

# 200 mile city



Australian Institute of Landscape Architects

special

**LANDMARK**

June 04  
Edition

and 2004 National Conference Brochure



[aila.org.au/200milecity](http://aila.org.au/200milecity)

DESIGNING A SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURE  
28 SEPTEMBER–2 OCTOBER 2004



# 200 mile city



## DESIGNING A SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURE

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects

**2004 NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

29 September–2 October 2004

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland

Register Online: [www.aila.org.au/2004](http://www.aila.org.au/2004)

Inquiries: 02 6248 9970



**AILA 2004 National Supporters**

# AILA 2004 National Conference

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## Senator Bob Brown

In 1990, Bob Brown established the Australian Bush Heritage Fund to buy land for conservation. His books include *Lake Pedder*, *Wild Rivers*, *Tarkine Trails* and he is co-author of 'The Greens'.

Bob Brown was instrumental in forming the Australian Greens in 1992. In 1996 he was elected to the Australian Senate and has introduced bills for constitutional reform, forest protection, to block radioactive waste dumping, to ban mandatory sentencing and greenhouse abatement. In keeping with the Greens' international perspective, he has travelled extensively, fostering Green politics and forming close links with Greens in Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia.

Bob enjoys photography, sports, bushwalking, poetry, platypus watching and philosophy.



## Michael Keniger

Michael Keniger is the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture and Professor of Architecture at The University of Queensland. He also holds the advisory role of the Queensland Government Architect. He has contributed to the design review and direction of many major projects including the Sydney Olympics, the National Museum, the Millennium

Arts Projects, South Bank and the Queen Street Mall. He has written and lectured extensively on contemporary architecture and urbanism in Australia.

## Tim Flannery, BA, MSc, PhD

Tim Flannery is one of Australia's leading thinkers on environmental issues. An internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer and writer, his books include *The Future Eaters*, *The Eternal Frontier*, and *Beautiful Lies: Population and Environment in Australia*. He spent a year as professor of Australian studies at Harvard and currently is Chair of the SA Sustainability Roundtable and director of the South Australian Museum.



## Paul van Beek

As a landscape architect I understand and accept, that most people love to mystify their landscapes. Let the public wonder, as professionals we need to be more precise.

For us, landscape is a cultural and physical construction that can be understood and must be dealt with. A growing world population with evolving demands, forces to continuous changes of the earth's surface, urban and rural and natural. Necessary interventions are to be prepared and designed through landscape architecture.

If we as landscape architects can share and work with an approved and recognisable method we can improve the quality of interventions. We will be able to improve our business. We are able to offer a professional and scholarly education. And last but not least: a growing number of professionals can deal with a more responsible and responsive public. And therefore we will be able to catch up with the speed of changes too.

## Mario Schjetnan

### Grupo de Diseno Urbano

Mario Schjetnan G was born in Mexico City. He studied Architecture at the National University of Mexico and then obtained a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture with an emphasis on Urban Design at the University of California, Berkeley in 1970. In 1985 he was appointed Loeb Fellow in Advanced environmental Studies, by the GSD at Harvard University.

He is founding partner together with José Luis Pérez, of GDU – Grupo de Diseno Urbano ([www.gdu.com.mx](http://www.gdu.com.mx)), a firm established in 1977 in Mexico City with projects in landscape architecture, architecture and urban design. GDU's projects have received awards in Mexico, Argentina, the United States, and Italy and have been widely published in periodicals and books in the United States, Europe, Japan and Latin America.



## Bill Hanway

Bill Hanway is the Managing Principal of the London office of EDAW and is a Vice President of the company. He has 17 years of professional experience; combining the design and delivery of buildings with the urban design and the master planning of new environments. Prior to moving to the UK, Bill worked with an international architectural practice based in New York City.



Bill provides the design leadership and management of EDAW's multi-disciplinary teams and works in the United Kingdom, Continental Europe, United States and the Middle East. In the United Kingdom, his work focuses on urban regeneration projects, new community designs and commercial developments. Internationally, his projects also include sustainable university planning, new town developments, eco-tourism/resort and entertainment/leisure destinations.

