



Heritage in Trust

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**Canberra and Federation
Urban planning
Birrigai Rock Shelter**

HERITAGE IN TRUST

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CANBERRA – a vision splendid

Canberra as the National Capital and seat of government is a child of federation. Its inception as a symbolic representation of national identity is a result of the burgeoning sense of nationhood in Australia that developed from the early 1880s. By 1890 the committee drafting the Constitution proposed an independent federal capital city on a site to be determined by Parliament when it came into being. The 1901 Constitution required that the seat of government would be in NSW 'and be distant not less than one hundred miles from Sydney'. This proviso effectively addressed the rivalry between Sydney and Melbourne.

Before 1901 the NSW Government had commissioned a report from Alexander Oliver QC who nominated three sites: Bombala, Orange, and Yass. Between 1901 and 1907, other sites were considered and rejected: Dalgety, Albury, Armidale, Lake George, Tumut, Cooma, and Lyndhurst. Politicians thought it their prerogative to choose a site. In contrast the 1901 Congress of Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, and Others Interested in the Building of a Federal Capital thought it a matter for professional and aesthetic judgement.

Finally, in 1908, Charles Scrivener, a NSW surveyor, was given the task of recommending a site in the Yass-Canberra area. His instructions were quite clear. They fitted the sense of destiny of the emerging nation and its sense of identity rooted in images of the Australian landscape popularised in the Golden Summers paintings of the Heidelberg artists and writings in *The Bulletin* as in Paterson's 'vision splendid of the sunlit plains extended'. Scrivener was told 'The Federal Capital should be a beautiful city, occupying a commanding position, with extensive views embracing distinctive features [and the site should be chosen] with a view to securing picturesqueness ...'.

King O'Malley, Minister of the Interior, when he first saw the Limestone Plains site chosen by Scrivener, flamboyantly suggested 'Moses, thousands of years ago as he gazed down on the promised land, saw no more panoramic view' and he declared the city would be 'the Pride of Time'. Looking out over present day Canberra from the symbolic heart of the nation in the National Triangle we can see the farsightedness of this early vision and enthusiasm for a beautiful city. ♣

Professor Ken Taylor AM

Cover photo — Dame Nellie Melba sings the National Anthem at the opening of Old Parliament House, 9th May 1927. Prime Minister Stanley Melbourne Bruce is on her left.

Right — Travels with the Trust — A Day at the Bay, Richmond Beach. See page 11 for details.

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Our purpose is to identify places and objects that are significant to our heritage, foster public appreciation of those places and objects, and advocate their conservation.



Canberra – a city born of Federation – the Federation Exhibition and the founding of the city



Left — Federal Senators discussing the site of Tumut as part of their tour of possible Federal Capital sites.
Photo: National Library of Australia.

Below — Lady Denman names Canberra on 12 March, 1913. Pictured also (from left) are Lord Denman, Prime Minister the Right Hon. Andrew Fischer and Minister of Home Affairs, King O'Malley.
Photo: National Library of Australia.

Before the City was Born

Aboriginal people have lived in the Canberra region for at least 21,000 years, long before the nation's Capital came into existence. Archaeologists have found evidence of human habitation in the Birrigai Rock Shelter that overlooks the Tidbinbilla Valley. The people who used this shelter were the ancestors of the Ngun(n)awal people

who live in the Canberra district today. [See article on the Birrigai Rockshelter on page 15.]

The first Europeans to see the limestone plains reached Lake George in 1820 in search of the Murrumbidgee River. European settlement of the area quickly followed and graziers established runs bordering the Molonglo River (now Lake Burley Griffin).

by Christine Ryan, based on historical research conducted by heritage consultants Carol Cosgrove and Peter Dowling.

the Exhibition

As Australia marks the centenary of its Federation and Canberra enjoys the national spotlight this year, the National Trust of the ACT will tell the Federation story of Canberra. Thanks to a grant from the ACT Centenary of Federation Committee, the Trust has researched and produced a portable display and video entitled *Canberra: a City Born of Federation*.

Highlighting the role of the first builders of Canberra, who lived in poor conditions whilst constructing the most modern city in the world, the exhibition presents a history of Canberra's construction and aims to raise public awareness of Canberra's heritage.

"We will be taking this history, in an attractive and accessible way, to people who may not usually show an interest in Canberra's history," says Heritage Officer Colin Griffiths. "We have targeted public areas to give the exhibition greater exposure, and we hope it will entertain as well as inform passers-by."





Above — Workmen C. Lavery and D.P. Russell (standing) pictured in front of one of the Bachelor's Tents in the Acton Camp, 1914.
Photo: Thornhill Collection, National Library of Australia.

Right — Workers preparing a road in Ainslie (probably Limestone Avenue) in the 1920s. Photo: Dwyer Collection, National Library of Australia.

When Federation was declared in 1901 the Federal Parliament was established in Melbourne, pending a decision on a permanent site for the seat of Federal Government. In 1902 inspections of possible sites were arranged for Senators. At that time the district that was to become Canberra was a collection of sheep and cattle grazing properties and a few scattered villages.

There was strong rivalry between New South Wales and Victoria for the establishment of the site. This meant that neither Sydney nor Melbourne would be acceptable to the other as the Federal Capital. There was a strong feeling that the Commonwealth Parliament should be free from the influence of any state capital.

The seat of Government of the Commonwealth shall be determined by the Parliament and shall be within

territory which shall have been granted to, or acquired by the Commonwealth ... and be distant not less than one hundred miles from Sydney.

Section 125, Bill for the Establishment of the Federal Capital

The first Senators inspected many sites, including Orange, Lyndhurst, Bathurst, Goulburn, Armidale, Bombala, Nowra, Eden, Yass, Albury and Tumut. After much debate, Dalgety in the Monaro District became the favourite, and Parliament passed a Bill in 1904 for that area to become the Federal Capital. However, New South Wales federal politicians were not happy with the decision and eventually the Act was repealed by the Seat of Government Act of December 1908, which stated that the seat of Government would be in the Yass-Canberra area.

John Gale, a Queanbeyan journalist who founded the newspaper, *The Golden Age*, later the *Queanbeyan Age*, suggested that Canberra should be the site for the Federal Capital and lobbied the Government to that end. He lived to see his vision realised and, alert and vital at the age of 97, was presented to the Duke and Duchess of York at the opening of Parliament House in Canberra in 1927.

The Federal Government asked Charles Scrivener, a New South Wales District Surveyor, to define a territorial boundary for the Federal Capital and within it, the area where the city was to be built. Scrivener was advised to select a site

...for a beautiful city, occupying a commanding position with extensive views and embracing distinctive features which will lend themselves to the evolution of a design worthy of the object, not only for the present, but for all time.

Instructions from Hugh Mahon, Minister for Home Affairs, to Charles Scrivener, 1908



Scrivener inspected Mahkoolma, Yass, Gundaroo, Hall, Bungendore-Lake George and Canberra. In February 1909, he advised that the Canberra site

was

...the best that can be obtained in the Yass-Canberra district, being prominently situated and yet sheltered.

Charles Scrivener February, 1909

On the 11th of January 1911, ten years after Federation, the Federal Capital Territory was finally proclaimed. In the same year, the Federal Government held an international competition for the design of the Capital. King O'Malley, the Minister for Home Affairs, oversaw the competition. Out of 137 entries, Walter Burley Griffin won the competition with his geometrical design beautifully illustrated by his wife, Marion Mahony Griffin. With a triangulated layout of major and minor axes creating links to external elements, particularly the hills surrounding the site, Griffin's design included generous areas of open space. He envisaged a low-density city of tree-lined streets, parks,

parkways, playgrounds and gardens.

The Griffin plan, however, had a very rocky road before eventual acceptance. After much argument and debate, and even an alternate plan designed by members of the Departmental Board (most likely led by Scrivener) which had been formed to advise O'Malley, Griffin was brought out to Australia to oversee the construction of his design. Griffin, who strongly opposed alterations to his design, arrived in 1913.

Building the City

From 12th March 1913 the building of Canberra began in earnest. Early construction marked a major departure from Griffin's Plan. Instead of monumental works such as the lake and the permanent Parliament House, the planners substituted works of utility and simplicity to meet the economic requirements of the time. The principles of the Griffin Plan would be preserved to leave the way open for more ambitious and costly projects at a later time.

Architect John Smith Murdoch drew up plans for a temporary, or provisional,

parliament building. Walter Burley Griffin was strongly opposed to the whole concept of a provisional house, stating in a letter that it "would be like filling a front yard full of outhouses". Nevertheless, the project of a Provisional Parliament House went ahead.

Canberra's early builders arrived to set up the Capital from about 1909 onwards, taking up the most basic of lodgings at a series of workers' camps. In these prewar years, these workers built the infrastructure for the new city, including roads, electricity (Kingston Power House — completed 1914), water supply (Cotter Dam — completed in 1917 and Pumping Station — completed 1918) and sewerage (completed 1927).

In the early years the majority of workers lived in canvas tents. Some tents boasted the luxury of roofs and fireplaces constructed from galvanised iron, floorboards and wooden sides. A typical tent was about 3 m x 2.4 m, accommodated two men each of whom slept on stretchers and shared a small wooden table 30 cm x 60 cm. In 1917





the tent rental was 1/6 per week with an added ground rent of 6d.

The principal building material in the camps was empty hessian cement bags which, when split, sewn together and watered, provided a reasonable facsimile of a fibro-cement sheet when the residual cement set. Some married couples constructed humpies from of a variety of materials which included kerosene tins flattened into panels, canvas, and wood from packing cases.

To make matters even more uncom-

decisions, in 1928, was to reverse O'Malley's decision. A Parliament whose members had enjoyed the high life of 'Marvellous Melbourne', could not contemplate their new location without liquor.

Early in 1918 local men and soldiers erected 'a regular canvas town' for workers that was called the Molonglo Camp. There were a hundred or more tents in a compact square with wide parallel streets between the rows, several makeshift stores, a barber's shop

There was little development in the Federal Capital in the early years due to economic restrictions imposed during World War I and the reduced workforce as many men had enlisted in the forces. It had become clear by 1916 that there was no chance of reviving the building of Canberra until the War was over. When the War ended in 1918 Canberra was in deep depression. All work except for the railway bridge had stopped and the Kingston Power House only operated for two or three hours a week.

In 1924-25 the services of good tradesmen were hard to find owing to the postwar building boom in the other capital cities. The lack of residences for them and their families did not help either.

In short, we had no houses because of the shortage of tradesmen, and we failed to obtain tradesmen because of the shortage of houses.

Charles Daley, As I Recall, Canberra 1994, p 133

A large number of standardised portable wooden houses were provided. They could be rapidly erected, and easily moved later when an adequate supply of permanent houses became available. From 1926 onwards living conditions improved somewhat. Unlined cubicles served as homes for the majority of single men. Many of the married workers and their families lived in unlined wooden cottages at Westlake, Acton and Causeway. Most houses had only two bedrooms. For large families it was a cramped existence with children often 'topped and tailed' in the one bed. Facilities were often shared. At Russell Hill, there were 101 families and over 120 children of school age.

