

Taylor Turner



Site photo showing Gosford Memorial Park area of the site; Source: Merril Jackson

GOSFORD MEMORIAL AND ROTARY PARK

Landscape Site Analysis

TaylorBrammer

Central
Coast
Council

In the spirit of reconciliation, Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

- [Indigenous.gov.au/contact-us/welcome_acknowledgement-country](https://indigenous.gov.au/contact-us/welcome_acknowledgement-country)

Contents

Overview	4
Project Background	5
Strategic Documents	6-8
Central Coast Council	9
Gosford	10
Gosford Suburb Context	11
Accessibility	12
Site Context	13
Analysis	14
The Site	15
Heritage, Commemorative & First Nations	16
Topography and Landform	17
Existing Views	18
Existing Trees Typologies	19
Heritage Significance Grading of Plantings	20
Pedestrian Access	21
Vehicle Access	22
Signage and Urban Furniture	23
Infrastructure	24
Design Principles	25
Pinpoint 1 - Memorial Park	26
Pinpoint 2 - Stairs	27
Pinpoint 3 - Rotary Fountain	28
Pinpoint 4 - Rotary Park	29
Pinpoint 5 - Corner of Vaughn Ave and Mann Street	30
Pinpoint 6 - Dane Drive Reserve	31
Pinpoint 7 - Embankment and Vegetation	32

Amendment register

DOCUMENT ISSUE	REVISION	DATE	STATUS	PREPARED	CHECKED
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COORDINATION	P5	25.02.2026	REV	PZ	AL/VH



Site photo showing memorial central to Memorial park area of the site; Source Merrill Jackson

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Overview

Overview

Project Background

The study area encompasses the Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park precinct, including the adjoining public reserve. While the Masterplan focuses on these parks, an understanding of the broader Gosford township and waterfront context may be required to fully inform site-responsive recommendations.

This precinct forms an important cultural and heritage landscape at the southern entrance to Gosford. It reflects the community’s evolving history, patterns of public use, and traditions of remembrance.

Gosford Memorial Park is a significant commemorative landscape, valued for honouring servicemen and women. Its memorial elements, formal layout, mature plantings, and the western slopes and stairs contribute to its strong symbolic and aesthetic character.

Rotary Park, immediately adjoining the Memorial Park, occupies land reclaimed from the foreshore in the 1930s. It holds additional layers of historic and archaeological interest, providing insight into early civic development and the transformation of Gosford’s waterfront.

The third zone is a public reserve defined by Dane Drive and Mann Street, which forms part of the overall landscape setting. Together, these areas create a cohesive heritage precinct recognised for its cultural, historical, social and aesthetic value.

Collectively, these three zones contribute to a distinctive and meaningful public landscape, representing both Gosford’s past and its ongoing connection to memory, community identity and public open space.

The strategic approach incorporates historical research, stakeholder engagement, and landscape design expertise to inform sustainable management and development pathways.

This document is to be read in conjunction with the Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park Conservation Management Plan.



Rotary Fountain and Park, c1976. (Source: Central Coast Council Library Service)

Objectives

The Landscape Master Plan for Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park aims to guide the long-term enhancement and management of the precinct. Key objectives include:

- **Enhancement and Revitalisation** – Improve open space quality and opportunities for passive recreation.
- **Heritage Conservation** – Protect the cultural and heritage values of the parks.
- **Sustainable Use** – Ensure the parks meet the needs of current and future generations.

- **Accessibility and Safety** – Create a welcoming, functional, and inclusive public space.
- **Multifunctional Public Space** – Support diverse recreational and community activities.
- **Community Engagement** – Incorporate stakeholder input to reflect community values.

These objectives provide a framework for cohesive, culturally significant, and well-used public landscapes.

Overview

Strategic Documents

The project will be guided in principle by the following documentation from a State Government, Local Government and Site Reporting basis. A summary of Key Objectives and relevant implications to the project is outlined on this and the following pages.



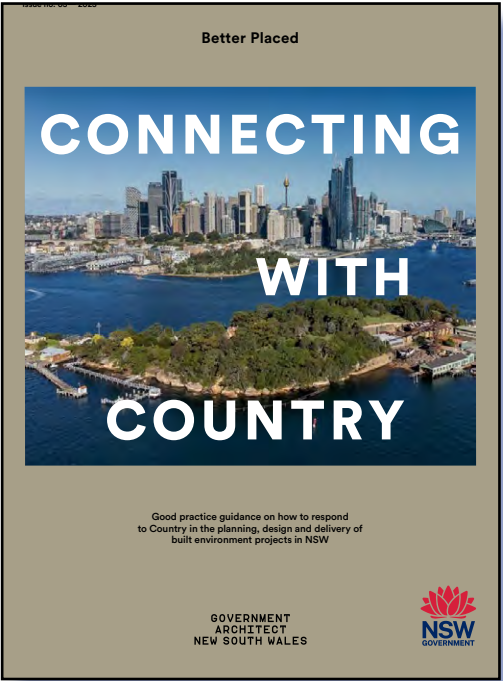
State NSW Better Placed Policy

Vision

- Create high-quality, people-focused built environments
- A policy that supports all stakeholders by embedding good design throughout planning and development.

Key Objectives

- Better fit (contextual and place-based)
- Better performance (sustainable and durable)
- Better for community (inclusive and diverse)
- Better for people (safe and livable)
- Better working (functional and adaptable)
- Better value (long-term benefit)
- Better look and feel (attractive and engaging)



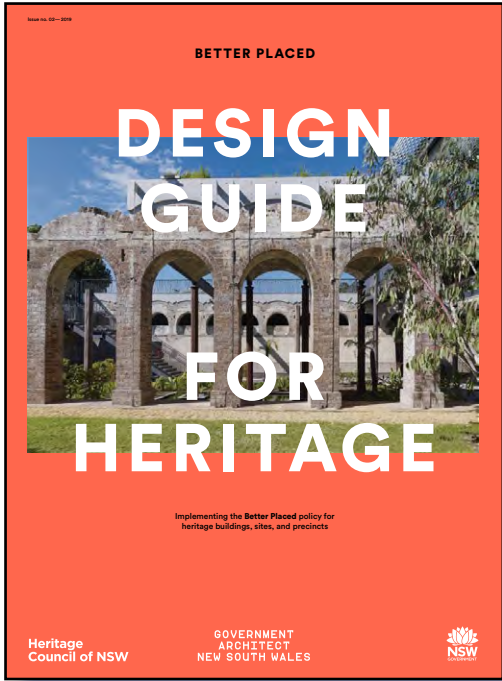
Connecting with Country Framework

Vision

- Foster a Country-centred approach to all NSW built environment projects, guided by Aboriginal knowledge.
- Encourages collaboration with Aboriginal communities to integrate cultural knowledge and practices into urban and landscape design.

Key Outcomes

- Promote regenerative ecosystems, biodiversity, and protection of landforms and waterways.
- Preserve and celebrate traditional stories, places, and naming.
- Design that reflects natural systems (Earth, Water, Sky) and avoids altering landforms.
- Support ecological health through passive design, vegetation, water-sensitive planning, and cultural plantings.
- Use site immersion and observation to understand landscape context and inform spatial decisions.



Design Guide for Heritage

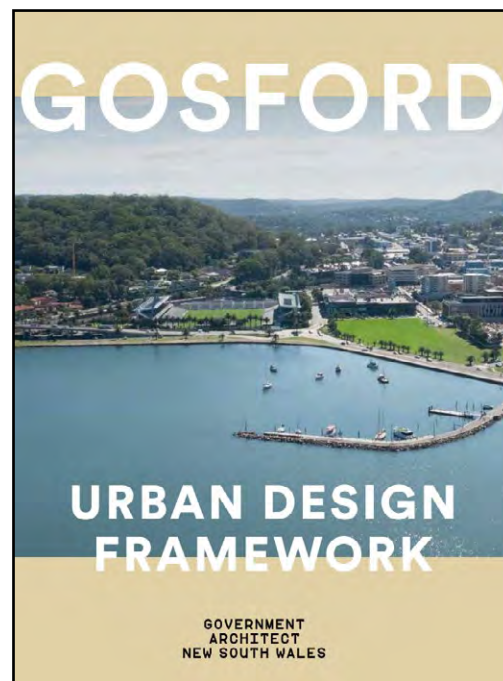
Objectives

- Protects and enhance heritage significance.
- Support adaptive reuse and integration of heritage with contemporary life.
- Promote design quality that is functional, inclusive, and sustainable.
- Engage communities early to reflect shared memory and diverse values.
- Encourage economic, social, and environmental benefits through reuse of heritage sites.
- Enhance spatial and visual character through sensitive siting, scale, and materials.
- Foster innovation that respects and interprets the past for future generations.

Design Outcomes

- Retain heritage landscape features: mature trees, fences, garden walls, and planting schemes.
- Preserve important view corridors, natural landforms, and spatial patterns.
- Use landscape design to interpret cultural stories and enhance the setting of heritage buildings.

