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LEWIS HERMAN RESERVE

Plan of Management

INNER WEST

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lewis Herman Reserve today

Located within the suburb of Ashfield, Lewis Herman Reserve presently comprises a vacant and unused open space. The Park is an irregular shaped allotment, bound by Holden Street to the west. Development adjoining the site to the south is an aged care facility, while low density residential land adjoins the site to the north.

Prior to the arrival of European settlers in 1788, the area of land now known as Ashfield was home to the Wangal and Cadigal people of the Eora Nation. It is likely the area would have been relatively attractive for First Nations people, as the Iron Cove and the mangrove-lined estuaries of Iron Cove Creeks would have provided a good source of fish and molluscs, the most common food of the coastal tribes.

At the Ashfield Council Ordinary Meeting on 24 February 2004, Council resolved to name the site Lewis Herman Reserve, named after former Mayor of Ashfield, Mr Vale Lewis Herman. Lewis Herman was Ashfield's longest serving Mayor, serving from 1976-1991.

The Park is owned by Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and has undergone significant remediation works, as a result of site contamination consisting of Benzo(a)pyrene and bonded cement sheet fragments. On the 1st Feb 2019 Inner West Council signed an agreement with RMS for the use of the land as public reserve (no buildings are permissible). As part of this agreement an updated Plan of Management is required along with a proposed Master Plan for further community consultation.

Why the Plan is needed

There is currently no Plan of Management in place to identify the long-term objectives and management of the Park. In response to this, a draft Plan of Management and master plan has been developed to guide Council and the community in the future objectives, maintenance and management of Lewis Herman Reserve. The Plan of Management provides the basis for managing Lewis Herman Reserve in a manner that respects the values and significance of new public open space in Ashfield.

What is a Plan of Management

A Plan of Management is the principle document that guides Council's long-term future planning, design, development and management of public land.

Relationship to other Plans, Policies and Documents

The Plan of Management forms the overall guiding document for the future management and future directions for Lewis Herman Reserve. The Master Plan provides direction to Council and the community on how the park will be developed, its key community and recreation features. Importantly the master plan seeks to increase open space, improve local recreational opportunities, enhance community well-being and improve the natural environment.

Council Resolution

At its Council meeting on the 12 March 2018 Inner West Council resolved the following:

THAT Council:

1. Write to the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight thanking the State government for agreeing to transfer care, control and management of Lewis Herman Reserve to Council, to allow the creation of a new public park;
2. Proceed to report the draft Plan of Management for Lewis Herman Reserve to Council; and
3. Prepare a Masterplan for Lewis Herman Reserve, in consultation with the community.

Structure of Plan

The Plan of Management is set out in the following format:

Introduction – defines what a Plan of Management is and why it is needed. It also details changes and improvements made to Park over the past 10 years as well as identifying the purpose and life cycle of the Plan.

Background – describes the Park and its broader context. It outlines ownership of the Park and the legislative requirements impacting its management and usage.

Site Analysis – details the Park and its historical context including key demographic features and accessibility to key services. It explores the Park in detail and identifies existing facilities, vegetation and features.

Basis for Management – explains the management of the Park including objectives, values existing and proposed uses. It also outlines arrangements of leases and licenses of the Park.

Themes – explores the themes associated with the Park and details the issues, opportunities, constraints and directions to address these themes.

Implementation

The Action Plan section of this Plan details the summary of proposed capital improvement works along with the recommended priorities for implementation. The recommended works will be costed based on Council's capital expenditure and will permit Council to prepare a program and budget for progressive implementation of the works.



Figure 1: Lewis Herman Reserve Location Map

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is a Plan of Management

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

Review of this Plan

The Lewis Herman Reserve 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 reserve. The Master Plan is a critical design element of the Plan of Management given that the reserve is not currently open to the public and has not been developed as public open space.

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 and has included the following key considerations:

- 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 through 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.

1.2 Purpose of this Plan

The purpose of the Plan is to provide an integrated approach to the management of Lewis Herman Reserve to ensure its place as a valued recreational space within Ashfield Council (former) and the Inner West Council.

The Plan seeks to recognise the significance of the Park, particularly its passive recreational significance in a local setting. There has been progressive interest in opening Lewis Herman Reserve to the public to provide a diverse range of Park offerings and uses.

The Plan aims to set out a way to appropriately manage the Park and identify recreational facilities to meet these demands over the next 10 years.

The Plan of Management has a number of purposes. These include:

1. Identification of Park values;
2. Detailed site analysis of the Park;
3. Broad management objectives for the Park;
4. Identification of existing and potential park uses;
5. Identification of opportunities for acquiring additional land to expand Council's open space areas and enhance recreational opportunities; and
6. Identification of issues, opportunities and threats associated with Park uses.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and description

Lewis Herman Reserve is a vacant block of land bound by Holden Street to the west. Development adjoining the site to the south comprises an age care facility, while low density residential land adjoins the site to the north.

The park provides an area of approximately 3,516 square metres.

The site is owned by Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and has been treated for contamination associated with Benzo(a)pyrene and bonded cement sheet fragments through the implementation of a capping layer. RMS has granted control of the Reserve Land to Council by Order published in the Government Gazette, pursuant to section 159 of the Roads Act, 1993.

There are currently no amenity or park facilities established on the site.

The odour control structure, located to the north east boundary of the site, is not included as part of the site. This land is described as Lot 12 DP 11457261 and is owned by Sydney Water Corporation.

There is an existing easement for water supply purposes, transecting the site in an east west direction.

The Park comprises two individual allotments identified as:

