



BOROONDARA CEMETERY MASTER PLAN CONCEPTS

Prepared for **Community Feedback**
June 2025



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Hansen Partnership acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the diverse lands on which we live and work and recognise their deep spiritual connection to land, air and water as Custodians of Country.

We pay our respects to all First Nations people and to their ancient and enduring culture.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Prepared by Hansen Partnership for Community Feedback
Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan Concept

In October 2024, Boroondara Cemetery Trust commissioned the development of a Master Plan for Boroondara Cemetery.

Originally opening in the mid 1800's, this Victorian Garden Cemetery contains rich layers of history within its formal walled grounds. The layers bring a rich tapestry of stories and memories, enhanced by the many notable local residents buried within the peaceful garden setting.

The entire site is recorded on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR H0049) with two outstanding monuments (Springthorpe VHR H0522 and Cussen Memorial VHR H2036) being separately registered with Heritage Victoria due to their individual heritage significance.

The cemetery's grounds are interspersed with ornate memorials, and heritage buildings. There are many outstanding tree specimens within the Cemetery's grounds (including specimens on the City of Boroondara's Significant Tree Register).

Existing trees and garden plantings throughout the cemetery are important for biodiversity, character and identity. Furthermore, the cemetery's mature trees are highly valued for their contribution to canopy cover within the municipality.

The iconic heritage walls surrounding the site provide a sense of enclosure and protection, creating a tranquil and respectful sanctuary for visitors. Outwardly, the cemetery's walling creates a visual and physical barrier, restricting access to public transport, Victoria Park and the broader pedestrian shared pathway network to the north-east. This includes the Outer Circuit Linear Park (Anniversary Trail) and off-road connections between Hyde Park, Kew East and Belford Road, Kew. Similarly, the main entry to the west incorporates high boundary fencing and gates, with access prioritising vehicular movement.

As the cemetery is reaching its optimum capacity for interments, there is a renewed commitment to consider the cemetery's past & present and to plan for the future. Current considerations such as climate change and increased housing pressures add additional layers of complexity to the heritage site. There is an opportunity to reimagine and strengthen the Victorian Garden Cemetery setting to celebrate and respect the site's Victorian Era heritage whilst adapting to population growth and the changing needs of the community.

A review of local and international precedents and research reveals that cemeteries are no longer viewed as places with the sole purpose of burials and memorialisation. With an increased focus on the importance of open space for health and well-being, Boroondara Cemetery is an important open space asset with immense potential to provide stronger connections and partnerships with the community.

This document provides design concepts and high-level, strategic recommendations informed by our background review and stakeholder/community feedback undertaken in February 2025.

The Master Plan explores innovative ideas to allow Boroondara Cemetery to remain as working cemetery into the future.

Community consultation findings revealed that the majority of the community are open to embracing change. The challenge is to carefully consider changes and to implement staged improvements in a sensitive manner to maintain and enhance the essence of what makes Boroondara Cemetery a special place to visit.

The draft master plan provides the following key recommendations:

- To provide a pedestrian focused main entry forecourt (shared zone to the west with shared entry plaza, information node and water feature).
- To prepare a business case to internally modify and re-purpose the Gate Lodge to provide flexible community spaces including café and visitor welcoming services. (Potentially to include book/gift shop).
- To retain a leasing arrangement for the upper floor rooms.
- To reduce the driveway width adjacent to the gate lodge to incorporate safe pedestrian access.
- To accommodate an area for temporary events/demountable stage with plug and play infrastructure for intimate music events and outdoor activities.
- Investigate opportunities for the Maintenance/Service area to be located off site (in a nearby location).
- Maintenance/Service area to be converted into a state-of-the-art multi-use building (3 levels above ground) with direct access to High Street (new pedestrian entry point). The built form to include lower-level mausoleum, and gallery space, with new administration centre & community/indoor function space at upper levels. It is intended that the built form provides a clear distinction between historic and contemporary architecture.
- To incorporate rest/reflection nodes within the cemetery for visitor use, including wayfinding signage.
- To introduce options for cremated interment relating to small areas not currently interred (e.g. triangle areas at the end of grave rows) to provide opportunities and choices for interment within the garden setting.
- To introduce more canopy trees along the main driveway and throughout the grounds (where possible) for shade, amenity and additional cremated interment opportunities.
- To introduce garden elements such as pergolas/shade structures within the precincts for shade, weather protection and comfort.
- To strengthen the Victorian Garden Character of the cemetery through continued grave dressing and cremated interment options throughout the grounds.
- To provide additional opportunities for sculpture (including sculpture cremated interment) within the cemetery grounds, potentially as part of a broader Kew sculpture trail.
- To provide separate planting themes for identified precincts within the cemetery to allow for variety and interest and to strengthen key design themes throughout (e.g. linking the landscape of Victoria Park and Boroondara Cemetery).
- To provide two (2) new gate entry points to directly access Victoria Park and changing some of the fence panels to metal palisade fencing to filter views between Victoria Park and Boroondara Cemetery (subject to Heritage Victoria approval).

- To activate the eastern boundary wall to provide a focal point at the eastern end of the cemetery (Any future feature paneling/cremated niche wall is to sit proud of the heritage wall).
- To accommodate new opportunities for interment along the southern boundary of the site. The existing heritage wall is to be retained and protected.
- To establish additional service infrastructure within the cemetery grounds (electricity, water, drainage) to allow for festivals, events, tours and music.
- To prepare a lighting strategy for the cemetery.
- To prepare a signage and wayfinding strategy for the cemetery.
- To update the toilets to allow access for all and modern facilities (e.g. baby change/parent facilities).
- To prepare an audit on existing paths to reduce ongoing liability for Boroondara Cemetery, improve access for all where possible and to prioritise future capital works.
- To prepare an irrigation strategy.
- To continue to support and strengthen connections with Friends of Boroondara Kew Cemetery, and education providers such as the University of Melbourne (Burnley Campus).
- To continue to support and promote voluntary projects that benefit the community.
- To explore new avenues for capital works funding including private and public sector grant applications, donations and fund raising.
- To strengthen community events and activities including the development of a structured program for schools/education, cultural events/festivals, heritage tours and special days such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Anzac Day and anniversaries.

The above recommendations are subject to Responsible Authority approval prior to implementation (including Heritage Victoria, City of Boroondara and Department of Health).

The final master plan for Boroondara Cemetery will provide short, medium and long-term implementation strategies to assist with the staged planning of the cemetery's future capital work's program.

The proposed master plan concepts and recommendations will assist the Boroondara Cemetery Trust to realise the site's immense value as a place for education and discovery, celebration, and reflection.

Boroondara Cemetery's Vision

*"Honouring life, nurturing nature, and connecting community —
Boroondara Cemetery is a place where memories flourish, heritage
is celebrated, and sustainability guides every step forward."*

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Master Plan Purpose

Hansen Partnership, in collaboration with Helen Lardner and Jenni Calzini, has been engaged by the Boroondara Cemetery Trust to prepare a master plan for Boroondara Cemetery, Kew. The aim of the master plan is

- To set the strategic direction for the Cemetery.
- To provide a framework for planning and delivering future improvements and capital works projects, enhancing community access, and creating opportunities for cremated interment and memorialisation, and
- To provide the cemetery with a sustainable financial base to continue operating.

Boroondara Cemetery, established in 1859, is an outstanding example of the Victorian Garden Cemetery movement, renowned for its historically significant landscape design, memorials, and plantings.

The cemetery has almost reached its optimal capacity for interments. The purpose of the master plan is to provide a strategic vision to guide the future planning and development of the cemetery.

Design concepts and recommendations within this report seek:

- To respond to community and stakeholder feedback.
- To optimise the site’s potential.
- To respect the site’s heritage context.
- To rethink the way the cemetery can meaningfully service and engage with the community in future years.
- To ensure that Boroondara Cemetery continues to function as a working and financially sustainable cemetery for the community.

1.2 Project Phases

The Boroondara Master Plan involves six (6) separate phases:

- Phase 1 – Site Investigation & Research
- Phase 2 – Stakeholder & Community Consultation 1
- Phase 3 – Part A: Draft Concept Options
- Phase 3 – Part B: Illustrated Draft Master Plan
- Phase 4 – Stakeholder & Community Consultation 2 ← **We are here**
- Phase 5 – Final Master Plan

Phase 1 – Site Investigation & Research

In November 2024 – January 2025, site visits and a comprehensive desk top review were undertaken. Information gathered from a wide range of sources was reviewed and collated.

The Boroondara Cemetery Background Report dated January 2025 presents a summary of background research and key findings for the Master Plan process.

The Background Report covers the following:

- Background documents reviewed – Including Heritage Victoria listings
- Boroondara Cemetery Overview – Cemetery sector governance and regulations
- Cemetery re-imagined – Including interment types, trends, precedents, community connections and sustainability.
- Existing site conditions –Including site context and history
- Issues and opportunities –Including enhanced community and engagement opportunities
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement – Including key stakeholders and the Boroondara Cemetery Working Group
- Proposed Master Plan Themes

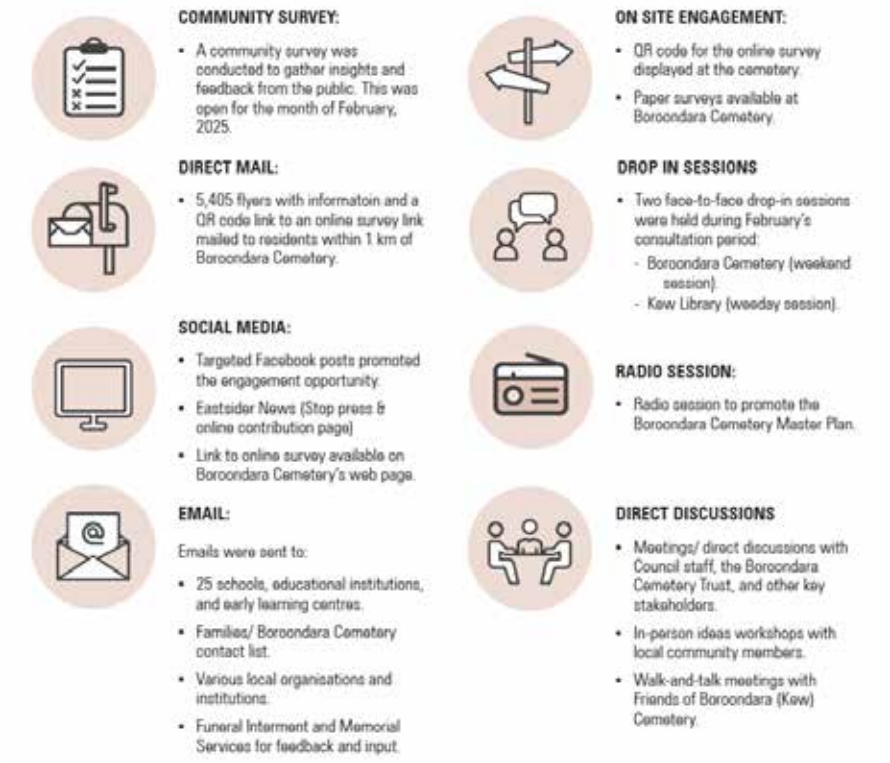
The key themes for Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan are:

- [Discovery](#)
- [Celebration](#)
- [Sustainability &](#)
- [Sanctuary.](#)

The master plan themes and vision for Boroondara Cemetery are discussed further in Section 2 of this report.

Phase 2 – Stakeholder & Community Consultation 1

In February 2025, consultation was undertaken with the aim of gaining a better understanding of the current and future needs and aspirations of the community and targeted stakeholders. The consultation period allowed us to engage with key stakeholders and the broader community through a range of methods including:



The key findings of February’s stakeholder and community engagement period are listed below:

The key findings are listed below:

[For Community Consultation](#)

- That the community value Boroondara Cemetery as a place:
 - To visit loved one’s memorial interment.
 - For rest and reflection (viewed as a sanctuary).
 - To appreciate the garden including significant trees.
 - To learn about the heritage of the site including notable people buried at the cemetery and historic monuments.

- That a large percentage of older people responded to the on-line survey (over half of all respondents were 65+ years of age).
- The majority of people who responded to the survey visit yearly or monthly.
- The majority of respondents are at the cemetery to visit a loved one's grave.
- Many also come for a broad range of other reasons relating to the site's history, setting and leisure opportunities.
- The most important improvements identified by the community that would encourage people to visit more often in the future were:
 - Enhanced tree and garden plantings.
 - Strengthening opportunities for guided tours to explore the cemetery's history/heritage.
 - Quiet resting spaces, upgraded facilities, comfortable seating.
 - Clearer signage and wayfinding.
 - Better accessibility.
 - More options for memorials/interment.
- Younger respondents (under 44) showed greater interest in improved accessibility, connections to nearby parks, cafés and refreshment areas, guided tours, and learning spaces/opportunities.
- Observed groups of younger people (late teenage/early 20's) visiting the site for dog walking and jogging.
- A large % of older aged residents (55 plus) attended the drop-in sessions.
- There was a low attendance for the community workshop. Attendees included those that regularly come to the cemetery to visit a family member's grave.
- A high proportion of the community that we engaged with during February's consultation period were supportive of alternative burial and memorial options.
- Overall, there was a high degree of support for any recommendations that would allow the Boroondara Cemetery to remain as a working cemetery.
- A high proportion of the community that we engaged with during February's consultation period are supportive of initiatives based on strengthening community connections and opportunities to learn more about the site's history.
- To ensure that any changes/recommendations are in keeping with the special character of Boroondara Cemetery's grounds as a peaceful and tranquil place for rest and quiet reflection.

Phase 3 – Part A: Draft Concept Options

In April 2025, preliminary (draft) Concept Options (sketch form) were prepared for review.

One of the key findings from Phase 1 & 2 is that Boroondara Cemetery does not have a dedicated space large enough to accommodate indoor functions or events and this is restricting future opportunities for community connections. This means that there is currently no room available for funeral services, family gatherings, heritage talks or other community-based services such as education/learning sessions, history talks or seminars.

Given the heritage fabric of the site and that the cemetery has almost reached optimum capacity for interment, available land is highly restricted. The service/maintenance area was deemed to be a potential space for re-development to accommodate a function/event room.

Precincts were developed within the cemetery and design concepts developed to respond to each precinct's theme. The precincts are:

- Precinct 1 - Main Entry
- Precinct 2 – Northern Boundary
- Precinct 3 – Southern Boundary
- Precinct 4 – Victoria Park Interface

Phase 3 – Part B: Illustrated Draft Master Plan

Draft master plan concepts have been prepared in May 2025, addressing consolidated feedback to date.

To reduce risks associated with the Heritage Victoria approvals, Helen Lardner, Conservation Architect has provided ongoing advice, has reviewed the concepts and has provided support for the recommendations within this document.

A meeting with Heritage Victoria is being arranged to seek feedback and support of the master plan's proposed concepts to future proof final recommendations and staged capital works.

Phase 4 - Stakeholder & Community Consultation 2

During June-July 2025., the draft Master Plan (including key findings and recommendations) will be presented back to key stakeholders and the community for feedback.

A Stakeholder and Community Consultation Summary Report will be prepared and issued to Boroondara Cemetery Trust.

Phase 5 Final Master Plan

Stakeholder and community feedback will be taken on board in the preparation of a Final Master Plan for Boroondara Cemetery.

The Boroondara Final Master Plan is anticipated to be finalised in August 2025.

2 THE MASTER PLAN

2.1 Introduction

Section 2 of this report outlines the master plan’s key design initiatives and recommendations for Boroondara Cemetery.

The following key design themes are explored:

- Access & connectivity
- Buildings and memorials
- Rest nodes and wayfinding
- Views and Vistas
- Vegetation
- Planting themes
- Interment opportunities
- Lighting

The master plan has then been divided into separate Precincts. Specific design initiatives and recommendations for various precincts have been developed for:

- Precinct 1 – Main Entry
- Precinct 2 – Northern Boundary
- Precinct 3 – Southern Boundary
- Precinct 4 – Victoria Park Interface

Initiatives responding to the master plan themes of discovery, celebration, sustainability and sanctuary are embedded within each precinct’s recommendations.

The master plan recommendations seek:

- To develop infrastructure (including building works, services, interpretation and wayfinding signage) to re-imagine Boroondara Cemetery as a place for the community to connect, discover and celebrate.
- To enhance and protect the valued heritage features.
- To strengthen the garden setting which is highly valued by the community and to explore opportunities for enhanced amenity within the grounds.
- To support sustainability (including financial).
- To consider all of the above whilst optimise opportunities for interment to allow Boroondara Cemetery to remain as a working cemetery.

Section 3-8 of this report provide further information to support the draft master plan’s initiatives:

- Section 3 Includes materials, furniture and planting palettes
- Section 4 Provides flexible cremated interment options to provide families a range of choices based on their needs and financial considerations.
- Section 5 Explores opportunities for future community connections and funding
- Section 6 Provides conclusion recommendations.

2.2 Key Design Themes & Vision

Discovery

- Explore the cemetery and experience its diverse spaces and places.
- Learn about the site, its heritage and history.
- Foster enquiry and learning across the community.
- Ensure a welcoming place with access for all.

Celebration

- Celebrate the lives of people – living and past.
- Celebrate events and anniversaries.
- Celebrate the diverse stories and histories of the place.
- Respect the important role of the cemetery in the City’s history.

Sustainability

- Ensure financial viability now and into the future.
- Respond to the impacts of climate change.
- Implement ESD principles throughout.
- Connect to and support the local community.
- Adopt innovative interment solutions.
- Enhance, strengthen and protect valued features.

Sanctuary

- Enable reflection on past friends and family.
- Allow people to find peace and tranquillity.
- Provide a place for contemplation and reflection.

2.3 Master Plan Precincts Key Plan

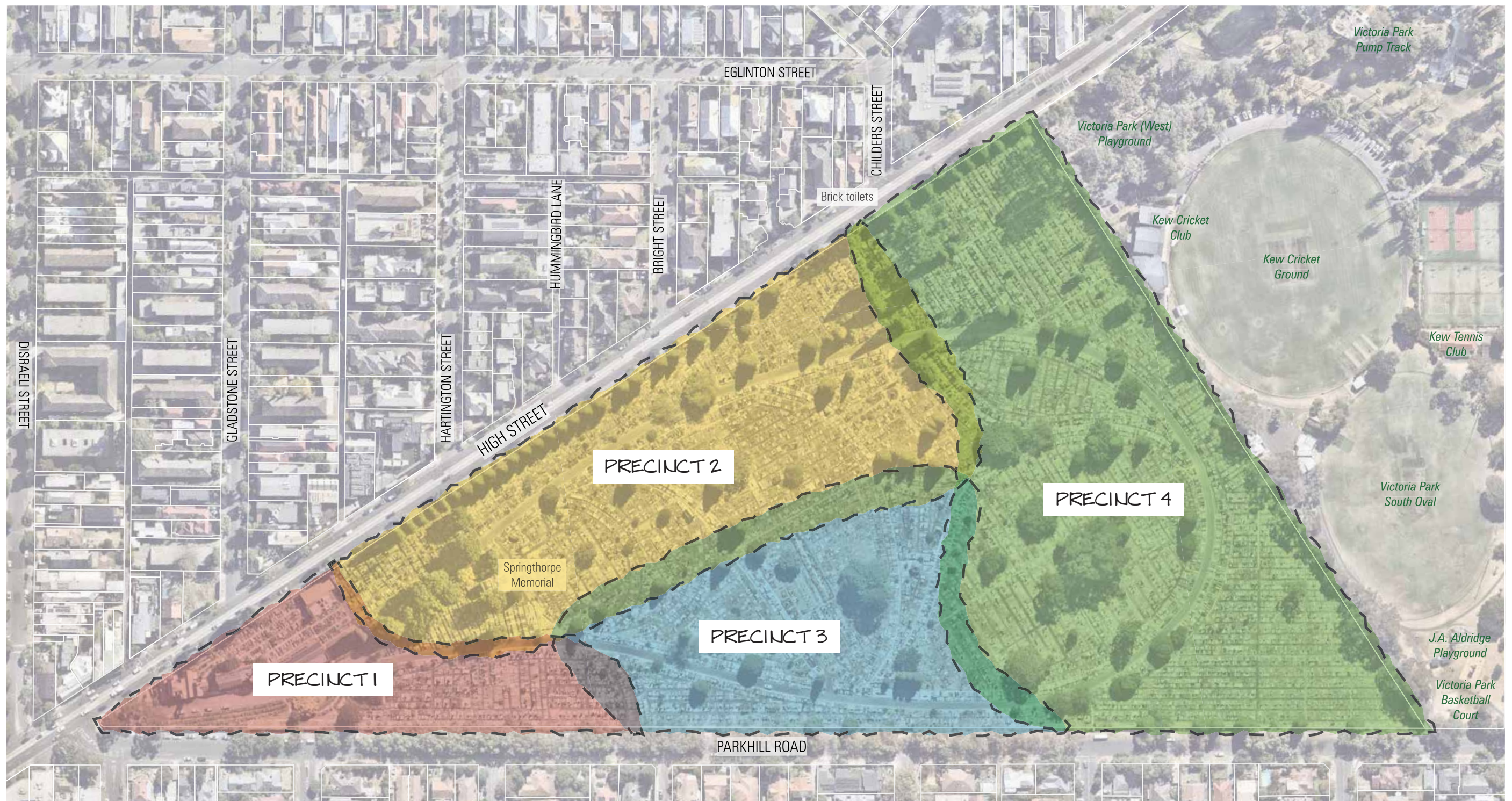
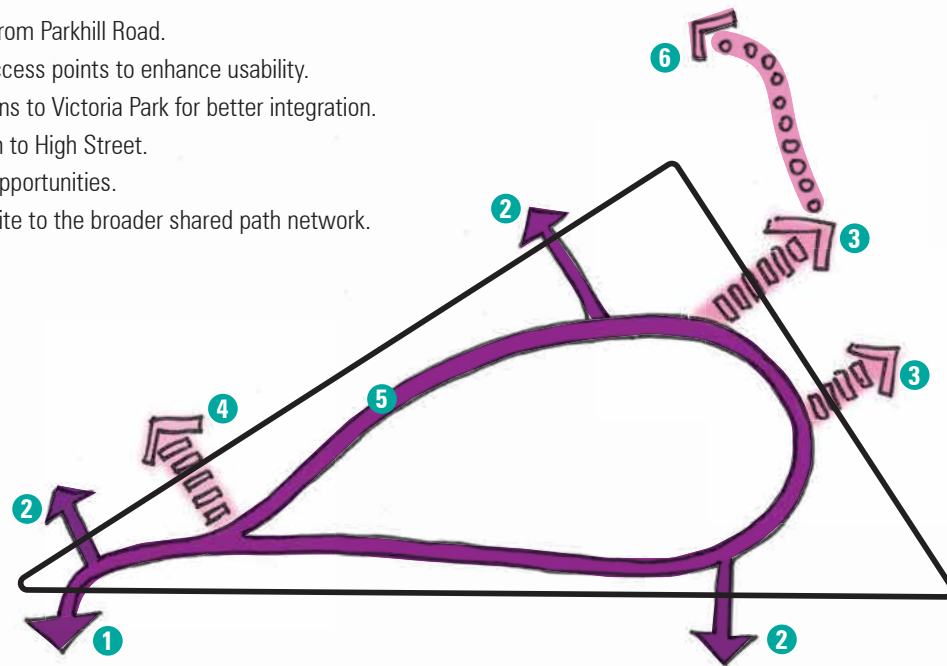


Figure 1 Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan Precincts

2.4 Master Plan Site Opportunities

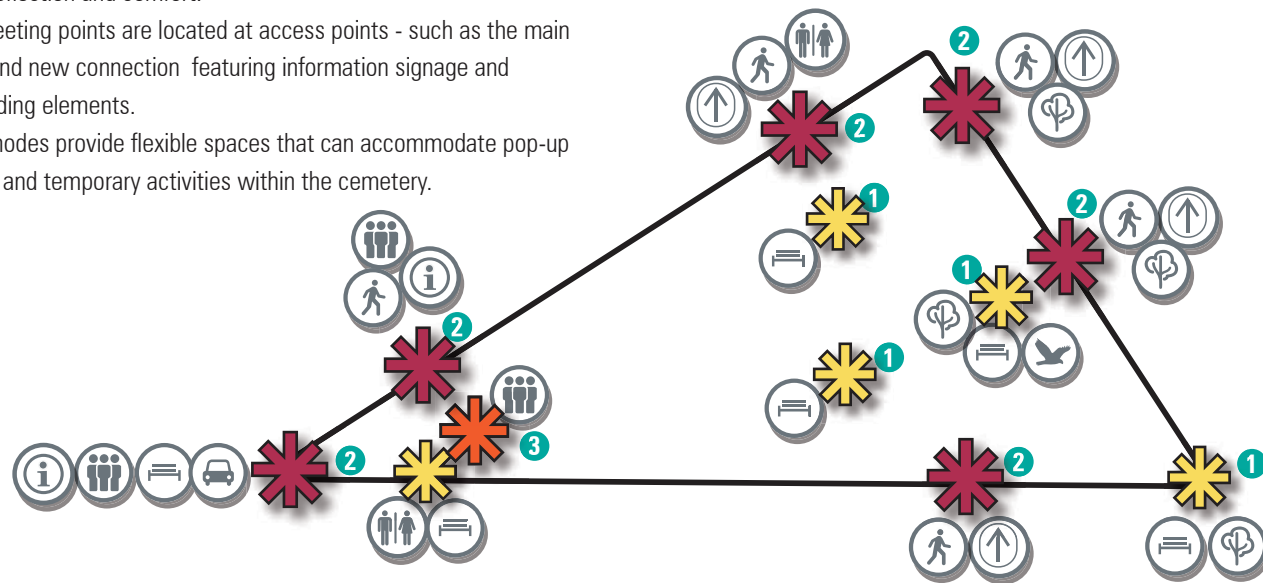
Access & Connectivity

- 1 Maintain existing vehicular entry from Parkhill Road.
- 2 Maintain and formalise existing access points to enhance usability.
- 3 Provide new pedestrian connections to Victoria Park for better integration.
- 4 Create new pedestrian connection to High Street.
- 5 Incorporate additional interment opportunities.
- 6 Connect to the north, linking the site to the broader shared path network.



