NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTERPLAN

KINGSWOOD NSW STAGE 2 LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT

PREPARED FOR HEALTH INSTRASTRUCTURE NSW

PREPARED BY ARCADIA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE IN COLLABORATION WITH BVN ARCHITECTURE

NOVEMBER 2021

ARCADIA





Issue A November 2021

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We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live and work. We acknowledge their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past, present and emerging whose knowledge and wisdom has and will ensure the continuation of cultures and traditional practices.

ARCADIA

Table of Contents

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SUMMARIES

- TABLE OF CONTENTS 3
- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 4
- SEARS 5
- CPTED 6
- **GREENER PLACES DESIGN GUIDE** 7

 $\mathbf{01}$

SITE ANALYSIS

- LANDSCAPE QUALITIES 8
- LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS 9
- LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS 10
- STAGE 2 TREE ANALYSIS 11
- STAGE 2 TREE MASTER PLAN 12
- **EXISTING CONDITION** 13
- **EXISTING CONDITION** 14



$\mathbf{02}$

DESIGN VISION

15	STAGE 2 OVERVIEW
16	STAGE 2 PRINCIPLES
17	STAGE 2 PRINCIPLES

03

LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

- OVERALL MASTER PLAN STAGE 2 18
- MASTERPLAN STAGE 2 19
- DETAIL PLAN CARPARK LINK 20
- DETAIL PLAN DROP OFF AND ENTRY 21
- DETAIL PLAN DROP OFF AND ENTRY 22
- DETAIL PLAN DROP OFF AND ENTRY 23
- **DETAIL SECTION DROP OFF AND ENTRY** 24
- DETAIL PLAN NORTHERN ACCESS & 25 NORTHERN COURTYARDS
- **DETAIL SECTION NORTHERN ACCESS** 26
- DETAIL SECTION NORTHERN COURTYARDS 27
- DETAIL PLAN SOUTHERN COURTYARD 28
- 29 DETAIL SECTION - SOUTHERN COURTYARD
- DETAIL PLAN EAST BLOCK / PATHOLOGY 30
- DETAIL PLAN UPPER TERRACES LEVEL 06 31
- 32 DETAIL PLAN - UPPER TERRACES LEVEL 07
- 33 TREE AMENITY AND PATHWAYS
- 34 CHARACTER IMAGES
- MATERIALITY 35
- MASTER PLAN PLANTING STRATEGY 36
- MASTER PLAN PLANTING PALETTE 37
- MASTER PLAN INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES 38 MASTER PLAN INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES 39

04

PLANTING PLANS

400	PLANTING SCHEDULE
401	PLANTING PLAN 01
402	PLANTING PLAN 02
403	PLANTING PLAN 03
404	PLANTING PLAN 04
405	PLANTING PLAN 05
406	PLANTING PLAN 06
407	PLANTING PLAN 07
408	PLANTING PLAN 08

SSD DA (SSD-16928008)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Health Infrastructure NSW (HI) is the applicant for the proposed Stage 2 Redevelopment of Nepean Hospital in Penrith Local Government Area (LGA).

The proposal is State Significant Development (SSD) for the purposes of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) and clause 14(a) of Schedule 1 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (SEPP SRD) as it involves development for the purposes of a hospital with a capital investment value in excess of \$30 million.

The Stage 2 Redevelopment seeks to deliver significantly enhanced acute services, as well as a new campus main entry and drop-off area. It complements the recent Stage 1 Redevelopment (SSD 8766) approved in February 2019 and due for completion by early 2022.

The proposed Stage 2 Tower will be located west of, and connected to, the Stage 1 Tower. Portions of the North Block (north section) will be demolished with the remaining sections of the North Block (to the south of the Stage 2 Tower) to remain operational.

Departments to be provided in the Stage 2 Tower include:

- Front of House, including retail;
- Education and Training Centre;
- Transit Lounge;
- Medical Imaging;
- Interventional Radiology;
- Intensive Care Unit and Close Observation Unit;
- In-Centre Dialysis and Renal Inpatient Unit;
- Paediatric In-patient Unit;
- Plant areas;
- Clinical Support areas; and
- Kitchen.

The Stage 2 Redevelopment project scope includes:

• The Stage 2 Tower, being predominantly a 7-storey building, with roof plant;

• Demolition of parts of the existing North Block and other satellite buildings directly within the Stage 2 Tower footprint (excluding other buildings already approved under the Stage 1 SSD consent);

- Demolition of the Total Asset Management (TAM) facility;
- Reconfiguration of the loading dock area and back of house functions;

• Landscaping and other associated at-grade works within the Stage 2 Tower's immediate vicinity; and

• Barber Avenue upgrade and access road to the Stage 2 Tower's forecourt, port cochere, and front of house area.

The Stage 2 Redevelopment's SEARs was issued by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment on 22 April 2021.



SSD DA (SSD-16928008) - SEARs

SEARs requirements

In preparing this report, the following SEARs General Requirements, Key Issues, and Agency's Advice letters have been addressed. The table below sets out the reference or location of these matters within this report.

SEARS REQUIREMENT	RESPONSE/REFER
 A detailed constraints map identifying the key environmental and other landuse constraints that have informed the final design of the development. Plans, elevations and sections of the proposed development. A site plan showing all infrastructure and facilities (including any infrastructure that would be required for the development, but the subject of a separate approvals process). 	 Please refer to the following: Part 1.0 Site analysis (pages 7-9, 11-12) Part 3.0 Masterplan (pages 19-33) Landscape SSDA Addenum Softworks plans, L400 Series Part 3.0 Masterplan (pages Please refer to the following:
 Where relevant, an arboricultural impact assessment prepared by a Level 	 Arborists report by Moore Trees Part 1.0 Site analysis (pages 9-10) Part 3.0 Masterplan (pages 19-33) Landscape SSDA Addenum Softworks plans, L400 Series



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RELEVANT POLICIES AND GUIDELINES	
 Australian Standard 4970 Protection of trees on development sites. 	The landscape design respon protection of trees on site threes impacts (Please refer pages 7
Draft Greener Places Design Guide (GANSW).	Several design principles we creating connections across social, visual, and was interw including WSUD integration a
Objective 27 - Biodiversity is protected, urban bushland and remnant vegetation is enhanced"	A predominantly native and e historically recorded edemic (Please refer pages 38-39, Pl
 Objective 30 of The Greater Sydney Region Plan A Metropolis of Three Cities. 	Native and endemic trees are the urban tree canopy cover.
 Technical Guidelines for Urban Green Cover in NSW (Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2015). 	Use of bioswale has been inc of the design; and use of nativ including Barber Avenue to h contribute to the local ecolog

RESPONSE

onse has been strongly driven by retention and nrough exploration of tree significance and design s **7-9**).

vere developed and used to lead the design by the site that were not only ecological but also woven with other key aspects of the landscape and safety for vehicular and pedestrian flows.

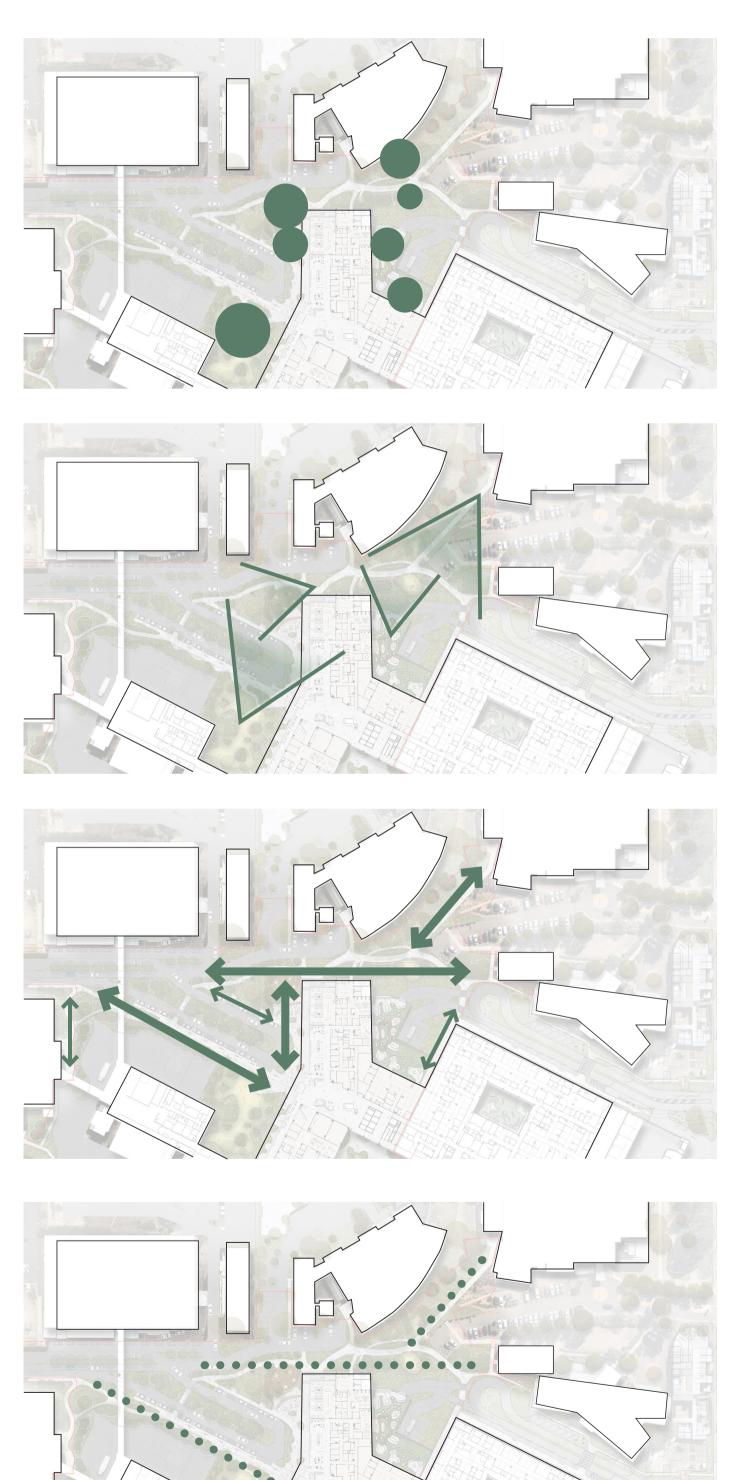
l endemic planting palette guided by existing and c vegetation groups within and adjacent to the site. Planting plans)

re used throughout the design to aid in increasing er. (Please refer planting plans)

ncorporated into the design throughout key areas tive trees along major avenues of the landscape help mititgate urban island heat effect and ogy. (Please refer pages 23-27, Planting plans)

SSD DA (SSD-16928008) - CPTED

The Stage 2 Landscape design has considered the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) through the following principles; Territorial Reinforcement, Natural Surveillance, Access Control, and Space Management. staff or visitors.



Territorial Reinforcement

Part of the intention of the design is to create opportunities for existing and established communities to intersect and create a sense of place through spatial opportunities. From family and visitor gatherings to staff breakout and educational spaces, to patient/ visitor experiential enjoyment and healing, in conjunction with signage the design aims to give the users something which they can establish a sense of ownership through these uses the design provides them.

Natural Surveillance

The stage 2 design aims to reduce the attraction of crime through a combination of design strategies that work with attracting the intended users. Natural and experiential connection to nature that attracts visitors and staff. The implementation of visual permeability is unmitigated by planting, which has been purposefully kept low. Seating and gathering spaces are directed to views that overlook entrances, pathways, and adjacent gathering places. In addition, the design includes a combination of legibility through lighting, reduced entrapment spaces and places to hide. Overall preventing the opportunity for unwanted activity.

Access Control

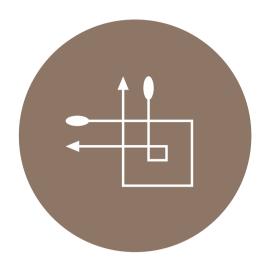
The landscape design uses a combination of hierarchical path network, key landscape features, directional landform, and visual connection throughout to guide individuals across the site in a way that passively deters from entering high-risk or secure areas. In further collaboration with architectural, signage, and lighting strategies the design actively delineates access between public and restricted access areas.

Space Management

Management of the landscape space works with a combination of formalized care and supervision; active anti-vandal, cleaning, and repair strategies; and ongoing user activity. The overlaying of the variety of activities designed into the landscape include the aforementioned egress and visual connectivity, tangibly interacting with the planting via bush tucker patches and resting points, a coordinated activity involving staff or visitors.

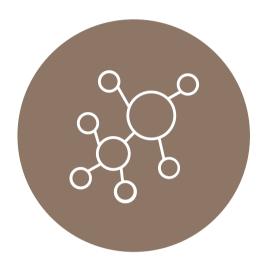


SSD DA (SSD-16928008) - GREENER PLACES DESIGN GUIDE



Integration – combine green infrastructure with urban development and grey infrastructure

The stage 2 landscape design weaves in green infrastructural aspects such as naturalistic WSUD systems via swales and dry-creek beds to soften pathways as well as slow down the movement of water. Additionally the accompaniment of native canopy to avenues and key spaces for gathering help to soften hardscaped areas, cool spaces down by providing natural shelter, and integrating ecologically beneficial habitat with more human-centric habitat.



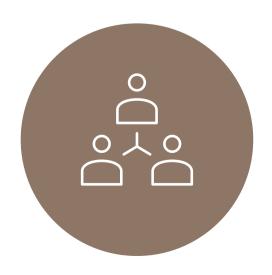
Connectivity – Create an interconnected network of open space

Carrying through links from Parker Street to Barber to Somerset Street the landscape design takes the loose threads of old linkages and consolidates them into more legible pathways. Along with this consolidated network are points of access into many respite and gathering spaces. Ecological connections are formed by the plethora of native and endemic planting that contributes to the overall network of native vegetation that harkens back to the Cumberland Plain and Blue Mountains National Park.



