

A close-up photograph of a plant with long, thin, green leaves and clusters of small, white, spiky flowers. The flowers have long, curved stamens. The background is a soft, out-of-focus mix of green and brown.

Douglas Park Memorial Park - Concept Plan and Stage 1

SSD- 68287712

Prepared for HT Building
May 2025

ARCADIA

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.

Rev A	Issued APRIL 2025	CT
Rev B	Issued MAY 2025	CT
Rev C	Issued MAY 2025	CT

I Chris Tidswell, confirms that Douglas Park Memorial Park- Concept Plan and Stage 1 has been prepared in accordance with the following addresses the requirement of SEAR No. SSD-68287712 and relevant State and local legislation, policies, and guidelines and all other relevant guidelines. I further confirm that none of the information contained in the SSDA REPORT is false or misleading.

That the report contains all available information relevant to the environmental assessment of the development, activity or infrastructure to which the Douglas Park Memorial Park- Concept Plan and Stage 1 relates;

That the report identifies and addresses the relevant Planning Secretary's environmental assessment requirements (SEARs) for the project;

That the report identifies and addresses the relevant statutory requirements for the project, including any relevant matters for consideration in environmental planning instruments to which the [consultant report] relates;

That the report contains a consolidated summary of the proposed or necessary mitigation measures



Executive summary

This Landscape Report has been prepared by Arcadia Landscape Architecture to accompany a detailed state significant development application (SSDA) that seeks approval for the concept plan and Stage 1 detailed works (southern portion) of a memorial park in Douglas Park within Wollondilly Local Government.

This report has been prepared to address the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued for the project (SSD-68287712).

Introduction

This Landscape Report has been prepared by Arcadia Landscape Architecture on behalf of Benima Pty Ltd for a combined Concept Plan approval and Stage 1 detailed works for a new multi-denominational cemetery at 430-490 Douglas Park Drive, Douglas Park (Douglas Park Memorial Park - Concept Plan and Stage 1).

The site is located at 430-490 Douglas Park Drive, Douglas Park within the Wollondilly Local Government Area (LGA). The site is irregular in shape with a total size of 16,7940m2. It is legally described as Lot 2 in DP 250359. The site is mostly vacant with scattered vegetation and a single, residential dwelling with driveway accessible from Douglas Park Drive. The site comprises two street frontages, to the east is Mitchell Place and to the west is Douglas Park Drive.

This report accompanies a State Significant Development Application that seeks approval for a combined Concept Plan approval and Stage 1 detailed works for a new multi-denominational cemetery.

Concept approval is sought for the use and operation of the site as a cemetery with a maximum, staged capacity of up to 37,107 burial plots including a crematorium, chapel, administration building, vaults, remembrance sanctuaries, general site layout and all associated groundworks, roads, parking, pathways, landscaping and ancillary buildings. Refer to Figure 1.

The Stage 1 works comprise the following (refer to Figure 2):

- / All preparatory site works including vegetation protection, enhancement and removal, demolition of existing structures, bulk excavation for burial zones, general ground works and utility service augmentation;
- / Vehicular access / egress from Douglas Park Drive with separate vehicular egress only to Mitchell Place;
- / Construction of internal roads, pathways and parking areas for approximately 125 car parking spaces inclusive of 1 hearse car parking space;
- / Perimeter memorial pedestrian pathway with remembrance sanctuaries;
- / Burial zones with a maximum capacity of 15,447 comprising shallow, single and triple layered burial plots;
- / Construction of single storey chapel, single storey administration building and single storey storage shed and garage;
- / Site landscaping, fencing, lighting and entry signage; and
- / The cemetery operating hours, including public access, will be between the hours of 6:00am and 6:00pm, 7 days a week. The opening hours of the Chapel and Administration Building (including café) will be between 8:00am and 5:00pm, 7 days a week.

The burial zone preparation works within Stage 1 will be carried out sequentially within each burial zone and will be based on the demand for burial plots.

For a detailed project description refer to the Environmental Impact Statement prepared by Ethos Urban.



Figure 1 : Concept Site Plan



Figure 2 : Stage 1 Works

SEARS COMMENTS

SECTION	SEAR SSDA	LANDSCAPE RESPONSE
CONCEPT PROPOSAL		
5. Built Form and Urban Design	/ Explain and illustrate the proposed design of the development, including a detailed site and context analysis to justify the proposed site planning and design approach / Demonstrate that Aboriginal culture and heritage is considered and incorporated holistically in the design proposal consistent with the Connecting with Country Framework.	SECTION 01
6. Environmental Amenity	/ Assess amenity impacts on the surrounding locality, including lighting impacts, visual privacy, visual amenity, view loss and view sharing (if applicable) and overshadowing for the proposed concept development. A high level of environmental amenity for any surrounding residential or other sensitive land uses must be demonstrated	REFER TO LVIA REPORT SECTION 02
8. Public Space	/ Demonstrate how the Concept Proposal maximises the amount, access to and quality of public spaces (including any open space, public facilities and street/paths within and surrounding the site suitable for passive recreation), reflecting relevant design guidelines and advice from the local council and the Department. / Demonstrate how the Concept Proposal: • ensures that public space is welcoming, attractive and accessible for all • maximises permeability, connectivity and opportunities for passive recreation • maximises the amenity of public spaces in line with their intended use, such as through adequate facilities, solar access, shade and wind protection.	SECTION 02

SEARS COMMENTS

SECTION	SEAR SSDA	LANDSCAPE RESPONSE
STAGE 1		
3. Design Quality	/ Demonstrate how the development will achieve: • design excellence in accordance with any applicable EPI provisions. • good design in accordance with the seven objectives for good design in Better Placed. / Demonstrate that the development: • where required by an EPI or concept approval, or where proposed, has been subject to a competitive design process, carried out in accordance with an endorsed brief and Design Excellence Strategy; or • in all other instances, has been reviewed by the State Design Review Panel (SDRP) where required under the NSW SDRP: Guidelines for Project Teams. / Recommendations of the jury and Design Integrity Panel (where a competitive design process has been held) or the SDRP are to be addressed prior to lodgement	SECTION 02
4. Built Form and Urban Design	/ Explain and illustrate the proposed design of the development, including a detailed site and context analysis to justify the proposed site planning and design approach. / Demonstrate that Aboriginal culture and heritage is considered and incorporated holistically in the design proposal consistent with the Connecting with Country Framework.	SECTION 01 SECTION 02
5. Environmental Amenity	/ Assess amenity impacts on the surrounding locality, including lighting impacts, visual privacy, visual amenity, view loss and view sharing and overshadowing. A high level of environmental amenity for any surrounding residential or other sensitive land uses must be demonstrated.	SECTION 02 (Refer to page 55 & 57)
7. Public Space	/ Demonstrate how the Stage 1 development maximises the amount, access to and quality of public spaces (including open space, public facilities and streets/paths within and surrounding the site suitable for passive recreation), reflecting relevant design guidelines and advice from the local council and the Department. / Demonstrate how the development: • ensures that public space is welcoming, attractive and accessible for all. • maximises permeability, connectivity and opportunities for passive recreation. • maximises the amenity of public spaces in line with their intended use, such as through adequate facilities, solar access, shade and wind protection. • minimises potential vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian conflicts.	
8. Trees & Landscaping	/ Assess the number, location, condition and significance of trees to be removed and retained and note any existing canopy coverage to be retained on-site. / Demonstrate how the proposal has been designed to avoid potential impacts to native trees and vegetation and maximises tree retention. Where impacts cannot be avoided, outline opportunities for replacement planting as part of an on-site offset strategy. / Provide a concept site-wide landscape plan, that: • details the proposed site planting, including location, number and species of plantings, heights of trees at maturity and proposed canopy coverage (as a percentage of the site area). • provides evidence that opportunities to retain significant trees have been explored and/or informs the plan. • demonstrates how the proposed concept development would: – contribute to long term landscape setting in respect of the site and streetscape. – mitigate the urban heat island effect and ensure appropriate comfort levels on-site. – contribute to the objective of increased urban tree canopy cover. – maximise opportunities for green infrastructure, consistent with Greener Places.	SECTION 02 Refer to Drawing Series L-400,

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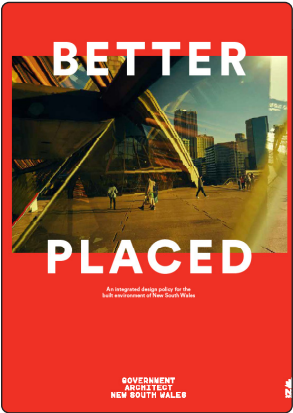
Background Documents

Government Architect NSW

The Government Architect NSW (GANSW) provides strategic design leadership in architecture, urban design and landscape architecture, providing a set of principles and guidance to support good design in NSW.

The following reports guide best practice design for the public domain and open spaces at Douglas Park.

Our open space design response pays particular attention to the design objectives detailed in the GANSW Draft Connecting With Country Report (2020).



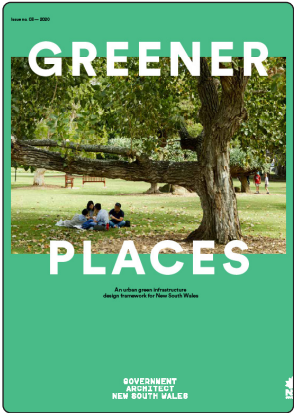
BETTER PLACED



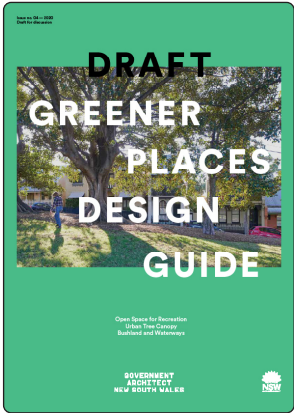
IMPLEMENTING GOOD DESIGN (2018)



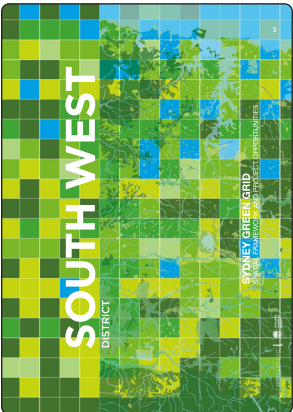
EVALUATING GOOD DESIGN (2018)



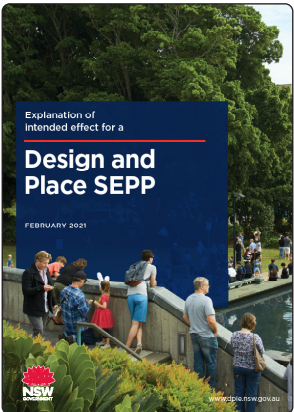
GREENER PLACES (2020)



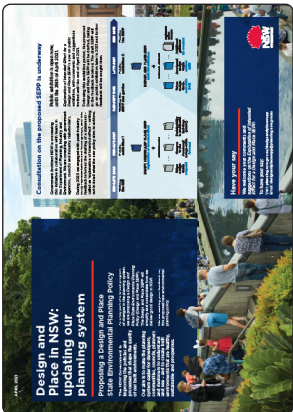
DRAFT GREENER PLACES DESIGN GUIDE (2020)



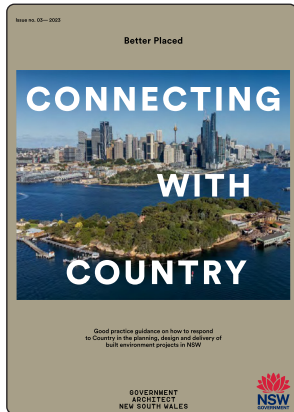
SYDNEY GREEN GRID - SOUTH WEST



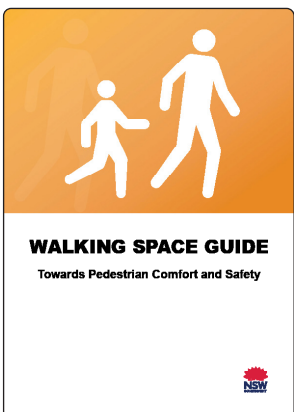
DESIGN AND PLACE SEPP (2021)



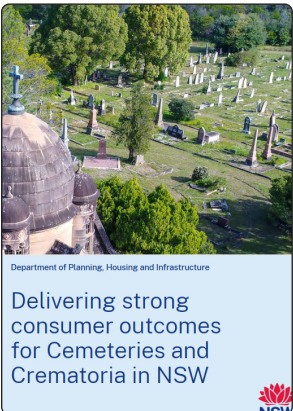
DESIGN AND PLACE IN NSW (2021)



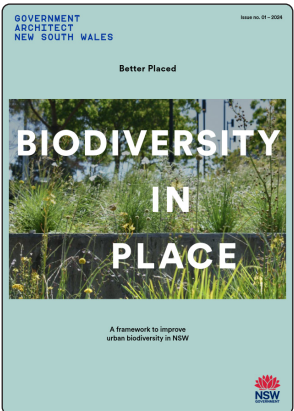
DRAFT CONNECTING WITH COUNTRY (2020)



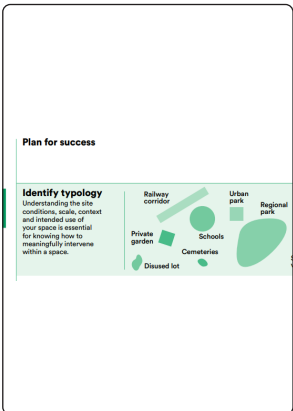
WALKING SPACES GUIDE (2020)



DELIVERING STRONG CONSUMER OUTCOMES FOR CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA IN NSW



BIODIVERSITY IN PLACE (2024)



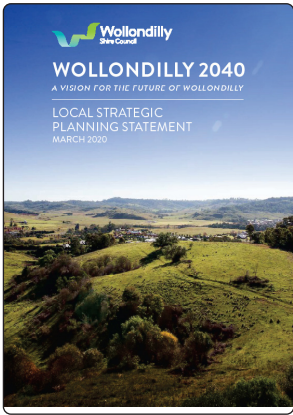
BIODIVERSITY IN PLACE (2024)

Background Documents

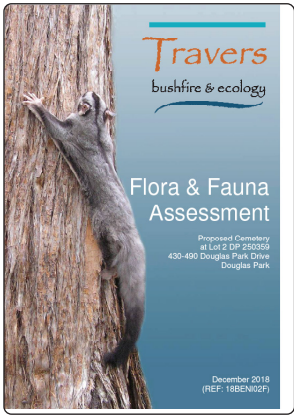
Local Government and Site Specific

The provision of the landscape design is to be considered within Wollondilly council overall planning framework. There is however other strategic documents that will inform the open space design at Douglas Park Memorial park.

Key planning documents relating to our site is shown here, as well as the site specific reports prepared to guide the overall long-term development of the memorial park.



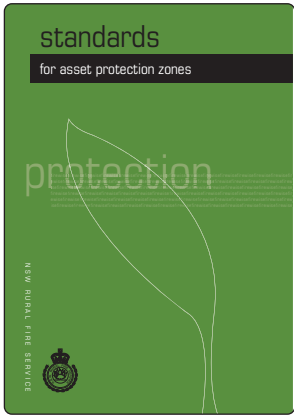
WOLLONDILLY 2040



TRAVERS BUSHFIRE & ECOLOGY FLORA & FAUNA ASSESSMENT



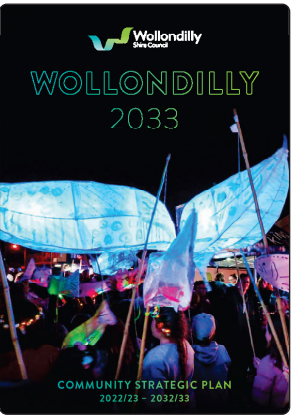
WOLLONDILLY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2033



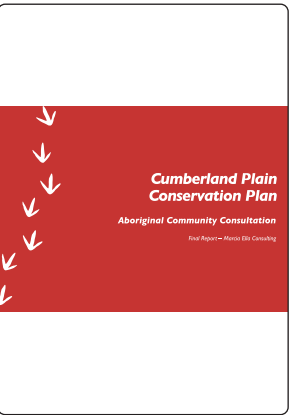
STANDARDS-FOR-ASSET-PROTECTION-ZONES



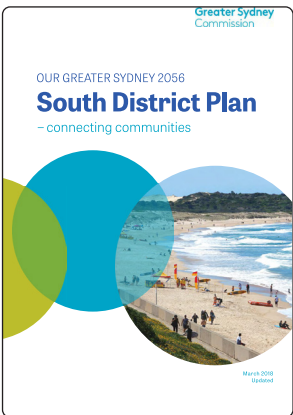
BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT



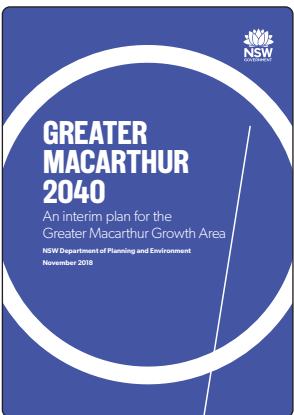
WOLLONDILLY 2033



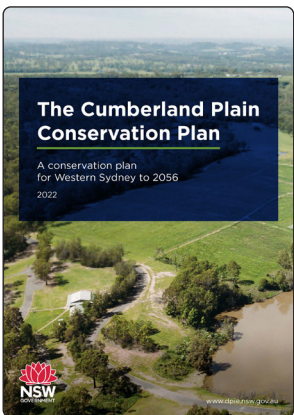
CUMBERLAND PLAIN CONSERVATION PLAN_ ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY



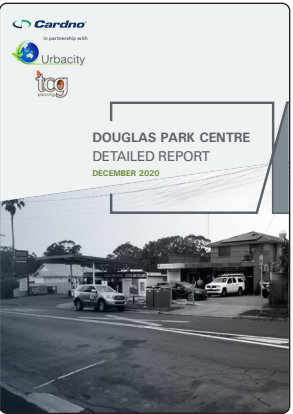
SOUTH DISTRICT PLAN, MARCH 2018



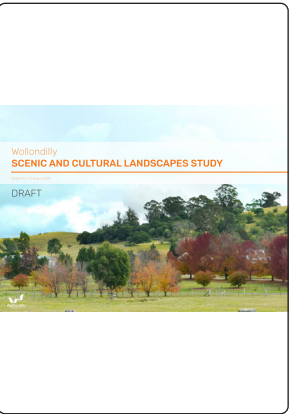
GREATER MACARTHUR 2040 INTERIM PLAN MAINFRONT



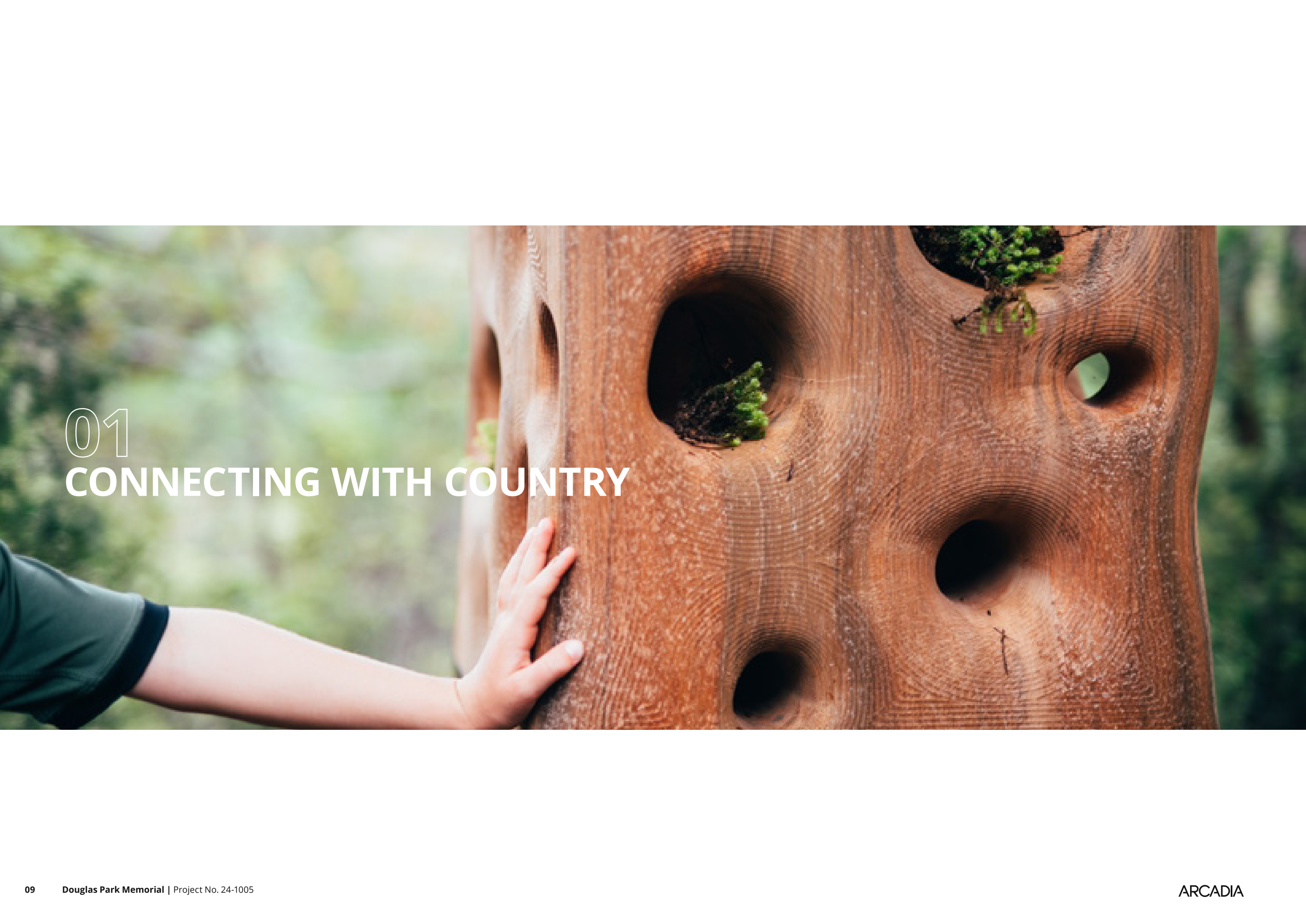
THE CUMBERLAND PLAIN CONSERVATION PLAN - A CONSERVATION PLAN FOR WESTERN SYDNEY TO 2056



WOLLONDILLY 2033



WOLLONDILLY SCENIC AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES STUDY DECEMBER 2020



01 CONNECTING WITH COUNTRY

Custodians to Country

Rolling Plains

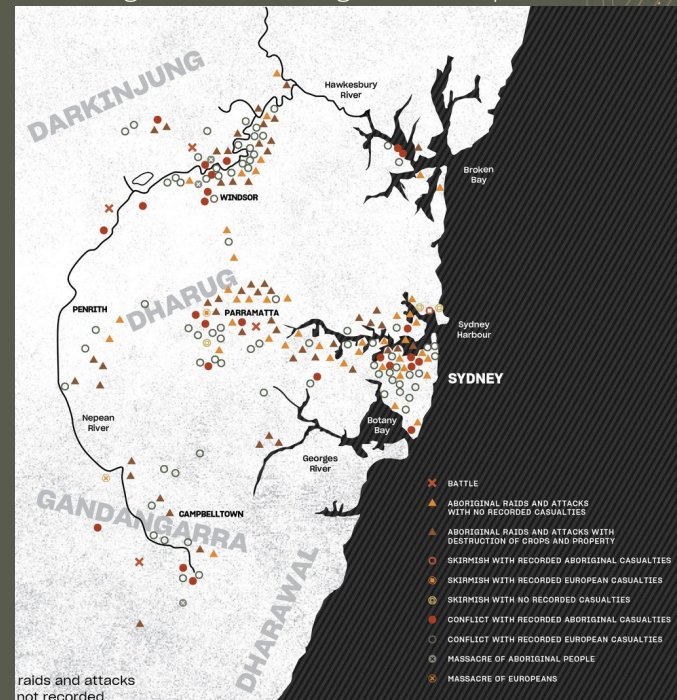
The First People of the lands and waters are the Dharawal and Gundungurra People who have been the traditional owners of these lands since time immemorial.

