Memorial and Commemorative ‘trees’ at Lincoln University

Roy Edwards Mar. 2014
AGLS.
Introduction

This is a draft report on the status of memorial and commemorative ‘trees’ at Lincoln. ‘Trees’ is used here in its widest sense and includes others. Most are single trees, but some are group plantings of a variety of New Zealand native shrubs and perennials, in another a group of kauri trees and in yet another instance two grape vines. I have also included two other memorials at the end of the report that are not plants (one at the request of Glenda Hicks). In this latter category there may be others?

I would also like to acknowledge the following people and resources in compiling this report.

- Allan Anderton
- Burns, Ruth A. ‘Some trees at Lincoln College’ (1984)
- Glen Creasey
- Dan Dennehy
- Glenda Hicks
- Dick Lucas
- Annamaria Mills for technical help in preparing this report
- Shane Timbrell
- Student Projects from Amenity Horticulture classes date unknown and 1995.
- Campus plants database
- ‘Schedule of Memorial Trees on Campus’, Memo to Professor B.J. Ross from R.W. Englefield Assistant Registrar (Planning), 26th April 1990.
- 2003 Lincoln University Memorial Tree List

Many years ago (probably mid 1980’s) students of an Amenity Horticulture course I ran completed a group project from a list of optional topics. One group that included Nikki Smetham and two others that I cannot remember in conjunction with information I had gleaned wrote a small booklet on Memorial Trees. Over time I had loaned this to various people, but subsequently was lost apparently whilst being returned to me in the post. More recently in 1995 another student had done a Memorial Trees walkway project for me based on the original by Nikki Smetham et al. and this turned up in the Library recently. I was sent a copy to comment on what I knew about it. I had clearly added comments to it when it was marked. Again this had no name attached and I could not remember who might have written that.

Glenda Hicks, the University chaplain approached me in the last day or so and asked me for information on memorial trees at Lincoln and in discussions with her she was able to tell me about other memorial trees she had been associated with in the last few years. These were not on the data base I had built up over many years on campus plantings.

It was from those discussions that I agreed to try and locate and compile an updated list of memorial trees and commemorative plantings. Glenda Hicks and I went around the campus to locate those trees she officiated at and then I went and looked for other trees I was aware of. I photographed those that are currently still there and if they had commemorative plaques photographed those as well.
The following is a compilation of what was seen in November 2013 through to March 2014. If others are aware of other trees, memorials or commemorative plaques that should be on this list I would be grateful if you could let me know and the list will be amended accordingly.
List of Memorial and Commemorative ‘trees’ and other at Lincoln University

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Agathis australis (kauri)

Bruce Robson (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Dr. Bruce Robson a senior lecturer in computing and mathematics. 2000.

Location: west side of Hilgendorf wing, toward the north end.
Agathis australis (kauri)

Nathan Smith (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Nathan Smith a B.Agri Sci (Hons) student, 2005.

Location: west side of the Field Services Centre.
Agathis australis (kauri)

125th anniversary of Lincoln University (Commemorative)

A commemorative planting of kauri trees occurred in 2003 to mark the 125th year since Lincoln University began.

Location: area south west of Forbes
Camellia japonica ‘Kate Sheppard’

Women’s Suffrage (Commemorative planting)

A hedge of white flowering camellias was planted to commemorate Kate Sheppard and Women’s Suffrage, 1993.

The hedge line has changed from a continuous hedge line to what is seen above.

There is a plaque opposite the doors into Mrs O’s within the hedge itself.

Note Lady Ruth Burns also planted a ‘Kate Sheppard’ camellia in the rose garden on the south east corner in 1993 to commemorate Women’s Suffrage. This camellia does not appear to exist now.

Location: north side of rooms 12 & 13.
Castanea sativa (sweet chestnut)

Jens Richardson (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Jens Richardson a PhD student in AGLS who was tragically killed by a drunk driver whilst cycling home from Lincoln one evening. 2009

The tree was purchased as Clone 1005 from Southern Woods Nursery in Templeton. Location: north side of the Field Services Centre.
Cedrus deodara ‘Aurea’ (golden deodar cedar)

Sir John McAlpine (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Sir John McAlpine K.C.M.G. He had been a member of the College Council between 1958 and 1977 and chairperson for six years. “The tree and plaque were presented by Sir Malcolm and Lady Burns” Ruth A. Burns (1984).

