



Hawkesbury City Council

Attachment 4 to item 030

Draft Heritage Interpretation Plan for the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project

date of meeting: 25 February 2020

location: council chambers

time: to commence at the

conclusion of the

extraordinary meeting on

25 February 2020,

which commences at 6:30pm



Windsor Bridge Replacement Project



wolfpeak | environment
heritage



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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Thompson Square Heritage
Interpretation Plan Stage 2

Current Issue: December 2019

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*Image: The box drainage system uncovered during
the salvage excavations in 2018-2019.*

Image supplied by RMS.





Image: 7 Thompson Square, 'Howe House'.

Image by The Archivist.

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WELCOME TO DARUG LAND

Dyarubbin - Hawkesbury River

DARUG PEOPLE

The Darug people are the traditional custodians of the land on which Thompson Square stands. It has been shown, through the archaeological record, that Darug people have lived in and around Windsor for over 33,000 years - they still do.

In the words of Leanne Watson and Erin Wilkins, of the Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation, is the following statement;

“

Darug land extends from the Blue Mountains in the west, the Hawkesbury River in the north, Appin in the south, and to the sea in the east.

Like all Aboriginal people, the Darug do not claim ownership of the land but that we belong to the land. Our spiritual connection to the land is our commitment to respect and look after it.

Darug people have been pushed off our land since colonisation.

The land is our people, our people are the land. We welcome you. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of

country and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to our Elders past, present and emerging.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Offered by Aunty Edna Watson, a Darug Elder who has worked in the community for many years. This is her welcome.

“

TIATI MURRA DARUGA PEMEL KOI
MURRA YA PEMEL NGALARINGI
BUBBUNA BAN NYE YEMNA WURRA
NANG NYE DICE GAI DYI YA NANGAMI
DYARRALANG DARUGA NGALARINGI
TIATI NGALARINGI NANGAMI GAI GU
YA WILLY ANGARA GU-NU-GAL DA
GU-NU-GAL DA LA-LOEY MOOGOO
COT-BALLIE NANGAMI DICE LA-
LOEY GNIA TARIMI GU-NU-GAL TIATI
NGALARINGI YA DARUGA EORAH
MITTIGAR GURRUNG BURRUK GNEENE
DA DARUGA PEMEL DIDGEREE GORE

“

This is Darug lands. It is the land of our ancestors. Their spirits still walk among

us. Spirits that have been here since the dreaming . Darug language has been passed down from generation to generation. To continue an unbroken culture that has extended for thousands of years. In the language of the Darug people we welcome you to Darug lands.

Thank you.



Image: Dyarubbin, 2019,
Leanne "Mulgo" Watson.

WELCOME TO THOMPSON SQUARE

PART OF THE THOMPSON SQUARE CONSERVATION AREA

SIGNIFICANT HERITAGE

Since the first settlement of high ground in The Green Hills in the late eighteenth century, through to its formalisation by Governor Macquarie, Thompson Square has remained a prominent heritage landscape in Windsor. The Georgian style Square represents not only its colonial beginnings and evolution but also reminds visitors of Australia's ties to the Commonwealth. Today it is part of the Thompson Square Conservation Area (TSCA).

“

The very names of Windsor and Richmond reveal to us the home sickness and love of England which prompted the settlers in a new country, so different from the land of their birth, to try to create another England...

Manilla Express, 6 June 1924¹

The Square, has served a variety of uses since its inception, including recreational, community, commercial, military, and administrative. It remains a highly significant heritage precinct. The built heritage of the place is still visible, the colonial cultural values and history of the area are well documented, and its associations and links over time to transportation, infrastructure

and government facilities have all been a part of the site's changing face.

MACQUARIE'S INFLUENCE

Windsor is a Macquarie town. It is irrevocably integrated into the history of our shared Australia and the story of more than two centuries since first contact.

Thompson Square holds specific significance to the story of emancipated convict and magistrate Andrew Thompson. Celebrated by Governor Macquarie as a friend and hero upon his death, as can be seen in the long epitaph on his grave marker at Windsor's St Matthew's Church, Thompson played a significant role in the development of farming, commerce and shipbuilding in the area. The site was named 'Thompson Square' by Macquarie in 1811.

“

Government House, the old hospital, and the stockaded prison have been demolished, but the other buildings remain to make Windsor a museum of Australian origins, and the nearest approach to antiquity in architecture this continent possesses.

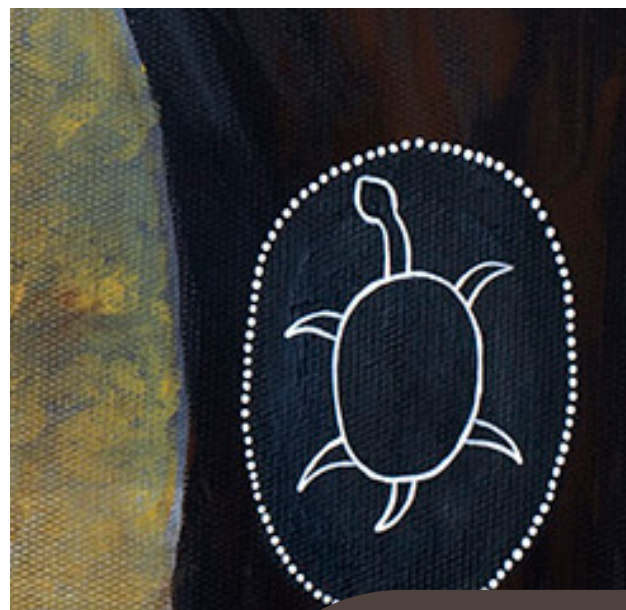
Manilla Express, 6 June 1924²

Today, Thompson Square stands as a resilient reminder of the colonial settlement of Australia, of its ties to England and English ideals, and forms part of the heritage network that is our shared culture and legacy.



Image: Thompson Square, 2019. Source: Author

INTERPRETATION COLOUR PALETTE INSPIRATION



Dark Grey



Dark Brown



Taupe



Ochre

01 THE PROJECT

Executive Summary

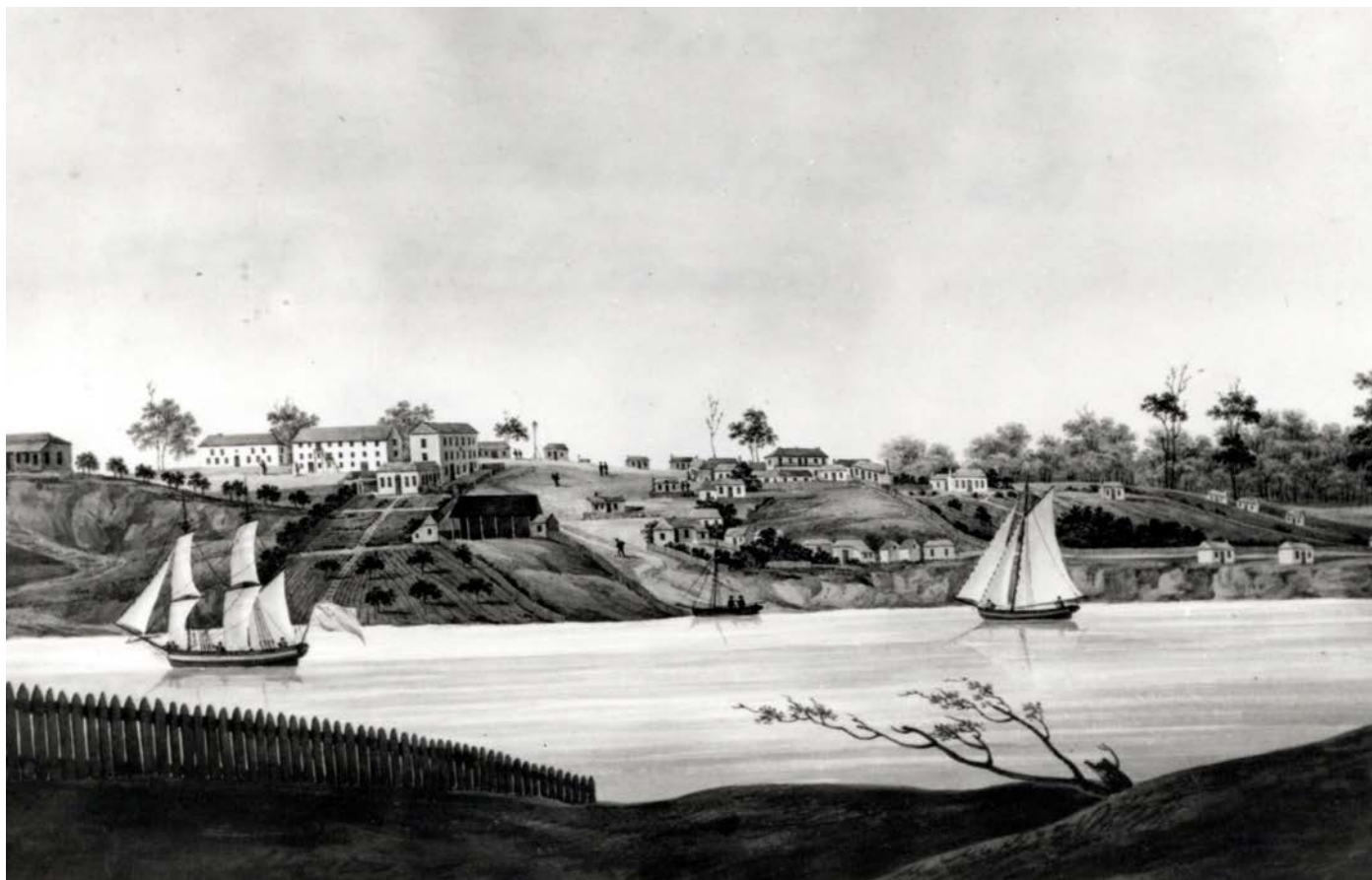


Image: The Settlement of Green Hills, 1809, George Evans.⁴

“

In the year 1794 Lieut. Governor Major Grose placed the first 22 settlers along the banks of the Hawkesbury River and South Creek...

Rev. Jas Steele, 1914³

The “settlers” referred to by Rev. Steele in 1914 were the European colonists who continued an uninvited expansion into the lands of Australia. As had happened repeatedly across the British Empire for centuries, the settlement of lands in the name of the monarchy was considered a right. However, the collateral impacts of this colonial takeover would not be understood for generations to come.

The first official ‘settlement’ of the area was also the start of the displacement of local Aboriginal people who had lived in the region, along the river’s banks, and throughout the surrounding lands for thousands of years.

The storylines that remain - both Indigenous and Colonial - when combined with written and archaeological evidence, are rich in both the variety and diversity that they represent. They are inspirational yet traumatic, full of achievement yet show failure, are dramatic, colourful and exciting - but in some cases for

the wrong reasons. Heritage interpretation helps to unravel these stories and to weave them into a narrative that is truthful, honest and inclusive as their foundation.

Today the site of Thompson Square, in the historic township of Windsor, remains one of the oldest public squares in Australia. The area, including buildings, streetscapes, and green spaces is recognised and included on the NSW State Heritage Register, as well as in Schedule 5 of the Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan 2012. The heritage significance of the area is not debated. The documentation and recognition of all the various heritage lines of the area is still an emerging front, but one that, throughout this interpretive project, will be inclusive, positive and shared.

The primary role of heritage interpretation in this instance is to undertake and implement effective methods for the storylines to be collected and retold. It will help deliver social, cultural and environmental benefits for the community and provide engaging visitor experiences. This Plan is based on ‘best practice’ principles to form the framework. It includes recommendations and designs for physical devices, digital and online formats, content, and various design elements to create a holistic and engaging approach to the interpretation throughout the project area.

Acknowledgements & Authorship

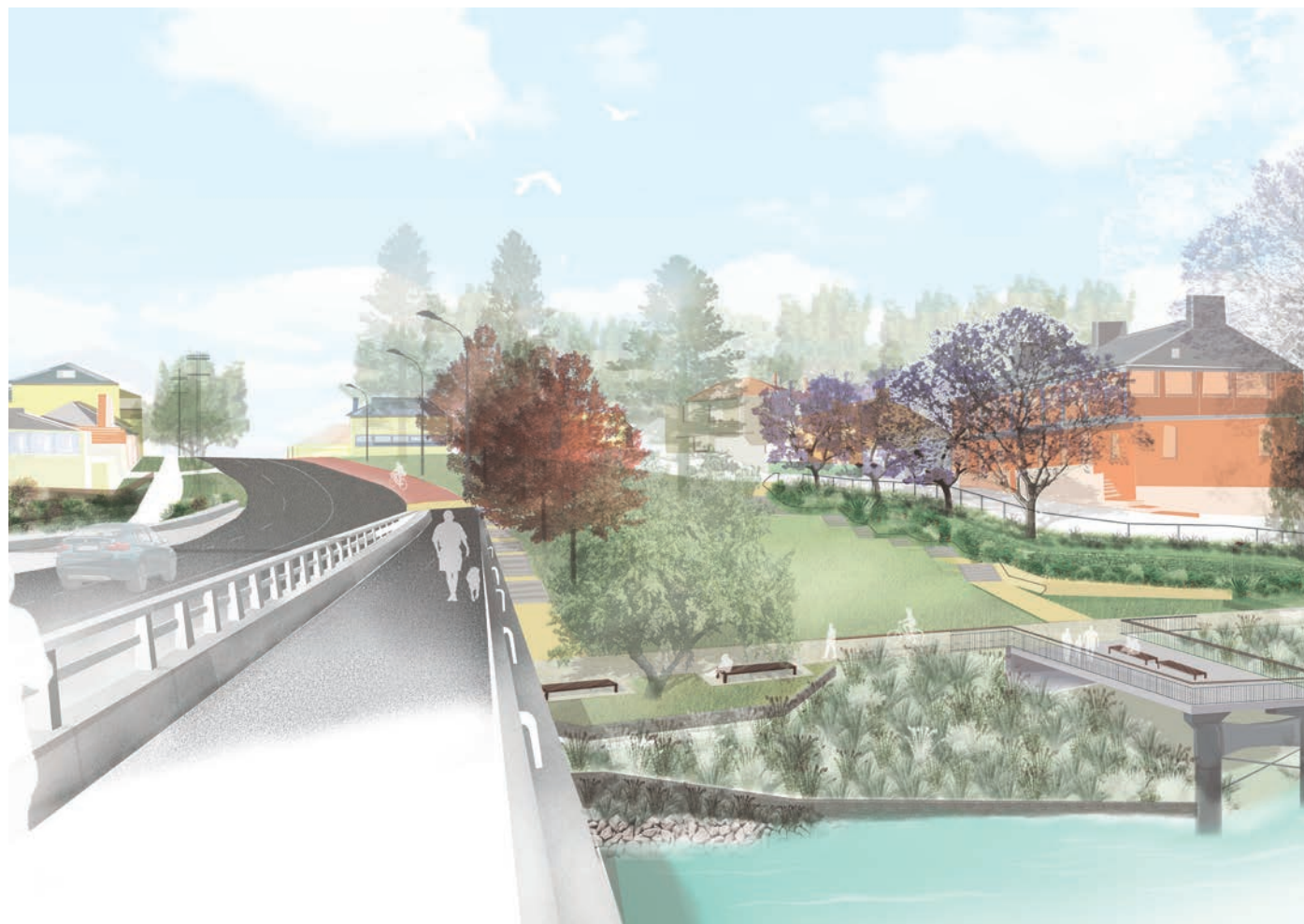


Image: Artists Impression of the transformed Thompson Square.

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Miller Metal Imaging

Brandi Projects

Leanne Mulgo Watson

Jane Bennett

AUTHORSHIP

Authors

Kylie Christian
Gavin Patton

Research Assistants

Natalie Abedi
Brittany Christian

Community Consultation Program

Dr Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy

Oral History Program

Sue Rosen PhD

Urban Design & Signage Concepts

Spackman Michael Mossop

Background & Objectives

HERITAGE INTERPRETATION PLAN STAGE 2

In May 2018, the Department of Planning & Environment (now Department of Planning, Infrastructure & Environment (DPIE)) conditionally approved the Thompson Square Conservation Area Interpretation Plan (Stage 1). The completion of archaeological salvage excavations was required to inform the completion of the Stage 2 Plan.

This plan, the Heritage Interpretation Plan Stage 2 (HIP) supersedes the Stage 1 plan and has been commissioned by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) (formerly Roads and Maritime Services (RMS)). It is to satisfy the requirements of Condition B1 (paragraph 3) of the Infrastructure Approval SSI-4951, dated 20 December 2013, which states:



The Applicant shall prepare and submit a detailed Interpretation Plan prior to the commencement of pre-construction and construction activities for the Thompson Square Conservation Area including individually listed sites, non-Aboriginal archaeology and Aboriginal archaeology for the approval of the Director-General. The detailed Interpretation Plan must



be prepared in consultation with the OEH and include specific media design, content, location and materials, prepared in accordance with the Guidelines of the NSW Heritage Council.⁵

The following reports have been referenced during the preparation of this HIP:

- Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Salvage Excavation Report - Aboriginal Heritage, AAJV, 30 August 2019.
- Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Salvage Excavation Report - Area 1 - Historical Archaeology, AAJV, 9 September 2019.
- Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Salvage Excavation Report - Maritime Archaeology (DRAFT), Cosmos Archaeology, 2019.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The existing Hawkesbury River Bridge, known as Windsor Bridge, was opened in 1874 and is the oldest existing crossing of the Hawkesbury River. Windsor Bridge has been assessed as having reached the end of its economic life. It no longer meets the demands of current traffic volumes or current road standards and requires significant ongoing maintenance.

The NSW Government committed funds for the replacement of the existing bridge with a new bridge that will provide a safe and reliable crossing of the Hawkesbury River at Windsor.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To undertake consultation with the relevant stakeholders regarding the interpretation for Thompson Square.
- Building on the community consultation, provide a well conceived, designed and implemented interpretation program for the project. This will enhance the visitor experience and the community's interaction with the site.
- To ensure that the heritage interpretation represents 'best-practice' standards and ensures social and cultural benefits are maximised through high-quality narratives and an inclusive approach.
- To provide an innovative and diverse approach to interpretation. This includes using a variety of methods and ways of interpreting the history and significance of the site.
- To meet the Condition of Consent - B1, Paragraph 3, for the Windsor Bridge Replacement Program outlined above.

Background & Objectives Cont.

The following policies are those directly associated with the interpretation of the place and the objectives of this HIP.

THOMPSON SQUARE WINDSOR NSW STRATEGIC CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN⁶ INTERPRETATION POLICIES

Policy 71.
Interpretation programs should be accessible to the public.

Policy 72.
Interpretation programs should encourage an appreciation of the significance of the site and long-term conservation for present and future generations.

Policy 73.
Adopt the Thompson Square Interpretation Strategy (AAJV 2016) as the key guiding document for heritage interpretation in the area.

Policy 74.
Future interpretation should include elements from all aspects of the area's history, and should not shy away from telling the stories of conflict.

Policy 75.
Ensure stakeholder groups are involved in

the development of detailed interpretation proposals.

Policy 76.
Ensure future interpretive works are robust, well-designed and do not conflict with other uses of the precinct.

Policy 77.
Interpretation works should be regularly maintained for wear and tear, graffiti and other impacts over time.

Policy 78.
Interpretation works should be planned with the aim of refreshing every 5-10 years. It is not necessary to interpret all aspects of the site's history at every opportunity.

THOMPSON SQUARE CONSERVATION AREA WINDSOR, NSW CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN⁷ INTERPRETATION POLICIES

Policy 37.
Opportunities should be sought by council to establishing and developing a dedicated archive relating to the Thompson Square Conservation Area and its individual components, to be held at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum and

made available to the public and professionals for research and educational purposes.

Policy 38.
All artefacts collected and retained from within the TSCA should be held in an Archaeological Repository at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum. The museum should have suitable space for cataloguing, analysis and storage of these archaeological remains.

Policy 45.
Interpretation information should include all the aspects of the place included in the Statement of Significance.

Policy 46.
The Thompson Square Conservation Area should be interpreted as:

- A very rare public square that is surviving evidence of the government reserve at Green Hills established in 1794/95 as part of the third British settlement on the mainland of Australia.
- As one of a group of surviving public squares in NSW and Tasmania, established by Governor Macquarie as part of his extensive town planning endeavours.

- A notable 19th century townscape containing individual buildings of exceptional significance.
- A place associated with a number of individuals of importance to the history of NSW and Australia and including Andrew Thompson, for whom the place was named.
- A place containing Aboriginal and historic archaeology of State significance capable of providing further information about the pre-1788 period and the British settlement era.

Policy 47.
The place should be interpreted utilising a combination of:

- Restoration and reconstruction works to the spaces, components and fabric of the place including original/early commercial signage;
- Holding memorial/commemorative events related to the history of the place (for example the commemoration of the 1867 flood event);
- Continued use of the public domain as a public gathering space;
- Books, films, websites, art exhibitions and the like;

Background & Objectives Cont.

- Dedicated exhibitions in the Hawkesbury Regional Museum which itself forms part of the TSCA;
- School excursions and organised tours addressing topics such as Aboriginal cultural values, historic archaeology, the history of the place and the architecture of the place; and
- minimal introduced interpretative devices including signage, memorials or public art works and the like.

Policy 48.

Interpretation should utilise all aspects of the place (the buildings, the landscape and site features, the configuration, the archaeology and the setting) without undue focus on one component, period or group of people.

Policy 49.

Interpretation should present the place holistically, connecting the public reserves with the buildings, the roads and streets, the archaeology, the landscape and the setting of the place.

Policy 52.

Interpretation should be sensitive to audience needs and cater to the widest possible range of visitors.

Policy 53.

Aboriginal peoples' cultural values associated with the TSCA should be incorporated into any interpretation strategy or plan developed for the place, recognising that Aboriginal people are the rightful interpreters of their cultural heritage. Any proposed interpretation of Aboriginal peoples' cultural heritage at TSCA should involve relevant stakeholder consultation.

Associated Places

Policy 54.

Interpretation strategies should include other places not located within the boundaries of the TSCA that have historic associations with the place, including:

- The Windsor Bridge, the Hawkesbury River, South Creek and Old Windsor Road;
- The Windsor (Green Hills) Government Domain Precinct;
- The five Macquarie Towns: Richmond, Windsor, Pitt Town, Castlereagh and Wilberforce;
- Other Macquarie designed town squares such as Macquarie Place, Bigge's Park, Richmond Park, Wilberforce Park and those located in Tasmania; and

- The grave site of Andrew Thompson at St. Matthew's Church cemetery, Windsor.

Elements of Outstanding Significance to be Emphasised

Policy 55.

The interpretation of the place should emphasise the following outstanding matters:

- Aboriginal Archaeology: The archaeological potential of the two principal Aboriginal archaeological landscapes with soil and sand profiles that contain Aboriginal objects; the ridgeline and remnants of a source-bordering dune and any archaeological objects contained within.
- Historic Archaeology potential: The archaeological resources including:
- c1814/15 barrel drain (and attached box drain) located within the public reserve lands.
- unrecorded archaeological features and deposits and subfloor deposits in 19th century extant buildings including the Macquarie Arms Hotel, No. 7 Thompson Square, No. 5 Thompson Square, Nos. 1-3 Thompson Square, No. 62 George Street, the Hawkesbury Stores, Nos. 64-68 George

Street, No. 82 George Street, No. 19 Bridge Street, No. 10 Bridge Street, the former School of Arts building, No. 14 Bridge Street, No. 6 Old Bridge Street, No. 4 Old Bridge Street.

Configuration:

- Surviving evidence of Macquarie era and pre-Macquarie era subdivision patterns.
- The visual and spatial relationship between Thompson Square and the Hawkesbury River.
- The visual and spatial relationships between the historic buildings defining the public square.
- The skewed alignment of the southern end of George Street at the intersection of Bridge Street.