This area sits in the tongue between the Nepean and Georges river in the Cumberland Plain. This area is known for its rolling hills with ridge line walking tracks and ephemeral creeks. The area has been impacted by farming practices leaving little of the Cumberland plain vegetation and water management has altered the seasonal water flows.

Geological conditions show the formation of undulating shale and sandstone hills of the Wianamatta Group with the backdrop of the Blue Mountains to the West and the Illawarra Plateaus to the South. These landscapes have been carved and shifted by water with ephemeral creek lines to deep gorges near Sydney's four dams.

Ancient Tracks

There are many walking tracks and Songlines that weave across Sydney, ranging from short local paths to long-distance cultural routes. Some Songlines stretch for hundreds of kilometres such as those that travel from Jervis Bay, through Nowra, Kangaroo Valley, Wildes Meadow, and Robertson a journey spanning five days on foot. To the east of Douglas Park lies Dharawal National Park, which contains numerous significant men's and women's sites. These tracks and places have been walked, sung, and cared for over millennia, holding deep ancestral knowledge and continuing cultural importance.



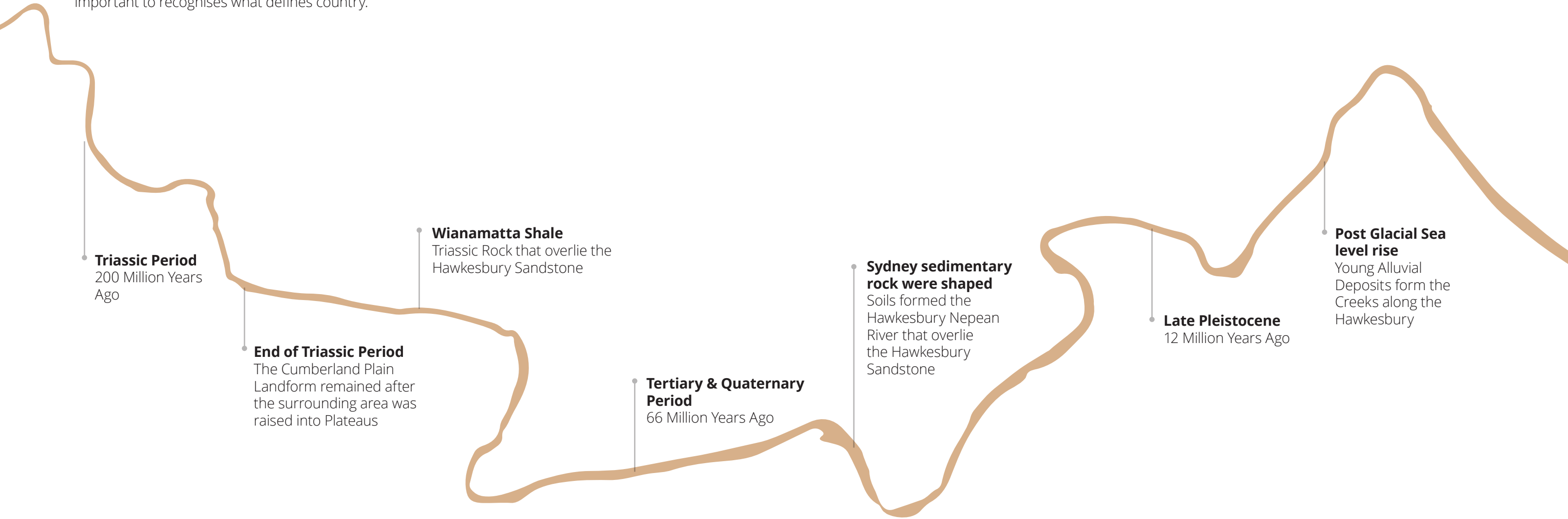
< Sydney wars map 1788 to 1817.

< Memorial plaque at
Cataract Dam. A place of
Sadness for the Dharawal
people near the site of the
massacre.

<< Spears used by the Sydney Tribes in the frontier wars against settlers.

Deep Time Understanding - Reading Country

Dharawal Country is millions of year old and it is so important to recognise what defines country.



Connecting with Country

As per the Connecting with Country report the project team contacted Dharawal Elders who have shared their knowledges of protocols and Country. During a site survey with the Tharawal LALC, site officers also talked about connecting with Country and shared cultural heritage values of the site.

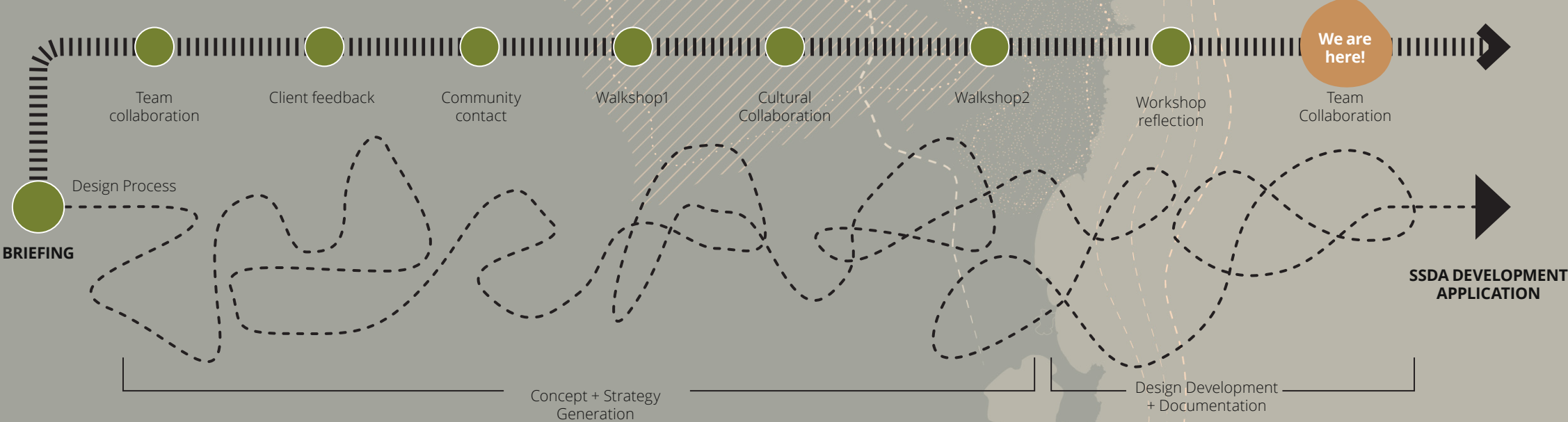
On the 5th of September 2024 an online meeting took place to consult with Aunty Glenda Chalker from Cubbitch Barta Native Title Corporation about the site and the proposal.

A walk on country was organised on the 24 October 2024 with Aunty Glenda Chalker to view the site physically from ground level. This was combined with a heritage field survey by Dharawal Environment & Heritage Pty Ltd.



* CWC report prepared by Artefact Heritage and Environment

Collaboration Process

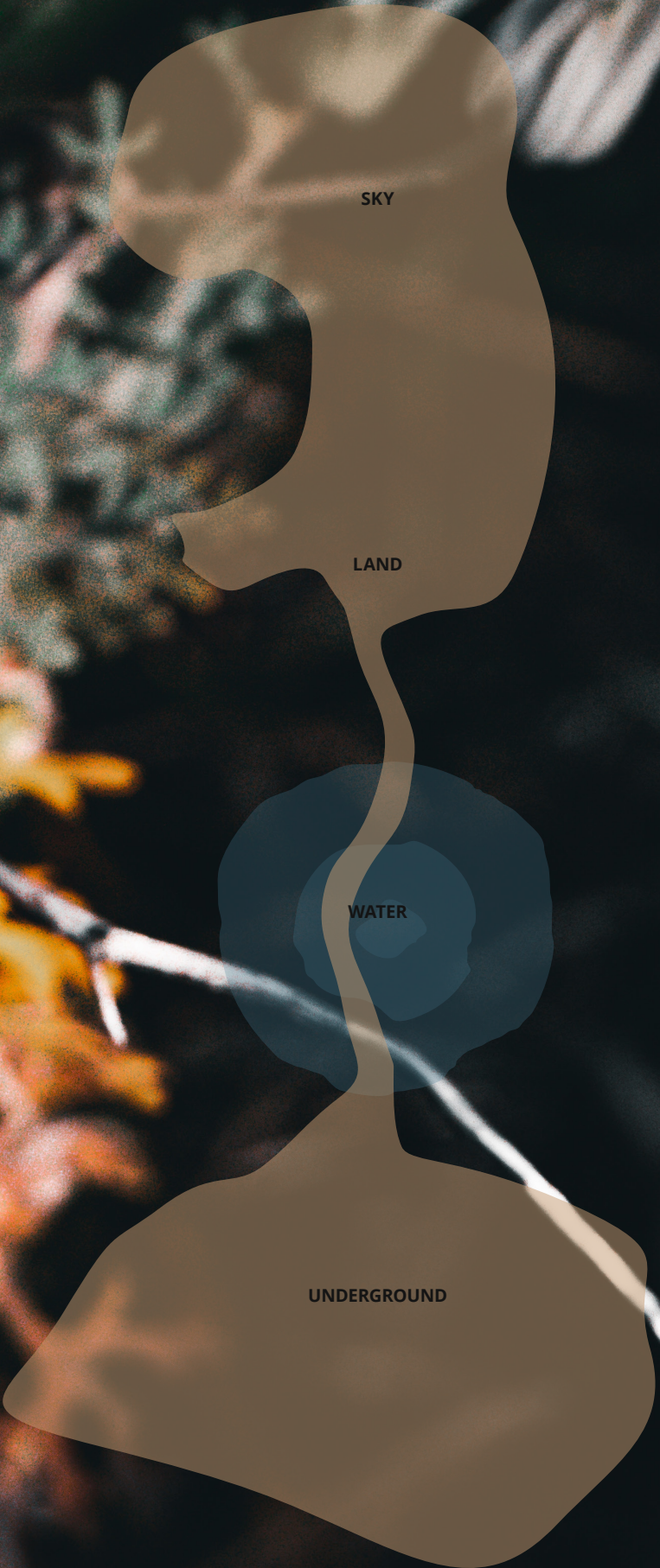


TALARA'TINGI
How the Flannel Flower Came to Be

Dharawal Dreaming speaks of ancestral beings who shaped the land and passed down Law, connecting people to Country through ceremony, story, and seasonal cycles. In this context, the cemetery becomes not only a place of rest, but part of an ongoing relationship with land, spirit, and memory.

Actinotus helianthi

The incorporation of flannel flowers (Actinotus helianthi) within the memorial landscape at Douglas Park contributes to a broader act of Healing Country an ethical, cultural, and ecological imperative embedded in the project's design approach. As an **endemic species** of the Cumberland Plain, the flannel flower plays a symbolic and restorative role in this context, offering a gentle expression of grief while marking seasonal renewal. Its use within this highly disturbed site reinforces a reconnection with Country, **acknowledging cycles of life, death, and regeneration**, and supporting the return of culturally significant plant communities within a contemplative and respectful setting.



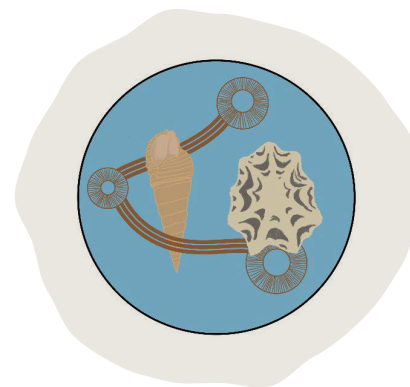
Connecting with Country

Design Principles



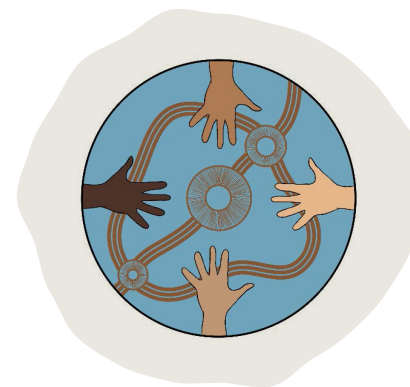
Acknowledge Country

Provide acknowledgement, interpretation and resources about the Dharawal people. Learning about and having access to cultural heritage is important. Meaningful interpretive signage and artworks can acknowledge the Dharawal and Dharawal Country while Elders could be invited to give a Welcome to Country at events.



Heal the landscape

Reconnect site users and local communities to Country by returning sight lines of the hills and ridges around the area. Note the importance of the waterways nearby; the Nepean River and the local creeks. Regenerate Country with the removal of non-native plants and an emphasis on planting local endemic plants and trees.



Connect with Country

Create spaces and opportunities which are calm, tranquil, and which offer contact with sky, land, water and fire. Offer spaces for reflection and ceremony which benefit health and wellbeing for Indigenous and non-Indigenous visitors to the cemetery. Consider inclusion of ceremonial appropriate places for Aboriginal families having funerals of non-native plants and an emphasis on planting local endemic plants and trees.



Long term care

Maintenance of plants and landscapes should be considered so that Country is cared for in the long term. Low maintenance landscapes ensure longevity. Consider how to maintain the wilderness aspect through Cultural burnings. Similarly, expressions of Aboriginal culture like artworks need to be protected and cared for so that they aren't disrespected by vandalism cemetery. Consider inclusion of ceremonial appropriate places for Aboriginal families having funerals of non-native plants and an emphasis on planting local endemic plants and trees.



Interpret Dharawal cultural history

With sensitivity and in consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders, identify sites where Dharawal cultural history can be shared in order to educate. Interpretation of the stories of the Dharawal people and land is important, particularly for younger generations. Cultural burnings. Similarly, expressions of Aboriginal culture like artworks need to be protected and cared for so that they aren't disrespected by vandalism. Consider inclusion of ceremonial appropriate places for Aboriginal families having funerals of non-native plants and an emphasis on planting local endemic plants and trees.

Connecting with Country

Design Realisations



Welcome to Country

Design Realisations

A key method of communicating the importance of Country to audiences at the site is by providing a Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country message. A Welcome to Country is given by the traditional custodians/knowledge holders of the area welcoming people to their land, while an Acknowledgement of Country is a sign of respect to the traditional owners of the land stated by the asset holder. The example below demonstrates an eye-catching signage for Acknowledge Country through graphics, language and sculpture.

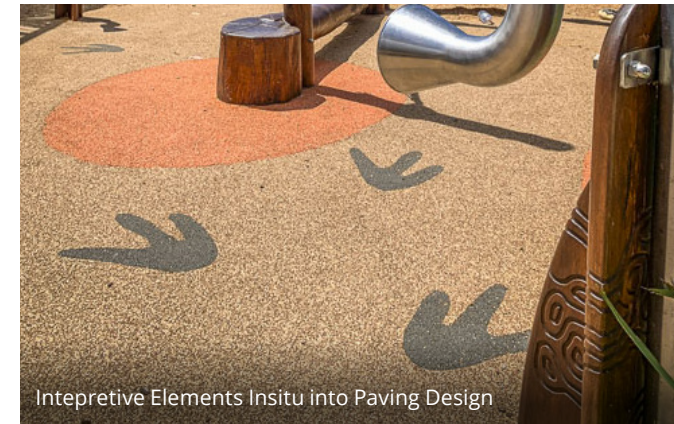
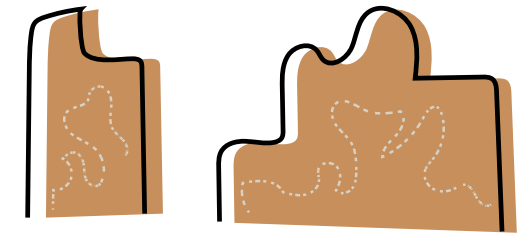
** CWC report prepared by Artefact Heritage and Environment*



Acknowledgment of/Welcome to Country

Welcome to Country is expressed through elemental connections to water, ground, sky, and bush—embedding Country into the landscape itself.

- / Natural Education elements weaved throughout the landscape design such as integrated artworks, habitat enhancement and interpretive structures.
- / Signage that is interactive with the landscape, with additional use of QR codes and / or insitu elements, that inform the experience and discovery of the landscape.
- / Focusing on site specific environments and how significant themes and stories are conveyed. This includes the conservation areas, geologic history of the ridgeline and site views to significant adjacent landscapes.
- / Places to learn and experience storytelling/ whilst having active learning such as reading and interpreting Country.
- / Reflecting place through design in mediums such as lookouts, bush regeneration, and activities etc.



Intepretive Elements Insitu into Paving Design



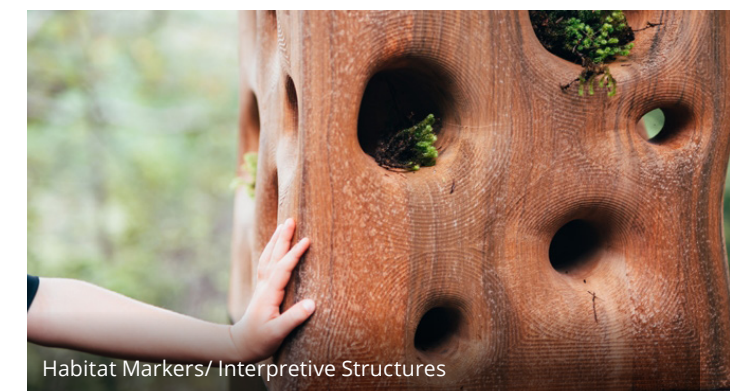
Embedded Landscape Signage



WSUD Embellishment with Opportunity for Discovery/healing country



Sculpture Wayfinding

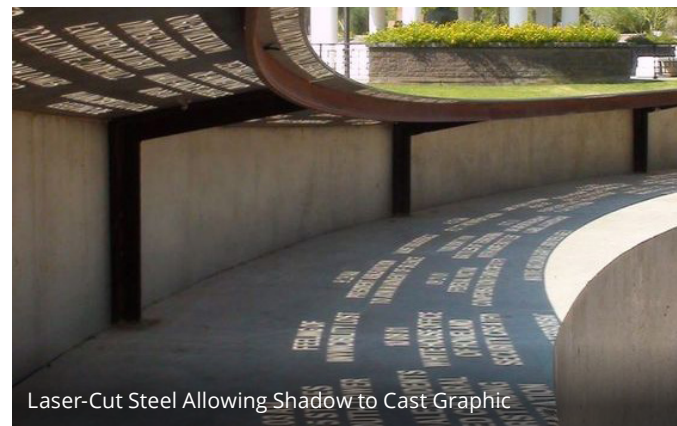
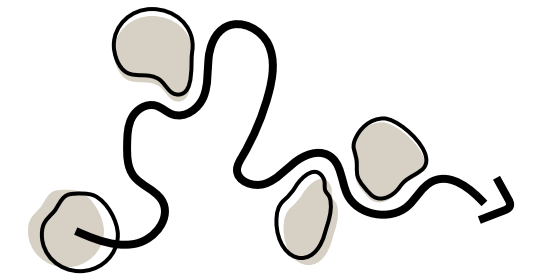


Habitat Markers/ Interpretive Structures

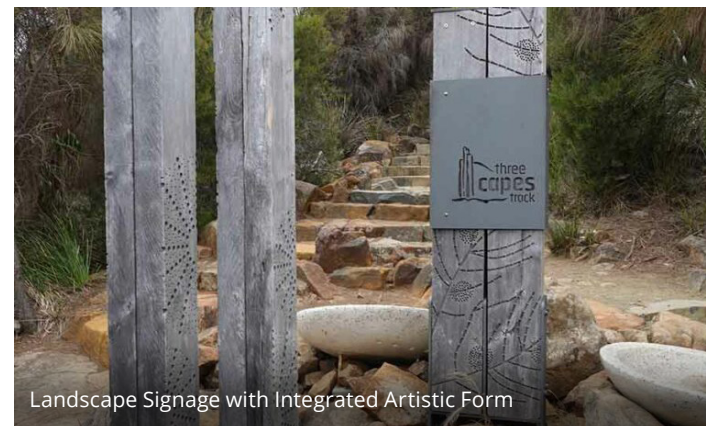
Walking with Country

Wayfinding

Enabling discovery, circulation and education through a range of signage, landscape markers and integrated design forms.