The plaque at the base of this tree is now barely legible

There is a plaque at the base of a Cedrus deodara about 20m to the south and west of Gate 1. Presumably the plaque was placed at the base of this tree as a substitute after 1990 some time. However, although the tree is a deodar cedar, it is clearly not a golden cedar.

Location: The original tree is shown on Ruth A. Burns list as at the extreme north of Forbes near Ellesmere Road.
Note: “During the creation of the ‘U’ drive in 1986, this tree was removed. Because of the time of the year it was not possible to save this tree. It must also be noted that the ‘plaque’ was never put in place. It may or may not be stored somewhere.” Englefield Memo, April 1990.
Cedrus deodara ‘Aurea’ (golden deodar cedar)

Lord Cobham (Commemorative)

A commemorative tree was planted by Lord Cobham, the then Governor General to mark the opening of the Forbes Memorial Library. “On that occasion, the students ‘spirited away’ the spade provided and left a dessert spoon in its place. Undaunted, Lord Cobham used his hands to shovel the soil.” The original tree was planted to the northwest of the library (Forbes), but I understand that it was shifted to a site south of lecture room 1 in the Hilgendorf wing when the library (Forbes) was enlarged and Administration added. After growing for a few years, the tree died and has not been replaced.” Ruth A. Burns (1984)

There is now no tree or plaque

Location: Originally the north west side of Forbes, later located to south end of Hilgendorf.
Cedrus libani subsp. atlantica (Atlantic cedar)

World Ploughing Contest 1980 (Commemorative)

Tree(s) planted to commemorate the World Ploughing Contest. The location of the tree(s) are on the south east corner of Robinsons and Springs Road. There is a monument, with plaques and a plough at that site.

I have included this tree because of the link with the next page. Location: South east corner of Robinson and Springs Road
**Cedrus libani subsp. atlantica** (Atlantic cedar)

**Atlantic Silver Plough Contest 1980 (Commemorative)**

According to Ruth A. Burns (1984) ‘Some trees at Lincoln College’ a single tree was planted to commemorate the Atlantic Silver Plough Contest. The tree was planted on “College corner”.

![Image of tree](image1)

Note: The memorial tree is in the centre of both above and below pictures.

![Image of tree](image2)

Lower right shows the remains of the wooden base.

**Location: “College corner”**

Note: There are a number of Atlantic cedars in this general area both along Ellesmere Junction Road and Springs Road south and west from the roundabout. The tree Ruth Burns refers “is situated on the north west side of the roundabout opposite the Lincoln University sign”. There was a plaque, and a square wooden tiled structure at the base to mark the tree, some of the wooden tiles and structure remain, there is no longer any plaque in place.
*Cedrus libani* subsp. *atlantica* ‘Glauc*A* (Atlantic cedar)

**Miss Evelyn Lilburne (Commemorative)**

A commemorative tree planted in honour of Miss Evelyn Lilburne who held the position of College Matron from 1935 to 1961.

The discoloured branch in the picture was caused by a label secured by wire which girdled the branch, eventually the tree was damaged in a storm and removed in the early to middle part of 1995. There has been no replacement tree or commemorative plaque. This tree was at the north east corner in the lawn opposite Ivey (Library). The tree probably was a blue seedling, not particularly blue as seen above.

Location: This tree was shifted from its original site to replace a monkey puzzle tree that was destroyed by the August 1975 storm.
Cordyline australis

Richard Willemse (Memorial)

A memorial plaque has been placed on a rock in an area where there are mixed plantings of New Zealand native trees, shrubs and ferns. The plaque is in honour of Richard Willemse, 2001.

Note: In the 2003 Lincoln University Memorial Tree List the memorial is suggested as Cordyline australis.(cabbage tree), there are some to the north of this plaque.
Location: South side of the library.
**Dacrydium cupressinum** (rimu)

**Inaugural B.Agr. Com. class 1973 (Commemorative)**

A commemorative tree planted in 2003 to mark the 40 year anniversary of the start of the B. Agr. Com. degree.