Multifunctionality – deliver multiple ecosystem services simultaneously

The landscape design provides a multitude of flexible spaces for current changing programs of activity and into the future as the needs of the hospital evolves. Knitted into the more people-orientated aspects of the design are layers of ecological functionality through the many planted zones, WSUD and higher-order canopies from native trees. These ecological layers not only serve habitat for wildlife but feed into a patient-centred healing landscape as well as a cultural-centred landscape with opportunities for the users of the hospital as well as the public to be able to interact with country in tangible ways and find health benefits that experiencing nature can give.



Participation – involve stakeholders in development and implementation

In the Stage 2 landscape design evolution there was engagement and consultation sought with interdisciplinary, governmental, and local stakeholders. All inputs, advice and ideas made in these collaborations have helped bring about a design that is equitable in its offerings, resilient in its integration within an existing setting, and healthy and responsive to user group needs.

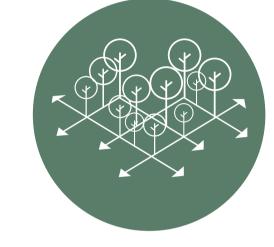


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Urban Tree Canopy strategy 1 - Protect, maintain, and enhance the existing urban tree canopy

The Nepean Hospital site is rich in ecological offering and habitat potential. Taking advantage of what the site currently has to offer the stage 2 landscape design enhances and builds on top of existing green links and vegetation patches with native and endemic tree species in accompaniment with native lower order planting. Stage 2 will be replacing many exotic and specimens marked for removal and replacing them with more endemic and native trees at a greater ratio of new native trees to removed trees.



Urban Tree Canopy strategy 2 - Create an interconnected urban tree canopy across NSW

Using the network of access across the design as a guide for the planting formations, native trees are curated to follow these whilst also diverting off into patches consisting of tree copses, encirclements to gathering spaces, and as curated specimens to create distinction or focal points of interest. Overall the trees have been considered and curated as a minor ecological scatternet of native and endemic tree species that in turn links to the greater green grid of NSW.



Urban Tree Canopy strategy 3 - Build knowledge and awareness of urban tree canopy across State and local government, and the community

Education and interpretation layers are included in the proposal and will be developed further in collaboration with First Nations partners in design development. These relate to Country and connection to the landscape, but especially the Cumberland Plain Forest Community.



Site - Landscape Qualities

SURROUNDING INFLUENCES

An intricate network of creeks and wetlands make up the nearby Nepean River in Penrith valley. the river acts as a natural barrier to the blue mountains escarpment which sits in the background, shaping and framing the bushland character of the site.

