



Edwina Jans CF, M.ICOMOS

Head of Victoria

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

Edwina is an archaeologist, curator, and museums and cultural heritage expert and has held executive roles in national and state cultural institutions and government agencies, specialising in policy development, heritage planning, and communication.

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 has also presented at national and international conferences and is a regular panel host of the Canberra Writers Festival. She also makes frequent local and national media appearances.

In 2017 Edwina co-founded Canberra Modern, an award-winning events-based organisation founded 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

Heritage conservation and management

- Conservation Lead for Major Projects at Old Parliament House
- Old Parliament House, Heritage Actions Committee, Deputy Chair, 2011–2020

Interpretation and visitor engagement

- ACT Heritage Festival, Project Director, 2021, 2022
- Press Gallery: Leaks, Scoops and Scandals Exhibition, Project Director and Curator, 2006
- Dress Code: Empire Exhibition, Project Director and Curator, 2015
- Sydney Open, Project Manager, 2000

Strategic planning

- Old Parliament House and Curtilage, Heritage Management Plan
- Old Parliament House Board Fundraising Committee and Terms of Reference and Museum of Australian Democracy Fundraising Framework
- Lead Development of Australia ICOMOS Strategic Plan
- Australian Prime Ministers Centre, Strategic Plan
- Collection Development Plan
- ICT Strategic Plan and Implementation Schedule
- Community Learning Plan
- Old Parliament House, Interpretation Plan

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), Sydney Living Museums,
 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

ACT and Region Annual Australian Heritage Partnership Symposium Canberra 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 Bi-annual 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 Bi-annual 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

Museums Australia (NSW) Newsletter Article, 1996

Spokesperson for the National Portrait Gallery, Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, Historic Houses Trust and National Museum of Australia for local and national television, newspapers and radio, including live broadcasts

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

Professional affiliations/memberships

Co-founder and Creative Director, Canberra Modern

Alastair Swayn Foundation Grants Committee

ICOMOS General Assembly

ACT Heritage Council

ACT Churchill Fellows Association Committee, Vice President

Australia ICOMOS Executive Committee

International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Full International Member

International Scientific Committee on Interpretation

Australian Museums and Galleries Association

International Council of Museums (ICOM)

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

International Committee for Historic House Museums