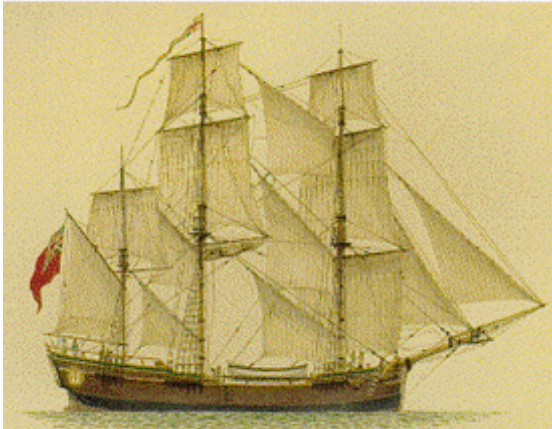


THE FIRST & SECOND FLEETS



These gardens are dedicated to the sailors, marines, spouses, children, convicts and free men of the First & Second Fleets. The Gardens tell the story of both these voyages and the early settlement of Sydney largely in the words of those who participated.

Whilst the European settlement of Australia has caused some controversy in recent years it remains the starting point for sweeping cultural change upon this continent and it is worthy to remember that whilst great hardship would later fall on Aboriginal Australians, the early struggles of these settlers cannot be denied.

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Arthur Phillip is one of those officers, who, like Drake, Dampier and Cook, has raised himself by his merit and his services, to distinction and command. His father was Jacob Phillip, a native of Frankfort, in Germany, who having settled in England, maintained his family and educated his son by teaching him languages. His mother was Elizabeth Breach, who married for her first husband, Captain Herbert of the navy, a kinsman of Lord Pembroke. Of her marriage with Jacob Phillip, was her son, Arthur, born in the parish of Allhallows, Bread-street, within the city of London, on the 11th of October, 1738.

THE FIRST FLEET:

13TH MAY 1787 - 26TH JANUARY 1788

The journey of the First Fleet and the subsequent European occupation of Australia was a direct consequence of the War of Independence in the then North American Colonies. The voyage was a triumph of then modern marine technology, medicine, logistics and leadership. By 1787 the greatest hazard to long distance sailing determining Longitude, had been overcome. The instruments were expensive and the procedures for maintaining exact time relative to Greenwich were rigorous.

"The precautions necessary to prevent the Timekeeper from being let down were order'd by Capt Phillip who with Cap. n Hunter or Mr Dawes were always to be present at the winding it at Noon & it was order'd to be the duty of the Lieutenant who brought 12 O'clock to see it done & the Officer who relieved him was not to take charge of the deck 'till he was informed that it was done, the Centinel at the Cabin door was also order'd to plant himself inside the Cabin on hearing the Bell ring at noon and not to go out to be relieved until he was told or saw that the Timekeeper was wound up by one of the Officers. The management of the Timekeeper for keeping the Longitude by it was given to Lt Dawes of the Marines." - Lt William Bradley

