



Royal Australian Historical Society

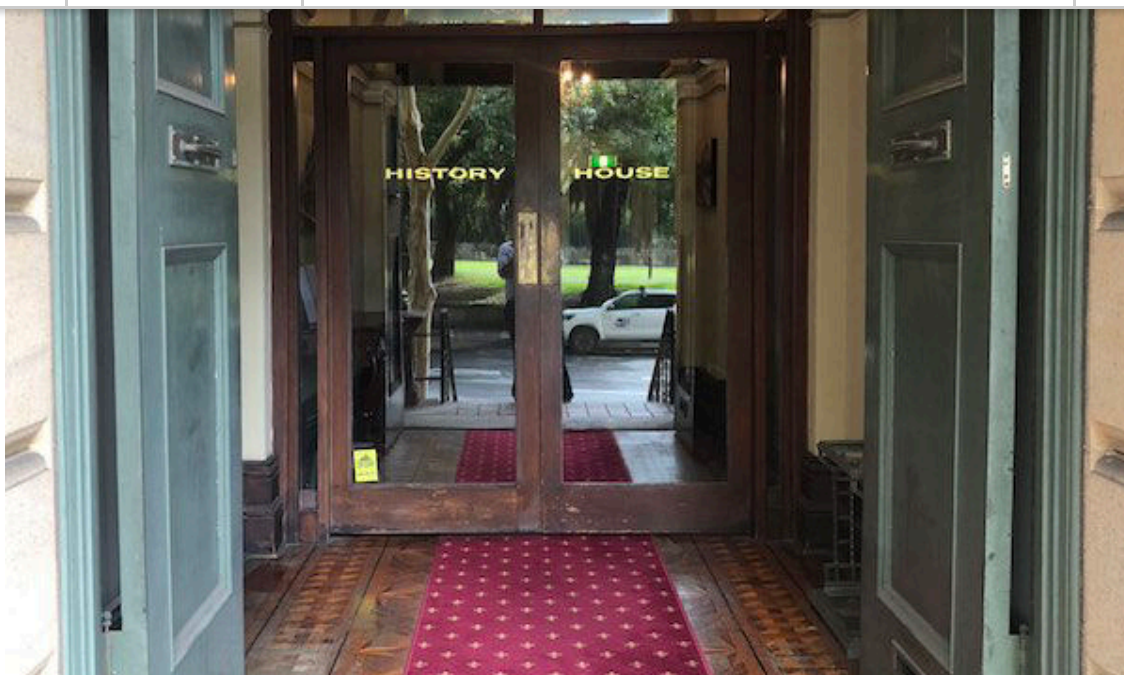
Knowing your history

19 September 2024

[View this RAHS email in your browser](#)



Campbelltown Railway Station, c.1916 (Courtesy CAHS)



Progress Update on History House

We would like to share some updates on the work happening at History House as we have made solid progress since reopening in May 2024.

A key focus has been addressing the roof, which has faced issues due to its age and runoff from nearby high-rise buildings. We've developed a comprehensive waterproofing solution, including improved drainage, to effectively manage rainwater and protect the building's structure.

We've also identified some subsidence issues affecting the sandstone entrance and the ground floor. Our engineers are investigating and will begin stabilising the foundation soon to ensure the building's long-term stability.

As with all heritage buildings, the process can be slow and requires careful planning and extensive paperwork. We are aiming to complete the structural work by April–May 2025, after which we will shift our focus to conservation efforts, including restoring the sandstone façade.

We would like to thank our donors and members for supporting this project and the goals of the RAHS.



2024 RAHS Conference Early Bird Discount Ending Soon

We are looking forward to welcoming delegates to the 2024 RAHS Conference at Campbelltown in October. There are only a few days left to take advantage of our early bird discounted tickets, so we encourage you to [book now](#) to avoid disappointment. In our last e-news, we highlighted local speakers and topics. Today, we want to showcase other exciting subjects at the conference.

On Saturday morning, we will be joined by eminent historian **Mark McKenna**, who will present the [Lesley Muir Address](#) on ***Writing a 'Local' History of Australia***. Mark will explain how local history will form the foundation of his forthcoming short history of Australia, which will be published by Black Inc later this year. As Mark says, 'All too often, history is filed according to its geographical span – local, regional, state, national or global – as if certain histories are only of interest to certain readers. But how can we challenge and enlarge our view of Australian history by dismantling these boundaries? And how might close observation of local history help to radically shift our understanding of the writing of Australian history?'

