

3. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

3.1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this section of the Conservation Plan is to examine the place, to record the physical evidence and to investigate the physical evidence in the light of the documentary evidence. This section examines the setting and the function and nature of the place, describes the fabric, examines changes, and records the surviving elements of the original design concept.

This section is based on a survey that was carried out in February 2003. The physical evidence was assessed by means of a thorough investigation of the context, the site and the landscape, plantings and structures that combine to form *Hyde Park*.

3.2. CONTEXT OF THE PLACE WITHIN ITS SETTING

3.2.1. The context of the site

Hyde Park, situated on Reserve 1135, is a 15.5 hectare, irregularly shaped site that is bounded by Vincent, William, Glendower and Throssell Streets in the suburb of North Perth in the municipality of the Town of Vincent. The size of the park and its location beside the major arterial roads of Vincent Street and William Street and only 1.5 km to the north of the GPO makes it a prominent landmark in the area.

Hyde Park is the largest of a series of public parks scattered throughout the Town of Vincent that were established in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Other parks within one kilometre of *Hyde Park* include: Perth Oval, Birdwood Square, Weld Square, Russell Square, Robertson Park, Dorrien Gardens, Beatty Park, Charles Veryard Sports Ground, Woodville Reserve, Memorial Gardens, Forrest Park and Brigatti Gardens. Most of these sites were originally swamps or wetlands that were reserved for public recreation in the early part of the twentieth century but, unlike *Hyde Park*, most were not developed until later when funding became available.

Established on the site of Third Swamp, a permanent lake that was one of a chain of wetlands stretching from Claisebrook to Herdsman Lake, the site had been identified for a recreation area as early as 1872. However, it was not until after the surrounding residential areas of North Perth and Highgate Hill began to be developed in the mid-1890s that the land was vested as a public reserve in 1897. Today the residential streetscapes facing onto *Hyde Park* still largely reflect the late nineteenth and early twentieth century character of the original suburban development. Notable exceptions to this are the late twentieth century multi-storey flats and other smaller scale residential developments at the intersection of Vincent and William Streets and a number of late twentieth century multi-storey developments on Glendower Street.

Generally the surviving late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses are detached, single storey brick and tile or brick and iron buildings exhibiting elements of the Federation Queen Anne and Federation Bungalow styles. Larger examples are located on the higher

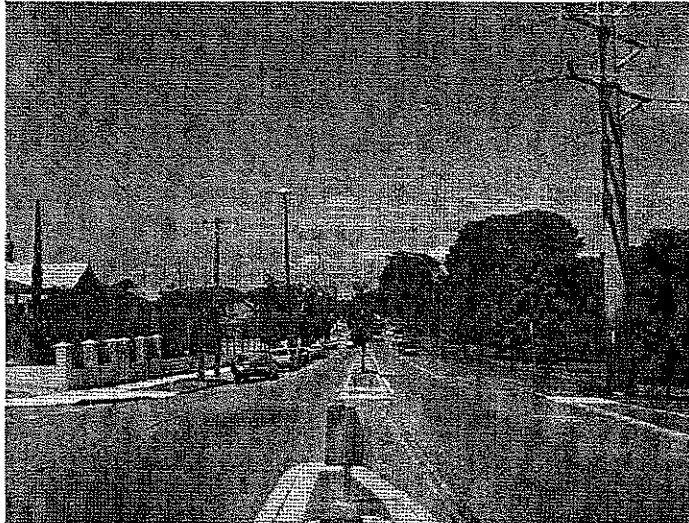
ground on William, Throssell and Vincent Streets and smaller examples, some in terrace form, are located on the lower ground in Glendower Street. It would appear that most of the larger late twentieth century multi-storey developments have replaced substantial houses located on larger corner blocks.

As *Hyde Park* is no longer enclosed with a fence or gates, the boundaries of the park are defined by the surrounding roads and the lineal plantings of trees lining their edges. While the fences and gates have been removed, the internal path network is still largely intact so the formalised entries (marked with signage, lighting, feature paving and in some cases garden beds of annuals) indicate the location of the earlier gates. These entrances all align with the surrounding streets that intersect with Vincent, William, Glendower and Throssell.

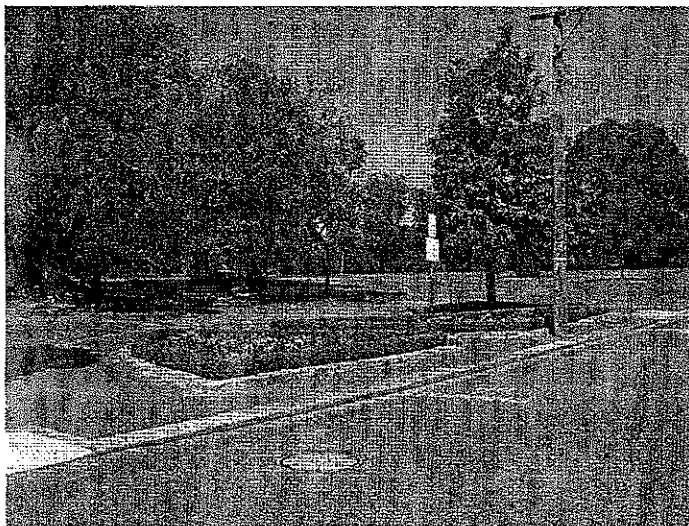
Vincent Street is a two lane arterial road with a wide median strip and parallel car parking bays lining both sides. In most places the median strip is indicated by lines painted on the bitumen, but near the intersections with side streets it is marked with a red brick paved traffic island with a raised concrete kerb and a small bed planted with a Jacaranda sapling. The north side of the street is lined with a narrow grassed verge planted with Broadleafed Paperbark *Melaleuca quinquenervia* street trees that have been heavily pruned to accommodate the power lines above. A concrete slab footpath runs alongside the front boundary of the residential properties. Except for the large block of flats on the William Street corner and a few adjacent houses, most of the houses facing the park date from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century and are single storey brick buildings.

The edge of the park on the south side of Vincent Street is lined with a few mature pine trees and a large number of immature Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawarra Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium*. The pines, mostly Aleppo Pines *Pinus halapensis* with some Monterey Pines *Pinus radiata*, would appear to be the remnants of the border of pines planted around the park in 1914. The alternating Jacarandas and Illawarra Flame Trees have been planted on almost the same alignment as the pines. High voltage power lines supported on substantial concrete pylons line the western end of the Vincent Street park boundary, the power lines are above the tree canopy.

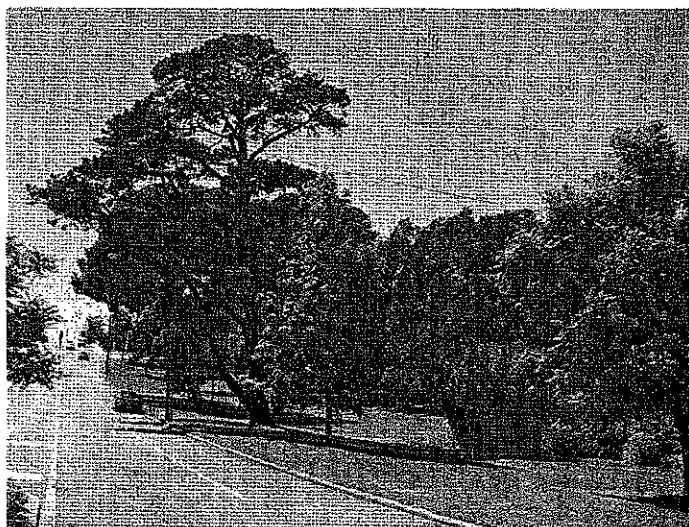
On Vincent Street there are entrances to the park at the intersections with Throssell Street and William Street and opposite Norfolk and Hyde Streets. An area of red brick paving flanked by a pair of cast iron standard lights marks the entrances at the Throssell and William Street corners. The entrances opposite Norfolk and Hyde Streets are also treated with red brick paving and standard lights but they are also emphasised with raised garden beds with limestone retaining walls. The beds are planted with annuals and a low hedge border. All entrances have ramps to provide access to the park for disabled people.



Record Photograph 1
Looking east down Vincent Street from the intersection with Throssell Street.
(April 2003)



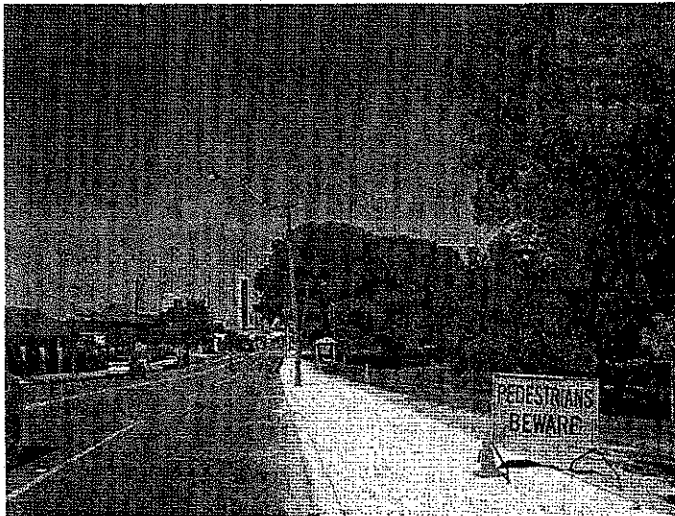
Record Photograph 2
Entrance to *Hyde Park* opposite Hyde Street.
(April 2003)



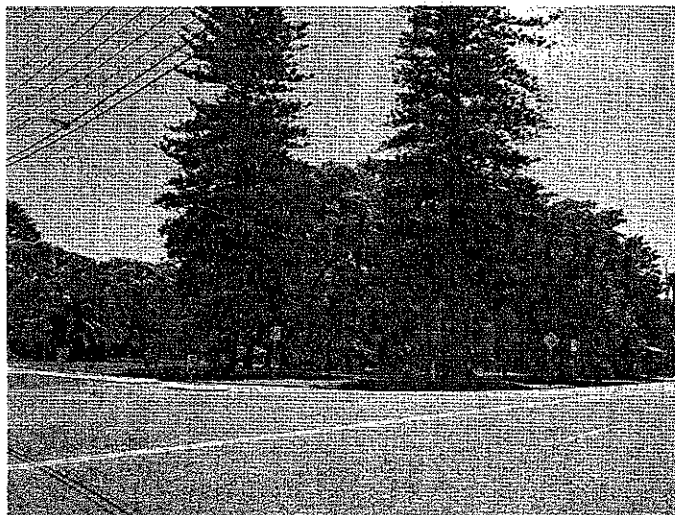
Record Photograph 3
Looking east down Vincent Street towards the intersection with William Street. Note the remnants of the lineal planting of pine trees that once formed an edge to the park.
(April 2003)

William Street is a four lane arterial road that leads directly into the central business district. This road does not have a median strip or street parking. The south-east side of the street is lined with a narrow grassed verge planted mostly with Broad Leafed Paperbarks *Melaleuca quinquenervia* street trees that have been heavily pruned to accommodate the power lines above. A concrete slab footpath runs alongside the boundary of the residential properties. Except for the late twentieth century buildings, a house on the William Street corner and a row of terrace houses near Lincoln Street, most of the houses facing the park date from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century and are single storey brick buildings.

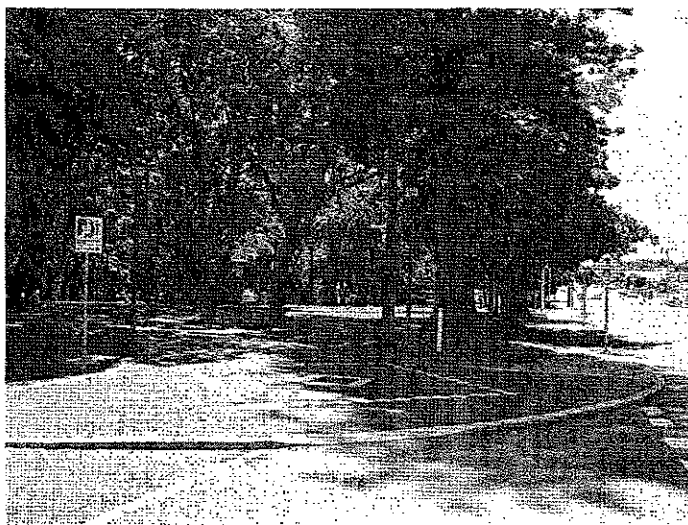
As on Vincent Street, the edge of the park is lined with a few mature pine trees and a large number of immature Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawara Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium* but there are also a few other species including a Kurrajong *Brachychiton populneus* and a Port Jackson Fig *Ficus rubiginosa*. On William Street there are entrances to the park opposite Chatsworth and Lincoln Streets. These entrances have a standard light but no ornamental paving or planting. In March 2003 the earlier concrete slab footpath, which was set in from the street kerb, was being replaced with an in-situ concrete path laid against the street kerb. A section of the original path was still in place near the intersection with Glendower Street. There are a number of bus stops on William Street.



Record Photograph 4
Looking south down
William Street towards the
intersection with
Glendower Street. Note the
new concrete path.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 6
The intersection of William
and Glendower Streets.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 7

The entrance to the park at the intersection of William and Glendower Streets.
(April 2003)

The southern corner of the park facing the intersection of William and Glendower Streets is treated differently to the rest of *Hyde Park*. A pair of mature Norfolk Island Pines *Araucaria heterophylla* flank the corner entrance. On William Street there is a row of four Cliff Date Palms *Phoenix rupicola* and a Jacaranda *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and on Glendower Street there is a row of three palms and a Jacaranda. The palms on Glendower Street are a Senegal Date Palm *Phoenix reclinata*, a young Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix canariensis* and a Cliff Date Palm *Phoenix rupicola*. The bitumen path is wider than usual and it has been ornamented with a section of red brick paving and a pair of typical standard lights.

Glendower Street is a two lane residential road with a roundabout at the intersection with Palmerston Street. At the roundabout the street changes slightly in alignment and character. The section of Glendower Street between William and Palmerston Streets has parallel parking on both sides of the street and on the residential side there is a narrow verge paved with concrete slabs. The section between Palmerston and Throssell Streets has parallel parking on the residential side and angled parking on the park side. The narrow paved verge on the residential side is planted with WA Peppermint Tree *Agonis flexuosa* street trees that have been heavily pruned to accommodate the power lines above.

The edge of the park on the north-east side of Glendower Street is lined by a number of mature Allepo Pines *Pinus halapensis*, which would appear to be the remnants of the border of pines planted around the park circa 1914. These trees are now located hard against the edge of the park indicating the way a strip of land was removed from the park when Glendower Street was realigned. A row of young Allepo Pines have been planted further in from the boundary, probably as a replacement planting for the removed pine trees. On Glendower Street there are entrances to the park opposite Lake and Palmerston Streets. Both of these entrances have been embellished with sections of red brick paving, flower beds with limestone edging, standard lights and signage. Both are also wide enough for vehicle access. Both of these entrances have access ramps for disabled people.

Throssell Street is a two lane residential road with parallel car parking bays lining both sides. The north-west side of the street has a narrow grassed verge planted with Queensland Box *Lophostemon confertus* street trees that have been heavily pruned to accommodate the power lines above. A concrete slab footpath runs alongside the front boundary of the residential properties. Apart from the house on the corner of Throssell and Glendower, all the houses in Throssell Street date from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century.

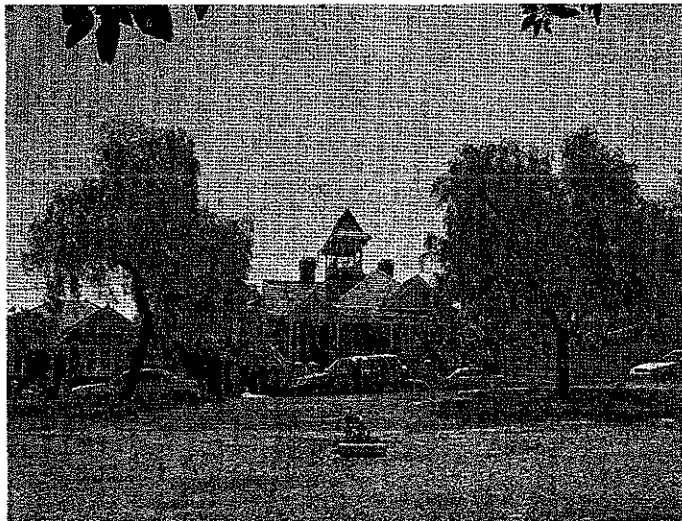
The edge of the park on the south side of Vincent Street is lined with a number of mature Peppercorn Trees *Schinus molle*. Parallel to these trees but several metres further into the park are a few mature Allepo Pines *Pinus halapensis* that would appear to be the remnants of the border of pines planted around the park circa 1914. On the same alignment as these pines is a lineal planting of young Peppercorn Trees, probably a replacement planting for the adjacent older trees. There are no formal entrances to the park on Throssell Street.



Record Photograph 8

Throssell Street looking north towards Vincent Street.

(April 2003)



Record Photograph 9

Houses on Throssell Street facing onto Hyde Park.

(April 2003)

3.3. FUNCTION AND NATURE OF THE PLACE AND ITS PARTS

As the documentary evidence demonstrates, *Hyde Park* has been in continuous use as a public park since it was established in the late 1890s. Today, as in the past, *Hyde Park* is used extensively by local residents and the general public as a place for passive recreation and relaxation and celebrating special events. Seats, playgrounds, water fountains and public toilets are provided to cater for the many users of the park. *Hyde Park* is a very popular venue for picnics, most users sprawl on rugs under the shady trees but there are also formalised barbecue areas with picnic tables and gas barbecues in the south-east and south-west corners of the park.

