



Port Augusta

CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MEMBERSHIP

Cr Fran Paynter - Chairperson

Ms Carly Archer
Ms Natasha Paul
Mr Martin Sampson
Mr John Sandham

Mr John Zwar
Mr John Banks
Mrs Anne O'Reilly

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 41 of the *Local Government Act 1999*, that an **AALBG ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING** will be held in the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Conference Room, Stuart Highway, Port Augusta on **Friday, 2 December 2016** commencing at **10:30AM**.

A copy of the Agenda for the above meeting is attached to this notice.

ANNE O'REILLY
ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

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AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME**
By Chairperson Cr Fran Paynter
- 2. APOLOGIES**
John Sandham, Carly Archer
- 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
Minutes of previous meeting 1/4/2016 (AR16/14278) **ATTACHMENT A**
- 4. AGENDA ITEMS/REPORTS**
 - 4.1 AALBG Activity Report November 2016 (AR16/47946) - **ATTACHMENT B**
 - 4.2 Budget Comparison (AR16/48699) - **ATTACHMENT C**
 - 4.3 Friends of the AALBG report (AR16/48930) - **ATTACHMENT D**
 - 4.4 AALBG Trust Independent Report (AR16/48063) - **ATTACHMENT E**
 - 4.5 AALBG and Botanic Gardens of SA partnerships, including:
 - Trainees and Staff possible exchange
 - Masterclasses
 - The seed program
- 5. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - 5.1 AALBG Masterplan – update on progress (AR16/49080) - **ATTACHMENT F**
- 6. CLOSE OF MEETING**

**MINUTES OF AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 1 APRIL 2016**

PRESENT

Members

Chairperson Cr Fran Paynter
Mr Brian Reichelt (Friends of AALBG proxy for John Zwar)
Mr John Sandham (Botanic Gardens of South Australia)
Ms Natasha Paul
Chief Executive Officer Mr John Banks
Acting Director Corporate Services Mrs Anne O'Reilly

Officers

Cherie Gerlach (AALBG Manager)
Cory Keenan (AALBG Garden Coordinator)

WELCOME

The Chairperson Cr Paynter declared the meeting open at 10.30am and welcomed those in attendance.

APOLOGIES

J Sandham/J Banks that the following apologies be received:

Carly Archer
John Zwar
Martin Sampson

CARRIED

**MINUTES OF
PREVIOUS
MEETING**

A O'Reilly/J Banks that the minutes of the previous AALBG Advisory Committee Meeting (AR15/44880) held on 27/11/2015 be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM PREVIOUS
MINUTES**

Nil.

**AGENDA
ITEMS/REPORTS**

4.1 Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden – Quarterly Activity Report – March 2016

N Paul/A O'Reilly that the **Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee** receives and notes the report (AR16/12304) dated 1/4/2016, submitted by the Manager – AALBG concerning Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden – Quarterly Activity Report – March 2016.

CARRIED

4.2 Report - AALBG - Budget Comparison PE 23/03/2016

J Sandham/B Reichelt that the **Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee** receives and notes the report (AR16/12132) dated 23/3/2016, submitted by the Acting Director of Corporate Services concerning AALBG - Budget Comparison PE 23/03/2016.

CARRIED

4.3 AALBG Business Plans 2016/17

J Sandham/N Paul that the **Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee** endorses the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Business Plans 2016/2017 (AR16/12464) as provided.

CARRIED

4.4 Friends of the AALBG Report

A O'Reilly/N Paul that the **Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee** receives and notes the report (AR16/14026) dated 1/4/2016 (ATTACHMENT 1) submitted by the President, Friends of the AALBG.

CARRIED

F Paynter/J Sandham that the **Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee** form a sub committee to meet with Waite Arboretum Staff to examine the Waite Arboretum app and consider the relevance of a similar app for the AALBG. Sub committee to report to next AALBG Advisory Committee Meeting. C Gerlach and J Zwar nominated to form the sub committee.

CARRIED

The meeting was declared closed at 12.20pm.

AALBG Strategic Management Committee Port Augusta, 1/4/2016

Report from The Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Port Augusta Inc.

Introduction: The excellent working relationship between Council, Garden staff & Friends continues and local Friends Committee Members meet regularly with Cherie Gerlach to discuss and resolve issues of mutual interest. I apologise for not being present today & thank Brian Reichelt, Friends Deputy President for filling in for me.

General comments: Brian Reichelt has helped greatly over the last several months by overseeing much of the work at the AALBG in consultation with Cherie Gerlach. Works which he and other Friends volunteers have undertaken include the following:

- replacement of irrigation in the Mallee Region
- assistance with developing the Reflection Garden
- upgrading of the service road entrance to the café
- fencing, external planting and commencement of the Nature playscape garden. Friends have recently agreed to purchase \$500 worth of creek stone to landscape some of this area
- purchase of the shade shelter at the carpark
- final installation of the 21 garden seats
- usual weeding and pruning & assistance with plant propagation
- Assisted Garden staff (Ryan Hayward) for several weeks after resignation of Deon Schumann and retirement of Bernie Haase.
- Assisted with plant sales at Laura Folk Fair
- Guided tours conducted for garden visitors by trained Friends Garden Guides continue – these are more popular in cooler months than in summer

Other matters:

- The Friends are keen to see a thorough and independent investigation into the relocation of the historic Yudnapinna Homestead to the AALBG. It could be refurbished for the Gardens education program, for various other uses and possibly as a base for Friends. The Friends would very much like to be part of discussions on the future of this historic building and hope that it will be feasible to give it a new lease of life at the AALBG. Brian Reichelt as one of the team who erected the Homestead at its present location in Homestead Park and others from this group have building plans and expertise that would be very useful, should it be feasible to relocate the Homestead to the AALBG. It is probable that the Friends would contribute to the relocation, as they have with other major projects at the AALBG.
- Last March in my report I mentioned an app that was developed for the Waite Arboretum in Adelaide, enabling visitors to easily locate trees and information using their smart phones. The TAFE lecturer who developed the app, Marian McDuie, with

whom I work, asked me last week whether there was any interest from the AALBG in the development of a similar app. In her email to me Marian states:

"The development and provision of a mobile app for the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden would be a great asset for the organisation. If it were developed as a 'stand alone' app visitors to the AALBG do not need internet access on their mobile device (phone or min iPad or whatever) once the app has been downloaded to the device. The advantages that having such technology available to visitors and staff of the AALBG would be as follows:

- *Easy and immediate access to information about species within the AALBG (this information can be related to zones, individual plants or specific areas and utilities within the grounds of the AALBG)*
- *Enable information about what is at the AALBG and where it is located to be available to visitors by simply using the device, anytime, 24/7 365 days of the year, without the need for assistance from volunteer guides or staff.*
- *Allow visitors to locate themselves within the AALBG and identify what is around them*
- *Assist with the familiarisation of Arid Land Plants and their use along with their identification and locations that they are most suited to & their availability at the AALBG Plant shop.*

A mobile app for the AALBG could be designed to provide all manner of information about the facilities within the garden and general information as well as images of plants when flowering (out of season) or fruiting and special features (bush tucker, medicinal etc.,) to enable visitors to judge for themselves what it is about the plants that is possibly not available depending on what time of year they happen to be visiting the AALBG.

At present there are very few arboreta or Botanic Gardens within Australia that have spatially dedicated mobile apps; this technology uses the locating ability of mobile devices combined with spatial data on specific features and other general information related to the features and the location. If the AALBG were to initiate the development of a mobile app it would be a great asset to the garden and to the region as well, especially for visitors from interstate and overseas."

Members may like to check out the Waite Arboretum app by going to either the 'App Store' for iDevices or 'Google Play' for Android devices. I understand that the development of such an app is likely to cost about \$20,000 according to Marian. When you consider that this is about 1/3 of a salary for a staff member at the Garden it would be money very well spent. The Friends are interested in the concept and are likely to help fund it in partnership with Council if the Management Committee and Council agree to proceed. This would be an excellent low cost way of reaching most of our visitors with accurate and detailed information on the AALBG, plant collection, facilities and services provided.

Recommendation: A small sub committee meet with Marian Mc Duie and Dr Jennifer Gardener (Director Waite Arboretum) to see the Waite app and its application and consider how a similar app could benefit the AALBG and report back to this committee when it next meets.

- More than a year ago a selection of recently developed grafted cultivars of eucalypts and brachychitons which have arid zone species in their breeding was offered to the AALBG by Mike Tesch of Humphris Nursery in Victoria. Mike subsequently donated 12 of these new cultivars for display at the AALBG. Since then Dr Kate Delaporte of the University of Adelaide Waite Institute has also donated some of the new eucalypt cultivars she has developed over the last 15 years. There was concern expressed by a staff member at the time that as these were not actual wild species as featured elsewhere in the Garden, but as cultivars selected and developed by plant breeders they had no place in the AALBG. As these plants have some of our arid zone species in their breeding I consider they do have a place in our garden (with appropriate interpretive signage) and attach the following article from by Greg Bourke, Curator Manager of the Blue Mountains Mt Tomah Botanic Garden, published in the current Hort Journal, discussing the place of cultivars or hybrids developed by plant breeders in a botanic garden. (Article will be forwarded with this report).
- **New BGCI Resource** (Botanic Gardens Conservation International – Based at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew London. Last year I was asked to write a brief article on the development of a botanic garden, based on my AALBG experience. The first chapters of this new resource were recently published online and are accessible to all involved with botanic gardens, worldwide.

- **New BGCI Resource**

Following a planning and development process spanning more than two years, we are delighted to announce the launch of the first two instalments of BGCI's new botanic garden resource *From Idea to Realisation - BGCI's Manual on Planning, Developing and Managing Botanic Gardens* (2016).

Building on the earlier [*Darwin Technical Manual for Botanic Gardens*](#) (Leadlay and Greene, 1998), BGCI's new botanic garden manual is a direct response to the growing importance, sophistication and complexity of the international botanic garden community over the last two decades.

For more information and [*BGCI's Manual on Planning: Developing and Managing Botanic Gardens* \(2016\)](#)

Joachim Gratzfeld
Director, Regional Programmes
Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)

Introduction to the new publication:

Resource centre From Idea to Realisation - BGCI's Manual on Planning, Developing and Managing Botanic Gardens



From Idea to Realisation - BGCI's Manual on Planning, Developing and Managing Botanic Gardens

Recognising the ever-increasing needs and requests for technical guidance on botanic garden development and management, BGCI has been working on the establishment of a new botanic garden manual since late 2013. Building on *The Darwin Technical Manual for Botanic Gardens* (Leadlay and Greene, 1998), this new resource *From Idea to Realisation – BGCI's Manual on Planning, Developing and Managing Botanic Gardens* (2016) is a direct response to the growing importance, sophistication and complexity of the international botanic garden community over the last two decades. As key custodians of global plant diversity, this central role and endeavour of botanic gardens and arboreta is as pivotal as ever in times of rapid, worldwide change and unabated biodiversity loss.

This Manual is intended for botanic gardens and arboreta as ever-evolving institutions that respond to environmental and societal needs, changes and challenges. It is not meant to be prescriptive but to offer guidance and ideas with case studies from around the world. As a comprehensive resource, the guidance provided aims at newly developing institutions with

limited experience as well as at established botanic gardens that may seek advice or information for instance as part of a re-development or an organisational review.

Consisting of four main parts, the eight chapters of the Manual are being published in stages over the coming half year, as per the schedule specified below, with Chapters 1 and 2 now available online.

As this is a living document, feedback will be invaluable to ensure that the guidance and information provided meets its purpose and evolves over time to remain relevant to the botanic garden community.

Send your comments and suggestions to: [Joachim Gratzfeld](#)

(My contribution will be forwarded with this report).

- **AALBG Strategic Management Committee Meetings:** Would it be possible to set meeting dates 6 months or even a year ahead so that it would be possible to schedule them into future planning – I cannot attend today because of lecturing & other commitments, but with adequate notice could plan to keep our meeting dates free of other commitments.

My regards to all Committee Members,

John Zwar, President, The Friends of The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Port Augusta Inc.
29/3/2016

Attachments x2

REPORT FOR:	AALBG Advisory Committee		
MEETING DATE:	2 December 2016		
REPORT FROM:	Manager – AALBG		
REPORT TITLE:	Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden – Activity Report – November 2016		
FILE NAME:	F16/24	RECORD NO:	AR16/47946

STRATEGIC PLAN SUB GOAL/S
3.1 Economic growth for long-term benefit.
6.1 A professional effective, efficient & customer focused organisation, responsive to the needs of the community.
6.2 Optimise the use & management of the council's financial & physical resources.

PURPOSE

To provide the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG) Advisory Committee with details of activities and projects being undertaken by staff at the AALBG.

RECOMMENDATION

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee resolves to receive and note the report (AR16/47946) dated 28/11/2016, submitted by the Manager - AALBG concerning Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden – Activity Report - November 2016.

1. General

- 1.1 **Staffing** – A restructuring of the garden and nursery areas is complete following the appointment of Tim Kolaczyk to the role of fulltime nursery worker. He filled the position made vacant in November last year.
- 1.2 **Reflection garden** – The construction of this new garden was completed and officially opened in June and is an example of how the Garden can upgrade and create new areas through partnerships with other organisations.
- 1.3 **Awards** – The AALBG was a finalist at the Australian Tourism Awards held in February in Melbourne. Unfortunately South Australia tourism operators did not win any awards, but it was an opportunity for the AALBG to be promoted on a national stage.
- 1.4 **Green Army Application** – The AALBG hosted a Green Army project from April until July. Participants worked on a number of projects including upgrading the Matthew Flinders lookout irrigation and signage, and worked on eradication of buffel grass and other weeds. The group also worked with

Volunteer guide Chris Nayda on GPS mapping and she is now keen to have this occur throughout the plant collection. This will be planned with staff assistance for next year.

- 1.5 **Power Outage** – The loss of power for 20 hours in September was a considerable cost for the AALBG. Stock losses amounted to about \$1500 while trading losses in both the gift shop and café exceeded \$3000. We have now put in place a back-up plan with the small onsite generator to have it power the cool room and freezers but this won't be enough for the Visitor Centre to trade. Power is also required for lighting in the building, dishwasher, till operation, and the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Without the WWTP being operational, the toilets or dishwasher cannot be used so the building needs to be closed to the public. Ongoing power outages could have a significant impact on the Visitor Centre's operations.
- 1.6 **Arid Explorers Garden** – This is the most significant project staff and volunteers have worked towards in recent years. Planning for the garden has included meeting with a group of interested parents who provided suggestions for changes to the original plan which have been added into the Garden design. This has included the relocation of a shade structure to the top of the area, the addition of a bird hide, the sand pit moved near to the shade structure, the construction of a path network that enables children to explore further in the garden areas, utilise the middle section for climbing on rocks and logs; and have an area where children can build with sticks and ropes. The children's garden is being built on a very limited budget, which includes \$5000 in the current budget period with the addition of a \$10,000 donation from the Friends of the AALBG.

A Grants SA application has also been lodged by the Friends of the AALBG for \$33,500 for the construction of a 10m x 8m shade shelter which will be utilised as a space by visiting school groups. If the grant is successful, support is sought from the Advisory Committee for the addition of the structure (**refer Attachment A**). The design of the structure fits with the Style Guide and the AALBG Master Plan, and is the same design as the two structures already in the Garden.

RECOMMENDATION

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee resolves to support the installation of the 10m x 8m shade structure as a dedicated education space in the children's Arid Explorers Garden.

2. Activity Report

- 2.1 An activity report for period March 25, 2016 to November 28, 2016 is included for member's information.

Activity: **AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN (AALBG)
INTERPRETIVE CENTRE INCORPORATING SOUVENIR &
PLANT SALES, CAFÉ & CONFERENCE FACILITIES**

Goal Area 1: We Thrive

Goal Area 3: We Connect

Goal Area 4: We care

Mission Statement: Provide the best possible experience for visitors to the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Café and Interpretive Centre. Increase tourism activity in Port Augusta and contribute to improve employment, business growth and to consolidate industry networks and partnerships within Port Augusta and the Region.

Responsibility: Acting Director Corporate Services – Anne O'Reilly

Personnel:	F/Time	P/Time	Casual
2016	-	2	1
2015	-	2	1
2014	-	2	-
2013	-	2	-
2012	1	-	-

Proposed Projects and Activities:

1. Identify and target key audiences for advertising

Outcomes Achieved:	Key target audiences have been identified and resourcing allocated accordingly. An emphasis has been placed on online media promotion, and this includes boosting Facebook posts, and targeting travel bloggers and other online influencers by following and tagging them on Instagram. A survey has also been made available online and in the Visitor Centre to capture customer comments and marketing data. Advertising is also continuing with bus tour companies to attract additional coach tours.
Ongoing Activity:	Continued monitoring of visitors statistics and other available data.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Investigate opportunities to increase promotion of tours with Friends of the AALBG.

2. Promote AALBG & AridSmart Message.

Outcomes Achieved:	<p>Bus company numbers for 2016 YTD: 64</p> <p>Brochure distribution figures for 2016 YTD: 4755</p> <p>A monthly plant availability list has been introduced by nursery worker Tim Kolaczyk. This is sent to an email distribution list, as well as placed on the AALBG website and on the Facebook page. Worked with Friends to plan and deliver events throughout the Arid Festival.</p> <p>Hosted an Outback Astronomy session in August which had a strong following on Facebook and generated a local TV news story and radio story on ABC 639.</p> <p>Interview with tour guide Chris Nayda on Perth radio station RTRFM about the significance of arid land plants; AALBG featured in an online story about the wildflower season in theleadaustralia.com.au by Andrew Spence. This was shared on the Australian Geographic Facebook page and attracted a significant audience; local promotion through 20 year birthday of the AALBG and included a feature segment on ABC 639; feature article and photos to be published in the Australian Traveller Magazine; promotion and recognition as a finalist in the SA Tourism Awards, and SA Community Achievement Awards; featured in the latest BGANZ magazine</p>
Ongoing Activity:	Continue to build networks to benefit the Garden. Continue to source marketing opportunities and publicity.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Meet with Friends to assist with Friends guest speaker events for 2017.

