

LANDSCAPE ON THE EDGE: LANDSCAPE ON THE EDGE: Challenge and Opportunity



Photograph: Abbott Album, W L Crowther Library, State Library of Tasmania

42nd Australian Garden History Society Conference

Hobart 11–13 November, 2022 (with optional day 14 November, 2022)

Tasmania is often described as being at the edge of the world due to its location on the southern tip of the Australian continent, with vast oceans to the east, south and west. Despite its remoteness, Tasmania was one of the first areas in Australia colonised by Europeans; it has a long landscape and garden history.

As a remote penal colony, Tasmania was viewed during the 18th and 19th centuries as being at the edge of the civilised world and society for both convicts and settlers. Tasmania also marks the edge of Aboriginal occupation and cultural landscapes.

Cut off from the mainland some 12,000 years ago, Tasmania has a landscape that in parts is distinctly different from the rest of Australia. Like the mainland, it is now on the edge of increasing and unpredictable weather patterns: sometimes drier, sometimes hotter and sometimes wetter. Its natural and gardened landscape is on the edge of this unpredictability.

The conference theme will allow speakers to canvas:

- the geology of Tasmania and its impact on our natural landscape
- the landscape of Aboriginal Tasmania
- the colonial landscape and how being on the edge of society shaped the people who created our gardens and built landscape
- how climate change is impacting on this landscape and what changes it may bring in the future

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FULL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The conference is being held at Wrest Point Hotel, Sandy Bay. The program is broken into morning lectures followed by garden visits in the afternoon.



Wrest Point Hotel and the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania on the banks of the River Derwent, Sandy Bay

REGISTRATION: Thursday, 10 November – early registration from 5pm, bar open

DAY 1: Friday, 11 November – *In the beginning*

The geology and climate of Tasmania, which created the natural landscape, sets the scene as we discuss the first inhabitants, who modified their environment to create the landscape seen by colonists in the late 18th century. Speakers include Dr Penny Jones, University of Tasmania environmental scientist, Dr Tonia Cochran, managing director of Inala Jurassic Garden, and Jamie Graham, environmental scientist and Aboriginal walk guide.

Afternoon garden visits begin on Day 1 with two of Tasmania's most historically significant gardens: the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens and Government House gardens, both on the edge of the Hobart CBD with views across the River Derwent.

Tasmania's botanical gardens were established in 1818 and are the second oldest in Australia after Sydney's. Thirty per cent of the plant collection is Tasmanian plants, including the world's only subantarctic plant house with the flora of Macquarie Island.

The garden at Government House was established in 1857, the same year that Government House was built. The gardens are part estate with paddocks, with grazing cattle; part ornamental gardens; and part productive gardens.

Evening drinks will be held on the water's edge at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay.

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DAY 2: Saturday, 12 November – *European and colonial impacts on the Tasmanian landscape*

Today's presentations examine the landscape first encountered by Europeans, from French explorers who documented the indigenous flora and created the island's first European garden, to colonial settlers (including artist John Glover), who from 1803 shaped modern Tasmania. We look at how they responded to this land on the edge of the known world. Speakers include Deborah Wace, botanical artist and researcher, Tara Edmondson, head gardener at Government House, Alison Alexander, author and historian, and Carol Westmore, owner of the John Glover property, Patterdale near Evandale.

The book, *GARDENERS, PLANT COLLECTORS, FRIENDS Hobart Town and Beyond* by local AGHS member, Ann Cripps, will be launched.

Afternoon garden visits are to two cool climate gardens on the slopes of kunanyi/Mt Wellington: High Peak and Woodbank.

High Peak was built as a mountain retreat in 1892 with extensive gardens established at the same time. The gardens are laid out with hedges of English box and cypress, and contain many large old trees, especially conifers.

Woodbank was the garden and specialist nursery of horticultural pioneer and plant collector, Ken Gillanders, and his wife Lesley. It has three lakes and a collection of rare and unusual plants many collected by Ken over a 50-year period from countries once part of Gondwanaland. The rhododendrons will be flowering when we visit.



Woodbank

The conference dinner is at Glen Albyn, which has spectacular views from its deck overlooking the River Derwent and is perfect for pre-dinner drinks.