Lot	Deposited Plan (DP)
11	1145726

Table 1: Lot and Deposited Plan

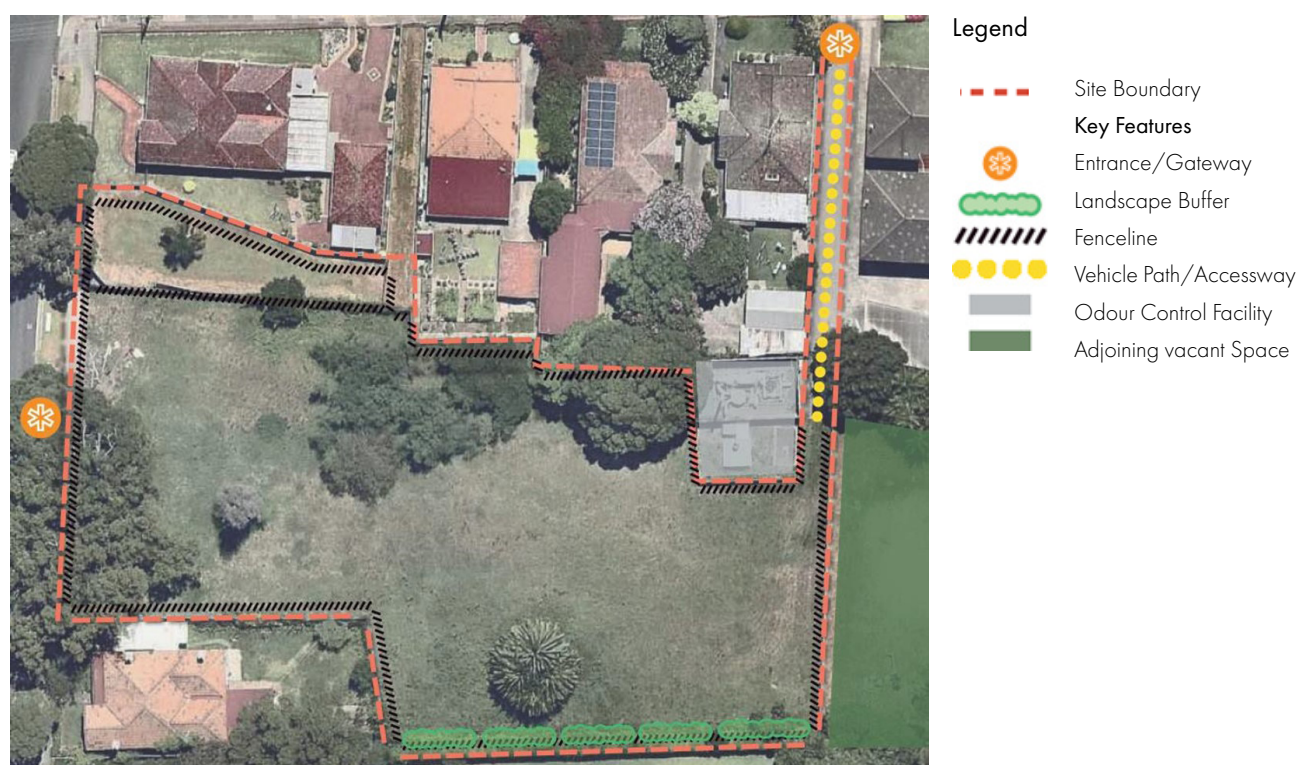


Figure 2: Lewis Herman Reserve Location Map

2.2 History of the Park

In the mid 1940's Lewis Herman Reserve was occupied with low density suburban residential dwellings. A map extract is attached and marked Figure 3. The buildings have since been demolished.

The site was acquired by Department of Main Roads (DMR), now known as RMS, for the proposed Ashfield By-Pass.

The land was never utilised for road infrastructure purposes and has since been in the ownership of RMS.

Remediation works were undertaken in 2008 and validated by Coffey Environments Pty Ltd, which involved capping and fill. Additional remediation works were undertaken by Parsons Brinkerhoff in 2012, which involved increasing the capping thickness.

In 2010, Ashfield Baptist Homes proposed a new residential age care development, east of Lewis Herman Reserve at 43-51 Queen Street and 3-7 New Street, Ashfield. Ashfield Baptist Homes explored the opportunity of providing a concept landscape plan for Lewis Herman Reserve in return for utilising the land for on-site construction storage (refer to Figure 4).

An Environmental Management Plan was prepared by Parsons Brinckerhoff dated May 2013, which aimed to identify soil contamination at the site and management measures to protect human health and the local environment. The EMP provides details relating to the contamination of the site and recommended management measures including:

1. Receptors;
2. Exposure pathways;
3. Occupational health and Safety;
4. Environmental Protection;
5. Unexpected Contamination;
6. Soil Excavation and Removal;
7. Duration; and
8. Monitoring and Reporting.

A full copy of this report is attached and marked Attachment 1.

Naming of the Lewis Herman Reserve

The naming of the reserve as "Lewis Herman Reserve" was resolved at the Ashfield Council Ordinary Meeting on 24 February 2004. The Reserve was named after the former Mayor of Ashfield Council, Mr Lewis Herman.

Lew Herman (AO) was Ashfield's longest serving Mayor from 1976-1991 and a proud advocate for Ashfield and the community he lived and served.

After leaving school at 15, Lew worked in the family business, eventually taking over from his father. It was as a cap maker that Lew became involved in the Hatters Union, through



Lewis Herman, Mayor of Ashfield from 1976-1991

which he joined the ALP and subsequently embarked on his 35 years as an Ashfield Councillor, beginning in 1971.

Lew was a compassionate community leader and took up many key fights, including against the expansion of Kingsford Smith Airport in the 1980s. Lew worked tirelessly for his local community and took great pride in his work. He has a keen sense of humour and a twinkle in his eye.

Also a great advocate of multiculturalism, Lew was actively involved in several ethnic associations, also ensuring that the Ethnic Community Council held its annual meeting at the Ashfield Town Hall every year, from 1974 to 2003. In 1982, he was awarded an Order of Australia

2.3 Ownership and Management

Lewis Herman Reserve is dedicated for public recreation in accordance with The Local Government Act 1993. Full details relating to the ownership of the Park are detailed in the table below:

Park	Lewis Herman Reserve
Address	80-84 Holden Street, Ashfield
Ownership	RMS will grant control of the Reserve Land to Council by Order published in the Government Gazette, pursuant to section 159 of the Roads Act,
Management	Ashfield Council (former)/IWC
Appointed Manager	Ashfield Council (former)/IWC
Area	0.352ha
Lot	Lot 11 DP 1145726
Land Category	Park
Purpose	Public Recreation
Zoning	RE1 Public Recreation – Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 2013
Leases	None
Park Hierarchy	Local Park

Table 2: Ownership Summary



Figure 3: Lewis Herman Reserve in 1943 (Source: SixMaps)



Figure 4: Concept Landscape Plan (Ashfield Baptist Homes 2010)

2.4 Local Government Act

The Local Government Act 1993 identifies that Council's must prepare and adopt Plans of Management for all community land.

The Act states that the Plan must identify the following:

1. Category of land;
2. Objectives and performance targets of the Plan with respect to land;
3. Means by which Council proposes to achieve the plans objectives and performance targets;
4. Manner in which Council proposes to assess its performance with respect to the Plan's objective and performance.

Lewis Herman Reserve is classified as community land and categorised as Park.

The purpose of categorising land is to ensure the essential nature of the land and how that may best be managed. It also enables community land to be managed more appropriately as to achieve a responsible balance between protection of relevant values and use of the land by the community.

2.4.1 Objectives of 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.

2.5 State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007

Division 12 of State Environmental Planning Policy (infrastructure) 2007 (ISEPP) identifies that certain works are permitted without consent where it is carried out by or on behalf of a council on a public reserve under the control of or vested in the Council.

Division 12 of ISEPP is provided in the Annexures.

2.6 Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 2013

At the time of writing this Plan of Management the Ashfield Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2013 is the principle document that guides planning, development and sets the framework and land use structure for Lewis Herman Reserve. It ensures that land is appropriately used to meet the needs of the community through land zoning, development standards and heritage protection.

On 23 June 2020, Council endorsed the planning proposal to facilitate the draft Inner West Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2020 to consolidate the provisions of the three former Council LEPs into a single new LEP that operates across the Inner West Local Government Area.

Some of the provisions of the former 2013 LEP include:

- a. to promote the orderly and economic development of Ashfield in a manner that is consistent with the need to protect the environment,
- b. to retain and enhance the identity of Ashfield as an early residential suburb with local service industries and retail centres,
- c. to identify and conserve the environmental and cultural heritage of Ashfield,
- d. to protect the urban character of the Haberfield, Croydon and Summer Hill urban village centres while providing opportunities for small-scale, infill development that enhances the amenity and vitality of the centres,
- e. to ensure that development has proper regard to environmental constraints and minimises any adverse impacts on biodiversity, water resources, riparian land and natural landforms,
- f. to require that new development incorporates the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

2.6.1 Zoning

Pursuant to the Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 2013, Lewis Herman Reserve is zoned RE1 Public Recreation.

