

MAY 2020

Cultural Context and Place Narrative





Subiaco Cycle Paths
(DevelopmentWA)

June 2020

This document has been produced
by Creating Communities Australia
Pty Ltd for DevelopmentWA.

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1.

Subi East Vision and Objectives

The following vision and objectives guide and underpin all future planning and development of the Subi East Precinct and was developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders and the Community.

1.1 SUBI EAST VISION

A connected city village honouring place and living memories; whole of life living for all.

1.2 SUBI EAST OBJECTIVES

Build a *Sense of Place*

An authentic place that honours place and modern traditions with high quality design and expression of the local vernacular.

Promote *Urban Efficiency*

A city village that provides a critical mass of population through efficient infrastructure, buildings and mix of land uses that complements the surrounding community.

Promote *Social Inclusion*

A diverse range of housing enabling 'whole of life' city living with a network of recreation and public spaces at the core of a thriving community.

Promote *Economic Wellbeing*

Strengthen and catalyse local economies and activity nodes to deliver tangible commercial and community benefits.

Enhance *Creativity*

A transit oriented city village that encourages walking, cycling and public transport usage.

Enhance *Environmental Integrity*

Establish a new benchmark for the precinct's performance through providing opportunities to demonstrate innovative approaches to design, resource use and sustainable buildings.

2. Introduction

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We acknowledge that Subiaco is situated on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja. We pay our respect to Whadjuk Noongar people and culture, and to all Elders, past, present and emerging.

2.1 KAYA (HELLO) SUBI EAST

The Subi East precinct is located in one of Perth's oldest and most iconic suburbs - Subiaco, which is enviably located between city and coast and just a few kilometres from central Perth, Leederville and West Perth. Vibrant community life, leafy streets and undeniable character, Subiaco, has evolved from its working class roots, to become a sought after place to live, a place of recreation, a place to shop and experience some cultural flair.

"Subi" as nearly everyone endearing calls the area, is renowned across our state and nation, with nearly everyone having connection to the place one way or another. Be it through engagement in elite sport, concerts and cultural activities at Subiaco Oval, receiving medical care as a child at Princess Margaret Hospital, being educated at the state's

top high schools or just enjoying the exquisite open spaces of Mueller Park and adjoining open spaces like Market Square – it is a place of unique character and spirit.

In recent years, Subiaco's energy has started to shift, with major anchor activities at Subiaco Oval, and Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) relocated out of the area, and urban experiences that were once synonymous with Subi now available in other precincts.

This change brings with it significant opportunities to explore emerging lifestyles, economies and activity generators to enliven existing uses and reimagine the use of key assets. It is an opportunity to welcome in new life and further evolve Subiaco's role as one of Perth's favourite destinations and places to reside.

The planning for the redevelopment of the precinct that encapsulates Subiaco Oval; Bob Hawke College; Mueller Park; PMH and the railway reserve land facing West Leederville, is being undertaken by DevelopmentWA. This project is proudly entitled **Subi East**.

Subi East is poised to become a major urbanized node within Subiaco, bringing urban diversity to Perth's inner core. Located within the heart of Subiaco, the Subi East redevelopment is an opportunity to refine and redefine contemporary inner city living in Western Australia. It will be a place for people - one that is drawn from its unique context, heritage, culture and community values.

The Subi East Precinct has a rich history and is a place of significant

"firsts" for Western Australia including:

The first children's hospital (Princess Margaret Hospital)

- The first high school (Perth Modern School)
- The first major sporting stadium (Subiaco Oval)
- The first child health research Centre (Telethon Kids)

Subi East offers the opportunity to bring together the distinctive qualities of three diverse nearby places – West Perth, West Leederville and Subiaco – and connect them to Perth city and beyond, delivering local convenience and amenity, while strengthening local activity hubs such as Rokeby Road. Subi East will support Subiaco and its surrounds, respecting and reflecting the place and its unique history.

The Subi East Project represents one of the largest inner urban redevelopment project's ever undertaken in Perth, with the precinct evolving into a new place to live, learn, work and play evolve to:

- The demolition of Subiaco Oval structures and reinstated grassed oval space (completed early 2020)
- Demolition of PMH (proposed for late 2020/ early 2021) following transfer of services to the Perth's children's hospital
- Establishment of the new state-of-the-art Bob Hawke College on the former Kitchener Park



Bordered by Roberts Road, Railway Parade, Haydn Bunton Drive, Hamilton and Thomas Street, the Subiaco community is at its heart, with the West Leederville community and train station to the north and the West Perth community to its East.

The site is located in the north-eastern corner of the City of Subiaco, close to the boundaries of nearby suburbs West Perth and West Leederville.

It spans from Haydn Bunton Drive in the west through to Thomas Street in the east, and from Railway Parade in the north to Roberts Road / Hay Street in the south. The precinct does not include Perth Modern School.

2.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUBI EAST PROJECT

In August 2017, the Western Australian State Government, through DevelopmentWA, extended the original Subiaco Redevelopment Area (which was established in the 1990s to redevelop the Subiaco Train Station Precinct and surrounds), to include Subiaco Oval, Kitchener Park (now home to Bob Hawke College), Mueller Park and the site of the former Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH), as well as land within the railway reserve area around West Leederville train station.

This created a significant area (over 35 hectares) for which a masterplan will be developed to guide future development of new residential and mixed-use developments within the precinct, supported by high quality public realm, active and passive recreation and employment-generating uses.

The Subi East project will see the rejuvenation of the precinct to create a vibrant new north-eastern gateway to Subiaco – one that respects and celebrates the rich heritage of the area, while realising the importance of

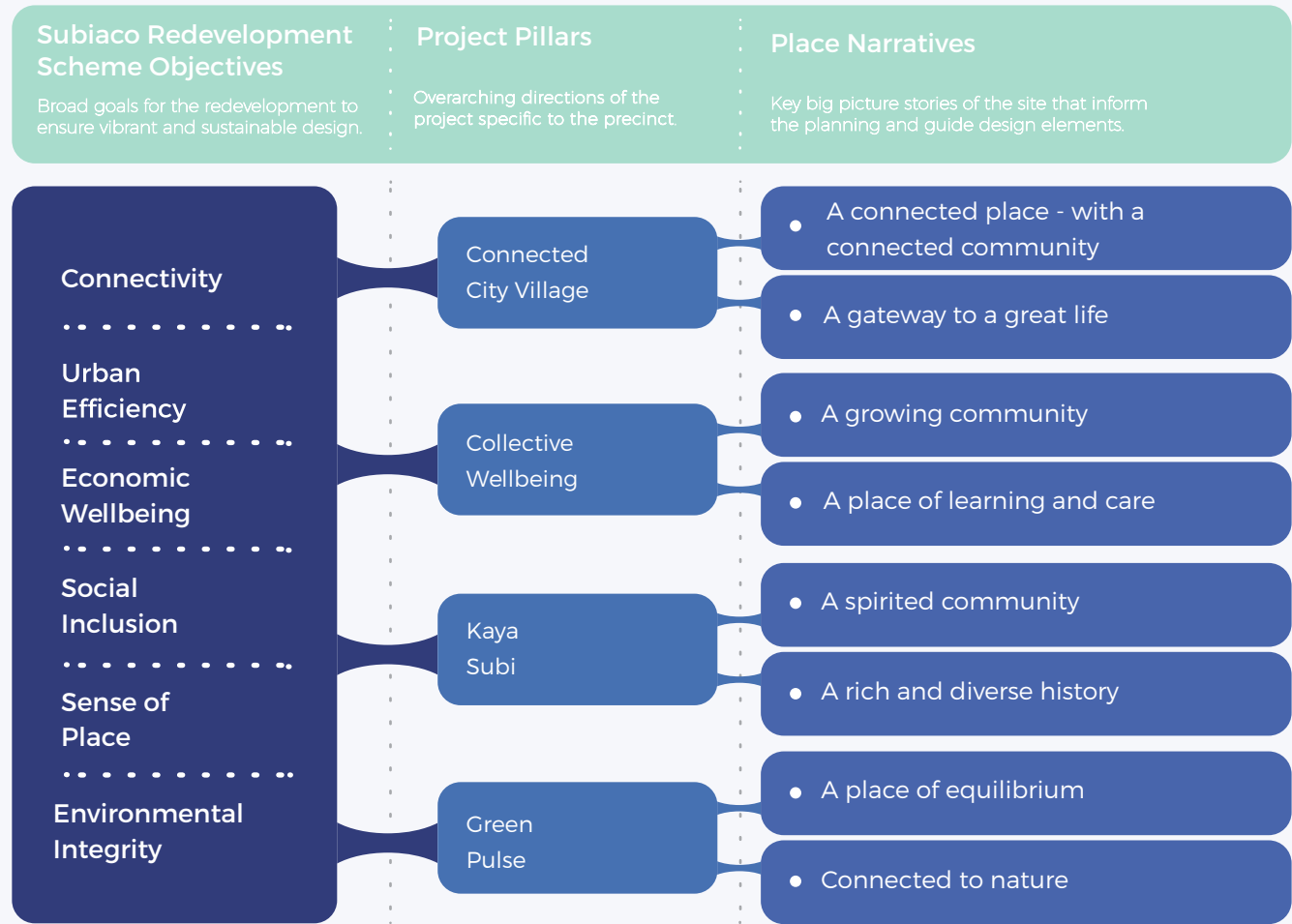
its prominent location on the doorstep of the Perth CBD.

The project seeks to plan for and deliver interconnected, walkable transit oriented, distinct, modern precinct, sharing a range of significant infrastructure and facilities whilst ensuring the precinct supports the Subiaco town centre and other precincts while also providing some localised services, amenity and identity.

Future residents of Subi East will be taking advantage of its connectedness to neighbouring town centres of Subiaco, Leederville and West Perth, through the offering of new and improved pedestrian, transport and open space connections between them as well as through the addition of thousands of new residents over the coming decades.

Creativity, education and learning opportunities will be realised through access to local services including two of the best secondary schools in Western Australia.

FIGURE 2: Subi East Integrated Planning Process



2.4 PROJECT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Planning and the associated community engagement for the Subi East project has been extensive since the project commenced in early 2018. The approach across the phases has been to establish a clear vision; objectives; pillars and place narratives to inform the masterplanning for the Subi East Precinct.

2.4.1 Integrated Planning Approach

The place narratives

described in this document are informed by the distinctive cultural context and the community's aspirations for the future. They are part of a cohesive approach to planning, designing and activating the precinct that has evolved from the findings of extensive community engagement.

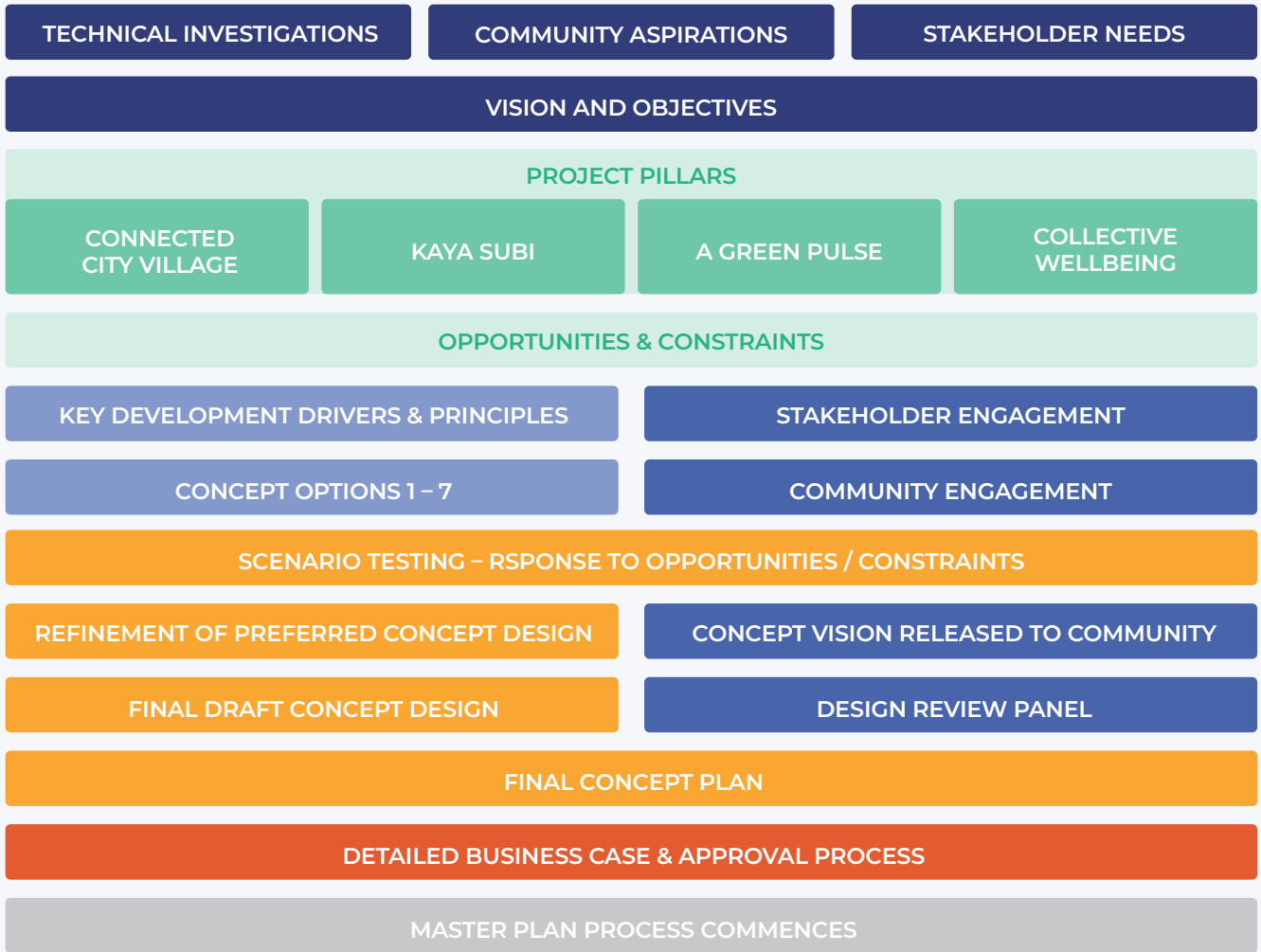
2.4.2 Phase One – Business Case

The first phase

of investigation, planning and engagement was undertaken to develop a project vision; objectives; pillars; and design concepts which were used to inform a detailed business case that was required to obtain project funding from WA State Government to progress the project.

Prior to the demolition of Subiaco Oval a Heritage Interpretation Strategy was also undertaken by Hocking Heritage Studio Pty Ltd.

FIGURE 3: Subi East – Phase One Business Case Engagement & Planning Process





Farley Garlett – Aboriginal Elder explaining the significance of Subiaco to Noongar people, Subi East Community Reference Group Tour Precinct 2020 (Creating Communities)

2.4.3 Phase Two – Cultural Context, Place Narrative and Masterplanning

The second phase

of planning and engagement which focussed on the development of the Cultural Context, Place Narrative and Masterplan commenced in late 2019.

The key elements of the planning and engagement process included;

- Meetings with six focus groups representing local government decisions; local government officers; businesses and industry; community groups; and landowners/tenants and user groups in the precinct.
- Establishment of a Community Reference Group (CRG) with representatives from a range of relevant organisations and community members. This group

met 6 times, which included five meetings of three hours in duration and a separate meeting of 90 minutes before the third meeting to engage in a 3D modelling activity with the team from the Australian Urban Design Research Centre. These meetings were focussed on informing the Cultural Context; Place Narrative (Meetings 1 and 2) and Masterplan (Meetings 3 and 4).

- Formation of an Aboriginal Elders Group who met on four occasions to provide input into the Cultural Context; Place Narrative and Masterplan.
- Community feedback via Development WA's online Have Your Say website between each CRG meeting in response to the findings of each CRG meeting.
- Ongoing project design team and technical working group meetings

FIGURE 4: Subi East – Phase Two Cultural Context, Place Narrative and Masterplan Process

STAGE ONE: Focus Groups

Local Government Decision Makers

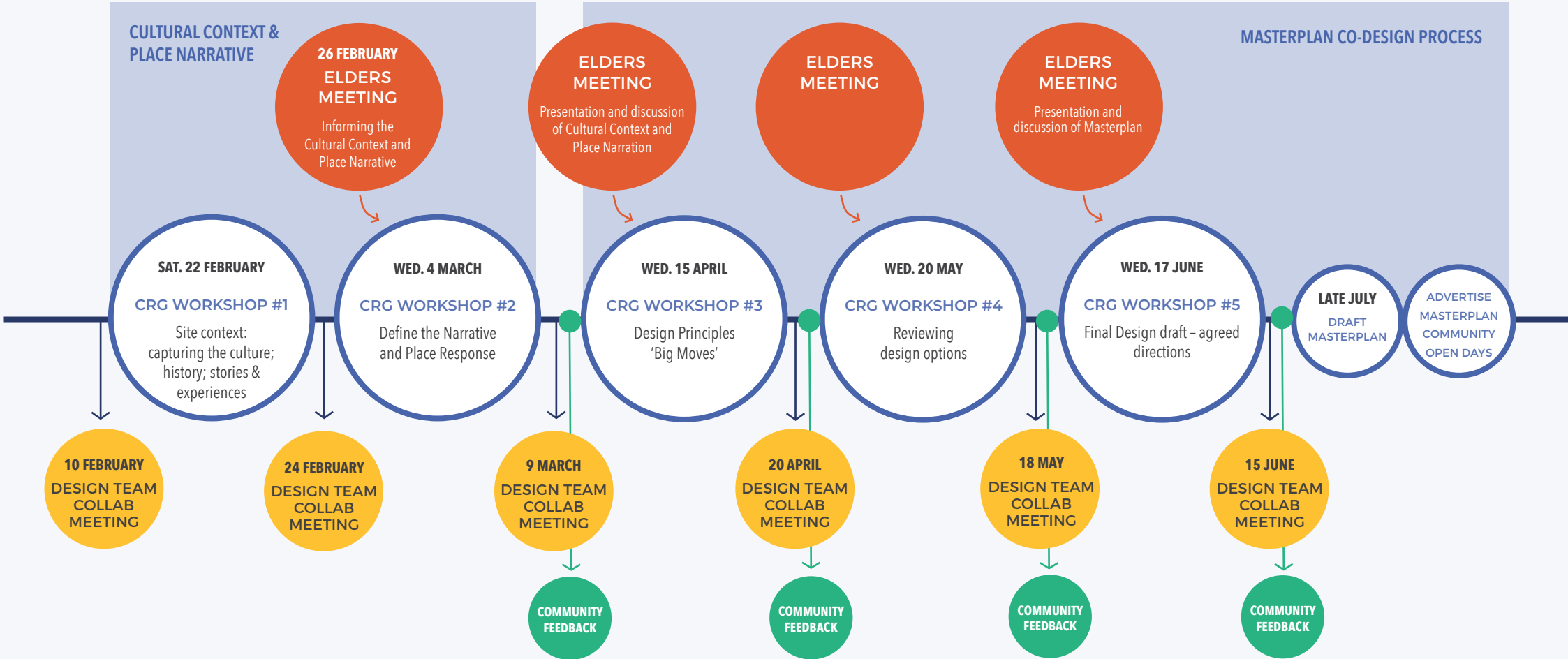
Local Government Officers

Owners; Tenants; User Groups

Local Business and Industry

Community Groups

STAGE TWO: Community Reference Group; Elders and Community Engagement



3.

Purpose of Cultural Context and Place Narrative

Most Western Australians and many people across Australia have had a variety of experiences and made connections with the Subi East Precinct over more than a century. All of the sites within the Precinct, like Subiaco Oval and Princess Margaret Hospital, have unique social and cultural histories. They are places which have evolved and changed over time, whilst retaining significant heritage elements and meaning for the Western Australian community.

The purpose of the Cultural Context and Place Narrative is to reflect these unique histories and document

the community's interaction with these sites over time. It provides a common agreement on the interplay of social, environmental and creative approaches to interpreting and planning for the redevelopment of the precinct.

The Cultural Context and Place Narrative will help to guide the master-planning process, ensuring that this historical narrative is integrated into the eventual development and activation of the precinct. In this way, the future Subi East precinct will retain its most integral heritage features while also remaining what it has always been: a place of evolution and change.



3.1 PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACH

This document recognises that Subiaco (and the Subi East precinct) is unique and represents a place that has continued to grow and change over time. The Subi East redevelopment represents another exciting new chapter in the amazing story of this place, its people and its impact on the lives of many West Australians.

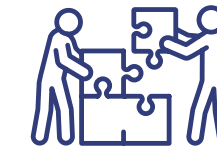
It is important to share the rich stories and recognise the contribution that this area has made to the cultural fabric of Western Australian in sport and recreation, health, education and the environment.

This document seeks to not only reflect on the past, but to learn from the past to inform a future that connects people, their culture and the land.

This moment of reflection is essential to inform the contemporary drivers of change that will guide the future redevelopment of this area to create a truly remarkable urban experience.

3.2 AUDIENCE

This audience is many and varied for this document and includes:



- **The Subi East project team**

To inform the masterplanning, design and activation of the precinct, with particular focus on the conceptual and creative design public spaces and places.



- **Future investors and developers**

To inform their planning of developable land, buildings and outdoor spaces.



- **The local government (City of Subiaco)**

To help inform their future governance of the Subi East precinct when it becomes part of the City's Planning Scheme in years to come.



- **The community**

To understand how the precinct's planning, design and activation of the place is informed by the cultural context and place narratives to create a remarkable place and urban experience.

3.3 DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTURAL CONTEXT AND PLACE NARRATIVE

A comprehensive process was used to inform the development of the Cultural Context and Place Narrative as outlined in Figure 5.

The structure and key content of the document was informed by the following:

FIGURE 5: Subi East Cultural Context and Place Narrative development process



3.4 ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

The Cultural Context and Place Narrative will guide the development of a number of accompanying documents which will be essential to the planning, development and activation of the Subi East Precinct. These documents include:

- Urban Design Masterplan
- Landscape Masterplan
- Heritage Interpretation Report
- Design Guidelines
- Technical approaches such as lighting strategies, water management approaches etc.
- Wayfinding and Signage Planning
- Public Art and Interpretation Strategy
- Approaches to Greenstar implementation (or other sustainability approach)
- Place making, events and activation approaches
- Ongoing governance models for community involvement



Subiaco (DevelopmentWA)

4.

Informing the Cultural Context and Place Narrative

4.1 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS AND FINDINGS

A comprehensive engagement process has informed the cultural context and place narratives to ensure they reflect the perceptions of the community and key stakeholders. Key components of the process have been:

- **Business Case Engagement**
- **Focus Groups**
- **Sensemaker**
- **Podcasts & Vox-Pops**
- **CRG Workshop 1 & 2**

The following sections outline the engagement for each stage, and the key findings. Overall key considerations from the engagement process are outlined in section 5.2.

4.1.1 Business Case Engagement

Stakeholder engagement for Subiaco East commenced with the first Whadjuk Working Party meeting held on 5 April 2018. Following that, through the inception of the Subiaco East Precinct Liaison Committee, a range of stakeholder engagement was undertaken to formulate the project vision and objectives.

A community survey also went out in 2018 to 23,000 households and businesses in Subiaco and the wider Bob Hawke College (then "Inner City College") catchment area. From the feedback gathered, the following community priorities were identified:



Supporting local business



Creating a thriving, vibrant community with a village feel



Improving accessibility in and around the area



Promoting health, recreation and sustainability



Providing public open space and parks, leveraging best practice from around the world



Providing a variety of food, beverage and hospitality venues

The concept vision was released on 2 February 2019, with all feedback being analysed and distilled into key themes for further consideration in the master planning phase. During this process the Project Pillars were also developed to support the vision and project objectives (refer to section 1 and 2), providing overarching themes to be considered throughout the project. The Project Pillars identified were:

Connected City Village

Setting a new direction for inner-city living, Subiaco East will re-imagine village life, drawing from strong local character and delivering new housing opportunities to shape and connect the new community with those nearby.

A Green Pulse

Subiaco's verdant streetscapes and green vernacular will be embedded across Subiaco East. As a driver for precinct infrastructure and performance, sustainability credentials will shape community life.

Kaya Subi

Honouring ancient song lines and modern-day experiences, it will reflect the local identity, personalities and moments that have divided and united us, enabling authentic expression, collaborative partnerships and harnessing future potential.

Collective Wellbeing

Social, community and economic health is the cornerstone for successful places. Education, creativity and learning will be possible at an individual, group and collective level, fostered through two secondary schools.

4.1.2 Focus Groups

A series of Focus Groups were held in late 2019 with key stakeholder groups for the Subi East precinct. These meetings sought to provide information on the development plan and engagement process, and seek feedback on the cultural context, place narratives, and masterplan. The stakeholder groups that were engaged as part of this process were:

- LGA elected members
- LGA officers
- Precinct tenants/owners
- Property and aged care developers
- Community groups

Broad suggestions were made by this group around the development of the cultural context and place narratives, particularly in relation to aspects that need to be included or handled appropriately. A summary of this feedback is outlined here:

- Reflect the general social history of the area – including the working-class roots and local industry
- Talk about the origins of “Subiaco”
- Describe the evolution of facilities and the changes of uses at each location
- Princess Margaret Hospital needs to be handled sensitively.

This is a place of sorrow for many people.

- Education – the unique history of Perth Modern School; Thomas Street School and the recent addition of Bob Hawke College.
- Reflect the social and built form changes in the area over time
- Include Aboriginal history and connection to place (including before colonisation)
- Discuss the history and heritage of Subiaco Oval and its importance to football and various other social and recreational

activities (including Noongar connection)

- Describe the origins of PMH
- Identify how the findings can be used to influence future planning, recognition, and celebration of heritage.

4.1.3 Sensemaker Engagement

In late 2019 DevelopmentWA initiated engagement through their Sensemaker tool. This engagement process asked participants to share memories and stories of the Subi East precinct and the surrounding areas. The Sensemaker survey sought to capture anecdotes from a diverse range of stakeholders, and identify patterns that resonated across groups to help build a picture of the sense of place.

A total of 203 people responded, with 199 of those providing a memory or story as part of the Sensemaker process. An overview of the key memories for each site in and around the precinct is provided to the right:

TABLE 1: Overview of Sensemaker Feedback

SITE	KEY THEMES	
Subiaco Oval (35% of responses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AFL/WANFL/WAFL games and finalsFootball trainingRugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Busy and chaotic game daysConcertsCheerful crowdsCelebrations
Princess Margaret Hospital (17%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grief and lossParent experienceStaff experiencePatient experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Comfort, compassion and careLong term relationships and friendshipsHistory of the buildingsFun times (e.g. Radio Lollipop, bending the rules)
Subiaco (General) (28%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Born in SubiacoGrowing up in the areaNightlife – pubs, restaurants and theatresShoppingCoffee shopsWorking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Easy access to amenitiesWalkable suburbAdmiration of old buildingsBeautiful, peaceful, lovely, diverse area, family vibeRevitalisationTraffic issues
Mueller Park (11%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Walking through the parkLunch breaksKids playing in the playgroundPlaying with and walking dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Riding along bike pathsKicking the footy (especially pre and post games)Cultural events (concerts, entertainment, etc.)Enjoying trees, nature, and classic buildings surrounding the site
Perth Modern School (4%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Extra-curricular activities (sports, bands etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Student experienceNew migrants perspective
West Leederville (4%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Street trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dining and cafes
Other (1%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Old marketsKids born in St John of God hospitalStudent housing/ affordable housing	

4.1.4 Stories of Subi - Podcasts & Vox-Pops

A series of podcast interviews and short vox pops were collected as part of the Stories of Subi initiative, which sought to capture the richness and diversity of the Subiaco area and reflect the memories of significant individuals that have helped to shape its history.

The podcasts are ten minute audio-only interviews that go through the personal memories and experiences of significant individuals such as renowned footballer and commentator Dennis Commetti, former Mayor Tony Costa, Aboriginal Elders Farley Garlett and Aunt Muriel Bowie, and expert paediatrician from PMH Dr Jackie Scurlock among many others.

The vox-pops are short one minute video interviews that involved a range of both invited stakeholders and community members from across Perth. Participants were asked to recall some of their most significant

memories of the Subiaco area, as well as sharing key aspirations for the Subi East redevelopment.

The Stories of Subi content has been published online and are available to the public via the website:

<https://haveyoursay.developmentwa.com.au/stories-of-subi>

The stories and memories shared in these interviews have provided great insights into the rich history of Subiaco, informing the cultural context and shaping the place narratives.



4.1.5 CRG Workshops 1 & 2

The Subi East Community Reference Group was engaged to refine the various emerging place narratives, and shape the final themes to guide the Subi East redevelopment. This engagement took place during the initial two workshops of the CRG and involved a range of activities to develop the final place narratives that were sent out for broad community consideration. An outline of the activities and feedback is provided on the following pages.

CRG Workshop 1

The first workshop was held on Saturday 22 February 2020 at Bob Hawke College, and was facilitated by Catherine Bentley from DevelopmentWA and Andrew Watt from Creating Communities, with other project team members facilitating group activities.

During this session participants undertook a walking tour of the precinct, and were asked to take notes on each site regarding the:

- Key historical and cultural aspects
- Key opportunities and challenges

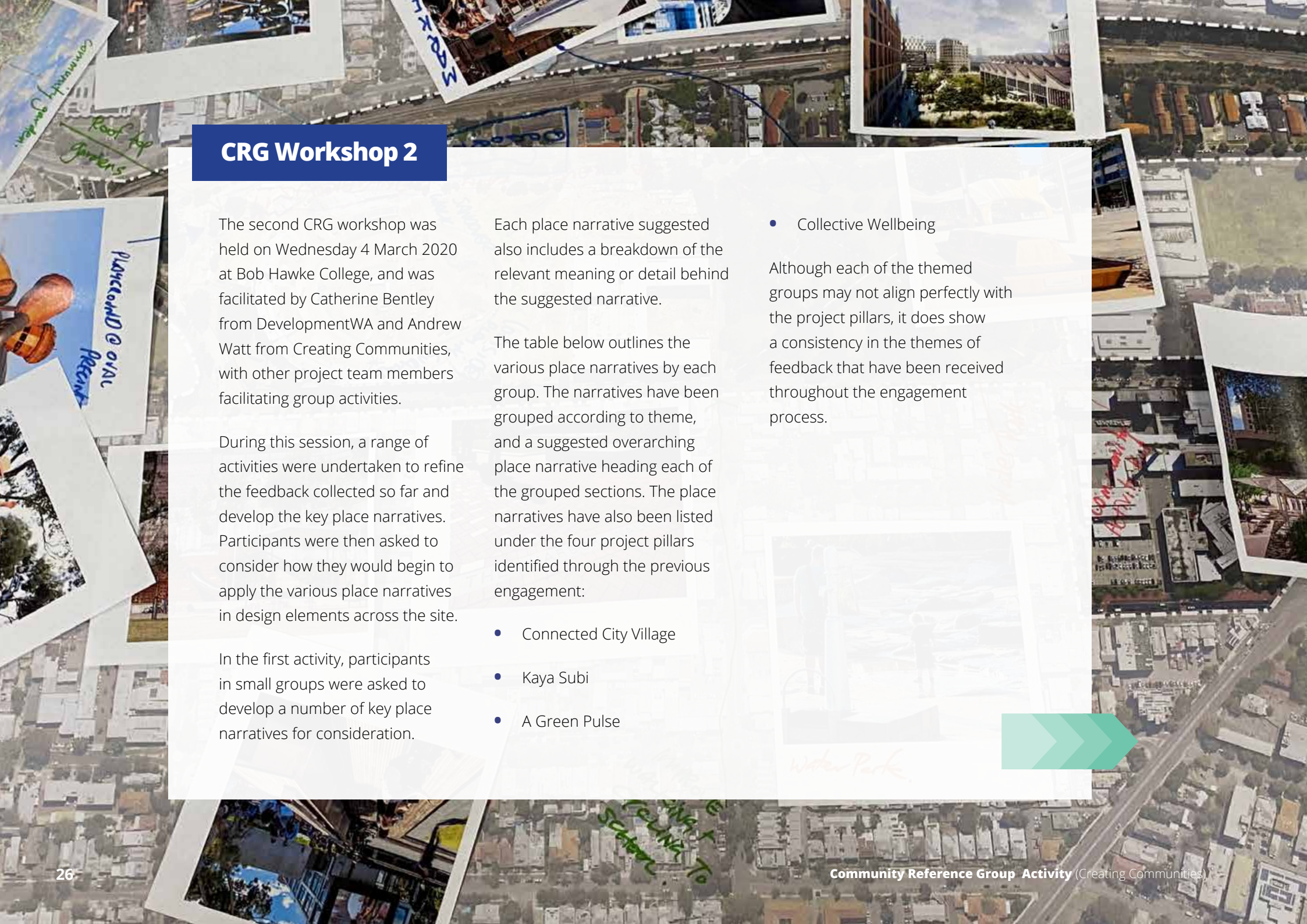
The comments were collected via a feedback form given to each participant, as well as notes recorded by the project team during the

group discussion. Some additional comments were also received via email in the days following the workshop.

Comments were then categorised by theme and recorded against the specific site referred to. The table below shows the top themes for each site across the different questions being considered. The number displayed in brackets indicate the number of comments that relate to a particular theme. Because participants were able to make multiple comments, these are counts of comments and not counts of participants.