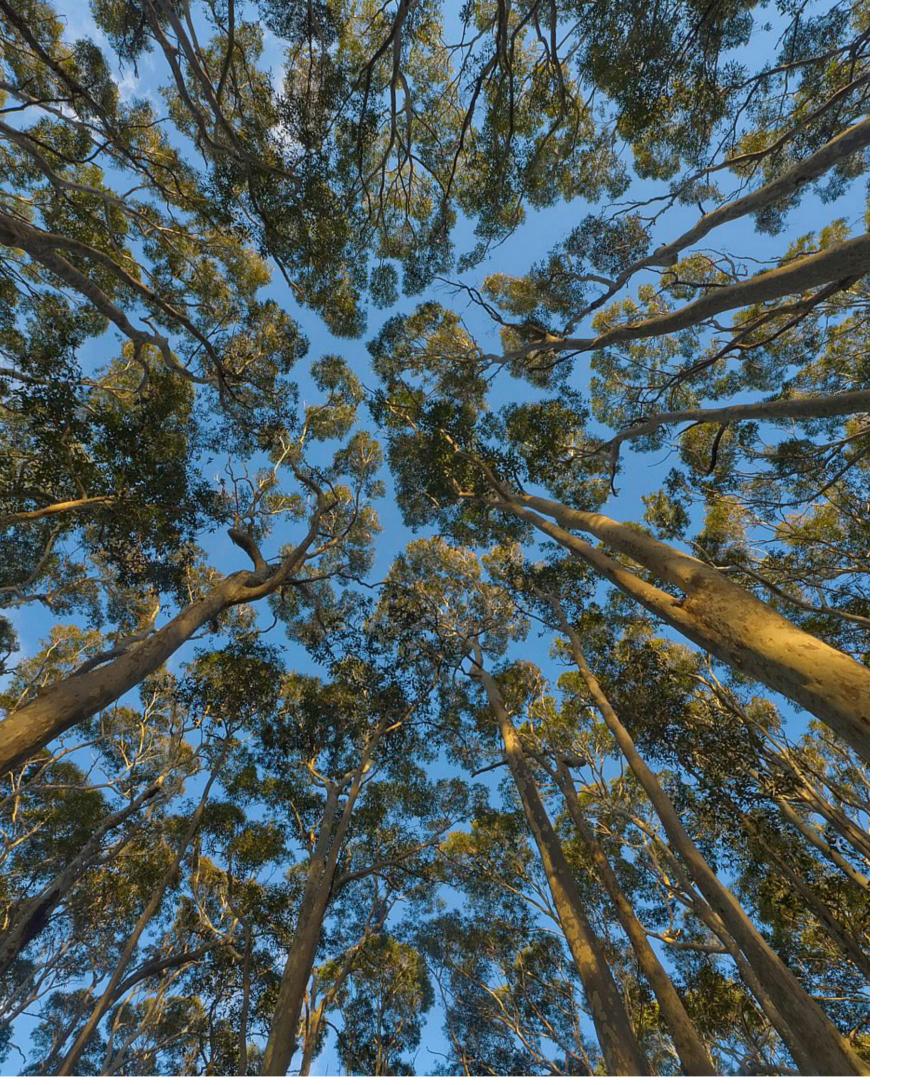


LOOKOUTS & EXPOSED SANDSTONE





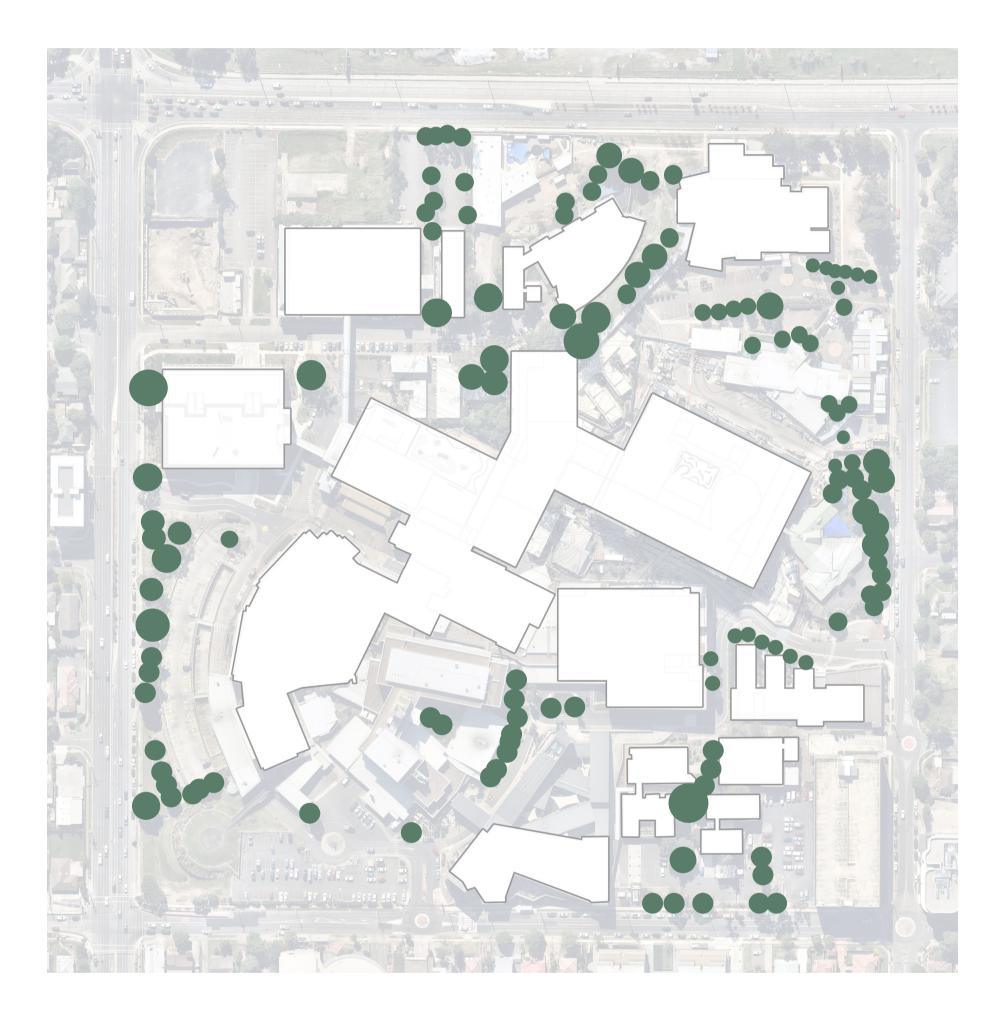
CUMBERLAND PLAIN CANOPY & DAPPLED LIGHTING





SHADED UNDERCROFT & MICROCLIMATES

Site - Landscape Analysis



VEGETATION











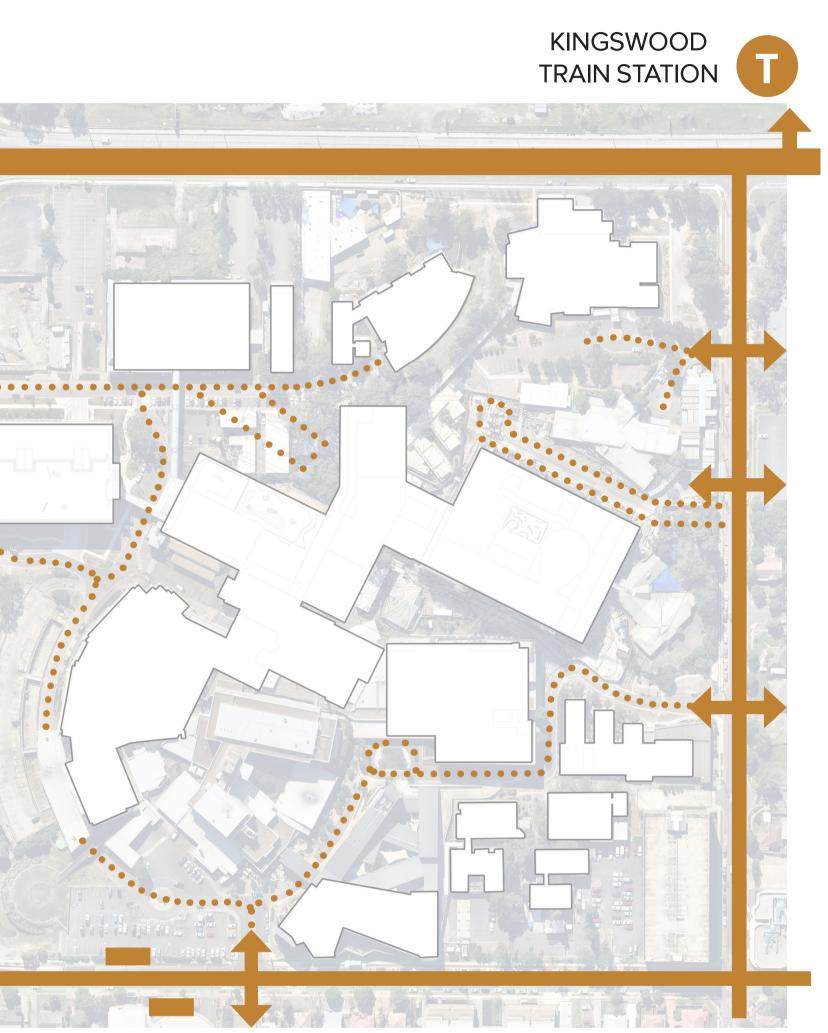
HYDROLOGY

Overland Flow Path

CIRCULATION

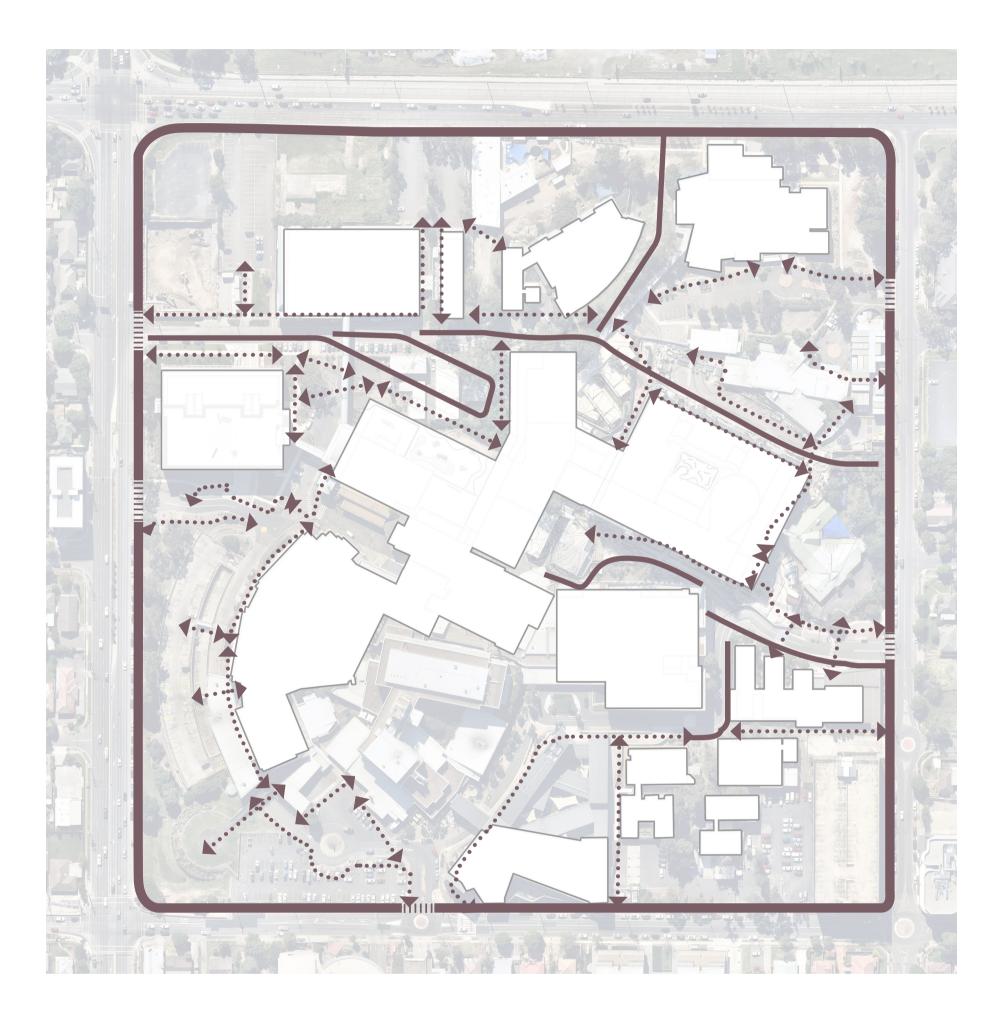






- Existing Bus Shelter
- Hospital Driveway Entry

Site - Landscape Analysis



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

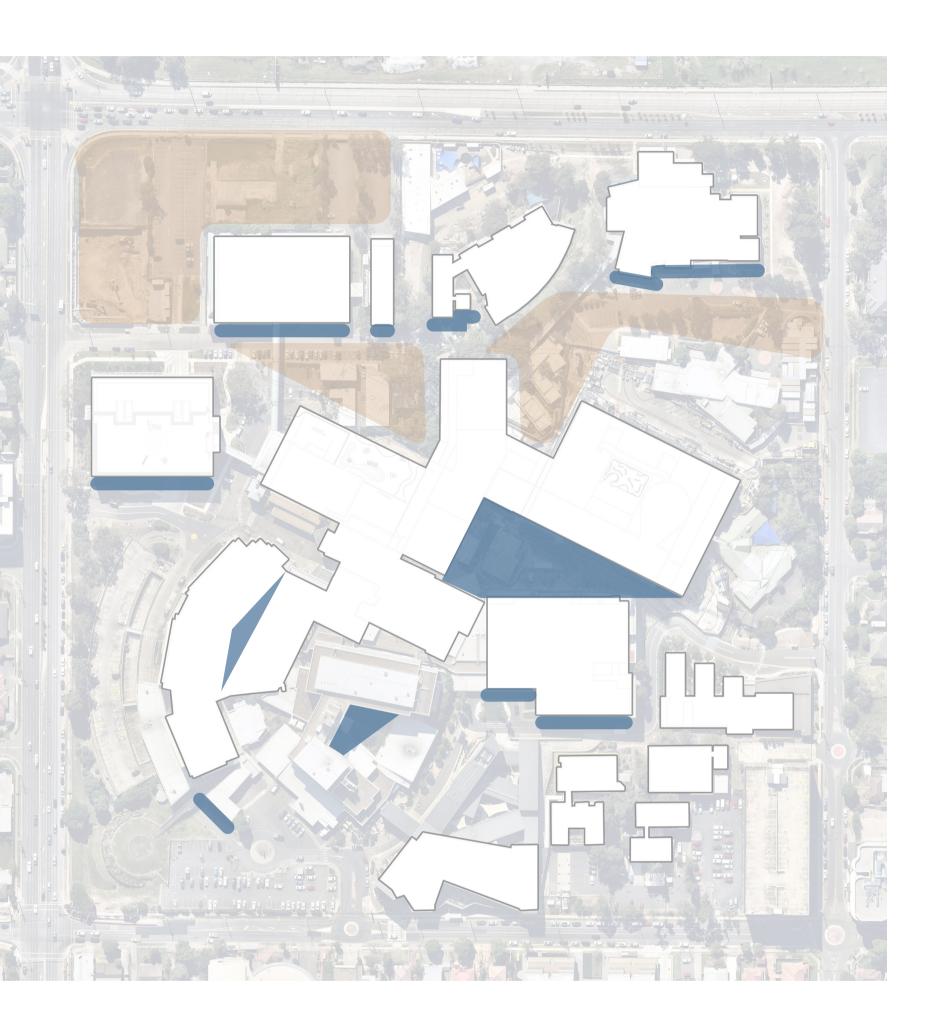


Primary Movement

Street Edge Circulation





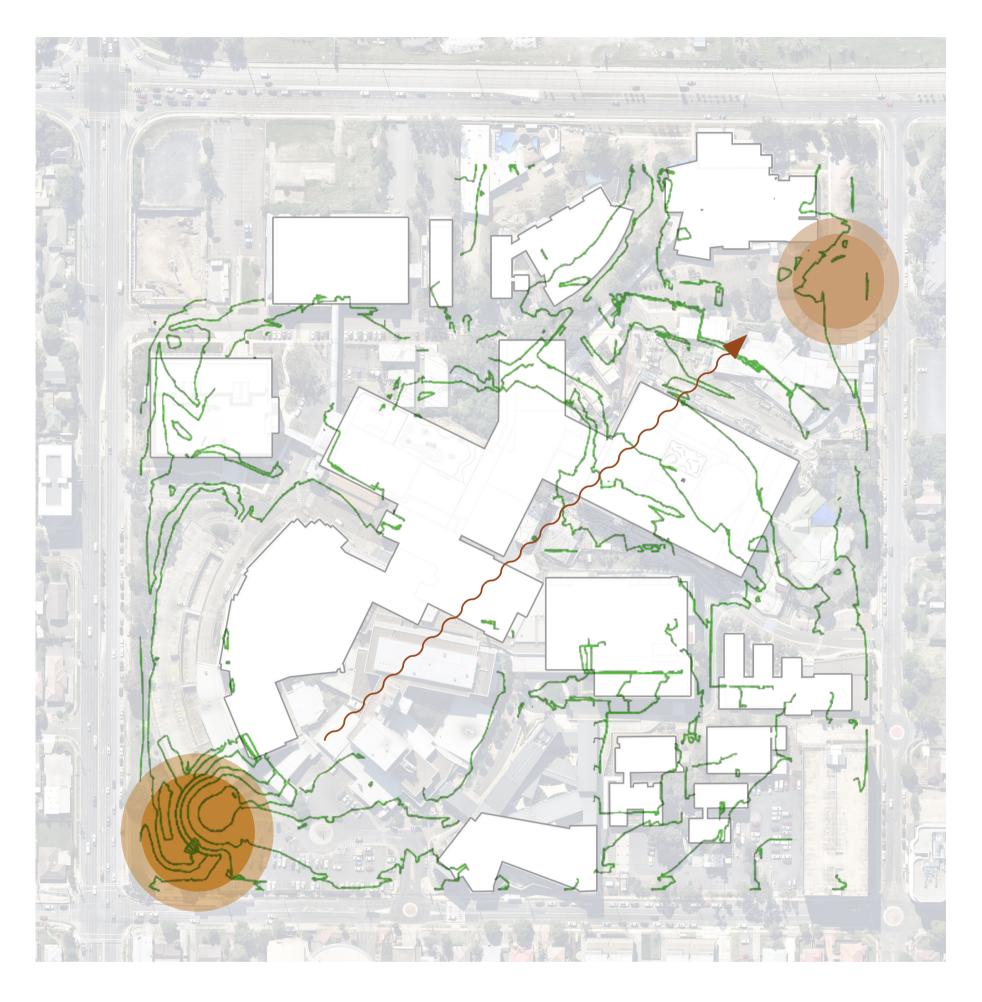


MICROCLIMATE



Mostly Sunny Micro-climate

Mostly Shady Micro-climate



LANDFORM





Site - Stage 2 Tree Analysis + Proposal Impact

A number of existing trees are impacted by the current building and driveway proposals. Most are exotics which are considered not essential to retain. Significant trees worth retaining according to the arborist are minimally impacted save for one Jacaranda.

Legend



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Native Trees Exotic Trees

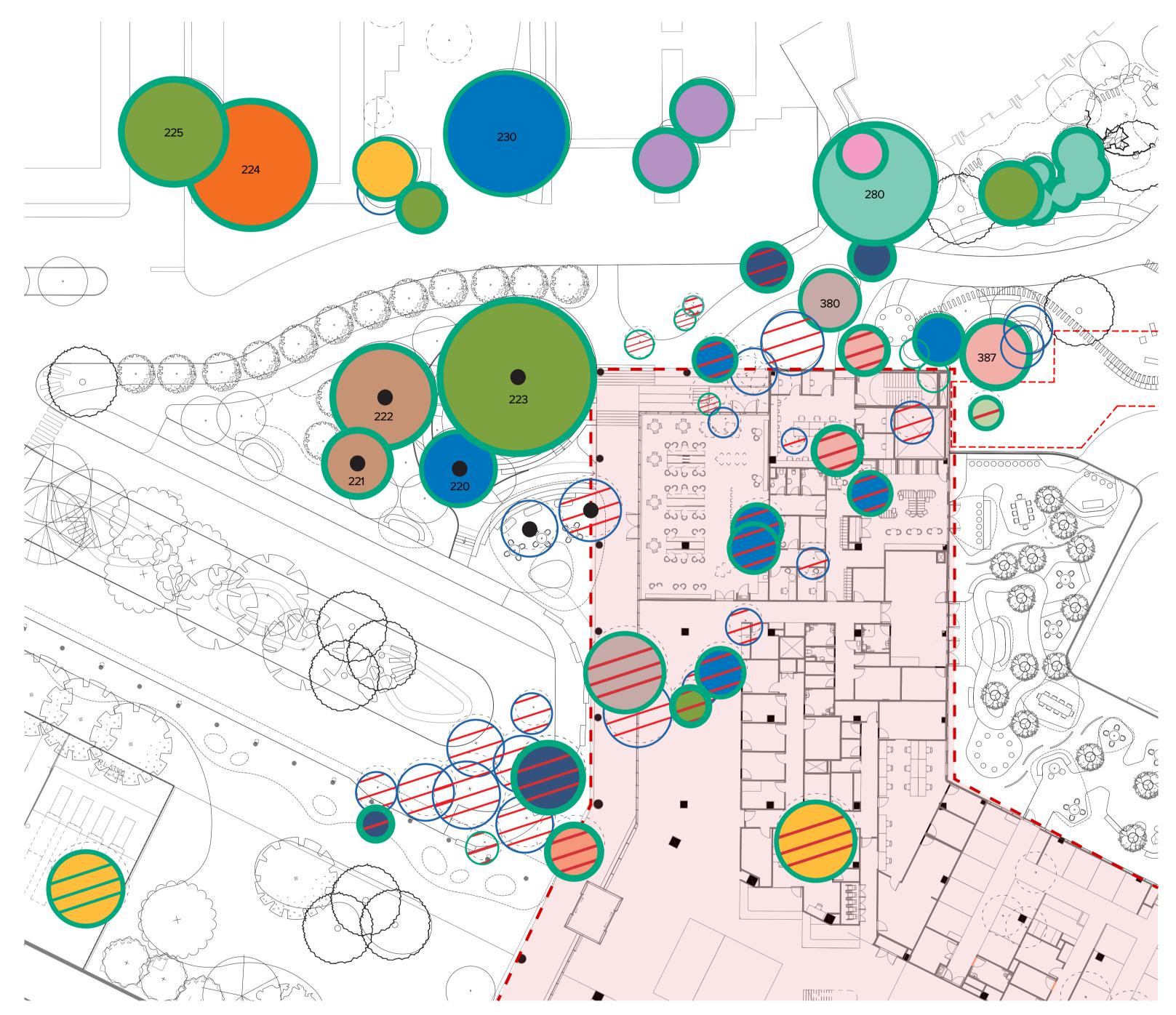
Arborist noted as 'worth keeping' Trees affected by proposed building and driveway

Tree Species

- Brushbox (Lophostemon confertus)
- Forest Oak (Allocasuarina torulosa)
- Forest Red Gum (E. tereticornis)
- Grey Box (E. moluccana)
- Native Frangipani (Hymenosporum flavum)
- Lemon Scented Gum (C. citriodora)
- Magenta Lilly Pilly (S. paniculatum)
- Melaleuca decora
- Melaleuca (M. linariifolia)
- Red Ironbark (E. sideroxylon)
- Silky Oak (Grevillea robusta)
- **Spotted Gum (C. maculata)**
- Tallowood (E.microcorys)
- Willow Bottle Brush (C. salignus)
- Mixed cluster of species

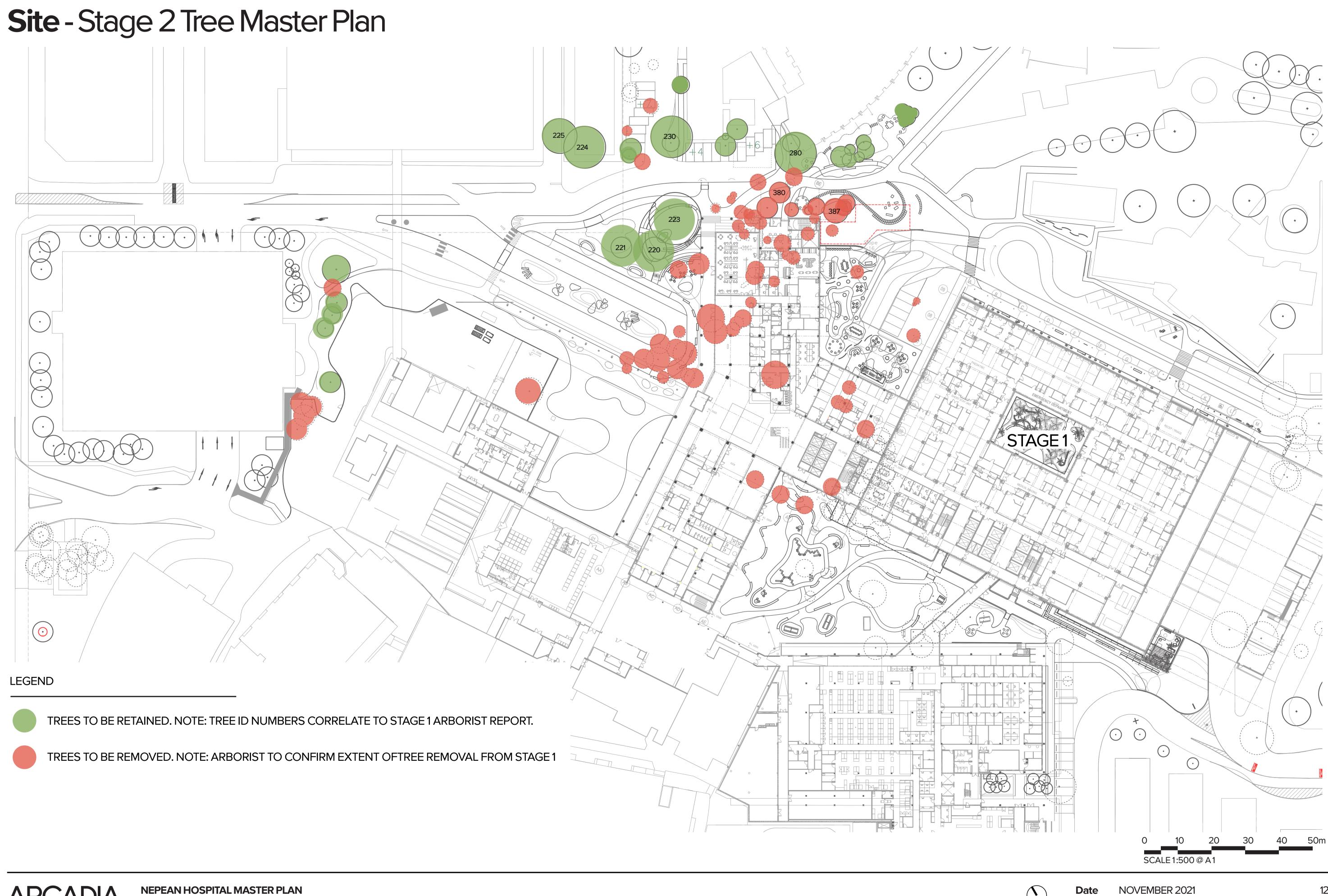
Cumberland Plain Species (High significance)





