



YOORALLA BAY CONCEPT MASTERPLAN AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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03	Site Analysis - Landscape	Consultation Concept	-	20 07 2020
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INTRODUCTION + BRIEF

Due to the extreme impact from the NYE 2019/2020 bushfires, the Conjola Park public reserve was identified as a priority area to be improved in the Conjola Connected Communities Masterplan.

In addition to replacement of the damaged playground, the community provided input regarding the way the park might be managed and best used into the future for a more connected, more resilient and more inclusive community.

A key priority is to improve resilience for the community during an emergency situation, should it arise in generations to come.

The initial community brief, In addition to a shared bikeway connecting Conjola Park to Lake Conjola, included a number of facilities:

Emergency assembly point + Memorial garden (local sculptor input) + Amenities block + Store room for a shared tool and garden library + Small community kitchen + Covered BBQ area and Wood fired pizza oven + Basketball half court + Playground with adventure play facilities requested via Council's get involved page.

Dedicated kayak access to the flood prone area of the south bay edge has been discussed to minimise damage and assist natural rehabilitation.

SITE ANALYSIS

Site visits, research, and information from residents + authorities (SCC, DPI, Transport NSW and Fisheries) have been collected in regard to the current challenges and sensitivities of the area.

These elements are Solar access + Prevailing winds + Lake edge condition and environmental sensitivity + Rehabilitation opportunities + Lake health + Flood damage and inundation + Erosion + Drainage patterns and problems + Services locations and easements + Parking + Views + History of Conjola Park.

Some of these findings are summarised in the Site Analysis Plans.

PROCESS

This proposal for the renewal of Yooralla Bay includes many different elements suggested by the community as desirable inclusions. It is a part of the Conjola Community master plan and represents a longterm vision. The next step will require more consultation with the wider community and the identification of priority elements, so that funding can be sought accordingly.

RESPONSE

A natural walking path is already established along the lake edge. The new shared bike pathway from Valley Drive to Havilland Street, part of a larger plan to connect the the parts of Conjola, largely follows this desire line, with some navigation around the more fragile areas and inlets and creek crossings required.

The facilities within the the park centre around two areas - the play area and gardens near Hoylake Grove and the other community facilities a little further north along the shore.

The Hoylake Grove end includes the new playground, the basketball half court with a special surface to reduce noise, a small scale concrete winding scooter/balance bike loop track around the larger gum trees, and an adventure play area of simple boulders grouped together, poles for running between, and pipes for climbing through.

The north-west corner of the open lawn area, with its adjacent vegetation has been identified as a suitable location for a Memorial Garden that may include sculptures and mementos from local artists.

Further north along the shore as the land rises, in area where any construction will cause the least destruction of natural vegetation and seagrass beds and where facilities can be lifted above flood levels, a community shelter is proposed on the lake edge. From there views across the bay and back to the play area will be expansive with a line of sight across the body of Lake Conjola to Station Point and the Lake Conjola National Park.

The bank in this location is steepest which also means the nearest homes look over the top of any new structures. A flat platform can be established with minor earth reshaping. The site collects plenty of sun here.

Small rooms containing an accessible toilet, storage (for emergency generators + supplies + gardening equipment) and a small community kitchen are grouped on the high ground to be most protected by any flooding. These are simple, well built, low maintenance functional boxes.

On the lake side of these spaces is a place for BBQs (or a pizza oven if preferred) and picnic tables. It is large enough so that it can be shared by a couple of family groups from the community at one time, a perfect spot for a kids birthday party.

The roof is set up to allow winter sun in and to provide shade in summer. Water from the roof is collected for emergency use. Solar panels provide electricity.

This community shelter doubles as an emergency assembly point in the event of future emergency. Importantly it is wheelchair accessible from surrounding areas. The existing wharf structure is a navigation risk in floods, and requires maintenance, so its upgrade to an environmentally sensitive partially floating pontoon with a long mooring section is proposed as part of the project. This structure allows community members using the neighbouring small boat ramp a convenient place to load boats, disembark and catch up with friends and family fishing.

This proposal as a whole seeks to bring together the wishes and needs of the local community in a thoughtful manner that ensures that the residents needs are met into the future.



