



## FURTHER INFORMATION

Welsh & Major mail@welshmajor.com

Inner West Council 2-14 Fisher St Petersham NSW 2049 T (02) 9392 5000 www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au

# Contents

	Document Control	3
	Introduction + Executive Summary	4
1.0	Context Overview	6
	Regional Context	8
	Review of Corporate Objectives + Existing Policy	10
2.0	Categorisation + Ownership	18
	Land to which this Plan applies	20
	Council Land Categorisation	22
3.0	Leases + Licences	24
4.0	Statutory Conditions + Legislation	29
5.0	Deleted	-
6.0	Master Plan	33
	Appendix	
Α	Site Analysis	44
В	Community Engagement	83
С	Grandstand Proposal	93
	(prepared by Crawford Architects)	
D	A3 Master Plan	112
E	Materials + Planting Palette	113
	(prepared by Emily Simpson Landscape	
	Architect)	



# **Document Control**

DATE:	REVISION NO:	REVISION DETAILS:	APPROVED:
04/03/20	-	Draft issue for client review	DW
06/04/20	А	Updated to reflect client comments Draft issue for client review	DW
29/06/20	В	Updated to reflect client comments  Draft issue for client review / exhibition	DW
05/02/21	С	Updated to reflect client comments Draft issue for exhibition	DW
22/02/21	D	IWC Updated with internal comments	VP
08/06/21	Е	IWC Updated with internal comments	MW
01/09/21	F	Minor amendments	MW
22/07/22	G	Page numbering updated. Section 3 amended, Section 5 deleted.	DW
25/07/22	Н	Amy St Gates scope amended	DW
27/09/22	i	Additional information added to Site Analysis Re: Amy St Gates (P74)	DW

# Introduction + Executive Summary

Inner West Council have produced a Plan of Management priority list identifying which open spaces within the Inner West LGA are in greatest need of review.

In 2019, Welsh + Major Architects were engaged by Inner West Council to develop Plans of Management and accompanying Master Plans for the seven top priority parks.

This document contains a Plan of Management and Master Plan for Henson Park. Henson Park is located in Marrickville, with entries via Sydenham Road and at the termination of Centennial, Woodland and Amy Street. It's boundaries are shared with residential properties. It consists of 14.5 acres (6 hectares), making it one of the larger parks within in the LGA.

The Plan of Management applies to land known as Henson Park which is owned by inner West Council.

#### Plan of Management

The Plan of Management [POM] is a guiding framework which directs the future vision, planning, management and use of the park. It will be used to inform the development of the park over the next ten years.

#### Review of this plan

The Henson Park Plan of Management is to be reviewed in ten years to ensure it aligns with Council's operational plans and objectives.

#### Master Plan

The Master Plan is a design report outlining the actions required for improvement, intended to guide the physical upgrade of the site over the next ten years. It does this by suggesting how the strategies set out in the Plan of Management can be translated into site specific gestures for application to the park.

#### How to use this document

Development of the POM and Master Plan involved some overlap of research and analysis. As such the POM and Master Plan were undertaken simultaneously, and are presented together within the same document.

The site has been considered and designed as a whole, but for ease and clarity within this document it has been presented as four zones. Developing the Plan of Management and Master Plan involved the following processes:

- Policy review identifying the opportunities and constraints presented by national and local government initiatives.
- Demographic review identifying the local community profile.
- Review of site ownership and legal categorisation.
- Identification of applicable statutory conditions and legislation.
- Undertaking a detailed site analysis
- Undertaking Community Engagement though drop in sessions and online survey.
- Analysis of the outcomes of the Context Review, Site Analysis and Community Engagement Outcomes to develop Key Objectives and Strategies for management and action.
- Application of the physical strategies onto the Draft Master Plan.
- Appendix F NSW ALF and Newtons Jets King George Grandstand and Scoreboard Building

Key features of the Master Plan:

- Centennial Street entry restored and rationalised to reduce pedestrian and vehicle conflicts. New vehicle entry gates for servicing and game day parking.
- Building and sporting infrastructure upgrades to improve the spectator experience, and provide facilities to suit all user groups.
- Shaded fitness area
- Parking area and entry rationalised, landscaped and made safe.
- Biofilter planting, and where appropriate raingardens and bioswales to manage stormwater run-off
- New pedestrian friendly and accessible tennis club forecourt
- Amy Street entry upgraded. New entry gates and fencing, signage and waste disposal.
- Passive recreation upgrades including new seating and trees for shade and habitat.
- New formal pathway linking the tennis club, grandstand, and Centennial, Amy and Woodland Street entries
- Amenities and kiosk upgraded, first floor refurbished. New scoreboard, hardstand, water fountain and landscaping.
- Upgraded Woodland Street entry with restored gatehouse, hardstand, signage, bike racks and waste disposal facilities.
- Large capacity water tanks partially embedded in the grassy slopes to form sculptural seating platforms, and assist with sporting ground maintenance.
- Community garden area with raised planters and informal edge seating
- Multi-purpose hardstand areas to support a greater range of activities.
- Continuous perimeter circuit around sporting ground, separated from parking areas and lit for recreational use.
- New contemporary perimeter fencing around sporting ground. Installation to maximise the width of the perimeter circuit.
- Upgrades to improve natural playing surface, reduce maintenance and rationalise the AFL and NRL goalpost switching method.
- Existing road ways and junctions made safe, parking spaces formalised, vehicle access restricted to grandstand area and Centennial Street.
- Sydenham Road entry upgraded to create a pedestrian friendly and inviting gateway.

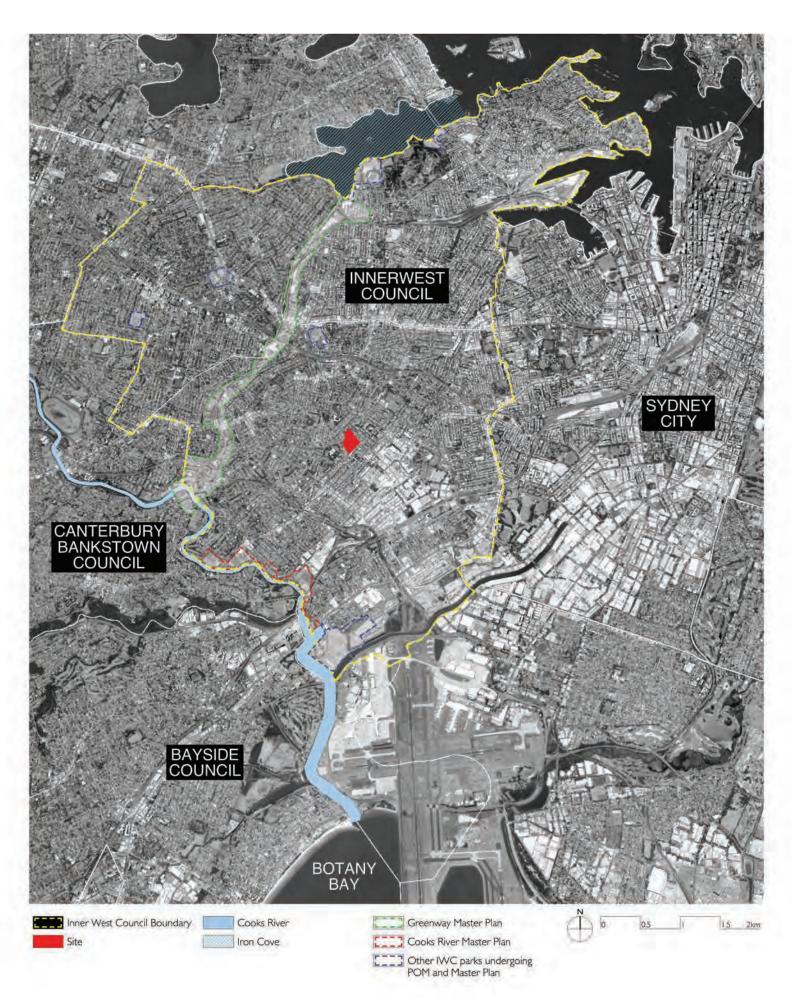




 $\label{thm:proposed_proposed$ 







#### **REGIONAL CONTEXT**

#### Inner West Council

The Inner West Council area is located five kilometres west of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD)

The council areas of Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville were amalgamated pursuant to proclamation in May 2016, to become 'Inner West Council'.

Inner West Council has five wards: Ashfield, Balmain, Leichhardt, Marrickville, and Stanmore.

The Inner West Council has a resident population of 192,000 people, and spans 36km<sup>2</sup> from the banks of Parramatta River at Birchgrove in the north east, to the Cooks River at Dulwich Hill in the south west

There are 269 parks and reserves including playgrounds and sports grounds in the Inner West Local Government Area (LGA).

These include 31 Crown Reserves managed by Council and 238 Council owned parks and reserves.

#### Existing Recreation Needs and Future Projections

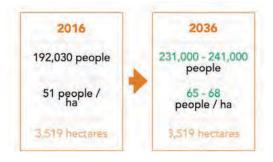
A recreational needs study, titled 'Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West' commissioned by Inner West Council in 2018 provided an analysis of the existing parklands within the LGA, including their current and predicted usage.

The community is expected to grow with an additional 49,000 residents projected by the year 2036. If new open space is not provided the amount of open space per person will decline from 13.3m² to 10.6m² per person within this timeframe.

Population growth will also result in additional pressure on current sporting and recreational facilities, and it is anticipated that additional facilities will be needed, and that current facilities will be required to intensify their usage to meet demand.

Based on industry benchmarks, by 2026 there will be a total gap of:

- 8 summer sporting grounds
- 8 winter sporting grounds
- 6 indoor (multipurpose) courts
- 14 outdoor (multipurpose) courts
- I indoor leisure centre (dry)
- I indoor leisure centre (aquatic)
- I skate park/facility.



#### INNER WEST PARTICIPATION

Community engagement completed for this study investigated recreation participation in the Inner West. Local participation in recreation broadly corresponds to national and State participation trends - walking is the most popular activity at a local, State and national level.

Across the spectrum of recreation activities, people participated most often in "active recreation" activities, with 80% of survey respondents participating at least weekly.

This was followed by personal fitness with 66% of people participating at least weekly.

In total, 4.5% of people engaged did not participate regularly (at least weekly) in recreation (of any kind), and an additional 1.4% participated regularly in "passive recreation," but not any other kind of recreation.

Figure 4 shows the most popular recreation activities across all community engagement types.

Key differences between different groups

than the general community.

 Females used children's playgrounds, aquatic centres, and footpaths more often, while males used cycle paths, sporting fields and courts,

and the Greenway more often than females.

People who speak a language other than

English at home used all facilities less regularly

re that:



#### POPULAR INNER WEST PLACES FOR RECREATION

The most popular recreation spaces in the Inner West identified through a range of consultation activities were:

- · Footpaths, streets, and town centres
- Cycle paths
- Bay Run
- Cooks River foreshore path
   Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre
- Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre
- · The GreenWay
- Steel Park
- Private gyms
- Hawthorne Canal/Richard Murden Reserve
- · Enmore Park, and
- Ashfield Park.

The most common types of facility that people visited for recreation in the Inner West were:

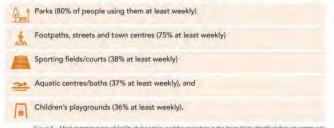
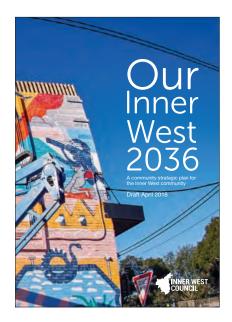
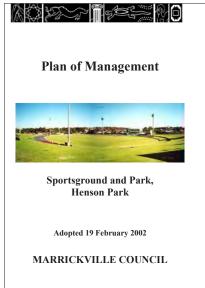


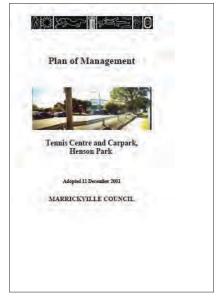
Figure 5 - Most common types of facility that people used for recreation in the Inner West identified through community engagement completed for the Inner West Recreation Needs Study (Source: Cred Consulting, 2018)











# Our Inner West 2036; A community strategic plan for the Inner West community

Inner West Council, draft endorsed by council 06/2018

This plan identifies the community's vision for the future, outlines long term goals, strategies to get there and how to measure progress towards that vision. It guides all of Council's plans, policies and budgets.

The strategic directions set out are:

- I An ecologically Sustainable Inner West
- 2 Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods
- 3 Creative communities and a strong economy
- 4 Caring, happy, healthy communities
- 5 Progressive local leadership

Among the stated aims, those which apply directly to the regeneration of public parkland are to increase community satisfaction with: green infrastructure, the total area of habitat for wildlife managed under bush-care programs, protection of the natural environment, safety of public spaces, cycleways, maintaining footpaths, aquatic and recreation centres, availability of sporting grounds and facilities and walk-able open space. [Also aligns with State and District Plans]

#### Recreation needs study - A healthier Inner West

Cred Consulting for Inner West Council, published 10/2018

Analysis of the current and projected recreation needs of the Inner West community, with a view to both maintaining and improving social and mental health as the population of the Inner West Council (IWC) area continues on its projected path of growth and change.

The study identified that the IWC area lacked sufficient public open space for the growing population. It outlines a strategic 'action' framework and explores how this framework could be applied.

The study highlighted Henson Park as one of few large public parks within the IWC area, and emphasises the need to maximise the recreational use of the site.

Henson Park Tennis Centre and Carpark - Plan of Management & Henson Park Sportsground and Park - Plan of Management

by and for Marrickville Council, adopted 2001/2002

The plans identify Henson Park as one of 12 Significant Area Parks in the former Marrickville LGA and were prepared as part of a Plan of Management for Significant Area Parks.

Although completed in the early 2000's, many of items that were flagged in the plans are still applicable. These include the poor condition of boundary fencing, tennis court playing surfaces, and the eastern amenities/scoreboard building- identified for demolition in the parks work program. Other items with continued relevance include the provision of safe night access, signage in community languages, promoting community awareness of the park and heritage aspects, ensuring physical access for all community members, tree planting, providing up to date facilities and developing a consistent treatment to all elements in the park.



# **OUR INNER WEST 2036 - COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Outcomes	Strategies	
1.1 The people and infrastructure of Inner West contribute positively to the environment and tackling climate change	Provide the support needed for people to live sustainably     Reduce urban heat and manage its impact     Create spaces for growing food     Develop planning controls to provide ecosystem services*     Provide green infrastructure that supports increased ecosystem services*	
1.2 Biodiversity is rich, with connected habitats for flora and fauna	Support people to connect with nature in Inner West     Create new biodiversity corridors and an urban forest across Inner West     Maintain and protect existing bushland sites for species richness and diversity	
1.3 The community is water sensitive, with clean, swimmable waterways	Collaborate to make plans, designs and decisions that are water-sensitive     Supply water from within Inner West catchments	
1.4 Inner West is a zero emissions community that generates and owns clean energy	Support local adoption of clean renewable energy     Develop a transport network that runs on clean renewable energy	
1.5 Inner West is a zero waste community with an active share economy	Support people to avoid waste, and reuse, repair recycle and share     Provide local reuse and recycling infrastructure     Divert organic material from landfill     Advocate for comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility+	

Outcomes	Strategies
2.1 Development is designed for sustainability and makes life better	Pursue integrated planning and urban design across public and private spaces to suit community needs     Identify and pursue innovative and creative solutions to complex urban planning and transport issues     Improve the quality, and investigate better access and use of existing community assets     Develop planning controls that protect and support a sustainable environment and contribute to a zero emissions and zero waste community
2.2 The unique character and heritage of neighbourhoods is retained and enhanced	Provide clear and consistent planning frameworks and processes that respect heritage and the distinct characters of urban villages     Manage change with respect for place, community history and heritage
2.3 Public spaces are high-quality, welcoming and enjoyable places, seamlessly connected with their surroundings	Plan and deliver public spaces that fulfil and support diverse community needs and life     Ensure private spaces and developments contribute positively to their surrounding public spaces     Advocate for and develop planning controls that retain and protect existing public and open spaces
2.4 Everyone has a roof over their head and a suitable place to call home	Ensure the expansion of social, community and affordable housing, distributed across Inner West, facilitated through proactive policies     Encourage diversity of housing type, tenure and price in new developments     Assist people who are homeless or sleeping rough
2.5 Public transport is reliable, accessible, connected and enjoyable	Advocate for improved public transport services to, through and around Inner West     Advocate for, and provide, transport infrastructure that aligns to population growth
2.6 People are walking, cycling and moving around Inner West with ease	Deliver integrated networks and infrastructure for transport and active travel     Pursue innovation in planning and providing new transport options     Ensure transport infrastructure is safe, connected and well-maintained

Outcomes	Strategies	
3.1 Creativity and culture are valued and celebrated	Grow Inner West's reputation as a leading creative and cultural hub, celebrating and supporting diverse creative industries and the arts     Create opportunities for all members of the community to participate in arts and cultural activities	
3.2 Inner West is the home of creative industries and services	Position Inner West as a place of excellence for creative industries and services and support them to thrive     Facilitate links to programs and services to help businesses grow, innovate and improve their competitiveness     Encourage the establishment of new enterprises in Inner West     Facilitate the availability of affordable spaces for creative industries and services	
3.3 The local economy is thriving	Support business and industry to be socially and environmentally responsible     Strengthen economic viability and connections beyond Inner West     Promote Inner West as a great place to live, work, visit and invest in	
3.4 Employment is diverse and accessible	Support local job creation by protecting industrial and employment lands     Encourage social enterprises and businesses to grow local employment	
3.5 Urban hubs and main streets are distinct and enjoyable places to shop, eat, socialise and be entertained	Promote unique, lively, safe and accessible urban hubs and main streets – day and night     Enliven community life by delivering and supporting events, public art, cultural celebrations and entertainment     Pursue a high standard of planning, urban design and development that supports urban centres     Promote the diversity and quality of retail offerings and local products	

0.1	Object	
Outcomes	Strategies	
4.1 Everyone feels welcome and connected to the community	Foster inclusive communities where everyone can participate in community life     Embrace, celebrate, respect and value difference by building awareness and appreciation of Inner West's diversity     Empower and support vulnerable and disadvantaged community members to participate in community life     Increase and promote awareness of the community's history and heritage	
4.2 The Aboriginal community is flourishing, and its culture and heritage continues to strengthen and enrich Inner West	<ol> <li>Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and history</li> <li>Promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and businesses</li> <li>Acknowledge and support the rights of the Aboriginal community to self determination</li> <li>Actively engage Aboriginal people in the development of programs, policies and strategies</li> </ol>	
4.3 The community is healthy and people have a sense of wellbeing	Provide the facilities, spaces and programs that support wellbeing and active and healthy communities     Provide opportunities for people to participate in recreational activities they enjoy	
4.4 People have access to the services and facilities they need at all stages of life	<ol> <li>Plan and provide services and infrastructure for a changing and ageing population</li> <li>Ensure the community has access to a wide range of learning spaces, resources and activities</li> <li>Support children's education and care services to ensure a strong foundation for lifelong learning</li> </ol>	
Outcomes	Strategies	
5.1 People are well informed and actively engaged in local decision making and problem-solving	Support local democracy through transparent communication and inclusive participatory community engagement	
5.2 Partnerships and collaboration are valued and recognised as vital for community leadership and making positive changes	Support leadership and mentoring initiatives that build and strengthen the capacity of individuals, businesses and communities     Support local capacity for advocacy     Collaborate with partners to deliver positive outcomes for the community, economy and environment	
5.3 Government makes responsible decisions to manage finite resources in the best interest of current and future communities	Undertake visionary, integrated, long term planning and decision making, reflective of community needs and aspirations     Ensure responsible, sustainable, ethical and open local government     Deliver innovation, excellence, efficiency and effectiveness and probity in Council processes and services	



#### RECREATIONAL NEEDS STUDY - A HEALTHIER INNER WEST

#### Key Findings:

A number of findings about recreation within the Inner West are highlighted by the report. These include its benefits and its changing perception and role within society generally. These have assisted in providing a foundation for the strategies and objectives of this Plan of Management and Master Plan. A summary of the key findings includes;

- Participation in recreation brings significant health and social benefits to individuals, including mental health benefits and improved development outcomes for children and young people.
- Recreation provides benefits at the community level, supporting community cohesion and community development, and public health benefits.
- A majority of Australians participate in sport or other physical activities at least 3 times a week.
- Nationally, the most popular recreation activities include walking, fitness, swimming, cycling and running, and this is reflected by local participation trends in the Inner West.
- The major change in participation in recreation is a trend to more flexible and non-organised participation.
- Children have declining access to unsupervised participation in recreation activities, with Planet Ark estimating that only 35% of Australian children play outside every day, compared to 72% a generation ago.
- People with disability have lower levels of participation in recreation and are less likely to take part as a spectator.

#### Community Engagement:

The study undertook extensive engagement with the community to determine both recreational participation within the inner west as well as comments and suggestions about the quality of public open space within the LGA. These findings in conjunction with community engagement carried out specifically for Henson Park form a body of information about the community's needs and desires for public open space which have informed this Plan of Management and Master Plan.

#### Objectives:

The report found a number of opportunities for improving recreational spaces within the LGA through a needs and gaps analysis. These opportunities were grouped into broad themes. A number of these key opportunities which relate specifically to the scope of this Plan of Management and Master Plan have been summarised in this review.

#### NEED

Increased quality of open space to optimise use, address demand and meet higher and more diverse needs

Well maintained public toilets, water bubblers and bins in parks.

Picnic and BBQ facilities, seating and shade for informal social gatherings, as well as informal grassed passive recreation areas.

New facilities in parks including table tennis tables; outdoor gyms including for seniors, and hard surfaces with shelter for tai chi.

Lighting and design of parks to increase feelings of safety. Improved lighting to support evening and night time use of sporting grounds and provide recreation opportunities after work hours

Improved waste management and maintenance in parks and sporting grounds.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Multi-use, flexible open space that is designed to support sharing and reduce conflict between users
- Extend the Marrickville Public Toilet Strategy recommendation that all residents and visitors be within 400m of a public toilet that is open during daylight hours throughout the LGA.
- Provide space for social gatherings outside of the home.
- In particular local parks in high density areas to provide a variety of recreation opportunities for residents.
- Lighting in parks for informal night time use eg at outdoor gyms, dog parks, running paths, large flat areas for informal sport and other sporting facilities.
- Increased maintenance resourcing
- Consider ongoing maintenance costs at the design stage of new/upgraded open space
- Consultation with outdoors staff at the design stage to identify possible future maintenance issues, and
- Self-cleaning BBQs.

Improved sporting ground playing surfaces through upgrades to drainage, turf, soil.

Improving sporting building infrastructure, amenities blocks to increase usability and support safety, and support the participation of women and people with disability in sport.

Spectator infrastructure, courts surfaces, lighting, allocation and booking processes.

Signage and wayfinding on cycle routes. Safer shared paths, and/or separate bike/pedestrian paths.

Cycling infrastructure including end of trip facilities and bike parking.

Play spaces for older children / young people;

Play opportunities for other age groups and abilities.

Increased access to recreation opportunities for older people.

Informal, flexible and social recreation opportunities that cater to a time-poor population.

Inclusive recreation opportunities for people with disability including organised sport.

Inclusive recreation opportunities for people from the LGBTQI+ community

Inclusive recreation opportunities for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

New off leash dog parks, including dog swimming and water play; Ongoing provision and maintenance of existing dog off leash areas; Managing and preventing conflicts between users of parks, particularly children and dogs.

- Current allocation data (Winter 2018 season) indicates that some sporting grounds are over capacity, but there is potential to increase the carrying capacity of the sporting ground through surface improvements
- Upgrade sporting grounds throughout the LGA.
- Review throughout the LGA.
- Cycling infrastructure at connections to public transport and recreation facilities.
- Play for older children such as basket swings, trampolines, climbing walls, monkey bars, flying foxes
- Innovative play spaces such as nature play, and adventure/junk play.
- Include inclusive play equipment in all playgrounds, rather than only in some dedicated inclusive playgrounds.
- Footpath improvements, bushcare programs,
- More affordable recreation opportunities for older people
- Support with transport to recreation opportunities.
- Improved lighting on streets and in parks to enable night time use including for organised and informal activities
- Encourage recreation providers (e.g. sports clubs, fitness providers) to provide recreation opportunities in the evening eg social versions of sport
- Prioritise accessibility in the upgrades of recreation facilities and parks, for example in new amenities buildings.
- Audit of Council's recreation facilities and parks and whether they are accessible.
- Welcoming change and bathroom amenities for gender diverse people.
- Recreation opportunities located close to public transport and promoted in community languages
- Recreation programs targeting people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Recreation opportunities that reflect popular activities (eg informal sports, badminton, volleyball, table tennis, basketball, Tai Chi), and
- Working with sporting clubs to support inclusiveness and increased participation.
- Clarity in signage to enable regulation and enforcement.
- Design of parks and playgrounds to minimise conflict e.g. planting borders 10m from playgrounds to identify dog free areas.



# **DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS**



#### Dog Exercise Areas within Henson Park

The use of Henson Park for dog walking is encouraged and recognised by council as creating a positive sense of community if conducted in a responsible manner. Dog walkers must ensure their dog is under effective control at all times and does not become a nuisance or impede on the enjoyment of other park users. Dog walkers must clean up and properly dispose their dog's faeces. Although the majority of dog owners are responsible, uncollected faeces in the offleash area make the park experience less enjoyable.

Currently there are concerns about wear and tear in the dog exercise area. Degradation of the hill and its impact on the amenity of the park generally is of concern.

Signage directly within this area reminding owners of their responsibilities and of the need to watch their dogs could be beneficial. Current signage locations and areas for on and off leash dog exercise are indicated by the map adjacent.

#### Dog On-Leash Areas

 Dogs are permitted to be on-leash in the grandstand, tennis club and parking areas, in addition to the perimeter track around the sporting ground. Care should be taken to ensure compliance around the grandstand and parking areas.

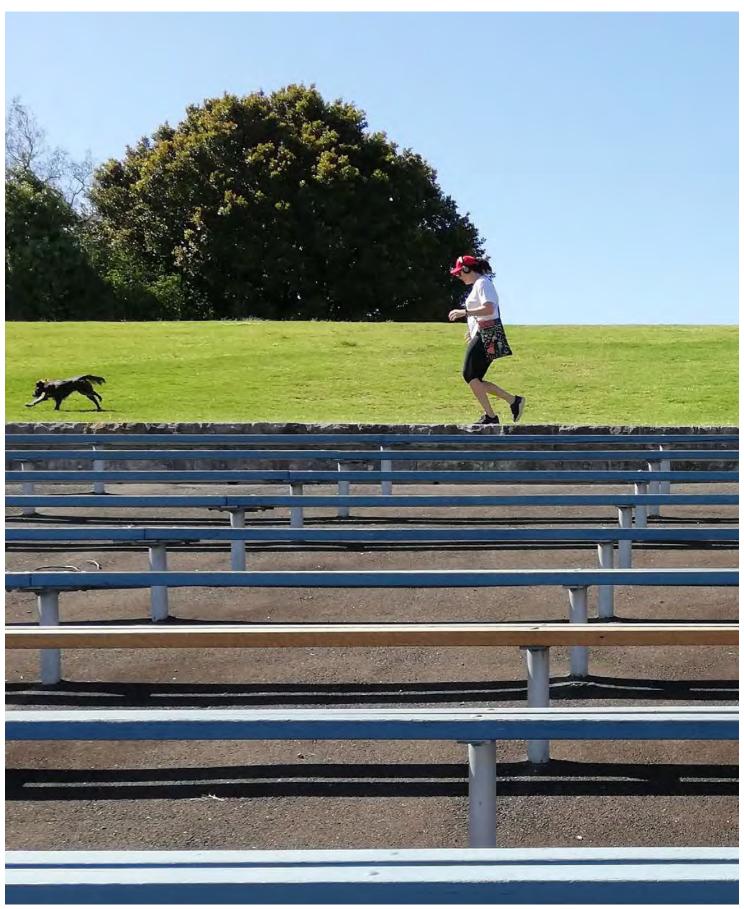
#### Dog Off-Leash Areas

 Off-leash dog exercise is generally permitted on the grassed parkland areas. The only exception to this is during official matches, where dogs are required to be kept on-leash.

