

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE PORT ADELAIDE CONCEPT DESIGN OVERVIEW

23.06.2022

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners of the land on which we stand, the Kurna People of the Adelaide Plains.

It is upon their ancestral lands that the Aboriginal Cultural Centre Port Adelaide will be sited.

We pay respect to Elders past and present. We respect their cultural heritage, spiritual beliefs, and relationship with the land, which are of continuing importance to the living Kurna people of today. We further acknowledge the contributions and important role that Aboriginal people continue to play within our shared community.

We feel incredibly privileged to be afforded the opportunity to support the City of Port Adelaide Enfield Council, AAP, Design Facilitator, and broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community to co-create a unique place of connection, learning, and immersive Aboriginal culture on this important site.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

To establish an Aboriginal Cultural Centre in Port Adelaide with a combination of outdoor and indoor spaces that are designed in an integrated way through strong cultural direction, and that provides space and opportunity for:

- Aboriginal people to gather, learn about and celebrate culture and indigenous knowledge systems, and
- Cultural experiences and learning opportunities for non- Aboriginal people, including school children, local residents and tourists

PROJECT VISION

A place for Aboriginal and non Aboriginal people to learn, experience and be immersed in Aboriginal culture.

A culturally safe place to gather. A place to practice, share, celebrate and record culture past, present and emerging.

A place to connect to Country and culture.

A step in the journey towards reconciliation and an opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the Aboriginal community, Aboriginal Advisory Panel, Council, and broader community.

An opportunity to provide other positive outcomes for the Aboriginal community which align to the priorities identified by the Aboriginal Advisory Panel and Council.

(Port Adelaide Enfield Council and Aboriginal Advisory Panel)

CULTURAL PRINCIPLES

To guide the development of the concept plan, the Council, in collaboration with Brave and Curious and several key Kurna stakeholders, developed

a series of cultural principles. The principles set cultural directions for the design, programming and operation of the project. Importantly, the cultural principles act as key performance indicators to ensure that the concept plan delivers the high levels of cultural representation and expression.

1. **Culturally Safe**
A locally authentic, culturally safe place.
2. **Cultural Immersion**
A place to be immersed in local culture.
3. **Cultural Practice**
To bring back / repatriate cultural ways.
4. **Cultural Learning**
A place of learning through listening, observation, exploring and doing.
5. **Connection to Country**
A place to return to Country, foster deep understanding and respect for Country and each other
6. **A Place of Healing**
Reminded that healing is a shared process- Voice, Truth-telling, Treaty, Justice, Ceremony / Celebration, Walking Together.

THE CO-DESIGN PROCESS

The concept plan has been delivered through an extensive co-design process that has involved authentic engagement workshops with the custodian group and key stakeholders.

Ashley Halliday Architects and WAX sought and were granted permission from the traditional owners to work closely together with the Design Facilitator and knowledge holders to learn about Kurna Country and the 'cultural landscape' of the site. In exchange we offer our skills and experience in architecture and place-making to assist in the coming together of the physical and the cultural topographies and shaping of the project.

From the start of the design process, the project team wanted to explore the idea of cultural learning. They were keen to avoid the typical hierarchical consultation process of the consultant drawing and design for the community. Instead, by adopting a process of listening and observing, the project team developed an interactive engagement process that used making and doing to explore the potential opportunities.

Using a unique process of physical modelling with kinetic sand, the custodian groups were able to shape the site with their own hands, explore landforms, build mounds, and shape the site's edges. They tested spatial arrangements, coastal edge profiles and discussed how cultural practices and narratives should be expressed, overlaid and embedded into the concept plan.

Over several co-design sessions, the potential of the concept plan was explored. Building on the cultural principles, a series of key design outcomes were developed that steamed directly from the workshops and ideas generated by the custodians during the co-design session. These included;

- Bring water into the site (from the river, over the land and in the ground)
- Creating headlands with views to Lartelare, the river and the hills (connection to Kurna Country)
- Delivering a shelter and place (setting the building in the landscape)
- Creating shelter to the Women's Area with strong connections to the water
- Elevating the Men's area with protection (shelter for the fire)
- Providing a balance between the Women's Area and the Men's Area (elevation and scale)
- Exploring cultural transitions (public space, protection of cultural spaces, cultural safety)
- Recognising 'flows' across the site (spatial, cultural, spiritual)
- Working with the existing landscape (retaining the trees and mounds)
- Providing protection and shelter for the site (sense of refuge)
- Reinforcing views to Karta, Lartelare and Nganu (frames and viewpoints provide prospect)

CONCEPT DESIGN VISION

To create an immersive Aboriginal cultural experience, where learning, celebration, landscape and architecture are sensitively curated to create a culturally safe, multi-dimensional indoor-outdoor place that connects Country and culture.