Bill has been an Enabler for the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment for the past three years and is now leading EDAW's corporate membership of CABE Space and the Design Code Panel. Bill has also recently been appointed to the English Heritage/CABE Urban Panel.



## Michael Fotheringham

Michael Fotheringham, ASLA, has practiced as a landscape architect in Canada and the United States over the last 26 years.

Recent projects include being selected as the design competition winner and Design Landscape Architect for San Francisco's

Union Square, in partnership with April Philips, Golden Gate Park Windmill Interpretive Gardens, and the Santa Monica Downtown Transit Corridor, in association with Amphion Environmental. Since 1992, MD Fotheringham, Landscape Architects Inc, has specialized in residential community development, designing over 100 residential neighborhoods in Northern California.

Michael has contributed to program and curriculum development and directed graphics and design studios at the University of California at Berkeley, UC Extension Certificate Program in Landscape Architecture. He is a Visiting Lecturer at the University of California at Davis in the Landscape Architecture Program, teaching design and drawing studios. His current research explores the relationship between spatial behaviors and public space design.



## Chris Johnson

Chris Johnson is NSW Government Architect and General Manager of the Government Architect's Office in the Department of Commerce. He is a member of the Central Sydney Planning Committee, Heritage Council of NSW, the Board of Architects of NSW and the South Sydney Development Corporation.

Chris chairs the Sydney Olympic Park Design Review Panel and the Sydney Harbour Design Review Panel and is Adjunct Professor of Architecture at the University of Sydney and at the University of Technology Sydney.

Chris is a contributor to debate about the future direction of cities particularly the metropolitan areas of Sydney. He has written a number of books including *Greening Sydney – landscaping the urban fabric* and *Shaping Sydney – Public Architecture and Civic Decorum*.

# AILA 2004 CONFERENCE

Main venue: Gardens Theatre, QUT Cultural Precinct

Wednesday 29 September 2004

11.00–3.00pm

Student Competition Final Judging – QUT Theatre

3.00–5.00pm

Registration – QUT Theatre

Thursday 30 September 2004

## ISSUES

8.00–9.00

Registration – QUT Theatre

9.00–9.30

Opening Addresses – QUT Theatre

Conference Convenor – Jennifer Neales  
AILA National President, Tony Cox  
Professor Peter Coaldrake, Vice-Chancellor, QUT  
Welcome from Traditional Owners  
Chair: Prof. Helen Armstrong, QUT

9.30–10.30

Keynote Presentation – QUT Theatre

Senator Bob Brown, The Greens  
Michael Kerry, Executive Director, Office of Urban Management, Queensland Government

10.30–11.00 Morning Tea

Sponsored by Gold Coast City Council

11.00–12.30

Parallel Sessions ONE

**New Environmentalism** (venue main theatre)  
Chair: Dr David Hassall, Director, Yurrah Pty Ltd Brisbane  
Prof. Ian Lowe, Environmentalist, Former Commissioner for the Future, Griffith University, Brisbane: *Towards a Sustainable Future*.  
Dr Tim Flannery, Author & Environmentalist, Adelaide: *Re-considering natural systems in cities*.  
Dr Darryl Low Choy, Griffith University, Brisbane: *Completing the Regional Landscape Jigsaw: Landscape Planning in SEQ*.

**New Cities** (venue QUT B119)  
Chair: Lawrie Smith, AM, Director Landplan Studio, Brisbane  
Prof. Peter Droege, Urban Design Sydney University, *Urban Design strategies for new cities*  
Prof. Catherin Bull, University of Melbourne: *Miles of What? Re-thinking the role of open space in the contemporary Australian City*  
Robert McGauran, Director, McGauran Giannini Soon Architects, Melbourne: *Successful urban planning leads to successful cities*.  
Jude Munro, Brisbane City Council: *Achieving the ESD balance in Brisbane*.

