Queens Park Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place

INF04764





Ipswich City Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners, the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People, as custodians of the land and waters we share. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, as the keepers of the traditions, customs, cultures, and stories of proud peoples

We recognise the ongoing connection of the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Peoples with the lands that Queens Park Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place will be formed.

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Introduction

The delivery of the Queens Park Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place concept is to provide a dedicated space for the community to recognise and reflect on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service men and women who have lost their lives in various conflicts throughout history, including the Australian Frontier Wars.

This dedicated space is one part of Action 1.4.1 in the Ipswich City Council Indigenous Accord 2020 – 2025 and is result of many years of engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community and with Indigenous service men and women, past, present and their descendants. The second part of the Accord Action 1.4.1 is covered by the RSL Memorial Project, with a plinth erected in the RSL Memorial Gardens with a dedication to the service of Indigenous service men and women in the Australian Defence Force. Both projects were subject to recent engagement, coinciding with NAIDOC week 2023, which focused on the plinth wording, and the community expectations for the Queens Park space. Specifically, the community was asked to comment on what this space should be used for, how it should feel, and whose stories should be reflected at this site.

Located in Central Ipswich the selected site for this project, Queens Park, is a significant place for the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul peoples as well as the Australian defence community making it an ideal location for this project. The space will include an area accessible from Chermside Road and Alexander Munro Avenue with stone stepper and lawn amphitheater seating around a leveled space for ceremony, gathering, yarning and reflection. Many years of activities have been dedicated to bringing this project to fruition, including achieving the Queens Park Heritage Exemption Certificate in 2020 and committing these project activities within the Ipswich City Council Indigenous Accord 2020-2025.

The conceptualised place aims to care for the whole community by offering a living space that invites the local history of dispute resolution to be told, embraces our diverse community and the stories of this land, and reminds us of the sacrifice of Indigenous Service personnel and warriors who entered conflicts for country and kin.



NTS | NORTH

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project process to now

ICC ceremonial, healing & remembrance space

Phase 1

Activity 1

Queens Park Heritage Exemption Certificate granted with Preliminary Concept Arrangements Plan

2020

Activity 2

ICC Indigenous Accord 2020–2025 Action Item 1.4.1

2020

Phase 2

Past Activities

Concept Design Development & targeted community consultation

2023

Concept Plan

Phase 3

Future Activities

Community Sign Off Concept to develop Detailed Design

2024

Phase 4

Final Activity

Construction Official opening

2025

ICC Indigenous Accord 2020–2025

Action Item 1.4.1

RSL soldiers memorial project

RSL Memorial Gardens and Memorial plinth project run Ipswich RSL alongside the ICC Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place project.

Project context

The Queens Park Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place shall provide a contemporary culturally safe ceremonial space that celebrates the past, whilst allowing a refuge for reflection. Through community consultation the strong view is that this place will reflect all known defence of country associated with this place and its peoples, including the:

- traditional uses for intra-clan dispute resolution, recognising adjacent bora grounds,
- Frontier Wars and subsequent dispossession of land, and
- activities of the Australian Defence Force.

