

Chapter 1 : Discover the architecture of Parliament of Australia

*Inside the Australian Parliament [David H. Solomon] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. A Literature Review and Ratings of Appropriateness Inside the Australian Parliament.*

This famous place is also used as a venue for exhibitions, lectures, and even concerts. This impressive building was designed by an architect named John Smith Murdoch. Here are several interesting facts about the Australian Parliament: The Old Parliament House is opened every day for tourists. As it is not used as the Australian Parliament house anymore, this building is open for tourists every day from 9am until 5pm. Tourists can engage in guided tours or they can take a tour of the Old Parliament House on their own. The Old Parliament House can be booked for various functions. This impressive building still features practical purposes and today it is used to host different types of events and functions. If you are looking for a place where you can hold your next corporate event, the Old Parliament House might be the perfect venue. Exhibitions are changed every year at the Old Parliament House. The National Portrait Gallery mentioned before houses a multitude of exhibitions throughout the year. Visitors and tourists can take advantage of this to learn more about the culture and history of the Australian Parliament. Additionally, the exhibitions are changed every year, so you will always have something new to see when you visit the Australian Old Parliament House. These gardens were officially opened to the general public in 1984. Today, they are also known as the National Rose Garden. The Old Parliament House is 3 storeys high. The architect of this building designed the Old Parliament House to be simple yet functional. The first floor of the Old Parliament House is located at the middle level and the entire structure of the building is made from Canberra clay bricks. Timber as well as concrete floors were used at the erection of the Old Parliament House back in 1927. The roofs of the building were made from flat concrete slabs which featured a waterproofed membrane. The Old Parliament House has been restored and renovated several times to be able to accommodate more visitors. It features a floor made from silver ash woods and jarrah. Here tourists and visitors can admire an impressive statue of the King George V made entirely from bronze. Those rooms are approximately equal in size and they feature timber panelling. There are 3 main differences between the Senate Chamber and House of Representatives Chamber. Although these 2 chambers situated inside the Old Parliament House are quite similar, they feature a couple significant differences. For example, the House of Representatives Chamber features more seating options than the Senate Chamber and the carpets feature a green colour instead of red. The rear courtyards of the Old Parliament House are enclosed with hedges. A colonnade was used to facilitate the access from the rear courtyards to the gardens. These gardens are enclosed with hedges and they feature numerous trees. They are divided into 2 rose gardens and 2 recreational facilities. In these recreational facilities, tennis courts as well as cricket pitches and bowling areas can be found. The rose gardens currently feature numerous specimens of roses. Some of these roses were donated by strong political figures in Australia. You can visit the Old Parliament House by yourself using information sheets and maps. Although tourists can take advantage of guided tours, you can also borrow a map and use it to explore the Old Parliament House on your own. Additionally, information sheets can be found at any corner and they provide more details about the cultural and historical significance of various exhibits presented. The Old Parliament House was expanded multiple times to accommodate more members. The first extensions added to the Old Parliament House were made in 1927. The extensions were built at the rear of the building to offer more office spaces for the members of the Old Parliament House. Later on in 1954, additional extensions were necessary to accommodate the increasing number of members. During the 1980s, both sides of the Old Parliament House as well as the southwest corner were expanded. The gardens were also extended and they were connected to the main building of the Old Parliament House using a bridge. Visiting the Old Parliament House can be a truly impressive historical and cultural experience. If you are visiting Canberra with your family members or group of friends, you should give our reasonably-priced coach hire or minibus hire services a try. We will ensure that your travelling group can arrive at the Old Parliament House in a comfortable and elegant manner!

Chapter 2 : Inside Parliament Australia Stock Photos & Inside Parliament Australia Stock Images - Alamy

Inside the Australian Parliament. [David Harris Solomon] -- How Parliament fits into the Australian political system, relations between government and parliament, between ministers and back-benchers, formal procedures of the parliament.