3. Create seasonal events and promotions to increase visitor numbers and revenue

Outcomes Achieved:	<p>Arid Sculptural Event: Visitor number for the festival were 13,329 (27/8/16 to 2/10/16)</p> <p>Arid Events delivered:</p> <p>Fibre weaving workshop (sold out – 10 people)</p> <p>Drawing for Beginners (sold out – 10 people)</p> <p>Wattle Walk (no interest)</p> <p>Night tour (12 people)</p> <p>Breakfast with the birds (10 people)</p> <p>Dinner with Angus Stewart (21 people, including 2 from Sydney)</p> <p>Afternoon with Angus (30 people)</p> <p>Guided walk with Angus (30 people)</p> <p>BGANZ Open Day 29th May: 450 people</p>
Ongoing Activity:	Deliver Exclusive Christmas Shopping Event Look at opportunities for school holiday programs.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Commence planning events for 2017 which includes Easter events, school holiday program, BGANZ Open Day, Rangelands Conference, SEGRA Conference and visit by the National Eremophila Study Group.

4. Measurement of visitor numbers and satisfaction.

Outcomes Achieved:	Visitor numbers: (gate figures – compare to 2015 and 13) Visitor Book Comments: Trip Advisor and Social Media Comments: (reviews)
Ongoing Activity:	Continued monitoring of visitor and social media comments, and continuous improvement across the site based on customer feedback.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Continue ongoing evaluation of statistics.

5. Use and Analysis of Online Media

Outcomes Achieved:	The AALBG Facebook page now has 1759 likes (up from 1200 in March) The Instagram account is growing in popularity and has increased significantly up from 393 followers in March to 1177 in November. The AALBG remains TripAdvisor's number 1 activity in Port Augusta and to date has 219 reviews and a 4.5 star rating for the Garden and 101 reviews for the Café and 4.5 star satisfaction rating. Updated events content on website and new plant availability list.
Ongoing Activity:	Monitor the results of paid Facebook marketing. Investigate options for a new website.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Review the AALBG website content and investigate opportunities to update. Create improved online content.

6. Measure performance of retail and café operation.

Outcomes Achieved:	Monthly comparisons of sales figures. Analysis of stock lists and popular items for reordering. Change in rostering for the café to allow more flexibility to capitalise on flexibility of casual staff and reduce wages cost moving into the off-peak season.
Ongoing Activity:	Examine options to reduce costs without impacting on service delivery.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	As above.

7. Enhanced tourism status and credentials.

Outcomes Achieved:	Awarded a Silver medal in the eco-tourism category of the State Tourism Awards in November (achieved a score of between 80-90%). Short-listed as one of three finalists in the tourism category of the SA Community Achievement Awards with winner announced on 25/11/16. New AALBG walks brochures in production. Attended tourism conference.
Ongoing Activity:	Obtain eco-tourism accreditation.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	

8. Increase sales revenue.

Outcomes Achieved:	Café has introduced daily food specials which are promoted on the blackboard. Food posts with special dishes are now being promoted online on both Instagram and Facebook. Thursday night dinners commenced at the end of October with strong demands for bookings. Despite additional promotion, a revision of cost for hire and a new menu, conference room bookings continue to decline.
Ongoing Activity:	Ongoing promotion. Maintain high standards and high level of customer service.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Look at promotions to increase revenue in quieter months in both the café and giftshop.

9. Maintenance of Visitor Centre Infrastructure

Outcomes Achieved:	Weekly monitoring is occurring and records being kept at the WWTP. Quarterly tests are being sent to AWQC for testing. New internal signage has been installed to direct to giftshop, toilets, conference room and plant sales.
Ongoing Activity:	Stage 1 of painting the exterior of the building deferred until 2017/18 due to the need to purchase a new stove.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Conduct an audit on building works required with Council's building inspector.

10. Support Volunteers

Outcomes Achieved:	Weekly morning teas in both the nursery and garden volunteer groups. Recognition of volunteers in media and online.
Ongoing Activity:	Weekly morning teas
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Christmas thankyou function to be held on December 7 for volunteers.

11. Build on strong working relationship with Friends of the AALBG

Outcomes Achieved:	Monthly meetings with Friends 'working group' on planning for events, with the focus on the successful Arid Event, and the Angus Stewart visit. Support from Giftshop staff for administering memberships and tours payment. Garden report presented to the Friends of the AALBG July and September meetings. Attendance at the July Committee meeting.
Ongoing Activity:	
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Attendance at the December Friends committee meeting.

Activity: **AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN (AALBG) & NURSERY**

Goal Area 1: We Thrive

Goal Area 3: We Connect

Goal Area 4: We care

Mission Statement: To propagate AridSmart plants for use in the Garden and sale to the general community and external organisations. To facilitate the Research & Development of arid zone flora.

Responsibility: Acting Director Corporate Services – Anne O'Reilly

Personnel:	F/Time	P/Time	Casual
2016	3	1	0
2015	2	3	2
2014	2	2	2
2013	2	1	3
2012	3	1	2

Proposed Projects and Activities:

1. Maintain the Plant Collection in accordance with the AALBG Master Plan.

Outcomes Achieved:	Review of yearly work plan occurred in October and staff are on track to achieve set goals. Field trips to collect cuttings from eremophila grower Ken Warnes at Pinery. Eremophila garden weeded and pruned in preparation for the Arid Festival. Reflection Garden completed.
Ongoing Activity:	Weekly site checks. Maintain garden areas to a high standard. Weekly monitoring of water usage. Weed management.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Install new bushfood signage throughout the AALBG. Completion of the Arid Explorers Garden. Follow up plants database from BGANZ.

2. Develop the research & development function of the AALBG Nursery and Garden.

Outcomes Achieved:	Worked with University Technology Sydney PhD students on the second stage of thermal tolerance study. Biosecurity SA continuing buffel grass eradication trials completed in October 2016. Hosted Latrobe University researchers, collecting plant samples for research.
Ongoing Activity:	Work with UTS students in December, January and February.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	

3. Promote educational programs to engage children and encourage families into the AALBG

Outcomes Achieved:	<p>April School Holiday program saw record numbers attend, with new activities offered. For the first time a charge was included for the majority of events and all of these were booked out, New events included a children's tour hosted by guide Jim Hayward and a night time garden tour which included sheet lighting to see insects.</p> <p>Activity table in July and September holidays.</p> <p>School group visits YTD: 32</p> <p>There appears to have been an increase in school group visits in 2016, particularly those seeking nursery activities. The AALBG also hosted the Young Environmental Leaders Program students on 22/11/2016.</p> <p>Assistance to the Friends for the Grants SA application for the children's garden.</p> <p>Significant work on the Arid Explorers Garden including a consultation session with parents, construction of shade structure, bird hide, bridges, creek bed, path network and mound with logs and rocks. Majority of plantings are in and irrigation installed. Preliminary work has been done on interpretation throughout the space in collaboration with Friends representatives.</p>
Ongoing Activity:	Production and sale of educational DVD about the garden.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	<p>Develop educational signage and resources for the Children's Garden</p> <p>Development of the garden mascot, including competition to name the mascot.</p> <p>Work with Adelaide Uni on Passport Program</p>

4. Develop visitor experience and understanding of arid zone flora

Outcomes Achieved:	New Matthew Flinders sign designed and printed in late November, ready for installation.
Ongoing Activity:	Add to digital interpretive display.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Install replacement bushfood and interpretive signs in the garden.

5. Enhance AALBG Credentials

Outcomes Achieved:	Met with Janelle Hatherly, managing editor of the BGANZ magazine on site in September.
Ongoing Activity:	
Next Qtr Outcomes:	<p>Confirm dates for work placements with Botanic Gardens of SA for 2017. Arrange a meeting with new Botanic Gardens of SA Director Lucy Sutherland and coordinate a visit to the AALBG.</p> <p>Recommence talks an on MOU between AALBG and Botanic</p>

	Gardens of SA.
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6. Maintenance of garden infrastructure.

Outcomes Achieved:	Oiling of wooden seats.
Ongoing Activity:	
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Oiling of the boardwalk. Upgrade to nursery shade house.

7. Nursery Operations.

Outcomes Achieved:	<p>Processes in nursery changed to maximise heat bed efficiencies and propagation success rates. Ceased using peat plugs as a propagation medium and converted to planting directly into a soil mix in small pots. Success rates have improved across most species. The change in method has also resulted in more advanced seedlings being planted up, thus taking less time to mature into saleable stock once potted up. A regular fertilising regime has also commenced.</p> <p>Grafting of plants has commenced under the newly appointed nursery worker Tim Kolaczyk. This includes the grafting of eremophila's which can retail for significantly higher prices. The grafting of desert limes has also commenced and 50 per cent success rates are being achieved. A target of having 100 saleable desert limes has been set for spring 2017 (est. retail \$50). With experimentation such as working on optimum time of the year to graft, having mother stock on site for propagation material instead of sourcing from wild plants that have not been irrigated, fertilized and generally maintained, and as staff skills broaden it is expected that success rates would rise in the future.</p> <p>More resourcing has been placed on Quandong and Sandalwood production namely seed germination for order demands and having stock in the shop for customers. Grafting of select forms of Quandong will also occur in the near future once numbers of rootstock have built up to be able to grafted on.</p> <p>Sturt peas are now being propagated fortnightly to keep up with demand and all back orders have now been filled.</p>
Ongoing Activity:	Continue to expand the range of plants for sale and produce the plant availability list monthly. Focus on producing grafted stock and seek markets.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Prepare plants for Laura Folk Fair and Australian Plant Society Show in April. Plan for hosting of eremophila study group in September 2017.

8. Contribute to a safe work environment for staff, volunteers and visitors

Outcomes Achieved:	<p>Site inspections completed. CAPA registered is maintained and updated.</p> <p>Risk assessments and SWIs are being worked through in</p>
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	<p>compliance with safety calendar.</p> <p>Monthly testing of the duress alarms is now in place.</p> <p>Review of the Workplace and Emergency Evacuation Plan has been completed and will be presented to staff at the December meeting.</p>
Ongoing Activity:	Aim to maintain high WHS compliance standard.
Next Qtr Outcomes:	Completed RA & SWIs for café by March.

9. Maintain a high level of consultation in regard to WHS and Return to Work Management.

Outcomes Achieved:	<p>Monthly safety meetings are now held at the café, before opening to include all staff on site.</p> <p>The agenda, including the Safety First Committee meeting minutes is sent to all staff and a copy printed to be left on site.</p> <p>Agendas and minutes are placed on the notice boards in both the nursery and the café.</p> <p>Discussions on changes are held at meetings and outcomes documented.</p>
Ongoing Activity:	
Next Qtr Outcomes:	

CHERIE GERLACH
28/11/2016

ATTACHMENT A



Landmark Pro K308 Peninsula Shelter 10m x 8m

REPORT FOR:	AALBG Advisory Committee		
MEETING DATE:	2nd December 2016		
REPORT FROM:	Acting Director Corporate Services		
REPORT TITLE:	AALBG - Budget Comparison PE 24/11/2016		
FILE NAME:	F16/24	RECORD NO:	AR16/48699

COMMUNITY VISION & STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES

1 We Thrive

- 1.3 We use and manage our financial and physical resources in the best interests of our community, now and for the future.

PURPOSE

To provide the Committee with an update on the budget for 2016/2017.

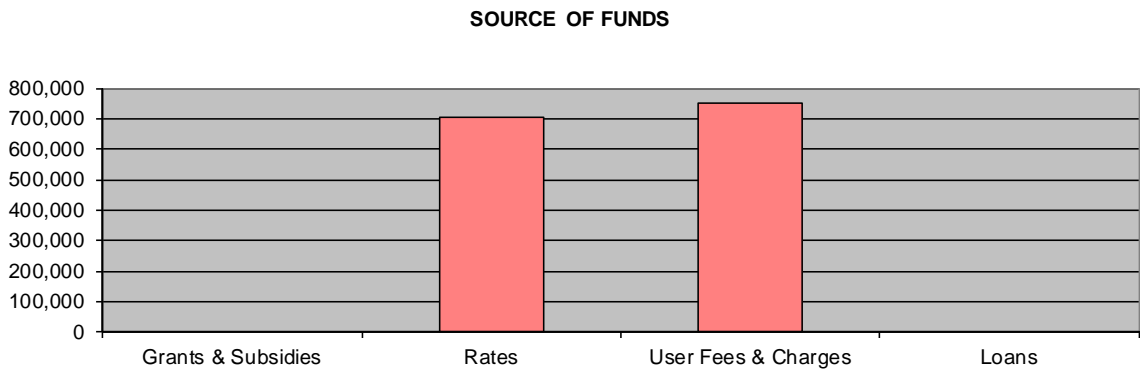
RECOMMENDATION

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee resolves to receive and note the report (AR16/486999) dated 24/11/2016, submitted by the Acting Director of Corporate Services concerning AALBG - Budget Comparison PE 24/11/2016.

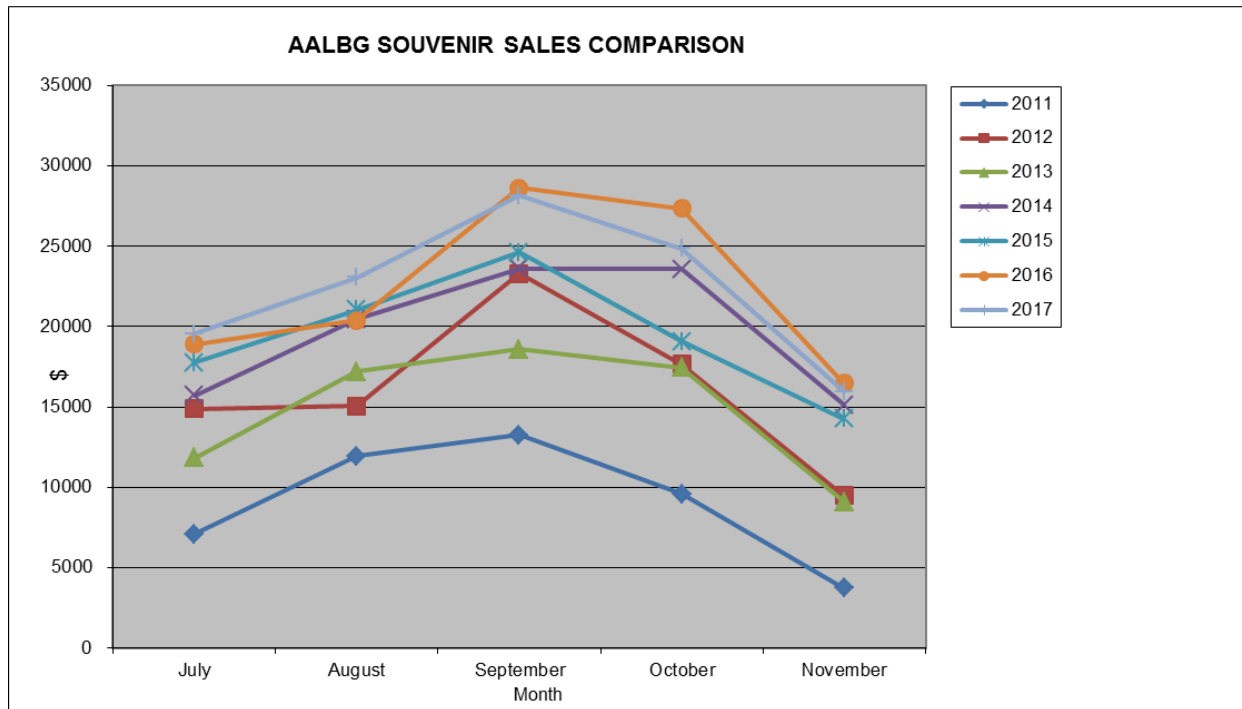
DISCUSSION

- The attached budget comparison is for the period ended 24th November 2016 is provided for Member's information.
- Salaries & Wages for the Arid Lands Visitor Centre and Café are over budget year-to-date due to higher staffing in response to an increase in customers over the period. This increased expenditure is offset by an increase in revenue. Café Salaries & Wages are also higher due to compulsory training attended. It is planned that wages will reduce over January and February in line with anticipated lower patronage over the summer months.
- Arid Lands Café Other Operating Costs includes purchase of a new dishwasher due to breakdown and the dishwasher being beyond repair. This expenditure is offset by savings in Provisions and Catering.
- Nursery Salaries & Wages are \$26k under budget year-to-date due to reduction in use of casual staff and efficiencies in nursery practice resulting from a review in nursery operations.

PROGRAM	CORPORATE & BUSINESS SERVICES			
ACTIVITY	AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN			
		BUDGET 2016/2017	BUDGET Y-T-D	ACTUAL Y-T-D
	Arid Lands Visitor Centre			
	Salaries & Wages	176,400	74,631	81,375
	Other Operating Costs	264,800	116,023	110,995
		441,200	190,654	192,370
	Arid Lands Visitor Centre Revenue	206,200	87,238	114,024
	Arid Lands Café Expenditure			
	Salaries & Wages	279,000	118,038	121,273
	Other Operating Costs	168,900	76,835	72,338
		447,900	194,873	193,611
	Arid Lands Café Revenue	432,400	182,938	196,371
	Arid Lands Operations Expenditure			
	Arid Lands Nursery	150,300	62,942	24,225
	Arid Lands Botanic Garden Infrastructure	416,600	181,204	163,541
		566,900	244,146	187,766
	Arid Lands Nursery Revenue	106,500	45,058	45,485
	Arid Lands Botanic Garden Infrastructure Rev	6,000	2,538	
		112,500	47,596	45,485



5. A comparison of the souvenir sales for the past seven years is set out below.



As can be seen, there was a slight increase in revenue from souvenir sales in August, and a decrease in October 2016, all other months are similar to the previous year. November year-to-date souvenir revenue for 2016/17 is currently \$15.9k (with a week remaining for November), compared with \$16.4k for 2015/16.

RISK MANAGEMENT

1: Financial/Budget

n/a

2: Legal

n/a

3: Environment

n/a

4: Community

n/a

ANNE O'REILLY

24/11/2016

AALBG Board/Strategic Management Committee Port Augusta, 2/12/2016

Report from The Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Port Augusta Inc.

Introduction: The excellent working relationship between Council, Garden staff & Friends continues and local Friends Committee Members meet regularly with Cherie Gerlach to discuss and resolve issues of mutual interest which we greatly appreciate.

