1-7 Waterfront Place, Port Melbourne Landscape Architecture Town Planning Report



We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of this place.

We honour Elders past and present, whose profound knowledge systems can teach us much about how we care and design for Country.

Prepared by

OCULUS

Prepared for

GFM Group Pty Ltd (ACN 675 440 730) in its capacity as trustee of the GFM BTS Trust Subtrust No.4 (ABN 12 757 352 180)

Date
22.11.24
20.12.24
15.01.25
17.01.25

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Introduction

Located at the prestigious address of 7 Waterfront Place, Port Melbourne, this site occupies a prime position along the Port Phillip Bay waterfront, a location cherished by both locals and tourists for its stunning beach views and vibrant maritime character.

The area is anchored by the iconic Beacon Cove, a popular destination for visitors, and the historic Station Pier, which serves as a hub for cruise ships, reflecting the precinct's deep connection to Melbourne's maritime heritage.

The proposed luxury mixed-use tower is designed to embrace its surroundings, offering breathtaking south-facing views of the bay while seamlessly integrating with the dynamic urban fabric. The project envisions activating the ground plane with retail and office spaces, street seating, outdoor dining, and a lush green laneway, creating a welcoming and vibrant public realm that fosters connectivity, leisure, and engagement within this thriving waterfront community.



1.0 Analysis



1.1 City Context

Port Melbourne, a bayside suburb located just 3 km southwest of Melbourne's CBD in the City of Port Phillip, is known for its scenic waterfront and vibrant community. Its iconic esplanade, lined with majestic Phoenix canariensis (Canary Island Date Palms), offers stunning views over Port Phillip Bay. The area's beach not only serves as a popular recreational spot but also provides vital habitats for indigenous vegetation and wildlife, with its dunal areas and protected reserves featuring native grasses and plants.

Port Melbourne boasts excellent connectivity through public transport and well-used shared pathways, reflecting the active lifestyle of its residents. Bay Street, the suburb's main retail precinct, links Port Melbourne to the CBD and is a lively hub for highstreet shopping, pubs, restaurants, and cafés.

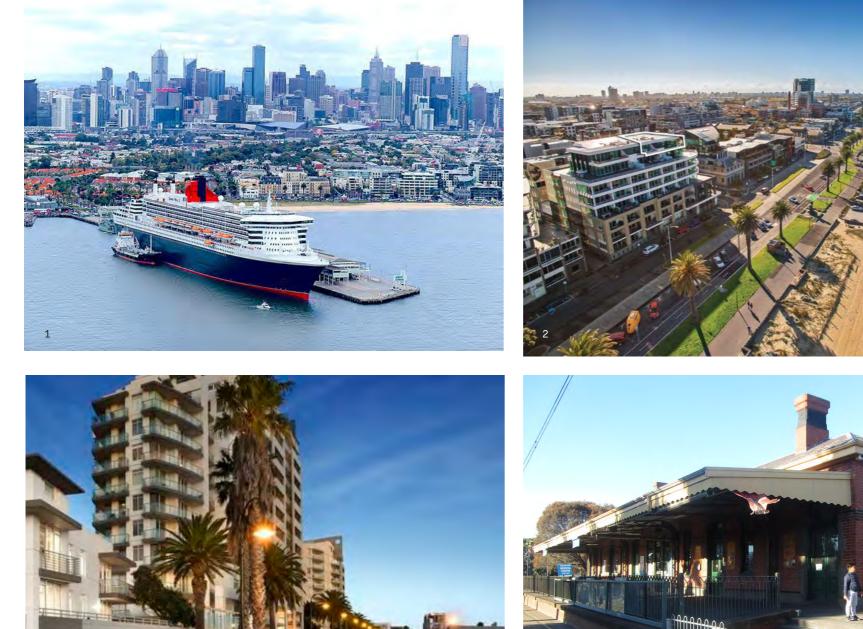
Historically significant, Port Melbourne was home to Melbourne's first train station, opened in 1854, which served passengers and immigrants traveling from Station Pier to Flinders Street Station. Today, Station Pier remains a gateway for visitors arriving by sea on cruise ships.

Beacon Cove, a major redevelopment by Mirvac from 1996 to 2004, transformed a former industrial site into a masterplanned residential precinct with treelined streets, green spaces, and a vibrant esplanade. The subject site, once part of the Beacon Cove development, is located at the southeast corner, overlooking the picturesque Port Phillip.

Legend

А	Sandridge Beach
В	Princes Pier
С	Garden City Reserve
D	Beacon Cove
Е	Beacon Cove Esplanade
F	Station Pier
G	Beach Reserve
Н	Bay Street
I	Lagoon Pier
	Tram Route 109
••••	Share Path / Public Access
	Parks and Reserves
2 2 2	Site





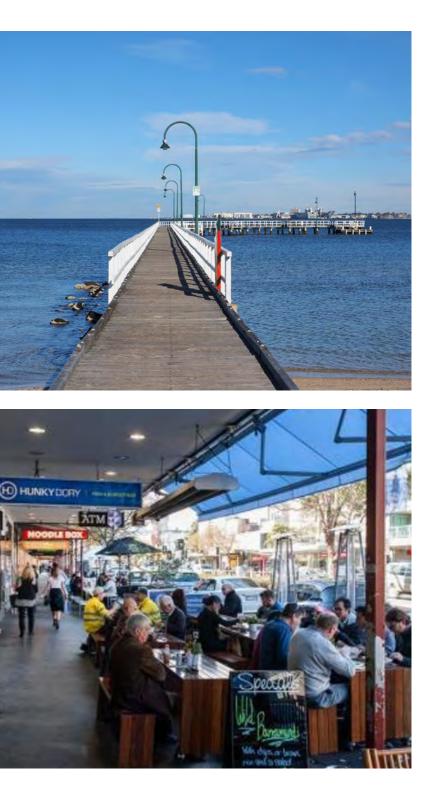


1. Station Pier

- 2. Port Melbourne Beach
- 6. Bay Street

5. Tram Terminus

- 3. Lagoon Pier
- 4. Beacon Cove Esplanade



1.2 Site Context

The site, on the northern edge of Station Pier, is a key gateway to the pier precinct, the terminus of Melbourne's bayside beaches, and the endpoint of a major linear open space. Bounded by Waterfront Place to the south, Beach Street to the north, and the heritage-listed Port Melbourne light-rail station to the west, it currently features mostly vacant former health club buildings.

The northern edge adjoins low to medium-density housing, with Beach Street lined by Phoenix canariensis (Canary Island Date Palms) and Washingtonia robusta (Washington Palms). Similar palm plantings continue along Waterfront Place to the south, which also houses a car park for Spirit of Tasmania Ferry services. The south-east corner faces Port Phillip Bay, featuring two large Washingtonia robusta palms.

The western edge is defined by the historic light-rail station, the terminus of the former rail link to Flinders Street, now part of Tram Route 109.



Legend	
А	Tram Terminus
В	Beacon Cove Gateway Roundabout
	Tram Route 109
••••	Bike Lane /Share Path
\rightarrow	Pedestrian Connection
$\Sigma \equiv \Sigma$	Site

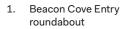












- 2. Out of Park Square St.
- 3. Beach St.

- 4. 109 Tran Terminus
- 5. Waterfront Place
- 6. Beach St





1.3 Existing Tree Plan



2.0 Landscape Design



2.1 Design Approach

This design creates a welcoming green corridor that blends functionality with beauty, enhancing both the community and the environment.

Small garden moments with integrated seating are thoughtfully designed to offer tranquil spaces for rest and relaxation, while designated areas for outdoor dining bring vibrancy and social interaction to the laneway.

Strategically placed trees frame key views, creating visual connections to the surrounding landscape, including captivating glimpses of Port Phillip Bay, fostering a sense of place and orientation.

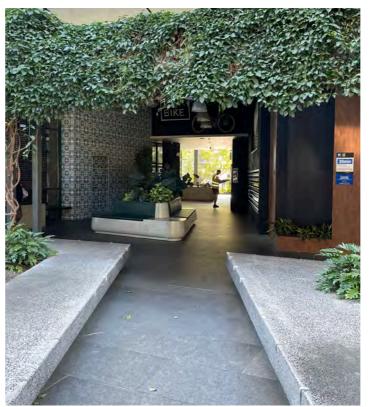
The trees provide shade, comfort, and seasonal interest, enriching the user experience while improving the urban micro climate.

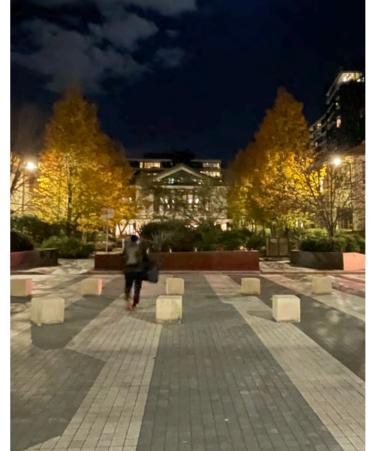
Locally inspired stone is used as the primary material, reflecting the region's character and heritage while offering durability and a timeless aesthetic.