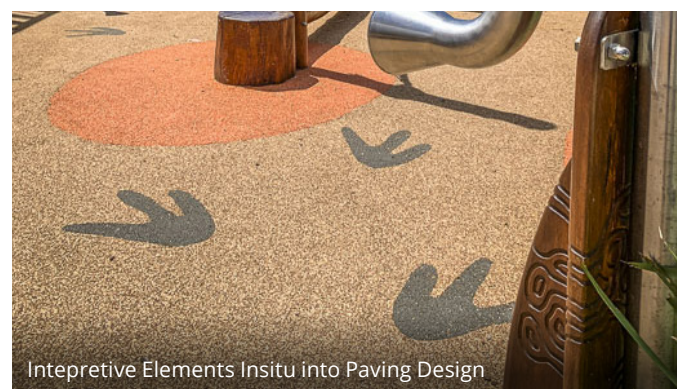
Laser-Cut Steel Allowing Shadow to Cast Graphic



Landscape Signage with Integrated Artistic Form



Interactive Signage Informing on How to better Interpret, Understand and Experience the Landscape



Interpretive Elements Insitu into Paving Design



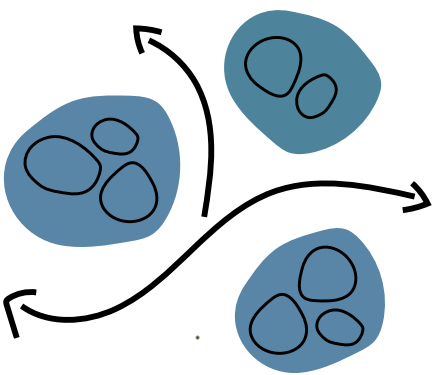
DiscoveryEducational Landscape Marker

In this resting place, wayfinding becomes a means of care—marking routes not only through land, but through memory, spirit, and Country

- / Wayfinding can be obvious and simple as a directive sign or can be subtle and suggestive as a structures that sit within the Landscape and entices people to observe, interact and engage.
- / Providing education elements weaved throughout the landscape design begins to form layers of discovery, learning and understanding.
- / Opportunities to convey story, place, and Country narratives within a variety of wayfinding mediums.
- / Interactive lighting elements to enhance wayfinding and further engage the user with the landscape after dark.

Cultural Sightlines: Experiencing Country Through Hills, Ridges and Waterways

Maintaining culturally significant views of the hills, ridges and waterways near the site allow visitors and users to get a holistic sense of the landscape and its cultural significance. High points allow for sightlines across the landscape and walkways can give access to viewpoints or rest points to allow visitors and users a chance to immerse themselves on Country.



Along the chain of ponds, waterholes offered more than just sustenance they were places to gather, to share stories, to reflect, to mourn, and to look up to Sky Country. Water holds memory within the landscape in reflection, it carried the voices of Ancestors.

At Douglas Park, Consideration to Cultural sightlines has been respectfully considered . The sites constraints of existing large trees, overhead powerlines highlights an importance to bridge the broken connection to the landscape. Bodies of reflective water and chain of Ponds hydrology have been curated in to the landscape. This thoughtful arrangement preserves important sightlines between the ponds and the surrounding ridges and sky, reinforcing the connection between surface water and Sky Country. The reflective quality of the ponds not only supports hydrological functions but also acts as a cultural mirror allowing a deeper engagement with Indigenous ways of knowing, where waterholes are places for storytelling, reflection, and ceremony. At night, the visibility of constellations above provides essential wayfinding cues, continuing a long tradition of navigation across this landscape. Together, these elements integrate hydrology, cultural heritage, and landscape form into a cohesive, living system.

- / Preserved Sightlines to culturally significant hills, ridgelines, and waterways to maintain connection with broader Country.
- / Elevated Viewpoints located on high ground to offer expansive visual access across the landscape.
- / Culturally Informed Walkways that guide movement across Country, aligned with topography and storylines.
- / Rest Points and Lookouts designed for pause, reflection, and immersion in the surrounding cultural and natural landscape.
- / Framing Views through vegetation, built elements, or openings to emphasise specific cultural landmarks or landscape features.
- / Interpretive Signage that shares the cultural meaning of visible features and reinforces the connection to Country.
- / Integrated Planting and Landform Design that complements viewsheds and enhances the experience of moving through and looking over Country.



Reflections in water at ceremonial places connects humans animals to ancestral knowledge and the stories held in Sky Country



Chaine of Ponds - Acknowledging the flow of water across country, through sky, across topography and seeping through the earth, at all stages of the life cycle of water.



Site Douglas Park



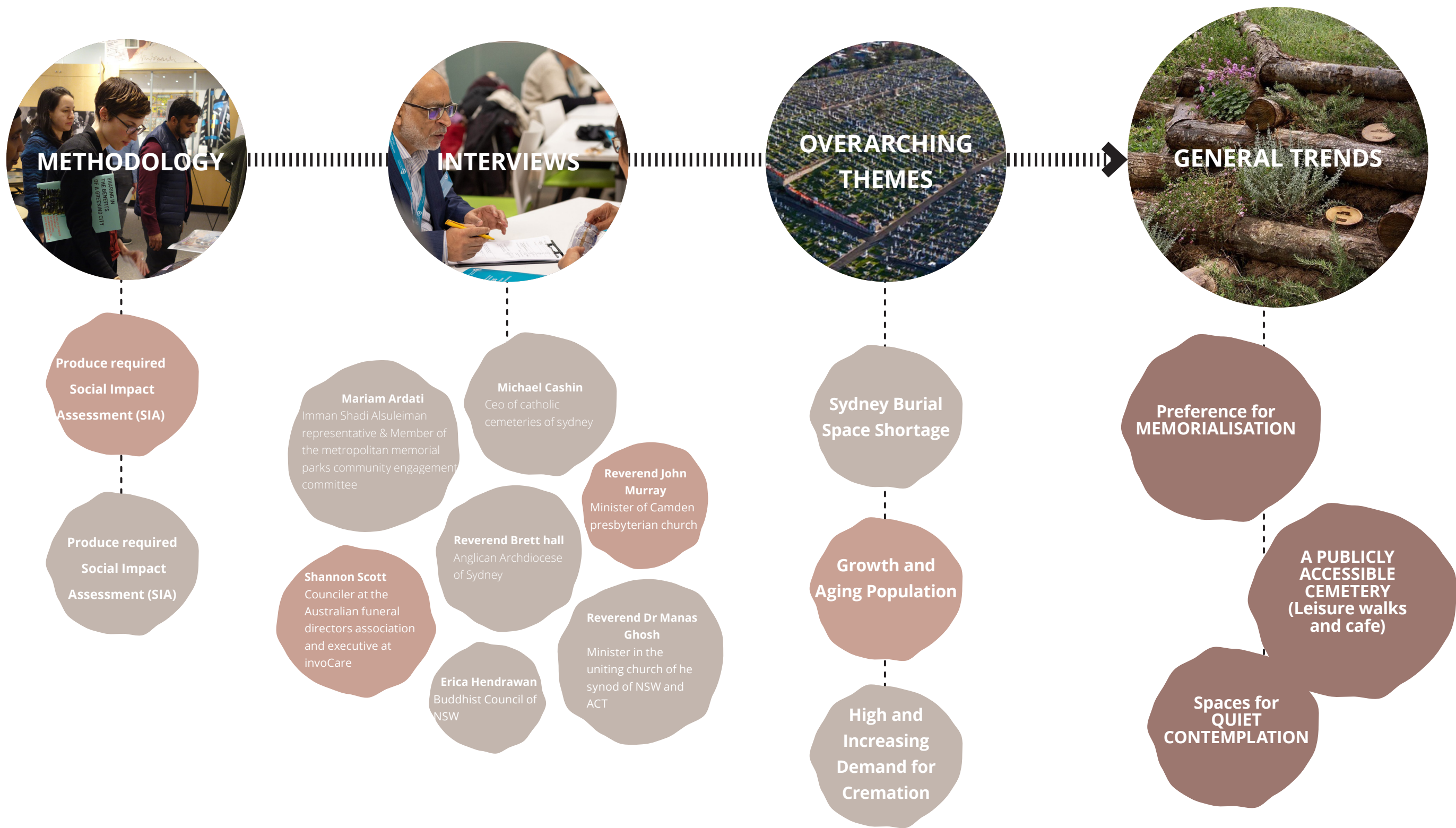
Talara'tingi symbolising resilience, healing, and spiritual connection to the land

Site Analysis

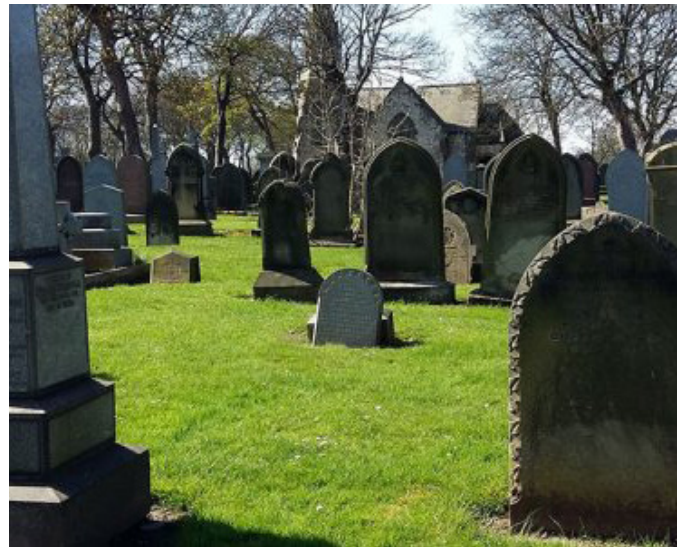
Site Photos



Stakeholder and Community Consultation



Stakeholder and Community Consultation



Catholic And Anglican

- / Generally prefer a cemetery in a location they have a connection with although this preference continues to change.
- / People tend to want to travel about 30 or 40 minutes
- / Ongoing visitation is not as important as other cultures
- / Anglicans from the pacific islands view burials as a very significant part of the faith. Often like to take part in filling the grave, with the family visiting regularly and often holding picnics at the grave site



Islam

- / Claim to be the largest customers of Rookwood Cemetery burials
- / Seeking 40% of Douglas Park's burial spaces, predicting Rookwood to run out of space within the next 2 years
- / Distant from the nearest funeral mortuary (Iman Ali Bin Abi Talib Mosque, Lakemba) however, it is reportedly Australia's largest mosque



Chinese Presbyterian

- / The rules around death are very important to all members of Chinese society.
- / Special attention is paid to the care of the dead and very specific rules are followed. It is widely believed that bad luck will come to the family that does not honour the rules
- / Chinese people equally accept casket burial and cremation. The choice is a matter of personal preference, and some families choose to watch or even participate at the beginning of the cremation.



Buddhists

- / The funeral service is likely to be at the temple, where monks will chant and the family will hold a wake-style funeral ceremony
- / Closest Large Temple is Nan Tien temple in Wollongong
- / Generally, the ashes will be placed in an urn and memorialised at the Temple with a name plaque. The family are likely to visit the temple around once per year to commemorate their loved one

Above is a summary of key issues pertaining to various religious denominations. While not comprehensive, this list should be viewed as a guide, with all other denominations also taken into account.

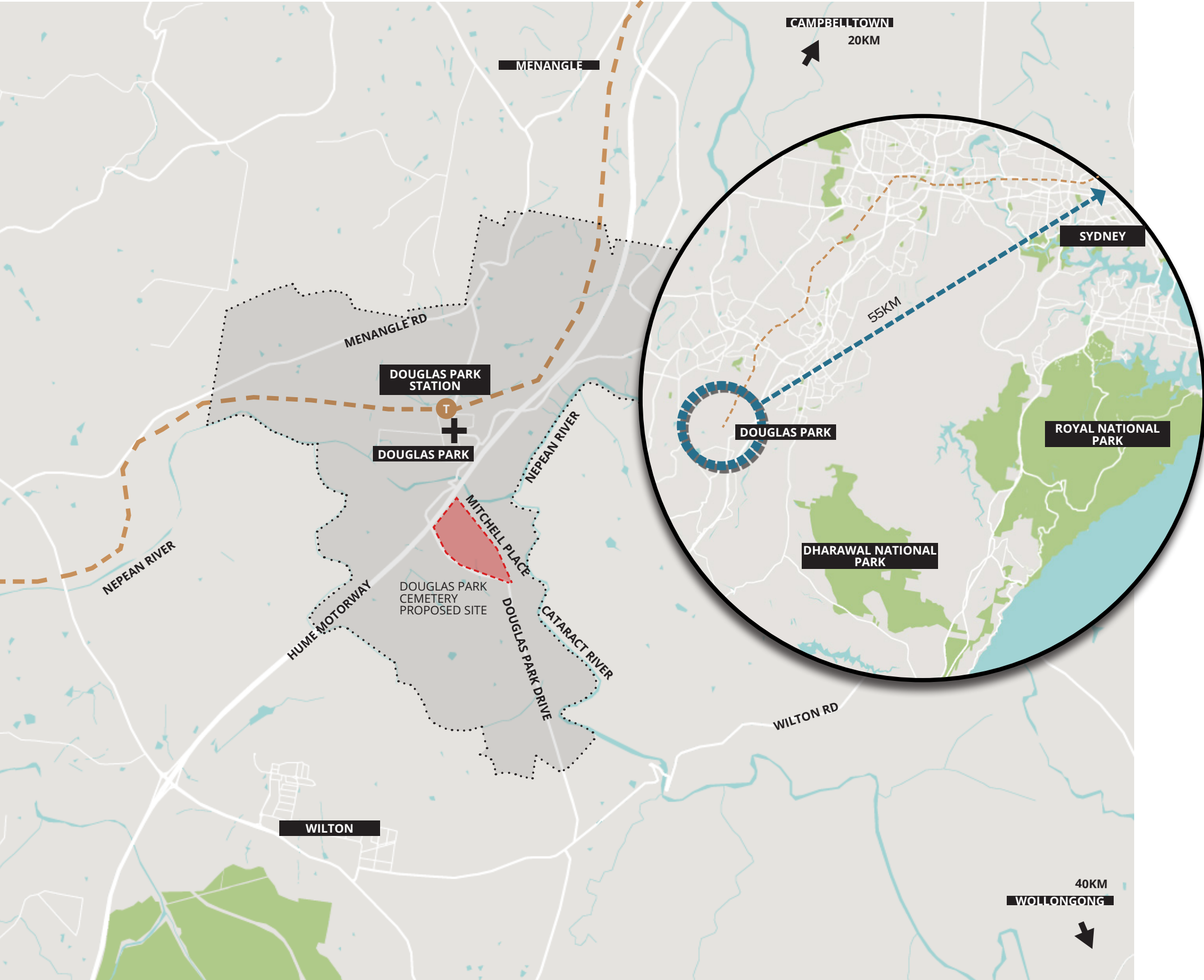
Connecting with Country

Regional Site Context

Landscape features with important cultural heritage values were shared by the site officers from Tharawal LALC and these include:

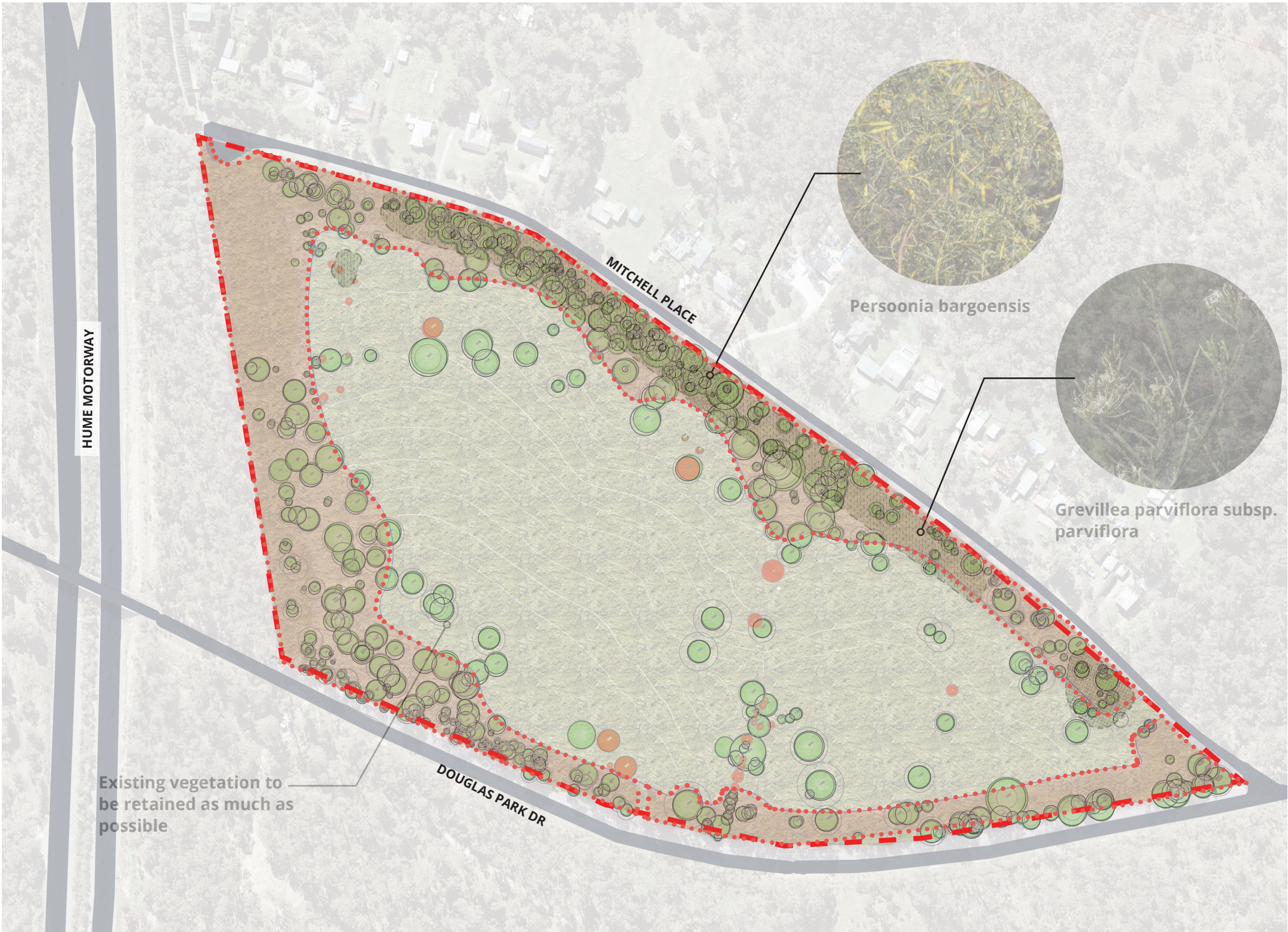
- / Views of the surrounding hills and ridges
- / The Nepean River

The sites proximity to Appin and discussions about the wider landscape of early colonial-era conflict



Connecting with Country

Threatened Flora Protection Zones



Retention of the existing ecological corridor is an important strategy in making sure that the threatened species of *Persoonia bargoensis* and *Grevillea parviflora* subsp. *Parviflora* are protected.

A vegetation management plan will be prepared to detail the protection, regenerate and restoration works to support the conserved habitats onsite.

