

APR08

# LAND MARK



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# 01



## Registration 2008–2009 Application and Assessment To gain recognition as an AILA Registered Landscape Architect

### The Application

The 2008–2009 application form for AILA Registration is now available from the web site. The application may be submitted anytime before close of business Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Once the application has been accepted, the applicant and mentor need to download the assessment form and guides.

The AILA Registration assessment is in two stages.

### Stage One

Stage One involves 6 to 12 months of mentoring. The Stage One process must be completed by the following February. A report on the assessment needs to be completed and submitted along with an application to progress to Stage Two.

### Stage Two

Stage Two is the oral assessment. This stage involves an interview in April/May 2009. Details of what is required are set out in the Guide for Stage One and all applicants receive these details again once they progress to State Two.

### Start Now!

If someone in the office is thinking about applying to be an AILA Registered Landscape Architect, now is the time to go online and download the application form for 2008–2009.

[www.aila.org.au/membership](http://www.aila.org.au/membership)

## The AILA acknowledges our 2007–2008 National Sponsors



At Andreasens Green it's our job to help your ideas grow into a reality. We're here to provide you with the opportunities and the inspiration to make it happen. So whether it's sourcing an unusual plant range, providing advice on the right species for your environment or keeping ahead of growing trends, we'll go that little bit further to provide you with everything you need. It's been our philosophy since we were first established in 1981 in Sydney and 1986 at Coomera in South East Queensland.

### Our Promise

When the time comes to transform a designer's vision into a living, breathing landscaped reality, it takes a special kind of expertise to ensure the highest level of expression. We have that level of commitment and a dedicated team of professionals with expertise and experience to see great ideas come to life.

**This is the promise of ANDREASENS GREEN.**

# Annual reporting of your CPD

## Continuing Professional Development

All AILA Registered Landscape Architects are now required to report on their CPD as part of their annual renewals. This must be completed before (or as part of) the annual renewals this year (2008). These are due mid 2008. The invoices for the fees are due out in early May with payments due to be paid by July.

The breadth of practice within landscape architecture is very diverse with individuals having professional practice across a wide range of interests and disciplines. Because of this diversity, members need to seek out relevant continuing professional development through a range of providers and via a range of means.

While a very limited amount of CPD is provided through AILA talks series and seminar programs, members need to plan to access a variety of sources for their CPD opportunities. This includes other industry and professional associations, online training (both formal and informal) as well as new research undertaken in preparation for project work.

Members in more regional areas are advised to seek out relevant CPD opportunities that may be available through partner and allied organisations and professional bodies. The same difficulties in getting to AILA specific events are often experienced by many metropolitan members, so this is why members are advised to think about your specialist areas and to seek a range of CPD opportunities in your own fields of interest. Another option that is growing in practices, is for the firms to combine resources and to arrange some in-house CPD for staff across a couple of practices.

The method of calculating CPD points has not changed all that much. The AILA CPD system has been in place for many years. The real changes are that all Registered members report annually, the categories have been clarified and the reporting can now be done online (do it now!).

In short, if the CPD is formally assessed learning, the chances are that it is worth two points per hour. If it is the more passive and unassessed (attendance at events, talks, research etc), then chances are that it is worth one point per hour. (please check the categories in the GUIDE).

So yes research in a new area of practice does count towards your points – but not the project itself. Yes travel to visiting sites does count – just not all the holiday times associated with some travel. Yes attendance at a UDIA or PIA or RAIA or other association conferences does count if it is relevant to your practice. Yes reading magazines for focused research, rather than just casual catching up with the news, does count. See the GUIDES for a lot more.

All Registered members need to report a minimum of 30 points per annum. Note: CPD points are only valid for the financial year in which they are gained.

So for this year, you are reporting on activities and points earned between July 2007 till June 2008.

That is: The points to be reported by end of June this year (2008), must be on CPD activities undertaken within this financial year (July 2007–June 2008).

The CPD report must be submitted before the payment of annual fees. Any fees received before the report will held over (pending receipt of the CPD report) but not recorded as being paid.

The AILA conducts an annual random audit of CPD. If contacted, a member may be requested to produce evidence of the CPD undertaken and/or evidence of the CPD planning. We ask that you keep records and any receipts. (You may also need these if legally challenged by outside agencies.)

A special reminder: The CPD points are linked to your specialist areas of professional interest, not just the AILA events. Members should go online and download the GUIDES. Chances are you are already undertaking more than enough CPD, as would be expected of an active professional landscape architect. The change for most members will be the ten minutes it takes to go online and complete the report (before you pay your fees this year).

A note about using the online reporting. Please do not press the submit button until the report indicates that you have accumulated the minimum 30 points – then press submit. You only need to report once each year, not as you do each individual activity.

