
5.7 Wulugul Walk and Boardwalk

VISION

The construction of this part of Wulugul Walk will complete the vision for the continuous foreshore walk in this part of the Harbour. For this to be successfully implemented it requires very careful consideration of material and furniture compositions that provide the feeling of a singularly completed promenade through all stages of the development. This is challenging because there are some detailed differences in the northern and southern parts (Barangaroo Central and Stage 1A). Our vision for Wulugul Walk therefore takes on the significant challenge to successfully combine these three existing parts – excluding the Cove – into a singular character that strongly defines the waters edge.

The recent MOD8 approval includes the requirement for a 30m setback of Crown Sydney from the water. This has provided the opportunity to develop a large boardwalk, integrated with the former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock, adjacent to this part of Wulugul Walk. In addition to the continued provision of a publicly accessible waterside edge the new Boardwalk provides a range of opportunities to activate Wulugul Walk including pop up events, showcasing art and small scale gatherings.

Wulugul Walk will be developed to respond to the following key principles.

- To ensure that the double allee of trees is continued as a key aspect of defining the foreshore promenade.
- To re-use selected materials, Porphyry and Sandstone, as key unifying elements in the paving.
- To promote continuation of a linear foreshore promenade but also provide a variety of opportunities to sit and appreciate exceptional views across the harbour.

- To define the former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock as a key place along the walk.
- To facilitate clear cross views, below tree canopies, from the ground floor terraces of the adjacent Crown Sydney.
- To provide a variety of spaces, integrated with the linear promenade, that can be used to showcase temporary events.

INTEGRATION WITH BARANGAROO CENTRAL

The Barangaroo Central part of Wulugul Walk has been constructed close to the north western boundary of the Crown Hotel. It defines a strong waterside public promenade that continues north around Barangaroo Reserve and connects the parkland with Walsh Bay. It has a linear character, despite its open views across the Harbour, that is defined primarily by three rows of avenue tree planting and the regular placement of light poles, seats and other furniture. The completion of the open parkland on the eastern side of this part of the walk will ultimately define this as the true change in character in Barangaroo from City to Park.

We are not familiar with any design proposals for the future parkland in Central so it has been difficult to confirm any specific requirements for design integration. We have however been inspired by the arrival experience into the Reserve from Walsh Bay, which is defined by a large welcome “mat” of porphyry paving, we see that the junction between Central and Stage 1B as a similarly important entry albeit to a different part of the development. We too have therefore proposed a large porphyry paved space that simplifies the junction of the different geometries and paving widths and signifies your arrival to Barangaroo South. We have proposed the continuation a double row of avenue tree planting, sandstone and porphyry paving as key “unifying” elements however the porphyry paving edge is wider than the existing 1m wide porphyry edge that is already constructed in Central because of the

differently sized tree pits in Stage 1A.

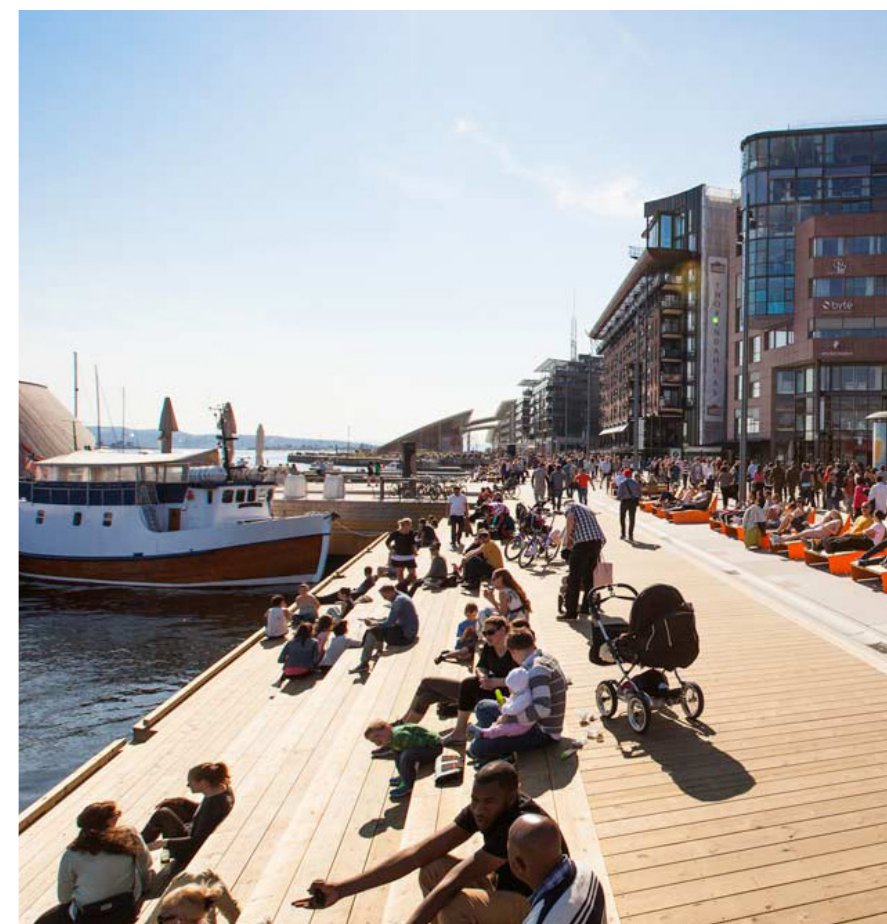
One other significant unifying element is the sandstone sitting terraces that define the edge of the Boardwalk and the main promenade. The change in level has been exploited to create a range of informal sitting terraces, capturing the distant views, using the use the large sandstone blocks as a key unifying element to the Barangaroo Reserve.