The types of development permitted without consent, permitted with consent and prohibited within the Zone are summarised as follows:

Objectives of zone

- To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes.
- To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses.
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.
- To ensure that development has proper regard to environmental constraints and minimises any adverse impacts on biodiversity, water resources, riparian land and natural landforms.

- To allow land to be used for a limited range of facilities that are compatible with or will complement the specific recreational use for which it is zoned.

Under council's license agreement with RMS no buildings are permissible within the reserve.

In accordance with zoning, works proposed within the reserve must be permissible with consent pursuant to Ashfield LEP 2013 and satisfy the objectives of the RE1 Public Recreation Zone.



Figure 5: Lewis Herman Reserve Land Zoning (Source: Ashfield LEP 2013)

3. SITE ANALYSIS

3.1 Context

Lewis Herman Reserve is located in the suburb of Ashfield, which comprises largely low residential suburban dwelling houses. The Park is located in close proximity to Pratten Park in the north and Peace Park (Canterbury/Bankstown Local Government Area) in the south.

The Park is located in close proximity to Ashfield Town Centre, which provides a range of mixed use, commercial, educational establishments and residential development.

The Park is an irregular shaped allotment with pedestrian access available on the western boundary towards Holden Street. The site is bound by residential land to the northern and southern boundaries. Land to the east is separated by a barbed wire fence.

The park is largely grassed and provides a handful of trees and shrubs within the site. Trees are located in the north eastern portion of the site and along the Holden Street frontage. There are some shrubs and screening located to the southern boundary towards the Ashfield Baptist Home.

A bus stop is located outside the Park along Holden Street, which services the 491 bus service to Hurstville and Five Dock.

An existing odour control facility located in the north eastern boundary of the site, which is owned operated by Sydney Water.

The site provides no on-site parking.

Legend

- Site Boundary
- - - 400m Radius
- Land use**
 - Mixed Use
 - Open Space
- Transport**
 - Smartbus Stops
 - Bus Stops
 - Smartbus Routes
 - - - Bus Routes

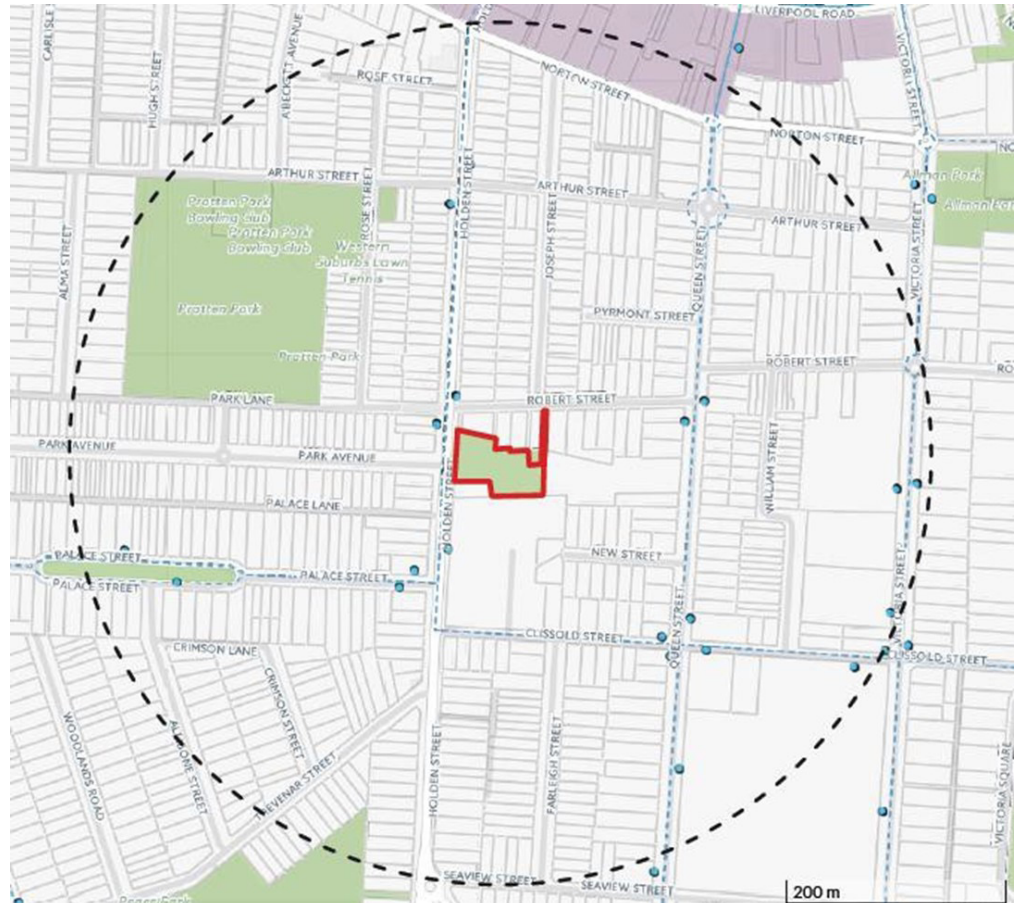


Figure 6: Lewis Herman Reserve Context (Source: OneMap 2016)

3.2 Demographic Analysis

3.2.1 Dwelling Density

Lewis Herman Reserve is surrounded by predominantly low and medium density residential development, with most areas providing dwelling densities of 38-41 dwellings per hectare.

This reflects a medium built form environment, which can be attributed to the areas close proximity to Ashfield town centre, which has seen progressive increases in medium density development around the town centre.

It is anticipated there may be increases in dwelling density within this area, increasing pressure for Lewis Herman Reserve to be open to the public and to cater for growing open space demands.

3.3 Existing Vegetation

Lewis Herman Reserve contains a number of trees scattered throughout the site. These comprise a combination of mature, native exotic species and an assortment of shrubs. Species include Camphor laurel along the Holden Street frontage and a cluster of Phoenix palms, located centrally within the site.

The majority of larger existing trees are located along the perimeter of the site, with the exception of some random and localised tree species in the central portion of the site.

The southern boundary provides a screen of shrubs, trees and various plantings from the Ashfield Baptist Home. There may be potential to review the condition of this vegetation and carry out additional tree and shrub (boundary) screen planting.