Hyde Park is used for physical recreation such as jogging, kicking footballs, throwing Frisbees, family cricket games etc and there are a number of grassed areas particularly in the north-east corner of the park away from the playgrounds and barbecue areas that are popular for these sorts of activities. The park is not used for organised sporting activities and there are no permanent courts, fields or pitches for team games.

The park is also a popular venue for concerts, public performances, fairs, public gatherings, weddings and wedding photographs. Most of the organised public activities are focused on the natural amphitheatre area and stage on the north-east side of the east lake. During some of these events permits are given to drive large vehicles towing food vending caravans and fair ground rides into the park. Recently a reconciliation ceremony was held near the copse of remnant Jarrah trees on the north-east side of the park.

The Town of Vincent's practice of not granting licences for vendors to operate in the park continues the long standing tradition of the City of Perth preventing the regular operation of kiosks or small businesses in the park.

There is a small works depot on the east side of the east lake. The works depot is used mainly for storage of materials and equipment.

Throughout *Hyde Park* there is a network of bitumen paths that are used by pedestrians and cyclists. There are paths leading into the park at most of the intersections and opposite most residential cross-streets. Vehicles can access the park by the paths opposite Lake and Palmerston streets and a number of the paths in the park, including the circuit around the lakes, can accommodate vehicles. Vehicle access to the park is restricted to Town of Vincent Staff and people with permits for special events, however, some members of the public drive their cars into *Hyde Park* and park them under the trees.

3.4. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVIVING PLANTINGS AND ELEMENTS

In this section the surviving plantings and elements within *Hyde Park* are described generally and then each section of the park is described in more detail in Section 3.5.

3.4.1. LANDSCAPE

Hyde Park is a large, mature urban park with two lakes located in a grassed parkland of exotic trees and palms that dates largely from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and shows the influence of the Gardenesque style. The 15.5 hectare park is an irregular shaped piece of land bounded by roads on all boundaries.

Generally the topography of the land surrounding *Hyde Park* slopes upward from the intersection of Glendower and Throssell Streets to the intersection of William and Vincent Streets but within the park the land forms a natural basin that slopes gently down from the surrounding roads towards the two central lakes. The land in the north-east corner of the park, the area furthest from the lakes, does not form a part of this basin and is characterised by a series of gentle undulations.

The two centrally located lakes form the major visual focus within *Hyde Park*. This is enhanced by the topography of the natural basin around the lakes that leads the eye down the paths and across lawns to the lakes. The lakes, originally one long narrow lake that was later separated by a causeway, are kept permanently filled and are inhabited by turtles and a large number of water birds. Each lake has an island planted with exotic trees and palms. The islands are a visual focal point within the lake and a nesting site for the water birds. There is a lineal planting of Plane Trees *Platanus x hispanica* around the lakes which provides a homogenous backdrop to the lakes and their islands and shade the path surrounding the lakes. In the winter these trees lose their leaves allowing sun and light into the centre of the park and opening up views across the landscape.

Apart from the lakes, the other dominant feature of *Hyde Park* is the diverse collection of mature exotic trees and palms. There are 65 species represented amongst the approximately 530 trees and palms in *Hyde Park*. Of these trees only 11 trees (3 species) remain from the indigenous landscape, that is, only 2% of the total tree population. Amongst the 519 exotic trees and palms almost half the species are specimen plantings with only 1 or 2 examples. The other half of the exotic species make up 91% of the trees in the park, a total of 483 trees.

Most of the trees in *Hyde Park* have been planted in an informal manner, either lining the network of paths or in loose groupings in the lawns. The exceptions to this are the plane trees surrounding the lakes, the jacarandas in the south-east corner of the park and the recent perimeter planting of Jacaranda and Flame trees.

Typical of the Gardenesque style of landscape design, the trees and palms are planted informally but in a manner that displays the individual characteristics of each tree type while providing visual interest by the contrasting nature of the differing form, habit and foliage

colour of the diverse collection of species. In particular the contrast between umbrageous spreading canopies and upright palms and pyramidal Norfolk and Bunya Pines; between deciduous and non-deciduous trees; between the dark green pines and cypress, the soft leafed light green camphor laurels and plane trees and the dark glossy green leafed native figs. Colour contrasts are achieved mainly by foliage type and texture and apart from the recently planted perimeter of Jacaranda and Flame trees there are a limited number of flowering trees in the park.

Hyde Park has only a limited number of garden beds. Most garden beds are planted with perennials, shrubs and small trees but a number of newer beds around the periphery of the park are planted with annuals.

The network of shaded paths is a significant feature of the park. The canopies of the mature trees join above the paths and the massive tree trunks of the figs and the camphor laurels give the paths a peaceful and secluded atmosphere.

3.4.2. PATHS, FURNITURE AND BUILT ELEMENTS

Generally

There are no major structures or buildings in *Hyde Park* apart from the East Toilets, the West Toilets and the Works Store. There are a number of elements such as seats and lighting that are scattered throughout the park. Some of these typical elements are described below.

Paths and Paving

All paths within the park are paved with bitumen. Those around the lake are of red bitumen seal and elsewhere black bitumen seal has been used. Some paths do not have a kerb but where kerbs have been installed they are a narrow concrete section that barely protrudes above path level. Most paths are approximately two metres but the lake-side path and the paths leading from the Lake and Palmerston Street entrances are slightly wider. Staff vehicles use the wider paths.

Areas of red brick paving with cream highlights have been installed where paths adjoin the perimeter of the park and around barbecue areas and under seats. Where the paving has been stained by bore water it has become a mellow brown colour but elsewhere it contrasts strongly with the surrounding bitumen paths.

Seating

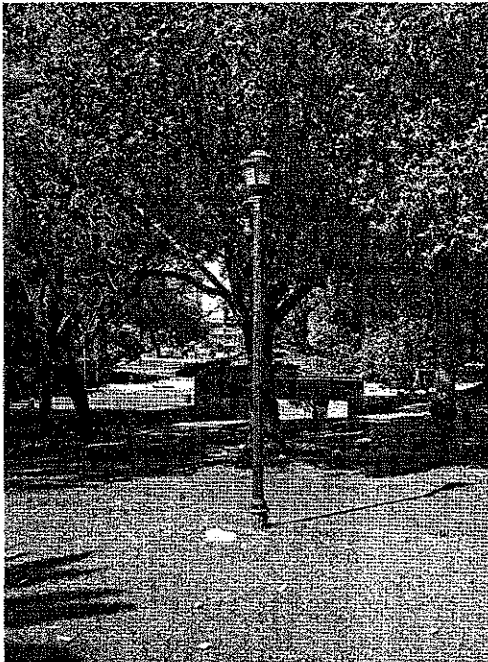
A number of different styles of park bench have been used throughout the park but the most common type is a simple iron framed bench with a timber slat seat and back. These benches are similar in style to those commonly used in municipal parks at the beginning of the twentieth century but they appear to be of recent construction. There are no surviving examples of the simple timber seats shown in early photographs of the park.

There is a range of types of picnic tables with fixed seating used throughout the park. Most have a steel frame with timber bench tops and seats.

Lighting

As with seating types, there is a range of light fittings in the park that date from different eras of development. The most common type is a cast iron pole fitting with a lantern top and underground cabling. This light fitting type is of recent construction but would appear to be modelled on lights from the early part of the twentieth century. The pole has been painted dark green.

There are no low voltage power lines running along the perimeter of the park but there are a number of street lights that are connected with overhead cable to power lines on the other side of the street. These lights are typical fittings on timber poles. In some places there are other smaller pole mounted fittings that are fed by overhead cables attached to these street lights. There are also a number of pole mounted electrical outlets for use in special events.



Record Photograph 10
Typical light fitting.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 11
Typical seating on paved base.
(June 2003)

High Voltage Power Lines supported on massive concrete pylons cross the western end of the park. These large structures dominate the park and contrast sharply with the soft natural quality of the landscape. The power lines partly destroy the illusion of the park as a secluded retreat from urbanity.

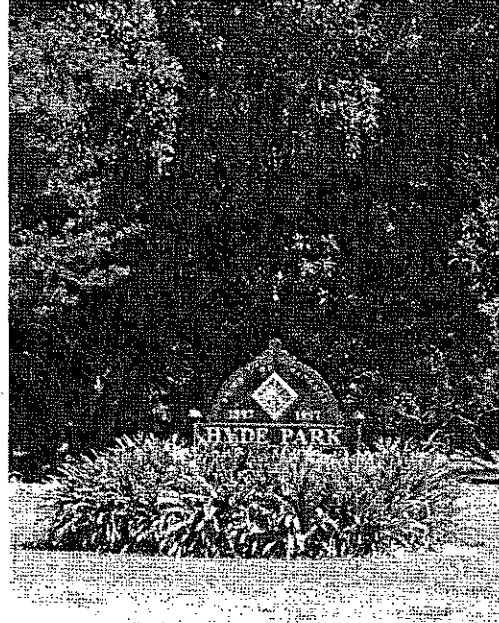
On both islands there are steel frames that were used to support light fittings. The frame on the West Island has fallen over on to its side.

Signage

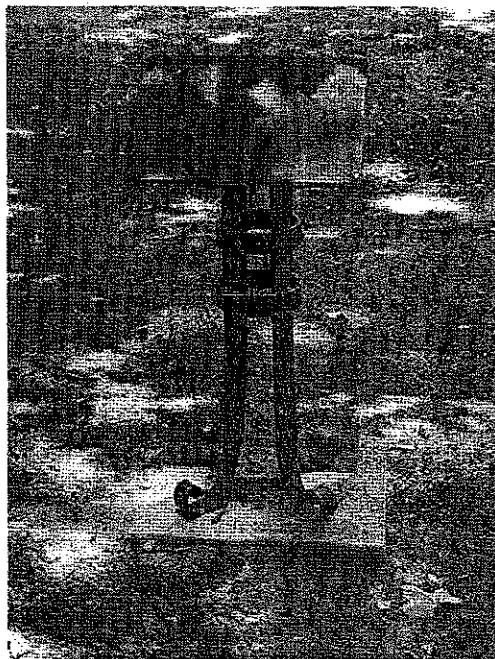
There are a number of signage types in *Hyde Park*, the most common are illustrated below. Most of the interpretation signage and the park name signs are of recent construction. The design of these signs has been influenced by a nostalgic aesthetic and makes use of decorative metalwork. Throughout the park there are also warning signs and other signs that are standard, functional Town of Vincent signs.



Record Photograph 12
Large interpretation panel. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 13
Park Name, William Street. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 14
Small interpretation panel. (April 2003)



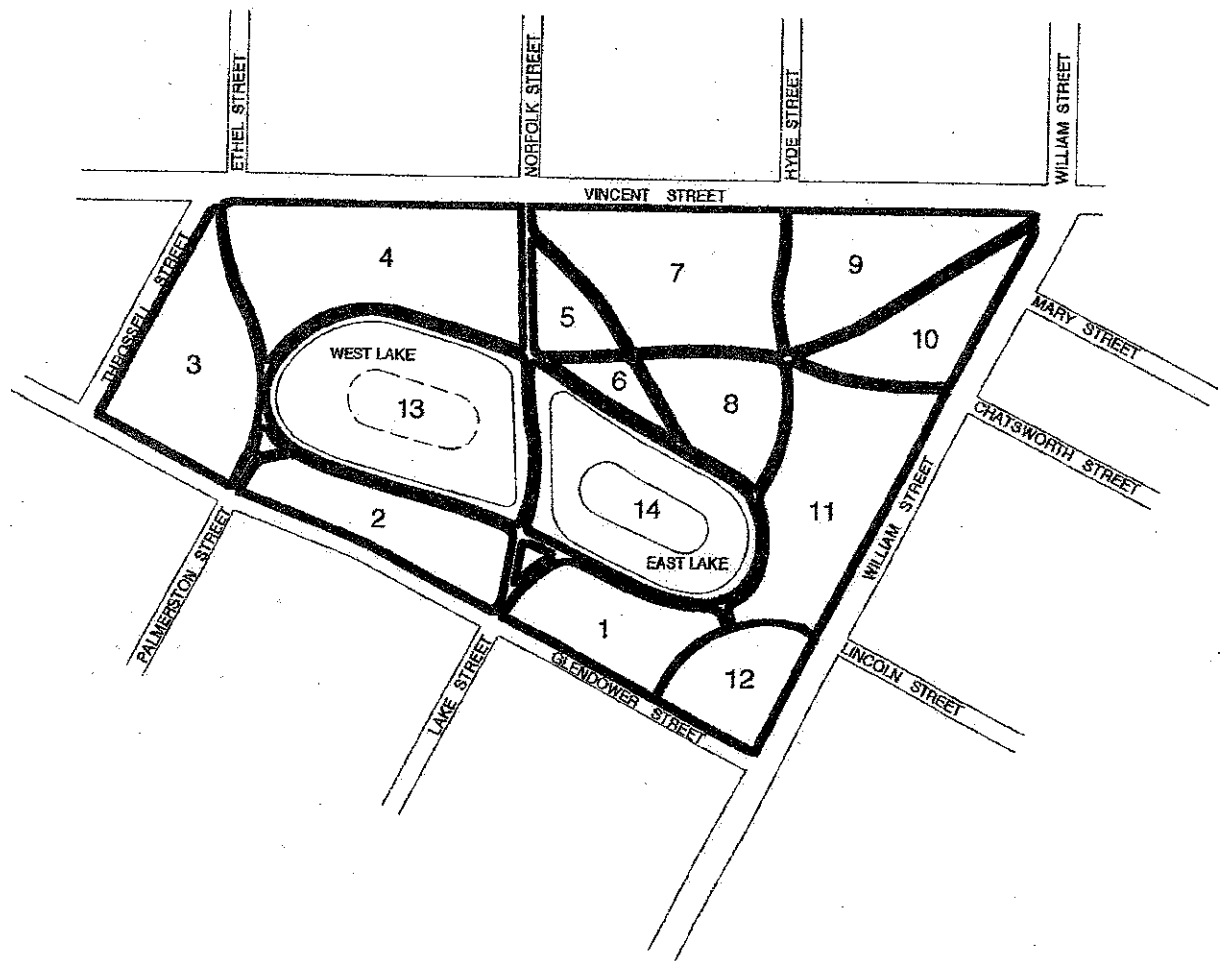
Record Photograph 15
Warning sign under Bunya Pine. (April 2003)

3.5. DESCRIPTION OF INDIVIDUAL SECTIONS WITHIN THE PARK

Following the practice set out by the Arboricultural Report and then the Hyde Park Plan of Management the park shall be divided into sections using the path layout. As there is not a standard way to number these section it has been decided to start on the south side of the park, the earliest area to be developed, and work around in a clockwise direction towards the south-west corner, the last area to be developed. Last of all the islands are described.

FIGURE 1

Individual Sections within the Park

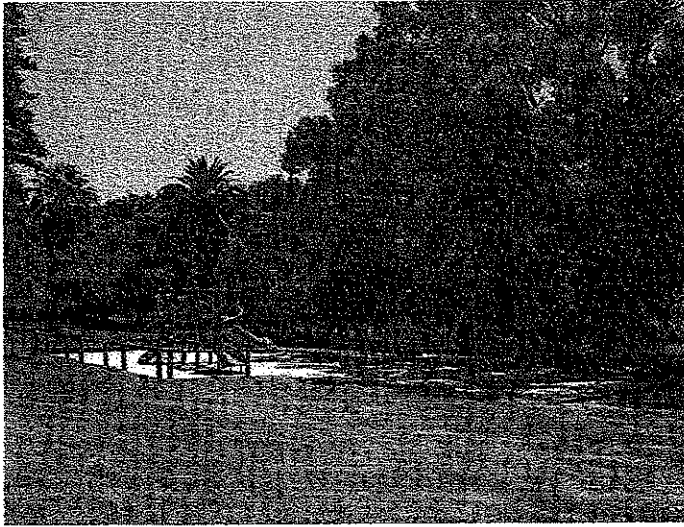


3.5.1. SECTION 1

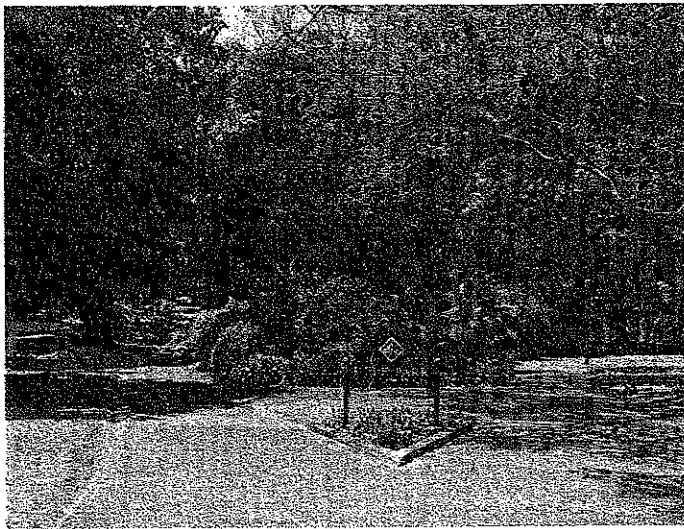
Section 1 is a narrow strip of land located between Glendower Street and the East Lake. The topography of the land slopes gently from the street down towards the lake. This area is planted with kikuya grass with patches of couch remaining in places. The bitumen paths do not have a kerb. Shady trees such as Port Jackson Fig *Ficus rubiginosa*, Carob *Ceratonia siliqua*, English Elm *Ulmus procera*, Oak *Quercus sp.* and Kurrajong *Brachychiton populneus* have been planted along the edge of the paths. Smaller specimen plants and more sculptural trees and palms such as Norfolk Island Pine *Auracaria heterophylla*, Petticoat Palm *Washingtonia filifera* and Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix canariensis* have been planted in the middle of the lawn. On the Glendower Street edge there are remnant Aleppo Pines *Pinus halepensis* from the circa 1914 boundary planting of pines. A recently planted memorial tree, a Magnolia *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem', stands beside the lakeside path.