General comments:

- Following the official celebrations commemorating the 20th anniversary of the official opening of the AALBG, the Friends hosted a visit by Angus Stewart, a presenter on ABC TV's Gardening Australia who stated that "The AALBG is a world class botanic garden".
- Friends volunteers have been involved in many developments at the AALBG since our last meeting including :
 - Continued assistance in the Nursery propagating plants, sometimes on two days a week, and also assisted with heat bed repairs.
 - Weeding and pruning throughout the garden, irrigation repairs and installation, restoring some older seating, planting, and completing the manufacture and installation of new seating throughout the Garden, valued at more than \$50,000.
 - Conducted plant stalls at the Port Augusta Markets and the Laura Folk Fair.
 - Ronda Hall assists the University of Technology Sydney researchers with their research work in the garden.
 - Concentrated effort working with garden staff on the new "Arid Explorers Garden". The Friends recently committed another \$5,000 to this project in addition to undertaking a substantial portion of the development work.
 - Applied for a Community Grant of \$38,000, to install a shelter and education area for the "Arid Explorers Garden".
 - Assisted in many ways at the national Botanic Gardens Open Day on 29th May, promoting the Garden to visitors with a range of special activities.
 - Provided significant input into the development of the Reflection Garden opened in June.
 - Transported 600 plants from the AALBG Nursery and from Friends growers for planting on properties of Pinery bushfire victims.
 - Provided training in plant propagation for Green Army trainees during their period of employment at the AALBG.
 - Assist with school and other large group visits as well as providing regular guided tours of the Garden for visitors.
 - Conduct bird watching walks for garden visitors and Bird Club members.
 - Assisted with a visit to the AALBG by The Friends of The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide
- I took leave and attended the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens biennial conference at the end of April/early May in Geelong. (I was a member of this Board for 6 years until the May meeting). This was an excellent networking opportunity, meeting with active botanic garden friends groups from all over Australia, seeing presentations and hearing of their activities and visiting places of botanical interest in the region. I mounted a small display featuring the AALBG. Many had visited our Garden and hold it in high regard and are impressed by our achievements on a limited budget. On this trip besides visiting the very impressive Geelong Botanic Garden I

visited Melbourne BG, Colac BG and the developing Melton BG. The links developed at these events are valuable.

- In September I gave a presentation on the AALBG to the Gawler group of The Australian Plant Society.
- In November I gave a presentation to The Friends of The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide on the AALBG which was also very well received. Dr Lucy Sutherland, the new Director of The Botanic Gardens of South Australia was present and we had an informal conversation. I will be meeting with her soon to discuss the relationship between our Gardens amongst other things. It would be appropriate to invite her to one of our meetings. She is very approachable and knows of our Garden and is impressed by our achievements.
- In my lecturing role at TAFE SA Urrbrae I often refer to the AALBG and give presentations on various aspects of the Garden as well.
- Friends tour guides are kept busy but we do need more volunteers to help with this important task. The tour guides training package has been improved and updated and tour guides are kept informed so they provide the best possible tours for our visitors. Many visitors who pay for our guided tours report very favourably on their experience which enhances their visit to the Garden and Outback SA significantly.
- Friends participated in celebrations in September, commemorating the 20th anniversary since the official opening of the AALBG in September 1996.
- Some of the Friends guest speakers this year stayed on after presenting to our group and conducted workshops and presentations for other visitors to the Garden providing commercial opportunities, co-ordinated by Garden Manager Cherie Gerlach. We are looking at more of these jointly beneficial opportunities with some of the keynote speakers brought to Port Augusta to present to our Friends at regular meetings.
- The book produced by Chris Nayda, Friends Secretary on *Plants of the AALBG* is selling well, along with the companion book, *Birds of the AALBG*.
- I realise the difficult financial position faced by Council and the opposition by some in the community to Council operating a botanic garden. The approximately \$12 million spent by visitors to the AALBG in the local community, estimated to employ at least 60 locals as well as those employed at the Garden, must be factored in. As we continue to attract more visitors – nearing 100,000 this year, we attract more revenue. I am sure this topic will be discussed today.
- I ask the committee to keep in mind the future of the now abandoned historic Yudnapinna Homestead & the possibility of relocating it to the Garden. Please urge Council to look at every possible means of saving this important heritage building – grants, community appeal and others. This building, refurbished inside would provide very useful space at the AALBG and could generate income.
- I repeat this paragraph below from a previous report to this committee so that it is not forgotten though realise that our financial position is such that it is not likely in the short term:
Recently an app was developed for the Waite Arboretum in Adelaide enabling visitors to easily locate trees and information using their smart phones. The Friends are interested in the development of a similar app for the AALBG and if this goes ahead we would be one of, if not the first botanic garden in Australia with this facility. TAFE lecturer Marian McDuaie, with whom I work, prepared a submission for a previous meeting and for The Friends, outlining the concept of such an app and indicating costs. She was instrumental in developing the Waite app which has

received very favourable comments from users. If Council agrees that such an app would be useful, it is likely the Friends would assist with funding and would also seek grant funding for this.

- The Friends were nominated by AALBG Management for Conservation Council SA's Unsung Hero Award and advised that we were shortlisted for the award. Three Friends Committee members, Chris Nayda, Geraldine Davis and I attended the awards presentation evening in Adelaide on Nov 24th. Unfortunately the Friends did not win but we were thrilled to be recognised and shortlisted.
- Finally I report that the 2017 BGANZ Conference will be held in Adelaide. John Sandham, BGANZ President & I will be preparing a post conference tour to include the AALBG.

John Zwar, President, The Friends of The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Port Augusta Inc.
2/12/2016



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended, and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the needs of the members and the requirements of the Trust Deed of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that presents fairly in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the entity, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

It is not practicable for Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations placed in the donation box at the Visitor Centre until their initial entry in the accounting records. Our audit in relation to donation box revenue was limited to amounts recorded. Consequently, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments to these amounts were necessary.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial report of Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust, presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust as at 30 June 2016, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial report and the requirements of the Deed of Trust of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust to meet the requirements of the Deed of Trust of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Trust. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Simon Smith FCPA, Registered Company Auditor

Partner

22 / 11 / 2016

THE AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN TRUST

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016



THE AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,555	4,170
Total Current Assets	5,555	4,170
Non Current Assets		
Book Collection	12,800	12,800
Shade Sail	4,855	
Total Current Assets	17,655	12,800
TOTAL ASSETS	23,210	16,970
LIABILITIES		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-
NET ASSETS	23,210	16,970
EQUITY		
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	23,210	16,970
TOTAL EQUITY	23,210	16,970

THE AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN TRUST

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Donations	6,234	4,170
Bank Interest	6	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOME	6,240	4,170
	<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	6,240	4,170

THE AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use only by the Association.

The Association has determined that it is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 1031: Materiality

AASB 110: Events Occurring After Reporting Date

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

REPORT FOR:	AALBG Advisory Committee		
MEETING DATE:	2 December 2016		
REPORT FROM:	Manager – AALBG		
REPORT TITLE:	Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden – AALBG Master Plan outcomes report		
FILE NAME:	F16/24	RECORD NO:	AR16/49080

STRATEGIC PLAN SUB GOAL/S
3.1 Economic growth for long-term benefit.
6.1 A professional effective, efficient & customer focused organisation, responsive to the needs of the community.
6.2 Optimise the use & management of the council's financial & physical resources.

PURPOSE

To provide the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG) Advisory Committee with an update of projects and tasks recommended in the *Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Master Plan 2009* (AR10/6098).

RECOMMENDATION

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Advisory Committee resolves to receive and note the report (AR16/49080) dated 28/11/2016, submitted by the Manager - AALBG Master Plan outcomes report

BACKGROUND

In 2009, the *Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Master Plan (revision c)* by Shannon Architects was adopted by Port Augusta City Council. The Masterplan outlines the history of the AALBG, a style guide for materials used in construction, proposed new regional areas and recommendations for projects. The Masterplan is used to guide the development of the Garden and the delivery of tourism services. Seven years since it was adopted a number of the recommendations have been implemented and some remain outstanding.

Recommendation	Outcome
<i>Design and implement ongoing visitor survey</i>	A number of versions of this have occurred over the nine years. In September 2016 a new survey has been loaded onto the AALBG website and placed on the AALBG Facebook page. Other ways of collecting online visitor feedback are also now used, which weren't around when the Masterplan was written, including TripAdvisor and ratings and comments on social media.
<i>Update AALBG website and promote it widely</i>	This was completed 5-6 years ago. The site is now due for a new, modern look and this is expected to be completed by February

	2017.
Create regional tourist nodes to link attractions	Masterplan does not define what this means.
Rationalise signs/elements at the main entrance	
Develop a wayfinding plan to rationalise signage	This was completed in early late 2013.
Update existing display in the visitor centre	The display area in the Visitor Centre was removed to allow for the gift shop. The wood sample display has been kept and a television installed by the Friends to allow for digital interpretation. <i>This is an area that needs more consideration in a limited space.</i>
Establish a dedicated visitor help desk	Completed in 2012 in the giftshop.
Integrate interpretation into activities	Since 2013, school holiday activities have been developed around interpretation of the garden and arid zone areas. <i>This could be further expanded with increased resourcing.</i>
Implement a garden wide interpretive story	
Develop an interpretation evaluation strategy	<i>The Interpretation Plan Strategic Overview 2009-2014</i>
Act on existing visitor feedback	This occurs from reviews on Facebook and Trip Advisor, emails, phone calls, word of mouth and responses from surveys.
Refurbish/replace old style sign frames	This has not yet occurred and needs to be fully costed. The existing frames are still practical and need minor refurbishment.
Produce new interpretive signs for walks	Completed in 2014 on four walking tracks.
Update lookout and bird hide interpretation	Completed.
Create temporary signs for development sites	Occurs when all garden development is taking place.
Develop and implement a tour guide program	Volunteer tour guides have developed a training manual and program.
Train tour guides	Training occurs at least twice a year.
Investigate alternative tour options	Night tours have been held with some success in 2016 as well as the inclusion of a new children's tour aimed at preschool and junior primary students which has been very successful.
Implement an art installation policy	Not completed.
Explore how we can expand our reach	Target markets have been identified and marketing/advertising is focused in those areas. Social media is also used to expand our reach to target markets.
Develop interpretive marketing and merchandising	This has been done with limited success. The cost to develop and design our own merchandise can be costly, time consuming and yield very small profit margins.

Time frame (start date 2009)	Action Item	Action completed
Immediate 12 months	<i>Irrigation upgrade</i>	All areas have now been completed. Irrigation is also being buried to increase its longevity.
	<i>Courtyard redevelopment</i>	Completed in 2012
	<i>Establish screen plantings to proposed works depot site expansion</i>	Plantings for research by University of Technology Sydney (planted late 2015) provide some screening. A longer term option needs to be considered.
	<i>Detailed track planning</i>	Completed. Walking tracks are all clearly defined.
	<i>Concept planning for visitor centre interior.</i>	Concept plan completed
	<i>Arid trees zone</i>	This was planted but trees did not survive. A site for this area needs to be considered.
	<i>Works depot construction</i>	Completed
Short term 1 – 2 years	<i>Western buffer zone – screen plantings to railway</i>	Not completed. Recommend this should be reconsidered.
	<i>Visitor Centre interior works</i>	Completed and interior redeveloped including feature wall in the café, new dining chairs in café and conference room and development of the giftshop.
	<i>Existing collections enhancements – Flinders Ranges</i>	Ongoing.
	<i>External café seating</i>	Completed in 2013.
	<i>Bush tucker garden</i>	Upgrade completed in 2015.
	<i>Existing plant collection enhancement – rare plants</i>	Planned for 2017/18
	<i>Major circulation path extension – sets structure</i>	While paving hasn't been used to extend the major walk track path, a rammed-earth style path has been installed throughout the eremophila garden, around the courtyard and in the children's garden. This is wheelchair and pusher friendly. Any existing gravel was removed.
Medium Term 2 to 5 years	<i>Picnic Area</i>	This area has had seating installed and is now dog-friendly (on-leash) with a tap and water bowl.

Longer Term 5+ years	<i>Plant sales/redevelopment of the service area</i>	The plant sales area has been moved to the Visitor Centre and is adjacent the gift shop. In 2015 the galvanized fence was replaced and a paling fence installed.
	<i>New regional collection - WA</i>	Not planned at this stage
	<i>New Regional Collection - NSW</i>	Not planned at this stage
	<i>Existing collection enhancements – the Brown Collection</i>	Planned for 2018
	<i>Amphitheatre</i>	Not planned at this stage
	<i>New regional collection – Channel Country</i>	Not planned at this stage
	<i>New regional collection – Corner Country</i>	Not planned at this stage
	<i>Lookout renovation</i>	While minor works have been completed, including painting posts on the boardwalk and oiling of the decking no major works are planned at this stage
	<i>Mound Spring Feature</i>	Not planned at this stage
	<i>Children's garden</i>	Under construction and due for completion in April 2017.
	<i>Courtyard between stage 1 & 2</i>	A small island of plantings has been placed in this area but little more has been done at this stage. Planned for 2017/18.
	<i>Friends facility – multi-use space</i>	This has not occurred to date and would be placed in the same areas as the Children's garden, not in the garden area set out in the masterplan.
	<i>Existing Collection enhancements: Eremophila Garden</i>	Completed in 2015. Plantings continued in 2016 with more plantings to grow the collection are planned for 2017.
	<i>Existing Collection enhancements: Eyre region</i>	Planned for 2017/18
	<i>Existing Collection enhancements: Gawler region</i>	Planned for 2017/18
	<i>Existing Collection enhancements: Central highlands</i>	Planned for 2017/18
	<i>Existing Collection enhancements: Great Victoria Desert</i>	Planned for 2017/18

CHERIE GERLACH
28/11/2016

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden

Master Plan



Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden

Master Plan

Revision: C

13 / 5 / 09

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AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN

I. Executive Summary

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is envisaged as the pre-eminent facility for the display of the plant biodiversity of the southern arid zones of Australia.

The Garden is owned and operated by the City of Port Augusta for the benefit of the local and wider community. The establishment of a botanic garden to display arid flora was first accepted by Council in 1981.

This is the first integrated Master Plan for the Garden site and was instigated to ensure developments did not have a detrimental affect on the Garden. The purpose of a Master Plan is to set a direction for future development. Botanic Gardens develop over long time periods as the landscape plantings grow and are replaced.

During the study process it became apparent that interpretive material was critical and as a result an Interpretation Plan was prepared (Refer Executive Summary below).

A Botanic Garden exists to satisfy diverse needs for a range of users. These activities should be provided within a framework that protects, enhances and develops the Garden over time.

The philosophy of the Garden development can be summarised into key words and phrases.

- Primacy of the landscape
- Sustainability
- Conservation
- Education
- Community

The development of the garden landscape and the arid zone flora collections is the essence of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden.

The established informal landscape and pedestrian character is to be maintained. The character of the garden should be of dispersed points of interest set in the landscape, encouraging exploration by visitors.

The Garden site has a variety of original landscape types within its boundaries. Ongoing works to preserve and enhance their conservation is to continue.

The further development of the flora collection will continue to occur within the intensive garden zones. A focus of development will be the creation of an “immersed” experience of regional zones for visitors.

It is proposed to align existing and future regional planting zones with the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA).

It is proposed to establish additional specific purpose plantings and points of interest to extend the diversity of the garden. The creation of a garden precinct to the west is proposed.

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden has built infrastructure that ranges from pedestrian pathways to a high quality Visitor Centre.

The considered development of all infrastructure provisions over time is critical to maintaining the character of the Garden and its unique visitor experience. Infrastructure development should remain secondary to the landscape as far as is practicable.

The Visitor Centre is the largest infrastructure provision and provides a conceptual development framework. The interpretive space has remained largely as originally designed and requires upgrading. A “building zone” to the perimeter of the courtyard caters for future development.

It is proposed to locate the enlarged Works Depot adjacent to the existing site to be shared by Garden staff and Friends volunteers.

The materials utilised at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden have a critical role in the determination of the site character and to the messages that visitors will take from the site. The essence of the site is to create a landscape where the flora is the dominant feature and the materials palette is therefore philosophically, aesthetically and functionally responsive to the environment.

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden has been successfully and progressively developed over time to retain its unique character and with appropriate attention this can continue.

AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS BOTANIC GARDEN INTERPRETATION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Interpretation is how we help visitors to the AALBG understand the value and significance of our collections and site.

The AALBG Interpretation Plan is not a marketing or promotional plan, although there is some overlap. Such plans are designed to attract visitors to the Garden, while 'interpretation' is what happens when they arrive.

The AALBG Interpretation Plan informs and is a key component of the AALBG Master Plan. This Plan is intended to guide interpretation, refined by evaluation and periodic review on a 12 month basis, for a period of 5 years. It will be reviewed in February 2014.

Via our interpretation programs we want our visitors to understand and appreciate:

- Australia's unique arid zone flora
- Australia's arid zone environments and ecosystems
- the significance of the AALBG site
- the practice and purpose of conservation
- that people can make a difference

Our interpretive programs are structured around a series of key messages or 'themes'

Primary Interpretive Theme

Australia's arid interior is home to a myriad of unique plant communities that are specially adapted to thrive in this harsh and beautiful landscape.

Sub-Themes

Arid zone plants have evolved a range of adaptations to thrive in desert conditions.

Arid zone plants grow in a range of distinctly different micro-environments.

Complex communities of birds, animals and insects depend on arid zone plants for food, water, protection and shelter.

The uniqueness of Australia's flora continues to fascinate plant enthusiasts from all over the world.

Humans have learned to 'live with the land' depending on arid zone plants for food, shelter and medicine.

Arid zone plants are an attractive choice for the waterwise garden.

Human activity and the introduction of invasive species pose an enormous environmental threat for Australia's arid lands.

The AALBG contributes to the conservation of arid species and showcases sustainable design, construction, maintenance and horticultural practices.

Recommendations

- Design and implement ongoing visitor survey
- Update AALBG website and promote it widely
- Create regional tourist nodes to link attractions
- Develop a pilot interpretation program for children
- Rationalise signs / elements at Main Entrance
- Develop a Wayfinding Plan to rationalise signage
- Update existing display in visitor centre
- Establish a dedicated Visitor Help Desk
- Integrate interpretation into visitor activities
- Implement a Garden-wide interpretive 'story'
- Develop an interpretation evaluation strategy
- Act on existing visitor feedback
- Refurbish / replace 'old style' sign frames
- Produce new interpretive signs for 'Walks'
- Update Lookout and Bird Hide interpretation
- Create temporary signs for development sites
- Develop and implement a Tour Guide Program
- Train tour guides
- Investigate alternative tour options
- Implement an art installation policy
- Explore how we can expand our 'reach'
- Develop interpretive marketing and merchandising

2. Introduction

“the arid and semi-arid lands are those remote and sparsely populated areas of inland Australia, defined by the presence of desert vegetation and land forms as well as by low rainfall.”