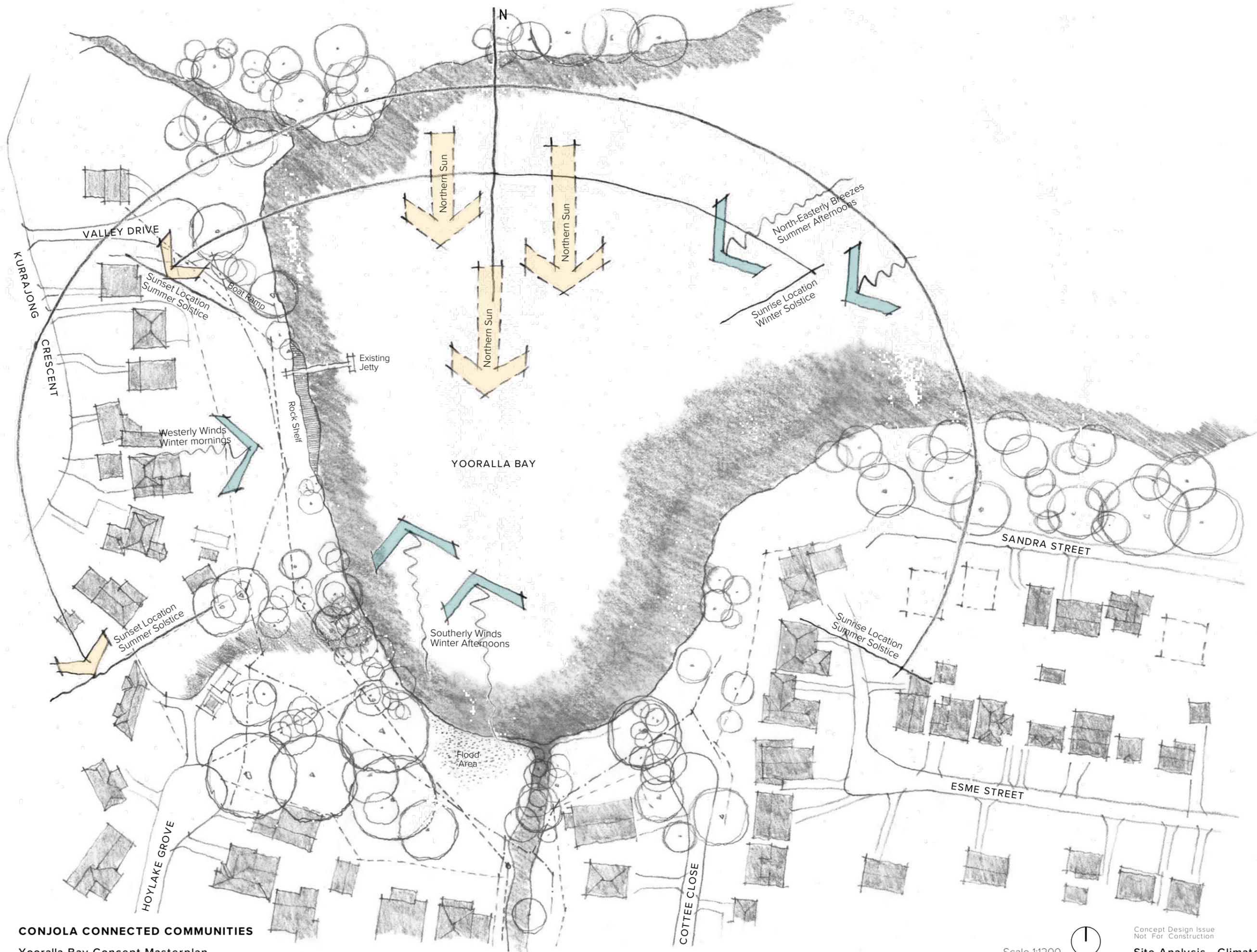
Module B
Conjola Park
Facilities
& Memorial

MASTERPLAN RELATIONSHIP

This concept design for Yooralla Bay relates to Module B within the larger scale Conjola Connected Communities Masterplan that has been designed and collated to record the communities longterm vision for the entire Conjola area.