Section of the Australian Constitution specifies that the national capital had to be located within New South Wales, at least miles away from Sydney. At federation in 1901, the search began for a suitable location for the Parliament. The site for the national capital was chosen in 1903 and named Canberra in 1908. Old Parliament House was the meeting place of the Australian Parliament from 1901 to 1927. This building became too small and crowded, and a permanent building was needed. How much did Parliament House cost to build? Romaldo Giurgola was the principal architect. The design was the winner from entries in an international competition to design a new Parliament House. The timbers used throughout Parliament House are mainly Australian. They include coachwood, jarrah, blackbutt, brush box, white birch, turpentine, silver ash and grey box. The flag is the Australian flag. The flag is changed every four to six weeks, due to weather damage. There are over 100 clocks in Parliament House. The clocks are fitted with two flashing lights to alert members of parliament to activities that may require their attendance in the House of Representatives or the Senate chambers, including division votes. One light flashes green for the House of Representatives, the other flashes red for the Senate. When the lights flash, a bell also rings through speakers located around the building. The buttons which start the bells and lights are controlled by the Clerks in each chamber. Among the many paintings are portraits of previous Prime Ministers, Speakers of the House of Representatives and Presidents of the Senate. Some of the artworks were made especially for the building; others have been gifts to the Parliament. The collection also includes many historical documents and memorabilia relating to Parliament.

Chapter 3 : Parliament of Victoria - Primary & Secondary

Inside the Australian Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, Australia. Footage taken inside the new Australian Parliament House, Canberra.

Before the establishment of Canberra[edit] Parliament House, Melbourne , was home to Federal Parliament for 26 years from to In , when the six British colonies in Australia federated to form the Commonwealth of Australia, Melbourne and Sydney were the two largest cities in the country, but the long history of rivalry between them meant that neither could become the national capital. Section of the Constitution of Australia therefore provided that: The seat of Government of the Commonwealth shall be determined by the Parliament, and shall be within territory which shall have been granted to or acquired by the Commonwealth, and shall be vested in and belong to the Commonwealth, and shall be in the State of New South Wales , and be distant not less than one hundred miles from Sydney. Such territory shall contain an area of not less than one hundred square miles, and such portion thereof as shall consist of Crown lands shall be granted to the Commonwealth without any payment therefor. The Parliament shall sit at Melbourne until it meet at the seat of Government. In , after much argument, the Parliament decided that the new capital would be in the southern part of New South Wales, on the site which is now Canberra. Federal Parliament did not leave Melbourne until In the meantime the Australian Parliament met in the 19th-century edifice of Parliament House, Melbourne , [1] while the Victorian State Parliament met in the nearby Royal Exhibition Building for 26 years. The committee decided that it would be best to erect a "provisional" building, to serve for a predicted 50 years until a new, "permanent" House could be built. In the last decade of its use as a parliament the building had a chronic shortage of available space. The design competition drew entries from 29 countries. The facades, however, included deliberate imitation of some of the patterns of the Old Parliament House, so that there is a slight resemblance despite the massive difference of scale. Aerial view of Parliament House Giurgola placed an emphasis the visual aesthetics of the building by using landscape architect Peter G. Rolland to direct civil engineers, a reversal of the traditional roles in Australia. Neither the deadline nor the budget was met. It was designed to be the pinnacle of Parliament House and is an easily recognisable symbol of national government. It is visible by day from outside and inside Parliament House and floodlit at night. The site covers 80 acres 32 hectares. It was used to fill low-lying areas in the city. Twice the amount needed was quarried as a very high standard of granite was required particularly for the curved walls. The original idea was for Parliament House to be open freely to the public, and the sweeping lawns leading up to the entrances[citation needed] were intended to symbolise this. The building is a major visitor attraction in Canberra with about 1 million visits each year. One result has been the construction of crash barriers blocking vehicular access to the lawns. The front architecture built into Capital Hill, including the forecourt and main entrance, and illustrating a ground level view of the boomerang-shaped design Layout[edit] The Great Hall in Parliament House. Functions that have parliamentary and federal relevance often take place here, but the Great Hall is also open to functions for the general public, such as weddings, and the nearby University of Canberra hosts graduation ceremonies here. This is an area restricted to security-classified occupants of the building and special visitors. There are also 19 committee rooms which are open to the public and a highly secure Cabinet Room on the ground floor. However, the colour is muted to suggest the colour of eucalyptus leaves, or the Australian bush. From the perspective of the image, the press gallery is ahead, with public galleries containing seats [14] to the left and right. Soundproofed galleries for school groups are directly above these, as no talking is permitted when the House members are present. A part of the front bench, and the dispatch boxes Frontbench Cabinet members approach the table with the ornate box pictured , known as the despatch box , to speak. Backbenchers have a microphone on their desk, and merely stand to speak unless they cannot stand , in accordance with standing order Also on the table is a copy of Hansard and where the clerk and deputy clerk sit. The clerk needs to know all the rules of Parliament and is responsible for ringing the bells during a division voting. In front of the clerk are the hour glasses. The outer glasses measure four minutes and the middle glass measures one minute. These glasses are turned when there is a division ; one of the four-minute glasses is turned and the bells will

