



Cowra Peace Precinct
Environmental Management Plan +

Masterplan

23 August 2010 project no 4095-00

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issue register

Date of Issue	Reason for Issue	Prepared by	Checked by	Signed
13/10/09	A: Draft	СТ	СМ	Une Mag
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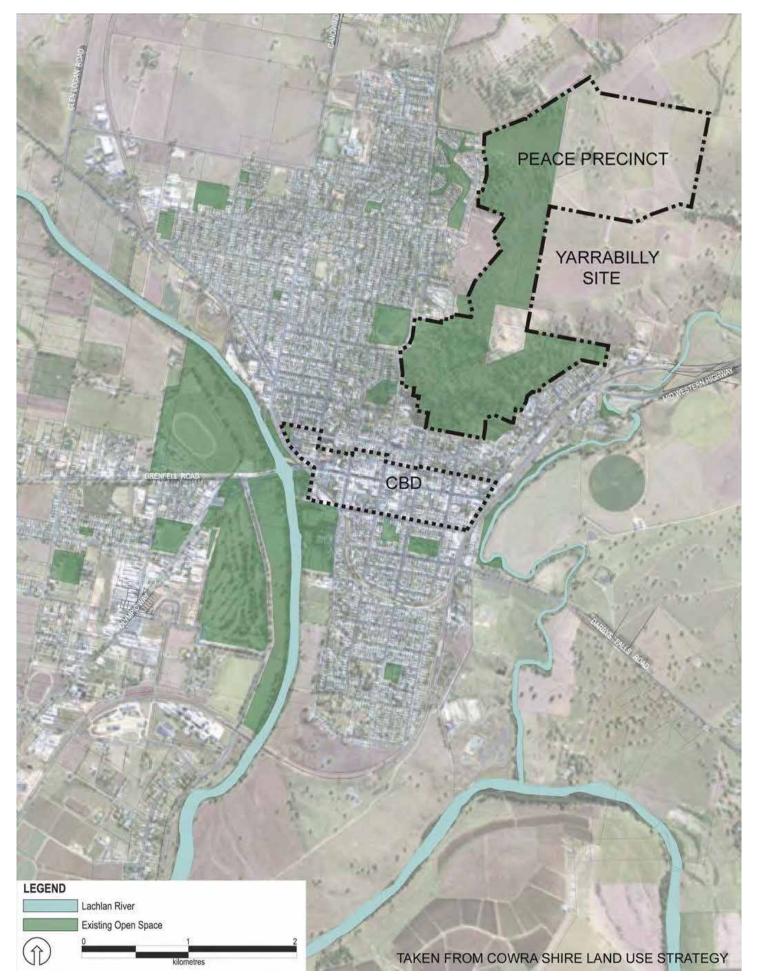
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Introduction

Cowra Shire is situated in the Lachlan River valley and is located approximately 4 hours from Sydney and 2 hours from Canberra. Based on 2006 Census Data, the Shire has a population of some 13,000 people with the Cowra *township* accommodating the majority of residents (approximately 9,000 people).

The Cowra Shire Land-Use Strategy prepared by Collie Pty Ltd in August 2009, identified the Cowra Peace Precinct as an important open space area with the opportunity to develop the Cowra Peace Precinct as a cultural hub, of biodiversity and providing a passive recreation area. The Peace Precinct comprises:

- State Heritage Listed Cowra Prisoner of War (POW) Camp
- Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre
- Bellevue Hill Reserve
- Culturally significant Crown Common, known as Cowra Common, running along the ridgeline and linking the facilities.

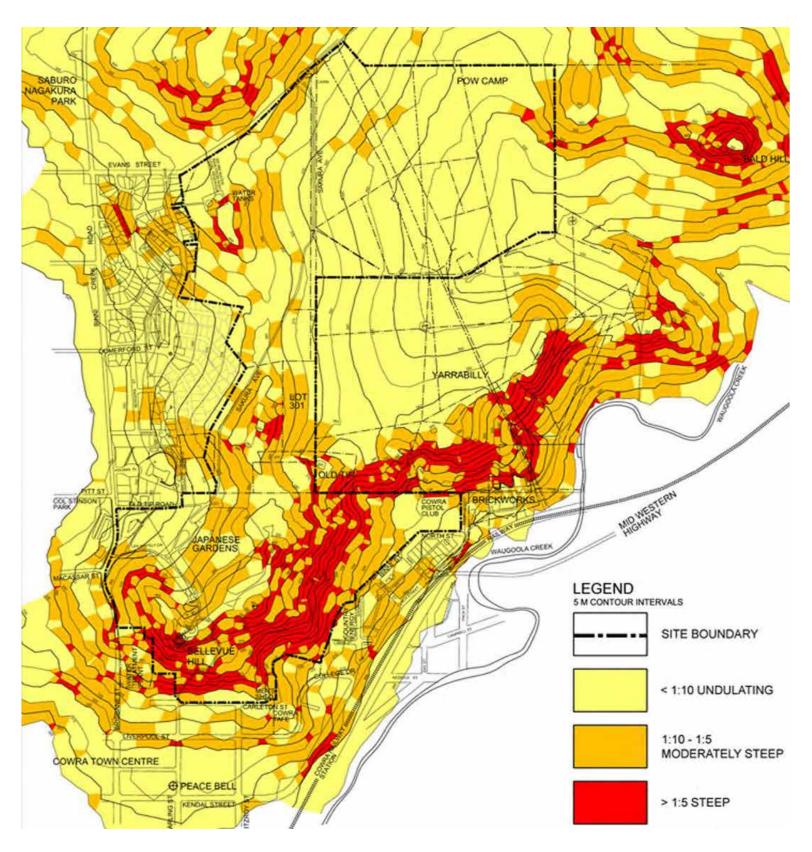
The Cowra Shire Land-use Strategy recommended that steps be taken to recognise the Cowra Peace Precinct as a key area that should be reserved as a community domain.

In response to the Land-use Strategy recommendations, Cowra Council prepared a brief and invited submissions to develop an Environmental Management Plan and Master Plan for the site. DEM, landscape architects were engaged by Council in late August 2009 to complete the project. The first stage of the project was information gathering through a three pointed approach;

- Desktop review; there have been a significant number of previous studies on the site and within the
 adjacent sites and these studies were reviewed with the salient points relative to the site extracted for
 further consideration.
- 2. **Site Analysis**; the site was visited and the first component of understanding and reviewing the site and its context was carried out..
- 3. **Stakeholder and community consultation**; a series of workshops were held to introduce the project, and to listen to the views of interested members of the community along with stakeholders with expertise and knowledge in culture/heritage, tourism/business, natural resource management /biodiversity and community/urban interface. Along with these workshops, community input has been achieved through feed-back forms issued at the workshops. A summary of the community/stakeholder responses is included in Appendix A along with minutes of the meetings held.

This report documents the findings of the information gathering process described above. It also explores linkages and interactions between other areas of Cowra and the precinct and confirms the appropriate boundaries for the Peace Precinct. It presents the opportunities and constraints that have been identified and finally illustrates principles, guidelines, the Master Plan and precinct concepts.





2 Site Analysis

The site analysis identifies the site and its context and analyses it through its significant characteristics. This analysis breaks down the site to better understand its unique qualities. The analysis has then been synthesised into Constraints and Opportunities. These identify potential precinct inclusions and opportunities for developing the Master plan for the site. The following site analysis identifies the key components of site.

2.1 Slope Geology and Soils

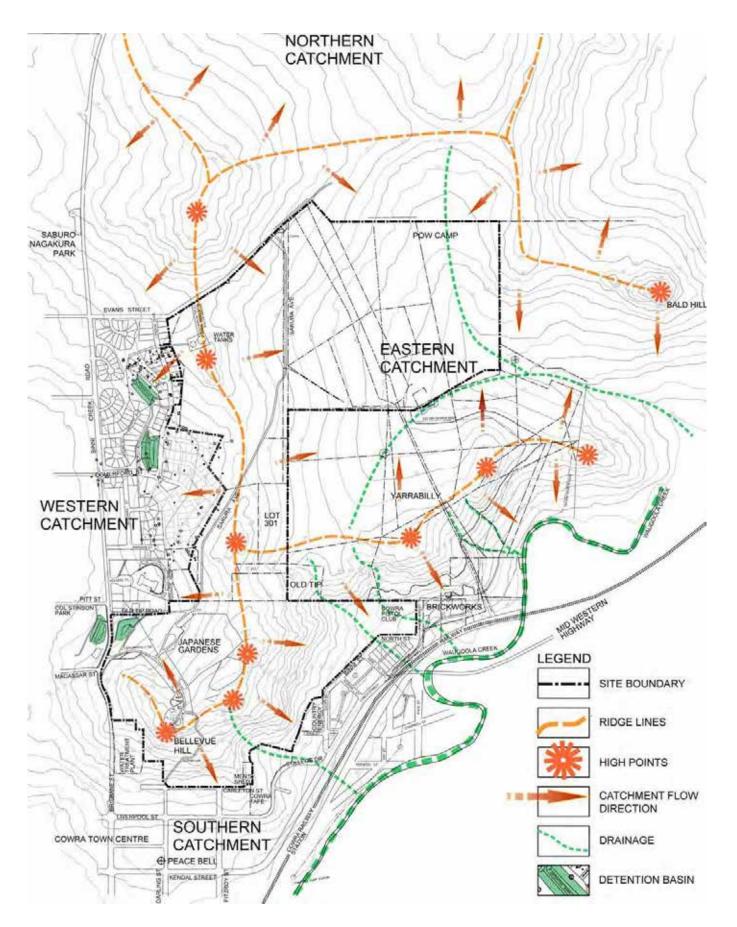
The majority of the site is moderately undulating with a slope of less than 1 in 10. Areas within the POW Camp are the most gentle sloping on the site and range between 1 in 20 and 1 in 16. Areas within the central valley of the adjacent Yarrabilly site are similarly gently sloping. The more steeply undulating lands occur on the side slopes of the dominant ridges, (ranging from 1 in 10 to 1 in 5), and contribute to steep ascents to the highest points of the site. These high points are also characterised by rocky timbered outcrops and boulders of granite creating distinctive sculptural landforms on the ridges. The steepest land, (greater than 1 in 5), occurs on the southern slopes around Bellevue Hill, Cowra Rocks and the ridge leading through to Yarrabilly and are highly erodible. These steep slopes form the edge to the residential areas of Cowra and are also visible from the town and its approaches. These edges are showing signs of erosion and rock displacement and have had some protective measures provided, eg along Brisbane Street and Binni Creek Road. Any footpaths or activities on the slopes are prone to erosion and need to follow the contours and be sited carefully. Care needs to be taken on the 1 in 10 to 1 in 5 slopes also where any roads, paths or other uses may occur.

Elevation of the site varies with the lowest areas along the southern edges of Bellevue Hill Reserve near North and Pack Streets. The valley adjacent to the southern boundary of the POW Camp is a similar elevation at RL 325. The highest elevation is at each of the 5 distinctive high points on the site. These are linked by the major north south ridgeline running through the site and are all at a similar elevation of around RL 400. The Bellevue Hill Lookout and the communication towers to the east of this take advantage of this elevation.

The geology of the site is outlined in the 1:100,000 Geology Series Bathurst Sheet as Cowra granodiorite. The soil landscape derived from this parent rock is red podzolic on the steep crests. Non-calcic brown soils occur on the more gentle slopes. Granite outcrops are common. This succinctly describes the geology and soils of the site with the more steep land exhibiting the characteristics of the red podzolic soils. These are moderately permeable, well drained, low to moderate fertility, moderate erosion hazard, with minor rilling and moderate sheeting of erosion. The low undulating part of the site comprise Manildra non-calcic brown soils from parent material of Avoca Shale. These soils are low in nutrients and are characteristic of sandy loam and loam. With good management these soils can be used for cropping.



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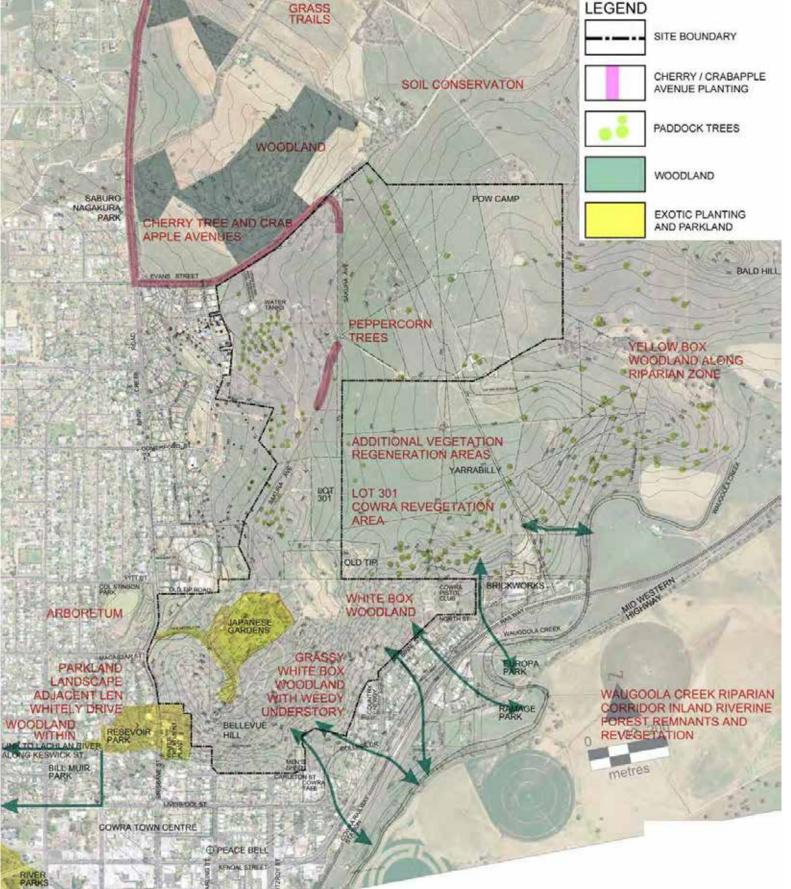
2.2 Topography and Drainage

Drainage on the site is generally in three directions, due to the catchments being defined by the ridges. The central spine ridge cuts across Sakura Avenue and creates an eastern catchment encompassing the POW Camp, most of the AMF Compound, part of the adjacent Department of Agriculture land to the north, and the northern portion of Yarrabilly. This catchment is all collected in the intermittent creek on the south-eastern boundary of the POW Camp adjoining Yarrabilly. This catchment is important to consider in any works proposed within this portion of the site as the creek line supports an almost pure stand of Yellow Box (Eucalyptus melliodora), and is proposed to be rehabilitated as part of the Yarrabilly works. This intermittent creek line connects with Waugoola Creek beyond the site, then connecting to the Lachlan River.

The western drainage catchment falls towards Valley View Estate and Binni Creek Road. The Japanese Garden, arboretum and picnic facilities/car parks of Bellevue Hill are all part of this catchment, along with the ridge and side slopes to the west of the reservoirs. This catchment of the site falls towards the Lachlan River, and passes through the street drainage of Cowra west of Binni Creek Road prior to entering the Lachlan River. One large detention basin, (Detention Basin 1), adjacent to Comerford St and London Drive within Valley View Estate would receive most of this drainage, prior to its release. The remainder discharges into the detention basin below the arboretum, (Detention Basin 2), prior to release. These two control points provide opportunities for drainage management on the site.

The southern drainage catchment falls from the lookout and areas of the flora and fauna reserve towards the street drainage of Cowra. This drainage eventually falls mostly to Waugoola Creek then connects with the Lachlan River. Some of the drainage of the areas to the west of Bellevue Hill within the Flora and Fauna Reserve drain to the Cowra Street drainage to the Lachlan River. Collection or control of drainage from the southern catchment is more complex due to the multiple catchment collection points.





2.3 Vegetation – Flora

The vegetation around Cowra was mapped by Keith (2006) and identified as Western Slopes Grassy Woodlands, Western Slopes Dry Sclerophyll Forest, Floodplain Transition Woodlands and Inland Riverine Forests. This region is one of the most cleared regions of NSW, with the original woodland and tussock grasses having been replaced by pasture and crops.

The Cowra Peace Precinct site generally comprises cleared open pasture on the flatter areas and remnant native vegetation on the steeper slopes and ridgelines. The cleared areas are generally found on the northern part of the site, particularly around the POW Camp and the areas from the High Level Water Reservoirs to Evans Street.

The remnants of native vegetation, comprising tussock grasses and woodland trees, remain around the central ridgeline on the site and lead with a sparse covering of trees towards Bellevue Hill which is more heavily timbered. The areas of woodland comprise White Box (*E. albens*), Blakely's Red Gum (*E. blakelyi*) and Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*) and some Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*). Most of the understorey on the site has been lost with little mid storey species characteristic of the original woodland communities. These would have included *Acacia, Bursaria, Cassinia, Templetonia*. Some native grasses exist along with some herbs as well as hardy understorey plants such as *Lomandra*, Woodruff (*Asperula* sp) and cranesbills.

Throughout much of the site is the presence of weedy understorey, including Boxthorn and Silverleaf nightshade, Scotch thistle, St Johns wort, Bathurst burr, (all declared noxious) as well as Variegated thistle, Tree of heaven, Pattersons curse, Capeweed, Saffron thistle, Sweet briar, Cat head and Kahki weed (not noxious).

Significant stands of woodland communities are found in other nearby areas directly north of the Peace Precinct site at the Cowra Agricultural Research Station, directly east of the site on the property Yarrabilly and to the west of the site opposite the Water Filtration Plant. The drainage line/creek in the south-east of the POW Camp, on the Yarrabilly site has been identified as an almost pure stand of Yellow Box by Central West Environmental Services (2009). Beyond the site along Waugoola Creek several River Red Gums occur as remnants of the Inland Riverine Forests (Keith, 2006).

The predominant communities present on the Peace Precinct site include the Western Slopes Grassy Woodland or Grassy White Box Woodland and is an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) under the Threatened Species Conservation (TSC) Act 1995 and Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) Act 1999. The threatened species *Swainsona sericea* was not found in the study area, with the nearest record 3km to the north-west.

Many of the trees on the site are senescing and require additional regeneration planting, to ensure the longevity of the woodland character. Management and revegetation of the Box Gum Endangered Ecological Community on the southern slopes is recommended.

A revegetation area within the central portion of the site, on lot 301, on the steeply undulating land sloping east towards the Yarrabillly site is being undertaken by Cowra Council. This area consists of evenly planted trees, with rabbit/wind protection guards. Other small revegetation projects being undertaken by the community including Cowra Birds in Backyards, occur around the central ridge of the site and adjacent to Sakura Avenue.





Revegetation area on Lot 301 in foreground

Exotic trees are located in various areas. Some Peppercorn trees, (Shinus molle), occur as regrowth on the POW Camp site, as well as adjacent to the alignment of the original road to the AMF compound leading off London Drive. Approximately 24 trees remain and are remnant plantings from the POW Camp. The Cherry Tree avenue (*Prunus sp*), also including Crab Apple (*Malus floribunda*), along Sakura Avenue has been planted as a memorial and cultural link between the Japanese Garden and the POW Camp. This avenue continues along Evans Street and Binni Creek Road to the War Cemetery, over a kilometre to the north.

The areas around the Japanese Garden, the Arboretum and Bellevue Hill Park are characterised by parkland style planting and include exotic trees and plants, as well as scattered Kurrajongs within the picnic areas.

Recommendations in relation to existing vegetation will be included in the next section. Revegetation Guidelines, techniques and planting detail are included in the Guidelines Section. Indigenous species lists of plants suitable for revegetation programs have been produced by LCMA, NRM Futures 30 Group, Greening Australia and Natural Heritage Trust publications. These lists are referenced in the next section.

