

Public Art Strategy



12-20 Berry Rd & 11-19 Holdsworth Ave,
St Leonards



**Aqualand
acknowledges
the elders, past
and present, of
the Gamaragal
People as the
traditional
custodians of the
land and its
knowledge.**

PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

12-20 BERRY ROAD, ST LEONARDS

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Introduction

Introduction

1. INTRODUCTION

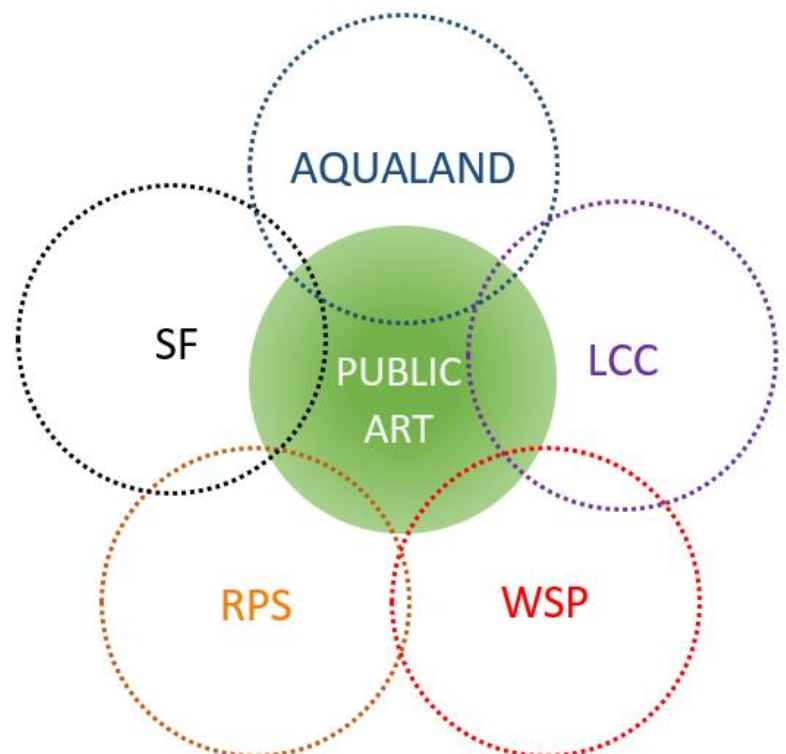
12-20 Berry Road, St Leonards

This document outlines the aspirations and strategies for providing public art for Aqualand's St Leonards South project at 12-20 Berry Rd & 11-19 Holdsworth Ave, St Leonards. Included is an outline of the project, the site and context, initial ideas for the location of the art, process for artist selection as well as various precedent artworks.

The team involved in the delivery of the public artwork comprises representatives from developer Aqualand, project architects Silvester Fuller, landscape architects RPS and Indigenous consultants WSP. The team will liaise with Lane Cove Council and their Public Art Coordinator to achieve a shared vision and outcome for the precinct.

At St Leonards South, Aqualand aspires to create a standout project that will feature high quality living, as well as offering significant value to the wider community. Part of this commitment will be the provision of public art for the benefit of residents, visitors, and the wider community alike.

It is envisioned that public art will feature heavily in the project's endeavours to connect with Country.



Stakeholder collaboration diagram

Project Details

Project Details

2. PROJECT CONTEXT - ST LEONARDS SOUTH PRECINCT

St Leonards South Precinct

Lane Cove Council has established a vision for an integrated domain consisting of high-rise residential buildings amongst the existing dwellings and public reserves. Along with the Landscape Masterplan, it aims to connect the new community with public green spaces, cycle routes, and existing public amenities which will enhance the lifestyle of the residents by allowing it to be more connected, sustainable, and active.

Located 6km from the CBD with an abundance of trails, parks, community facilities and the bays in proximity; St Leonards South is setting the long-term vision for an interconnected community for the future.



St Leonards South Precinct - Image courtesy of Lane Cove Council

Project Details

2. PROJECT CONTEXT - ST LEONARDS SOUTH PRECINCT

Local Character

St Leonards is local to diverse and vivid culture. The unique mixture of established parks and neighbourhoods with new apartments, hospitality venues and train station mark the area suburban and urban in nature.

It attracts both young and old demographics with its infinite promise for vibrant and yet reposeful lifestyle with short distance to the heart of Sydney.