This design creates a harmonious space that balances nature, community, and context, transforming the laneway into a functional, inviting destination connecting people, the city, and the bay.







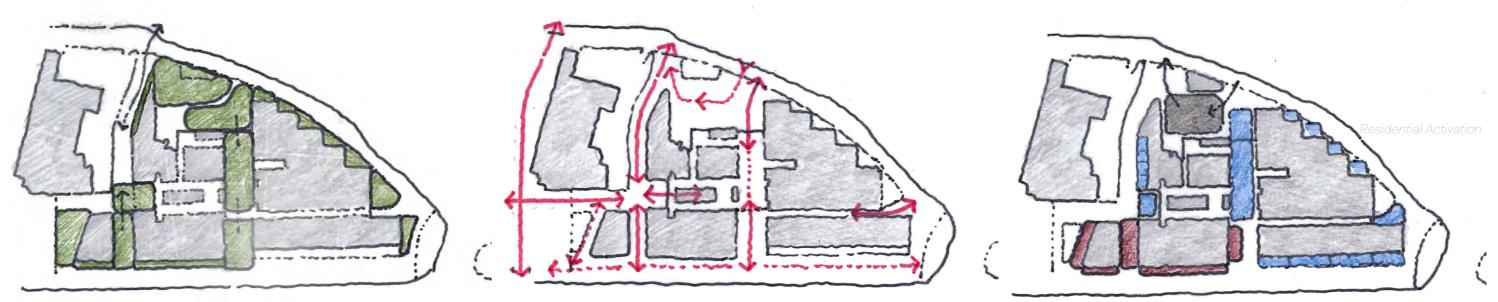








2.2 Design Principles



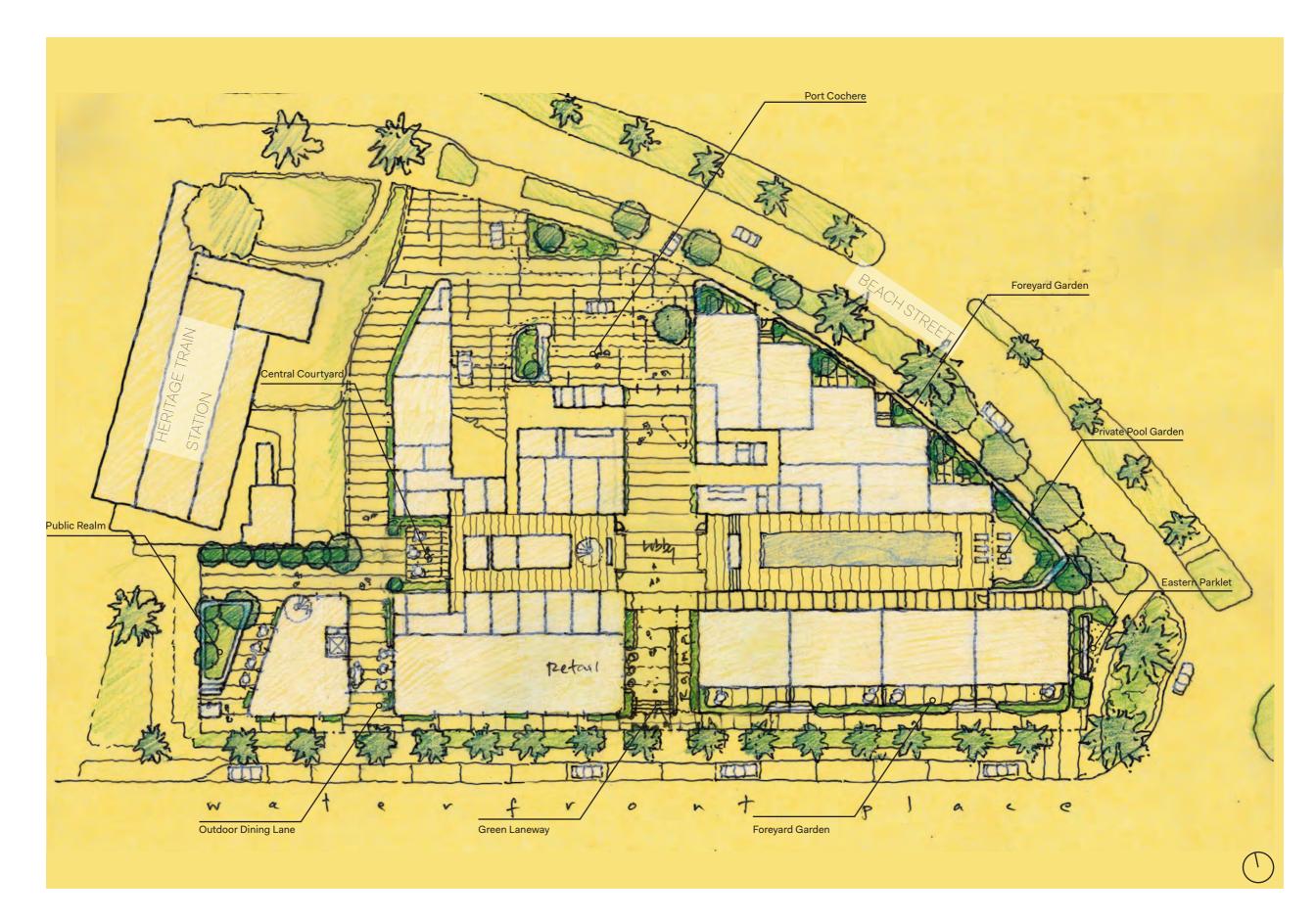
Sequence of Green Spaces

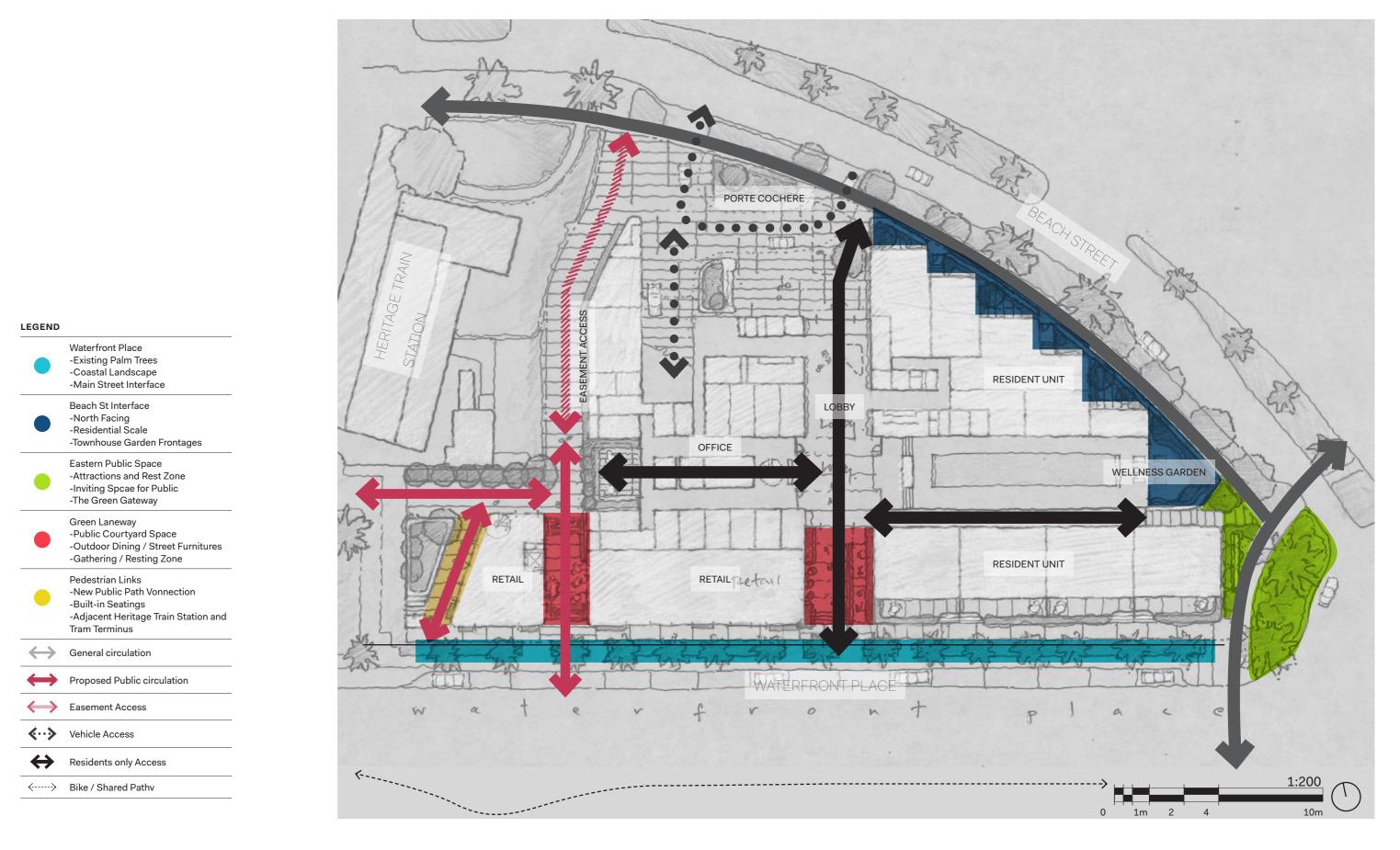
Connected

tail Activation

Activation

2.3 Landscape Plan - Ground Floor Sketch Plan





2.5 Landscape Plan - Ground Level

The ground floor design envisions a vibrant and inviting laneway, with lush greenery extending from Waterfront Place, complemented by an outdoor dining area and retail pavilion. This will enhance the appeal of the historic train terminus, drawing visitors further into the precinct.