ring and the clocks will flash green for the House of Representatives or red for the Senate for four minutes. Members vote by either moving to the government side of the house for a vote for a bill or the opposition side for a vote against a bill. If there is successive divisions, and there is no debate after the first division, the middle one-minute hour glasses are turned and the bells are rung for one minute. Independents and minor parties sit on the cross-benches. Senate[edit] The Senate chamber The Senate chamber matches the colour scheme of the House of Lords , decorated in red, but muted to tints of ochre , suggesting the earth and the colours of the outback. The Australian Senate The gallery arrangement is almost identical to that of the House of Representatives. Unlike the House of Representatives, only the leader of the government or opposition in the Senate approaches the lectern ; other frontbench senators and all backbench senators have a desk microphone. As can be seen from the illustrations, unlike the House of Representatives, there is no distinction between the front and back benches in the Senate chamber; Senate ministers and their opposition counterparts have the same two-seat benches as all other senators. The press gallery is located above the Senate chamber. The presiding officer of the Australian Senate is the President of the Senate , who occupies a position in the Senate chamber similar to that of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Behind the seat of the President of the Senate are two large seats which are modern versions of thrones. The larger is used by the Governor-General or the monarch when visiting when they open Parliament at the start of a new parliamentary session. The vice-regal consort or the royal consort when visiting sits in the smaller throne. Art collection[edit] The Parliament House Art Collection of over 6, works includes commissioned and purchased portraits of every prime minister, governor-general, president of the senate and speaker of the house, as well as other works of art significant to Australia. The Parliament House is a place for meetings, conferences government, and private , celebrations, and other miscellaneous uses. The Parliament House is one of the few parliament houses in the world where private events are permitted. Solar power project[edit] In , the Department of Parliamentary Services commissioned a pilot According to the Department of Parliamentary Services, the system was switched on in June and has performed as expected by providing enough power for lighting in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Chapter 4 : Australian War Memorial - Wikipedia

Foyer of the Australian Parliament House, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory. The beautiful stonework is designed to have the appearance of eucalyptus trees. This video is 1 minute of stock.

