

with David Long

Master Builders Association of Victoria/ISS Institute Fellow



1970's David served as an understudy to a landscape gardener who specialised in different forms of stonemasonry. This early stewardship led to various opportunities within the landscape industry as it was beginning to emerge as a stand alone discipline within the construction Industry.

1980's Study took him into the recently established field of Landscape Architecture at RMIT. He went on to be a partner in a landscape gardening firm with commissions varying from private residences to large public spaces.

1990's David founded 'The Right Branch' to provide a specialist service to the Construction Industry from heritage projects to sculptural commissions. Changing economic times required an extension of earlier skills gained - enter Dry Stone Walling. David is currently working on the construction of a massive dry stone wall as part of a private commission just outside Melbourne. Other major projects include:

- Malvern Valley Golf Course entrance
- Township of Ternag's entrance
- Construction of "Tanderum" sculpture on Herring Island
- Gateway entrance at Melbourne University's Glenormiston Campus.

In November 2001, David was awarded the **Master Builders Association of Victoria/ISS Institute Fellowship**. The purpose of the Fellowship continues to be to revive the high level skills and knowledge required to maintain heritage sites and to translate those capabilities into contemporary contexts.



Situated overlooking Port Philip Bay, 'Pinecliff' is an equine business. The property is the brainchild and vision of the owner (who wishes to remain anonymous). The dry stone wall is extraordinary in both scale and quality.

The dry stone wall project was originally set out in 1999. However, the owner has changed the initial design to evolve to meet the changing needs of the business. This year sees the project coming to fruition. Changes to the property will eventuate in major construction in infrastructure being put in place, such as race tracks. Some of this infrastructure has, and is, to include further construction of dry stone walls.

The walls that are either in construction, or complete; are there partly for privacy and partly to build a grandeur that this property will take on in time, within the Equine industry and as part of the community in which it resides.

The major piece of work that is found on the property was begun in 1999. The wall was finally completed with changes in dimension in 2004. During this period many other landscape works have been carried out on the property.

Completed wall dimensions

Length: 200m

High Point: 4.5m

Low Point: 2.8m

Top of wall: 550mm

Base dimensions: 1.5 – 2.7m

*Photographs courtesy
David Long*

Introduction

Dry Stone Walling is one of the few crafts that still uses the principles handed down since man created 'the enclosure' to protect himself from tempest, enemies and agrarian pursuit. Dry Stone Walling has been with man through the ages as it was easily adapted into various lifestyles, because of the ease of stone's availability and its longevity.

Today, Dry Stone Walling is a craft that is slowly being left behind as building technologies produce time efficient constructions. These constructions do not have the aesthetic appeal, or the versatility of natural stone in today's built environment.

David's Fellowship and this workshop is part of a strategy to revive and expand the use of dry stone work so as to maintain heritage sites, but also to create new work.

The techniques can be applied not only to residential gardening/landscaping works, but also in the construction of functional and decorative projects as part of public and domestic landscaping and in general to create beautiful, everlasting environments - from atriums in buildings, art pieces in public spaces, corporate team building exercises, garden walls and seats, BBQ areas, entranceways - to add lasting value to the spaces in which you work, live or play.

Suitable for...

Those interested in using stone in the urban and rural settings including • Urban Designers • Stonemasons • Landscape Architects and Gardeners • Architects • Architectural conservators • Builders • Educators • Archaeologists • Sculptors • Heritage advisors • Historians and groups such as Landscape Industries Association of Victoria, Heritage Victoria, Master Stonemasons Association, National Trust and Australian Garden History Society.

Workshop

Topics covered include:

- Constructing a curved wall
- Terminology
- Types of stone
- Setting out
- Preparing foundations
- Frame construction and string lines
- Stripping out
- Building and packing (hearting)
- Cheekend • Wall end construction
- Appropriate tools
- OH&S

The workshop comprises lecture, demonstrations, group and individual discussion and a hands-on project.

Participants will work under David's supervision on the construction of the wall.

Project

Take away skills, knowledge and understanding of the craft of Dry Stone Walling. Be part of a team focusing on the design and technical skills and knowledge required in the construction of a curved section of wall on a working property.