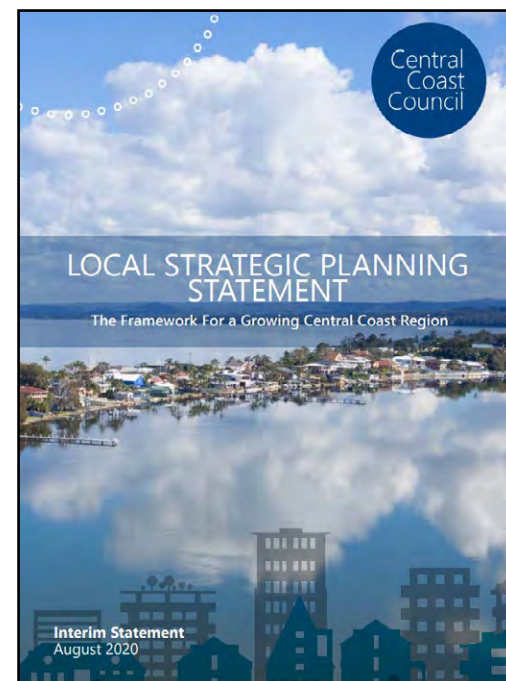
Overview



Gosford Urban Design Framework

Key relevant information

- The city centre as a north–south spine is framed by surrounding ridgelines, with **strong visual connections to President’s Hill, Rumbalara Reserve, Memorial Park and Rotary Park**
- Protect and strengthen connections to the landscape ridges and parks, including Memorial Park and Rotary Park, by **enhancing** these green spaces and their **tree canopies** as part of the broader public domain network
- Improving **walkability** between the city centre and southern areas with better pedestrian routes along Mann Street, Baker Street and other key streets into the parks and waterfront
- Parks and reserves are identified as critical elements of the city’s public realm, reinforcing both **civic identity** and access to green open space, and **serving as nodes** in the city’s walkable public space network
- Supports the conservation of natural and open spaces as a **defining part** of Gosford’s urban form and civic character.



Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) for the Central Coast Region

Vision

- A 20-year vision (to 2036) for land use, guiding sustainable growth by balancing housing needs with preserving the region’s unique character, natural assets (beaches, waterways, bushland), and lifestyle
- Working alongside the Community Strategic Plan to define future development, infrastructure, and environmental protection strategies

Key relevant information

- The protection and enhancement of parks, reserves and natural landscapes as part of the **region’s identity** and environmental function.
- Retention and enhancement of culturally significant places. Recognition of **local values** and **history** in land use planning. Integration of **cultural assets** into sustainable growth strategies



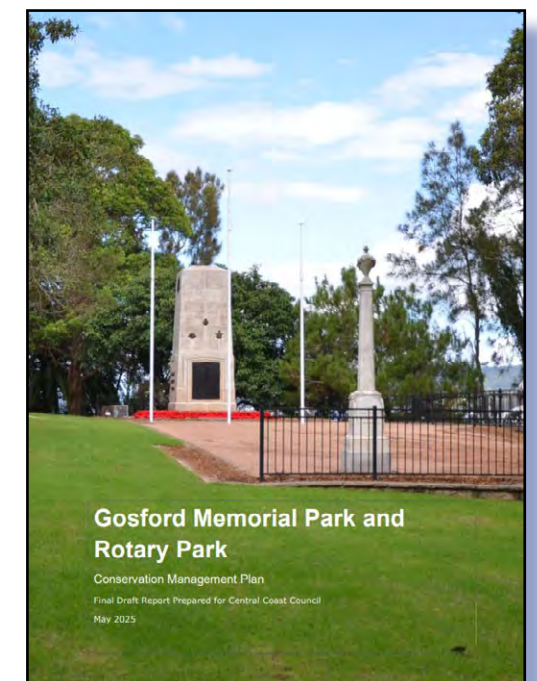
Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Vision

- a 10-year roadmap guiding the region’s future, developed with extensive community input, focusing on priorities like environment, economy, and livability
- The current focus on the 2025-2035 plan after reviewing the previous One - Central Coast plan, aiming for responsible growth, strong community, and a sustainable future, linked with a 20-year Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS).

Key relevant information

- Supports spaces for **social interaction**, recreation, events, and **reflection**.
- Reinforces the integration of natural landscapes and **ecological corridors** in city planning
- Recognises places of historical and cultural significance as key to **community identity**.

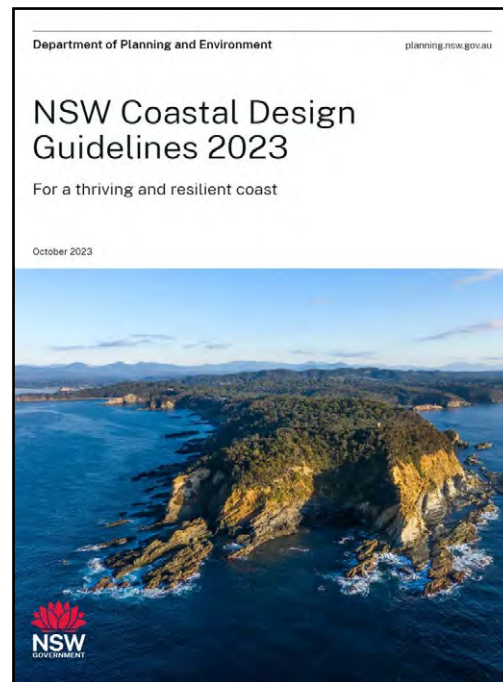


Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park Conservation Management Plan

Vision

- Ensure that Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park are cared for, conserved and managed in a way that protects their heritage significance, landscape character and community meaning into the future.
- Balance conservation of cultural and memorial values with sensitive improvements to accessibility, use and interpretation, while maintaining the parks as meaningful public open spaces.

Overview



NSW Coastal Design Guidelines 2023

Key relevant information

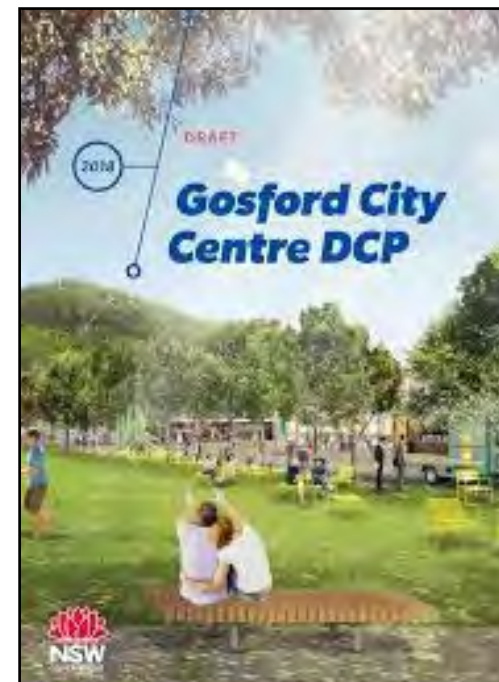
- Use approach that responds to the natural, cultural and social character of the coastal region.
- Protect and enhance coastal landscapes and public spaces while improving access and enjoyment for the community.
- Prioritise design solutions to improve resilience, ecology and water quality.
- Ensure development is climate-resilient, responding to coastal hazards such as flooding, erosion and sea-level rise.
- Strengthen connections, accessibility and amenity to support healthy, inclusive and vibrant coastal communities.



State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts—Regional) 2021 (Statutory Document)

Key relevant information

- Provides an overarching planning framework to guide coordinated development in regionally significant precincts across NSW.
- Aims to support well-planned, functional and attractive regional centres through integrated land use, infrastructure and public domain outcomes
- Encourages precinct planning that considers movement, open space, landscape character and environmental values.
- Seeks to balance growth and development with the protection of environmental, cultural and heritage qualities.
- Supports place-based outcomes that improve amenity, connectivity and the long-term sustainability of regional communities.



Gosford Development Control Plan 2018 (Statutory Document)

Key relevant information

- Provides detailed planning and urban design controls to guide development within the Gosford.
- Applies to residential, commercial and mixed-use development.
- Includes built form, public domain, environmental and site-specific controls.
- Establishes consistent standards to support design excellence and the desired future character of the city centre.
- Encourages high-quality architectural outcomes and active street frontages.
- Guides development to enhance amenity, connectivity and the public domain.

Context

Central Coast Council

The Central Coast Council local government area is located on the Central Coast of New South Wales, approximately midway between Sydney and Newcastle. Framed by the Pacific Ocean to the east, Brisbane Water and Tuggerah Lake, and extensive bushland ranges to the west, Hawkesbury River to the south, the region is defined by a strong relationship between waterways, coastal landscapes and forested hinterland. This setting underpins the Central Coast’s identity as a place of high environmental value, lifestyle appeal and growing urban communities.