Conference delegates will also have an exclusive opportunity to explore the

innkeeper Michael Byrne, the son of an Irish convict. Glenalvon was restored in 1970 and is the home of the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society.

On Sunday afternoon, we will be joined by **Gizette Waldron** (Geographical Names Board) and **Sarah Middleton-Jones** (Reserve Bank of Australia Archivist). Gizette will give delegates an introduction to Place Naming in NSW and explain how local historical societies can contribute historical place name information. Sarah will showcase the RBA's digital archives platform, *Unreserved*, which makes the bank's collection of economic and financial records available to researchers.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference. For more information and to book online, visit: <https://www.rahs.org.au/2024-rahs-conference/>



Government Responds to Concerns About Changes to Not-for-Profit Reporting

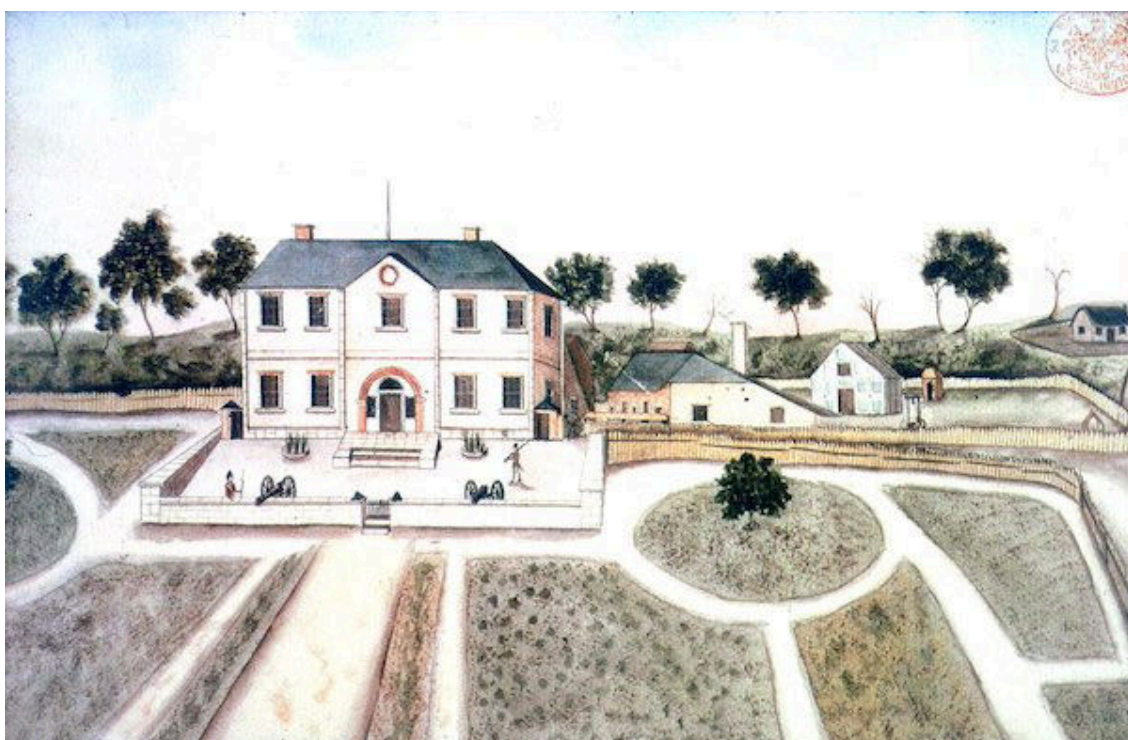
The Assistant Minister for Charities, Dr Andrew Leigh, has responded to the Royal Australian Historical Society's concerns regarding changes to income tax regulations for not-for-profit (NFP) historical societies. The RAHS asked that the not-for-profit income regulations be changed so that NFP local and community history associations would be classified as cultural associations and for an increase in the revenue threshold.

outlined actions the government is taking to support affected organisations. The ATO will adopt a practical compliance approach, allowing organisations additional time to submit their returns, with a deadline extension to 31 March 2025. For those unable to lodge online, a telephone service will be available.