CSIRO Centre for Arid Zone Research - www.cazr.csiro.au/aridlands.htm

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is envisaged as the pre-eminent facility for activities associated with the display of the plant biodiversity of the southern arid zones of Australia.

Shannon Architects were commissioned by the City of Port Augusta in March 2006 to undertake a Master Plan review for the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden. This review was instigated due to the need to undertake development works which had the potential to impact upon significant areas within the Garden.

Previous Master Plans (Kinhill & Henderson) had been prepared early in the development of the garden and recommendations have been implemented, varied or superseded by subsequent development of the site. Both studies, by necessity, focused upon the need, justification and purpose of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden. As the Garden is now established as part of the “culture” of the Port Augusta and wider community this focus is not a significant part of this document.

Concept planning for built facilities had always been considered within the context of future development however the overall design principles and standards have never been collated into a single reference document.

As a result, this Master Plan review is the first integrated Master Plan for the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden site. It is intended to document the site history as well as provide a plan for development over the next 5-10 year period.

This Master Plan Report should be read with the following drawings.

Existing Site Plan (06012-Sk1/A)

Future Site Plan (06012-Sk3/A)

Future Detailed Plan (06012-Sk4/A)

Future Building Plan (06012-Sk5/A)



3. History

The establishment of an Australian botanic garden, displaying arid zone flora was proposed by Port Augusta's first Parks & Gardens Superintendent, John Zwar in 1981. That same year the proposal was accepted by the Port Augusta City Council with the support of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide.

A site of approximately 250 ha, 2 kilometres along the Stuart Highway north of Port Augusta was selected. It contained significant natural vegetation including Western Myall woodland, chenopod plain and coastal vegetation, including mangroves and samphire on the shoreline of Spencer Gulf.

Public support grew for the botanic garden concept and a State Government Committee was set up in 1983 to investigate the proposal. It reported favourably, but without financial commitment. The following year an active "Friends" group was formed which promoted the garden widely, sought funds and lobbied for development.

During the 1980's, site development was funded by Council and the Friends group with on ground work assistance from Government unemployment relief schemes. A Management Advisory Committee was established in 1988 by the Port Augusta City Council to seek further funding and oversee development.

The 1990's saw the development of a Master Plan, employment of the garden's first full-time staff member, major infrastructure development and the opening of the environmentally award-winning Visitor Centre. Also during this time major sponsorships assisted with the extensive development of infrastructure and the Eremophila and Regional plant collections.

Since 2000 financial assistance from the Australian and State Government, the South Australian mining sector and the Friends group has made possible improvements to infrastructure, expansion of Visitor Centre facilities, AridSmart display gardens and front entrance gates.



Core annual funding from the Corporation of the City of Port Augusta together with the valuable contributions of the Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden continues to benefit this important facility and arid zone plant collection.

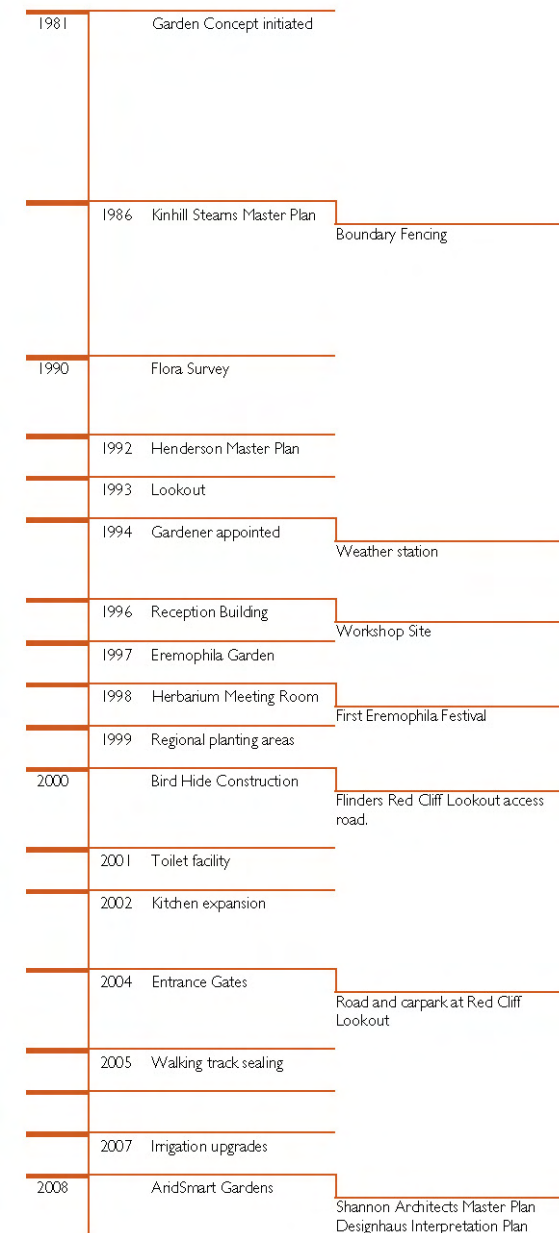
3.1 Development History

There have been two major site Master Plans prepared for the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden site (Kinhill Stearns – 1986 and Henderson - 1992).

The Kinhill Stearns report was prepared in the early stages of the exploration of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden concept and to a large degree has been superseded by subsequent Master Plans and site designs. It is of interest to note that concepts included arid zone plantings from around the world and proposed a considerably larger intensive garden footprint than is likely to be realised in the foreseeable future.

Henderson focused on more detailed aspects of the Garden. In particular the entrance road route was determined and subsequently constructed based upon this report, effectively confirming the location of the primary visitor facilities. Soils, flora and fauna surveys were undertaken in some detail and remain relevant.

The appointment of Shannon Architects to design the Reception building in 1995 marked the commencement of intensive site development which has been ongoing since that time.



4. Process

The preparation of this Master Plan has been an extended process due to the need to recommend locations for urgent works, consult with a variety of stakeholders and implement additional studies to inform the Master Plan.

The Master Plan was instigated following discussions regarding the selection of sites for the AridSmart Garden and Friends work area developments. It was recognised that the appropriate selection of sites was required to ensure those developments did not have a detrimental affect on the presentation of the Garden.

A site for the AridSmart Garden was identified and options for the Friends and Garden Works Depot are discussed elsewhere in this report.

The need for the development of new and the collation of existing management policies by the City of Port Augusta, was identified and is ongoing.

During the course of consultation it became apparent that the nature and type of interpretive material was critical, particularly in relation to built development. As a result an Interpretation Plan was prepared by Designhaus including consultation and Works Depot.

A Works Depot presentation was undertaken with Council Staff and the Reference Group to incorporate initial feedback prior to the issue of a Draft Report for wider comment.

Participants

Shannon Architects	David Shannon
	Michael Willis
City of Port Augusta	John Hogg
	Rieck Shine
	Michael Anlezark
	Pauline Hedger
	Deon Schumann
Friends of Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden	
Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Reference Group	
Designhaus	
SATC	



5. Guiding Principles

“The mission of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is to provide a facility for the conservation of a collection of Australia’s arid zone flora, including threatened species and plant communities. It is to increase popular and scientific understanding of the arid zone environment through education on a regional, national and international level and the promotion of arid zone plants by fostering appreciation and research into their special qualities and horticultural potential.”

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Mission statement

A Botanic Garden exists to satisfy a number of differing needs for a wide range of user groups. As a result the activities within the Garden can be and are diverse. These activities, and the facilities that they require, should be provided within a philosophical and management framework that protects, enhances and develops the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden over time.



5.1 Activities

C Stuart Gager, a director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, indicated five primary purposes for Botanic Gardens. This observation was made in an article published in 1937 that collated surveys from the majority of Botanic Gardens from around the world.

*“The early dates of establishment of some of these institutions, still flourishing, emphasize a point the writer has made elsewhere, namely, the great momentum of botanic gardens – their tendency to persist through financial and other discouragements, political and social upheavals, and changes in the place of emphasis in botanical science. This shows that botanic gardens minister to fundamental human needs – **scientific, educational, recreational, civic and economic.**”*

Brooklyn Botanic Garden Record Vol XXVI No 3 July 1937

This observation is still of relevance and offers a framework for the definition and consideration of site activities and philosophies.

There are already a wide range of activities that occur within the AALBG site. These activities will have differing purposes and meanings for varying groups and individuals. It is anticipated that all of these activities will continue and be expanded over time.

5.2 Philosophy

The philosophy of Garden development is discussed throughout this report. These philosophies can be summarised into key words and phrases to avoid an over emphasis on description.

- Primacy of the landscape
- Sustainability
- Conservation
- Education
- Community

	Now	Future
Science	Research Conservation Conferences	
Education	Interpretation Conservation Observation Festivals Conferences Formal training Exhibitions Tours	Children's garden / play space
Recreation	Interpretation Picnics Observation Festivals Exhibitions Tours Retail Sales Walking	Night walks Events Music Children's garden / play space
Civics	Volunteering Conservation Festivals Conferences Exhibitions	Weddings Children's garden / play space
Economics	Conservation Research Festivals Conferences Retail Sales Tours	Plant sales Integrated external tours Exhibitions Events

5.3 Management

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is owned and operated by the City of Port Augusta for the benefit of the local and wider community. Council have a limited Community Land Management Plan for the site (Refer Appendix).

In addition to council management the Friends of the AALBG were formed in 1984 and have contributed, and continue to contribute, significantly to the development of the Garden.

The Adelaide Botanic Garden has been a supporter and contributor. Corporate partners have included WMC Limited and ETSA.

The purpose of this report is not to provide comment on the management structure however Garden management policies will impact upon site development and management. Current and draft policies include

Existing

- By-Law No. 7
- Collections Policy No. - 2.6.03
- Environmental Protection Policy No. 2.6.02
- Unattended Children policy No.2.14.01

Drafts

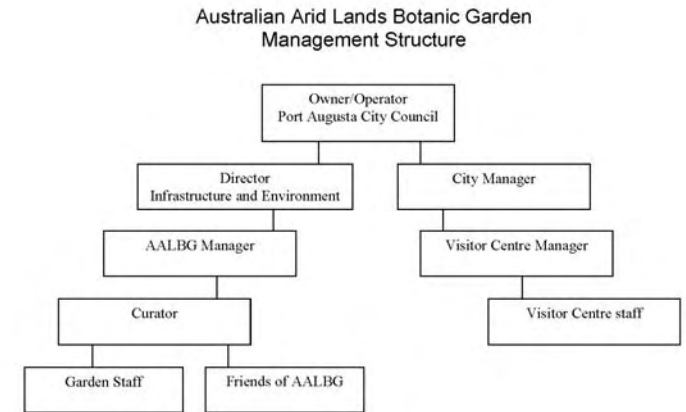
- Wildlife Management Policy
- Interpretation Plan

In Production

- Art Installation Policy
- Event Booking Policy

Planned

- Native Vegetation Policy
- Volunteers Policy
- Fire Management Plan
- Significant Site Management Plan
- Ashes Scattering and Memorial Policy
- Donations/Gifts and Bequests policy
- Codes of Conduct – staff, volunteers and visitors
- Plant Establishment Policy
- Research Area Policy



6. Existing Situation

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is located on the Stuart Highway on the outskirts of the City of Port Augusta. The primary site of more than 200 Ha is devoted to the Garden itself with the Research Site located on the opposite (southern) side of the Highway. Whilst the entire site is designated as a botanic garden, intensive garden development is restricted to a relatively small portion with the balance devoted to the conservation of the existing landscape.

Development of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden was first proposed in 1981. Over more than 25 years a wide range of projects have been undertaken to improve and enrich the Garden and its facilities to the benefit of visitors.

These developments have capitalised on the natural features of the site that should continue to be preserved and enhanced into the future.

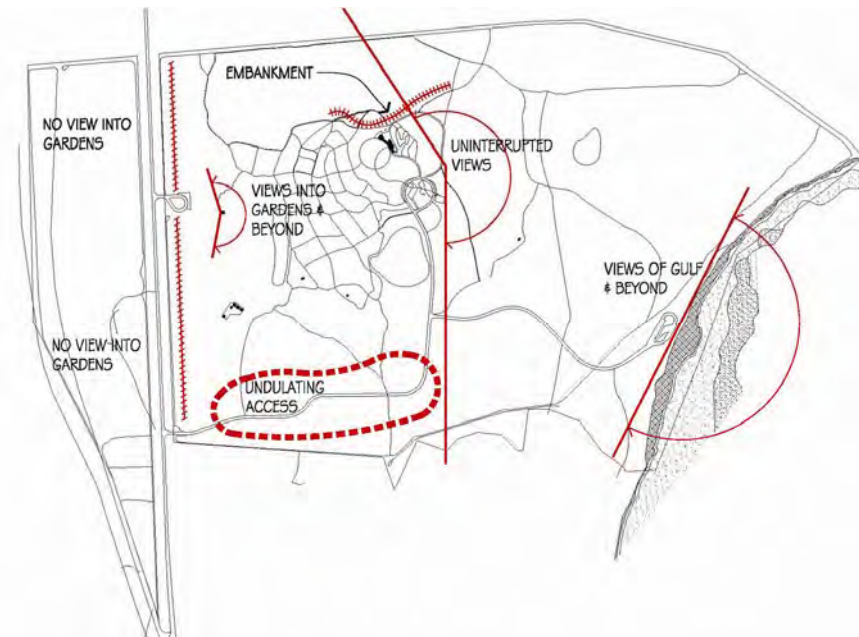
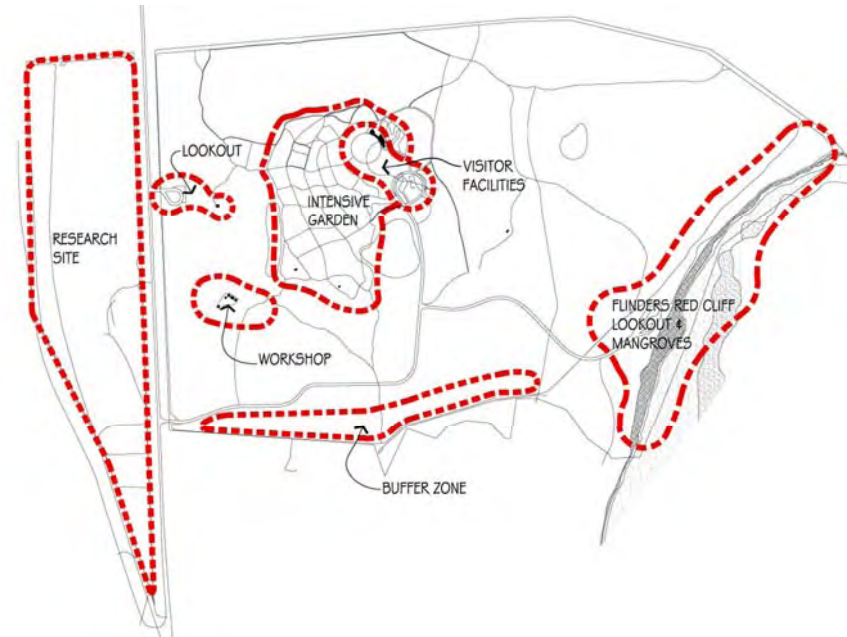
The discussion below describes and offers limited analysis of the current situation.

6.1 Setting

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is located on the fringe of the arid zone that it represents. This zone is characterised by median rainfall of about 250 mm per annum.

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden site has the natural advantage of a variety of original landscape types within its boundaries. These include Western Myall Woodland, Chenopod Plains, Dunes and a frontage to Spencer Gulf with associated beach and mangroves.

There are limited significant views into the Garden from the Stuart Highway however a high quality view of the Gardens and landscape beyond is provided at the lookout. This has some advantage for first time visitors who approach through an undulating landscape which at its end offers a spectacular view to the Flinders Ranges. This view to the north is maintained along the access road and the majority of public areas.



Indigenous sites of significance were identified as part of the original Kinhill Stearns report. The boundaries of these sites will require investigation prior to development in adjacent areas.

6.2 Access and Movement

Access

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is located on the outskirts of Port Augusta and the majority of visitors access the site by motor vehicle. There is one public vehicle access point from the Stuart Highway however minor access points to the Garden and Research Area are available to Garden staff.

Pedestrian entry points connect with walking routes to areas of Port Augusta.

Vehicles

Public vehicles are constrained to the two major access roads with carparking located at the Visitor Centre, Lookout and the Flinders Red Cliff Lookout.

Maintenance staff can access the Garden by a variety of tracks and the pedestrian track network. Areas of the track network suffer due to the frequency of these movements.