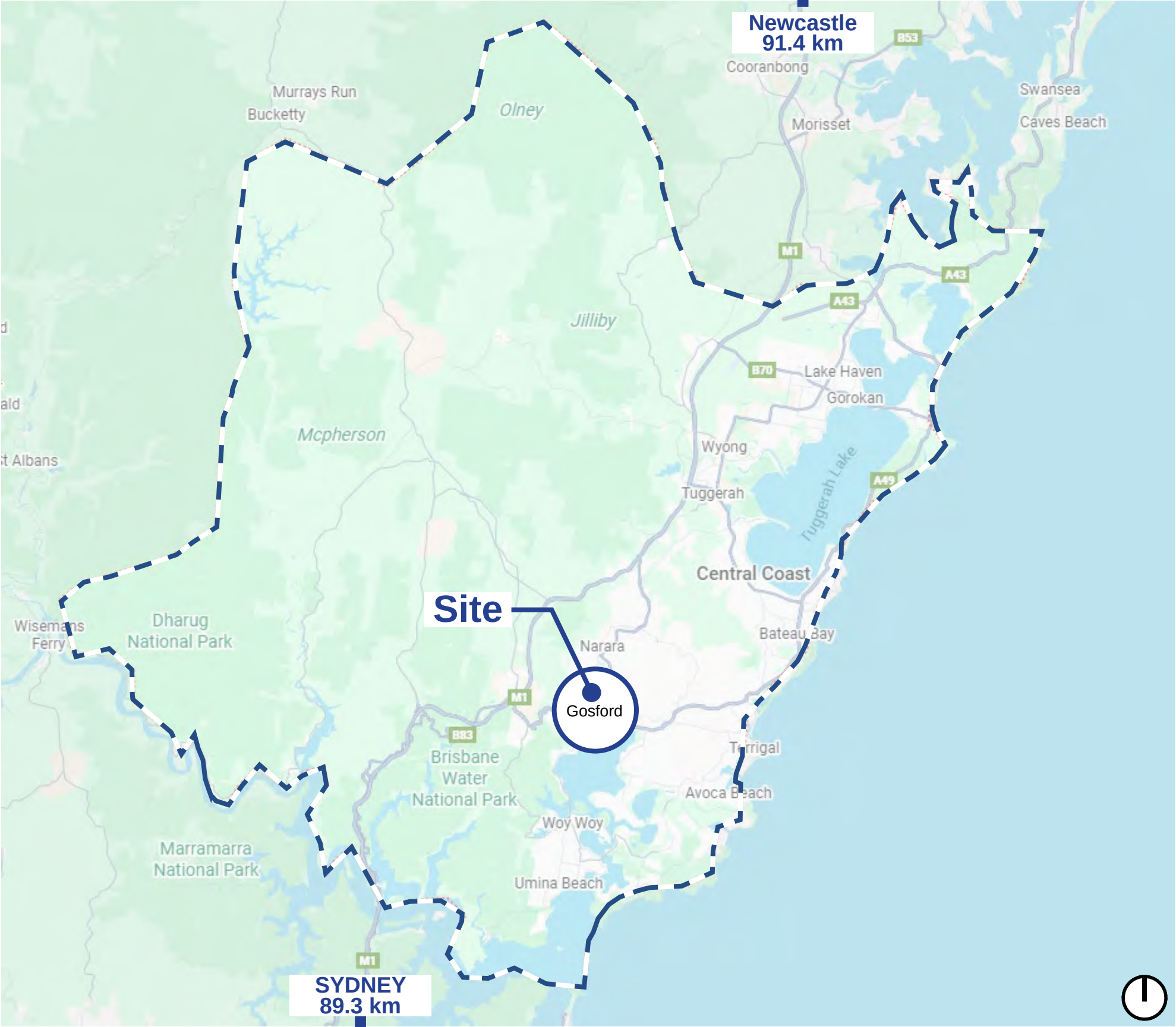
The area is located within the north-eastern Sydney Basin and forms part of the traditional Country of Aboriginal peoples of the Central Coast. The region reflects the long-standing and continuing cultural connections of First Nations people to land and water, and acknowledges those who identify as Guringai, Darkinjung, Darkinoog and Awabakal as having cultural associations with this Country. Aboriginal connections to land and water are long-standing and continue to shape the cultural landscape of the region. European settlement in the late 18th and 19th centuries was influenced by fertile soils, sheltered waterways and later the development of transport infrastructure, including rail and road links connecting the Central Coast to Sydney and Newcastle.

In 2016, the former Gosford City and Wyong Shire councils were amalgamated to form the Central Coast Council, creating a single local government area responsible for a diverse mix of coastal towns, established suburbs, emerging growth areas and significant natural reserves. The Council area contains one primary administrative centre at Wyong, supported by a network of town centres and employment nodes. Under NSW strategic planning frameworks, the Central Coast is recognised as a key regional growth area, while Gosford is identified as the regional capital, with its centres playing an important role in accommodating population growth, employment, infrastructure investment and the ongoing evolution of the region’s urban and landscape character.

Legend

Central Coast Council LGA Boundary

Gosford Town Centre



0 2.5 5 7.5 10km
Scale 1:200,000

Context

Gosford

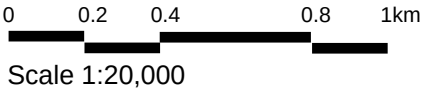
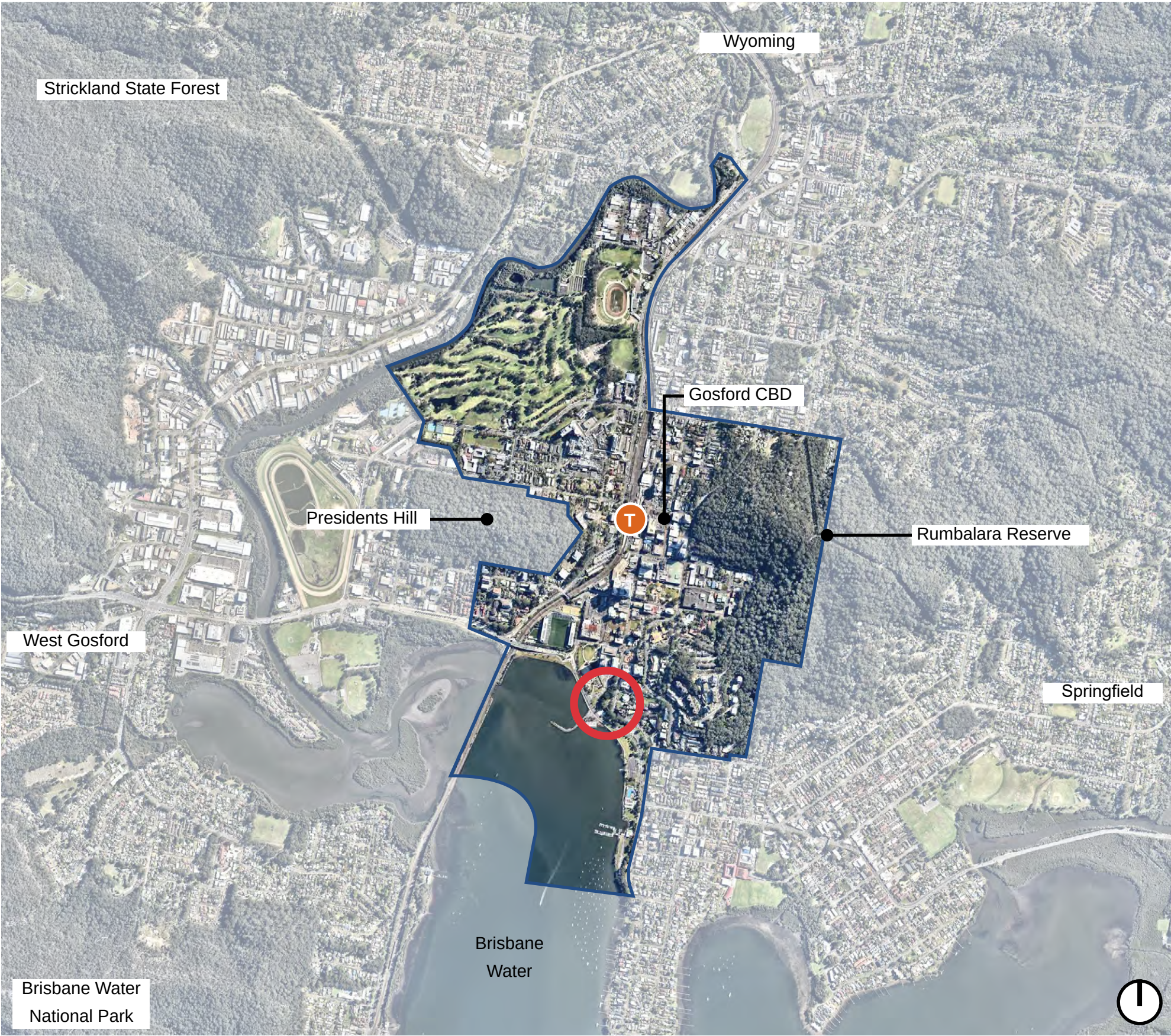
Nestled within a natural valley, Gosford is framed by Presidents Hill to the west and Rumbalara Reserve to the east, with Brisbane Water forming a defining coastal edge. This relationship between bushland hills, harbour and urban centre is central to the city's identity. The network of green spaces, foreshore landscapes and surrounding reserves provides critical ecological value while supporting health, wellbeing and everyday amenity. These landscapes establish a strong visual and physical connection between nature and the CBD, reinforcing Gosford as a city embedded within its environment rather than imposed upon it.

The region holds deep cultural significance as Country of the First Nations people, whose connection to land and water shaped early use of the bushland hills, fertile soils and foreshore. European settlement followed the contours and constraints of the landscape, with early agricultural activity centred around East Gosford. The arrival of the Main Northern Railway in 1887 marked a pivotal shift, unlocking access to the valley and waterfront and setting the framework for urban growth. Gosford's development has consistently been guided by its topography, waterways and coastal setting, resulting in a settlement pattern closely aligned with natural landforms and layered cultural narratives.