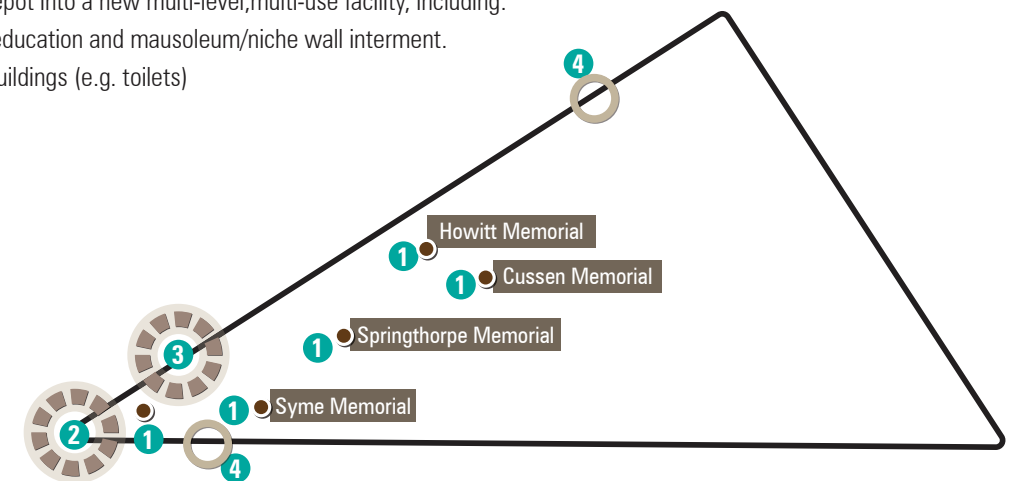
Rest Nodes & Wayfinding

- 1 Rest nodes within the cemetery provide shaded seating areas for quiet reflection and comfort.
- 2 Key meeting points are located at access points - such as the main entry and new connection - featuring information signage and wayfinding elements.
- 3 Event nodes provide flexible spaces that can accommodate pop-up events and temporary activities within the cemetery.



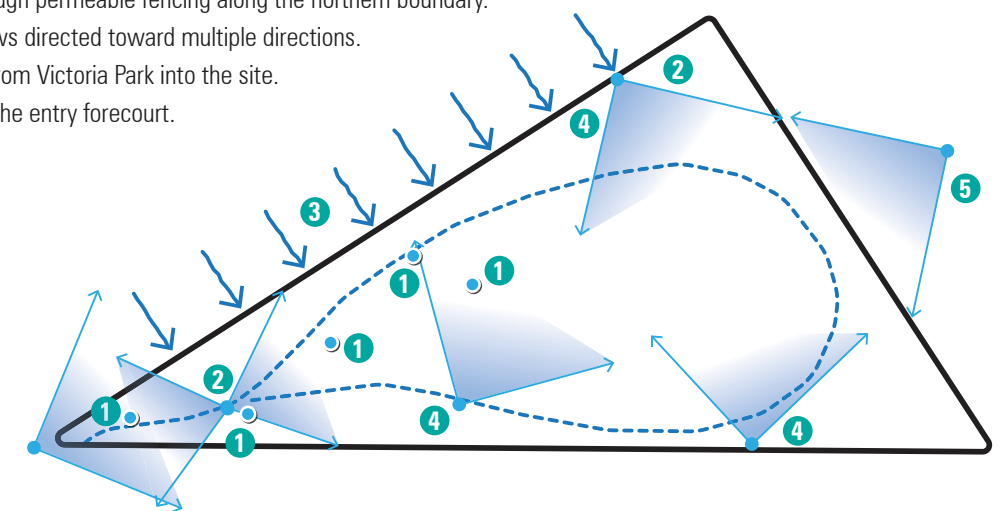
Buildings & Memorials

- 1 Appreciate and celebrate existing memorials within the Boroondara Cemetery site.
- 2 Repurpose the existing entry building (currently used for administration purposes) into a community hub.
- 3 Convert the existing maintenance depot into a new multi-level, multi-use facility, including: administration, event space, gallery, education and mausoleum/niche wall interment.
- 4 Retain & upgrade existing amenity buildings (e.g. toilets).



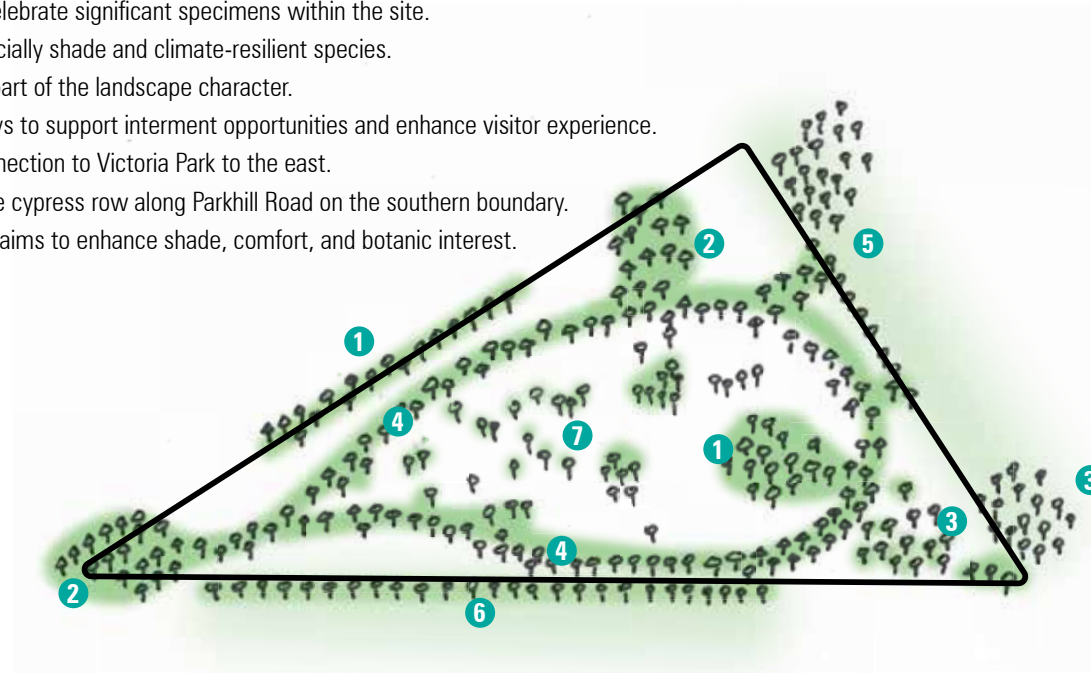
Views & Vistas

- 1 Maintain and frame views to memorial elements.
- 2 Emphasize sightlines from paths to cemetery and focal points.
- 3 Maintain views from High Street through permeable fencing along the northern boundary.
- 4 Preserve and enhance panoramic views directed toward multiple directions.
- 5 Create opportunities for open views from Victoria Park into the site.
- 6 Maintain and strengthen views from the entry forecourt.



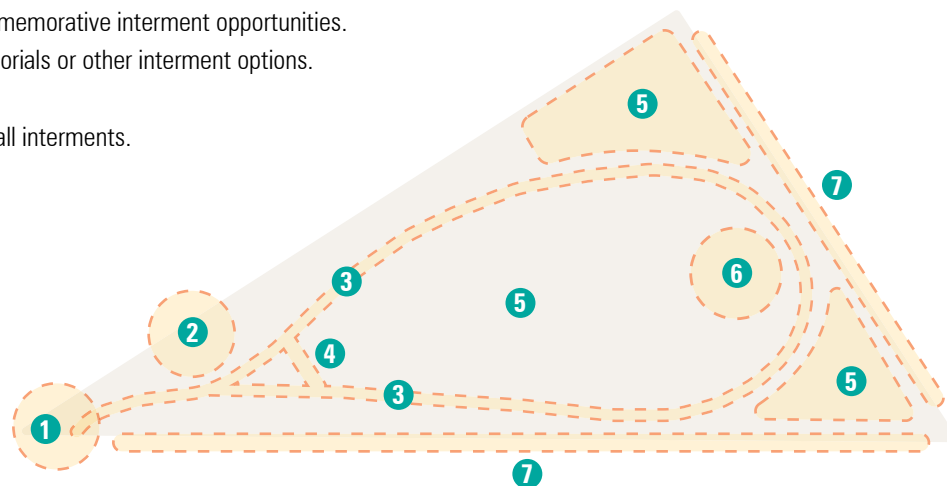
Vegetation

- 1 Retain existing trees and celebrate significant specimens within the site.
- 2 Introduce more trees, especially shade and climate-resilient species.
- 3 Include tree memorials as part of the landscape character.
- 4 Add planting along pathways to support interment opportunities and enhance visitor experience.
- 5 Strengthen the canopy connection to Victoria Park to the east.
- 6 Acknowledge and retain the cypress row along Parkhill Road on the southern boundary.
- 7 Overall vegetation strategy aims to enhance shade, comfort, and botanic interest.



Interment Opportunities

- 1 Cemetery forecourt featuring water feature interments.
- 2 New building with opportunities for underground interments.
- 3 Tree memorials
- 4 Celebration pathway offering commemorative interment opportunities.
- 5 Infill planting areas with tree memorials or other interment options.
- 6 Art sculpture memorial space.
- 7 Eastern and southern boundary wall interments.



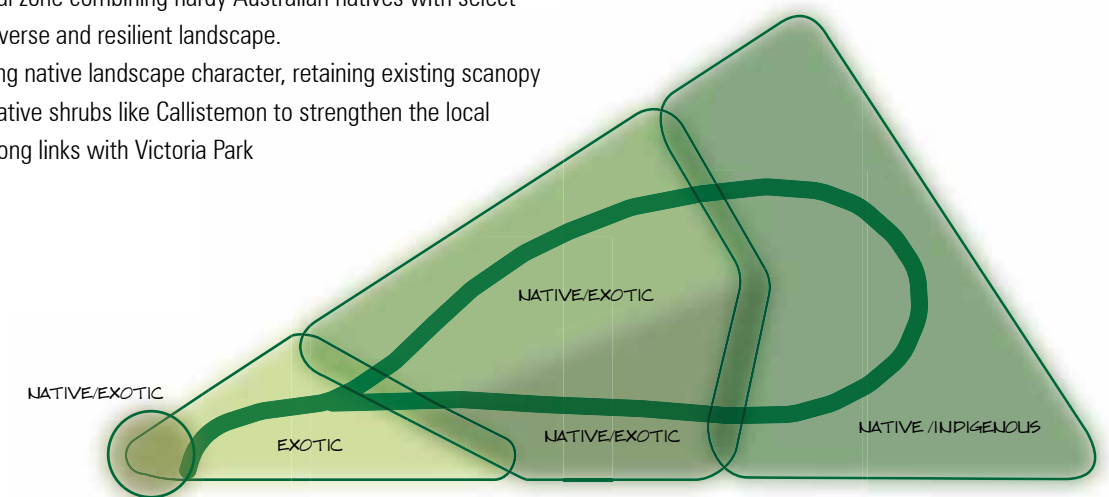
Planting Themes

Civic Forecourt: A formal forecourt space featuring canopy trees and structured exotic planting to frame the civic setting.

Exotic: A planting area showcasing a variety of non-native ornamental species for seasonal colour and texture.

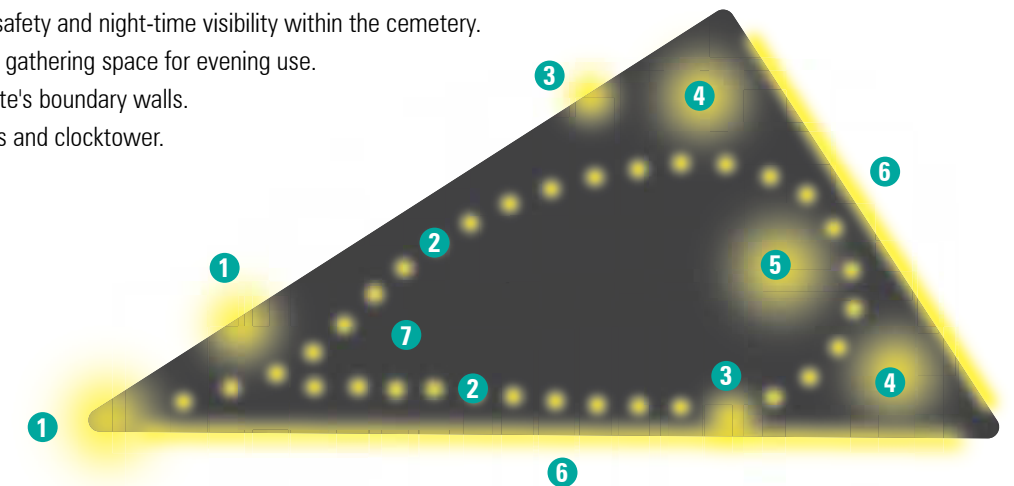
Native/Exotic: A transitional zone combining hardy Australian natives with select exotic species to create a diverse and resilient landscape.

Native/Indigenous: A strong native landscape character, retaining existing canopy trees and introducing new native shrubs like Callistemon to strengthen the local ecosystem and establish strong links with Victoria Park



Lighting

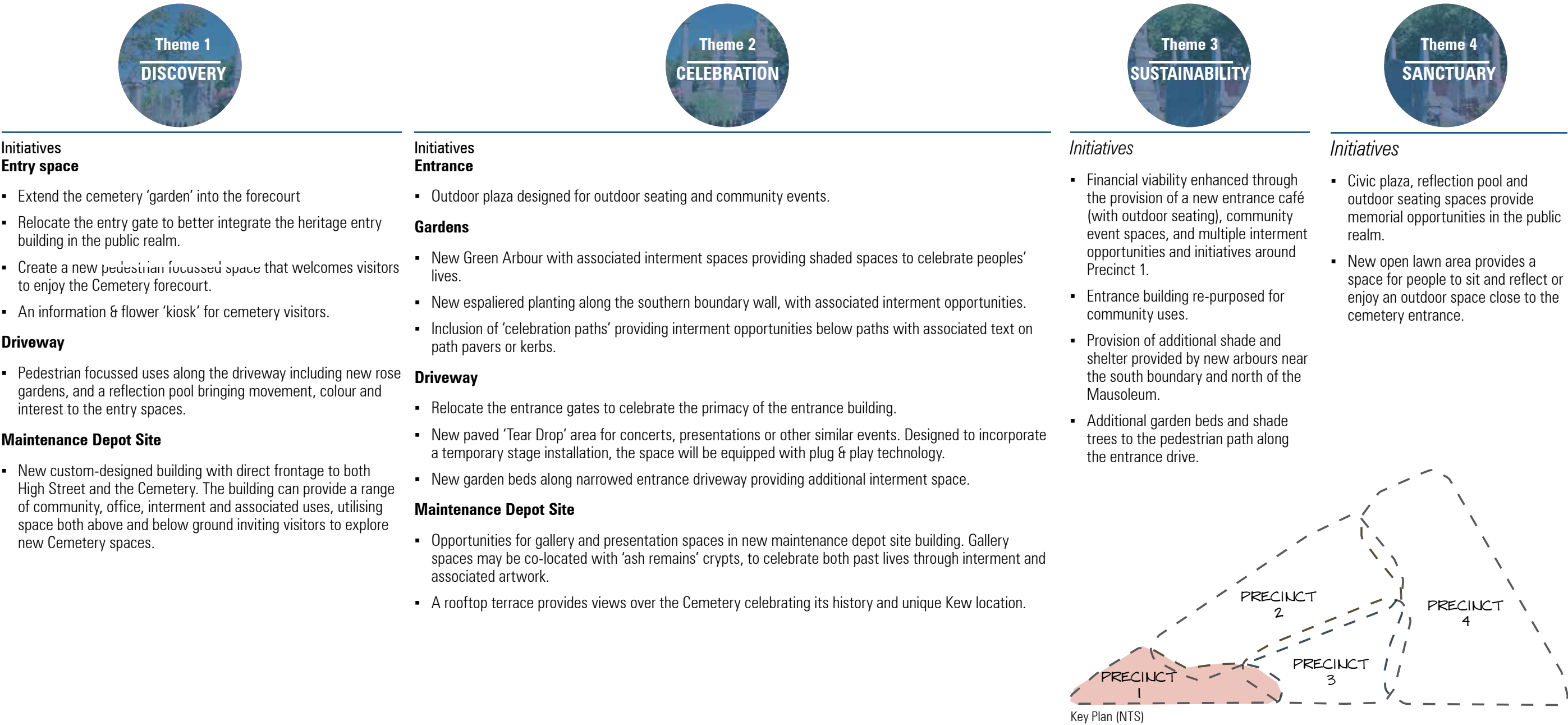
- 1 Functional lighting around the new forecourt building along High Street.
- 2 Ambient lighting along the internal pathway to support safe and intuitive movement.
- 3 Highlighting of key cemetery entry points with functional lighting for improved wayfinding.
- 4 General internal lighting to enhance safety and night-time visibility within the cemetery.
- 5 Node lighting illuminating the central gathering space for evening use.
- 6 Ambient edge lighting defining the site's boundary walls.
- 7 Accent lighting of heritage memorials and clocktower.



2.5 Garden Precinct 1 - Main Entry

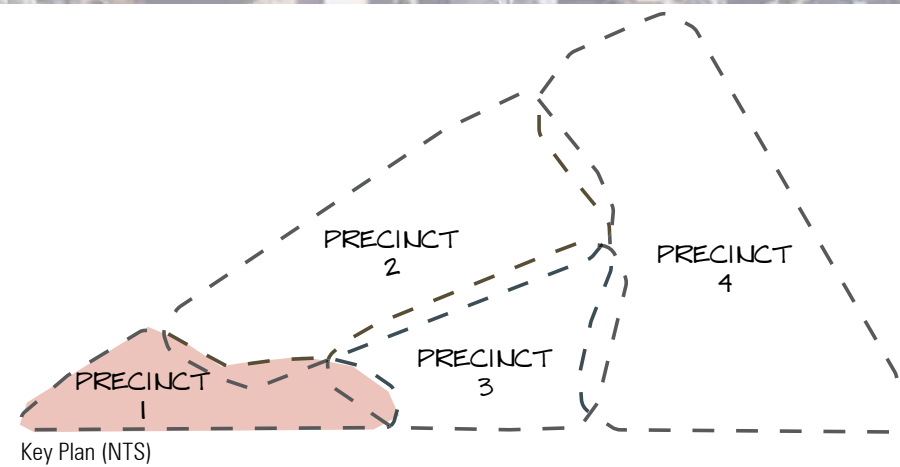
2.5.1 Introduction

- Precinct 1 reveals Boroondara Cemetery to the public. The Master Plan reimagines the precinct as a public space, inviting for visitors to gather and linger, participate in events or enjoy a coffee at the Cemetery café.
- Existing elements of the precinct including Gardens of Reflection, Rose Garden are retained and the gardens enhanced, whilst integrating additional opportunities for cremated interment.
- A new multi-level building including administration, function space, education, gallery and interment provides an opportunity for Boroondara Cemetery to develop modern facilities, to showcase the future cemetery and to celebrate the site’s valued heritage (including Syme Memorial).
- The maintenance depot will be relocated off-site, with modern, fit for purpose facilities for the maintenance and grounds staff.



Design initiatives

- 1 Creation of entry forecourt plaza (electronic information kiosk, outdoor cafe & seating, landscape areas, artwork, water feature);
- 2 Reprogrammed gate lodge to include multi-functional community uses (leased cafe, book sales / florist & genealogy / ancestry training services) & visitor services / reception at ground floor & leased space at first floor;
- 3 Width of driveway and road leading into the cemetery narrowed freeing up space on both sides resulting in additional interment spaces in the rose garden and provision of a footpath;
- 4 Provision of additional amenities shade and seating in a garden setting;
- 5 Location for a pop-up community event/ gathering space where the road starts to divide;
- 6 Proposals for a re-imagined multi-purpose hub, with the maintenance depot to be relocated off-site;
- 7 Maintain and frame views to landmark memorials;
- 8 Maintain and strengthen views from the entry forecourt;
- 9 Celebrate Syme memorial incorporate garden seat in lawn area;
- 10 Introduce access to proposed southern boundary interment;
- 11 Strengthen Victorian Garden Cemetery plantings & opportunities for cremated interment;
- 12 Proposed new pedestrian entry interpretive wall;
- 13 Proposed espalier tree interment within rose garden.