**New Partnerships** (venue QUT B121)  
Chair: Janet Conrad, AM, Principal Landscape Architect, Conrad & Gargett, Brisbane  
Prof. Peter Spearritt, The Brisbane Institute: *The partnering climate*.  
Jim McKnulty, Australian Green Development Forum, Brisbane: *Green Liaisons – Your marketing edge*.  
Maria Atkinson, Green Building Council of Australia: *Green Star, an environmental rating system for buildings*.  
Craig Johnstone Journalist, The Courier Mail, Brisbane: *Media as a partner*

12.30–2.00 Lunch

2.00–3.00

Keynote Presentation – QUT Theatre

Sponsored by Rocla

Dr Tim Flannery – Author & Environmentalist  
Chair: Prof. Catherin Bull, University of Melbourne



3.00–3.30 Afternoon Tea

Sponsored by Coomera River Nurseries

3.30–5.00

Parallel Sessions TWO

**New Integrations** (venue main theatre)  
Chair: Dr Jeannie Sim, QUT Brisbane  
Julian Raxworthy, RMIT: *Scale = Landscape + Architecture*.  
Sue-Anne Ware RMIT, Melbourne: *The Nature of Design*.  
Gary Doherty, CHORA, UK: *200 Mile Rhizome*.  
Rosa Monacello, RMIT, Melbourne: *Indeterminacy & self-organisation*.

**New Cities** (venue QUT B119)  
Chair: Prof. Paul van Beek QUT, Brisbane  
Bill Hanway, Director, EDAW, UK: *New city form and function in Europe*.  
Michael Fotheringham, San Francisco: *Californian Cities*  
Tory Jones, Principal Project Officer, Arts Qld: *Paradise is where you are right now*.

**New Partnerships** (venue QUT B121)  
Chair: Prof. Steffen Lehmann, QUT, Brisbane  
Dr Angelina Russo, Creative Industries, QUT: *Film & the City*.  
John Mongard, Brisbane: *Suburban Entropy and the Death of Difference*.

5.30–7.30

AILA AGM and AILA Education Forum

(main theatre)

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Friday 01 October 2004

## REACTIONS

7.00–9.00am

Urban Regeneration – Special Event Breakfast

Sponsored by EDAW Gillespies

Bill Hanway, Director, EDAW UK + Malcolm Snow, Director Urban Planning, Urbis JHD  
Chair: Graeme Harvison, EDAW Gillespies  
Quay West Suites Ground floor 132 Alice Street Brisbane  
An opportunity for conference delegates to bring clients, colleagues and friends to take part in a networking breakfast. (Note: not included in conference registration – separate charge applies)

EDAW gillespies

9.30–10.30

Keynote Presentation – QUT Theatre

Sponsored by Street & Garden Furniture Co.

Prof Paul van Beek, QUT  
Mario Schjetnan, GDU, Mexico City  
Chair: Prof. John Hockings, QUT



10.30–11.00 Morning Tea

Sponsored by PL Fountains

11.00–12.30

Parallel Sessions THREE

**Regional Landscapes** (venue main theatre)  
Chair: Dr Darryl Low Choy, Griffith University, Brisbane  
Linda Corkery, UNSW: *Envisioning the Parklands that will shape Western Sydney*.  
Alan Chenoweth, Chenoweth EPLA, Brisbane: *Landscapes under pressure in SEQ – assessing significant areas for retention & management*.  
Prof. Helen Armstrong, QUT: *New Future landscapes: New Forms of Peri-urban and Inter-urban Agricultural Space*.  
Robert Preston, Forest Images Pty Ltd & Lyndal Plant, Brisbane City Council: *Scenic Value of Green Space in SEQ*.

