



Archives ACT

fACT
1

ACT Government
public art

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT Government public art: fACT 1

© ACT Government
March 2005

1 Constitution Avenue • Canberra, ACT, 2600
Phone +61 2 6207 5726 • Fax +61 2 6207 5835

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	4	EXHIBITIONS	30
FACT GUIDES SERIES.....	4	TAIKICHI IRIE.....	30
THE AIM OF THIS FACT GUIDE ...	4	MAINTENANCE.....	32
ACCESS TO THE RECORDS.....	5	PLAQUES, MEMORIALS AND	
CITING THE RECORDS	5	TIME CAPSULES.....	34
INDEXES AND FINDING AIDS	6	PUBLICATIONS.....	36
POLICIES	8	MONOGRAPHS AND PAMPHLETS	
THE COMMONWEALTH.....	8	36
ABORIGINAL ART	11	INFORMATION	
THE ACT GOVERNMENT.....	12	MANAGEMENT – CONTROL	
COMMISSIONED WORKS ...	15	– REGISTERS	39
SCHOOLS.....	15	NATIONAL CAPITAL	
PUBLIC LIBRARIES.....	19	DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION...	39
HOSPITALS & HEALTH CENTRES		INDEX	40
.....	19		
GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS,			
COURTS & POLICE STATIONS	20		
TOWN CENTRES, GROUP CENTRES			
& LOCAL CENTRES.....	20		
OPEN PUBLIC PLACES	21		
STREET ART	21		
PAINTINGS	21		
PRIZES, AWARDS & GRANTS			
.....	23		
AUSTRALIA 75 – FESTIVAL OF			
CREATIVE ARTS AND SCIENCES			
.....	23		
NATIONAL SCULPTURE AWARD –			
CANBERRA FESTIVAL.....	23		
GORMAN HOUSE SCULPTURE			
COMPETITION.....	24		
ACT HERITAGE AWARD	24		
GRANTS	24		
DONATIONS	26		
TAXATION INCENTIVES FOR THE			
ARTS	26		
DONATIONS TO THE CITY OF			
CANBERRA.....	27		

Introduction

fACT guides series.

This fACT (finding ACT) guide is the first of a series of research aids that enable locating of records in the ACT Government that are available for public access under the *Territory Records Act 2002*. These records are those older than 20 years. Territory records younger than 20 years are available to the public through freedom of information. The fACT guides include records in any format relevant to the subject, but not necessarily all of the records. There are various reasons why records may not be listed in the fACT guide. ACT Government agencies are able to create records under any function for which there is an authorised records disposal schedule, so the function of Arts and Cultural Development may be performed by various agencies at different times during the history of the ACT. Agencies are responsible for the care of records in their custody, and as there is no centralised archive many agencies' recordkeeping systems have to be interrogated to locate records dealing with a particular topic. The ACT was given Self-government in 1989, so records made before then were made by a variety of Commonwealth Government agencies. Many of these are available to the public through the National Archives of Australia and their online database *RecordSearch*. The fACT guide series is intended to make locating records easier for people by highlighting the repositories that hold the records.

Exclusions Material listed in this guide is primary material made by government agencies. It does not list published works. Items of this nature about public art in the ACT can be found on library catalogues, such as the National Library of Australia, <http://www.nla.gov.au/> or the ACT Public Library, <http://www.library.act.gov.au/>. Much of the public art in the ACT belongs to the Commonwealth, for instance, Sir Bertram Mackenna's *War* (or *Bellona*) now at the Australian War Memorial, which for many years was on Commonwealth Avenue near the Albert Hall. <http://www.awm.gov.au/virtualtour/bellona.htm>. Information about Commonwealth records can be found at <http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/recordsearch.aspx>.

Control records Government agencies make control records to help in the identification, tracking and retrieval of records. These are registry tools such as file registers, subject indexes, alphabetical functional thesauri and other finding aids. These are listed, along with the recordkeeping systems they are associated with, to help listing which agency has which records and where the records can be accessed.

The aim of this fACT guide

The aim of this finding aid is to make records relating to public art in the ownership of the ACT Government accessible to researchers interested in artworks in public places.

Access to the records

Records older than 20 years are available to be used by the public under the *Territory Records Act 2002*. To organise access to the records that are open to the public, contact the ACT Government Reference Archivist. For those records younger than 20 years access is through the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Some classes of records older than 20 years may be closed to the public by application of certain sections of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.

Citing the records

When you reproduce or refer to an ACT Government record, whether or not it is retained as a Territory Archive, in a publication, paper or personal research, you should cite it accurately. This will help other researchers and yourself to locate it in the future.

A record citation is different from a reference to a book publication or journal article. Records are maintained in the order in which they were created and kept.

Legacy records from the Commonwealth are named differently to those created by the ACT Government since the *Territory Records Act 2002*. An individual *record item* is catalogued as part of a *record series* that was created and maintained by an *agency* in the conduct of its business, reflecting its recordkeeping systems at the time. The record series number is not on the record itself, it must be obtained from *RecordSearch* or from the ACT reference archivist.

The method of citation described here is similar to the method suggested by the National Archives of Australia for citing Commonwealth records¹. The citation formula makes a very brief citation for Commonwealth records, for example in footnotes:

National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume 1.

In a full bibliography the expanded citation formula is:

National Archives of Australia: National Capital Development Commission; A8844, Minutes of Sculpture Committee meetings - SC1 to SC39 September 1966 to December 1970; volume 1

The Territory citations give the same information as the expanded citation to the subsequent researcher for example:

Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. *76/122 Sculpture and artworks in ACT policies and practices prior to 1982*

Record descriptions

In this guide, record descriptions cater for the legacy records received from the Commonwealth as well those made under the *Territory Records Act 2002*.

National Sports Stadium Centre – Bruce – Forward planting 74/290

National Capital Development Commission.

ACT Department of Economic Development.

Quantity: 1 file This item contains plans depicting the landscaping to be used around the National Sports area in Belconnen. 1974-1976

¹ National Archives of Australia. (2004) Fact sheet 7 Citing archival records. Canberra, National Archives of Australia

Key

- Title given to the record by the creating agency. Also included is the reference number of the file. The two digit number before the slash indicates the last two digits of the year, i.e. 1974 is abbreviated as 74, 2004 is abbreviated as 04.
- Creating agency or person who made the file.
- Controlling agency
- The number of files, photographs or other records included in the title are listed.
- A brief description of the contents, highlighting key items, and not necessarily listing all the material. The date range of the contents is given.