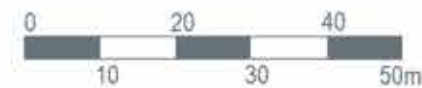
LEGEND

EXISTING

- PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
- PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT
- VEHICULAR ACCESS POINT
- PEDESTRIAN SITE CONNECTIVITY
- HERITAGE SOLID BRICK WALL
- EXISTING BUILDING (REPURPOSED)
- EXISTING BUILDING (RETAINED)
- EXISTING CANOPY TREES
- ROSE GARDEN
- GARDEN OF REFLECTION
- LAWN AREA
- MEMORIAL
- FIXED SEAT

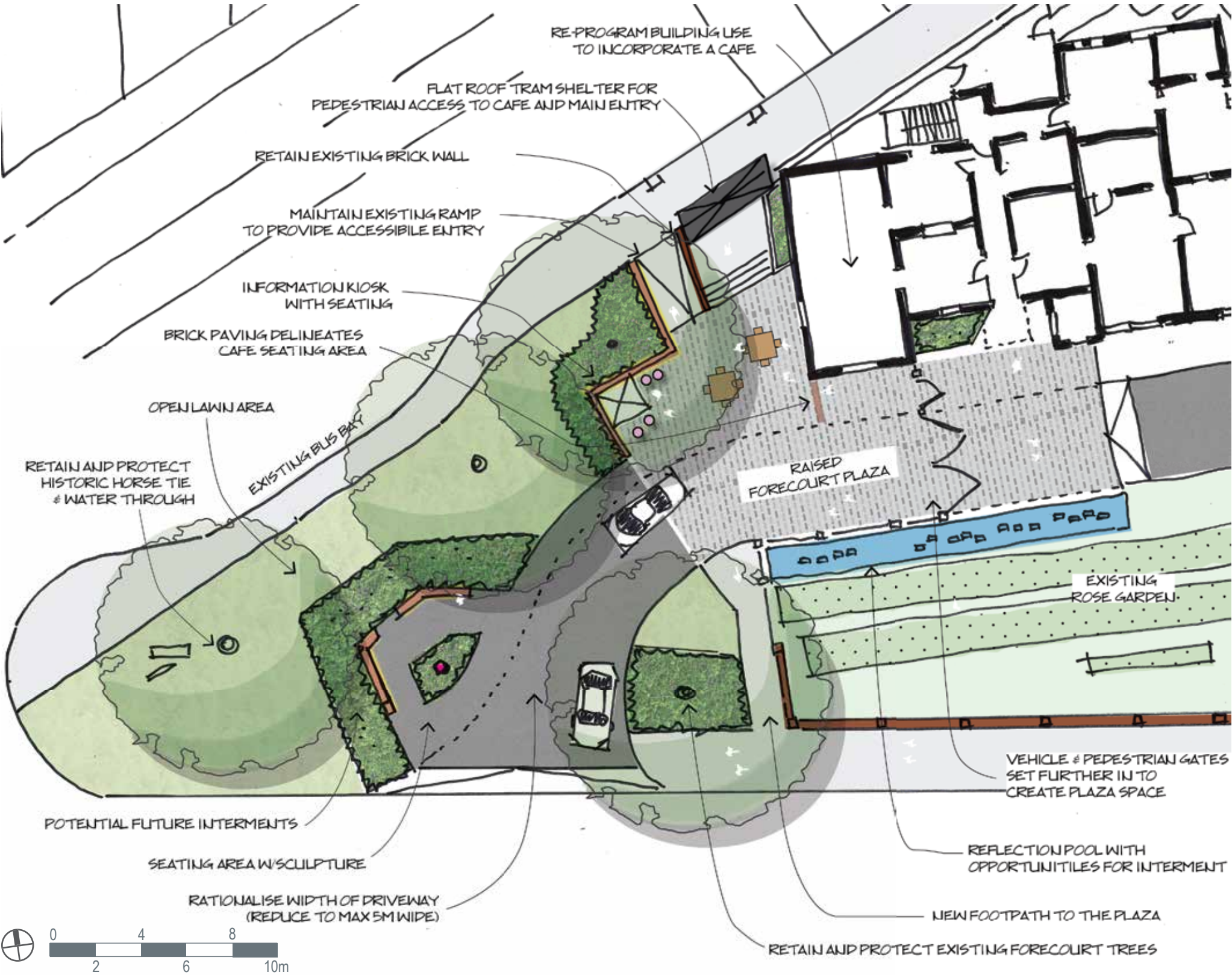
PROPOSED

- NEW PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT
- PROPOSED BUILDING
- FORECOURT PLAZA
- POP-UP EVENTS AREA
- RELOCATED ENTRY GATES
- ARBOUR WALK
- CELEBRATION PATHWAY
- ROAD EDGE PLANTING
- SOUTHERN WALL INTERMENTS
- CREMATED INTERMENT ADJACENT TO DRIVEWAY
- TREE INTERMENT

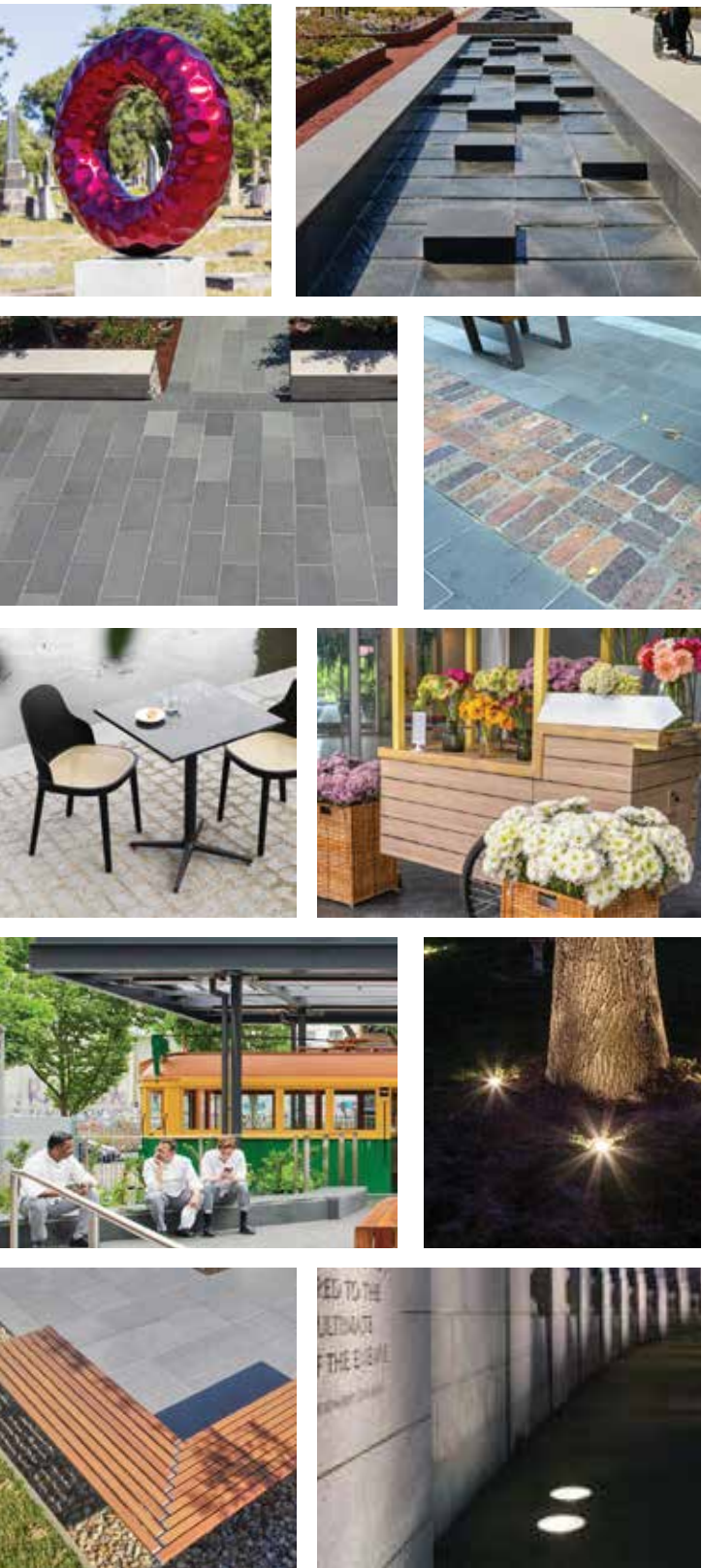


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2.5.2 Forecourt Plaza Option 1



Precedent Images



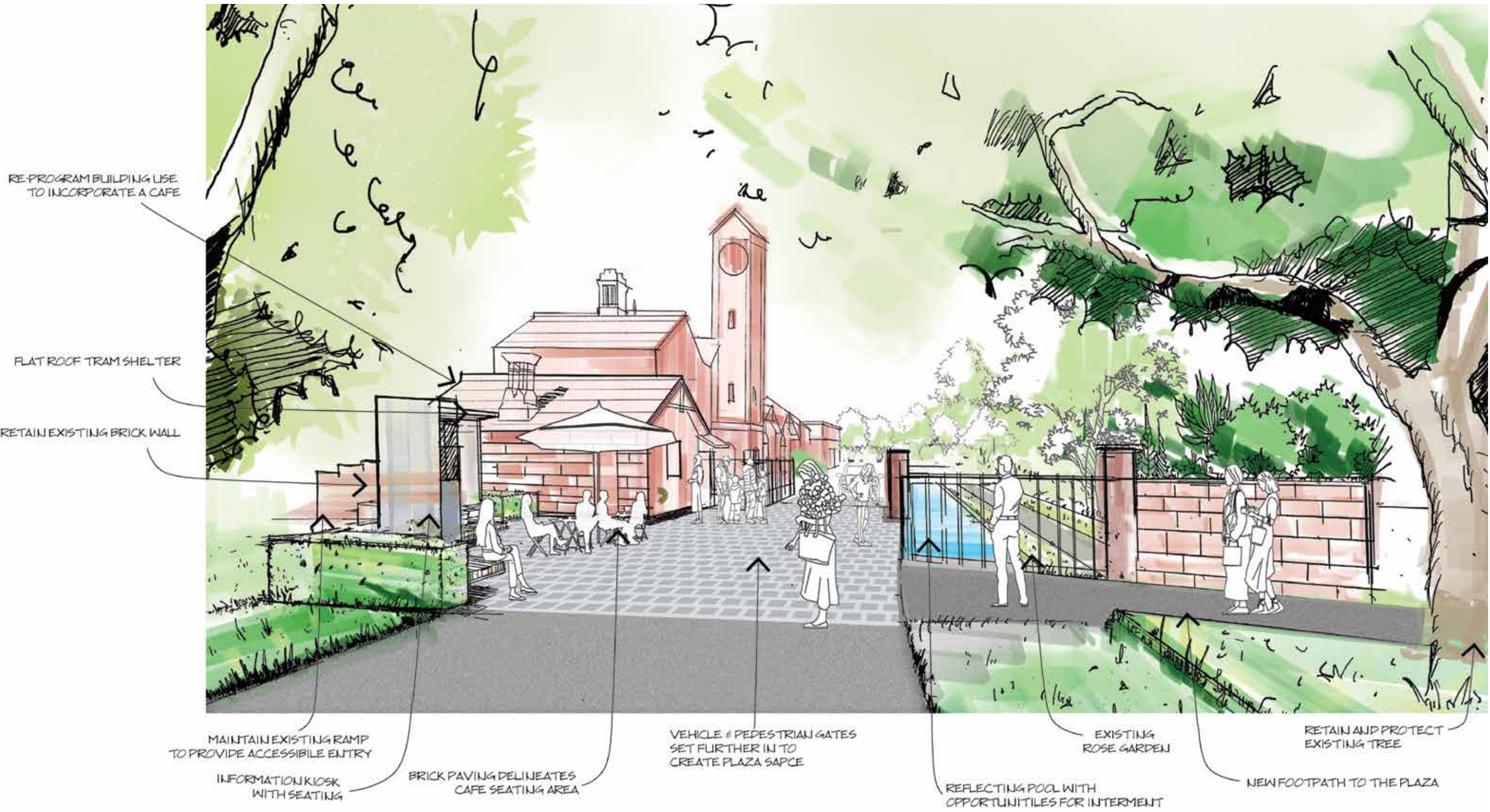
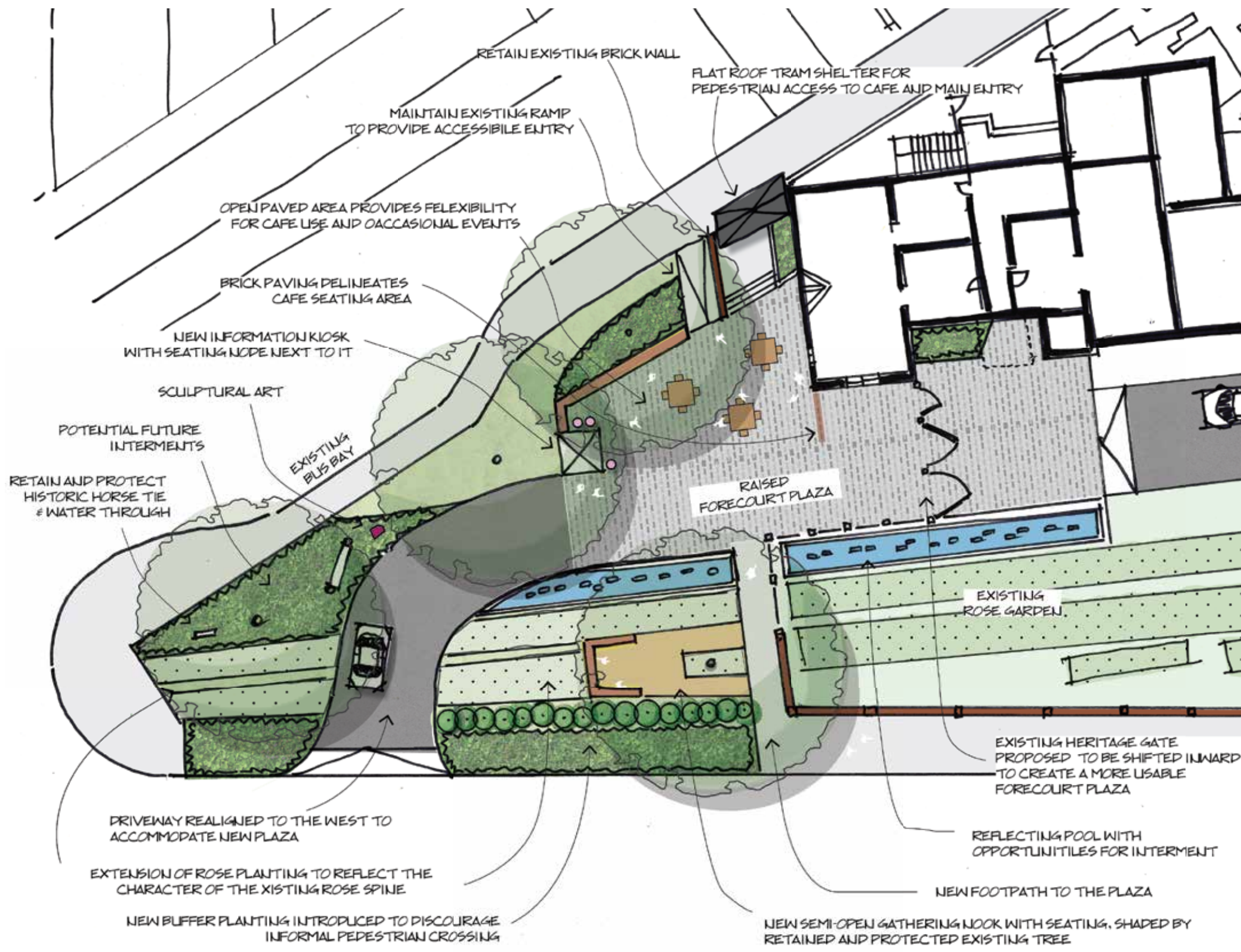
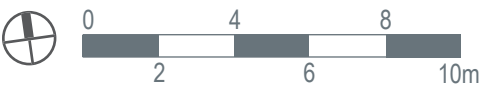


Figure 2 Cemetery Forecourt Plaza Artist's Impression

2.5.3 Forecourt Plaza Option 2

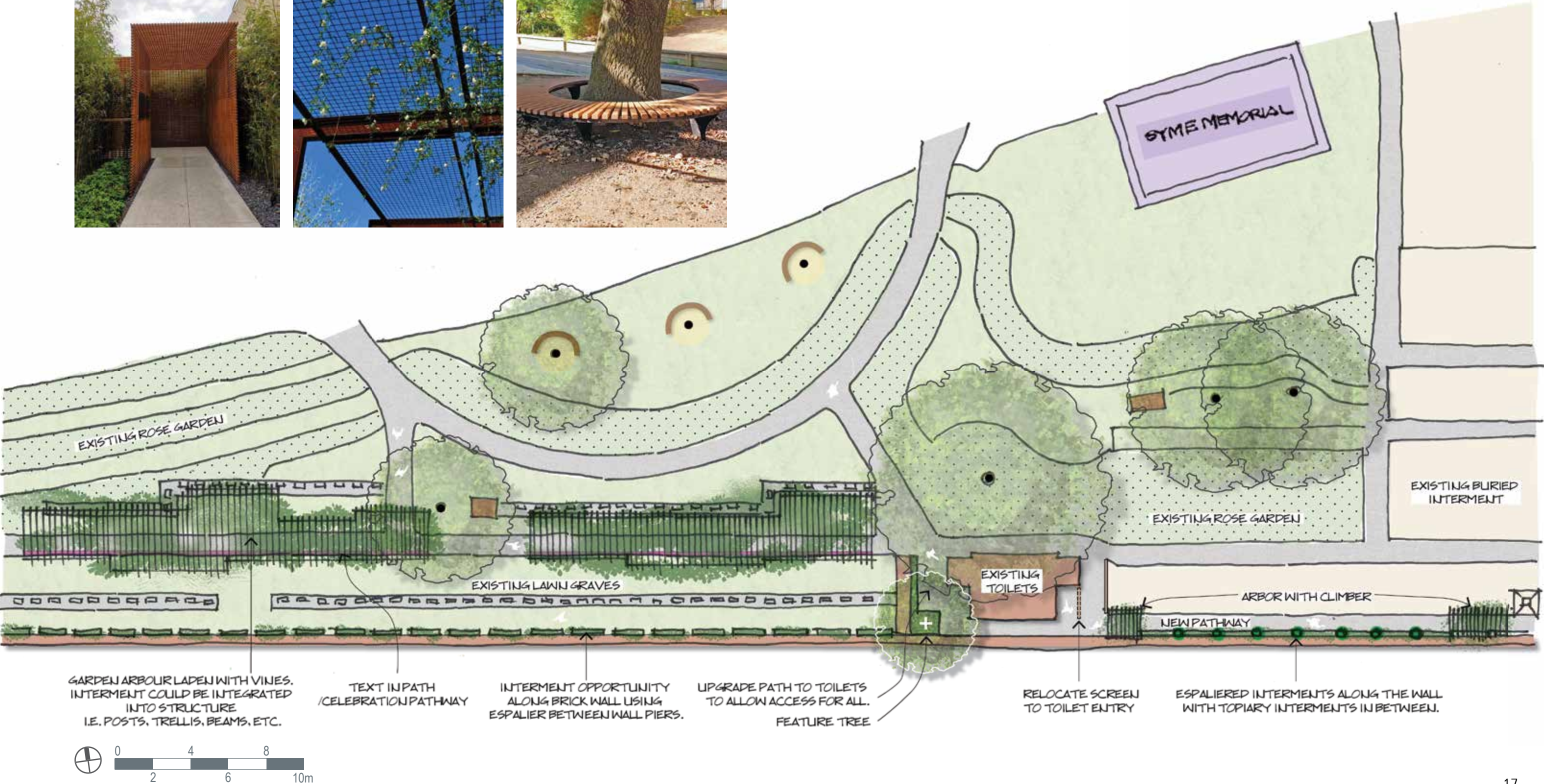
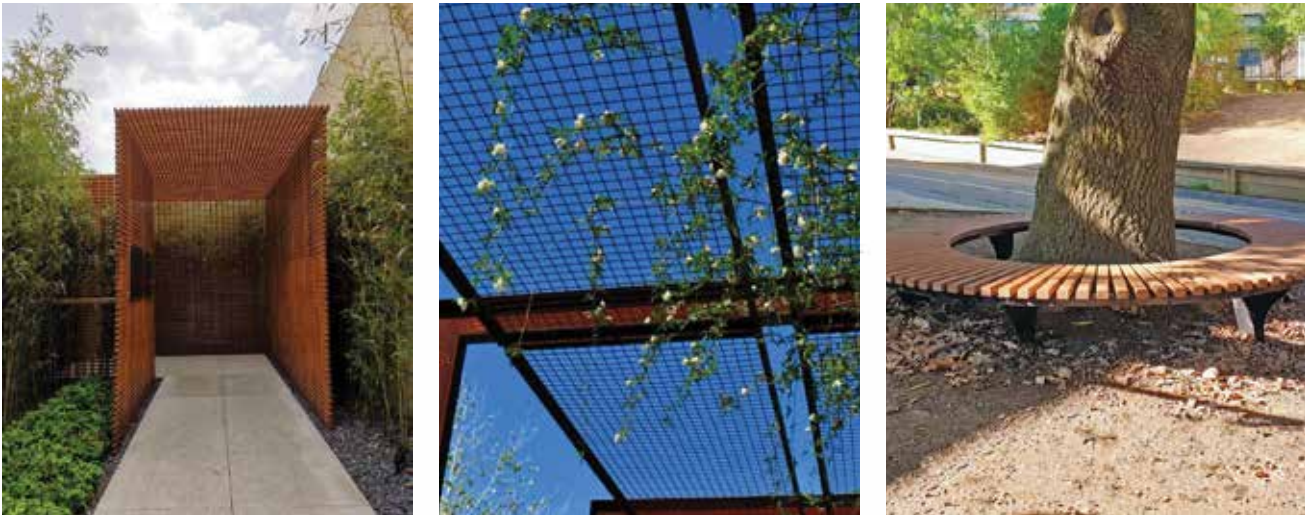


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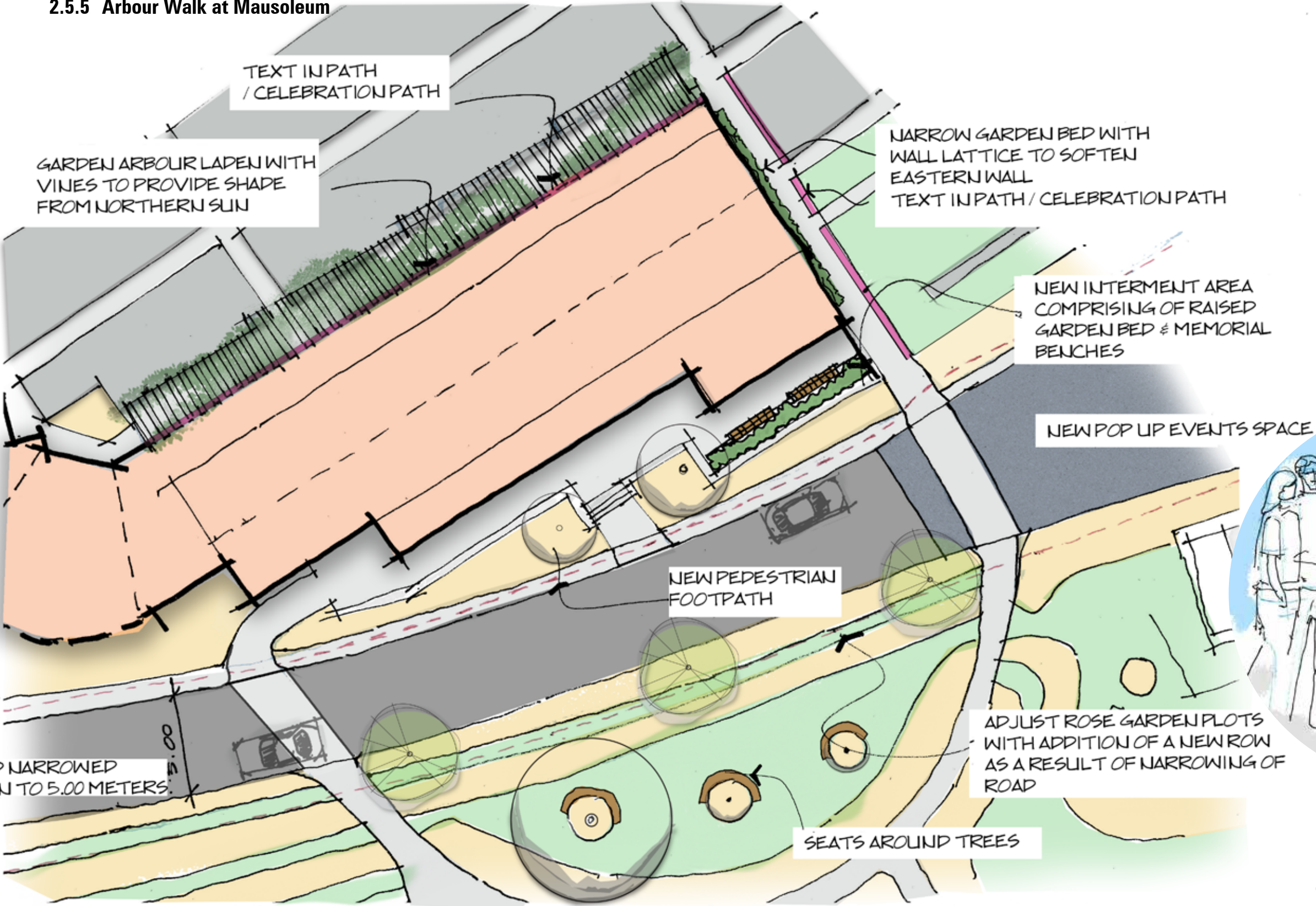