Location: Growing in the south and western part of the New Zealand native garden of Gillespie.
**Ginkgo biloba** (ginkgo, maidenhair tree)

**Sir Malcolm Burns (Commemorative)**

A replacement tree planted in honour of Sir Malcolm Burns on his retirement in 1974. Note the original tree planted here was a white mulberry (*Morus alba*), although it is listed as a black mulberry in Englefield’s April 1990 Memo. That tree died and a ginkgo was planted in the same general area.

![Image of a tree](image.png)

There is no commemorative plaque, this was not the original tree, nor is it the same species as the original.

Note: There is now a white mulberry that has been planted at the eastern end of the Commerce Building, but this was about 2005 and was presumably a replacement for the black mulberry that grew for many years in that general area.

Location: south end of Hilgendorf wing.
**Ginkgo biloba (ginkgo, maidenhair tree)**

J.H. Reeves, K.W. Orchiston, M.R. Henderson and C.G. Vucetich (Memorial)

A *Ginkgo biloba* (maidenhair tree) was given to Dr Burns in 1940 as a token of appreciation from four students, for special coaching they had received. (J.H. Reeves, K.W. Orchiston, M.R. Henderson and C.G. Vucetich). Sadly, all except the last - named student lost their lives during World War II. The tree was originally planted in the Riccarton garden of Miss E. Burns. In 1971 it was transferred to Lincoln following her death. Sir Malcolm Burns presented it to the College in memory of the original benefactors.

There is no commemorative plaque. This may be the tree, although it is not “20 feet from the building”. There is a smaller much younger tree to the west and south – about 20 feet (6m) from the building. Because of its age that cannot be the tree that was planted.

Location: “is growing about 20 feet from the north west corner of the Library Administration Building” (Forbes). Ref. “Some trees at Lincoln College” by Ruth A. Burns, May 1984.
Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis (honey locust)

Graham Richard McCarthy (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Graham Richard ‘Irish’ McCarthy a student in the second year of a Commerce Degree in Farm Management.

Location: East side of Forbes.
Hoheria populnea (houhere or lacebark)

Mina Deans (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Mina Deans by her fellow students, although this is not recorded anywhere. The tree has been replaced twice apparently and there is uncertainty as to whether the tree is now there 1987.

Hoheria sexstylosa above is unlikely to be the tree or replacement tree

There is a tree on the north of Centennial Hall 2. This tree is Hoheria sexstylosa, not H. populnea and is unlikely to be what is referred to above. There is no plaque in this area.

Location: Somewhere around the north side of Centennial Halls area.
Liriodendron tulipifera (tulip tree)

L. Morrison (Commemorative)

A commemorative tree planted on the retirement of Mr Lewis Morrison in 1960 from the Department of Entomology. This is one of two large tulip trees on the lawn to the south of Forbes. This tree is on the western side.

There is no commemorative plaque
Location: Western side of lawn south of Forbes. Flowering November.
Liriodendron tulipifera (tulip tree)

P.G. Stevens (Commemorative)

A commemorative tree planted on the retirement of P.G. Stevens in 1960. This is one of two large tulip trees on the lawn to the south of Forbes. This tree is on the eastern side.

There is no commemorative plaque
Location: Eastern side of lawn south of Forbes. Flowering November.
Malus ‘Van Eseltine’ (apple)

Andrea Jane Wilkinson (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in honour of Andrea Janet Wilkinson - a student, 1988. This is a narrow columnar tree in the border at the north end of Hudson lawn.

Location: Northern border of Hudson lawn, midway.
Morus alba (white mulberry)

Sir Malcolm Burns (Commemorative)

A tree planted to honour Sir Malcolm Burns on his retirement in 1974. (Listed in Englefield’s memo 1990 as a Morus nigra (black mulberry). This tree was planted at the southern end of Hilgendorf wing. That tree died in 1987 and there is now a ginkgo tree growing in that general area. See Ginkgo biloba page 10.

There is no commemorative plaque or white mulberry now.