#### Dogs Prohibited

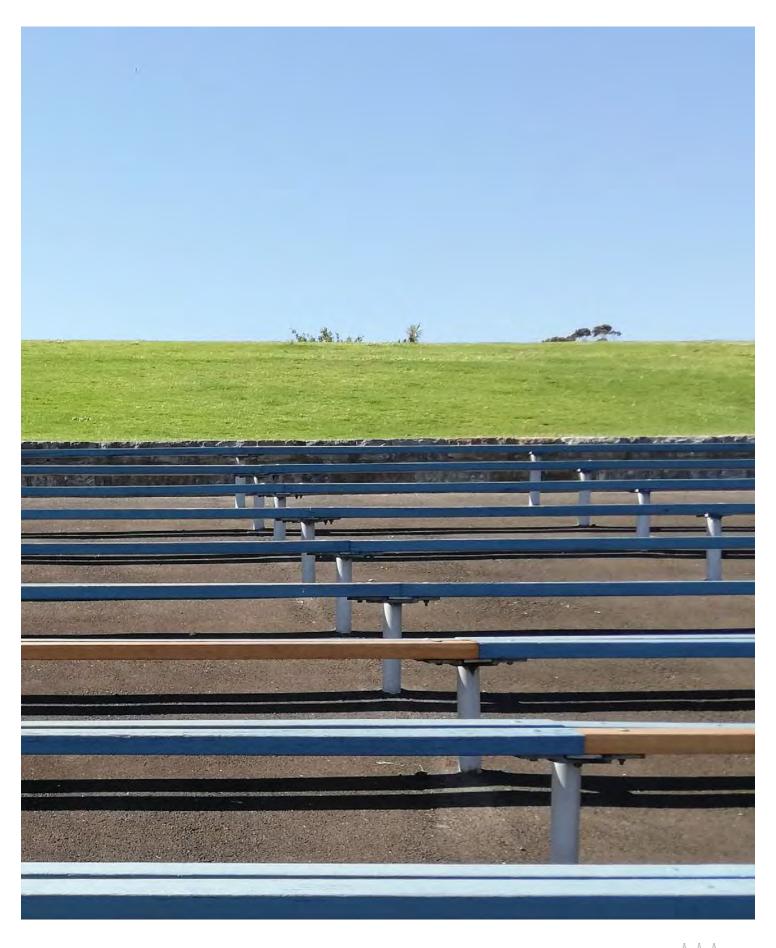
• Dogs are prohibited on the tennis courts and the playing surface of the sporting ground.





 $Looking\ across\ seats\ to\ grassy\ slopes\ beyond.\ Photography\ by\ Welsh\ +\ Major\ Architects.$ 

# 2.0 Categorisation + Ownership







Page 19

## LAND TO WHICH THIS PLAN APPLIES

The plan refers to Henson Park which is located in Marrickville. Henson Park has entries via Sydenham Road and at the termination of Centennial, Woodland and Amy Street. It consists of 14.5 acres (6 hectares), making it one of the larger parks within in the LGA.

The park sits in a pocket of lower density housing, and shares it's boundaries with residential properties and the Amy Street playground.

Henson Park is located on the site of a former brickworks, as is reflected in it's landform. The park was officially opened in 1933, after the brickpits were drained and infilled. The upper edges of one of the infilled brickpits creates a sheltered hollow around the sporting ground.

Prior to European settlement the local area was inhabited by the Cadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation, and was the food source and core habitat for their social gatherings. Aboriginal heritage items have been identified within the LGA.

#### Owner of this land

Henson Park occupies land owned and managed by the Inner West Council.

At the time of writing, Marrickville LEP 2011 applies to the land. The land zoning map clarifies that the entirety of Henson Park is zoned for 'Public Recreation'.

Lot/DP	Name & Location	Current Management & Agreements Recommendations	Ownership & Classification	Area (approximate)	Notes
Lot 423 DP 1035319	Henson Park	Inner West Council  The Marrickville & District Hardcourt Tennis Club has a hold over tenancy on a month to month basis for the tennis club and adjacent carpark  Ausgrid and Telsta have easements over parts of Henson Park within areas to be designated as general community use. Refer to diagram on page 20 for details.	Council owned land Sportsground, and general community use	58,760m <sup>2</sup>	Amy Street playground forms part of this lot, and is classified as a park. It is not included in this POM and masterplan boundary.  The prior title reference for the tennis club and adjacent carpark was Lot 424 DP 1035319.  A portion of the rear yard of 26 Centennial Street is located within this lot. It is unclear what/if any arrangement is in place.



#### **COUNCIL LAND CATEGORISATION**

#### Community land - Local Government Act Requirements

All of Henson Park lies on council owned land. This is zoned for public recreation and is defined as community land. Community land is generally public park land set aside for community use. Development and use of this land is subject to strict controls set out in the Act such as Community land cannot be sold, or leased or licensed for more than 30 years. In addition to these controls, the Act requires councils to have plans of management for all Community lands.

A plan of management places Community Land into categories which impact how they can be used. Community Land is still subject to zoning controls and a plan of management operates as an additional control over that piece of land.

The community land within Henson Park falls into the categories listed in the table below.

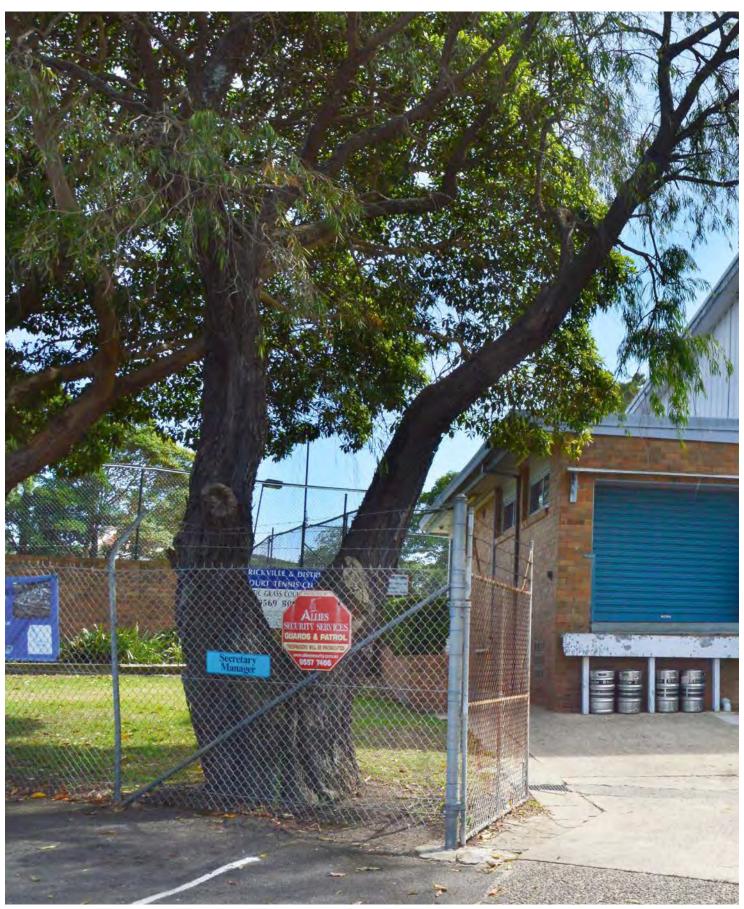
#### Management principles

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:

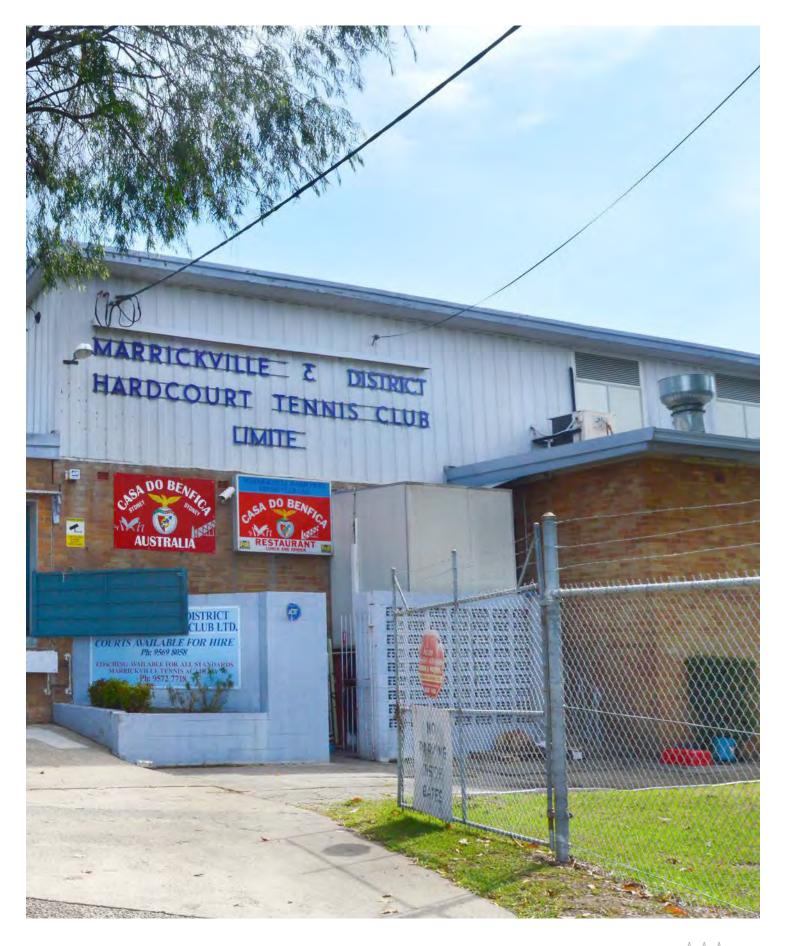
- (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and
- (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Category (Crown land)	Core objectives (as defined by the Local Government Act 1993)
sports ground	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are—  (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and  (b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
PARK	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are—  (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and  (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and  (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.
GENERAL COMMUNITY USE	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public—  (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and  (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).





 $Tennis\ club\ entrance\ from\ the\ carpark.\ Photography\ by\ Welsh\ +\ Major\ Architects.$ 





## **AUTHORISED LEASES + LICENCES**

This PoM expressly authorises Inner West Council to grant leases and licences for Henson Park for the purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in Table 1.01 and Table 1.02 and to grant leases and licences for all or part of Henson Park consistent with the Key Objectives.

Table 1.01 Permissible Long Term Uses - up to 30 years - The maximum period for a lease or licence is 21 years if granted by Council or 30 years if granted by Council with the consent of the Minister for Local Government

Type of	Categorisation and	Purpose for which licensing / leasing will be granted
Arrangement Authorised	Facilities	- arposo for which hoomaing 7 loading will be granted
Licence	Sports Ground / General Community Use	<ul> <li>Organised sport, school and community group organised and informal sporting activities and games including tennis</li> <li>Recreational purposes, education, recreation including a gym and children's recreation</li> <li>Sporting fixtures and events including spectators</li> <li>Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting fixtures and events including the participating clubs, bodies and groups</li> <li>Uses ancillary to sporting fixtures and events including broadcasting, training, ticketing, catering (such as the sale of food and beverages including alcoholic beverages) and merchandise sales</li> <li>Sport training and practice including group classes and individual coaching with or without commercial fitness trainers</li> <li>Promotion and advertising including signage in connection with sporting activities or general community use</li> <li>Parking for cars, bicycles and other vehicles in connection with sporting activities or general community use</li> <li>Uses associated with general community transit through the area, including end-of-trip facilities and bicycle parking</li> <li>Uses associated with maintenance of the park and sports grounds</li> <li>Uses associated with security in the park, including security of discrete areas such as the tennis club or sports grounds</li> <li>Community garden and/or biodiversity space, including bioswales</li> <li>Water storage facilities</li> <li>Public toilets and changing facilities</li> <li>Uses associated with education and appreciation of historical significance of the site and promotion of park identity</li> </ul>
Licence or lease	Sports Ground / General Community Use	<ul> <li>Ancillary uses being uses ancillary to or associated with one or more of the uses listed including construction for that use</li> </ul>
Licence, lease or easement	Sports Ground / General Community Use	Allow access or encroachment by local community members in connection with fences and security
Lease	Sports Ground / General	Community facility, restaurant/ café / kiosk     Paye 25

	Community Use	
Lease	Sports Ground / General Community Use	<ul> <li>Organised sport, school and community group organised and informal sporting activities and games including tennis</li> <li>Recreational purposes, education, recreation including a gym</li> <li>Sporting fixtures and events including spectators</li> <li>Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting fixtures and events including the participating clubs, bodies and groups</li> <li>Uses ancillary to sporting fixtures and events including broadcasting, training, ticketing, catering (such as the sale of food and beverages including alcoholic beverages) and merchandise sales</li> </ul>
Lease	General Community Use	<ul> <li>Telecommunication infrastructure</li> <li>Electrical infrastructure</li> <li>Stormwater/sewer infrastructure</li> <li>Installation of solar panels on existing roof space</li> </ul>

Table 1.02 Permissible Short Term Uses – licence up to 12 months			
Type of Arrangement Authorised	Categorisation and Facilities	Purpose for licence	
Licence	Sports Ground / Playing field	-Seasonal licences -Sporting fixtures and events -Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events -School and community group recreation and education use -conducting a commercial photography session -filming including film / television broadcasting -catering -community, training or education -emergency purposes including training -commercial fitness trainers - Kiosk	
Licence / hire agreement	Sports Ground / Building Tennis Courts / Community Rooms	individual court hire school and community group recreation and education use.	
Licence	General Community Use/ Sports Ground	Family, personal and community gatherings including use of meeting rooms, outdoor picnics and barbecues with or without catering, furniture and equipment  Media promotion and filming of events in connection with sporting activities or general community use  Community festivals, fairs, markets, auctions, outdoor cinema, public art, entertainment and similar events	
Licence	Sports Ground / General Community Use	Access for essential maintenance to adjoining property walls/ structures where no alternative access is viable	
Page 26			

#### **LEASES + LICENCES**

#### What are Leases and Licences?

A lease is a contract between the landowner, and another entity granting to that entity an exclusive right to occupy, use or control an area for a specified time.

A licence allows multiple non-exclusive use of an area. Short term licences and bookings may be used to allow the best overall use of an area.

Council's leasing and licensing is governed by its Land and Property Policy.

#### Authorisation of Leases and Licences

The Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act) requires a lease or licence of community land must be authorised by a Plan of Management (PoM). The lease or licence must be for a purpose consistent with core objectives of its categorisation and zoning of the land. In addition, leases and licences of Crown land must be consistent with the dedication or reservation.

The maximum period for a lease or licence is 21 years if granted by Council or 30 years if granted by Council with the consent of the Minister for Local Government.

Leases and licences for the use of an area of land need to permissible under this PoM, the LG Act, the Local Government Regulations 2005, Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (CLMA), Crown Lands Management Regulations 2017, Marrickville Local Environmental Plan 2011 and any subsequent LEP adopted by Inner West Council, and pursuant to a development consent if required.

Any proposed lease or licence for more than 5 years must be by tender unless it is to a non-profit organisation.

Any proposed lease, licence other than short term or casual public notice must be given and be in accordance with section 47 of the Act.

#### Current Leases and Licences

- Tennis club and adjacent carpark for the purpose of Courts, shelters and clubhouse including licensed premises and car parking. Current 20 year lease expires 31 December 2021 – Marrickville and District Hardcourt Tennis Club Ltd
- Telstra telecommunications tower for the purpose of telecommunications. This is currently in hold over on a month to month basis.

#### Other Agreement

The former Marrickville Council, Newtown NRL, Newtown Jets and AFL NSW/ACT entered into an 8 year agreement in 2017. This agreement allows exclusive use for match play until the year 2025.

#### Future Development of Henson Park

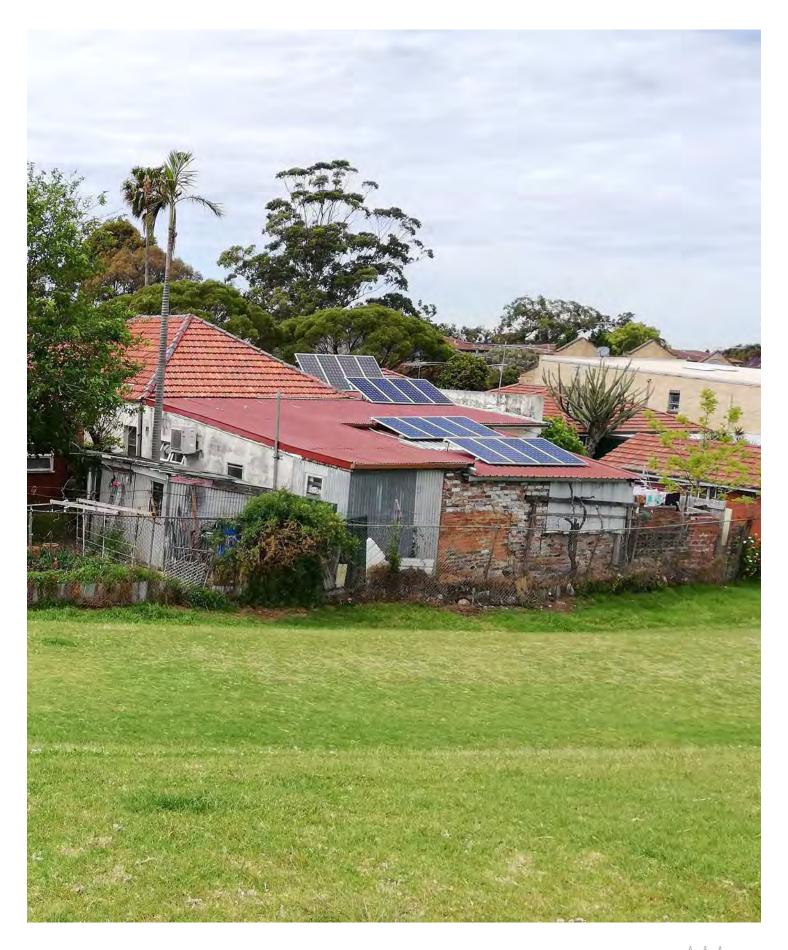
Further development of Henson Park is permitted under a lease or licence for purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in Table 1.01 and Table 1.02 or consistent with the Key Objectives. Further development of Henson Park is otherwise permitted for the use of Henson Park as set out in sections 5.0 Master Plan Strategies and 6.0 Master Plan and for the purpose of refurbishment of the grandstand generally in accordance with the Grandstand Proposal in the Appendices.





 $Holmesdale\ Street\ properties\ adjoining\ the\ south-eastern\ boundary.\ Photography\ by\ Welsh\ +\ Major\ Architects.$ 

# 4.0 Statutory Conditions + Legislation







#### Zoning + Classification

Marrickville LEP: REI 'Public recreation'

#### Telstra infrastructure and easement

Telstra infrastructure is located to the south eastern area of the park adjacent to the Sydenham Road entry. This includes a telecommunications tower, brick services building and below ground cabling. There is an easement for cabling and access which runs from the Sydenham Road entry and through the carpark to the services building. Works within the easement would require consultation and approval by Telstra.

#### Electrical infrastructure and easement

Electrical infrastructure is located adjacent to the Centennial Street entry. This includes a substation and a brick switchboard building.

There is a right of way and easement for public utility installation and electricity purposes. This extends from the substation to Centennial Street. Works within the easement would require consultation and approval by Ausgrid.

Small brick services buildings are located adjacent to each sporting ground light tower. It is unclear what restrictions these assets pose.

#### Stormwater and sewer infrastructure

Stormwater and sewer pipes and infrastructure are located within the park. These connect through to adjacent streets and properties. Work within the vicinity of these assets may require consultation and approval by Sydney Water.

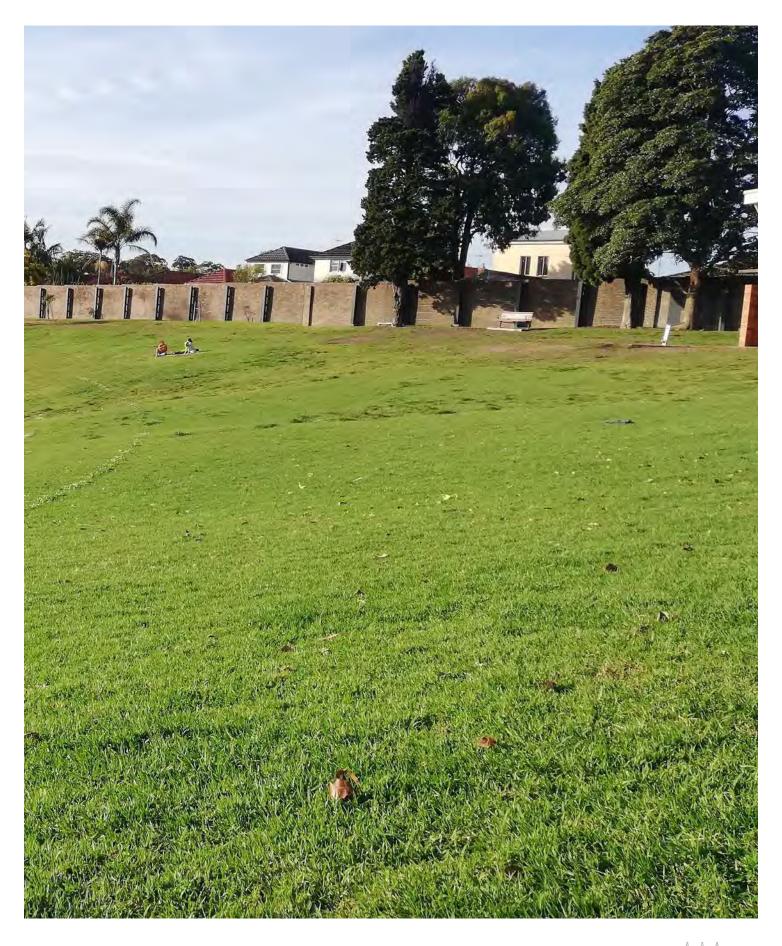
#### Other Relevant Legislation

- Companion Animals Act.
- Dividing Fences Act.
- Disability Discrimination Act.
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- National Construction Code 2019.
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- State Environmental Planning Policy (infrastructure) 2007
- Work, Health and Safety Act.
- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- Vegetation SEPP





 $\label{eq:decomposition} Dogs\ enjoying\ the\ grassy\ slopes.\ Photography\ by\ Welsh\ +\ Major\ Architects.$ 







# **MASTER PLAN OVERVIEW**









#### NOTES

- 01 New formal concrete pathway linking the tennis club, grandstand, and Centennial, Amy and Woodland Street entries. Provide low-level lighting along pathway
- 02 Passive recreation upgrades including new bench seating incorporated into pathway retaining wall in shady and sunny spots
- 03 New water fountain with dog bowl and extended hardstand area, with possible permeable paving and improved drainage.
- O4 Building upgrades to amenities and kiosk including demolition of derelict first floor, accessible facilities, installation of a new freestanding scoreboard and improvements to access, ventilation and lighting. Explore potential for installation of solar panels and skylights to the roof, and measures to reduce resource use, maintenance and costs. Consider collection of rainwater and storage in tanks beneath hardstand, or in large capacity tanks (refer item 08)
- 05 Hardstand kick wall area with perimeter landscaping and seating
- 06 Upgraded Woodland Street entry with restored gatehouse, concrete hardstand, signage, bike racks, waste disposal facilities and meeting tree with seating. The hardstand area could be incorporated into the site interpretation strategy
- 07 Passive recreation upgrades including informal platform seating and trees for shade and habitat (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
- 08 Large capacity water tanks for more sustainable and efficient watering of playing surface. The tanks could be partially embedded in the grassy slopes and designed to form attractive sculptural place markers and informal platform seating.
- 09 New shade tree planting
- 10 Planting to screen boundaries, provide habitat, reducing mowing and assist with managing stormwater run-off to low lying areas (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details)
- 11 Possible location for a future Community Garden which is subject to the formation of a community garden group which complies with Council's community garden policy framework (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
- 12 Multi-purpose hardstand area for activities such as handball, basketball and bike riding practice. This provides a buffer between the grassy area which is used for offleash dog walking and for occasional events.
- 13 Dedicated pedestrian link to grassy slopes
- 14 Boundary wall painted as part of site identity and interpretation strategy. Consider mural artwork of significant local sports people
- 15 Develop guidelines for replacing residential property fencing to achieve a more cohesive boundary
- 16 Services building painted as part of site identity and interpretation strategy
- 17 Review current off leash areas with respect degradation and overuse.
- 18 Provide additional planting with informal mulched walkways with habitat features.







#### NOTES

- O1 Sporting ground upgrades to improve natural playing surface, reduce maintenance and rationalise the AFL and NRL goal post switching method. Assess potential for lighting upgrades, and for summertime and school sports, increased casual use and opportunities for non-sporting community events.
- Ontinuous perimeter circuit separated from parking areas and lit for recreational activities such as walking and running. Retain existing concrete and asphalt surfaces and replace uneven sections while still servicable. Replace concrete surface with new coloured concrete surface.
- O3 Proposed water fountain with dog bowl and hardstand area linking perimeter circuit and grassy slopes. Include dog waste bag dispenser and bin nearby.
- 04 Replace fencing with face fixed installation to maximise the width of the perimeter hardstand circuit for recreational activities. Investigate opportunities for the contunuation of timber seating around the lower bowl in front of the northern hill.
- 05 Services buildings adjacent to lighting poles painted as part of site identity and interpretation strategy
- 06 Maintain existing timber spectator seating and asphalt surface beneath while still servicable. Monitor use of seating areas, consider eventual replacement with permeable paving or low planting.
- 07 Maintain existing sandstone retaining wall and stairs, repair damaged and missing sections.







#### **NOTES**

- O1 Centennial Street entry restored and rationalised to reduce pedestrian and vehicle conflicts. New vehicle entry gates for servicing and game day parking. Fencing and pathway arrangements also to reviewed and upgraded where required
- 02 New vehicle entry and gates for service access and event parking. Removal of water tank adjacent to grandstand to widen vehicle access route for improved safety.
- 03 Entry area with bike storage, wayfınding and site interpretation signage. Collaborate with local historians and artists to develop a strategy for park identity and interpretation to increase awareness of the park and its history. This could incorporate the Gumbamorra Swamp and First Nations history, the rise and fall of brick making, the 'Blue Hole', and Henson Park's rich sporting history.
- 04 Waste disposal area including general waste, recycling and bag dispensers for dog waste
- 05 Retain grandstand forecourt areas and spectator seating area adjoining kiosk. Asphalt and concrete surfaces to remain while still servicable.
- Of Grandstand upgrades to improve the spectator experience, and provide facilities to suit all user groups. The proposed footprint of the grandstand extension is indicated in orange.
  - Provide player amenities to suit all user groups with provision of wheelchair access and facilities suitable for female players.
  - Protect historic qualities of the grandstand, in particular the concrete structure, lettering and arched openings.
  - Provide lift access to upper levels
  - Improve presentation by refurbishing the first floor grandstand seating area, reconfiguringing back of house areas and service access.
  - Improve the spectator experience with a new PA system, and investigate reinstating the commentary box within the grandstand.
  - Address drainage issues to ground floor player entry.
  - Increase areas for equipment storage
  - Consider inclusion of club facilities and a gym for players
  - Include environmentally sustainable measures and design using sustainable principles
- 07 Low fencing adjoining tennis carpark, and replacement of stormwater drain with naturalised

bioswale to pretreat stormwater

08 Replace degraded bitumen surfaces with new permeable paving hardstand area including

shaded exercise / mobility equipment area, water fountain and media filming and parking area. Planting and bollards to be introduced to limit vehicle access to grassed areas beyond. Incorporate meeting tree with seating adjacent to grandstand to break up hard surfaces and to provide a shady place to sit (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).

- 09 Building upgrades to amenities, kiosk and media facilities including new PA system, accessible facilities, improvements to access, ventilation and lighting. Explore potential for installation of solar panels to the roof and measures to reduce resource use, maintenance and costs.
- 10 Proposed tree planting to create an attractive shaded area alongside the pathway. (refer

Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).

- 11 Amy Street entry upgraded. New entry gates and fencing, signage and waste disbosal.
- 12 Parking area rationalised, landscaped and made safe.
  - Provide designated pedestrian routes with crossings, and formalise parking spaces and car through routes to improve pedestrian safety.
  - Introduce planting to provide shade and break up the expanse of hard surfaces. (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
  - Retain existing asphalt surface while still servicable, eventually replace with permeable paving.
  - Design to enable harvesting and storage rainwater in new water tanks in Zone 1.