Indexes and finding aids

There are various indexes to the NCDC records:

Commonwealth Records Series A1341. Registration and movement cards for CRS A1340, correspondence files, annual single number series. Agency controlling ACT Government.

Commonwealth Records Series A1342. Subject index cards for CRS A1340, correspondence files, annual single number series. Agency controlling ACT Government

Commonwealth Records Series A1343, Name index cards ('Personal Index') for CRS A1340, Correspondence files, annual single number series. Agency controlling National Capital Authority

Commonwealth Records Series A1344. Inwards correspondence register. National Capital Development Commission. Agency controlling National Capital Authority.

The National Archives of Australia produces fact sheets, some of which are pertinent to finding records in the ACT. These include:

Administration in the ACT; No. 35

Design and development of the National Capital, No. 60

Arts & Cultural Development - Policy

Policies

The Commonwealth

Public art in the ACT was controlled by the Commonwealth until self-government. Various Commonwealth agencies² administered the ACT including the National Capital Development Commission established in 1957 and abolished in 1989.³ The NCDC introduced various policies⁴ regarding public art in the ACT⁵ and established the Artworks Committee⁶ and subsequently various sub-committees including the Sculpture sub-committee.⁷ By 1974 the NCDC was insisting on a new policy of providing a greater range of artworks in public places by the project directors⁸ and artworks policy and interim school boards⁹. These arose from a submission from Mr Clough to the Commission after consideration of the procedures and policy for the Sculpture Committee. He recommended that the stated objectives for the provision of works of art be endorsed, a review be undertaken into the Commission's performance in the provision of works of art and the procedures be reviewed in light of the findings¹⁰. In 1978 the Artworks Committee recommended the Siting of Memorials Policy.¹¹

² The Department of the Capital Territory, Central Office (19 December 1972-11 March 1983), the Department of Territories and Local Government (11 March 1983-13 December 1984), Department of Territories, Central Office (13 December 1984-24 July 1987) and the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, Central Office (24 July 1987-30 January 1989)

³ National Archives of Australia – Agency notes for agency CA 279.

⁴ National Capital Development Commission. 69/822 Sculpture & art works in A.C.T. – policies and practices; 75/372 Art works in architectural briefs; 74/366 Art works for public buildings

⁵ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 76/122 Sculpture and artworks in ACT policies and practices prior to 1982 and Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/1586 Sculpture and artworks in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards

⁶ National Capital Development Commission. Works of art in Canberra. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page vi.

⁷ National Archives of Australia: National Capital Development Commission; A8844, Minutes of Sculpture Committee meetings - SC1 to SC39 September 1966 to December 1970; volume 1

⁸ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 18 November 1974; National Capital Development Commission 69/822 Sculpture & art works in A.C.T. – policies and practices

⁹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 1 July 1974

¹⁰ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 1 July 1974

¹¹ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/1586 part 2 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards. Minutes of the Artworks Committee AC 100 of 9 June 1978 quoted folio 32

Extract is below:

OBJECTIVE

To provide sites for memorials which will be appropriate to the individual, group or event commemorated.

POLICY STATEMENT

A. PUBLIC MEMORIALS

1. Parliamentary Triangle and Capital Hill -

Reserved for national memorials authorised by Parliament or the Government commemorating persons or events of National significance.

2. Anzac Parade – Reserved for Service memorials of a national character authorised by the Government commemorating a branch or important arm of the Services.

3. Barton, Forrest, Deakin and Yarralumla – Reserved for civil memorials authorised by the National Memorials Committee commemorating persons or events of national significance.

4. Lakeside Parklands – Reserved for civil memorials authorised by the National Memorials Committee commemorating persons or events of national significance.

5. Russell, Campbell Park, Mt Pleasant – Reserved for service memorials authorised by the National Memorials Committee commemorating persons or events of national significance.

6. City and Town Centres – Reserved for civil memorials authorised by the National Memorials Committee commemorating persons or events of local significance.

7. Other Urban Areas, Rural Areas and Hill Reserves - Reserved for memorials authorised by the National Memorials Committee commemorating persons or events associated with the particular sites.

B.PRIVATE MEMORIALS

8. Leased Sites – Private memorials authorised by the Department of the Capital Territory and passed for design and siting by the National Capital Development Commission commemorating persons or events associated with the purpose of the lease.

It wasn't until 1974 that the Fine art and Sculpture Committee agreed that a plaque should be installed with every artwork at the time of its installation.¹²

By 1987 the NCDC policy on the placement and display of works of art in association with Commission constructed buildings, also in urban and park type settings, could be stated as:

¹² National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 12 February 1974

A TO ENSURE THAT WORKS OF ART:

(1) FORM PART OF THE INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF CANBERRA SO THAT THEY CONTRIBUTE TO ITS SYMBOLIC ROLE AS THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AND TO ITS FUNCTIONS AS A CITY

(2) CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHARACTER, STYLE AND AESTHETIC IDENTITY OF THE LANDSCAPE, URBAN SPACES AND BUILDINGS OF THE CITY

(3) CONTRIBUTE TO THE QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT TO MEET THE AESTHETIC NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

B. TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC'S APPRECIATION AND ENJOYMENT OF WORKS OF ART

C. TO COMMEMORATE THE SERVICES TO THE NATION OF INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

D TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ARTWORKS BY RECOGNISED AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS, SELECTED YOUNG AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS, AND SELECTED OVERSEAS ARTISTS.

THE COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ARTWORKS WHICH ARE OF A PERMANENT NATURE AND ARE INTEGRAL TO THE STRUCTURE OF A PLACE, A LANDSCAPED AREA, OR A PUBLIC BUILDING. HOWEVER THE SELECTION OF LOCATIONS FOR ARTWORKS WILL BE DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RANGE OF CRITERIA CONDUCIVE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMISSION'S POLICY

IN THESE TERMS THE CRITERIA FOR LOCATION OF ARTWORKS WILL INCLUDE:

A. THE DESIRE TO OBTAIN MAXIMUM EXPOSURE OF AN ARTWORK TO THE LARGEST NUMBER OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY. IN THIS CONTEXT, COMMUNITY BUILDINGS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS HAVE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES

B. NATIONAL BUILDINGS LEND THEMSELVES AS SETTINGS FOR ARTWORKS THERE IS ENHANCEMENT OF THE BUILDING ITSELF AND THUS OF CANBERRA AS THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

C. MOVEMENT ROUTES THROUGH OUT THE CITY ARE NATURAL VENUES FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF ARTWORK. SUCH LOCATIONS PROVIDE NATURALLY FOR COMMUNITY INTEREST IN THE ARTWORK, BUT ALSO OFFER OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A SATISFYING ENVIRONMENT INVOLVING THE MOVEMENT ACTIVITY ITSELF.