MASTERPLAN COMPONENTS

-  **1** Shared Bikeway connecting to regional boat ramp
-  **2** Community Building and emergency assembly point
-  **3** Memorial Seat with view towards memorial
-  **4** Pontoon fishing platform and evacuation point
-  **5** Memorial Garden completed by the community
-  **6** Basketball Halfcourt with noise dampening surface
-  **7** Playground completed July 2020
-  **8** Bike Play for kids bikes and scooters
-  **9** Adventure Play with climbing rocks and rope structure
-  **10** Kayak Jetty to formalise access
-  **11** Memorial



DESIGN STATEMENT

The core of the new masterplan is a lakeside community building that functions as an emergency assembly point.

Set close to the waters edge on Yooralla Bay, this pavilion offers a place to experience the quietude and beauty, the moods and colours, the inspiration of the lake.

Every piece of the building adds to its usefulness.

A widening of the shared path, as it passes, marks a welcoming arrival. Retaining walls of local sandstone / gabions set a tone of natural materials and robustness.

Seating, on retaining walls and alongside the entry, together with bike parking make it easy to bring in and out picnic gear, collect bags, and grab bike helmets, kids toys and other equipment.

The path is wide enough to allow Council's maintenance ute access for cleaning and maintenance.

Entry is between two small enclosed rooms - low maintenance, robust metal clad boxes. One contains an accessible toilet and storage - for cleaning, gardening, and any emergency equipment. The other room encloses a small community kitchen / canteen for birthday parties and family gatherings that can also provide services during emergencies and opens to the seating area via a servery window.

This entry, between the two rooms, is on an axis with the main arm of the lake that extends into Yooralla Bay from Station Point.

The gathering space is defined by a steel framed column and beam structure. Each side of the pavilion is large enough for two picnic tables, and a barbecue. Two metal skillion roofs cover these areas - the Northern roof raked to admit winter sun, while the Southern roof is set up to hold solar panels. This and the dedicated water tank creates a more resilient building.

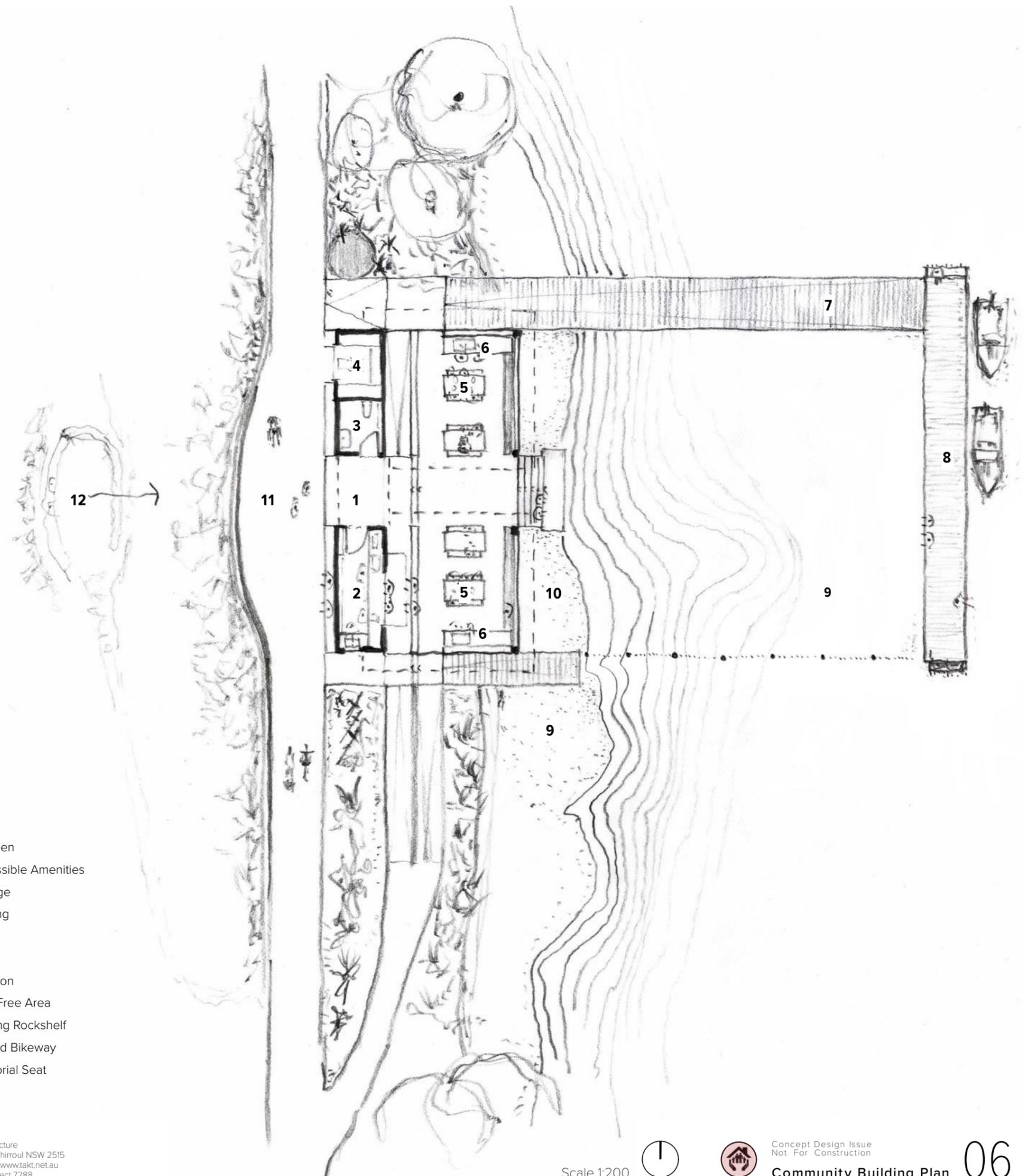
Low walls around the BBQ, and towards the lake, break the wind off the water for those seated inside. A central metal stair, provides access to the edge of the lake. Construction is robust and flood prepared.

