

Sir John Butters Memorial Oration  
2010

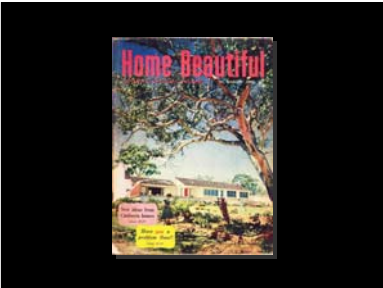
**Sticking with Plan A:  
Canberra and the Politics of a  
Good Idea**

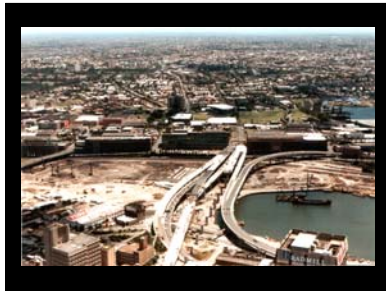
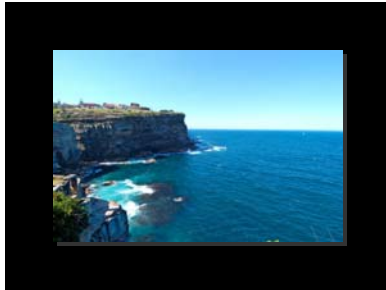
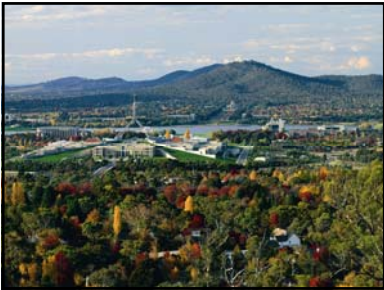
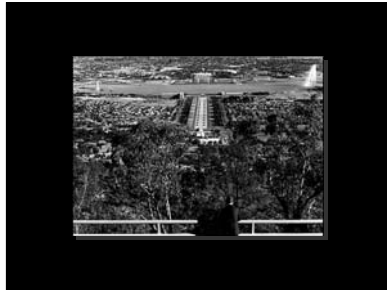
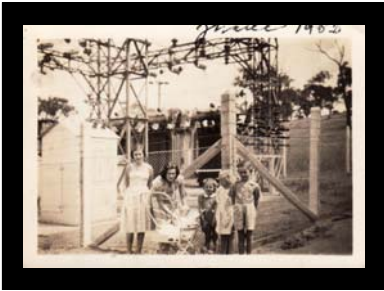
Roger Pegrum and Annabelle Pegrum

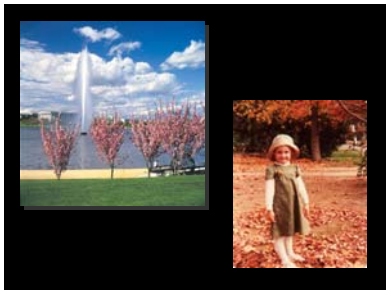


**FIRST IMPRESSIONS**











**PLAN A: CANBERRA**








*'Remember that the traditions of this city will be the traditions of Australia'*

Governor General Lord Denman  
Naming of Canberra 1913



*'The best thoughts of Australia will be given expression... I hope this city will be a seat of learning as well as of politics, and it will be the home of art'*

Prime Minister Andrew Fisher

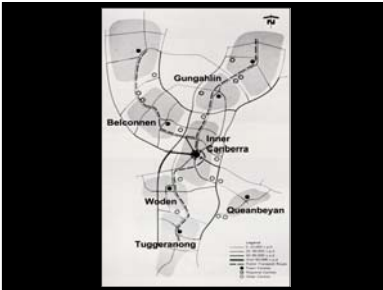
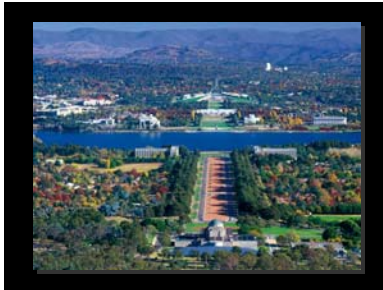
*'Canberra will be the centre of Australian art and literature, and of everything that will uplift the Australian people – a centre from which will radiate all those aspirations that are truly national'*

Prime Minister Stanley Bruce 1928




*'I am delighted in my old age to think that Australia's capital has now become an object of pride and pleasure. This was always a national conclusion devoutly to be wished'*

Prime Minister Robert Menzies 1970



Are our federal politicians deserting the idea of Canberra?

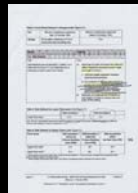
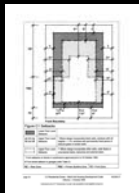
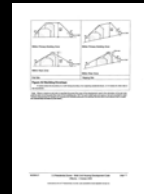
Are our local politicians and local community being asked to bear too much responsibility for the quality of the city and for the development of the city?

Is Plan A sufficiently robust to cope with growth and change towards a sustainable future and as an urban model for Australia?

## STICKING WITH PLAN A: FUTURE DIRECTIONS



*I have planned a city not like any other city in the world  
... I have planned an ideal city ... the city of the future*



a common mistake when designing something foolproof is *'to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools'*

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