D. LARGE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS WITH THEIR VOLUME OF MOVEMENT WILL BE LIKELY TO ATTRACT ARTWORKS.

E. SPECIAL PURPOSE BUILDINGS, INCLUDING HEALTH FACILITIES CAN BE IDEAL LOCATIONS FOR PARTICULAR ARTWORKS WHICH ARE BENEFICIAL IN ESTABLISHING A DESIRABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY USING THE FACILITY.

A major policy included artworks in schools¹³. Cost allowances for sculpture in schools were set.¹⁴ Extension of the program to existing and future schools was discussed.¹⁵ There was liaison with the Commonwealth Department of Education & Science and the Department of Interior especially on innovative artworks such as play sculptures.¹⁶ The works transferred to the Territory on self-government include those in schools¹⁷.

On self-government in 1989 responsibility for public artworks was split between the Commonwealth and the Territory governments and some of the public art was transferred to the ACT and other works kept by the Commonwealth and known as National works of art.¹⁸

Aboriginal art

The NCDC sought help in the acquisition of aboriginal art,¹⁹ and works from Maori, other Pacific Islands and Papua New Guinea. A New Hebridean but installed in Fisher Primary School²⁰ was acquired for Holder Primary School and aboriginal paintings for Weston Creek High School and Rivett Primary School²¹.

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Clyde Holding with the Minister for Administrative Services brought up the use of Aboriginal artworks in 1983,²² although policies on aboriginal works of art existed before that²³. The later policy was to include Aboriginal art where feasible, but because of its fragile nature was more suitable for internal placement. The ACT Government policy on acknowledging traditional

¹³ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Meeting 11 July 1969; National Capital Development Commission. 71/107 Sculpture – provision of minor pieces for schools

¹⁴ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Meeting 23 March 1967

¹⁵ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Meeting 23 March 1965

¹⁶ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Meeting 12 September 1965, 18 April 1968

¹⁷ see chapter *Commissioned works: Schools* for fuller details

¹⁸ Department of Urban Services. 01/2580 ACT contracts. Maintenance of the public artworks – C01064; and Department of Urban Services 92/18895 ACT City Services. Waste Management Section. Fountains & memorials maintenance. Fountains/memorials/artworks folio 102

¹⁹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of meeting held 22 January 1973; 28 May 1973; 10 July 1973

²⁰ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 20 May 1974

²¹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of meeting held 28 May 1973;

²² Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission, 82/1586 part 1, Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices prior to 1982, folio 26

²³ National Capital Development Commission. 73/263 Aboriginal works of art

ownership was enunciated and public artwork initiated.²⁴ The ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council commissioned John Johnson to produce a work in 1994²⁵. The artist donated his work Connections; harshness and beauty; past, present, future to the Legislative Assembly during National Aboriginal & Islander Day Observation Committee week 1996.²⁶ The triptych represents aboriginality in the Canberra region, past, present and future. The work is synthetic polymer paint on canvas, with corrugated iron, wire, cockatoo and gang-gang feathers, paperbark, woollen thread, twine and blood.

The ACT Government

ACT Government policies on public art were in development in 1993²⁷ and defined in 1995²⁸ the Public Art program included Floriade.²⁹ The ACT Government established the Public Art Consultative Committee which held its first meeting on 1 March 1996. The Public Art Program developed from a pre-election commitment to encourage the adoption of a target of 0.25% of the building budget of major public buildings and private community developments for the provision of public art and aesthetic facilities.

The terms of reference of the Public Art Consultative Committee were:

The ACT Public Art Consultative Committee will provide advise on the following:

- the establishment of a Public Art Program in the ACT, to apply initially to public buildings and spaces
- the selection and implementation of strategic projects, including the development of project management procedures in collaboration with the appropriate sponsoring body
- the development of Program guidelines to be endorsed by the Minister for Arts and Heritage in consultation with the Minister for Urban Services
- the potential for collaborative projects with other organisations such as the National Capital Planning Authority, Canberra Institute for the Arts and the private sector, to advance the Public Art Program
- the research and development of incentives to encourage further private sector initiatives in this area

²⁴ Chief Minister's Department, 03/12124 Multicultural and Community Affairs Group, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Artwork project acknowledging traditional owners; 04/3470 Multicultural and Community Affairs Group, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Artwork project acknowledging traditional owners; 04/2345 Multicultural and Community Affairs Group, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Artwork project acknowledging traditional owners; 04/14622 Community relations – Public reaction – Civic artwork project acknowledging traditional owners; 05/1242 Arts & Cultural Development – Liaison – Public art initiatives – Ngunnawal artwork (Aboriginal Unit, Chief Minister's Department)

²⁵ Chief Minister's Department. 95/06914 Heritage, Museums & Galleries. Legislative Assembly Art Advisory Committee. ATSAIC Commission.

²⁶ Crosswell, Alison (1996) Aboriginal artist's reconciliation gift to Canberra, Canberra Times, Tuesday, July 9, 1996 page 5; Chief Minister's Department. 96/12477 Bureau of Arts & Heritage, Legislative Assembly Public Art Advisory Committee, ATSAIC Commission

²⁷ ACT Public Works Branch. Education Section. 93/828 Public art

²⁸ City Operations Branch. City Management Section 95/07582 Community Art – Street art

²⁹ Chief Minister's Department. 87/1798 Arts & Recreation Branch, Art in public places – policy; and Chief Minister's Department. 89/12510 ACT Arts Bureau, Art in public places – public art – policy

- the longer term operation of a Public Art Program in the ACT³⁰

The Legislative Assembly established an Art Advisory Committee.³¹ The Terms of Reference for the ACT Legislative Assembly Art Advisory Committee were to:

Advise the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on:

- Establishing and implementing guidelines for the development and management of the Legislative Assembly's Art Program/Collection
- The purchase/commissioning and display of works of art for the Legislative Assembly building;
- Other issues that relate to the Legislative Assembly's temporary or permanent works of art and public exhibition areas³²

³⁰ City Operations Branch. 96/7624 Precinct Management, Public Art Consultative Committee

³¹ Chief Minister's Department. 99/0238 part 2 Museums & Galleries Section, Legislative Assembly Art Advisory Committee (LAAAC); Chief Minister's Department, 96/7735 Bureau of Arts & Heritage, Canberra Cultural Centre, Legislative Assembly Public Art Advisory Committee; Chief Minister's Department, 94/5544 Heritage, Museums & Galleries, Nolan Gallery – Legislative Assembly, Public Art Committee; Chief Minister's Department, 94/7786 Heritage, Museums & Galleries, Nolan Gallery – Legislative Assembly Public Art Advisory Committee; Chief Minister's Department, 94/19397 Heritage, Museums & Galleries, Nolan Gallery – Legislative Assembly Public Art Advisory Committee

