Basic Detail Report



00000896

Title Sydney Heads - New South Wales Date 1867 Primary Maker Eugene Von Guerard

Medium

Lithograph on paper

Dimensions

Mount / Matt size: 520 × 700 mm

Name

Lithograph

History

Eugene von Guerard (1811-1901) was an Austrian born artist who spent a considerable amount of his career in Australia. He arrived in Victoria during the gold rush in the 1850s but found more success in the colonies as an artist. Von Guerard is recognised for his grand landscapes of Australia and is an important figure in Australian art history. Sydney Cove was established by Governor Arthur Phillip when he arrived with the First Fleet on 26 January 1788. The cove was named in honour of the British Home Secretary, Thomas Townsend, Lord Sydney and was chosen as the site of settlement over Botany Bay because it offered both fresh water and a secure place for ships to anchor. Phillip described Sydney Cove as having 'the best spring of water, and in which the ships can anchor so close to the shore that at a very small expense quays may be made at which the largest ships may unload'. He aimed to establish a flourishing colony and not just a penal site and supported plans to build a structured and ordered town.