DAY 3: Sunday, 13 November – *Addressing the impact of climate change*

Today speakers address how climate change is likely to impact our landscape and look at strategies and practical solutions for reducing carbon emissions, adapting to a changed climate and restoring the land. AGHS Patron, Professor Tim Entwisle, will launch the 'AGHS Position Statement on Climate Change' and speak about the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria's response to a changing climate. Other speakers include James Wood, manager, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Seedbank, Dr Tonia Cochran, managing director of Inala Jurassic Garden, Bruny Island, and Marcus Ragus, head horticulturist at Spring Bay Mill.

In the afternoon we head up the Derwent Valley to the old hop growing district of New Norfolk and beyond for lunch and garden visits to Valleyfield and the Salmon Ponds.

Valleyfield, at New Norfolk, was established on land granted in 1813. The house was built in 1822 and by the mid-1800s the property had become a major hop producer. There are many old trees surrounding the circular drive at the front of the house, while beautiful ornamental gardens extend to the river at the rear.

The Salmon Ponds, circa 1861, the oldest trout hatchery in the Southern Hemisphere, is situated in a garden that is a rare example of a 19th century English-style public open space. The gardens and surrounds were established with introduced evergreens and exotic plantings by enlightened men interested in gardening and nature. Many of the trees at the Salmon Ponds are 140 years old.



Valleyfield

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LECTURES-ONLY PROGRAM WITH SELF-GUIDED TOURS

The lectures-only program includes morning lectures with morning tea and lunch on Friday and Saturday, and morning tea on Sunday. Lectures-only delegates also receive a conference bag and are able to buy a ticket to join the conference dinner. Lectures-only delegates may wish to undertake self-guided garden and landscape visits. Here are some suggestions.

* Battery Point History Walk, *In Bobby's Footsteps*, is a self-guided walk, which takes visitors to 16 sites including gardens, Princes Park and the house museum of Narryna. This walk is free to download from:

<https://www.batterypointwalk.com.au>

* The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens is open daily from 8am-6.30pm. Tours are available and need to be arranged beforehand see: <https://gardens.rtbg.tas.gov.au/visit/guided-tours/> (Note: a tour will not be possible on the afternoon of Friday, 11 November)

* Runnymede, New Town is an 1840s whaling captain's house and gardens. It is now owned and managed by the National Trust of Tasmania. Contact Runnymede for visitor details or to arrange a garden tour:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/runnymede/>

* kunanyi/Mt Wellington, rising 1271m behind the city of Hobart, was ascended by George Bass on Christmas Day, 1798. Coach tours can be arranged at: <https://www.viator.com/tours/Hobart/kunanyi-Mt-Wellington-Explorer-Bus>

* Richmond is an historic village near Hobart that can be enjoyed via a coach tour: <https://www.experiencetas.com.au/bus-tours/richmond-historic-village/#>

* MONA (Museum of Old and New Art) at Berriedale on the River Derwent can be reached by ferry from the centre of Hobart with gardens, gallery, vineyard, restaurants and eateries: <https://mona.net.au/museum/about>

* Open House Hobart, run by the Australian Institute of Architects, is being held over the conference weekend (12-13 November). The program will be available on: <https://openhousehobart.org>
Early booking is recommended.

* Tasman Peninsula and world heritage-listed Port Arthur are accessible on a full-day tour: <https://www.grayline.com.au/australia-sightseeing/tasmania-day-tours/port-arthur-day-tours>

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

After the success of the 2021 Sydney virtual conference, a virtual option of lectures only will be available via Zoom. The virtual program provides the opportunity to chat to other virtual delegates and ask questions. A moderator will select some questions for the speaker. An extra camera will film the audience to give virtual delegates a sense of participation.

OPTIONAL DAY ON BRUNY ISLAND

Bruny Island tour on Monday, 14 November

Leaving early, delegates travel by coach and ferry to Bruny Island to visit three distinctively different gardens. Morning and afternoon teas and lunch are included.

- **Inala** features the plants of Gondwanaland with more than 600 species.
- **Sprokkelwood Art Garden** is filled with rare trees and other plantings, art and sculpture.
- **Hiba** is a garden of grand gestures described by Paul Bangay as one of Tasmania's most beautiful gardens. The 10 hectares slope to the sea and feature an oak avenue, a lake, a rhododendron walk, many structures and follies, with formal gardens close to the house.



