- **Edward VII**

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Location Map

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Title of Work: Il Porcellino
Artist: Replica of Florence original by Pietro Battiste Tacca
Date Installed: 16/12/1968.



Il Porcellino: Macquarie Street – in front of Sydney Hospital

Description

Il Porcellino, meaning ‘the little pig’, is a life-sized bronze wild boar, anatomically realistic and resting on its left haunch and front legs. The sculpture is an exact replica of an original by Pietro Tacca which has stood in Florence, Italy, since circa 1633, and is given the local Florentine nickname *il porcellino*.

The sculpture was a gift to the City of Sydney from Marchesa Fiaschi Torrigiani, who donated the artwork to the City in 1968. It is a memorial to Thomas Fiaschi and Piero Fiaschi, her father and brother respectively. Both worked as honorary surgeons at the Sydney Hospital and both had distinguished military careers. Thomas Fiaschi served in the Boer War and World War I, reaching the rank of General in the latter. Piero became a Colonel during the same war.

Commission

Il Porcellino was a gift to the City of Sydney from the Marchesa Clarissa Torrigiani to help raise funds for Sydney Hospital.

The original bronze was commissioned by Cosimo II de Medici in 1621 and is now in the Museo Bardini, in Florence, with a replica on display the Mercato Nuovo. The original bronze was modelled on a Hellenistic Greek marble original.

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Title of Work: Shakespeare Memorial
Artist: Sir Edgar Bertram MACKENNAL (1863-1931)
Date Installed: 1926



Shakespeare Memorial: Macquarie Street and Shakespeare Place– outside State Library of NSW

Description

This bronze memorial statue features a life-sized figure of William Shakespeare, who stands with pen in hand at the apex of a supporting marble pedestal. He is surrounded by a selection of characters: Romeo and Juliet, Othello, Portia and Falstaff.

Subject

Commissioned in the pre-war fervour for 'Empire', Shakespeare's role as a man of 'greatness' was consolidated. Henry Gullet, President of the Shakespeare Society of New South Wales from 1904 to 1911 and key influencer in the project, regarded 'Shakespeare as not only the typical man of letters, but also, and even more, the typical Englishman. In that serene and somewhat enigmatic personage he saw enshrined humour, tolerance, wider understanding of human nature, soundness of mind and body, and equal development of all his faculties that belong to the English race in all its exemplars.'

Artist

Sculptor Sir Edgar Bertram Mackennal (1863-1931) was the most successful Australian artist of his time, and is still arguably the best known of Australia's sculptors. Born in Melbourne, he studied at the National Gallery School and Victorian Academy, and in 1883 at the Royal Academy and British Museum in London.

Working mostly in Europe from 1882 Mackennal executed many private works and public monuments, and with the patronage of King George V became a leading civic sculptor in Britain. He was the first Australian to be elected an associate of the British Royal Academy, the only Australian to be elected to full Royal Academy membership, and the first to be knighted.

Title of Work: Edward VII
Artist : Thomas Brock
Date Installed: 1922



Edward VII: Macquarie and Bridge Streets – outside the Sydney Conservatorium of Music

Description

This bronze statue features King Edward VII in uniform on horseback. It stands on a sandstone plinth featuring relief panels showing allegorical figures. It is located on the corner of Macquarie and Bridge Streets, opposite the Conservatorium of Music.

Subject

King Edward VII, eldest son of Queen Victoria died, on 6 May 1910 after a short illness and a relatively short reign from 1901 to 1910. His death was widely reported in Sydney newspapers as an abrupt termination of an active reign and Sydney was described as a city in mourning. The memorial statue was unveiled on Empire Day, 24 May 1922. Local newspapers proudly hailed the monument as an expression of the significance of the empire. This was clearly portrayed by one of the bas-relief panels on the statue's pedestal, featuring allegorical figures with clasped hands and carrying the inscription 'Empire and Unity'.

Artist

Thomas Brock (1847-1922) was one of Britain's most prominent sculptors of the era. He is best known for his public monuments and statuary in London, especially the Victoria Memorial Buckingham Palace. Although schooled in the classical tradition he successfully made the transition to the 'New Sculpture' circa 1900. Brock was elected an associate of the Royal Academy in 1883 and full member in 1891. In 1911 Brock received a knighthood.