³² ACT Legislative Assembly Art Advisory Committee (1996) Policy and procedural guidelines for the development and management of the Legislative Assembly Art Program

Arts & Cultural Development - Acquisition

Commissioned works

Schools

The Sculpture sub-committee of the NCDC had a policy³³ of including works of art in all schools, including primary³⁴, secondary and the technical college through the architects' briefs. The first such work was the murals on either side of the entrance hall to Lyneham High School in 1960.³⁵ The schools included primary and high schools as well as the Canberra Technical College,³⁶ The Canberra Technical College at Bruce³⁷, the Canberra School of Music³⁸ and Malkara School with a ceramic mural by Hatton and Lucy Beck installed in 1972³⁹. In 1967 art works were already provided at South Curtin Primary, Downer Primary and Watson High⁴⁰. Action was in had to provide pieces at Lyons Primary (Dreaming girl)⁴¹ and Woden Valley High (a tiled mural by John Olson)⁴² however by October 1967 the artist was Tom Sanders⁴³. Discussions were held by the Sculpture sub-committee on the suitability of various works of art for particular schools. The siting proposal for the Observer for Campbell High⁴⁴, the suggested artwork for Canberra High,⁴⁵ the security of artworks in schools, e.g. Lunar aspiration at Deakin High School,⁴⁶ the transfer of the Derek Wrigley play sculpture from Higgins to Cook Primary School⁴⁷ and the continuing discussion on David Tolley's Play sculpture⁴⁸ are examples. The Sculpture sub-committee

³³ National Capital Development Commission. 71/1559 Sculpture acquisition programme for schools (McCulloch)

³⁴ Department of Education. CYSSB.76/2695 Sculpture in schools

³⁵ National Capital Development Commission. Works of art in Canberra. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page v.

³⁶ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of Meeting held 12 November 1965, 28 June 1967, 26 February 1968

³⁷ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 22 April 1974; National Capital Development Commission 74/950 Canberra Technical College Bruce

³⁸ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meetings held 18 April 1968, 15 May 1968, 20 December 1968

³⁹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 29 September 1972; 17 November 1972;

⁴⁰ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 12 November 1965

⁴¹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held September 1966, 4 May 1967, 7 September 1967, 2 February 1968

⁴² National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 8th February 1967

⁴³ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 27th October 1967

⁴⁴ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meetings held 2 February 1968, 19 May 1969

⁴⁵ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 23 March 1965, 7 March 1969

⁴⁶ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meetings held 5 July 1968, 29 August 1968, 23 October 1968

⁴⁷ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of meeting held 10 September 1971

“agreed that it would be inappropriate to involve the Department [of Education and Science] in aesthetic judgements, noting that the Department’s views on aspects of maintenance and protection of art work in schools are taken into account when examining proposals”⁴⁹ and thus maintained control over public art. The headmaster at Farrer Primary School “expressed enthusiastic acceptance” of the Derek Wrigley play sculpture installed there⁵⁰. The Department of Works actually placed the artworks on site⁵¹. Mr Miller submitted a “comprehensive and useful report” on siting possibilities at existing Commission-built schools and possible suitable types of works of art.⁵² The forward projects in the 1985/85 design programme which were most likely to have an artwork associated with them included Belconnen College and Tuggeranong College.⁵³

In 1986, the Department of Housing and Construction and the Australia Council jointly worked on producing a booklet on artworks in Commonwealth projects. The Department’s list included a weaving by A.R. Armstrong in Taylor Primary School and a painting by Rolf Harris in Chapman Primary School.⁵⁴

Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	67/490 Chifley Primary School Sculpture
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	68/173 Chifley Primary School ceramic panel by Leonard French (now in Scullin Primary)
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	68/907 Aranda Primary School (Belconnen 6) artwork
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	69/189 Curtin, South sculpture
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	70/1085 Cook (Belconnen no. 7) sculpture
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	70/115 Weston Primary School glazed wall (sculpture)
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	70/116 Torrens Primary School sculpture
Department of Education and Training. National Capital Development Commission.	70/117 Aranda Primary School (Belconnen 6) sculptures

⁴⁸ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meetings held 12 December 1969, 31 October 1969, 28 October 1969, 25 September 1969, 19 September 1969, 1 August 1969, 11 July 1969, 19 May 1969, 7 March 1969; 20 December 1968, 23 October 1968, 19 June 1968, 15 May 1968, 18 April 1968, 26 February 1968, 2 February 1968, 27 October 1967, 7 September 1967, 23 March 1967, 8 February 1967, September 1966, 12 November 1965.

⁴⁹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 5 July 1968

⁵⁰ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of meeting held 2 March 1971; 4 June 1971

⁵¹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 4th May 1967

⁵² National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Minutes of meeting held 7th September 1967

⁵³ Chief Minister’s Department. National Capital Development Commission.82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 97

⁵⁴ Chief Minister’s Department. National Capital Development Commission.82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 110

Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	70/118 Farrer Primary School sculpture
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	71/107 parts 1,2&3 Sculpture provision of minor pieces for schools
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	71/1488 Latham Primary School – art works
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	71/1559 Sculpture acquisition programme for schools
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	71/815 Sculpture by (A) Stephen Walker (B) Inge King – Campbell High School
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/119 Melrose High School sculpture R.Kippel
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/141 Higgins Primary school – arts: sculptures
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/130 Latham Primary School
National Capital Development Commission, Department of Education and Training.	72/1736 Sculpture David Wilson
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/1820 New Hebridean sculpture
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/245 Page Primary school – arts: sculptures
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/589 parts 1&2 Canberra School of Music City028 sculpture
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	72/671 Artworks - Holder
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	73/263 Aboriginal paintings – Weston Creek High School and Rivett Primary School
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	73/642 Gleeson J.T. engagement as consultant on sculpture for schools
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	73/650 Narrabundah School sculpture
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	73/834 Flynn Primary School artworks

Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	73/975 Play sculpture David Tolley
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	73/1749 Ginninderra High School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/1108 Art works for the Forrest Primary School
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/346 Weetangera Primary School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/349 Duffy Primary School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/791 Chapman Primary School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/792 Wanniasa Primary School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/793 Charnwood Primary School: artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/794 Fisher Primary School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	74/852 Holt Primary School – art work
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	75/136 Wanniasa College – Activity Centre artwork
National Capital Development Commission.	74/950 Canberra Technical College - Bruce
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	75/138 Holder High School artworks
Department of Education and Training, National Capital Development Commission.	76/266 Hawker College - artworks
Department of Education and Training Department of Education and Science	76/2695 Sculpture in ACT schools

Photographs of examples of artists' works were kept by the NCDC⁵⁵. The artists included :

Alexander, Gordon	King, Inge
Bartlett, Geoffrey	Klippel, Robert
Clark, Marc	Langley, Warren
Baker, Jeannie	Meszaros, Michael
Beck, Lawrence	Parker, Reg
Dorrrough, Heather	Pryor, Anthony
Gray, Noel	Santry, Michael

Public libraries

Tehichgahara Sofu donated the freestanding statue Hinoki in 1967. It was installed in the Woden District Library in 1977. However, it was relocated to West Block in 1984.⁵⁶ The relocation was dependent on agreement being reached on a replacement wall hanging. The wall hanging “may take the form of a fabric collage, as opposed to a woven hanging with a possible subject being the landmarks, buildings and characters of significance to the Woden Valley prior to its development in the 1960s.⁵⁷ The National Capital Development Commission supported the ACT Crafts Council in their application for an Australian Bicentenary Authority grant to commission a mural for the Belconnen Library.⁵⁸ The work is Horizon 1, a ceramic mosaic created by Sally Cleary. Mr John Langmore, Member for Fraser on Friday 29 January 1988, unveiled it.

Kippax Library was allocated the sculpture Quietly held⁵⁹

Hospitals & health centres

In 1986, the Department of Housing and Construction and the Australia Council jointly worked on producing a booklet on artworks in Commonwealth projects. The Department's list included⁶⁰:

⁵⁵ National Capital Development Commission. 76/830 parts 1-3 Artists examples of work prior to 1982; National Capital Development Commission 71/5180 Sculpture for schools - Advice

⁵⁶ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission.82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 2.

⁵⁷ Ditto folio 10

⁵⁸ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission.82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 96; Department of Urban Services. Community Services and Information. ACT Library & Information Service. 05/ 3683 Community Relations - Donations – Artefacts – Belconnen Library

⁵⁹ National Capital Development Commission. 75/586 Kippax Library artworks – “Quietly held”; Department of Urban Services 92/18895 ACT City Services. Waste Management Section. Fountains & memorials maintenance. Fountains/memorials/artworks folio 19

⁶⁰ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission.82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 109

- Calvary Hospital had two artworks by G. Jenkins & Assoc., a stained glass window costing \$13400 and tiled murals costing \$17020.
- Weston Creek Health Centre had a bronze sculpture of geese by Gabriel Sterk installed in 1978.
- Woden Valley Hospital had the fabricated aluminium sculpture by Jock Clutterbuck which was installed in 1974.
- Kambah Health Centre has the sculpture Flowers in the courtyard.⁶¹

Government buildings, courts & police stations

The ACT Magistrates Court⁶² and Tuggeranong Police Station⁶³ had works of art commissioned during the design phase. The architects who redesigned the South Building for the Legislative Assembly included public art for the foyer. The chosen work by Klaus Moje is a fused glass panel.⁶⁴ The Barbara Hepworth sculpture was initially set up temporarily for 3 years in the entrance of the Canberra Theatre Centre.⁶⁵ A Painting by Mr R. Johnson was recommended for acquisition for the Torrens Community Centre, or a building of similar nature in 1971.⁶⁶

Town centres, Group centres & Local centres

Each of the town centres, group centres and local centres has at least one work of art. The artworks vary and include history plaques of the suburb (Curtin, Chifley, Mawson), feature walls (Kingston), rural themes (Kambah sheep⁶⁷, Belconnen farm machinery) wild life themes (East Tuggeranong Lake eagle on pole), pergolas (Narrabundah), statues (Sculpture by Margel Hinder in Woden Town Centre⁶⁸). There were difficulties in determining a sculpture for City Plaza⁶⁹. This practice and policy began with the NCDC⁷⁰ and continues with the ACT Government.

As centres are refurbished new artworks are installed, for instance O'Connor, Narrabundah, Hughes, Tuggeranong⁷¹ Kippax,⁷² Manuka⁷³ and Civic.⁷⁴

⁶¹ National Capital Development Commission. 75/548 Kambah Health Centre – artworks “Flowers”

⁶² Totalcare. Construction & Maintenance Management Service Branch. Architectural Services Section. 96/4807 ACT Magistrates Court public artwork; 96/4833 ACT Magistrates Court public artwork part 2

⁶³ Totalcare. Construction & Maintenance Management Service Branch. Architectural Services Section. 97/7425 AFP Tuggeranong Police Station artwork

⁶⁴ Totalcare. Architectural Services Section. 98/1304 Legislative Assembly – Moje artwork; Hinchcliffe, Meredith (1998) An artist goes public *Canberra Times Panorama* 16 May 1988

⁶⁵ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume 2: Minutes of meetings; SC40 9 February 1971; SC43 23 April 1971; SC44 4 June 1971

⁶⁶ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume 2: Minutes of meetings; SC41 2 March 1971; 29 September 1972

⁶⁷ Department of Urban Services. City Management. Canberra Urban Parks & Places. 01/7772 Canberra living places, Kambah Village – final design and construction

⁶⁸ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of meeting held 10 March 1972; National Capital Development Commission 70.571 Comalco Sculpture for Woden Town Centre

⁶⁹ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of meeting held 14 July 1972; 29 September 1972; National Capital Development Commission 72/1341 City Plaza

⁷⁰ National Capital Development Commission. 70/571 Woden Town Square – sculpture; 70/916 Belconnen Town Centre – Farm machinery sculpture; 75/137 Tuggeranong Government Offices artwork

⁷¹ City Operations Branch. 96/11926 Specification development for artwork – design approval for artworks