**City Models** (venue QUT B119)  
Chair: Bill Hanway, EDAW UK  
Robin Edmond, Principal, Hassell: *China model*.  
Michael Fotheringham, San Francisco: *New paradigms of Public Space*.  
Andrew Hammonds, Hassell Brisbane: *Sustainable Urban Development – Kelvin Grove Urban Village, Brisbane*.  
Dr Dianne Firth, University of Canberra: *Sydney-Canberra: Another 200 Mile City?*

**New Partnerships-Infrastructure** (Venue B121)  
Chair: Prof Bob Stimson, Univ Queensland  
Grayson Perry, Gold Coast City Council, Manager Economic Development: *Economic Development & City Image*.  
Richard Goodwin: *The Landscape of Infrastructure*.  
Adrian McGregor Director mcgregor+partners, Sydney: *Challenging Australian Sub-urbanism | THE CASE FOR COMPACT CITIES*  
Andrew MacKenzie, University of Canberra: *What values govern our decision making, and how does a landscape ethic permeate what we do?*

12.30–1.00 Lunch

Sponsored by Austral Bricks

1.00–2.00

Debate: "That Big is Best"

Sponsored by Austral Bricks

Moderator – Alan Saunders ABC 'The Comfort Zone'



2.00–5.00

Workshop: (venue theatre): Queensland's  
200 Mile City: *Major Surgery or Band-Aids?*  
or

Professional Site Sessions (travelling by bus to one of the sites below).  
*Numbers are limited for each site visit, those who nominate early will be allocated their first choice. Requires separate payment – see registration form.*  
1. Old Sites to New Parks (Roma St, QCL Riverside)  
2. Urban Renewal (Kelvin Grove, New Farm)  
3. Urban bushland & winery (Sirromet Vineyard, Redland Indigiscape)

5.00–7.00

Visit Southbank Markets

7.00–12 pm

Powerlink Queensland National Awards Dinner

– Brisbane Convention Centre  
(separate charge applies)

Pre-dinner Drinks

Sponsored by Eureka Landscapes

Australian Landscape Foundation Launch  
National Student Awards  
Concrete Association Student Awards  
AILA National Project Award



# 200 mile city



Saturday 02 October 2004

## RESPONSES

6.30–8.30 Optional Breakfast Excursion

River City-Cat and Powerhouse Farmers Markets

8.30–9.15

Panel Discussion: Australian Landscape Foundation

Chair: Dr Dianne Firth, University of Canberra

9.15–9.30

Summary of Friday workshop

"Queensland's 200 mile City – Major Surgery or Band-aids", and draft conference "charter".

9.30–10.30

Keynote Presentation – QUT Theatre

Sponsored by Dept of Planning and Local Government

Prof Michael Keniger, Qld Government Architect  
Chris Johnson, NSW Government Architect  
Chair: Mark Fuller, Director EDAW Gillespies

10.30–11.00 Morning Tea

11.00–12.45 Parallel Sessions FOUR

**Environment + Design** (venue main theatre)

Chair: Julian Raxworthy  
Joan Meecham and Ken Dunlop: *Healthy Waterways Brisbane Design for healthy waterways*.  
Tony Prineus Brisbane City Council & Steve MacDonald EPA: *SEQ Regional Parks*.  
Anton James: *Mt Penang – From Garden Festival to Regional Park*.  
Mark Haycox, VicUrban: *ESD Guidelines Melbourne Docklands*.

**Projects** (venue QUT B119)

Chair: Kirsten Bauer, Aspect Melbourne  
Tanya Court & Cassandra Chilton, Melbourne: *Melbourne Gateway Projects*.  
Paul Eagles, Project Director – Major Projects South East Queensland, Lend Lease: *Sustainable Urban Development – A Developer's Perspective*.  
Jo Russell-Clarke, Earth Tech, Melbourne: *Project Conceptualisation, Melbourne*.

**Partnerships** (venue QUT B121)

Chair: Gill Lawson, QUT.  
Robert Prestipino: *Creating Vital Centres in a 200 Mile City*.  
Mario Schjetnan, Mexico City: *Critical Regionalism and Global Landscape*.  
Sheryn Da-Re & Matthew Wood, GeoLINK: *Village:village: village:town*.  
Greg Bamford, Uni of QLD: *Copenhagen & Stockholm medium density developments*.