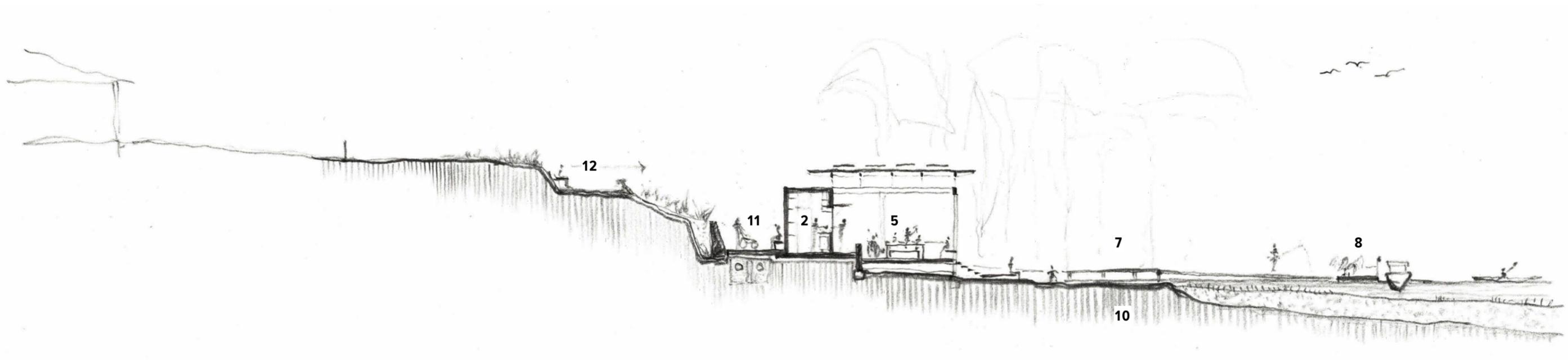
The jetty is reworked to provide mooring and access, and facilities for fishing. A line of buoys creates a boat free zone, a semi enclosed section of lake.

Welcoming the morning sun, this pavilion provides a comfortable, useful edge to the great landscape room of Yooralla Bay.