2.4 Fauna

Fauna on the site has been assessed from existing reports, data bases included within these reports and site analysis. A recent fauna survey was undertaken for the property Yarrabilly by Central West Environment Services, (CWES 2009), which also assessed parts of the Cowra Peace Precinct site. In the CWES Site survey of Yarrabilly 23 bird species, three reptiles and six mammals were found. Two additional reptiles and one bird were reported by a local resident. The study provides a reasonable indication of the types of species that occur over the Peace Precinct site.

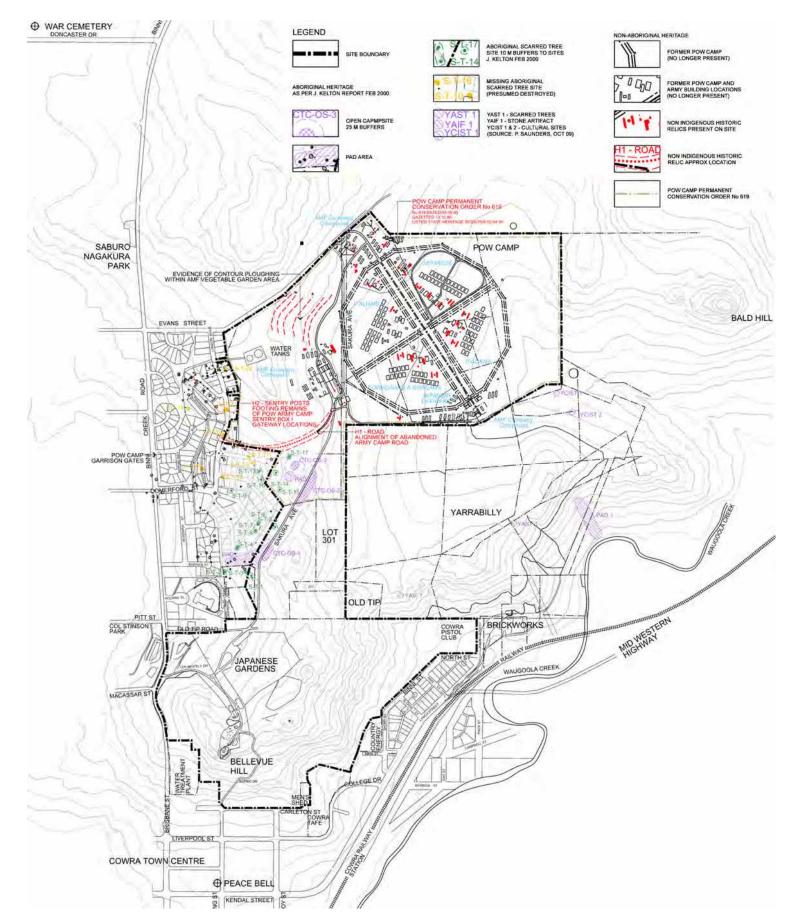
Twenty five fauna species in the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) database in Cowra LGA are listed in the schedules of the TSC Act 1995. The Superb Parrot has been observed at the Peace Precinct site. Six threatened species have been observed within 10km of the site; Superb Parrot, Brown treecreeper, Freckled Duck, Square-tailed Kite, Black-chinned Honeyeater and Swift Parrot. All are classed as vulnerable except the Swift Parrot which is endangered.

Common Brown Snake and Red-Bellied Black snakes were reported on the site. No arboreal mammals or micro bats were seen. Previous studies suggest micro bats were not considered due to cold weather.

The trees on the sites are considered to be stepping stones and food resources for birds. This has also been reinforced by Cowra Birds in Backyards and community input. Cowra NRM Group have carried out quarterly surveys over the last 7.5 years on one two hectare site as well as further surveys on additional sites. During these surveys birds observed on the Common have been recorded. A total of 68 bird species have been recorded with two of these listed as Threatened under the TSC Act 1995. A list of these species recorded is included in the Appendix B. Of particular note are the populations of kangaroos present on the site both within the fenced previous flora and fauna reserve and within the grassed pasture areas of the site. A number of mobs were seen during the site visit. The presence of kangaroos and in particular, small joeys, within the fenced reserve area has been identified of high value and interest from the local community. Issues related to the viable number of animals, any aggressive behaviour of male kangaroos, reported from the past, and the management of the fenced area needs to be addressed in the Master plan.



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2.5 Heritage – Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal (European)

Heritage for the site has been assessed from existing reports, data bases included within these reports and site analysis. The following outlines the information known to date and identifies where potential additional specialist survey is required.

Aboriginal Heritage

Numerous Aboriginal heritage reports on Aboriginal archaeology have been undertaken in the last 10 years. Many surveys have been carried out by J. Kelton with many of the sites on the AHIMS data base being recorded by Kelton. Kelton provided a brief outline of the Aboriginal occupation of the lands including the Peace Precinct site. He states the Wiradjuri language group used the area, focusing along the Lachlan River and its tributaries including Waugoola Creek. Aboriginal people conducted hunter-gatherer activities along the nearby Lachlan River including cumbungi (Bullrushes), other water plants, long necked turtle, water rats, crayfish, yabbies, fresh water mussels.(Kelton 2000).

The most extensive research relative to this site was carried out by J. Kelton in 2000 for the proposed 27 hectare 'North Cowra' residential subdivision. An audit of the subdivision after partial construction was undertaken in August 2004 by Australian Archaeological Consultants. This audit reviewed trees that were missing and presumed destroyed during either the subdivision process or construction works. Vandalism is also occurring in the area with burning of scarred trees being carried out. This has resulted in significant damage to these heritage sites.

The most recent report that has been undertaken in the area was by P Saunders in October 2008 for the Aboriginal archaeological assessment of Yarrabilly. This survey referenced the previous studies and recorded sites specific to Yarrabilly.

The known Aboriginal heritage sites for the Cowra Peace Precinct are included in the adjacent plan. The references for the sites maintain the site names from the various reports. These names are also generally the site references within the NSW DECC Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) data base. It has been acknowledged, that there are repetitions within the data base, with the grid references for a number of the trees exactly the same. Therefore the quantity of the trees numbered within the data base is not entirely accurate and have been corrected within the studies noted here. The sites recorded are:

- Three open Camp sites along Sakura Avenue with recommended 25 metre buffers from Kelton. Open Campsite CTC-OS-01 (AHIMS Site ID 44-4-0038) is noted as being apparently destroyed by the construction of the road (Sakura Avenue). 'Six black chert flakes were subsequently salvaged. (Saunders, 2008) The second open camp site CTC-OS-02 (AHIMS Site ID 44-4-0263) is some 30 metres in length and located on the eastern side of Sakura Avenue. This site contained two black chert flakes, one black chert backed blade and one quartz flake in a 30 x 5 metre area. The third open camp site CTC-OS-03 (AHIMS Site ID 44-4-0262) included two chert flakes in a 20 x 20 metre area. (Saunders, 2008).
- Two Potential Archaeological Deposits (PAD) located near Sakura Avenue.
- 22 scarred trees; the scarred trees are identified on the adjacent plan by number ST-1 to ST 22. Those that
 are no longer remaining, as per the 2004 Audit are shown in yellow. The Aboriginal heritage map identifies
 the trees on site from the 2004 audit only.





'Eyes' carved into granite boulders



'Eyes' carved into granite boulders



Scarred Tree

A further audit of the remaining scarred trees and any additional within the Cowra Common needs to be undertaken to review those remaining within the site. It has been observed during the field survey that more scarred trees may not be present. This identifies an urgent need to protect these trees in some manner and to control the vandalism. The reports note that the status of the scarred trees, although listed within the NSW DECC database may not all be of Aboriginal origin. For the purposes of this study this is not considered less significant as the scarring of the trees is viewed as an important cultural heritage process that should be referenced and acknowledged within this site's Master Plan. Some additional tree audits on the Valley View site have been undertaken and are not reflected on the adjacent plan. This should be incorporated into a comprehensive study of all Aboriginal heritage sites in the Cowra Peace Precinct.

The sites identified within the Yarrabilly site by P. Saunders in 2008 include:

- YAIF 1 Stone artifact as an isolated flake of metamorphosed sedimentary rock located on a patch of bare earth. It is noted that the potential for undetected artifacts to occur on this area is low due to the high disturbance in the area.
- YAST 1 Scarred tree of high scenic value
- YCIST1 and YCIST2 Culturally significant sites. These include two culturally identified scarred trees, with some damage to the trunks; damage includes lopping of some of the multiple trunks on these trees.
- PAD 1; this area has a high archaeological sensitivity and is approximately 200 x 50 metres in size and is identified as requiring further investigation.

These sites are not included within the AHIMS database as the report has identified that they do not fulfil the requirements for inclusion.

Additional sites of cultural value to the Aboriginal community have been reported during the community consultation stage. The following list identifies some of the sites raised at the community workshops.

- Carving of eyes in granite boulder with long views to the south-west towards Hillford.
- Bora ring within the area of the AMF Compound No 2 of the 22nd Garrison.
- Area of high significance to Aboriginal men near the central ridge.
- Area of high significance to Aboriginal women near the central ridge, and a birthing site on Waugoola Creek.

Kelton summarises the constraints on Aboriginal heritage sites well when he says .. 'a problem facing NPWS and the local Aboriginal community. Regardless of whether or not the Council is allowed by the Director-General to impact the scarred tree sites within the survey area, inevitably, the fabric of the sites will be lost. Some form of conservation policy should be implemented, where either a representative sample or all of the recorded sites should be either conserved on-site or salvaged, relocated and conserved prior to their natural deterioration (which in many cases it is already too late to arrest).' (Kelton 2000).

This assessment indicates that the trees are at high risk and are already deteriorating.

Consultation feedback has also been identified that areas of social significance to Aboriginal people also need to be recognised. (N. Williams – Comments on Draft EMP Nov 2009). Recommendations include a comprehensive study of all Aboriginal Heritage sites in Cowra, including the Peace Precinct, to bring together the various studies that have occurred over time. This study should be carried out by a 'suitably qualified archaeologist..., who has... the respect of the community' along with recording of the 'cultural and social significance of Aboriginal sites in the precinct'. This has been recommended with 'heritage listing in mind' and to recognise the social and heritage importance of the connection with the land over thousands of years.





Camp entry drive, with Peppercorn tree avenue



Camp entry drive, with Peppercorn tree avenue



Camp Sentry Posts



Garrison Gates



Camp Sentry Posts

Non-Aboriginal Heritage – (European)

Cowra is said to have begun properly as a European settlement around 1849 when a small settlement at Coura Rocks was given a Government Survey. Craze (1988) cites Coura Rocks (Cowra - as a river crossing site for possibly both Aboriginals and Europeans.)

Non Aboriginal or European heritage sites have been surveyed within the land encompassing the Cowra Peace Precinct over various years with numerous reports prepared. Kelton included non Aboriginal heritage in his report for the North Cowra Subdivision in 2000. He identified background history for the site, including earliest accounts of European contact in 1815 when surveyor Evans located evidence of Aboriginal occupation along the Lachlan River. Other explorations by Cunningham and Oxley occurred around 1817.

The site of the Cowra Peace Precinct has functioned as the Crown Common of Cowra Township since early settlement of the town. As a result the site has been used for many different purposes, including livestock grazing, Cowra Municipal nightsoil depot, rifle range, a POW Camp and Army Camp, Town Water Reservoir, Town Rubbish Tip, Japanese Garden and a number of structured and passive recreational areas.

The principal site of non Aboriginal heritage located on the Peace Precinct site is the POW Camp 12 and associated Australian Military Force (AMF) Compounds of the 22nd Garrison. Apart from the Camp, two additional relics have been found in previous surveys and considered part of the Cowra Prisoner of War Campsite. H1 is the remains of the alignment of a formed secondary access road to the POW Camp (c1941-42) The road led to the camp's headquarters administration area passing through Crown Reserve. (Pt 62 DP 750377). This alignment can be found adjacent to peppercorn trees off London Drive and is located on the heritage plan. Remnant peppercorn trees remain and the alignment of the road can still be traced on the site as it leads to the relics of the AMF Compound number two of the 22nd Garrison.

H2 is a granite and cement footing of two sentry posts sited at the H1 entrance to the POW camp. Neither of these sites were recorded within the Permanent Conservation Order (PCO) for the Camp site but are protected under divisions 8 and 9 of the Heritage Act 1977 where a PCO is known to exist.

The Garrison Gates, located on Binni Creek Road and in an open space area adjacent to Amaroo Avenue mark the original site of the entry road to the POW Camp. The setting for these gates was originally at the edge of Cowra's residential areas and ran across rural land (now part of Cowra residential areas and North Cowra subdivision) to the POW Camp. This was consistent with the siting of the Camp where it was to be away from the Cowra township.

The POW Camp PCO No 619 was drawn up in 1988 and included the full extent of the land of the AMF compound and land adjacent to London Drive and Evans Street. This extent is shown on the heritage plan. A copy of the PCO plan can be seen in Appendix C. The POW Camp site layout has been mapped and is overlaid on the heritage plan. The source of this plan is a drawing of the Camp by Army Information Systems Operations and is included in the Heritage Archaeology, POW Camp 12 Archaeological Assessment (October 2003). This plan identifies the remnant footings and relics present on the site along with the original road layouts and buildings that are no longer present. Evidence of cultural heritage and human occupation on the land can be seen with the aid of aerial photography. These provide a valuable tool for assessing cultural landscapes. Through varied weather conditions, for example during dry conditions, evidence of land cultivation can be seen through a deeper green in the grass on site. This has been noted in some of the Archaeological assessments for the Camp and further site assessment by the DEM team has revealed further evidence. This is noted in the following analysis, along with the next section where constraints and opportunities are identified.





Panorama of Camp 12 (facing east) (Source : Heritage Archaeology, Oct 2003)



Panorama of Camp 12 (facing west) (Source : Heritage Archaeology, Oct 2003)

COWRA PEACE PRECINCT

An assessment of the spatial and precinct areas of the POW Camp is included in Views and Vistas, as well as the Character areas following. This section discusses the heritage aspects of the camp. A brief overview of the Camp itself is included for background reference. This has been referenced from the Heritage Archaeology Reports including the Archaeological Assessment of the POW Camp 12, October 2003, and the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) dated October 2003.

Brief Overview of the History of the Camp

(Reference: Conservation Management Plan Prisoner of War Camp 12, Cowra NSW, Heritage Archaeology October 2003)

During 1941 Italian POW were evacuated from Egypt and in April 1941 Australia received 2000 at Hay NSW POW camps 7 and 8. The camps were the first established in Australia and were completed in August 1940.

In May 1941 the Commonwealth Government made an agreement with Britain 'to undertake to receive custody of 50,000 Prisoners of War from the Middle East.' Other POW camps were housed in existing army camps such as Liverpool (Holsworthy) NSW and Brighton, Tasmania. POW camps in Australia held POW's, resident enemy aliens and non-resident enemy aliens. Many nationalities were held but the vast majority of POW and internees in Australia were Italian. Many camps provided labour to surrounding farms. Cowra, predominantly a POW Camp, held a relatively low local profile. Italian POW's were integrated into the local communities. Korean and Chinese (Formosan) POW as part of Japanese POW group were involved in work parties around Cowra Japanese POW remained within their Compounds and were not involved in any external social or labour efforts.

The layout of the Cowra camp was a defined geometrical form. The site was selected in 1941 by the Australian Army that was obscured from the road by a steep hill and granite outcrops. This siting away from the eyes of the Cowra community is significant in its interpretation, as it was sited to be isolated within a farming context.

The POW Camp consisted of four separate 17 acre compounds each designed to hold 1000 prisoners. The four compounds were enclosed within a 12 sided perimeter. A thoroughfare known as Broadway, separated Camps B and C from A and D. This is identified in the adjacent plan. Entrances to each of the compounds were in the centre of Broadway and through double gates at each end of Broadway, which was guarded by two guard towers and two sentry boxes. Surrounding each compound was a separate perimeter fence of barbed wire 30 feet apart.

The 22nd Australia Garrison Battalion guarded the camp. The Headquarters area was located outside the fenced perimeter adjacent to A and D compounds. This area is now separated from the Camp site by Sakura Avenue. This separation will be discussed later in this report. The first POW's were Italians arriving on 15th October 1941, and were accommodated in tents until April 1942. Weatherboard accommodation huts were not completed until 1944. POW and local labourers were used to complete construction. By late April 1942 21 huts were complete and another 27 were erected in the following 5 weeks. Each hut accommodated 48 persons.

By December 1942 the camp held 1644 Italian Prisoners and internees, 490 Javanese detainees. Between January 1943 and August 1944, 1104 Japanese POW and internees were confined in the camp. By the end of June 1944 the camp was overcrowded beyond intended capacity.

The camp included: stores, kitchen, mess huts, ablution blocks and latrines, canteens, theatre, recreation huts, barber and tailor shops, medical and dental centres. Large playing fields for baseball and other sports occurred within the compounds. Vegetable and formal gardens were tended by the Italian prisoners. Vegetable gardens were included within the compounds as well as a large area to the north of the AMF 22nd Garrison area No 2, adjacent to Evans Street.





Cairn monument at POW Camp



POW Camp pedestrian entry



AMF Camp – stone drainage channels



AMF Camp - emergency electrical supply building

By the end of 1943 Japanese morale in the camp was low. On 3rd June 1944 a Korean prisoner reported a conversation relating to the intention of the Japanese to attack the Garrison, seize arms and ammunition and escape. Security was increased. By August the Camp Commandant decided to move all Japanese prisoners below the rank of Lance Corporal to Hay POW Camp. The Geneva Convention required the intended move to be given 24 hours notice to POW. It was proposed for Monday 7th August 1944 and announced on Friday 4th August to the Japanese leader Sergeant Major Kanazawa.

On the night of the 4th August a meeting of hut leaders was held and Kanazawa made a decision to oppose the separation and a breakout was planned for the morning of 5th August. 1100 Japanese prisoners broke out from the camp. Approximately 378 escaped and 231 Japanese and 4 Australians died during the breakout. 108 Japanese and four Australians were wounded. Three Japanese and one volunteer Defence Corp soldier died from wounds. Buildings in B compound were burnt to the ground, except two sleeping huts.

During the following nine days 334 escapees were recaptured. Some escapees were killed and some committed suicide. A military Court of Inquiry was established immediately and heard evidence from 7th to 15th August 1944. News was suppressed and it wasn't until 1949 that the two Australian Privates killed in action were awarded the George Cross and the number of Japanese dead was publicly revealed. During 1945 most remaining Japanese POW were sent to Victoria.

Following the cessation of hostilities in the Pacific on 15th August 1945 POW and internees in Cowra were repatriated or freed. This was dependent on the availability of shipping and by January 1947 the remaining 500 Italian POW, who had remained behind to pull down the barbed wire in the camp were transported to Sydney. The camp officially closed at the end of February 1947.

Interpretation of the POW Camp in its present state is included in the following analysis.

The POW Camp 12 Today

Memorials on the site include two monuments; a stone cairn and granite monument adjacent to the visitor parking area and entrance to the POW site, to the far north of the study area accessed from Evans Street. The cairn identifies the site of the Japanese breakout. The granite Italian monument and the cairn are not connected by any paths and are disjointed in their location. They require further interpretation and linking. A metal framed notice board has been erected in the car park.

A brick paved viewing platform adjacent to the site provides an orientation point with interpretive signage in the form of an historical photographic panorama of the POW Camp 12 located on the hand railing of the viewing platform. The photographs are located too high for shorter people, children and people in wheel chairs to be able to see the site over the top of the photographs. This reduces the effectiveness of interpreting the current view with that shown in the photograph. A replica tower with adjacent audio facility is located in the grassed area near the car park. This provides an appreciation of the scale of the towers that were once present on the site.