- Install bollards to prevent vehicle access to the grandstand area, Centennial Street entry, and flat grassed area in Zone 1. These can be removed when access is required for service vehicles and events.
- Develop a consistent strategy for events in particular traffic management and parking. Collaborating with nearby schools could be used as a more regular strategy to extend parking capacity and disperse traffic.
- 13 Sydenham Road entry upgraded to create a pedestrian friendly and inviting gateway.
  - New security fencing and gates to Sydenham Road
  - Brick entry structure retained with gates removed, and concrete footpath widened to provide a continuous pedestrian route into the park
  - Native plantings to reduce maintenance requirements while providing food and habitat for birds and wildlife. (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
  - Wayfinding and site interpretation signage. 'Jack Chaseling Drive' could be incorporated into the pathway and roadway surfaces as part of the site interpretation strategy.
  - Waste disposal facilities
- 14 Introduce areas of biofilter planting to screen boundaries and to assist with pretreating stormwater (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
- 15 Develop guidelines for replacing residential property fencing to achieve a more cohesive boundary



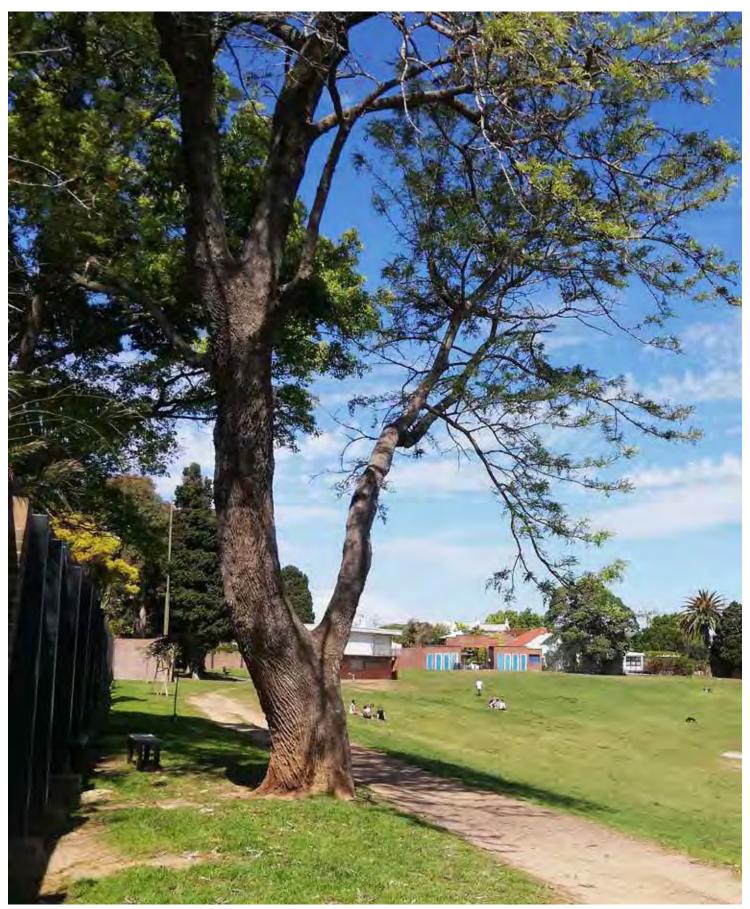




#### NOTES

- OI Parking area and entry rationalised, landscaped and made safe. Retain existing asphalt surface while still servicable, eventually replace with permeable paving (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
- 02 New landscaped, pedestrian friendly tennis club forecourt with concrete path and ramp access.
- 03 Landscaped area incorporating bike racks adjacent to pathway, naturalised bioswale / rain garden and planting to screen back of house areas (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
- 04 Upgrade barriers and remove superfluous fencing to improve permeability -
  - New lockable security gate to car park entry to prevent after hours access
  - Modified security fence line and lockable service entry gate adjacent to carpark
  - Modified security fence line and landscaping adjacent to Amy Street entry and pathway. Duplicate fencing removed,
  - New lockable entry gate to tennis club, located at building line.
  - Remove security fencing and provide screening planting, and screened bin store to improve the appearance of the back of house areas and the connection to the rest of the park.
- 05 Accessibility and general upgrades to restaurant, tennis club, courts and amenities including:
  - Providing an accessible tennis court by removing step at entry and widening pathway and gate
  - Rear building entry upgrades including repaving and adjusting levels to achieve compliant gradients, and modifying door to to meet accessibility requirements.
  - Amenities upgrades to provide compliant accessible and ambulant amenities for tennis players and visitors to the restaurant.
  - Replace windows along tennis court interface with stacking doors to improve indoor/outdoor flow
  - Repair and repaint interior, upgrade amenities, floor surfaces and bar, replace roof.
- 06 Increased landscaping and greening of tennis club grounds (refer Appendix E Planting + Materials Palette for details).
- 07 Develop guidelines for replacing residential property fencing to achieve a more cohesive boundary
- 08 New deck area with landscaping





Park visitors enjoying the grassy slopes adjacent to the Woodland Street gates. Photography by Welsh + Major Architects.







Addison Road Community Centre

Corner shop + pair of terrace houses

**05** Comer shop (former)

06 Henson Park Hotel

07 Marrickville Public School

'Tunneyfall Terrace' corner shops + terrace houses **08** 'Lauraville' Victorian italianate style mansion Page **45** 

Marrickville Town Hall (former)

Brick drain

Norwood Park Estate



SCALE 1:3000 @ A4

# HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

#### Pre European Settlement

The suburb of Marrickville consists mostly of a valley that is part of the Cooks River basin. The traditional owners of the land are the Cadigal people of the Eora Nation. The Aboriginal name for the area is Bulanaming.

The site of Henson Park was nearby natural wetlands known as the Gumbramorra Swamp. It was occupied by the Cadigal and Wangal people who practised fire stick farming. The park like fields that were created attracted wallabies, possums and lizards. They also used the hard turpentine bark to create canoes.

The role of the swamp wetlands played an important part in Aboriginal life as a source of plants and animals. It supported a dense growth of thatch reed, providing an excellent habitat for a variety of birds, particularly swamp hens, moorhens, ducks, gulls and the occasional pelican. [1]

## Early European Settlement

Following European settlement, Marrickville was a place where runaway convicts could disappear, the swamp was almost always impassable. As settlement continued the swamp's role in the ecological system was not fully understood or appreciated. It was subsequently drained in the 1890s to facilitate the industrialisation of the suburb.

The first land grant in the area was 100 acres to William Beckwith in 1794. Thomas Moore received 470 acres in 1799 and another 700 acres in 1803.

In these first decades after European settlement Marrickville was regarded as a good source of timber. Estate owners harvested timber for firewood and to make cobbled roads and boats. Turpentine was particularly sought after as it was extremely hard and valuable.

Marrickville evolved with the sudbivision of Dr Robert Wardell's estate after his murder in 1834, and the later subdivision of Thomas Chalder's 'Marrick' estate in 1855. This laid down the village of Marrickville and cottages, shops, churches and civic buildings rapidly appeared. Market gardens, dairy farms and stone quarries also dotted the landscape. Parts of Marrickville remained well timbered and were still referred to as Wardell's Bush.

Marrickville was a diverse area. Along with the market gardeners, stonemasons and dairy farmers, it was also home to architects, lawyers, members of parliament and senior public servants. [1]

## The rise and fall of brickmaking

The real estate boom of the 1880s encouraged the opening of many small brickworks to exploit the clays in the Cooks River catchment. Brickmaking had a lasting impact on the physical and social environment of Marrickville. Grand homes were demolished and market gardens were converted into brick pits, and estates were subdivided to provide cheap housing for brick pit workers.

As brick making methods evolved Marrickville took on a semiindustrial character and became home to the largest brick making businesses in Sydney.

One of these businesses was Thomas Daley's Standsure Brickworks, established in 1886 on the site of Henson Park. The brickworks employed about 60 people until it eventually closed in 1917 as the clay diminished. [2]

The abandoned pits filled with rain and groundwater. The largest

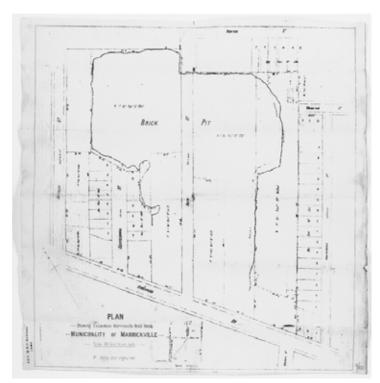


John Thompson Painting – Aboriginal people fishing; Scene along the lower Cooks River 1830. Source: State Library of NSW

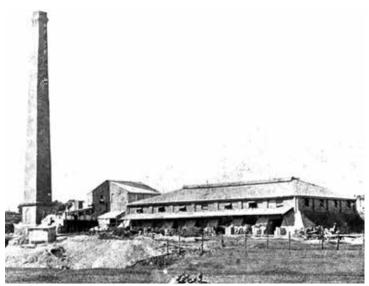


Map of Marrickville 1886-1888 Source: Atlas of the Suburbs of Sydney By Higinbotham & Robinson Contributed By City of Sydney Archives





Map showing the brickworks on the site of Henson Park M9/112 Source: Inner West Council Library and History



Kiln and chimney stack at Thomas Daley's brickworks 1922 (in approx location of Henson Park) Source: Inner West Council Library and History



Workers outside Thomas Daley's brickworks 1916 (in approx location of Henson Park) Source: Inner West Council Library and History



Henson Park prior to construction 1930 (Showing the abandoned brickworks) Source: State Library of NSW



Marrickville Bicycle Club, Henson Park 1936 (Centennial Street entrance in the background) Source: Inner West Council Library and History



Newtown Rugby League Football Club 1936 (Woodland Street entrance in the background) Source: Inner West Council Library and History

# HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

waterhole was known as 'The Blue Hole'. It was a dangerous place, up to 24 metres deep in parts, with steeply sloping sides and the majority of the population could not swim. At least nine drowning tragedies involving young boys were recorded. [3]

Marrickville Council purchased the site in 1923 as it was a serious danger. In 1932 a grant was received to level the ground and work commenced as part of the Unemployment Relief Scheme. This was a massive undertaking. Drains were installed to remove as much water from the site as possible. Work then began to fill the site to create a level oval within the brickpit walls. [3]

## Henson Park - Present

Henson Park was named after William Thomas Henson, who was Mayor of Marrickville in 1902, 1906 to 1908 and an Alderman on Marrickville Council from 1897-1917. It was officially opened on 2 September 1933 with a cricket match between a representative Marrickville Eleven team and a North Sydney District team, which included Sir Don Bradman.

Eventually the focus shifted to rugby league as the playing surface was too uneven for cricket. The park became the home ground of Newtown Jets Rugby League Club, and the first premiership game was played on I April 1936, when Newtown defeated University 20-0.

Apart from rugby league , the ground hosted cycling, womens vigoro - a mix of tennis and cricket, children's scooter races, and for a brief time, car racing events. Remarkably this local park was the cycling venue for the 1938 British Empire Games, and for the games closing ceremony. A new grandstand was part of the successful bid, and the King George V grandstand was engineer designed and built in haste. The games were well attended with crowds reportedly exceeding 40,000. [3]

In 1953, Council granted approval for part of the park to be used as a tennis centre and carpark. Debentures were issued to local tennis players and soon after the members laid down four loam tennis courts and constructed temporary clubhouse facilities. The current clubhouse was completed in 1961. This enabled two more courts to be built on the site of the temporary clubhouse.

Major park upgrades in the 1970's and 1980's included construction of new amenities blocks, lighting towers, and replacing the velodrome with a grass running track for school athletics carnivals. [2]

Henson Park has seen the tremendous growth, and decentralisation of industry in Marrickville, along with a population increasing in diversity. Today the park hosts NRL and AFL matches, and is a well used community recreation space. It has changed little since it was first opened and is listed on the State Heritage Register and (current) 2011 Marrickville LEP as an item of local significance.

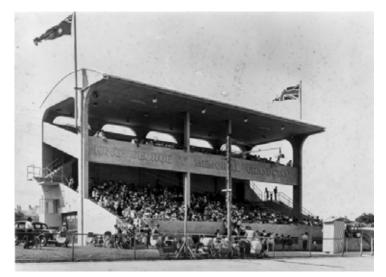
- [1] Chrys Meader. Dictionary of Sydney. Marrickville. 2008. [ONLINE] [Accessed October 2019]
- [2] Office of Environment and Heritage NSW. Henson Park [ONLINE] [Accessed October 2019]
- [3] Chrys Meader. From Brickpit to Henson Park Scooter Races to Empire Games Glory. [History tour by Inner West Council Libraries at Henson Park] [19 October 2019]



Cycling Carnival, Henson Park 1936 Source: Inner West Council Library and History



King George V Memorial Grandstand under construction at Henson Park Source: Inner West Council Library and History



King George V Memorial Grandstand at Henson Park (taken soon after completion in 1937) Source: Inner West Council Library and History





Inner West Council area and suburbs. Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.

# **DEMOGRAPHICS**

#### Overview

This section outlines the current community profile of Marrickville using data from the 2016 ABS Census from Profile i.d.

#### Population growth

In 2016, the Estimated resident population of the Inner West was 192,030 people. The population increased by 11,729 people or 6.5% between 2011 and 2016. The growth rate of Greater Sydney during this period was 9.8%.

Marrickville has been separated into Marrickville North and Marrickville South within the analysis, due to the size of the area and different urban conditions to the north and south of the train line.

Marrickville North experienced an above average amount of growth, with its population increasing by 2003 people (8.1%).

Marrickville has the highest forecast population and growth (number of people) in the IWC, with an additional 19,430 people living in the suburb by 2036.

## Open space provision

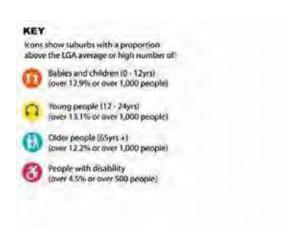
The InnerWest has 323.4ha of open space which equates to 9.2% of the total land area or 16.8m2 per person. Of this, council owns 256ha, which equates to 7.3% of total land area, or 13.3m2 per person.

The provision of open space in Marrickville is above average, with 22.2m2 of council owned open space per person in 2016.





01 Marrickville - Age + disability profile. Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.





02 Marrickville - Cultural profile. Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.





03 Marrickville - Density, income + housing profile. Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.

# **DEMOGRAPHICS**

## Age + disability profile

Marrickville has one of the highest proportions of people reporting a need for assistance in the LGA (6.5%), along with higher numbers of babies, children, young and older people.

Spaces that are inclusive of all age groups, accessible and flexible should be prioritised to cater for current and future population needs.

## Cultural profile

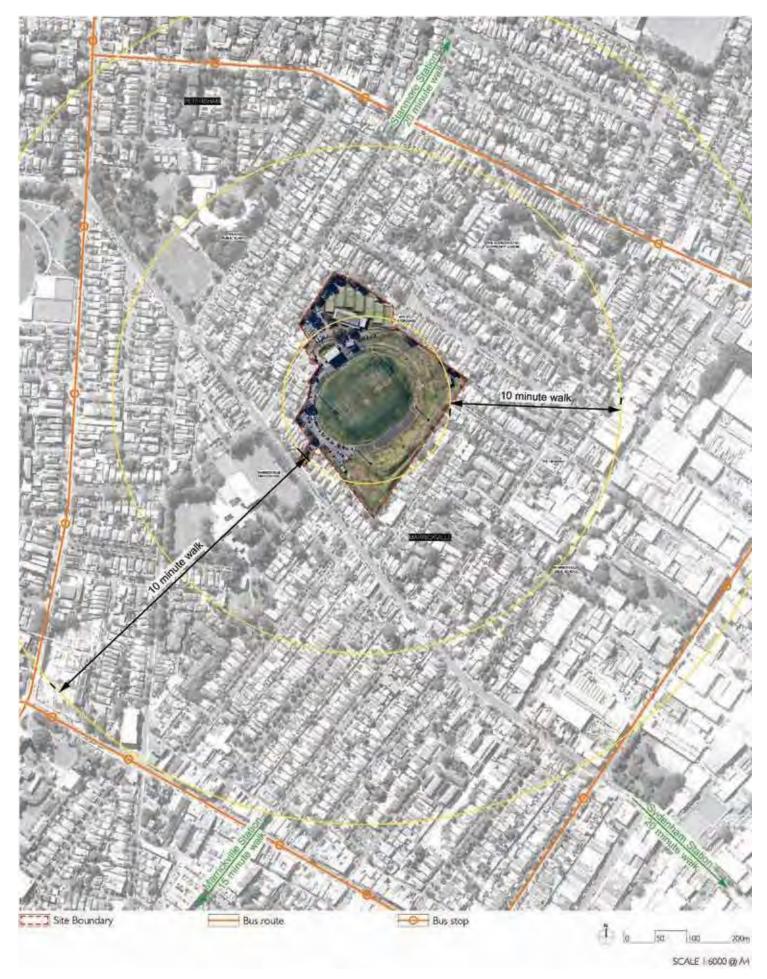
Marrickville is culturally diverse, with a higher proportion of people who speak a language other than English at home. Greek, Vietnamese, Arabic and Portuguese languages have a high representation in the area. Park facilities, wayfinding and site interpretation strategies should take this into consideration.

## Density, income + housing profile

Marrickville is characterised by low density housing, but also has one of the highest proportions of high density dwellings in the LGA. The area is forecast to have some of the largest population growth in the LGA, with 82.5 persons per hectare by 2036. This represents an increase by three quarters of the population, and places significant extra demand on open space.

Income levels are just below average, and car ownership is high. The majority of households have cars. Improved connectivity would encourage Marrickville residents to use active or public transport.





Page 53

# **NEIGHBOURHOOD CONTEXT**

#### Site Overview

Henson Park is located towards the middle of the Inner West Council Area. Bounded by residential properties it is a relatively isolated haven of open space. Clear and direct links to Henson Park are lacking, partly due to its isolated location, lack of signage from nearby Sydenham and Illawarra Roads, and somewhat hidden entries.

The Woodland Street entry channels visitors from The Henson pub, local cafes, and businesses in adjacent gentrifying light industrial areas. Marrickville's concentrated strip retail, civic and business areas are accessible but are not in the immediate vicinity of Henson Park. The busy Marrickville and Illawarra Road intersection is 800m to the south, with shops continuing along Marrickville Road, and along Illawarra Road past Marrickville train station. The smaller Addison Road area is 600m to the north and is most concentrated between Victoria Street and Illawarra Road.

## Major Roads

Marrickville is the largest suburb by area in the Inner West local government area. Sydenham, Illawarra, Addison and Livingstone Roads are thoroughfares through the suburb and to areas beyond. They all form routes to Henson Park, with Sydenham Road most affected by traffic congestion.

## Public Transport

Henson Park is located almost in the middle of the three nearby train stations and various bus routes. This means there are many options for getting to the park via public transport, however all require a final leg of walking. This can be prohibitive for some members of the community such as parents with small children, the elderly and those with accessibility requirements. There is also no wayfinding signage to indicate the direction of Henson Park from the key public transport stops.

It is approximately a 15 minute walk from the park to the closest train station Marrickville Station.

The closest bus stops are Addison Road at Agar Street (Route 428), Victoria Road at Chapel Street (Route M30), and Marrickville Park at Livingstone Road (Route 412, all approximately 8 mins walk to park entrances.

Train routes include: Sydenham Station, with services along the T2,T3, T4,T8 and South coast lines; Marrickville Station, with services along the T3 line; Stanmore Station, with services along the T2 line

Bus routes include: 428, with stops from Canterbury to City Martin Place; 423/L23 with stops from Kingsgrove to City Martin Place; 426 with stops from Dulwich Hill to City Martin Place; M30 with stops from Sydenham to Taronga Zoo; 425 with stops from Tempe to Dulwich Hill; 418 with stops from Kingsford to Burwood; 412 with stops from Campsie to City Martin Place

#### Cycle Routes

There have been efforts to establish and improve local cycle networks as indicated in the "2007 Marrickville Bicycle Strategy" and "Staying Active Map", prepared by the former Marrickville Council. Although

the routes are used, they generally provide poor levels of amenity and cyclist safety.

The Centennial Street to Amy Street pathway through Henson Park connects to on-road bicycle routes via Illawarra Road to the east, Park Road to Newington Road in the north, and Petersham Road in the south. None of these connecting routes have designated cycle lanes, and the roads are constantly busy, narrow and sloping in areas. Impatient drivers overtake cyclists, which is a source of conflict and likely contributes to cyclists being discouraged from using the network. The pathway through Henson Park has no signage to indicate it is a shared route, during busy times this would be difficult to negotiate with pedestrians and dogs.

There are no dedicated parking or lockup points within Henson Park for visitors arriving on a bicycle.

## Local Parklands, Schools and Community Spaces

Henson Park is one of the larger parks in the Inner West Council area. There are a number of local parklands, community spaces and schools nearby that also contribute to the overall network of open spaces and facilities.

Amy Street Playground adjoins Henson Park, and forms its northern entry point. The playground contains a landscaped play area which is fenced, shaded and has some seating.

Marrickville Park is a large district park located 600m to the east. It contains a cricket field and nets, public amenities, the Marrickville District Lawn Tennis Club, the Marrickville Croquet Club, a large landscaped area, playground, outdoor gym and multipurpose hardcourt for tennis, basketball and netball. There are also dog on and off leash exercise areas. The off-leash dog area is unfenced and adjoins busy Livingstone Road, safety concerns would likely determany dog owners.

Jarvie Park is a local park located 250m to the south, adjoining Marrickville High School and the Marrickville Youth Resource Centre. It contains a large landscaped area with seating, shaded playground, outdoor gym and basketball hardcourt.

Wicks Park is a local park located 750m to the south-west at the busy intersection of Victoria and Illawarra Roads. It contains the Wicks Park Tennis Centre, four tennis courts, public amenities, picnic tables, barbecues, a playground and a flat grassed area which is popular for tai chi.

The Addison Road Community Centre is located 500m to the north. It contains council's community nursery, a hall for community events, spaces for community cultural and sporting organisations, a preschool and a large grassed area. On Sundays it hosts a local market which is well attended.

Marrickville High School, Wilkins Primary School and Marrickville Primary School are within close proximity - with Marrickville Highschool just across the road from Henson Park. All contain parking areas, grassed sports fields, and hardcourts for various activities.





# **CONDITION OF LAND + STRUCTURE**

	Use of land or structure (on adoption of the PoM)	Condition of the land or structure (on adoption of the PoM)	Future Condition (targeted following adoption of the PoM)
01	Woodland Street gates	Poor	Restore + maintain
02	Public amenities, kiosk + scoreboard building	Poor	Upgrade or Replace
03	Public recreation	Fair	Upgrade + maintain
04	Playing field	Fair	Upgrade + maintain
05	Spectator seating	Fair	Maintain
06	Amy Street gates	Poor	Replace
07	Public amenities, kiosk, scorekeeping, media + club facilities building	Poor	Upgrade + maintain
08	Grandstand building	Poor	Upgrade + maintain
09	Centennial Street entry + Charlie Meader Memorial Gates	Poor	Restore + maintain gates, upgrade entry
10	Storage building	Poor	Restore + maintain
	Car park	Fair	Upgrade
12	Sydenham Road entry + gates	Fair	Upgrade + maintain
13	Car park	Poor	Upgrade
14	Tennis club building	Fair	Upgrade + maintain
15	Tennis courts	Fair	Maintain
16	Tennis club grounds including amenities and shade structures	Fair	Upgrade + maintain





# **ZONE IDENTIFICATION**

Henson Park has been separated into four zones for the purpose of clarifying a detailed site analysis. The zones have been selected based on an assessment of the character and use of different areas within the park, while taking into account real and perceived boundaries. The borders of the zones should be treated as blurred rather than absolute. In the following analysis they are represented with dotted lines for graphic clarity.

#### Zone I - PARKLAND Council Land

Zone I extends along the north and south eastern edges of the site, and is bounded by residential properties. It is characterised by sloped terrain which forms a grassed amphitheatre around the playing field, and is a remnant of the sites former use as a brickpit. The zone is very well used by the community and is popular for off-leash dog exercise, picnics and informal spectator seating.

It contains pedestrian entry gates at the end of Woodland Street, a two storey brick amenities and scoreboard building. The adjacent water fountain is a hub of activity for thirsty dogs and human visitors. The terrain slopes down to the south eastern corner forming a low secluded and sheltered area.



Zone 2 is the low point of the site and contains the playing field, perimeter fencing and spectator seating. The playing field is predominantly used for Rugby League and AFL training and weekend matches. Although open to the public, the oval is only occasionally used for social matches and practice.

The former cycling track surrounds the field and is popular for running; this is separated from the parkland areas by low sandstone retaining walls.



Zone 3 contains the Sydenham Road, Centennial Street and Amy Street playground entries, carparking area, grandstand and adjacent 3 storey amenities building. Also included in this zone is a separate path which runs between the tennis club and fenced park area. During major sporting matches Zone 3 is well used. At other times it is mostly vacant, with the exception of parking areas and entries. Hard surfaces, tall buildings and poorly presenting service areas characterise this zone. Adjacent grassed areas and perimeter planting provide some relief.

# Zone 4 - TENNIS CLUB PRECINCT Council Land

Zone 4 is located in the northwestern corner of the site and contains the tennis club and associated parking area. Facilities include the clubhouse building with bar and restaurant, amenities, 7 tennis courts and outdoor shelters. Perimeter fencing and service areas physically isolate this precinct from the rest of the park. Despite this isolation, the club is well used by competitive and social tennis players, and the restaurant is popular especially for weekend functions.



Zone I - parkland + Woodland Street entry beyond



Zone 2 - playing field



Zone 3 - grandstand



Zone 4 - tennis courts







#### Overview

Zone I extends along the north and south eastern edges of the site, and is bounded by residential properties. It is characterised by sloped terrain which forms a grassed amphitheatre around the playing field, and is a remnant of the sites former use as a brickpit. The zone is very well used by the community and is popular for off-leash dog exercise, picnics and informal spectator seating.

It contains pedestrian entry gates at the end of Woodland Street, a two storey brick amenities and scoreboard building. The adjacent water fountain is a hub of activity for thirsty dogs and human visitors. The terrain slopes down to the south eastern corner forming a low secluded and sheltered area.

#### Character

Zone I is the informal hub of the site and a place where people meet. It is well frequented at all times, with casual spectators, picnics, people exercising and walking their dogs. The grassy slopes provide a great vantage point for watching matches and a social space for enjoying the park. Wind and sun exposure can be an issue, perimeter planting, sheltered and low lying areas offer some relief.

#### Signage

There is no signage along nearby Illawarra Road to direct visitors to the entry gates at the end of Woodland Street. The gates with 'Henson Park' lettering above signify the entry to the park at the end of Woodland Street. Within the park there is no cohesive signage or information regarding future events, sporting use, opening and closing times or interpretation. Former Marrickville Council 'Pets in Parks' signage is located at the Woodland, Centennial and Amy Street entries - this delineates dog on/off leash areas and associated rules.

#### **Built structures**

The Woodland Street entry contains the historic brick gateway building with metal gates, which was rebuilt shortly after 1936. This is a major pedestrian entry to the site, and links to the Henson Hotel nearby. It was funded by the Henson Hotel, and designed by the same architect. The structure is in good condition, with the exception of some missing decorative bricks to the top. Blue and white shuttered openings, now locked, were previously used for ticketing. Fading 'ladies' paintwork and a rusting sewer pipe hint that the female amenities were previously located in this structure too. Access to this area is blocked off with plywood sheeting.

There is a dilapidated two storey red brick building in the north eastern corner of the site. The building is angled to face the playing field which creates a somewhat wind-sheltered dead space behind. The ground floor contains a small kiosk which is used occasionally for larger sporting events. Separate male and female amenities are located on either side of the kiosk. These were upgraded in 2011/2012 and do not contain any ambulant or accessible facilities. Although otherwise functional the toilets are outdated and very dark

inside which makes them difficult to use.

The scoreboard on the second floor is controlled via the amenities/media building in Zone 3. The second floor is no longer used for this purpose as it contains asbestos and is unsafe.

To the south of this zone there is a boxy, single storey red brick building which contains the plant equipment for the Telstra tower.

#### Lighting

The amenities building has external and internal light fittings which are generally turned off. Visible wiring indicates there was once a light on the Woodland Street side of the entry gates which has been removed.

When the playing field is lit for nighttime training sessions, light spills over and illuminates the parkland. Most evenings, and all through summer the lights are turned off and the park is unlit.

This limits informal recreational use of park in the evening, and contributes to a perception that the park is not safe at night time.

#### **Facilities**

The amenities building with kiosk is described under built structures. Adjacent to this is a hardstand area with water fountain which is well used by thirsty dogs and human visitors. Inadequate drainage and high foot traffic has created muddy areas around the fountain.

Occasionally loose furniture is placed around the parkland by residents to compensate for the lack of fixed seating in shady areas. There is a single bench seat which despite its proximity to the amenities, is a popular spot for visitors to sit. There is greater desire for furniture here than available facilities.

Loose garbage bins and dog waste bag dispensers are located on either side of the Woodland Street gates.

There are no bike racks for visitors arriving via bicycle.