The Design Concept recognizes and respects Aboriginal connection and on this site the relationship to the land, sea, waterways, and sky. This relationship is crucial to Aboriginal spiritual and cultural identity, cultural vitality and resilience, and further protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage and

knowledge associated with water and water places.

The objectives for the concept plan consider the delivery of the following;

- Cultural events: both indoor and outdoor events and gathering spaces for up to 500 people
- Cultural education: two-way learning for Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal
- Cultural business: incubation and support of Aboriginal business, education programmes and cultural awareness training (CAT)
- Cultural tourism: development and support of a (Port) Adelaide cultural tourism hub
- Cultural healing: Country and community, truth-telling, memorial, voice, justice, restoring the ecology
- Cultural creative arts: supporting cultural creative arts and music through venues, education, programmes and technical facility
- Family-friendly: welcoming environment for all people of all ages and backgrounds to connect, play and learn

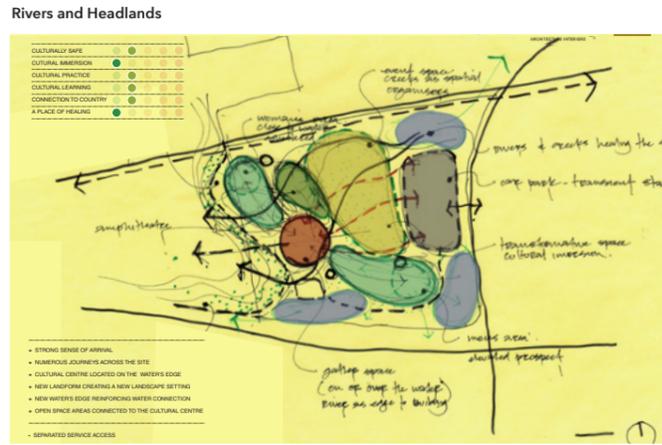
CUSTODIAN WORKSHOP EXPLORATION



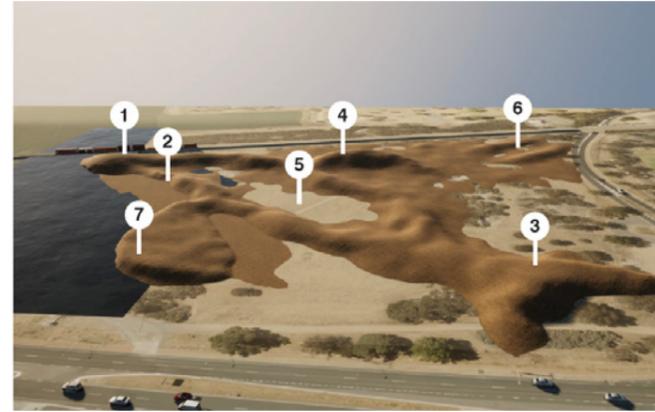
Custodian Workshop 1 - Landform



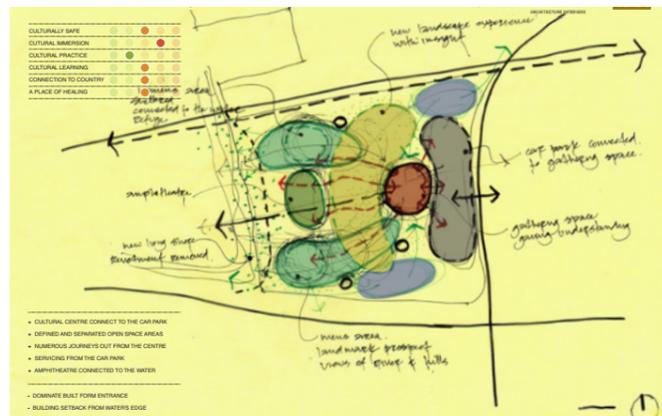
1. HEADLAND WITH VIEWS OUT OF THE SITE
2. PROTECTED WOMENS AREA CLOSE TO WATER
3. ELEVATED LANDSCAPE TO THE MENS AREA (KONDILI)
4. AMPHITHEATRE AS LANDFORM EXTENSION (HEADLAND OR WHALE'S TAIL)
5. MOUNDING TO DEFINE ENTRANCES
6. GATHERING SPACE
7. CULTURAL BUILDING (CONNECTION TO WATER'S EDGE)
8. MOUNDING (SPATIAL SEPARATIONS)



