UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY PRECINCT STAGE 1

Landscape Design Report - for SSDA submission 29 March 2018

T.C.L



Landscape Design Statement

The first maps of Sydney identify the site of the University of Sydney as 'Kangaroo Ground', a place where the Cadigal and Wangal hunted kangaroo on the fertile grasslands. With European occupation the land became known as Grose Farm. This continuous association of the University site with productivity and growth marks it as fertile ground.

The history of fertility of the site suggests a future landscape that is both environmentally sustainable and one which is fertile ground for reflection, socialisation, reverie and study, a place where the productive and sustainable cultivation of the land is a setting for the cultivation of the mind.

Creeks and gullies cut between the natural ridges of the Cadigal land, with research suggesting the ridgelines and peaks held strong associations with men's culture. The low-lying spring site and marshes of the site of the current day Victoria Park, at the confluence of a number of waterways, was believed to have been an important Cadigal women's place.

In 2004, academic and historian Paul Carter began to research and develop a thematic design study related to the underlying cultural stories of the University site as part of the planned upgradeo0f the Darlington Campus Public Domain redevelopment commissioned by the University. The work became the theoretical base for the urban design outcome designed by landscape architects, TCL, and focussing on a new distinct and recognisable urban form for the principle pedestrian thoroughfares and the Maze Crescent precinct, the central common of the Darlington campus.

The ETP Stage 1 project presents a great opportunity to continue to strengthen the definition of Maze Crescent precinct and Cadigal Green in particular, as the central wayfinding hub of the Darlington campus by addressing the currently undeveloped northern and eastern sections of Maze Crescent.

This holistic approach to the wider precinct, beyond the strict site boundaries of ETP Stage 1, ensures the bigger picture is understood in developing a landscape response for the ETP. It ensures the design recognises the University's longer term planning, such as the potential redevelopment of Maze Crescent building sites (International House, Wilkinson and the agricultural buildings) to create a new public address and campus entry point from the north linking the Seymour Centre forecourt on City Road/Cleveland Street with Cadigal Green.

The design for the two courtyard spaces north and south of the new Electrical Engineering building draws on Paul Carter's explorations in his 2005 Golden Grove essay to extend the starfield typology to this perimeter edge of Cadigal Green. From this conceptual thinking, the design proposes new public realm outdoor spaces for students and visitors to the ETP.

Generous and flexible outdoor courtyards allow for a full variety of everyday uses, from small intimate study groups to larger, more formalised outdoor teaching spaces or small events and gatherings. Gently curved forms juxtapose the rectilinear nature of the building and relate to the strong circular gestures of Cadigal Green while creating individuality of expression. These forms lend themselves to the incorporation of interpretation elements along the lines of the Wingara Mura design principles including the potential Aboriginal naming of the spaces.

Seating, benches, tables, terraces and lawn allow a myriad of ways of being outdoors.

A large portion of the southern courtyard is set down below pavement level and acts as both an ornamental feature garden to be enjoyed by students, but also as a detention basin to address flooding issues inherent in the site. The potentially highly interpretive space deals with stormwater as an asset not a liability, putting 'engineering on display and acting as a reminder of the healthy waterbodies that once criss-crossed the area.

Creating spaces of intimacy, gathering, meeting, connecting

...casual spaces

...teaching spaces

...performance and celebration spaces

In accordance with Wingara Mura design principles, creating "cultural safe spaces" with embedded interpretation of ...women's places ...water and watercourses

...local totems of country

Encourage the return of the indigenous flora and fauna ...more planting, less paving ...sustainable landscapes ... "bush library"

Site history

Geographic & Oral history



Narrative

Pre-settlement / Post-settlement



Narrative

Theme Layers "Golden Grove" by Paul Carter



Narrative

The Pleiades Theme by Paul Carter

A palimpsest associated with The Pleiades offers a poetic template, a ground or background against which the stories associated with our place could stand out or blaze forth. Although the seasons, orientations and brightness of The Pleiades change from place to place around the world, the stories that geographically-remote cultures tell about them are remarkably similar. Indigenous paintings show them as a solid field of twinkling spheres.