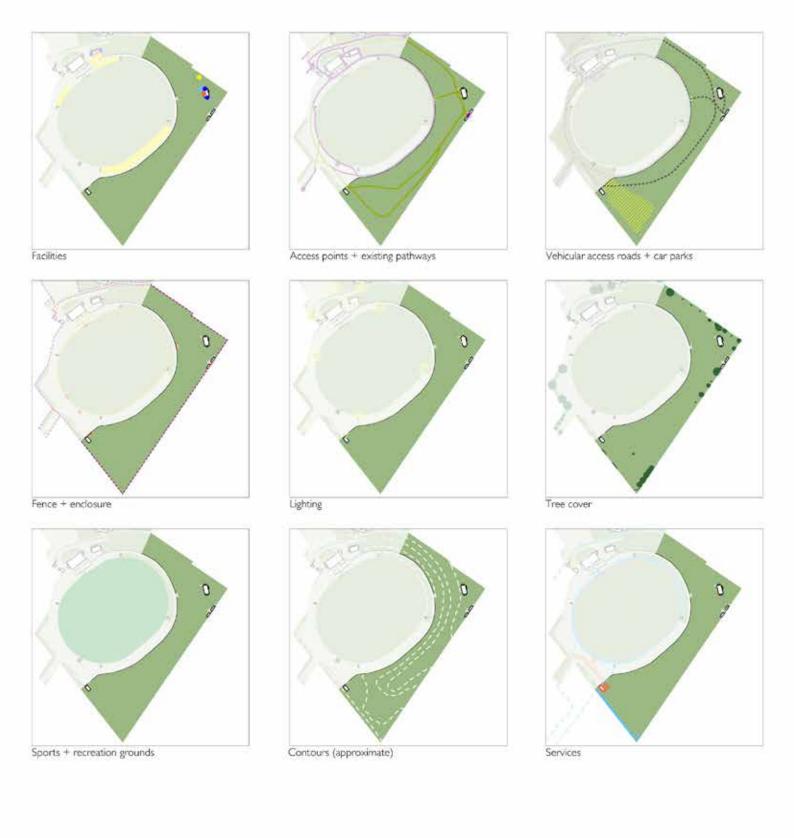
## Fences + enclosure

The northern boundary is defined by a substantial masonry fence which creates a hard, yet attractive edge.

To the east and south, residential fences of timber palings, metal sheeting and mesh form the park boundary. Some fences are in very poor condition and the lack of consistency in materials gives a higgledy piggledy appearance. Wire mesh fences offer little privacy to neighbouring residents, however they are beneficial in terms of providing passive surveillance of the park.

The combined effect of these boundary conditions is that the park feels like an isolated pocket in suburbia.

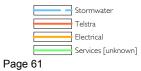


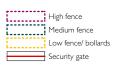














## Access points + existing pathways

The Woodland Street entry has gravel and random loose pavers which creates a poor sense of arrival. Immediately adjacent there are no formal paths, only desire paths around the park via the amenities building and down to the loop track around the playing field. These pathways are evident from the worn away turf and muddy areas.

#### Vehicular access roads + car parks

Woodland Street has limited street parking. The bollards at the Woodland Street entry are removable to allow service vehicle access. The entry gates restrict the height of vehicles. Service vehicles generally access the site via the Sydenham Road entry, and the service entry from Centennial Street in Zone 3, where heights are unrestricted.

There is a gate adjoining the carpark in Zone 3 which allows service vehicle access from the south. During major events this is opened to permit parking on the adjacent flat, low lying grassy area. A fig tree has recently been planted in the centre of this zone, temporary fencing during events will help to prevent damage to the tree and its root system.

## Sports + recreation grounds

Grassy areas are popular for informal recreation, most notably off-leash dog exercise throughout the day. These areas are also used for picnics and for casual spectator seating during sporting matches. Uncollected litter, dog faeces, urine and muddy areas reduce enjoyment of this area.

#### Ground cover + tree cover

The park lacks shade, with the exception of mature tree planting. This is limited to the perimeter so that views to the playing field are maintained. Established trees include conifers, jacarandas, native brush boxes and a silky oak which provide some habitat for birds and possums.

Recently planted trees will provide additional shade once established. These include Australian teak trees around the perimeter, and a fig in the middle of the low lying area to the south-east.

In high use areas the turf is worn away. Fencing-off affected areas and returfing has improved conditions in the past.

Residents have planted their own gardens and landscaped entries along the south-eastern boundaries. Species are mostly exotic including olive and banana trees, along with cliveas, ribbon grass and geraniums.

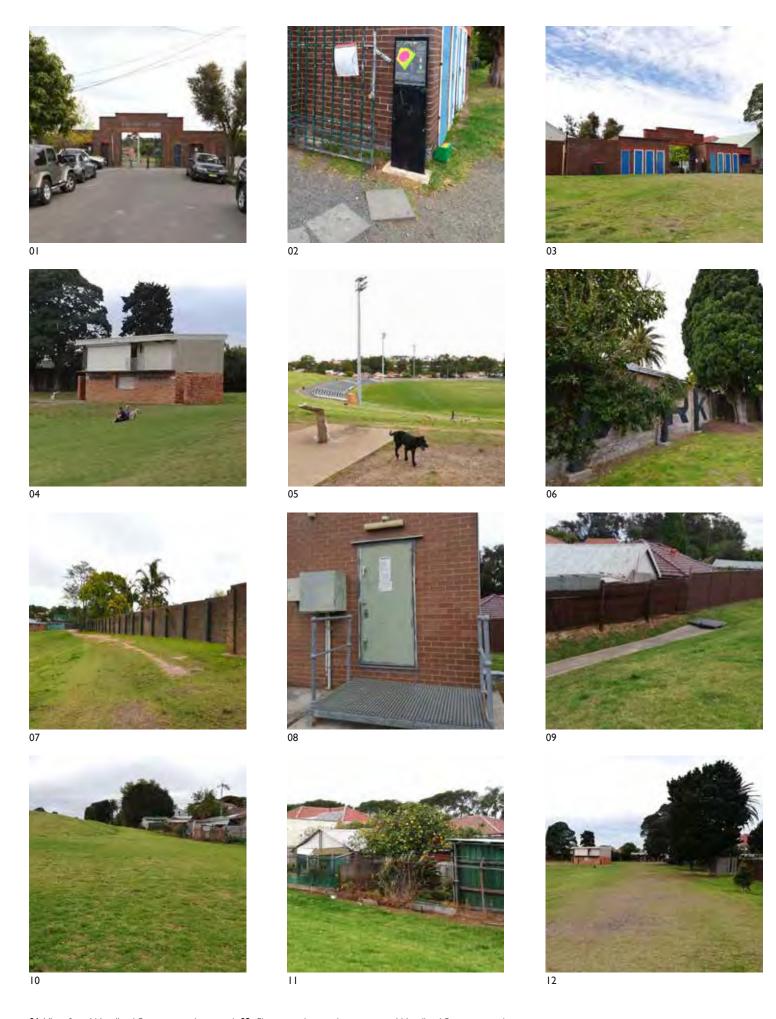
#### Services

There is a building described in built structures, which contains the plant equipment for the Telstra tower in Zone 2.

Along the southern boundary, there is a concrete stormwater gully and pit.

Some properties on Horton and Holmesdale Streets have sewer lines located within the site, adjacent to the boundary.





01. View from Woodland Street towards gates / 02. Signage and ground treatment at Woodland Street entry / 03. View towards Woodland Street gates / 04. Amenities building / 05. Water fountain adjacent hardstand and muddy areas / 06. Brick boundary wall with Henson Park lettering / 07. Informal path towards Amy Street entry / 08. Services block for Telstra tower / 09. Stormwater gully along south western boundary / 10. Low lying area to south / 11. Residential boundary fencing / 12. Informal path towards Woodland

Based on the Analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Zone 1.

There are opportunities to:

- Provide facilities and furniture to support a greater range of activities in the park
- Enable morning and evening use by providing lighting and leaving gates unlocked.
- Increase planting around the perimeter to provide shade and habitat
- Improve disposal of rubbish and dog waste with more bins in more locations, and sorted waste to reduce the amount of landfill.
- Repair the Woodland Street gates, and reinstate the painted Henson Park lettering to celebrate the park's heritage charm.
- Demolish the dilapidated second storey of the public amenities building, and provide a new scoreboard with improved visibility. Reconfigure the amenities below to include more natural light, baby change and accessible facilities, and updated kiosk.
- Provide dedicated pathways to reduce muddy areas and improve the pedestrian experience.
- Develop a cohesive strategy for replacement of deteriorating boundary fencing.
- Encourage people to visit the park by bike
- Increase awareness of the park, what it has to offer, and when it is in use for sporting and other events
- Incorporate naturalised bioswales to filter stormwater in lowlying areas.







#### Overview

Zone 2 is the low point of the site and contains the playing field, perimeter fencing and spectator seating. The playing field is predominantly used for Rugby League and AFL training and weekend matches. Although open to the public, the oval is only occasionally used for social matches and practice.

The former cycling track surrounds the field and is popular for running; this is separated from the parkland areas by low sandstone retaining walls.

#### Character

Zone 2 is characterised by the playing field located at the park's centre. During sports matches it is the focus of activity, at other times it is almost deserted with the occasional visitor kicking a ball on the field or jogging around the perimeter track.

Although used infrequently, the timber seating instills some character with blue and white paint for the NRL home team, the Newtown Jets.

#### Signage

Various signage here notifies visitors that dogs are not permitted on the playing field under any circumstances.

There are no signs indicating who owns and runs the playing fields, which clubs use them, when matches are scheduled, who can use them and if they can be booked.

Temporary signage is used to indicate when the field is closed.

## Lighting

Four lighting towers illuminate the field, these were installed in 1976 and turned on in 1980 as part of the park upgrades. Each tower has an adjacent red brick service building.

The amount of light provided is not sufficient for broadcasting matches, however matches are typically played during daytime hours. The lighting is turned on only for evening training sessions, and not for general use of the park. When in use, it illuminates much of the park.

In 2016, the lighting was upgraded to reduce spill to neighbouring residences, and to allow adjustment of the lighting level to suit different sporting usages.

## **Facilities**

There are bays of fixed timber benches around the perimeter of the playing field. These were installed in 1976 in place of the cycling track. The seats are used by some spectators during sporting matches, although many opt for the grassy slopes in Zone I, which have less hard surfaces and more space to recline. The timber benches are seldom used at other times.

Loose garbage bins are located around the perimeter loop track.

#### Fences + enclosure

There is a metal mesh fence around the playing field, which although unattractive is in reasonable condition. This was installed in 1976, after removal of the cycling track and perimeter chain wire fencing.

Low sandstone retaining walls separate the loop track from the grassy slopes of Zone I. These provide a popular spot to sit and pause. The walls are generally in good condition, however adjacent to the car park some stone is missing and needs to be replaced.

## Access points + existing pathways

The loop track around the playing field provides access to spectator seating, and is popular for running. It is accessed via the carpark and grandstand area in Zone 3, and by sets of stairs down from the grassy slopes of Zone 1.

Players access the field via gates directly adjacent to the grandstand. There is another gate adjacent to the parking area.

## Vehicular access roads + car parks

Only service vehicles are permitted in this zone. Service access to the playing field is via gates adjacent to the parking area. There is a gate off the loop track which allows vehicles to access the amenities building in Zone I. Routes around the perimeter of the park avoid the incline up to the amenities building and are used more frequently.

## Sports + recreation grounds

The turf playing field is used throughout winter for semi professional NRL and AFL matches. It is home ground to the Newtown Jets NRL club, and Sydney University AFL club - which is a feeder club to the Sydney Swans.

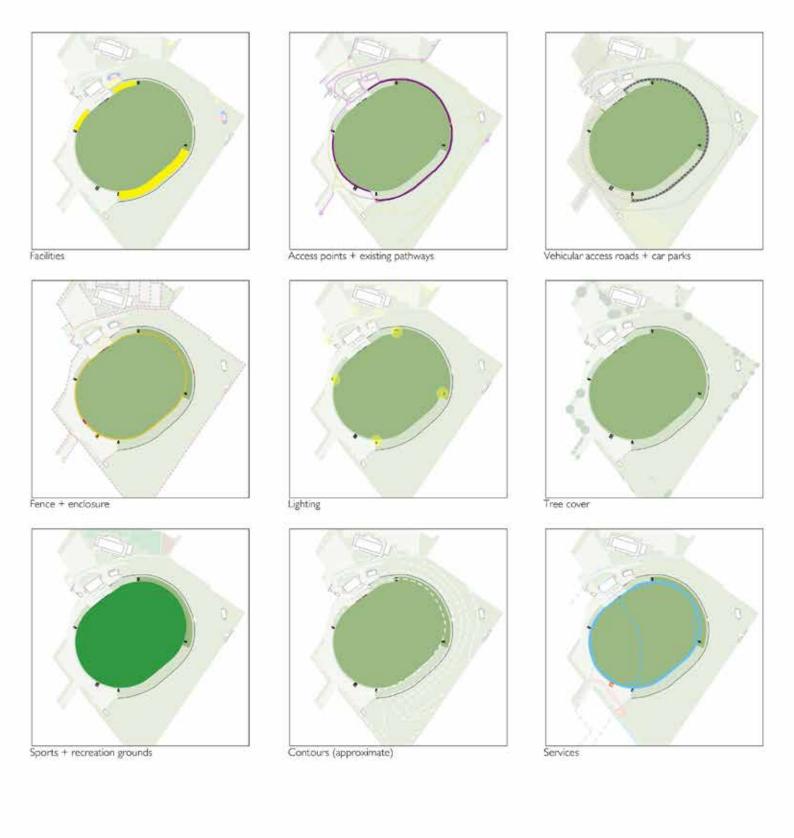
Unlike the majority of IWC playing fields, Henson Park is open seven days a week. Despite constant use through winter, the turf field is in reasonable condition with the exception of field entry and player seating area. Here natural turf is unable to grow due to constant use and poor drainage, and it has been replaced with astroturf. Immediately adjacent areas are muddy and bare.

Council workers are employed to maintain the line markings and playing surface. This requires regular mowing, watering, patching and at times of bare areas. The field is not used for organised sport throughout summer. Nearby schools use the field for sports events.

The amenity of the field is compromised by sinking and subsidence of fill beneath the playing surface. Switching between AFL and NRL goal posts also proves a constant challenge.

When not in use, the AFL goal posts are stored in a purpose-made cage which runs along the south-eastern edge of the playing field.



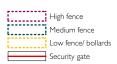














#### Ground cover + tree cover

The playing field surface is predominantly natural turf and is described in sports + recreation grounds. When not is use for sports matches it is a popular spot for birds to feed on insects.

There are no trees in this zone, only hard surfaces and natural turf.

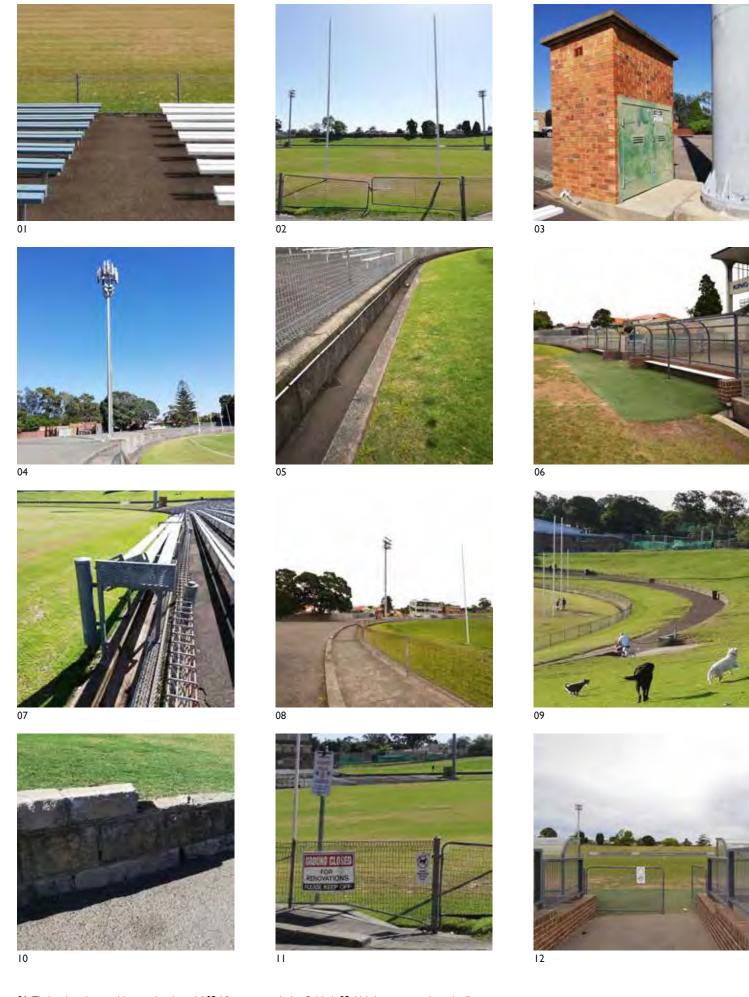
#### Services

There is an imposing Telstra tower on a concrete plinth to the south east. This was built in 1996 and has easements for access and cabling from the Sydenham Road entry, connecting to the tower and through to the services building located in zone 1.

The four lighting towers placed around the perimeter of the playing field and their services structures are described under lighting.

A concrete drainage channel runs around the perimeter of the field between the playing surface and perimeter fencing. A stormwater pipe is located beneath the playing field. In previous times leakages lead to the formation of sinkholes. This has been addressed, however there is still water sitting beneath the playing field fill.





01. Timber benches on bitumen hardstand / 02. View across playing field / 03. Lighting tower pole and adjacent services building / 04. Telstra tower / 05. Perimeter drainage gully and lighting conduit to edge of playing field / 06. Astroturf surface adjacent to field entry and player seating / 07. Goal post storage / 08. Perimeter loop track and chainwire fencing / 09. Perimeter loop track and retaining walls adjoiing zone I / 10. Damaged sandstone retaining wall / 11. Southern playing field entry sigange / 12. View across field from a playing field entry sigange / 12.

Based on the Analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Zone 2.

There are opportunities to:

- Assess and improve the sustainability of the playing field, its associated infrastructure and maintenance regime.
- Improve the condition of the playing surface and explore the potential for increased use for summertime sports, school sports, casual and non-sporting community events
- Establish a goalpost changeover method that is efficient and minimises damage to the playing surface.
- Update signage and fencing to improve the presentation of the playing field
- Develop a continuous perimeter circuit with appropriate lighting for recreational use.







#### Overview

Zone 3 contains the Sydenham Road, Centennial Street and Amy Street playground entries, carparking area, grandstand and adjacent 3 storey amenities building. Also included in this zone is a separate path which runs between the tennis club and fenced park area. During major sporting matches Zone 3 is well used. At other times it is mostly vacant, with the exception of parking areas and entries. Hard surfaces, tall buildings and poorly presenting service areas characterise this zone. Adjacent grassed areas and perimeter planting provide some relief.

#### Character

Zone 3 contains the grandstand area, car parking and three of the park entries. It is dominated by hard surfaces, tall structures and poor amenity. The grandstand building acts as a visual anchor point, and gives the park identity as a place for watching sports matches.

Usage fluctuates heavily, with thousands of cheering spectators during matches to only a handful of visitors at other times.

### Signage

Signage is old, inconsistent, and at times illegible.

As with Zones 1 + 2 there are no signs indicating who owns and runs the playing fields, which clubs use them, when matches are scheduled, who can use them and if they can be booked.

There is no signage along nearby roads to direct visitors to the entry gates. Within the park there is no cohesive signage or information regarding future events, sporting use, opening and closing times or interpretation.

Signage dispersed around the car parking area is out of date and almost illegible. It warns visitors of penalties for not parking in marked spaces, and for parking on the grass.

Former Marrickville Council 'Pets in Parks' signage is located at the Woodland, Centennial and Amy Street entries - this delineates dog on/off leash areas and associated rules.

There is some interpretative signage in this zone. The Charlie Meader memorial gates have a plaque commemorating their namesake, Charlie Meader who was the former groundskeeper and longest serving Marrickville council employee. An adjacent plaque provides some details of the history of Henson Park - it's former use for brickmaking, its demise and transformation into Henson Park.

The grandstand building has a plaque noting the history of the Newtown Jets Club and its association with Henson Park. Immediately above the player entry there is a plaque with details of the opening of the grandstand and those involved. Unfortunately the plaque is located so high up it is very difficult to read.

Although the entry from Sydenham Road is referred to as Jack Chaseling Drive there is no signage indicating this. There is no acknowledgement of the first nations history of the site or description of its attributes prior to european settlement.

#### **Built structures**

The Centennial Street entry contains an attractive brick structure with ticket windows and entry gates. These were named the "Charlie Meader Memorial Gates" in 2001 in memory of Charlie Meader, the former Henson park caretaker/groundskeeper and longest serving Marrickville Council employee. Adjoining the gates is a weatherboard structure, and a nearby boxy brick services building with concrete roof. The weatherboard structure is the oldest structure on the site, and was a former ticket booth inherited from the Harold Park Raceway.

The Grandstand building is a concrete and steel structure which was built for the empire games in 1938, and was officially opened in 1937. The building was engineer designed, and is the only remaining structure of its kind and era in Sydney.

The grandstand contains two storeys of seating to accommodate approximately 1,000 spectators. The top storey is accessed via a staircase on the north eastern side. In the 1980's this was glazed in and named the 'jet set lounge' with carpeted floors and fixed plastic seating to offer a premium experience. This fitout is in poor condition, as is the adjacent former commentators room.

The ground floor contains player facilities which are accessed directly via a ramp from the playing field. The entry has drainage issues associated with its location at the bottom of a ramp. Facilities include change rooms, showers and toilets along with a small amount of storage for general park equipment. Player facilities are mirrored on each side of the building to accommodate home and away sides. The facilities are configured for male players, and are in poor condition, the plumbing is reported to require servicing almost every game weekend.

As part of 2011/2012 upgrades the grandstand forecourt was resurfaced to provide ramp access, asbestos roofing was replaced, and the building was waterproofed and repainted. Asbestos is likely to be present in the interior of the building.

The north western elevation is the back of house area with visible services and entries. The area presents very poorly and is visible from the Centennial Street entry, the tennis club and along informal pedestrian routes around the park perimeter.

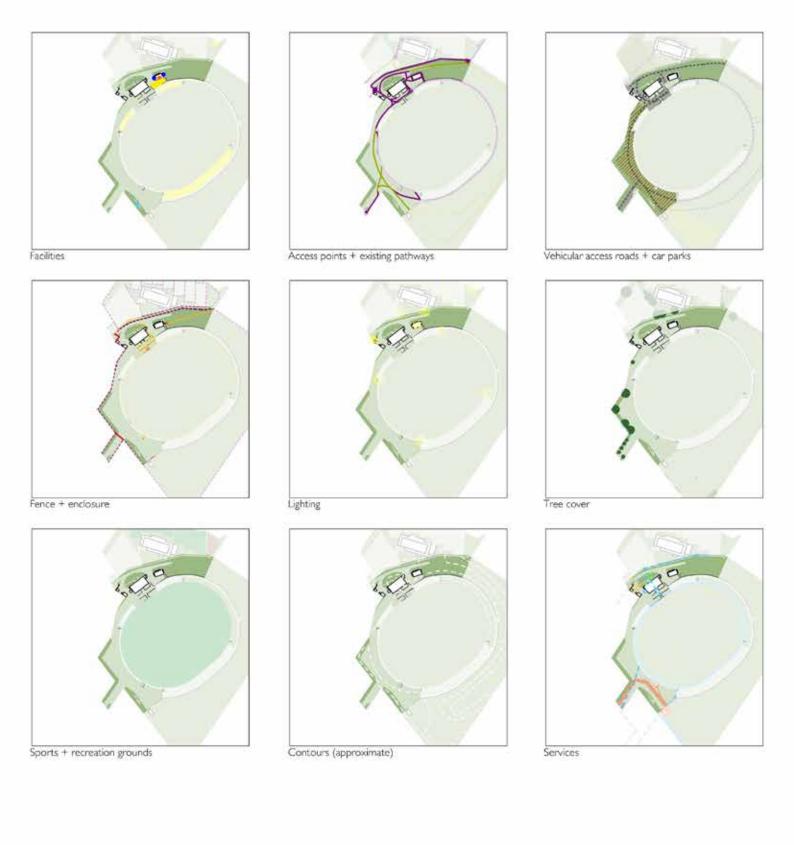
A boxy three storey brick amenities building is located to the north east of the grandstand. Built as part of the 1976 upgrades, this contains a kiosk and public male and female amenities on the ground floor. The amenities have had minor upgrades - as with the northeastern amenities block these do not contain any ambulant or accessible facilities, are outdated and very dark inside.

Levels above are accessed by an external staircase and include spaces for commentators, score keeping and controls for the digital scoreboard.

#### Lighting

The grandstand and amenities building have external and internal light fittings which are generally turned off.



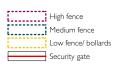














A light mounted on the Centennial Street side of the Charlie Meader Memorial Gates provides some illumination to this entry.

When the playing field is lit for nighttime training sessions, light spills over into this zone. Most of the time the lights are turned off and the park is unlit. The lack of lighting around the grandstand area means it is avoided at night time as there are lots of dark corners in seating and back of house areas that feel unsafe.

There is a single lamp post along the path which runs between the park and tennis club from Amy Street to Centennial Street. High fencing on both sides, and the lack of lighting within the park makes this path feel isolated and treacherous at nightime.

#### **Facilities**

The grandstand contains seating and player facilities and is described in built structures, along with the amenities building with kiosk and media facilities

There is timber bench spectator seating adjacent to these buildings. With the exception of game days this is typically unoccupied.

To the south east of the carpark there is an old style water fountain which is well used.

#### Fences + enclosure

Residential fences form the park boundary to the south and west. These look untidy as there is so much variation in their age, condition, colour and materials.

There is high chain and barbed wire fencing to both sides of the path between the park and tennis club. This path runs from the Amy Street entry through to Centennial Street. The fencing isolates the path from the rest of the park and gives a hostile impression.

The area between the playing field and the grandstand has low brick retaining walls to address changes in levels. There is also a cage around the grandstand entry to protect players en route to the field and player facilities

Bollards are spaced along the edge of the track to the north east of the amenities. These restrict vehicles from driving on the lower grassy areas.

The playing field fencing is described in zone 2.

### Access points + existing pathways

The Amy Street entry is accessed via the playground located at the cul-de-sac end of Amy Street. This entry is known and used mostly by local residents, there is no signage on Amy Street to direct visitors to Henson Park. Visitors enter the park via a high security gate and concrete path. From here they can walk to the grandstand precinct, or to the amenities in zone I via informal gravel and dirt paths, or downslope to the loop track around the playing field. There is also a separately fenced, and somewhat redundant path which connects to the tennis club carpark and Centennial Street.

The Amy Street footpath, which links through from the Amy Street Playground to Centennial Street will be retained for public access and the existing fence line retained and upgraded.

The pathway will remain open for community access needs (including on ticketed game days and community events).

The Sydenham Road entry 'Jack Chaseling Drive' is the main vehicle entry and connects to the car parking area. This entry has more recently constructed brick and metal gates. Although softened by trees and grassed areas, the presentation and amenity of this entry is poor. There is no clear signage, and the footpath ends at the gates forcing pedestrians onto the road and carpark.

The Centennial Street entry is located at the end of a residential street. It features the Charlie Meader memorial gates which are described in built structures. This entry is mostly used by pedestrians arriving from the western side of Marrickville. During larger sporting events this becomes the main vehicle entry point to the park. The amenity of pathways in the vicinity is poor, they are shared by pedestrians and vehicles, lack signage, and are routed via back of house areas.

#### Vehicular access roads + car parks

Vehicle access to parking areas is typically via the Sydenham Road entry, and the Charlie Meader main gates are locked. For significant matches and events, cars enter via Centennial Street through the Charlie Meader gates and exit via Sydenham Road. The extra traffic requires careful management as congestion on Sydenham Road increases, and access becomes difficult for Centennial Street residents and visitors to the tennis club. A traffic study and traffic management

plan is suggested to develop appropriate strategies here.

Service vehicles typically use the Sydenham Road entry for ease of use as this is kept open. The service entry gate off Centennial Street provides access to the grandstand and adjacent amenities building back of house areas. The road surface here is poor and continues north east to become an informal track.

Parking spots are unmarked throughout this zone, which can lead to confusion and safety issues. Approximately 200 cars can fit in the parking area, with some spots allowing visitors to watch matches from their vehicle. There are no permanently designated accessible parking spots.

### Sports + recreation grounds

There are no formal sports and recreation grounds in this zone. The stretch of grass between the Amy Street entry and amenities building is used for informal recreation including off leash dog exercise, much the same as Zone I.