TABLE 2: The top themes for each site from CRG Workshop 1

SITE	HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS	KEY OPPORTUNITIES	KEY CHALLENGES
Subiaco Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retain/protect gates (8)• Footballing history (6)• Trees (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flexible use of the oval (13)• Improved active transport connections (8)• Access/connection to the oval (8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management of oval use (13)• Vehicle management (6)• Safe active transport connections (5)
Princess Margaret Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heritage buildings (17)• Chimney stack – general agreement that removal is OK (8)• Reflecting families and children (4)• Recognition of significant people (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memorial park/garden (11)• Active transport connections (6)• Connection to surrounds (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traffic and safe connections (5)• Honouring emotional connections (3)• Use of retained buildings (2)
Connection to Market Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Space for the community (6)• Sandover medal (3)• Site history (2)• Aboriginal history (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection through to precinct (8)• Community events (7)• Green link (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poor connection to site (10)• Safety and homelessness (6)• <i>No other themes with more than one (1) response</i>
Subiaco Road & Connection to West Leederville	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• leppo Pine trees (from Gallipoli seeds) (11)• <i>No other themes with more than one (1) response</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved active transport connections (9)• Connection to West Leederville (6)• Higher intensity development (4)• Capping the railway (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safe active transport links (8)• Poor access/connections (3)• Increased traffic and parking (3)
Mueller Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trees and vegetation (15)• Park history (10)• Aboriginal history (4)• Leave as it is (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community uses/facilities (6)• Reflecting Aboriginal culture (5)• Maintaining natural focus (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under-use of the park (3)• <i>No other themes with more than one (1) response</i>
Connection to Perth Modern School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection to nature (4)• <i>No other themes with more than one (1) response</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection to community (3)• Cater to older children/youth (3)• <i>No other themes with more than one (1) response</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues with neighbouring developments (2)• <i>No other themes with more than one (1) response</i>
Connection to Bob Hawke College	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key part of the precinct (2)• Previous site use (2)• Positive comment (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integration with community (8)• Active transport connections (4)• Connection to Mueller Park (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of space/facilities (5)• High costs (2)• Safe passage (2)• Traffic congestion (2)



CRG Workshop 2

The second CRG workshop was held on Wednesday 4 March 2020 at Bob Hawke College, and was facilitated by Catherine Bentley from DevelopmentWA and Andrew Watt from Creating Communities, with other project team members facilitating group activities.

During this session, a range of activities were undertaken to refine the feedback collected so far and develop the key place narratives. Participants were then asked to consider how they would begin to apply the various place narratives in design elements across the site.

In the first activity, participants in small groups were asked to develop a number of key place narratives for consideration.

Each place narrative suggested also includes a breakdown of the relevant meaning or detail behind the suggested narrative.

The table below outlines the various place narratives by each group. The narratives have been grouped according to theme, and a suggested overarching place narrative heading each of the grouped sections. The place narratives have also been listed under the four project pillars identified through the previous engagement:

- Connected City Village
- Kaya Subi
- A Green Pulse

- Collective Wellbeing

Although each of the themed groups may not align perfectly with the project pillars, it does show a consistency in the themes of feedback that have been received throughout the engagement process.



1. Connected City Village

TABLE 3: Suggested Place Narratives from CRG Workshop 2

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“The Gateway to a Great Life”			
A Place for Everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tourism a place to visit, everyone knows it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A place for everyone from many backgrounds	
Something for Young and Old	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The WAFL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Young people
A Liveable Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shops• Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place of living• Community and connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transport• Affordability
A Place for Living	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green• Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dogs• PMH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports
A Place to Live, Work and Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to active space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connectedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sense of identity
Gateway to Where You Want to Be	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gates• Hospital gates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perth Mod gates• Train line	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Football• Market square gates
The Place with it All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Everything within walking distance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has greenery, sport, learning, healing
An urban village	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Defined identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical / architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trees/ native/ animals
Creating New Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi-use social space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrated	

A Connected City Village continued.

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“A Connected Place”			
A Place that has a Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not just somewhere you live	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit• Pass through	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train/bus/bike
A Connected Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection to nearby nature landmarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vibrant precinct
Place of Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sport• Children• Green Paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green Paths• Walkways• Gateway area to the state	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PMH/Perth Mod• Stadium

2. Kaya Subi

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL	
“A Rich and Diverse History”		
Everyone’s History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural heritage and history of Subiaco oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Songs, bands and concerts
Reverence for Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heritage for evolution trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growth over time > history of change

Kaya Subi coninued.

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“A Community of Reflection”			
A Community of Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heritage buildings• History of care, healing, staff, patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection to community - public funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognising sorrow – PMH and Aboriginal
“A Spirited Community”			
A Place of Gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sport• Indigenous	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PMH• Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Families
A Place that has Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Football• Heart	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working class• Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural
A Sense of Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating connections• Belonging to place	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical reflection• Working class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shared community pride and ownership

3. A Green Pulse

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“A Place of Equilibrium”			
A Place of Equilibrium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Old/young• Healthy land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balanced• Aboriginal people’s connection to land and how that informs future	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balance between buildings and open space• Native plants

A Green Pulse continued.

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“Connected to Nature”			
Safe, Green Space for Everyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social and affordable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open space for everyone	
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Living off the land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respect appearance of landscape	
Connected to Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green• Leafy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safe• Post European now	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Themes from Noongar

4. Collective Wellbeing

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“A Place of Learning”			
A Place of Learning (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connection to land• Education• Heritage and history	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schools• Hospitals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-improvement• Sport
“A Place for Children”			
A Place for Future Creative Minds/ A Place for Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future creative + imaginative people, the arts, theatre and culture

Collective Wellbeing continued.

PLACE NARRATIVE	MEANING / DETAIL		
“A Place for Children” cont.			
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PMH• First primary• Telethon kid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need affordable for youth -facilities they need• Perth Mod	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bob Hawke• Playground
“A Growing Community”			
A Place to Grow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environment• Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth• Sustainable and holistic	
A History of Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small beginnings• Continual development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal and community growth• Economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maturing• Green/nature
A Place for Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age/young and old	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future
“A Place of Wellness”			
Medical & Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relatively flat landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent for passive ‘recreators’ of all ages	
Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy living	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intergenerational	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health for all stages of life

During the second activity participants in groups were asked to consider how their place narrative themes might be realised in place throughout the Subi East redevelopment precinct. A range of images were provided to the groups to provide inspiration and suggestions for potential design applications. The top images selected, and the top themes recorded for each precinct are displayed on the following pages and tables.



TABLE 4: Overall top images selected during CRG Workshop 2



TABLE 5: Summary of the top themes for each Precinct

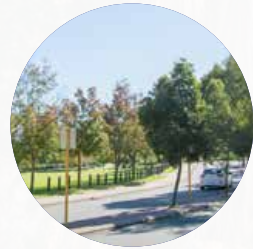
PRECINCT	TOP THEMES
Subiaco Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Heritage and History (3)Seating (3)Green Community Spaces (3)Active Walking Paths (3)
Railway Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Natural Walkways and Connections (4)Active Transport Connections (4)
Mueller Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Greenery and Nature (3)Children and Play (3)
Princess Margaret Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Memorial/Reflection Space (3)Mix of height and open space (3)Community Garden (3)
No Location Given	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pathways and Connection (5)Heritage and History (5)Activation (4)

The feedback from the activities in CRG workshops 1 and 2 has helped to refine and guide the development of the final place narratives, as well as providing guidance on the potential design applications for each theme and narrative.



Aboriginal Elders Input

Consultant Barbara Bynder (Kaya Designs) and Elder Farley Garlett facilitated meetings with Aboriginal Elders to seek their input into the Cultural Context and Place Narrative. This section includes a summary of the findings from this engagement.



Overall Area

The site was a high ground point and was well utilised by Noongar people. It was a place of spring water. It held a special place for birth, marriage and children, it was where people lived. There were many tracks that connected to other areas in the region (for example local lakes) This is a site that was near a burial area... This is all similar to today.

There is a desire to ground the project in Noongar culture – to create a sense of place that looks at bringing all together in understanding connection to country and prior occupation. The area was well

travelled, meaning Noongar people moved through the area.

The area has a lot of significance in relation to its connection to the broader Noongar landscape i.e. Kings Park, Jualbupand Herdsman Lakes as well as Shenton Park camps. These stories need to be included in the overall narratives of the area.

Following colonisation this was a working class area for many Noongars. There is a need to reflect this in the development.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The area have a Noongar name that includes the word “Koorlingah” – meaning children. This reflects what it was in ancient times, what it was for PMH and what it will be with the schools. It demonstrates an ongoing connection to culture, past, present and future.
2. Recognise that this was a place for working people - that the new development consider how Wadjuk people can own property within the space and to facilitate future living in the area.



Subiaco Oval Area

This is a significant place as it was a game that brought people together -both cultures. This is a place where Aboriginal people excelled –a place of celebration.



Princess Margaret Hospital Area

There is a gazebo near the reflection garden that was a place for Noongar people to go and reflect and to grieve for the children that they lost who were sick or dying –These stories should be retained.

RECOMMENDATION

3. Gazebo be retained as a place of reflection / place to share stories.



Mueller Park Area

This place has a scar tree –a significant place for Noongar people. More stories exist around this place. Mueller park had more than one scar tree, however only one remains, consensus to activate Mueller park.

4.1.6 Community Wrap-Around Engagement

Following the second Community Reference Group Workshop, a survey was sent out to the broader community to seek feedback on the refined place narratives. A total of 252 participants completed the online survey, which was open between 19 March and 28 March 2020.

Survey participants were provided with the 12 top place narratives that were established through the CRG and previous engagement. They were asked to select the top three that best reflect the Subi East area.

The narratives that the participants most voted for are (in order of preference):

39%
A Rich and Diverse History
(99 votes)

32%
Connected to Nature
(81 votes)

31%
A Place of Equilibrium
(78 votes)

31%
A Connected Place
(78 votes)

The place narratives that were somewhat popular (between 21% and 27%) were:

27%
A Gateway to a Great Life
(68 votes)

24%
A Growing Community
(61 votes)

23%
A Place of Learning
(58 votes)

21%
A Spirited Community
(54 votes)

The narratives that community members voted for least were:

19%
A Place Grounded in Aboriginal Culture and Heritage
(47 votes)

16%
A Place for Children
(40 votes)

14%
A Place of Wellness
(36 votes)

8%
A Community of Reflection
(20 votes)

Following this round of engagement, the top eight place narratives were refined to incorporate the feedback received as well as aspects of the least popular place narratives. These consolidated narratives became the final versions used moving forward to guide the design development process, with two place narratives sitting under each of the broader project pillars (refer to Figure 2).

4.2 KEY OUTCOMES

The engagement process to inform the Subi East vision, key themes, cultural context, and place narratives has spanned almost two years, first commencing in early 2018. Despite the extensive and diverse nature of the feedback, it has been focussed around several key outcomes which have shaped the ongoing project development, and lead to the final cultural context and place narratives. The key outcomes provide a high-level summary of the engagement and are outlined to the right.



Establishing Project Pillars and Vision

The early engagement has led to the establishment of an overarching direction and focus for Subi East through the Project Pillars and vision.



Collecting memories and stories

Through the Sensemaker survey and the Stories of Subi initiative, a diverse range of memories and stories of the Subiaco area have been collected. These provide depth and insight to the development of the cultural context, as the storylines and retelling of the history of Subiaco is shaped by the experiences of those who know it best.



Providing place themes

Much of the feedback collected has sought to connect key ideas, experiences, and aspirations with specific sites in and around the Subi East precinct. The engagement has helped refine the key themes for each location, providing direction to the broader narratives, and guidance to the ongoing design discussions.



Developing place narratives

The place narratives have been developed under the project objectives and pillars, and capture significant storylines that have run through the site and Subiaco’s history, as well as shaping future aspirations. They have been refined and informed through the engagement process, and begin to guide the design in place.



Guiding design application

The culmination of the place themes, narratives, and cultural context shape a picture of the sense of place, and guide the aspirations of the redevelopment. All of these elements have been informed by the engagement process, and provide specific examples of how key themes and principles could be applied in the design.

5.

Cultural Context (People; Place; History and Values)



5.1 THE HISTORY OF SUBIACO

5.1.1 Aboriginal History

Pre-colonisation

Subiaco's story begins with the land and those whose connections with it run deepest. The Whadjuk Noongar people are traditional owners of the land comprising the Perth

metropolitan area, which continues to hold cultural significance for them. Rich oral traditions have survived testing times post colonisation, with Noongar stories reflecting an intimate knowledge of geography, topography, flora and fauna. Events which took place as long as 10,000 years ago have been incorporated into mythologies – a striking example being rising sea levels at the end of

the last ice age, which rapidly altered the Western Australian coast, flooding an interdunal lake to separate Rottnest Island from the mainland.

An expansive tract of land north-west of Derbarl Yeriggan (the Swan River), encompassing the Subiaco area, has been referred to as 'Mooro country' by both early colonists and historians.¹ It is believed that the Whadjuk Noongar group associated with this area was headed by the senior man Yellagonga at the time of colonisation, and that his wife and her brother carried responsibility in the territory around Lake Monger. Daisy Bates reported that part of the area now within Subiaco's borders was called

Wandaraguttagurrup. Later research identified Wandaraguttagurrup as a camping place in the vicinity of Hamersley Road, and this was noted on government maps from the 1920s to the 1960s.²

The Wembley/Subiaco area provided sources of food and water for hundreds of generations, with its wetlands – part of a coastal chain of lakes far larger than is evident today – ensuring a high degree of biodiversity. In the summer, or during the Noongar seasons of Birak and Bunuru, people gathered around Lake Monger and feasted on plant life and waterfowl. Though small and seasonal, Shenton Park's Lake Jualbup and a Jolimont swamp (now part of



FIGURE 6: Plan showing Perth Townsite overlaying wetlands, 1838 ³

¹ Archae-aus Pty Ltd & Ethnoscience, 'A Report of an Aboriginal Archaeological and Ethnographic Site Identification Heritage Survey of Princess Margaret Hospital and the West Leederville Railway Station within the Subiaco East Redevelopment Precinct', (North Fremantle: Archae-aus Pty Ltd, 2019), p. 5.

² Kristy Bizzaca, 'City of Subiaco: Thematic History and Framework', (Subiaco: City of Subiaco, 2014) <http://www.subiaco.wa.gov.au/CityofSubiaco/media/City-of-Subiaco/Planning-and-development/Heritage-buildings-and-places/Subiaco-Thematic-History-Framework_1.pdf> [accessed 7th February 2020], p. 5.

³ Image Source: State Records Office (Cons 2868, Item 289, SROWA)

Mabel Talbot Park) were other key economic resources and gathering places. Groups led by women roamed widely to other fertile areas, ensuring food availability all year round.

While there are no registered Aboriginal Sites within the area of the Subi East redevelopment, it is recognised that there are unrecorded physical or ethnographic connections to the area. Significant sites nearby indicate that the region as a whole was an important place for camping, hunting, burials and cultural activities. Elders today relate that the Subi East area had an abundance of bird life and grasses for kangaroos and other marsupials. They point to migratory paths and stories of the dreaming. One Traditional Owner has explained:

Every piece of the boodjar, the earth, is connected to the Dreamtime, so if you go to the bobtail dreaming, you go to the emu dreaming, you go to the frog dreaming, you go to the djidi-djidi, the Willy

*Wagtail dreaming, every bird and every tree and everything is related to the Dreamtime, and so the Dreamtime comes from the earth, the boodjar, the mother earth.*⁴

The Subi East area was a place of connection for groups travelling between lakes and Derbarl Yeriggan, criss-crossed by tracks and connected to Perth's broader landscape by song and story lines and a network of familial relationships. This has been corroborated through consultation undertaken by Barbara Bynder and Farley Garlett with Aboriginal Elders as part of the Subi East Masterplanning process.

⁴ Nyungar Wardan Katitjin Bidi – Derbal Nara, Nyitting Yarn – Cosmological or Dreaming Stories (Perth: City of Cockburn & Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, n.d.) <<https://www.derbalnara.org.au/katitjin>> [accessed 11th May 2020] (p.3).
⁵ South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, 'Wanju Wanju Kaartdijin Noongar - Welcome to Noongar Knowledge', Kaartdijin Noongar – Noongar Knowledge (Perth: 2019) <<https://www.noongarculture.org.au>> [accessed 25th February 2020]
⁶ This map is not definitive and is not the only information available which maps language and social groups.



FIGURE 7: Noongar group boundaries, showing the area populated by Whadjuk Noongar People ^{5, 6}

Post-colonisation

The establishment of the Swan River Colony in 1829 dramatically changed the lives of the Whadjuk Noongar people. Early accounts of interactions between Aboriginal people and the British colonists describe the former as welcoming and hospitable.⁷ After an initial period of peaceful cohabitation, however, Noongars found themselves displaced from their territories and experienced disruption to seasonal routines and ritual practices. The imposition of new boundaries forced them to occupy marginal spaces in colonial society, and some turned to the killing of introduced livestock and the pilfering of settler produce.

Conflict was inevitable and, from the early 1830s, Aboriginal resistance to British settlement led to violent retributions. In these years, a coordinated offensive by

the Noongar people may have succeeded in driving out the colonists, yet this was never likely due to the structure of Aboriginal groups and their unfamiliarity with large-scale hostilities.⁸ Among all Noongar resistance figures, one became legendary. Yagan was recognised for his intelligence and open communication, with early settlers and colonial officials holding him in ‘awe’.⁹ Spillman describes an account of Yagan on the shores of Lake Monger, not far from the Subi East development area:

*[Yagan] had for the amusement of a European audience taken part in a spear throwing contest in which he was matched against a native from King George Sound. From twenty paces he twice knocked over a thin upright stick, and retired victorious to share a cup of tea with the onlookers.*¹⁰

The tragic death of this Noongar leader at the hands of a young bounty hunter has been well documented, as has its frightful postscript. Yagan’s head (or kaat) was removed and spent the next 160 years in England, at times as part of the British Museum collection. It was returned to Australia in 1997, and Yagan was finally laid to rest in designated memorial park in the Swan Valley in 2010.

Prior to the 1850s, despite such conflicts occurring in the broader Swan River Colony, the area which became Subiaco remained largely undisturbed. The crisscrossing tracks of the Whadjuk Noongar people remained intact, though the bush itself may have become more denser due to the disruption of their traditional practices of controlled burning. Elsewhere, many such tracks had already been developed into some of Perth’s first roads. As the original site of settlement expanded, Aboriginal people tended to gather in small family groups on the

fringes. There is no evidence of such fringe camps within the Subi East redevelopment area, but there were a number, at various times, nearby. Among these were Winjan’s camp in the vicinity of Hay and George Streets, and others at Lake Jualbup and Jolimont.¹¹

The subdivision of the Subiaco area in the 1880s and its transformation from bushland to municipality in 1890s further marginalised the Traditional Owners. Whadjuk Noongar people were still seen, from time to time, holding corroborees at Lake Jualbup, and they sometimes gathered at a disused saw pit near the cricket ground which later became Subiaco Oval. One elderly Aboriginal man, nicknamed ‘Charlie’, waited regularly by the gates of the Subiaco school in Bagot Road and was greatly loved by the children. Many early residents of Subiaco recalled other Noongar people walking through the streets selling ‘props’ – saplings stripped of bark which supported clothes lines.¹²

In 1927, under powers vested to the State of Western Australia under Aborigines Act 1905, the government declared Perth a prohibited area – off-limits to any Indigenous person who was not engaged in lawful employment. Aboriginal people within the exclusion zone were required to carry a permit (or ‘Native Pass’) at all times, and a 6.00 p.m. curfew was applied. With the Perth City Council’s boundaries then extending to coast and to the formerly independent municipalities of Leederville, North Perth and Victoria Park, the prohibition severed access to many sites of ritual and spiritual significance.

The municipal district of Subiaco, declared in 1897, remained independent of Perth and was therefore outside the prohibited area. With such nearby suburbs as West Leederville and Wembley subject to this discriminatory policy, Aboriginal people were more often found camped in the public open spaces of

Subiaco and accessed local services and amenities rather than risk entry into the exclusion zone. At Jolimont, a camp located next to a freshwater spring south-west of the lake became the permanent home of Clara Layland, an elder and custodian of knowledge known to Noongar people as ‘Daglish Granny’. Even after flooding became common due to the emptying stormwaters into a clay patch near the Jolimont school, Noongar people stayed in this area due to the close proximity of water and food – and perhaps to listen to the stories of Daglish Granny.¹⁴ The exclusion policy was abolished in 1954.¹⁵



FIGURE 8: The ‘Native Prohibited Area’ in Perth, 1927 – 1954 ¹³

⁷ Host, Owen & South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, p. 80.
⁸ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 31.
⁹ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 32.
¹⁰ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 32.
¹¹ Archae-aus Pty Ltd & Ethnoscience, p. 8.
¹² Spillman, Identity Prized, pp. 108 – 109.
¹³ Government of Western Australia, Perth’s Prohibited Area.
¹⁴ Archae-aus Pty Ltd & Ethnoscience, p. 8. See also Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 233.
¹⁵ South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, ‘Prohibited Area Map’, Kaartdijin Noongar – Noongar Knowledge (Perth: 2019) <<https://www.noongarculture.org.au/prohibited-area-map/>> [accessed 8th March 2020]

5.1.2 The Benedictines of New Subiaco

Establishing Roots in Subiaco

The first enduring European footprint close to the Subi East redevelopment area was associated with the arrival of Spanish monks belonging to the Catholic Order of St Benedict.

The Benedictines came to the Swan River Colony in 1846 with the mission of nurturing Catholicism among the Aboriginal peoples of Western Australia. Four separate locations had been chosen for their work, the closest of them at the place they called New Norcia. By 1852, however, the monks had decided it was necessary to establish a solid base closer to Perth. Choosing between the twin allotments of Swan Locations Ah and Ag acquired by the Church in 1846-47, the Order's religious superior in the colony, Dom José

Benito Serra, settled on the larger of the two, situated on a hilltop just south of Lake Monger.¹⁶

By 1851, 'a cluster of primitive huts' had been built, ostensibly foreshadowing a 'grand monastic settlement in the tradition of those the Benedictines remembered in Europe'.¹⁷ Serra named the location 'New Subiaco', honouring the place in Italy which had been the cradle of his Order. By the middle of the decade, the settlement was thriving and largely self-sufficient, but financial problems delayed work on a permanent hilltop monastery until 1858. Limestone was quarried at Reabold Hill to the west, and a number of nearby saw pits were used to prepare the timber needed for roofing and flooring.¹⁸ One such pit was located close to present day Subiaco Oval.

The changing priorities of Catholic hierarchies in both Perth and Rome ultimately condemned Serra's

“ We have three places in the world that share the name. We are the second in age. Subiaco, Italy - not far from Rome was the first. The Spanish Benedictine monks were ordained in Subiaco and that's why they thought they would bring the name here. Then we have the American Subiaco.”

TONY COSTA, former Mayor of the City of Subiaco (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

vision, and by 1864 the last of the Benedictine monks had departed New Subiaco. Most had left to join Dom Rosendo Salvado at New Norcia.

The buildings on the site received little maintenance from the church until 1872, when the Society of St Vincent de Paul moved to establish a boys' orphanage.¹⁹ Taken over by the Sisters of Mercy in 1876, this was converted into a girls' orphanage in 1901. The only surviving building from the Benedictines' time at the site – the 'stables' building – has recently been restored. Recognised as one of

Perth's earliest remaining agrarian buildings, it has had various uses over its 160-year history, among them the pressing of olives from trees planted by the monks.²⁰ A more famous legacy, however, is Dom Serra's name for the monastic settlement, with 'Subiaco' being adopted as the name of a railway platform in 1883, and subsequently that of a suburb and a local government area.²¹

5.2 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

5.2.1 Commonage Reserve 591A

In 1883, surveyors mapped and subdivided the present-day suburb of Subiaco into 139 large and divisible lots for housing. At the same time, a long strip of Crown Land designated Commonage Reserve 591A, was earmarked for future public use south of the railway line. Bounded on the north by a road running west from Thomas Street – named Mueller Road, honouring Australia's most eminent botanist and a long-time director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne – this land today

represents a large part of the Subi East redevelopment area.²²

The reservation of this tract of land for the amenity of the public almost 140 years ago ensured that the area now known as Subi East, a place of connection for Whadjuk Noongar people for aeons past, would carry high public significance as developers and homebuilders moved in. Its destiny as a nexus and recreation hub had been sealed.

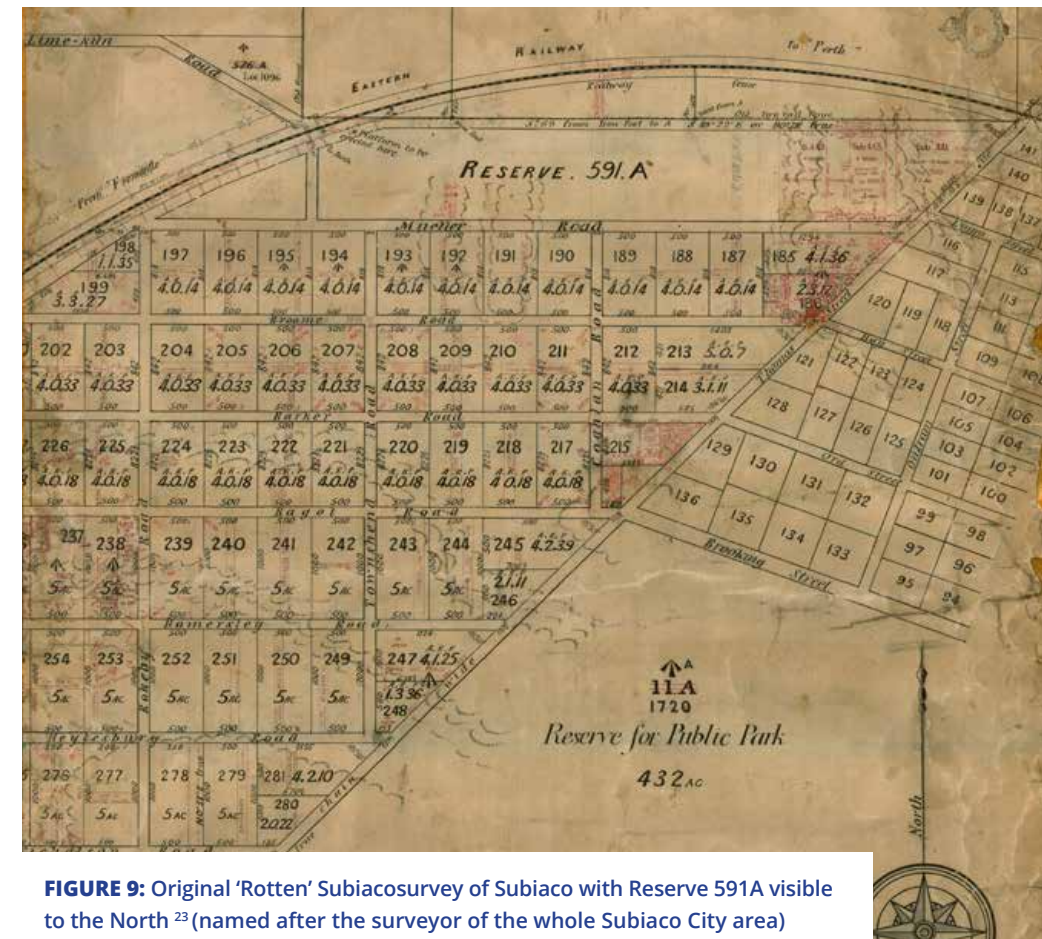


FIGURE 9: Original 'Rotten' Subiaco survey of Subiaco with Reserve 591A visible to the North ²³ (named after the surveyor of the whole Subiaco City area)

“ There is a widely held view that the name of the surveyor “Rotten” befits the actual lot sizes in Subiaco proper. The survey could indeed be seen to be a rotten survey.”

RICHARD DIGGINS – Former Mayor and Alderman of the City of Subiaco, 2020

¹⁶ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 45.

¹⁷ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 44.

¹⁸ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 43.

¹⁹ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 48.

²⁰ MercyCare, 'Stables Restoration: Monks to Olive Oil', MercyCare (revised 2019) <<https://www.mercycare.com.au/news-and-information/stables-restoration-monks-to-olive-oil>> [Accessed 6th February 2020]

²¹ Spillman, Identity Prized, pp. 57-58.

²² Percival Serle, 'Mueller, Baron Sir Ferdinand Jakob Heinrich von (1825-1896)', Dictionary of Australian Biography [n.d.] <<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks15/1500721h/0-dict-biogMu-My.html>> [accessed 9th March 2020]

²³ Image Source: State Records Office, available from: <<https://www.sro.wa.gov.au/archive-collection/collection/maps-online>> [accessed 12th February 2020]

5.2.2 Working-Class Roots

Early Subiaco was a working-class suburb. Its settlement was a consequence of rapid population growth in Western Australia during the 1890s, which resulted from the economic stimulus of the gold rushes and a downturn in the eastern colonies. A lack of housing in the booming metropolitan area led to a large number of people looking for areas to camp. By 1895, 'tent cities' were raising sanitation concerns for the authorities of the time. Tents were cleared from Commonage Reserve 591 on numerous occasions and, in 1896, squatters on Commonage Reserve 591 protested against a notice to move on, unsuccessfully asking for it to be declared a camping ground.²⁴

With railway access and lots already having been marked out, Subiaco attracted developers and the comparatively cheap price of the land in Subiaco saw the number of homes

built escalate rapidly. Between 1895 and 1896 the population of Subiaco grew from around 100 to over 1000. During 1896, an average of 100 people moved to Subiaco per month, with a very high proportion of these were young people with children.²⁵

In its settlement phase, Subiaco was regarded as something of a 'dormitory' suburb from which workers could travel to jobs in more central locations. Many early residents worked six days a week as labourers or craftsmen, and their skills were put to good use in the area. A large proportion of homes were owner built, with men using Sundays to advance the work. This helped engender community pride and influenced early local government. According to the City of Subiaco, much of Subiaco's early architecture, public works' programs and community development resulted from the 'expectations and optimism' of such people.²⁶ As Spillman wrote:

[They] had a genuine faith in the future, a confidence in their own upward mobility which was born of pioneering spirit and kept well nourished by the district's unusual level of community feeling .²⁷

Despite its working-class roots, Subiaco was taking on a middle-class disposition and residents considered it 'a pleasant place to live'.²⁸ A souvenir book on the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York to Western Australia in 1901 noted:

Being so handy to the town ... Subiaco is much affected by the artisan class ... many of whom have been able to

acquire the freeholds of their residents .²⁹

In 1904, 59% of the houses in Subiaco were owner occupied, a rate much higher than in comparable working-class areas.²⁹ Development continued and, between 1901 and 1907, Subiaco's population increased from 3005 to 7681, an increase of more than 155% -- much higher than the surrounding suburbs of Claremont (83%), Leederville (73%) and Perth (8%).

Subiaco's civic leaders successfully marketed the suburb as progressive in the years following the turn of the century, promoting the benefits of the suburb for residential and

commercial interests and boasting the lowest local government rates in Western Australia. Council members were generally regarded as custodians of the working-class image, with a predominant Labor Party influence in local politics. Development was seen as the result of collective effort, 'driven also by an association of self-image with the image of the suburb'.³¹

Efforts by Subiaco 'improvers' included beautification programmes, a more efficient and sanitary sewage system, the closure of the Karrakatta rifle range and the introduction of electric light. These were further enhanced by continuing efforts well into the twentieth century, with the establishment of public gardens, a fire brigade and an electricity plant.³²

Subiaco's population of low income earners was further bolstered following the passage of the Workers Home Act in 1911, which resulted in the reservation of lots in West Subiaco (later, Shenton Park) for the

purpose of providing cheap homes for working class families. Constant building activity helped retain the atmosphere of a developing suburb, one resident recalling there was still 'quite a lot of noise around at weekends, with crosscut saws and axes at work, and the hammering and sawing with houses being completed'.

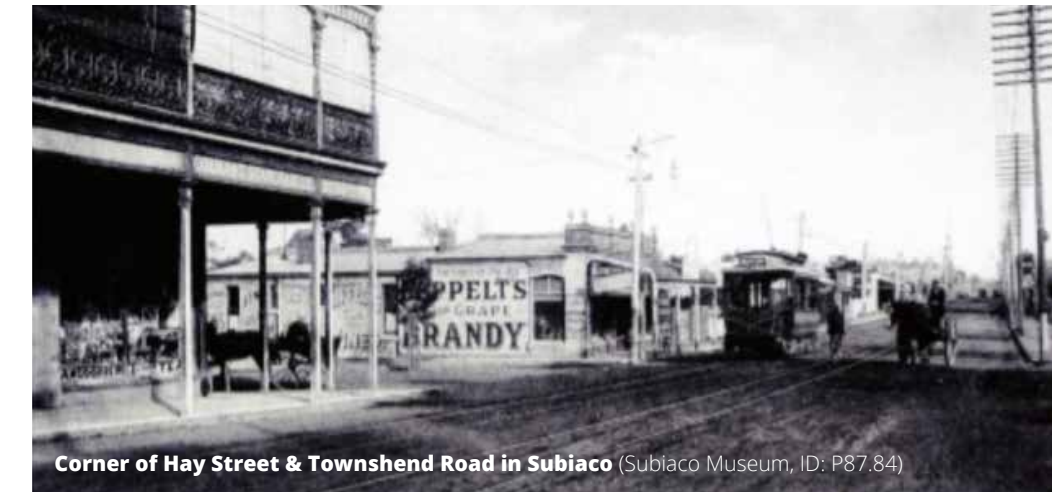
“Subi wasn't like it is now, because all the working people were here. All the factories were across the railway line, so all the factory workers would come over here...it was a different sort of people.”