Newlands Park, St Leonards



St Leonards aerial view



Rough and Bare, St Leonards

Project Details

3. PROJECT LOCATION

St Leonards South Precinct

The subject site sits within the recently designated St Leonards South Precinct. It is set to be transformed with high density residential planned alongside significant new public open spaces and community assets.

Sites 16 & 17 sit at the heart of this new precinct and are intended to host an exemplar development. The proposed development is situated alongside and fronting a new public east-west pedestrian link and green space that will stitch together the precinct from Newlands Park in the east to the new council-proposed public park at the west. These public places provide an opportunity for highly visible public art for the community to be able to engage with.



St Leonards South precinct vision

Project Details

3. PROJECT LOCATION

St Leonards context

The St Leonards South precinct is conveniently located between the Pacific Highway to the north and River Road to the south, with the North Shore railway line running alongside to the east. St Leonards station is within 400m. Royal North Shore Hospital and North Sydney TAFE are close by with Crows Nest's mixed use and retail areas readily accessible to the north-east.



Local Context Map - Image courtesy of Lane Cove Council SLS LMP

The site enjoys proximity to existing green assets, with Gore Hill oval, Newlands Park and Smoothey Park all located nearby. Gore Creek is also close. Local streets are characterised by established tree planting, contributing to the neighbourhood character.



Local Green Assets

Project Details

3. PROJECT LOCATION

St Leonards South Sites 16 & 17



St Leonards South Landscape Master Plan - location within precinct

Project Details

4. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

The proposed development is to include the following:

- A total of 130 dwellings, comprising a mixture of 1 bed, 2 bed, 3 bed and 4 bed dwellings.
- A childcare facility with an indoor area of 450m² and outdoor area of 450m².
- A community hall with an indoor area of 150m².
- Total landscaped area of approximately 3,200m², including an extensive communal courtyard, front setbacks, landscaping on terraces and rooftops.
- A publicly accessible east-west pedestrian link and green space.

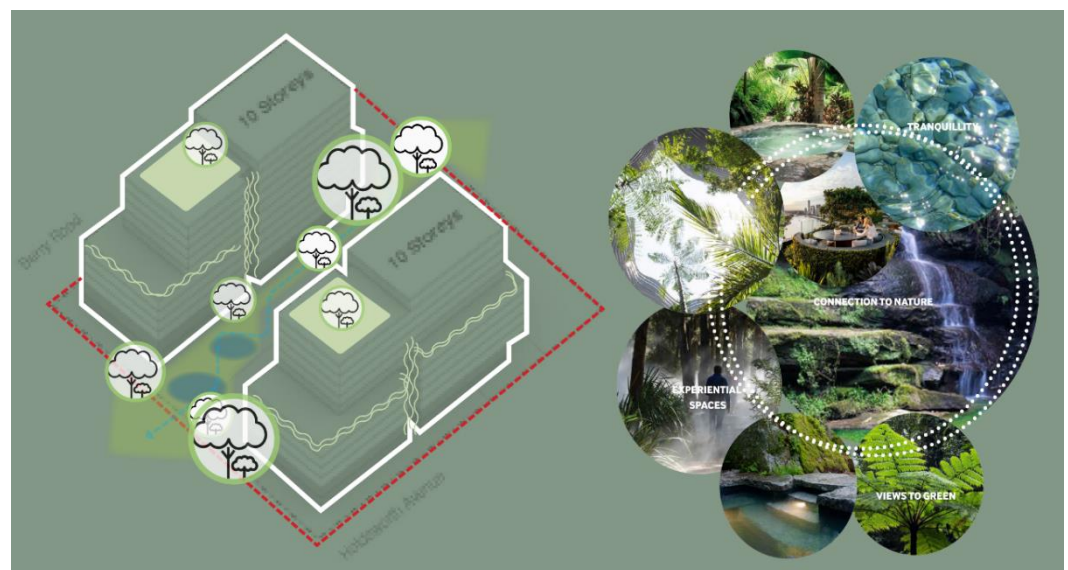


Perspective image of proposed development

Project Details

5. LANDSCAPE VISION

RPS' landscape vision for the site is heavily influenced by its local context and an understanding of the local natural environment and the local vegetation communities in particular. The design intends to celebrate the littoral rainforests of Gore Creek with a strong connection to nature. It also intends to promote health, healing and well-being for users within the landscape. RPS are working with WSP to explore opportunities of connecting to Country and look to celebrate the Indigenous culture of the Gameraaygal people and land with the landscape design.