The central laneway will provide a north-to-south connection, offering a quiet, green, and enclosed resting space on its southern side.

The porte-cochère on Beach Street will feature palm trees and beautifully shaped plants, creating a luxurious atmosphere for the building.

Additionally, the ground-level resident foreyard will be heavily planted with shore environment species, ensuring privacy while maintaining the site's connection to its coastal setting.

Wind is a significant factor on this site, and the design will incorporate recommendations from the wind engineer to ensure a comfortable and resilient environment.

Legend

Legena	
А	Public Realm
В	Retail Pavilion
С	Outdoor Dining Lane
D	Central Courtyard
Е	North - South Link
F	Porte Cochere
G	Retail Space
Н	Lobby
I	Green Laneway
J	Foreyard Garden
К	Swimming Pool
L	Private Wellness Garden
М	Private Pool Garden
Ν	East-West Access
0	Eastern Parklet
000	Site Boundary

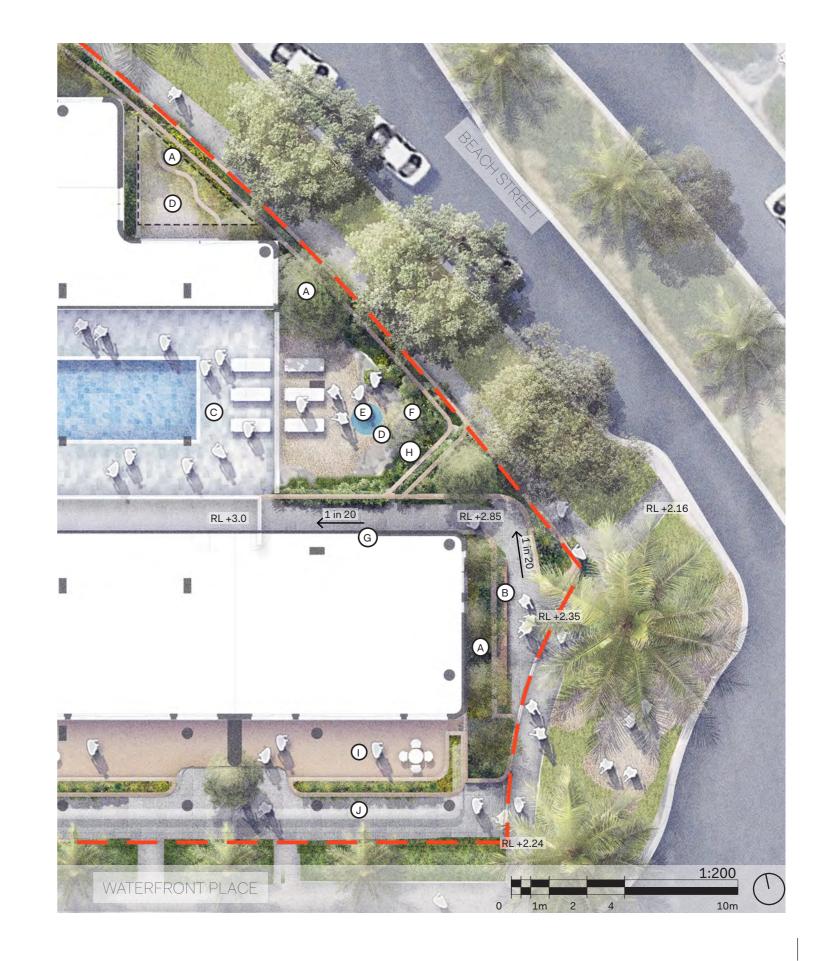


2.6 Landscape Plan - Waterfront Parade



А	Private Terrace
В	Productive Garden
С	Laneway Dining Space
D	Ramp Access
Е	Raised Planter
F	Bike Parking
G	Foryard Garden
003	Site Boundary