FARLEY GARLETT, Aboriginal Elder (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

Before World War I, Subiaco was metropolitan Perth's fastest growing suburb.³³

Small weatherboard worker's cottages gradually gave way to brick residences in the 1920s. Whereas

early in the century weatherboard houses had accounted for about 75% of the total in Subiaco, the census of 1921 indicated that 60% of Subiaco homes were brick.³⁴ Despite this, the weatherboard worker's cottage remained the typical Subiaco home in



Corner of Hay Street & Townshend Road in Subiaco (Subiaco Museum, ID: P87.84)

²⁴ Prue Griffin, 'History of Subiaco Oval' (Perth: Hocking Heritage Studio, 2015, p. 9.

²⁵ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 78.

²⁶ City of Subiaco, History of Subiaco, p. 1 (para 5).

²⁷ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 115.

²⁸ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 115.

²⁹ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 117.

³⁰ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 117.

³¹ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 116.

³² Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 123.

³³ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 218; 238.

³⁴ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 219.

the mind of the people during that period, reinforcing Subiaco's working-class image.³⁵

The first brick house in Subiaco was built by Roland Jones, a journalist with the Western Australian Newspaper. It was constructed not far from the corner of Roberts Road and Rokeby Road. Mr Jones dug a well in his yard and provided free water to the then residents of Subiaco.³⁶

Across this period, the way in which the Italian name 'Subiaco' was pronounced underwent change. In the early years, 'Subi-arko' was more prevalent, but an Australianised version – something closer to 'Subi-acko' or 'Subi-acker' – took greater hold. At the same time, Subiaco was increasingly abbreviated to 'Suby' or 'Subi'. One resident of York Street recalled:

You could go to the railway station in Perth, and forget one day and say “A ticket to Subi”, and you got your ticket. It was “Subi”, generally .³⁷

5.2.3 Shabby Without the Chic

Between the 1920s and the 1950s, there was relatively little change in the social fabric of Subiaco. By 1950, however, Subiaco had lost much of its 'respectability' and appeared to be a dilapidated slum, losing the proud self-image cultivated by its earlier residents. One resident remarked:

When I was a child ... it was poor ... but then fifty years later it had become ... down-at-heel poor, shabby poor. I mean you can be poor and quite neat, you can be poor and wear something from Woolworths or Coles and its quite neat and pretty, but when that becomes shabby, it becomes so much shabbier than something that was a bit better ... and so Subiaco became that.³⁸

One solution to reforming Subiaco's shabby image was redevelopment.

An average of about thirty-five new shops or factories were constructed annually throughout the 1950s and 1960s. Demolition became common and there was also a boom in flat construction, particularly between 1962 to 1967.

Unlike today's high-class apartments, flats in the 1950s and 1960s were considered undesirable alternatives, suitable only for the aged, the single, immigrants and tertiary students. Subiaco's old houses, generally small, also failed to attract the wider population as they were seen to be options for the impoverished,

Year	New Dwellings	Number of Units
1962	59	46
1963	96	76
1964	265	243
1966	320	310
1967	397	383

TABLE 6: Construction figures in Subiaco, 1962 - 1967

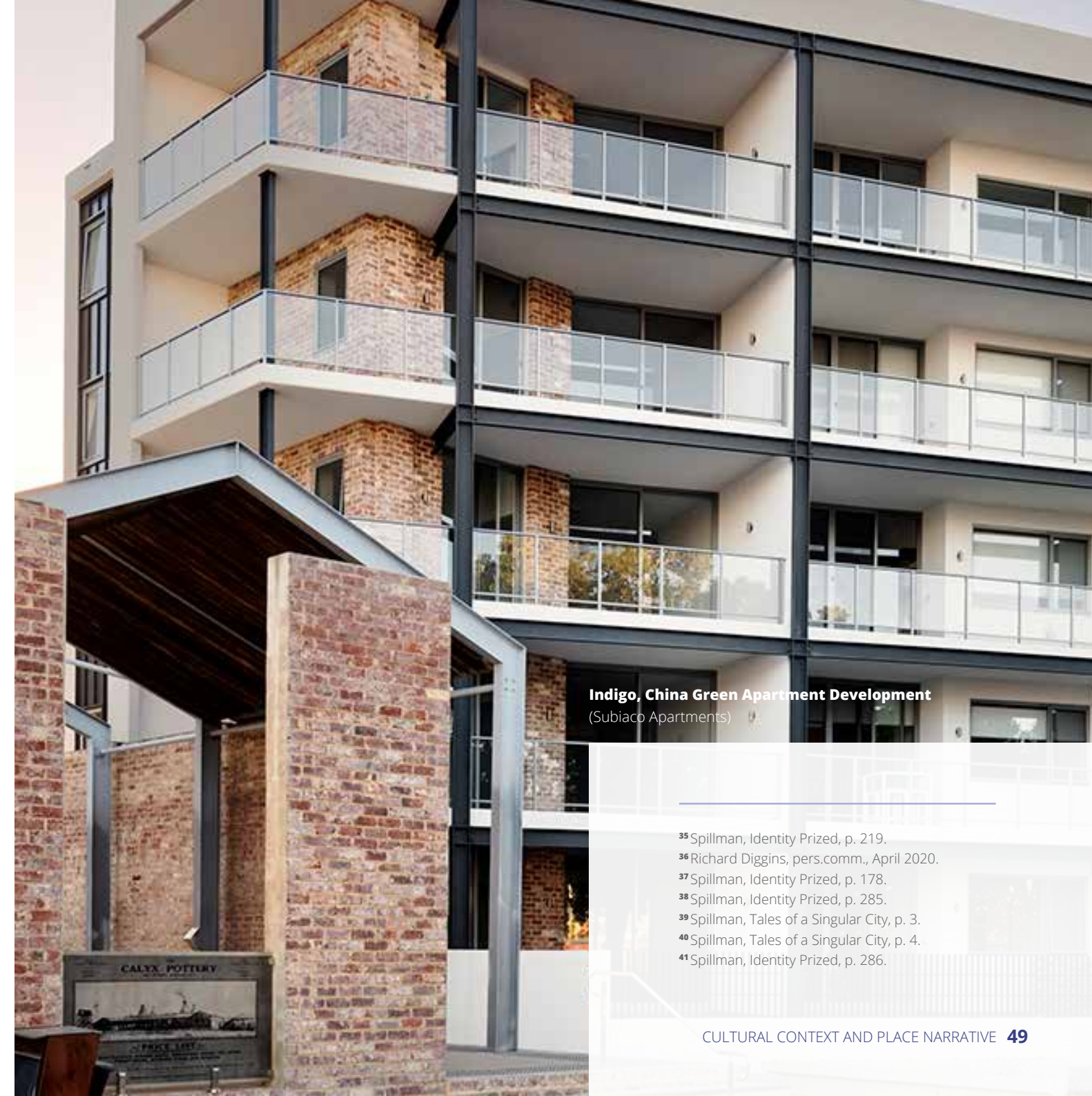
romantics or nostalgic. The number of residents in the area resultantly declined from 16,621 in 1966 to 15,271 in 1976.³⁹ Subiaco came to be regarded as either an 'oldies area' or one that housed impoverished students and low-income youth.⁴⁰ The area's reputation in the mid 1960s was reflected in the experience of one woman who moved from the country and received advice from a bank to look at Subiaco for affordable housing options. She finally purchased a home on Subiaco Road: 'When my husband found out ... he was going to sue the bank for letting me buy a house in Subiaco'.⁴¹

“Everybody knew everybody and we used to play in the street, and where Wandana flats are, that was dirty black sand. We used to play cricket, football, everything.”

ALMA OTLEY, resident of Subiaco for over 80 years (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

5.2.4 Regeneration

A process of regeneration commenced in the early 1970s and continued throughout the 1980s. There was an influx of 'young professional people, nearly all of whom had been overseas', bringing with them an appreciation of 'inner city' living and 'character'. According to Spillman, one consequence was 'unprecedented interest in the renovation of old houses and in the



Indigo, China Green Apartment Development (Subiaco Apartments)

³⁵ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 219.
³⁶ Richard Diggins, pers.comm., April 2020.
³⁷ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 178.
³⁸ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 285.
³⁹ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 3.
⁴⁰ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 4.
⁴¹ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 286.

formation of community-interested groups, including the Subiaco Historical Society'.⁴² The complexion of the Subiaco City Council changed to reflect this, and heritage became a buzzword.

This shift towards the preservation of 'old Subi' impacted perceptions of the area and created a distinctive trendiness as well as the resurgence of local pride. In 1983, the Subiaco Historical Society's president Ian Ward wrote:

Right throughout the city it is noticeable how many residents are renovating their homes. You need only take a few walks or bike rides to see the improvements. The pleasing feature is that most of the renovations strive to modernise and rejuvenate while retaining the character of the original construction... It would be like preaching to the converted to list in this column the benefits of living

*in Subiaco, however it is those benefits which are influencing the changes in our city. The changes have been slow but they have been steady, and are going in the direction of a better locality, environment and place to live.*⁴³

This rejuvenated community pride has carried through to present day in spite of fears, in the mid-to-late 1990s, that the establishment of a Subiaco Redevelopment Authority and development of a former Jolimont industrial area into 'a modern urban village' would undermine its integrity and character.⁴⁴

I could never have imagined living in an apartment, but I love it! It's a great lifestyle for older people, and I think it's a good lifestyle for younger people too given the parks... everything is so central".
DR MAUREEN HELEN, local resident of Subiaco (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

The transformation of Subiaco over time was described well by Liane Davies. On the topic of her morning tram rides in 1954, she categorised Subiaco as 'a real working-class area.' Her fellow passengers, she said, were mainly men in boiler suits and tradesmen of all other varieties. When she told people where she lived, she was often met with a frown that said, 'Oh, Subi.' In 2005, she said, the response she got was, 'Oh, Subiaco?', along with enquires as to 'where their money came from to purchase in such a salubrious suburb'.⁴⁵

Census figures from 2016 demonstrate how the transformation

of the suburb's social profile and demographics. As of 2016 Subiaco had a population of 9,202, with a median age of 38 years. Around 62% of Subiaco's residents work full-time, and 47% of its workers are professionals, with further 17% classified as managers. The top industries of employment in 2016 were hospitals (7.7%), legal services (4.1%), higher education (3.9%), accounting services (3.0%) and hospitality (3.0%).

Median personal, family and household incomes increased in Subiaco in the ten years prior to the 2016 census. The median personal weekly income in 2016 was \$1,146, significantly higher than the state median (\$724) and the national median (\$662). Median family and household incomes were also much higher than the rest of the state and the nation. While the proportion of renters in Subiaco increased from 39% to 45% between 2006 and 2016, 86.2% reported that rental payments were less than 30%

of household income, confirming Subiaco's contemporary reputation as a relatively high-income area.⁴⁶

“Subiaco is a place for all people... A successful community is a mix for all people, and if you sterilize anything you'll pay the price. We're better for having the mix of people”
TONY COSTA, former Mayor of the City of Subiaco (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

5.2.5 Commerce and Industry
Subiaco's retail, hospitality and service sectors have been concentrated along the Hay Street-Rokeby Road

axes since the 1890s. In the early years of the 20th century, Subiaco's council also planned the development of secondary industry through its acquisition of endowment land north of the railway line. This 'Jolimont Industrial Area' became home to a number of significant manufacturers and repairers, but did not reach full fruition until after World War II, when post-war reconstruction and a building boom increased demand for such property. In 1953, then Mayor Joseph Abrahams pointed out its significant role in the State's economy:

*Our industrial area continues to grow in importance in the State's economy, and many of the leaseholding companies have extended their premises, while several very large new buildings have been erected in the area.*⁴⁷

During the 1960s, Subiaco's low property prices and central location made it attractive to businesses, though not those considered 'high

end'. Michael and Judy Monaghan bought the leasehold on the Subiaco Hotel in 1972. Thirty years later, Judy remembered:

*It is hard to reconcile the Subiaco of those days with the vibrant inner-city suburb it has become. The businesses surrounding the railway line and the northern end of Rokeby Road and down Hay Street were light industrial. Tip Top Bakeries, Whittakers [a timber yard and hardware], Dunlop Tyres and an engineering works surrounded the Subiaco Hotel. It was a working man's place, and the front bar was the meeting place after a hard day's work.*⁴⁸

The Monaghans, who only recently sold the Subiaco Hotel in 2019, were part of the change that made Subiaco popular for its pubs, restaurants and nightlife generally during the 1970s and 1980s.⁴⁹ At the same time, the suburb's regeneration attracted more upmarket businesses, among them such fashion stores as Millie's Bazaar and Tatters.⁵⁰ The Subiaco Pavilion markets opened in 1982, occupying a former furniture showroom at the railway end of Rokeby Road, and immediately became a hive of activity on weekends.⁵¹

Football matches at Subiaco Oval, particularly following the creation of the West Coast Eagles to participate in the Victorian Football League (later renamed Australian Football League) in 1987, injected considerable

⁴² Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 339.
⁴³ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 357.
⁴⁴ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 253 – 65.
⁴⁵ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 5.
⁴⁶ All data taken from ABS Census QuickStats for Subiaco (SSC).
⁴⁷ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 100, 213.
⁴⁸ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 36; 248.
⁴⁹ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 66 – 69.
⁵⁰ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 194 - 214.
⁵¹ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 94 - 95.



money into many local businesses, but parking difficulties and greater investment in the Claremont shopping area counteracted this after 2000. After a quarter of a century, the iconic Subiaco Pavilion closed down in 2008, and the opening of the Claremont Quarter, with Stage One completed in 2009 and Stage Two handed over in 2011, left retailers in Subiaco reeling.^{52, 53}

The problems for Subiaco businesses were exacerbated by consideration of local government amalgamations and State Government planning for a new stadium superseding Subiaco

Oval. By 2018, football matches at Subiaco had been discontinued. This was expected to have ‘considerable impact’, and within a year, vacancies in the commercial property sector were rising – a clear harbinger of the challenges being faced.⁵⁴

Nevertheless, such new developments as Bob Hawke College and the broader Subi East redevelopment, with its vision of niche high density housing, holds out the tantalising prospect of reversing the decline of commercial opportunity in Subiaco as the third decade of the 21st century unfolds.

5.3 PLACE EVOLUTION

5.3.1 Transport: A Catalyst for Subiaco's Development

Trains

Railways and other transportation links are often vital to the development of towns and suburbs. In Subiaco's case, the linking of Fremantle and Perth by rail and the location of a train station near the former Benedictine monastery at New Subiaco helped define Subiaco as a residential area.⁵⁵

In the late 1870s, debate had raged about the route that the proposed railway line should take. Ultimately the route approved showed a line travelling north from Fremantle and curving eastward around Freshwater Bay, running about 3kms north of the Swan River to Perth.⁵⁶ The line was opened in March 1881, with a platform at Subiaco being erected in 1883 – ostensibly to serve the orphanage at the former monastery. Located about 200 metres east of the current station,

it was only one of two between North Fremantle and Perth – the other being at Claremont. For the subsequent decade, passengers wishing to board were required to flag down the train as it emerged around the corner and out of the bush.⁵⁷

Trains then represented the only alternative to horse-drawn transport and bicycles, but they were not particularly fast. One 1895 newspaper article from 1895 reported an announcement that a new type of train was to be ordered by the colonial government, commenting that the news would be received:

... gratefully by the many persons who have reason to complain of the speed, or want of speed, which is maintained in cases where time is literally money, and journeys are spun out to an irritating length. The chief sufferers are the travellers between Fremantle and Perth, the number of

*whom is growing daily. To take in most cases forty minutes to traverse twelve miles is ridiculous. It is something, but not very much, faster than can be done with a good horse by road.*⁵⁸

As population outside Perth increased, there was a need for new railway stations, and one of these was located on the boundary between Subiaco and West Leederville. Initially called simply ‘Leederville’, the West Leederville station is located just to the north of Coghlan Road and is within the Subi East redevelopment area.

⁵² Brookfield, ‘Claremont Quarter’, Multiplex Global (2017), <<https://www.multiplex.global/projects/claremont-quarter-wa-australia/>> [accessed 11th March 2020]

⁵³ ‘Subiaco's Pavillion Markets Could Reopen Under a Possible New Deal for First Time in Nearly a Decade’, The West Australian, 15th November 2017, in The West Australian Online <<https://thewest.com.au/news/wa/subiacos-pavillion-markets-could-reopen-under-a-possible-new-deal-for-first-time-in-nearly-a-decade-ng-b88657741z>> [accessed 23rd March 2020]

⁵⁴ Kristy Bizzaca, p. 65.

⁵⁵ City of Subiaco, History of Subiaco.

⁵⁶ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 55.

⁵⁷ Spillman, Identity Prized, pp. 57-8.

⁵⁸ ‘Vigilans Et Audax’, The West Australian, 30th August 1895, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/4550122>> [accessed 28th February 2020]

Trams and buses

A private enterprise tram system operated throughout Perth from the 1890s – surprisingly, a little-known fact today. Suburbs that developed following the gold rush would have been unserviceable had they not been linked to the city by adequate transport routes.⁵⁹ By 1899, one of the tramways, running along Hay Street, had reached the Thomas Street boundary. From January 1900, this line was extended through Subiaco, along Hay Street to Rokeby Road and then onward to a terminus at Kings Park gates.

Football at Subiaco Oval was serviced by the same line, as was the shopping precinct on Rokeby Road. The map below shows the routes the tram followed in the late 1930s, with stops three, four, five and six situated in Subiaco.

After World War II, buses slowly replaced tramway services in Perth.

Subiaco's tramline lasted longer than most in Perth, but was finally closed in April 1958. The tracks were pulled up the following year.⁶¹

Since that time, debate about the use of light rail as an effective and sustainable means of easing traffic congestion in Perth has waxed and waned. In 2005, Subiaco's mayor Heather Henderson emerged as an 'enthusiastic supporter' of the concept; despite this, a return to trams as a part of a solution to pressing transport infrastructure needs has not occurred.⁶²

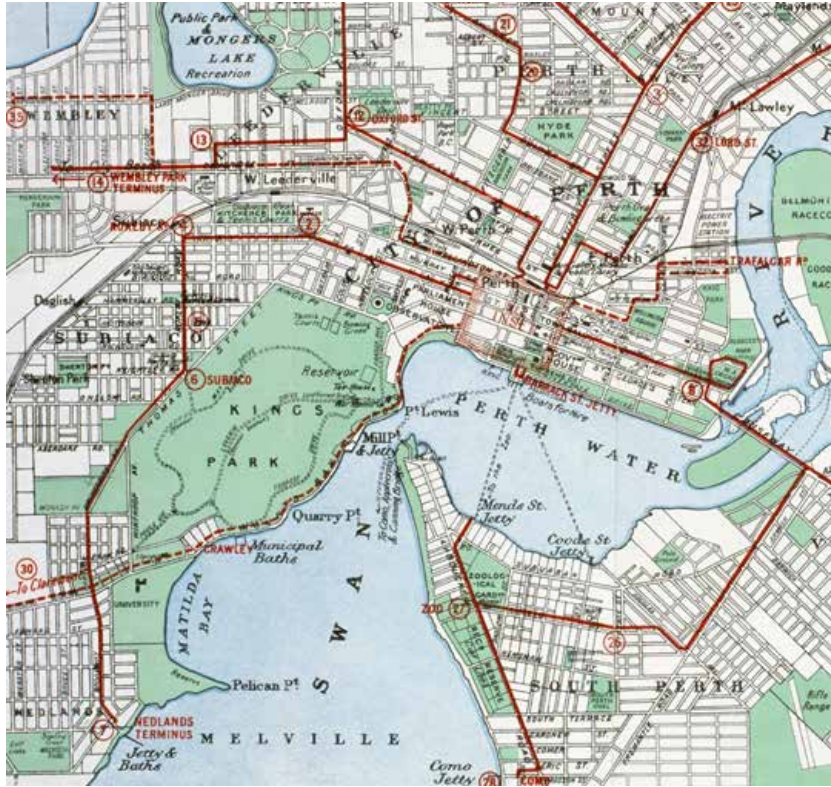
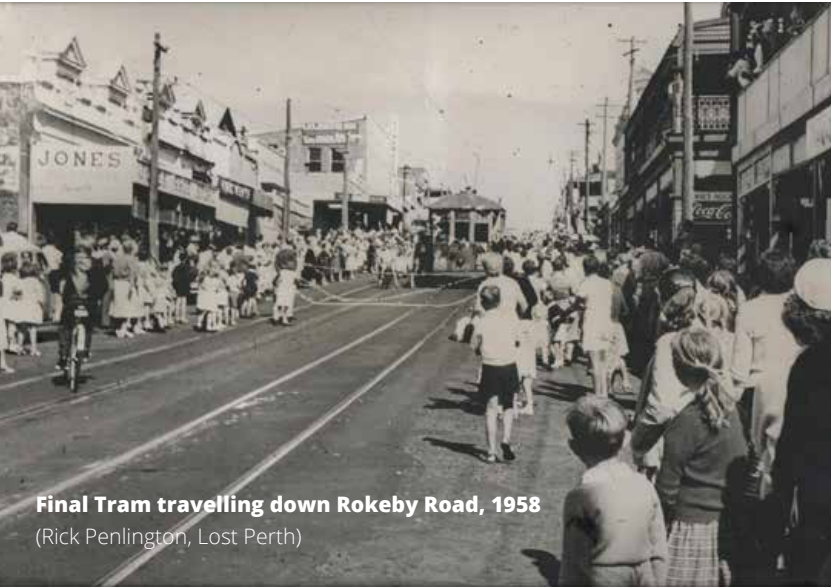


FIGURE 10: Perth Tramway Routes, 1939 ⁶⁰



Final Tram travelling down Rokeby Road, 1958
(Rick Penlington, Lost Perth)

Horse, Carts and Cars

Horses played a key transportation role in Subiaco's early days. Horse-drawn coach services helped convey pedestrians from Subiaco to the city, and stables and paddocks were still part of the area's landscape in the early 19th century.⁶³ Early roads in Subiaco were built to serve this kind of traffic, funded by loans raised by the Council. Before the first loan in 1900, there were fewer than 5kms of roads in the entire municipality, but this increased to 20kms just three years later.⁶⁴

Rapid population growth led to heavy road traffic, which took its toll on the quality of the narrow and largely unsealed roads. Dust was also a problem, flung up by passing vehicles, and this was exacerbated by the introduction of the tram network in the early 1900s.⁶⁵ Although the first motor vehicle had been imported into Western Australia in 1898, they were few and far between. From

1908, councils were authorised to licence cars, and Subiaco councillor W.W. Morrison was issued the municipality's first. Even in 1913, however, many Subiaco families could not afford their own horse, much less a motor car. To compensate for this, a line of taxis waited for customers alongside the train station.⁶⁶

It was not until the late 1940s and early 1950s that a significant increase in motor vehicle registrations in the area was recorded. This reflected the post-war prosperity and increased consumer interest following the release of the Australian-made Holden sedan.⁶⁷ Freedom of movement afforded by the increased use of private cars led to an increase of non-residents accessing the facilities and amenities on offer in Subiaco, and this created pressure for the provision of parking.⁶⁸ Addressing this issue retrospectively continued to present a challenge for Subiaco more than fifty years later.

The roads which surround the Subi East redevelopment area are busy,

with Thomas Street one of Perth's busiest arterial corridors. Roberts Road and Hay Street were converted into a one-way traffic pair in the early 1990s but more recently there has been an examination of the benefits of reintroducing two-way traffic.⁶⁹

TABLE 7: Average Weekday Traffic, selected roads, Subiaco ⁷⁰

Name of Road	Average Weekday Traffic	Year of Data Recorded
Roberts Road	12,581	2015/16
Hay Street	12,118	2013/14
Railway Parade	16,862	2016/17
Haydn Bunton Drive	13,229	2015/16
Thomas Street	53,601	2015/16

⁵⁹ Perth Electric Tramway Society, Perth Tramways 1899 – 1958, (Perth Electric Tramway Society, 2013) <<https://www.pets.org.au/pets10p.html>> [accessed 19th February 2020]

⁶⁰ Image Source: University of Melbourne, Perth and Suburban Districts Showing Tramway Routes, (University Library, 2014) <<http://cat.lib.unimelb.edu.au/record=b2373334>> [accessed 19th February 2020]

⁶¹ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 288.

⁶² Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 286.

⁶³ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 96.

⁶⁴ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 130.

⁶⁵ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 130.

⁶⁶ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 181.

⁶⁷ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 288.

⁶⁸ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 289.

⁶⁹ Landcorp, 'Subiaco East Redevelopment Area Transport Analysis', (Perth: Arup Pty Ltd, 2019), p. 3. Landcorp, Subiaco East Redevelopment Area Transport Analysis, p. 10.

⁷⁰ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 130.



5.3.2 Subiaco Oval

Origins

Generations of Western Australians have recognised Subiaco Oval as a place of State and national significance. For most of its history, the venue has primarily been associated with the sport of Australian football. In the memories and experience of football followers today, it was, indeed, 'the home' of football in the State.

This perception obscures that fact that Subiaco Oval was a relative latecomer to top State-level football. It opened for business in 1908 – twenty-three years after the competition began, and 12 years after the establishment of the Subiaco Football Club. It also obscures the fact that it did not become a preferred venue for finals and grand finals, or home to football's administering body, until the mid-1930s. For its first three decades, then, Subiaco Oval was just one of many suburban grounds in Perth, primarily of significance to local sporting

aficionados but also used for a wide range of community events.

Originally only known as part of Commonage Reserve 591A, and then Mueller Park, the space that Subiaco Oval now occupies was unflatteringly referred to as 'sand patch' during the 1890s. A football club was formed by Subiaco's early residents in the early months of 1896, pre-dating by two months the establishment of a local road board, predecessor of the municipal council. The Subiaco Football Club entered a second-tier competition and struggled. Moreover, the condition of the envisaged reserve on the commonage was so poor that only one match was played there during the 1896 football season. Few, if any, were played there in 1897.

With the formation of the Subiaco Cricket Club in September 1896 further highlighting the need to develop adequate playing fields in the area, one of the first acts of the Subiaco Municipal Council – established in June 1897 – was to apply for the lease of four hectares of

land from the commonage. A ten-year lease was granted, and from that time maps from the designated site of the future Subiaco Oval identified the space as a 'Cricket Ground'. With the council reluctant to invest in recreation facilities on the basis of a ten-year lease, however, sporting clubs looked elsewhere for playing fields.

The Subiaco Football Club settled on a site near a swamp in West Subiaco (Shenton Park), now known as Lake Jualbup. The club won premierships in 1898 and 1900 before being admitted to top level Western Australian Football Association (WAFA) competition in 1901.⁷¹ By then, however, rising water levels at the West Subiaco oval were causing difficulties. At a meeting in 1902, every opposition club 'swore thickly that it individually and collectively would never play' at

Subiaco's home venue again.⁷² Such a boycott did not transpire, but neither did the situation improve. The Subiaco team's performances were woeful, while the ground was usually under water when matches were played. One comment recorded at a WAFA meeting in 1905 was that the local council 'evidently intended the ground to be used for water polo, not football'.⁷³

There could be no further delay to the development of an alternative ground for sporting purposes, and, in July 1906, it was announced:

There is every possibility of another playing ground making an appearance before next season. The Subiaco Council have set apart £250 for improvements to Mueller-road Reserve with the object of the

⁷¹ Subiaco Football Club, 'Historic Timeline - Subiaco FC', Subiaco Football Club <<http://www.subiaco.fc.com.au/history/historic-timeline>> [accessed 5th February 2020]

⁷² Spillman, Diehards 1896-1945, p. 27.

⁷³ 'Football. Australian Game. Meeting of the Association', 15th June 1905, in Trove, <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/25516739>> [accessed 8th March 2020]

ground being used for football and cricket.⁷⁴

Contrary to hopes at this time, the new oval was not ready for use during 1907 and the first top level match at 'Mueller Park', as the ground was known in these early years, took place in May 1908, Subiaco defeating East Perth by 15 points.⁷⁵ Two months earlier the WAFB had changed its name to the Western Australian Football League (WAFL).

Home of the Subiaco Football Club

The Subiaco Municipal Council took great pride in its new recreation ground, which soon won recognition for its first-class playing surface and facilities (including recently-installed turnstiles).⁷⁶ Before long, too, success came to the Subiaco Football Club in the form of back-to-back premierships in 1912 and 1913, with another in 1915.

The club enjoyed strong local support and, in turn, contributed to Subiaco's sense of community through the difficult World War I years and 1920s. It won another premiership in 1924 and was runner-up in 1925 and 1926. Subiaco Oval's highlight during the twenties was indisputably Western Australia's defeat of Victoria before 18,200 people on 10 August 1921. This was the State's first win over the 'Big V' and, combined with a subsequent win over South Australia at Perth Oval, it helped delivered WA its first Australian Football Championship. A star of the match was Subiaco's ruckman, Tom Outridge, who later that year was awarded the inaugural Sandover Medal as the WAFL's fairest and best player.⁷⁷

The Subiaco Football Club continued to enjoy close relationship with the Subiaco council and, in 1922, Mayor Walter Richardson – a former Subiaco player – was instrumental in winning support for a new grandstand at Subiaco Oval. He called a local

referendum to approve a loan for £5,000 for the project because the original stand, built in 1908-09, had fallen into disrepair. This was a very significant amount at the time, but the project went ahead and was completed late in the 1923 season, with reward coming in the shape of a finals match between East Fremantle and East Perth.⁷⁸

During the 1930s, largely due to the Great Depression, the Subiaco Football Club lost many star players to the larger and more lucrative Victorian Football League (VFL). Nevertheless, good results were achieved, with top four finishes in five seasons and the runner-up placing in 1931, 1933 and 1935.



Subiaco Football Club Captain Coach Ross Smith, who led Subiaco to the premiership in 1973 (WA National Football League)

⁷⁴ 'Football. Australian Game. To-Day's Fixtures', 21st July 1906, in Trove, <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/25683883>> [accessed 8th March 2020]

⁷⁵ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 186.

⁷⁶ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 188.

⁷⁷ Spillman, Diehards 1896-1945, pp. 81 - 2; 84.

⁷⁸ Spillman, Diehards 1896-1945, pp. 92 - 3.



Subiaco Football Club, August 1930 (Western Australian Football Commission)

ARRIVAL OF SUBIACA F.C. - W.A. AT SYDNEY. 5.8.30.
"CARLTON" 149, D'URST RD.
DARLINGHURST.

The League Moves In

By 1935, the quality of Subiaco Oval as a sporting venue led the West Australian National Football League (formerly the WAFL) to enter into negotiations with the Subiaco Municipal Council with a few to establishing it as league headquarters. At the commencement of the 1936 season, WANFL president Wally Stooke announced:

*Foremost among the League's activities is the establishment of Administrative and Club Headquarters at Subiaco, which is the outcome of a long cherished ideal to place the control of football, both socially and financially, on a basis commensurate with the greatness and popularity of Australia's national game.*⁷⁹

The WANFL's new members' stand and office building was constructed on the northern wing and opened on grand final day, 10 October 1936.⁸⁰

Clearly, this was a bonus for Subiaco because its local oval was now 'the home of football'. The municipality, which became the City of Subiaco in 1952 continued to invest in the ground and the ground continued to deliver benefits to the community, bolstering businesses and making the suburb a social hub.

Paradoxically, the Subiaco Football Club entered hard times after World War II. After finishing third in 1946, the club did not reach the finals again until 1959, when 45,325 people watched a team coached by Charlie Tyson lost the grand final to East Perth, with the visitors' ruckman Graham 'Polly' Farmer chaired off the ground and awarded the Simpson Medal for best on ground.⁸¹

In the middle of the 1960s, the club was struggling again and there was also considerable uncertainty as to whether Subiaco Oval would retain its status as league headquarters. In 1961, the Subiaco City Council lost a referendum proposing to build a new grandstand – Subiaco's ratepayers

ultimately deciding that it would be unfair for them to pay for what had become a whole-of-State facility.⁸² Spillman recorded that this defeat 'left the ground without adequate accommodation for finals crowds, prompting the Council and the WANFL to permit the erection of temporary seating'. He continued:

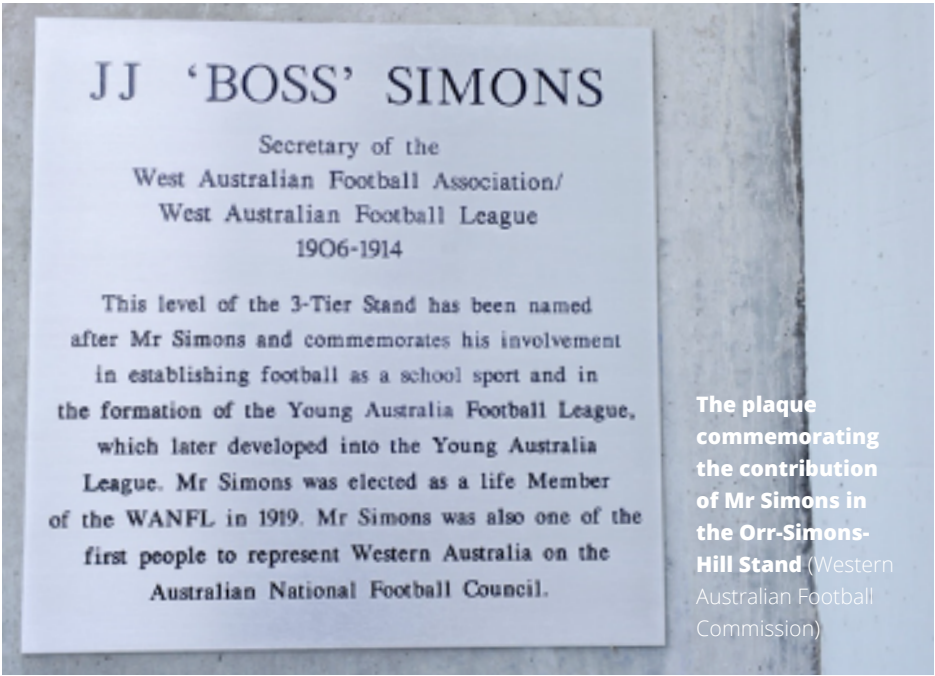
*Such an arrangement was clearly unsatisfactory in the long term and, by 1966, the league had begun to question the wisdom of its [1956] decision to extend its tenure. The matter came to a head when the Perth City Council... announced its preparedness to raise a loan to finance the development of East Perth's home ground, Perth Oval. The City of Perth then commenced negotiations with the WANFL with a view to securing future finals and interstate matches.*⁸³

The Subiaco City Council fought back and, in June 1968, it was able to

announce a deal with the league under which it would raise a loan of \$500,000 for a new stand, with the WANFL itself – not Subiaco ratepayers – responsible for repayments. The new, 3-tiered stand was to accommodate more than 7,500 spectators, and it was opened in August 1969.⁸⁴

“Those gates were like walking into Disneyland for me. It just felt great, I loved football, I loved the people who played it, and I really loved the atmosphere”.