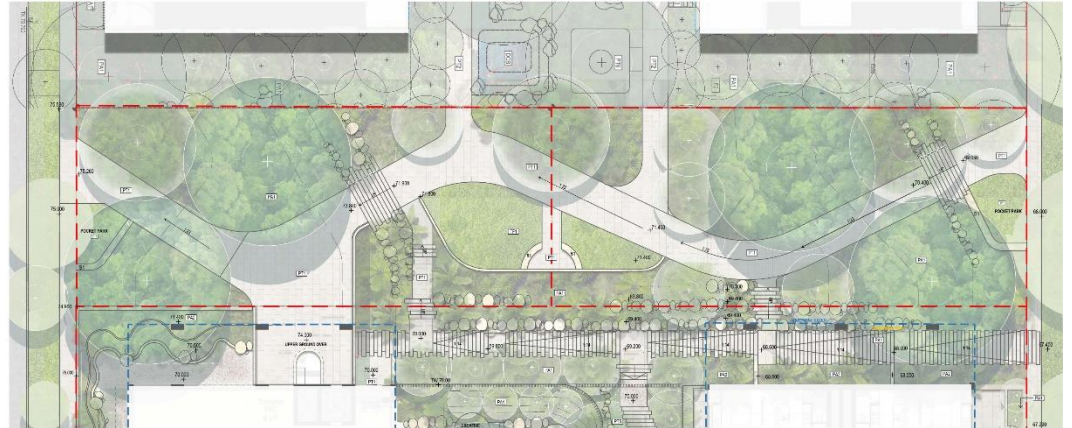


Landscape concepts by RPS

Project Details

6. LANDSCAPE DESIGN

The proposed development interfaces with an important new east-west pedestrian connection, linking Newlands Park to the east of the precinct to a new park in the west. At this interface, a public lift provides access to a new community hall as well as a childcare centre, via a fully accessible walkway.



Plan of East-West link by RPS



Perspectives of East-West link

Concept

Concept

7. CONNECTING WITH COUNTRY

Aqualand has engaged Indigenous consultants WSP to assist the project in acknowledging and celebrating the Aboriginal Country, Culture, and people of the land where the project is located. Numerous opportunities for public art have been outlined in WSP's *Connection to Country Principles* (to be read in conjunction with this document). The below extract highlights these opportunities:

Potential use of Aboriginal design

Aims of the project:

- . Tell the story of St Leonards, and of the Gamaragal People.
- . Incorporate native and endemic plant species through the space.
- . Create opportunities for the installation of Aboriginal Art through the space.



1. Entry statement.
Significant site maribor sculpture referencing Gamaragal Design.



2. An iconic sculpture/
element to mark
important gateway or zone



3. The ground plane, Landscaping and pathways with local Aboriginal patterns in coloured asphalt.



4. Sculptural,
message sticks
landscape
communicating
stories and design.



5. Wall treatment, anti
throw screens,
statements, noise
walls etc



6. Resting/ yarning place Gamaragal
design treatment in
pavement, seating,
landscape art.

wsp

These *Connection to Country Principles* will play an important role in identifying and guiding the opportunities, design, and development of the public art and how it links to the site artfully, spiritually, and expressively.

Concept

8. INTERPRETATION ON SITE

It is intended that artworks will contribute to an interpretation of Country. Opportunities exist to convey the history of the site, provide an understanding of local flora and fauna, geology and climate as well as to share stories, cultural practices and to educate the public. In this way the public can be engaged and knowledge can be passed on.

Opportunities outlined by WSP:

Storytelling and wayfinding devices help connect people and orientate them to Gamaragal Country and the stories and history that came before.



Tell our stories.

Sydney was a place of ceremony, lore, and settlement. There are many latent stories associated with this place waiting to be told through place based interventions.

How might we tell the stories of this Country and its first peoples in the design of this building? What are the appropriate stories/themes to tell?

