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# A Landscape for Learning

## A History of the Grounds of the University of Western Australia

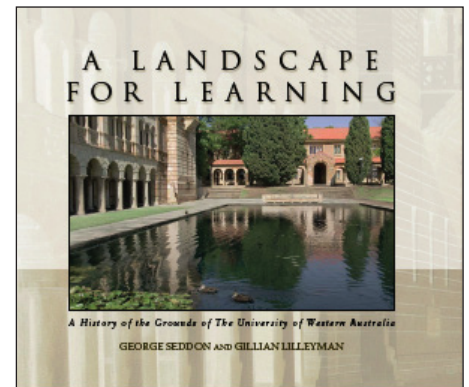
George Seddon and Gillian Lilleyman

*As the fine Hackett Buildings began to show their quality on the Crawley site, The University of Western Australia decided that the landscape should be their equal.*

*A Landscape for Learning: A History of the Grounds of The University of Western Australia* traces the story of the University's vibrant setting. From its early role as an Aboriginal meeting place and hunting ground, the site became the landholding of some of the State's most prominent colonists before being offered as the magnificent location for Western Australia's first university.

The diverse campus of today emerges from many different stories, both past and present: from the powerful decisionmakers to those who have worked extensively within the grounds. Individual features and gardens reflect all aspects of university life, from research to meditation. As a result, the landscape embodies a wealth of historical and contemporary tastes and trends, as well as an extraordinary amount of diverse and precious flora.

Set against a background of events in the wider community, *A Landscape for Learning* not only recounts the formation and development of one of the State's most celebrated institutions, but also provides a unique and precious insight into the development of gardening and landscape architecture within Western Australia.



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## About the authors

**George Seddon** is George Seddon was born in 1927, studied English at the University of Melbourne, and later gained both an MSc and a PhD in Geology at the University of Minnesota. He is now an Emeritus Professor of Environmental Science (University of Melbourne) and a Senior Honorary Research Fellow in English at The University of Western Australia. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Australian Planning Institute, the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences, and the Australian Academy of Humanities. His books include *Swan River Landscapes* (1970), *Landprints* (1997) and *From the Country* (2001). Awards include the Eureka Prize from the Australian Museum in 1995, and the Mawson Medal from the Academy of Science in 1996. In 2003 he was given a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Planning Institute of Australia. George has just acquired his first granddaughter, whose name is Jemima, after Ms Puddleduck. His dog is called Tap and is, George says, his only real fan.

**Gillian Lilleyman** graduated from The University of Western Australia in 1965 and worked first in the Pharmacology Department, then in Soil Science and Plant Nutrition at the University, before joining the Public Health Department as a biochemist. She left full-time work in 1971 to raise three children. From 1987 until 1998, she was associated with the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, at first in a voluntary capacity and then in part-time employment. Further studies undertaken at the School of Plant Science through UWA Extension in the Access Continuing Education programme from 1999 to 2002 led to her involvement with *A Landscape for Learning*, where she has combined her interests in plants, Western Australian history and art.

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