

**CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
ST JOHN'S CHURCH HERITAGE PRECINCT
LANDSCAPE, REID, ACT**



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**for the
Anglican Parish of St John the Baptist, Canberra**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview of the Conservation Management Plan

This conservation management plan for the Anglican Church of St John the Baptist heritage precinct landscape provides heritage guidance which is integral to the good management and conservation of this place and its heritage significance. The study:

- briefly describes the landscape;
- provides an overview of the history of the place;
- offers evidence related to aesthetic, social and scientific values;
- analyses all of this evidence and provides a statement of significance for the place;
- explores issues related to constraints and opportunities affecting the place; and
- provides a conservation policy and implementation strategies to guide management and conservation.

This plan does not deal with the major built features on the site, such as the church itself and St John's Schoolhouse. Another conservation management plan has been prepared for such features although this plan has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007).

The landscape of St John's Church is an integral part of the overall heritage place. Its significance must be understood in this context, and reference should be made to the overall statements of significance for St John's (ie. the ACT Heritage Register citation and Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, pp. 4:11-4:12, noting the latter reference has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish).

Chapter Summaries

Chapter 1 - Introduction

This chapter provides a range of information about the project to develop the conservation management plan. It outlines the project background and objectives, explains how the project was undertaken by the consultant team, and explains the purpose of the conservation management plan. The limitations on the project are noted. The consultant team is described and acknowledgments are listed.

Chapter 2 – Location and Boundaries

This chapter explains the location of St John's and the boundaries of the area for this conservation management plan. Importantly, the boundaries are the formal precinct identified in the ACT Heritage Register which is only part of the Parish land at St John's.

Chapter 3 - Description

In order to understand the character of the St John's landscape, a range of descriptive information is provided. Following an overview of the precinct, more detailed descriptive information is provided about the landscape, trees and other plants, historical archaeological features, built elements such as graves, the columbaria, the sundial, bird bath, fountain and seats, and the associated places. Importantly, the conservation management plan uses landscape character units (or areas) to help analyse the landscape, and these are described in the chapter.

A major table in this chapter summarises the context and health of the trees in the precinct

(Table 2). The table notes problems with trees such as where they are dead, dangerous or declining. A table is provided in Appendix C which combines the information in Table 2 with the recommendations for each individual tree and the hedges.

Chapter 4 – Overview History

An overview history of the development of St John's and its landscape is provided in this chapter. This is not a comprehensive history of St John's, but focuses on providing enough of an understanding of how the church and precinct developed in order to also understand its heritage values. The history also focuses more on physical aspects rather than a social history.

A number of major phases are identified, including: colonial origins from 1840-1900 which saw the construction of the church and the schoolhouse, establishment of initial boundaries and related plantings; the establishment of the National Capital from Federation to World War II, especially with the major re-alignment of the property boundaries, extensive new plantings and construction of the new Rectory; developments after 1945; and the recent period from the 1990s.

Chapter 5 – Evidence of Aesthetics, Scientific Value and Social Value

In addition to historical evidence considered in Chapter 4, evidence related to other heritage values is presented in this chapter. The aesthetic qualities of the landscape are discussed with regard to the various phases of planting and development from before the church through to the present day. A major aspect of these qualities derives from the trees within the precinct, and the relationship between trees, graveyard and church.

The potential scientific values in the precinct partly relate to natural heritage qualities – the remnant native grassland, planted vegetation, and presence of the Golden Sun Moth. Other scientific value relates to historical archaeological features of the precinct.

Evidence of social value or contemporary community valuing of the precinct is also briefly presented – derived from the previous conservation management plan for the church.

Chapter 6 – Analysis of Evidence

The evidence of heritage values in the precinct – related to historical, aesthetic, scientific and social qualities – is analysed in this chapter. This evidence is tested against the ACT Heritage Criteria which are the formal criteria for places assessed for the ACT Heritage Register. Conclusions are reached about which criteria are met.

There are 12 criteria and St John's meets 8 of them – to meet one criterion is sufficient to establish heritage significance. See Table 6 for further details.

Chapter 7 – Statement of Significance

All of the evidence presented and analysed in Chapters 2-6 is used to present a statement of significance for the precinct.

In summary, aspects of significance related to the landscape worth highlighting include: aesthetic qualities, the landscape demonstrates a wide range of cultural practices and values, has a range of important associations, is a rare and notable example of a church and graveyard located together, displays a high level of intactness, demonstrates to a high degree the traditional role of the church in a rural community, has a range of strong and special associations with people and important cultural phases, contributes to an understanding of the cultural history of the ACT and has the potential to contribute further,

and contains several relict areas of Natural Temperate Grassland which is habitat for a number of rare species, including the listed critically endangered Golden Sun Moth.

The significance of the landscape is placed in the context of the overall significance of the precinct as identified in the ACT Heritage Register, and conclusions about the significance of church and other built features identified in the 2007 conservation management plan.

Chapter 8 – Development of Policy – Opportunities and Constraints

This chapter considers the range of opportunities and constraints which impact upon the management of the precinct, and especially those which influence the conservation of its heritage values. Legislation (Section 8.2) is one of these factors and no less than four pieces of heritage or conservation legislation apply to the heritage area at St John's. In particular, this includes the planning, development and heritage constraints arising from the *National Capital Plan*, and also protective provisions related to the Golden Sun Moth. Special note is made of plans to widen Constitution Avenue which would result in cutting 6 metres from the boundary of the precinct. A range of stakeholders with an interest in and concern for St John's is also noted.

The management of the precinct by the Parish is a major consideration, including its requirements and aspirations for the future. Management issues arising because of the condition of fabric – especially dead, dangerous and declining trees – are also a major factor. Indeed, the trees and other plants in the landscape are discussed at length (Section 8.4).

These various factors provide a context for the development of conservation policy.

Chapter 9 – Conservation Policy and Implementation Strategies

The conservation policy and implementation strategies cover a wide range of matters including:

- training, consultation and liaison;
- natural heritage;
- landscape;
- historical archaeology and built elements;
- setting for the area;
- use of the place;
- new development; and
- interpretation.

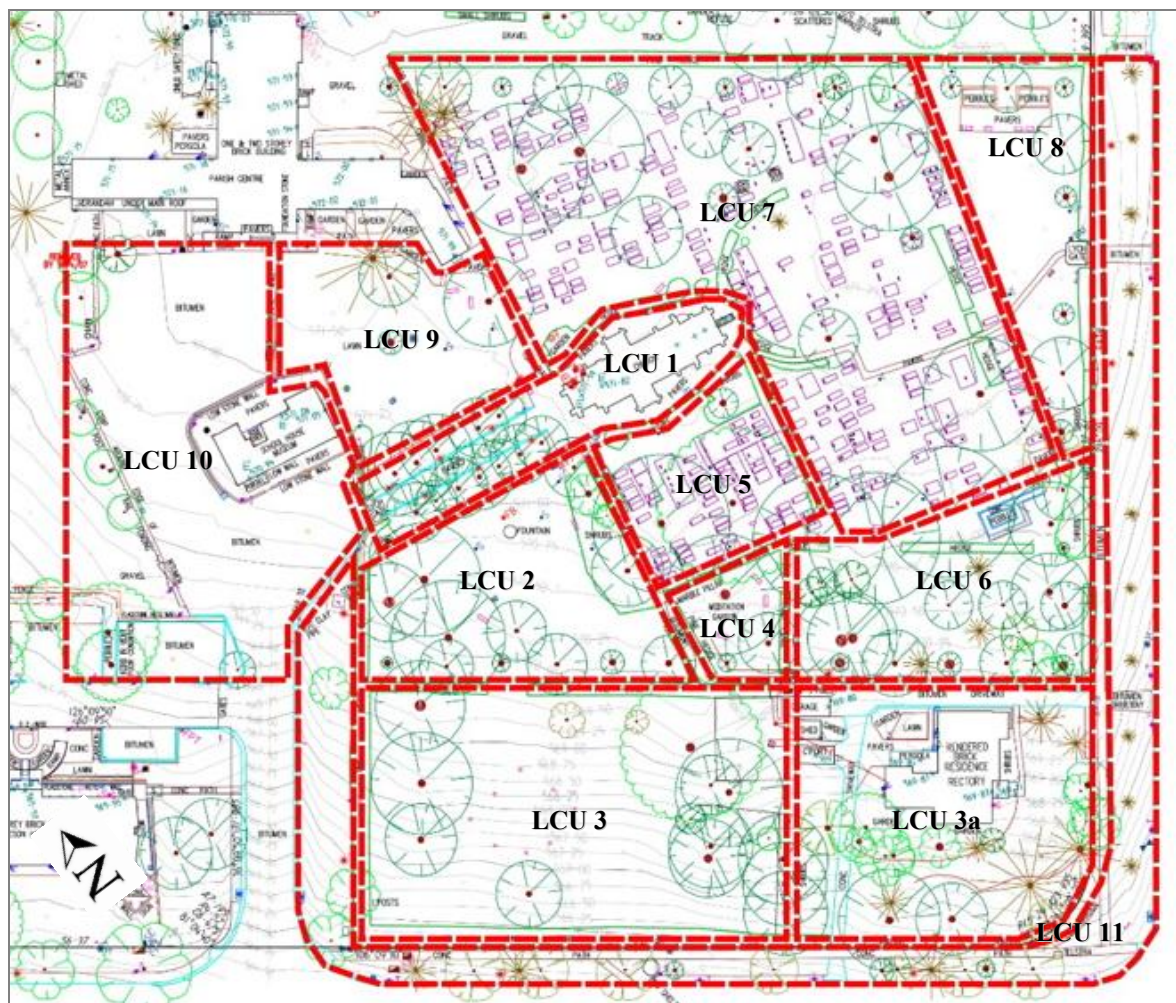
A general conservation policy is provided,

As a guide, the general conservation policy for the landscape of St John's Church should be to conserve all of the fabric of the place relating to its history from the 1840s until the present, unless otherwise specifically allowed by other policies. In particular, the layers of fabric which portray the different layouts of the churchyard before and after the creation of the national capital should be conserved.

The conservation management plan uses landscape character units as a way of analysing the landscape and providing future guidance. These units are portrayed in the following figure.

Landscape Character Units and Views

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley



The general policy approach for each of the landscape character units is provided in the following table.

Table 1. General Policy Approach for the Landscape Character Units

Landscape Character Unit	General Policy Approach
LCU1	The future of the evergreen avenue leading to the church, which now obscures view of the church and appreciation of its form, needs attention. The Arizona Cypress trees are now past their best form, showing many dead/dying lower branches. Removal and replacement is the recommended action with a planting that is a partial reconstruction.
LCU2	Maintain as open grassy area fringed and delineated spatially by conifers and hedges.
LCU3	Maintain open paddock form edged with hedges.
LCU3a	Maintain as residential garden within a framework of plantings sympathetic to the churchyard and street views of the churchyard, including a degree of privacy
LCU4	Maintain contemplation area character as it is now defined by hedges and 1880s tree.
LCU5	Maintain existing spatial character defined by 1880s tree planting and later hedges.
LCU6	Maintain planting pattern of edge trees and hedges, but clear/tidy rest of the area of undergrowth, self seeded trees and weeds.
LCU7	Maintain open graveyard character with views to church building. Replace as necessary Galliard 1880s pines with the aim of having tall trees to continue structure planting character.
LCU8	Maintain open dry grass character and Golden Sun Moth habitat.
LCU9	Maintain irrigated grass and trees.

Table 1. General Policy Approach for the Landscape Character Units	
Landscape Character Unit	General Policy Approach
LCU10	As a long-term option, consider possibilities for changing the bitumen carpark, or a part of the carpark, in the vicinity of the schoolhouse to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reconstruct a known significant earlier state of the landscape (eg. an open grass area with a few deciduous trees, and a timber and wire farm fence); or an otherwise more sympathetic landscape setting for the schoolhouse.
LCU11	Maintain and protect integrity of the Golden Sun Moth habitat and street tree planting along existing alignments of the internal road, Constitution Avenue and Anzac Park as essential cultural element of the setting of St John's.

Trees and other Plants in the Landscape

General comments

One of the major aspects addressed by the conservation management plan is the vegetation in the heritage precinct – the trees and other plants, such as shrubs and hedges.

An implication arising from the significance of the trees and other plants at St John's is that they should be conserved though this does not preclude replacement. This is also explicit in the ACT Heritage Register citation. Unfortunately however, many trees of heritage significance are now declining, and/or are a potential threat to pedestrian traffic and historic graves under their driplines. It was an essential part of preparing this plan that the dangerous trees and trees damaging graves, or with the potential to injure people or damage churchyard features, were reviewed with a view as to their future and management options.

There are also numbers of well established wildlings, or trees suspected as being wildlings. In most cases, the wildlings are easily observable, but in some cases within the churchyard, trees suspected as being wildlings are more likely random plantings, or wildlings selected to be retained.

There are other trees that are representative of other planting phases (eg. the Federal Capital Commission or FCC plantings from the 1920s) where the plantings are competing with more significant planted features or objects, and have obscured the former open nature of the site and views to the church. The heavy shade cast by mature evergreen trees also impacts on the remnant native grassland and Golden Sun Moth habitat. Other trees are somewhat incongruous with the coniferous theme that was established at an early date in the plantings (eg. the deciduous trees near the 1959 Parish Centre).

Table 13 in Section 9.3 below provides details on the tree health and safety assessment. There are a number of trees of various planting phases that need to be removed for safety reasons, because they are dead or of very poor form/health, to better conserve the values of the precinct, or to prevent damage to grave sites or other features. The table also indicates the replacement species where appropriate.

It is recommended that trees to be replaced are replaced with Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) in the case of the 1880s pines, the Horse Paddock trees be replaced with the same species as currently exist, a suitable deciduous tree in the case of the Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) near the Parish Centre (eg. a Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)), and Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) otherwise. The Roman Cypress is highly suitable for a variety of reasons, and will avoid the problems posed by some of the old and

major trees currently in the precinct. In particular, within the Roman Cypress species, there are many varieties, and it should be possible to select a variety whose growth habit and mature height suits the particular location in the precinct. The use of Roman Cypress in the case of the 1880s pines will continue the conifer theme of the precinct and continue the marking of the earlier boundary.

In one case, the suggested use of another deciduous tree rather than a Sweet Gum is because of the invasive roots of this species. The suggested Chinese Elm maintains the deciduous character which is desired by the Parish for amenity reasons, while avoiding root problems.

Some of the issues which arise regarding conservation and management of the vegetation are discussed below. This is followed by a plan portraying recommended changes.

Management of the Treescape/Views of the Church

The question of opening up the views of the church when seen from within its landscape precinct is an issue to be considered as part of a future management policy. There is a perception the church is hidden from view, and its prominence has been diminished by the mature treescape. The open landscape cannot be entirely recreated - even if thought desirable - without extensive tree removal. This raises the issue of what kind of future character is seen as appropriate and commensurate with the significance of the landscape. Part of this deliberation are issues of public safety from falling trees or tree branches, and the possible damage to graves by trees, as well as the positive qualities of shelter from wind and sun, and winter sun penetration.

Replacement of the entry avenue planting

The Arizona Cypress (*Cupressus arizonica*) entry avenue plantings are a prominent, attractive and very significant planted feature.

However, the trees are structurally failing and pose a threat to pedestrians. Two trees are already missing from the northern row. The failure is due in part to the planting centres being too close to allow the individual trees to develop to their full mature potential. Removal of every second tree now would leave the remaining trees devoid of foliage. The entry avenue needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

The standard conservation approach in this situation would be to recommend an accurate reconstruction of the 1920 plantings of Arizona Cypress and Roman Cypress. However, several additional factors need to be considered.

There is considerable concern within the Parish that the current avenue of Arizona Cypress with its high interlocked crowns has possibly become a significant fire hazard, especially to the church with its timber shingled spire. Allowing the same number of replanted cypresses to grow in the same space into fully mature trees again would eventually, after about 50 years, re-create the fire hazard. It would also obscure views of the church which have been hidden in the last 30-40 years by the current plantings.

The Parish is also concerned to keep some visual openness and connection through the avenue planting, for example to enable parents to keep an eye on children playing in different parts of the churchyard. A double row planting of Arizona Cypress in the inner row with an offset outer row of Roman Cypress would probably create a dense wall effect, when viewed from the lawn areas on either side of the avenue, and would not allow such a visual connection.

Accordingly, an option would be to replant just the Arizona Cypress with no Roman Cypress, and also not to replant the trees closest to the church and the lych gate, using rows of 5 Arizona Cypresses rather than the original 7 trees (referred to as Option 2). This might entail some variation on the tree spacing as well. This would be a less accurate reconstruction but an option which responded to the various concerns of the Parish. The existing visual openness and connections would probably be maintained and the option would be a lesser fire risk.

A range of other options were also considered.

Having considered the various options, the need to conserve the heritage values of the landscape and taking account of contemporary issues and concerns, notably minimising any potential fire hazard and opening views to the church, it is recommended Option 2 be adopted.

Removal and replacement of some 1880s plantings

A number of trees planted in about the 1880s are dying or in decline, and some are affecting grave sites. These trees will need removal. There are a few that are still in reasonable health and condition, given their age, but are at a stage where regular monitoring is essential. At first signs of decline, they should be removed, and this will need to be built into annual maintenance programs. Their useful life expectancy at the longest will be up to 20 years.

It is recommended these trees not be replaced with the same or similar species, but that replacement plantings with another species should be undertaken. Replacing with the same or similar species will eventually lead to the same situation as now in relation to grave damage.

These trees mark the boundary of the original churchyard which is identified as a significant heritage feature of the precinct. It is therefore essential that this boundary location is able to be observed into the future.

It is recommended that trees to be replaced are replaced with Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*). The reasons for selecting this species are because of its less invasive root systems and smaller crown. This species is much less likely to damage graves/heritage features if used to re-establish the original churchyard boundary. Such trees also retain the dominance of the coniferous theme of the churchyard. Accordingly, the preference is for smaller-crowned marker trees, rather than wide-spreading species, otherwise it would only replicate the current situation where the trees would become dangerous to the graves beneath.

Replanting should reflect the original planting pattern/spacing, as far as possible.

The stumps of the original trees can also be left as a means of defining the original boundary and tree locations, though may complicate maintenance tasks within the churchyard. Over time, they will need filling as the stumps rot.

Removal of some FCC plantings

One of the main issues complicating views to the church from Constitution Avenue is plantings undertaken by the FCC. They have also impacted on the habitat available for the Golden Sun Moth, and compromised what was formerly an area of open space in the old

horse paddock. At the southern end of the site near the Rectory, they have compromised the prominence of the Rectory. There have also been recent concerns about the potential for fire affecting the Rectory and church grounds which relate to these plantings (see the fire hazard report for the precinct – Cartwright 2009).

Many of these trees are declining, probably associated with the last decade of drought and, in some cases, close planting centres. Many of these trees are recommended for removal and replacement. Options include replacement using the same species – reconstruction in *Burra Charter* terms – or replacement using a smaller conifer to reduce the impact on the Golden Sun Moth habitat and help reinstate views towards the Church. In accordance with the stated preference of the ACT Heritage Council, replacement using the same species is proposed.

Removal of some 1950-1960s plantings

Some of the plantings undertaken as part of the Parish Centre are recommended for removal, notably several Pin Oaks (*Quercus palustris*) in the north eastern corner of the graveyard. These do not maintain the coniferous theme of the precinct which is part of its heritage value, and are planted too close together. Replacement is not recommended. One Pin Oak will be retained.

As noted above, it is proposed that one Sweet Gum be replaced with another deciduous species because of the invasive roots of the former. The suggested Chinese Elm maintains the deciduous character desired by the Parish for amenity reasons, while avoiding root problems.

Reconstruction of 1920s perimeter planting

A small number of perimeter trees have declined through competition with other trees, and sections of perimeter hedge have been removed as the result of other developments. The perimeter plantings are a significant heritage feature and need to be reconstructed. The trees that have declined should be removed and replaced with the same species.

It would be desirable to replant the missing sections of perimeter hedge, though the main missing hedge sections are located on both sides of the Parish Centre on an open grassed area (ie. between the western lych-gate and the Parish Centre, and north of the Parish Centre to the line of the existing hedge to the laneway). A compromise position would be to replant some low bush species along the alignment of the original hedge and replace the trees at original spacings, as an interpretive adaptation/reconstruction.

Renovation of the Rectory garden

The Rectory used to be a very prominent feature of the corner of Anzac Park West and Constitution Avenue. It is now well concealed from view as the garden plantings have evolved over the years.

The vegetation of the rectory garden (LCU 3a) is an amalgam of plantings over time. It is of little heritage significance, and in some cases poses a direct threat to the building. The Ponderosa and Monterey Pines (*Pinus ponderosa* and *Pinus radiata*) on Constitution Avenue and wildling eucalypts, together with large shrubs located against the building are examples. There have been several fires in the churchyard over the years, including a substantial fire in mid-2008 in the eastern part of the horse paddock. These have prompted a fire hazard report for the precinct (Cartwright 2009).

It is recommended that the vegetation contained within the rectory garden be viewed as a separate entity to the historic plantings of the remainder of the precinct. The main considerations for the rectory garden should be to maintain it as a residential garden but within a framework of plantings sympathetic to the churchyard and the street views of the churchyard, and reducing the potential for fire damage to the built infrastructure.

Internal hedges

The separate “compartments” within the precinct (old orchard, meditation garden, horse paddock and fountain lawn) have been divided in whole or part by the planting of hedges. Some sections are in fair to good condition, and others have suffered through competition from existing plantings, and recent fires in the churchyard.

It is desirable to maintain the compartmentalisation, which has long been a feature of the precinct. It would also be desirable to replant the hedge with the same species where needed. Existing sections of the hedge in good condition should be maintained.

The *Euonymus* hedges dating from the 1930s are a significant feature of that planting phase. Sections of these hedges are missing. They do not pose any potential for damage to other heritage features, and these remnants should be maintained.

Overall, the recommended tree removals should assist the hedges by removing competition, and dead or missing plants should be replaced. The hedges should be monitored to assess how they respond to less competition.

Removal of wildlings

Wildlings (adventitious seedlings) of both trees and shrubs have established in various areas. Some wildling trees can be retained to ameliorate the removal of other trees. However, most are ill-sited, and are recommended for removal. Shrub wildlings are of no real significance, and are growing to the detriment of other significant plantings. Of particular note is the rectory garden and old orchard area. The removal of these species will restore more openness to the precinct and reduce competition to more significant plantings.

Shrub beds

A shrub and rose bed occurs near the north and south walls of the church respectively. The rose bed is utilised for church decoration, is low and open, and does not restrict views to the church. The shrub bed near the north wall probably dates from the 1930s.

Concerns have been expressed about the fire danger posed by the shrubs to the church, and security given the screening affect. The height of the shrubs partly hides the north wall of the church from various aspects throughout the churchyard. The establishment of this bed is representative of a planting phase, and should be retained. However, the existing shrubs would be better replaced with low growing drought tolerant shrubs (to 1 metre tall) which could be chosen to supplement cut flowers for church decoration. This option may be considered as the existing shrubs decline or die.

Random plantings

Random plantings, memorial plantings and selected wildlings that have been retained for aesthetic purposes have been a issue of fairly low significance.

Random plantings should not be permitted in the precinct unless heritage-evaluated beforehand. Wildlings should be removed once noticed, so the issue of retaining young trees does not emerge.

There is always a demand to plant memorial trees or shrub plantings. This can have significant long term impacts on other heritage of the site, but in time can also be part of the heritage of the precinct. An answer to this which contributes to the ongoing heritage of the place would be permitting the removal of a tree and dedicating the replanting of another as a tree memorial. This could assist in mitigating the high costs that will be associated with the vegetative conservation of the precinct.

Managing the Natural Temperate Grassland, Golden Sun Moth habitat and population

Some of the recommendations for vegetation removal will create the opportunity for the restoration of native grassland. This will, in turn, improve habitat suitable for the moth. These co-dependent aspects must continue to be considered as part of the management of the precinct. It will not dramatically change management tasks. In the case of the moth, it has managed to continue to inhabit the site despite the many disturbances associated with the site since its establishment.

Overall Tree Assessment

The overall assessment is that the mature treescape is at a point where difficult and perhaps painful decisions must be taken to re-new the treescape for the future. Options have been considered and recommendations made for action. Some of these, especially related to the replacement of the Cypress avenue approach to the church, will have a dramatic impact on the landscape for a period of time. None the less, this renewal must be undertaken to address substantial fire risk and safety issues, and to provide for the future landscape. The careful sequencing of this work may help minimise the impact for parishioners and others who care for St John's.

The recommended tree works will retain 108 existing trees, remove and replace 23 trees, and remove but not replace 32 trees. There are several reasons for not replacing some trees including: avoiding future conflicts between historic features, such as graves, and trees; restoring the dominant coniferous nature of the treescape which is part of the significance of the landscape; reinstating views to the church; and assisting with conservation of the native grassland areas. These works are portrayed in the following figure.

The replacement species recommended have some regard to maintaining a diversity of tree species in the landscape, and to providing options were appropriate. It is recommended that trees to be replaced are replaced with: Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) in the case of the 1880s pines; trees of the same species as currently exist in the Horse Paddock; a suitable deciduous tree in the case of the Sweet Gum near the Parish Centre (eg. a Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)); and Roman Cypress otherwise. The Roman Cypress species is highly suitable for a variety of reasons, and will avoid the problems posed by some of the old and major trees currently in the precinct. Importantly it maintains the theme of coniferous trees in the precinct but will not have invasive/disruptive roots and become very large, spreading trees which will shed large boughs.

Ongoing tree management is needed beyond these specific works.

Other Major Issues

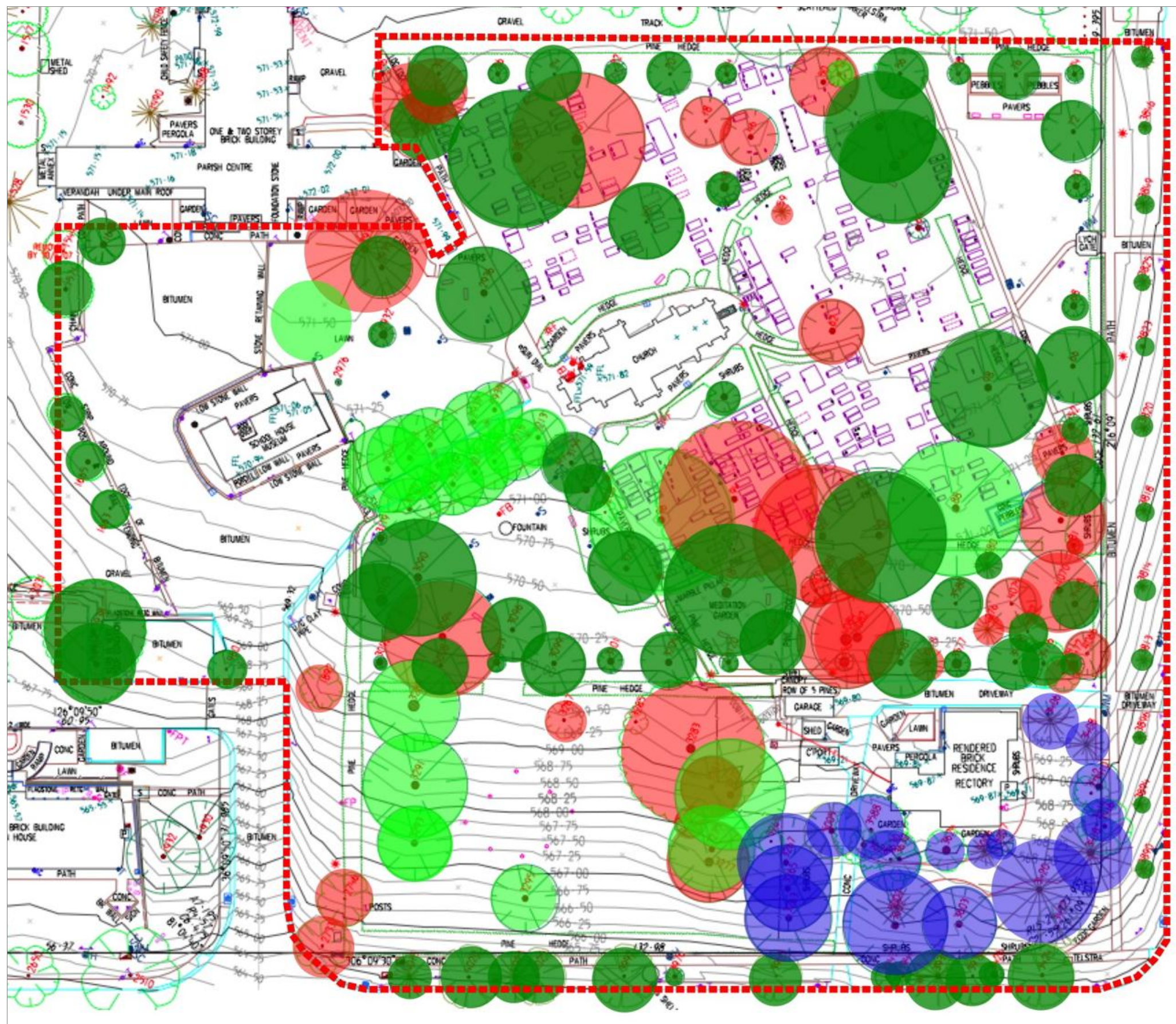
With regard to other issues:

- the old orchard has been unused for many years and is overgrown and unkempt. It is recommended that possible options should include the removal of some trees, replanting as an orchard, or other possible uses;
- the graveyard has been maintained by the parish community for over 160 years and is in generally fair condition;
- there is an ongoing program to mark old graves which have no other marking and this work is generally consistent with this conservation management plan (Policy 24);
- guidance is also provided about restoring graves affected by uplift caused by trees (Strategy 24.2);
- it is noted that recently work has been undertaken on the conservation of the remnant native grassland, and further work is planned. The endangered Golden Sun Moth which inhabits the grassland is being scientifically monitored and recorded across the site, based on external scientific advice (Policy 17);
- the proposed widening of Constitution Avenue will adversely impact on the heritage precinct. It is recommended that the Parish open discussions with the National Capital Authority to suggest the proposed dual carriageway could be implemented by narrowing the footpath, deleting the kerbside parking and some of the proposed street trees so that no encroachment on St John's land would be necessary. See Policy 36;
- there are opportunities to better tell people the story of St John's and its heritage value (Policy 37); and
- generally, the church community is well aware of the heritage value of the site and cares for it accordingly. With additional resources and support, it would be keen to do more.

Cost Estimate for Works

A rough estimate of the overall cost of undertaking the major works to trees and hedges, and related work to restore graves uplifted by tree roots is \$200,000. This figure may vary if the works are undertaken in stages, and if the works are spread out over a number of years. The works should be prioritised based on any danger to pedestrians and to heritage features.





Plan showing Tree Changes
Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

Legend

- Trees to remain
- Trees to be removed and replaced
- Trees to be removed and not replaced
- Rectory Garden trees – future to be determined

Note

In the case of a few trees shown as remaining, some are not to be replaced when they decline, die and are removed.



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND AND PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Anglican Parish of St John the Baptist, Canberra, has commissioned this conservation management plan for the heritage precinct landscape of the Church. The aim of the plan is,

‘to produce a plan for the management of the heritage landscape around St John’s which integrates the diverse requirements of historic tree management with the preservation of heritage graves and other man-made structures, while conserving unique flora and fauna in adjacent remnants of grassland.’
(Extract from project brief, see Appendix B)

The church and its curtilage have been listed on the ACT Heritage Register. As such, preparing a conservation management plan is consistent with good heritage practice – being integral to the good management and conservation of this place and its heritage significance.

There have been a number of heritage and other reports prepared on St John’s Church, and this plan is to build upon and integrate, as far as possible, the information and findings of these other reports. A conservation management plan has already been prepared for the built features on the site but this plan has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007). Accordingly, this plan does not deal with the major built features on the site, such as the church itself.

The project brief is reproduced in full at Appendix B.

This plan has been prepared with the assistance of an ACT Heritage grant.

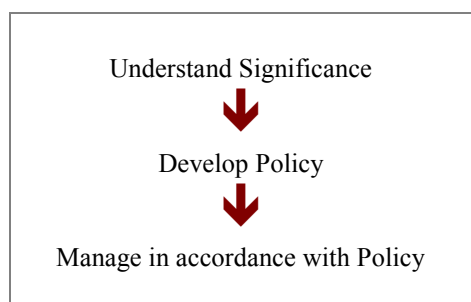
1.2 CONDUCT OF PROJECT

General

The methodology adopted for this study is in accordance with *The Burra Charter - The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance* (Australia ICOMOS 2000). This can be summarised as a series of steps as shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1. Basic Steps of Conservation Management Planning

Source: Australia ICOMOS 2000



In order to follow these steps and prepare this management plan a range of consultations, research, inspections and analyses were undertaken. Importantly, the assessment of significance relied upon:

- a range of information gathering tasks related to the common descriptors of significance (for example historical value); and
- an analysis of this evidence for possible heritage values, using the ACT Heritage criteria and the HERCON criteria, and including comparisons with other places where relevant.

This work provided a sound understanding of the place, and led to the preparation of a statement of significance. This work also provided an understanding of the constraints and opportunities related to the current and future management of the place. The statement of significance and the information about constraints and opportunities were used as the basis for developing conservation policies and implementation strategies.

Horticulture and Ecology

Geoff Butler & Associates (GB&A) involvement in the project required a horticultural and ecological contribution towards the plan, for vegetation in the St John's heritage precinct.

The first stage of the project was to gather together or access all available information to gain a broader perspective of the stages of the planting history of the precinct prior to a site visit to assess health and safety aspects of the existing tree vegetation of the precinct. Archival materials relevant to the St John's precinct were provided from various sources by the St John's Parish.

There have been a number of detailed investigations of the cultivated and remnant native vegetation within the heritage precinct (Connell Wagner Pty Ltd 2002; Eldridge 2006; Biosis Research Pty Ltd 2007b; David Hogg Pty Ltd 2004; David Hogg Pty Ltd 2007; Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007; and Hodgkinson 2009). Photographic material is also available that spans much of the long history of the St John's site. While these documents were reviewed and utilised, the tree asset of the precinct was re-assessed as part of this project.

Site visits provided a broader visual assessment of the landscape and vegetation of the precinct. The objectives of the site visits were to:

- confirm the identity of the planted trees;
- assess the safety and health of the trees;
- confirm the habitat values of remnant native vegetation; and
- identify management and maintenance actions to inform the CMP.

The historic records, research studies and photographs of the cultivated trees of St John's have enabled identification of the age of most tree plantings with great surety, but there are a small number of trees where it is difficult to assign them to particular planting phases, or they appear to have been placed in a wrong planting phase. For this project, all the cultivated trees were examined and reviewed as to when they may have been planted.

This work focuses on the tree assets of the various planting phases and, of necessity, the Golden Sun Moth habitat of the precinct. Relevant heritage listings and their conservation policies were noted as part of the deliberations in this work.

History and Historical Archaeology

The historical overview was drawn primarily from existing studies and published work, in particular Body (1986), Peter Freeman (2007), Goldsmith (1984) and Connell Wagner (2002), and concentrates on the historical development of the church precinct landscape.

The archaeological assessment was based on a physical survey of the precinct, informed by the historical and planning sources listed above.

1.3 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide a conservation management plan for the heritage precinct landscape of St John's Church consistent with the ACT *Heritage Act 2004*, including an understanding of its heritage values (Chapter 7), and conservation policies and implementation strategies for its future management (Chapter 9).

1.4 LIMITATIONS

The following factors limited the work undertaken as part of preparing this report:

- the historical overview at Chapter 4 is based on previous work, and does not represent new research. The primary sources used include Body (1986), Peter Freeman (2007), Goldsmith (1984) and Connell Wagner (2002). A full bibliography of other sources drawn on is at Chapter 10;
- the dates of historical photos used in the report have not been checked, and reflect the date indicated by the source of the photos;
- the archaeological assessment was based solely on above-ground observations. No excavations were undertaken during the preparation of the CMP;
- with regard to assessing the cultivated trees and their significance within the St John's precinct, limitations were:
 - correlating personal memories and knowledge of living parishioners as to when some plantings were undertaken;
 - making assessments of the age of mature plantings that appear to be unrelated to the main known planting phases, mainly due to the establishment of wildlings;
 - random plantings that may have occurred as memorial trees or in occasional churchyard refurbishments that may have occurred over the decades;
 - preferences of particular people for particular trees;
- the understanding of social value was limited to that contained in the conservation management plan for the church (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, noting this reference has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish), and this would appear to have been based solely on historical research, with no exploration of contemporary views. This also limits the findings related to aesthetic values; and
- this study does not explore detailed issues related to the conservation of specific graves.

This management plan generally conforms with the *Burra Charter* (Australia ICOMOS 2000) and, apart from a weakness in an understanding of the social values of St John's, there are no other non-conforming aspects to note.

1.5 CONSULTANTS

The consultants for the project are Duncan Marshall, Geoff Butler, Dr Michael Pearson and Emeritus Professor Ken Taylor AM.

1.6 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The consultants wish to acknowledge the kind assistance of the following people and organisations.

Richard Griffiths	St John's Anglican Church
Reverend Paul Black	Rector, St John's Anglican Church
Dr Ian Brooker AM	CSIRO
Robert Campbell	St John's Anglican Church
Anne Claoue-Long	ACT Heritage
Fiona Cotton	St John's Anglican Church
Ken Eldridge	St John's Anglican Church
Tony Fearnside	Forester/Arborist
Dr Dianne Firth	ACT Heritage Council
Hamish Horne	ACT Department of Territory & Municipal Services
Colin Lendon	St John's Anglican Church
Eric Martin AM	National Trust of Australia (ACT)
George Pooley	St John's Anglican Church
Reid Residents' Association	– especially several Committee Members
Warwick Ryan	St John's Anglican Church
Jean Salisbury OAM	St John's Anglican Church
Helen Wilson	St John's Anglican Church
David Young OAM	Heritage Consultant

2. LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES

St John's Church is located at 47 Constitution Avenue, Reid, on the corner with Anzac Park West. The ACT Heritage registered area is an irregular shape and comprises most of Block 1, all of Block 2, and part of Block 10 in Section 33, Reid, as well as the adjacent road verges to Constitution Avenue and Anzac Park West.

For the purposes of this conservation management plan, it is the ACT Heritage registered area which is considered, not the larger area which is the full extent of land managed by the Anglican Parish of St John the Baptist, Canberra.

