John Llewelyn Jones changed dramatically since the 1880s, when Tom Roberts and his artists’ camp. The Artists’ Trail acknowledges the artists who painted regularly at the Box Hill artists’ camp.

The Artists’ Trail

The Young Tom

The year 1889 was a climactic one for the Australian landscape. The year saw the exhibition of a group of paintings by Tom Roberts, Frederick McCubbin and Louis Abrahams at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) in Melbourne. These landscape paintings, which were exhibited together with some portraits, marked a new approach to painting for the artists. The landscapes were characterized by their loose brushwork and their use of light and shadow to create a sense of depth and atmosphere. The artists were inspired by the landscape around Box Hill, where they had a regular campsite. The landscape paintings showed a new approach to painting, which was characterized by the use of light and shadow, the use of broken brushstrokes, and the technique of en plein air painting.

At the camp, the friends explored the area, painting and tramping. Roberts, Conder, and other local tree species. McCubbin and his friend Louis Abrahams were students of the Swiss painter Ferdinand Keller, who was famous for his landscapes. The friends were also influenced by the French Impressionists, who had recently begun to paint in the open air. The young Tom was enthusiastic for what he had seen. The landscape paintings showed a new approach to painting, which was characterized by the use of light and shadow, the use of broken brushstrokes, and the technique of en plein air painting.

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his female companion may be his future.

Some 80 years of public exposure to the artists, both past and present, made the work particularly popular with visitors to the National Gallery at its opening in 1983. It also became the basis for a set of etchings that were reproduced for a large number of people.

Friends of the core group of painters

During the doubling of the population of the town of Melbourne in the 1880s, the artists' camp had relocated to the Box Hill–Blackburn area. Their painting was generally focused on scenes from daily life and on the Box Hill and Blackburn area. Her work generally focused on scenes from daily life.