Public Reserves:

- The name of the place as Thompson Square.
- The configuration of the public reserves forming a shared, open gathering or recreational space defined by historic buildings on three sides and leading down to the Hawkesbury River.

Background & Objectives Cont.

Streets and Roads:

- The name of George Street.
- The alignment of George Street along the ridgeline
- The alignment of Old Bridge Street, The Terrace and the street known as Thompson Square (evidence of early tracks and access roadways to the river frontage).
- The alignment of Baker Street as evidence of “Baker’s Line” established in 1795.

Site Features:

- The 1819 wall defining the western boundary of Thompson Square (the eastern boundary wall to the Macquarie Arms Hotel).
- The c1816 sandstock brick wall located within the garden of No. 4 Old Bridge Street defining the boundary of Andrew Thompson’s 1 acre lease of land.

Landscape Features:

- The topography of the place.

- The undeveloped river bank lands.

Buildings:

- All buildings identified as being of Exceptional and High significance.
- The restoration/reconstruction works undertaken in the late 1980s by Fisher Lucas Architects
- The Setting: Available views of the Hawkesbury River and the agricultural lands to the north and south.

Background & Objectives Cont.

Interpretation Matrix

| Condition | Relating | Policy | Response | Interpretation Response |
|----------------|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| B1(3) | HIP | The Applicant shall prepare and submit a detailed Interpretation Plan prior to the commencement of pre-construction and construction activities for the Thompson Square Conservation Area including individually listed sites, non-Aboriginal archaeology and Aboriginal archaeology for the approval of the Director-General. The detailed Interpretation Plan must be prepared in consultation with the OEH and include specific media design, content, location and materials, prepared in accordance with the Guidelines of the NSW Heritage Council. | This HIP meets the requirements of B1(3). It contains: Specific Media Design, Content, Location, Materials, Prepared in accordance with Guidelines . | Whole Document |
| B3 (c) | Archaeological Report | Where impacts cannot be avoided by construction of the SSI, recommend actions to salvage and interpret salvaged sites, conduct further research and archival recording of the historic heritage and Aboriginal heritage value of each site, and to enhance and preserve the archaeology of historical non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal heritage significance. | Salvage of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal sites undertaken. Artefacts recorded and included in Museum display plan and on website. | Signage Website Museum Display |
| B4 (c) | Archaeological Investigation | Where impacts cannot be avoided by construction of the SSI, recommend actions to salvage and interpret salvaged sites, conduct further research and archival recording of the Aboriginal heritage value of each site, and to enhance and preserve the Aboriginal heritage significance. | Salvage of Aboriginal sites completed. Sites recorded and artefacts included in Museum display plan and on website in consultation with local Aboriginal representatives. | Signage Website Museum Display |
| SCMP Policy 71 | Interpretation Accessibility | Interpretation programs should be accessible to the public. | Signage, viewing platform, abutment, flood information, website and museum display provide adequate public accessibility to programs. | QR Codes on Accessible Signage Website Museum Display |
| SCMP Policy 72 | Interpretation Objectives | Interpretation programs should encourage an appreciation of the significance of the site and long-term conservation for present and future generations. | The design of the interpretation response for the place provides engagement, education and opportunities for future interpretation of other sites and areas. | Signage Website Museum |

Background & Objectives Cont.

| Condition | Relating | Policy | Response | Interpretation Response |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| SCMP Policy 73 | Interpretation Strategy | Adopt the Thompson Square Interpretation Strategy (AAJV 2016) as the key guiding document for heritage interpretation in the area. | The Thompson Square Interpretation Strategy (TSIS) was used in the development of this HIP. Due to the archaeological program extending past the production of the TSIS this document supersedes all previous interpretation documents. | Whole Document |
| SCMP Policy 74 | Future Interpretation | Future interpretation should include elements from all aspects of the area's history and should not shy away from telling the stories of conflict. | The basis of this HIP has been inclusive history and will inform future interpretation opportunities. | Whole Document |
| SCMP Policy 75 | Stakeholder Groups | Ensure stakeholder groups are involved in the development of detailed interpretation proposals. | Extensive community and stakeholder consultation has been conducted and the results have directly informed the development of this HIP. | Section 1 - Consultation |
| SCMP Policy 76 | Future interpretation | Ensure future interpretive works are robust, well-designed and do not conflict with other uses of the precinct. | The design of signage used in this HIP will inform future installations. | Section 5 - Concept Designs |
| SCMP Policy 77 | Interpretation Maintenance | Interpretation works should be regularly maintained for wear and tear, graffiti and other impacts over time. | Maintenance will be the responsibility of others and does not form part of the scope for this project. | N/A |
| SCMP Policy 78 | Refresh Interpretation | Interpretation works should be planned with the aim of refreshing every 5-10 years. It is not necessary to interpret all aspects of the site's history at every opportunity. | Refresh of interpretation will be the responsibility of others and does not form part of the scope for this project. | N/A |
| CMP Policy 37 | Archive | Opportunities should be sought by council to establishing and developing a dedicated archive relating to the Thompson Square Conservation Area and its individual components, to be held at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum and made available to the public and professionals for research and educational purposes. | An archive has been included as part of the online media response to this project. The online website will have a collection of information pertaining to the Thompson Square Conservation Area and will be at the disposal of Council. | Website |

Background & Objectives Cont.

| Condition | Relating | Policy | Response | Interpretation Response |
|---------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| CMP Policy 38 | Artefacts | All artefacts collected and retained from within the TSCA should be held in an Archaeological Repository at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum. The museum should have suitable space for cataloguing, analysis and storage of these archaeological remains. | The museum staff and Hawkesbury City Council are currently working to provide a safe, secure and active repository for the artefacts retained as part of this project. A museum display is to be developed that will provide a permanent/semi permanent focused TSCA display for the museum. | Museum Display |
| CMP Policy 45 | Statement of Significance | Interpretation information should include all the aspects of the place included in the Statement of Significance. | A full timeline with additional focused information, such as the Statement of Significance will be included on the viewing platform to ensure a thorough and comprehensive historical narrative is provided. | Viewing Platform Website |
| CMP Policy 46 | Interpretation Content | <p>The Thompson Square Conservation Area should be interpreted as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A very rare public square that is surviving evidence of the government reserve at Green Hills established in 1794/95 as part of the third British settlement on the mainland of Australia. As one of a group of surviving public squares in NSW and Tasmania, established by Governor Macquarie as part of his extensive town planning endeavours. A notable 19th century townscape containing individual buildings of exceptional significance. A place associated with a number of individuals of importance to the history of NSW and Australia and including Andrew Thompson, for whom the place was named. A place containing Aboriginal and historic archaeology of State significance capable of providing further information about the pre-1788 period and the British settlement era. | The HIP includes details and content of all aspects as listed in the CMP policy, across a variety of platforms and media. | <p>Signage</p> <p>Website</p> <p>Viewing Platform</p> <p>Publications</p> <p>Museum Display</p> |

Background & Objectives Cont.

| Condition | Relating | Policy | Response | Interpretation Response |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| CMP Policy 47 | Interpretation Opportunities | <p>The place should be interpreted utilising a combination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration and reconstruction works to the spaces, components and fabric of the place including original/early commercial signage; • Holding memorial/commemorative events related to the history of the place (for example the commemoration of the 1867 flood event); • Continued use of the public domain as a public gathering space; • Books, films, websites, art exhibitions and the like; • Dedicated exhibitions in the Hawkesbury Regional Museum which itself forms part of the TSCA; • School excursions and organised tours addressing topics such as Aboriginal cultural values, historic archaeology, the history of the place and the architecture of the place; and • minimal introduced interpretative devices including signage, memorials or public art works and the like. | Elements within the scope of this HIP have been included. Areas that are for future use and management are outside of the scope of works for this project. | Signage Website Museum Display |
| CMP Policy 48 | Interpretation | Interpretation should utilise all aspects of the place (the buildings, the landscape and site features, the configuration, the archaeology and the setting) without undue focus on one component, period or group of people. | This HIP has been produced using an inclusive approach to information and historical documentation. The information has been presented in a balanced and meaningful way throughout the place. | Signage Website Museum Display Viewing Platform Publications |
| CMP Policy 49 | Interpretation Approach | Interpretation should present the place holistically, connecting the public reserves with the buildings, the roads and streets, the archaeology, the landscape and the setting of the place. | The design of the interpretation within the space and site generally provides interconnectivity with all aspects of setting, archaeology, history, built fabric and the public reserves. | Signage Website Museum Display Viewing Platform Publications |
| CMP Policy 52 | Audience | Interpretation should be sensitive to audience needs and cater to the widest possible range of visitors. | The content has been developed in consultation with community groups and historians to ensure appropriate inclusions. | Signage Website Museum Display |

Background & Objectives Cont.

| Condition | Relating | Policy | Response | Interpretation Response |
|---------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| CMP Policy 53 | Interpretation | Aboriginal peoples' cultural values associated with the TSCA should be incorporated into any interpretation strategy or plan developed for the place, recognising that Aboriginal people are the rightful interpreters of their cultural heritage. Any proposed interpretation of Aboriginal peoples' cultural heritage at TSCA should involve relevant stakeholder consultation. | Extensive and detailed consultation has occurred with local Aboriginal groups who wished to be part of the process. Information, cultural values and a variety of imagery has been developed specifically for the project. | Signage Website Museum Display Viewing Platform |
| CMP Policy 54 | Associated Places | Interpretation strategies should include other places not located within the boundaries of the TSCA that have historic associations with the place, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Windsor Bridge, the Hawkesbury River, South Creek and Old Windsor Road; • The Windsor (Green Hills) Government Domain Precinct; • The five Macquarie Towns: Richmond, Windsor, Pitt Town, Castlereagh and Wilberforce; • Other Macquarie designed town squares such as Macquarie Place, Bigge's Park, Richmond Park, Wilberforce Park and those located in Tasmania; and • The grave site of Andrew Thompson at St. Matthew's Church cemetery, Windsor. | This policy is outside the scope of this HIP. | N/A |

Background & Objectives Cont.

| Condition | Relating | Policy | Response | Interpretation Response |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| CMP Policy 55 | Elements of outstanding significance to be emphasised | <p>The interpretation of the place should emphasis the following outstanding matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Archaeology • Historic Archaeology potential • c1814/15 barrel drain (and attached box drain) • unrecorded archaeological features and deposits and subfloor deposits in 19th century extant buildings including the Macquarie Arms Hotel, No. 7 Thompson Square, No. 5 Thompson Square, Nos. 1-3 Thompson Square, No. 62 George Street, the Hawkesbury Stores, Nos. 64-68 George Street, No. 82 George Street, No. 19 Bridge Street, No. 10 Bridge Street, the former School of Arts building, No. 14 Bridge Street, No. 6 Old Bridge Street, No. 4 Old Bridge Street. • Configuration • Streets and Roads • Site Features • Buildings | Where possible all items listed in this policy have been included in the content. | <p>Signage</p> <p>Website</p> <p>Viewing Platform</p> <p>Museum Display</p> |

Consultation

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

This Heritage Interpretation Plan has been informed through extensive community and other stakeholder consultation. The table following shows the range and type of consultation undertaken during the first segment of the Heritage Interpretation Plan project. The concepts, themes and narratives that complement the story of heritage significance, and the interpretation policies which have practical application, have been woven within the interpretation strategies.

The following concepts evolved during consultation. These have all contributed to the final interpretation outcomes.

Narrative

Darug People:

- Local Aboriginal history prior to arrival of Europeans.
- Creation story and river.

Cross-cultural stories and themes:

- Narratives of all
- As continuous and relative
- Inclusive agricultural story
- Timeline of 'The Place'

Colony of Green Hills (Windsor):

- Story of Windsor and Thompson Square post European arrival.

Website

History and Language:

- Providing a space for telling the stories of our past (accurately) through to the present day
- Both Aboriginal and Colonial histories told as continuum of time
- Ideas of change and continuity
- Oral histories
- Historic images

Signage

Where:

- Minimal signage, less clutter.
- Bring buildings into the space
- Information signage at railway station.
- Old Pleasure Grounds (north side of river)

Subject matter:

- Research target audience

- Tell inclusive history
- Incorporation of Darug art, stories and events
- The bridge
- Nepean River / Hawkesbury River
- Historical views and structures which have altered.

Visual design and materiality:

- Include Darug language/dual language signage
- Use of Boorooberongal totems/significant animals
- Broad design, materials and style should match future heritage/place signage across the Hawkesbury area.

Respect, Inclusivity and Ethics:

- Use careful language
- Not one truth but many perspectives
- Be inclusive
- Accessibility

Artefacts

Where:

- Keep locally

- Aboriginal artefacts
- Colonial artefacts
- Museum
- Assistance for museum.

How:

- Display insitu where possible
- 3D modelling for education purposes
- Online catalogue
- Thematic displays

Larger artefacts:

- Representational span of bridge
- Boat
- Box Drain
- Barrel Drain
- Sandstone curbing

Abutment

- Visual Presence
- Façade Treatment

Consultation Cont.

CONSULTATION RECORD

| Date | Format | Audience | Participants |
|---------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| 30 April 2019 | Workshop | Community | Graham Edds, Hawkesbury City Council Heritage Advisory Committee; Danielle Wheeler, Hawkesbury City Council Heritage Advisory Committee; D. Black, Defenders of Thompson square; Jack Dand, 'Heritage Act'; Jenny Lloyd 'Heritage Act'; R. Ian Jack; Jan Barkley-Jack, Keri Whitely, Manager Cultural Services, Hawkesbury Shire Council; Helen Mackay, Hawkesbury Shire Council; Leanne Watson, Darug; Denis Gojak, RMS; Bobbi Brodie, RMS; Karina Rubenis, RMS; Graham Standen RMS; Mick Greentree; Elaine White; Wendy De Paoli; Dominic Wilkins; Erin Wilkins, Darug Education (also conducted Welcome to Country); Jacqui McLeod, Planning NSW; Sarah McRae; Barry Corr; Kate Mackaness. |
| 14 May 2019 | Roundtable | State Member for Hawkesbury | Robyn Preston MP; Kylie Christian, WolfPeak; Graham Standen, RMS |
| 16 May 2019 | Roundtable | Museum Representatives | Katherine von Witt, Museum and Gallery Manager, Hawkesbury City Council; Rebecca Turnbull, Museum Curator, Hawkesbury City Council; Keri Whitely, Manager Cultural Services, Hawkesbury City Council; Kylie Christian WolfPeak; Graham Standen, Roads and Maritime Services |
| 23 May 2019 | Workshop | Hawkesbury City Council Heritage Advisory Committee | Graham Edds, Michelle Nichols, Helen Mackay, Otto Cserhalmi, Ian Jack, Venecia Wilson, Peter Reynolds, Abigail Ball, Michael Edwards, Dannielle Wheeler, Deborah Hallam, Craig Johnson, Steve Rowling, Judy Newlaurd, Nathan Zamprogno, Sunehla Bala, Andrew Kearns, John Ross (HCC Councillor). |
| 30 May 2019 | Roundtable | Heritage Division | Siobhan Lavelle, Heritage Division; Felicity Barry, Heritage Division; Samantha Higgs, Heritage Division (phone); Kylie Christian, WolfPeak; Denis Gojak, Roads and Maritime Services (phone), Graham Standen, Roads and Maritime Services |
| 4 June 2019 | Presentation | National Trust | National Trust representatives/Task Force members. |
| 11 June 2019 | Site Visit - archaeology | Museum Representatives | Cos Coroneos, Cosmos Archaeology, Katherine von Witt, Museum and Gallery Manager, Hawkesbury City Council; Rebecca Turnbull, Museum Curator, Hawkesbury City Council; Keri Whitely, Manager Cultural Services, Hawkesbury City Council; Kylie Christian WolfPeak; Graham Standen, Roads and Maritime Services |
| 10 July 2019 | Roundtable | Hawkesbury City Council Staff | Andrew Kearns, HCC; Keri Whiteley, HCC; Graham Standen, TfNSW; Lorna Stevens, TfNSW; Otto Cserhalmi, Heritage Advisor to HCC; Kylie Christian, WolfPeak |

Consultation Cont.

| Date | Format | Audience | Participants |
|-----------------|------------|---|--|
| 17 July 2019 | Site Visit | Heritage Council & Heritage, Community Engagement DPC | Frank Howarth, Chair of Heritage Council; Tim Smith, Director Heritage Operations; Siobhan Lavelle, Heritage NSW; Stirling Smith, Heritage NSW; Graham Standen, TfNSW; Lorna Stevens, TfNSW; Kylie Christian, WolfPeak |
| 24 July 2019 | Roundtable | Community | Graham Standen, TfNSW; Lorna Stevens, TfNSW; Kylie Christian, Wolfpeak; Jenny Lloyd, Heritage Act; Neil Dand, Heritage Act; Jackie Dand, Heritage Act; Pat Schwartz, Defenders of Thompson Square; Guy Boncardo, Defenders of Thompson Square; Elaine White, Historical Society; Michael Greentree, History Interest; Sarah Terry; Kate Mackaness, CAWB. |
| 5 August 2019 | Roundtable | Federal Member for Macquarie | Susan Templeman MP; Mark Andrews; Graham Standen, TfNSW; Lorna Stevens, TfNSW; Kylie Christian, WolfPeak |
| 7 August 2019 | Roundtable | Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation | Leanne Watson, DCAC; Aunty Edna Watson, DCAC; Erin Wilkins, DCAC; Kylie Christian, WolfPeak. |
| 24 October 2019 | Roundtable | Hawkesbury City Council Staff | Graham Standen, TfNSW; Kylie Christian, WolfPeak; and Council Staff. |
| 5 November 2019 | Roundtable | Hawkesbury City Councillors | Councillor Barry Calvert (Mayor); and Councillors and Council Staff. |

Samples of Archaeological Evidence | Informing the Interpretation



02 THE PLACE

Heritage Significance



Image: View of Windsor Bridge and Thompson Square from western riverbank. 2016.

The existing Statement of Significance for the Thompson Square Conservation Area as shown on the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage listing sheet for the item, is as follows:

“

Thompson Square is one of the oldest public squares in Australia and notable for the large number of Colonial Georgian buildings which surround it. It is the only public space remaining from the original town and has played an important part in the history of the town. It is the only remaining civic space as laid out by Governor Macquarie and is a vital precinct in the preservation of the early Colonial character of Windsor. The Square reflects Macquarie's visionary schemes for town planning excellence in the infant colony (Sheedy 1975).⁸

The existing Statement of Significance⁹ for Windsor Bridge/Hawkesbury River Bridge, as shown on the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage listing sheet for the item, is as follows:

“

The Windsor Bridge has a high level of historic, technical, aesthetic and social significance as an important historical and physical landmark in one of the

State's pre-eminent historic towns, and in the wider Sydney region. It is the oldest extant crossing of the Hawkesbury River. Together with the successive crossings upstream at Richmond, this bridge has played a major role in shaping the history of the Hawkesbury area, functioning for well over a century as an all important link between the communities on either side of the River and as an essential component in a through route of importance in the development of the Sydney region. The series of major alterations to the structure since its construction articulate the continuing difficulties of negotiating a crossing of this major waterway with its frequent floods. The Windsor Bridge has landmark qualities as one of only two bridge crossings of the Hawkesbury River in the Hawkesbury area and as such it defines the surrounding network of roads. It is a large structure, and although simple in appearance, impressive. The bridge represents a major engineering project in the State for its time. The addition of a reinforced concrete beam deck to replace the timber deck in the 1920s is a relatively early use of this technology. The River and this crossing of it has defined the life of several generations of local inhabitants on both sides of

Heritage Significance Cont.

the River. As the suburban outskirts of Sydney widen and come closer to the still distinct and distinctive Macquarie towns, the rich history of the area and its physical remains become increasingly important to the community's sense of identity. The Windsor Bridge is thus an important part of Windsor's history and identity.¹⁰

The Thompson Square Conservation Area Windsor, NSW Conservation Management Plan (February 2019) contains the following Aboriginal and European Summary Statements of Significance.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ABORIGINAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

“

The documented and potential Aboriginal archaeological, historical and environmental heritage values of the Thompson Square Conservation area (TSCA) are individually rare. Each of these values also possesses comparatively high cultural heritage value and research potential, and are in combination considered to be of State significance. The archaeology documents

an unbroken record of Aboriginal occupation and use of the Hawkesbury River for up to and over 30,000 years, and this long chronology was punctuated by significant changes to the living conditions and climate at Windsor at times. The dune deposits preserved in the TSCA have the potential to document the natural life history of the river prior to and overlapping the time frame people were living on the river.

This archaeological and environmental evidence is important to understanding aspects of the cultural and natural evolution of NSW and existing and future interpretations will benefit from in situ conservation of the remaining Aboriginal heritage that is currently preserved and protected in the TSCA via the development of archaeological theory, techniques and technologies.

EUROPEAN SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

“

The Thompson Square Conservation Area is of exceptional significance as rare surviving evidence of the earliest years of the British colony in Australia, being the third settlement on the mainland established as an agricultural outpost to supply the young colony and Thompson Square is tangible evidence of this history. The only known public space named after an emancipist (Andrew Thompson), Thompson Square is also an important expression of Macquarie's vision for the future of the colony as an equitable and productive society.

The Thompson Square Conservation Area contains physical evidence of both the pre-Macquarie and Macquarie eras that is considered to be rare and of exceptional significance, including the 1814 sandstock brick barrel drain, the 1816 sandstock brick wall defining the eastern boundary of the public square, the 1815 Macquarie Arms Hotel, the alignments of George Street, Bridge Street, Old Bridge Street, Baker Street and The Terrace, the topography and the

configuration and subdivision patterns of the place.

The visual and spatial relationships between the place, the Hawkesbury River and the agricultural lands beyond combined with the collection of buildings defining the east, west and southern sides of the public square are evocative of an earlier time and have a strong colonial character that is considered to be unique.

The Thompson Square Conservation Area is recognised and appreciated as a valued historic place, as demonstrated by early and numerous heritage listings, the involvement of the Federal and NSW state governments in restoration programmes of the late 20th century, being the inspiration for artists and architects as well as the subject of numerous books and reports about the history of the place and being the focus of recent community action and national public interest in the future conservation of the place.

The archaeological potential of the place for both the pre-settlement and settlement phases is very rare and of high historic and social significance.

The Relevance and Importance of an Inclusive History

Thompson Square, and the greater Windsor and Hawkesbury area, is a site steeped in history. The archaeological record shows that the traditional custodians of the land have lived in the area for over 33,000 years. It also shows artefacts from the early years of colonial rule through to the 21st century.

The historical importance and heritage significance of any place is made up by the diversity of narratives and people associated with it. Whenever different people contribute to the storylines of a place, it is essential that multiple viewpoints and voices are heard, and that truthfulness in storytelling is the baseline standard employed. Only by providing an inclusive history and narrative, can the full heritage context and significance of a site be understood.

It is also important that cultural values and storylines are told by those within the culture. By ensuring that Aboriginal voices are heard in the interpretation of Thompson Square, along with accounts of contemporaries to events, an important step towards inclusiveness, truth-telling and healing has been taken.

In Australia, as with other societies with a colonial past, Aboriginal history can sometimes be consigned to the pre-contact era. In providing an inclusive history for this site, it is

important to include an account that traverses pre-contact era, contact era and the continuing evolution of a shared culture.

The Australia ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Statues) includes the following guidance when preparing interpretation strategies for sites with diverse histories:

“

Some places are of cultural significance for a range of reasons and it may therefore be difficult to determine which heritage values should be emphasised ... This situation can arise where a place is significant to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people but for different reasons. In fact, sometimes it may even cause offence to the Indigenous parties to have non-Indigenous stories told at a place that is of particularly high cultural significance for them. The Burra Charter (Article 13) encourages the co-existence of cultural values and this demands respect for all cultures. Interpretation ... should be developed in consultation and specific outcomes derived from sensitive understanding of the issues ... that have been creatively developed.