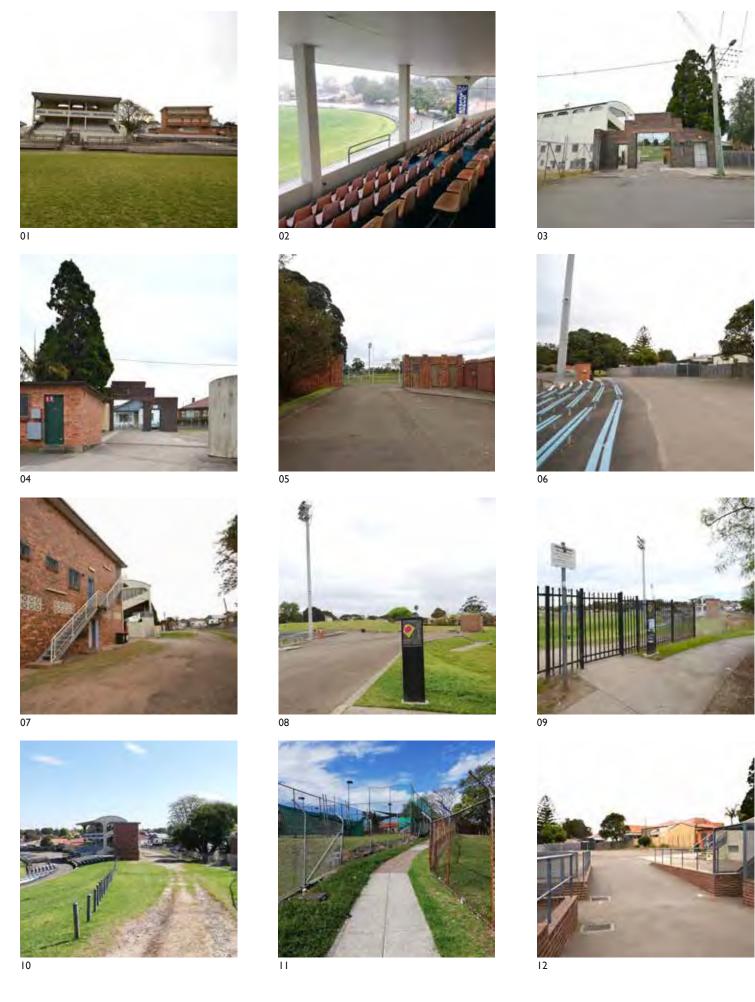
#### Ground cover + tree cover

Zone 3 is characterised by hard predominantly bitumen surfaces.

The Sydenham Road entry, has grass and some established trees but is not particularly welcoming or attractive.

The carpark has grassed areas and trees around the perimeter.

The stretch of grass between the Amy Street entry and the amenities building is described in sports and recreation.



01. Grandstand and amenities building / 02. 'Jet set lounge' upper level grandstand seating / 03. Charlie Meader gates and adjacent service entrance from Centennial Street / 04. View towards Charlie Meader gates / 05. Entry from Sydenham Road / 06. Timber seating adjoining bitumen road / 07. Back of house and degraded road surface / 08. Signage and view towards southern parking area / 09. Entry from Amy Street via playground / 10. Bollards and degraded track from Centennial Street / 11. Separate chainwaire fenced path from Centennial Street to Amy Street playground / 12. Grandstand forecourt and residential boundary fencing beyond

#### Services

There are water tanks adjacent to the grandstand building and these are used for watering the playing field.

Just inside the Charlie Meader Memorial gates there is a substation. This has a right of way and easement for electricity purposes.

Adjacent to the Sydenham Road entry there is an old style sewer stack.

Stormwater infrastructure is located beneath the grandstand, and the Sydenham Road entry. This connects to lines under Northcote Street which direct water into a brick stormwater canal.

Based on the Analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Zone 3.

There are opportunities to:

- Update sporting infrastructure to improve the spectator experience, meet accessibility requirements and attract high calibre matches.
- Build upon the strong identity of Henson Park, as a unique and laid-back sporting venue
- Soften hard surfaces with planting for shade, stormwater management and habitat.
- Upgrade and reconfigure player amenities to suit all user groups
- Assess and improve the sustainability of the grandstand, amenities buildings and associated infrastructure
- Explore lighting and security measures to deter antisocial behaviour
- Develop a system to inform visitors when the park will be used for sporting and other events
- Support a greater range of activities in this precinct to foster use on non-game days.
- Develop an interpretive signage and art strategy to engage visitors with Henson Park's rich history.
- Refurbish the public amenities block to provide accessible and baby change facilities, and improved natural light.
- Remove duplicate fencing and provide dedicated pathways which are accessible and lit to improve the pedestrian experience
- Formalise areas for fixed parking spaces and car through routes, with traffic slowing measures to improve pedestrian safety. Free up areas for other activities when not needed for parking.
- Create inviting gateways to the park, and reduce conflicts between pedestrians, vehicles, bicycles and dogs.







#### Overview

Zone 4 is located in the northwestern corner of the site and contains the tennis club and associated parking area. Facilities include the clubhouse building with bar and restaurant, amenities, 7 tennis courts and outdoor shelters. Perimeter fencing and service areas physically isolate this precinct from the rest of the park. Despite this isolation, the club is well used by competitive and social tennis players, and the restaurant is popular especially for weekend functions.

#### Character

Zone 4 is disconnected from the rest of the park. High fencing, the location of entries and service areas create a hostile perception from the outside. Beyond the fencing is a haven for tennis players and restaurant goers. The facilities are from a bygone era, although dated this gives an informal charm.

### Signage

The carpark gate has signage for the tennis courts with information on booking courts and operating hours. The gate has a closed sign which is visible when it is shut.

The clubhouse entry chainwire fencing has a temporary banner advertising the Newtown Junior Jets, along with security surveillance signage.

The clubhouse building has duplicate tennis court signage, along with signage for the restaurant 'Casa Do Benfica' and lettering for the Marrickville Hardcourt Tennis District Club - although no hard courts remain. The restaurant signage contains no information on specific opening hours, events or booking details. Once inside the club it is unclear where to go to book courts, and whether courts are already booked.

An updated and consistent approach to signage would be beneficial.

### **Built Structures**

The tennis clubhouse building was completed in 1961. It is a brick and fibre cement clad building, with membrane and corrugated metal roofing. Although dated, the clubhouse is in reasonable condition.

Other structures include a brick amenities and storeroom building, two brick shelters and two timber gazebos - all are in reasonable condition. These are located at the back of the tennis courts for use by tennis players.

### Lighting

The tennis courts are lit at night and are open until 11pm. The light spills over and illuminates the parkland adjacent to the Amy Street entry. This allows for passive surveillance and improves the sense of safety in this area. The tennis clubhouse building has external and internal light fittings, and the parking area is lit with pole mounted fittings.

#### **Facilities**

Facilities include a restaurant with adjacent bar and poker machines, and separate amenities for visitors and tennis players. The restaurant serves Portuguese food and is popular on weekends. It contains a large seating hall with stage which can be rented for private functions.

#### Fences + enclosure

The tennis club perimeter adjoining the park has high chain wire fencing, with barbed wire on top. While this gives a hostile impression, the visual permeability of the fencing allows for passive surveillance of the park and improves the perception of the safety of adjacent areas - particularly fencing to the eastern tennis courts..

The tennis courts also have chainwire fencing, in some instances this creates a double layer of fencing when combined with the perimeter fencing.

The carpark has a low entry gate from Centennial Street and a parking barrier adjoining zone 3. The entry gates close at 11pm.

The west and north western boundaries are defined by a mixture of residential fence types.

### Access points + existing pathways

Access to the clubhouse is unwelcoming and poorly defined. Visitors enter via the southern side of the building, where they encounter bins and the back of house area is visible. To reach this entry, pedestrians are also forced to walk through the carpark.

There is evidence of a former entry path opposite the paved area between the grandstand and amenities. Fencing and the location of the back of house facilities prevents use of this route.

### Vehicular access roads + car parks

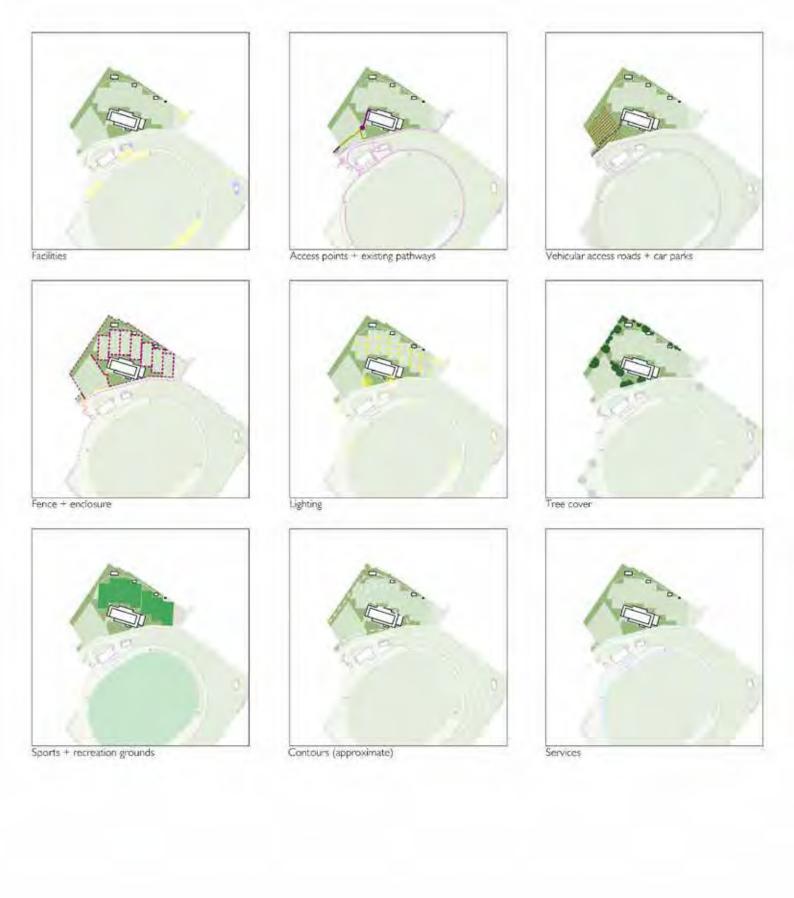
Vehicle access is via Centennial Street, and is directly adjacent to the Charlie Meader Memorial Gates and the service entry behind the grandstand building. This results in a lot of hard surfaces and a hostile appearance.

The car park contains 61 parking spaces for club and general community tennis players.

During sporting matches, there is conflict and congestion as cars attempt to enter via Centennial Street, at times entering the tennis car park and competing for parking with tennis club patrons. This is an inconvenience for Centennial Street residents. The driveway of the former caretakers residence at 31 Centennial Street is actually located just after the entry to the tennis car park.

Service access and deliveries use the same route as visitors. Subsequently bins and back of house delivery areas are on show when entering the club which creates a poor impression.

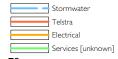


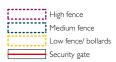














### Sports + recreation grounds

There are 7 artificially turfed tennis courts which are used for lessons, competition and casual games. Courts 3 and 4 are affected by sinking as a result of poor fill beneath.

Courts can be booked in person or via telephone call.

The tennis club closes at 11pm each night, and courts are lit and available for use in the evening. Gazebos and amenities are accessed via adjacent tennis courts which can be disruptive to play.

#### Ground cover + tree cover

The car park is predominantly hard surfaces. Established trees and grassed areas around the north western boundary provide some relief. The entrance to the club is softened by mature trees including a sizable bottle brush. Trees, perimeter planting and grassed areas create a lush atmosphere around the tennis courts.

#### Services

Stormwater infrastructure is located adjacent to the carpark and within the tennis club grounds. The site was formerly a brickpit which was drained and filled. Over time there has been subsidence.





01. View from entry towards grassed forecourt area / 02. Carpark looking towards back of grandstand / 03. Carpark with grassy mounds and residential boundary fencing beyond / 04. Pedestrian entry via carpark / 05. Centennial Street carpark entry / 06. View from separated pathway towards Centennial Street / 07. Parking adjoining separated pathway / 08. Entry via bins and loading area / 09. Restaurant entry / 10. Tennis court / 11. Covered seating overlooking tennis courts / 12. Restaurant interior Page 81

Based on the Analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Zone 4.

There are opportunities to:

- Improve the presentation of the club and it's interface with the rest of the park
- Develop a consistent signage strategy and identity
- Rationalise booking systems and better inform visitors when facilities are in use
- Encourage greater community use through events and promotion
- Accessibility upgrades to paths, entries, amenities and sporting facilities to suit wheelchair users
- Improve pedestrian safety with dedicated pathways separated from the carpark.
- Establish an attractive entry forecourt area
- Consolidate and screen bins and back of house areas
- Incorporate planting and WSUD strategies into the carpark to filter stormwater and provide some shade.





 $View\ from\ Centennial\ Street\ towards\ the\ Charlie\ Meader\ Memorial\ Gates.\ Photography\ by\ Welsh\ +\ Major\ Architects.$ 





### **OVERVIEW + ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

# 1.0 Summary

Inner West Council engaged the community on their enjoyment of Henson Park, with a view to the preparation of a ten-year plan for the Reserve, which includes a Plan of Management and a Master Plan. Community engagement was carried out via the online platform Your Say Inner West (YSIW), an interactive engagement session at the Marrickville Festival and two drop-in sessions at Henson Park.

# 1.1 Background

Plans of management must be prepared for all types of parks on community land. Inner West Council has established a parks planning priority list, which nominates which open spaces it feels are in greatest need of new or updated Plans of Management. Henson Park has been nominated as high priority within the Inner West Council area. Previous plans of management were prepared by the former Marrickville Council for the sportsground and park, and for the tennis centre and carpark at Henson Park. Adopted in late 2001and early 2002, these plans are well beyond the 10 year validity period for a plan of management.

### 1.2 Promotion

The engagement initiative was promoted by a number of means, including:

- Your Say Inner West project page
- On-site signage
- Media release
- Social media
- E-news
- Council website
- Email to identified groups
- Interactive engagement session at the Marrickville Festival

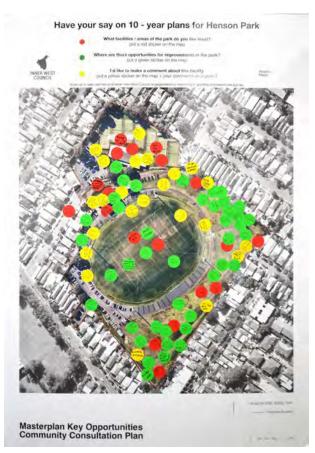
All promotion collateral directed people to the online submission form on YSIW and to the two park drop-in sessions.

# 2.0 Engagement Outcomes

Outcomes of community engagement have been separated into feedback received at the drop-sessions and feedback received through the online survey.

# 2.1 Drop-in sessions

Inner West Council's held an interactive engagement session at the Marrickville Festival on 20.10.19 a day before the Your Say Inner West project page opened.



Above & below: Drop-in session information boards & feedback



### **DROP IN SESSIONS**

Festival goers given the opportunity to stick post it notes on a large map of the park commenting on what works well and what might need to be brought to the attention of IWC.

Two drop in sessions were held at Henson Park, one on Wednesday evening 06.11.19, 5.30-7pm, and the other on Saturday morning 09.11.19, 10-11.30am.

The material consisted of two A1 panels, which displayed an overall map of the park and some images of current parts of the park or activities and features of other parks in order to prompt discussion.

Printed boards outlined key activities, both existing and proposed, as well as a map indicating the site area. Members of the public were asked to identify the facilities and areas they liked the most, and which facilities and areas they felt had room for improvement. Comments on additional items were also welcomed.

Park visitors who approached were asked to identify facilities and areas that they liked the most, and which facilities they felt had room for improvement, through coloured stickers on the panels. Comments on areas for improvement were also welcomed. The sessions were productive with a number of park visitors approaching the team and engaging with the material to have their say. The comments have been themed and are presented without hierarchy.

There were no organised sports matches during the sessions as the NRL and AFL seasons are over. Generally the consultation attendees lived locally and had walked to the reserve, many with their dogs.

The second consultation was more heavily attended. Attendees were concerned about the notification period, the impact greater sporting club involvement could bring, loss of access to the park, and issues with safety and parking.

Community feedback has been themed for ease of reference.

## Movement and parking

- Users requested some formal paths and extended hardstand around the Woodland Street amenities to address muddy areas
- There was a lot of concern around parking and traffic management. Centennial Street residents sought improvements to event parking and traffic management to reduce the inconvenience to residents, and to ensure pedestrian safety.
- The majority of users were against increasing the amount of parking, especially if it reduced the amount of green space.
   They noted the full capacity is used only occasionally, and suggested shuttle buses and arrangements with nearby schools would be more appropriate.
- Tennis club users were unhappy with the impact of events on their parking area. At times the parking is taken for events, or congestion on Centennial Street limits access

which is problematic for visitors with mobility requirements.

- The Sydenham Road entry was noted as having poor amenity for pedestrians.
- Some users would like to see a shared circuit around the edge of the playing field for exercise
- A staircase from the Woodland Street amenities down to the perimeter track, and more playing field entries were suggested to improve access to these areas.

#### Recreational use

- Users requested lighting, safety and access improvements to enable early morning and evening use.
- There was a lot of support for retaining off-leash dog areas in the park. Many users noted their preference to bring their dogs to Henson Park as the only off leash dog area in the immediate vicinity that isn't surrounded by roads. A number of users without dogs noted they visited the park specifically to enjoy watching the dogs. Some suggestions for improvement included better patrols for dog owners not doing the right thing, and buffer areas or barriers between on and off-leash areas particularly near parking areas
- A number of users were in favour of a community fitness area
- Users expressed their enjoyment of places to sit and observe activities in the park – in particular the tennis club, and the grassy slopes for watching sports matches and dogs. The informal nature of these spaces was valued
- There was support for increased organised community events and activities in the park such as outdoor yoga, dog training sessions and dance classes in the tennis club hall.
- Users identified less frequented flat areas as having potential to support a greater range of activities in the park. Suggested activities include a kick wall, cricket nets, outdoor gym, basketball half stand and handball court, skate park and community garden.
- Some users were keen to see the inclusion of a track for cycling and running.

### Playing fields and organised sport

- A number of participants wanted to see more community use of the oval, along with a greater diversity of sports i.e. soccer, summer cricket, and the return of 'vigoro'.
- The poor condition of player facilities, and lack of facilities for female players were flagged as priority items to address.
- Sports spectators and non-sports spectators were supportive
  of a new PA system. They noted the poor sound quality
  and volume control of the current system reduced their
  enjoyment of the park.
- Many respondents expressed strong opposition to synthetic



### **DROP IN SESSIONS**

playing surfaces.

 Participants who use the playing field for exercise were keen to see their access maintained.

### Lighting

- Spill over and inconsistent operating hours were noted as issues with the current playing field lighting.
- Many users were keen for the park to be better lit for early morning and evening recreation. The operating hours and potential nuisance to residents were flagged as issues to be carefully addressed.
- A number of users felt lighting improvements would increase their sense of safety at night, and also help to deter antisocial behaviour.

#### Facilities and furniture

- Users were supportive of new or upgraded amenities, noting the lack of accessible and baby change facilities, poor lighting, poor presentation and inconsistent locking times as issues with the current facilities.
- Some participants wished to have an on site coffee shop, while others were less supportive as there are local businesses in close proximity.
- A number of participants with children suggested some kids spaces integrated into the park would be beneficial.
- There was a lot of support for retention of the tennis club and restaurant with some minor upgrades.
- Users were keen to see sustainable technologies and strategies incorporated in the park upgrades, particularly solar panels, LED lighting, rain + stormwater treatment and harvesting.
- There was a lot of support for more seating in ambient and shaded locations around the park, and for more water stations. Some users were keen to see barbeque and party facilities
- Dog owners requested more bins and bag dispensers in more locations for dealing with dog waste. There was also support for a dog pond.
- Users requested improved provisions for waste disposal specifically the inclusion of recycling bins, more bins in more locations, and more sustainable methods for dealing with waste
- Many participants requested bike racks to encourage visitors to arrive via bike.
- Notice boards and/or a Henson Park website were suggested to keep residents and visitors informed of future events so

they can plan their activities to suit.

### Biodiversity and green space

- There was huge support for more shade trees. Increased native planting to provide habitat and food for birds was also a priority. A number of users mentioned that they enjoyed watching the different visiting species throughout the year.
- Many residents cited the green spaces as their favourite part of the park. Loss of access to these spaces during upgrades and events was a big concern.

# Sense of place

- The majority of users were keen for the park to remain essentially as it is, with some minor upgrades.
- Gentrification, over programming, over development and loss of public access were key concerns. Users stressed the importance of maintaining the informal character and laid back vibe of the park.
- A greater presence of the site's history and interpretation of this was identified as something that would enhance visiting the park.
- A number of participants mentioned the 'Henson Park' lettering as something they would like to see reinstated.

#### Maintenance

- Areas respondents felt were in need of maintenance include the grassy sloped areas to address dry patches, and the degraded bitumen surfaces behind the grandstand
- The entry gates and lettering, the grandstand and the two amenities blocks were also flagged as requiring maintenance.

# 2.2 Online survey

An online survey was conducted in October and November 2019 through the 'Your Say Inner West' (YSIW) website, seeking feedback on a range of questions regarding Henson Park. The survey included multiple-choice and essay style questions and was open for public response for five weeks from 21.10.19 to 17.11.19.

The project page received 723 visits. 278 visitors participated in viewing documents and information, of whom 192 visitors contributed to the online submission form.

Quantitative responses to the multiple-choice questions are displayed visually in the Engagement Outcomes section below. Text based responses to the essay style questions have been grouped into themes, and issues which featured the most prominently have been summarised below.

No written responses were made on behalf of organisations.

A number of essay style questions were asked, to establish

community opinion of Henson Park in more detail.

- Q1: 'What are the main reasons you visit Henson Park? Please tick all that apply' (see figure 1 below)
- Q2: 'How often do you visit Henson Park?' (see figure 2 overleaf)
- Q3: 'How do you get to Henson Park?'

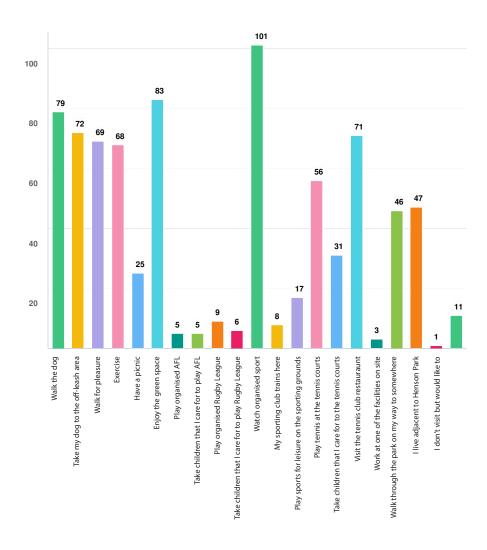


Figure 1. Responses to QI: 'What are the main reasons you visit Henson Park?'



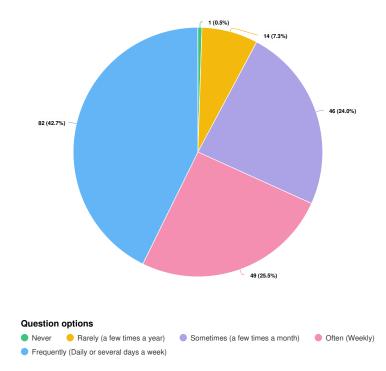


Figure 2. Responses to Q2: 'How often do you visit Henson Park?'

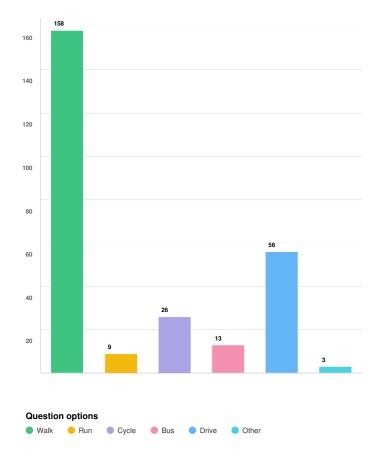


Figure 3. Responses to Q3: 'How do you get to Henson Park?'

(see figure 3 overleaf)

Q4: 'Please describe what you value about Henson Park.
You may like to describe what it looks like, how you use it or how it makes you feel.'

Responses to this question were overwhelmingly positive and emotive, focusing on users' appreciation of the green space which they interact with when using Henson Park. A number of users described the park as an 'oasis' or 'hidden gem'. Many users noted the benefit of this open space on both their physical and mental health and wellbeing. Many users expressed their enjoyment of sporting events and the spectator experience.

The root of what users valued most about Henson Park was repeatedly attributed to:

- The close proximity of a substantial pocket of nature to the built environment;
- The size and scale of open space;
- The elevated views of the sports field, and the wonderful sunrises and sunsets
- The grassy areas, as an oasis of calm and tranquillity;
- Interaction with dogs, their owners and the community;
- Having a large, unstructured and enclosed area which is safe for dogs to use off leash, and for children to play.
- Availability of open space for use by casual and organised recreation/ exercise.
- The range of activities catered for by the park
- Attending organised sport and other events, and the spectator experience.
- The relaxed atmosphere, character and affordability of the tennis club and restaurant
- The heritage value of the park, including its historic feel, nostalgic value and sporting history.
- The affiliation with the Newtown Jets as their home ground

Q5:'What don't you like about Henson Park?'

- The threat of commercialisation and development of the site
- The restrictions increased sporting use could place on general free community access to the park.
- Event traffic management and parking, particularly for Centennial Street residents and tennis club visitors.
   Congestion, safety issues, damage to residents cars, and the impact on resident parking were key issues.
- The antisocial behaviours of some sports attendees leaving the park drunk and loud.
- The quantity of waste left around the park by attendees of sports matches and other events.
- The facilities need to be upgraded to support sporting use, and to improve the spectator experience.
- That the facilities are visually run down and generally in poor condition.

- The lack of prior notification for sports and other events. I
  can't use the park when there is a paid event, and access is
  restricted well before and after the event.
- The long-term damaging impact of allowing cars to drive and park on the grass for sports and other events.
- The scoreboard is hard to see, especially when it is sunny
- The poor quality speaker system and use of it during low attendance matches.
- Limited food and beverage options at games
- The grandstand and seating are too far from the field and the grandstand needs updating.
- The placement of generators, barbeques and event infrastructure near adjoining properties.
- There are no women's sports matches, and no facilities for female players.
- The management of intrusive sports field lighting light spills across to residents and sometimes the lights are on when there is no training.
- The lighting is not suitable for broadcasting matches.
- The lack of parking on game days
- The lack of signage and information about ways other than driving to get to the site.
- There is no sport to watch in summer
- Not enough use of the playing field by local teams and the community.
- The public amenities blocks. Specifically their appearance, condition and amenity - poor lighting levels day and night, irregular opening hours, no accessible or baby change facilities, varying opinions on state of cleanliness.
- Dog owners who don't supervise their pets, or pick up after them.
- The dominance of off-leash dogs makes it difficult to have a picnic, and to exercise dogs on the leash.
- · The lack of shelter from the sun, wind and rain
- There is only one non-spectator seat in the park, more seats are needed.
- Not enough water fountains
- There are not enough bins and bin locations, and there are no recycling bins.
- · I feel unsafe visiting the park at night
- I can't use the park when it's dark in the morning or at night because there are no lights and the gates are locked
- The bitumen surfaces around the grandstand and car park are in poor condition and aren't kid friendly.

- No bike parking areas
- Dangerous driving through car park and the safety risk for pedestrians and dogs.
- The footpath from Amy Street playground to Centennial Street is very dark at night and also too narrow. Two can't fit passing and there are many bikes/walkers/prams.
- Pedestrian and cyclist conflicts when using the sports field perimeter track
- The bare areas around the edges of site
- The derelict wire fencing around the perimeter of parts of the site
- The separation of the tennis club and park
- There are not enough tennis courts, especially on weekends when they are booked out.
- The Sydenham Road entry is unattractive and unsafe where the footpath ends
- The expanse of hard surfaces and car parking
- There are no gardens or areas of native vegetation, the extra grass parking is only used a few days of the year.
- There are not enough trees
- The grassed areas need better maintenance it is only fixed when it becomes a dust bowl.
- The walking circuit is interrupted by the car park
- · The paths are muddy and uneven
- The grandstand is used for antisocial activities at night, leftover glass and syringes make it unsafe.

Q6: 'What improvements would you like to see to Henson Park?'

Responses to this question mirrored many of the themes which had been highlighted as 'dislikes' in the previous question, and reinforced themes which had been 'liked' in the first essay question.

- Nothing that removes the feel of it being a traditional venue, and the way it brings the community together.
- More community use, less organised sport
- Extend the hours of operation of the park and its facilities.
   Provide lighting for evening and morning use, while minimising spill over to nearby residents.
- Cleaner, better, well-lit toilets with baby change and accessible facilities, regular opening hours and maintenance
- · More shelter
- Access and surface improvements with linking pathways around the park
- Markers outlining the history of Henson park, to give people



the chance to understand how the park has evolved with the community.