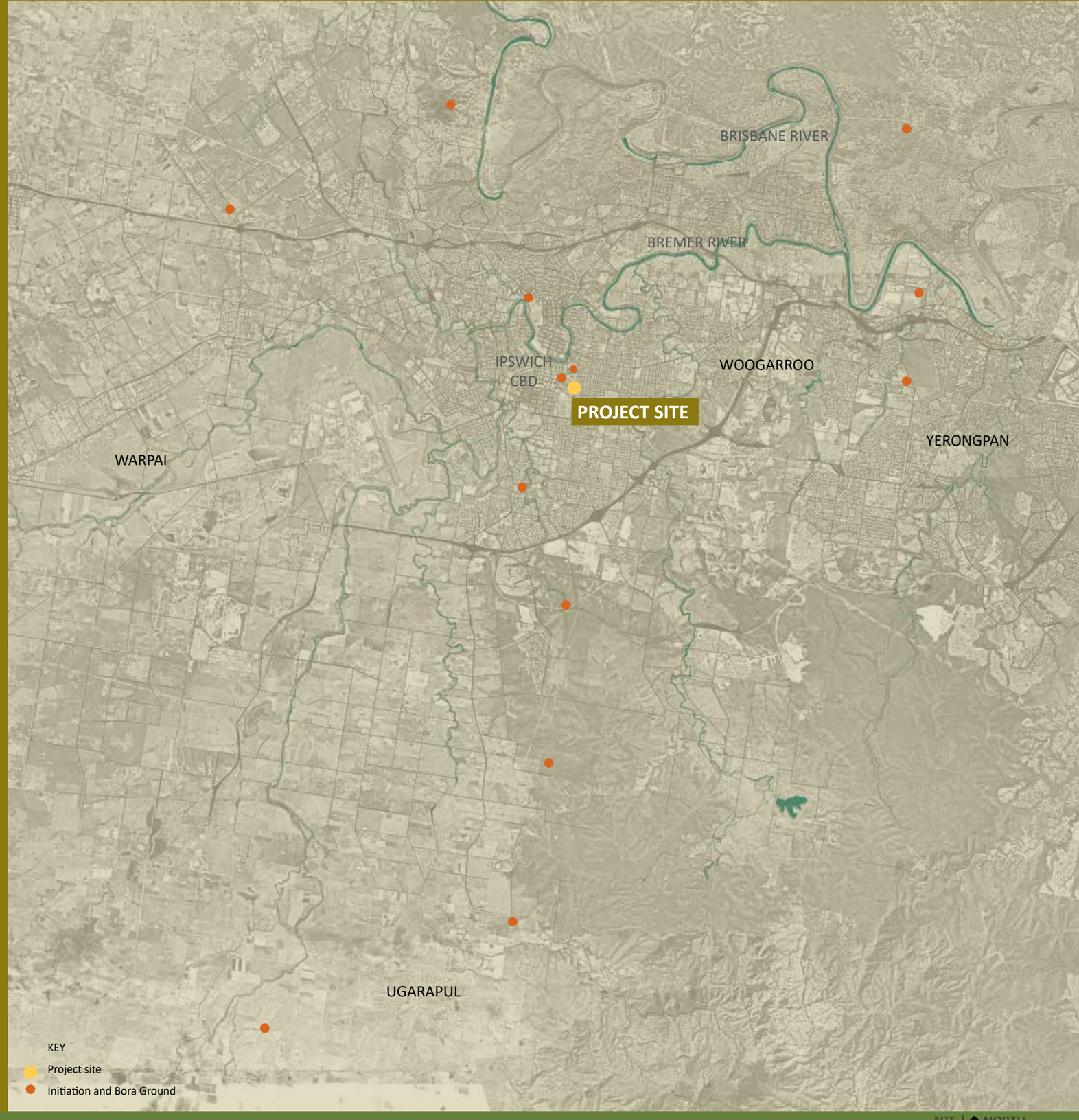
Sited within the Warpai / Rosewood / Limestone boundary the 2011 Turnstone Archaeology Report, *Rebuilding the campfires: Aboriginal Cultural heritage investigation of Queens Park, Ipswich, Southeast Queensland* (2011) indicates that the Queens Park location is situated in a wider landscape of initiation and bora grounds. Highlighting the strong link along waterways from south to areas in the north, the report indicates a link to northern story lines through mapping replicated here (2011).

The Limestone Ridge-line and Bora Ground within and near to the Queens Park extents are regarded as a highly emotive and significant places with major relevance to Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul peoples (2011). These areas are identified as culturally significant with high potential for the discovery of objects used by the Traditional Peoples and visitors of this place.

Additionally, Queens Park is conserved as a Queensland Heritage Place, with history and management expectations outlined in the *Queens Park Ipswich Conservation* (QPIC) *Management Plan* (Cook, Brouwer and McDonald, 2021). Both reports identify these lands as an important place being actively used to the 1890s for intra-clan dispute settlements, and as a place of high-quality natural features for farming and trade (2011 & 2021). This place also has significant heritage value as a late 19th Century example of a major park development for the study of botanical and climate appropriate plants in the Southeast Queensland region (2021).

The Australian defence community has also had a long-standing history with Queens Park since the 1860's and continues to today to occupy an excised part of the parkland for Army cadets and reservists' purposes. Preliminary discussions with a representative of the Australian Defence Force informs they strongly suggest and support this location within Ipswich for this project.

A continuing presence at the site to now are the Grass Trees, *Xanthorrhoea sp.* noted as being the dominant food plant and vegetation feature growing on the slopes of the limestone ridge-line. The aspect and views from this ridge-line is also a continuing feature connecting the site to the wider landscape.