It stretches from near the north shore of Lake Burley Griffin to the foot of the Memorial proper, along the line of sight from Parliament House. It separates the residential suburbs of Campbell and Reid , and is fairly heavily trafficked as a route between northeast Canberra Dickson etc. The monuments are mostly sculptures in a variety of styles ranging from naturalistic to Modern. The foot of the Parade, near the lake, is paired by monumental sculptures in the form of gigantic basket handles, donated to the Memorial by New Zealand. The symbolic association of the two nations is carried forward in the vegetation decorating Anzac Parade. Long beds of New Zealand Hebe shrubs line the middle of the avenue, and behind the two rows of monuments are narrow bands of Australian eucalypt trees. The heart of the commemorative area is the Hall of Memory, a tall domed chapel with a small floor plan in the form of an octagon. The walls are lined with tiny mosaic tiles from the floor to the dome. Inside lies the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier. At the four walls facing northeast, northwest, southeast and southwest are mosaic images of a Sailor, a Servicewoman, a Soldier and an Airman respectively. The mosaic and stained glass are the work of the one-armed Australian muralist Napier Waller , who lost his right arm at Bullecourt during World War I and learned to write and create his works with his left arm. He completed his work in In front of the Hall of Memory is a narrow courtyard with a memorial pool surrounding an eternal flame and flanked by sidewalks and shrubbery, including plantings of rosemary for remembrance. Above the courtyard to either side are long cloisters containing the Roll of Honour, a series of bronze plaques naming the , Australian servicemen and women killed in conflict or on peacekeeping operations. The entire long wall of the west gallery is covered with the names of the 66, who died in World War I. The east gallery is covered with the names of those who died in World War II and conflicts since. The roll shows the names only, not rank or other awards, as "all men are equal in death". Visiting relatives and friends insert poppies in the gaps between the bronze plaques, beside the names of those they wish to honour. This tradition originated when the Unknown Australian Soldier was interred, as the Poppies were originally intended for his grave. Many continue to be inserted beside the names of those who died. The Memorial only remove the poppies when the plaques have to be rewaxed for their preservation, otherwise, the Memorial staff make no effort to remove them. The Colonial Gallery located behind the Temporary Exhibits Gallery states that the Imperial Bushman Breaker Morant of the Boer War does not appear in the Roll of Honour, not because he was dishonoured, but because he was not a member of the Australian armed forces. Conversely with the inclusion of the Commemorative Book which lists the names of all the Australians who died in service of other allied armies, he is also absent, this is due to the fact that he was neither serving in an allied regular unit, nor was technically an Australian Citizen at the time. When the Memorial closes each day, there is the Last Post Ceremony at which visitors can gather at the entrance of the Commemorative Area. This Ceremony involves the reading of the story of one of the , people whose names are on the Roll of Honour. The host welcomes visitors to the Ceremony which starts with the National Anthem and a brief explanation as to the origins of the Memorial and the explanation of the Ceremony that is about to take place. Then a piper and a bugler descend from the Hall of Memory. If there is no photo on record, the image of a tri-folded Australian Flag is displayed in its place. After which, a member of the Australian Defence Force ADF reads out the story, covering where the honored person grew up, what they did prior to enlisting in the ADF, what actions if any they participated in during their respective conflict, and invariably the circumstances of their death and burial. The Piper will then play the " Last Post " At the completion of this the ADF member, the piper and bugler will return to the Hall of Memory and the doors will be closed. The Host then gives a closing address and the memorial officially closes. Due to the fact that the Memorial is closed on Christmas Day, these three days are the only in which the Last Post Ceremony does not take place. Barring any further additions to the Roll of Honour it will not be until that all of the names on the Roll of Honour would have had their stories read. Forecourt and Stone of Remembrance[edit] The forecourt is the

part of the commemorative area that is the main place in Canberra where Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services are held. These services are normally attended by Federal parliament representatives and officials from foreign embassies and Commonwealth high commissions, most notably New Zealand. The Stone of Remembrance is the focal point for these activities, and the steps from the Memorial towards Anzac Parade lead to the Stone then to the Parade. The grassed sides of the forecourt form a natural amphitheatre that can accommodate around 35, to 40, people at a typical Anzac Day Dawn Service. Most will be standing, but the Memorial erects some staged seating for Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. The building is of Byzantine architecture style with strong styling elements of Art Deco throughout. In order to preserve the view of the original building from Anzac Parade, Anzac Hall was designed to be recessed in the ground, and hidden behind a wall. The first two sections of the Gallery relate extensively to the Gallipoli campaign. Between the wings lies Aircraft Hall, which contains a number of complete aircraft, encompassing air power in the Pacific and contains aircraft mostly from the World War II era including a restored Japanese A6M Zero , that was flown in combat over New Guinea. There is an individual display for the holder of each Cross shown there, with a photograph, an excerpt from the citation that accompanied the award, and usually additional medals awarded to that recipient. The relatives of Australian VC holders often donate or loan the Crosses to the Memorial for safekeeping and greater public awareness of their honoured kin. Architecturally the centre of the Hall of Valour is positioned directly under the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier. This section also encompasses the Peacekeeping Gallery and exhibits dedicated to both Gulf Wars. It also has an area for temporary special exhibitions. XII and Albatros D. Va, among others These aircraft are accompanied by a movie directed by Peter Jackson titled "Over the Front" highlighting the formation of the Australian Flying Corps. Each of the large permanent exhibits are accompanied by an audio-visual experience. The building is large and the collections are extensive; a full day will suffice for only the most cursory examination of its contents, the conservative estimate is a minimum of three days is required to see every single item on display gallery item to gain any recollection. Monument to Simpson and his Donkey Kangaroos standing before a naval gun turret. The domed structure in the background is the Hall of Memory. The sculpture garden on the west lawn of the Memorial contains a variety of outdoor monuments. The sidewalk through the garden is embedded with bronze plaques commemorating various branches of service, specific units and historical events. There is also a number of sculptures, including a gigantic figure of a World War II-era Australian soldier that was originally located in the Hall of Memory, before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was placed there. This area is used for special displays during annual Memorial Open Days, and summertime band concerts are held on the nearby lawn. In October , after publishing 39 issues, the journal went into hiatus, although a fortieth and final issue was published in January