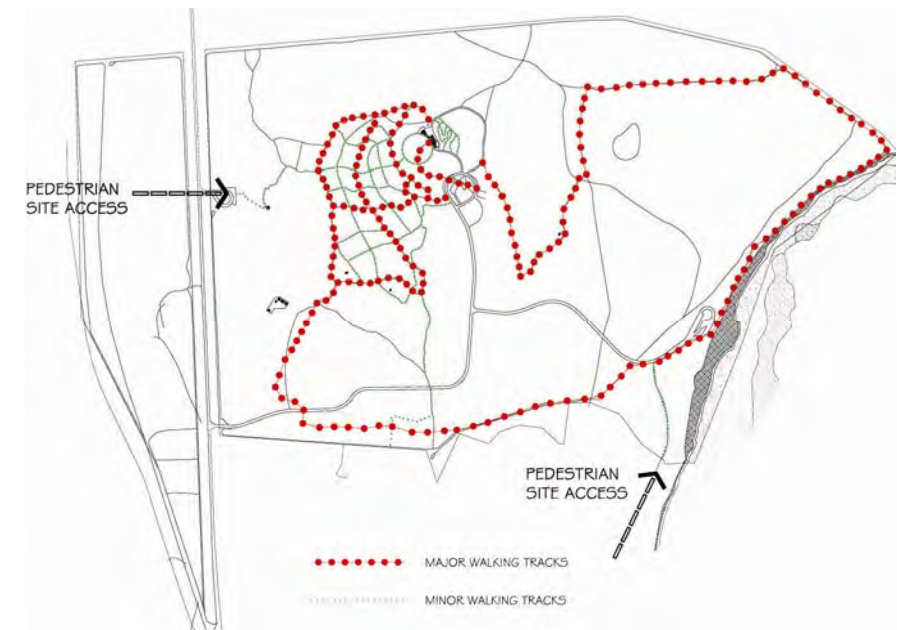
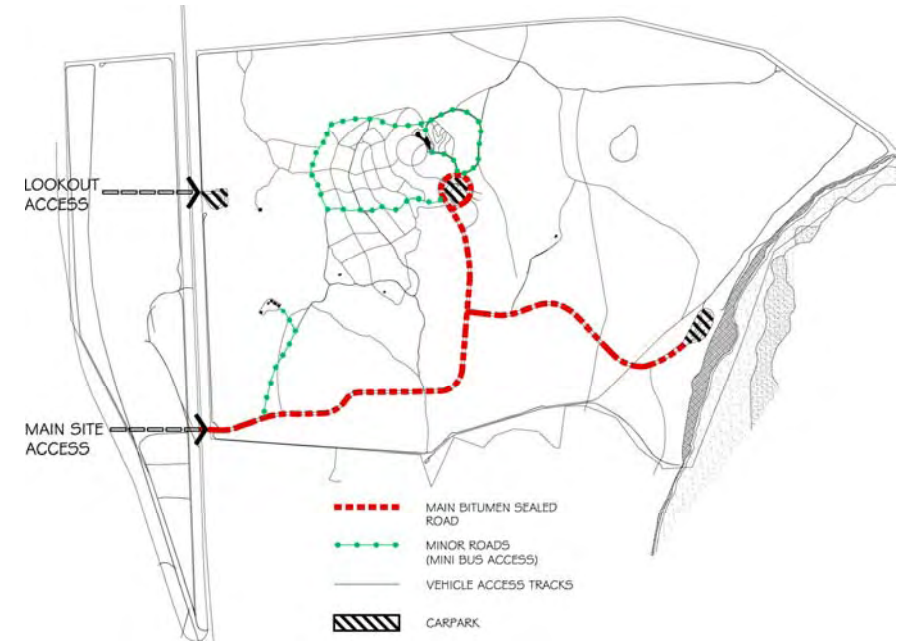
Tour buses (small) are able to access the intensive plantings on a designated route by arrangement.

Pedestrians

Access to the Garden and its collections once visitors have parked their vehicles is pedestrian.

There is a major access pathway connecting the Visitor Centre and carpark. This path relates to original design concepts that have been weakened by the installed route which was appropriate in the early stage of development of the site however now requires attention.

Major circulation track routes have been planned to offer visitors an experience of the Garden. Lesser track planning suffers from an excess of



4 way intersections and some lack of definition which impacts on visitor experience and way finding.

6.3 Garden

The development of the garden landscape and the arid zone flora collections is the essence of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden. Plantings have been ongoing since the establishment of the site.

For the purpose of discussion landscape types are separated into three categories.

- Conservation zone
- Intensive plantings
- Specific purpose plantings

Conservation Zone

Large areas of the Garden are examples of remnant natural vegetation types. These include Chenopod Plains, Dunes and Western Myall Woodland. These areas have been improved and conserved through plantings, weed control and pest eradication.

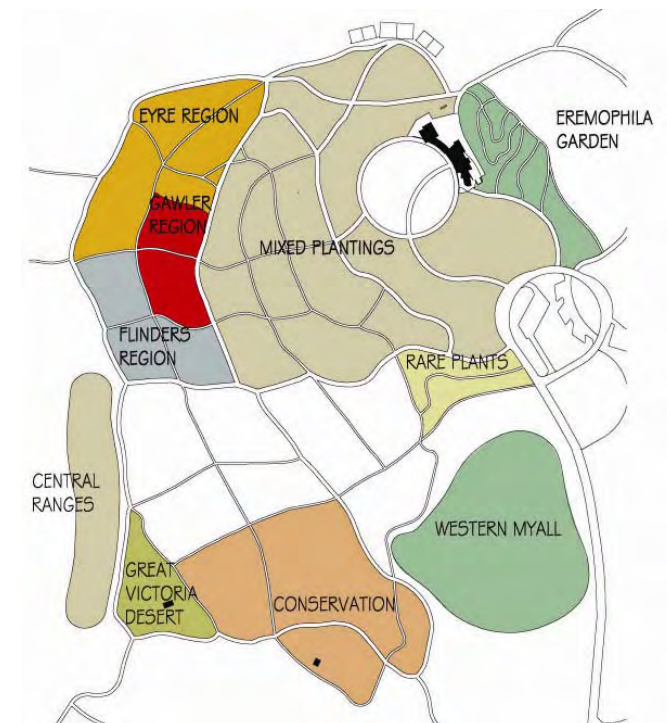
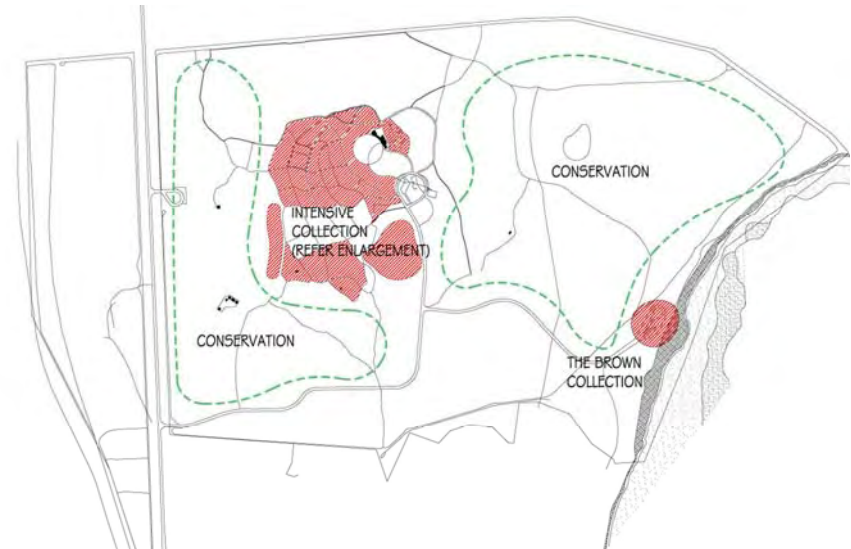
Intensive Planting Zones

The development of the flora collection occurs within these intensive zones, the majority of which are located within walking distance of the Visitor Centre. This zone is arranged to include areas of mixed plantings and regional collections as follows:

- Mixed planting and rare plants
- Eremophila Garden
- Eyre Region
- Gawler Region
- Flinders Region
- Central Ranges
- Great Victoria Desert

It is of interest to note that the Henderson Report proposed the arrangement of the collection in six “vegetation associations”.

The current arrangement of plantings provides a primarily “outside looking in” experience for visitors with limited opportunity for an “immersed” experience of regional plantings.



The Brown Collection, which represents specimens collected during Brown's exploration of the region, is associated with the Flinders Red Cliff Lookout due to the historical association with the site.

Specific Purpose Plantings

Within the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden there are zones of vegetation that have been created for specific outcomes utilising arid zone flora that is represented on the site and/or in the collections.

- Buffer zone – visually screens the adjoining urban development from the Garden.
- Roadside plantings – provides visual patterns and interest to reduce the impact of the straight section of the access road.
- Courtyard planting – intent is to provide high visual impact for visitors to create a distinct zone within the Garden.
- AridSmart Display Gardens – provides a public education function to communicate the potential for the use of arid zone plants in urban gardens.
- Research zone – includes limited plantings for research purposes with potential for specific project use.



6.4 Infrastructure

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden has built infrastructure that ranges from pedestrian pathways to a high quality Visitor Centre. These facilities have been developed progressively over time.

The purpose of this infrastructure is to support the functions of the Garden and the activities of visitors.

Vehicle Roadways

All public access roads are constructed with grey spray seal finish which clearly and appropriately differentiates them from other surfaces in the Garden.

Pedestrian Tracks

There are three types of pedestrian tracks in the Garden. The formal circulation path utilises a concrete segmental paver and is deliberately the only finish of this type in the Garden.



The primary walking route is also utilised for limited bus tours while there is a network of general walking tracks.

Tracks are a spray sealed finish (vehicle circulation) and rubble. The materials were originally selected to provide colour coded circulation paths however the affect of this treatment has been weakened over time and is to be reassessed.

Maintenance traffic at track intersections is creating larger than necessary footprints at these locations.

Services

The Garden is serviced by mains power and water. Both are connected to the Visitor Centre and Works Depot facility and water is distributed throughout the garden for irrigation.

Solar powered site lighting is provided in several locations.

Lookouts

The original lookout is accessed by vehicles from the Stuart Highway. It consists of a roofed shelter with interpretive panels connected to the carpark via an elevated boardwalk. The lookout is also connected to the Garden track network.

The Flinders Red Cliff Lookout is associated with the carpark that services this area. This site is connected to both the Garden track network and the city walking trail network.

Bird Hides

Two bird hides have been constructed from community donations and Rotary and provide specific purpose facilities for this activity.

Picnic Areas

Whilst it is possible for visitors to have picnics in various areas within the garden a specific area is provided adjacent to the main carpark. The provision of a seating area at the Flinders Red Cliff Lookout also facilitates this activity.

There is potential to improve aspects of these facilities.



Toilet

A single unisex composting toilet is located within the Garden at a distance from the primary amenities in the Visitor Centre. This facility is available for visitors and staff utilising the track network.

Furniture and small scale facilities

A diverse range of furniture items are provided throughout the Garden. These include seats, bollards etc. The future selection and location of these items should be carefully considered.

Arts Program

Art works have been included in the Garden since the design of the Reception building which incorporates specifically commissioned items. Since that time additional permanent works have been installed and temporary works are included as part of the ARID Festival and other similar events.

Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre is the largest and most complex infrastructure provision in the Garden and was constructed in three primary stages.

- Reception Building
- WMC Herbarium/Meeting Room
- Kitchen expansion

The Reception Building represented the first stage of the project and provided a conceptual framework which has been continued through subsequent construction phases.

Visitors leave their cars and walk to the Reception building. This extends their experience of the environment and distances vehicles from buildings and the intensive planting zones. Built development will in the long term surround a large circular courtyard walled in rammed-earth. The courtyard is central to the concept for the building and the site and provides references to the “walled garden” tradition of many cultures and the indigenous symbol for a food and water source.

Courtyard walls give a sense of enclosure in a sparse landscape and conceal and reveal views to the distance. A small structure and section of earth wall on the entry path marks the entrance to this courtyard.



The building has a formal frontage from the courtyard and building forms are simple where viewed from a distance however become progressively more complex as approached. The fragmented perimeter of the plan allows the penetration of landscape up to and under the building and creates the potential for intimate spaces between buildings

Environmental considerations are considered integrally with the building design which is based upon sun penetration and air circulation.

The first stage of development incorporated

- Interpretive Display
- Administration Office
- Café / Souvenir Sales
- Amenities

The WMC Herbarium/Meeting Room expands the reception building to the west and contains Meeting Room, Storage and a purposed designed Herbarium specimen storage cupboard

A courtyard has been created between Stage 1 and Stage 2 developments that remains undeveloped however is used for a variety of activities.

The success of the café exceeded the original design brief for a low scale kiosk and as a result an expansion of the Kitchen was undertaken to meet this demand. The demand for café seating is the major pressure on the use of space within the building.

The interpretive space has remained largely as originally designed and requires upgrading.

Works Depot Facility

The Works Depot provides limited facilities for Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden staff and the Friends Group. The small yard and associated buildings provide basic amenities, office, storage and propagation facilities. This site area is constrained due to the close proximity of indigenous sites of significance. Access is via a narrow unsealed track off the main entrance road that becomes easily congested if the facility is in use by both staff and Friends.

It is recognised that a long term solution to the Works Depot location is required to be identified by the Master Plan.



7. Master Plan

7.1 Setting

Development to date has made best use of and preserved the natural advantages of the site. This is to be continued through:

- Maintenance and improvements to conservation zones recognising their importance to the Garden setting.
- Preservation of the panoramic views to the Flinders Ranges to the north
- Continued focus on the visitor experience on the access road preserving the undulating approach and emphasising the contrasting plantings to either side of the straight road section.
- Continued emphasis on the primacy of the landscape over other development.

7.2 Access and Movement

Access

Vehicle and pedestrian access points are to remain as per the current condition.

Vehicles

Public vehicles are to continue to be constrained to the major access roads. Provision of additional vehicle access would reduce the pedestrian character of the garden and disrupt views to the north.

Maintenance access is required. Modifications to tracks and ongoing management are necessary to constrain vehicle movement and reduce both informal movements in conservation zones and the size of the vehicle trail footprint in the intensive garden.

Small tour buses will continue to access the intensive plantings on a designated route by arrangement.



Pedestrians

The pedestrian character of the Garden is to be maintained. It is a feature of design concepts that visitors leave their vehicles to experience the landscape before entering the Visitor Centre.

The formal circulation route connecting the Visitor Centre and carpark is to be extended to link the carpark, picnic area and other features to the original design concepts.

Major circulation track routes have been established. Lesser track planning should be reviewed for ease of way finding, differentiation of experience and improvement of the visitor experience as discussed further below.

Bike access to the Garden is to be limited to the existing vehicle roadways to limit the potential for conflict with pedestrians. This policy is common to many Botanic gardens and National Parks and will allow cyclists to access the Garden via the Stuart Highway and the Flinders Red Cliff carpark. Access to the track network could occur by arrangement with management.

Consideration of cycle racks at the Visitor Centre is suggested and could occur in the proposed upgrade of the service area.

7.3 Garden

The established informal landscape character is to be maintained and emphasised. The character of the garden should be of dispersed points of interest set in the landscape, encouraging exploration and experience by occasional and regular visitors.

This philosophy has the advantage of maintaining a low scale, low intensity character while also assisting in encouraging visitors to stay longer in the Garden, and as a result in Port Augusta, a key tourism objective.

Developments and improvements are discussed according to the category of landscape below. The establishment of all garden areas should be carefully considered and appropriately designed at the time of establishment.

Conservation Zone

Ongoing works to preserve and enhance the conservation of the flora in these zones is to continue. Appropriately managed, these zones are of interpretive and environmental interest in their own right. The Chenopod plains to the north naturally preserve the significant distant views. Removal of unnecessary access tracks and constraint of vehicle movements should occur.

Intensive Planting Zones

The development of the flora collection will continue to occur within the intensive zones. A focus of planting and track review will be the creation of an “immersed” experience of regional zones for visitors. The proposed expansion of the Flinders Region collection with the creation of a creek bed feature and modifications to track layouts illustrates this principle.

It is proposed to align existing and future regional planting zones with the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA).

The Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) divides the Australian continent into 85 bioregions. 403 sub-regions have now also been defined Australia-wide based on major geomorphic features in each bioregion.

The bioregions and sub-regions are the reporting unit for assessing the status of native ecosystems, their protection in the national reserve system and for use in the monitoring and evaluation framework in the Australian Government's current Natural Resource Management initiatives.

Australian Government-Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
www.environment.gov.au

This regional classification system will allow future collection development to be based upon recognised and defined regional areas.



The collections will be extended to include

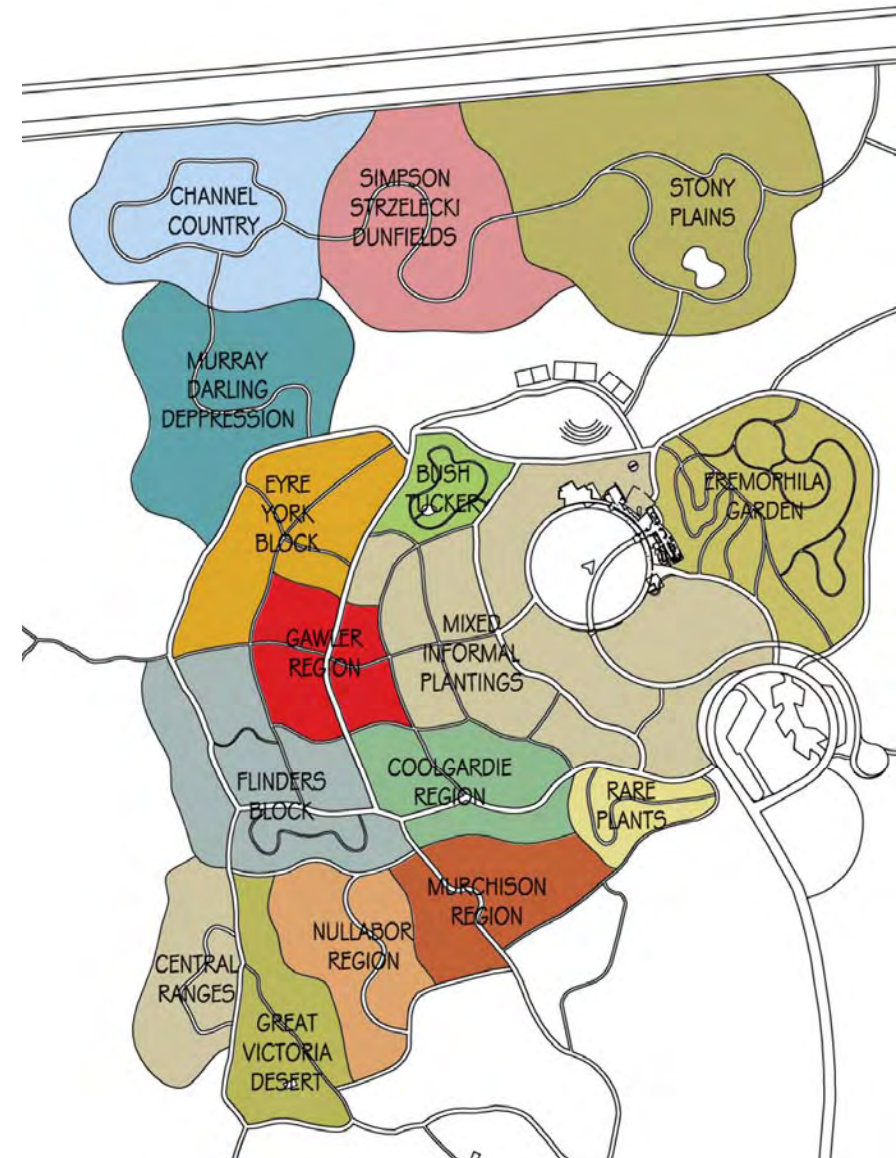
- Channel Country (CHC)
- Simpson Strzelecki Dunefields (SSD)
- Stony Plains (STP)
- Coolgardie Region (COO)
- Nullabor Region (NUR)
- Murchison Region (MUR)
- Murray Darling Depression (MDD)

to build upon existing regional collections

- Eyre Yorke Block (EYB) formerly Eyre Peninsula
- Gawler Region (GAW)
- Flinders Region (FLB)
- Central Ranges (CR)
- Great Victoria Desert (GVD)

The existing non-regional botanic collections will be maintained and extended

- Arid Arboreta (see Specific purpose plantings below)
- Eremophila Garden
- Informal planting zones
It is anticipated that the extent of these areas, which contain mixed specimens, will be reduced over time to accommodate extended regional plantings
- Rare plants
- The Brown Collection
To be maintained and expanded in the vicinity of the Flinders Red Cliff Lookout.
- Bush Tucker and Medicinal plants
Indigenous food and medicinal plant species are planted within the garden. As a point of interest for visitors it is proposed to create a clearly designated collection that communicates the use of these plants as has been envisaged since the early phase of the garden development. This collection would be in the historical tradition of the “physic garden” common to many early Botanic Gardens and may facilitate relationships with the local indigenous community.