2.7 Landscape Plan - Private Gardens / Eastern Parklet

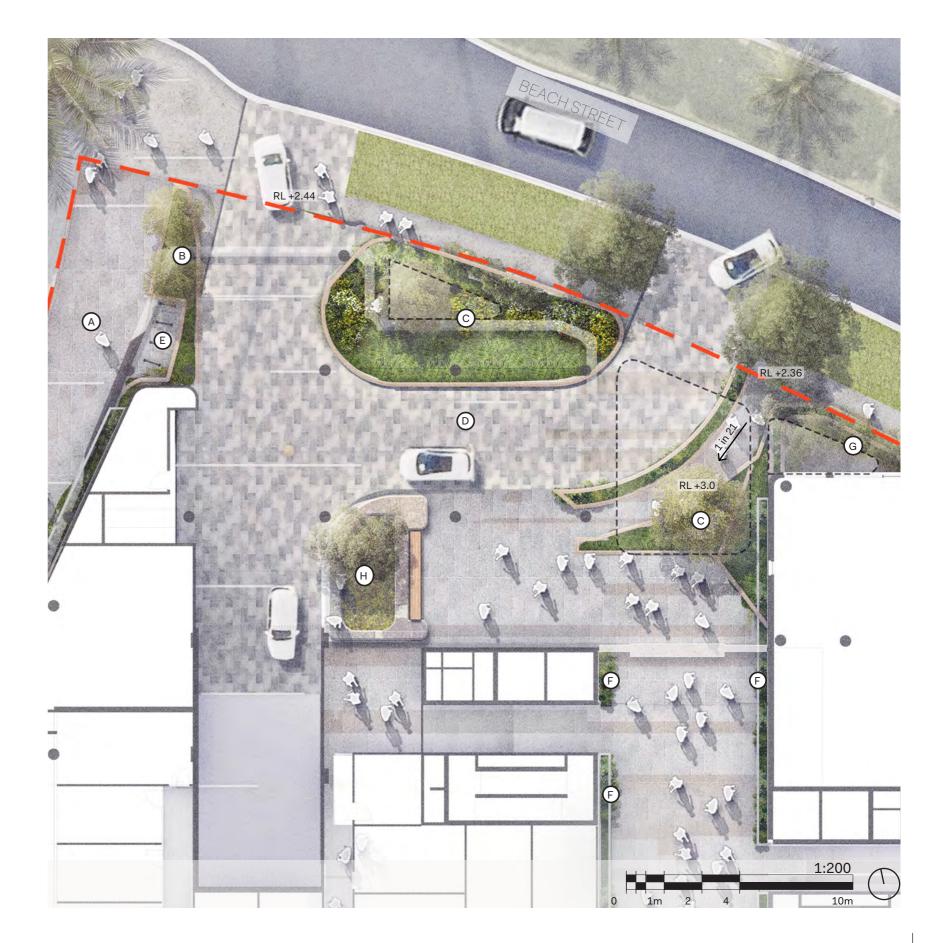


Legend

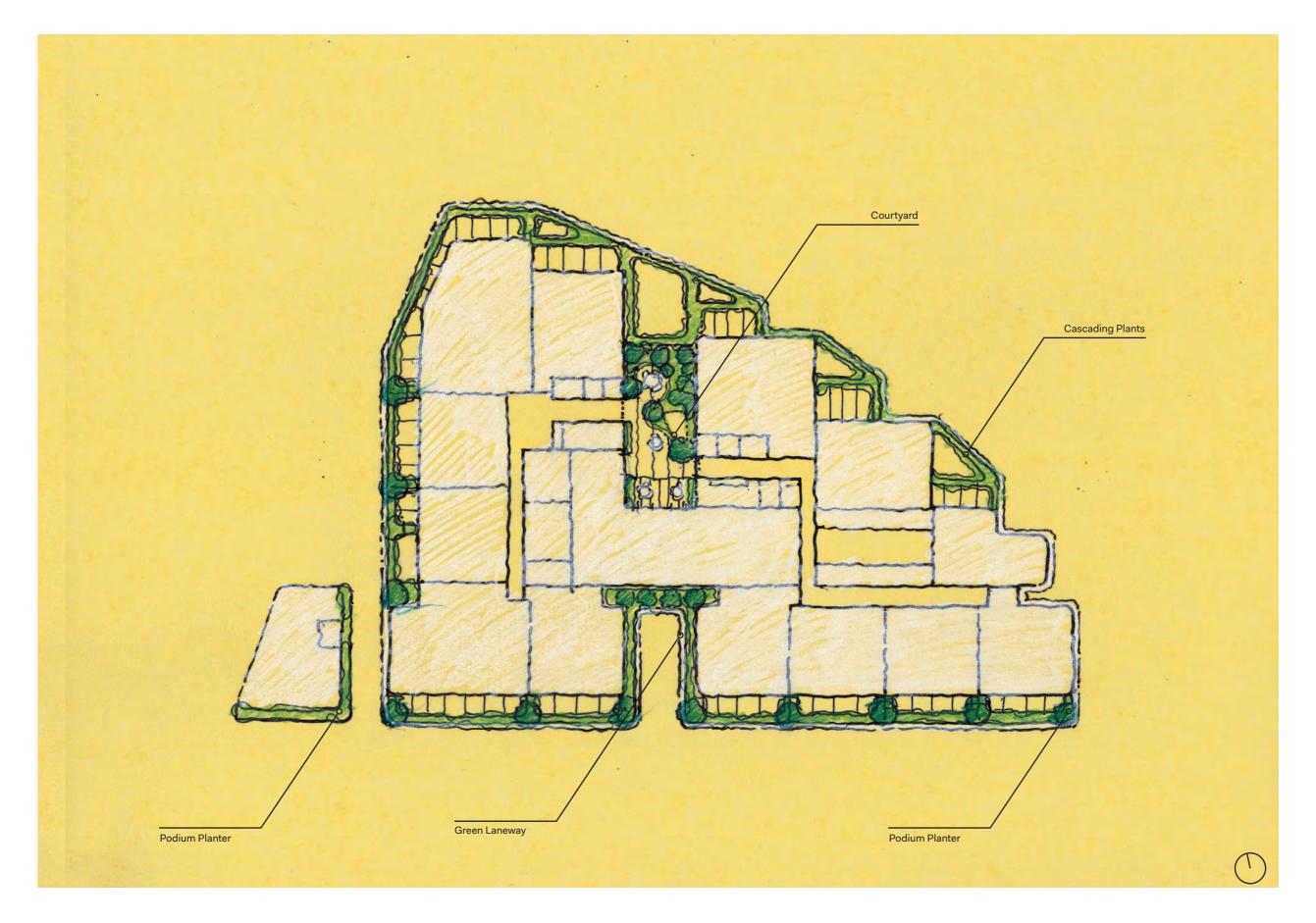
А	Deep Soil Planting
В	Bench Seating
С	Tile Paving
D	Gravel Paving
Е	Water Feature
F	Circular Seats
G	Ramp Access
Н	Deep Soil Planting
Ι	Foreyard Garden
J	Blue Stone Paving
000	Site Boundary

2.8 Landscape - Port Cochere

А	Easement Access
В	Deep Soil Planting
С	Raised Planter
D	Drive Way
Е	Bike Parking
F	Indoor Planters
G	Foreyard Garden (Deep Soil)
Н	Raised Planter / Seats
603	Site Boundary



2.9 Landscape Plan - Level 1 Sketch Plan



2.10 Landscape Plan - Level 1

The landscape above the ground floor includes edge planters, a courtyard, and green roofs.

A wide planter located above the green laneway will provide additional space for vegetation, extending the greenery of the laneway.

At the northern edge, planters are designed around circular openings, creating a halo-like effect. Cascading plants from these planters will be visible from the ground level through the skylights, enhancing the visual connection between levels.

Balcony edge planting is proposed from Level 1 to Level 3, enriching the vertical greenery and contributing to the overall landscape character.



А	Podium Planter	
В	Private Terrace	
С	Courtyard	
D	Cascading Planting	

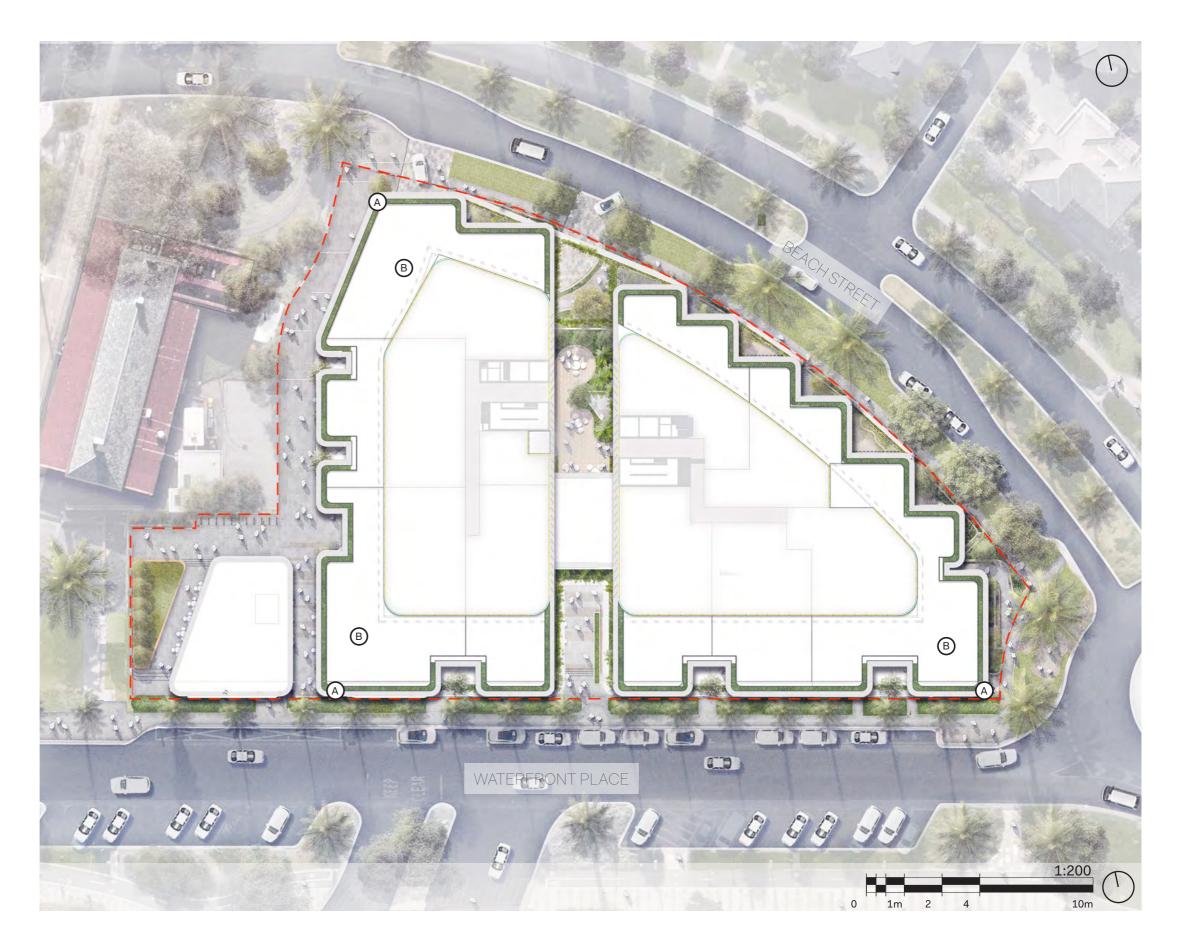
Site Boundary





Legend

- A Podium Planter
- B Private Terrace
- Site Boundary

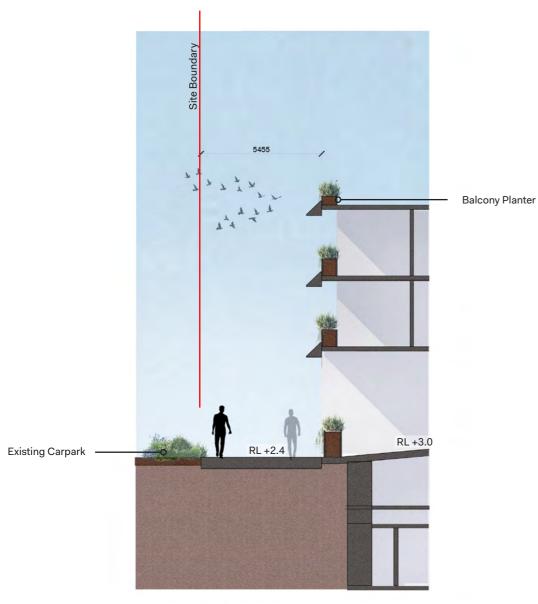


Legend

A Podium Planter

B Private Terrace

Site Boundary



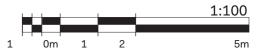
West side Eastment - Landscape Section AA'