DENNIS COMMETTI, renowned sports broadcaster, WAFL Coach and player (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)



In 1970, after many years of campaigning, the Subiaco Football Club received council approval for a new 2-storey building adjoining its clubrooms, to include a social hall, a dining room, several bar areas and a range of sporting facilities.⁸⁵ The club's lack of licensed facilities had been a major financial constraint, and this was a turning point in its history. Subiaco's

49-year premiership drought ended in 1973, when former St Kilda champion Ross Smith turned a team moulded by Haydn Bunton Jnr over the previous five years into a team that was clearly the league's best. On 29 September 1973, a crowd of 46,855 people watched Subiaco defeat West Perth by 32 points.⁸⁶

Three years after this premiership, the Subiaco Football Club initiated the inaugural State of Origin match between Western Australia and Victoria. While attempts to mount such a match in 1976 failed, they were successful in 1977 in spite of well-laid plans being disrupted after the VFL's grand final produced a tie, which

necessitated a rematch and delayed the interstate clash at Subiaco Oval by one week. The State of Origin match on 8 October attracted only 25,467 people, but resulted in a memorable 94-point win for Western Australia and laid the foundation for many more such clashes, also establishing a model adopted in rugby league.⁸⁷

“It was just the history of the place. All big games were played there, all finals were played there, interstate games were played there. The first state of origin game was played there which was fantastic. It was just the history of the whole place. The other clubs obviously had their own club history but this had the whole leagues history there.”

PETER FEATHERBY, Subiaco, WAFL and AFL footballer (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

⁷⁹ Spillman, Diehards 1896-1945, p. 144.

⁸⁰ Spillman, Diehards 1896-1945, p. 144.

⁸¹ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, p. 66.

⁸² Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, p. 97.

⁸³ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, p. 138.

⁸⁴ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, pp. 139 – 40.

⁸⁵ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, p. 140.

⁸⁶ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, pp. 153 – 173.

⁸⁷ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, pp. 189 – 190.

Sandover Medal

The Sandover Medal, originally donated by Alfred Sandover, is awarded to the fairest and best player in the Western Australian Football League each year. The inaugural medal was awarded in 1921 to Thomas Outridge who played for Subiaco and Cyril Hoft who played for Perth.⁸⁸ A player from the Subiaco Football club has won the medal twelve times in the awards in the awards 98-year history.

Over the years the medal has been awarded to numerous players of note from across all of the WA clubs. Bill Walker from Swan Districts is the only player to have won the medal four times (1965, 1966, 1967 and 1970). Snr., Merv McIntosh, Graham ‘Polly’ Farmer and Barry Cable both won the medal three times. Another player of note who have won the medal include Stephen Michael who holds the WAFL record for the most consecutive league games. The only two players to have won both the Sandover Medal and the Brownlow are Haydn Bunton

Snr and Matthew Pridis. Haydn Bunton Snr, who played for Subiaco, won both the Brownlow Medal and the Sandover Medal three times in his career.⁸⁹ More recently, Matthew Priddis won the Sandover Medal for Subiaco in 2006 and the Brownlow medal in 2014.

In 2000 the Sandover Medal Walk was established. Footpath pavers were places along Roberts Road and Haydn Bunton Drive to recognise the WAFL and the recipients of the award. In 2017 the last paver to the walk was added by Haiden Schloithe, that year’s winner of the medal. The walk is recognized as a valuable part of the heritage and history of football in Western Australia.⁹⁰ The pavers have been retained and will be repurposed in the future Subi East Redevelopment.

“*Football brought a lot of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people together. When our Noongar boys started playing football...there was still racism, but the teams were very good at managing all that stuff. There’re still long-time friends now, of people that supported football together’.*”

FARLEY GARLETT, Aboriginal Elder (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

Remarkable Indigenous Players

Over the many decades of football at Subiaco Oval, Indigenous players have been recognised for their abilities and triumphs: something they have not always received in Western Australia, particularly in the early 20th century. Many have argued that the game of Australian rules football it itself descended from an Indigenous game played by Aboriginal people across the south east of Australia called ‘Marngrook’: word from the language of Gunditjmara people that means ‘game ball.’

Jimmy Melbourne was the first Indigenous Australian to play senior

Australian rules football, and played for the Subiaco Football Club from 1903 to 1904.⁹¹ Of all the times the Sandover medal has been awarded, 12% of recipients have been Indigenous (whereas Indigenous people account for just 3% of the Western Australian population).⁹²

Some of the most majestic and exquisitely skilled players to grace the football field were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Famous and revered names such as Farmer; Cable; Dempsey; Krakouer; Rioli; Narkle; Yarran; Winmar; Michael; Johnson; Lewis; Kickett; Grover...and many more made their mark in the rough and tumble of Australian Rules Football at Subiaco Oval and across Australia.

Football provided a unique forum where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders could gain the recognition and respect, so sadly lacking in everyday life, through the exhibition of their unique game sense and the ability to do the unimaginable with the oval ball. While before the 1967 referendum Aboriginal community members were not even counted as citizens, they were certainly embraced as truly remarkable and skilled athletes that shone with the football in their hands.

Footballer Eric Hayward, an Aboriginal man from Broomehill in the Great Southern region, spoke of playing in a Thirds Grand Final for under 21s at Subiaco Oval in 1965:

I can remember trying really hard and I can remember, after that game, when the Captain of the Perth team was standing on the table and he was just saying a few words for our side. He leant over and he put his hand out and he

*said ‘I want to congratulate you mate, because your effort today was fantastic’... and on top of that, for the final series, I did get the fairest and best trophy as well from my own club. That was really important.*⁹³

Hayward notes that racism on the field was and remains prevalent, but argues that football has been an important part of bringing Aboriginal people (and Noongar people in particular) ‘into the mainstream.’ On the topic of feeling included, Hayward said ‘to get a guernsey in a footy game gave you a place in a Wadjala [white person’s] sporting institution and therefore a place in the whiteman’s world...in a society where equality was seldom given to us, it was a big thing to be out there on a so-called level playing field’.⁹⁴

“*Football brought a lot of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people together. When our Noongar boys started playing football...there was still racism, but the teams were very good at managing all that stuff. There’re still long-time friends now, of people that supported football together”.*

FARLEY GARLETT, Aboriginal Elder (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)



Legendary Aboriginal Player, coach and Sandover medallist, Barry Cable playing for Perth Football Club against Subiaco Football Club (The West Australian Newspaper)

⁸⁸ WAFL, Sandover Medal.

⁸⁹ Spillman, Diehards 1869 - 1945, p.176.

⁹⁰ City of Subiaco, ‘Sandover Medal Walk to be protected at Subiaco Oval site’ City of Subiaco 2017) <<https://www.subiaco.wa.gov.au/Your-council/News-and-media/News/2017/09-September/Sandover-medal>> [accessed 7th February 2020]

⁹¹ Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority, Heritage Inventory, p. 47.

⁹² Sportstg, ‘Western Australian Football League’, Aboriginal Football: The Indigenous Game

(Carnarvon: Sportstg, n.d.) <https://websites.sportstg.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=1-5545-0-0-0&slID=221438> [accessed 05/03/2020] Eric Hayward, ‘Eric Hayward – Oral History Interview Videos’ (Subiaco: City of Subiaco Museum, n.d.), p. 1.

⁹³ Eric Hayward, No Free Kicks: Family, Community, Football, (Fremantle: Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 2006), pp. 350 – 351.

⁹⁴ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, pp. 232 – 234.

National Football Competition

During the 1980s, the success of State of Origin football and a financial crisis within the Victorian Football League provided conditions for a reshaping of the Western Australian football landscape. In 1983, six of the twelve VFL clubs were ‘technically bankrupt’, and the league was looking for ways of rationalising the competition, accessing national markets and wresting cash from other states in the form of licensing fees. The high level of State-of-Origin contests between Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia had provided a tantalising glimpse of what might, in future, be possible. By the summer of 1985-86, the VFL was reportedly ‘gung-ho about going national next year’.⁹⁵

A majority of Western Australian clubs opposed the entry of a Perth-based team into the VFL but, in August 1986 the WAFL accepted an invitation to mount a team in the VFL from 1987. Spillman notes that the decision

was taken with little public debate, and that it ‘gnawed at the grass roots of the game, permanently and profoundly changing football culture’.⁹⁶ The formation of the West Coast Eagles ensued, with the club seeking to represent the State of Western Australia from a base at Subiaco Oval – a home ground it would share with the Subiaco Football Club, chosen because of its historical importance, central location and links to nearby public transport.⁹⁷ The team enjoyed its first taste of finals football in 1988, finishing fourth.

The effect of this on WAFL competition was devastating. Crowds attending by the Subiaco Football Club’s matches plummeted by 51% in 1987 and continued to fall. The VFL was renamed the Australian Football League (AFL) in 1990 and West Coast was a regular finals presence during the decade, winning premierships in 1992 and 1994. Nevertheless, total Western Australian football attendances – WAFL and AFL combined – did not return to

pre-1987 levels until West Coast was joined in the league by the Fremantle Football Club in 1995. Like West Coast, the Fremantle Dockers utilised Subiaco Oval for home games, though the club’s administration and training base was located at Fremantle Oval until 2016, when the club relocated to a new facility at Cockburn.

Grass banks, old grandstands and concrete terraces were all replaced with seating, much of it under cover in new concrete stands. Subiaco Oval continued to be a venue for WAFL finals and the Perth venue for AFL matches, and the West Coast Eagles won a third premiership in 2006. By then, however, the future of the oval was in doubt. The Subiaco Football Club had relocated to Leederville Oval in 2003, and successive State Governments were considering options for a new stadium.

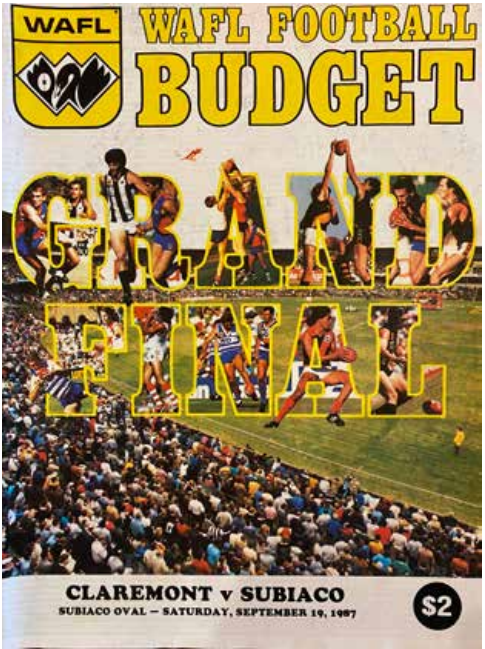


FIGURE 11: 1987 WAFL Grand Final Budget. Subiaco v Claremont - with Claremont victorious ⁹⁸

⁹⁵ Spillman, Diehards 1946-2000, pp. 232 – 234.
⁹⁶ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 237.
⁹⁷ Roy Jones, ‘Home and Away: The Grounding of New Football Teams in Perth, Western Australia’, The Australian Journal of Anthropology, 13.3 (2002), 270-282 (p. 275) in ProQuest <<https://search-proquest-com.ezproxy.library.uwa.edu.au/docview/212668600?accountid=14681>> [accessed 5th February 2020]
⁹⁸ Image Source: WA Football League



Cricket and Other Sports

Despite being primarily associated with Australian football, Subiaco Oval also hosted a wide range of other sports. These events and activities have also served to connect the community to the site and remain meaningful to thousands of Western Australians.

The first cricket club in the Subiaco area was founded in 1896. For the first twelve years of the Subiaco Cricket Club's existence, the team played in the Senior Matting Association at the West Subiaco (Shenton Park) ground which was also utilised during this period by the Subiaco Football Club.⁹⁹ The cricket club was admitted to Western Australian Cricket Association (WACA) competition in 1907-08, the summer in which it moved to the Mueller Park (Subiaco Oval) ground.

The Subiaco Cricket Club won a B-grade pennant in 1909-10 and the following season merged with the Leederville team, playing under the name Subiaco-Leederville until

1930-31 and winning further B-grade pennants in 1922, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1929. The following season, it was promoted and made an immediate impact by winning the A-grade premiership. Playing once more as the Subiaco Cricket Club, it became one of the State's leading clubs, winning five A-grade premierships between 1936-37 and 1946-47 along with five other premierships in minor grades.^{100 101}

Although the Subiaco Cricket Club did not achieve similar success in the 1950s and 1960s, it was the A-grade runner-up in 1950-51 and 1957-58. The club's highlight in this era was Jack Rutherford's success in becoming the first Western Australian to be selected for Australia on a major tour. He was included in the Australian side which visited England, India, and Pakistan in 1956 and played in a Test match against India in Bombay.¹⁰²

In 1965-66 the Subiaco Cricket Club left Subiaco Oval and moved to Rosalie Park on the west side of Thomas Street. Ten years later, it merged with Floreat Cricket Club to

become the Subiaco-Floreat Cricket Club. Nevertheless, the Subiaco Oval will always have relevance to the Subiaco cricket community, having been the site of many memories over the years.

Subiaco Oval was also used as a venue for athletics events, in particular interschool athletics carnivals after the establishment of the State School Athletic Association in 1902. Although this association lapsed during World War I and did not reform immediately after hostilities ceased, it ultimately became the Metropolitan State Schools Sports Association, which changed its name in 1929 to become the Western Australian State School Amateur Sports Association (WASSASA).¹⁰³ Children of many generations have distinct memories of participating in interschool sporting competitions at Subiaco Oval, often in awe at the opportunity to compete on the hallowed turf that hosted athletes like renowned Olympians like Shirley Strickland who trained there and the venue for so many famous sporting events.

School sport recovered more quickly after the Second World War, with WASSASA swiftly restoring its program to pre-war levels. Although athletics carnivals had for at time been held at the WACA Ground, they returned to Subiaco Oval from 1946. These continued even after the construction of the Perry Lakes Stadium in 1962 and many older people today have fond memories of running, jumping or competing in other events in interschool events at Subiaco Oval.



FIGURE 12: Newspaper clipping announcing school athletics meet, 1949 ¹⁰⁴

“We sang very irish hymns, then we had sort of a sports day, but there weren’t too many sports it was mostly athletics. All the kids who were fairly able were invited to be part of that because it was competitive. I was a child, but it felt like a big deal”.

DR MAUREEN HELEN, local resident of Subiaco (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

Many other sports have graced Subiaco Oval, albeit on a less regular and enduring basis. A talking point of 1954, for example, was a three-day round robin tennis tournament on a specially developed court in front of the WANFL members' stand. The tournament features a group of the world' most celebrated professionals, including Australian legends Frank Sedgman, Ken McGregor and Dinny Pails; the USA's Ricardo 'Pancho' Gonzalez; Ecuador's 'mighty atom', Francisco 'Pancho' Segura; and Perth's Max Bonner. Crowds of 2,000 people watched the matches, and the press went into a frenzy.¹⁰⁵

Soccer fans also hold significant memories of Subiaco Oval. Following

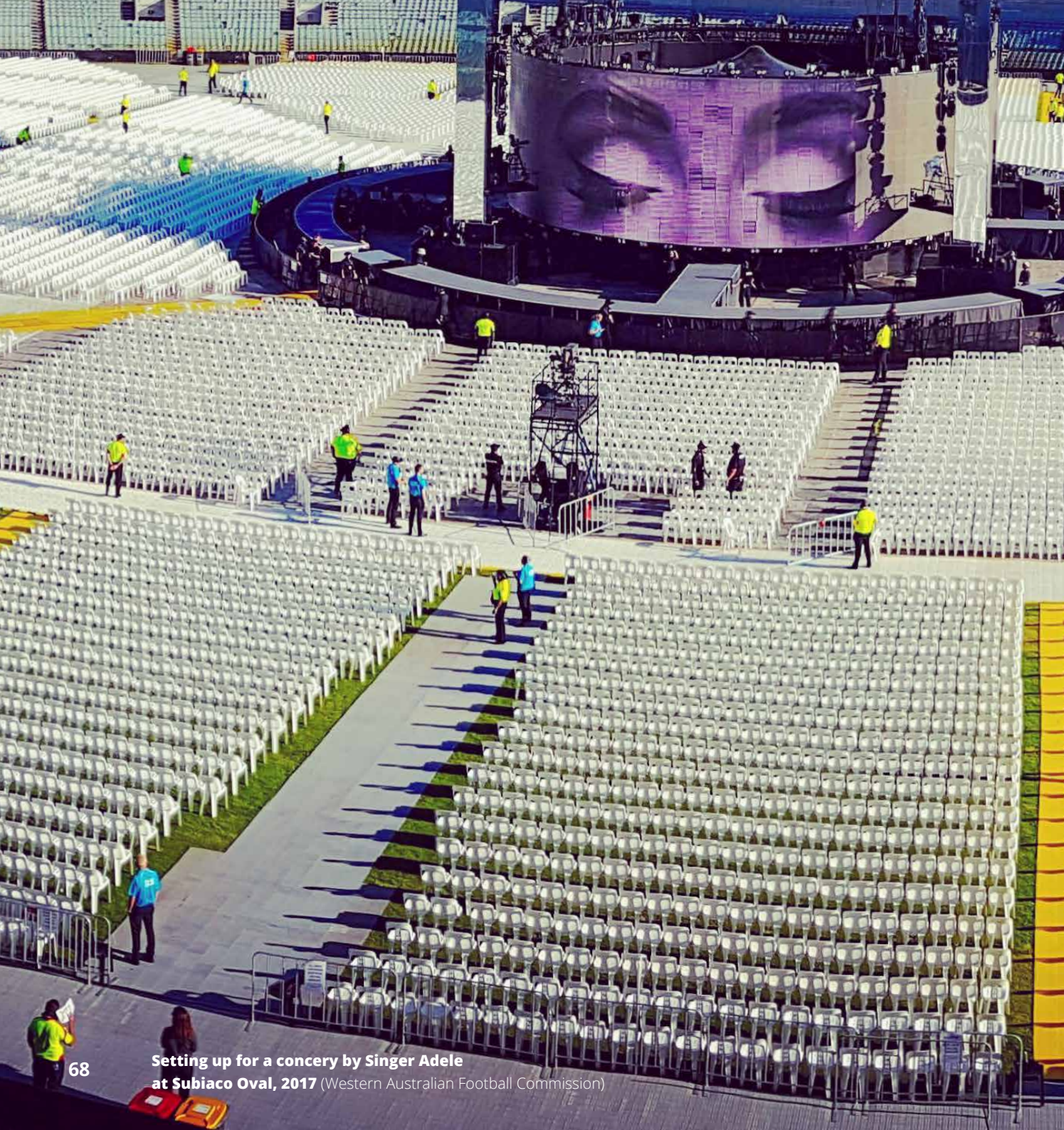
the Perth Glory's entry into the National Soccer League in 1996-97, the venue hosted the club's finals, most notably a grand final in 2000, when a record NSL crowd of 43,242 fans witnessed a loss on penalties to Wollongong Wolves. A second NSL grand final was held at Subiaco in 2002, the local team losing 0-1 to Sydney Olympic.¹⁰⁶ International Rules, a hybrid sport with aspects of Australian and Gaelic football codes, has also attracted large crowds to Subiaco Oval, with Tests having been played on the ground in 2003, 2005, 2008, 2014, and 2017.¹⁰⁷

Beyond Australian football, however, the football code having the most significant association with Subiaco

Oval is rugby league. The ground hosted its first rugby Test in July 1998, a match between South Africa and Australia's Wallabies. At the time of its closure, a total of thirteen Wallabies Test matches had brought fans flocking into the ground.¹⁰⁸ Subiaco Oval also provided a venue for many touring teams. When Perth hosted World Cup rugby in 2003, the ultimately victorious England team

playing its two opening games at the ground.¹⁰⁹ The following year, a State Government-backed bid from RugbyWA to enter a Super 14 rugby union league proved successful, and the Western Force played its first match in front of packed Subiaco Oval crowd in February 2006. The club continued to use Subiaco for its home games until 2010.^{110 111}

⁹⁹ Subiaco Floreat Cricket Club, 'A Short History of the Subiaco Floreat Cricket Club', Subiaco Floreat Cricket Club (revised 22nd May 2019), <http://www.sfcc.asn.au/About-History.aspx?rw=c> [accessed 5th February 2020]
¹⁰⁰ WA Premier Cricket, 'Male Premierships', Cricket Network (Revised 2020), <http://waca.wa.cricket.com.au/content.aspx?file=12%7C39806g> [Accessed 12th March 2020]
¹⁰¹ Subiaco Floreat Cricket Club.
¹⁰² Subiaco Floreat Cricket Club.
¹⁰³ Peter Sinclair, School Sport WA and Subiaco Oval, p. 2.
¹⁰⁴ 'State Schools Athletics', The West Australian, 29th October 1949, in Trove <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/47679787> [accessed 27th February 2020]
¹⁰⁵ See, for example: 'Tennis Stars Will Arrive Tonight', The West Australian, 23rd November 1954, in Trove, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/52966194> [Accessed 16th March 2020]
¹⁰⁶ Wikipedia, 'Perth Glory FC', Wikimedia Foundation Inc (revised 2020), <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perth_Glory_FC> [accessed 12th March 2020]
¹⁰⁷ Wikipedia, 'International Rules Series', Wikimedia Foundation Inc (revised 2020), <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Rules_Series> [accessed 13th March 2020]
¹⁰⁸ Wikipedia, 'List of Australia National Rugby Union Team Test Match Results', Wikimedia Foundation Inc (revised 2020), <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australia_national_rugby_union_team_test_match_results> [accessed 13th March 2020]
¹⁰⁹ ESPN, 'Subiaco Oval, Perth, Western Australia', ESPNscrum (n.d.), <http://en.espn.co.uk/england/rugby/ground/16711.html> [accessed 13th March 2020]
¹¹⁰ Wikipedia, 'Western Force', Wikimedia Foundation Inc (revised 2020), <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Force> [accessed 13th March 2020]
¹¹¹ Western Force, 'History of the Western Force' (revised 2018), <https://www.westernforce.com.au/about/> [accessed 13th March 2020]



Concerts and Cultural Events

Throughout the early history of Subiaco Oval, it served as an all-purpose recreation ground for the local community. As early as 1910, for example, it served as an outdoor cinema. Spillman recorded:

[A] group of philanthropic citizens, amongst them a future mayor, Cr Lionel Boas, banded together to form the Continental Picture Show Committee, which on summer nights screened movies on Subiaco Oval. While some of the proceeds of these evenings went to the council, the major purpose of the enterprise was to raise funds for charitable and sporting bodies...¹¹²

Spillman also noted that, for many years, Easter Mondays in Subiaco featured 'a large procession from the council chambers down Rokeby Road to the oval, where local families

could enjoy a variety of sports and entertainment'. Empire Days also brought the community out in droves and the Subiaco Municipal Council sponsored combined school sports gatherings at Subiaco to mark the day. In 1914, the mayor's report stated: 'Among the functions which have taken place during the year, the annual entertainment of the school children on Empire Day comes foremost'.^{113 114}

As Spillman concluded in 1985:

Celebrated occasions such as Empire Day were shared aspects of Subiaco life; like the trams, the trains, the dances and the movies, they were among the assortment of common experiences which bound Subiaco's population together and to their suburb.¹¹⁵

A wide variety of community events were held at Subiaco during the inter-war years, but after World War II the many cinemas and theatres around Perth – and in Subiaco – were more

usually utilised for cultural events. This changed after the 1960s as greater economies in air travel opened Australia up to performing artists who, in Europe and the USA, regularly utilised large capacity entertainment venues including stadiums.¹¹⁶

In 1970, a dearth of such venues in Perth resulted in the Festival of Perth approaching the Subiaco City Council with a proposal to use Subiaco Oval for a festival appearance by jazz legend Duke Ellington. The council set a \$120 per hour fee and drew up the conditions of hire, which were readily accepted by the Festival of Perth. Duke Ellington played at the ground on 3 February 1970, and a week later another festival attraction, Rolf Harris, also played at Subiaco Oval. Spillman recorded that these 'were the first of many concerts staged at Subiaco Oval in the seventies, and quietly opened an era of considerable controversy'.¹¹⁷

A heavily amplified 1971 concert by Elton John, then a relatively minor rock artist, upset local residents and public outcry was even greater when

heavy metal band Led Zeppelin set the stands rattling in front of 8,000 fans in February 1972. The concert was a sellout, and the next day's West Australian ran the headline, 'Melee at Pop Show', reporting that '500 youths rammed the locked gates, threw rocks and bottles into the oval, and lit fires'. Another popular band of this time, Creedence Clearwater Revival, played at the ground only five days later, and ongoing criticism of the Subiaco City Council forced it to suspend further bookings and seek advice from the Minister for Environmental Protection. Legislation on noise abatement was then being prepared by the State Government, and until 'Annoyance to Residents' regulations were gazetted in 1974, the council remained circumspect, nonetheless approving concerts by T-Rex, Slade and Status Quo.¹¹⁸

After the mid 1970s, Subiaco Oval continued to present an attractive venue option for outdoor concerts drawing large crowds. Among many popular acts to perform at the ground were the Santana, Genesis, Billy Joel,

Paul McCartney, the Eagles, Rod Stewart, Neil Diamond, Pearl Jam, Robbie Williams, Bon Jovi, Andre Rieu, AC/DC, U2, One Direction, Fleetwood Mac and Guns N' Roses. British singer-songwriter Adele trumped this veritable 'Who's Who' of the music industry in February 2017, her audience of 65,000 fans forever remaining Subiaco Oval's all-time record crowd.

¹¹² Spillman, *Identity Prized*, pp. 193 – 195.

¹¹³ Spillman, *Identity Prized*, pp. 193 – 197.

¹¹⁴ Subiaco Municipal Council, 'Mayor's Report' (Subiaco: Subiaco Municipal Council, 1914).

¹¹⁵ Spillman, *Identity Prized*, p. 197.

¹¹⁶ Creating Communities Australia, Personal Communication, 13th March 2020.

¹¹⁷ Spillman, *Identity Prized*, p. 318.

¹¹⁸ Spillman, *Identity Prized*, pp. 318 – 319.

TABLE 8: Top ten most attended events, Subiaco Oval ¹¹⁹

Subiaco Ovals top attended events

Rank	Attendees	Event	Date
1	65,000	Adele Concert	28th February 2017
2	55,000	U2 Concert	18th December 2010
3	52,781	WAFL Grand Final (East Fremantle v. South Fremantle)	22nd September 1979
4	52,322	WAFL Grand Final (West Perth v. South Fremantle)	27th September 1975
5	51, 385	WAFL Grand Final (West Perth v. East Perth)	27th September 1969
6	50,975	WAFL Grand Final (West Perth v. East Perth)	2nd October 1971
7	50, 883	WAFL Grand Final (Swan Districts v. Claremont)	18th September 1982
8	50,517	WAFL Grand Final (Claremont v. South Fremantle)	3rd October 1981
9	48,247	AC/DC Concert	6th March 2010
10	47,760	WAFL Grand Final (Swan Districts v. Claremont)	17th September 1983

Significant Changes & Perth’s Newest Stadium

During the first decade of the 21st century, Subiaco Oval’s future as a major metropolitan sporting and cultural venue was frequently questioned. Primary concerns were the unsuitability of the site for further redevelopment to accommodate future seating requirements, and the impact of crowds on traffic and parking in the area.

In 2005, the Western Australian Government established a taskforce to conduct a major review of all the State’s major stadiums. Among the taskforce’s recommendations in June 2006 were:¹²⁰

- That the State develop a new major multi-purpose stadium within ten years (Recommendation 2)
- That the Government recognise that the status quo in relation to

Subiaco Oval... is not sustainable and that it must address the problem of the level of investment in its venues (Recommendation 6)

- That a stadium location within approximately 1.5 km of the CBD and with high quality public transport servicing the majority of train lines should be the preferred option (Recommendation 12)

The State Government initially favoured construction of the envisaged new stadium at Kitchener Park, adjacent to Subiaco Oval.¹²¹ These plans were thrown into disarray, however, with change of government in September 2008. After almost three more years of debate regarding the viability of further Subiaco Oval redevelopment, Premier Colin Barnett announced in June 2011 that the new Perth stadium would be built at Burswood.¹²²

Upon the completion of Perth Stadium (also known as Optus Stadium) in late 2017, it became the venue for the home games of the two Western

Australia-based AFL teams and Subiaco Oval’s history as a major sporting venue effectively came to a close. The oval’s grandstands were demolished, though the oval itself was earmarked for reinstatement for the use of students of Bob Hawke College and the broader community. In 2019, the Subiaco Oval site was entered into the State Register of Heritage Places, citing its contribution to the social and sporting history of Subiaco and Western Australia. With the gates built in 1935 having achieved this status in 2000, this listing had long been

sought by the Subiaco City Council, and Mayor Penny Taylor acclaimed it as ‘a win for the City as heritage interpretation and recreation spaces were community priorities for the Subi East Redevelopment’.¹²³

¹¹⁹ Wikipedia, ‘Subiaco Oval’, Wikimedia Foundation Inc (revised 2020), <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subiaco_Oval#cite_note-24> [accessed 27th February 2020]
¹²⁰ Perth Major Sporting Stadia, ‘Interim Report of the Major Stadia Taskforce’ (Perth: Government of Western Australia, 2006) pp. 89 – 91.
‘New Stadium the Right Option, Kobelke Says’
¹²¹ The West Australian, 4th July 2007, in Webarchive, <<https://web.archive.org/web/20090521204035/http://www.thewest.com.au/default.aspx?MenuID=77&ContentID=33344>> [accessed 27th February 2020]
¹²² Western Australian Government, ‘Major New Stadium to be Built on Burswood Peninsula’ (Media Statement, 2011), <<https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Barnett/2011/06/Major-new-stadium-to-be-built-on-Burswood-Peninsula.aspx>> [accessed 27th February 2020]
¹²³ City of Subiaco, ‘Subiaco Oval Gets Permanent Heritage Listing’, City of Subiaco (11th September, 2019) <<https://www.subiaco.wa.gov.au/Your-council/News-and-media/News/2019/09-September/Subiaco-Oval-gets-permanent-heritage-listing>> [accessed 13th March 2020]



Monster Trucks Event (WA Football Commission)

1953



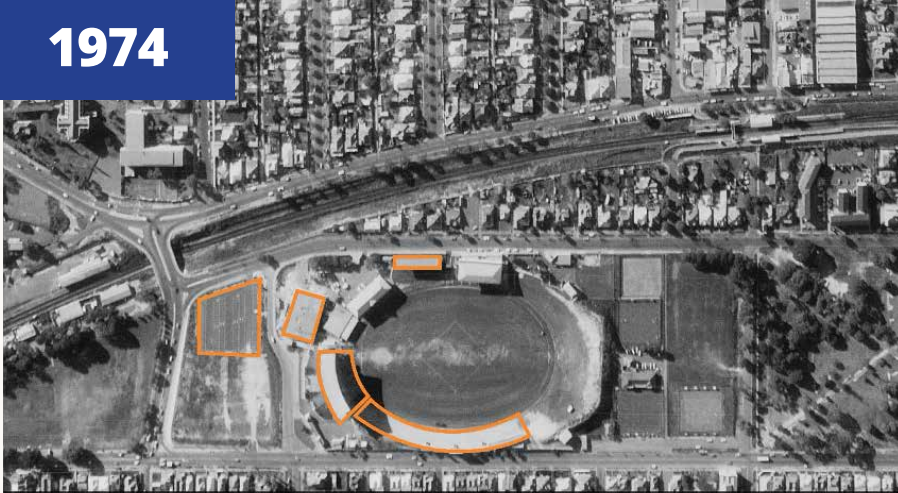
The first league match was played at Subiaco Oval in 1908. Grass banks had been created around the oval for spectators, and in 1909 the members pavilion at the northern edge of the ground was finished. By 1953 the second stand on the north-western boundary had been constructed, along with the entrance gates. At this time Kitchener Park is used for sporting fields.

1964



This aerial photograph was taken during the 1964 WAFL Grand Final on Saturday 10 October, with over 45,000 people packed onto the lawn and in the small stands around the oval. New Subiaco FC change rooms and offices have been constructed at the north-western boundary of the oval.

1974



New grandstands were constructed on several sides of the site, including the three tiered concrete stand on the western boundary. To the south the grass bank is replaced with concrete concourse seating. The Subiaco FC social hall, bar and dining room have been constructed in the north western corner of the site. Additional parking was also added, including the development of a carpark on the western edge.

1983



Demolition of the three stands between the three-tiered stand and the members pavilion. Construction of the two tiered stand.

1995



The carpark west of the oval is reduced in size as present-day Haydn Bunton Drive is constructed through the middle, giving Market Square its current shape. Additional grandstands along the south of the site are constructed. A public viewing stand is constructed to the north east of the oval. The building and playing fields on Kitchener Park are demolished, returning it to an open green space.