- 1 Entry
- 2 Canteen
- 3 Accessible Amenities
- 4 Storage
- 5 Seating
- 6 BBQ
- 7 Jetty
- 8 Pontoon
- 9 Boat Free Area
- 10 Existing Rockshelf
- 11 Shared Bikeway
- 12 Memorial Seat





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REHABILITATION ZONE

low native landscape and memorial view area

PATH

shared path around Yooralla Bay to Haviland Street boat ramp and beyond

ENCLOSURE

canteen + accessible amenities + community storage for maintenance and emergency equipment such as shared generators

COVER

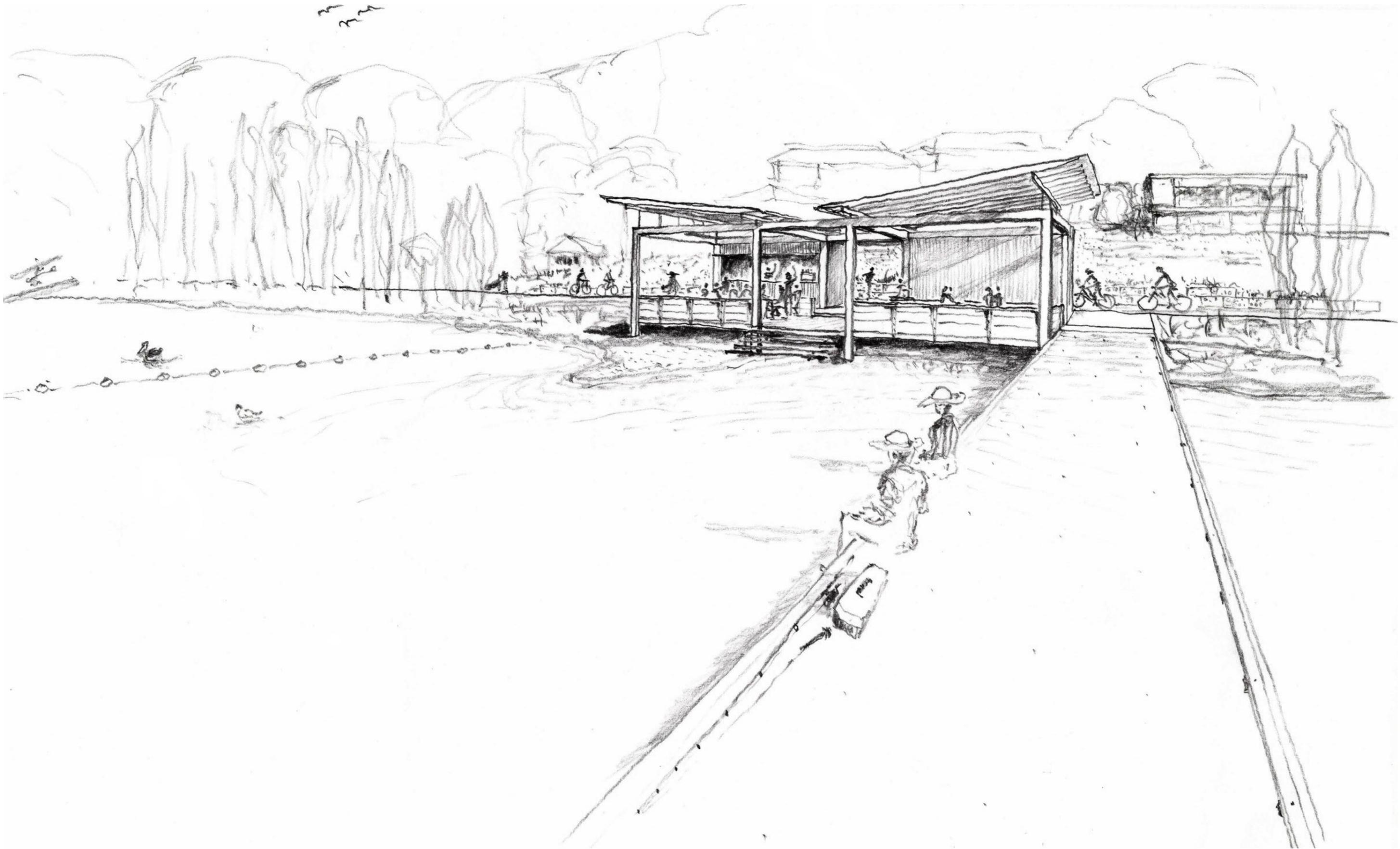
picnic and BBQ area doubling as emergency assembly area