He also encouraged historical societies to explore registering as charities if they advance education or culture, making them eligible for additional tax benefits. The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) has developed a self-assessment tool to assist organisations in determining their eligibility for charity registration, which can be accessed at www.acnc.gov.au/charity-registration-self-assessment

The RAHS also wants to highlight the [ACNC free online training](#) available on Future Learn for historical societies that currently do not have charity status but are considering applying. The training contains courses to ensure that your historical society keeps its charity status once you are approved.

RAHS Events



Speaker: Miles Lewis.

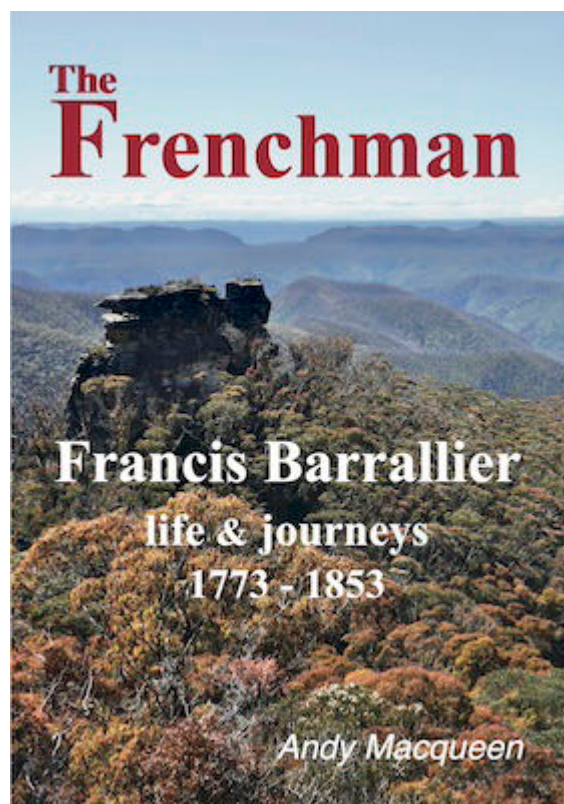
When: Wednesday, 25 September 2024 at 6 pm.

Where: History House, 133 Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000.

Cost: RAHS Members \$20 | Non-members \$25.

Prefabrication played an important role in Australia from the first European settlement onwards, and more examples survive here than anywhere else in the world. They include wooden houses from Singapore (none of which survive in Singapore itself), English iron buildings of the 1850s (only one of which survives in Britain), plate iron buildings from Glasgow, like the Legislative Council building in Macquarie Street (none in Scotland), redwood buildings from the USA (none), and others from Germany, France and Italy. Most are of great historical and technical interest.

[BUY TICKETS](#)



RAHS Day Lecture

Mapping the colony: The intriguing contributions of Francis Barrallier

Speaker: Andy Macqueen.

When: Wednesday, 2 October 2024 at 1 pm.

Where: Online via Zoom.

Cost: Free.

explorer – made significant contributions to NSW colonial endeavours from 1800 to 1803 but fell victim to the feuding between his fellow Rum Corps officers and Governor King. His talents were employed in the West Indies instead. In this talk, Andy Macqueen will argue that Barrallier's French origin and associations influenced his undertakings and his fate in the colony.

RESERVE TICKETS



RAHS Day Lecture

The Antipodean Laboratory: Re-reading the colonial archive

Speaker: Anna Johnston.

When: Wednesday, 6 November 2024 at 1 pm.

Where: Online via Zoom.

Cost: Free.

What if the Australian colonies, far flung and usually considered peripheral to nineteenth-century Europe, were in fact central to the period's philosophical, ethical, and scientific developments? This talk explores this provocative idea, showing how Australia was a key colonial field where British ideas could be trialled in experimental sites that transformed and distilled them before returning them as textual and material artefacts through circuits of correspondence and print culture.

RESERVE TICKETS



RAHS-WEA Workshop

Stepping Ashore: Researching Passenger Arrivals in the Australian Colonies

Speaker: Christine Yeats.

When: Wednesday, 13 November 2024 at 11 am.

Where: History House, 133 Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000.