2000




The Member's pavilion is removed to allow for the construction of more grandstands, leading to a full 360 degree bowl making Subiaco Oval an all seat venue. The Sandover Medal Walk is established along Roberts Rd and Haydn Bunton Drive, and the layout of Kitchener Park is altered slightly as further paving is constructed around the oval. The railway line is covered west of Haydn Bunton Drive.

2018



Subiaco Oval is now closed with games taking place at the new stadium in Burswood. Kitchener Park is demolished and construction on the new Bob Hawke public high school commences.

2019



Demolition of Subiaco Oval begins. The construction of the new Bob Hawke public high school continues and the first buildings are evident.

5.3.3 Princess Margaret Hospital

Establishment of a Childrens Hospital

A children's hospital connects societies most dependent and vulnerable – as well as their families – with health care workers and, in many cases, hope. It is a destination at times of crisis, pain, discomfort and doubt. The connections such a place facilitate are not primarily social or recreational, but are clearly no less significant for that. A children's hospitals' sole purpose is to heal, treat and support sick children to

regain their best health, and return to their family and the community.

Western Australia's first and most long-lived hospital for children was located on land that is part of the Subi East project. As with Subiaco Oval, the hospital left a stamp on the soil that would go beyond the local and span lifetimes.

Particulars of the children's hospital ideation vary. An oft-repeated account involves a young girl entertaining herself by dropping pennies into a large money box at a Perth department store. The store owner, Charles Moore, happened to witness

her disappointment when she learned that the coins could not be retrieved. Upon being asked what she would like the coins to be used for, the child replied that they could be donated to the children's hospital. 'But we have no children's hospital,' Moore is said to have replied. 'Then why not have one?' said the girl. 'Yes,' said Mr. Moore, 'we will have one, and we will start it with your pennies'.¹²⁴

Moore told this story at the eventual opening of the Children's Hospital, but had previously told a story less overtly tugging at heartstrings. This involved a visit to a rival shop in which there was a musical box with a slot for depositing coins:

He wondered whether this was to keep the children entertained while their parents shopped, and contemplated getting one for his own store and donating the proceeds to charity. It was then that he decided to begin a fundraising venture

*(using pennies donated from the community) for a much-needed children's hospital in Perth.*¹²⁵

New research by Ken Spillman establishes that a campaign for a 'Perth Children's Hospital' had in fact commenced several years before Moore became involved. Premier John Forrest responded to the campaign in 1893, explicitly stating that the colonial government would 'supplement private subscriptions' and 'grant a site for the hospital'. This early campaign was the subject of letters to the editor in the colonial press and attracted support from groups around the state, among them the 'Ministering Children League'. Fundraising events included entertainment hosted by the Governor in the Government House ballroom.¹²⁶

127 128

Irrespective of questions surrounding PMH's origin story, Charles Moore's contribution cannot be understated. He launched his campaign in August 1897 by distributing 20,000 collecting

cards for children around the colony to sell.¹²⁹ This was followed by a public meeting in October, garnering significant community support for the venture.¹³⁰ Vigorous campaigning during 1898 and the proponents' success in securing a 999-year lease on a site at near the junction of Mueller Road (later, Roberts Road) and Thomas Street boded well, but significant progress was thwarted by the reluctance of Western Australian governments after Federation to commit to building and – more importantly – maintenance subsidies.¹³¹ As Marshall noted, responsibility for public infrastructure and institutions in Australia in the early 1900s was generally considered to be the purvey of the public as opposed to government.¹³²

Community support during this time and into the next century was crucial, but public fundraising was not reinvigorated until the State Government committed to subsidies in 1908. Thereafter, the campaign remained both popular and innovative.

Many among Perth's most wealthy and influential contributed to the cause. There were Government House balls and an 'old English Fayre'. Most donations, however, came from individuals and families making smaller donations.¹³³ A penny collection drive among school children, for example, collected more than 200,000 coins, while a fancy dress football match at Subiaco Oval augmented the hospital fund by over £100.¹³⁴ Donations came from country centres and community associations such as the Chinese Residents of Perth, the Dairymen's Association and the Subiaco Masonic Lodge.¹³⁵

Construction of the hospital's first wing commenced early in 1909, and it was opened later that year. The first annual report of the Children's Hospital stated:

The Hospital, built, equipped, and furnished, even to the installing of instrument and drugs, has cost approximately £12,000 and is absolutely

*free of debt, showing that in twelve months the public of Western Australia have nobly responded to the appeal for the children, and have in that time given over £7,000 to this most deserving object.*¹³⁶

Only £1,000 was contributed by the State Government.¹³⁷ The spirit of public support which had brought the hospital into being survived for beyond the end of the century.¹³⁸

¹²⁴ Julie Marshall, *Starting with Threepence: The Story of Prince Margaret Hospital*, (Fremantle: Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 1996) p. i; among other re-tellings.

¹²⁵ Marcus.

¹²⁶ 'Legislative Assembly: Tuesday 9th August', *The West Australian*, 9th August 1893, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/3051336>> [accessed 07th February 2020]

¹²⁷ 'The Children's Hospital: To the Editor', *The West Australian*, 22th August 1893, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/3051782>> [accessed 23rd March 2020]

¹²⁸ 'News and Notes', *Inquirer*, 1st September 1893, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/71894525>> [accessed 23rd March 2020], para. 11.

¹²⁹ 'News and Notes', *Southern Times (Bunbury)*, 28th October 1893, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/157517713>> [accessed

23rd March 2020], para. 13.

¹³⁰ 'Perth Children's Hospital', *The Inquirer and Commercial News*, 6th August 1897, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/66529387>> [accessed 16th March 2020]

¹³¹ Spillman, *Identity Prized*, p. 160.

¹³² Spillman, *Identity Prized*, p. 161.

¹³³ Marshall, p. 11.

¹³⁴ Julie Marshall, *Starting with Threepence: The Story of Princess Margaret Hospital for Children (South Fremantle)*, Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 1996).

¹³⁵ 'Children's Hospital Fund: Successful Demonstration at Subiaco', *The Sunday Times*, 18th April 1909, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/57611798>> [accessed 11th February 2020]. See also *Identity Prized*, p. 161.

¹³⁶ Marshall, p. 11.

¹³⁷ Marshall, p. 12.

¹³⁸ Anne Bourke, pers.comm., April 2020

Treating Children from Across the State

The Perth Children's Hospital in Subiaco had been made possible through a campaign that might today be termed 'crowdfunding', infrastructure subsidised by the State Government. Its presence and its work endowed the precinct, now part of the Subi East development area, with a State-wide profile – subsequently magnified by the rise of Subiaco Oval as a major sporting venue in the capital.

When the hospital opened, there were two pavilion wards each with 20 beds, an administration building, a staff residence, a mortuary, an outpatient building and an operating theatre.¹³⁹ The medical staff consisted of prominent Perth physicians and surgeons, including Dr Norman Goode, who became the first resident medical officer, while the first matron was Annie Anderson - managed five trained nurses and nine probationary nurses.

The first patient admitted to the hospital was Elliot Patrick Mullins, aged two years and four months, and he was treated for bronchitis and tonsillitis. The admission policy was straightforward, simply stating that:

*This institution provides medical treatment and nursing for the sick and suffering children of the poor of the State, from birth to twelve years of age, and is entirely undenominational.*¹⁴⁰

The hospital expanded shortly after it opened, with an infants' pavilion, additional nurses' quarters, and a bacteriology laboratory and x-ray building opening during 1910.¹⁴¹ A lot on the corner of Thomas Street and Mueller (Roberts) Road, once reserved for the Salvation Army, was chosen as a site for living quarters for the resident medical officer.¹⁴² Tenders for this project and a number of other buildings were called in 1912, though it wasn't until 1913 that the quarters were completed and the lot (Suburban Lot 416) formally

transferred to the Children's Hospital. Extended in 1945, the building was subsequently named 'Godfrey House' after Dr Robert Godfrey, who resided there for most of his 26 years as Medical Director (1953-79). It was heritage listed in 2012.¹⁴³

The need for community fundraising and in-kind support remained paramount. Reviewing the hospital's early years, Spillman wrote:

*[M]any were the women who spent hour upon hour, year after year, cooking or sewing so that the hospital could continue to function. From time to time children too were called upon to labour for the cause, and a pupil at the Subiaco School during this period... would later recall 'one Arbor Day, with other children, planting trees along the gravel drive to the west side'.*¹⁴⁴

Parents were expected to contribute what they could towards the cost of their children's treatment and,

to the extent that they were able, children were asked to help with the daily running of the hospital. Chores included dusting and tidying the ward, preparing swabs and other simple 'housekeeping' tasks. One patient recalled:

I guess I rolled a million bandages and darned dozens of pairs of stockings for nurses and sisters. In the evening

“The snake pit was the original building in 1909 that was the hospital. It's a wooden building and in my day was part of emergency and was pretty grotty... It ended up becoming the chapel and then the multi-faith centre”.

DR JACKIE SCURLOCK, Doctor at Princess Margaret Hospital for over 40 years (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

*when they brought the meals around, because I was there the longest, the nurses used to give me the bread and butter to take around to the other patients. Any that was left over I was allowed to have.*¹⁴⁵

The most reliable source of income for the hospital was cot endowment. Cots could be endowed in perpetuity for a pledge of £1,000, while £50 endowed a cot for one year.¹⁴⁶ Nevertheless, financial constraints during World War I led President of Subscribers Harry Boan, of Boans Ltd department store, to make a particularly ardent appeal for funds:

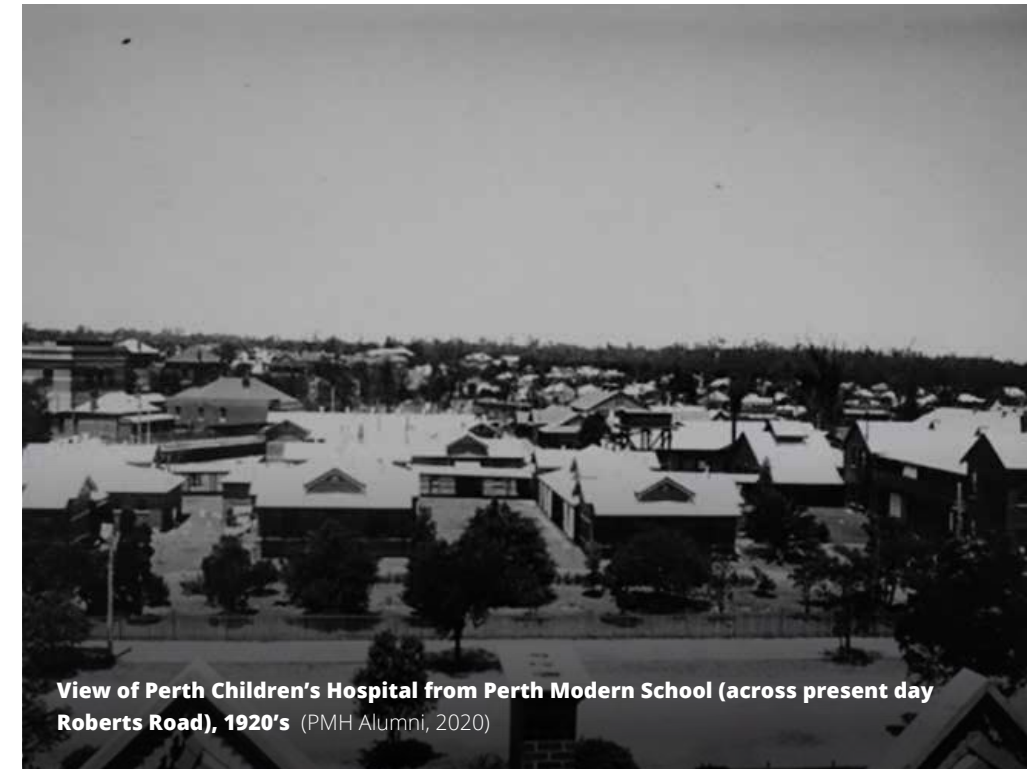
*The conservation of child life at the present time is a matter of vital importance, children are the State's greatest asset and each life saved helps to minimise the great wastage of human life in the present war.*¹⁴⁷

Children were also treated as

outpatients, and a special outpatient building was opened in 1921. From at 10 a.m. each morning, it performed 'minor' surgical procedures and generally sent children home on the same day. Referrals after the introduction of school health examinations significantly increased its patient load.¹⁴⁸

It was only by public generosity that the hospital was able to function. Parents were asked to contribute to funding hospital essentials and until Medicare was implemented parents were means tested and charged for their children's care.¹⁴⁹

The 1920s and 1930s brought new changes and challenges to the Children's Hospital. A measles and flu epidemic hit Perth in the 1920s, and there was a high incidence of gastroenteritis and diarrhoea due to poor food hygiene and unpasteurised milk. The economic climate was also less than healthy, prompting a decision to launch an appeal for 'One Million Threepenny Pieces', framed around the 'King, Country and



¹³⁹ Government of Western Australia Department of Justice, 'Princess Margaret Hospital', Child and Adolescent Health Service <<https://pch.health.wa.gov.au/About-us/History/Princess-Margaret-Hospital>> [accessed 5 February 2020].

¹⁴⁰ Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation, 'It Started With Threepence', Government of Western Australia Department of Health Child and Adolescent Health Service.

¹⁴¹ Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation.

¹⁴² Heritage & Conservation Professionals & Philip McAllister Architect, 'Godfrey House (Fmr Resident Medical Officers' Quarters) Princess Margaret Hospital for Children Roberts Road,

Subiaco: Conservation Plan Update', (Perth: Philip McAllister Architect, 2018), p. 8.

¹⁴³ City of Subiaco, 'Godfrey House', InHerit: Our Heritage Places (Heritage Council of Western Australia, 2017) <<http://inherit.stateheritage.wa.gov.au/Public/Inventory/PrintSingleRecord/a276df72-eb94-4890-b2b2-658e7f419191>> [accessed 26th February 2020]

¹⁴⁴ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 163.

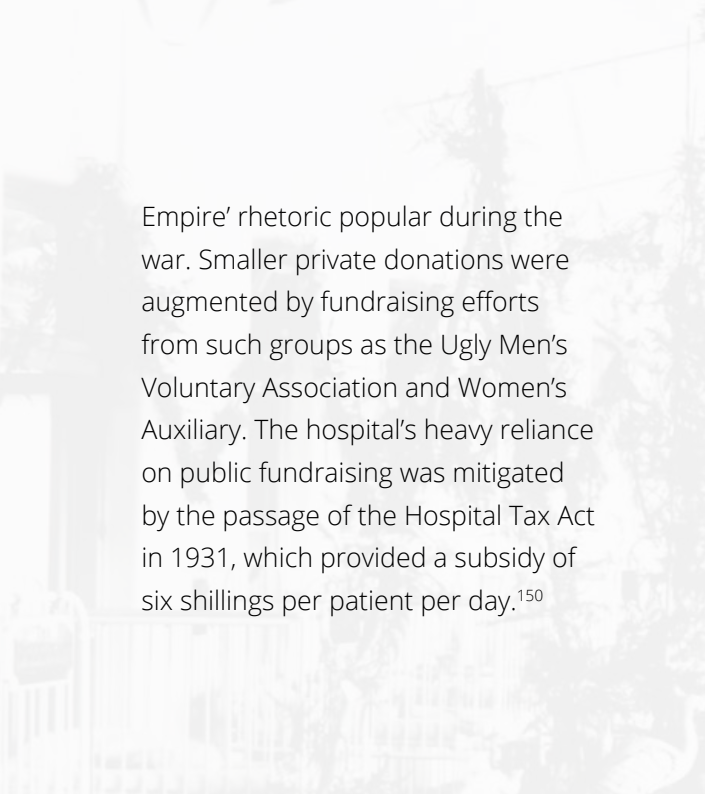
¹⁴⁵ Marshall, p. 17.

¹⁴⁶ Marshall, p. 23.

¹⁴⁷ Marshall, p. 24.

¹⁴⁸ Marshall, p. 28.

¹⁴⁹ Anne Bourke, pers.comm., April 2020



Empire' rhetoric popular during the war. Smaller private donations were augmented by fundraising efforts from such groups as the Ugly Men's Voluntary Association and Women's Auxiliary. The hospital's heavy reliance on public fundraising was mitigated by the passage of the Hospital Tax Act in 1931, which provided a subsidy of six shillings per patient per day.¹⁵⁰



The Royal Treatment

In 1938 a new infants' ward was opened at the Perth Children's Hospital, with 38 cots and overnight accommodation for mothers. During World War II a vegetable garden was also established on hospital grounds, along with a hospital school. These modest steps served as the prelude for continuous progress in the post-war years, spanning campus development, advances in medicine and pharmacology, ancillary services, and even a change of name. By 1948-49, the number of hospital beds had

grown from the initial 40 to 256, with the hospital admitting 5723 patients and treating 64,973 outpatients.¹⁵¹ Without doubt, a majority of these children would hold memories of this part of the Subi East area throughout their lives.

A new phase of the hospital's history began in 1949, after extensive lobbying by Matrol Eileen Stokes, when its board approved a name change. Perth Children's Hospital became Princess Margaret Hospital for Children (PMH), a decision which reflected an international tradition of linking royalty to hospitals rather than special admiration for the 19 year-old sister

of the future Queen. Not everyone approved. One man wrote:

If a change was decided on, why not do something to commemorate the work of men like the late Charles Moore, who did so much get

*the hospital launched in the first place? I am not against Royalty, I am not a Republican or a Communist, but in this age of free speech may I ask frankly what has Princess Margaret ever done for the Children's Hospital?*¹⁵²

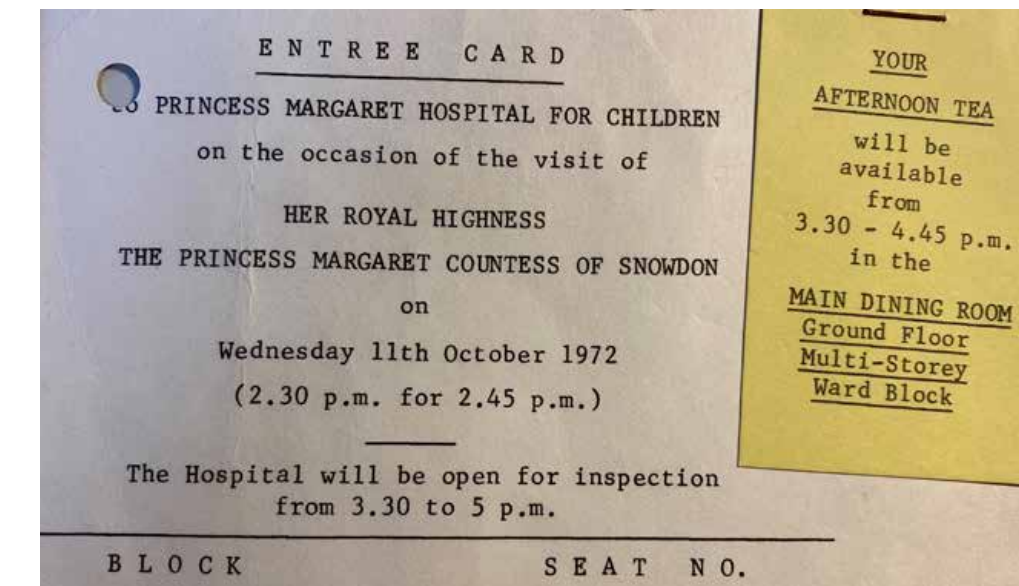


FIGURE 13: Entree card from the visit of Princess Margaret, 1972 ¹⁵³

“And I must say, travelling overseas where I was often working in units that were attached to adult hospitals, I used to feel that the kids were looked on as almost second-rate patients. At Princess Margaret Hospital they were Kings.”

DR JACKIE SCURLOCK, Doctor at Princess Margaret Hospital for over 40 years (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

¹⁵⁰ Marshall, p. 39.

¹⁵¹ Marshall, p. 95.

¹⁵² 'Why Alter the Name?', The Sunday Times, 30th January 1949, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>>

[newspaper/article/59508508](https://www.theguardian.com/news/newspaper/article/59508508)> [accessed 18th February 2020]

¹⁵³ Image Source: State Library of Western Australia, ID: PR1630/125.

Across the course of the ensuing decades, PMH established a national and international reputation in paediatric medicine and surgery, prevention education and research. Declared a public hospital by the Minister for Health in 1978, community support remained conspicuous and significant, particularly through the charitable work of the PMH Foundation (now the Perth Children's Hospital Foundation) and public fundraising through Telethon, Variety and Appealathon.¹⁵⁴

Partnerships were also established with such charities as Ronald McDonald House of Life and the Starlight Children's Foundation. The need to accommodate patients and families from around the State, in conjunction with the growing metropolitan population led to a recognition of the need for a newer, larger facility to address the health needs of Western Australian children and their families. Stage one of the hospital's redevelopment – named the Charles Moore Building – was

completed in 1983, with bright lights, colours and glass incorporated to make the hospital seem more welcoming. In 1989, PMH became a fully-fledged Children's Hospital Medical Centre. It was admitted as a member of the 'Children's Cancer Study Group' (now the Children's Oncology Group) in 1990, making it the first hospital outside North America to be admitted to this group.

The second 50 years of the Hospital saw the development of "specialities" in both medicine and surgery.

In 1960 Dr Alistair Mackellar joined the staff as a specialist paediatric general surgeon. Prior to this surgeons were doing both adult and paediatric surgery. Following this an active surgical unit in paediatrics was established although some specialities still had surgeons covering adult and paediatric surgery. Dr Nerida Dilworth was the Head of the Paediatric Anaesthetist Department for many years, and also established the first Paediatric Intensive Care Unit. Burns and laparoscopic and

cardiac surgeries were also developed in this time.

In Medicine, prior to the 1960s the General Paediatricians had some special interests. Many departments were established in Cardiology, Endocrinology, Neonates, Intensive Care, Nephrology, Respiratory

“When we first started there were these great barn type wards, so there was no division or anything, just beds down these huge wards. There were two beds down the end, and that was the intensive care unit..”

DR JACKIE SCURLOCK, Doctor at Princess Margaret Hospital for over 40 years (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

Medicine, Oncology, Haematology, Gastroenterology, Rheumatology, Developmental Medicine, Immunology, Genetics, Rehabilitation, Psychiatry, Child Protection, Emergency, Infectious Diseases and Adolescent Medicine. Both doctors and nurses were specialising in these areas although there was always a group of General paediatricians to coordinate care. (From Anne Bourke; PMH Alumni – Shared 2020)

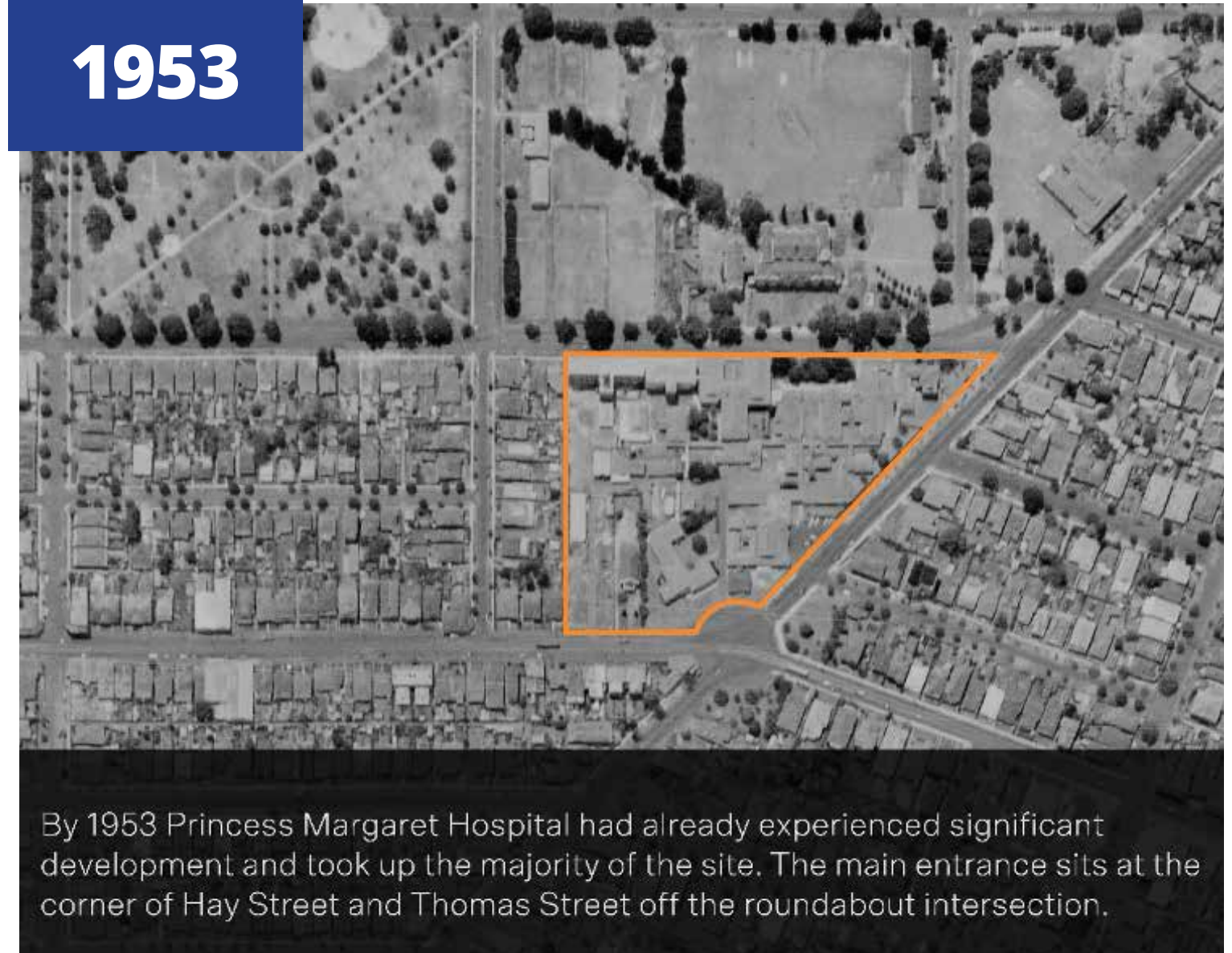
Before the centenary of PMH in 2009, however, the State Government was planning its replacement by a new children's hospital on another site. After a long interregnum, construction began at the corner of Winthrop and Monash avenues in Nedlands in 2012, though a succession of delays extended the life of PMH until 2018. In 2013, Premier Colin Barnett announced that the new facility was to be given the original name of PMH, 'Perth Children's Hospital', partially to recognise heritage but also to promote Perth as a major centre for paediatric health and research.¹⁵⁵

PMH will be demolished in 2020/2021, with just a few significant structures to be retained. As the only children's hospital in the state for 109 years, it holds a singular place in Western Australian history. Across generations, threads of family, hospital staff, community and government became forever intertwined. On this site, children were restored to health. Children died. Families fretted, rejoiced and mourned – as did the hospital's staff. The site of the hospital remains a place of history and connection, alive with vivid memories, forever associated with the most deeply felt human emotions.

¹⁵⁴ Perth Children's Hospital Foundation, 'Our Story' (Perth Children's Hospital Foundation, 2019) <<https://pchf.org.au/our-story/>> [accessed 18th February 2020]

¹⁵⁵ 'AMA Criticises Decision Not to Add Extra Floor to New Children's Hospital', ABC News, 1st October 2013, in ABC News Online <<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-09-30/extra-beds-added-to-new-childrens-hospital/4989012>> [accessed 10th March 2020]

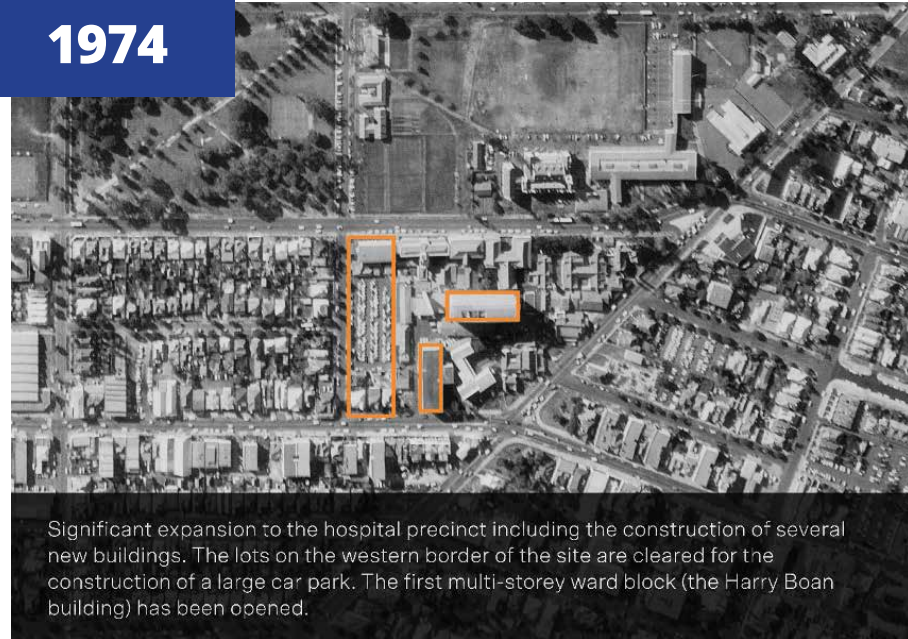
1953



By 1953 Princess Margaret Hospital had already experienced significant development and took up the majority of the site. The main entrance sits at the corner of Hay Street and Thomas Street off the roundabout intersection.

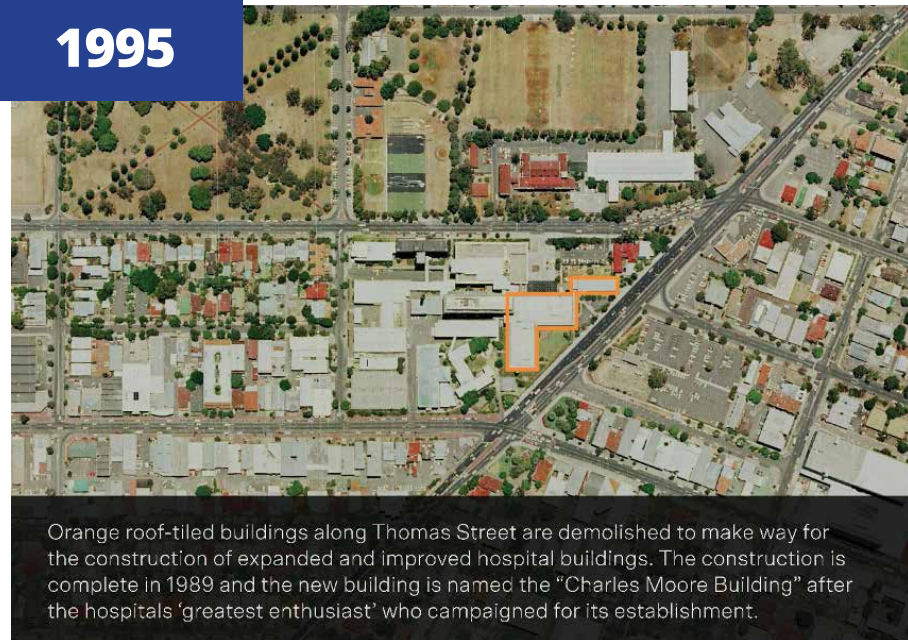
The evolution of Princess Margaret Hospital for Children: 1953; 1974; 1983; 1995; 2018 (Landgate)

1974



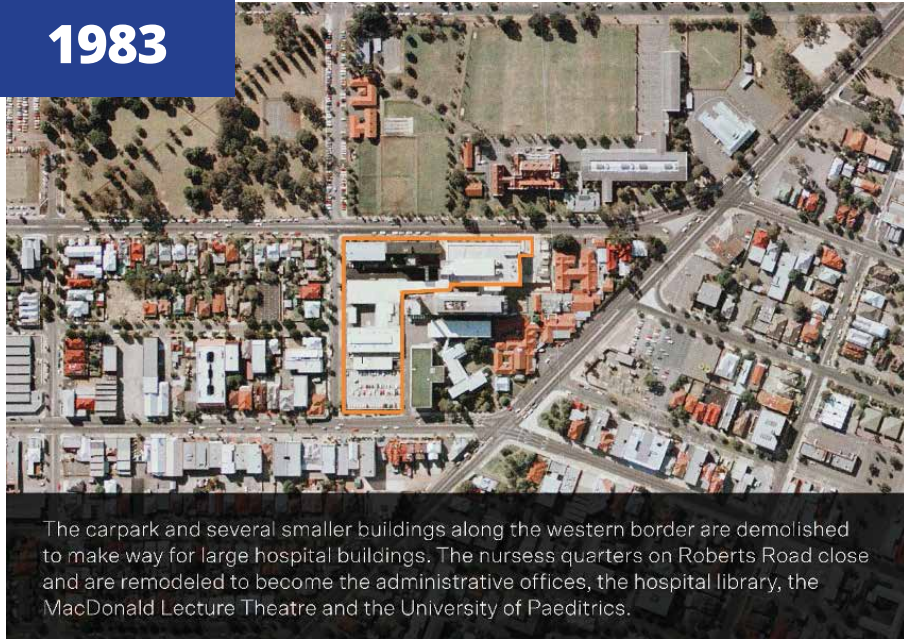
Significant expansion to the hospital precinct including the construction of several new buildings. The lots on the western border of the site are cleared for the construction of a large car park. The first multi-storey ward block (the Harry Boan building) has been opened.

1995



Orange roof-tiled buildings along Thomas Street are demolished to make way for the construction of expanded and improved hospital buildings. The construction is complete in 1989 and the new building is named the "Charles Moore Building" after the hospital's 'greatest enthusiast' who campaigned for its establishment.