2.5.4 Arbour Walk at Rose Garden

Precedent Images



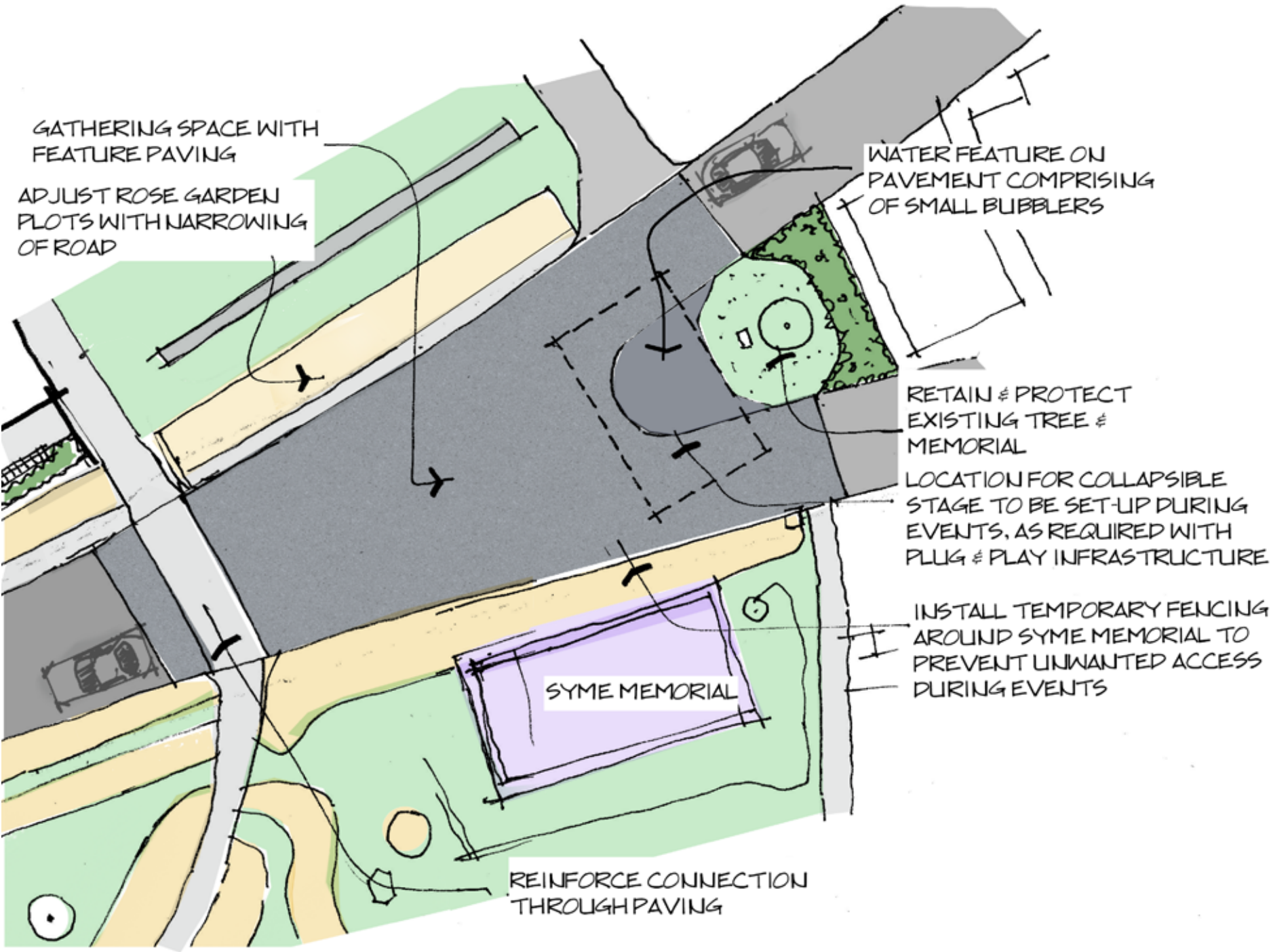
2.5.5 Arbour Walk at Mausoleum



Precedent Images



2.5.6 Pop-Up Event Space



Precedent Images



2.6 Garden Precinct 2 - Northern Boundary

2.6.1 Introduction

- Precinct 2 incorporates significant heritage memorial including (Springthorpe, Cussen and Howitt Memorial) which will continue to be preserved for visitor interest and education.
- The Victorian Garden Cemetery character (including planted grave dressings) will be maintained and enhanced as a valued attribute of the Cemetery for visitors, supported by The Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery.
- Visitor amenities such as dedicated rest and reflection node, seating and additional canopy trees for shade and amenity will improve the future use of this precinct.



Initiatives

- Range of new plantings provide interest and delight to visitors. These will be reflected in new trees planted in dedicated islands along the tear drop drive and new roadside plantings reflecting a broader Precinct 2 landscape them.
- Opportunities for art and sculpture installations at select locations including rest stop.



Initiatives

- Retain existing trees which form part of the cemetery's valued Victorian Garden Cemetery heritage. These are elements of interest for future heritage tours and education sessions relating to horticulture and biodiversity.
- Inclusion of celebration pathways, with interment below paths reflected in text inscribed in the pavement surface or along adjoining kerbs.



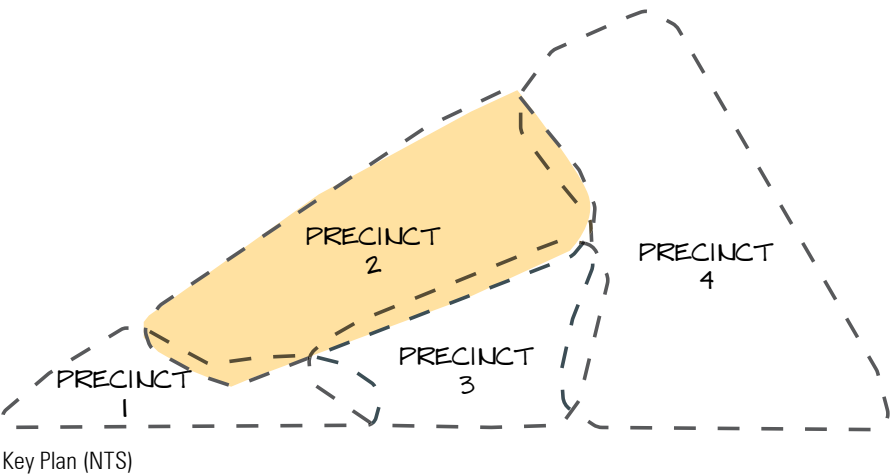
Initiatives

- Provide new interment spaces along the road edge. These can be suitable for both permanent or 'short term' (e.g. 25 years) ash interment, replaced or renewed at the end of this period providing an ongoing future income stream.
- New shade trees provided around rest areas and along tear-drop road providing shade and shelter for cemetery visitors.
- Tear drop road converted to one-way circulation with raised pedestrian crossing and new trees contributing to a pedestrian focussed environment.
- Areas of concrete and exposed surfaces surrounding existing interment replaced with mulched garden beds where possible to reduce the extent of impervious surfaces and high maintenance zones within the cemetery, to reduce heat island effects and to increase biodiversity.



Initiatives

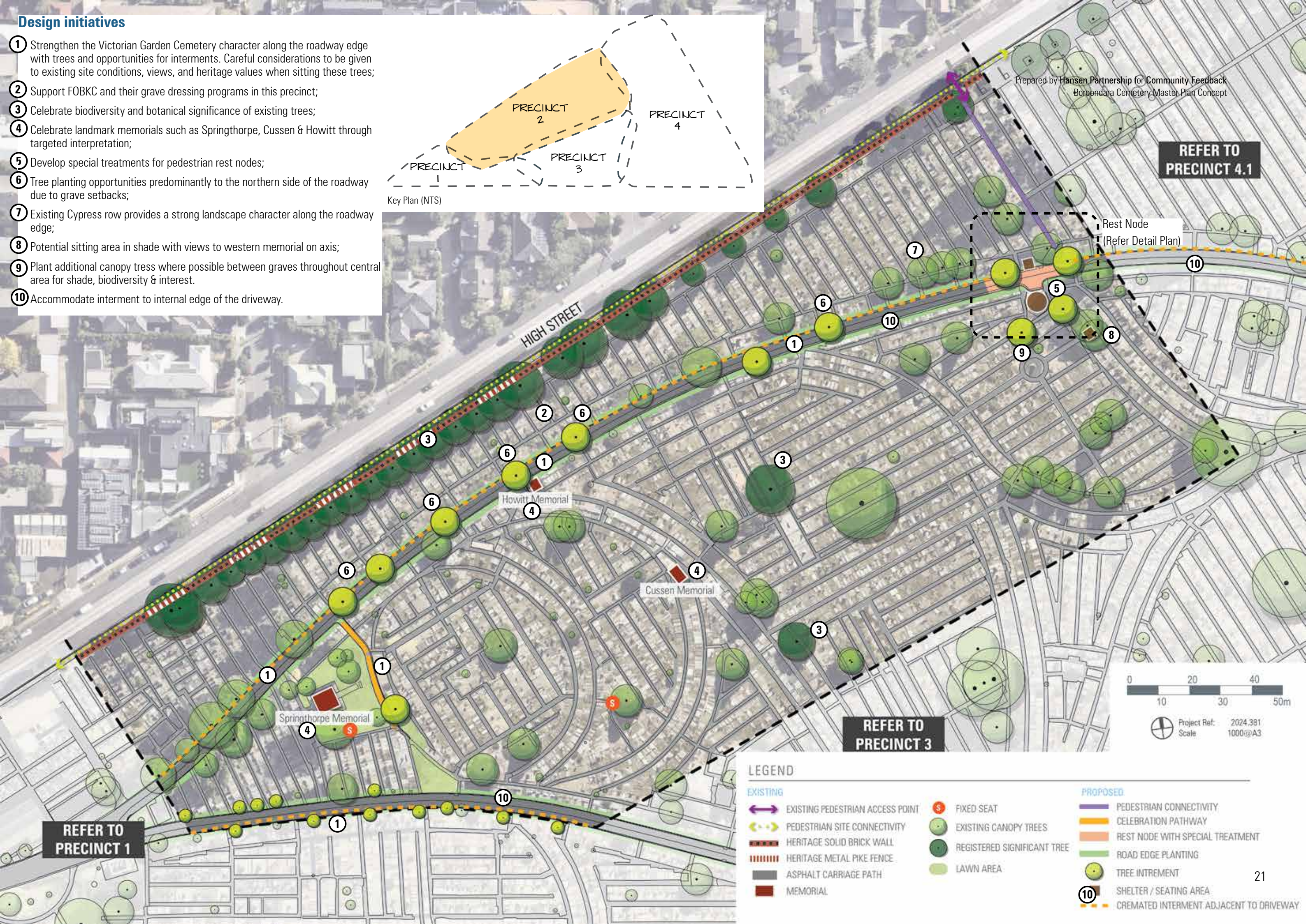
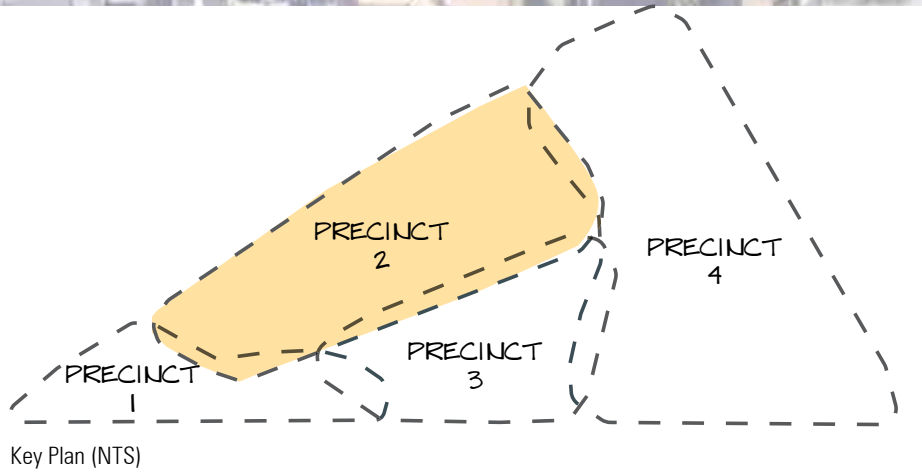
- Rest stop with reflection pond or artwork places for visitors to pause and reflect on the visit.
- New seats located at select locations along the existing aisles.
- Stengthen the Victorian Garden Cemetery setting including additional canopy trees for shade, wildlife habitat and amenity.



Key Plan (NTS)

Design initiatives

- 1 Strengthen the Victorian Garden Cemetery character along the roadway edge with trees and opportunities for interments. Careful considerations to be given to existing site conditions, views, and heritage values when sitting these trees;
- 2 Support FOBKC and their grave dressing programs in this precinct;
- 3 Celebrate biodiversity and botanical significance of existing trees;
- 4 Celebrate landmark memorials such as Springthorpe, Cussen & Howitt through targeted interpretation;
- 5 Develop special treatments for pedestrian rest nodes;
- 6 Tree planting opportunities predominantly to the northern side of the roadway due to grave setbacks;
- 7 Existing Cypress row provides a strong landscape character along the roadway edge;
- 8 Potential sitting area in shade with views to western memorial on axis;
- 9 Plant additional canopy trees where possible between graves throughout central area for shade, biodiversity & interest.
- 10 Accommodate interment to internal edge of the driveway.



LEGEND

EXISTING

- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT
- PEDESTRIAN SITE CONNECTIVITY
- HERITAGE SOLID BRICK WALL
- HERITAGE METAL PIKE FENCE
- ASPHALT CARRIAGE PATH
- MEMORIAL
- FIXED SEAT
- EXISTING CANOPY TREES
- REGISTERED SIGNIFICANT TREE
- LAWN AREA

PROPOSED

- PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY
- CELEBRATION PATHWAY
- REST NODE WITH SPECIAL TREATMENT
- ROAD EDGE PLANTING
- TREE INTREMENT
- SHELTER / SEATING AREA
- CREMATED INTERMENT ADJACENT TO DRIVEWAY

2.6.2 Precinct 2 - Rest Node



Precedent Images





Figure 3 Precinct 2 Rest Node Artist Impression

2.7 Garden Precinct 3 - Southern Boundary

2.7.1 Introduction

- Precinct 3 incorporates ornate grave monuments, Sisters of the Good Shephard and heritage rotunda. The southern side of the driveway forms part of the highest point section of the cemetery with extended views to the northeast over the distant landscape.
- This precinct integrates additional opportunities for cremated interment along the southern boundary.
- Visitor amenities such as seating, planting and additional canopy trees for shade and amenity (including along the edge of the driveway) provide additional opportunities for memorialisation within the grounds.
- The Victorian Garden Cemetery character (including planted grave dressings) will be maintained and enhanced as a valued attribute of the Cemetery for visitors.



Initiatives

- New interment along southern boundary wall.
- Wayfinding to the rotunda and Good Shepherd memorial assists visitor navigation.



Initiatives

- Provide additional interment opportunities along the southern boundary of the Tear-drop drive.
- Use espaliered plants along the southern boundary wall as memorial places.



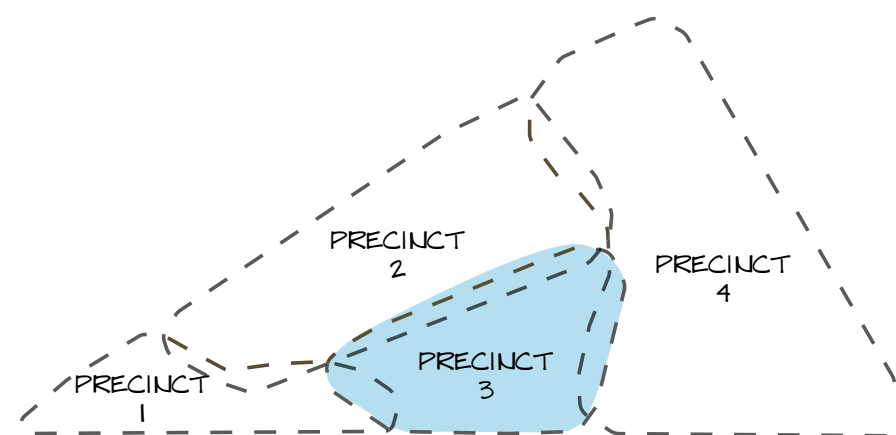
Initiatives

- Tear drop road converted to one-way circulation with new trees contributing to shade and shelter for visitors.
- New interment spaces along the road edge may be suitable for both permanent or 'short term' (e.g. 25 years) cremated remains interment, replaced or renewed at the end of this period providing an ongoing future income stream.



Initiatives

- New seating area located below existing mature oak tree and select additional spaces across the precinct.



Key Plan (NTS)

Design initiatives

- ① Strengthen the southern boundary with canopy trees along the tear-drop road for shade & tree interment
- ② Additional interments created along the southern boundary edge integrated into the landscape theme for the precinct;
- ③ Improve wayfinding to the existing rotunda and reinforce its role as a rest node;
- ④ Incorporate seating under existing mature Oak tree;
- ⑤ Replace lawn with garden plantings to continue the driveway planting themes;
- ⑥ Infill tree & garden bed interment where space permits;
- ⑦ Potential use of formal ornamentation interment (e.g. garden urns) to strengthen ornate memorials in this precinct;
- ⑧ Reinforce Victorian Garden planting to driveway edge with tree interment;
- ⑨ Improve wayfinding to sister of the Good Shepherd memorial.
- ⑩ Accommodate cremated interment to edge of drive way.

Prepared by Hansen Partnership for Community Feedback
Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan Concept

REFER TO
PRECINCT 4.1

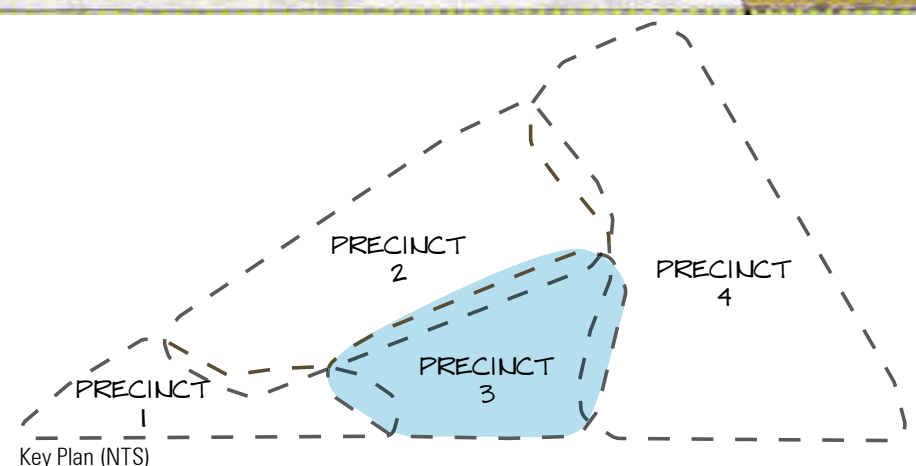
REFER TO
PRECINCT 2

REFER TO
PRECINCT 4.2

REFER TO
PRECINCT 1

Springthorpe Memorial

PARKHILL ROAD



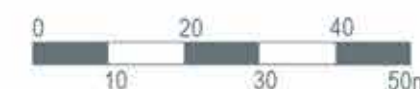
LEGEND

EXISTING

- PEDESTRIAN SITE CONNECTIVITY
- ASPHALT CARRIAGE PATH
- EXISTING CANOPY TREES
- REGISTERED SIGNIFICANT TREE
- MEMORIAL

PROPOSED

- ROAD EDGE PLANTING
- SOUTHERN WALL INTERMENT
- SEATING AREA
- CELEBRATION DRIVEWAY INTERMENT
- TREE INTERMENT



Project Ref: 2024.381
Scale: 1000@A3

Precedent Images



Figure

2.8 Garden Precinct 4 - Victoria Park Interface

2.8.1 Introduction

- Precinct 4 interfaces Victoria Park, a large public open space to the east of Boroondara Cemetery. The master plan for Boroondara Cemetery seeks to improve visitor access and safety, with two new entry points into Boroondara Cemetery proposed along the eastern boundary to connect the two sites.
- The proposed new entry/exit points promote access to the broader open space network and associated shared pedestrian pathways. New pedestrian gateways between Victoria Park and Boroondara Cemetery encourage a broader range of opportunities for passive and active recreation and supports future community-based initiatives.
- Visitor amenities such as seating, planting and additional canopy trees for shade and amenity (including along the edge of the driveway) provide additional opportunities for memorialisation within the grounds.
- There is a shift in planting themes in Precinct 4. The use of native and indigenous species allows for integration with established planting themes within Victoria Park.
- The Victorian Garden Cemetery character (including planted grave dressings) will be strengthened in Precinct 4, but with an emphasis on showcasing native and indigenous species for biodiversity and amenity.
- There is an opportunity to incorporate significant sculptural pieces within Boroondara Cemetery, particularly surrounding the existing Sugar Gum copse within Precinct 4 (inside tear drop driveway). Opening up access to Victoria Park provides an opportunity for sculptures to form part of a broader sculptural trail beyond the Cemetery's grounds in partnership with key stakeholders.



Initiatives

- Two new entrances enable cemetery access directly from Victoria Park and access to the broader shared pathway and open space network.
- New planting and grave dressing with native indigenous species provides a native theme to the precinct.
- Feature lighting along southern wall provides a dynamic nighttime display, as well as opportunity for 'ash remains' niches.
- Rest area at south-east corner provides a 'discovered' place in an under-visited corner of the cemetery.
- Windows cut into the walls or iron picket panels near the south-east corner provide glimpses into the site, inviting visitors to enter and explore.
- Replace brick segments of the eastern wall with iron 'pickets' to enable greater visual connectivity between the cemetery and Victoria Park.
- A new southern boundary path couples new garden bed areas with above ground garden crypts and ash interment.
- Reinforce native wildflower meadow area through native grasses, an open lawn area and sculptural elements (e.g. a wind sculpture) with bordering plantings creating a 'discoverable' place amongst the mature copse of Sugar Gums.

Initiatives

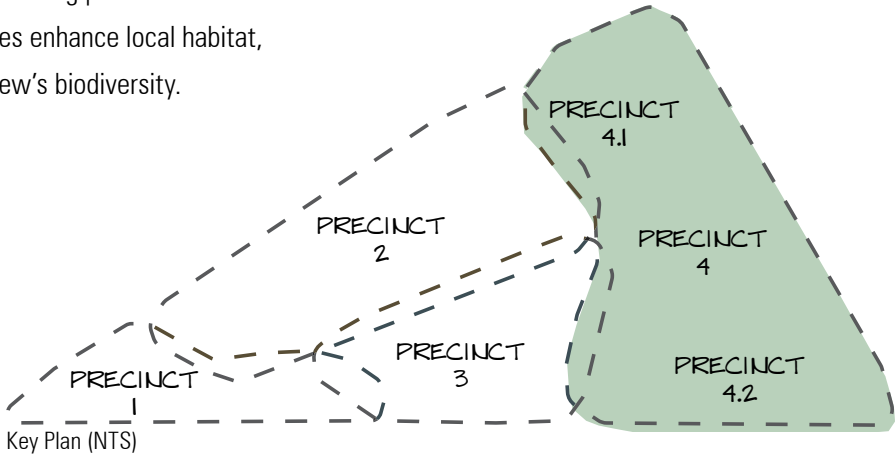
- New commemorative pathways to new Victoria Park entrances with interment below paths. Inscriptions provided in the pavers above (or on dedicated kerb stones).
- Protect and complement the existing trees through the planting of new trees, particularly along the tear-drop drive.
- The new access points to Victoria Park extend opportunities for future festivals and functions.