Today, Gosford CBD functions as the civic and transport heart of the Central Coast. Strong regional connections are supported by the railway station, Mann Street and surrounding road networks. A concentration of civic, cultural, health and recreational facilities—including Kibble Park, Gosford Hospital, the Regional Gallery and waterfront sporting precincts—reinforces the city's role as a centre for employment, community life and cultural exchange. This ongoing evolution presents opportunities for landscape-led masterplanning that respects heritage, strengthens connections to nature and supports a resilient, contemporary urban centre.

Legend

-  Gosford Suburb Boundary
-  Project Location



Context

Gosford Suburb Context

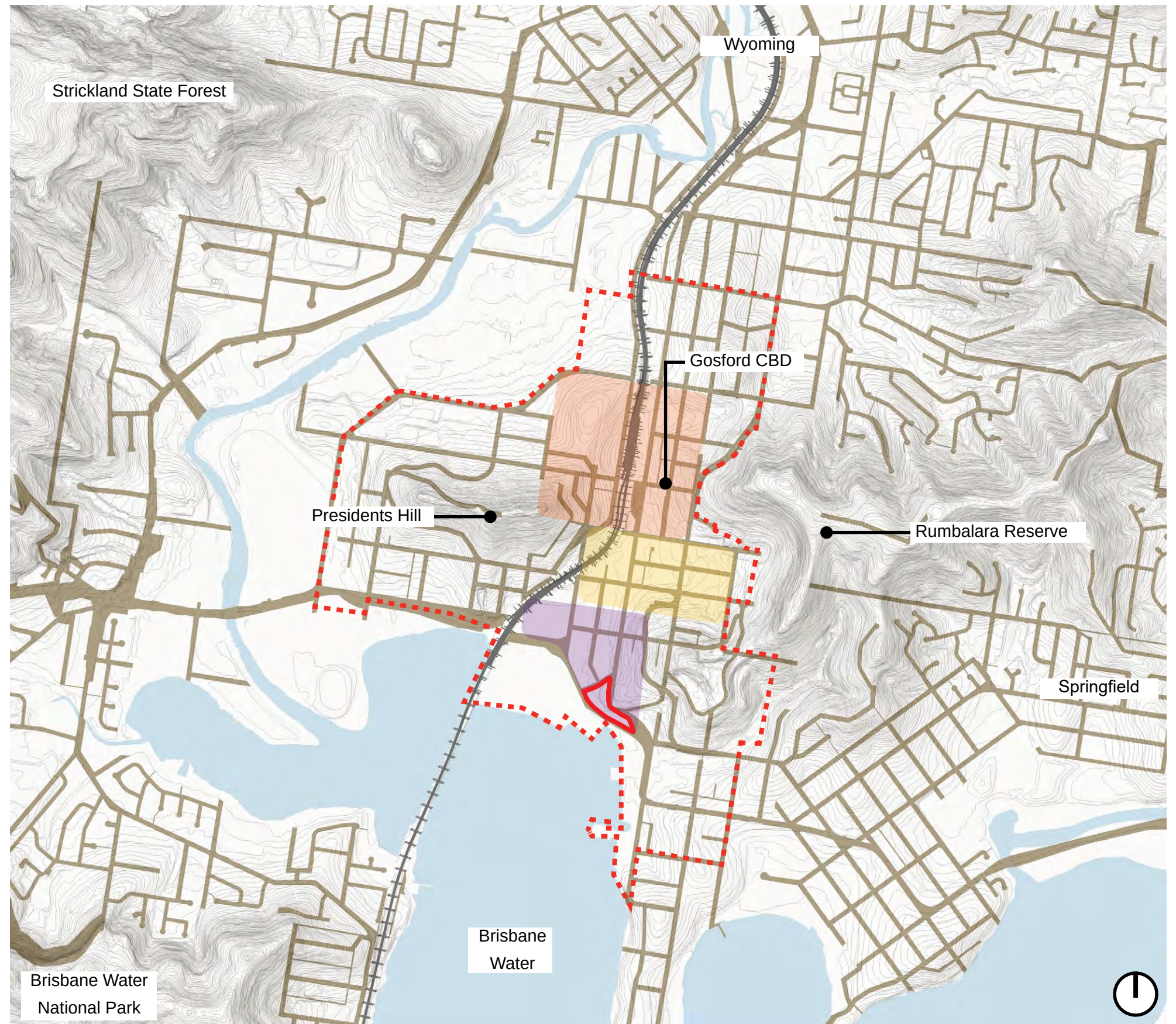
Gosford is organised around three interconnected precincts, City North, the Civic Heart and City South, which together form the CBD, as identified in the Gosford Urban Design Framework. City North characterised by Health and Education uses and facilities, higher-density commercial, residential and mixed-use developments, marking arrival into the centre. The Civic Heart anchors the city's cultural and community identity through civic spaces and institutions, while City South provides a transition to surrounding parkland areas.



Legend

(as identified in the Urban Design Framework)

- - - Precinct
- ▮ Site Boundary
- City North
- The Civic Heart
- City South



0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1km
Scale 1:20,000

Context

Accessibility

Gosford Suburb benefits from strong regional and local accessibility, with convenient access via the rail network and the Central Coast Highway connecting the city to the wider Central Coast and Greater Sydney region. Road and rail infrastructure underpin Gosford's role as a major civic, commercial and transport hub. However, pedestrian movement within the CBD is fragmented, with pedestrian activity largely concentrated along a limited section of Mann Street. Pedestrian connections and wayfinding beyond this north-south spine, particularly between the CBD and the waterfront, are currently limited and disjointed.



Gosford station



Stadium



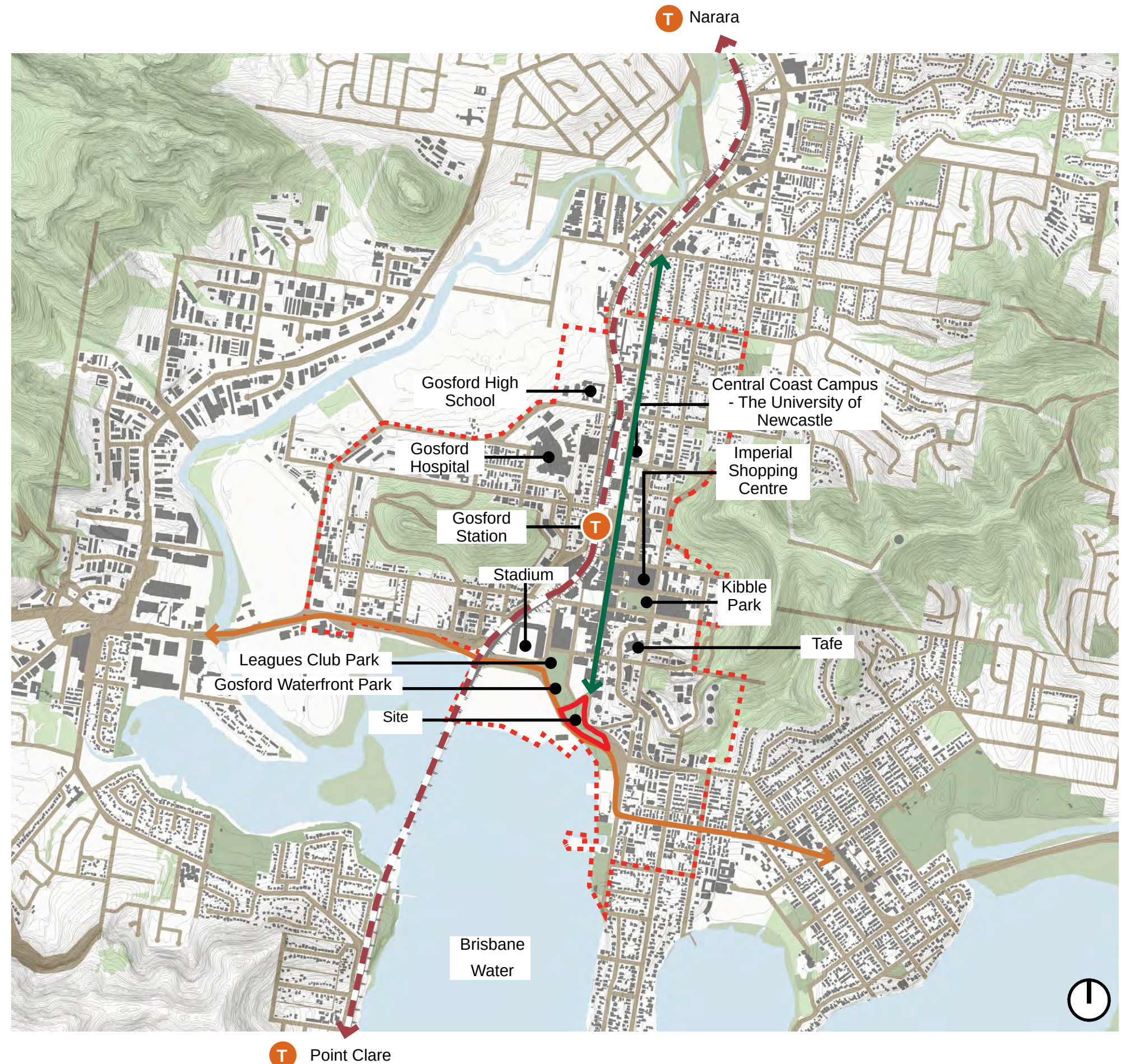
Waterfront



Gosford CBD

Legend

- - - Precinct
- <— Site Boundary
- <— Mann Street
- <— Central Coast Highway
- <— Train Line
- T Train Station



0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1km
Scale 1:20,000

Context

Site Context

Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park sit at the heart of the Gosford waterfront, forming a key interface between the CBD, Brisbane Water and the surrounding public reserve network. Defined by open lawns, mature trees and foreshore edges, these parks provide an important foreground to the harbour while accommodating recreation, remembrance and community gathering. Their gently sloping landscapes and visual openness reinforce long views across the water to the surrounding hills, strengthening the sense of Gosford as a city shaped by its coastal and valley setting.