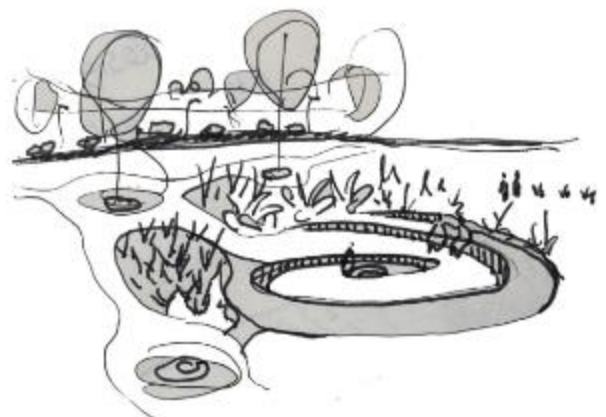


A cultural Mapping of the site, revealing cultural flows and pressures on this site through high quality materials and design



The landscape can facilitate in cultural practices

Such as weaving or healing gardens, or spaces specific for Aboriginal people to celebrate their culture.



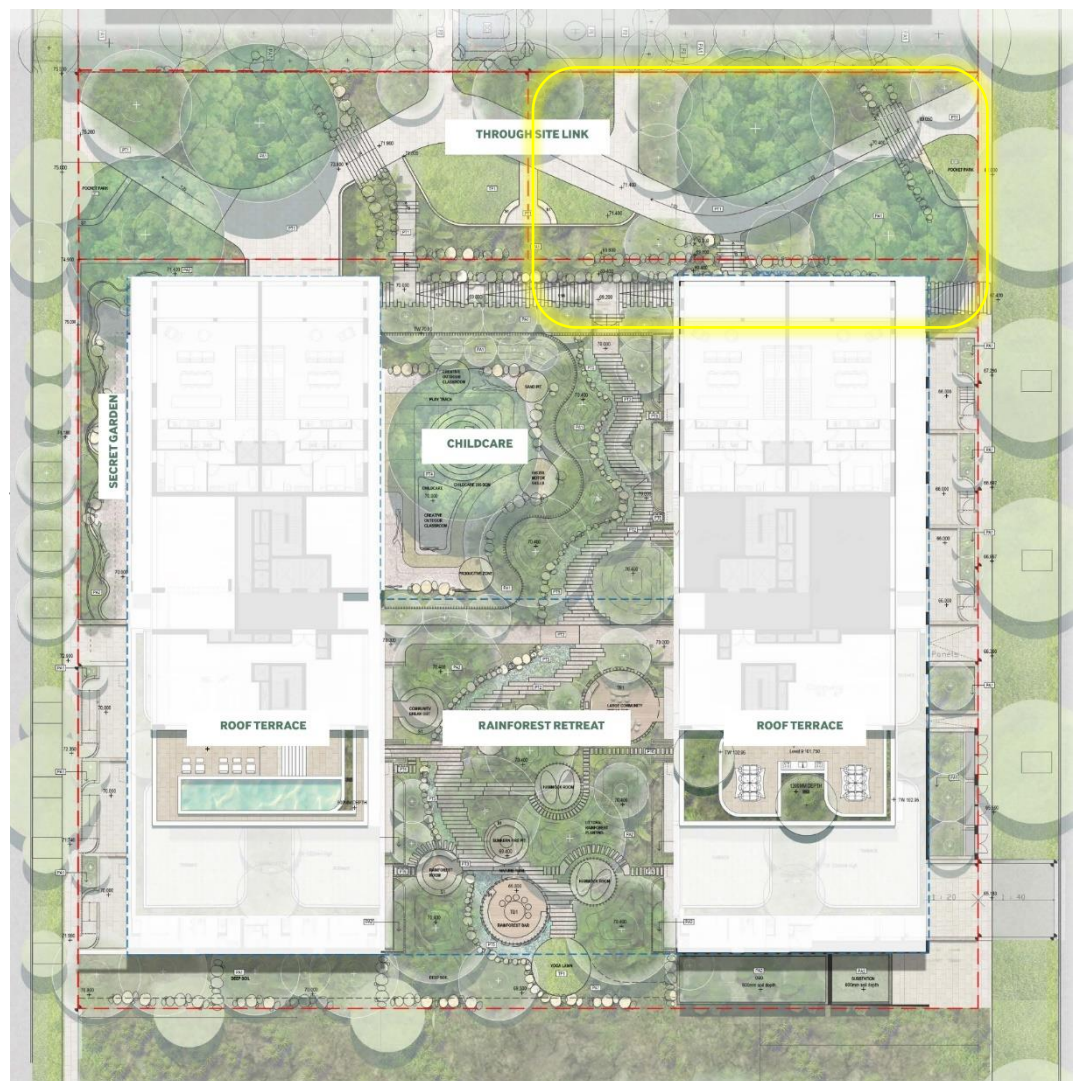
Concept


9. PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES

Location

The proposed east-west landscaped walkway provides a highly trafficked and visible location for public art. Here, the artwork could be integrated with the architecture and landscape and could take form as a painted mural, sculptural piece, embedded artform, functional element, engraving or alternative form.

