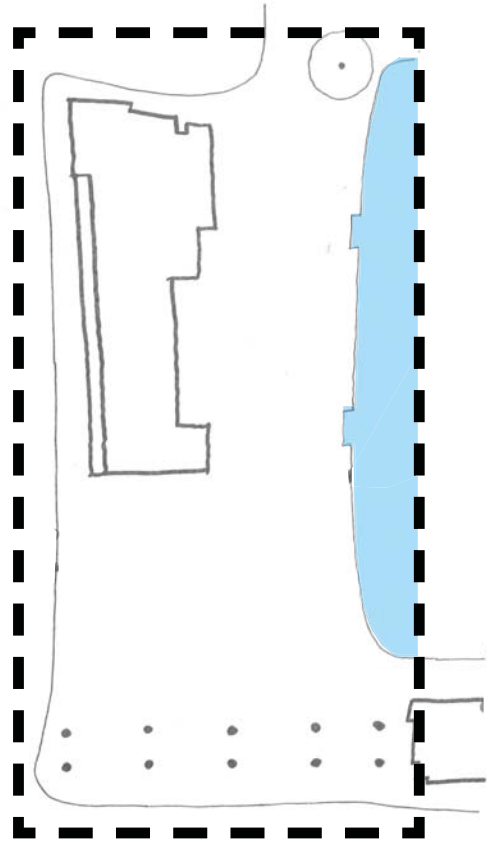# West Circular Quay Public Domain Revitalisation

Prepared for Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
June 2010

1# a unified space rather than series of separate parts

- Create a solution that unifies disparate spaces and elements to create a cohesive whole.
- Recognise the significance of the space within the wider context of Circular Quay, the redevelopment of the MCA and the future public urban square on Alfred Street.

Axial view to Bridge

View to Opera House

View to Rocks
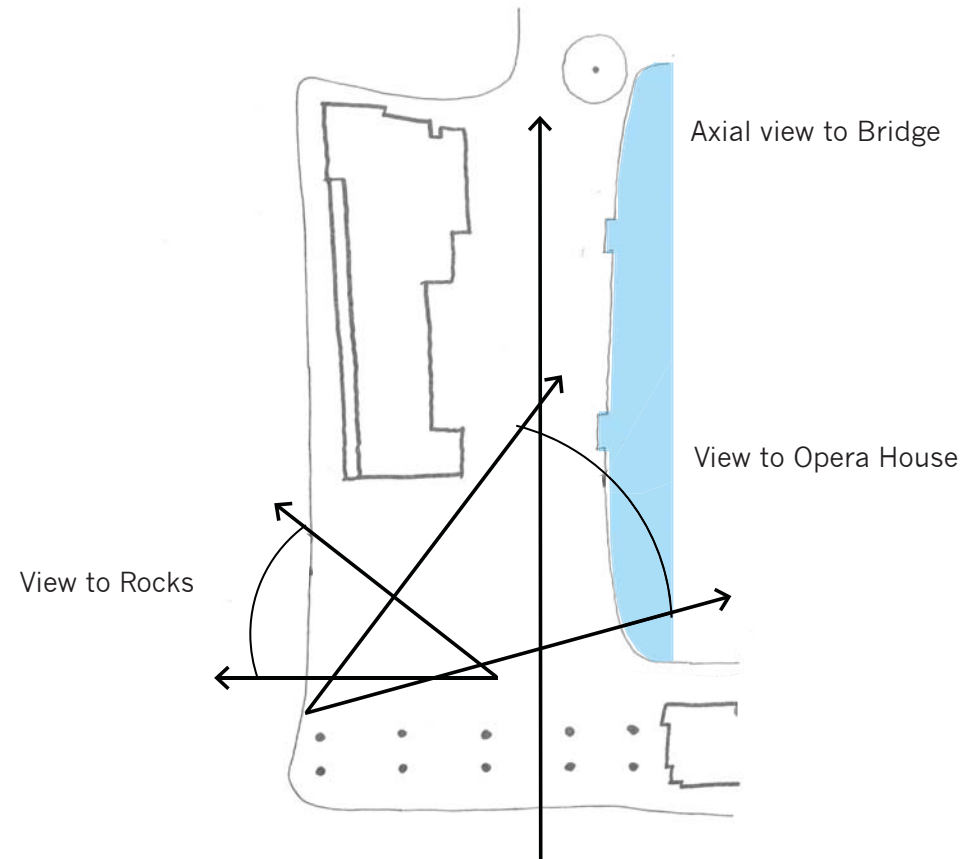
2# the broad view

- Open views to and from George Street, and along the waterfront.
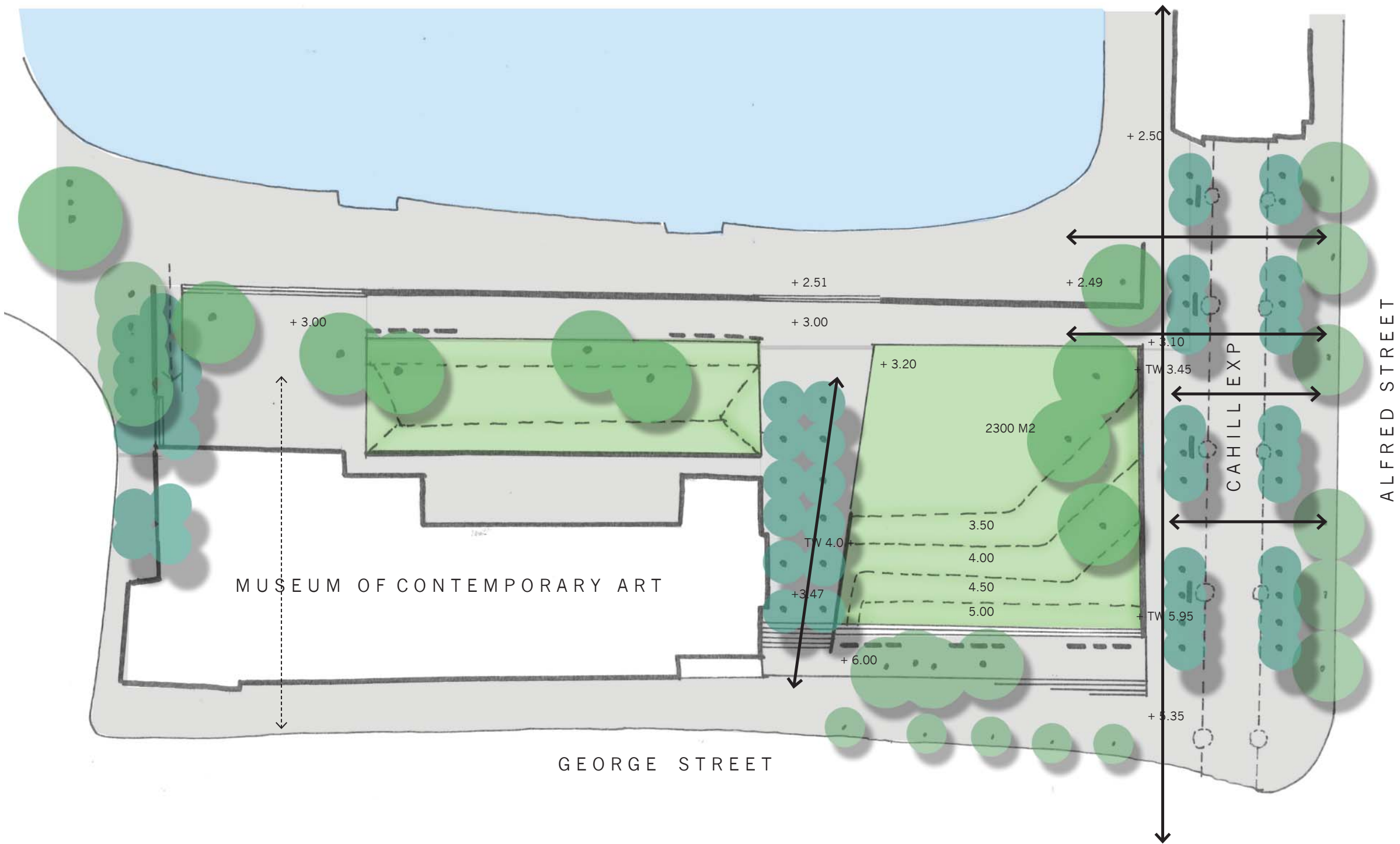- Remove planting to allow for unobstructed prospect of the harbour and the Opera House.
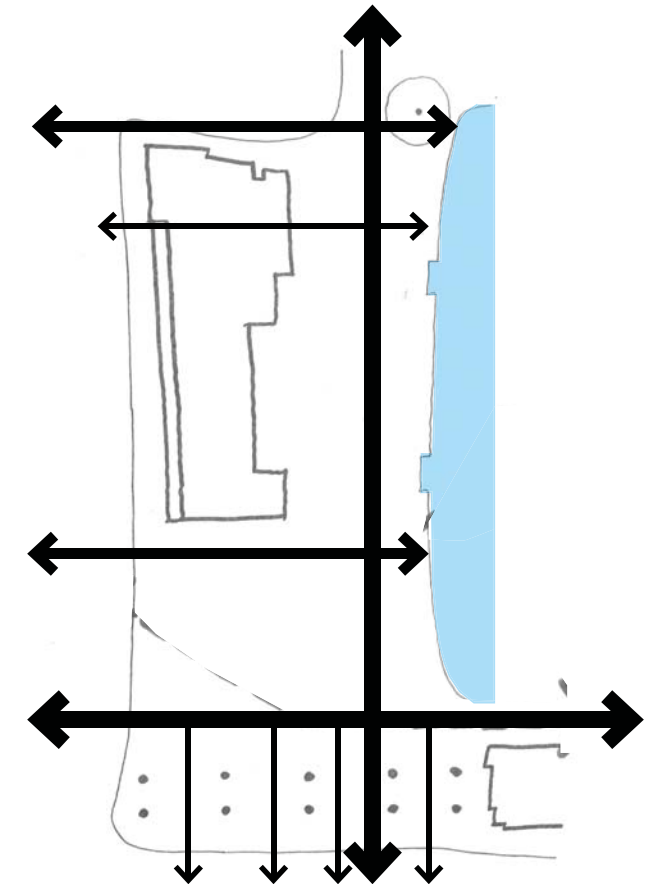
3# connections + permeability

- Improve access from First Fleet Park and Circular Quay West to the Rocks.
- Create unimpeded access from Alfred Street to First Fleet park and beyond.
- Create a structure that works in tandem with the network of streets and lanes in the rocks.
- Remove barriers, edges and clutter to allow for unimpeded access.

PRINCIPLES DIAGRAM

1. Create a simplified and unified space

2. Create clear and generous links to the Rocks and George Street and Alfred Street.

3. Reinforce the promenade and create informal and formal seating for viewing.

4. Create a square at the MCA for outdoor exhibitions

5. Locate landmark trees to preserve views and provide shade.

+ 2.50

+ 2.51

+ 3.00

+ 2.49

+ 3.00

+ 3.00

+ 3.20

+ 3.10

TW 3.45

2300 M2

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

TW 4.0+

3.50

4.00

+3.47

4.50

5.00

+ TW 5.95

+ 6.00

+ 5.35

GEORGE STREET

CAHILL EXP

ALFRED STREET

SCALE 1:750

NORTH

0   10   25   50

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

utilise the topography

a tangible history

a place of respite

the green roof
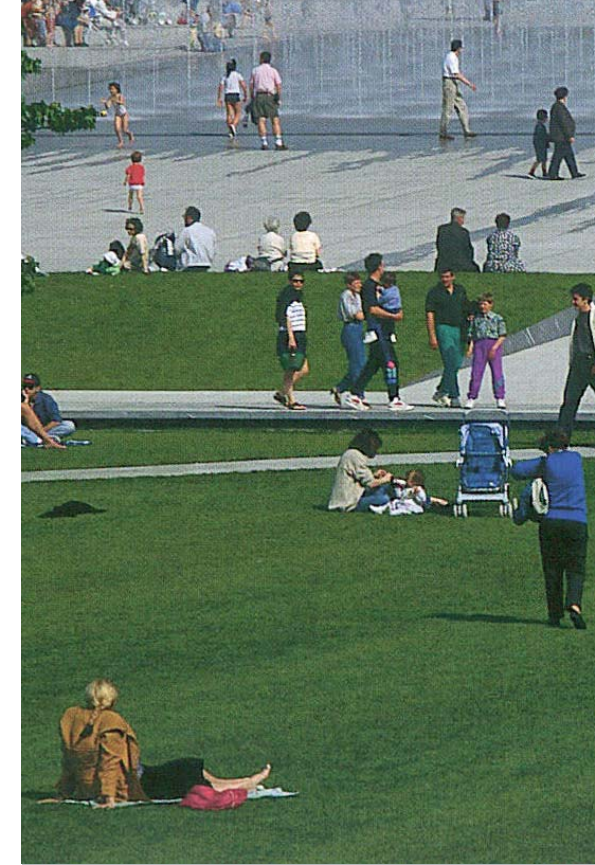
Create a lawn 'stage', an amphitheater that connects George Street and The Rocks to Circular Quay.