Up until 1918 the major schools in the new 'city' were at Duntroon and Narrabundah. After the First World War a school opened at Molonglo and the Telopea Park School opened in 1923. Russell Hill and Ainslie Primary Schools opened in 1927. By September 1925, more than 1000 men were working on building Canberra.

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A group of sewerage workers.
Photo: National Archives of Australia,
A3560 - 42

fortable for the workers, King O'Malley declared Canberra to be dry from 1913. As a result, many of its new residents and builders had to cross the 'prohibition border' to fortify themselves in Queanbeyan after a hard day's work. The only taxi service in Canberra worked nonstop from Friday night through to the weekend transporting the men to and from Queanbeyan. When Federal politicians moved to Canberra from Melbourne, one of their first

and a cooperative store facing the Uriarra Road, which connected Canberra and Queanbeyan. The camp was on the site of present day Fyshwick. It was located on a hill about 35 metres above the Molonglo River on a site now occupied by the Molonglo Mall.

The public servants living in Melbourne were not keen to move to almost treeless Limestone Plains. The only thing that could make Canberra a bush capital was the massive program of tree planting being undertaken by the Head of Afforestation, Charles Weston.



The Urban Infill Debate

by Professor Ken Taylor AM

After the decision that Australia's federal capital should be kept away from Melbourne and Sydney and the 1901 Constitution providing for it to be not less than 100 miles from Sydney, it is an irony of history that a grass roots community voice in the three cities has found common ground on the issue of urban infill.

In Melbourne, community concern has seen the formation of the Save Our Suburbs group and the publication in 1999 of *Suburban Backlash, the battle for the world's most livable city* (Miles Lewis). The *Sydney Morning Herald* on October 6th ran an article by Tony Recsei, president of the Save Our Sydney Suburbs Inc. in which he stated that a number of local councils have been thrown out for allowing excessive medium and high density development. He also referred to the claim by the NSW Department of Urban Affairs that 'global research' (there's that word again, 'global', so it must be respectable) indicating the 'compact city' is more sustainable (that other 'in-word'), although he points out that the research supporting the claim is not spelled out.

Given the extensive coverage in *The Canberra Times* through letters, editorials and staff articles, the Sydney-Melbourne material sounds familiar. We are assured that urban infill is good for us and the environment and will bring people back to the suburbs — are they missing? — and breathe new life into struggling neighbourhood centres (*Canberra Times*, November 4th). I can think of various suburbs, including the one I live in, where local shops closed a number of years ago in response to people's changing shopping habits influenced by the growth of supermarket chains able to offer cheaper prices and a wider range of goods, not as a result of population loss. It is doubtful that urban infill will remedy this. Local enterprises that have maintained them-

selves are sometimes speciality enterprises like those in Griffith where some owners have indicated that their clientele comes from a wide geographic area. They doubt infill currently slated for the Griffith oval area will add much to their business. We are also assured that infill leads to sustainable development. Does it? Depends on what you mean by sustainable, and in some of the official polemic it starts to sound a little like Humpty Dumpty: 'When I use a word it means just what I choose it to mean — neither more nor less'.

Cities change over time in response to population and social change, economic change and changes in environmental planning practices — such change is fundamental to planning. But it is the type of change that is critical to the modern city's well being and livability that fuels the infill debate. Planning change has to take into consideration matters of overall residential amenity given the importance we attach to the places where we live. In Canberra, with its internationally renowned reputation as a major twentieth century planning achievement rooted firmly in its landscape infrastructure, garden city image, and special sense of place, residential amenity, is of paramount significance. It is something we care about. Doesn't this part of the sustainability equation relate to the way people care for places and value them?

The mounting community reaction against what is seen as indiscriminate urban infill suggests a sustained attachment to the place and its beautiful setting where nature is the overriding experience in the city. It's the sort of environment that many cities envy. It is no accident that we are used as a role model for some new city initiatives in Asia. At the heart of all this is the existence of a city in an urban forest setting with public open space that graces the city and its suburbs and is reflected in the enormous wealth of vegetation in private gardens.

It is possible to distil a number of salient issues from the infill debate. These must be seen against the current document, *Proposed Policies for Residential Development in the ACT*, that is out for comment. If adopted, this sets in concrete some of the worst aspects of blanket infill regulations, yet purports to protect the low rise, leafy character of most established residential areas; encourage attractive and affordable housing choices; and promote sustainable, environmentally sensitive development. From the mainly 'tick the box' guidelines it is difficult to see how these policies can protect what we value about our city. In contrast what we need is a comprehensive planning review of the city in relation to social, environmental, physical, and economic inputs. This is not intended as an overt criticism of PALM which is working within the restrictions on planning laid down by successive ACT governments. It suggests that it is timely to reinstate the position of Territory Planning Officer with a professional Planning Department separate from the Chief Minister's direct portfolio and commercial-in confidence decisions. In this model the planners are able to advise, on purely professional grounds, on matters affecting the planning of the city. If either the Minister or Chief Minister then chooses to overrule a decision, at least the electorate will know what is happening. The usurping of the planning role has led to a perceived lack of transparency and accountability and placed planning in the ACT in an invidious position.

The main issues that I see as important are:

- the blanket plot ratio of 35% across the whole city. In essence this means infill, dual-occupancy and multi-unit anywhere and without adequate design guidelines. The recent case in Campbell (*Canberra Times* November 4th) of a dual occupancy originally declined by the Planning Commissioner on the grounds of the sheer size of the new residences, private open space forward of building line and loss of trees, but allowed on appeal is a portent. Loss



of trees will be *de rigueur* in future as there is still no tree protection mechanism for the garden city *par excellence*. It is happening now on infill sites.

- Small blocks ensuing from dual occupancy where large trees are unlikely to be an attractive proposition. This loss of space to grow trees is exacerbated by the increase in hard surfaces — look at most dual occupancy developments around the city — which also leads to increases in rainwater runoff into the stormwater system and then to the Murrumbidgee. Hardly sounds sustainable to me. Guidelines on architectural/building design will not address such basic site planning practice matters. You only need to look at dual occupancy in suburbs like Turner or O'Connor to see the increase in hard surface area and lack of space for trees. Comments in the *Policies on Residential Development* on landscape treatment, tree planting and ground water are generalised statements that carry no real clout: provision for infiltration of stormwater wherever practicable (p76) ... paving to be semi-porous or graded to maximise on-site infiltration of stormwater (if practicable) (p116 for multi unit housing) ... minimum dimension of six metres for private open space (garden) for dual occupancy (p112) as against the performance criteria that the space must be sufficient to provide for planting medium of large trees (p114). As the minimum often becomes the standard do we really expect to see large trees on six metres of garden adjacent to a dwelling — hardly, as Turner and O'Connor show.

- No protection for the heritage residential areas that stand internationally amongst the finest comprehensively planned garden city developments from the 1920s and 30s. Contrast this with the Adelaide suburb of Colonel Light Gardens declared a state heritage area. The existing urban conservation zone status of our suburbs is meaningless. A recent study for the ACT Heritage Unit lists the essential and valued characteristics of Canberra's early garden city precincts. Will the Residential Development Policies and the Territory Plan be

amended to address heritage planning matters? Old Red Hill, for example, is the only heritage area with plot ratio and other specific guidelines, but these do not cover the 1920s and 30s houses which are an integral component of the layout. These can be and are being demolished rather than adapted and extended.

- Need for a comprehensive study of the role of Canberra's urban open space system as a valuable ground water recharge and flood control mechanism. This deserves to be part of a sustainable environmental planning initiative as a basis for future planning and informed decision making. Open space is not simply unused land. Ground water recharge and controlling runoff are significant environmental planning matters in a climate like Canberra and with our difficult soils. I understand that in Turner where Sullivan's Creek Floodway is already at its limit, the impermeable area from which runoff is concentrated has substantially increased as a result of redevelopment. This starts to raise real concerns for the future in the absence of any comprehensive master planning for the catchment area. It has been suggested that some residential parts no longer have full 1 in 100 year flood protection. Infill in inner areas may well lead to overload of the integrated open space/stormwater system. Whilst we may not suffer the extent of flooding current in Britain, incremental increase of hard surfaces without adequate ground water recharge through landscape space increases the potential for flooding.

The rationale for urban consolidation and infill are sustainable development, assumptions on social changes and that households will be happy to live in smaller dwellings on smaller blocks, and claims that urban consolidation/infill saves land at the periphery of our cities and reduces demand on urban services. These are assumptions that have been challenged by Professor Patrick Troy. His challenge has gone unheeded, mainly in my opinion, because the sellers of urban consolidation do not want to listen. The argu-

ment that infill leads to extensive land saving for new development is not borne out by fact. There has to be a massive increase to achieve any appreciable saving in land area and hence urban services. Studies in Queensland for a typical subdivision show that an increase of 50% in residential density gives an infrastructure saving of just 3%. Certainly in Canberra the notion that urban infill leads to an enhanced choice of housing rings somewhat hollow to young families — and yes they do still exist — when you study the prices of inner area infill housing.

My argument is not against urban infill — it is a part of the planning change equation. Rather, I am concerned at its indiscriminate application as a universal planning instrumentality across Canberra and the quality of site design that the Residential Policies draft code, in spite of its fine words, does not address. Planning ought to be investigating where infill should and can be sited as part of an orderly planning process for the city. This may mean that some open space must go and it may well be redundant school grounds, painful as this will be. Also, it has to be faced that some of the current green space has always been seen as future residential land. But what is clear is that people are not prepared to tolerate an assault on our suburbs without a fight. Once they are destroyed and their integral leafy character compromised, the outcome is irreversible. Do we really want to pursue marginal infrastructure savings resulting from an infill dogma at the cost of our way of life and the character of Canberra? Certainly it is difficult to see how the draft code protects the quality of our suburbs. Perhaps like Melbourne and Sydney we need a Save Our Canberra Suburbs Inc. formed from the burgeoning suburban community groups.

Ken Taylor is Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Canberra and President of the National Trust of Australia (ACT).



Is Canberra's Urban History Important?

by Tony Powell

Intrinsically Important History

Every year more than half a million people visit the small town of Autun (population 19,400) in Burgundy in order to see one of the world's most important masterpieces of Romanesque sculpture. The tympanum over the main portal of the Cathedral of Saint Lazare was carved in 1135 by the master mason Gislebertus. It depicts the Last Judgement. Not only is this centrepiece acknowledged as a work of genius, in terms of both its design and execution, but Gislebertus was also unique in carrying out the whole decoration of the cathedral himself including all of the 100 or so interior column capitals.