A children's playground and a barbecue area are located towards the south-east corner of this area. The playground contains a number of brightly coloured pre-fabricated plastic and steel units set in a patch of white sand. The surrounding trees shade most of the playground. A Poinciana sapling has recently been planted on the south side of the playground to provide extra shade. The barbecue area consists of a brick paved area with a gas barbecue on a face brick plinth and a number of picnic tables of varying design located nearby.

At the north-western end of Section 1 opposite Lake Street there is a dense shrubbery. The Lake Street Shrubbery is contained within a large triangular bed surrounded by paths and stretching from the Lake Street entrance to the southern end of the causeway. The north-western edge of the bed is retained by a low limestone wall. The northern corner of this bed has been extended and the path relocated so that there is no longer a direct route down the hill from Lake Street to the causeway. While the southern end of the bed is sunny, the northern end is in continual shade due to the large canopies of the plane trees above. The Lake Street Shrubbery is planted out with a selection of shrubs, ferns, palms and herbaceous perennials creating a visual barrier between Sections 1 and 2. The dominant plants in this bed are a pair of New Zealand Christmas Trees *Metrosideros excelsa*, the other shrubs and ferns are listed in the appendix to this report.



Record Photograph 15
The Playground with
surrounding lawns and
mature trees and palms,
Section 1.
(April 2003)

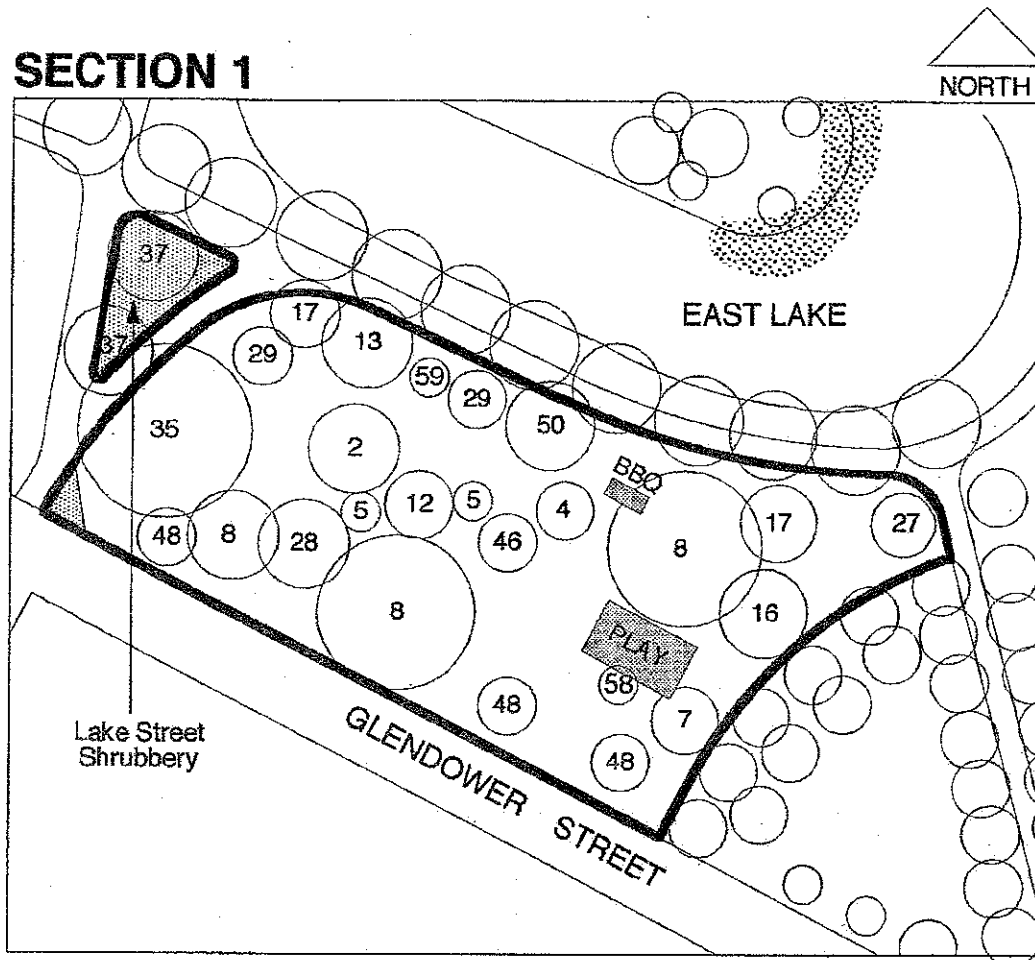


Record Photograph 16
The triangular bed to the
Lake Street Entrance to the
park, Section 1. Note the
signage and paving to the
entrance.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 17
The extended section of the
triangular garden bed that
diverts the Lake Street path
to slow cyclists.
(April 2003)

FIGURE 2
Section One



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

- 2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
- 4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
- 5. *Washingtonia filifera* (Petticoat Palm)
- 7. *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Pine)
- 8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
- 13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
- 16. *Quercus* sp. (Oak)
- 17. *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Tree)
- 27. *Brachychiton populneus* (Kurrajong)
- 28. *Toona australis* (Red Cedar)
- 29. *Callistemon* sp. (Bottlebrush)
- 35. *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig)
- 37. *Metrosideros excelsa* (New Zealand Christmas Tree)
- 46. *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Bay / Victorian Box)
- 48. *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine)
- 50. *Ulmus procera* (English Elm)
- 58. *Delonix regia* (Poinciana)
- 59. *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem' (Magnolia)

3.5.2. SECTION 2

Section 2 is a narrow strip of land located between Glendower Street and the West Lake. The topography of the land slopes gently from the street down towards the lake. This area is planted with kikuya grass and a selection of exotic trees. Generally, shady trees have been planted along the edges of paths and the more sculptural trees and palms tend to be scattered in clumps in the centre of the lawn. There are large areas of sand and mulched beds located under the canopies of the larger umbrageous trees such as the Moreton Bay Fig *Ficus macrophylla* and the Camphor Laurel *Cinnamomum camphora*. On the Glendower Street edge of Section 2 there are remnant Aleppo Pines *Pinus halepensis* and a Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* from the circa 1914 boundary planting of pines. Set in from these trees is a recent lineal planting of replacement Aleppo Pines.

Towards the western end of Section 2 there is a very old Bougainvillea creeper growing over a substantial tree stump, probably an original Paperbark *Melaleuca preissiana*. Scars at the base of the trunk may be evidence of an earlier seat that was built around the base of the tree. These types of seats are shown in photographs from the 1910s.

There is a triangular garden bed bounded by paths at the north-western end of Section 2. A Bunya Pine *Araucaria bidwillii* is planted in the centre of the bed and on one corner there is a Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix canariensis* and on the other two corners there are Petticoat Palms *Washingtonia filifera*. An understorey of palms, shrubs and ferns has been planted under these trees and palms creating a dense screen. These shrubs and ferns are listed in the appendix to this report. The Bunya Pine would appear to be approximately 80 years old, the same age as trees of the same species planted in Beatty Park.

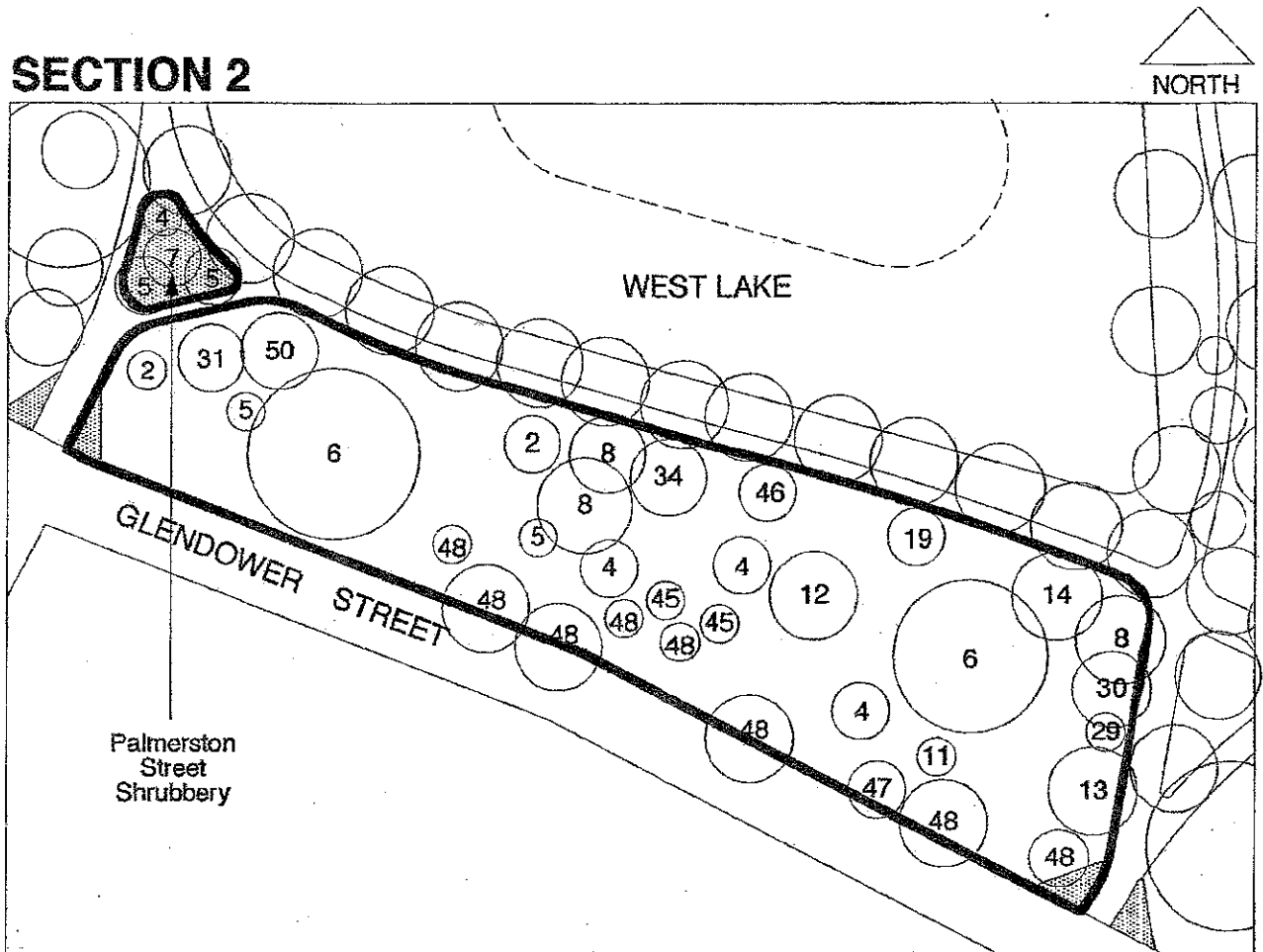


Record Photograph 18
Triangular garden bed to the Palmerston Street entrance.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 19
Bougainvillea creeper.
(April 2003)

FIGURE 3
Section Two



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
5. *Washingtonia filifera* (Petticoat Palm)
6. *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig)
7. *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Pine)
8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
11. *Eucalyptus ficifolia* (W.A. Red Flowering Gum)
12. *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine)
13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
14. *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Box Tree)
19. *Agonis flexuosa* (W.A. Weeping Peppermint)
29. *Callistemon* sp. (Bottlebrush)
30. *Melia azederach* (Cape Lilac)
31. *Brachychiton acerfolium* (Illawarra Flame Tree)
34. *Pinus canariensis* (Canary Island Pine)
45. *Washingtonia robusta* (Cotton Palm)
46. *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Bay / Victorian Box)
47. *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine)
48. *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine)
50. *Ulmus procera* (English Elm)

3.5.3. SECTION 3

Section 3 is a roughly triangular area of land bounded by Glendower Street on the south-west and Throssell Street on the north-west. The West Lake is located to the east of Section 3. The topography of the land slopes very gently from Glendower and Throssell Streets down towards the lake.

As elsewhere in the park shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths and sculptural trees and palms have been planted in the middle of the lawn. In Section 3 there are also a number of umbrageous Moreton Bay Fig Trees *Ficus macrophylla* planted in the lawn. There are a number of specimen plantings located near the Palmerston Street entrance including a Norfolk Island Pine *Araucaria heterophylla*, a Red Cedar *Toona australis*, a Silver Poplar *Populus alba* and a Queensland Lace Bark *Brachychiton discolor*. There is also a Palmetto Palm *Sabal palmetto* at the northern end of Section 3. Some of the specimen plantings have poorly formed canopies because they have been overshadowed by the fast growing neighbouring Fig Trees. In the south-east corner of Section 3 there is a young Norfolk Island Pine probably planted during the 1980s.

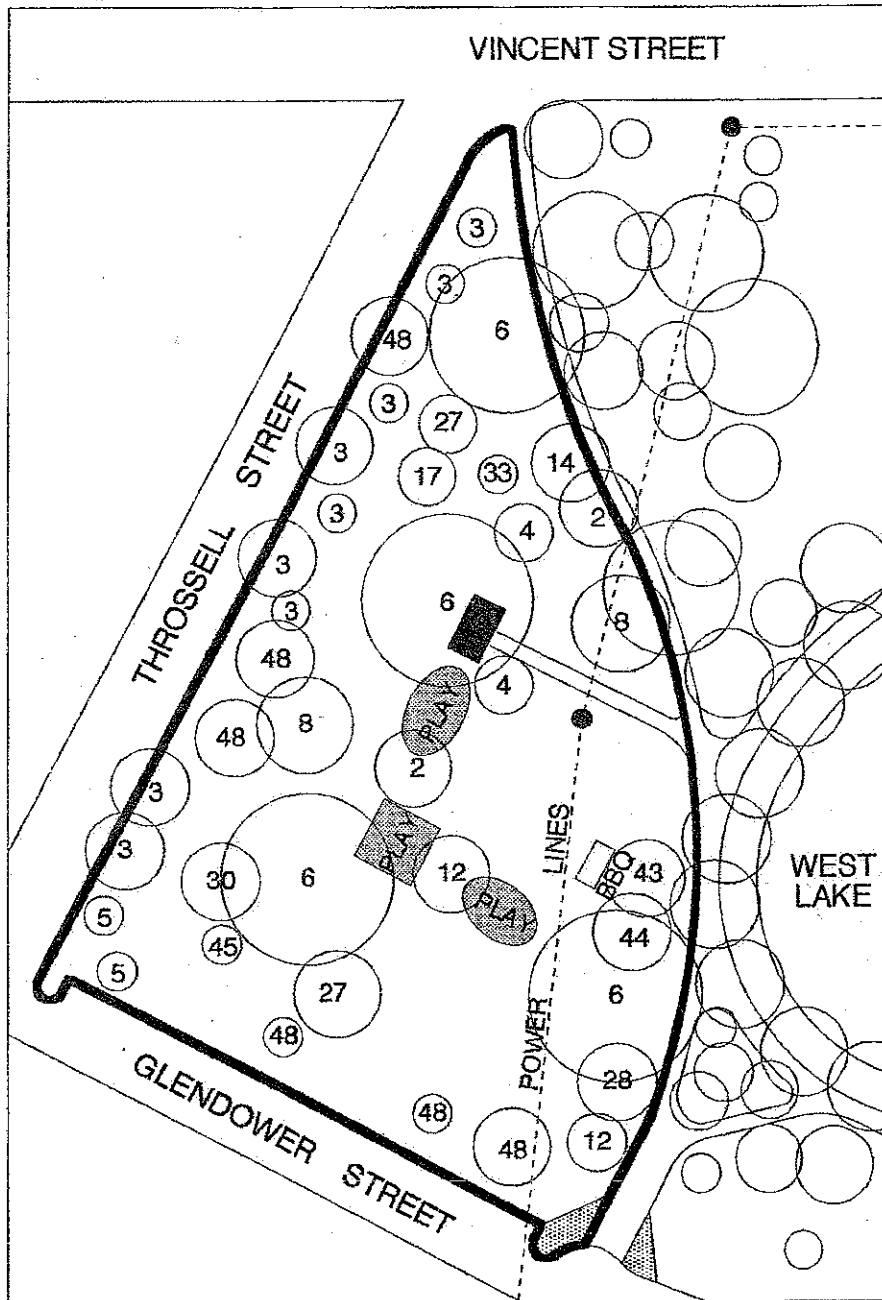
On the Glendower Street edge of Section 3 there are remnant Aleppo Pines *Pinus halepensis* from the circa 1914 perimeter planting of pines. Set in from these trees is a recent lineal planting of replacement Aleppo Pines. On the Throssell Street edge there are remnant Peppercorn Trees *Schinus molle* probably part of an earlier planting of street trees plus, set further into the park, some remnant Aleppo Pines from the circa 1914 perimeter planting. In alignment with the remnant Aleppo Pines is a recent lineal planting of replacement Peppercorn Trees. Two recently planted Petticoat Palms *Washingtonia filifera* stand at the intersection of Throssell and Glendower Streets.