Create a structure that is informed by the history of the site. This may include the former historic alignments.

Create a place of respite, an oasis from the activity of the Quay. Create opportunities for informal and formal seating, places to watch, recline and picnic.

Move the garden from the ground plane to the underside of the Cahill expressway. Create a living suspended roof using bromeliads and shade tolerant species on the columns.

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

1. Create a simplified and
unified space

1416 M2

2440 M2

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

Existing area of lawn =3397 m2
Total area of consolidated lawn = 3856 m2 **12% increase**

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified space

Integration with existing surrounding levels to create
• seamless lawn space that grades down to the foreshore
• accessible route to George Street
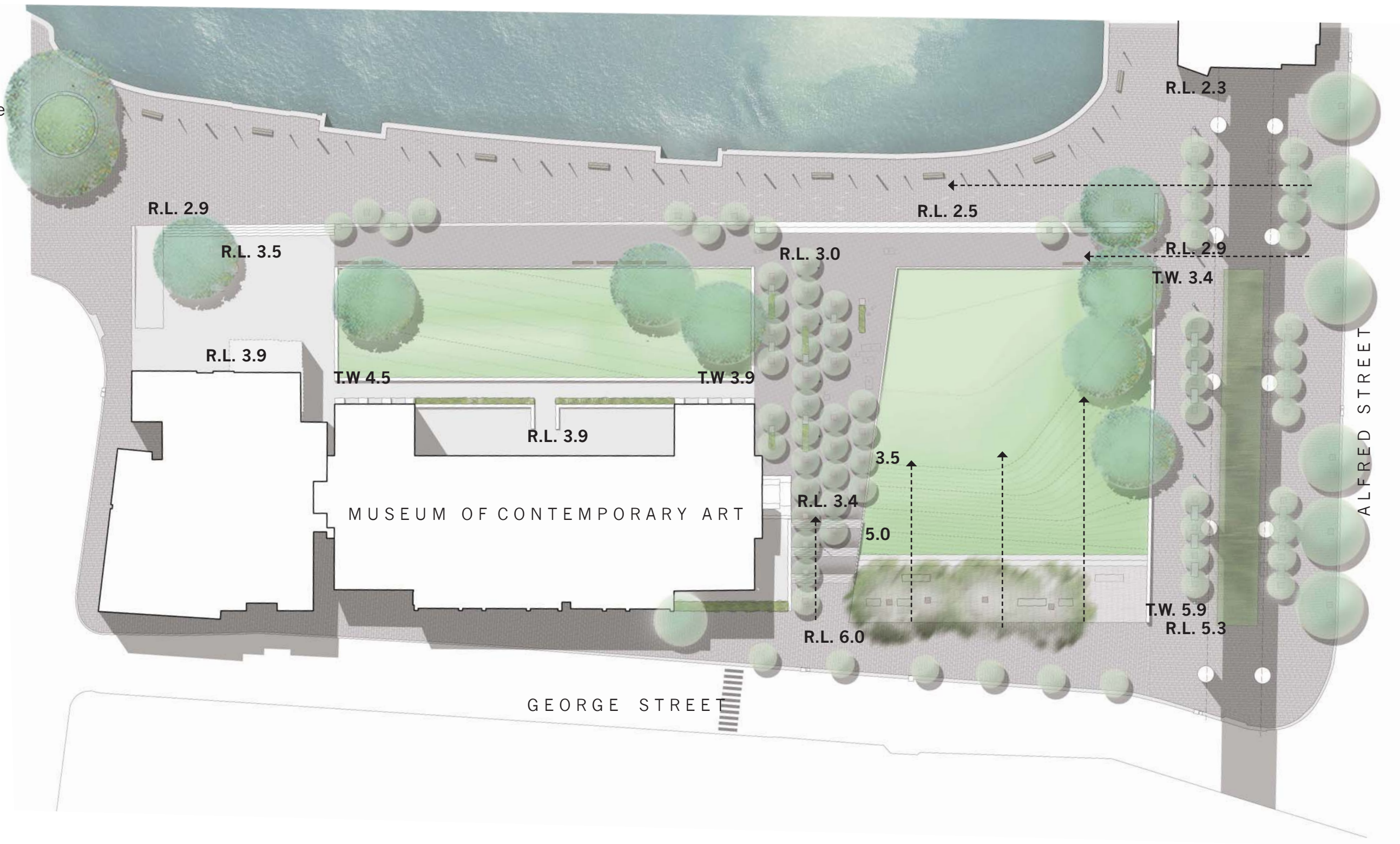
R.L. 2.3

R.L. 2.9

R.L. 2.5

R.L. 3.5

R.L. 2.9

R.L. 3.0

T.W. 3.4

R.L. 3.9

T.W 4.5

T.W 3.9

R.L. 3.9

3.5

M U S E U M   O F   C O N T E M P O R A R Y   A R T

R.L. 3.4

5.0

A L F R E D   S T R E E T

T.W. 5.9

R.L. 5.3

R.L. 6.0

G E O R G E   S T R E E T

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and
unified space

2. Create clear and generous
pedestrian links to the Rocks,
George St and Alfred Street

16 m

12m

6 m

4 m

24.5 m

8 m

33 m

9 m

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

Roof garden walk

Market Wharf

Alfred St

├─── 25 m ───┤├─ 8 m ─┤ ├──────── 24.5 m ────────┤

CIRCULATION

Circular Quay Station and Ferry terminal

R.L. 2.3

R.L. 2.9

R.L. 2.9

R.L. 3.9

Primary entry MCA

Restaurant

No entry ⊗ **R.L. 3.4**

R.L. 6.0

R.L. 5.3

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET
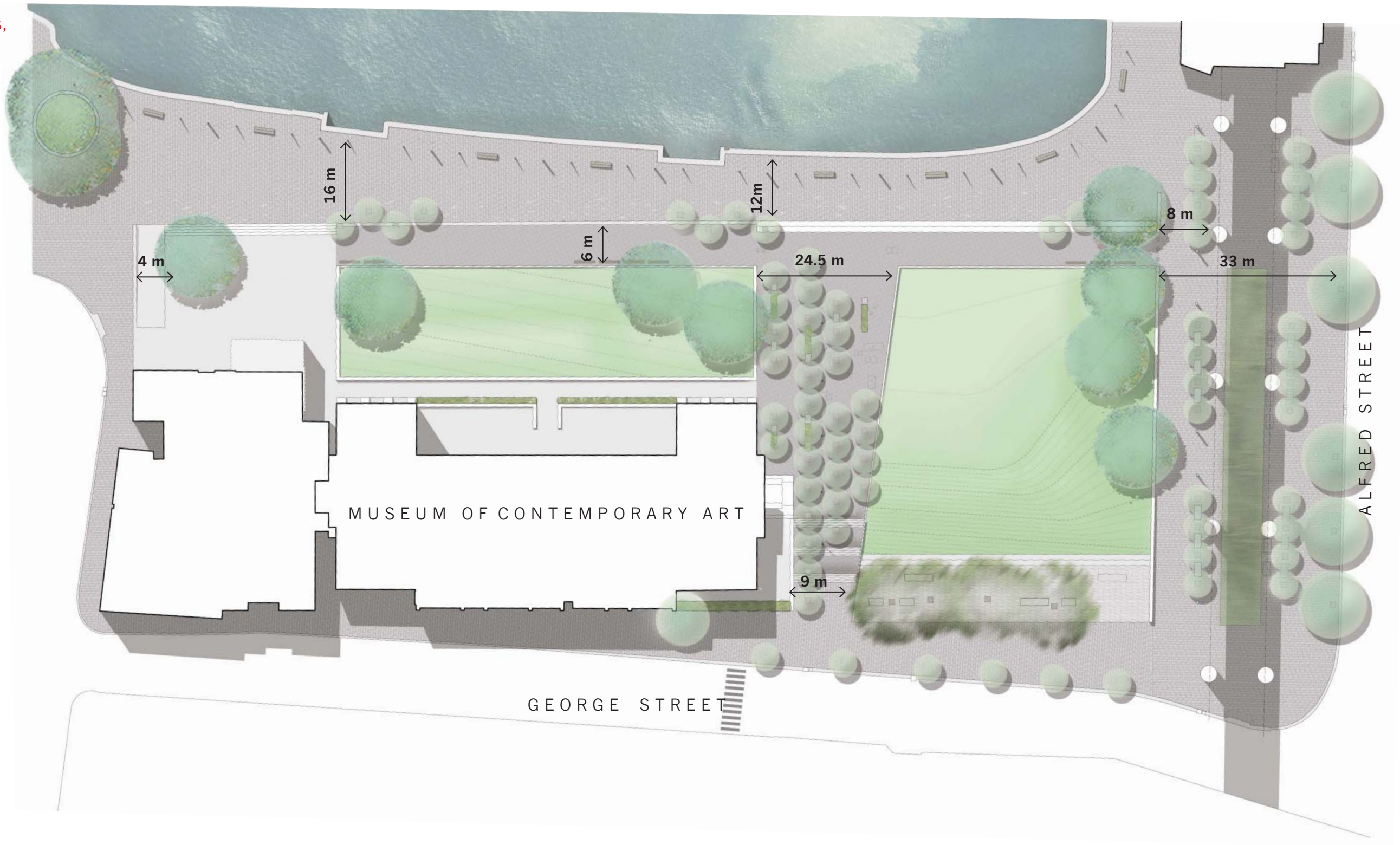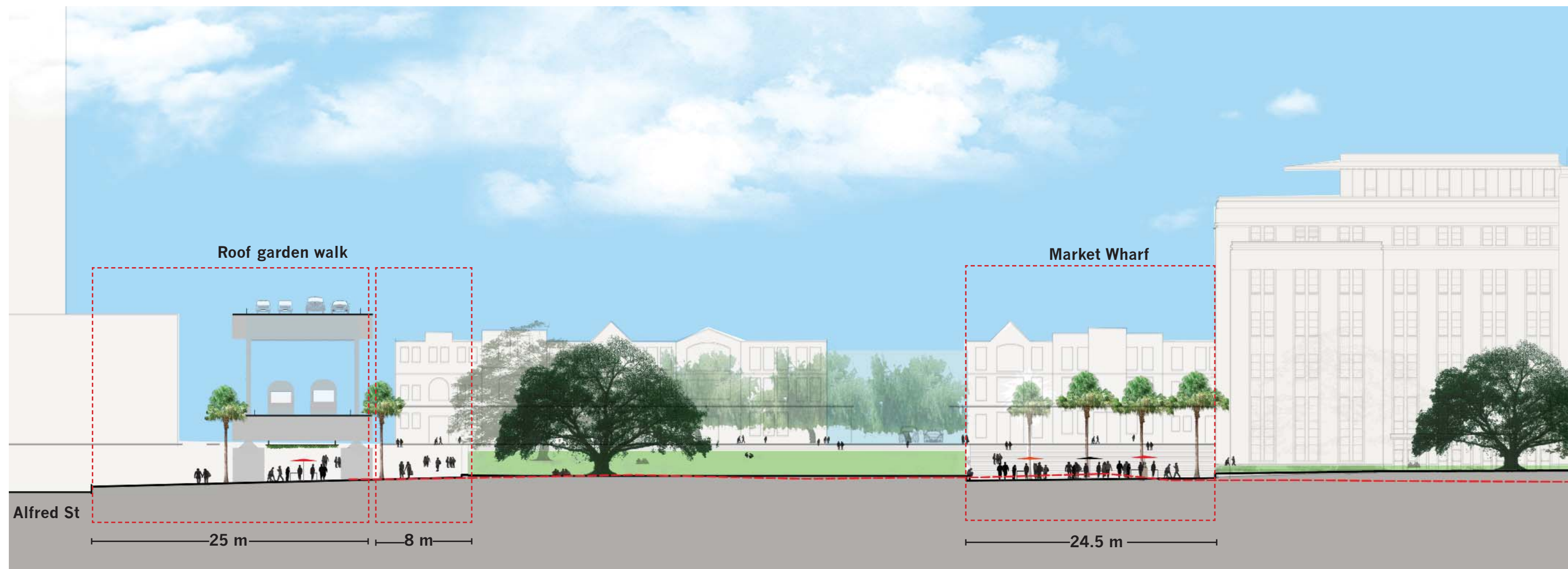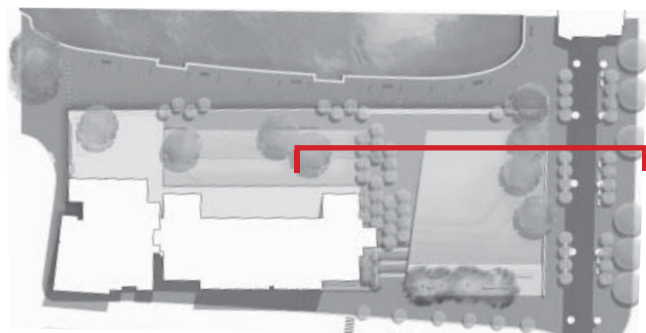
1 **Signage location:** Incorporate way finding signage into paving at key junctions