NTS | NORTH

CONTEXT | HERITAGE



1 Grass Trees dominated this landscape, as described by Captain Patrick Logan in 1827.



TURNSTONE, 2011, PHOTO 14, PG 25

2 Approximate location of Bora Ground with Bunya Pine surrounds.



TURNSTONE, 2011, PHOTO 12, PG 24 COURTESY IHS

3 Limestone Ridge with Fig Tree looking North to horizon.



TURNSTONE, 2011, PHOTO 13, PG 24 COURTESY OF QLD MUSEUM AND IHS

4 Medal Presentation Queens Park Ipswich



ARTHUR GEORGE BENNETT, 1920

5 Limestone used in heritage park wall



TURNSTONE, 2011, PHOTO 6, PG 15

CONTEXT | HERITAGE

Project site

The Queens Park Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place will be intrinsically linked to the RSL Memorial Gardens and Plinth project developed by Ipswich RSL at Nicholas Street. Geographically connected along Limestone Street to the Ipswich RSL, this Queens Park site is imagined as an evening place of reflection after dawn service.

On the corner of Chermside Road and Alexander Munro Avenue, the proposed site is within Area C: Limestone Ridge & Hillsides as identified in the *QPIC Management Plan Park* (2001) to the east of Lion's Lookout, just south of the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre facilities, and at the edge of the culturally significant area of Limestone Ridge. Positioned just below the ridge-line, views to both North and East horizon link this place to the wider landscape. Importantly, views North are an important connection to significant Dreaming tracks and pathways (2011).

Protected from both the evening heat in summer and the cold winds from the Southeast in late winter, there is an opportunity to enhance and promote existing site attributes with careful planting design to screen Chermside Road. Deep canopy cover along the ridge-line could be extended to offer a shaded backdrop to the amphitheater for users to retreat on hot days, while the sloping lawns could capture winter sun. By retaining the openness to the North, shadow play in sculptural elements could be positioned to demonstrate the shift from day to night.

Opting for restraint in planting of large trees as a backdrop only will ensure the significant view lines identified in the *QPIC Management Plan* (2021) to visually frame the Limestone Ridge is maintained. Existing vegetation includes deep shade endemic tree species along the Limestone ridge, and local and exotic tree species spaced generously over the grassed site, with majority positioned as street trees. Several significant plant species are immediate to the site, being Figs, *Ficus sp.* identified as significant in this area (2001) and one sculptural Hoop Pine, *Araucaria cunninghamii* and mature Bunya Pine, *Araucaria bidwillii* which are considered important to other areas of Queens Park.



