

JOHN BROADLEY

B.A. & LITT.B (U.N.E.) AND M.A. (WITH DISTINCTION, C.S.U.)



John Broadley is a retired teacher, a heritage consultant, historian and author. He studied and taught foreign languages (French, German and Japanese) from 1971 until 1999, obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in 1978 and writing a post-graduate thesis on French novelist Marcel Proust for a Bachelor of Letters in 1980, both from the University of New England. In 2003 he graduated from Charles Sturt University with a Master of Arts (Cultural Heritage) with Distinction.

Since the mid 1990s he has undertaken extensive historical research on the colonial architecture of C19th New South Wales, and written regular historical articles for the *Mudgee Guardian*. He has frequently worked in conjunction with heritage architects on conservation management programs for numerous significant heritage properties in New South Wales. In 2012 he published the acclaimed *Historic Houses of Mudgee*, and in 2016 will produce *Mudgee Memorial Park. Stories in Stone*, a history of the early cemeteries in Mudgee and biographies of the names on surviving headstones.

He is a member of the Mudgee Historical Society Inc, the Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine Historical Society Inc, the Horbury Hunt Club, The Twentieth Century Heritage Society of NSW Inc, The Australian Garden History Society, and the National Trust of Australia (NSW), receiving a service medal from the latter in 2003.

He has been a foundation committee member of ADFAS Mudgee since 2001 and has served as Secretary, Membership Secretary, Vice Chairman and Chairman. He has been actively involved in church recording and also has an interest in the ADFAS Mechanics Institute/School of Arts project.

In recent years he has lectured to ADFAS societies and at history and architectural society conferences and meetings in New South Wales

A devoted Francophile, he is passionate about French culture, and especially in the relationships between France and Australia.

John lives in Mudgee in the Central West of New South Wales and is available to travel throughout Australia and for mini tours.

LECTURES



1. The King of Rome

The King of Rome was born in 1811, the only legitimate son and heir of Napoleon I, Emperor of the French, and of his second wife, the Austrian Archduchess Marie Louise. Napoleon's empire crumbled in 1814 and the infant King of Rome, briefly Emperor Napoleon II, was taken to Vienna by his mother and raised as an Austrian prince for the rest of his life. A highly intelligent and handsome young man, he lived a lonely existence and any connection with his Bonaparte relations was forbidden. As he matured he grew more curious about his father and became determined to follow the life of a soldier. Tragically, his life was cut short in 1832 when he died of consumption, leaving no issue. He was buried in Vienna until 1940, when Hitler had his remains moved to Paris.

Trace the life of this enigmatic young man from cradle to tomb, a life for whom there were great expectations, all of which were unfulfilled.



2. Napoleon, Josephine and the Australian Connection

Few people would be aware that both Napoleon and the Empress Josephine were keenly interested in Australia or 'New Holland'. A young Napoleon Bonaparte had unsuccessfully applied to join La Perouse's Pacific expedition of the late 1780s, leading to one of the great 'what ifs' of history. How different would the history of Europe have been if Napoleon had joined the expedition on which all perished?

Napoleon sent the Baudin expedition to New Holland from 1800–1803 to gather specimens of plant, animal and bird life and make observations. Many extant French place names in Australia, particularly in Western Australia and Tasmania, originate from

this expedition: Freycinet Peninsula, Cape Baudin, Cape Naturaliste, Geographe Bay, Huon (River, Valley, Peninsula and also pine) etc. Many of the specimens collected during the Baudin expedition miraculously made their way to France where the majority ended up at Malmaison, the private home of Napoleon and Josephine, where Josephine was largely responsible for the chateau's restoration and decoration and for the magnificent gardens which soon became the showplace of Europe.

Find out what exotics from the Antipodes ended up at Malmaison, and how some of the plants were immortalized in Josephine's landmark tome of 1803, *Le Jardin de la Malmaison*, written by Etienne Pierre Ventenat and illustrated by Pierre-Joseph Redouté.