The historical site layout is shown throughout the site on interpretive photographic sign boards. These are located to show the original layouts of the site, and have a 'you are here' reference but require detailed interpretation to enable the visitor to reference them accurately on the site. There are no markers on site to enable referencing to the photographs.





Italian monument at POW Camp

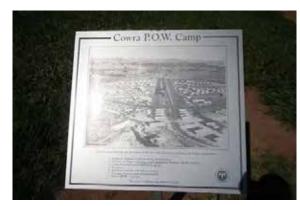


Interpretive signage at POW Camp

Environmental Management Plan - Master Plan



Camp replica tower built in 2008



Interpretive signage at POW Camp

The location of the 22nd Australian Garrison Battalion Compound Number two, on the western side of Sakura Avenue is unfenced and is being damaged by uncontrolled traffic, with significant erosion. One stone building, considered to be the emergency electrical supply building (Heritage Archaeology, 2003), remains. It is in ruin with no roof, is degrading and being vandalised. Urgent protection of many of the relics is required as noted in all reports.

Safe public access for all abilities is lacking on the main POW Camp site with no handrails and/or boardwalks or all weather access to the site. The community and stakeholder consultation has noted that reports from visitors are that they are disappointed at the site due to the lack of site facilities or the ability to interpret the site. This will be addressed in the next section.

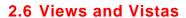


C12 Extract from Aerial Photograph

Extract from Aerial Photograph of Camp 12 (source : Heritage Archaeology, Oct 2003)

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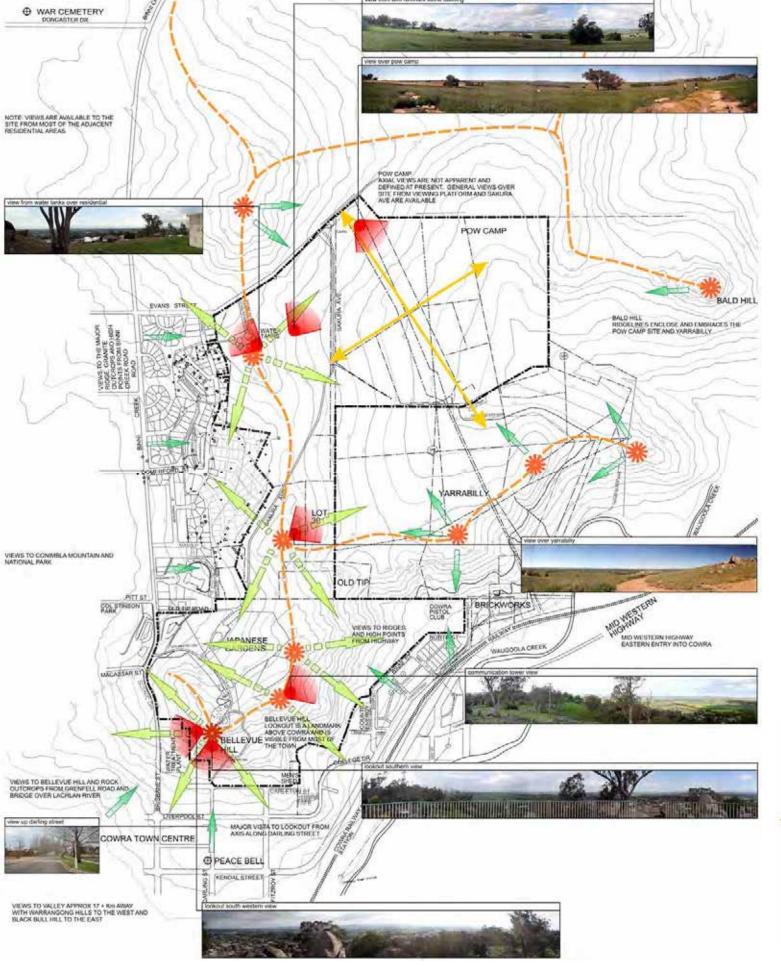


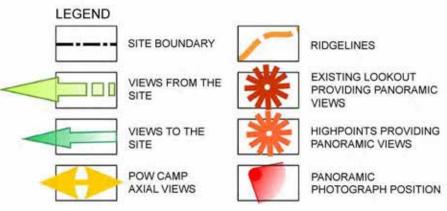


The site provides some of the best views from Cowra over the surrounding Lachlan River valley. The ridges and high points all provide panoramic views where the surrounding pastures of canola and other crops, grasslands, vegetated river corridor and distant features can be appreciated. There are five distinct high points, all at approximately RL 400 located along the ridgeline spine that connects the Cowra Common to Bellevue Hill. This spine is the central connecting feature of the site and plays an important role in the significance of the site, its views out and views back to the site, defining its presence within the Lachlan River valley. The visual catchments can be defined by the ridges on the site where they enclose visual precincts. The POW Camp site and Yarrabilly are embraced by ridgelines on almost all sides resulting in an open grassland with ridges defining the view.

The surrounding mountains to Cowra are all visible from the high points on the site. Mount Conimbla forms an important horizon line background view north-west of the site, some 15 kilometres away. Similarly does Mount Dribendrew to the west and Warrangong and Black Bull Hill - Wattamondra to the south at over 17 kilometres.

The following views describe the major character of the varied views from and to the site.









POW Camp

The ridgelines surrounding the POW Camp embrace the site and enclose the bowl shaped sloping valley of the POW Camp and Yarrabilly. Yarrabilly forms part of this bowl and is important in all views within the enclosure. Bald Hill forms an important feature in these views as a prominent grassed knoll to the west. Views from the Camp include middle ground rural views to the east. The water reservoirs and ridgeline along Cowra Common are visible with the top of the communication tower also discernible. To the north and west of the camp the crops of the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water (DECCW)-Soil Conservation land are visible and can contrast with the pasture of the POW and adjacent grassed paddocks. This is variable dependent on the cropping and season. The view above also illustrates what the visitor to the POW Camp encounters in relation to relics of the original structures within the camp. Interpretive analysis of these views in comparison to the view during the POW Camp operation will be included in the next section.



Views from the AMF Remnant Stone Building

This view to the east is from a higher elevation than the POW Camp and obtains longer distance views and more details of the fertile rural valley beyond the site. Footings and remnant structures from the AMF compound are visible along with some of the contour ploughing from the AMF vegetable gardens. The elevated ridgeline of the DECCW site is visible along with its woodland trees.





View over Yarrabilly

This view from the prominent high point in the centre of the site provides a panorama over Yarrabilly with the fertile Lachlan river floodplain pasture beyond. The Kogarah-Cowra Council regeneration planting area is visible in the foreground slopes of the site. Bald Hill forms a prominent feature within the middle ground view with the treed valley adjacent to the POW Camp and scattered box trees on the ridgeline through Yarrabilly highly visible. Distant horizon views include prominent ridgelines of mountains well beyond the site. The granite boulders on this ridge and vantage point create a distinctive site feature that has been exploited by some uncontrolled eroded vehicular access. This is discussed later in Circulation.



View from Communication Towers

This view is not readily available to all as it is within the fenced area of the former Flora and Fauna Reserve. This is one of the high points of the site along the ridgeline spine affording panoramic views principally to the east, south and west. Views are available to the Waugoola Creek irrigated pastures, with an emerging and variable patchwork of crops. The tree lined Mid Western Highway from Bathurst can be seen, along with the residential areas of Cowra along this eastern approach to the town. The foreground views of the steep rocky land of the reserve is visible with frequent sitings of kangaroos. The dieback of the box trees detracts from this view. The frequent outcrop of granite boulders gives 'Cowra Rocks' meaning whilst views into the pond areas of the Japanese Garden provide a highly manicured outlook to the west.





Lookout Southern View

The Bellevue Hill lookout provides 360 degree panoramic views over the entire landscape. The southern portion of this view provides an ideal view of the Cowra township where the grid street outline and the axis leading up to Bellevue Hill can be appreciated. There are many distinct landmarks visible on the horizon from this view and appear to have been identified by a cairn and brass plate in the centre of this higher lookout location (no longer present). Of interest in this view is the distinct river valley following Crowther Creek where the adjoining hills of Wattamondara and Warrangong (Black Bull Hill) define this valley. Future signage and identification of the geographical landforms and prehistory of the valley could inform visitors of features within this view. The visual presence of the hand rail in this view detracts from the open panorama and recommendations will be discussed later in relation to detailing of individual landscape elements at the lookout.



Lookout South Western View

As a continuation of the southern view this illustrates the remainder of the panoramic view to the south and west. Again the distant hills mark the horizon with the Broula and Crowther range visible to the south-west and the Conimbla's visible beyond the valley to the west. The treed Lachlan River and the treed Mid Western Highway and other routes out of Cowra are visible. West Cowra is visible in the middle ground. The fenced flora and fauna reserve, with its walking trails, scattered boulders and woodland trees provides foreground detail. The dramatic granite outcropping boulders at the lookout are distinctive and create potentially high quality landscape features at the lookout.







View from west- Rose Garden and Visitor Centre Grenfell Road



View from south - Chardonnay Road



View from Darling Street



View from south - Young Road

Views from the Water Tanks

This view focuses on the Valley View Estate in the foreground, with mid distance views of the residential areas in north Cowra. The Conimblas to the west are again visible on the horizon along with the treed hills of Mount Dribendrew. The high visual intrusion of the residences within Valley View Estate within this part of Cowra Common is emphasised by the varied roof colours and forms. Additional understorey planting within the foreground slopes below this ridge would assist in reinforcing the natural qualities of the site. Bushfire hazard of any plantings are to be considered and will be discussed later.

Views to the Site

Views are available from most of Cowra with the site visible from the Mid Western Highway from the east as you enter town. It is also visible from the southern approaches along the Olympic Highway (Young Road) and Lachlan Valley Way (Boorowa Road), as well as the western approach along Grenfell Road. The rocky high points are visible along with the ridgelines and the rural nature of the site. The dominance of the ridges is most noticeable from Kendal Street and Darling Street where the Bellevue Hill lookout towers over the town as a sentinel and the axis of Darling Street leads directly to the lookout. This is a dramatic setting and sets the scene for the Cowra Peace Precinct and its importance within the town.

Views from Binni Creek Road to the western elevation of the dominant ridge, granite outcrops and box woodland are significant.







The site includes a varied mix of uses, each contributing to the site character. As a result a number of varied character areas occur. These areas do not necessarily coincide with the actual land use. This will become apparent as the descriptions and areas are discussed below.

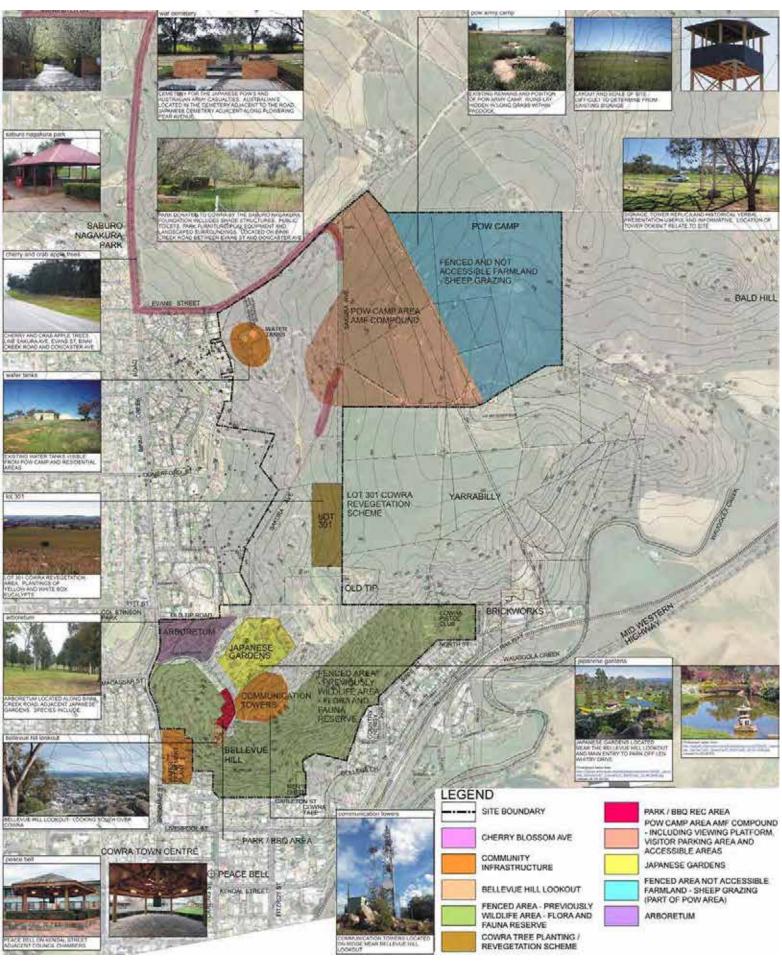
POW Camp Area Including AMF Compound

The POW Camp and AMF Compound areas are located on both sides of Sakura Avenue and its extent is not readily apparent. The POW Site is further disjointed by the presence of fencing that does not generally bear any relationship to the Camp site itself or its original layout. Further contributing to its ambiguity is the presence of a fenced and not accessible area that is signposted 'Keep Out Private Property'. This fenced exclusion area includes most of the Camp B and C quadrants, which housed the Japanese and Italians. The status of this land outside the fence needs to be assessed as it is located within the Permanent Conservation Order boundary for the POW Camp. The AMF Compound Number 2 of the 22nd Garrison is located to the west of Sakura Avenue and has some remaining building footings and relics. It is also not discernible from the site as belonging to the POW Camp itself. These issues require interpretation on the site and methods to identify their inter relationship.

The car park, viewing platform, monuments and reconstructed tower area are also disjointed and require further definition, particularly pedestrian and vehicular access and parking. This will be addressed in more detail in the next section.



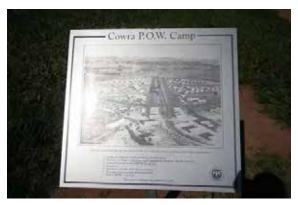
POW Camp – with farm fence with 'Keep Out' signage



COWRA PEACE PRECINCT



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POW Camp – interpretative signage



Saburo Nagakura Park



Cowra Japanese War Cemetery entry



Japanese Garden entry



POW Camp - site relics



Binni Creek Road - cherry blossom lined avenue



Cowra Japanese War Cemetery



Japanese Garden

POW Camp View Along Axis of 'Broadway'.

This alignment of the axis is not readily apparent on the site as it is difficult to visually site the alignment of 'Broadway'. Interpretive signage is located adjacent to the viewpoint to assist however this again is not easy to visualise. Further discussion on the interpretation of the POW Camp within the site is included in the next section.

Cherry Tree Avenue

The Cherry Tree Avenue has been an initiative of the Japanese Garden and provides a physical and visual connection between the Japanese Garden, the POW Camp, and the route to the War Cemetery. Along this route Saburo Nagakura Park, is also located. The extent of the current planted area is shown on the adjacent Character Area plan. The objective is to extend the link as a continuous avenue connecting the four sites. Each tree has a memorial plaque. Due to the heat in Cowra in summer the cherry trees are affected by the dry, hot winds, and crab apples have replaced cherry trees in some areas due to their greater tolerance of the conditions. Each Spring in September there is a Cherry Blossom festival- Sakura Matsuri, within the Japanese Garden where cultural and martial arts performances herald the arrival of spring.

Saburo Nagakura Park

The park is a feature on the route connecting the four sites of Japanese significance. It includes ornamental flowering crab apples and gardenesque planting. A Japanese style structure houses the amenities with adjacent picnic/BBQ area. Good views over the town to the west are available.

War Cemetery

The War Cemetery on Doncaster Drive adjacent to the Cowra Cemetery consists of two separate entities. The Australian War Cemetery contains the remains of those Australian soldiers and one RAF airman who died at Cowra. Included are the four Australians killed in the Breakout. Of those four, Privates Hardy and Jones were posthumously awarded the George Cross. Adjacent to it is the Japanese War Cemetery which contains the graves of all those killed in the breakout together with all civilian and military Japanese who were previously buried in other parts of Australia and whose remains were relocated to Cowra in the 1960's

Japanese Garden

The Japanese Garden is a unique high quality landscape displaying highly maintained gardens, structures, ponds, waterfalls, a tea house and restaurant, all within a traditional Japanese Garden setting. It is fenced and is a major tourist attraction in Cowra, with an entry fee. The gardens sit within the parkland setting on the approach to Bellevue Hill. They offer a peaceful and serene environment that contrasts with the wilder, more natural and rugged nature of other parts of the site. This setting affords a unique opportunity to further develop precincts within the park that are characterised by different qualities. The car park to the Japanese Garden is treed with unmarked parking bays. Sculptures are sited around the car park and adjacent arboretum. Opportunities in this area will be discussed later.









Cowra Common - regeneration planting



Bellevue Hill Lookout



COWRA PEACE PRECINCT



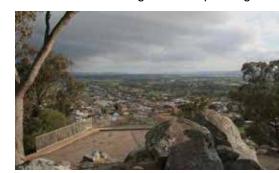
Peace Bell



John Moon Memorial Rotary Arboretum



Cowra Common - regeneration planting



Bellevue Hill Lookout - looking south over Cowra



Bellevue Hill – former Flora and Fauna Reserve Bellevue Hill – former Flora and Fauna Reserve

Peace Bell

The Peace Bell is located adjacent to the Council Chambers in Darling Street. It is particularly significant as it is usual for Peace Bells to be located in the Nation's Capital (Rotary 2009). The location of this important symbol of Peace needs to be better linked with the Peace Precinct Site.

Arboretum

The John Moon Memorial Rotary Arboretum was an initiative of Cowra Rotary Club and includes tree planting within a grassed parkland setting. Paths, picnic tables and sculptures are scattered around the Arboretum. A large detention basin has been constructed at the base of the arboretum where it fronts Binni Creek Road and is planted out with flowering annuals on the bank that faces the road. Previously used as a tip site, advice that methane has affected some of the tree growth indicates that further planting may be affected.

Cowra Common Woodland Areas and Regeneration Planting

The Cowra Common area is the linking spine of the site and is distinctly Australian in character. This area provides a contrast to the rural areas and parkland areas within and surrounding the site. Regeneration planting has been discussed previously under the Flora section. Opportunities to expand on the character of this area are reviewed in the next section.

Bellevue Hill Lookout

The views and some of the facilities of the lookout have been previously discussed under Views and Vistas. The lookout includes an asphalt road that surrounds the lookout that was previously open to traffic. This is now closed to traffic and provides for pedestrian access only. Some community input has been raised to reopen the road. This is discussed in the next section. The paths and access points to the lookout are showing signs of age and are dangerous in parts to public safety. Landscaping around the lookout, handrails, viewing area and access requires review.

Bellevue Hill Reserve- Former Flora and Fauna Reserve

This reserve is a highly scenic area of the site. It is fenced and includes the Box woodland vegetation community within the steep slopes around Bellevue Hill. It is a strong visual link to the Cowra Common area and forms the distinctly Australian character of the site. The granite boulders and outcrops are dramatic elements and the area provides potential for a restored woodland community. The weedy ground layer, understorey and dieback in the canopy appears degraded in areas and requires regeneration.

Parkland and Picnic/BBQ Facilities within Bellevue Hill

The parkland and picnic facilities have been a favourite for the community in past years. Community Workshop input has indicated that other more recently updated parks within Cowra have taken over as the family picnic areas. The parkland is well maintained and has children's play areas, covered tables and benches, BBQ facilities and parking. Opportunities to raise the standard of this area and bring it back to the community 'heart' are discussed in the next section.