1983



The carpark and several smaller buildings along the western border are demolished to make way for large hospital buildings. The nurses quarters on Roberts Road close and are remodeled to become the administrative offices, the hospital library, the MacDonald Lecture Theatre and the University of Paediatrics.

2018



In 2008 the state government announces plans to build a new children's hospital in the QEII medical site. In 2009 the hospital celebrates its centenary, with the PMH Foundation organising a series of celebratory events. By 2019 the decommissioning of Princess Margaret Hospital is complete and the majority of buildings on the site are no longer in use.

5.3.4 Local Open Spaces (Mueller Park / Kitchener Park; Market Square)

Mueller / Kitchener Park

In 1897, Subiaco's first year as a municipality, the council applied for the lease of four hectares of Commonage Reserve 591A in order to commence the development of an oval for cricket and football as well as other amenities. A 10-year lease was approved, but this was inadequate in the view of the council and investment in the oval was held back. Instead, the municipality worked steadily toward the development of a park for passive recreation east of the proposed oval. Planning and preliminary work took place between 1900 and 1905, and the area was designated 'Mueller Park' – taking this name from the road on its southern flank – in 1906. By that time, leasing issues had been resolved and the Subiaco Municipal Council called for tenders to develop an oval in August 1906.^{156 157}

In the early days of the railway, workers would camp on the site due to its convenient location (it was also close to the area's only well, owned by the Jones family which was located on the corner of Rokeby Road and Mueller Road (now Roberts Road). The area on which the park sits was also used for camping by Aboriginal people both prior and post colonisation. 'Mueller' was a botanist within the early colonial government, and a very famous scientist at the time. The park (and the road on which it was placed) were therefore named after him, announced by the Subiaco Council in 1906.^{158 159}

Sporting fixtures at the new oval (now known as Subiaco Oval) commenced in 1908, and before World War I it was more generally known as 'Mueller Park' or 'the Subiaco oval'.¹⁶⁰ Significantly, facilities for other sports were co-located at Mueller Park, making the area a recreational hub. In 1909, Subiaco's mayor reported proudly:

MUELLER PARK, SUBLIACO.

On Wednesday night, Cr. Servante moved that the reserve on Muller-road be named "Muller-Park." It would be named after a well-known botanist, and a worthy man.
Cr. Shirley-White moved that the name be "Prince's Park." It would then not be named after any special person. Princes Park was a clear name and one that did not admit of jealousy.
Cr. Vickers suggested a referendum.
Cr. Chesters favored the name of Prince's Park.
Cr. Servante's resolution was carried.

FIGURE 14: Newspaper article detailing council debate of naming Mueller Park, 1906 ¹⁶¹

¹⁵⁶ City of Subiaco, 'Mueller Park', InHerit: Our Heritage Places (Heritage Council of Western Australia, 2018) <<http://inherit.stateheritage.wa.gov.au/Public/Inventory/PrintSingleRecord/e0f898e2-652a-450d-b85f-e7cd16e14089>> [accessed 6th February 2020]

¹⁵⁷ See also Spillman, *Identity Prized*, p. 104; 186 and Spillman, *Diehards 1896 - 1945*, p. 37.

¹⁵⁸ City of Subiaco, 'Mueller Park', InHerit: Our Heritage Places (Heritage Council of Western Australia, 2018) <<http://inherit.stateheritage.wa.gov>

[au/Public/Inventory/PrintSingleRecord/e0f898e2-652a-450d-b85f-e7cd16e14089](http://inherit.stateheritage.wa.gov.au/Public/Inventory/PrintSingleRecord/e0f898e2-652a-450d-b85f-e7cd16e14089)> [accessed 6th February 2020]

¹⁵⁹ City of Subiaco, City of Subiaco: Street Names, p. 50.

¹⁶⁰ Spillman, *Diehards 1896 - 1945*, p. 40.

¹⁶¹ 'Mueller Park, Subiaco', *The Express*, 4th August 1906, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/256631222>> [accessed 26th February 2020]

Your Council of the past showed its wisdom by agitating for and obtaining from the Government the magnificent reserve – Mueller Park – and no greater evidence of its popularity could be forthcoming than the number of playing areas applied for and Sports Associations that have taken advantage of this centrally situated ground. The Council has constructed 14 tennis courts, and the area now comprises a maximum-sized recreation oval, 16 Association tennis courts, 4 croquet courts for the West Australian Croquet Association, 4 bowling rinks, 4 tennis courts for the local club, and if one may be allowed to be prophetic, one can picture, in a very few years hence, all the pennant tennis matches, croquet matches, cricket, football, and bowling being contested on this park, which will certainly be one of,

*if not the greatest rendezvous of sport in Australasia.*¹⁶²

The application of ‘Subiaco Oval’ as a name for part of the reserve was gradual, perhaps only made irrevocable by a decision of the council to rename both Mueller Park and Mueller Road in 1916. The change, brought about by anti-German sentiments during World War I, resulted in the road becoming Roberts Road (after a former Subiaco councillor on active duty at the time), while Mueller Park became Kitchener Park (after the 1st Earl Kitchener, a former British Army Officer who had died during that year).¹⁶³ After the broader reserve was renamed Kitchener Park, Subiaco Oval seems to have become the distinct and discrete site it is considered today.¹⁶⁴

In 1921, part of Kitchener Park, now the site of Bob Hawke College, became Subiaco’s municipal nursery. An extract from a 1921 newspaper article outlines the establishment of this nursery:

*The works committee reported that after conferring with Mr Bruce, the recently appointed municipal gardener, it was decided to recommend that portion of Kitchener Park approximately half an acre, should be set apart for a street tree nursery, and that a number of coral trees ready for planting should be placed in certain suitable locations. The recommendation was adopted.*¹⁶⁵

The caretaker, Alexander Bruce, was described as a lover of plants, and was known to say “trees have personality... and must be treated accordingly”.¹⁶⁶ Two rows of trees along Subiaco and Coghlan Roads were planted around this time and can still be seen today. In 1924, Bruce sent several native seedlings from the nursery in Subiaco to the Imperial War Graves Commission at Gallipoli, and in return received a number of seeds from Gallipoli, including Aleppo pine seeds subsequently raised in Kitchener



Subiaco Oval Caretaker's Residence, Kitchener Park, 1932 (Subiaco Museum, ID: P89.55)

Park. While the nursery was removed by 1950, these trees remain and efforts to ensure their conservation continue.¹⁶⁷ At one early point, this site also housed the Subiaco Oval caretaker.

Over the years Kitchener Park was home to tennis courts and the Kitchener Park Bowling Club. It was a hive of activity, being a place for recreation, social gatherings and special events. It was a strong and vibrant hub for the community to gather over many decades. The Club was also the headquarters of the City of Subiaco RSL Sub Branch for many years.

In 1980, the Subiaco City Council expressed its commitment to history and heritage by voting to restore the name ‘Mueller’ to that part of Kitchener Park bounded by Hamilton Street, Subiaco Road, Coghlan Road and Roberts Road.



Kitchener Park Bowling Club, 1922 (Subiaco Museum, ID: P85.188)

¹⁶² Cited in Spillman, *Identity Prized*, p. 189.

¹⁶³ ‘A Subiaco Park Re-named Kitchener’, *The Daily News*, 27th July 1916, in Trove <<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/84649002/7952990>> [accessed 5th February 2020] (para 2).

¹⁶⁴ City of Subiaco, ‘Kitchener Park’, InHerit: Our Heritage Places (Heritage Council of Western Australia, 2017) <<http://inherit.stateheritage.wa.gov.au/Public/Inventory/Details/9a1bcc39-41e8-4adf-b6f6-a485c27a8d79>> [accessed 6th February 2020]
Stephanie Stroud, ‘Mr Alexander D. E. Bruce, MBE (1884 – 1967) and Kitchener

Park Nursery, Subiaco

¹⁶⁵ “A man with green fingers and an evergreen heart”, (unpublished document, 2018), p. 1.

¹⁶⁶ Stephanie Stroud, p. 1.

¹⁶⁷ Emily Young, ‘Dying Trees at Subi College Building Site Spark Fears for Gallipoli Memorial Pines’, *WA Today*, 13th March 2019, <<https://www.watoday.com.au/national/western-australia/dying-trees-at-subi-college-building-site-spark-fears-for-gallipoli-memorial-pines-20190313-p513xs.html>> [accessed 26th February 2020], (para 2; 3).

Alderman of the City of Subiaco Richard Diggins commented on the park's layout "the layout of Mueller Park is quite unique. When looking down from above it is designed as a Union Jack flag, which mirrored the image of the City's then head gardener".¹⁶⁸

The section west of Coghlan Road and east of Subiaco Oval retained the name 'Kitchener Park' and continued to be used for a range of recreational activities, most notably lawn bowls. Over the years, the section of the site now called Mueller Park was an important gathering place for the local community. Today, it remains a shaded parkland with playgrounds that facilitate nature-based play, and is used by locals for picnics and barbeques.¹⁶⁹

Mueller Park subsequently became home to one of the Perth metropolitan area's first 'all abilities' playgrounds. Commissioned by the council in 2009 to provide for children with disabilities, the Mueller Park Playspace was completed in 2010.

Conveniently located close to PMH and the West Leederville railway station, it created equal access through 'activities and spaces that allow the exploration of the physical world through the use of sight, touch, sound and smell'.¹⁷⁰

Kitchener Park was used for car parking for events, whilst still being used for recreational purposes.

Subsequently, the City of Subiaco signed a lease with the WA Football Commission for them to operate Kitchener Park. By this stage the courts; bowling greens and buildings were gone and the oval was used predominantly for football practice and parking for AFL games and functions.

Bob Hawke College opened on the Kitchener Park site in 2020. Mueller Park, meanwhile, would remain an important gathering place, well shaded and used for picnics, barbeques, exercise and play.¹⁷¹

Market Square

In 1922, a section of the former Commonage was procured by Walter Richardson from the Government for use as a permanent market site, which was to be known as 'Market Square'.¹⁷² Despite the popularity of markets in Subiaco, however, a competing market located on the south side of Hay Street near Rokeby Road proved more successful. Speaking of the other markets (not those located at Market Square), a town clerk wrote in 1927:

These markets are at present the most successful retail markets in the metropolitan

"The bulls, and cattle, were loaded at Subiaco station alongside Market Square. I recall bulls or cows that got out. If this happened there was a siren installed on the premises to allow all the people within that area to be on the watch out for loose cattle running".

DAVID MURRAY (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

area, and have proved a benefit not only to the small grower but also the resident of Subiaco and surrounding districts.¹⁷³

Markets have played a significant role in unifying the Subiaco community over the years, whether at Market Square, at the iconic Subiaco Pavilion or the simple Farmers Market that still runs every Saturday morning on the grounds of Subiaco Primary School. Even though Market Square was not the most successful market place in the history of Subiaco, it had many other uses. Prior to the 1980s, soccer, Gaelic football and rugby teams used

Market Square as a training and playing ground.¹⁷⁴ It was also used as a sporting ground by children from Marist College on Salvado Road, and, occasionally as a car park for those spectators arriving to watch football matches at Subiaco Oval.

The most significant change to Market Square occurred in the late 1980s and early 1990s, when a redevelopment project saw the placement of the roadworks altered and modern-day Haydn Bunton Drive developed (completed in 1988). This enabled the northernmost portion of Axon Street to be permanently closed, although infighting regarding the redevelopment led to the precinct's completion being delayed by a number of years.

The town clerk recommended various works at Market Square during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 – including the creation of a planned lake – but this were not to be. Continuing councilor

dissatisfaction resulted in a deferral of the expenditure required to complete the scheme.¹⁷⁵

As of 2020, Market Square is a green and shady public space which is still used for a variety of community purposes.

"I expect it will continue to have beautiful parks and public art, and walkways and cycleways. The thing that I would like most would be to see that people could walk, and especially children, could walk with safety around their community".

DR MAUREEN HELEN, local resident (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)



¹⁶⁸ Richard Diggins, pers.comm., April 2020

¹⁶⁹ City of Subiaco, 'Parks and Reserves', (Subiaco: City of Subiaco, 2020) <subiaco.wa.gov.au/parks> [accessed 6th February 2020]

¹⁷⁰ Buggy Buddys, 'Mueller Park Playspace, Subiaco', (Revised 2019) <<https://www.buggybuddys.com.au/things-to-do/playgrounds-and-parks-in-perth/mueller-park-playspace-subiac>> [accessed 10th

March 2020]

¹⁷¹ City of Subiaco, 'Parks and Reserves', (Subiaco: City of Subiaco, 2020) <subiaco.wa.gov.au/parks> [accessed 6th February 2020]

¹⁷² Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 226.

¹⁷³ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 226.

¹⁷⁴ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 199.

¹⁷⁵ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, p. 205.

5.3.5 Bob Hawke College

On Monday 3rd February 2020 Bob Hawke College opened its doors to its first cohort of year seven students. Bob Hawke College is located on the grounds of what used to be Kitchener Park. The school is named after former Prime Minister Bob Hawke (an alumni of Perth Modern School; the University of Western Australia and a resident of West Leederville) who, at the time the college was named, had recently passed away.

Before plans to build the college at Kitchener Park were finalised, the funding was instead to go to providing an \$84 million dollar upgrade to the buildings on the site of the former City Beach High School.¹⁷⁶ This was part of a package to ease enrolment pressures on state high schools such as Shenton College following the closure of several other schools in the preceding years. Months of speculation followed the election of the McGowan Labor Government in 2017, as this education package was

rethought and a proposal to move Perth Modern School to a high-density inner-city location emerged. Subsequently, the Government put this uncertainty to rest by announcing that Perth Modern would remain where it is and a new inner-city secondary school would be built on the former Kitchener Park site.¹⁷⁷

Now open for business, this multi-storey school has a revolutionary design (becoming the State's first high-density secondary school) with a number of high-tech and state-of-the-art facilities including lecture theatre; flexible classroom spaces and specialist learning areas. Phase One of the school caters for up to 1000 students, with the first enrolments being year 7 students in 2020. By 2026 it will have the capacity for 2000 students across years 7 to 12.

Stage Two of the school buildings is still being planned (at the time of writing this document), which will cater for an additional 1000 students and provide new outdoor sport and recreation spaces; classrooms and

a specialist performing arts theatre. The newly-refurbished Subiaco Oval next door will be a shared-use facility, catering for the College and for the broader community. Additionally, the community will have access to the College's playing courts and gymnasium.¹⁷⁸

Foundational principal Mr. John Burke has ensured the school has a strong community focus.¹⁷⁹ The College integrates input from local business and industry, universities and training providers. It is hoped this model will foster strong connections between these groups and the College's students. Two scholarships are provided annually for gifted and talented students from regional and remote areas to support their secondary schooling. Additionally, two scholarships are available to provide undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications to aspiring Aboriginal secondary teachers. These scholarships are also named in honour of Bob Hawke and aim to increase remote and regional access to

education and increase the number of Aboriginal secondary teachers across Western Australia.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁶ Jacob Kagi, 'New Perth Western Suburbs School: \$84m Pledged Amid Growing Public Education Demand', in ABC News Online, <<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-09-28/government-secures-site-for-new-school-for-western-suburbs/7884630>> [accessed 27th February 2020]

¹⁷⁷ 'Perth Modern to Stay Put after McGowan Dumps Controversial School Plan', WA Today, 2017, <<https://www.watoday.com.au/national/western-australia/perth-modern-to-stay-put-after-mcgowan-dumps-controversial-school-plan-20170613-gwp7e.html>> [accessed 27th February 2020]

¹⁷⁸ Government of Western Australia, 'Bob Hawke College', Department of Education (revised February 2020) <<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/bob-hawke-college>> [accessed 11th February 2020]

¹⁷⁹ Government of Western Australia, 'Bob Hawke College (4213)', Department of Education (revised February 2020) <<https://www.det.wa.edu.au/schoolsonline/overview.do?schoolID=4213&pageID=SO01>> [accessed 18th February 2020]

¹⁸⁰ Western Australian Government, 'First-look at World-class Bob Hawke College' (Media Statement, 2019), <<https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2019/09/First-look-at-world-class-Bob-Hawke-College.aspx>> [accessed 4th March 2020]



Bob Hawke College (Creating Communities)

5.3.6 Significant Institutions on Land Adjacent to the Subi East Redevelopment Area

The land east of Mueller Park and west of Thomas Street, part of the former Commonage Reserve 591A, does not form part of the Subi East redevelopment area. This land, too, was set aside for community use, and it now carries historic and cultural significance. With its distinctive buildings and the many people whose lives are connected through them, these may be regarded as valuable assets of the precinct.

The Thomas Street School and 'Perth Modern School'

By the beginning of the 20th century, population growth meant that Subiaco's existing primary school on Bagot Road could no longer meet the educational needs of the local community. This led to the establishment of Thomas Street



Thomas Street School Class Photo, approx 1926 – 1932 (Perth Modern School Museum Association Incorporated)

School, constructed in the summer of 1903-04, opening in April 1904 and initially referred to as "West Perth School". The new school was inundated with enrolments, and additional classrooms were built in both 1905 and 1906. By 1907 it had a student population of 464.¹⁸¹

During this period, the Government of Western Australia was gearing up for its first foray into secondary education. The government's Inspector General of Education, Cyril Jackson, had advocated the establishment of a government high school in 1902, while his successor, Cecil Andrews, adopted

the issue as 'a personal crusade'. It was not until 1907, however, that funds were set aside for a secondary school near the Thomas Street School in Subiaco. Construction of began in 1909, and Perth Modern School opened in February 1911.¹⁸²

“

Cecil Andrews pushed the initiative and he said to the minister “I think we should call it Perth Modern School” because it was modelled on the nature of what was known as modern schools in England”.

DR ROBYN WHITE Former Principal of Perth Modern School and SALLIE DAVIES, former student and staff member of Perth Modern School (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

Perth Modern School was the State's first co-educational secondary school, and it charged fees of £6 per annum with scholarships available for particularly meritorious students. Shortly thereafter, fees were abolished and entrance was granted only on the basis of academic achievement.¹⁸³ Unlike most secondary schools at the time, 'Perth Mod' promoted a contemporary education where the sciences and modern languages were taught alongside more classical subjects, and did not allow detention and corporal punishment.¹⁸⁴

Many students from lower-socio economic backgrounds were admitted to Perth Modern

School based on academic merit, ultimately enabling them to pursue tertiary education and delivering the community highly skilled professionals. Notable alumni from the school include businessman and Olympian Sir Garrick Agnew; feminist, activist and broadcaster Irene Greenwood; the first Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, H. C. 'Nugget' Coombs; Governor-General Sir Paul Hasluck; and Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

Perth Modern School has undergone several major overhauls to its structure and function over the years. In the 1920s and 1930s, the belief that all children should be

educated in mainstream schools and not streamed according to academic ability was widely expressed.¹⁸⁵ Several Directors of Education in Western Australia supported this view, arguing that segregation on the basis of academic status was inconsistent with the democratic foundations of public education.¹⁸⁶ Nevertheless, this ideological view did not change the status quo until the 1950s, when other circumstances – most critically, a lack of investment in the development of metropolitan high schools – exerted pressure on existing facilities. In 1958, Director of Education T.L. 'Blue' Robertson, himself a former Perth Modern

School student, executed the changes that had been floated for decades.¹⁸⁷ There were strident protests about this decision, particularly from alumni and the Teacher's Union, with the latter calling for Perth Mod to be retained as a place for 'the preparation of prospective university students'.¹⁸⁸

By contrast, the opening of new primary schools in nearby areas had caused enrolments at the Thomas Street primary to fall away. As early as 1948, two classrooms had fallen into disuse. These were then used to support children with disabilities as the Sir James Mitchell Spastic Centre.¹⁸⁹ In spite of this

¹⁸¹ By Courage and Honour: Thomas Street State School, Western Australia, ed. by A. H. Chate (Perth: S. H. Lamb Pty. Ltd., 1954), p. 6.

¹⁸² Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 151 – 152.

¹⁸³ Spillman, Identity Prized, p. 152.

¹⁸⁴ J. Hay, 'Literature and Society', in A New History of Western Australia, ed. by Charles Thomas Stan-nage (Crawley: University of Western Australia

Press, 1981), pp. 599 - 635 (p. 625).

¹⁸⁵ Anne & Lance Brennan, p. 111.

¹⁸⁶ Anne & Lance Brennan, p. 111.

¹⁸⁷ Anne & Lance Brennan, p. 111.

¹⁸⁸ Anne & Lance Brennan, p. 124.

¹⁸⁹ By Courage and Honour: Thomas Street State School, p. 7.



“Perth Modern has changed the face of WA and Australia because so many strong, equitable leaders have come out of the school and that education process”.

DR ROBYN WHITE Former Principal of Perth Modern School and SALLIE DAVIES, former student and staff member of Perth Modern School (Stories of Subi Podcast, 2020)

outdated terminology, the centre worked toward inclusion, offering children with cerebral palsy and related disabilities opportunities to be educated within mainstream schools. The centre moved to new headquarters in Mt. Lawley in 1953, and the Thomas Street school itself closed in 1979.¹⁹⁰ It was subsequently used by the Department of Education for a variety of purposes, including the administration of State Schools Swimming and to provide a support service to English as a Second Language (ESL) students. By then, it had been incorporated into the Perth Mod campus.

Perth Modern School remained progressive throughout its years as a comprehensive school, with the Specialist Music School established in 1968. A strong and expanding focus on music saw the inaugural performance of the School's Concert Band the following year, led by Mr John Embleton. Successive European Music tours, which travel to countries such as Italy and Austria, have

become extremely popular in the decades since.

Government policy on selective entry into Perth Modern School changed during the first decade of the 21st century. The school's own newsletter in March 2005 reported:

*As well as providing \$17 million for the upgrade of the site, Year 8 students entering the school from 2007 will undergo a selection process so that by 2011 (our centenary) the school will be re-furbished and totally selective in enrolment.*¹⁹¹

Despite the complex history of Perth Modern School, its status as a pillar of the Subiaco community's education sector has remained.

¹⁹⁰ City of Subiaco, 'Walking Subiaco: The Com-monage, City of Subiaco (revised January 2020) <<http://www.subiaco.wa.gov.au/CityofSubiaco/media/City-of-Subiaco/Things-to-do-in-Subi/Cycling-and-walking/Walking-Subiaco-The-Com-monage.pdf>> [accessed 17th February 2020]

In the last decade, Perth Modern School has undergone a process of refurbishment with the construction of a new library, performing arts centre and conference centre. Works for a new 700-seat multipurpose auditorium commenced in 2019.

¹⁹¹ Perth Modern School, 'From the Principal' (Subiaco: Perth Modern School, 2005), in Wayback Machine, <<https://web.archive.org/web/20060113023325/http://perthmodern.wa.edu.au/>>, [accessed 25th March 2020]

1953



Perth Modern School comprised the western portion of the site, with Thomas Street Primary School comprising the eastern portion of the site, separated by a road.

1974



The road through the site has been removed, along with trees throughout the core of the site. The school is expanded with new wings constructed on Roberts Road and a gymnasium alongside the oval. Several new buildings are constructed in the north-eastern and north-western corners of the site. Designated parking is also added near existing buildings.

1995



Several playing fields are constructed in the south-western corner of the site. Demolition of buildings in the north-eastern corner of the site to make way for additional parking.

2019



Significant landscaping and expansions around the site. The Telethon Kids Institute is erected in the south-western corner over the previous sporting grounds. Additions to car parking around the site. A new library and other new buildings are developed on a large section of the site along Subiaco Rd. The Tyler McCusker Sports Centre is constructed.

5.3.7 Kids Telethon Institute

In 1985, Dr Fiona Stanley, deputy director of the epidemiology and preventive medicine unit within the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), called on Lou Landau, professor of paediatrics at the University of Western Australia, to discuss the possibility of establishing child health research institute. A working party was established in 1986 and an interim board of management took office in August 1987. The Western Australian Research Institute for Child Health Research (WARICH) was incorporated two months later, and the State Government approved a peppercorn lease on a building previously used for nurses' training in Hamilton Street.¹⁹²

Fiona Stanley was the inaugural director of the WARICH, which underwent several name changes over the course of the next thirty years and is today known as the Telethon Kids Institute. After being named Australian of the Year in 2003, Stanley reflected on the institute's formative years:

*Were we mad? We planned to set up a world-class institute in an isolated city in the biggest but most deserted State in Australia, in the middle of the crisis over business and political corruption known as 'WA Inc', and as a recession was in full swing.*¹⁹³

In 1995, the State Government announced a commitment of \$15 million toward the construction of state-of-the-art premises for the institute, contingent on Commonwealth funding for the balance of the costs required. This was a long time coming, but construction commenced on land purchased from Perth Modern School on the corner of Roberts Road and Hamilton Street in 1998. The building was opened by the Governor-General, Sir William Deane, in September 2000.¹⁹⁴

During its time at this location, the institute produced research of global significance into such areas as brain



Telethon Kids Institute Staff, 1990 (Telethon Kids Institute)

cancer, diabetes, cystic fibrosis and foetal alcohol spectrum disorder. The Telethon Kids Institute moved to the new Perth Children's Hospital in Nedlands in 2018.

¹⁹² Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 290 – 291.

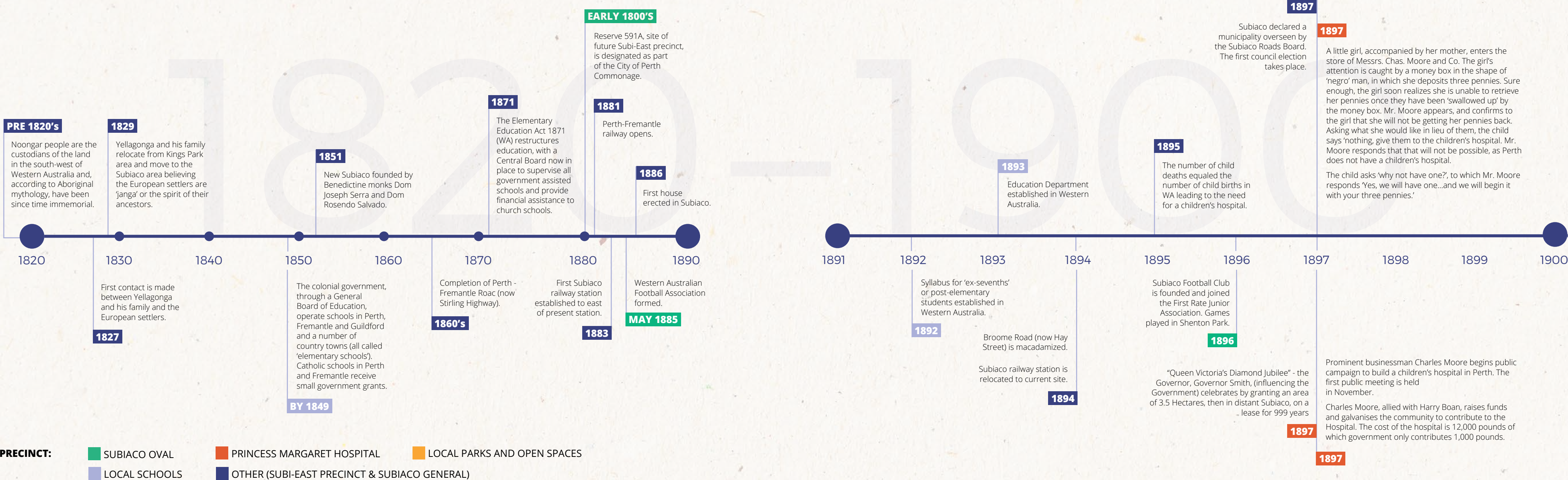
¹⁹³ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, 291.

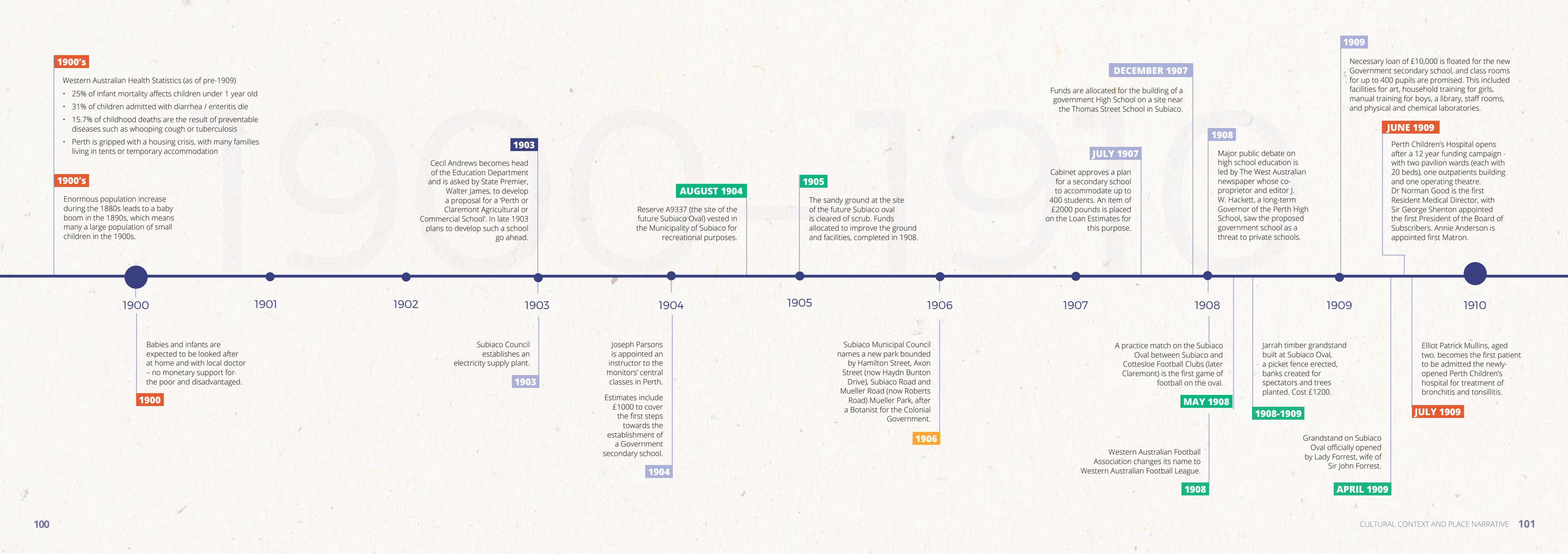
¹⁹⁴ Spillman, Tales of a Singular City, pp. 293 – 294.