3. The Visit of Louis, Prince de Condé, to Australia in 1866

The eldest son and heir of the Duke of Aumale and a grandson of deposed King Louis Philippe I, King of the French from 1830 to 1848, twenty-year old Louis, Prince de Condé, visited New South Wales in 1866 as part of a round-the-world tour. Despite his youth and the fact that he was a member of a non-reigning royal dynasty, he was feted upon his arrival in Sydney by the press and numerous local dignitaries. Although here on a private visit, he was the first "royal" to come to Australia. Colonials were somewhat in awe of his royal status and his presence in the colony made him something of a celebrity. Considerable sympathy was expressed to him when he fell seriously ill while in Sydney, and to his family when he tragically died.

His heartbroken parents had already lost five children and after the death of his last surviving child in 1872, the Duke of Aumale turned his focus to the Chateau of Chantilly, north-east of Paris, which he rebuilt and filled with a priceless library, furniture and art treasures. Today the Chateau of Chantilly is open to the public, while the magnificent stables house a museum dedicated to the horse.

Uncover the Prince de Condé's exotic family background, whom he met and the places he visited during his stay in New South Wales, how his body was transported back to England where his family lived in exile, and how he ended up in his final resting place at his family's mausoleum at Dreux, near Chartres, in France.



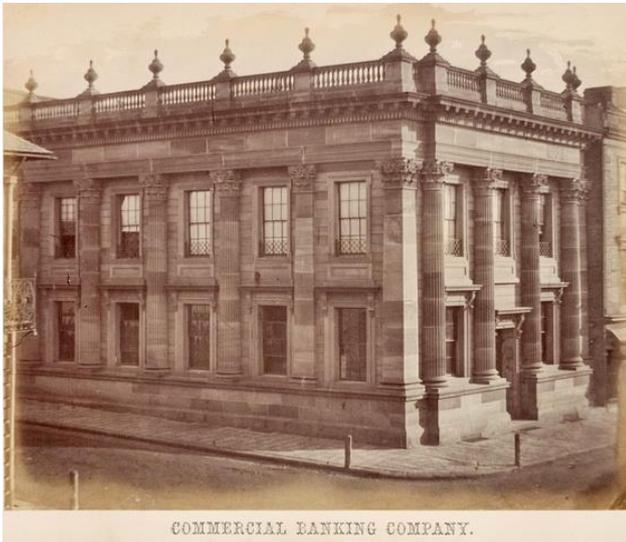
4. Visit of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand to Australia in 1893

The much-maligned and often misrepresented Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Este, heir to the Habsburg empire of Austria-Hungary, came to New South Wales as part of a world tour in 1893. The tour was ostensibly a fact-finding tour, but it was really intended to benefit the health of the Archduke who suffered from tuberculosis, a disease which had claimed his mother.

Franz Ferdinand was a passionate collector who assembled an eclectic range of items during his tour, during which he kept extensive diaries revealing much about his enigmatic personality. Franz Ferdinand was extremely positive about his experiences in New South Wales and regretted that he had extended his stay in India at the expense of his Australian visit.

Find out about the Archduke's tragic family background, where he went during his visit to Sydney, what Sydney looked like at the time of his visit and whom he met. He also made two excursions into the country to go on hunting expeditions – to the Narromine and Nyngan areas, and to Moss Vale. His catch was, by modern standards, politically incorrect.

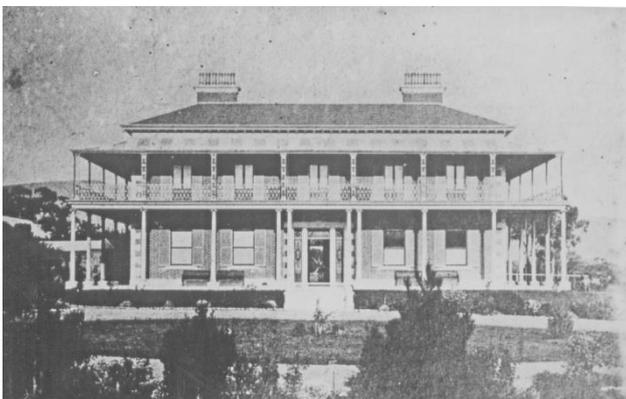
His life post-Australia will also be presented: his struggle to marry the woman he loved, the conflict with his reactionary uncle, the Emperor Franz Josef, and his assassination in June 1914 which led to the outbreak of World War One.