12.45–1.15

Closing Addresses – QUT Theatre

Final Conference Charter  
Conference Summary  
Farewell from AILA National President, Tony Cox  
Conference Convenor – AILA (QLD) President, Cathy Girard

Afternoon and evening

Brisbane Festival Events

To get the most from the Brisbane Festival and receive special ticket offers, visit

[www.brisbanefestival.com.au](http://www.brisbanefestival.com.au)

Program remains subject to change  
A final version to be released as part of the final conference papers with updates available online  
[www.aila.org.au/200milecity](http://www.aila.org.au/200milecity)

# 01

## Brisbane – The Place To Be – This September/October 200 mile city...designing a sustainable urban future

There is no doubt that the public have become more aware of our natural environment and our need to appreciate and protect it. However there is still a task ahead for us as landscape architects to assist the public and the government sector to comprehend how much public spaces and structures influence our lifestyle, health and well-being. This year's conference focuses on these issues with the strong emphasis on coastal developments, not only here in Queensland but also in many locations around this fragile world of ours.

**200 mile city...designing a sustainable urban future** will provide you with the opportunity to join with other members and colleagues to discuss contemporary issues and to increase the profile of our profession. It looks like being a fantastic networking event in beautiful downtown Brisbane.

There is no doubt that this conference will be exciting and should be an important getting together of urban designers, landscape architects, planners, developers, community leaders and government representatives

As you will have gathered, the AILA national conference this year is here in Brisbane 29 September to 2 October 2004. We have secured a wonderful facility for this year's event – the main venue being the theatre within the QUT Cultural Precinct – right next to the Botanical Gardens – where you will be having breaks and lunches as well as quiet strolls with friends.

AILA conferences have built a reputation as leading, world class events, attracting people from all sectors of the design and planning professions, nationally and internationally. For many years, they have led the way in providing excellent forums for networking, learning about new and emerging trends in urban environments, highlighting and exploring industry issues such as sustainability, and showcasing the developments and achievements of organisations, governments and cities.



The local organising committee has worked hard on the program and already the feedback from members has been positive. I urge you to check through the inserts within this package. I also ask that you display the poster in a prominent position. Extra copies of the poster and brochure are available from the National Office. I am sure Kylie or Paul will post out as many as you need, so spread the word. Remember, the Institute relies on the membership – so we all have the task to let our friends know about the conference and to encourage more registrations.

Both Tony Cox and I are looking forward to meeting up with you at the AILA 2004 Conference – **200 mile city...designing a sustainable urban future.**

**Tony Cox**  
National President  
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects

**Jennifer Neales**  
Conference Coordinator  
National Councillor



## Merging Cities Threaten Landscape & Lifestyle

The distinctive regional landscape and urban identity of Australia's eastern seaboard is under threat of being overwhelmed by metropolitan sprawl, for example a South East Queensland 'mega-city' stretching from Noosa to the Tweed River. Sustainable development and 'the 200 mile city' will be the central issues at The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) National Conference to be held in Brisbane from September 28 to October 2, in 2004.

The conference titled, '**200 mile city... designing a sustainable urban future**', will put sustainable urban planning on the agenda, addressing the issue of merging cities, the social and environmental costs, and creative and sustainable responses to these challenges. Urban conglomerates are in evidence in many parts of Australia, the broader Asia Pacific region and throughout the world. Even where a capital city 'core' is buffered from satellite towns and commuter suburbs by green belts, modern transport, media and communications are effectively creating integrated mega-cities.

At the AILA Conference, national and international leaders will present papers on new city forms, new approaches to the environment and new collaborative partnerships, as well as a range of 'best practice' projects.

The region surrounding Brisbane and Moreton Bay, which is justly famous for its biodiversity, scenery, tourist attractions and 'liveability', is a great example

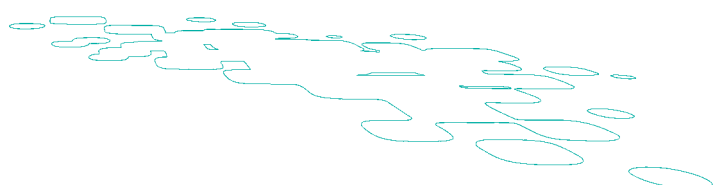
of the issues we face. Environmental resources and social values are at risk from the infrastructure, suburban sprawl and widespread 'sameness' associated with rapid urban growth. The likely future scenario is an urban conglomerate spreading hundreds of kilometres, subsuming smaller communities and demanding ever-greater resources for its 'footprint'.