The following pages provide examples of inclusive interpretation responses showing the effectiveness of such an approach.

CASE STUDIES

- The Aboriginal Memorial, National Gallery of Australia¹¹
- Rangihoua Heritage Park, New Zealand¹²



Case Study - The Aboriginal Memorial



Image: The Aboriginal Memorial, National Gallery of Australia (<https://nga.gov.au/aboriginalmemorial/home.cfm>)

THE ABORIGINAL MEMORIAL

The Aboriginal Memorial is a contemporary indigenous Australian artwork that was conceived by Djon (John) Mundin in 1987. It is on permanent display at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra and included the work of 43 artists from Ramingining and neighbouring communities of Central Arnhem Land.

The installation of 200 hollowed log coffins from Central Arnhem Land commemorates indigenous people who have lost their lives defending their land and civil rights since the First Fleet arrival in 1788. The gallery explains:

“

The artists who created this installation intended that it be located in a public place where it could be preserved for future generations.

The installation was created to mark the Bicentenary of Australia in 1988. Whilst the Bicentenary was a celebration of 200 years since European settlement, many indigenous Australians felt that the “celebration” marked trauma and displacement for many of their ancestors.

“

The Bicentenary elicited varied responses from both white and black Australia. Whilst it provoked widespread boycott and protest, the stage was set for indigenous people to demonstrate the resilience and vitality of their culture, and to invite the public to share in the celebration of that culture’s endurance. The Aboriginal Memorial was inspired by this political climate.

The National Gallery of Australia contains and celebrates a diverse range of cultural artwork including Aboriginal, European Australian and international. In this setting, this memorial provides a thought-provoking public art memorial, which conveys a truthful message regarding our colonial history.

COMMENT: This case study shows the importance of modern connotations, collaboration and inclusion of indigenous peoples into the development and implementation of interpretation within a shared history. This has direct relevance to the approach undertaken in this Plan.

Case Study - Rangihoua Heritage Park



Image: Collage of images from Rangihoua Heritage Park (<https://www.rangihouaheritage.co.nz/home>)

RANGIHOUA HERITAGE PARK, NEW ZEALAND

Rangihoua Heritage Park is located approximately three and a half hours from Auckland. The park was opened on 21 December 2014 by His Excellency Lieutenant General the Right Honourable Sir Jerry Mateparae, Governor-General of New Zealand. This was followed by the Christmas Day bicentennial of the Rev Samuel Marsden's first Christian service.

The Park was established by the Marsden Cross Trust Board together with its partners Ngāti Torehina, the Rangihoua Native Reserve Board and the Department of Conservation. The prime objective is to inform and educate the people of New Zealand and visitors from abroad of the significance of Rangihoua and the events of 1814 and the years that followed.

The interpretation has a strong digital interface which:

“

For visitors to the park, it is a virtual tour guide in the palm of your hand. Enriching the Rangihoua Bay landscape with layers of stories, helping visitors to

make sense of the beautiful setting and the remnants of the past. For users at home, the tour provides an engaging insight that builds understanding about the importance of Rangihoua Heritage Park - providing inspiration for a future visit.

Divided into three chapters, tour participants are taken on a journey through time to experience this important period in Aotearoa New Zealand's history. From the days of Rangihoua Pā before the arrival of missionaries, through the establishment and daily life of Hoho Mission Station, ending in 1832 when the mission inhabitants moved on to Te Puna Bay.

The overall effectiveness of providing both an accessible and inclusive interpretive experience for the visitor can be seen in the steadily growing visitor numbers to the region.

COMMENT: This project outlines the effectiveness of inclusive interpretation and the resultant positive outcomes for the place. The use of digital interface and media has also made the project relevant and accessible to a greater audience. These features have been incorporated into this Plan.

03 INTERPRETIVE FRAMEWORK

Purpose for Thompson Square Interpretation

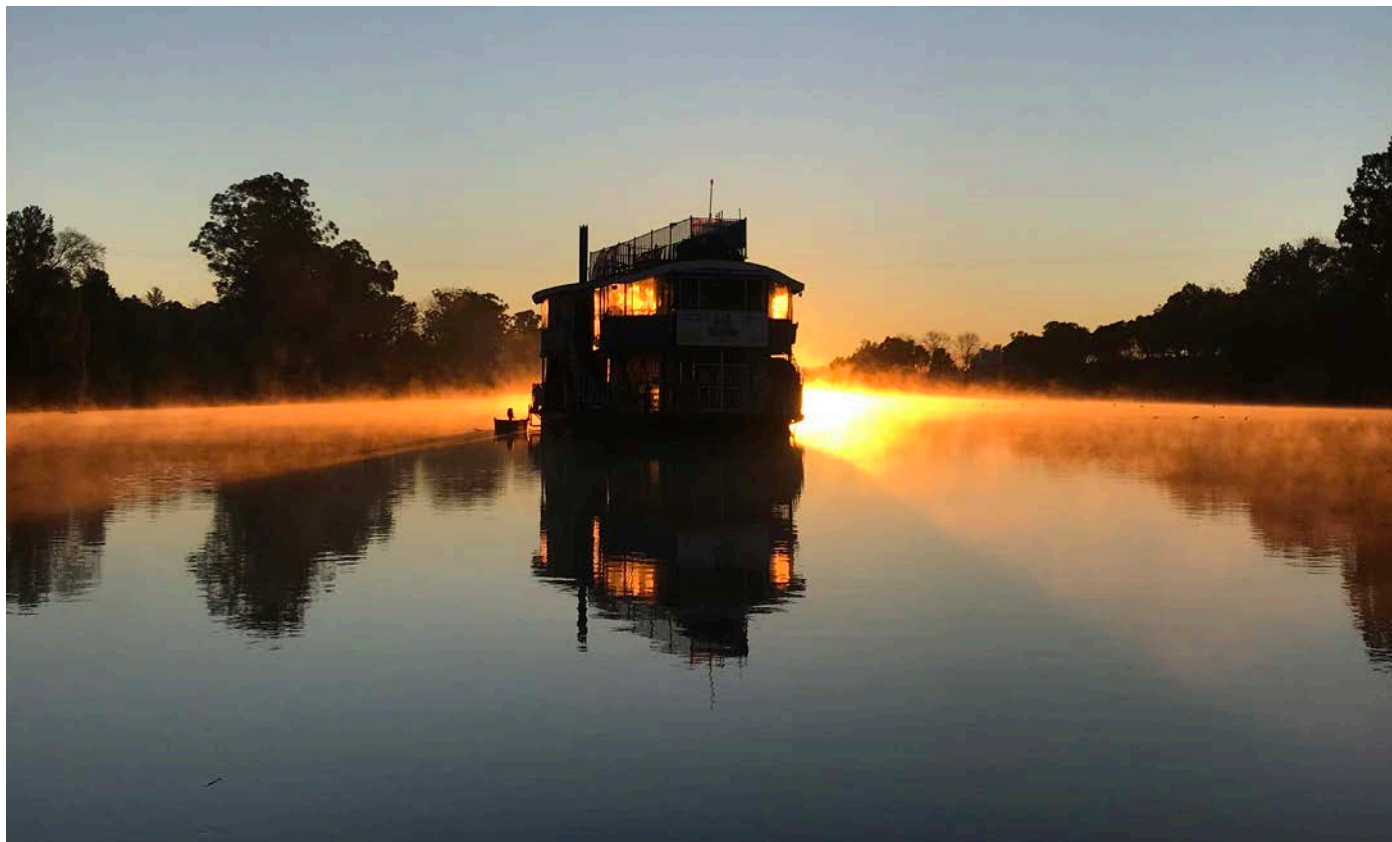


Image: Sunrise on the Hawkesbury River. Image by Cosmos Archaeology.

With the re-unification of Thompson Square through the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project, a new canvas for the story of the area has been introduced. It still contains the elements that are already there, such as the built environment, however it has allowed the unearthing of the archaeological record and therefore provides an even greater narrative to be told.

The basis for the Thompson Square Heritage Interpretation is inspired by this key statement extracted from the NSW Heritage Interpretation Policy;

“

‘Heritage interpretation provides opportunities to stimulate ideas and debate about Australian life and values, and the meaning of our history, culture and the environment.’¹³

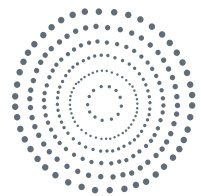
Through an extensive stakeholder consultation process, additional research, and by working closely with local Aboriginal community members, who have provided an “Aboriginal Voice” to the content, we have drawn together the many, and varied, aspects of the area’s storylines to create one, inclusive, and honest historical narrative for the interpretation of Thompson Square.

The following vision statement has been developed through these methods and with consideration of the historic significance of the site.

“

‘The purpose and vision is to promote the history and heritage significance of Thompson Square and surrounds, through telling the stories and evolution of the place from the time of the Dreaming, through the arrival of the colony, development of the Square, to present-day. By presenting this heritage through an inclusive and truthful lens, and utilising the unique physical and cultural elements that have shaped the place, the stories can be told.’

Objectives - Australia ICOMOS Best Practice Guide & Thompson Square



FACILITATE

Facilitate understanding and appreciation of cultural heritage sites and foster public awareness and engagement in the need for their protection and conservation.

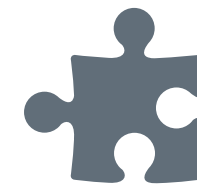
During this project we have undertaken a significant amount of consultation with a variety of stakeholders which has informed the development of both the Heritage Interpretation Plan and the narrative associated with the place.



COMMUNICATE

Communicate the meaning of cultural heritage sites to a range of audiences through careful, documented recognition of significance, through accepted scientific and scholarly methods as well as from living cultural traditions.

The interpretation for Thompson Square has been designed to be innovative and diverse and ensures accessibility through a range of devices. These include signage, incidental interpretation, museum display and digital media.



SAFEGUARD

Safeguard the tangible and intangible values of cultural heritage sites in their natural and cultural settings and social contexts.

Various interpretation methods have been utilised throughout this process to ensure that all cultural values, both tangible and intangible, have been considered. Oral histories, working with knowledge holders, and the archaeological record have been used.



RESPECT

Respect the authenticity of cultural heritage sites, by communicating the significance of their historic fabric and cultural values and protecting them from the adverse impact of intrusive interpretive infrastructure, visitor pressure, inaccurate or inappropriate interpretation.

By facilitating a variety of methods for visitors to engage with the interpretation, we are enabling the place to be available for both physical visitors and virtual visitors from around the world.

Objectives - Australia ICOMOS Best Practice Guide & Thompson Square Cont.



CONTRIBUTE

Contribute to the sustainable conservation of cultural heritage sites, through promoting public understanding of, and participation in, ongoing conservation efforts, ensuring long-term maintenance of the interpretive infrastructure and regular review of its interpretive contents.

The project is undertaking a best-practice approach to the heritage interpretation and has been working with Council to provide adequate, appropriate and engaging content for the Thompson Square area and its surrounds.



ENCOURAGE

Encourage inclusiveness in the interpretation of cultural heritage sites, by facilitating the involvement of stakeholders and associated communities in the development and implementation of interpretive programs.

Local Aboriginal stakeholder groups have been an integral part of the interpretation process. Artwork has been commissioned for use throughout the project area and knowledge holders have been involved in providing a traditional custodians voice to the narrative.



DEVELOP

Develop technical and professional guidelines for heritage interpretation and presentation, including technologies, research, and training. Such guidelines must be appropriate and sustainable in their social contexts.

The signage style guide and templates, along with this Heritage Interpretation Plan has been designed so that it can provide a basis for future works within the Hawkesbury Local Government Area.

Themes & Narratives

THEME 1 ENVIRONMENT

THE NATURAL WORLD

DYARUBBIN
(HAWKESBURY RIVER)

FLOODING AND ITS IMPACTS
("ONE IN" TIMELINE)

ANIMALS
(ABORIGINAL TOTEMS)

NARRATIVES

DYARUBBIN (HAWKESBURY RIVER)

- Creation story of the river
- Land formations
- Current environment

FLOODING AND ITS IMPACTS ("ONE IN" TIMELINE)

- Aboriginal flooding perspective
- Colonial period flooding history and representations

ANIMALS

- Animals local to the area - historically and contemporary

Themes & Narratives Cont.

THEME 2 CULTURAL VALUES

ABORIGINAL CULTURE AND EUROPEAN INTERACTION --- EUROPEAN CULTURAL IMPACTS

DARUG LAND / TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS --- ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF LAND USAGE --- CONTACT BETWEEN ABORIGINAL AND COLONIAL COMMUNITIES

NARRATIVES

DARUG LAND / TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

- History of the land, traditional owners, Dreamtime stories, how Aboriginal people interacted with the land

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF LAND USAGE

- Aboriginal archaeological evidence and significance
- Historical Archaeology record
- Maritime Archaeology record

CONTACT BETWEEN ABORIGINAL AND COLONIAL COMMUNITIES

- Initial contact, response to settlement, first-hand accounts, conflicts, forced removals, language use
- Language

Themes & Narratives Cont.

THEME 3 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPACT

TRANSPORT --- PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT

THOMPSON SQUARE AS A PORT

PUNT SERVICE
WHARF / SHIP BUILDING
WINDSOR BRIDGE

FOOD / TRADE

NARRATIVES

THOMPSON SQUARE AS A PORT

- Use of the river to feed Sydney, boats using Windsor as local town and service centre, markets, ship building, changes to the road alignments

PUNT SERVICE

- Connections across the river

WHARF / SHIP BUILDING

- Greenway wharf, other wharfs, Andrew Thompson ship building, railway and its impact, shipwreck
- Commerce and trade

WINDSOR BRIDGE

- Engineering, history
- Perspective to northern side
- Modern activism

FOOD / TRADE

- Agriculture (grain, corn, wheat), river use for transporting to Sydney, major food source for the Colony

Themes & Narratives Cont.

THEME 4 COLONIAL GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

GOVERNMENT & ADMINISTRATION

1794 DECLARATION OF
SETTLEMENT

MILITARY USE AND POST

PUBLIC SQUARE

NARRATIVES

1794 DECLARATION OF SETTLEMENT

- First-hand account/articles, 118 land grants, European families, Augustus Alt, Acting Lt-Governor Francis Grose

MILITARY USE AND POST

- 1795 Garrison to protect the food stores due to incursions.
- Government precinct, military barracks 1795, 1800

PUBLIC SQUARE

- Naming of Thompson Square
- Named after Andrew Thompson – the Thompson legacy
- Macquarie/Thompson relationship
- Georgian buildings, Macquarie Arms, Howe House
- Changes and evolution over time

Themes & Narratives Cont.

THEME 5 COLONIALISATION

TOWNS, SUBURBS & VILLAGES

TOWN PLANNING BUILT HERITAGE THOMPSON SQUARE EVOLUTION FRONTIER WARS

NARRATIVES

TOWN PLANNING

- Macquarie, naming of Windsor, based on Windsor on Thames, English, age, significance
- Macquarie Towns methodology

BUILT HERITAGE

- Changing use of buildings, extant buildings (and ages), barrel and box drains
- Archaeological record
- Early built forms, such as granary, military posts/building

THOMPSON SQUARE EVOLUTION

- Settlement - military - government - colonial expansion
- Changing alignments of roads (and reasons), buildings supporting a port town, building of the bridge
- Modern use

FRONTIER WARS

- Murder of Aboriginal boys, selling of women, evidence based accounts, stories, treatment of locals, specific examples
- Aboriginal perspective
- Colonial records

Themes & Narratives Cont.

THEME 6 PEOPLING AUSTRALIA

PEOPLE

ABORIGINAL GUIDES
CONVICTS
GOVERNOR LACHLAN
MACQUARIE
CONVICT RIGHTS
LOCAL IDENTITIES

NARRATIVES

ABORIGINAL GUIDES

- Use of Aboriginal people to traverse the terrain and bush
- Relationships built in the early days - how they changed
- Colonial accounts of interactions and perceptions

CONVICTS

- Andrew Thompson
- James McGrath
- Convict legacy

GOVERNOR LACHLAN MACQUARIE

- Impacts, influence, and legacy
- Emancipist experiment and approach

LOCAL & INFLUENTIAL IDENTITIES

- Robert Fitzgerald, Samuel Marsden
- John Harris, Phillip Cunningham
- Musquito connection and other notable Aboriginal people
- Modern descendants and Songlines

04 KEY STRATEGIES

Creative Identity

It was always envisaged that the heritage interpretation for Thompson Square would embrace the diversity of its history, the shared nature of the narrative, and the importance of truth-telling in the stories being told.

Parts of the history and heritage of Thompson Square are evident for anyone visiting the place. The Georgian buildings that encase the location, the sandstone kerbing and rich building materials that attract the eye, and the tangible link with the river which is within a cursory glance, all contribute to the atmosphere and significance of the site.

Less visible to visitors and locals are the aspects of history that have no obvious placeholder. An understanding of the natural environment, and how it formed; the cultural values of the Aboriginal people that inhabited these lands for thousands of years; the impact of the arrival of Europeans on the environment and what was to become our shared history.

From the outset of the project, the project team worked closely with the Darug community, in particular with artists, Leanne Watson, and Erin Wilkins. The goal was to create a visual representation of Aboriginal ancestral traditions, cultural values and the resultant

impacts that colonisation had in the area. The inclusion of the pre-contact and early-contact history is designed to ensure that a balanced, honest and inclusive account is told. History is many stories, but only one timeline.

Combining these cultural elements with the known Colonial history of the site then creates a unified approach to the historic narrative.

Creatively incorporated into the various devices of interpretation throughout the project are examples of Darug language and phrases, narratives written by local knowledge holders and original artworks. These have been combined with modern Australia artwork, historic photographs, Colonial plans and paintings; together with original source material and first-hand accounts.

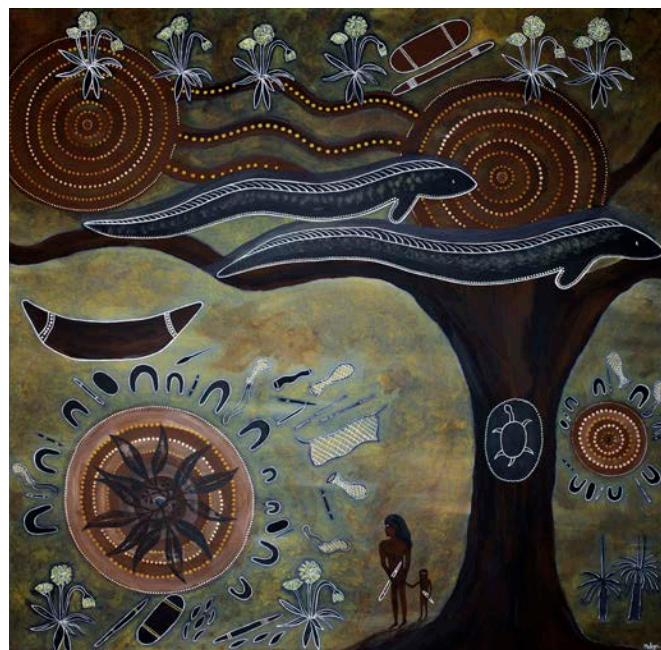
“
It is acknowledged that Australia's first peoples are recognised as the Traditional Custodians of the lands.

This Heritage Interpretation Plan and its implementation highlights the work of Darug artists and knowledge holders.



Image: Artists Impression of the transformed Thompson Square.

The Artist's Own Words



DYARUBBIN

by Leanne "Mulgo" Watson, 2019
Oil on Canvas

This painting shows the significance of the river and our creation story.

The Dyarubbin was a place that the Darug people would come together, there was an abundance of resources along the Dyarubbin including yam beds that the Darug people would gather and replant, the digging stick and coolamon was used to farm the yams. The Dyarubbin was also a place that had an abundance of water foods. The painting shows two meeting places around fire with many people, fishing tools and canoe. The scarred tree shows that this is a spiritual place with the Bara representing our creation story of the waterway.

Our creation story is connected to our neighbouring mobs, the creator of our waterways is the Gurangatches offspring the Bara (eel) this story connects from the south through Darug country.

The Bara story is recorded in the rock engravings along the Dyarubbin connecting us to the songlines that cross our country.

DYARUBBIN COLONISATION

by Leanne "Mulgo" Watson, 2019
Oil on Canvas

This painting shows the impacts of colonisation to the Darug people being cut off from the Dyarubbin by colonisation, fencing and farming. Darug people were not allowed to access resources, martial law was implemented in this area where Darug people could be shot for trespassing or just from being around, many of our people were moved onto reserves and had to adhere to exemption papers (dog tags) that had curfews and stated that we couldn't speak to our families or practice culture or speak language.

The black car is something that many of our elders are still scared of today, it was the black cars that came and took our children away, many of our elders spent there child hood hiding in the bush scared of the black cars coming (my mother was one of the people scared of the black cars).

There is a history on the Dyarubbin of Darug boys being hung in a retaliation killing, this is represented in the inclusion of the noose on our scarred tree.

Many church missionaries had tried to remove the black and culture from our people, we were



given poison flour and also blankets with small pox as shown in the painting. Many of our people were shackled during the black wars in this area.

On the western side of the river there is a warrior amongst our most significant sites he is a spirit in the smoke, the girl on the eastern side of the river is seeing him and is cut off from her people and culture with no way to get to him through the fence representing no access.

The Artist's Own Words Cont.

FROM MACQUARIE ARMS TO THE RIVER - FROM THE RIVER TO THE ANCHOR

by Jane Bennett, 2013
Oil on Canvas

From early 2013 I've been painting a series of canvases of Windsor Bridge & Thompson Square 'en plein air'.

This diptych forms an extreme panorama to give the viewer the experience of walking around the Square and being surrounded by it, instead of just looking at the scene from a single fixed viewpoint. Diverse strands of activities and layers of local history and folklore shown in this work reveal tensions and unexpected connections.