NOTE: TREE ID NUMBERS CORRELATE TO STAGE 1 ARBORIST REPORT.







lssue

Α

Site - Existing Condition

RECOGNISED CONSTRAINTS



1/LACK OF PLANTING + SOFT EDGES



2 / POOR PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS



3 / EXISTING MATURE TREES

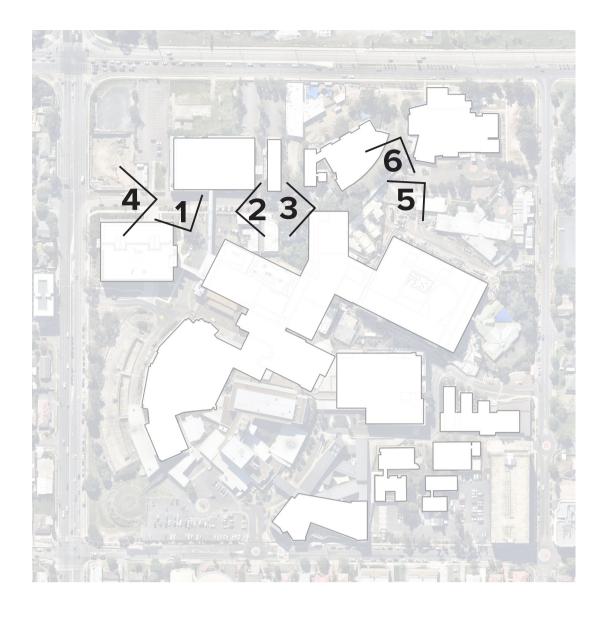


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5 / VEHICULAR DOMINANT + HARD SURFACED





6 / WAYFINDING THROUGH PLANTING

Site - Existing Condition

ENHANCE POSITIVE ATTRIBUTES





2/TELL A STORY OF THE SITE



3 / PRESERVE EXISTING CHARACTER



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5 / CONNECT TO WIDER PEDESTRIAN NETWORK





6 / SIGNAGE STRATEGY IN PLACE



Vision - Overview

Therapeutic Landscape Design

Access to nature in a healing environment has a range of benefits to patients and users. Findings have found that patients with views of nature had shorter recovery times, took less pain medication, experienced less post-operative complications that those with an urban view.

Biophillia and *Biophilic design* is the importance of connection and an access to nature. In the work of E.O Wilsons work 'Biophillia' he suggests that humans possess an innate tendency to seek connections with nature and other forms of life. Through understanding these connections, we can design spaces that help patients, visitors and workers experience and health.





Vision - Stage 2 Principles







Retention of existing trees and landform

Expand on green links

Create an experiential pedestrian network



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Spaces that connect people to nature

Integrate WSUD



Landscape visual connection

Provide a safe flow of vehicles

Vision - Stage 2 Principles



Retention of Existing Trees and Landform

Retention of as many existing trees across the site will not only help maintain existing habitat, shade and endemic character but it will also give scale of character in ecological maturity and hierarchy. Existing tree retention can give points of focus for way finding, spatial definition and appreciation for nature.



Spaces that Connect People to Nature

Focusing on the role of nature in the healing process and maintaining good mental wellbeing. The landscape aims to provide a variety of inclusive spaces which one could enjoy a plethora of differing setting and outlooks. Accommodating for a variety of users and providing opportunities in reconnecting them with local nature and using qualities of scale (from larger forest clearings to more intimate garden rooms) to give richness in diverse spatiality.



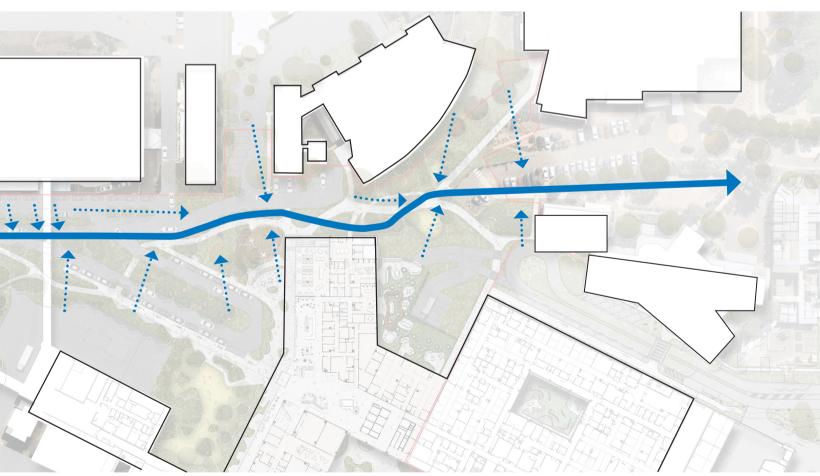


The site has a wealth of native trees and shrubs which the proposed landscape seeks to enhance and build on. Through careful considerations of what will make up each order of planting (from the lower sensory and tangible plantings to taller canopies), knitting together existing green links through a contemporary and ecologically conscious lens will encourage understanding and appreciation for the local ecologies as well as provide those necessary vegetation corridors for endemic and native fauna.



The landscape is threaded together by a naturalistic WSUD system (Swales and dry creek-beds) that create not only a visual trail and connection throughout and beyond the scope but to also accommodate and deal with the impacts of water (by taking into account existing and proposed larger impervious areas such as Barber Avenue) as well as providing links and pockets of more ecological diversity throughout.

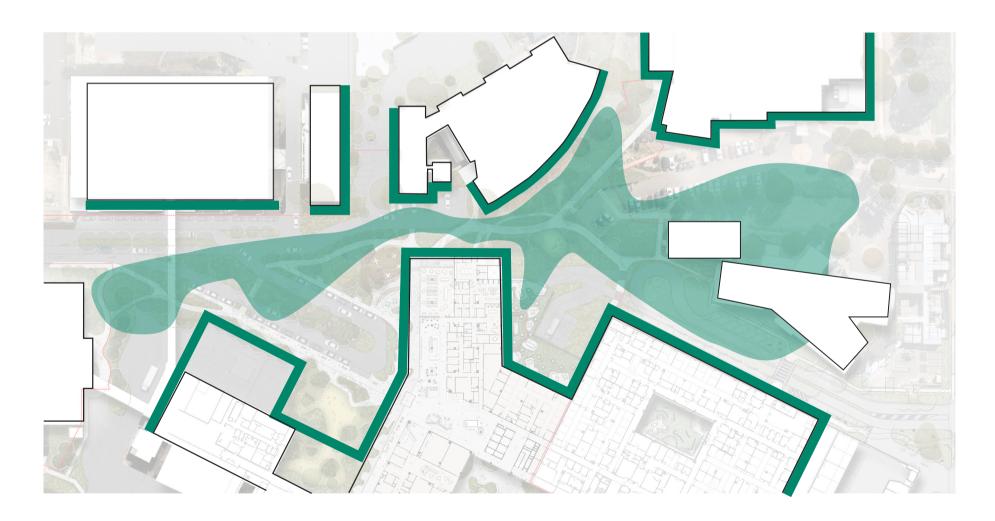
Expand on Green Links



Integrate WSUD



The aim to provide visitors, staff, and patients a sense of journey through the landscape, provide attractive natural comfort and inclusive amenity by utilising the existing and proposed micro-climates through incorporation of sensory driven design, and greening of edges and pathways.



Experience of the landscape should not be exclusive to the ground plane. Nature should be easily appreciated from the upper levels of the hospital, from the patients room to the staff lounge, down to the waiting and reception areas that welcome its visitors. Aspects towards nature can give soft separations to spaces, create beautiful leafy outlooks and add to the story of the landscape.