● **Primary entries/uses**
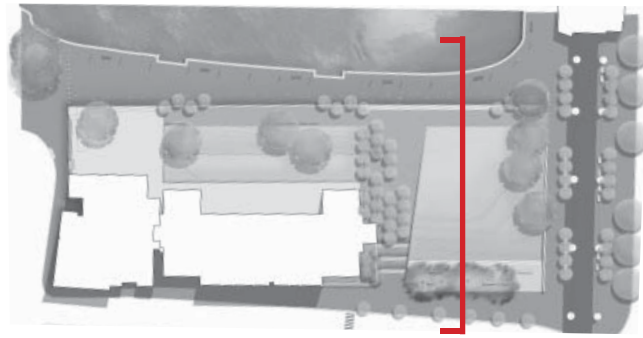
⊗ Existing entry to MCA building : not for public access

↔ **Primary access path** equal access route

↔ **Primary access path** With stairs

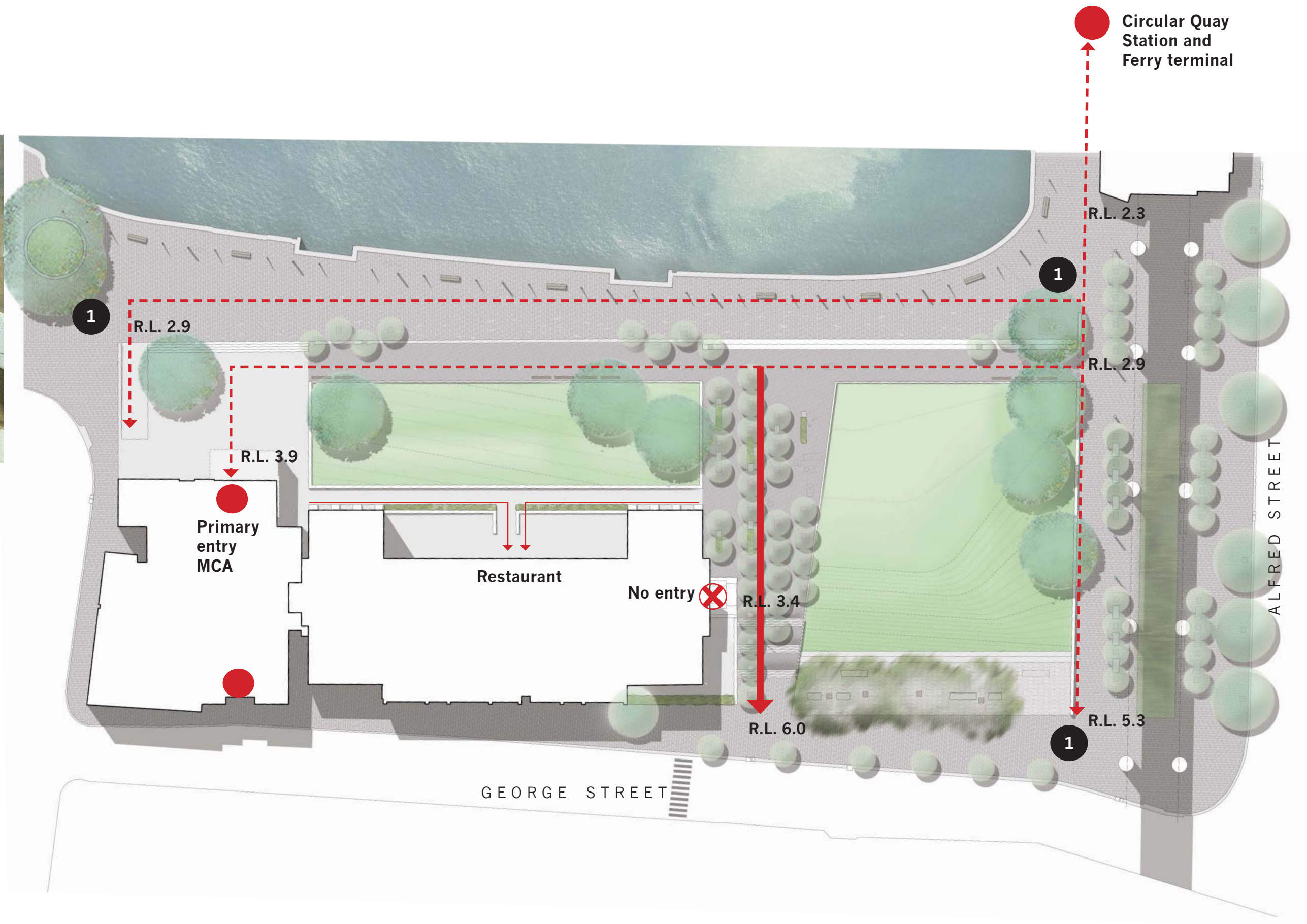↔ **Secondary access path**

NORTH

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

George Street
Footpath

The
lookout
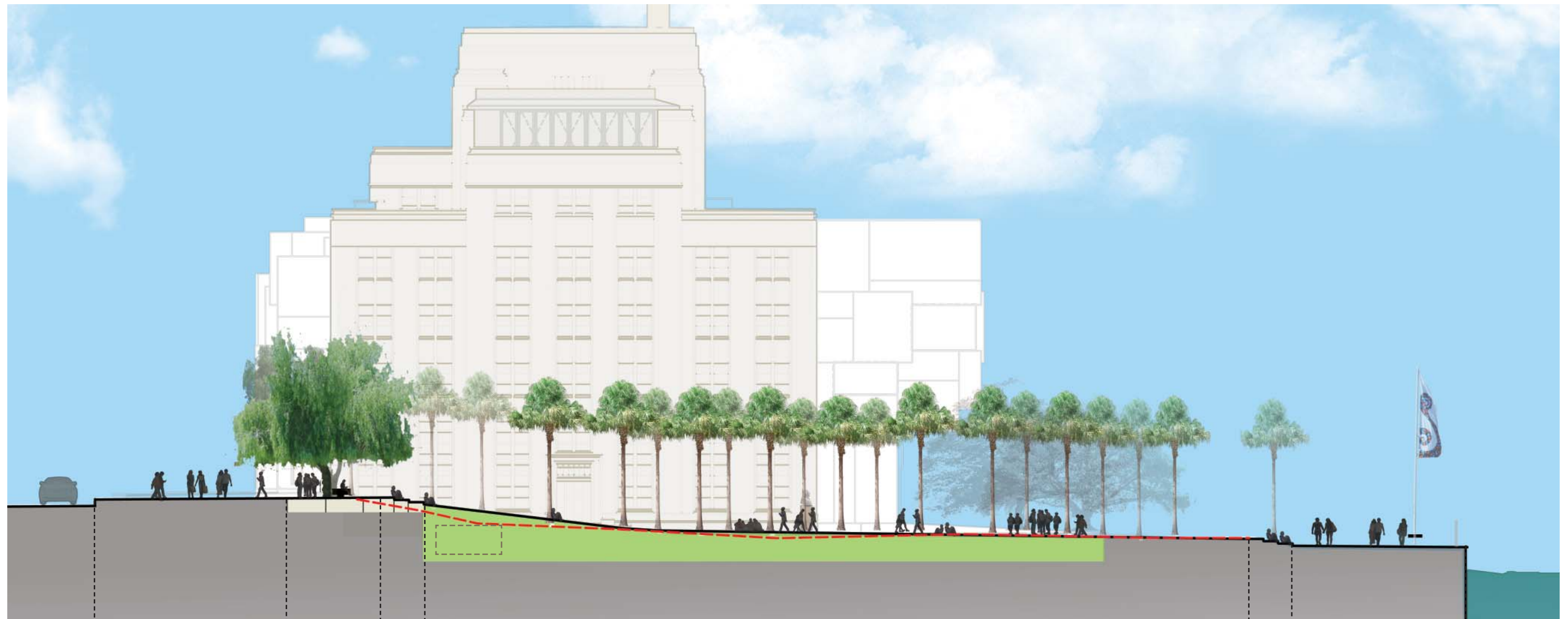
Step
Type 2 Tank

200 lt

The lawn
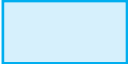
Step
type 2

Circular Quay
Promenade

NORTH

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square at the MCA entry

Interpretation zone

MCA square extent

MCA entry

875 M2

ALFRED STREET

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

GEORGE STREET

Existing extent of MCA forecourt = 384 m2
Proposed MCA square = 875 m2

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

Roof garden walk   **The Green**   **Market Wharf**   **The Green**   **36 m**

MCA square

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

+ 3.00

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

+ 5.35

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

4 . Shade and trees

FE **Ficus elastica:** Rubber tree · Retain and address health

SA **Schinus areira:** Peppercorn Tree Retain 4 and remove 4

○ **Livistona australis:** Cabbage Tree Palms: Total no. 63 (comprising approx 30 relocated from site).

○ **Ficus rubiginosa:** Port Jackson Fig: Total no. 8

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

Roof Garden Walk

Above: Vertical planting Patrick Blanc

Above: Planting types including tree ferns, bromeliads.