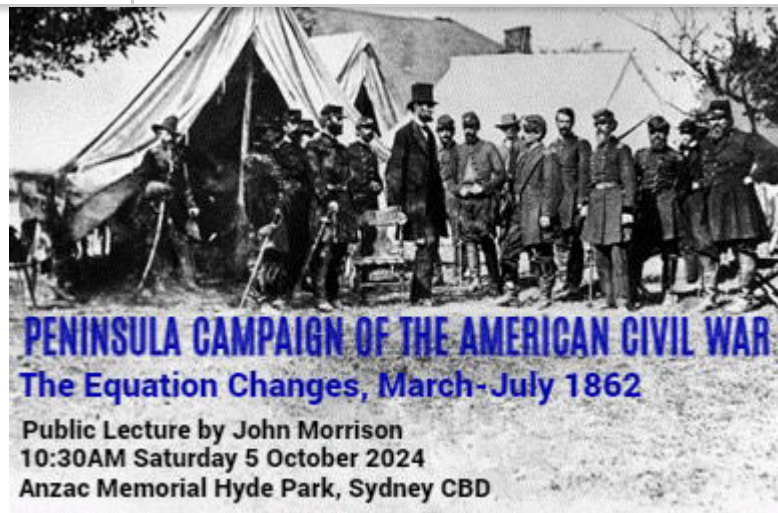
Cost: RAHS Members \$35 | Non-members \$39.

Explore the methods and resources that can be used to uncover the records of people who immigrated to the Australian colonies in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This course also delves into the significance of immigration, providing participants with the skills to access historical sources, with a focus on accessing and interpreting ship's passenger records, government archives, newspapers, and personal narratives.

[BUY TICKETS](#)

Affiliated Societies News

Military History Society of NSW



Peninsula Campaign of the American Civil War: The Equation Changes, March-July 1862

John Morrison, a member of the Military History Society of NSW and Program Director of the Sydney Chapter of the American Civil War Roundtable, will speak on the Peninsula Campaign of the American Civil War. John will explain how this campaign was the Union's first major attempt to capture the Confederacy's capital at Richmond in a flanking movement up Southern-held territory, with the hope of bringing the war to a swift end. The campaign's failure was disastrous for the North, prolonging the war for three more bloody years.

When: Saturday, 5 October at 10.30 am.

Where: The Auditorium, Anzac Memorial Hyde Park.

Admission: Free, but a donation is appreciated.

For information: president@militaryhistorynsw.com.au

City of Sydney Historical Association



Joseph Conrad's Eastern Voyages

Historian and author Ian Burnet tells the story of Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski, which reads like an adventure story that could be written by somebody like Joseph Conrad. The young Conrad dreamed of a life at sea, he eventually became a British merchant seaman and he spent fifteen years sailing on the classic three-masted, square-rigged sailing ships, including many voyages to what was then the Dutch East Indies. During this period, he worked his way up from apprentice to third mate, to second mate, to first mate and finally the captain of one of these beautiful ships.

When: Saturday, 12 October at 2 pm.

Where: Lord Mayors Reception Room, Sydney Town Hall.

Admission: Members \$5. Visitors \$10. No bookings required.

BMACHO



Identification of HMB Endeavour Shipwreck Site

BMACHO is pleased to announce that Dr James Hunter, the Australian National Maritime Museum's Curator of Naval Heritage and Maritime Archaeology, has agreed to be guest speaker at BMACHO's next event and will be speaking about the identification of HMB *Endeavour's* shipwreck site.

Dr Hunter has a background in maritime archaeology and naval history and has been involved in the investigation of several shipwreck sites with significance to Australia, including HMB *Endeavour* and the submarine HMAS *AE1*.

When: Wednesday, 16 October at 10.30 am.

Where: Hawkesbury Regional Museum, 8 Baker St, Windsor.

Cost: Free, but booking is essential.

RSVP: [Register Here!](#)

Parramatta Female Factory Friends



PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC

present

A COLONIAL CRAFT WORKSHOP 1

- STRAW PLAITING & BRAIDING -



In this workshop participants will be commencing a replica of a sun bonnet similar to a hat made and worn by Female Convicts.

Workshop led by the talented Lyn Watkins, crafter and descendant of Factory women

WHEN: SATURDAY, 28th September 2024 - 10 am to 1 pm.

WHERE: Parramatta Female Factory Friends Room

5 Fleet Street, North Parramatta

No parking onsite - limited on street parking

Straw plaiting was one of the numerous occupations of the convict women transported to the Colony of NSW. There were a number of women in the Female Factory with this skill and trade - all manner of household items and practical goods were made from plaited straw. A plaited straw hat or a bonnet was an essential item of clothing in such a hot climate and for women, an adornment when trimmed with a ribbon or two.