[www.aila.org.au/cpd](http://www.aila.org.au/cpd)



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[www.aila.org.au](http://www.aila.org.au)

## News from Queensland

### The 2007 Karl Langer Award

The Karl Langer 2007 award was presented at a successful evening gathering of the professions at QUT Gardens Point Theatre, 29 February 2008. The National President, Neil Hobbs, was in attendance and spoke of the importance of the profession advocating for the landscape ideals as set out in the Landscape Charter.

Karl Langer was an architect and town planner who had an impressive impact on Brisbane's cultural landscape in the 1940s through to his death in 1969. Together with his wife Gertrude, a well known art critic and Patron of the Arts, they greatly influenced the development of the Arts and design in Queensland.

To see more on Karl Langer and on a talk given by an award winner of 20 years ago:

<http://www.aila.org.au/profiles/langner>



AILA Qld President, Chris Boulton, congratulates Monique Howard, the 2007 Karl Langer Award winner.

# 02

# Roaming reconciliation

## Paul Costigan



It was during a walk that I occasionally take between the National Library and the National Gallery of Australia that the mind went wandering and landed on the actions of our new government and the cuts being made to the National Capital Authority.

But first a comment or two on Reconciliation Place. Any search of sites to be visited in Canberra rarely reveals that presence of Reconciliation Place within the Parliamentary Triangle. It is most unusual when I take this walk that I encounter anyone at all. Seems this site is just not on the tourist map.

Roaming out from the National Library, the first encounter is with a small avenue of artworks. One piece puzzled me when it first appeared, being not sure what that shape was supposed to represent. A closer inspection revealed it to be a complex work by Jenny Watson. Think her painting style translated into three dimensional landscape forms. Along the same boardwalk are other works, some murmuring, another being a bubbling water feature and other pieces that deserve time to ponder them.

The great thing about art when it works is that little inspiring tingle within the brain. A couple of these transmit creativity and shift the thinking. Then as the walk progresses you encounter some of the original shards, being information structures made of metal, glass and other stuff. These are more didactic information stands telling you tales of indigenous Australia, colonisation and related issues. Like traditional memorial plaques, once read, the message is quickly consumed and one moves on. This means that during return visits these tend to be ignored. These didactic semi-sculptural pieces do not do a lot for me. And I wish they would get Paul Kelly to play a different tune. Maybe that is why people stay away. Same tunes and voices every day could be very annoying.

However, I must say I love the more recent arrivals, the large rocks. These have a presence. Maybe we could have a range of large rocks from across the country and these could replace the education thingies as they break down and deteriorate. But please no singing or murmuring rocks. Just allow them to speak through their silence.

Reconciliation Place, being the space between the south side of the High Court across to the road outside the National Library, is indeed becoming a successful statement. It is changing and will feel different again when National Portrait Gallery opens later this year, as it will become a very significant edge to the whole site.

When it was completed, it became very obvious that a subtle design approach had been taken for the main feature, the mound. Unfortunately for the designers of the neighbouring Commonwealth Place the mound cuts the view of Parliament that was incorporated into the original design for Commonwealth Place.

The walk through this area allows for a range of interesting encounters. There's the lines of eucalyptus trees, quite corners under the trees just off the main track closer to the High Court as well as the now ironical signage on the mound that honours that most recent of our Prime Ministers, he who had the job of opening the completed site in 2002.

An amusing site is the growth of the three eucalyptus trees perched in a small triangular bed on the east side of the mound. I like the way the three young trees now disrupt the grand axis that runs from the top of Parliament House to Mount Ainslie. This famed (mythical?) axis has already been cut by the first Parliamentary building, by the War Memorial and by a wall or two on either side of the lake. The new eucs have claimed their place along the axis. I dare say we will see a thesis on them soon.

Maybe one day another NCA will get around to replacing the European style grasses with some 'messy' native vegetation, and signal to the rest of the country that water hungry green grasses should be a thing of our past, not our future.

But as one walks over the mound, one is reminded of how important the parliamentary triangle is to the nation. It was to here that Canberrans witnessed people rushing to be present when the apology was delivered. The whole triangle came into its own that day.



It was the hub of the nation. The NCA has done not a bad job to keep it thus. Not that I agree with all their design solutions. Quite the contrary.

However, the poor NCA has been the subject of pretty severe criticism for many years now. Locally their press has not been good, despite the many many grand planning documents and significant achievements and promotions. One local Labor Senator, with a history of spending too much of her time on review committees that have enjoyed snipping at the NCA (and the NGA), was quoted in the press as being pleased by the very severe cuts announced by the new Commonwealth Government. I suspect the thirty people or so now leaving the NCA haven't looked to her with any kind thoughts.