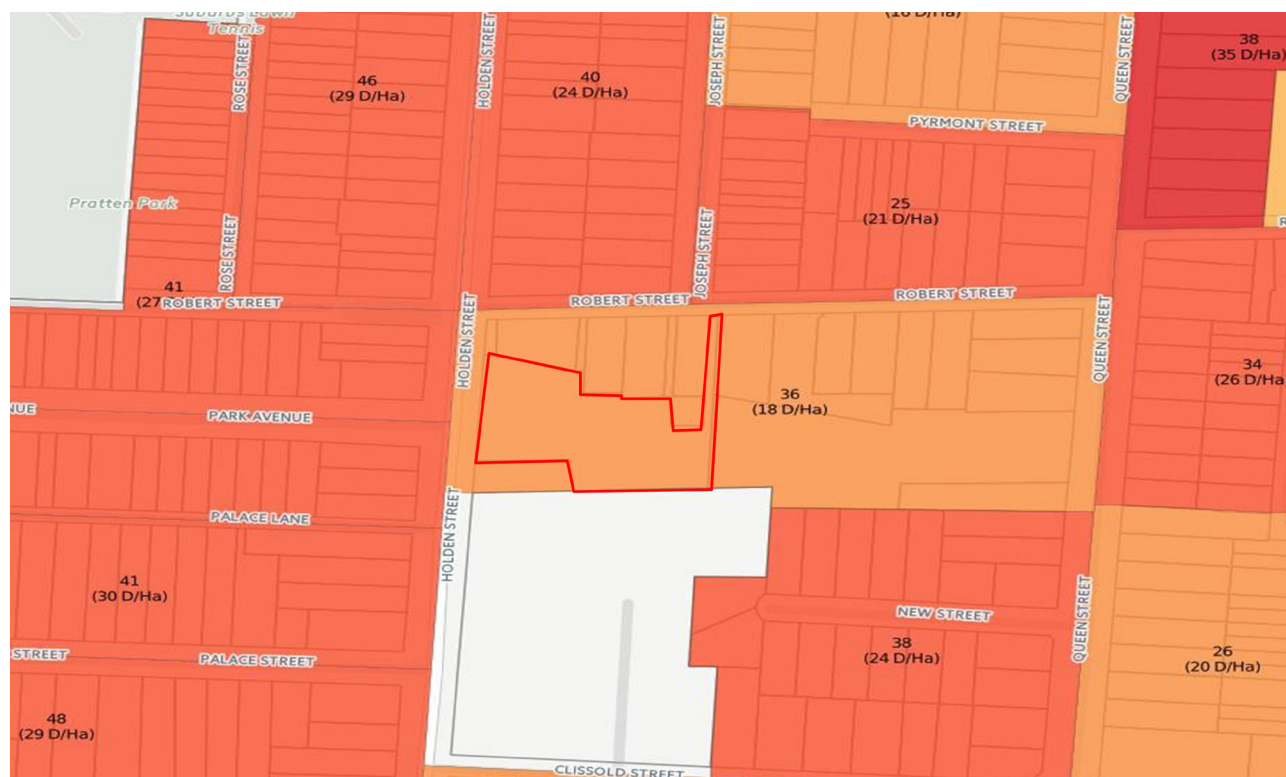


Figure 7: Dwelling Density around Lewis Herman Reserve (Source: OneMap 2016)

4. BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

4.1 Preparation of a Masterplan

Community Engagement outcomes have been utilised to inform the creation of a park masterplan for Lewis Herman Reserve. The masterplan establishes a place based design for the park based on identified evidence based planning which builds on the known and expressed recreational needs of the wider community.

As part of preparing a masterplan Inner West Council has developed a masterplan for the park which is reflective on current recreational needs of the area.

Park Master Planning-Stakeholder Engagement

On 17th November 2021, Council commenced community engagement on the development of a Park Master Plan for Lewis Herman Reserve. An onsite Planning meeting was held with the community on 21st November 2021. Contributors were encouraged to include ideas, comments and suggestions to assist in master planning for the park. In addition to the on-site master planning day local residents and future park users were also encouraged to participate in an online survey for the future parkland by outlining and prioritising their key recreation and open space needs. A proposed master plan for Lewis Herman Reserve is attached to the Draft Plan of Management.



4.2 Design Vision

The design vision for Lewis Herman Reserve is based on the site’s context, community engagement, and Council consultation. The vision for the Reserve is to provide:

“a park with facilities that support multi-generational use by the community and reflects the diverse background of the community.”

Lewis Herman Reserve forms a blank canvas for future uses and provides numerous opportunities. The following pages provide a summary of the opportunities for the site based on the community consultation and site analysis.

A central objective of the upgrade to Lewis Herman Reserve is to provide a play space. Other opportunities include the provision of a youth space, native and sensory gardens, picnic shelters, BBQ facilities and seating, a circuit track and pathways for different age groups, exercise stations, and a safe pedestrian crossing over Holden St.

4.2.1 Provide a youth space

Through the community consultation process, the community has indicated they would like to see an inclusive play space in Lewis Herman Reserve.

The most popular type of play was nature and adventure play. Water play was also regularly mentioned and could be considered as well. A small water play feature, such as a water play pump or similar could be considered. The park is not considered suitable for a large water play park with jets and treated and recirculated water due to the limited size of the park and the associated facilities required (e.g. accessible toilets).

4.2.2 Provide a youth space

Several high schools are located in the vicinity of Lewis Herman Reserve and the community has indicated they would like to have a teens/youth space included in the park.

Several opportunities for the youth space include seating elements, ping-pong tables, and a performance stage.

People of all ages, including residents from the aged-care facility and future retirement village, can use these amenities.

4.2.3 Provide native sensory gardens

In keeping with Ashfield’s ‘Garden Suburb’ character, there is an opportunity to provide lush gardens and trees in Lewis Herman Reserve for shade, ecology, and greenery.

Sensory gardens with native vegetation could be created, providing sensory stimulus to both young and elderly visitors of the park. The native plant species also provide ecological benefits and generally require less water than exotic/european species.

The native garden planting could also be used to screen the fences that surround the park.



4.2.4 Provide picnic shelters and seating

There is an opportunity to provide picnic shelters and seating in the park. The shelters could be clustered, creating a picnic area, whereas throughout the park benches could be placed. Particularly around the play space seating would be welcomed by the community.



4.2.5 Circuit track & accessibility

The community suggested a circuit track with pump track for kids to ride their bikes and scooters on. The circuit track would provide an additional play element in the park.

Throughout the park accessible paths will provide access for all park users.

Consideration should be given to potential conflict of kids using the path network on their scooters or bikes, and elderly park users.



4.2.6 Exercise stations

Exercise stations, for a wide range of abilities, could be provided in the park.



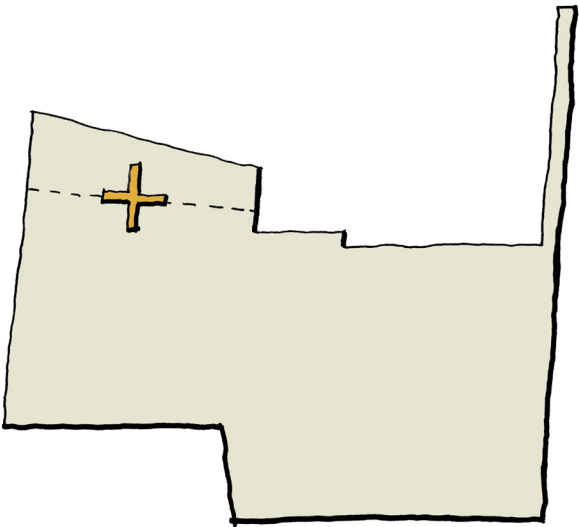
4.2.7 Provide a pedestrian crossing

It can be difficult for pedestrians to cross Holden St. The upgrade of Lewis Herman Reserve will attract more visitors, including kids. Providing a pedestrian crossing across Holden St is an opportunity to improve safety and access into the Reserve.