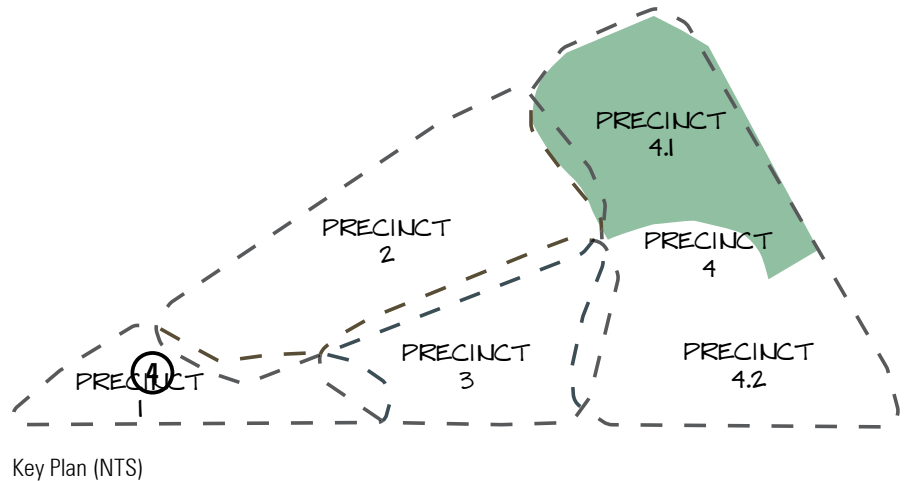
Initiatives

- New interment spaces along the road edge may be suitable for both permanent or 'short term' (e.g. 25 years) cremated remains interment, replaced or renewed at the end of this period providing an ongoing future income stream.
- New canopy trees planted in openings on connecting paths, to created additional long-term shade and shelter, in particular near the southeast corner.
- Tear drop road converted to one-way circulation with planted islands, raised pedestrian crossing and new trees contributing to a comfortable and inviting pedestrian environment.
- Indigenous species enhance local habitat, contributing to Kew's biodiversity.

Initiatives

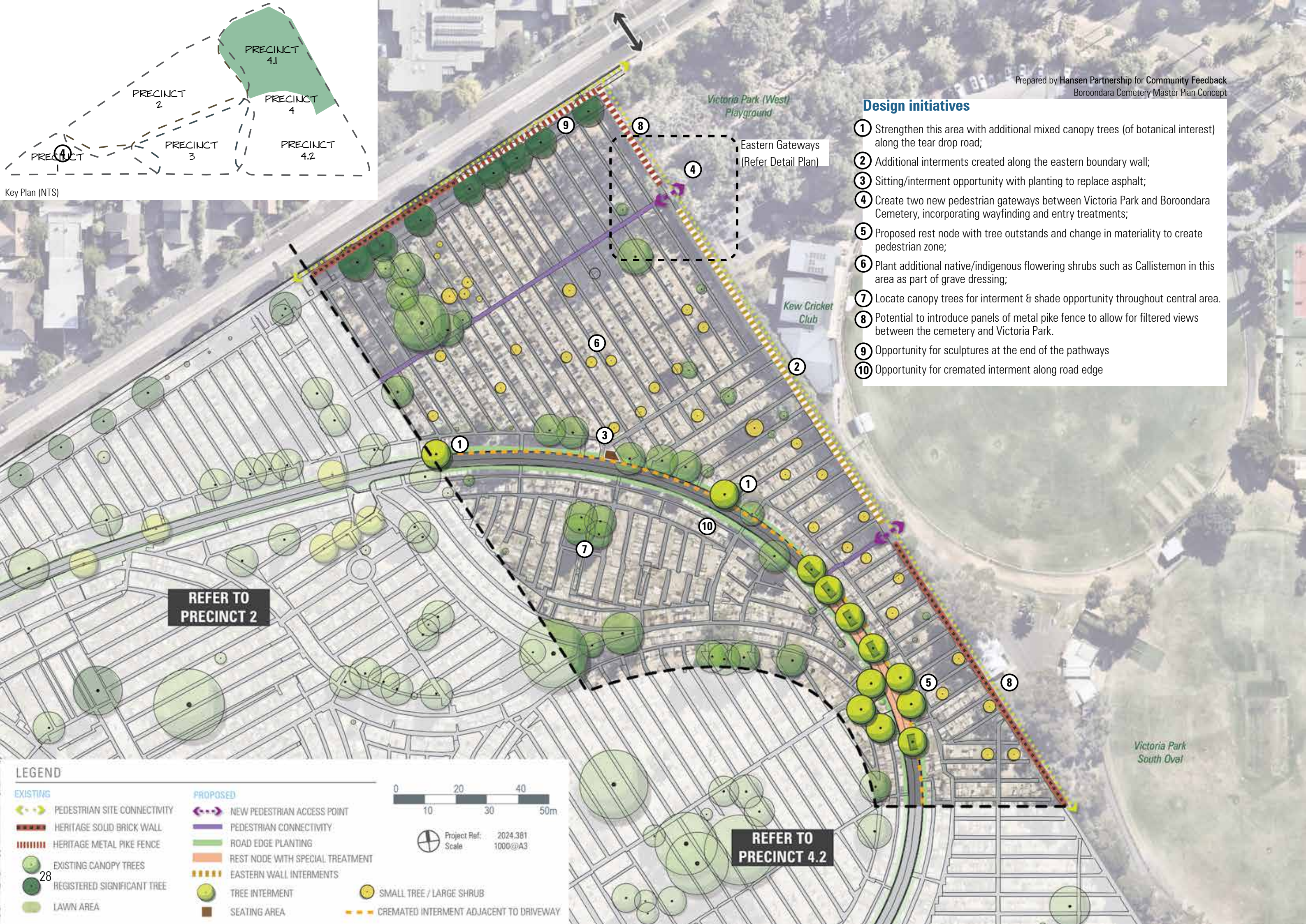
- Rest stops provide spaces for visitors to rest and contemplate.





Design initiatives

- 1 Strengthen this area with additional mixed canopy trees (of botanical interest) along the tear drop road;
- 2 Additional interments created along the eastern boundary wall;
- 3 Sitting/interment opportunity with planting to replace asphalt;
- 4 Create two new pedestrian gateways between Victoria Park and Boroondara Cemetery, incorporating wayfinding and entry treatments;
- 5 Proposed rest node with tree outstands and change in materiality to create pedestrian zone;
- 6 Plant additional native/indigenous flowering shrubs such as Callistemon in this area as part of grave dressing;
- 7 Locate canopy trees for interment & shade opportunity throughout central area.
- 8 Potential to introduce panels of metal pike fence to allow for filtered views between the cemetery and Victoria Park.
- 9 Opportunity for sculptures at the end of the pathways
- 10 Opportunity for cremated interment along road edge



REFER TO
PRECINCT 2

REFER TO
PRECINCT 4.2

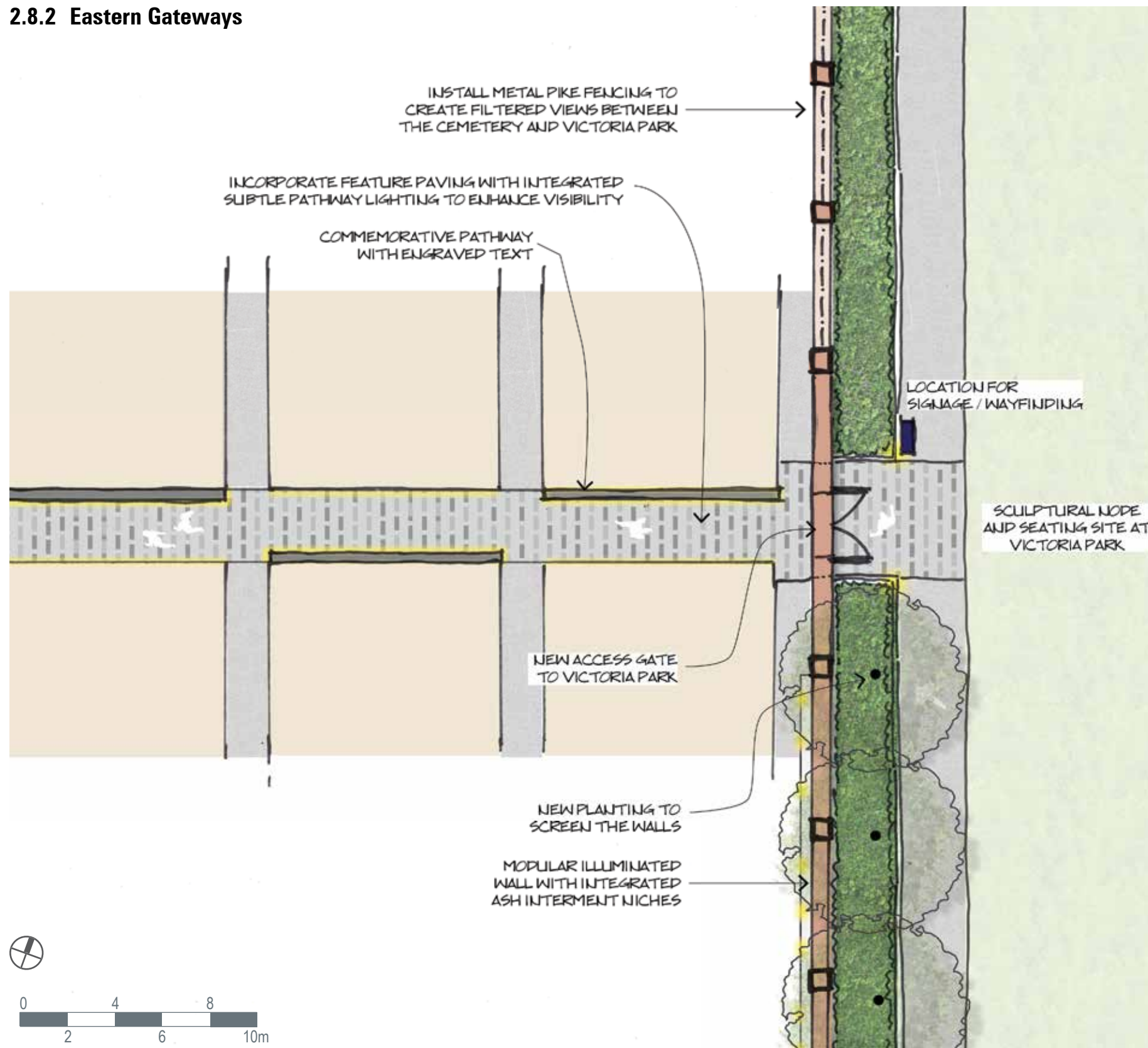
LEGEND

EXISTING	PROPOSED	
PEDESTRIAN SITE CONNECTIVITY	NEW PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT	
HERITAGE SOLID BRICK WALL	PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY	
HERITAGE METAL PIKE FENCE	ROAD EDGE PLANTING	
EXISTING CANOPY TREES	REST NODE WITH SPECIAL TREATMENT	
REGISTERED SIGNIFICANT TREE	EASTERN WALL INTERMENTS	
LAWN AREA	TREE INTERMENT	SMALL TREE / LARGE SHRUB
	SEATING AREA	CREMATED INTERMENT ADJACENT TO DRIVEWAY



Project Ref: 2024.381
Scale: 1000@A3

2.8.2 Eastern Gateways



Precedent Images

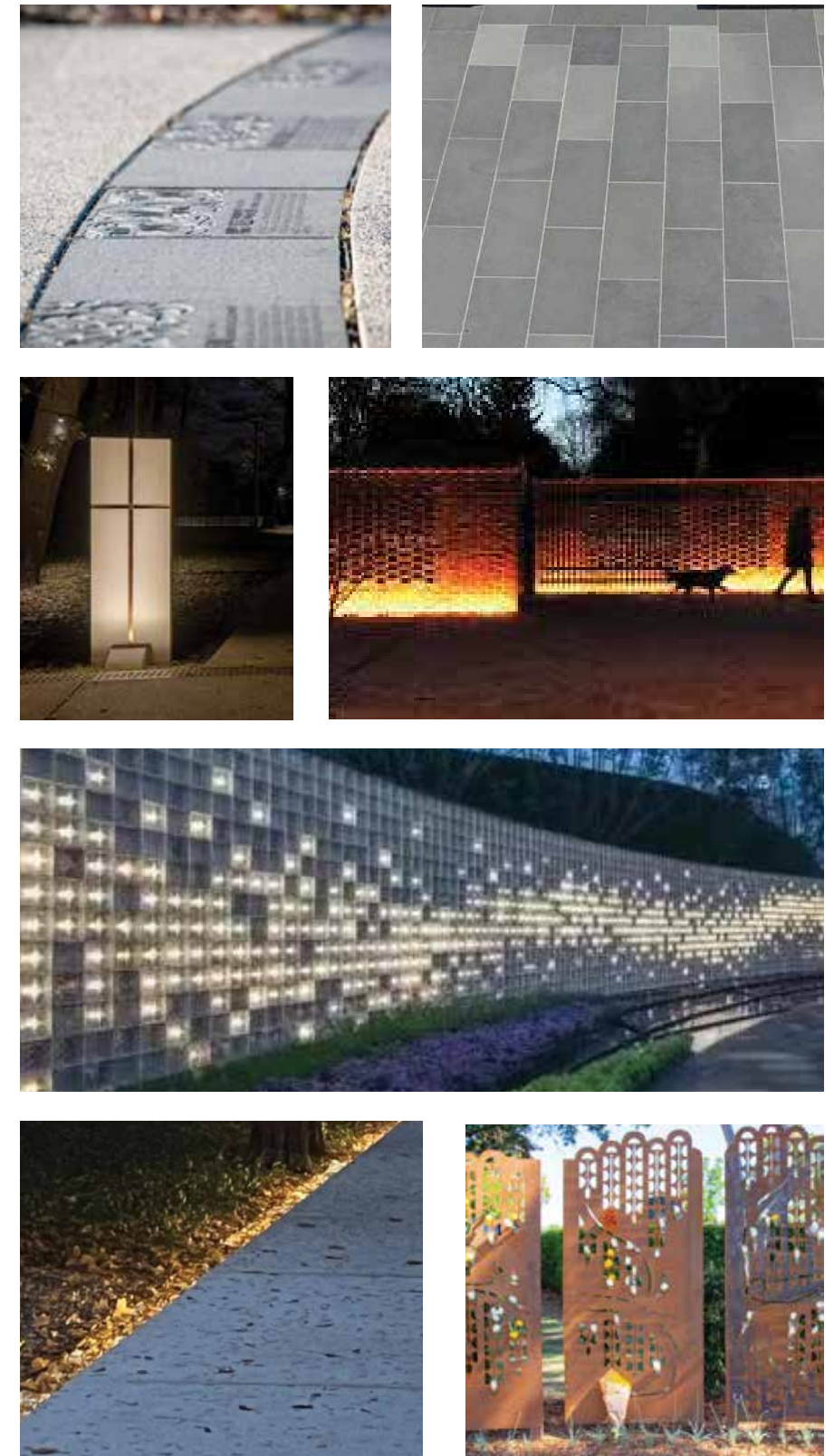




Figure 5 Precinct 4 Eastern Gateway Artist Impression

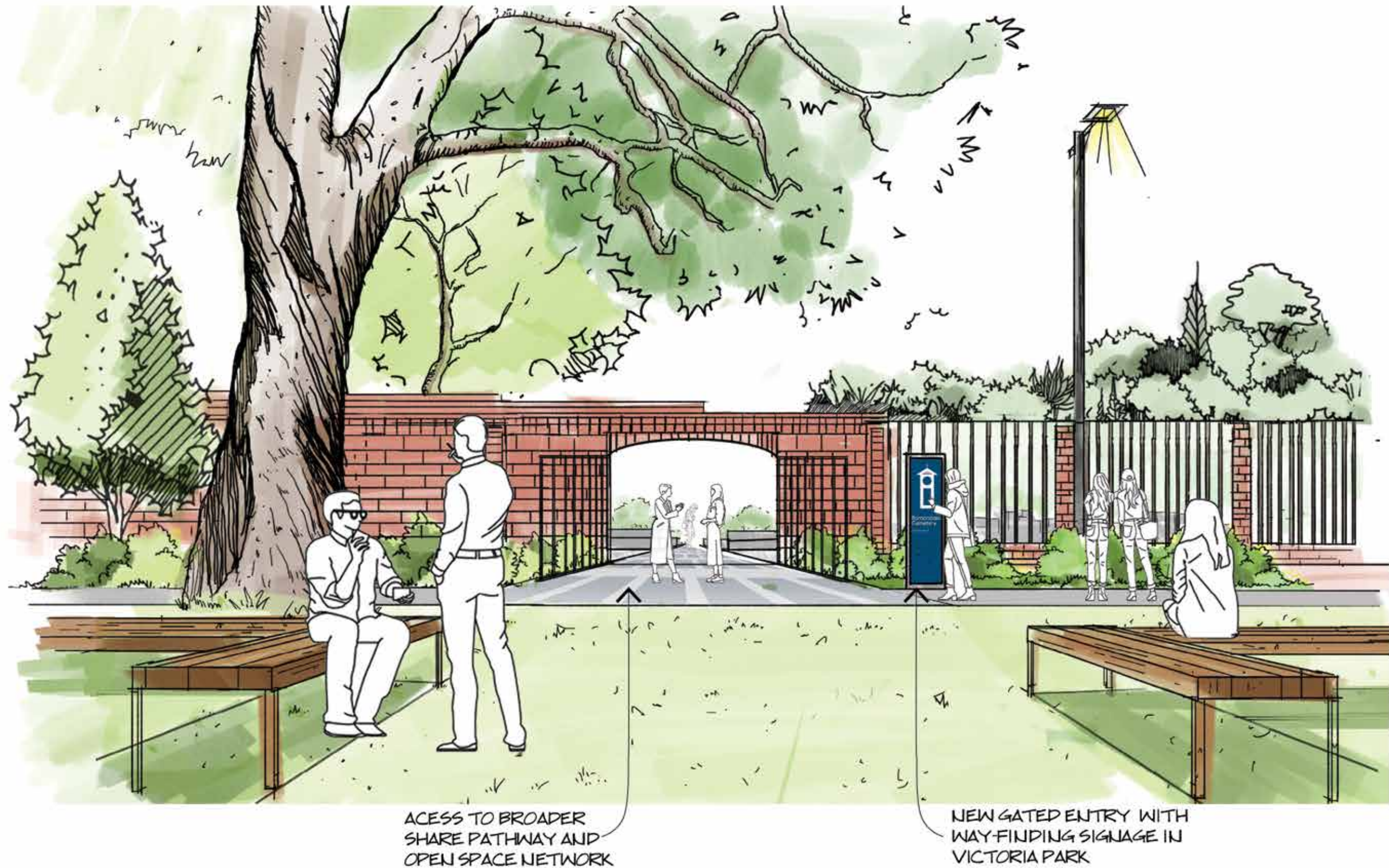


Figure 6 Precinct 4 Eastern Gateway Artist Impression

Design initiatives

- 1 Strengthen the eastern boundary with additional canopy trees along the tear drop road;
- 2 Introduce new interment opportunities along both the eastern and southern boundary walls;
- 3 Establish a grassy woodland character around the existing copse of eucalyptus within the precinct;
- 4 Create an elevated rest node or viewing deck at the southeast corner;
- 5 Enhance canopy connection to the eastern edge of Victoria Park;
- 6 Retain and celebrate the existing cypress row along Parkhill Road;
- 7 Introduce infill planting to add botanical interest and seasonal variety;
- 8 Incorporate sculptural interment elements within native lawn areas;
- 9 Explore the opportunity for a wind sculpture, tower, or vertical interment feature;
- 10 Revert grave stones to lawn and integrate a shared commemorative plaque acknowledging existing interments;
- 11 Potential to introduce panels of metal pike fence to allow for filtered views between the cemetery and Victoria Park;
- 12 Accommodate cremated garden interment adjacent to the driveway;
- 13 Proposed rest node with change in materiality to create pedestrian zone.

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Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan Concept

REFER TO
PRECINCT 4.1

PRECINCT
4.1

Victoria Park
South Oval

J.A. Aldridge
Playground

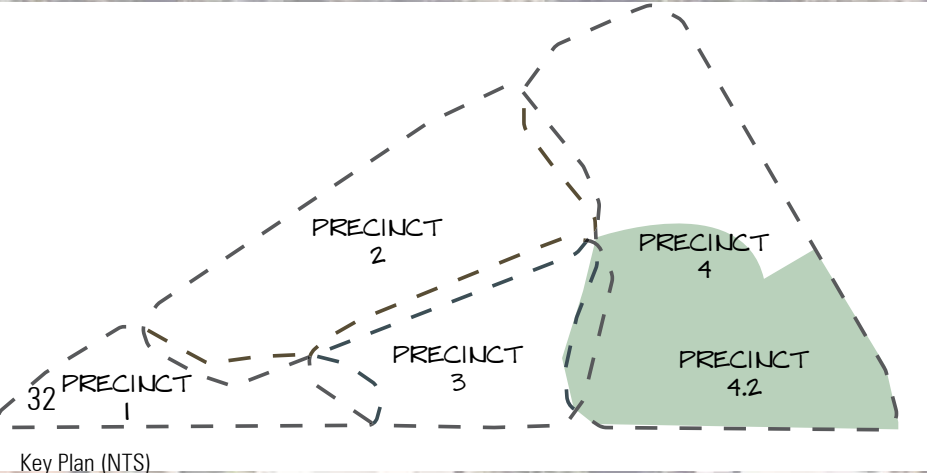
Victoria Park
Basketball
Court

REFER TO
PRECINCT 3

Garden Crypts
(Refer Detail Plan)

PARKHILL ROAD

Southeast Rest Node
(Refer Detail Plan)



Key Plan (NTS)

LEGEND

EXISTING

- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT
- PEDESTRIAN SITE CONNECTIVITY
- HERITAGE SOLID BRICK WALL
- ASPHALT CARRIAGE PATH
- EXISTING CANOPY TREES
- REGISTERED SIGNIFICANT TREE

PROPOSED

- PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY
- ROAD EDGE PLANTING
- HERITAGE METAL PIKE FENCE
- SOUTHERN WALL INTERMENT
- REST NODE WITH SPECIAL TREATMENT
- REST NODE

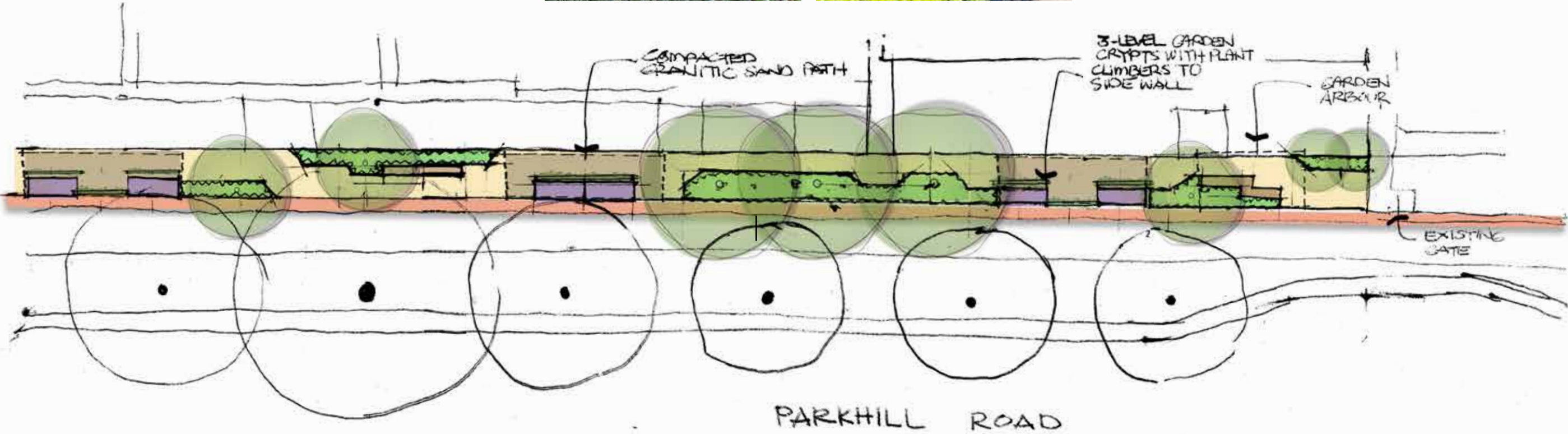
- TREE INTREMENT
- INFILL INTERMENT
- VERTICAL INTERMENT
- SCULPTURE INTERMENT
- LAWN AREA
- SMALL TREE / LARGE SHRUB
- CREMATED INTERMENT ADJACENT TO DRIVEWAY



Project Ref: 2024.381
Scale: 1000@A3

2.8.3 Garden Crypts

Precedent Images

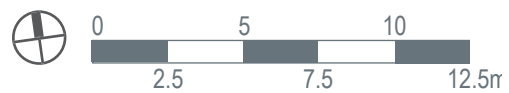


2.8.4 Southern Wall Interment



Figure 7 Precinct 4 Garden Crypts Artist Impression

2.8.5 South East Corner Seating Node



Precedent Images



3 Working Cemetery

3.1 Introduction

This section of the report provides further recommendations on future interment opportunities.