Author Deyan Sudjic alerted the planning and design professions and social commentators to these world-wide trends in 1992 with his book "The 100 Mile City", and it appears that his predictions are being realised in coastal south-east Queensland. Current growth rates and development trends threaten to overwhelm traditional planning and control approaches, and new responses are required.

As growth and sprawl threaten to envelope some of Australia's most valuable assets – its coastal landscape, natural environment, open spaces and local communities – we need new ways of developing and integrating city forms. Landscape architects are part of a successful team approach which make our cities liveable and legible. To maintain quality of life in our large cities, developers, planners, governments and landscape architects need to be addressing these issues now.

See you at the conference.

Alan Chenoweth



# A short 200 mile journey in southern China

## Kirsten Bauer

Once at a Masters presentation at RMIT, an architect presented an image of a chicken head on a plate, not once but at least 3 times. This architect was conducting a competition project in China as part of their landscape masters and the chicken head was the remains of dinner.

For a while I could not relate to this person's fascination with a chicken head as their project motto. After travelling to China this year, I think I have gained a personal insight into the symbolic powers of this dinner morsel. For one, it shows that it is a generous thing to be absorbed into another culture and to join together at the dining table, and second, to see that what is strange to us is normal to another.

The trips to China are also just morsels in regard to the larger cultural Chinese banquet, and they highlight only some of the forms of China's own massive urban development and their multiple emerging 200 mile cities.

The morsels of China I did swallow (sorry one cannot get past the Chinese food to describe the broader

electric (eclectic?) and overwhelming diversity of urbanity that exists) in China are restricted to three shirt trips. Two trips to the city of Kunming, in the south-west, in which Aspect with LH Partners – Architects, participated in a design competition for a new community, in which we won equal first place. The third trip was to the city of Shenzhen with Rush Wright Associates to bid for a job for a large residential community for a large Mirvac style Chinese developer.

There is not enough room here to debate the many ethical, cultural and environmental problems of working in China and other similar urban progress areas. These were ever present and while admiring the design of a development, one stood amidst the ruins of a viable ecology. What the following photos do comment upon is a few things that bring "awe" and "aghost" to the visitor and a few digestible morsels of extreme urbanity. Irony is a key factor.

I have selected two images for this publication with the article and lots more images now online from within the conference page: <http://www.aila.org.au/200milecity>

**Viewing looking across the rooftops of Kunming, a sea of solar panels.**  
**While Australia ponders the large scale urban use of solar panels, solar panels are a familiar sight in many Chinese cities, forming a whole new concept of the roof garden.**



One of the many "grand" civic buildings in Shenzhen. The roof structure in it self spanning many city blocks. The building reaching a scale of the 200 mile city. While presented as the new "world image" of China, the roof is a megastructure to symbols, a roof to be seen, but not to be used.



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EDAW gillespies

## Community Space in the 200 mile city

### What urban form would the future 200 mile city take?

Would it be linear or nodal, orthogonal or organic in layout? What population densities would it support? What would the building typology consist of? Funky warehouse style apartments supporting an alfresco dining style or a sub-urban sprawl that allows all Australian families to own their individual dream home?

More importantly, what types of spaces will be provided to facilitate the encounters and interactions that make up public and community life?

In order to form healthy, positive and vibrant communities, it seems essential that urban designers identify the needs and requirements of all members of our society and to cater for these diverse needs.

What role will landscape architects have in determining the form and nature of the public spaces in the 200 mile city?

As landscape architects design open spaces, public spaces, civic spaces, and living spaces, they should play a critical role in determining the urban form of the 200 mile city.

The above spaces make up the public domain, the transitional spaces between the private home and the wider community. This is where much of public life occurs, in active and passive encounters between a variety of individuals, families and community groups in meeting places that include commercial, transitional and recreational spaces.