Inala

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CONFERENCE DINNER FOR PARTNERS AND LECTURES-ONLY DELEGATES

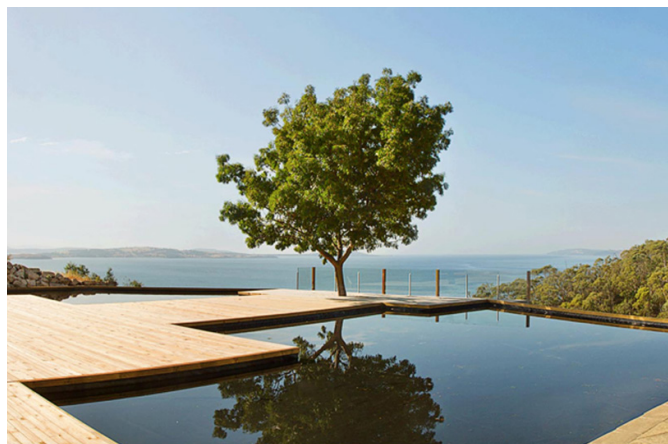
Lectures-only delegates and partners of full conference delegates are welcome to buy a ticket to join the conference dinner at Glen Albyn.

PRE- AND POST-CONFERENCE TOURS

Pre-Conference: 7–9 November

Post-Conference: 15–17 November

Garden historian and author, Trisha Dixon, is leading the pre- and post-conference tours through the Midlands to a Launceston base at Peppers Silo, from where the tour will visit historic private properties and gardens of special interest including in the Nile Valley and the foothills of the Western Tiers. These tours can be booked using the conference booking form.



Glen Albyn - the conference dinner venue

CONFERENCE VENUE

Our conference venue is Wrest Point Hotel on the water's edge in Sandy Bay, 3km from the city centre. Wrest Point has a large comfortable auditorium with break out spaces, and free car parking for those who arrive by car.

FLIGHT ADVICE

Delegates from interstate will need to organise their own transport to and from the airport. Coaches returning from garden visits will not be passing the airport.

As we will be returning relatively late, at approximately 6pm on Day 3 (Sunday, 13 November) and 7pm on the optional day (Monday, 14 November), it is recommended that delegates do not plan to fly out of Hobart on those evenings.

WHAT TO BRING

Spring weather in Tasmania is unpredictable. As we can experience four seasons in one day at this time of year, bring layered clothing with warm jackets, waterproof clothing and/or umbrella. Sunblock and hats are also recommended. Comfortable and sturdy walking shoes will be needed for all garden visits.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

All delegates, except virtual delegates, must be AGHS members.

Full conference delegates attending garden visits must travel on conference coaches and be fit and capable of walking at least 3km to 4km unassisted. Please note that some gardens may involve uneven ground, sloping terrain, stairs and steps. If you require assistance, please make arrangements for a personal carer to be included in your booking and notify AGHS by email. Alternatively consider attending the conference as a lectures-only delegate.



Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens and Government House

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ACCOMMODATION

The following hotels are offering discounted rates for AGHS conference delegates.

Information is calculated on accommodation for four nights (In: Thursday, 10 November, 2022; Out: Monday, 14 November, 2022). The rates quoted below are per night (pn).

All hotels listed below are within about 10 minutes by taxi from the conference venue at Wrest Point Hotel. Public buses run regularly past the venue.

HOTEL	LOCATION	DISCOUNTED RATE	FOR RESERVATIONS
Wrest Point Hotel 410 Sandy Bay Rd, Sandy Bay	Conference venue	Tower Room \$219 pn Water's Edge \$199 pn Motor Inn \$179 pn	Phone 1800 030 611 and mention attendance at AGHS conference
Somerset on the Pier (Ascott chain) 1 Elizabeth Pier, Hobart	CBD waterfront	Discounted rate 12% on their best flexible price on any room	Phone 1800 766 377 or www.discoverasr.com – Search & Book, Select “Corporate” as code and enter exclusive code for AGHS delegates = P5AUS454
MACq01 Hotel 18 Hunter St, Hobart	CBD waterfront	Discounted rate of 10% off their best available rate	Phone (03) 6210 7600 or Reservations@macq01.com.au Exclusive code for AGHS delegates = AGHS2022
Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel 1 Macquarie St. Hobart	Lower end of CBD, one and a half blocks from waterfront	Studio apartment \$239 pn One bedroom apartment \$259 pn	Phone (03) 6235 5355 Discount applies two nights prior to 10/11/22 and two nights after 14/11/22 subject to room type availability. For discounted rate, mention attendance at AGHS conference

REFUND POLICY (conference bookings)

Prior to 2 September	90% refund
3 September – 30 September	60% refund
From 1 October	no refund

TASMANIAN VISITOR INFORMATION

The Tasmanian Travel and Tourism Information Centre, 20 Davey Street, Hobart, TAS 7000 has travel information for those extending their stay.