This location allows the piece to be discovered by the public and engaged with.



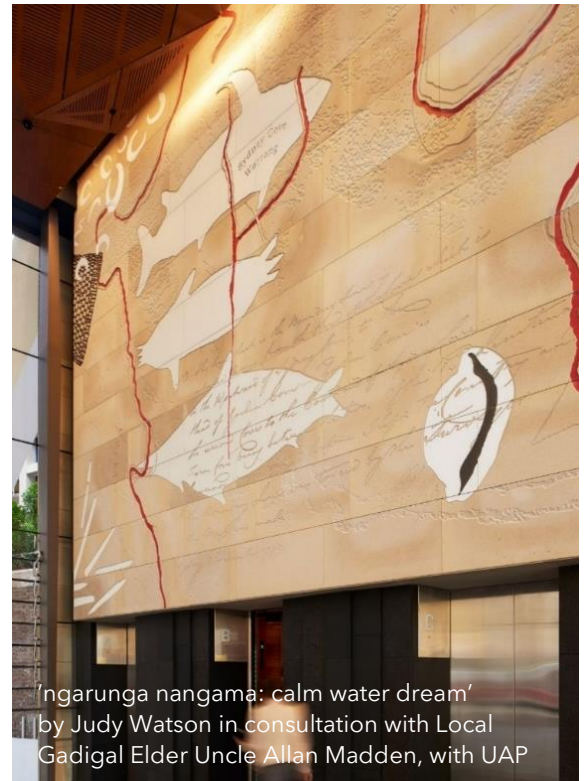
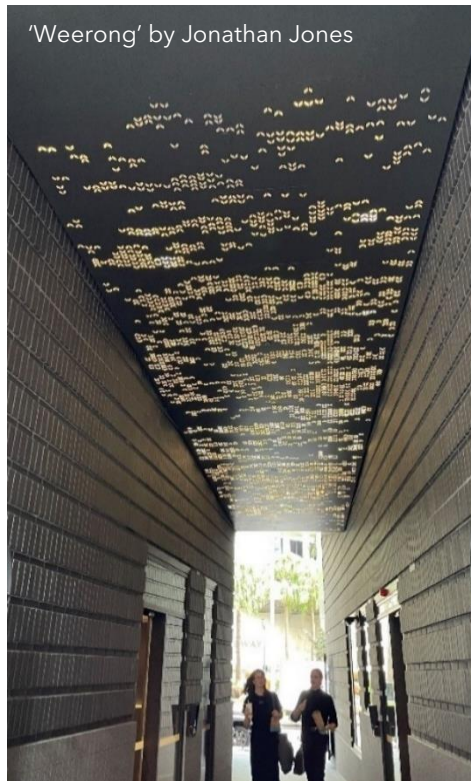
 Potential location for public artworks.

Concept

9. PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES

Precedents

Below are exemplar projects which incorporate Indigenous public art within their architecture.