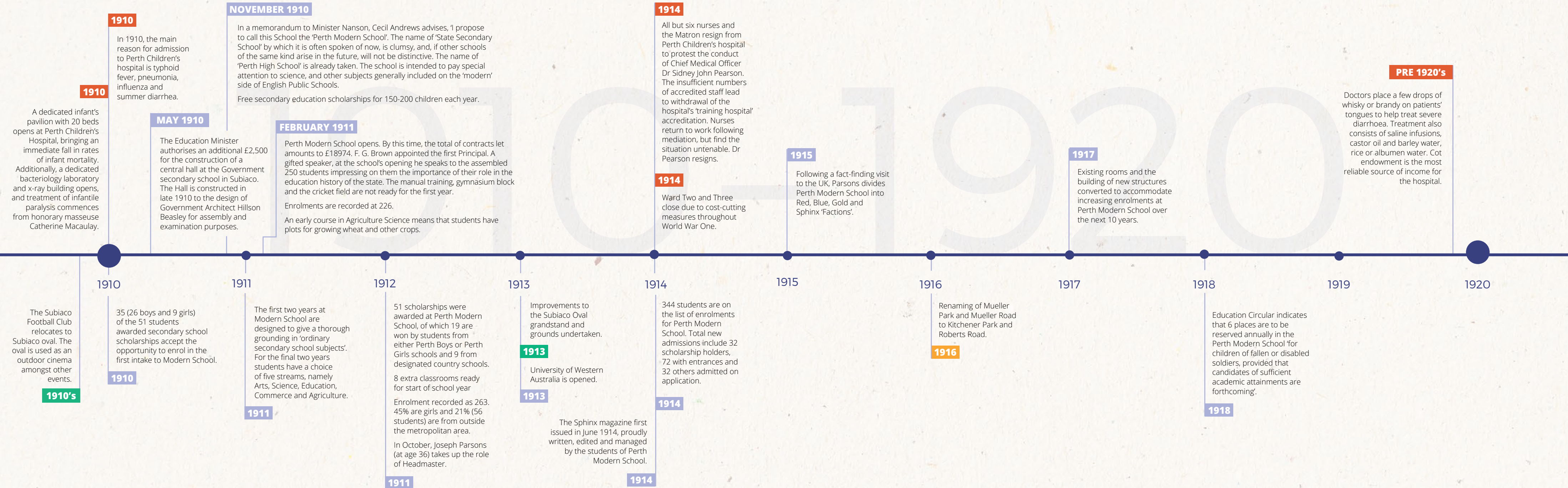
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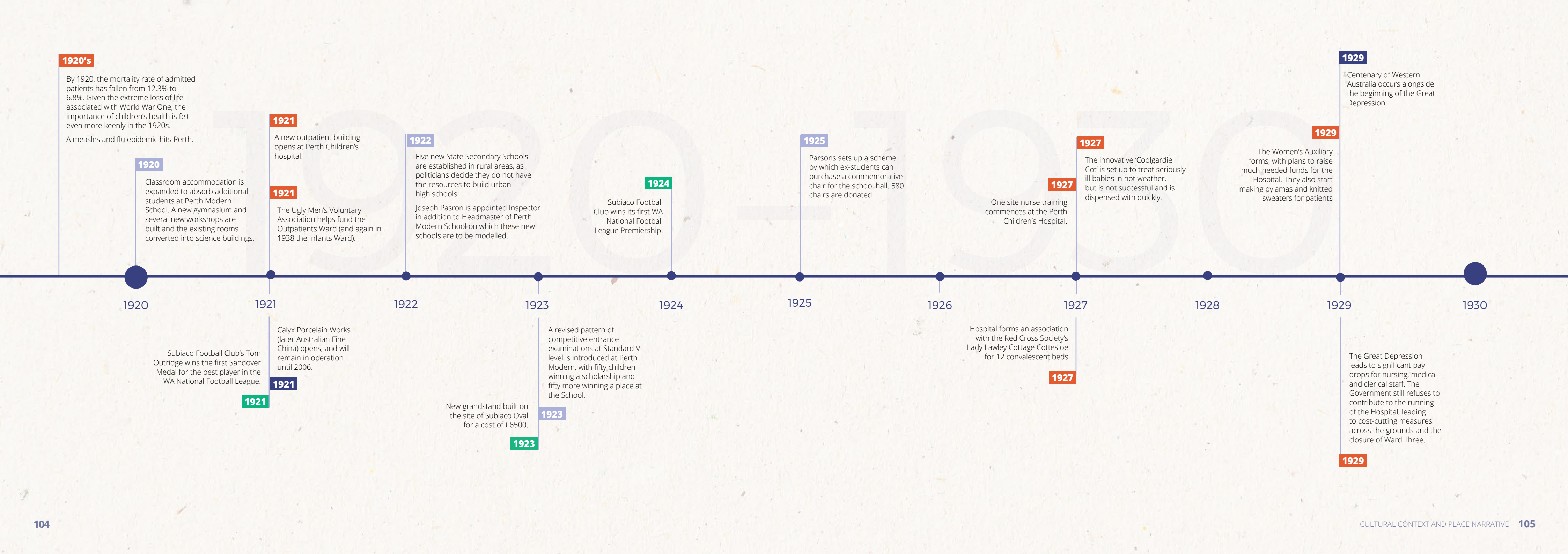
Timeline of Subi East Precinct

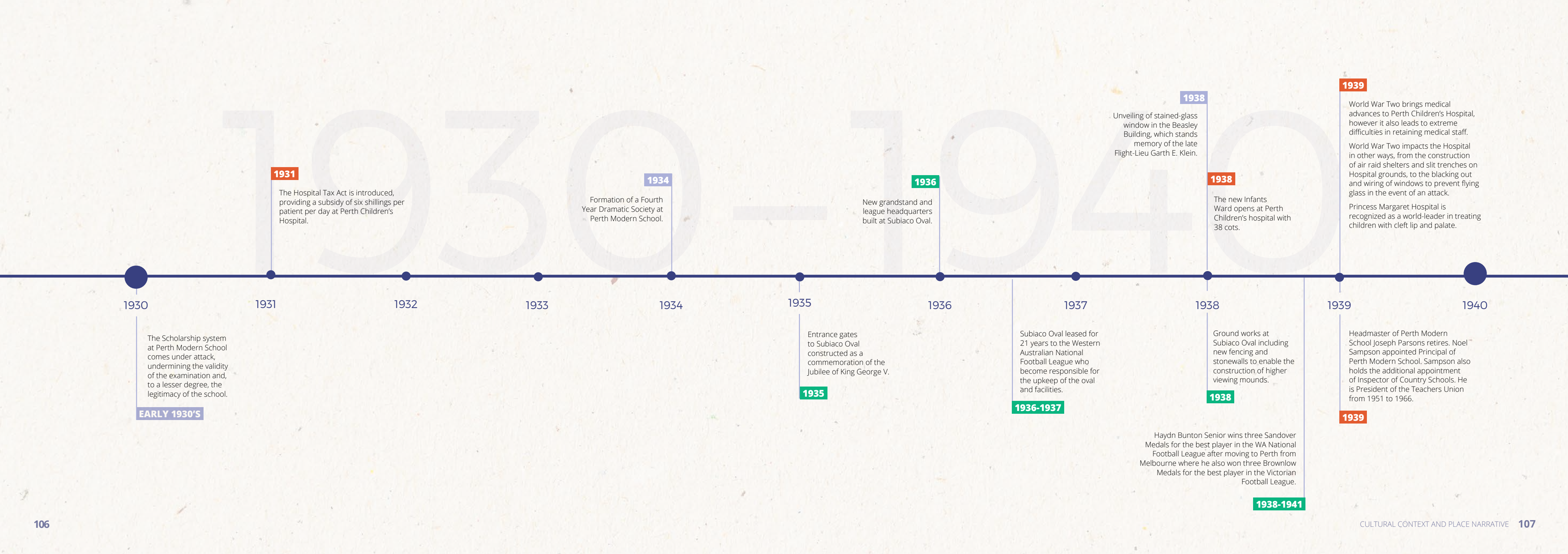












1930

The Scholarship system at Perth Modern School comes under attack, undermining the validity of the examination and, to a lesser degree, the legitimacy of the school.

EARLY 1930'S

1931

1931

The Hospital Tax Act is introduced, providing a subsidy of six shillings per patient per day at Perth Children's Hospital.

1932

1933

1934

Formation of a Fourth Year Dramatic Society at Perth Modern School.

1934

1935

Entrance gates to Subiaco Oval constructed as a commemoration of the Jubilee of King George V.

1935

1936

1936

New grandstand and league headquarters built at Subiaco Oval.

1937

1936-1937

Subiaco Oval leased for 21 years to the Western Australian National Football League who become responsible for the upkeep of the oval and facilities.

1938

1938

Unveiling of stained-glass window in the Beasley Building, which stands memory of the late Flight-Lieu Garth E. Klein.

1938

The new Infants Ward opens at Perth Children's hospital with 38 cots.

1938

Ground works at Subiaco Oval including new fencing and stonewalls to enable the construction of higher viewing mounds.

Haydn Bunton Senior wins three Sandover Medals for the best player in the WA National Football League after moving to Perth from Melbourne where he also won three Brownlow Medals for the best player in the Victorian Football League.

1938-1941

1939

1939

World War Two brings medical advances to Perth Children's Hospital, however it also leads to extreme difficulties in retaining medical staff.

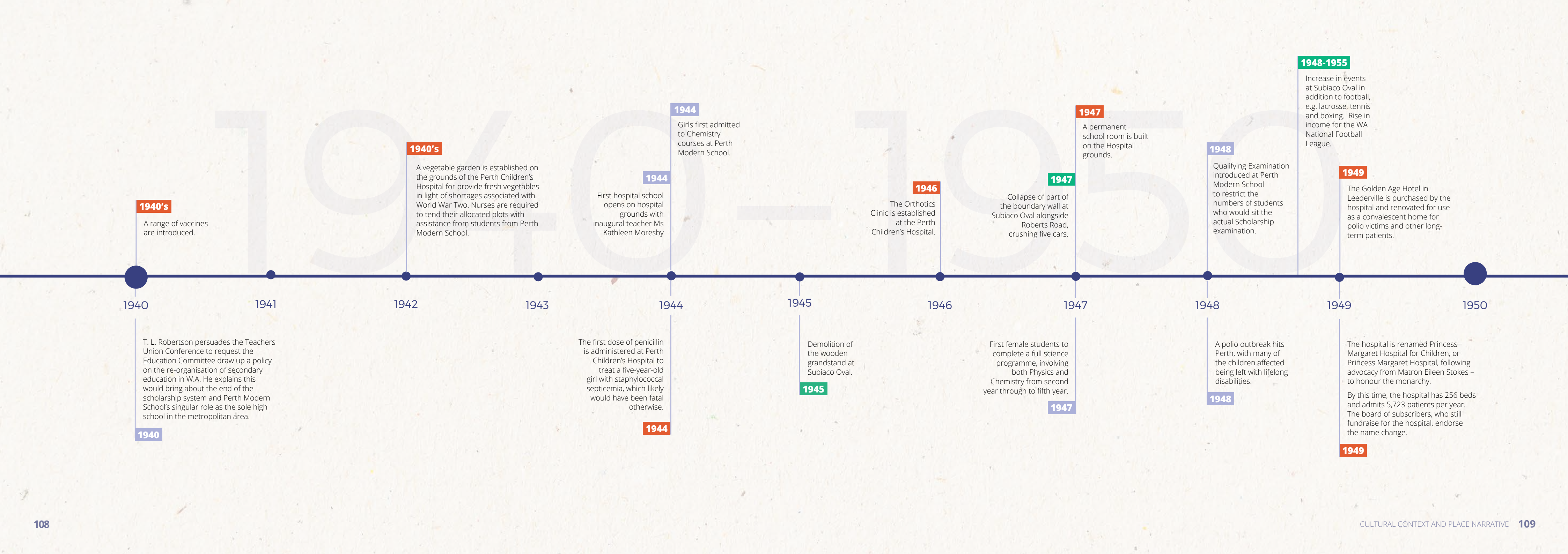
World War Two impacts the Hospital in other ways, from the construction of air raid shelters and slit trenches on Hospital grounds, to the blacking out and wiring of windows to prevent flying glass in the event of an attack.

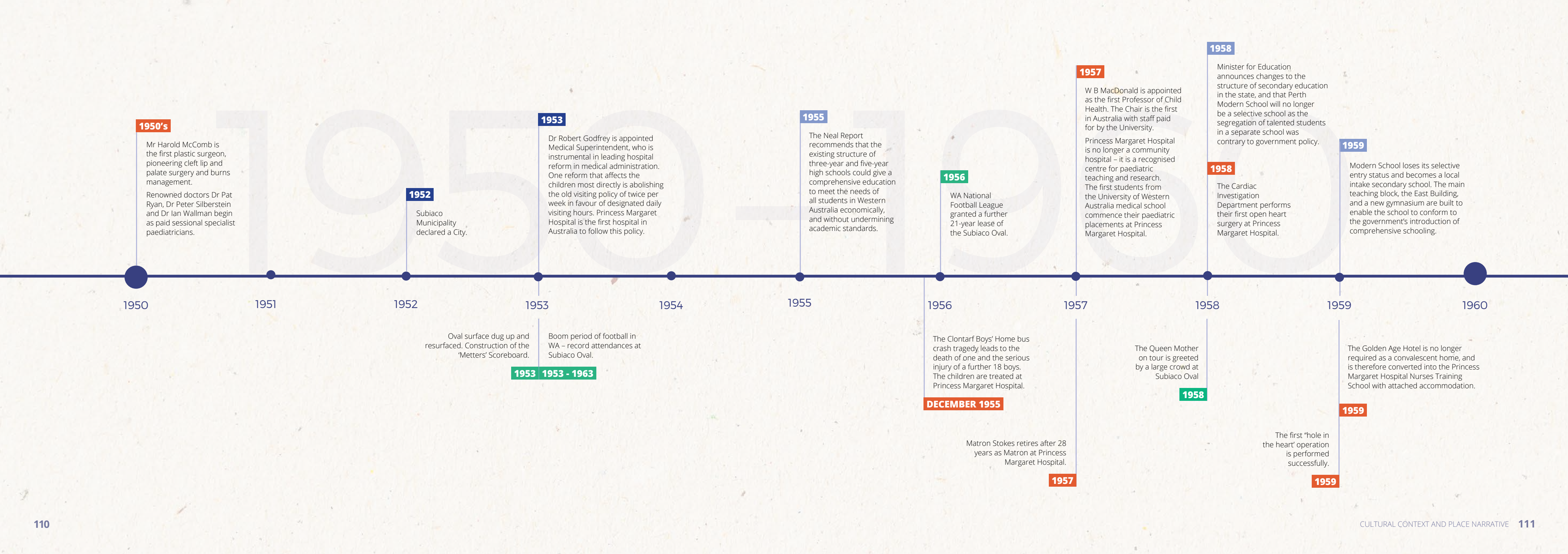
Princess Margaret Hospital is recognized as a world-leader in treating children with cleft lip and palate.

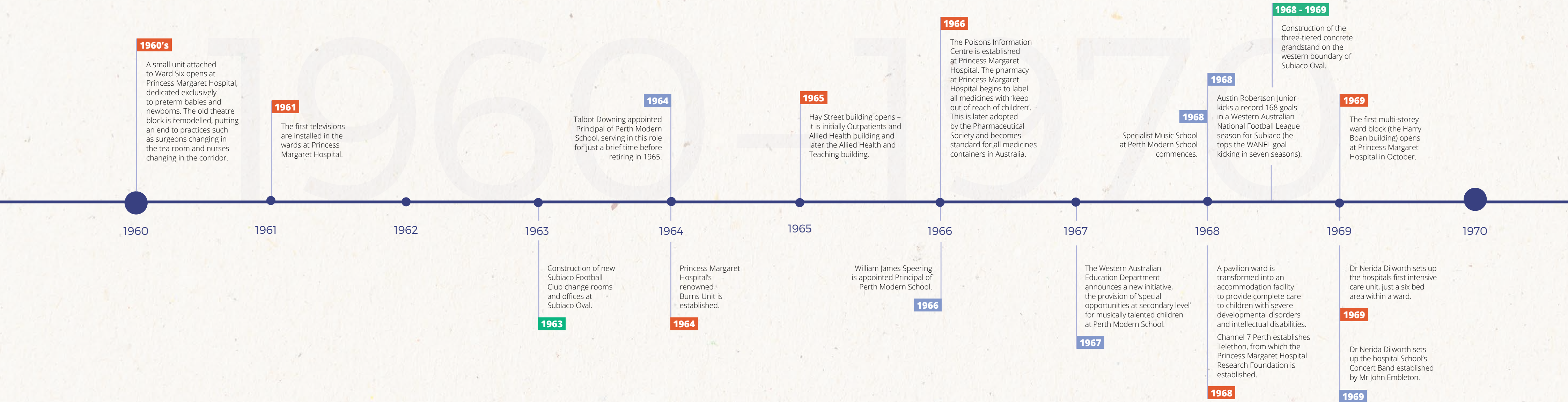
1939

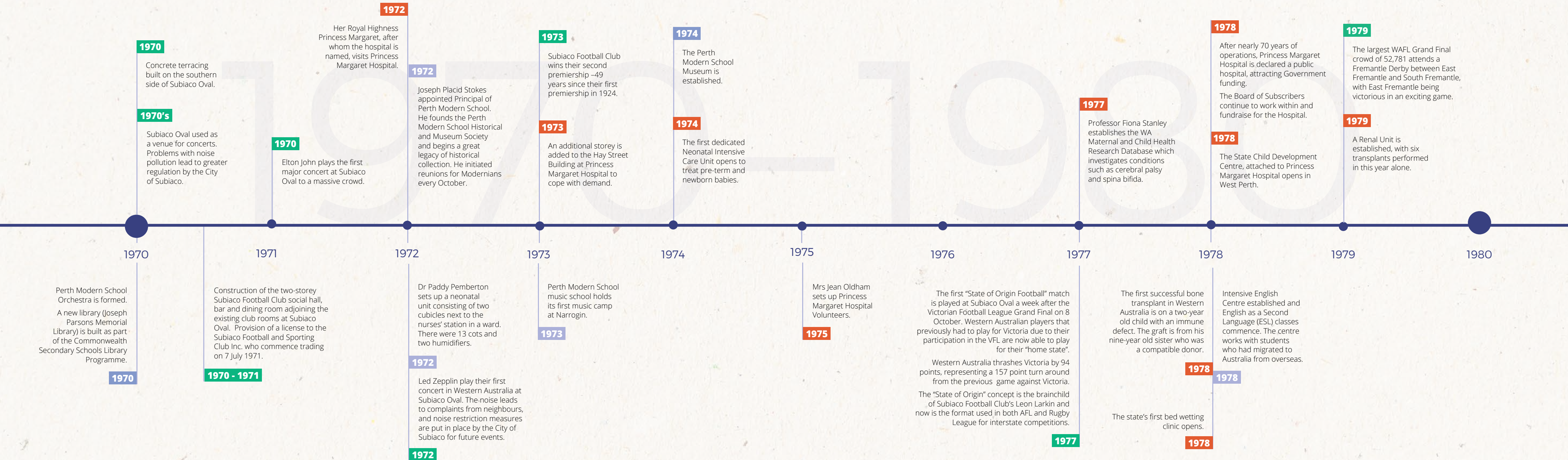
Headmaster of Perth Modern School Joseph Parsons retires. Noel Sampson appointed Principal of Perth Modern School. Sampson also holds the additional appointment of Inspector of Country Schools. He is President of the Teachers Union from 1951 to 1966.

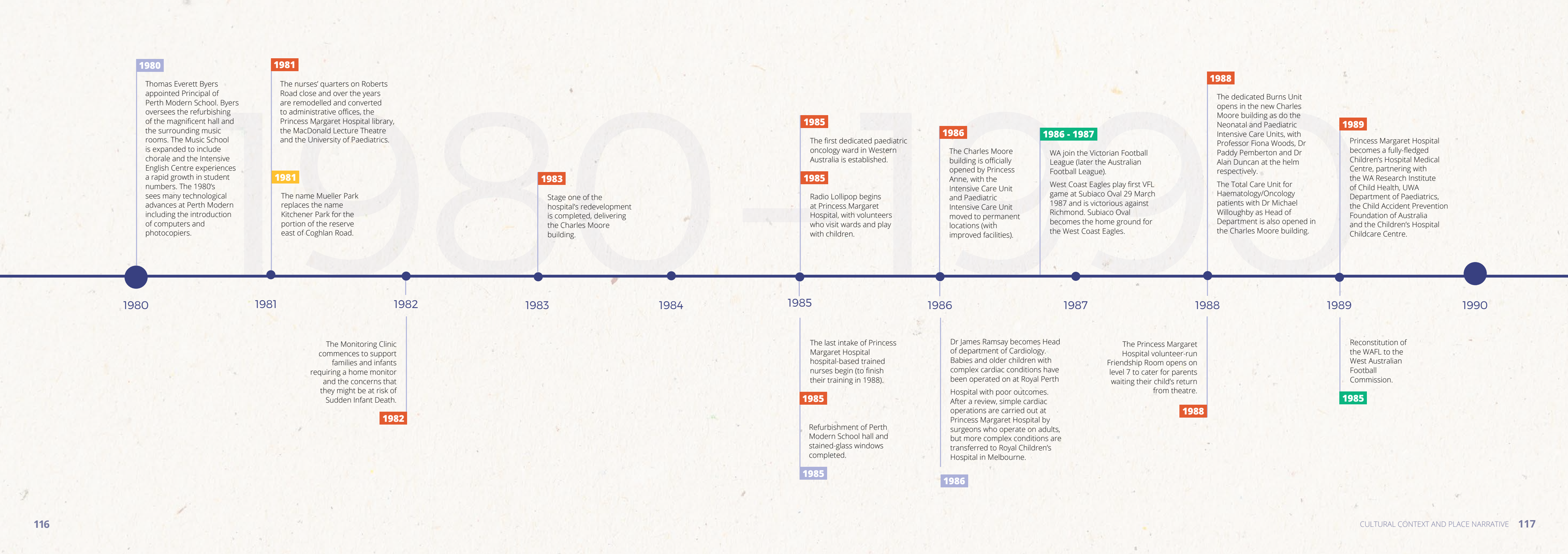
1940











1980

Thomas Everett Byers appointed Principal of Perth Modern School. Byers oversees the refurbishing of the magnificent hall and the surrounding music rooms. The Music School is expanded to include chorale and the Intensive English Centre experiences a rapid growth in student numbers. The 1980's sees many technological advances at Perth Modern including the introduction of computers and photocopiers.

1981

The nurses' quarters on Roberts Road close and over the years are remodelled and converted to administrative offices, the Princess Margaret Hospital library, the MacDonald Lecture Theatre and the University of Paediatrics.

1981

The name Mueller Park replaces the name Kitchener Park for the portion of the reserve east of Coghlan Road.

1983

Stage one of the hospital's redevelopment is completed, delivering the Charles Moore building.

1985

The first dedicated paediatric oncology ward in Western Australia is established.

1985

Radio Lollipop begins at Princess Margaret Hospital, with volunteers who visit wards and play with children.

1986

The Charles Moore building is officially opened by Princess Anne, with the Intensive Care Unit and Paediatric Intensive Care Unit moved to permanent locations (with improved facilities).

1986 - 1987

WA join the Victorian Football League (later the Australian Football League).
West Coast Eagles play first VFL game at Subiaco Oval 29 March 1987 and is victorious against Richmond. Subiaco Oval becomes the home ground for the West Coast Eagles.

1988

The dedicated Burns Unit opens in the new Charles Moore building as do the Neonatal and Paediatric Intensive Care Units, with Professor Fiona Woods, Dr Paddy Pemberton and Dr Alan Duncan at the helm respectively.
The Total Care Unit for Haematology/Oncology patients with Dr Michael Willoughby as Head of Department is also opened in the Charles Moore building.

1989

Princess Margaret Hospital becomes a fully-fledged Children's Hospital Medical Centre, partnering with the WA Research Institute of Child Health, UWA Department of Paediatrics, the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia and the Children's Hospital Childcare Centre.

The Monitoring Clinic commences to support families and infants requiring a home monitor and the concerns that they might be at risk of Sudden Infant Death.

1982

The last intake of Princess Margaret Hospital hospital-based trained nurses begin (to finish their training in 1988).

1985

Refurbishment of Perth Modern School hall and stained-glass windows completed.

1985

Dr James Ramsay becomes Head of department of Cardiology. Babies and older children with complex cardiac conditions have been operated on at Royal Perth Hospital with poor outcomes. After a review, simple cardiac operations are carried out at Princess Margaret Hospital by surgeons who operate on adults, but more complex conditions are transferred to Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

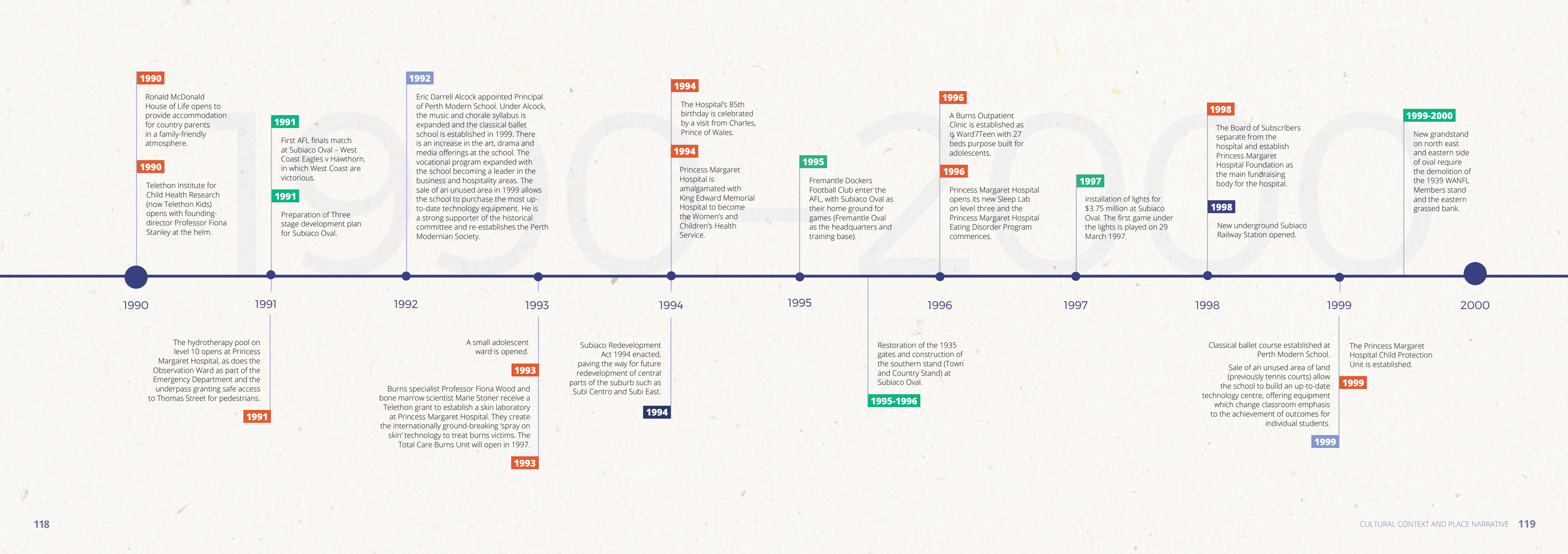
1986

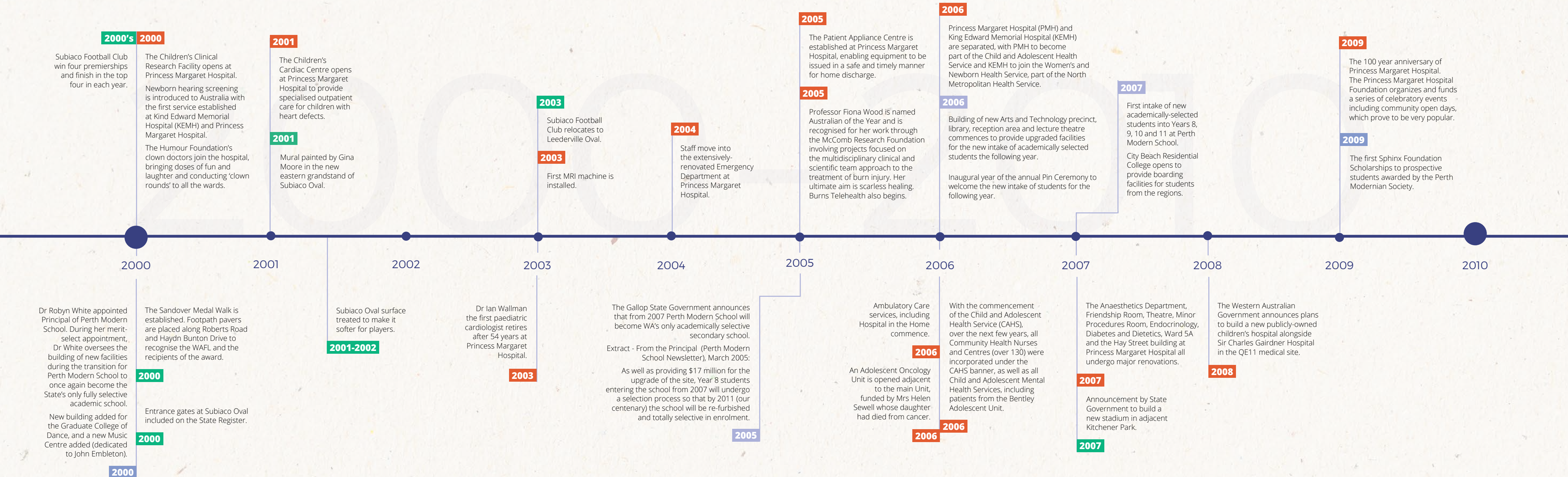
The Princess Margaret Hospital volunteer-run Friendship Room opens on level 7 to cater for parents waiting their child's return from theatre.

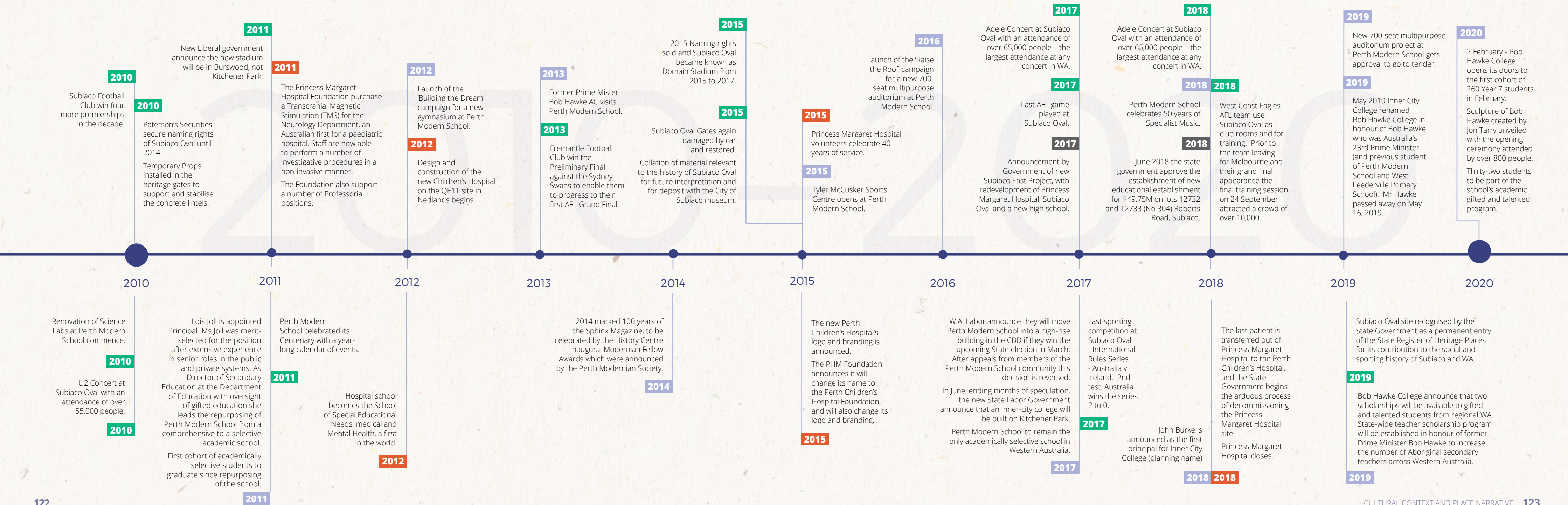
1988

Reconstitution of the WAFL to the West Australian Football Commission.

1985







7.

Defining the future Community Context

The following section provides a predictive approach to the future community that is being planned for in Subi East. This work undertaken by Place Intelligence Pty Ltd utilises a range of data sets to identify the likely community that will live, work and play in Subi East by 2040. The study employed a number of data sources, analysis tools, and critical assessment methods to understand who the current community is, in order to predict the likely patterns, trends and experience drivers that a urban redevelopment will need to accommodate in 20 years time.

By defining who the future community members of Subi East will be it allows for better designs and plans for the people who will come to live, work and visit Subi East. It will help to inform strategy and thinking for places and spaces from a human perspective by defining who the future community of Subi East is likely to be.

The aim of this work is to inform the development of place themes and drivers as part of a people and experience centered master plan. This aims to:

- Enable the Definition of Place and Experience Led Development
- Identify the likely site users once the master plan has been delivered
- Inform the development of a Place Plan and Public Realm Master Plan
- Inform strategies that underpin the Urban Design Framework

Audience attributes provide a unique insight into how people may use the future site. Insights are provided to translate data into actionable intelligence and to describe findings relative to best practice urban and place making strategies.

7.1.1 Key Future Audience Attributes

In planning for the future community it is important to understand the following key audience attributes:

- **Audience Mix**
Who are they?
How many?
When did they visit and for how long?
- **Audience Values**
What do people value from the place and what type of experiences are they seeking?
- **Audience Attributes**
What makes each group unique in their daily activities?

7.1.2 Key Influences

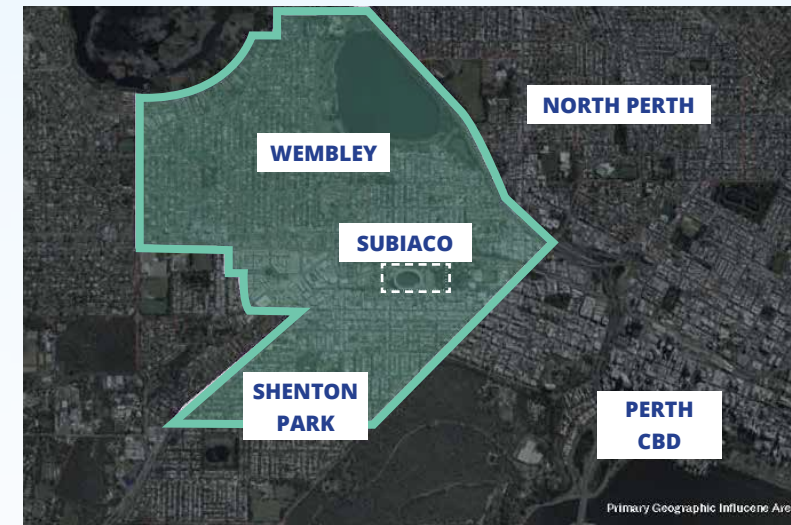
The predicted audience mix incorporates six key influences that are linked to the geographic context of Subi East, these being:

- 1. Urban Trends**
We reference key trends in best practice urban design and place making that are aligned to the study area and identify which of these trends align to individual personas / persona groups, and which are overarching drivers that the design and planning response should seek to address.
- 2. Economics**
Economic data linked to current audience types is obtained and translated into persona types, enabling design and planning response to have an understanding of likely spending power of the predicted audience.
- 3. Demographics and Population Trends**
Current user demographic data as well as population projection data is assessed, allowing the understanding of who the current Audience is and what population trends are influencing the site.
- 4. Future Site Context**
The vision for the site has a significant role in defining the further audience mix. Understanding GFA and space types including public open spaces and outdoor space has a significant influence on who future users are likely to be.
- 5. Geographic Influences (Physical Site Context)**
The physical context of the site, including is adjacent suburban and urban neighbours has a key influence on who will come to the site in the future.
- 6. Social Themes and Trends**
Emerging and current social trends are researched to identify likely patterns that will continue over the planning horizons. These are integrated into the persona sets where applicable.

7.1.4 Influence Zones

The following two Influence Zones were identified and applied.

FIGURE 15: Primary Influence Zone



1. Primary Influence Zone

Analysis of the audiences who live within Subiaco and in the surrounding areas to understand current trends and patterns.

7.1.5 Audience Distribution Today

The following figures provides a stratification of the types of residents currently living within the catchment areas.