CONTEXT | LOCATION

1 Views north to the South D'Aguilar National Park.



2 Views East to Brisbane.



3 Looking through deep canopy near Lion's lookout.



4 Significant plant species *Ficus hillii* and *Xanthorrhoea sp.* to Limestone Ridge & Hillsides





IMAGE FROM: IPSWICH HERITAGE TRAILS

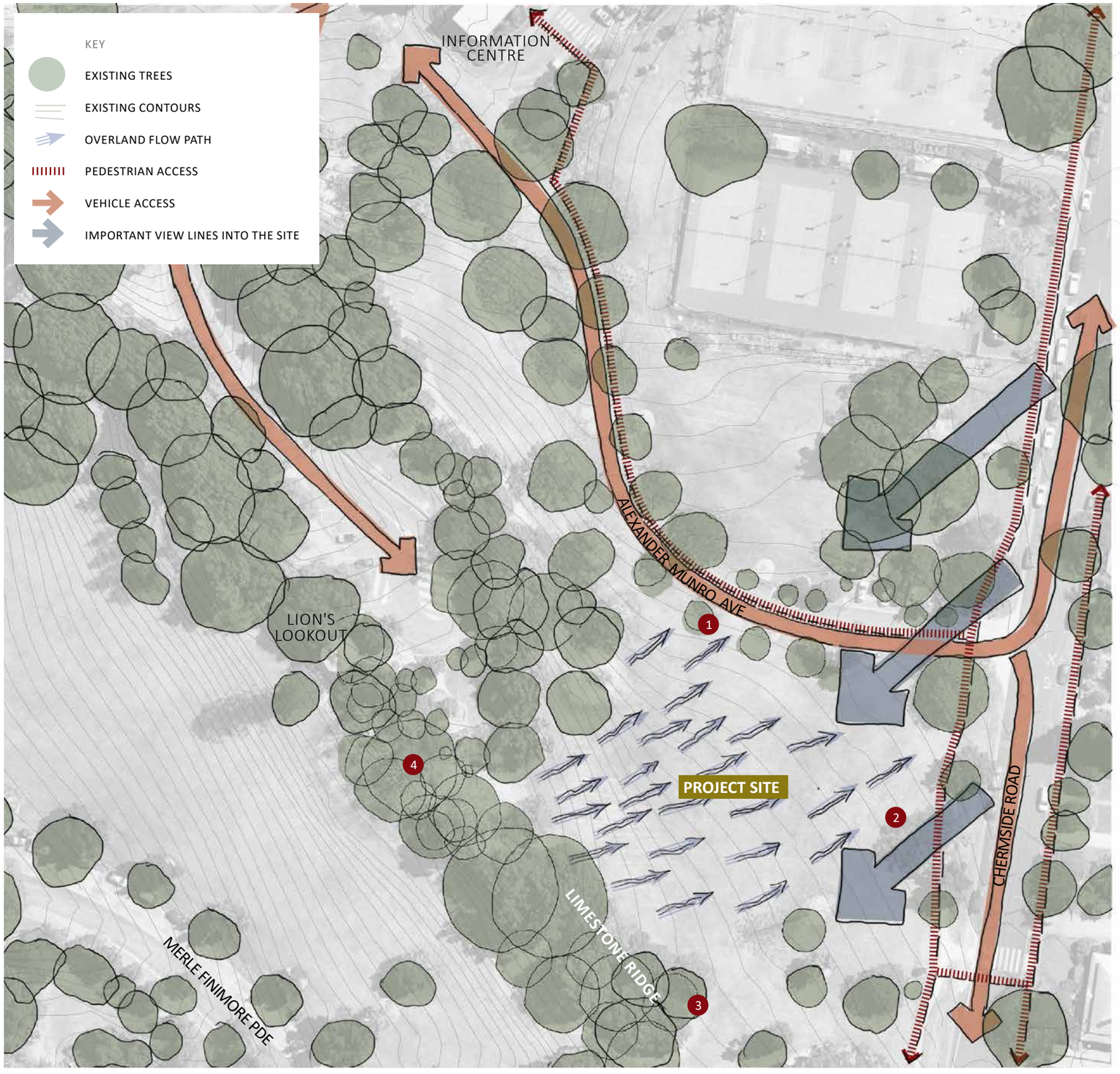
4 Limestone Ridge culturally significant materials and Queens Park limestone walls



TURNSTONE, 2011, PHOTO 13, PG 24 (QLD MUSEUM AND IHS)

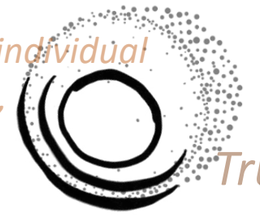


TURNSTONE, 2011, PHOTO 7, PG 15



CONTEXT | LOCATION

Community input



Place for individual reflection,

Truth telling



Traditional dreaming story of the place.

Stories that start with the Traditional Owners, the history of the site why it remains

significant place

(Bora Rings - ceremonial and for conflict resolution).

connection north to dreaming

Cultural significance of the location, Conflict resolutions settled here at the Bora. Frontier Wars through to current wars. Tribes coming together

Military training

All the wars that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People were in

why went to war



community healing

Connection to place

Connected Bora Grounds

Traditional Custodians stories and the other clans that came here for dispute resolution

Local conflicts

Traditional dreaming story of the place.

All the conflicts and wars Indigenous People were in

Stories that start with the Traditional Owners, the history of the site - why it was and remains significant (Bora Rings - ceremonial and for conflict resolution).

Place suitable for either individual reflection, community healing or cultural education possibilities.

a living place

earthy tones, natural elements, plants to make the space living and to provide shade.

Open, but also with appropriate shade for Elders.

vital that there is security protocols and cameras in place for this space.

Cultural significance of the location, from gatherings and ceremonies

All the wars that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People were in, starting from Frontier Wars!

Free, open and beautiful. A calm place.

stories as decided by the local traditional owners.... Yuggera, Jagera & Ugarapul peoples). Ensuring a nation specific approach is a sign of respect to the location's history.

The desecration of the space, would be incredibly offensive

Conflict resolutions settled here at the Bora. Frontier Wars through to current wars. Different Tribes coming together to fight invaders and invasion.

How embracing diversity improves communities.

Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Peoples connection to Queens Park and Ipswich.

World Wars

traditional understanding of the place

respectful

A place where all community can come to learn about the history of local Indigenous people; A place where community can gather; Incorporated into NAIDOC events and used for other gatherings marking days like Sorry Day, International Day of Indigenous People

Local indigenous war hero's stories - including war stories and stories of the individuals life history. Where they grew up, what lead them to join in the war etc

truth telling of the dispossession of the acquired land by the crown

why went to war for a crown that did not recognise

Truth telling

Lighting will be imperative to create feel, atmosphere and safety.