Retention of existing species within the Memorial Park to maintain and enhance the existing vegetation and natural landscape

TREES REMOVED: 34

TREES RETAINED: 532

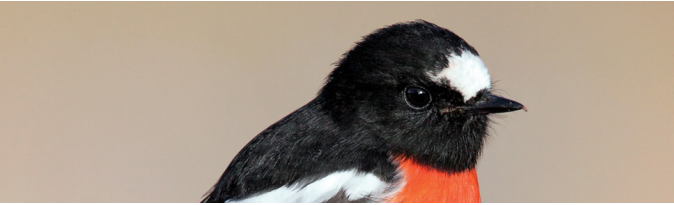
/ 94.0% Tree Retention

KEY

- SITE BOUNDARY
- ... EXISTING VEGETATION TO BE RETAINED (AVOIDANCE AREA)
- THREATENED FLORA: *PERSOONIA BARGOENSIS*
- THREATENED FLORA: *GREVILLEA PARVIFLORA*

Connecting with Country

Threatened Fauna Potential habitats



PETROICA BOODANG
SCARLET ROBIN



MERIDOLUM CORNEOVIRENS
CUMBERLAND PLAIN LAND SNAIL



GLOSSOPSITTA PUSILLA
LITTLE LORIKEET



CALYPTORHYNCHUS
LATHAMII
GLOSSY BLACK-COCKATOO

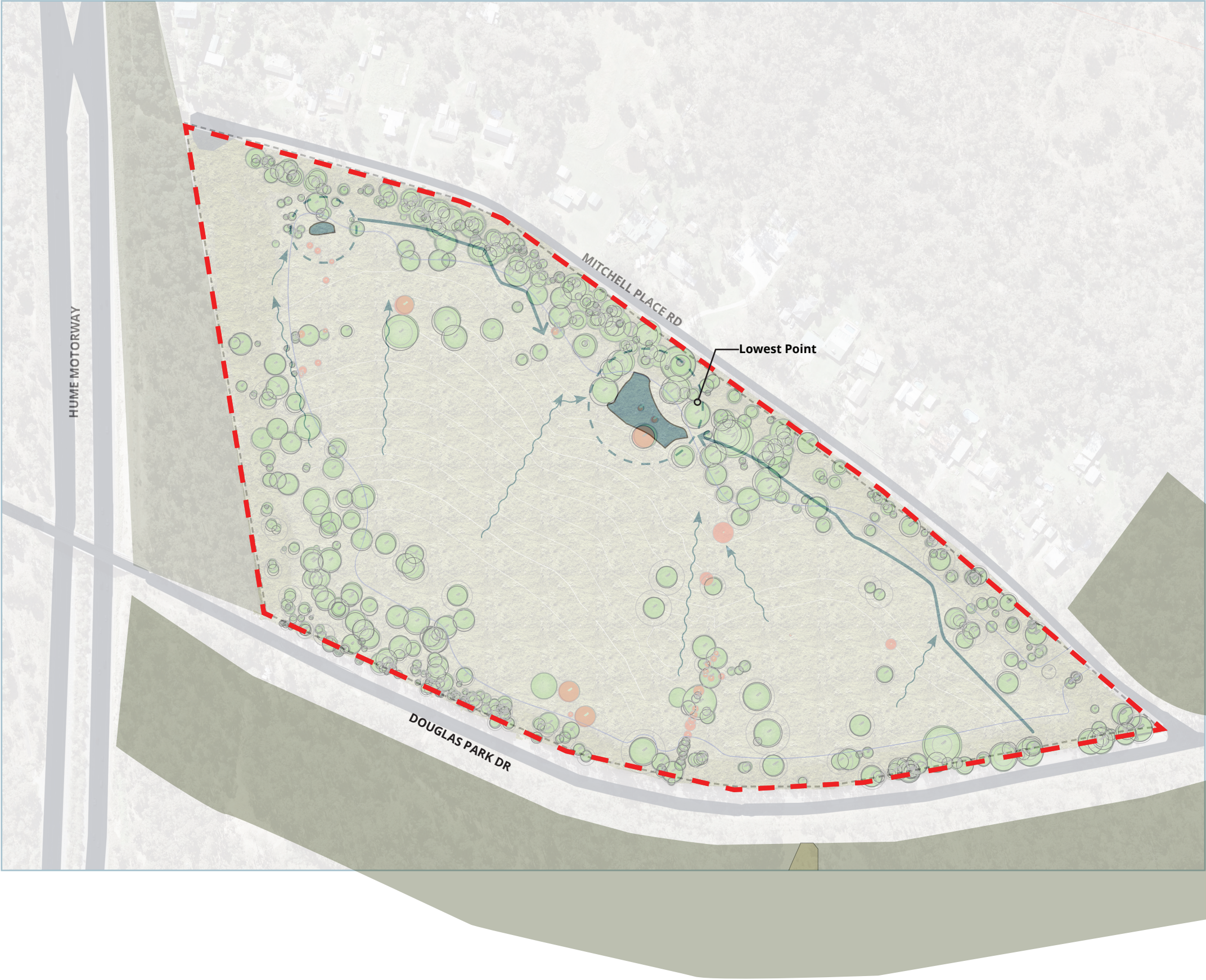
KEY

SITE BOUNDARY

POTENTIAL HABITAT + TREE HOLLOW

Connecting with Country

WSUD Opportunities + Hydrology



Water retention basins at the site's low points, serve as both a place of refuge and a key water management strategy. This feature not only enhances the site's tranquility but also supports the maintenance and sustainability of the landscape.

- KEY**
- SITE BOUNDARY
 - ASSET PROTECTION ZONE /IPA BOUNDARY LINE
 - RETENTION BASIN
 - BIO RETENTION TRENCH
 - SURFACE FLOWS

Connecting with Country

Cut and fill Strategy



The site plan has been carefully designed to minimize the need for extensive cut and fill operations. By preserving the majority of the site's natural terrain, the project maintains the integrity of the existing landscape. The thoughtful preservation of the original topography ensures that the site retains its natural character, supporting sustainable land management and promoting harmony between built and natural elements.

KEY

- SITE BOUNDARY
- FILL
- CUT

Connecting with Country

Bushfire Asset Protection Zone



The suggested 16m APZ/IPA setback from site boundary.

The crematorium, chapel, and administration buildings are classified as Class 5-8 buildings as per Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019, and require a minimum setback that satisfies a BAL-29 rating.

For the existing trees within the APZ, it's important to manage the area as an Inner Protection Area (IPA) with the following requirements for trees:

- / Tree canopy cover should be less than 15% at maturity;
- / Trees at maturity should not touch or overhang the building;
- / Lower limbs should be removed up to a height of 2m above ground;
- / Tree canopies should be separated by 2 to 5m;
- / Preference should be given to smooth-barked and evergreen trees.

The proposed placement of the architectural buildings are outside the designated Asset Protection Zone (APZ). However, all materials and landscaping will adhere to the standards and guidelines set for the APZ to ensure safety and compliance.



02

SITE STRATEGY AND LANDSCAPE



Vision

A cemetery nestled in nature

- / A cemetery that is environmentally sensitive and respectful of its natural setting, emphasizing the preservation of significant ecologies and facilitating the creation and preservation of habitats.*
- / A memorial park with diverse amenities, providing thoughtful spaces that the community can appreciate and engage with for generations.*
- / A scenic route with a serene landscape that is considerate and pleasing to the senses.*
- / A cemetery that seeks to be a sanctuary, a place for respite and contemplation, where the community is celebrated, memories are cradled, and the richness of cultural diversity is embraced.*
- / A memorial park that celebrates and protects the heritage of Douglas Park.*
- / A Project that will implement practices, including stormwater management through sustainable landscape features such as swales and rain gardens.*
- / A Project that contributes to the local economy and fosters economic growth and sustainability in the community.*

Design Principles



Access and Circulation



Preservation of Existing Trees and Natural Features



Ceremonial



Memorialisation



Country at the Heart



Not Just a Cemetery

HUME MOTORWAY

MITCHELL PLACE RD

DOUGLAS PARK DR



Updated Concept Masterplan

HUME MOTORWAY

MITCHELL PLACE

DOUGLAS PARK DRIVE

Gateway Garden



Design Moves

Access and Circulation



1 Main Entrance and Gateways:

- + Clearly marked and inviting entrance points.
- + Design elements that signify transition into a sacred space.

2 Roadways and Pathways:

- + Well-planned roadways for vehicular access.
- + Pedestrian pathways that connect various areas within the cemetery.
- + Consideration for wheelchair accessibility and ease of movement.

3 Parking Facilities:

- + Sufficient parking spaces located conveniently near the entrance.
- + Designated areas for handicap-accessible parking.

4 Signage and Wayfinding:

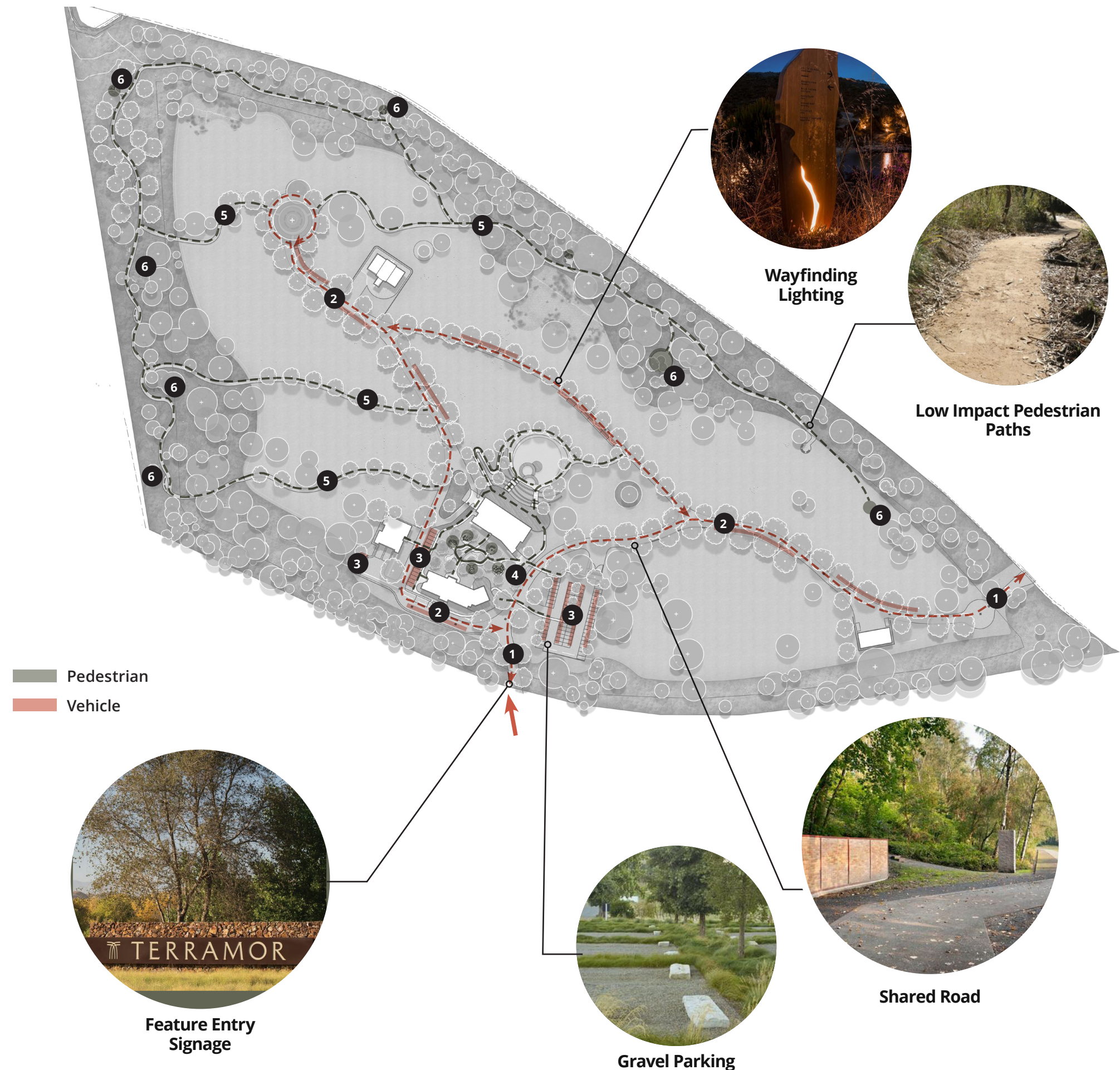
- + Clear signage indicating directions to different sections (e.g., chapel, burial plots, administration).
- + Map or directory boards at key points to help visitors navigate the cemetery.

5 Circulation Patterns:

- + Logical layout that minimizes confusion and facilitates orderly movement.
- + Consideration for traffic flow during busy times (e.g., funerals, holidays).

6 Amenities Along Pathways:

- + Seating areas for rest and reflection.
- + Shaded areas or shelters in case of inclement weather.
- + Waste disposal bins discreetly placed along pathways.



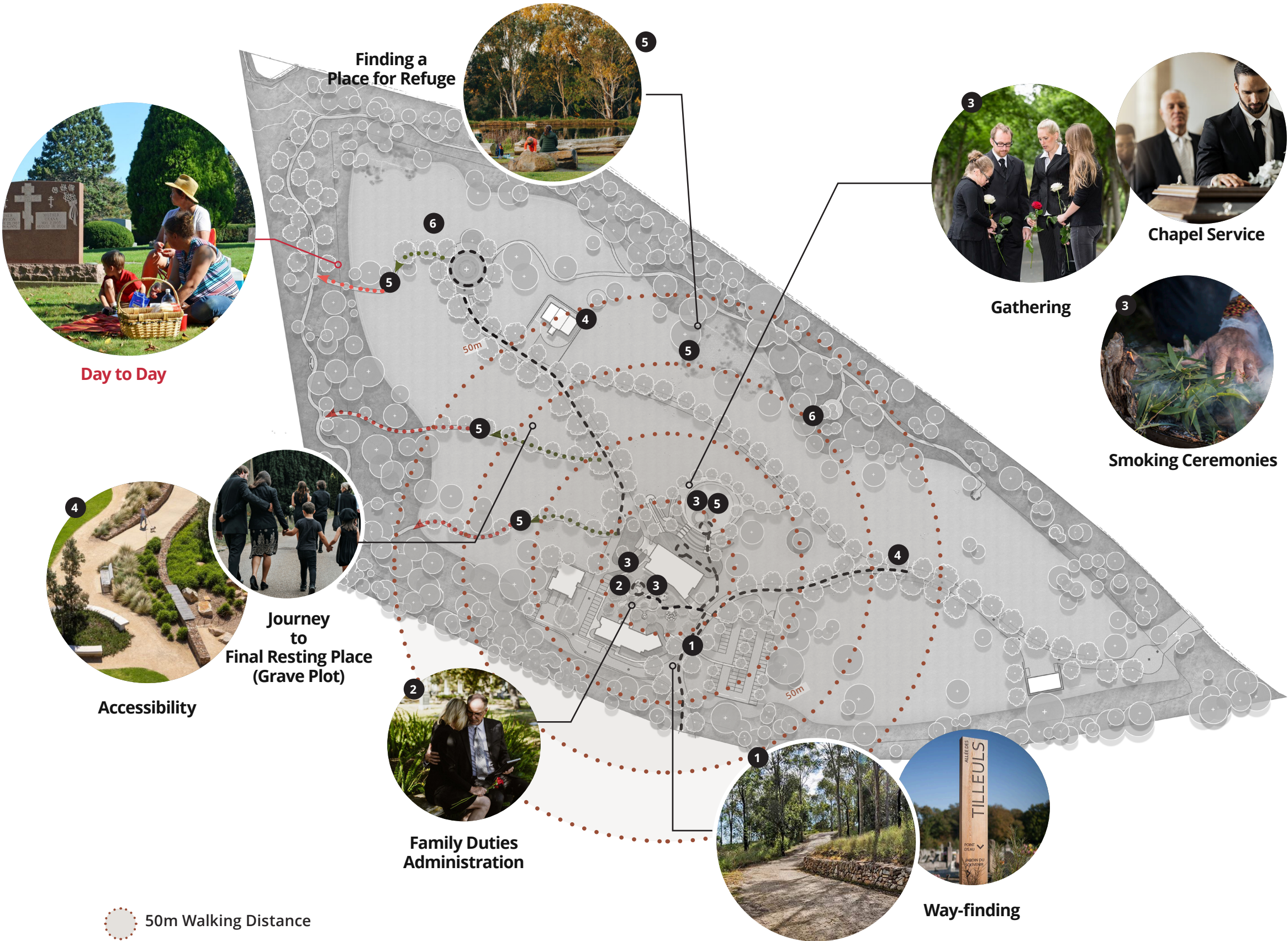
Design Moves

Ceremonial Processes



This Masterplan proposal aims to focus on the experience of the mourner. Considering the diverse cultural backgrounds that enrich Australia’s cultural tapestry. Respect and inclusivity towards all religious denominations are essential aspects of this design approach.

Understanding the diverse needs and traditions of the funeral process is crucial in creating a welcoming cemetery that sensitively addresses the emotions and states of mourners. This encompasses both the physical and psychological impacts of the cemetery’s overall environment.



Design Moves

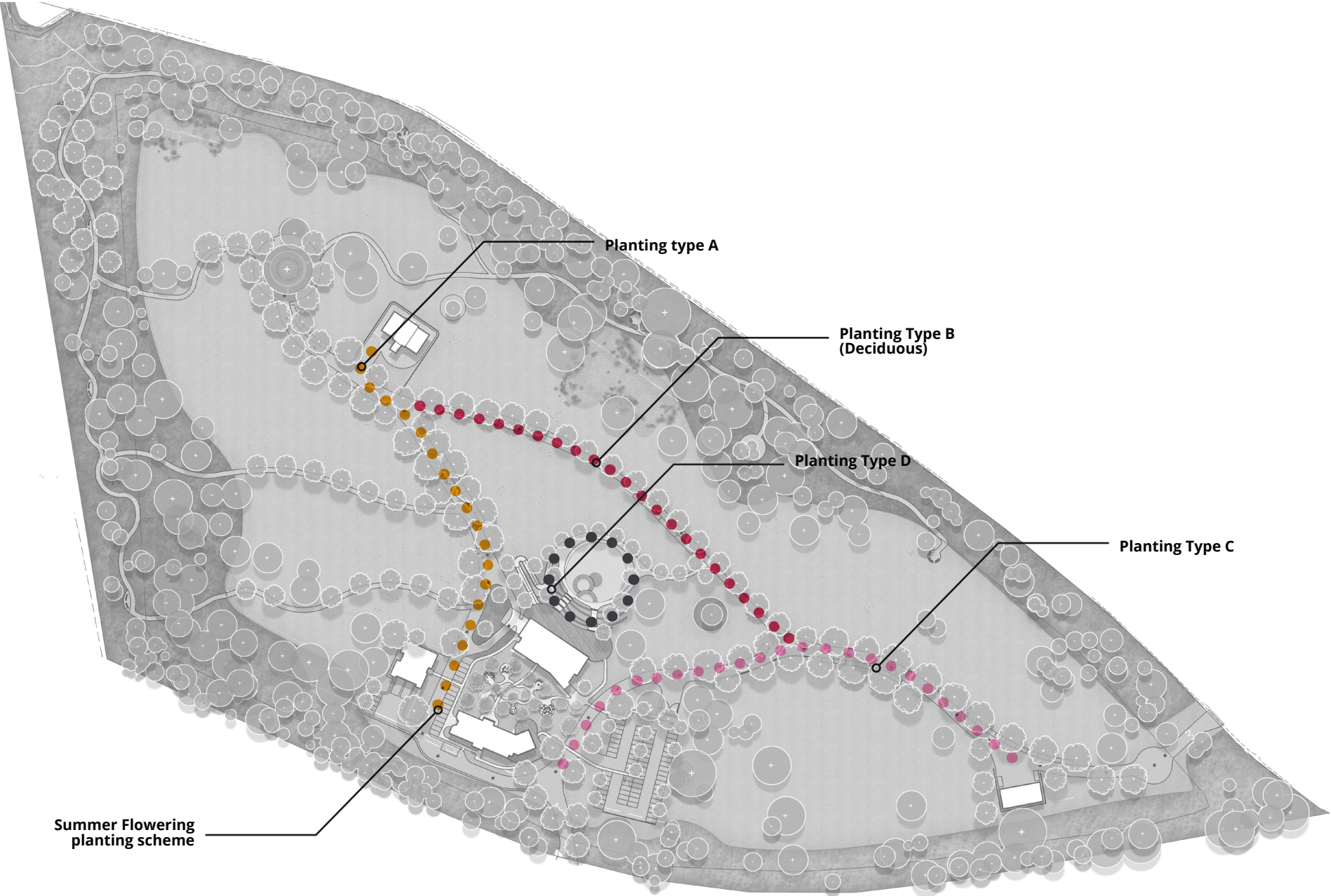
Wayfinding through Native Planting Design



Incorporating native flowering plants along primary paths serves as a natural wayfinding tool, creating visual cues that guide visitors through the landscape. By featuring native species with distinctive blooms, textures, and seasonal color changes, these plantings subtly direct movement while enhancing the site's sense of place.