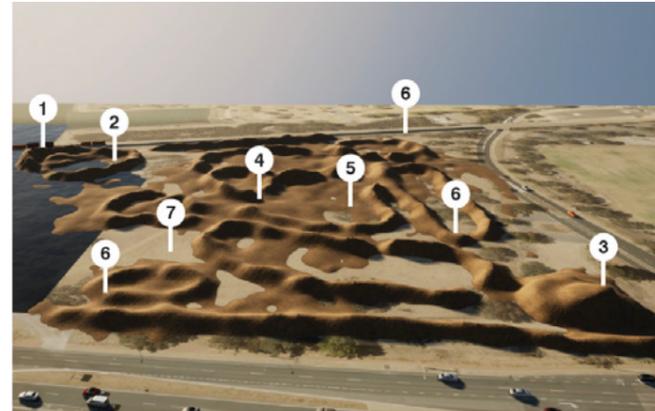
Custodian Workshop 2 - Landform



1. HEADLAND
2. PROTECTED WOMENS AREA CLOSE TO THE WATER
3. ELEVATED MENS AREA (YAMBO'S TAIL)
4. AMPHITHEATRE
5. PROTECTED GATHERING SPACE
6. MOUNDING TO DEFINE ENTRANCES
7. CULTURAL BUILDING NEAR THE WATER