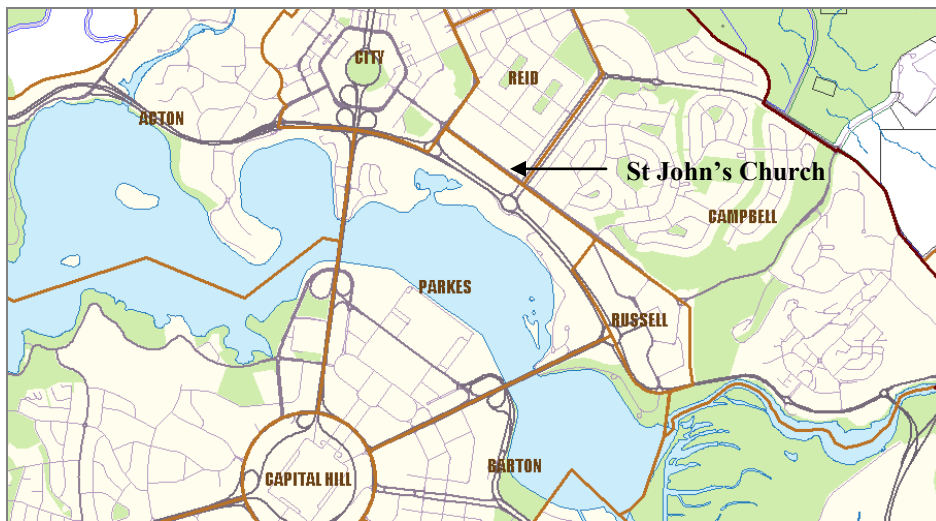


Figure 2.
Location Plan for
St John's Church
Source: Base plan
from ACTMAPi



Figure 3. Block and Section Plan
for St John's Church
Source: ACTMAPi

Figure 4. Plan of St John's Church area on the ACT Heritage Register

Source: Heritage Act Mapping

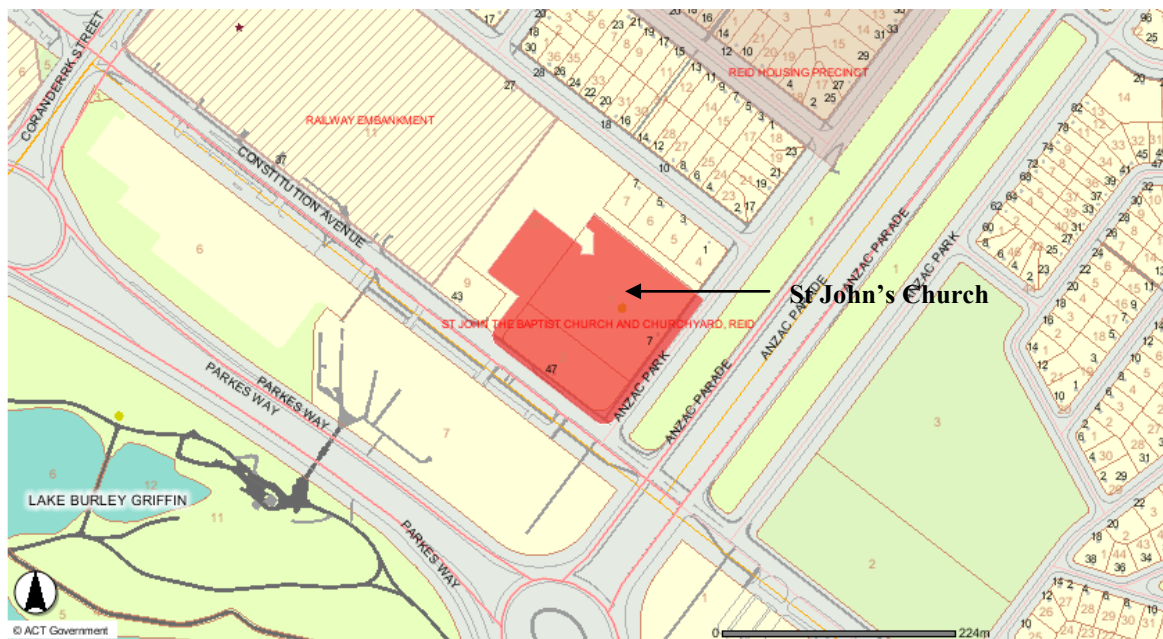


Figure 5. Site Plan of the overall St John's site with ACT Heritage Boundary shown

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

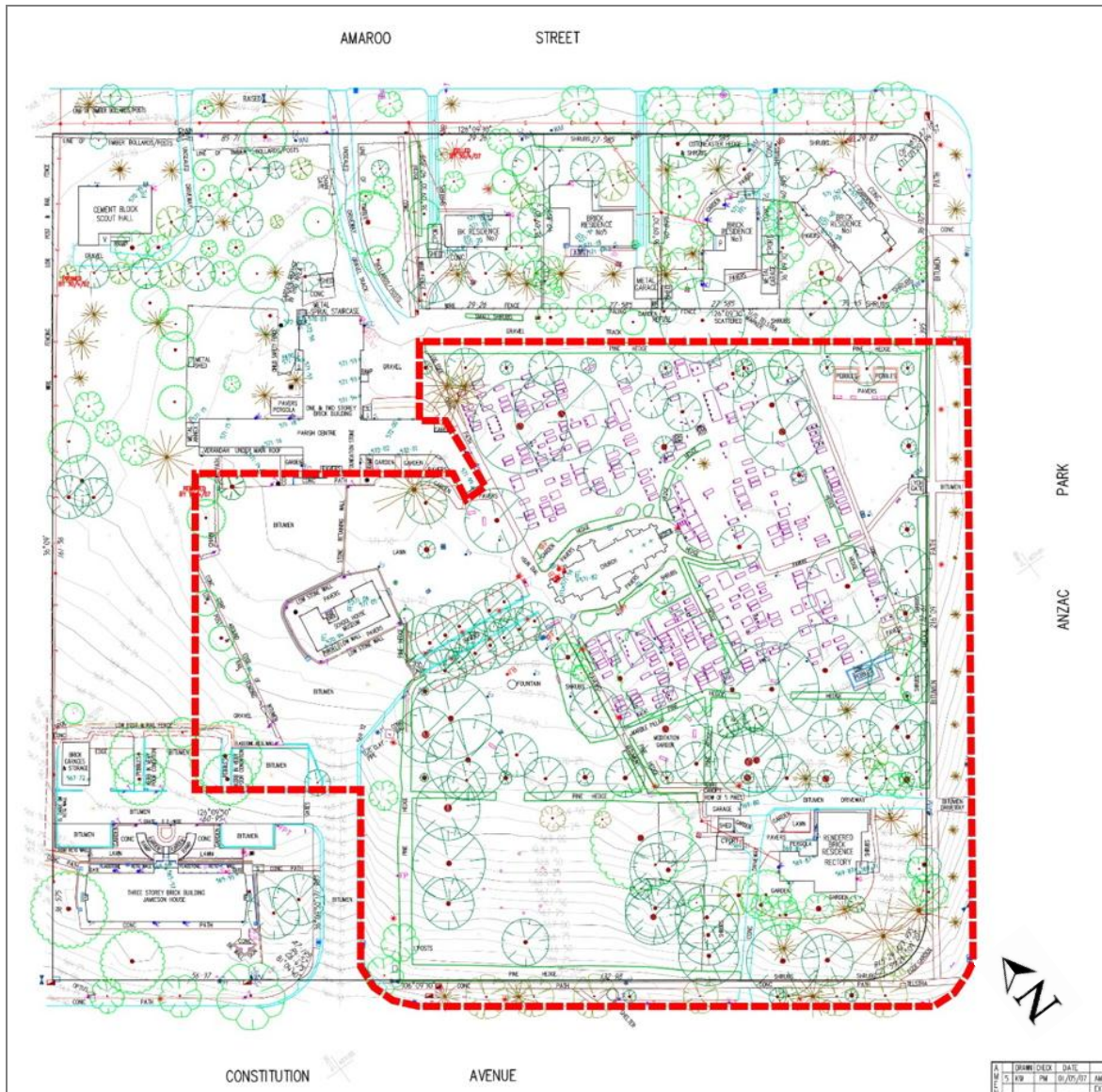
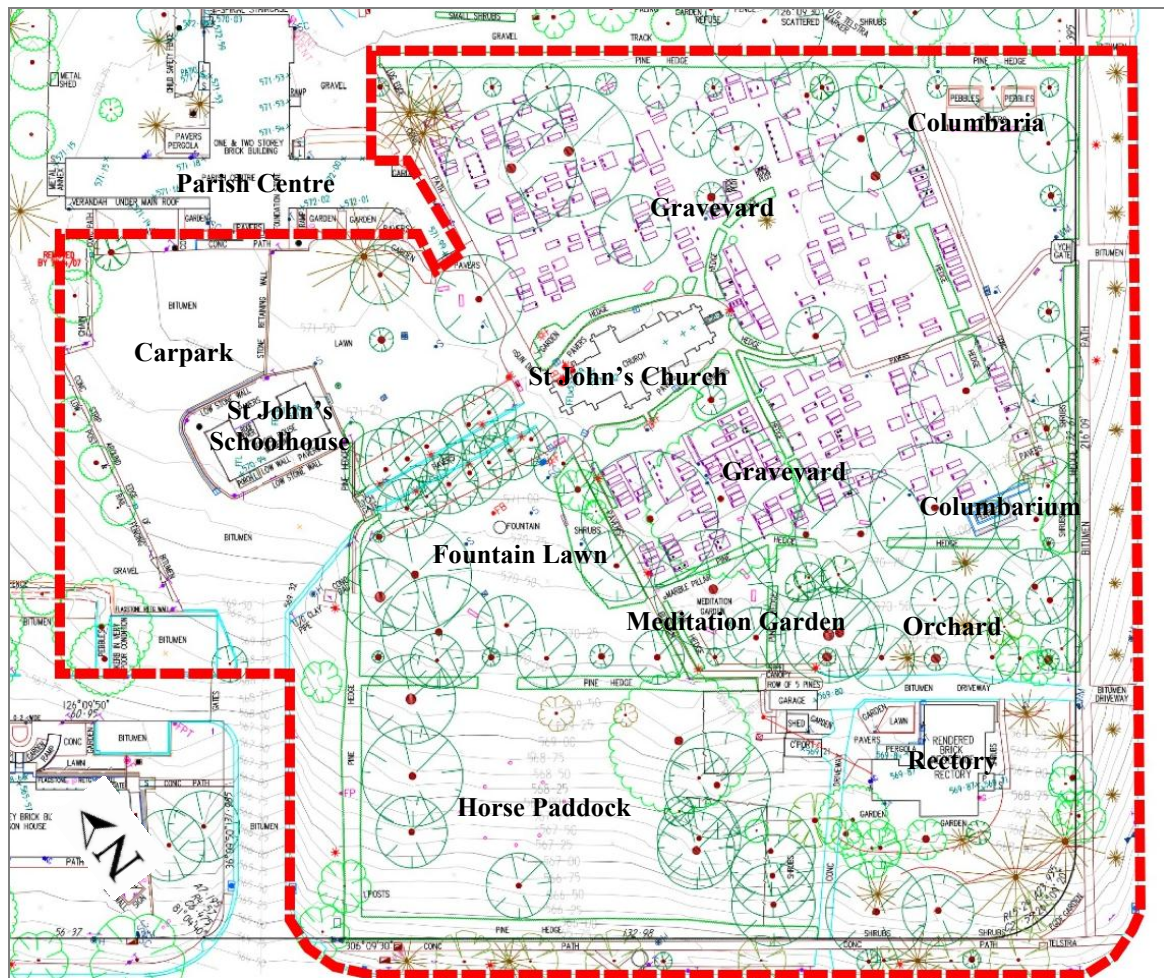


Figure 6. Plan showing Major Features

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley



3. DESCRIPTION

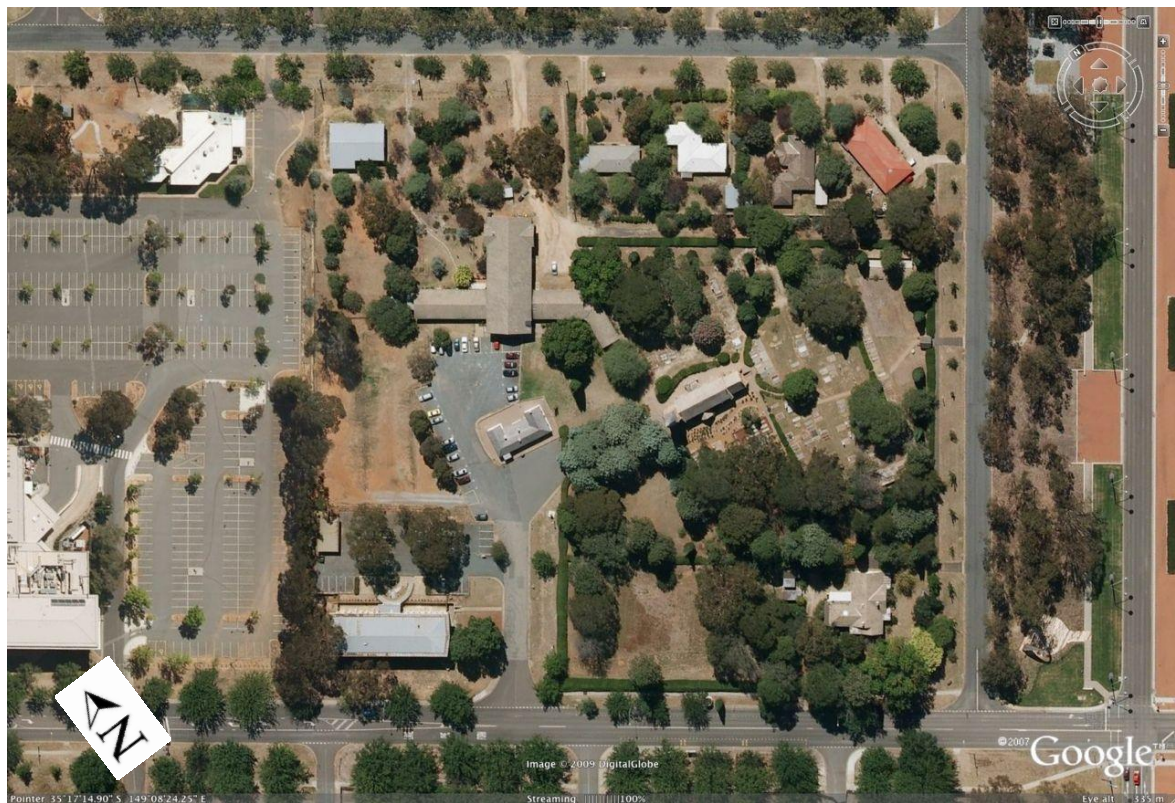
This description begins with an overview of the site, followed by sections on the landscape character, trees and other plants, historical archaeology and built features.

3.1 OVERVIEW

St John's Church is located in what is now an inner suburb of Canberra, on the edge of the inner urban development of the city. The site is flat to the northeast and slopes to the southwest and Constitution Avenue. A focal point of the site is the stone church with its surrounding churchyard, mature treescape and landscape. The Schoolhouse is located to the northwest, surrounded mostly by carpark and roadways. The Rectory is in the south corner of the site.

Figure 7. Aerial view of St John's Church

Source: Google Earth



3.2 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

The overall landscape character, at the centre of which lies the church, is that of a mature landscape. In parts it is dominated by trees and shrubs, in other parts there is an open woodland character, complemented by open areas either under grass, or graves and grass crossed by paths. The landscape, with its varieties of character, forms the setting for the church which is the distinctive focal element of the whole composition.

The St John's precinct with its distinctive landscape character can be subdivided into twelve *Landscape Character Units (LCUs)*. These are outlined and analysed below. The physical dominance of the mass of the church and the vertical visual dominance of the spire within the setting are to some extent negated in views from the southern and western sides of the churchyard precinct by trees planted over various periods since about 1880, many of which are now mature or in old age. From some points views of the church are blocked, in others the church is seen through a filter of foliage and branches.

In contrast, views from the eastern and northern sides of the precinct are dominated by the church which forms a distinctive focal point to these views seen across graves and lawn areas. A number of large, aged trees in this open area form venerable vertical elements, but also present problems in the form of disturbance to graves and danger of falling low-hanging limbs, many of which are substantial in girth.

The church building and its precinct surrounds reflect four major phases – layers in the landscape – of landscape development telling the story of the place, events and people through time. The overall pattern is that of series of interconnecting spaces displaying a sense of integrity or intactness in terms of the tangible physical fabric, and also in the sense of intangible values, that is, the meaning of the place and its associations with past events and people resulting from 160 years of history.

The way in which the existing character is seen and experienced is very much influenced by the following four major phases of development spanning 160 years.

- **Mid-1840s to 1880s** – following building of the church and when it would have been a dominant element in the treeless flat grassland landscape of the Limestone Plain. Graves associated with this phase are scattered on the eastern side of the graveyard and are an important landscape marker.
- **1880s** – pine plantings by the Reverend P G Smith marking the perimeter of the churchyard, of which 11 specimens remain, forming not only important historic markers, but acting as complimentary vertical elements to the church and creating a dominant spatial edge line to the churchyard (LCUs 4, 5 and 7) (Eldridge 2006b). It is likely these trees also served as a windbreak.
- **1920s** – the avenue of Arizona Cypress with rear rows of Roman Cypress leading to the church planted in September 1920, cypress boundary plantings (37 in number) assumed to have been planted by the Federal Capital Commission (FCC) under the direction of Charles Weston in 1926, and 1930s hedge planting by the FCC with its distinctive clipped coniferous/evergreen form. The FCC boundary trees have a similar function to the 1880s pines – although they were enclosing more than just the graveyard but the open landscape areas of the churchyard as well as the old orchard. Other plantings in this period marked the boundary of the horse paddock. The overall character created by this structure planting is seen in the 1940s aerial view (see Figure 57). The row of Roman Cypress behind the Arizona Cypress on each side of the avenue no longer exist. In addition to plantings related to the church property, street plantings in this period of Roman Cypress and False Acacia contributed to the overall character.

It has been strongly argued the Cypress avenue plantings were in fact a 1940s or 1950s replacement planting for a 1920s planting of a different species – possibly Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*) (Robert Campbell, personal communication, 2009).

Evidence in favour of this view or the alternative above should become available when the current trees are removed, and a tree ring count should give a reasonable age count. Until the evidence is clear, the former account is adopted throughout the rest of this plan.

- **Post-1930s** – trees of various species, sizes and ages, some planted in an orderly fashion and having a reason for being there (that is a commemorative function or related to past ideas on what was appropriate or thought to be desirable), and some apparently randomly planted and supplemented by woody weeds and self-seeded trees (Eldridge 2006b). Also from this period is the series of low clipped evergreen hedges. A relatively modern addition to the southern and eastern edges of the precinct is the grass verges and tree planting along Constitution Avenue (English Oaks planted by the National Capital Development Commission in the late 1960s) and Anzac Park (some plantings by the NCDC in the 1970s). Whilst these are outside the management control of St John's they nevertheless form important public domain edge landscapes which are part of the historic context of the place. These verges are included as part of the St John the Baptist Church and Churchyard which is a listed place on the ACT Heritage Register.

The original components of the landscape development from these historic periods remain as distinctive parts of the landscape setting but the character of the precinct has changed over time, especially as the trees have matured. This is the result inevitably of trees aging, to give the existing character described above as a mature landscape. Previously, the landscape character has been more open allowing wider views of the church from within the precinct as well as from outside. The aerial photograph of about 1940 (Figure 57) shows this more open character whilst trees still create sense of spatial definition and enclosure.

Landscape Character Units (LCUs) and Internal Views

The overall landscape pattern of the precinct can be subdivided into twelve landscape character units, each adding to the overall character of the site and reflecting development through time.

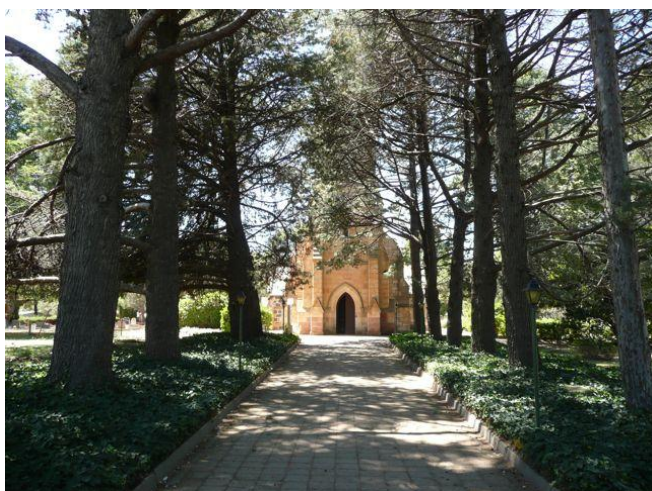
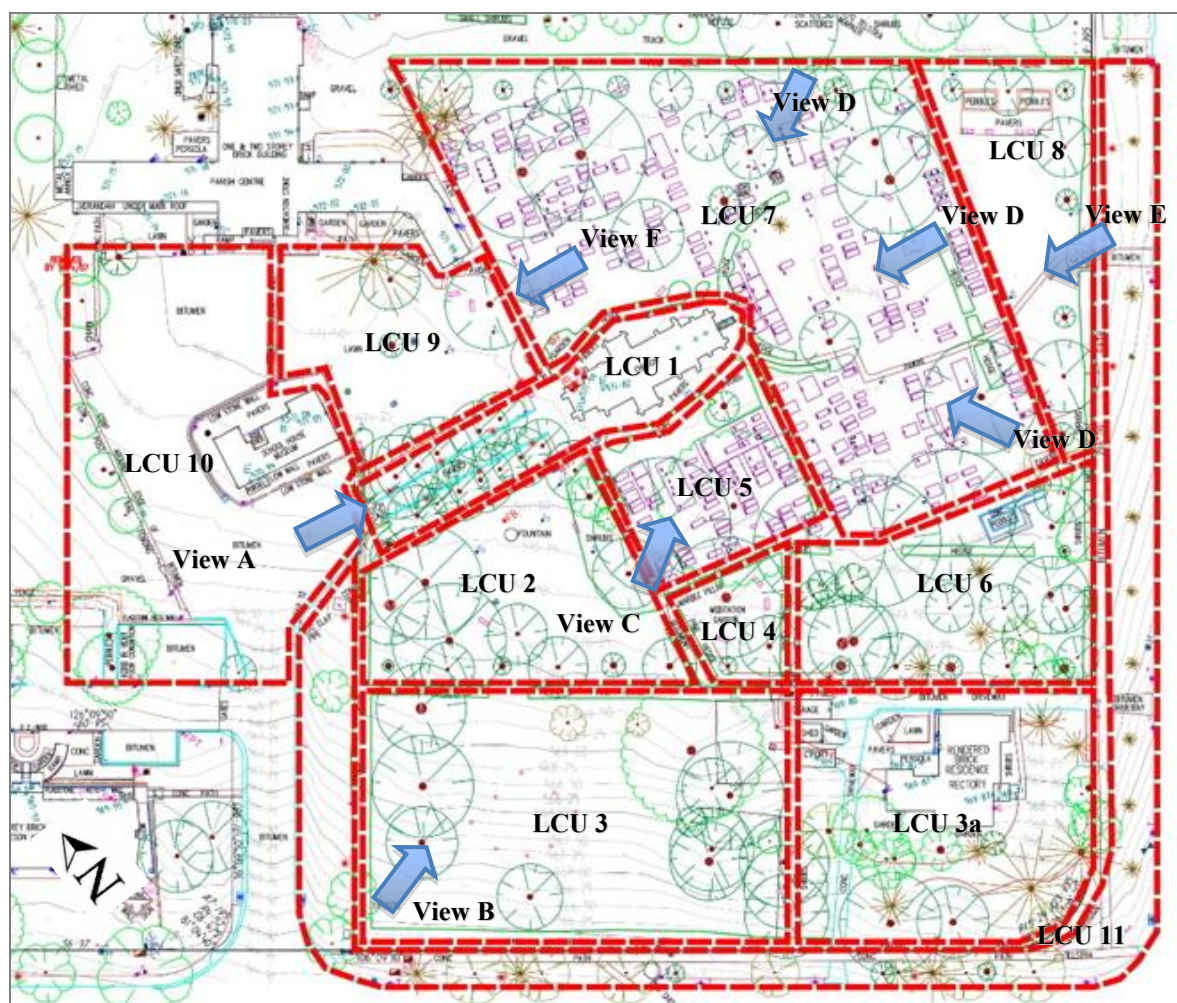


Figure 8. Cypress entry walk or avenue – LCU1

Source: Duncan Marshall

Figure 9. Landscape Character Units and Views

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley



LCU 1 and View A

Cypress entry walk and church: the entry is a distinctive landscape component and sense of address to the church. However, the Arizona Cypresses, planted by Sheaffe in late 1920 with the approval of Weston, have matured and arched over the walk to the extent that the approach view of the church and its spire is now blocked until relatively close to the building, thereby diminishing the vertical visual effect of the church front.

This pattern of avenue approach planting using cypress was one that Charles Weston used in his Canberra work in the period¹ and is therefore reflective of his structure planting ideas. It is distinctive of the formality of the Griffins' Plan as implemented by the Federal Capital Advisory Committee and its successor the FCC. It seems reasonable to assume (although there is no definitive evidence) that the plantings were not intended to obscure the entry view of the church and spire, and it is possible that the Arizona Cypress were intended to be clipped, although there is no evidence to support this view.² The intention was presumably to create an entry character appropriate to a church and cemetery using dark foliage trees which would also create a wind shelter. This character is seen in a sketch from about the 1940s, *Canberra Church* by Ralph Warner (Figure 59). Time has

¹ See for example the approach to the Constable's Cottage, Lennox Crossing, on the ANU campus.

² This planting may be compared with FCC plantings in Parkes Place which used the same species. However, in the case of Parkes Place, the spacing of the Arizona Cypresses is about twice that at St Johns, and there is no terminal feature which might have influenced intentions.

shown, however, that Arizona Cypress, although growing well and quickly, is usually rather short-lived in Canberra to the extent of about 40 years (Pryor & Banks 2001).

None the less, in its current form the avenue provides a linear enclosure for the approach to the church, with a visual focus on the church door until relatively close to the building when the west elevation is revealed. The Arizona Cypresses also create light and shade effects, and the trees provide a distinct aroma in warmer periods.

LCU 2

Fountain lawn area edged with FCC planting and several other conifers, south of the cypress walk and church, and FCC planted hedge. This forms a pleasantly enclosed space/glade which is much admired for wedding photographs. It has an open lawn with mature conifers with large trunks creating distinctive patterns, as well as light and shade effects.



Figure 10. Fountain Lawn – LCU2

Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 3 and View B

Open paddock fringed by trees to form pleasant open space. FCC hedge planting parallel to Constitution Avenue blocks the view from the road into the precinct, as was intended. Filtered view of the church through the trees from the southwest corner.



**Figure 11. Horse Paddock – LCU3 –
Natural Temperate Grassland/Golden Sun
Moth Habitat**

Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 3a

Rectory garden area. This garden and house occupy an integrally important part at the southeast corner of the site. Currently the garden is overgrown, but with a wilderness effect that merges visually into LCU 6. It has a residential garden character.



Figure 12. Rectory garden – LCU3a
Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 4

Meditation area: this is a small, intimate space enclosed by trees including FCC plantings. It has a tranquil, leafy/shady character suited to its function.

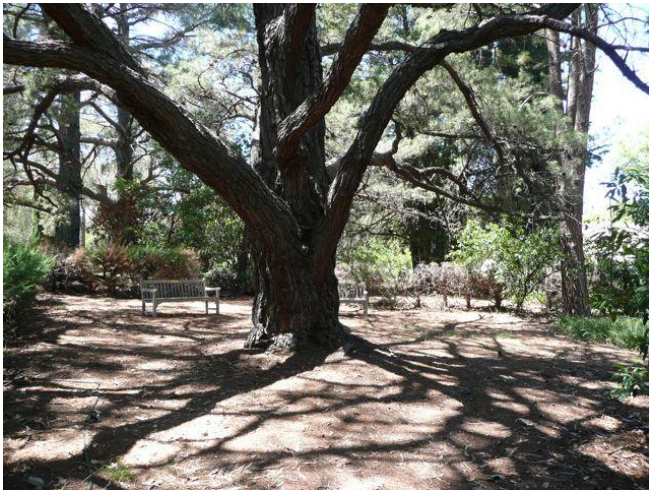


Figure 13. Meditation Area – LCU4
Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 14. Graveyard to south of Church – LCU5
Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 5 and View C

Intimate and dignified graveyard area immediately south of the church forming a space enclosed by trees including FCC trees on southern edge, FCC hedge and a more recent hedge, a large rose garden, and the southern elevation of the church building. It includes

about 10 graves from the 1860-1899 period, with the remainder post-1900. Good view of the church and graveyard is seen from the southwest corner.

LCU 6

This former orchard area is an overgrown area of landscape edged on southern and eastern sides by FCC plantings. Currently it presents an untidy, unkempt feel.



Figure 15. Former orchard area, 'Old Orchard' – LCU6

Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 7 and View D

Main open area of graves on eastern and northern sides of the church which includes five mature pine trees planted by Reverend Smith, and other individual trees. Impressive views from the eastern fringe to the church. Expansive area relative to the rest of the site. Individual trees need provenance to analyse if any have historic connections. Trees planted by Reverend Smith are at the stage where action is needed in relation to their longevity, safety and threat to graves. This area includes the shrub hedge on the north of the church.



Figure 16. Graveyard – LCU7 – Euonymus hedge in foreground

Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 8 and View E

An open grassy entry area from Anzac Parade/Anzac Park West enclosed by FCC hedges. It is an important sense of entry and address to the precinct with a view of the church building dominating it visually. The area also has potential ecological values and significance as possible habitat for the Golden Sun Moth. The nearby nature strip has been identified as a habitat of the Golden Sun Moth (Biosis Research Pty Ltd 2007a) and it has been suggested (David Hogg Pty Ltd 2007) that it could be extended into the cemetery area

on this open grassy strip. Active steps are under way to re-establish the original native grassland here, as additional Golden Sun Moth habitat.



Figure 17. Graveyard adjacent to Anzac Park West – LCU8

Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 9 and View F

Lawn area which creates boundary to LCU 8 forming physical and visual link (View f) to St John’s Schoolhouse. It includes four mature trees which function as a visual screen to the administration complex.



Figure 18. Lawn area – LCU9

Source: Duncan Marshall

Note: With the exception of the far left tree, all others visible are 1920s plantings.



Figure 19. St John’s Schoolhouse and carpark area – LCU10

Source: Duncan Marshall

LCU 10

St John’s Schoolhouse and car parking area: this area forms an entry point to the church

precinct. The carpark is a broad expanse of asphalt and currently has a somewhat bleak character detracting from the ambience of the church, schoolhouse and their setting.

LCU 11

The grass verges and street trees along the internal road and two fringing roads of Constitution Avenue and Anzac Park compliment the landscape character and setting of St John's creating appropriate edge definition between the public domain and the churchyard. The street trees on Constitution Avenue consist of English Oak (*Quercus robur*, an NCDC planting of the late 1960s), Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*, FCC 1920s planting) and False Acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*, FCC 1920s planting). The verges provide a habitat for the Golden Sun Moth and therefore have environmental significance with implications for LCU 8 within St John's boundary (see above). Planting on the Anzac Park grass verge is Nettle Tree (*Celtis australis*, FCC planting) and Manchurian Pear (*Pyrus ussuriensis*, relatively recent).



Figure 20. Anzac Park West verge – LCU11

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 21. Constitution Avenue verge – LCU11

Source: Duncan Marshall

Note: Roman Cypress and False Acacia street plantings are FCC plantings, and the English Oak to the right is an NCDC planting of the late 1960s.

3.3 TREE AND OTHER PLANT ASSETS

There have been a number of detailed studies of the vegetation, both cultivated and remnant native vegetation, within the precinct. Some of these (Goldsmith 1984; Connell Wagner Pty Ltd 2002; Eldridge 2006a; Eldridge 2006c; Biosis Research 2007b; David Hogg Pty Ltd 2007a; David Hogg Pty Ltd 2007b; Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007; and Hodgkinson 2009) have provided detailed evaluation and general comments on the vegetation within the precinct. This information was a useful starting point for this plan, and site visits for this plan were able to confirm much of what had gone before. The site visits noted some differences about the purported age of some components of the vegetation.

This plan deals with the trees on the site as well as the major shrub beds, hedges and other areas of shrubs, as well as the native grasslands.

Tree Assets

The tree assessment in the following table is provided in the Landscape Character Units as used in landscape section above, except for the FCC perimeter plantings which are dealt with as a separate unit. The table provides information about the tree species within each Landscape Character Unit, tree identification numbers, and comments. For convenience, the comments relate to description as well as history and significance – the latter information being consistent with the information provided and findings developed later in this plan. Information about management recommendations is provided in Table 13 in Section 9.3. A combined table with all of this information is presented in Appendix C.

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
Perimeter Hedge		
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)		<p>FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra.</p> <p>This species has been used as the hedge around the churchyard boundary. The hedge is no longer intact, as the construction of the Parish Centre led to the removal of a large section of hedge in LCUs 7 & 9.</p> <p>There are parts of the hedge that have declined, with some dead wood showing. The pruning of the hedge has led to an undulating finish, perhaps based on growth rates of the individual plants within the hedge. The undulations in the hedge do not detract from its aesthetic appearance. Some would say it adds to its character and appearance.</p> <p>Various comments were received about the condition of the hedge, and that its maintenance is costly. The hedge is not, for the most part, in poor condition, and remains a significant feature of the churchyard.</p>

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
LCU 1 – Cypress Entry Walk and Church		
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree No's 2945, 2943, 2941, 2937, 2939, 3225, 3221, 3219, 3217, 3223, 3215, and 3213. (Eldridge Tree Numbers 49 – 60)	<p>These trees were planted in late 1920 by Sheaffe with the approval of Weston. Evidence indicates that on each side of the outside of the cypress avenue, a row of Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>) were planted at the same time. These Roman Cypress plantings do not exist today, except for one example near the Lych Gate.</p> <p>The planting centres of the trees are far too close to permit satisfactory growth. The planting centres are such that it is possible the intention may have been to prune these trees into a hedge demarcating the entry walk, or that they should have been thinned by 50% as they developed. However, there is no evidence to support these suggestions.</p> <p>The trees have reached mature height, and the crowns have formed a canopy over the walkway, and obscure what is probably the most impressive view of the church (the entry, tower and steeple). However, there is a view sequence associated with the existing trees – focused on the church door initially and then revealing the church when relatively close.</p> <p>The trees in their current form pose a fire hazard to the church and are rapidly deteriorating. There are some trees of this species in the ACT of the same age as the avenue planting in the churchyard, and these are still in good form where planted at reasonable spacing. See the fire hazard report for the precinct (Cartwright 2009).</p> <p>Removal of any of these trees at this stage will expose the dead branches of others. As they are tending to break up and structurally fail, they now present a real and potential danger to pedestrians in one of the most trafficked routes to the church.</p>
LCU 2 – Fountain Lawn		
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3090 (Eldridge 12)	A Federal Capital Commission (FCC) planting, although it has been suggested this is an 1880s planting (Eldridge). This tree is still healthy with broad crown and heavy lower branches. It needs some dead-wooding.
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 3094 (Eldridge 11)	An FCC planting, although it has been suggested this is an 1880s planting (Eldridge). This tree is deteriorating. A large branch on the eastern side needs removal but this would leave the tree with little foliage.
Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)	Tree 3096 (Eldridge 86)	An FCC planting. This tree is of reasonable health at present, though the morphology has been affected by a nearby tree.
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 3210 (Eldridge 85)	An FCC planting. Slightly leaning but healthy.
Japanese Spindle Tree (<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>)	Tree 3206	An FCC planting. This tree is in fair health.
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus</i>)	Tree 3154 (Eldridge 61)	Recorded as an FCC planting. This tree has some minor rot in an old limb removal scar.

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
<i>arizonica</i>)		
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3119 (Eldridge 46)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. This tree has been impacted by a nearby pine planting.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3105 (Eldridge 45)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. This tree has been impacted by a nearby pine planting.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3092 (Eldridge 44)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 5008 (Eldridge 43)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. This tree has been impacted by a nearby pine planting.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3103 (Eldridge 42)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3099 (Eldridge 41)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3101 (Eldridge 40)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3204 (Eldridge 39)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
LCU 3 – Horse Paddock		
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 3289	An FCC planting. This tree is in poor condition.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3291	An FCC planting. This tree is declining.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3293	Dead. An FCC planting.
Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)	Tree 3295	An FCC planting. This tree is declining.
Apple (<i>Malus</i> cv.)	Tree 3287	Said to be an FCC planting, but unlikely. A small tree that has no real landscape impact.
Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>)	Tree 3283	An FCC planting. This tree has a very poor branching structure and bird damage to bark. A recent fire also affected the tree. Suspect rot up to 6 metres. This tree is regarded as dangerous.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3281	Recorded as an FCC planting, but its size indicates it to more likely be a wildling. This tree is in fair health.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3279	An FCC planting. In fair health.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 5004	Dead wildling.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Trees 3275 and 3277	An FCC planting. These trees are declining.
LCU 3a – Rectory Garden		
The trees in this garden have not been assessed as part of this plan, and a separate study is suggested in Chapter 9 given the different and residential character of the garden.		

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
LCU 4 – Meditation Garden		
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4118 (Eldridge 9)	An 1880s planting. This tree is gradually deteriorating and has large quantities of dead wood. This needs dead-wooding if retained.
Canary Island Pine (<i>Pinus canariensis</i>)	Tree 4116 (Eldridge 83)	An FCC planting. This tree is in good condition but does require some dead wood removal.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 4120 (Eldridge 38)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
LCU 5 – Graveyard south side		
Grecian Juniper (<i>Juniperus excelsa</i>)	Tree - No number. (Eldridge 74)	This is thought to be a late 19 th century planting. This tree is in fair condition.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 96 (Eldridge 10)	This is an 1880s planting. This tree is in fair condition though does have some large branches over graves. Dead-wooding is required if retained. However, the tree is lifting graves.
Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>)	Tree 94 (Eldridge 84)	Believed to be an FCC planting. This tree is in good condition. There is concern that this tree may drop branches and damage graves. This tree could last for many years. As a eucalypt, it is somewhat out of place in the churchyard.
LCU 6 – Old Orchard Area		
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 4084 and 4082	These trees are actually a number of separate trees that appear to be about the same age as the 1920s FCC plantings. It is possible that these trees were heeled in while planting proceeded, but were left at the end of the project. They are of poor form and are impacting on more important plantings.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3580	This is a wildling. In good condition.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4074	This tree is a wildling. It is in good condition.
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 4070	An FCC planting. This tree is declining and of poor form. It is competing with more significant FCC plantings.
Pine	Tree 4076	Dead.
Not known	Tree 4072	This tree has already been removed.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4066	This tree is a wildling. Good form and condition but competing with more significant FCC plantings.
Deciduous tree	Tree 3474	Garden planting of no significance. This tree is of poor form and competing with more significant FCC plantings.
Deciduous tree	Tree 3578	Garden planting of no significance. This tree is of poor form and competing with more significant FCC plantings.
Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i> sp)	Tree 4086	Very poor form.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4090	This tree is a wildling.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 150 (Eldridge 37)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Some suppression from nearby Cypress tree.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3581 (Eldridge 36)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress	Tree 3577 (Eldridge	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
(<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	35)	defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3478 (Eldridge 34)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3472 (Eldridge 33)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3480 (Eldridge 32)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Some suppression from nearby Cypress tree.
LCU 7 – Graveyard east and north		
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Trees 28, 30,32 (Eldridge 88, 89,90)	These trees have been indicated previously as late 19 th century plantings, but they are not that old. It is far more likely that these trees were planted much more recently, possibly about the same time as the Parish Centre (1959). This is a group of three trees planted close together. They are in good condition though are impacting on two of the FCC perimeter plantings. They are also out of place in the primarily coniferous nature of the precinct.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 38 (Eldridge 1)	This tree is still in relatively good health, but does have some cavities. There are 3 large branches low on the tree that extend well over nearby graves. Rot detected in large branch angle. The tree cannot be guaranteed as safe.
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 40 (Eldridge 2)	This tree has one large branch with weak union and cavity. It is of poor form and structure.
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)	Tree 18 (Eldridge 67)	This tree has previously been recorded as a late 19 th Century planting, but is more likely an adventitious seedling, even though of some age. It is healthy and of good form.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 46 (Eldridge 68)	This tree has previously been recorded as a late 19 th Century planting, but is more likely an adventitious seedling. This tree is healthy and of good form.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 48	This tree has previously been recorded as a late 19 th Century planting. It is healthy and of good form.
Deciduous	Tree 59	Dead, remove.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 50	This tree is said to be an 1880s planting, but could be a wildling. It is competing with the FCC perimeter planting. It is in good condition.
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)	Tree 54 (Eldridge 3)	This tree is part of the late 1880s plantings. This tree has one large branch on western side, making the crown asymmetrical. It is in good condition.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 58 (Eldridge 4)	This is one of the 1880s plantings. This tree was struck by lightning in 2003. There is a lot of deadwood in the crown which needs to be removed.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 64	This tree is considered a late 19 th century planting. It is of good condition and form. It is located on a grave, but is mature and unlikely to cause any deterioration of the grave in the near future.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 62 (Eldridge 73)	This tree is considered as a late 19 th Century planting but is likely more recent. This tree is of good condition and form. Partially obscures the church from the east Lych-Gate.
Grecian Juniper (<i>Juniperus excelsa.</i>)	Tree No Number (Eldridge 74)	Vigorous.
Aleppo Pine	Tree 98 (Eldridge 5)	This is an 1880s planting. This is a poorly structured tree

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
(<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)		with many long curved branches. The branch unions with the trunk are weak points. It is otherwise healthy.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 88 (Eldridge 6)	This tree is an 1880s planting. It is in decline and will die. It is currently dangerous.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 90 (Eldridge 7)	This tree is an 1880s planting. It is in gradual decline. Dead wood is prolific.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 92 (Eldridge 8)	This tree is an 1880s planting. It is in good form and health, though some deadwood is present. It is currently lifting nearby graves.
Canary Island Pine (<i>Pinus canariensis</i>)	Tree 154	This tree is in poor health, is lifting pavers and competing with more significant plantings. FCC planting.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 58	Said to be an FCC planting, but has been placed in a position that is competing with more significant FCC perimeter plantings. It is in good condition.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 81 (Eldridge 31)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Suppressed by nearby pine.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 156 (Eldridge 30)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 56 (Eldridge 21)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 52 (Eldridge 20)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Suppressed by nearby Cypress.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 19 (Eldridge 19)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 20 (Eldridge 18)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 22 (Eldridge 17)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 24 (Eldridge 16)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Partially suppressed by nearby Pine.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 26 (Eldridge 15)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 34 (Eldridge 14)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Partially suppressed by nearby Pin Oak.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 36 (Eldridge 13)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
LCU 8 – Entry area		
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 152 (Eldridge 29)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 66 (Eldridge 28)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Suppressed by nearby pine. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 68 (Eldridge 27)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 70 (Eldridge 26)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 72 (Eldridge 25)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 74 (Eldridge 24)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 76 (Eldridge 23)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 78 (Eldridge 22)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.
LCU 9 – Lawn area		
Deodar Cedar (<i>Cedrus deodara</i>)	Tree 2936 (Eldridge 64)	An FCC planting in good form and condition.
Sweet Gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>)	Tree 2934 (Eldridge 63)	Possible 1950s planting. The tree has a very poor branching structure, and some rot where a branch has been removed. Potential danger to staff and other pedestrians.
False Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis</i> cv.)	Tree 2976 (Eldridge 62)	Removed.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 2935 (Eldridge 48)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Good form and condition.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 2932 (Eldridge 47)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Good form and condition.
LCU 10 – Carpark & St John's Schoolhouse		
Cotoneaster (<i>Cotoneaster</i> sp.)	Tree 1633	This is a non-significant planting. This species is not a tree, but is in good condition. It is a prohibited weed on the ACT Weeds List.
Black Gum (<i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>)	Tree 1571	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.
Blakely's Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1667	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.
Blakely's Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1665	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.
Blakely's Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1663	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.
Eurabbie (<i>Eucalyptus bicostata</i>)	Trees 1936 & 1938	These are not significant plantings. These two trees are in good form and condition, though they do not have much influence on the precinct landscape.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 1960	This is not a significant planting. It is in good form and condition.