Boroondara Cemetery is a not-for profit Class B Cemetery Trust. The Trust reports to the Department of Health.

Under the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003, Class B cemetery trust members are appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendations of the Minister for Health. The role of the Department of Health is to ensure the administration of the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003. This act was amended in 2009, 2015 and 2021 and governs the operation of Victoria’s cemeteries and crematoria sector.

Interment at Boroondara Cemetery needs to comply with Victorian regulations.

Current interment options include burial and cremated interment which involves (but not necessarily limited to) the following:

Traditional Burial Options:

- Burial plots-
- Lawn graves
- Monumental graves
- Mausoleum crypts
- Natural Burials

Cremated Memorial Options:

- Cremated niches
- Garden memorials
- Tree memorials
- Rock/Boulder memorial
- Seat memorial
- Memorial reflection pool niches
- Sculpture memorials

For interment rights, The Victorian Department of Health provides the following advice:

A right of interment for a place of interment that can accommodate both bodily remains and cremated remains (for example, graves, vaults and mausoleum crypts) must be perpetual (forever).

A right of interment for a place of interment that can only accommodate cremated remains (such as a niche wall or rose garden) can be either perpetual (forever) or limited to 25 years (if the cemetery trust offers this).

The length of the right of interment is specified at the time the right is granted.

3.2 Future Trends

Emerging trends at Boroondara Cemetery include the use of digital technology with the recent implementation of PlotBox, a cloud-based deathcare management system which streamlines workflow, enhance customer interactions, and provide access for locating graves. In addition, the newly completed Garden of Reflection offers inclusivity and tranquility for visitors.

Emerging trends in cemetery design reflect shifts toward sustainability, community engagement, and technological integration. These trends aim to create multifunctional spaces.

The proposed new building within Precinct 1 provides Boroondara Cemetery with an opportunity to integrate modern, state of the art (Future Cemetery) facilities for education, functions, administration and modern interment options. These facilities will assist Boroondara Cemetery in establishing modern facilities and to accommodate future programs and heritage tours targeted towards different audiences and topics.

QR codes and digital technology products are recommended to aid with heritage interpretation and wayfinding in conjunction with traditional maps and signage to address the needs of the broader community.

3.3 Wayfinding & Interpretation

Improvements to access, information and navigation around Boroondara Cemetery are recommended to support a broad range of visitors and user groups including:

- Those visiting Boroondara Cemetery to access the cemetery's services or to visit a loved one's memorial.
- Those visiting to learn about the site's heritage including heritage tours.
- Community groups attending voluntary programs or workshops.
- Education sector students visiting for specific learning sessions, research or project work.
- Those attending site to attend future functions and community.
- based/cultural events within the cemetery's grounds.
- Those visiting for ancestry research.
- Those wanting to learn about the gardens, significant trees & biodiversity.
- Those attending site for maintenance/operational or administrative purposes.
- Visitors accessing the site for recreation purposes (potentially as part of a broader journey through the neighbourhood).
- Local residents visiting to enjoy the peaceful garden and heritage setting.

It is recommended that a wayfinding and interpretation strategy be prepared by a suitably qualified consultant to respond to the Boroondara Cemetery Final Master Plan recommendations. We recommend that this includes (but not necessarily be limited to) the following:

- An audit of existing signage and wayfinding.
- Overall recommendations for branding, locations and concepts/styling for directional and informative signage to assist with site navigation. This includes recommendations for wayfinding opportunities from Victoria Park and the local shared pathway network (Outer Circle Linear Park/Anniversary Trail) to the northeast.
- Main entry/forecourt visitor information kiosk with reception staff available at the gate lodge/proposed community hub to welcome visitors and clients.
- Recommendations for lighting to assist with wayfinding and the preparation of a future lighting strategy to help guide future infrastructure and service requirements.
- Opportunities for digital interpretation and interpretation
 - which may be interactive and that engages with a younger audience (e.g. sculptures).
- Pedestrian access recommendations including the use of surface treatments/pavement markings for visual cues and site navigation.
- Implementation/costings.

Wayfinding and signage nodes are recommended to be included at each pedestrian entry point, with targeted welcoming wayfinding signage located at the main entry.

A well-considered wayfinding strategy will enhance place-making outcomes, improve the experience of visitors and support increased visitation.

A wayfinding and interpretation strategy will support the master plan themes:

Discovery

- Strengthen information and heritage interpretation of people buried at the cemetery (and their stories), significant heritage monuments and significant trees. Opportunities for digital interpretation including the use of QR codes should also be explored.
- Provide clear wayfinding measures for those visiting Boroondara Cemetery.
- Retain heritage religious denomination signage and incorporate updated original layout map for historic interest and interpretation.

Celebration

- Provide clear directions for visitors to available services and facilities for future events, including memorial functions.
- Innovative interpretation strategies to celebrate the stories of those interred and significant heritage features (including technological options) are recommended to allow for a dynamic approach to keep visitors engaged and to target different cultural events, aged groups, tours and anniversaries.

Sustainability

- On site marketing strategies for future interment opportunities.
- Provide interpretive information relating to sustainable practices within the cemetery grounds and biodiversity including information about the site's significant vegetation and wildlife. For example:
 - Information on the Funeral Cypress and Victorian Garden Cemetery/tree/plants symbolism.
 - Reference to pre-colonial vegetation and species (Including River Red Gums).
 - Information about the locally rare, marbled gecko that resides at Boroondara Cemetery.
 - Climate resilience.

Sanctuary

- Provides clear access and visual cues for rest nodes for rest and reflection.
- Supports the establishment of a safer environment for visitors and will encourage visitors to enjoy the spaces and to visit more regularly.



Figure 8 Locally rare, marbled gecko information



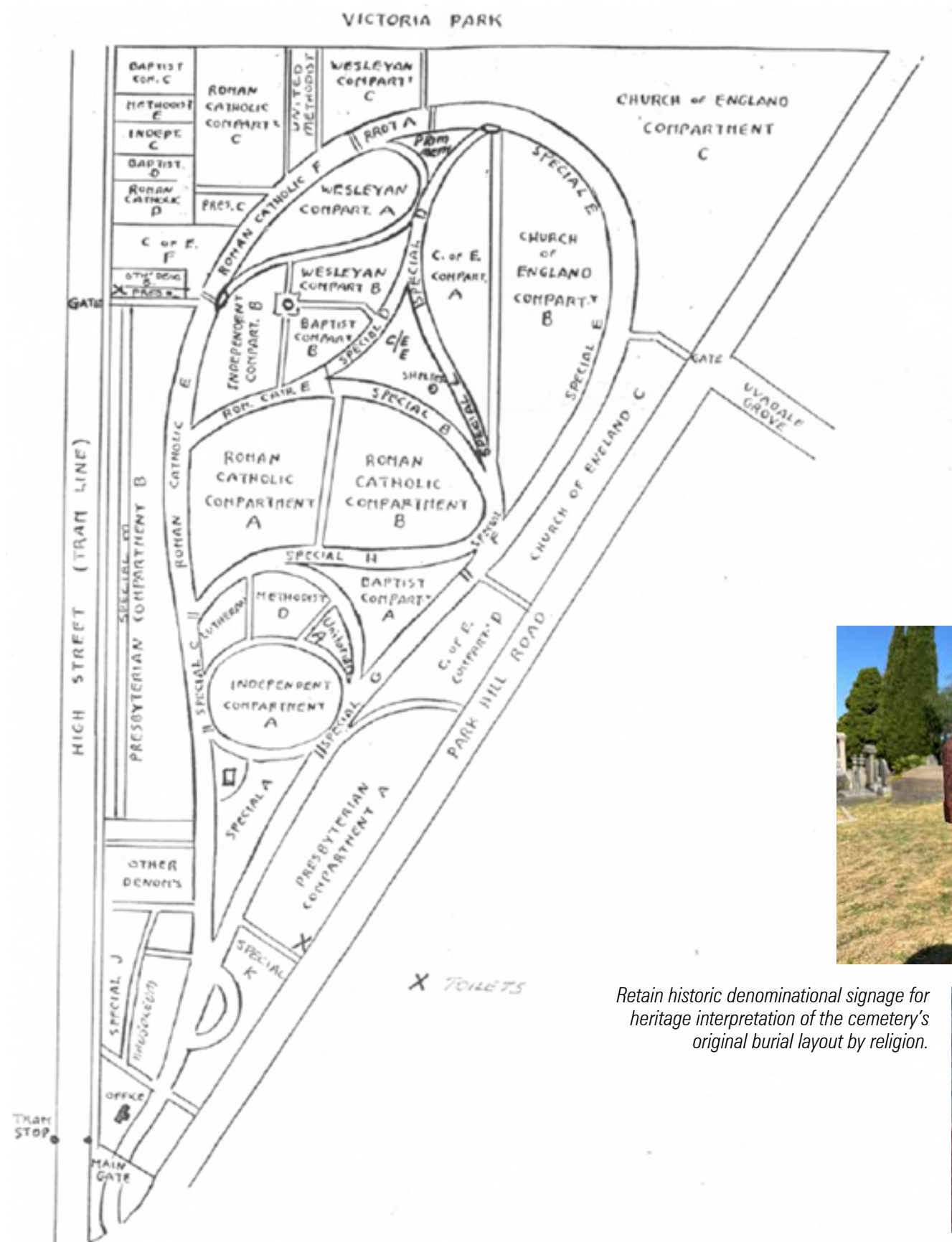
Figure 9 Wildlife interpretation opportunities



An interesting fact for visitors - Historic planting of trees such as Bhutan Cypress & Italian Cypress in the cemetery's grounds were favoured due to their upward pointing characteristics (i.e. pointing towards heaven).



Wayfinding strategy to consider ground markings/ treatments to aid with site navigation.



Retain historic denominational signage for heritage interpretation of the cemetery's original burial layout by religion.



3.4 Future Interment Opportunities - Design Kit of Parts

3.4.1 Design Kit of Parts - Urn Pot

Existing Condition



Precincts 1 and 2 have a strong existing character defined by urn pots and tall monuments. The objective is to maintain this established look while keeping sightlines open by avoiding large trees that could obstruct views.

Option 1: Ornaments in Pot

Introduce decorative urns with seasonal plants to add visual interest while keeping the area neat. The low height ensures that views of existing monuments remain unobstructed.



Precedent Images

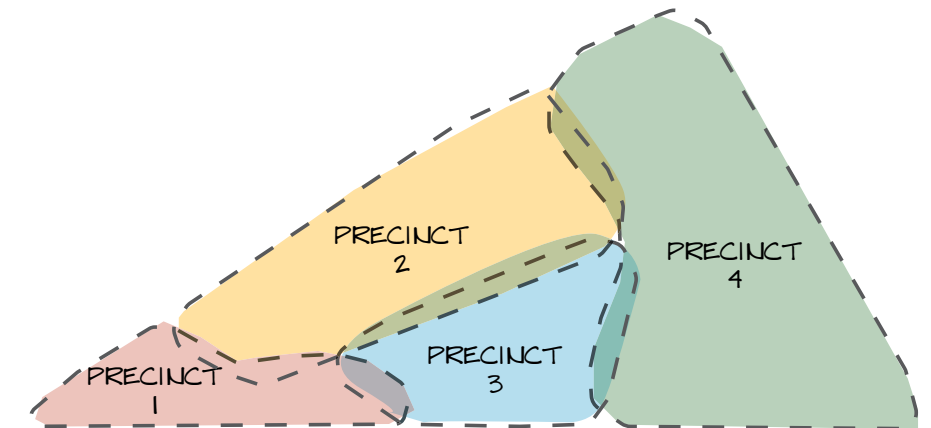


Option 2: Topiary

Incorporate sculpted topiary plants in pots to introduce structured greenery that complements the existing vertical elements.



Application Zones for Memorial Typologies



Key Plan (NTS)

Option 3: Tree Memorial

Plant small trees that provide some shade and greenery without overwhelming the space. These trees are carefully selected to maintain open views.



3.4.2 Design Kit of Parts - Large Triangle Spaces

Existing Condition

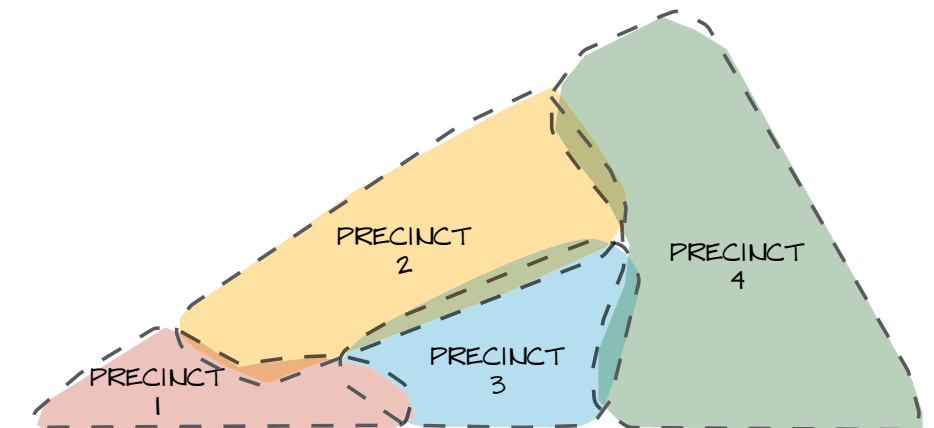


The triangular space beneath the mature conifer is currently underutilised. Dominated by hard paving and a waste bin, it lacks amenity and contributes little to the visitor experience or memorial function of the cemetery.

Precedent Images



Application Zones for Memorial Typologies



Key Plan (NTS)

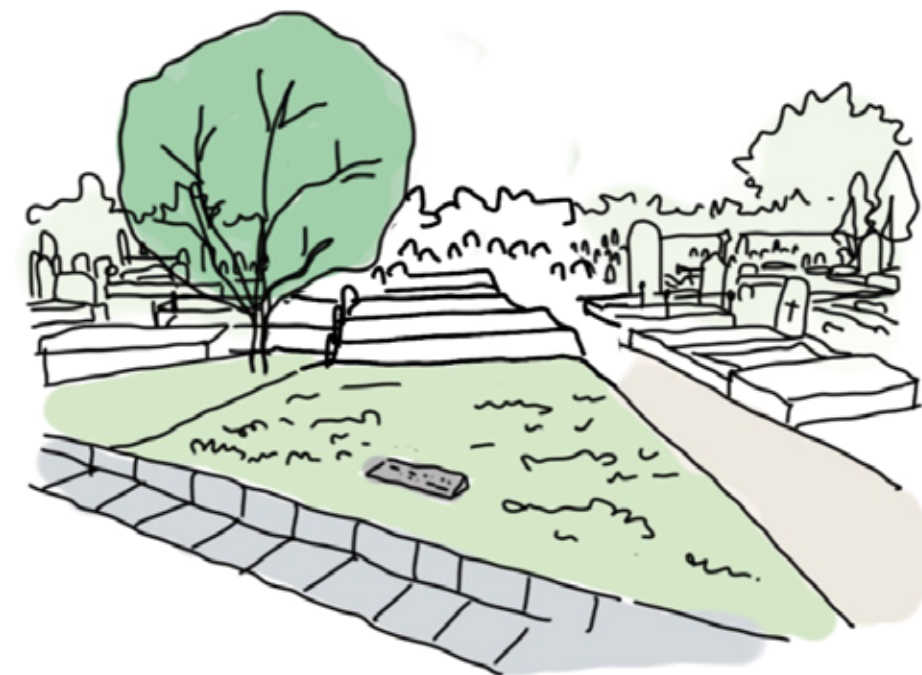
Option 1: Seat Memorial

A quiet space for reflection with a simple bench and surrounding planting, offering a place to pause and connect with the landscape.



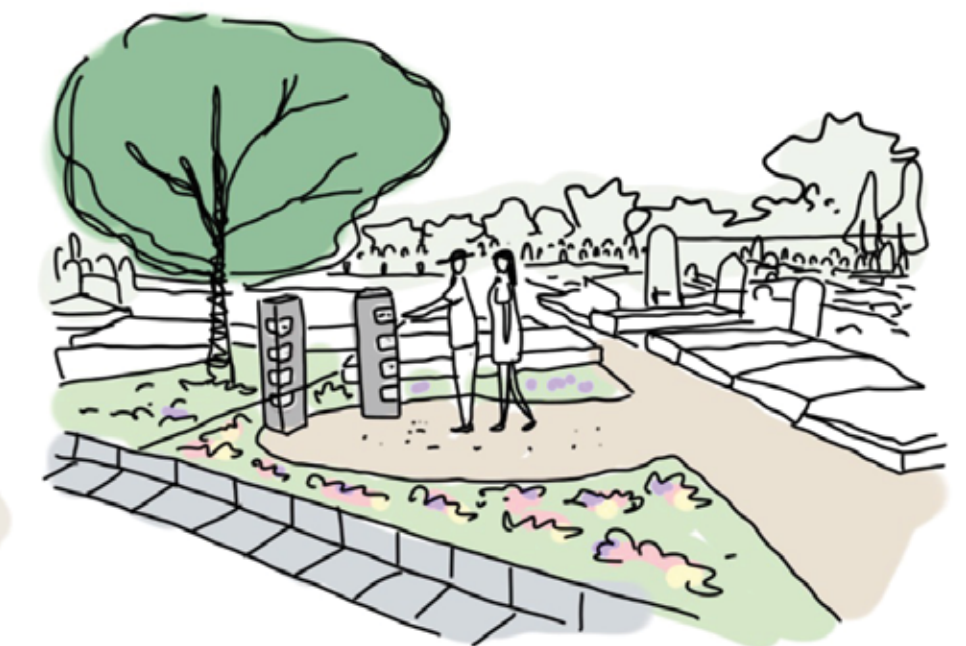
Option 2: Tree Memorial

A single feature tree with an in-ground plaque creates a living tribute.



Option 3: Column Memorial

A sculptural column with inscribed names and small garden beds creates a focal point for remembrance and gathering.



3.4.3 Design Kit of Parts - Small Triangle Spaces

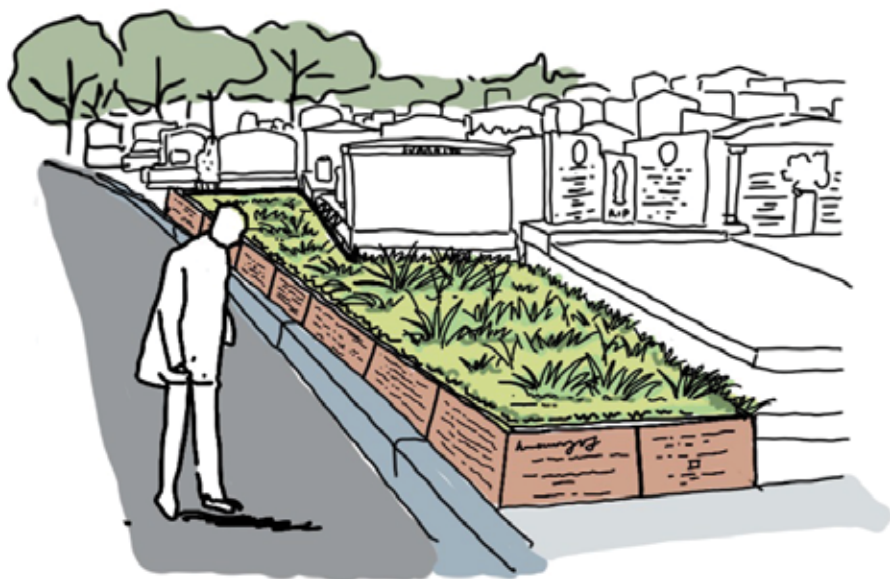
Existing Condition



Small triangular spaces are the result of irregularities in the cemetery's grave layout. These pockets are currently underutilised, often dominated by hard paving or informal uses, contributing little to the overall amenity or memorial function of the cemetery.

Option 1: Raised Planter

Garden bed includes low planting and allows for memorial inscriptions on planter edges.

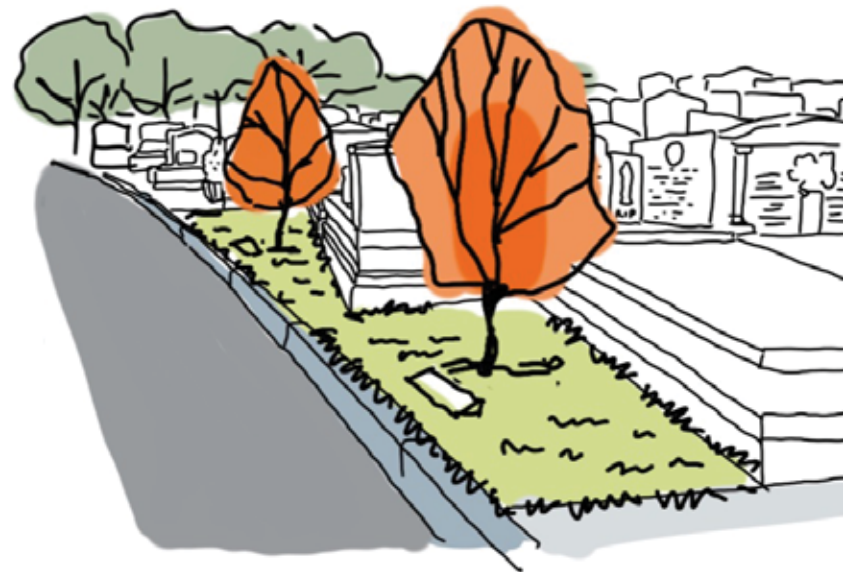


Precedent Images

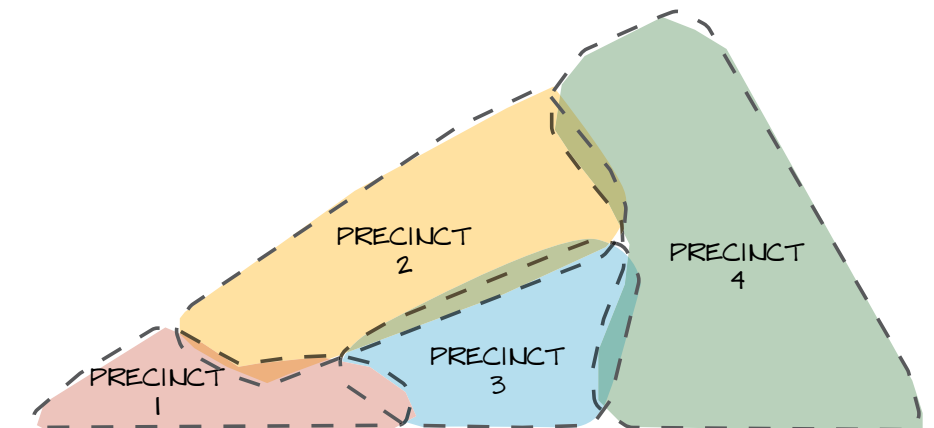


Option 2: Tree Memorial

Small trees are introduced as living memorials. Trees are positioned to maintain views. Surrounding planting frames the tree and allows for discreet interment or naming elements.



Application Zones for Memorial Typologies



Key Plan (NTS)

Option 3: Cylinder Memorial

Sculptural cylindrical memorial products with engraved plaques. Potential to integrate soft lighting within or around the units for night-time visibility.