Native Flowering Species

/	Acacia terminalis :	June, July, Aug, Sep	Yellow to Pink
/	Backhousia myrtifolia :	Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb	White
/	Bossiaea daphnoides:	March, April, May	Vibrant red + Yellow
/	Callistemon Linearis :	Oct - March	Red
/	Banksia ericifolia :	March to Aug	Orange to Red
/	Correa Reflexa :	May to Nov	Green to Pink Red
/	Grevillea robusta:	Aug to Jan	Orange Yellow



Feature Native Planting along Main Paths



Planting Type A-

- / Grevilia robusta
- / Bossiaea daphnoides



Planting Type B-

- / Callistemon Linearis
- / Banksia ericifolia



Planting Type C-

- / Acacia terminalis
- / Correa reflexa

Native Trees along Reflection Pond Planting Type D -



Casuarina
cunninghamiana



Livistonia
australis



Tristaniopsis
laurina

Design Moves

Memorialisation



Burial Variations

- / Single or multiple grave occupancy
- / Mausoleum, ossuaries and vertical cemeteries
- / Lawn cemeteries
- / Multi-functional burial grounds
- / Natural burial grounds
- / Conservation burial grounds
- / Cremation

Memorialisation

- / Headstones on graves
- / Plaques and memorials for cremated remains
- / Planted memorialisations
- / Digital memorialisation

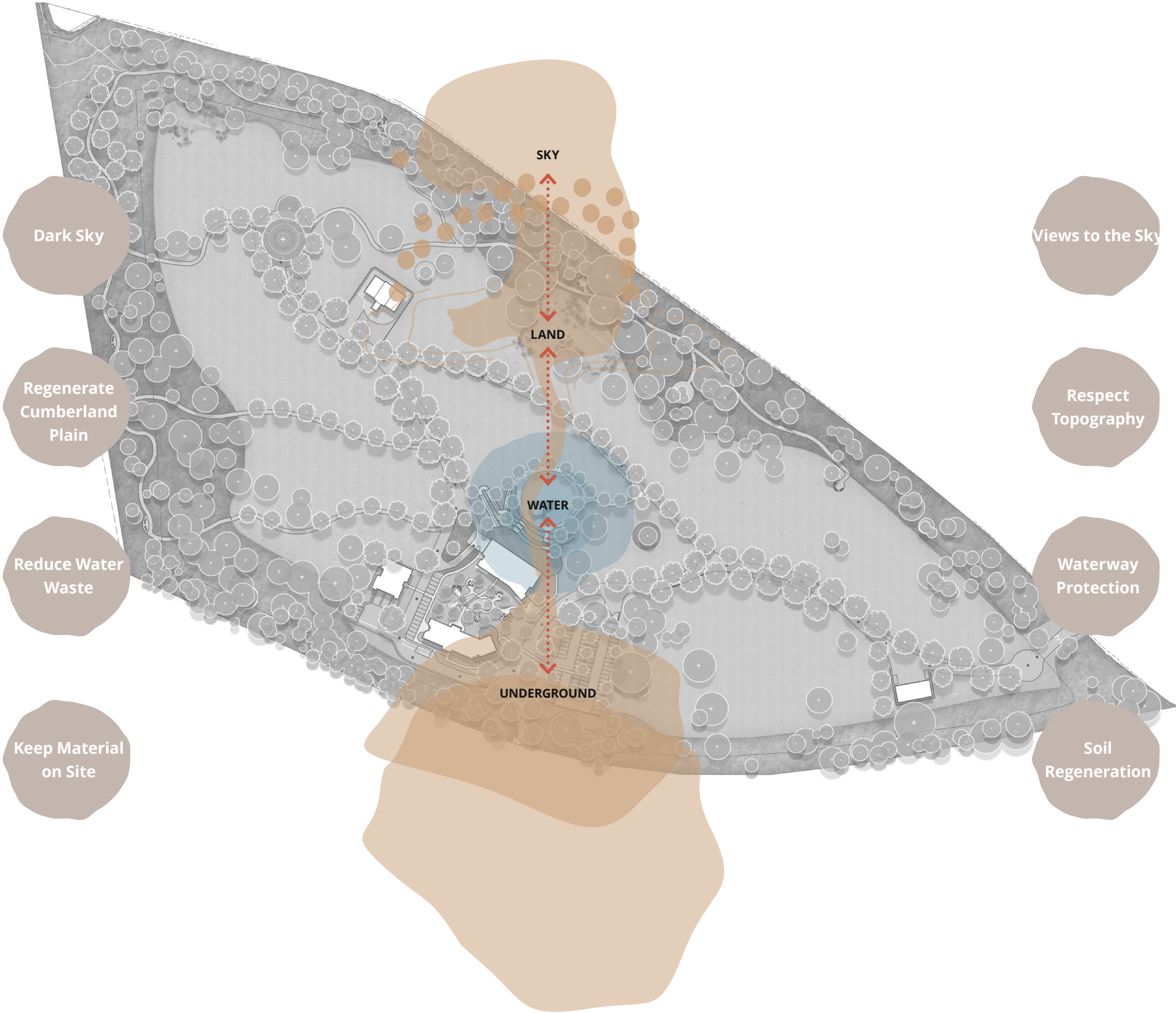


Design Moves

Country is at the Heart

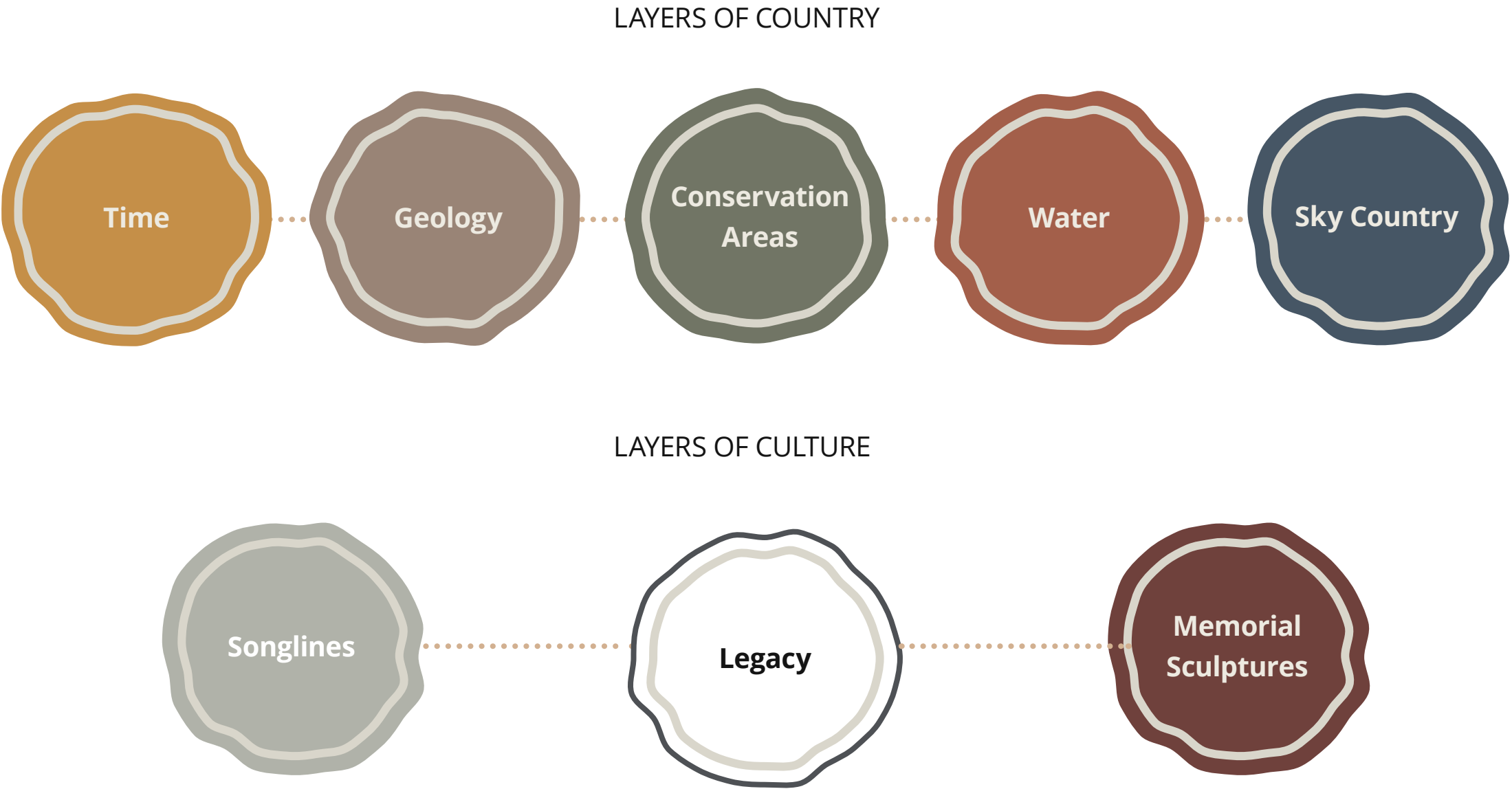


- Design realisation**
- / Artworks
 - / Ground plane elements
 - / Plantings
 - / Gathering spaces, ceremonial circles and seating
 - / Designing functional spaces
 - / Integration of Indigenous designs and forms into the built environment
 - / Acknowledgement of/Welcome to Country
 - / Maintaining culturally significant views
 - / Naming/Use of language



Country is at the Heart: Embedding CWC Principles in Design

/ This project embeds Caring for Country (CWC) as a foundational framework that informs both the spatial logic and material expression of the landscape. The design process has taken respectful consideration of consultation with Dharawal Elders and knowledge holders. As outlined in the Connecting with Country report, the **project team engaged with Dharawal representatives, including site-based discussions** with Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council officers who shared cultural heritage values and protocols relevant to the site. On 5 September 2024, an **online consultation was held with Aunty Glenda Chalker from the Cubbitch Barta Native Title Corporation** to discuss the proposal. This was followed by a walk on Country on 24 October 2024, where Aunty Glenda Chalker visited the site in person, alongside a heritage field survey conducted by Dharawal Environment & Heritage Pty Ltd. These meaningful engagements have informed **key design decisions, ensuring that connections to land, water, and sky are grounded in cultural knowledge, lived experience, and Country-led guidance.**



Design Moves

Not just a cemetery



- Pocket Gardens**
- / Gathering spaces to accommodate alternative emotional coping mechanisms
 - / Provide gathering spaces

- Remembrance Trail**
- / Separate quiet space
 - / Memorial Sculptures along the path
 - / Pocket seating areas
 - / Nature paths with endemic and native planting to attract wildlife and create a vibrant environment

- Outdoor Cafe and Garden**
- / A place for community connections encouraging gentle conversation and providing a peaceful setting



Concept Masterplan



HUME MOTORWAY

MITCHELL PLACE RD

DOUGLAS PARK DR

Central Haven

KEY

- 1

REFLECTION POND
- 2

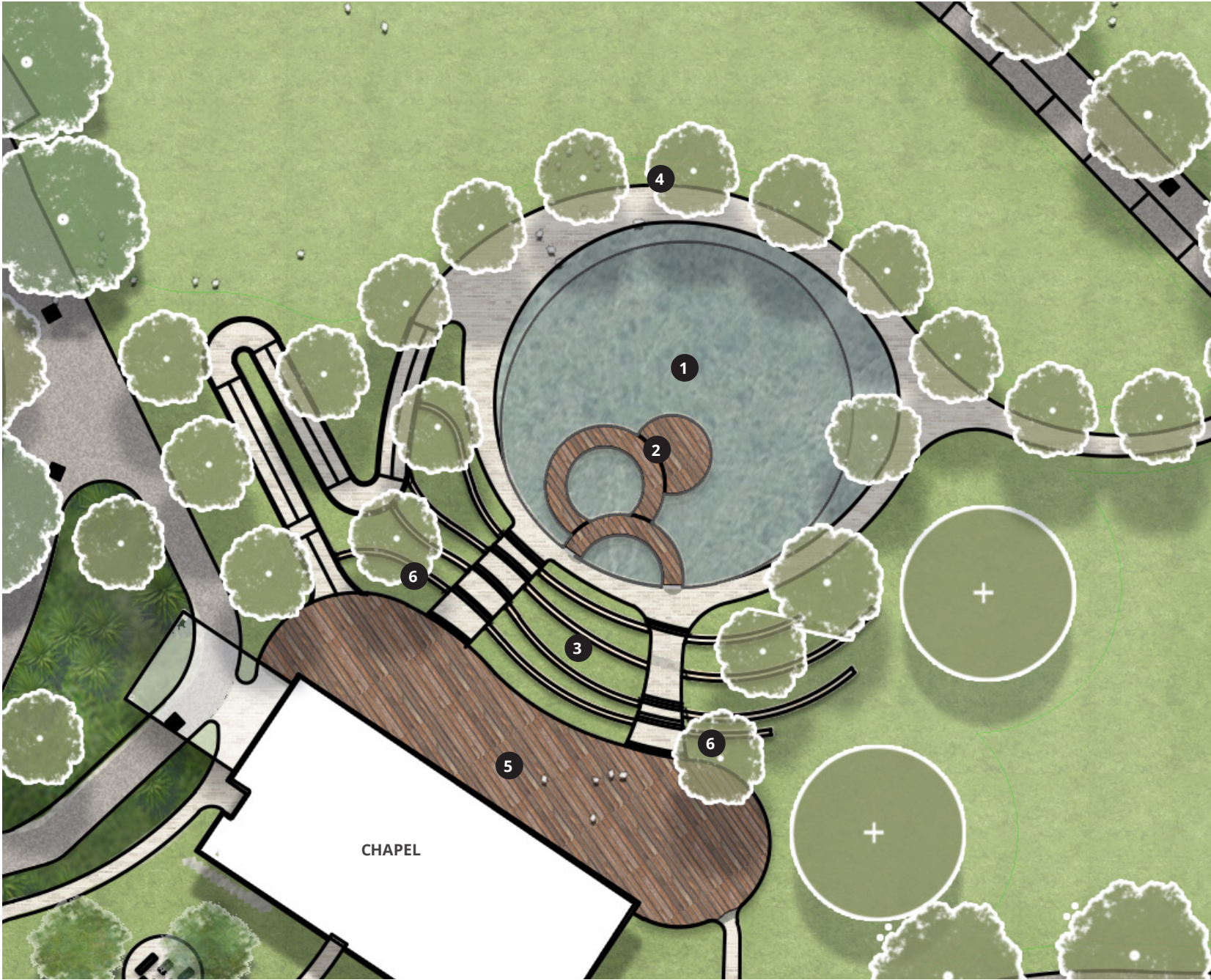
FLOATING PLATFORMS
- 3

AMPHITHEATRE
- 4

SEATING AREAS
- 5

OUTDOOR DECK:
SPACE FOR NON-DENOMINATION
GATHERINGS AND CEREMONIES
- 6

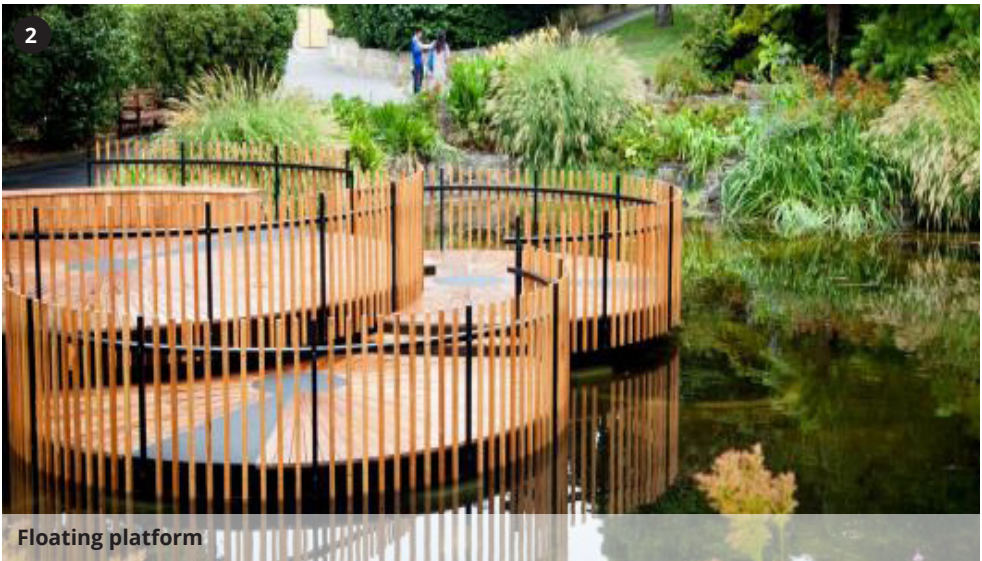
ENDEMIC PLANTING



Reflection pool



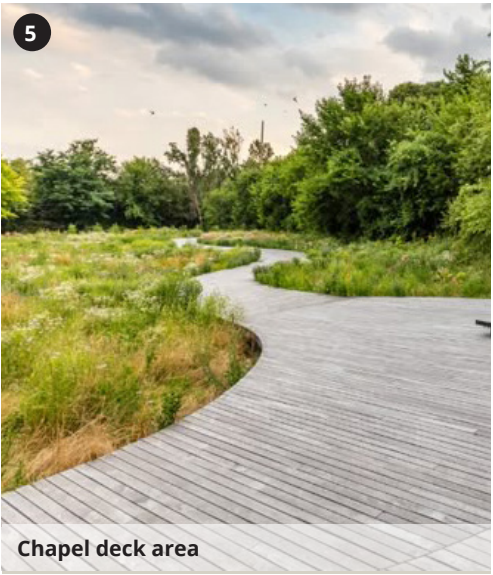
Amphitheatre



Floating platform



Endemic planting

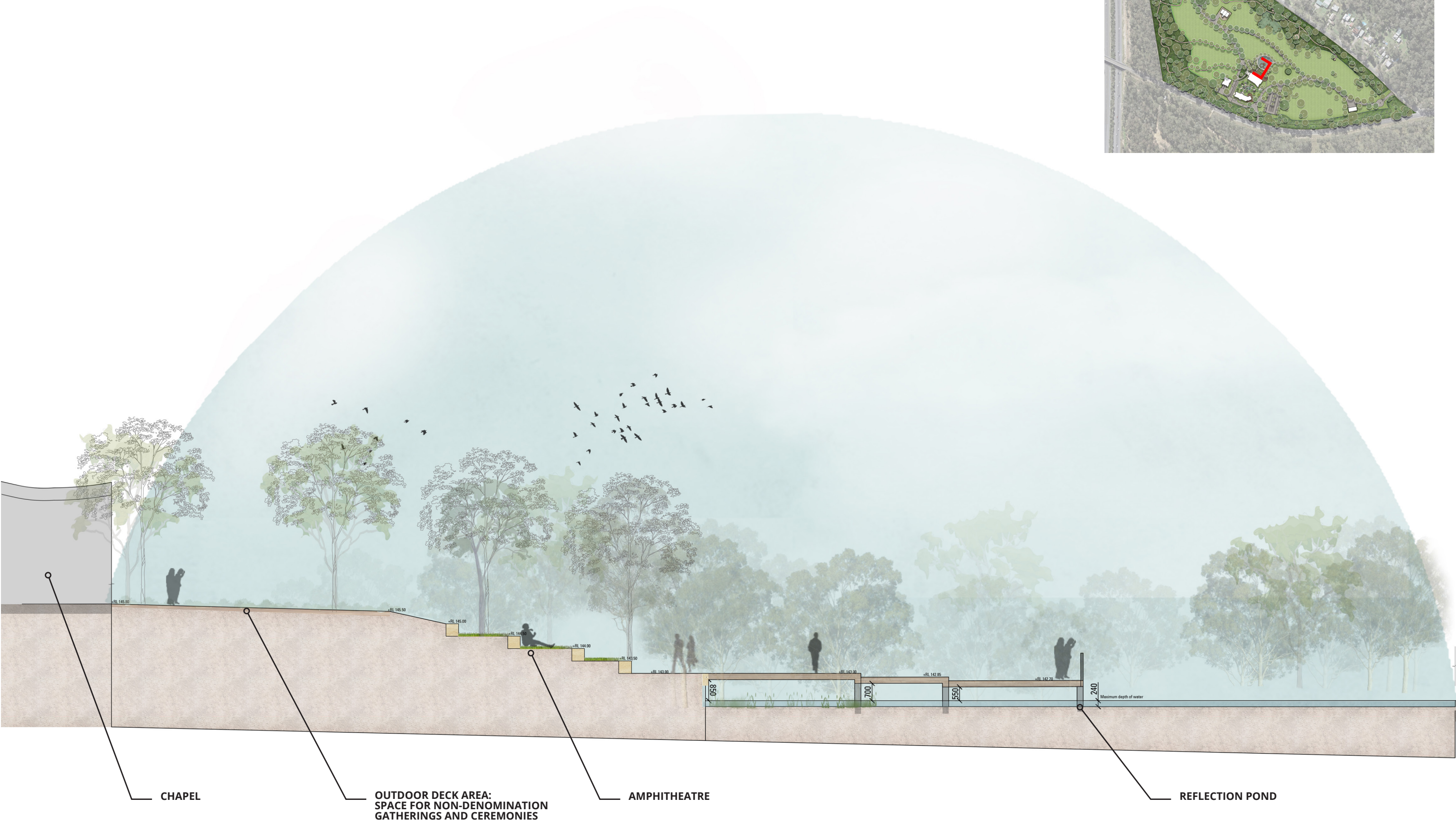


Chapel deck area



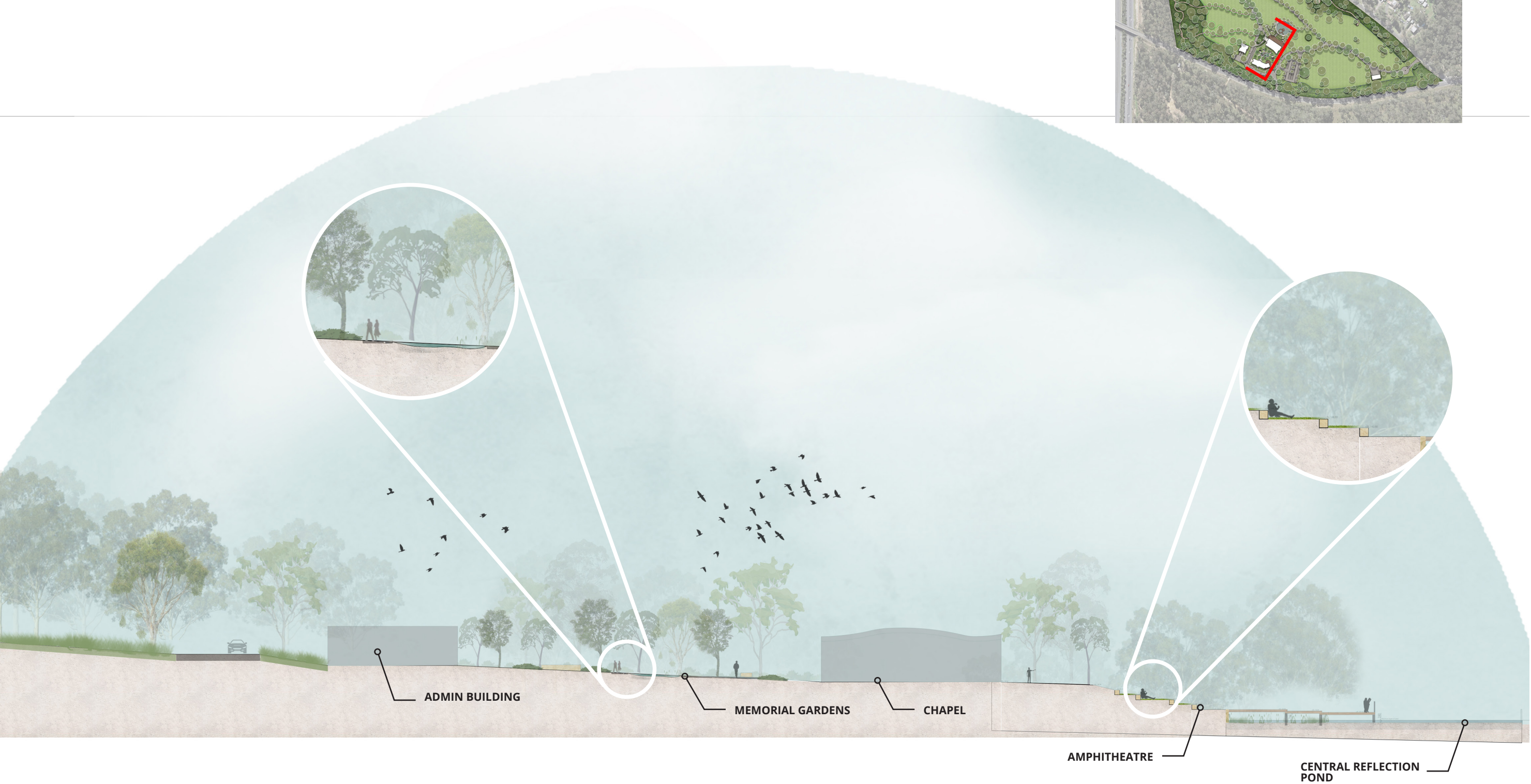
Landscape Section

Site Section



Landscape Section

Site Section



Memorial Garden Rooms

KEY

- 1

WATER GARDEN WITH BRIDGE
- 2

SEATING "ROOMS"
- 3

SCULPTURE GARDEN
- 4

CAFE ALFRESCO AREA
- 5

LUSH PLANTING
- 6

YARNING CIRCLE



----- FENCING



Water themed garden room



Memorial Forest

KEY

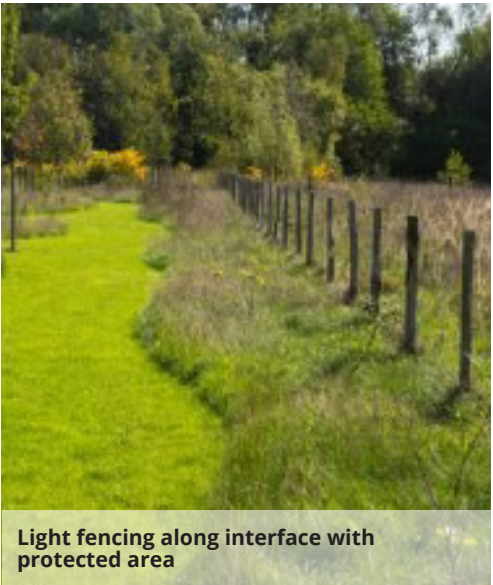
- 1 EXISTING VEGETATION PROTECTION AREA
- 2 NATURE TRAIL
- 3 MEMORIAL SCULPTURES
- 4 FENCING