Table 2. Tree Assets		
Species	Tree Number	Comments
LCU 11 – Internal, Constitution Avenue & Anzac Park West Road Verges		
<i>Internal Road</i>		
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 1892	This is not a significant planting. Good form and condition. Will add barrier to church and shade GSM habitat in time.
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 2746	This is not a significant planting. Good form and condition. Will add barrier to church and shade GSM habitat in time.
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 2733	This is not a significant planting. Good form and condition. Will add barrier to church and shade GSM habitat in time.
<i>Constitution Avenue</i>		
False Acacia (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	Trees 4015, 4023, 3934	These 1920s trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. The trees are fair, but decline is commencing.
English Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Trees 4020, 4025, 3993, 3965, 3941, 3936, 3424	These trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. These trees are satisfactory, but eventually too big for the location.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Trees 3426, 3943, 3976	These 1920s trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. The trees are satisfactory.
<i>Anzac Park West</i>		
Manchurian Pear (<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>)	Trees 3894, 3896, 3813, 3814, 3818, 3823, 3846	These trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. Scions are arising from the rootstock of some trees (ie. the rootstock is shooting). They will shade the habitat of GSM as they grow.
Nettle Tree (<i>Celtis australis</i>)	Trees 3890, 3820, 3825, 3849, 3844	These trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. The trees appear satisfactory. They will shade the habitat of GSM as they grow. They are also a declared pest plant/environmental weed.
Notes: 1. Tree numbers used in this table are those currently applied to the site, reflecting recent site survey documentation. For convenience, numbers used by Eldridge (2006a) have also been noted where relevant.		



Figure 22. 1920s Cypress entry walk/avenue – LCU1

Source: Duncan Marshall

Note: A 1920 Roman Cypress is to the right of the Lych Gate.



Figure 23. 1880s Monterey Pine in LCU5

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 24. View of churchyard with Himalayan Cypress, Monterey Pine, Roman Cypress and 1930s FCC hedge (*Euonymus* sp.)

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 25. Roman Cypress (Tree 64) growing in fenced grave – LCU7
Source: Duncan Marshall

Grasslands and Shrub Beds/Areas

There are a number of grasslands, shrub beds, hedges and other areas of shrubs that exist or have been established within the precinct. The major ones are the:

- native grasslands;
- shrub bed near the northern wall of the church;
- internal hedges;
- rose garden;
- old orchard; and
- Rectory garden.

For convenience, the following section provides a description of these components as well as some comments on history and significance – the latter information being consistent with the information provided and findings developed later in this plan.

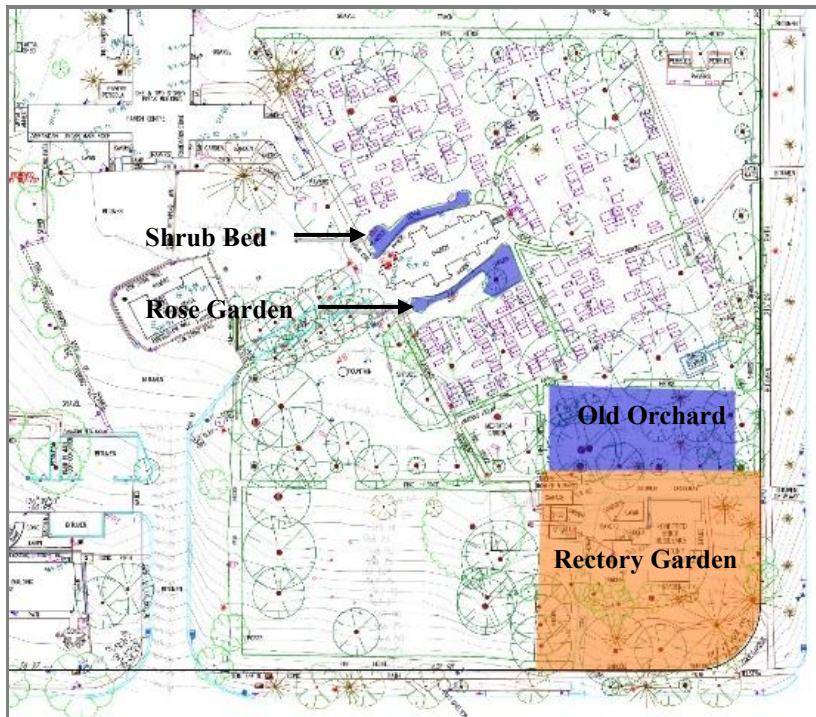


Figure 26. Shrub Beds/Areas
Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

Native Grasslands

Some small occurrences of remnant native grasslands occur within the precinct (see Figure

72 below). A small population of Golden Sun Moth is also present within the grassland patches. The parish community have undertaken to conserve these grasslands and manage them into the future (Colin Lendon & George Pooley, personal communication, 2008). Part of the project is to enhance the grasslands. Some plantings of grassland species have been undertaken. The plants were obtained from a commercial source. While the plants are all grassland species, some do not occur in local grasslands (eg. Tall Ammobium – *Ammobium alatum* and Paper Daisy – *Bracteantha bracteatum*). These species, particularly the former, are likely to become weedy.



Figure 27. Horse Paddock – one of the native grass areas – enclosed by Himalayan Cypress hedges

Source: Michael Pearson

Shrub bed near the northern wall of the church

This bed consists of Laurustinus (*Viburnum tinus*) and Spindle Tree (*Euonymus* sp.). This bed is probably part of the beautification of the grounds in the 1930s by Archdeacon Robertson. This planting tends to conceal the northern wall of the Church, as seen from the laneway and parts of the churchyard. The plants are still sound.



Figure 28. Internal hedge and Shrub Bed adjacent to north wall of Church

Source: Duncan Marshall

Internal Hedges

Much of the St John's site is a series of enclosed spaces, and these spaces have been established for a long time. At present some of these spaces are defined by hedges of Himalayan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa*). These were planted in or around the 1920s. Their condition varies considerably. Some sections receiving reasonable light and under less competition from trees are in fair to good condition. Other stretches planted under dense vegetation are struggling and generally not strong and healthy. Sections of these hedges have been removed for various reasons but also through fire events. The interior "sectioning" of the churchyard is an important feature of the planted history of the precinct.

At least some sections of the interior hedging are likely to be in competition with surrounding trees for the foreseeable future. However, some of the recommended tree removals may make the local environment more conducive to hedge growth. These hedges are also a significant maintenance task.



Figure 29. Rose Garden

Source: Duncan Marshall

Rose Garden

The Rose Garden was established in about 2008 and balances the garden bed on the northern side of the church. It provides flowers for decoration during services. By its very nature, it is being maintained on a regular basis. There are apparently some old rose varieties within the bed retrieved from other parts of the site (Robert Campbell, personal communication, 2009). The heritage significance of the bed is otherwise low.

Old Orchard

This area is one of the untidiest areas of the site. It is a wilderness of old shrub plantings, an orchard remnant (a Fig tree), wildlings and random plantings. A recent report on bushfire hazard within the precinct indicated the potential of this area as a threat to the Rectory (Cartwright 2009). There was a fire in this area in 2008. Various species inhabit this area (eg. *Photinia serrulata*, Madeira Broom). There is no heritage value to these plantings.



Figure 30. Former orchard area – LCU6

Source: Duncan Marshall

Rectory Garden

The Rectory garden plantings have limited heritage values. Most of it seems to be a random array of plantings put in by residents over the years – characteristic of many

residential gardens. There is no theme or overall attributes to the plantings over the site. The overgrown nature of the garden was also a source of comment in the bushfire hazard report (Cartwright 2009). The most significant elements in the garden are the two Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*) and Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) on the Constitution Avenue frontage.



Figure 31. Rectory garden – LCU3a

Source: Duncan Marshall

3.4 HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

The churchyard and cemetery have their origins in the mid 19th century, the graves being laid out roughly orthogonal to the original churchyard boundary, and thus at a diagonal to the current St John's precinct perimeter. Different sections of the cemetery have slightly different grave orientation. Up to the 1860s graves were located predominantly in the northeast sector of the churchyard (Section C, see the plan at the back of Salisbury 2000), with a few graves adjacent to the church itself (later relocated in the crypt beneath the eastern extension), and in the southeastern sector (Section H). Between 1860 and 1900 graves extended across the eastern side of the churchyard and the north of the eastern end of the church, with some family plots to the south of the church. During the twentieth century graves were placed throughout the churchyard area. Figure 63 below indicates the location of graves over time.

Some 60% of the graves have headstones, the remainder are unmarked. Some graves also have footstones or cement surrounding plinths, and a small number have wrought iron and cast iron fences (10), or timber fences (3) surrounding the graves. Approximately 70 of the graves, both marked and unmarked, have iron Church Register plates indicating a plot number.

A range of other features within the heritage area are indicated in the following table.

Table 3. Non-Grave Features in the Heritage Area		
Feature	Detail	Location
Sundial	Original built in 1933, and column now in schoolhouse collection. Current sundial built in 2005 incorporating original metal sundial.	North of church entry
Fountain	Built 1986, gift of the Campbell Family.	On lawn southwest of church entrance
Loose monumental stone	Stones having been shaped by a mason, but not apparently associated with a grave site. One suggestion (Robert Campbell, personal communication) is that they are associated with the tethering of horses prior to the 1930s plantings.	3 x between cypresses on southern entry avenue west of church. 4 x between north-eastern corner of church and northern hedge.
Bird bath	Built in 1932 as a fountain, and now referred to as a bird bath, it is a pebble-finished concrete square bowl on a pedestal with minor decorative features at its base, and planters in a similar finish around the pedestal. It was erected as a gift from the Shakespeare family. Not currently able to hold water.	In Section G, southeast of the church.
Iron Church register plot numbers	Rectangular iron markers placed at the foot or head of a grave to indicate the plot number.	67 plot markers were identified scattered through the graveyard
Seats	20 bench seats of various designs.	Scattered around the churchyard, fountain lawn, Meditation Garden and columbaria.
Stone walls	Stone walls orthogonal to the 1920s block boundary. Built using stone from the old stables block formerly located north of the schoolhouse, built at same time as construction of western lych-gate in 1932.	Stone walls extend each side of the western lych-gate, with the hedge growing over them.

Table 3. Non-Grave Features in the Heritage Area		
Feature	Detail	Location
Low stone retaining walls	Low stone walls marking the edge of the lawn area northwest of the church between the schoolhouse and the Parish Centre (contemporary with carpark paving?).	Edging carpark and surrounding schoolhouse.
Columbaria	First columbarium for ashes built 1962, with irrigated grass surrounds. Second columbarium built in 1991, and third built in 2005.	Located to northeastern and southeastern corners of the graveyard.
Paths	Numerous paths through the site, mostly paved with concrete, also unit pavers and some gravel.	Various



Figure 32. 1986 Fountain – LCU2
Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 33. Iron Church Register Plot Markers
Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 34. One of the styles of seating in the churchyard

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 35. Columbaria in northeast corner of graveyard – LCU8

Source: Duncan Marshall

3.5 BUILT FEATURES

The landscape of St John's Church contains a number of built features. The dominant features are the Church building itself (constructed 1841-1874), Schoolhouse (1841), Rectory (1926), and lych-gates (1932 and 1936). While important elements within the landscape, they are not the primary focus of this conservation management plan, and there is another CMP which relates to their conservation and management although it has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007).

This section deals with the other built features in the landscape, in the following table. In many cases, these features are also addressed in the historical archaeology section above. However, for completeness, this section provides basic descriptive information.

Table 4. Built Features	
Feature	Description
Graves	There are many different styles of graves within the churchyard from many different periods. The range of materials and forms include: stone, concrete and rendered masonry; some with headstones or slabs, some with crosses or pillars; decorative metal fences; metal plaques; and tile finish. The condition varies from poor to good.
Sundial	A modern, short sandstone column with bronze sundial and plaque, in good condition.
Fountain	The fountain is of pre-cast stone(?) with a decorative edged, low pool element, a column and basin rising in the middle, and a metal plaque on the pool edge. The fountain is in fair condition though the basin does not appear to hold water. The fountain works. See Figure 32.
Bird bath	Pebble-finish concrete square bowl on a pedestal with minor decorative features at its base, and planters in a similar finish around the pedestal. The bird bath is in poor to fair condition.
Seats	20 bench seats of various relatively modern/reproduction designs in timber, metal and concrete. The seats are in fair to good condition. See Figure 34.
Stone walls	The stone walls are orthogonal to the 1920s block boundary. The walls extend each side of the western lych-gate, with the hedge growing over them. The walls are in poor to fair condition.
Low stone retaining walls	Low stone walls mark the edge of the lawn area northwest of the church between the schoolhouse and the Parish Centre. They edge the carpark and surround the schoolhouse. The walls are in fair condition. See Figure 19.
Columbaria	Northeastern columbarium: two U-shaped columbarium with random low-height undressed stone walls, ashlar stonework on the interior faces, metal plaques, stone edging, and pebble and concrete paver paving. Southeastern columbarium: L-shaped random low-height undressed stone wall with ashlar stonework internally, metal plaques, low brick walls and edging, and pebble and exposed aggregate precast unit paving. The columbaria are in fair to good condition.
Paths	Numerous paths exist through the site made of concrete, concrete pavers or gravel. The paths are in poor to good condition.
Signage	There are various types of signage including modern painted church and schoolhouse signs, modern metal traffic signs, modern interpretive signs, and an incised stone pillar. The signs are in fair to good condition.
Lights	There are various types of lights including concrete post-top street lights, metal post top path lights, and metal post-top floodlights. The lights appear to be in fair condition.

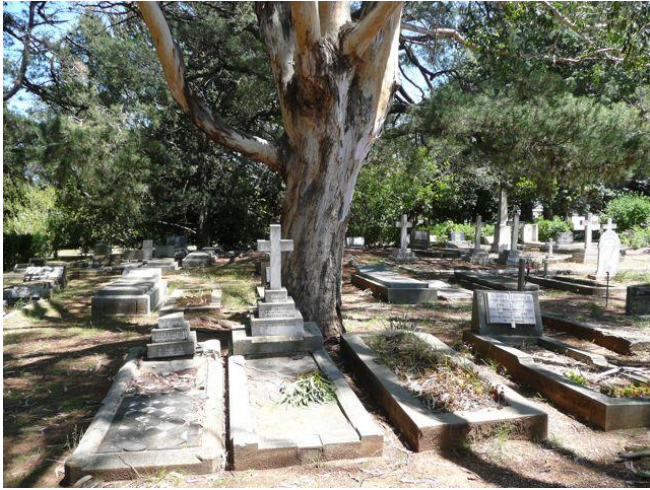


Figure 36. Graves in LCU7

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 37. Grave with decorative cast iron fence

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 38. Viscount Dunrossil's grave, of modern design

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 39. Columbaria in northeast corner of churchyard

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 40. Columbarium in southeast corner of churchyard

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 41. Modern interpretive pillar sign, and relatively modern post-top street light

Source: Duncan Marshall

3.6 ASSOCIATED PLACES

The St John's Church is strongly associated with a number of other places such as:

- Duntroon – the pastoral property of the Campbell family which was instrumental in the establishment of the church;
- Glebe Park – a remnant of the glebe provided by Robert Campbell to the church for a residence and farm land for the rector of St John's; and
- Royal Military College, Duntroon – given the longstanding connections between St John's and the College.

The landscape of the church shares these associations, especially as members of the Campbell family are buried in the churchyard, there is a fountain in the churchyard donated by the Campbell family, and other graves are for people associated with RMC.

Regarding the historic landscape of the church itself, as the church was built from 1841 and the early plantings matured, St John's was a very prominent feature in the open grassy character of the Limestone Plains. The church was probably notable through much of the Molonglo River valley from Black Mountain to Dairy Flat. However, with the construction of the national capital, this prominence has been much reduced, if not extinguished, in a process that began in the 1920s. Currently St John's is more a secluded feature in the heart of the city, rather than a major landmark on the plains as it used to be.

The only apparent additional significant association of the historic landscape is with areas of native grassland elsewhere in the vicinity (for example, see Figure 72 below). This grassland is habitat for the Golden Sun Moth, and there is also such habitat within the heritage area. It is possible moths move between these remnant patches of grassland.

4. OVERVIEW HISTORY

Timeline Summary

The following table summarises the historical development of the St John's precinct landscape. More historical detail is provided after the table.

Table 5. Timeline of Landscape Development

Date	Landscape Element	Context/Source	Comment
1841	Foundation stone of St John's laid, two acres set aside for churchyard. Schoolhouse construction started.		
1845	Church and burial ground in churchyard consecrated. Picket fence around churchyard or cemetery area.	First burial 1844, first headstones (surviving) 1845.	
1870-74	New church tower constructed and church extended to east. Several deciduous trees grown to wall-height by 1877.	Spire built 8 years later (Body 1986, p. 61).	Crypt built beneath extension and four burials interred there.
1880s	12 old pine trees. Churchyard largely grassed.	Assumed to be 1880s-pre 1900. 8 x Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>), 2 x Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>), 2 x Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>). Two other trees removed 1990. Tree plantings probably the work of Reverend Smith. (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 21)	The pines follow (and indicate) the original churchyard boundary.
1899	Stile built over picket fence.	Body 1986, p. 74.	Site no longer known.
1920	30 Cypress trees planted as part of avenue planting approach west of the church	Inner rows of 14 Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>) with outer rows of 16 Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>). (Parochial Council Minutes, 17 September 1920, p. 2) Yarralumla Nursery records show delivery of trees in September 1920.	
1920s	Evergreen hedges. Internal plantings of Spindle Tree. Maiden's Blue Gum. Broad pathway to western entrance and around church. 'place of convenience for ladies' built. Ivy removed from church 1926.	Yarralumla Nursery stock order contained an order for a large number of Mexican Orange Blossom, removed at an unknown date. Internal divisions of space marked by walkways and geometric pattern of clipped Spindle Tree (<i>Euonymus japonica</i>). Single Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>) was probably planted by Weston. (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 22; Body 1986, p. 131)	Trees planted around the revised churchyard boundary. Cypress hedge planted around new churchyard boundary, and a Photinia hedge marking boundary of the rectory grounds overgrown. Internal geometry partially removed.

Table 5. Timeline of Landscape Development			
Date	Landscape Element	Context/Source	Comment
1922	Churchyard boundaries realigned to Griffin geometry. New boundary plantings and fencing undertaken 1926 (see above).	Commonwealth fenced new boundary until hedge could grow, then intended to remove fence. It also removed and replaced several old trees, and removed the old gravel roadway now inside the realigned churchyard boundary. (Body 1986, p. 123)	
1926	New rectory erected.		
1930s	Deodar Cedar. 200 flowering shrubs and roses planted. Sundial and fountain. Lych-gates built 1932 and 1936.	Deodar Cedar (<i>Cedrus deodara</i>) near vestry door probably planted in 1930s. 200 flowering plants in churchyard. Part of Reverend Robertson's attempts to create a 'beauty spot'. (Connell Wagner 2002, pp. 6, 23) The walls each side of the west lych-gate were constructed from stone from the former stables (Jean Salisbury, personal communication, 2009)	Many of the surviving flowering plantings of the era are in poor condition.
1936	Churchyard closed to general burials.		
1960s	Sweet Gum. Columbaria structures. Removal of diagonal path from church and associated plantings.	Plantings associated with construction of the new Parish Centre in 1959. Sweet Gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>) near vestry. Three Pin Oaks (<i>Quercus palustris</i>) on north side of Parish office. Removal of diagonal path from church and associated plantings. Columbarium built 1962, extended 1991. (Connell Wagner 2002, pp. 6, 23)	Columbaria outside original churchyard boundary.
1980s	'simplification' of landscape.	1981 landscape report by Denton Corker Marshall recommended 'simplifying' landscape (removal of hedges and individual shrubs) and irrigating grass, and 1984 report by Deverson Scholtens and Bombardier recommend reinforcing earlier landscape with irrigation. (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 11)	
1980s-90s	Informal plantings	Small flowering gardens, shrubs, annuals and deciduous trees planted in churchyard without any formal planning. (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 11)	

Colonial origins: 1840-1900

In May 1840 Bishop Broughton, the first and only Anglican Bishop of Australia, and Robert Campbell, owner of the property 'Duntroon' and substantial tracts of land along the Molonglo River, set out to select a site for the church. It was to be built on Campbell's Duntroon property, at a location best designed to serve the local community (Body 1986, pp. 7-8). The foundation stone of St John's Church was laid on Tuesday 11 May 1841, and the original building was completed three years later.

On 23 January 1844 Robert Campbell executed an indenture conveying to the Bishop of Australia two imprecisely defined portions of his 5,000 acres on the Limestone Plains,

comprising respectively 2 acres 'more or less' and 100 acres 'more or less', for four specific purposes, namely for,

'the erection... of a church for the performance of Divine Service according to the rites of the United Church of England and Ireland... for a burial ground and... for the erection of a residence for a clergyman in Holy Orders and for a Glebe to be attached thereto or used therewith' (Body 1986, p. 11)

The formal agreement came after Campbell's earlier commitment.

The glebe, at the western edge of Campbell's land, was the larger block, and the present day Glebe Park being a residual part of that area. The two acres form a substantial part of the land on which the church and churchyard still stand. The church and the burial ground in the churchyard were consecrated by Bishop Broughton on 12 March 1845.

An anonymous drawing made in 1844 indicates no particular effort to create a landscape around the church at the time of its completion. William Bunn's sketch of 1846 shows a picket fence, presumably enclosing the churchyard and cemetery.



Figure 42. Canberry Church, 26 August 1844

Source: National Library of Australia, pic-an9185002



Figure 43. 'St John's Church Canberry' c1846 by Anna Maria Bunn

Source: Private collection, reproduced in Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, p. 2.3

The first burial recorded in the St John's register is that of 22 year old Barbara Potts who died on 1 May 1844, the daughter of John Potts, mason, of Duntroon. The position of her grave is not known. The third and fourth burials, marked by the first inscribed stone to be placed in the churchyard, were of brothers Richard Guise and Henry Guise, of Gundaroo, who died aged 29 and 18 respectively, within ten months of each other in 1844 and 1845. Amongst the other burials within the parish during the years 1845-1850 were those of four shepherds, two settlers, a footman, a farm servant, a shoemaker, a carpenter and several young children (Body 1986, pp. 12, 20, 21).

The St John's Schoolhouse and integrated residence were started in about 1841 (the actual date being uncertain), was in use by at least 1845, and was burnt out in 1864 (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, pp. 2.15-16). A stable block was constructed at the same time as the schoolhouse, which is seen in several photos to be located north of the schoolhouse. The location of the stables, which fell down or was demolished by 1932, may be between the schoolhouse and the current Parish Centre (where building stones have been found beneath the surface—personal communication, Robert Campbell), beneath the Parish Centre itself (as suggested by the geometry of the c.1864 photograph), or to the north of the Parish Centre (suggested by Ted Winter in Hewitt 1987). The demolition of the stables may have been carried out if it was in the easement for the rail line that ran north of the churchyard in 1921. Stone from the stables was reused in the construction of the western lych-gate and walls in 1932, and possibly the eastern lych-gate in 1936.



Figure 44. St John's Church and the stable building to the right, about 1864
Source: Robert Campbell

The third rector, the Reverend P G Smith, oversaw a period of expansion of the church and the reconstruction of the schoolhouse, which appears to have been back in use and expanded in form by 1869. It remained in use as a school until 1880.

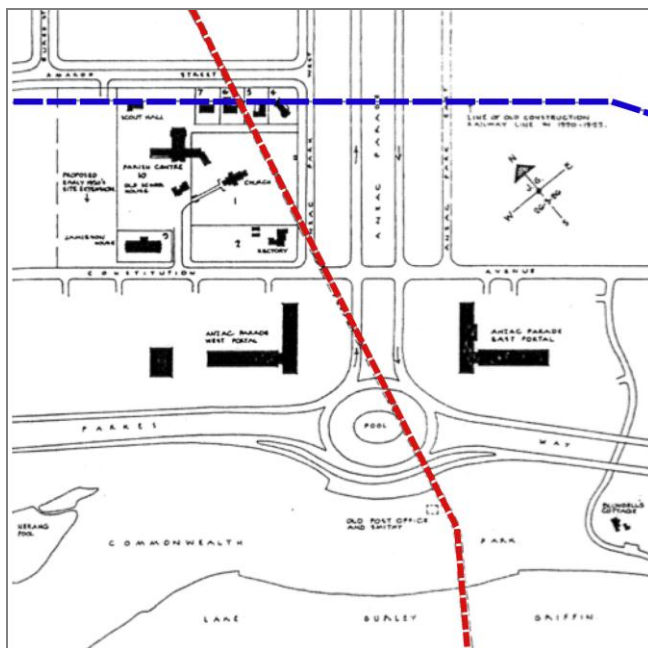


Figure 45. Plan of St John's showing 19th Century Road & c.1920 Railway Line
Source: Body 1986, drawn by J Goldsmith, 1984

Legend

Canberra-Yass Road — — —
Railway Line — — —

The original tower of the church, damaged by a lightning strike in 1851, was demolished in 1864, and footings were begun for a new tower. It was designed by the prominent architect of the period, Edmund Thomas Blacket. The tower was not to be completed until 1870, and a spire added eight years later. A rectory was built by 1873 on the Glebe (Glebe House, demolished 1954), and by that time the east wall of the church had been demolished and the church extended by 12 feet. The new chancel and nave extension was designed the Reverend Alberto Dias Soares, rector of Christ Church, Queanbeyan, and the

stonework completed (at least in part to Soares' design) in 1872. Though it was not roofed until 1874 (Body 1986, p. 61; Matheson 1976). The picket fence remained to exclude stock from the churchyard, by 1870 several deciduous trees had been planted and by 1877 had grown to the height of the church walls (Merlin 1870 photograph (from Lea-Scarlett); Body 1986, p. 61).



Figure 46. Jas Abernethy and daughters who helped teach at St John's School, Canberra, 1872. Note the paling fence and few trees in the churchyard west of the church.

Source: National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an24069951-v

By the 1880s the primary building phase was over. The churchyard was largely grassed, constituting a fire hazard during the bush fire season, and had to be hand mown to keep it under control. Maintenance was also needed to keep the picket fence in sound condition. In 1899 a stile was built over the fence. On one occasion, at least, a panel of the fencing was temporarily removed to allow traffic on the road to the east of the churchyard to avoid a boggy patch (Body 1986, p. 74).

The establishment of the National Capital: Federation to World War II

In preparation for the competition for the design of the new Federal Capital to be located at Canberra, the surveyor Charles Scrivener prepared a survey plan in 1909 that shows the Church adjacent the Scott's Crossing road. A photograph of 1908 shows a row of pine trees west of the church tower, and trees and shrubs to the south and east.



Figure 47. St John's Church, Canberra Estate, 1908

Source: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, GPO 1-11246

The winning Griffins' competition entry of 1911 was one of the few proposals to retain the St John's Church in the design solution for the new capital, though the new geometry imposed on the landscape was not aligned to that of the church and churchyard.

The Commonwealth compulsorily acquired the two acres occupied by the church and churchyard in 1912, and its value was assessed in 1913, though negotiations over compensation continued until 1926. The freehold of all land in the new Federal territory

was to be acquired by the Commonwealth, and a system of leasehold land was to be implemented.



Figure 48. Detail of the Griffins' 1911 Winning Design

Source: NCA 2004, p. 15

Location of St Johns



Figure 49. St John's from the southeast, 1913

Source: National Archives of Australia, M77, 28

The initial success in this negotiation was when the Commonwealth Minister yielded to the insistence of the church authorities, and on 16 April 1914 he agreed that the Commonwealth should dedicate for church purposes the church and churchyard block, as well as a block for a rectory just to the south. He also agreed that the Commonwealth should offer £2,000 in full settlement of the Bishop's claim. In addition, the church authorities would be allowed to use the church and churchyard pending settlement (Body 1986, p. 121).

The proposed settlement also varied the boundary of the church and churchyard block, which had been bounded on the east by a road that ran from the Yass-Queanbeyan road (from near the present junction of Limestone and Ainslie Avenues) to cross the Molonglo River at Church Crossing (later known as Scott's Crossing) and link up with the Uriarra to Queanbeyan road in what is now Kingston. The alignment of Walter Burley Griffin's Land Axis, along what is now Anzac Parade took a different alignment to the old road, and the settlement required that the boundaries of the church and churchyard block be rotated 30° in a clockwise direction to be parallel with the new axis. It was also a condition that a

new rectory would not shut out the view of the church from the city site (as yet not clearly delineated). The new rectory was to be separated from the southern boundary of the churchyard by a laneway, and the rectory was to be built within two years of the payment of compensation (Body 1986, p. 122).

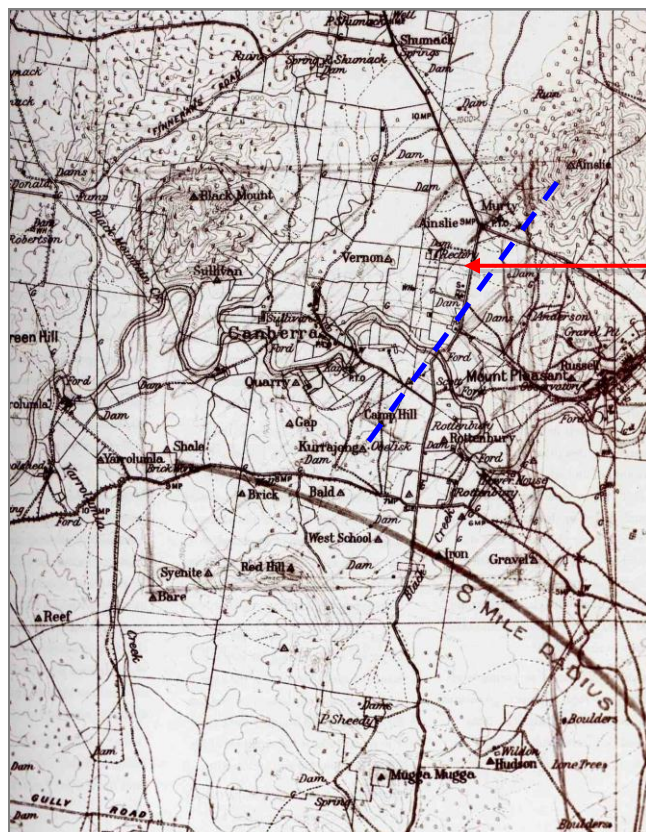


Figure 50. Map of Canberra region, 1916

Source: NAA, CP277/1, part, reproduced in Reid 2002, p. 19

Land Axis shown dotted — — — — —

St John's Church

Almost five years passed before the necessary plans and descriptions were prepared for the settlement, then Griffin in August 1919 objected to the dedication of the land south of the churchyard for the purposes of the rectory. Griffin was at this time the Federal Capital Director of Design and Construction, responsible for the development of the new capital. In a later minute dated 30 December 1919, Griffin stated that the block was on a, 'corner designated [in his design] for monumental treatment in connection with one of the major architectural groups and it was so published.' He went on to say, 'A more suitable site for the rectory would be on a quiet corner off the main traffic line and where its gardens might help to form a fit setting for the front of the church' (Body 1986, p. 123). He suggested a site near the schoolhouse. After Griffin's departure from Government, the issue was dropped, and planning for the rectory on the block south of the churchyard proceeded.

A survey of the proposed new boundaries, carried out in 1922, disclosed that several graves would be excluded from the churchyard if the boundaries were slewed around as proposed. In the northwest corner of the original churchyard there were four graves 'thought to be the graves of an alien and three suicides', and in the northeast corner the graves of an adult and two children, that would be affected. That problem was resolved by the exhumation and re-interment of the remains within the new boundaries, although it was not until 22 February 1926 that this was done (Body 1986, p. 123). The northern boundary of the churchyard was immediately adjacent to a construction railway line built in 1921, that continued west through what is now the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) and into Glebe Park. Presumably the graves beyond the new churchyard enclosure were not impacted by the construction of the rail line.

In 1926 the Commonwealth also removed the existing post and railing fence demarking the churchyard block and erected a new four-wire fence with concrete posts and wire netting, to exclude rabbits. Along the southern boundary, however, the fence was to await the construction of the laneway beside the rectory block. The Commonwealth also agreed to plant a hedge around the boundary. It was made clear, however, that the fence was to remain the property of the Commonwealth, which would remove it when the hedge had grown. In addition, the Commonwealth agreed to remove and replace several dead trees in the churchyard and to tear up and carry away the gravel and foundations of the old roadway that lay east of the graveyard within the new churchyard boundaries.

Further tidying of the churchyard cost the parish £151.41 (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, p. 2.26; Body 1986, p. 123). A photo from about 1940 (Figure 57 below) clearly shows the hedge on each side of the new church block, fully enclosing it, with internal hedges separating the rectory and its orchard from the churchyard. It also shows the route of the railway line (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, Fig. 76 Section 2). The horse paddock would appear to have come into being with the new boundary definitions, and was enclosed by hedges that separated it from the churchyard and the rectory.

With the boundary and financial position now clear, the construction of the new rectory could proceed. A tender in the amount of £2,988, submitted by a Mr McDonald, was accepted in March 1926 and building began soon afterwards. A member of the council, David Limburg, an architect with the Federal Capital Commission (FCC), and later a partner of the firm Rudd and Limburg, acted as Honorary Supervising Architect. Bishop Radford dedicated the 'striking modern' building on 7 September 1926, and the rector and his family moved in on 4 October 1926.



Figure 51. View from Mount Ainslie towards Provisional Parliament House, 1925. St John's Church to right, highlighted.

Source: National Archives of Australia, A3560, 908



Figure 52. St John's Church under a fall of snow from the east, 1926

Source: National Library of Australia, Mildenhall Collection, PIC P583 Album 827

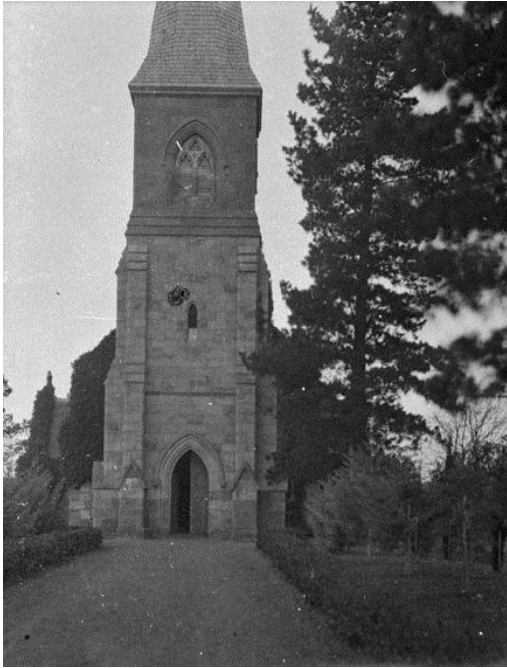


Figure 53. St John's Church, 1926

Source: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Home and Away – 34048

Note rows of young cypress plantings along avenue to right, and clipped edging plants either side of path. The large pine to the right was removed in 1964.



Figure 54. St John's Schoolhouse and St John's Church from northwest, 1926

Source: National Archives of Australia, A3560, 1818

In the 1920s steps were taken to improve the state of the churchyard. The broad pathway leading to the west door of the church was constructed as part of a general plan prepared by Mr P L Sheaffe. Beside the path, new borders and a double tree avenue of Arizona Cypress and Roman Cypress were planted in September 1920 (Parochial Council Minutes, 17 September 1920, p. 2). The trees were supplied by the Commonwealth Government's Acton Nursery (now the Yarralumla Nursery) which was under the control of Charles Weston (Acton (Yarralumla) Nursery records). Weston was enthusiastic about the use of Arizona Cypresses in Canberra, and may have played a role in their choice for St Johns (see the letter from Weston to Joseph Maiden of 26 July 1920 held by the National Archives of Australia).

A pathway around the church was also constructed. To complete the pathway to the west door, ornamental cattle-proof metal gates with decorative wooden gate-posts were installed in the position now occupied by the western lych-gate. A 'place of convenience for ladies' was 'placed in a suitable position in the churchyard a little later' (Body 1986, p. 131). The ivy that had grown on the church walls since around the 1860s was removed in 1926 due to the damage it was causing to the masonry.

The western lych-gate was built in November 1932, as a memorial to Edward Crace and his family of Gungahlin. The gateway was designed by the Canberra architect Kenneth Oliphant who used the stones from the old stable, which was located north of the schoolhouse, for the base walls and the low stone walls on that perimeter, now partially hidden by the hedge (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 6). The timber work is red mahogany, and oak shingles were used on the roof. At about the same time a working-bee planted trees, hedges, shrubs and 50 roses, totaling 200 plants (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 6). In May 1932 a fountain (now referred to as the bird bath) was dedicated commemorating the 91st anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the church, and in May 1933 a sundial was installed, both features donated by the Shakespeare family (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 6). The sundial was damaged by vandals and was judged unable to be maintained in its original location, so it was moved to the schoolhouse collection and replaced with a new sundial in 2005.

The east lych-gate, thought also to be an Oliphant design, was built in 1936 and is a memorial to Mrs Frederick Campbell (Goldsmith 1984). In 1937 the churchyard was closed for general burials, being replaced by the newly opened Woden public cemetery. A small number of burials continued to occur after that date, under special conditions (see below).



Figure 55. St John's, about 1939

Source: National Library of Australia, PIC/6132/18 LOC Box PIC/6132

Note: The large pine to the right of the church was removed in 1964. The path and associated plantings at the bottom left of the photograph have been removed.



Figure 56. St John's, about 1939

Source: National Library of Australia, PIC/6132/23 LOC Box PIC/6132

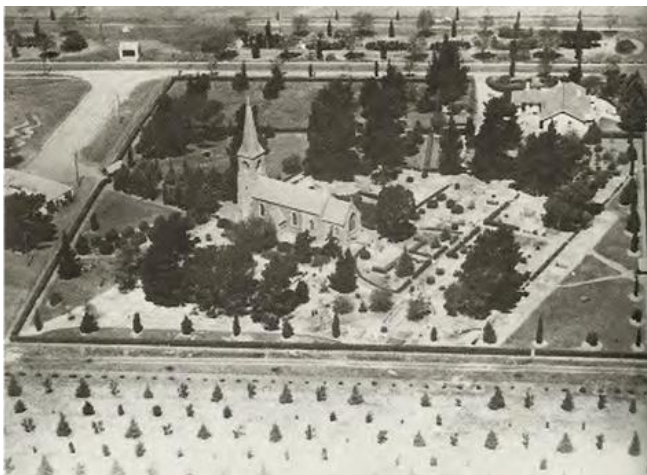


Figure 57. St John's Church and Churchyard, about 1940

Source: National Library of Australia



Figure 58. St John's Church aerial view looking towards the Australian War Memorial, about 1940?

Source: Copied from an image in the possession of Scott McAlister

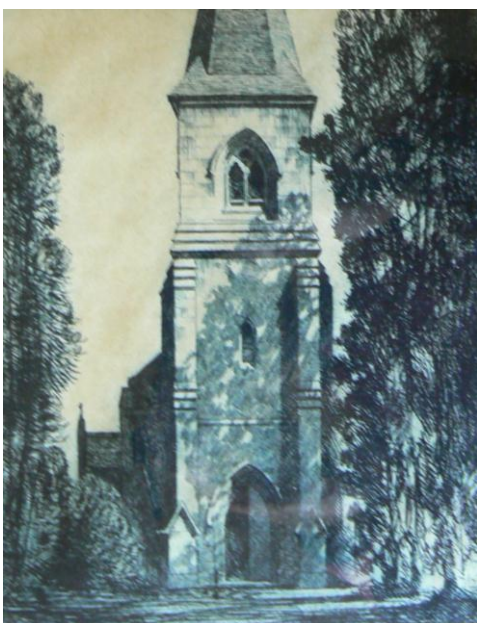


Figure 59. Canberra Church, about 1940s, sketch by Ralph Warner

Source: Ken Taylor

Note: Some artistic licence may have been used in producing this sketch, especially regarding the trees.



Figure 60. St John's Church with the Schoolhouse in the foreground, about 1940s-50s

Source: National Library of Australia, PIC/7484/3 LOC Negatives Cabinet PIC/7484

Note Arizona Cypress and Roman Cypress along Avenue to church.

Post World War II developments

The area around the St John's Schoolhouse had been excluded from the church land in the redefinition of the boundaries with the Commonwealth in the 1920s. The 1918 Griffins plan intended that a road should link what is now Constitution Avenue and the streets behind the churchyard, Amaroo Street and Booroondara Street, and this road would have passed right through the schoolhouse. In this time, the schoolhouse was let by the Commonwealth to tenant occupants. Subsequent planning changes saw this general area designated as Block 3, and it was progressively leased up to 1957 to the Anglican Church. It became the site for the Parish Centre and several church houses, with amended block arrangements to suit the new development (Hewitt 1987, pp. 90, 92). As a result, the schoolhouse returned to the control of the church.

There was an outside pit toilet as part of the schoolhouse, which was moved from time to time, but appears to have been located well to the northwest (Hewitt 1987). Such a toilet presumably existed very early. It was eventually removed, perhaps because of the development of the Parish Centre in the 1950s.



Figure 61. Aerial view of St Johns showing the early construction phase of the Parish Centre, 1958

Source: National Archives of Australia, A1200, L24846



Figure 62. Anzac Parade looking South in 1968. St John's highlighted.