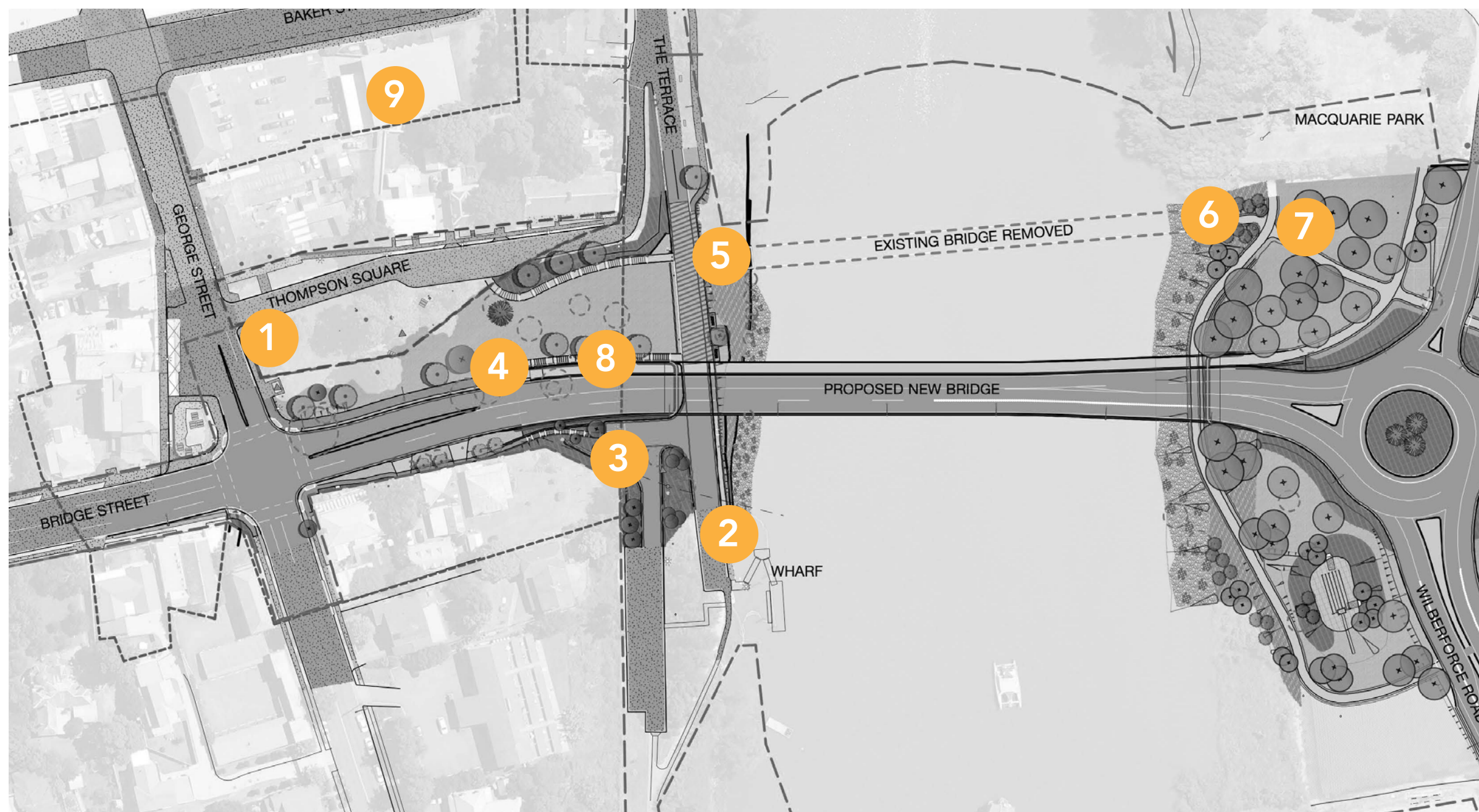
The Square is not merely a place of recreation but a heritage icon, outdoor gallery, concert venue, marketplace, political forum and focus for activism. The elegant gentility of the colonial heritage buildings and vintage car contrasts with the raffish swagger of the pub & bike. A forlorn horse waits patiently as its owner spends the afternoon in the pub. Trees draped incongruously with garish 'wool-bombing' and a knitted bust of the Square's founder Lachlan Macquarie show activism with a larrikin sense of humour. In the distance, the trees and river look deceptively peaceful, but the bridge in the centre is divided between the two canvases, echoing tensions in the community.



Experience Locations

BUILT DEVICE LOCATIONS

1. Corner George St and Thompson Square - "Meeting Place" signs (3)
2. Wharf/maritime signs. (3)
3. Carpark sign (1)
4. Top of stairs "Flooding" sign with marker (1)
5. Viewing Platform "Timeline" signs (8)
6. Northern abutment sign (1)
7. Macquarie Park "Meeting Place" sign (1)
8. Incidental flood markers on southern abutment and stairs (Multiple)
9. Museum entrance from Thompson Square (1)
Museum display (Multiple)



Experiences

Heritage interpretation is about creating an understanding of the values of a place. It is about sharing a memory, culture or experience. It is about engaging with a visitor and piquing their curiosity enough to make them investigate further. It is about the human connection. The following “Experiences” are the main focal points for the heritage interpretation of Thompson Square and the project area.



EXPERIENCE ONE: SIGNAGE

For signage to be effective there are several elements to be considered - placement, design, themes, content, accessibility. For Thompson Square there were some clear issues that were identified early. These included:

- Minimum number of signs to be included into the Square itself
- Signage needed to be contemporary yet sympathetic to its surrounds and accessible
- There was an abundance of information to convey in a very small amount of space

Given these parameters the team developed an approach that would provide the best heritage outcomes visually and culturally, whilst still relaying sufficient information to generate a positive user experience. The three main narratives identified for inclusion on main signage were:

- The natural environment
- Cultural values (tangible and intangible)
- History

Using these narratives as a baseline, the interpretive storyline is inclusive, fact based and engaging. The signage has multiple layers in both its construction and visual componentry. Each sign will incorporate:

- Easy to read headings and body text
- Where possible, full colour imagery (paintings, photographs, drawings, maps) will be used, instead of words, to explain themes and ideas
- Etched motifs will provide a visual connection throughout the signage to act as a “heritage trail” marker for
- The signage content will be appropriate for the area in which it is located. For example a narrative around the shipwreck will be placed near the wharf area
- Mobile technology will be integrated into the signage, through QR codes, to deliver a rich interpretive experience

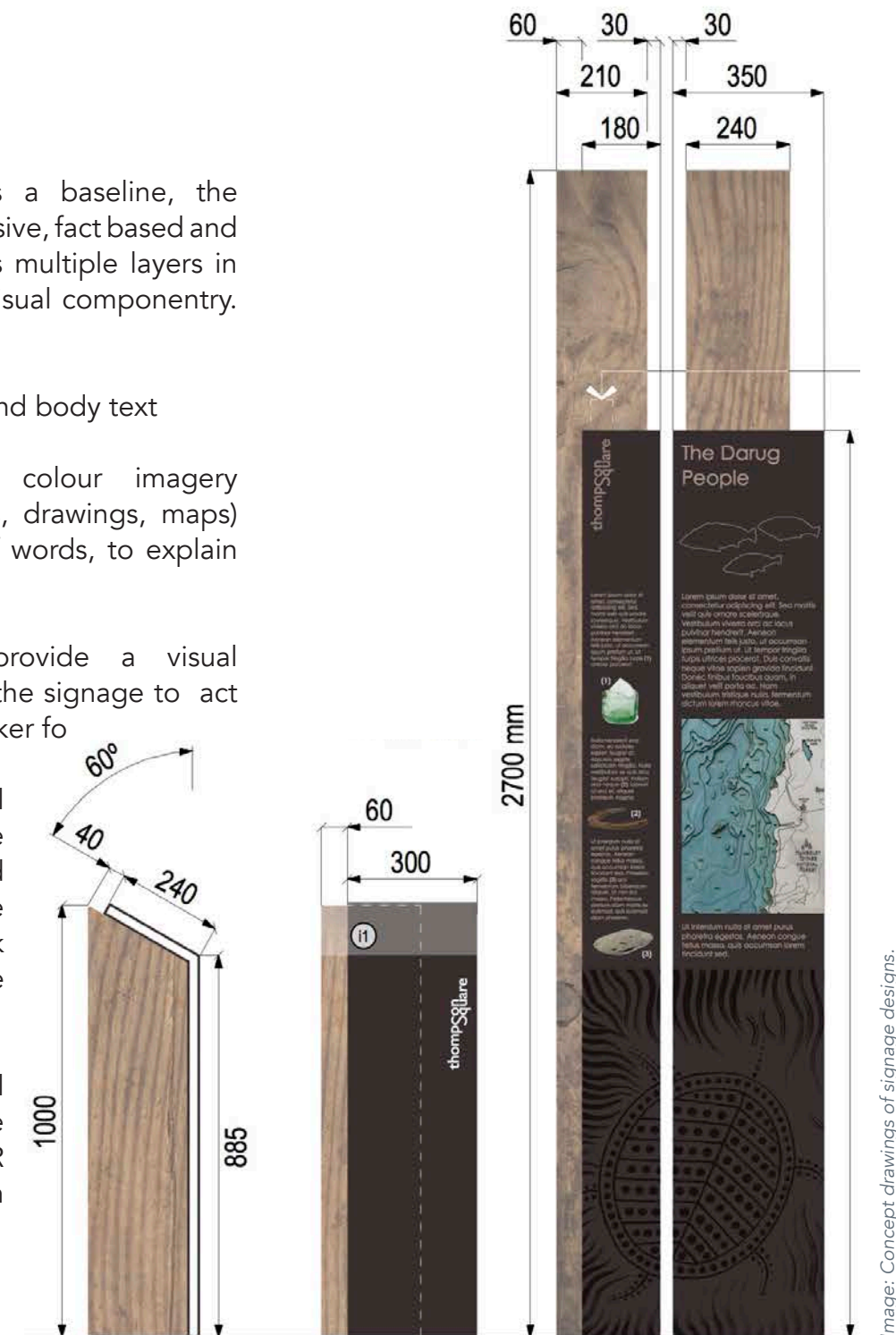


Image: Concept drawings of signage designs.

Experiences Cont.

EXPERIENCE TWO: DIGITAL

To compliment and expand on the interpretive experience of the visitor, either physical or virtual, the heritage interpretation of Thompson Square includes a mobile device compatible website. The website includes the following pages:

- Home - Project introduction, Welcome to Country, links to various pages
- About - Project Background, Project Objectives, Video
- Archaeology - Outline of the archaeological program, its finds and interesting information
- Artefacts - Visual display of a representative example of artefacts salvaged during the project, includes images, description, size, weight, etc
- History - An overview of the history of the place
- Timeline - A visual and interactive timeline representing the major events, milestones, interesting facts and notable people that have been recorded throughout Thompson Square's history

- Kids Zone - Some fun and educational activities to engage children
- Resources - Links to existing reports, websites and other resources

The site is designed to introduce visitors to the extensive history of the area, in a way that is not overwhelming but welcoming, whilst providing more in depth knowledge for those who are more inquisitive.

The design of the website adheres to best practice standards and is in keeping with the overarching plan for the heritage interpretation of the place. The colour palette used to create the website is the same as that specified throughout this plan for the interpretation. The fonts are responsive, clear and can be translated should a visitor wish to. Images used are high-resolution and appropriate for the context in which they sit.

The site is created on a content management system that makes updating uncomplicated and as the site is self contained, minimal further input is required. The site is fully responsive for mobile devices.

QR codes located on the signage within Thompson Square will direct visitors to pages

within the website for further information and an interactive experience.

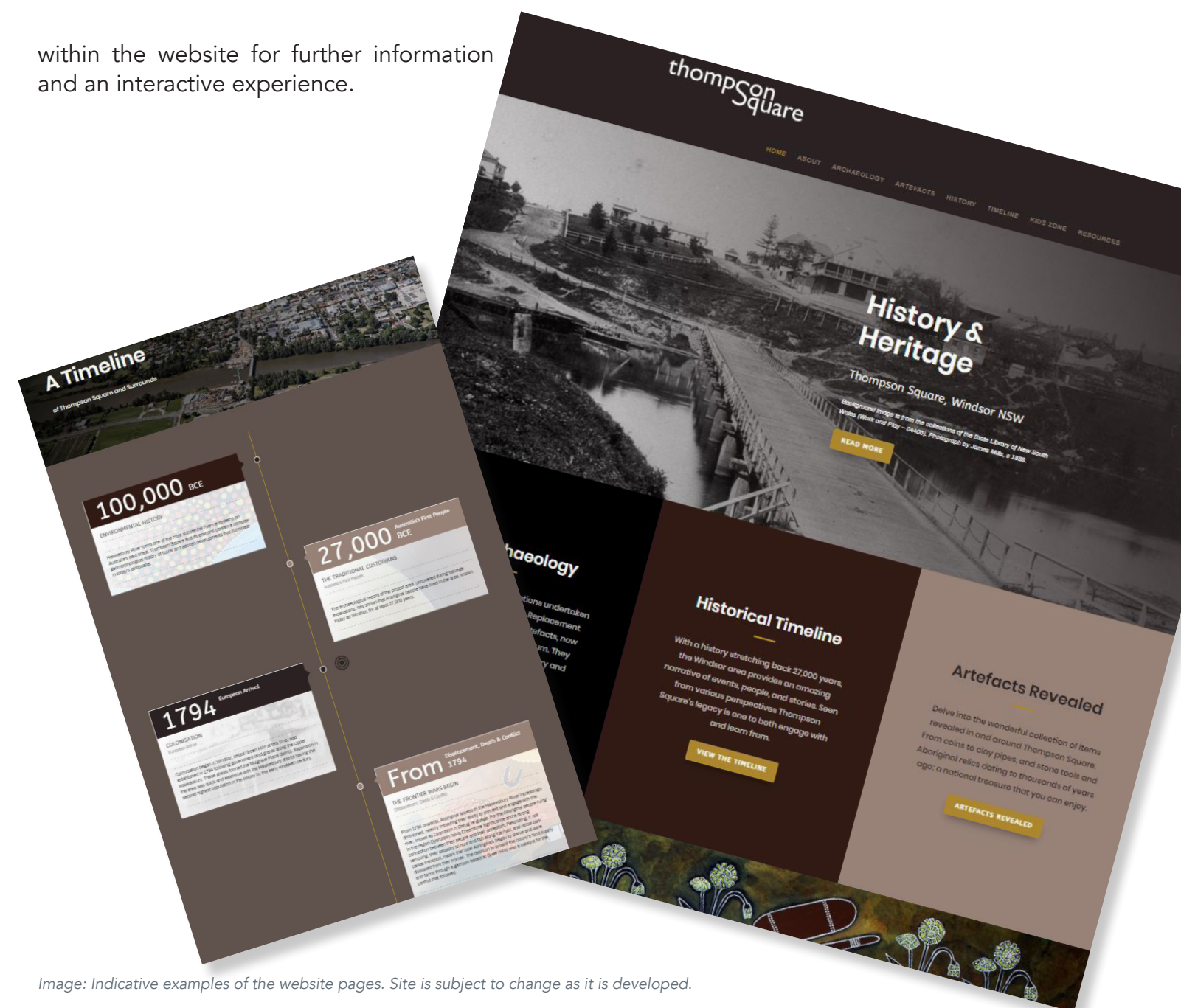


Image: Indicative examples of the website pages. Site is subject to change as it is developed.

Experiences Cont.

EXPERIENCE THREE: FLOOD HISTORY

A feature of the urban design for Thompson Square includes the development of both incidental and formulated flooding history. This will be done in part, using the bridge abutment and adjacent stairs. The features of the abutment include:

- High quality variegated brick finish that reflects the materials used in the local historic buildings
- The use of interpretative masonry through the transitional change in colours represents

the alluvial soils uncovered during the archaeological salvage, i.e. from the sand body to today's topsoil

- The subtle use of single course blue bricks will represent the various floods that regularly occur within the region, such as 1 in 10, 1 in 20, 1 in 50, 1 in 100
- With the exception of the 1867 flood, all flood history represented on the stairs and abutment is represented as historical evidence rather than "recorded" history, i.e. shows the regularity of flooding levels rather than dates. Recorded dates will appear on the signage at the top of the stairs

- An unobtrusive marker will be located at the top of the stairs showing the highest recorded flood, simply to provide scale and context, which will be supplemented with signage
- Markers along the stairs will show the regularity of the flooding and will be based on known inundation levels, but will not include dates/years

The effects of this incidental interpretation will be to provide a visual, recognisable reference to the flood history of the area. Visitors can choose to engage through a distant view, or by walking up and down the stairs, with an

explanation to be provided at the sign at the top of the stairs. This engagement is more discovery based than information led, which will be more accessible to a wider audience without an overt interpretative approach.

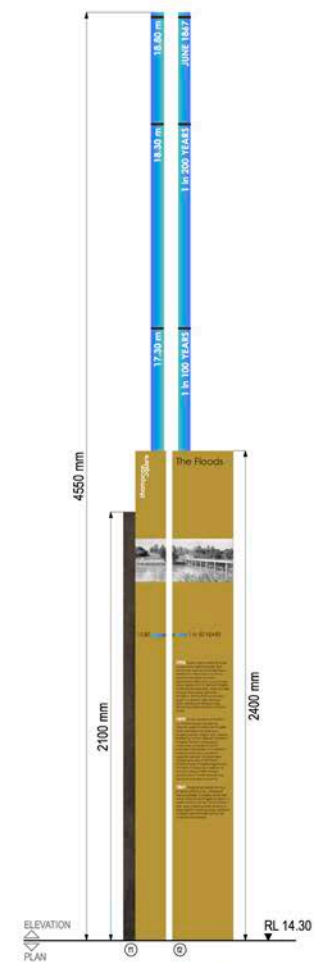
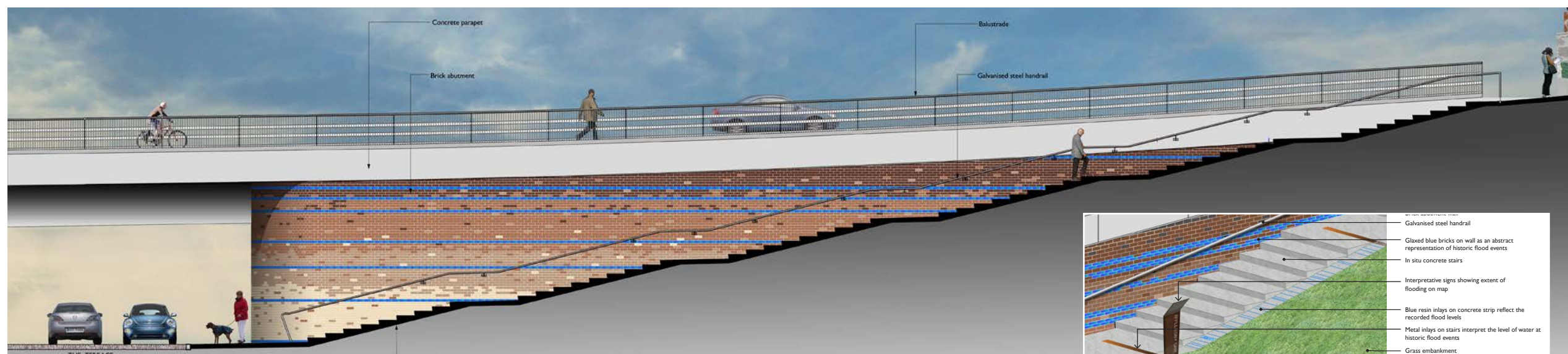


Image: Concept drawings of signage and abutment designs.

Experiences Cont.

EXPERIENCE FOUR: VIEWING PLATFORM INTERPRETIVE HUB

A viewing platform is planned in the location of the existing bridge abutment. This will create a safe and easily accessible vantage point to enjoy views across the Hawkesbury River as well as provide an area for a more extensive interpretation experience.

The bridge abutment, the first set of piers and the first bridge span will be retained from the existing bridge to form the viewing platform. A new balustrade, designed to provide a visual invitation to view the river through angled steel "pointers", will enhance the platform's setting and be the foundation for the interpretation signage that will run down each side of the platform.

The following principles have been adopted for the viewing platform:

- No interpretation will be placed on the river end of the platform
- The design must be accessible and integrated into the balustrade to minimise the visual impact
- The signage will be broken up in to 4 x 2m (approx.) lengths along each side, providing

around 16m by 200mm of signage space along the platform

- An illustrated inclusive timeline will be used as the interpretive approach in this space
- Images will be used as much as possible to convey ideas and narratives
- Innovative and creative design of the panels is essential in providing quality and timeless interpretation for the space
- The retention of the first span of the existing bridge will provide a representational section, and act as an interpretive tool in itself

This space is designed to provide a multitude of experiences to the visitor - visual, tactile and mental stimulation. From viewing the river and embankments, to engaging with the timeline, and being able to look back towards Thompson Square. The overall effect is of providing a variety of perspectives - of place, people, land and history.

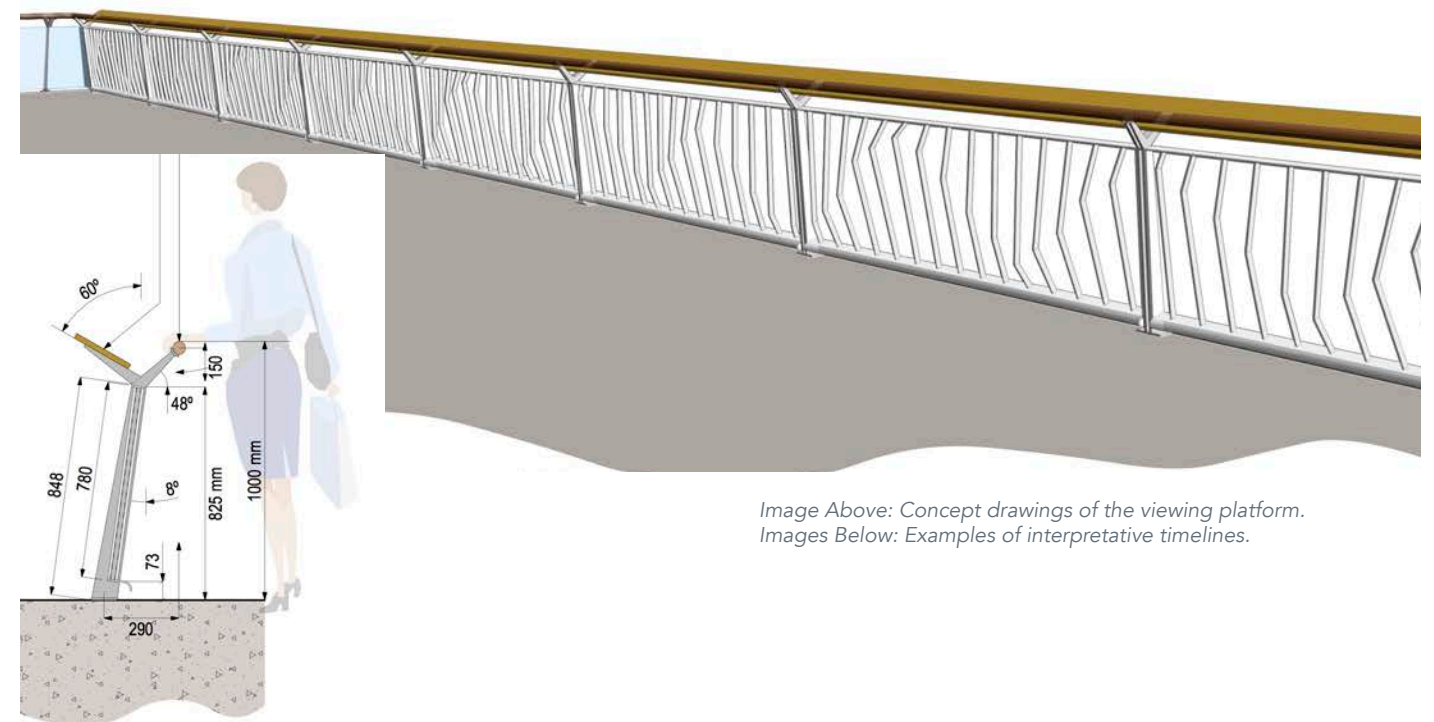


Image Above: Concept drawings of the viewing platform.
Images Below: Examples of interpretive timelines.



Experiences Cont.

EXPERIENCE FIVE: THE MUSEUM

The Hawkesbury Regional Museum is located adjacent to Thompson Square and is connected through historic Howe House, part of the museum's holdings.

As part of the interpretation planning being undertaken for the project, it was identified early, by all internal stakeholders, that housing the collection of archaeological artefacts within the museum would be the best heritage outcome. As the collection spans over 30,000 items, discussions with Hawkesbury City Council and museum staff were conducted. As a result, and in keeping with a best practice approach, a permanent museum display will be designed and developed in consultation with museum staff.

Working with leading professionals and companies within the museum industry the following inclusions are proposed for the space:

- 2 x custom built display cases to showcase the archaeological collection
- Reconstruction of a section of the Box Drain encased in a display for viewing by the public plus interpretation of the whole drainage system, including the Barrell Drain

- An AV screen mounted to the wall to run digital media
- Signage for providing the historical context of the site, project and archaeological record
- 3D visual renders of the shipwreck, existing Windsor Bridge and the built environment of Thompson Square (as available)
- Video content, covering such topics as the archaeological record, maritime archaeology, historical archaeology, Aboriginal archaeology, and the bridge replacement project
- Educational and interactive elements for children

The Hawkesbury Regional Museum provides visitors with a focused and tailored experience. Its existing themes of the River, Land and People align with the project interpretation objectives. It has a large maritime collection as well as archaeology from the excavation carried out at the Museum in 2006.