Cahill expressway

Suspended green wall 'blades' fixed using steel cable to underside of Cahill expressway. Planted 'blades' 500mm high and planted on both faces. Spacing at minimum 1 metre centres along length. Panels to use lightweight growing media and pre-planted with epiphytes and drought tolerant species. Drip line irrigation system on timer mode and to be activated during off peak periods.
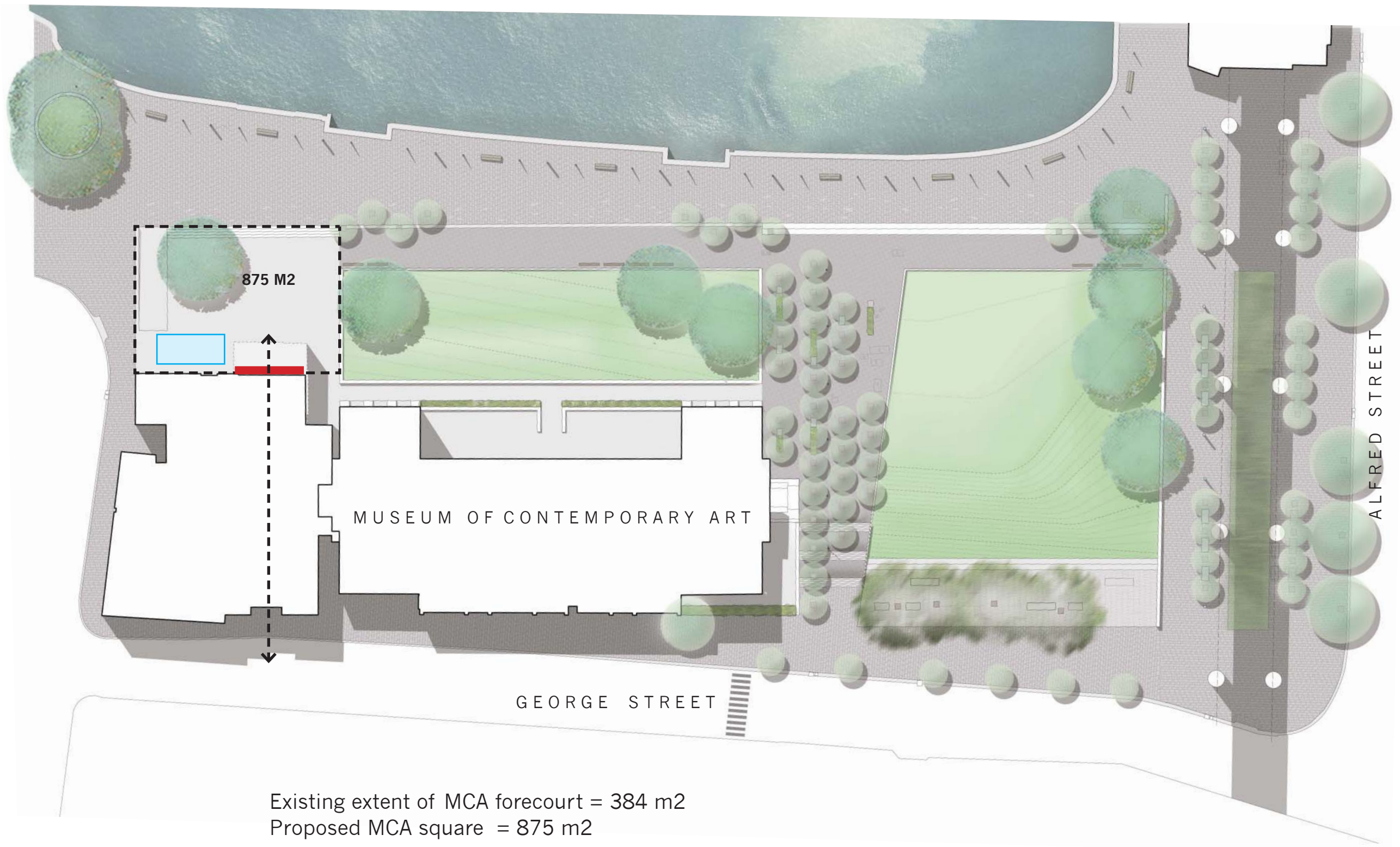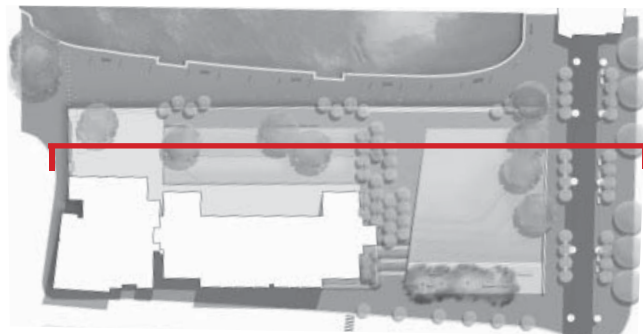
PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

5. Create generous provision of informal seating (steps, walls) and formal shaded seating

—— **Informal seating**

—— **Formal seating**

—— **Custom seating**

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

ALFRED STREET

December 9am - 3pm

March 9am - 3pm

June 9am - 3pm

GEORGE STREET

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

GEORGE STREET
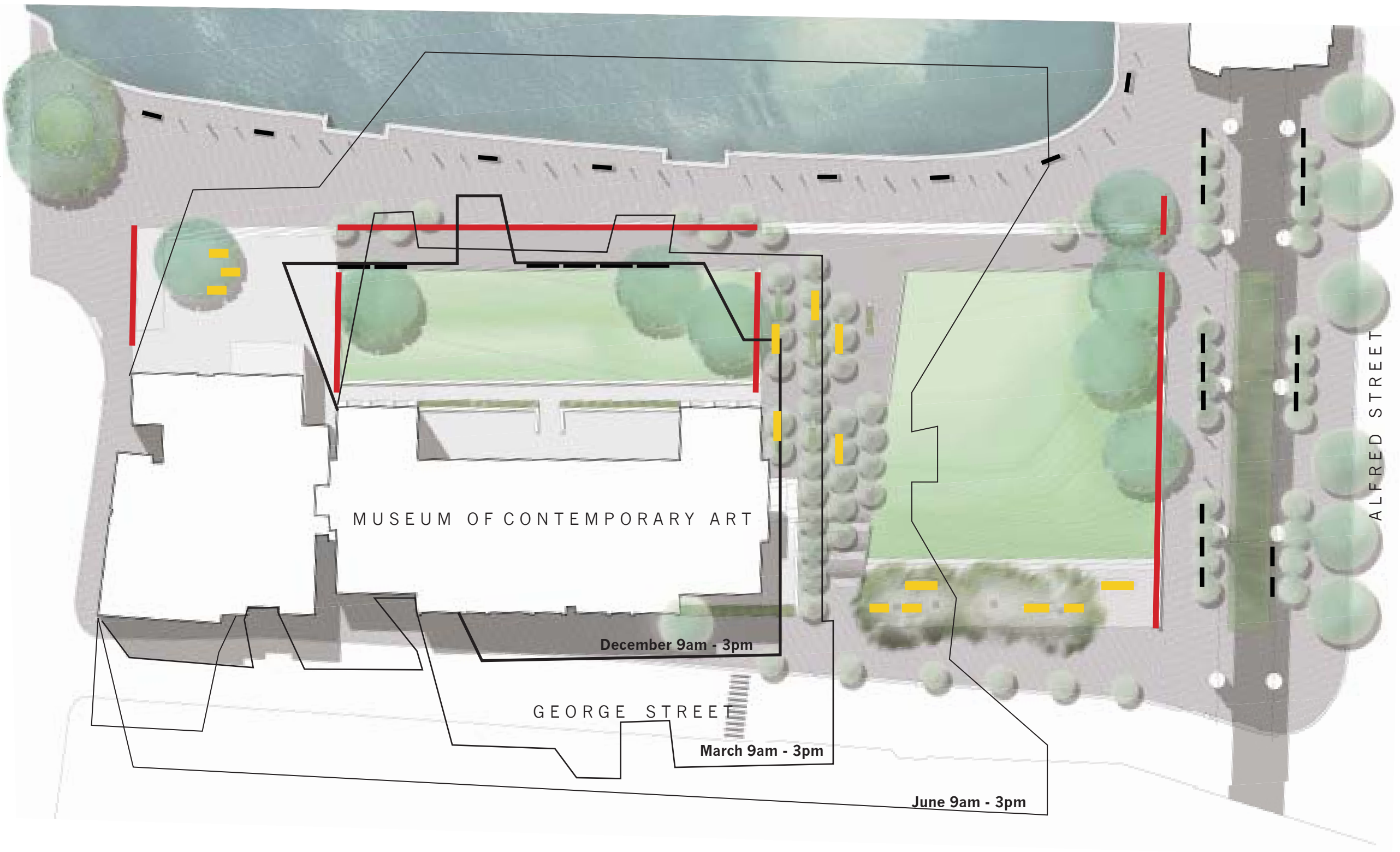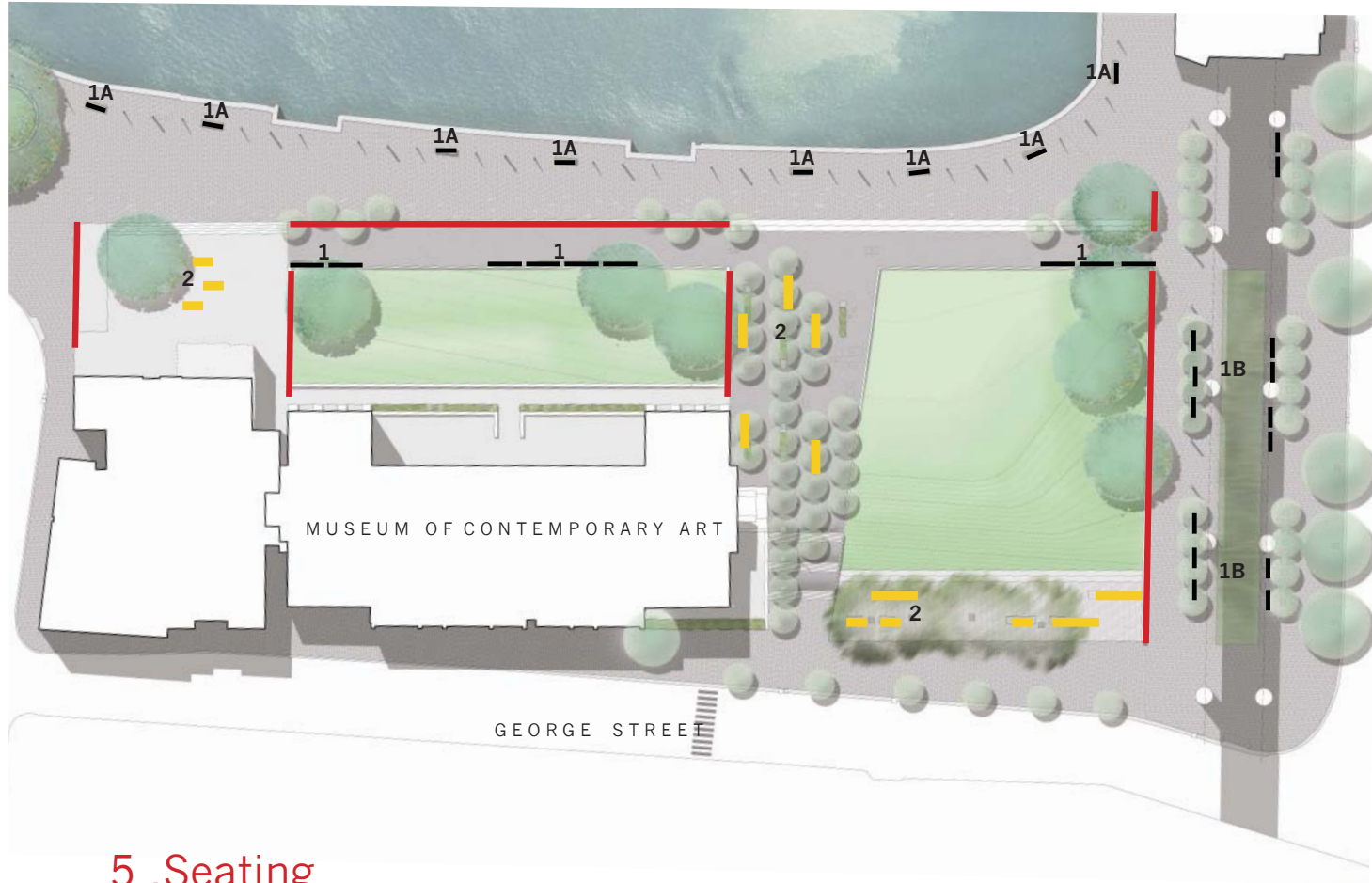
5 .Seating

— **Bench type 1:** Standard bench + backrest · 3 seats : timber slats + steel frame

— **Bench type 1A:** Standard double sided bench + backrest · 3 seats: timber slats + steel frame

— **Bench type 1B:** Standard double sided bench + backrest · 2 seats: timber slats + steel frame

