

COLLECTIONS

Recent plantings have been chosen to showcase plants suitable for growing in local conditions. They represent many countries with similar climates, and include Australian and local native plants.

At the picnic shelter, beneath the historic New Zealand Cabbage Trees (*Cordyline australis*) a collection of flora from New Zealand is being established.

At the south-western border, near the giant Canary Island Pines (*Pinus canariensis*), is a collection of plants from the Macaronesia region, which includes the Canary Islands and Madeira.



HISTORY

- 1869 250-acre public park reserved
- 1870 Daniel Bunce advised on layout
Garden of 3 acres enclosed by fence
- 1874 Over 300 trees planted throughout
- 1888–89 William Guilfoyle guided improvements
- 1879–80 Caretaker's cottage built at entrance
Rotunda erected (base remains)
- 1900s Potting shed and picnic shelter erected
- 1910 Guilfoyle prepared plan for the site
- 1960s Caravan park permitted to develop on
2.5 hectares, including entrance avenue
- 1980s Community-led rejuvenation of gardens
- 2011 Camperdown Botanic Gardens and
Arboretum listed on Victorian Heritage
Register
- 2013 Camperdown Botanic Gardens and
Arboretum Trust established to contribute
to the conservation and improvement of
the site for the enjoyment of the public
into the future.

[v₂ Feb. 2017]

CAMPERDOWN BOTANIC GARDENS AND ARBORETUM



Established in 1869

One of Victoria's
fine regional botanic gardens

Camperdown's Botanic Gardens and Arboretum occupy a unique and spectacular site with views across the ancient Western District volcanic plain and the crater lakes of Bullen Merri and Gnotuk. The site was reserved in 1869 and is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

The Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum contain many splendid mature trees, and feature plants from many countries including collections from the Canary Islands and New Zealand.

The site was originally laid out by Daniel Bunce and re-designed to a plan prepared by William Guilfoyle in 1910.

WILLIAM GUILFOYLE

William Guilfoyle, director of the Royal Melbourne Botanic Gardens from 1873 to 1912 guided development of the Camperdown Botanic Gardens between 1888 and 1910. A skilled horticulturist and plant collector, he became Australia's most renowned landscape designer, inspired by the sub-tropical vegetation of northern New South Wales and the volcanic landscapes of the South Pacific.

Guilfoyle designed many private and public gardens in the Western District, and contributed to the design of the botanic gardens at Colac, Warrnambool, Hamilton and Koroit.

Guilfoyle's plan can be viewed at the Camperdown Heritage Centre.

SIGNIFICANT TREES

The Botanic Gardens and Arboretum feature many century-old trees, including Algerian Oaks, Canary Island Pines, Himalayan Cedars, and a fine specimen of the New Zealand Akiraho (*Olearia paniculata*). Dozens of new trees have been planted in the Arboretum.

Twelve trees are listed on the National Trust (Vic.) register of significant trees: an avenue of nine Lindens (*Tilia x europaea*), two Himalayan Oaks (*Quercus leucotrichophora*) and an African Holly (*Elaeodendron croceum*).



William Guilfoyle's plan for Camperdown Public Park 1910, showing the area of the Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