Low-impact nature trail



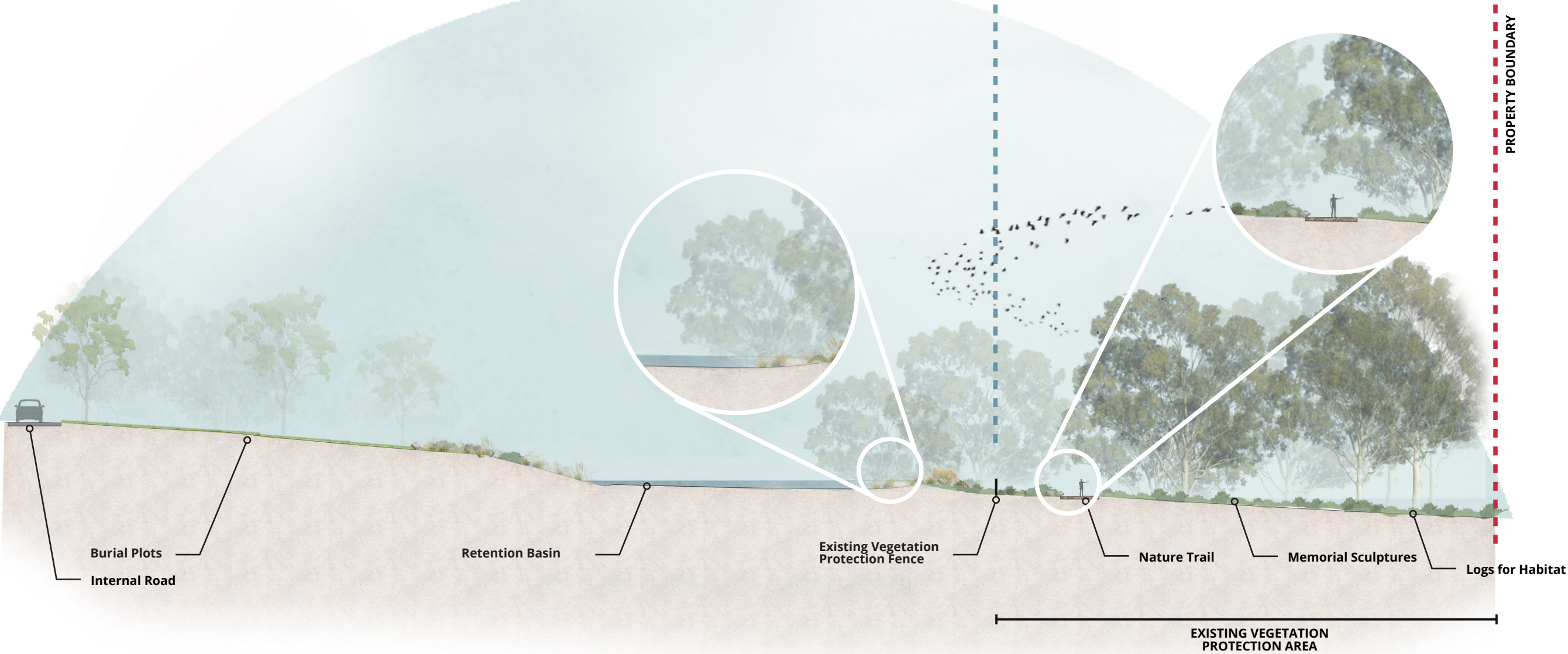
Memorial sculpture



Light fencing along interface with protected area

Landscape Section

Ecological Buffer



Site Strategy and Landscape

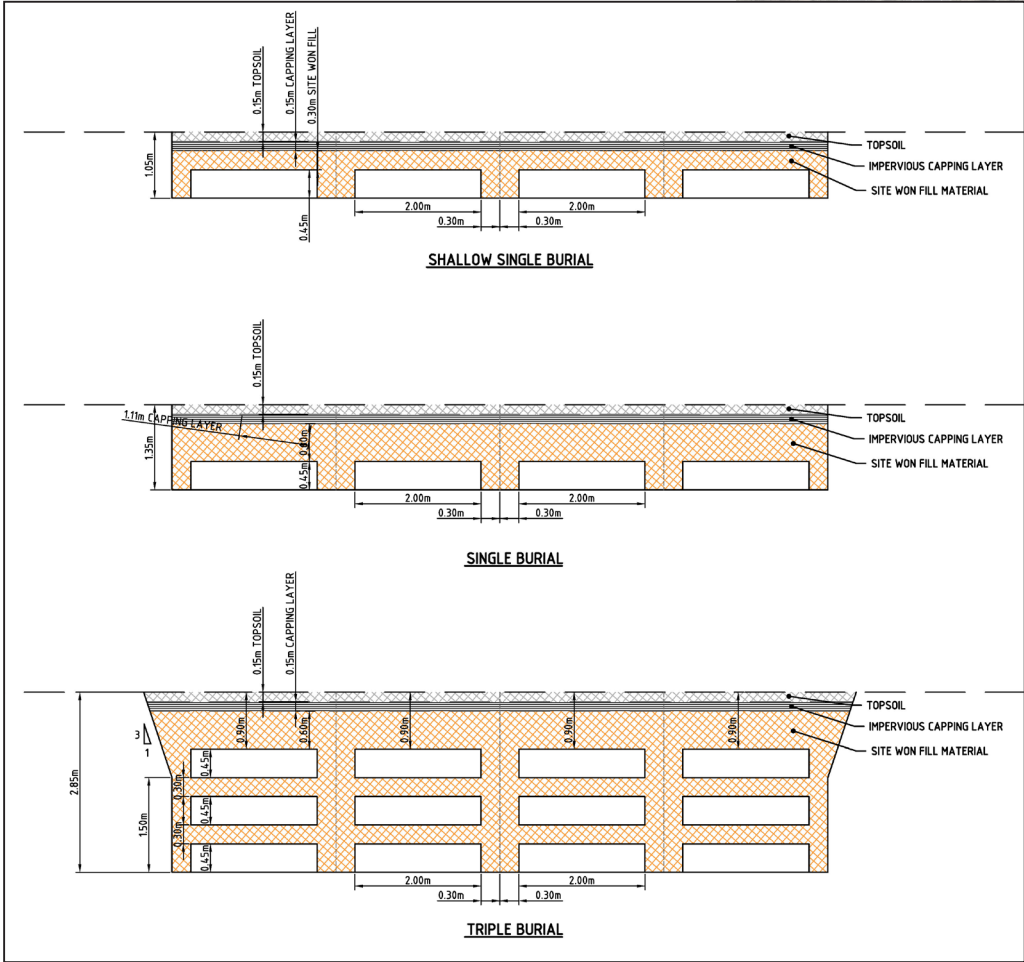
Burial Plot Area

A burial layout plan illustrates the burial plot areas and the specific areas within the Concept Plan and Stage 1.

The detailed burial plot section below illustrates the anticipated cut and fill in selected locations.

- LEGEND
- SINGLE BURIAL ZONE
- TRIPLE BURIAL ZONE
- SHALLOW BURIAL ZONE

TYPICAL BURIAL SECTIONS



----- AREA SUBJECT TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Concept Site Plan

The site is located at 430-490 Douglas Park Drive, Douglas Park within the Wollondilly Local Government Area (LGA). The site is irregular in shape with a total size of 16,7940m2. It is legally described as Lot 2 in DP 250359. The site is mostly vacant with scattered vegetation and a single, residential dwelling with driveway accessible from Douglas Park Drive. The site comprises two street frontages, to the east is Mitchell Place and to the west is Douglas Park Drive.



- Site Boundary
- AREA SUBJECT TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS
- EXISTING VEGETATION PROTECTION AREA

Stage 1 Works

Stage 1 – Detailed Development - Site Plan:

- Administration Building
- Chapel
- Storage Shed/Garage
- Burial Zone A
- Burial Zone B
- Burial Zone C
- Burial Zone D
- Burial Zone E
- Reflection Pond
- Flora / Fauna Fencing and Protection Area (full perimeter of site)
- Landscape Hardscape & Softscape (within stage boundary)
- Main Access/Egress Entry from Douglas Park Drive
- Secondary Egress & Emergency Access/ Egress from Mitchell Place
- Servicing Roads, Footpaths, Parking & Infrastructure (within stage boundary)

Further Detailed Development Application/s:

- Crematorium Building
- Family Vaults
- Burial Zone F
- Burial Zone G
- Burial Zone H
- Burial Zone I
- Burial Zone J
- Landscape domain (within stage boundary)
- Servicing Roads, Footpaths, Parking & Infrastructure (within stage boundary)

TOTAL SITE AREA

Area= 167 861 m2

STAGE 1 AREA

Area= 126 883 m2



--- STAGE 1 WORKS
--- LATER STAGES

Stage 1 - Construction Staging

The construction staging is summarized below:

1. Site Mobilisation:

- Setting up the construction site with temporary access roads, facilities, utilities, and safety measures. Equipment and materials are brought in to prepare for works.

2. Ecological & Tree Protection Works:

- Protection of existing trees and habitats through fencing and monitoring. Works are planned to avoid ecological disturbance.

3. Sediment Erosion Controls

- Erosion and sediment control measures like silt fences and sediment basins are installed to protect the environment during construction.

4. Demolition

- Removal of any designated trees for removal, existing structures or surfaces on-site, with safe disposal or recycling of debris.

5. Civil & Infrastructure Works (Burial Zones A, B, C, D & E)

- Ground preparation, cut/fill works, drainage, and access infrastructure are constructed across designated burial zones. Roads and services shall be installed.

6. Construction Works (Chapel, Administration, Storage Shed, Bin Store & Pond)

- Buildings and facilities are constructed and fully fitted out, including the chapel and admin areas, along with the pond feature.

7. Landscaping (Hardscape)

- Paths, fencing, paving, seating, and other structural landscape elements are installed to shape the cemetery's public spaces.

8. Landscaping (Softscape)

- Trees, plants, turf, and irrigation systems are added to enhance the natural beauty and serenity of the site.

9. Handover and Operation

- Upon completion of construction and certification, the site is formally handed over to the operational management team. All facilities, documentation, and maintenance schedules are transferred to enable the cemetery's full operational use, including public access, interments, and grounds upkeep.
- To ensure operational feasibility and respond to market demand, the works associated with sequences 5, 6, 7,



8 & 9 are to be delivered concurrently. These works allow for partial operational readiness while remaining construction progresses in other zones.

- Once infrastructure is in place and the site is operational, burial excavation operations commence in active zones. This includes the systematic preparation of burial plots aligned with interment schedules and ongoing site maintenance.

--- STAGE 1 WORKS
--- LATER STAGES

Memorialisation Typologies

Native Planted Plot



Memorialisation Typologies

Natural Burial + ash internments along buffered site edge



Memorialisation Typologies

Family Vaults + Urn crypts



Landscape Strategies

Materials Look and Feel

The design will feature a blend of natural and sustainable materials that resonate with the site's charm and environmental ethos. Use of local products will create a seamless integration with the surrounding landscape. Site material must have a light touch and cause little or no disturbance. Re-use of the existing sandstone as part of the main palette grounds the park with its natural character.



Corten Steel



Corten Steel



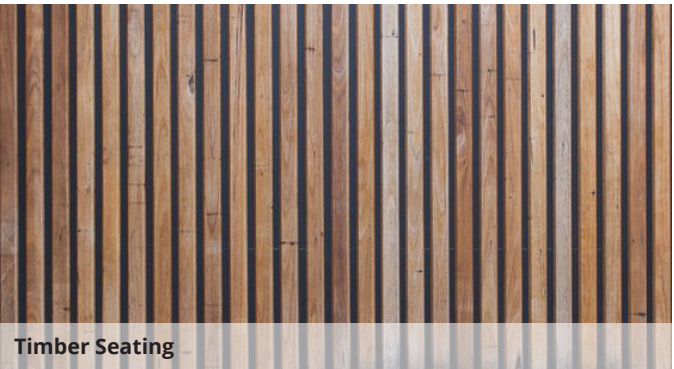
Timber Boardwalk



Decomposed Gravel



Recycled Sandstone Gabion Wall



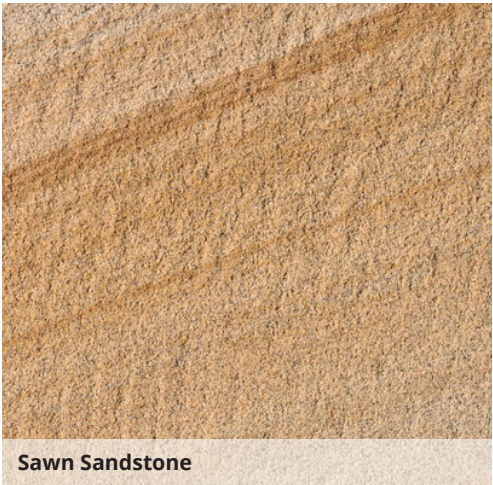
Timber Seating



Deco



Rough Sandstone



Sawn Sandstone

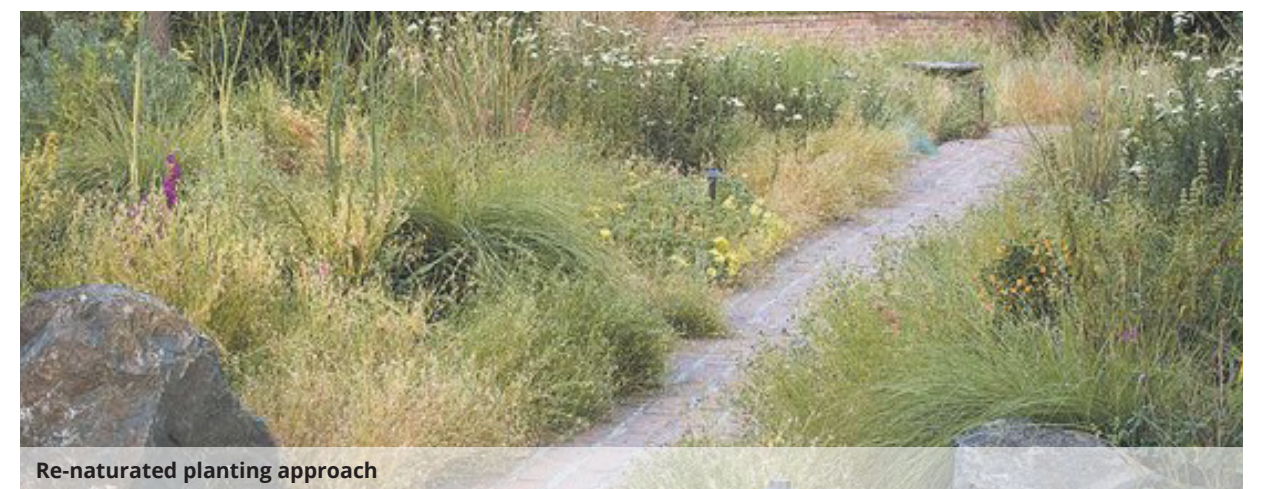


Landscape Strategies

Planting Look and Feel

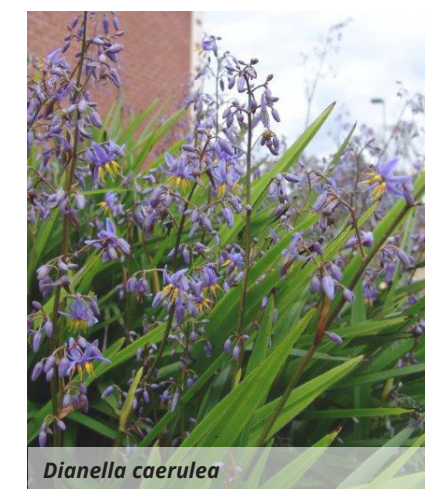
The planting design will indigenous to the Dharawal region and support local fauna, including birds, pollinators, and small mammals. They enhance biodiversity and align with ecological restoration principles.

The palette includes a range of form and foliage types—from having dramatic canopies, fine textures and structural presence. This combination provides year-round visual interest and seasonal colour through flowers and changing foliage.