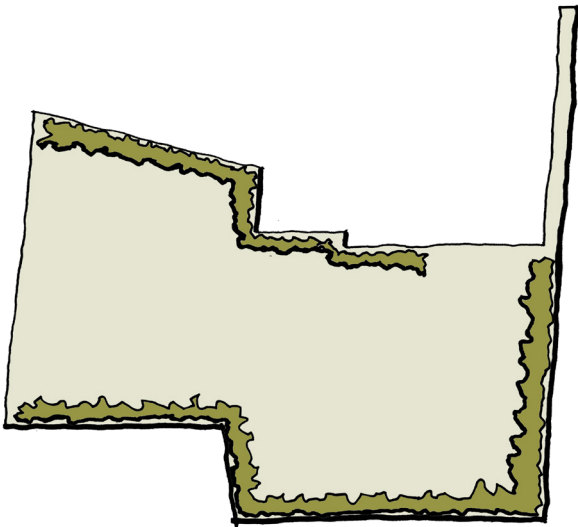
The existing speed bump on Holden St at the end of Palace Ln could potentially be transformed into a safe pedestrian crossing.

4.3 Site Strategies

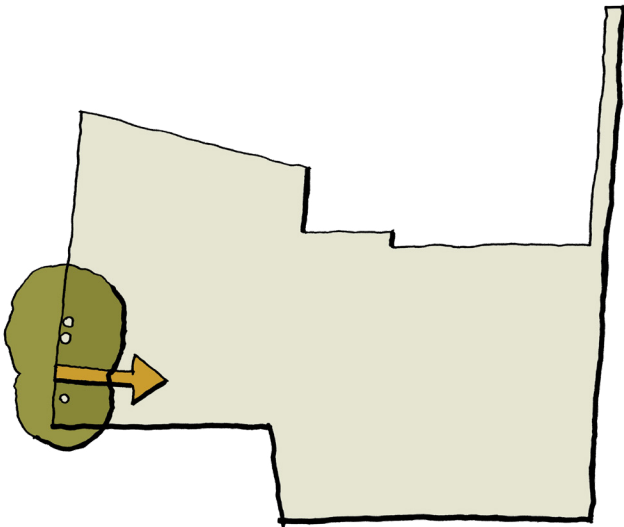
The site strategies include key moves that will enable the objectives for the reserve. These strategies are high-level design principles that will inform the design of the Masterplan for Lewis Herman Reserve.



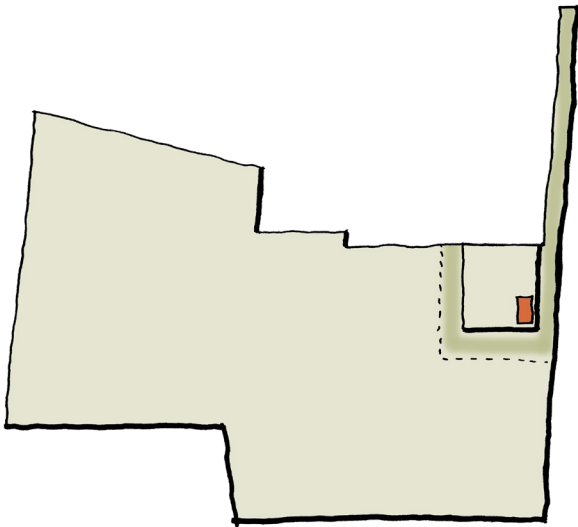
4.3.1 Connect the two spaces
A overgrown fence divides a section of the park from the rest of it. It is proposed to remove the fence and connect the two spaces.



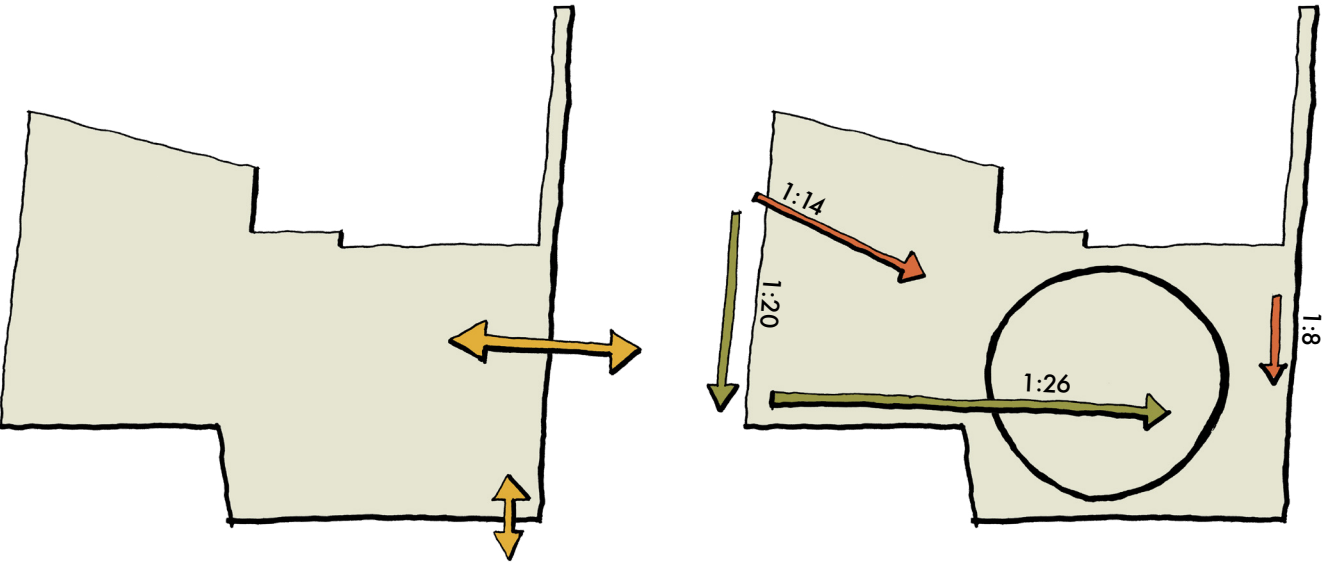
4.3.2 Screen planting along fence
Residential fences mark the boundary of the site. By providing vegetation along the fence line, a green, backdrop can be created that embraces the park, while also creating a buffer between the private residences and the park, improving their privacy.



4.3.3 Mark the entrance
There is an opportunity to mark the entrance and create an arrival experience into the park, by providing an access pathway into the park between the large Camphor laurels. These mature trees form a natural gateway into the park.



4.3.4 Access to odour control unit
A Sydney Water odour control unit is located in the north-eastern corner of the site. Vehicular access will be required to be maintained into this area.

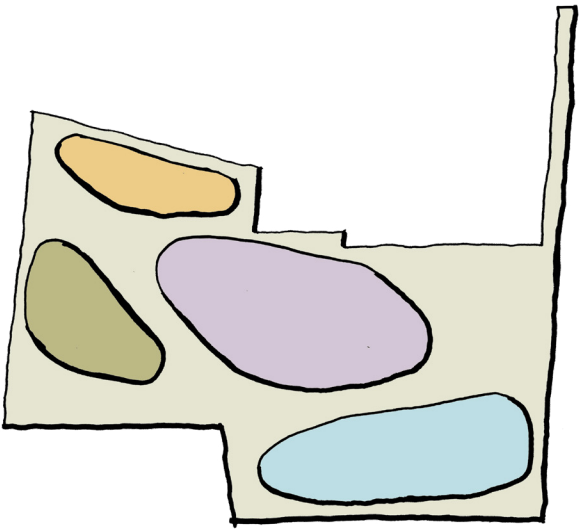


4.3.5 Through link to Queen St

There is an opportunity to connect the park to the adjacent planned development and provide a link to Queen St. The design for the park will consider this and provide a possible connection that will provide access into the park from the future development.