Create an Experiential Pedestrian Network

Landscape Visual Connection



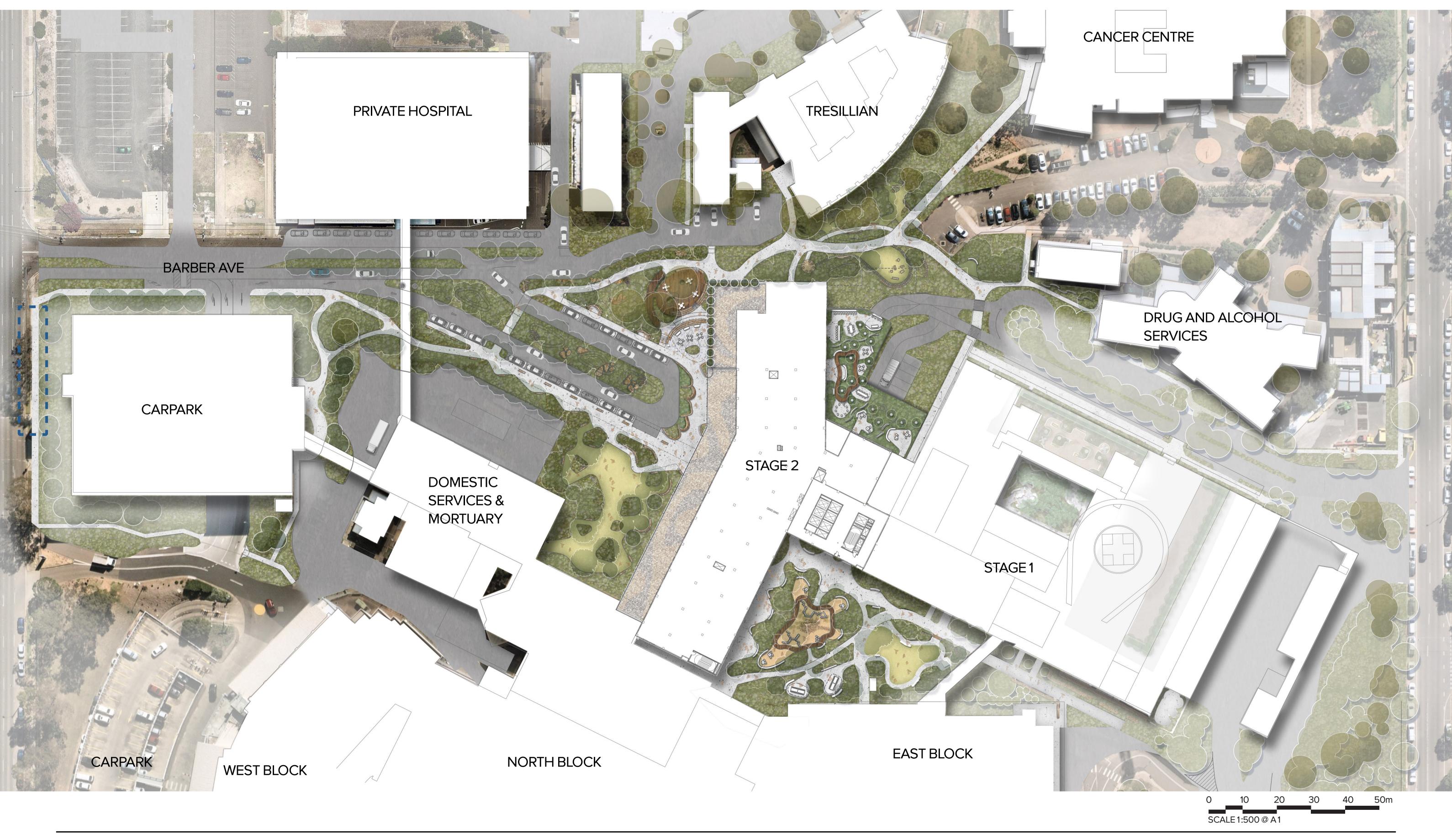
Overall Masterplan - Stage 2





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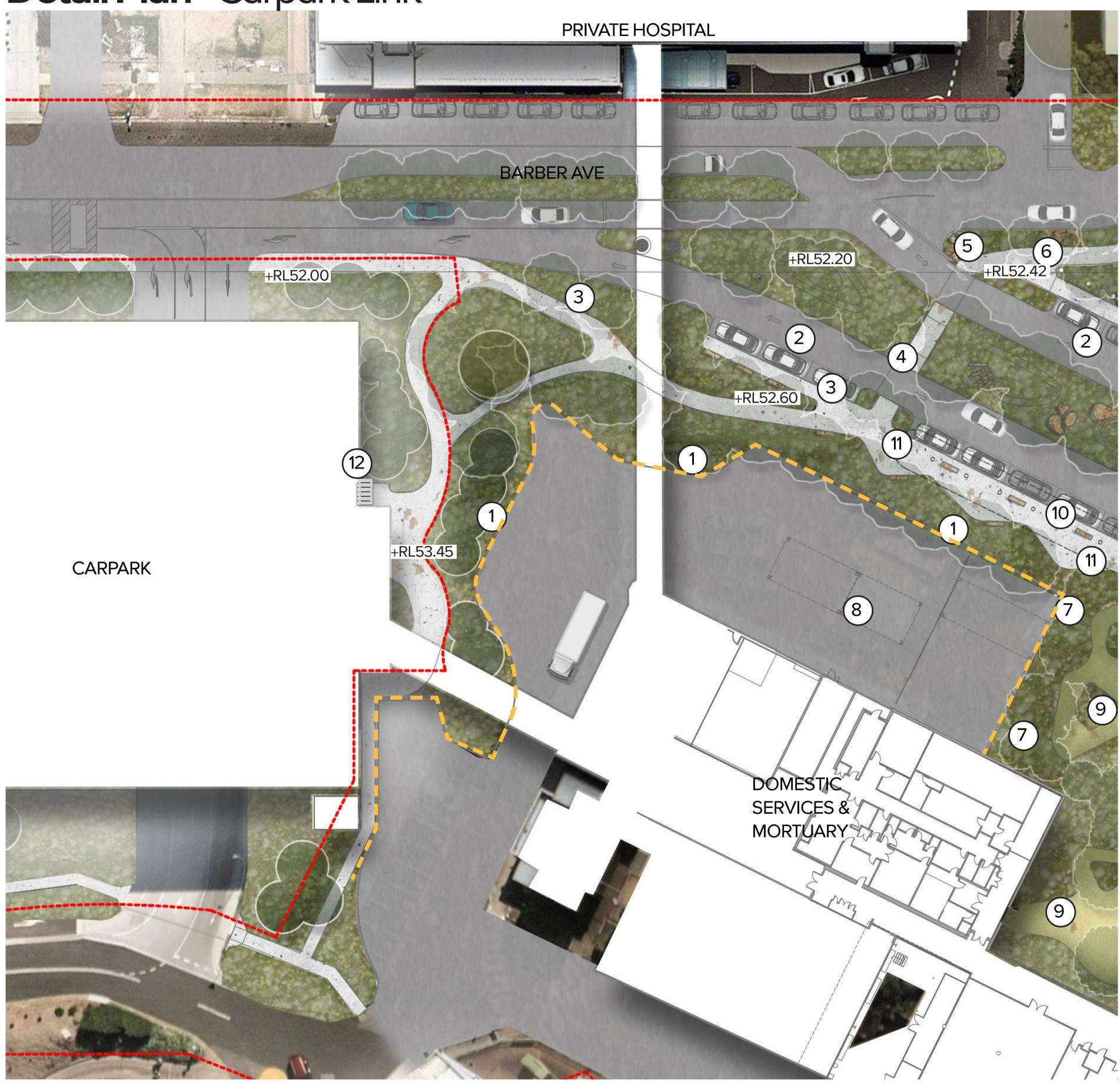
Masterplan - Stage 2





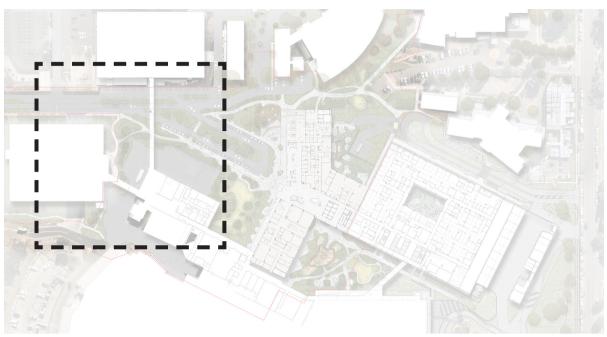
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Detail Plan - Carpark Link





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KEY PLAN

- Screening plants to provide a buffer to the waste area
- 2. Driveway to drop off area for Stage 2
- 3. Tree lined footpath to provide shade and relief
- 4. Pedestrian crossing connecting landscape spaces and footpaths
- 5. Signage/Art feature statement to entry drive
- 6. Dry creek bed collecting water run off for treatment and movement across site
- 7. Raised landform and planting to limit visual connection to waste area
- 8. Existing waste management
- 9. Open lawn space
- 10. Pick up/drop off zone
- 11. Shelter design to be coordinated with Architect and Public Art
- 12. Proposed Bicycle Parking (10 Spaces)

	Existing Tree					
	Propos	sed Tre	ee			
	Proposed Screen Fence					
	Scope of Works line					
	0	5	10	15	20	25m
SCALE 1:250 @ A 1						

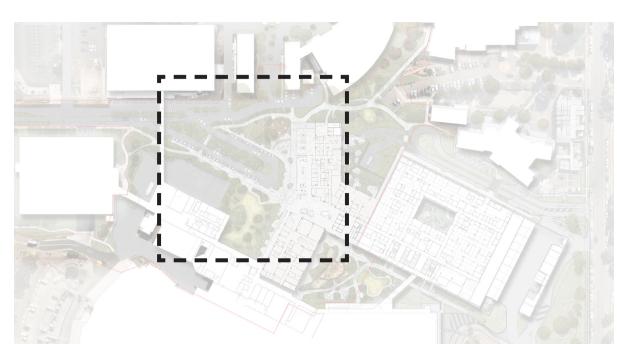
Detail Plan - Drop off and Main Entry





NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT





KEY PLAN

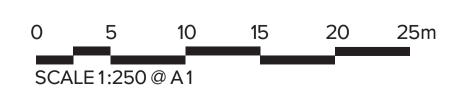
LEGEND

- 1. Shelter design to be coordinated with Architect and Public Art
- 2. Forest entry landscape character
- Raised decking around existing tree for 3. communal break out space. To be further coordinated with Architects
- 4. Ramped driveway at a grade allowing for accessibility path adjacent. Drop off to be further coordinated with Architects and Traffic Engineers
- 5. Forecourt
- 6. Ramped elevated boardwalk amongst existing trees
- Basin capturing water run off for treatment 7.
- 8. Open turf space
- 9. Existing Waste Management
- 10. Stair access to level below. To be further coordinated with Architects.
- 11. Sheltered drop off/pick up pods
- 12. Relocated Flagpole
- 13. Screening plants to provide a buffer to the waste area
- 14. Raised landform and planting to limit visual connection to waste area
- 15. Sculptural Sandstone Seating and Planter
- 16. Proposed Bicycle Parking (10 Spaces) Scope of Works line



Existing Tree

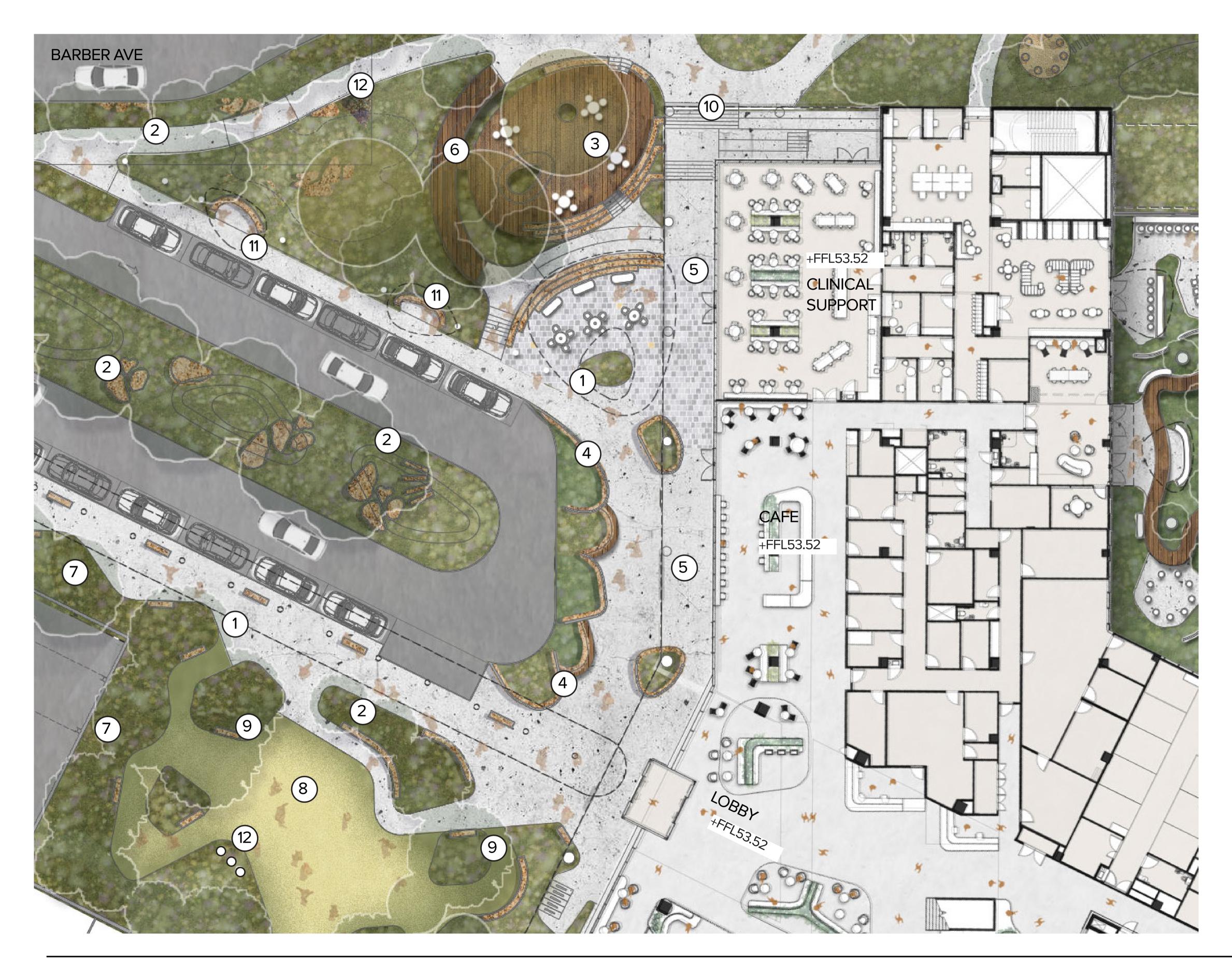
Proposed Tree



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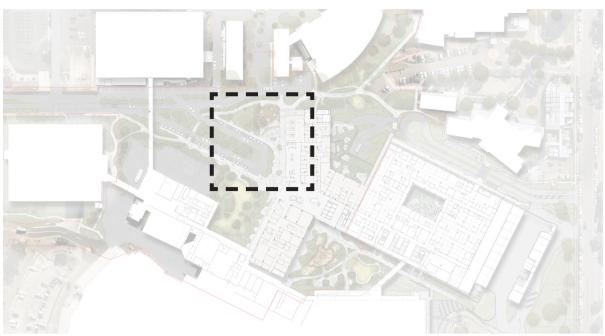
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Detail Plan - Drop off and Main Entry



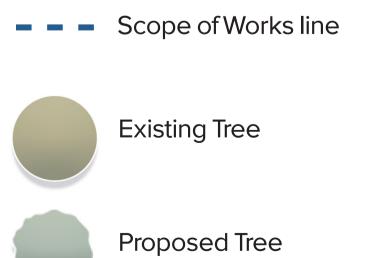


NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT



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- 5. Forecourt
- 6. Ramped elevated boardwalk amongst existing trees
- 7. Raised landform and planting to limit visual connection to waste area
- 8. Open turf space
- 9. Vegetated Nodes
- 10. Stair access to level below.
- 11. Sheltered drop off/pick up pods
- 12. Flagpoles



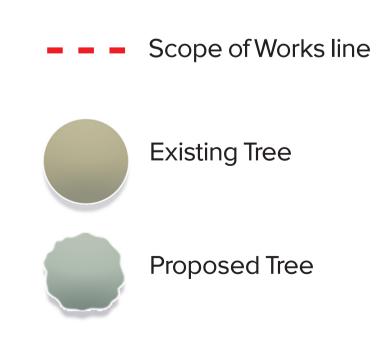


Detail Plan - Domestic Services & Mortuary



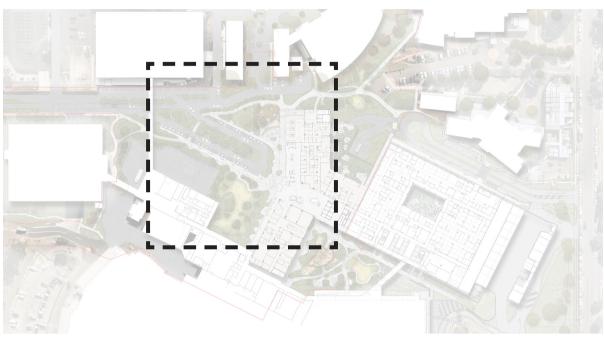


NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT





Date Issue



KEY PLAN

- 1. Shelter design to be coordinated with Architect and Public Art
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- 16. Proposed Bicycle Parking (10 Spaces)

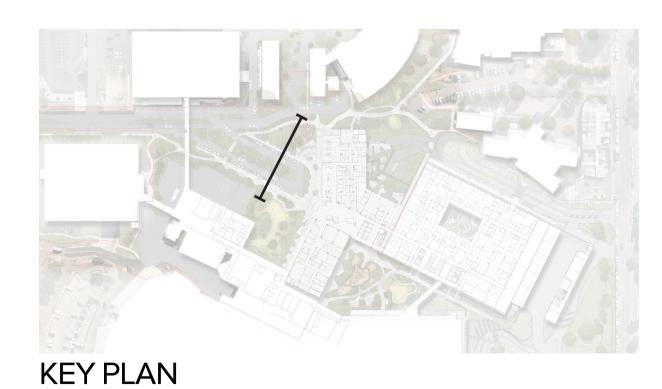
0	5	10	15	20	25m
SCA	LE 1:250	@A1			

Detail Section - Drop off and Entry





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- 1. Weatherproof continuous canopy over drop off pathway link to main entrance, canopy to incorporate green roof component
- 2. Filtered views through tall clean trunked trees
- 3. Raised decking around existing trees for communal break out space
- 4. Ramped driveway at a grade allowing for equal access path adjacent
- 5. Ramped elevated boardwalk amongst existing trees
- 6. Dry creek bed collecting water run off for treatment, infiltration and movement across site
- 7. Raised landform and planting to limit visual connection to waste area