There is a white mulberry now growing at the eastern entrance to Commerce, but for some strange reason this was planted to replace the black mulberry widely known to many earlier students for its succulent edible fruits. According to Caroline Duncan the black mulberry was one of many trees planted in the 1930’s and kept to feed silk worms, which at that time was seen as a potential industry. Caroline’s father, Mr Duncan was employed then to look after the silk worms. (Caroline Steans, pers comm.) The planting of the white mulberry would appear to have been a mistake

Location: south end of Hilgendorf wing.
New Zealand Trees and shrubs

Maxwell Mathabiswana (Memorial)

A memorial planting of a group of mixed New Zealand native trees and shrubs were planted in Memorium to Maxwell Mathabiswana a PhD student in 2011. The plants are located in a triangle shaped area to the east and south of the buildings at the Dairy Farm.

Location: Dairy Farm, east and south of the Offices.
New Zealand Native tree

Chris Hayes Student President

Note: There is the remains of a stand indicating a plaque had been there until recently.

There is no tree or plaque in this area, just the stand above

Location: south east corner of New Zealand native garden south of Gillespie Hall
**Prunus subhirtella ‘Pendula Rosea’** (Japanese weeping cherry)

**Shani Freislich (Memorial)**

A memorial tree planted to honour Shani Freislich a student who died in 1997. This tree was planted in the Betula Border near the Lombardy poplars, more or less opposite the middle of the north end of Hudson Hall.

Location: Betula Border opposite the middle of the north end of Hudson Hall, near the Lombardy poplar shelterbelt.
**Picea sitchensis (Sitka spruce)**

**Ian R. Gillies (Memorial)**

A memorial tree planted to honour Ian R. Gillies, 1977. This tree was planted near the west and southern end of Colombo Hall. That tree is no longer there, but the plaque is now sitting in front of a lime tree. See *Tilia x vulgaris* page 32).

![Plaque image]

The spruce presumably died or was damaged and been removed. It is no longer in this general area.

Note: In the Englefield Memo of 1990 the tree recorded as having been planted was *Picea abies*, in looking at trees in the general area there was only an example of *Picea sitchensis* there at that time, although based on the placement of the plaque it was not certain if this was the correct tree then. (Edwards Memo 1990). After that time the plaque was moved to the *Picea sitchensis* where it remained until the tree was damaged and removed some time later.

Location: West and toward the southern end of the Colombo Halls.
**Pinus pinea** (stone pine)

**Angus McIntyre (Memorial)**

This is a memorial tree that was planted to honour Dr Angus McIntyre, 1991 who worked in the Department of Natural Resources. This tree is at the northern end of Hilgendorf wing.

The area around Hilgendorf is currently fenced off because of earthquake damage. 

Note: The 2003 Lincoln University Memorial Tree List has this tree listed as *Pinus sylvestris*, this was presumably based on an initial error I had made on the Campus data base.

Location: This tree is at the northern end of Hilgendorf wing.
**Podocarpus totara** (totara)

**Oliver Zack Williams (Memorial)**

This is a memorial tree that was planted to honour Oliver Zack Williams, 1998. This tree is under the overhead bridge between buildings located at the NRE. It is at the western end on the north side.

The plaque is rather ambiguously placed, I am uncertain if the totara I have photographed is the tree that was planted or not. See top right picture

Location: N.R.E building, western end and north of overhead bridge between buildings.
Podocarpus totara (totara)

John Hayward (Memorial)

This is a memorial tree that was planted to honour John Hayward, 1993. This tree is on the south side of the Library, there is a drinking water fountain beside the tree. There is no plaque.

Location: South side of the Library.
Quercus coccinea (scarlet oak)

Jan Lambertus De Graaf (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in 2001 in honour of ‘Bert’ De Graaf a member of the Grounds Staff for many years.

Note: The 2003 list Lincoln University Memorial Tree List spells de Graf, probably relating to a spelling error from the Campus Plants database that I made initially.

Location: Lawn specimen to the north and west of Hudson.
**Quercus coccinea (scarlet oak)**

**Vera Ostash (Memorial)**

A memorial tree planted in 1975 in honour of Vera Ostash a student of the Diploma of Agriculture.