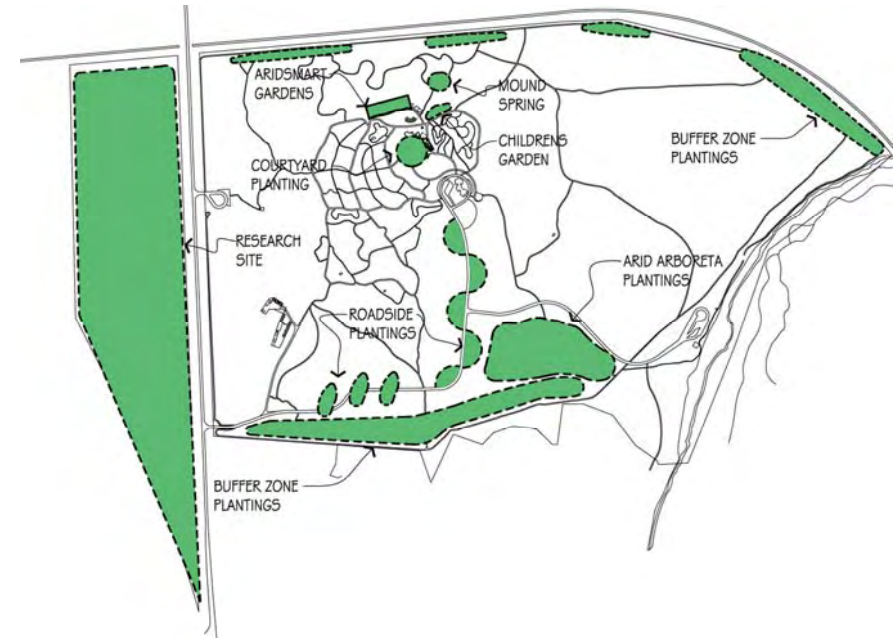
Specific Purpose Plantings

Existing zones of vegetation and points of interest that have been created for specific outcomes include:

- **Buffer Zone**
Maintain and enhance existing plantings
- **Roadside plantings**
Existing plantings have failed in some areas and planting to emphasise original design concepts of an alternating and increasing density of planting is to occur. This will occur in two sections. Existing plantings on the undulating approach road section are to be strengthened by addition of plants to increase the density of existing species. The straight section of east west roadway leading to the carpark is to have alternating distinctive plantings re-established.
- **Courtyard planting**
The courtyard is central to the project and is envisaged to be an open character, planted area that will be surrounded by walls and buildings in a circular form as a hub for the garden. The courtyard is a contemplative space through which visitors pass, in reference to the landscape in which it is placed. Interpretive and other content should be focused elsewhere in the Garden.
- **AridSmart Display Gardens**
Provide a public education function to communicate the potential for the use of arid zone plants in urban gardens.
- **Research Zone**
At present includes limited plantings for research purposes with potential for specific project use.

It is proposed to establish additional specific purpose plantings and points of interest. These features will extend the diversity of the garden. In particular the creation of a garden precinct to the west to build upon the AridSmart garden development is proposed.

- **Arid Arboreta**
Located adjacent to the Flinders Red Cliff Lookout this collection is intended to provide the dual purpose of a buffer zone to new and existing urban development as well as a botanic collection of species that may not be of appropriate scale for the intensive collection zones. Tree communities would be grouped in intensive groves to reflect a woodland character.



- **Western Buffer Zone**
It is proposed to create a new discontinuous buffer zone through a series of plantings to reduce the visual impact of the railway line. Plantings locations would be selected for highest impact and to coincide with site plantings and track intersections.
- **Mound Spring feature.**
The development of a mound spring environment has been an identified project for a considerable period of time. A location at the lower level within the Stony Plains regional zone is proposed and would incorporate a mound spring, cane grass swamp and loop walking track. The feasibility of this feature would need to be tested against water conservation principles.
- **Children's Garden**
A children's garden could take many forms however it would be a space where children could learn about the arid environment in a sculptural play setting. It will not be a "playground" in the traditional sense as this facility is provided in several areas in Port Augusta and is not appropriate to the garden setting.
The suggested location is within easy distance of the Visitor Centre and within close proximity of the AridSmart gardens to facilitate parental supervision.

7.4 Infrastructure

The considered development of all infrastructure provisions over time is critical to maintaining the character of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden and its unique visitor experience.

The stated goal is that built development should remain secondary to the landscape as far as is practicable. This principal will extend to all external infrastructure including Interpretive Signage and Installations. (Refer to AALBG Interpretation Plan).

The inclusion of the administration functions of appropriate external agencies on the main Garden site, whilst considered in the past, is no longer viable due to the impact upon established garden areas. This function, if appropriate, would be housed on the Research Site.

Vehicle Roadways

Public access roads will continue to be constructed with a grey spray seal finish which clearly and appropriately differentiates them from other surfaces in the garden.

Pedestrian Tracks

The pedestrian track systems are proposed to be reviewed, reworked and expanded over time. This should incorporate the following key principles:

- Creation of legible “loop” walks at both a large and intimate scale
- Creation of “immersed” experiences in regional zones
- Integration of interpretive material
- Careful and considered planning of all tracks prior to implementation

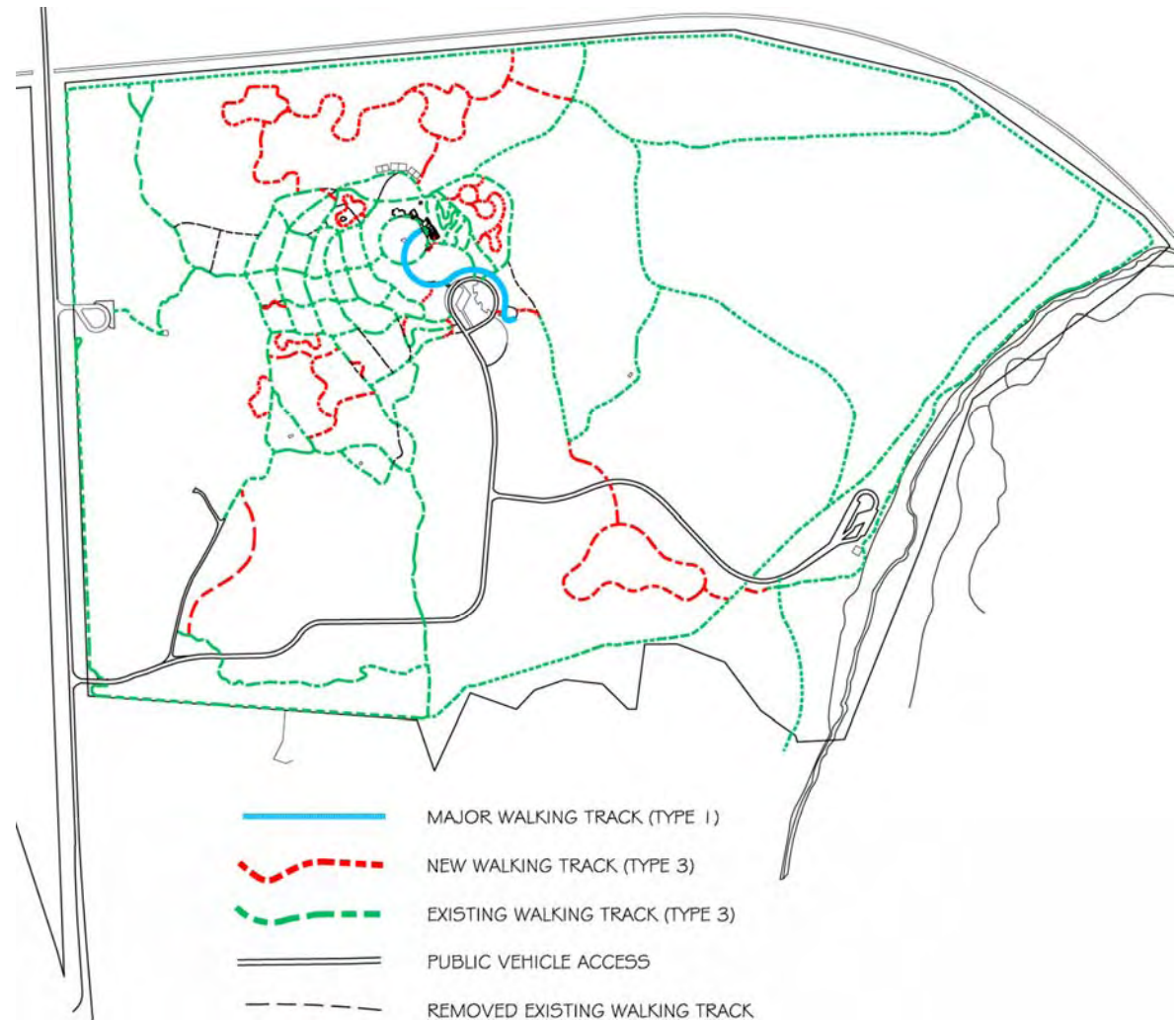
The major circulation path (Type 1) is to be extended in matching materials to provide a structure for future development as originally envisaged.

A major interpretive walking track (Type 2) has been established and is to be maintained. The route of this track may change over time to adapt to the changing environment within the Garden.

Pedestrian secondary tracks (Type 3) are to be reworked and supplemented by minor tracks to facilitate

- A reduced number of 4 way intersections
- Create walk-through regional zones to provide an “immersed” landscape experience.
- Provide intimate trails offering a different experience (Type 4)

Treatment of intersections is necessary to incorporate directional signage and reduce the excessive footprint resulting from maintenance access.



Services

A continued emphasis on sustainability and conservation is to be maintained. Provision of higher levels of services is not envisaged unless required by increased intensity of development.

Lookouts

The original lookout will require upgrading at some point in the foreseeable future.

The Flinders Red Cliff Lookout will remain in its current condition. Creation of beach access is not to occur in the foreseeable future.

Bird Hides

Bird hides are to be maintained and screen plantings further developed.

Picnic Areas

The primary picnic area shall be developed as a low scale un-serviced facility. Sections of low rammed earth walling, shade and screen plantings are proposed to enhance and define the area.

The Flinders Red Cliff facility is to be maintained with additional shade and screen planting.

Amphitheatre

A small scale amphitheatre is proposed in the vicinity of the AridSmart gardens. The location has been selected to make use of the existing natural topography and to allow the placement of a small “stage” area under an existing mature tree. The amphitheatre is to be deliberately informal in character and the “stage” area is also envisaged as a place for small groups to gather (e.g. tour groups) for quiet activities.

Toilet

The single unisex composting toilet is considered sufficient given the current and foreseeable development of the Garden. Consideration of an additional facility to the west may be necessary in the longer term should this precinct be further developed.

Furniture and small scale facilities

The selection and siting of small items within the garden can have a major impact on site character. There is potential to establish a suite of “furniture” items such as seats, bollards and drinking points that are consistent with the materials and design principles. The fabrication of Interpretive installations should also be consistent with the materials and design principles.

There is potential for the careful siting of shaded seating units within the Garden to capitalise on a particular view or setting.

Art Works

The considered inclusion of artworks within the Garden should continue. Care is required to ensure the works reflect the Garden character and do not dominate the landscape in both design and numbers. An arts policy is being developed by Council.

The integration of interpretive material, art and infrastructure should be pursued wherever possible.

Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre is the largest and most complex infrastructure provision in the Garden.

Future developments can be considered in terms of improvements to existing activities and catering for new activities. In general terms existing activities are well catered for within the building. The conflict between the demand for Café Seating and Interpretive space however requires resolution.

It is proposed that this will be resolved in two parts

- The provision of additional screened external seating
- Redesign of the internal spaces to change the character of the interpretive space. The Interpretation Plan workshop confirmed that a large scale single purpose interpretive space is not required and that interpretive material will be incorporated in all elements of the garden and interiors.

New activities within the Visitor Centre precinct are envisaged to include

- Friends facility / Multi use space
This new building would be located to the west and would potentially accommodate an expanded Friends facility, multi-use conferences, integral interpretive display, exhibitions and perhaps most importantly an education space.
- Plant Sales
The Friends currently provide plant sales at the Works Depot site. This creates difficulties at the present location which will be alleviated by the proposed Works Depot expansion discussed below. The provision of large scale plant sales at the Visitor Centre is recognised as not a viable option primarily due to management issues but also due to the extent of infrastructure that is required.

The Master Plan incorporates a small facility for plant sales that could be utilised regularly or occasionally as warranted. A small enclosed area would provide a secure space for storage and sales. A covered area would facilitate the display of a small selection of plants. It is envisaged that these plants may be located on a trailer allowing flexibility of stocking and movement. Bulk sales would continue to occur at the new Works Depot site.

Redevelopment of the adjacent service area has the potential to create an attractive space.

In the longer term it should be recognised that a “building zone” exists to the perimeter of the courtyard. The uses for this space are not known at this time however all future developments (both landscape and building) must retain the potential for this development to occur. The courtyard perimeter to the east of the existing development has been preserved for future intensive uses due to the proximity to the Carpark, availability of services and relationship to the existing buildings management zone.

Potential future building uses, whilst not anticipated at this stage, could include

- Specific purpose conference spaces
- Enlarged dining facility
- Education / training spaces

A courtyard has been created between the Reception building and Herbarium / Meeting Room that remains undeveloped however is used for a variety of activities. Redevelopment of this space will facilitate increased use and provide a more aesthetic outlook.

Works Depot

It is proposed that a Works Depot would be shared by Garden staff and Friends volunteers. Preliminary briefing for this facility would suggest that it will require a footprint of some 4000 square metres.

Three sites were considered for the location of the facility.

- An area within the buffer zone to the east of the entrance road adjoining the urban development
- Expansion of the existing site
- Research Centre site

It is proposed to locate the Works Depot adjacent to the existing site. Council consider that the expansion area is outside of the identified site of Aboriginal significance.

The Research Centre alternative was discounted due to the impact on the relationship between staff and Friends and the Garden itself if facilities were located on the opposite side of the Stuart Highway.

The location within the buffer zone was considered to have an unacceptably high visual impact on the Garden due to the scale of footprint required.

It is considered that the available area can accommodate the facilities indicated in the preliminary brief subject to more detailed site survey. Future briefing and concepts should maintain the Visitor Centre as the public focus of the Garden. The encouragement of greater public access has the potential to shift the centre of gravity of the site to the detriment of the Garden.

It is recommended that a Concept design based upon a detailed survey and developed brief in consultation with the Friends be prepared to test this site. Carefully considered screen plantings adjacent to the proposed site and including areas of the access road should be established as a priority.

Should additional expansion of the Friends plant propagation / sales be further considered then location of these elements on the Research Centre site should occur.

8. Materials

The materials utilised as part of the development of infrastructure at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden have a critical role in the determination of the site character and the impression on the visitor. Materials use is integral with the messages that visitors will take from the site.

A palette of materials has been developed at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden site over time. This palette was primarily determined during the development of the Reception building as a first stage of development. Other materials have been trialled with varying success and the intent of this section of the Master Plan is to document the materials palette to assist in the creation of a unique and consistent character for the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden.

The essence of the site is to create a landscape where the flora is the dominant feature in a low intensity development. All development and materials selection should recognise and be subservient to this aim. The materials and colour palette is therefore philosophically, aesthetically and functionally responsive to the environment.

Road and Carparks

The existing spray sealed, grey aggregate finish to the vehicle roadways and carparks defines and is appropriate to its use and should be continued.



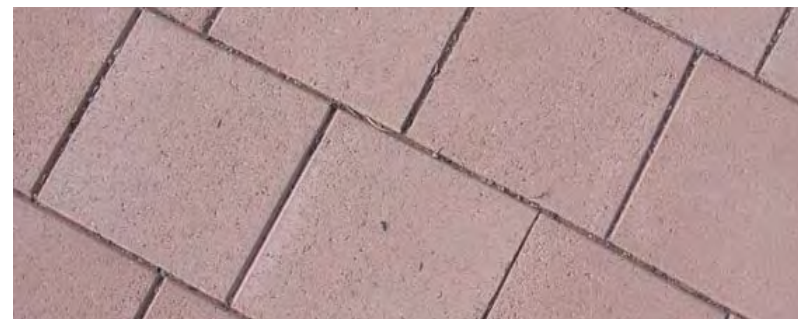
Tracks

Tracks have been constructed in spray seal finish and rubble finish. The spray seal finish provides a more accessible, durable and easily maintained surface to high use and priority pathways.

Rubble paths are appropriate to secondary tracks.

The finish of these surfaces should be in natural tones similar to the existing. Previous attempts of colour coding of the track network have been weakened over time and should be abandoned in favour of greater definition as discussed above.

A third level of informal path is envisaged that would utilise a mulch/sawdust/natural surface base to provide a varied experience in more intimate areas of the Garden.



Steel

Steel is used functionally in a variety of situations in the Garden. These include structural elements, fencing, signage and cladding.

Steel will either be painted (including pre coated) or rusted. Galvanised finish is not to be exposed.

Timber

Timber is used extensively across the site in both a natural and painted finish. The treatment and selection of timber in built development and site development will vary.

Within the interior and exterior of buildings timber will have either a painted finish or clear finish to expose its natural characteristics. Clear finish timber used to date includes Hoop Pine, Jarrah and Brush box and this palette should not be extended unless incorporated in specific artworks.

Timber used in site development should have either a painted finish or be natural finish white cypress pine. Existing CCA treated timber is inappropriate and should be removed over time.