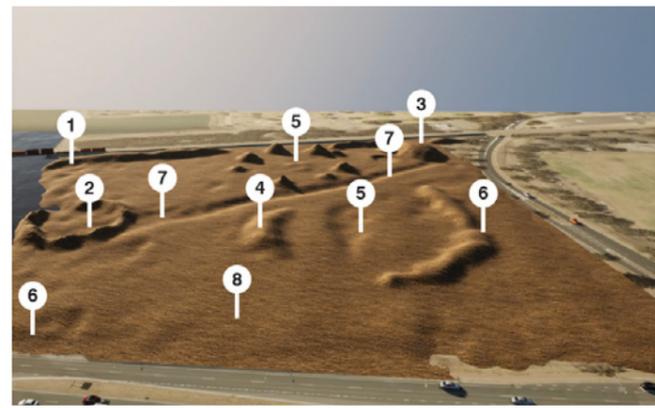
Custodian Workshop 3 - Landform



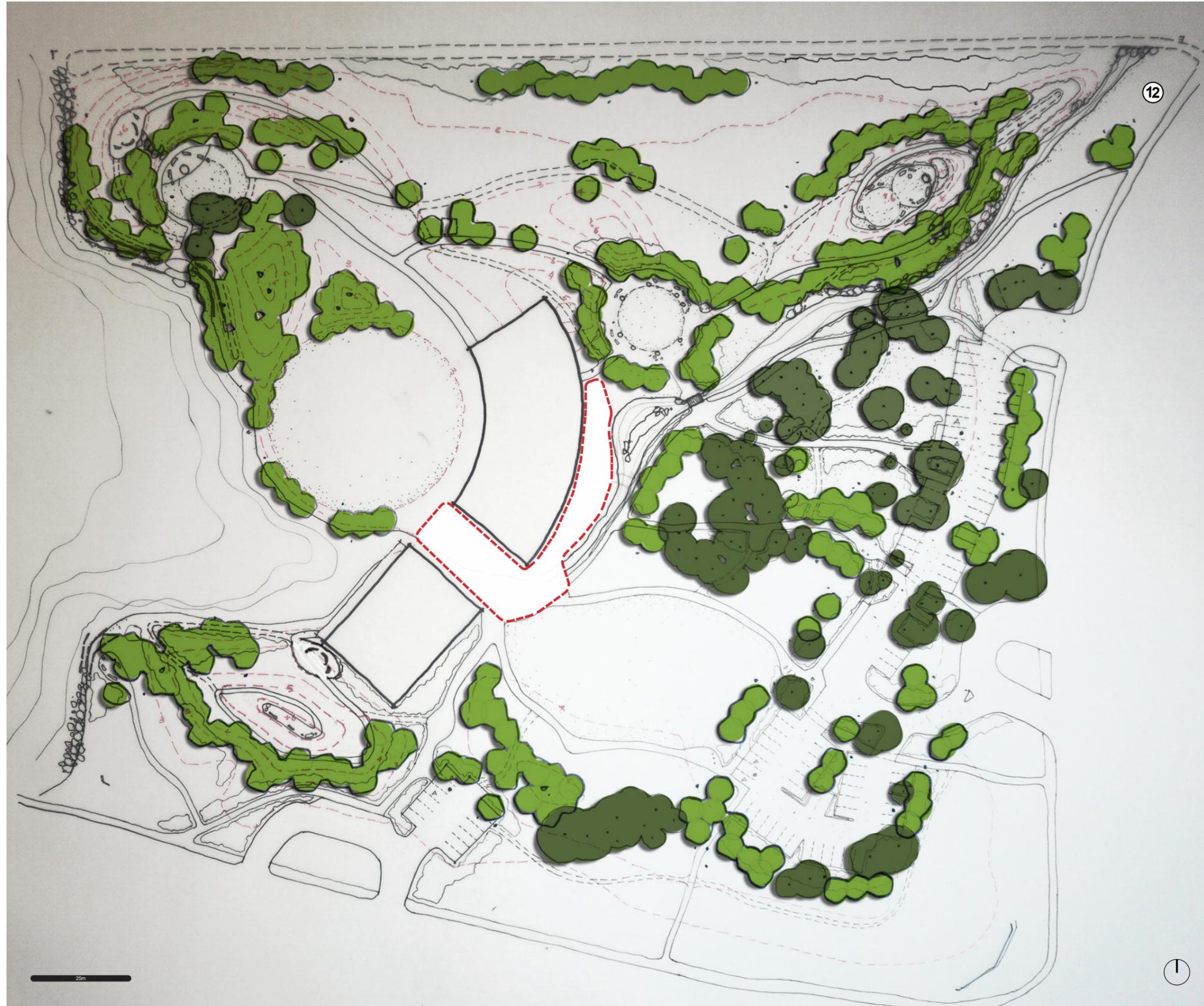
1. HEADLAND
2. PROTECTED WOMENS AREA CLOSE TO THE WATER
3. ELEVATED MENS AREA
4. AMPHITHEATRE
5. PROTECTED GATHERING SPACE
6. MOUNDING WITH DEFINED ENTRANCES TO ALLOW FLOW THROUGH THE SITE
7. CULTURAL BUILDING (LOCATION)



Custodian Workshop 4 - Landform



1. HEADLAND
2. PROTECTED WOMENS AREA
3. ELEVATED MENS AREA
4. CENTRAL AMPHITHEATRE
5. PROTECTED GATHERING SPACE
6. MOUNDING TO DEFINE ENTRANCES
7. CREEKLINE (DIVIDING SITE AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE)
8. CULTURAL BUILDING PROTECTING THE SITE (LOCATION)