By designing a dedicated Thompson Square exhibit every visitor can be engaged, be enticed to interact with, and interpret the display individually, on a personal level. As interpretation can be done in many different

ways, we are working with the opportunities that the space provides to create an innovative, fresh and layered showcase for the whole community to enjoy.

Additional connections that will enhance the experience include:

- Integration of the Thompson Square website into a visual display existing within the museum
- The reburial of Aboriginal archaeology under the new Aboriginal meeting circle within the museum grounds
- The inclusion of the display on heritage trails and tours within the region
- Oral histories collected throughout the project will be included in the Hawkesbury library collection, and available to the Museum to use if required

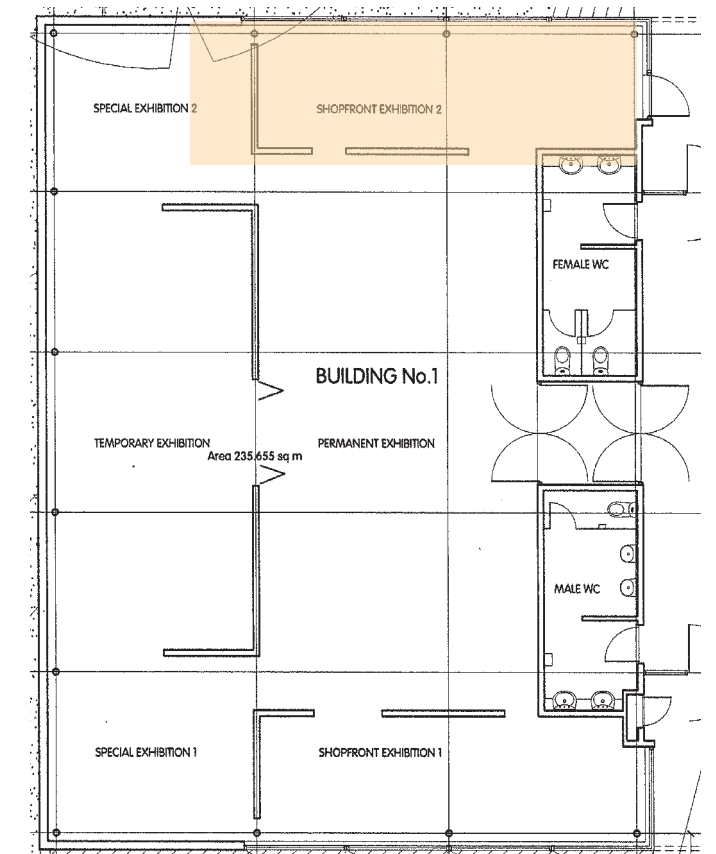
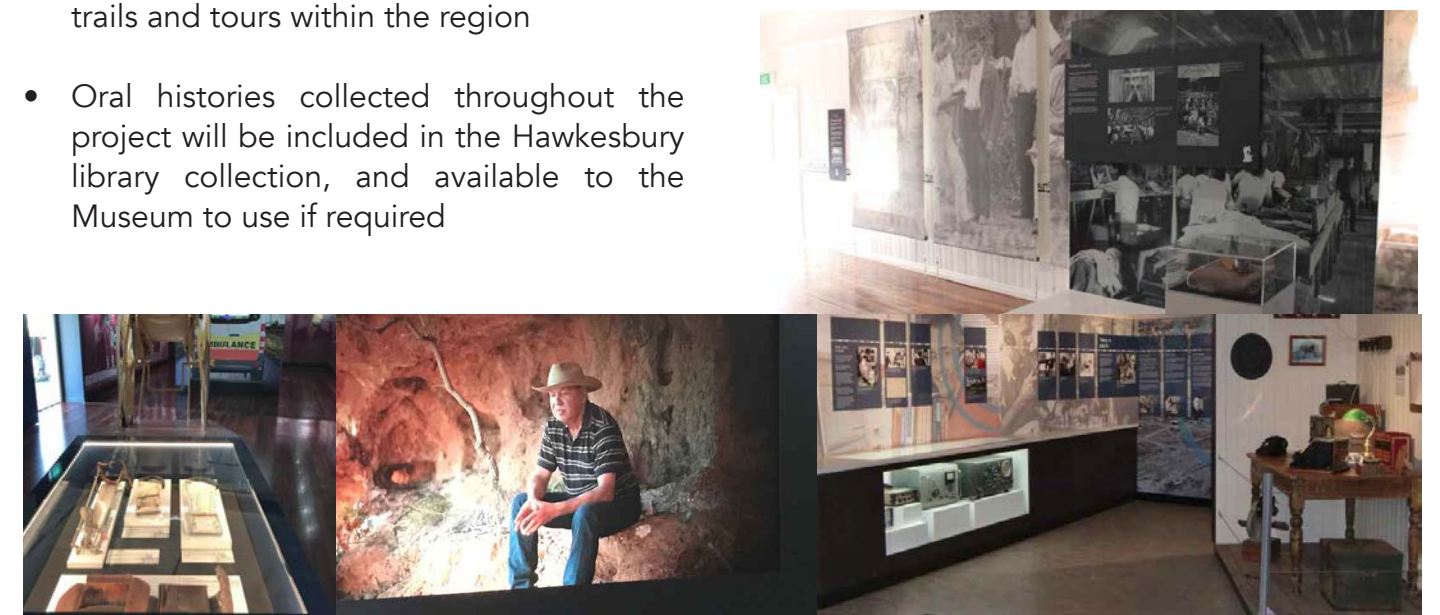


Image Above: Proposed location of the permanent display area within the Hawkesbury Regional Museum.
Images Below: Examples of museum displays.



Experiences Cont.

LEARNING AT THE MUSEUM - A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

Creating interpretation activities or devices for children can be challenging. Looking at the type of information and evidence available from the archaeological record, a response has been developed as an approach to educational programs.

The following methodology was developed by an education specialist to guide the ongoing practice of creating interactive, fun, informative and appropriate interpretation and learning tools for children.

This overarching guide includes opportunities from a local perspective.



WHO?

Aboriginal people

Convicts

Military

Colonialists

Modern Australians

WHEN?

Up to 33,000 years ago

200 years ago

Today

WHERE?

The river

The land surrounding the river

Thompson Square

The Hawkesbury Region

WHY?

Storytelling

Evidence-based learning

Healing and Inclusivity

Research



thompson
Square

04

Experiences Cont.



Experiences Cont.

EXPERIENCE SIX: NORTHERN BANK

The northern abutment of the existing bridge will be retained in situ as a heritage interpretation point. The associated park land created through the intersection of Freemans Reach Road, Wilberforce Road, and the northern bridge approach road is also available for interpretation.

It is proposed that there will be interpretation signage placed in the vicinity of the abutment, together with seating. The location provides an excellent place for the interpretation of the "industry" of the area, including the punt, the bridge and aspects of industry associated with food production. It is also a prime location to acknowledge the Aboriginal use of the land and the impacts felt from being removed from their home and denied access to traditional transportation along the river.

The experience provided from this perspective will include:

- Signage
- Perspective view to Thompson Square
- Placement of encasements/piers and concrete beam from the bridge into the landscaping of the park land area

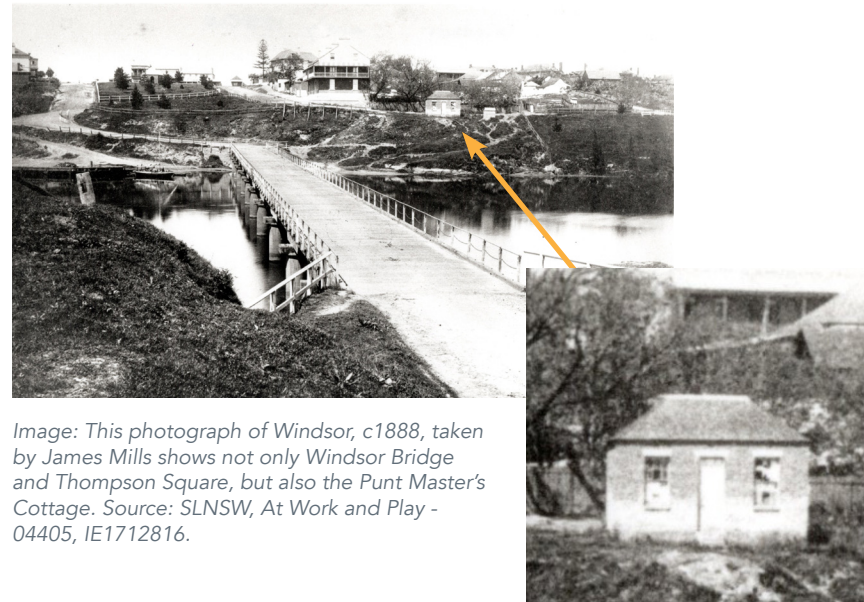


Image: This photograph of Windsor, c1888, taken by James Mills shows not only Windsor Bridge and Thompson Square, but also the Punt Master's Cottage. Source: SLNSW, At Work and Play - 04405, IE1712816.

The inclusion of this area will provide a connection to Thompson Square across the Hawkesbury River and to Macquarie Park. It will provide an introduction to the heritage interpretation trail much like the "meeting place" sign being placed at the top of the Square.

It is proposed that any interpretation on this side of the river will be integrated and subtle, with only two signage locations, the abutment and at the pathway intersection near Macquarie Park.

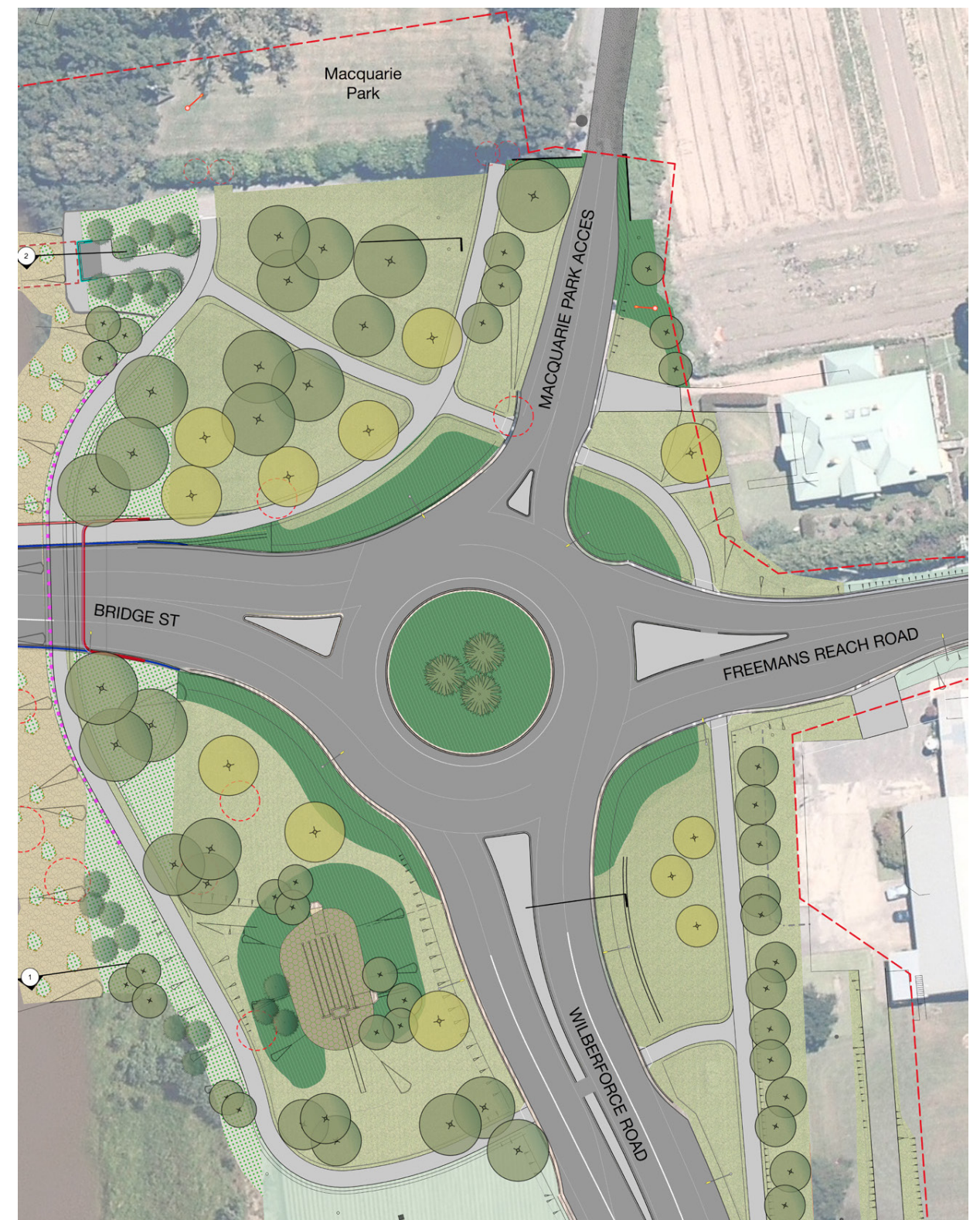


Image: Concept view of the new roundabout to be located on the northern bank. Source: Urban Landscape Plan, SMM.

Experiences Cont.

EXPERIENCE SEVEN: PUBLICATIONS

The heritage significance of Thompson Square, including the Windsor Bridge, can also be conveyed through publications aimed at a range of audiences. Heritage focused publications are a convenient and practical method of promoting a site and increasing visitor traffic.

Publications (e.g. brochures, pamphlets, books) enable people to physically take something with them. This provides a further opportunity to provide key information and to refer to other resources or related sites.

Future publications for Thompson Square could consider the following:

- Brochures on Thompson Square – providing brief history, key dates/timeline, etc
- Pamphlets/leaflet – one page, including images, summary key points and referral points. Could include walking map.
- Kids colouring in booklet – collated version of provided colouring stencils.
- Support for local historian/author to complete book on Thompson Square or republish existing books.

- Provide fresh input into existing publications, such as tourist brochures on the area.
- Produce 'trail' brochure or brochure series (consistent branding) on the five Macquarie Towns, the precincts of Windsor and/or the Hawkesbury region, promoting trail visitors and self-guided tours.

Publications should be accessible at key points including the Tourist Information Centre, Hawkesbury Regional Museum and offered to local businesses to display. Publications are not recommended to be available from the heritage interpretation signage.

Publications provide the opportunity to reach and engage with both local community and international visitors. Producing key publications in various languages, should also be considered.

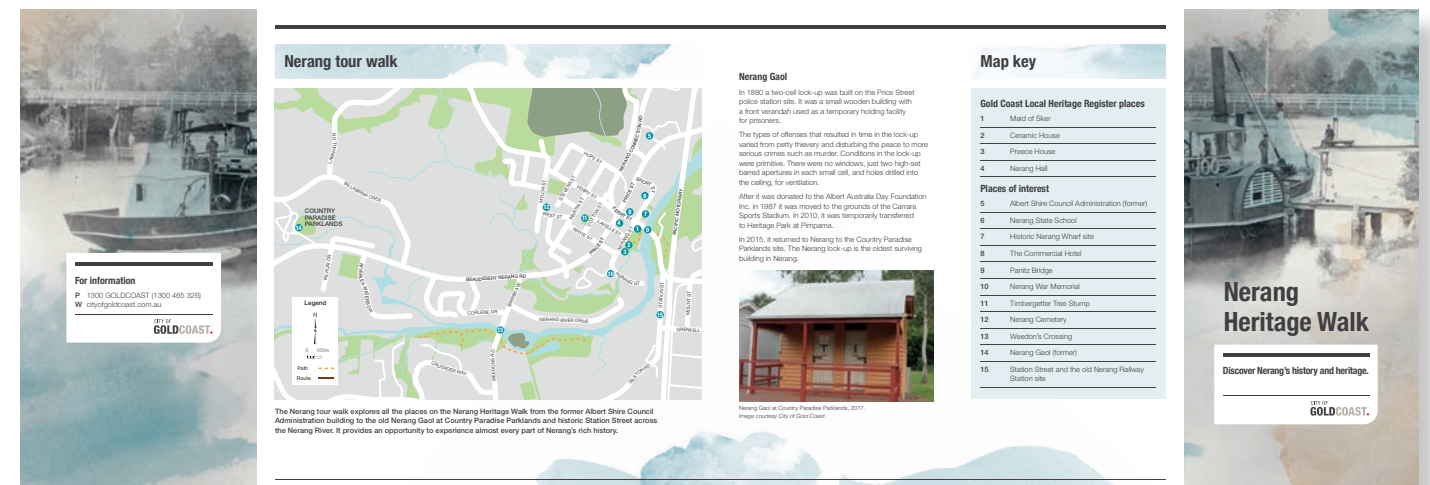
Existing technical reports that were completed during this project have been included in the online resource of the website. These include:

- Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Salvage Excavation Report - Aboriginal Heritage, AAJV, 30 August 2019
- Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Salvage Excavation Report - Area 1 -

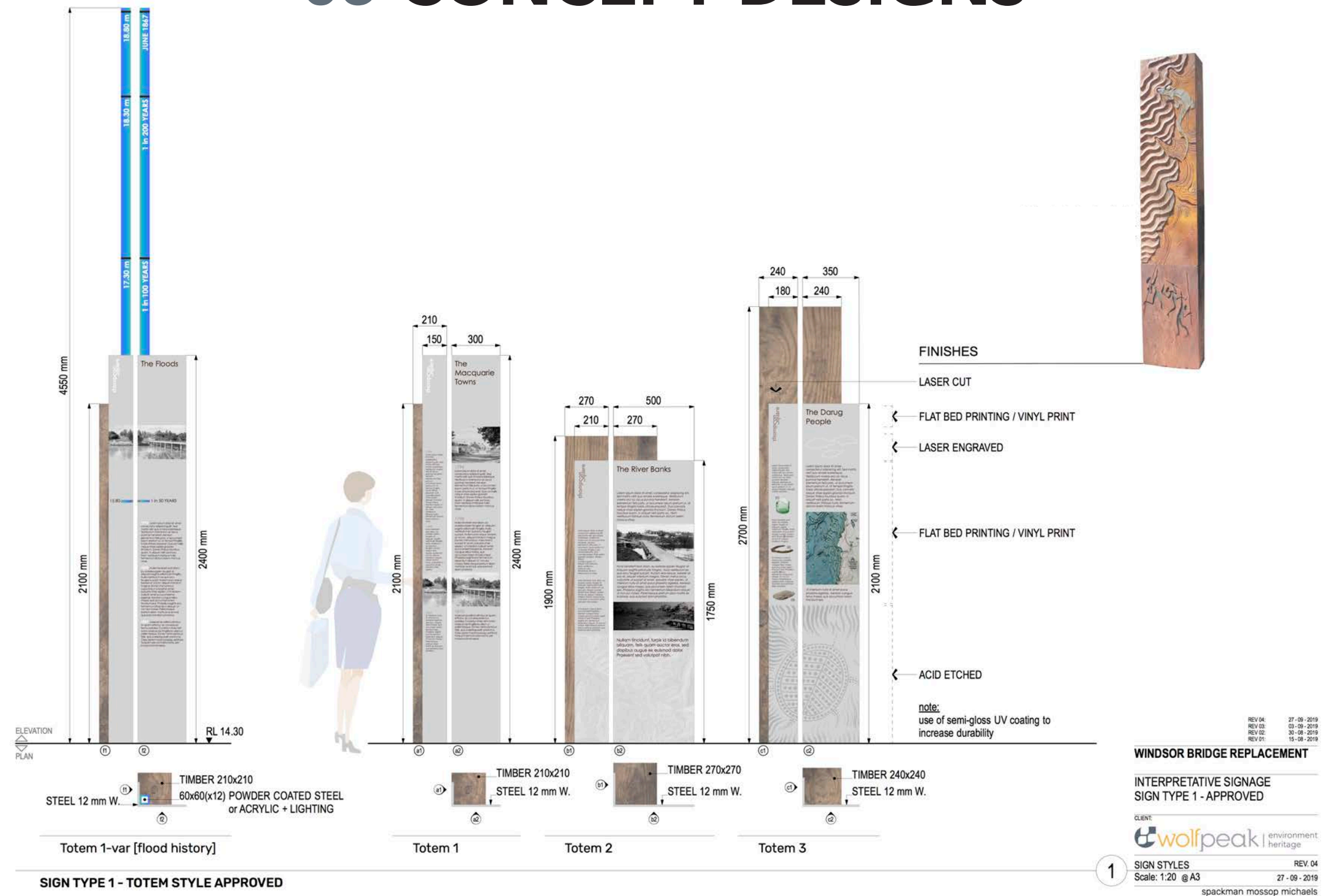
Historical Archaeology, AAJV, 9 September 2019

- Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Salvage Excavation Report - Maritime Archaeology (DRAFT), Cosmos Archaeology, 2019
- Thompson Square and Windsor Bridge - Detailed Photographic Archival Recording, 2018

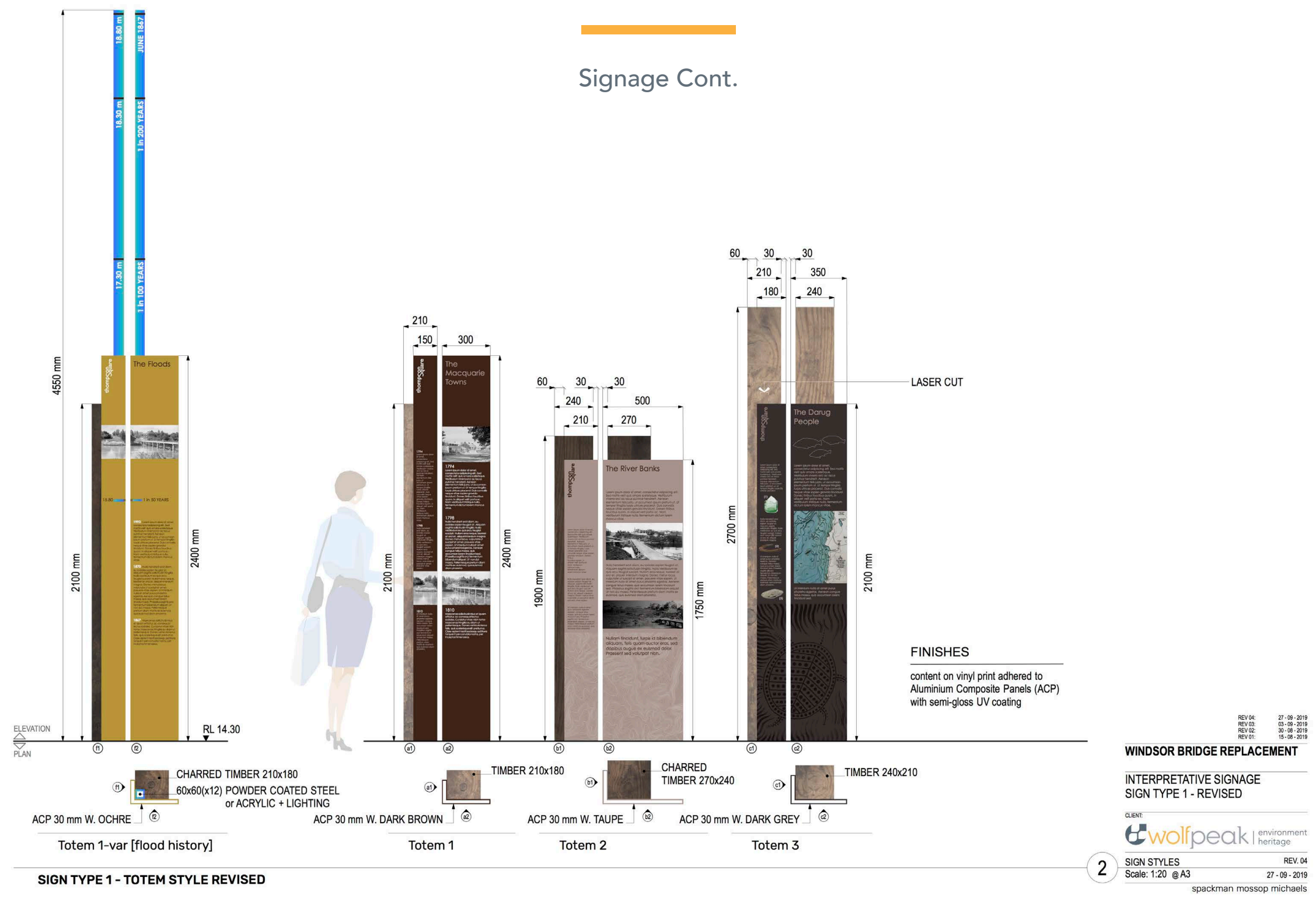
Images: Example of brochure type used on heritage sites.
Source: (top) <http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/documents/bf/nerang-heritage-walk-brochure.pdf>



05 CONCEPT DESIGNS

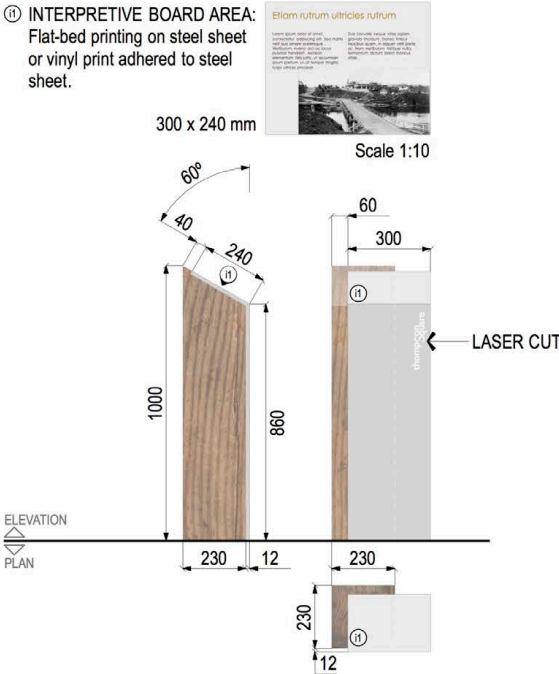


Signage Cont.