- Improvements in the greening of the space including more perimeter trees for shade and habitat, low planting and gardens.
- · Reducing the expanse of hard surfaces and parking.
- Better chemical-free maintenance of grassed areas to address damage from dogs and vehicles. Limit vehicle access to grassed areas for events.
- Pedestrian safety improvements to vehicle entries and parking areas
- Develop and enforce an event transport and parking strategy.
   This could include timed parking in residential streets, bike parking, a shuttle bus service from Sydenham Station and ongoing parking arrangements with neighbouring schools.
- Upgraded player amenities to cater for female players and to address drainage and plumbing issues,.
- · Attract higher calibre matches
- Grandstand upgrade, new scoreboard and public address system to improve spectator experience.
- Better communications to keep residents in the loop when events are on. Fairer policies for access to residents - don't keep the gates locked all day
- Better amenities, car parking and food and beverage options on game days.
- Increased storage for people using the field to assist in operations
- More gates and paths for accessing the field for halftime activities. New aesthetically pleasing fencing around the field
- · Better cleanup after matches, ban glass during events
- Dog provisions more bins, bag dispensers and water fountains in more locations. A shallow pool to cool off would be great
- Address the interface with car parking, off and on-leash dog areas.
- Signage, training sessions and enforcement to keep owners aware of their obligations to control and clean up after their dogs to prevent nuisance to other park users.
- More bins in more locations including recycling. Consider alternatives to landfill for dog waste.
- Facilities such as cricket nets, a hockey field and track for wheeled sports.
- More sports variety and use throughout the year including women's sports, junior matches, soccer and cricket
- Subtle multi purpose elements to encourage community

use such as community gardens, nature based play for kids, fitness equipment, seating, outdoor chess and informal sports areas.

- A community hall or clubhouse which can be hired out
- A cafe
- Upgrade but not overhaul of tennis facilities and restaurant so that they are more accessible, improve external aesthetics.
- More seats in ambient locations
- Better lighting for tennis courts, more tennis courts
- Colour and paint to improve aesthetics and provide scope for art and interpretation
- Reduce demand for resources with integration of solar panels, LED lights, rainwater harvesting and reuse, stormwater treatment. Improving the sustainability of buildings would be a great step forward.
- Better venue facilities for additional recreation activities & festivals.
- More community festivals, markets and opportunities for socialising with dogs.
- A soft fall play space rather than so much tar based surfaces so that younger kids could engage in other activities whilst games are on..

Q7: 'What do you think should be the main priority of the parks plans?'

- To reflect community needs, making sure that Henson Park considers and accommodates everyone who wants to use it. It should be family friendly, inviting and inclusive to all visitors, nature and types of casual or organised sport and recreation.
- More female inclusive sports, activities and facilities
- Maximising community use, maintaining and building upon current assets while retaining the parks character.
- Reconciling the different sport and recreation agendas in an inclusive way
- · More trees, shade and shelter
- Better toilet facilities and park furniture
- Upgraded sports facilities for players and spectators, without compromising the relaxed feel of the park, and affordability of attending sports matches
- Dog friendly, and supporting of casual community connection through that.
- · Green space
- Open and accessible
- Supportive of informal exercise and healthy lifestyles.
- Park access and pathways.

- Keeping the casual, relaxed feel
- Sports and recreation
- Weekly morning and evening use
- · Better accessibility for wheelchairs and prams.
- More events which aren't exclusively sports related.
- Retaining off leash areas
- Retaining the tennis courts, club and restaurant

Q8: 'To what extent do you agree with the following statements?' (see figure 4 below)

Successful aspects of Henson Park were highlighted by responses to this question:

- Users feel part of the community when they visit Henson Park:
- Users feel safe when they visit Henson Park during the day;



- Users think Henson Park has a nice character;
- Users find it easy to walk around Henson Park;

Less successful aspects of Henson Park were also highlighted by responses to this question:

- Users feel substantially less safe in the park after dark than during the day;
- Users find it difficult to find information about Henson Park;
- Although not the majority, a number of users feel that Henson Park is not well maintained

Q9: 'Do you have any other comments on Henson Park?'

- Retaining the tennis club, tennis courts, and off-leash dog areas is very important
- Too much modernisation would erode the charm, heritage and unstructured nature of the park. There are few places where you can wander down, watch a game or go for a run and feel so connected to your local space
- There needs to be more balance in the quality of the facilities for the local users of the venue as a park. Green open space is at a premium. Despite being a sports oval the existing use of Henson Park by all community groups should be respected.
- Keep green space and facilities, don't place too much emphasis on parking for occasional sports matches and events.
- The park is a fantastic asset to the community. The current mix of activities is great with the understanding that it needs to maintain a level of quality to attract professional sporting groups. Consider the amount of use of the oval turf before increasing sporting use as it rarely makes it to the end of season despite excellent work by the groundsman.
- We have a responsibility to maintain heritage and enhance built infrastructure with a long-term view.
- Let's get other things happening there besides sport.
- Keep the park inclusive, don't zone off areas for specific people.
- Maintain easy, cheap events and ensure that there are little
  to no barriers for people to enjoy the public space. Big
  events need to be better managed, with more food,
  bathrooms, notification and location of activities on the site
  to minimise the impact on residents.
- Please keep the park open, don't close everything for upgrades



Figure 4. Responses to Q8:'To what extent do you agree with the following statements?'



### OTHER INPUT

# 2.3 Other input

Council received no written responses from organisations during the initial engagement period.

A meeting was held on 28.11.19 with representatives from Inner West Council, the Newtown Jets and AFL NSW - Sydney Swans to gather their feedback. Themes raised in the meeting are summarised below.

- 1. NRL Newtown Jets
- Supportive of continued arrangement to share the grounds with AFL, noting the damage to the field from AFL is far less than from soccer, partly due to the larger area required for AFL. Stakeholders discouraged use of the grounds for soccer; previous use increased maintenance requirements, and the field was unplayable by the 4th month.
- Stakeholders expressed the need to improve the playing surface, and address sinkholes. It needs to be of a certain level for professional players, otherwise the risk of injury is too high.
- Improved player amenities are needed with four changerooms, and reconfiguration of existing facilities to suit first grade matches. Facilities would also need to accommodate female players, there is a possibility of a female Jets team.
- The spectator experience needs to be improved, specifically
  with a new scoreboard as the current one is difficult to see,
  and a new public address system as the current system
  is virtually inaudible. Fixing grandstand seating and
  completing access upgrades were also noted as priorities.
- Funding is of big concern, preference to upgrade/refurbish buildings rather than replace them if more cost effective.
- Acknowledging the history of the Jets association with Henson Park was raised as something to be incorporated into future plans. Visitor 8972 was noted as significant to Jets lore.
- 2. AFL NSW Sydney Swans
- AFL stakeholders also expressed the need to improve the
  playing surface so that it can be classified as a tier 2 level
  field. Facilities upgrades would need to follow for the
  ground to be classed as a tier 2 elite sports facility.
  Upgrades are proposed to visitor and player amenities,
  including amenities for female players, coaches boxes, a
  media viewing area, and grandstand upgrades.
- Options to improve the playing surface were discussed.
   Stakeholders explained a tier 2 surface needs to be predominantly natural turf and kept to a high standard. As such, intensifying current use of the playing surface, along with grassy park areas was discouraged to retain good levels

of grass coverage.

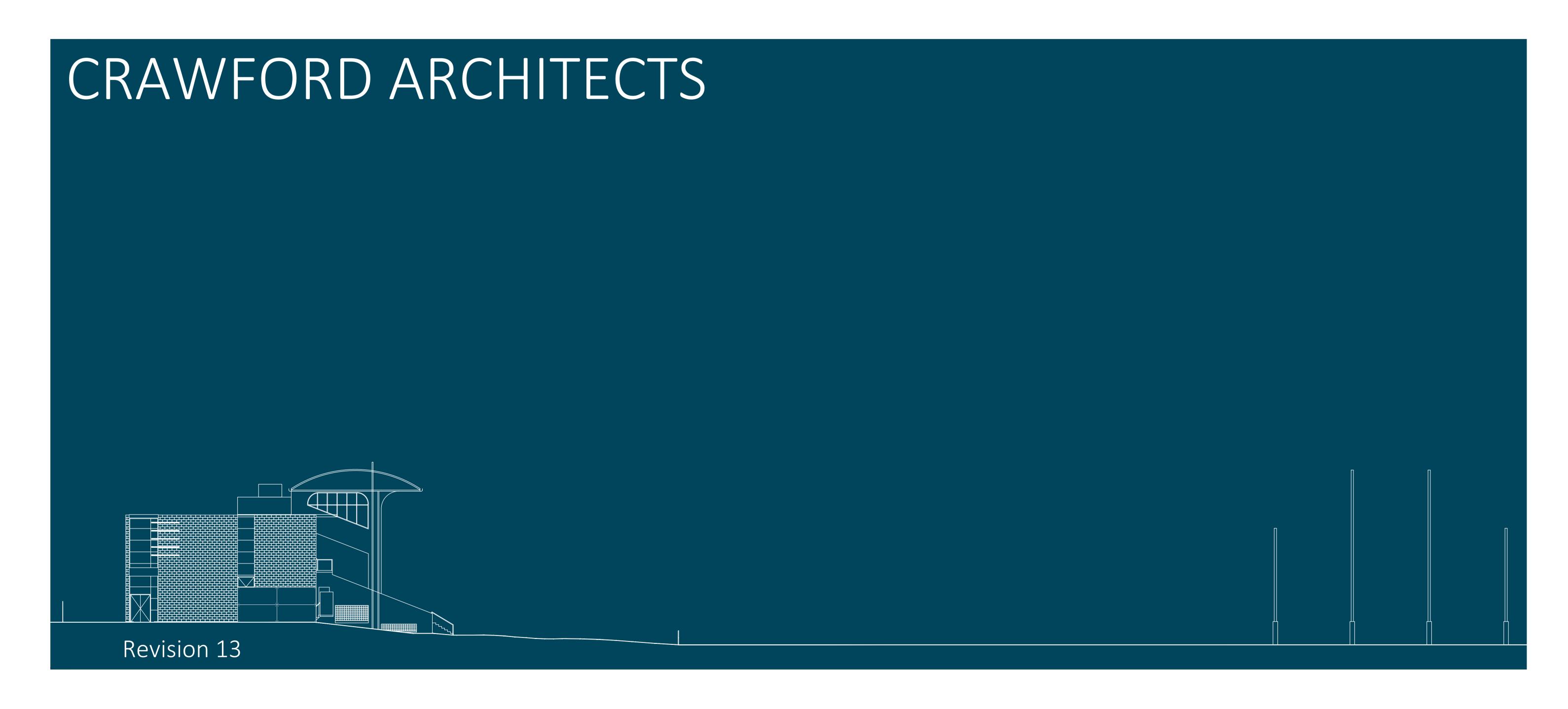
- More durable turf systems were flagged for further investigation - these include reinforced turf with sand substrate, and hybrid turf with 10-15% synthetic fibres.
- Stakeholders noted the significant cost of making the grandstand access and BCA compliant, and requested these costs be borne by the Inner West Council.

#### 3. Inner West Council

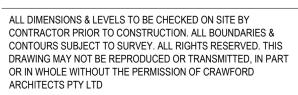
- The current 15,000L water tank capacity is a severe limiting factor to keeping the grounds in good condition. Inner West Council representatives explained only partially watering the field takes many hours as the current tank capacity is inadequate. New water tanks with at least 100,000L combined capacity were recommended to provide sufficient water supply and reduce the time to complete irrigation cycles.
- The damage to the ground and goal posts caused by rotation between NRL and AFL needs to be addressed.
   Inner West Council representatives noted their preference for staff training and management of goal post changeover rather than more costly engineered solutions.











NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS: TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726 THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au





AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

LEVEL 1, SHERIDAN BUILDING | MOORE PARK ROAD |

HENSON PARK

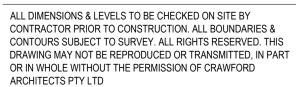
22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

COVERSHEET

APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG DATE FEB 2021

SKETCH SKETCH





DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART
OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD
ARCHITECTS PTY LTD
NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060
ABN 56 120 779 106
NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:
TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GO THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD E arch@crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 
 02
 21.02.15
 ISSUED TO CLIENT

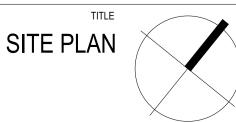
 01
 21.02.12
 PRINTED FOR MEETING
 ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



LEVEL 1, SHERIDAN BUILDING | MOORE PARK ROAD | MOORE PARK | NSW 2021





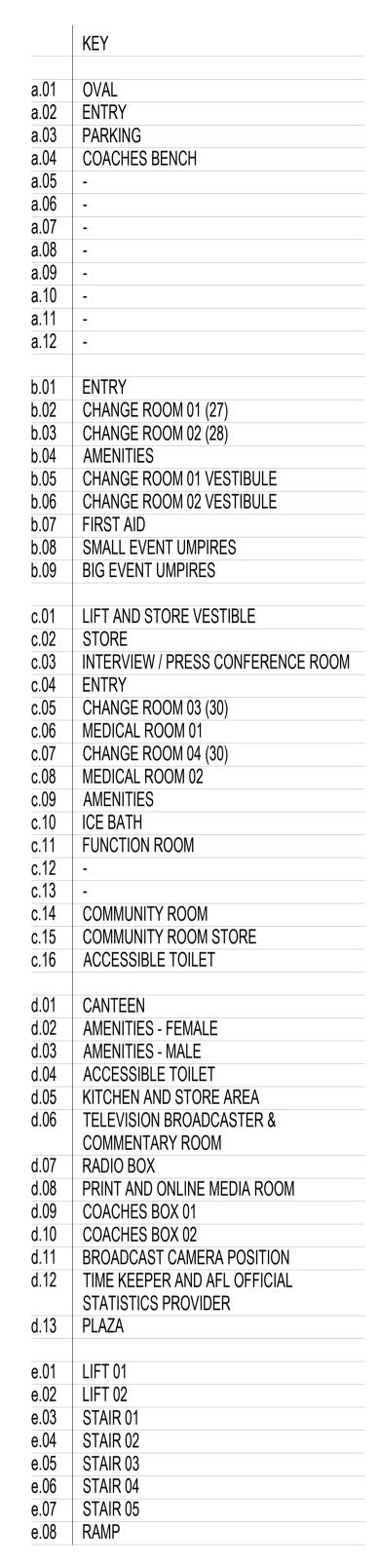


DATE FEB 2021

SKETCH SKETCH

21009 AO10 O4 crawford architects







ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART ABN 56 120 779 106 OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.12 PRINTED FOR MEETING ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS

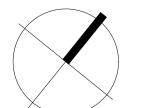


CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

PROJECT HENSON PARK



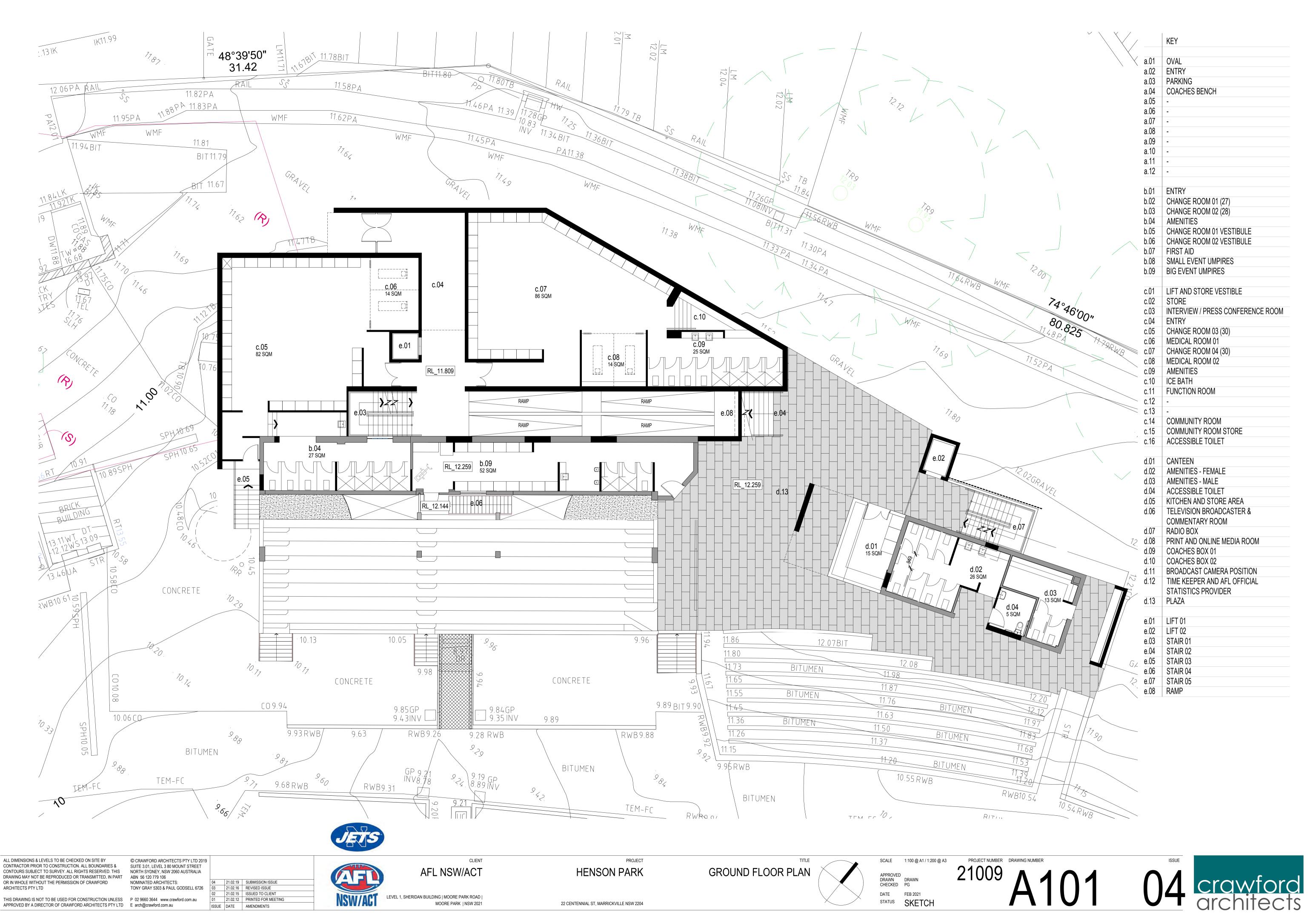


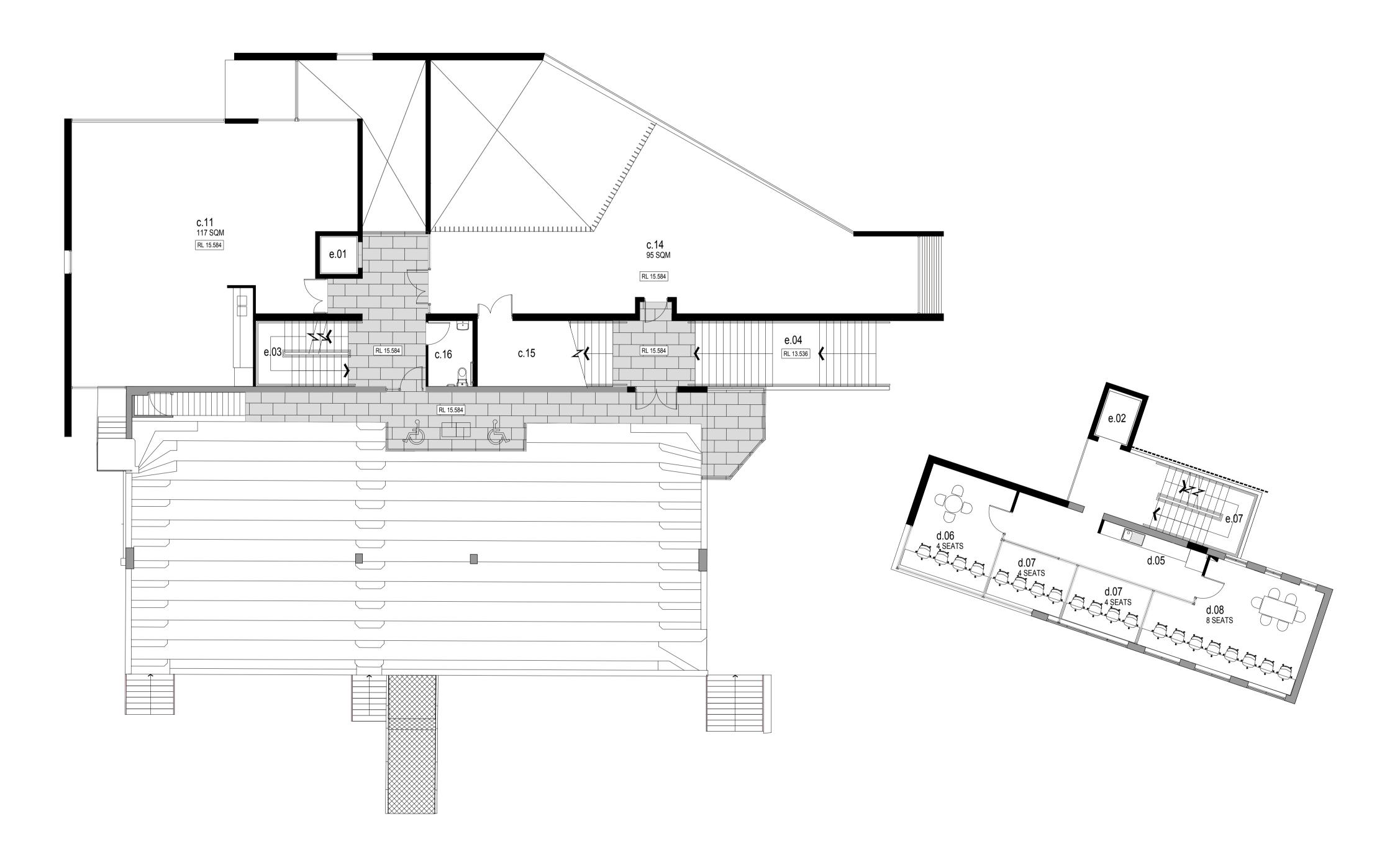
SCALE 1:100 @ A1 / 1:200 @ A3 APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG

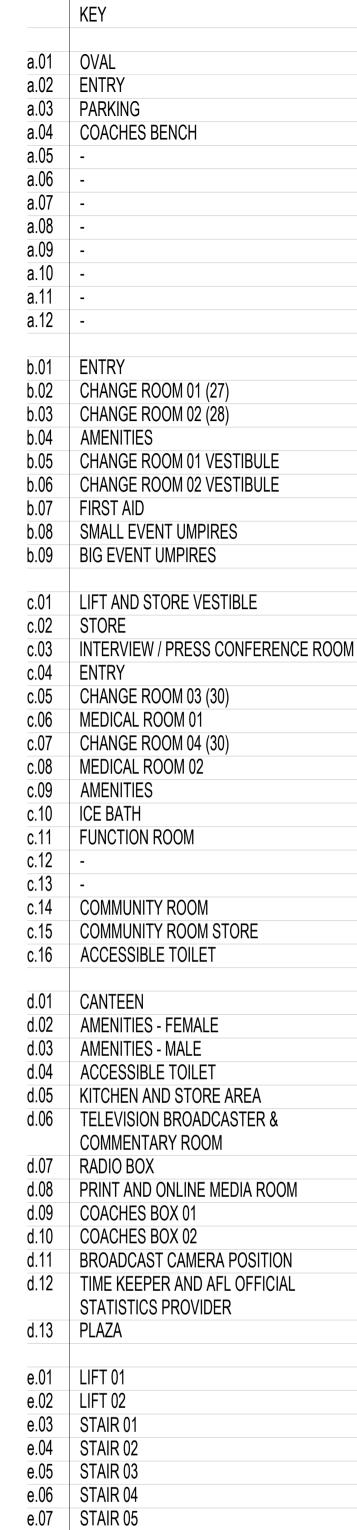
DATE FEB 2021

STATUS SKETCH

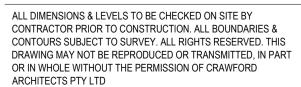
PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER











ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS: THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726 APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD E arch@crawford.com.au

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.12 PRINTED FOR MEETING ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

CLIENT

PROJECT **HENSON PARK** 

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204



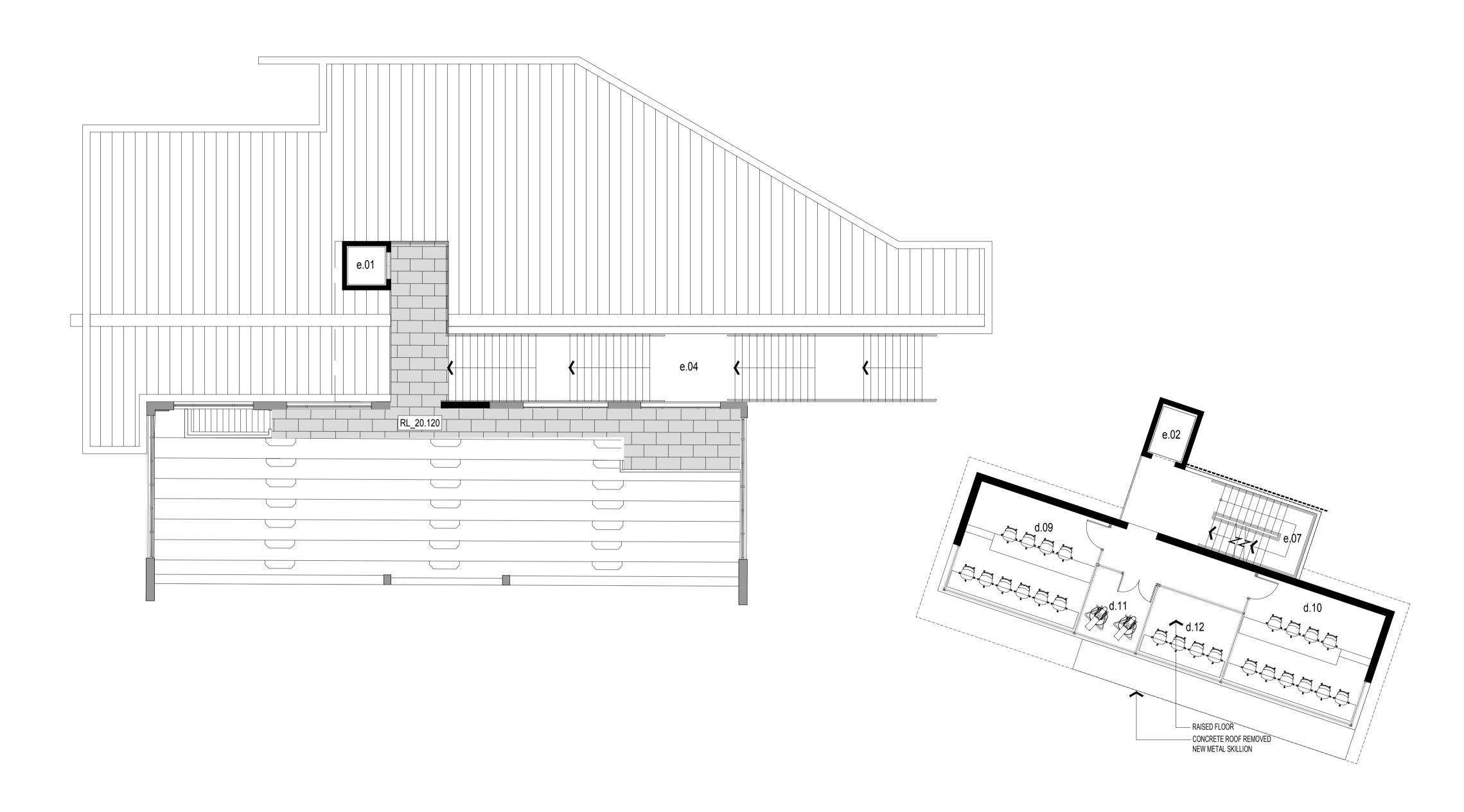


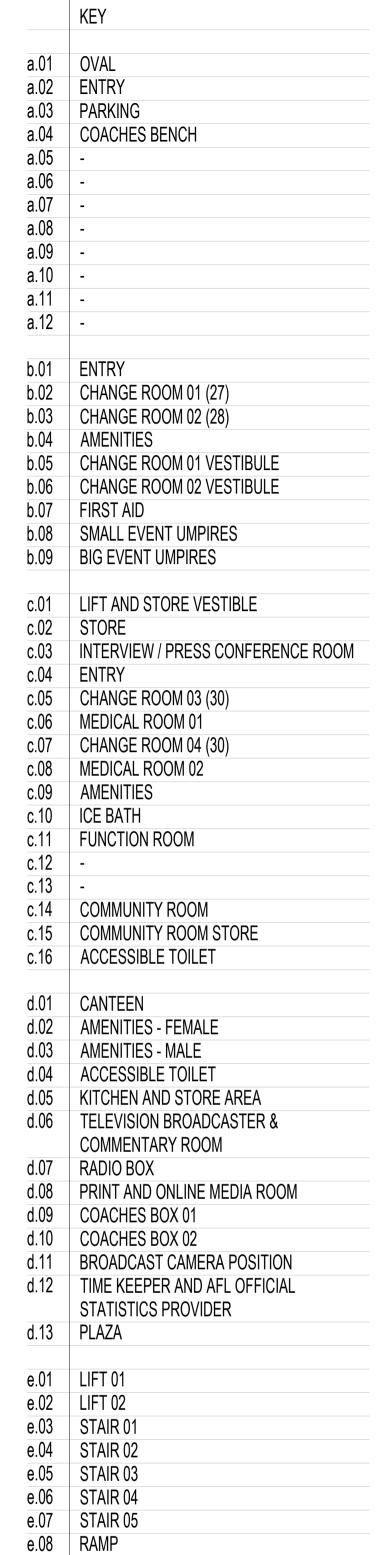
STATUS

SKETCH

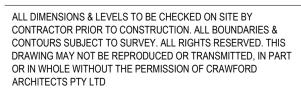


e.08 RAMP









NOMINATED ARCHITECTS: THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD E arch@crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA ABN 56 120 779 106 TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.12 PRINTED FOR MEETING ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