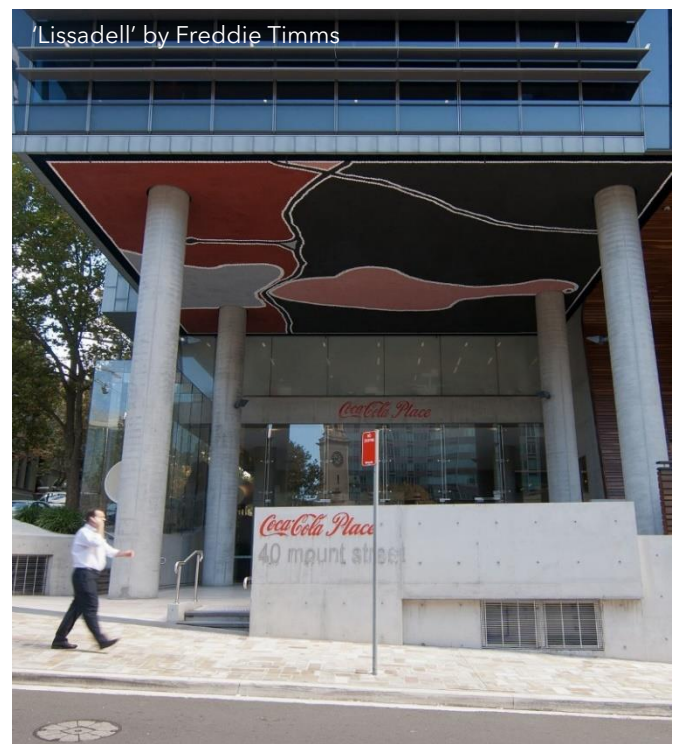
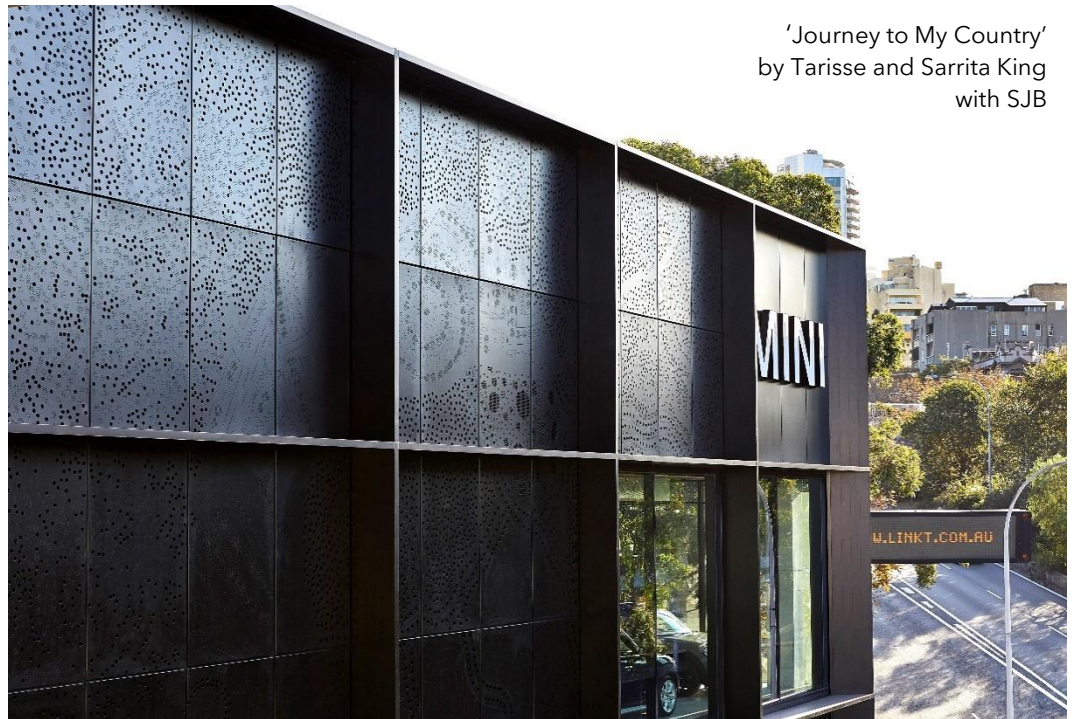


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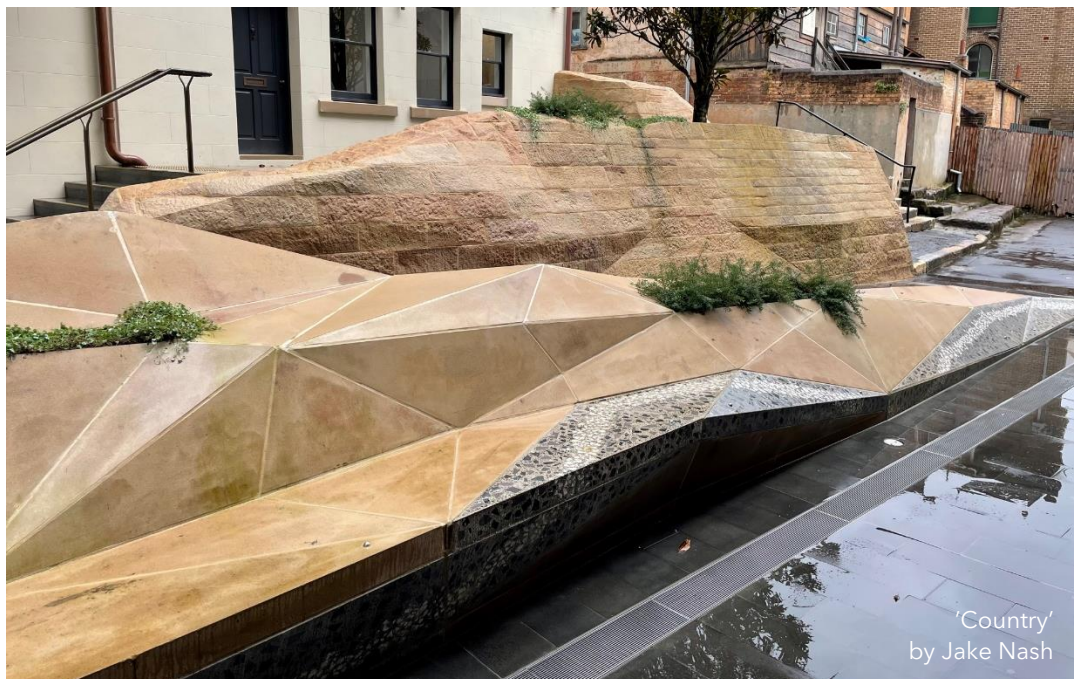