The parks occupy land of cultural significance, with Memorial Park emerging as a place of civic commemoration and public assembly. Rotary Park and the adjacent reserve evolved as accessible green spaces supporting informal recreation and community events, reflecting Gosford's growing identity as a regional centre closely tied to its waterfront.

The site function as a continuous open space network linking the CBD to Brisbane Water and the broader foreshore trail system. Their proximity to the stadium, transport nodes and civic precinct positions them as highly valued everyday landscapes that support walking, leisure, remembrance and major events. Together, these spaces offer significant opportunity for landscape-led enhancement that strengthens ecological function, celebrates cultural heritage and reinforces the waterfront as a defining civic asset for Gosford.

Legend

..... Site Boundary



Analysis

Analysis

The Site

The site is known as Memorial Park in its upper eastern portion and Rotary Park in its lower western portion. The project scope also includes the Public Reserve to the South East

1 Memorial Park



Site photo. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects

2 Rotary Park



Site photo. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects

3 Public Reserve



Site photo. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects

Legend

..... Site boundary



Heritage, Commemorative & First Nations

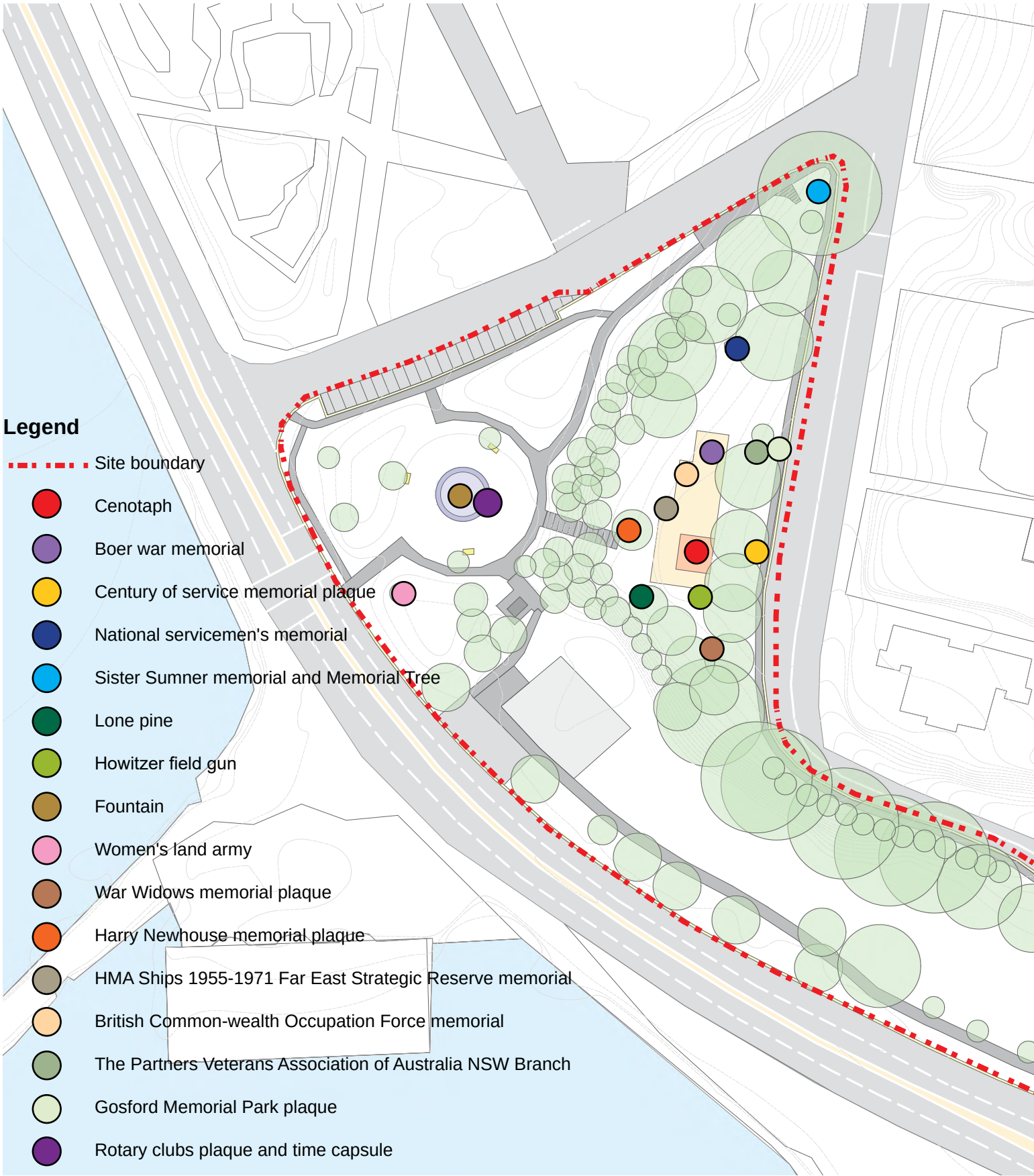
Gosford Memorial Park and Rotary Park form a locally significant commemorative landscape, containing a concentration of heritage items associated with military service, civic history, and public remembrance. Key features include the Gosford Cenotaph, Boer War Memorial, National Servicemen’s Memorial, Howitzer Field Gun, Sister Sumner Memorial Tree, historic water fountain, numerous commemorative plaques and memorial markers, and archaeological site of the first site of the Gosford Wharf.

Memorial trees, avenues, and open ceremonial spaces contribute to the overall heritage character and support the ongoing use of the parks for public commemoration and reflection.

The heritage significance of these elements and their setting is recognised and analysed in detail in the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared by GML Heritage for Central Coast Council. A thorough review of the CMP highlights the historical and aesthetic values of individual memorials, the spatial relationships between commemorative features, and the broader cultural significance of the landscape. This analysis also identifies opportunities for maintenance, restoration, and interpretation, ensuring that future works respond sensitively to both the physical fabric of the parks and their commemorative purpose.

Future management should conserve individual memorials and the broader commemorative landscape, ensuring that any upgrades or new works respect the prominence, dignity and cultural meaning of the parks, while acknowledging the site’s broader First Nations cultural context.

The site contains a registered Aboriginal heritage feature, a midden, which reflects the long-standing cultural connection of First Nations people to this landscape. While the midden is not mapped to protect its integrity, its presence should be acknowledged in management and planning decisions.



Gosford cenotaph



Fountain

Rotary clubs plaque and time capsule



Howitzer field gun



Sister Sumner Memorial and Memorial tree



Boer war memorial



National Servicemen's memorial

Analysis

Topography and Landform

The site comprises of three main open areas generally of a flat nature, including the open grass area with the Rotary water feature to the West, memorial to the north east and the open lawn area to the south.