Source: National Archives of Australia, A7973, INT1015/22

The Parish Centre was designed in 1956 and opened in 1959. Further land was leased in 1957 to the north and west of the churchyard with frontages to Amaroo Street and Constitution Avenue, with the western boundary of the Church's lease achieving its current location. This expanded the total land area controlled by the Church to ten acres (4.05 ha) (Body 1986, p. 232). Some of the former uses of the old school building were transferred to the Parish Centre, but the Scouts and Cubs remained in the schoolhouse until 1967. The agreement by which the Church of England Property Trust of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn undertook to maintain the Schoolhouse as a historic monument was signed on 22 December 1967. The leased area fronting Amaroo Street was subdivided for housing in 1965, and the houses were erected between 1966 and 1973 (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 6).

The first columbarium for the housing of ashes within the churchyard was completed in 1962, with an irrigated grass surround. The first columbarium was renovated when a second columbarium was built in 1991. In 1966 the Commonwealth funded the spreading of gravel to surface bare areas of the churchyard and inhibit weed growth (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 6).

Thuja trees were planted in the churchyard beside the schoolhouse at a reunion of the family of the former schoolmaster James Abernethy in 1982, and in 1986 a fountain was erected on the southwest lawn area, a gift of the Campbell family (Connell Wagner 2002, p. 6). Other changes occurred in the 1980s to tidy the churchyard, resulting in the loss of some of the 1930s and earlier landscape changes, and simplifying of the area east of the church. A trend since the 1960s has also been the introduction of more flowering shrubs, deciduous trees and exotic annuals.

The Recent Period: 1990s to 2009

In 1991 *Operation Conservation* was established by the Parish to control and implement a comprehensive program of conservation works within the precinct (planning actually began in 1987), and to raise the necessary funds. The works were to be guided by the 1984 conservation plan by John Goldsmith. This program, among other priorities relating to the church and schoolhouse, identified the need for timber work, re-shingling and painting of the two lych-gates. The works to the lych-gates were carried out progressively between 1988 and 1993 by Malcolm Wheeler, and cedar shingles were used. As part of the program in 1987, a lozenge-shaped area around the church was sealed under a concrete slab and pavers placed on the slab.

In the late 1990s the St John's Precinct Development Project was established, to address evolving needs of the Parish and conservation needs of the precinct, and the National Capital Authority's Constitution Avenue planning amendment.

In 2004 the National Capital Authority released a publication, *The Griffin Legacy* (National Capital Authority 2004), which was the result of a major planning project foreshadowed a number of substantial planning changes for the future of the central area of Canberra. This led to Amendment 60 to the *National Capital Plan* (National Capital Authority [2006?]) related to Constitution Avenue and, by association, with the St John's Church Precinct. This amendment provides for the re-design of Constitution Avenue as a major civic boulevard and as the site for major institutional buildings, extending from Civic to the Defence precinct at Russell. It envisions the St John's Precinct as a park/publicly accessible pedestrian route on the eastern edge of an expanded city. The National Capital Plan is discussed in more detail in Section 8.2.

In response to this new planning direction, St John's Parish established a Precinct Design Competition in 2006 as a way of seeking innovative approaches to the future planning of the precinct. Cox Humphries Moss one of the successful entrants, was subsequently engaged to develop a masterplan for the site. The prominent Canberra architect Roger Pegrum was engaged separately as an advisor to the St John's Precinct Development Board, to assist in directing the masterplanning process.

The masterplan, completed in 2007, contained a number of planning directions with implications for the St John's Precinct landscape. These include:

- retention and conservation of listed heritage features of the site;
- opening up of the vista from Constitution Avenue to make St John's Church visible from this major civic street again;
- demolition and replacement of the Rectory with a new Worship Centre and Visitor's Centre. This building proposed to create a new arrival point for the site on the prominent Anzac Park/Constitution Avenue corner. In addition to enhancing facilities for worship on the site there would also be interpretive displays;
- creation of a new central plaza framed by a two storey colonnade and focused on St John's schoolhouse, aimed at drawing the church building and the schoolhouse 'into a larger landscape composition';
- construction of a new cross road linking Amaroo Street and Constitution Avenue, creating a new address for the Parish and Diocese, and providing extensive on-street parking;
- construction of 2 to 4 storey residences addressing Amaroo Street, providing a stepped transition in scale and complimentary function to the low-rise residential area to the north;
- construction of a new combined pedestrian and service laneway connecting the residences to the site, and providing off-street access to residents' basement parking;
- construction of a new Parish and Diocesan Centre enclosing the northwestern corner of the new plaza, and entered from this central public place;
- creation of a grand ceremonial entry from, and forecourt to, Constitution Avenue; and
- construction of a mixed use commercial development on Constitution Avenue.

While the masterplan was completed it has no current status.

A heritage management plan was developed in parallel with the masterplan although it has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007).

While general burials in the St John's churchyard ceased in 1937, interment continues under special conditions. Between 1920 and 1937, 193 certificates were sold by the Parish allowing future burial in the churchyard, mainly to people with family already buried there. Many have been used and some still remain valid. Ashes of relations are able to be buried in family graves without an Exclusive Right being issued. Exclusive Rights have been issued for the interment of Governor-General Viscount Dunrossil in 1961, and generally to Bishops of the Diocese and Rectors of St John's and their wives. The columbarium built in 1962, and modified and duplicated in 1991, contained the ashes of 296 parishioners by 2000 (Salisbury 2000, p. 10).

Between May 1844 and 2008, 854 burials had taken place in St John's churchyard (not including the columbaria), and the ashes of a further 93 relatives had been interred in existing graves. Sixty percent of interments are marked with headstones, plaques or wooden crosses. The remainder are unmarked. (Salisbury 2000, pp. 10-11, update note 2008).

In total, by 2008 the remains of some 1,242 people have been interred in the churchyard.



Figure 63.
Development of
Graveyard – Pattern
of Graves by Historic
Period

Source: Base plan from Mail
 McDonald Barnsley



Figure 64. Grave Fences, Subsidence and Features

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

Legend



Grave with iron fence



Grave with heave or subsidence



feature

- 1. sun dial
- 2. fountain
- 3. stones
- 4. bird bath



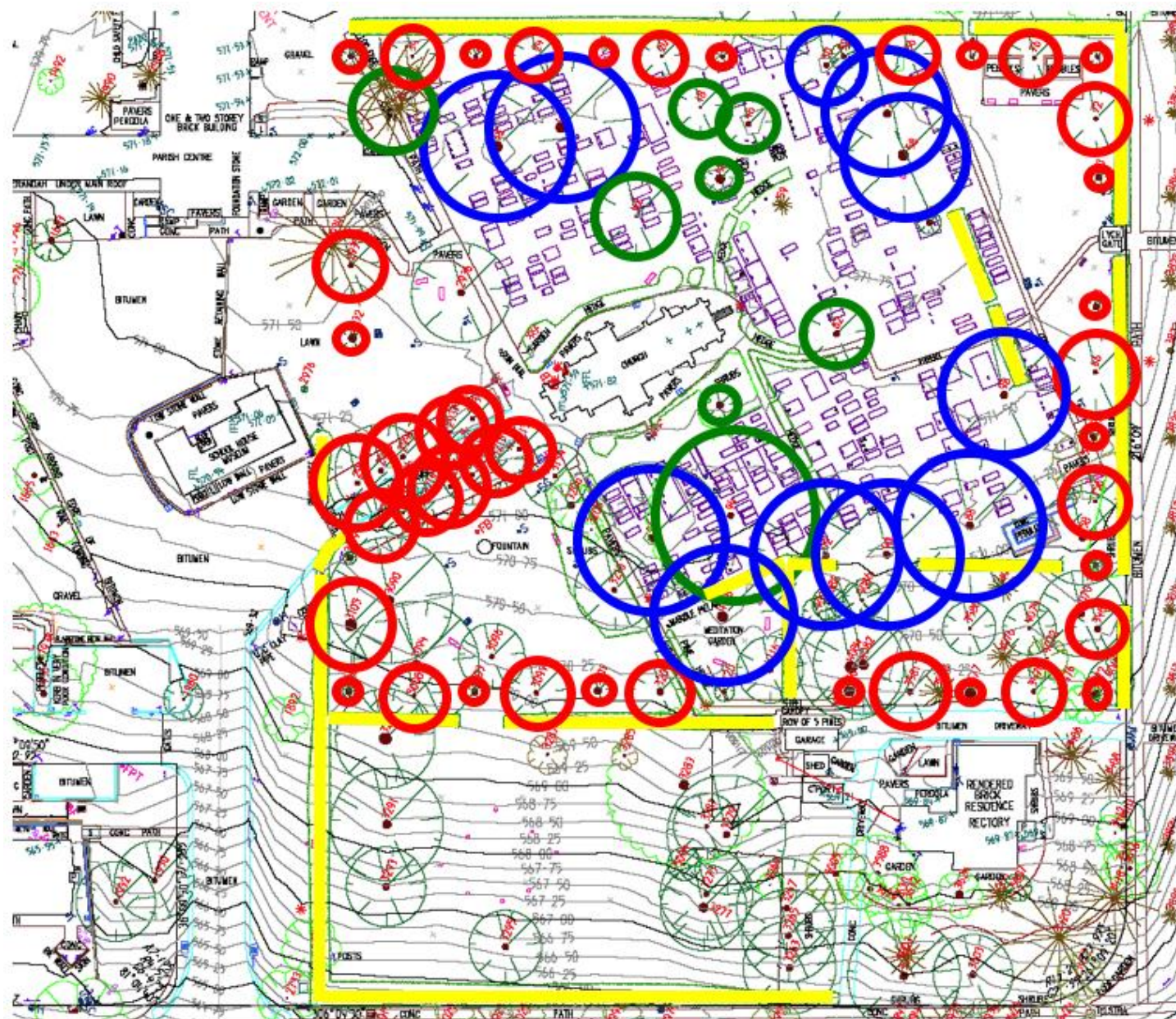


Figure 65. Sequence of Tree Planting in Churchyard

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

Legend








-  1880s pine alignment 
-  1920s new boundary plantings
-  Late 1800s informal plantings 
-  FCC 1930s hedges 



Figure 66. 1880s plantings
Source: Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007



Figure 67. 19th Century plantings in churchyard
Source: Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007



Figure 68. 1920s boundary plantings
Source: Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007



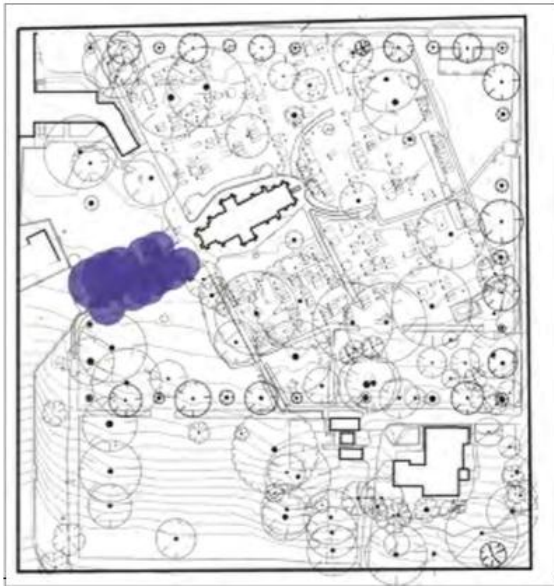


Figure 69. 1920s Avenue plantings

Source: Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007



Figure 70. Other plantings and surviving FCC hedges

Source: Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007



5. EVIDENCE OF AESTHETICS, SCIENTIFIC VALUE AND SOCIAL VALUE

5.1 AESTHETICS AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Landscape

Discussion

The establishment of St John's in what was then a grassy plain probably encouraged the early plantings of trees as much for wind protection as anything else. There are numerous early sketch and photographic records of the church seen at a distance. All the visual records show how the churchyard planting made it a prominent entity on the open landscape. It would have initially stood out as a sign of early European settlement in a perhaps hostile or unfamiliar landscape.

There have been a number of planting phases since establishment of the church. Early sketches and photos reveal a phase of early plantings of conifers and deciduous trees, with the morphology of Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') being prominent.

The second phase, usually referred to as the 1880s phase under the Reverend P G Smith, contributed very significantly to the landscape and remnants of this period of planting (it actually probably extended over the many years of Smith's long incumbency) can still be seen in the churchyard today.

The 1920s was another main planting phase when the churchyard boundaries were formalised on new alignments during the construction planning for Canberra as the national capital – Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade. These plantings, a row of trees of two species – Roman and Himalayan Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens* and *Cupressus torulosa*), formalised the landscape to a much greater degree, and still are the main aesthetic planted features of the current churchyard. The character of these plantings is very similar to other plantings by Charles Weston about this time in other parts of Canberra. The boundary plantings and entry walk bear Weston hallmarks, and it seems highly probable that he had some involvement with the design and planting of these features. Parish records indicate that Weston new and approved of the plantings for the entry avenue but stop short of providing evidence that he actually helped design the planting (Parochial Church Council Minutes of 17 September 1920, Minute Book, p. 55).

Rapidly following or building on the last planting phase were further Federal Capital Commission (FCC) plantings. This phase included hedges and introduced more trees. While many of the trees may have been to screen the Rectory, the entrance drive plantings may have been intended to obscure the church until reaching the axis of the church and avenue plantings, thereby enhancing the sense of arrival. Over time, these trees have substantially concealed the church from surrounding views.

Archdeacon Robinson during the 1930s was also responsible for a 'beautification' project for the church surrounds, and main features of this phase are the small hedges and plantings to the north and east of the church.

During the 1950s the development of the Parish Centre impinged on the 1920s plantings, with sections of the boundary plantings being removed. Deciduous trees were planted in what almost appear to be random locations, and which conflict with the overall evergreen, coniferous nature of the precinct.

The construction of the Rectory changed the landscape in the southwestern corner. The planted landscape around the Rectory, the surrounding old orchard and horse paddock sites were probably changed dramatically when the area was planted after construction. It also appears to have evolved by subsequent planting undertaken over time. The Rectory, originally a prominent building, and the surrounding areas are now overgrown.

The planted landscape has also been impacted by what appear to be random plantings, establishment of wildling trees and other cultivated shrub species, spread of plants associated with graves, a planting of rare eucalypt species, and the usual array of weeds associated with urban areas in Canberra.

Conclusion

St John's Church and its enclosed landscape precinct present a refuge and continuity of historic context, sited next to the heart of the city. There is a palpable sense of connection with Canberra's mid-nineteenth century rural history passing into the history of the city from 1913 until the present. The experience of the mature landscape setting with its trees, neat hedge structure, and graves surrounding the simple elegance of the church building offer a comforting sense of the stream of time. Here is combined the tangible values of the integrity of the building, graves and vegetation fabric with their intangible values hinging on their meanings and associations with people, events and the place through time.

Notwithstanding changes through time, it is still possible to evoke memories of the original rural 1840s church and attached churchyard/cemetery standing in splendid isolation in the midst of the Limestone Plain. Overlaying this original form are the changes made in the 1880s seen in the remaining boundary pine plantings by the Reverend P G Smith, the 1920s boundary plantings, possibly by the FCC, the 1920s FCC hedge, and subsequent plantings. The post-1880s tree plantings and hedge structure contribute significantly to the landscape character of the place and its visual and associative appeal. They act as structural elements defining the overall landscape space around the focal point of the church, and articulate internal spaces, thereby creating a series of enclosed outdoor rooms within which are various small-scale components such as the grave-stones, fountain and columbaria.

The Cypress entry walk/avenue has considerable character and appeal in framing and enclosing the approach to the church. This quality is appreciated by many people.

Appropriate future management of the structure planting and landscape spaces, so critical to the character of St John's, will be a major key to the ongoing aesthetic appreciation of the place. Not least there will be decisions on how long mature trees are to be retained, which are to be replanted, when, and what species are to be used.

5.2 SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Natural Heritage

The natural heritage of the area has been researched since 2003, especially related to the presence of the Golden Sun Moth (David Hogg Pty Ltd 2004 & 2007; Biosis Pty Ltd 2007b; Hodgkinson 2009). A précis of these studies focussed on scientific value is as follows.

Planted Vegetation

While there is a significant degree of historical value associated with the many of the plantings, there is no scientific value associated with any of the plantings within the precinct. The eucalypts situated at the north of the precinct (supposedly of rare species) are common species and only of some limited scientific value if provenance data is available. There are rare eucalypts planted elsewhere on St John's land but outside the heritage area.

Natural Temperate Grassland

Hogg (2004 and 2007) indicated that remnants of this grassland occur within and surrounding the heritage precinct. Hogg's assessment was prepared in relation to the habitat of the Golden Sun Moth population within the precinct. However, a later report (Biosis Pty Ltd 2007b) concluded that despite the listing of the precinct grassland as 0.9 ha of Wallaby Grass dominated grassland, it does not meet the definition of Natural Temperate Grassland because there is no longer any continuous grassland of >0.5 ha.

The ACT grassland action plan No. 28 (ACT Government 2005) currently regards the grassland at the site as having a botanical significance rating of 4, and is regarded as a 'complementary conservation site' (Biosis 2007b). Hodgkinson (2009, p. 26) rates the St John's grasslands as Category 2, which has the same meaning.

It is not unusual for churchyards and cemeteries to contain samples of native ecosystems in varying conditions (Kirkpatrick and others 1988). Church and churchyard precincts and cemeteries were often enclosed soon after establishment, and were managed in a way that assisted in conserving the original vegetation community. The grassland patches in the St John's precinct are small and disjunct, and invasive species (eg. Chilean Needle Grass, Grape Hyacinth), shading by trees and various construction and garden developments have diminished the quality of the grassland remnants. However, their survival (albeit in a modified form) and the fact that habitat for a critically endangered species, the Golden Sun Moth, is still present, does provide a level of natural significance and scientific value to the grassland remnants. The Parish have already taken a decision to protect and enhance the grassland remnants.

A recent investigation of lowland native grasslands in the ACT (Cooper 2009) used the Biosis (2007b) information on areas of grassland, and its botanical rating. Cooper made four recommendations that directly referred to the St John's grassland patches in recognition that they still have conservation importance. Details of these recommendations are noted in Section 8.2.

Golden Sun Moth (Synemon plana)

The Golden Sun Moth, a species listed as endangered under Section 21 of the ACT's *Nature Conservation Act 1980* and the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, was located within the St John's heritage precinct in

2003 (David Hogg Pty Ltd 2004).

The moth is a day flying moth and is understood to be reliant on Natural Temperate Grassland for its survival, and more particularly on grassland with a 40% cover of various species of Wallaby Grass (*Austrodanthonia* sp.). While the feeding and general habitat preferences of the moth are believed to be Wallaby grasses (including *A. carphoides*, *A. auriculata*, *A. setacea* and *A. eriantha*) in the ACT, the actual species utilised by the moth larvae are unknown (ACT Government 2005). Six species of Wallaby Grass are known from the five locations where the moth is located in the heritage precinct (Biosis Research Pty Ltd 2007). While there are some areas in the ACT where the moth is located in open woodland, in general the moth is found where treeless grassland below 630 metres above sea level was located prior to European colonisation (ACT Government 2005). St John's was located in an area of Natural Temperate Grassland when the site was selected in the 1840s.



Figure 71. A pair of Golden Sun Moth on a site just outside the heritage area

Source: Duncan Marshall



Figure 72. Areas of Habitat for the Golden Sun Moth at St John's based on data at 2007

Source: Biosis Research Pty Ltd 2007

Note: Habitat shown yellow hatched.

It is highly probable that despite the many disturbances in the precinct since the time of European settlement, the moth survived due to the churchyard and surrounds were protected from heavy grazing and pasture improvement. The locations where the moth has been observed are illustrated in the figure below. The quality of the habitat provided by these areas has been well described (Biosis Pty Ltd 2007), including the possibility that the

larvae may be utilising a different range of native grasses compared to other populations in the ACT.

Cooper's (2009) recommendations are geared to the retention and rehabilitation of the grassland patches at St John's, and the conservation of the moth.

Historical Archaeology

Parts of the St John's Churchyard precinct have archaeological potential. The graveyard itself has relatively little excavation potential, as it has only had one use in historical times, that of burial of the dead. However, grave markers and burial practices are an important source of information about cultural changes over time, and the study of the above-ground remains (linked with similar study elsewhere in the ACT region) has a high potential for future archaeological research.

The location of the stables block that serviced the church and schoolhouse has not been determined with any certainty, and it is possible that sub-surface remains of the stables may be discovered in the future. These remains would have some value in research terms, filling in the picture of the operation and development of the precinct. Disturbance of the ground north of the schoolhouse, including any future demolition or modification of the Parish Centre, should be planned with this potential in mind.

The schoolhouse is currently surrounded by hard surfacing, but this area may have archaeological potential in relation to future developments, including conservation works, road/parking works and landscaping. The outside pit toilet associated with the schoolhouse, which had several locations – all of which are not known, is one feature with archaeological potential.

5.3 SOCIAL VALUE

In preparing this plan, it was intended to rely on the conservation management plan for the church to provide evidence of social value, noting this plan has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007). The only apparent relevant text is as follows.

‘The history of the precinct clearly evidences the strong and special associations the precinct has had, and continues to have, with ecclesiastical, educational, community, military, and Government entities. These associations span over three centuries. The historian L F Fitzgerald wrote that ‘...for many generations to come the church will stand, a spiritual centre for the City and the Nation, a constant memorial of the faith of the pioneers and of the continuity of Australian history.’’ (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, p. 4:11)

6. ANALYSIS OF EVIDENCE

This analysis has been prepared by the consultants using the evidence presented in Chapters 2 to 5 which has been analysed against the ACT Heritage Criteria (reproduced at Appendix D), and judgements have been reached on the basis of the professional expertise of the consultants. The analysis is divided into sections related to the ACT Heritage Criteria.

It should be stressed this analysis is for the St John's landscape – it is not for the landscape and buildings in the heritage area. While any findings of the analysis can be viewed just in terms of the landscape, in practice these findings should be integrated with the overall understanding of significance for the whole heritage precinct, including the church and other buildings. This approach is reflected in the following chapter.

Following this analysis, a table is provided enabling a cross reference between the ACT Heritage Criteria and the HERCON Criteria – the latter being the agreed national set of criteria which all jurisdictions are working towards adopting.

ACT Heritage Criteria

(a) it demonstrates a high degree of technical or creative achievement (or both), by showing qualities of innovation, discovery, invention or an exceptionally fine level of application of existing techniques or approaches

There is no evidence relevant to this criterion for the St John's landscape.

(b) it exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group

This criterion is reflected in the ambience and mature character of the church landscape which is associated with people and events significant in the history of Canberra. Walking around the churchyard promotes a reassuring sense of place, history and identity. It has a dignified and tranquil atmosphere appreciated by the church congregation, visitors and tourists.

The St John's Churchyard has substantial aesthetic qualities, exhibiting a very traditional though in fact quite rare ACT example of a masonry church surrounded by grave markers in a well-treed setting. These characteristics would appear to be valued by the congregation of St John's Parish, the adjacent suburban community of Reid, the broader community of Canberra, and visitors to the national capital.

Further research could be undertaken to provide more definitive evidence of this value being held by these communities and groups (ie. social value research).

The FCC perimeter planting is not of outstanding design but retains the coniferous theme established in the nineteenth century.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(c) it is important as evidence of a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function that is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost or is of exceptional interest

The St John's Churchyard demonstrates a wide range of cultural practices and values, religious and secular, that are no longer practiced and considered to be rare in the ACT. The growth and patterning of graves reflects the burial practices of the Canberra community over a 160 year period, continuing to this day. While strongly based in religious practice, burial also has a strong secular component, reflecting the tastes and design sense of each era, and the graveyard demonstrates changing community attitudes to death and the commemoration of the dead over time.

The association of conifers with a churchyard is well displayed at St John's since the earliest planting phases. This feature of St John's, together with a coniferous boundary hedge, is unusual in the region at least, possibly more broadly.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(d) it is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations

The St John's landscape has all of these associations – religious, spiritual, cultural, educational and social. It is able to impart clearly a deep understanding of the place and the story of what has happened – when, where, who has been involved and why things were initiated in a way that suffuses community appreciation and value. It is a landscape created over time that is redolent with memories, both private and collective, that promote a sense of identity. One of our deepest needs is for a sense of identity and belonging. A common denominator in this is human attachment to landscape and how we find identity in landscape and place (Taylor 2008). Landscape therefore is not simply what we see, but 'a way of seeing' (Cosgrove 1984, p. 1). We see it with our eye but interpret it with our mind (Meinig 1979, pp. 1-3), and ascribe values to landscape for both tangible and intangible – spiritual – reasons.

The St John's Churchyard has been the centre for Anglican worship in Canberra for over 160 years, and is one of the oldest historic places surviving in Canberra. The precinct hence has strong religious and social associations for major sectors of the Canberra community. These associations are demonstrated by the continued involvement of many Canberrans in Parish activities on the site.

Further research could be undertaken to provide more definitive evidence of this value being held by these communities and groups (ie. social value research).

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(e) it is significant to the ACT because of its importance as part of local Aboriginal tradition

There is no evidence relevant to this criterion for the St John's landscape.

(f) it is a rare or unique example of its kind, or is rare or unique in its comparative intactness

The placement of the cemetery next to the church in the 1840s did not follow the usual pattern, where most town and village churches were separated spatially from the cemetery. This makes St John's a rare and notable example of its kind – church and graveyard. In the ACT and regionally this is a unique aspect, in that there are no operating churches with cemeteries attached (Connell Wagner 2002).

The place also displays a high level of intactness – its layout and landscape treatment reflecting various layers of development through 160 years of history.

The conjunction of church, graveyard and developed landscape of the scale and intactness of the St John's precinct is rare in the ACT and in Australia as a whole. While there are a number of other churches of comparable age to St John's with associated graveyards listed in the Australian Heritage Database (www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl), few have as extensive a graveyard as St John's, and very few graveyards encircle the church or have a developed treed landscape comparable with St John's. Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Kelso, NSW (built 1825) is a comparable place, and several churches and graveyards in Sydney, WA and Tasmania have close association between graveyard and church. But few have the landscape qualities of St John's that tie the graves and church together as an enclosed and intimate space.

Hedges around churchyards are not a common feature in Australia, and the FCC perimeter planting is an unusual example of churchyard enclosure in Australia.

It is possible these qualities constitute a heritage value of national interest. However, a stronger contextual basis would benefit such a case. It is not clear that these qualities would meet the threshold for National Heritage value currently applied under the *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Australian Heritage Council 2009). National interest is not necessarily the same as the formal definition of National Heritage, the latter having arguably a very high threshold.

The planted species in the St John's precinct are not rare or unique in themselves.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(g) it is a notable example of a kind of place or object and demonstrates the main characteristics of that kind

The church and graveyard demonstrates to a high degree the traditional role of the church in a rural community, even though the physical layout of the church located within the graveyard is unusual. The endowment of the church by local landowners, particularly the Campbells, the gradual growth of the church to what was considered an appropriate scale and quality reflecting its importance to the Anglican community, the accumulation of the graves of parishioners for over a 160 year period, many in family plots or closely associated, and the survival of the great majority of grave markers in relatively good condition, are all aspects that add to this being a notable example of its type.

The survival of the schoolhouse adds to the representative values of the place, illustrating the role of the church in servicing its congregation and the wider community in the absence of government social services.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(h) it has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase in local or national history

Inherent in the development of the St John's landscape are associations with people and organisations such as the Reverend P G Smith, Federal Capital Commission and Charles Weston. They undertook tree and hedge planting schemes which remain in today's landscape as major contributors, shaping the strong landscape pattern and spatial definitions which are a hallmark of the place.

Reverend Smith was an important figure in the early European history of the Canberra district being Rector of St John's for 51 years. St John's was an important early institution in the district, and Reverend Smith was in charge of the church. The current landscape reflects his influence, especially in the remnant 1880s pine plantings, and Reverend Smith is buried in the churchyard. The only other place that may have had an association is Glebe House. However, the house was demolished and the remnant glebe landscape is much altered.

Arguably therefore, the landscape of St John's, along with the church itself, has a strong and special association with Reverend Smith.

The Federal Capital Commission was an important organisation in the history of the development of the national capital from 1925-1930. The FCC was responsible for the development of Canberra as the national capital in the crucial period which culminated in the opening of Old Parliament House in 1927. The FCC period was the second major phase in the development of Canberra, and there were numerous developments undertaken in this period.

The influence of the FCC on Canberra is very widespread and includes major buildings and extensive plantings. The completion of Old Parliament House and the Parliamentary Zone plantings would have to rank highly as having strong or special associations. In this context, the plantings at St John's do not seem to have any associations of this quality.

Charles Weston was Officer-in-Charge, Afforestation Branch, Federal Capital Territory, and held other positions, in the period 1913-26, and was responsible for plantings in the first phase of the development of Canberra as the national capital. Weston is an important figure in the cultural history of Australia, being responsible for the early detailed plantings which are a major feature of the overall landscape of Canberra. There are many places in Canberra which share an association with Weston. Places with a special association with Weston are likely to be the Parliamentary Zone, Westbourne Woods, Yarralumla Nursery, The Lodge, City Hill, and Haig, Telopea and Collins Parks. (Murphy 1990; Aitken & Looker 2002, pp. 639-640)

The documented association between Weston and St John's is slight, and otherwise putative. For example, while he certainly approved of the entry avenue planting, this is not actual evidence that he designed the planting. Similarly, while the government nursery for which he was responsible provided plants to the church, there is no evidence of Weston himself playing a substantial role in such matters.

Accordingly, it is not considered that there is a strong or special association between St

John's and Weston. Weston's influence is widespread in Canberra, and the suggested association with St John's does not display any qualities to raise this association above the ordinary.

The precinct also has strong associations with many early European families in Canberra's history, particularly the Campbells as benefactors of the church. The Campbells were important in the history of the Canberra district, and perhaps in the early life of the NSW colony. The Campbell's Duntroon property near to St John's was an early and major pastoral estate. Robert Campbell was instrumental in supporting the construction of St John's and endowing the Parish with resources for its maintenance. St John's operated as the church for the Duntroon estate and the Campbells. There is a fenced section for the Campbell family in the graveyard. The association continues to the present.

The St John's precinct, including the landscape, has a strong a special association with the Campbell family.

This association is shared with the remnant parts of the Duntroon estate, especially Duntroon House and garden, and with Campbell's Storehouse at Circular Quay in Sydney.

The precinct is strongly associated with the period of early European settlement prior to the national capital. Dating from shortly after European settlement, the church was a focal point for the early settler community in the district. It is one of the few relics from the pre-national capital period remaining in inner Canberra, along with elements of the Duntroon estate and Yarralumla.

The St John's precinct is closely associated with the development of Canberra as the national capital. The precinct occupies an important position in the Griffins' city plan, placed at the intersection of two major Griffin planning axes (the Land Axis and Constitution Avenue). It is one of most obvious physical representations of the relationship between the pre-capital spatial organization of the locality and the ordered Griffins' plan for the city. The site retains the geometry of the earlier period overlain by the boundaries dictated by the newly-aligned plan. The changed geometries are reflected by the original alignment of the church, schoolhouse, grave orientation and the older tree plantings, and the new alignment of the Rectory, boundary hedges, lych-gates and later plantings.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(i) it is significant for understanding the evolution of natural landscapes, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes

The St John's landscape may have significance under this criterion. An important feature of the Golden Sun Moth habitat at St John's is that the moth is using a wider range of native and exotic grasses than has previously been reported, compared to other populations in the ACT (Colin Lendon & George Pooley, personal communication, 2009). As such, this would demonstrate an evolutionary process.

Further research is needed to demonstrate this significance.

(j) it has provided, or is likely to provide, information that will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of the natural or cultural history of the ACT because of its use or potential use as a research site or object, teaching site or object, type locality or benchmark site

St John's as an historic marker in the landscape of the ACT, with the church spire and plantings visible from surrounding hills such as Mount Ainslie and Black Mountain, already contributes to an understanding of the cultural history of the ACT and life before and after the creation of the national capital. It is an acknowledged educational and tourism destination.

The site of the stables block that serviced the church and schoolhouse has not been determined with any certainty, but if located in the future these remains would have some value in contributing to an understanding of the place in the context of the ACT. Grave markers and burial practices are an important source of information about cultural changes over time, and the study of the above-ground remains (linked with similar study elsewhere in the ACT region) has a high potential for future archaeological research of value in understanding the history of the ACT.

The precinct may provide further valuable information on suitable habitats for the Golden Sun Moth, and the plant species they utilise.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion.

(k) for a place—it exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements

There is no evidence relevant to this criterion for the St John's landscape.

(l) for a place—it is a significant ecological community, habitat or locality for any of the following:

- (i) the life cycle of native species;***
- (ii) rare, threatened or uncommon species;***
- (iii) species at the limits of their natural range;***
- (iv) distinct occurrences of species.***

There are two, inter-connected features to note under this criterion. The precinct contains remnants of Natural Temperate Grasslands and these are habitat for the Golden Sun Moth, both being regarded as endangered.

Hodgkinson (2009, p. 26) rates the St John's grasslands as Category 2, meaning,

'complementary conservation sites of moderate botanical significance or threatened species habitat or medium area sites of high botanical significance.' (Hodgkinson 2009, pp. 3-4)

The floristic diversity of the precinct's remnant grassland patches is not high. In the context of the ACT Heritage Criteria, the grasslands taken in isolation do not meet this criterion. However, in the context of the conservation of Natural Temperate Grasslands in the ACT, the grasslands are regarded as important as part of a territory-wide conservation approach.

None the less, the grasslands are considered important habitat for the endangered Golden Sun Moth. The St John's precinct is one of a number of Golden Sun Moth sites in the

ACT.

In summary, the landscape meets this criterion being habitat for the moth.



Figure 73. View of the church from the western lych-gate

Source: Duncan Marshall

Future Heritage Criteria - HERCON

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) has agreed that the States and Territories will move progressively to the use of consistent heritage assessment criteria, known as the HERCON criteria. The ACT is likely to modify its criteria in line with HERCON when the *Heritage Act* is reviewed in 2010. The following table correlates the current ACT Heritage Criteria used above with the new HERCON criteria, to allow this assessment of significance to be more easily understood in the future.

Table 6. ACT Heritage Act Criteria correlated with the HERCON Criteria	
HERCON Model Criteria	ACT Heritage Criteria 2004
	A place or object has heritage significance if it satisfies 1 or more of the following criteria (the heritage significance criteria):
(a) Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history.	<p>(c) it is important as evidence of a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function that is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost, or is of exceptional interest;</p> <p>(h) it has strong or special associations with a person, group, <u>event, development or cultural phase</u> in local or national history;</p> <p>(i) it is significant for understanding the evolution of natural landscapes, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes;</p> <p>(k) for a place—it exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements;</p> <p>(l) for a place—it is a significant ecological community, habitat or locality for any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the life cycle of native species; (ii) rare, threatened or uncommon species; (iii) species at the limits of their natural range;

Table 6. ACT Heritage Act Criteria correlated with the HERCON Criteria	
HERCON Model Criteria	ACT Heritage Criteria 2004
	(iv) district occurrences of species.
(b) Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.	(f) it is a rare or unique example of its kind, or is rare or unique in its comparative intactness;
(c) Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.	(j) it has provided, or is likely to provide, information that will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of the natural or cultural history of the ACT because of its use or potential use as a research site or object, teaching site or object, type locality or benchmark site;
(d) Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.	(g) it is a notable example of a kind of place or object and demonstrates the main characteristics of that kind;
(e) Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.	(b) it exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group;
(f) Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.	(a) it demonstrates a high degree of technical or creative achievement (or both), by showing qualities of innovation, discovery, invention or an exceptionally fine level of application of existing techniques or approaches;
(g) Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of the continuing and developing cultural traditions.	(d) it is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations; (e) it is significant to the ACT because of its importance as part of local Aboriginal tradition;
(h) Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.	(h) it has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase in local or national history;



Figure 74. Part of the graveyard

Source: Duncan Marshall

7. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Context

The significance of the St John's landscape is integral to the significance of the overall precinct, including the buildings. This conservation management plan focuses on the landscape of St John's, and it has not re-examined the significance of the whole place. This plan relies on prior statements of significance for the whole place, these being prepared for the ACT Heritage Register (see Appendix A) and a 2007 conservation management plan (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd, noting this has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish).

This section begins with these prior statements of significance. In each case, aspects of significance specifically relevant to the landscape have been highlighted. Following these statements, an additional statement of significance for the landscape is provided.

ACT Heritage Register – Statement of Significance

'St John's Church has been a focus for the religious and social life of the Canberra region since the 1840s, and enduring into the development years of the National Capital.

St John's Church has a strong association with the early pioneering pastoral families of the Canberra area. The church was valued by the local Anglican congregation and was seen by others as a **feature of the landscape**. It has particularly significant links with the Campbell family. Rev Alberto Dias Soares, who was engaged to design the extension to the nave and add the chancel and crypt, had a strong affiliation with the region through his design of local church buildings. **The impact of the Rev Pierce Galliard Smith as the Rector for fifty years was significant, as are his tree plantings. They are still to be seen at St John's Church, Glebe Park and the site of the old Glebe House.**

The prominent Victorian architect Edmund Blacket (1817-1883) is strongly associated with the church. He was a prolific designer of churches in New South Wales and an eminent architect of his time. Blacket was the designer of the tower and spire that was to become a familiar landmark in the Canberra region.

The Church building has grown with an increasing congregation, into a building of fine proportion. The many plaques on the internal walls are an historical testament to the local people through the years. The church reflects the strong links with the Campbell family, while **the influence of Rev Pierce Galliard Smith can be seen in the tree planting.**

Examples of the fabric of the church at various stages of construction are clearly evident and shows various materials and crafted finishes. The large stained glass east window represents an ambitious attempt considering the development of Australian technology at the time.

The graveyard is as old as the church itself with many members of pioneering families interred there. The headstones provide a valuable social history and are complementary not only to the life of the church, but also the early history of the Limestone Plains.

The East and West Lychgates at St John's are a rare example of this type of structure in Australia. **These gates combined with the hedge, planted by the Federal Capital Commission in 1926, assist in retaining the early character of the church by visually shielding it from the encroaching development of urban Canberra.**

The grounds, including the Rectory and Horse Paddock contribute to the visual circumscription

of the site, the trees and planting maintaining the serenity and distinctive character of the church within an otherwise busy part of the city.

St John's Schoolhouse was the first combined school and school teachers' residence built on the Limestone Plains. The school building and **remnant open space to the west, which formed part of the school's playground, are tangible evidence of the education practices in the community life of early European settlement in the ACT.**

The place is important for the way it demonstrates the education practices for children of the families brought out from Scotland to work on the Duntroon estate, as well as for other pioneering rural families on the Limestone Plains. It is also demonstrative of the attitudes and social mores of the Campbells of 'Duntroon', as the benefactors of the school.

St John's Schoolhouse museum is important for its role as a teaching and research site for local and interstate schools, TAFE colleges and universities in local history and cultural and social values.'

Conservation Management Plan for St John's 2007 – Statement of Significance

'The evolution and development of the Anglican Church of St John the Baptist precinct was mirrored by, and evolved with, the development of the National Capital itself. The intimate connections of the Church precinct with the Duntroon estate and the Duntroon RMC has nationally significant values in terms of land settlement, land tenure, establishment of churches and education, and the intimate links between private wealth and benefaction, and community good.

The precinct as a whole is notable as a 'palimpsest' of the **C19th and C20th geometries of Molonglo valley settlement**, and of the core elements that characterised the hamlet and later city of Canberra. The precinct as a whole [buildings, **landscape, archaeology, cemetery**, and moveable heritage] **remains a notable 'thing of beauty'** near to the heart of the national capital, which is notable for its intactness, longevity and integrity, and which is an uncommon and rare value in a national sense.

The cultural archaeology of the precinct, both above and below ground is probably of national significance, given the relative lack of disturbance over the periods of European settlement. **The undisturbed nature of the precinct's archaeology must be seen in the context of the radical disturbances occasioned as part of the works associated with the National Capital.**

The 'Church and School' functions of the original St John's Church group, and although the School was closed early in the C20th, the functions of Church and School remain clearly evident within the precinct, as does the clear distinction made evident in the early settlement and establishment, of **the distinction of consecrated and 'public' ground ie Church and State values made real within this precinct.**

The St John's Heritage Precinct evidences the work of architects, artists, and crafts-persons regarded to be of national eminence and skill. Nationally regarded architects with involvement in the precinct include Edmund Thomas Blacket, Alberto Dias Soares, Morton Herman, Louis Williams and John Goldsmith. Nationally regarded planners who helped shape the precinct include the Griffins, William Holford, Richard Clough, Grenfell Ruddock, and Denis Winston.

The history of the precinct clearly evidences the strong and special associations the precinct has had, and continues to have, with ecclesiastical, educational, community, military, and Government entities. The associations of the precinct with the life or works of a persons and institutions of importance in Australia's natural or cultural history is clearly of national status. The precinct has historical and ongoing associations with nationally significant historians, clergy, community leaders, military personnel, politicians, and Governors General.' (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, pp. 4:11-4:12)

Additional Significance of the St John's Landscape

The landscape of St John's Church is an integral part of the overall heritage place. Its significance must be understood in this context, and reference should be made to the overall statements of significance for St John's (ie. the ACT Heritage Register citation and Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, pp. 4:11-4:12, noting the latter reference has not been

endorsed or adopted by the Parish).

In summary, aspects of significance related to the landscape worth highlighting include: aesthetic qualities, it demonstrates a wide range of cultural practices and values, has a range of important associations, is a rare and notable example of a church and graveyard located together, displays a high level of intactness, demonstrates to a high degree the traditional role of the church in a rural community, has a range of strong and special associations with people and important cultural phases, contributes to an understanding of the cultural history of the ACT and has the potential to contribute further, and is the habitat for the endangered Golden Sun Moth.