LEVEL 1, SHERIDAN BUILDING | MOORE PARK ROAD |

PROJECT HENSON PARK

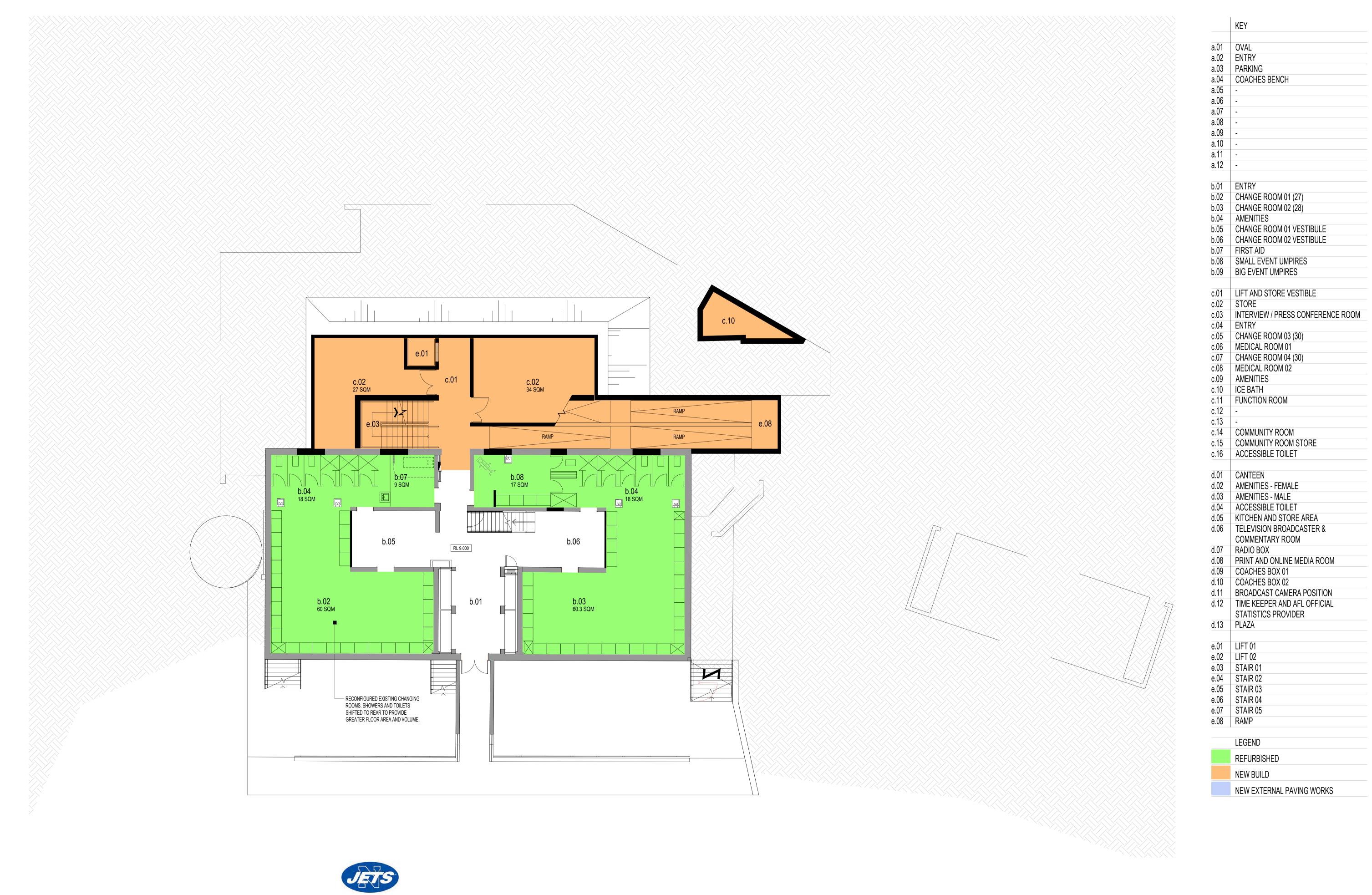
22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204



APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG DATE FEB 2021

SKETCH SKETCH

Page 99



ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CONSULTANT ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

PROJECT HENSON PARK

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204



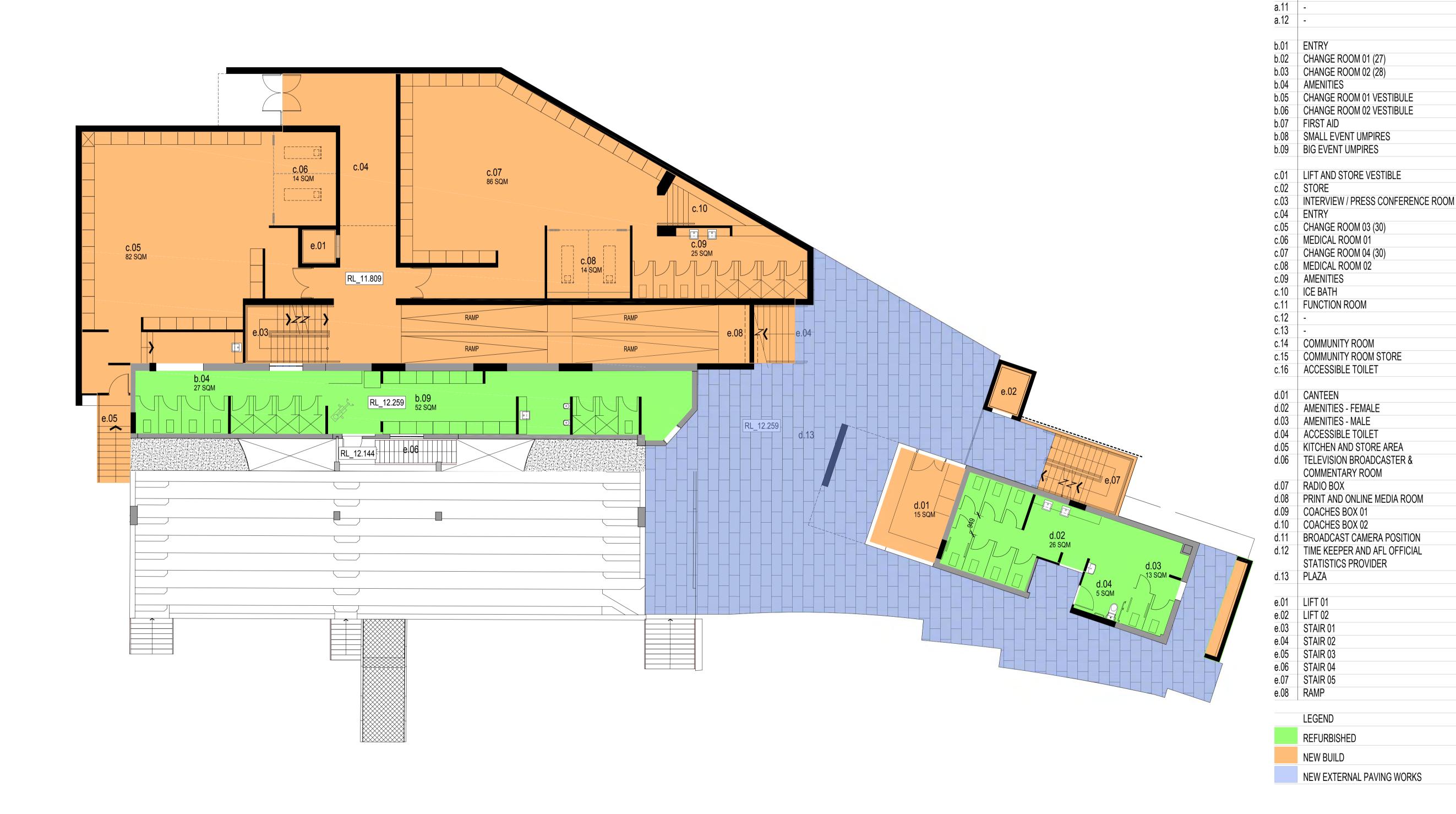
DATE FEB 2021 STATUS SKETCH

SCALE 1:100 @ A1 / 1:200 @ A3 APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG

PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER



© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019

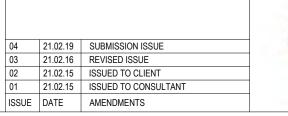




ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART ABN 56 120 779 106 OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

NOMINATED ARCHITECTS: TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CONSULTANT THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au



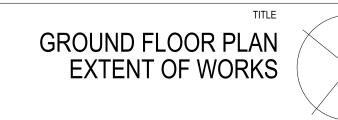
AFL NSW/ACT LEVEL 1, SHERIDAN BUILDING | MOORE PARK ROAD |

CLIENT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

PROJECT **HENSON PARK** 

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204



APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG DATE FEB 2021 STATUS SKETCH

PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER

KEY

ENTRY

PARKING

COACHES BENCH

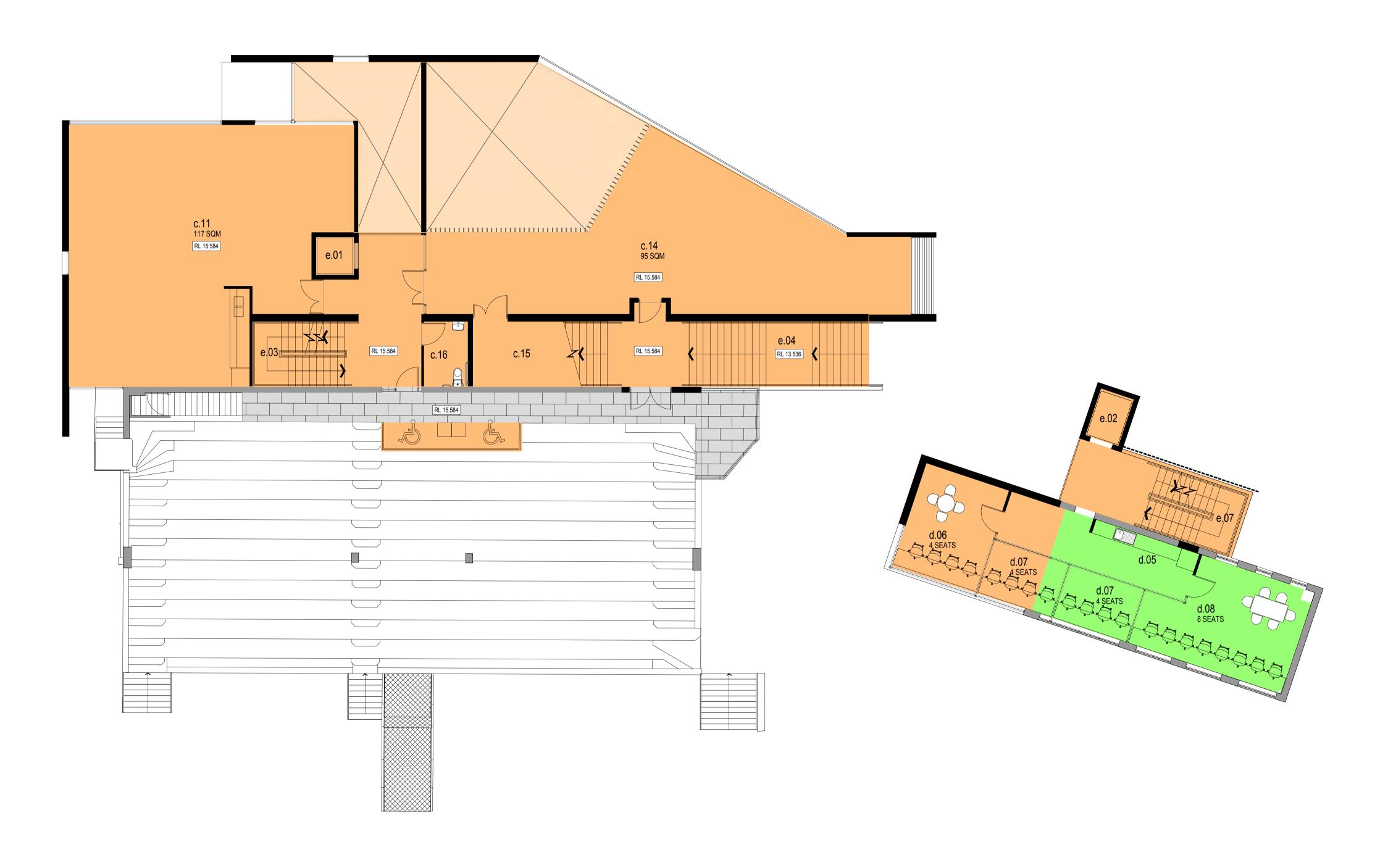
a.01 OVAL

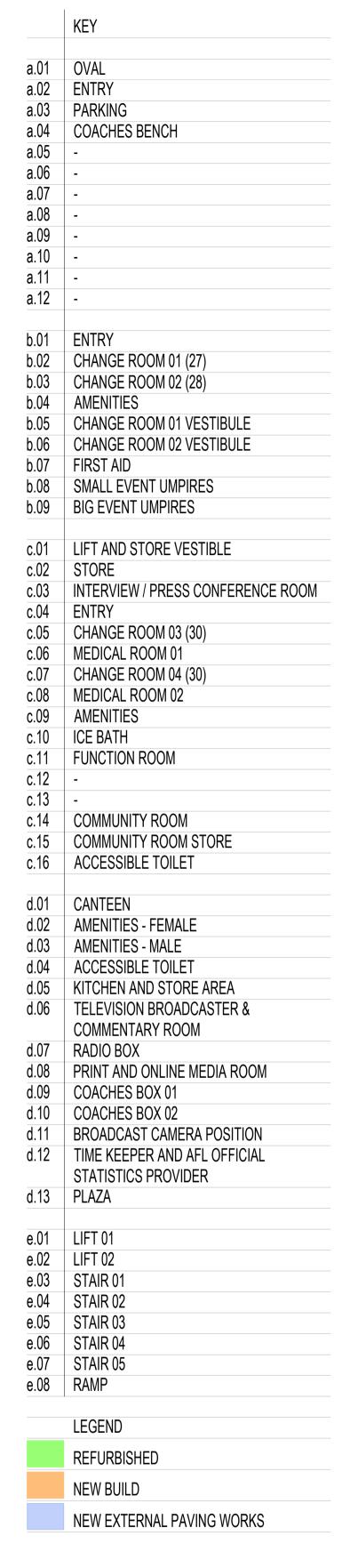
a.02

a.03

a.05

a.09







ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CONSULTANT ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



AFL NSW/ACT

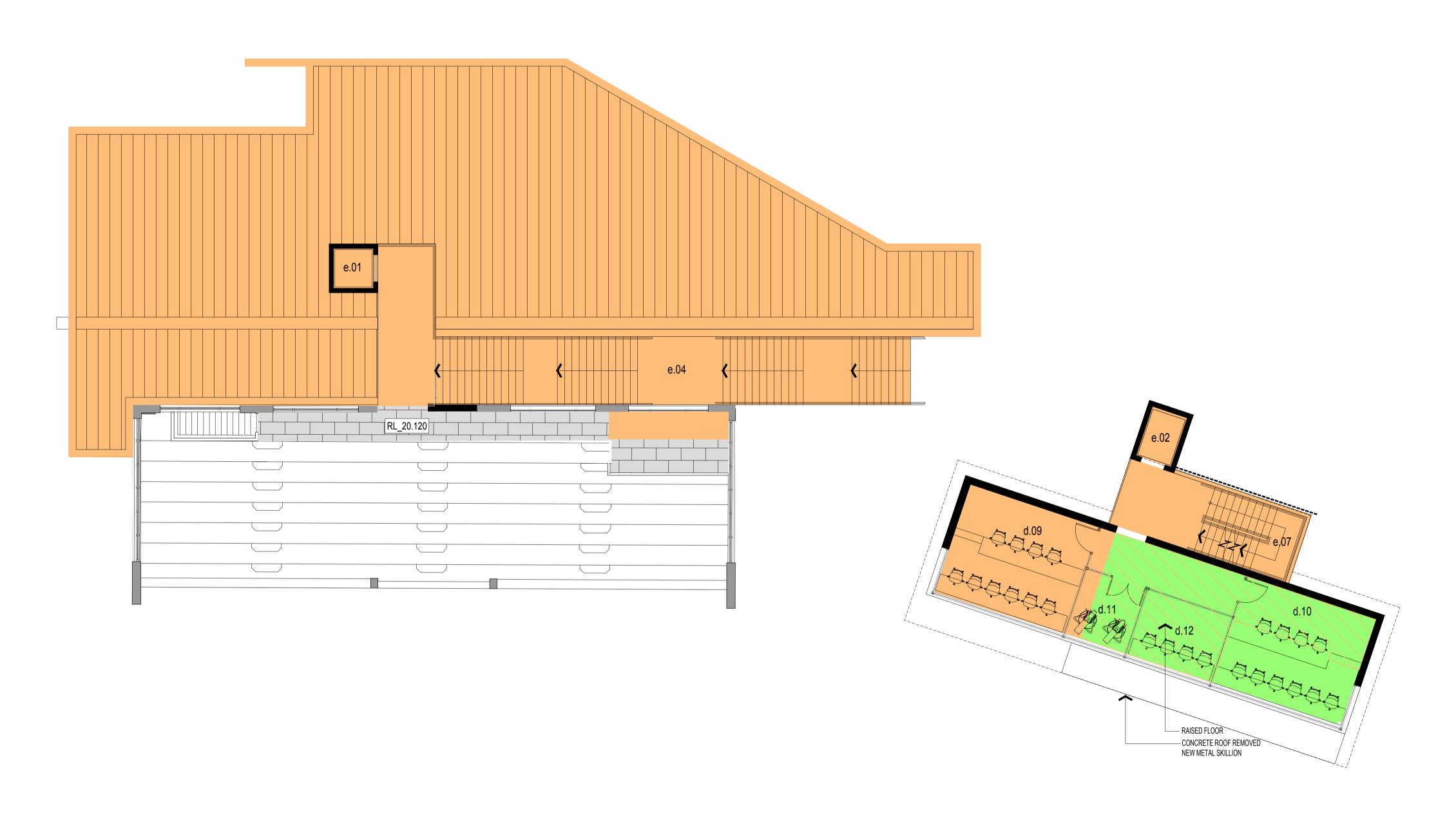
MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

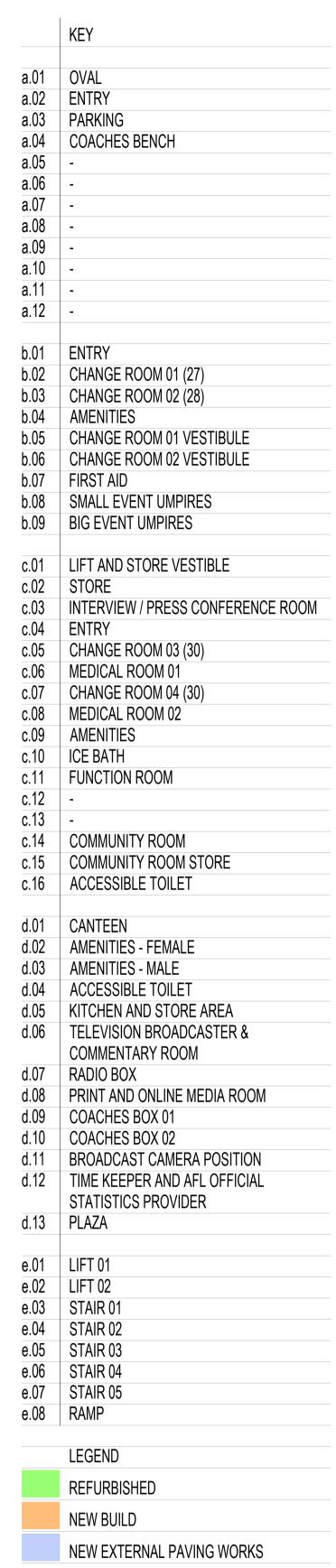
CLIENT

PROJECT **HENSON PARK** 

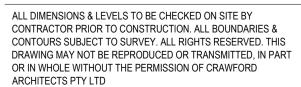
22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204











© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 03 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CONSULTANT ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



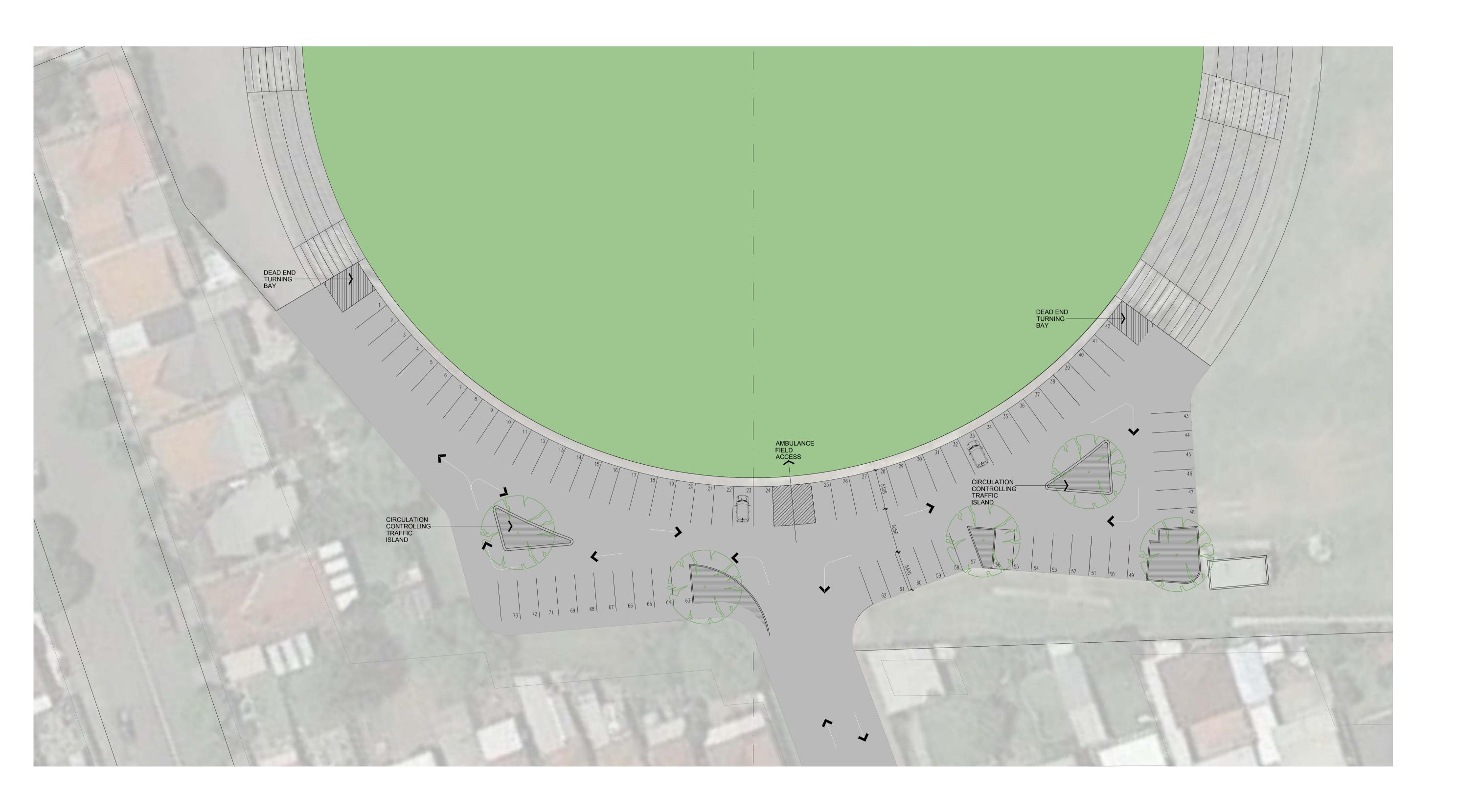
CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

PROJECT HENSON PARK





PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER





ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS

DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART
OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD
ARCHITECTS PTY LTD

NOR IN STDIET, NSW 2000 AGSTRALIA
ABN 56 120 779 106
NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:
TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726 THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD E arch@crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA

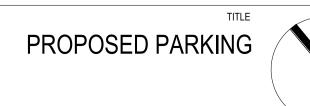
03 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 02 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 01 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS



CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

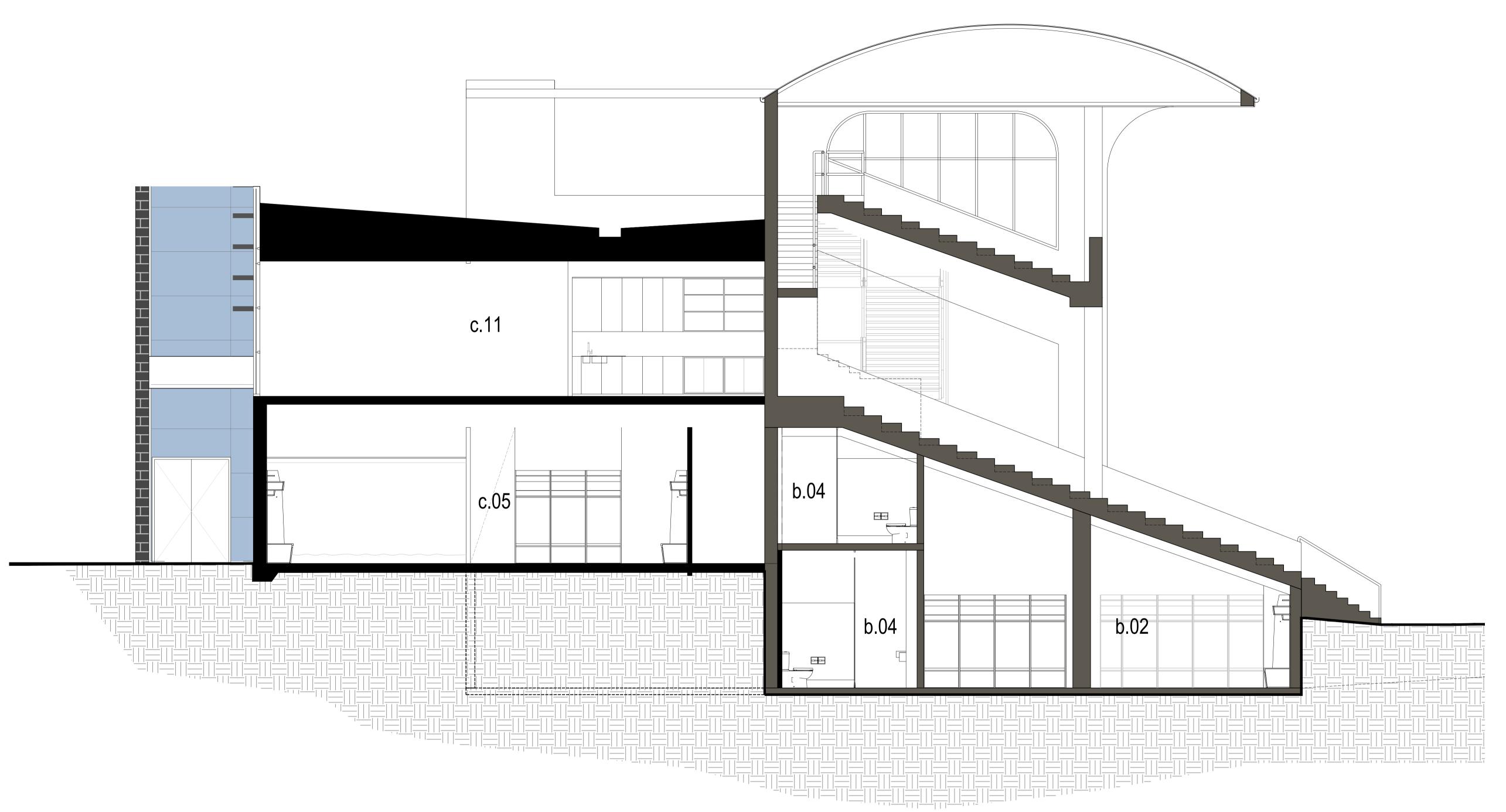
PROJECT HENSON PARK

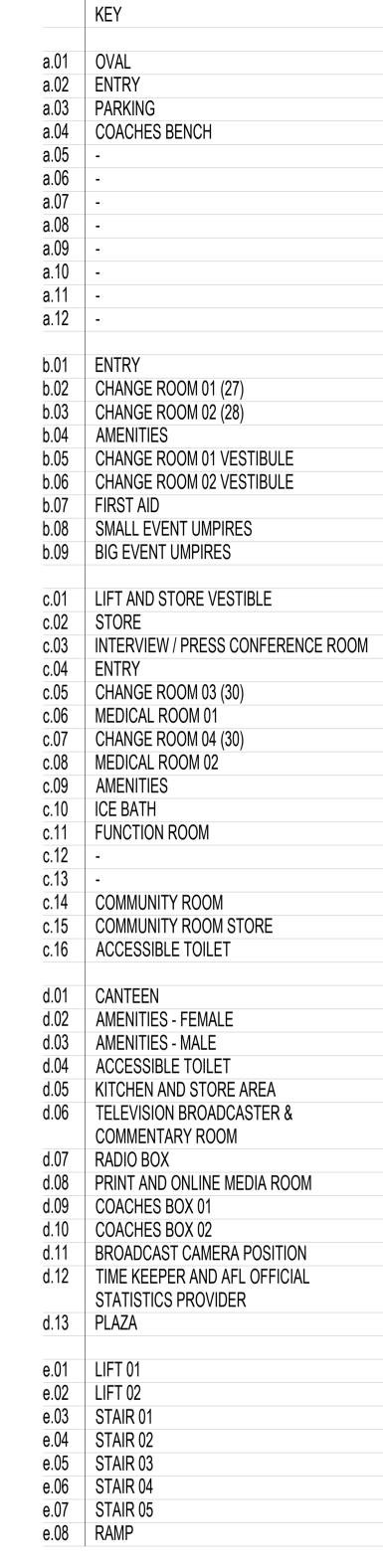
22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204