FIGURE 17: Audience Distribution 2020 – Primary Influence Area

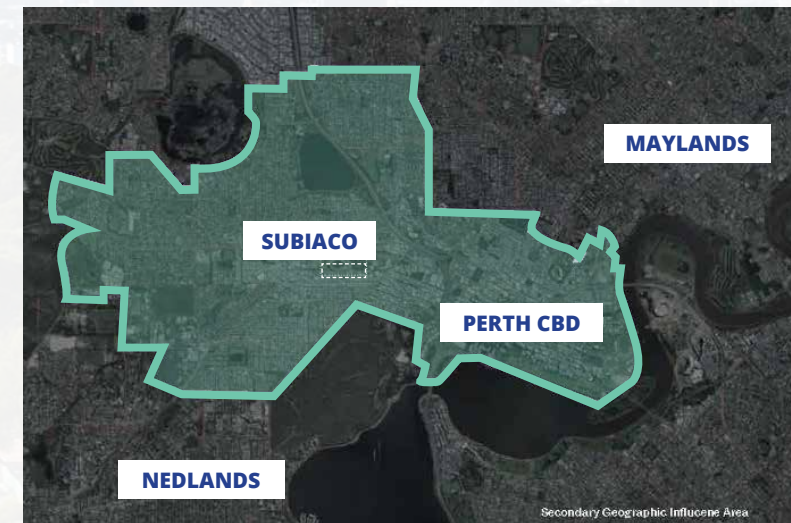


Audience Segmentation

First Class Life, Growing Independence and Families Establishing Roots make up 75% of the area's audience today.

- First Class Life (32%)
- Growing Independence (22%)
- Establishing Roots (22%)
- Striving for Status (9%)
- Mature Freedom (3%)
- Hardship and Preservance (1.5%)

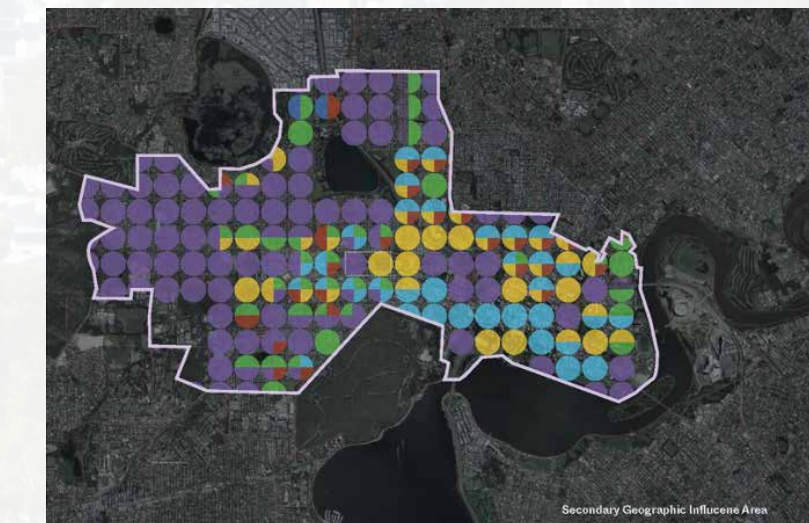
FIGURE 16: Secondary Influence Zone



2. Secondary Influence Zone

Analysis of the audiences who live within the Bob Hawke College catchment area as a secondary influencing boundary.

FIGURE 18: Audience Distribution 2020 – Secondary Influence Area



Audience Segmentation

Growing Independence, Striving for Status and First Class Life, make up 69% of the area's audience today.

- First Class Life (32%)
- Growing Independence (22%)
- Establishing Roots (22%)
- Striving for Status (9%)
- Mature Freedom (3%)
- Hardship and Preservance (1.5%)

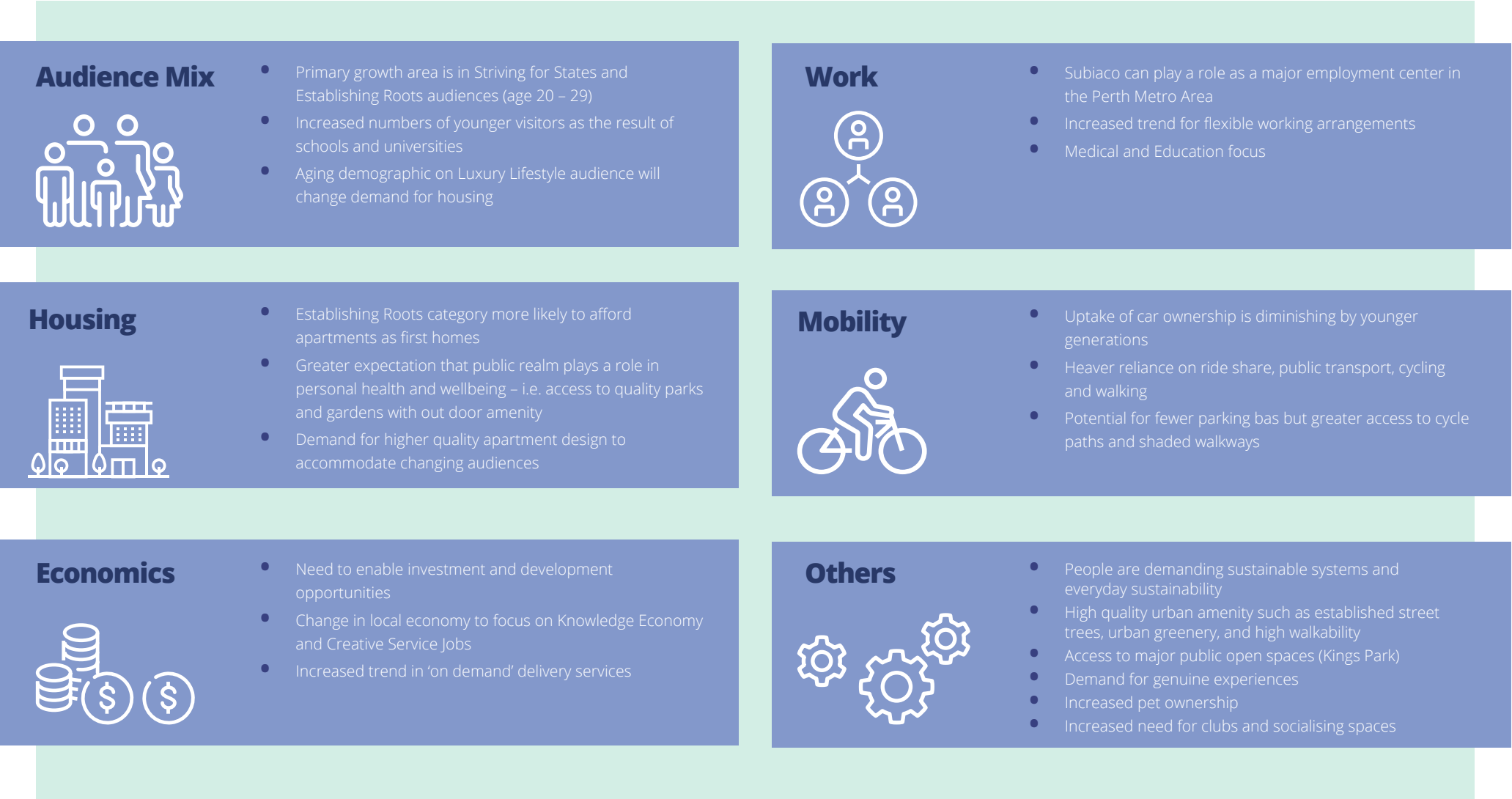
The following Figure 18 provides a segmentation and description of the most common types of residents currently living within the catchment areas.

FIGURE 19: Audience Segmentation 2020



The following Figure 19 provides a description of the key trends and considerations from the predicted community for Subi East.

FIGURE 20: Key trends and considerations



7.1.6 Hero Persona Groups

Place Intelligence have identified hero ‘persona’s’ or identities, that have been created to best represent the broader social diversity of Subiaco. In particular those who will access and live within the Subiaco East site. The personas have been designed to provide insights on who the likely community will be that will use the site in the future. It is a representation of the community, as it evolves and changes over time.

The purpose of this work is in keeping with the people-led approach of the Subi East project. By understanding who will use the site, and how, by getting to know the community that will visit Subiaco East, it can inform the development in a way that will better ensure optimal use and enjoyment. In order for the site to be a place that meets the objective of being a place for all, we need to know precisely who the ‘all’ is.

Based on Place Intelligence’s primary research they identified four primary

or ‘hero’ persona groups that make up the audience of Subi East, these being residents, students, visitors and workers.

The hero personas reflect the diverse and vibrant future community that will be accessing the Subiaco East redevelopment. Each persona has a unique set of attributes that encompass likes, traits, activities, expectations and experiences. These attributes are first approximation to allow the design team to analyse how the future site will be used, accessed and enjoyed.

These personas assist in informing the requirements of the development, in terms of built environment, as well as the feelings and experiences that should be evoked.



RESIDENTS



THOSE WHO CALL SUBI EAST HOME

MIX:

- Young professionals
- Families
- Retirees & Down-sizers
- Student Residents

CORE VALUES:

- Access to food and beverage
- High quality living spaces
- Easy access to public parks and gardens
- Safety
- Sense of community and belonging

STUDENTS



THOSE WHO STUDY IN / NEAR SUBI EAST EACH DAY

MIX:

- Ready for next Steps in Life Years 10-12
- Establishing Identity Years 7-9

CORE VALUES:

- Free activities
- Free places to play and dwell
- Safe streets, parks and places
- Age appropriate facilities
- Shops in walking distance

VISITORS



THOSE WHO VISIT SUBI EAST

MIX:

- Local community
- Local Sports Participants and spectators
- Neighbouring Community Visitors

CORE VALUES:

- Easy access including parking and public transport
- Pleases and spaces for events
- Restaurants and Shopping
- Sense of discovery and places to explore

WORKERS



THOSE WHO WORK IN SUBI-EAST EACH DAY

MIX:

- Professionals and Blue Collars
- Admin / Support Staff
- Retail

CORE VALUES:

- Co-working spaces and places for walking meetings
- Walking distance to public transport
- Variety of food options
- Access to beautiful green spaces

FIGURE 22: Personas

8.

Place Narratives: Interpreting the Cultural Context

8.1 PURPOSE

The Place Narratives are intended as a guide to assist with making decisions about the future redevelopment of the Subi East Precinct to ensure that they reflect and align with the community values as well as the evolution, history and authenticity of the place.

The Place Narratives provide location-based stories that have been threaded together into cohesive themes that can be used to inform the planning, design and activation of precinct and its surrounds.



8.2 INTERPRETATION – CREATIVE AND CONCEPTUAL DESIGN RESPONSES

The interpretation of the Place Narratives in a physical and creative form will be articulated in the masterplan for the Subi East Precinct that will be completed by the urban design team. This will include how the narratives will be demonstrated in the urban form and public realm.

Models that were used by the Community Reference Groups are displayed to the right.

Models by Anthony Duckworth and Grace Oliver, The Australian Urban Design Research Centre, 2020.



3D Collaborative Model Exercise – Community Reference Group (Australian Urban Design Research Centre)

8.3 A CONNECTED CITY VILLAGE

8.3.1 Place Narrative 1 - “A Connected Place – With a Connected Community”

Subi East has strong community connections which make for a vibrant location where people feel they are part of a place with a unique and defined identity. Subi East is not just a place to live, and it's not just a destination, it's also a place to work and play - with all aspects of life interrelated.

With well-established communication networks and effective physical connections, the quality of the precinct will continue to be enhanced with a green corridor and walkways, cycle paths, integrated public transport and effective vehicle management. This access to connected places, spaces and community will further foster healthy, active and socially vibrant lifestyles.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- An integrated precinct that seamlessly interconnects open spaces, education facilities, community facilities, residential buildings and commercial uses to create a cohesive and vibrant area.
- A range of transport networks for residents, visitors and commuters that facilitate access to and from Subiaco and promote the use of sustainable transport modes such as rail, bus, cycling and walking.
- Transit Oriented Development, where a critical mass of residents are located close to transit hubs, with high quality public realm and a mix of land uses to promote interaction and engagement between people, services and businesses. Travel networks that are accessible by all that reduce car dependency through efficient

integration of development with adjoining areas and access to a variety of transport options.

- Accessible active transport modes (walkable and bikeable) through high levels of amenity, safety and permeability throughout the precinct.
- High quality data connectivity to deliver effective virtual connections.

8.3.2 Place Narrative 2 - “A Gateway to a Great Life”

Subi East is a place of opportunity – for residents and visitors. It sits at the heart of Subiaco, West Perth, West Leederville, the Perth CBD and beyond. A welcoming and inclusive community, it is the gateway to everything you need, with shops, schools, health services, public

transport, active spaces and nature on your doorstep.

With a distinctive sense of identity and reputation as a great place to live and visit, the area has retained strong elements of its past, and continued to change with the times. These elements now form a vital part of a place that delivers a contemporary, cosmopolitan lifestyle.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- Active nodes of public realm that provide gateways to key areas of the precinct.
- A diverse range of housing types and tenures to meet the needs of a range of people.
- Choice and access in employment, leisure and transport, for a wide range of people's needs and interests.

- A diverse range of land uses in residential, retail, commercial, cultural and leisure that meet the needs of a wide demographic and to create opportunities for everyone to live, work and play.
- High quality urban renewal that creates a sustained customer base for local businesses by providing a critical mass of people within walking distance of local services and shops.



8.4 COLLECTIVE WELLBEING

8.4.1 Place Narrative 3 - “A Growing Community”

Subi East is all about growing together and creating a better place for all – a place that is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable.

As an important area of Subiaco – it is part of a community of growth that has evolved through the years – always with an eye to the future. Many things have started small in Subiaco have grown and matured, whether they be businesses, sporting clubs and events, the environment, the community itself and even individuals.

The Subi East precinct caters for the needs of people throughout their lives, offering a wealth of opportunities not available in many other areas of Perth.

It is a wonderful place to raise a family, providing opportunities to foster the imagination and creativity

of young people through education, the arts, culture and active play.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- Provide a diverse range of affordable housing options, community amenities and business opportunities in order to enable people from all walks of life to live, learn, work and play within the local area.
- Provision of recreational, cultural and education facilities and services that provide opportunities to people of all walks of life.
- Increased business activity that fosters employment, services and economic activity, supporting rather than competing with the Subiaco Town Centre and neighbouring areas of West Perth and West Leederville

- Enhancing local liveability through the creation of diverse land uses and development which contribute to a range of employment and residential opportunities in the local area.

- An increased local population facilitated by optimised development close access to services, businesses and amenities.

- The attraction of local and international investment that assists in the revitalisation of precinct as an attractive and sustainable inner urban destination.

8.4.2 Place Narrative 4 - “A Place of Learning and Care”

Subi East's history is full of stories of access to an outstanding education, people caring for each other and

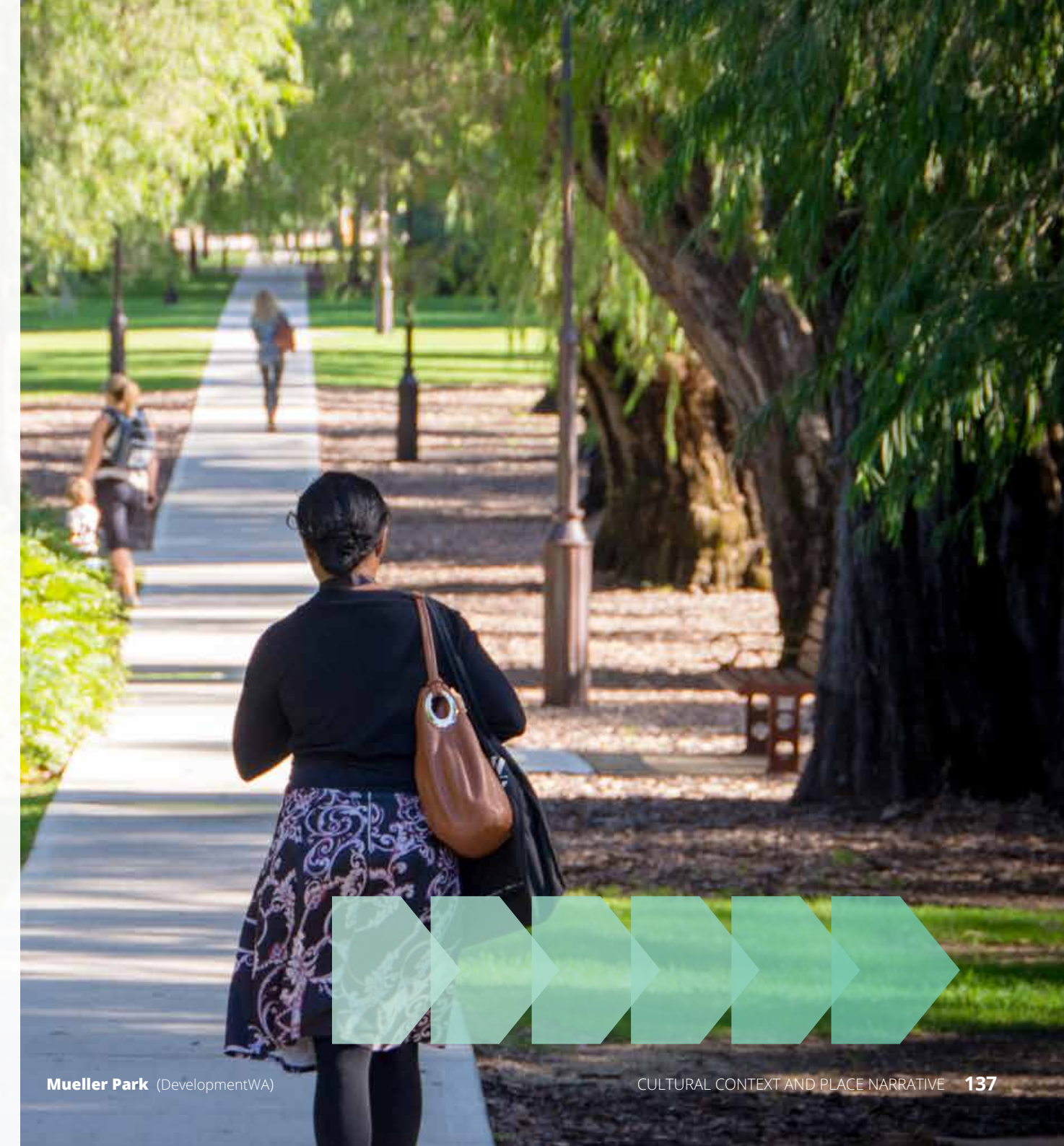
residents working together to better themselves and their fellow community members.

With a proud history of hosting Western Australia's first high school, it is now the centre of excellence in public education as the home of Perth Modern School as well as the new, state-of-the-art Bob Hawke College. Along with being home to Western Australia's first Children's hospital, local teaching hospitals and the Telethon Kids Institute, Subi East has been a hub of learning and a place of care for children from a variety of backgrounds.

As this commitment to learning and care continues, there is opportunity to further embrace Aboriginal culture and knowledge to influence how we engage with the land and care for each other.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- High quality development that facilitates physical and social health and wellbeing and contributes to a safe and comfortable environment for all.
- Inclusive development that is designed to help children, youth, seniors, Aboriginal people, minority groups and people with disabilities feel included and connected to Subiaco.
- Inward and outward integration of places, spaces and services with the local education campuses
- Recognition of the role Princess Margaret Hospital played in forever changing the level of medical care that children received in Western Australia



Mueller Park (DevelopmentWA)

8.5 KAYA (WELCOME) SUBI

8.5.1 Place Narrative 5 - “A Rich and Diverse History”

Located on Whadjuk Noongar boodja (country), Subi East’s heritage lies in its diverse and ever-changing community. From the Whadjuk people who lived and moved through this place for thousands of years, to the healing and care provided at Princess Margaret Hospital, and football, sport and concerts at Subiaco Oval, the history of the area embraces everyone.

It’s not just the places and events that foster vivid memories, it is the connection and shared experiences of community life that create a common bond between people and the area. These experiences range from great sorrow at the loss of loved ones at Princess Margaret Hospital and the separation Aboriginal people have experienced over time, to the great care, joy and celebration experienced in places of sport, recreation, learning

and healing. As a place that continues to evolve, Subi East will respect and reflect these memories and carry them forward.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- Outstanding urban design that recognises and reflects the significant heritage, connection and contribution of the Whadjuk people (of the Noongar nation) to the area over thousands of years.
- Respect and celebration of the history, stories and experiences of Subiaco Oval, the first great stadium of Western Australia and - which was the home of Australian Rules Football and the venue for various sports, concerts and other community events.
- Empathy, respect and recognition of the care, healing, memories, sorrow and loss that were experienced by children,

families and staff of Princess Margaret Hospital.

- Conservation and protection of places of recognised cultural significance and the interpretation of the themes surrounding places, people and stories no longer in physical presence.
- A distinctive urban environment and protection of community assets, heritage places and natural resources for future generations.
- Landmark buildings are created which respect, respond to and build upon the unique character of the Subi East area.

8.5.2 Place Narrative 6 - “A Spirited Community”

Subiaco’s origins as a suburb were as a working class area, a heritage that lives strongly today with the preservation

of many of the character workers’ cottages and the reverence for the toil and commitment to community that made Subiaco what it is today.

Its rich history of sport, with Subiaco Oval being the home of Australian Rules Football in Western Australia, made it a place of energy and vibrancy. It’s a place where people come together to share their passions, support their community and seek to create a great place for everyone. From sport to education, to making a home and caring for children in need, Subi East is about real people from all walks of life connecting with one another, contributing to their community and living their best life.

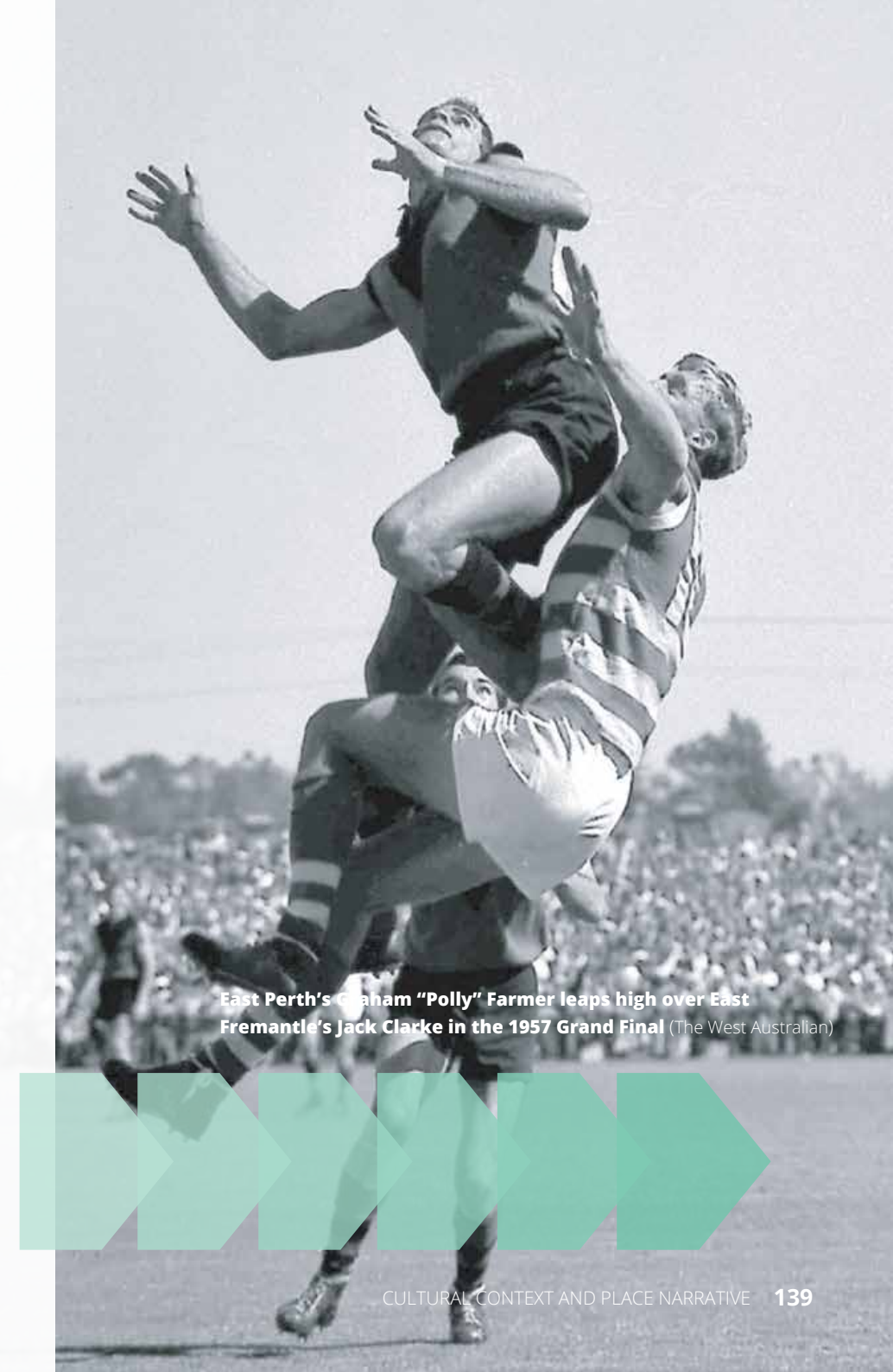
This will be achieved if the following are evident:

- Provision of flexible, multi-use community spaces in strategic locations to provide opportunities and venues for active and passive

recreation, social engagement and community activities.

- Increased activation of public spaces and enhancement of key destinations within the Subi East area and surrounding areas by providing for community events, outdoor activities and social engagement that respect and build upon the existing fabric of the area and local community.
- A welcoming and inviting community for new residents who are embraced and supported by existing residents and community members.
- Opportunities for businesses to thrive, while delivering great experiences for residents and visitors through active ground floor uses, a palate of diverse materials and textures, and integration between the public and private realm.

- Visually attractive and unique developments, with high quality design, and a diverse but distinctive character that reference Subiaco’s Aboriginal, immigrant, colonial and industrial influences, through well-integrated landscaping and appropriately scaled streetscapes.



East Perth’s Graham “Polly” Farmer leaps high over East Fremantle’s Jack Clarke in the 1957 Grand Final (The West Australian)

8.6 A GREEN PULSE

8.6.1 Place Narrative 7 -
“A Place of
Equilibrium”

Subi East has the balance right. The community is all about catering for the needs of people of all ages, with access to community services, quality education, retail and commercial business services, social connections and outstanding amenities. It is a place to live a fulfilling lifestyle where you can maintain a balance of physical, emotional and mental wellbeing, through opportunities to engage with outstanding recreational spaces and quality services, while having close access to nature.

There is an evenness between nature and the developed spaces we need for a contemporary lifestyle, featuring the greenery and retained bushland that foster our relationship to the natural environment.

The unique blend of heritage buildings and exciting, modern

architecture is also a hallmark of the precinct, with the diversity of land use contributing to enhanced residential and employment opportunities.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- A high quality of life that is facilitated by accommodating a diversity of land uses, services, social infrastructure and amenities in a compatible and complimentary manner.
- High quality public areas that are delivered as a result of effective design, development and management
- Attractive, vital, comfortable and safe engagement with shared spaces.
- Minimal ecological footprint of buildings and lifestyles through density, diversity and efficiency in the urban environment.

- Mitigation of the urban heat island effect through the conservation of existing mature trees on public and private land, new plantings within deep soil zones to allow for growth and opportunities for soft landscaping via road verges, green roofs and walls.
- Effective redevelopment and urban infill that provides improved efficiency in land and resource use, infrastructure, community facilities and services.

8.6.2 Place Narrative 8 -
“Connected to Nature”

Subi East has always been a place close to nature where everyone can enjoy and experience green and open spaces. With its proliferation of tree-lined local public parks, proximity to Kings Park and venerated natural landmarks such as the Gallipoli pines, it has ensured a deep community

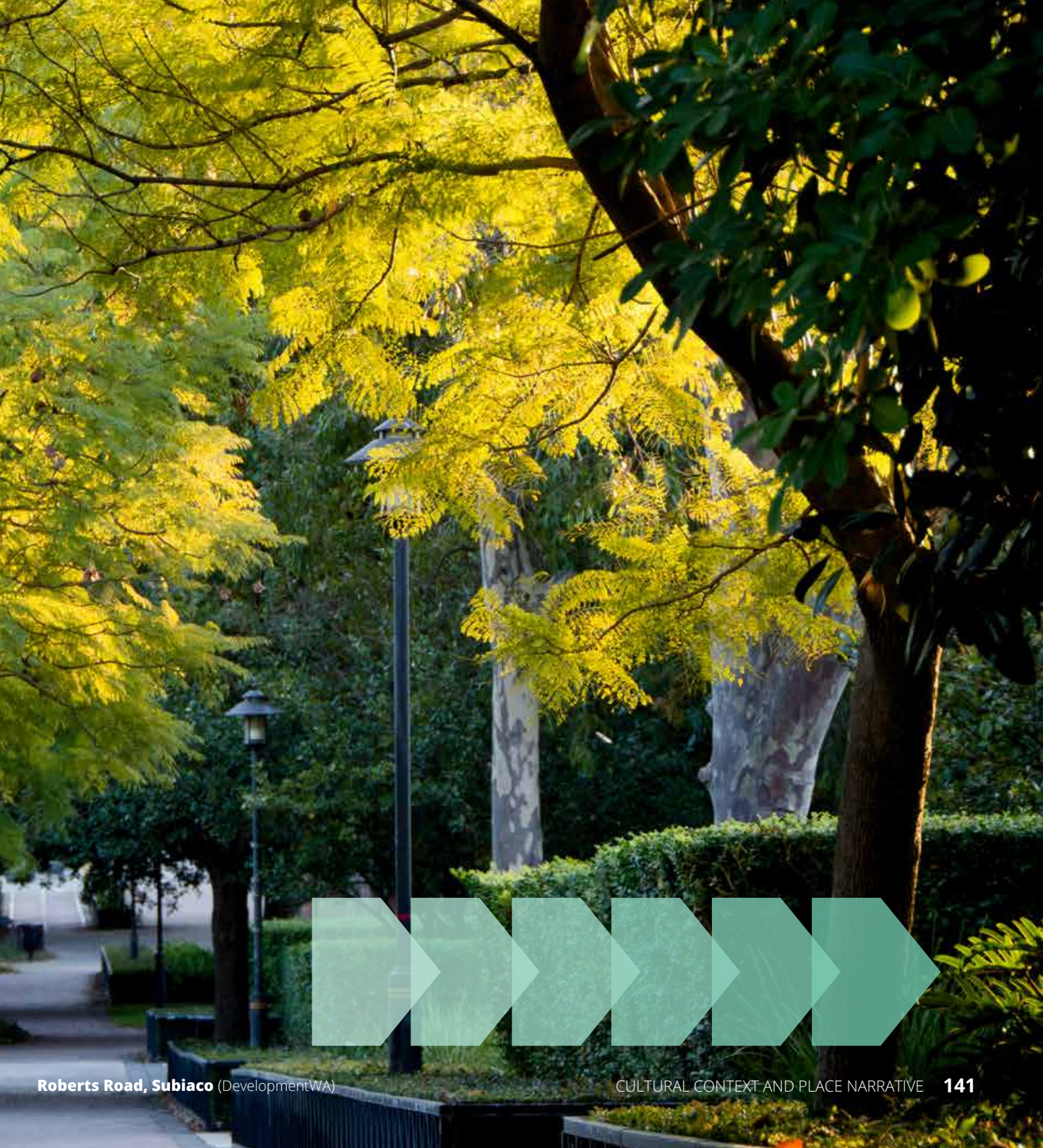
connection and respect for the natural environment.

It is a place that respects and preserves the local ecology through remarkable urban design that ensures minimal environmental impacts. Through a renewed focus on the importance of close connections with the land Subi East will enhance the culture of preservation of the natural environment within this unique and leafy inner urban hub.

This narrative will be achieved if the following are evident:

- A green corridor that connects urban public spaces across the precinct.
- Preservation of the local ecology including the effective management of groundwater and drainage, reduced demand on natural water resources, increased water reuse and the protection of remnant vegetation.

- Environmentally sensitive development including sustainable building design, construction, refurbishment and operation that harnesses the power of nature and maximises use of renewable resources.
- Resource efficiency that delivers a more positive ecological footprint, through efficient use of energy and minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions, combined with minimal use of non-renewable resources, low production of waste, , innovative approaches to recycling, minimised pollution and management of other damaging emissions.



Roberts Road, Subiaco (DevelopmentWA)

9.

Acknowledgements

DevelopmentWA and Creating Communities would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organisations for their generous contributions.

These people helped in the preparation of this document in a variety of ways, from providing relevant insights to sharing valuable source material.

Anne Bourke

Anne McKenzie

Alma Otley

April Walsh

Aunt Muriel Bowie

Barbara Bynder

Bill Dempsey MBE

Bob Johnson

Brian Austin

City of Subiaco

David Murray

Deborah Beresford

Dennis Cometti

DevelopmentWA
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Dr Jackie Scurlock

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Lois Joll

Lorraine Shepherd

Mark Hann

Michele Shoder

Mulloy Studio

Penny Taylor

Perth Modern School

Perth Modernian
Society Museum
Association Inc.

Peter Featherby

Place Intelligence

Princess Margaret
Hospital Alumni

Richard Diggins

Ruth Barrett

Sallie Davies

Subiaco Football Club

Subiaco Museum

Sue Peter

Telethon Kids Institute

Tony Costa

UDLA

Western Australian
Football Commission

Western Australian
State Schools Sports
Association

Wilma McMullen

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A special thank you goes to the members of the Subi East Community Reference Group for their commitment, enthusiasm and support in providing important input and feedback over a series of meetings to help inform this document and the Masterplan for the Subi East project.





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