Landscape Strategies

Planting Palette



Landscape Strategies

Existing Tree Strategy

Management of Tree Species for Douglas Park to enhance foraging habitat

	Scientific name	Common name
Trees to retain		
Suitable for Dense (large mature trees)	<i>Eucalyptus fibrosa</i>	Broad Leaved Ironbark
	<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	Grey Box
Suitable for Glossy Black-Cockatoos	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black She-oak
Suitable for Koalas	<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	Grey Box
	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>	Grey Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	Forest Red Gum
Suitable for Southern Greater Glider	<i>Eucalyptus fibrosa</i>	Broad Leaved Ironbark
	<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringybark
	<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	Grey Box
Trees to recommend planting for foraging value		
	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black She-oak
	<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringybark
	<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	Grey Box
	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>	Grey Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	Forest Red Gum
Attractive street trees	<i>Eucalyptus crebra</i>	Narrow-leaved Ironbark
	<i>Eucalyptus sclerophylla</i>	Scribbly Gum

TREES REMOVED: 34

TREES RETAINED: 532
/ 94.0% Tree Retention

STAGE 1: TREES REMOVED: 23

STAGE 1:TREES RETAINED: 497
/ 94.0% Tree Retention

KEY

-  SITE BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING TREES TO BE RETAINED
-  EXISTING TREES TO BE REMOVED



Landscape Strategies

Canopy Coverage

EXISTING CANOPY COVERAGE SITEWIDE
Area= 30,989.66 m2 (18.45%)

EXISTING CANOPY COVERAGE STAGE 1
Area= 27298.66 m2 (21.51%)

PROPOSED CANOPY COVERAGE SITEWIDE
Area= 15,090 m2 (9.00%)

PROPOSED CANOPY COVERAGE STAGE 1
Area= 7044 m2 (5.55%)

TREE CANOPY COVER
Total Area= 46,079 m2 (27.45%)

TOTAL PROPOSED TREES SITEWIDE
Quantity - 174

STAGE 1 PROPOSED TREES
Quantity - 129

STAGE 2 PROPOSED TREES
Quantity - 45

TOTAL SITE AREA
Area= 167 861 m2

STAGE 1 AREA
Area= 126 883 m2

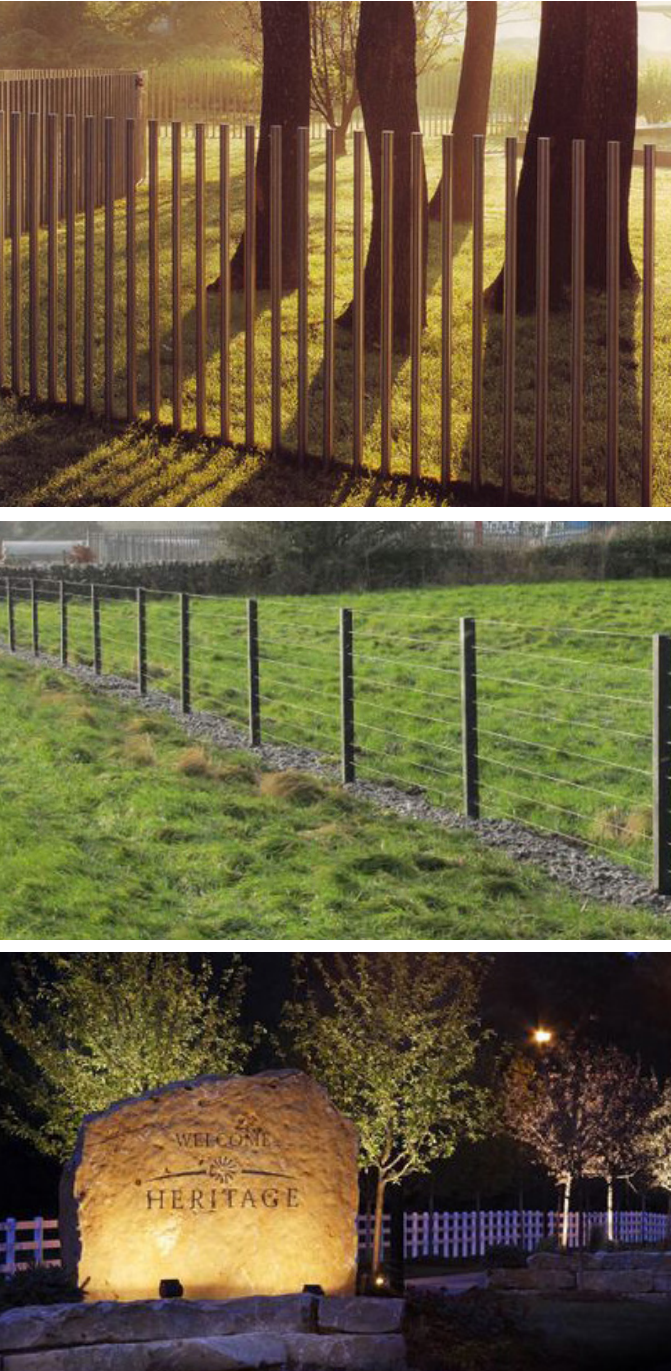
KEY

-  **SITE BOUNDARY**
-  **EXISTING TREES TO BE RETAINED**
-  **PROPOSED NEW TREES**



Landscape Strategies

Fencing



KEY

- SITE BOUNDARY
- PAINTED STEEL PALISADE FENCE
- PROPOSED VEGETATION PROTECTION AREA FENCE
- RECYCLED SANDSTONE ENTRY SIGNAGE



NOTE: INDICATIVE AND SUBJECT TO DETAILED DESIGN

Landscape Strategies

Lighting



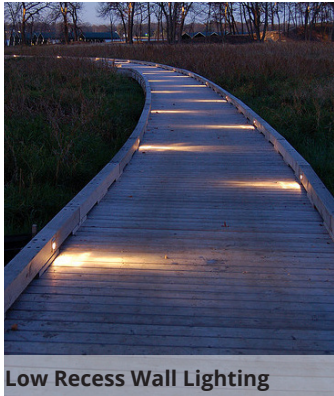
Entry Pole Light



Activity Node Pole Light



Bollard Light

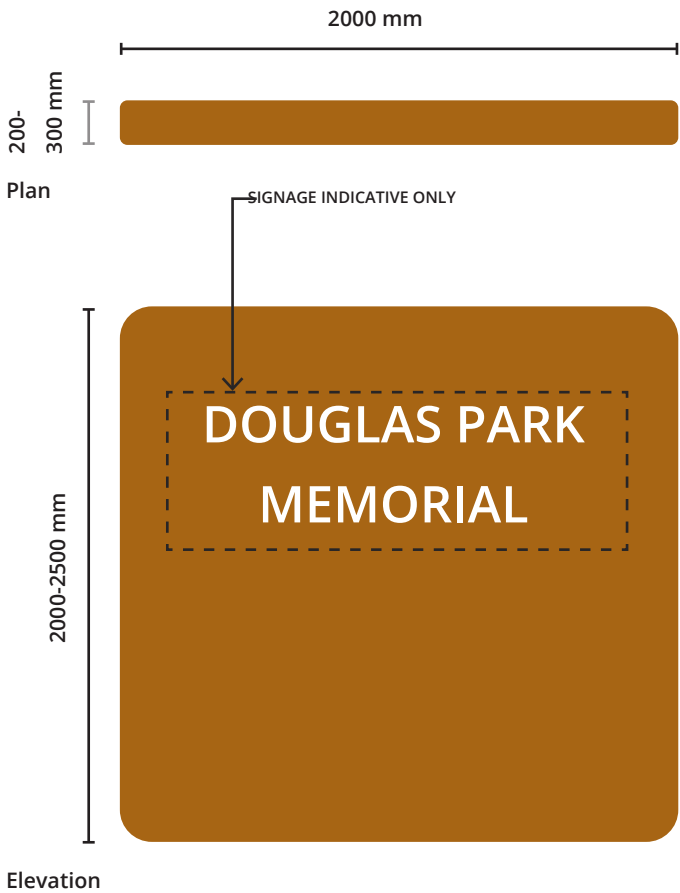


Low Recess Wall Lighting



Landscape Strategies

Signage and Wayfinding



Entry Signage



- KEY
- [- -] SITE BOUNDARY
 - RECYCLED SANDSTONE ENTRY SIGNAGE
 - INTERPRETATIVE/ INFORMATION SIGNAGE LOCATION



NOTE: INDICATIVE AND SUBJECT TO DETAILED DESIGN

Landscape Strategies

Signage, Wayfinding and Artwork Elements

Interpretive signage and artworks offer a meaningful opportunity to honour the Dharawal people and their deep, ongoing connection to Dharawal Country. These elements can reflect the unique stories, knowledge systems, and cultural values of the Dharawal community, while also using a universal visual and narrative language that welcomes people of all backgrounds. By blending local cultural significance with inclusive design, such expressions foster greater understanding, respect, and a shared sense of place for everyone who engages with them.



Geometric sculptural element



Curved corten sculpture



Indigenous interpretation wayfinding and signage element



Corten sculptural element



Circulation with lighting



Corten wayfinding and signage element



Wayfinding / Storytelling



Indigenous interpretation seating element

Site Strategy and Landscape

Shade Elements

Tree canopy is provided in parking areas and pathways for a comfortable journey. Additional tree planting is proposed in pocket gardens or seating areas to provide shade. The memorial garden will serve as the heart of the development, acting as a starting point for visitors as they explore the space.



- KEY
- [- -] SITE BOUNDARY
 - PROPOSED SHADE STRUCTURES
 - 50M WALKING DISTANCE



Site Strategy and Landscape

Shade Elements

The shade structures will use natural materials—mainly timber—to sit comfortably within the landscape. Timber brings warmth and texture, and helps the built elements feel like an extension of the environment rather than something imposed on it.

There's also the potential to include arbours with climbing plants, adding soft, green cover that evolves with the seasons and enhances the feeling of being surrounded by nature.



Linear and curved shade structure



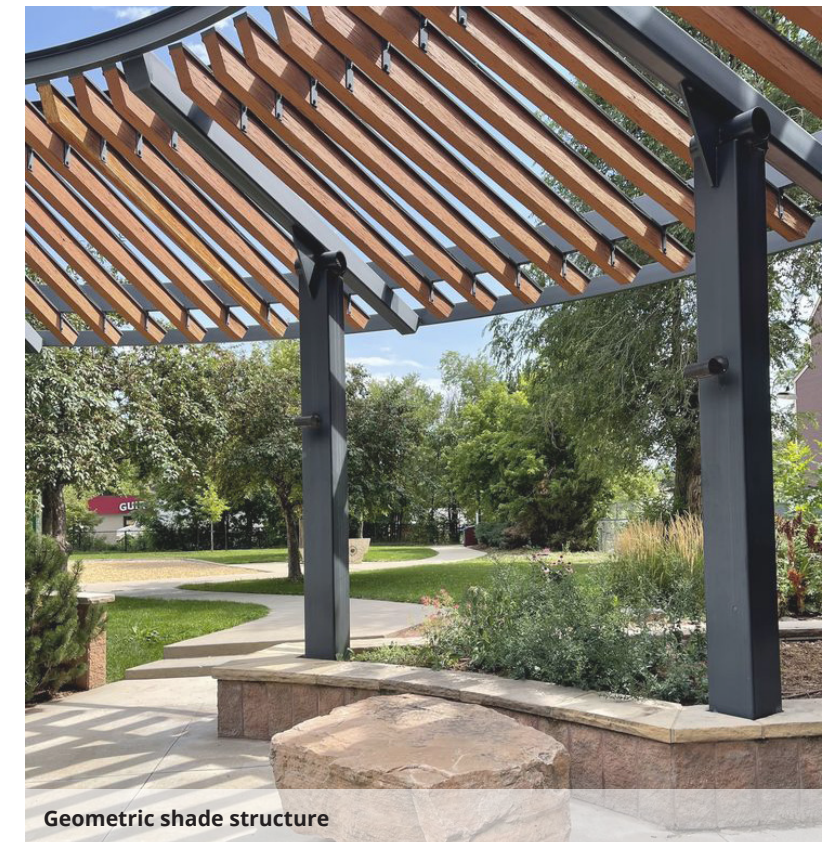
Minimal shade structure



Vegetated arbour



Curved biophilic shade structure



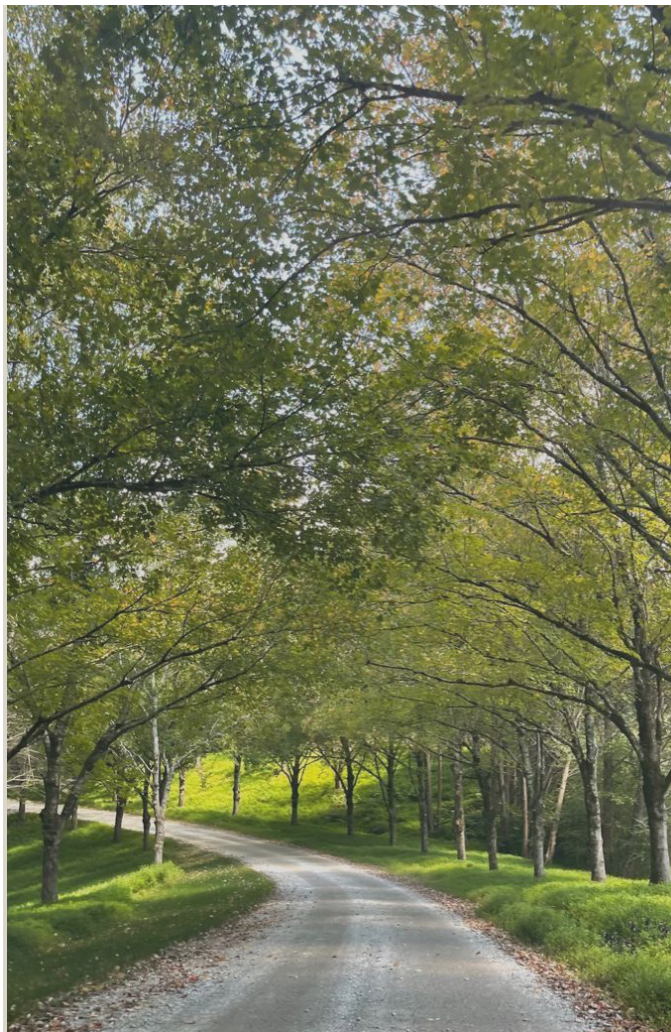
Geometric shade structure

Site Strategy and Landscape

Arrival Experience

A tree-lined boulevard marks the arrival to the site, creating a calm, processional approach. It directs visitors toward the administration building while offering a clear but respectful glimpse of the chapel beyond.

Planting along the route is carefully placed. It softens the journey, provides seasonal variation, and screens mourners from view where needed—maintaining privacy without feeling enclosed. The landscape supports a quiet, reflective atmosphere throughout the arrival sequence.



Site Strategy and Landscape Topography

The project carefully integrates with the existing topography by following the natural contours of the site, minimizing the need for extensive earthworks. Existing levels are retained wherever possible to further reduce disruption to the land and maintain the natural character of the site. This approach enhances the building's connection to the landscape while preserving environmental integrity and minimizing the project's overall impact.



Site Strategy and Landscape

Building Hierarchy

The chapel is the most prominent building on the site, and its presence is felt throughout the landscape. It's been positioned to offer views from various points along the main paths and open spaces, creating a quiet sense of orientation. These views aren't grand or dramatic, but intentional—glimpses that draw people in and mark the chapel as a place of significance. Its location helps guide visitors through the site without dominating the experience, allowing it to feel both central and respectfully set apart.



- KEY
- 1 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
 - 2 CHAPEL BUILDING
 - 3 CREMATORIUM
 - 4 STORAGE SHED / GARAGE

Site Strategy and Landscape

Building Accessibility

The path connecting the administration building to the other building amenities is designed to be fluid and intuitive, creating a natural flow between spaces. Its winding shape ensures that visitors can move through the site with ease, while also supporting the pace of both memorial services and personal visits. The design keeps things simple and functional, with subtle changes in the landscape helping to guide people through the space without overwhelming the experience.



Site Strategy and Landscape

Building Alignment

The chapel building shall be aligned to respect the natural topography and orient eastward, acknowledging its cultural and symbolic significance across various traditions and beliefs.

In Christianity, it symbolises the Second Coming of Christ and the Resurrection.

In Buddhism, it represents the direction of enlightenment and spiritual renewal.

In Chinese traditions, the east is associated with life, growth, and the Wood element, often representing new beginnings and prosperity.

In Islam, while the direction of prayer is fixed towards Mecca, for some locations facing east may also be significant due to the relative direction of the Kaaba



Site Strategy and Landscape

Building Group

The triangular arrangement of the building amenities creates a seamless and efficient interconnectedness, enhancing both functionality and accessibility. A central garden between these building blocks serve as a resting space for both staff and visitors



KEY
20M WALKING DISTANCE



03 SDRP 2 RESPONSES SUMMARY

State Design Review Panel Request (2)

NO.	CONNECTING WITH COUNTRY	RESPONSE	REFERENCE DOCUMENTATION
	A genuine co-design process with local Aboriginal knowledge-holders should be established and documented. The deep understanding of death and commemoration for First Nations people and other cultures can meaningfully inform the design principles and guide the development of the concept design.		
1	Engage with a range of local Aboriginal knowledge-holders to:		
a	inform a meaningful approach to Country and integrate First Nations culture and heritage into the landscape and architectural design strategy	The Landscape and Architectural Design carefully considers Country and incorporates various interpretative elements. Please refer too the Indigenous consultant report Architectural Design Report and Landscape Design Report.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 9-27) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 10,12,13,18) • Artefact - Connecting with Country Report (full report)
b	seek guidance from those who have expertise in funerals and memorialisation to inform how the design can accommodate specific cultural active ities and rituals, so that the location and design of spaces are fit -for-purpose	The project has conducted through stakeholder and user groups meeting along with engaging with Indigenous Knowledge holders. Along with these activities we also spoken with technical specialists and also have an experienced design team that have expertise in funerals and memorialisation to inform how the design can accommodate specific cultural active ities and ritual. Refer to Connecting with Country report section 5 for details	• Artefact - Connecting with Country Report (Pages 52-58)
c	ascertain if cultural burning can be established as part of a long-term maintenance and management plan for the site and to form part of the Caring for Country strategy. Refer to Caring for Country case study.	The Landscape and Architectural Design carefully considers Country and has left the management of landscape open to the use of these techniques. This will be included in the operational long-term management/maintenance of the site by the operator and community groups.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Page 14) • Artefact - Connecting with Country Report (Pages 52-58) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 12 & 18)
2	Explore whether other endangered species of flora and fauna could be introduced and encouraged to thrive on the site.	The Landscape Design has included planting that complement the endangered species both ecologically and aesthetically. These can reflect natural variation within the genus, enhance biodiversity, and enrich both visual and habitat value. Refer to Planting Schedule L-400	• Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (Refer to Planting Schedule L-400)
3	Engage with local Aboriginal artists when developing an art strategy for the site, establishing ICIP protocols to protect cultural knowledge and intellectual property.	Refer to Connecting with Country report section 5 for details on the integration of art within the project.	• Artefact - Connecting with Country Report (Section 9 – Designing for Country)
4	Propose materials and color palettes that reflect the local bush and/or geology to create a sense of calm and connectedness.	Noted. Current proposed material palette focuses on timber, recycled sandstone, decomposed granite and corten steel which reflect the local geology and bush environments. Additional materials shall be incorporated at detail stage to celebrate this character. Refer to Material Strategy in the Landscape Report.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 54,55,56,62,64)

State Design Review Panel Request (2)

NO.	SITE STRATEGY AND LANDSCAPE	RESPONSE	REFERENCE DOCUMENTATION
	The revised masterplan provides a strong framework for the project, however the current design appears to prioritise vehicles over pedestrians. The circulation strategy and the relationship between the buildings and landscape require further development.	Noted and to be provided in the Landscape SSDA Final Report and response item 6 below.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 30-35,39-43,63-65,67-68)
6	Interrogate the relationship between vehicles and pedestrians and demonstrate how shared paths prioritize pedestrian safety and comfort. Provide detailed drawings and diagrams (plans and sections) illustrating the design for the shared paths, including the spacing of trees to provide adequate shade along walking routes.	Additional information is provided to show that the pedestrians are the priority in the circulation and have been considered in the movement around the project site. The landscape and civil design looks to provide intuitive circulation and movement. Refer to page 30-35,39-43,63-65,67-68)	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 30-35,39-43,63-65,67-68) • Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (L-105, L-411)
7	Illustrate the proposed walkability strategy. Apply a 50m walkability radius and provide shelter and rest areas at regular intervals. Indicate the accessible routes and illustrate the proposed levels and gradients.	Refer to Landscape Report pages 63,64	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 63,64)
8	Continue to develop the arrival experience from the carpark. Review the arrival experience and route for different users of the cemetery, e.g., visitors to the café, mourners attending a service, etc. Provide a series of diagrams with options demonstrating the rationale for the preferred design	Refer to page (60-70) blow-up plan that illustrates the relationship between the amenities	• Arcadia – Landscape Design Report (60-70)
9	Integrate the pedestrian paths from the carpark to the administration and chapel buildings with the landscape, so that the arrival experience is bounded by nature.	Refer to page Page 33-36,63-70 blow-up plan that illustrates the relationship between the amenities. Lush planting is provided along the journey from the carpark to the building administration and chapel buildings.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Page 33-36,63-70) • Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (L-102)
10	Study the desire lines between the proposed buildings and to key destinations in the landscape. Provide diagrams illustrating how various users of the cemetery will circulate around the buildings and site. Include a pedestrian connection to the crematorium from the Stage 1 buildings.	Refer to page 32-36, 41,44,68 blow-up plan that illustrates the relationship between the amenities. Additional pedestrian paths are provided with landscaping to connect the buildings.	• Arcadia Landscape Design Report (Page 32-36, 41,44,68)
11	Illustrate the proposed ceremonial routes for the different types of services to be accommodated for various faiths.	The architectural and landscape design illustrates proposed ceremonial routes for different types of services. Pages 32-36	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 32-36) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 18,19,20,21 & 22)

State Design Review Panel Request (2)

	The site offers the potential for all buildings to have a pleasant outlook to nature and be surrounded by landscape. The siting of the buildings currently results in the café overlooking the carpark and the chapel obscuring views from the administration and crematorium buildings.	The siting of the buildings have been amended to respond to the SDRP #2 feedback. Please refer to the Architectural and Landscape Design. Refer to detailed blow-up plans from pages 33 to 36.	• Arcadia Landscape Design Report (Pages 31-32,40-45,67) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 13,14,18,19,20 & 24)
12	Undertake a view analysis and study the siting, orientation and sightlines for each building. Ensure that the siting of one building does not obstruct views of the landscape from key spaces of another building.	The current layout highlights the hierarchy of the buildings, with the chapel positioned as the architectural centrepiece of the site. Landscaping around the café and the area between the admin building and the chapel will be lush, acting as a green buffer and screen from the car park. Refer to Pages 40-45, 65-70 of this report.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 40-45, 65-70) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 13,14,18,19,20 & 24)
	The café overlooks the chapel's main entry. Consider the relationship between the café, which is an active, noisy space, and the arrival experience for mourners to the chapel, which may be solemn and reflective.	The siting of the buildings have been amended to respond to the SDRP #2 feedback. Please refer to the Architectural and Landscape Design. Refer to responses below 13-a, 13-b.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 39,40-44) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report
13	Describe the rationale for the siting of the chapel, crematorium and administration buildings by:	The siting of the buildings have been amended to respond to the SDRP #2 feedback. Please refer to the Architectural and Landscape Design.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 65-70) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 12,18,19, 44 & 45)
	a. studying the functions of each building and considering the distance and relationship between different and conflicting uses	The administration building is strategically positioned as the first key amenity that visitors encounter. The café area within the admin building softens its edge and contributes to the welcoming view, offering a space for respite within the memorial park. It is situated 14 meters from the chapel entrance, with lush landscaping in between. The admin building provides key views of the chapel and the memorial garden, while its proximity to the crematorium ensures a seamless transition between these two buildings. Refer to Pages 32, 40-45,65-70 of this report.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 32, 40-45,65-70) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 22,24,28 ,44 & 45)
	b. reviewing the chapel curtilage and providing privacy for mourners during a funeral service through the building siting and landscape design	The café has been reoriented to provide views of the Memorial Gardens and surrounding landscape, intentionally facing away from the chapel and the arrival path of mourning visitors from the car park. The café, roads, and chapel have been strategically relocated to ensure a substantial separation of approximately 40 meters, effectively distinguishing the buildings and creating distinct arrival experiences for different visitor types. Additionally, the crematorium is thoughtfully nestled within the natural environment, offering a private and respectful setting that balances ceremonial dignity with operational sensitivity.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 40-45) • Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 22,24,28 ,44 & 45)