— **Bench type 1C:** Standard double bench · 2 seats: timber slats + steel frame

▬ **Bench type 2** Custom precast concrete bench to lookout, MCA forecourt and Market Wharf.
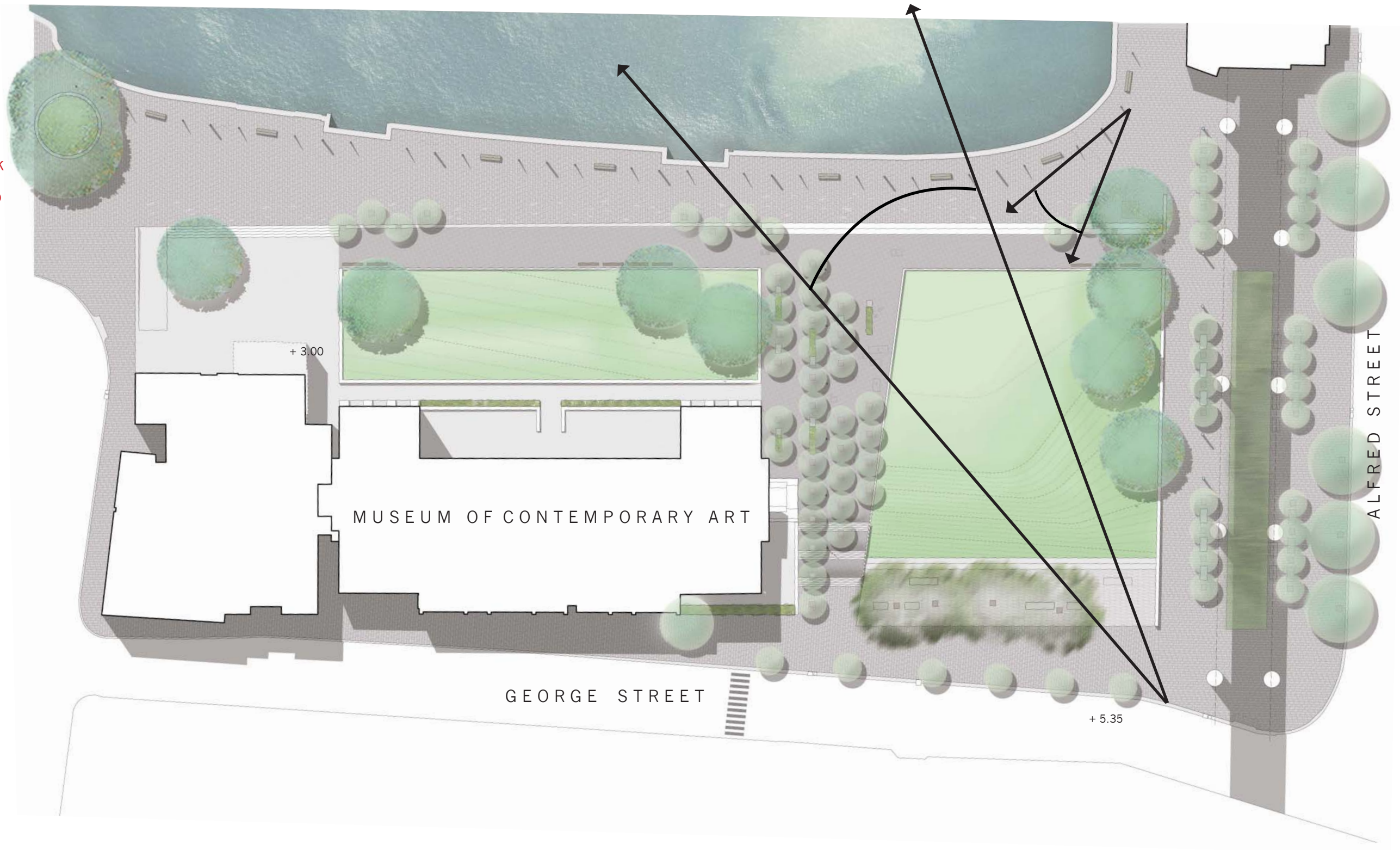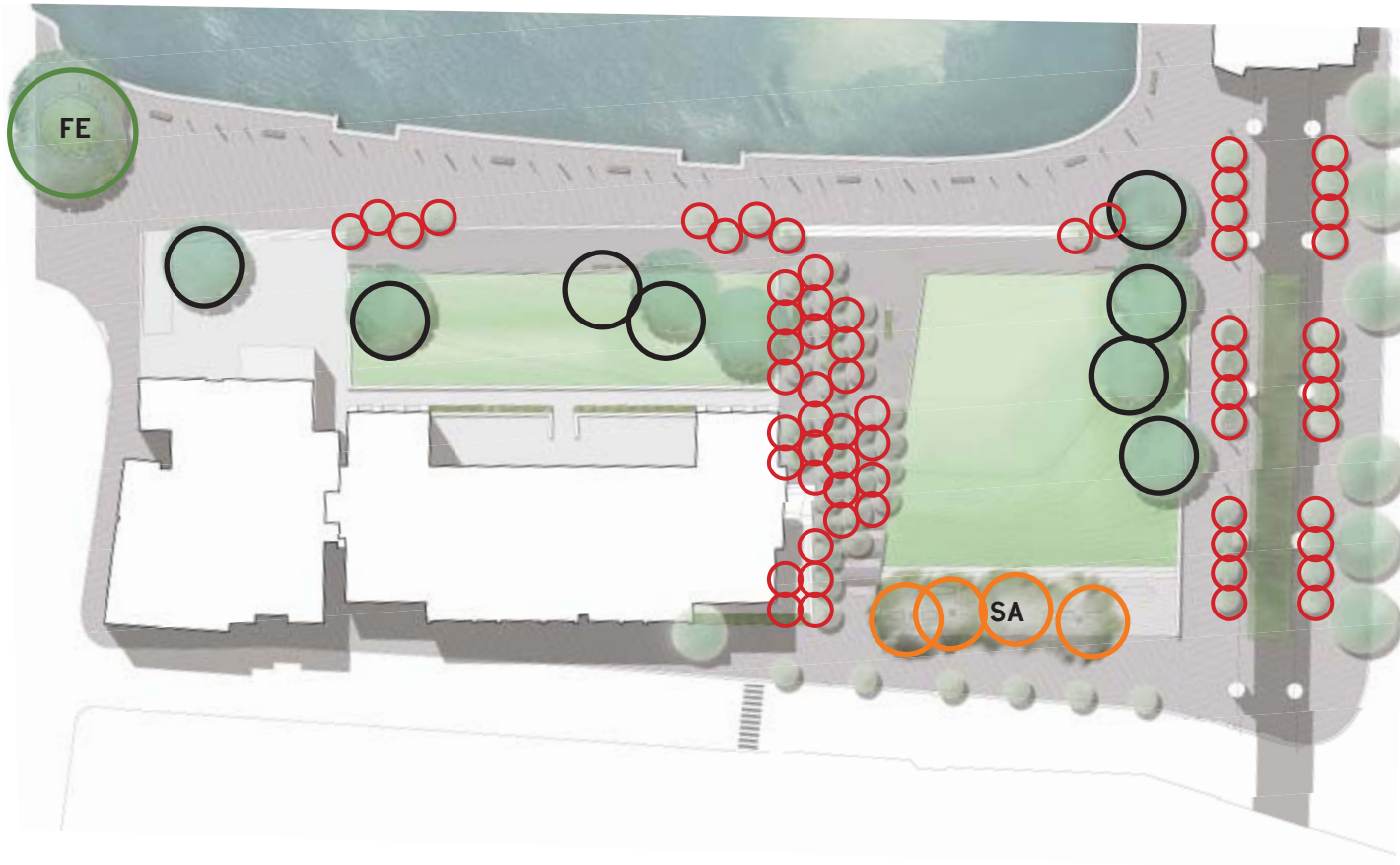
PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

5. Create generous provision of informal and formal seating

6. Create a unified and coherent ground plane

ALFRED STREET

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

GEORGE STREET

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office
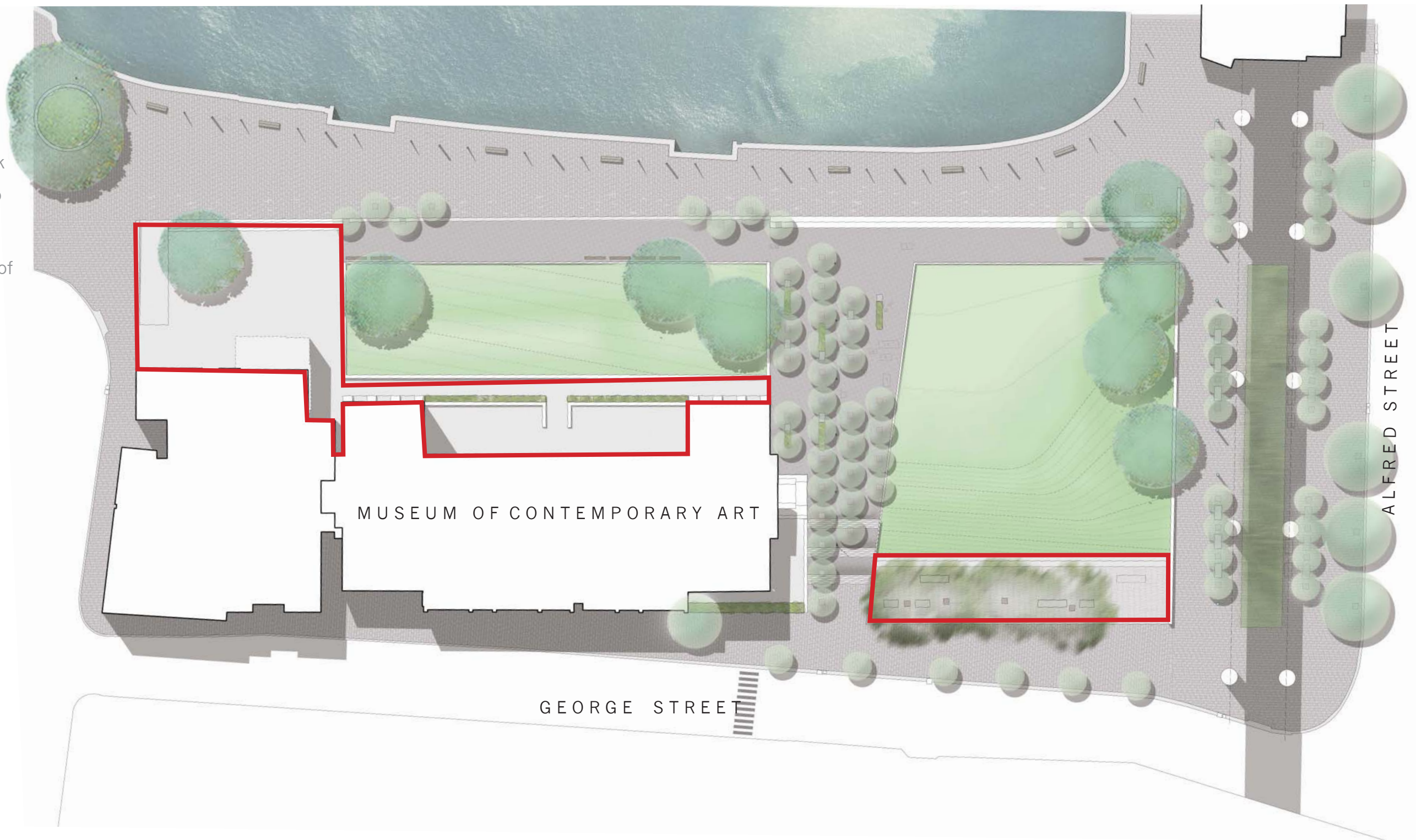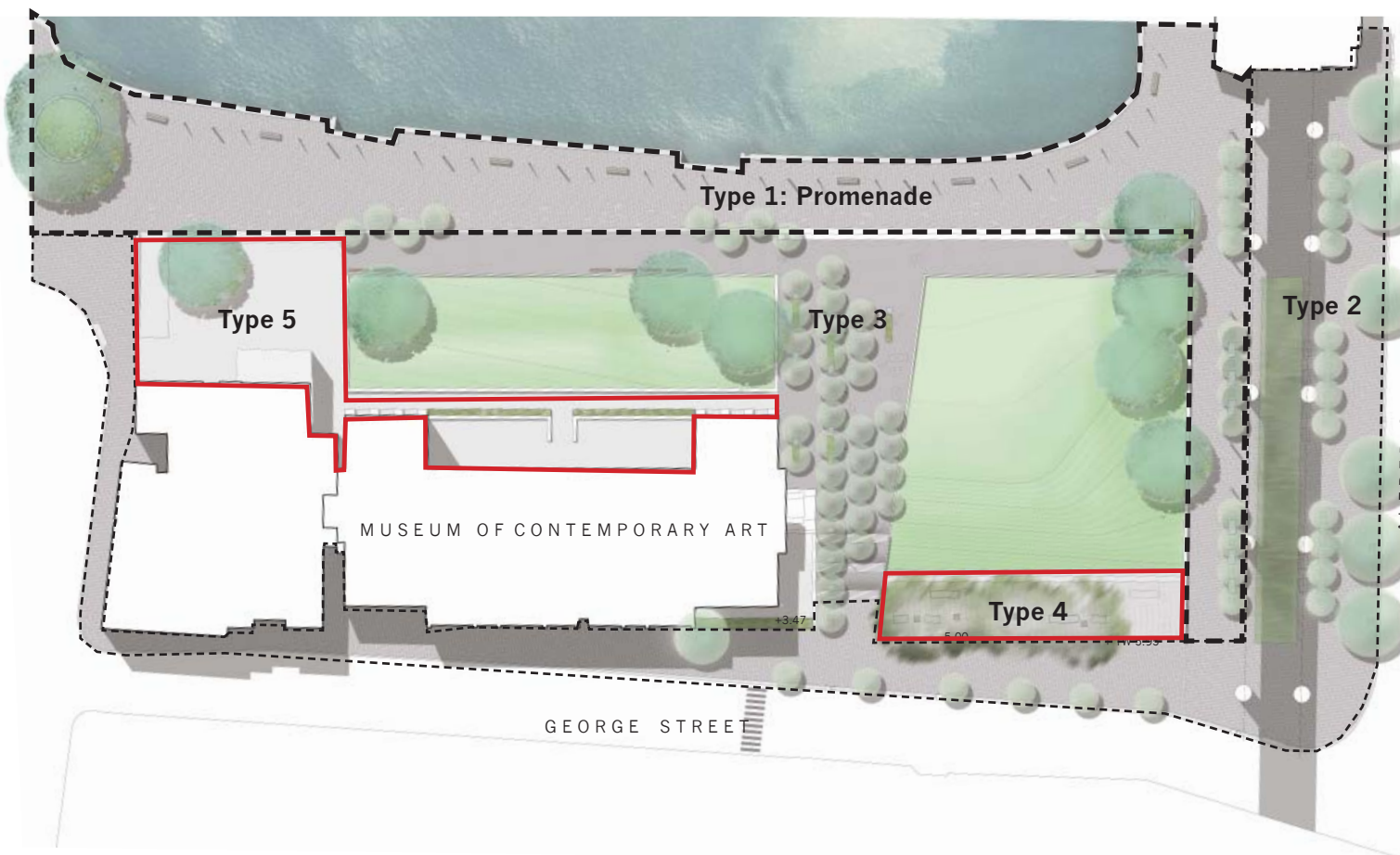
Type 1: Promenade

