

### The Maze(s)

The Gardens were established from native bushland in 1858 and the first maze created in 1862 using *acacia armata*. It was probably the first maze to be introduced into a Botanical garden in Australia and New Zealand. It proved to be a popular attraction and it was cleared in 1881 to make room for a conservatory. The following year a new maze was built based on the layout of that in the Hampton Court Palace grounds and with a central tower. It was "rejuvenated" in 1922 but by 1957 it had deteriorated due to age, use, knocking down of hedges and the odd fire. It was therefore removed to be replaced by a children's paddling pool.

Since then there have been several unsuccessful moves for the establishment of a third maze in the gardens but it is very unlikely that this will occur. In the meantime a private "Tangled Maze" has been established some 15 kilometres out of town.