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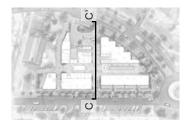


Laneway / Dining T&Cs



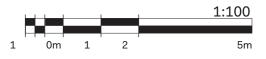


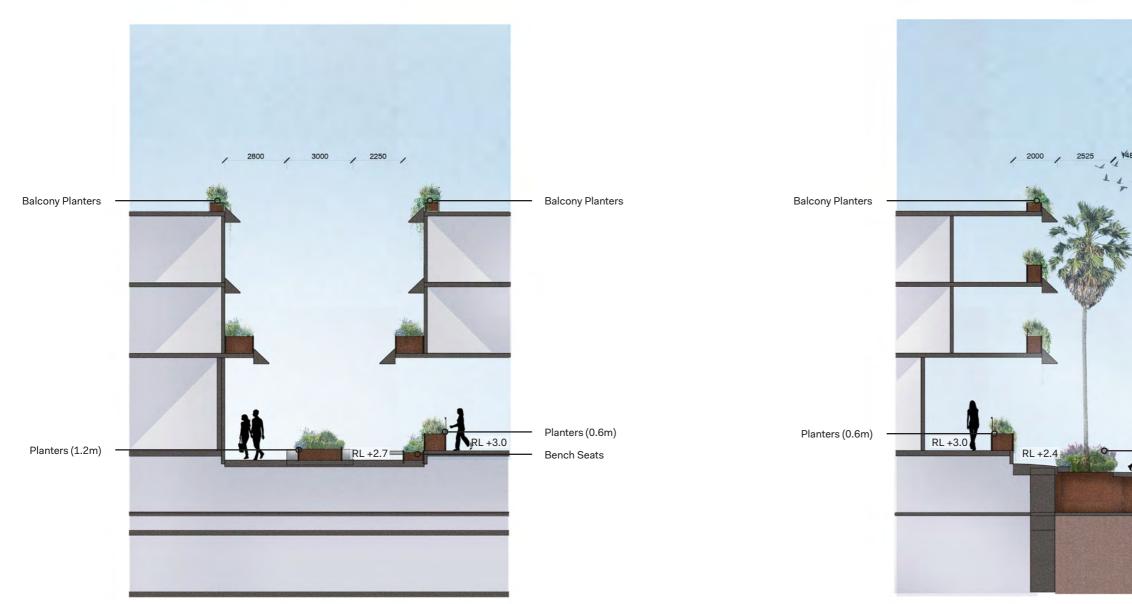
Main Green Laneway - Landscape Section DD'



Sidewalk

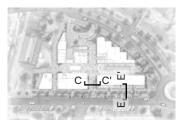
Beach St.





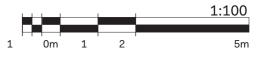
Green Laneway - Landscape Section CC'

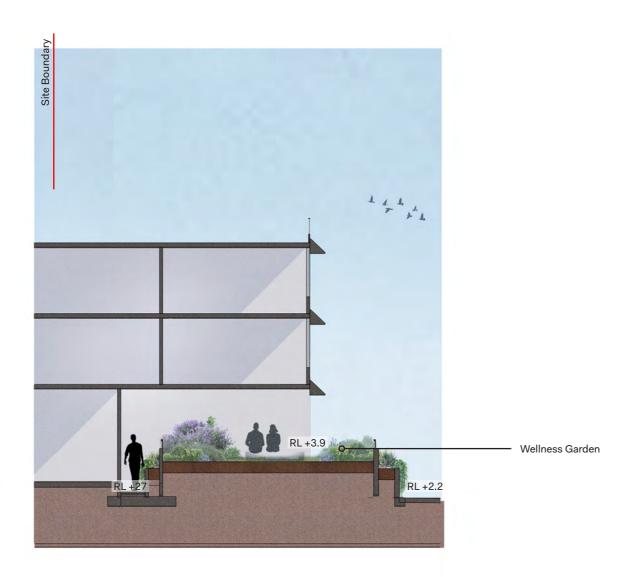
Resident Foreyard - Landscape Section EE'





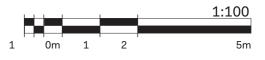
Nature Strip Planting





Pool Garden - Landscape Section FF'





2.14 Views

Outdoor Dining Laneway / Retail Space





Outdoor Dining Laneway South View



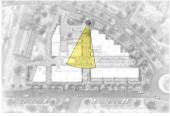






Porte-cochère View Way-in





Porte-cochère View Way-out













Waterfront Place Street View





Eastern Parklet / East Access View











Waterfront Place Elevation



3.0 Materials

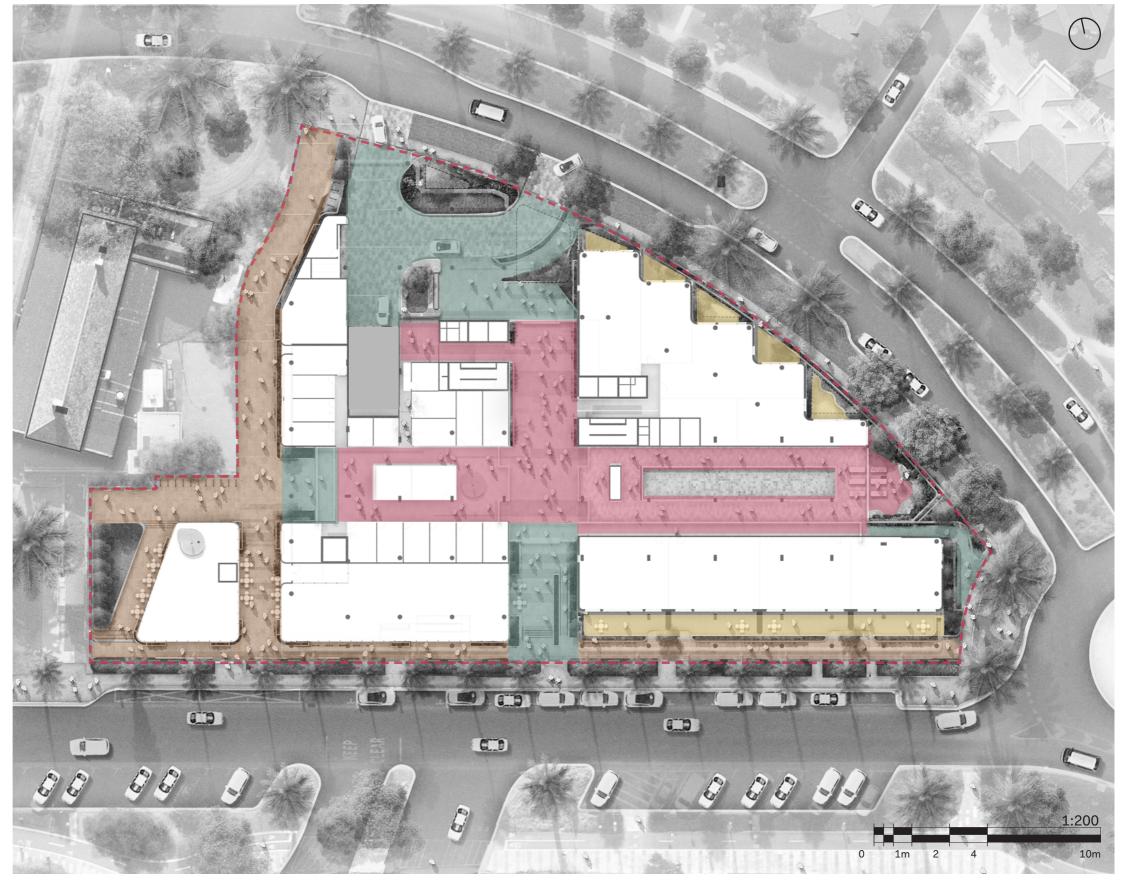


3.1 Paving - Ground Level

The material selections for the Ground Level landscape paving comprises a palette of different natural stone and precast concrete types.

Four different paving types/zones have been identified within the landscape based on a number of criteria, including location/typology, function/performance and public/private.

