



My approach to heritage management is about putting people and values at the centre of decision making and recognising that there is not just one story being told. When we get that balance right, we create sustainable cultural heritage places that are loved and used by community today, and in the future.

Edwina Jans CF, M. ICOMOS Head of Victoria

Edwina Jans has over 20 years of experience in cultural leadership and a background in museums, galleries, heritage places and government.

Edwina is an archaeologist and museums and cultural heritage expert and has held executive roles in national and state cultural institutions and government agencies, specialising in heritage planning, policy development and engagement. At GML she leads strategic heritage reviews for local government, conservation management and interpretation planning for places on the national, state and local heritage registers for public and private sector clients.

Edwina is a Churchill Fellow and has been recognised for her work through numerous awards including from the Australian Institute of Architects (ACT), National Trusts of ACT and NSW, Australian Museums and Galleries Association, and the Australian Public Service.

She is a regular contributor at national and international conferences, makes frequent local and national media appearances and sits on the Working Heritage Committee of Management.

Edwina is a co-director of Canberra Modern, an award-winning events-based organisation founded in 2017 to celebrate the extraordinary modernist spirit and design legacy of Canberra.

Qualifications

Graduate Diploma in Museum Studies, University of Sydney
Bachelor of Arts (majoring in prehistory and ancient history), Australian National University

Key experience

Strategic and heritage planning

- Australia Felix Strategic Aboriginal Heritage Assessment—Client: GMTOAC, current
- Ballarat + Buninyong Heritage Study Stage 1—Client: City of Ballarat, current
- Brunswick and Coburg Activity Centres, Heritage Study—Client: City of Merri-bek, current
- Dandenong Police Paddocks Masterplan Cultural Heritage Report—Client: Office for Parks Victoria, 2023
- Lead Development of Australia ICOMOS Strategic Plan, 2015
- Australian Prime Ministers Centre, Strategic Plan

Heritage conservation and management

- Eureka Memorial Gardens, Conservation Management Plan—Client: City of Ballarat, current
- Old Parliament House and Curtilage, Heritage Management Plan
- Conservation Lead for Major Projects at Old Parliament House
- Old Parliament House, Heritage Actions Committee, Deputy Chair, 2011–2020

Interpretation and visitor engagement

- Victoria University Tower, Archaeological Artefact Display—Client: ISPT, current
- McKay Memorial Gardens Public Artwork, Heritage Advice—Client: Brimbank City Council, current
- 43 Pakington Street, Heritage Interpretation Strategy—Client: City of Port Phillip, current
- Grovedale Cement Pipe Factory, Interpretation Plan and Content Development—Client: Djilang Alliance for VicTrack, 2024
- ACT Heritage Festival, Project Director, 2021, 2022
- Dress Code: Empire Exhibition, Project Director and Curator, 2015
- Old Parliament House, Interpretation Plan, 2010
- Press Gallery: Leaks, Scoops and Scandals Exhibition, Project Director and Curator, 2006
- Sydney Open, Project Manager, 2000

Professional background

Head of Victoria, GML Heritage Victoria, May 2023–present
 Head, People, Strategy and Partnerships (A/g Deputy Director),
 Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, October
 2022–April 2023
 Senior Director and Secretary ACT Heritage Council, ACT Heritage,
 2020–2022
 Head, Heritage, Communications and Development, Museum of
 Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, 2011–2020
 Various Roles, Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament
 House, 2003–2010
 Public Programs Manager, National Portrait Gallery, 2010
 Various Roles (Curator, Public Programs Officer, Education Officer,
 Collections Manager, Museum Guide), Museums of History NSW,
 1993–2003

Education and training

Company Directors Course, Australian Institute of Company
 Directors, 2023
 Council of Australasian Museum Directors, Inaugural Executive
 Mentoring Program for Female Museum Leaders, 2016
 Best Practice Heritage Management, Port Arthur Historic Sites,
 Institute for Professional Practice in Heritage and the Arts, Australian
 National University, 2010
 Advanced Workplace Skills Program; Strategic Management
 Program; Management to Leadership, Australian Public Service,
 2004–2008
 Certificate 1 in Auslan, North Sydney College of TAFE, 1999

Presentations, publications and media

ABC Canberra, *Architecture Tour*, regular segment on Canberra
 architecture for Canberra Modern
 Planning Institute of Australia Congress, 2024
 Guest Editor for Canberra Modern of *Heritage of Modernity and
 Nationalism*, Australia ICOMOS Historic Environment Volume 33,
 Number 3, 2023
 ACT and Region Annual Heritage Symposium Organising Committee,
 2015–2019
 19th ICOMOS General Assembly and Scientific Symposium, New
 Delhi, December 2017
 Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings, Madrid, September 2014
 Australia ICOMOS Conference Organising Committee and delivery of
 paper, Canberra, 2013
 National Portrait Gallery and Australian National University Joint
 Conference, Project Manager, *Imaging Identity*, Canberra, 2010
 Education Network Victoria, Annual Conference, Melbourne, 2008
 Museums Australia Annual Conference, Brisbane, 2006
 Australia ICOMOS Conference, Port Arthur, 2004
Open house: Welcoming visitors with disabilities published by Historic
 Houses Trust NSW, 2003
 Barrierfree: The Journal of the Museums and Galleries Disability
 Association (UK) Article, 2002

Awards

Australian Institute of Architects (ACT Chapter), 2020
 National Trust Heritage Awards (various projects), 2014–2020
 Australian Museums and Galleries Association, Museums and
 Galleries National Award, Permanent Exhibition, 2018
 Museums and Galleries National Award, Interpretation, Learning and
 Audience Engagement, Australian Prime Ministers Website, 2017
 Australian Museums and Galleries Association, Museums and
 Galleries National Award, Interpretation, Learning and Audience
 Engagement, 2016
 Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 2001
 NSW National Trust/Energy Australia Heritage Awards, 1999

Committees and professional affiliations

Member, Working Heritage Committee of Management
 Co-founder and Creative Director, Canberra Modern
 Member, Alastair Swayn Foundation Grants Committee
 Member, ICOMOS General Assembly Executive Committee,
 Functions and Protocol Focal Point, 2018–2023
 Member, ACT Heritage Council, 2018–2020
 Vice President, ACT Churchill Fellows Association Committee, 2017–
 2019
 Canberra Writers Festival, panel host 2017–2019
 Member, Australia ICOMOS Executive Committee, 2011–2017
 International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Full
 International Member
 International Scientific Committee on Interpretation
 Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association
 National Trust of Australia (ACT)
 Australian Museums and Galleries Association
 International Council of Museums (ICOM)