-  CENTRAL AREA UNDER DESIGN REVIEW
-  EXISTING TREES
-  PROPOSED TREES



LEGEND

1. WOMEN'S AREA LOOKOUT AND SHELTER WITH VIEWS OF LARTELARE (3M ABOVE NATURAL GROUND)
2. ROCK SCRAMBLE BETWEEN THE LOOKOUT AND YARNING CIRCLE
3. YARNING CIRCLE WITH FIRE PIT
4. DANCING CIRCLE WITH A GRASS EDGE
5. EXISTING TREES RETAINED TO THE EDGE OF THE WOMEN'S AREA
6. SHELTERED BEACH AND ACCESS TO THE WATER WITH STEPPED PLATFORMS TO PROVIDE ALL-ABILITY ACCESS
7. MOUNDING AND TREE PLANTING TO SCREEN AND PROTECT WOMEN'S AREA
8. SMALL MOUND AND TREE PLANTING TO THE EDGE OF CENTRE PERFORMANCE SPACE
9. ACCESS PATH TO WOMEN'S AREA LOOKOUT (1:33)
10. POTENTIAL TOILET AND CHANGING FACILITY
11. INFORMAL ACCESS PATH BETWEEN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S AREAS WITH REST STOPS
12. VIEWING AREA TO REAR OF PERFORMANCE SPACE (BREAKOUT AND OUTDOOR TEACHING SPACE)
13. CULTURAL GATHERING SPACE (ENTRANCE INTO THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE)
14. MOUNDING TO MEN'S AREA REFLECTING THE SHAPE OF THE KAURNA SHIELD (DESIGN IDEATION TO BE REVIEWED BY CUSTODIANS TO CONFIRM APPROPRIATENESS)
15. DANCING AND PERFORMANCE AREA (ENTRANCE TO MEN'S AREA)
16. SPIRALLING ENTRANCE PATH (1:33)
17. YARNING AND GATHERING SPACE WITH FIRE PIT AND SHELTER (3M ABOVE NATURAL GROUND)
18. LOOKOUT TO EDGE OF MEN'S AREA
19. ROCK LEDGE AS AN ENTRANCE TO MEN'S AREA (SENSE OF ARRIVAL) AND ESCARPMENT TO CREEK DEFINING THE EDGE OF THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE
20. CREEK WITH CONNECTION TO THE RIVER
21. BRIDGING POINT INTO THE CULTURAL GATHERING SPACE (13) BY INVITATION
22. SHADED ELDER'S COURTYARD AND OUTDOOR TEACHING SPACE
23. ACCESS PATH THE ELDER'S LOOKOUT (1:33)
24. ELDER'S LOOKOUT (3M ABOVE NATURAL GROUND)

-  CENTRE CULTURAL AREA UNDER DESIGN REVIEW
-  EXISTING TREES
-  PROPOSED TREES





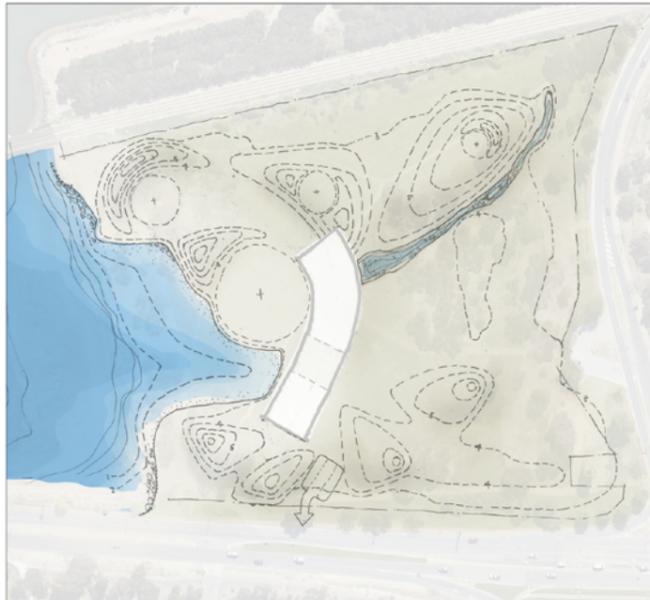
LEGEND

1. SERVICE ACCESS TO NORTH EDGE AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPE
2. OVERLAND ACCESS PATH (NORTH/SOUTH) ACROSS THE SITE
3. POTENTIAL FOR DISCOVERY AND NATURE PLAY OPPORTUNITIES UNDER EXISTING TREES
4. CAR PARK WITH NATURAL LANDSCAPE TREATMENTS TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF ENGINEERED INFRASTRUCTURE (72 SPACES AND 4 ACCESSIBLE)
5. DROP OFF AND BUS PULL-IN BAY
6. ARRIVAL PORTALS
7. CONGREGATION NODES
8. CENTRAL OPEN SPACE (3000M2)
9. ALL ABILITIES SOUTHERN ENTRANCE WITH COMBINED SERVICE ACCESS
10. SMALL CAR PARK FOR VIPS (9 SPACE AND 2 ACCESSIBLE)
11. DROP AND BUS PULL-IN
12. INFORMAL SERVICE ACCESS TO CENTRAL SPACE
13. SOUTH LOOKOUT