Details of this additional significance are provided below, ordered according to the ACT Heritage Criteria.



The St John's Churchyard has substantial aesthetic qualities, exhibiting a very traditional though in fact quite rare ACT example of a masonry church surrounded by grave markers in a well-treed setting with extensive perimeter hedges (reflecting two boundaries from different periods) and internal hedges. These qualities relate to the ambience and mature character of the church landscape which is associated with people and events significant in the history of Canberra. The churchyard promotes a reassuring sense of place, history and identity, and it has a dignified and tranquil atmosphere.

These characteristics would appear to be valued by the congregation of St John's Parish, the adjacent suburban community of Reid, the broader community of Canberra, and visitors to the national capital.

Further research could be undertaken to provide more definitive evidence of this value being held by these communities and groups (ie. social value research).

(ACT Heritage Criterion (b))

The St John's Churchyard demonstrates a wide range of cultural practices and values, religious and secular, that are no longer practiced and considered to be rare in the ACT. The growth and patterning of graves reflects the burial practices of the Canberra community over a 160 year period, continuing to this day. While strongly based in religious practice, burial also has a strong secular component, reflecting the tastes and design sense of each era, and the graveyard demonstrates changing community attitudes to death and the commemoration of the dead over time.

The association of conifers with a churchyard is well displayed at St John's since the earliest planting phases. This feature of St John's, together with a coniferous boundary hedge, is unusual in the region at least, possibly more broadly.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (c))

The St John's landscape has a range of important associations – religious, spiritual, cultural, educational and social. It is able to impart clearly a deep understanding of the place and its story in a way that suffuses community appreciation and value. It is a landscape created over time that is redolent with memories, both private and collective, that promote a sense of identity.

The St John's Churchyard has been the centre for Anglican worship in Canberra for over 160 years, and is one of the oldest historic places surviving in Canberra. The precinct hence has strong religious and social associations for major sectors of the Canberra community. These associations are demonstrated by the continued involvement of many Canberrans in Parish activities on the site.

Further research could be undertaken to provide more definitive evidence of this value being held by these communities and groups (ie. social value research).

(ACT Heritage Criterion (d))

St John's is a rare and notable example of a church and graveyard located together. The placement of the cemetery next to the church in the 1840s did not follow the usual pattern, where most town and village churches were separated spatially from the cemetery. In the ACT and regionally this is a unique aspect, in that there are no operating churches with cemeteries attached.

The place also displays a high level of intactness – its layout and landscape treatment reflecting various layers of development through 160 years of history.

The conjunction of church, graveyard and developed landscape of the scale and intactness of the St John's precinct is rare in the ACT and in Australia as a whole. Few churches have the landscape qualities of St John's that tie the graves and church together as an enclosed and intimate space.

Hedges around churchyards are not a common feature in Australia, and the Federal Capital Commission perimeter planting is an unusual example of churchyard enclosure in Australia.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (f))

The church and graveyard demonstrates to a high degree the traditional role of the church in a rural community, even though the physical layout of the church located within the graveyard is unusual. The endowment of the church by local landowners, particularly the Campbells, the gradual growth of the church to what was considered an appropriate scale and quality reflecting its importance to the Anglican community, the accumulation of the graves of parishioners for over a 160 year period, many in family plots or closely associated, and the survival of the great majority of grave markers in relatively good condition, are all aspects that add to this being a notable example of its type.

The survival of the schoolhouse adds to the representative values of the place, illustrating the role of the church in servicing its congregation in the absence of government social services.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (g))

The St John's landscape has strong and special associations with the Reverend P G Smith, with many early European families in Canberra's history, particularly the Campbells, it is strongly associated with the period of early European settlement prior to the national capital, and with the development of Canberra as the national capital.

Reverend Smith was an important figure in the early European history of the Canberra district being Rector of St John's for 51 years. St John's was an important early institution in the district, and Reverend Smith was in charge of the church. The current landscape reflects his influence, especially in the remnant 1880s pine plantings, and Reverend Smith is buried in the churchyard.

The precinct also has strong associations with many early European families in Canberra's history, particularly the Campbells as benefactors of the church. The Campbells were important in the history of the Canberra district, and perhaps in the early life of the NSW colony. The Campbell's Duntroon property near to St John's was an early and major pastoral estate. Robert Campbell was instrumental in supporting the construction of St John's and endowing the Parish with resources for its maintenance. St John's operated as the church for the Duntroon estate and the Campbells. There is a fenced section for the Campbell family in the graveyard. The association continues to the present.

The precinct is strongly associated with the period of early European settlement prior to the national capital. Dating from shortly after European settlement, the church was a focal point for the early settler community in the district. It is one of the few relics from the pre-national capital period remaining in inner Canberra.

The St John's precinct is closely associated with the development of Canberra as the national capital. The precinct occupies an important position in the Griffins' city plan, placed at the intersection of two major Griffin planning axes (the Land Axis and Constitution Avenue). It is one of most obvious physical representations of the relationship between the pre-capital spatial organization of the locality and the ordered Griffins' plan for the city. The site retains the geometry of the earlier period overlain by the boundaries dictated by the newly-aligned plan. The changed geometries are reflected by the original alignment of the church, schoolhouse, grave orientation and the older tree plantings, and the new alignment of the Rectory, boundary hedges, lych-gates and later plantings.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (h))

The St John's landscape may have significance in demonstrating an evolutionary process. An important feature of the Golden Sun Moth habitat at St John's is that the moth may well be using a different range of native grasses compared to other populations in the ACT. However, further research is needed to substantiate this significance.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (i))

St John's as an historic marker in the landscape of the ACT, with the church spire and plantings visible from surrounding hills such as Mount Ainslie and Black Mountain, already contributes to an understanding of the cultural history of the ACT and life before and after the creation of the national capital. It is an acknowledged educational and tourism destination.

The site of the stables block that serviced the church and schoolhouse has not been determined with any certainty, but if located in the future these remains would have some value in contributing to an understanding of the place in the context of the ACT. Grave markers and burial practices are an important source of information about cultural changes over time, and the study of the above-ground remains (linked with similar study elsewhere in the ACT region) has a high potential for future archaeological research of value in

understanding the history of the ACT.

The precinct may provide further valuable information on suitable habitats for the Golden Sun Moth, and the plant species they utilise.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (j))

The Natural Temperate Grassland remnants in the precinct are considered important habitat for the endangered Golden Sun Moth.

(ACT Heritage Criterion (l))



Figure 75. St John's Church and graves from the south

Source: Duncan Marshall

7.2 ATTRIBUTES RELATED TO SIGNIFICANCE

The following list of attributes are features that express or embody the heritage values detailed above, and these are useful in ensuring protection for the values.

Table 7. Attributes related to Significance	
ACT Heritage Criteria	Attributes
Criterion (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Churchyard, including church, grave markers and trees
Criterion (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graves Conifers Coniferous boundary hedge
Criterion (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Churchyard Parish activities
Criterion (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church and graveyard located together Layers of landscape development through 160 years of history Landscape with enclosed and intimate qualities Hedges and Federal Capital Commission perimeter plantings – sense of enclosure
Criterion (g)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church and graveyard Graves Family plots or close collections of family graves Schoolhouse
Criterion (h)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reverend Smith's grave 1880s pine plantings Campbell family plot Pre-national capital fabric Fabric/plantings demonstrating pre and post-national capital geometries - original alignment of the church, schoolhouse, grave orientation and the older tree plantings, and the new alignment of the Rectory, boundary hedges, lych-gates and later plantings
Criterion (j)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St John's as an historic marker in the landscape of the ACT, with the church spire and plantings visible from surrounding hills such as Mount Ainslie and Black Mountain Stable Block site (not yet clearly identified) Graves/grave markers Natural Temperate Grassland remnants
Criterion (l)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Temperate Grassland remnants

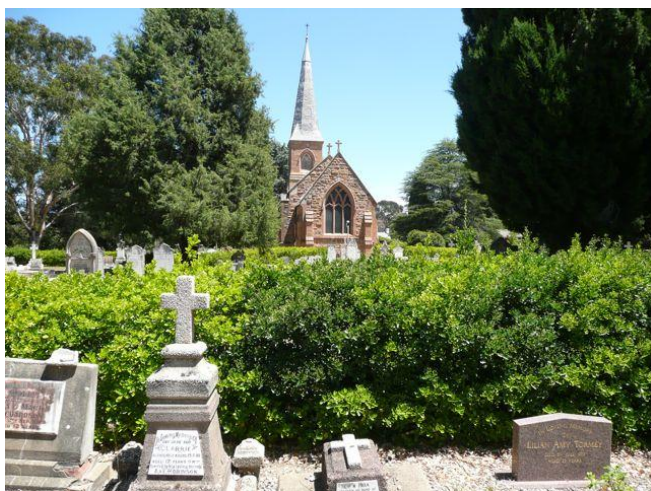


Figure 76. St John's Church an internal hedge from east

Source: Duncan Marshall

8. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY - OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

8.1 IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM SIGNIFICANCE

Based on the statement of significance presented in Chapter 7, the following management implications arise. These implications are essentially related to those important features, fabric or qualities referred to in the statement of significance, and which convey or embody the significance (eg. the graves are specifically referred to under Criterion (c) in the statement of significance, and this leads to an implication to conserve the graves).

Conserve the:

- churchyard, including church, graves, grave markers and trees;
- church and graveyard located together;
- layers of landscape development through 160 years of history;
- landscape with enclosed and intimate qualities;
- fabric/plantings demonstrating pre and post-national capital geometries – original alignment of the church, schoolhouse, grave orientation and the older tree plantings, and the new alignment of the Rectory, boundary hedges, lych-gates and later plantings;
- conifers;
- 1880s pine plantings;
- hedges and Federal Capital Commission perimeter plantings – sense of enclosure;
- Parish activities;
- family plots or close collections of family graves;
- Reverend Smith's grave;
- Campbell family plot;
- pre-national capital fabric;
- schoolhouse
- stable block site (not yet clearly identified);
- St John's as an historic marker in the landscape of the ACT, with the church spire and plantings visible from surrounding hills such as Mount Ainslie and Black Mountain; and
- Natural Temperate Grassland remnants.

These implications do not automatically lead to a given conservation policy in Chapter 9. There are a range of other factors that must also be considered in the development of the policy, and these are considered in the rest of this chapter. Such factors may modify the implications listed above to produce a different policy outcome.

8.2 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The management of St John's Church operates within a legislative framework which includes the:

- *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* (Commonwealth);
- *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003* (ACT);

- *Heritage Act 2004* (ACT);
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth); and
- *Nature Conservation Act 1980* (ACT).

In addition, there are a range of relevant subsidiary plans and policies. This framework and relevant elements are briefly described below.

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988

The Act establishes the National Capital Authority, and requires the NCA to prepare and administer a *National Capital Plan* (National Capital Authority 2002). The *National Capital Plan* defines Designated Areas and sets out detailed policies for land use and detailed conditions for planning, design and development within them. Works approval must be obtained from the NCA for all ‘works’ proposed within a Designated Area.

St John’s is part of the Central National Area (Constitution Avenue, Anzac Parade). The Central National Area is a Designated Area as defined in the *National Capital Plan*. Therefore all ‘works’ affecting the area require written approval from the NCA.

The following section briefly describes relevant parts of the *National Capital Plan*.

National Capital Authority and National Capital Plan

The object of the plan (National Capital Authority 2002) is to ensure that Canberra and the ACT are planned and developed in accordance with their national significance. In particular, the plan seeks to preserve and enhance the special characteristics and those qualities of the National Capital which are of national significance.

The plan describes the broad pattern of land use to be adopted in the development of Canberra and other relevant matters of broad policy. The plan also sets out detailed conditions for the planning, design and development of Designated Areas which includes St John’s. As noted above, works within a Designated Area require written approval from the NCA and must meet these detailed conditions. Such works include:

- new buildings or structures;
- installation of sculpture;
- landscaping;
- excavation;
- tree felling; and
- demolition.

Specific relevant sections of the plan include:

- principles and policies for the Parliamentary Zone and its Setting (*National Capital Plan*, Sections 1.1.2 and 1.1.3);
- principles and policies for Constitution Avenue (NCP Amendment 60 (NCA [2006?]), Sections 1.5.2 and 1.5.3, Figure 12);
- detailed conditions of planning, design and development (NCP, Section 1.4);
- heritage and environment (NCP, Chapters 10 and 11);
- design and siting conditions for detached houses and buildings other than detached houses (NCP, Appendix H, Parts 1 and 2);
- design and siting conditions for signs (NCP, Appendix H, Part 3); and
- master plan for Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade (NCP Amendment 60,

Key extracts from the plan are reproduced at Appendix E.

The plan provides extensive and detailed guidance on a wide variety of matters. It is difficult to meaningfully distill the relevant guidance however, its scope includes:

- the role of the capital;
- preferred uses;
- character to be achieved/maintained;
- hydraulics and water quality;
- access;
- development conditions, including scale of development;
- parking and traffic arrangements;
- standard and nature of building, and urban design and siting, including landscaping;
- management planning for features;
- heritage places;
- signage; and
- infrastructure.

Key general principles and policies

The key relevant principles provided in the plan are,

‘The Territory's natural and cultural heritage should be identified, preserved, protected and conserved in accordance with internationally accepted principles, and in order to enhance the character of Canberra and the Territory as the National Capital.’ (NCA 2002, Section 10.2)

‘The environmental quality of the National Capital and the Territory should be maintained and improved.’ (NCA 2002, Section 11.2)

- ‘1. Establish Constitution Avenue as a diverse and active grand boulevard lined with shops, cafes and a mix of commercial, entertainment and residential uses...
6. Establish Constitution Avenue with higher density development, public transport, broad tree-lined footpaths and outdoor dining and street parking.’ (NCA [2006?], p. 1)

It also provides a number of policies, of which the key ones are as follows.

- ‘(a) Planning and development should give due protection to any natural or cultural heritage place in the ACT included on the Register of the National Estate and/or heritage register of the ACT Government.
- (b) Within Designated Areas the Authority will require Conservation Plans for listed heritage places. The Conservation Plans for cultural heritage sites will follow the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Guidelines for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter).
- (c) Planning policies and the applicable development conditions should conform with the requirements of any such Conservation Plan.’ (NCA 2002, Section 10.3)
- ‘(c) The ecological resources of the ACT shall be planned and managed in an integrated manner to maintain or enhance the overall quality and stability of the environment of the National Capital, having regard to such issues as soil conservation, nutrient recycling, water balance regulation, salinity control and protection of water quality.
- (d) As wide a range as possible of the naturally occurring plant and animal communities and species of the ACT should be protected in situations where their long-term survival can be expected and the propagation of rare or vulnerable species in suitable protected habitats will be encouraged.’ (NCA 2002, Section 11.3)

Land uses

Land use at St John's is zoned Land Use A which includes a wide range of permitted uses including social/community facility, residential and place of assembly (NCA [2006?], p. 3).

Constitution Avenue master plan

A master plan for Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade is also provided in the *National Capital Plan* (NCA [2006?], Appendix T.8, reproduced at Appendix E). The master plan provides guidance across a range of issues and some key relevant points to note are,

‘Landscape planting should reinforce the urban structure of Constitution Avenue and its integration with the setting of the Central National Area and the Lake Burley Griffin parklands.

A formal treatment should be applied to the main avenues including Constitution, Kings and Commonwealth Avenues and Parkes Way. Continuous street trees should define the pattern of major and minor streets.’ (NCA [2006?], p. 7)

The master plan provides for maximum building heights for new development on St John's land, outside the heritage area, of 12 metres to the northeast and to the northwest of 25 metres. The master plan also foreshadows widening of Constitution Avenue which would reduce the St John's site by 6 metres, including part of the heritage area in the vicinity of the horse paddock and Rectory.

The master plan provides a series of indicative plans on a range of issues which are reproduced in Appendix E.

Figure 77. Indicative Development Plan for Constitution Avenue

Source: NCA [2006?]





Figure 78. Impact of Road Widening on the St John's Site

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

Note: New site boundary along Constitution Avenue shown as dashed line.



Figure 79. National Capital Plan – Indicative Building Height

Source: NCA [2006?]





Figure 80. National Capital Plan – Indicative Development Plan Detail
Source: NCA [2006?]

Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003 (ACT)

The legislation applies to the St John's graveyard and columbaria. While the general provisions of the Act relate to the perpetual care liability and the funding for maintaining cemeteries, the Act also deals with such matters as the method of burials.

It is understood the Act applies in theory to St John's. However, in practice, application of the Act is largely dormant. In part this may relate to the fact that St John's graveyard has been closed to general burials since 1936. There are a few valid burial certificates still existing which would allow burials to take place. Any new burials accord with contemporary standards.

Heritage Act 2004 (ACT)

This Act is the principal Territory heritage legislation. It provides a comprehensive system to conserve significant heritage places and objects in the ACT. The main elements of the Heritage Act include:

- to establish a system for the recognition, registration and conservation of natural and cultural heritage places and objects, including Aboriginal places and objects;
- to establish the heritage council as the key advisory body on heritage issues;
- establish a more comprehensive and accessible Heritage Register with streamlined processes to nominate and register heritage places and objects;
- to provide for heritage agreements to encourage conservation of heritage places and objects;
- to provide for heritage guidelines to protect heritage significance;
- to define obligations of public authorities to protect heritage;
- establish enforcement and offence provisions to provide greater protection for heritage places and objects including Heritage Directions, Heritage Orders and Information Discovery Orders; and
- to provide a more efficient system integrated with land planning and development to consider development applications having regard to the heritage significance of a

place and heritage guidelines.

St John's Church has been entered on the ACT Heritage Register, however it is not subject to the protective provisions of the Act. Because the site falls under the National Capital Authority's planning control, the ACT protective provisions do not apply. None the less, this registration triggers protection under the *National Capital Plan*, as noted above. As part of any deliberations arising from a development application, the NCA also normally consults with the ACT Heritage Council. Accordingly, the Council's views may influence the NCA's decision.

The range of statutory and non-statutory heritage listings relevant to St John's are detailed in the following table.

Table 8. Heritage Listings relevant to St John's Church	
List and Places	Listing Body and Implications
ACT Heritage Register	
St John the Baptist Church and Churchyard (also called St John the Baptist Church Precinct and St John's Precinct)	ACT Heritage Council. Although a statutory list with protective powers, no such powers apply. Listing would not directly invoke the protective powers, though it may do so indirectly through the powers exercised by the National Capital Authority in accordance with Chapter 10 of the <i>National Capital Plan</i> .
Register of the National Estate	
St Johns Church Precinct St Johns Church and Churchyard St Johns Schoolhouse Museum	Australian Heritage Council. Places are subject to statutory protection under the EPBC Act 1999.
National Trust of Australia (ACT) List of Classified & Registered Places	
St John the Baptist Anglican Church St John's Schoolhouse	National Trust of Australia (ACT). Community listing with no statutory provisions.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)

This Act is the major Commonwealth environmental and biodiversity conservation legislation. The EPBC Act identifies six matters of national environmental significance where significant impacts on any of these matters would require referral to the Commonwealth for approval.

The matter of environmental significance that potentially impacts on the St John's precinct is Subdivision C – Listed threatened species and communities. The EPBC Act protects Australia's native species and ecological communities by providing for:

- identification and listing of species and ecological communities as threatened;
- development of conservation advice and recovery plans for listed species and ecological communities;
- development of a register of critical habitat;
- recognition of key threatening processes; and
- where appropriate, reducing the impacts of these processes through threat abatement plans.

The Golden Sun Moth is a listed threatened species. It has a listing status of critically endangered.

A national recovery plan for the Golden Sun Moth is currently in preparation by the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change. The EPBC Act Policy Statement 3.12 - Draft Significant Impact Guidelines for the Critically Endangered Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*) (DEWHA 2009b) has been released. This document provides advice on significant impact thresholds for the Golden Sun Moth. It also includes advice on how to avoid and minimise impact to the Golden Sun Moth. Mitigation measures are also discussed.

Additionally, the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment has produced an Action Statement (DSE 2004) and the ACT Government has produced an Action Plan for the management of the Golden Sun Moth (ACT Government 1998).

The EPBC Act has protective provisions against impacts, referral and approval processes, and penalty provisions for breaches.

Nature Conservation Act 1980 (ACT)

This Act requires the preparation of Action Plans for listed threatened species - the Golden Sun Moth in the case of the St John's precinct. The moth is included in Action Plan No. 28 (ACT Government 2005). Some of the recommendations of this report will assist with the restoration and management of moth habitat in the precinct. Further information is available in research reports specifically related to the precinct (Biosis Pty Ltd 2007, Cooper 2009 and Hodgkinson 2009).

Similar to the *Heritage Act 2004*, this Act does not formally play a role in the case of St John's because the land is subject to Commonwealth planning control. None the less, the National Capital Authority seeks to achieve the requirements of the Act. Formal nature conservation protection arises from provisions of the *National Capital Plan* and the EPBC Act.

8.3 STAKEHOLDERS

In addition to the St John's Parish community and those organisations with a statutory role, such as the ACT Heritage Council, there are several other stakeholder groups as noted below.

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

The Trust is a community-based heritage conservation organisation. It maintains a register of heritage places, and generally operates as an advocate for heritage conservation. Listing on the Trust's register carries no statutory power, though the Trust is an effective public advocate in the cause of heritage. The Trust has registered St John's Church and the Schoolhouse, as noted above. Accordingly, the Trust promotes the conservation of St John's and is vigilant for any proposals likely to impact on the heritage place.

In addition, the Trust has a special role in relation to St John's through the establishment of a fund to support conservation work on the site – the National Trust-St John's Conservation Fund.

Reid Residents' Association

The Association is a community body formed in 1944. Its objectives are:

- to foster an appreciation of the present Reid environment and encourage its preservation, taking account of the interest and welfare of the community; and
- to support and implement agreed action on Reid community projects and interests.

The Association is interested in the conservation of the precinct and any developments which might affect it. It is also very interested in any changes proposed for the church land along Amaroo Street immediately opposite the Reid heritage area.

The Association opposes the proposed excision of land from the St John's precinct along Constitution Avenue arising from plans to widen the street.

8.4 MANAGEMENT CONTEXT, REQUIREMENTS AND ASPIRATIONS

Current Management

The heritage area, as part of the larger St John's site, is managed by the Property & Maintenance Committee of the Parish Council. The committee is responsible for day to day management, and the Parish Council is the decision-making body for major issues. The St John's Schoolhouse Board of Management is responsible for the day to day management and maintenance of the schoolhouse.

Volunteers undertake a range of maintenance tasks, such as gardening and grave maintenance work, under the overall supervision of the Property & Maintenance Committee. Contractors are used for major or specialised works.

The street verges which are part of the area on the ACT Heritage Register are the management responsibility of the National Capital Authority. None the less, the Parish undertakes day-to-day management of the verges as the adjacent property holder, with particular concerns for good general maintenance of the verges and the Golden Sun Moth habitat.

Overview of Current Management Issues

The range of landscape management issues include:

- tree and other plant management and replacement – balancing the role of trees as historical landscape and boundary markers from pre and post- national capital periods, with the conservation of buildings, graves and grave markers (this issue is discussed in more detail below);
- management of the impacts of vegetation on other heritage features (discussed below);
- resources for landscape maintenance (ie. high maintenance species may not be appropriate if there are constrained resources for maintenance);
- policy guidance for smaller plantings, ie. roses and shrubs (partly addressed below);
- monitoring the condition of grave headstones and surrounds, and implementation of maintenance works;
- future use of the Rectory, if it ceases to be used as a residence (this is not currently anticipated);
- uses for the horse paddock (LCU3) and former orchard area between the Rectory and graveyard (LCU6);
- impact of the widening of Constitution Avenue, including the loss of the hedge;
- control of works likely to disturb sub-surface archaeological remains in the area north of the schoolhouse;
- interpreting the 1930s churchyard boundary disturbed by the construction of the Parish Centre (discussed below);
- the future need for additional columbaria;
- conservation of other site features (eg. sundial, fountain, bird bath, grave plot markers, grave fences and plinths, headstones, seats, stone walls to west, and paths);
- possible replacement of paths with a more historically sympathetic material (eg. gravel);
- management of the native grassland patches and Golden Sun Moth habitat (discussed below); and
- opportunities for greater interpretation.

Issues related to the Treescape and other Plants

General comments

An implication arising from the significance of the trees and other plants at St John's is that they should be conserved though this does not preclude replacement. This is also explicit in the ACT Heritage Register citation. Unfortunately however, many trees of heritage significance are now declining, and/or are a potential threat to pedestrian traffic and historic graves under their driplines. It was an essential part of preparing this plan that the dangerous trees and trees damaging graves, or with the potential to injure people or damage churchyard features, were reviewed with a view as to their future and management options.

There are also numbers of well established wildlings, or trees suspected as being wildlings. In most cases, the wildlings are easily observable, but in some cases within the churchyard, trees suspected as being wildlings are more likely random plantings, or wildlings selected to be retained.

There are trees that are representative of various planting phases (eg. the FCC plantings) where the plantings are competing with more significant planted features or objects, and have obscured the former open nature of the site and views to the church. The heavy shade cast by mature evergreen trees also impacts on the remnant native grassland and Golden Sun Moth habitat. Other trees are somewhat incongruous with the coniferous theme that was established at an early date in the plantings (eg. the deciduous trees near the 1959 Parish Centre).

Table 13 in Section 9.3 below provides details on the tree health and safety assessment. There are a number of trees of various planting phases that need to be removed for safety reasons, because they are dead or of very poor form/health, to better conserve the values of the precinct, or to prevent damage to grave sites or other features. The table also indicates the replacement species where appropriate.



Figure 81. Tree Issues

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley

Legend

Dangerous Tree



Dead Tree



Tree in Poor Health/with Poor Form



It is recommended that trees to be replaced are replaced with Roman Cypress (*Cupressus*

sempervirens) in the case of the 1880s pines, the Horse Paddock trees be replaced with the same species as currently exist, a suitable deciduous tree in the case of the Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) near the Parish Centre (eg. a Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)), and Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) otherwise. The Roman Cypress is highly suitable for a variety of reasons, and will avoid the problems posed by some of the old and major trees currently in the precinct. In particular, within the Roman Cypress species, there are many varieties, and it should be possible to select a variety whose growth habit and mature height suits the particular location in the precinct. The use of Roman Cypress in the case of the 1880s pines will continue the conifer theme of the precinct and continue the marking of the earlier boundary.

In one case, the suggested use of another deciduous tree rather than a Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) is because of the invasive roots of this species. The suggested Chinese Elm maintains the deciduous character which is desired by the Parish for amenity reasons, while avoiding root problems.

The following section provides information about a range of proposed changes to the treescape at St John's. Figure 84 portrays these changes.

Some of the issues which arise regarding conservation and management of the vegetation are discussed below.

Management of the Treescape/Views of the Church

The question of opening up the views of the church when seen from within its landscape precinct is an issue to be considered as part of a future management policy. There is a perception the church is hidden from view, and its prominence has been diminished by the mature treescape. The open landscape cannot be entirely recreated - even if thought desirable - without extensive tree removal. This raises the issue of what kind of future character is seen as appropriate and commensurate with the significance of the landscape. Part of this deliberation are issues of public safety from falling trees or tree branches, and the possible damage to graves by trees, as well as the positive qualities of shelter from wind and sun, and winter sun penetration.

Replacement of the entry avenue planting

The Arizona Cypress (*Cupressus arizonica*) entry avenue plantings are a prominent, attractive and very significant planted feature.

However, the trees are structurally failing and pose a threat to pedestrians. Two trees are already missing from the northern row. The failure is due in part to the planting centres being too close to allow the individual trees to develop to their full mature potential. Removal of every second tree now would leave the remaining trees devoid of foliage. The entry avenue needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

The standard conservation approach in this situation would be to recommend an accurate reconstruction of the 1920 plantings comprising two inner rows of Arizona Cypress (*Cupressus arizonica*) and outer rows of Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) – Option 1. This original pattern is apparent in 1930s and 1940s photographs. However, several additional factors need to be considered.

There is considerable concern within the Parish that the current avenue of Arizona Cypress with its high interlocked crowns has possibly become a significant fire hazard, especially to the church with its timber shingled spire. Allowing the same number of replanted

cypresses to grow in the same space into fully mature trees again would eventually, after about 50 years, re-create the fire hazard. It would also obscure views of the church which have been hidden in the last 30-40 years by the current plantings.

The Parish is also concerned to keep some visual openness and connection through the avenue planting, for example to enable parents to keep an eye on children playing in different parts of the churchyard. A double row planting of Arizona Cypress in the inner row with an offset outer row of Roman Cypress would probably create a dense wall effect, when viewed from the lawn areas on either side of the avenue, and would not allow such a visual connection.

Accordingly, an option would be to replant just the Arizona Cypress with no Roman Cypress, and also not to replant the trees closest to the church and the lych gate, using rows of 5 Arizona Cypresses rather than the original 7 trees – Option 2. This might entail some variation on the tree spacing as well. This would be a less accurate reconstruction but an option which responded to the various concerns of the Parish. The existing visual openness and connections would probably be maintained and the option would be a lesser fire risk.



Figure 82. St John's, about 1939 – Cypress Avenue at lower right

Source: National Library of Australia, PIC/6132/18 LOC Box PIC/6132

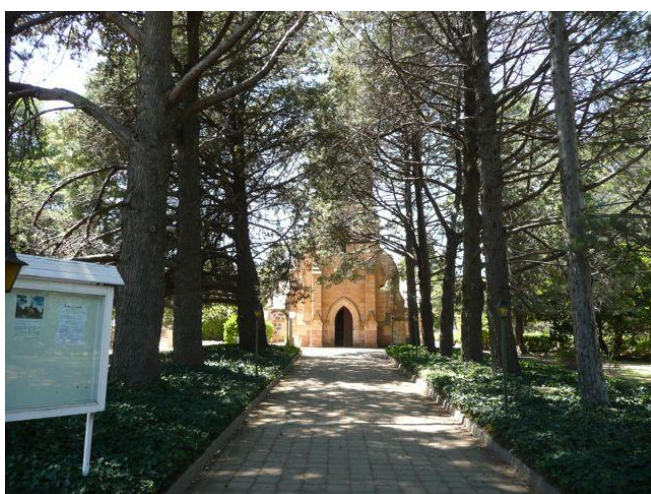


Figure 83. Cypress entry walk or avenue in 2009 – on occasions this space serves as overflow for large congregations

Source: Duncan Marshall

A variation to Options 1 or 2 might be to adopt a shorter replacement cycle for the Arizona Cypress, to reduce crown interlocking and the height of the trees – Option 3. The cycle might be 50-60 years depending on growth. This would moderate the fire hazard somewhat and retain views of the church.

The avenue replacement has been considered before (eg. Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007, noting this reference has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish). It has been suggested that the avenue be replaced with an umbrageous species such as Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) – Option 4. This species would not conform to the generally coniferous nature of the current planting or the churchyard generally. This option does not conserve the heritage values of the landscape.

A number of other options were also considered during the development of this plan. Prominent amongst these was the option to replant a single row of seven Roman Cyresses either side of the avenue on the line of the original Arizona Cyresses, as an interpretive adaptation – Option 5. This option has some heritage conservation benefits. It retains the coniferous theme, uses a species which was part of the original composition, and opens views to the church.

A final option would be not to re-plant at all – Option 6. This is not considered an appropriate conservation response. As the existing plantings are historically significant as part of the fabric of the churchyard, and also of aesthetic importance in framing the approach to the church, there should be replacement plantings.

Having considered the various options, the need to conserve the heritage values of the landscape and taking account of contemporary issues and concerns, notably minimising any potential fire hazard and opening views to the church, it is recommended Option 2 be adopted.

Removal and replacement of some 1880s plantings

A number of trees planted in about the 1880s are dying or in decline, and some are affecting grave sites. These trees will need removal. There are a few that are still in reasonable health and condition, given their age, but are at a stage where regular monitoring is essential. At first signs of decline, they should be removed, and this will need to be built into annual maintenance programs. Their useful life expectancy at the longest will be up to 20 years.

It is recommended these trees not be replaced with the same or similar species, but that replacement plantings with another species should be undertaken. Replacing with the same or similar species will eventually lead to the same situation as now in relation to grave damage.

These trees mark the boundary of the original churchyard which is identified as a significant heritage feature of the precinct. It is therefore essential that this boundary location is able to be observed into the future.

It is recommended that trees to be replaced are replaced with Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*). The reasons for selecting this species are because of its less invasive root systems and smaller crown. This species is much less likely to damage graves/heritage features if used to re-establish the original churchyard boundary. Such trees also retain the dominance of the coniferous theme of the churchyard. Accordingly, the preference is for smaller-crowned marker trees, rather than wide-spreading species, otherwise it would only replicate the current situation where the trees would become dangerous to the graves beneath.

Replanting should reflect the original planting pattern/spacing, as far as possible.

The stumps of the original trees can also be left as a means of defining the original boundary and tree locations, though may complicate maintenance tasks within the churchyard. Over time, they will need filling as the stumps rot.

Removal of some FCC plantings

One of the main issues complicating views to the church from Constitution Avenue is plantings undertaken by the FCC. They have also impacted on the habitat available for the Golden Sun Moth, and compromised what was formerly an area of open space in the old horse paddock. At the southern end of the site near the Rectory, they have compromised the prominence of the Rectory. There have also been recent concerns about the potential for fire affecting the Rectory and church grounds which relate to these plantings (see the fire hazard report for the precinct – Cartwright 2009).

Many of these trees are declining, probably associated with the last decade of drought and, in some cases, close planting centres. Many of these trees are recommended for removal and replacement. Options include replacement using the same species – reconstruction in *Burra Charter* terms – or replacement using a smaller conifer to reduce the impact on the Golden Sun Moth habitat and help reinstate views towards the Church. In accordance with the stated preference of the ACT Heritage Council, replacement using the same species is proposed.

Removal of some 1950-1960s plantings

Some of the plantings undertaken as part of the Parish Centre are recommended for removal, notably several Pin Oaks (*Quercus palustris*) in the north eastern corner of the graveyard. These do not maintain the coniferous theme of the precinct which is part of its heritage value, and are planted too close together. Replacement is not recommended. One Pin Oak will be retained.

As noted above, it is proposed that one Sweet Gum be replaced with another deciduous species because of the invasive roots of the former. The suggested Chinese Elm maintains the deciduous character desired by the Parish for amenity reasons, while avoiding root problems.

Reconstruction of 1920s perimeter planting

A small number of perimeter trees have declined through competition with other trees, and sections of perimeter hedge have been removed as the result of other developments. The perimeter plantings are a significant heritage feature and need to be reconstructed. The trees that have declined should be removed and replaced with the same species.

It would be desirable to replant the missing sections of perimeter hedge, though the main missing hedge sections are located on both sides of the Parish Centre on an open grassed area (ie. between the western lych-gate and the Parish Centre, and north of the Parish Centre to the line of the existing hedge to the laneway). A compromise position would be to replant some low bush species along the alignment of the original hedge and replace the trees at original spacings, as an interpretive adaptation/reconstruction.

Renovation of the Rectory garden

The Rectory used to be a very prominent feature of the corner of Anzac Park West and Constitution Avenue. It is now well concealed from view as the garden plantings have evolved over the years.

The vegetation of the rectory garden (LCU 3a) is an amalgam of plantings over time. It is of little heritage significance, and in some cases poses a direct threat to the building. The Ponderosa and Monterey Pines (*Pinus ponderosa* and *Pinus radiata*) on Constitution Avenue and wildling eucalypts, together with large shrubs located against the building are examples. There have been several fires in the churchyard over the years, including a substantial fire in mid-2008 in the eastern part of the horse paddock. These have prompted a fire hazard report for the precinct (Cartwright 2009).

It is recommended that the vegetation contained within the rectory garden be viewed as a separate entity to the historic plantings of the remainder of the precinct. The main considerations for the rectory garden should be to maintain it as a residential garden but within a framework of plantings sympathetic to the churchyard and the street views of the churchyard, and reducing the potential for fire damage to the built infrastructure.

Internal hedges

The separate “compartments” within the precinct (old orchard, meditation garden, horse paddock and fountain lawn) have been divided in whole or part by the planting of hedges. Some sections are in fair to good condition, and others have suffered through competition from existing plantings, and recent fires in the churchyard.

It is desirable to maintain the compartmentalisation, which has long been a feature of the precinct. It would also be desirable to replant the hedge with the same species where needed. Existing sections of the hedge in good condition should be maintained.

The *Euonymus* hedges dating from the 1930s are a significant feature of that planting phase. Sections of these hedges are missing. They do not pose any potential for damage to other heritage features, and these remnants should be maintained.

Overall, the recommended tree removals should assist the hedges by removing competition, and dead or missing plants should be replaced. The hedges should be monitored to assess how they respond to less competition.

Removal of wildlings

Wildlings (adventitious seedlings) of both trees and shrubs have established in various areas. Some wildling trees can be retained to ameliorate the removal of other trees. However, most are ill-sited, and are recommended for removal. Shrub wildlings are of no real significance, and are growing to the detriment of other significant plantings. Of particular note is the rectory garden and old orchard area. The removal of these species will restore more openness to the precinct and reduce competition to more significant plantings.

Shrub beds

A shrub and rose bed occurs near the north and south walls of the church respectively. The rose bed is utilised for church decoration, is low and open, and does not restrict views to the church. The shrub bed near the north wall probably dates from the 1930s.

Concerns have been expressed about the fire danger posed by the shrubs to the church, and security given the screening affect. The height of the shrubs partly hides the north wall of the church from various aspects throughout the churchyard. The establishment of this bed is representative of a planting phase, and should be retained. However, the existing shrubs would be better replaced with low growing drought tolerant shrubs (to 1 metre tall) which

could be chosen to supplement cut flowers for church decoration. This option may be considered as the existing shrubs decline or die.

Random plantings

Random plantings, memorial plantings and selected wildlings that have been retained for aesthetic purposes have been a issue of fairly low significance.

Random plantings should not be permitted in the precinct unless heritage-evaluated beforehand. Wildlings should be removed once noticed, so the issue of retaining young trees does not emerge.

There is always a demand to plant memorial trees or shrub plantings. This can have significant long term impacts on other heritage of the site, but in time can also be part of the heritage of the precinct. An answer to this which contributes to the ongoing heritage of the place would be permitting the removal of a tree and dedicating the replanting of another as a tree memorial. This could assist in mitigating the high costs that will be associated with the vegetative conservation of the precinct.

Managing the Natural Temperate Grassland, Golden Sun Moth habitat and population

Some of the recommendations for vegetation removal will create the opportunity for the restoration of native grassland. This will, in turn, improve habitat suitable for the moth. These co-dependent aspects must continue to be considered as part of the management of the precinct. It will not dramatically change management tasks. In the case of the moth, it has managed to continue to inhabit the site despite the many disturbances associated with the site since its establishment.

Summary of Tree Works

Given the range of tree works discussed in this section, the following table provides a summary of the changes. These are also portrayed in the figure below. Key observations include:

- 108 of the 163 trees are to be retained, that is 66% of the trees are to be retained, although some of these are subject to annual monitoring to ensure that they remain viable, and 23 trees in the Rectory garden are to be assessed in a further study. Some trees will need substantial dead-wooding and minor limb removal;
- 23 out of the 163 trees (14%) are to be removed and replaced;
- accordingly, 131 trees (80%) are to be retained or replaced;
- 32 trees (20%) are to be removed and not replaced for reasons outlined in the preceding section;
- all of the trees in the entry avenue to the church are to be removed and replaced;
- the retention rate is high for trees in the Fountain lawn, Meditation Garden, the east lych-gate area and the Lawn area;
- the removal and non-replacement is high in the Horse Paddock (5 out of 11 trees) and the Orchard; and
- of the 11 surviving pine plantings from the 1880s, more than half are to be retained until they begin to decline significantly, and 2 are to be replaced.

