NT GOVERNMENT COMMITS $1 MILLION TO PROTECT HERITAGE ICONS

 Territory heritage, tourism and small contractors are the big winners from the NT Government's $1 million spend on fixing heritage sites this year.

 Environment and Heritage Minister Marion Scrymgour announced the expenditure on Government-owned heritage-listed places as part of Budget 2005.

 This is part of a new funding program which was introduced by the NT Government last year – dedicated to the NT's 73 heritage-listed Government owned sites.

 “The NT Government is balancing growth with lifestyle while protecting our environment,” Ms Scrymgour said.

 “Our heritage properties are an important part of the Northern Territory's tourism and lifestyle – which is unique and the best in Australia.”

 Ms Scrymgour said the Government – as the single largest owner of heritage assets - is leading by example on heritage conservation.

 “It is important that we set the standard for keeping them in good shape,” she said.

 “The 2005/06 Budget will see $1 million allocated for repairs and maintenance to heritage properties – that's a dedicated spend that didn't exist under 27 years of the former Government.

 “It also means $1 million for tradespeople and small contractors across the Territory.

 “So this is great for heritage, great for the small contractors around the Territory who get more work, and great for tourism.”

 Ms Scrymgour said the new Repairs and Maintenance Program means there is now scheduled maintenance and repairs carried out on sites.

 “This is a dedicated spend on our heritage icons that is recurrent and will also allow for conservation planning to occur.”

 The sites receiving funding this year are attached:
Northern Region
Cape Don Lighthouse Precinct, Cobourg Peninsula - Repairs to buildings.
Former RAAF Explosive Stores, Charles Darwin National Park - Repairs and repainting.
Lyons Cottage, Darwin - Repainting.

Katherine/VRD Region
Adelaide River Railway Siding Precinct - Repairs to buildings.
Katherine River Bridge - painting
Bullita Station Precinct Timber Creek - Repairs to buildings and stockyards.
Elsey Memorial Cemetery - Repairs to fence and signs.

Central Australia/ Alice Springs
Old Alice Springs Gaol - Repairs to buildings and services.
Barrow Creek Telegraph Station - Repairs to stone buildings.
Arltunga Police Station and Government Battery - Repairs to stone buildings.

Barkly Region/Tennant Creek
Bonney Well - Repairs to windmill, water troughs and stone well.
Flying Fox Daly Waters - Cleaning and repainting.
Tennant Creek Telegraph Station - Repairs to stone buildings.