Type 4: Platform : Precast concrete units

Type 3: market wharf

Type 4: Platform : example of Precast concrete units Highline project, New York

6 . Paving

Type 1: Granite paving to promenade; aligned parallel to seawall. 70% Dark grey and 30% Light grey. 925, 570, 295 x 425mm wide dark grey units. 170 x 425mm wide Light grey units

Type 2: Granite paving on George Street, Alfred St underpass

Type 3: Market Wharf : Granite units 150 x 150 wide dark grey units.

Type 4: Platform : Precast concrete units · 250mm wide x 1000/ 2000 mm length off white in suspended steel frame: inset laminated glass panels with lighting under

Type 5: MCA Forecourt: In situ concrete surfacing with sandblasted finish

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

5. Create generous provision of informal and formal seating

6. Create a unified and coherent ground plane

7. Provide well lit pedestrian paths at night

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

GEORGE STREET

ALFRED STREET

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

Column lighting type 1

Column lighting type 2

Lighting fixed to structure
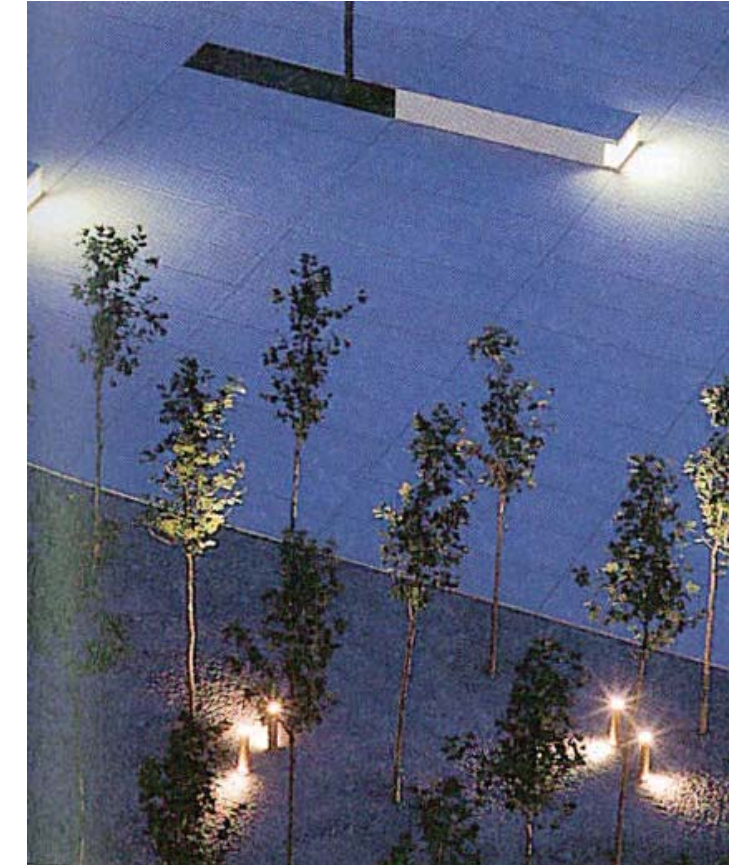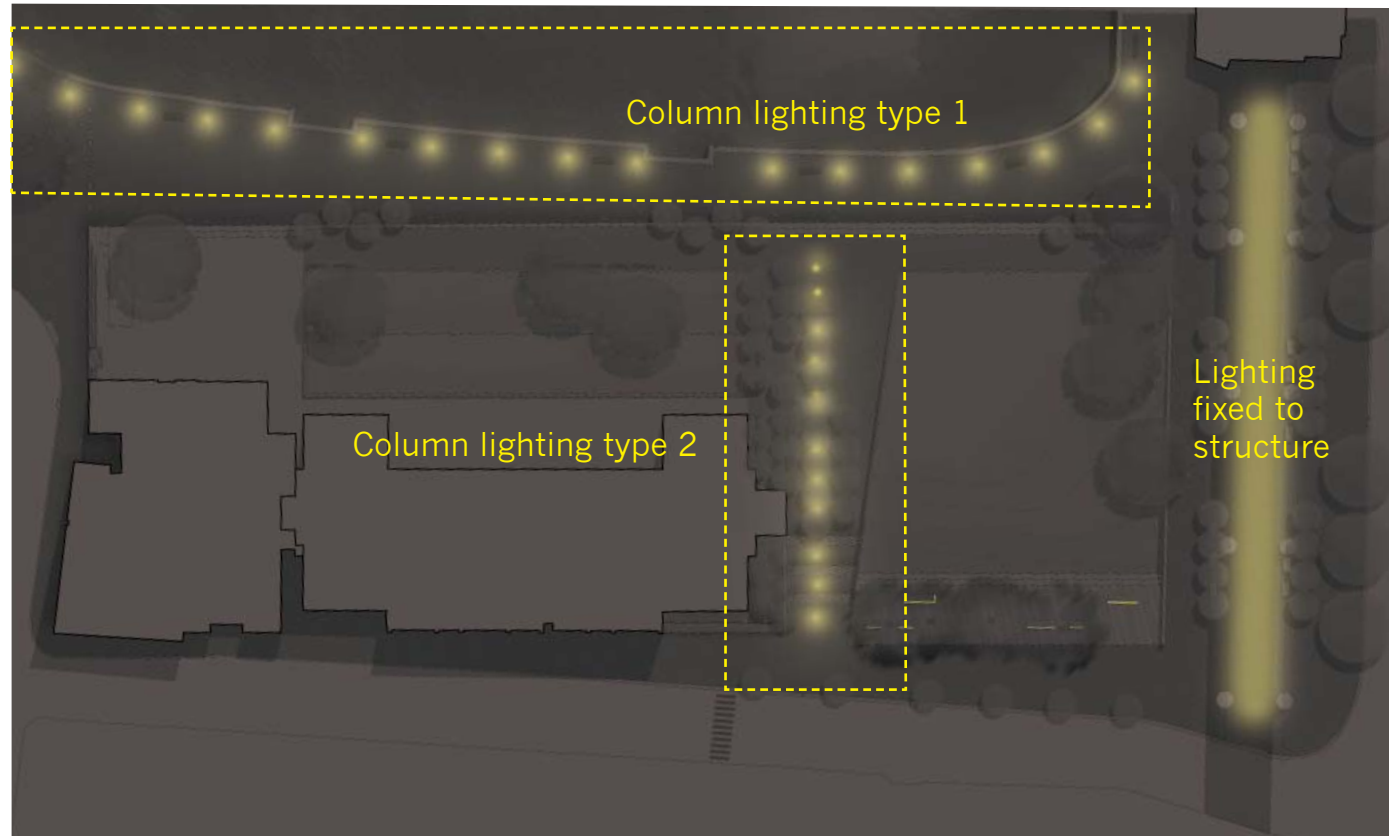
7. Lighting

Key principles for lighting

- Ensure safe lighting levels are provided on primary pedestrian routes
- Ensure lighting proposals allow for opportunities to enjoy the night time experience of the key harbour landmarks, the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge.
- Minimise upward spill light
- Design solutions that balance lighting requirements whilst minimising excessive numbers of lighting columns
- Illustrate and amplify key features including interpretative elements in the MCA square, the lookout and Market Wharf.