4.3.6 Accessibility and circuit track

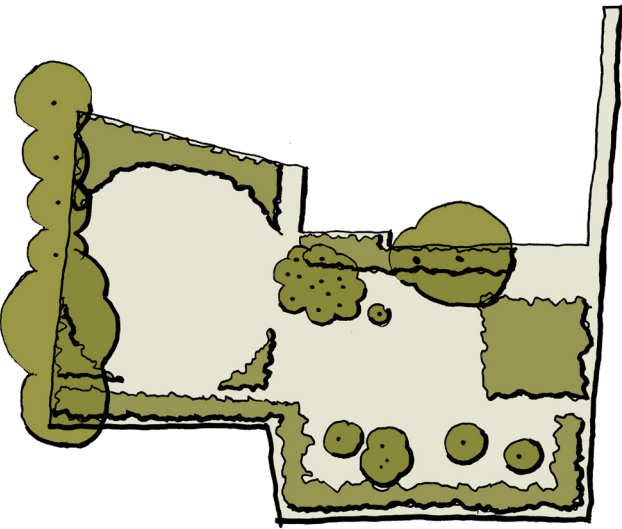
Create an accessible path structure including a circuit track that provides access throughout the park for users of all abilities and age. The path network forms the spine of the park and defines the various spaces.



4.3.7 Activate the park

Activate the park with program and park elements to suit the community's needs and wishes, based on community engagement.

A youth space could be placed along Holden St, to maintain passive surveillance. A playground could be located central in the park, away from traffic and neighbouring residents. There is the potential for a dog park (green) and native and sensory gardens (lilac) to the east of the site. A lawn and picnic area could be located between the youth space and playground.



4.3.8 Gardens & shade trees

In keeping with Ashfield's character, lush gardens could be created and shade trees could be planted.

These gardens would enclose the spaces, while providing sensory experiences to park visitors, as well as providing environmental benefits, such as water retention, urban cooling, and provide habitats for native fauna.

4.4 Masterplan

The proposed elements for Lewis Herman Reserve are intended to be multi-purpose and multi-generational: play elements can also be used for seating and exercise, mounds and raised planters provide seating and play opportunities, while also enabling trees to be planted above the sandstone capping layer.

The Masterplan includes two pathways that form the main movement spine of the Reserve. The path network provides a connection through to Queen St with the paths in Lewis Herman Reserve link to a proposed path through the proposed aged care facility immediately to the west of Lewis Herman Reserve.

A series of circular spaces link to the two main pathways and create well-defined spaces,. The path network provides for diverse opportunities for ambling around the park as well as for children to ride and scoot around the park.

Key spaces in the Reserve include:

- mounded play space
- a nature play area amongst the acacias
- a more formal play space under a shade canopy
- an area with table tennis tables and seating
- a multi-use lawn
- BBQ and picnic areas with shelters
- nature play space
- sensory garden areas
- multi-generational play space
- accessible pathways.

A formal entrance into the park is provided through the camphor laurel trees and also includes a new seating area taking advantage of the shade in this area.

4.4.1 Path networks and accessibility

Throughout the park accessible paths, including loop tracks, will provide access for all park users. The two main pathways that form the spine of the park are proposed to be 2.0m wide and the circular pathways are proposed to be 1.5m wide.

The main pathway that runs east-west from Holden St to the future link to Queen St has grades gentler than 1 in 20 and provides accessible connections to all areas of the park. A secondary informal path network is proposed through the park to provide for a diversity of walking opportunities.

Currently due to the traffic volumes on Holden St it can be difficult to cross the road. An opportunity has been identified to upgrade the existing speed control device on Holden St at the end of Palace Ln and transform this into a safe pedestrian crossing.

4.4.2 Multi-generational play spaces

Throughout the park diverse play opportunities are provided that can be used by all generations.

For the space within the most north-western circle it is proposed to provide seating elements, table tennis stages, and a play and multi-purpose climbing/seating/ stage element.

Within the central circle it is proposed to formalise the existing drainage into a swale feature with sandstone blocks, potentially a water play pump, and several adventure and nature play elements. The nature play elements continue along the creek and under the existing acacia trees.

The space within the most southern circle is proposed to be used for several play elements, such as swings, climbing structure, etc. A large circular shade sail is proposed above this area due to the lack of existing shade in the central part of the site.

Two large play mounds are proposed, on which play elements could be incorporated as well, such as a slide and spaces for imaginary play.

4.4.3 Sensory and native gardens

A sensory garden with native vegetation is proposed near the future entrances from Ashfield Baptist Homes, providing sensory stimulus and a quiet place for contemplation and relaxation. This space also provides the opportunity for productive gardens such as fruit trees and/or community gardens. Along the edges of the park native gardens are proposed.

The gardens would enclose the spaces, provide a green backdrop to the park, create a buffer between the private residencies and the park, while providing sensory experiences to park visitors. The gardens also provide environmental benefits, such as opportunities for more dense bird friendly planting, water retention, urban cooling, and areas where additional soil volume for trees can be provided.

4.4. 4 Picnic areas and seating

Throughout the park, along the path network accessible seating and picnic tables are proposed. Two shelters with picnic tables, a BBQ, drinking fountain and bins are proposed as a cluster, creating a picnic area. Fully accessible seating and tables are proposed to be used in this area linking to the fully accessible entrance path.

On the following pages precedent images are included to illustrate the look and feel of the proposed designs elements.