Concept

9. PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES

Precedents

Below are exemplar projects which incorporate Indigenous public art within their landscape setting.



Strategy

Strategy

10. ARTIST BRIEF & POLICY GUIDELINES

Public Art Policy Coherence

The Lane Cove Public Art Policy (1 November 2010), sets the guidelines with the purpose of Lane Cove to be at the forefront in realizing the artistic and creative potentials to develop a creative, sustainable, and connected community. With this vision, the artist brief below is composed to guide the commissioned artist to interpret and design meaningful and purposeful work whilst sharing the same vision.

The proposed public artwork budget is to be based on 0.1% of the development construction cost, per the DCP guidelines.

Artist Brief

The public artwork should consider the following:

- Be suitable for a highly visible and public location
- Demonstrate a high level of artistic quality
- Contribute to the public realm vibrancy and diversity
- Address local context, neighbourhood identity and site history
- Be durable and made of robust materials, with consideration to reduce maintenance and cleaning requirements
- Promote engagement with the public
- Align with Lane Cove Council's Guiding Principles for Public Art, as follows:
 - Community
 - To develop a strong, inclusive community that promotes access, equity and participation in decision making, working towards a better Lane Cove for everyone.
 - Creativity
 - To nurture diverse creative expression in the community and foster innovation to meet the needs of Lane Cove.
 - Sustainability
 - To ensure that all decisions consider a balance of economic, environmental, cultural and social elements to enhance the quality of life in Lane Cove.
 - Best Value
 - To balance the provision of quality services to the community of Lane Cove with cost, and to always seek continuous improvements to the services provided.

Strategy

11. ARTIST INVITATION AND SELECTION STRATEGY

Artist Invitation

As part of the project's endeavours to connect with Country, the public art component will play a major role. Accordingly, it is desired to engage a local Aboriginal artist. Additional criteria are as follows:

- Local connection to community and Country
- Good understanding of Sydney Aboriginal design vernacular
- Willingness to work with local Aboriginal groups / thematic in the design

Artist Selection & Curation

Following engagement with the local community and development of the brief, Aqualand working with WSP will directly commission an artist to deliver the public artwork. It is intended that the selected artist will work closely with architects Silvester Fuller, landscape architects RPS and in consultation with indigenous consultant WSP to create a contextually relevant artwork that will be integrated within the development.



Jeanie Napangardi Lewis.
Image credit: Warlukurlangu Artists Aboriginal Corporation

Strategy

12. PUBLIC ART CURATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

Sustainability and Longevity of Public Artwork

It is important to devise a maintenance program which will ensure the longevity and sustainability of the artwork the public can benefit from.

This program will span across the life cycle of the artwork – from concept stage to implementation – to address any items relating to material selection, fabrication, and protection against the site conditions and vandalism.

Any ongoing costs for remedial works will be revised in the plan to maintain the upkeep expenses and efforts as low as possible in the long-run.

The artist will be invited to provide the initial maintenance plan as part of the artwork which can be reviewed and edited along the process with the stakeholders collaboratively.

It is a practical and necessary instrument for the artist, the patron, and the public to create, implement and appreciate quality artwork in the public setting.



Public Artwork Lifecycle Diagram