For almost 900 years the economy of Autun has largely depended upon the town's role as a place of worship and artistic excellence, originally ministering to the needs of pilgrims following the southwest route to Compostella during the Middle Ages and now the more secular needs of international tourism. Autun, in terms of its streets, historic buildings and spatial layout, has been shaped completely by the existence of St Lazare.

Autun is an example of intrinsically valuable history — history made material in the sense that it has shaped a particular place in a distinctive manner and continues to be relevant to its ongoing existence. Walking through its narrow winding streets the visitor sees, at every turn, evidence of the ways in which Autun has become the epitome of the 'city as a work of art', something that has at least partial relevance to the Future Canberra.

In the cities and towns of Western Europe a sense of history is palpable and pervasive. The landscape is littered with historic places that are culturally and economically valuable and, unlike Australia, they are not simply regarded as places for people to live in, but also as material expressions of national culture going back in time. Regardless of

whether they take the form of early Roman foundations, medieval towns, ecclesiastical centres, royal palaces, etc., such places usually possess a number of common features that may be summarised as follows:

- Their location and siting is deliberate in relation to their purpose.
- Their urban pattern and structure is reflective of their historic roles and functions.
- Because of their social significance they have been embellished over time by the highest endeavours of artists and craftsmen.

Canberra is uniquely linked to this European urban tradition by virtue of the fact that it is a deliberately conceived, explicitly planned, greatly embellished, and symbolic city that is in the process

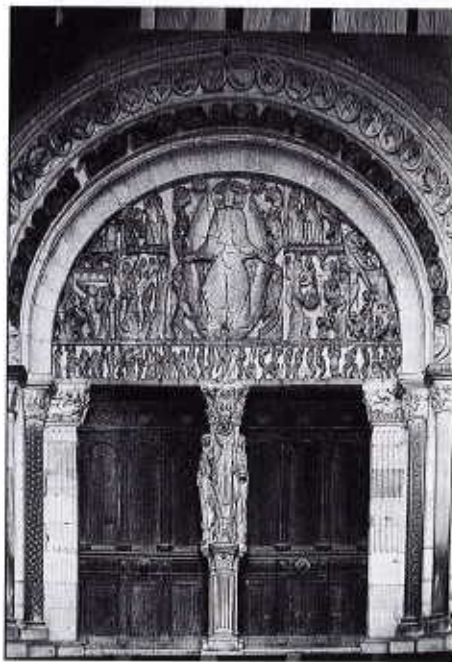
Australian cities. Unfortunately Canberra's 'difference' because it is a planned city is too often regarded as something of a defect rather than the virtue that it really is.

Architectural Threads - the Dome in History

Many Australians travel abroad because they want to see the material evidence of history in the civilisations of Britain and Europe, however they often fail to recognise the extent to which our own cities have drawn upon these older urban traditions as a basis for future development. In the case of Australian cities generally this probably doesn't matter very much, but in the particular case of Canberra, historicism is at the heart of its planning and design and accordingly matters a great deal.

A good example of historicism at work is the manner in which most visitors to Canberra are favourably impressed by the appearance of the National Library building because they see in it overtones of the Parthenon. Equally the War Memorial with its Byzantine dome is evocative because people either know or sense that the dome, in a variety of forms, has been the most characteristic feature of important buildings throughout the ages. On the other hand, the fact that the High Court and the National Gallery buildings do not possess such recognisable and traditional architectural features means that they are less well received by the majority of both young and older Australians alike. In addition, because neither of these two buildings are faced in stone (especially marble) they don't have the pristine appearance that people expect to see and tend to be downgraded accordingly, a kind of 'historical preconditioning' as it were.

In the case of a planned city like Canberra, or a historic city like Florence, it is important that the local community has an informed understanding of the 'language of architecture'. Most Italians will have a reasonably good idea



Main portal, Cathedral of St. Lazare, Autun

of becoming intrinsically important to the Australian people. With the advent of ACT self-government and the withdrawal of Commonwealth patronage, this aspect of Canberra's character needs to be more widely understood in order to counteract pressures from local political and business groups to normalise it, that is, to make it more like other



as to why Brunelleschi's dome (Santa Maria del Fiore, Florence, 1420–61) ranks as a masterpiece and why the Pantheon in Rome (2nd century) is historically significant, because such matters are intrinsic to their culture. On the other hand, most Australians looking at the dome of the Academy of Science, which is an award-winning building, will not normally be aware of its architectural antecedents and so will be less likely to regard it as adding to an Australian national capital ethos.

It may be that I am drawing something of a 'long bow' in trying to connect Canberra to a universal architectural tradition, however I confidently predict that when the new National Museum of Australia opens its doors in March later this year there will be unfavourable and uninformed comment. This will be because a great many people will find it hard to reconcile the external appearance of the building with their felt views about what constitutes 'good' architecture. If, on the other hand, they were aware that positive historical precedents do exist, for example, Joseph Paxton's 1851 Crystal Palace (a greenhouse writ large) received a mixed reception at the time but is now considered to be a significant architectural achievement, then the National Museum might possibly be seen in a more favourable context.

Town Planning - Baroque Antecedents

The same argument about the importance of historicism is also valid in relation to understanding and appreciating the value of Canberra's town planning, civil engineering and landscape design. None of these aspects can be fully appreciated unless people become more aware of the manner in which Canberra has benefited from the Post-Renaissance urban design experience of Western Europe, Britain and, latterly, the United States.

One of the earliest and most important Baroque planners was Leonardo Da Vinci (circa 1514) whose interest in the nature and movement of water caused him to postulate the importance

of seeing the city in relation to its natural hinterland. The same fundamental idea, some 400 years later, was embodied in Griffin's Plan for Canberra (1911) where he proposed that the planning of the future city should be conceived in relation to the hills and river valleys of its surrounding 'regions'.

This holistic stance can be seen later



The Mall, Washington DC

in the 16th century when, in the brief space of five years (1585–90), Pope Sixtus V caused the re-planning of what is today the historical centre of Baroque Rome. The underlying principle of the Pope's master plan was to utilise the 'street' as a means of providing convenient access to undeveloped parts of Rome, mainly the inner hills with their more salubrious climate. Also to expand the scale of the 'street' so that it provided a prominent setting for important buildings. This new urban pattern was influenced by the location of important churches and sacred sites. These were given special emphasis by means of obelisks and formal civic spaces thereby creating improved sightlines to channel the movement of pilgrims between important places of congregation.

This basic scheme of vertical markers, squares and avenues is the hallmark of Baroque urban design. It came to be repeated in the garden palaces of Versailles (1661–1708) and its precursor, the Chateau of Vaux-Le-Vicomte (1655–61). It provided the basic approach for

the rebuilding of Central Paris by Haussman and Napoleon III (1853–69) as well as the L'Enfant Plan for Washington (1791) that was subsequently modified by the McMillan Commission in 1902. The McMillan Plan exerted an important influence on Walter Burley Griffin's Plan for Canberra (1911) and so a historical continuum can be seen

at work here linking Canberra to a distant past.

Arguably a historical awareness of Baroque planning is essential to an understanding of the esoteric aspects of the Griffin Plan, especially his so-called Land and Water axes. Griffin's avenues and the spaces they delineate, such as the Parliamentary Triangle, were intended by him to conform to Baroque principles. During the past 80 years, however, too much development in Canberra has proceeded in a state of ignorance because of the lack of historical memory in these respects. The design of the New Parliament House, on the other hand, is steeped in Baroque ideology and was intended by its architects and landscape planners to be a direct response to Griffin, which it clearly and successfully is.

Likewise Griffin's so-called 'regions', the hills and watercourses of the ACT, which he envisaged as being a

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Travels with the Trust

Last year was another successful year for the National Trust's Walks and Tours Program. Twenty-three activities were offered and a total of 578 people participated. The most ambitious, by far, was the Baltic Connections tour, with 41 bookings. Another extremely successful activity was the Heysen Trail, which is to be repeated this year. The total turnover exceeded \$485,000 and the return to the Trust exceeded \$16,000.

The year saw several new initiatives. One which has increased bookings has been the advertising of selected activities in the U3A newsletter. This has helped to achieve profitability in several situations where Trust bookings alone might not otherwise have covered costs. A second initiative has been to offer places on selected tours, which live up to Trust expectations, but which are the ventures of individual travel agents. Bookings on such tours yield the Trust a small commission. Yet another popular initiative has been the engagement of local historian, Barry McGowan, to lead a number of walks to historic mining sites.

A DAY AT THE BAY – Sunday 25 February 2001

A chance for cooling off, this 11 km day walk will explore much of the spectacular coastline in the southern part of Murramarang National Park between South Durras and the northern shore of Batemans Bay. Much of the walk will be on track, but some will be through bush or along beaches or rock platforms. The day will begin at 9.20am. Leader Garth Setchell. The ticket price includes our customary party. BOOKINGS CLOSE 22 FEBRUARY. LIMIT 35.

WOLLEMI, BARRINGTON & MYALL – Sunday 4 to Saturday 10 March 2001

This small coach tour, with pick-ups/set-downs from Sydney Central or points north, is offered by Adventure Wildlife & Park Treks (Lic 2TA004146/7) for an all-inclusive cost of \$1110 pp dbl/twin or \$1330 sgl ex Sydney. It is not an exclusive Trust tour. You will need to make your own way to/from Sydney, with an overnight required on 3 March and late train/coach to Canberra on 10 March. The itinerary is designed to appeal to those who enjoy walking with comfortable overnight accommodation and includes places such as Mt Wilson, the Capertee Valley, Nullo Mtn, Gulgong, the Goulburn River valley, Barrington Tops, Myall River and Mungo Brush. FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE ON PAYMENT OF A \$10 PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST (REFUNDABLE IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO LODGE A \$150 PP DEPOSIT)

HIGH COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS – Canberra Day Long Weekend - 10 to 12 March 2001

This year's self-drive walking expedition will focus on the high country around Tumarumba and Kiandra. The ticket price includes two nights DBB accom at the Tumarumba Motel, excluding dinner drinks. Saturday will include a series of short walks around Buddong Falls and the Paddys River Dam. Sunday will involve a 19 km section of the Hume & Hovell Track from Mannus to the series of cascades on Burra Creek below Henry Angel Trackhead. The day will end with a party at Paddys River Falls. The 20 km Monday walk will not get you home till about 8.00 pm but will follow a lovely section of the Alpine Walking Track between Mt Selwyn and the historic Nine Mile Diggings, near Kiandra. Leader Garth Setchell. BOOKINGS CLOSE & FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED BY 1 MARCH. LIMIT ABOUT 25.