Detail Plan - Northern Access & Northern Courtyards









KEY PLAN

LEGEND

- 1. Stage 1 ED drop off
- 2. Stage 1 parallel parking
- 3. The clearing flexible turf space
- 4. 3.0m wide pathway
- 5. Existing trees to be retained
- 6. Level 1 Transit Lounge Patient Courtyard
- 7. Level 1 JMO Courtyard
- 8. Level 1 nominated indigenous rooftop garden
- 9. Sandstone log retaining wall with landscaping to conceal underground OSD tank
- 10. Level 01 weathproof canopies
- 11. Level 01 Shade canopies
- 12. Yarn Circle
- 13. BBQ area to be confirmed
- 14. Screens to limit visual permeability to the existing Gateway Building

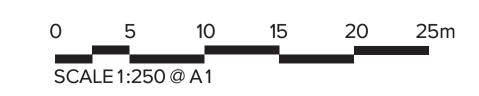
Emergency Vehicle &Crane Access Route



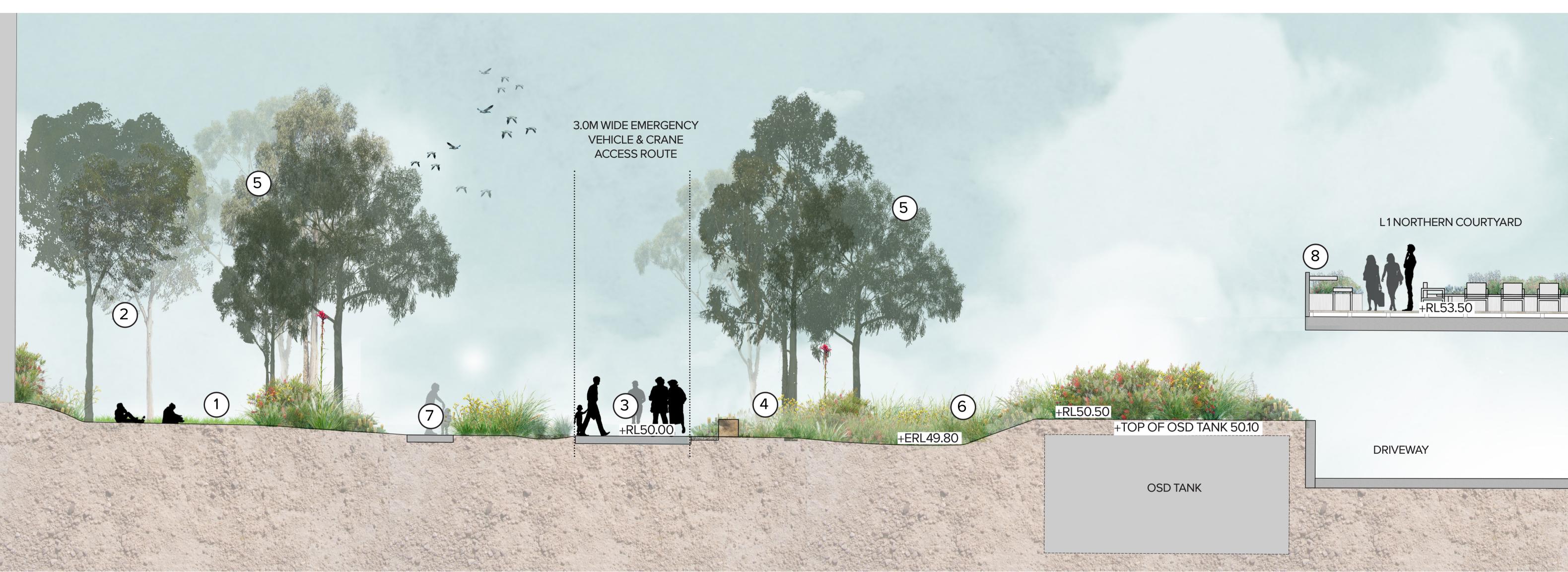


Existing Tree

Proposed Tree

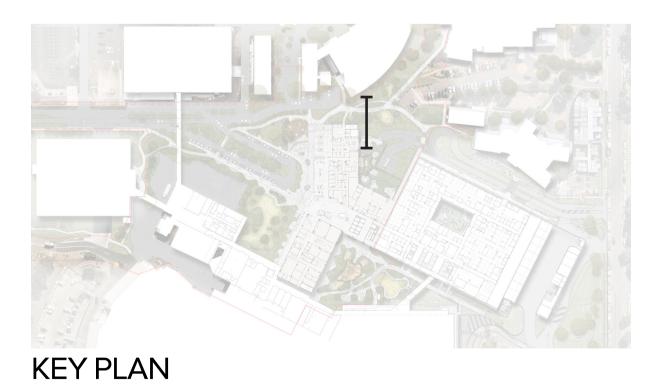


Detail Section - Northern Access



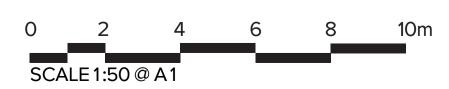


NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT





- 1. The clearing flexible turf space
- 2. New native trees to complement existing
- 3. 3.0m wide pathway
- 4. Native planting to max 1.5m height to maintain clear sightlines
- 5. Existing high quality trees retained and protected within garden beds
- 6. Landscaping to conceal underground OSD tank
- 7. 1.2m wide pathway
- 8. Level 1 interface to be further investigated for safety in design

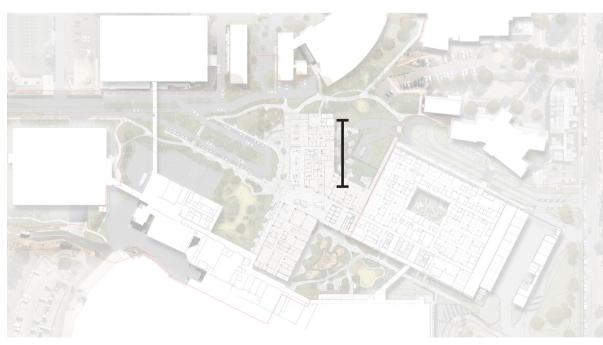


Detail Section - Northern Courtyards



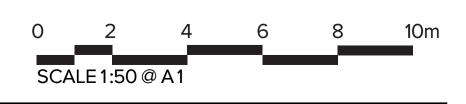


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KEY PLAN

- 1. Shade Canopy
- 2. Native and endemic matrix planting to enclose places of respite and gathering
- 3. Yarning circle connected by a meandering walkway
- 4. Screens to allow privacy



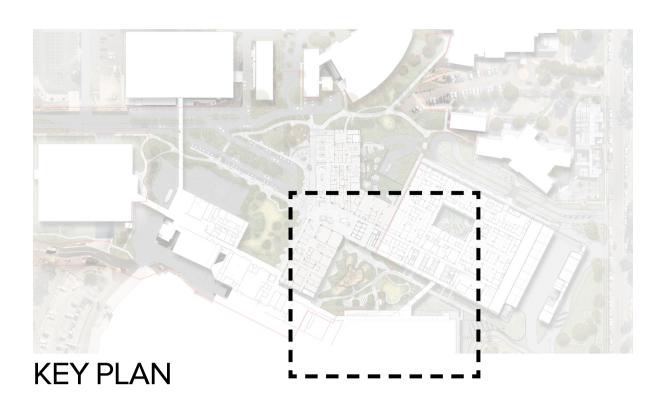
Detail Plan - Southern Courtyard





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LEGEND

- 1. Timber walkway
- 2. Communal meeting space
- 3. Nature play including timber logs, sandstone rocks and other natural amenity
- 4. Outdoor dining spaces
- 5. Native garden beds
- 6. Buffering to internal educational spaces for privacy
- 7. Education external break out space
- 8. Existing substation with surrounding buffer planting for screening
- **– – –** Scope of Works line