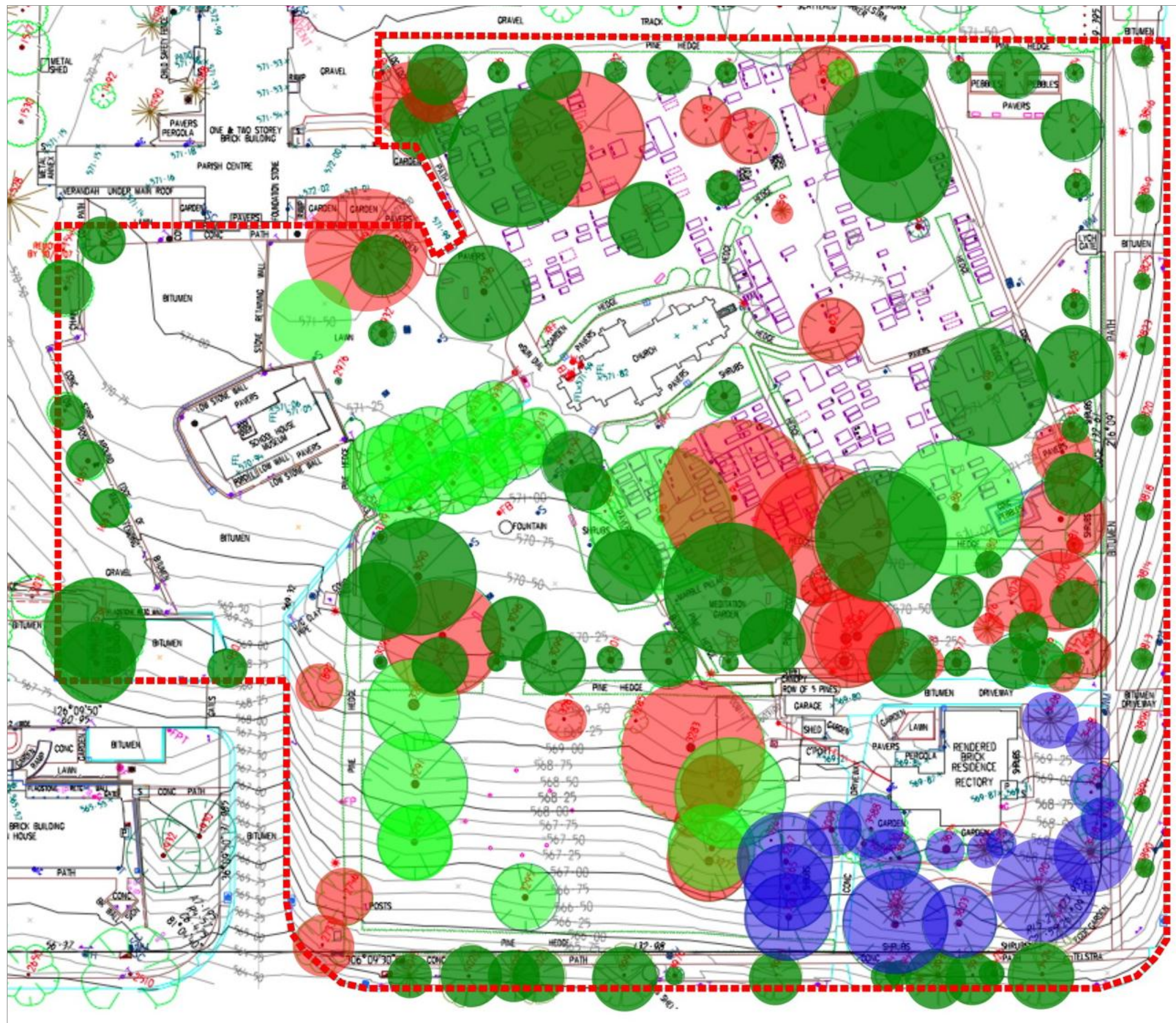
Table 9. Summary of Recommended Tree Works

Landscape Character Unit	Trees Retained	Trees Removed and Replaced	Trees Removed and Not Replaced	Total
LCU1 - Cypress Entry Walk and Church	0	10	2	12

Table 9. Summary of Recommended Tree Works				
Landscape Character Unit	Trees Retained	Trees Removed and Replaced	Trees Removed and Not Replaced	Total
LCU 2 – Fountain Lawn	13		1	14
LCU 3 – Horse Paddock	0	6	5	11
LCU3a – Rectory Garden	23 but to be assessed in a further study			23
LCU 4 – Meditation Garden	3			3
LCU 5 – Graveyard south side	1	1	1	3
LCU 6 – Old Orchard	7		10	17
LCU 7 – Graveyard east and north	18	3	11	32
LCU 8 – East entry area	8			8
LCU 9 – Lawn area	3	1		4
LCU 10 – Carpark & St John's Schoolhouse	7		1	8
LCU 11 – Internal, Constitution Avenue & Anzac Park West Road Verges	25 which are the responsibility of the NCA		3	28
Total	108	21	34	163
% of Total	66%	13%	21%	100%
Summary for 1880s Trees	6	2	3	11
Notes 1. The 1880s trees are included in the respective landscape character units, as well as a summary at the end of the table.				

Estimate of Costs of Tree and Other Works

The Parish has received a number of quotes for tree and other works which have been used as the basis for estimating the overall cost of undertaking the major works to trees and hedges, and related work to restore graves uplifted by tree roots. As a rough estimate, the total figure is \$200,000. This figure may vary if the works are undertaken in stages, and if the works are spread out over a number of years (George Pooley and Colin Lendon, personal communication, 2009).



Current Projects

Several grant applications have been made for tree works at St John's, consistent with the findings of this plan.

St John's Precinct Development Project

Discussion of the opportunities and need for development of the St John's Precinct, including the heritage area, has been continuing over many years (information for this section has been drawn from http://www.stjohnscanberra.org/precinct_development).

A master plan submitted by the Precinct Development Board (PDB) in 2008 was the latest milestone in efforts which began in the late 1990s with the establishment of a Precinct Planning Committee, followed by a Precinct Forum and the St John's Development Task Force. The PDB was established in June 2006 and reflects the fact that the Diocese has a direct interest in the site through its ownership of Jamieson House and two residential properties on Amaroo Street.

The Diocese and the Parish have decided not to proceed towards full implementation of the master plan proposals at this stage, but to explore initially within its general scope more modest building programs and financially conservative paths to support their respective missions through their shared presence in the precinct.

In a resolution adopted in 2008, the Parish Council recorded its belief that that the purpose of any development of the precinct should be:

- to strengthen and extend the Christian ministry of the parish to meet the needs of the congregation and to provide a welcoming and appealing place of worship for visitors and newcomers including families and young people - particularly through reaching out to and engaging with the residents of Campbell, Reid and the city ;
- to protect, foster and communicate the heritage values of the site, both as stewards of God's church and "terrain", and as public-spirited citizens of the national capital ; and
- to use the resources in the precinct in a sensitive and balanced way to make far-sighted provision for both the preceding objectives.

The challenge is to guide the ongoing evolution of St John's as not just a parish church but a prominent and strategic presence in the National Capital, the symbolic and actual centre of both the Parish and the Diocese, and to ensure the long-term future of St John's for the church, its heritage and the broader community.

In pursuit of the parish theme and vision, the Parish will draw on the expert inputs provided in the Plan and other ideas and advice to develop a new worship space, complimentary to the heritage Church - with design and capacity for future parish growth, various forms of known worship with an emphasis on families and youth and potential for future flexibility.

In addition to new worship space, development will aim to provide Parish and Diocesan offices and facilities for the next fifty years; to preserve and enhance the heritage and environmental values of the site; and to make proper provision for the needs of St John's Care and other parish organisations and stakeholders. Subject to further examination of options and alternatives, it is likely that new residential units will be built along the Amaroo Street frontage.

8.5 CONDITION AND INTEGRITY

Overview

The overall condition of the landscape is fair but individual components vary from poor to good. The landscape is approaching old age where renewal is needed in terms of major groups of trees from the 1880s and 1920s plantings.

The integrity of the landscape is generally high, reflecting the layers of landscape development and structure planting actions. Again, the integrity of components varies from low to high.

Condition and Integrity of Attributes

In the following table, condition relates to the state of the attribute, often the physical state – for example an original gravel path which is badly eroded would be a condition issue. Integrity relates to the intactness of the attribute – for example a modern cobblestone path replacing an original gravel path might be an integrity issue irrespective of its condition. It is often useful to distinguish between these matters, especially as integrity relates closely to significance.

Given the nature of many of the components listed in the table, the judgments about condition and integrity are made on a broad basis. Within these components there may also be considerable variation in the condition and integrity. Judgments have been made on the basis of inspections undertaken as part of preparing this plan.

The attributes in the table are listed in the order derived from the statement of significance in Section 7.1. Table 2 in Section 3.3 above provides more detail regarding the trees and other plantings.

Table 10. Condition and Integrity Issues			
Feature	Summary assessment of Condition and Integrity	Issues	Condition (C) or Integrity (I) Issue
Attributes			
Churchyard, including church, grave markers and trees	Fair/High	Major issues are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Condition of trees• Condition of graves	C C
Graves	Poor-Good/ Medium-High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poor condition of some graves• Impact of tree roots on graves	C C
Conifers	Poor-Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dead, declining and dangerous trees• See Table 2	C
Coniferous boundary hedge	Poor-Good/ Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competition with trees• Missing sections• see Table 2	C I
Parish activities		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ageing congregation	
Church and graveyard located together	Good/High		
Layers of landscape development through 160 years of history	Poor-Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dealt with elsewhere in table• See Table 2	

Table 10. Condition and Integrity Issues			
Feature	Summary assessment of Condition and Integrity	Issues	Condition (C) or Integrity (I) Issue
Landscape with enclosed and intimate qualities	Poor-Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition of landscape elements 	C
Hedges and Federal Capital Commission perimeter plantings – sense of enclosure	Poor-Good/Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above for hedges See Table 2 	
Church and graveyard	Fair/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual prominence of church 	I
Family plots or close collections of family graves	Fair-Good/High		
Schoolhouse	Good/Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting for schoolhouse unsympathetic 	I
Reverend Smith's grave	Fair-Good/High		
1880s pine plantings	Poor-Fair/Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead, declining and dangerous trees See Table 2 Presumed remnant of the original planting 	C I
Campbell family plot	Fair-Good/High		
Pre-national capital fabric	Poor-Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealt with elsewhere in table 	
Fabric/plantings demonstrating pre and post-national capital geometries - original alignment of the church, schoolhouse, grave orientation and the older tree plantings, and the new alignment of the Rectory, boundary hedges, lych-gates and later plantings	Poor-Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead, declining and dangerous trees 	C
St John's as an historic marker in the landscape of the ACT, with the church spire and plantings visible from surrounding hills such as Mount Ainslie and Black Mountain	Good/Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visibility of the church is much reduced by later developments in the vicinity and the size of trees in the St John's precinct 	I
Stable Block site (not yet clearly identified)	Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs to be found and assessed 	
Natural Temperate Grassland remnants	Fair/Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The grassland patches are small and disjunct, and invasive species, shading by trees and various construction and garden developments have diminished the quality of the grassland remnants 	C+I
Other Features			
Sundial	Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need maintenance/monitoring program 	C
Loose monumental stones	Good/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat of removal if not recognised as significant? Removal might reduce site integrity. 	I
Bird bath	Poor/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't hold water, has no 	C

Table 10. Condition and Integrity Issues			
Feature	Summary assessment of Condition and Integrity	Issues	Condition (C) or Integrity (I) Issue
		apparent filling mechanism or pipework. Requires physical assessment and repair.	
Seats	Fair/High	• Need maintenance program	C
Paths	Fair/High	• Need maintenance/replacement program	C
Stone walls on west side	Poor-Good/High	• Need maintenance/monitoring program, especially in relation to a hedge management program	C

8.6 ISSUES RELATING TO THE BROADER LANDSCAPE

In addition to many issues within the heritage precinct, there are several matters with regard to the precinct in the broader landscape of Reid, and north Canberra. These issues relate to:

- vistas out from the precinct – much altered over the decades by the development of Canberra, and by the growth of plants in the precinct;
- vistas to the precinct – again much altered by the development of the national capital and the growth of plants in the precinct – such that St John’s is largely obscured and it no longer stands out in an open plain. The proposed development of the Constitution Avenue area is likely to further obscure St John’s; and
- a substantial remnant of Natural Temperate Grassland exists outside of and to the northwest of the precinct, but still on church land. This remnant is probably important as part of the series of remnant grassland habitats within and outside the heritage precinct.

9. CONSERVATION POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

9.1 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to achieve the conservation of the cultural and natural heritage significance of the St John's Church landscape, as an integral part of the overall St John's heritage precinct.

9.2 DEFINITIONS

The definitions for terms used in this report are those adopted in *The Burra Charter, The Australia ICOMOS Charter for places of cultural significance* (Australia ICOMOS 2000), a copy of which is provided at Appendix G. Key definitions are provided below.

Place means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects.

Fabric means all the physical material of the place including fixtures, contents and objects.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance [as listed below].

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the fabric, and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

Preservation means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Restoration means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Reconstruction means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric.

Adaptation means modifying a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use. [Article 7.2 states regarding use that: a place should have a compatible use]

Compatible use means a use which respects the cultural significance of a place. Such a use involves no, or minimal impact on cultural significance.

9.3 CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Table 11. Policy and Strategy Index		
Number	Policy Title	Strategies
General Policies		
Policy 1	Significance the basis for planning, management and work	1.1 Reconciling the various statements of significance
Policy 2	Adoption of Burra Charter	
Policy 3	Adoption of policies	
Policy 4	Planning documents for or relevant to the landscape of St John's Church	
Policy 5	Compliance with legislation	5.1 Copy of CMP to NCA, DEWHA and ACT Heritage Council 5.2 Reconciled CMP and ACT Heritage Register citation
Policy 6	Related conservation management planning	
Policy 7	Expert heritage conservation advice	7.1 Identification of experts 7.2 List of experts previously involved with St John's 7.3 Use of experts before action taken
Policy 8	Decision making process for works or actions	8.1 Process
Policy 9	Monitoring	9.1 Particular aspects to monitor
Policy 10	Review of the conservation management plan	
Training, Consultation and Liaison		
Policy 11	Training	
Policy 12	Relationship with the ACT Heritage Council	
Policy 13	Relationship with the NCA	
Policy 14	Relationship with DEWHA	
Policy 15	Information about proposed works	
General Conservation Policy		
Policy 16	General conservation policy	16.1 General approach to Landscape Character Units
Natural Heritage		
Policy 17	Conservation of remnant Natural Temperate Grassland	17.1 Adaptive management 17.2 Consultation with experts 17.3 Removal of species 17.4 Remediation measures 17.5 Control of weeds 17.6 Experimental ecological burns
Landscape		
Policy 18	Vistas to the Church	
Policy 19	Tree conservation, management and replacement	19.1 Management approach 19.2 Tree replacement priority 19.3 Coniferous theme 19.4 Wildlings 19.5 Random plantings 19.6 Memorial plantings 19.7 Inflammable litter 19.8 Tree management plan

Table 11. Policy and Strategy Index

Number	Policy Title	Strategies
Policy 20	Hedges	20.1 Missing hedge
Policy 21	Roses and shrubs	21.1 Shrub bed adjacent to north of church
Policy 22	Future of the Parish Centre	
Policy 23	Rectory garden	23.1 Garden plan 23.2 Garden maintenance
Historical Archaeology and Built Elements		
Policy 24	Conservation of graves	24.1 Standard for conservation work 24.2 Treatment of graves disturbed by tree roots
Policy 25	Conservation of other built elements	25.1 Paths 25.2 Seats under dangerous trees
Policy 26	Archaeological remains of former structures	
Setting		
Policy 27	Natural Temperate Grassland remnants	
Policy 28	Impact of development in the vicinity	
Policy 29	Lighting for the lane on the northeast side of the precinct	
Use of the Place		
Policy 30	Primary and secondary uses	30.1 Old orchard area
Policy 31	New and continuing uses compatible with significance	
Policy 32	Security against undesirable activities	
New Development		
Policy 33	Major new development	
Policy 34	Minor new development	
Policy 35	New graves	
Policy 36	Proposed widening of Constitution Avenue	36.1 Discussions with NCA
Interpretation		
Policy 37	Interpretation of the significance of the landscape of St John's	37.1 Simple interpretive strategy
Unforeseen Discoveries		
Policy 38	Unforeseen discoveries or disturbance of heritage components	
Keeping Records		
Policy 39	Maintenance of collection of management documents	
Policy 40	Records of intervention and maintenance	40.1 Records of decisions 40.2 Tree records 40.3 Retaining records
Further Research		
Policy 41	Golden Sun Moth	
Policy 42	Addressing the limitations of this management plan	

General Policies

Policy 1 Significance the basis for planning, management and work

The statement of significance set out in Chapter 7 should be a principal basis for future planning, management and work affecting the landscape of St John's Church.

Implementation Strategies

- 1.1 The various current statements of significance relevant to St John's should ideally be reconciled in to a single statement.

Commentary: There are three current statements noted in Chapter 7, and these are related to work by the ACT Heritage Council and consultants to the Parish.

Policy 2 Adoption of Burra Charter

The conservation and management of the landscape of St John's Church, its fabric and uses, should be carried out in accordance with the principles of *The Burra Charter* (Australia ICOMOS 2000), and any revisions of the Charter that might occur in the future.

Policy 3 Adoption of policies

The policies recommended in this conservation management plan should be endorsed as a primary guide for management as well as future planning and work for the landscape of St John's Church.

Policy 4 Planning documents for or relevant to the landscape of St John's Church

All planning documents developed for the landscape of St John's Church should refer to this conservation management plan as a primary guide for the conservation of its heritage values. The direction given in those documents and in this plan should be mutually compatible.

Policy 5 Compliance with legislation

The St John's Parish must comply with all relevant legislation and related instruments as far as possible, including the:

- *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* (Commonwealth);
- *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003* (ACT);
- *National Capital Plan* (Commonwealth);
- *Heritage Act 2004* (ACT);
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth); and
- *Nature Conservation Act 1980* (ACT).

Commentary: This includes the need to seek relevant approvals for changes impacting on the heritage values of the precinct.

It should be noted that ACT legislation applies only to the extent it is not inconsistent with Commonwealth legislation. For example, the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* overrides the *Heritage Act 2004*.

Implementation strategies

- 5.1 The Parish will provide a copy of this plan to the National Capital Authority, Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, and to the ACT Heritage Council.

Commentary: While the ACT Heritage Council does not have a statutory role, in practice it does play a role through the *National Capital Plan* and related development approvals.

- 5.2 The Parish should seek to have the heritage assessment and heritage guidelines in the ACT Heritage Register citation reconciled with this conservation management plan.

Commentary: In the currently available citation, the heritage guidelines are actually called specific requirements which is the former statutory term no longer used. As noted above, while the Act does not formally apply, in practice it does play a role through the *National Capital Plan* and related development approvals. In this context, the citation is an important document.

Policy 6 Related conservation management planning

Conservation management planning undertaken for components within or adjacent to the St John's landscape should consider the guidance provided in this plan, and seek to achieve integrated, complimentary management. This may lead to changes to this plan.

Commentary: At this stage the only known related conservation management plan is that for the church and built features of St John's, noting this has not been endorsed or adopted by the Parish (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2007).

Policy 7 Expert heritage conservation advice

People with relevant expertise and experience in the management or conservation of heritage properties should be engaged for the:

- provision of advice on the resolution of conservation issues; and
- for advice on the design and review of work affecting the significance of the landscape of St John's Church.

Implementation strategies

- 7.1 The Parish will identify the names of people with relevant expertise and experience in the management or conservation of heritage properties, for actions implementing or extending this plan, and for other heritage related tasks.

Commentary: Such names may be identified through professional bodies and ACT Heritage.

- 7.2 The Parish will develop and maintain for ongoing reference a list of people and companies with previous or relevant experience in conservation or heritage-related research relevant to the landscape of St

John's Church.

- 7.3 Before any action is proposed that is likely to have an impact on an element of the place that has heritage value, appropriate specialist heritage advice will be sought. All work on structures and fabric (including vegetation) of significance will be undertaken by suitably qualified or skilled practitioners, and where necessary under appropriate supervision.

Policy 8 *Decision making process for works or actions*

The Parish should ensure that it has an effective and consistent decision-making process for works or actions affecting the landscape of St John's Church which takes full account of the heritage significance of the place. All such decisions should be suitably documented and these records kept for future reference.

Implementation strategies

- 8.1 The process should involve:
- consultation with internal and external stakeholders relevant to the particular decision;
 - an understanding of the original design and subsequent changes to the area involved;
 - documentation of the proposed use or operational requirements justifying the works or action; and
 - identification of relevant statutory obligations and steps undertaken to ensure compliance.

Policy 9 *Monitoring*

The condition of the significant attributes of St John's should be regularly monitored, including the trees, hedges, shrubs, roses, graves, grave markers and the native grassland remnants. This monitoring should inform maintenance and other conservation activities.

Commentary: As a general guide, monitoring should be undertaken at least annually, or more frequently if the situation demands.

Implementation strategies

- 9.1 In undertaking monitoring, particular attention should be paid to:
- the health of trees, hedges and shrubs;
 - the performance of the hedges, with less competition from trees, once selective trees have been removed;
 - the impacts of trees on graves; and
 - weed species in the areas of native grassland.

Policy 10 *Review of the conservation management plan*

This conservation management plan should be reviewed:

- to take account of new information and ensure consistency with current management circumstances at least every ten years; or
- whenever major changes to the place are proposed or occur by accident (such as fire or natural disaster); or

- when the management environment changes to the degree that policies are not appropriate to or adequate for changed management circumstances.

Training, Consultation and Liaison

Policy 11 Training

Adequate training for Parish staff and volunteers should be provided, and also for staff of any lessees and contract personnel working at St John's, regarding the significance of the place, and the policies and practices for its appropriate management.

Policy 12 Relationship with the ACT Heritage Council

The Parish will maintain periodic contact with the ACT Heritage Council, including informal consultations where appropriate.

Commentary: The Heritage Council has a role in commenting on any Development Application for St John's, but also has a broad responsibility for protection of listed places in relation to their heritage values. Early consultation can simplify and speed approvals which are formally provided by the National Capital Authority.

Policy 13 Relationship with the National Capital Authority

The Parish should maintain appropriate contact with the NCA regarding issues affecting the heritage precinct.

Commentary: Particular issues include management of the street verges and the native grassland, and adjacent new building developments (see Policy 28). The NCA is also responsible for development approvals within the precinct.

Policy 14 Relationship with the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

The Parish should maintain appropriate contact with DEWHA regarding relevant issues affecting the heritage precinct.

Commentary: The current relevant issue is the management of the Golden Sun Moth habitat.

Policy 15 Information about proposed works

Information strategies should be instituted to ensure that relevant stakeholders within the Parish, relevant government agencies (including agencies with approval or commenting roles such as the NCA and the ACT Heritage Council), other stakeholders and the public are informed, as appropriate, on proposals for works or programs within or affecting the landscape of St John's Church.

Commentary:

A list of stakeholders can be found at Section 8.3.

Given the Canberra community's concern about the removal of mature trees, and that such work is likely at St John's, special care seems warranted to ensure stakeholders and the public are aware if this is to happen, and the reasons why.

General Conservation Policy

Policy 16 *General conservation policy*

As a guide, the general conservation policy for the landscape of St John's Church should be to conserve all of the fabric of the place relating to its history from the 1840s until the present, unless otherwise specifically allowed by other policies. In particular, the layers of fabric which portray the different layouts of the churchyard before and after the creation of the national capital should be conserved.

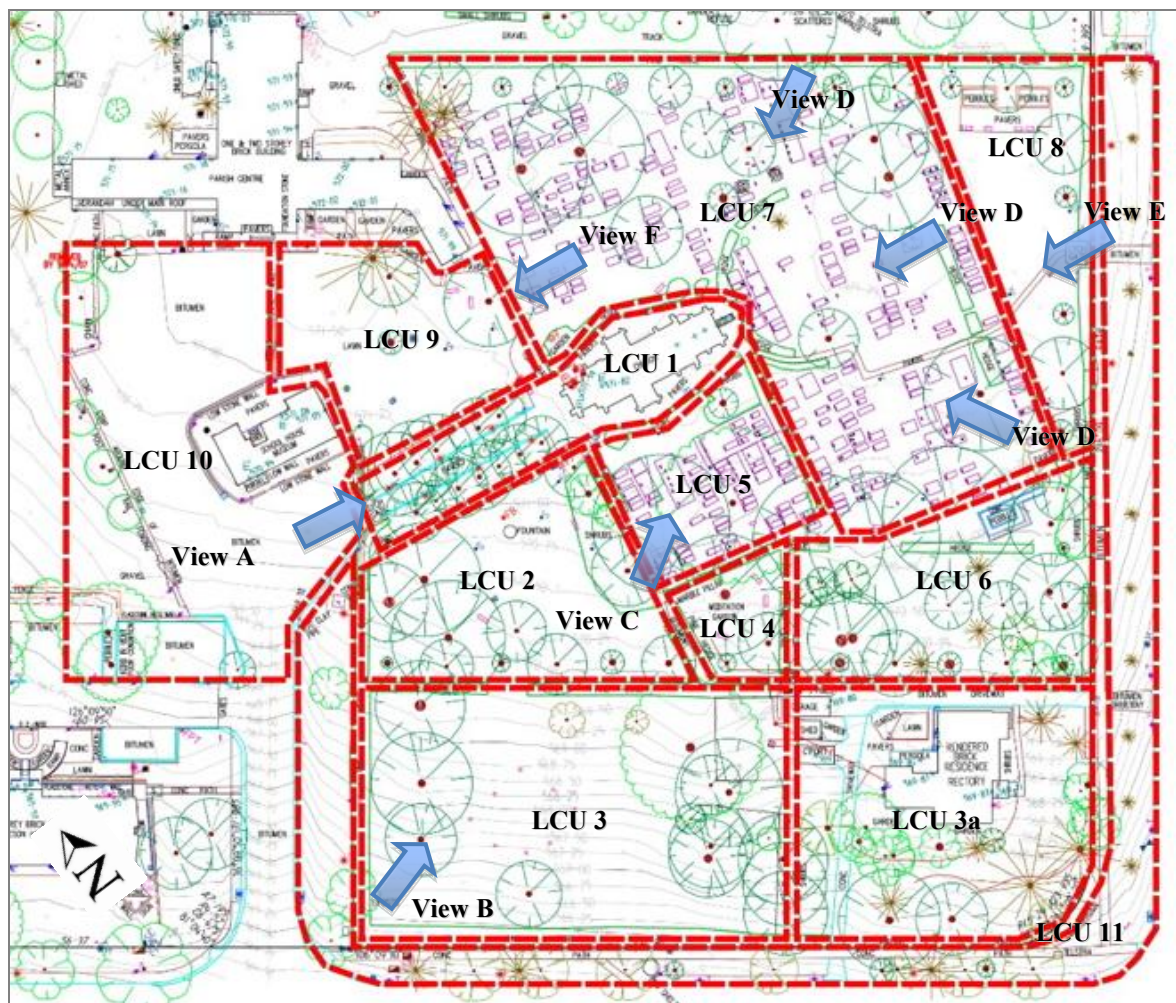
Implementation Strategies

16.1 The following general policy approach to the various Landscape Character Units should be adopted.

Table 12. General Policy Approach for the Landscape Character Units	
Landscape Character Unit	General Policy Approach
LCU1	The future of the evergreen avenue leading to the church, which now obscures view of the church and appreciation of its form, needs attention. The Arizona Cypress trees are now past their best form, showing many dead/dying lower branches. Removal and replacement is the recommended action with a planting that is a partial reconstruction.
LCU2	Maintain as open grassy area fringed and delineated spatially by conifers and hedges.
LCU3	Maintain open paddock form edged with hedges.
LCU3a	Maintain as residential garden within a framework of plantings sympathetic to the churchyard and street views of the churchyard, including a degree of privacy
LCU4	Maintain contemplation area character as it is now defined by hedges and 1880s tree.
LCU5	Maintain existing spatial character defined by 1880s tree planting and later hedges.
LCU6	Maintain planting pattern of edge trees and hedges, but clear/tidy rest of the area of undergrowth, self seeded trees and weeds.
LCU7	Maintain open graveyard character with views to church building. Replace as necessary Galliard 1880s pines with the aim of having tall trees to continue structure planting character.
LCU8	Maintain open dry grass character and Golden Sun Moth habitat.
LCU9	Maintain irrigated grass and trees.
LCU10	As a long-term option, consider possibilities for changing the bitumen carpark, or a part of the carpark, in the vicinity of the schoolhouse to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reconstruct a known significant earlier state of the landscape (eg. an open grass area with a few deciduous trees, and a timber and wire farm fence); or • an otherwise more sympathetic landscape setting for the schoolhouse.
LCU11	Maintain and protect integrity of the Golden Sun Moth habitat and street tree planting along existing alignments of the internal road, Constitution Avenue and Anzac Park as essential cultural element of the setting of St John's.

Figure 85. Landscape Character Units and Views

Source: Base plan from Mail McDonald Barnsley



Natural Heritage

Policy 17 Conservation of remnant Natural Temperate Grassland

Conserve the remnant patches of native grassland consistent with their role as habitat for the Golden Sun Moth.

Commentary: See also Policy 27 regarding remnant grassland in the vicinity of the heritage precinct.

Relevant recommendations for St John's arising from a recent ACT Government study of Lowland Native Grassland are as follows.

'Recommendation 19: Undertake experimental ecological burns on selected sites to determine the appropriateness of a wider application for managing lowland native grassland sites in the ACT...

Recommendation 28: Use adaptive management to guide land management so that sites in good condition (40%) are maintained, and those in a critical condition (20%) or approaching a critical condition (40%) are restored...

Recommendation 32: Increase community awareness of the importance of lowland native grassland, in particular Natural Temperate Grassland and the endangered grassland species. [eg. by placing signage with interpretative material at key sites]' (Cooper 2009, pp. xiv, xix)

The last recommendation is addressed at Policy 37.

In addition Action Plan No. 28 (ACT Government 2005) provides recommendations which will assist with the restoration and management of moth habitat in the precinct.

Implementation Strategies

17.1 Use adaptive management to guide management of the grassland. This management should consider the findings of relevant studies including the ACT Government study of Lowland Native Grassland (Cooper 2009) and Action Plan No. 28 (ACT Government 2005).

Commentary: Current management of the grasslands involves the following measures:

- minimal disturbance to the flora during the period of above-ground activity by the adult moths;
- minimal disturbance while the flora are in flower and seed;
- careful targeting and removal of exotic weeds with no spraying except in one area where a garden weed was dominant and proliferating;
- mowing, when required for tidiness, at a raised height well above normal lawn height; and
- ongoing recording and monitoring of all species present in the plant communities.

This management has proved successful to date and combined with the other measures noted below, the situation should be enhanced.

17.2 Continue to consult appropriate experts regarding the management of the

grasslands.

- 17.3 The Tall Ammobium – *Ammobium alatum* and Paper Daisy – *Bracteantha bracteatum* should be removed and only species formerly native to the original area should be used in enhancement plantings.
- 17.4 Undertake the remediation measures noted in the Biosis report (2007a) including re-seeding.
- 17.5 Control any weed species that become evident in the grassland.
- 17.6 Consider undertaking experimental ecological burns of the remnant grassland patches in consultation with ACT Parks, Conservation and Lands.

Commentary: Obviously considerable care should be taken in contemplating such burns given the possibility of damage to significant buildings and plantings.

Landscape

Policy 18 Vistas to the Church

The landscape will be carefully managed to conserve and, where possible, restore vistas to the church building. This will involve general management of vegetation, including wildlings, random plantings and memorial trees.

Commentary: Recommended changes to the Cypress avenue/entry and other tree removals without replacement will help achieve this policy.

Policy 19 Tree conservation, management and replacement

The historic treescape of St John's from various planting phases must be conserved and managed, including the removal of trees, where necessary, and replacement where appropriate.

The significance of trees as historical landscape and boundary markers from pre and post-national capital periods should be recognised.

Where trees are creating or may create substantial problems for human safety, the church building, graves and grave markers, then options to overcome or reduce the problem should be explored. Such options may include removal, in which case, options for replacement should also be considered.

Expert arboricultural advice should inform all decisions regarding tree management and replacement.

Implementation Strategies

19.1 The management approach for trees in the following table should be adopted.

Commentary: A broad overview of the management approach for major tree groups contained in the table is as follows.

1880s boundary trees – The trees on the original boundary alignment are failing or declining. While some remain in fair health, they are adversely impacting or have the potential to impact on other heritage features. Most of these trees require removal or will need to be replaced in the not too distant future – within 20 years. The original boundary will need to be emphasised, though replacement with the same or similar species will lead to ongoing problems. These trees could be replaced with more suitable species which maintain the coniferous theme of the precinct.

Cypress avenue/entry plantings – The current plantings are structurally failing, and should be replaced. This will also restore views to the front of the church. The range of options for the Cypress avenue are discussed in Section 8.4 above.

Perimeter plantings – The perimeter plantings are generally in fair to good condition, though some individual trees are impacted by competition from other trees and will need replacement. Some sections of hedge are missing, and should be reconstructed or the alignment

marked by compact shrub species.

Table 13. Tree Assets and Perimeter Hedges		
Species	Tree Number	Management Comments/Guidance
Perimeter Hedge		
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Hedge plants	Retain and maintain. Replace where missing.
LCU 1 – Cypress Entry Walk and Church		
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree No's 2945, 2943, 2941, 2937, 2939, 3225, 3221, 3219, 3217, 3223, 3215, and 3213. (Eldridge Tree Numbers 49 – 60)	It is recommended that these trees be removed and an appropriate replacement planting undertaken. The recommended option is to replant the Arizona Cypress but not to replant the trees closest to the church and the lych gate, using rows of 5 Arizona Cypresses rather than the original 7 trees.
LCU 2 – Fountain Lawn		
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3090 (Eldridge 12)	It needs some dead-wooding. Retain, but when tree declines remove and do not replace, as it is competing with the more significant FCC perimeter plantings.
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 3094 (Eldridge 11)	Remove and do not replace (retrieves part of view to church).
Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)	Tree 3096 (Eldridge 86)	Retain, but when finally removed do not replace (retrieves part of view to church).
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 3210 (Eldridge 85)	Retain.
Japanese Spindle Tree (<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>)	Tree 3206	Prune off pathway. Retain.
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 3154 (Eldridge 61)	Retain for present. When finally removed, do not replace (retrieves part of view to church).
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3119 (Eldridge 46)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3105 (Eldridge 45)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3092 (Eldridge 44)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 5008 (Eldridge 43)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3103 (Eldridge 42)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3099 (Eldridge 41)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3101 (Eldridge 40)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3204 (Eldridge 39)	Retain.
LCU 3 – Horse Paddock.		
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 3289	Remove and replace with same species.

Table 13. Tree Assets and Perimeter Hedges		
Species	Tree Number	Management Comments/Guidance
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3291	Remove and replace with same species.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3293	Remove and replace with same species.
Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)	Tree 3295	Remove and replace with same species.
Apple (<i>Malus</i> cv.).	Tree 3287	Remove and do not replace.
Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>)	Tree 3283	Remove and do not replace (on Golden Sun Moth habitat).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3281	Remove and do not replace (on Golden Sun Moth habitat).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3279	Remove and replace with same species.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 5004	Remove and do not replace (helpful fire precaution and on verge of Golden Sun Moth habitat).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Trees 3275 and 3277	Remove and replace Tree 3275 with same species. Remove and do not replace Tree 3277 (too closely planted to Tree 3275).
LCU 3a – Rectory Garden		
The trees in this garden have not been assessed as part of this plan, and a separate study is suggested in Chapter 9 given the different and residential character of the garden.		
LCU 4 – Meditation Garden		
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4118 (Eldridge 9)	This needs dead-wooding if retained. Retain for present, but if crown deterioration continues remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Canary Island Pine (<i>Pinus canariensis</i>)	Tree 4116 (Eldridge 83)	Requires some dead wood removal. Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 4120 (Eldridge 38)	Retain.
LCU 5 – Graveyard south side		
Grecian Juniper (<i>Juniperus excelsa</i>)	Tree - No number. (Eldridge 74)	Retain.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 96 (Eldridge 10)	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>)	Tree 94 (Eldridge 84)	If retained, it needs regular monitoring but recommend removal.
LCU 6 – Old Orchard Area		
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 4084 and 4082	Remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3580	Retain to replace future removal of two pines (Eldridge 7 and 8).
Monterey Pine	Tree 4074	Remove and do not replace.

Table 13. Tree Assets and Perimeter Hedges		
Species	Tree Number	Management Comments/Guidance
<i>(Pinus radiata)</i>		
Arizona Cypress <i>(Cupressus arizonica)</i>	Tree 4070	Remove and do not replace.
Pine	Tree 4076	Remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine <i>(Pinus radiata)</i>	Tree 4066	Remove and do not replace.
Deciduous tree	Tree 3474	Remove and do not replace.
Deciduous tree	Tree 3578	Remove and do not replace.
Hawthorn <i>(Crataegus sp)</i>	Tree 4086	Remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine <i>(Pinus radiata)</i>	Tree 4090	Remove and do not replace.
Roman Cypress <i>(Cupressus sempervirens)</i>	Tree 150 (Eldridge 37)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress <i>(Cupressus torulosa)</i>	Tree 3581 (Eldridge 36)	Retain.
Roman Cypress <i>(Cupressus sempervirens)</i>	Tree 3577 (Eldridge 35)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress <i>(Cupressus torulosa)</i>	Tree 3478 (Eldridge 34)	Retain.
Roman Cypress <i>(Cupressus sempervirens)</i>	Tree 3472 (Eldridge 33)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress <i>(Cupressus torulosa)</i>	Tree 3480 (Eldridge 32)	Retain.
LCU 7 – Graveyard east and north		
Pin Oak <i>(Quercus palustris)</i>	Trees 28, 30,32 (Eldridge 88, 89,90)	Removal recommended of two trees and retention of one.
Monterey Pine <i>(Pinus radiata)</i>	Tree 38 (Eldridge 1)	If the tree crown is noted to deteriorate, removal is recommended. Remove large branch on east side.
Stone Pine <i>(Pinus pinea)</i>	Tree 40 (Eldridge 2)	Removal is recommended.
Aleppo Pine <i>(Pinus halepensis)</i>	Tree 18 (Eldridge 67)	Recommend removal to open up vista of church from laneway.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 46 (Eldridge 68)	Recommend removal to open up vista of church from laneway.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 48	Retain.
Deciduous	Tree 59	Remove.
Himalayan Cypress <i>(Cupressus torulosa)</i>	Tree 50	Remove and do not replace.
Aleppo Pine <i>(Pinus halepensis)</i>	Tree 54 (Eldridge 3)	Reduce the weight of the one long branch. Retain. When tree deteriorates remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine <i>(Pinus radiata)</i>	Tree 58 (Eldridge 4)	There is a lot of deadwood in the crown which needs to be removed. Retain but remove when it deteriorates and replace with Roman Cypress.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 64	If damage to grave occurs, remove and do not replace.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 62 (Eldridge 73)	Removal is recommended to retrieve views of the eastern end of the church.

Table 13. Tree Assets and Perimeter Hedges		
Species	Tree Number	Management Comments/Guidance
Grecian Juniper (<i>Juniperus excelsa.</i>)	Tree No Number (Eldridge 74)	Retain.
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)	Tree 98 (Eldridge 5)	Retain but remove when crown deteriorates and replace with Roman Cypress.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 88 (Eldridge 6)	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 90 (Eldridge 7)	Retain, but remove all deadwood.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 92 (Eldridge 8)	Remove and do not replace.
Canary Island Pine (<i>Pinus canariensis</i>)	Tree 154	Remove.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 58	Remove and do not replace.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 81 (Eldridge 31)	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 156 (Eldridge 30)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 56 (Eldridge 21)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 52 (Eldridge 20)	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 19 (Eldridge 19)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 20 (Eldridge 18)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 22 (Eldridge 17)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 24 (Eldridge 16)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 26 (Eldridge 15)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 34 (Eldridge 14)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 36 (Eldridge 13)	Retain.
LCU 8 – Entry area		
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 152 (Eldridge 29)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 66 (Eldridge 28)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 68 (Eldridge 27)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 70 (Eldridge 26)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 72 (Eldridge 25)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 74 (Eldridge 24)	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 76 (Eldridge 23)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 78 (Eldridge 22)	Retain.
LCU 9 – Lawn area		

Table 13. Tree Assets and Perimeter Hedges		
Species	Tree Number	Management Comments/Guidance
Deodar Cedar (<i>Cedrus deodara</i>)	Tree 2936 (Eldridge 64)	Retain.
Sweet Gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>)	Tree 2934 (Eldridge 63)	Remove and replace with suitable deciduous tree in lawn area outside 1920s churchyard boundary, eg. a Chinese Elm (<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>).
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 2935 (Eldridge 48)	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 2932 (Eldridge 47)	Retain.
LCU 10 – Carpark & St John’s Schoolhouse		
Cotoneaster (<i>Cotoneaster</i> sp.)	Tree 1633	Remove and if a replanting is required, replace with non-weed species. The current plant is a weed of no heritage significance.
Black Gum (<i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>)	Tree 1571	Retain.
Blakely’s Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1667	Retain.
Blakely’s Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1665	Retain.
Blakely’s Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1663	Retain.
Eurabbie (<i>Eucalyptus bicostata</i>)	Trees 1936 & 1938	Retain.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 1960	Retain.
LCU 11 – Internal, Constitution Avenue & Anzac Park West Road Verges		
Internal Road		
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 1892	Recommend removal.
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 2746	Recommend removal.
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 2733	Recommend removal.
Constitution Avenue		
False Acacia (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	Trees 4015, 4023, 3934	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
English Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Trees 4020, 4025, 3993, 3965, 3941, 3936, 3424	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Trees 3426, 3943, 3976	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
Anzac Park West		
Manchurian Pear	Trees 3894, 3896, 3813,	The future of these trees has been

Table 13. Tree Assets and Perimeter Hedges		
Species	Tree Number	Management Comments/Guidance
(<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>)	3814, 3818, 3823, 3846	separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
Nettle Tree (<i>Celtis australis</i>)	Trees 3890, 3820, 3825, 3849, 3844	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
Notes: 1. Tree numbers used in this table are those currently applied to the site, reflecting recent site survey documentation. For convenience, numbers used by Eldridge (2006a) have also been noted where relevant.		

- 19.2 Tree removal/replacement should be based on a priority system related to any potential danger to pedestrians and other heritage features, and the individual heritage significance of the tree.

Commentary: The timing of works is related to the availability of funds for this work. Current efforts to obtain funding may allow work to be undertaken on the dead and dangerous trees, and those displaying poor form or health (see Figure 81). It is recommended the remaining works be staged over several years at least – if possible up to 20 years – to minimise the pace of change, with priority given to (in order of priority): LCU 5 – southern graveyard, LCU 6 – old orchard, and LCU 7 – graveyard north and east.