This section of the park is heavily utilised by family groups as it contains three playgrounds, a toilet block and a barbecue area. The playgrounds are located under the shady trees in the centre of Section 3. The two northern playgrounds both contain a number of brightly coloured pre-fabricated plastic and steel units set in an area of white sand but one is enclosed with a 900mm high chain link fence and the other is surrounded by artificial rocks and pine poles. The playground nearer Glendower Street contains a number of swings constructed from pine poles. The toilet block is a late Twentieth Century, utilitarian, face brick structure with a hip and gambrel roof. The ground has been cut away at the back of the block, possibly to minimise the impact of the building on the surrounding parkland. The barbecue area consists of a brick paved area with a gas barbecue on a face brick plinth and a number of picnic tables of varying design located nearby.

Crossing Section 3 from the south-west to north-east is a high voltage power line. This power line is slung over a largely open section of ground and the wires are generally above the canopy height of the surrounding trees. However, it would appear that an Aleppo Pine on Glendower Street has been pruned to keep the lines clear. One of the massive concrete support poles is located near the toilet block.

FIGURE 4
Section Three

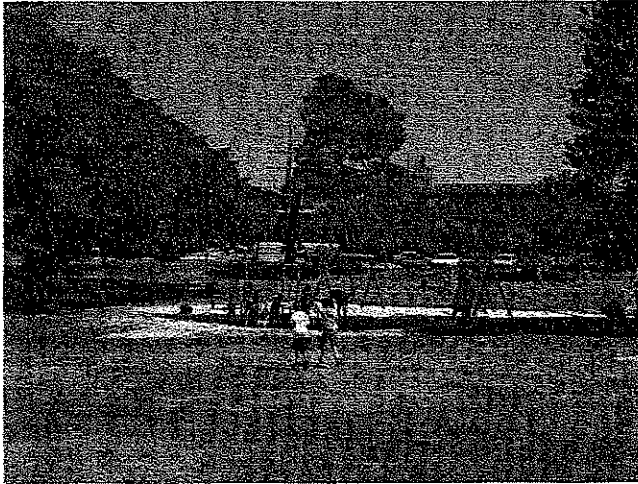
SECTION 3



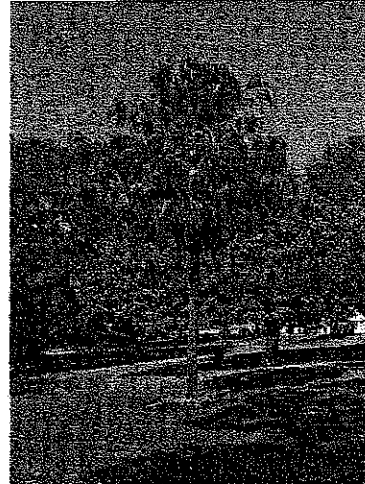
KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

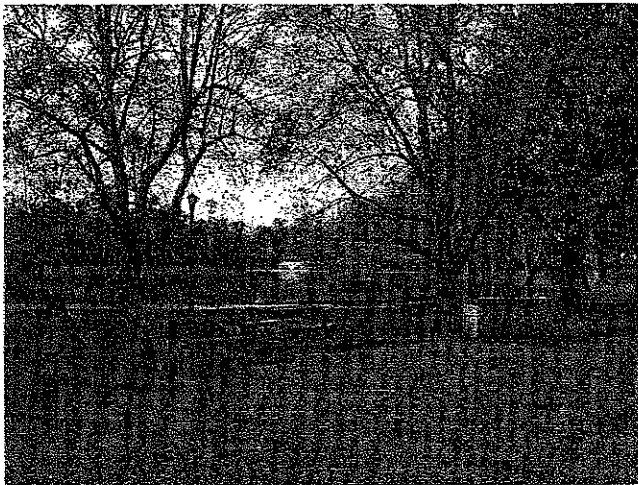
- | | |
|---|---|
| 2. <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> (Jacaranda) | 27. <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> (Kurrajong) |
| 3. <i>Schinus molle</i> (Peppercorn Tree) | 28. <i>Toona australis</i> (Red Cedar) |
| 4. <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Canary Island Date Palm) | 30. <i>Melia azederach</i> (Cape Lilac) |
| 5. <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> (Petticoat Palm) | 33. <i>Sabal palmetto</i> (Palmetto Palm) |
| 6. <i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton Bay Fig) | 43. <i>Brachychiton discolor</i> (Queensland Lace Bark) |
| 8. <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> (Camphor Laurel) | 44. <i>Populus alba</i> (Silver Poplar) |
| 12. <i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> (Norfolk Island Pine) | 45. <i>Washingtonia robusta</i> (Cotton Palm) |
| 14. <i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (Queensland Box Tree) | 48. <i>Pinus halepensis</i> (Aleppo Pine) |
| 17. <i>Ceratonia siliqua</i> (Carob Tree) | |



Record Photograph 20
Playground looking towards Glendower Street. Note the high voltage power lines. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 21
Palmetto Palm *Sabal palmetto*. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 22
Barbecue area looking east towards the lake. (June 2003)



Record Photograph 23
Toilet Block. (June 2003)



Record Photograph 24
Part of the Water Playground, Section 4. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 25
Remnant Paperbark. (April 2003)

3.5.4. SECTION 4

Section 4 is a roughly rectangular area of land bounded by Vincent Street on the north and the West Lake on the south. Generally the topography of the land slopes from Vincent Street down towards the lake but the slope is slightly steeper immediately next to Vincent Street suggesting that the level of the road has been built up at some stage.

Down near the lake-side path are the last two remaining Paperbark Trees *Melaleuca preissiana* from the indigenous landscape. On the eastern side of Section 4 is a Jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*, another of the surviving indigenous trees. A bed of native shrubs has been planted at the base of the Jarrah tree.

As elsewhere in the park shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths and sculptural trees and palms have been planted in the middle of the lawn. Originally two diagonal paths crossed this area and while they were removed some time in the 1960s, their location can still be discerned by the lineal arrangement of shady trees in the lawn. The location of the earlier perimeter path can also be determined because the grass planted over the path tends to brown off a little in hot weather. To the south of the former perimeter path is a row of old, thick trunked Oleanders *Nerium oleander*.

Specimen plantings in this area include an Orchid Tree *Bauhinia purpurea*, a Canary Island Pine *Pinus canariensis*, a Desert Ash *Fraxinus oxycarpa* and a Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa*. There is also a juvenile Swamp Cypress *Taxodium distichum* that was planted to replace an earlier tree in the area that died.

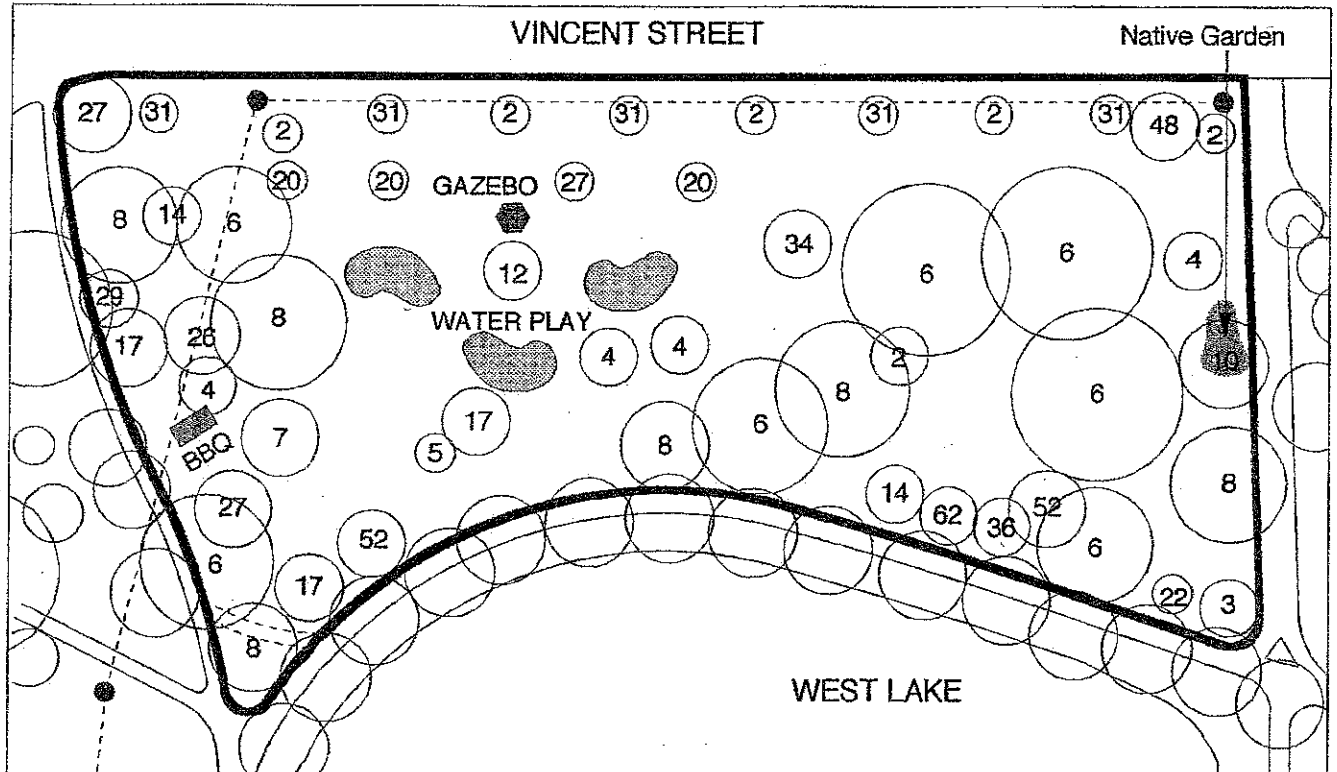
On the Vincent Street edge there is one remnant Aleppo Pine *Pinus halepensis* from the 1914 perimeter planting of pines. There is also a recent perimeter planting of alternating Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawara Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium*.

This section of the park is popular with family groups as it contains the water playground and a barbecue area. The water playground is located beside the large mature Norfolk Island Pine *Araucaria heterophylla* in the western half of Section 4. The playground consists of three kidney shaped, flat, mosaic tiled basins. Fountains are set into the floor of the basins and the water is drained away to prevent it collecting in pools. The southern edges of the basins are retained by a limestone retaining wall. Artificial rocks conceal the pump equipment. Positioned midway between the three basins is a late Twentieth Century timber framed hexagonal gazebo with a concrete floor and a colorbond roof. As in Sections 1 and 3, the barbecue area in Section 4 consists of a brick paved area with a gas barbecue on a face brick plinth.

The high voltage power line that crosses Hyde Park travels over the tree canopy at the western end of Section 4 to join a large concrete support pole on the edge of Vincent Street. From this pole it makes a sharp turn to the east and runs alongside Vincent Street until it joins another concrete support pole at the eastern end of Section 3 and then crosses Vincent Street to travel north up Norfolk Street. The power lines do not affect the tree canopy but they are an intrusive element in the area.

FIGURE 5
Section Four

SECTION 4



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

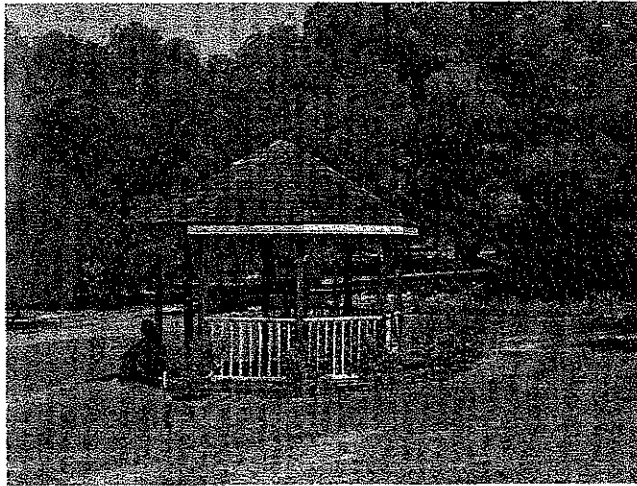
2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
3. *Schinus molle* (Peppercorn Tree)
4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
5. *Washingtonia filifera* (Petticoat Palm)
6. *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig)
7. *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Pine)
8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
10. *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah)
12. *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine)
14. *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Box Tree)
17. *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Tree)
20. *Nerium oleander* (Oleander)
22. *Taxodium distichum* (Swamp Cypress)
26. *Bauhinia purpurea* (Orchid Tree)
27. *Brachychiton populneus* (Kurrajong)
29. *Callistemon* sp. (Bottlebrush)
31. *Brachychiton acerfolium* (Illawarra Flame Tree)
34. *Pinus canariensis* (Canary Island Pine)
36. *Fraxinus oxycarpa* (Desert Ash)
48. *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine)
52. *Melaleuca preissiana* (Paperbark)
62. *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress)

3.5.5. SECTION 5

Section 5 is a small triangular area of the park to the north of the East Lake. The topography of the land slopes down from the north of Section 5 to the lake in the south.

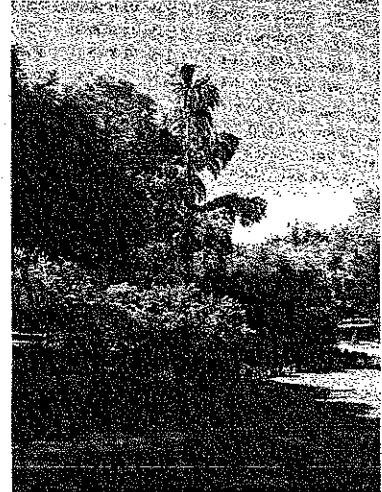
As elsewhere in the park shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths and sculptural trees and palms have been planted in the middle of the lawn. It should be noted that the mature Canary Island Palm *Phoenix canariensis* in the middle of Section 5 was transplanted from the north-east corner of the park replacing an earlier planting that died. In the south-east corner there is a middle aged Port Jackson Fig Tree that was probably planted in the 1960s.

On the western side of Section 5 is the path that leads from Norfolk Street across the causeway between the lakes and over to Lake Street on the south side of the park. A garden bed, densely planted with shrubs, annuals and a mature Fish Tail Palm *Caryota urens* has been established on the eastern side of this path creating a quite intimate space in the centre of Section 5. Annuals and small flowering shrubs have been planted on the edges of the garden bed. A late Twentieth Century hexagonal timber framed gazebo is located in this area, it is slightly more elaborate than the one near the water playground in Section 4. The gazebo in Section 5 has a shingle roof topped by a turned timber finial, timber posts with fretwork brackets and a timber seat lining part of the inside of the balustrade.



Record Photograph 26

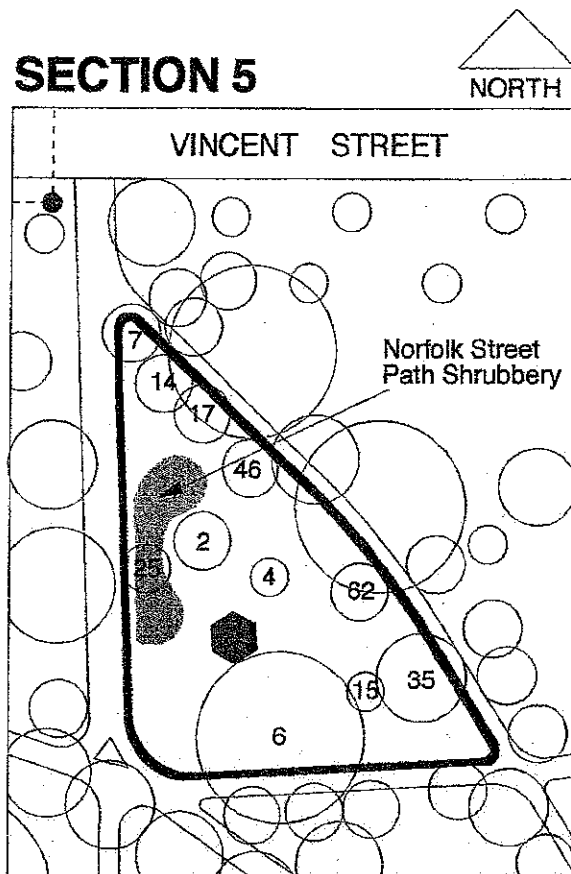
Gazebo with garden bed to the right of the photograph.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 27

Fish Tail Palm.
(April 2003)

FIGURE 6
Section Five



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

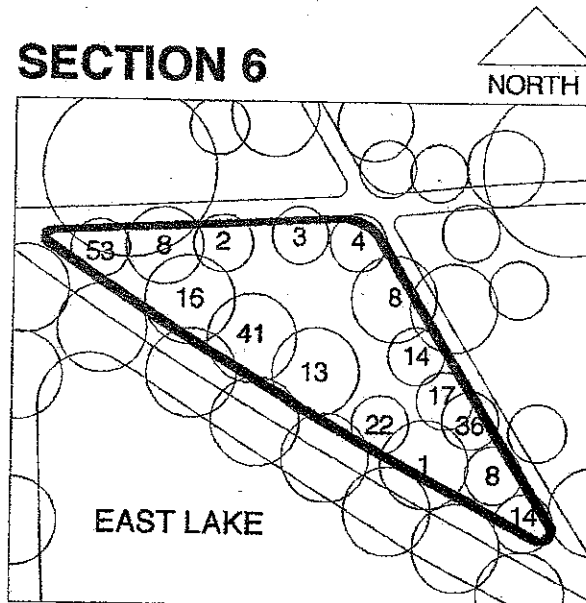
- 2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
- 4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
- 6. *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig)
- 7. *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Pine)
- 14. *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Box Tree)
- 15. *Syagrus romanzoffianum* (Cocos Palm)
- 17. *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Tree)
- 25. *Caryota urens* (Fishtail Palm)
- 35. *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig)
- 46. *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Bay / Victorian Box)
- 62. *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress)

3.5.6. SECTION 6

Section 6 is a small triangular area of the park to the north of the East Lake. The topography of the land slopes down towards the Lake.