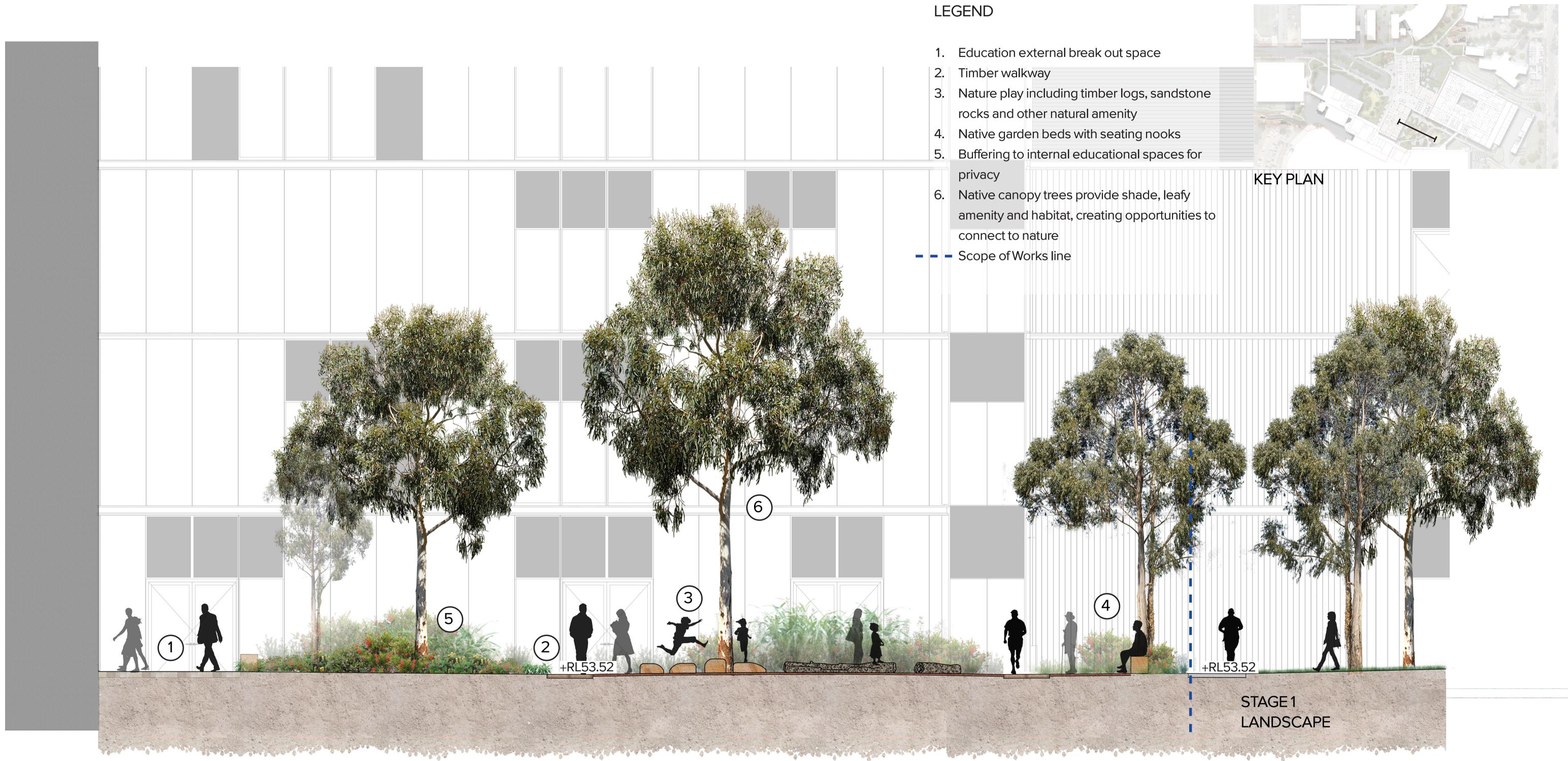


Existing Tree





Detail Section - Southern Courtyard

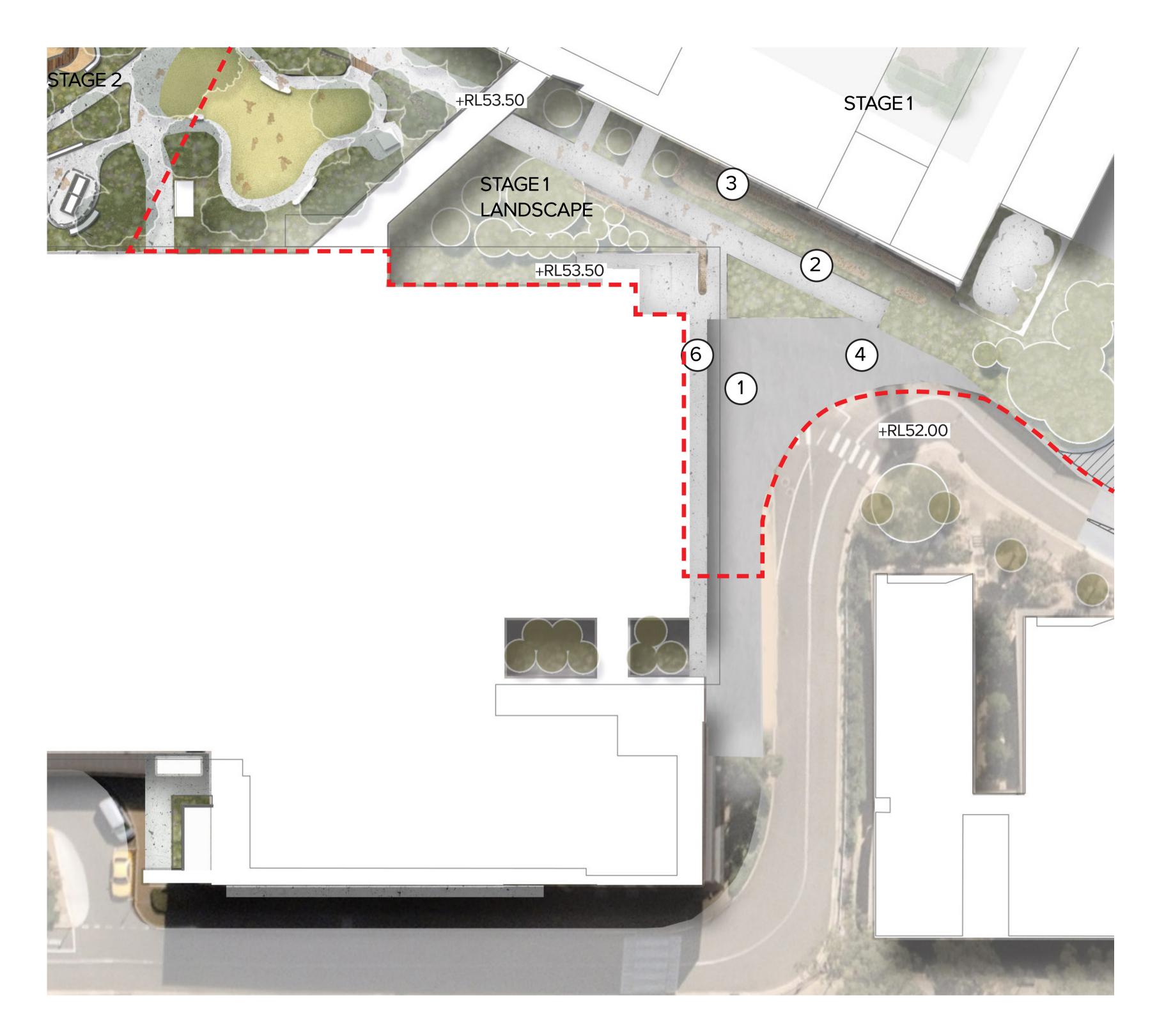




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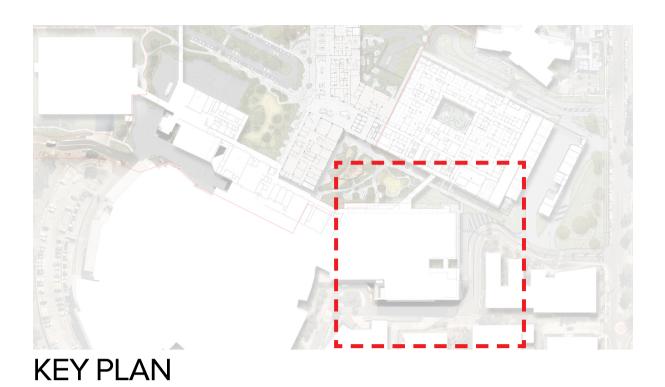


Detail Plan - East Block / Pathology





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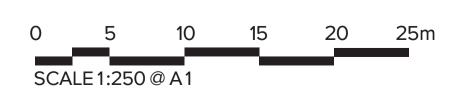
LEGEND

- 1. Materinity drop-off
- 2. Realigned pathway, maximum grade 1:20
- 3. Landscaped batter
- 4. TUG Parking
- 5. Pathology Parking
- 6. Pathway to be coordinated with Civil
- **– –** Stage 2 Scope of Works line
- Stage 1 Scope of Works line



Existing Tree

Proposed Tree

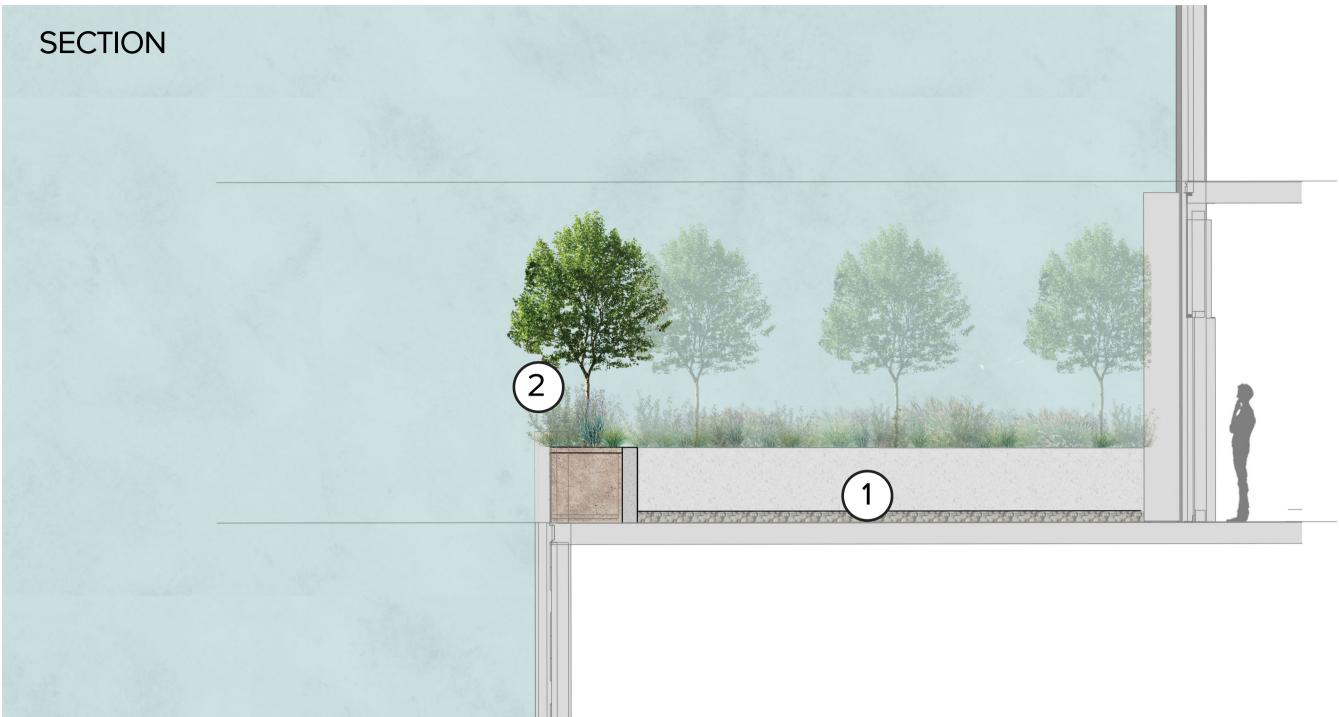


Detail Plan - Upper Terraces Level 6

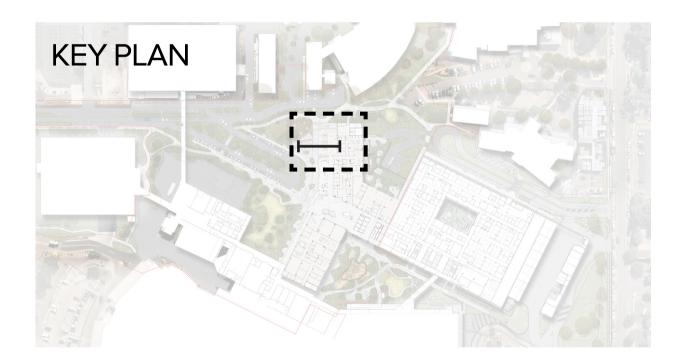


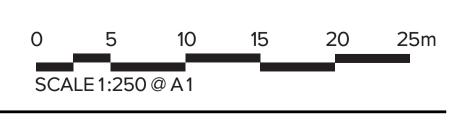


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- 1. Ornamental gravels to non-accessible rooftop
- 2. Integrated planter to podium edge







Detail Plan - Upper Terraces Level 7



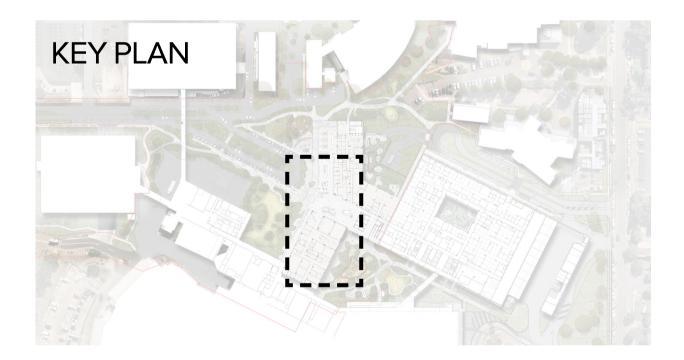


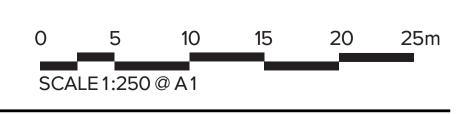
ARCADIA NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT



LEGEND

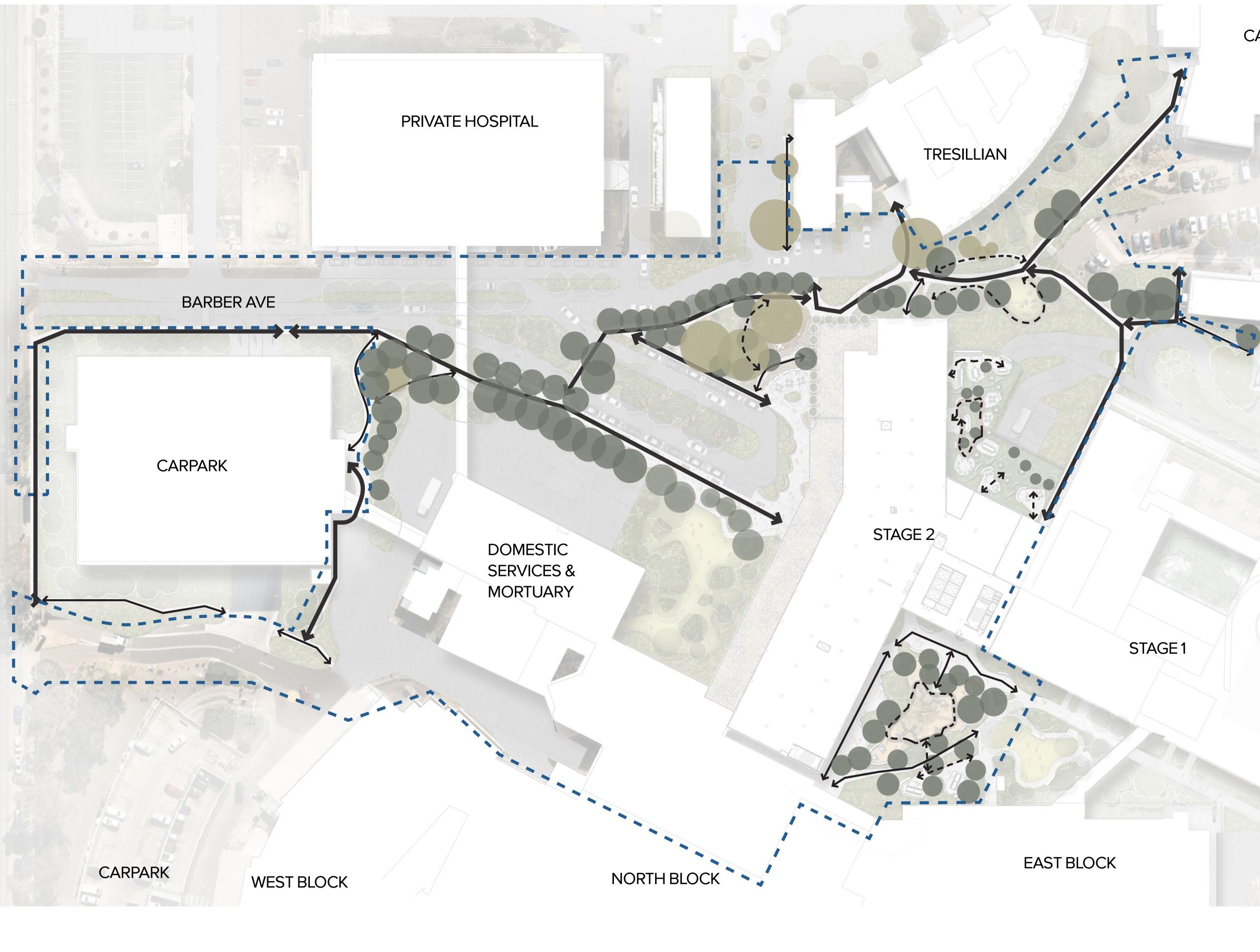
1. Ornamental gravel to non-accessible rooftop







Tree Amenity and Pathways





CANCER CENTRE

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES

LEGEND

- Existing Trees to be Retained
- Proposed Trees
- + Primary Paths
- ←→ Secondary Paths
- ← → Tertiary Paths
- Stage Outline

0 10 20 30 40 50m SCALE 1:500 @ A 1

Character Images











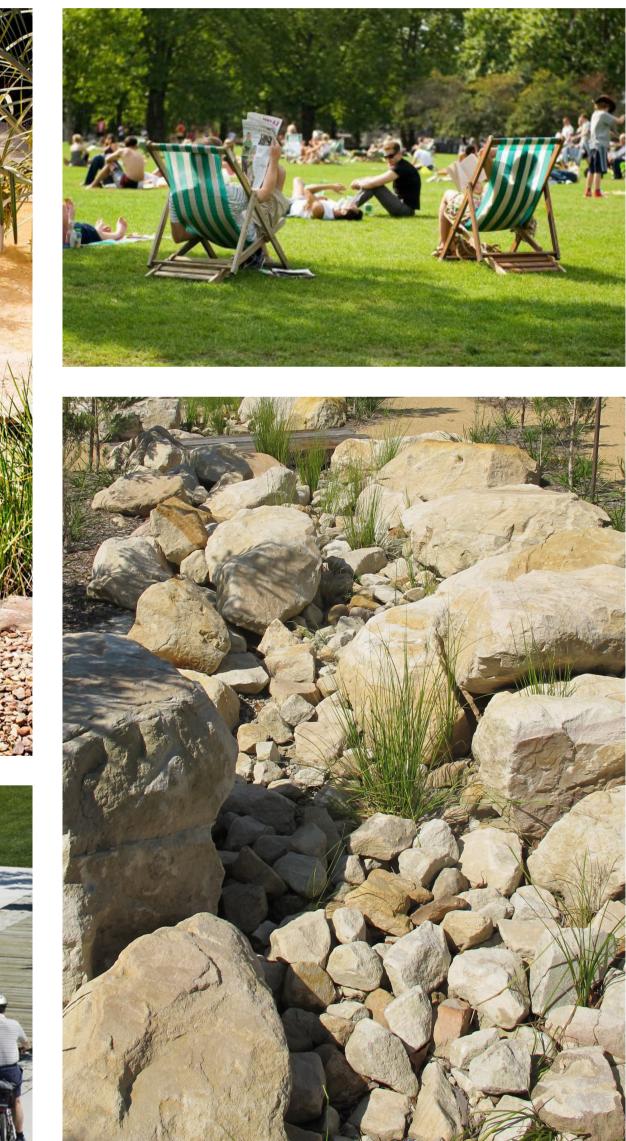
Master Plan - Materiality

Materials within the design take cues from prior stages of works as well as taking inspiration from the surrounding geological and local context to help ground the design and give local visitors a sense of familiarity and non locals a sense of welcome during their journey through the site.