Timber used in its natural cut form (in trunks) should only be used selectively and with specific consultation to prevent an overly rustic character.

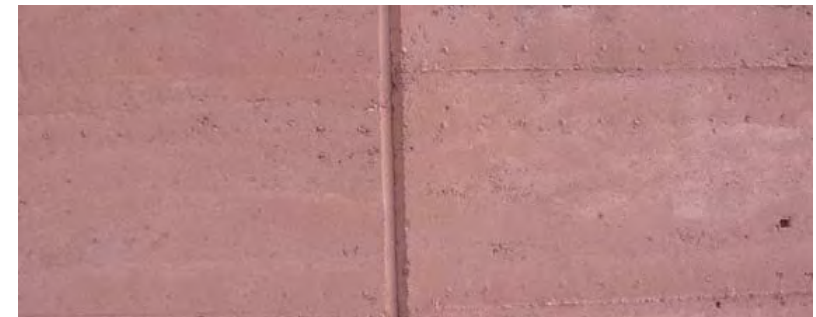
Walls

The primary walling materials are Rammed Earth and colour coated corrugated steel. Natural finish white cypress pine is used in small structures within the Garden. This palette should be maintained.

Replacement with alternative “look alike” materials should be resisted.

Colour

A primarily natural colour palette has been developed which should be continued. Colours can be varied over time however the retention of a natural character that responds to the environment must be maintained.



9. Actions

The purpose of a Master Plan is to set a direction for future developments. Botanic Gardens develop over long time periods as the landscape plantings grow and are replaced.

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden has been successfully and progressively developed over time to retain its unique character and with appropriate attention this can continue. This Master Plan not only formalises the structure and form of this future development but also identifies projects for the future.

This section of the report provides a framework for this ongoing progressive development over the next five years and beyond. This may vary based upon a variety of factors however the ongoing monitoring of these targets will provide an indication of progress over time.

<i>Immediate</i>	<i>12 Months</i>
Irrigation Upgrade	
Courtyard redevelopment	
Establish screen plantings to proposed Works Depot site expansion	Establishment of a visual buffer is of priority
Detailed track planning	Sets Structure / way finding / sign rationalisation
Works Depot Concept planning	To allow budgeting and planning
Concept planning for Visitor Centre Interior	To allow budgeting and planning
Arid Trees Zone	
<i>Short Term</i>	<i>1 to 2 Years</i>
Works Depot construction	
Western Buffer Zone (Screen planting to Railway)	Low cost project ease of implementation
Visitor Centre Interior works	
Existing Collection enhancements - Flinders Ranges	Manageable and illustrates design principles
External Café seating	

<i>Medium Term</i>	<i>2 to 5 years</i>
Bush Tucker Garden	Visitor Interest
Existing Collection enhancements - rare plants	Visitor Interest
Major circulation path extension	Sets Structure
Picnic area	
Plant Sales / Redevelopment of the service area	
New regional collection - WA	Broadens state representation - first as does not require expansion outside existing "developed zone"
New regional collection - NSW	Broadens state representation
Existing Collection enhancements - The Brown Collection	Would include improvements to the picnic area
Amphitheatre	
<i>Longer Term</i>	<i>5+ years</i>
New regional collection - Channel Country	
New regional collection - Corner Country	
Lookout renovation	
Mound Spring feature.	
Children's Garden	
Courtyard between Stage 1 and Stage 2	Poor presentation and under utilised
Friends facility / Multi use space	
Existing Collection enhancements - Eremophila Garden	
Existing Collection enhancements – Eyre Region	
Existing Collection enhancements - Gawler Region	
Existing Collection enhancements - Central Highlands	
Existing Collection enhancements - Great Victoria Desert	

10. Appendix

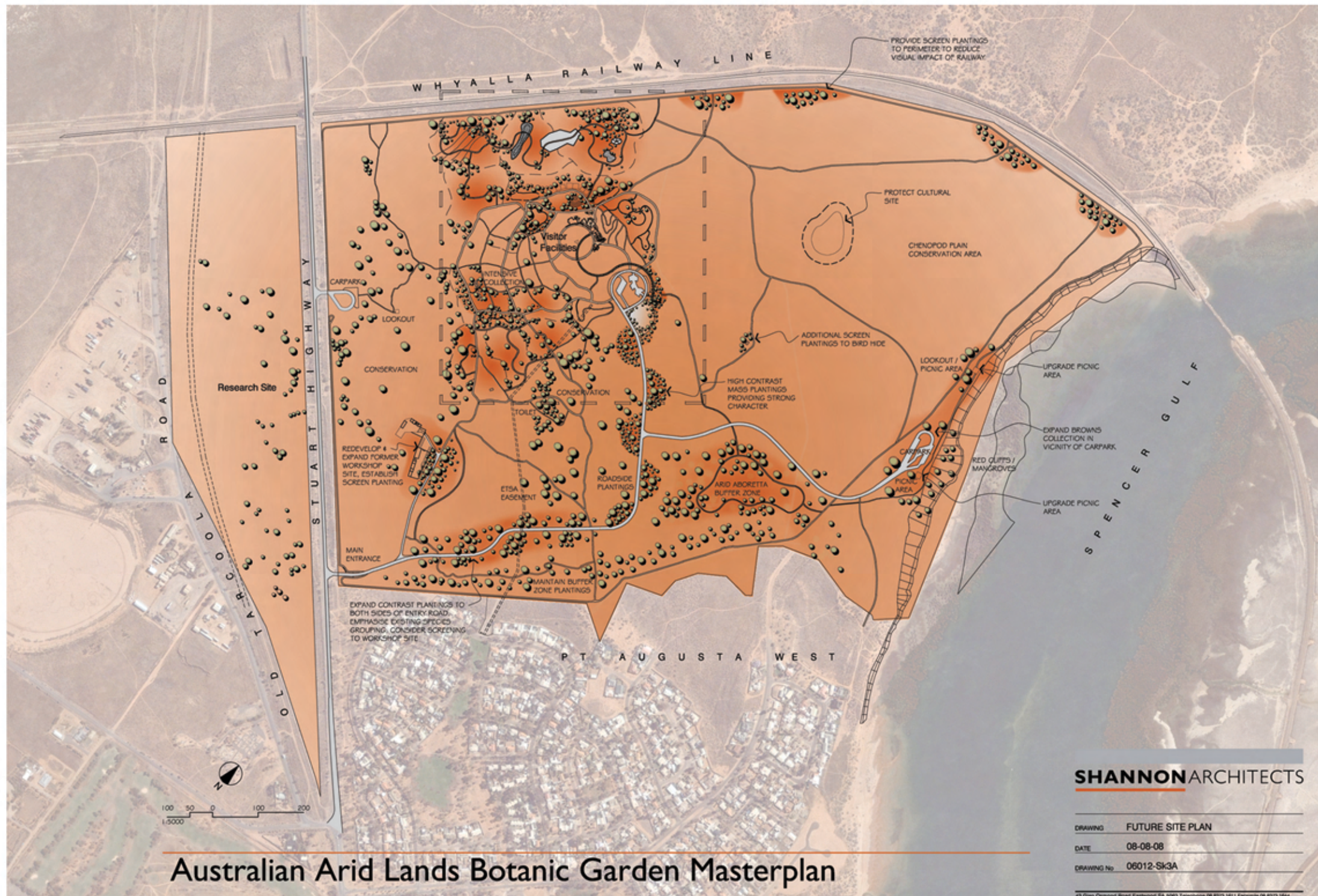
Reduced Drawings

- Existing Site Plan (06012-Sk1/A)
- Future Site Plan (06012-Sk3/A)
- Future Detailed Plan (06012-Sk4/A)
- Future Building Plan (06012-Sk5/A)

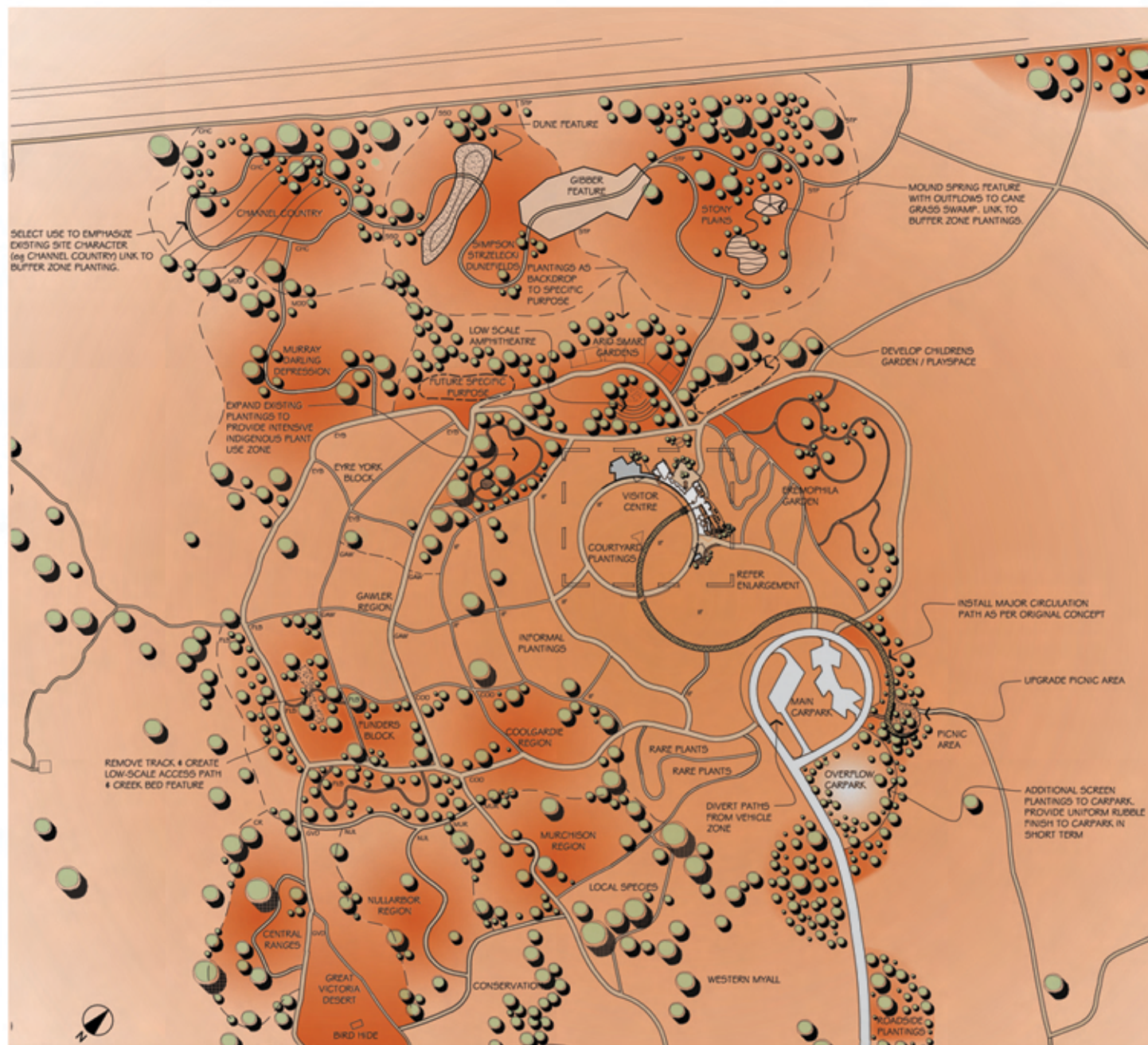
Community Land Management Plan – City of Port Augusta.



Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Masterplan



Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Masterplan



Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Masterplan

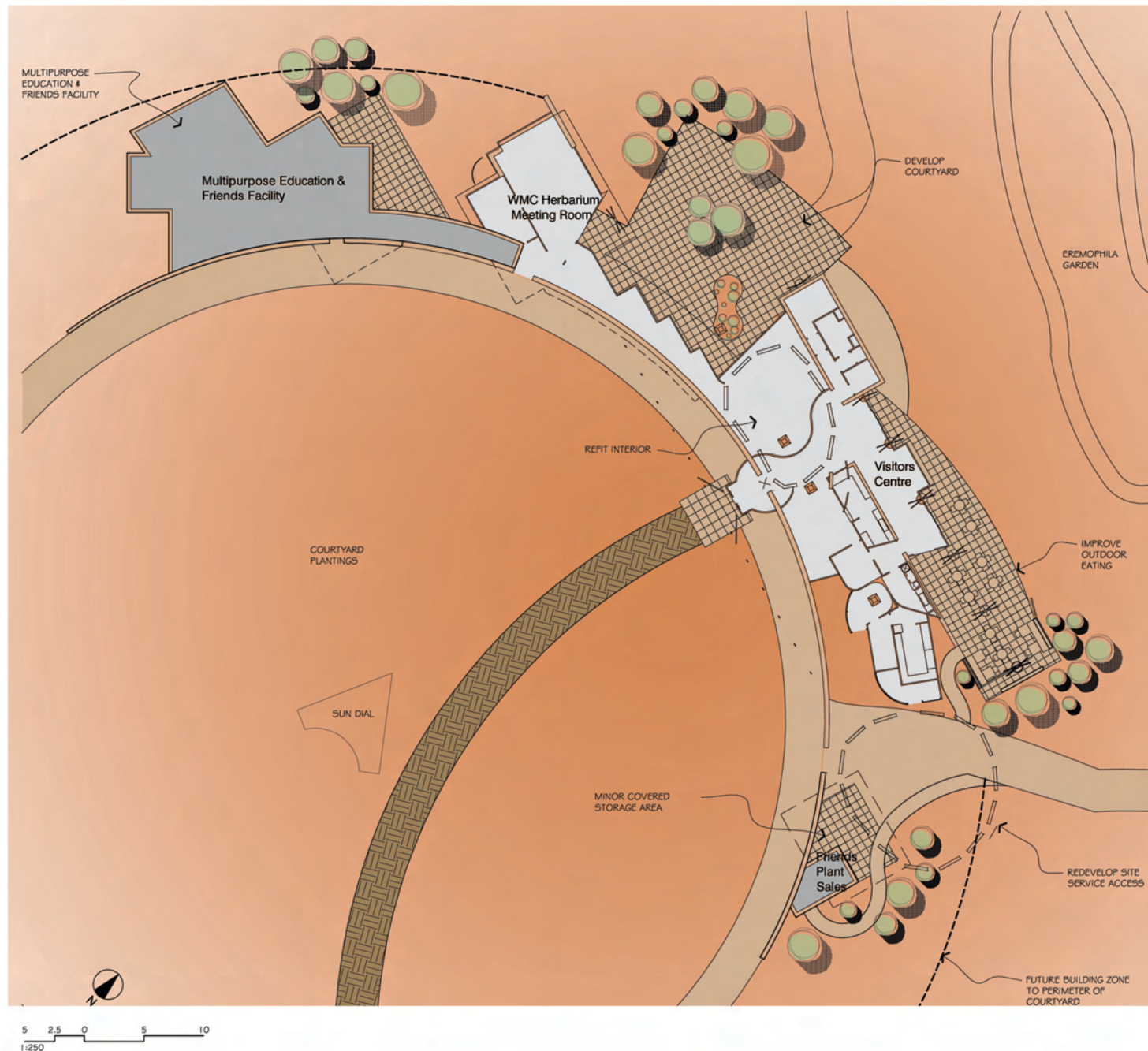
SHANNONARCHITECTS

DRAWING FUTURE DETAILED PLAN

DATE 11-08-08

DRAWING No 06012-Sk4A

43 Glen Osmond Road Eastwood SA 5063 Telephone 08 8373 1011 Facsimile 08 8373 1044



Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Masterplan

SHANNONARCHITECTS

DRAWING FUTURE BUILDINGS PLAN

DATE 11-08-08

DRAWING No 06012-SK5A

43 Glen Osmond Road Eastwood SA 5063 Telephone 08 8373 1811 Facsimile 08 8373 1844

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT AUGUSTA

COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

CATEGORY 7 PARK

Display & Promotion of Botanic Biodiversity

1. Identification Details:

1.1	Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens Certificate of Title: CT5435/337 Assessment No: 7551 Valuation No: 6612588500
-----	--

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens are opened to the general public to showcase botanic biodiversity of the arid lands of Southern Australian.

2. Ownership details:

Owner:	Custodian:	Trust, Dedication, Reservation
<i>Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens</i> <i>Owner:</i> The Corporation of the City of Port Augusta	<i>Custodian:</i> N/A	In TRUST to permit, suffer and to be used at all times as an Arid Lands Botanic Park.

2.1 Responsibilities of the Custodian as requested by the Owner:

The custodian must liaise with the Owner, and obtain approval for any development or change of change of use of Community Land that is proposed, prior to commencement.

NOTE: The earliest possible contact with the owner will avoid any possible delay in processing.

3. Purpose for which land is held:

To develop and maintain in Port Augusta, an Arid Lands Botanic Garden of international significance for the display and promotion of botanic biodiversity of the arid lands of Southern Australian.

4. Reason why management plan required:

The land has been specifically modified or adapted for the benefit or enjoyment of the general public.

5. **Objectives for management of the land:**

See attached schedule.

6. **Policies and proposals for management of the land:**

See attached schedule.

7. **Performance Targets:**

See attached schedule.

8. **Performance Measures:**

See attached schedule.