The trees in this section have been planted along the edges of the surrounding paths leaving a small area of open lawn in the centre. There are a number of specimen trees in this area including an Oak *Quercus sp.*, a Desert Ash *Fraxinus oxycarpa* and a Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa*. A memorial tree, a Swamp Cypress *Taxodium distichum*, has recently been planted beside the lake-side path to the south-west of Section 6. This memorial tree, like the one in Section 1, has a small brass plaque fixed to a concrete plinth.

FIGURE 7.
Section Six



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

1. *Platanus x hispanica* (London Plane Tree)
2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
3. *Schinus molle* (Peppercorn Tree)
4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
14. *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Box Tree)
16. *Quercus sp.* (Oak)
17. *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Tree)
22. *Taxodium distichum* (Swamp Cypress)
36. *Fraxinus oxycarpa* (Desert Ash)
41. *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress)
53. *Phoenix rupicola* (Cliff Date Palm)

3.5.7. SECTION 7

Section 7 is an irregular four-sided area of land bounded by Vincent Street on the north and internal paths on the south-west, south and east. Generally the topography of the land slopes from Vincent Street down towards the lake but there is also a dip on the Vincent Street boundary between the east and west of Section 7.

As elsewhere in the park shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths and sculptural trees and palms have been planted in the middle of the lawn. In some places the larger umbrageous trees such as the Moreton Bay Fig Trees *Ficus macrophylla* have grown over smaller adjacent trees. Specimen plantings in this area include a Chinese Hawthorn *Heteromeles arbutifolia* and a European Fan Palm *Chamerops humilis*. In the south-east corner of this section there is a middle aged Camphor Laurel *Cinnamomum camphora* that was probably planted during the 1960s.

On the Vincent Street edge of Section 4 there is one remnant Canary Island Pine *Pinus canariensis* from the circa 1914 perimeter planting of pines. There is also a recent perimeter planting of alternating Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawara Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium*. As in Section 4, the location of the earlier perimeter path that ran parallel to Vincent Street can be determined because the grass planted over the path tends to brown off a little in hot weather. To the south of the former perimeter path is a row of old, thick trunked Oleanders *Nerium oleander*.

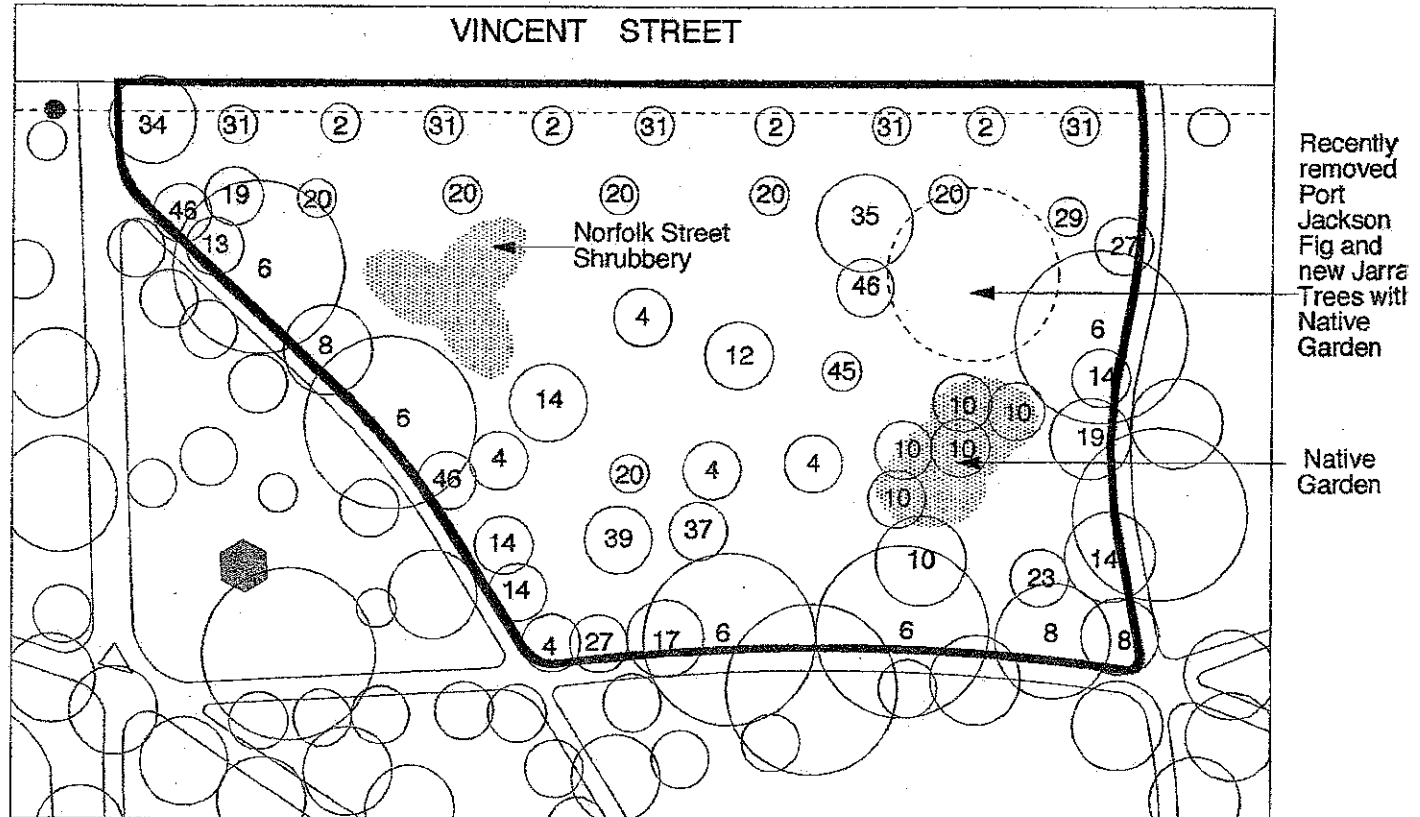
In the south-east corner of Section 7 there is a copse of Jarrah Trees *Eucalyptus marginata* dating from before the development of the park. The six northern trees are not particularly large and they are probably re-growth after the removal of the main trunk. At the base of these trees a garden of Australian native plants has been established. Although many of the plants used are endemic to Western Australia, few would have occurred in the locality of Hyde Park before the development of the site. A number of large granite rocks stand isolated within this bed, these have been added as a part of the landscaping as granite does not occur naturally on the site. Sawdust covered paths have been laid to allow people to walk through the garden. A list of the plant species in this garden is located in the Appendix.

On the eastern side of Section 7 there is a large area of open ground where a mature Port Jackson Fig *Ficus rubiginosa* was removed due to ill health. Recently Jarrah saplings and native shrubs have also been planted in this area.

On the western side of Section 7 near the intersection of Norfolk and Vincent Streets there is a large irregular shaped shrubbery. This shrubbery is located at one of the highest points in the park and it screens part of the open lawn area from Vincent Street. The shrubbery contains a planting of hardy trees, shrubs and perennials. Seasonal changes of annuals, which are cultivated along the northern edge, prolong the colourful display in this area.

FIGURE 8
Section Seven

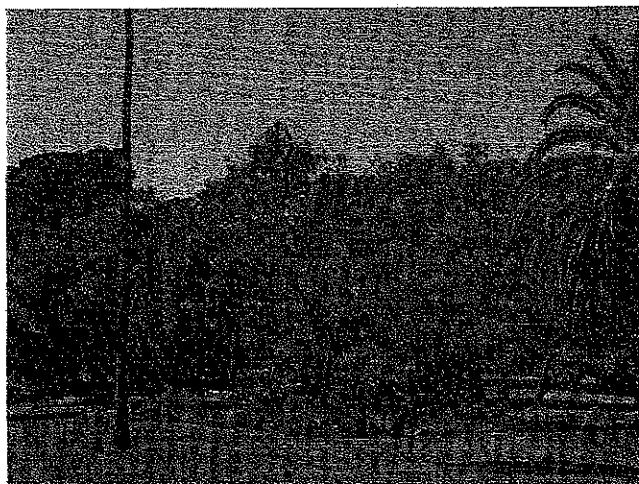
SECTION 7



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
6. *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig)
8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
10. *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah)
12. *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine)
13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
14. *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Box Tree)
17. *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Tree)
19. *Agonis flexuosa* (W.A. Weeping Peppermint)
20. *Nerium oleander* (Oleander)
23. *Chamerops humilis* (European Fan Palm)
27. *Brachychiton populineus* (Kurrajong)
29. *Callistemon* sp. (Bottlebrush)
31. *Brachychiton acerifolium* (Illawarra Flame Tree)
34. *Pinus canariensis* (Canary Island Pine)
35. *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig)
37. *Metrosideros excelsa* (New Zealand Christmas Tree)
39. *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (Chinese Hawthorn)
45. *Washingtonia robusta* (Cotton Palm)
46. *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Bay / Victorian Box)
48. *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine)



Record Photograph 28
Jarrah Trees with surrounding bed of native plants.
(April 2003)

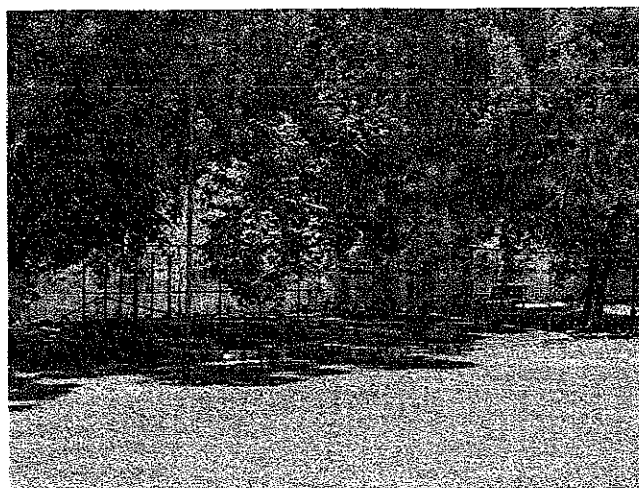


Record Photograph 29
Larger Jarrah Tree to the south.
(April 2003)

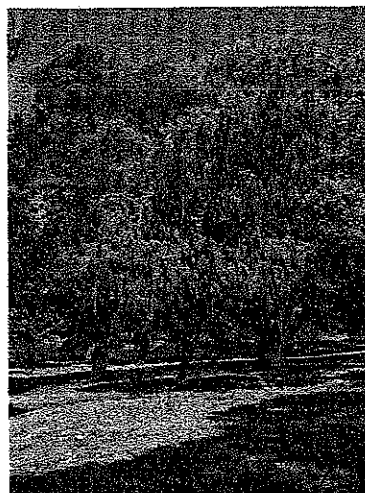
3.5.8. SECTION 8

Section 8 is an irregular five-sided area of the park to the north-east of the East Lake that is bounded by internal paths. The topography of the land slopes down towards the lake forming a natural amphitheatre that is frequently used for public gatherings and performances. A stage has been built at the focus of the natural amphitheatre. The Stage is a permanent structure located beside the lake-side path. It has retaining limestone walls, a concrete floor slab and tubular metal frame 'walls' to the sides and back of the stage. On the south corner there is a small flight of steps leading up to the stage.

As elsewhere in the park shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths and sculptural trees and palms have been planted in the central lawn. There is a large open area of lawn in front of the stage. Specimen plantings in this area include a Woman's Tongue Tree *Albizzia lebbek*, a Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa*, a Nookta Cypress *Chamaecyparis nookatensis* and a Pencil cedar *Juniperus virginiana*.

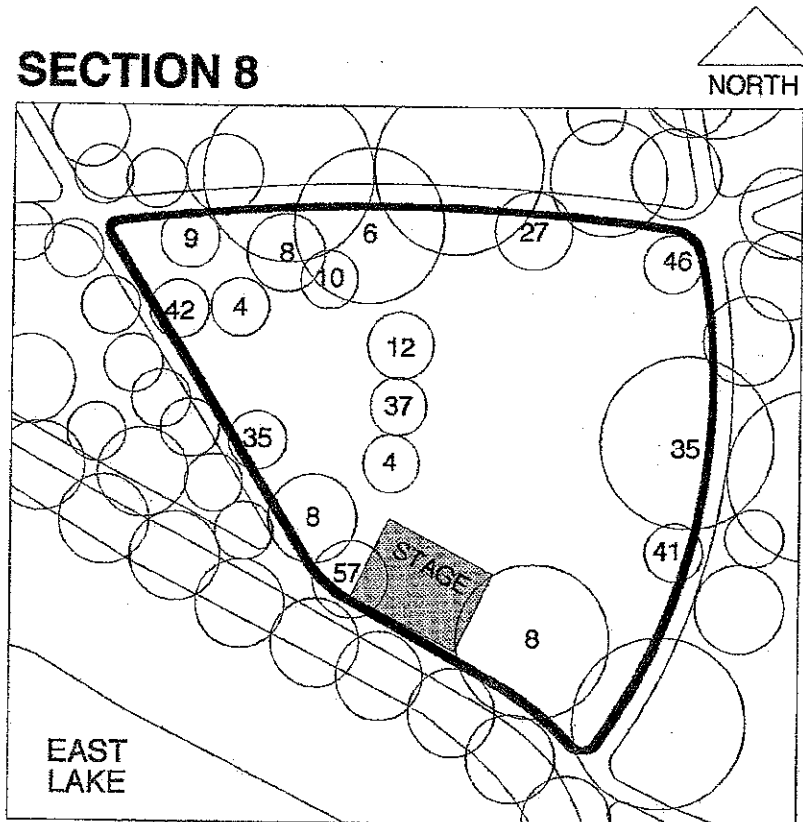


Record Photograph 30
The Stage with the East Lake behind. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 31
Nookta Cypress. (April 2003)

FIGURE 9
Section Eight



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
6. *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig)
8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
9. *Albizia lebbek* (Woman's Tongue Tree)
10. *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah)
12. *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine)
27. *Brachychiton populneus* (Kurrajong)
35. *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig)
37. *Metrosideros excelsa* (New Zealand Christmas Tree)
41. *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress)
42. *Chamaecyparis nookatensis* (Nookta Cypress)
46. *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Bay / Victorian Box)
57. *Juniperus virginiana* (Pencil Cedar)

3.5.9. SECTION 9

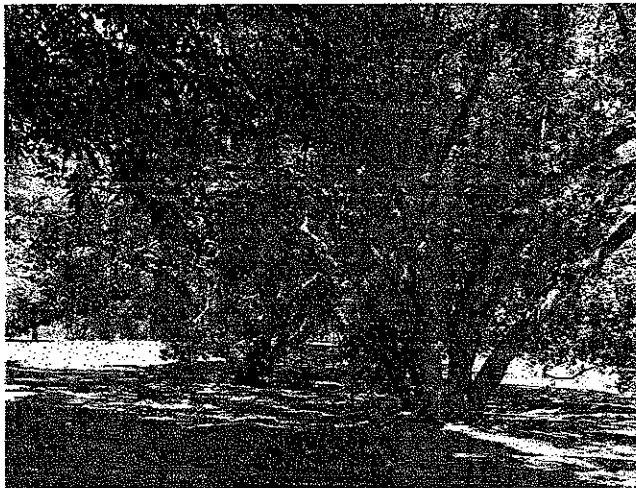
Section 9 is a triangular area of land bounded by Vincent Street on the north and internal paths on the west and south-east. The topography of the land slopes down to a dip in the middle of the Vincent Street boundary.

Shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths leaving a large expanse of lawn in the middle of Section 9. This locality is one of the few open and relatively flat areas of the park that are large enough to be utilised by the public for active recreation such as bat and ball games. In the past cricket pitches have been located in this area.

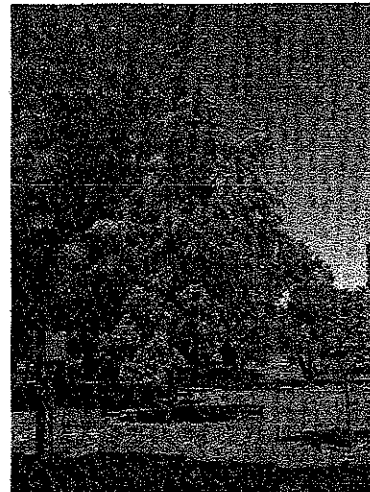
The path on the south-east side of Section 9 that leads to the corner of William and Vincent Streets is a particularly fine example where the branches of the trees meet overhead and the large trunks enclose the side creating a secluded corridor-like space. The only flowering specimen planting in this area is a Norfolk Island Hibiscus *Lagunaria patersoni*. In this section there are two middle aged trees, a Port Jackson Fig *Ficus rubiginosa* and an Aleppo Pine *Pinus halepensis*, that were probably planted during the 1960s.

On the Vincent Street edge of Section 9 there is a remnant Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* and two remnant Aleppo Pines *Pinus halepensis* from the circa 1914 perimeter planting of pines. There is also a recent perimeter planting of alternating Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawara Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium*.