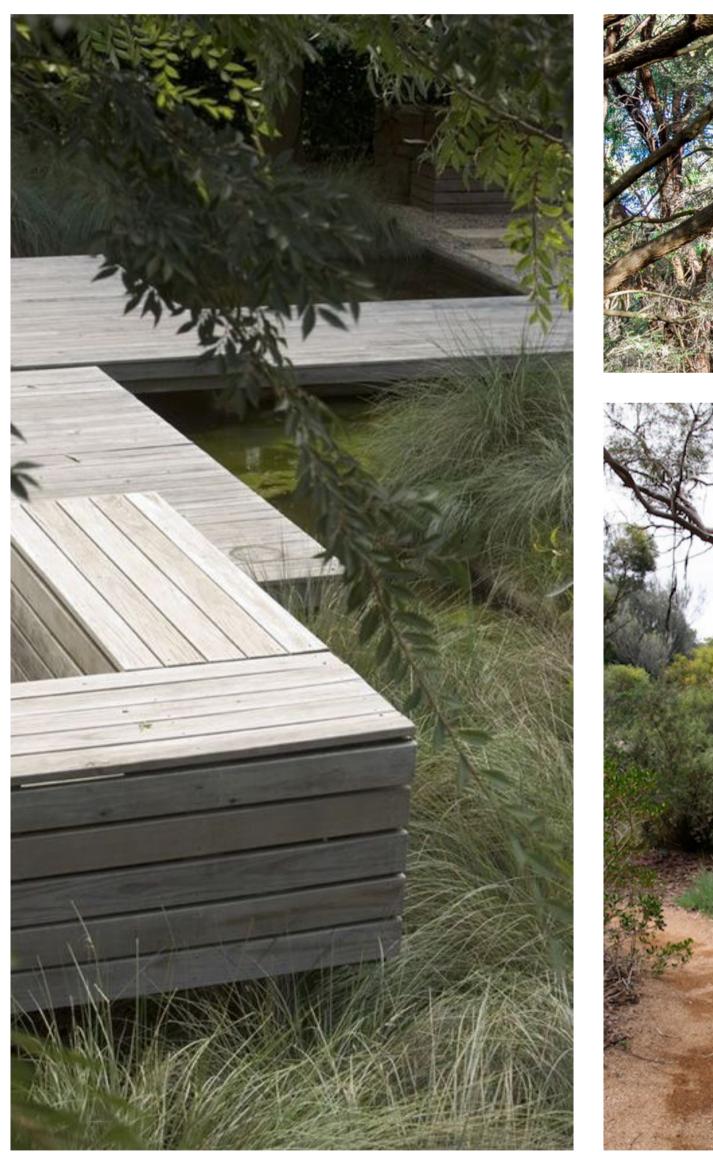
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Master Plan - Planting Strategy

INDIGENOUS MATRIX PLANTING +TREE COPSES

Landscape areas shall be planted with a random matrix of endemic shrubs, grasses, and groundcovers which feature in the local Cumberland Plain Woodland community. The landscape within the Nepean Hospital will thus become an important link in the local ecological communities. Tree planting will be comprised entirely of endemic species such as *Eucalyptus moluccana, Eucalyptus tereticornis,* and *Corymbia maculata.* Implementing a planting composition that encourages natural competition and varied growth rates creating a many-layered canopy, creating a naturalistic native landscape aesthetic, and a pedestrian experience of being amongst the native bushland of the nearby Blue Mountains National Park.







NEPEAN HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN LANDSCAPE SSDA REPORT

Master Plan - Planting Palette





Master Plan - Interpretive Opportunities

HEALING LANDSCAPES

For many Indigenous people, the pathway to healing is inextricably linked to culture, spirit and connection to Country.

Through celebrating the cultural history and identity of our First People, and incorporating traditional medicines and healing spaces in the landscape design, we can facilitate holistic healing for Indigenous patients.

Methods that can be employed to support traditional healing include:

Use of a medicinal planting palette

Spatial design that supports traditional healing, for example, soft, intimate and protected spaces

Provide spaces for cultural practices, such as yarning, contemplation, mourning and ceremonies

Celebrate Indigenous identity via art, way-finding and incorporation of language

Support connection to Country via exploration of dreaming stories connected to place

Complementary materials palettes - i.e. natural materials, soft colours

Many Indigenous people view health as a complex system of interconnectedness, with Country, spirit, ancestors, physical, social and emotional well-being, not only within themselves but also the community. By paying respect to these factors and celebrating Indigenous culture and practices, the landscape design can help to facilitate holistic healing.

The dreaming story of the Mulgoa people begins with a proud and beautiful clan of people who lived along the river, and were greatly admired for their long, beautiful necks. During a time of great coldness, the Mulgoa people began having pale children, which brought shame and fear to the clan. Afraid and angry, the clan hunted the children down, who fled into the swamps, hiding in the reeds.

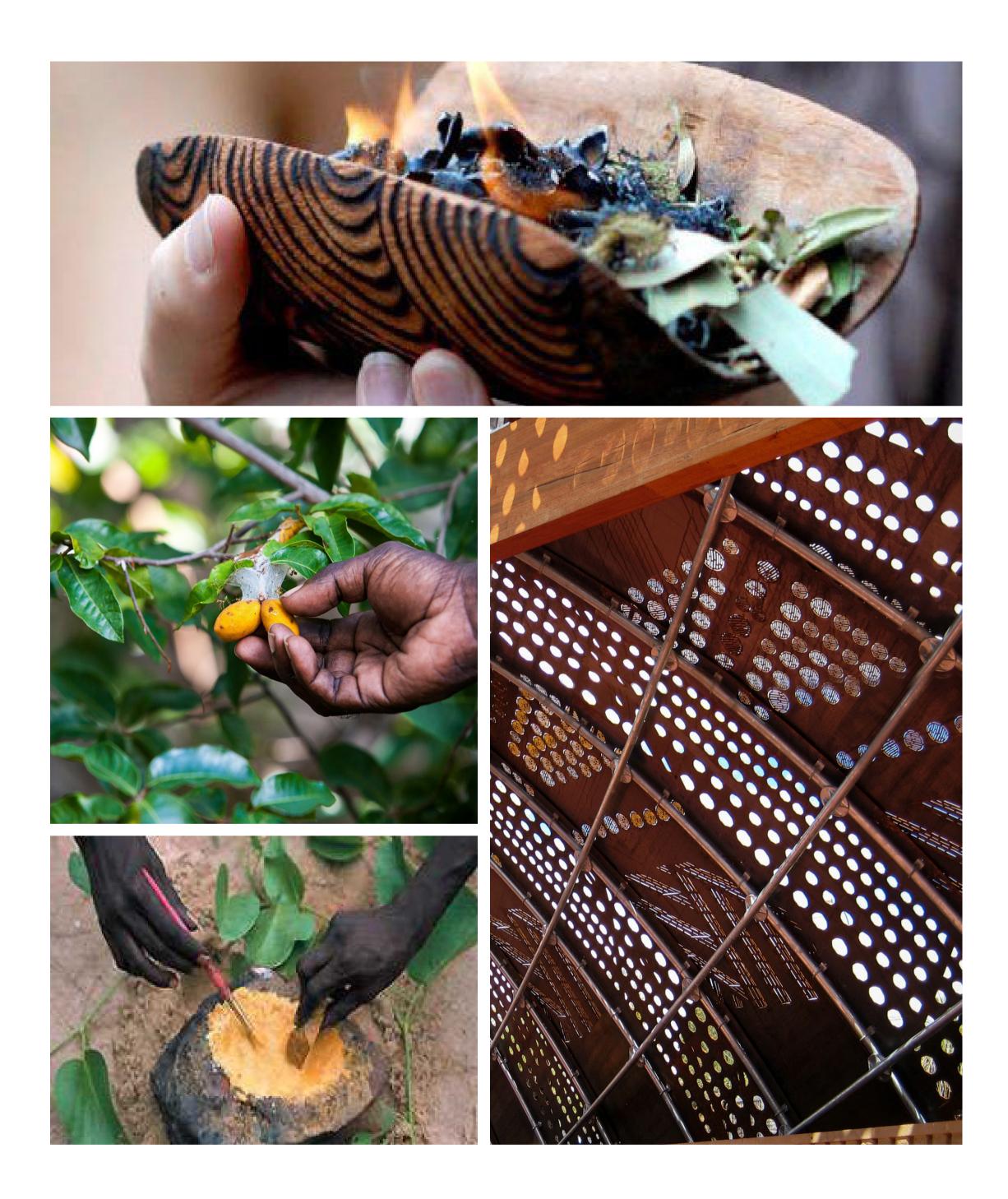
The friendly raven, worried for the children, made them cloaks from her black feathers, so the children could be disguised. Fleeing to the north, these children became the crow clans and the magpie clans. Angered by the Mulgoa's actions, the spirit woman turned the Mulgoa into Black swans and cast them from the land into the swamps where they had chased their children into. Cast from the land for rejecting their children, the Black Swans were given white finger tips and white cignets to remind them never to harm their children because of their colour.

The story of how the Mulgoa people came to be Black Swans teaches us about the value of kindness, compassion and acceptance. There are opportunities to interpret this through spatial design as well as referencing the feathers, cloaks, water and reeds in the materials and vegetation palettes. Through paying respect to the story of the Mulgoa people, we can facilitate connection to place and Country for Indigenous people and the broader community.

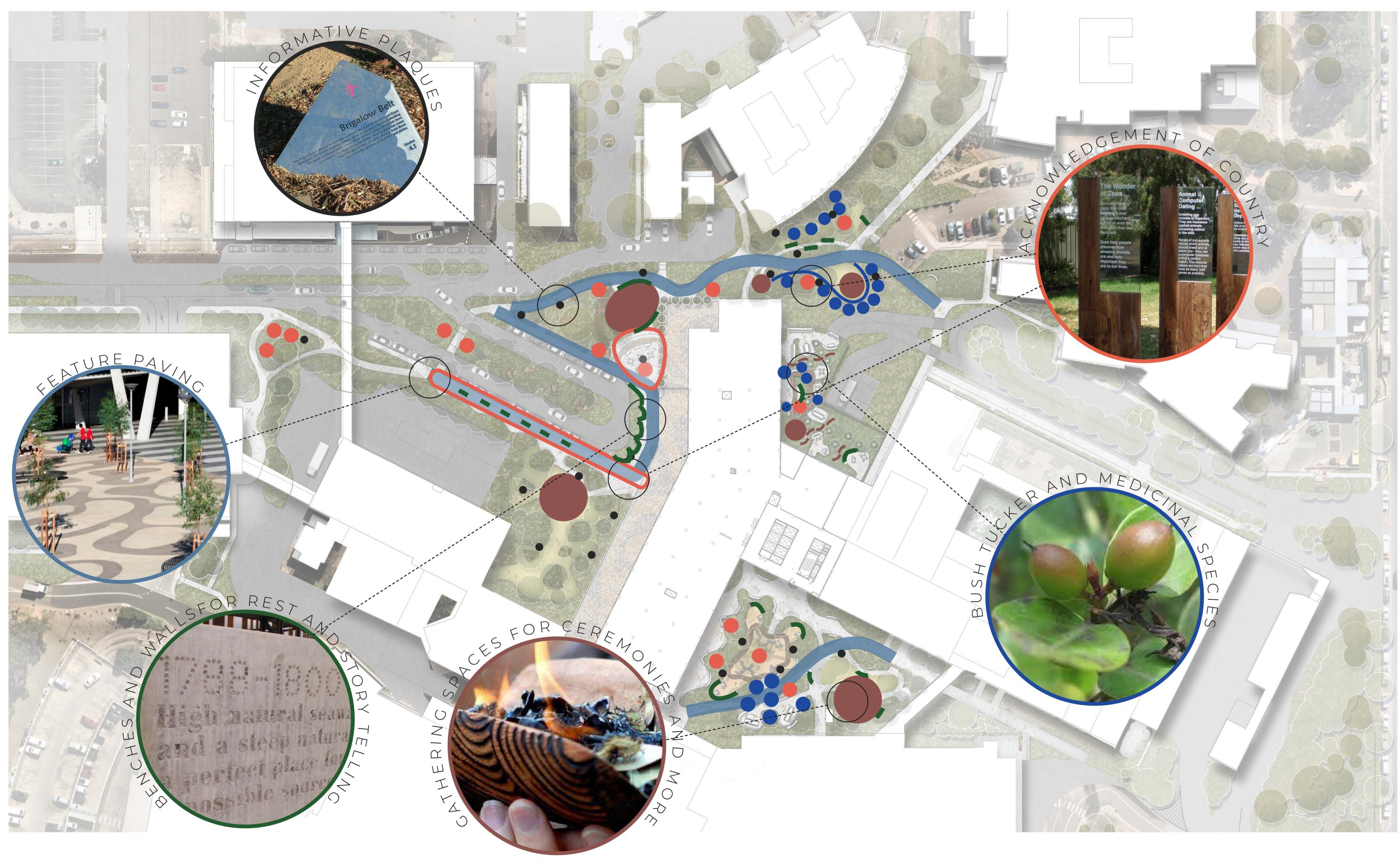




THE STORY OF THE MULGOA PEOPLE



Master Plan - Interpretive Opportunities





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