INTEGRATION WITH CROWN HOTEL

The approval of Crown Sydney has included a series of western facing public terraces. These have been integrated into the finished design of Wulugul Walk so that there is a seamless transition between all of the public spaces. All of the entries to the Terraces from Wulugul Walk will be flush with the exception of the north western terrace where a slight stepped entry is proposed.

THE FORMER SPIRIT OF TASMANIA LOADING DOCK

The former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock has played a role in the maritime history of this part of the harbour as the primary berth for the former Spirit of Tasmania. It is a suspended concrete structure that sits above the level of the existing concrete apron. In reference to its former maritime use we have proposed that it is retained as a hard paved structure but have raised it so that it is integrated it with the proposed level of Wulugul Walk. We have also marked it as a key place with the planting of a signature fig tree. The tree is part of the design narrative for the integration of all of the different areas of the Stage 1B public realm. It will be planted in a raised planter which also provides an opportunity to sit and look out over the water. We hope that these refinements enable the former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock to be retained as a significant place along the waterfront but that also establishes it as a more integrated, and useable, part of the public realm.



BOARDWALK

One of the key principles for the development of the boardwalk was for it to have quite a different character and use to Wulugul Walk. This was facilitated by nature of its generous size and large open flat areas that presented opportunities to support a range of different uses other than a linear promenade. The design of the boardwalk has evolved as a series of different linear spaces - that have a strong relationship to Wulugul walk and felt inherently connected - but that has also provided spaces for other happenings; spaces to pause longer and linger. The difference in levels of the key interfaces of Watermans Cove, former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock and the existing Central boardwalk - with which it connected - has allowed us to create a personality for the boardwalk that isn't just a large flat timber deck but that allows it to be a canvas for temporary events, meeting and sitting. The main north south edge to Wulugul Walk presented an excellent opportunity to sit and watch or just to appreciate the magnificent Harbour views.

The far northern section of the boardwalk is proposed to be a floating private water transport pontoon with a ramp to the main fixed boardwalk structure. This would not be unlike the existing pontoon that has been installed further North in Nawi Cove.

BOARDWALK EVENTS OVERLAY

The boardwalk will play an important role in activation of Wulugul Walk. It will provide a variety of small and larger distinct zones that can be programmed for specific uses and revenue opportunities. These events could be wide and varied and could be programmed to link with other activities along Wulugul Walk. The boardwalk will be provided with connections to power. We envisage that casual events and activities will also evolve naturally, without the need for specific planning. For example we can see that it will become a destination for runners and

walkers throughout the week. The deck and former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock could similarly be used for organised yoga mornings or boot camp style group exercise.

PHYSICAL PARAMETERS

The length of Wulugul Walk that will be constructed in Stage 1B is approximately 130m long. Its width varies according to the changing edge of the Crown Sydney terraces however at a minimum it is 12m wide (excluding the new Boardwalk). A particularly important part of the design resolution of this part of Wulugul Walk is the relationship to the public Crown terraces, main entries to the building and the former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock. In principle Wulugul Walk has been designed to nominal grades to ensure adequate surface run off however there is a proposed change in level at the junction with the Boardwalk. The change in level allows the integration with the Central lower boardwalk. At its extreme this is in excess of 1000mm however this is mitigated through the design of the sandstone terrace seating steps so that there is never a need for a handrail. The Boardwalk has been designed to include a large flexible space at RL2.05 so as to maintain views out over the Harbour. This requires some parts of the deck to ramp so that it integrates with the existing level of the timber boardwalk in Central. These ramp grades are 1:20 and do not require handrails.