Near the intersection of Hyde and Vincent Streets there is a large boomerang shaped shrubbery densely planted with trees, flowering shrubs and cannas. The wide variety of evergreen and deciduous plants in association with the regularly changed border plantings of annuals, provide seasonal displays of flowers and coloured foliage. This shrubbery effectively screens the broad grassed area of Section 9 from Vincent Street.



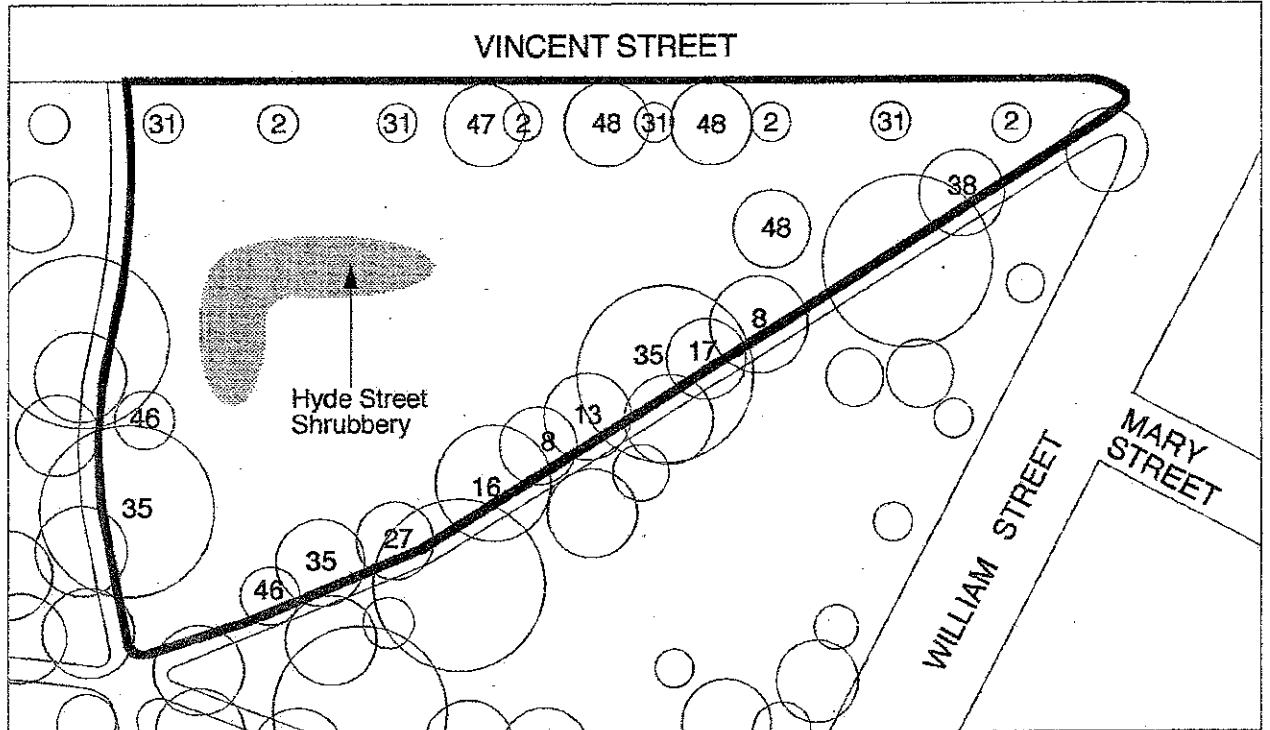
Record Photograph 32
Path leading from intersection of William and Vincent Streets. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 33
Norfolk Island Hibiscus. (April 2003)

FIGURE 10
Section Nine

SECTION 9

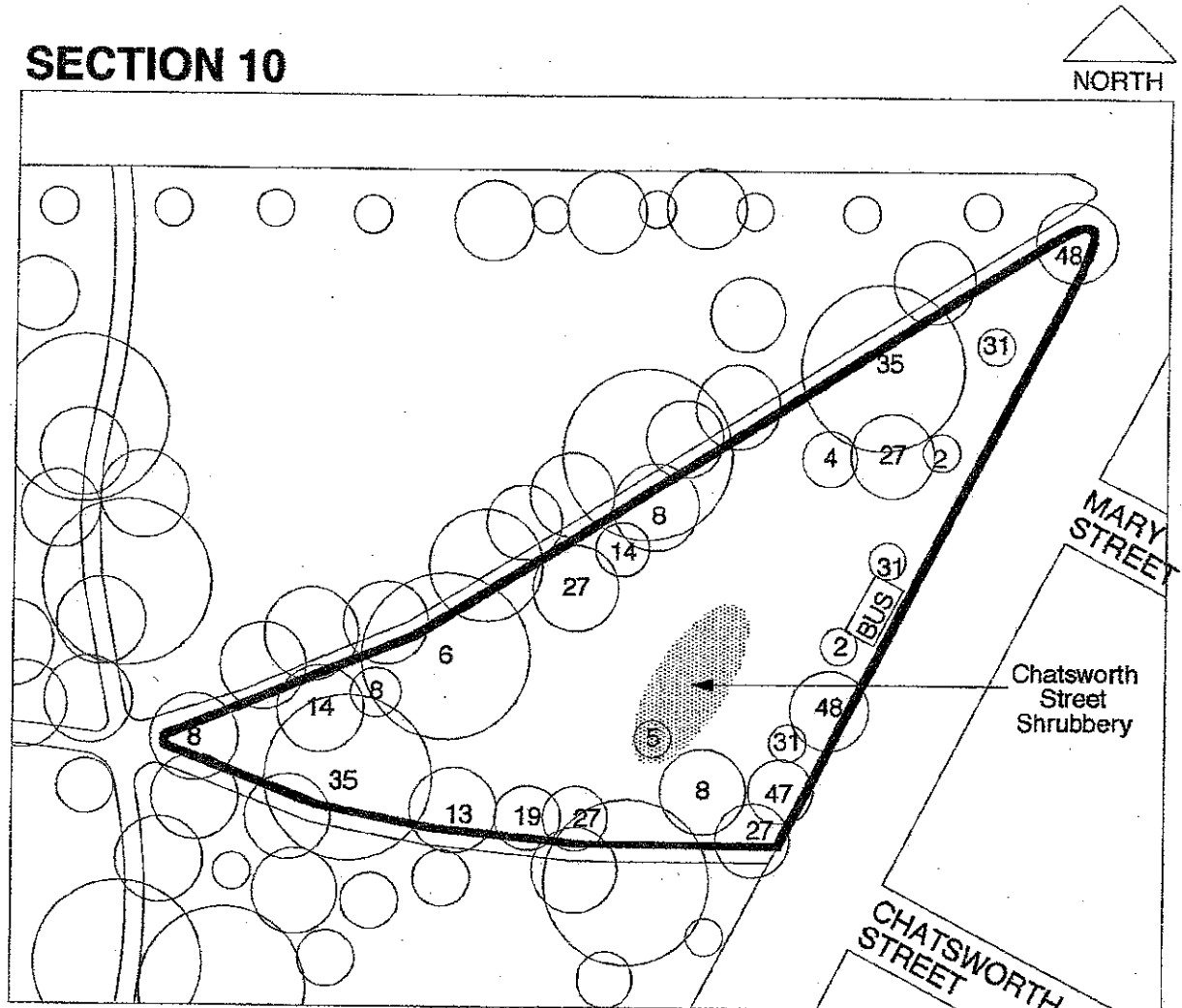


KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

- 2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
- 8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
- 13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
- 16. *Quercus* sp. (Oak)
- 17. *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob Tree)
- 27. *Brachchiton populeus* (Kurrajong)
- 31. *Brachychiton acerfolium* (Illawarra Flame Tree)
- 35. *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig)
- 38. *Lagunaria patersoni* (Norfolk Island Hibiscus)
- 46. *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Bay ? Victorian Box)
- 47. *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine)
- 48. *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine)

FIGURE 11
Section Ten



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

2. *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda)
4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
5. *Washingtonia filifera* (Petticoat Palm)
6. *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig)
8. *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
14. *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Box Tree)
19. *Agonis flexuosa* (W.A. Weeping Peppermint)
27. *Brachchiton populenus* (Kurrajong)
31. *Brachychiton acerfolium* (Illawarra Flame Tree)
35. *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig)
47. *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine)
48. *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine)

3.5.10. SECTION 10

Section 10 is a triangular area of land bounded by William Street on the south-east and internal paths on the north-west and south. The topography of the land slopes down to a dip on the Vincent Street boundary between Hyde Street and William Street.

In Section 10 shady trees have been planted along the edges of the paths leaving a large expanse of lawn in the middle of Section 9. Near the intersection of William and Chatsworth Streets there is a large oval shaped shrubbery densely planted with drought resistant trees and shrubs. There is a mature Petticoat Palm *Washingtonia filifera* at the southern end of the bed. This shrubbery effectively screens part of the lawn area of Section 10 from William Street. The species in this bed are described in more detail in the appendix.

On the William Street edge of Section 10 there is a remnant Monterey Pine *Pinus radiata* and two remnant Aleppo Pines *Pinus halepensis* from the circa 1914 perimeter planting of pines. There is also a recent perimeter planting of alternating Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawara Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium*.

In this section there is a middle aged WA Weeping Peppermint Tree *Agonis flexuosa* that was probably planted during the 1960s.

3.5.11. SECTION 11

Section 11 is a roughly rectangular area of land bounded by William Street on the south-east, internal paths on the north and west and by the location of an earlier path on the south. The East Lake is located on the west of Section 11. Generally the topography of the land slopes down towards the lake.

At the southern end of Section 7 there is a remnant of the indigenous vegetation, a Flooded Gum *Eucalyptus rudis*. The Flooded Gum has two trunks, which would appear to be regrowth from the original trunk.

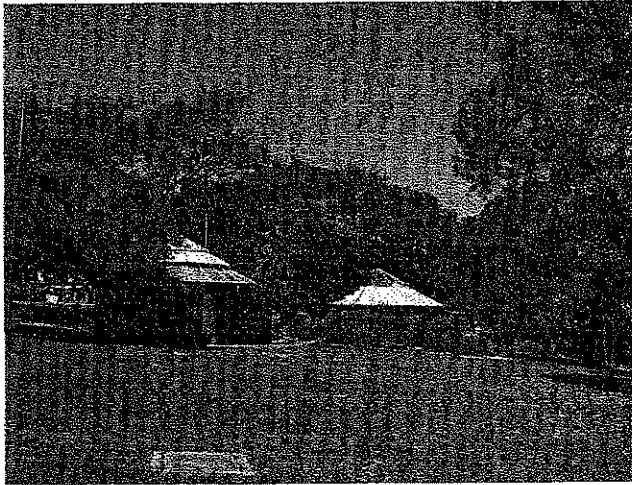
Shady trees have been planted along the edge of the paths and a mix of shady trees and sculptural trees and palms have been planted in the middle of the lawn. Specimen plantings in this area include a Woman's Tongue Tree *Albizia lebbek*, a Senegal Date Palm *Phoenix reclinata*, an Orchid Tree *Bauhinia purpurea*, a Plum Pine *Podocarpus elatus*, a Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa*, a Tree of Heaven *Ailanthus altissima*, an Irish Strawberry Tree *Arbutus unedo* and a recently planted Himalayan Cedar *Cedrus deodara*. The juvenile Himalayan Cedar was planted to replace an earlier tree from the area that had died.

On the William Street edge of Section 11 there are two remnant Monterey Pines *Pinus radiata* from the circa 1914 perimeter planting of pines. There is also a recent perimeter planting of alternating Jacarandas *Jacaranda mimosifolia* and Illawara Flame Trees *Brachychiton acerfolium*.

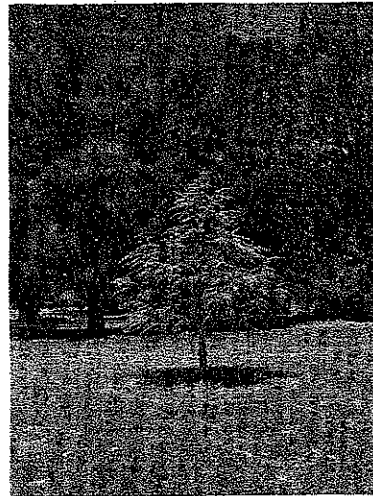
In this section there are three middle aged Port Jackson Figs *Ficus rubiginosa* that were probably planted during the 1960s.

Next to the lake-side path on the western side of Section 11 is the Works Depot and a block of toilets. The Works Depot is a small irregular shaped piece of land enclosed with an 1800mm high cyclone fence with vehicle gates. An octagonal face brick building with a copper roof provides a storage area for equipment and a small meeting area for the staff. Adjacent to this building is a matching structure that houses public toilets. Plantings of trees, bushes, flowering shrubs and climbers on both sides of the fence around the depot area effectively screen it from public view. These plantings have been described in more detail in the Appendix.

Near the intersection of Chatsworth and William Streets there is a kidney shaped garden bed edged with blue fescue grass *Festuca ovina* 'Glauca' and planted with seasonal annuals.



Record Photograph 34
Public Toilets (left) and Works Depot (right).
(April 2003)



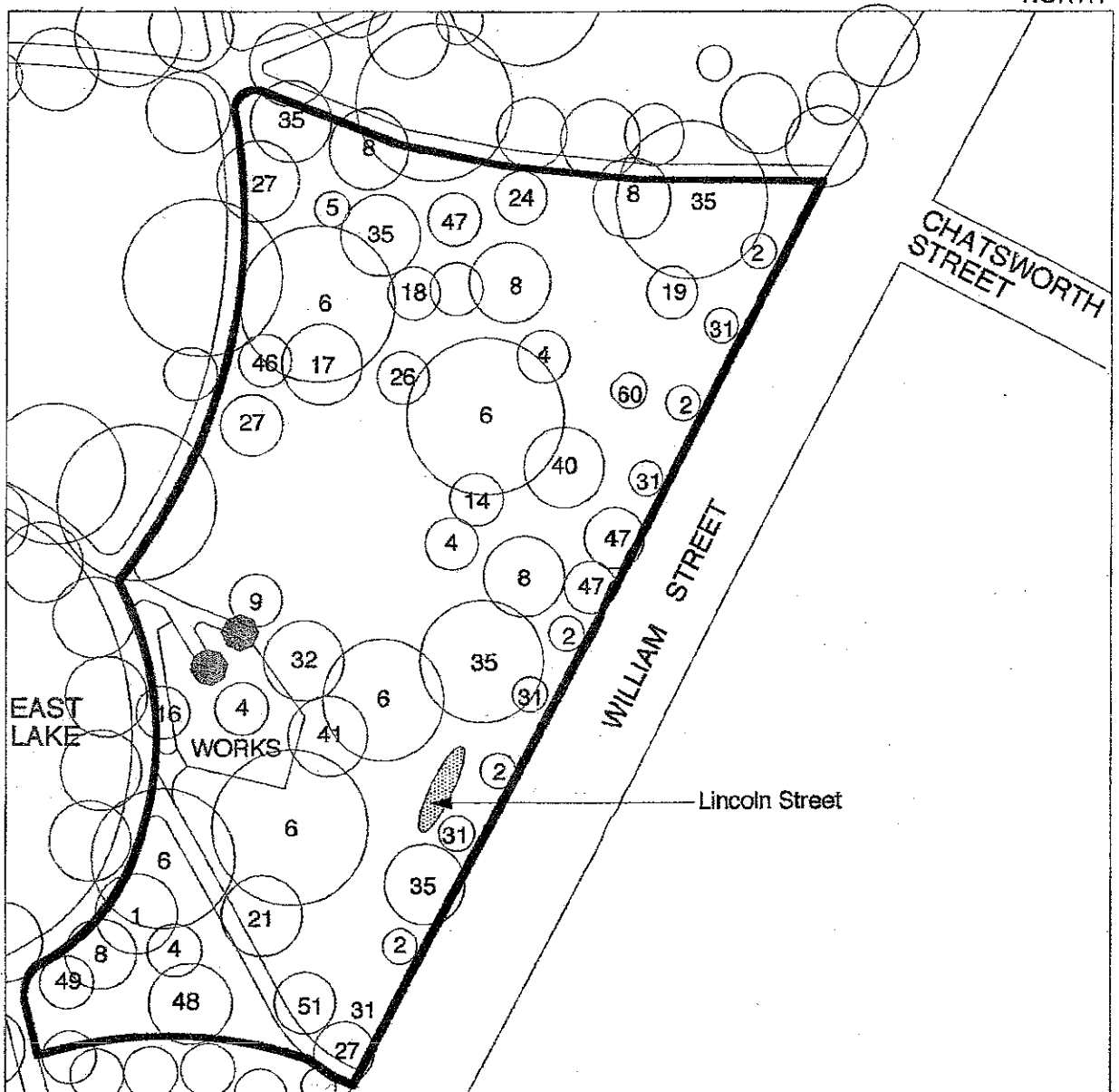
Record Photograph 35
Himalayan Cedar.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 36
New concrete path and bus shelter, William Street.
(June 2003)

FIGURE 12
Section Eleven

SECTION 11



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <i>Platanus x hispanica</i> (London Plane Tree) | 26. <i>Bauhinia purpurea</i> (Orchid Tree) |
| 2. <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> (Jacaranda) | 27. <i>Brachychiton populneus</i> (Kurrajong) |
| 4. <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Canary Island Date Palm) | 31. <i>Brachychiton acerfolium</i> (Illawarra Flame Tree) |
| 5. <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> (Petticoat Palm) | 32. <i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i> (Brazilian Mastic Tree) |
| 6. <i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton Bay Fig) | 35. <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> (Port Jackson Fig) |
| 8. <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> (Camphor Laurel) | 40. <i>Podocarpus elatus</i> (Plum Pine) |
| 9. <i>Albizia lebbek</i> (Woman's Tongue Tree) | 41. <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i> (Monterey Cypress) |
| 14. <i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (Queensland Box Tree) | 46. <i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> (Sweet Bay ? Victorian Bo) |
| 16. <i>Quercus</i> sp. (Oak) | 47. <i>Pinus radiata</i> (Monterey Pine) |
| 17. <i>Ceratonia siliqua</i> (Carob Tree) | 48. <i>Pinus halepensis</i> (Aleppo Pine) |
| 18. <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> (Water Gum) | 49. <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> (Eurabbie) |
| 19. <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> (W.A. Weeping Peppermint) | 51. <i>Allanthurus altissima</i> (Tree of Heaven) |
| 21. <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> (Flooded Gum) | 54. <i>Arbutus unedo</i> (Irish Strawberry Tree) |
| 24. <i>Phoenix reclinata</i> (Senegal Date Palm) | 60. <i>Cedrus deodara</i> (Himalayan Cedar) |

3.5.12. SECTION 12

Section 12 is roughly the shape of a quarter of a circle with the central point at the intersection of William and Glendower Streets. The edge of the circle is the location of the earlier path that followed the south-east boundary of the park. This section is bisected by a path that runs from the intersection of William and Glendower Streets to the path surrounding the East Lake. The topography of Section 12 is almost flat but it slopes slightly down towards the lake.