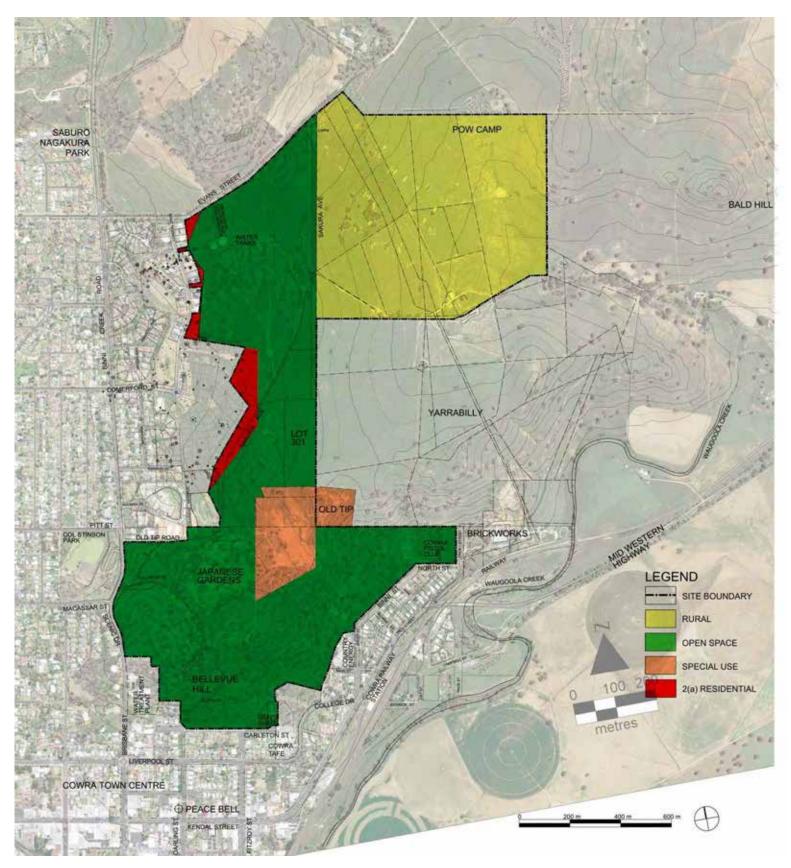
Bellevue Hill Reserve



Bellevue Hill Reserve - community facilities

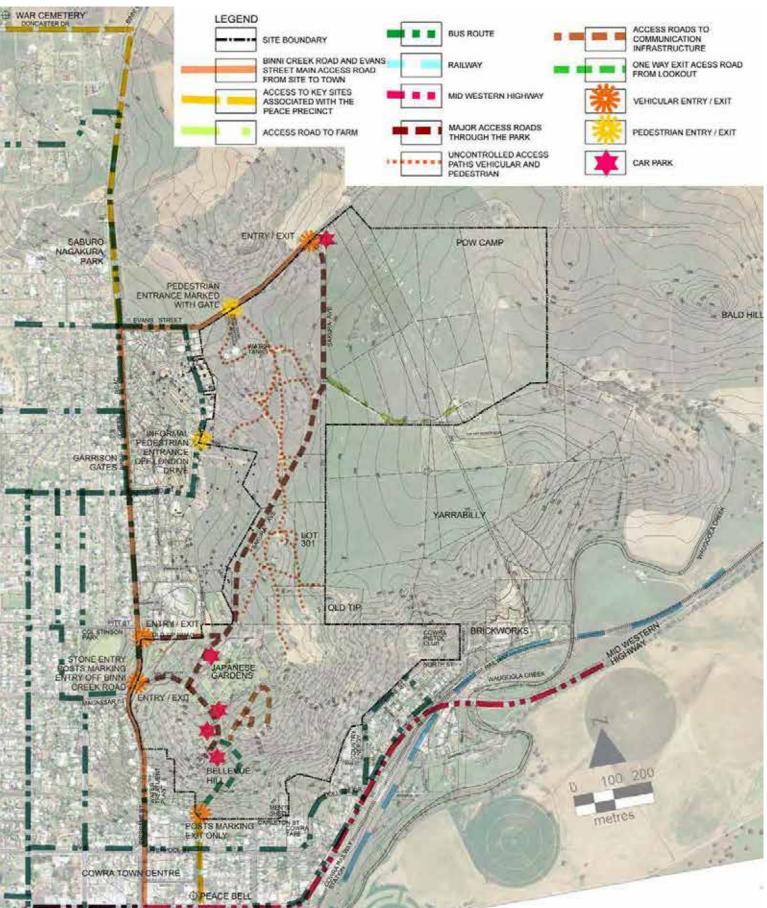


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2.8 Zoning / Landuse and Open Space

Most of the site is zoned 6 Open Space, 1(a) Rural and 5(a) Special Uses. The fenced area adjacent to the POW Camp is zoned 1a Rural, with Yarrabilly subject to rezoning. The adjacent Valley View estate is zoned 2a Residential, including the unbuilt upper eastern portions of the estate. Open space areas within the site and within the immediate surroundings of the site have been identified on the attached plans, to recognise opportunities for pedestrian and bicycle links. A number of areas have been identified during the community and stakeholder consultation workshops and associated responses where links to open space areas, such as Europa Park on Lynch Street, have been requested. Existing circulation networks are discussed next whilst opportunities for extending these links are discussed in the next Section.





2.9 Circulation – Pedestrian, Vehicular, Bicycle and Parking

Circulation within the site is principally via a number of main roads that surround the site and provide entry points. No vehicular entry to the site is available from the east at present as this is rural farming land and generally privately owned. The main access within the site and entry points include:

- Len Whitely Drive off Binni Creek Road; this entry includes stone pillars marking the Japanese Garden and Bellevue Hill Reserve areas beyond.
- Old Tip Road off Binni Creek Road; this connects directly to Sakura Avenue and is the proposed entry road connecting to Yarrabilly.
- Evans St off Binni Creek Road connects directly with Sakura Avenue.
- Scenic Drive is a narrow, steep one way road leading from the top of Bellevue Hill to exit gates at Darling Street and Carleton Street. The entry to this road at the top of the reserve is ill defined and confusing. The road provides a scenic exit from the lookout but is not suitable to caravans or buses. It needs redesign of the intersection at the top of the Reserve, along with possible signage to make it clearer and safer.
- Sakura Avenue is the current road leading through the main central area of the site. It is a bitumen two lane road with gravel verges that is also used currently as a walking track by the community. It is not a busy traffic route but currently is the main connecting link between the Japanese Garden and the POW Camp. No separation of vehicles and pedestrians occurs.

Walking tracks and uncontrolled vehicular tracks

- Uncontrolled vehicular tracks occur over much of Cowra Common. These sometimes utilise remnant tracks from the original POW Camp site in the area of the AMF Compound No. 2. Many of these tracks are highly eroded, are damaging aboriginal and non aboriginal sites, and are the subject of anti social behaviour. This includes providing access for vandalism that is evident on the scarred trees in the area as well as the POW relics. The main POW Camp site housing Compounds A, B, C and D is fenced and vehicular access is restricted.
- Walking tracks have been provided in some areas of the site. The Apex Cowra Breakout Walking Track has a sign and recognisable entry point off Evans Street near the water tanks. The track is ill defined and is confused by eroded tracks around this area, leading to the ridge. Views from this ridge are significant and opportunities to redefine this track are available. Opportunities for walking within the site are discussed in the next section.
- Walking tracks and uncontrolled eroded vehicular areas are present around the ridge overlooking Yarrabillly and are damaging the area. This area needs careful consideration as it is reported to be a special place to the Aboriginal community. The vehicular track off Sakura Avenue is near the site of the Open Camp site 1 identified by Kelton and needs to be reviewed.
- Sakura Ave is unfenced in most of its length. Current uncontrolled vehicular access is occurring off many points of this road. Many of the vehicular tracks are following the original heritage alignment of roads within the AMF 22nd Garrison Number 2 site and need to be controlled to prevent further damage to these sites.
- No defined bicycle tracks exist on the site.

Parking is located in three areas within the site.





Apex Cowra Breakout walking track

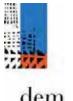


III defined, eroded track leading to ridge

- The first is at the POW Camp car park off Evans Street. This parking is not defined or edged and parking on the grass is occurring, causing erosion. Bus parking is also not defined.
- The Japanese Garden parking area is located on Ken Nakajima Place, and again parking bays are not delineated.
- Bellevue Hill has four parking areas associated with the picnic area and the lookout. Defining this parking better is discussed in the next section.



Bellevue Hill Reserve



3 Opportunities and Constraints

The opportunities and constraints for the site synthesise the site analysis and draw together the components that have been individually analysed in the first stage. Precincts within the site are consolidated and potential complementary activities and uses within these precincts are considered for incorporation into a comprehensive master plan. Input from the community and stakeholders are consolidated within this section. The following Opportunities and Constraints list these broadly. These are then developed in more detail in Precinct Opportunities and through the Guidelines section. These guidelines are illustrated on the Master Plan following community and stakeholder input.

Opportunities

- The Peace Precinct offers a unique combination of natural and cultural resources.
- Evidence of land management is present in the cultural landscapes and provides conservation and interpretive value in accordance with Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter (1999)
- The Japanese Garden and POW Camp are major destinations and can be expanded to improve visitation and facilities within the entire site.
- The Precinct is well located to maximise its connections with adjacent high value managed woodland communities, the Lachlan River and Waugoola Riparian Corridors.
- Existing resources within the Precinct provide an ideal combination of factors for conservation and management.

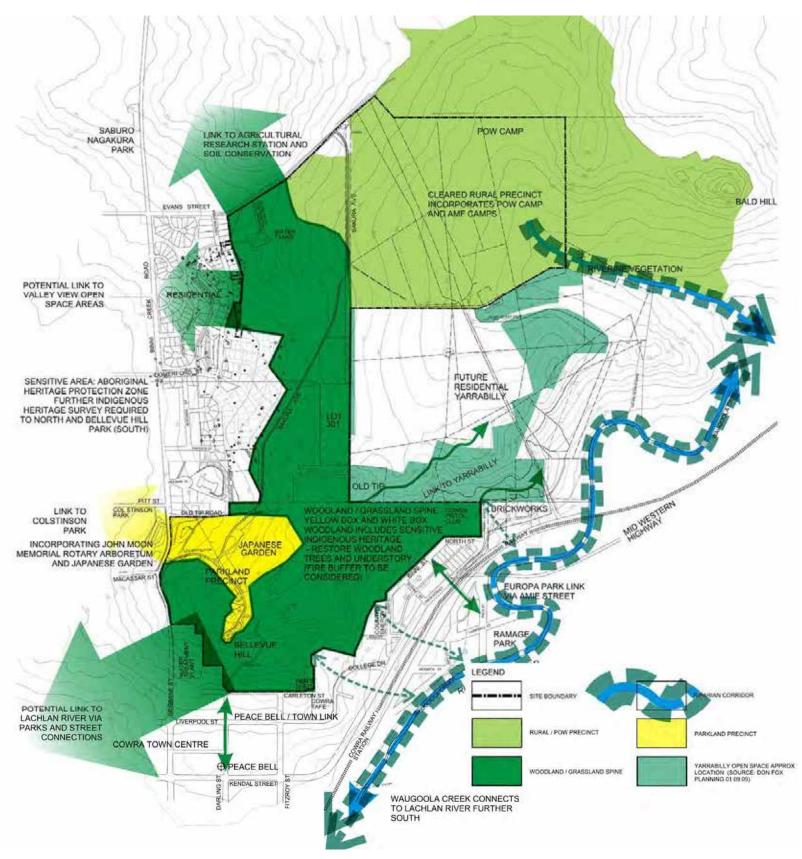
Constraints

- The extent and inclusions of the Peace Precinct are not apparent and it is not readily recognised as a precinct at present.
- It is difficult for visitors to interpret the site as well as locate the facilities comprising the site.
- Damage to Aboriginal heritage is occurring due to vehicular access, natural decay and vandalism.
- Damage to the POW Camp is occurring due to vehicular access, environmental conditions and vandalism.
- There is a lack of focus within the precinct.
- Management and restoration of the Woodland habitat requires high maintenance and weed control.
- Kangaroos, rabbits etc provide conflict with revegetation strategies.
- The POW Camp is listed under the NSW State Heritage Register- implications require all proposed alterations and additions to be subject to the NSW Heritage Act 1999 and its formal processes.

3.1 Community and Stakeholder Input

Items raised during Community and stakeholder input are shown in Appendix A. These have been included in the following sections.





3.2 Site Precincts and Green Networks

The site can be considered as three precincts, each displaying a varied character that can be utilised in the development of guidelines and Master plan proposals. Areas that fall within each precinct have similar characteristics and needs, informing the development of proposals complementary to each precinct. This will also guide the subtle variances in management and proposals that can occur within these precincts. The three precincts within the site are:

Precinct 1- Parkland

This area includes the Japanese Garden and its surrounding environs, Bellevue Hill Park leading to the lookout, John Moon Memorial Rotary Arboretum including the Detention basin and the intervening areas. This precinct is characterised by landscaped areas of mown parkland, large parkland trees (native and exotic), more detailed planting and some landscaped gardens. It features the main picnic areas, children's play areas and facilities for families and visitors to congregate play and socialise. It has the potential to be Cowra's Key Park.

It provides the opportunity to develop further these elements and could accommodate small structures and a larger building centre. This parkland has strong links to the River Parks and should include connections via the existing streets and parks (Col Stinson Park) along the way to the Lachlan River.

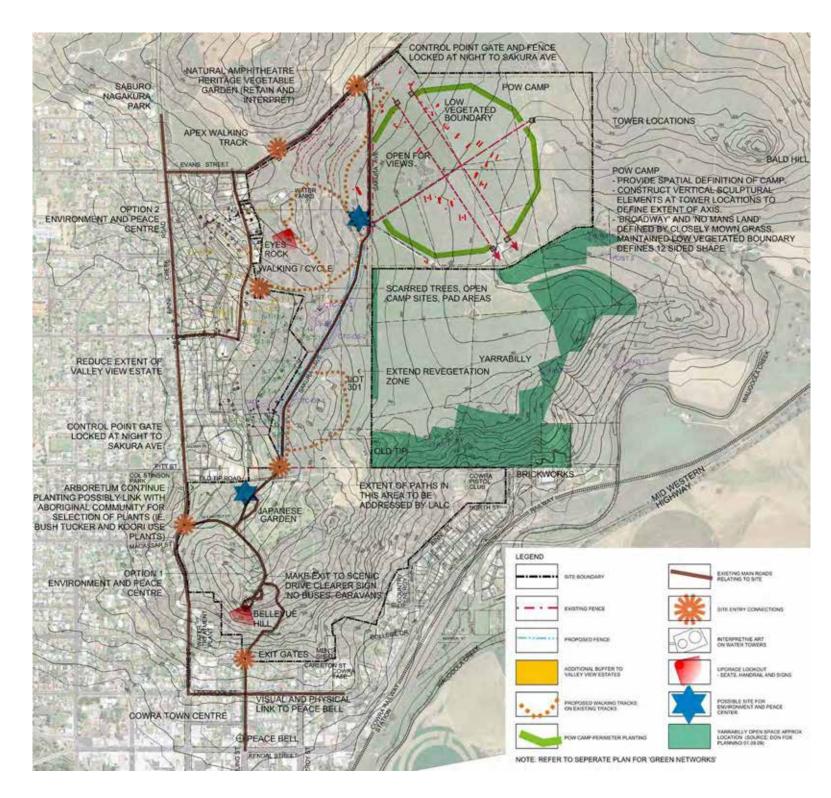
Precinct 2- Woodland/Grassland Spine - Aboriginal Nature Reserve

This includes the remnant box woodland areas, the flora and fauna park, the sensitive Aboriginal heritage areas including protection zones, and the nature walking trails. All elements within this spine would be focussed around regeneration and rehabilitation, interpretation and protection of key natural and cultural elements. This woodland also has strong links to the woodland areas surrounding the site. To the west connections to the Lachlan River can be reinforced through the low level reservoir park opposite the water treatment plant. This connection can be extended through Bill Muir Park along Keswick Street as well as along Liverpool Street to the river. Links to Waugoola Creek via the network of streets south west of the nature reserve should also be reinforced along with northern connections with Cowra Agricultural Research Station.

Precinct 3- Rural/ POW Precinct

This incorporates the POW Camp and the main areas of the AMF Compounds. It extends to the surrounding rural areas of the adjacent Agricultural Research Station and Soil Conservation lands, the farming land to the east and the rural areas of Yarrabilly within the 'Broadway' view corridor. It is closely linked to Precinct 1 and 2, and should include interpretation.





3.3 Precinct Opportunities

The following identified opportunities within each precinct have been developed for community and stakeholder response.

The key features are illustrated adjacent in broad conceptual terms. More detailed descriptions and sketches are included in the next Guidelines section. Key elements include:

Environment and Peace Centre

The Centre would showcase Cowra's historic, cultural and natural resources. It would champion reconciliation on all terms – peace, cultural reconciliation, tolerance and appreciation of differences. The centre could include various functions within annexes or exhibition areas. These include:

- Australian Interpretive Centre with cultural training facilities linked with LALC initiatives and TAFE. Local Aboriginal guides could tell the story of traditional hunter gatherer practices that occurred in the Lachlan Valley, along with the history of first contact with Europeans up to today. Key artifacts could be displayed and protected. The centre could link with tourist coaches, and site walks could be a key feature. The centre could be annexed to National Parks and Wildlife Service, with training assistance, as well as potential links with other Aboriginal community activities, Primary and Secondary school education programs. (N. Williams, et al) Exhibitions and events linked with the Cowra Art Gallery through aboriginal art displays and exhibitions could also occur. The findings from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan would play an important part in realisation of these initiatives.
- POW Camp Heritage Centre as the POW Camp Museum. All of the previous Heritage studies for the Camp have identified the wealth of artifacts that have no archive or suitable storage facility. The centre would tell the story of the POW Camp, exhibit photographs and site artifacts and be the centre for visitors to the Camp. Opportunities for escorted site POW tours would start at the centre and would solve the ambiguous lack of focus for this national heritage site. This would expand the appreciation of the camp layout and its characteristics. There has been some community feedback requesting that the tourist information centre be relocated to the POW Camp. The location of the POW Camp Heritage Centre on the site would address this issue, whilst the tourist information centre could remain on the highway and could direct visitors to the Centre. There are alternatives for the location of the centre.
 - The first alternative is to locate it within the Parkland Precinct near the Japanese Garden. This would enable the infrastructure for all of the tourist/visitor activities to be within the one location and would consolidate functions. It would also enable the serenity of the POW Camp and the Indigenous Nature Reserve to be maintained. This alternative sits best with a centre that includes all of the components listed here in one structure with annexes. There are also benefits in potential management sharing with the Japanese Garden staff (agreement would need to be sought).
 - The second alternative for the centre is within the AMF Compound No 2 adjacent to the 'No Man's Land' Axis on Sakura Avenue. Views over the Camp site would be possible from this location. Its siting would need to ensure no damage to the POW or aboriginal sites. There are a number of roads in this area that were part of the AMF Compound that could accommodate these facilities. It is also noted that the Thorp 1993 plan identified the area adjacent to Evans St and the upper level reservoir tanks as a location for an Interpretation Centre with views over the Camp site. This alternative would best accommodate the POW Camp Heritage Centre as a separate structure and would be less conducive to a multifunctional Centre.



• Historical Museum:

The centre could be the focus for all historical society information and could showcase Cowra's history. Some of the stories that can be told about Cowra, and its unique natural resources are discussed next. The centre could also focus on stories about Cowra's people. Recent history and achievements could be included as rotational exhibitions. The centre could also include Oral history. This suggestion was made by community input that oral history should be recorded whilst 'older generations are still here. This should include Aboriginal Elder oral history also.