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

5. Create generous provision of informal and formal seating

6. Create a unified and coherent ground plane

7. Provide well lit pedestrian paths at night

8. Create a layout that accommodates temporary events and festivals

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

- - - ☐ Zone 1: Potential space for markets

──── Zone 2: Film with screen music

• • • • • Zone 3: Art installations

──── Removable screen
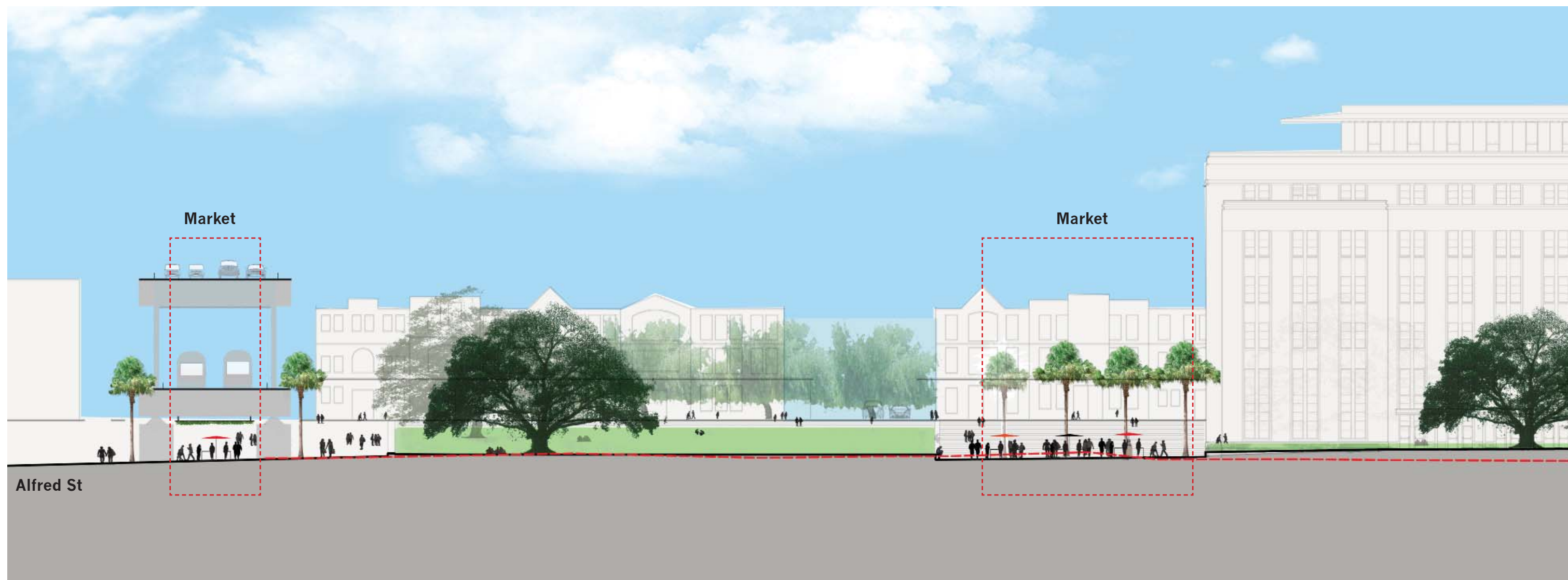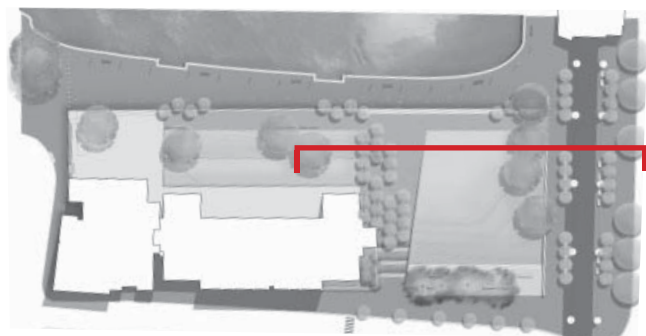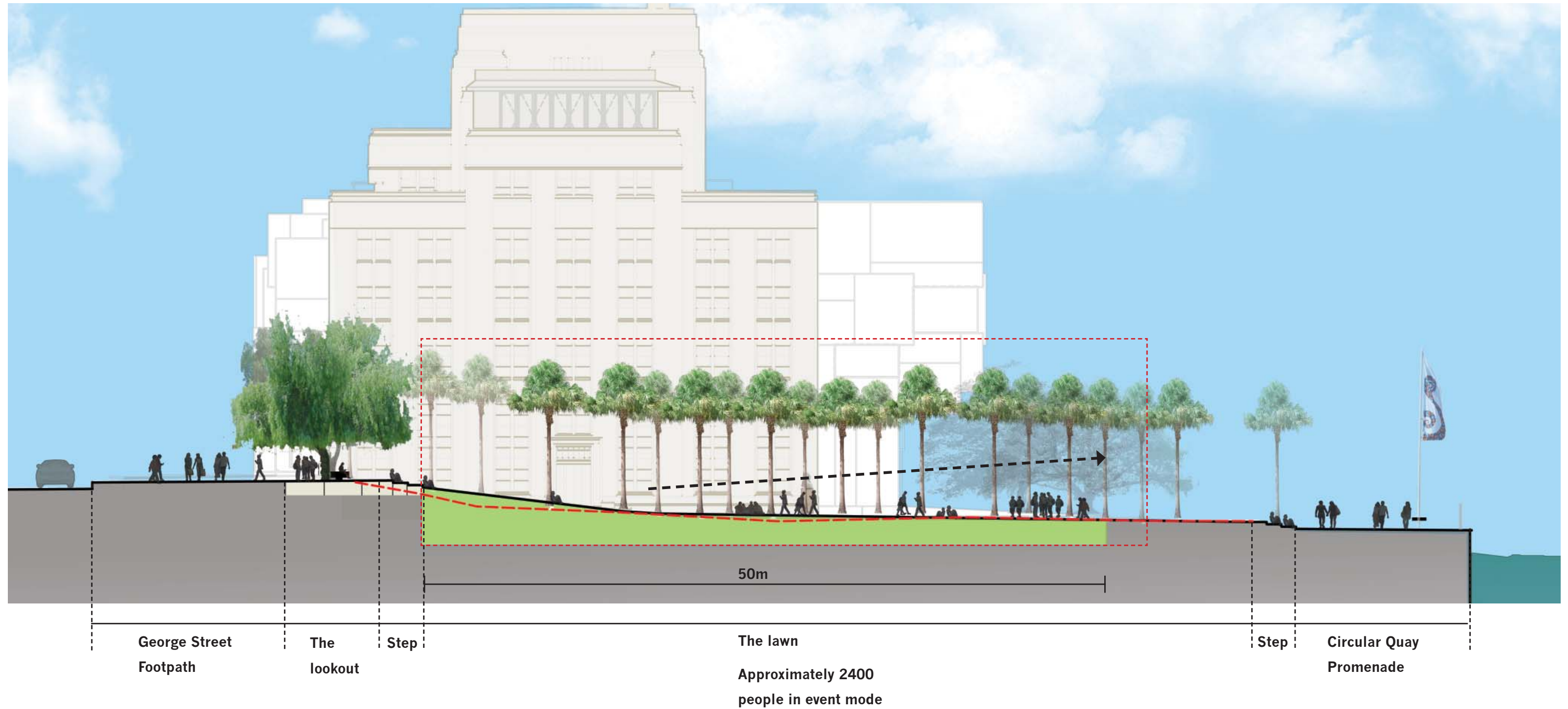
NORTH

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

Market

Market

Alfred St

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

50m

George Street
Footpath

The
lookout

Step

The lawn

Approximately 2400
people in event mode

Step

Circular Quay
Promenade

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

Public Works
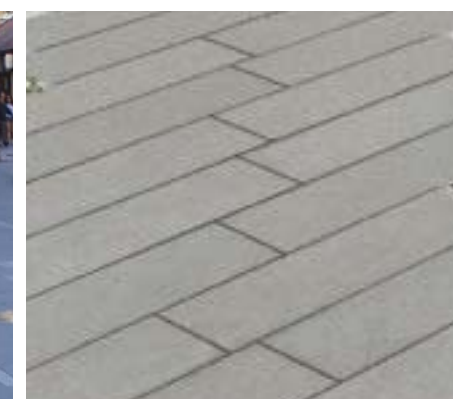Government Architect's Office

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

5. Create generous provision of informal and formal seating

6. Create a unified and coherent ground plane

7. Provide well lit pedestrian paths at night

8. Create a layout that accommodates events and festivals

9. Provide opportunities for interpretation

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office
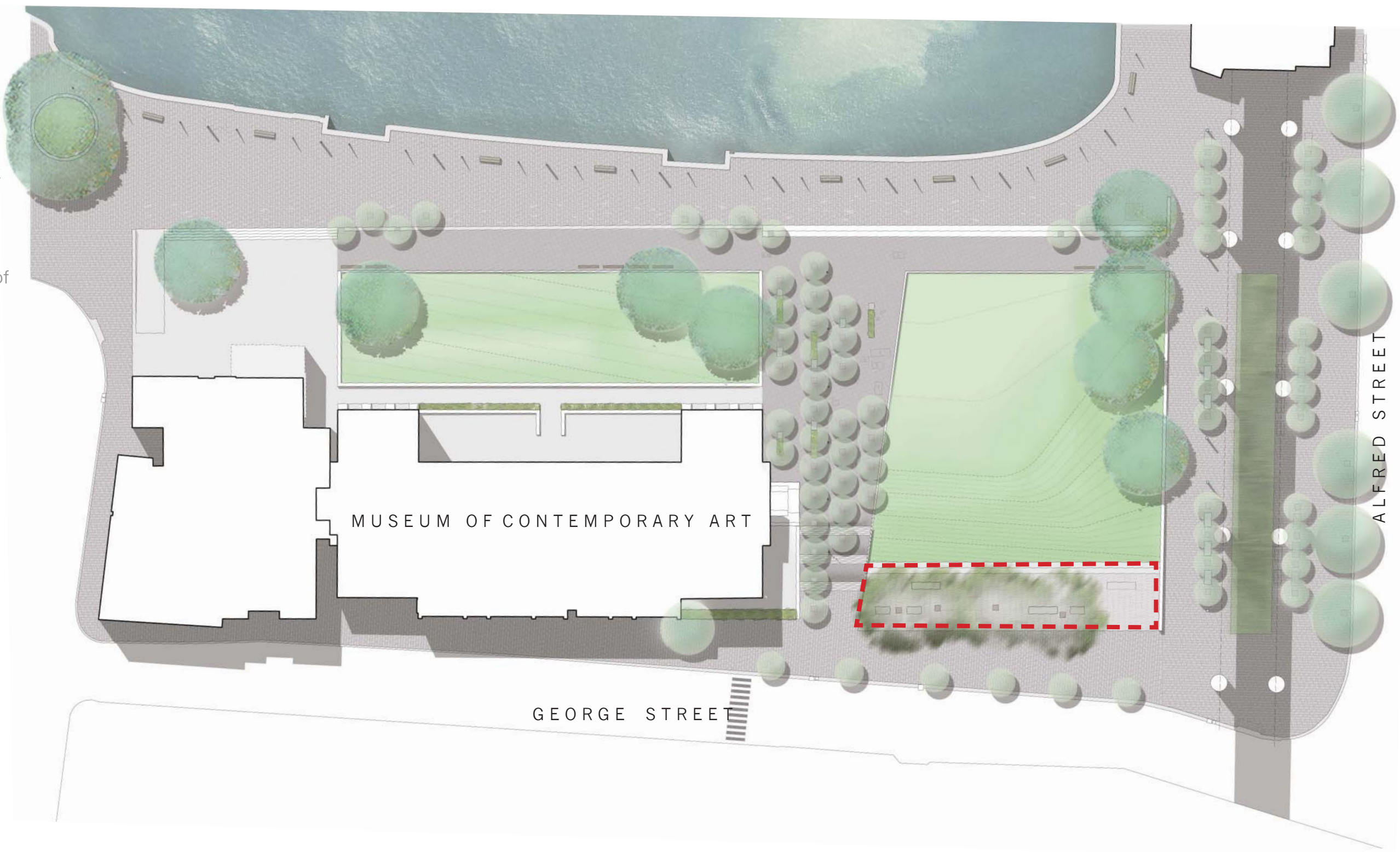
Suspended precast concrete unit deck with opportunities to integrate lighting and signage
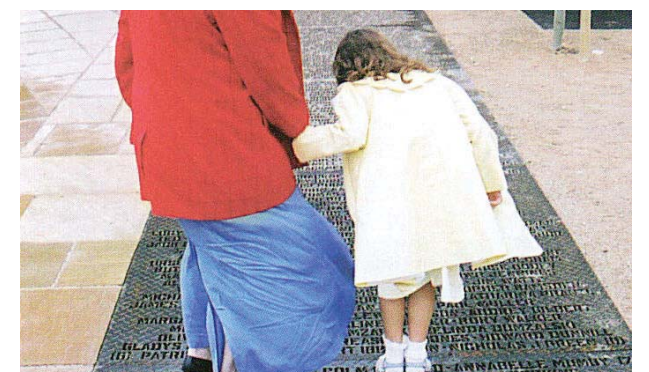
9. Interpretation

Integrate interpretative elements below deck and within seating elements

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

PRINCIPLES

1. Create a simplified and unified park space

2. Create clear and generous pedestrian links to the rocks, George St and Alfred Street

3. Create a square/ forecourt at the MCA

4. Retain and locate landmark trees to preserve views and to provide shade

5. Create generous provision of informal and formal seating

6. Create a unified and coherent ground plane

7. Provide well lit pedestrian paths at night

8. Create a layout that accommodates events and festivals

9. Provide opportunities for interpretation

10. Incorporate existing artifacts where appropriate

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET
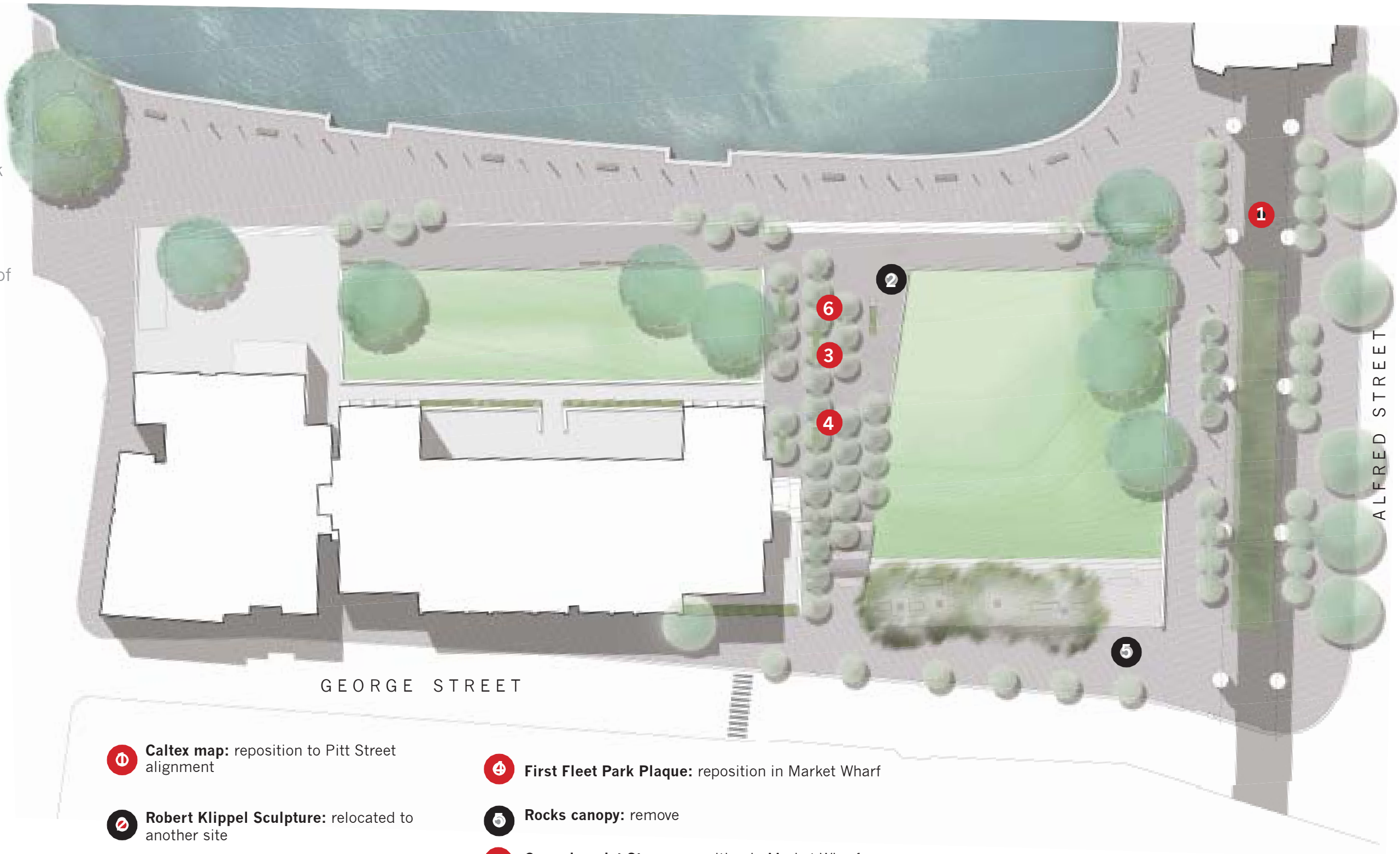
① **Caltex map:** reposition to Pitt Street alignment

