



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Guilfoyle, William Robert
ACCESSION NO	75/104
CATEGORY	Other, individuals
ACTIVITY	Botanists
DATE RANGE	c.1870's – c.1910
SIZE OF COLLECTION	2 boxes
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>William Guilfoyle was born in 1840 in Chelsea, England. His father migrated to Sydney with his family in 1853 and set up several successful nurseries. After private teaching, Guilfoyle attended Lyndhurst College where he was encouraged to study botany. After graduating he made several tours to northern New South Wales and Queensland collecting specimens and in 1868 he joined the scientific staff of H.M.S. Challenger in the scientific expedition through the South Sea Islands. In 1873, Guilfoyle succeeded Von Mueller when he was appointed curator at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne. Inspired by the tropical landscapes he had observed on his tours, Guilfoyle extended and re-modelled the gardens, transformed a billabong into a series of lakes, created the Temple of the Winds and designed several summer houses and kiosks. Guilfoyle also managed Government House land and the outer domain. Also renowned for designing private gardens, most notably Dame Nellie Melba's garden. Guilfoyle retired in 1909 and died three years later in 1912.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	1975
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open
DESCRIPTION	Grasses specimen book; sketchbook; notebook; publications, together with mock-ups 1873-1909; photograph; certificate of military Commission (not Guilfoyle's own) 1871.
NOTE ON LISTING	Listing adapted from that used in loan documentation to the Old Treasury Museum
LISTED BY	ACM
DATE	20 April 2005

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Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	1	Sketchbook and Specimen Books	
1	1/1	Sketchbook, watercolour and pencil, undated but when curator and director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne (1873-1909). 9.5cms x 13.5cms	c.1870's
1	1/2	<i>Grasses</i> . Specimen book, undated, containing pasted-in specimens of various grasses, internationally sourced. 21cms x 14.5cms.	nd.
	2	Publications and proposed publications	
1	2/1	Reports of the Curator of the Botanical and Domain Gardens, assembled by him for binding, 1875-1880. 21.5cm x 14cms	
2	2/2	<i>Catalogue of Plants Under Cultivation in the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, alphabetically arranged</i> . Melbourne, Government Printer, 1883. 28.5 cms x 19.5 cms	1883
2	2/3	<i>Notes on the Picturesque in Gardens, Parks, etc.</i> A mock-up bound book prepared by him with compilation of his articles and illustrations sourced from his trip to Europe 1890. Bound in preparation for publication, but not published, 1890 plus. 25cms x 19cms.	c. 1890
1	2/4	<i>Illustrated description of Thistles etc. included within the provisions of the Thistle Act of 1890</i> . Melbourne Government Printer, 1893 (Department of Agriculture, Victoria and based on material provided Baron F. von Mueller, the Government Botanist). 21.5cms x 13.5cms	1893
1	2/5	<i>Fibres from Plants, Indigenous and Introduced, Eligible for Industrial Culture and Experiment in Victoria.</i> , Melbourne Government Printer, 1894, [bound with an extra plate (with a further two figures), not mentioned in Ferguson 10137). Also bound with, <i>Descriptive Notes on Fibres, prepared for the Greater Britain and Paris Exhibitions, from Plants (Indigenous and Exotic) cultivated in the Melbourne Botanical Gardens by William Robert Guilfoyle, Director</i> , Government Printer, Melbourne, 33pp, March 1899 [not mentioned in Ferguson] and bound with, <i>Catalogue of Botanical Exhibits from W.R. Guilfoyle, F.L.S., &c., Director Melbourne Botanical Gardens</i> , Mason, Firth & M`Cutcheon, General Printers, 39pp, 1880, [not mentioned in Ferguson] and bound with, <i>Catalogue</i>	1880-1999

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		<i>(Descriptive) of Fibres, Papers, Carpological Specimens, etc., forwarded to the Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888, from W.R. Guilfoyle, F.L.S., C.M.R.B.S., London, Etc., Director, Melbourne Botanic Gardens, Government Printer, Melbourne, 47pp, 1888 [not mentioned in Ferguson] and bound with, Catalogue (Descriptive) of Exhibits forwarded to the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition, 1887, from W.R. Guilfoyle, F.L.S., Corresponding Member Royal Botanic Society, London, Director Melbourne Botanic Gardens, Government Printer, Melbourne, 35pp, [1887] [Not mentioned in Ferguson] 21cms x 14cms.</i>	
1	2/6	<i>Guide to the Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, with Route Map, Etc. Mock-up volume with annotations and notes for a future edition, including additions to the list of memorial trees. Presumably a precursor to item 2/7 infra, 1902. 19cms x 14cms.</i>	c.1902
1	2/7	<i>Handbook or Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens, Melbourne with Plans, Views, Etc. Melbourne Government Printer, [1909]. 24.5cms x 16cms.</i>	c.1909
2	2/8	<i>Australian Vegetation, Articles Lectures Etc. A mock-up bound book prepared by Guilfoyle with compilations of his articles, various illustrations and press cuttings. Undated, c.1909. 26cm x 19cm.</i>	c.1909
	3	Other material	
1	3/1	James Alexander Stubbs, Esq. Commission as Captain in the Victorian Artillery Corps., 1 pg., vellum, but lacking the seal; signed Viscount Canterbury, J.G. Francis, W.H. Odgers.	5 Feb 1871
	4	Photographs	
1	4/1	Albumen print on card of a drawing entitled, <i>Dubylib Rewa River, Fiji, Residence of the late Rev. Mr. Baker. W.R.G.</i>	19C.

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