Signage Cont.

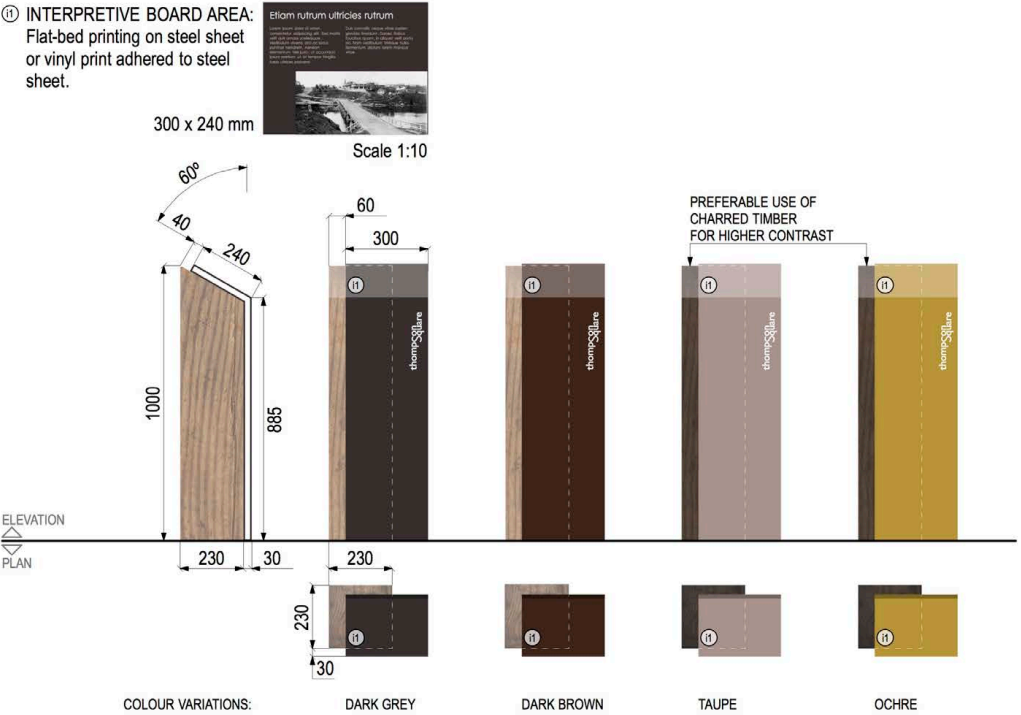
⑪ INTERPRETIVE BOARD AREA:
Flat-bed printing on steel sheet
or vinyl print adhered to steel
sheet.



Materials: Timber & Steel

SIGN TYPE 2 - LAY-BACK STYLE APPROVED

⑪ INTERPRETIVE BOARD AREA:
Flat-bed printing on steel sheet
or vinyl print adhered to steel
sheet.



Materials: Timber & Aluminium Composite Panels (ACP)

SIGN TYPE 2 - LAY-BACK STYLE REVISED

REV 04: 27 - 09 - 2019
REV 03: 03 - 09 - 2019
REV 02: 30 - 08 - 2019
REV 01: 15 - 08 - 2019

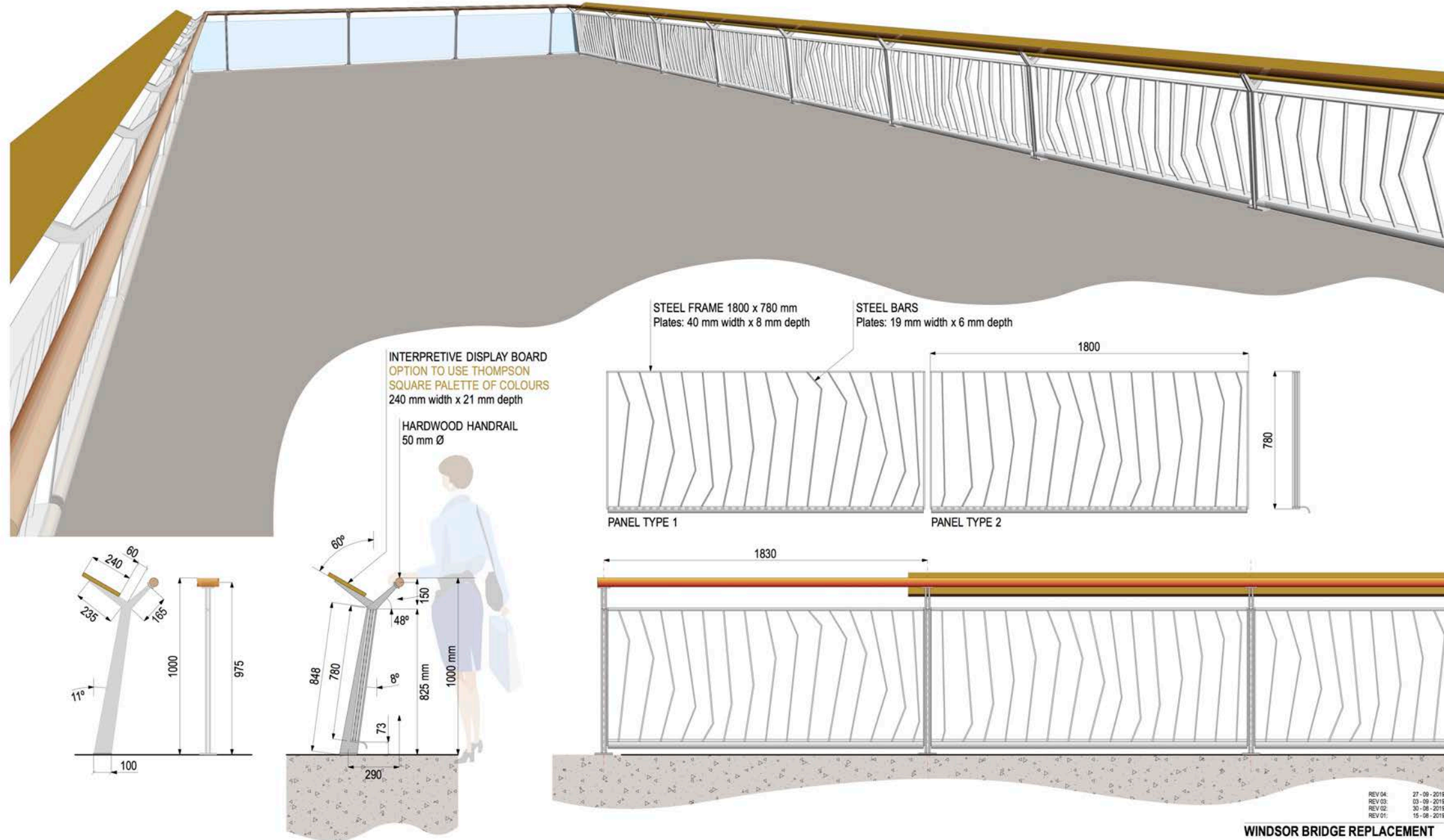
WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

INTERPRETATIVE SIGNAGE
SIGN TYPE 2 - APPROVED | REVISED

CLIENT: wolfpeak | environment heritage

SIGN STYLES
Scale: 1:20 @ A3
REV. 04
27 - 09 - 2019
spackman mossop michaelis

3



WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

INTERPRETATIVE SIGNAGE
SIGN TYPE 3 - APPROVED

CLIENT:
wolfpeak | environment
heritage

4

SIGN STYLES
Scale: 1:20 @ A3

REV. 04
27 - 09 - 2019
spackman mossop michaelis

SIGN TYPE 3 - BALUSTRADE INCORPORATING SIGNAGE

06 FINALISATION

Framework

FINALISATION

The Plan sets out a common framework for the inclusion of site-specific heritage interpretation for Thompson Square. The scope of the Heritage Interpretation Plan extends beyond the remit of the submission of this plan. Delivery of the physical devices and items will therefore require the completion by the contractors at a date included into the works program.

EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Evaluation and monitoring are key parts of delivering the Heritage Interpretation Plan and have formed an integral part of the development of this document. Widespread consultation, review and stakeholder approval of the interpretation methods, content and materials have all been used for initial evaluation of the works.

Without the information and data that on-going monitoring provides, it will not be possible to determine the effectiveness of the Plan's implementation, and whether the aims and objectives of the Plan are being realised.

This section of the Plan provides possible evaluation criteria for the interpretation to be implemented at a future date.

EVALUATION METHODS

Evaluation methods can be either indirect or direct.

Traditional direct methods of evaluation include:

- hard copy pamphlets
- surveys
- data collectors on-site

These could be utilised once the interpretation has been installed.

Surveys could be conducted by volunteers or representatives of Hawkesbury Regional Museum/Visitor Information Centre. Both are likely to have significant cross-over with the same audience.

Contemporary evaluation through the use of the new website or social media could also be considered. Evaluation could come in the form of comments and actions (likes) to media stories on the heritage interpretation, or dedicated announcements on the social media accounts of stakeholders. This is an example of an indirect method of evaluation.

Observation of 'users' within Thompson Square, another indirect method, can provide information on which interpretation installations are popular and what type of audience is accessing them. For example: tourists, river recreation users etc. This information can be particularly useful in determining ways to integrate heritage information into other spaces used by a similar audience.

The connections between the interpretation methods must be explored to determine if the user/audience member has acquainted themselves with the full range of interpretation options for Thompson Square.

IMPLEMENTATION

ITEMTIMING

Signage - Thompson Square Mid 2020

Signage & Viewing Platform Late 2020

Website Early 2020

Oral Histories to Library Early 2020

Museum Display Mid 2020

Brochure/Trail Early 2020

DRAFT VISITOR SURVEY TO SUPPORT THE EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

The following Draft Visitor Survey has been built to support the Evaluation Framework and provide a practical method of evaluation for the project. Other information or questions could be included for a more comprehensive evaluation approach.

DRAFT VISITOR SURVEY

Please rate the following from 1 (lowest/disagree) to 5 (highest/agree).

Did you enjoy learning about the heritage of Thompson Square?

1 2 3 4 5

Did you find the information easy to read and understand?

1 2 3 4 5

Have you looked at the digital resources as well, such as the website?

1 2 3 4 5

Would you recommend Thompson Square as a valuable place to visit?

1 2 3 4 5

Which information area/s was your favorite?

George Street Old Windsor Bridge
Viewing Platform Wharf Area
Flooding Aboriginal Archeology
North Side of River Museum
Other: (specify) _____



Finalisation Cont.

Which best describes you?

1. Local to the area
2. Holiday visitor to the area but live in Australia
3. Holiday visitor to the area but live outside of Australia
4. Visiting family or friends who live in the area

If you read any of the interpretation devices located within Thompson Square, how satisfied were you with them?

1 2 3 4 5

Did you use any of the QR codes located on the signage devices?

Yes / No

If yes, how satisfied were you with the digital media you were redirected to?

1 2 3 4 5

07 REFERENCE

Endnotes

- 1 Jackson, F. 'Windsor, NSW', *Manilla Express* (NSW: 1899-1954), Friday 6 June 1924, p. 4. Available at: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/191444094>.
- 2 *ibid.*
- 3 *Windsor and Richmond Gazette, Early Days of Winsor*, Rev. Jas Steele, Friday, 27 November, 1914. Available at: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85857906>.
- 4 Evans, G. W. *The Settlement of Green Hills, 1809*. Source: State Library of NSW (PXD: 388 v.3 f.7).
- 5 Infrastructure Approval Section 115ZB of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, Schedule 1, Application SSI-4951, 2013. Available at: <https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=SSI-4951%2120190228T040729.627%20GMT>.
- 6 Austral AHMS Joint Venture (AAJV), *Thompson Square, Windsor, NSW, Strategic Conservation Management Plan*, For RMS, 20 March 2017.
- 7 Lucas Stapleton Johnson & Partners Pty Ltd, *Thompson Square Conservation Area Windsor, NSW, Conservation Management Plan*, For Hawkesbury City Council, December 2018.
- 8 Sheedy, D. *National Trust Classification Cards – Thompson Square*, 1975.
- 9 Office of Environment and Heritage, 'Thompson Square Conservation Area', <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5045195>.
- 10 Office of Environment and Heritage, 'Hawkesbury River Bridge, Windsor', <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=4309589>.
- 11 <https://nga.gov.au/aboriginalmemorial/home.cfm>.
- 12 <https://www.rangihouaheritage.co.nz/home>.
- 13 Heritage Council of New South Wales and NSW Government, Department of Planning, Heritage Information Series: Heritage Interpretation Policy, 2005.

08 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Signage Content

Signage Content



LOCATION 1 - CNR GEORGE STREET & THOMPSON SQUARE, "MEETING PLACE" SIGN

WELCOME TO DARUG LANDS

We are Darug born of this land, born of the spirit, we have walked this land since the Dreaming. Darug country embraces the lands, rivers and seas, from the Blue Mountains to the Ocean, from the Hawkesbury in the north and approaching Appin in the south. Our ancestors' voices are echoed in our own, we still live in these changed but beautiful places.

This land has seen the Darug people gather for thousands of years – to hunt, to feast, to sing, and to dance. It is a land rich in our Dreaming.

Our mothers and father, grandmothers and grandfathers are our teachers. They teach us of the Dreaming, our language and our culture as their parents before taught them. Our bodies and minds carry the seeds of their wisdom, the memories of a different past.

Our lives are now different to those of our ancestors, yet we have survived; we have adapted while maintaining a sixty thousand culture in our blood and in our hearts.

Our language is an important part of maintaining our culture, a way of passing on the old ways of our people. We welcome you to Darug lands.

TIATI MURRA DARUGA PEMEL
KOI MURRA YA PEMEL NGALARINGI
BUBBUNA
BAN NYE YEMNA WURRA NANG
NYE DICE GAI DYI YA NANGAMI
DYARRALANG
DARUGA NGALARINGI TIATI NGALARINGI
NANGAMI GAI
GU YA WILLY ANGARA GU-NU-GAL DA
GU-NU-GAL
DA LA-LOEY MOOGOO COT-BALLIE
NANGAMI
DICE LA-LOEY GNIA TARIMI GU-NU-GAL
TIATI NGALARINGI YA DARUGA EORAH
MITTIGAR GURRUNG BURRUK GNEENE DA
DARUGA PEMEL
DIDGEREE GORE

Aunty Edna Watson, Darug Elder

THE GREENS HILLS

The District of Mulgrave Place, later known as Green Hills, and later still, as Windsor, is one of the earliest colonial settlements in Australia, with Thompson Square recognised as a rare colonial period square. It is home to the Boorooberongal clan of the Darug. Their

presence back at least 33,000 years is recorded in the soil.

From 1788 to 1840 New South Wales was used by the British to dispose of convicted criminals. During the early days of the colony one of the greatest challenges the new arrivals faced was a consistent food supply to feed an increasing population. The discovery of the Hawkesbury River (Dyarubbin) with its rich alluvial soil and freshwater catchments, together with access to Sydney by boat, quicker than by rough tracks, meant the establishment of agricultural farms along the river was inevitable.

THE CREATION STORY OF THE DYARUBBIN

The creator of Dyarubbin is Gurangatch, the rainbow serpent (represented by the Bara, eel figure) who rests in a large and deep waterhole known as Bents Basin. One of our songlines tells the story of an aeon long battle between Mirrigan (a large quoll or native cat) and Gurangatch. The geological upheaval of this event created the channels, that are the Hawkesbury-Nepean River system, as it is now known, with its numerous tributaries and waterholes.

Signage Content Cont.

1794 - THE ARRIVAL

In 1794 the first European settlers in the Hawkesbury were granted allotments along South Creek by Lieut. Governor Francis Grose. This was the beginning of massive change for the region. The growth of the area was both fast and extensive with the Hawkesbury district having the second highest population in the colony by the early nineteenth century. The impact to the Boorooberongal was devastating.

Within two years after the arrival of the 'settlers' a significant number of Darug had died from introduced diseases such as smallpox.

The ability of the Boorooberongal to cultivate and care for country almost ceased on the European occupation of an area. Conflict resulted as they accessed both aquatic and terrestrial resources - kangaroo and wallaby, fish, crayfish, mussels and yams grown on the riverbanks. It was land on the waterways that was most highly prized and the first to be taken by the colonists. The Boorooberongal were continually pushed back.

FOOD SUPPLY

In early 1795 a government store was constructed and by mid-year there were approximately 400 Europeans settled along 30kms of riverbank. Due to an increase in violence – five Europeans were killed and

several wounded, together with an unknown number of Darug killed or injured as they resisted occupation, troops were permanently stationed in the area. Acting Governor, Colonel William Paterson reported:

't gives me concern to have been forced to destroy any of these people, particularly as I have no doubt of their having been cruelly treated by some of the first settlers who went out there; however had I not taken this step, every prospect of advantage which the colony may expect to derive from settlement on the banks of so fine a river as the Hawkesbury would be at an end'

[Paterson to Henry Dundas, Secretary for war and the Colonies, 15 June 1795]

Soldiers were sent from Sydney with a specific task, to subdue and destroy the local Aboriginal population to stop the attacks. In retaliation for a military attack which resulted in the deaths of up to eight Darug men and two babies and the capture and/or wounding of several women and children, a farm at Richmond Hill was attacked and the occupier and his child killed. The Battle of Richmond Hill is remembered annually throughout the region.

All provisions delivered by boat or cultivated from the surrounding local land were

guarded by a small military guard who were accommodated within the newly built stores building. This marked the initial formation of what would become Thompson Square.

During the next two decades the establishment of a government precinct, which included a military barracks, warehousing, administration facilities, and residential housing, transformed the space into a vital administrative and transportation hub.

THOMPSON SQUARE

In January 1810, Governor Lachlan Macquarie appointed emancipated convict Andrew Thompson, as Chief Magistrate of the Green Hills. This controversial decision made Thompson the first ex-convict to be appointed as a magistrate. Thompson, however, had been in poor health since prolonged exposure to cold and immersion in the 1809 floods and would not last the year dying in October 1810 at his home, near South Creek.

Macquarie then acquired parts of Thompson's Estate including his residence, store and granary and built a barrack for the military complete with parade ground and stockade surround; a stockaded prisoner's barrack and under his administration civic and military infrastructure of Windsor was established, including Thompson Square.

In December 1810, Macquarie announced the creation of five new towns within the Hawkesbury-Nepean River catchment. Castlereagh, Pitt Town, Richmond, Wilberforce and Windsor. Based on British town layouts, all towns were to have a public square.

In 1811, he proclaimed that the square at Windsor would be renamed Thompson Square, in honour of, Andrew Thompson. This was the first time a place of importance had been named after an ex-convict, a further step in Macquarie's evolving program for the rehabilitation of ex-convicts within the colony.

1874 - A NEW BRIDGE

The original bridge was officially opened by the Hon. John Sutherland, Minister for Works on 24 August 1874. Decorated with fruit, flowers and flags; a procession of local school children, dignitaries and the Windsor and Richmond Volunteer Company Band marched across the new bridge.

'I hope that the bridge will last longer than the life of the youngest child who passes over it today.' [Hon. John Sutherland at the opening of the new Windsor Bridge]

A sporting afternoon for the children, bullock roast for the adults and a Public Luncheon for

Signage Content Cont.

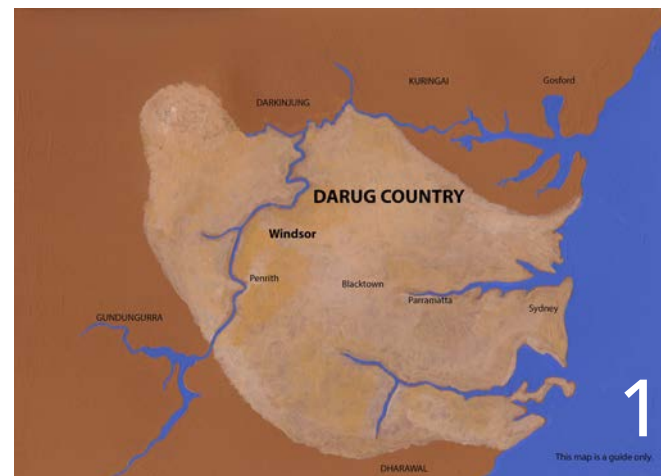
the dignitaries followed. A Public Ball in the Barrack Room concluded the day's celebrations.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD

Archaeologists recovered over 30,000 items spanning more than 33,000 years of human history during the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project. These ranged from Aboriginal stone artefacts to the discards of colonial life, representing everything from casual visits to serious attempts to reshape the land into something different. These objects, whether a stone scraper, copper nail or colonial shipwreck, provide insights into how people lived in and visited Thompson Square in vastly different times.

One of the most significant finds was extensive sections of a brick drainage system beneath lower Thompson Square. The system comprised of a central drain (the barrel drain) on a north-south alignment running down to the river. It was fed by three box drains constructed at a higher level and connected to the main drain by rising sumps.

Examples of this highly significant assemblage have been conserved and placed in the Hawkesbury Regional Museum.