Plaque located at the base of the tree. This tree appears to be a pin oak, *Quercus palustris*. Location: East side of Forbes near the main entrance.
**Quercus palustris** (pin oak)

**Dallas Roger Price ‘Dalboy’ (Memorial)**

A memorial plaque was placed in front of this pin oak (I am not sure of the date this happened – possibly 1990's?). There is no relation between the tree and the plaque except for its placement. Bruce Hill -Grounds Department and I repaired this tree in the late 1970’s at the request of Len Harvey (in charge of buildings and services at that time) by cleaning out the rotten trunk cavity, bolting it together and filling it with foam polyurethane – a new material for filling tree cavities at that time. There was no plaque for this tree at that time.

![Plaque located at the base of the tree. Location: West side of Hilgendorf in a raised bed near the main entrance](image)
Quercus robur (English or common oak)

Joan Mahony (Commemorative)

A commemorative tree planted in 1978 in honour the service of Miss Joan Mahony (Principal’s Secretary) on her retirement.

Note this oak was always a very unusual flat dome shaped form, not typical of the species. Currently this area is of limits because of earthquake damage. (Nov. 2013)

Note: The 2003 list Lincoln University Memorial Tree List spells Mahoney, probably relating to a spelling error from the Campus Plants database that I made initially.

Location: South end of Hilgendorf wing.
Quercus suber (cork oak)

Bill Cranshaw (Memorial)

A memorial tree planted in 2012 by Whitney Cranshaw (a visiting American lecturer) and his wife Sue to honour their son who loved trees, but was killed in a cycling accident in the United States on 16th May 2011.

Whitney and Sue Cranshaw did not want a plaque for this tree that they donated and planted.
Location: South end of the Amenity area (south and west of the entrance to the Horticulture Research area), in a block where michelias are planted.
*Tilia x vulgaris* (lime)

**Ian R. Gillies (Memorial)**

This is a replacement memorial tree for the Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) that was planted to honour Ian R. Gillies, 1977. The lime tree below is near to where the original tree was planted - near the west and southern end of Colombo Hall. (See page 24).

Location: West and toward the southern end of the Colombo Halls.
Vitis vinifera ‘Purpurea’ (purple leaved European grape)

Adam Davies (Memorial)

A memorial planting of two grape vines on the south wall of the winery in honour of Adam Davies, 2005.

This species was identified for me by Glen Creasey
Location: South wall of the Lincoln Winery, Farm Road.
Bookcase and books

Geoff Mills (Memorial)

There is a small bookcase with a Memorial Plaque to Geoff Mills, 1984 in the Horticultural Teaching Lab. This was paid for by the parents and students of the Diploma in Horticulture from his year. Unfortunately there are now some books missing from this case.

Location: Inside the Horticultural Teaching Lab. at the north-eastern end.
Plaques

Alice McCrea Alexander (Commemorative)

This plaque is attached to a brick column on the exit from Gate 1 to the northwest of Forbes.

Other plaques can be seen in the same vicinity on the columns flanking the exit to Gate 1.
Wall Plaques

Robert Edward Alexander and his wife Alice McCrea Alexander (Commemorative)

The plaque above right commemorating Robert Edward Alexander is facing out from the campus on the west side of the entrance, somewhat hidden behind the red *Lophomyrtus*.

The above plaque commemorating Robert Edward Alexander and Alice McCrea Alexander is attached to the western column at the entrance to Gate 1 facing into the campus.
Plaque on a granite block

Graeme Buchan (Memorial)

There is a plaque attached to a rock on the north side of the Landscape Architecture Building. It is inscribed as below.

Located on a rock in front of the Landscape Architecture Building
Plaque on a granite block

Bob Leonard (Memorial)

There is a plaque attached to a rock on the north side of the Landscape Architecture Building. It is inscribed as below.

Located on a rock in front of the Landscape Architecture Building
Plaque on a granite block

Jean Garner (Memorial)

There is a plaque attached to a rock in the border facing Ellesmere Road on the north side of the northern end of Hudson Hall. It is inscribed as below.

This plaque was photographed on 17th March 2014 and it appeared as though the stone and plaque had been very recently put here. There is no obvious tree or planting that has been made.
Sundial

Cliff Collister (Memorial)

This sundial, which may have been part of the original from the old formal garden area (now the garden to the north of Commerce) was refurbished and located on the raised apron to the north and east of Ivey (Library) as a Memorial to Cliff Collister a computer consultant.

Location: East and north of Ivey.