5. John Frederick Hilly. Forgotten Architect of C19th New South Wales

John Frederick Hilly was a successful architect who practised in New South Wales from 1840 until his death in 1883. Although not as well known as some of his contemporaries – such as Blackett, Rowe, or Mansfield – he was multi-skilled, working as a qualified surveyor and as a real estate agent, roles which saw him through periodic lulls in the architectural profession. He was prolific in his briefs, although many were small or included minor repairs to existing buildings. However, he designed some of Sydney's grandest public and commercial buildings of the early Victorian era, as well as numerous villas in the gothic or classical style in Sydney's wealthier suburbs. He also ventured into rural New South Wales, and many country towns and districts have a Hilly building, invariably a bank. Sadly, many of his more significant buildings were in Sydney's CBD and have not survived.

This lecture will examine his most significant works, lost and extant.

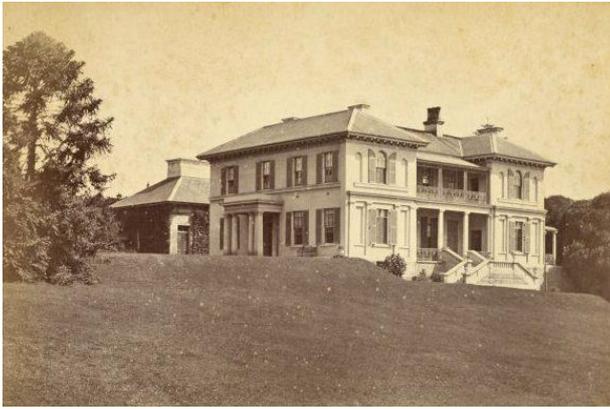


6. Historic Houses of Mudgee

Mudgee is an historic town in the Central West of New South Wales, noted for its historic buildings, impressive streetscapes, picturesque setting and its numerous vineyards. The Mudgee district was settled by Europeans in 1822, while the town was established in 1838.

This lecture will present several significant Mudgee houses, in both town and country, with a brief ownership history, an examination of key architectural details, a peek at the interiors, the gardens and principal outbuildings.

Also presented is the fascinating revelation of an ancient superstition: warding off evil spirits. This secretive practice of concealing talismans was widespread in C19th Mudgee and across Australia in times when superstitions were widespread.



7. Mona. A Grand Darling Point Estate

Mona, on the western side of Darling Point Road in Darling Point, was one of Sydney's grandest estates. The house was built circa 1841 for merchant Thomas Ware Smart to a design by architect John Bibb who started his career in the colony under John Verge. Originally surrounded by extensive landscaped grounds, the house has survived, although with a drastically reduced curtilage and with numerous alterations and additions; it is now divided into several strata title apartments.

Few people would be aware that Mona had within its grounds a purpose-built art gallery which was occasionally open to the public in the days when there was no public art gallery. Rivaling Thomas Sutcliffe Mort's gallery at nearby Greenoaks, Thomas Ware Smart's collection at Mona

comprised some notable old masters acquired from the dispersal of the 2nd Lord Northwick's famous collection in London in 1859.

The history and evolution of this significant house, as well as the story of the Smart collection, one of the most significant private art collections ever held in Australia, will be presented in this lecture.



8. Merioola. A House on Edgecliff Road

Merioola at Edgecliff was one of the great mansions of Sydney, legendary for its hospitality and at the end of its life notorious as an avant garde artists' haunt.

Originally a gentleman's villa residence when it was built in 1859, it was expanded in the late 1800s to become an ornate Italianate mansion. In the early 1900s the house was the centre of Sydney's social life under the ownership of solicitor Arthur Wigram Allen and his wife Ethel, a formidable hostess and tireless charity worker. The Allens used Merioola's enormous ballroom and its grounds to entertain visiting royalty and Sydney's elite, and for fundraising purposes. A genial character and highly-cultured man, Arthur Wigram Allen is particularly remembered for his passion, if not obsession, for photography. His legacy to New South Wales is his wonderful collection of photograph

albums which encapsulates Sydney in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The albums, extensively annotated, were generously donated to the Mitchell Library by his family after his death in 1941.