POTENTIAL IMAGERY TO BE USED



SIGNAGE CUT-OUTS INSPIRATION



1. *Darug Country*, 2019, Leanne Watson
2. *Grey Dawn on the Hawkesbury*, 1895-96, Arthur Streeton
3. *Axe Head*, part of the maritime archaeology collection

4. *Gum Leaves*, Leanne Watson

5. *The Settlement of Green Hills*, 1809, George Evans

6. *Dyarubbin*, 2019, Leanne Watson

7. *Portion of Windsor, Showing Bridge*, date unknown, Government Printing Office, SLNSW

8. 1799 Coin found as part of the maritime archaeology collection

9. Windsor Bridge, c. 1888, James Mills, SLNSW

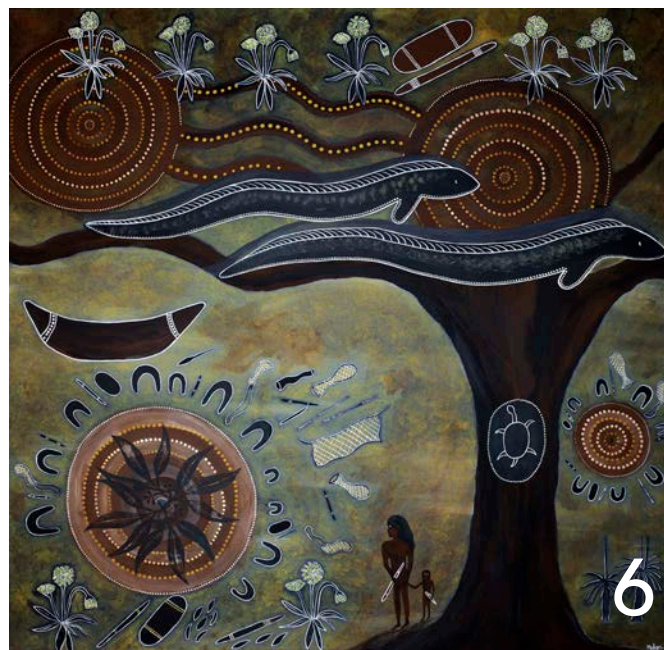
10. *A view of part of the town of Windsor in New South Wales*, 1813, P Slaeger, NLA

11. *Pipe*, part of the maritime archaeology collection

12. *Wharf*, c. 1879

13. *Sydney Mud Whelk*, part of the maritime archaeology collection

NOTE: All imagery is dependent on permissions and approvals being obtained during the signage design process.



Signage Content Cont.

LOCATION 2 - WHARF AREA

SHIPBUILDING IN THE HAWKESBURY

The Hawkesbury River (Dyarubbin) was the main route to Sydney for early settlers. As a security measure in the prison that was New South Wales, private boat building was forbidden, with shipping by Government vessel only. However, with the rise of the sealing industry in Bass Strait, the ban was lifted, and ship building began along the banks of the Hawkesbury River.

As the settlement grew, so did the nature of the boats used – from small cutters and sloops to larger schooners through to paddle steamers and steam ships. There were also small feeder boats used to move goods along the river between the tributaries and merchants. Residents would pop into town in a rowboat or dugout canoe.

By 1804 at least five Hawkesbury-built vessels, were registered. One of these was the 16-ton sloop the *Hope*, built by Andrew Thompson in 1802. The *Hope* was a commercial vessel built specifically for the Hawkesbury-Sydney trade run – one of the busiest in the new colony.

THE RISING WATERS

The Boorooberongal who lived along the banks of the Hawkesbury River moved in

harmony with the environment, resources and constellations – cycles that were known and handed down for thousands of years. Understanding the land and the animals meant that they could predict the coming of a flood and move to higher ground, the rising waters often providing renewal of the land with the deposit of alluvial soils.

Unlike traditional custodians, colonial settlers struggled with the unpredictable and often rapid flooding of the area. The Hawkesbury River narrows as it cuts through the sandstone gorges between Sackville and Brooklyn, creating a natural blockage. Heavy rains further along the river could cause water levels to quickly rise, and lead to flooding of the low flat plain around Windsor.

From 1799 to 1978 there were forty-four major floods (above 10m) recorded for the Windsor area. The greatest of the recorded floods occurred in 1867 when the waters reached 19 metres (63 feet) high. Crops were lost, houses swept away, and people and stock drowned.

THE WHARVES OF WINDSOR [NOTE: TO BE CONFIRMED BY MARITIME REPORT]

Maritime archaeological investigations found evidence of several wharves having been built on the river. The earliest of these was

Greenway's 1820 wharf. The method used for building the early wharves meant that excavation was completed in layers providing not only artefacts but their context.

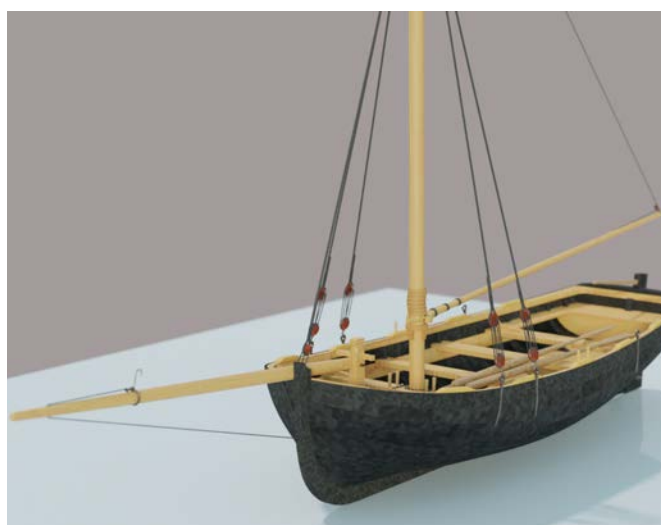
A SHIPWRECK FOUND

One of the archaeological programs key finds was the remains of an early colonial boat, one of several vessels found in the river. It may well have been made at one of the shipyards along this stretch of the Hawkesbury. While its date is uncertain it was probably being made no later than the mid 19th century.

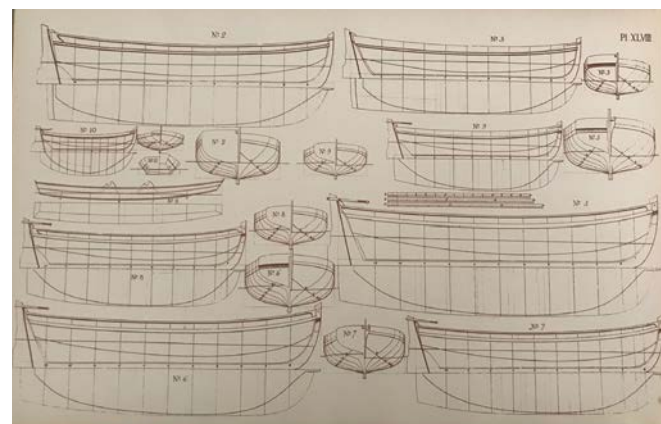
The vessel made of Australian timber was constructed when small timber boats were essential transportation within the colony. The vessel's irregular, highly vernacular, construction provides information on early colonial ship building techniques. Unusual features include frames roughly shaped with an adze (axe like tool with a perpendicular cutting edge) and the bow or stem was made from *Ficus* sp., with a flat board keelson. The shape, known because the full extent of the rabbet line exists along the keel, is a rare find.

Reconstructed digitally from the actual timbers found it (the image shown) shows the vessel as it would have appeared.

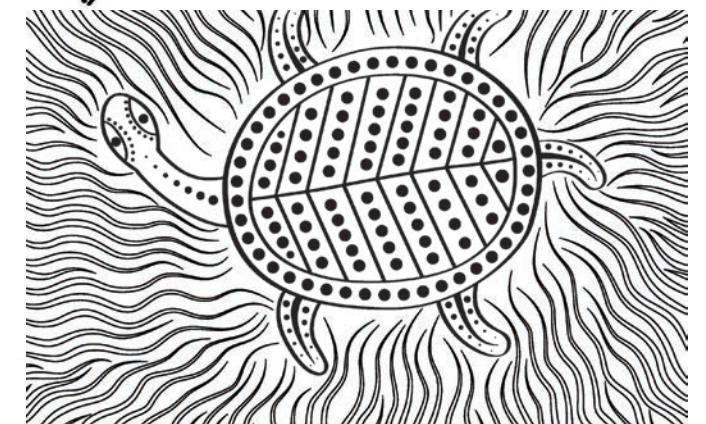
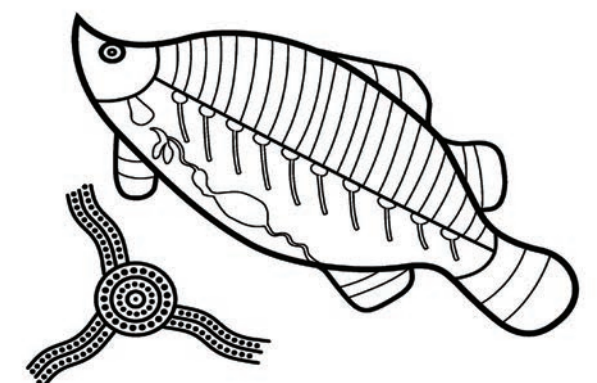
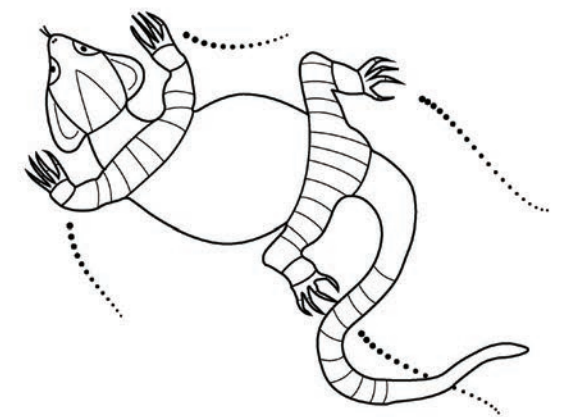
Signage Content Cont.



POTENTIAL IMAGERY TO BE USED



SIGNAGE CUT-OUTS INSPIRATION



Signage Content Cont.

LOCATION 3 - CARPARK

(To form part of the signage design)

NAME: ANDREW THOMPSON
 DOB: 7TH FEBRUARY 1773
 DOD: 22ND OCTOBER 1810
 (37 YEARS)
 CRIME: SIMPLE LARCENY
 (THEFT)
 CONVICTED AT: JEDBURGH COURT OF
 JUSTICIARY
 SENTENCE: 14 YEARS
 SHIP: THE PITT
 OTHER NOTABLE
 PASSENGERS: MAJOR FRANCIS
 GROSE
 ARRIVAL: 14TH FEBRUARY 1792

EMANCIPIST, BUSINESSMEN, MAGISTRATE

Andrew Thompson was born 1773 in Scotland and transported to Australia as a teenager for housebreaking and theft of cloth worth £10. He arrived in Sydney in February 1792 aboard the Pitt. It didn't take long for Thompson to excel. In 1793 he joined the police, serving as a Constable at Toongabbie with distinction. In 1796 he was relocated to the settlement at the Green Hills (Windsor) by Governor John Hunter. Rising to the position of Chief Constable, a rank he held until 1808, he was again rewarded in 1798 when he received a Pardon and built a new home on an acre of

land that overlooked the Hawkesbury River. In 1799 he was appointed Grain Assessor for the Hawkesbury settlement.

In 1802 he built the first toll bridge on South Creek with the help of Governor Philip Gidley King, who then issued him with a lease until 1820.

However, along with the successes was the brutality of the time. The Darug people do not celebrate Thompson as the early colonists did, instead believing him to be part of the establishment that inflicted pain and suffering to the dispossessed Aboriginal people of the Hawkesbury.

By the arrival of Governor William Bligh in 1806 Thompson was the wealthiest settler in the whole colony. Thompson's commercial successes included substantial land holdings, a successful inn and brewery, a general store, a shipyard and trading service, salt manufacturing, and a tannery.

In 1810 Thompson was appointed Magistrate by Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

Thompson was also recognised for his heroism and moral standing in rescuing settlers from flood waters, investigating local crimes, capturing runaway convicts, and his

acting as a liaison between colonists and the Boorooberongal.

However, Andrew Thompson did not live long enough to enjoy his many successes. Dying in October 1810, his health having been in decline since the 1809 floods when, in his role of Constable, he suffered prolonged immersion and exhaustion as he undertook rescues and fulfilled other civic duties in the extended crisis.

GRAVE EPITAPH

(To form part of the signage design)

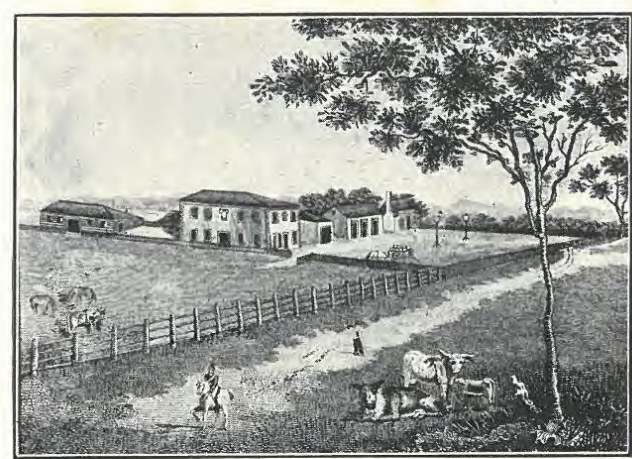
'SACRED to the memory of ANDREW THOMPSON ESQUIRE Justice of the Peace and chief Magistrate of the District of the Hawkesbury, a Native of Scotland, Who at the age of 17 Years; was sent to this Country where from the time of his arrival he distinguished himself by the most persevering industry and diligent attention to the commands of his Superiors. By these means he raised himself to a state of respectability and affluence which enabled him to indulge the generosity of his nature in assisting his Fellow Creatures in distress more particularly in the Calamitous Floods of the river Hawkesbury in the Years 1806, and 1809 where at the immediate risque [sic] of his life and perminant [sic] injury, of his health he exerted himself each time (unremittingly) during three successive Days



Signage Content Cont.

and Nights in saving the lives and Properties of numbers who but for him must have Perished. In- consequence of Mr. Thompson's good Conduct, governor Macquarie appointed him a Justice of the Peace. This act, which restored him to that rank in Society which he had lost, made so deep an impression on his grateful Heart as to induce him to bequeath to the governor one-fourth of his Fortune. This most useful and valuable Man closed his Earthly career on the 22nd Day of October 1810, at His House at Windsor of which he was the principal Founder in the 37th Year of, his age, with (in) the Hope of Eternal Life. ' From respect and esteem for the Memory of the deceased, this Monument is erected by LACHLAN MACQUARIE, GOVERNOR of New South Wales."

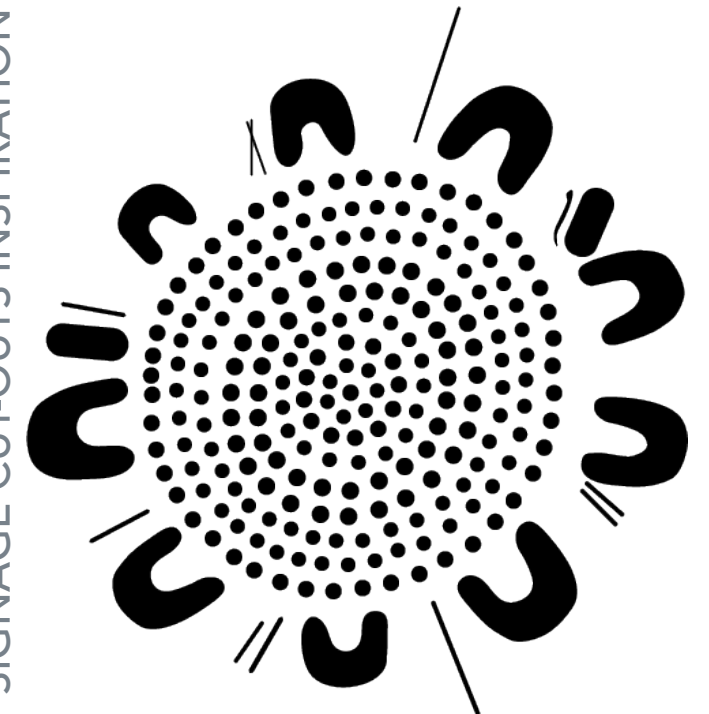
POTENTIAL IMAGERY TO BE USED



ANDREW THOMPSON'S "RED HOUSE" FARM
(now McGrath's Hill), WINDSOR.
(Block lent by C. H. Bertie, Esq.)



SIGNAGE CUT-OUTS INSPIRATION



Signage Content Cont.

LOCATION 4 - TOP OF STAIRS

A FLOOD HISTORY

The Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley has a long history of damaging and dangerous floods.

The valley covers approximately 425 square kilometres of flood plain. It is an area that is prone to rapid inundation which can have disastrous impacts. The restricted passage of the Sackville and Brooklyn areas means that water backs up at these points causing a natural plug in the river. As the valley is fed by five major tributaries the effects of flooding can be fast and unforgiving to the surrounding flat agricultural plains.

In 1798 - 1799 New South Wales experienced a long and protracted drought. On the Hawkesbury the drought was broken by a devastating flood in March 1799. Rising by around 15 metres the banks could not contain the vast rapidly flowing waters. The Government Store, located near the banks, was washed away, along with houses, livestock, and provisions. Warnings prior to the flood from the Boorooberongal had gone unheeded.

While rebuilding from the previous year's flood, the Hawkesbury again broke its banks in 1800 and again inundated the settlement's crops. This trend continued, recurring in

1806 and 1809. The pattern was understood by the Boorooberongal who were well versed in the changing natural environment of the Hawkesbury region, interacting with the seasonal cycles by relocating when flooding occurred. By comparison, the colony experienced discomfort, deprivation of basic amenities, and intense loss at each flooding occurrence.

The largest flood since European settlement occurred in June 1867. The waters rose to an unprecedented, 19 metres above normal height at Windsor, as shown on the pole above you. This flood was widespread and catastrophic, with many people losing their homes, their livelihoods, and their lives.

The members of the Eather family were victims of this flood. Their story is one of many heartbreaking tales from the days that followed. Chossing to stay in their home, they became cut off from any escape due to the rapidly rising waters. The Eathers, consisting of Thomas and William, their wives Emma and Catherine, and their 11 children, took refuge on the roof of their house as the water rose. Eventually it gave way and was washed the fifteen into the raging river. Only three survived – Thomas, son Charles, and William.

Since 1867, the area has experienced many floods. From 1799 to 1978 there were forty-four major floods (above 10m) recorded for the Windsor area. How many happened before European settlement is unknown but can be safely predicted as occurring often.

The lines shown along the stairs and on the abutment behind you, show historic flood levels. How many happened before European sttlement is unknown but can be safely predicted as occurring often.

FLOOD DATES [INFORMATION FROM FLOOD DATA TBC]

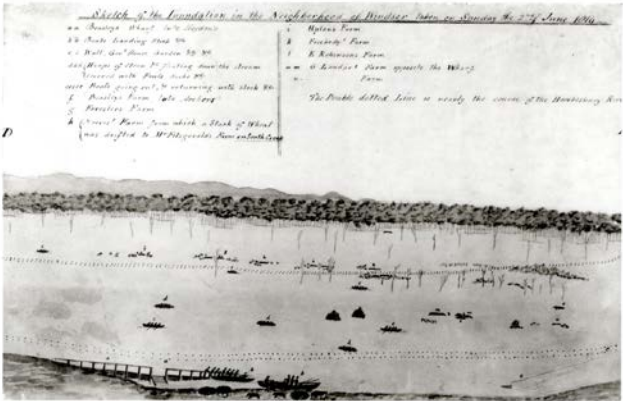
| | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1799 | 1889 | 2009 |
| 1800 | 1900 | |
| 1802 | 1913 | |
| 1806 | 1916 | |
| 1809 | 1925 | |
| 1811 | 1949 | |
| 1816 | 1952 | |
| 1817 | 1953 | |
| 1819 | 1954 | |
| 1820 | 1955 | |
| 1857 | 1956 | |
| 1860 | 1961 | |
| 1864 | 1964 | |
| 1867 | 1971 | |
| 1870 | 1978 | |

Concept drawings only - subject to change.

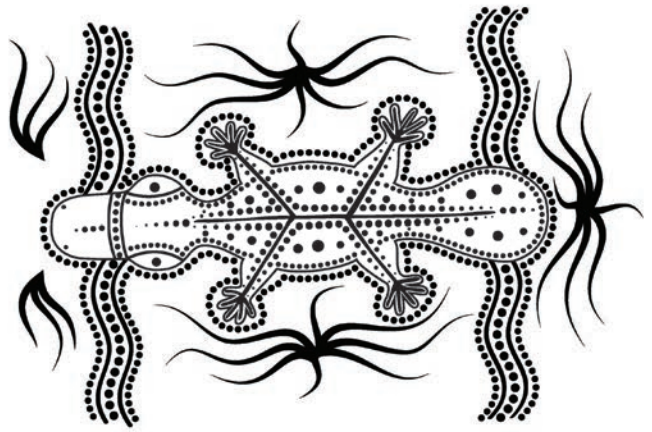
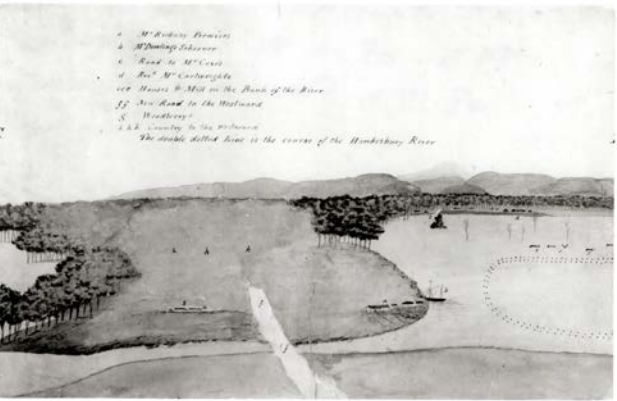
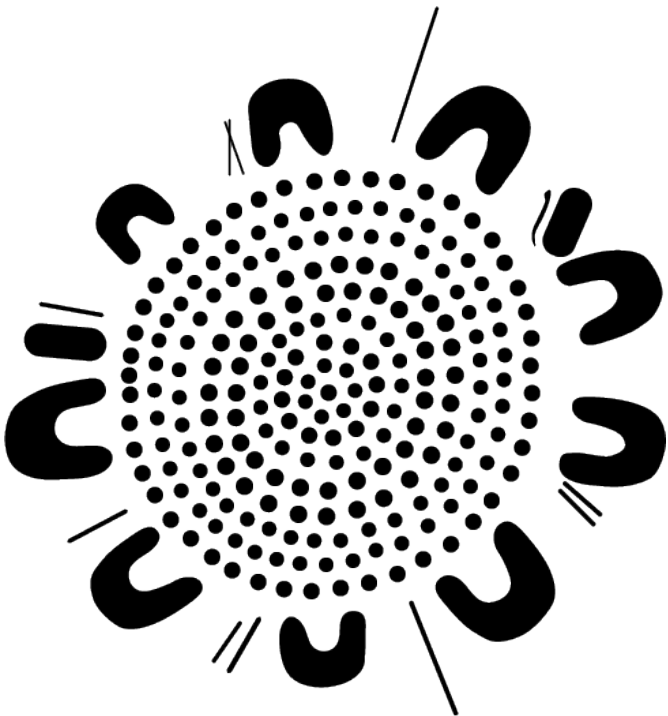
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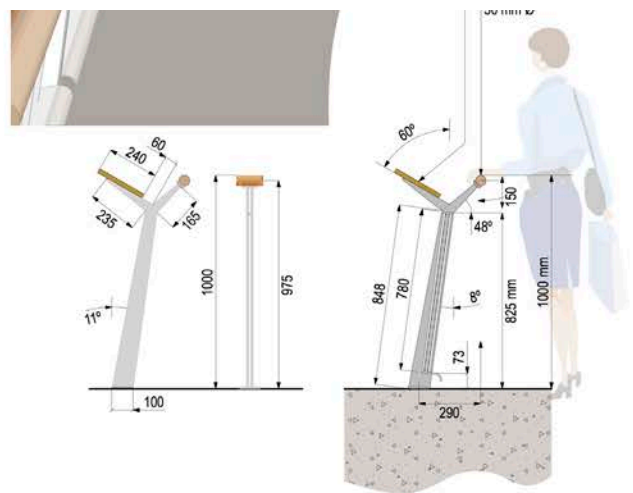
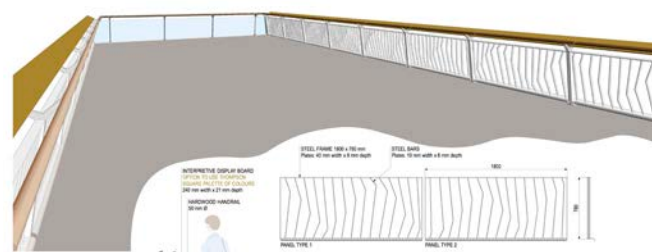
POTENTIAL IMAGERY TO BE USED



SIGNAGE CUT-OUTS INSPIRATION



Signage Content Cont.