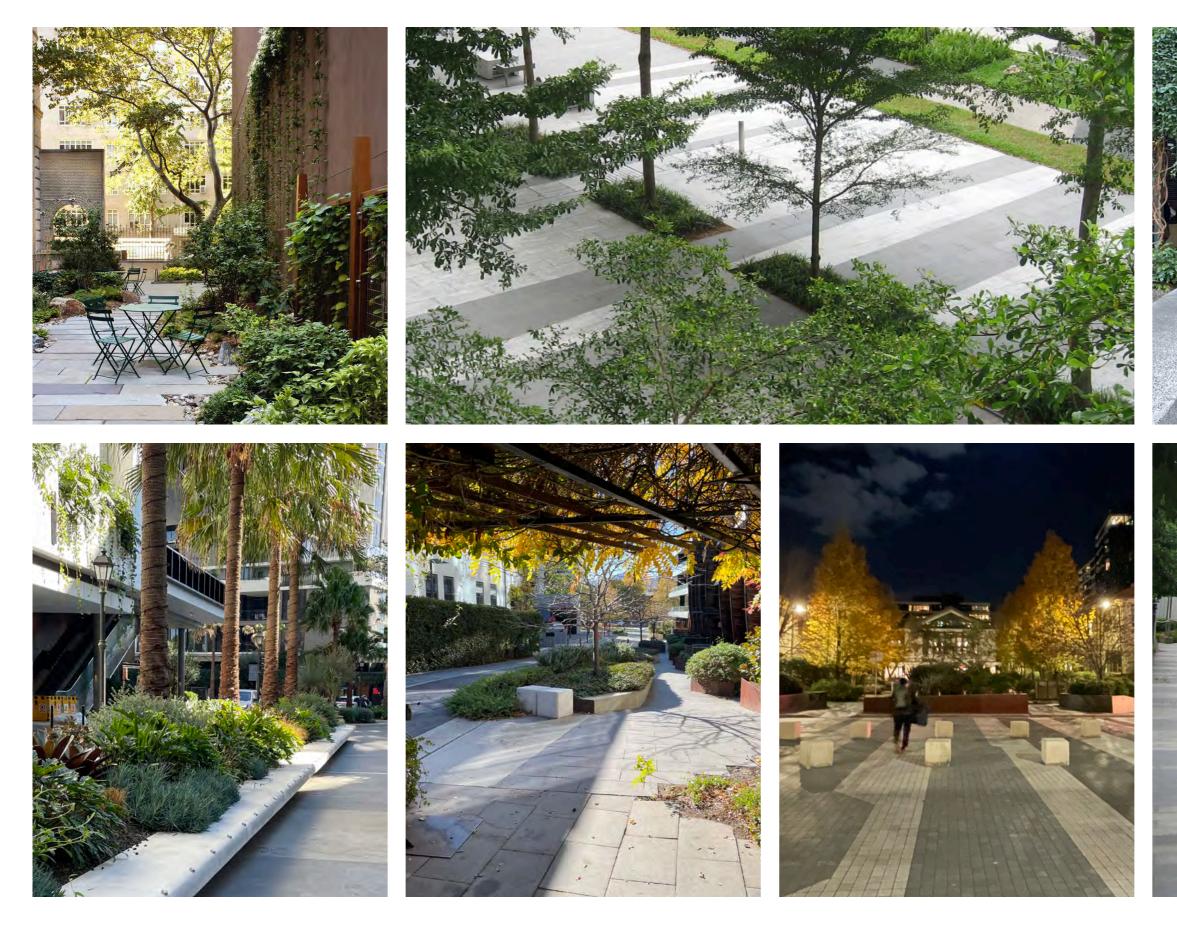
This approach to the landscape paving material selections aims to introduce diversity and hierarchy to each of the individual spaces identified whilst being complementary to each other and maintaining an overall sense of cohesion.



Legend

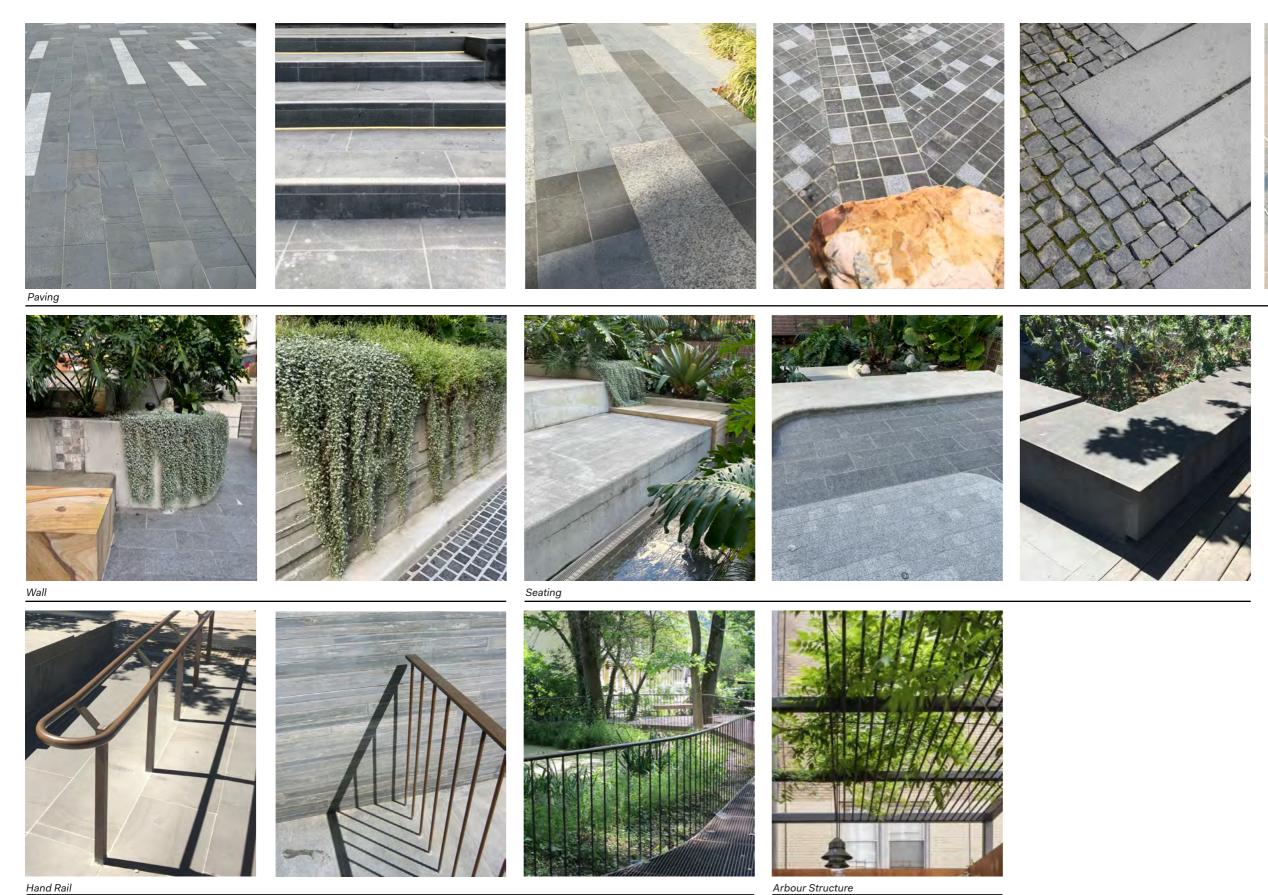
Paving Material 1
Paving Material 2
Paving Material 3
Paving Material 4