9. **Legislative Requirements:**

9.1 Listed below is the main legislation that influences the use and management of land included in this plan, which Council must comply with:

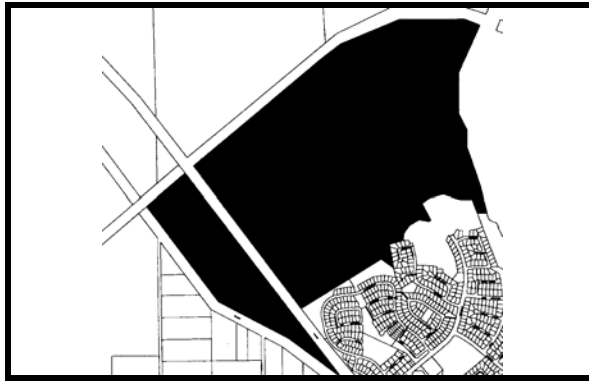
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- c) Development Act 1993
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- e) Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988
- f) Dog & Cat Management Act 1995
- g) Natural Resources Management Act 2004
- h) Botanic Gardens & State Herbarium Act 1978

9.2 Council By-Laws as listed below will also influence the use and management of land included in this plan:

- a) Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens - By-Law # 5

<p align="center"><u>THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT AUGUSTA</u> <u>CATEGORY 7 PARK</u> <u>SCHEDULE 1</u></p>			
Management Issues	Objectives, Policies and Proposals	Performance Targets	Performance Measures
Landscape Character	To develop and maintain landscape forms (hard & soft) to ensure an aesthetically pleasing area to enhance and encourage public use of the Gardens	Quarterly site inspections (hard & soft landscape) Develop processes for achieving appropriate outcomes regarding arboriculture and horticultural best practice.	Quarterly Action sheets Scheduling Program
Infrastructure	To develop and maintain infrastructure to a safe and sustainable level to meet the communities needs	Development of Asset Management Program Contract Rubbish Collection Contract Toilet Cleaning	Identified assets included in budget for maintenance and/or upgrading/replacement. Contracts reviewed as required and renewed inline with Council's Purchasing, Contracts and Tendering Policy.
Conservation, Research, Education and Scientific Opportunities	<p>Establishing an Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden of international significance providing recreational, educational and scientific opportunity through the plant sciences.</p> <p>Encourage continuing dialogue with all sections of the community concerning development and maintenance of an Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden and its heritage and conservation value.</p> <p>Research into and promote economic strategies for sustainable development of arid land technology and flora in Australia and overseas.</p>	<p>To support where possible the Millennium Seed Bank and endangered plant species</p> <p>To retain an AALBG Friend Group in the AALBG Structure</p> <p>To retain an AALBG Reference Group in the AALBG management structure</p> <p>To retain a MOU between the Adelaide Botanical gardens and the City of Port Augusta/AALBG</p> <p>Make the AALBG research area available to researchers/scientists for trials and research into horticultural/flora, plant conservation and water management techniques/programs</p>	<p>Conduct annual seed and plant collecting trips with the Adelaide Botanic Gardens</p> <p>City of Port Augusta to maintain representation on the AALBG Friends Group committee</p> <p>AALBG Reference Group – Hold quarterly meetings with minutes and action sheets</p> <p>Annual Review of Memorandum of Understanding</p> <p>Documented evidence of trial outcomes and make available to be general public any findings of significance that supports arid land flora and water conservation.</p>

Management Issues	Objectives, Policies and Proposals	Performance Targets	Performance Measures
	Ensure that development of an Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is consistent with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Botanic Gardens Conservation Strategy and Objectives of the South Australian Botanic Garden and State Herbarium Act.	<p>To maintain the AALBG Website to promote economic strategies for sustainable development of arid land technology and flora in Australia and overseas.</p> <p>The City of Port Augusta to consider the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Botanic Gardens Conservation Strategy and Objectives of the South Australian Botanic Garden and State Herbarium Act when undertaking development of the gardens.</p>	<p>Update AALBG Website as needed to promote economic strategies for sustainable development of arid land technology and flora in Australia and overseas.</p> <p>Develop criteria that are consistent with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Botanic Gardens Conservation Strategy and Objectives of the South Australian Botanic Garden and State Herbarium Act when undertaking development of the gardens.</p>
	<p>Policy: The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens – Living Collections POLA0142</p> <p>The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens – Environmental Protection Requirements POLA0089</p>	To retain and work within the guide lines of the polices relevant to the AALBG	Review Policies every three years
Recreational Facilities	To provide a public passive recreation facility to the community	Quarterly inspection of all recreation facilities to ensure they comply with all duty of care issues.	Quarterly Action sheets to be monitored take out.
Heritage Places (Arid Land Gardens)	To maintain heritage places that are valued for either their important ecosystems and landscapes, Aboriginal archaeological sites, spiritual significance or interesting historic features.	Liaise with appropriate stakeholders when proposing to undertake any work on heritage places.	That all work undertaken is in accordance with the appropriate "Act" that determines how Heritage places are to be upgraded and that respect is shown to stakeholders throughout the process.
Dog Management	Refer By-Law # 5 Dogs prohibited	Signs erected to indicate Dog Management Control requirements for Community Land	Ongoing Inspections to ascertain need for Doggie "Do" Bags.
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Fire Safety	Establish Building Fire Safety Committee in accordance with Section 71 (18) & (19) of the Development Act 1993 for Council owned buildings and facilities on land under Council's care, control and management.	Quarterly Inspections	<p>Committee appointed for 3 years</p> <p>Record of Minutes of Meetings</p>

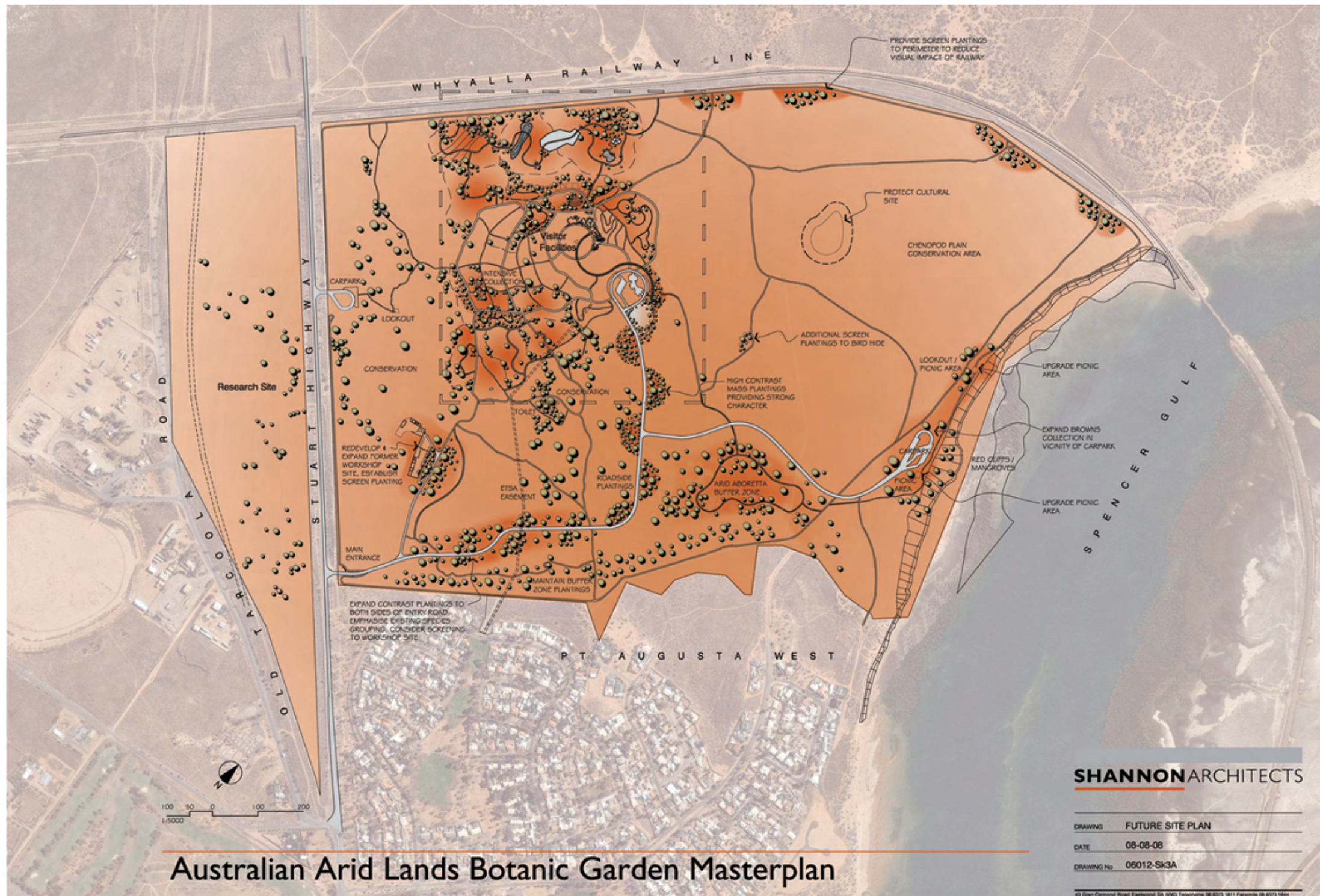


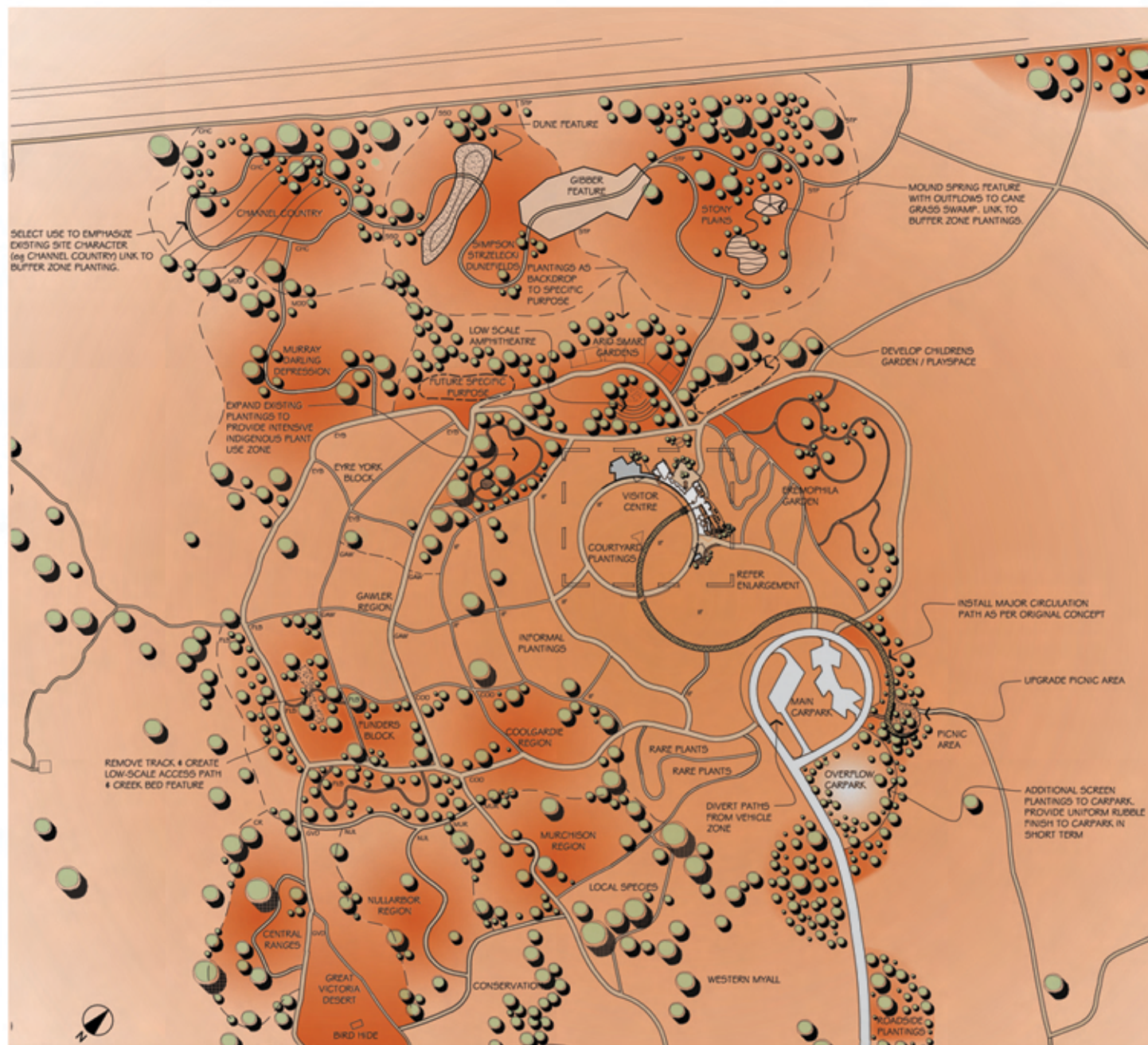
Category 7

Name:	Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens		
Zone:	West		
Street Name:	Stuart Highway		
Title Reference:	Certificate of Title CT 5435/337	Crown Land (CR)	
Land Identification	Assessment No. 7551	Valuation No. 6612588500	
Site Details:	Value: \$7,000	Area:	m ²
Items of Significance:	Heritage: n/a	Native Title: n/a	Other: n/a
Reservation, Dedication or Trust:	In Trust to permit suffer and to be used at all times as an Arid Lands Botanic Park.		
Leases:		Expiry:	
Easements	Subject to the easement over the land marked (AQ 2559249) Subject to the easement over the land marked F and G to the ETSA Corporation (land grant Vol.4402 Folio 596) Subject to easements over the land marked E and C to the Minister for Infrastructure (land grant Vol.4400 Folio 761 and land grant Vol.4400 Folio 762 respectively).		
Public Comments:	Retain		
Comments:			
Recommendations:			
Park Use:			
DP FP etc	DP 36449 Allotment 85 Port Augusta West Hundred of Copley. FP 37165 Hundred of Copley.		



Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Masterplan





Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden Masterplan

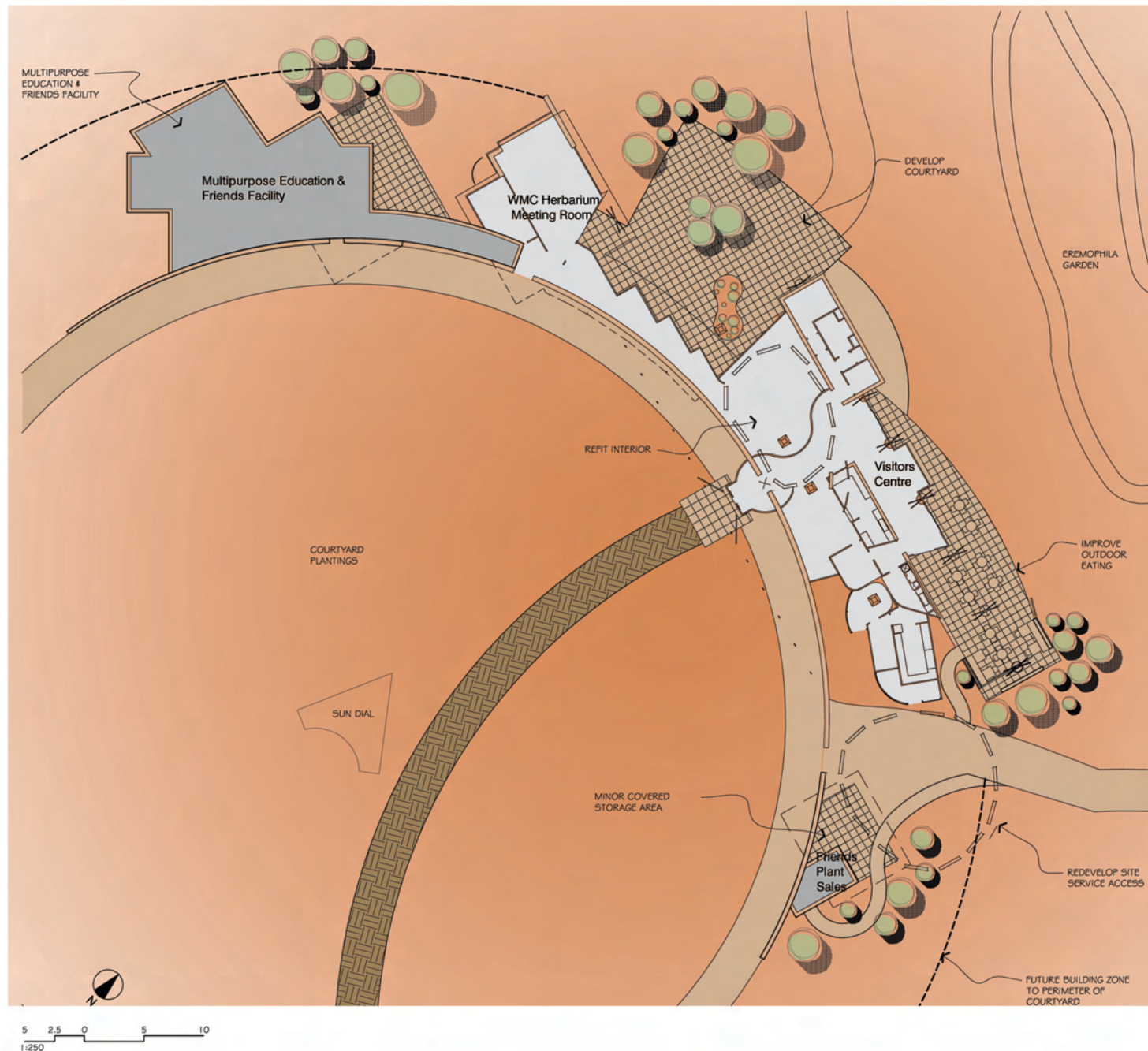
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COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

CATEGORY 7 PARK

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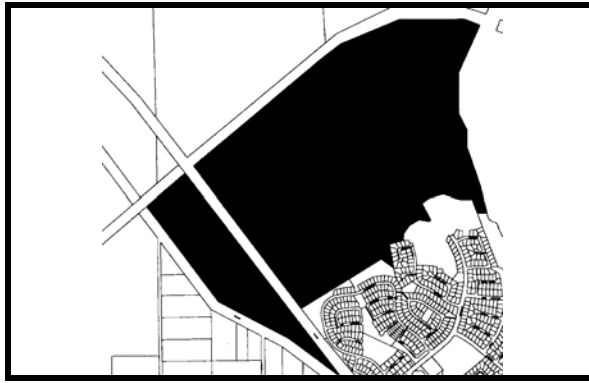
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<i>Reservation, Dedication or Trust:</i>	In Trust to permit suffer and to be used at all times as an Arid Lands Botanic Park.		
<i>Leases:</i>		Expiry:	
<i>Easements</i>	Subject to the easement over the land marked (AQ 2559249) Subject to the easement over the land marked F and G to the ETSA Corporation (land grant Vol.4402 Folio 596) Subject to easements over the land marked E and C to the Minister for Infrastructure (land grant Vol.4400 Folio 761 and land grant Vol.4400 Folio 762 respectively).		
<i>Public Comments:</i>	Retain		
<i>Comments:</i>			
<i>Recommendations:</i>			
<i>Park Use:</i>			
<i>DP FP etc</i>	DP 36449 Allotment 85 Port Augusta West Hundred of Copley. FP 37165 Hundred of Copley.		