-  CENTRE AREA UNDER DESIGN REVIEW
-  EXISTING TREES
-  PROPOSED TREES



LANDFORM



- HEADLAND
- SHELTERED VALLEYS
- MOUNDING AND FRAMED VIEWS
- SHORELINES AND CREEKS
- VIEWPOINTS
- PROSPECT AND REFUGE

VEGETATION



- RETENTION OF EXISTING TREES
- WIND BREAKS AND SHELTER (SHEOAKS)
- CREEKLINE VEGETATION (RED GUMS)
- SHORELINE (MANGROVES)
- WOODLAND POCKETS (DRY FORESTS)
- DRYLAND GRASSES

CIRCULATION



- CAR PARKING TO OLD PORT ROAD
- SERVICE ACCESS AND DROP OFF TO BOWER ROAD
- CENTRAL ACCESS RETAINED
- MULTIPLE ENTRY POINTS (80M)
- SENSE OF TRANSITION
- CULTURAL LINKS BETWEEN SPACES
- PERMEABILITY

CREEK LINE



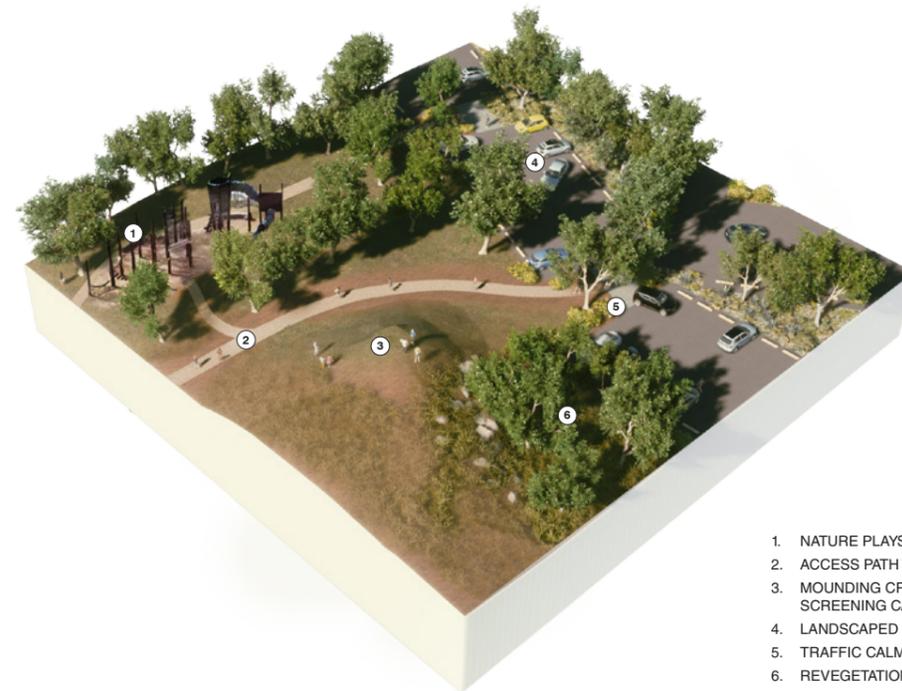
1. REVEGETATION AND SHELTER TREE PLANTING
2. ACCESS PATH TO MEN'S AREA
3. LOOK OUT AND PROTECTIVE MOUNDING TO MEN'S AREA
4. GATHERING SPACE (FIRE PIT)
5. CREEK LINE
6. BRIDGE CROSSING
7. SIGNAGE
8. OPEN SPACE
9. MAIN FOOTPATH (NORTH-SOUTH)