It has also been a puzzle that over the last few years several other others from outside Canberra have landed unwarranted cheap and undisciplined blows on the NCA. All of this bad press I suspect added up to the momentum that has empowered those advising the new government that severe cuts to the NCA would be not be too opposed.

Maybe we needed a hand from above to clarify for us mere mortals the joint roles of the NCA roles and the local government. But the cuts are quite devastating and remind those interested in the future of Canberra of the time (before I was born of course) when the Commonwealth lost interest in the capital and development slowed. Just when things were starting to catch up, we have this severe setback. I suspect there is more to this story.

A future NCA should employ a Chief Landscape Architect with a brief to use the philosophical approach of the Griffins to let loose a series of changes that would take account of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the contemporary urban landscape issues. A Chief Landscape Architect must have the key role of overseeing Canberra's projects, particularly as they tend to be 'LANDSCAPE' related projects. Simple really!

And finally, if you have not already, next time you visit Canberra, take the walk from the library to the gallery across Reconciliation Place. There are rarely others about, so you will enjoy the stroll and stimulation.

More pictures and captions – <http://www.aila.org.au/roamings>

Views expressed are mine not necessarily those of the AILA.

# 04



Photographs by Paul Costigan

- 01: Shard
- 02: path nearby the Jenny Watson work
- 03: Artwork
- 04: Shard with Paul Kelly song
- 05: The Reconciliation Place mound looking towards Mt Ainslie
- 06: Water feature
- 07: new artwork by Jenny Watson
- 08: The Eucalyptus trees
- 09: A peaceful side escape near the High Court

# 05

## Risk Management Training Module and Insurance Discounts

In early 2005, Jardine Lloyd Thompson Pty Ltd (JLTA) was endorsed as insurance brokers to provide business insurance products and services to AILA members. This service from JLTA is a value added benefit to the AILA membership. The appointment was a result of a tender process whereby JLTA demonstrated their proven track record in managing similar type programmes and dedicated support personnel.

The acceptance by members of this service has been excellent to date generating significant savings principally for Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurances. Policy wordings have also been enhanced over the industry norm geared specifically to AILA Members risk profiles.

In the spirit of value adding this service JLTA will be launching an online Risk Management module in the next couple of weeks as an adjunct to the Professional Indemnity programme. This is a market first and will be made available free of cost to those members availing themselves to the current programme.

The module comprises several sections focusing initially on the Professional Indemnity policy terms and conditions and relevant endorsements. The final sections address more particularly risk management issues including letters of engagement, disclaimers, sub-contract agreements and much more.

The module usually takes one to two hours to complete. For these two hours of assessable CPD, members will be able to claim four CPD points. In addition JLTA have negotiated with their current Professional Indemnity Underwriter to grant a 10 percent discount off the ensuing renewal once the module is successfully completed.

A communication will be sent out shortly to all members giving more details on this service.

For those practices (with AILA members) not utilising JLTA, the National Office urges you to contact them directly to seek a quotation.

The common expiry date of the Professional Indemnity and Public Liability scheme is the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008 so there is plenty of time to avail yourself to this service to obtain the benefits of the discounts outlined.

Footnote: JLTA has also generously granted a ten percent discount to AILA Fellows on their insurance products purchased through JLTA – however the discount can be gained once only, either by being a Fellow or by completing the above module.

The JLTA contacts are David Piacentino (03) 9613 1482 or Bill Hogg (03) 9613 1404.



JARDINE LLOYD THOMPSON

## AILA ACT Awards presentation, Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>

Winners: <http://www.aila.org.au/act/awards.htm>



Andrew MacKenzie, AILA ACT President



Andrew Turnbull, jury chair, presents Future Leaders Award (Graduate) to Suzanne Moulis



Andrew Turnbull, presents awards to Jamie Dawson, Enviro Links Design Pty Ltd.

Photographs by Petra Wiesner

# Conferences

## Advance Notice

### shifting perspective and practice an interdisciplinary future

#### the AILA 2009 national conference

Landscape architecture is challenged by the need to engage in continuous adaptation and respond to the implications of climate change and population growth. It has become increasingly evident that continuing to implement present design forms and approaches is no longer appropriate to meeting these challenges.

The built environment design professions require a multitude of approaches and scales of engagement in order to present society with future design scenarios. There is an urgent need to seek out new ways of responding to the effects of environmental and social change on urban and landscape forms.

The 2009 AILA national conference will re-examine the role of landscape architects in responding to these needs and explore the profession's engagement in developing alternative community perspectives of their real and imagined landscapes.