<https://www.hobarttravelcentre.com.au>

BOOKING

Bookings open 2 May, 2022 online or by post. Online booking is preferred and no preference will be given to postal bookings. Note that AGHS conferences tend to book quickly.

We prefer payment by EFT to save on bank charges.

Online bookings Online conference bookings can be made via the AGHS website

www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/events-conference/2022-annual-national-conference/

Postal bookings Download the booking form (below). Return a completed booking form with payment details to:

Lisa Nutting
National Executive Officer
Australian Garden History Society
PO Box 479
Somers, Victoria 3927

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BOOKING FORM

FULL CONFERENCE \$910 x _____ = _____

Includes lectures, garden visits, drinks on the water's edge, conference dinner, lunches, morning and afternoon teas, conference bag, coaches to and from garden visits and conference dinner, coaches to drinks.

LECTURES-ONLY \$400 x _____ = _____

Includes lectures, two lunches, morning teas, conference bag.

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE \$200 x _____ = _____

Includes virtual lectures on three mornings.

CONFERENCE DINNER (Lectures-only delegates and/or extra guests) \$165 x _____ = _____

Includes pre-dinner drinks with music, canapes, main course, dessert, dinner speaker, return coach transport from Wrest Point to dinner venue.

OPTIONAL DAY TO BRUNY ISLAND \$190 x _____ = _____

Includes garden visits, morning and afternoon tea, lunch, coach transport to and around Bruny Island and return to Hobart, ferry to and from Bruny Island.

PRE-CONFERENCE TOUR (7–9 November, 2022)

Starts and ends in Hobart. Includes accommodation (two nights), garden entries, all meals and coach transport.

Twin share and double room \$890 x _____ = _____

Single supplement \$235 x _____ = _____

POST-CONFERENCE TOUR (15–17 November, 2022)

Starts and ends in Hobart. Includes accommodation (two nights), garden entries, all meals and coach transport.

Twin share and double room \$890 x _____ = _____

Single supplement \$235 x _____ = _____

TOTAL \$ _____

PAYMENT (EFT PREFERRED)

EFT: AGHS BSB 012 006 ACC 2166 72228 RECEIPT NO. _____

USE AS REFERENCE: initial + surname + conf22

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

Card number _____

Expiry ____/____ CW ____

Card holders name _____

Cheque:

Cheque enclosed (Payable to Australian Garden History Society).

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NAME

Title_____First name_____

Surname_____

Preferred name for lanyard_____

Membership number_____

Dietary requirements _____

Postal address_____

State_____Post code_____

Phone_____Email_____

NAMES OF OTHERS INCLUDED IN THIS BOOKING

Title_____First name_____

Surname_____

Preferred name for lanyard_____

Membership number_____

Dietary requirements_____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name_____

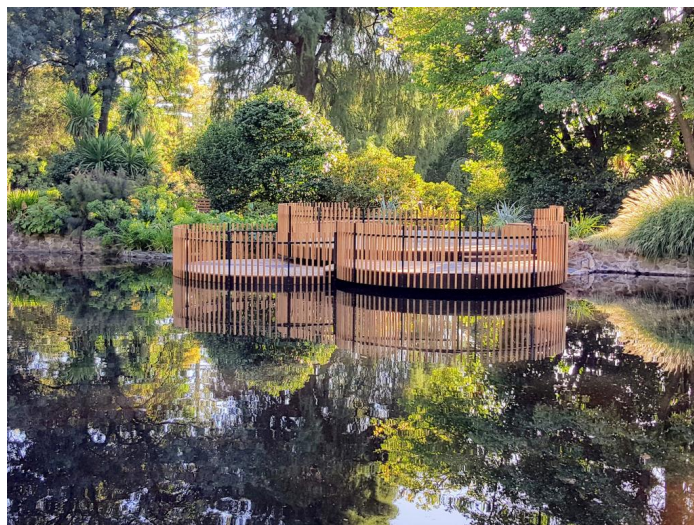
Relationship to delegate_____Phone_____

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact AGHS office

phone: 0419 977 703

email: info@gardenhistorysociety.org.au



Lily pond, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens