



Haig Park, ACT

Conservation Management Plan

Approved

January 2020



**Navin
Officer**

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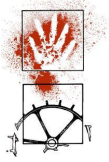


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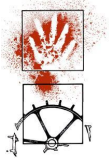
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NOTICE OF APPROVAL



ACT Heritage Council

Notice of Approval of Conservation Management Plan under Section 61K of the *Heritage Act 2004*

On 20 December 2019, the ACT Heritage Council (the Council) approved the “*Haig Park Conservation Management Plan*” (Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, November 2019). This approval is current for a period of five years from the date of approval.

In approving this Conservation Management Plan, the Council is satisfied that the conservation policies and actions contained therein will ensure the conservation and responsible management of Haig Park.

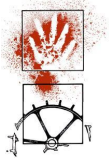
Conditions

The Council’s approval of this Conservation Management Plan is conditional, and sets out:

- Within six months of the date of this approval, the amended Tree Management Plan for Haig Park shall be submitted to the Council for approval, and this shall: be consistent with the conservation policies of the approved CMP; set out procedures for managing individual tree health, and for managing the historic shelterbelt planting pattern; set out a strategic replanting approach, which allows for the sectional removal and replacement of trees; and set out maintenance and management actions by their priority, timeframe and responsible party;
- Within twelve months of the date of this approval, the Interpretation Strategy for Haig Park shall be submitted to the Council for approval;
- Quarterly reports shall be provided to the Council on the implementation of the CMP; and
- Future reviews of the CMP shall include further research to assess whether the association of Charles Weston with Haig Park is special in accordance with *Heritage Act 2004* criteria and the Council’s *Heritage Assessment Policy*.

David Flannery FRAIA MPIA
**Chair (as delegate for),
ACT Heritage Council**
24 December 2019

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tait Network on behalf of the City Renewal Authority (CRA) has commissioned Navin Officer Heritage Consultants to conduct a review and revision of the draft Conservation Management Plan (CMP) (Eric Martin & Associates 2013). This CMP draws and builds upon much of the content originally presented in the draft 2013 CMP. This CMP has been developed in accordance with the articles outlined in the Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 2013) and the ACT Guiding Principles for the development of CMPs (ACT Heritage Council 2015; see Appendix 4 of this CMP).

Haig Park covers Section 8 (Blocks 3, 6 and 7) and Section 14 (Block 1) Braddon, and Sections 66 (Blocks 4, 9–13, 18, 19, 22) and Section 65 (Blocks 1–3, 9) Turner. All blocks are zoned PRZ1: Urban Open Space except for 1/65 Turner, which is zoned Community Facilities. Existing amenities include a fitness track, public toilets, barbeques and time-controlled parking areas. Haig Park spans an area of 19 hectares to the east and west of Northbourne Avenue and features over 2000 exotic trees.

Haig Park is a dense shelterbelt of predominantly exotic species of trees and shrubs. It is a very accessible forested park and provides a place for a range of recreational pursuits. It is well known to Canberra residents and is valued for outdoor recreation, its visual qualities, and its links to the early landscape history of Canberra. The Park is particularly noted for its landscape of deciduous and evergreen trees and their historical associations. The heritage value of Haig Park and its individual features are recognised by many in the Canberra community. The Park is entered on the ACT Heritage Register.

The Heritage Significance of Haig Park

Haig Park is a significant landscape feature of Canberra, dating from the founding years of the National Capital. It demonstrates the early establishment of plantings in the city for protection from climatic extremes and for landscape beautification. The Park is particularly significant for its designed function as an extensive urban ‘shelterbelt’, or windbreak, from dust-laden north-westerly winds. It was planted to protect the first buildings constructed in north Canberra at Civic and in the newly developing suburbs of Ainslie, Braddon and Turner.

Initially planted in 1921, Haig Park extended over 1780 metres and comprised 14 rows of mixed evergreen and deciduous tree species. Haig Park is the only remaining largely intact, originally planted shelterbelt in Canberra. It is not only a rare example of large-scale shelterbelt planting in an urban area of Canberra but is also rare nationally. Until the 1950s most urban development occurred to its south. Then, following expansion of the city further north, the Park became an integral component of the landscaped open space system between adjoining suburbs, in keeping with contemporary landscape and city planning principles.

The original design remains highly intact and is a distinctive landscape feature. The initial selection and patterns of tree species establish the historic significance of the Park, while changes to date remain faithful to the original design and contribute to its heritage significance.

Haig Park has been assessed as significant against *Heritage Act 2004* criteria a, b, and d. At this stage it is not considered to meet criterion c, e, f, h, and g.

Development of Conservation Policies – Opportunities and Constraints

A number of opportunities and constraints have been identified in the CMP revision process. The community and various stakeholder groups have mixed views regarding heritage significance and the preservation of trees in the Park. The future needs of the Inner North area serve as both an opportunity and a constraint.

Opportunity exists to retain the Park’s heritage significance and green space for the future Canberra community in an increasingly dense urban landscape, while allowing successful activation of the space in line with community and stakeholder views and expectations. Opportunities also exist to highlight the Aboriginal history and cultural significance in the area around Sullivans Creek.



The constraints primarily relate to statutory and zoning requirements. Constraints include zoning constraints for PRZ1 Urban Open Space Zone and Community Facilities Zone, and the National Capital Plan – Special Requirement for Territory Land which apply across the entirety of Haig Park.

Overall Conservation Policy

Conservation policies have been developed under six key objectives. These objectives are:

1. heritage management;
2. conservation of significant fabric, uses and associations;
3. conservation of the setting and feasible and compatible uses;
4. changes that may be made;
5. interpretation of heritage significance; and
6. review of the CMP keeping records.

The heritage advice outlined in this CMP provides guidance about how to adequately conserve the heritage significance of Haig Park while allowing some adaptive use and conservation of a large area of green space in Canberra's Inner North.

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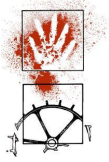
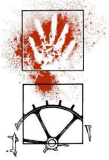


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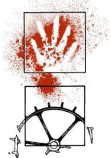


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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Study Area Location and Description

Haig Park is located in the Inner North of Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), and comprises Section 8 (Blocks 3, 6 and 7) and Section 14 (Block 1), Braddon, and Sections 66 (Blocks 4, 9–13, 18, 19, 22) and Section 65 (Blocks 1–3, 9), Turner. All blocks are zoned PRZ1: Urban Open Space with the exception of 1/65 Turner which is zoned Community Facilities (Figure 1.1).

Existing amenities in Haig Park include a fitness track, public toilets, barbeques and time-controlled parking areas. It spans an area of nineteen hectares to the east and west of Northbourne Avenue and features over 2000 exotic trees.

1.2 Project Brief

Tait Network has commissioned Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd (NOHC) to undertake a review and revision of the draft Conservation Management Plan (hereafter the '2013 draft CMP') for Haig Park (Eric Martin & Associates (EMA) 2013).

A revision of the 2013 draft CMP is required following the recognition and appreciation of a suite of current and future trends in local area urban policy, development and population dynamics (Appendix 1).

Section 3.2.5 of the Statement of Requirements for the project details the required steps for the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) review. These are:

- review the 2013 draft CMP;
- identify agency and ACT Heritage Council concerns with the 2013 draft CMP;
- make a presentation to the ACT Heritage Council on the Masterplan (later renamed and released as the Haig Park Place Plan);
- confirm requirements for the CMP with the ACT Heritage Council via ACT Heritage, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate;
- prepare new draft CMP;
- circulate to the Haig Park Steering Committee and ACT Heritage, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate;
- respond as required;
- circulate to ACT Heritage Council;
- respond as required; and
- submission of Final CMP to ACT Heritage Council for approval under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

Haig Park is located within Canberra's 'Inner North' where an increasing number of urban renewal sites are located. The revision of the Haig Park CMP will consider the context of Haig Park in relation to the suburbs of Canberra's Inner North.

Construction of Stage 1 – City to Gungahlin, Canberra Light Rail Network is completed. The corridor runs down the median of Northbourne Avenue, through Haig Park. The *Northbourne* Flats sites of Braddon and Turner are located immediately adjacent to Haig Park and are key urban renewal sites identified for future redevelopment.

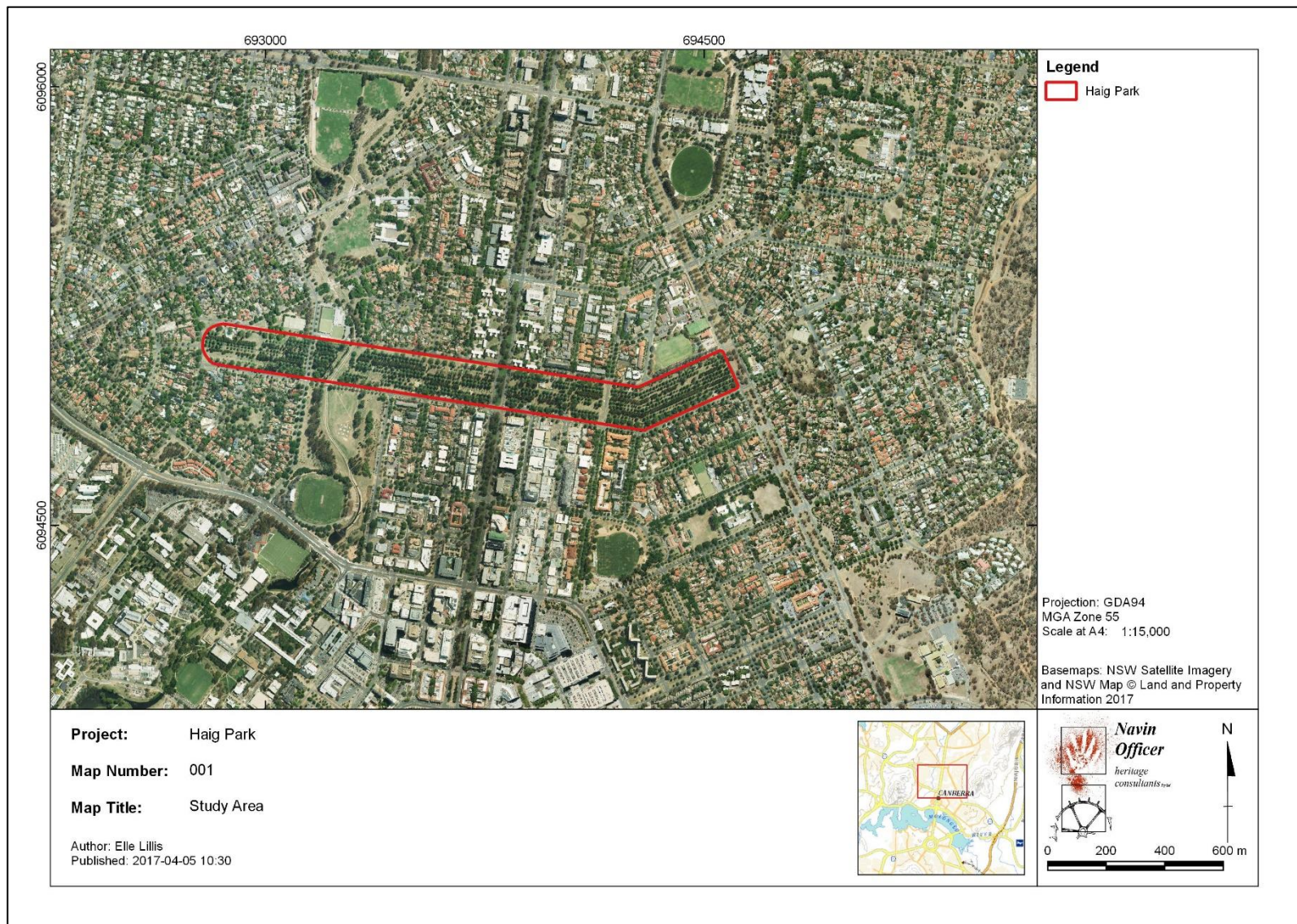


Figure 1.1 The Haig Park study area



1.3 Authorship

The 2013 draft CMP was prepared by Eric Martin of EMA. Landscape input was provided by Jamie Dawson of Enviro Links Design Pty Ltd; traffic input was provided by Peter Strang of GTA Consultants; and community consultation and social significance impact was prepared by Susan Conroy, Cultural Planning Consultant.

This new CMP was prepared by NOHC personnel Nicola Hayes and Julia Maskell. Internal review was conducted by Rebecca Parkes, Kerry Navin, Kelvin Officer, Elle Lillis and Dr Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy. The current version draws upon the 2013 draft CMP.

Inputs were provided from Barbara Payne, landscape architect from Tait Network, regarding the tree species currently in Haig Park. Alan Mann from Canopy Tree Experts provided information about the current condition of the trees, potential impacts due to climate change and general advice about the management and conservation of trees currently in Haig Park. Input has been provided by Urban Treescapes, ACT Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) on alternative tree species, tree spacing, garden beds and tree maintenance. Historical input was provided by Dr Susan Marsden of Significance International (Marsden 2018). A pedestrian wind environment study has been completed for Haig Park by Windtech Consultants Pty Ltd (see Windtech 2018).

A CMP application was submitted to the ACT Heritage Council on 26 September 2017, with an amended version submitted on 2 July 2018. In response, comments were received on 17 November 2017 and 20 September 2018. These comments have been addressed in this document.

1.4 Client

This CMP was prepared for Tait Network as part of the revision and development of a Place Plan and revision and development of a CMP for the City Renewal Authority (CRA). Haig Park was previously under the remit of the Office of the Coordinator General Urban Renewal (OCGUR), which has subsequently been disbanded. Transport Canberra and City Services is the land custodian and land manager of Haig Park, while the CRA is responsible for leading revitalisation efforts.

1.5 Study Limitations

Haig Park provides a habitat for two rare and endangered species of fauna. These are:

- the Golden Sun Moth, a bronze coloured day-time flying moth which generally inhabits remnant native temperate grasslands; and
- the Powerful Owl, Australia's largest owl which has been sighted living in the Turner section of Haig Park – the species survival status is considered vulnerable.

The Park is also considered a 'touch down' location for bird wildlife on the east–west axis between Mount Majura/Mount Ainslie and Black Mountain (Tait Network 2017a:10). No separate and detailed study has been undertaken of flora and fauna. The management of the two rare and endangered species of fauna is outside of the scope of this CMP and subject to the *Nature Conservation Act 2014* (ACT) provisions.

Contemporary reports that document Haig Park frequently divide the Park into 'sections' or 'blocks' which are generally defined based on where streets cross the Park. The heritage significance of the Park has been considered as a whole throughout this CMP, as the majority of streets that intersect with Haig Park have no bearing on the heritage values of the Park.

The location of the original trees planted in the Park has not been identified in this report. This is a known limitation of this CMP.

Community consultation required to assess criterion e) of the *Heritage Act 2004* was not included as part of the NOHC project brief and the ACT Heritage Council has advised that the community consultation



undertaken on the broader planning project is inadequate to satisfactorily assess whether the 'particular aesthetic characteristics are valued by the ACT community'. Nevertheless, the consultation to date indicates that the Park is likely to exhibit this value.

Attempts were made by the CRA to consult with specialists in forestry and forestry practices; however none of the specialists contacted were able to provide advice or input to this CMP.

Consultation with the ACT Representative Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs) was attempted as part of the preparation of this CMP. Four RAOs were contacted in 2017 and invited to meet with the OCGUR to share their views on the cultural value of the Park. One RAO accepted this invitation but despite numerous attempts, the meeting never occurred.

1.6 Statutory Listings

1.6.1 ACT Heritage Register

Haig Park was listed on the ACT Heritage Register (Entry No. 20063) on 14 September 2000. It is listed as a significant landscape feature and for the mass plantings of nine different species of tree (refer Appendix 5 for the full heritage listing). The area included in the ACT Heritage Register is shown in Figure 1.2.

The listing includes:

Sections 8 Blocks 3, 6, 7 and Section 14 Block 1 **BRADDON**; and

Sections 66 (Blocks 4, 9–13, 18, 19, 22) and Section 65 (Blocks 1–3, 9) **TURNER**.

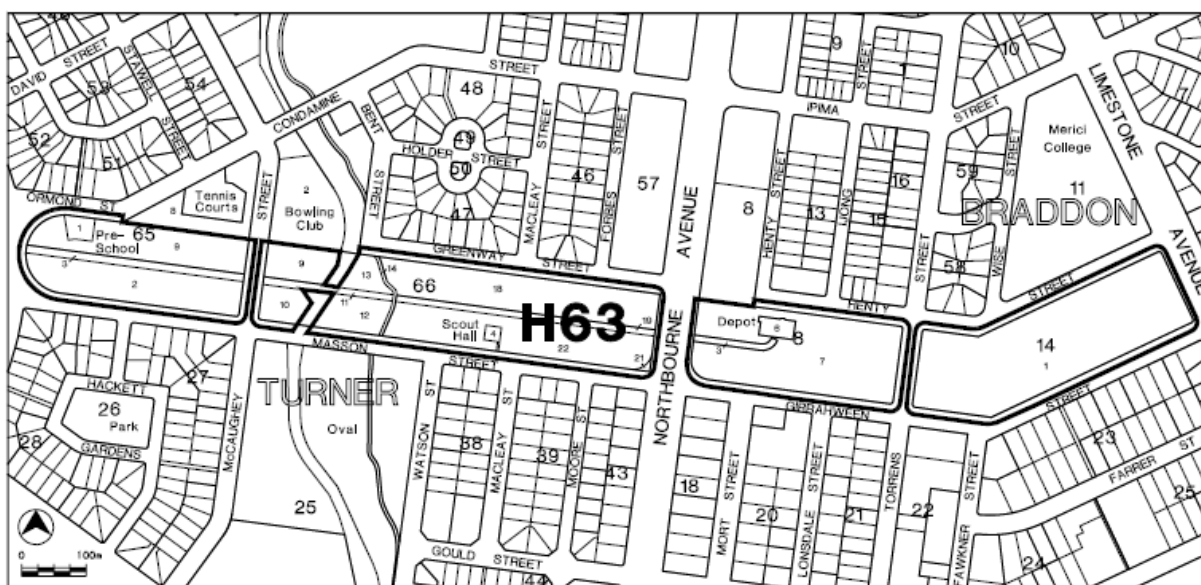


Figure 1.2 ACT Heritage Register Citation Plan

1.6.2 ACT Tree Register

Haig Park is listed on the ACT Tree Register and a Tree Management Plan (ACT Tree Protection Unit 2011) is current for the Park. The area covered by the Tree Management Plan is shown in Figure 1.3.



Figure 1.3 ACT Tree Register Citation Plan

The Tree Management Plan (ACT Tree Protection Unit 2011) lists the following requirements as essential to the retention of the landscape and heritage character and significance of place:

- The Tree Management Plan allows for replacement of dead, dangerous or dying trees without having to cancel the registration of the whole group and then re-registering the group once the tree(s) are removed. It must be noted that trees located within heritage precincts are not always exceptional specimens and the purpose of recording them individually or as a group on the ACT Tree Register is to recognise their intrinsic historical and landscape values. Any replacement trees shall reflect the species range and landscape intent of the original Weston design.
- The landscape qualities of Haig Park are to be retained as an important element of the Park and intrinsic heritage value.
- The integrity of the plantings shall be maintained as an important element of the site. Notably the existence of several defined rows. If open space is to be considered as part of the Park's future development, that space shall be incorporated within the existing rows and the definition of lines of sight maintained.
- Consistency of the original plantings shall be maintained wherever possible. Tree replacement of species which have failed to perform or are no longer considered suitable should be chosen from genera which are represented in the Park. Any species found to be totally unsuitable for replanting should be noted on the future Haig Park Place Plan as a point of reference.
- Tree species which have subsequently been noted as pest plants which are integral to the aesthetic, landscape and heritage value of the site are approved replacement plants (e.g. *Pinus radiata* – Monterey pine).

1.6.3 National Capital Authority

Haig Park is an area 'subject to Special requirements found in separate Development Control Plans', under the requirements of the Territory Plan.

1.7 Non-Statutory Listings

Haig Park was classified by the National Trust of Australia (ACT) on 1 July 1982.



1.8 Definitions and Abbreviations

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
ACTPLA	ACT Planning and Land Authority
ANU	Australian National University
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
CRA	City Renewal Authority
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
EMA	Eric Martin & Associates
FCAC	Federal Capital Advisory Committee
FCC	Federal Capital Commission
GML	Godden Mackay Logan
LPI	New South Wales Land and Property Information
NAA	National Archives of Australia
NCA	National Capital Authority
NCDC	National Capital Development Commission
NCPDC	National Capital Planning and Development Committee
NLA	National Library of Australia
NOHC	Navin Officer Heritage Consultants
NSW	New South Wales
OCGUR	Office of the Coordinator General Urban Renewal
RAO	Representative Aboriginal Organisation
ROC	Receiver Operating Characteristic
SHE	Statement of Heritage Effect
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
TAMS	Territory and Municipal Services
TCCS	Transport Canberra and City Services
Avenue of trees	in landscaping, an avenue, is traditionally a straight path or road with a line of trees or large shrubs running along each side
Garden City Movement/ Planning	the Garden City movement had its origins in 19th Century England. The key values underpinning the Garden City ideal can be summarised as follows:



- Country lifestyle: Appreciation of the beauty of nature and a high level of residential amenity.
- Commerce and trade: Access to services, facilities and commerce.
- Town lifestyle: Access to safe, pleasant housing as well as the opportunity for social interaction and the opportunity to participate in the community (ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) 2008).

Park	a large public garden or area of land used for recreation
Plantation	an intensively managed stand of trees of either native or exotic species, created by the regular placement of seedlings or seeds (Department of Agriculture 2013)
Shelterbelt	an area of living trees and/or shrubs for the purpose of protection against adverse climatic conditions, particularly wind and the effects of wind erosion
Windbreak	an element, such as a row of trees or a fence, wall, or screen, that provides shelter or protection from the wind

1.9 Acknowledgements

This document draws on the 2013 draft CMP prepared by Eric Martin & Associates (EMA) in 2013 for ACT Procurement Solutions on behalf of Parks and City Services, Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) Directorate.

The staff at the National Library, the National Archives and the ACT Archives deserve our thanks for their great help in assisting with the necessary background research for this CMP.

Input and assistance with this CMP was also provided by Barbara Payne from Tait Network; Alan Mann from Canopy Tree Experts; Dr Michael Mulvaney; Urban Treescapes, Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) and Dr Susan Marsden of Significance International.

1.10 Draft EMA CMP Comments

The 2013 draft CMP prepared by EMA was never finalised. The ACT Heritage Council raised several concerns with the document which have been addressed in this revision. These concerns related to:

- the historical background section and the presentation of historical evidence;
- discussion around early European settlement of the area of Haig Park;
- discussion of out-of-character plantings identified by the Enviro Links study in the 2013 draft CMP;
- the comparison of Haig Park to other contemporary plantings and whether these other plantings functioned as a shelterbelt;
- the description of species currently represented in the Park;
- the inclusion of rows 1 and 14 as part of the heritage significance of Haig Park; and
- concerns about how the identification of 'areas of high integrity' was completed.

These concerns have been addressed in this revised Final CMP with the exception of the discussion around 'areas of high integrity', as the process of how these areas were identified remains unclear.



2 EVIDENCE OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

2.1 Haig Park – Place and Extent

Haig Park stretches for 1760 metres (m) from Limestone Avenue in Braddon in the east, in a 143m wide belt through to Froggatt Street in Turner in the west.

Haig Park is bounded by:

- Condamine and Greenway Streets in Turner, and Henty Street in Braddon on the northern boundary; and
- Masson Street in Turner and Girrahween Street in Braddon on the southern side.

The Park is transected by three roads and a stormwater channel, which effectively divide it into four sections. These are (see below Figure 2.1):

1. Torrens Street, Braddon;
2. Northbourne Avenue;
3. the Sullivans Creek stormwater channel; and
4. McCaughey Street, Turner.

The heritage boundary does not include the road corridors and (most of) the Sullivans Creek stormwater channel.

Until recently, single residential development dominated the suburb of Turner and areas north of Haig Park in Braddon. Commercial and mixed-use development dominates the areas of Braddon south of the Park and along Northbourne Avenue. Recently, this land use mix has changed and the Turner section from Northbourne Avenue to Sullivans Creek and the Braddon section to the north have become dominated by multi-unit developments of 2–10 storeys.

The light rail, completed along Northbourne Avenue, serves as a catalyst for urban renewal, along with the increasing densification and the mixed uses of the Inner North. The light rail will change the role of Northbourne Avenue by increasing passenger capacity and active travel and reducing through traffic. This densification and increased active travel through the Inner North is only likely to reinforce the use and importance of Haig Park as a high amenity useable urban open space.

The setting is illustrated in Figure 2.1.

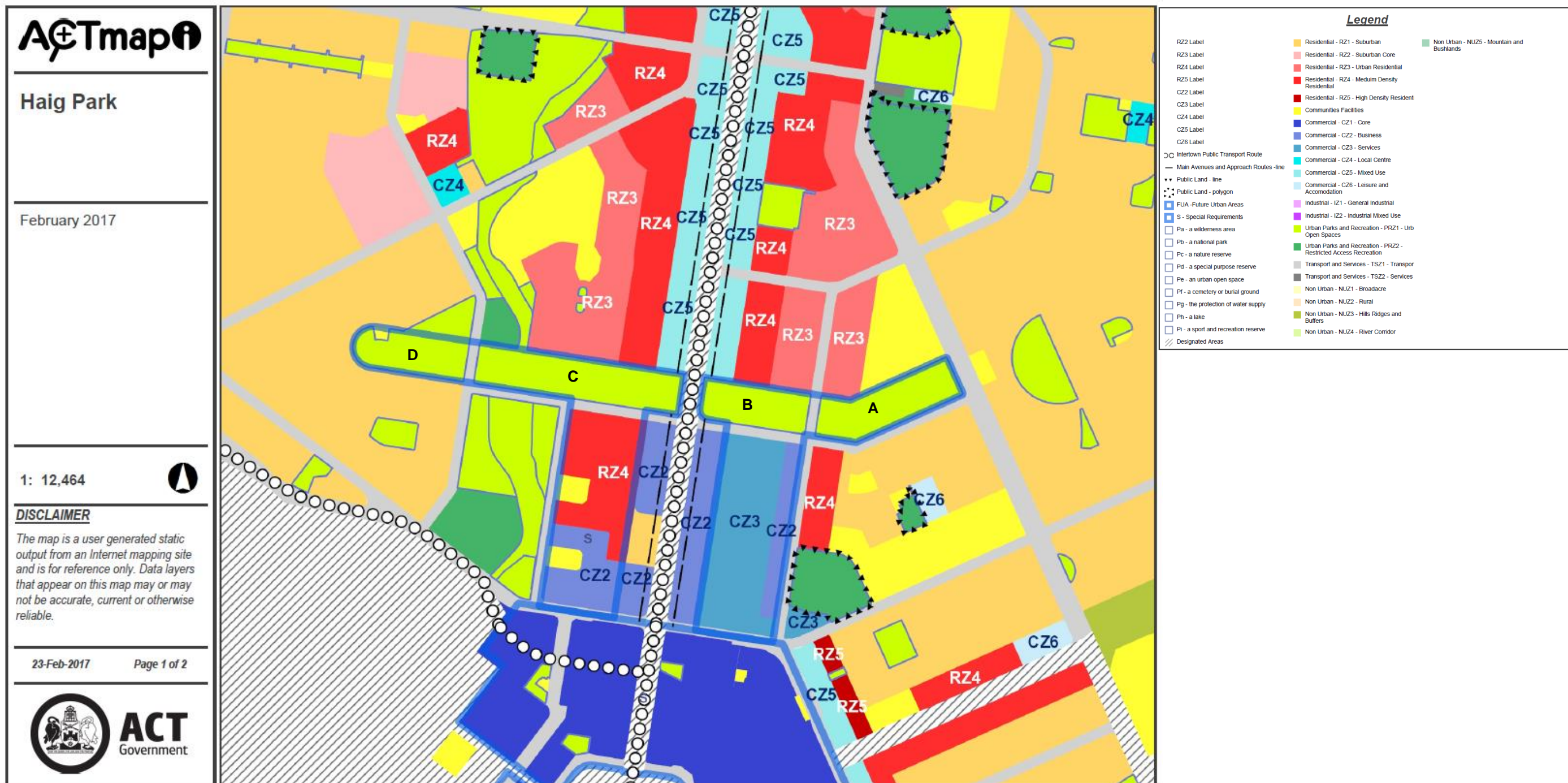


Figure 2.1 2017 ACT Zoning Map and Haig Park Sections
(Source: ACTMapi)

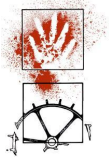


2.2 Haig Park Chronology: Summary Changes Over Time

A detailed description of the historical context of Haig Park is provided in Appendix 2. The chronology of Haig Park and changes over time are summarised in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Haig Park chronology: summary of changes over time

Date	Action
1911	Competition for the design of the federal capital city of the Commonwealth of Australia announced
1912	Walter Burley Griffin (entry no. 29) announced as the winner of the competition
1913	Griffin appointed Director of Design and Construction Weston appointed Officer-in-Charge of Afforestation (later to become Parks and Gardens)
1918	Griffin's last full design of the city of Canberra (Gazetted 1925)
1920	Work begins on Griffin's temporary construction railway
1921	Griffin leaves the position of Director of Design and Construction Temporary construction railway opened Establishment of the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (FCAC)
1922	Flooding destroys the temporary construction railway bridge over the Molonglo River
1921–1923	Original 12 rows in Haig Park planted
1925	First gazetted publication of the plan of the lay-out of the city of Canberra and its environs Federal Capital Commission (FCC) formed to replace FCAC
1928	Park named as Haig Park
1935–44	John Hobday planted the <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> and <i>Fraxinus raywoodii</i>
1938	National Capital Planning and Development Committee (NCPDC) formed
1944	Lindsay Pryor appointed Director of Parks and Gardens
1946	Pruning
1940s–50s	Tree management, including pruning and removal of wattles
1940s	Railway easements planted with trees
1948–1949	Turner Preschool (Treehouse in the Park) constructed
1950	Scout Hall constructed
1950s	Addition of rows 1 and 14 on each side by Pryor On the northern side <i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i> (Greenway Street) and <i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i> (Henty Street) and on the southern side <i>Cedrus deodara</i> (Girrahween Street) and <i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> (Masson Street)
1958	Parks Depot and North Canberra Bowling Club constructed National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) created
1961	Friends Meeting House (Quakers Hall) established
1970s	NCDC restricts vehicle access and constructs additional car parks, a fitness track and picnic areas
1973/4	Some upgrading work undertaken
1984	NCDC commenced a tree and landscape management program



Date	Action
1987	Haig Park declared a public park Culling and replanting carried out in a re-afforestation of the Park by ACT City Parks (<i>The Canberra Times</i> 18 September 1987, p.1)
1989	NCA established
1984–1991	Tree management and selective replacement (reported in Boden & Associates 2000)
1988/89	BBQ areas constructed
c. 1995	Toilet block constructed
2000s	Some tree replacement
2010	Tree removal/replacement of 50 <i>Pinus radiata</i> trees
2011	Tree Audit completed by Homewood Consulting Pty Ltd of all trees located in Haig Park: the audit provided information on each of the 2160 individual trees counted during this audit process; Tree Management Plan approved
2015	LiDAR survey on the tree canopy of Haig Park completed Haig Park had a total tree canopy of 10.4 hectares or 52% (at the time of survey)
2017	Update to the 2011 Tree Audit provided: since 2011, 191 new plantings and 20 tree removals have been undertaken in the Park The total number of 2331 trees were counted, as of 2017
2018	Tree Audit undertaken by TCCS. This audit identified that there were approximately 2317 trees in Haig Park. The audit also identified vacant tree sites; 370 vacant tree sites were counted in the auditing process

2.3 Site Description

2.3.1 Overview

Haig Park includes the following elements, which are described further in the section below:

- views;
- shelterbelt;
- buildings: the Tree House in the Park Child Care Centre (formerly Turner Preschool), the Scout Hall, a toilet block, and the former Parks Depot
- car parks;
- Sullivans Creek, Stormwater and Drainage;
- BBQ areas, tables and seating;
- paths;
- lighting and overhead power lines;
- services;
- kerbs and gutters verges and perimeter barriers; and
- streetscape.



2.3.2 Views

The primary expansive and comprehensive views of the Haig Park area are views from the hilltops surrounding central Canberra (Figures 2.1 and 2.2). Limited views are available at ground level in the vicinity of the Park.

These views emphasise the landscape connection between the two mountains which has provided a connection for flora and fauna as part of the open space corridor functions (Margules & Partners 1987).



Figure 2.1 View of Haig Park from Mount Ainslie
(Source: NOHC 2017)

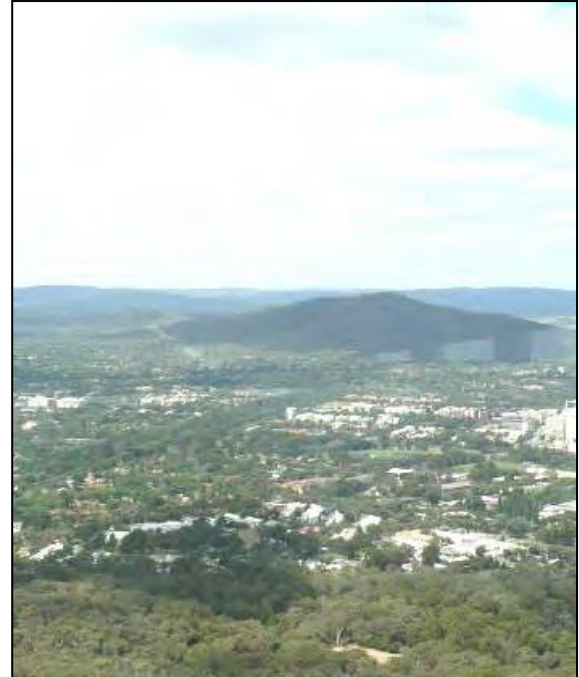


Figure 2.2 View of Haig Park from Black Mountain
(Source: EMA 2013)

At ground level, Haig Park is viewed as a shelterbelt without any particular focal point into or out of the Park. There are connections to closed-off street networks north and south of the Park through footpaths that cross the Park (Figure 2.3). There are views east and west along the lines of trees after entry to the Park (Figure 2.4). Views to both Black Mountain and Mount Ainslie, primarily along Girrahween Street, are now largely obscured by trees in Haig Park and street trees.



Figure 2.3 View from Greenway Street south along path towards Masson Street
(Source: NOHC 2017)



Figure 2.4 Typical view through the trees
(Source: EMA 2013)



2.3.3 Shelterbelt

The Park comprises avenues of trees in a formal pattern underlain with non-irrigated grass (Figure 2.5). The trees include evergreen conifers, broad leaf deciduous, plus smooth bark and rough bark Eucalyptus.



Figure 2.5 Layout of trees
(Source: NOHC 2017)

Enviro Links Design Pty Ltd completed a plan of the existing plantings in Haig Park including spacing of trees and patterns of alternating species (see Figures 2.6 and 2.7). Canopy Tree Experts (2017) completed a revised Table of these tree spacings (Table 2.2).

In March 2011, a tree audit was completed by Homewood Consulting Pty Ltd. No formal report was generated for this audit. Each individual tree was recorded, and the species and spatial data provided as a digital file (Figure 2.6). This audit identified that there were 2160 trees in Haig Park in March 2011. The audit also identified vacant sites; 335 vacant sites were counted in the auditing process. These gaps are likely due to the ad hoc removals in the 2000s.

The tree canopy layer provided from the 2015 LiDAR data indicates that Haig Park has a total tree canopy of 10.4 hectares or 52% (Daniel Goodwin, Manager of Asset and Data Integration TCCS, pers. comm.) (Figure 2.8).

TCCS undertook a tree audit in June 2018. No formal report was generated for this audit. Each individual tree was recorded, and the species and spatial data provided as an excel spreadsheet (attached separately for reference). This audit identified that there were approximately 2317 trees in Haig Park. The audit also identified vacant tree sites; 370 vacant tree sites were counted. Following the removal of an oak tree in 2019, the current number of trees in the park is understood to be 2316.

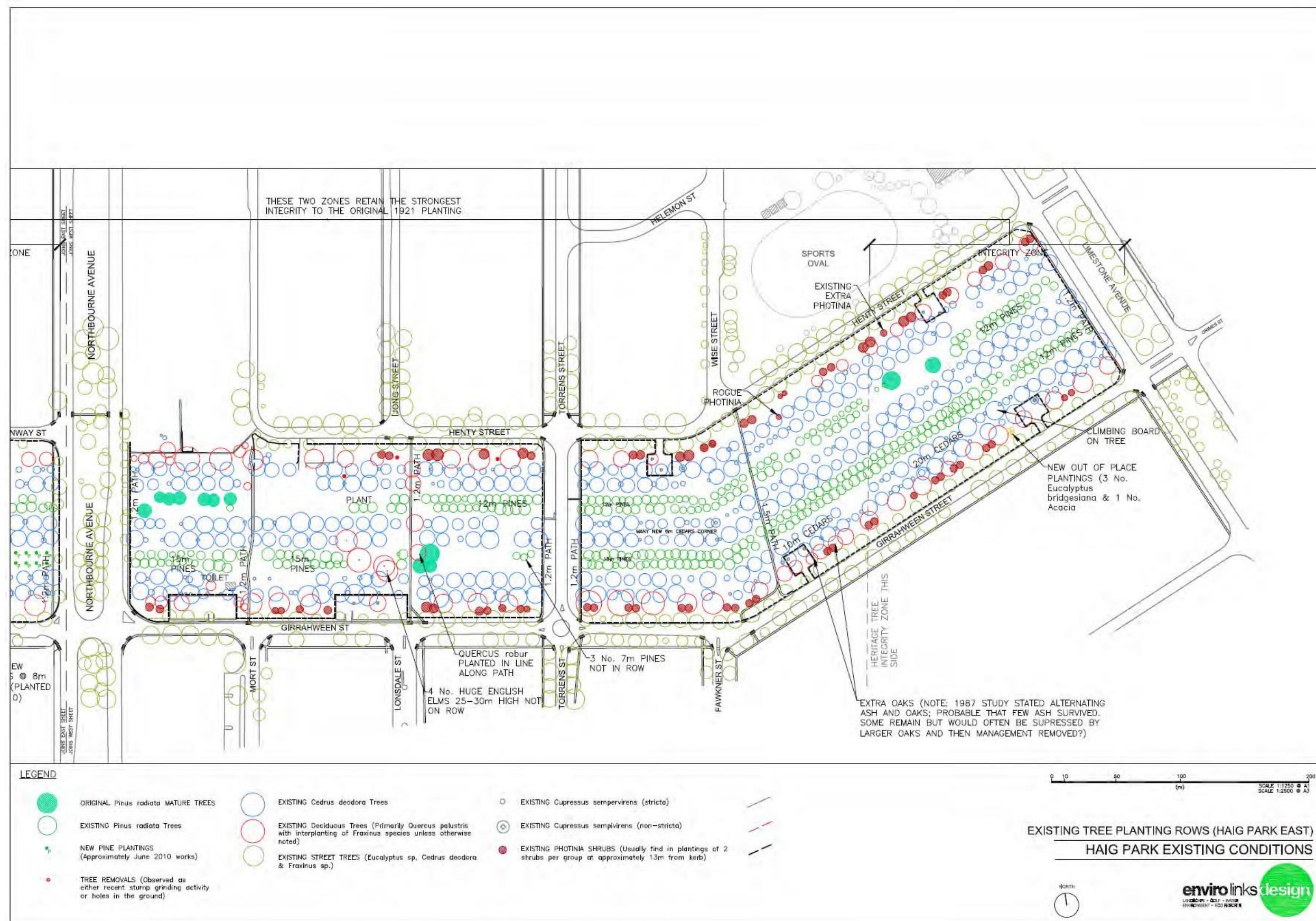


Table 2.2 Haig Park: plantings by row
(Source: Canopy Tree Experts 2017)

Row	Distance to adjacent row to north	Initial tree spacing	Species
1 Henty	3.5m to ROC	12.2m	<i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i>
1 Greenway	3.5m to ROC	Could not determine initial spacings. More recent plantings vary from 11.5–16.5m (between mostly unoccupied planting holes –trees have died)	3–4 trees at far west – <i>Eucalyptus mannifera</i> 1 x <i>E. pauciflora</i> about 30 years old Several newer plantings of <i>E. pauciflora</i>
2a	8.5m (to row 1)	Irregular survival. Possibly planted at 6.1m centres	<i>Photinia serratifolia</i> . This row exists at the eastern end (Northbourne Ave to Limestone Ave); irregular survival
2	13m (to row 1)	24.4m between <i>Q. palustris</i>	<i>Quercus palustris</i> . No interplanted <i>Fraxinus</i> sp. found except for a few near Northbourne Ave. Although the trees were leafless when inspected, the few fruits found indicate they are most likely <i>F. pennsylvanica</i>
3	6.1m (20ft)	12.2m between same species, 6.1m between alternating species where they still exist	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> and <i>Cupressus semervirens</i> 'Stricta'
4	12.2m (40ft)	12.2m between same species, 6.1m between alternating species where they still exist	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> and <i>Cupressus semervirens</i> 'Stricta'. Only three <i>C. sempervirens</i> 'Horizontalis' were found (west of Northbourne Ave)
5	12.2m (40ft)	6.1m	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
6	6.1m (20ft)	6.1m the trees in rows 5 & 6 are offset so that the diagonal distance between trees in opposite rows is 7m	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
7	12.2m (40ft)	12.2m between same species, 6.1m between alternating species where they still exist	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> and <i>Cupressus semervirens</i> 'Stricta'



Row	Distance to adjacent row to north	Initial tree spacing	Species
8	12.2m (40ft)	12.2m between same species, 6.1m (20 ft) between alternating species where they still exist	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> and <i>Cupressus semervirens</i> 'Stricta'
9	12.2m (40ft)	6.1m	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
10	6.1m (20ft)	6.1m the trees in rows 9 & 10 are offset so that the diagonal distance between trees in opposite rows is 7m	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
11	12.2m (40ft)	12.2m between same species, 6.1m (20 ft) between alternating species where they still exist	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> and <i>Cupressus semervirens</i> 'Stricta'
12	12.2m (40ft)	12.2m between same species, 6.1m (20 ft) between alternating species where they still exist	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> and <i>Cupressus semervirens</i> 'Stricta'
13	6.1m (20ft)	24.4m between <i>Q. palustris</i>	<i>Quercus palustris</i> (No interplanted <i>Fraxinus</i> sp. found except for a few near Northbourne Ave.
14a	8.5m (to row 14)	Irregular survival. Possibly planted at 6.1m centres	<i>Photinia serratifolia</i> This row exists at the eastern end (Northbourne Ave to Limestone Ave) Irregular survival
14 Girrahween	13m (to row 13) 3.7m to ROC	15.8m	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>
14 Masson	13m (to row 13) 3.7 m to ROC	13.6 m–16.5 m Irregular spacing appears to be due to matching the plantings on the other side of the street which are irregularly spaced because of infrastructure	<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i>



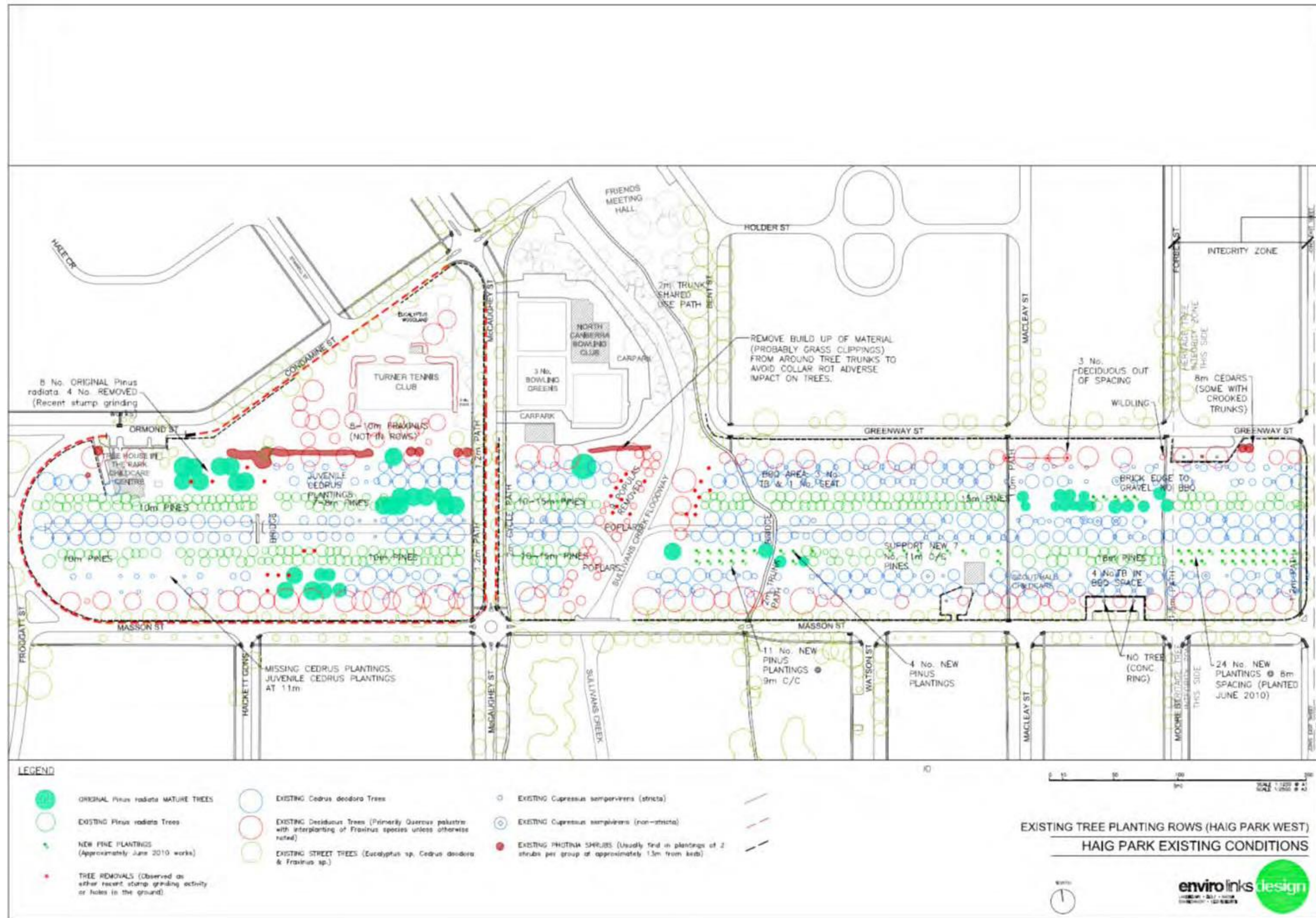


Figure 2.7 Existing tree planting rows, Haig Park West
(Source: Enviro Links Design 2011)

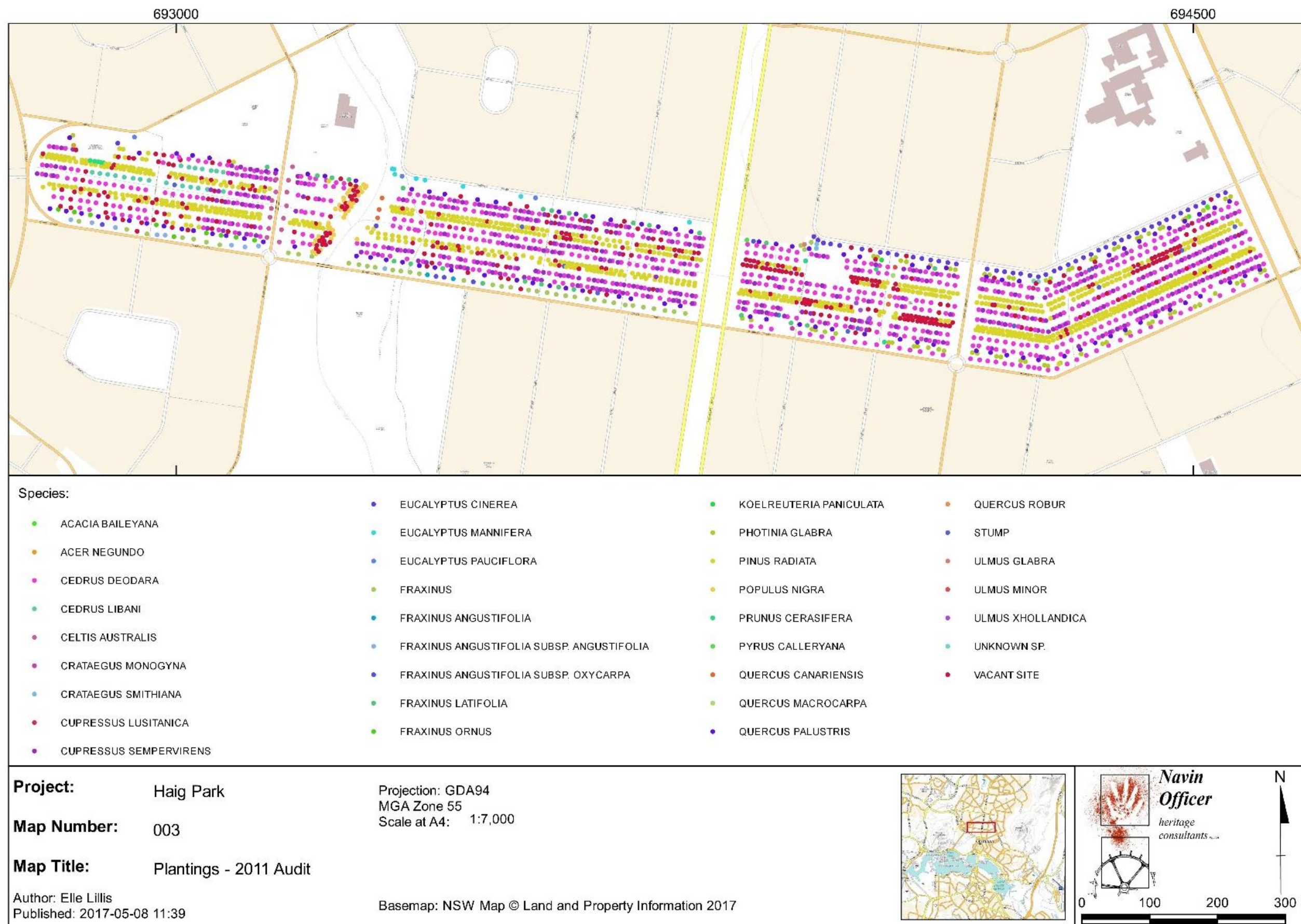


Figure 2.8 Tree species and location as defined by the Homewood Consulting Pty Ltd 2011 Tree Audit



Boden & Associates (2000) prepared a review of some of the tree species located in the Park, with description as provided below.

Pin Oak, *Quercus palustris*, is a strong element in the Park and the major deciduous species whose brilliant autumn colour contrasts markedly with the dark green of the conifers. Pin Oak was an early introduction to Canberra and continues to be planted widely. It is disease and insect free and appears to tolerate Canberra's dry, poor soils better than would have been expected considering the environmental conditions prevailing where it occurs naturally in North America.

Pin Oak derives its common name from the firm twiggy shoots which persist on the stem. Branch wood is also firm and bare lower branches in winter can be a hazard to walkers and machine operators.



Figure 2.9 Aerial view of Haig Park, Turner end, showing autumn colour

Deodar, *Cedrus deodara*, was introduced to Canberra in the middle of the 19th Century and the oldest specimen, at Government House [in Yarralumla], remains healthy. It has been the seed parent for many Deodar plantings in Canberra and may well have provided seed for the plants now growing in Haig Park. Deodar performs better and appears to be longer lived than Atlas Cedar, *Cedrus atlantica*, which is also planted widely.

Many of the Deodars in Haig Park show butt sweep where there is a marked curve in the base of the trunk. This could be a genetic factor as it is in Maritime Pine, *Pinus pinaster*, but could also be due to planting technique or strong winds and wet soil soon after planting. The Deodars in Haig Park have quickly assumed strong vertical growth and the butt sweep does not appear to have affected stability.

The Deodars can be expected to live for at least another 80–100 years based on performance of the tree at Government House. Competition will probably reduce growth but if the existing trees reach the size of the Government House deodar public access will be restricted.

A few trees have had the lower branches pruned and they now appear more like a commercial timber tree than an ornamental.

Roman Cypress, *Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta', has a distinctive vertical form which contrasts with the pyramidal shape of Deodar with which it is interplanted in Rows 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 12. Roman Cypress is a long-lived hardy species with few



disease or insect problems. It grows well in Canberra with the oldest specimen about 120 years of age and still healthy. It is a species which is often associated with the Federation period in Australian landscape design and is typical of early plantings in Canberra by Charles Weston.

The 1984 NCDC press advertisement stated that the Italian Cypress (syn Roman Cypress) would be removed 'if they are competing with and hindering the Deodar Cedars.' The Heritage Citation does not deal with this aspect specifically but states that 'The species of trees found in the 14 rows shall be retained so far as is feasible on arboricultural grounds.'

94 Roman Cypress trees were removed between 1984–88.

Cupressus horizontalis Planting records show that 1272 trees of *Cupressus horizontalis* were included in the original planting. Most of these have been removed, possibly because they were not the columnar form however those remaining fit the description of *C. sempervirens horizontalis* which Spencer (1995) reports 'Although advertised in nineteenth century nursery catalogues this wide spreading form does not remain and is rarely cultivated in Australia.'

These trees are not known elsewhere in Canberra and have a form with a central trunk and short horizontal branches with considerable potential for use in landscaping.

Red Ash, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, [wrongly identified as Arizona Ash, *F. velutina*, in the citation] were interplanted with Pin Oak in rows 2 and 13. Red Ash is quite different in form and appearance to Arizona Ash. Red Ash requires higher soil moisture levels than prevail in Haig Park and some have failed while others have survived but are weak. A few trees are in such poor condition that their removal is recommended however the remainder should be retained. A few which have grown well are the best examples of this species in Canberra.

Chinese Hawthorn, the original planting of *Photinia serrulata*, sometimes called Chinese Hawthorn, in pairs at widely spaced intervals formed the outer edge to the Park in Blocks A and B before the street trees were planted. It is extremely hardy and only one specimen has been lost between 1983 and 2000. If left unpruned it forms a compact multi-stemmed evergreen shrub up to 2 metres in height.

Chinese Hawthorn is not identified in the heritage citation although it contributes to the aesthetics of Blocks A and B and is a species of the period when the Park was established. Management of this species was not discussed in the NCDC management programme.

Barbara Payne, landscape architect, from Tait Network provided written descriptions of Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*), Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica'), Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) and Argyle Apple (*Eucalyptus cinerea*) which are not discussed in Boden's (2000) report, as follows.

Lombardy Poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') are found in only one area of the Park, on each side of Sullivans Creek. The species does not appear to have been part of the original plantings, although *Populus pyramidalis* is listed in the early planting schedules. *Populus pyramidalis* is thought to be a prior name for *Populus nigra* 'Italica'. The Lombardy Poplars plantings do not conform strictly to the distinctive 'row' planting arrangement in the Park. Because of its stature and striking golden foliage in autumn, the Lombardy Poplar is a strong element in the western end of the Park. The species is not, however, specifically identified in ACT Heritage Register citation as being intrinsic to the heritage significance of the Park. It is a declared pest species in the ACT and its future in the Park needs further consideration. The Lombardy Poplars have to date been replaced (when required) with *Quercus robur* 'Fastigiata' (Columnar English Oak) (TCCS Urban Treescapes, pers. comm.).



Native to north-western Africa, Europe, and western and northern Asia the Lombardy Popular can reach 30m and live for 100 years. It is a tall, slender, deciduous tree, of columnar habit with large, diamond shape leaves. Initially bronze, the leaves turn green and eventually gold in autumn. It can cope with pollution and exposed conditions. It can sucker, particularly if its roots are cut or disturbed. It is often used as windbreaks.

Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*) are a key, original element in the Park comprising Rows 5, 6, 9 and 10 adjacent to rows of Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*) and Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta'). Its performance in the Park has been variable, with some starting to decline in vigour by the early 1980s. Between 1984 and 1993, 570 Monterey Pines were removed. This was matched by replanting over a similar period. Earlier replants used superior genetic stock accompanied by rigorous maintenance regimes; apparently, this was not the case with later replants resulting in higher than expected losses. In 2010, 50 *Pinus radiata* of superior genetic stock were planted to cover the earlier losses. Special approval was required for this replanting because *Pinus radiata* was by that date, and remains, a declared pest species in the ACT. The original plantings may now be reaching the limit of life expectancy for *Pinus radiata* in Canberra (100–120 years – Boden & Associates 2000) though variability is to be expected owing to the genetic origins of these trees. This offers an opportunity to consider how and when they will be replaced and managed.

Pinus radiata is a species with a dense crown and dark green foliage, generally reaching a mature height of 30–45 m in exotic plantings. Generally undemanding of soil requirements, *Pinus radiata* is intolerant of waterlogging and strong winds and prefers winter rainfall. It is native to California and two small islands of Mexico; the genetic base of present Australian plantings comes from Monterey and Año Nuevo in California. *Pinus radiata* is the most extensively used species in commercial plantations in Australia.

Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*). These Snow Gums were originally planted in the 1950s by Pryor as street trees in Greenway Street in Turner. On the southern side of the street the Snow Gums are part of Row 1 in the Park. Their white bark has the potential to contrast beautifully with other species in the Park. The species has, however, performed poorly and recent replants have had mixed success. Not all the trees in this Row in this section of the Park are Snow Gums as it appears to also include *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* 'Rosea' and *Eucalyptus mannifera*.

Eucalyptus pauciflora is a highly variable species, renowned for its cold tolerance, generally occurring at higher altitudes in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania and can be found naturally occurring around Canberra. It can grow at lower altitudes, particularly in frost hollows, because of an ability to change its optimal temperature for photosynthesis. It is generally slow growing, to a height of around 10–20 m, and is long lived. This species flowers prolifically and is attractive to bees and birds. It is tolerant of clay soils and has good ornamental and windbreak attributes.

Argyle Apple (*Eucalyptus cinerea*) was planted in Henty Street at the same time as the Snow Gums planted by Pryor in Greenway Street. Similarly, on the southern side of the street they form Row 1 of the Park. The attractive soft blue foliage of this species provides a superb contrast with adjacent rows, particularly with the brilliant autumn foliage of the Pin Oaks in Row 2. An added attraction of the Argyle Apple is its rounded, silvery blue juvenile foliage which often persists in the mature tree, providing texture contrast with the more elongated mature leaves. Its stringy, red, grey-brown bark provides added interest. Planted at appropriate spacings, these trees have performed very well, creating a strong, cohesive element on the northern edge of Blocks A and B and contributing to the integrity of the eastern end of the Park.

E. cinerea is a local species, naturally occurring in the central and southern tablelands of New South Wales and a small area of northeast Victoria. It has a moderately fast growth rate, with a mature height of about 15m. Moderately long lived, it is tolerant of a range of soil types, drought and temporary waterlogging. Its flowers are attractive to bees and birds.



2.3.3.1 Out of Character Plantings

Three out-of-character plantings have been noted within the Park. These were identified by the study completed by Enviro Links Pty Ltd in 2011 and presented in the 2013 draft CMP (EMA 2013) (refer to Figures 2.25 and 2.26).

There is a block of four large elms located near Girrahween Street. The four elms pre-date the formal shelterbelt plantings (refer to Section 2.2.2). The shelterbelt rows have been planted around these trees, which suggests a deliberate decision to integrate the existing trees into the broader shelterbelt landscape. The elms, as an introduced species, were most likely deliberately planted. The elms are a significant element of Haig Park as they reflect the pastoral pre-Canberra landscape and the intent of Canberra's planners and planters to retain some of those historic features, especially established trees.

Documentary evidence cannot explain a definitive reason behind the planting location of these elms. The Parish Maps and Crown Plans of the area do not identify these trees or any possible structures that they may be associated with. The Federal Territory Feature Map (Sheet 4, 1913), which commonly records exotic tree species in the cleared landscape of Canberra, does not record these elms. However, the surrounding area is noted to be 'lightly timbered with gum box and apple.'

A fence line described as 'five wire and one barb' is in close proximity to the location of the trees. The trees are also located to the south of a shearing shed, but do not appear to be directly associated with it. No direct evidence has been found to explain why these trees exist where they do, but it is assumed that they are related to pre-Canberra settlement. The trees may have been planted as shade trees or may have been associated with an ephemeral structure. A walkover of the Park was undertaken by archaeologists Julia Maskell and Rebecca Parks from NOHC, to specifically identify if there was any surface evidence of a structure associated with the trees. The walkover did not find any evidence of any structure associated with the trees.

Four *Quercus robur* (English oak) are planted in a line along the path extending from Lonsdale Street. The location of these English oak trees broadly correlates to the location of the proposed railway line to Yass. Early photographic evidence shows that there is a clear gap between the rows of trees in this location. A possibility is that this gap was left to allow the future construction of the railway. The English oaks appear to have demarcated this line. The 1927 aerial imagery (refer to Figure 2.11) clearly shows a line or path also marked with trees at this location through the Park. *Quercus robur* do not appear in the original list of plantings for Haig Park.

There are a group of three *Eucalyptus bridgesiana* and one *Acacia sp.* located adjacent to Girrahween Street near the corner with Limestone Avenue. The reason for the 'new out of place plantings' is unknown. It may be that these were gaps within the row and local residents have added the trees.

It has also been observed that the rows of trees west of McCaughey Street are not consistent with formal row alignments. It is likely that some of the replacement trees have not adhered to the original planting alignment. Additionally, it has been observed that there are problems establishing replacement trees in the far south-western end of Haig Park due to wet soil.

Overall, despite the anomalies discussed above the original design of the avenue planting remains largely intact although diminished somewhat due to the age and condition of the older trees and age variety introduced by replanting. However, the original design intent is maintained by the tree replanting program.

2.3.4 Buildings

The four buildings located in the Park are shown in Figure 2.10 (marked A–D as indicated below).

- A. The Tree House in the Park Child Care Centre (formerly Turner Preschool)
- B. The Scout Hall
- C. A toilet block
- D. The former Parks Depot.



The buildings have undergone some changes, but these are generally of a minor nature. Overall, the buildings are all in reasonable condition. None of the buildings are included in the heritage register citation.

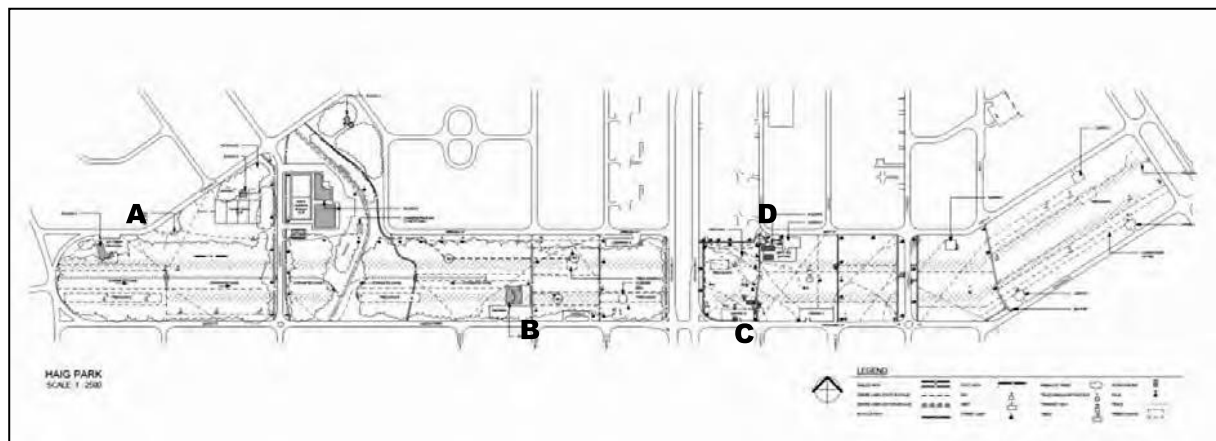


Figure 2.10 Haig Park showing location of buildings
(Source: EMA 2013)

A The Treehouse in the Park (formerly Turner Preschool) (1948–49)

The Turner Preschool, now the Treehouse in the Park Early Learning Centre is located on Ormond Street, Turner (Figure 2.10). The Turner Preschool was built in 1948–49 and opened in 1949 (Figures 2.11–2.14). There is no record on why the school was placed within Haig Park and it can only be inferred that it was an opportunistic placement at the time. The school was closed as a preschool in the 1980s and is now used as an early learning centre.

The building is timber framed and lined with vertical boards and a metal skillion roof (Figure 2.14). Windows and doors are timber-framed glass. The area is fenced with galvanized weld lock fencing.

There are three store sheds – one of horizontal boards with metal skillion roof and timber doors (in the northeast); one painted corrugated metal with gable roof and metal doors (southeast); and a Colorbond shed with gable roof (southwest). The playground area includes paving, grass, sandpits and a shelter.



Figure 2.11 The Treehouse in the Park looking south to Centre
(Source: EMA 2013)

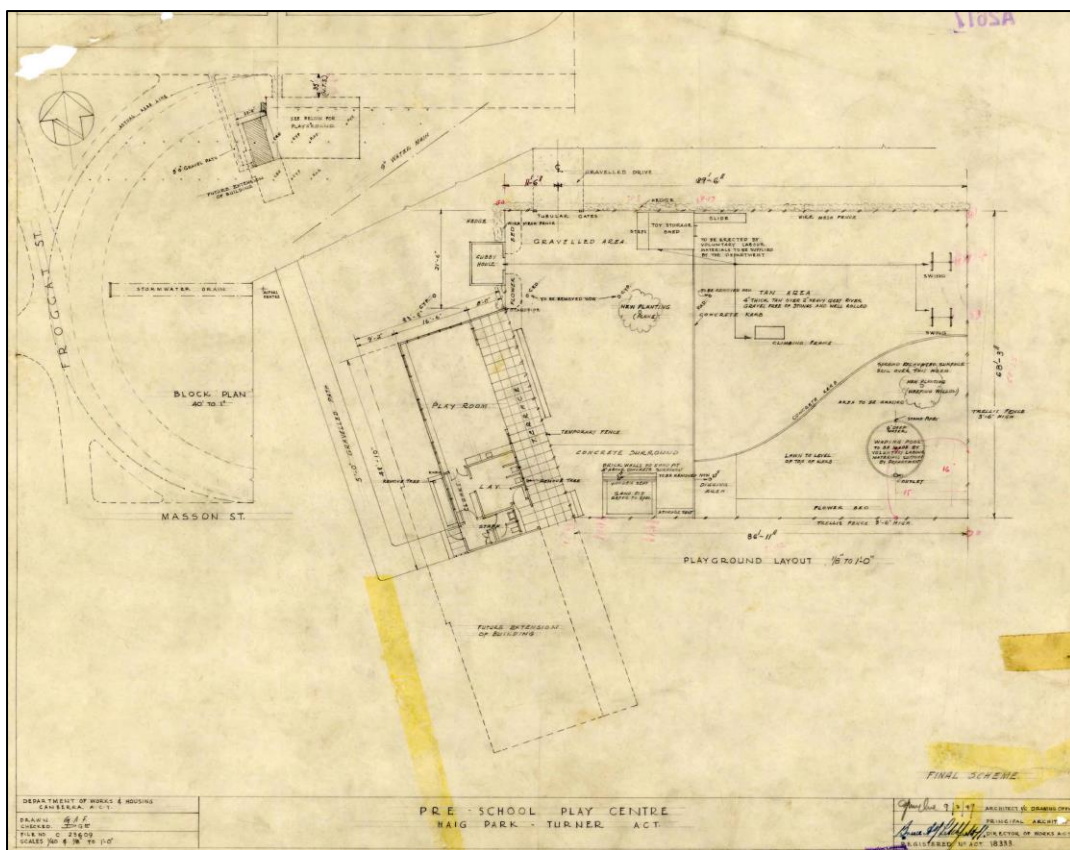


Figure 2.12 Plan of Turner Preschool, 1948
 Title: Turner Preschool – preschool play centre – Haig Park – final scheme
 (Source: NAA Image A2617, Section 150/18333)

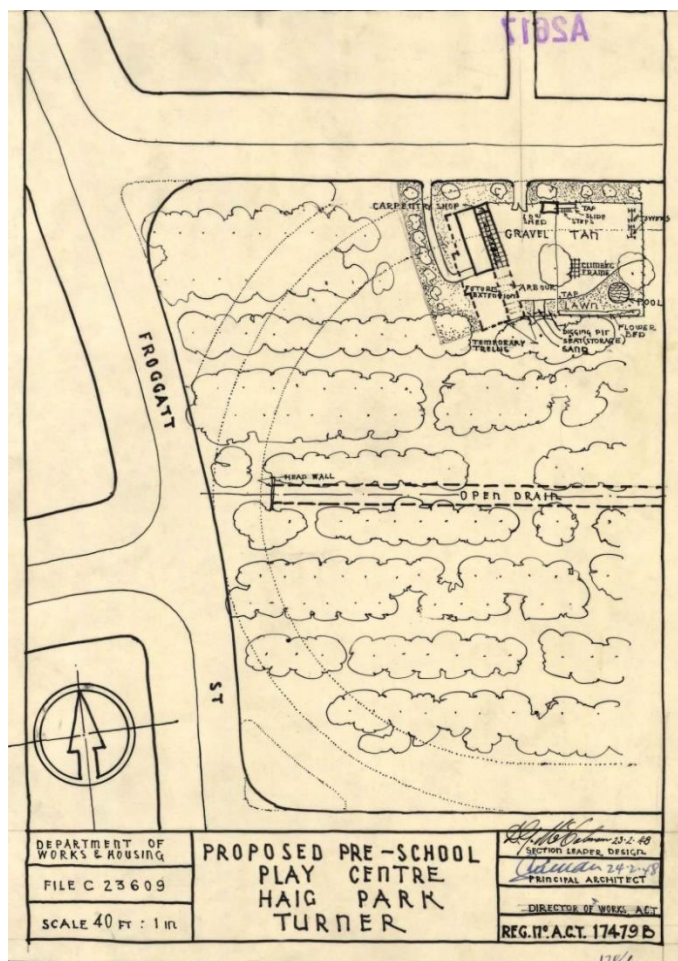


Figure 2.13 1948 Plan of Turner Preschool within Haig Park
 Title: Turner Preschool – proposed preschool play centre – establishment in Haig Park
 (Source: NAA:A2617, Section 150/17479A)



Figure 2.14 Turner Preschool 1957
 Title: Education – Preschool Play Centre at Turner, a residential suburb of Canberra, Australia's national Capital. Children between the ages of two and five attend
 (Source: NAA:A1200, L24249)



B Scout Hall (1950)

The Scout Hall is located on Masson Street, Turner (Figure 2.10). The Scout Hall was constructed in 1950 (Figures 2.15 and 2.16). The hall was originally planned to be a temporary building located in Haig Park (Territory Lease Files L105/66/4 Part 1). Three trees (two Cedar and one Roman Cypress) were removed to allow the construction of the Scout Hall in the 1950 (Territory Lease Files L105/66/4 Part 1). No direct evidence can be found on why the hall was placed within the Park and again it can only be inferred that it was an opportunistic placement, particularly as the intention was for the hall to be temporary.

In the 1970s there was discussion regarding moving the Scout Hall from its current location in Haig Park to near the intersection of McCaughey and Condamine Streets due to traffic movement and the NCDC's plans to upgrade Haig Park into a more formal recreational public area (Territory Lease Files L105/66/4 Part 1). These discussions took place over approximately five years in the early 1970s. The final outcome was that the hall was to remain in its original location.

The building is still used as a scout hall today, housing the Pfadfinder's German-speaking scout group and the German Australian Playschool. The Hall is a cream concrete block building with metal tray gable roof. It has aluminium-framed windows and timber doors. A weldmesh fenced playground is located on the east side.



Figure 2.15 Scout Hall, looking south to Centre
(Source: EMA 2013)

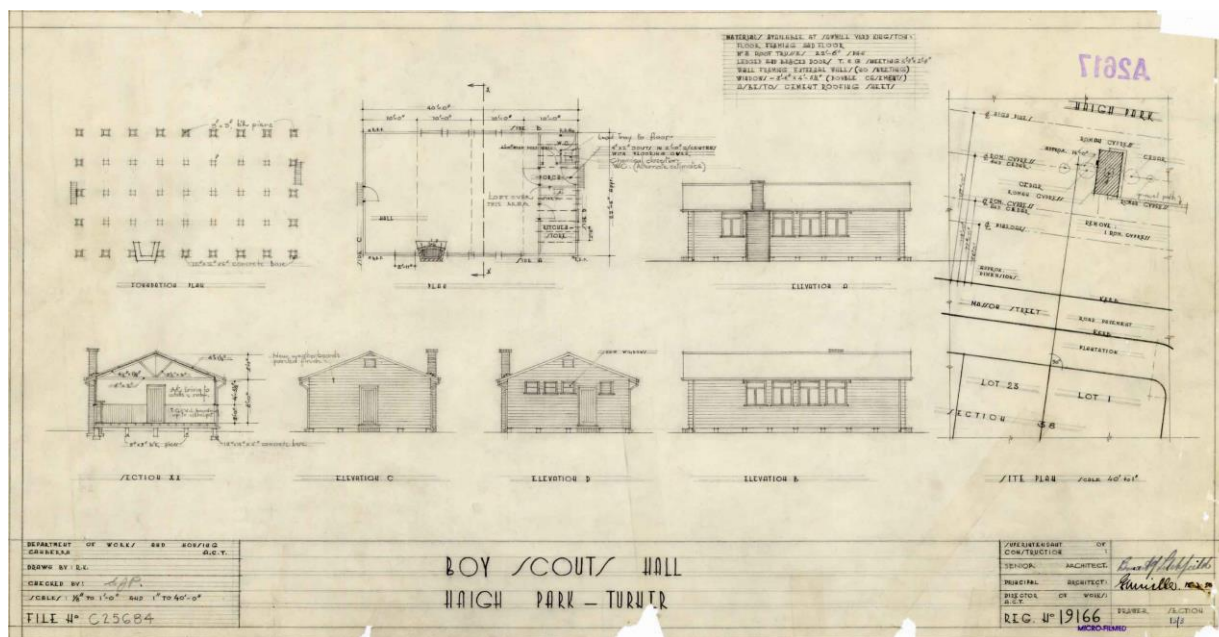


Figure 2.16 Original plans, Scout Hall, Turner, 1950
Title: Halls – Boy Scout Hall – Haig Park – Turner
(Source: NAA Image A2617, Section 127/19166)

C Toilet block (c.1995)

There is only one toilet block in the Park which is located at the edge of a car park (Figure 2.10). The toilet block was constructed c.1995. No direct evidence can be found on why the toilet block was placed within the Park; it can only be inferred that it was to provide toilet facilities to patrons of the Park. It is a painted precast concrete building with a steel-framed hip roof clad in corrugated Colorbond (Figure 2.17). The toilet block is not in any way architecturally significant and any movement or replacement would not impact on the use of Haig Park today.



Figure 2.17 Toilet block
(Source: EMA 2013)



D Former Parks Depot (1958)

The former Parks Depot is located on Henty Street, Braddon (Figure 2.10). The depot was built in 1958 for use as a depot for ACT Parks. The site is currently only used for storage by the CRA. There was no direct evidence found on why the depot was placed within the Park, again it can only be inferred that it was an opportunistic placement to allow ACT Parks to serve the Inner North of Canberra.

The site comprises two buildings (the former depot and a storage building), a number of concrete bins, and parking area contained in a chain wire mesh enclosure (Figures 2.18–2.20). A separate car park is located outside the fence on Henty Street to the north.

The main depot building is brick with a low pitch metal gable roof. Windows are aluminium framed with security screens. The north and west side of the building are painted green. The store building is a green Colorbond shed with low pitch metal gable roof. The depot is mainly gravel with some concrete bins with concrete block walls along the south-western corner. The area is enclosed with a galvanised chain wire fence with seven rows of barbed wire at the top.



Figure 2.18 Former Parks Depot
(Source: EMA 2013)



Figure 2.19 Aerial photo, former Parks Depot
(Source: LPI 2017)

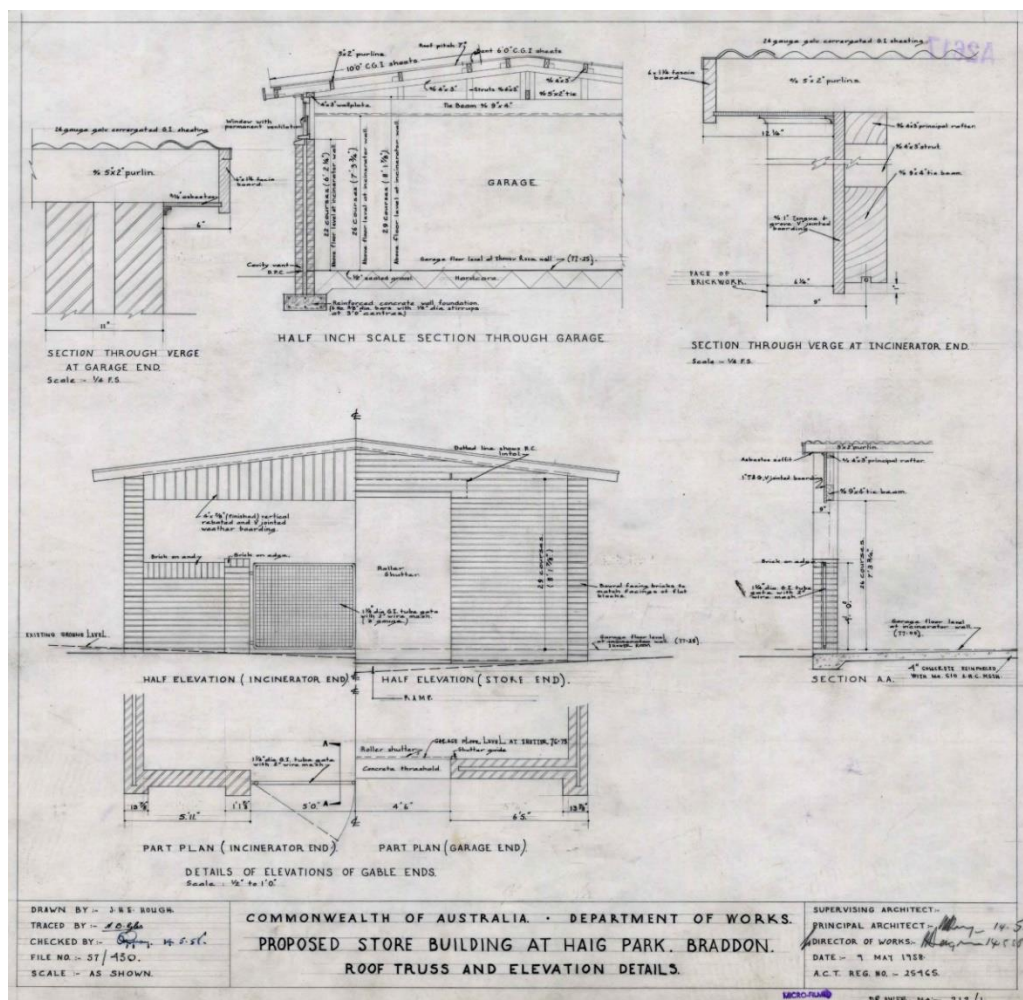


Figure 2.20 Original Plans for the Works Depot, 1958
 Title: Northbourne Ave Flats – Turner Section 57 – Braddon Section 8 – proposed store building at Haig Park, Braddon – roof truss and elevation details
 (Source: NAA Image A2617, Section 31/25465)

2.3.5 Car parks

The Park contains 11 car parks located around the edges. The car parks are generally cut into the Park in a rectangle accessed through a single drive or along the edge of the Park for parallel parking. Some are bitumen paved while others are gravel. All are edged with treated pine log barriers to prevent driving access to the Park. The locations of the car parks are shown in Figure 2.21.

Most car parks are in poor condition with broken bitumen, un-graded gravel with potholes and rut marks, and cracking concrete surrounds around trees. The bitumen paved car parks near the Braddon commercial area are in reasonable condition. The Mandalay Bus – a double-decker late-night food van – is permanently located in the western edge of car park 11 and permanently connected to a power source in the Park.

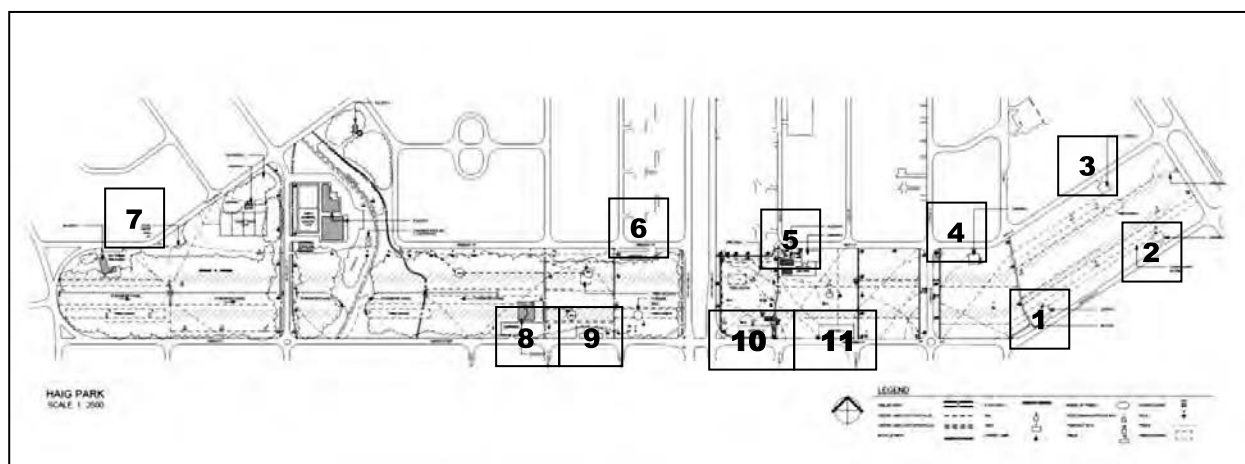


Figure 2.21 Haig Park showing location of Car Parks
(Source: EMA 2013)

2.3.6 Sullivans Creek, stormwater and drainage

Sullivans Creek runs north–south through the western section of the Park. The internal drainage runs roughly down the centre and is partly covered and partly open (Figure 2.22). The main stormwater channel runs from the Depot in Section 8 Braddon westward toward Sullivans Creek and is covered except for the eastern section. Other less well-defined stormwater and drainage channels run along the east–west axis through the centre of the Braddon section of the Park (Figure 2.23).

The section of Sullivans Creek contained in Haig Park is lined with concrete, as are the eastern and western storm water channels as they drain into Sullivans Creek. The section west of McCaughey Street and a small section near Limestone Avenue are unlined earth drains. The culvert entries (headwall) vary from small openings to large ones with formed bridges and balustrades.

There are no details of the original stormwater management, but it appears to have been a system of open drains, some of which have since been buried and some lined with concrete. When this occurred is unclear – however, they existed in the 1950s and the section near the former Parks Depot is known to have been buried in the 1990s.

The condition varies from good (concrete lined and clear) through to overgrown and compacted (particularly in the eastern Braddon end of the Park). The lining of the drainage channels and addition of culverts have been for improved stormwater flow and safety.

The channels have been modified over the life of the Park with most buried or restructured. Sullivans Creek channel's purpose is to convey stormwater runoff and flows to mitigate nuisance flooding from the upstream catchment, which is very urbanised.



Figure 2.22 Lined stormwater channel leading into Sullivans Creek
(Source: EMA 2013)

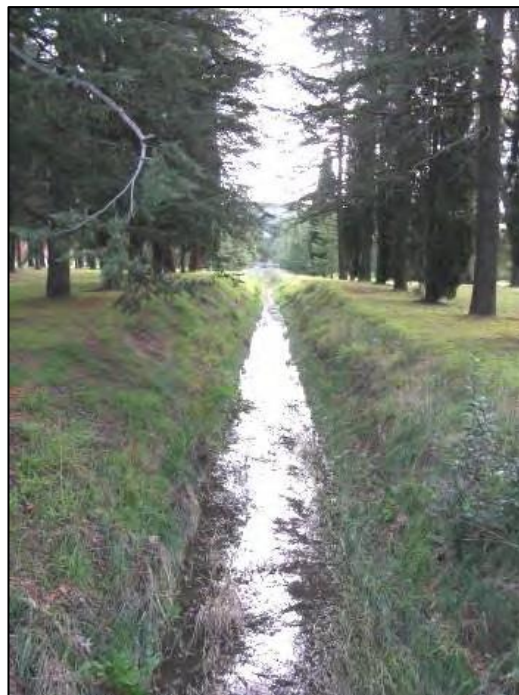


Figure 2.23 Stormwater channel in western end
(Source: EMA 2013)

2.3.7 BBQ areas, tables and seating

There are three BBQ areas in the Park. A gravel and concrete pad is evidence that at least one other BBQ existed at one time. Of the three BBQ areas, one is obviously quite new, one is in reasonable condition and one in poor condition with broken tiles, paving lifted by tree roots and gravel areas pitted and rutted (Figure 2.24).

The BBQ areas use common materials but are of a different composition and layout. They generally consist of a circular gravel area containing 3–5 metal-framed and wood slat benches and tables located around the edge of the area. A brick BBQ with either tile and stainless steel plates or moulded stainless steel plate and top is contained on one edge of all functioning BBQ areas. The BBQs are coin-operated gas and are fitted onto a concrete pad within a paved oval section of the gravel area. Some have a bench as well as tables. Most also contain a bin and tap.



Figure 2.24 Typical BBQ area
(Source: EMA 2013)



There are a range of different styles of seating and tables in the Park. All are timber with the oldest being timber slab and newer seats and tables made of metal frames with timber slat seating. Seats and tables are scattered throughout the Park and located within designated BBQ areas. All seats and tables are in reasonable condition (Figures 2.25 and 2.26).

The BBQ areas, tables and seating reflect a variety of styles and designs. Each area has a different layout but largely uses similar materials. New areas have been built to a similar design to the existing but have used more resilient materials (such as moulded stainless steel BBQ plates and bench tops). Newer seating may also have a concrete pad beneath it. The location of the BBQ areas, tables and seating was mapped in 2012 and verified in 2017 (Figures 2.27 and 2.28)



Figure 2.25 Typical location of seating throughout Park
(Source: EMA 2013)



Figure 2.26 Lone table in centre of Park
(Source: EMA 2013)

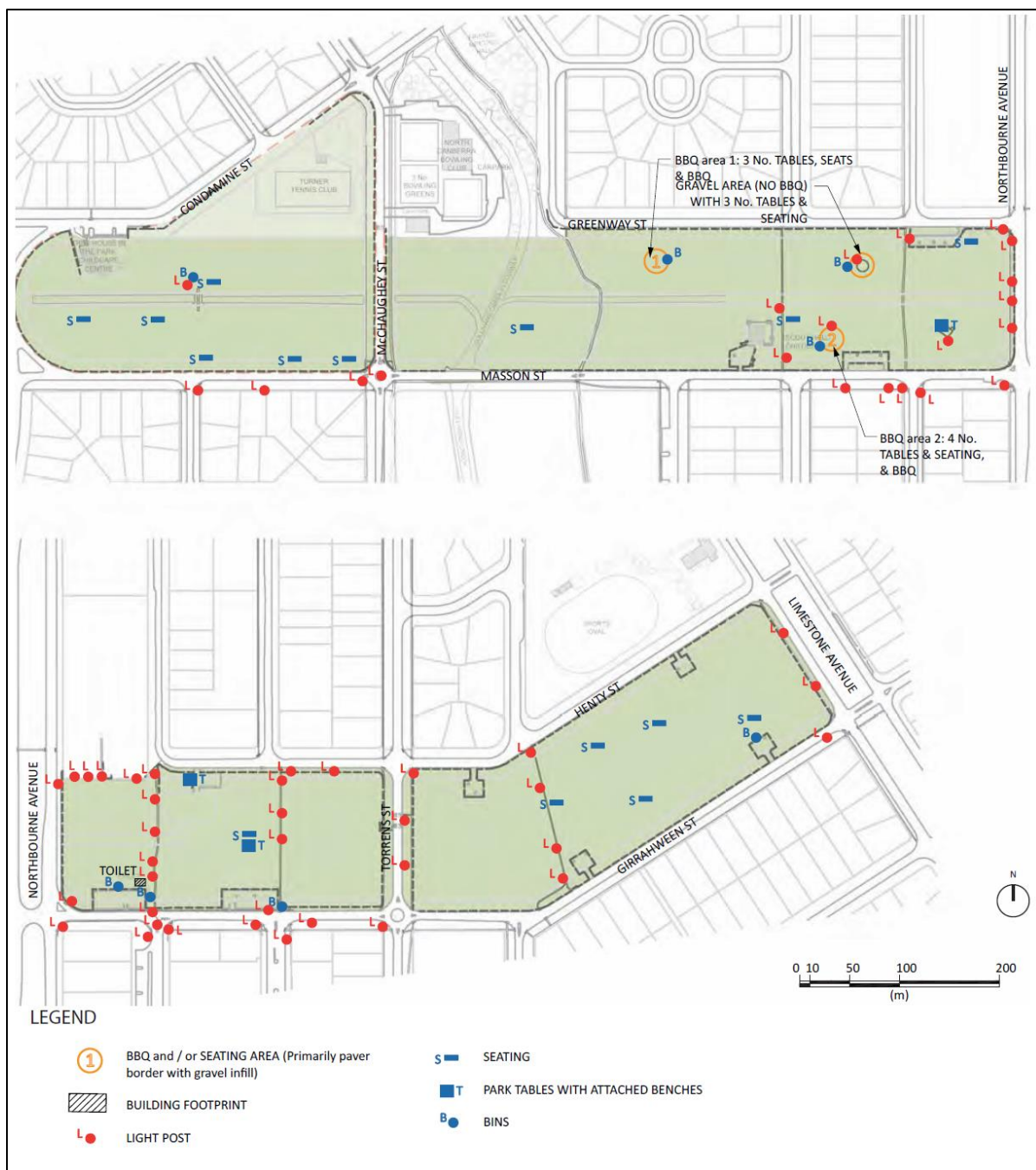


Figure 2.27 Location of BBQ Areas, tables and seating from 2012

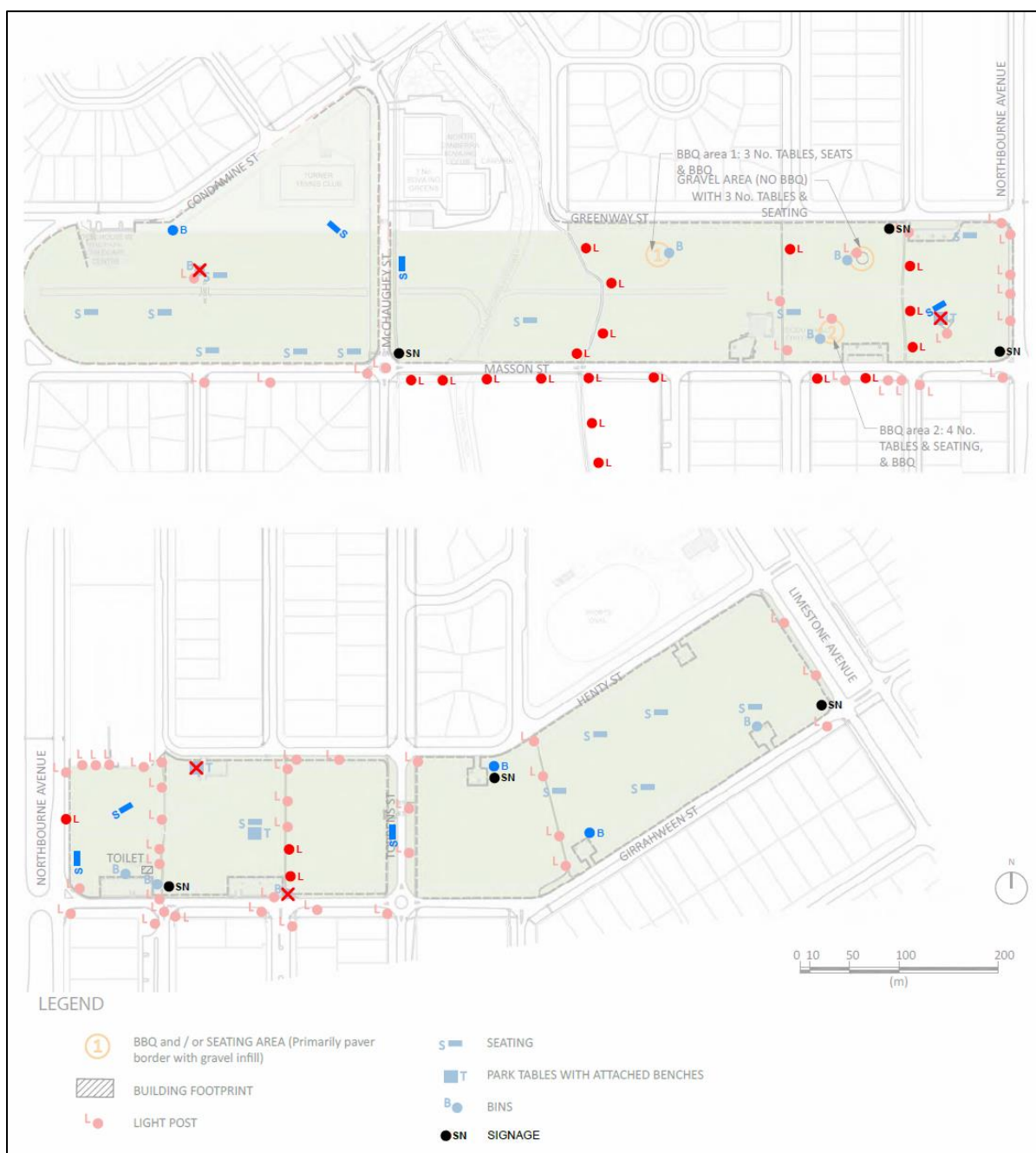


Figure 2.28 Location of BBQ areas, tables and seating, verified in 2017

2.3.8 Paths

The Park is served by a range of different paths (concrete, gravel and bitumen) and a network of worn tracks (or 'desire lines') has developed through informal traversing of the Park by walkers and cyclists (Figure 2.29). Vehicle tracks can also be seen throughout the Park due to maintenance work, particularly to BBQ areas.

The major thoroughfares are across the Park from north to south. In each section of the Park there is at least one major path with a hard surface of bitumen or gravel and some lighting. A concrete path also exists along some edges of the Park and along major roadways

A network of walking and cycling tracks has developed primarily through people crossing through the Park. The paths lead to, from and across established paths, as they create more direct routes connecting major streets and features external to the Park (Merici School, ANU etc.). These vary in depth and width with the degree of usage. This network of paths is most developed in the Turner sections of the Park.



A small number of vehicle access tracks are used for maintenance in the Park. This is particularly evident around the BBQ areas. They have also developed to provide additional parking and access to some buildings in the Park, particularly the Scout Hall and the Depot. The paths vary in condition. Formed paths (concrete, gravel, bitumen) are generally in good condition, although may show some of the signs of wear.

The informal tracks vary in condition with use and show changes in depth and width. Many become muddy with potholes and puddles during wet weather. The existing concrete paths appear to have been constructed c.1950 and the informal paths arise from more recent pedestrian desire lines.



Figure 2.29 Concrete path showing network of informal worn paths
(Source: EMA 2013)

2.3.9 Lighting and overhead power lines

Lighting is sparsely located throughout the Park. Lights are mostly situated along formal concrete paths, in BBQ areas, and in locations where paths meet the road verge. The lighting in the Braddon section of the Park is currently being addressed in the Braddon Commercial Precinct Lighting Masterplan (Webb Australia, Braddon Commercial Precinct Lighting Masterplan, 3 November 2010). Lighting is generally in good condition. There does not appear to be any original lighting remaining in the Park, and new lighting is of a common design.

2.3.10 Services

The Park contains a wide range of meters and service access points. These include:

- electrical power boxes;
- water mains;
- gas;
- Transact;
- PMG; and
- Telstra.



The services are primarily buried with access points through covers flush with the ground. Electrical and telephone power boxes are freestanding, with some electrical boxes attached to the telegraph poles.

The service boxes are generally in good condition although the freestanding electrical and telephone cabling boxes have some graffiti. Most covers are new although there are some original water covers and other covers labelled 'PMG'.

2.3.11 Kerbs and gutters, verges and perimeter barriers

The Park is mostly surrounded by a concrete kerb and gutter with treated pine log perimeter barriers. In some areas, there is no concrete kerb, but only a treated pine log perimeter barrier with a formed earth gutter.

The kerb and guttering around the Park are either concrete or formed earth. In general, the Braddon end of the Park and the major roads have concrete gutters. The Turner end, particularly the western section of the Park, has only formed earth gutters. Where there are earth gutters, there are concrete kerbs and gutters around the road corners. The concrete kerb and guttering is generally in good condition. The earth gutters are generally poorly formed and are often overgrown with weeds, grasses and debris.

Treated pine log barriers virtually surround the Park and include a number of gates to provide access. These barriers generally follow the Park edge side of the car parks. The treated pine log barriers are generally in good condition, although most show some weathering and often moss build up on the tops of the horizontal barrier.

Most trees within the car parks have a concrete surround designed to protect the bases of the trees and their root zones. The surrounds are created by two half concrete rings and filled with gravel. Almost all of the concrete surrounds are broken and/or lifting.

None of these features are original to the Park having been replaced at various times due to routine and scheduled maintenance. However, the bases of the trees need protection.

2.3.12 Streetscape

The surrounding land use and streetscape is depicted in Figure 2.30.

The Park is mostly surrounded by residential single dwellings, low density multi-unit townhouses, or apartment developments (two or three storey). There are two sections of high-rise apartments on either side of Northbourne Avenue. The units on the Braddon side directly abut the Park, while the units on the Turner side are separated from the Park by Greenway Street.

There are also two areas of open land – the oval at Merici College on the northern side of the Braddon end of the Park and Turner Park, which runs along Sullivans Creek on the southern side of the Park. The area to the north of the Turner end of the Park contains community facilities – the North Canberra Bowling Club, Friends Meeting House and Turner Tennis Courts. These facilities adjoin the Park without any boundary, providing a more natural setting for this section of the Park. The southern side of the Park in Braddon has commercial areas that are currently undergoing changes which will increase the intensity and height of development.



Figure 2.30 Haig Park showing surrounding land use
(Source: Google Earth, annotated by EMA)

2.4 Evidence of Other Values

2.4.1 Social significance evidence

An overview of a range of communities and their association with Haig Park was compiled by EMA (2013). These are shown in Table 2.3. This table was compiled following a consultation program undertaken by EMA for the 2013 CMP.

Table 2.3 Community and cultural group association with Haig Park
Source: EMA 2013

Community or Cultural Group	Association	Evidence source
Turner and Braddon residents	Living adjacent area	Community workshop
	Recreational use and healthy living	Private responses
	Social use (e.g. BBQs)	Heritage focus group
	Part of Canberra's History and recollection of earlier names such as 'Windbreak Pines'	Mapping activity
Canberra residents	21% of Canberra residents visited a park in 2007–08	ACT Open Spaces Satisfaction Survey
	Part of campaign to protect trees	Community workshop
	Part of open space for birds	Landscape focus group
	Use at lunch time	Direct observation
	Part of the connection of open space network in North Canberra, particularly Black Mountain to Mount Ainslie and Sullivans Creek	Turner and Braddon Neighbourhood Plan and survey Visitor and tourism sources
Australian residents	Part of a visit to the National Capital	Visitor and tourism sources
	Connections to early history of Canberra	
Users of site	Working there, visiting and recreational use	Community workshop
	Part of Canberra's Heritage	Private Responses



Community or Cultural Group	Association	Evidence source
Heritage professionals	Part of campaign to protect trees Organisations largely set up in 1980s as examples of best practice management of a heritage landscape	Community workshop National Trust records
Tourists and visitors	Visitors from interstate and overseas Connection to Canberra history Use for lunch time	Community workshop Heritage focus group Direct observation
Adjacent clubs	Part of Canberra's history Part of landscape setting for aesthetic, bird life and recreational use	Community workshop Private responses

As part of the CMP revision process and Masterplan development, further community consultation was completed in 2017. There have been two phases, as documented in the *Phase 1 Community Engagement Summary Report* (OCGUR 2017) and *Phase 2 Community Engagement Summary* (CRA 2017). Phase 1 sought stakeholder and community views on issues and aspirations for Haig Park. It should be noted that the stakeholders and the stakeholder groups surveyed likely do not represent the views of all possible stakeholders who may hold views regarding Haig Park. The report focuses primarily on community and stakeholder aspiration and ideas for the future of the Park; however, evidence of the social significance is an underlying theme addressed throughout the report.

The trees in Haig Park have been regularly mentioned in comments and conversation with the wider community. These seem to have mixed social significance depending on the individual. The value and importance of maintaining the trees was noted by some; however, other individuals indicated that they would prefer to see the removal of trees to allow more natural light and open space (OCGUR 2017:15).

A direct response regarding the heritage value of the Park was received from 137 people. Approximately half of these responders mentioned the value of a large green space close to the CBD. Of these responders, 37 noted the importance of Haig Park regarding formal heritage values which included the importance of the trees, the history of the Park as a shelterbelt, and the history of the Park in relation to Canberra's own history (OCGUR 2017: 24).

Approximately 20% of responders noted that they thought that the space needed to be adapted away from its formal heritage values to allow a more usable function. The diversity of views regarding the heritage of the Park is highly variable. One respondent noted that 'Haig Park is a heritage park and part of its beauty are the trees' (OCGUR 2017:11) whereas another considered that 'the current tree planting means the park is dark, scary and underused' (OCGUR 2017:15).

The *Phase 1 Community Engagement Summary Report* highlights the social significance of Haig Park for both its heritage value as a shelterbelt in Canberra's early development as well as a recreation park which has been in use since the 1950s in an increasingly urban environment.

The social value of Haig Park to some community members and community groups within Canberra is clear, predominately in relation to the heritage, aesthetic and recreational values of Haig Park.

However, the consultation program to date has not been able to demonstrate that Haig Park is of heritage significance which requires strong or special associations with the ACT community, defined by the ACT Heritage Council (2018:23) as 'The ACT community encompasses the broad community of the ACT, across the full geographic context and a broad spectrum of society' (ACT Heritage Council 2018:23).



2.4.2 Aesthetic significance evidence

Haig Park is part of a network of green space and parks. The planting of trees early in Canberra's development was part of beautification of the area and creating the 'Garden City' (FCAC 1926:21). The Canberra area was transformed over several decades from relatively bare pastoral and farming land into a well-vegetated landscape. Trees were planted for both aesthetic purposes and with functions as windbreaks and shelterbelts for the city (FCAC 1926:21).

Haig Park is visible from both the summits of Black Mountain and Mount Ainslie and forms a clear break in urban development. The Park provides a visual link between these two hills and the open space along Sullivans Creek. The Park is highly visible in the cityscape and represents important links to the Garden City elements of Canberra. The aesthetic nature of the Park has also been noted by adjacent clubs.

Haig Park was initially planted as 12 rows of plants for the purpose of a shelterbelt. In the 1950s two additional rows were added to the Park. Planting in rows along avenues and in belts was noted by the FCAC as having a formal appearance. Less regular design of planting was adopted for most parks to avoid having monotonous effects (FCAC 1926:21).

As with social significance the above consultation programs to date has not been able to demonstrate that Haig Park is significant to the broad ACT Community for its aesthetic qualities. Further broader ACT-wide consultation would be required to assess this. Nevertheless, the consultation that has been undertaken to date indicates that the Park may exhibit this value.

2.4.3 Technical/scientific and creative achievement

Haig Park was designed and planted to protect the city from north-westerly winds and climatic extremes. Canberra was very sparsely vegetated when it was designated the Federal Capital. This was partially from early European clearing, but also due in part to climatic factors (Murphy 1963:3). In order to successfully vegetate the Canberra area, extensive trials of various plants were undertaken. In 1912 and 1913 an experimental nursery was established which conducted numerous tests to ascertain the best tree species for the city and surrounds (FCAC 1926:21).

The Canberra climate made arboriculture difficult. Not many species were well suited to both the severity of winter and the dry summers. Additionally, soils in Canberra were not very fertile and the area lacked protection from desiccating winds (Murphy 1963:3). The establishment of experimental nurseries by Charles Weston allowed the testing of numerous species of plants to ascertain suitability for planting within the Capital. This testing allowed for the future development of numerous parks and plantings within the ACT, including Haig Park. Weston used the knowledge he gained from the experimental nurseries and applied it to Haig Park.

In addition, Haig Park has continued to be managed over time and converted into a recreational urban park. During the Depression era and World War II there was very little active planting work in Canberra (Hince 1994:114). Despite this Haig Park was still managed and thinning and replanting continues from this time until now. Although Haig Park has undergone change through time – including planting of additional rows along Henty, Girrahween and Masson Streets by Pryor, the replacement of sections of trees in the 1980s and 1990s, and the addition of recreational facilities – these actions have been to support the use of the Park as a public space. This ongoing maintenance and preservation of the Park demonstrates technical achievement by preserving a 'living' place despite increasing development. Further research is required to understand the technical and creative achievement of Haig Park, as this evidence could not be found during the research carried out for this CMP.



3 HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Analysis of Heritage Significance

The ACT Heritage Register entry for Haig Park includes a statement of heritage significance. This statement has a statutory effect and identifies the key values and associations of Haig Park. These are discussed in more detail in this CMP.

3.1.1 Haig Park

The heritage significance of Haig Park has already been assessed in the entry in the Register. The CMP provides a more detailed assessment, including an analysis of how the place compares with other similar types of places.

Haig Park was established as the East West Shelterbelt with its prime function to protect the first suburbs, in the vicinity of Civic/Braddon, from wind and dust. This it did effectively. From its establishment Haig Park was also used for recreational purposes which included the later addition of recreational furniture such as park benches and BBQ facilities. The recreational use of Haig Park is part of its history and its value to the ACT community as a recreational and aesthetically important space has contributed to its preservation over time.

Buildings were inserted into the outer parts of the Park including the Turner Preschool, a Scout Hall and Parks Depot. There are no formal records that document this, and therefore it can only be inferred that it was an opportunistic placement at the time.

Haig Park has maintained recreational usage, and (while underutilised) continues to be enjoyed by the public. The character of Haig Park is considered unique for an Australian urban park due to the linear planting framework on which it is based (clause 6.2, p. 34; Margules 1983:9). However, linear planting in the 1920s in Canberra was not unique. Correspondence between the FCAC and Weston would indicate that it was a relatively common practice (NAA:A414). The Haig Park planting is however unusual as it is one of few parks that Griffin did not directly plan.

3.1.2 Shelterbelts

This section outlines the important characteristics of a shelterbelt and how it relates to Haig Park. The following is taken from <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/soil-and-water/erosion/shelterbelt-design>.

Shelterbelts are vegetative barriers that are designed to reduce wind speed and provide sheltered areas on the leeward (the side away from the wind) and windward (the side toward the wind) sides of the shelterbelt.

As wind approaches the belt, some goes around the end of the belt, some goes through the belt and most goes over the top of the belt. Air pressure builds up on the windward side and decreases on the leeward side. It is this difference in pressure that drives the shelter effect and determines how much reduction in wind speed occurs and how much turbulence is created. The amount of air pressure difference is determined by the structure of the shelterbelt. The denser the shelter, the greater the difference in air pressure.

3.1.2.1 Row design

An effective shelterbelt design often consists of 2–4 rows using taller species that provide the benefits of a tall belt combined with shrub species that provide shelter lower down and therefore overall a more uniform density. Shelterbelts of 2–4 rows can provide significant benefits while not requiring large areas of land to be removed from direct productivity purposes. It is important to select appropriate species for belts of one or two rows because they may be significantly less effective if the form of the species varies significantly. Including a row of fast-growing species can provide quicker benefits and also protect species that are slower to establish. This row can later be removed if desired.



3.1.2.2 **Plant location and spacing within shelterbelts**

Rows should be spaced between 2m and 4m apart to allow the plants to grow relatively unrestricted. Smaller trees and shrubs should be placed on the outer rows of a belt to prevent them from being shaded out by the taller species. Taller species should be placed in the centre of a belt. Lower growing species can be placed on each side. The cross-sectional profile of a break that consists of shrub species on both sides, it is a more valuable design for wildlife habitat and is more practical. Large tree branches are less likely to fall on and damage fences if the trees are located in the centre of the belt.

Considerations when deciding spacings between plants should include the time taken for the plants to reach the desired density level and the size of the species selected. Medium to tall trees are usually spaced between 3m and 4m apart. Large shrubs can be spaced between 2.5m and 4m apart, while smaller growing shrubs are generally placed between 1.5m and 2.5m apart.

Plants should be placed closer together in belts with fewer rows to obtain the desired level of density. This will also provide protection more quickly. Staggering trees in alternate rows can obtain more uniform density and a reduction in gaps so that they are not directly opposite each other.

3.1.2.3 **Species selection**

The species selected for a shelterbelt should provide the height, growth rate and density characteristics suitable for the objectives of the belt. The following points should be taken into consideration when selecting plant species.

- Locally native species generally have higher survival and establishment rates.
- Locally native species provide valuable habitat for local wildlife species.
- Species that will grow tall on the site should be used for one or more rows. Noting the height and health of particular tree species in the area can identify these species.
- Species with an appropriate foliage density that complements the height and density of other selected species to obtain even and suitable density should also be used.
- The growth rate of species should be taken into consideration. Where the effects of shelterbelts are required quickly, fast growing species can be used.
- The use of species that regenerate naturally on the site may be useful where this is desirable.
- Having too many different species can reduce the uniformity of the shelterbelt. Generally, people use one species per row or species with similar or compatible growth forms.

3.1.2.4 **Haig Park**

Haig Park demonstrates the characteristics of a planted shelterbelt for two reasons.

First, each row contains one species of tree planted at the optimum distance apart for shelterbelt planting pattern and form, and each row is then planted at the optimum distance apart from the next. This allows all trees to perform their function as a shelterbelt.

Second, the choice of both deciduous and evergreen species ensures that the shelterbelt functions throughout the year. The evergreen trees providing the bulk of the framework. In autumn, winter and spring the deciduous trees provide variety of colour and sometimes flowers and, more importantly, in winter they allow light to penetrate into and under the canopy to assist with the overall general health of all of the surrounding trees. Table 2.2 above demonstrates the key qualities of the Haig Park shelterbelt including its relatively dense nature, both within and between rows as well as the varying heights and composition of different species between rows.



3.1.3 Other parks and shelterbelts: comparative analysis

Haig Park was one of many plantings for shelter purposes proposed and planted by Weston in the 1920s (Figures 3.1 and 3.2). It differs from others due to its size and scale. While numerous plantings throughout the 1920s were planted as either shelterbelts or with some sort of screening and/or protection in mind, none matched the scale and shape of Haig Park. Haig Park was the largest and remains the most intact of the three original urban shelterbelts planted under Weston's direction in 1921–1922. Haig Park is the only purposely planted shelterbelt remaining in Canberra. Additionally, Haig Park remains relatively intact, retaining many of the aspects that made it a shelterbelt including tree species and configuration.

The other large shelterbelts were the Power House (Wentworth Avenue) and Brickworks (Westbourne Woods extension) shelterbelts. Only remnants of Weston's Power House shelterbelt survive (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd 2001). In both of these other shelterbelts, the main purpose of planting was to screen unsightly industrial structures rather than Haig Park's larger purpose of protecting and enhancing a wide urban area. The Brickworks shelterbelt was also a block of trees, not a wide linear belt.

Many other parks were used for shelter purposes, but these were often much smaller in size. Although Telopea Park features some similarities to Haig Park, overall a comparison of the two indicates many differences as they were established for different functions.

Haig Park sits in the context of urban planning in Australia, where the creation of open space/park 'domains' was entrenched in the 19th and 20th Centuries as a distinctive feature of Australian cities (Freestone et al. 2007). However, there are no other urban forest shelterbelts of similar planning intent, age or extent in Canberra or elsewhere in any other Australian capital. The planned orientation of Haig Park (along street alignments depicted in the National Capital Plan), the reflection of Garden City planning, and its 30-year role in marking a city boundary of the city's development may be compared to the Adelaide Park Lands in South Australia. This is evident from the opening paragraph of the Statement of Heritage Significance for the Adelaide Park Lands:

The Adelaide Parklands are significant in reflecting early nineteenth century planning ideas about the provision of a belt of common or reserved land around a city for its aesthetic qualities, public health and recreation, and as a form of concentric zoning. Adelaide is the only capital city in Australia that is surrounded by a continuous belt of Parklands. (Criteria A.4 and B.2) (Australian Historic Themes: 3.3.5 Laying out boundaries; 4.1.4 Creating capital cities; 4.6 Remembering significant phases in the development of settlements, towns and cities; 8.1.3 Developing public parks and gardens) (Australian Heritage Places Inventory).

Weston's experimental work, testing in the field and planting out, including at Haig Park, can also be placed in the broader Australian context of being part of the initial period (late 19th Century and early 20th Century) of extensive testing of both indigenous and introduced tree species in establishing forests in Australia. This is demonstrated by Weston's New South Wales connections especially with Joseph Maiden and with Australia's first forestry school at the University of Adelaide (later transferred to Canberra). As well, by the time of Weston's appointment as Officer-in-Charge of Afforestation in 1913, plantings of the Californian pine *Pinus radiata* (under its former scientific name *P. insignis*) had been shown in South Australia to be 'outstanding. It proved singularly adaptable to most soils and sites within the better rainfall areas of South Australia' (Lewis 1975:21). Weston's own work in the ACT contributed significantly to the testing, adaptation and planting of trees in Australia, including in experimental planting at the Acton and Yarralumla nurseries, testing and planting of these pines and other introduced trees as well as indigenous plants, and – uniquely as an urban forest – at Haig Park. This initial planting also included short-lived Australian 'natives' such as wattles, planted for aesthetic reasons and as quick growing shrubs to fill in gaps until the shelterbelt was fully established.

Weston's central as well as pioneering role was praised, including his experimentation to determine the best trees for Canberra's harsh conditions. The East West Shelterbelt was entirely and rapidly undertaken by Weston when he was given control of tree planting after Griffin's departure in late 1920, using plants tried in the nursery. In February 1921, tree planting in the city area was placed under Weston's control, and his planting scheme for the Civic Centre (which included the present Haig Park) had been approved by the Minister. This would have included the East West Shelterbelt as his March 1921 report stated that



planting was underway there (Murphy 1995:21). The same instructions giving Weston control of planting and approving his planting scheme also stipulated that no planting in the city was to be carried out until the scheme was submitted to the advisory committee. This was the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (1921–1924), hence planting of Haig Park was an undertaking primarily of the FCAC. It included the following statement in its final report in 1925: 'For the protection of Ainslie an extensive belt of trees was planted at right angles to Northbourne Avenue' (Murphy 1995:20).

The Commonwealth Government is fortunate in having placed this matter [afforestation] in the hands of such a competent, practical and enthusiastic expert as Mr. Weston. When this officer commenced operations here there were many difficulties arising which perhaps had not been fully anticipated. Examining the plans, we find Griffin had marked out certain areas, as New Zealand, South America and so on in which it was part of his dream to have vegetation characteristic of the countries mentioned predominating. How futile this idea was has since been thoroughly demonstrated. At this altitude very few even of Australian plants can be successfully grown. But it is not the altitude so much as the peculiar climatic conditions, unfortunately not typically Australian, which prevail, as well as the quality of the soil, that determine the kind of trees and shrubs which may be successfully raised...the pines, such as *pinus insignis* [radiata] and *pinus ponderosa*, have proved themselves most hardy, and this explains the great extent to which they are being utilised. Australian trees have so far been disappointing; though practically all varieties of eucalypti and wattle have been tried, only a few of each have given satisfactory results. No Australian landscape would be satisfying without the wattle and those varieties which have succeeded may be seen in the splendour of their yellow bloom in many parts of the Territory... Cedars of Lebanon are a conspicuous success in this locality and they will take a big part in the decoration scheme of the city (O'Connor 1925:31).



Figure 3.1 Location of Weston's urban landscape planting, Canberra, 1921–1926
(Source: Gray 1999:145, Figure 14)



URBAN LANDSCAPE PLANTING - 1921 to 1926

A. AINSLIE AREA (*Ainslie, Braddon & Reid*)

- 1921: East-west shelterbelt (*Haig Park*)
- 1921: Northbourne Avenue (*Northbourne Avenue*)
- 1921: Railway reserve (*Lonsdale Street*)
- 1921: Neighbourhood No 1 recreation reserve (*Northbourne Oval*)
- 1921: Neighbourhood No 1, Sub-division 1 (*Sections 38 & 43 Braddon*)
- 1925: Ainslie Avenue (*Ainslie Avenue*)
- 1925: Hotel Ainslie (*Gorman House*)
- 1926: Canberra Avenue Sub-division (*Corroboree Park, Ainslie*)
- 1926: South Ainslie Sub-division (*Reid*)
- 1923: Canberra Avenue (*Limestone Avenue*)

B. EASTLAKE/TELOPEA PARK AREA (*Kingston & Barton*)

- 1921: Power House shelterbelt (*Wentworth Avenue median*)
- 1922: Power House Sub-division (*opposite Power House*)
- 1920s: Other Eastlake Sub-divisions (*Kingston*)
- 1922: Waratah Parkway (*Telopea Park*)
- 1922: Telopea Park (*Telopea Park High School*)
- 1926: Sydney Avenue (*Sydney Avenue*)

C. BLANDFORDIA AREA (*Manuka, Forrest, Red Hill, & Griffith*)

- 1922: Blandfordia Park (*Collins Park, Forrest*)
- 1924: Blandfordia Recreation Reserve (*Manuka Oval*)
- 1924: Blandfordia Division No. 3 Sub-division 1 (*Sec. 20, 21 & 22 Forrest*)
- 1920s: Other Blandfordia Sub-divisions (*Manuka, Forrest, Red Hill, and Griffith*)

D. WESTRIDGE AREA (*Yarralumla & Deakin*)

- 1922: Brickworks Sub-division (*Section 64, Yarralumla*)
- 1924: Westridge Recreation Ground (*near Brickworks, Yarralumla*)
- 1924: Adelaide Avenue (*Adelaide Avenue*)
- 1926: Prime Minister's Lodge (*Prime Minister's Lodge*)
- 1922: Brickworks shelterbelt (*Westbourne Woods Extension*)
- 1922: Yarralumla Drive (*Dunrossil Drive*)
- 1923: Yarralumla House (*Government House*)

E. ADMINISTRATIVE AREA (*South Parl., Triangle, Barton & Yarralumla*)

- 1922: Commonwealth Avenue (*South Commonwealth Avenue*)
- 1925: Commonwealth Avenue bridge embankment (*demolished 1960s*)
- 1924: Hotel Canberra (*Hyatt Hotel Canberra*)
- 1924: Canberra Golf Links (*part of Lennox Gardens*)
- 1924: Capitol Hill (*Capital Hill*)
- 1925: Parliamentary gardens (*Parliamentary Triangle gardens*)
- 1926: Provisional Parliament House (*Old Parliament House*)
- 1926: Federal Avenue (*Kings Avenue*)
- 1926: Hotel Kurrajong (*Hotel Kurrajong*)

F. CIVIC CENTRE/LAND AXIS AREA (*City Hill, Nth Parl Triangle, Anzac Pde*)

- 1921: Civic Centre (*City Hill*)
- 1923: Capital Terrace (*Constitution Avenue*)
- 1923: Prospect Parkway and Place (*Anzac Parade*)

G. LAKE FORESHORES (*Lake Burley Griffin foreshores*)

- 1922: Garden Circuit (*Commonwealth Park*)
- 1922: Casuarina Park (*western foreshore, East Basin*)
- 1920s: Other foreshore areas

H. COMMEMORATIVE AREAS

- 1926: Presentation Avenue (*Canberra Avenue*)
- 1926: Senate Garden Court (*Senate Garden Court, Old Parliament House*)
- 1926: Parliamentary gardens (*Parkes Place*)

I. ACTON AREA (*Acton peninsula*)

- 1922: Miscellaneous sites

Figure 3.2 Urban landscaping areas and projects, 1921–1926
(Source: Gray 1999:146, Table 4)



3.1.3.1 The Power House Shelterbelt

The Power House Shelterbelt occupied the 30.5m wide Interlake Avenue Parkway (Wentworth Avenue median). Two wings projected eastward parallel to the extension of the present-day Telopea Park and Dawes Streets. It was intended principally as a visual screen of the Power House, but also as a shelterbelt for the benefit of workers in that area (Gray 1999).

The Power House shelterbelt was planted in linear rows, but the exact design is uncertain. Through an evaluation of planting records, modern remnants and historic photographic evidence, it is thought that the trees were planted at approximately 3m intervals with an outer row of acacias, an inner row of eucalypt, and four rows in the middle of *Pinus insignis* making an eight-row shelterbelt (Gray 1999:156).

Similar to Haig Park the Power House shelterbelt was planted between 1921 and 1923 and the trees planted are set out in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Plantings at the Power House shelterbelt

Genus and species name	Number planted
<i>Amphelopus veitchiana</i>	180
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	820
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	960
<i>Eucalypt globulus</i>	194
<i>Eucalypt macarthurii</i>	187
<i>Eucalypt viminalis</i>	187
<i>Eucalypt numerosa</i>	174
<i>Eucalypt gunni</i>	12
<i>Pinus insignis</i>	1420
<i>Populus pyramidalis</i>	37
<i>Salix sp.</i>	868
TOTAL	5039

Source: (Gray 1999:156)

The Power House Shelterbelt was similar to Haig Park in that it was planted in linear rows and *Pinus insignis* was the predominant shelter species planted (Figures 3.3 and 3.4). Both parks contained a large number of acacias. The Power House did not contain the same variety of plantings as Haig Park and also included native *Eucalypt* species. In contrast, the original Haig Park plantings consisted solely of exotic plantings (in the original 12 rows). The two plantings are compared in Table 3.2. The Power House shelterbelt was removed in the late 1940s (Gray 1999:157). This removal makes Haig Park the only remaining largely intact, originally planted shelterbelt in Canberra.



Table 3.2 Comparison between Haig Park and Power House shelterbelts

	Haig Park	Power House
Size	Approx. 31 ha	Approx. 2 ha
Age	1921	1921
Plantings: Species No.	17	11
Total No	7653 (as at 1923)	5039 (as at 1923)
Dominant Species	<i>Pinus insignis</i> (1940)	<i>Pinus insignis</i> (1420)
Style	linear	linear

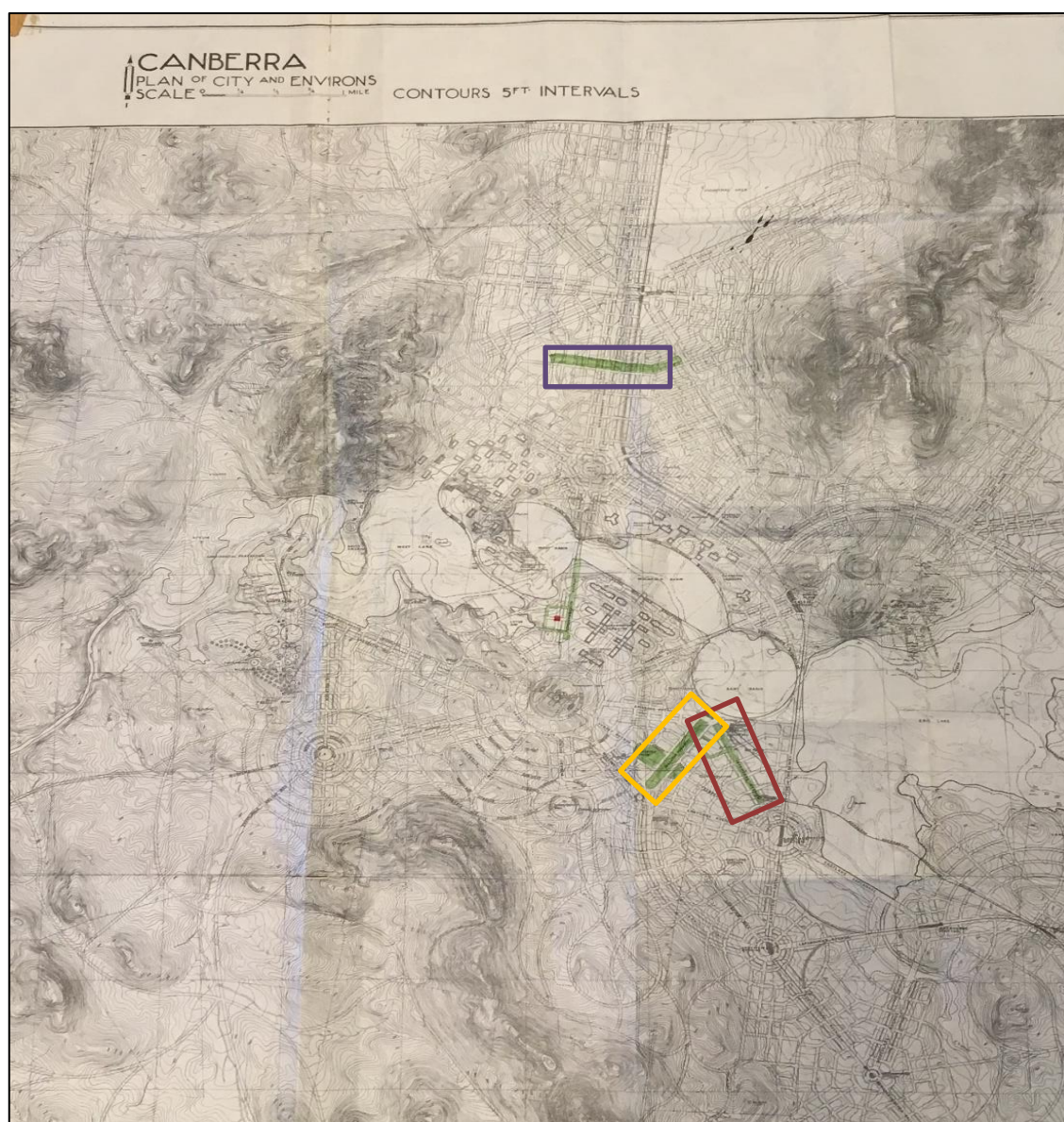


Figure 3.3 Plan attached to the 1921 letter indicating proposed planting locations including the Power House (red), Haig Park (purple) and Telopea Park (yellow)

Note: Base map used Griffin's 1918 design and construction (Source: NAA A414/1, 26)



Figure 3.4 Aerial view of the Power House and the Molonglo River, Canberra 1925
Note the Powerhouse shelterbelt plantation on the left (Source: nla.obj-137287967-1)

3.1.3.2 ***The Brickworks shelterbelt***

The Brickworks shelterbelt was a large pine forest which served to visually screen and provide shelter for the Brickworks. It formed part of the Westbourne Woods Extension and was designed and established by Weston from 1922 onwards (Gray 1999:164–165).

The Brickworks shelterbelt principally comprised Monterey Pine (*Pinus insignis*, now *Pinus radiata*). By 1923, over 40,000 *Pinus insignis* had been planted at 1.8m spacing in this area (Gray 1999:165). Other planted species made up less than 1% of the total (just over 300). Although still predominant at Haig Park, the proportion of *Pinus insignis* (now *Pinus radiata*) is around 25%.

The overall shape of the Brickworks shelterbelt was unlike the linear belts of Haig Park and the Power House shelterbelt. It was planted as a block of trees rather than a linear belt. The shelterbelt has seen significant modification over time to allow the extension of the Golf Course across Dunrossil Drive (Gray 1999:165).

3.1.3.3 ***Other Weston plantings used for shelter purposes***

Other plantings by Weston which had some shelter purposes include (from Gray 1999):

- plantings surrounding Yarralumla Nursery;
- Westridge Recreation Ground (near Brickworks, Yarralumla) – shelterbelt around the community hall;
- Yarralumla House (Government House) – shelterbelt on western side of house;



- Commonwealth Avenue: the FCAC decided first priority should be given to the ‘...planting of Commonwealth Avenue to protect the Parliamentary Administrative Area’ (NAA:A414, 26);
- Railway reserve Lonsdale Street (interpreted by Gray (1999) as a shelter); and
- Neighbourhood No.1 Recreation Reserve (Northbourne Oval) (interpreted by Gray (1999) as a shelter).

These were comparatively small in size compared to Haig Park and their purposes, consistent with Canberra’s Garden City ideals, were often for screening and aesthetic reasons. Their use as shelter was often a secondary consideration.

Haig Park is the only purposely planted shelterbelt remaining in Canberra. Additionally, Haig Park remains relatively intact, retaining many of the aspects that made it a shelterbelt including tree species and configuration.

3.1.3.4 **Urban parks**

3.1.3.4.1 *Telopea Park*

Telopea Park, formerly Waratah Parkway, was established between 1922 and 1923 and is therefore of the same age as Haig Park. Telopea Park varies significantly from Haig Park as it was planned as a recreational public park from its inception and is mapped as such in early Griffin plans. Similar to Haig Park a mix of deciduous and evergreen trees were planted, however these were grouped informally through the Park. Native species were also included, unlike Haig Park. Lines of trees along the margins of streets were planted in formal rows by Weston (Gray 1999:158).

Telopea Park is a similar size to Haig Park (Figure 3.1) and the plantings were completed by Weston. It was established as a public park and was not designed for shelter purposes and therefore its form varies significantly from an early Haig Park. Through time Telopea and Haig Park have become slightly more similar as Haig Park began to be used for recreational purposes.

Telopea Park is listed on the ACT Heritage Register as an example of designed landscape that was established in the early history of Canberra. Telopea Park was planned for passive recreation and characteristic features included on the Heritage Register citation comprise elements of the plantings, pedestrian pathways, the creek line, park furniture and playground facilities. Haig Park currently includes some of these recreational features but the tree plantings across the two parks are considerably different.

3.1.3.4.2 *Weston Park*

Weston Park was established as the experimental Yarralumla nursery and retains this function today. Weston Park is one of Canberra’s most important parks. Its central location adjacent to Lake Burley Griffin provides a recreational and cultural focus within the Canberra open space system. In many ways Weston Park epitomises the planned urban landscape approach taken in Canberra. Of particular heritage significance are plantings carried out by Thomas Weston, after whom the Park is named, followed by Alexander Bruce, John Hobday and Lindsay Pryor (Oxigen 2013).

The area of Weston Park was part of an extensive area of recreation parks and gardens planned for the western section of the proposed lake system, shown in the final 1918 plan developed by Griffin. The western lake area was to contain a Continental Arboretum containing plantations of trees grouped as to the continent of their origin. Griffin’s 1918 plan identifies the entire peninsula of the current day Weston Park as the Australasian sections of the Continental Arboretum, with trees from Australia and New Zealand (Godden Mackay Logan (GML) 2011).

By May 1913 Weston had chosen a site for a permanent nursery, northeast of Yarralumla Homestead and on the western edge of the planned city site (GML 2011).



During the 1950s, a 'Garden City' inspired overhaul of the City Beautiful/Beaux-Arts planning of the Griffin scheme for Canberra was undertaken by the newly formed NCDC. During the 1960s, the NCDC transformed Weston Park through the creation of several 'precincts' or landscape 'rooms', defined through the addition of picnic facilities, play elements and play-scapes amenities, and furniture (GML 2011).

3.1.3.4.3 *Lennox Gardens*

The following is from <https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-park/urban-parks/lennox-gardens> (referencing Gray 1997).

Lennox Gardens, although created since the construction of Lake Burley Griffin in the early 1960s, has strong historical links to the early days of the National Capital. The formal and exotic character is intended to be consistent with that of the gardens of the Hotel Canberra and the Albert Hall created in the 1920s by Charles Weston.

Lennox Gardens is a small part of the original Royal Canberra Golf Course established, in the 1920s, on the Molonglo River floodplain downstream of Lennox Crossing. Lennox Crossing was a low-level bridge linking Acton with South Canberra. With the filling of Lake Burley Griffin in the 1960s, the golf course and the crossing were submerged. Remaining above lake level was a portion of one fairway, the clubhouse and associated tree planting and this area was named Lennox Gardens.

The design for the gardens envisages a formal exotic character reminiscent of the gardens, created in the 1920s, of the Hotel Canberra and Albert Hall. Charles Weston's original planting of the golf course has been integrated into the design. Planting proceeded in the 1960s, while a major development program was commenced in the 1980s. Lennox Gardens is like Haig Park in that again it has been adapted over time to recreational use and also has an association with Charles Weston.

3.1.4 **Vegetation**

Unlike many other parks, Haig Park was not anticipated on Griffin's maps. The Park is planted in marked blocks and only appeared on maps as a shelterbelt/park after its planting. For this reason, while planting to protect the new city, Weston did not place the shelterbelt exactly east–west against the prevailing winds.

The Park appears to have been rather expediently planted without documented plans indicating the layout of the Park. Schedules and lists of plantings from correspondence indicate several phases of planting between 1921 and 1923 (refer to Section A2.2.1 for full lists of plantings). The original schedule of plants not only demonstrates the importance of Haig Park as a shelterbelt, but also as an aesthetic feature contributing to the Garden City ideals of early Canberra.

There are discrepancies across the schedules and lists over this time period. Three species identified as planted during 1921, *Pyrocantha augustifolia*, *Quercus palustris* and *Ulmus americana* (NAA:A11952/1, 10B) do not appear on later lists in 1923 which quantify the number of each species planted in the Park (NAA:CP209/1, B13 Part 1).

Pyrocantha augustifolia and *Ulmus Americana* do not appear on any recent lists of trees currently planted in the Park but *Quercus palustris* is one of the more prolific species (featured alternating in rows 2 and 13) currently represented in the Park. Interestingly, *Fraxinus velutina* which alternates with *Quercus palustris* in rows 2 and 13 is also not featured on any of the planting schedules.

In 1922, the Afforestation Branch identified trees well suited for shelter purposes (refer to Table A2.5 and Section A2.2.1). Only two of these species (*Cedrus deodara*, *Pinus insignis*) were planted in the East West Shelterbelt. These trees comprised approximately 40% of the original plantings. Additionally, 'elms (in species)' are listed as shelter plants, *Ulmus Americana* is listed in early plant schedules for the Park and *Ulmus procera* (English Elm) is known to have been located there prior to plantation.

The aesthetic of the Park appears to have been considered since the early stages of planting. A number of small shrubs and other plants with less identifiable sheltering properties were planted in relatively high numbers. Quick growing shrubs are also a feature of good shelterbelt design, and functioned to fill



in gaps and get protection early on, while waiting for the trees to establish. Over 1000 wattles (*Acacia baileyana* and *Acacia decurrens*) were planted between 1921 and 1923. It is likely that these wattles were removed in the 1940s by Pryor (Gray in Boden & Associates 2000). Peach trees (*Amygdalus persica red*, *Amygdalus persica white* and *Amygdalus persica rosea*) were also planted. All of these plantings would have contributed to the aesthetic character of the Park.

Several other species were probably planted for aesthetic purposes, though in relatively small numbers considering the size of the shelterbelt. These are:

- *Exochorda grandiflora*, a small, flowering, deciduous shrub (n=80);
- *Photinia serrulata*, a large ornamental shrub (n=14);
- *Pyrocantha coccinea* and *Pyrocantha crenulate*, ornamental firethorns (n=6 and n=130 respectively);
- *Pyrus aucuparia*, a small deciduous tree in the rose family (n=80); and
- *Salix sp.* commonly known as willows (n=62).

All of these species would have added visually to the Park and had limited impact on its function as a shelterbelt. *Populus pyramidalis* (n=37) were also recorded in the planting schedule.

The species of trees currently in the Park generally reflects those planted in very large numbers in its early stages. Canopy Tree Experts have listed the dominant tree species in each of the 14 rows of the Park (refer to Table 2.2).

Rows 1 and 14 were planted by Lindsay Pryor in the 1950s, several decades after the establishment of the initial shelterbelt. Row 1 consists of *Eucalyptus cinerea* and *Eucalyptus pauciflora*. Row 14 contains *Cedrus deodara* and *Fraxinus oxycarpa*. These trees were planted by Pryor primarily as street trees along Greenway, Henty and Masson Streets, and can be seen on both sides of these streets.

Rows 5, 6, 9 and 10 are primarily comprised of *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine and formally known as *Pinus insignis*). *Pinus insignis* was the most prevalent species planted in the Park (n=1940).

Rows 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 12 consist of alternating *Cedrus deodara* (Deodar Cedar) and *Cupressus sempervirens 'stricta'* (Italian Cypress). Both *Cedrus deodara*, *Cupressus sempervirens* and *Cupressus horizontalis* were prominent in the list of plants planted for the East West Shelterbelt (n= 1045, n=1658 and n=1272 respectively).

Cupressus sempervirens has variable form. The natural populations vary from an upright (fastigiata) form primarily in the west (East Mediterranean and Southern Europe) to a form with wide spreading branches (Western Asia and the Middle East). Two planted forms are *C. sempervirens 'Stricta'* – the Italian Cypress (often called the Pencil Pine in Australia), which has a tightly fastigiate form and the *C. sempervirens 'Horizontalis'* which has an upright trunk with horizontally inclined branches. Spencer (1995) says of this latter form 'Although advertised in the nineteenth century nursery catalogues this widespreading form does not remain and is rarely cultivated in Australia' (Canopy Tree Experts 2017).

Occasionally broader examples are seen in cultivation, but these are more likely to be seedling forms; not deliberate plantings of the 'Horizontalis', as some variation in form occurs if the species is raised from seed. It is therefore advisable to raise planting stock vegetatively if the tight fastigiata form of 'Stricta' is desired.

Rows 2 and 13 are comprised of *Quercus palustris* (Pin Oak) and *Fraxinus velutina* (Arizona Ash). *Quercus palustris*, as discussed above, is recorded in a non-quantified list of plantings in October 1921. It is not known why this species was not quantified in the later presumed 1923 exhaustive list of species planted (Table A2.4). Similarly, *Fraxinus velutina*, is not recorded in any lists of plantings between 1921



and 1923. The 1923 list records 40 *Fraxinus sambucifolia* (Black Ash) – however, this number would not be sufficient to account for two rows of alternating plants.

It is possible that rows 2 and 13 (which were the original rows 1 and 12) were planted before the other rows and consequently not included in what is assumed to be an exhaustive list of plants planted between 1921 and 1923. Another possibility is that rows 2 and 13 were planted after September 1923, although no records have been found that could confirm this. It is known that John Hobday added *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* and *Fraxinus raywoodii* in the 1930s or 1940s and it is conceivable that this may relate to the discrepancy. Alternatively, given several discrepancies already identified, the absence of these species in the planting schedules could simply reflect an error in record keeping. Due to the low-resolution aerial photography, it is difficult to determine which, if any, of these possibilities occurred. It cannot be concluded though from the above evidence that current rows 2 and 13 are later or earlier plantings but only that those species do not appear on certain species lists for the Park.

3.1.5 Buildings and furniture

The buildings and furniture have been placed within the Park in a largely responsive fashion in order to control and allow for the previously more informal use of the Park. The use of the Park as a recreational space dated from its first years – there are many newspaper references from the 1920s onwards to cricket matches and other sporting events, as well as picnics. The installation of the buildings from the late 1940s (Turner Preschool, 1948) to the early 1960s (Scout Hall, 1950; Park Depot, 1958; Quakers Hall, 1961) made use of the undeveloped, green space within the suburbs of Turner and Braddon. The fitness tracks, picnic areas and BBQs were installed in the 1970s and 1980s and the toilet block in 1995, all reactively installed in response to community need and already established use of the Park.

Individually none of the buildings and furniture within Haig Park display outstanding design merit or satisfy any of the heritage significance criteria. None have been considered for any heritage listing to date. While they do allow for the continued recreational use of Haig Park, if they were moved or changed it would not detrimentally impact the heritage significance of Haig Park. The recreational use of Haig Park should continue to be encouraged, and this can be facilitated through the renewal and replacement of the existing facilities.

3.1.6 Associations

The major association of Haig Park is with Charles Weston. The Park is one of his major shelterbelt designs. The only larger park is Weston Park/Westbourne Woods. Weston was Canberra's first Officer-in-Charge, Afforestation Branch, and a major contributor to the creation of Canberra as a Garden City. Haig Park has a strong association with Weston, who designed and planted the Park using species he had cultivated in the Yarralumla Nursery. Weston took the opportunity at Haig Park to put his experimentation at Yarralumla Nursery into action. Haig Park has a special association with Weston.

Haig Park is also strongly associated with John Sulman who provided the first direction to plant the East West Shelterbelt in the location of Haig Park in a letter submitted in his capacity as the chair of the FCAC. Sulman instructed that a shelterbelt be planted across the Ainslie Plain from Yass Road to the tree cover under Black Mountain. Sulman was the Chair of the FCAC from 1921 to 1924 and therefore had a strong influence in the development of Canberra

Lindsay Pryor, the superintendent of Parks and Gardens during the 1940s and 1950s also had an active role in the creation of Haig Park as it is known today. Pryor is attributed with adding the additional rows on either side of the shelterbelt as road verge trees along Henty, Greenway, Masson and Girrahween Streets. While Pryor managed Haig Park during his time as superintendent his association with the Park is not seen as strong or special.

Haig Park was named after Earl Douglas Haig, Commander in Chief of the British Empire Forces during World War I, following his death in 1928 (Gray 1997). Other than the Park being named after Earl Haig, Haig Park does not have a strong or special association with Earl Haig.



3.2 *Heritage Act 2004* Criteria

Criteria suitable for the assessment of the heritage values and heritage significance of Haig Park have been defined in Section 10 of the *Heritage Act 2004* (Republication No 18).

A place or object has heritage significance if it satisfies one or more of the following criteria:

- (a) importance to the course or pattern of the ACT's cultural or natural history;
- (b) has uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the ACT's cultural or natural history;
- (c) potential to yield important information that will contribute to an understanding of the ACT's cultural or natural history;
- (d) importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or objects;
- (e) importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by the ACT community or a cultural group in the ACT;
- (f) importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement for a particular period;
- (g) has a strong or special association with the ACT community, or a cultural group in the ACT for social, cultural or spiritual reasons; and
- (h) has a special association with the life or work of a person, or people, important to the history of the ACT.

Thresholds

In understanding the heritage significance of a place or object, there are two key interrelated steps:

1. **determine whether the place has value in relation to a criterion** (this is the basic test). This will sometimes imply the historical or other context of the place or object and might determine whether the place or object is of personal, interest group, local, territory, national or World Heritage significance (its historical context and the community group for whom it is important); and,
2. **apply threshold indicators, to 'test' the degree to which the place or object is significant** and, hence whether it meets a criterion and warrants registration – is it sufficiently rare, unique, important, etc. in the context of the ACT when compared to other places? (ACT Heritage Council 2018:11).

3.2.1 Analysis against the *Heritage Act 2004* criteria

- (a) *importance to the course or pattern of the ACT's cultural or natural history*

Haig Park is important in the development of the ACT's cultural history due to its establishment as a shelterbelt to protect the developing city. It is the only remaining substantially intact example of the early shelterbelts.

Haig Park was an integral component of the initial development of Canberra. This is manifest in its design and former function as a shelterbelt. Haig Park was planted to protect the emerging city, particularly the suburbs of Braddon, Turner and the Civic Centre. Weston carefully sited Haig Park along street alignments set out in Griffin's 1918 Plan (gazetted in 1925), hence the 'kink' near the Ainslie end.. This, and the emphasis also placed by Griffin on extensive tree planting in the planned capital, places Haig Park firmly in the history of Canberra planning.



Weston and his successors used trees at Haig Park that were both practical and beautiful, in line with Garden City design. This combination was maintained by Pryor and his successors under the NCDC and NCA.

Haig Park clearly marked the northern boundary of Canberra until the early 1950s, as indicated in many maps and photographs. This was also evident in the widespread use of the term 'Pine break' by Canberra residents.

During the Depression era (1929–1939) there was very little planting work in Canberra, however Haig Park was actively maintained and in 1928 the name was changed from the East West Shelterbelt to Haig Park. Both active and passive recreational use was made of the Park from the 1920s, and Haig Park has continued to be maintained as a recreational park since. The Park was enhanced in the 1970s with the restricting of vehicular access and the installation of picnic areas. The recreational use of Haig Park continues to this day although there is not enough evidence at this time to demonstrate that this is important in the course of ACT's cultural history, and therefore the recreational use of Haig Park does not demonstrate this criterion.

The Park is managed through the continuation of tree maintenance, furniture upgrades and access upgrades to the present day. This management of Haig Park is a reflection on the growing Canberra city. The surrounding suburbs changed significantly from the 1920s, with residential and commercial development in the suburbs around the Park, and office and residential development along Northbourne Avenue.

Sullivans Creek, a short modified section of which occurs within Haig Park, also has significance to ACT RAOs, previously documented in other studies. This significance is due to known occupation of this area by Aboriginal people prior to European settlement. This significance does not however contribute to the significance of the entirety of Haig Park.

Haig Park shows a continuation of use and association, planted as a shelterbelt for the suburbs of Braddon, Turner and the Civic Centre and used as a recreational urban park.

While the buildings and furniture within Haig Park allow for the recreational use of Haig Park, in themselves, they do not hold individual heritage significance and do not demonstrate this criterion.

Haig Park is assessed as meeting the threshold of heritage significance for listing under this criterion.

(b) has uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the ACT's cultural or natural history

Haig Park is assessed as both uncommon and rare in the ACT's cultural history as it is the only purposely planted shelterbelt from early city development remaining in Canberra.

Haig Park was one of three plantings proposed in 1921 and was one of the early decisions regarding tree planting recorded by the FCAC. The other plantings proposed were the planting of Commonwealth Avenue and the planting in the neighbourhood of the Power House.

The most similar shelterbelt to Haig Park occupied the area around the Power House, planted between 1921 and 1923 in linear rows. The Brickworks shelterbelt was also planted by Weston in the 1920s, but it was planted as a block of trees rather than rows. Other parks were also used for shelter purposes such as plantings surrounding Yarralumla Nursery and plantings around Government House, but these were often much smaller in size. Neither the Commonwealth Avenue plantings, the Brickworks shelterbelt or Power House shelterbelt remain intact.

The basic elements of the original Haig Park design – the linear planting, (form and colour) of evergreen and deciduous trees and species variety between rows – has been largely maintained despite changes to individual trees and some of the species used. The number of plantings has also substantially reduced since the original shelterbelt, 7653 trees and shrubs had been planted by 1923. Currently the Park contains approximately 2316 plantings. The planting of tree species used in the establishment of the Park has been maintained to the present day. However, many subsequent additional species, probably introduced for an aesthetic purpose, such as the acacias, are no longer represented in the Park today.



While many shelter plantings were planted throughout the 1920s these have been removed through time and Haig Park remains the only largely intact example. Due to this Haig Park is both uncommon and rare in the ACT's cultural history.

Haig Park is assessed as meeting the threshold of heritage significance for listing under this criterion.

(c) *potential to yield important information that will contribute to an understanding of the ACT's cultural or natural history*

The trees in Haig Park can provide information on how certain species perform in Canberra, a consequence of this plantation being one of the earliest surviving. Charles Weston used his expertise and the results of his experimentation at Yarralumla Nursery to inform the planting of Haig Park, and so Haig Park demonstrates the ultimate goal of Weston's experimentation.

Haig Park can also provide insight into the principles of landscape planning in the early 20th Century.

Haig Park's Garden City origins and the experimentation and expertise that informed its initial and subsequent plantings, its particular siting, scale and types of plants all strongly contribute to an understanding of the ACT's cultural and natural history.

Notwithstanding the above, further research is required to ascertain if Haig Park can yield important information that will contribute to an understanding of the ACT's cultural or natural history and therefore it cannot be concluded that Haig Park meets this criterion.

(d) *importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or objects*

Haig Park demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of place, as a shelterbelt. Despite changes over time Haig Park retains the original characteristics of a shelterbelt. Each row contains one species of tree planted at the optimum distance apart for shelterbelt planting pattern and form, and each row is then planted at the optimum distance apart from the next. This dense planting allows the trees to perform their function as a shelterbelt. The shelterbelt was planted to not require a large area of land but to optimise that land for the benefit of the growing city.

The choice of both deciduous and evergreen species, ensures that the shelterbelt functions throughout the year with the evergreen trees providing the bulk of the framework, whilst in autumn, winter and spring, the deciduous trees provide variety of colour and sometimes flowers and more importantly, in winter they allow light to penetrate into and under the canopy to assist with the overall general health of all of the surrounding trees. The species also have varying heights and therefore provide shelter lower down as well as height.

Haig Park is assessed as meeting the threshold of heritage significance for listing under this criterion.

(e) *importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by the ACT community or a cultural group in the ACT*

Currently, the data required to understand and/or demonstrate the heritage significance to the broad community of the ACT regarding this criterion is unavailable. Nevertheless, the consultation that has been undertaken to date indicates that the Park may meet this criterion. Just over half of the respondents in the 2017 community consultation program attributed heritage significance to Haig Park due to the aesthetic qualities it exhibits, such as the large green open space within an increasingly dense urban neighbourhood. The adjacent clubs also noted that they valued the landscape setting and the aesthetics of the Park (EMA 2013). However, it cannot be clearly demonstrated that the ACT community or a cultural group values the aesthetic qualities of Haig Park, and therefore it cannot be concluded that Haig Park meets this criterion.



- (f) *importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement for a particular period*

The successful plantation of Haig Park could not have occurred without Charles Weston's expertise and prior establishment of experimental nurseries in Canberra which allowed a comprehensive understanding of which plant species were well suited to the climatic extremes of the city. Weston used the opportunity of Haig Park to apply what he had learnt from his experimental nurseries.

The ongoing maintenance and preservation of the Park demonstrates technical achievement by preserving a 'living' place despite increasing development. While the Park has undergone considerable change through time and the number of species planted is significantly reduced, the shelterbelt framework on which it was based remains largely intact..

None of the buildings or furniture within Haig Park demonstrate a high degree of technical or creative achievement.

Notwithstanding the above, further research is required to ascertain if Haig Park demonstrates a high degree of creative or technical achievement, and therefore it cannot be concluded that Haig Park meets this criterion.

- (g) *has a strong or special association with the ACT community, or a cultural group in the ACT for social, cultural or spiritual reasons*

Haig Park has an association with the ACT community as evidenced by the social value assessment undertaken for the 2013 draft CMP (EMA 2013), the community consultation completed by OCGUR (2017) and the utilisation study completed by Tait Network (2017b).

The most recent community consultation indicates that Haig Park has a mixed and not strongly held association with the broad community of the ACT. Therefore, the consultation program to date has not been able to demonstrate that Haig Park is significant to the broad ACT Community.

Haig Park does not meet the required threshold for this criterion.

- (h) *has a special association with the life or work of a person, or people, important to the history of the ACT*

Haig Park has an association with Charles Weston, Canberra's first Officer-in-Charge of the Afforestation Branch. Weston is a major figure in the landscape design and development of Canberra. Haig Park is one of Weston's shelterbelt's. Weston designed and planted the Park using species he had cultivated in the Yarralumla Nursery. Weston took the opportunity at Haig Park to put his experimentation at Yarralumla Nursery into action. A special association between Weston and Haig Park cannot be demonstrated at this time and therefore does not contribute to the heritage significance of the Park.

Haig Park also has an association with John Sulman, the Chairman of the FCAC from 1921 to 1924. Sulman provided the first written directive to plant a shelterbelt to protect the Civic centre thus leading to the creation of Haig Park. As chair of the FCAC, Sulman had a strong influence in the development of Canberra. Sulman had a keen interest in planning schemes which aligned with Garden City ideals; Haig Park reflects these ideals and principles. A special association between Sulman and Haig Park cannot be demonstrated at this time and therefore does not contribute to the heritage significance of the Park.

Other associations are with Field Marshall Earl Douglas Haig, Lindsay Pryor, and the NCA. Haig Park was named to honour Earl Haig following his death in 1928 it cannot be assessed that Earl Haig has a special association with Haig Park. Lindsay Pryor, who managed Haig Park in a period of change in the 1950s, was important for the ongoing maintenance of the Park but it cannot be demonstrated that Lindsay Pryor has a special association with Haig Park. The NCDC instigated the 'coup method' of tree replacement in the 1980s but again it cannot be demonstrated that the NCDC has a special association with Haig Park. A special association between Earl Haig, Lindsay Pryor and the NCDC and Haig Park cannot be demonstrated and therefore do not contribute to the heritage significance of the Park.



Further research is required to ascertain if Haig Park has a special association with Charles Weston and/or John Sulman, and therefore it cannot be concluded that Haig Park meets this criterion.

3.3 Statement of Heritage Significance

3.3.1 Heritage Register Heritage Significance Statement

The heritage significance of Haig Park was recognised by its inclusion on the ACT Heritage Register on 14 September 2000 under the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*. It is deemed to be registered under the *Heritage Act 2004* legislation which post-dates the initial listing. The heritage significance included in the listing is:

Haig Park is a significant landscape feature of Canberra, demonstrating the early establishment of plantings in the city for protection from climatic extremes and landscape beautification. The Park is particularly significant for its designed function as a windbreak to protect the developing suburbs of Braddon and Turner from dust-laden north westerly winds.

Constructed around 1921–23 it extends for over 1790 metres and comprises of fourteen rows of mixed evergreen and deciduous tree species. This is a rare example of windbreak planting on such a large scale and remains highly intact.

Following expansion of the city further north, the Park became an integral component of the landscaped open space between the adjoining suburbs, reflecting the contemporary Garden City planning.

The park is believed to be associated with Thomas Charles George Weston who played a seminal role in the National Capital's early planting program.

Following extensive planning and consultation processes through the early 1980s, Haig Park became the first example of a windbreak/shelter belt within the City which is to be conserved in perpetuity through an ongoing program of tree replacement, in accordance with leading arboriculture and cultural landscape management practice.

3.3.2 Revised Statement of Heritage Significance

The ACT Heritage Register entry statement of significance has statutory effect, and this is presented to inform management of the place. The following is a revised Statement of Heritage Significance compiled as a result of the heritage significance assessment undertaken as part of this CMP:

Haig Park is a significant landscape feature of Canberra, dating from the founding years of the National Capital. It demonstrates the early establishment of plantings in the city for protection from climatic extremes and for landscape beautification. The Park is particularly significant for its designed function as an extensive urban 'shelterbelt', or windbreak, from dust-laden north-westerly winds. It was planted to protect the first buildings constructed in north Canberra at Civic and in the newly developing suburbs of Ainslie, Braddon and Turner.

Initially planted in 1921, Haig Park extended over 1780 metres and comprised 14 rows of mixed evergreen and deciduous tree species. Haig Park is the only remaining largely intact, originally planted shelterbelt in Canberra. It is not only a rare example of large-scale shelterbelt planting in an urban area of Canberra but is also rare nationally. Until the 1950s most urban development occurred to its south. Then, following expansion of the city further north, the Park became an integral component of the landscaped open space system between adjoining suburbs, in keeping with contemporary landscape and city planning principles.

The original design remains highly intact and is a distinctive landscape feature. The initial selection and patterns of tree species establish the historic significance of the Park, while changes to date remain faithful to the original design and contribute to its heritage significance.



3.4 Description of the Place

The features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place (description of the place) are identified in the 2000 ACT Heritage Register citation as:

- a) *Fourteen rows of trees planted to form a windbreak and shelterbelt and the associated landscape setting.*

Tree species as identified...are:

- i) *Row 1: Argyle apple (*Eucalyptus cinerea*) and Snow gum (*Eucalypt pauciflora*);*
- ii) *Row 2 & 13: Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) and Arizona ash (*Fraxinus velutina*);*
- iii) *Rows 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 & 12: Italian cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta') and Deodar cedar (*Cedrus deodara*);*
- iv) *Rows 5, 6, 9 & 10: Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*); and*
- v) *Row 14: Deodar cedar and Desert ash (*Fraxinus oxycarpa*)*

In addition to the above, this assessment has identified the following elements of Haig Park that are also of Heritage Significance:

- the design of Haig Park as a former shelterbelt including:
 - tree spacing to optimise tree health within the historic shelterbelt planting pattern; and
 - the character (form and colour) of evergreen and deciduous trees and species variety between rows, and consistency of species within rows;

3.5 Commentary on the Haig Park ACT Heritage Register Citation

The revision of the 2013 draft CMP has raised some issues with the Haig Park ACT Heritage Register Citation. This section could be used by ACT Heritage Council for any future amendments to the listing.

The current assessment has identified the following issues with the current listing:

- The heritage listing describes specific tree species within each row as intrinsic features of the original shelterbelt design. The species currently listed could be more accurately understood as a reflection of the management of Haig Park from the 1980s to the present.

Only one-third of the original number of trees remain and many species previously planted are no longer present in the Park. For example, approximately 1000 acacias (wattles) were originally planted and later removed by the 1950s. These were planted as fast growing species with the intent of removal once the larger trees were established. It is not known where within the Park these trees were placed.

- The diagram utilised in the listing is from the Margules & Partners (1987) report and is not from any plan of the original planting.

Haig Park, as it currently stands is a reflection of the management actions that have been undertaken since it was first planted in 1921. These management actions contribute to the heritage significance of Haig Park as they have led to its conservation in perpetuity. The current ACT Heritage Register Citation presents the Haig Park of the 1980s and is static. It does not fully reflect aspects of its heritage significance from its early conception and the heritage significance of its continued management into the present.



Additional descriptions of the place of Haig Park have been identified in Section 3.4. These features include the design of Haig Park as a shelterbelt and the mix of evergreen and deciduous trees and species variety.



4 DEVELOPMENT OF CONSERVATION POLICIES

4.1 Heritage Values

The heritage significance of Haig Park is described in Sections 3.3 and Section 3.4. These features include those identified in the ACT Heritage Register Entry for the place and those identified by this CMP review process.

4.2 Statutory Requirements

4.2.1 Heritage Act 2004

Haig Park is on the ACT Heritage Register and as a consequence the full provisions of the *Heritage Act 2004* apply. Key sections of the *Heritage Act 2004* that apply are:

- Part 10A Tree damaging activity;
- Part 10B Permissions and approvals; and
- Part 13 Heritage offences.

Proposed work that may diminish the heritage significance of Haig Park will require approval from the ACT Heritage Council, as the Approval Authority for any heritage impacts. All proposals for change to the place must involve consultation with the ACT Heritage Council.

Under the *Heritage Act 2004*, the ACT Heritage Council has identified intrinsic features of heritage significance and set out specific requirements for the conservation of Haig Park. The rows of trees and their setting are included in the list of intrinsic features contributing to the cultural heritage significance of the place. The following specific conservation requirements are given that relate to the place:

Haig Park be conserved and appropriately maintained as an urban park incorporating rows of mixed tree species consistent with its heritage significance as a windbreak.

i) Plantation Species

- The species of trees found in the 14 rows shall be retained so far as is feasible on arboricultural grounds*
- Replacement trees, where trees have been lost or must be removed due to poor condition, are to be of the same species or similar arboriculturally appropriate species and located in a similar position to the original tree(s).*

ii) Development

- No new development shall be permitted where the development detrimentally affects the heritage value of the place.*

Opportunities exist from this statutory requirement to:

- continue to demonstrate the planning history of Canberra, and contributions by Weston, and Pryor's Garden City influences; and
- illustrate plantation style shelterbelts from the early period of Canberra's construction history.

4.2.2 ACT Tree Register and Tree Management Plan

Haig Park trees are included on the ACT Tree Register:



Nomination 56 Tree Number PTR035-Group

Location: Blocks 3, 6, 7 Section 8 Braddon

Block 1 Section 14 Braddon

Blocks 4, 9–13, 18, 19, 22 Section 66 Turner

Blocks 1–3, 9 Section 65 Turner

The ACT Tree Register entry includes the following statement against registration criteria:

“Haig Park commenced its life in 1921 as the “East-West Shelter Break”, its prime function being to protect the first suburbs in the vicinity of the Civic Centre from wind and dust. It is made up of fourteen rows, using predominantly exotic and deciduous trees. The listing of this collection of trees on the ACT Tree Register recognises their link to Canberra’s past.”

A Tree Management Plan (TMP) (ACT Tree Protection Unit 2011) is current for the registered trees. The TMP allows for the replacement of dead, dangerous or dying trees without having to cancel the registration of the whole group and then re-registering the group once the tree(s) are removed. The plan includes the objectives set out below.

- The landscape qualities of Haig Park are to be retained as an important element of the Park and intrinsic heritage value.
- The integrity of the plantings shall be maintained as an important element of the site, notably the existence of several defined rows. If open space is to be considered as part of the Park’s future development, that space shall be incorporated within the existing rows and the definition of lines of sight maintained.
- Consistency of the original plantings shall be maintained wherever possible. Tree replacement of species which have failed to perform or are no longer considered suitable should be chosen from genera which are represented in the Park. Any species found to be totally unsuitable for replanting should be noted on the future Haig Park Place Plan as a point of reference.
- Tree species which have subsequently been noted as pest plants which are integral to the aesthetic, landscape and heritage value of the site are approved replacement plants (e.g. *Pinus radiata* – Monterey pine).

Opportunities exist from this statutory requirement to:

- illustrate plantation style shelterbelts from the early period of Canberra’s construction history; and
- retain an area of highly valued green and open space for the Canberra community in an increasingly dense and contrasting urban landscape.

Any works within Haig Park that would damage trees is subject to either an approved TMP or an approved Tree Damaging Activity.

4.2.3 Territory Plan

All blocks in Haig Park are zoned PRZ1 Urban Open Space Zone. This objectives of this zone are:

- Provide an appropriate quality, quantity and distribution of parks and open spaces that will contribute to the recreational and social needs of the community



- Establish a variety of settings that will support a range of recreational and leisure activities as well as protect flora and fauna habitats and corridors, natural and cultural features and landscape character
- Allow for stormwater drainage and the protection of water quality, stream flows and stream environs in a sustainable, environmentally responsible manner and which provides opportunities for the community to interact with and interpret the natural environment
- Allow for ancillary uses that support the care, management and enjoyment of these open spaces including park maintenance depots, small-scale community activity centres
- Ensure that development does not unacceptably affect the landscape or scenic quality of the area, adequacy of open space for other purposes, or users, access to open space, or amenity of adjoining residents
- Provide for integrated land and water planning and management
- Provide safe pedestrian and cycling access to urban open space to promote active living.

Further information on the PRZ1 requirements under the Territory Plan can be found here:

<http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/ni/2008-27/copy/110367/pdf/2008-27.pdf>

Any Development Applications which arise from the Haig Park Place Plan will be subject to the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design General Code which can be found here:

<http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/ni/2008-27/copy/82873/pdf/2008-27.pdf>.

4.2.4 National Capital Plan

Haig Park is subject to the National Capital Plan under Part Four (B) – Special Requirements for Territory Land. Development of land within open spaces must conform with Development Control Plans agreed by the NCA.

Section 4.27 Haig and Telopea Parks can be found here:

<https://www.nationalcapital.gov.au/index.php/national-capital-plan/consolidated-nationalcapital-plan-2/4365-part-four-b-special-requirements-for-territory-land#part-4.27> .

4.3 Non-Statutory Requirements

4.3.1 Burra Charter

The Australian ICOMOS Charter for places of cultural heritage significance (the Burra Charter, as adopted in 2013) provides specific guidelines for the treatment of places of cultural heritage significance (Australia ICOMOS 2013). The Burra Charter is a guideline only and not a legislative requirement in the ACT.

This CMP has been prepared in accordance with those principles. The Charter provides specific guidance for physical and procedural actions that should occur in relation to significant places. The development of the CMP has followed the Burra Charter process in that it has aimed to:

- *Understand Heritage Significance* (Sections 2 and 3);
- *Develop Policy* (Sections 4 and 5);
- *Manage in Accordance with Policy* (Sections 5 and 6).



Section 5 outlines how each of the Burra Charter Articles have been used in developing the conservation policies for Haig Park.

4.4 Context

Construction of Stage 1 – City to Gungahlin, Canberra Light Rail Network is completed. The corridor runs down the median of Northbourne Avenue, through Haig Park. The Northbourne Avenue road reserve does not form part of the Haig Park heritage registration boundary. The *Northbourne* Flats sites of Braddon and Turner are located immediately adjacent to Haig Park and are key urban renewal sites identified for future redevelopment. In the Turner portion of Haig Park, the Park is fringed by both high density as well as low density residential development. In addition, there are key recreational areas including tennis courts, bowling greens, athletics facilities and urban open space. In the Braddon portion, medium and higher density development surrounds the Park in proximity to Northbourne Avenue and to the commercial areas of Braddon. There is also an area of low density residential development adjacent to the Park at the Limestone Avenue end of Braddon. Towards Limestone Avenue, the Park is adjacent to Merici College and lower density urban development.

4.5 Tree Management

4.5.1 Current health of the trees

This section has been prepared by Alan Mann from Canopy Tree Experts and focuses on the health of the dominant tree species, namely those included on the Haig Park Heritage Register Citation. The date of the inspection was a constraint as it did not allow for adequately assessment of *Fraxinus* sp.

Eucalyptus cinerea

These trees generally are in good health and have good structure.

Eucalyptus pauciflora

It appears that none of the original plantings have survived. There is one surviving tree which is about 20–30 years of age. It appears to be in reasonable health but there is evidence of the presence of some wood decay. It appears that quite recently (about 2013 – seen on www.actmapi.act.gov.au 2014 aerial photo) a reasonably large number replacements trees were planted; some, but very few remain in 2017. This species has proven to be unreliable in Canberra's hot and dry climate. It is probably inadvisable to continue planting this species without summer irrigation.

Quercus palustris

These trees vary somewhat in condition. They are in good health at present, judged on the distribution of swollen buds (as it was too early in the season for any leaf cover), but there is ample evidence of them having suffered previous periods of stress which have caused dieback of branch tips and, in some cases, death of whole branches. In most cases pruning to remove the dead branches would be beneficial, not only for hazard reduction, but also for the trees' on-going health and structure. The dead branches are a source of fungal decay which, if it becomes entrenched, can cause the major branch failures.

***Fraxinus* sp.**

It was difficult to assess these trees as they were leafless at the time of this assessment and it is too early for significant bud swell. It did seem that most of the remaining trees, of which there are very few, have suffered extensive dieback.

Cedrus deodara

Most of the trees are in good health and almost all have good structure. Those that have survived to maturity are likely to continue to thrive. There are a number of trees of medium age that are declining, perhaps an indication of variability in the planting material, providence or planting technique. Some medium-aged trees have died as have some relatively recent plantings. In the northern rows of *Cedrus*



deodara, in the area to the west of Northbourne Avenue, there are some recent plantings that are dead, and some stressed. In the same area, some medium-aged trees are not doing well and declining. It appears that something in this area is unfavourable to this species – perhaps some soil testing is required.

***Cupressus sempervirens* ‘Stricta’**

The surviving trees of this species are generally in good health. Surprisingly, some show some dead branches as if they have been subject to Seiridium canker as most *Cupressus* species in Canberra eventually do, but there appears to have been full recovery in most trees. They may have good resistance to the disease. There are a few trees that are dying back from the top or in sections that may be indicative of another disease.

Some trees are thinning out where they are in shade from the *Cedrus deodara*. It is perhaps inevitable that this species will eventually have trouble surviving as the shade from the other trees intensifies. The few surviving *Cupressus sempervirens* ‘Horizontalis’ are in fair to good health and structure, however, their canopies conflict with the adjacent *Cedrus deodara*. Their planting within these relatively closely planted rows may have been unintentional.

Pinus radiata

The remaining original trees are mostly in slow decline with some large branches dying. It would be possible to manage the gradual decline of these for some time yet by removing the dead branches as they occur. A few of the medium-aged trees appear to be suffering Sphaeropsis to varying degrees from moderate tip death to extensive foliage death with a few of the worst affected likely to die.

Fraxinus oxycarpa

These trees are generally in good health.

4.5.2 Suitability of tree species

Urban Treescapes have reviewed the plant species recorded in historic correspondence as the ‘total list of plants planted at the East West Shelter Belt’ and listed in Tables A2.1 through to A2.4 of the draft Haig Park: Conservation Management Plan. Urban Treescapes found that many of the plant species listed are no longer suitable or available for use, or could be replaced with a new, improved cultivar. Each species and a suitable alternative cultivar are outlined in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Significant plantings and suitable alternatives*

Historical species	Current suitability	Recommended substitute species*	Similar characteristic to heritage species
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> (syn. for <i>Cupressus fastigiata</i> & <i>Cupressus horizontalis</i>)	Suitable	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> ‘Stricta’	To ensure consistency with historical form
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Suitable	Also <i>Cedrus atlantica</i> ‘Glaucua’	Exotic evergreen with similar form in same genus to ensure consistency with historical form



Historical species	Current suitability	Recommended substitute species*	Similar characteristic to heritage species
<i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i>	Suitable	No improved cultivars proposed.	
<i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>	Not suitable	<i>Eucalyptus scoparia</i>	Native evergreen with smooth, white trunk, spreading habit and rounded crown
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i> subsp. <i>oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood'	Suitable	No improved cultivars proposed.	
<i>Fraxinus velutina</i> ¹	Suitable	No improved cultivars proposed.	
<i>Pinus insignis</i> (now <i>P. radiata</i>)	Not suitable Pest plant	<i>Pinus canariensis</i> <i>Pinus torreyana</i>	Exotic evergreen with similar form and appearance
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Suitable Improved cultivar available	<i>Quercus palustris</i> 'Freefall'	Same species but an early defoliating form

*Please note that this list is not exhaustive and should be updated in response to changing environmental conditions, stock availability and the development of new cultivars.

In addition, there are other plant species present in the park that are not included in the heritage citation. These species are listed in Table 4.2, alongside alternative species which may be used for future replanting, in cases where the existing species is not suitable.

¹ Further investigation will be undertaken by Urban Treescapes to confirm whether *Fraxinus velutina* is still present in the park, noting Boyd and Associates (2000) view that it was incorrectly cited in the heritage registration and should have been identified as *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*..



Table 4.2: Other species present in the park and suitable alternatives*

Species	Approximate quantity	Current suitability	Recommended substitute species*	Similar characteristic to existing species
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	2	Not suitable Pest plant	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> cultivars^	Native evergreen
<i>Fraxinus sambucifolia</i> ** (syn. for <i>F.nigra</i>)	62	Not suitable Not readily available Not drought tolerant	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> 'Cimmzam' Cimmarron	Exotic deciduous with similar form and autumn colour and of the same genus
<i>Populus pyramidalis</i>	35	Not suitable Pest plant	<i>Populus simonii</i>	Exotic deciduous with similar upright form and of the same genus
<i>Photinia serrulate</i> (possibly a synonym for <i>P. serratifolia</i> or <i>P. bodinieri</i>)	71	Suitable	<i>Viburnum odoratissimum</i> ^ cultivars <i>Viburnum tinus</i> <i>Elaeagnus macrophylla</i>	Dense evergreen plant
<i>Prunus persica</i> (formerly <i>Amygdalus persica</i>)	<10	Not suitable Fruiting	<i>Prunus serrulata</i> <i>Prunus yedoensis</i> <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> cultivars	Exotic deciduous that is a small flowering ornamental of the same genus
<i>Ulmus americana</i> **	6	Not suitable Susceptible to elm leaf beetle damage	<i>Tilia cordata</i> & <i>Tilia x europaea</i> <i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Exotic deciduous with similar spring colour Exotic deciduous with similar form

*Please note that this list is not exhaustive and should be updated in response to changing environmental conditions, stock availability and the development of new cultivars.

** Species will need to be confirmed in 2020.

Further consideration will be undertaken to determine the replanting strategy for these 'non-significant' species that takes into account both heritage conservation, arboricultural and ecological objectives.



While all of the significant species form part of the historic shelterbelt, Urban Treescapes have recommended organising the tree species into three separate categories based on where the trees have historically been located within the Park shelterbelt:

- i) the formal shelterbelt;
- ii) official street tree plantings; or
- iii) amenity plantings.

These categories indicate the original design intent of the plantings which has ongoing significance and indicates the appropriate spacing and planting pattern of the trees. By classifying tree species according to their existing or future use, the design intent for each species will remain clear.

Recommendations for Formal Shelterbelt Species

Cupressus sempervirens 'Stricta'

Cedrus deodara / *Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca'

Pinus canariensis

Pinus torreyana

Quercus palustris 'Freefall'

Recommendations for Official Street Tree Plantings:

Condamine Street, Turner – *Quercus macrocarpa*

Masson Street, Turner – *Fraxinus oxycarpa* 'Raywood'

Greenway Street, Turner – *Eucalyptus scoparia*

Ormond Street, Turner – *Eucalyptus scoparia*

Henty Street, Braddon – *Eucalyptus cinerea*

Girrahween Street, Braddon – *Cedrus deodara*

It should be noted that street tree plantings include species that form part of the historical shelterbelt.

Recommendations for Amenity Plantings:

Arbutus unedo

Prunus cerasifera cultivars

Callistemon viminalis cultivars

Prunus yedoensis cultivars

Cornus florida

Tilia cordata

Fraxinus pennsylvanica cultivars

Tilia x europaea

Magnolia grandiflora cultivars

Ulmus parvifolia 'Yarralumla Weeper'

Magnolia x soulangeana

Viburnum tinus cultivars

Populus simonii

Quercus phellos



Prunus serrulata cultivars

Zelkova serrata

4.5.3 Impact of climate change

This section has been prepared by Alan Mann from Canopy Tree Experts.

The predicted changes

The Australian Capital Territory Climate Change Snapshot (Office of Environment and Heritage & ACT Government 2014) indicates that the Near Future (2020–2039) climate changes in the vicinity of Haig Park will show a decrease in annual rainfall by up to 5%, with an increase in autumn rainfall and a decrease in the other seasons. This will mean drier soils through summer due to the cumulative effect of three consecutive drier seasons. This will be aggravated by higher temperatures, average maximum and minimum daily temperatures are to increase by up to 0.5°C, bringing about greater evaporation of soil moisture.

There is also predicted to be more days of high and severe fire weather. It is unlikely that fire would enter Haig Park from Mount Majura or Mount Ainslie forested areas, as the prevailing winds would take it the other way. Those same winds could conceivably bring fire from Black Mountain as the distance through the suburb (approximately 700m) is less than fire travelled through Duffy in the 2003 fires; however the intensity of a fire on Black Mountain is unlikely to reach the levels of the fire on 18 January 2003 that was fueled by burning through a mature pine plantation.

The increasing populations in the adjacent suburbs coupled with declining open space (back yards) may increase the Park use on hot days and increase the likelihood of fire starting within the Park. This indicates the need for management of fire risks through removal of flammable material such as fallen tree branches, leaf mulch and long, dry grass.

There are also likely to be more, and more extreme, storm events indicating a possible need to reduce people's exposure to falling branches or trees by the closing of the Park when extreme events are expected. The alternative of pruning the trees to reduce failures is not a practical option as predicting the likely failures beyond the obvious faults, which in any case should currently be addressed through responses to problems highlighted in regular tree assessments, is not possible. To engage in 'just in case' pruning to be sure of significantly reducing the likelihood of failures in storms would reduce the size and amenity of the trees and contradict the aims of this CMP.

Alan Mann has provided a description of the likely effect of climate change on the tree species within the Park:

Eucalyptus cinerea

Species notes

This species occurs naturally mainly from Bathurst to Gundaroo in woodlands or on flats near water according to Spencer (2002). But Plant.net lists its natural environment as grassland or woodland on shallow relatively infertile soils, often as an understorey. Pryor & Banks (1991) state that well grown trees are frequent in Canberra. Personal observations by Alan Mann indicate that trees of this species can suffer Summer Branch Drop of horizontal branches, branch failure due to cockatoo damage and wind damage with loss of smaller outer branches.

Likely effects

It would be expected that the change in climate would bring about more summer drought stress on this species, but it is unknown to what extent this will be manifested as decline in the trees. It is likely that the conditions will bring about more branch failures through Summer Branch Drop.

Eucalyptus pauciflora

Species notes

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that although 'this species is naturally occurring in the Canberra region, it is more commonly an alpine tree. It is less drought hardy than many other Eucalyptus species. Planted



trees in Canberra tend to be short lived with some dying under water stress'. Planted trees in Canberra generally grow well for a short time but are then declining within 25–30 years.

Because of its poor performance in Haig Park, perhaps a result of the heat island effect of the city, consideration should be given to planting, in the 'gaps', another species of local eucalypt with greater tolerance for an urban environment but with similar attributes. Likely effects
Drying climate is likely to render the continued planting of this species in Haig Park inadvisable.

Quercus palustris

Species notes

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that this species 'is an outstanding tree in Canberra, where it grows quickly with a good upright habit, carries a full crown with rich green foliage in summer...Dead leaves are carried right through winter on all except the extremities of the branches...An excellent street tree, it thrives on all but the poorest soils and grows faster than most oaks. It will persist for some years under poor conditions, but begins to develop dead wood in the crown if planted on shallow soils'.

Rowell (1991) states that the species is '...hardy and of faster growth than most (oaks) but at its best only in deep alluvial soils with an assured water supply in summer.'

Sternberg (2004) states that '...(in its native range it is) found on poorly drained, acidic soils...this tree must have acid soil, and preferably wet feet to perform at its peak potential...It maintains its excurrent form for its first century or two before broadening into a more oak-like silhouette.'

Likely effects

The deadwood in the crown mentioned by Pryor & Banks usually follows drought, or at least dry summers, which perhaps indicates that the comment by Guy Sternberg about requiring wet feet is relevant here.

The species performance in Haig Park is a little contradictory to the listed requirements for the species, as the Park does not have an assured water supply. The development of dead tips and branches in the trees in the Park over the drier periods is evidence that the species is not entirely well suited to the Park. Continuing dry summers are likely to eventually prevent the continuing use of this species in the Park, unless irrigated.

Fraxinus sp.

Species notes

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that this species is drought resistant and a good tree for Canberra although variable in form if raised from seed.

Sternberg (2004) states that in the wild, it is common in mountain canyons. It has some drought tolerance. It is a tough resilient tree but suffers borer damage when planted in parking lots and other stressful situations outside its native streamside habitat.

Likely effects

Although this species has some drought tolerance it does not seem likely that it will be able to survive the changing climate.

Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Species notes

Robert Boden identified the trees listed as *Fraxinus velutina* in the Park documents to be *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*. Of *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, Pryor & Banks (1991) state '(It is) not suited to Canberra where it thrives only on better soils with irrigation.' If this identification is verified, and it is not usual for Dr Boden to be wrong, then the trees are even less suited to the situation than were *Fraxinus velutina*. Fruit collected from one of the remaining trees, it being leafless at the time, so leaf type could not be used, tends to verify that the species is in fact *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*.



It seems likely that while preserving those trees that have survived for as long as possible, it would be prudent to replant with *Fraxinus oxycarpa* or a selected drought resistant selection of *Fraxinus velutina* if one, or preferably several, can be located.

Cedrus deodara

Species notes

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that this species 'is a large tree in the Himalayas occurring naturally at over 2000m altitude...it is a popular ornamental quite extensively planted in Canberra...however it is not fully suited to the dry climate and poor soils and locally grows very slowly'.

It is a personal observation (Alan Mann) that some trees of this species have suffered unexpected branch drop. There is discussion of this point by arborists in the United Kingdom on a web-based chat line associated with QTRA.co.uk., showing that this problem also occurs there. These failures resemble the Summer Branch Drop of dicotyledonous trees.

Cedars in general do not seem to fully recover from moderate root damage.

Likely effects

Although this species is not generally as drought tolerant as the other *Cedrus* spp. it seems to be surviving and growing quite well at Haig Park. The future of these is somewhat enigmatic as they are performing better than expected in the current location and conditions. However, it would be expected that there will be more branch failures through Summer Branch Drop.

The continued survival would be more likely if the Park was to be irrigated.

***Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta'**

Species notes

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that this species is widely planted in Canberra, where it thrives and promises to be a long-lived tree. However, like most *Cupressus* spp. in the Canberra region, many older trees, particularly on drier sites, suffer from Seiridium Canker leading to death of branches or of the trees. The severity of the disease is amplified by dry conditions and providing adequate water is regarded as the best method of limiting its severity. Surprisingly there is little, or no, evidence in the surviving trees of this species in the Park suffering extensively from the disease. The surviving trees may possess some resistance.

Likely effects

There is a risk that the drying climate may cause some susceptibility of the trees to the disease with consequential loss of trees.

Pinus radiata

Species notes

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that this species 'is to limited areas including the Monterey Peninsula in California...It is one of the most widely planted forest trees in the Southern Hemisphere...the planted tree is generally superior to those in its native habitat, although its physical life is often more limited. Its growth rate is rapid. There is a marked change in the longevity of the tree increasing from the centre of Canberra to the higher rainfall parts of the ACT. It may not live beyond 80 years on the Canberra plains. Used extensively for windbreaks and screening where tall growth is required. It exceeds 30m, although for ornamental plantings it commonly reaches 25m with a canopy spread of 10m. Rich green foliage and other good characteristics make it valuable for landscape use.'

The species has been planted in and around many country houses in the districts around Canberra but many of them are declining and dying at, or about, 100 years of age (Alan Mann, personal observation). This is perhaps evident in the few remaining of the original plantings in Haig Park as well, as they approach this age.



The species has also been widely used in windbreak plantings in rural Australia. Thinning regimes have changed since the Park was established and modern practice is based on a combination of early and heavy thinning. In some circumstances, delayed thinning can lead to stagnation of growth, disease and vulnerability to wind damage (Burdon et al. 2009). Given this change of practice, it may be timely to consider what if any thinning regimes may be appropriate for the *Pinus radiata* in the Park.

This discussion surrounding thinning regimes has roots from discussions on growing the species as farm-based forestry. The discussion follows on from recommendations to plant at 1000 trees per hectare and reducing that during the first years to 200–250 years. These figures work out to an average spacing between trees at planting of 3.3m, and at harvest, of 6.3m. The average spacing between *Pinus radiata* at Haig Park is about 6.3m: thinning seems unnecessary on the basis of achieving good growth. But forestry plantations receive intensive management including fertilizer applications, which are not replicated in the Park. How the older trees have matured in the Park may provide some guidance to future strategies on thinning.

Generally, the trees in the two adjacent rows have their lower branches dying as self-shading becomes a greater influence important as the crowns grow. The likely result of the current planting spacing is a continuous upper canopy and mostly bare lower trunks. For new plantings to achieve the individual size and spread of some of the original plantings, the trees would require wider spacing; the larger surviving tree are those mostly where the adjacent trees have not survived.

While the large old trees have a certain heritage significance, so too does the original planting pattern, and as the resulting growth in the close planted rows is unlikely to be unacceptable, staying with that pattern without thinning seems to be appropriate.

Likely effects

There are some observers (Mark Hartley, pers. comm.) that believe the demise of older trees of the species is often brought about by *Sphaeropsis sapina* (Diploidea Tip Blight) which infests after branch damage, such as hail damage, occurs. The onset of more extreme weather with climate change is likely to add this affect to the other pressures bringing about the trees' decline.

Climate change is likely to bring about the decline of the older trees and produce stunted less vigorous growth in any new plantings.

Fraxinus oxycarpa

Pryor & Banks (1991) state that this is a native of southern Europe, east to Iran and the region of Turkistan. Very well suited to the (Canberra) climate and is one of the thriest of the ashes. While it grows very slowly on poor sites it nevertheless survives. It makes a very good round headed shade tree on better sites. A useful tree for street planting and also as a specimen shade tree.

Likely effects

It is unlikely that climate change will have a significant effect on the survival of this species in the early stages, but it would be wise to select new plantings for superior drought tolerance if possible.

Possible response

The introduction of summer irrigation is likely to be necessary to make up the short fall in summer soil moisture content, but this needs to be carefully managed as the indications are that most of the species require good drainage. It would be best to source planting material for replacement trees from trees that are seen to be growing quite well in locations that are currently continually drier.

It is likely that *Eucalyptus cinerea* has considerable genetic variability due to its relatively wide distribution. It is recommended that propagation material for any replacement trees be sourced from trees that are in the drier parts of the species' current distribution or from sites where they are drought stressed by their topographical location, in a hope of selecting more drought tolerant specimens.

If continuing presence of *Eucalyptus pauciflora* is required, selection of propagating material from those trees that have been relatively long lived on drier sites within the district would be appropriate, such as



those on the flats of Aranda Woodland or on the edge of Gold Creek Golf course. However it is likely that the drying summers will prohibit the successful growing of this species unless source trees are found that are surviving relatively extreme dry conditions.

For *Quercus palustris*, it seems unlikely that sourcing new planting material from its native habitat would not easily yield drought tolerant trees as they grow in well-watered locations. As it is extensively planted over much of the United States and in Australia, there may be some trees showing good adaptation to drier environments.

Selections of *Cupressus sempervirens* from drier sites in the Mediterranean may be the most appropriate way to source new planting material. An alternative would be to select from old plantings in the Canberra region that are not showing signs of succumbing the fungal diseases that affect the species.

The planting history of *Pinus radiata* in this Park, as detailed in this CMP, indicates there is considerable variation in the species genetic make-up, and this, along with the species response to rainfall, indicated in the extract from Pryor & Banks, above, suggest that there are likely to be selections available that would make ideal replacements for the Park in the impending conditions.

If continued planting of *Fraxinus velutina* is proposed then selection of new planting material for its superior drought tolerance, where possible, is recommended.

Although *Fraxinus oxycarpa* shows considerable tolerance to drought it would still be wise to select the most drought tolerant replacements possible.

4.5.4 Biodiversity

Dr Michael Mulvaney provided the following advice regarding biodiversity within Haig Park.

In light of the uncertainties of the future, selecting propagating material from trees that are surviving the hotter, drier conditions is just one aspect of ensuring the future survival of the plantings. There is a possibility that plants selected in this manner may possess other undesired characteristics. This needs to be addressed by either selecting from a number of sites or conducting extensive trial plantings.

A further reason for selecting variable planting material is the possibility of yet unknown future disease and pest infestations. With catastrophic tree losses occurring in Europe due to Dutch Elm Disease and in America from Emerald Ash borer, the need to diversify plantings is evident.

4.5.5 Garden beds

Urban Treescapes have provided the following advice regarding the introduction of garden beds:

Should garden beds be introduced as features in Haig Park in the future, the species and composition of these garden beds should be assessed for their suitability at that time.

4.5.6 Tree spacing

Urban Treescapes have provided the following advice regarding tree spacing:

- There are challenges associated with maintaining the shelterbelt planting pattern, and arboricultural requirements must be considered to ensure successful and healthy trees.
- The TMP for Haig Park will be reviewed and updated by Urban Treescapes, and this provides opportunity to explore minor changes to tree spacing.

Haig Park is also registered on the ACT Tree Register due to its heritage values and listing, so conservation of the shelterbelt is a shared aim.



4.5.7 Tree maintenance

Urban Treescaping have indicated that Haig Park's existing trees have had limited intervention and maintenance and many of the mature trees require significant pruning and removal of dead wood. They recommend that extensive maintenance works are needed to better conserve the existing trees and improve amenity for Park users. Urban Treescaping have advised that they currently only undertake emergency pruning of trees if they pose an immediate threat to the public. No routine maintenance of trees is currently undertaken, and no replanting. The CMP should highlight the importance of the existing trees and the need to allocate adequate resources to undertake the necessary maintenance works.

4.6 Future Needs

With the installation of light rail and urban renewal occurring along the Northbourne Avenue corridor and Canberra's inner-north, the role of Haig Park in providing for the diverse social and recreational needs of a growing number of residents and visitors, will become increasingly important.

4.6.1 Haig Park Place Plan

The Haig Park Place Plan, released in 2019, sets out a strategy to improve public safety, amenity and recreational opportunities in Haig Park, while respecting and promoting its heritage value. It was developed through two rounds of extensive community consultation in 2017 and has strong community support, as confirmed through a third round of consultation undertaken in August and September 2018.

The Place Plan suggests a range of short-term and long-term actions under ten key themes: heritage; linkages; infrastructure; biodiversity; identity; safety; play; health and fitness; destination; and cultural program. These actions encompass both infrastructure improvements and public events and activities.

Actions related to heritage include installation of signage, artwork and educational programs to highlight the park's history and heritage significance.

Implementation of the first stage of the place plan began with a 'Haig Park Experiments' program, comprising public events, activities and short-term infrastructure improvements over 6 months from June to December 2019. A range of temporary infrastructure improvements were trialled including nature play elements, a bike pump track, an inflatable, mobile events space, dog agility equipment, loose seating, decorative lighting, heritage signage and public art. A range of events were held included a winter 'festival of the forest', 'paw parties' for dogs and their owners and a big spring picnic. These events and the infrastructure have increased the number of people visiting the park and have helped to build the community's appreciation for its unique urban-forest nature, heritage and recreational value.

Potential long-term park improvements identified in the Place Plan include nature play facilities, footpath and lighting upgrades, repurposing the former depot site for community use, improved cycling and pedestrian linkages, adapting car parks into greenspaces, understorey planting to improve biodiversity, naturalising Sullivans Creek, fitness and sporting equipment, and an annual program of events. Planning of long-term improvements will begin once the Haig Park Experiments program finishes in December 2019.

Several other planning strategies, guidelines and studies have been developed that are relevant to Haig Park. The sections of these plans that are directly related to Haig Park are summarised below.

4.6.2 City and Gateway Urban Design Framework (2018)

On 19 December 2018, the City and Gateway Urban Design Framework (the Framework) was released. The Framework sets the principles for development and growth in the city centre and along the gateway corridor of Northbourne Avenue and Federal Highway. The Framework provides a long-term (2030+) vision that will inform changes to planning controls to ensure that built form and urban design is well-designed and responds to Canberra's heritage and distinctive landscape character. The Framework:



- is structured around a series of strategies and actions, which are presented along four urban renewal themes. Haig Park is included under the 'Better places and streets' theme.
- recognises the opportunities to revitalise Haig Park, described as 'a significant green space and heritage-listed landscape feature at the heart of our city centre. Currently, Haig Park is one of the inner city's largest yet most underutilised parks.... [it has the potential to] become a distinctive and inviting destination for locals and visitors alike and offer a cultural and urban recreation experience with play areas and natural amenity.'
- identifies a series of destination parks in strategic locations, such as Haig Park. These parks will offer high levels of natural amenity and provide for the diverse recreational needs of the current and future population.
- recognises that extensive work has been undertaken and continues through preparation of the Haig Park Place Plan. Any future changes or upgrades to Haig Park will be undertaken in a manner consistent with the approved Place Plan.
- identifies opportunities to enhance east-west pedestrian and cyclist connections across Northbourne Avenue and along Girrawheen and Masson Streets to improve active travel.

4.6.3 Braddon Place Plan

- The Braddon Place Plan, released in 2018, contains short, medium and long-term actions for government, business and the community to help make Braddon an even better place. Actions in the plan include suggestions for public space upgrades and improvements as well as ways to activate the precinct through temporary interventions, events and activations.
- The Braddon Place plan identifies a range of ideas for Haig Park based on community input which are consistent with the actions proposed in the Haig Park place plan. These include, for example, introducing more child-friendly spaces, lighting, paths, sporting and fitness equipment, a dog enclosure, introducing a community garden, markets and events. Retaining the park's tranquility and heritage value was also identified as important, as was improving active travel infrastructure and green corridors between Haig Park and Canberra's CBD.

4.7 Stakeholder Views

Community consultation was undertaken for the 2013 draft CMP and in two phases during 2017.

As outlined in Section 2.6.1, the first phase of consultation sought stakeholder and community views, issues and aspirations for Haig Park. Over nine weeks, from 30 January 2017 to 12 April 2017, input was received from approximately 552 stakeholders, including:

- 252 people online;
- 39 people via email, phone or written submissions;
- 164 people at four drop-in consultation sessions in different locations near Haig Park;
- 8 local community representative and stakeholder groups through individual meetings;
- 89 people at one workshop.

A range of highly varied views were received. In summary:

- *In general, the community agrees that improvements can be made to Haig Park to improve it into the future.* People value and appreciate the Park as a large green space close to Canberra's city



centre. However, many people feel that the Park needs to be enhanced to meet the needs of the changing urban area around it.

- *The degree of change the community wants to see in Haig Park varies across the community.* We received suggestions for cafes, food vans and events in Haig Park, while others would like the park preserved as it is, with minor changes to lighting, pathways and maintenance. The community prefers the Park to provide for a variety of different active and passive activities, rather than the whole Park being designed for one purpose (i.e. not just 'activities').
- We received a number of comments about the differences in the Park's character in different *geographical areas*. The length of the Park, and its span across several suburbs, means that it serves different purposes and has a different feel in different areas. People felt that creating different 'zones' or 'sections' within the Park was important, and that the plan should respect the current uses and character of the local area in any proposed changes to the Park.
- The *trees* in Haig Park were regularly mentioned in comments and conversations with the community, both as an asset to the park and a barrier to its usability. Some people emphasised the value and importance of maintaining the trees, while others suggested removing sections of trees to allow for more natural light and activation.
- *Activities and amenities* were the most common topics mentioned. These included ideas such as increasing exercise opportunities in the park through pathways or gym equipment or encouraging more people to visit the Park through playgrounds, BBQ facilities, seating and rotundas.
- *Wildlife, indigenous plantings and biodiversity* are important to the community. People spoke to us about the birds and animals that live in the Park, and the importance of looking at opportunities to enhance biodiversity through plantings and wetlands.

The full report is available at Phase 1 Community Engagement Summary Report: Haig Park Masterplan (OCGUR 2017).

The second phase of community engagement focused on testing design ideas. Approximately 536 stakeholders contributed over six and a half weeks from 10 May to 23 June 2017, including:

- 252 people through an online survey;
- 74 people at one workshop;
- 62 people at three drop-in consultation sessions;
- local community representative and stakeholder groups through individual meetings including with the Braddon Precinct, Turner Scouts Hall and North Canberra Community Council;
- 38 people via email submissions;
- 39 people via the online discussion board with 84 comments posted;
- 68 people at the Haig Park speaker's series event.

Overall, respondents were comfortable with the draft design ideas presented (pathways, edges, activity zones and park rooms) and the general direction of the plan. The heritage of the park and trees was raised during some discussions about the design ideas. There was some recognition of the important value of heritage and the trees but different interpretations of that value. Some believed the heritage value relates to how the park connects to the broader city identity as a green garden city. Approximately half the people who mentioned heritage felt that heritage was important but should not restrict the opportunity for making the Park more usable. A small section of the people who mentioned heritage believe the best way to maintain it is to have little to no change in the Park and they feel that the woodland atmosphere of the park will be compromised by any of the changes suggested. The full report is available at Phase 2 Community Engagement Summary Report: Haig Park Masterplan (CRA 2017).



Although there was considerable effort to engage as many stakeholders as possible, including a diverse cross section of the community, there are some limitations that should be noted. In relation to the two phases in 2017, although over 500 stakeholders participated in each phase, this only reflects a small proportion of the ACT community, so their views are not necessary representative of the community more broadly. Unsurprisingly, the majority of respondents to the second phase were living in the Inner North of Canberra. In addition, the results could be subject to self-selection bias (that is, the type of people who choose to participate have characteristics that are not representative of the broader community).

4.8 Summary of Constraints and Opportunities

4.8.1 Constraints

The heritage values, statutory constraints and future needs have highlighted a number of constraints regarding any future changes in Haig Park. These constraints include:

- the heritage register entry includes the 14 rows of exotic tree species and stipulates that the trees must be replaced with either the same or arboriculturally similar species; any removal of trees will require further *Heritage Act 2004* approvals.
- the heritage register listing states that any future development cannot diminish the heritage significance of the Park.
- the Tree Management Plan stipulates that the original plantings shall be maintained wherever possible. Activities that may damage tree health will require the Conservator of Flora and Fauna approval via a TMP or Tree Damaging Activity application.
- zoning constraints for PRZ1 Urban Open Space Zone, and National Capital Plan – Special Requirement for Territory Land, apply across the entirety of Haig Park;
- climate change and the possibly limited ability of certain species of plants to survive and adapt within the current landscape setting;
- the future needs for the Inner North of Canberra, and specifically for the Park to remain as green space for the utilisation of the surrounding areas and wider community;
- the resource and economic constraints that need to be considered for any works within the Park; and
- stakeholder views which are mixed regarding the density and shelterbelt style of tree planting in Haig Park.

4.8.2 Opportunities

A range of opportunities exist within Haig Park. The Park can:

- Provide community facilities through the repurposing of areas that have already been disturbed, for example, areas cleared in the past for carparks, work depots, etc;
- highlight the Aboriginal history and heritage significance in the area around Sullivans Creek;
- continue to demonstrate the planning history of Canberra, and contributions by Weston, and Pryor's Garden City influences;
- illustrate plantation style shelterbelts from the early period of Canberra's construction history;



- retain an area of highly valued green and open space for the Canberra community in an increasingly dense and contrasting urban landscape;
- manage Park space in the light of predicted future needs;
- demonstrate strong integration between urban renewal sites and quality open space, including convenient pedestrian and cyclist access to and through the Park and legible links with the wider path network;
- retain the heritage significance of the Park while allowing successful activation of the space in line with community and stakeholder views and expectations; and
- be a focus of community recreation, this can include the inclusion of 'pop-up' markets and food retailers, sporting activities and gatherings.



5 CONSERVATION POLICIES

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of a CMP is to provide policies and management actions to direct the conservation and responsible management of places or items of heritage significance. The policies should be sufficiently flexible to recognise the constraints and requirements, accommodate compatible change and at the same time enable the character and heritage significance of the place to be retained and conserved. In general, each policy statement is followed by an explanation to clarify and assist in its understanding.

ACT Heritage Council has outlined the guiding principles for the development of conservation policies (Appendix 3). ACT Heritage Council indicates that policies should be included for:

1. conservation of significant fabric, uses and associations;
2. conservation of the setting;
3. feasible and compatible uses;
4. changes that may be made including new development;
5. meeting relevant statutory requirements;
6. interpretation of the heritage significance of the place;
7. management of the place;
8. unforeseen discoveries;
9. review of the CMP; and
10. keeping records.

An update to the Tree Management Plan for Haig Park forms a core part of the policy and management framework for Haig Park. All individual conservation policies are linked to CMP approval from the ACT Heritage Council and TMP approval from the Conservator of Flora and Fauna and the ACT Heritage Council.

5.2 Overall Conservation Intent Applied to Haig Park

The Haig Park shelterbelt shall be conserved and managed in a way that does not adversely affect its heritage significance.

The guiding policies developed by ACT Heritage Council have been adopted into the overarching conservation policies and objectives as relevant to Haig Park.

The implementation of the conservation policies outlined below have budget implications for Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS). The recommended timing of the consequential actions will be dependent upon planning and securing necessary resources in future budgets. An ideal timing plan in relation to the relative importance of the conservation policy is presented in Tables 5.1–5.6. The effective implementation of the policies will ensure that TCCS is able to conserve the identified values of Haig Park and appropriately manage change for future generations.



5.3 Conservation Policies²

Policies are outlined below for general heritage conservation, conservation of significant fabric, uses and associations, conservation of the setting and feasible and compatible uses, changes that may be made, interpretation of heritage significance, review of the CMP, and record keeping.

Articles of the Burra Charter are quoted in this section. It is important to note that the Burra Charter should be read as a whole as many articles are interdependent.

5.3.1 Conservation policy – Heritage management

Relevant Burra Charter Articles (refer to Appendix 3 for complete description):

- Article 2 Conservation and management
- Article 3 Cautious approach
- Article 4 Knowledge, skills and techniques
- Article 14 Conservation processes
- Article 26 Applying the Burra Charter Process.

Table 5.1 Conservation policy: Heritage management for Haig Park

No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
1.1	Endorse and use CMP This CMP shall be submitted to ACT Heritage Council for approval. Following approval, all relevant individuals, organisations and/or contractors shall be made aware of this CMP.	This CMP should be made available to any individual, organisation and/or contractor who will be involved in any future maintenance or development to ensure adherence to the conservation policies and actions outlined which protect the description of the place and the heritage significance of the place.	Immediate and ongoing
1.2	Use expertise for development of future management All works which will impact on the place shall be undertaken by suitably qualified professionals in accordance with the principles of Australia ICOMOS (2013) Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter).	It is important that experienced practitioners and tradespeople are involved in any future works in the Park and that sound conservation principles are applied to any work. Appropriate expertise, such as from arborists or other suitably qualified personnel, shall be used in developing tree management plans for the Park.	Ongoing

² The use of the word 'shall' indicates that a policy or action is imperative. The use of 'should' indicates that the policy or action is still needed but there is some discretion in the application. The Burra Charter articles (Appendix 2) are also highlighted and extracted where relevant to overarching conservation policies and objectives.



No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
1.3	Manage unforeseen discoveries Should any unforeseen discoveries occur appropriately qualified personnel shall be engaged to develop guidelines and protocols to manage these discoveries.	Unforeseen discoveries in Haig Park are highly unlikely. In the event that any unforeseen discovery of heritage material or human remains occurs, appropriately qualified heritage personnel must be engaged to develop guidelines and protocol. Heritage personnel should be engaged throughout the process until the unforeseen discovery is appropriately managed or mitigated in accordance with ACT Heritage Council advice. Any Aboriginal places or objects discovered will be reported to the ACT Heritage Council within 5 working days in accordance with <i>Heritage Act 2004</i> requirements.	Ongoing

5.3.2 Conservation policy – Conservation of significant fabric, uses and associations

Relevant Burra Charter Articles (refer to Appendix 3 for complete description; see also Australia ICOMOS 2013):

- Article 5 Values;
- Article 10 Contents;
- Article 16 Maintenance;
- Article 17 Preservation;
- Article 24 Retaining associations and meanings; and
- Article 30 Direction, supervision and implementation.

Table 5.2 Conservation policy: Conservation of significant fabric, uses and associations for Haig Park

No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
2.1	Conserve features identified as description of the place Features identified as descriptions of the place shall continue to be conserved.	Features identified as descriptions of the place and important to the heritage significance of Haig Park (Section 3.4) shall be conserved..	Ongoing
2.2	Conserve all significant plantings All significant plantings shall be conserved.	The plantings represent the original alignment, managed form and function of the Haig Park shelterbelt.	Ongoing
2.3	Maintenance shall be compatible with the heritage significance and the description of the place Any change shall be compatible with the heritage significance of the place.	Maintenance shall be compatible with the heritage significance of Haig Park. Should maintenance that impacts significant features be proposed, the impact on the heritage significance and intrinsic features should be considered by appropriately qualified personnel. Such changes shall also be subject to further <i>Heritage Act 2004</i> approvals or ACT Heritage Council advice.	Ongoing



5.3.3 Conservation policy – Conservation of the setting and feasible and compatible uses

Relevant Burra Charter Articles (refer to Appendix 3 for complete description; see also Australia ICOMOS 2013):

- Article 7 Use
- Article 8 Setting
- Article 15 Change
- Article 16 Maintenance
- Article 17 Preservation
- Article 23 Retaining or reintroducing use.

Table 5.3 Conservation policy: Conservation of the setting and feasible and compatible uses for Haig Park

No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
3.1	Maintain the Shelterbelt planting pattern The design of Haig Park as a shelterbelt shall be maintained	The design of Haig Park as a shelterbelt is of heritage significance. To preserve the existing planting pattern, shelterbelt trees may need to be removed and replanted in large blocks. Refer to the TMP for more detailed information.	As required
3.2	Maintain the heritage significance of the linear tree rows The linear tree rows of Haig Park shall be maintained.	The linear rows of trees within Haig Park are of heritage significance and shall be conserved. Existing rows shall not be removed. Linear rows shall be maintained by the continuation of replacement planting along the established rows in accordance with the TMP.	Ongoing
3.3	Maintain the species character of each row The species character of each row shall be maintained.	The species character (form, colour and habit) of each row is of heritage significance and shall be maintained. Alternative tree species can be considered following tables 4.1 and 4.2 of this CMP. Several species of trees were present within the original shelterbelt that are no longer present within the Park. These species can be re-considered for inclusion in the Park, where they do not affect the health of significant plantings or the form and character of the shelterbelt.	As required



No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
3.4	Tree spacing within rows can be altered Spacing can be altered according to the requirements of tree species as long as the heritage significance of the shelterbelt is not diminished	The spacing of individual trees within linear rows is of heritage significance and should be conserved. Spacing should continue to reflect the shelterbelt planting pattern while also allowing for the continued health of the trees within it. Changes to spacing may be permissible where it does not compromise the form and character of the shelterbelt. Specialist aboricultural and heritage advice should be sought on appropriate spacing for individual tree species. Any proposed changes to tree spacing shall be subject to ACT Heritage Council approval and this may be addressed in the updated TMP.	As required
3.5	Maintain the setting of Haig Park Continue to demonstrate the planning history of Canberra	The setting of Haig Park between the suburbs of Braddon, Turner and the Civic Centre and carefully cited along street alignments shall be maintained and alterations to the boundary are not permissible.	Ongoing

5.3.4 Conservation policy – Changes that may be made

Relevant Burra Charter Articles (refer to Appendix 3 for complete description see also Australia ICOMOS 2013):

- Article 15 Change
- Article 21 Adaptation
- Article 22 New work
- Article 23 Retaining or reintroducing use
- Article 27 Managing change.

Table 5.4 Conservation policy: Heritage management for Haig Park

No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
4.1	New features and furniture New features and furniture can be added providing that they do not damage significant plantings or diminish the heritage significance of the Park. This includes art works and recreational furniture.	Where there is existing infrastructure new features and furniture can be installed provided that it is of a similar nature, in terms of type and scale (see Figure 2.28). If the installation of new features and furniture is proposed away from existing infrastructure an assessment of the impact on significant trees should be undertaken by a qualified arboriculturalist. If the installation would damage tree health, works would be subject to approvals under the <i>Heritage Act 2004</i> and <i>Tree Protection Act 2005</i> .	As required, ongoing



No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
4.2	Removal of existing buildings Removal of existing buildings can occur providing that the removal does not diminish the heritage significance of the Park.	No existing buildings in the Park have been attributed with individual heritage significance and can therefore be removed without reducing the heritage significance of Haig Park.	As required, ongoing
4.3	Services and existing facilities infrastructure Changes to services and facilities infrastructure should not impact the significant fabric of Haig Park.	The addition and maintenance of existing services can occur. Where reasonably practicable existing routes should be followed to ensure disturbance to tree roots is minimised. Should new routes be required these should be considered in accordance with policy 4.4 (below). Changes to existing facilities infrastructure should also be considered in accordance with policy 4.4 to ensure that heritage significance is not diminished.	As required, ongoing
4.4	Removal of intrusive or neutral features from the park	Items not identified as descriptions of the place may be removed or altered	As required, ongoing
4.5	Heritage assessment and protocols Prepare heritage assessments to consider the potential impacts of any new developments or changes to existing services and facilities infrastructure. Potential impacts could relate to compaction and damage to tree roots.	A heritage assessment of any new developments, such as new services, or changes to existing services and facilities infrastructure should be prepare to inform approval applications. Approval for such works shall be gained under the <i>Heritage Act 2004</i> , where those works may diminish the heritage significance of the place. Heritage assessments must consider the likely effect of the proposal on the heritage significance of Haig Park such as (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> potential impacts to tree health, including root structure and compaction of the ground; and potential impacts to the form and character of the shelterbelt and its landscape setting. Heritage assessments are to be prepared by suitability qualified and experienced specialists, including arborists and/or heritage consultants.	Immediate
4.5	Plantation of low-scale plant species not currently represented in the park There is scope to add low-scale plant species not currently in the Park provided these do not affect its heritage significance.	Additional plant species with a mature height not exceeding 1 metre may be incorporated provided it does not affect the park's historic shelterbelt character and which would not damage the health of significant trees.	As required
4.6	Changes to individual trees Individual trees are to be replaced or branches pruned if they are a threat to public safety.	Dangerous branches should be pruned by qualified and authorized personnel. Replacement trees shall be planted to conserve the linear alignment of each row and shelterbelt planting pattern. New plantings shall be undertaken in accordance with the updated TMP.	Ongoing



No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
4.7	Management of significant plantings The ongoing management of significant plantings is required to conserve the heritage place	Significant plantings shall be managed to ensure their health and the conservation of the shelterbelt. The maintenance of tree within the park shall be in accordance with the updated TMP. The effects of future climate change on the Park and the tree species within it are documented in Sections 4.5.3 of this CMP. Management of the existing trees should be considered with the advice provided in this CMP or based on other expert advice.	Ongoing
4.8	Update the Tree Management Plan	The Tree Management Plan shall be updated to reflect the advice in this CMP and to update the management of the trees according to current best practice. The revised Tree Management plan shall be submitted to and endorsed by the ACT Heritage Council, and approved by the Conservator of Flora and Fauna, prior to its implementation. The implementation of the Tree Management Plan should be documented.	Within 6 months of CMP approval and ongoing

5.3.5 Conservation Policy – Interpretation of heritage significance

Relevant Burra Charter Articles (refer to Appendix 3 for complete description; see also Australia ICOMOS 2013):

- Article 11 Related places and objects
- Article 12 Participation.

Table 5.5 Conservation policy: Interpretation of heritage significance for Haig Park

No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
5.1	Interpretation Interpretation should be included throughout the Park outlining the history and the heritage significance of the Park	An interpretation strategy should be completed in consultation with ACT Heritage Council. The interpretation strategy can include physical signage within the park or the inclusion of more modern interpretation techniques such as online applications ('apps').	0–2 years
5.2	Tours Activities such as tours of the Park should be conducted to raise public awareness of the history and the heritage significance of the Park.	A program should be developed which facilitates community awareness and promotes active interest regarding the heritage significance of Haig Park. Tours could be conducted in accordance with major ACT events, including Canberra and Region Heritage Festival and Canberra Day. Liaison with ACT Heritage Council to create the tour program should occur.	0–2 years



5.3.6 Conservation Policy – Review of the CMP and record keeping

Relevant Burra Charter Articles (refer to Appendix 3 for complete description; see also Australia ICOMOS 2013):

- Article 30 Direction, supervision and implementation
- Article 31 Keeping a log
- Article 32 Records.

Table 5.6 Conservation policy: Review of the CMP and record keeping for Haig Park

No.	Policies	Implementation	Timing
6.1	Review CMP The CMP shall be reviewed at regular intervals to ensure its applicability and relevance.	This CMP should be reviewed at regular 5-year intervals to ensure that the heritage significance and policies are up-to-date and relevant. The review process will allow the integration of any new information that becomes available. Following each review, the updated CMP shall be formally submitted for approval under Section 61J of the <i>Heritage Act 2004</i> .	5 years
6.2	Record keeping Any changes made that may impact the heritage significance of the place shall be recorded.	Keep records of all works including tree replacements and maintenance for any significant features in the Park. Any major works in the Park must be appropriately documented and these records made available to any relevant personnel involved in managing the Park and to Approval Authorities.	Ongoing



6 MANAGEMENT

6.1 General

What follows are suggested management actions through which the conservation policy can be implemented. This includes the objectives of management, decision-making responsibilities and ownership, the updating of the Heritage Register entry and this CMP, procedures for work, and the means by which regular maintenance is provided to maintain the cultural heritage values of the place.

The following strategies are recommended to ensure the maintenance of the cultural heritage significance of the place is properly cared for, adequate provision is made for care and maintenance and some interpretation for the understanding of the place is achieved.

6.1.1 Objectives

The objectives of management of Haig Park are primarily:

- to conserve the heritage significance of Haig Park;
- to maintain health of significant plantings within Haig Park;
- to facilitate the ongoing compatible use of Haig Park as a recreational space; and
- the interpretation and public dissemination of information regarding Haig Park and its heritage significance.

These actions are achieved through clarifying the ownership and management responsibilities, ensuring this CMP is kept up-to-date, ensuring the ongoing maintenance and management of Haig Park, and developing an interpretation plan for Haig Park.

6.2 Ownership

Continuation of ACT Government ownership of the park is desirable. Management within Haig Park should continue to be the responsibility of, or at least coordinated through, one government body and this should be Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS). TCCS is to have responsibility for the conservation management of Haig Park, and for ensuring that conservation policies are implemented.

Other departments can manage their assets but are not to action change without coordination through TCCS.

6.3 Updating of CMP

Regular review and updating are part of the conservation process. If more information and detail come to hand, a review is desirable to ensure the CMP suits the current needs of the time. The review will include the management processes in which the effectiveness of the current policies can be assessed. A review every five years is recommended.

6.4 Procedures for Work

Prior to the conduct of any works, check the heritage significance (Section 3) and policy schedule (Section 5) sections of this CMP. If planned works are assessed as having the potential to impact the heritage significance of Haig Park, a formal cultural heritage assessment should be undertaken. This assessment should be undertaken in consultation with ACT Heritage Council and by a qualified heritage practitioner. The assessments should be submitted to the ACT Heritage Council for advice. In the event that works may diminish the heritage significance of the place, a Statement of Heritage Effect (SHE) approval for those works by the ACT Heritage Council would be required under Section 61H of the



Heritage Act 2004. Under the Tree Protection Act, works that impact tree health require Conservator approval via an approved TMP or an approved Tree Damaging Activity application.

6.4.1 Existing items

The following applies to items that have not been assessed as being part of the heritage significance of Haig Park and are therefore not mentioned specifically in the conservation policies above.

6.4.1.1 Recreational items

Recreational items in this instance are items including BBQs, footpaths, benches and lighting.

Generally, all individual recreational items have been assessed to not have individual heritage significance. These items therefore can be removed and/or altered if the altering or removal does not impact the heritage significance of Haig Park.

6.4.1.2 Buildings and structures

None of the buildings and structures within Haig Park have been assessed to not have individual heritage significance. These items therefore can be removed and/or altered providing the altering or removal does not impact the heritage significance of Haig Park.

6.4.1.3 Kerbs, guttering, log barriers and services

All kerbs, guttering, log barriers and services within Haig Park have been assessed to not have individual heritage significance. These items therefore can be removed and/or altered providing the altering or removal does not impact the heritage significance of Haig Park.

6.4.2 Grounds and tree maintenance

Urban Treescapes have advised that they currently only undertake emergency pruning of trees if they pose an immediate threat to the public. No routine maintenance of trees is currently undertaken, and no replanting. The following horticultural tasks are an important part of the process of maintaining the integrity and the conservation management of Haig Park.

- All work to be carried out by appropriately qualified people experienced in working within the context of heritage listed landscapes and tree management.
- An annual inspection should occur to identify:
 - trees of potential threat to the public;
 - new additions such as new trees planted without authorisation, climbing elements on trees, etc.;
 - damage to trees which will require horticulture work; and
 - pruning requirements especially low-level branches near public access ways.
- Inspection after major storms to identify trees of potential threat to the public.
- Maintain a regular maintenance program of all elements within the park similar to current arrangements. Works should be in accordance with a Tree Management Plan approved by the Conservator of Flora and Fauna.
- Maintain an up-to-date record of tree management actions including the removal and replacement of trees.



- The introduction of summer irrigation is likely to be necessary to make up the short fall in summer soil moisture content, but this needs to be carefully managed.
- It is recommended that propagation material for any replacement trees be sourced from trees that are in the drier parts of the species' current distribution or from sites where they are drought stressed by their topographical location, in the hope of selecting more drought tolerant specimens.

The following general maintenance regime is and should continue to be maintained throughout Haig Park. The TMP will identify additional grounds and tree maintenance actions.

Table 6.1 General maintenance – Haig Park

Service	Frequency
Mowing	4 weekly during the season and as required throughout the rest of the year
Weed spraying (gravel areas and bollards)	Twice yearly
Mulching of shrubs beds	As required
Treatment of woody weeds	As required

6.4.3 Unforeseen events

If an unforeseen event occurs, this is the procedure to follow.

- Check this CMP for any clear policy advice. If so, act accordingly.
- If there is no clear advice within the CMP to deal with the issue, consider the heritage significance of the place and/or element and seek advice from a Conservation Practitioner.
- Put proposal to the ACT Heritage Council to meet legislative requirements.
- Amend the CMP as necessary: ACT Heritage Council approval of the amended CMP must be immediately sought and formally approved under Section 61K of the *Heritage Act 2004*.
- The assessments should be submitted to the ACT Heritage Council for advice. In the event that works may diminish the heritage significance of the place, a Statement of Heritage Effect (SHE) approval for those works by the Heritage Council would be required under Section 61H of the *Heritage Act 2004*.

If there appears to be conflicting policies that apply to any proposal, then no action should proceed without professional advice and clarification by the ACT Heritage Council.

6.5 Interpretation

Interpretation of the site should be promoted to reinforce the heritage significance of the site. Some signage was installed in 2011 as part of the Canberra Tracks Network. This has been beneficial and has assisted in promoting the heritage significance of the Park. It is considered that interpretation could be further expanded to further promote and interpret the Park. This process should include:

- development of an interpretation plan that responds to existing policies;



- consultation with the ACT Heritage Council, stakeholders and Aboriginal organisations;
- feedback from visitors; and
- regular review and update of the plan.

In addition to signage, other interpretive actions can include tours, festivals celebrating different aspects of the Park, such as the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival activities, and events or activities that celebrate the Aboriginal connection to Sullivans Creek. Development of a tour or activity programs can be undertaken as part of the interpretation strategy.



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APPENDIX 1

BRIEF



**Statement of Requirements:
Haig Park
Revision and development of
Masterplan
and
Revision and development of
Conservation Management Plan**

November 2016

OCGUR Haig Park Revision of Draft Masterplan and Revision of Conservation Management Plan



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

Haig Park is a key community park – and a registered place on the ACT Heritage Register. It sits within an area of increasing density. It is a well developed urban forest – offering shade, recreation and environmental benefits. Currently, this heritage registered place is under-utilised – the ACT Government wants to develop a master plan (and corresponding conservation management plan) that conserves, respects and promotes the parks heritage significance and its important place in the future of our urban city.

The masterplan will need to prepare guiding principles and strategies to support a long-term vision for the park, and propose short-term actions to support the vision and ensure that Haig Park remains a community park – reflecting the changing needs of surrounding residents and the wider Canberra community.

This brief has been prepared by the Office of the Coordinator General Urban Renewal (OCGUR) for the revision and endorsement of the draft Haig Park Masterplan (May 2012) and revision and endorsement of the Haig Park Conservation Management Plan by the ACT Heritage Council (see Figure 1- Study Area and Figure 2- Study Area Context). OCGUR will engage a suitable consultant team to undertake the project.

There will be increased residential intensification along the Northbourne Avenue Corridor under the ACT Government's *City and Gateway Urban Renewal Strategy* and introduction of light rail. Urban Renewal developments along the corridor, including on public housing sites adjacent to Haig Park, will commence over the next two to four years. Haig Park is a key open space area that will service the increased population living along Northbourne Avenue, as well as the wider community. OCGUR's aim is to enable park users to access an attractive, safe, useable space for recreation, play, physical activity and connectivity, within distinct precincts, which conserves, respects and promotes the heritage significance of Haig Park. The City Activation project which includes Haig Park is located within OCGUR and more information is in Section 2.7.

1.2 Site Description

Haig Park is located in Braddon and Turner, with access from Northbourne Avenue via Masson Street and Girrahween Street. It covers Section 8 Blocks 3, 6 and 7 and Section 14 Block 1 Braddon, and Sections 66 (Blocks 4, 9-13, 18, 19, 22) and Section 65 (Blocks 1-3, 9) Turner. All blocks are zoned PRZ1: Urban Open Space. Existing amenity includes a fitness track, public toilets, barbeques and time controlled parking areas. It spans an area of 19 hectares to the east and west of Northbourne Avenue and features over 7,000 exotic trees designed by Charles Weston, Canberra's first Superintendent, Parks and Gardens. The dominant tree species are Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*) and Roman cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta'). It was developed in the 1920s as an east-west shelter break to protect the suburbs in the vicinity of the City Centre from wind and dust. It also has tennis courts and a bowling club adjacent.

OCGUR Haig Park Revision of Draft Masterplan and Revision of Conservation Management Plan



The Study Area for the Haig Park Masterplan is at [Figure 1](#). The Territory Plan overlay for Haig Park is at [Figure 2](#).

1.3 Site Context

The revision of the Haig Park Masterplan and Conservation Management Plan will need to consider the context of Haig Park in the inner northern suburbs of Canberra. Haig Park is located within the inner North which is where an increasing number of urban renewal sites are located. Construction of the Light Rail Network is also underway, with work progressing on Stage 1 City to Gungahlin corridor which runs down the median of Northbourne Avenue, past Haig Park. The Northbourne Flats sites of Braddon and Tumer are scheduled to be sold in 2018 under the ACT Government's agreement with the Federal Government's Asset Recycling Initiative program. These key urban renewal sites are immediately adjacent to Haig Park.

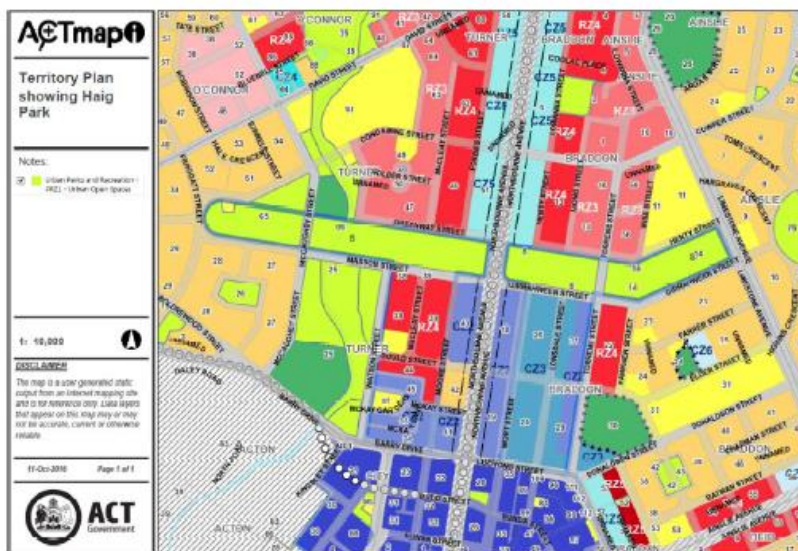
At the Tumer end of Haig Park, the park is surrounded by some higher density residential development as well as lower density residential development, and key recreational areas including tennis courts, bowling greens, athletics facilities and urban open space. At the Braddon end of Haig Park, the park is surrounded by medium and higher density development in Braddon closer to Northbourne Avenue and the commercial area of Braddon. Towards Limestone Avenue it is adjacent to Merici College and lower density development in Braddon.

The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) is in the process of preparing the *City and Gateway Urban Renewal Strategy* which will shape the direction of urban renewal along the Northbourne Avenue corridor, in to the city centre.



OCGUR Haig Park Revision of Draft Masterplan and Revision of Conservation Management Plan

Figure 2: Territory Plan



OCGUR Haig Park Revision of Draft Masterplan and Revision of Conservation Management Plan



2 Background

2.1 Territory Plan

All blocks in Haig Park are zoned PRZ1 Urban Open Space Zone. The PRZ1 requirements under the Territory Plan can be found here <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/nli/2008-27/copy/110367/pdf/2008-27.pdf> . Any Development Applications which arise from the Haig Park Masterplan will be subject to the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design General Code which can be found here <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/nli/2008-27/copy/82873/pdf/2008-27.pdf> .

2.2 National Capital Plan

Haig Park is subject to the National Capital Plan under Part Four (B)- Special Requirements for Territory Land. Development of land within open spaces must conform with Development Control Plans agreed by the National Capital Authority. Section 4.27 Haig and Telopea Parks can be found here <https://www.nationalcapital.gov.au/index.php/national-capital-plan/consolidated-national-capital-plan-2/4365-part-four-b-special-requirements-for-territory-land#part-4.27> .

2.3 Heritage

Haig Park is a registered place on the ACT Heritage Register (20063). The Heritage Registration can be found at http://www.environment.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/148497/387.pdf and is included as Attachment A.

2.4 Tree Protection Act

Trees in Haig Park are protected under the Tree Protection Act 2005 which can be found at:
<http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2005-51/current/pdf/2005-51.pdf>

2.5 Draft Haig Park Masterplan 2012

In May 2012 the then Territory and Municipal Services Directorate, now Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS) released a draft Haig Park Masterplan Report which was undertaken by Envirolinks Design and Eric Martin and Associates (Attachment B). The Masterplan was never finalised. Given the parks' location within an area subject to urban renewal, high levels growth and investment in major transport infrastructure, an opportunity exists to capitalise on current high levels of interest and engagement (political, community, business and residential) to update and refine the draft Masterplan. The city activation project and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) will also be key to this process



2.6 Draft Conservation Management Plan

In 2013, the then Territory and Municipal Services Directorate, now TCCS, commissioned Eric Martin and Associates to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Haig Park. A CMP is required for heritage registered places under the *Heritage Act 2004*. There were a range of issues with the draft CMP and it was never approved by the ACT Heritage Council. The draft CMP is at [Attachment C](#).

2.7 Project Governance

The Haig Park Revision of Draft Masterplan and Revision of Conservation Management Plan will be overseen by a Project Steering Committee. The Haig Park Steering Committee comprises representatives from TCCS, Heritage ACT, the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD), Treasury and OCGUR. Project Management for the project sits within OCGUR.

2.8 City Activation

City Activation aims to strengthen the character, identity, economic performance and appearance of our city centre- from Braddon to the lake. City Activation is for all Canberrans. City Activation will position our city centre as a metropolitan centre for business, art, connection and diversity. Our city is ready for change, we want:

- A 24 hour economy;
- An active, diverse street life;
- A city that inspires pride - a city to celebrate;
- An attractive city;
- A fun and lively city;
- A safe city; and
- Easy connections for pedestrian, cyclists and commuters.

City Activation is an urban renewal project. As well as being about redevelopment, it is about identity, green spaces, biodiversity and the community. To live in and enjoy a city people require well designed and well maintained green spaces for amenity, recreation and enjoyment.

The City Action Plan outlines what the government is currently doing and further initiatives to progress city activation, including:

- Place making opportunities;
- Policy and regulatory improvements;
- Investment in capital works and infrastructure; and
- The development of partnerships with the community, creative and private sectors.

The City Action Plan Discussion Paper can be found here

<https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/application/files/9214/7096/5505/CityActionPlan-160803-FINAL.pdf>



2.9 Previous/Current Studies

The Territory has previously commissioned the following reports which may provide background for this consultancy:

The Territory has projects underway which will be useful background information for the revised Haig Park Masterplan and Conservation Management Plan:

- Haig Park Tree Management Plan June 2011
http://www.tccs.act.gov.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0010/686728/Register-ed-Trees-update-to-Braddon-PTR035-Group.doc
- Plans of Management for Inner Canberra's Urban Parks and Sportsgrounds (TCCS) <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/di/2000-143/20000523-7993/pdf/2000-143.pdf>
- Canberra City Area Action Plan 2010-2016
http://www.economicdevelopment.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/182293/Canberra_City_Area_Action_Plan_2010-2016.pdf

Additional studies (which would be made available to the successful consultant) include:

- Risk Assessment of Haig Park (Australian Federal Police) (underway)
- Draft City and Gateway Urban Renewal Strategy (EPSDD) (underway)
- Active Transport Network Linkages (TCCS) - Garden City Cycle Route (EPSDD)
- Public Realm Guidelines for Braddon
- Haig Park Improvements (underway)

3 SCOPE

3.1 Objectives

The main objective of this brief is to prepare a revised Masterplan for Haig Park, which will be endorsed by the Haig Park Steering Committee, and a Conservation Management Plan for Haig Park to be approved by the ACT Heritage Council. OCGUR's aim is to provide an inviting safe, accessible, useable space for recreation, play, physical activity and connectivity, within distinct precincts, which conserves, respects and promotes the heritage significance of Haig Park.

3.2 Project Phases

3.2.1 Phase 1- Site Analysis and Review

- Review existing background reports and information, including:
 - Planning framework- Territory Plan and National Capital Plan
 - Draft Haig Park Masterplan (2012)
 - Draft Conservation Management Plan (2013)
 - Heritage Registration 20063 Haig Park
 - Flooding and stormwater mapping and background analysis



-
- Undertake background analysis including site visit to understand landscape character, current levels and types of activity, how people use and move through the park, and prepare photographic survey of site and surrounds;
 - Identify agency issues with the Draft Haig Park Masterplan (2012)
 - Undertake analysis in relation to opportunities and challenges and CPTED compliance within planning and heritage constraints. This analysis should include:
 - Commentary on CPTED requirements and issues with compliance throughout Haig Park
 - Consideration of opportunities to enhance the quality and amenity of the park (through inclusions such as furniture, lighting, art and interpretive and wayfinding signage)
 - Identify opportunities for activation and improving or providing new links for pedestrians and cyclists through Haig Park with key nodes in Braddon and Turner.
 - Recommend measures that could be undertaken to build knowledge and promote the heritage significance of Haig Park.
 - OCGUR to endorse.

3.2.2 Phase 2- Utilisation Survey

- Undertake a Utilisation Survey of Haig Park. The Utilisation Survey is to cover day and night.

3.2.3 Phase 3- Community input

OCGUR have prepared an Activating Haig Park Community Engagement Strategy, which includes this project (Attachment D). Whilst OCGUR will be responsible for community engagement, the consultant will be required to attend community engagement sessions, provide collateral (for example plans and drawings) as required, and provide technical advice in relation to the project prior to and for any engagement. OCGUR will prepare Consultation Reports on community engagement for the Draft and Final Masterplans and this will be provided to the Consultant. The Consultant is also required to take notes that are relevant for Masterplan development during any community engagement activities. The Final Masterplan will need to demonstrate how community input has informed the development of the Masterplan.

- Attend community engagement activities as required. This is estimated to be four community reference group meetings of two hours each (8 hours) and two information sessions/presentation of draft masterplan of two hours each (4 hours) for a total of 12 hours.
 - Provide collateral and technical advice as required.
 - Incorporate community input in to Haig Park Masterplan, including commentary on how community input was or was not incorporated in to the Masterplan.
-



3.2.4 Phase 4- Masterplan Revision incorporating Risk Assessment and Community input

- Confirm key design elements of the Masterplan. Elements will include:
 - A long-term vision and short to medium-term actions to support the long-term vision
 - Identification of guiding principles, key strategies and short-term actions to support the long-term vision
 - Activation opportunities
 - Recreation opportunities for a diverse user group
 - Consideration of new water sensitive urban design elements within the park (such as small ponds or wetlands) to enhance recreation and natural amenity and support the staged delivery of the Sullivans Creek catchment management strategy.
 - Enhancing Heritage interpretation and appreciation for Haig Park users;
 - Identification of key pedestrian, bicycle, and public transport connections with emphasis on linkages and attractive, safe and efficient connections through the park.
 - Relationship with adjacent land uses
 - Input from Risk Assessment (Phase 2)
- Staged Implementation Plan comprising Packages of work which contain a Design Manual for precincts which reflect the character of those parts of Haig Park. The Design Manual should include furniture palettes, colours, materials for paving, hard and soft landscape materials, lighting, signage and wayfinding, art and play/recreation elements. The Design Manual is to comply with relevant TCCS Standards and NCA requirements.
- Present findings and consult with the Design Review Panel at the April and/or June meeting. Presentation to the NCA's Design Review Panel will also be required.
- Prepare a draft Masterplan, with a draft Report on Consultation prepared by OCGUR as an Appendix.
- Circulate Draft Masterplan
- Confirm Draft Masterplan with Steering Committee
- Incorporate Agency Comments and finalise Draft Masterplan.
- Draft Masterplan on formal display for public comments.
- Incorporate public input in to Masterplan, including commentary on how the input was or was not incorporated in to the Masterplan. Include the Report on Consultation prepared by OCGUR as an Appendix in the Masterplan.
- Steering Committee to endorse Masterplan
- NCA to endorse Masterplan

3.2.5 Concurrent Phase- Conservation Management Plan

- Review draft Conservation Management Plan (CMP)
 - Identify agency and ACT Heritage Council concerns with the draft CMP
 - Presentation to the ACT Heritage Council on the Masterplan
 - Confirm requirements for CMP with the ACT Heritage Council via ACT Heritage, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
-



- Revise CMP
- Steering Committee to endorse CMP prior to submission to ACT Heritage Council for approval under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

The Guiding Principles for Conservation Management Plans as required by the ACT Heritage Council are at Attachment E.

3.2.6 Phase 6- Endorsement by Steering Committee and Approval by ACT Heritage Council

- Haig Park Steering Committee endorses and NCA approves Haig Park Masterplan for recommendation to Government for adoption
- Design Manual for Detail Design approved by NCA and TCCS.
- ACT Heritage Council approves Conservation Management Plan

3.3 Government Stakeholder and DRP Consultation

- Consult with government stakeholders/Steering Committee during the course of the project. Government stakeholders should be consulted early in the process to get their input and feedback in relation to the Draft Haig Park Masterplan 2012 and draft Conservation Management Plan. In particular, Heritage ACT should be consulted to confirm their requirements for the CMP.
- The Design Review Panel can only be consulted at their meeting in April or June 2017 which aligns with Phase 4 of this Brief.

3.4 Deliverables

1. A Haig Park Steering Committee endorsed and NCA approved Haig Park Masterplan for recommendation to Government for adoption
2. Design Manual for Detail Design approved by NCA and TCCS.
3. An ACT Heritage Council approved Conservation Management Plan

4 CONSULTANCY MANAGEMENT, LIAISON AND SITE ACCESS

The client for this consultancy is OCGUR and OCGUR will manage the project. The consultancy will be let and administered according to ACT Government policies and procedures.

Day to day management of this consultancy is to be undertaken by:

Senior Project Manager – Office of the Coordinator General and Urban Renewal

Joanne Mitchell

Telephone: 02 6205 7259

E-mail: joanne.mitchell@act.gov.au



The Project Manager is the single point of contact for OCGUR. The successful consultant will nominate a single point of contact with which all liaison and correspondence will take place.

It is expected that the consultant will liaise regularly with the Project Manager through face to face meetings and other communications throughout the duration of the project.

All liaison with agencies or other persons for the duration of the project will be through the OCGUR Project Manager.

Access to the site must be arranged through the Project Manager.

5 PROJECT BUDGET

The total budget for this consultancy is \$150,000 (GST inclusive), including all disbursements such as travel and accommodation.

6 DATA COLLECTION & CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Prior to commencing work, the consultant is required to consult with the Project Manager and other relevant officers for an Inception Meeting to discuss the project and review available background information.

OCGUR will co-ordinate any consultation required with ACT Government stakeholders for the consultant. Key agency stakeholders include:

- Environment and Planning Directorate
- Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate
- AFP
- Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.
- Procurement and Capital Works, CMTEDD.

Specific consultation will be required with the National Capital Authority (NCA) in relation to their requirements.

7 TIMING

Indicative timeframes are in the table below and will be discussed at commencement of the project.

It is expected that the consultancy will commence in December 2016.

Item Number	Timeframe for Completion
Phase 1- Site Analysis and Review	Jan 2017
Phase 2- Utilisation survey	Jan 2017 – Feb 2017
Phase 3- Community input	Feb 2017-March 2017



Phase 4- Masterplan Revision incorporating Risk Assessment and Community input	March 2017-June 2017
Public Display of Draft Masterplan	Mid September 2017
Concurrent Phase- Conservation Management Plan	March 2017-October 2017
Phase 6- All endorsements and approvals	By Nov 2017

8 DOCUMENTATION & DATA MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Allowance should be made for provision of both electronic and colour hardcopies of the draft documents for circulation to the Steering Committee and the final document package. ACT Heritage have their own requirements for submission of the Conservation Management Plan.

9 AVAILABLE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The Project Manager, will be the main point of contact for the consultant. That person will also be available to provide access to relevant information held within OCGUR or other ACT Government Agencies.



APPENDIX 2

HISTORICAL CONTEXT



A2.1 History

A2.1.1 Pre-contact history

Sullivans Creek is an area of continued importance to Traditional Custodians of the Canberra region. A reconstruction of clan boundaries based on Tindale's [1940] map (1974) indicates that Haig Park was close to the tribal boundaries of the Ngunnawal and Walgalu people. Horton's (1999) map shows the location of Haig Park to be at the boundary of the Ngarigo and Ngunnawal tribes. As Haig Park lies within their traditional lands, there is a continuing association with the Traditional Custodians of the Canberra region.

However, tribal boundaries within Australia are based largely on linguistic evidence and it is probable that boundaries, clan estates and band ranges were fluid and varied over time. Consequently 'tribal boundaries' as delineated today must be regarded as approximations only, and relative to the period of, or immediately before, European contact. Social interaction across these language boundaries appears to have been a common occurrence.

References to the traditional Aboriginal inhabitants of the Canberra region are rare and often difficult to interpret (Flood 1980, Huys 1993). The consistent impression however is one of rapid depopulation and a desperate disintegration of a traditional way of life over little more than 50 years from initial white contact (Officer 1989). The apparent disappearance of Aboriginal people from the tablelands was probably accelerated by the impact of European diseases which may have included the smallpox epidemic in 1830, influenza, and a severe measles epidemic by the 1860s (Flood 1980, Butlin 1983).

By the 1850s the traditional Aboriginal economy had largely been replaced by an economy based on European commodities and supply points. Reduced population, isolation from the most productive grasslands, and the destruction of traditional social networks meant that the final decades of the region's Indigenous culture and economy was centred on white settlements and properties (Officer 1989).

By 1856 the local 'Canberra Tribe', presumably members of the Ngunnawal or Ngarigo, were reported to number around 70 (Schumack & Schumack 1967) and by 1872 was recorded as only five or six 'survivors' (*Goulburn Herald* 9 November 1872).

Early accounts of Aboriginal lifestyles within the current study locality describe aspects of a successful hunting and gathering economy and eventful social life and inter-group contacts. The material culture, which is partly reflected in the surviving archaeological record, included stone and wooden artefacts, skin clothing, and bark and bough temporary dwellings (Flood 1980, Huys 1993).

Haig Park is traversed by Sullivans Creek in a north–south direction on the western end of the Park. The majority of predictive models used to ascertain whether there is a high potential of Aboriginal archaeology (and therefore past occupation) in certain locations identify the proximity of water as a key factor. While sites have been found to occur throughout topographic and vegetational zones, there is a tendency for more of the larger sites to be located in proximity to creeks, wetlands and proximate parts of valley floors.

Gillespie (1984:12) provides accounts of Aboriginal people gathering for corroborees at the foot of Black Mountain and along the banks of Sullivans Creek. Gillespie noted that there appears to have been numerous sites around the Black Mountain area. He noted on a site visit he took prior to writing his 1984 book *Aborigines of the Canberra Region* that numerous artefacts were visible eroding out near a barbeque area (Gillespie 1984).

The location of 'Canberry' is the first documented area of early European exploration of the region. It was described by Mort as 'thought to be the spot' where first European exploration of the area was completed and was camped in overnight (Mort in Wardle 1987:14). The name was taken from the from the Aboriginal peoples' name of the area (Mort in Wardle 1987:14). The 'Canberry' area encompasses areas of Sullivans Creek.

The name of Canberra derives from original British station name of Canberry, or Canbery, derived in turn from a Ngunawal word (Koch 2009; see also Allen 1983) This is the only capital city name in Australia with an Aboriginal derivation. As W. Davis Wright was quoted in 1927:



I well recollect when the present Canberra was both called and spelt Canbery [the name of the original pastoral station which included the site of Haig Park]...As to the meaning...it was always my belief that Canberra or Canbery...really meant the great meeting, camping and corroboree ground...I well recollect when the tribe in this district numbered fully 500...who used to attend those corroborees ('Place Name Puzzle: what does Canberra mean?' *The Mail* (Adelaide), 8 January 1927, p. 17).

As noted under Section 1.5 of this CMP (Study Limitations), attempts to consult with Registered Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs) on this CMP were not successful. However, past consultation undertaken by NOHC with the ACT RAOs has provided further information about archaeological sites and the cultural significance of the area around Sullivans Creek (NOHC 2016). The importance of Sullivans Creek has been noted by Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation and Ngarigu Currawong Clan; it is an area of continued importance to the Traditional Custodians of the Canberra region.

Sullivans Creek would have been a major focus of activity for Aboriginal people in the past. The creek and its associated ecological zones would have provided water and a range of food resources for the local inhabitants (ANU n.d.). This is evidenced by the large Aboriginal site located adjacent to the creek within the suburb of Kenny (Biosis (n.d.)). The social significance of the area has been noted by the ACT RAOs. To reach areas of significance in their Country, the Ngunawal formed:

...significant pathways as people moved from place to place through transitional cultural boundaries following river and creek boundaries and ridges and spurs (Thunderstone Aboriginal Cultural & Land Management Services n.d.).

So, it is likely that – apart from its role in hunting and gathering food, and for water – Sullivans Creek (formerly Canbery Creek) was followed by a pathway.

The area of Haig Park has been subject to disturbance following European settlement. This would have initially involved land clearance and probable agricultural activities. The area has been further disturbed through the plantation of trees, and subsequent use up to the present. Murphy (1979:3) notes that gelignite was used to break up shale bedrock during the planting of Haig Park. The use of explosives would have significantly disturbed any Aboriginal objects or cultural deposits potentially remaining in the Park.

A2.1.2 Pre-Canberra

European exploration began in the Canberra area as early as the 1820s. Four expeditions passed through the area led by:

- Joseph Wild on the instruction of Charles Throsby (1820);
- Charles Throsby and Joseph Wild (1821);
- Major John Ovens and Captain Mark Currie (1823); and
- Allan Cunningham (1824) (Gillespie 1984:29; Ricardi et al. 2015).

The first European settlers arrived on the Limestone Plains in the 1820s, and each landholder took up a large area of land and established sheep stations, many of them naming their properties with Aboriginal names, including the first, Canbery. The earliest formal landholders were granted land by the New South Wales Governor. Joshua John (J.J.) Moore, who was given a land grant in 1823, established 'Canbery' as the first officially settled land on the Molonglo, and was the first to run stock on the Limestone Plains (ACT Government n.d.).

Haig Park is located in the former Portions 27 and 58, Parish of Canberra, County of Murray, with the majority of the park located in Portion 27 (Figure A2.1). Portion 27, comprising of 742 acres was acquired by J.J.) Moore in 1831. Portion 58 (4000 acres) was acquired by Robert Campbell.

Haig Park is located on the border of Portion 52 (1000 acres) which was also originally acquired by J.J. Moore in 1826 (Wardle 1987:16). J.J. Moore built the first part of a stone cottage that became known



as 'Canberry' Estate Acton on Portion 52 (Campbell & Corp 2014:7). Haig Park is situated along and close to 'Canberry's original northern boundary, as surveyed by Robert Hoddle in 1832 (Figure A2.2), and so the Haig Park alignment, together with the remnant plantings of elms (preserved by Weston when planting Haig Park) provide a tangible marker of the original pastoral settlement of Canberra – as well as of the later Griffin plan of the National Capital (see Map of Canberry station, 1824–43 in Mawer 1983). J.J. Moore was an absentee landlord who was living near Goulburn (Wardle 1987). In the 1840s, Arthur Jeffreys bought the property (Portion 52) from Moore and he leased the cottage to the Church of England as the rectory for St Johns. The property served as the rectory until 1873 when the minister moved his family closer to the present-day church of St Johns. In the 1880s, Arthur Brassey took over the Acton property and the house was extended and occupied on and off until the Commonwealth resumed it in 1911. The property was demolished during World War II (Wardle 1987:17).

A Torrens title log of Portion 27 has not been found. However, there is no clear evidence that the area of Haig Park was anything other than grazing land during the 19th Century, with the probability that a few fences crossed the area. No features (including trees, fences or structures) are recorded on the Crown Plan (Figure A2.3).

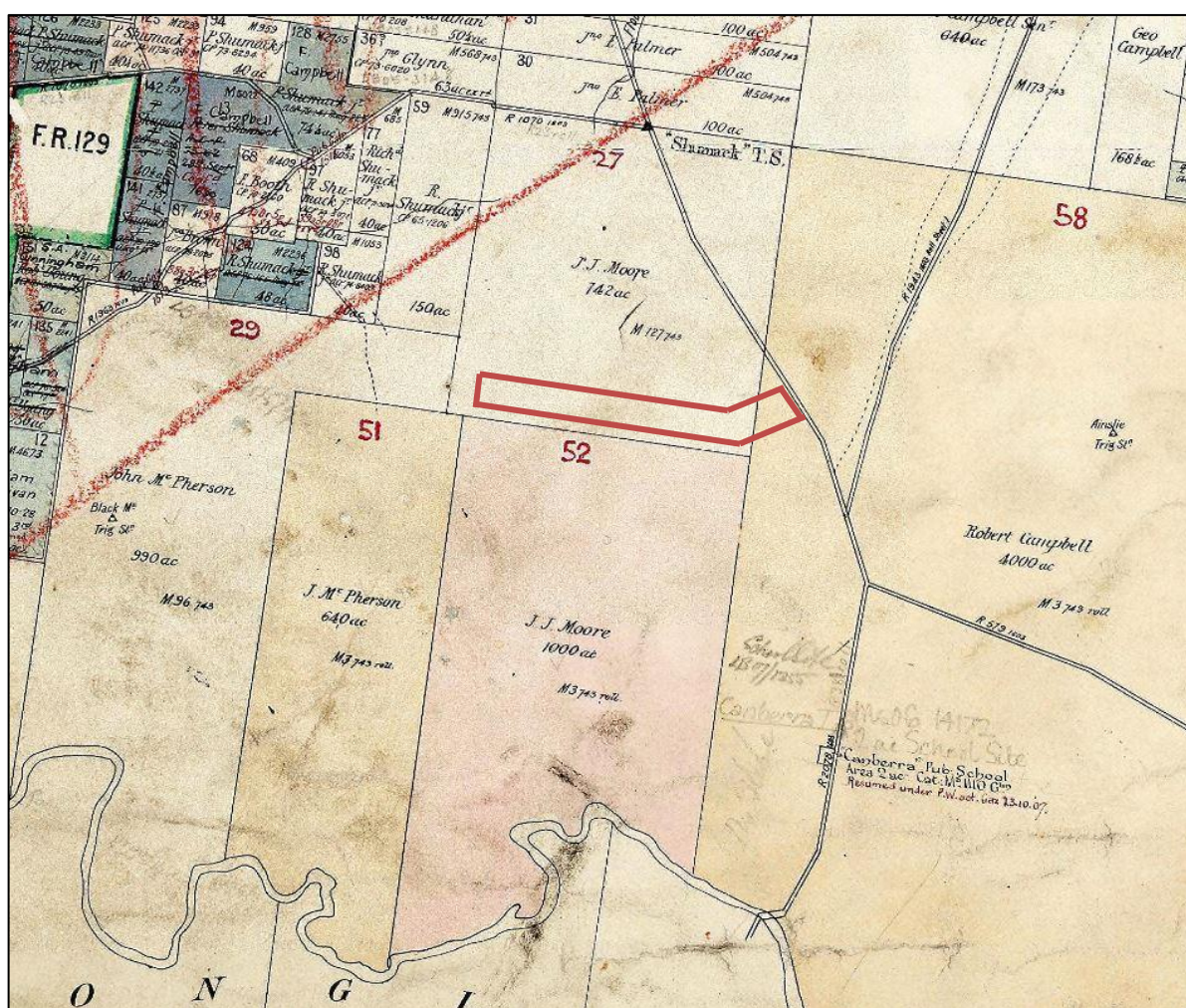


Figure A2.1 Extract of Parish of Canberra map, 1912 showing the location of Haig Park relative to portions 27, 52 and 58

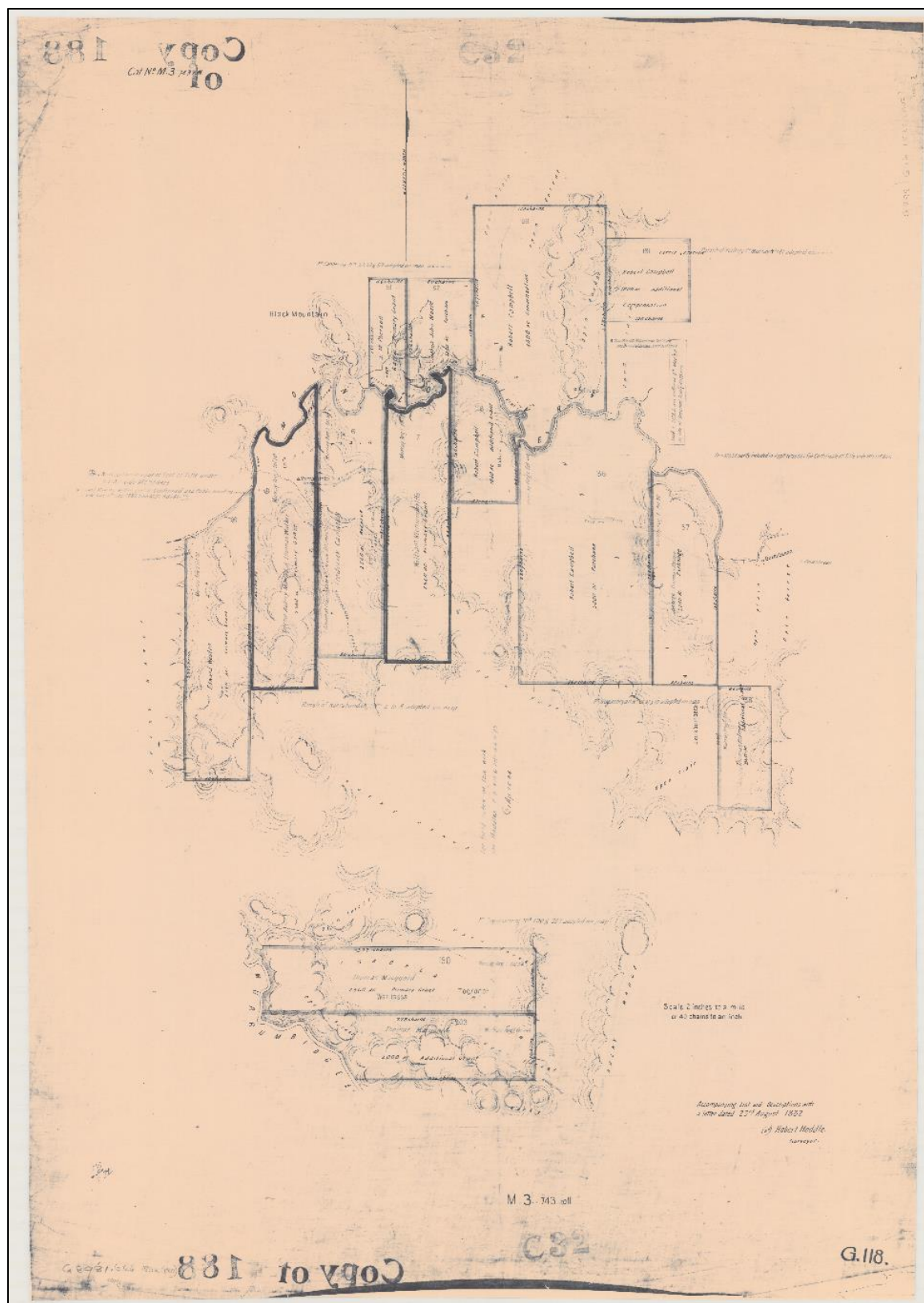


Figure A2.2 Survey of Limestone Plains district

(Source: NLA, MAP G8981.G46 1932 (HOD) (Sales plan) (Copy 1)
[i.e. Canberra A.C.T.] / [Robert Hoddle / [traced] CY...9/2/11)

The map at Figure A2.2 shows Robert Hoddle's survey of the Duntroon-Wanniassa area, showing locations of land grants with boundaries, and original landholders' names. For example, note J.J. Moore's holding, later marked as the site of Canberra with 'Haig Park' situated close to the delineated northern boundary of Moore's original holding.

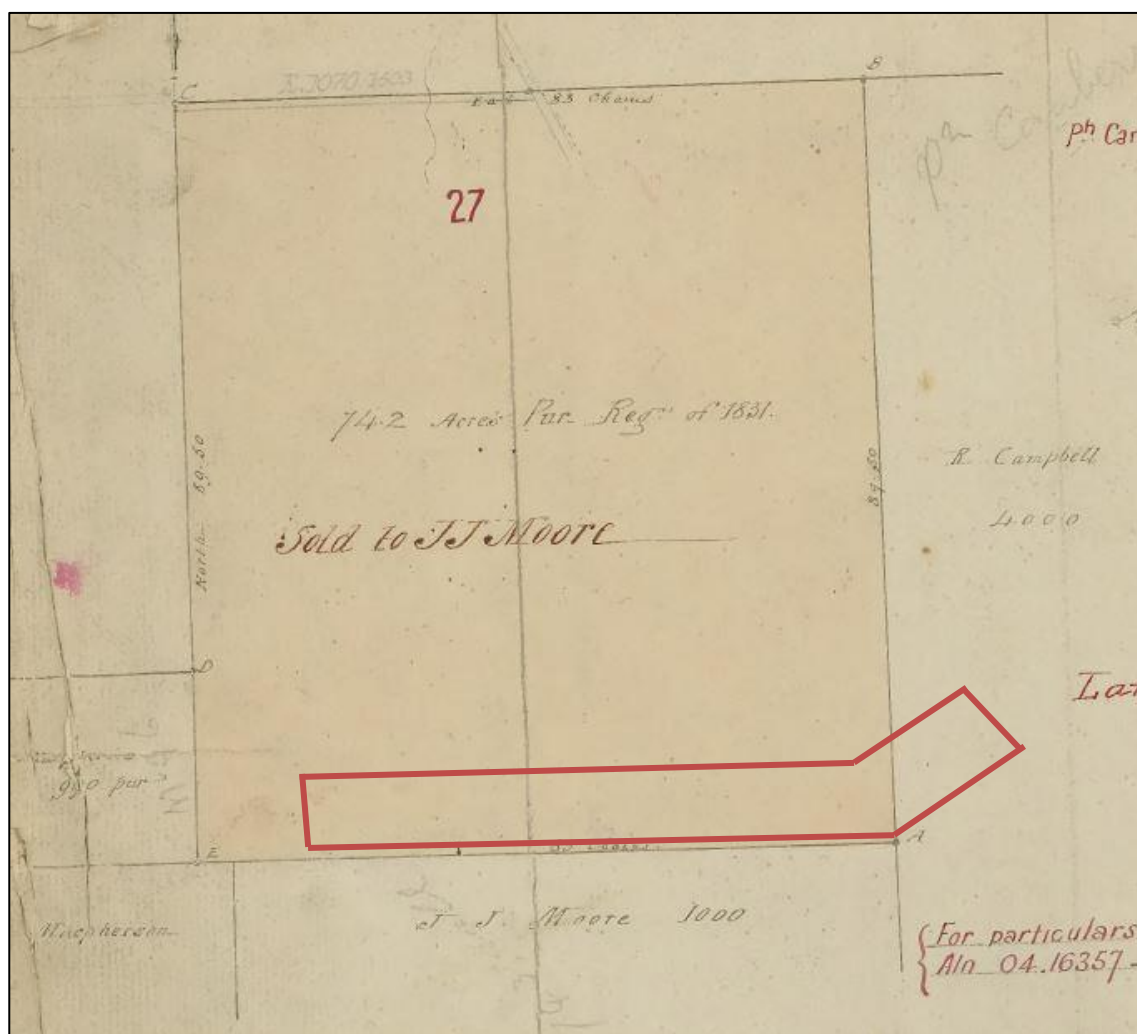


Figure A2.3 Extract of Crown plan of Portion 27 1831

Note: The plan shows the outline of Haig Park as it relates to Portion 27; no features are included in the plan such as structures

The Territory Feature Map (1913) indicates that there were no structures or trees located in the area which was to become Haig Park. Fences in Haig Park, however, are clearly marked. The only other features noted in the vicinity of Haig Park are a shearing shed located approximately 400m to the north, and [stock] yards that were located approximately 600m to the south of the Park (Figure A2.4). A defined track runs through the Park in a northeast to southwest direction and would have met Yass Road, which was located immediately to the east of Haig Park.

Early accounts of the Limestone Plains indicate that the area was naturally without trees. The area also experienced nine decades of pastoral use before the establishment of the 'East West Shelterbelt' (Haig Park was the first shelterbelt established in Canberra – refer Section A2.2.1). Clearance of native vegetation is likely to have taken place during this pastoral era.

The Territory Feature Map indicates that the far western end of the Haig Park area was 'lightly timbered with gum box and apple'. Red gum was also recorded just outside the area on the eastern side. There is no indication of what (if any) vegetation was present across the majority of the area that is now Haig Park. Photographic evidence from 1923 (Figure A2.5) shows a sparsely vegetated landscape with several patches of established tree cover. This vegetation includes a small patch of elms which appear to be relatively mature and are located in the early plantation area of Haig Park.

Typically, early European settlement in Australia was associated with exotic tree planting (Pryor 1962:11). The principal exotic species used in early 20th century Canberra included elm (Pryor 1962). The species is often used as a shade tree and is known to have been planted from early



European settlement (Pryor 1962:59). The tree survives well in dry conditions and is therefore well adjusted to the Canberra climate. The use of elms in the Canberra region is documented prior to Federation. Elm trees were planted near the graveyard of St John's and the rectory, Glebe House (Gibbney 1988:1).

The elms at Haig Park appear to be relatively mature trees in the 1923 photo. There is no known documentary evidence (despite numerous attempts to research this) for a structure or other feature in this location. Given the association with the shearing shed to the north and the yards to the south, as noted on the Territory Feature Map (1913) (Figure A2.4), the most likely explanation is that these trees were planted for shade, possibly in association with a shepherd's hut or similar ephemeral farming infrastructure.

The construction of huts is also recorded on properties to the southwest of the Haig Park area. James Ainslie built huts on the 'Pialligo site' for himself and his shepherds as an expedient and immediate place of shelter (Campbell & Corp 2014:8). Prior to the construction of fences, shepherds would take sheep from the fold and follow them through the day before returning them to the fold (Pickard 2008:55). The shepherds would then reside in huts in the evening (Campbell & Corp 2014).

From early maps and aerial photography, it is clear that the elms are not associated with any large permanent structures. A small lighter area is visible on the low-resolution photo immediately to the north of the elms (Figure A2.6). The exact nature of this anomaly cannot be determined, it may be related to an ephemeral structure, as discussed above, or an area of exposed or eroded ground. Use as shade trees and/or association with an ephemeral structure is the most likely reason behind the planting of these elms. It is unlikely that further documentary research will clarify the purpose behind the planting of these elms or definitively answer whether they were associated with any kind of structure.

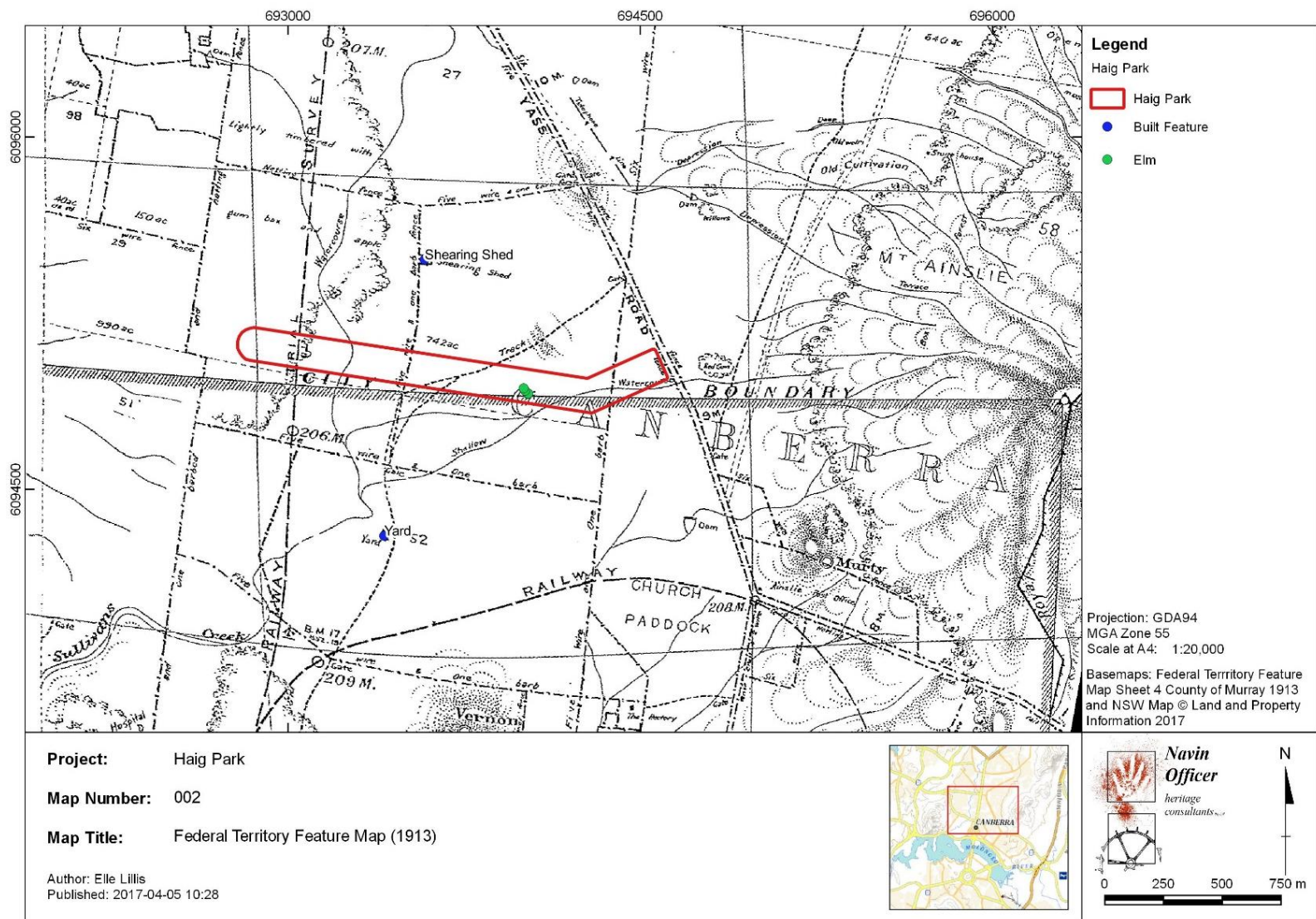


Figure A2.4 Haig Park outline on the 1913 Territory Feature map with key features identified



Figure A2.5 1923 Photo from Mount Ainslie showing newly planted Haig Park.

Note: The large elms are visible in the centre of the park



Figure A2.6 Cropped and zoomed in 1923 Photo from Mount Ainslie showing newly planted Haig Park

Note: Lighter anomaly visible near the elms (red circle), exact nature unknown



A2.1.3 Establishment and planning of Canberra

A2.1.3.1 The Griffin Plan

The ACT was established from land ceded by New South Wales in 1911. In 1913 the Commonwealth Government named the City of Canberra. Initial development of the ACT was slow and the Commonwealth, with only gradual changes, continued management of the existing New South Wales infrastructure. The last 'freehold' properties were not resumed until the 1980s. Toponyms already in use in 1911, mainly relating to natural features, were retained. Although some localities, overtaken by urban development, have disappeared, their names have usually been retained in some form.

In 1911 an international competition was held for the design of the new city. The basic structure for the city and the central area of Canberra was established with the announcement of Walter Burley Griffin's and Marion Mahony Griffin's award-winning entry in 1912 for the design of the National Capital (Gillespie 1991). Griffin's approach to urban planning was heavily influenced by the Garden City planning movement which saw the landscape as the defining element for design. Taylor explains this influence on Griffin as follows (Taylor in Reid 2002):

Griffin laid down a vision and strong physical plan of Canberra. The basis of these remains, overwhelmingly, the significance of landscape as a setting of the city and the way landscape design and treatment permeate the city.

Griffin's design for the city and the central area was distinctive for the way the structure and geometry of the plan sensitively related to the natural landform. However, this landform and location created an inhospitable environment for the new settlement which was swept by hot dusty winds in summer and cold winds in winter, creating challenges for both residents and city planners.

The creation of a shelterbelt at Haig Park was not included in Griffin's original design for the national capital (Figure A2.7) or in his subsequent revisions (Reid 2002). While Haig Park was not delineated in Griffin's Plan, Charles Weston placed it along the Plan's street alignments. By the time the Griffin Plan was gazetted in 1925, the FCAC had altered the Plan to include Haig Park, as marked on contemporary plans superimposed on the gazetted Griffin Plan (as shown in Figure A2.8 below).

A2.1.3.2 Braddon and Turner

Haig Park is situated within Braddon and Turner, which are two of the earliest suburbs planned in Canberra. The suburb of 'Civic' in the 1920s is now Braddon, so that some of the references made then to Haig Park providing shelter for 'Civic' are to the adjoining area and not 'Civic Centre' or Acton (Freeman n.d.).

Braddon and Turner form part of the Inner North of North Canberra, in a valley bounded by Black Mountain Reserve to the south, O'Connor Ridge to the west, and Mount Ainslie and Mount Majura further to the east. Braddon was first established in 1922 and was gazetted as a Division Name on 20 September 1928. It is named after Sir Edward Braddon who was a legislator, federalist and one of the founders of the Constitution. Some of the streets in Braddon are in Walter Burley Griffin's original plan and have the characteristic wide verges that give effect to his vision for the city with a healthy urban environment set in a garden setting (ACTPLA 2003). These wide verges exist along the length of Haig Park.

The suburb of Turner was established in the 1930s with a small settlement in the southwest built to house CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation) personnel, while the remainder of the neighbourhood was more generally settled in the 1940s. Turner is named after Sir George Turner, a legislator and federalist. The basic structure of Turner reflects Walter Burley Griffin's original vision for the city. With its mature, exotic tree canopy and wide grass verges, it gives effect to the intention to create a healthy environment in a garden setting.



Figure A2.7 Walter Burley Griffin's Plan for Canberra showing relation to contours and concentric circle layout typical of garden city planning (1911)

Title: Competitor number 29 [Walter Burley Griffin] Map of contour survey of the site for the Federal Capital of Australia [Part B] (Source: NAA: A710, 37)

A2.1.4 Haig Park

The following information is taken from *The Historical and Cultural Background of Selected Urban Parks in Canberra* (Gray 1997).

Haig Park commenced its life in 1921 as the 'East West Shelter Break', its prime function being to protect from wind and dust the first suburbs in the vicinity of the Civic Centre about to be developed. The National Capital site at this time was bare and windswept – hot winds, cold winds and dust were a significant problem as there was no established parkland. Haig Park would in time serve as a park as well for the nearby first residents of the new city.

Haig Park was one of three plantings proposed at the time, and was one of the early decisions regarding tree planting recorded by the FCAC. The first reference to the East West Shelterbelt is in February 1921 as a letter with attached plan (Figure A2.8) submitted from John Sulman, the Chair of the FCAC (NAA:A414, 26).



Sulman referenced three key areas of planting required. These were:

- a belt across the Ainslie Plain from the Yass Road to the trees under Black Mountain to protect the Civic Centre Area of the plan [Haig Park];
- the planting of Commonwealth Avenue to protect the Parliamentary Administrative Area;
- the planting in the neighbourhood of the Power House (to screen it) of the Waratah Parkway and of the streets around the block to be occupied by cottages' (NAA:A414, 26).

This decision by the FCAC was significant as Haig Park replaced subdivisions for housing set out in Griffin's Plan, evidence that the Committee had broadened the role of landscaping in the Capital. John Sulman, chair of the FCAC, advocated for the Garden City ideals (Taylor 2006:55). Sulman was also known for altering Griffin's plans, but working within the defined geometry of the plan (Taylor 2006:52).

Additionally, Charles Weston lived and worked in Canberra, while Griffin worked with the Federal Capital Office, then in Melbourne. Weston developed a close understanding of the Canberra climate and soils and, from on-the-ground experimentation, the best trees to plant there. This is clearly demonstrated at Haig Park. The conception and planting of Haig Park was Weston's, not Griffin's, as revealed in a close reading of their correspondence (see NAA:CP209/16, 1).

Most histories of Griffin conclude that he determined only a few of the actual plantings or their locations at Canberra – Weston determined them. It is clear from NAA records that Weston decided on the establishment of the East West Shelterbelt in 1920–21 after Griffin's departure from his Federal Capital role. City planting officially passed from Griffin to Weston and Weston's decisions were taken in consultation, and with the approval of, succeeding FCAC Chairman John Sulman.

Two men who have individually left their mark on Canberra – Walter Burley Griffin and Charles Weston – just couldn't see eye to eye when it came to natural beautification of the city...The original plans drawn up by Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin reveal how sensitive they were to the physical features of the national capital site. They envisaged botanical gardens and an arboretum...Weston, appointed as officer-in-charge of afforestation in Canberra in 1913, carried out extensive trials to identify species that might grow well in the area. His contribution to the greening of the ACT has been widely admired. While the Griffins gave their imaginations full rein, Weston was the realist. The conflict between them arose over whether the Griffins' grand concepts would work in the landscape. Weston's knowledge of the native environment contrasted against the Griffins' less practical views (NAA media release 2015).

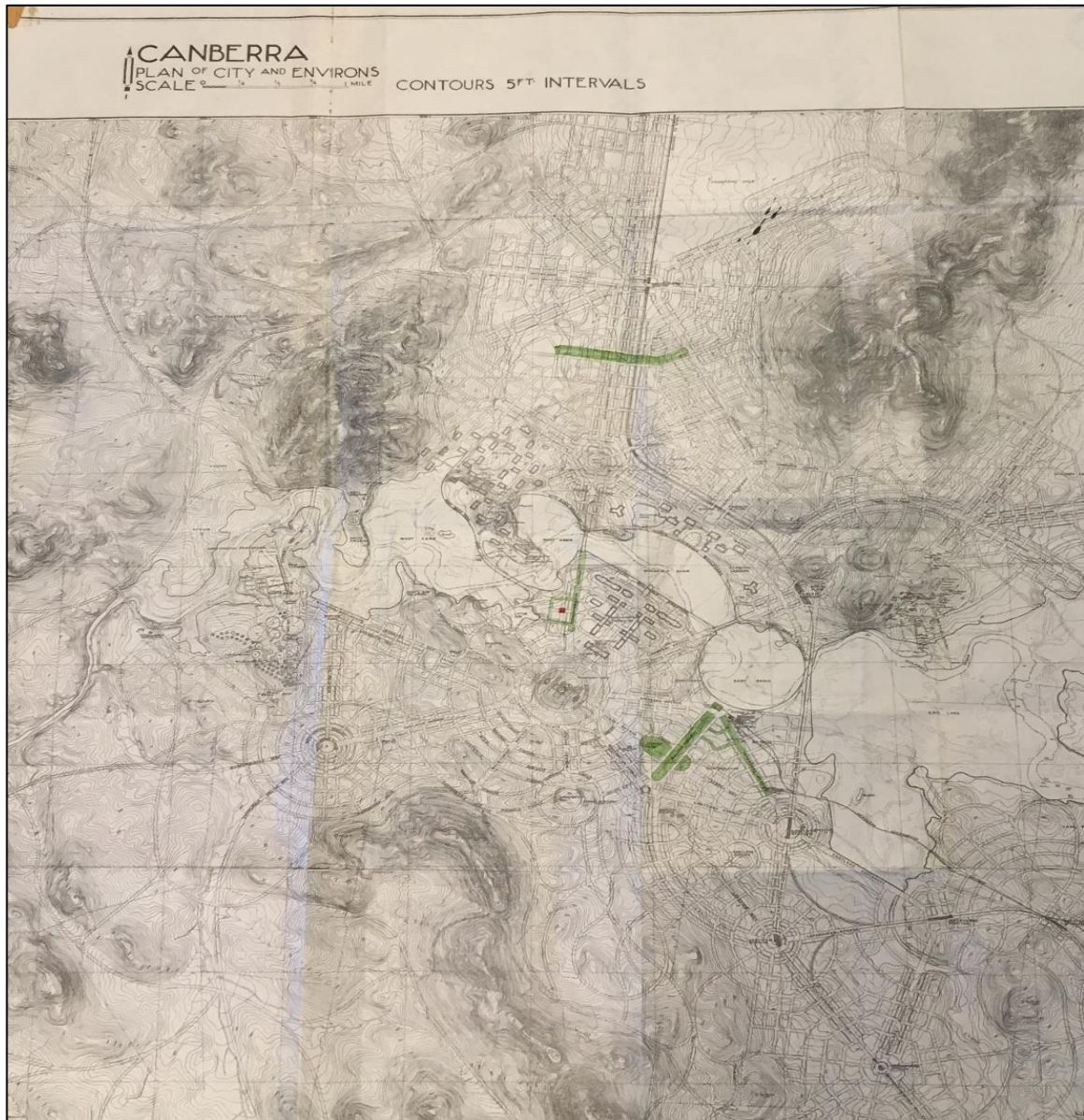


Figure A2.8 Plan attached to the 1921 letter indicating proposed planting locations

Note: Base map used Griffin's 1918 design and construction (Source: NAA A414/1, 26)

A2.1.4.1 Kingston to Civic railway

Griffin's plan included plans for a railway that crossed the Molonglo River and travelled through the city to Yass (Figure A2.7). Work started in December 1920, with the line opening on 15 June 1921. It branched off from the Queanbeyan to Canberra line at the Power House siding near Cunningham Street, heading north on a raised embankment through the Causeway, and across the Molonglo River. The bridges over Jerrabomberra Creek and Molonglo River were of a temporary standard. A siding was provided to the north of the river at Russell for the workers camp that was there. The line curved to the northwest in Reid, behind St Johns Church and the TAFE. A platform for the railway was built in what is now Garema Place. Finally, a line continued to the north to Eloura Street in Braddon where there was a marshalling yard. In July 1922, a flood on the Molonglo River washed away the legs on the trestle bridge, leaving the bridge deck suspended by the rails and sagging into the water. The bridge was never reconstructed, and the rails were removed in 1940. The planning included planting the route north of the city. This avenue can be seen in Figure A2.9 going through the newly planted Haig Park. The trees at Haig Park were planted rapidly in a wide belt both to provide an effective and long-lived shelterbelt and to screen the proposed rail line.



Figure A2.9 1927 View from Mount Ainslie showing Haig Park and avenue of trees planted along the planned railway line running north–south through Haig Park

(Source: NAA:A3560, 3395)

A2.2 Use

A2.2.1 Original intended use and plantings 1921–1923

Haig Park was the first shelterbelt established in Canberra. Between 1921 and 1923, 7653 trees were planted in 12 rows that measured approximately 120m across in total (NAA:CP209/1, B13 Part 1). The plan attached with the correspondence to plant the East West Shelterbelt indicates that planting in the Telopea/Warratah Parkway area had been previously marked and named on Griffin's plans. However, the East West Shelterbelt was clearly not planned by Griffin and it is shown by green ink overlaying the blocks and streets that had been planned by Griffin (refer to Section A2.1.4).

Exposure to both the north and west winds of the Capital site had been previously noted by the settlers of the Capital (NAA:CP209/1, B13 Part 1). Gray (1999:148) has suggested that the east–west layout, rather than a north–east/south–west orientation was a reflection of the commitment to the Griffin plan. The establishment of the East West Shelterbelt thus enabled the Griffin plan to be respected, with the street blocks echoed in the layout of the shelterbelt, whilst also providing the much needed shelter for the burgeoning city centre. From what can be deduced in the early archival records relating to the plantings, it would appear that during the plantation stage some portions of the shelterbelt were fenced following plantation to avoid potential stock damage (NAA:A11952/1, 10B).

In order to prepare the ground for planting, gellignite was used due to the presence of shale (Murphy 1995:18). Gellignite was first used on a trial basis in 1914 by Weston (Gray 1999:75). Figure A2.5 above clearly shows that the ground had been prepared/alterd for planting.

The archival records also indicate that the majority of the planting took place in a series of phases between 1921 and 1923. Correspondence from Weston to the nurse foreman, Mr Hobday, dated 5 August 1921 notes 'planting in the E. W. shelter belt Civic Centre will be concluded in a couple of days...' (NAA: A11952/1, 10B). It is assumed that this refers to an early specific phase of planting as planting continued relatively regularly in the area until 1923. As of November 1922, 1384 trees and



shrubs had been planted in the shelterbelt. This number rose to 7653 by September 1923 (NAA:CP209/1, B13 Part 1).

Correspondence dated 24 October 1921 lists the plants which have been planted at the East West Shelterbelt but provides no indication of the number of each type planted (Table A2.1). Correspondence to the Commonwealth Surveyor General from the Officer-in-Charge Afforestation (Weston) provides a summary of city plantings including Haig Park from the 1922 season (Table A2.2) (NAA:A11952, 11B).

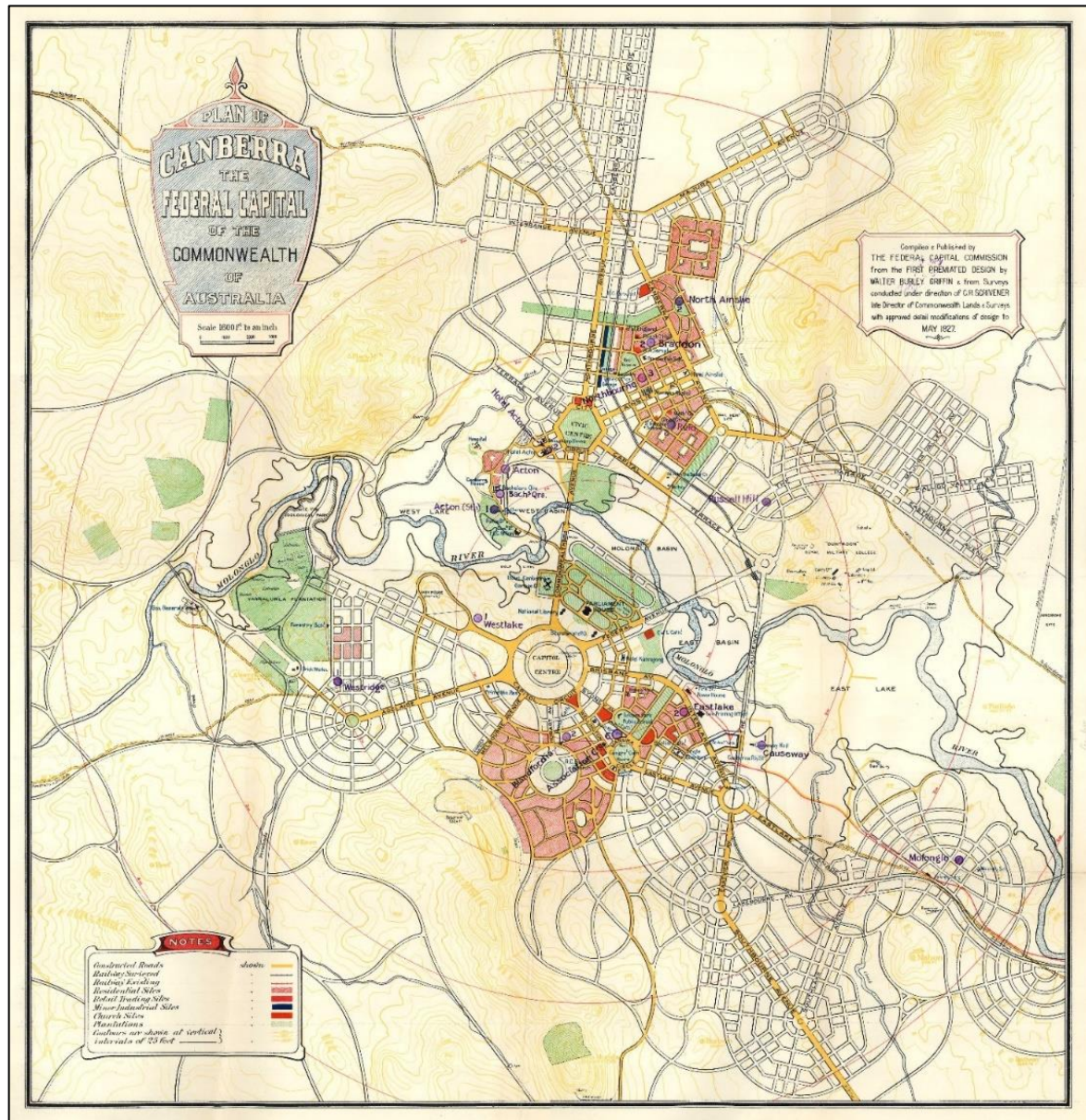


Figure A2.10 1927 Plan of Canberra, showing Haig Park in green

Note: This shows Haig Park and other plantations in green in 1927, superimposed on the Griffin Plan, gazetted in 1925. Haig Park is situated along street lines delineated in the Griffin Plan (Source: NLA MAP G89984.C3G45 1927)

A 'total list of plants planted' at the East West Shelterbelt is provided in correspondence dated 11 September 1923 (Table A2.4) (NAA:CP209/1, B13 Part 1). This list of plants appears to be largely inclusive of those initially planted in 1921, although some species are missing (Table A2.1).

Tables A2.1–A2.4 list the species and numbers of plantings recorded between 1921 and 1923.

Table A2.1 Plantings in the East West Shelterbelt as of October 1921



(Source: NAA:A11952/1, 10B, 24 October 1921)

Species Name
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>
<i>Amygdalus persica red</i>
<i>Amygdalus persica white</i>
<i>Cupressus fastigiata</i> (synonym for <i>C. sempervirens</i>)
<i>Cupressus horizontalis</i> (also a synonym for <i>C. sempervirens</i>)
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>
<i>Fraxinus sambucifolia</i> (synonym for <i>F. nigra</i>)
<i>Pinus insignis</i> (now <i>radiata</i>)
<i>Populus pyramidalis</i>
<i>Pyrocantha</i> (sic: <i>Pyracantha</i>) <i>crenulata</i>
<i>Pyrocantha</i> (sic) <i>augustifolia</i>
<i>Pyrocantha</i> (sic) <i>coccinea</i>
<i>Photinia serrulata</i> (possibly a synonym for <i>P. serratifolia</i> or <i>P. bodinieri</i>)
<i>Quercus palustris</i>
<i>Salix</i> sp.
<i>Ulmus americana</i>

Table A2.2 Plantings in the East West Shelterbelt as of 2 August 1922

(Source: NAA A11952/1 10B, 2 August 1922)

Species Name	Species Name
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	<i>Populus pyramidalis</i>
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	<i>Pyracantha crenulata</i>
<i>Amygdalus persica rosea</i>	<i>Pyrocantha coccinea</i>
<i>Amygdalus persica alba</i>	<i>Pyrocantha augustifolia</i>
<i>Cupressus fastigiata</i> (<i>sempervirens</i>)	<i>Photinia serrulata</i>
<i>Cupressus horizontalis</i>	<i>Quercus palustris</i>
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	<i>Salix</i> sp.
<i>Fraxinus sambucifolia</i>	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
<i>Pinus insignis</i> (now <i>radiata</i>)	

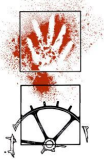


Table A2.3 Summary of plants planted at Haig Park during the 1922 season

(Source: NAA A11952, 30 October 1922)

Genus and species name	Number planted
<i>Amygdalus persica</i>	60
<i>Amygdalus persica rosea</i>	60
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	236
<i>Cupressus fastigiata (sempervirens)</i>	640
<i>Photinia serrulata</i>	12
<i>Pinus insignis</i> (now <i>radiata</i>)	340
<i>Pyrocantha coccinea</i>	6
<i>Pyrocantha crenulata</i>	30
TOTAL	1384

Table A2.4 The list and numbers of plants planted at the East West Shelterbelt from 1921 to September 1923

(Source: NAA:CP209/1, B13 Part 1)

Genus and species name	Number planted
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	739
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	334
<i>Amygdalus persica red</i>	40
<i>Amygdalus persica white</i>	110
<i>Amygdalus persica rosea</i>	66
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	1045
<i>Cupressus horizontalis</i>	1272
<i>Cupressus fastigiata (sempervirens)</i>	1658
<i>Exochorda grandiflora</i> (synonym for <i>E. racemose</i>)	80
<i>Fraxinus sambucifolia</i>	40
<i>Photinia serrulata</i>	14
<i>Pinus insignis</i>	1940
<i>Populus pyramidalis</i>	37
<i>Pyrocantha coccinea</i>	6
<i>Pyrocantha crenulata</i>	130
<i>Pyrus aucuparia</i> (synonym for <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>)	80
<i>Salix sp.</i>	62
TOTAL	7653

There are discrepancies between the list of species planted in 1921 and 1922 (Tables A2.1 and A2.2) and what appears to be the cumulative list of the plantings between 1921 and 1923 (Table A2.4). Three



species: *Pyrocantha augustifolia*; *Quercus palustris*; *Ulmus americana* appear on the earlier lists in October 1921 and August 1922 of planting in Haig Park but are not quantified in the October 1922 and September 1923 lists which include the numbers of plantings. None of these three species are noted as planted in the East West Shelterbelt in the Yarralumla nursery records; however, 150 *Quercus palustris* are recorded as planted in Civic Centre between 18 and 21 July 1921, which correlates to the timing of planting at Haig Park (Yarralumla Nursery Records: Genus – *Quercus*). The East West Shelterbelt was sometimes encompassed by the planting records for Civic Centre.

Additional plantings that do not appear on the older lists are assumed to be additions from October 1922 to September 1923. This assumption is based on the significant increase in the number of plantings from 1384 to 7653 over this 12-month time period. There are no discrepancies between the two lists which provide numbers for the species planted between October 1922 and September 1923.

No plans for the planting layout of Haig Park have been found. It appears as if the decision to plant the Park as a shelterbelt, and the subsequent layout, may have been planned on a somewhat 'ad hoc' basis. The first reference to the Park is found in a direction from Sulman to create a 'belt' to protect the Civic Centre. Weston references the East West Shelterbelt in correspondence usually to the Commonwealth Surveyor General but this correspondence is related to activities and plantings that have already been undertaken rather than any forward planning regarding the plantation.

Weston has often been attributed with a preference for formal linear planting styles (see Hince 1994, Gray 1999). However, archival evidence suggests that Weston appeared to oppose linear tree planting unless circumstances specifically dictated that this must be completed. He refers to straight line planting as adopted on set street lines and in the case of forest planting (NAA:A414, 19 May 1923).

In the absence of plans, and in some cases the number of species planted, the discrepancies between the initial list of plantings and the later 1922 and 1923 lists may not be able to be resolved. Two of the three species (*Pyrocantha augustifolia* and *Ulmus Americana*) do not appear on any recent planting schedules (Tree Audit by Homewood Consulting Pty Ltd 2011). *Quercus palustris* is one of the primary species in the original rows 1 and 12 alternating with *Fraxinus velutina*.

Interestingly, only two species of trees (*Cedrus deodara*, *Pinus insignis* (now *Pinus radiata*)) were planted in the East West Shelterbelt that were defined by the Afforestation Branch for shelter purposes (Table A2.5). However, these shelter trees comprised approximately 40% of the number of original plantings. The original schedule of plants also demonstrates the importance of Haig Park, not only as a shelterbelt, but also an aesthetic feature adding to the Garden City ideals.

Table A2.5 Shelter trees as identified by the Afforestation Branch in August 1922

(Source: NAA:CP209/1, B12)

Genus and species name of trees that were identified for shelter purposes by the Afforestation Branch	
<i>Pinus insignis</i>	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> (Tas.)	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
<i>Eucalyptus macarthurii</i>	<i>Platanus wrightii</i>
<i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i>	<i>Celtis australis</i>
<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> (viminalis)	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
<i>Eucalyptus rubida</i>	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>
<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i>
<i>Elms</i> (in species)	



A2.2.2 Haig Park 1923–1960s

Recreational use of Haig Park dated from its first years. There are many newspaper references from the 1920s onwards to cricket matches and other sporting events, as well as picnics. For example, reference is made to the North Canberra Cricket Club grounds and facilities at Haig Park in 1929 (*The Canberra Times* 28 October 1929, p.1). The Ainslie Cricket Club's ground at Haig Park is mentioned in 1936 (*The Canberra Times* 19 September 1936, p. 2):

Canberra is a city of beautiful trees as these shots [photographs] demonstrate. Top picture shows the sweep of beautiful Haig Park – 'the Pine Break' as many old residents still call it – which runs through some of the older northern suburbs. It is a popular picnic spot, delightfully shaded and cool in summer.

There is little formally documented about the Park following the completion of the majority of plantings in the East West Shelterbelt in 1923. The only exception to this is the change in the name of the place from the 'East West Shelterbelt' to 'Haig Park'. The change in name was effected in 1928, the Park named after Earl Haig, Commander in Chief of the British Empire Forces who died in 1928 (Taylor 2006:75).

During the Depression era and World War II there was very little active planting work in Canberra (Hince 1994:114). Work during this time primarily consisted of maintenance. The Park management emphasised the historic nature of the Park ensuring that the original design was maintained even though it was necessary to conduct thinning of the trees. It is not clear where this thinning occurred in Haig Park. John Hobday planted the *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* and *Fraxinus raywoodii* between 1935 and 1944 (Hince 1994:48, 284).

During the 1940s and 1950s work undertaken at Haig Park again consisted mainly of maintenance and the removal of some plantings (ACT Archives:LF1075, Hince 1994:284) with significant pruning undertaken in 1946 (Hince 1994:48). Gray believes that the wattles were probably removed in the late 1940s by Lindsay Pryor. Lindsay Pryor was then Director of Parks and Gardens and would later become Professor after joining the ANU (Gray in Boden & Associates 2000).

It is understood that Pryor added the extra row of trees as street plantings on the northern side (*Eucalyptus pauciflora* in Greenway St and *Eucalyptus cinerea* in Henty Street) in the 1950s and it is likely that the extra row on the southern side *Cedrus deodara* (Girrahween Street) and *Fraxinus oxycarpa* (Masson Street) was also added by Pryor (Hince 1994). The majority of the buildings in the park were added circa 1950 (refer Section 2.3.4) and probably included the adjacent car parking area (refer Section 2.3.5).

Haig Park's long tradition of picnics and barbecues in the context of its tall trees and grassy spaces was fostered by the NCDC, for example, reporting in 1960 that 'improved picnic facilities would be provided at 10 places in Canberra', including in two sections of Haig Park (*The Canberra Times* 25 November 1960, p.3).

The surrounding suburbs changed significantly over this period, with residential and commercial development in the suburbs around the Park, and office and residential development along Northbourne Avenue. It was also during this period that the street plantings, suburban gardens and Haig Park started to mature. This development is evident in aerial photographs from the time, which show Haig Park in particular as a well-established green belt (Figure A2.11). Haig Park clearly marked the northern boundary of Canberra until the early 1950s, as indicated in many maps and photographs.

This was also evident in the widespread use of the term 'Pine break' by Canberra residents – for example, in an interview with Axel & Katerina Clark recorded for the National Library. In 1950, when their parents Manning and Dymphna Clark moved with the children from Melbourne to Canberra, they lived for the first year at Froggatt Street, Turner. As Axel and Katerina Clark recalled, their home was located just before the 'Pine break' (Haig Park). At that time they recalled the 'Pine break' as being at 'the end of Canberra', with nothing beyond it. But new housing was going up so quickly that, by the end of that year, they recalled a lot built beyond the 'Pine break' (Clark et al. 2001)

The NCDC aimed to continue the Garden City concept in Canberra, and in 1959 endorsed Garden City standards which would maintain and enhance the landscape character of the residential areas and



prevent development detrimental to their appearance and amenity. The NCDC increased expenditure on tree planting and landscape development, noting that ‘a vastly enhanced programme (of tree planting) is required for the lake-side park lands...and shelter and screen belts on the green belt fringe of the existing northern and southern areas’ (NCDC Annual Report 1958–59:8, quoted in Griffiths et al. 2004 and Taylor 2006).

As David Shoobridge recalled in an interview for the National Trust, Weston established and the NCDC continued the practice of large-scale tree planting to modify the environment, including the weather, by providing shelter from the winds (Higgins 1994:116). By 1952 the tree planting of Canberra’s first 40 years had reduced the wind pressure by nearly 25% as measured at testing stations (Daley 1994).



Figure A2.11 1947 aerial image showing the development north of Haig Park
(Source: NLA Aerial Run 2-47-71)



Figure A2.12 Canberra, Haig Park 1948, view eastward from Northbourne Avenue

(Source: 122/8 -<https://www.flickr.com/photos/33170436@N03/11445072505>)

A2.2.3 Haig Park in the 1970s

In the early 1970s public concern about the management of the Park led the NCDC to restrict vehicular access. Additional car parks, a fitness track and picnic areas were constructed throughout the Park.

Survey plans prepared by the then Department of Interior identified the tree species including location and trunk diameter, buildings, gravel areas and log barriers located within the park. A set of plans were developed in 1971 for lighting, bridges, irrigation and grassing. At one stage, it was proposed to construct a tourist information centre within the park (Gray in Boden & Associates 2000). Some upgrading work was undertaken during 1973/4 (Altenburg 1993:135).

A2.2.4 Haig Park 1980s

In 1984 the NCDC commenced a tree and landscape management program that was due to be completed in 1991. This program was designed by Margules & Partners Pty Ltd and was implemented by ACT Administration, Parks and Conservation Service.



In a letter to N. Everett, (Secretary, NCDC) on 12 December 1983, Ray Margules identified that the health of many of the trees was deteriorating, particularly that of the Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*) and that competition within the planting was affecting the mature form of some trees.

Margules identified three visual impressions in a preliminary sketch plan and report (1983):

- a strong line effect of the pine tree trunks;
- visual diversity; and
- variable tree performance.

The sketch plan and report also identified five management constraints:

- original design;
- species longevity;
- species variation;
- species requirements; and
- current use.

The report found that 30% of the original trees had died since the 1920s. In 1984, the NCDC announced a 10-year landscape management programme in which they estimated that approximately 2000 trees remained. As part of the management program a further 1200 trees were scheduled for removal and replacement, largely due to the decline of the Monterey pines.

The objectives of the programme were to:

- preserve the original design intent;
- ensure the ongoing health and vigour of the dominant long lived species;
- preserve the existing landscape character provided by the formal rows of trees; and
- preserve the role of Haig Park as a marker within the overall landscape as seen from the surrounding hills.

This gave rise to a rolling programme of tree replacement. A preliminary concept proposal for the program was compiled by Margules & Partners in 1987.

This program was based on a strategy of removal and replanting a series of small copses (groups) of trees over a proposed 10-stage program. The first four stages had already been implemented at the time the plan was proposed by Margules & Partners (1987). The fifth stage was deferred to retain a gap in planting to address public concern that the removals were being undertaken too quickly and to enable BBQ/furniture upgrade. The remaining five scheduled stages are yet to be implemented.

This strategy of removal of reasonable size blocks is based primarily on the advantages to the successful growth of new planting through overall reduced shading and nutrient competition from mature trees. Also at that time all replantings were fenced so cost effective sizing needed to be balanced by smaller coup sizing to minimise visual impact.

The dominant strategy to reduce visual impact was the dispersal of the replanted copse in any one year throughout Haig Park so that the activity areas were well separated and also to allow generally three or four years between the stages of any adjoining works. The prior stage plants would then be around 3m tall, so that new plantings were visually apparent before the adjacent removals were undertaken.



A total of 570 Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) were removed and replaced between 1984 and 1993. While using a superior species had been discussed, the replacement trees were 'run of the mill' stock and were not replanted with the same rigorous attention, resulting in heavier losses than should have occurred. Poor specimens of other trees, or trees competing with the Deodar were also removed (Boden & Associates 2000). This was considered a bold and innovative method at the time, involving the replacement of large sections of trees at one time. It was the first time such a replacement strategy was undertaken for a major avenue plantation or park in the ACT.

Growth in the surrounding suburbs and the Civic Centre has required other changes to prevent vehicle invasion and broaden recreational opportunities. The BBQs were installed in the 1980s under the refurbishment program (refer Section 2.3.7).

Importantly, Haig Park was designated as a public park in 1987 affirming the idea that the Park was no longer important as a windbreak but as a green space located in the centre of the Canberra City. The recreational use of the park had become its most important function.

A2.2.5 Tree Audits

Taylor's survey in 2006 identified the main species remaining and some additional replanting to include Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens stricta*), Himalayan Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*), Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*), Arizona Ash (*Fraxinus velutina*) (subsequent surveys and reporting have corrected this species to be Red Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) and Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*).

In 2010 the Urban Forest Renewal team prepared a replacement strategy program for the *Pinus radiata* in recognition of the Haig Park Tree Management Plan prepared for Canberra Urban Parks and Places (Boden & Associates 2000). A total of 50 trees were replaced in 2010 with a *Pinus radiata* which was considered by Dr Ken Eldridge to be a superior genetic stock.

A tree audit was completed for Haig Park in March 2011 by Homewood Consulting Pty Ltd. This audit identified the species and position of each individual tree though no formal report accompanied this data. Since this audit was completed there have been 20 removals and 191 new plantings.

A tree audit was completed for Haig Park in June 2018. This audit identified the species and position of each individual tree though no formal report accompanied this data. Since the 2011 audit there appears to have been 132 new plantings.

A2.2.6 Current Use

The necessity for Haig Park to operate as a shelterbelt has effectively been removed since the 1950s with the expansion of residential areas to the north, together with extensive tree planting along the streets. Its use as a shelterbelt is no longer as significant as it once was and it has now become a park for community use, part of the landscape setting of Canberra and a reminder of its original historical design purpose. A wind study completed in May 2018 by Windtech concluded that:

due to the current surrounding developments, Haig Park no longer has a significant wind break function and tree removal will not noticeably worsen the wind conditions. Furthermore, no significant changes in wind conditions are observed when the results are interpolated for the cases for 5%, 10% and 15% reductions in tree density within the park.

The draft CMP completed by EMA noted that 21% of Canberra residents visited Haig Park (Market Attitude and Research Services 2008).

The most recent usage study of Haig Park is documented in the Haig Park Masterplan and CMP Utilisation Study Report prepared by Tait Network (2017b). This study documented those people using the Park over a two-day period in March 2017. The Park was divided into five zones: Zone 1 to Zone 4 are located in the Park proper, with McCaughey Street, Northbourne Avenue and Torrens Street separating each zone; and Zone 5 is the 'area of influence' adjacent to Zone 1 and 2 (Figure A2.13). The study found Zone 2 recorded the highest movement counts of the four zones, with greater overall numbers of both males and females on both the weekday and the weekend day than the other zones.



Zone 4 recorded the fewest counts, with only 20 females and 41 male park users on the weekday, and 23 females and 25 males on the weekend.

The study found that typical engagement with Haig Park is by an adult male cycling through Zone 2 on a weekday morning, most likely to commute to work at Civic or the ANU. Substantially more people travel through rather than stay in Haig Park for a period of time. Of those who do choose to remain in the Park, this is usually for the purposes of dog walking. On the weekend, it is also reasonably common to see the Park being used for play, which includes exercise such as jogging or strolling individually or in a group.

The busiest area for people moving through the Park on both weekdays and weekends is Zone 2 in Turner, whereas for people staying in the Park it is Zone 3 adjacent to Braddon. The least utilised area of Haig Park for people walking or cycling through is Zone 4 at the Limestone Avenue end of the park. On weekdays the Zone 5 'area of influence' is the least used by people staying in the Park to walk their dog or participate in some other activity, and on weekends Zone 1 at the Turner end is the least occupied.

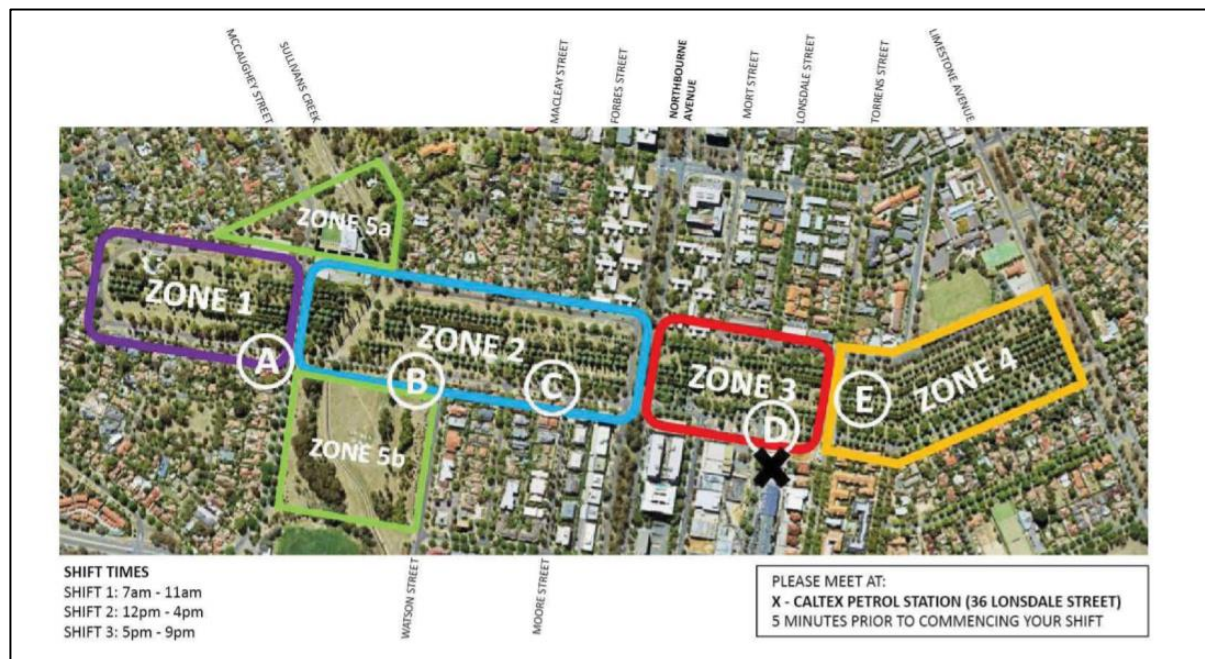


Figure A2.13 Zones used in CMP Utilisation Study
(Source: Tait Network 2017b)



A2.3 Associations

A2.3.1 Thomas Charles George Weston (1866–1935)

The East West Shelterbelt planting was designed by Thomas Charles George Weston (Figure A2.14), Canberra's first Officer-in-Charge of Afforestation (later to become Parks and Gardens), 1913–1926.

Weston's task was to create an urban landscape appropriate to the establishment of the National Capital and to establish a local forestry industry. He identified four objectives:

- to establish a first-class nursery;
- to raise stocks of plants likely to prove suitable;
- to reserve all local hilltops and improve their tree cover; and
- to seek out and procure useful seeds.

The challenge facing Weston was significant as early settlement had destroyed much of the tree cover leading to degradation of the soils and widespread wind and water erosion. Weston's initial priority was to establish a small experimental nursery and seek out local varieties that may suit the conditions.

The knowledge base was very limited, and Weston undertook extensive scientific trials to identify potential species. Weston subsequently established a large propagation nursery to supply stocks for planting in the Territory. In all, between 1913 and 1926, Weston saw the planting of two million trees and shrubs in the city.

The majority of planting within Haig Park occurred between 1921 and 1923 with trees coming from Weston's nursery. Specifically, 150 *Quercus palustris* from the nursery are recorded as planted in Civic Centre between 18 and 21 July 1921 which correlates to the timing of planting at Haig Park (Yarralumla Nursery Records: Genus – Quercus).

Weston refers to the East West Shelterbelt in correspondence usually to the Commonwealth Surveyor General specifically in relation to activities and plantings that have been undertaken. No written plan by Weston (or any others) have been located for Haig Park, it is therefore assumed that a more informal plan was made and carried out by Weston and the Afforestation Branch.

In summarising the critical role played by Weston in establishing the Canberra landscape, Ken Taylor states that:

He understood the site and its problems of climate and soils, understood from experiments at the Acton and Yarralumla nurseries and Westbourne Woods Arboretum which plants – native and exotic – would grow; and visualised how the city structure could develop based firmly on a landscape ethos. His work transcended the purely horticultural to encompass landscape planning through his visions for the city and its surrounds (Taylor 2006:58–59).

Weston's third official appointment in the federal capital in 1925 maintained his role in charge of city planting, and was warmly commended in the *Federal Capital Pioneer* (20 October 1925, p. 2):

A POPULAR APPOINTMENT

Applications were recently called...for the position of Superintendent of Parks and Gardens at Canberra...the position was secured by Mr C. Weston, late Chief of the Afforestation Branch. A more worthy and capable occupant of the position could not be found within the Commonwealth. The work – pioneering work – Mr Weston has done in laying out the various parks, gardens, and



Figure A2.14 Thomas Charles George Weston (1866–1935), unknown photographer, 1921 (NAA:A3560, 233)



plantations on the Federal Territory will stand for all time as a monument to his ability and painstaking labours.

Richard Clough (quoted in Reid 2002), a successor to Weston as a landscape architect employed by the NCDC, contrasted Griffin's theories about landscaping and planting at Canberra with Weston's practical achievements. Griffin's decisions:

...led to open disagreement with Mr Weston, the officer appointed in 1913 to carry out and maintain landscape work in the Territory. It was Mr Weston's essential empirical approach that in the end prevailed (Reid 2002).

To date, no evidence has been found that demonstrates that there is a special association between Weston and Haig Park – only that, as part of Weston's normal role as Officer-in-Charge of Afforestation did Weston have an association with Haig Park.

A2.3.2 Sir John Sulman (1915–1998) and the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (1921–1924)

Sir John Sulman (Figure A2.15), a prominent architect and president of the Town Planning Association of New South Wales (1913–25), was a supporter of Griffin's plan for Canberra but as 'chairman of the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (1921–24), he nonetheless advocated departures from the Griffin plan wherever he saw fit' (Apperly * Reynolds 1990). Sulman and the FCAC were appointed in 1921 after Griffin's employment ceased late in 1920 (NCA 2018). Sulman gave the first instructions regarding Haig Park on 28 February 1921. He instructed that a shelterbelt be planted across the Ainslie Plain from Yass Road to the tree cover under Black Mountain. The aim of this arboreal belt was to protect the future Civic Centre from the harsh north-westerly winds (Daley 1994:70; NAA:A414, 26, 28 February 1921).

Sulman, an architect, was appointed the Chair of the FCAC in 1921 (Daley 1994:40). He had studied at the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Royal Academy before emigrating to Australia in 1886. He had previously worked as a consultant architect for the firm Sulman & Power which designed many notable buildings in Sydney at the time (Daley 1994:41).



Figure A2.15 Portrait of Sir John Sulman (1931) by John Longstaff (Source: Art Gallery of NSW)

Sulman had a strong influence in the development of Canberra and his achievements in assisting with the creation of Garden City ideals and principles have often been understated (Taylor 2006:56). Sulman had a keen interest in town planning, particularly planning schemes which aligned with Garden City principles and ideals. It was Sulman who initially suggested looking beyond the Commonwealth for planning assistance and advice for the federal capital. This advice was a key factor in the decision to have an international competition for the design and plan of Canberra (Daley 1994:41, Taylor 2006). Sulman voluntarily gave his advice as Chair of the FCAC. Sulman's direction to create an arboreal shelterbelt was the key driving factor in the planting and creation of Haig Park.

In 1924 the FCAC was abolished due to the slow pace of development, it was replaced by the more successful FCC in 1925.

As with Weston, to date, no evidence has been found that demonstrates that there is a special association between Sulman and Haig Park, only that his association was formed through the normal actions of his role on the FCAC.



A2.3.3 Field Marshall Earl Douglas Haig KCB KCIE KCVO

Haig Park was named for Earl Douglas Haig (Figure A2.16), Commander in Chief of the British Empire Forces during World War I, after his death in 1928 (Gray 1997). Earl Haig was highly revered during this era and the East West Shelterbelt was without a formal name.

The following brief summary of his career is taken from the National Library of Scotland's Digital Gallery (National Library of Scotland 2014).

Douglas Haig (1861–1928) was born in Edinburgh. He was educated at Clifton School, Bristol, and Oxford University.

He entered the army in 1885, serving as a cavalry officer in the Sudan and distinguishing himself in South Africa during the Boer War (1899–1902). He served under Lord Kitchener in India. From 1905 to 1909 he played an important role in reforming the British Army.

At the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 Haig served as Commander of the First Army Corps of the British Expeditionary Force, and shortly after, in 1915, was promoted to Commander in Chief of the British Expeditionary Force, replacing Sir John French.

The part played by Haig in the events of the War has always been a subject of controversy. The opposing schools of thought seem irreconcilable.

Some see Haig as the 'saviour of the nation' who brought about the defeat of the German army by a war of attrition on the Western Front. Others view him as an incompetent butcher, unable to cope with the changing nature of warfare and leading untold thousands of young men to certain death for the price of a few yards of ground.



Figure A2.16 Portrait of Earl Douglas Haig by John Singer Sargent

A2.3.4 Lindsay Pryor (1915–1998)

Lindsay Pryor (Figure A2.17) was educated at the University of Adelaide and the Australian Forestry School in Canberra. In 1936 he was appointed an assistant forester in the ACT (Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria 2007).

He was Superintendent and later Director, of Parks and Gardens for Canberra from 1944 to 1958. Pryor 'fulfilled this role vigorously, building on Weston's early work by expanding the range of trees and shrubs grown in the city' (Brown 1998). This was reflected at Haig Park. It was during this time that Pryor oversaw the maintenance and management of Haig Park.

Pryor added the extra row of trees on the north side along Henty Street as part of street tree plantings in the 1950s and it is likely that he added the extra row on the south side, Girrahween and Masson Streets, again as part of street tree plantings (Hince 1994). During this time, he was also carrying out basic research in eucalypt hybridisation.

He supervised the early development of the Australian National Botanic Gardens from 1945 until 1958. In 1954, Pryor described his parks and gardens design philosophy which clearly shaped his approach to Haig Park, in retaining it, removing dead or dying plants (probably including the wattles), replanting pines and the other original species of trees, and adding contrasting native species along the adjoining streets. He wrote:

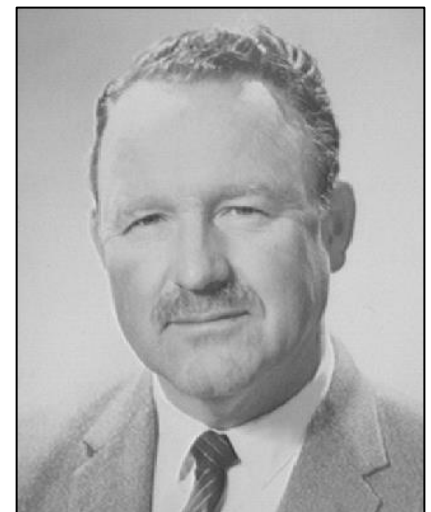


Figure A2.17 Lindsay Pryor Portrait 1950s (<http://www.anbg.gov.au/biography/pryor.lindsay.html>)



The original concept of a garden city has been adhered to, but the principal element in planting has been trees, and effective landscape design has been obtained by bringing together species that differ in form, colour, texture and flowering time...

Extensive plantings have been made of a wide variety of both introduced and native trees for shade, shelter and ornament. The effect of this in reducing wind and consequent evaporation, in modifying temperatures and in reducing dust is well known. Above all, there is the aesthetic value of these trees in town development.

Besides *Pinus radiata* and *P. ponderosa*, which had been used for ornamental as well as economic plantations, other conifers have been successful in Canberra (Pryor in White 1954:221–222).

Pryor also took pleasure in adding to Weston's work, in particular at Telopea Park (started by Weston). It was still just a grassy paddock near the lake end. He said that this as one of his most satisfactory works as it combined his and Weston's work; and his description of that park applies equally to Haig Park today – that is, a significant open space in an area to be intensively developed (Higgins 1992:132, 139).

Lindsay Pryor was appointed Foundation Professor of Botany at the ANU in 1958. During this time, he planted the area of Sullivans Creek within the University grounds with Black Poplars. He retired in 1976. Lindsay Pryor is remembered for the many facets of his professional work. He was a fine lecturer and many first year students in the Botany Department of the ANU will have been inspired by his introduction to plant science (Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria 2007).

A2.3.5 National Capital Authority

Timeline of the NCA and preceding bodies:

- 1921–1924: FCAC (see above)
- 1925–1930: FCC
- 1930–1938: no body in existence
- 1938–1957: NCPDC
- 1958–1989: NCDC
- 1989–present: NCA.

The FCC was formed to construct and administer Canberra from 1 January 1925. During the first two years of FCC operation Parliament House, The Lodge, the Albert Hall, the Institute of Anatomy, and the Australian School of Forestry and an Observatory on Mount Stromlo were completed. The FCC also oversaw construction of the 'Sydney' and 'Melbourne' commercial buildings in the City and significant residential development. The FCC was disbanded on 1 May 1930 following the start of the Great Depression in 1929.

The NCPDC was formed in 1938 to oversee the development of Canberra. The NCPDC was to advise the Minister of the Interior to safeguard the Griffin plan and maintain high aesthetic and architectural standards worthy of a National Capital. The Committee had no executive power, and was unable to direct development of the Capital. Dissatisfied with progress, the government established a Senate Select Committee in 1954 to inquire into Canberra's development. In 1958 it was replaced by the well-funded and authoritative NCDC.

The NCDC was created to complete the establishment of Canberra as the seat of government. It was created in 1957 through the *National Capital Development Commission Act 1957*. The NCDC was responsible for the development of Canberra's satellite cities: Woden Valley, Belconnen, Tuggeranong and Gungahlin. The NCDC also oversaw construction of Lake Burley Griffin and New Parliament House. The NCDC was abolished after the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988* was enacted, and most of its functions passed to the new ACT Government and the NCA.



The NCA was established in 1989 when the Australian Capital Territory was granted self-government. Under the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*, the NCA has the authority to prepare and administer a National Capital Plan (NCA n.d.).



APPENDIX 3

BURRA CHARTER



*to be inserted



APPENDIX 4

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CMPS (ACT HERITAGE COUNCIL)



*to be inserted



APPENDIX 5

ACT HERITAGE REGISTER ENTRY – HAIG PARK



*to be inserted