A portion of the southern edge of Wulugul Walk will be constructed over a new suspended structure, south of the existing cassion wall, to ensure continuation of the avenue tree planting near the south western corner of Crown Sydney.

PUBLIC DOMAIN CHARACTER

Wulugul Walk, through its placement of avenue tree planting and lighting defines a distinctly linear space that exposes clear views north and south and the beauty of the Harbour and its many changing

characters. The activation of the ground floor of Crown Sydney will add another dynamic that will expose contrasting experiences of a lively and active urban edge. In addition to the eastern and western contrasts this part of Wulugul Walk also has the drama of the new Watermans Cove to the south and the connection to the new parklands of Barangaroo Central to the north. Among all of these it is important that, at the human scale, Wulugul Walk exhibits a sense of calm and unity to the remaining parts of the public realm. We have proposed a singular unit paver for the ground plane in the main body of the promenade (which will link to Watermans Cove) to help to define this and to ensure that Wulugul Walk becomes a pleasant and welcoming meander to these new and exciting adjacent destinations.

The boardwalk has been composed to offer a distinctly different character, it offers a series of more open generous spaces that begin to register with the larger scale natural elements of water and sky. At all parts of the boardwalk the intention is to ensure that it offers an opportunity to capture uninterrupted views out across the Harbour in every direction, this alone will be a significant contribution to its overall character.

The design of Wulugul Walk and the Boardwalk shall.

- Facilitate significant numbers of pedestrian movement.
- Have special places to gather, to pause and linger.
- Provide seamless connectivity to the adjacent Crown Sydney public terraces
- Be adaptive, versatile and welcoming.
- Play host to magnificent large scale signature tree planting and avenue planting.
- Have beautiful hardscape details.
- Allow key views beneath the tree canopies to expose the water and distant views across the Harbour.

MATERIALS AND FURNITURE

The proposed furniture palette for Wulugul Walk continues the same selection of lighting, bins, bubblers and seats as those that have already been installed in Stage 1A. Precast unit paving will define the main hard material for the ground plane with flush edges of porphyry paving and sandstone to provide a unified material treatment to Barangaroo Reserve. Sandstone is proposed to be used, in the form of large solids blocks, as informal sitting terraces, taking reference from Barangaroo Reserve, for the edges of the boardwalk.

The cast-iron tree grates are proposed to be another strong unifying element to the tree planted allee in both Wulugul Walk and Watermans Cove. They will define a strong rhythm to the tree avenue and assist to break up large expanses of paving. They will also help to define a holistic character for the furniture palette throughout the public realm of Barangaroo South.

USES

Wulugul Walk will be used by a variety of different user groups that will call Barangaroo home or that live close by in the neighbouring suburbs. It must be designed to accommodate the general public, workers, residents and visitors alike who will use it as a major route to access all parts of Barangaroo. Wulugul Walk, and in particular the large new Boardwalk, could play host to larger scale events, however some more regular activities are likely to include.

- Small lunch-time concerts
- Temporary "Pop up" retail activation or exhibitions
- Eating lunch or reading under the trees
- People watching
- Harbour watching

- Taking in the distant views across the water and planted headlands
- Lunchtime and morning runners or walkers
- Various fitness groups

Wulugul Walk will be a very active space that will not only be generated by the walkers and people using it but also by the adjacent users of the Crown Sydney terraces. Cyclists will be discouraged from using it, the resolution of the dedicated cycle lane will be included in the future design for the Barangaroo Central public domain.

EXISTING CONCRETE APRON

The majority of Wulugul Walk is proposed to be constructed over the existing concrete apron of the former wharf. Given the aspiration to continue the tree lined allee there will be a need to provide sufficient soil profile and depth. A minimum of 750mm soil depth is proposed for the tree planting. This will include the installation of a Stratacell (similar to those installed in Wulugul Walk in Stage 1A and Barangaroo Central) so that the trees can establish and mature without compaction of root zones. It is envisaged that this soil zone, and the future paving, will be constructed above the level of the existing concrete apron however it will be excavated if required to achieve soil depth.

ORIENTATION AND CLIMATE

Wulugul Walk will be exposed to full western sun that will be particularly hot during the afternoon in summer. This poses a significant challenge because unlike elsewhere in this part of Barangaroo there are no buildings to assist in the provision of shade. The success of the tree planting is therefore particularly important so as to provide shade during the hottest parts of the day. The signature fig tree that is proposed to be planted on the former Spirit of

Tasmania loading dock is envisaged to provide a large dense canopy that will offer a shady spot to sit during the heat of the day.