Equipment: Bring your own scissors and tape measure. **WORKSHOP 1** Cost: \$15 plus \$15 for kit. **WORKSHOP 2** - completing your project; details TBC.

PLEASE NOTE: We welcome participants who attended the previous workshops.

Enquiries to Lyn: parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com

Bookings essential - places are limited: Eventbrite <https://bit.ly/3Bbfe0c>

web: www.parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au

facebook: www.facebook.com/pfffriends

email: parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com

PH: 0456 787 252



City of Canada Bay Heritage Society



Power boat racing

Barry is a retired racer and referee for the Australian Power Boat Association.

He will bring to life the fast and exhilarating sport of power boat racing.

The City of Canada Bay Heritage Society

invites you to join us to hear a talk by

Barry Robinson

on

History of power boat racing circa 1920 - 2000

at the

City of Canada Bay Museum

1 Bent St, Concord

on

Saturday 5th October 2024

at

1.30pm for a 2.00pm sharp start

The talk will be followed by light refreshments and a chance to chat with the speaker and our wonderful volunteers

Admission: Free

(donations always welcome)

Come early and look around our new displays.

The museum opens at 10am.

For more information:

www.canadabayheritage.asn.au or email: heritage@canadabayheritage.asn.au

Telephone: 9743 3034 (Wednesday and Saturday 10am – 4pm)

Willoughby District Historical Society

My Willoughby

'Reflecting on the past, looking to the future'



**An Exhibition capturing and celebrating
cultural diversity in Willoughby's History**

presented by

Willoughby District Historical Society & Museum Inc.

**Willoughby Museum,
58 Johnson Street, Chatswood**

Open Sundays 1-4pm

(groups by appointment)

Commencing 8 September 2024

Entry by Donation



Willoughby District Historical Society & Museum Inc. Phone 9410 3203 Website: www.willoughbydhs.org.au

Facebook: Historical Willoughby Email: wdhs58@gmail.com

History News

DONALD HORNE

A Life in the Lucky Country



RYAN CROPP

2024 Prime Minister's Literary Awards Australian History Category

Congratulations to the winner and shortlisted entries!

Winner:

Donald Horne: A Life in the Lucky Country by Ryan Cropp

Shortlisted:

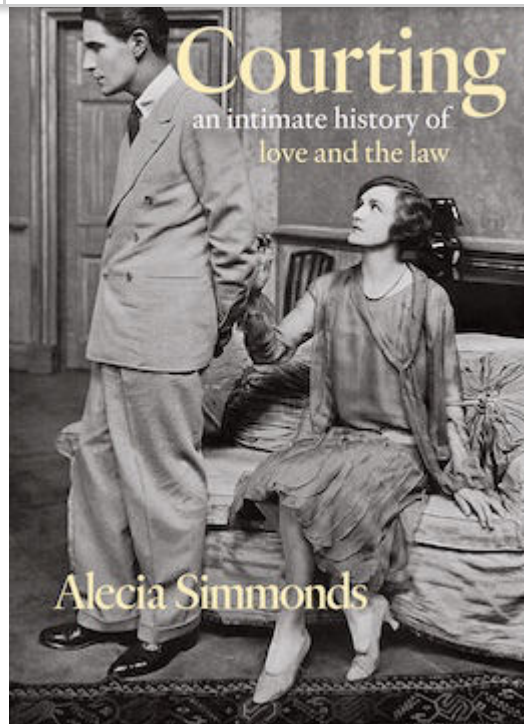
Bee Miles by Rose Ellis

Bennelong and Phillip by Kate Fullagar

Killing for Country by David Marr

Courting: An Intimate History of Love and the Law by Alecia Simmonds

[Read about the Awards](#)



2024 NSW Premier's History Awards

Congratulations to the winners and shortlisted entries!