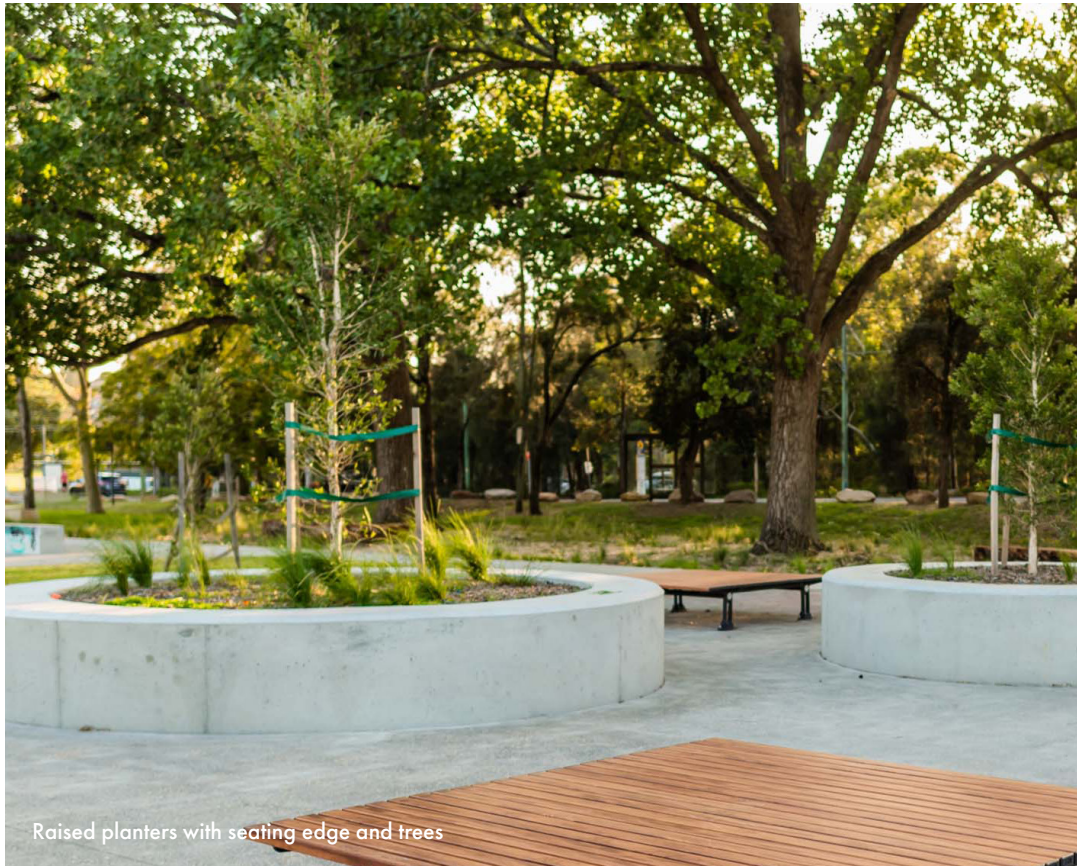
Tables and benches



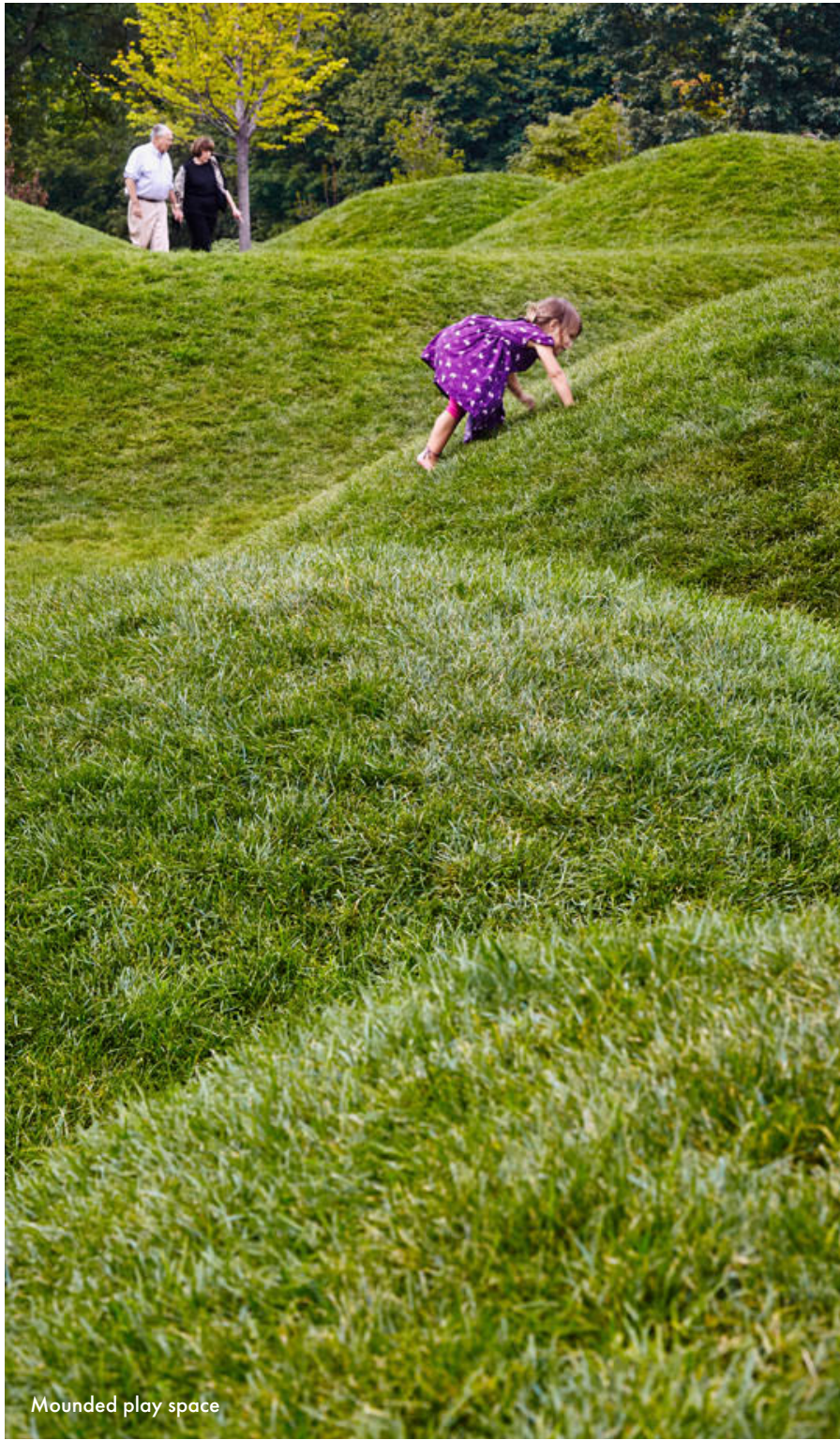
Multi-generational accessible pathways



Multi-use lawn



Raised planters with seating edge and trees



Mounded play space



Table tennis tables



Feature tables



Multi-use play and seating element



Adventure swale



Picnic shelters, BBQs, tables and benches



Sensory gardens



Mounded play area



Multi-use play elements



Adventure play under the acacias



Pedestrian crossing Holden Street



Native grasses and understorey vegetation



Nature play

4.5 Grounds, Leases and Infrastructure

This Plan of Management expressly authorises Inner West Council to grant licenses for Lewis Herman Reserve for the purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in Table 3 below.

4.6 Dogs in Parks

4.6.1 Aims and Objectives

- Recognise the need for companion animal access in Parks.
- Lewis Herman Reserve is dedicated as an on-leash park.
- Monitor the control of dogs in the Park;
- Install dog waste bins where needed;
- Off-leash area will be informed by the masterplan; and
- Ensure dog bag dispensers have a constant supply of dog bags.

4.7 Children's Playgrounds

4.7.1 Aims and Objectives

- Provide play areas that are inclusive, accessible and encourage children to learn, socialise, imagine, create and play;
- Ensure play areas provides a range of diverse activities and that incorporate both play facilities and natural play environments; and
- Inspect and maintain play equipment regularly to ensure equipment is safe and secure for use.
- Provide natural and structured play experiences and an open space where children can explore, imagine and grow in confidence and ability

4.7.2 Issues, Opportunities and Constraints

Lewis Herman Reserve will be developed to provide a new and diverse children's playground which is inclusive, accessible and available to all children to play, explore and create.

The design of the playground and the facilities is illustrated in the Lewis Herman Reserve masterplan. This master plan includes a range of opportunities for recreation, play, exploration, structured equipment, sails and soft fall. The play area take into account site specific access linkages within the Park the provision of appropriate transitional spaces for both structured and unstructured play.