A place that school groups can use for learning and teaching

that recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (men & women) who have lost their lives in all conflicts to date

Language

What invasion looked like for the Aboriginal people of the area

local hunting route maps of the area etched into the surface of the site

welcoming

Frontier Wars - its connection to other locations (from Ipswich to Tabletop Mountain etc).

pre-european experiences and life was like for Aboriginal people in the area.

language used in the pathway silhouettes and sandstone

filled with traditional knowledge

Stories of local war hero's

Ceremonial place.



What invasion looked like for the Aboriginal people of the area

respectful

Connection to place

Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul Peoples connection to Queens Park and Ipswich.

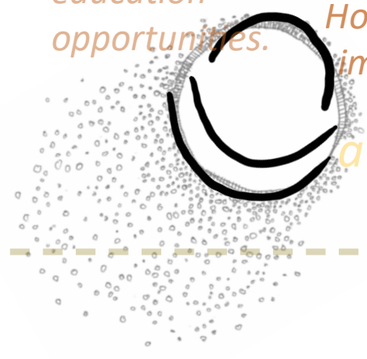
Language

NAIDOC events cultural education opportunities.

How embracing diversity improves communities.

gathering

a living place



CONTEXT | WHAT WE HEARD







> Sculptural elements

Silhouettes representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander involvement in defence, including Intra-clan Conflict Resolution, Frontier Wars, and wars fought with the Australian Defence Force.
Bird flock in flight is used in concept design to indicate camaraderie of peoples working together to survive.





> Sky gazing & picnic lawns

Lawn levels organised for an amphitheatre seating (including DDA compliant shaded seating) for performances and a variety of steep and shallow grades for relaxing and watching the clouds



> Sandstone seating & retaining with petroglyphs

Use of sandstone block will provide opportunity for petroglyphs to be designed into the space with stories, tracks and pattern selected by community







> Quiet for reflection & gathering for community

Rest spots are located at entry points, at the main circle space and just below the ridge line to take advantage of the existing deep shade.

Design includes a DDA compliment access path linking 2 x additional car parks with the space, and includes a shelter structure over seating for Elders





> Gundahn* timeline path

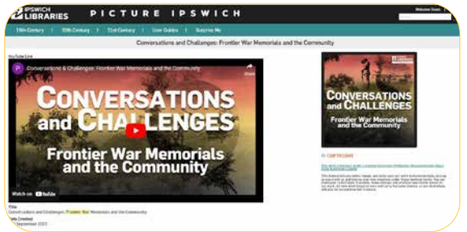
Coloured pavement with key text (confirmed during detail design)differentiates history with the place that Queens Park now covers.

WARM GRAY Intra-clan Conflict Resolution with associated Bora Ground (Defending Territories);

OCHRE Frontier Wars, with subsequent land dispossession (Defending Country); and

SANDSTONE World Wars to current conflicts, peace keeping missions and Regional Force Surveillance Units with the Australian Defence Force (Defending Australia)





> Story telling & community connections

Opportunities to install QR codes at entry points, each timeline change and rest stops to connect visitors to 'living stories' including current information on Picture Ipswich (https://www.pictureipswich.com.au/)

> Safety & lighting

Main performance and yarning circle location has been selected to allow sight-lines to and through the space for casual observation from Lions Look Out and an existing City Safe camera to Chermside Rd. Lighting design will be developed further for safe access and safe use with the space intended for use at dusk.

CONTEXT | HOW WE RESPONDED

*Artist impression. Scope may change with further budget and site investigation



*Artist impression. Scope may change with further budget and site investigation

Time scale | shifting of light



Messaging |Landscape connection



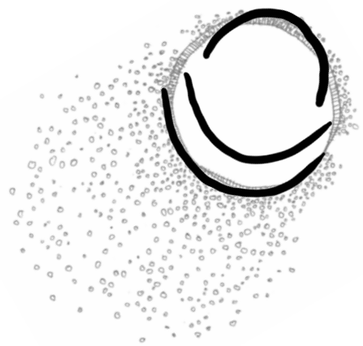
Place of gathering



Speaking to the past



Considering the future



Indicative material images



ICC significant cultural places totem poles





Positive / negative silhouette to represent service personnel past and present

> Sculptural place markers & memorial



Coloured gravel to demarcate space, CDU ACIKE Ceremonial Space





Flock of birds silhouette in sculptural screening blades



BCC Sunnybank placemaking, Journey to Oasis (2020), Lest Sligo sign, lestsligoforgets.org



