



peter elliot
architecture+
urban design

robert clark horticulture centre

location ballarat botanic gardens victoria australia

status completed 1995

client city of ballarat

photography john gollings

This is an extraordinary project, made possible by a benefactor's generous gift of \$2 million and located in a botanical garden setting of great beauty and richness. A new public floral conservatory is a rare event, particularly one whose main function is the display of the strange and wondrous Tuberous Begonias. Rising like a giant crystal from the ground, the Robert Clark Conservatory is derived from nature. The crystalline faceted form of this building is made through the process of 'origami' folding to produce a transparent spidery web of steel and glass.

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"Technically and visually inventive, Peter Elliott's pavilion of folded glass for the Ballarat Gardens in Victoria is a triumph of constructivist geometry.....this is a building of sublime hopes and small details.." Norman Day Architecture Australia 61, 1995