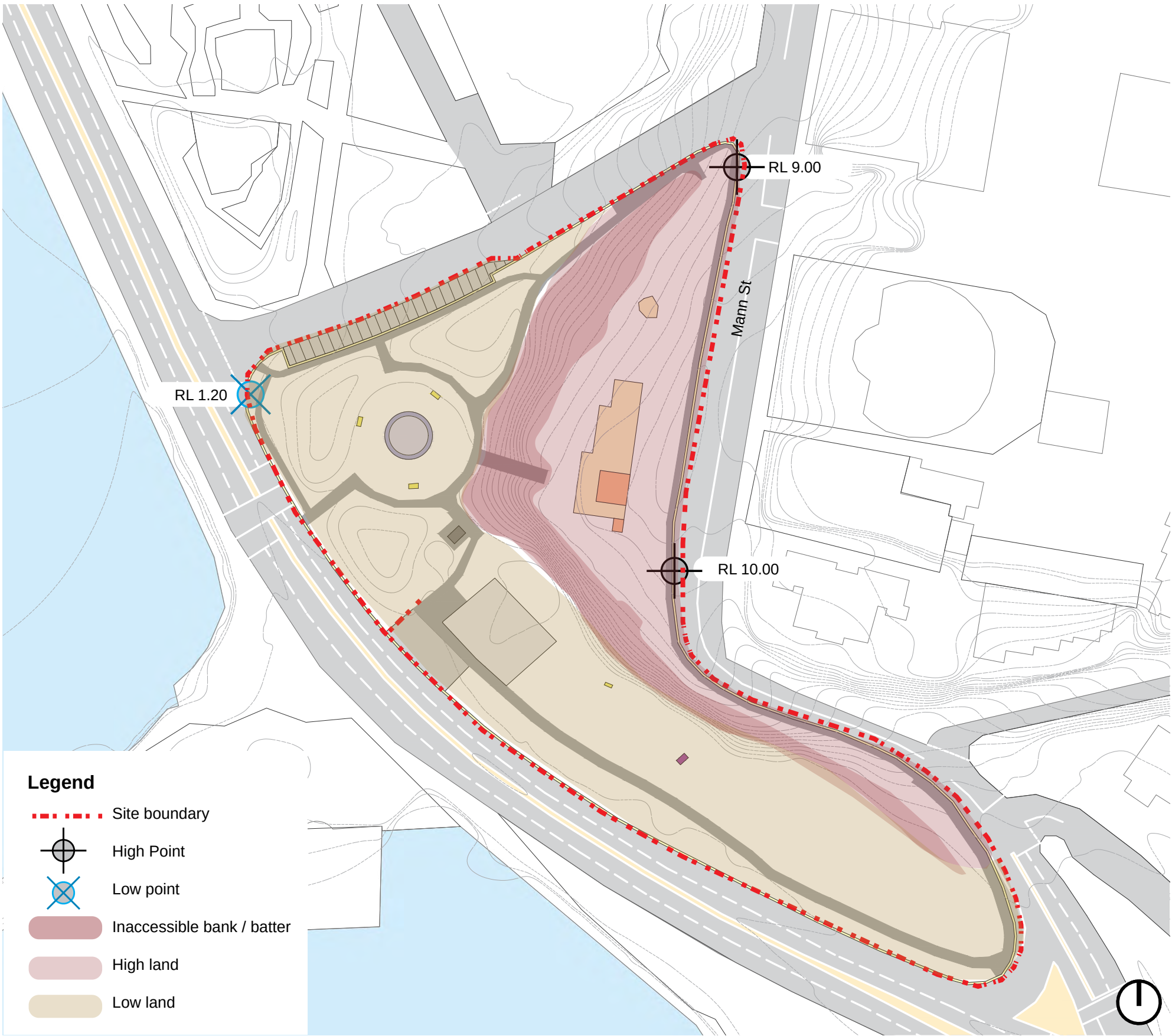
The upper and lower areas are separated by a densely vegetated bank, with one stairs providing public access between Rotary Park and Memorial Park. Despite this connection, movement through the site toward Mann Street remains challenging.



Site photo showing stairs from Rotary Park to Memorial Park. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects



Site photo from Rotary Park looking east showing densely vegetated bank separating the open spaces. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects



0 10 20 40 50m
Scale 1:1000

Analysis

Existing Views

Due to the prominent location of the site on Brisbane Water, its topography and orientation several significant views are available from the site looking beyond to natural land features. The views from the upper or eastern area of the project are partially blocked by the densely vegetated bank that separates the two spaces.

The cultural monuments and structures of the park include the Rotary Fountain and the War Memorial on the west and east respectively. The primary views of these elements are outlined below and relate to whether an individual is driving or walking to the site.



Site photo from existing memorial looking south west showing water and district views through vegetation. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects

Legend

- - - Site boundary
- ↔ Potential views beyond of natural features and open space
- Primary view corridor from public space into site



0 10 20 40 50m
Scale 1:1000

Existing Trees Typologies

The site contains mature trees across all areas and both in garden and in lawn. Predominant species include *Ficus macrocarpara* , *Ficus hillii* and *Pinus brutia* with the eastern area of the parkland providing a framework to the Memorial. Whereas the western area of Rotary Park includes more exotic species of predominantly *Gleditsia triacanthos* to frame the water feature.

The bank area separating the east and west areas of the parkland includes an informal arrangement of *Eucalyptus* sp, *Casuarina cunninghamiana*, *Lophostemon confertus* predominantly

Recent aerial imagery indicates the park has moderate to high tree canopy cover, with overall canopy coverage visually estimated at approximately 35–45%, providing substantial shade and a well-defined green structure across the precinct.

Estimated area based on Dec 2025 aerial imagery:

Park total area: 15,517 m2
Canopy coverage: 6,630 m2 (43%)



Site photo showing existing tree in Memorial Park. Source; Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects

Legend

- Site boundary
- Ficus macrocarpar and hillii
- Feature deciduous
- Native Eucalyptus, Lophostemon and Casuarina



0 10 20 40 50m
Scale 1:1000

Heritage Significance Grading of Plantings

The heritage significance of the existing trees and their contribution to the broader cultural landscape is recognised and analysed in detail in the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared by GML Heritage for Central Coast Council. A thorough review of the CMP highlights the historical, aesthetic and associative values of individual specimens and tree groups, their spatial relationships within the landscape framework, and their role in reinforcing the site's heritage character. The assessment also identifies opportunities for conservation management, succession planning, and potential replacement strategies, ensuring that future works respond sensitively to the significance, setting, and long-term viability of the tree stock.

Legend

- Site boundary
- Exceptional significance
- Moderate significance
- Little significance
- Neutral significance
- Intrusive significance



0 10 20 40 50m
Scale 1:1000

Analysis

Pedestrian Access

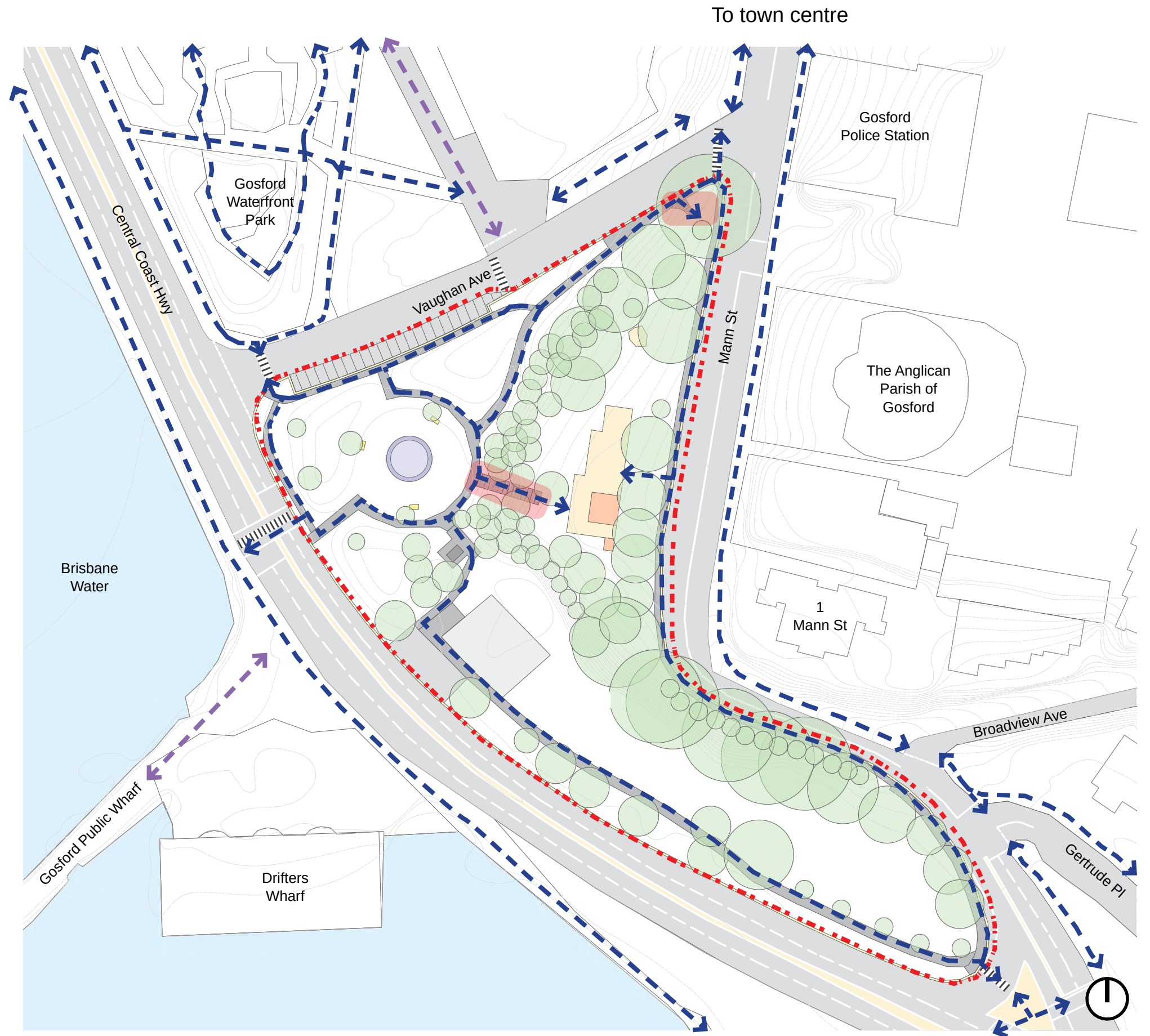
Pedestrian access across the adjacent public reserve is generally provided, with existing paths connecting key open lawn areas, memorial spaces and the foreshore. The site's location supports both everyday use and large commemorative events.

Movement between the upper and lower areas is shaped by changes in elevation and a densely vegetated bank. A main stairway connects Rotary Park to Memorial Park, providing direct access between the two spaces.

