

Basic Detail Report



ANMS0227[068]

Title

Fountain in Botanic Gardens, Brisbane

Date

1900-1920

Medium

Silver gelatin print

Dimensions

Overall: 150 x 200 mm

Name

Photograph

History

This fountain was designed by the Brisbane Botanic Gardens curator Philip MacMahon in around 1895-96. The design and materials reflect the popularity at the time of what became known as 'rustic ornamental'. The general style of these fountains "included rough stonework (piles of rugged rocks), giant clam shells as catch-basins, the proliferation of mosses and ferns on the rocks, and water jets with surrounding circular water basins. The soft coralstone quarried on St. Helena Island in Moreton Bay was used in the construction of MacMahon's fountain and those on the Island itself." [Sim, Jeannie (2006). 'Climate and Garden Design in Queensland.' In Childs, R.W. and Hudson, J. (eds) (2006). Queensland Geographical Perspectives, Geographical Monograph Series No.12, Milton: Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, pp. 189-215.]