The Heysen Trail, September 2000 — knee deep in wildflowers

MULLIGANS FLAT – Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 March 2001

Mulligans Flat is a significant and scenic nature reserve north of Gungahlin. It is a place of history, and historian Matthew Higgins will show you the site of the former bush school, an 1880 road and some 1911 border markers. You'll also see the reserve's yellow box/red gum grassy woodland and walk part of the new Bird Walk. Because the 10 km walk is easy, leisurely and close to Canberra, and because there is a limit of 25 per day, the walk (with its customary party) is being offered twice. Please state which day you prefer. If not critical, please tick either. BOOKINGS CLOSE 15 MARCH. LIMIT 25 EACH DAY.

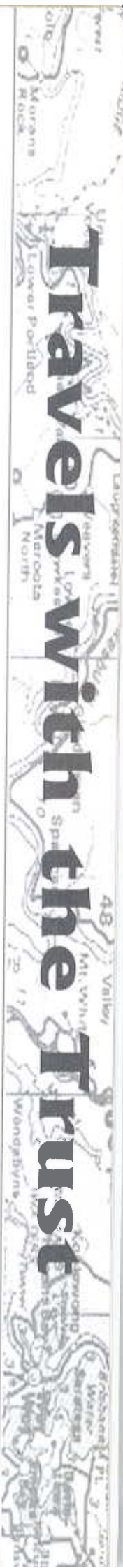
HABERFIELD DAY – Saturday 31 March 2001

This one day coach tour to Sydney will take you to the inner suburb of Haberfield. We will join a day of private house inspections organised by the Women's Committee of the Trust in NSW to celebrate the centenary of Federation. In Nov 1901, Richard Stanton sold the initial blocks of what was to be the first 'garden suburb' of Sydney. The streets are named after Ministers of the first Federal Government — Deakin, Turner, Barton, Kingston, Forrest and O'Connor. In all, Stanton's architect, J Spencer Stansfield, designed 1500 houses in the Art Nouveau style — all of them different. Preservation has been encouraged since formation of the Haberfield Association in 1980. Restaurant lunch at Hunters Hill and teas included. Leader Garth Setchell. BOOKINGS CLOSE 12 MARCH. LIMIT 46.

VISIT TO THE GARDEN STATE – Monday 2 to Friday 6 April 2001

If you wish to visit the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show with David Young, as well as visit some great gardens and historic places around Melbourne and northern Victoria, this midi-coach tour has been developed exclusively for the National Trust (ACT) by Active Travel (Lic 213/D/5). It includes gardens at Beechworth, the Dandenongs, Melbourne and Mt Macedon, as well as visits to a number of Trust properties, Werribee Park and, if possible, Government House. The cost of \$990 pp dbl/twin and \$1190 sgl, covers quality accommodation with breakfast in Bright, Melbourne (2 nights) and Bendigo. It also includes entries, one lunch and a dinner on Melbourne's restaurant tram. Other meals are not included to allow for individual choice. Nonmembers of the Trust will also need to pay entry fees to Trust properties.

FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE ON PAYMENT OF A REFUNDABLE \$10PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST. BOOK NOW. LIMIT 16.



Travels with the Trust

A SHORT WALK IN BHUTAN – Sunday 15 April to Thursday 3 May 2001

Another tour by Active Travel (Lic 213/D/5), to be led by David Young, whose early career began in the Himalayas. Timed to coincide with the blossoming of rhododendrons, azaleas and orchids, this tour will steep you in the history, culture and great physical beauty of this remote Buddhist kingdom — as yet largely unspoiled by tourism. The tour includes a 9-day "moderate" trek, with porters, to a maximum altitude of 4000m — about 6 hours walking per day. The tour also visits Calcutta and Punakha, the old capital of Bhutan. Not an exclusive Trust tour, the price of \$A8675pp twin share ex Sydney covers most costs except insurance, Bhutan airport tax, meals (outside Bhutan), tips and incidentals. We will try to assist with pairing. FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE ON PAYMENT OF A \$20PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST (REFUNDABLE IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO LODGE A \$300PP DEPOSIT).

LAST LEG OF THE ALPINE WALKING TRACK – Sunday 22 April 2001

Repeating our very successful 1997 effort, this track walk will take you from the Booroomba Rocks car park to the Namadgi Visitor Centre near Tharwa. It will follow the final 12 km of the 650 km Alpine Walking Track from Walhalla in Victoria. Because of the steep climb over the flank of Mount Tennent, walkers will need to be fairly fit. BYO lunch. A car shuttle is involved. Garth's usual celebration included. BOOKINGS CLOSE 19 APRIL. LIMIT 35.

UPPER HUNTER TOUR – Friday 27 to Monday 30 April 2001 (or just the weekend!)

This tour, to be led by Garth Setchell, will join up with a weekend of country house inspections around Scone which is being organised by the Women's Committee of the Trust in NSW. It is being offered on two bases — a 4 day coach tour (with 2 nights in Muswellbrook and 1 in Mudgee) — or for the weekend only, flying both ways between Canberra and Scone by chartered 10-seat executive aircraft (subject to at least 9 bookings)! The forward coach journey will be via Richmond and the Putty Road, the return via Gulgong, Welling-ton, Forbes and Young. Flyers will join our coach at Scone. Both prices are all inclusive. This is a tour not to be missed! EARLY ADVICE ESSENTIAL (ESPECIALLY FLYERS). IF YOU CANNOT PAY IN FULL NOW, A \$100 DEPOSIT WILL SECURE A PLACE PROVIDED THE BALANCE IS RECEIVED BY 2 APRIL.

GOLDEN ARALUEN – Saturday 12 May 2001

On this one-day self-drive tour, Barry McGowan will take you to three places of former gold mining importance — Bells Creek, Araluen and Majors Creek. Off-track walking is involved but nothing will be too difficult and walk distances are relatively short. Scenic highlights will include Bells Creek and Majors Creek Falls. BYO lunch. Garth Setchell will provide the end-of-day driver and passenger revivers. BOOKINGS CLOSE 10 MAY. LIMIT 35.

GREAT GARDENS OF ENGLAND & WALES – Monday 14 May to Thursday 7 June 2001

This is your last chance to book on this very exciting tour for garden enthusiasts. Although not exclusive to the National Trust, it has been developed for National World Travel (Lic 2TA 5098) by Kathie Mills, BSc MAIH, of Orange. Kathie, a well known horticultural tutor and authority on heritage roses, has led previous tours and has been a friend of Garth Setchell for over 40 years. Her own lovely garden was visited on our recent tour to Orange. The tour of more than 30 world famous heritage places and gardens is currently costed at \$A6750pp twin share and \$A7900 sgl ex Sydney, including quality B&B accom, 6 dinners, extra travel insurance, portage and taxes. Highlights include, "Wisley", "Powis Castle", "Bodnant", "Sissinghurst" and "Mannington Hall", Churchill's house and garden "Chartwell", Blenheim Palace, Snowdonia, David Austin's rose nursery and the Chelsea Flower Show. Private extensions at the conclusion of the tour, in the UK or elsewhere, can be readily arranged. Existing Trust members — and several have now booked — will receive a \$50pp rebate. BOOKING NOW URGENT. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED ON PAYMENT OF A \$20PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST (REFUNDABLE IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO LODGE THE \$500PP DEPOSIT)

KIMBERLEY INDULGENCE – Friday 18 May to Sunday 3 June 2001 (or other dates)

By arrangement with Goddard & Partners (Lic 298/D/1), we have reserved 3 ensuite dbl/tw cabins on the 28-berth luxury cruiser "TrueNorth" for its 2000km journey from Wyndham to Broome at a time when the monsoon should have passed but when the spectacular waterfalls of the Kimberley coast should still be flowing strongly. With its own helicopter for extra sightseeing, cruise costs range from \$7855 to \$9965 pp. In addition, it would be necessary to spend at least 1 nt in Kununurra and desirably 2 nts in Broome. The return flight from Canberra would cost approx \$1100 pp economy or \$2500 business class. Alternatively, points could be used. Alternative sailing dates or tour extensions (eg the Bungle Bungles) can be readily arranged. Early booking essential. FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE ON PAYMENT OF A \$20PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST (REFUNDABLE IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO LODGE A 20% DEPOSIT).

DATES TO RESERVE:

Several extended tours are already well developed or are in planning. Please indicate potential interest on the Application Form. Further details will be supplied as soon as possible.

LAKE EYRE AND OTHER POINTS WEST – Wednesday 4 July to Friday 20 July 2001

An Adventure Wildlife and Park Treks mini coach tour to Bourke, Tibooburra, Innamincka, the Strezlecki Track, Lake Eyre, Arkaroola, Wilpena, Broken Hill and Lake Mungo, with drop off in Canberra. Trust participants will need to join the tour in Sydney. Cost ex Sydney \$2865pp dbl/tw, \$3185pp sgl.

RETURN TO THE HEYSEN TRAIL – Thursday 20 to Sunday 30 September 2001

An exclusive National Trust (ACT) tour, repeating last year's spectacular series of walks along 7 diverse sections of South Australia's Heyesen Trail — from Aroona Valley in the north to Cape Jervis. Fully accommodated. Garth Setchell leading with a comfortable mini coach for transport. Cost ex Canberra \$2185 pp dbl/tw, \$2600pp sgl.

GREAT TRAIN ESCAPE

THE MILFORD TRACK – January 2002?

NEW ZEALAND – February 2002?

Travels with the Trust

Please post this form to the Ticket Secretary, National Trust of Australia (ACT), PO Box 3173, Manuka ACT 2603, together with one long stamped, self-addressed envelope for each activity being applied for. Although requests for further details will be posted out as soon as received, please note that activity leaflets, receipts, etc., are normally only posted out a few weeks before each activity. Payment may be made by cheque, cash or credit card. Unless otherwise stated, cheques should be made payable to the National Trust (ACT). Phone bookings to the Trust Office will be noted but can only be assured if credit card and tour specific details (eg. pick-up point) are given simultaneously.

Places are reserved only in order of payment. EARLY APPLICATION ASSISTS US WITH ARRANGEMENTS. Where booking fees are invited, places are reserved in order of receipt, provided balances are received by the date(s) advised for payment.

Whilst the Trust makes every effort to ensure the quality and safety of the walks and tours on offer, applicants apply at their own risk. In order to ensure that applicants for the more expensive tours receive protection under the Travel Compensation Fund against default by external suppliers and agents, and acting on the advice of the ACT Registrar of Agents, payments for such tours (other than the Trust's booking fees) will need to be paid to the relevant travel agent. Details will be advised to each applicant.

Where offered, the junior rate applies to children (10 yrs +) and to full-time students. The senior rate applies to seniors, pensioners and U3A applicants. A surcharge is generally applied to nonmembers, excluding "juniors", to encourage membership. All quoted prices include GST. Except where otherwise indicated, a minimum fee of \$2 (at cost after the "Bookings Close" date) will be retained on any cancellation refunds.

Queries may be addressed to the Trust Office (ph 02-62395222) or to our Tours Coordinator, Garth Setchell (ph/fax 02-62901100).