SHORELINE

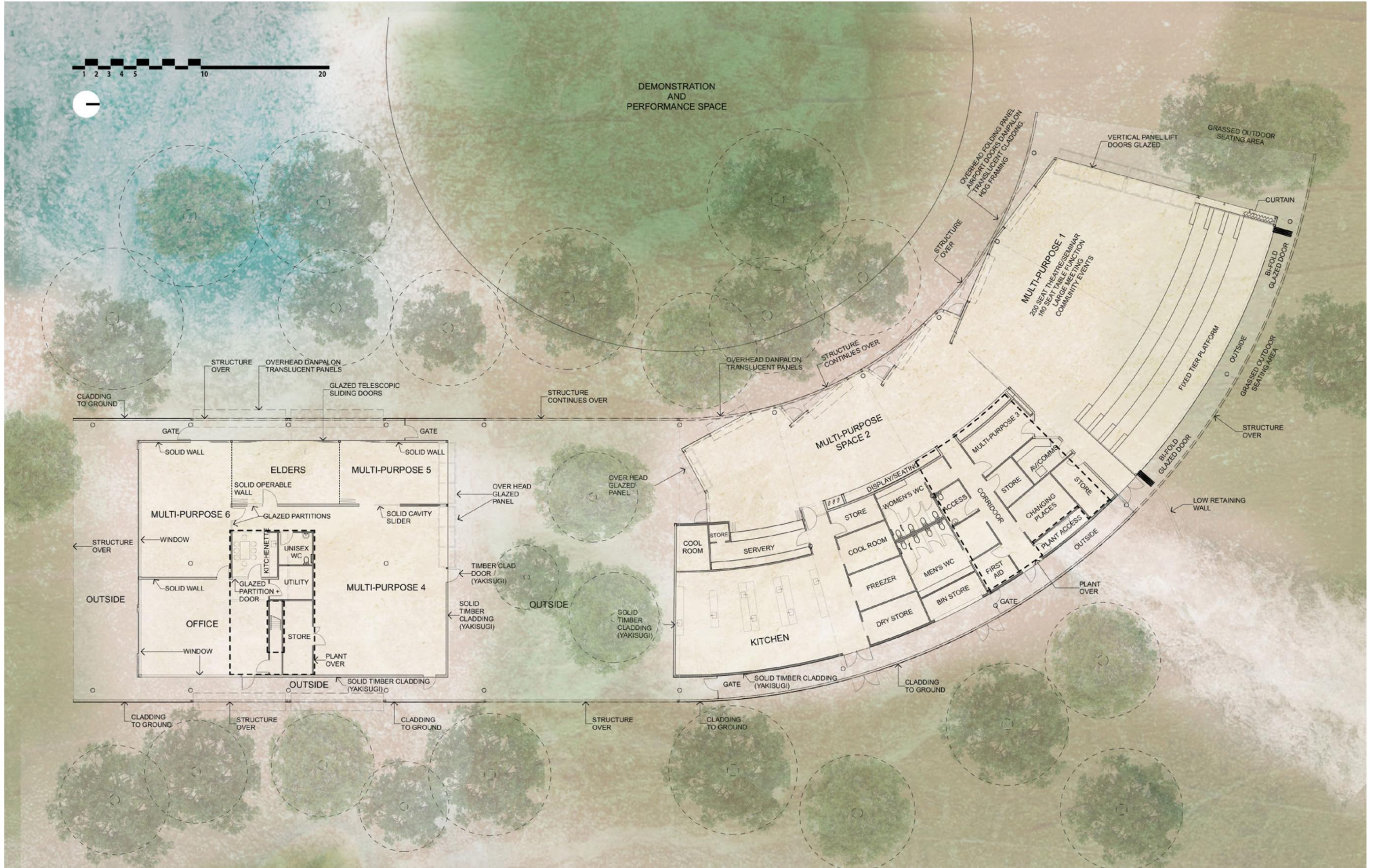


1. EXISTING ROCK REVETMENT
2. JUTE ROLLS AND STEPPED RIVER EDGE
3. ENTRNACE TO WOMEN'S AREA
4. MOUNDING TO PROTECT WOMEN'S AREA
5. NEW SHORELINE WITH MANGROVE REVEGETATION (LIVING SHORE LINE)
6. EVENT AREA
7. BEACH
8. REVEGETATION TO RIVER EDGE

NATURE PLAY SPACE



1. NATURE PLAYSPACE
2. ACCESS PATH TO MAIN BUILDING
3. MOUNDING CREATING VIEWPOINTS AND SCREENING CAR PARK
4. LANDSCAPED CAR PARK WITH TREE PLANTING
5. TRAFFIC CALMING TREATMENTS TO CAR PARK
6. REVEGETATION AND SHELTER TREE PLANTING





West Elevation



South Elevation