• Environment Centre and Woodland Habitat Restoration Project:

The Centre would tell the story of Cowra's natural resources, its history of natural resource management, as well as its ongoing role in responsible environmental management and sustainability. This part of the centre would be linked with the aboriginal interpretive annex and would also highlight the network of managed conservation areas of high biodiversity connecting with this site including; DECCW land of 120 Hectares of woodlands, protected woodlands within the Agricultural Research Station, the Lachlan River parks and riparian restoration, and Waugoola Creek riparian corridor. These sites continue to provide a valuable connection of managed and protected woodland that enable Cowra Shire Council to expand this high biodiversity through the Peace Precinct as a consolidation of the restoration occurring. This will create a valuable tourist, educational and conservation initiative to be told within the Environment Centre. The logistics of restoring these corridors are discussed within the Guidelines. The stories of natural resource management to be told to a wider audience that would be of interest to visitors and tourist include

- The NSW Primary Industries Agricultural Research Station; Originally part of Cowra Common prior to 1903, when a thousand acres was excised to establish Cowra Experimental Farm for William Farrer (commonly known as the Father of the Australian Wheat Industry). The Research Station has pioneered the breeding of wheat, oats and barley and the work carried on by Sutton and Pridham as well as the ongoing work by Kelly into sheep research is of interest for exhibition.
- Soil Conservation Service- now part of DECCW; Early pioneering soil conservation practices demonstrated on Cowra Common and the Research Station illustrate early land management activities and are of interest due to impacts on the cultural landscape still visible today. These practices also played an important role in the activities within some of the POW Camp where the contoured areas were used for vegetable gardens.

Sakura Avenue Vehicular Management

Two alternatives have been reviewed for managing vandalism and unauthorised access to the woodland and heritage areas. These include:

- Close Sakura Avenue at night; Install control points (gates) at Old Tip Road and Evans Street. This would control access at night and would assist in the protection of the sensitive aboriginal and European heritage area. Both sides of Sakura Avenue would be fenced where it is not at present to control vehicular access.
- A second alternative is to close Sakura Avenue to vehicles permanently and to make it a pedestrian/bicycle link. Buses and vehicles would travel along Binni Creek Road and Evans Street to access the POW Camp. This option was raised at the community meetings. The connection between the Japanese Garden and the Camp site may be effected by this less direct link.



 Fencing of the Peace Precinct on all boundaries to prevent vehicular access is recommended and is standard practice for open space areas of this nature. (e.g. Western Sydney Regional Park, Mt Ainslie Nature Reserve)

POW Camp Conservation and Interpretation

- Recognise the tourist potential of the POW Camp and Japanese Garden as a destination and use this as an anchor for other tourist opportunities. Improve facilities for tourists to visit the site.
- Provide interpretation within the camp, in particular the spatial definition of the camp and its boundaries.
- Provide perimeter planting to define the 12 sided shape of the 4 quadrants of the camp layout.
- Construct vertical interpretive sculptural elements (at correct heights) at the original tower locations to define the extent of the site and the height of the structures.
- Define 'Broadway' and 'No Man's Land' by closely mowing the grass and maintaining this to the full width of both axes.
- Rationalise the car park, provide for defined bus parking, prevent vehicles accessing the grassed areas, and
 create a better connection between features. Review the height of the interpretive sign at the viewing
 platform and improve levels, grades, connectivity of elements.
- Interpret the natural amphitheatre- heritage vegetable garden within the AMF Compound No.2
- Protect the stone electrical supply building by fencing to restrict access.
- Provide a walking/bicycle trail that follows the Garrison Gate vehicular access along the original alignment of this road.
- Protect heritage items by mowing and fencing.
- Further guidelines are included in the next section.

Aboriginal Heritage Sites

- Recognise, identify and protect all registered Aboriginal sites.
- Prevent vehicular access around scarred trees and known Aboriginal heritage sites.
- Protect all scarred trees, Aboriginal sites and obtain expert management and conservation recommendations from Aboriginal heritage conservation professionals of sites and artifacts to ensure their survival.
- Interpret the sites through initiatives identified closely with the Aboriginal community and LALC.
- Keep highly sensitive sites un-publicised to reduce impacts, as guided by the Local Aboriginal Community
 and the LALC. Consultation with Aboriginal elders on appropriate action for sites and artifacts should also
 occur.
- Undertake initiatives identified previously in Aboriginal Interpretive Centre.
- Refer to recommendations for Arboretum following where plants of significance in Aboriginal culture could be planted and linked with the potential Environment and Peace Centre. This further reinforces the potential location for the Centre adjacent to the Arboretum in the Parkland Precinct.

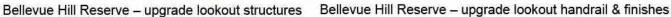


Green Networks - Woodland Spine + Walking Trails + Flora and Fauna Reserve

- The green networks would undertake on the ground the conservation practices identified within the Environment Centre previously. Essential factors of the revegetation and restoration of the woodland community are identifying it as a 'Project' for funding and development purposes. Establish a name for the Project ie 'Woodland Habitat Restoration Project', or canvas stakeholders for naming the Project.
- Provide a rationalised walking trail through the woodland spine. Close all other trails and regenerate.
- Undertake regeneration planting of the box woodland, remove weeds, and encourage birds by planting and provision of water points at strategic locations.
- Utilise the existing fenced areas for regeneration stages to demonstrate best regeneration practices.
- More detailed guidelines for the Woodland habitat restoration project are included in the next section.









Bellevue Hill Park and Lookout

- · Provide a better integration of Bellevue Hill Park and Lookout within the Parkland Precinct to expand visitor destination areas with this precinct
- Rationalise the car parking in the park
- Upgrade landscape and establish a colour palette for all furniture and structures. Interim upgrading could be carried out by changing the light coloured and heritage green of the structures. Palettes will be suggested.
- · Replace the hand rails to the lookouts with less visually intrusive design.
- . Upgrade the pedestrian access to make it safer and investigate access for the less abled.
- Make the entry to Scenic Drive clearer for vehicles by appropriate traffic (Local Area Traffic Management) measures and landscape treatment.
- · Further details are included with the Guidelines



Bellevue Hill Reserve - upgrade colour palette for fencing & structures



Bellevue Hill Reserve – upgrade colour palette for furniture & structures





Arboretum - continue planting



Japanese Garden carpark – line marking to define spaces



Japanese Garden carpark - line marking to define spaces

Arboretum

- Continue planting within the arboretum. Possible link with the Aboriginal community in selection of plants
 and demonstration of plant types i.e. Bush tucker plants, plants used by the community (example Wigay
 Park in Kempsey is an aboriginal food park with training and links to the local TAFE)
- . Utilise the arboretum to identify significant plants within the Cowra region and provide signs to identify these.
- Undertake soil testing to ensure any claimed contamination issues are addressed and or dismissed. The
 issue of methane and tree plantings over the tip sites be investigated as part of the Cowra Peace Precinct.

Japanese Garden Entrance and Car park

- Consolidate the activities within the Parkland Precinct by maximizing the tourist draw card of the Japanese
 Garden as discussed previously. This visitor area has the potential to identify other areas within the Precinct
 of interest and worthy of visiting. Locating the Environment and Peace Centre next to this car park would
 achieve this.
- · Rationalise car park and provide line marking to define spaces and protect trees.
- Review landscape around sculptures to make them more visually significant.
- · Provide clear pedestrian link to the pathways within the arboretum.

Valley View Estate

 Reduce the extent of the subdivision to protect integrity of the ridgeline on Sakura Avenue, the aboriginal sites and the visual amenity of the park.

Artwork Exhibitions and Events

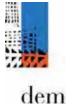
- Investigate extending the cultural activities held within the Japanese Garden to the rest of the Parkland and possibly Woodland Precinct. eg International Peace Sculpture Park- There is potential to expand on the existing sculptures located here and in the arboretum. The idea of a sculpture park was received from community consultation along with another for a Peace- Makers Parade. These ideas could be linked through sculpture and artwork. The siting of these elements may be permanent or there could be an biennial sculpture exhibition that provides a strong link with the art gallery and provides opportunities for a high quality outdoor sculpture venue This is similar to the Sydney 'Sculpture by the Sea' or regional events such as the 'Trial Bay Gaol Sculpture Exhibition.'
- Both community suggestions were to locate these along the ridgeline of the Peace Precinct. The level of
 security and potential vandalism needs to be reviewed and further community input to this suggestion, along
 with appropriate locations. It is possible that the ridgeline sculpture park would work for a temporary
 exhibition, but a more permanent park may have higher surveillance within the Parkland Precinct within the
 Arboretum, Japanese Garden environs and Bellevue Hill Park.



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Valley View Estate – reduce the extent of the subdivision to protect integrity of ridgeline on Sakura Avenue



4 Master Plan

The Master Plan incorporates the ideas identified in the Precinct Opportunities. Community and stakeholder feedback has been provided and included in the Master Plan development. Where alternatives were identified in the Precinct Opportunities these have been rationalised. Community and stakeholder input have generally been consistent with some alternative views on the level of development and differences in opinion in some areas. Differences in priorities have been recorded in the stakeholder responses, but there is a majority of support for the options proposed and opinions expressed in relation to alternatives given. A summary of the community responses and input is included in Appendix A.

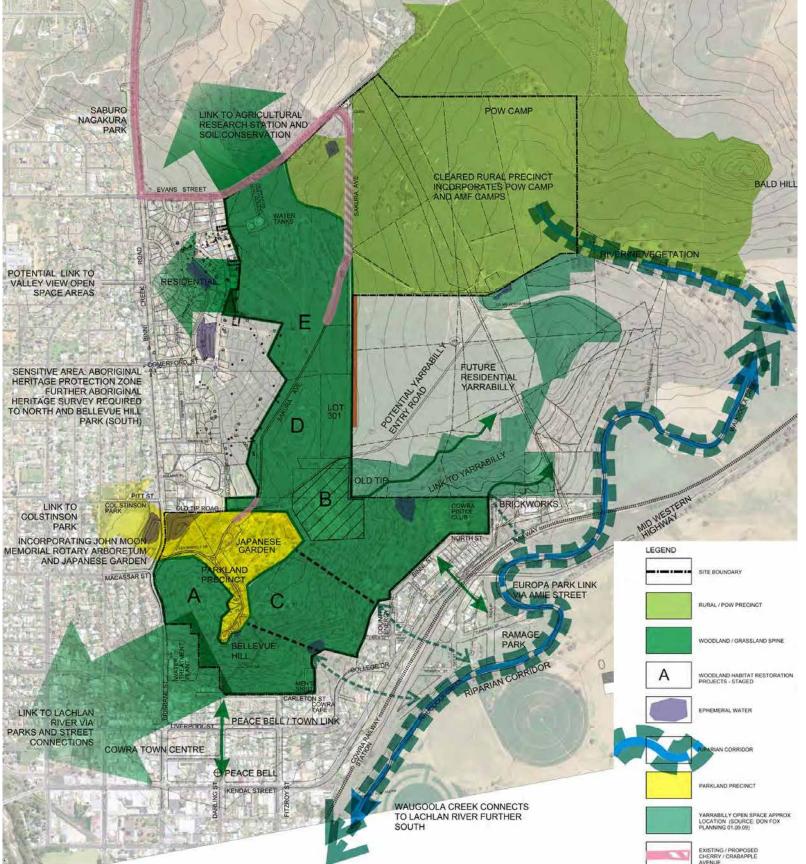
4.1 Principles and Guidelines

The guidelines that follow identify the core Principles for the Peace Precinct Master Plan and outline how these principles may be achieved through sketches, plans and precedence images.

Prin	ciples Summary	Section Ref
1.	Restore and maintain a green environmental network showcasing sustainability through the Peace Precinct	4.1.1
2.	Recognise, identify and protect all registered Aboriginal heritage sites. Survey Precinct to find, recognise and acknowledge other potential Aboriginal sites.	4.1.2
3.	Establish a pedestrian/bicycle/fire track network that includes signage and communication for the Peace Precinct	4.1.3
4.	Provide an integrated walking track network through the Peace Precinct that links the sites - control vehicular movement	4.1.4
5.	Identify and interpret the original Garrison entry road	4.1.5
6.	Define the Peace Precinct, through materials, structures, signage and communication strategy	4.1.6
7.	Provide a destination for visitors to the POW Camp where the interpretation of the site is introduced	4.1.7
8.	Provide interpretation of the POW site worthy of its National heritage status	4.1.8
9.	Establish the Japanese Garden area within the Parkland Precinct as the tourist and visitor central hub	4.1.9
10.	Establish an Environment and Peace Centre to showcase Cowra's historic, cultural and natural resources.	4.1.10
11.	Provide a better integration of Bellevue Hill Park and Lookout within the Parkland Precinct	4.1.11
12.	Control vehicular movement through the site and provide boundary structure on Carleton Street	4.1.12
13.	Establish boundary guidelines to minimise impacts of adjacent residences on the Precinct whilst defining the extent of the Peace Precinct.	4.1.13
14.	Incorporate artwork and expand events, both temporary and permanent, to engage the local community and increase visitation.	4.1.14
15.	Ensure principles of ESD are considered in all aspects of the Peace Precinct	4.1.15



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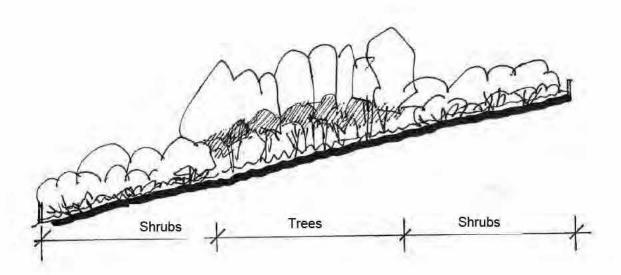
4.1.1 Green Networks – Woodland Habitat Restoration Project

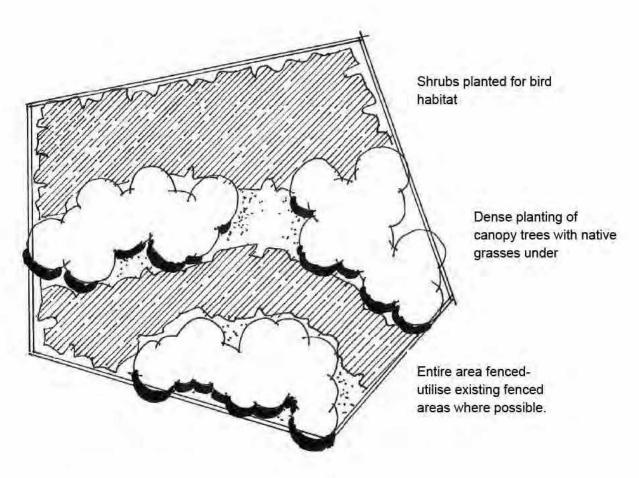
Principle One: Restore and maintain a green environmental network showcasing sustainability through the Peace Precinct.

Guidelines:

- Provide connections with the protected woodlands and riparian corridors beyond the site.
- Collaborate the revegetation and restoration of the woodland community 'Project' for funding with relevant authorities including LCMA, Cowra Shire Council, DECCW, NSW Department of Agriculture, Greening
- Address fragmentation of habitats by locating staged regeneration projects in a series of patches that provide connections for birds via safe flying distances – with the ultimate aim that the staged patches
- Link with volunteer local Groups and coordinate activities, in particular the Cowra Woodland Bird's Group.
- Establish minimum two (2) hectare restoration projects throughout the precinct staged to align with management and maintenance regimes.
- Utilise existing fenced areas within the flora and fauna park for staged woodland habitat restoration planting projects. Where planting is located within high fenced areas, relocate wallabies and kangaroos to other fenced areas of the park to reduce grazing on new plants until established.
- Establish an ongoing seed collection process utilising local provenance seeds- coordinate with DECCW for collection locations and any seed banks.
- Only utilise 'crash grazing' where woodland plants are sufficiently protected. Limit crash grazing when native grasses are seeding. Utilise grazing to reduce weedy understorey.
- Provide water areas to encourage birds within the site- water will be ephemeral utilising WSUD principles such as bio-swales and rain gardens, small retention basins to slow runoff and collect water for bird habitat.
- Establish trials of regeneration methods- including direct seeding, tubestock planting, ripping and seeding, spraying understorey weed techniques- coordinate with local trials at Research station and LCMA.
- Link regeneration with Landcare projects and principles throughout Cowra.

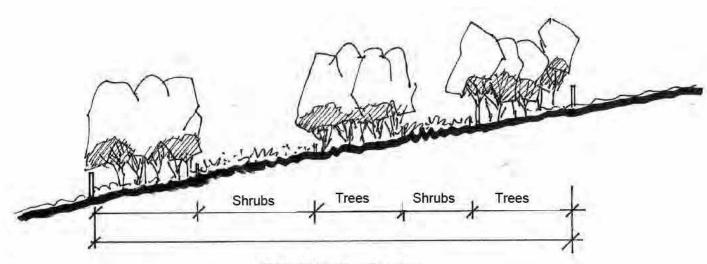




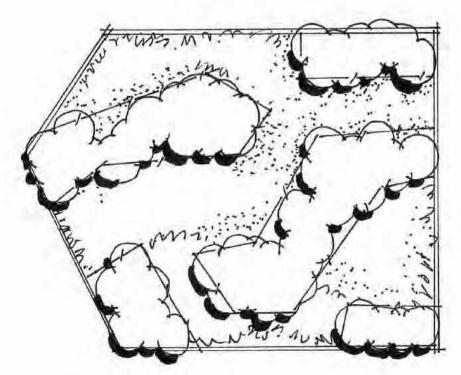


Type 1: Woodland Tree Groups and Shrubs

Plan and Section showing shrub planting for bird habitat and Woodland trees planted in dense groups with native grasses under.



Fenced Regeneration Area



Type 2: Woodland Tree Groups and Grasses-Grassy Box Woodland

Plan and Section showing trees planted in dense groups at varied spacings with regenerated native grasses between in species

Plan and Section showing two potential White box Woodland Restoration Project approaches.

Entire area fencedutilise existing fenced areas where possible.

Dense planting of canopy trees. Treed areas with rabbit proof fencing around each group. Overplant to allow for losses.

Seeded and regenerated native grasses between tree groups.

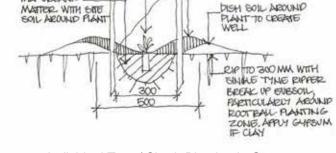
Width to allow for slashing where slopes permit



Rehabilitation Area Guideline: Refer to Master Plan for location of Areas

Area	Description	Vegetation Groups- Communities
Wood	dand Tree Groups and Shrubs Rehabilitation Areas	-Type 1
A1	Ridgeline, Predominantly western facing slopes, some southern and northern slopes. Moderately steep to steep slopes.	Whitebox Woodland community species on Ridgetop. Blakelys Red Gum species on mid - slopes
B1	Predominantly east facing slope less steep adjacent to Cowra Pistol Club	Yellow Box Woodland species
C1	South-east slopes, steep. Gullies leading to Waugoola Creek catchment. Rocky outcrops on all slopes and ridge. Ridge tops around towers.	 Gullies: Blakelys Red Gum community . White Box woodland on top slopes and ridgetop. Yellow Box Woodland on lower slopes.
Grass	sy Woodland Rehabilitation Areas Type 2	
B2	Gentle western slopes at top of Old Tip site.	White Box Woodland species
D2	Ridge with rocky outcrops	White Box Woodland species planted in clusters to maintain Grassy Woodland character and to avoid screening views.
E2	Ridge – western and eastern slopes,	White Box Woodland species planted in patches with gaps to allow for maintaining grassy woodland character and maintain views.