Open public places

Public art is also placed in parks as well as internally in buildings.⁷⁵

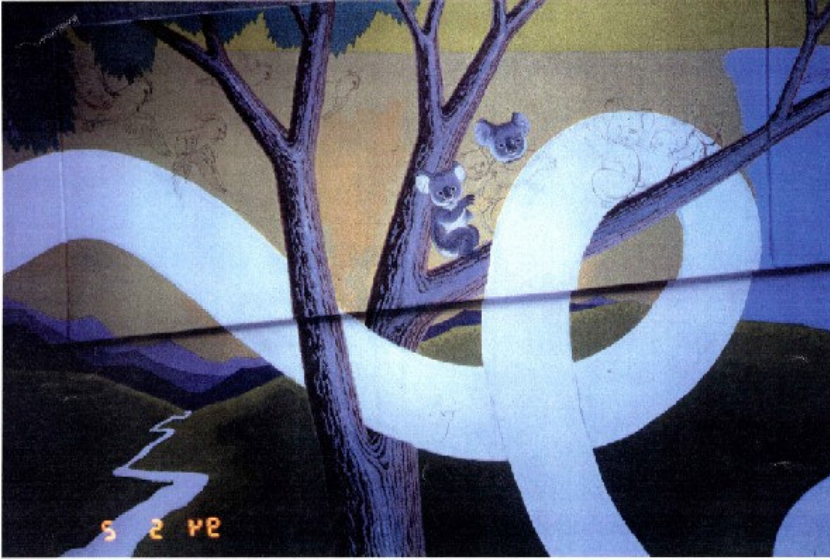


Figure 1 Woden Bus Interchange street art in progress 1994.⁷⁶

Street art

The ACT Government has tried to curtail random graffiti, by making legal community art and street art sites. ACTION bus shelters and the Snake Pit at Woden Bus Interchange, among other walls were decorated using community groups.⁷⁷ As part of the 2002 National Youth Week events the external walls of the Belconnen Basketball Centre were painted by street artists.⁷⁸

Paintings

The NCDC commissioned paintings of scenes of features around Canberra to capture a record of the area before too much development occurred and during development. The painters included Geoff Rigby, Douglas Dundas and Brian Dunlop.

In 1973 the Commission had:

⁷² Department of Urban Services. ACT Contracts & Purchasing, 99/8596 59.5225.11 Design – supply & installation of artwork at the Kippax Group Centre

⁷³ Department of Urban Services. ACT Contracts & Purchasing, 99/11415 Christine Eccles artwork block 4 Section 41 Griffith C99331

⁷⁴ Department of Urban Services. ACT Contracts & Purchasing. 99/15205 Artwork for the Wedge, Garema Place, Civic C99418; 99/15347 Supply & delivery of artwork – Mort Street pocket park – Fiona Hooton – C99428

⁷⁵ National Capital Development Commission. 75/759. Chief Minister's Department. ACT Heritage Unit. 91/17664 Memorials and fountains

⁷⁶ City Operations Branch, City Management Section 94/10300 Community art/street art

⁷⁷ ACT Government. ACT City Services. Waste Management Section 92/07490 Murals on underpasses; City Operations Branch. City Management Section 94/15971 Community art, street art; City Operations Branch, City Management Section 94/10300 Community art/street art

⁷⁸ Department of Urban Services. City Management. Canberra Urban Parks & Places 02/4355 Public art

- six oil paintings by Douglas Dundas executed prior to the building of the lake;
- an oil painting of the site of Belconnen Town Centre by David Strachan;
- five guache paintings of Tuggeranong by Brian Dunlop;
- a series of watercolours by Mr Eldershaw;
- a drawing of St John's Church by Kenneth Jack;
- a drawing of the Tuggeranong Valley from Mt Taylor by Roger Johnson;
- three small drawings of buildings in Belconnen by Ray Beattyman.

The NCDC had in the past other paintings that had been passed to the Archival collection of the Department of Capital Territory and to the Cities Commission.⁷⁹.

⁷⁹ National Capital Development Commission. 73/1055 Painting of Canberra Scenery

Prizes, awards & grants

Australia 75 – Festival of Creative Arts and Sciences

The Visual Arts Sub-Committee of Australia 75 organised the Young Australian Sculptors exhibition in the Commonwealth Gardens⁸⁰. Thirty-one sculptors were represented. Of those exhibiting the following sculptors subsequently had works acquired that now belong to the Territory, including Russell Browne with Sentinel III⁸¹. Sentinel I was acquired by the NCDC and placed in the Alinga Street Boulevard in 1976.⁸² Vlasta Nikoleski exhibited *Détente* and *Untitled*. Subsequently Mr & Mrs H.J. Wilkinson with the assistance of the Visual Arts Board acquired *Fountain* and it was installed at the then Sisters of Mercy Hospital (now Calvary Hospital) in Bruce in 1979.⁸³ Robert Parr exhibited *Flowers*. *Red Flowers* was acquired by the NCDC and installed in the Kambah Health Centre courtyard in 1977.⁸⁴ Ron Robertson-Swann exhibited *Quietly wild*, it was acquired for Hawker College and installed in 1977.⁸⁵

Ross Hohnen was chairman of the Canberra Theatre Trust 1971-1977. His papers are in the National Library of Australia and include Australia 75 minutes of Board of Governors and subcommittees, 1973-75.⁸⁶

National Sculpture Award – Canberra Festival

In 1984 Ellen Blunden, Director of Canberra Festival Incorporated, formally mooted the setting up of an annual award for sculpture with the Canberra Festival as the co-ordinating body⁸⁷. In 1985 the National Capital Development Commission was working with the Festival to institute the annual acquisition award.⁸⁸

⁸⁰ National Capital Development Commission 74/1332 Purchase of art works – Australia 75; 74/1511 Commonwealth Park (East) Australia 75 Festival works; 74/701 Festival of Creative Arts and Sciences: Canberra 8-16th March 1975. Australia 75

⁸¹ Visual Arts Sub-Committee of Australia 75. Young Australian Sculptors – Commonwealth Gardens Sculpture 75 8-16 March leaflet.

⁸² National Capital Development Commission. *Works of art in Canberra*. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page 11

⁸³ National Capital Development Commission. *Works of art in Canberra*. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page 42

⁸⁴ National Capital Development Commission. *Works of art in Canberra*. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page 46

⁸⁵ National Capital Development Commission. *Works of art in Canberra*. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page 49

⁸⁶ National Library of Australia. MS 9124 Papers of Ross Hohnen. Series 16 Theatre and the Arts, 1971-95, Lever arch file 2, Australia 75 [Festival of Creative Arts and Sciences, Canberra, March 1975]: minutes of Board of Governors and subcommittees, 1973-75.

⁸⁷ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 84/1934 Canberra Festival Sculpture Award.

⁸⁸ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 96

Gorman House Sculpture Competition

The National Capital Development Commission provided \$10,000 for provision of a sculpture for the Gorman House Community Arts Centre.⁸⁹

ACT Heritage Award

The ACT Heritage Award is a statuette of Ethos.⁹⁰

Grants

Grant schemes for arts funding are a feature of the public art process. The A.C.T. Arts Development Board administered the grant process and a review was held in 1985.⁹¹ The Department of Capital Territory had a community arts programme.⁹²

⁸⁹ Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards folio 95

⁹⁰ Chief Minister's Department. ACT Heritage Unit. 00/04642 Ethos statue

⁹¹ Chief Minister's Department. Department of Territories and Local Government. Community Relations and Facilities Branch. 84/8468 Review of the general grants scheme arts development program

⁹² National Capital Development Commission. 75/373 D.C.T. Community Arts Programme

Arts & Cultural Development - Donations

Donations

Taxation incentives for the arts

The Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme commenced in 1978 to encourage gifts of culturally significant items to Australian public art galleries, libraries and museums by enabling income taxation deductions.⁹³ The Department Home Affairs and the Environment administered the Tax incentives for the Arts scheme and recognised the Department of Capital Territory as recipient of artworks under this scheme. The Department of Capital Territory nominated the Nolan Gallery as a recipient. ⁹⁴ Because of this nomination, the Secretary of the Department of the Capital Territory Tony Blunn and Ron Beaver of Beaver Galleries held discussions on the possibility of a sculpture garden at the Nolan Gallery at Lanyon. However, despite the possibility of three works of John Robinson’s being in Canberra, Mortality, Transcend and Eternity; Mortality ended up being part of the Mildura Arts Centre Gallery sculpture garden; Eternity is in Petrie Plaza; and Transcend “may be accepted by the ANU – negotiations have commenced”⁹⁵ However the Collections Officer of the ANU Art Collection states that, although the Collection has two paintings, it does not have any other artworks by John Robinson.⁹⁶

⁹³ Howard, John. Statement by the Treasurer, the Hon. John Howard M.P.: Taxation incentives for the arts. Press release 180, 14 October 1981.

⁹⁴ Chief Minister’s Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/730 Mortality sculpture by John Robinson, and Chief Minister’s Department. National Capital Development Commission, 82/1586 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards

⁹⁵ Chief Minister’s Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/730 Mortality sculpture by John Robinson folio 37

⁹⁶ Boon, David. Phone call in response to a faxed request. 22 March 2005.



Figure 2 Photograph of proposed site of Mortality, with Mortality superimposed on the Darwin Place site, viewed from London Circuit. Folio 33. Chief Minister's Department. National Capital Development Commission. 82/730 Mortality sculpture by John Robinson

Donations to the City of Canberra

Sir Warwick Fairfax, chairman of John Fairfax Ltd, announced a gift from the Federal Capital Times, to the City of Canberra in 1976. It is a sculpture in stainless steel and water, lit from below at night designed by Robert Woodward, known as the Canberra Times Fountain and was placed in Ainslie Avenue between Petrie Plaza and Civic Square.⁹⁷

The Reserve Bank of Australia presented the bronze statue, known as either Dreaming⁹⁸ or Woman in Thought⁹⁹ in 1973.

The Downer family of Adelaide presented the Father and Son bronze fountain figures to the City of Canberra in 1964. It is part of the memorial to Sir John Downer, one of the founders of the Australian Federation, Premier of South Australia and appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1878.¹⁰⁰

Over the years various memorials were donated to the Royal Canberra Hospital by staff and patients. These include a stained glass window in the quiet room in memory of Sister Dorothy (Meredith) Bryan, Carmel

⁹⁷ National Capital Development Commission. 76/639 Proposed gift of artwork by Canberra Times. Davidson, Gay (1976) Fountain gift to Canberra, *Canberra Times*, 23 September 1976.

⁹⁸ National Capital Development Commission. *Works of art in Canberra*. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page 61.

⁹⁹ *Canberra Times*, Thursday, May 17, 1973.

¹⁰⁰ Gaid, Rand (1984) 'Father and Son' statue to be moved for renovations, *Canberra Times*, 20 July 1984

Smith memorial, Mona Tait and May Hayman plaque in the foyer and the Peter Blaxland Operating Suite plaque.¹⁰¹

It appears that the plaque went to the University of Canberra, because the University Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor had unveiled a plaque, donated by the RSL as trustee, in the School of Nursing honouring the memory of two Australian nurses killed during World War 11, Mona Tait and May Hayman.¹⁰²

Certain gifts to the City of Canberra are housed in the Legislative Assembly.¹⁰³ Some of these were donated following exhibitions, such as the photographs of Taikichi Irie.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰¹ Muir, Evelyn, Eileen Bryan & Lyn Cummings (n.d.) Preserving RCH memorials, *Canberra Times*, received 25 May

¹⁰² University of Canberra Council. Minutes of Council Meeting no. 59 of Wednesday 27 May 1998.

¹⁰³ Chief Minister's Department. 88/3329 Support Services Branch. A.C.T. Advisory Council – Gifts to City of Canberra.

¹⁰⁴ Chief Minister's Department 97/4490 Museums & Galleries Unit, Nara-Canberra twin city photographic exhibition of works by Taikichi Irie

Arts & Cultural Development - Exhibitions

Exhibitions

Taikichi Irie

As part of the sister city relationship with Nara, the Mayor of Nara offered an exhibition of the works of the Japanese photographer Taikichi Irie to coincide with his visit in 1997 was arranged.¹⁰⁵ In association with the exhibition was an extension program¹⁰⁶. This exhibition led to the donation of 30 photographs from the exhibition.¹⁰⁷ The Belconnen Library exhibited the photographs during the Multicultural Festival in January 1998.¹⁰⁸



Figure 3 Irie, Taikichi. Photograph of Statue of Basara Taisho, taken December 1976. Original is a gift of the Nara City Council 1997. Owned by the Legislative Assembly.

¹⁰⁵ Chief Minister's Department. 96/18058 Museums & Galleries Unit, Nara – Canberra Twin City photographic exhibition of works by Taikichi Irie 1997

¹⁰⁶ Evocations of Nara: an exhibition of work by Master Photographer Taikichi Irie (1997) Canberra Times Saturday, 26 April 1997; Ennis, Helen (1997) Meditations on beauty, time and memory, Canberra Times, 6 May 1997

¹⁰⁷ Chief Minister's Department. 97/4490 Museums & Galleries Unit, Nara – Canberra Twin City photographic exhibition of works by Taikichi Irie; Cooke, Graham (1997) A gift of photographs from sister city, Canberra Times, 16 April 1997

¹⁰⁸ Chief Minister's Department. 97/4490 Museums & Galleries Unit, Nara – Canberra Twin City photographic exhibition of works by Taikichi Irie

Property management - Maintenance

Maintenance

Care and maintenance of public artworks is an ongoing concern. The Department of Territories undertook an extensive review of the “numerous memorials and sculptures in its care with a view to developing a program for regular maintenance of these items.”¹⁰⁹ Maintenance of particular artworks¹¹⁰ caused concern. Contracts were let for general maintenance¹¹¹ of public artworks, including fountains and memorials. This occurred by both the Commonwealth and ACT Governments. During the preparation for ACT Self-Government discussions were held on the cleaning and maintenance of various works.¹¹² Cleaning of Stepping Out (Hughes Shops), Site Marker (Narrabundah Shops and O’Connor Shops), We are fishes (Lake Tuggeranong), Queen Elizabeth II Family Centre, Serpent and mosaics (Curtin), the Fourth Pillar

¹⁰⁹ Chief Minister’s Department. National Capital Development Commission, 82/1586 part 1 Sculpture and art works in ACT policies and practices 1982 onwards, folio 74

¹¹⁰ National Capital Development Commission. 85/1583 Sculpture – John Robinson – “Acrobats” folio 81; Martin, John (2005) Excuse me, have you lost a sculpture? Canberra Times, Monday July 18 2005, page 14

¹¹¹ Department of Urban Services. 01/2580 ACT contracts. Maintenance of the public artworks – C01064; and Department of Urban Services 92/18895 ACT City Services. Waste Management Section. Fountains & memorials maintenance. Fountains/memorials/artworks

¹¹² National Capital Development Commission. 88/694 Maintenance of memorials, statues, fountains and works of art in public places 1987 onwards

(ACT Magistrate's Court), Fire Line (Civic Square) was part of an ongoing program.¹¹³ The removal and reinstatement of public art did not occur often, but the same care was expected as at the time of installation, e.g. Ethos¹¹⁴ or Inge King's sculpture Observer.¹¹⁵

Some of the works were inspected and assessed for maintenance, eg the water feature at Woden Town Square.¹¹⁶

¹¹³ Department of Urban Services. Canberra Urban Parks and Public Places. Asset Creation & Acceptance. 98/10717 Civic maintenance & cleaning

¹¹⁴ City Operations Branch. 96/11926 Specification development for artwork – design approval for artworks

¹¹⁵ National Capital Development Commission 82/983 Maintenance of memorials, statues, fountains & works of art in public places prior to 1987

¹¹⁶ Department of Urban Services. ACT City Services. Waste Management Section. Fountains & Memorials. 92/18895 Maintenance – Fountains / Memorials / Art works; folio 34

Plaques, memorials and time capsules

Strictly speaking, plaques and memorials are not included in artworks, unless there is some artistic input, beyond the design of the plaque¹¹⁷ e.g. the suburb name plaques at Chifley¹¹⁸, that contain a portrait of the person after whom the suburb is named. The ACT Veterans' Memorial is included¹¹⁹. So the Phillips Family memorial plaque at Sherwood Historic Site,¹²⁰ the John Knight Memorial Park,¹²¹ and the Bushfire Memorial are not included as artwork. There is a time capsule in the base of Ethos, however in 1996, it was not known exactly where.¹²²

¹¹⁷ Chief Minister's Department. ACT Heritage Unit. 86/06433, 90/18957 Plaques for historic sites and buildings

¹¹⁸ National Capital Development Commission. Works of art in Canberra. 2nd ed. NCDC, Canberra, 1981 page 1

¹¹⁹ Department of Urban Services. Canberra Urban Parks and Public Places. 04/09154 ACT Veterans Memorial

¹²⁰ Chief Minister's Department. ACT Heritage Unit. 93/02164, 80/02367 Sherwood Grave. Brendan Smyth (2000) Pioneer family of 'Sherwood' remembered: media statement Thursday 2 November 2000; Memorial to pioneers (2000) *Chronicle* 14 November 2000

¹²¹ Chief Minister's Department. ACT Heritage Unit. 04/15061 John Knight Memorial Park

¹²² City Operations Branch. 96/11926 Specification development for artwork – design approval for artworks

Publication

Publications

Monographs and pamphlets

The National Capital Development Commission produced two volumes illustrating the public art acquired by the NCDC. There were also pamphlets printed that listed public art in various accessible places.¹²³

The ACT Government's Public Art Program began in 1995. For information on that program see the public art website at <http://www.arts.act.gov.au/pages/page9.asp>. There is also a Civic Public Art Walking brochure, available at <http://www.arts.act.gov.au/pages/images/Civic%20Public%20Art%20Walking%20Tour.pdf>.

¹²³ National Capital Development Commission 70/114 N.C.D.C. sculpture pamphlet; 73/1631 sculpture pamphlet 1966-1970; National Archives of Australia: National Capital Development Commission; A8844, Minutes of Sculpture Committee meetings – SC40 to SC74 February 1971 to December 1975; SC40 9 February 1971 page 3; SC44 4 June 1971; National Capital Development Commission 87/1093 Brochure: national monuments and memorials

Information Management

Information Management – Control – Registers

National Capital Development Commission

A catalogue of artworks was maintained¹²⁴ as well as a register of sculptors¹²⁵ and an inventory of models.¹²⁶ The status and location of the record of artworks seemed to be uncertain in 1974.¹²⁷

¹²⁴ National Capital Development Commission 75/1509 Catalogue of art works

¹²⁵ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Meeting 23 October 1968

¹²⁶ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 1 Meeting 7 March 1969

¹²⁷ National Archives of Australia: A8844, volume: 2 Minutes of Meeting held 12 February 1974

Index

A

A.C.T. Arts Development Board
12, 25
access, 4, 5
Artworks Committee, 9
Australian War Memorial, 4

C

Canberra School of Music 16
Canberra Technical College:, 16
Control records, 4
controlling agency, 5, 6

E

Exclusion, 4

F

file registers, 4
Freedom of Information Act 1989,
5
functional thesauri, 4
functional thesaurus, 6

G

grant schemes 12, 25

L

legacy records, 6

N

National Archives of Australia, 4, 5

National Capital Development
Commission, 9

P

Public Art Consultative
Committee, 13, 14
published works, 4

R

RecordSearch 4, 5

S

School
Campbell High, 16
Canberra Technical College, 16
Deakin High School, 16
Downer Primary, 16
Lyneham High School, 16
Lyons Primary, 16
South Curtin Primary, 16
Watson High, 16
Woden Valley High, 16
sculpture, 12
Sculpture sub-committee, 16
self-government, 4, 9, 12
series numbering system, 6
Siting of Memorials Policy, 9
subject indexes, 4

T

Territory Archive, 5
Territory Records Act 2002, 5, 6