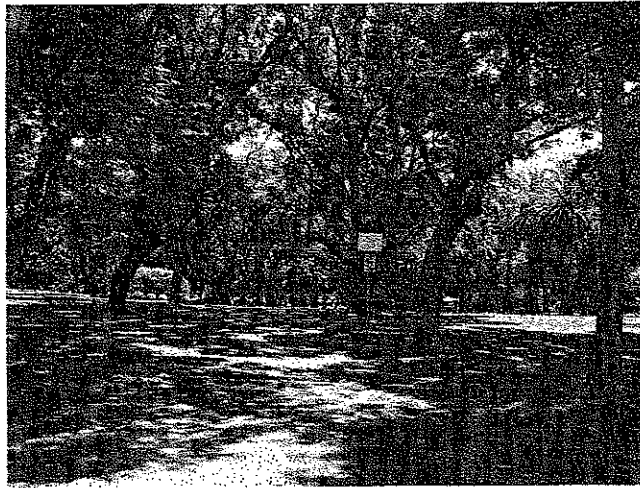
Section 12 is different to the rest of the park in a number of key aspects. Firstly it is planted with only a limited palette of tree types and secondly the trees have been planted in a regular fashion following the geometry set up by its corner location. An avenue of Jacaranda Trees *Jacaranda mimosifolia* lines the path that connects the intersection of William and Glendower Streets to the lakeside path. A second avenue planting of Jacarandas follows the location of the earlier path that followed the south-east boundary of the park.

Palms have been used to line the street frontages of this area. On William Street there is a lineal planting of four Cliff Date Palms *Phoenix rupicola*. Up until very recently these palms were interspersed with Coral Trees *Erythrina skyesii* but they were removed due to their regular shedding of boughs. Also on William Street is a MWS cast iron sewer vent from the early Twentieth Century. Lining Glendower Street there are three palm trees, a Cliff Date Palm, a Senegal Date Palm *Phoenix reclinata* and a Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix canariensis*. The Canary Island Date Palm is a recent planting.

There are three circular garden beds located on either side of the main entrance path leading from the corner of William and Glendower Streets to the lakes. These beds are symmetrically arranged to suit the formal layout of this corner and reinforce the concept of a main entry statement.

The bed in the south-western part of Section 12 is edged with a low border of African Box *Myrsine africana*. A low hedge of African Box set out in concentric circles divides the bed and another lines the access paths that leads to the centre of the bed. On the opposite side of the path in the south-eastern part of Section 12 there is a similarly proportioned garden bed but it does not have a border. These two beds are planted with a selection of annuals to provide seasonal colour in this area of the park.

Another round bed in the north-western part of Section 12 consists of a more permanent planting, centring on a large Eleagnus *Eleagnus pungens* clipped to a ball shape and ringed by Golden Privets *Ligustrum ovalifolium*, 'Aureum' Box *Buxus species* and succulent Kalanchoes *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*. There is no matching bed on the opposite side of the central path but there are two mature Cocos Palms *Syagrus romanzoffianum* that may possibly have been the central elements in an earlier garden bed.



Record Photograph 37
Central path looking towards lake. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 38
MWS cast iron sewer vent.
(June 2003)

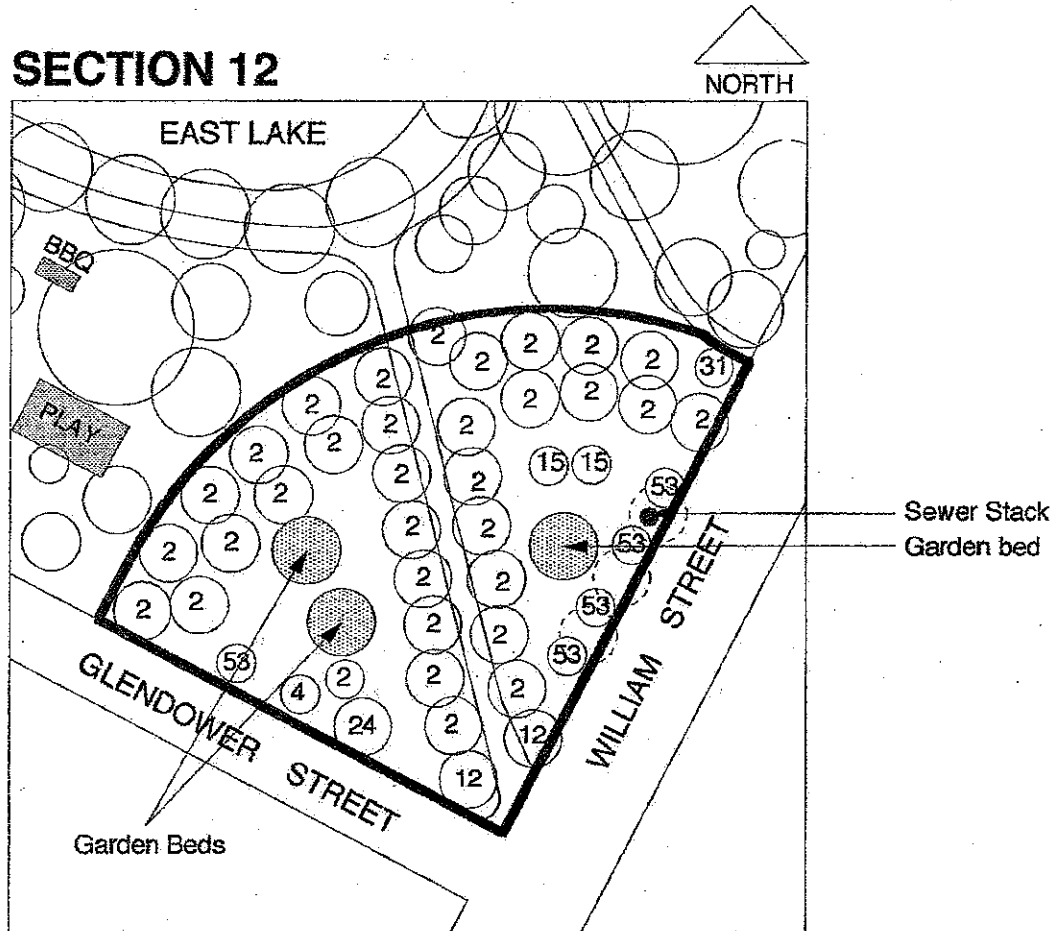


Record Photograph 39
Garden beds, western side. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 40
Garden bed, western side. (April 2003)

FIGURE 14
Section Twelve



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

- 2. *Jacaranda mimosafolia* (Jacaranda)
- 4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
- 12. *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine)
- 15. *Syagrus romanzoffianum* (Cocos Palm)
- 24. *Phoenix reclinata* (Senegal Date Palm)
- 31. *Brachychiton acerfolium* (Illawarra Flame Tree)
- 53. *Phoenix rupicola* (Cliff Date Palm)

3.5.13. SECTION 13

Section 13 is bounded by the lake-side path and the causeway path that contain the West Lake and its banks. In the centre of the shallow lake are the remains of a densely vegetated island.

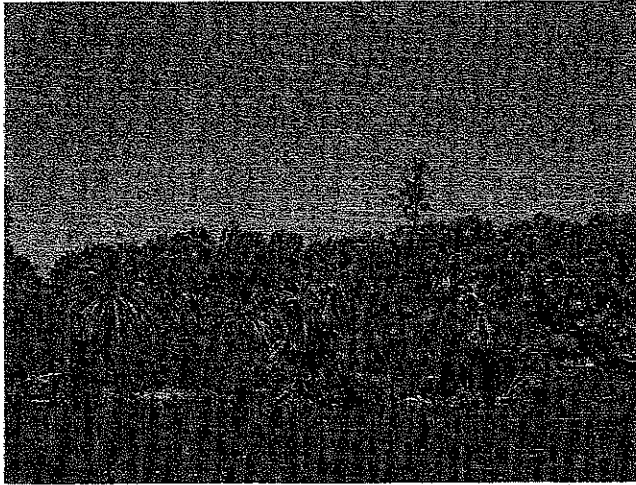
An avenue of mature Plane Trees *Platanus x hispanica* lines the banks of the West Lake. These umbrageous trees form a giant hedge surrounding the lake, a homogenous backdrop for the more exotic planting on the central island. Due to the shade there is no grass beneath the trees, only bare dirt. There are a number of park benches located in this area facing towards the lake. The bank formed by the causeway is also planted with Plane Trees but these trees are located further apart than on the other banks allowing a grass lawn to be established beneath them and for a number of palm trees to flourish between the trees. All the banks of the West Lake are retained by a low limestone wall with a concrete cap that appears to have been raised several times as the lake bed has risen with the accumulation of sediment.

There are two water aerators in the lake one on the north and one on the south side of the island.

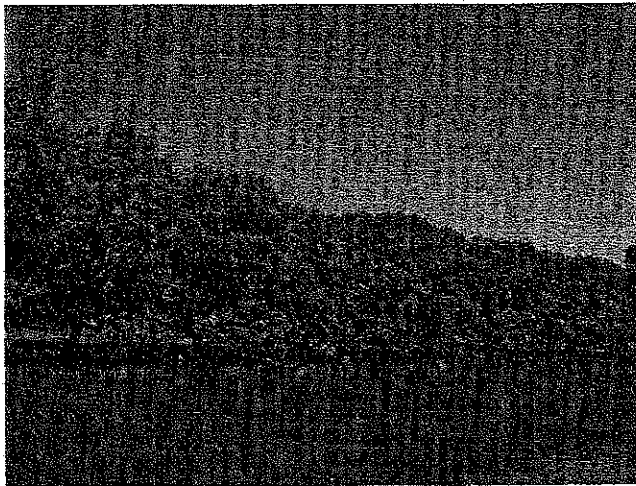
The island in the centre of the West Lake is in a very poor state of repair and it is collapsing into the lake leaving parts of the former island submerged. There are remnant plantings of exotic trees and palms on the island from when it was a manicured garden in the early Twentieth Century. These remnants include a number of Canary Island Date Palms *Phoenix canariensis*, some Cotton Palms *Washingtonia robusta*, a Weeping Willow and Pampas Grass. There are also a large number of younger Cotton Palms on the island that would appear to be self seeded.

Since the island has been left to grow wild a number of species indigenous to the Perth wetlands have become re-established including a number of Swamp Paper Bark Trees, some Casuarinas and various reeds and sedges. There is also a W.A. Peppermint Tree *Agonis flexuosa* and a Bottlebrush *Callistemon sp.* that were probably self sown from plantings within the park.

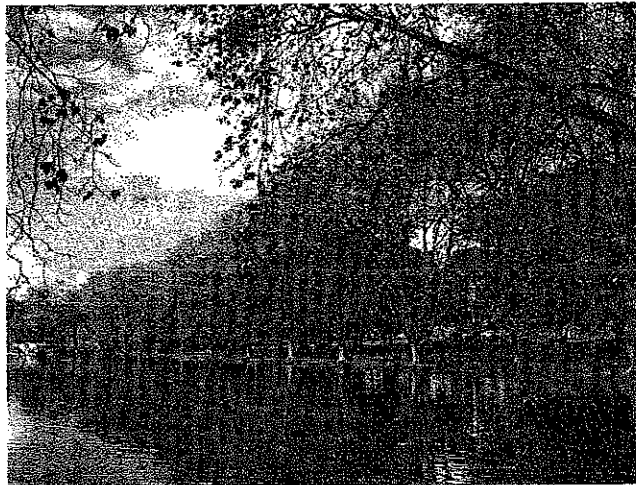
In the centre of the island there is a metal frame lying on the ground. This frame was a standard light that was used in the past to illuminate the lake at night and has now fallen over.



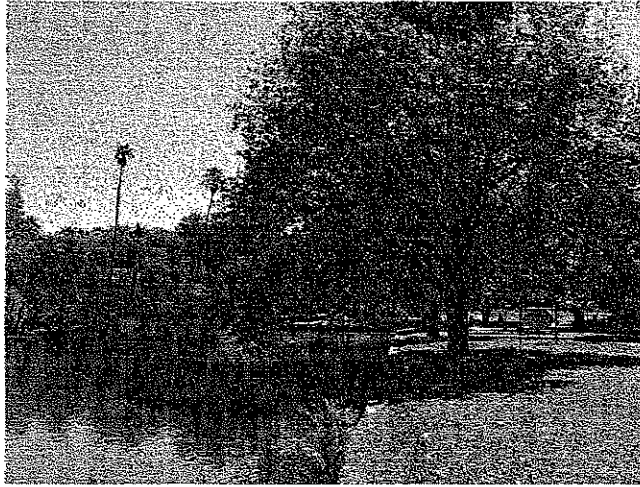
Record Photograph 41
West Island.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 42
Avenue of Plane Trees around
the West Lake, late summer.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 43
Avenue of Plane Trees around
the West Lake, winter.
(June 2003)



Record Photograph 44
The Causeway, late summer.
(April 2003)

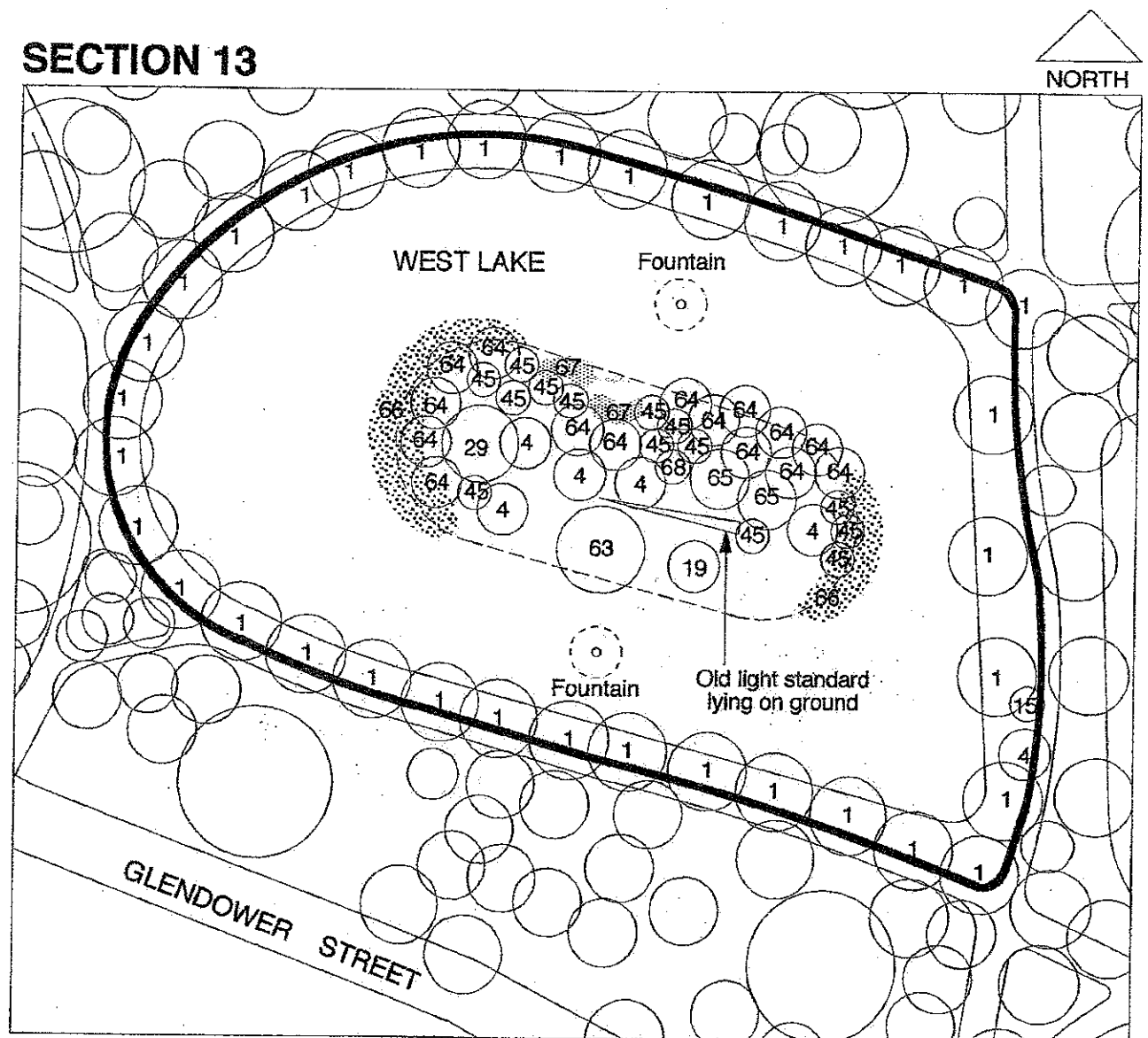


Record Photograph 45
Looking north across the
Causeway, winter. Note the vistas
across the park which have
opened up since the Plane Trees
have lost their leaves.
(June 2003)



Record Photograph 46
Looking south across the
Causeway, winter. Note the
triangular garden bed with
limestone retaining walls.
(June 2003)

FIGURE 14
Section Thirteen



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

1. *Platanus x hispanica* (London Plane Tree)
4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
15. *Syagrus romanzoffianum* (Cocos Palm)
19. *Agonis flexuosa* (W.A. Weeping Peppermint)
29. *Callisemon* sp. (Bottlebrush)
45. *Washingtonia robusta* (Cotton Palm)
63. *Salix babylonica* (Weeping Willow)
64. (Swamp Paperbark) *Melaleuca raphiophylla*
65. *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (Casuarina)
66. *Baumea arthrophylla* (Reeds)
67. *Lepidosperma angustatum* (Sedge)
68. *Cortaderia sellowiana* (Pampas Grass)

3.5.14. SECTION 14

Section 14 is bounded by the lake side path and the causeway path that contain the East Lake and its banks. In the centre of the shallow lake is a densely vegetated island.