JETTY

improved access and allowing sun penetration for close shore seagrass beds surrounding a boat free area for play

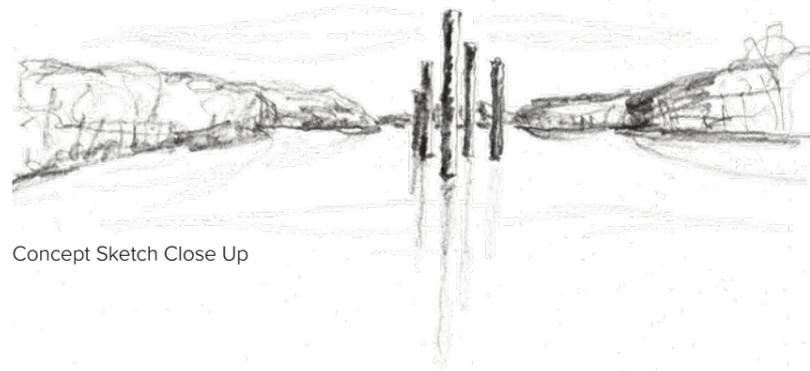
PONTOON

fishing platform doubling as evacuation access from the lake





Concept Sketch Looking East From Community Building



Concept Sketch Close Up



Charred Red Cedar - Conjola Catchment



Scarred Tree



ACT Bushfire Memorial

INTRODUCTION

The memorialising of large scale traumatic events is an important part of the recovery process.

To give space to a range of responses it should be done in a subtle way, at a series of different scales. From the personal tributes from the artists in the community in a memorial contemplative garden on the shore, to places for quiet contemplation of the past and celebration of the future, to a more formal scale that acknowledges the scale and impact of the catastrophic fires.

Acknowledgment that our human activities impact our environment is a part of finding solutions for the future. It is a reminder of the fact that our actions can be either harmful or healing, but to not act is no longer an option.

The memorial serves as a reminder of the lake as the centre of life at Conjola, a reminder that all are here because of the lake, with water connecting everything.

The health of the lake depends on the ocean and the tides, it depends on the climate and the weather, it depends on the entire catchment - 145 km² of it, to be maintained as healthy landscape.

This entails a collective responsibility. The catchment and its inhabitants have been devastated. It follows that from now we must do all we can to protect and restore it, as all depend on the lake for good health.

FORM

A simple but strong gesture is required - a collection of recovered charred logs, hollows included and erected in a grouping at the edge of the shallows in Yooralla Bay.

Such logs have always been a symbol of the recovery from the fires. From the bark comes the regrowth. In this case the regrowth is symbols, art and nature.

These logs contain the memories of the fires themselves, in the charred outer bark. The memories of the people whose lives were lost, naming them carved into the trunks. The memories of the elders of this land, carved into the totems. Carved with hope. And in offering a memorial of some ephemerality, it allows the lake to store also its memories as it sees fit. The base to be an artificial reef so as to provide additional habitat for fish. The hollows will fill with sea birds, nesting and roosting and drying in the sun.

And after some significant time, it too will erode, weather and pass. By then no longer needed, healing done, and it too can become a collective memory of the lake people.

It is to be understood as a densely layered, onion skin of meaning, in a simple gesture.

EXPERIENCE

Visible from longer views, in the lake as a silhouette, reflected in the surface, expressing balance between the canopy and the roots of the impacted trees, reminding us that not all is visible, and that meaningful things run deeper than what is at first visible.

This installation is intended as a gateway, for a community that has been torn asunder by these events, but that is determined to renew, to refresh and to grow back stronger. Something to pass and to pass by on the way back - a marker of coming home on the lake.

And for those who come closer and visit in close proximity on the water, a delicate story is engraved into the charcoal bark. Those who are lost are remembered. The dreaming story of the lake told in sharp beautiful relief.

The memorial as collective reflection and collective inspiration.