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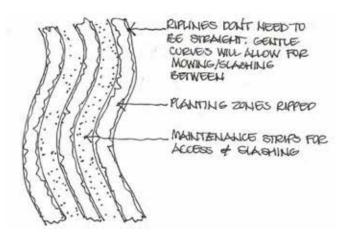
MIX ORGANIC

Individual Tree / Shrub Planting in Grass

Revegetation Techniques

The following techniques for revegetation can be applied to the woodland restoration.

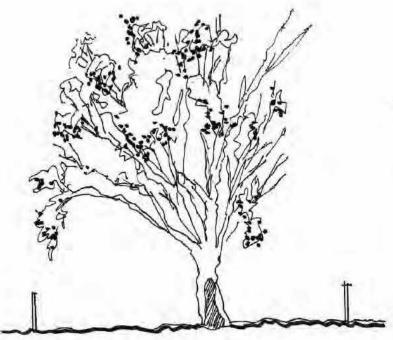
- Scarify existing soil then apply herbicide to reduce weed competition prior to planting. Where area is
 extremely high in weed cover and weed seeds are within soil it may be beneficial to scrape the surface to
 remove the weeds and seeds. This should only occur where very high weed concentration occurs.
- Rip and/or cultivate planting strips and patches as preparation for planting.
- Grassy Woodland Regeneration areas -Type 2 should include tree planting in patches to maintain the Grassy Woodland character. Patches should be minimum 30 metres wide, located and linked by 20 metre minimum grassed zones between patches.
- Links- corridors and stepping stones of revegetation areas will provide habitat for birds and fauna species.
- Woodland tree groups and shrubs Regeneration Areas Type 1 should include tree planting in patches of minimum 30 metres wide. Shrub planting should be planted in areas between tree patches. Some areas of Trees and shrub understorey should be planted to represent the range of woodland community structures.
- Revegetate areas on the site with plant species representative of the landscape types that would have been
 present within the site's microclimatic zones ie Ridges, South slopes, Eastern Slopes, Western slopes,
 gullies. Refer to the Rehabilitation Area Guideline table.
- Management Techniques such as crash grazing may be employed minimum twelve (12) months after the first exclusion of livestock. Use animals that are hungry to ensure previous grazing area does not introduce weed seeds through faeces, wool or fur.
- Where safety permits leave fallen trees where they fall to provide logs and hollows for habitat.
- Where safe leave dead tree trunks standing with hollows for nesting. If necessary trim dead branches that are dangerous, leaving hollow trunk for habitat.
- Planting is to aim to increase overall biodiversity- mixed species for revegetation, bird habitat and visual improvement.
- Planting Techniques- Refer to details below.

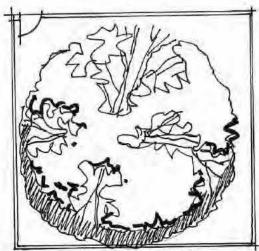


Planting Layout for Riplines and Maintenance Areas

Mass Planting Area - Fenced







Plan and Section showing potential protection to existing standing scarred trees- fencing to the extent of the canopy



Protect living scarred trees from damage and vandalism. Fence if appropriate to the extent of the canopy to protect tree and provide safety where dieback of canopy provides risk of limb drop.

4.1.2 Aboriginal Heritage Sites

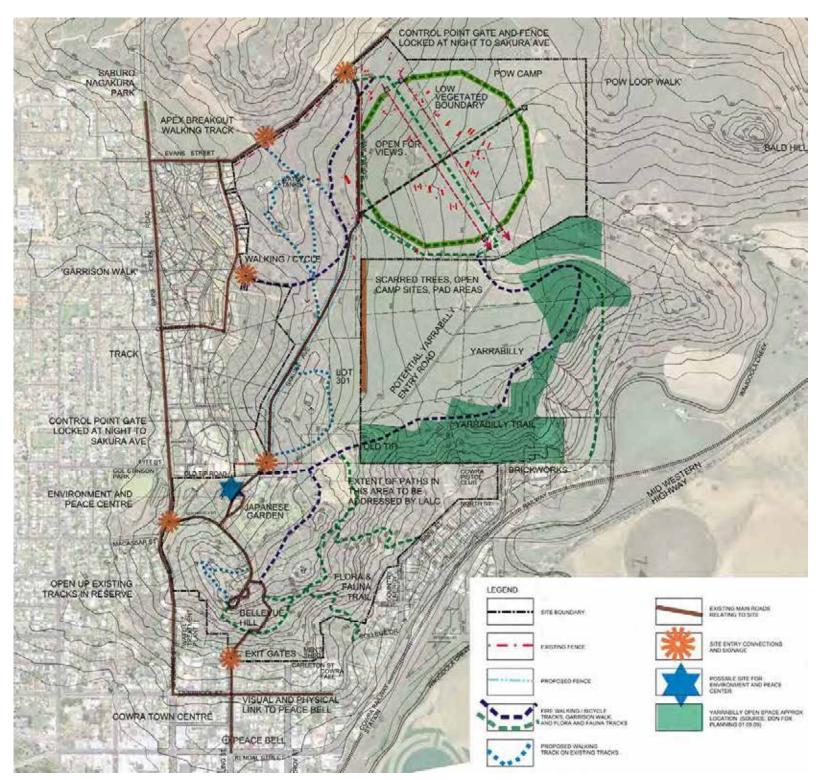
Principle Two: Recognise, identify and protect all registered Aboriginal heritage sites. Survey Precinct to find, recognise and acknowledge other potential Aboriginal sites

Guidelines:

- Recognise, identify and protect all registered Aboriginal heritage sites- Aboriginal heritage conservation
 professionals to investigate additional known sites including bora ring, carving of eyes in Granite boulder,
 areas of significance to men and women (ie reported birthing site).
- Prevent vehicular access around scar trees and known Aboriginal heritage sites. Closing of existing tracks
 that are recommended in the Master Plan as well as fencing of Sakura Avenue will prevent further vehicular
 damage to these sites.
- Protect all scarred trees, Aboriginal sites and obtain expert management and conservation
 recommendations from Aboriginal heritage conservation professionals of sites and artefacts to ensure their
 survival. This includes the current fire damage to scarred trees. Where scarred trees have been salvaged- ie
 as stored at Council's depot, these trees can be displayed in a protected area as guided by the Local
 Aboriginal Community and the LALC.
- Interpret the sites through initiatives identified closely with the Aboriginal community and LALC.
- Keep highly sensitive sites un-publicised to reduce impacts, as guided by the Local Aboriginal Community and the LALC. Consultation with Aboriginal elders on appropriate action for sites and artefacts should also occur.
- Undertake initiatives identified previously in Aboriginal Interpretive Centre following coordination with the Aboriginal community and LALC.
- Determine through consultation with the Aboriginal community and LALC where site artifacts found on the site should be displayed. See Interpretive Centre below and possible display wall as an interim display prior to funding for a centre.
- Known sites remaining include PAD areas. Recommendations from this study in relation to reducing the
 extent of Valley View Estate would protect these PAD areas. Further investigation of these areas needs to
 be agreed with Aboriginal community and LALC.
- Aboriginal Interpretive Centre with cultural training facilities linked with LALC initiatives and TAFE. Local Aboriginal guides could tell the story of traditional hunter gatherer practices that occurred in the Lachlan Valley, and importantly key artifacts could be displayed and protected. The centre could link with tourist coaches, and site walks could be a key feature. The centre could be annexed to National Parks and Wildlife Service, with training assistance, as well as potential links with the Cowra Art Gallery through Aboriginal art displays and exhibitions.
- Aboriginal plants of significance to be planted at arboretum.
- Review and address Kelton's statement in his 2000 survey with the local Aboriginal community and LALC.
 This statement is included below.

'a problem facing NPWS and the local Aboriginal community. inevitably, the fabric of the sites will be lost. Some form of conservation policy should be implemented, where either a representative sample or all of the recorded sites should be either conserved on-site or salvaged, relocated and conserved prior to their natural deterioration (which in many cases it is already too late to arrest).' (Kelton 2000).





4.1.3 Pedestrian / Bicycle /Signage and Communication Networks

Principle Three : Establish a pedestrian/bicycle/fire track network that includes signage and communication for the Peace Precinct.

The extent of the pedestrian / bicycle networks, fire trails, signage and communication is shown on the adjacent network drawing.



Bollards to limit vehicular access on tracks



Sealed trail to enable all access



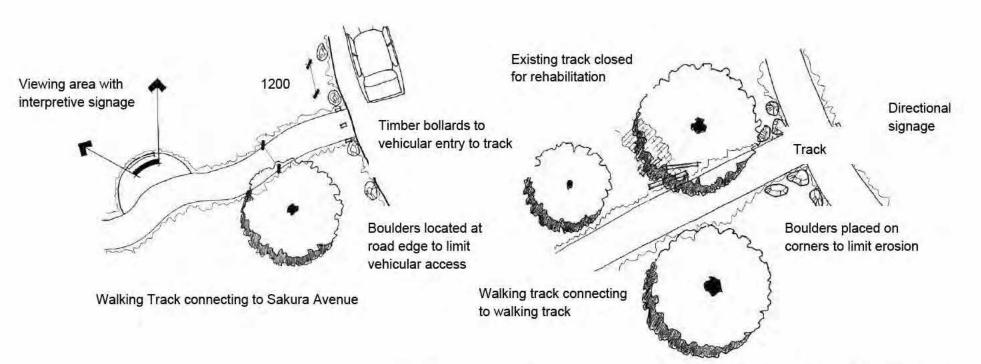
Interpretative and directional signage

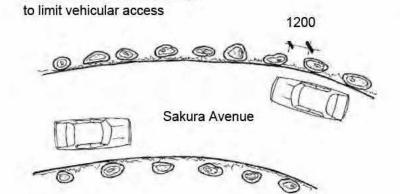


Interpretative signage elements



Boulders to limit vehicular access





Boulders located at road edge

Sakura Avenue lined with local boulders to limit vehicular access



Coarse local stone signage wall



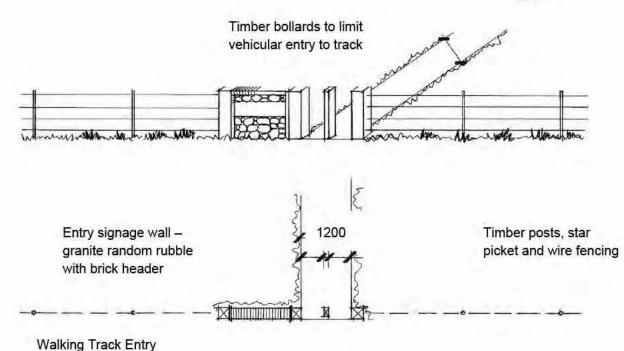
Interpretative signage in track



Boulders lining roadway to limit vehicular access



Track stairs – material to be local gravel



4.1.4 Walking Tracks

Principle Four: Provide an integrated walking track network through the Peace Precinct, that links the site and controls vehicular movement. .

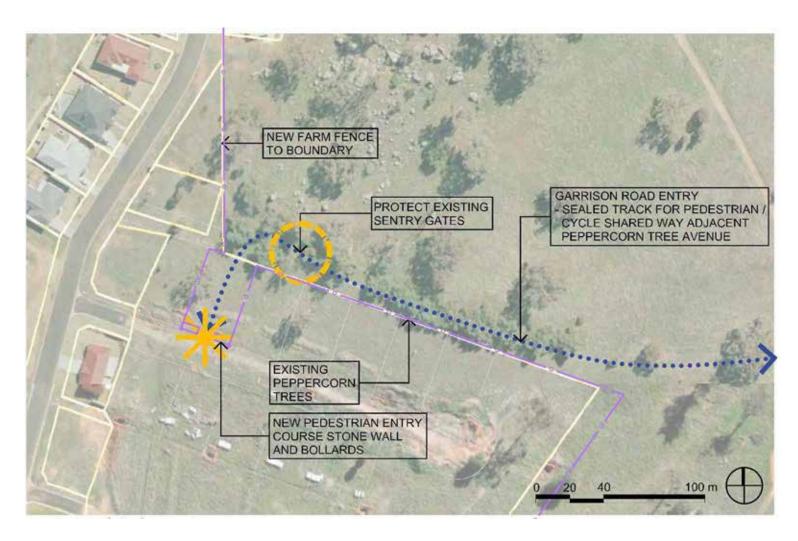
Guidelines:

- Identify hierarchy of tracks to define those doubling as fire tracks and bicycle routes
- Identify and select existing tracks that provide a range of experiences and allow for interpretation of the landscape.
- Restrict access to unwanted tracks and regenerate tracks.
- Locate trails through the varied precincts and vegetation communities- ie Link with major high points and lookouts, adjacent select scar trees, connect with Bellevue Hill woodland walk, Yarrabilly ridgeline open space, and Arboretum.
- Provide integrated signage at each track linking with the established signage and materials palette. Provide way finding names to each track to assist in orientation.
- Provide a range and hierarchy of tracks suitable for pedestrian, bicycle and fire tracks.

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Original Garrison Road: adjacent to London Drive. Note Cowra gravel evidence on surface



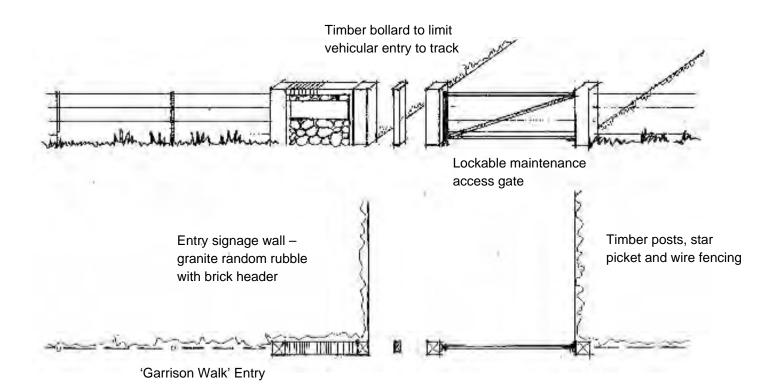
Protect and retain the peppercorn trees adjacent the shared way



Protect and retain the heritage sentry footings whilst providing pedestrian access



Protect and retain the heritage sentry footings whilst providing pedestrian access



4.1.5A 'Garrison Walk'- on Original Garrison Road

Principle Five: Identify and interpret the original Garrison entry road

Guidelines:

- Provide a pedestrian and bicycle access point and circulation route within the northern portion of the
- Signage at the pedestrian entry to link with the established signage and materials palette and define this boundary of the Peace Precinct.
- Pedestrian and bicycle access to follow the original alignment of Garrison road.
- Vehicle access provided only for maintenance and fire track access. Bollards and lockable fire track gates located at control point.
- Original footings to Sentry boxes and Gateway locations to be protected, with gate entry signage recognising the heritage significance of these items.
- Surface of access to be reinstated by providing a compacted gravel pathway 2.5-3 metres wide with cross fall to lower slope. Existing formation includes grassed level areas, minimum 1 metre either side to enable a 4 metre fire track to be maintained.
- Protect and retain original grassed swale on higher side as well as original fencing and timber posts.

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Environmental Management Plan – Master Plan



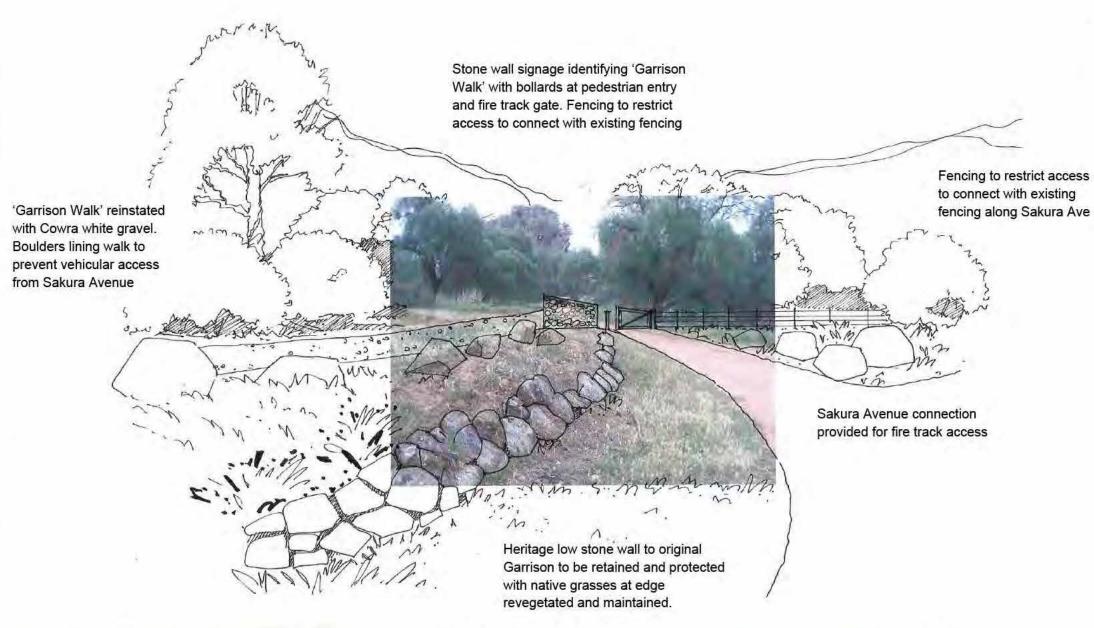
Alignment of AMF Garrison Road today through Compound- original white gravel evidence remains



Approximate alignment of AMF Garrison Road today through contour ploughed heritage vegetable garden



Opportunities to interpret the natural amphitheatre heritage vegetable garden area within AMF compound - ie. adaptive reuse for outdoor open air cinema during summer months. Evidence of early contour ploughing and land management Image Source: Australian War Memorial





Original alignment of AMF Garrison Road visiblelocate 'Garrison Walk' on same alignment. Close and regenerate other tracks

Image Source: Australian War Memorial

4.1.5B 'Garrison Walk'- through AMF Compound and Adjacent Vegetable Garden

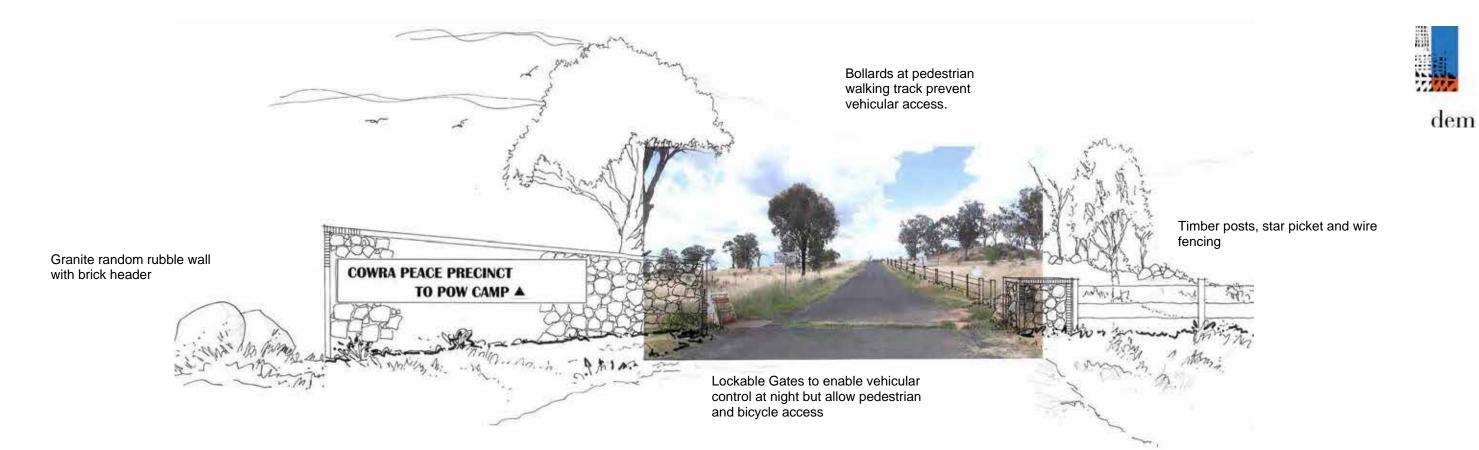
Principle Five: Identify and interpret the original Garrison entry road.