SURNAME OF APPLICANT _____ TITLE _____ INITIALS _____

M'SHIP NO _____

ADDRESS OF APPLICANT _____

PHONE _____ (H) _____ (W) _____

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (eg. vegetarian, ground floor accommodation) _____

A DAY AT THE BAY - Sunday 25 February 2001

All persons qualifying for junior rate _____ junr @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____

All persons qualifying for senior rate _____ senr @ \$15.00 pp = \$ _____

Ordinary Trust members _____ mmbr @ \$16.00 pp = \$ _____

All nonmembers (other than U3A or junior rate) ADD _____ nonm @ \$1.00 pp = \$ _____

Transport offered/requested. Please state numbers _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

WOLLEMI, BARRINGTON & MYALL - Sunday 4 to Saturday 10 March 2001

Booking fee to receive further details _____ pers @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____

Desired accom (pl tick)- sgl _____ twin _____ dbl _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

HIGH COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS - Canberra Day Long Weekend - 10 to 12 March 2001

All persons requiring sgl accommodation _____ pers @ \$260.00 pp = \$ _____

All persons requiring tw or dbl accom (pl circle) _____ pers @ \$210.00 pp = \$ _____

Any persons seeking a family room (3-5 persons) _____ pers @ \$190.00 pp = \$ _____

All nonmembers (including U3A members) ADD _____ nonm @ \$5.00 pp = \$ _____

Transport offered/requested. Please state numbers _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

MULLIGANS FLAT - Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 March 2001

All persons qualifying for junior rate _____ junr @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____

All persons qualifying for senior rate _____ senr @ \$15.00 pp = \$ _____

Ordinary Trust members _____ mmbr @ \$16.00 pp = \$ _____

All nonmembers (other than U3A or junior rate) ADD _____ nonm @ \$1.00 pp = \$ _____

Please tick whether booking for Sat _____ or Sun _____ walk or either _____

Transport offered/requested. Please state numbers _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

HABERFIELD DAY - Saturday 31 March 2001

All persons qualifying for senior rate _____ senr @ \$84.00 pp = \$ _____

Ordinary Trust members _____ mmbr @ \$86.00 pp = \$ _____

All nonmembers (including U3A members) ADD _____ nonm @ \$3.00 pp = \$ _____

Coach pick-up point. Please tick - Deakin _____ Braddon _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

VISIT TO THE GARDEN STATE - Monday 2 April to Friday 6 April 2001

Booking fee to receive further details _____ pers @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____

Desired accom (pl tick)- sgl _____ twin _____ dbl _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

Travels with the Trust

LAST LEG OF THE ALPINE WALKING TRACK - Sunday 15 April 2001

All persons qualifying for junior rate _____ junr @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____
 All persons qualifying for senior rate _____ senr @ \$15.00 pp = \$ _____
 Ordinary Trust members _____ mmbrr @ \$16.00 pp = \$ _____
 All nonmembers (other than U3A or junior rate) ADD _____ nonm @ \$1.00 pp = \$ _____
 Transport offered/requested. Please state numbers _____
 Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

A SHORT WALK IN BHUTAN - Sunday 15 April to Thursday 3 May 2001

Booking fee to receive further details _____ pers @ \$20.00 pp = \$ _____
 Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

UPPER HUNTER TOUR - Friday 27 to Monday 30 April 2001 (28 and 29 April for air charter)

If paying deposit only, please complete the personal requirements below but fill in only the total deposit paid

_____ deposit @ \$100.00pp = \$ _____
 4-day tour - persons requiring sgl accommodation _____ pers @ \$620.00 pp = \$ _____
 4-day tour - persons requiring tw or dbl accom (pl circle) _____ pers @ \$515.00 pp = \$ _____
 Air charter - persons requiring sgl accommodation _____ pers @ \$670.00 pp = \$ _____
 Air charter - persons requiring tw or dbl accom (pl circle) _____ pers @ \$635.00 pp = \$ _____
 All members qualifying for senior rate DEDUCT _____ senr @ \$5.00 pp = \$ _____
 All nonmembers (including U3A members) ADD _____ nonm @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____
 Coach pick-up point. Pl tick - Deakin ___ Civic ___
 Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____



High country highlights — Burra Creek

GOLDEN ARALUEN - Saturday 12 May 2001

All persons qualifying for junior rate _____ junr @ \$10.00 pp = \$ _____
 All persons qualifying for senior rate _____ senr @ \$15.00 pp = \$ _____
 Ordinary Trust members _____ mmbrr @ \$16.00 pp = \$ _____
 All nonmembers (other than U3A or junior rate) ADD _____ nonm @ \$1.00 pp = \$ _____
 Transport offered/requested. Please state numbers _____
 Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

GREAT GARDENS OF ENGLAND & WALES - Monday 14 May to Thursday 7 June 2001

Booking fee to receive further details. _____ pers @ \$20.00 pp = \$ _____
 Desired accom (pl tick)- sgl ___ twin ___ dbl ___
 Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

KIMBERLEY INDULGENCE - Friday 18 May to Sunday 3 June 2001 (or other dates)

Booking fee to receive further details _____ pers @ \$20.00 pp = \$ _____
 Desired accom (pl tick)- twin ___ dbl ___
 Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

ADVANCE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:

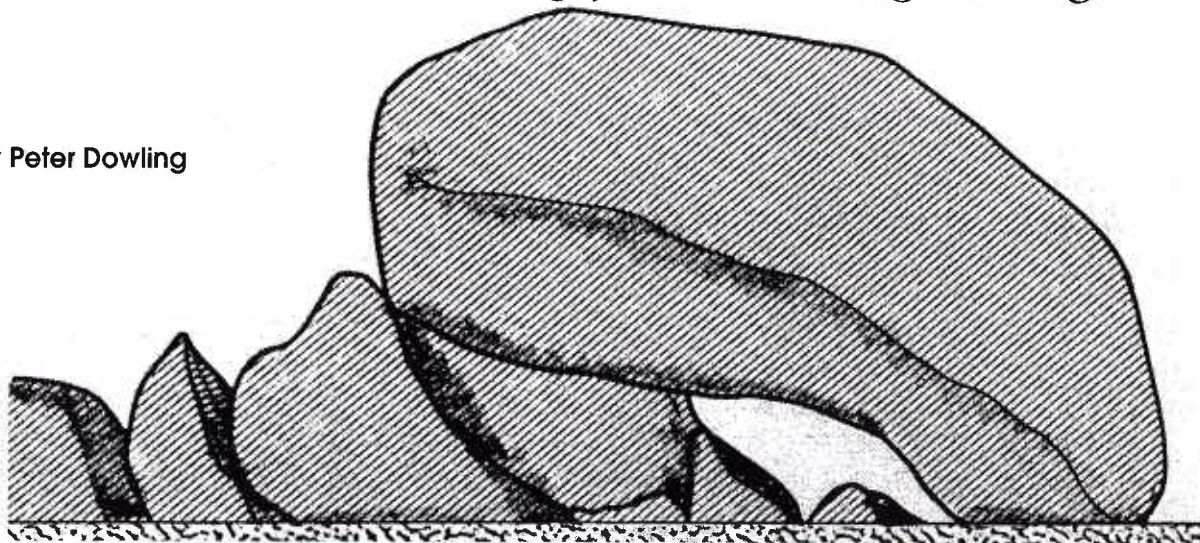
LAKE EYRE AND OTHER POINTS WEST - Wednesday 4 to Friday 20 July 2001 _____ pers
 RETURN TO THE HEYSEN TRAIL - Thursday 20 to Sunday 30 September 2001 _____ pers
 GREAT TRAIN ESCAPE _____ pers
 THE MILFORD TRACK - January 2002? _____ pers
 NEW ZEALAND - February 2002? _____ pers



Birrigai Rock Shelter, Tidbinbilla

a human history from 21,000 years ago

by Peter Dowling



National Trust (ACT), J. Flood

If you take the time to visit the Birrigai Aboriginal rock shelter at Tidbinbilla you may be disappointed. You will stand on a wooden platform and see a small, dusty patch of earth in a space formed by two large boulders leaning against each other. Neither spectacular nor inspiring. But the information it divulged makes it one of the most important archaeological sites in Australia. An excavation of the shelter's sediments produced a radiocarbon date of charcoal from a fireplace that showed Aboriginal people were using the rock shelter and living in the southern highlands as much as 21,000 years ago.

Now, we archaeologists are a sceptical lot. If that 21,000 years dating was just the only radiocarbon date that was obtained from the shelter we would be very wary. By itself it could be interpreted as an inaccurate result derived from charcoal that had been contaminated before or during the excavation. But the cultural sediments of the shelter revealed a sequence of radiocarbon dates ranging from that time right up to the nineteenth century. The earliest dates were near the bottom of the sediments and the later dates were near the top. Just what would be expected if the dating sequence accurately reflected the long use of the site.

The beginning of the sequence in-

dicates that the Aboriginal people first used the shelter around 21,000 years ago. At first this seems a long time ago, but when it is considered that archaeologists are now seriously talking about humans living in Australia for more than 60,000 years, it is not so ancient. So if humans were in Australia 60,000 years ago, what makes the dating of Birrigai at 21,000 years so important?

To understand the importance of Birrigai, the climate in this area of the southern highlands 21,000 years ago must be taken into account. Around this time Australia, and most of the world, was experiencing the extreme conditions of the last Ice Age. The warmest monthly mean temperature would have been as much as 10°C colder than now. During the colder months snow would have covered the rock shelter and the valley below. The small streams and creeks running from the highlands would often turn to ice and the nightly frosts would have been severe. The annual rainfall was probably less than it is today. Below the rock shelter the water flow in the creeks and the Murrumbidgee River would be reduced during the winter months just as it is today, but 21,000 years ago there would often be large sheets of ice in the stiller waters. A westerly wind blowing from the high country over small glaciers near Mount Kosciuszko would have

made the lowlands around the rock shelter very chilly places. During the summer months snow thaws would increase the flow of the streams and the Murrumbidgee would regularly run at a level that is seen today only at high flood peaks.

The vegetation around the rock shelter would have been much different from that of today. There would have been few trees on the slopes above Birrigai and in the valley. The landscape would have been one of open lands with grasses and alpine herb-field vegetation, much as we see around Kosciuszko today. Standing on the slopes in front of the rock shelter, its inhabitants would have had a largely unimpeded view into the Tidbinbilla Valley.

While many of the animal species inhabiting the area around Birrigai and the southeast highlands during the Ice Age would have been the same as today, others would have been very different. One of the largest and most obvious animals was the Diprotodon, a wombat-like marsupial with a long snout. It was a browser, weighing up to 2,000 kilograms — about the size of a rhinoceros. There was a large flightless emu-like bird (*Genyornis*), weighing around 100 kilograms with a large beak 300 centimetres long, and several species of a bulky, snub-faced kangaroo (*Sthenurus*) with a one-toed foot and



hand-like front paws. All these animals were herbivorous and quite likely eaten by Aborigines. Whether they were deliberately hunted or whether their fresh carcasses were taken for food is not certain.