What types of spaces need to be provided to facilitate these encounters and interactions that make up public and community life? Can these community spaces be designed or should they be allowed to simply evolve?

From public to private space, city to home, how do meeting places such as parks and market places contribute to the public domain?

Is it possible to design for the creation of meaningful public spaces in urban & sub-urban environments if we agree that, "the investing of a public space with civic significance requires far more than artful design. History, public memory and political legitimation come into play."

How does one define the 'genius loci' of new urban/sub-urban developments?

On the Adelaide coastline at Glenelg, the new Holdfast Shores marina and high rise apartment complex stands where a carpark used to be, obliterating the sea view from the end of Anzac Highway. Standing in the queue at the Oyster Bar, in the new Marina, one does not have the same ambience as having a few beers with friends in the old carpark, overlooking the sea on a warm summers evening. In fact, that sort of behaviour would probably now be seen as anti social and might even get you arrested!

Paul Murray Harding

Urban Public Space and Imagined Communities in the 1980s and 1990s. Lynn Hollen Lees, University of Pennsylvania. Journal of Urban History, Vol. 20 No. 4, August 1994, p447

# THE 200 MILE CITY

## P Barwick President, AILA Tasmania

The total population of Tasmania is about ½ million, and AFL games are only staged here a few times each season.

Because Tassie is roughly triangular in shape with settlements focused along the Bass Strait coast in the north and around Hobart in the south, the football financiers choose to stage their games at York Park in Launceston.

In this way they can attract spectators from around the State, none of who need drive further than about 200 kilometres (not miles, but who's counting?).

Indeed if 200 is the limit, one might say that (like Hong Kong?) Tasmania is ideally proportioned for intensive development.

But present development is by no means intensive, and except for the urban agglomeration at Hobart, Launceston and Burnie/Devonport, the countryside is still punctuated by more or less discreet townships. Most of these have grown in response to the needs of farmers or travellers, but at their core the 10 mile towns established in the early 1800's for refreshing the horses between Hobart and Launceston, and Launceston and Westbury are still evident. Most of these still exist as discernable settlements to this day.

Hobart, Launceston and to a lesser degree Burnie are towns of the old settlement pattern. In these centres people gathered together to share resources and support each other. When travel was undertaken it required considerable organization and exertion. Even in the smaller, service towns, people gathered to share company and comforts.

Since the coming of easier transportation and our more self-contained lives, many people are now attracted more by the notion of escaping and separating from their neighbours, than by the notion of congregating.

So we see a pattern of larger lots (2 hectare or larger farmlets) creeping around the more defined townships.

Although this pattern is less evident in the relatively barren Tasmanian Midlands, along the richer Bass Strait coast there is considerable infilling between the old staging towns. The pattern of settlement between Launceston and Wynyard, or even as far as Smithton could be seen developing in a more contemporary manner, as a 200 kilometre ribbon.

The now recognised Burnie/Devonport urbanity is itself about 50km long, and the region known locally as "The Coast" could easily be understood to include everything settled between Latrobe and Wynyard, or Smithton.

So if even Tasmania has a version of the 200 mile city, can we identify its characteristics? These are some that appear to be evident:

A series of historical centres, more densely-settled, but now with an infill of less dense development.

Extensive travel between the centres, with a round trip drive to work, for shopping or other daily activities, of 50 or 100km, or more.

Less walking, more cars, and virtually no public transport.

Alternative focus on any or all of the centres for leisure, education and resource activities.

Is this the same as the more usually recognised urban sprawl of the Gold Coast? Or are things actually different in Tasmania?

Whether it is different or the same, it does raise some questions, such as, "What does this mean for the provision of physical services?" "How will our towns and cities change into the future?" "Who, if anybody will drive the changes, or have the vision to predict them?" "How should we respond?" "How can we respond?" "With whom should we partner?"

Many questions arise from this simple consideration of the question posed by the next AILA conference. See you in Brisbane, both to enjoy a better standard of AFL football, and to pursue the debate.

# 03

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## Co-Supporters



## The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects



[aila.org.au/200milecity](http://aila.org.au/200milecity)

### AILA National Council

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