

Oak drive and variety of Oaks

100 oak trees, predominantly *Quercus robur* (English Oak) and *Quercus cerris* (Turkey Oak) line the circular drive. Many other species are scattered throughout the gardens, including *Quercus skottsbyana*, Pin, Red, Scarlet, Cork, Chestnut leaved, Holm, Daimyo, Algerian and Japanese Chestnut.

Palm Bed

A significant example of William Guilfoyle's design is the palm bed with upright geometric shapes and contrasting softer surrounding plantings.

Rose Garden

A weeping white 'Seafoam' rose is featured in the central bed which is surrounded by a bed of pink and white *Rugosa Scabrosa*. In the outer circle are four different floribunda roses 'Gold Bunny', 'Europeana', 'Remember Me' and 'Charles de Gaulle'.

The Rose Arbour

The Alister Clark roses in these plantings were especially bred for Australian conditions. Many were named for Western District women such as Lorraine Lee, Kitty Kininmonth, Cicely Lascelles, Amy Johnson and Mrs Fred Danks.

Fountain & lily pond

At the intersection of the five paths the sound of falling water can be heard, providing a peaceful backdrop to the tranquillity of the gardens.

Cannon

This cannon was part of the armament of HMVS Nelson, training ship of Victoria's Colonial Navy (1815-1868). Acquired by Colac Shire Council in 1904.



The Colac Botanic Gardens

The Gardens have been placed on the Victorian Heritage Register for their historical, aesthetic and scientific (botanical) significance to the State of Victoria.

They are one of regional Victoria's largest botanic gardens, initially laid out in 1868 by Daniel Bunce who was the curator of Geelong Botanic Gardens.

In 1910 William Guilfoyle submitted a design for remodelling which was accepted by Council.

Archibald Campbell was curator from 1911 to 1941. His fine work is commemorated by a copper beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) planted near the fountain. The home built for Mr Campbell is now the Botanic Café.

William Guilfoyle's Plan for the Colac Botanic Garden

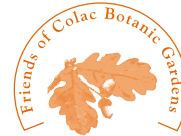
A reproduction of this fragile document can be seen hanging in the Botanic Café.



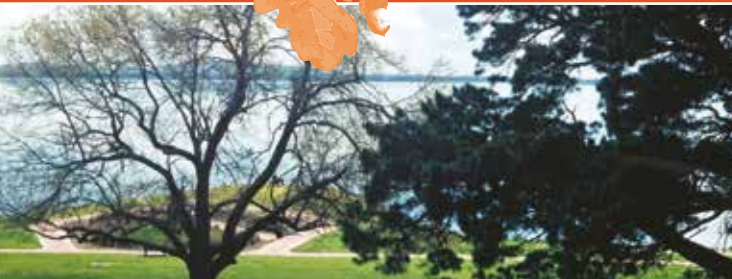
The Friends of Colac Botanic Gardens conduct guided tours for groups and welcome new members.

Contact: PO Box 403, COLAC 3250

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Colac Botanic Gardens



Colac Botanic Garden's Significant Trees [identified in map]
 Five of Colac Botanic Gardens trees were placed on the National Trust of Victoria's Significant Trees Register 1984

1. *Styphnolobium japonicum* – Pagoda Tree

Native of China and Korea, tall, elegant very hardy and long lived. Large sprays of small creamy pea flowers late in summer, and fern-like leaves 15 to 25 cm long. Only one of its size in Victoria, height 14.5m, circumference 3m. 90 years old.

2. *Pittosporum tenuifolium* – "Eila Keightly"

Native to New Zealand. A rare cultivar and the only mature specimen in Victoria. Very hardy, tolerant of exposure to wind and smog. Grows to 6m. Night scented flowers and bark are almost black.

3. *Araucaria bidwillii* – Bunya Bunya Pine

Native to Queensland. Slow growing, can reach 45m. height. Cones resembling large pineapples are found at the extreme top.

Seeds are highly prized as food by aborigines and the timber is valuable. This tree is significant for its height 23m, circumference 5.7m and spread 19m. 90 years old.

4. *Ulmus x hollandica 'Vegeta'* – The Huntingdon Elm

A cultivar of the Dutch Elm. Finest example of a species rarely planted in Victoria. 100 years old.

5. *Herpocyparis forbesii* (Tecate Cypress)

Three trees. Only mature specimens in Victoria. Unique bark formation, peels to bright green red and brown. The timber is highly prized. Approximately 80 years old.

Other notable plantings include:

6. *Atlas Cedar* – *Cedrus atlantica*

Native to North Africa but threatened in the wild. A beautiful specimen in lawn c. The blue form 'glauca' is in lawn f.

7. *Flowering Gums*

A large specimen, *Corymbia callophylla*, was planted to commemorate Federation in 1901. Many flowering gums are planted in the gardens and along the bank of Lake Colac. *Corymbia ficifolia* was a particular favourite of William Guilfoyle.

8. *Rhododendrons and Camellias*

Beds of rhododendrons, camellias and azaleas give a spectacular mass display of flowers in spring.