Large carnivores inhabited the area. The most formidable was *Megania*, a massive lizard. It was far bigger than the Komodo dragon of Indonesia, growing up to seven metres in length and possessing razor sharp teeth and claws. A large possum-like marsupial (*Thylacoleo*), the size of a lion, was well adapted to climbing. The third large carnivore was the thylacine (or Tasmanian tiger) which had a wide range across Australia before it became extinct on the mainland. It was largely replaced by the dingo that was introduced to the continent sometime around 6,000 years ago. There was also a giant snake, (*Wonambi*) five metres long and weighing up to 50 kilograms.

The environmental conditions around Birrigai would have been quite uncompromising even during the warmer months. But people were using the area. An indication of their use of the shelter during the Ice Age comes from a small, but clearly defined hearth site within the sediments of the shelter dated to 15,930 years ago. The hearth was assessed as an in-ground oven rather than a warming fire as cooking stones and a possible butchering tool were associated with charcoal remains. What they were cooking and eating is unfortunately lost to the archaeological record.

Up until 3,000 years ago the shelter appears to have been occupied sporadically and probably for only short periods of time. The amount of charcoal from fires, and the density of discarded stone artefacts, is low when compared to the later levels of the sediments.

These periods of use were most likely during the warmer months of year. Nevertheless, the Birrigai shelter shows quite definitely that Aboriginal people were using and occupying this marginal environment during the height of Ice Age conditions, a point that had previously been doubted by many of Australia's archaeologists. It was well known that Aboriginal people had occupied most of Australia during the Ice Age but their presence in the colder and bleaker highland areas was open to conjecture. The dates of Birrigai showed that Aboriginal people were able to utilise the marginal highland environment, albeit

the upper sediment layer contained masses of charcoal and rabbit bone but very few stone artefacts. This probably reflects intensive use of the rockshelter in the mid-nineteenth century, when Aboriginal people were being pushed back from the low-lying valley regions into the highlands by the spread of European pastoralism.

So, if you take the time to visit the rock shelter do not be disappointed with what there is to see. Take a moment and think of what it would have been like living there 21,000 years ago.

You can visit the Birrigai rock shelter any time by taking the Birrigai Time Trail. The trail begins at the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve Visitors' Centre where a guide pamphlet is available. ✦

Dr Peter Dowling is a Council member of the National Trust (ACT) and a member of the Heritage Committee and the Publications Committee. He holds a PhD in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology from the Australian National University.

References:

- Flood J., David B., Magee J., & English B., 1987, Birrigai: a Pleistocene site in the southeastern highlands, *Archaeology in Oceania*, 22: 9 – 26
- Flood J., 1996, *Moth Hunters of the Australian Capital Territory. Aboriginal Traditional Life in the Canberra Region*, J.M. Flood, Canberra
- Lourandos H., 1997, *Continent of Hunter-Gatherers. New Perspectives in Australian Prehistory*, Cambridge University Press, Melbourne
- Mulvaney J. & Kamminga J., 1999, *Prehistory of Australia*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney



The Birrigai Rock Shelter

Photo: Peter Dowling

below 1,000 metres, during the Ice Age. Such a feat shows the biological and cultural adaptability of these people.

Around 3,000 years ago the use of the shelter increased. The archaeological record shows a larger number of stone artefacts. The quantity of charcoal increased dramatically indicating that more fires were being lit within the shelter. Improved climatic conditions may well be the reason. Around 15,000 to 10,000 years ago the climate became warmer and wetter, the Ice Age was drawing to a close. By 3,000 years ago the seasons were much the same as they are today.

Use of the shelter continued until the arrival of European settlers west of the Murrumbidgee in 1839 – 40. When excavations began it was noticed that



Canberra's urban history — continued from page 10

permanent natural background to the National Capital, were explicitly recognised in the National Capital Development Commission's 1984 Metropolitan Policy Plan (Y-Plan) by being designated as the National Capital Open Space System (NCOSS). This was intended by the NCDC to signify the fact that the National Capital was not just the City of Canberra but rather the combination of metropolitan Canberra's designated national areas plus the National Capital Open Space System. The fact that the National Capital is fundamentally different in this respect compared to other Australian capital cities is neither well understood nor fully accepted and, as a consequence, the integrity of this unique urban/rural pattern will always be under threat, as it is today.

Is Canberra's Urban History Important?

An awareness of history has particular application in the case of Canberra to an extent that is much less important for other Australian cities. This is because the great mass of Australia's cities and towns, with their unvarying grid layouts, are the joint product of the colonial surveyor's handbook plus 200 years of basically pragmatic public administration. Their growth and development has been largely reactionary being, for the most part, constant hostages to the vagaries of nature and the economic cycle. Canberra, on the other hand, is an 'ideal city' based on the notion of 'the city as an idea' whose fundamental purpose and physical form should be shaped primarily by cultural inspiration in preference to the random, unintentional, processes of the marketplace.

To ensure that a deliberative process of this kind will continue to occur in a relatively young culture like Australia's, Canberra's radical form of urban development must be continually advocated and explained. For this reason the NCDC, from the outset in 1958, actively publicised the nature of the

How to do oral history — a free seminar

Oral history is a wonderful window into the past. But how do we conduct an oral history project?

Canberra historian Matthew Higgins has offered members a free oral history seminar. The seminar will look firstly at why we do oral history, and will consider its values and faults. Then Matthew will cover essential practical areas, including equipment, preparatory research, questioning techniques, conduct of interviews, logging and transcribing of tapes, using oral material, and various other key questions.

The seminar will feature extracts from a number of oral history tapes recorded by Matthew, and he will describe several projects in detail. There will be ample opportunity for you to ask lots of questions.

If you are interested in oral history this event is for you. The two-hour seminar is limited to 12 people (if over subscribed a second seminar may be held) so book early by calling the Trust Office on 6239 5222.

Date: Friday 6th April

Time: 10 – 12

Venue: National Trust (ACT) meeting room

2 Light Street Griffith

This activity is assisted by funding made available by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

'Canberra achievement'. This was not only intended as a means of establishing legitimacy and public support for the ongoing development of Canberra but also as a means of feedback for its planners and designers

Canberra has now reached a point where, in the relatively brief space of 12 years, it has gone from being the most — to the least — planned city in Australia. Recently the Minister for planning in the ACT Government proclaimed that there were no impediments to high-rise flat development in the Kingston Foreshores project, this was a matter to be determined by the market and by developers' preferences. The Minister, in effect, swept away the Garden City principle of regulating building height in order to prevent the sight of high-rise buildings dominating the tree canopy. At the same time he also implicitly rejected a Baroque-type principle that views to and from the Parliament House, as the symbolic pinnacle of the city, should not be unduly

interrupted. Both the Minister and his Department, in this not untypical instance, were unaware of such considerations, seemingly because of a lack of historical memory — which of course is important. ✱

Tony Powell was the Commissioner of the NCDC from 1974 until 1985.

The President and Council of the Trust express their deepest sympathy to Mr Bill Robertson and family on the death of Mrs Jean Robertson on 1st January 2001.



Dr D F (Doug) Waterhouse AO, CMG, FRS

born Sydney, 3rd June 1916, died
Canberra 1st December 2000

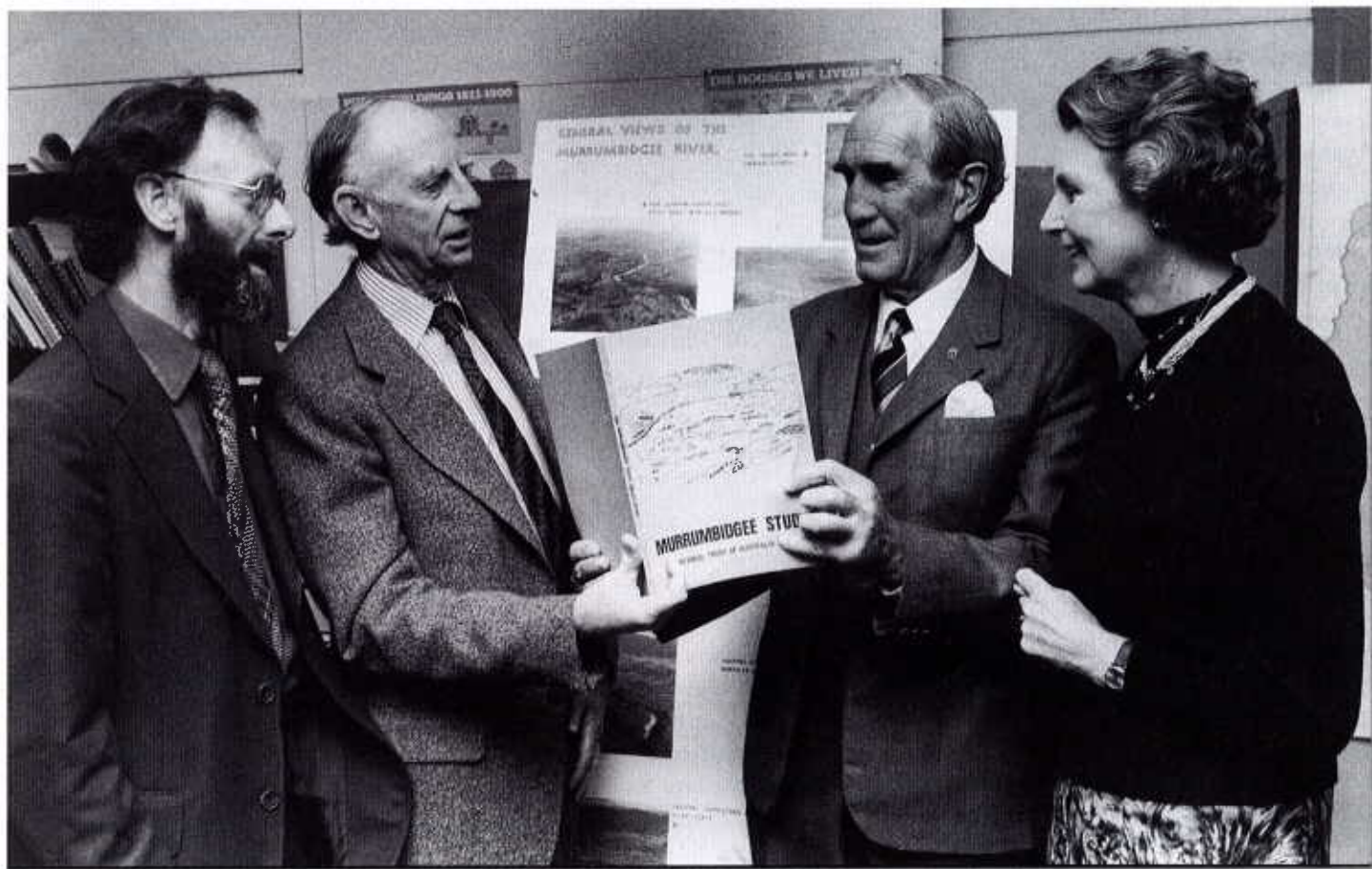
Doug Waterhouse who sadly died on 1st December last year epitomised all that the National Trust stands for through its ideals, visions, and sense of community involvement in conservation. He was passionate about all aspects of cultural heritage — Aborigi-

cided to keep these comments to Doug, and his attachment to the Trust and to Canberra, the city he, with Dawn, loved so much.