The section will include a lunkie/smoot (a hole in the base of the wall to allow for water run-off and/or wildlife movement).

Build on this knowledge with your new found ability to add value to landscape environments whether contemporary or historic, for corporate or commercial clients, or create garden features around your own home such as feature seats, entrances, walls or sculptural elements - life long creations.

Venue

'Pinecliff'
55 -75 Sunnyside Road
Mt Eliza
(opposite Morning Star vineyard).

Date•Time

Saturday, 19 March 2005
commencing promptly at 9.30am and
concluding at 4.00pm.

Fee

\$120 inclusive GST, which includes materials, equipment, morning and afternoon refreshments.

As we are on a private working property, catering on site is not available, so pack your own lunch box full of tasty treats to enjoy on the day.

A copy of David Long's 'Dry Stone Walling Report' will be provided on the day. It sets out the places he visited whilst overseas, the different designs, techniques and materials.



Since 1989 International Specialised Skills Institute Inc (ISS Institute), an independent, national organisation, has provided opportunities for Australian learning institutions, public authorities, industry and commerce to gain best-in-the-world skills and experience in traditional and leading-edge technology, design, innovation and management.

ISS Institute identifies skill deficiencies through market research, then fills them through its Overseas Skill Acquisition Plan (Fellowship Program) and consultancy services.

ISS Institute proudly acknowledges the support of the firms and individuals who contribute funds and in-kind services and goods .

With appreciative thanks to 'Pinecliff' for their hospitality and generosity in providing access to their property for the day's proceedings.

Major Sponsor



Program

Saturday 19th March 2004

9.30am Arrive at "Pinecliff". David will meet you at the Sunnyside Road entrance, inside the gate. ISS Institute welcomes workshop participants

David will begin the day by talking about the front entrance wall. Participants will then drive to the completed freestanding 'big' wall (4.5m at its highest point) for further discussion and inspection.

Presentation by David Long

Drive onto the site office for a presentation by David

10.30am Morning Break - refreshments

11.00am Demonstration on site by David Long

Stone selection; working stone; laying; finishing

Participants working under David's supervision begin the project

12.00pm **Lunch**

12.45pm Continue constructing the wall

2.45pm Afternoon Break - refreshments

3.15pm Continue project

4.00pm Session concludes

Registration Form

Complete the Registration Form and post, fax or email back.

You are welcome to forward onto to others who would also be interested in attending.

Post, email or fax to:

Ms Carolynne Bourne, CEO ISS Institute
101/685 Burke Road, Camberwell 3124

Telephone 03 9882 0055

Facsimile 03 9882 9866

Email issi.ceo@pacific.net.au

Course Fee \$120 inclusive of GST

Payment Method:

- Cash (Pay directly at ISS office or by arrangement)
 Cheque (Make payable to 'ISS Institute')
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 Credit Card (Diners and American Express are not accepted)
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Conditions of Registration

I hereby agree to abide by the regulations of the ISS Institute

Your Signature _____ Date _____

Registration Requirements

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March 2004

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The Turkeith Country Garden was designed for the Ramsay family, in 1903/4 by William Guilfoyle who designed the Melbourne Botanic Gardens.

It reached maturity in the 1930's, 40's and 50's – then it endured a gradual decline in maintenance which extended until 1986 when the Gordon family took over. A restoration programme, which has been in place since then, is gradually restoring this fascinating old garden to its former glory.

Part of the charm of the Turkeith garden is its isolated situation at the centre of a 2000 hectare working sheep station on the basalt plains. Magnificent oaks, elms, pines, palms, cypress and gums are the major mature trees dating from the earliest plantings, and many different species have been added since 1986, including magnolias, oaks, sycamores, elms, hawthorns and fruit trees. Under these trees are a wide range of shrubs, hardy perennials and drought tolerant plant, and a splendid range of bulbs all year round. The major attraction of this garden, however, is Guilfoyle's marvellous flowing design.

Photograph above courtesy
Helen Page, Australian Garden History Society

'Turkeith', Sunday 2 May 2004



The workshop consisted of the participants working as a team to construct a section of dry stone wall that is now part of the entrance to Turkeith, near Colac.

Photographs courtesy
Helen Page and Dee Dee Neville