> Language in path, with pavement changes



Metal text plate in ground



Embedded text in pavement



Change in pavement colour and texture to indicate shift in story

> Shelter, seating opportunities for story telling & visual interest



Sculptural shelter opportunities, Curtain University Yarning Circle





Petroglyph seating blocks, and natural sandstone boulders





Sculptural shelter opportunities, Logan Gardens Water Park and Playground



Shade in design, using interesting plants for shadow play





Sculptural lighting opportunities, BCC Nundah and Newcastle's Memorial Walk



Sculptural opportunities, BCC Nundah

MATERIALS | HARDSCAPE & FURNITURE







Araucaria cunninghamii - Sandstone block retaining, lawns and Hoop Pines



Brachychiton acerifolius



Ficus hillii



Sterculia quadrifida



Cupaniopsis parvifolia



Stenocarpus sinuatus



Xanthorrhoea glauca

∧Trees & Sculptural Plants ∨ Massing Plants & Groundcovers



Alphinia rubra



Carex buchananii



Crinum pedunculatum



Doryanthes excelsa & Doryanthes palmeri



Gahnia sieberiana



Grevillea 'Orange Marmalade'



Grass - Tif Tuf Bermuda. Image Red Fern Park



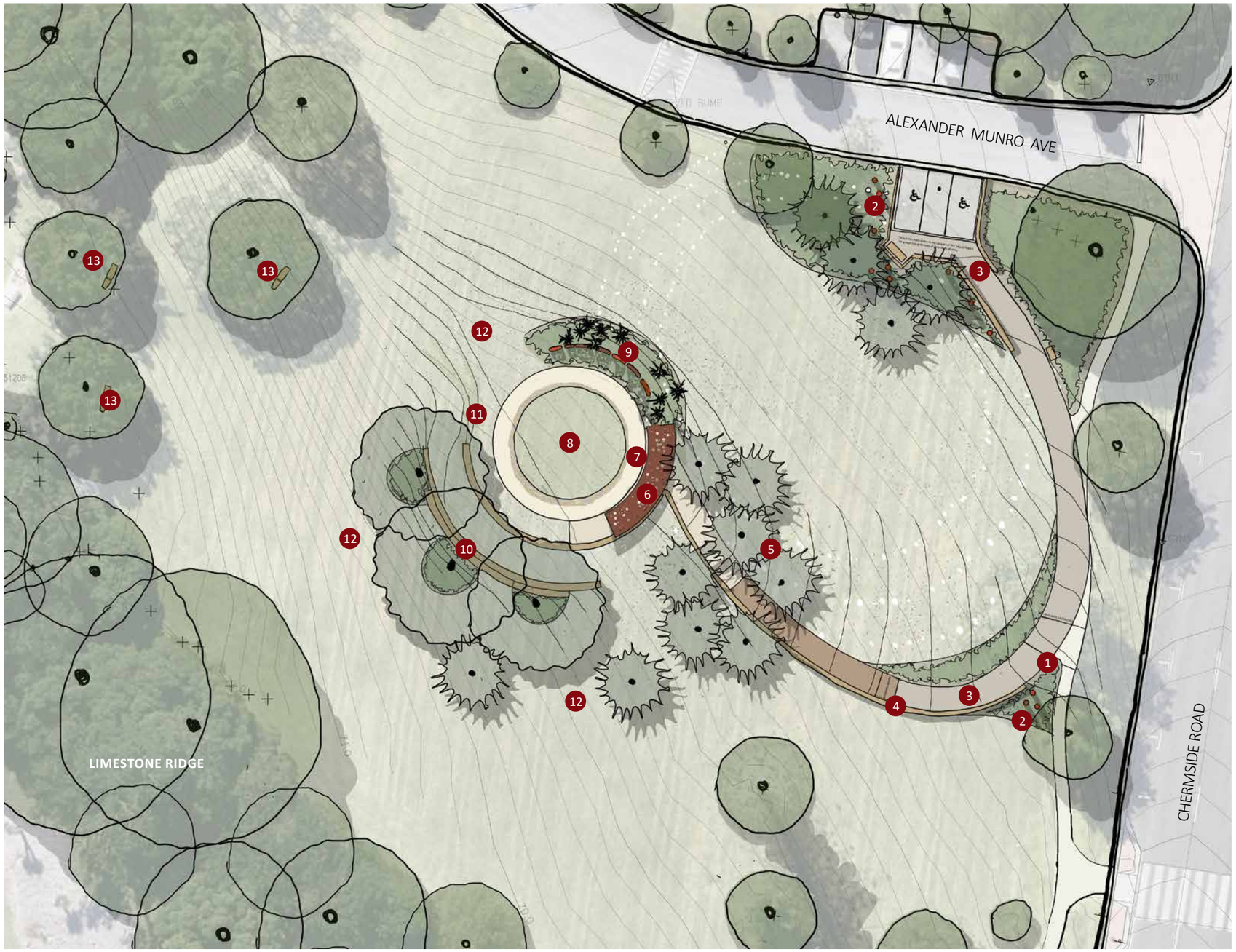


Lomandra sp.

MATERIALS | SOFTSCAPE

*Artist impression. Scope may change with further budget and site investigation

Concept Plan



1:250 | NORTH



KEY

1. Welcoming entry signs
2. Totem poles for significant cultural place, positioned at entries
3. Gundahn* path with timeline of key stages defending country
4. Low sandstone walls with petroglyphs