Within the CBD, movement is more localised, with pedestrian activity primarily concentrated along a central section of Mann Street. Beyond this spine, connections become more dispersed, with pedestrian links and wayfinding between the CBD and the waterfront varying in clarity and continuity. This movement pattern provides important context for understanding how people navigate the city centre and transition between key destinations. It also highlights the differing scales of movement between regional arrival and local circulation. Together, these conditions shape how the CBD functions and is experienced on foot.

Legend

- - - - - Site boundary
- ← - - - - - Pedestrian movement
- ||||| Pedestrian crossing
- █ Stairway
- ← - - - - - Pedestrian and vehicle shared zone



Analysis

Vehicle Access

Vehicle access is primarily provided at the surrounding road network, with Mann Street forming the key indicator along the edge of the parks, carrying high traffic volumes and functioning as Gosford's main CBD spine.

Baker Street operates as lower speed local street, providing direct access to parking areas and a shared zone for pedestrians.

Central Coast Hwy linking the parks to the Gosford waterfront precinct near Drifters Wharf.

Formal car parking areas are located along Vaughan Ave and at the northern end of Rotary Park, while internal vehicle access is restricted, there is high traffic movement at the southern end of the park, where Central Coast Hwy and Mann Street intersect.

Legend

- - - Site boundary
- ← - - - → Vehicle movement
- Car park
- Driveway
- Traffic Light



0 10 20 40 50m
Scale 1:1000

Signage and Urban Furniture

The park features simple, clear signage that identifies memorials, park areas, and pathways while respecting the site’s commemorative character. Urban furniture is minimal and functional, with benches and seating positioned along paths and open lawns to support rest, reflection, and casual use without dominating the landscape.



Park ID Sign



Memorial Park Info plaque



Park ID Sign



Toilet



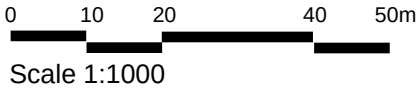
Public bins



Seat

Legend

- Site boundary
- Seat
- Toilet
- Park ID sign
- Info plaque
- Public bins



Analysis

Infrastructure

The site includes seating and light poles distributed throughout the parks. Light poles generally placed for pathways and open areas, while fences and barricades are positioned along paths and near gathering spaces.

These elements define circulation routes and rest points, and support movement and activity across the memorial and park areas, including during events.



Existing high fence



Existing infrastructure



Existing kiosk substation



Existing flag pole

Legend

- Site boundary
- Existing light pole
- Existing flag pole
- Existing infrastructure
- Existing kiosk substation
- Existing vegetation fence
- Existing high fence
- Existing barricade and retaining wall



0 10 20 40 50m
Scale 1:1000

Design Principles

The guiding principles for Gosford Rotary Park, Gosford Memorial Park, and the adjoining public reserve focus on strengthening the role of these spaces as a connected civic, cultural, and ecological landscape that serves the Gosford visitors and First Nations custodians. These parks are more than open spaces, they are repositories of memory, culture, and identity, where the stories of the past intersect with contemporary life and ongoing ecological stewardship.

The Masterplan recognises and celebrates the commemorative, recreational, ecological, and cultural significance of the parks. It seeks to enhance accessibility, comfort, and functionality to support a wide range of everyday uses, ceremonial events, and spaces for reflection. In doing so, the plan creates opportunities for creative and interpretive storytelling, using design, signage, artworks, and landscape features to engage visitors with the layers of history embedded in the landscape, from commemorative monuments and heritage structures to First Nations cultural connections, archaeological sites, and historically significant plantings. This interpretive approach encourages deeper public understanding and appreciation of the parks' social, cultural, and environmental values, fostering a sense of stewardship and connection across generations.

At the heart of the Masterplan is a commitment to protect and reinforce the parks' defining landscape character. Existing mature trees, open green spaces, and heritage landscape features are preserved and celebrated, while complementary plantings and landscape elements are introduced to reflect the local environment and enhance ecological resilience. The plan balances environmental sustainability with amenity, creating adaptable, welcoming spaces that encourage exploration, recreation, contemplation, and community interaction.

By integrating heritage, storytelling, ecology, and recreation, the Masterplan positions Rotary Park, Memorial Park, and the adjoining reserve as an interconnected, living civic landscape. It strengthens the identity of these open spaces as treasured landmarks, ensures long-term cultural and ecological conservation, and enhances meaningful engagement, allowing visitors to connect with the history and stories that define this significant landscape.



Respect and Reinforcement of Heritage Values and First Nations

Key items

1. Protect and enhance existing memorials and commemorative features
2. Maintain the visibility and ceremonial role of memorial spaces
3. Respect historic layout, landscape features, and archaeological sites while recognising First Nations values.
4. Identify and plan for opportunities for Heritage restoration works.

Integrate and Connect Public Open Space Network

Key items

1. Improve access, pathways, and internal circulation
2. Support passive recreation, informal gathering, and daily use
3. Accommodate diverse recreational and social activities

Landscape Structure, Amenity, and Environmental Performance

Key items

1. Retain and reinforce mature trees and landscape character
2. Support environmental Revitalisation through landscape improvement
3. Support long-term environmental resilience and sustainability

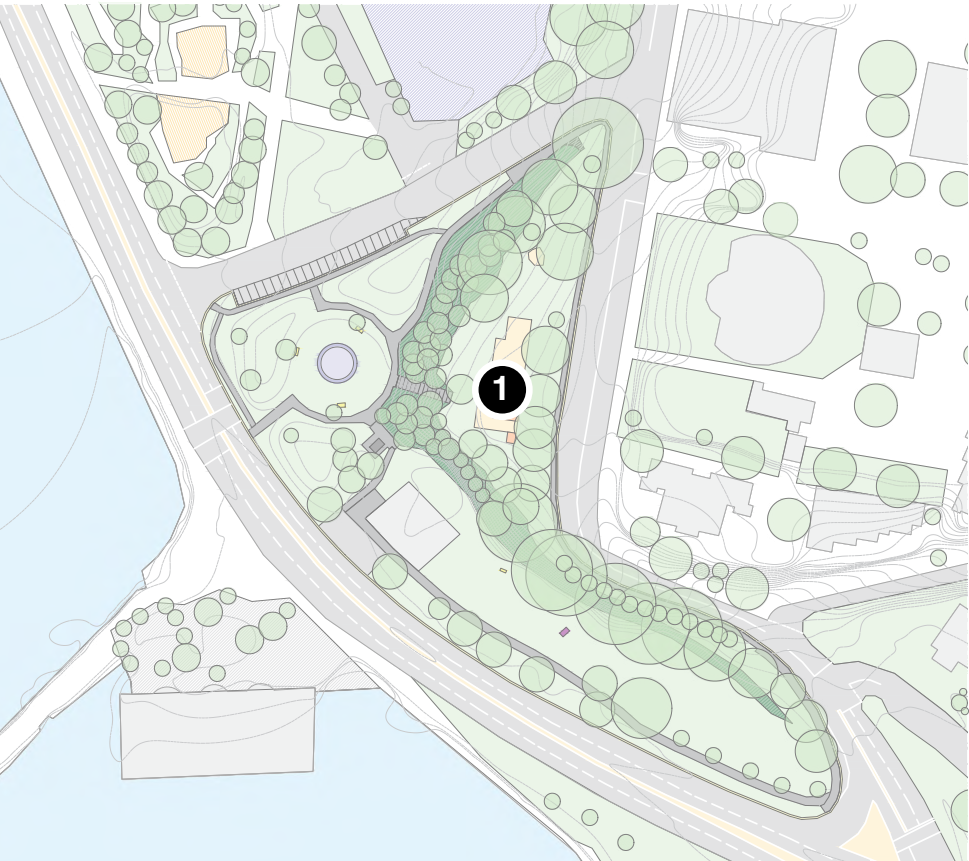
Masterplan

Pinpoint 1 - Memorial Park

Opportunities exist to strengthen the prominence and setting of existing memorial elements within Gosford Rotary Memorial Park, including the Sister Sumner Tree, through the introduction of defined circular gathering spaces and terraced seating oriented toward key civic and water views.

Design opportunities may also include the selective removal or thinning of dense understorey planting to improve sight lines and strengthen visual connections between open space areas. This approach is being explored as a way to enhance passive surveillance, improve legibility, and support a greater sense of safety and accessibility within the park.

In response to the site's topography, there is an opportunity to consider a new feature stair with integrated seating. This element could create a more defined civic edge and provide informal seating for community use and memorial occasions. The intent of exploring this option is to understand whether such an intervention would support the park's function as a cohesive, accessible and welcoming memorial landscape.