3.4.4 Design Kit of Parts - Celebration Pathway

Existing Condition

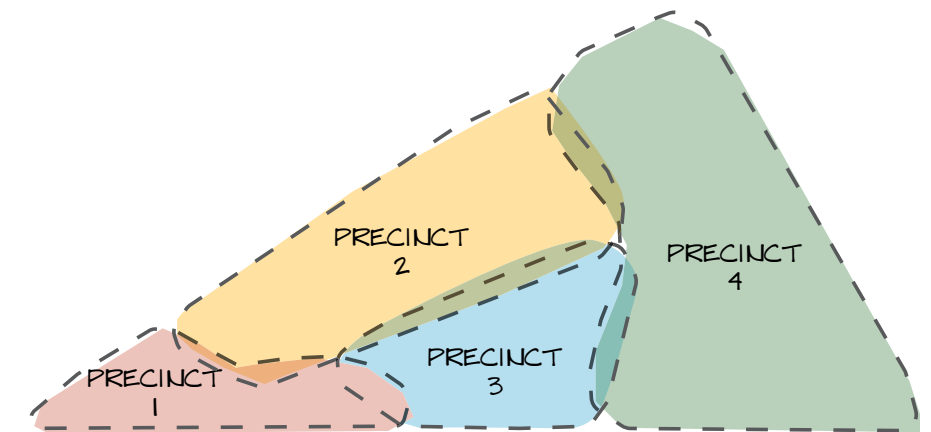


The existing condition is a simple pedestrian pathway with limited amenity or memorial function, offering little opportunity for reflection.

Precedent Images



Application Zones for Memorial Typologies



Key Plan (NTS)



In-ground memorial plaques are integrated into the pavement to create a continuous, respectful celebration pathway.

3.4.5 Design Kit of Parts - Infill Planting

Existing Condition

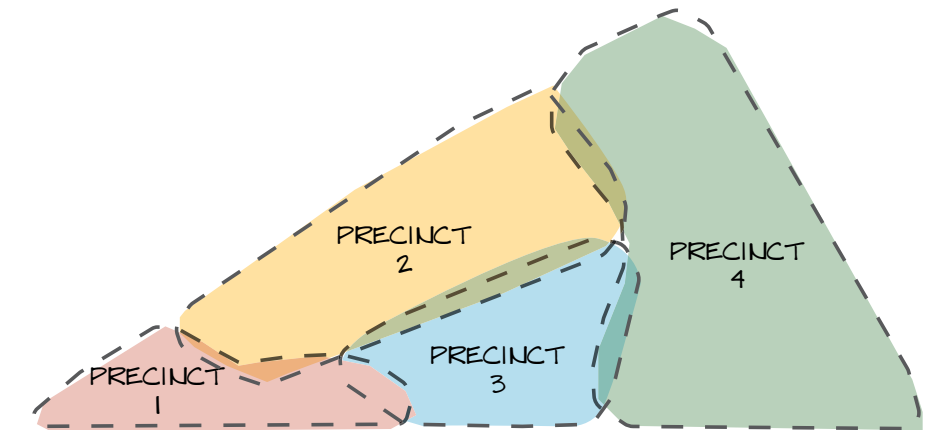


Located in the south-eastern area of the cemetery (mainly Precinct 4), this zone is defined by a highly regular grid of burial plots and narrow gravel pathways. The space lacks greenery and visual interest, with minimal shade and limited planting diversity.

Precedent Images



Application Zones for Memorial Typologies



Key Plan (NTS)



Opportunity to use native or symbolic plant species for added meaning and ecological benefit.

Infill planting with small to medium trees to introduce seasonal interest and light canopy cover.

Planting pockets are carefully integrated within the grid structure to respect existing graves and access

Understorey planting to soften the ground plane while maintaining key viewlines to memorials and across pathways.

3.4.6 Design Kit of Parts - Driveway Interments

Existing Condition

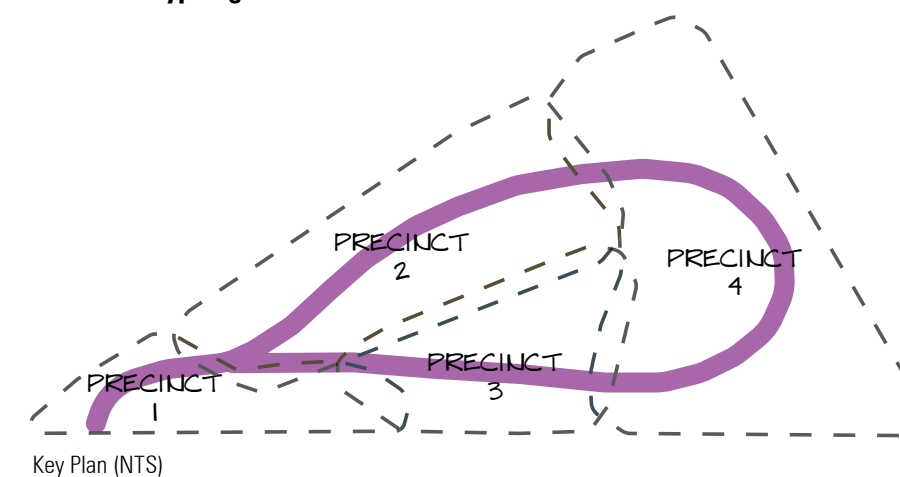


The existing driveway is a wide carriageway with no tree planting, resulting in a lack of shade or defined pedestrian space.

Precedent Images



Application Zones for Memorial Typologies



New trees provide shade and enhance the visual and environmental quality of the avenue.

Kerb outstands are introduced to narrow the carriageway and create space for new trees and memorial opportunities.

Locations for interment or memorial plaques beneath the canopy.

Kerb outstands are designed to accommodate some parallel parking.

The carriageway becomes one-way to support traffic calming and create a safer, more pedestrian-friendly environment.

4 Materials, Furniture & Planting Palettes

Prepared by Hansen Partnership for Community Feedback
Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan Concept

4.1 Materials & Furniture

Materials and Furniture selections will be hard wearing, low maintenance and respectful of the heritage setting.

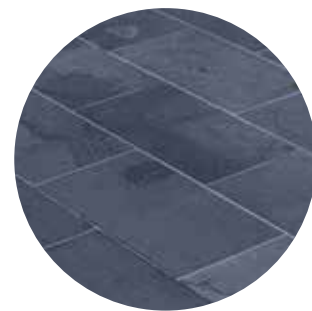
Surface Treatments



Concrete pavers



Interlocking brick pavers



Large bluestone pavers



Asphalt



Concrete kerb



Bluestone kerbs & channels



Exposed aggregate concrete pavers



Interlocking pavers

Furniture & Fixtures



Seating



Rubbish bin



Shaded structure



Stone or concrete seating memorial walls



Wayfinding sign



Digital Signage



Heritage fence



Drinking fountain



Water feature



Minimal path light



Memorial uplighting



Memorial plaques



Sculptures / memorial art



Everlon cylinders



Memory walls



Raised planter memorials

4.2 Planting Palettes

The following planting lists provide a palette of suitable species for the proposed master plan precincts. Species have been selected for their drought tolerance as well as the opportunity to provide seasonal colour and interest. The palettes assist in developing botanical interest and species diversity within the cemetery's grounds.

The plant lists are not exhaustive. The planting lists provide a guide for Cemetery staff, Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery, volunteers and students. When selecting species:

Adaptable species

- Select climate resilient species (drought tolerant and low water use species) and consider the site conditions (e.g. aspect, tree competition, shade and level of exposure).

Adaptive tree management

- Consider modifying pruning and watering practices and adjusting pest and disease management to address shifting seasons guided by the preparation of maintenance and operations plan tailored to the site.

Heritage

- Respect the heritage significance of Boroondara Cemetery. Promote and strengthen the Victorian Garden Cemetery Character including grave dressing, supported by Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery and continued community programs (engaging with local community groups and the education sector).

Botanical interest

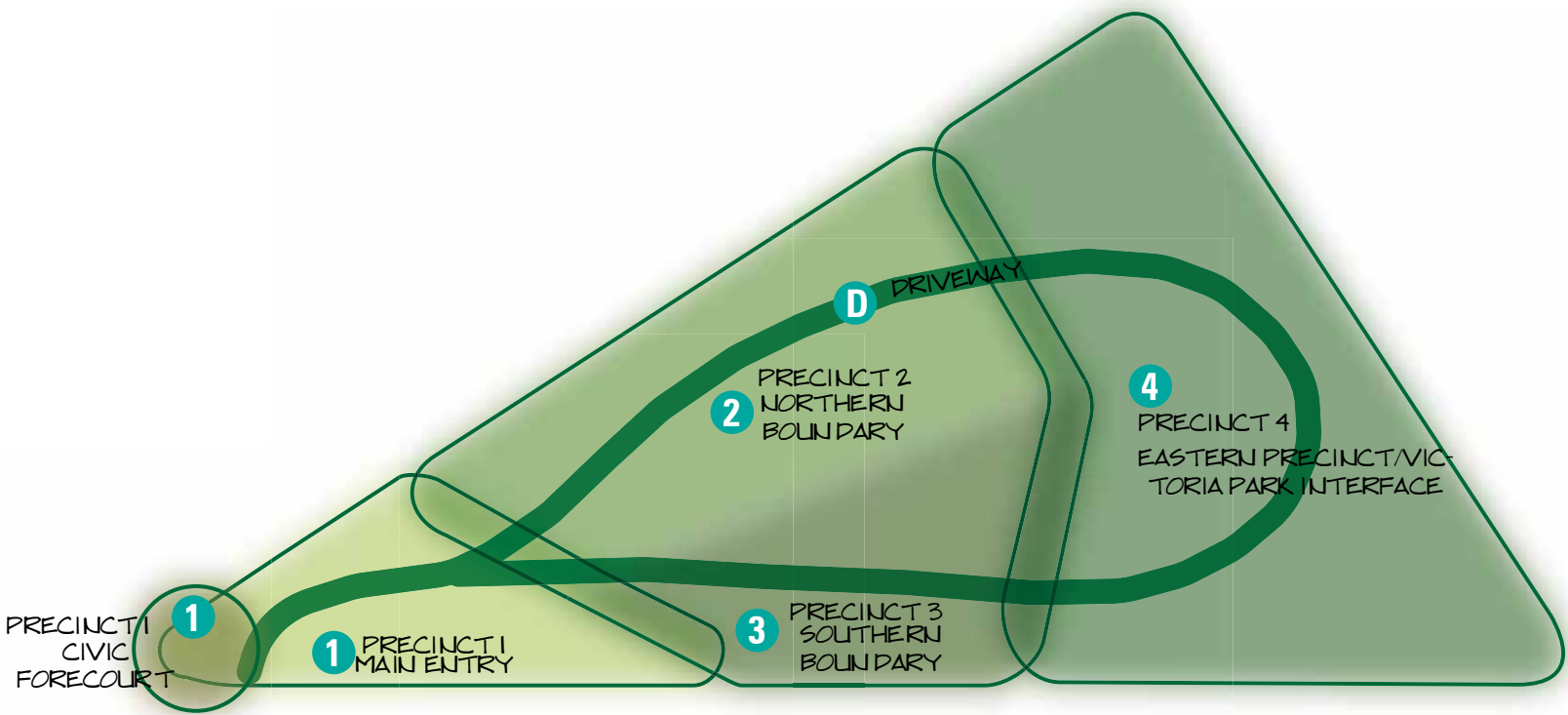
- Establish a variety of species for year-round interest, climate resilience and to enhance amenity within the cemetery's grounds.

Arboricultural requirements

- Undertake regular/routine arboricultural works including tree health and risk assessment, formative pruning as well as pest and disease management to maintain the health of site trees.

Ongoing maintenance

- Mulch and plant exposed areas where possible as this:
 - a) Provides vegetative cover for areas that are currently weedy, requiring high maintenance regimes.
 - b) Reduces evapotranspiration/retains moisture in the soil.
 - c) Will reduce the requirement for whipper snipper maintenance.
 - d) Will provide opportunities for tree and garden bed memorialisation and supports the further development of the garden character of the cemetery, highly valued by visitors
- Continue to review and monitor maintenance tasks to promote best practice outcomes.
- Develop a strategy for managing spontaneous planting within the cemetery's grounds (e.g. self-seeded tree growth).



1 Precinct 1 Civic Forecourt

Mixed Native and Exotic Planting Theme

Precinct 1 Main Entry

Exotic Planting Theme

2 Precinct 1 Northern Boundary

Mixed Exotic & Native Planting Theme

3 Precinct 1 Southern Boundary

Mixed Exotic & Native Planting Theme

4 Precinct 4 Eastern Precinct/ Victoria Park Interface

Native/Indigenous Planting Theme

D Driveway Plantings

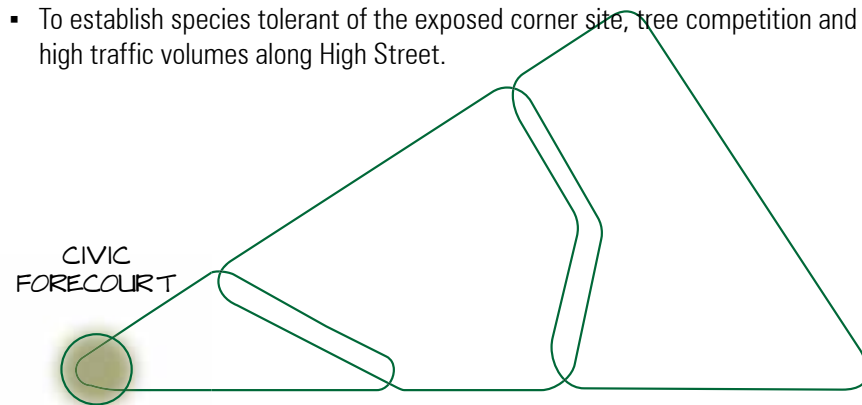
Climate Resilient Specimen Trees of Botanical Interest

Garden Precinct 1 - Civic Forecourt

Mixed Native and Exotic Planting Theme

Planting objectives:

- To provide a safe and welcoming entry to Boroondara Cemetery. To respect and compliment the site's heritage buildings.
- To establish low maintenance, climate resilient species.
- To provide year-round interest.
- To establish species tolerant of the exposed corner site, tree competition and high traffic volumes along High Street.

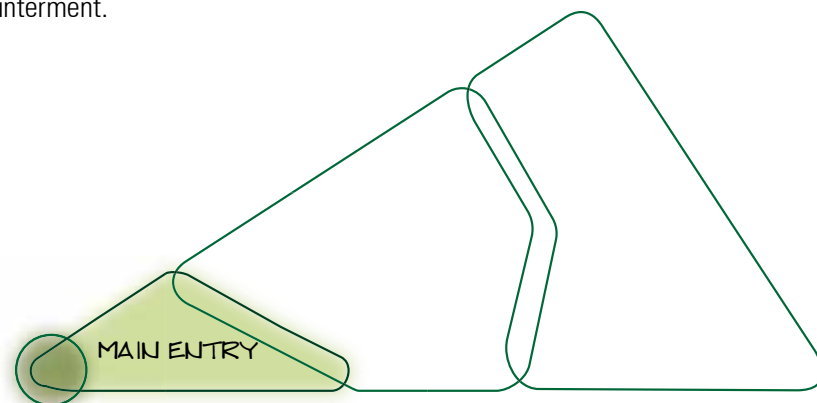


Garden Precinct 1 - Main Entry

Exotic Planting Theme

Planting objectives:

- To maintain and enhance the existing exotic planting themes within the traditional Rose Garden, Garden of Reflection, and Syme Memorial surrounds.
- To provide colour and interest to the existing Gate Lodge and Mausoleum surrounds.
- To incorporate climbers (associated with pergolas) for additional shade and amenity.
- To integrate additional planting areas (including trees) for additional cremated interment.



PRECINCT 1 CIVIC FORECOURT

Retain Existing Trees



Araucaria heterophylla
(Norfolk Island Pine)



Corymbia species
(Flowering Gums)



Eucalyptus species
(Gum Trees)



Correa alba
(White Correa)



Doryanthes excelsa
(Gymea Lily)



Echium 'Blue Dwarf' Hybrid
(Dwarf Pride of Madeira)

PRECINCT 1 MAIN ENTRY

Large Trees



Euphorbia 'Silver Swan'
'Wilcot'
(Silver Swan Spurge)



Nepeta x faassenii 'Walker's Low'
(Walker's Low Catmint)



Rosmarinus officinalis
(Rosemary)



Veronica perfoliata
(Digger's Speedwell)

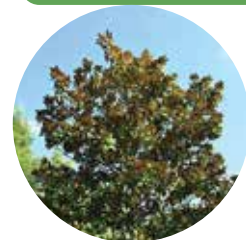


Acer x freemanii Jeffersred
(Autumn Blaze)

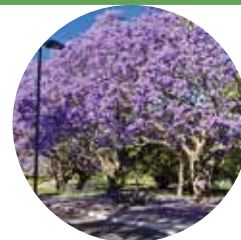


Ginkgo biloba
(Ginkgo)

Medium to Small Trees & Palms



Magnolia grandiflora
(Southern Magnolia)



Jacaranda mimosifolia
(Jacaranda)



Lagerstroemia sp.
(Crepe Myrtle)



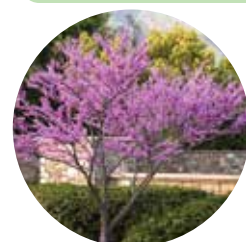
Ulmus parvifolia
(Chinese Elm)



Zelcova Musashino
(Japanese Elm Tree)



Catalpa bignonioides 'Nana'
(Mop Top Indian Bean Tree)



Cercis siliquastrum / Forest Pansy
(Judas Tree / Forest Pansy)



Magnolia grandiflora 'Teddy Bear'
(Dwarf Evergreen Magnolia)



Malus ioensis 'Plena'
(Bethel's Crab Apple)



Malus trilobata
(Lebanese Crab Apple)



Diospyros kaki (Persimmon)



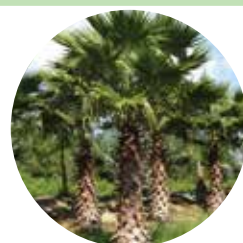
Pyrus nivalis (Snow Pear)

Espaliered Trees

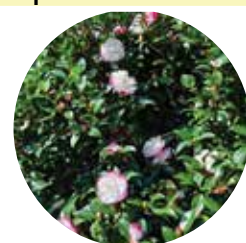
Shrubs



Taxus baccata 'Fastigiata'
(Irish Yew)



Washingtonia robusta
(Washington Palm)



Camelia sasanqua 'Paradise Blush' (Camellia)



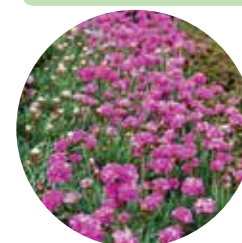
Citrus sp.
(Lemon, Lime, Orange)



Olea europaea cvs.
(Olive)



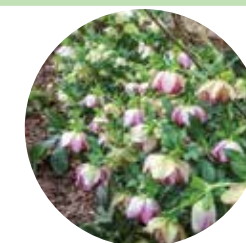
Magnolia grandiflora cvs.
(Southern Magnolia)



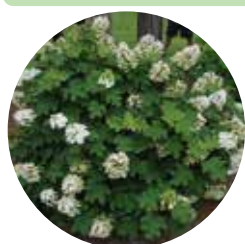
Armeria maritima
(Sea Thrift)



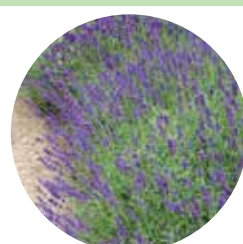
Daphne 'Éternal Fragrance'
(Daphne)



Helleborus sp.
(Lenten Rose)



Hydrangea quercifolia
(Oak-leaf Hydrangea)



Lavandula angustifolia
(English Lavender)



Lavandula canariensis
(Canary Island Lavender)



Lavandula lanata (Woolly
Lavender)



Lavandula 'Hidcote'
(Hidcote Lavender)



Lavandula 'Little Poppet'
(Little Poppet Lavender)



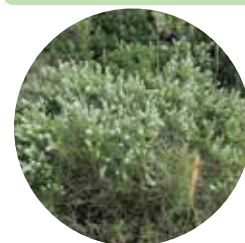
Limonium perezii (Sea
Lavender)



Loreopetalum chinense 'Plum
Gorgeous' (Chinese Fringe Flower)



Nepeta x faassenii 'Walker's
Low' (Walker's Low Catmint)



Rosmarinus officinalis
(Rosemary)



Rosa sp. (Rose varieties
including Heritage Roses)



Ruscus hypoglossum
(Butcher's Broom)



Salvia nemerosa 'Rose
Wine' (Rose Wine Sage)



Salvia chamaedryoides
'Marine Blue' (Marine
Blue Sage)



Santolina rosmarinifolia
'Primrose Gem' (Primrose Gem
Cotton Lavender)



Santolina magonica
(Minorcan Cotton
Lavender)



Syringa wolfii
(Manchurian Lilac)



Teucrium marum (Cat
Thyme)

Ground Covers, Grasses, Succulents & Emergents



Agapanthus praecox
'Perpetual Peace' (Sterile
Dwarf Agapanthus)



Mesembryanthemum cordifolia
(Baby Sun Rose)



Cerastium tomentosum
(Snow in Summer)



Liriope 'Munroe White'
(Lily Turf)



Rosmarinus officinalis
'Prostratus' (Ground
Cover Rosemary)



Stachys byzantina
(Lamb's Ears)



Stachys byzantina 'Big
Ears' (Lamb's Ears)

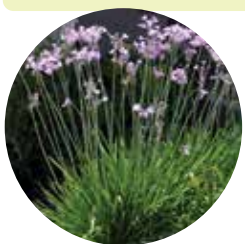


Thymus pseudolanuginosus
(Woolly Thyme)



Trachelospermum asiaticum
'Flat Mat' (Ground Cover
Chinese Jasmine)

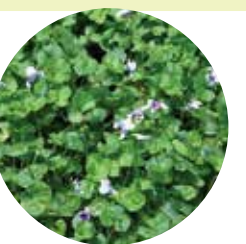
Climbers



Tulbaghia violacea
(Society Garlic)



Veronica umbrosa
'Georgia Blue'
(Speedwell)



Viola hederacea
(Native Violet)



Rosa 'Gertrude Jekyll'
(Gertrude Jekyll Climbing Rose
– Dark Pink)



Rosa 'Graeme Thomas'
(Graeme Thomas
Climbing Rose – Yellow)



Rosa 'Iceberg' (Iceberg
Climbing Rose – White)



Rosa 'Pierre De Ronsard'
(Eden Climbing Rose –
White to Pale Pink)



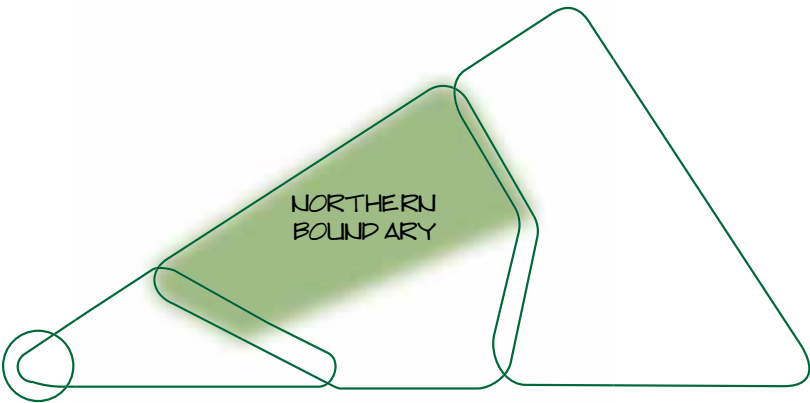
Rosa 'Peace' (Peace Climbing
Rose – Yellow and Pink)

Garden Precincts 2 - NORTHERN BOUNDARY

Mixed Exotic & Native Planting Theme

Planting objectives:

- To incorporate a range of species for seasonal interest including plants capable of tolerating dry shade.
- To support and strengthen the established planting palette and the relaxed, mixed species character within this precinct in collaboration with Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery.
- To ensure that plantings surrounding Springthorpe Memorial are managed in close consultation with Heritage Victoria (and as approved) given the heritage significance of this memorial site.
- To continue grave dressing and garden plantings through this precinct including new garden beds and trees for future cremated interment.