It is acknowledged that there may be potential conflicts arising from sources of noise, specifically in relation to the age care facility directly adjoining the Park. Appropriate landscaping buffers should be introduced on all Park boundaries to ensure that noise and privacy impacts are minimised in relation to adjoining residents.

Type of Arrangement Authorised	Categorisation	Purpose for which licensing / leasing will be granted
Licence	General Community Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting a commercial photography session - Filming - Catering - Picnics and private celebrations such as birthdays, family gatherings and weddings - Playing a musical instrument or singing for fee or reward - Engaging in trade or business - Delivering a public address
Licence	General Community Use	- Access over the park to transport building materials and equipment required for building on adjoining land and to remove waste that is consequential to such work.

Table 3: Permissible Short Term Uses - up to 12 months

4.8 The Arts

4.8.1 Aims and Objectives

- Support artists and develop new ways to promote and sustain their practice in Parks; and
- Provide opportunities for cultural development for local artists and the broader community.

4.8.2 Issues, Opportunities and Constraints

Parks are venues for events, places for Public Art, homes for cultural venues and precincts, and opportunities for place making. Parks are for the people to create places of meaning and relevance alongside nurturing and supporting creatives to embellish place and space that is inclusive for all.

There may be opportunity to investigate integrating some Art programs or installations in the Park, when considered appropriate by Council. Public art should consider the artwork within the context of Ashfield and the suitability of the art for the Park. In particular, the Parks proximity to Thirning Villa could facilitate the establishment of a potential artist link.

4.9 Culture and Heritage

4.9.1 Aims and Objectives

- Recognise and maintain the significance of the Park, including existing features, facilities and vegetation.

4.9.2 Issues, Opportunities and Constraints

While there is not known to be any areas of high cultural or archaeological heritage significance within the boundary of the Park, the Park is located within an area that could have been a habitable place for the Cadigal and Wangal peoples.

There are opportunities to use native species, which interpret some of the cultural heritage values and values of the aboriginal community. Additionally, there may be opportunities to provide dual naming to the site that recognise Cadigal and Wangal links to the area.

5. ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan below identifies management objectives, strategies and associated actions and priorities. The actions aim to:

- Improve the Park;
- Repair past damage;
- Prevent further degradation;
- Maintain and enhance the amenity of the area;
- Continuously improve and maintain facilities;
- Manage the planned sharing of the Park by organisations involved in passive (and active) recreation; and
- Preserve the Park as a place for relaxation, passive recreation and a place of significant heritage.

The implementation of the actions in Action Plan will be coordinated on a yearly basis in accordance with the assigned priorities. These priorities are linked to the following time frame:

High Commenced within the next 2 years

Medium Commenced in 2 – 5 years

Low Commenced after 5 years

It should be recognised, however, that the commencement and completion of the actions will be dependent on available Council resources and funding and on Council priorities in its yearly program. The priority of each action will need to be reassessed annually to determine its continuing relevance.

Aims and Objectives	Future Directions	Priority
Masterplan Preparation		
In consultation with the Community prepare and develop a park masterplan that provides the open space parameters, layout and design principles for the Park.	– Council to prepare concept masterplan for Lewis Herman Reserve in consultation with the community.	H
Grounds, Leases, and Infrastructure		
Apply minimum standards to ensure grounds are properly maintained (mowing, weed removal, irrigation and aeration, building repairs, painting, rubbish collection and addressing vandalism); Ensure all pathways, facilities and associated amenities within the Park are accessible for People with Disabilities;	– Grounds and infrastructure to be determined based on the creation of a masterplan;	H
	– Ensure the proposed masterplan does not impact on existing works undertaken on the site to contain the contamination;	H
	– Ensure any maintenance of grounds and land does not impact on existing capping;	Ongoing
	– Establish lawns, edges, paths, seating, table sand shelters to maximise the Park as a safe and attractive place to visit and walk; and	Ongoing
Ensure appropriate allocation of leases and licenses within the Park to promote fair and equitable use; and Enhance the quality and safety of built structures, access and play surfaces.	– Provide seating and drinking fountains where considered appropriate along pathways	H
Access		
Enhance access to and from the Park, as well as improve connections within the Park; Ensure footpaths and buildings comply with Disabilities Discrimination Act and AS1428; Minimise impact of local traffic generation and parking in surrounding streets; and Encourage access to the Park through public transport, cycle routes and street connections.	– Masterplan should guide the location and arrangement of pathways and access;	H
	– Ensure emergency vehicles have unhindered access to the Park;	H
	– Promote awareness of access to the Park via public transport;	Ongoing
	– Design of access arrangements should consider the existing and future demographic users of the park; and	H
	– Park utilities and furniture should be located to ensure no obstructions to movement of pedestrians.	H

Aims and Objectives	Future Directions	Priority
Landscape Character and Visual Amenity		
Provide consistent landscape palette across the Park; Improve visual presentation of the Park along pathways, street frontages and open areas; Manage the Park in accordance with Council's principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development; and Plant additional vegetation to improve local amenity and shading where appropriate.	– Introduce landscape buffers on all Park boundaries to minimise noise and privacy impacts to adjoining development. This should be considered in the design of the masterplan;	H
	– Provide substantial tree planting to create a 'sense of place' and natural shade;	H
	– Engage an arborist to undertake full inspection of the Parks vegetation assets to determine their values and significance; and	H
	– Maintain existing landscape buffer to the southern boundary.	H
Dogs in Parks		
Recognise the increase in on-leash dog use in Parks; Consider the rights and safety of other users in the Park when a dog is on-leash provision.	– Investigate opportunities for on leash dog area in the Park;	H
	– Monitor the control of dogs in the Park;	H
	– Install dog waste bins where needed;	Ongoing
	– Off-leash area will be informed by the masterplan; and	H
	– Ensure dog bag dispensers have a constant supply of dog bags.	Ongoing
Children's Playgrounds		
Provide play areas that encourage children to learn, socialise, imagine, create and play; Ensure play areas provides a range of diverse activities and that incorporate both play facilities and natural play environments; and Inspect and maintain play equipment regularly to ensure equipment is safe and secure for use.	– Design of children's playground to be informed by masterplan;	H
	– Provide children's playground with play equipment;	H
	– Ensure appropriate shading is introduced around the playground either through shade sails or deciduous tree planting;	H
	– Ensure an appropriate transitional area in the Park to clearly delineate between children's playground and other themed use areas; and	H
	– Ensure the Park provides accessible play equipment.	H
The Arts		
Support artists and develop new ways to promote and sustain their practice in Parks; and Provide opportunities for cultural development for local artists and the broader community.	– Encourage growth of public art where appropriate in line with Council's Public Art Policy;	H
	– Explore opportunities to integrate art installations within the Park, subject to Council approval; and	H
	– Support initiatives in the Park that enhance community cohesiveness.	Ongoing
Culture and Heritage		
Recognise and maintain the significance of the Park, including existing features, facilities and vegetation.	– Explore potential dual naming opportunity for the Park;	H
	– Council will develop as a matter of urgency a Park Tree Strategy and Park Tree Management Plan; and	H
	– Adopt native and exotic (introduced) species as appropriate with interpret cultural history of both First Australians and the cultural heritage of contemporary cultural groups.	H

Table 4: Action Plan



INNER WEST