3.2 Paving- Precedent Images





3.3 Material Palette - Paving & Hard Landscape



Hand Rail



4.0 Planting



4.1 Planting - Ground Level

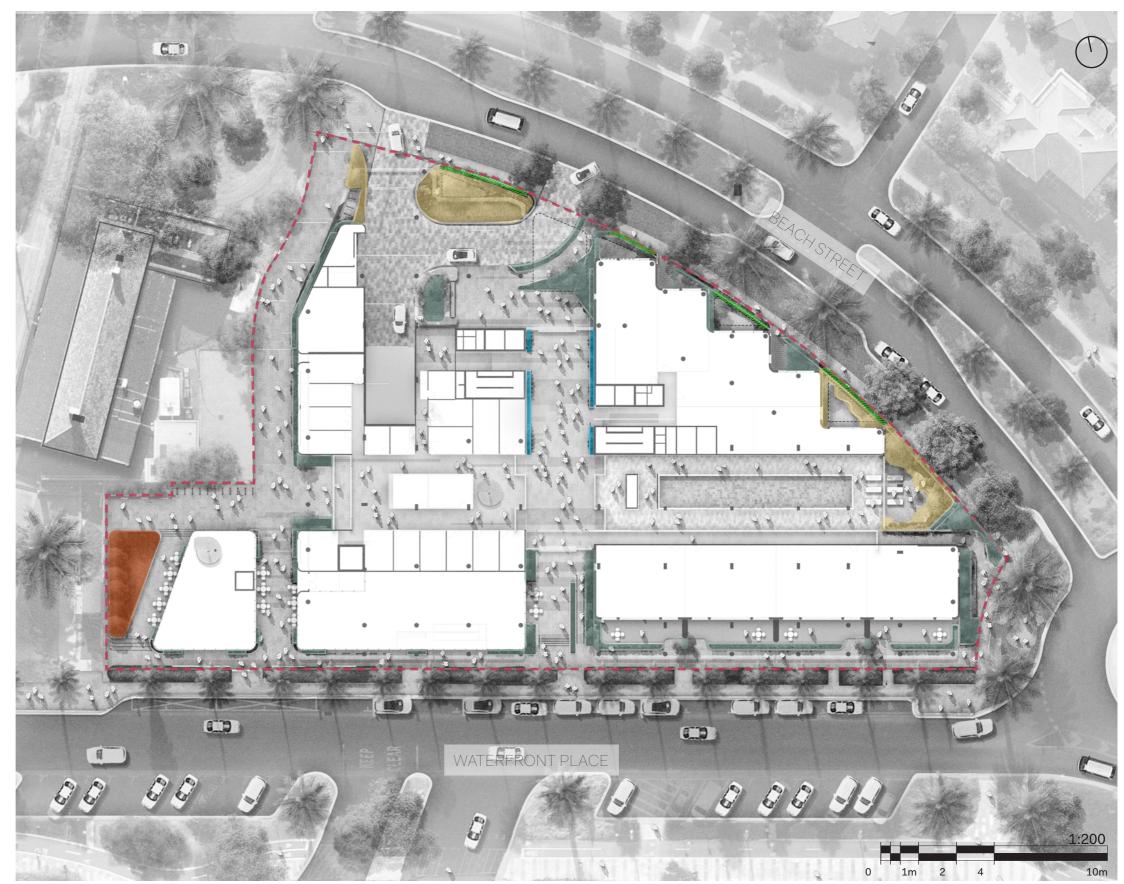
The planting for the Ground Level landscape comprises a palette of both native and exotic species, utilising a selection of trees, shrubs and ground covers appropriate for use in the urban coastal location of the site and to the different types of spaces/growing conditions located within.

Four different zones have been identified for the planting design at Ground Level. Garden beds in the public spaces and central laneway will feature a mix of native plant species to planters and centre of these spaces. Planting adjacent to the residential balconies/ terraces to the south and north of the project is intended to provide screening and enhance the privacy of residents. The Wellness Garden and Eastern parklet will contain plants with more vibrant colors and textures to visually punctuate this corner of the site. In the porte-cochere, the planting design is intended to be more open with the opportunity for tree and understorey planting, in response to the existing street scape on Beach Street to maintain visual consistency through the planting design. A productive garden of approximately 70 sqm. is located to the south-west corner of the site.

The plant selection and detailed planting design for the Ground Level will be developed further in the upcoming design stages of the project.

All garden beds and planting types are to include an automated irrigation system (to be used from installation, throughout and following the establishment period). The irrigation system will be connected to rainwater tank and will also include moisture sensors to minimise water usage. The irrigation design is to be prepared by an Irrigation consultant.

Legend	
_	Deep Soil Zone
	Raised Planter
	Indoor Raised Planter
	Productive Garden
,,,,,,,	Climbing Plant Trellis
000	Site Boundary



4.2 Planting - Level 1

The planting approach for Level 1 is similar to that proposed for the Ground Level and Levels 2-3 of the building. We intend to utilise a mix of both native and exotic shrubs, groundcovers and climbing/cascading pants across the podium planters to the north, west and south and also above the central laneway (north and south), the roof of the retail building to the west of the site and within the raised planters of the central Podium Garden.

The plant selection and detailed planting design will be developed further in the upcoming design stages of the project.









4.3 Planting - Level 2

The planting extents for Level 2 consists of a series of podium planters to the north, west, south and central laneway facades. The propposed plant palette will be comprised of a combination of groundcover and climbing/cascading species.

The plant species selection and detailed planting design will be developed further in the upcoming design stages of the project.



Legend

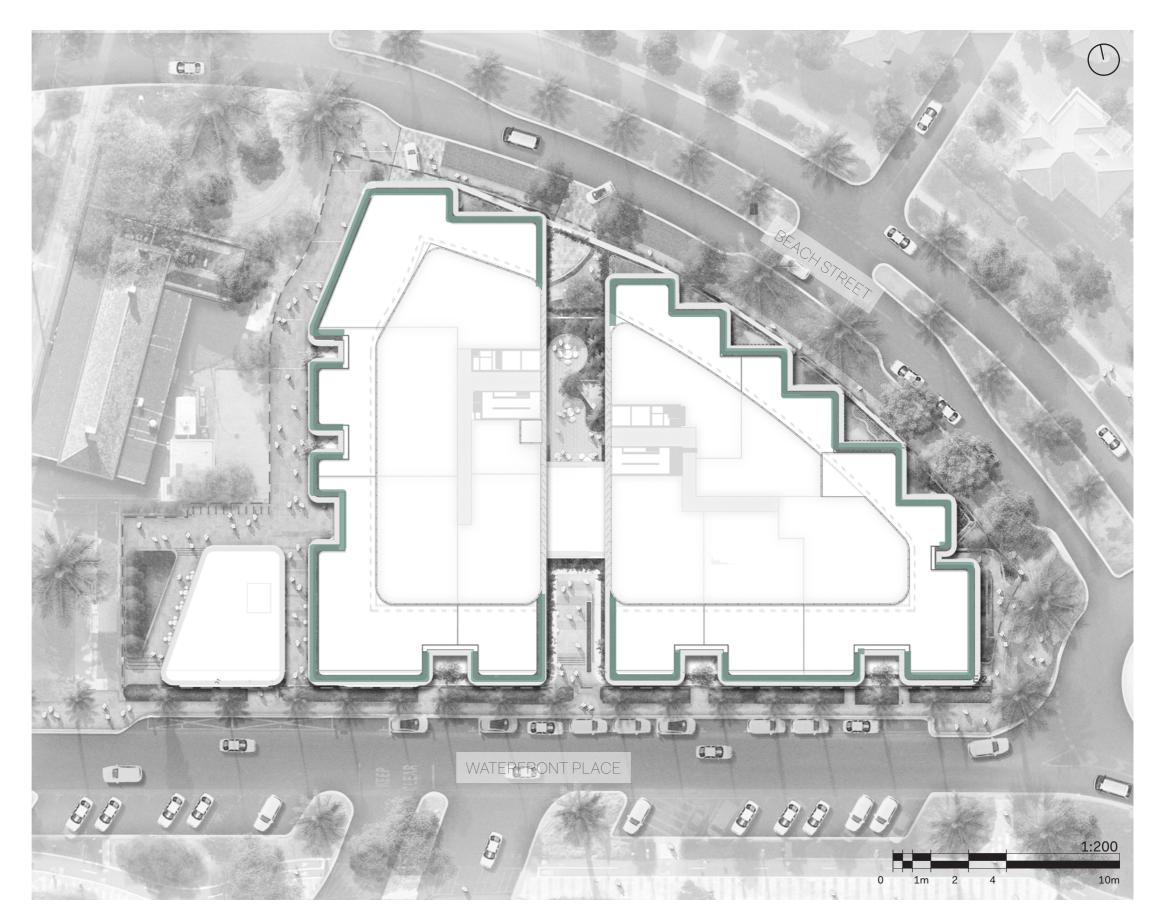
Balcony Planter

Site Boundary

4.4 Planting - Level 3

Matching the design intent for Level 2 of the building the Level 3 planting scopes also consists of a series of podium planters to the north, west and south facades, creating a continuous green edge to the building perimeter. The propposed plant palette will be comprised of a combination of groundcover and climbing/cascading species.

The plant species selection and detailed planting design will be developed further in the upcoming design stages of the project.