5. Replanting of heritage Hoop Pine to screen Chermside Rd
6. Local artwork silhouette shelter to shade elder seating
7. Stone paving 'Healing Space' central circle
8. Soft turf internal performance and yarning circle
9. Grass Tree and limestone garden, with sculpture elements
10. Amphitheatre sandstone seating with large shade trees
11. Sky gazing steep lawn facing the east
12. Picnic lawns
13. Sandstone seating under existing large trees

*Place-holder name / language until confirmed in detailed design, Gundahn (pronounced goon-darn) generic shields of the Ipswich area.

DESIGN | CONCEPT PLAN



View from Chermside Road path link



View from the culturally significant ridge-line near Lion's Lookout



Alexander Munro Ave path connection with interpretive text inserts from DDA compliant car parking to space



View of ceremonial space and amphitheatre through silhouette sculptural elements

DESIGN | ARTIST IMPRESSION

*Artist impression. Scope may change with further budget and site investigation



Plan view



Looking up from rest spot adjacent to proposed car parking



Path text inlay about Frontier Wars and current Defence Force



Welcome entry sign



View from amphitheatre seating over space, text from the Ipswich City Council Indigenous Accord 2020-2025



Yagara/Yugara language used with layers of shadow, words indicative only

DESIGN | ARTIST IMPRESSION



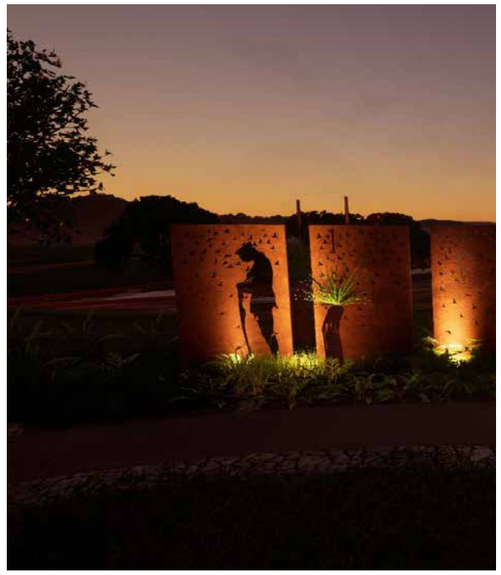
Chermside Road entry at dusk



Looking from the ridge-line near Lion's Lookout at night, safe access lighting after afternoon and evening use.