Guidelines:

- Continue Garrison entry road as a pedestrian/ bicycle/fire track circulation route following the alignment through the AMF Compound and adjacent the vegetable garden to link with Evans St. Enhance the visitor experience by interpreting parts of the Garrison Compound.
- Protect heritage items and limit pedestrian access to the designated tracks utilising measures illustrated in Walking Tracks guideline.
- Provide signage at Sakura Avenue intersection with the Garrison Walk to provide the first point along the vehicular access to the POW Camp where interpretation of elements of the Camp can be appreciated.
- Instigate measures to actively maintain/protect the heritage footings and remnant structures through close collaboration with a heritage architect and Department of Planning Heritage Office.
- Protect the stone electrical supply building by fencing to restrict access and improve safety.
- Interpret the natural amphitheatre- heritage vegetable garden within the AMF Compound No.2.

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Garrison Gates: provide design reference for signage walls material palette.



Continue existing farm fencing style



Sakura Avenue is currently used by the community as a pedestrian, route and exercise area.



AMF Stone Building: provide design reference for signage walls material palette



Continue existing farm fencing style



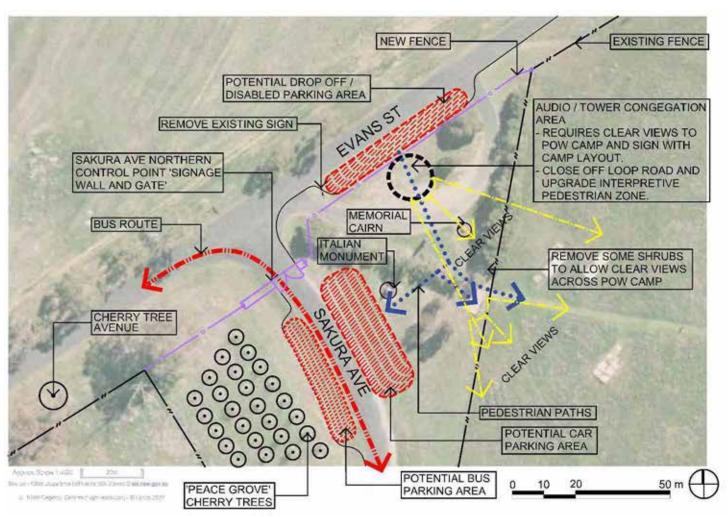
Boulders at road edge to limit vehicular access

4.1.6 Sakura Avenue Southern Control Point

Principle Six: Define the Peace Precinct- through materials, structures, signage and communication **Guidelines**:

- Establish an integrated signage and material palette (to assist in recognition, 'branding' and way finding).
 Mark destinations within the Precinct to improve connections and promote clarity to visitors.
- Signage walls to be clearly legible from a distance and to include directions. Material palette: Brick capping
 and header course with granite stone infill to draw on the design of the Garrison Gates yet interpret this in a
 modern context. Metal signage plates attached to stonework.
- Vehicle control point to be located at the southern end of the Common with lockable gates to be locked at sunset to protect assets.
- Farm fencing (Timber posts, star picket and 4 strand wire) to edge of Sakura Avenue to prevent further damage to Aboriginal heritage sites, flora and fauna. Farm fencing style or granite boulders to be located at all edges to park where vehicular entry requires control.

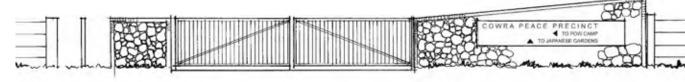




Timber posts, star picket and wire fencing

Granite random rubble wall with brick header and metal signage panel

Timber bollards at track entry to limit vehicular access



Lockable Gates to enable vehicular control at night but allow pedestrian and cycle access

Selectively remove tall shrubs to provide clear views of the POW Camp from the seats and area adjacent the tower audio. Signage with the plan layout would also enhance interpretation of the audio message on the site











Viewing area sits above surrounding ground levels and signage is too high to view over. Increase length of platform, lower sign and integrate ground levels better with paved platform

4.1.7 POW Camp Viewing Area and Car Park

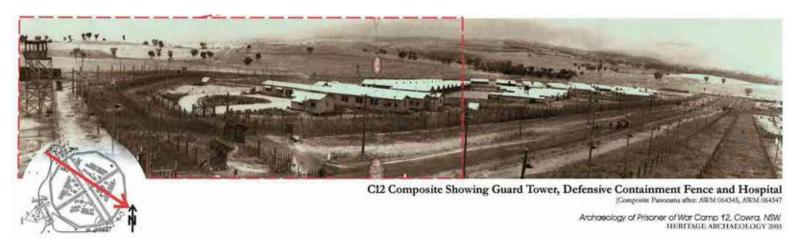
Principle Seven: Provide a destination for visitors to the POW Camp where the interpretation of the site is introduced.

Guidelines:

- Rationalise the car park, provide for defined car, bus and caravan parking, prevent vehicles accessing the grassed areas, and create a better connection between features.
- Review the height of the interpretive sign at the viewing platform and improve levels, grades, connectivity of elements.
- Provide improved visitors amenities including interpretive elements
- Provide improved clear views to the POW Camp
- Provide vehicle control point to be located at the northern end of the Common with lockable gates to be locked at sunset to protect assets.
- Provide farm fencing (Timber posts, star picket and 4 strand wire) to edge of Evans Street to prevent further damage to heritage sites, flora and fauna. Farm fencing style or granite boulders to be located at all edges to park where vehicular entry requires control.

Signage walls to be clearly legible from a distance and to include directions. Material palette: Brick capping and header course with granite stone infill to draw on the design of the Garrison Gates yet interpret this in a modern context. Metal signage plates attached to stonework.





Camp 12 Composite Panorama Showing Guard Tower, Defensive Containment Fence and Hospital (Source: Heritage Archaeology, Oct 2003)



View west along mown grass 'No Man's Land' with shrub boundaries and tower sculpture at the end of 'No Man's Land'



A guard with a Bren Gun on duty in the Guard Tower overlooking POW Camp 12 (Source: Heritage Archaeology, Oct 2003)

4.1.8 POW Camp

Principle Eight: Provide interpretation of the site worthy of its National heritage status.

Guidelines

- Provide closer access to this interpretation via a series of looped access routes through the Camp
- Provide interpretation within the Camp, in particular the spatial definition of the camp and its boundaries.
- Provide perimeter planting to define the 12 sided shape of the 4 quadrants of the camp layout.
- Construct vertical interpretive sculptural elements (at correct heights) at the original tower locations to define the extent of the site and the height of the structures.
- Define 'Broadway' and 'No Man's Land' by closely mowing the grass and maintaining this to the full width of both axes.
- Protect heritage items by mowing and weeding around structure. Fence where required.





View from the north side of the POW Camp boundary – Guard Tower sculpture to end of Broadway and 'No Man's Land'. Boundary to be identified with shrub planting to width of fences





Review landscape in the area



Review landscape around sculptures



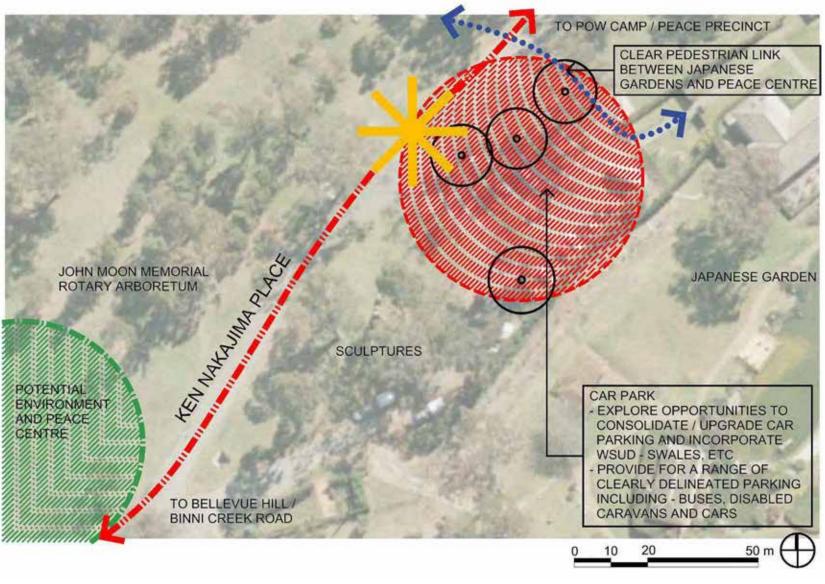
Rationalise car park – provide linemarking



Rationalise car park – provide linemarking



Rationalise car park – provide linemarking



4.1.9 Japanese Garden Area 4.1.10 Potential Environment and Peace Centre

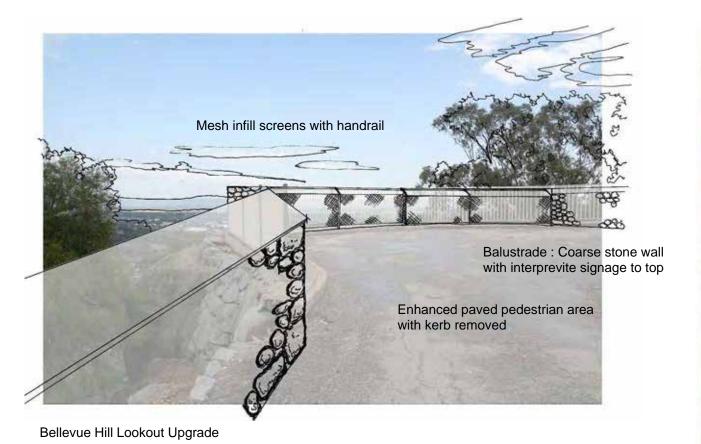
Principle Nine: Establish the Japanese Garden area within the Parkland Precinct as the tourist / visitor hub **Principle Ten:** Establish an Environment and Peace Centre to showcase Cowra's historic, cultural and natural resources.

Guidelines:

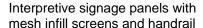
- Locate tourist based activities within this area of the Peace Precinct and identify directions to all other visitor destinations within the Peace Precinct.
- Construction of an Environment and Peace Centre adjacent to the Japanese Carpark, investigating potential formats as discussed in Precinct Opportunities.
- Rationalise car park and provide line marking to define spaces and protect trees.
- Review landscape around sculptures to make them more visually significant.
- Provide clear pedestrian link to the pathways within the arboretum





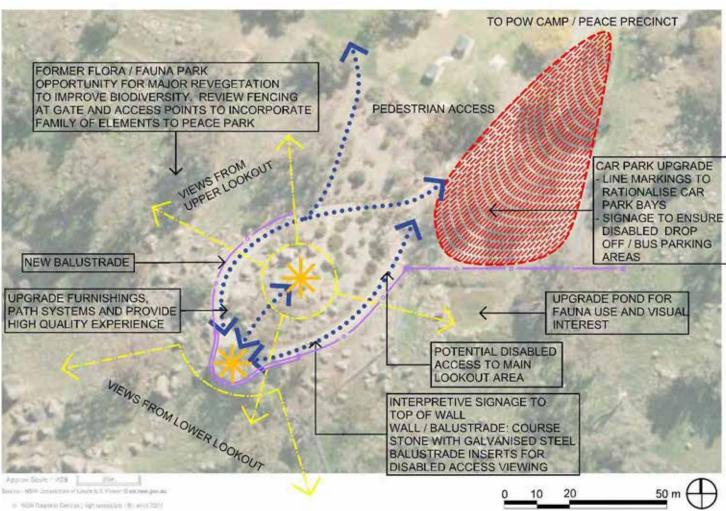








Interpretive signage panels with mesh infill screens and handrail



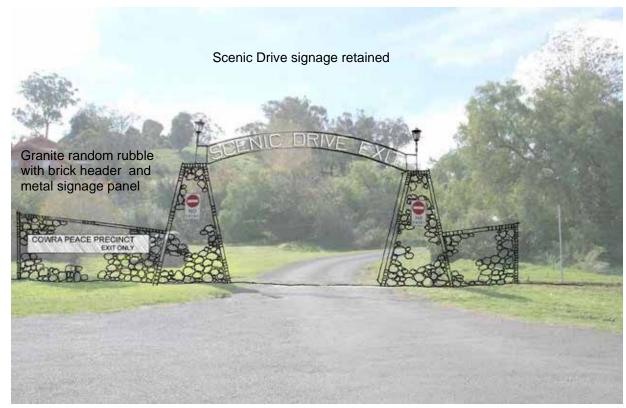
4.1.11 Bellevue Hill Lookout and Park

Principle Eleven: Provide a better integration of Bellevue Hill Park and Lookout within the Parkland Precinct **Guidelines**:

- Rationalise the car parking in the park and provide line marking to define the spaces
- Upgrade landscape and establish a colour palette for all furniture and structures. Interim upgrading could be carried out by changing the light coloured and heritage green of the structures. Palettes will be suggested to incorporate 'family' of elements for Peace Precinct.
- Replace the hand rails to the lookouts with less visually intrusive design yet maintain views from lookouts.
- Upgrade the pedestrian access to make it safer and investigate access for the less abled.
- Revegetate former Flora and Fauna Park to improve biodiversity







Scenic Drive exit - Carleton Street



Scenic Drive heading south



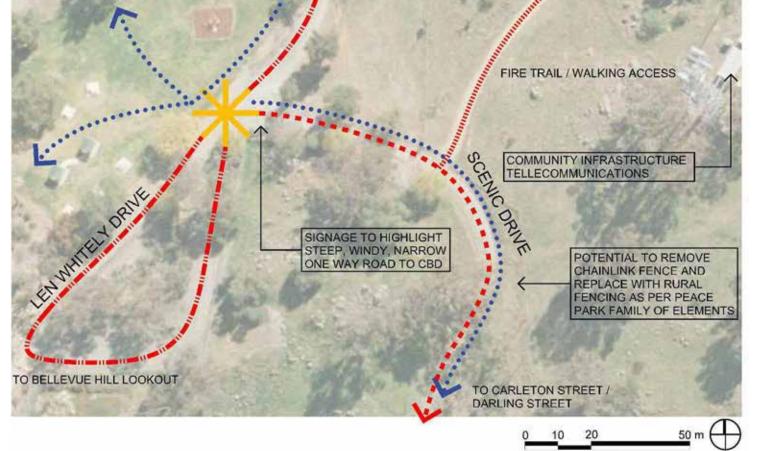
Scenic Drive heading south



Scenic Drive heading south



Scenic Drive heading south



TO JAPANESE GARDENS / BINNI CREEK ROAD

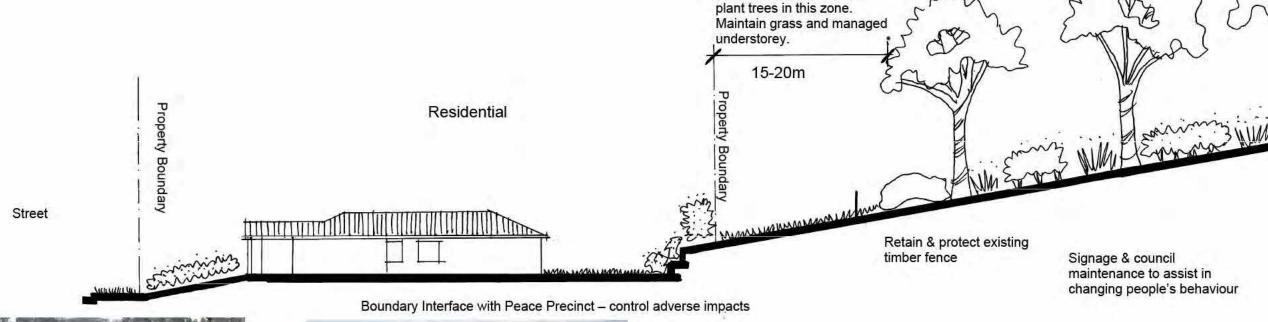
4.1.12 Scenic Drive Entry and Exit

PrincipleTwelve: Control vehicular movement through the site and provide boundary structure on Carleton Street

Guidelines:

- Upgrade structure on Carleton Street to provide linkage to Peace Precinct 'family' of elements of integrated signage and material palette. Metal signage plates attached to stonework.
- Signage walls to be clearly legible from a distance. Material palette: brick capping and header course with granite stone infill.
- Provide clear directional signage at Len Whitely Drive junction for Scenic Drive Entry. Incorporate Local
 Area Traffic Management principles to identify exit better ie realign road edge, provide signage etc.







Control adverse impacts along boundary – signage to advise Peace Precinct Boundary



Control adverse impacts along boundary – signage to advise that Peace Precinct Boundary, remove existing fence in Peace Precinct – where not heritage



Control adverse impacts along boundary – signage to advise Peace Precinct Boundary



Control adverse impacts along boundary – mown and maintained strip by Council adjacent residential boundaries

4.1.13 Residential Interface

Peace Precinct

Asset Protection zone for fire hazard reduction- Do not

Principle Thirteen: Establish boundary guidelines to minimise impacts of adjacent residences on the Peace Precinct, whilst defining the extent of the Peace Precinct.

Regeneration planting of Woodland

Clustered trees only with 5-10 metre

gaps in canopy

Guidelines:

- Provide setbacks to properties adjoining the Peace Precinct with maintained grass, managed understorey and gaps in tree canopy as Fire Protection and Asset Protection Zones.
- Residential interfaces with open space and Woodland areas will be prone to residents 'borrowing the land'ie storing garden materials, trailers, sheds, dog kennels, disposing of garden clippings- creating a weed
 hazard. This requires controls and guidelines to prevent adverse impacts on the Peace Precinct.
- Options to control adverse impacts along boundary include- signage, level change, fencing, mown and maintained strip- regularly maintained by Council. Remove existing fence in Peace Precinct where it is not part of the Garrison heritage timber fence.







High Level Reservoirs – potential historic image overlay



Sculptural elements for Sculpture Garden/Exhibition/Symposium



High Level Reservoirs – potential historic image overlay



Sculptural elements for Sculpture Garden/Exhibition/Symposium



Potential summer outdoor cinema



Sculptural elements for Sculpture Garden/Exhibition/Symposium

4.1.14 Artwork Exhibitions and Events

Principle Fourteen : Incorporate artwork and expand events, both temporary and permanent, to engage the local community and increase visitation.

Guidelines:

The following areas provide opportunity for artwork, exhibition and events

- High level Reservoirs
- Sculpture Garden/exhibition or symposium
- Outdoor cinema



Sculptural elements for Sculpture Garden/Exhibition/Symposium



Community based murals for infrastructure elements



Community based murals for infrastructure elements







Bioswales in median for stormwater drainage and recycling



Bioswales in median for stormwater drainage and recycling

4.1.15 Sustainability and Energy

Principle Fifteen: Ensure principles of ESD are considered in all aspects of the Peace Precinct **Guidelines:**

- Any built elements within the Parkland Precinct should showcase sustainable and renewable energy sources- ie solar panels, wind generation, grey water harvesting and recycling.
- Retrofitting of existing structures could be considered as a demonstration to encourage community
 participation in renewable energy sources eg. toilet block could recycle hand washing grey water for
 irrigation and collect water from roof.
- Existing roads to include bioswales instead of kerb and guttering.



Sculptural water feature that recycles water



Bioswales in median for stormwater drainage and recycling



Solar panels to produce energy on park buildings/structures



Solar panels on light poles to produce energy



Solar panels to produce energy on park buildings/structures



Rainwater tanks for grey water harvesting



Bioswales in open space areas for stormwater drainage and recycling



Bioswales for stormwater drainage and recycling



4.2 Master Plan

The Master Plan attached applies the Guidelines to the Peace Precinct site and should be read in conjunction with the Guidelines, where these identify detail for specific issues.