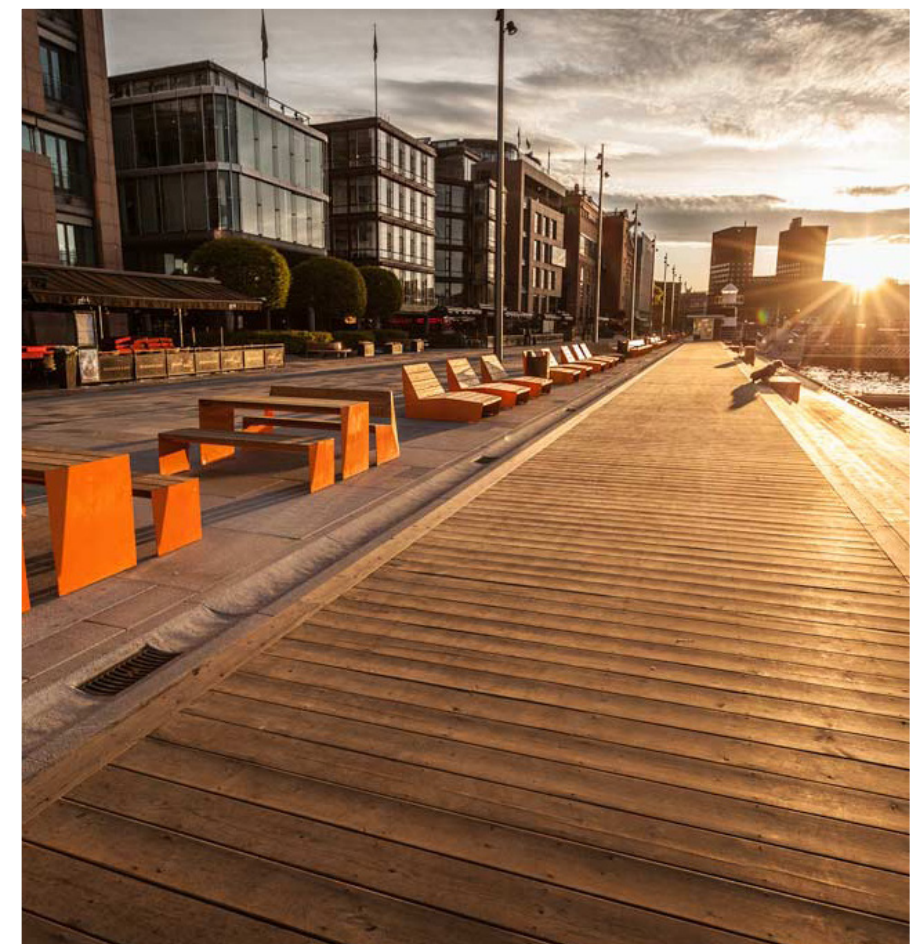
PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT

The primary pedestrian movement will be in a north south direction however, particularly during special events, there will be some pedestrian movement east west along Wulugul Walk from Crown Sydney to the former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock and Boardwalk. The seating opportunities that are to be provided by the bench seating and the sandstone sitting terraces are expected to be particularly popular for tourists taking in the view or for local workers grabbing a bite to eat at lunchtime. This will generate reasonably high pedestrian flows to and from Barangaroo South at peak times. It is expected that key pedestrian movement/ users will be runners who will use the route as part of their exercise circuit to Barangaroo Reserve.

KEY SUSTAINABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Public domain sustainability initiatives specific to Wulugul Walk and Boardwalk include the provision of.

- Two bin types that encourage recycling of selected waste
- High quality stone pavers that provide low levels of maintenance and ease of cleaning
- Generous deciduous tree planting that will provide shade in summer and access to the sun in winter
- Informatics and way-finding signage
- Public safety through application of CPTED principles