LOCATION 5 - VIEWING PLATFORM

100K BCE– Nature's Way

Hawkesbury River forms the riverine system leading to the sea. Thompson Square contains a complex geomorphological history of fluvial and aeolian developments that culminate in today's landscape.

27K BCE – Australia's First People

The archaeological record shows that Aboriginal people have lived in the area, known today as Windsor, for at least 33,000 years.

1791 – First Contact

Governor Phillip's exploration party arrives a short distance from what will become Windsor. They converse with local aboriginal clan leaders Gombeeree, Yellowmunde and Yellomundee's son Deeimba.

1794 – European Arrival

Colonisation began in the Upper Hawkesbury area, then named Mulgrave Place, in 1794. The area now known as Windsor was called Green Hills at this time. A garrison was stationed at Green Hills to protect the colony's food supply and farms.

Aboriginal access to the Hawkesbury River increasingly reduced, removing the capacity to hunt, fish and utilise bark canoe transport, meant that local Aboriginals began to starve and displaced from their homes.

In August, one of the first recorded instances of violence near Windsor occurred when an Aboriginal boy was seized, detained, tortured and killed on, or near, the farms of Robert Forrester and Michael Doyle.

1795 – A Civic Square

Civic square (later Thompson Square) and first storehouse established alongside the Government Precinct.

First wharf constructed north of the civic square.

European population rises to over 400.

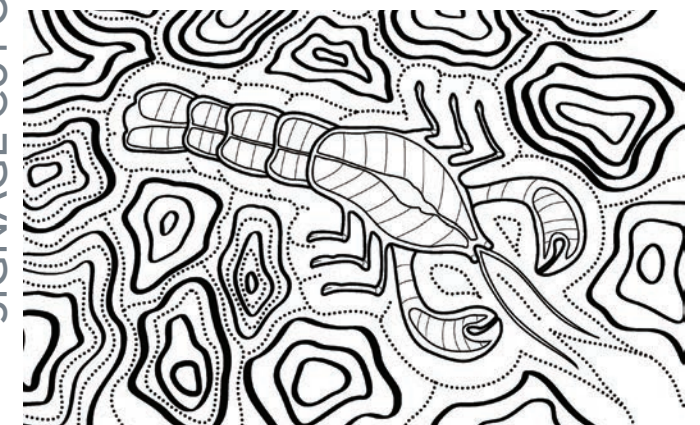
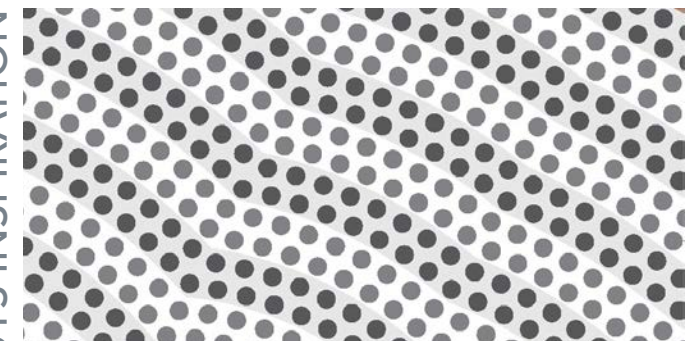
With limited access to traditional food sources, Aboriginals begin to take ripening corn from the settler farms, resulting in military action from the colony.

1796 – Andrew Thompson arrives

Andrew Thompson (1773-1810) appointed as police officer at Green Hills.

First log granary completed.

SIGNAGE CUT-OUTS INSPIRATION



Signage Content Cont.

First soldier's barracks built.

Commandant's/Government House at Windsor completed.

1798 – A pardon

Andrew Thompson pardoned.

Emancipist and farmer John Harris' declaration as a "citizen of the world", after being confined for no legal reason, sees ex-convict civil rights enshrined in a colonial verdict for the first time.

1799 – Agriculture, droughts and floods

Andrew Thompson appointed as Grain Assessor.

Green Hills agricultural production has been impacted by drought and intermitted flooding since 1794. First recorded 'severe flood' (>10m) occurs in 1799, destroying the wharf and barracks.

1800

Additional log granary completed.

c1802

Andrew Thompson established a floating bridge and toll gate across South Creek.

1804

Governor meets the original inhabitants.

Governor King meets with local Aboriginal people to discuss their grievances.

Main road to Richmond Hills is completed around this time.

1805 – Frontier Wars continue.

Three storey storehouses and brick granary completed.

1806

Severe flood event.

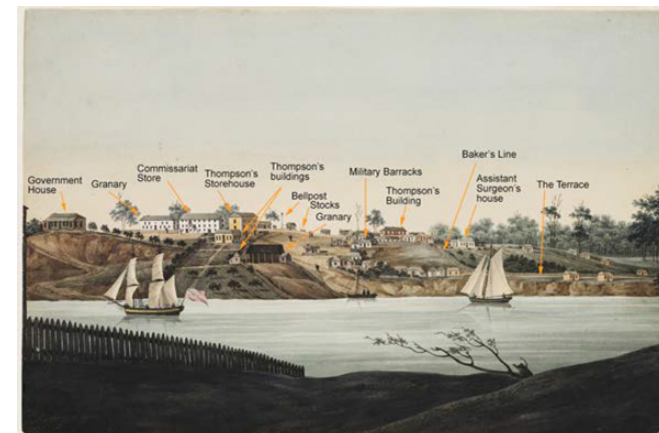
1808 – A promotion.

Andrew Thompson appointed chief constable of Green Hills.

1809 – Ding Dong, hear ye, hear ye!!

Bell installed at high point of settlement within the Government Precinct which rang at 6am every morning to call the convicts to breakfast. This area become a formal gathering spot for population musters, public punishments and official occasions.

Severe flood event.



The painting by G W Evans believed to date from 1807 or 1809 showing the configuration of the government precinct on southern bank of the Hawkesbury River. Source: G W Evans, Settlement on Green Hills, ML, PXD 388 Vol 3, No 7

1810 - Windsor

Andrew Thompson is appointed to Chief Magistrate in January 1810. Thompson dies later that year after sustaining injury and illness from long periods rescuing people in the severe floods the preceding years.

Governor Macquarie proclaims the establishment of five new towns, one of these is Windsor. The others being Castlereagh, Pitt Town, Richmond, and Wilberforce. Windsor is the only new town established on the site of an existing village, then Green Hills.

Windsor becomes home to the 73rd Regiment, under the command of Governor Macquarie. Soldiers initially stationed at the barracks which was on the southwestern side of the civic square.

One of the government granaries is converted to a temporary chapel and public school.

1811

Civic square officially proclaimed Thompson Square by Governor Macquarie, after his friend Andrew Thompson.

Green Hills becomes Windsor

1814 – Crossing the river

Punt service commences across the Hawkesbury River at Windsor. The ferry is operated by John Howe.

1815 – Macquarie Arms arrives.

Macquarie Arms Hotel, 18 George Street, established. The Macquarie Arms is the oldest surviving building in Thompson Square.

Drainage infrastructure construction commences, consisting of 120,000 to 150,000 bricks!

New wharf constructed.

Signage Content Cont.

1816 – Proclamation

Severe flood event breaks two year drought.

14 May - Government Macquarie issues Government Proclamation restricting movement and gatherings of Aboriginals. This was introduced due to renewed outbreaks of violence related to food scarcity.

1818 – Stronger Barracks

New brick barracks completed for 50 soldiers, enclosed in a stockade.

1819

Severe flood event.

1820 – The drains are in place

Further drainage infrastructure and wharf constructed after flooding damage.



Box drain 2, looking west. Several of the box drains formed constraints to the

Aboriginal archaeological salvage. Here, the western salvage (shown left of photograph) could not expand southwards due to this feature being present

1822 – Convict housing

New brick built convict barracks completed. The barracks house 100 male convicts enclosed within a “strong high brick wall”.

1830s – Agricultural Champion

In the 1830’s agriculture continued to dominate the Windsor economy, with the district recorded as having over 17,000 acres of land ‘under cultivation’ – almost double the amount of any other district.

62 George Street erected, originally constructed as terraces, the remaining cottage is a remnant of that terrace.

1836

Mounted Police Barracks and Stables completed.

c1837

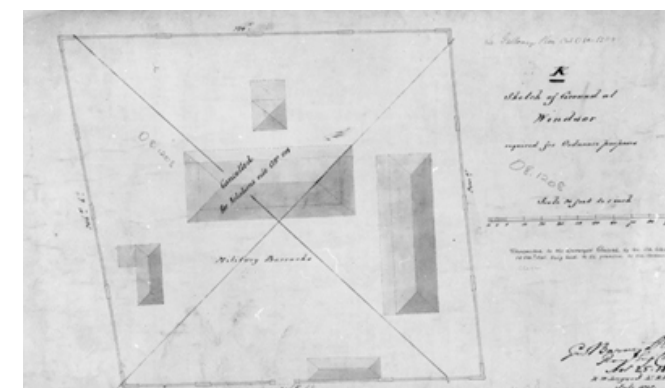
Howe’s House/Coffey’s Inn (7 Thompson Square) completed.

c1840

Cottage at 19 Bridge Street completed.

1842 – Military era over.

Military leave Windsor, police occupy barracks from 1960s until 1924.



H W Lugard’s survey of Windsor barracks in July 1842. Source: SA Map 4681

1844 – The Doctor is in

The Doctors House dates from 1844.



W. H. Wilson’s 1912 sketch of the Doctor’s House. Source: NLA/ PIC R608 LOC1421

1848 – Aboriginal decline

Aboriginal population had declined to 65.

c1850

Cottage at No.5 Thompson Square constructed.

Lilburn Hall completed.

Signage Content Cont.



Undated photograph of No. 10 Bridge Street. Source: Charles Kerry Postcard series, Hawkesbury Library, 003/003016

1857

Severe flood event.

1858

European population risen to 8,431 by 1858.

c1860s

Cottage at 6 Bridge Street completed.

1860

Severe flood event.

1861 – The Arts

School of Arts Building, 14 Bridge Street, erected.



The original School of Arts building in the 1870s. Source: Hawkesbury Library/000507 45-24

1864 – The Railway arrives

Windsor Railway Station opened with first public train from Sydney arriving. The railway provided a substantially more efficient way to transport goods to and from Sydney than the Hawkesbury River.

Two severe flood events. June and July.



View of the original building Windsor Railway Station built in 1864. The current station was built in 1883 and this building was re-erected in Mileham Street, Windsor. Hawkesbury Regional Library.

1867 – A flood to remember

Catastrophic flood which reached heights of 63 feet or 19.2 metres. This remains the worse flood event in Windsor since colonisation.



Engraving by Oswald Rose Campbell entitled "Floods in New South Wales- Windsor, at Nightfall, dated 27th July 1867". The image shows the flooding of the lower lands to the west of Thompson Square, looking west up George Street towards the top of the ridge. Source: State Library of Victoria, IAN27/07/67/8

1869

Severe flood event.

c1860s

82 George street, single story commercial building completed.

1870

Severe flood event.

Signage Content Cont.

1871 – Sporting interaction

In January, five Aboriginals won against a “brigade” crew in a boat race over a distance of one mile. The Aboriginal crew took the lead early and kept it throughout, coming in amidst a round of applause, winning the race by four yards.

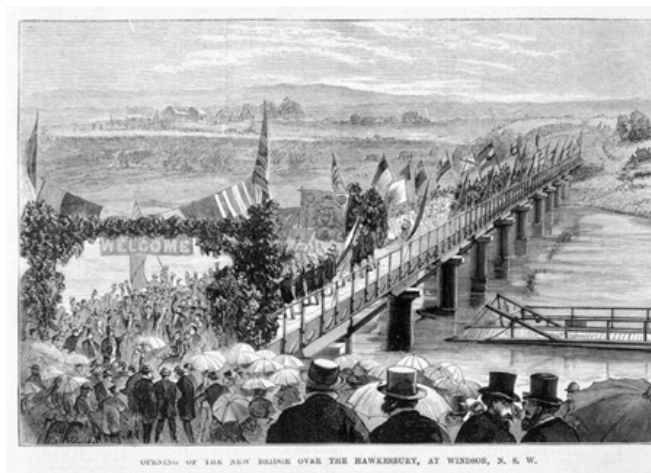
Severe flood event.

1873

Severe flood event.

1874 – Windsor Bridge opens, a square is divided

Windsor Bridge, fitted with cart-friendly tracks, was officially opened. The 480 foot (146.3 metres) bridge cost £10,280 (\$18,607) to construct. The opening consisted of a momentous procession through Windsor followed by dinner in Thompson Square. The road accessing the bridge was re-configured and divided Thompson Square by a winding north-easterly carriageway.



The official opening of the bridge. Source: Illustrated Australian News for Home Readers, 4 Nov 1874



The original low level bridge in the 1870s. Source: ML.SPF, PXA 2113, Box 74

1875

Severe flood event.

1879

Severe flood event.

c1880

68 George Street erected and extended in c1887. Originally the Hawkesbury Stores.

1881 – Tolls arrive

Toll Bar Bridge constructed over South Creek.

1882

Timber hexagonal summer house constructed in Thompson Square. It was frequently used by local Aboriginals. It was demolished in 1900.

1887

Riverside Park, adjacent to the Hawkesbury River proclaimed in 1887

1889 – Sackville Reach Reserve

Severe flood event.

Sackville Reach Aboriginal Reserve of 150 acres officially proclaimed.

1890

Severe flood event.

1891

Severe flood event.

Aboriginal population is 91.

1894

Severe flood event.

1896-7 – Raising of Windsor Bridge

Windsor Bridge raised by 2 metres due to flooding events.

The Terrace between Thompson Square and the wharf was proclaimed a reserve in 1886.

1898

Severe flood event.

1899 – Thompson Square a reserve

With Thompson Square now divided by the road approaching the bridge, the Upper and Lower Reserves of the Square are officially declared for public recreation.

92-94 George Street, constructed in latter half of 19th century.

1900

Severe flood event.

1904

Severe flood event.

Signage Content Cont.

1907

A.C Stearn Building, 74 George Street, previously a single storey building is extended to two storeys.

c.1910

Commercial building at 88 George Street completed.

1916

Severe flood event.

c.1920 – Upgrade of Windsor Bridge

Windsor Bridge updated with concrete replacements to timber decking and kerbing.

Commandant's/Government House at Windsor had been demolished around this time.

1923 – Old fashioned service

No70-72 George Street is erected, it was originally a service station.



Hawkesbury Motor Garage in the 1920s.
Source: Hawkesbury Library/ 000705

1925

Severe flood event.

1934 – Deeper divide

Large cutting is excavated for a new approach to the bridge to accommodate the rising popularity of motor cars. This approach cuts through Thompson Square in a north-west direction.



Aerial view of Thompson Square in 1929 showing some plantings in the two reserves. (Source: Aerial photography, courtesy of Carol Roberts, from the collection of her mother, the late Iris Cammack Photographer Frederick Halpin Willson, RAAF, 1929).



1929 aerial photograph of Thompson Square Conservation Area. Source: Carol Roberts, Windsor, from the collection of her mother, the late Iris Cammack. Photographer Frederick Halpin Willson, RAAF, 1929.



1947-51 aerial photograph. Note the alignment of the previous road through Thompson Square remains clearly visible in the tree plantings in the Upper Reserve. Source: NSW Spatial Services

Signage Content Cont.

1943 – Sackville Reach Reserve ceases
Severe flood event.

Sackville Reach Aboriginal Reserve ceases to operate and soon after revoked.

1949
Severe flood event.

Boat house constructed near the river on Thompson Square.

c1950
Windsor wharf fallen into disrepair and either demolished or left to collapse.



Detail from c1935 photograph by E.W. Searle showing the Windsor Wharf to the east of the Bridge, much reduced in size. Source: NLA, PIC P838_1419 LOC Cold store SEA Box 11

1952
Severe flood event.

1956
Severe flood event.

1961
Severe flood event.

1964
Severe flood event.

1969
Severe flood event.

1975
Severe flood event.

1976
Current bridge constructed over South Creek

1978
Severe flood event.

1982
Thompson Square given Permanent Conservation Order under the Heritage Act 1977.

1986
Severe flood event.

1988
Severe flood events in May and July.

In the lead up to the Bicentenary of the colonisation of Australia, Bicentennial Grant money enabled restoration work to be

completed on many of the facades of the Thompson Square buildings.

1990
Severe flood event.

Boat club building demolished in 1990s.

1992
Severe flood event.

1994
Two-hundred years of European settlement marked.

2008
New Hawkesbury Regional Museum building opens.

First announcement of project to replace the Windsor Bridge by the NSW Government.

2013
The activist group Community Action For Windsor Bridge (CAWB) begins their protest in Thompson Square, following the approval for the commencement of the Windsor Bridge Replacement Program.

2014
New wharf constructed.

2015
Activism to keep the bridge of 1874 by Community Action for Windsor Bridge (CAWB) received a National Trust Community Advocacy Award in 2015.

2016
Archaeological investigations into Thompson Square and surrounds, alongside environmental monitoring, begin.

2019
CAWB vigil tent leaves Thompson Square.

The new bridge extends across the river.

Signage Content Cont.

LOCATIONS 6 & 7 - NORTHERN BANK "MEETING PLACE" SIGN

WELCOME TO DARKINJUNG LAND

You are standing on the northern abutment of the former Windsor Bridge, located on the traditional lands of the Darkinjung. The traditional boundaries of Darkinjung land extend from the Hawkesbury River in the south, Lake Macquarie in the north, the McDonald River and Wollombi up to Mt Yengo in the west and the Pacific Ocean in the East.

RIVER CROSSING – A PERSPECTIVE

Opened in 1874, Windsor Bridge was designed by the Department of Public Works. It was 455 feet long. Its low height restricted river traffic, and caught flood debris, so in 1897 the bridge was raised by 2.5 metres. The timber superstructure was replaced with concrete in 1922. Prior to this crossing was by ferry, a service which started in 1814 when John Howe was granted an operator's licence.

Looking directly across the river you can see the remaining section that has been kept as a viewing platform.

On the eastern bank, set between two grant allotments, was vacant Crown land that served as a business and government district. This area

was formally designated "Thompson Square" in 1811, to honour emancipated convict, public official and businessman Andrew Thompson.

Windsor was unique among the town centres Governor Macquarie formally established as it required the incorporation of an existing village.

Macquarie ordered the square cleared of buildings and construct a square that conformed to the traditional British ideal of a 'town square'.

TRANSPORTATION

The river connection to Sydney remained vitally important to the settlers at the Green Hills and Windsor. One of the new improvements was the building of new wharfage which was contracted to John Howe and James McGrath. It included cutting away of the riverbank in the vicinity of the new wharf, as a turning place for carts and for ease access to the new punt. The newly built wharf was largely destroyed during a flood in 1816.

In November 1816, Francis Greenway, the acting Colonial Architect, prepared plans for repairing the damaged wharf. Howe and McGrath were given eight months to complete this work but another flood in 1817, and 1819

slowed progress. The new wharf was not completed until 1820.

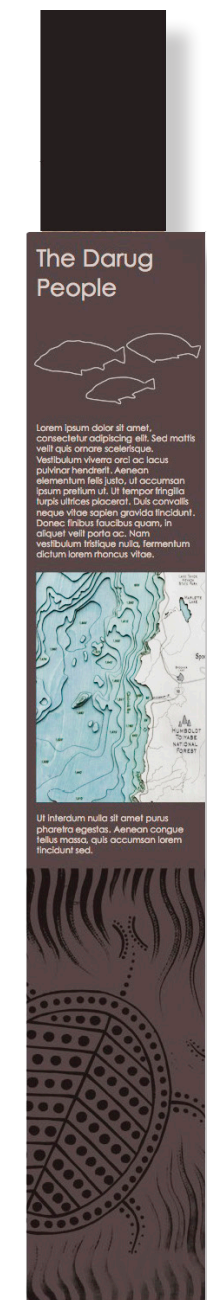
A large brick barrel drain was built through the centre of Thompson Square, fed by a network of box drains. Built with 120-150,000 poorly fired hand-made bricks, it eventually silted up and was forgotten, except as a story of a smugglers tunnel supposed to run from the wharf to the pub. Large parts of it were found by archaeologists, and it remains largely intact and protected beneath the new road alignment.

James Mill's photograph of Windsor taken in c.1888. [PHOTO SHOWN] shows the bridge before it was raised, and Thomson Square as a bare paddock.

The development of the river crossing at Windsor includes:

- First wharf c.1795; second c.1799; third 1820s
- Punt and ferry service c. 1814
- Windsor Bridge 1874, raised 1897
- Cutting of Bridge Street through middle of Thompson Square 1933
- New Windsor Bridge 2020

The Punt Master's House (post 1814) can be seen in Mill's photograph.



Concept drawings only - subject to change.

Signage Content Cont.

THE CHANGING SQUARE

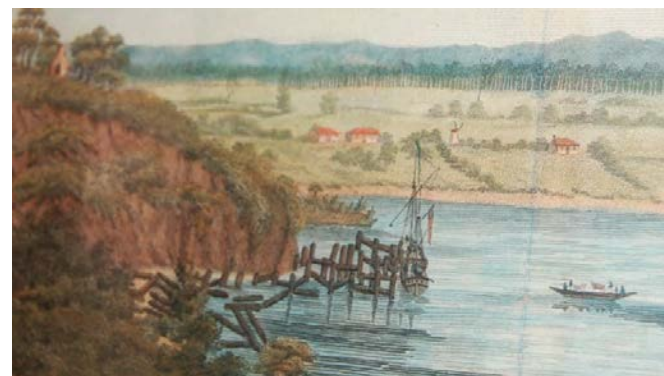
In 1822, as Macquarie's term as Governor came to a close, he provided a list to Earl Bathurst, of buildings and works completed in the Hawkesbury. These included:

1. Church with spire and space for gallery.
2. Burial ground.
3. Barracks for 50 soldiers, with stockade.
4. Barracks for 100 convicts, with high brick wall.
5. Gaol.
6. House on left bank of South Creek, bought from A Thompson's executors, and made into a hospital and grounds for 50 patients.
7. Government granary.
8. Three storey provision store and granary bought from A Thompson's estate.
9. Old granary, new roof and repaired.
10. Wooden wharf for 100-ton boats, and a ferry punt.
11. Court House adjoining gaol.
12. New parsonage house and ground for garden.
13. Old Government cottage repaired and improved. Six acres of land enclosed, partly with a brick wall.
14. New coach house and stables.
15. Streets of Windsor repaired. New streets opened up.

Thompson Square maintained its link to the ideal of Macquarie's town vision until the 1830s,

when the square became the focus of the local community's weekly markets. The buildings surrounding Thompson Square comprise a series of single and two storey residential and commercial buildings including the historically significant Macquarie Arms Hotel, Howe House, and The Doctors House.

The evolution of Thompson Square's configuration has been manipulated by various thoroughfares cut into the site, leading to the river's edge, first to the punt in 1814, and in later years, to the bridge. Since its inception Thompson Square's configuration has changed five times effectively separating the square into two parts. The completion of the new bridge in 2020, and the reunification of Thompson Square, is a further evolution and redefining of this significant heritage place.



POTENTIAL IMAGERY TO BE USED



SIGNAGE CUT-OUTS INSPIRATION