A federal legislature: the Australian Commonwealth Parliament / Joan Rydon. JQ R Acts of Parliament: a narrative history of the Senate and House of Representatives, Commonwealth of Australia / Gavin Souter.

But although almost everyone can recognise it from the outside, what goes on inside is a bit more of a mystery. The complex rituals and history of the British political system are enough to confuse anyone. But where better to find out about them than in the place that so much of British history took place. Tours are timed so you need to make sure to get there in time to get through the airport-style security process who were slightly perplexed as to why I had a mini bottle of ice cider with me – a present from a meeting that morning! Fully scanned and searched, we were handed security badges and sent on through to the starting point of the tour, the cavernous Westminster Hall – dating back to this is the oldest part of the Palace of Westminster. The famous exterior of the Houses of Parliament The Hall has played many different roles over the last years, first as a courtroom where famous names like Guy Fawkes and William Wallace were tried. Then it was used for lavish coronation banquets for new monarchs, and plaques in the stone floor mark the places that famous leaders were laid in state before their funerals. A lucky change of wind direction saved the Hall, but the original Houses of Parliament had to be rebuilt in their current Victorian neo-Gothic style. As the tour moves through the building it follows the route the Queen takes when she visits for the State Opening of Parliament. The room is decorated with paintings of Arthurian legends and has a grand throne of gold and purple velvet for her to sit on. This is one of the biggest rooms in the Palace and has frescoes around the walls showing great British military victories like the Battles of Trafalgar and Waterloo. Though in the interest of Anglo-French relations there are apparently hooks above the pictures so they can be covered up with curtains when French Heads of State pay a visit! Having seen it so many times on TV, the biggest surprises were the beautiful stained glass windows and frescoes above the benches. That and the forest of microphones which hang down to capture every word of the debates. At the front of the room is an ornate throne where the Queen sits, partly made of solid gold, and the Woolsack – a big red cushion where the Speaker of the House of Lords sits. It gets its odd name from its 14th-century origins, when Edward III decided that his Lord Chancellor should sit on a bale of wool to show how important the wool trade was to the country. The octagonal Central Lobby From the gold and glamour of the ceremonial rooms, the tour goes on to the areas used for the everyday business of running the country. It seems quite simple and subdued compared to the House of Lords and is much more recent too – after being destroyed by bombs in the Blitz this part of the building was rebuilt in the s. It was built by architect Giles Gilbert Scott , who designed all sorts of other things from Waterloo Bridge and Battersea Power Station to the red telephone box. The room is deceptively small, thanks to Churchill it seems as when it was rebuilt he wanted to keep the original intense atmosphere. The green benches only seat about two-thirds of the MPs so during busy debates the room is overflowing with people. The Palace of Westminster is a fascinating place to visit, and I feel like I learnt a huge amount about the history and traditions that lie at the heart of British politics. Even growing up in the UK there was so much that was a mystery to me before. But having done the theory I now want to go back and see it in practice – to experience the Houses of Parliament as they should be, packed full of people with the shouts of politicians heckling each other across the benches. The details The Houses of Parliament are open to the public most Saturdays and selected weekdays during the summer, Easter and Christmas Parliamentary recesses – Visit Parliament have a list of the latest dates. You can choose between a guided or audio tour, both available in a range of languages.

