

FOREWORD

The Tasman Peninsula is a special part of Tasmania.

As the site of the penal settlement of Port Arthur, it is of considerable historical significance. That, combined with its natural beauty and unusual geological features, make the peninsula Tasmania's foremost tourist attraction.

The Tasman Peninsula Symposium conducted in 1986 by the Royal Society of Tasmania brought together experts on many aspects of the area's history, environment and development.

The aims were to bring together information about the peninsula's natural and cultural resources, to address the ways that humans have used and are using the region and to stimulate discussion about its future. The symposium succeeded admirably in achieving these aims, and the results presented in this book should be of value to a wide range of people. The publication contains interesting and concise

information on diverse subjects, from geology to botany, from agriculture to aquaculture and from Aboriginal occupation to the present day. There are also important contributions on landscape protection, tourism, demography and future directions.

The Society has dedicated this book to the memory of my predecessor, His Excellency, Sir James Plimsoll, who opened the Tasman Peninsula Symposium. Sir James Plimsoll was Governor of Tasmania from 1982 to 1987, and Patron of the Society for the same period. I believe he would be well pleased with this collection of scholarly and scientific contributions.

His Excellency,
General Sir Phillip Bennett, A.C., K.B.E., D.S.O.
Governor of Tasmania.