Aerial view of former
Spirit of Tasmania
loading dock and
Wulugul Walk



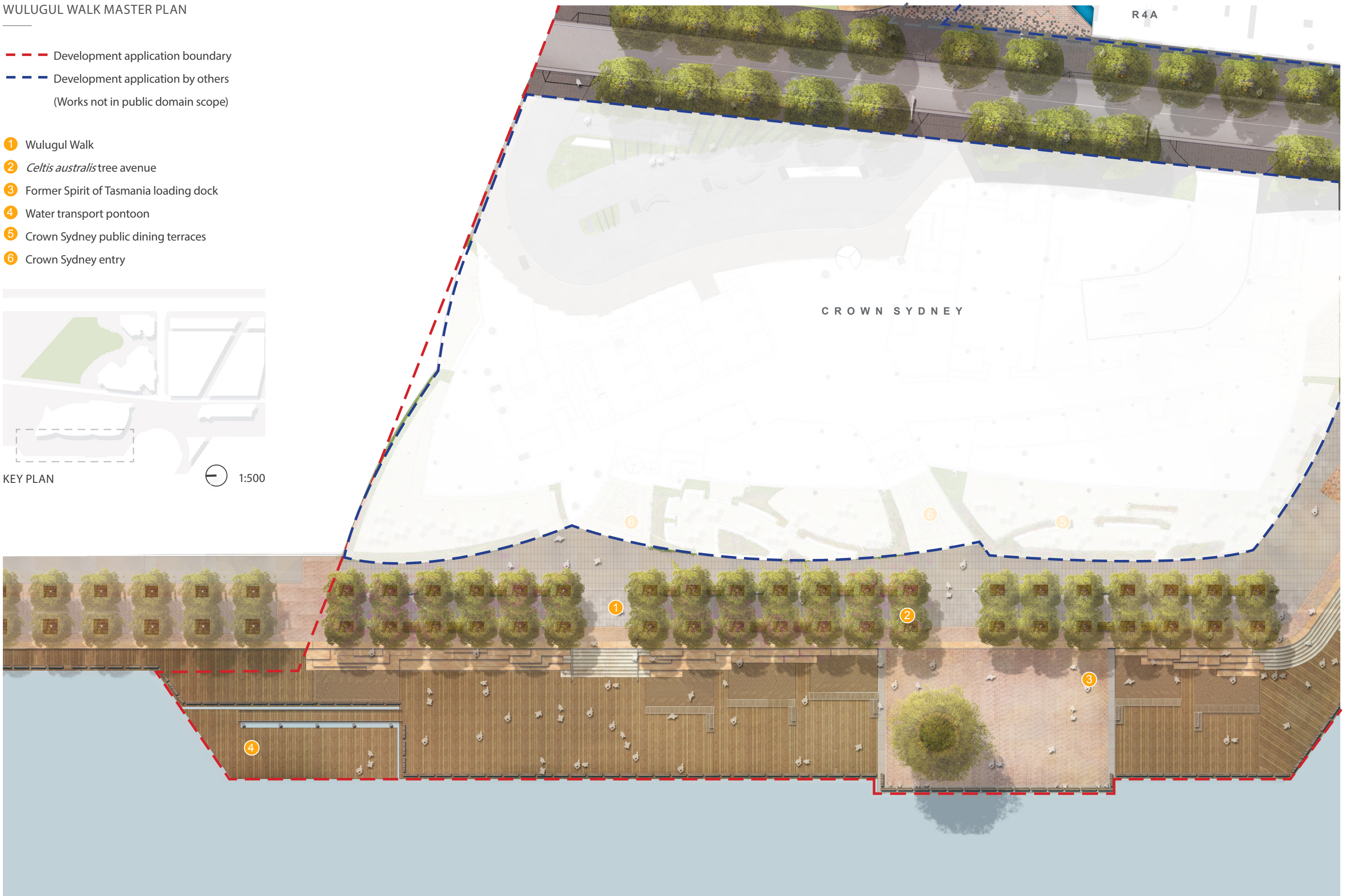
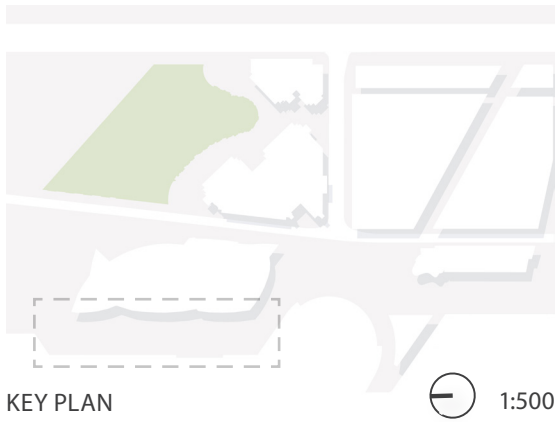
Boardwalk
view South including
signature Fig tree
on former Spirit of
Tasmania loading
dock



WULUGUL WALK MASTER PLAN

- - - Development application boundary
- - - Development application by others
(Works not in public domain scope)

- 1 Wulugul Walk
- 2 *Celtis australis* tree avenue
- 3 Former Spirit of Tasmania loading dock
- 4 Water transport pontoon
- 5 Crown Sydney public dining terraces
- 6 Crown Sydney entry



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