- 19.3 Replacement trees should emphasise the coniferous theme of the precinct. It is common practice to use the same species when replacements are required. This could be done within the precinct but similar problems to those which occur at present will be repeated if this is done in some cases (eg. the original boundary trees). Accordingly an alternative conifer is recommended in such cases which avoids these problems – Roman Cypress.

Commentary: Within the Roman Cypress species, there are many varieties, and it should be possible to select a variety whose growth habit and mature height suits the particular location in the precinct. In all cases a dark green foliage should be used.

While it would be possible to contemplate the use of deciduous trees, this would not conserve the heritage values of the precinct. In one case, a deciduous tree is recommended to replace an existing Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) for amenity reasons (eg. a Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)). In this case, the new planting would be outside the 1920s churchyard.

A range of replacement species were considered including existing species (eg. Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*)) and other species. However, all other possible coniferous options were considered less satisfactory because they would eventually lead to some of the same problems

currently experienced.

In the case of the Horse Paddock trees, replacements are to be the same species as currently exists.

19.4 Wildlings should be removed when they are first noticed and before they mature.

19.5 Random plantings should not be permitted.

19.6 Memorial plantings should only be permitted where the planting is consistent with the overall conservation of the treescape (eg. replacing an earlier significant tree).

19.7 As part of grounds maintenance, fallen bark and other easily ignitable material should be regularly removed from the grounds of and adjacent to the Rectory and within 10 metres of the church building.

Commentary: This is a fire prevention measure.

19.8 The information in this conservation management plan should be used as the basis for preparing a tree management plan with prioritised and time-scheduled works. The tree management plan should be updated annually in the light of monitoring (see Policy 9). Identified tree surgery and other works should be implemented.

Policy 20 Hedges

The boundary and internal hedges should be conserved, including maintenance, replacement with the same species where currently missing, and replacement in the event parts die or decline.

Commentary: The perimeter hedges are addressed in the table above.

Hedges should normally be pruned twice a year depending on the season.

There have been suggestions to replace the northeastern hedge with a fence because of security concerns about activities in the lane on this side. As an alternative, it is suggested additional lighting should be provided in the laneway.

Implementation Strategies

20.1 Seek to reflect the missing 1930s boundary hedge in the lawn area between the church and Parish Centre in some way – as a hedge or as a continuous or broken line of low plantings – to interpret the former churchyard enclosure.

Commentary: The lawn area between schoolhouse and Parish Centre is the most altered sector of the post-1920s churchyard, and impinged on by the Parish Centre. The hedge demarking the 1920s boundary has been removed, the lawn pushed out to the carpark, and the retaining walls built there and around schoolhouse (1970s-80s?). A diagonal pathway with

shrub border present in 1940s has been removed.

This lawn area is used for functions and a new hedge or close-planted shrubs would constrain this use. An option would be for just a few shrubs to mark the line of the boundary.

Policy 21 Roses and shrubs

The rose and shrubs beds should be maintained.

Implementation Strategies

21.1 As the shrubs adjacent to the north of the church decline or die, consideration should be given to their replacement with low growing drought tolerant shrubs (to 1 metre tall), which could be chosen to supplement cut flowers for church decoration.

Policy 22 Future of the Parish Centre

If the Parish Centre is removed or replaced, consideration should be given to avoiding the encroachment of the current building from the 1920s churchyard boundary.

Commentary: It is noted the clergy use the Parish Centre for robing, and the current design is intended to provide convenient access to the church. Options may be possible to provide such access in a replacement building while avoiding or minimising the encroachment.

Policy 23 Rectory garden

The Rectory garden should be maintained as a residential garden but within a framework of plantings sympathetic to the churchyard and the street views of the churchyard. The external views of the garden should have a sympathetic character to that of the churchyard, although greater departure from this character is possible within the garden and those areas not visible from the streets. The garden should have a degree of privacy consistent with its residential use.

Implementation Strategies

23.1 A simple garden plan should be prepared consistent with this policy.

23.2 The garden should benefit from enhanced maintenance.

Historical Archaeology and Built Elements

Policy 24 *Conservation of graves*

The graves and grave markers in the churchyard, including the iron church register plot numbers, should be conserved.

Commentary: See Policy 35 regarding new burials.

Implementation Strategies

24.1 The Parish will adopt an appropriate standard for the conservation of graves and grave markers, such as *Conserving our cemeteries: an illustrated and annotated guide based on the ACNT national guidelines for the conservation of cemeteries* (Sagazio 2003). Works to graves and grave markers should accord with good conservation practice, including new markers for historic graves.

24.2 In the case of graves substantially disturbed by tree roots (eg. tilted to a large degree), and where the tree has been removed, options which may be adopted include:

- stabilisation of grave components (eg. unobtrusive propping), allowing roots to rot, monitoring re-settlement to an acceptable position, removal of introduced stabilisation elements (eg. props), and maintenance (eg. re-mortaring grave components which were previously fixed with mortar, once the grave is stable);
- temporary assembly of grave components (eg. placing dislodged components on top of the grave, possibly using a bed of gravel graded towards the grave foot), allowing roots to rot, monitoring re-settlement to an acceptable position, and reconstruction of the grave components once the site is stable; or
- reconstruction of the grave by excavating the top 1 metre by hand, including tree roots, introducing a well-tamped bed of free draining aggregate, re-using any suitable original footings (eg. stone slabs), and re-assembly of grave components.

Commentary: The last option is likely to be the most expensive.

Policy 25 *Conservation of other built elements*

Generally, the range of other existing built elements within the churchyard may be retained/upgraded/should be conserved depending on their significance.

Commentary: Elements of some heritage significance to be conserved include:

- the alignment of paths;
- loose monumental stones;
- bird bath;
- stone walls either side of the western lych-gate; and
- columbaria.

Elements of no current significance (though this may change in time), which may be retained/upgraded include:

- fountain;
- sundial;

- seats;
- low stone retaining walls;
- the fabric of paths;
- signage; and
- lights.

While the fabric of the existing paths in the precinct is not considered significant (eg. concrete and pavers), the alignment of the paths is regarded as important as it reflects the history of the paths, and the alignment should be conserved. More detailed research, especially archaeological research, may provide a better understanding of the history and significance of the paths.

Implementation Strategies

- 25.1 If the opportunity arises, consideration should be given to replacing the concrete and paver paths with gravel, as a more historically sympathetic treatment.

Commentary: It is noted the paving around the church was installed to help keep water away from the footings of the building, that gravel paths may create increased maintenance and increase the tramping of gravel into the church. These factors should be part of the considerations encouraged above. Options that may be considered include replacing at least some of the paths, such as those in the graveyard.

- 25.2 Depending on the timetable for addressing those trees regarded as dangerous, action may be necessary to relocate any seats which are under such trees, or exclude people from using them.

Policy 26 Archaeological remains of former structures

The potential archaeological remains of the former stables should be protected.

Accordingly, any ground-disturbing activities (eg. excavation) in area north of schoolhouse should be controlled to detect/protect any evidence of the stables block or the former schoolhouse pit toilet. Such excavation should be subject to prior archaeological investigation or supervision during excavation.

Commentary: If the opportunity arises, an archaeological investigation/survey should be undertaken in the lawn area between the schoolhouse and Parish Centre, or whenever the bitumen pavement is disturbed.

Setting

The setting is an area outside of the St John's heritage precinct.

Policy 27 Natural Temperate Grassland remnants

Ideally, any remnant native grasslands in the vicinity of St John's should be managed in a manner consistent with the grasslands within the heritage precinct.

Policy 28 Impact of development in the vicinity

The Parish should promote careful consideration, especially by the National Capital Authority, of the impact of any development on church land outside the heritage precinct, and within the general vicinity of St John's on adjacent land. Such development should respect the heritage values of St John's and have no adverse impact.

Commentary: The *National Capital Plan* currently allows maximum building heights for new development on St John's land, outside the heritage area, of 12 metres to the northeast and to the northwest of 25 metres. The overshadowing impacts should be reviewed. If necessary, maximum development heights should be reduced or setbacks increased to reduce any impact.

Policy 29 Lighting for the lane on the northeast side of the precinct

Consideration should be given to providing lighting in the lane to improve security for the precinct.

Commentary: There have been suggestions to replace the northeastern hedge with a fence because of security concerns about activities in the lane on this side. As an alternative, it is suggested additional lighting should be provided in the laneway.

Use of the Place

Policy 30 Primary and secondary uses

The primary uses for the landscape of St John's Church will be for religious worship, burial, residence (in the case of the Rectory), heritage conservation and related purposes.

Secondary uses are associated supporting services and facilities, they should not compromise the significance of the landscape of St John's Church, and these may include:

- passive recreation (eg. walking or sitting in the churchyard);
- community hire/usages (eg. fetes); and
- tourism related to the heritage significance of St John's.

Implementation Strategies

30.1 The suggested uses for the old orchard area (LCU6) are, in order of preference, as an orchard for the Rectory, produce garden for the Rectory, ornamental garden for the Rectory, garden area for the church, or future columbaria location.

Commentary: It is noted a number of these uses would involve substantial maintenance which may be beyond the capacity of the Parish. It is also possible the shadowing by mature trees would inhibit some uses, eg. re-use as an orchard.

There are plans to extend the adjacent columbarium into the orchard area. However, these plans are subject to review by the Parish.

Policy 31 New and continuing uses compatible with significance

Any continuing use or new use proposed for St John's will be compatible with the significance of the place, and should ideally be complimentary to the primary uses.

Policy 32 Security against undesirable activities

Additional security measures should be considered to deter undesirable activities within the precinct (eg. additional security lighting in 'dark spots', perhaps sensor activated).

New Development

Policy 33 Major new development

Major new development will not be permitted within the St John's heritage precinct, including additions or extensions.

Policy 34 Minor new development

New minor buildings or structures, including minor additions or extensions, may be permitted subject to the following:

- the number of minor buildings/structures/additions/extensions will be kept to a minimum, every effort will be made to consolidate functions, and also to house these within existing buildings where this is compatible with their significance;
- a comprehensive planned approach to the provision of minor buildings within the precinct will be undertaken;
- careful consideration will be given to the location of minor buildings/additions/extensions, generally to site them in visually unobtrusive positions, and to screening minor buildings/additions/extensions;
- buildings/additions/extensions will be designed in sympathy with the immediate setting;
- with regard to design qualities:
 - the style and form of buildings/additions/extensions will pay due regard to adjacent buildings. Consideration will be given to a consistent style and form, or palette of styles and forms, for minor buildings in the area; and
 - predominant building colours will generally draw on the palette of existing colours used.

Commentary: At this stage no such developments are anticipated.

Policy 35 New graves

The current decision to close the graveyard to general burials should be continued.

Very limited new burials may be permitted in accordance with existing Exclusive Right certificates, issued prior to 1937. Burials should be located in the graveyard only and respect the existing orientation of graves. The location of burials and design of new grave markers should be sympathetic to the historic setting. However heritage-style grave markers should be avoided in favour of simple, understated modern designs using materials common to/sympathetic with the existing graveyard.

Commentary: The current practice of recommending new desk-style headstones about 450 mm high supporting a bronze, marble or granite plaque is consistent with the policy.

Policy 36 Proposed widening of Constitution Avenue

The Parish should oppose the proposed widening of Constitution Avenue along its southwest boundary because of the adverse impact on the heritage of St John's.

If this is not successful, a new hedge of the same species should be established

along the new property boundary, planted well in advance of the removal of the existing hedge to minimise the impact of the removal of the latter.

Commentary: Preliminary research suggests the dual carriageway could be implemented however, by narrowing the footpath and deleting the kerbside parking and some of the proposed street trees, no encroachment on St John's land would be necessary.

Implementation Strategies

36.1 The Parish should seek discussions with the National Capital Authority to have the proposal amended.

Interpretation

Policy 37 Interpretation of the significance of the landscape of St John's

The significance of the place should be interpreted to the congregation and range of visitors to St John's, and to Parish Council and staff responsible for the place in any way.

Commentary: This should include the layers in the landscape and various main planting phases, and the Natural Temperate Grassland and Golden Sun Moth habitat.

Implementation Strategies

37.1 The Parish should develop and implement a simple interpretive strategy considering the range of possible messages, audiences and communication techniques. This should be integrated with interpretation of the overall heritage precinct.

Commentary: Such interpretation should ideally be integrated with other interpretive efforts, such as the *Canberra Tracks* interpretive signage already installed on site.

Unforeseen Discoveries

Policy 38 Unforeseen discoveries or disturbance of heritage components

If the unforeseen discovery of new evidence or the unforeseen disturbance of heritage fabric or values requires major management or conservation decisions not envisaged by this conservation management plan, the plan will be reviewed and revised (see Policy 10).

If management action is required before the plan can be revised, a heritage impact statement will be prepared that:

- assesses the likely impact of the proposed management action on the existing assessed significance of the place;
- assesses the impact on any additional significance revealed by the new discovery;
- considers feasible and prudent alternatives; and
- if there are no such alternatives, then considers ways to minimise the impact.

If action is required before a heritage impact statement can be developed, the Parish will seek relevant expert heritage advice before taking urgent action.

Urgent management actions shall not diminish the significance of the place unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative.

Commentary:

Unforeseen discoveries may be related to location of new documentary or physical evidence about the place or specific heritage values that are not known at the time of this plan, and that might impact on the management and conservation of the place. Discovery of new heritage values, or the discovery of evidence casting doubt on existing assessed significance would be examples. This might relate to a range of values.

Discovery of potential threats to heritage values may also not be adequately canvassed in the existing policies. Potential threats might include the need to upgrade services or other operational infrastructure to meet current standards, the discovery of hazardous substances that require removal, or the physical deterioration of fabric.

Unforeseen disturbance might be related to accidental damage to fabric, or disastrous events such as fire or flood.

Keeping Records

Policy 39 Maintenance of collection of management documents

The Parish will establish and maintain a discrete collection of reports, plans and other documents relating to the investigation, conservation and management of St John's.

Commentary: At the commencement of the conservation management plan process, no single repository of past reports on St John's existed. The creation of a collection, and administrative procedures to ensure all reports created are

put into it, would be a substantial resource for future management.

Policy 40 *Records of intervention and maintenance*

The Parish will maintain records related to any substantial intervention or change in the place, including records about maintenance.

Implementation strategies

40.1 The Parish will retain records relating to decisions taken in accordance with Policy 8 - Decision making process for works or actions. Such decisions might affect vegetation as well as built elements.

40.2 Detailed records of all tree maintenance, removals and replacements should be maintained.

Commentary: Photographic records are also useful. The Parish has a detailed map of all the trees in the precinct. This could be utilised to keep records of maintenance activity on each tree according to the number given to each individual tree. A precise GPS location of each tree would also be useful.

40.3 The Parish will retain copies of all planting records, annual tree assessments, maintenance plans prepared for the place, including superseded plans, and records about monitoring. (Refer to Policy 9)

Further Research

Policy 41 *Golden Sun Moth*

The Parish should encourage and foster the existing research begun in to the habitat of the Golden Sun Moth, and encourage outside researchers to work on the sites at St John's to further the conservation management of these rare remnants.

Commentary: This research may be undertaken by other parties with the cooperation of the Parish.

Policy 42 *Addressing the limitations of this management plan*

Opportunities to address the limitations of this plan (see Section 1.4) should be taken if possible, and the results used to revise the conservation management plan.

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APPENDIX A: ACT HERITAGE REGISTER CITATION



Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20019. St.John the Baptist Church and Churchyard

Section 33 Block 1(part) Block 2 Block 10 (part)

REID

This document has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council.

This entry which was previously part of the old heritage places or the old heritage objects registers (as defined in the ***Heritage Act 2004***), as the case may be, is taken to be registered under the ***Heritage Act 2004***.

Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the ***Heritage Act 2004***, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

Information restricted under ***the old heritage places register or old heritage objects register*** is restricted under the ***Heritage Act 2004***.

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19. St. John The Baptist Church and Churchyard, Reid [V56]¹ [V145]²

Location

District of Canberra Central, Division of Reid, Section 33 Block 1 part, Block 2 and Block 10 part and part of adjacent road reservations to the nature strip as identified in Figure 19 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Register Overlay at H19.

Features Intrinsic To The Heritage Significance Of The Place

The place comprises:

- a) St John the Baptist Church and Churchyard:
 - i) church building;
 - ii) rectory building;
 - iii) lychgates;
 - iv) tree planting surrounding the church and churchyard; and
 - v) graveyard.
- b) St John's Schoolhouse Museum:
 - i) the schoolroom and residence building; and
 - ii) the surrounding open space

Statement Of Significance

St John's Church has been a focus for the religious and social life of the Canberra region since the 1840s, and enduring into the development years of the National Capital.

St John's Church has a strong association with the early pioneering pastoral families of the Canberra area. The church was valued by the local Anglican congregation and was seen by others as a feature of the landscape. It has particularly significant links with the Campbell family. Rev Alberto Dias Soares, who was engaged to design the extension to the nave and add the chancel and crypt, had a strong affiliation with the region through his design of local church buildings. The impact of the Rev Pierce Galliard Smith as the Rector for fifty years was significant, as are his tree plantings. They are still to be seen at St John's Church, Glebe Park and the site of the old Glebe House.

The prominent Victorian architect Edmund Blacket (1817-1883) is strongly associated with the church. He was a prolific designer of churches in New South Wales and an eminent architect of his time. Blacket was the designer of the tower and spire that was to become a familiar landmark in the Canberra region.

The Church building has grown with an increasing congregation, into a building of fine proportion. The many plaques on the internal walls are an historical testament to the local people through the years. The church reflects the strong links with the Campbell family, while the influence of Rev Pierce Galliard Smith can be seen in the tree planting.

Examples of the fabric of the church at various stages of construction are clearly evident and shows various materials and crafted finishes. The large stained glass east window represents an ambitious attempt considering the development of Australian technology at the time.

The graveyard is as old as the church itself with many members of pioneering families interred there. The headstones provide a valuable social history and are complementary not only to the life of the church, but also the early history of the Limestone Plains.

The East and West Lychgates at St John's are a rare example of this type of structure in Australia. These gates combined with the hedge, planted by the Federal Capital Commission in 1926, assist in retaining the early character of the church by visually shielding it from the encroaching development of urban Canberra.

¹ [V56: Added to Heritage Places Register 27/09/1996 (Variation Number 56)]

² [V145: Amended 14/09/2000 (Variation Number 145)]

The grounds, including the Rectory and Horse Paddock contribute to the visual circumscription of the site, the trees and planting maintaining the serenity and distinctive character of the church within an otherwise busy part of the city.

St John's Schoolhouse was the first combined school and school teachers' residence built on the Limestone Plains. The school building and remnant open space to the west, which formed part of the school's playground, are tangible evidence of the education practices in the community life of early European settlement in the ACT. The place is important for the way it demonstrates the education practices for children of the families brought out from Scotland to work on the Duntroon estate, as well as for other pioneering rural families on the Limestone Plains. It is also demonstrative of the attitudes and social mores of the Campbells of 'Duntroon', as the benefactors of the school.

St John's Schoolhouse museum is important for its role as a teaching and research site for local and interstate schools, TAFE colleges and universities in local history and cultural and social values.

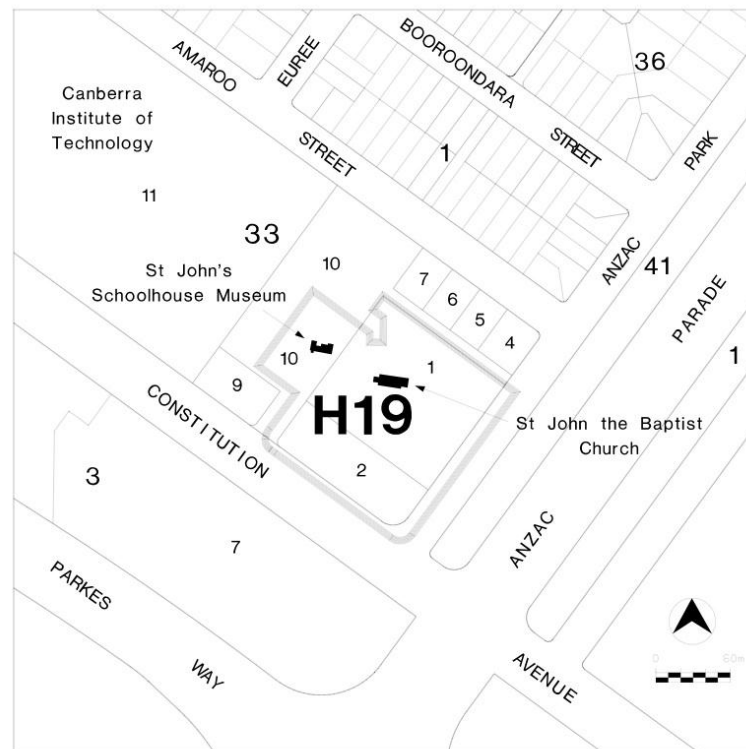
Specific Requirements

In the National Capital Plan, the land which comprises the St John the Baptist Precinct is specified as a Designated Area under the provisions of s. 10(1) of the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* and work carried out is subject to the approval of the National Capital Authority. The land is not classified as National Land under the *National Land Ordinance 1989* or subsequent amendments. Consequently the land is Territory Land and Territory planning requirements may also apply. In accordance with s.54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*, the following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of this place. These requirements apply to works undertaken by the Territory and in circumstances where the Territory is the approving authority. The Territory's conservation policy for the place is:

St John the Baptist Precinct, comprising the church and grounds, including the Rectory and associated garage and sheds, the Horse Paddock, the graveyard, the Schoolhouse Museum, the open areas of grass and mature trees as well as the hedges and pathways that link the outer grounds to the main church building and schoolhouse, is to be conserved and appropriately maintained consistent with its heritage significance.

- i) **Building including alterations and additions**
 - a) Minor external alterations and changes may be made to the buildings, including the window weather mouldings, and the conservation of the stonework, and other external finishes where they will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place and where they are undertaken in accordance with the current Conservation and Management Plans for the place endorsed by the Heritage Council.
 - b) Any work to conserve the place shall be in keeping with the requirements of the current Conservation and Management Plans endorsed by the Heritage Council.
- ii) **Landscape**
 - a) The area around the existing buildings shall be retained as open space and additional buildings or structures shall only be permitted where they do not adversely affect the heritage significance of the Place.
 - b) The lychgates and perimeter hedges shall be conserved to provide a visual screen.
- iii) **Demolition**
 - a) Subject to (iii)(b) demolition of the original built fabric shall not be permitted, other than in exceptional circumstances, including circumstances in which the building or structure is structurally unsound and beyond economic repair or where there are significant public health and safety reasons to warrant demolition. Demolition shall not be permitted unless there is no prudent and feasible alternative.
 - b) The demolition of original built fabric shall only be permitted in the context of sympathetic alteration and additions.

Figure 19: St John the Baptist Precinct, Reid



APPENDIX B: PROJECT BRIEF

ST JOHN'S – HERITAGE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT PLAN

REQUEST FOR TENDER

1.0 OVERVIEW

There has been a number of reports prepared on St Johns and there needs to be a bringing together of these to produce a coordinated Statement of Significance, Conservation Policies and Management Plan, in the form of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the heritage landscape area surrounding the Church.

The parish has received an ACT Heritage grant to assist with the cost of the preparation of the CMP. That grant came with a number of Special Conditions which will need to be met in the eventual CMP, which itself must meet the overall requirements of the ACT Heritage Unit's "Conservation Management Plan Standard Brief". Copies of the Standard Brief and the Special Conditions are attached.

The aim is:

“to produce a plan for the management of the heritage landscape around St John's which integrates the diverse requirements of historic tree management with the preservation of heritage graves and other man-made structures, while conserving unique flora and fauna in adjacent remnants of grassland.”

The CMP timetable to meet the requirements of both the Parish and the ACT Heritage grant is:

31 October 2008: let tender

mid-December 2008: review progress

February 2009: review progress

May 2009: Assess draft report and CMP

30 June 2009: Submit final report and CMP to Parish Council and then relevant heritage authorities for approval by 31 July 2009.

2.0 BACKGROUND REPORTS

ACT Heritage Register Citation

Biosis Research *Golden Sun Moth*, July 2007 (and subsequent ongoing St John's studies)

Connell Wagner *Landscape Conservation Study*, 2002

Eldridge, K *Draft Management Plan*, 2006

Eldridge, K *St Johns Tree Study*, July 2006

Freeman, Peter	<i>St Johns Precinct Heritage Management Plan Volume 1</i> , August 2007
Goldsmith, John	<i>Conservation Plan</i> , 1984
Redbox	<i>Landscape Masterplan</i>
Salisbury, Jean	<i>Plan of Trees to be Removed</i>
Salisbury, Jean	<i>St Johns Churchyard</i> (Published 2000)
A site survey	2006

All these reports are available and Ken Eldridge and Jean Salisbury are both on the Parish committee which will be supporting the successful tenderer.

3.0 BRIEF

- Review existing reports and provide a summary statement on each as part of the documentary and physical evidence of the site.
- It is considered the only additional documentary evidence required is a statement from the committee about existing routine maintenance plans for the site, including management of the native grasslands and the GSM
- There may be a need to provide a supplementary statement on the physical evidence to reflect the situation at the time of the study.
- Prepare a detailed analysis against ACT Heritage Criteria of all elements beyond structure (Peter Freeman's HMP to be used as a basis for significance of structures. If there are elements that require further consideration as a result of the study these should be identified in the report).
- Prepare a Statement of Significance of the heritage landscape and identify the significance of the components.
- Prepare the Opportunities and Constraints that arise from the Statement of Significance, with respect to both the client and all statutory requirements.
- Prepare a detailed conservation policy related to all components of the heritage landscape.
- The process will include some consultation with the St Johns community. A special committee has been formed for this purpose and to provide any additional background information that may be required by the successful tenderer.
- Prepare a coordinated management plan for the conservation of the heritage landscape for submission initially to the Parish Council, via the committee, for review and, once accepted, for review by Heritage Authorities and then finalisation of report.

4.0 SUBMISSION

We seek a submission of:

- A fee proposal for the project.
- Confirmation that the outline timetable can be met by you.

- A list of personnel proposed for the project.

Please forward your submission to the Parish's Project Officer by c.o.b. Monday, 20 October 2008:

Richard Griffiths
33 Majura Avenue
Dickson ACT 2602

GriffithsRD@gmail.com

Tel: H 6248 9609 or M 0412 164 404

APPENDIX C: SUMMARY TREE INFORMATION

Table 14. Summary Tree Information

Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Perimeter Hedge			
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)		<p>FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra.</p> <p>This species has been used as the hedge around the churchyard boundary. The hedge is no longer intact, as the construction of the Parish Centre led to the removal of a large section of hedge in LCU 7 & 9.</p> <p>There are parts of the hedge that have declined, with some dead wood showing. The pruning of the hedge has led to an undulating finish, perhaps based on growth rates of the individual plants within the hedge. The undulations in the hedge do not detract from its aesthetic appearance. Some would say it adds to its character and appearance.</p> <p>Various comments were received about the condition of the hedge, and that its maintenance is costly. The hedge is not, for the most part, in poor condition, and remains a significant feature of the churchyard.</p>	Retain and maintain. Replace where missing.
LCU 1 – Cypress Entry Walk and Church			
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree No's 2945, 2943, 2941, 2937, 2939, 3225, 3221, 3219, 3217, 3223, 3215, and 3213. (Eldridge Tree Numbers 49 – 60)	<p>These trees were planted in late 1920 by Sheaffe with the approval of Weston. Evidence indicates that on each side of the outside of the cypress avenue, a row of Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>) were planted at the same time. These Roman Cypress plantings do not exist today, except for one example near the Lych Gate.</p> <p>The planting centres of the trees</p>	<p>It is recommended that these trees be removed and an appropriate replacement planting undertaken.</p> <p>The recommended option is to replant the Arizona Cypress but not to replant the trees closest to the church and the lych gate, using rows of 5 Arizona Cypresses rather than the original 7 trees.</p>

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
		<p>are far too close to permit satisfactory growth. The planting centres are such that it is possible the intention may have been to prune these trees into a hedge demarcating the entry walk, or that they should have been thinned by 50% as they developed. However, there is no evidence to support these suggestions.</p> <p>The trees have reached mature height, and the crowns have formed a canopy over the walkway, and obscure what is probably the most impressive view of the church (the entry, tower and steeple). However, there is a view sequence associated with the existing trees – focused on the church door initially and then revealing the church when relatively close.</p> <p>The trees in their current form pose a fire hazard to the church and are rapidly deteriorating. There are some trees of this species in the ACT of the same age as the avenue planting in the churchyard, and these are still in good form where planted at reasonable spacing. See the fire hazard report for the precinct (Cartwright 2009).</p> <p>Removal of any of these trees at this stage will expose the dead branches of others. As they are tending to break up and structurally fail, they now present a real and potential danger to pedestrians in one of the most trafficked routes to the church.</p>	
LCU 2 – Fountain Lawn			
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3090 (Eldridge 12)	A Federal Capital Commission (FCC) planting. This tree is still healthy with broad crown and heavy lower branches. It needs some dead-wooding.	It needs some dead-wooding. Retain, but when tree declines remove and do not replace, as it is competing with the more significant FCC perimeter plantings.
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 3094 (Eldridge 11)	An FCC planting. This tree is deteriorating. A large branch on the eastern side needs removal but this would leave the tree with little foliage.	Remove and do not replace (retrieves part of view to church).

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)	Tree 3096 (Eldridge 86)	An FCC planting. This tree is of reasonable health at present, though the morphology has been affected by a nearby tree.	Retain, but when finally removed do not replace (retrieves part of view to church).
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 3210 (Eldridge 85)	An FCC planting. Slightly leaning but healthy.	Retain.
Japanese Spindle Tree (<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>)	Tree 3206	An FCC planting. This tree is in fair health.	Prune off pathway. Retain.
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 3154 (Eldridge 61)	Recorded as an FCC planting. This tree has some minor rot in an old limb removal scar.	Retain for present. When finally removed, do not replace (retrieves part of view to church).
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3119 (Eldridge 46)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. This tree has been impacted by a nearby pine planting.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3105 (Eldridge 45)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. This tree has been impacted by a nearby pine planting.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3092 (Eldridge 44)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 5008 (Eldridge 43)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. This tree has been impacted by a nearby pine planting.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3103 (Eldridge 42)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3099 (Eldridge 41)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3101 (Eldridge 40)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan	Tree 3204	FCC perimeter planting from	Retain.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	(Eldridge 39)	about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	
LCU 3 – Horse Paddock			
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 3289	An FCC planting. This tree is in poor condition.	Remove and replace with same species.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3291	An FCC planting. This tree is declining.	Remove and replace with same species.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3293	Dead. An FCC planting.	Remove and replace with same species.
Ponderosa Pine (<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>)	Tree 3295	An FCC planting. This tree is declining.	Remove and replace with same species.
Apple (<i>Malus</i> cv.).	Tree 3287	Said to be an FCC planting, but unlikely. A small tree that has no real landscape impact.	Remove and do not replace.
Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>)	Tree 3283	An FCC planting. This tree has a very poor branching structure and bird damage to bark. A recent fire also affected the tree. Suspect rot up to 6 metres. This tree is regarded as dangerous.	Remove and do not replace (on Golden Sun Moth habitat).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3281	Recorded as an FCC planting, but its size indicates it to more likely be a wildling. This tree is in fair health.	Remove and do not replace (on Golden Sun Moth habitat).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3279	An FCC planting. In fair health.	Remove and replace with same species.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 5004	Dead wildling.	Remove and do not replace (helpful fire precaution and on verge of Golden Sun Moth habitat).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Trees 3275 and 3277	An FCC planting. These trees are declining.	Remove and replace Tree 3275 with same species. Remove and do not replace Tree 3277 (too closely planted to Tree 3275).
LCU 3a – Rectory Garden			
The trees in this garden have not been assessed as part of this plan, and a separate study is suggested in Chapter 9 given the different and residential character of the garden.			
LCU 4 – Meditation Garden			
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4118 (Eldridge 9)	An 1880s planting. This tree is gradually deteriorating and has large quantities of dead wood. This needs dead-wooding if retained.	This needs dead-wooding if retained. Retain for present, but if crown deterioration continues remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Canary Island Pine (<i>Pinus canariensis</i>)	Tree 4116 (Eldridge 83)	An FCC planting. This tree is in good condition but does require some dead wood removal.	Requires some dead wood removal. Retain.
Roman Cypress	Tree 4120	FCC perimeter planting from	Retain.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
(<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	(Eldridge 38)	about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	
LCU 5 – Graveyard south side			
Grecian Juniper (<i>Juniperus excelsa</i>)	Tree - No number. (Eldridge 74)	This is thought to be a late 19 th century planting. This tree is in fair condition.	Retain.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 96 (Eldridge 10)	This is an 1880s planting. This tree is in fair condition though does have some large branches over graves. Dead-wooding is required if retained. However, the tree is lifting graves.	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Maiden's Blue Gum (<i>Eucalyptus maidenii</i>)	Tree 94 (Eldridge 84)	Believed to be an FCC planting. This tree is in good condition. There is concern that this tree may drop branches and damage graves. This tree could last for many years. As a eucalypt, it is somewhat out of place in the churchyard.	If retained, it needs regular monitoring but recommend removal.
LCU 6 – Old Orchard Area			
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 4084 and 4082	These trees are actually a number of separate trees that appear to be about the same age as the 1920s FCC plantings. It is possible that these trees were heeled in while planting proceeded, but were left at the end of the project. They are of poor form and are impacting on more important plantings.	Remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 3580	This is a wildling. In good condition.	Retain to replace future removal of two pines (Eldridge 7 and 8).
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4074	This tree is a wildling. It is in good condition.	Remove and do not replace.
Arizona Cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>)	Tree 4070	An FCC planting. This tree is declining and of poor form. It is competing with more significant FCC plantings.	Remove and do not replace.
Pine	Tree 4076	Dead.	Remove and do not replace.
Not known	Tree 4072	This tree has already been removed.	
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4066	This tree is a wildling. Good form and condition but competing with more significant FCC plantings.	Remove and do not replace.
Deciduous tree	Tree 3474	Garden planting of no significance. This tree is of poor form and competing with more significant FCC plantings.	Remove and do not replace.
Deciduous tree	Tree 3578	Garden planting of no significance. This tree is of poor form and competing with more significant FCC plantings.	Remove and do not replace.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i> sp)	Tree 4086	Very poor form.	Remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 4090	This tree is a wildling.	Remove and do not replace.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 150 (Eldridge 37)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Some suppression from nearby Cypress tree.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3581 (Eldridge 36)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3577 (Eldridge 35)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3478 (Eldridge 34)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 3472 (Eldridge 33)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 3480 (Eldridge 32)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Some suppression from nearby Cypress tree.	Retain.
LCU 7 – Graveyard east and north			
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Trees 28, 30,32 (Eldridge 88, 89,90)	These trees have been indicated previously as late 19 th century plantings, but they are not that old. It is far more likely that these trees were planted much more recently, possibly about the same time as the Parish Centre (1959). This is a group of three trees planted close together. They are in good condition though are impacting on two of the FCC perimeter plantings. They are also out of place in the primarily coniferous nature of the precinct.	Removal recommended of two trees and retention of one.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 38 (Eldridge 1)	This tree is still in relatively good health, but does have some cavities. There are 3 large branches low on the tree that extend well over nearby graves.	If the tree crown is noted to deteriorate, removal is recommended. Remove large branch on east side.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
		Rot detected in large branch angle. The tree cannot be guaranteed as safe.	
Stone Pine (<i>Pinus pinea</i>)	Tree 40 (Eldridge 2)	This tree has one large branch with weak union and cavity. It is of poor form and structure.	Removal is recommended.
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)	Tree 18 (Eldridge 67)	This tree has previously been recorded as a late 19 th Century planting, but is more likely an adventitious seedling, even though of some age. It is healthy and of good form.	Recommend removal to open up vista of church from laneway.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 46 (Eldridge 68)	This tree has previously been recorded as a late 19 th Century planting, but is more likely an adventitious seedling. This tree is healthy and of good form.	Recommend removal to open up vista of church from laneway.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 48	This tree has previously been recorded as a late 19 th Century planting. It is healthy and of good form.	Retain.
Deciduous	Tree 59	Dead, remove.	Remove.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 50	This tree is said to be an 1880s planting, but could be a wildling. It is competing with the FCC perimeter planting. It is in good condition.	Remove and do not replace.
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)	Tree 54 (Eldridge 3)	This tree is part of the late 1880s plantings. This tree has one large branch on western side, making the crown asymmetrical. It is in good condition.	Reduce the weight of the one long branch. Retain. When tree deteriorates remove and do not replace.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 58 (Eldridge 4)	This is one of the 1880s plantings. This tree was struck by lightning in 2003. There is a lot of deadwood in the crown which needs to be removed.	There is a lot of deadwood in the crown which needs to be removed. Retain but remove when it deteriorates and replace with Roman Cypress.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 64	This tree is considered a late 19 th century planting. It is of good condition and form. It is located on a grave, but is mature and unlikely to cause any deterioration of the grave in the near future.	If damage to grave occurs, remove and do not replace.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 62 (Eldridge 73)	This tree is considered as a late 19 th Century planting but is likely more recent. This tree is of good condition and form. Partially obscures the church from the east Lych-Gate.	Removal is recommended to retrieve views of the eastern end of the church.
Grecian Juniper (<i>Juniperus excelsa.</i>)	Tree No Number (Eldridge 74)	Vigorous.	Retain.
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>)	Tree 98 (Eldridge 5)	This is an 1880s planting. This is a poorly structured tree with many long curved branches. The branch unions with the trunk are weak points. It is otherwise healthy.	Retain but remove when crown deteriorates and replace with Roman Cypress.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 88 (Eldridge 6)	This tree is an 1880s planting. It is in decline and will die. It is currently dangerous.	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 90 (Eldridge 7)	This tree is an 1880s planting. It is in gradual decline. Dead wood is prolific.	Retain, but remove all deadwood.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 92 (Eldridge 8)	This tree is an 1880s planting. It is in good form and health, though some deadwood is present. It is currently lifting nearby graves.	Remove and do not replace.
Canary Island Pine (<i>Pinus canariensis</i>)	Tree 154	This tree is in poor health, is lifting pavers and competing with more significant plantings. FCC planting.	Remove.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 58	Said to be an FCC planting, but has been placed in a position that is competing with more significant FCC perimeter plantings. It is in good condition.	Remove and do not replace.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 81 (Eldridge 31)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Suppressed by nearby pine.	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 156 (Eldridge 30)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 56 (Eldridge 21)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 52 (Eldridge 20)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Suppressed by nearby Cypress.	Remove and replace with Roman Cypress.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 19 (Eldridge 19)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 20 (Eldridge 18)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 22 (Eldridge 17)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan	Tree 24	FCC perimeter planting from	Retain.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	(Eldridge 16)	about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Partially suppressed by nearby Pine.	
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 26 (Eldridge 15)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 34 (Eldridge 14)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Partially suppressed by nearby Pin Oak.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 36 (Eldridge 13)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
LCU 8 – Entry area			
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 152 (Eldridge 29)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 66 (Eldridge 28)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Suppressed by nearby pine. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 68 (Eldridge 27)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 70 (Eldridge 26)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 72 (Eldridge 25)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 74 (Eldridge 24)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus</i>)	Tree 76 (Eldridge 23)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary	Retain.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
<i>torulosa</i>)		related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 78 (Eldridge 22)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Healthy.	Retain.
LCU 9 – Lawn area			
Deodar Cedar (<i>Cedrus deodara</i>)	Tree 2936 (Eldridge 64)	An FCC planting in good form and condition.	Retain.
Sweet Gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>)	Tree 2934 (Eldridge 63)	Possible 1950s planting. The tree has a very poor branching structure, and some rot where a branch has been removed. Potential danger to staff and other pedestrians.	Remove and replace with suitable deciduous tree in lawn area outside 1920s churchyard boundary, eg. a Chinese Elm (<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>).
False Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis</i> cv.)	Tree 2976 (Eldridge 62)	Removed.	
Himalayan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>)	Tree 2935 (Eldridge 48)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Good form and condition.	Retain.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Tree 2932 (Eldridge 47)	FCC perimeter planting from about 1926. Significant for defining the changed boundary related to the creation of Canberra. Good form and condition.	Retain.
LCU 10 – Carpark & St John's Schoolhouse			
Cotoneaster (<i>Cotoneaster</i> sp.)	Tree 1633	This is a non-significant planting. This species is not a tree, but is in good condition. It is a prohibited weed on the ACT Weeds List.	Remove and if a replanting is required, replace with non-weed species. The current plant is a weed of no heritage significance.
Black Gum (<i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>)	Tree 1571	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.	Retain.
Blakely's Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1667	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.	Retain.
Blakely's Red Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)	Tree 1665	This is not a significant planting. This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.	Retain.
Blakely's Red	Tree 1663	This is not a significant planting.	Retain.

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
Gum (<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>)		This tree is in good form and condition, though does not have much influence on the precinct landscape.	
Eurabbie (<i>Eucalyptus bicostata</i>)	Trees 1936 & 1938	These are not significant plantings. These two trees are in good form and condition, though they do not have much influence on the precinct landscape.	Retain.
Monterey Pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>)	Tree 1960	This is not a significant planting. It is in good form and condition.	Retain.
LCU 11 – Internal, Constitution Avenue & Anzac Park West Road Verges			
<i>Internal Road</i>			
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 1892	This is not a significant planting. Good form and condition. Will add barrier to church and shade GSM habitat in time.	Recommend removal.
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 2746	This is not a significant planting. Good form and condition. Will add barrier to church and shade GSM habitat in time.	Recommend removal.
Pin Oak (<i>Quercus palustris</i>)	Tree 2733	This is not a significant planting. Good form and condition. Will add barrier to church and shade GSM habitat in time.	Recommend removal.
<i>Constitution Avenue</i>			
False Acacia (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	Trees 4015, 4023, 3934	These 1920s trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. The trees are fair, but decline is commencing.	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
English Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Trees 4020, 4025, 3993, 3965, 3941, 3936, 3424	These trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. These trees are satisfactory, but eventually too big for the location.	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
Roman Cypress (<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>)	Trees 3426, 3943, 3976	These 1920s trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the listed heritage area. The trees are satisfactory.	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
<i>Anzac Park West</i>			
Manchurian Pear (<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>)	Trees 3894, 3896, 3813, 3814, 3818, 3823, 3846	These trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish. Scions are arising from the rootstock of some trees (ie. the rootstock is shooting). They will shade the habitat of GSM as they grow.	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority, which has management responsibility for them.
Nettle Tree (<i>Celtis australis</i>)	Trees 3890, 3820, 3825, 3849, 3844	These trees are not part of the management responsibility of St John's Parish but are within the	The future of these trees has been separately studied for the National Capital Authority,

Table 14. Summary Tree Information			
Species	Tree Number	Comments	Management Comments/Guidance
		listed heritage area. The trees appear satisfactory. They will shade the habitat of GSM as they grow. They are also a declared pest plant/environmental weed.	which has management responsibility for them.
Notes: 1. Tree numbers used in this table are those currently applied to the site, reflecting recent site survey documentation. For convenience, numbers used by Eldridge (2006a) have also been noted where relevant.			

APPENDIX D: FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

D.1 DEFINITION OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

For the purposes of this plan, the following definitions of heritage significance are used.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.

Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects.

Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups. (Australia ICOMOS 2000, Article 1.2)

Natural heritage means:

- natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which demonstrate natural significance;
- geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas that constitute the habitat of indigenous species of animals and plants, which demonstrate natural significance; and/or
- natural sites or precisely-delineated natural areas which demonstrate natural significance from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty. (Cairnes and others 2002, p. 8)

D.2 ACT HERITAGE CRITERIA

A place or object has *heritage significance* if it satisfies 1 or more of the following criteria (the *heritage significance criteria*).

- (a) it demonstrates a high degree of technical or creative achievement (or both), by showing qualities of innovation, discovery, invention or an exceptionally fine level of application of existing techniques or approaches;
- (b) it exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group;
- (c) it is important as evidence of a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function that is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost or is of exceptional interest;
- (d) it is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations;
- (e) it is significant to the ACT because of its importance as part of local Aboriginal tradition;
- (f) it is a rare or unique example of its kind, or is rare or unique in its comparative intactness;
- (g) it is a notable example of a kind of place or object and demonstrates the main characteristics of that kind;

- (h) it has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase in local or national history;
- (i) it is significant for understanding the evolution of natural landscapes, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes;
- (j) it has provided, or is likely to provide, information that will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of the natural or cultural history of the ACT because of its use or potential use as a research site or object, teaching site or object, type locality or benchmark site;
- (k) for a place—it exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements;
- (l) for a place—it is a significant ecological community, habitat or locality for any of the following:
 - (i) the life cycle of native species;
 - (ii) rare, threatened or uncommon species;
 - (iii) species at the limits of their natural range;
 - (iv) distinct occurrences of species.

D.3 HERCON CRITERIA

In April 2008 the national Environment Protection and Heritage Council decided to adopt a consistent set of criteria to identify and manage heritage across Australia. It was agreed that every opportunity should be taken to move towards greater consistency with the National Heritage Convention (also known as HERCON) model criteria. Hercon Criteria are as follows.

- A. Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history.
- B. Possession of uncommon rare or endangers aspects of our cultural or natural history.
- C. Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.
- D. Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.
- E. Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.
- F. Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.
- G. Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of the continuing and developing cultural traditions.
- H. Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

APPENDIX E: KEY EXTRACTS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLAN

The following extracts have been taken from the *National Capital Plan* (NCA 2002 and as amended by NCA [2006?]).



Part One

1. The Central National Area

...

1.1.2 Principles for the Parliamentary Zone and its Setting

- (1) Canberra's role as Australia's National Capital is of continuing and paramount importance. National functions, organisations and activities are actively encouraged to locate in Canberra. They should be housed and located in prominent positions where they serve, individually and collectively, as effective symbols of the Nation and its Capital.
- (2) Opportunities should be taken progressively to enhance the international role of Canberra as Australia's National Capital. Diplomatic representation, the establishment in Canberra of international organisations, and the holding of international events in Canberra are all encouraged as means of enhancing the National Capital's international role.
- (3) The planning and development of the National Capital will seek to respect and enhance the main principles of Walter Burley Griffin's formally adopted plan for Canberra.
- (4) The Parliamentary Zone and its setting remain the heart of the National Capital. In this area, priority will be given to the development of buildings and associated structures which have activities and functions that symbolise the Capital and through it the nation. Other developments in the area should be sited and designed to support the prominence of these national functions and reinforce the character of the area.
- (5) Planning and development of the Territory beyond the Parliamentary Zone and its setting should enhance the national significance of both Canberra and the Territory.

1.1.3 Policies for the Parliamentary Zone and its Setting

- (a) Major national functions and activities that are closely connected with workings of Parliament or are of major national significance should be located in or adjacent to the National Triangle formed by Commonwealth, Kings and Constitution Avenues, to provide a strong physical and functional structure which symbolises the role of Canberra as the National Capital.
- (b) The preferred uses in the Parliamentary Zone are those that arise from its role as the physical manifestation of Australian democratic government and as the home of the nation's most important cultural and judicial institutions and symbols. The highest standards of architecture will be sought for buildings located in the Parliamentary Zone.
- (c) Diplomatic activities should be established in places which are prestigious, have good access to Parliament House and other designated diplomatic precincts, and meet security requirements. They should be planned and designed to establish a distinct character and setting for each area reflecting their national and international significance.
- (d) National and international associations and institutions will be encouraged to locate in Canberra, and whenever practicable the District of Canberra Central will be the preferred location for them.

...

1.4 Detailed Conditions of Planning, Design and Development

The following apply to the Central National Area:

- (i) In the Parliamentary Zone (the area bounded by the southern edge of Lake Burley Griffin, Kings Avenue, State Circle and Commonwealth Avenue)
 - (a) land uses will comprise:
 - Parliamentary Uses and National Capital Uses, including national legislative, judicial and executive functions, and Commonwealth cultural institutions
 - such other uses, including a limited range of commercial uses and tourism facilities, as may be approved by Parliament, which will complement and enhance the function and character of the Area.
 - (b) development shall be guided by the principles, policies and Indicative Development Plan for the Parliamentary Zone set out in the Master Plan for the Parliamentary Zone at Appendix T.6.
- (ii) Other parts of the Designated Area will be used in accordance with detailed conditions of planning, design and development shown at Figures 5-17 and, where applicable, to the provisions of a Master Plan set out in Appendix T.
- (iii) Land uses will relate primarily to national functions. This should not, however, preclude the establishment of appropriate ACT Government functions, suitably located.
- (iv) Consideration of commercial uses in those parts of the Designated Area that lie in the City Division will have regard to the planning effects on Civic Centre as well as on the Central National Area.
- (v) Special consideration will be given to community, cultural, residential, tourism, entertainment and leisure uses which complement and enhance the function and character of the Designated Area.
- (vi) Traffic capacity and traffic arrangements on major routes in the Designated Area will be planned to ensure safe and dignified access for all ceremonial occasions, and for residents, staff, tourists and visitors.
- (vii) The transport system within the Designated Area will be planned and managed for volumes of traffic and parking consistent with the significance and use of the Area. Transport infrastructure should foster the use of transport systems which minimise adverse effects from vehicular traffic.
- (viii) The urban design of the Area is to achieve an integrated design of the highest quality by managing building height and bulk, and by encouraging building forms and layouts on consistent building alignments which enhance the structure of Griffin's plan.
- (ix) New development should seek to respect the design and character of adjacent buildings in terms of scale, colour, materials, massing and frontage alignment.
- (x) Individual development proposals will be assessed on their merits in respect to sunlight penetration, amenity, pedestrian and vehicle access. No buildings taller than RL 617m will be permitted in the Designated Area, but the general building height will be 3-4 storeys except where the Authority determines otherwise.
- (xi) Buildings in the Area must show an appropriate quality of architectural design consistent with their location in this area of special national concern.
- (xii) Direct access to and from major roads will be permitted where practicable and not inconsistent with traffic safety requirements. The design and maintenance of all roadways and parking areas, including their associated landscaping, signs and lighting, will be of a consistently high quality.
- (xiii) Commonwealth, Kings and Constitution Avenues, the avenues connecting the nodal points of the National Triangle, are of critical significance in delineating the geometric form of Griffin's plan. They are not only the primary movement routes, but they are powerful generators of structure and urban form. Their formal expression is paramount and is to be achieved by strong avenue planting, consistent road design, special lighting and detailing. Building heights and setbacks will be planned to ensure consistency and continuity.
- (xiv) Landscaping is to enhance the visual setting of the Designated Area and integrate the buildings with their landscape setting. This will be carried out in accordance with a landscape master plan to be prepared by the Authority which particularly emphasises the following landscape themes:
 - the formal and consistent landscaping of main avenues and mall spaces
 - the combination of formal and informal landscaping which occurs around the lake edge and is the setting for Parliament House and its adjacent areas.
- (xv) Residential blocks shall not be subdivided for separate occupation.
- (xvi) As soon as practicable after this Plan comes into operation, building, road and landscape maintenance is to conform with Management Plans prepared by the Authority in consultation with the Department of Arts, Sport, Environment, Tourism and Territories and the ACT Government, which will consider traffic and parking operations, temporary uses and ceremonial events. The Management Plans will also establish levels of maintenance for land, water and infrastructure appropriate to the principles and policies for the Area and shall take into account the Technical and Management Guidelines for Lake

Burley Griffin at Appendix J.

- (xvii) Any proposal to subdivide land within the Central National Area will require the approval of the Authority.

...

1.5.2 Principles for Constitution Avenue

1. Establish Constitution Avenue as a diverse and active grand boulevard lined with shops, cafes and a mix of commercial, entertainment and residential uses.
2. Establish Constitution Avenue as a prestigious address for National Capital Uses.
3. Link education and high-tech employment clusters located in the corridor between the Australian National University and the Canberra International Airport.
4. Complete the base of the National Triangle.
5. Support Constitution Avenue with an integrated transport system and mix of land uses contributing to the life of the National Triangle.
6. Establish Constitution Avenue with higher density development, public transport, broad tree-lined footpaths and outdoor dining and street parking.
7. Develop a built environment which demonstrates design excellence.
8. Achieve best practice environmentally sustainable development.

1.5.3 Policies for Constitution Avenue

- a) Built form and landscape design should respond to the primacy of the geometry of Constitution Avenue and the Russell apex of the National Triangle with building form emphasising the alignments of Constitution Avenue, Kings Avenue and Parkes Way.
- b) Reinforce the city's three-dimensional structure based on its topography and the landscape containment of the inner hills.
- c) Develop Constitution Avenue (generally east of Anzac Parade) as a prestigious setting for national capital uses, related employment and amenities.
- d) Reduce the barrier created by Parkes Way and its high speed intersections along its length by changing the character of Parkes Way to become a boulevard addressed with prestigious buildings, at grade pedestrian crossings and appropriately scaled road reserves and intersections.
- e) Provide a mix of land uses that contributes to the creation of a 24 hour community with dynamic activity patterns including retail, restaurants, residential and hotels close to public transport, employment areas, cultural attractions and the parklands of Lake Burley Griffin.
- f) Integrate public transport priority in the design of Constitution Avenue including provision for future light rail.
- g) Development should include a high level of access to a diversity of uses and activities, have cohesion and diversity in design character and detail, and be able to respond to changes over time.
- h) Provide a transition in building scale and use to protect the amenity of adjoining residential areas.
- i) Ensure conveniently located parking in a manner that does not dominate the public domain.
- j) Create an open and legible network of paths and streets that extends and connects City Hill and the adjoining suburbs of Reid and Campbell to Constitution Avenue, Kings and Commonwealth Parks and Lake Burley Griffin.
- k) Create a public domain that forms a linked sequence of spaces that are accessible, safe, comfortable,

and pedestrian-scaled, that promotes walking and use of public transport and minimises reliance on cars.

- l) Integrate perimeter security, if required, with streetscape elements that enhance the public domain.
- m) Architectural character should develop a contemporary palette of styles and materials, reflecting the varied land uses and providing activity and interest, particularly at street level. Particular attention should be paid to building form and roof profiles in areas of high visibility.
- n) Design proposals should be site responsive, taking maximum advantage of varying characteristics and features of each site, complementing adjoining development – both existing and proposed – and expressing physical and environmental features.
- o) The street network, building form and facilities should be inherently flexible to accommodate changing uses and demands across the site and within buildings over time.
- p) Development should command high standards of urban design, sustainability, architecture and social inclusion reflecting the character of the national capital and providing a model for city development in Australia in the 21st century.

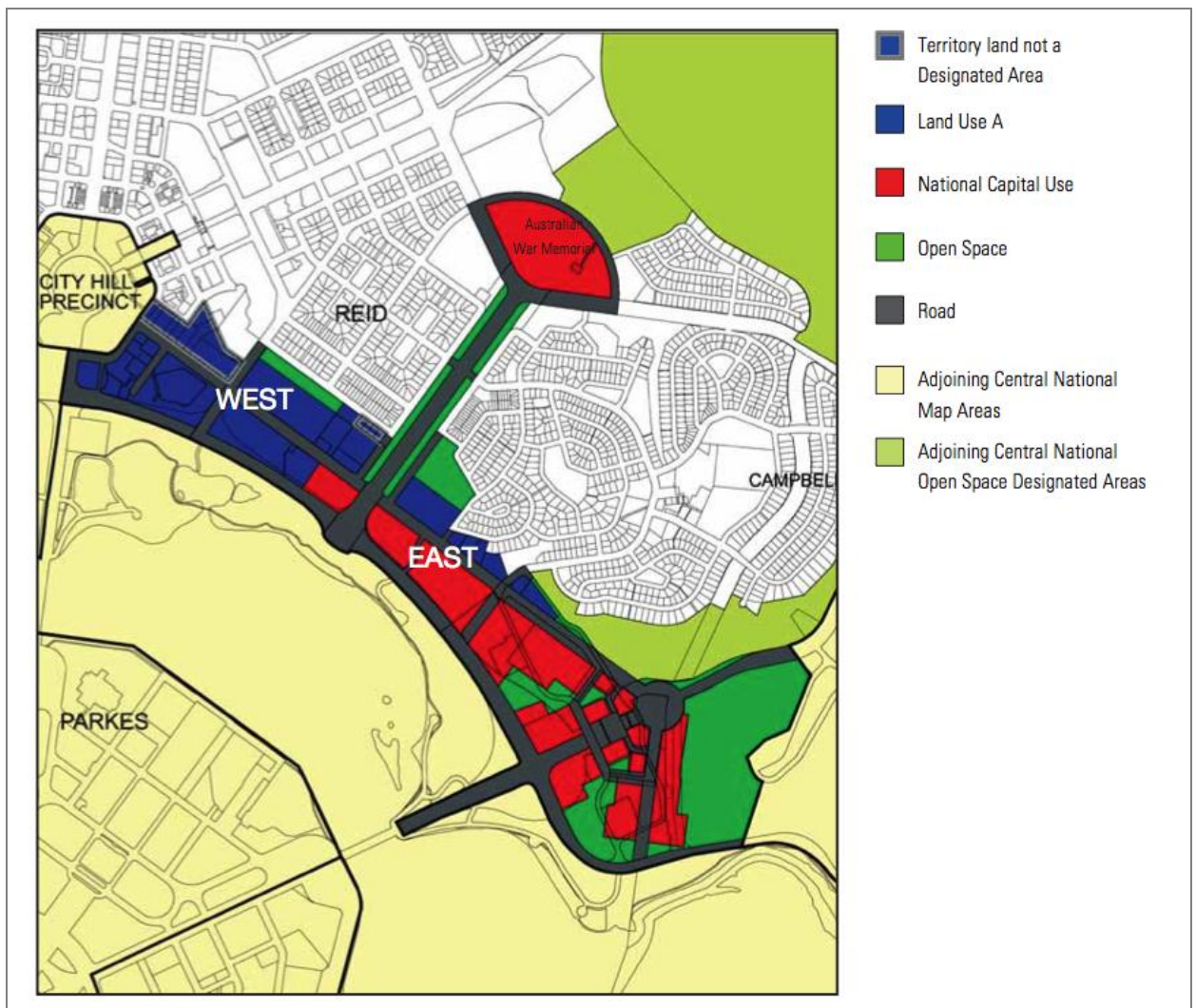


Figure 12. The Central National Area (Constitution Avenue, Anzac Parade)

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10.2 Principle for Heritage

The Territory's natural and cultural heritage should be identified, preserved, protected and conserved in accordance with internationally accepted principles, and in order to enhance the character of Canberra and the Territory as the National Capital.

10.3 Policies for Heritage

- (a) Planning and development should give due protection to any natural or cultural heritage place in the ACT included on the Register of the National Estate and/or heritage register of the ACT Government.
- (b) Within Designated Areas the Authority will require Conservation Plans for listed heritage places. The Conservation Plans for cultural heritage sites will follow the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Guidelines for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter).
- (c) Planning policies and the applicable development conditions should conform with the requirements of any such Conservation Plan.

...

11.2 Principle for Environment

The environmental quality of the National Capital and the Territory should be maintained and improved.

11.3 Policies and Standards for Environment

- (a) Action will be taken by the Authority in accordance with the *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974* where the scale or nature of a development proposal under its jurisdiction is likely to have a significant impact on the environment of the ACT and the adjoining region.
- (b) Nationally recognised guidelines and standards will be the minimum basis for assessing environmental quality in relation to the Authority's policies and in the approval of projects by the Authority.
- (c) The ecological resources of the ACT shall be planned and managed in an integrated manner to maintain or enhance the overall quality and stability of the environment of the National Capital, having regard to such issues as soil conservation, nutrient recycling, water balance regulation, salinity control and protection of water quality.
- (d) As wide a range as possible of the naturally occurring plant and animal communities and species of the ACT should be protected in situations where their long-term survival can be expected and the propagation of rare or vulnerable species in suitable protected habitats will be encouraged.

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Appendix H: Design and Siting Conditions

INTRODUCTION

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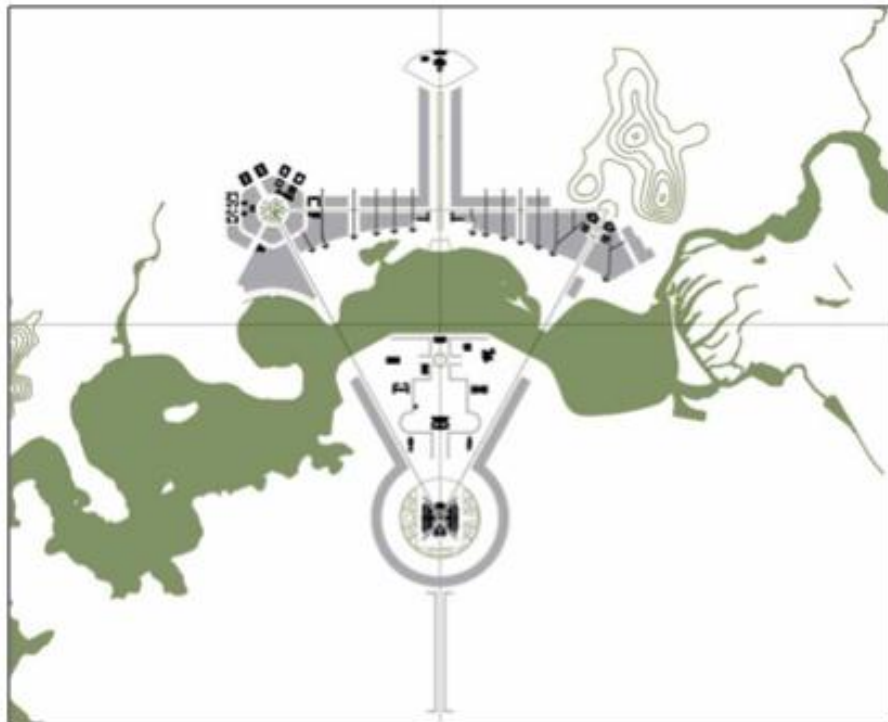
In exercising control over development within Designated Areas of the National Capital, the Authority is guided by a desire to have quality, character and permanence consistent with the concept of a national capital in all construction. It seeks to develop an atmosphere of civil dignity and domestic amenity. Its aim is to ensure that development in all forms will not take away from but rather add to the value of the total investment in Canberra. That is to say, development must complement and enrich its surroundings.

...

Appendix T.8 Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade

T.8 Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade - Detailed Conditions of Planning, Design and Development associated Urban Design Guidelines.

Urban Structure



Indicative Urban Structure

Reinforce Constitution Avenue as the base of the National Triangle and the Russell apex with appropriate urban form.

Create a street grid, sympathetic to Griffin's intended pattern of streets and city blocks that provides a high level of integration with the street and path network of Civic, Reid and Campbell and link these areas with Lake Burley Griffin and Kings and Commonwealth Parks.

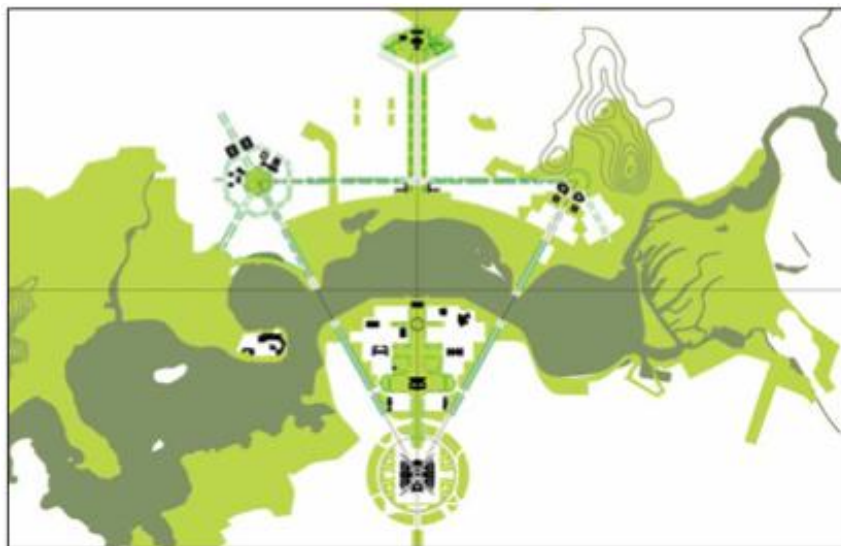


Indicative Urban Structure



Indicative Main Pedestrian Connections

Landscape Structure



Landscape planting should reinforce the urban structure of Constitution Avenue and its integration with the setting of the Central National Area and the Lake Burley Griffin parklands.

A formal treatment should be applied to the main avenues including Constitution, Kings and Commonwealth

Avenues and Parkes Way. Continuous street trees should define the pattern of major and minor streets.

Minimise the visual impact of parking on the public domain by integrating parking layouts with street tree plantings and pavement design.

Public Transport, Access and Circulation

...

Road Hierarchy



Indicative Road Structure

The road hierarchy provides a legible and connective framework for moving throughout the area with:

- Constitution, Commonwealth and Kings Avenues and Parkes Way having the role of principal routes for through traffic and pedestrians connecting other parts of the city to the area.
- Major connecting streets including Coranderrk Street, Blamey Crescent and Sellheim Avenue having a role of providing the main connections from Civic and adjoining neighbourhoods.
- Minor streets having a local access role with priority for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Lanes, shareways and arcades having a service, access and pedestrian network role.

Cycleway



Indicative Cycleways

Provide an attractive and direct network for pedestrians and cyclists catering to recreation and commuter needs, separated spatially and by visual character where appropriate to prevent pedestrian conflicts.

Streetscape Design

Provide a complementary hierarchy of streetscape elements that relates to the road hierarchy giving primacy to the main avenues, emphasising continuity along their length through avenues of appropriately scaled street trees, consistent pedestrian pavement materials, street furniture and lighting.

Development should generally be constructed to the street boundary to define and enclose streets and create continuous street frontage while allowing variations in individual buildings and uses.

Use a limited palette of high quality pedestrian pavement materials, street furniture and lighting. Pavement and landscape design should have an elegant, simple and bold design emphasising the geometry and formality of the main avenues.

Ensure streetscapes are well lit for pedestrians and optimise security and safety for night time use.

Footpath areas should be wide enough to cater for pedestrians and specific land use requirements and allow for seating areas, outdoor cafes, planting and urban art.

Wider pavements for outdoor cafes and public amenity are to be located on the sunny southern side of the avenue.

...

Active Frontage

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Building Height and Form



Indicative Building Height and Form

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Water Sensitive Urban Design



Indicative Stormwater (proposed)

...

Car Parking

Provide on-street parking to support retail uses, pedestrian amenity and after hours activity.

Large off-street permanent surface car parks are to be avoided; car parking is to be accommodated in basements or in above-ground structures concealed from public areas generally by habitable building facades.

Development of existing surface car parks will need to demonstrate that an adequate public car parking provision (on-street or in appropriately designed structures) will meet the needs of Constitution Avenue.

Car parking for new development will be provided in accordance with ACT Government standards.

Public parking shall be provided for as identified in the ACT Government Parking Strategy.

Integrated urban art and signage

Public art and art spaces in new development should be encouraged.

Public art should be included as an integral component of development proposals and the public domain.

A high level of integration between advertising and signage, which contributes to the character of the place.

Opportunities for animated signs to create focal points when viewed from across public spaces, may be considered where this does not impact adversely on the overall character of the place.



APPENDIX F: GUIDANCE FOR ASSESSING PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE

Introduction

The landscape of St John's is a moderately large and complex place with many layers of history and values. The scale of the place may lead to a moderate number of proposals for change, although many of these may be repetitive or routine actions. In addition, some changes may be subtle yet individually or over time may lead to substantial impacts on significance.

Accordingly, it is difficult to provide comprehensive guidance for assessing proposals.

These guidelines provide general guidance, and deal with:

- key general principles for assessing proposals; and
- a precautionary principle.

The purpose of such guidance should be to:

- avoid damaging actions;
- mitigate unavoidable damaging actions;
- trigger more detailed evaluation in cases of uncertainty; and
- trigger formal mechanisms under the *ACT Heritage Act 2004* (eg. seek an approval).

It is important to note that St John's is protected under the *ACT Heritage Act 2004*, and penalties may apply for a breach of the Act.

Key General Principles for Assessing Proposals

The key general principles for assessing proposals are as follows.

- The heritage significance of St John's is the focus of protection and conservation. This significance is defined in the ACT Heritage Register citation and in this conservation management plan (Chapter 7, refer also to the defined attributes). If a proposed action will have, may have or is likely to affect the heritage significance or attributes of St John's landscape then:
 - every effort should be made to avoid damaging actions;
 - if this is not possible, then every effort should be made to mitigate unavoidable damaging actions; and
 - if the heritage significance or defined attributes will be affected, then the formal obligations under the *ACT Heritage Act 2004* should be followed.
- The conservation management plan should be a primary tool in assessing proposals.
- If a proposed action specifically accords with this conservation management plan, and the plan has been approved by the ACT Heritage Council, then further assessment of the proposal seems unnecessary. However, formal obligations under the *ACT Heritage Act 2004* may still arise if the action affects heritage significance or the defined attributes.

- If the conservation management plan specifically precludes a proposed action then:
 - every effort should be made to avoid damaging actions;
 - if this is not possible, then every effort should be made to mitigate unavoidable damaging actions; and
 - if the heritage significance or defined attributes will be affected, then the formal obligations under the *ACT Heritage Act 2004* should be followed.
- In the case of a major proposal not foreseen by the conservation management plan, then the plan should be revised and consider the proposal.
- The decision-making process outlined in the conservation management plan should be followed as part of the process to assess proposals. Strategy 8.1 states,

The process should involve:

- consultation with internal and external stakeholders relevant to the particular decision;
- an understanding of the original form and subsequent changes to the component involved;
- documentation of the proposed use or operational requirements justifying the works or action;
- an assessment of the impact on significance; and
- identification of relevant statutory obligations and steps undertaken to ensure compliance.

Precautionary Principle

Above all, if there is any doubt or uncertainty about the impact of a proposed action, then ideally the action should be abandoned. If this is not possible, then it should be subject to further detailed assessment.

APPENDIX G: BURRA CHARTER

The Burra Charter

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance

Preamble

Considering the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) (Moscow 1978), the Burra Charter was adopted by Australia ICOMOS (the Australian National Committee of ICOMOS) on 19 August 1979 at Burra, South Australia. Revisions were adopted on 23 February 1981, 23 April 1988 and 26 November 1999.

The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places), and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members.

Conservation is an integral part of the management of places of cultural significance and is an ongoing responsibility.

Who is the Charter for?

The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

Using the Charter

The Charter should be read as a whole. Many articles are interdependent. Articles in the Conservation Principles section are often further developed in the Conservation Processes and Conservation Practice sections. Headings have been included for ease of reading but do not form part of the Charter.

The Charter is self-contained, but aspects of its use and application are further explained in the following Australia ICOMOS documents:

- Guidelines to the Burra Charter: Cultural Significance;
- Guidelines to the Burra Charter: Conservation Policy;
- Guidelines to the Burra Charter: Procedures for Undertaking Studies and Reports;
- Code on the Ethics of Coexistence in Conserving Significant Places.

What places does the Charter apply to?

The Charter can be applied to all types of places of cultural significance including natural, indigenous and historic places with cultural values.

The standards of other organisations may also be relevant. These include the Australian Natural Heritage Charter and the Draft Guidelines for the Protection, Management and Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Places.

Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records, that are important as tangible expressions of Australian identity and experience. Places of cultural significance reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious.

The Burra Charter advocates a cautious approach to change: do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.

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Articles

Explanatory Notes

place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material into the *fabric*.

1.9 *Adaptation* means modifying a *place* to suit the existing *use* or a proposed use.

1.10 *Use* means the functions of a place, as well as the activities and practices that may occur at the place.

1.11 *Compatible use* means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

1.12 *Setting* means the area around a *place*, which may include the visual catchment.

1.13 *Related place* means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.

1.14 *Related object* means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the place.

1.15 *Associations* mean the special connections that exist between people and a *place*.

1.16 *Meanings* denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.

1.17 *Interpretation* means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

New material may include recycled material salvaged from other places. This should not be to the detriment of any place of cultural significance.

Associations may include social or spiritual values and cultural responsibilities for a place.

Meanings generally relate to intangible aspects such as symbolic qualities and memories.

Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment of the fabric (e.g. maintenance, restoration, reconstruction); the use of and activities at the place; and the use of introduced explanatory material.

Conservation Principles

Article 2. Conservation and management

2.1 *Places* of *cultural significance* should be conserved.

2.2 The aim of *conservation* is to retain the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

2.3 *Conservation* is an integral part of good management of *places* of *cultural significance*.

2.4 *Places* of *cultural significance* should be safeguarded and not put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.

Article 3. Cautious approach

3.1 *Conservation* is based on a respect for the existing *fabric*, *use*, *associations* and *meanings*. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible.

The traces of additions, alterations and earlier treatments to the fabric of a place are evidence of its history and uses which may be part of its significance. Conservation action should assist and not impede their understanding.

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3.2 Changes to a *place* should not distort the physical or other evidence it provides, nor be based on conjecture.

Article 4. Knowledge, skills and techniques

4.1 *Conservation* should make use of all the knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of the *place*.

4.2 Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the *conservation* of significant *fabric*. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate.

Article 5. Values

5.1 *Conservation* of a *place* should identify and take into consideration all aspects of cultural and natural significance without unwarranted emphasis on any one value at the expense of others.

5.2 Relative degrees of *cultural significance* may lead to different *conservation* actions at a place.

Article 6. Burra Charter Process

6.1 The *cultural significance* of a *place* and other issues affecting its future are best understood by a sequence of collecting and analysing information before making decisions. Understanding cultural significance comes first, then development of policy and finally management of the place in accordance with the policy.

6.2 The policy for managing a *place* must be based on an understanding of its *cultural significance*.

6.3 Policy development should also include consideration of other factors affecting the future of a *place* such as the owner's needs, resources, external constraints and its physical condition.

Article 7. Use

7.1 Where the *use* of a *place* is of *cultural significance* it should be retained.

7.2 A *place* should have a *compatible use*.

The use of modern materials and techniques must be supported by firm scientific evidence or by a body of experience.

Conservation of places with natural significance is explained in the Australian Natural Heritage Charter. This Charter defines natural significance to mean the importance of ecosystems, biological diversity and geodiversity for their existence value, or for present or future generations in terms of their scientific, social, aesthetic and life-support value.

A cautious approach is needed, as understanding of cultural significance may change. This article should not be used to justify actions which do not retain cultural significance.

The Burra Charter process, or sequence of investigations, decisions and actions, is illustrated in the accompanying flowchart.

The policy should identify a use or combination of uses or constraints on uses that retain the cultural significance of the place. New use of a place should involve minimal change, to significant fabric and use; should respect associations and meanings; and where appropriate should provide for continuation of practices which contribute to the cultural significance of the place.

Articles

Explanatory Notes

Article 8. Setting

Conservation requires the retention of an appropriate visual *setting* and other relationships that contribute to the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate.

Aspects of the visual setting may include use, siting, bulk, form, scale, character, colour, texture and materials.

Other relationships, such as historical connections, may contribute to interpretation, appreciation, enjoyment or experience of the place.

Article 9. Location

9.1 The physical location of a *place* is part of its *cultural significance*. A building, work or other component of a place should remain in its historical location. Relocation is generally unacceptable unless this is the sole practical means of ensuring its survival.

9.2 Some buildings, works or other components of *places* were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of relocation. Provided such buildings, works or other components do not have significant links with their present location, removal may be appropriate.

9.3 If any building, work or other component is moved, it should be moved to an appropriate location and given an appropriate *use*. Such action should not be to the detriment of any *place* of *cultural significance*.

Article 10. Contents

Contents, fixtures and objects which contribute to the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be retained at that place. Their removal is unacceptable unless it is: the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*; on a temporary basis for treatment or exhibition; for cultural reasons; for health and safety; or to protect the place. Such contents, fixtures and objects should be returned where circumstances permit and it is culturally appropriate.

Article 11. Related places and objects

The contribution which *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of the *place* should be retained.

Article 12. Participation

Conservation, *interpretation* and management of a *place* should provide for the participation of people for whom the place has special *associations* and *meanings*, or who have social, spiritual or other cultural responsibilities for the place.

Article 13. Co-existence of cultural values

Co-existence of cultural values should be recognised, respected and encouraged, especially in cases where they conflict.

For some places, conflicting cultural values may affect policy development and management decisions. In this article, the term cultural values refers to those beliefs which are important to a cultural group, including but not limited to political, religious, spiritual and moral beliefs. This is broader than values associated with cultural significance.

Conservation Processes

Article 14. Conservation processes

Conservation may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a *use*; retention of *associations* and *meanings*; *maintenance*, *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction*, *adaptation* and *interpretation*; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these.

There may be circumstances where no action is required to achieve conservation.

Article 15. Change

15.1 Change may be necessary to retain *cultural significance*, but is undesirable where it reduces cultural significance. The amount of change to a *place* should be guided by the *cultural significance* of the place and its appropriate *interpretation*.

When change is being considered, a range of options should be explored to seek the option which minimises the reduction of cultural significance.

15.2 Changes which reduce *cultural significance* should be reversible, and be reversed when circumstances permit.

Reversible changes should be considered temporary. Non-reversible change should only be used as a last resort and should not prevent future conservation action.

15.3 Demolition of significant *fabric* of a *place* is generally not acceptable. However, in some cases minor demolition may be appropriate as part of *conservation*. Removed significant fabric should be reinstated when circumstances permit.

15.4 The contributions of all aspects of *cultural significance* of a *place* should be respected. If a place includes *fabric*, *uses*, *associations* or *meanings* of different periods, or different aspects of cultural significance, emphasising or interpreting one period or aspect at the expense of another can only be justified when what is left out, removed or diminished is of slight cultural significance and that which is emphasised or interpreted is of much greater cultural significance.

Article 16. Maintenance

Maintenance is fundamental to *conservation* and should be undertaken where *fabric* is of *cultural significance* and its *maintenance* is necessary to retain that *cultural significance*.

Article 17. Preservation

Preservation is appropriate where the existing *fabric* or its condition constitutes evidence of *cultural significance*, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other *conservation* processes to be carried out.

Preservation protects fabric without obscuring the evidence of its construction and use. The process should always be applied:

- where the evidence of the fabric is of such significance that it should not be altered;
- where insufficient investigation has been carried out to permit policy decisions to be taken in accord with Articles 26 to 28.

New work (e.g. stabilisation) may be carried out in association with preservation when its purpose is the physical protection of the fabric and when it is consistent with Article 22.

Article 18. Restoration and reconstruction

Restoration and *reconstruction* should reveal culturally significant aspects of the *place*.

Article 19. Restoration

Restoration is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric*.

Article 20. Reconstruction

20.1 *Reconstruction* is appropriate only where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration, and only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the *fabric*. In rare cases, reconstruction may also be appropriate as part of a *use* or practice that retains the *cultural significance* of the place.

20.2 *Reconstruction* should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional *interpretation*.

Article 21. Adaptation

21.1 *Adaptation* is acceptable only where the adaptation has minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

21.2 *Adaptation* should involve minimal change to significant fabric, achieved only after considering alternatives.

Adaptation may involve the introduction of new services, or a new use, or changes to safeguard the place.

Article 22. New work

22.1 New work such as additions to the *place* may be acceptable where it does not distort or obscure the *cultural significance* of the place, or detract from its *interpretation* and appreciation.

22.2 New work should be readily identifiable as such.

New work may be sympathetic if its siting, bulk, form, scale, character, colour, texture and material are similar to the existing fabric, but imitation should be avoided.

Article 23. Conserving use

Continuing, modifying or reinstating a significant *use* may be appropriate and preferred forms of *conservation*.

These may require changes to significant *fabric* but they should be minimised. In some cases, continuing a significant use or practice may involve substantial new work.

Article 24. Retaining associations and meanings

24.1 Significant *associations* between people and a *place* should be respected, retained and not obscured. Opportunities for the *interpretation*, commemoration and celebration of these associations should be investigated and implemented.

24.2 Significant *meanings*, including spiritual values, of a *place* should be respected. Opportunities for the continuation or revival of these meanings should be investigated and implemented.

For many places associations will be linked to use.

Article 25. Interpretation

The *cultural significance* of many *places* is not readily apparent, and should be explained by *interpretation*. Interpretation should enhance understanding and enjoyment, and be culturally appropriate.

Conservation Practice

Article 26. Applying the Burra Charter process

26.1 Work on a *place* should be preceded by studies to understand the place which should include analysis of physical, documentary, oral and other evidence, drawing on appropriate knowledge, skills and disciplines.

26.2 Written statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be prepared, justified and accompanied by supporting evidence. The statements of significance and policy should be incorporated into a management plan for the place.

26.3 Groups and individuals with *associations* with a *place* as well as those involved in its management should be provided with opportunities to contribute to and participate in understanding the *cultural significance* of the place. Where appropriate they should also have opportunities to participate in its *conservation* and management.

Article 27. Managing change

27.1 The impact of proposed changes on the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be analysed with reference to the statement of significance and the policy for managing the place. It may be necessary to modify proposed changes following analysis to better retain cultural significance.

27.2 Existing *fabric*, *use*, *associations* and *meanings* should be adequately recorded before any changes are made to the *place*.

Article 28. Disturbance of fabric

28.1 Disturbance of significant *fabric* for study, or to obtain evidence, should be minimised. Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the fabric, including archaeological excavation, should only be undertaken to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the place, or to obtain important evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible.

28.2 Investigation of a *place* which requires disturbance of the *fabric*, apart from that necessary to make decisions, may be appropriate provided that it is consistent with the policy for the place. Such investigation should be based on important research questions which have potential to substantially add to knowledge, which cannot be answered in other ways and which minimises disturbance of significant fabric.

Article 29. Responsibility for decisions

The organisations and individuals responsible for management decisions should be named and specific responsibility taken for each such decision.

The results of studies should be up to date, regularly reviewed and revised as necessary.

Statements of significance and policy should be kept up to date by regular review and revision as necessary. The management plan may deal with other matters related to the management of the place.

Article 30. Direction, supervision and implementation

Competent direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages, and any changes should be implemented by people with appropriate knowledge and skills.

Article 31. Documenting evidence and decisions

A log of new evidence and additional decisions should be kept.

Article 32. Records

32.1 The records associated with the *conservation* of a *place* should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

32.2 Records about the history of a *place* should be protected and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

Article 33. Removed fabric

Significant *fabric* which has been removed from a *place* including contents, fixtures and objects, should be catalogued, and protected in accordance with its *cultural significance*.

Where possible and culturally appropriate, removed significant fabric including contents, fixtures and objects, should be kept at the place.

Article 34. Resources

Adequate resources should be provided for *conservation*.

The best conservation often involves the least work and can be inexpensive.

Words in italics are defined in Article 1.

The Burra Charter Process

Sequence of investigations, decisions and actions