4.3 Hardworks and Planting Palette

The attached palette sheets provide a selection of materials and plants illustrated graphically for use in the Plan.

Hardworks Palette:

This palette provides a selection of precedence images and materials suitable for various components within the Master Plan. The images identify styles and types of material for further design development for each area. The material qualities range from high to medium. For example where high quality hand rails are required – ie. for the Environment and Peace Centre stainless steel materials would be used, being more expensive but having a longer design life. As a more economic but acceptable handrail for Bellevue Hill lookout for example, the galvanised steel balustrade with possible ferreko painted uprights would be suitable. The quality of materials used would be related to the budget, but the design qualities would remain the same. Where stone walling is illustrated this should utilise local granite stone.

Planting Palette:

The planting palette provides an illustration of the predominant plant selections characteristic of the Precinct to be incorporated in the planting of indigenous, native and exotic plant species. The concept design for specific areas of the Precinct would further develop these plant palettes.

4.4 Detailed Plans for Precincts

Three detailed plans have been prepared for Precincts in the Cowra Peace Precinct. These illustrate design concepts for the area and form the basis of the concept design. Design development and documentation of these precincts would follow allocation of funding for these projects and establishing priorities. The three areas illustrated are:

- POW Camp Viewing Area
- Bellevue Hill Lookout
- Environment / Peace Centre Japanese Garden connection

4.5 Staging and Costing

The Master Plan has also been prepared to enable Council to seek funding for the various projects identified. The detailed precinct plans, along with the guidelines can be packaged into distinct achievable 'projects' to market the ideas to a wider audience. Council can canvas funding opportunity from Government, semi-Government and private agencies. Priorities, staging and implementation could then result from these activities.

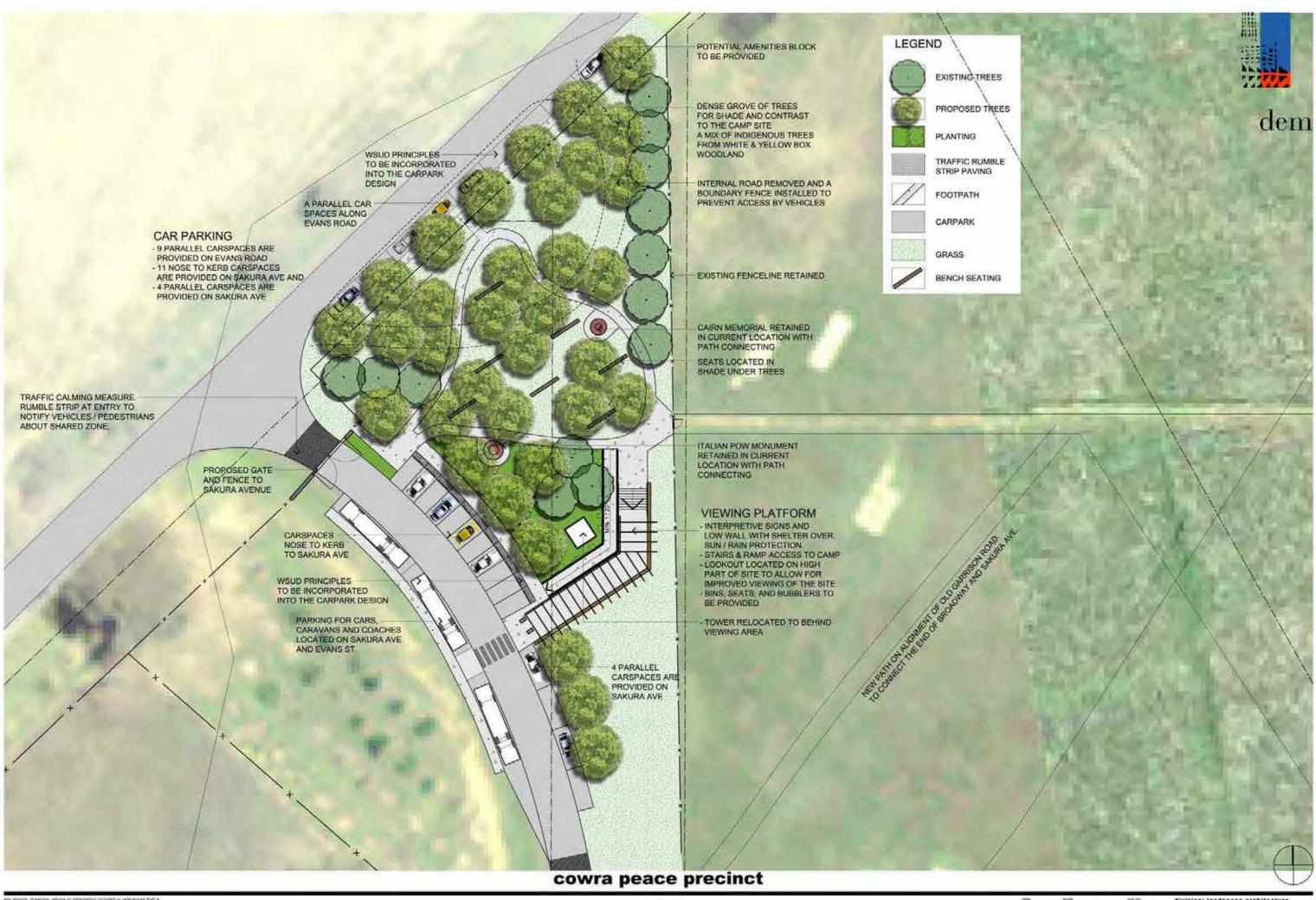
Broad scale costing for the precincts has been prepared and presented to Council to provide an order of costs for the Master Plan inclusions and to assist in this process.

The Master Plan also enables any maintenance and capital works for the Peace Precinct that may have been planned under Council's annual budgets, to be undertaken on the basis of leading towards the final Plan.



The following sequence for staging is suggested as a guide to Council. This is not a fixed order of priority and may be adjusted according to funding sources, and adjusted priorities. It includes the major items from the Master Plan only. The first priority suggested is to control vehicular movement along Sakura Avenue in order to protect the key assets of the Peace Precinct. The items listed under each of the following stages could be undertaken as a whole or as single portions.

- 1. **Sakura Avenue:** Bollards, boulders to limit access, Site fencing, Northern and Southern Control Points, protection of Aboriginal heritage sites.
- 2. **POW Camp 12:** Perimeter planting, 'Broadway' and 'No Man's Land' mown/defined. Interpretive sculptural elements when funding is obtained.
- 3. **POW Camp 12 Viewing area and Carpark:** This could also be staged with the viewing area constructed whilst the existing carpark remained.
- 4. Walking, bicycle and fire tracks: Could occur progressively as funding allows.
- 5. Bellevue Hill Lookout
- 6. **Environment and Peace Centre- Japanese Garden Connection:** The car park and connection could be undertaken prior to the Environment and Peace Centre.
- 7. **Woodland Restoration and Revegetation:** This is a long term and ongoing project, would be undertaken progressively, and could commence when funding was available to continue the planting already undertaken.



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process 17/03/2010 process by minimum.

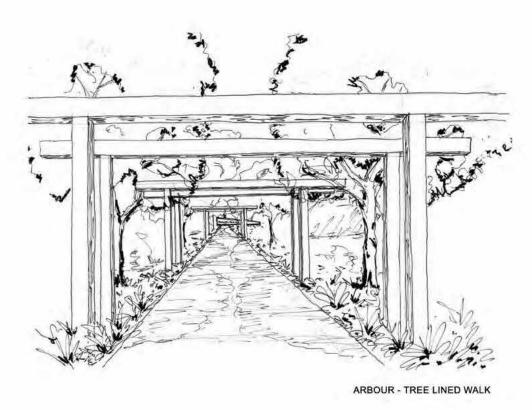


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dem





GRASS

ARBOUR STRUCTURES





cowra peace precinct

OLD TIP ROAD

NEW CARPARK LAYOUT TO MATCH REALIGNMENT OF KEN NAKAJIMA

RELOCATE STONE SCULPTURES

WHERE AFFECTED BY NEW WORKS

JAPANESE GARDEN & **CULTURAL CENTRE**

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURE, RUMBLE STRIP AT ENTRY & EXIT, TO NOTIFY PEDESTRIANS / VEHICLES ABOUT SHARED ZONE

NEW CAR PARKING & ROAD TO INCORPORATE WSUD PRINCIPLES THROUGH

PERMEABLE PAVEMENT & OR SWALES

CARAVAN & COACH PARKING

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURE.
RUMBLE STRIP AT ENTRY
& EXIT. TO NOTIFY PEDESTRIANS /
VEHICLES ABOUT SHARED ZONE

TO BELLEVUE HILL LOOKOUT AND COWRA TOWN CENTRE

PROPOSED REALIGNMENT OF KEN NAKAJIMA PLACE.

- ALLOW FOR IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN
MOVEMENT

JOHN MOON MEMORIAL ROTARY ARBORETUM

ECONNECT PATHS ROM ARBORETUM W WALKWAY

TREE LINED PATH LINKING JAPANESE GARDEN AND PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT & PEACE CENTRE. PATH LINED WITH CHERRY TREE AT JAPANESE GARDEN & SMALL NATIVE TREES AT PEACE CENTRE TREES TO MEET & ALTERNATE. TO SIGNIFY A LINKING OF CULTURES.

PROPOSED LOCATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT & PEACE CENTRE

TO INCLUDE WSUD

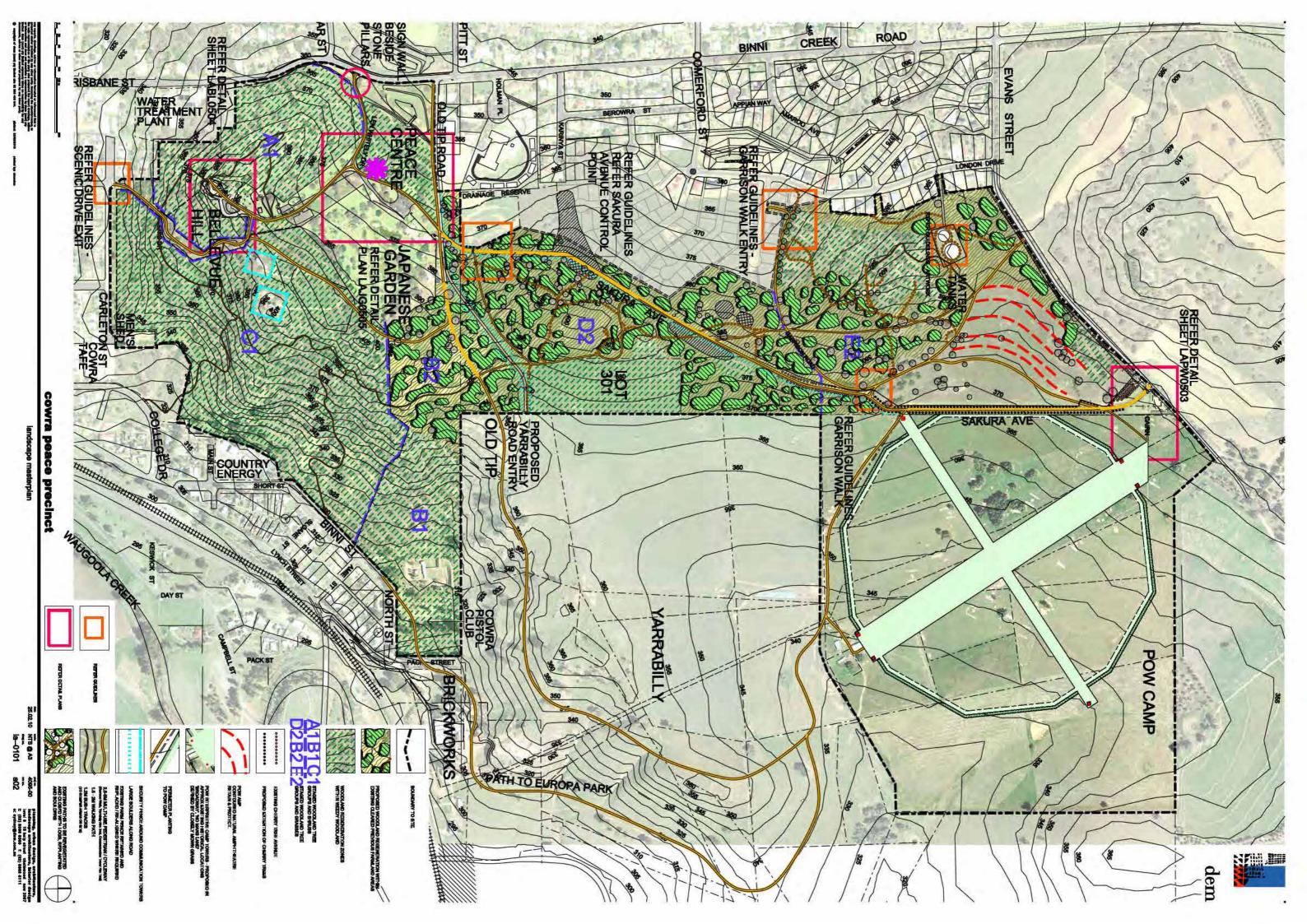
SECOND ROAD TO BE REMOVED

TO COWRA TOWN

17.03.10 1:500 @ A1

lajg0505

level 8 15 help street chatswood nsw 2067 (02) 8966 6000 f (02) 8966 6111 e: sydney@dem.com.au



shelters

Sun shade structures





Deco granite, Gravel, compacted earth



Deco-granite / gravel / compacted earth paths for walking trails



Concrete paving around lookouts and specialty areas





Cycle lane on shared roads and paths. Asphalt paths on combined use paths





Gabion Wall—coarse stone





Garrison Gates-Brick And coarse stone







Entry signage wall





Interpretive signage located Interpretive signage



Entry signage walls to the site. Course stone walls



Interpretive signage within paths & at significant focal

furniture



Vandal proof display of artefacts on site.



Sun shade structures over lookout platforms



Sun shade structures over tables and seating



Sun shade structures

All weather structures-water



Membrane sun shade structures over children's play areas

barriers / fences



Large boulders along road to prevent access to



Bollard at pedestrian ac-



Farm fence: Retain existing where possible. New fence along Sakura Avenue and to the boundaries of site.

balustrades



Stainless Steel handrail



Stainless Steel handrail and mesh infill



Galvanised steel balustrading



Squared timber log seats

Recycled plastic seating



Concrete & timber seating







Off the shelf aluminium

esd



Solar powered lighting

Road drainage swales



Road drainage swales



Swale drainage









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Exotic / Native Planting palette

Groundcovers





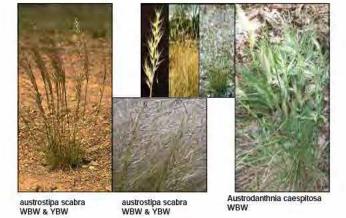






Eucalyptus sideroxy-lon—flowers—WBW

Understorey shrubs









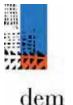






cowra peace precinct

Eucalyptus blakelyi-WBW & YBW



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- Appendix B-HIS Cowra Yarrabilly -13. David Scobie Architects Pty Ltd, Issue A. Heritage Assessment Proposed residential development.
- Appendix C- Flora and Fauna Assessment. Central West Environmental Services. Flora and Fauna Assessment. Yarrabilly Subdivision Final Report.
- Appendix D Bushfire Fire Management. Central West Environmental Services, November 2008 Bushfire Fire Assessment Yarrabilly.
- Appendix E- Geotech Yarrabilly Cowra. Douglas Partners, October 2008, Report on Preliminary Geotechnical Assessment.
- Appendix F- Transport. Don Fox Planning. Traffic and Accessibility Report. Future Residential Development Yarrabilly Cowra.

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Pardoe, Colin. October 1988. The Taronga Drive Burial from Cowra NSW

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National Parks of NSW Wildlife Atlas http <u>www.wildlifeatlas.nationalparks.nsw.gov</u>

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Williams N, November 2009. Comments and Recommendations for Peace Precinct.

COWRA COMMON SPECIES LIST May 2002 - April 2009

Species common name	Scientific name	Threatened / Declining	Atlas number
Australian Wood Duck	Chenonetta jubata		202
Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes		43
Peaceful Dove	Geopelia striata		30
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis molucca		179
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus axillaris		232
Black Kite	Milvus migrans		229
Collared Sparrowhawk	Accipiter cirrocephalus		222
Wedge-tailed Eagle	Aquila audax		224
Nankeen Kestrel	Falco cenchroides		240
Australian Hobby	Falco longipennis		235
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		237
Galah	Eolophus roseicapillus		273
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Cacatua galerita		269
Superb Parrot	Polytelis swainsonii		277
Crimson Rosella	Platycercus elegans		282
Eastern Rosella	Platycercus eximius		288
Red-rumped Parrot	Psephotus haematonotus		295
Budgerigar	Melopsittacus undulatus		-
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	Chalcites basalis		310
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Chalcites lucidus		342
Pallid Cuckoo	Cacomantis pallidus		
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Cacomantis flabelliformis		337
Laughing Kookaburra	Dacelo novaeguineae		338
Red-backed Kingfisher	Todiramphus pyrrhopygius		322
Sacred Kingfisher	Todiramphus sanctus		325
Rainbow Bee-eater			326
Brown Treecreeper	Merops ornatus	Threatened	329
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Climacteris picumnus	Threatened	555
Superb Fairy-wren White-browed Scrubwren	Malurus cyaneus		529
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Sericornis frontalis		488
Southern Whiteface	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa	D. II. 1	486
	Aphelocephala leucopsis	Declining	466
Spotted Pardalote Striated Pardalote	Pardalotus punctatus		565
	Pardalotus striatus		976
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Lichenostomus chrysops		614
Fuscous Honeyeater	Lichenostomus fuscus		613
White-plumed Honeyeater	Lichenostomus penicillatus		625
Noisy Miner	Manorina melanocephala		634
Red Wattlebird	Anthochaera carunculata		638
Noisy Friarbird	Philemon corniculatus		645
Little Friarbird	Philemon citreogularis		646
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae		424
White-winged Triller	Lalage sueurii	Declining	430
Crested Shrike-tit	Falcunculus frontatus	Declining	416
Rufous Whistler	Pachycephala rufiventris		401
Grey Shrike-thrush	Colluricincla harmonica		408
Olive-backed Oriole	Oriolus sagittatus		671
White-browed Woodswallow	Artamus superciliosus	Declining	545
Dusky Woodswallow	Artamus cyanopterus		547
Grey Butcherbird	Cracticus torquatus		702
Pied Butcherbird	Cracticus nigrogularis		700
Australian Magpie	Cracticus tibicen		705

COWRA COMMON SPECIES LIST May 2002 - April 2009

Pied Currawong	Strepera graculina		694
Willie Wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys		364
Australian Raven	Corvus coranoides		930
Little Raven	Corvus mellori		954
Magpie-lark	Grallina cyanoleuca	·	415
White-winged Chough	Corcorax melanorhamphos		693
Horsfield's Bushlark	Mirafra javanica		648
Rufous Songlark	Cincloramphus mathewsi		509
Brown Songlark	Cincloramphus cruralis		508
Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena		357
Common Blackbird ¹	Turdus merula		991
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris		999
Mistletoebird	Dicaeum hirundinaceum		564
Double-barred Finch	Taeniopygia bichenovii		655
Red-browed Finch	Neochmia temporalis		662
Diamond Firetail	Stagonopleura guttata	Threatened	652
House Sparrow ^l	Passer domesticus		995