



One Tree Art Prize

Artist: Gordon Boettcher

Title: The Bob Brown Tree

GPS: -33.499889,115.937722

I heard the story of the ancient Bob Brown Peppermint Tree that had been mistakenly cut down in 2025.

The thought of an estimated 800-year-old tree disappearing so suddenly stayed with me, and I began this painting using imagination and old photographs.

Later, I travelled out to the site myself and found the stump - all that now remains of a tree that had stood for centuries. Seeing it in person changed the work for me. My painting for me became not just about the loss of a remarkable tree, but about trying to hold onto the presence, memory and spirit of something that can never truly be replaced.