Macquarie University Arboretum

A living collection of trees

www.mq.edu.au/arboretum
Overview

• Launched in 2010, the Arboretum includes all the trees on campus and many courtyards and teaching gardens.

• It captures the history of the land occupied by the university, from pre-European settlement through to market gardens and university landscaping.
History

• Prior to European settlement this area had 4 main vegetation types:
  – Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest
  – Sydney Sandstone Ridgetop woodland
  – Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest
  – Shale-Sandstone Transition Forest
• Of these 4 vegetation communities, 2 are now listed as endangered.
• We are fortunate to still have Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest on campus.
• Across the M2 we have a large area of healthy Sandstone Ridgetop Woodland and Sandstone Gully Forest.
History cont.

• In the mid 1800’s the area was settled by Europeans and the land cleared for market gardens, orchards and poultry farms

• In the 1960’s the land was cleared for construction of the University. Many native and exotic trees were planted.
Features

- Remnant native vegetation
- Large groves of native and exotic trees
- Courtyards
- Teaching gardens
  - Biological Sciences
  - Earth Sciences
  - Bush Tucker
  - Indian Spice
Bushcare and restoration

• Bushcare activities improving Mars Creek riparian zones and the health and extent of native vegetation
• Landscaping with native species, with a focus on local provenance.
Education and the Future

• Education and outreach to high schools and the local business and residential community is important

• The Arboretum will continue to expand and develop with topical walks and development of new gardens to complement museums and research