

**Fremantle History Society
presents
Fremantle Studies Day 2015
Sunday 25th October 2015**



Four lively presentations exploring aspects of the suburban-city centre relationship from the 19thC till the present in the heritage listed

Hilton Hall, 2/34 Paget Street, Hilton

Our program of events includes our famously delicious Afternoon Tea, served in the hall's spacious café style foyer.

Session One

The Legacy of Creating Something New

Two speakers explore how two of Fremantle's modest utopian visions, the Garden Suburb of Hilton and the former 19thC beachside summer paradise of South Beach, have fared since their separate beginnings.

'Houses of Hilton', by Mary Ann Goodlich

'Bright, Breezy, Bracing South Beach: the History of a Seaside Playground'
by Jillian Barteaux

Afternoon Tea

Session Two

Preserving Fremantle's History and Heritage

Two speakers present their individual perspectives on conservation projects in Fremantle

'The Prehistory of Conservation in Fremantle, Revisited' by Robin McKellar Campbell

'Exit stage right: Looking at the Deckchair Theatre collection', by Kristy Bizzaca

Registration

12.30pm for a 1.00pm start
Cost \$15.00 Members \$18.00 Non Members
(join on the day for a member discount)

Bookings are Essential

Please contact Pam Harris

E: secretary.fhs@gmail.com Ph: 94336639



Fremantle Studies Day 2015: Abstracts

'Houses of Hilton'

The impact of planning policy changes and increased density has undermined the original design intentions for the Hilton Housing Estate. This presentation will look at the history of Post-World War II houses of Hilton and how they collectively contribute to the aesthetic of the Hilton Garden Suburb.

Mary-Ann Goodlich is currently a teacher and has an interest in design and the built environment and has completed a Degree in Architecture at the University of Western Australia in addition to a Bachelor of Education. She has maintained an interest in local planning and architectural issues while living in Fremantle and undertook a Graduate Diploma in Applied Heritage Studies at Curtin University of Technology to better engage in heritage issues. Mary-Ann has been living in Hilton for several years where she has continued her interest in local planning and heritage issues by taking an active community role in the Hilton Precinct.

'Bright, Breezy, Bracing South Beach: The history of a Seaside Playground'

Sea bathing and beach culture at South Beach constitute an important aspect of the social history and local identity of South Fremantle and surrounding area. From the late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century, South Beach enjoyed a period of extraordinary popularity as a leisure destination, attracting an estimated 35000 people to its opening ceremony in 1909. Boasting features and attractions as various as a skating rink, tea rooms, fairground amusements and more, South Beach became an important social and business setting for the surrounding community and beyond. However, at the South Beach of today, little remains to indicate this vibrant past, prompting the consideration of reasons for its eventual decline and the dismantling of its facilities.

Jillian Barteaux is an archaeologist at the University of Western Australia and is the WA state representative for the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology. She recently completed a Masters of Historical Archaeology at the University of Leicester, where she studied the relationship between urban planning and social relationships in colonial Fremantle. Her recent studies and interest in Fremantle's social history sparked her curiosity in learning more about one of Australia's most famous landscapes - the beach.

'The Prehistory of Conservation in Fremantle, Revisited'

The origins of this paper are in a talk given at Fremantle Heritage Week in 2010, introduced by Professor Bob Reece as 'The Prehistory of Conservation in Fremantle'. While my aim in the 2010 paper was to correctly set out a chronology of events, I did not have the time or space to make more mention of the *people* who populated those events — at least where I have a personal recollection of their contribution. So, this update of the 'Prehistory' is an attempt to cover that omission.

Robin McKellar (Rob) Campbell graduated Bachelor of Architecture, University of Cape Town, 1957, and worked in general practice in South Africa, Rhodesia, England, Melbourne and WA. He worked with Oldham, Boas, Ednie-Brown & Partners, coming to Fremantle in 1965 to help manage a development for the Fremantle City Council. Work became focussed on conservation in Fremantle, Perth, New Norcia. He retired from practice in 2012 and is now an Honorary Research Fellow still engaged with students in the conservation units of the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts at UWA.

'Exit Stage Right: Looking at the Deckchair Theatre Collection'

After thirty remarkable years, this multi-award winning local company brought down the curtain for the last time in late 2013. In this paper, Kris Bizzaca will explore the area of heritage collections by looking at items belonging to one of the really unique theatre companies in Australia, Fremantle's own and sadly missed Deckchair Theatre.

Kris Bizzaca has worked as a heritage consultant and professional historian for fifteen years, with qualifications in English, History and Public History, Fremantle's heritage movement being the subject of her Master of Arts thesis which was completed in 1997. Kris has a particular passion for archives and collections and has been actively involved in a number of community-based projects, including acting as Chair of a multi-million dollar project that resulted in the digitisation of all of the cassette tapes and consequent saving of over 6,000 oral histories held in the J. S. Battye Library of Western Australian History. She was the City of Fremantle's representative on the Library Board of Western Australia from 2007 to 2013 and has just retired from her third term as President of the Professional Historians Association (WA Branch).