Doug was a member of Council from 1981 until 1996 and President from 1985 until 1988. During his time as President he made the decision to secure a more varied membership of Council. In particular, he saw the need to have expert

ing out about land for community organisations and arranging loans. Premises were purpose built at Geils Court, Deakin, in 1986. Regrettably the Trust had to sell them some years later as a result of unprecedented interest rate rises that even Doug could not predict. But as a result we were able to have some investment capital.

One of Doug's passions was the city



Launching of the Murrumbidgee River Valley Study, 1980.
From left to right: K Taylor, Dr D F Waterhouse, Major General K Mackay
(president) and Lady Hay (vice president). Photo: Canberra Times

nal and non Aboriginal — and natural heritage, but never from an elitist professional or social perspective in spite of his eminent background and standing as a nationally and internationally renowned scientist. For Doug it was never who you were, but your willingness and ability that mattered. His reputation as a scientist and his work at the CSIRO has been covered in other obituaries and, after talking to Dawn Waterhouse, we de-

and professional representation from the various fields of conservation. Being forward looking, with an unerring ability to predict future trends and needs, he could see that heritage conservation and management would rapidly become professionally oriented and involve a multi-disciplinary approach. As usual, Doug was right. He was also instrumental in heading the idea and organisation of the Trust having its own premises, including find-

of Canberra, a city for which he had a great affection and admiration. It was here that he met and married Dawn Calthorpes. We are fortunate that the recent ABC-TV program *Blowflies and Opportunities* was able to include Doug and Dawn. Who will ever forget the quintessential Doug reminiscing about meeting Dawn? 'She was stunning and I was stunned' he said with that characteristic twinkle in his eye. A hallmark of Doug, and an endearing one for those who knew him well, was his delicious and sometimes wicked sense of humour, but



most of all the warmth that shone through with the humour and the human touch.

Not that he didn't show occasionally a touch of irritation and annoyance. This came out the first time he and I met. It was in the Council room at the then Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAEC). Doug was Chair of Council and also Chair of Buildings and Site Committee. This day was a meeting of that Committee and I had prepared a landscape design for a section of the central campus. I was relatively new to the place, but was aware of the policy of only planting native trees and shrubs on campus and Doug's fierce protection of that policy. Doug suspected that I might be trying to sneak some other trees into the design. This was not the case. Before arriving straight from England the only eucalypts I had seen were in glasshouses, but I made it my job to learn quickly on arrival and prided myself on soon knowing a range of native trees and shrubs. I was affronted by Doug's suspicion which he clearly voiced with a touch of irritation and answered him back very sharply and on my dignity. Immediately the campus bush telegraph buzzed and on my way back to my office two people separately stopped me: 'We hear you have argued with the Chairman, you'd better watch out'. Not at all, Doug never held it against me and later after the launch of the Murrumbidgee River Valley Study in 1980 (see below) we became firm friends. This friendship extended to my wife Maggie so that she and I felt very privileged to get know Dawn and Doug. They welcomed us into Canberra and made us feel at home.

Doug was the inaugural Chair of CCAEC Council and continued in that role until 1984. He took great and justifiable pride in that role and saw the opportunity to forge new directions and ideas in tertiary education. He never saw the CCAEC as inferior to other established tertiary institutions and guided it wisely to lay down a firm foundation for future development. He also relished the ceremonial role of Chairman in which Dawn shared, in particular at degree ceremonies. Doug's warm smile to each

graduand was matched by that of Dawn who always sat on the front row and applauded each person as though they were her own family. The Science block at the now University of Canberra is appropriately named 'Waterhouse Building'.

In consultation with Dawn Waterhouse we decided to include a photograph that is now part of the Trust's history. It shows Doug in 1980 launching the Murrumbidgee River Valley Study. Major General Ken Mackay was then President, Lady Alison Hay was Vice-President, Doug was a Council member and I had led the team at CCAEC which undertook the study on Ken Mackay's invitation. The Study focused on the need to protect the Lanyon landscape from proposed urban development. Dr Brian Pratt, who was at the launch, predicted it would be about four years before the issue of Lanyon surfaced. On cue in 1984 the then National Capital Development Commission issued plans showing Lanyon surrounded by housing and roads. The battle lines were drawn and Doug marshalled his forces. For an intensive period of months there were virtually nightly phone calls between Doug and myself. At one stage, Dawn and Maggie threatened to scream if they heard the word 'Lanyon' once more. It was through this exercise that I, along with other colleagues, got to know Doug and to admire his leadership and vision, and also his inclusivity in ensuring the people who worked with him were given credit. He never led from behind but always generously included the troops in the credits.

On a personal note, Doug Waterhouse was one of the warmest and most caring of people I have ever known. It is a great privilege to have been counted as one of his friends. Underpinning his warmth was his wonderful tradition as a family man and his unerring sense of humour which shone through to the end. Our condolences go to Doug's wife Dawn, daughter Jill, sons Douglas, Jonathon and Gowrie and their families. He will be greatly and sadly missed. ✱

Professor Ken Taylor, President

Canberra, a city born of Federation, continued from page 6

Although most unskilled labour was recruited locally, many other workers were servicemen returned from World War I who had been selected by a recruitment scheme run by the Returned Soldiers and Sailors Imperial League. Some of the soldiers had not recovered from war injuries and were unable to cope with the workload. The scheme was soon abandoned.

Once Canberra's building projects were completed, many of the workers were dismissed. They then had to find work on other building sites or find jobs elsewhere. Some were able to gain further employment and stayed in the capital city they had helped to build. ✱

Christine Ryan is the curator of the exhibition.

Can you help with the exhibition? see page 21.

attention volunteers

Volunteer Story Book

The *Volunteer Story Book* is a collection of real life stories from volunteers in the Australian community. The stories are featured on the International Year of the Volunteer website (http://www.facs.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/aboutfacs/programs/community-iyv_nav.htm) where you can read about Australian volunteers. Why not contribute your stories? You have experienced many great things while giving your time and expertise at Lanyon, the Old Parliament House Shop, or at the National Trust Office. What about some of the fun moments when you organised food for events such as the Antique Fair? or when selling raffle tickets? Record your experiences in 300 words and don't forget to include photographs if you have them. Send your article to:

Anna Moreing
Chair Membership Committee
c/- National Trust (ACT)
PO Box 3173
Manuka ACT 2603.



A tribute to Dorothy and Les Moore

The National Trust (ACT) will sadly miss two of its most enthusiastic and effective members following the deaths in 2000 of Dorothy Moore on 13th May, and her husband Les on 14th September. Both had been deeply involved with the work of the National Trust in Canberra since before its establishment in 1978.

It was whilst they were in England in the 1960s that Dorothy became interested in the work of the National Trust, and on returning to Australia she set about establishing a branch of the Australian National Trust in Canberra. Largely as a result of her hard work and contagious enthusiasm, the National Trust of Australia (ACT) was established on 9th May, 1978. From then until her death, Dorothy, with strong support from Les, worked tirelessly for the Trust. She established the Education and Cultural Committee, the purpose of which is to educate the community and National Trust members about our natural and cultural heritage in the ACT. Together, Dorothy and Les worked for 17 years on the Antique Fair Committee, the major fund raiser of the Trust, Dorothy being Deputy Chairman to John Gale for the whole of that period.

Dorothy and Les were two most efficient organisers, and with their warm personalities and endless enthusiasm, it was always a pleasure to be asked to assist them in Trust activities. The Trust recognised Dorothy's significant contribution to its establishment and operation with the award of Life Membership.

Work for the National Trust was only part of Dorothy and Les's contribution to the ACT community. Dorothy was a founding member of Lifeline, she assisted with the development of the YWCA, and is credited with establishing the Friends of the School of Music. In all these activities she was supported and encouraged by Les, and together they worked for many years organising an-

nual fund raising dinners for the Australian Chamber Orchestra, which in 11 years raised over \$350,000. Additionally they were involved with the ACT Opera Liaison Committee, the Organ Committee of St John's Church and Les chaired the Organ Fund Appeal Committee of that church.

Dorothy and Les were Victorians — Dorothy was brought up in Maldon and Les at Kyneton. They met at Melbourne Teachers College and married in 1939. That ended Dorothy's teaching career, married women at that time not being allowed to teach in Victorian public schools, and so began her career supporting Les.



Les taught at Wangaratta and Ballarat until 1947 when he accepted an appointment with the Commonwealth Office of Education in Sydney. This led to secondment to the South Pacific Commission (1949 – 50), and then to England (1950 – 54) as the Office of Education representative at the Australian High Commission, London. Shortly after returning to Sydney, Les was approached to join the Prime Minister's Department in Canberra, and he and Dorothy and their four children moved here in October 1956. That was a fortuitous move for Canberra.

During the next ten years Les served on the Murray Committee, inquiring

into Commonwealth funding for universities; the Universities Commission; chaired an inquiry which eventually led to the establishment of the Australian Archives Authority; and for two years was Principle Private Secretary to Prime Minister R. G. Menzies.

They moved back to England in 1966 with Les's appointment as Official Secretary to the Office of Australia's High Commission in London, a posting of four years. For much of that time Les was also Acting Deputy High Commissioner.

After their return to Canberra in 1970 Les served as Parliamentary Librarian from 1970 to 1978 when he retired from the Public Service. Prior thereto he had been appointed Chairman of the Advisory Council of the School of Music, and served as Chairman of the School of Music from its founding in 1977 until 1983, during which period the School of Music building was opened. He was involved with the establishment of the National Library and the National Gallery of Australia. Les was awarded an OBE for public service in 1970.

The contribution of both Dorothy and Les Moore to the Canberra community has been significant, and will continue to benefit future generations. They were a loving couple, greatly loved by their family, sincerely respected by their friends and colleagues, and deeply committed to helping the community. The National Trust has been a beneficiary of their work for the community, and their deaths have been a great loss to the Trust and all their friends. The Trust has extended its deepest sympathy to their daughters, Susan Faircloth (living in England) and Janet Jiricek (Melbourne) and their son Andrew (Brisbane). Tragically another son Malcolm was killed in a road accident in 1961. Vale Dorothy and Les Moore. ✱

A. L. Hayward



Tourism with Integrity manual

A self assessment framework (or model) developed as part of a national project designed to help organisations in the cultural sector to work more effectively with the tourism industry. The manual is a practical tool for cultural and heritage organisations wanting to observe cultural and heritage principles while building visitor numbers. Through using the framework organisations will be able to set up their own improvement plans that reflect their own priorities.