Large Trees



Arbutus andrachnoides
(Grecian Strawberry Tree)



Arbutus x andrachnoides
(Grecian Strawberry Tree)



Acer sp. (Maples)



Magnolia grandiflora
'Greenback' (Greenback
Magnolia)



Acer buergerianum
(Trident Maple)



Chamaerops humilis (
Dwarf Fan Palm)

Medium to Small Trees & Palms



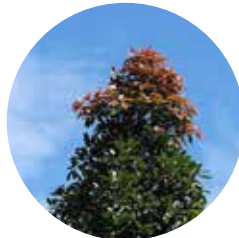
Corymbia citriodora 'Scen-
tuous' (Dwarf Lemon-Scent-
ed Gum)



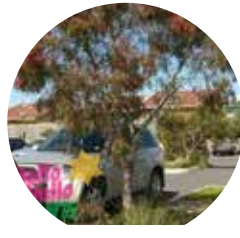
Backhousea citriodora (Lem-
on Myrtle)



Dais cotinifolia (Pom Pom
Tree)



Elaeocarpus eumundi
(Eumundi Quandong)



Eucalyptus leucoxydon 'Euky
Dwarf' (Dwarf Gum Tree)



Lagerstroemia sp. (Crepe
Myrtle)

Shrubs



Magnolia soulangeana
'Vulcan' (Vulcan Magnolia)



Taxus baccata 'Fastigiata'
(Irish Yew)



Agastache x 'Pink Pearl'



Anisodonteia elegans (Cape
Mallow)



Centaurea dealbata (Peren-
nial Cornflower)



Pelargonium peltatum (Ivy
Leaf Geranium)



Echinacea purpurea cultivar
(Echinacea)



Euphorbia martinii (Dwarf
Spurge)



Euphorbia rigida (Upright
Myrtle Spurge)



Euphorbia sp. (Spurge)



Gaura lindheimeri (Butterfly
Bush)



Geranium phaem (Mourning
Widow)

Ground Covers, Grasses, Succulents & Emergents



Plectranthus argentatus
(Silver Spurflower)



Rhagodia spinescens
(Hedge Saltbush)



Rosmarinus officinalis
(Rosemary)



Salvia sp. (*Salvia sp.*)



Santolina chamaecyparissus
(Lavender Cotton)



Veronica perfoliata (Digger's Speedwell)



Aeonium arboreum 'Zwartkop'
(Irish Rose)



Ajuga reptans (Bugleweed)



Allium sphaerocephalon
(Drumstick Allium)



Armeria maritima (Sea Thrift)



Atriplex semibaccata
(Australian Saltbush)



Bergenia cordifolia
(Heartleaf Bergenia)



Bergenia cordifolia
'Bressingham White' (White Heartleaf Bergenia)



Calamagrostis brachytricha (Korean Feather Grass)



Calandrinia spectabilis
(Rock Purslane)



Calamintha nepeta
subsp. *nepeta* (Lesser Calamint)



Clivia spp. (Kaffir Lily)



Convolvulus sabatius
(Blue Rock Bindweed)



Cotyledon orbiculata
(Pig's Ear)



Crithmum maritimum
(Rock Samphire)



Dianella 'Little Jess'
(Little Jess Flax Lily)



Dianella 'Silver Streak'
(Silver Streak Flax Lily)



Geum triflorum (Prairie Smoke)



Lomandra sp. (Mat Rush)



Marrubium supinum
'Scallop Shell' (Scallop Shell)



Mesembryanthemum cordifolia (Baby Sun Rose)



Poa labillardierei 'Suggan Buggan'
(Tussock Grass)



Poa morrisii (Velvet Tussock Grass)



Rosmarinus officinalis
'Prostratus' (Groundcover Rosemary)



Sedum 'Autumn Joy'
(Showy Stonecrop)



Senecio serpens (Blue Chalksticks)



Trachelospermum asiaticum
'Flat Mat' (Prostrate Chinese Star Jasmine)



Tripladenia cunninghamii
(Bush Lily – shaded areas only)



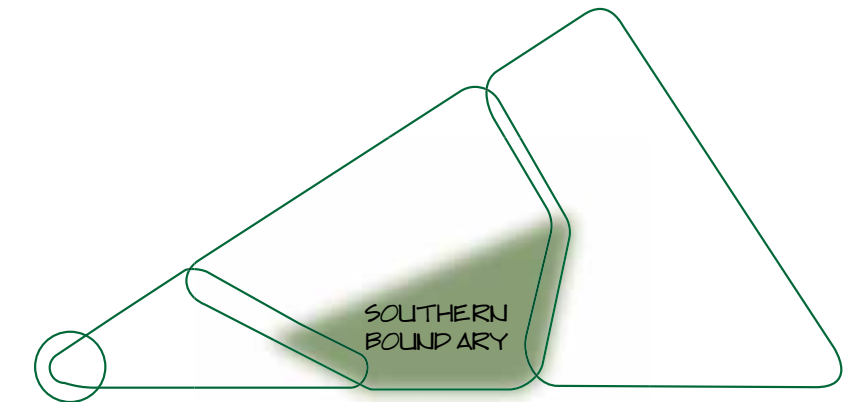
Tulbaghia violacea
(Society Garlic)

Garden Precincts 3 - SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

Mixed Exotic & Native Planting Theme

Planting objectives:

- To incorporate species that thrive in full sun (including Mediterranean species).
- To provide a palette of plants that compliment and strengthen the ornate monumentation located within the southern sections of the cemetery's grounds.
- To develop a formal garden setting for this section of the cemetery with opportunities for topiary, urns and espaliered trees.
- To reduce the extent of hardscape and the heat island effect.
- To continue the practice of grave dressing where possible to further develop the garden in this section of the cemetery.
- To incorporate additional areas of planting (including trees) for future cremated interment.



Large Trees



Agathis robusta
(Queensland Kauri Pine)



Arbutus unedo (Irish Strawberry Tree)



Brachychiton rupestris
(Queensland Bottle Tree)



Magnolia grandiflora
'Greenback' (Greenback Magnolia)



Acer cvs. (Maple – Sun Tolerant Varieties)



Jacaranda mimosifolia
(Jacaranda)



Lagerstromia indica sp.
(Crepe Myrtle)



Pyrus nivalis (Snow Pear)



Quercus ilex (Holly Oak)



Ginkgo biloba 'Blagon Fanfare'
(Dwarf Ginkgo Cultivars)



Citrus sp. (Citrus – Orange, Lemon, Kumquat)



Taxus baccata 'Fastigiata'
(Irish Yew)

Medium to Small Trees & Palms



Magnolia grandiflora 'Teddy Bear'
(Dwarf Bull Bay)



Syzygium australe 'Pinnacle'
(Pinnacle Lilly Pilly)



Trachycarpus fortunei (Chinese Wind Palm)



Washingtonia filifera (Desert Fan Palm)



Olea europaea 'Cloud'
(Topiary Olive)



Citrus sp. (Lemon, Lime, Orange)

Topiary Trees

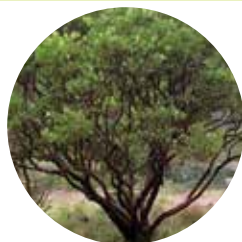
Espalier Trees



Olea europaea cvs. (Olive)



Magnolia grandiflora cvs.
(Southern Magnolia)



Arctostaphylos manzanita 'St Helena'
(St Helena Manzanita)



Ballota pseudodictamnus 'Nana'
(Dwarf False Dittany)



Cotinus 'Grace'



Deschampsia cespitosa
(Tufted Hair Grass)

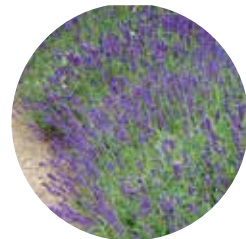
Shrubs



Echium 'Blue Dwarf Hybrid'
(Dwarf Bee Bush)



Epilobium 'Catalina' (Californian Fuchsia)



Lavandula angustifolia
(English Lavender)



Lavandula canariensis (Canary Island Lavender)



Laurus nobilis 'Baby Bay'
(Dwarf Bay Tree)



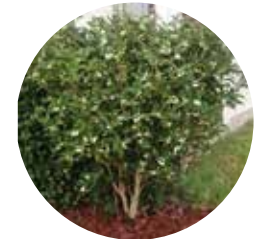
Olea europaea 'Piccolo'
(Olive – Mediterranean Midget)



Origanum rotundifolium 'Kent Beauty' (Kent Beauty Origanum)



Osmanthus delavayi 'Heaven Scent' (Heavenly Scent Tea Olive)



Osmanthus fragrans (Fragrant Tea Olive)



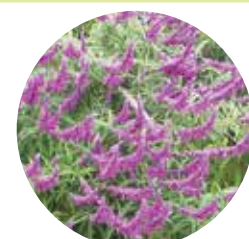
Pelargonium sidoides
(African Geranium)



Rhagodia spinescens
(Hedge Saltbush)



Rosmarinus officinalis
(Rosemary)



Salvia leucantha 'Harry's Red'
(Harry's Red Mexican Sage)



Salvia leucantha 'White Velour' (White Velour Sage)



Sedum cauticola 'Lidakense' (Cliff Stonecrop)



Sedum spectabile 'Autumn Joy' (Autumn Joy Stonecrop)



Teucrium marum (Cat Thyme)

Ground Covers, Grasses, Succulents & Emergents



Anemanthele lessoniana
(New Zealand Wind Grass)



Centranthus ruber (Red Valerian)



Convolvulus 'Moroccan Moon' (Moroccan Moon)



Cotyledon orbiculata
(Pig's Ear)



Echeveria sp. (Echeveria)



Helenium autumnale 'Moerheim Beauty' (Autumn Coneflower)



Helichrysum italicum subsp. serotinum (Curry Plant)



Helichrysum petiolare
(Liquorice Plant)



Hemerocallis cultivars
(Day Lily)



Teucrium hircanicum
(Purple Tails)



Kniphofia 'Blaze'
(Blaze Red Hot Poker)



Kniphofia 'Winter Cheer'
(Winter Cheer Red Hot Poker)



Limonium latifolium (Sea Statice)



Marrubium supinum 'Scallop Shell' (Scallop Shell)



Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus' (Prostrate Rosemary)



Stachys byzantina 'Silky Fleece' (Silky Fleece Lambs Ear)



Thymus citriodorus
(Lemon Flowering Thyme)



Thymus longicaulis subsp. chaubardii (Cretan Thyme)



Verbena rigida
(Slender Vervain)



Veronica longifolia 'Ronica Fuchsia' (Long Leaf Speedwell)



Veronica umbrosa 'Georgia Blue' (Georgia Blue Speedwell)

Garden Precincts 4 - EASTERN PRECINCT/VICTORIA PARK
INTERFACE

Native/Indigenous Planting Theme

Planting objectives:

- To provide a strong connection to Victoria Park's and the native/indigenous species in this location.
- To showcase climate resilient native and indigenous flowering species.
- To retain and strengthen existing native species in this precinct and to incorporate species that existing prior to the cemetery's development (particularly to the northeastern section of the cemetery).
- To improve amenity at the eastern section of the cemetery and to provide shade, colour and garden interest for the proposed new entry points from Victoria Park.
- To continue grave dressing and to accommodate new garden beds and trees for future cremated interment.
- To further review whether indigenous river red gum seedlings (originating from the nearby significant trees within Victoria Park) can be retained/managed. Some of the self-sown river red gum trees could be allowed to regenerate in the northeastern corner of the cemetery (as this tree naturally occurred/pre-existed in this area Pre 1750 (Gippsland Plain Bioregion EVC 55- Plains Grassy Woodland)).

Large Trees



Acacia melanoxylon
(Blackwood)



Brachychiton sp. (Including
dwarf cultivars such as
Bella Pink, *Jerilderie Red*)



Callitris sp.
(Cypress Pine)



Eucalyptus camaldulensis
(Red Gum – managed
self-seeded growth)



Hymenosporum flavum
(Native Frangipani)



Stenocarpus sinuatus (Fire-
wheel Tree)

Medium to Small Trees & Palms



Waterhousea floribunda
(Weeping Lilly Pilly)



Acacia implexa (Lightwood)



Agonis flexulosa cvs (Wil-
low Peppermint)



Allocasuarina littoralis
(Black She-oak)



Banksia marginata (Silver
Banksia)



Brachychiton sp. (Dwarf
cultivars such as *Bella Pink*,
Jerilderie Red)



Callistemon sp. (Bottle-
brush)



Callistemon citrinus x *vimi-
nalis* 'Harkness' (Harkness
Bottlebrush)



Corymbia citriodora 'Baby
Chino' (Dwarf Lemon-scent-
ed Gum)



Geijera parvifolia (Native
Willow)



Leptospermum petersonii
(Lemon Scented Tea Tree)



Livistona australis (Cabbage
Palm)

Shrubs



Acacia sp. (Wattle)



Alyogyne huegelii (Native
Hibiscus)



Banksia cultivars (Banksia)



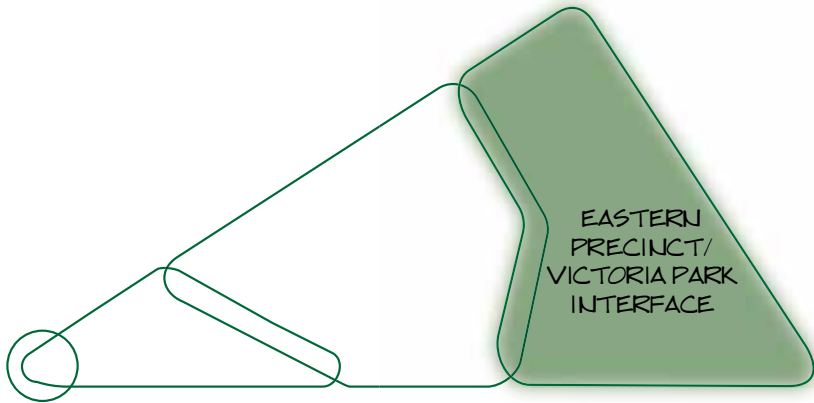
Correa cultivars (Correa)



Doryanthes excelsa (Gynea
Lily)



Eutaxia diffusa (Spreading
Eutaxia)



Ground Covers, Grasses, Succulents & Emergents



Grevillea cultivars (Grevillea)



Grevillea 'Ned Kelly' (Ned Kelly Grevillea)



Indigofera australis (Australian Indigo)



Leucophyta brownii (Cushion Bush)



Anigozanthos hybrid 'Amber Velvet' (Velvet Kangaroo Paws)



Anigozanthos hybrid 'Everlasting Gold' (Everlasting Gold Kangaroo Paws)



Arthropodium strictum (Chocolate Lily)



Asperula conferta (Common Woodruff)



Atriplex semibaccata (Australian Saltbush)



Austrodanthonia racemosa var. *racemosa* (Striped Wallaby Grass)



Austrostipa elegantissima (Feather Speargrass)



Austrodanthonia setacea (Bristly Wallaby Grass)



Calocephalus citreus (Lemon Beauty Heads)



Carpobrotus rossii (Pigface)



Casuarina glauca prostrate cultivars (Prostrate She-oak)



Conostylis 'Silversunrise' (Cotton Heads)



Dianella admixta (Black Anther Flax Lily)



Dianella longifolia var. *grandis* (Pale Flax Lily)



Dianella revoluta (Spreading Flax Lily)



Dianella sp. (Spreading Flax Lily)



Einadia nutans (Nodding Saltbush)



Eremophila glabra 'Blue Horizon' (Blue Horizon Emu Bush)



Eremophila spp. 'EREM01 Thriver' (Thrivers Emu Bush)



Ficinia nodosa (Nobby Club Rush)



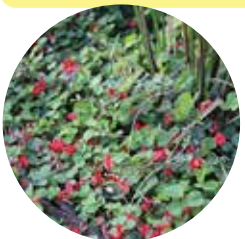
Gahnia sieberiana (Red-fruit Saw Sedge)



Grevillea 'Royal Mantle' (Royal Mantle Grevillea)



Grevillea 'Bronze Rambler' (Bronze Rambler Grevillea)



Kennedia prostrata (Running Postman)



Lomandra filiformis (Wattle Mat Rush)



Lomandra longifolia cultivars (Mat Rush Cultivars)



Microlaena stipoides var. *stipoides* (Weeping Grass)



Myoporum parvifolium - Broad Leaf (Creeping Boobialla)



Myoporum parvifolium 'Purpureum' (Creeping Boobialla)



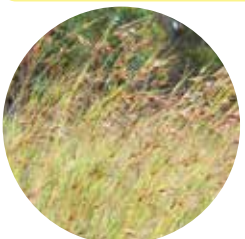
Poa sieberiana (Grey Tussock Grass)



Pycnosorus globosa (Billy Buttons)



Stylidium graminifolium 'Little Sapphire' (Trigger Plant)



Themeda triandra (Kangaroo Grass)



Viola hederacea (Native Violet)



Wahlenbergia capillaris (Cape Bluebell)



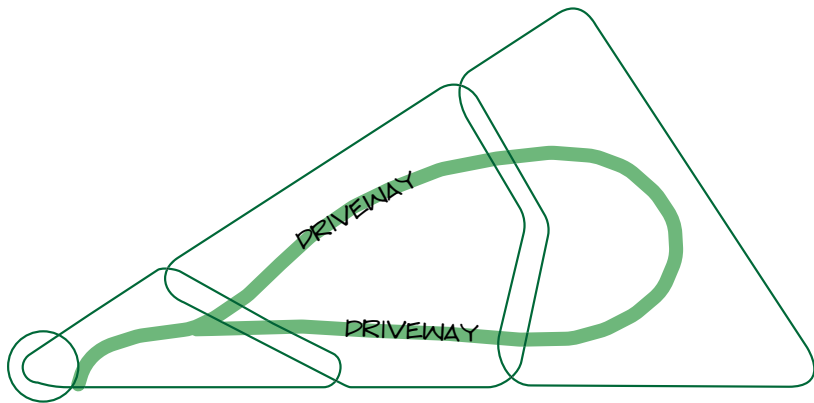
Westringea fruticosa 'Low Horizon' (Ground Cover Coast Rosemary)

DRIVEWAY PLANTINGS

Climate Resilient Specimen Trees of Botanical Interest

Planting objectives:

- To provide drought tolerant specimen trees along the tear drop driveway for shade, amenity and botanical interest. A diverse range of species/taxa is preferred for climate resilience.
- To strengthen the valued garden setting of the cemetery for future generations.
- To contribute to future canopy cover within City of Boroondara.



Specimen Trees for Driveway Loop Circuit



Acer rubrum 'October Glory'
(October Glory Maple)



Acer x freemanii 'Jeffersred'
Autumn Blaze



Angophora costata (Apple
Myrtle)



Banksia integrifolia (Coast
Banksia)



Brachychiton discolor
(Lacebark)



Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy'
(Forest Pansy)



Cupaniopsis anacardioides
(Tuckeroo)



Corymbia ficifolia (Flowering
Gum)



Ginkgo biloba 'Princeton Sentry'
(Maidenhair Tree)



Jacaranda mimosifolia
(Jacaranda)



Koelreuteria paniculata
(Golden Rain Tree)



Lagerstroemia sp. (Crepe
Myrtle)



Magnolia grandiflora sp.
(Southern Magnolia / Bull
Bay)



Parrotia persica (Persian
Ironwood)



Pistacia chinensis (Pista-
chio)



Podocarpus elatus (Illawar-
ra Plum)



Pyrus 'Winter Cheer' (Orna-
mental Pear)



Quercus palustris 'Free Fall'
(Pin Oak)



Stenocarpus sinuatus
(Firewheel Tree)



Tristaniopsis laurina (Kano-
ka)



Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese
Elm)



Waterhousea floribunda
(Weeping Lilly Pilly)



Zelkova serrata 'Green Vase'
(Japanese Zelkova)

5 Strengthening Community Connections

5.1 Introduction

Located within a thriving residential area, the Boroondara Cemetery will continue to play an important role in supporting the local community. The Master Plan enhances this through a range of initiatives designed to foster events, increase visitation and contribute to local experience and knowledge. As a place for memorial and remembrance, the Master Plan includes a range of new opportunities for celebrating the lives of loved ones. The Master Plan envisages a place that welcomes and encourages community events. Potential initiatives are provided at Section 5.2 - Future Events.

5.2 Future Events

Improved Access Opportunities

Explore opportunities to improve access (e.g. providing a pedestrian link to Victoria Park and the broader open space network).



Interactive Heritage Portal

Accessing historical records, notable figures, and guided experiences through a digital touch screen.



Guided Walks & Heritage Tours

Exploring the cemetery's flora, fauna, and historical significance through nature walks and guided heritage tours.



Education Programs

Engaging schools and the public in topics such as cemetery history, genealogy, and environmental conservation.



Live Performances & Storytelling

Music, dancing, theatre, and spoken word performances bring the space to life, offering moments of cultural connection.



Workshops & Cultural Activities

Hosting indoor sessions such as calligraphy, poetry readings, religious chanting, or floral arrangement workshops.



Seasonal or Cultural Celebration

Honouring cultural traditions such as All Souls' Day, Día de los Muertos, Anzac Day and Qingming Festival.



Community Volunteering

Encouraging community participation, volunteer days focus on conservation work, restoration projects, and general upkeep of the grounds.



Exhibition

Displaying cemetery heritage through art, photography, and memorial design.



Recreation & Well-being

Taking part in recreational activities such as walking, jogging, and yoga allows visitors to enjoy the peaceful landscape while maintaining well-being.



Environmental Conservation Initiatives

Explore the cemetery's natural attributes through birdwatching, tree planting, and habitat restoration activities.



Open Days & Community Picnics

Cemetery open days invite the public to learn about the site's history, evolving role, and future possibilities.



Intimate & Private Gatherings

Intimate and private events provide spaces for personal gatherings, memorials, and spiritual reflection.



History-Themed Games

Cemetery-themed games offer interactive storytelling experiences that reveal historical narratives through puzzles and challenges.



Evening Ceremonies & Light Installations

Night events feature lantern walks, candlelight ceremonies, and light art installations.



6 Conclusion/Key Recommendations

The Boroondara Cemetery Master Plan is a strategic document which will help guide Boroondara Cemetery Trust and management with future capital works at the cemetery.

The master plan recommendations have been guided by site analysis and a detailed background review including the following reports:

- Boroondara General Cemetery Landscape Masterplan, prepared by Arboriculture Pty Ltd, dated October 2012
- Boroondara Cemetery Ecological Values and Management Recommendations, prepared by Practical Ecology, dated June 2015.
- Boroondara Cemetery, Kew- Revised Conservation Management Plan, prepared by Heritage Alliance in consultation with Historical cultural heritage projects and Stephen Fitzgerald Arboriculture and the Boroondara Cemetery Trust, dated February 2018.
- Vegetation Management Plan, prepared by Dr Chris Williams, dated April 2021.

Background information has been collated into Boroondara Cemetery Background Report, dated January 2025.

Community and Stakeholder Consultation was undertaken in February 2025, with the Boroondara Cemetery Stakeholder and Community Consultation 1 Summary Report, dated April 2025 providing key findings which have been taken on board in the preparation of this report and key recommendations.

Whilst the property is close to reaching optimum capacity for interment, the master plan report provides recommendations that will allow Boroondara Cemetery to remain as a working cemetery into the future.

Key recommendation include:

- To establish a new pedestrian focused entry forecourt to provide a welcoming main entry to Boroondara Cemetery.
- To re-purpose the existing heritage gate lodge to provide multi-use community facilities including café and information kiosk within the front entry space.
- To incorporate a new multi-level building addressing High Street with additional mausoleum interment and with education/function space and administration services to upper levels.
- Relocation of the existing maintenance depot off site (at a nearby location) including fit for purpose facilities and storage for maintenance and operation staff.
- Improve amenity for visitors including rest nodes.
- To establish two new pedestrian entries to the eastern boundary to provide better access and integration with Victoria Park.
- To strengthen the Victorian Garden Character and climate resilience of the grounds and to further support volunteer services including Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery).
- To establish a range of additional interment opportunities throughout the cemetery grounds to optimise the site's opportunities for future interment.
- To provide additional services and enhanced wayfinding infrastructure to support future community connections and activities.

Heritage Victoria and other key stakeholders including City of Boroondara and Department of Health will need to review and approve any future capital work projects at Boroondara Cemetery.