Soft illumination of surrounds with sculptural focus

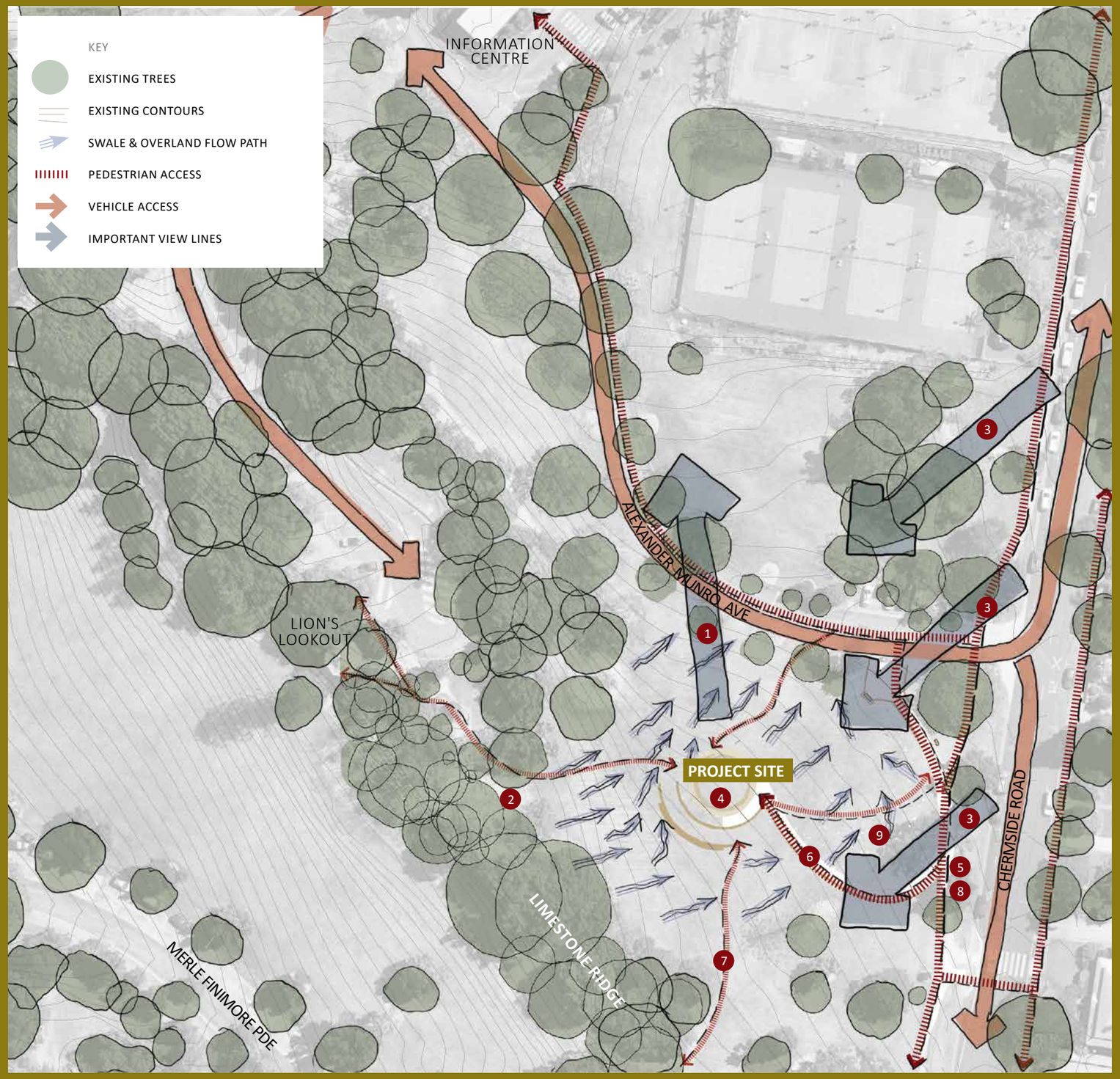




Lighting of silhouette sculptural elements to enhance art works

DESIGN | ARTIST IMPRESSION

*Artist impression. Scope may change with further budget and site investigation



1. Views North are the dominant aspect to connect with known dreaming lines.
2. Clear line of sight provided between City Safe Camera at Lion's lookout & Chermside Rd.
3. Maintains views to the significant ridge-line, and planting of endemic species in keeping with the Queens Park Conservation Management Plan aspiration for this area.
4. Memorial elements include sculpture and path time-line, information to be confirmed in detailed design.
5. Sandstone features and totem poles are used to connect with significant Aboriginal cultural places in the ICC area.
6. Single DDA complaint path access links Alexander Munro Ave, Chermside Rd to the central memorial space.
7. Various access points are available to all abilities to access the site over lawn from the Lions lookout car-park, Queens Park Information Centre and Lovers Walk (ridge-line).
8. Water fountain and bin facilities will be investigated during detailed design.
9. Lighting standards to meet Ipswich Park requirements for safety and access. This space has been developed for use in the evenings.

DESIGN | SITE ADJUSTMENTS

1 Views North to the South D'Aguilar National Park.





2 Looking North-East through deep canopy near Lion's lookout.





3 Significant view to ridge-line enhanced.





DESIGN | EXISTING & PROPOSED

*Artist impression. Scope may change with further budget and site investigation