In 1942 Merioola entered a new phase in its life when it became a boarding house managed by Chica Edgeworth, later Lowe. She encouraged tenants reflecting a variety of artistic fields, so that Merioola soon became a bohemian milieu, occupied by Donald Friend, Harry Tatlock Miller, Loudon Sainthill and many others. The party ended when Merioola was demolished in late 1951. Eight houses now occupy the site of the house and its once expansive gardens.

Discover who built Merioola, who lived and visited there, see its interiors and its grounds through Arthur Wigram Allen's wonderful photographs, and discover snippets of Sydney's bohemian artistic life of the post-WWII period.



9. Camden Park House

Camden Park House at Menangle, near Camden, arguably Australia's most significant private house, was commissioned by leading colonist John Macarthur from John Verge, the foremost architect in the colony. Completed after his death by his family in the mid 1830s, this great classical house has remained in the ownership of Macarthur descendants, although the adjoining estate has been considerably reduced since it was taken up by John Macarthur and family in the early days of the colony.

This lecture will discuss John Verge's design for Camden Park House in the context of his principal works, and show how the house has evolved through the generations. Ownership descent will also be treated, as well as a brief synopsis of the garden which is easily a topic in itself.



10. Château of Vaux-le-Vicomte

The construction of this jewel of French châteaux, completed in 1661 for Nicolas Fouquet for a grand fete in honour of King Louis XIV, led to the owner being jailed for the remainder of his life and the confiscation of the château. Louis XIV subsequently built a grand palace at Versailles so that not one of his subjects could ever outshine the king.

This lecture will look at Nicolas Fouquet, the rivalries that led to his downfall, and subsequent owners and occupants of the château. The lecture also includes a tour of the château and looks at how its current owners deal with managing one of the most significant privately-owned estates of Europe.



11. The Cemetery of Père Lachaise in Paris

The French, and Paris in particular, have long had a reputation for welcoming refugees and exiles from abroad, whether forced or self-imposed, and many of these seem to have ended up being buried at Père Lachaise cemetery. Many famous French people of international renown are also buried at Père Lachaise. This sprawling cemetery, which covers some 44 acres, began in the early 1800s at the instigation of the Emperor Napoleon.

Tour the tombs and mausoleums of the famous, and the notorious, some of which are focal points of regular pilgrimages eg Jimmy Morrison, Oscar Wilde, Frederic Chopin. Discover intimate aspects of the lives of some of the inhabitants, often marred by tragedy.



12. Little Irene. Tragic story of a Renoir portrait

In 1880 Pierre Renoir was commissioned to paint a portrait of the young Irene Cahen d'Anvers, eldest daughter of wealthy Jewish bankers. Neither the parents nor the sitter liked the portrait and it was passed among family members until WWII, when it was looted by Goering, the Nazis' second-in-command. Brought back to France at the end of the war, the painting was ultimately returned to Irene who promptly sold it to a Swiss businessman. The painting remains in Switzerland today.

In this lecture, the complete provenance of the painting is outlined and an account is given of Irene's sad life and the tragic fate of her children and grandchildren.



13. Madame la Veuve Clicquot

Barbe-Nicole Clicquot, née Ponsardin, is one of France's most celebrated women. She was certainly the most brilliant businesswoman of modern times and from fairly modest beginnings developed a small champagne house into a mighty business concern. Widowed young ('veuve' is French for widow), she showed ingenuity and pluck, in spite of often overwhelming obstacles, to find a market for her champagne which is still a going concern today. Immensely successful and rich, she lived on until 1866, dying at the age of 88. Her descendants are numbered among France's grandest families.

In this lecture, the hectic and complex fabled life of Barbe-Nicole will be traced, and her legacy – Veuve Clicquot champagne – will also be examined.



14. The Place des Vosges

The Place des Vosges is a square in the old aristocratic quarter of Paris known as the 'Marais'. This square, constructed in the early 1600s, was the first example of town planning in Paris. Ordered at the behest of King Henri IV, the facades had to show uniformity, and despite some cosmetic changes – not always for the better – they have remained intact. The Place des Vosges today is a vibrant spot that represents the quintessential Paris, with restaurants, shops, apartments, schools, a synagogue and a museum.

Discover the components of a typical structure in the Place des Vosges, and be amazed at the wide range of people, famous and notorious, who have lived there in over four hundred years of its existence.