State Design Review Panel Request (2)

	c. considering any adverse effects of noise from the playground on services in the chapel and ensuring the design response mitigates the impact	The playground has been removed to preserve the memorial park's primary purpose as a place of quiet reflection and remembrance. While we recognise it was valued by some families, this change supports a more respectful atmosphere for those mourning or seeking solitude. We remain committed to creating inclusive spaces and are exploring alternative ways to support families in more suitable settings.	• N/A – removed from Landscape proposal as per SDRP requirement.
	d. confirming whether exhaust from the crematorium will impact the adjacent buildings and if greater separation between buildings should be provided.	Air Quality assessment confirms there are no adverse environmental effects from the operation of the proposed crematorium to the immediate site and neighbouring area. The location and the design of the exhaust chimneys are favourable for operating the crematorium without having any air quality impacts over the surrounding area. Refer Neo Consulting Air Quality Impact Assessment report for further details.	• Design Cubicle – Architecture Design Report (Pages 21,22 & 56) • Neo Consulting - Air Quality Impact Assessment Report (Pages 13-17)
16	Clearly illustrate the proposed burial area on all plans to ensure the ongoing protection of the existing perimeter landscape.	The burial zone has been refined and revised. Please refer to Civil Drawings and Landscape Design Report & Drawings (Page 47-49 & Appendix L-102).	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Page 47-49) • Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (L-102) • Lanigan - Civil Drawings (LC2996-TP01, LC2996-EW01, LC2996-EW02, LC2996-EW03, LC2996-EW04)
17	Provide a detailed burial layout plan for the whole site and illustrate the relationship to the site contours and geology. Confirm the extent of cut and fill in relation to the proposed burial layouts.	The burial zone has been refined and revised. Please refer to Civil Drawings and Landscape Design Report & Drawings (Page 47-50 & Appendix L-102).	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Page 47-50) • Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (L-102) • Lanigan - Civil Drawings (LC2996-TP01, LC2996-EW01, LC2996-EW02, LC2996-EW03, LC2996-EW04)
18	Ensure that the height and size of the proposed memorial structures are appropriate for the sensitive perimeter vegetation zone.	The memorial structures refer to are the family cripts which have been moved away from the protected area and relocated in response to the comment. Please see the final SSDA Landscape and Architectural Report.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (36,53) • Design Cubicle - Architecture Design Report (Page 57)

State Design Review Panel Request (2)

19	Provide information on the timing of the proposed construction stages and the rationale for the staging sequence.	The construction process involves setting up the site, protecting the environment, and carrying out demolition and infrastructure works for burial zones and facilities. Buildings such as the chapel, admin areas, and pond are constructed, while landscaping enhances the site's natural beauty. Once completed, the site is handed over for operation, allowing for burial activities to begin while ongoing construction continues in other zones. Construction activities will be carried out to meet market conditions based on demand whilst servicing the viable operational servicing requirements. Refer comments included in Landscape Report Page 47-50.	• HT - Construction Management Plan (Pages 14 & 15)
	The project team advised that the bushfire Asset Protection Zone (APZ) is limited to the boundary immediately adjacent to the proposed buildings.	Noted. Please Refer Travers Bushfire Report for detailed bushfire and APZ requirements.	• Travers - Bushfire Protection Assessment (Pages 30 – 40)
20	Clarify the requirements of the bushfire APZ and describe any impacts on the existing vegetation. Indicate the extent of the APZ on the drawings.	Noted. Please Refer Travers Bushfire Report for detailed bushfire and APZ requirements.	• Travers - Bushfire Protection Assessment (Pages 30 – 40)
21	Undertake a detailed investigation regarding the use of native grasses to ensure there is a long-term management plan and that the proposed species can withstand foot traffic. Research precedents and seek advice from other projects that have used native grasses in a similar context.	Further investigation will be conducted to inform the long-term management plan. Initially, Project Cultivate will be reviewed, as their work focuses on planting locally native plants and grasses to revitalize cemetery sites. Refer to https://smct.org.au/project-cultivate A planting schedule outlining the proposed strategy, which focuses on the use of native grasses, is provided. Please refer to drawing L-400 for details.	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 51,55,56) • Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (L-400)
22	Demonstrate how tree canopy cover is achieved across the development site by providing an analysis plan with calculations for proposed trees and their growth at 5, 10, 15 and 20 years. This can also assist where trees are proposed as shading elements to the buildings (refer advice item 25).	Awnings are provided over all outdoor gathering spaces and entrances that gradually transition from the indoors to the landscape outdoors. Section 3 Page 32,33, 35, 44 and 46	• Arcadia - Landscape Design Report (Pages 57 & 58) • Arcadia - Landscape Drawings (L-400 series)



04 LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Landscape Management Practices

Landscape Maintenance Monitoring and Management

Effective landscape maintenance within a fire prone area depends on rigorous monitoring. This involves regular inspections and reporting on vegetation health, fuel load levels, the effectiveness of planting design in maintaining fire resilience, and the condition of hard landscape elements. Additionally, documenting all maintenance activities and resource use is essential for ensuring compliance with bushfire management requirements and informing future maintenance strategies.

1.1 Developing A Landscape Maintenance Plan

The landscape works need a detailed and tailored maintenance plan. The maintenance plan will be goal or outcome focused to be carried out by the caretaker onsite and to be current (i.e. reflect the existing and overall condition of the landscape), and identify future maintenance or developmental needs.

- The landscape maintenance plan will include the following components:
- Introduction to the site
 - Details on the design intent and any specific maintenance objectives
 - Planting plan and schedule
 - Irrigation plan and specifications
 - Maintenance schedules detailing the tasks and frequency
 - Required standards, performance targets or expected outcomes
 - Any specific cyclical or periodic maintenance activities
 - The required resources, training and equipment
 - Clear delineation of roles and responsibilities, including updated contact details
 - Details of a handover process for maintenance staff
 - All relevant component, equipment and machinery specifications, servicing and warranty information

Before each maintenance visit, all the necessary equipment should be available to complete any required work.

1.2 Visual Inspection Checklist for Fire-Prone Landscapes

Routine visual inspections are vital to ensure the landscape remains both respectful and resilient. Inspections should focus on maintaining clear and accessible pathways, managing vegetation to reduce fuel loads, and ensuring the health of commemorative plantings. Routine visual inspections are essential for identifying and addressing issues in fire-prone landscapes before they compromise performance or safety. Inspections should be conducted by a suitably qualified professional and cover both vegetated and constructed elements. Photos must be taken during each inspection, with images geo-tagged and referenced for record-keeping and comparative analysis.

Additional inspections should be carried out after extreme weather events—such as heavy rain, high winds, extended droughts, or heatwaves—or following any remedial or repair works.

The objective of each inspection is to assess damage or deterioration affecting plants, lawn, irrigation infrastructure, and hard landscape elements. The frequency of inspections should reflect the landscape's profile and accessibility, with high-visibility or high-risk areas inspected more regularly. Where appropriate and permitted, drone-assisted inspections can provide an efficient and safe way to monitor larger or difficult-to-access areas, but must be carried out by a qualified operator using a consistent methodology.

Example Landscape Visual Inspection Checklist

Item	Task
Plant Coverage	Assess plant coverage noting unintended and persistent bare patches over consecutive visits Take photos of any issues and file them for future reference and training
Plant Health	Assess plant health and condition, noting signs of possible nutrient deficiencies, pests and diseases, damaged plants,
Weeds	Assess the weeds present, noting the dominant species and if particular areas are more impacted than others
Substrate	Check the substrate, noting any erosion or apparent changes across the landscape
Irrigation Systems	Check any damage/deterioration of irrigation components and any visual signs of over/under watering. Check the water meter for usage and other applications (e.g., moisture sensors and (remote monitoring devices
Hard landscape Elements	Check for damage/deterioration of paving, furniture, edges Record and remove rubbish or other debris from the plaza

1.3 Maintenance Reports

A maintenance report must be completed after every maintenance visit, a copy of which is then included in a maintenance manual for the site. This report can be completed using a computerised maintenance management system (CMMS). The maintenance report should consist of the following:

- Date and time on site
- Person/people performing maintenance and completing the report
- Summary list of all tasks completed
- Visual inspection records and notes, including images, site plan annotations and further actions/recommendations
- Identification of potential hazards or problems that may impact the next maintenance visit
- Details of vegetation maintenance tasks, including new plantings (species, location, plant supplier), plant deaths, plant removals (dead or alive), plant health interventions (pests/disease treatments, fertiliser applications – types, rates, locations)
- Details of any hard landscape or facility maintenance completed, including irrigation testing and routine maintenance, substrate testing (e.g. pH, electrical conductivity) including sample location and results, hard surfaces, cleaning, rubbish removals and any other interventions.
- Follow-up tasks for completion in the next maintenance visit and items requiring specialist input

Landscape Management Practices

ALL Plant Species Management and Maintenance

The Management of Understory Planting involves the following:

- Plant Replacement
- Plant Growth
- Weed Management
- Pruning
- Lawn/Turf
- Spraying and Insect and pest control
- Fertilising,
- Maintaining mulch
- Slashing/Mowing
- Watering
- Stakes and Ties
- Rubbish removal
- Cleaning of the surrounding areas
- Regenerating or re-vegetating areas of poor quality vegetation

Plant Replacement
Replace failed plants. A “failed” plant may not mean complete death of soft tissue but failure due to poor growth, appearance, or unacceptable time for plant to re-establish new growth following damage or vandalism. Replacement plants shall be in a similar size and quality and identical species or variety to the plant that has failed. Replacement of plants shall be at the cost of the Landscape Contractor unless advised otherwise. Failure of the plant shall be at the sole discretion of the Landscape Architect.

Plant Growth
Trees, shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers shall at all times show signs of healthy vigorous growth. Spent flower heads or stalks shall be removed immediately following flowering.

Use approved weedicides and insecticides.

Pruning of Understorey ground cover planting management
Pruning for safety, especially with regard operations of rail line, safety of public domain and CPTED surveillance

Any pruning of damaged growth or miscellaneous pruning considered as beneficial to the condition of the plants.

All pruning works shall be undertaken in a manner equal to acceptable horticultural practice.

2 Maintenance Schedules

Maintenance schedules should always be customised to suit the landscape areas and the client expectations.

The following maintenance schedules apply to landscape works within a cemetery site in the Cumberland Plains, where warm to hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters influence patterns of plant growth. Seasonal variations in climate affect the frequency of maintenance—generally decreasing during dormant periods and increasing during times of active growth, particularly for both planted species and invasive weeds.

Tasks are organised into two phases: establishment and routine maintenance. During the establishment phase, more frequent inspections are required, with particular attention to weed control, plant replacement, and irrigation to support the successful establishment of commemorative planting and groundcover.

All green waste must be managed appropriately, removed safely in line with the landscape maintenance plan, and disposed of at a suitable green waste recycling facility, maintaining both the dignity of the site and good environmental practice.

2.1 Establishment Maintenance

Establishment maintenance is typically 12 months (up to 24 months), where trees are planted as these can take longer to establish on-site fully. The critical tasks required during establishment are irrigation (fortnightly/weekly), weed control and pruning to promote suitable plant form and growth. Any replanting during establishment should be undertaken when climatic conditions are the most appropriate.

2.2 Routine Maintenance Schedule

The maintenance frequency will be confirmed during future project phases once the landscape design and planting schedules are finalised.

Landscape Works	
Design and function	The landscape is primarily designed to support quiet circulation, reflection, and passive visitation within a respectful and contemplative setting. Hard landscape elements include pathways, seating, and other furnishings that offer comfort and accessibility for visitors. The soft landscape comprises a thoughtfully curated selection of trees, shrubs, grasses, and groundcovers, complemented by areas of amenity turf to provide a sense of openness and tranquillity appropriate to the cemetery environment
Maintenance Objective	The maintenance objectives focus on ensuring that both plants and hard landscape features are consistently maintained to a high standard, maximising their visual appeal, functionality, and utility. Plants should remain healthy, with beds kept free from weeds, and plant coverage should be at least 90% across landscape areas post-establishment. The plant communities should maintain at least 80% of the original species and densities from the design, with a focus on fostering self-generating ecosystems that require minimal intervention. These objectives aim to enhance the site's aesthetic value while promoting ecological sustainability and long-term resilience
Maintenance Inputs	Medium maintenance - Weekly to Fortnightly Schedule
Substrate Testing	regular testing of soil to maintain ideal conditions for plant growth and continued monitoring of landscape health
Vegetation Type	A variety of Cumberland Plains native, grasses, groundcovers, shrubs and trees and turf
Monuments and Hardscape	Avoid damage to monuments through careful maintenance within close surrounds. For example, avoid whipper snippers around monuments, remove vegetation within graves to avoid moisture retention use non-toxic poisons around monument edges and hand-mow where possible

Landscape Management Practices

2.3 Best Practice guidelines

In accordance with

Cemeteries & Crematoria NSW Voluntary Code of Practice for Cemetery Maintenance Cemetery maintenance guide February 2020

Guide to Licence Conditions B.1 – B.6 : Cemetery Maintenance (operational)

Grounds maintenance activities should be planned with consideration for peak visitation periods, such as Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Christmas, and other religious holidays. Ensure maintenance checks and tasks are carried out in the days leading up to these dates.

Visitor mementos and offerings should be managed with sensitivity. A clear policy should be established and applied consistently. Where appropriate, introduce new policies for new sections to distinguish them from previous traditions.

Ensure the safe use of high-traffic areas through consistent maintenance. For example, access roads, paths, and avenues should be mowed more frequently than low-traffic areas, such as spaces between graves.

Where necessary, implement 'Safer by Design' principles, such as maintaining clear sightlines and eliminating hidden areas that could pose safety risks. Cleaning tree trunks and managing low gardens can contribute to creating a balanced and secure environment.

Conduct regular inspections to maintain safety and security for all users.

Mowing according to season is typical. However, frequency of mowing can be considered by frequency of use. Map high-, medium- and low-use areas based on cemetery lifecycle phase. In low-use areas, consider low-maintenance and water-efficient, meadow-style treatments, for example trimming kangaroo grass biannually after flowering and cutting it to promote growth and seed-drop for effective regrowth. Mow high-traffic paths and access points more regularly.

Avoid damage to monuments through careful maintenance within close surrounds. For example, avoid whipper snippers around monuments, remove vegetation within graves to avoid moisture retention, use non-toxic poisons around monument edges and hand-mow where possible.

In areas that are not currently used, consider using low-maintenance mulch. Reuse fallen or removed trees/branches on site

Define the maintenance levels for different sections of the cemetery:

- Assess the condition of various parts of the cemetery to determine appropriate maintenance needs. This could be based on the cemetery lifecycle, which progresses from 'unused' land, to 'active' and 'transitional' areas during interment, and eventually to 'perpetual' or 'inactive' phases.

- Consider factors such as:

Active interment areas (regular or on-demand maintenance): High-traffic areas for interment, such as entry points, pedestrian pathways, amenities buildings, car parks, memorialisation walls, and garden areas.

Transitional use areas (occasional maintenance): Areas used occasionally for interment, such as reserved plots or second burials.

Perpetual use areas (minimal maintenance): Areas where interments are rare, though occasional use may still occur.

Unused cleared areas (development maintenance): Land that has been cleared but is not yet developed for interment.

Unused natural areas (conservation maintenance): Zones containing native vegetation or other natural habitats.

Administrative/maintenance areas (regular maintenance): Sections that house sheds, landscaping materials, or administrative buildings and structures.

Minimise visual disruption caused by landscape supply storage and soil stockpiles by avoiding commonly used and high visitation areas. Tree trimming or tree removal may be subject to other NSW legislation including the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW), Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and Local Environment Plans (LEPs). You should seek your own independent legal advice related to this if needed

To ensure safety, fallen trees or branches must be identified through regular inspections and removed as soon as possible.

- Fallen trees and branches may be left in place if they are located outside the active cemetery area, such as within a natural zone that is part of the cemetery grounds.

Herbicides: • Avoid using dyed herbicides that are likely to stain memorials. It is preferable to manually remove weeds near memorials, especially those made of marble or light-coloured stone that may be easily stained. • Your maintenance plan should specify the herbicides and/or chemicals that may be used within the cemetery, along with the circumstances under which they will be applied.

*** All Herbicides need to be approved by superintendent before use.**

Landscape Management Practices

2.3 Specific Maintenance Requirements

The planting design is not the standard manicured garden and requires more specialised landscape maintenance tasks.

Specific Maintenance requirements	Chapel Administration & Crematorium Area
Lawn Turfed Areas	First cutting following lawn establishment. Followed by slashing to maintain even height. Flail mowers (tractor mounted or handheld) are used for this type of application - they break up the chaff from the slashing and leave it in-situ
Formalised Planted Areas	Infrequent 'slashing' – create and sustain dense canopies of shrub mass and informal vegetation plantings. Coppicing (low basal pruning) could be used as part of a renovation treatment of these plantings every 5-6 years Pruning that removes apical dominance and creates a lower, branching habit of low maintenance ground covers is most effective at maintaining good canopy closure
Plant replacement	Plants that have died, are in significant decline or have been vandalised shall be replaced (use same species) within 2 weeks of the previously identified inspection
Mulch replacement	Mulch shall be replaced where it has been disturbed, removed or scoured, and is to maintain a consistent 50-75mm depth and be flush with surrounding finishes
Weed control	Weed control is to be undertaken so that it does not damage the surrounding plant material. Weeds may not exceed 5% of planted areas and the height of the weeds must not exceed 50mm
Lawn mowing and trimming	Turf areas shall be cut at regular intervals to ensure the maximum specified height is not exceeded. At the same time, trim lawn edges. Ensure trees and shrubs are not damaged. Remove litter and fallen branches prior to mowing and edging. Remove grass clippings and edges from site and dispose of in recycling facilities

Landscape Management Practices

2.3 Specific Maintenance Requirements

The planting design is not the standard manicured garden and requires more specialised landscape maintenance tasks.

Specific Maintenance requirements	Burial Plots ,
Pruning grass mixes	Maintenance should be infrequent, and cutting should be done by hand-slashing only. This is to maintain a a natural appearance while • ensuring that no machinery disturbs the burial sites or sensitive areas. Tools: Hand-held tools should be used for this application. Flail mowers or any large machinery should be strictly avoided to ensure respect for the graves and the environment. natural appearance while ensuring that no machinery disturbs the burial sites or sensitive areas
Plant replacement	Plants that have died, are in significant decline or have been vandalised shall be replaced or removed by the caretaker (by the same species) within 2 weeks of the previously identified inspection
Grave Settling	grave settling or subsidence, caused by loosening soil settling back into place. If this process has occurred if the grave appears to have a ‘sinking’ affect. Graves will settle in different ways and timeframes, resulting in minor grave depressions of less than .5mtr to greater than .5mtrs. Settled graves will require a top-up of soil Caretaker onsite to determine if required
Weed control	Weed control is to be undertaken so that it does not damage the surrounding plant material. Weeds may not exceed 5% of planted areas and the height of the weeds must not exceed 50mm
Lawn mowing and trimming	Avoid damage to monuments through careful maintenance within close surrounds. For example, avoid whipper snippers around monuments, remove vegetation within graves to avoid moisture retention use non-toxic poisons around monument edges and hand-mow where possible

Mitigation Responses

The table below outlines the mitigation and landscape strategies adopted to integrate the proposed development within the existing landscape. This VIA should be read in conjunction with the Landscape Design

Category	Mitigation Measure	Response
Material Selection	The landscape design employs natural and sustainable materials that reflect the site’s character and minimise environmental disturbance. Locally sourced products are prioritised to ensure seamless integration with the existing landscape. Re-use of existing sandstone reinforces the site’s natural identity.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Planting Strategy	The planting palette incorporates diverse forms and textures, offering seasonal visual interest through flowering species and foliage variation. Indigenous species from the Dharawal region are used to support local biodiversity, including pollinators, birds, and small mammals.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Existing Tree Retention	Mature trees are retained where possible to preserve the existing landscape character and ecological value, reinforcing canopy cover and reducing construction impact.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Canopy Enhancement	New tree planting enhances canopy coverage across the site, particularly in open spaces and parking areas, contributing to comfort, shade, and long-term visual integration.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Interpretive Signage & Artworks	Signage and public artworks celebrate Dharawal cultural heritage through inclusive storytelling and visual language. These elements foster a sense of place, promote cultural understanding, and enrich the visitor experience.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Shade Provision	Shaded pathways, seating areas, and pocket gardens are integrated to ensure comfort for visitors. The memorial garden, located centrally, serves as a welcoming and shaded gathering space.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Avenue Planting	A tree-lined boulevard provides a strong visual axis leading visitors from the entry to the administrative building and chapel, enhancing orientation and arrival experience.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Topographic Integration	The design follows the site’s natural contours to reduce earthworks and preserve landform. This minimises visual disruption and maintains the site’s environmental integrity.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Chapel Siting and Orientation	The chapel is the visual focal point of the development and is oriented east, aligning with cultural and religious significance across multiple faiths. Its siting maximises visual accessibility from various vantage points.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Built Form Layout	The triangular arrangement of built elements strengthens functional connectivity while allowing clear sightlines. A central courtyard garden serves as a shared rest and reflection space.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation
Landscape Management	Long-term maintenance strategies are proposed to ensure visual quality and ecological resilience, with a focus on sustaining canopy cover, habitat value, and site cleanliness.	Addressed in Landscape Report and Documentation

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