



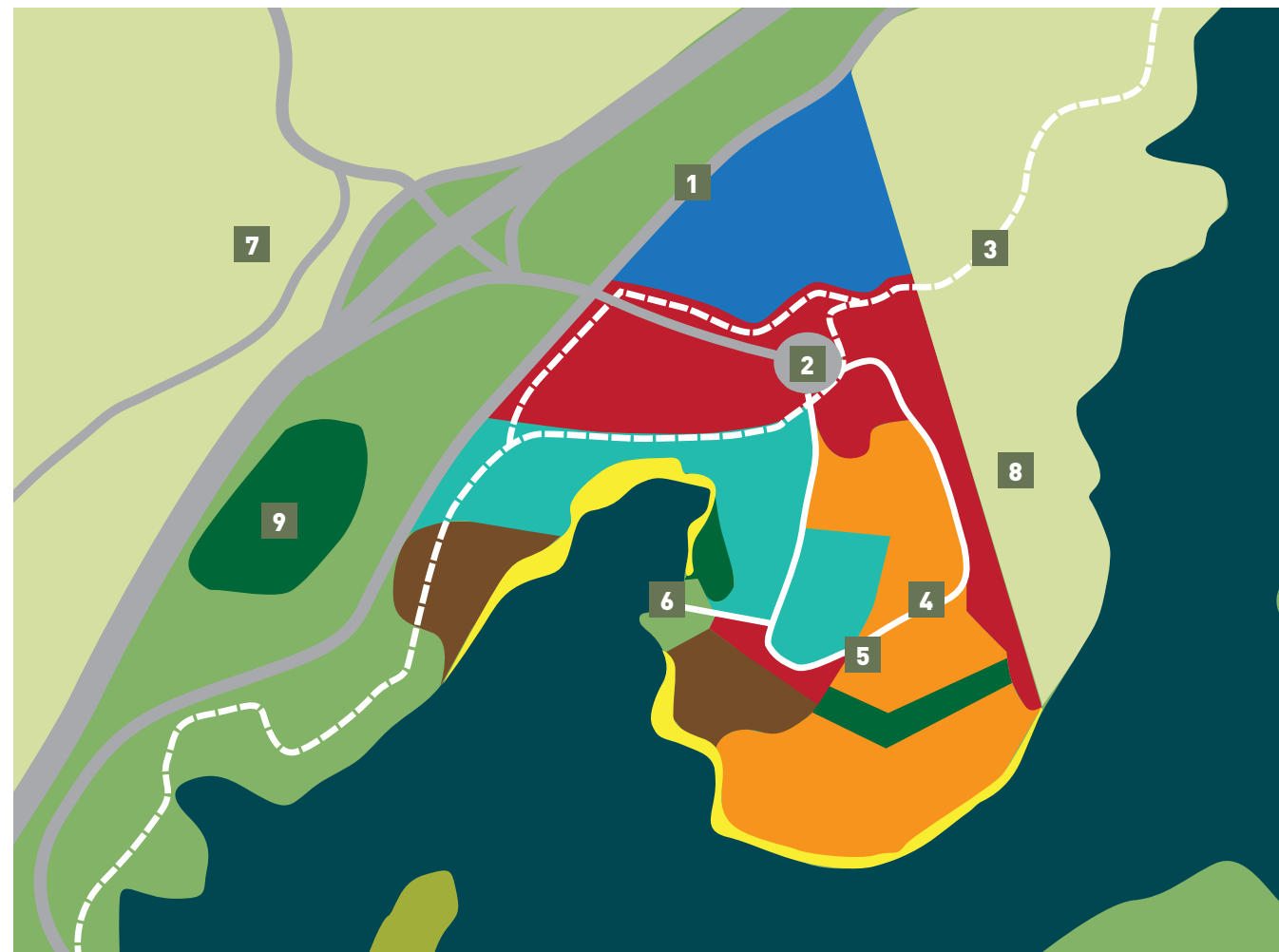
Lindsay Pryor National Arboretum can be accessed by vehicles from Lady Denman Drive with car and coach parking available. The entrance is opposite the National Arboretum Canberra, 1km northeast of the National Zoo and Aquarium. The area can also be accessed every day from the main cycle/pedestrian path circling the lake. The internal loop road will remain closed for vehicles except on special occasions. Picnic tables and a shelter are available; future improvements including paths, signage and toilets are planned.