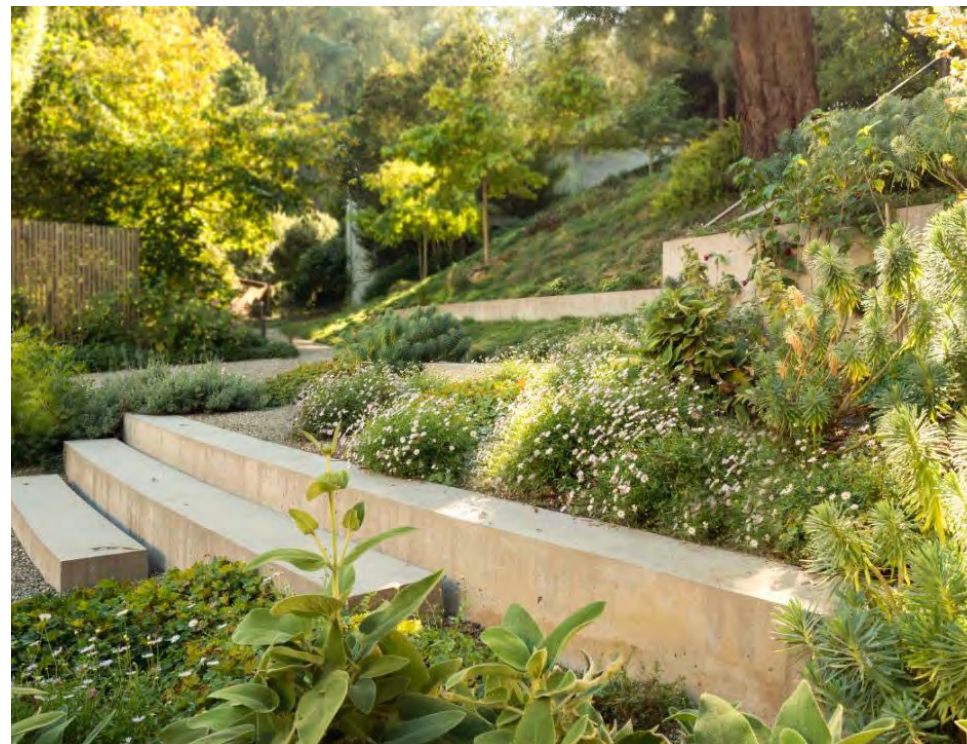


Masterplan

Pinpoint 2 - Stairs

The stair connection presents an opportunity to be re-imagined as more than a circulation route, potentially becoming a more activated civic threshold between levels of the park.

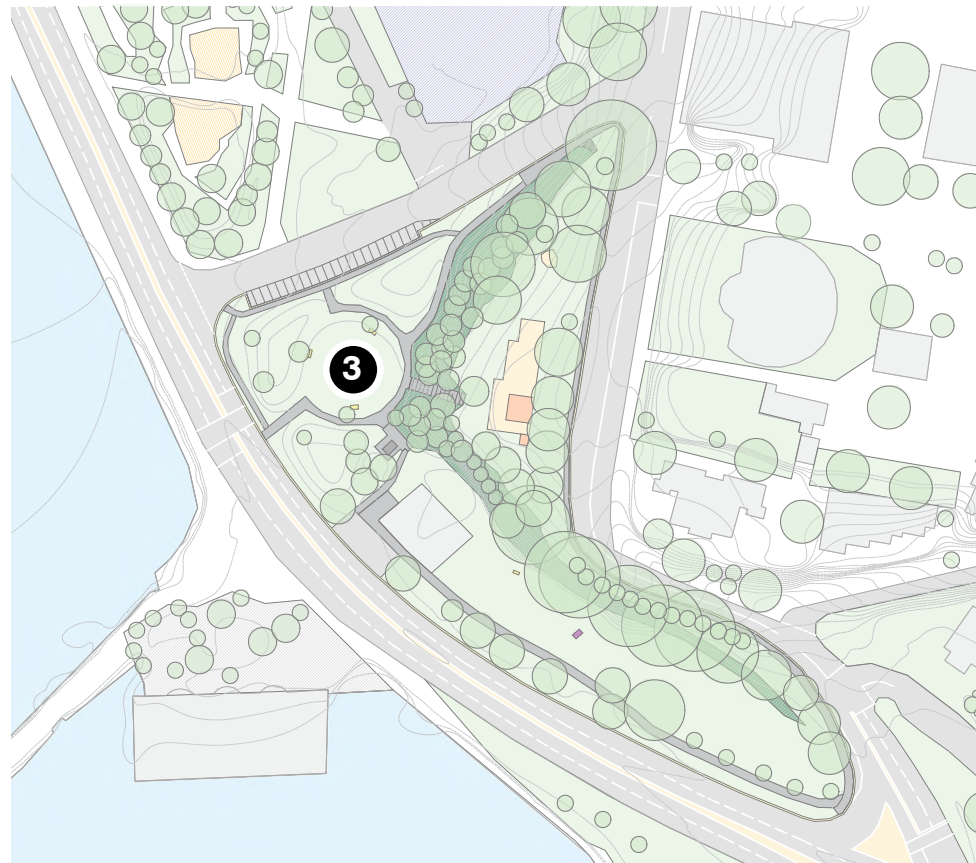
There is an opportunity to explore a redesigned stair incorporating integrated seating and generous landings to better respond to the site's topography. This could create informal gathering points and vantage positions toward surrounding district views. Opportunities may also exist to improve lighting, handrails and material consistency to enhance accessibility, safety and comfort, while strengthening visual connections between adjacent spaces.



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Pinpoint 3 - Rotary Fountain

Revitalise and restore the existing fountain to its original condition, carefully preserving its defining features and reinstating its intended character and function within the landscape. Complementing this, memorial letters embedded flush into the ground plane offer a subtle yet meaningful commemorative feature, seamlessly integrated into the paved surface to invite quiet reflection as visitors move through the space.



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Pinpoint 4 - Rotary Park

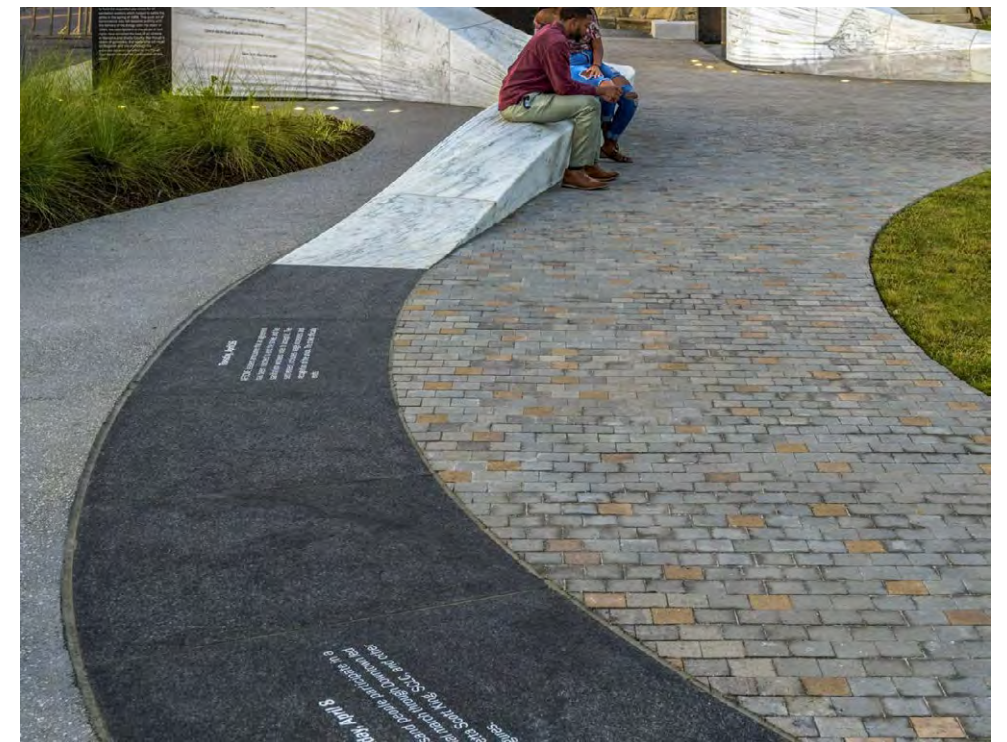
Rotary Park presents opportunities for revitalisation through the introduction of new surrounding gardens, establishing a stronger visual focal point within the landscape. New landscaped mounds will enhance amenity by providing informal seating and acoustic buffering from surrounding roads, improving overall comfort and usability.



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Pinpoint 5 - Corner of Vaughn Ave and Mann Street

At the corner of Vaughn Avenue and Mann Street, public domain improvements can prioritise pedestrian movement and shared path connectivity, creating a safer and more legible gateway to Gosford Rotary and Memorial parks. Upgraded shared paths will enhance accessibility for pedestrians and mobility users. These works reinforce connectivity between the town centre and adjoining reserves.



Masterplan

Pinpoint 6 - Dane Drive Reserve

Dane Drive Reserve presents an opportunity to enhance its function as a linear green link between waterfront and parkland spaces. Strengthening shared path connections, seating nodes and shade planting will support active transport and recreational use while maintaining open views to Brisbane Water. Selective vegetation management will improve safety and visual permeability, balancing ecological values with user comfort. Defined gathering points along the reserve can provide pause moments that complement the memorial landscape and encourage extended use of the foreshore corridor.



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Pinpoint 7 - Embankment and Vegetation

The embankment areas within Gosford Rotary Memorial Park can be reshaped and replanted to stabilise slopes while improving visual and physical connections across the site, while introducing layered native planting that frames key views without obstructing them. Terraced treatments in select locations can mitigate level changes and provide informal seating opportunities integrated into the landscape. These interventions will create a more cohesive and ecologically resilient setting that supports the park's commemorative and recreational functions.



TaylorBrammer

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