Legend

Balcony Planter

Site Boundary





4.6 Plant Palette



Agave attenuata









Banksia integrifolia



Carpobrotus rossii



Echium candicans

Festuca glauca

Correa alba



Cupaniopsis anacardioides





Ficinia nodosa





Ficus hillii







Banksia marginata



Dichondra repens



Hardenbergia violacea



Kennedia prostrata







Plectranthus argentatus



Poa ensiformis





Myoporum parvifolium









Viola hederacea



Westringia fruticosa







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Senecio mandraliscae





Olea europaea



Rosemarinus officinalis



Zamioculcas zamiifolia



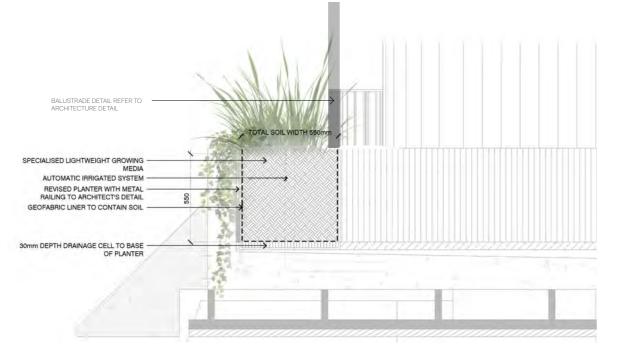


4.7 Plant Schedule

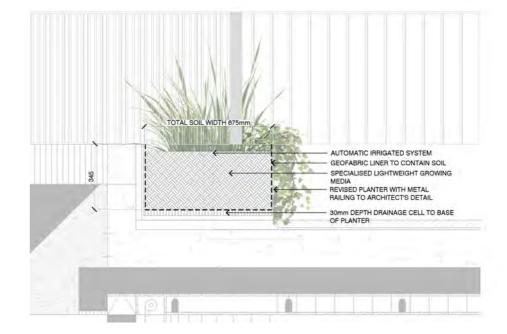
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	MATURE SIZE (M)	INSTALLATION SIZE	DENSITY (PLANTS/SQM.)
Agave attenuata	Swan-neck Agave	0.8 × 1	300mm	4
Anigozanthos sp.	Kangaroo Paw	0.5 x 1.5	300mm	6
Asparagus densiflorus	Foxtail Fern	0.8 x 0.8	200mm	2
Atriplex cinerea	Coast Saltbush	1.5 x 1.5	300mm	2
Banksia integrifolia	Coast Banksia	3 x 10	401	-
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia	3 x 2m	401	-
Brachyscome sp.	Cut-leaf Daisy	0.2 x 0.5	140mm	8
Carprobrotus rossii	Pigface	0.2 x 1.5	200mm	2
Correa alba	White Correa	1 x 1	200mm	4
Cupaniopsis anacardioides	Tuckeroo	8 x 5	2001	-
Dichondra argentea 'Silver Falls'	Silber Falls	0.2 x 1.5	140mm	4
Dichondra repens	Kidney Weed	0.1 x 1	140mm	4
Echium candicans	Pride of Madeira	1.5 x 2	300mm	1
Festuca glauca	Blue Fescue	0.3 x 03	140mm	8
Ficinia nodosa	Knobby Club-rush	0.5 x 0.3	140mm	8
Ficus hillii	Hill's Fig	10 x 5	2001	-
Gazania sp.	Gazania	0.2 x 0.3	140mm	6
Hardenbergia violacea	Native Sarsparilla	0.3 x 2	140mm	2
Kennedia prostrata	Running Postman	0.1 x 2	200mm	2
Kumara plicatilis	Fan Aloe	1.5 x 1.5	300mm	2
Leucophyta brownii	Cushion Bush	1 x 1	200mm	4
Lomandra sp.	Mat-rush	0.7 x 0.7	140mm	6
Myoporum parvifolium	Creeping Boobialla	0.2 x 1.2	140mm	4
Olea europaea	Olive	7 x 5	401	-
Phoenix Caneriensis	Canary Island Date Palm	12 x 6	5001	-
Plectranthus argentatus	Silver Plectranthus	1 x 2	300mm	1
Poa ensiformis	Sword Tussock Grass	0.5 x 0.5	140mm	6
Poa labillardieri	Common Tiussock Grass	0.3 x 0.6	140mm	6
Rhaghodia spinescens	Spiny Saltbush	1.5 x 2	300mm	2
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary	0.6 × 0.9	300mm	2

BOTANICALNAME	COMMON NAME	MATURE SIZE (M)	INSTALLATION SIZE	DENSITY (PLANTS/SQM.)
Senecio mandraliscae	Blue Chalk-Sticks	0.3 x 0.6	300mm	4
Strelitzia reginea	Bird of Paradise	1.8 x 1.2	500mm	2
Trachycarpus fortunei	Chusan Palm	7.5 x 2.5	2001	-
Viola hederacea	Native Violet	0.15 x 0.5	140mm	6
Westringia fruticosa	Coastal Rosemary	1×2	300mm	2
Zamioculcas zamiifolia	ZZ Plant	0.6 × 0.6	300mm	4

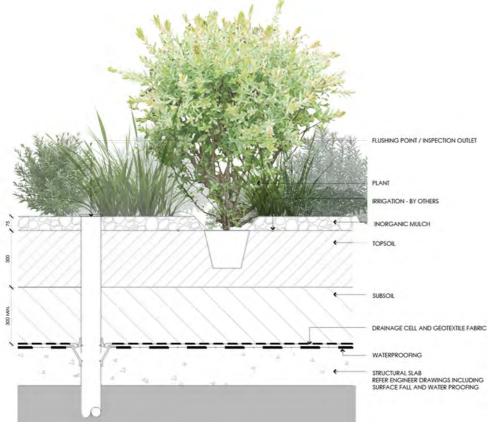
4.8 Typical Details



01. PODIUM EDGE PLANTER - TYPICAL DETAIL - 1:20



02. TOWER PLANTER - TYPICAL DETAIL - 1:20



^{03.} PODIUM GARDEN BED - TYPICAL DETAIL - 1:20

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4.9 Maintenance

Planting Strategy

The preliminary plant selection for the site will use a mix of species chosen for their aesthetic and performance qualities. The planting is intended to create character and identity and improve amenity.

Scale and Integration

+ Trees and landscape are proposed for integration within the fabric of the development to compliment, soften and frame the built form, ensuring that the visual impact to adjacent uses is appropriate. Tree species selection will allow for greening while maintaining visual permeability.

Planting Maintenance

The maintenance needs of any landscape are absolutely tied to the resolution of the design at a planning level. This proposal attempts to negotiate the desire for a verdant planted areas with the need to ensure that these plantings have longevity within a low-maintenance and where possible low water requirements environment. The proposal includes:

- + A strong palette of proven performing plants which are tolerant of low-water conditions or varying light levels;
- + A planting palette that utilises several species for each application ensuring seasonal change as well a consistent level of amenity should one of the species under perform;
- + Allowance for irrigation and maintenance of all external spaces.
- + Raised garden beds provide suitable soil depths and volumes for shrubs and trees. Trees numbers and species consider variable soil volumes. Garden beds are contiguous where possible. All garden beds are to be irrigated and mulched.

Irrigation

All garden beds and planting types are to include an automated irrigation system (to be used from installation, throughout and following the establishment period). The irrigation system will be connected to rainwater tank and will also include moisture sensors to minimise water usage. The irrigation design is to be prepared by an Irrigation consultant.

Indicative Planting Maintenance Regime

Planting Design Process

The Planting maintenance regime to be undertaken and is to include the following:

Plant Material

- + Check plants for health min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year
- + Replace Failed Plants As required
- Treat for Disease or insect attach min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year +
- + Fertilising min. twice per year
- + Fertilising for specific nutrient deficiencies as required by soil tests
- + Thin Out Planting as required
- + Pruning/ Trimming min. twice per year
- Check Plant Stability/ Support min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year

Soil

- + Check for soil erosion min. twice per year
- Check soil levels min. twice per year +
- + Soil tests min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year
- + Weeding min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year
- + Check drainage/ moisture levels min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year
- Clean out subsurface drains min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year +

Mulch

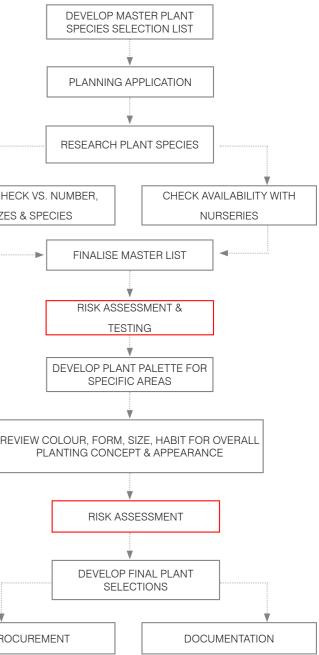
- Top up mulch as required
- + Check mulch mat min. twice per year

<u>Irrigation</u>

- +Check operation by testing - min. Monthly during Establish Period, then twice per year
- + Respond to any system warnings/ malfunctions as required
- Adjust Operation as required +
- Replace parts/ repair as required +
- Clean out drip lines/ flush system with water min. three times per year +
- Ensure maintenance of all pumps and variable frequency drives min. monthly +
- Log and record all data from the irrigation control system, including all significant events, flow rates +and system pressure - min. twice per year

COST CHECK VS. NUMBER, SIZES & SPECIES





Melbourne

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country Level 2, 33 Guildford Lane Melbourne, VIC +61 3 9670 0699

Sydney Gadigal Country Level 1, 5 Wilson St Newtown, NSW +61 2 9557 5533

Canberra

Ngunnawal and Ngambri Country Room 2, Pavilion Studios 14 Kendall Lane Canberra, ACT +61 2 9557 5533

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