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Australian Government
National Capital Authority



LINDSAY PRYOR NATIONAL ARBORETUM

- Eucalypts
- Deciduous Exotics
- Evergreen Cork Oaks
- Evergreen Conifers
- Foreshore trees & aquatic vegetation
- Site for National Rock Garden
- Future planting

- 1** Lady Denman Drive
- 2** Barrenjoey Drive entrance road and carpark
- 3** Cycle path
- 4** Information panel and Pryor plaque
- 5** Picnic shelter
- 6** Lake maintenance wharf
- 7** National Arboretum Canberra
- 8** Yarramundi Grasslands
- 9** Roman Cypress Hill

LINDSAY PRYOR NATIONAL ARBORETUM

A wooded park at Yarramundi Reach on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra.

ILLUSTRATION EMERITUS PROFESSOR LINDSAY PRYOR AO BY GEOFF PRYOR



A place for recreation, education and research about trees.

ABOUT THE ARBORETUM

The arboretum commemorates the outstanding contribution of Emeritus Professor Lindsay Pryor AO (1915-1998) to Canberra and the nation, and recognises the great importance of trees and forests to Australia. The 30-hectare site was gazetted in 2001 by the Australian Government, after a proposal to the National Capital Authority by a working group of interested parties chaired by Dr John Gray OAM.

The wooded park comprises large groves of different types of trees, and has become a favoured destination for tree enthusiasts, dog walkers and leisure cyclists taking a break while circumnavigating the lake.



Fifty different tree species are represented and extensive aquatic vegetation attracts water-birds.

HISTORY

The planting of the area by Pryor in the mid-1950s was consistent with Walter Burley Griffin's vision for a 'continental arboretum' near the western part of the proposed lake. The wooded landscape Pryor created relates well to the tranquil precinct of Yarralumla and the nearby Governor-General's residence.

There is a strong relationship of purpose and development between the arboretum and Weston Park, Yarralumla Nursery and Westbourne Woods. These places reflect the work of the early Superintendents of Parks and Gardens who shaped the living environment of Canberra in its founding days – Charles Weston (1913-26), Alexander Bruce (1926-37), John Hobday (1937-44) and Lindsay Pryor (1944-58).

In the early 1960s additional trees were added on the foreshores of the newly created lake. Apart from the loss of some conifers (principally Monterey pines) from a bushfire in December 2001, the planting has survived reasonably well.

Expansion of the tree collection is planned and may include the testing of tree species to improve our understanding of the performance of native and exotic trees in the Canberra region. A master plan was completed in May 2011 and this will guide the further development of the arboretum in the years to come. The educational and research role of the tree collection will be encompassed and enhanced by future works, as will the arboretum's role as a destination for passive recreation.

THE PRYOR LEGACY

Emeritus Professor Lindsay Pryor AO (1915-98)

was an internationally respected forest scientist, botanist and landscape architect. In 1935 he graduated as Schlich Medallist from the Australian Forestry School, Canberra, and the University of Adelaide. He was later awarded an MSc and DSc and, at Flinders University, an Honorary DSc.

Between 1944 and 1958, Pryor held the position of Superintendent (and later Director) of Parks and Gardens in the ACT, unifying Central Canberra with his tree planting during the period. He assured the continuing development of Canberra as a 'city in the landscape'. Respected for his large-scale landscape projects and his introduction of genetically superior Australian and exotic trees, he expanded the collection of indigenous trees in Westbourne Woods arboretum, established by Charles Weston in 1914.

Giving evidence to the 1955 Senate Select Committee inquiring into development of Canberra, he skilfully persuaded the committee to recognise the important role of landscape development in Canberra and the need for a landscape architect. Not surprisingly, he was one of the founders of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects.

In 1945, he founded the herbarium and began the planting of what would later become the Australian National Botanic Gardens. It was his interest in Australian native plants that provided a basis for the current focus of the Gardens.

He is perhaps best known to Canberra residents for his outstanding books on Canberra's trees. The final one, *Trees and Shrubs of Canberra*, was published jointly with the late Dr John Banks in 1991.



Pryor's influence extended well beyond Canberra. In 1958, he became Foundation Professor of Botany at the Australian National University. He was a fine teacher and his early work on tree breeding led to him being widely recognised as a specialist on eucalypts. He made important contributions to botanical and forest scientific knowledge through his research, teaching and extensive publishing. He was in demand nationally and internationally as an adviser in forestry, botany and landscape architecture.

Highly acclaimed by his peers both in Australia and overseas, Lindsay Pryor was honoured by a large number of organisations and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1983.