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# Arboreal Alterations

Tree modification and meaning making  
from the past to the present

2 - 3 November 2023

Lecture Theatre Level 2, Sir Roland Wilson Building (120)  
McCoy Circuit, Australian National University

The symposium is hosted by the  
ARC 'Archives in Bark' Special Research Initiative  
(SR200200473), a collaboration between the [ANU](#),  
[University of Canberra](#), [University of Notre Dame  
Australia](#) and the [University of Western Australia](#).



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# Thursday 2 November

9:30 -9:50am	<b>Morning tea and registration</b>
9:50 -10:40am	Welcome to Country <b>Paul Girrawah House</b> Opening Address <b>ANU Vice-Chancellor Brian Schmidt</b> About the Archives in Bark ARC Project <b>Sue O'Connor</b>
10:40 -12:00pm	<b>Session 1</b> Chair: <b>Sue O'Connor</b>  <i>Larrkardiy and lingkoora: Documenting bookarrdiykarra on the carved boab trees of Nyikina Country in the West Kimberley</i> Mel Marshall, Annie Milgin, Will Andrews, Ursula Frederick, Sue O'Connor, Jane Balme, Kyra Edwards and Jane Edwards  <i>Quest for the Yingualalya Bottle Tree Dreaming</i> Brenda Garstone, Sue O'Connor, Jane Balme  <i>The 'Mermaid Tree' at Careening Bay and post-contact inscriptions on boab trees in the Kimberley by non-Indigenous people</i> Kevin Kenneally  <i>Trees of history</i> Darrell Lewis
12:00 -1:00pm	<b>Lunch break</b>
1:00 -3:00pm	<b>Session 2</b> Chair: <b>Jane Balme</b>  <i>Mapping Cooktown Ironwood sugarbag trees in the Laura Sandstone Basin, Cape York Peninsula, Queensland</i> Mia Dardengo, Lynley Wallis, Noelene Cole, Muundhu Naylor, Maryann Naylor, Laura Rangers, Heather Burke and Cat Morgan  <i>Steel axe size, photogrammetry, and the recording of culturally modified trees in Cape York</i> David Tutchener, David Claudie  <i>Managing culturally modified trees along the Peninsula Development Road, Cape York, Queensland</i> Nicholas Roberts and Alice Buhrich  <i>Bolknahnan kunred la kundolk: Protecting culturally modified trees in Mirarr Country, Northern Territory</i> Lynley A. Wallis, Mia Dardengo, Clarrie Nadjamerrek, May Nango, Djaykuk Djandjomerr, Murray Garde  <i>Dendroglyphs of the Far North Queensland rainforests</i> Alice Buhrich
3:00 -3:30pm	<b>Afternoon break</b>
3:30 -5:00pm	<b>Session 3</b> Chair: <b>Ursula Frederick</b>  <i>Whenua on hiapo: A cultural exchange on Te Moana-nui-a-kiwa</i> Hana Aoake  <i>Yarun's trees of significance</i> Tracey Benson  <i>Experiencing Jingkieng Jri (Living Root Bridges): Short walks in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills</i> Steve Brown  <i>The arboreal book: From early modernity to contemporary altered books</i> Victoria Bladen

# Friday 3 November

9:30 -11:00am	<b>Session 4</b> Chair: <b>Mel Marshall</b>  <b>Culturally modified trees: Physical and metaphysical connection</b> Ken Mulvaney  <b>Culturally modified trees and bark/wooden items from Yagera Country, southeast Queensland, Australia.</b> Kate Greenwood, Madonna Thomson and James Bonner  <b>Excisional practices: Investigating Indigenous-settler relations through the material residues of timber-getting</b> Kenzee Patterson  <b>Ring trees: Creating a typology for recording</b> Talei Holm, Hannah Morris, Young Local Aboriginal Land Council, and Tim Owen
11:00 -11:30am	<b>Morning break</b>
11:45 -12:15pm <b>Outside HC Coombs Building</b>	<b>Session 5</b> Introduction: <b>Simon Haberle</b>  <b>Tree carving: An artist talk</b> Paul Girrawah House
12:30 -1:45pm	<b>Lunch break at HC Coombs Building</b>
2:00 -3:00pm	<b>Session 6</b> Chair: <b>Jane Balme</b>  <b>Investigating Wiradjuri <i>marara</i> (carved trees or dendroglyphs) and <i>dhabuganha</i> (burials) in the Central Tablelands, southeastern Australia</b> Caroline Spry, Brian Armstrong, Neil Ingram, Alice Williams, James Williams, Greg Ingram, Ian 'Doug' Sutherland, Yarrawula Ngullubul Men's Corporation, Michelle Hines, Tracey Potts, and Lawrence Conyers  <b>Lake of Scars: Culturally modified trees on Yung Balug Djandak, north central Victoria</b> Jillian Garvey, Amos Atkinson, Aunty Marilyn Nicholls, Pauline Ugle, Uncle Gray Murray, Rebekah Kurpiel, and Susan Lawrence  <b>Establishing chronologies for culturally modified trees on Wotjobaluk Country</b> Darren Griffin, Abby Cooper, Matthew Brookhouse, Amy Roberts, Daryl Wesley, Tracey Rigney, Michael Douglas and Stuart Harradine
3:00 -3:30pm	<b>Afternoon break</b>
3:30 -4:30pm	<b>Final Session</b> Panel discussion
8:00 -10:00pm	<b>Associated event</b> Shinrin-Yoku Forest Bathing at the Cork Forest, Arboretum (ticketed)


You can access all  
abstracts here:



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