The Senate is a house of review and a powerful check on the government of the day. The proportion representation system of voting used to elect senators makes it easier for independents and the candidates of the smaller parties to be elected.

Discover the architecture Parliament House is the heart of Australian parliamentary democracy, and one of the most open parliamentary buildings in the world. Its design was chosen from more than 100 entries to an international competition. It was designed to be both a functional building and a major national symbol. Romaldo Giurgola, the principal Architect, said Parliament House could not be built on top of the hill as this would symbolise government imposed on the people. Aboriginal artist Michael Nelson Jagamara designed the square-metre mosaic. The artist described the work and its importance at Parliament House: The Great Verandah is the public face of Parliament House. It is a space to welcome visitors and is the backdrop for ceremonies on the Forecourt. Marble Foyer The Marble Foyer features 48 marble columns that evoke the muted pinks and greens of the Australian landscape as well as the colours of the two Parliamentary Chambers, clad in green Cipollino marble from Italy and creamy pink Atlantide Rosa marble from Portugal. The limestone is full of fossils of sea life that existed some million years ago. Great Hall The Great Hall is the venue for large formal receptions, dinners and significant national major events. Woven in four separate pieces, it took fourteen full-time weavers more than two years to complete. The parquet floor is made of jarrah, with inlays of blackbutt and ebony. The ebony was a gift from the people of Papua New Guinea. It is located at the intersection of the north-south land axis and the east-west legislative axis, directly under the flag mast and between the Senate and the House of Representatives chambers. The sound of the flowing water is designed to cover any conversation. House of Representatives Chamber The House of Representatives, or lower house, has members and is the house in which government is formed. Colours in the Chambers are deepest at ground level and become lighter as they extend upwards. The despatch boxes replicate those used in the British House of Commons. The boxes contain religious texts used to swear in new members. Senate Chamber The Senate, or upper house, has 76 senators: The Coat of Arms in the Senate chamber was created by Tasmanian sculptor Peter Taylor whose design includes Tasmanian myrtle with etched and slumped glass. The bar elements of the shield were produced by hot-glass artist Warren Langley. It is placed on the land axis from Mount Ainslie, which runs directly through the centre of Capital Hill. The building was designed to harmonise with the architectural features of Old Parliament House and to allow the older building to retain its unique identity.

Chapter 7 : Australian House of Representatives - Wikipedia

Inside the stunning and hilarious LEGO Parliament House replica 20 Images LEGO master Ryan McNaught used , bricks and took hours to construct this LEGO Parliament House to mark the.