Australian History Prize:

Courting: An Intimate History of Love and the Law by Alecia Simmonds

General History Prize:

Systemic Silencing: Activism, Memory, and Sexual Violence in Indonesia by
Katharine E. McGregor

NSW Community and Regional History Prize:

Reaching Through Time: Finding my family's stories by Shauna Bostock

Digital History Prize:

The Dark Emu Story by Blackfella Films and ABC

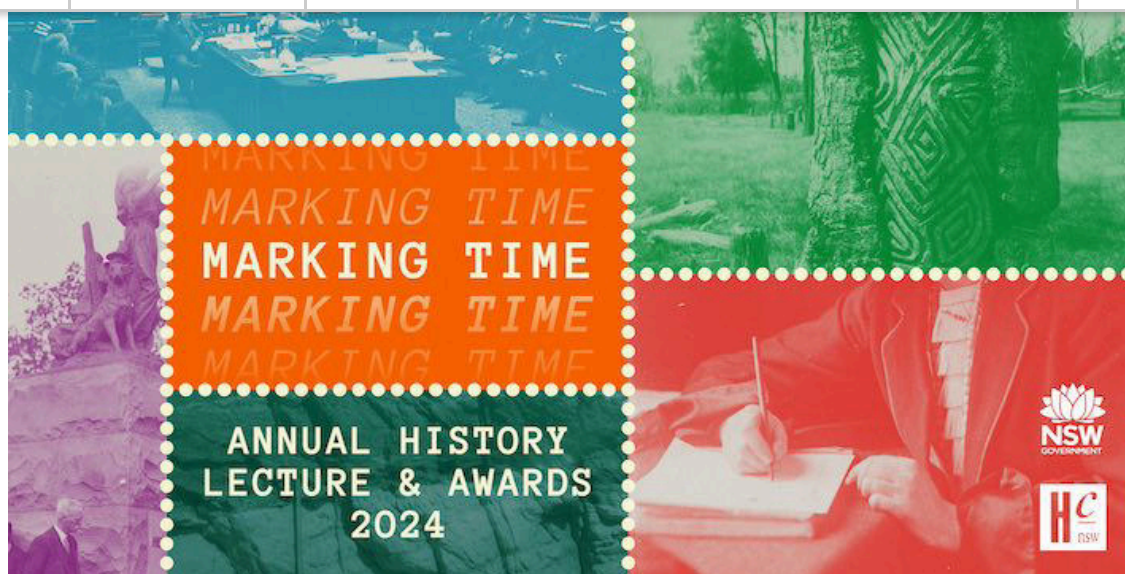
Young People's History Prize:

Two Sparrowhawks in a Lonely Sky by Rebecca Lim

Anzac Memorial Trustees Military History Prize:

Kriegies: The Australian Airmen of Stalag Luft III by Kristen Alexander

[Read about the Awards](#)



2024 HCNSW Annual History Awards

Congratulations to the winners and highly-commended entries!

First Nations History Award:

Kazan Brown

Addi Road Award for Multicultural History:

Philippa Nicole Barr

Jill Roe Regional History Award:

Nadine Wilson

Macquarie-PHA Applied History Award:

Collector and District Historical Association

Max Kelly Award:

Harrison Croft

2024 History Citation:

Emeritus Professor Grace Karskens

[Read about the Awards](#)

Hardy Wilson's *Old Colonial Architecture...* 1924-2024

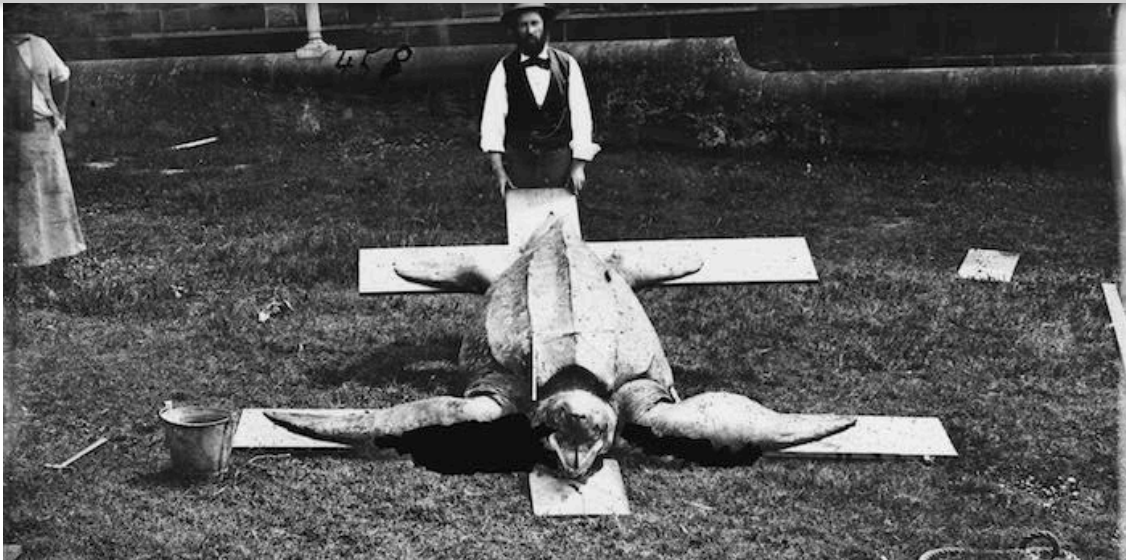


Hardy Wilson's Old Colonial Architecture 1924–2024

Published in 1924, Hardy Wilson's book *Old Colonial Architecture in New South Wales and Tasmania* was the first major publication dedicated to the documentation and conservation of Australian buildings. 100 years on, this exhibition draws attention to the book's creation, examines its enduring presence and influence in Australian architecture, and contextualises it in Wilson's biography and wider body of published work.

This exhibition was curated by Associate Professor Cameron Logan (Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning) and Hector Abrahams and Olivia Salkeld (Hector Abrahams Architects) in collaboration with Rare Books and Special Collections.

The exhibition is on display on Level 2 of Fisher Library at the University of Sydney. [Click for more details.](#)



Gerard Krefft: A Saga of Science and Scandal

One of the Australian Museum's most memorable curators, Gerard Krefft, a renowned natural scientist, museum pioneer and Australia's first zoologist, helped shape our nation's understanding and appreciation for the natural sciences. His tenure was one of great drama, and following a feisty ideological battle with Australian Museum trustees, a defiant Krefft was unceremoniously ejected from the Museum, still sitting in his chair.

On the 150th anniversary of his unceremonious ejection from the Australian Museum, Gerard Krefft's legacy is honoured in a fascinating discussion with AM Directors and historians.

When: Saturday, 21 September at 12 pm.

Where: UG Theatre, Australian Museum, 1 William St, Sydney.

Cost: Free, but booking is essential.

RSVP: [Register Here!](#)



Ninety Treasures – 90 Years: Anzac Memorial 1934–2024

Support the Anzac Memorial and help us celebrate its 90th Anniversary by purchasing a copy of our 90th Anniversary publication!

Ninety Treasures – 90 Years showcases the remarkable depth of the Memorial's rich and varied collection from colonial times to the 21st century. Within its 144 pages, vivid illustrations and 90 stirring narratives demonstrate the diversity of NSW military experience and the courage, endurance and sacrifice of generations of Australians whose lives have been profoundly affected by war.

Opening in 1934, the Anzac Memorial is the State's principal commemorative and interpretive memorial dedicated to the service and sacrifice of Australians in peace and war. Over the decades, the people of NSW have donated a wealth of artefacts, cherished mementoes and keepsakes to the Memorial from their military service and that of their families.

Preorder your copy now and join us as we celebrate the stories of service and sacrifice of our veterans and their families.

[Order your pre-sale here.](#)

Other News



Anzac Community Grants Program 2024

Applications for the 2024 Anzac Community Grants Program are now open!

The NSW Government's Anzac Community Grants Program provides grants of up to \$3,000 for projects that commemorate and educate NSW communities about the service and sacrifices of current and former military servicemen and servicewomen, as well as activities benefiting the NSW veteran community.

Individuals and not-for-profit organisations, including local governments, ex-service organisations, and educational institutions, are eligible to apply.

Applications close on 11 November 2024.

For further information and to apply, please visit veterans.nsw.gov.au/ACGP



AHA 2025 Conference

Northern Australia Fellowship

The 2025 Australian Historical Association (AHA) conference is being hosted jointly by Central Queensland University (CQU) and James Cook University

which are to involve research in James Cook University Library's Special Collections. Subsequently, at the AHA 2025 conference, the Fellowship holder will present a paper based on their research. The Northern Australia Fellowship is open to all historians. However, postgraduate students and Early Career Researchers are especially encouraged to apply.

Applications close 30 September 2024.

[Further information.](#)



Commercial Bank, Queen Street, 1880 (Courtesy CAHS)

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The Royal Australian Historical Society

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