The conference sessions and speakers will explore the proposition that landscape architects should lead positive adaptation through **three** major channels of activity that represent both the strengths of and the challenges to the profession:

1. Through Collaboration: A **collaborative, integrated approach** to design thinking.
2. Through Practice: Implementing these ideas through **alternative and progressive forms of practice**.
3. Through Engagement: Influencing the community through **political and community engagement**.

Melbourne

**Thurs 6 May – Sat 9 May 2009**  
Peninsula: Shed 14 Central Pier  
161 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands

## Inadequate landscape budgets A discussion paper Mark Frisby AILA

Having taken on the role of State President for the AILA Victoria Group, I have been asked by the National Office to write a piece on one of my hot topics. I hope this will generate some discussion.

As you would be aware, the Federal and State Governments have made significant capital investments in new government buildings (schools, tertiary institutions, hospitals, etc) in recent years. Building designs are increasingly following best practice in sustainable and environmental design principles which is a reflection of community desires and governments leading by example.

I am sure you share the concern that funding for landscape and building setting works is not increasing at the same rate as building budgets (the well funded projects are the exception rather than the norm). Current funding levels for landscape and building setting works are completely inadequate and out of step with community expectations and aspirations.

The AILA is extremely concerned about the consequences of inadequate funding including:

- Predetermined landscape outcomes (often there is only enough budget for seeded grass and a few trees)
- The loss of opportunity to create spaces that are valued by staff and visitors to buildings including the installation of paths, seats, fencing and even bicycle facilities.
- Increased recurring maintenance costs (caused by the requirement to regularly mow grass) which will continue to escalate as labour and machinery costs continue to grow (as they have in recent years)
- Inadequate supervision of landscape construction resulting in poor construction outcomes many of which are destined to fail. A waste of the already limited resources
- Limited opportunity for the inclusion of water sensitive design and integrated irrigation systems caused by limited opportunity for collaboration between the project team or inadequate budgets for implementation.

The following two projects are examples as experienced by members either through observation of project implementation or in response to project briefs.

- A new tertiary education facility with a capital works budget of \$3,500,000.00 with a landscape budget of \$40,000.00 – a little over 1% of the building budget.
- New school projects with landscape budgets that allow for little more than a playground, some seed grass and few trees.
- If I had time, I am sure I could find more....

The funding model falls well below the accepted norm in domestic landscapes that sees 10% of the property value as a minimum for landscape works (any real estate agent will tell you that). The outcomes of the residential sector highlight the neglect in many government (and non-government) funded projects.

The community needs commitments to better fund the public realm. Currently funding arrangements are resulting in outcomes that diminish the contribution civic buildings make to community pride and well-being. Of equal concern is the opportunity that is being lost for design outcomes that deliver significant environmental benefits. With increased community awareness in global warming and climate change, there has never been a more important time to act than the present.

I am aware that there are some national initiatives underway to develop Landscape Principles and to increase the skills of our members in dealing with climate change mitigation and adaptation. AILA as an organisation needs to continue to be the advocate for change and equally members need to talk more at a local level with their governments as often as possible to make the issue of adequate funding models for landscape works becomes a priority for local, state and federal governments. We need to make more noise about this.

*Editor comment...*

*I look forward to any comments, suggestions, project experiences and even success stories.*

# Notices

## Careers – secondary school information

Looking for a pamphlet to hand out to secondary school students?

Or are you wishing to advise a school advisor or a student where to find career information?

A downloadable pamphlet and more links to information are now on the web site:

[www.aila.org.au/careers](http://www.aila.org.au/careers)

## National Stewardship Awards

In 2006, the AILA announced the inaugural National Stewardship Awards.

This award allows the AILA to give recognition to agencies and the owners who have made significant effort and commitment to look after our designed landscapes. Submissions for these can be received any time.

[www.aila.org.au/stewardship](http://www.aila.org.au/stewardship)

## Significant Landscapes

The inaugural listing of Significant Landscapes was announced last year with 26 sites listed and another 80 to be researched.

The criteria for a Significant Site is online. Nominations can be received any time.

[www.aila.org.au/significant](http://www.aila.org.au/significant)

## The AILA's Company Constitution

The AILA is a legal entity that has a Company Constitution. This important legal document was recently updated through a special general meeting. The constitution is on the web site:

<http://www.aila.org.au/constitution>

## The AILA's Competition Policy

The AILA works with agencies to have their competitions relevant to the professions. If agencies agree to the guidelines, the AILA is able to endorse their competition. Agencies can download the policy from the web site:

<http://www.aila.org.au/competition>



Cover: The new rock shards  
Photograph by Paul Costigan



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## AILA National Council 2007–2009

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