The House is presided over by the Speaker. Members of the House are elected from single member electorates geographic districts, commonly referred to as "seats" but officially known as " Divisions of the Australian House of Representatives ". However, the baseline quota for the number of voters in an electorate is determined by the number of voters in the state in which that electorate is found. Consequently, the electorates of the smallest states and territories have more variation in the number of voters in their electorates, with larger seats like Fenner containing more than double the electors of smaller seats like Lingiari. Federal electorates have their boundaries redrawn or redistributed whenever a state or territory has its number of seats adjusted, if electorates are not generally matched by population size or if seven years have passed since the most recent redistribution. A full allocation of preferences is required for a vote to be considered formal. This allows for a calculation of the two-party-preferred vote. Under Section 24 of the Constitution, each state is entitled to members based on a population quota determined from the "latest statistics of the Commonwealth. This is known as the "Nexus Provision". The reasons for this are twofold, to maintain a constant influence for the smaller states and to maintain a constant balance of the two Houses in case of a joint sitting after a double dissolution. The population of each state and territory is then divided by this quota to determine the number of members to which each state and territory is entitled. Under the Australian Constitution all original states are guaranteed at least five members. The Federal Parliament itself has decided that the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory should have at least one member each. According to the Constitution, the powers of both Houses are nearly equal, with the consent of both Houses needed to pass legislation. The difference mostly relates to taxation legislation. In practice, by convention, the person who can control a majority of votes in the lower house is invited by the Governor-General to form the Government. In practice that means that the leader of the party or coalition of parties with a majority of members in the House becomes the Prime Minister , who then can nominate other elected members of the government party in both the House and the Senate to become ministers responsible for various portfolios and administer government departments. Bills appropriating money supply bills can only be introduced in the lower house and thus only the party with a majority in the lower house can govern. In the current Australian party system, this ensures that virtually all contentious votes are along party lines, and the Government usually has a majority in those votes. Hence, votes in the Senate are usually more meaningful. Frontbench and dispatch box The House of Representatives chamber at Old Parliament House, Canberra , where the Parliament met between and In a reflection of the United Kingdom House of Commons , the predominant colour of the furnishings in the House of Representatives is green. However, the colour was tinted slightly in the new Parliament House opened to suggest the colour of eucalyptus trees. Also, unlike the House of Commons, the seating arrangement of the crossbench is curved, similar to the curved seating arrangement of the United States House of Representatives. This suggests a more collaborative, and less oppositional, system than in the United Kingdom parliament where all members of parliament are seated facing the opposite side. As a result, the Speaker often has to use the disciplinary powers granted to him or her under Standing Orders. Electoral system of Australia House of Representatives ballot paper used in the Division of Higgins From the beginning of Federation until , first-past-the-post voting was used in order to elect members of the House of Representatives but since the Swan by-election which Labor unexpectedly won with the largest primary vote due to vote splitting amongst the conservative parties, the Nationalist Party of Australia government, a predecessor of the modern-day Liberal Party of Australia , changed the lower house voting system to voting system to Instant-runoff voting , which in Australia is known as full preferential voting, as of the subsequent election. Voters are then required to place the numbers "2", "3", etc. The number "1" or first preference votes are counted first. If no candidate secures an absolute majority more than half of first preference votes, then the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded from the count. The votes for the eliminated candidate i. If no candidate has yet secured an

absolute majority of the vote, then the next candidate with the fewest primary votes is eliminated. This preference allocation is repeated until there is a candidate with an absolute majority. Following the full allocation of preferences, it is possible to derive a two-party-preferred figure, where the votes have been allocated between the two main candidates in the election. In Australia, this is usually between the candidates from the Coalition parties and the Australian Labor Party. Relationship with the Government[edit] Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove with members of the Morrison Ministry Under the Constitution, the Governor-General has the power to appoint and dismiss "Ministers of State" who administer government departments. In practice, the Governor-General chooses ministers in accordance with the traditions of the Westminster System that the Government be drawn from the party or coalition of parties that has a majority in the House of Representatives, with the leader of the largest party becoming Prime Minister. These ministers then meet in a council known as Cabinet. Cabinet meetings are strictly private and occur once a week where vital issues are discussed and policy formulated. The Constitution does not recognise the Cabinet as a legal entity; it exists solely by convention. Its decisions do not in and of themselves have legal force. All members of the Cabinet are members of the Executive Council. While the Governor-General is nominal presiding officer, she or he almost never attends Executive Council meetings. This provision was included in the Constitution section 64 to enable the inaugural Ministry, led by Edmund Barton , to be appointed on 1 January , even though the first federal elections were not scheduled to be held until 29 and 30 March. For 22 days 2 to 23 February inclusive he was Prime Minister while a member of neither house of parliament.

Chapter 8 : Parliament House, Canberra - Wikipedia

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Chapter 9 : Stepping inside British history at the Houses of Parliament – On the Luce travel blog

Parliament House is the meeting place of the Parliament of Australia, located in Canberra, the capital of Australia. The building was designed by Mitchell/Giurgola & Thorp Architects and opened on 9 May by Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia.