SETI and Golden Grove Observatory in Western Australia Join Forces

Seti is soon to start construction of its first Radio Telescope facility in Western Australia. Located in the precincts of the Golden Grove Observatory, the Seti Facility will become part of the astronomical lineup that has been in operation now for the past four years at this very picturesque site.

Mr. Guido Nigro, who is to be the director of the Seti Observatory at Golden Grove, has been negotiating with Golden Grove's Astronomical Director Mr. David Nicolson for the past few weeks as to the possibility of Seti locating one of it's radio telescopes to the site.

Guido and Mr. Nicolson reached an informal agreement during a site visit on the 5th December where a suitable place for the antenna was selected. The antenna will be erected early in 1999 and will be either a 7 or 10 metre parabolic dish mounted on an equatorial mount that will be able to track a fixed point in the sky using a computer and astronomical telescope tracking software.

The receiving equipment will consist of the antenna with hydrogen line feed horn, RAS 28db LNA with down converter and a receiver that is yet to be selected. Brisbane's Cad Technologies will provide the computer and DSP software that will be used for the spectrum analyzer that will scan the cosmic static looking for those, so far, elusive signals we think are out there waiting to be discovered.

We have provided a link to the Golden Grove web page <u>Golden Grove</u>
<u>Observatory</u> for those interested in finding out about the facilities there and also a link to the resources available in the beautiful Chittering Valley near Perth Western Australia. <u>Chittering Valley</u>

The SETI research & Community Development Institute limited is deeply grateful to the operators of the Golden Grove Observatory and the owner of the Land Mr. Zampogna. Seti and Optical Astronomy have been close allies over the years and with the prospect of our own Optical Seti project starting next year we will have a tremendous resource base to draw from with this collaborative effort.





Golden Grove Observatory Director Mr David Nicolson L to R are Mrs & Mr Zampogna, Mr David Nicolson (r) Mr Guido Nigro