21009 A 1 50 03 crawford architects







ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS: THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

03 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS

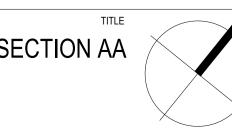


CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

PROJECT **HENSON PARK** 

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204



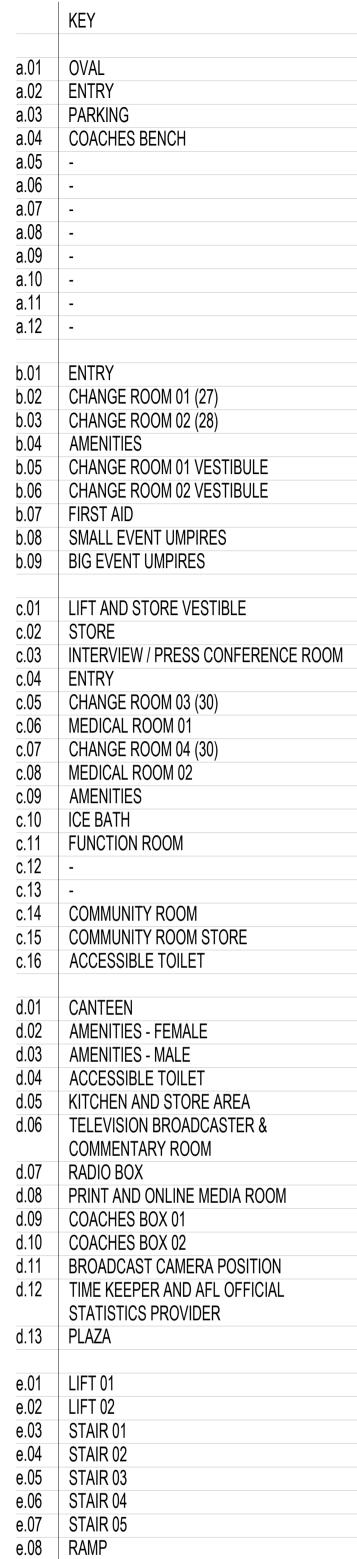
SCALE 1:50 @ A1 / 1:100 @ A3 APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG DATE FEB 2021 SKETCH

STATUS

PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER

03 crawford architects







ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019



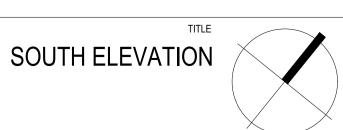
AFL NSW/ACT

CLIENT

PROJECT HENSON PARK

Page 106

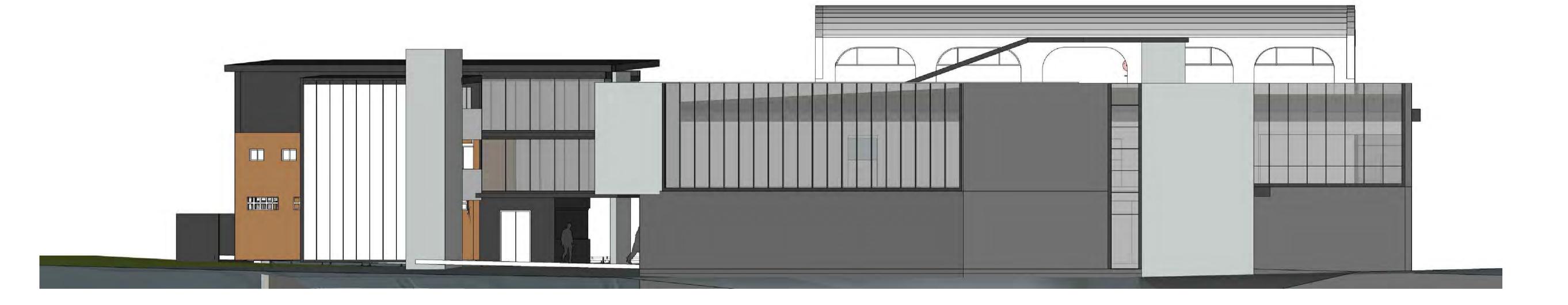
22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

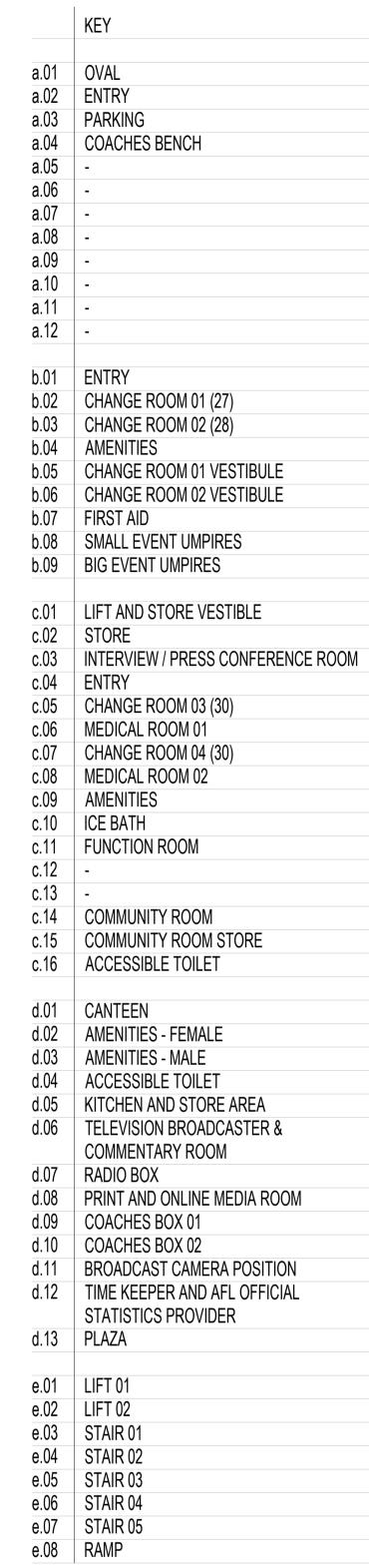




PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER

crawford architects







ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD E arch@crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

AFL NSW/ACT

CLIENT

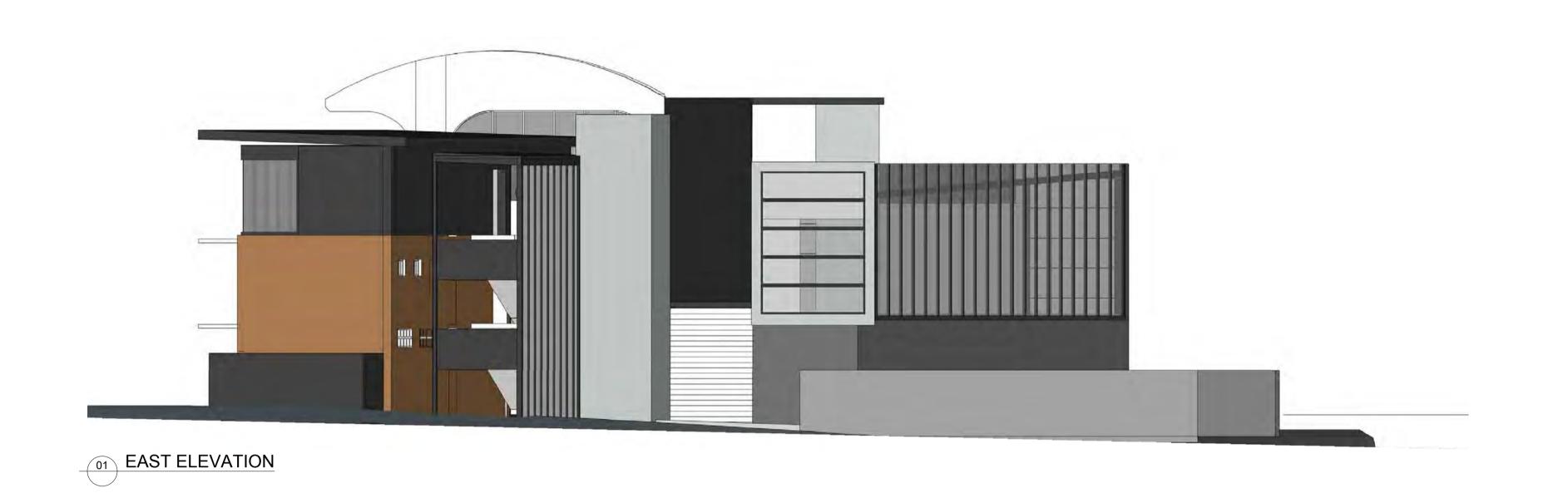
PROJECT **HENSON PARK** 



SCALE 1:100 @ A1 APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG DATE FEB 2021 STATUS SKETCH

PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER







KEY a.01 OVAL ENTRY a.02 a.03 PARKING COACHES BENCH a.05 a.07 a.08 a.09 a.11 b.02 CHANGE ROOM 01 (27) CHANGE ROOM 02 (28) b.04 AMENITIES CHANGE ROOM 01 VESTIBULE b.06 CHANGE ROOM 02 VESTIBULE FIRST AID b.08 SMALL EVENT UMPIRES b.09 BIG EVENT UMPIRES LIFT AND STORE VESTIBLE c.02 STORE c.03 INTERVIE c.04 ENTRY INTERVIEW / PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM c.05 CHANGE ROOM 03 (30) MEDICAL ROOM 01 CHANGE ROOM 04 (30) MEDICAL ROOM 02 c.08 AMENITIES c.09 ICE BATH c.10 FUNCTION ROOM c.12 **COMMUNITY ROOM** c.14 c.15 COMMUNITY ROOM STORE c.16 ACCESSIBLE TOILET CANTEEN AMENITIES - FEMALE d.03 AMENITIES - MALE d.04 ACCESSIBLE TOILET d.05 KITCHEN AND STORE AREA d.06 TELEVISION BROADCASTER & COMMENTARY ROOM d.07 RADIO BOX PRINT AND ONLINE MEDIA ROOM COACHES BOX 01 d.10 COACHES BOX 02 d.11 BROADCAST CAMERA POSITION d.12 TIME KEEPER AND AFL OFFICIAL STATISTICS PROVIDER d.13 PLAZA e.02 LIFT 02 STAIR 01 e.04 STAIR 02 e.05 STAIR 03 e.06 STAIR 04 e.07 STAIR 05 e.08 RAMP

ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS

DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD ABN 56 120 779 106 NOMINATED ARCHITECTS: THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

01 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS

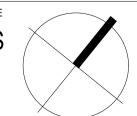


AFL NSW/ACT

CLIENT

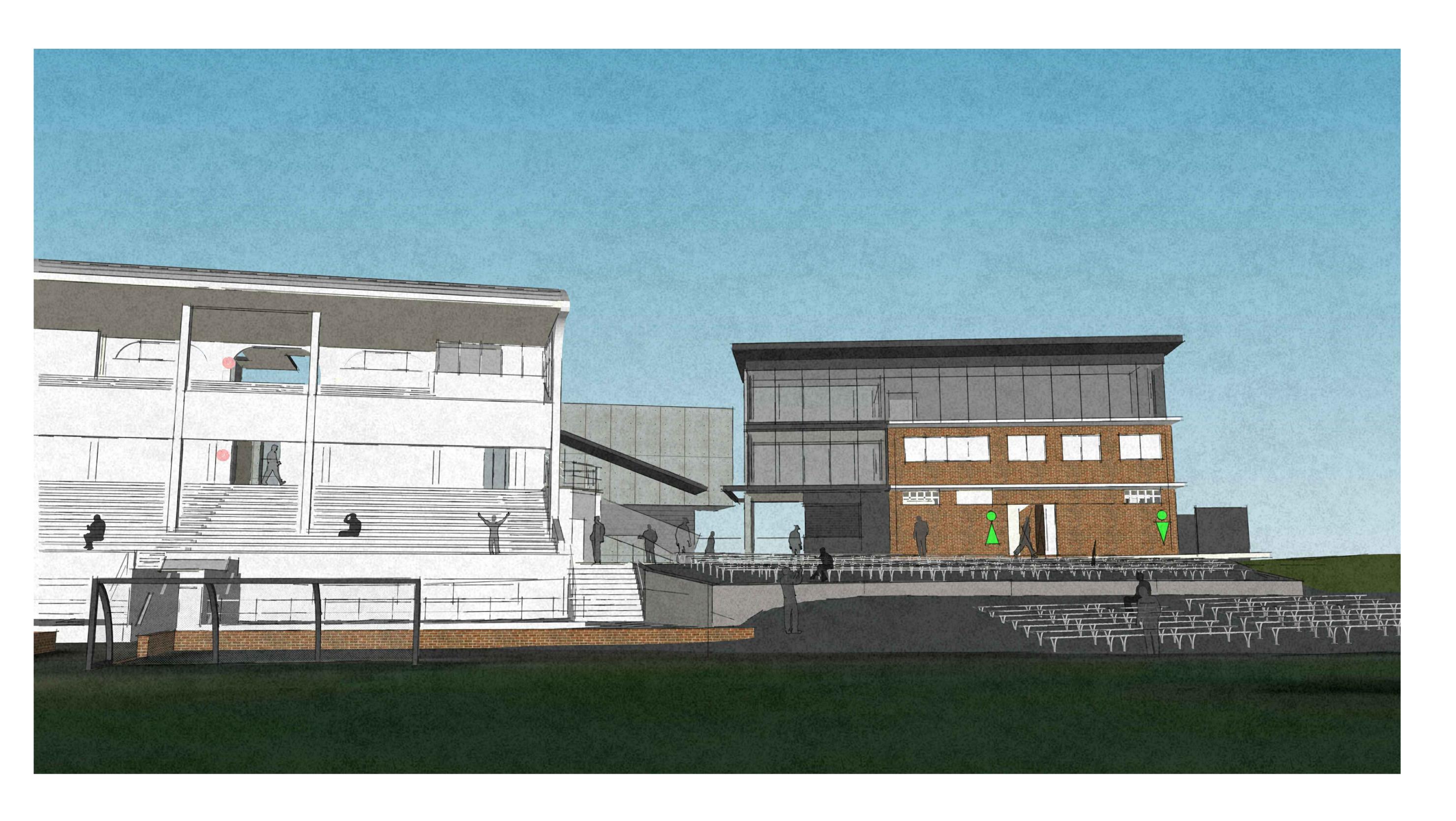
PROJECT HENSON PARK





SCALE 1:100 @ A1 APPROVED DRAWN DRAWN CHECKED PG DATE FEB 2021 SKETCH SKETCH PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER







ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART
OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

ABN 56 120 779 106
NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au 

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

03 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 
 02
 21.02.16
 REVISED ISSUE

 01
 21.02.15
 ISSUED TO CLIENT
 ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS

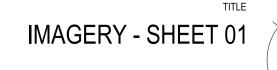


CLIENT AFL NSW/ACT

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

PROJECT HENSON PARK

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204





PROJECT NUMBER DRAWING NUMBER





ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART
OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS

APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD

E arch@crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

03 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 02 21.02.16 REVISED ISSUE 01 21.02.15 ISSUED TO CLIENT ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS

AFL NSW/ACT LEVEL 1, SHERIDAN BUILDING | MOORE PARK ROAD | MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

CLIENT

PROJECT HENSON PARK

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

IMAGERY - SHEET 02



21009 A401 03 crawford architects





ALL DIMENSIONS & LEVELS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE BY CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. ALL BOUNDARIES & CONTOURS SUBJECT TO SURVEY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS

DRAWING MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN PART
OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF CRAWFORD

ABN 56 120 779 106
NOMINATED ARCHITECTS:

THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS P 02 9660 3644 www.crawford.com.au APPROVED BY A DIRECTOR OF CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD E arch@crawford.com.au

© CRAWFORD ARCHITECTS PTY LTD 2019 SUITE 3.01, LEVEL 3 80 MOUNT STREET NORTH SYDNEY, NSW 2060 AUSTRALIA TONY GRAY 5303 & PAUL GODSELL 6726

03 21.02.19 SUBMISSION ISSUE 
 02
 21.02.16
 REVISED ISSUE

 01
 21.02.15
 ISSUED TO CLIENT
 ISSUE DATE AMENDMENTS

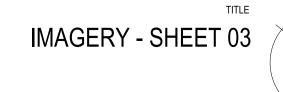


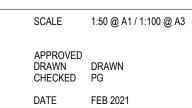
LEVEL 1, SHERIDAN BUILDING | MOORE PARK ROAD |

MOORE PARK | NSW 2021

PROJECT HENSON PARK

22 CENTENNIAL ST, MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204





SKETCH SKETCH

21009 A402 03 crawford architects





 $Looking\ towards\ brick\ boundary\ wall.\ \ Photography\ by\ Welsh\ +\ Major\ Architects.$ 





# PROPOSED MATERIALS

The following materials palette is proposed in the masterplan. These have been selected for durability, to complement the park and to ensure maintenance requirements are met.

## Timber seating

All bespoke furniture to be Forestry Stewardship Council certified Australian Spotted Gum with a standard profile used throughout the park for easy maintenance. Painted finish may be considered to complement existing painted spectator seating.

# Concrete retaining walls

Poured or pre cast concrete with burnished finish and penetrative anti graffiti coating

# Steel playing field fencing

Galvanised steel fencing to playing field, powdercoated or protective paint system may be considered for corrosion protection

# Steel fences and gates

Galvanised steel with powdercoated finish in a mix of colours to complement the park



Raised timber seating around trees



Timber platform seating



Timber bench seating with painted finish



Concrete retaining wall with areas of timber seating on top



Contemporary steel playing field fencing



Powdercoated steel fence/gate to Amy

# PROPOSED MATERIALS

# Concrete pathways with brick feature elements

Concrete pathways, depth and reinforcement to engineers requirements. Sandblasted or broom finish with no edge treatment to achieve required slip resistance rating. Incorporate recycled dry pressed bricks feature paving and elements on concrete base.

### Permeable paving and parking areas

Min 80mm thick concrete permeable paving units, finish to achieve required slip resistance rating. Sub-base and drainage to paving manufacturers requirements

### Hardstand

Synthetic surface, colour mix to complement the park

## Public art

Low VOC paint with no sheen anti graffiti coating. Collaborate with local historians and well regarded artists to provide high quality murals which contribute to a cohesive park identity.

## Amenities upgrades

Maximise reuse of existing materials, prioritise use of sustainable materials which minimise maintenance requirements and improve amenity.







Mixed format brick feature paying





Permeable paving



Colourful multi-purpose hardstand area



Murals painted on existing service buildings



Robust amenities



The proposed master plan planting palette has been developed by Inner West Council and Emily Simspon Landscape Architecture. It includes species from Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest and Freshwater Swamp plant communities along with supplementary planting for feature areas as detailed in the following pages.



### FEATURE TREE SPECIES

#### Natives

Angophora costata- Sydney Red Gum
Banksia integrifolia- Coastal Banksia
Bankisa serrata- Old Man Banksia
Brachychiton acerifolius- Illawarra Flame Tree
Brachychiton discolor- Lacebark (beautiful flowers deciduous native)
Eucalyptus haemastoma- Scribbly Gum
Flindersia australis- Crows Ash (shade tree)
Ficus rubiginosa- Port Jackson Fig (shade tree)
Livistona australis- Cabbage Tree Palm
Melaleuca quinquenervia- Paperbark (bioswale areas)
Syncarpia glomulifera- Turpentine
Tristaniopsis laurina- Water Gum (bioswale areas)

#### Exotics

Libidibia ferrea- Leopard Tree (deciduous exotic)
Lagerstroemia indica 'Tuscarora/ Natchez'- Crepe Myrtle (deciduous exotic)



# SCREENING TREE SPECIES ON PARK EDGES

Backhousia citriodora- Lemon Myrtle (bush tucker)
Ceratopetalum gummiferum- NSW Christmas Bush
Elaeocarpus reticulatus- Blueberry Ash
Elaeocarpus eumundii- Eumundii Quandong
Eupomatia laurina- Bolwarra/ Native Guava (bush tucker)
Glochidion ferdinandi- Cheese Tree
Tristaniopsis laurina 'Luscious' Water Gum
Syzygium luehmannii- Riberry



### BIOFILTER

#### Shrubs/ Perennial

Banksia robur- Swamp Banksia Crinum pedunculatum- Swamp Lily

### Sedges. Rushes, Grasses, Groundcovers

Balaskion pallens- Native Rush Baumea articulate- Jointed Rush Carex appressa- Tall Sedge Centella asiatica- Pennywort Dichondra repens- Kidney Weed Ficinia nodosa- Knobby Club Rush Gahnia clarkei- Tall Saw Sedge Hypolepis muelleri (fern)- Ground Fern Juncus usitatus- Common Rush Pratia purpurescens- White Root



# CLIMBERS TO BOUNDARIES

Hardenbergia violacea- False Sarsparilla Hibbertia scandens- Snake Vine Pandorea pandorana- Wonga Wonga Vine Passiflora edulis 'Nelly Kelly'- Passionfruit Tecomanthe hillii- Fraser Island Vine



## EXOTIC FEATURE PLANTING

low water/ low maintenance plants mixed in with natives at enteries of park/ meeting areas

### Succulents

Agave attenuata- Century Plant
Aeonium arboretum- Tree Aeonium
®Aloe 'Big Red'- Big Red Aloe
Aloe spinosissima- Spider Aloe
Beschorneria yucciodes- Mexican Lily
Epidendrum ibaguense- Crucifix Orchid
Crassula 'Blue Bird' (Crassula ovata- Crassula
Kalanchoe 'Copper Spoons' – Copper Spoons
Kalanchoe 'Silver Spoons'- Silver Spoons

### Perennials

Dietes robinsoniana- Lord Howe Wedding Lij@ Echium candicans- Pride of Maidera Salvia leucantha- Mexican Sage Phormium tenax- NZ Flax



### NATIVE GRASS MEADOW

#### Shadier areas/ under trees

Daniella caerulea- Blue Flax Lilv Dichondra repens- Kidney Weed Microlaena stipoides- Weeping Grass Pteridium esculentum- Bracken Fern Viola hederacea- Native Violet

### Sun to part shade areas

Actinotis helianthi- Flannel Flower Brachycome multifida- Rock Daisy Chrysocephalum apiculatum- Yellow Buttons Craspedia globosa- Billy Buttons Dichondra repens- Kidney Weed Dichelachne crinita- Long Hair Plume Grass Eragrostis brownii- Common Love Grass Microlaena stipoides- Weeping Grass Poa 'Eskdale'- Tussock Grass Themeda australis- Kangaroo Grass Viola hederacea- Native Violet Wahlenbergia gracilis- Native Bluebell









Dichondra, Microlaena, Viola

Pteridium esculentum Actinotis heliai

Craspedia globosa







Themeda australis



WOODY MEADOW

- test plot suggestions using Sydney natives
- precendent The Woody Meadow Project Melbourne

### EMERGENT LAYER- above 1.5m reaching 4-5m small/ large shrubs

Acacia suaveolens- Sweet Wattle Angophora hispida- Dwarf Apple Gum Banksia ericifolia- Heath Banksia Corymbia ficifolia 'Summer Beauty/ Summer Red' - Flowering Gum Callistemon 'Kings Park Special'- Small Bottlebrush Dillwynia retorta- Small Leaf Parrot Pea Grevillea sericea- Pink Spider Grevillea Hakea sericea- Mountain Hakea Hibiscus hetrophyllus- Rosella Indigofera australis- Native Indigo Kunzea amgigua- Tick Bush Melaleuca hypericifolia- Red Flowering Paperbark Ozothamnus diosmifolius- Rice Flower Persoonia pinifolia- Geebung















BUMP LAYER- less than 1m

Acacia ulicifolia- Prickley Moses Banksia 'Roller Coaster'- Prostrate Banksia Banksia spinulosa- Hairpin Banksia Callistemon 'Little John'- Bottlebrush Correa alba- White Correa Crowea saligna- Wax Flower Epacris longiflora- Fuschia Heath Grevillea buxifolia- Grey Spider Banksia Grevillea speciosa- Red Spider Banksia Isopogon anemonifolius- Drumsticks Philotheca myoporoides- Long Leaf Wax Flower

Pultenaea daphnoides- Large Leaf Bush Pea













BASE LAYER- less than 50cm

Billardiera scandens- Apple Dumplings Correa reflexa- Native Fuschia Hardenbergia violacea- False Sarsaprilla Hibbertia scandens- Snake Vine Pelargonia australe- Native Geranium





Persoonia pinifolia



Billardiera scandens

Hardenbergia violacea

Hibbertia scandens

Pelargonium australe

### POLLINATOR ATTRACTING

### Attracting native bees

Annuals- Cosmos, Queen Anne's Lace, Calendula, Marigolds Herbs- rosemary, oregano, borage, yarrow, dill, basil flowers Natives- Grevilleas, bottlebrushes, teatrees, flowering gum (refer to woody meadow plant species)









BUSH TUCKER PLANTING

## Screening Bush Tucker

Backhousia citriodora- Lemon Myrtle Backhousia myrtifolia- Grey Myrtle Diospyros australis- Black Plum Davidsonia jerseyana- Davidson Plum Diplogottis campbelii- Native Tamarind Eupomatia laurina- Bolwarra Hibiscus heterophyllus- Rosella Leptospermum petersonii- Lemon Teatree Microcitrus australasica- Finger Lime Syzygium leumanhii- Riberry Syzygium jambos- Rose Apple











Diplogottis campbelii

Hibiscus heterophyllus

### Shrubs/ Perennials

Alpinia caerulea- Native Ginger Austromyrtus dulcis- Midgenberry Grevillea buxifolia/ sericea- Pink and Grey Spider Flower Kunzea pomifera- Muntires Plectranthus graveolens- bush basil Prostanthera rotundifolia/ incisa- Native Thyme/Oregano







Groundcovers/ Grasses/ Scramblers

Billardiera scandens- Apple Dumplings Carpobrotus glaucescens- Pig Face Dianella caereulea- Blue Flax Lily Eustrephus latifolius- Wombat Berry Hardenbergia violacea- Native Sarsparilla Rubus probus- Native raspberry Tetragonia tetragonoides-Warrigal Greens Viola hederacea- Native Violet







Carpobrotus glaucescens

Tetragonia tetragonoides