② **Robert Klippel Sculpture:** relocated to another site

③ **Governor Phillip Sculpture:** reposition in Market Wharf

④ **First Fleet Park Plaque:** reposition in Market Wharf

⑤ **Rocks canopy:** remove

⑥ **Commissariat Stone:** reposition in Market Wharf

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

OPT SECURITY

① Retractable Bollards: relocate existing

② Bollard control: in alignment with the Cahill expressway pylons

③ Heavy duty seats: at George Street edge to minimise any vehicle access : min 4 m wide gap

④ Barrier wall: 450mm high seat wall

5 Existing boom gate + security

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

5

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

1 Lockable cafe storage: 20m²

Outdoor seating

Banner poles

NORTH

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

SYDNEY WATER ASSETS

① ▬ **Sewer induct vents**: remove existing stone pedestrals and install vents into proposed retaining wall

② ● **Sewer educt vent**: Remove existing vent in garden bed and install new sewer vent in alignment with tree grid.

③ **Existing sewer dry + wet well: to be retained.** Replace pit lids with infill pit lid and inlay paving.

NORTH

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

Public Works
Government Architect's Office

SERVICE ACCESS

• • • • • Heavy vehicle access

❶ Principal entry for service vehilces

❷ Existing layback for service entry

ARGYLE STREET

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

Public Works
Government Architect's Office
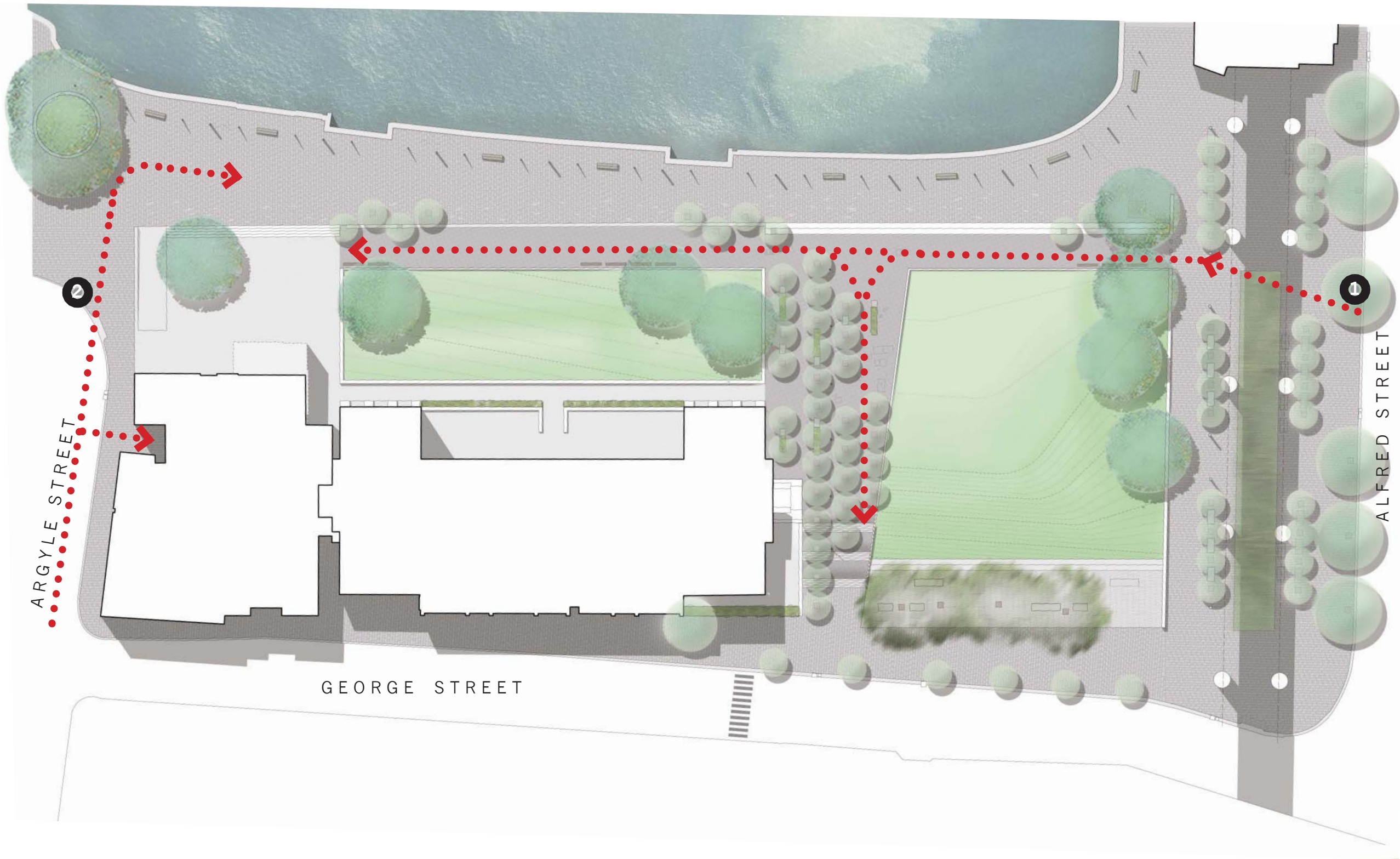
WSUD PRINCIPLES

1. Address irrigation demands for the park by collection and filtration of storm water runoff from the George Street south catchment. Install a gross pollutant trap and diversion from existing SW system.

2. Install an underground irrigation tank - 150 KL - 200KL tank would meet 80% estimated irrigation demand.

3. Provide SW filtration on site via use of bio-filtration tree pits which allow for stormwater runoff from

BIOFILTRATION
TREE PITS

IRRIGATION
TANK

NORTH

WEST CIRCULAR QUAY - PUBLIC DOMAIN REVITALISATION

CIRCULAR QUAY
RAILWAY STATION

CIRCULAR QUAY

LOWER PROMENADE

UPPER PROMENADE

MCA SQUARE

THE LAWN

MARKET WHARF

THE GREEN

ROOF GARDEN WALK

ARGYLE STREET

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

THE LOOKOUT

ALFRED STREET

GEORGE STREET

R.L. 2.3
R.L. 2.95
R.L. 3.5
R.L. 3.9
R.L. 2.52
R.L. 2.9
R.L. 3.0
T.W. 3.46
R.L. 3.325
R.L. 3.4
R.L. 6.0
T.W. 5.9
R.L. 5.3
3.65
3.15
3.15
3.5
5.0
5.3
6.0

KEY

Hardworks, Paving + walling
1. Granite paving units 600,300 x 450mm Dark grey and light grey finish
2. Precast concrete steps 600mm wide tread x 150mm high riser – Off white
3. Precast concrete seat wall 900mm high; angled profile with backrest- class 2 finish Off white
4. Custom cast iron tree grate to Fig planting 3000mm square
5. Cast iron tree grates to Cabbage Tree Palms (Livistona australis) 1200mm square
6. Asphalt paving to City of Sydney standards
7. Granite sett paving 150 x 150 x 40mm units with infill service pit lids to match paving.
8. Access stair 310mm wide tread x 155mm high risers: Granite to tread and riser – dark grey
9. Tactile surface indicators – to top and bottom landing of stair.
10. Lookout: steel frame and piles with precast concrete planks 2000, 1000mmm x 250mm x 175mm depth
11. Interpretive text and images integrated into Lookout paving
12. Precast concrete steps 600mm wide tread x 155mm high riser in steel frame – Off white
13. Precast concrete wall – angled profile 450mm high, class 2 finish – off white
14. Edging to the Green: Precast concrete edging 450mm wide x 200 mm high – off white Class 2 finish
15. MCA square: Insitu concrete - off white with sandblast finish
16. Precast concrete steps 310mm wide tread x 155mm high riser – off white
17. Insitu concrete ramp. Tactile surface indicators at top and bottom landing of ramp
18. Interpretation by others
19. Existing concrete columns
20. Existing trachyte kerb and sandstone gutter to be retained
21. Existing garden bed to be retained.
22. Existing street trees to be retained
23. Insitu concrete wall to lawn maximum height 600mm high
24. New timber cladding to planter wall + backrest

Furniture + Lighting
25. Handrail to access stair – 1000mm high mild steel plate and rods
26. Balustrade to access stair/ lawn interface – 1000mm high mild steel plate and rods
27. Custom benches to lookout - Precast concrete 5000, 2500mm x 750 mm wide – off white Class 2 finish
28. Standard double sided bench + backrest on Circular Quay promenade – 3 seats: timber slats + steel frame
29. Standard bench + backrest overlooking promenade – 3 seats: timber slats + steel frame
30. Standard double sided bench + backrest under Cahill Expressway – 2 seats: timber slats + steel frame
31. Custom bench in Market Wharf – precast concrete 4000mm length, red gloss paint finish
32. Existing balustrade to quay edge to be retained
33. Existing banner poles to be relocated in alignment with new lighting layout/ seating
34. New banner poles to match existing adjacent to Cahill Expressway
35. Access step lighting
36. Column lighting to Market Wharf 6 m high
37. Lookout – compact fluorescent lighting to underside lookout platform and steps
38. Lighting – Led lighting integrated into seat wall
39. Upgrade existing columns lighting along quay edge – repaint , relocate and install new globe + diffuser
40. In ground up lighting to Market wharf tree planting
41. Retain and relocate existing circular litter bins. Install new bins
42. Handrail to access stair – 1000mm high mild steel supports – MIO finish + steel handrail
43. Handrail to low stair to quay – 1000mm high mild steel supports – MIO finish + steel handrail
44. Relocate and reinstall retractable bollards
45. Install new bollards

Signage
46. Directional signage integrated into paving
47. Directional signage in concrete walling
48. Park signage element integrated into walling with up-lighting 10 m length

Services
49. New sewer outlet vent 6 m high
50. Sewer air intake integrated into steps
51. Irrigation tank under lawn 200kL tank
52. New GPT system to filter SW runoff from George Street
53. Irrigation system using recycled and filtered stormwater to lawn areas and fig tree planting
54. Modification to pit lid levels in Market Wharf

Trees and planting
55. 8 x super advanced (1000ltr++) Figs in lawn
56. Relocate 30 x Cabbage Tree Palms (Livistona australis) and supplementary planting of 400L Cabbage Tree Palms
57. New lawn areas
58. Under prune 4 x existing Peppercorn trees (Schinus areira)
59. Remove 4 x existing Peppercorn trees (Schinus areira)
60. New shade tolerant shrub planting in garden bed
61. Green roof installation – steel cable fixing to existing steel structure. Steel channel structure. Infill panels perforated sheets with geo-textile. Infill planting with bromeliads . Mist irrigation system to underside of Cahill expressway.