

# 2020 Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture Awards

## Award in Garden History

### Louise Elizabeth Beaumont



Louise Beaumont, 2020 recipient of the RNZIH Award in Garden History.

Louise Beaumont is a self-employed landscape architect and landscape historian specialising in the area of cultural heritage landscape conservation.

She is based in Havelock North and works both independently and as part of various consultancy teams, primarily for local government throughout New Zealand. The scope of her project work is diverse and includes cemeteries, ministerial and government properties, memorial landscapes, mission stations, heritage parks and gardens, and wider district-based historic and thematic landscape studies.

Over the past 17 years she has had the opportunity to write conservation plans for some of New Zealand's very special cultural landscapes, helping to safeguard their unique heritage fabric, features and experiential qualities. Places and projects Louise has been involved in include:

- Mansion House gardens, Kawau Island
- Riddiford Gardens and Civic Park, Lower Hutt: conservation plan
- Government House Wellington: conservation plan
- Parliament grounds, Wellington: conservation plan
- Queen's Gardens, Nelson: conservation plan
- Banks Peninsula / Te Pataka o Rakaihautū: contextual historical overview and thematic framework
- Hagley Park and the Christchurch Botanic Gardens: conservation plan
- Ilam Gardens, Christchurch: conservation management plan
- Okeover heritage protection area, Ilam, Christchurch: conservation management plan
- Risingholme grounds, Opawa, Christchurch: conservation plan
- Stoddart Point Reserve, Diamond Harbour: conservation plan.

Among these, she counts the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, Government House Wellington, Parliament grounds, and Ilam Gardens within the University of Canterbury as some of her favourite projects and most intriguing sites.

Working with societies and groups that are variously responsible for the ownership, management or voluntary maintenance of heritage landscapes has been similarly rewarding for Louise, particularly her involvement in the conservation of the Banks Peninsula War Memorial grounds and more recently, the Akaroa Dissenters, and Anglican and Catholic cemeteries.

Her work includes historical research of historic landscapes in all their forms which provides the context for the development of conservation plans which, in turn, provide policies and guidance for the long term conservation and management of these very important places.

Louise is a member of the Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa (PHANZA) and International Committee on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOSNZ) based in Paris.

She is held in high esteem by clients and colleagues alike for the quality of her work. Accordingly, the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture is pleased to present Louise Beaumont with the 2020 Garden History Award.

**Citation prepared by  
Alan Jolliffe**