The manual costs \$17.95 including GST and postage and can be ordered from:

The Australian Council of National Trusts office,
PO Box 1002,
Civic Square, ACT, 2608;

phone 1800 246 766;

email acnt@spirit.com.au.

Travelling exhibition celebrates *Canberra: a city born of Federation*

The National Trust (ACT) will celebrate the centenary of Federation this year by creating a travelling exhibition entitled *Canberra: a city born of Federation*. Consisting of a portable display, short video and presentations, the exhibition will visit ACT and Queanbeyan shopping centres, libraries, schools, community centres and groups. It will run from February until December 2001.

Can you help us?

Trust members are invited to participate in this exciting exhibition by either offering their time to set up and staff the display, or by making themselves available as presenters. Presenters can tell of their own or their family's experience in early Canberra, or discuss other historical aspects of Canberra.

If you would like more information about the display or would like to offer your assistance, please contact Heritage Officer, Colin Griffiths on 02 6239 5222.

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Trust News

The Trust is preparing a response to an ACT Urban Services document titled *Proposed Policies for Residential Development in the ACT incorporating ACT code*. This document proposes a replacement for the existing residential planning policies of Canberra. The Trust would welcome any response from its members regarding this document.

A copy of it is available at the Trust office—contact Colin Griffiths on 62395222, or from the ACT Department of Urban Services—62071662.

Letters

Dear National Trust,
I have just read the articles in the Summer Edition of *Heritage in Trust* and must say that I enjoyed them. The old platform near the Civic Theatre I well remember, along with the old bus shelters. Our bus shelter at Westlake, like the one burnt down in Schlich Street Yarralumla, had a tile roof. It was painted pink for the Queen's 1950 visit — all that she passed on the route to and from the Governor General's place had the same treatment as did the fire hydrants. I recall that the tin roofs on the sheds came later than the brick. Do you have dates for the tin roofs?

The Westlake bus shelter was in situ by 1927 when letters were written by the Social Service Association Secretary to the local branch requesting that they do something to prevent children from putting graffiti on the walls. Since the shed was at the corner of State Circle and the current Perth Avenue and the nearest house was over the hill about half a mile away the local branch had no chance of preventing the decorations. By the 1940s the shed had a concrete floor and its colour, with the exception of its one burst of glory for the visiting Queen, was a light cream.

I would also like to publicly thank Robyn for her years of service. It was a pleasure to know her and I always found her cheerful and willing to assist in any way she could.

Ann Gugler

NATIONAL TRUST COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Council Meeting at 5.30pm Thursday 8 March; 19 April; 31 May

Heritage Committee at 12.30pm Tuesday 13 March; 10 April; 8 May

Lanyon Committee at 12.15p.m. Tuesday 20 March; 17 April; 15 May

COMING EVENTS

HISTORIC PLACES ACT Lanyon

Heritage Alive. 31 March 10am – 4pm. A day when Lanyon will teem with activities — demonstrations of traditional skills, domestic arts and crafts, animals, food, games, storytelling and music. \$10 per car.

Ph 6237 5136 for details.

Nolan Gallery

Workings of the Mind. Melbourne Printmaker 1960 – 2000. 2 – 25 March. A travelling exhibition which examines Melbourne's reputation as Australia's premier printmaking centre.

Ph 6237 5192 for details.

Mugga Mugga

Essential Energy. 1 April. Bring the family to put old-fashioned lighting and heating methods to the test and make a water powered fridge.

Normal admission.

Ph 6239 5607 for details.

Calthorpes' House

Holiday Fun and Games. 18 April 10.30am – 12.30pm. Hopscotch, marbles and knucklebones — games from the past that will give children ideas for holiday fun. Suitable for children 5 to 8 years of age. \$6 including a snack.

Ph 6295 1945 for details.

NEW MEMBERS

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) extends a warm welcome to the following new members.

Barton, Mr A, Cook

Bayley, Mr & Mrs P, Braddon

Belwood, Mr P, Turner

Binkowski, Ms E, Deakin

Bradley, Mrs M, Macarthur

Coady, Mrs P, Rivett
Coleman, Miss M, Mitchell
Cox, Mr K, Ngunnawal
Fredericksen, Mr & Mrs R, Monash
Gair, Mr & Mrs I, Kambah
Glendinning, Mr M, Red Hill
Goodwin-Robinson, Mrs M, Ainslie
Greendale, Ms P, Hawker
Higgins, Mr M, Hackett
Hingston, Mrs J, Kambah
Hogan, Mr & Mrs M, Wanniasa
Horvarth, Mr & Mrs I, Curtin
Howson, Ms N, Kingston
Jones, Mr & Mrs O, Fisher
Lipton, Dr L, Flaxton QLD
Lister, Mr M, O'Malley
Maidment, Miss J, Narooma NSW
MacDonald, Mrs E, Weetangera
McCulloch, Ms M, Weston
McCutcheon, Mr G, Queanbeyan
Morris, Ms C, Turner
Nockels, Mr A, Griffith
Nockels, Mr & Mrs K, Griffith
O'Grady, Mr & Mrs P, Kanahooka NSW
Pech, Ms C, Ainslie
Ridge, Mr & Mrs P, Weetangera
Rosenberg, Mr S, Kingston
Rowling, Mr & Mrs R, Wagga Wagga NSW
Schuermann, O, Belconnen
Shawcross, Ms L, O'Connor
Smallwood, Mr & Mrs C, Manuka
Steele, Miss E, Trevallyn VIC
Steer, Dr C, Flaxton QLD
Thompson, Ms C, Berrima NSW
White, Mr R, Holder
White, Mrs R, Queanbeyan
Whyte, Mr & Mrs J, Lyneham

Thank you to the following who helped with the mail-out of the Summer edition of *Heritage in Trust*.

Mrs J McLennan

Mrs F Hall

Miss M Simpson-Lee

Mrs F Tregallas-Williams

Mr & Mrs N Halgren

Ms J McKenzie

Mr I Paton





Heritage in Trust

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ADVERTISING

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Office on (02) 6239 5222.

Discounts on advertising rates apply to non-profit
community groups and Corporate Members
of the Trust (ACT).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Joining Fee	\$33.00
Household membership	\$66.00
Single membership	\$46.20
Pensioner/student membership	\$30.80
Pensioner/student household membership	\$46.20
Seniors card single membership	\$40.70
Seniors card household membership	\$55.00
Affiliated organisations membership	nil or equal fee
Corporate membership	\$220.00
Community organisations membership	\$66.00
Life memberships also available	
Single life membership	\$506.00
Dual life membership	\$715.00
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Justice Rae Else-Mitchell
Ms Helen Regan

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assistance from the ACT Heritage Council and
the Australian Heritage Commission.

Shop News

Welcome to the new Century, the new Millennium, and to the Year of the Volunteer. We hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and are having a prosperous New Year. We would like to thank all those members and friends who participated in the promotion with the Hotel Kurrajong, and helped to make it very popular. We would also like to thank Manager Paull English and the Hotel Kurrajong for their continuing support of the National Trust (ACT). The lucky winner in the promotion was Mrs Margaret Katilius from Victoria, who will enjoy a relaxing accommodation and meal package at the Hotel Kurrajong.

This year is also our Centenary of Federation, and we hope you are looking forward to Canberra's celebrations in March. There is a good selection of Centenary of Federation merchandise available in the shop, ties, t-shirts, pins, keyrings, pens and caps, as well as books telling the story.

New stock includes Nostalgic Jigsaws. These come in the four designs, Arnotts Biscuits, Bondi and two designs of Holden Cars celebrating their 50th Anniversary last year.

I would like to apologise for any members who missed out on purchasing their diary this year. We ordered more than usual because it was such a good design but we sold out before Christmas. Upon further investigation it was revealed that NSW had sold out and Victoria had very few left.

Many thanks for all the support with the Combined Charities Card Shop last year. Overall the shop did very well and we are hoping that we can have the same location this year. Old Parliament House had its busiest December on record, and the shop also had a very good month. The Olympics did not create the income that everyone was anticipating, and many people were putting their holidays on hold. After a very quiet beginning for the first four months of this financial year, the good trading in November and December have made the figures after the first six months very encouraging.

We would like to thank all those willing helpers at the Cocktail Party at Cuppacumbalong and the Volunteers bash at Mugga Mugga, in particular Anna Moreing, who had put a lot of time and effort into making both events successful. We were only sorry that she was unable to attend the luncheon at Mugga Mugga, but we did have a toast to her in her absence.

Two new exhibitions coming to Old Parliament House and the National Portrait Gallery in March are well worth seeing. They are *Legends: the Art Of Walter Barnett* and *Polly Borland: Australians*. Walter Barnett was an Australian Portrait Photographer who travelled the world photographing the famous and was also instrumental in the making of the first Australian Movie Film, silent of course. Polly Borland has established herself as a leading reportage and portrait photographer in Britain and Australia, and is a winner of the John Kobal Photographic Portrait Award. Catalogues and postcards of both exhibitions will be available in the shop. ♣

Dianne Dowling

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Volunteers

The Macquarie Dictionary gives the definition of 'volunteer' as "one who enters into any service of his/her own free will, or who offers himself/herself for any service of undertaking." Volunteers give up their spare time, willingly and without any grumbles; they are the ones who are only a phone call away with offers of assistance. Without the services of volunteers most charities and non profit organizations would not exist. With 2001 now upon us we would like to salute all Volunteers in this the 'Year of the Volunteer'.

We at the National Trust of Australia (ACT), appreciate the work our volunteers do, and would like to thank them for all their assistance, friendship, patience and perseverance. They help in the office, Lanyon Homestead, the shop and are invaluable with their contribution to the fund-raising activities. If we had to pay wages to cover the time given by the volunteers, the Trust would be in difficulties.

Without the volunteers helping on the various committees and organizations the Trust would not function. The Lanyon Volunteers Committee, The Antique Fair Committee,

Heritage Committee, Publications Committee, Membership Committee, and Shop Committee, just to name a few, are formed from people who volunteer their time and expertise. The Trust Council, which acts as the Board of Directors, is also made up of volunteers.



It was the volunteers who started up the National Trust Gift Shop in Manuka, and kept it a going concern until it closed and reopened in its present location in Old Parliament House, where they still play a major role. They guide visitors around the house and grounds at Lanyon Homestead. Their wealth of knowledge gives visitors an insight into the lives of the people living in the house and add their little anecdotes to make the visit more enjoyable. To all the Trust's volunteers, past and present, our thanks and appreciation for all the work you do.

If you have thought of doing some volunteer work and would like some information or would like to register, please phone the Shop, at Old Parliament House, on 62734744, or the Office at Manuka on 6239 5222.