Cadigal Green Project



Cadigal Green Project

Maze Crescent Precinct



Cadigal Green Project

Maze Crescent Precinct



Landscape Concept



Landscape Concept

Southern Courtyard Sections





1:500@A3

Landscape Concept

Northern Courtyard Section



1:200@A3

Precedent Images

Urban Elements



Precedent Images

Planting



Precedent Images

Sculptural Interps



Trees Proposed for Removal





Tree proposed for retention (2 total)

Tree proposed for removal and possible relocation (6 total)

488 Tree ID number - as referenced in Arborist's Report (Tree IQ, Arboricultural Impact Assessment Tree Protection Specification, 29 November 2017)



Replacement Trees





Retained existing tree with Arborist's Report ID number

Replacement tree planting (40 total)

Preliminary species selections:

X

Angophora costata (Smooth-barked Apple)

Backhousia citriodora (Lemon Myrtle)

Banksia serrata (Old Man Banksia)

Callicoma seratifolia (Black Wattle)

Ceratopetalum gummiferum (Coachwood)

Eleocarpus reticulatus (Blueberry Ash)

Melaleuca quinquenervia (Broad-leaved Paperbark)

1:500@A3

Indicative Plant List

Trees and Shrubs

Acacia longifolia (Sydney Golden Wattle) Acacia suaveolens (Sweet Wattle) Angophora costata (Smooth-barked Apple) Austromyrtus dulcis (Midgen Berry) Backhousia citriodora (Lemon Myrtle) Backhousia myrtifolia (Grey Myrtle) Banksia ericifolia (Heathleaved Banksia) Banksia spinulosa (Hairpin Banksia) Banksia serrata (Old Man Banksia) Breynia oblongifolia (Coffee Bush) Callicoma serratifolia (Black Wattle) Callistemon citrinus (Crimson Bottlebrush) Ceratopetalum gummiferum (Coachwood) Correa reflexa (Common Correa/Native Fuschia) Crowea exalata (Waxflower) Cupaniopsis anacardioides (Tuckeroo) Dianella caerulea (Blue-flax Lily) Dichondra repens (Kidney Weed) Eleocarpus reticulatus (Blueberry Ash) Grevillea sericea (Pink Spider Flower) Goodenia ovata (Hop Goodenia) Hakea sericea (Silky Hakea) Hardenbergia violacea (False Sarsaparilla) Indigofera australis (Austral Indigo) Kunzea ambigua (Tick Bush) Leptospermum squarrosum (Peach Blossom Teatree) Lomandra confertifolia subsp. rubiginosa (Mat-rush) Melaleuca quinquenervia (Broad-leaved Paperbark) *Melaleuca thymifolia* (Thyme Honey-myrtle) Persoonia chamaepitys (Mountain Geebung) Philotheca myoporoides (Native Daphne) Telopea speciosissima (Waratah) Viola hederacea (Ivy-leaf Violet) Wahlenbergia gracilis (Sprawling Bluebell) Westringia fruiticosa (Coastal Rosemary)

Ferns and allies

Adiantum aethiopicum (Common Maidenhair Fern) Calochlaena dubia (Common Ground-fern) Doodia aspera (Rasp Fern) Gleichenia dicarpa (Pouched coral fern) Macrozamia communis (Burrawang) Xanthorrhoea australis (Austral Grass-tree)

Grasses

Austrodanthonia tenuior (Wallaby Grass) Dichelachne crinita (Long-hair Plume-grass) Microlaena stipoides (Weeping Grass) Themeda australis (Kangaroo Grass)

Sedges and Reeds

Baumea articulata (Jointed Twig Rush) Eleocharis acuta (Common Spike Rush) Ficinia nodosa (Knobby Club Rush) Gahnia sieberiana (Red-fruit Saw-sedge) Schoenoplectus validus (River Club Rush) Triglochin striata (Streaked Arrow-grass)

Trees





Melaleuca quinquenervia





Elaeocarpus reticulatus Blueberry Ash





Callicoma serratifolia Black Wattle







Indicative Plant List

Shrubs / Groundcovers







Australian Indigo



Westringia fruticosa Native Rosemary

Native Fuschia



Persoonia chaemaepitys Mountain Geebung



Banksia spinulosa Coastal Cushion

Banksia serrata Coastal Cushion



Telopea speciosissima Warratah



Philotheca myoporoides Long-Leaf Waxflower



Goodenia ovata Hop Goodenia

Indicative Plant List

Shrubs / Groundcovers







Viola hederacea Native Violet

Adiantum aethiopicum

Maidenhair



Lomandra confertifolia ssp. rubiginosa

Frosty Top



Xanthorea australis Grass Tree



Macrozamia communis Burrawang



Doodia aspera Prickly Rasp Fern

Dichondra repens





Ficinia nodosa Knotted Club-Rush



Gleichenia dicarpa Coral Fern