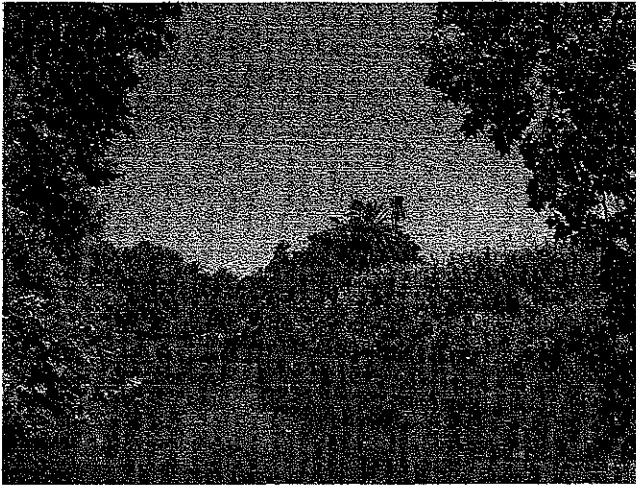
The banks of the East Lake are lined by an avenue of mature Plane Trees *Platanus x hispanica*. These umbrageous trees form a giant hedge surrounding the lake, a homogenous backdrop for the more exotic and somewhat chaotic planting on the central island. Due to the shade there is no grass beneath these trees, only bare dirt. There are a number of park benches located in this area facing towards the lake. The bank formed by the causeway is also planted with Plane Trees but these trees are located further apart than on the other banks allowing a grass lawn to be established beneath them and for a number of palm trees to flourish between the trees. All the banks of the East Lake are retained by a low limestone wall with a concrete cap that appears to have been raised several times as the lake bed has risen with the accumulation of sediment. Numerous tree roots can be seen growing through the wall.

It would appear that the East Lake is shallower than the West Lake. There is a small island of exposed mud on the north-east side of the lake and in the north-west corner there is another area of shallow water and exposed mud. There are two water aerators in the lake one on the north and one on the south side of the island.

The island in the centre of the East Lake is still intact. There are remnant plantings of exotic trees and palms on the island plus a large area of Spanish Reeds that were planted in the early Twentieth Century. The remnant plantings include a Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix canariensis*, a number of Cotton Palms *Washingtonia robusta*, a Coral Tree *Erithrina skyesii* and Pampas Grass. Unlike the West Island, the East Island does not have a large number of self sown palms possibly because of the dense bamboo grass on the island.

Since the island has been left to grow wild a number of species indigenous to Perth lakes have become re-established including a number of Swamp Paper Bark Trees *Melaleuca sp.*, a Paperbark *Melaleuca preissiana* and various reeds and sedges. There is also a W.A. Peppermint Tree *Agonis flexuosa* and a Bottlebrush *Callistemon sp.* that were probably self sown from plantings within the park.

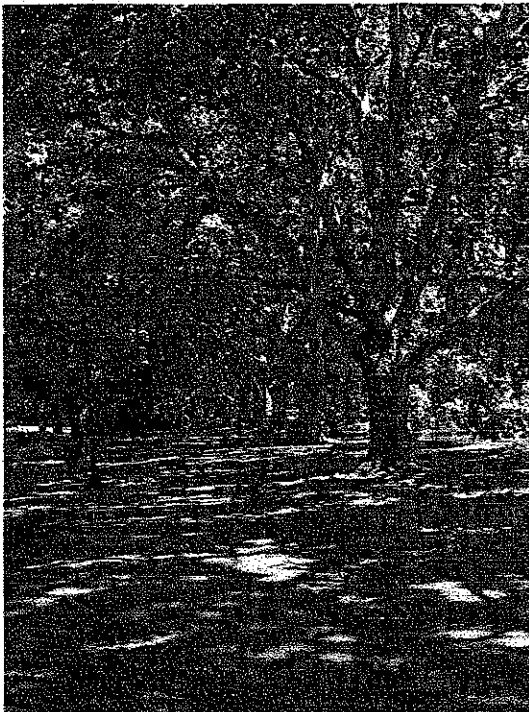
At the west end of the island there is a metal frame that originally held a light fitting that illuminated the lake at night but it would appear not to have been in use for many years.



Record Photograph 47
South side of East Island.
(April 2003)

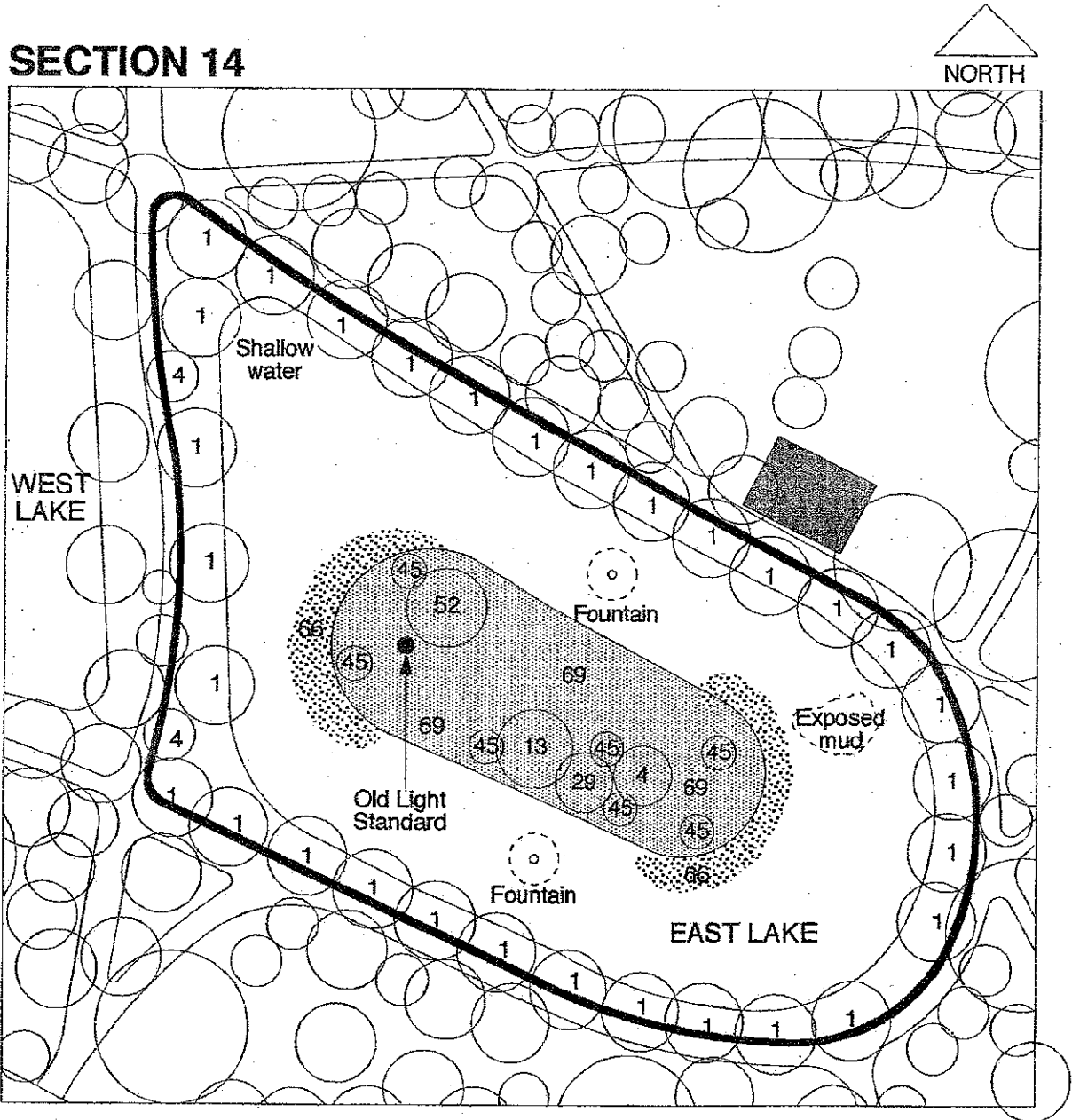


Record Photograph 48
Detail of retaining wall to the edge
of lake.
(April 2003)



Record Photograph 49
Avenue of Plane Trees lining East
Lake. (April 2003)

FIGURE 15
Section Fourteen



KEY TO TREES

Botanical name first, Common name (in brackets)

- 1. *Platanus x hispanica* (London Plane Tree)
- 4. *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm)
- 13. *Erythrina sykesii* (Coral Tree)
- 19. *Agonis flexuosa* (W.A. Weeping Peppermint)
- 29. *Callistemon* sp. (Bottlebrush)
- 45. *Washingtonia robusta* (Cotton Palm)
- 52. *Melaleuca preissiana* (Papperbark)
- 64. *Melaleuca raphiophylla* (Swamp Paperbark)
- 66. *Baumea arthrophylla* (Reeds)
- 67. *Lepidosperma angustatum* (Sedge)
- 68. *Cortaderia sellowiana* (Pampas Grass)
- 69. *Arundo donax* (Spanish Reed or Bamboo)

3.6. CONDITION AND STRUCTURAL ADEQUACY

3.6.1. Current Horticultural Practices

The supervisor of *Hyde Park* is a fully qualified Horticulturist. Arboricultural advice is sought as required and tree care maintenance is performed on trees in the park by qualified tree surgeons as needed.

Good organic practices are performed in the park. Fallen leaves and plant material that was originally carted away is now utilised to mulch under trees, where, due to the shady canopies, grass will not grow. The use of mulch in association with the introduction of earthworms, has developed a moisture retentive organic layer that has helped to eliminate dry, dusty areas and has increased the recycling of nutrients in the soil. Sheep manure is applied to the shrubberies and annual beds and has created a rich, friable soil that was originally lacking in the infertile Bassendean sands.

Due to the extensive public use of the park, the spraying of herbicides and pesticides is kept to a minimum. Some herbicides are used to control weeds and grass encroaching on garden beds and an antagonistic fungus is being employed to combat soil borne fungal problems. If a pesticide is needed, the spray "Bioactive" is used, this spray was chosen because it has minimal effect on water organisms.

Hyde Park has its own water source and is fully reticulated being watered automatically during the early hours of the morning when there is minimal use of the park and the least amount of water loss due to evaporation. The lakes are regularly filled throughout the dry months to maintain them as a permanent water feature.

3.6.1. Trees

In the 1990s the arboriculturist Charles Aldus Ball carried out a comprehensive inspection of the trees in *Hyde Park* and compiled a Significant Tree Inventory and Arboricultural Assessment of the park as a part of an application to place the park on the Significant Tree Register. This report concluded that the large majority of the trees were in a structurally sound and healthy condition and should have a useful life expectancy of fifty years. However some moribund trees were noted as well as a number with poorly structured canopies resulting from being planted near trees with large spreading canopies.

The report recommended the removal of a number of trees and suggested that this should be done by the compartment method, that is, trees in poor condition should be removed over a ten-year period to reduce the impact on the landscape. Any moribund trees mentioned in the report, such as a Queensland Box *Lophostemon confertus* (Section 9) were to be removed within six months. Trees to be removed within 12 months included a structurally unsound *Populus deltoides* (Section 3). Coral Trees *Erythrina skyesii* with severe fungal decay where they have shed limbs should be removed within the next five years. Both of these recommendations have been carried out.

The report also discusses the removal of declining Monterey Pines *Pinus radiata* on the park boundaries. It comments that these trees have a limited life span of approximately 100 years and that they should be removed when they begin to decline. The report also noted that the replanting of pines around the park borders had begun and commends that this 'sound arboricultural management' should ensure the maintenance of the treescape.

Trees identified with less severe fungal decay should be inspected annually to monitor their condition and arboricultural works should be carried out as necessary. These trees included a *Ailanthus altissima* (Section 11) with decay within the main stem, a Flooded Gum (section 11) with a decayed western lateral that is not structurally sound, a *Eucalyptus globulus* (Section 11) that has been drastically reduced in size and is exhibiting decay and a number of Coral Trees. Of these trees only a few Coral Trees have been removed since the report was completed, the remainder have been treated and their condition stabilised.

The report also described a number of trees that were suppressed in size, had poorly structured canopies and contained amounts of dead wood that should be removed. For example, Camphor Laurel (Section 11), *Brachychiton* and *Erythrina* (Section 9 & 10) etc.

For safety reasons the report also recommended that temporary fencing be installed at the base of the Bunya Pines *Araucaria bidwillii* during the fruiting season as the heavy cones are dangerous to people using the park.¹

It would appear that since the completion of the Significant Tree Inventory and Arboricultural Assessment of the park, most of the recommendations have been carried out. However, this is difficult to confirm as the plan that accompanied the report is missing so that it is impossible to check the exact location of certain trees. The Arboricultural Assessment has not been updated but arboriculturists are consulted, as their expertise is required.

In 1999 the Town of Vincent commissioned Charles Aldous Ball to prepare a second arboricultural report. This report specifically investigated the impact of the annual community fair upon the health and longevity of the trees within the fair site in the north-east corner of *Hyde Park*. It noted that

"the setting up of the side shows and related equipment was predominantly situated under the shade of the existing mature trees, particularly the large specimen *Ficus*, where shallow lateral roots can be easily damaged. To position and unfold heavy equipment necessitates the use of semi-trailer and heavy vehicles which drive and park over the root plate zone of existing trees. Once unloaded, side shows are set-up with sections of heavy equipment placed over the root plate zone of many of the specimen trees, with predominantly most of the heavy vehicle parked under the shade of the existing trees until the fair is finished."²

Further, the report commented that although the fair is staged for only a few days a year, the extent of damage to tree roots must be considered as root damage will directly affect the growth of the tree, it will place the tree under stress making it susceptible to harmful soil

¹ Aldous-Ball, Charles, Significant Tree Inventory and Arboricultural Assessment, c. 1995.

² Aldous-Ball, Charles, Arboricultural Report, March 1999, p. 1.

pathogens and will lead to a decline in the tree canopy and a reduction in its safe useful life expectancy. The consultant then discussed the following factors ...

- the rooting characteristics of the affected trees (mainly *Ficus* species);
- the extent of direct physical pressure upon the root plates of the trees caused by heavy vehicles and equipment associated with the fair
- the extent of vascular root tissue damage due to these heavy vehicles and equipment;
- the amenity, historic and significant aesthetic value that the trees contribute to the landscape;
- the registration of the trees as trees of particularly high significance

.... and concluded that "based on sound arboricultural practices", it would be advantageous for the future health and retention of the significant trees in Hyde Park to restrict the fair to open areas only (away from the root plate zones of all significant trees) or propose an alternative venue for the fair.³ It would appear that the recommendations of this report have not been implemented.

In December 2002 it was noted that two Port Jackson Fig Trees in Hyde Park were displaying signs of rapid decline, the condition of the northern tree (Section 7) was more severe than the other (Section 1). These trees were inspected by an arboriculturist and found to be suffering an infestation of Fig Psyllid *Mycopsylla fici*. Vascular injections, the usual treatment for such a condition, could not be carried out due to the extent of defoliation. In December the arboriculturist recommended mulching the trees and monitoring their recovery. The trees were also sprayed with Trichoshield. The northern tree did not recover and it was removed in March 2003.

Some Sweet Bay Trees (Victorian Box) are suffering from beetle attack.

3.2.3. Lakes

Over the history of Hyde Park there have been ongoing problems with the condition and maintenance of the Lakes. Originally the lakes at Third Swamp would have reduced in size during the summer and increased again during the winter. However once the area surrounding the park was developed as a residential suburb and the lakes were formalised as a permanent landscape element the natural catchment area changed and works were carried out to control the water level by draining the excess water in winter and refilling them in summer. The silting up of the lakes with leaves and debris carried in water run off has also been an ongoing maintenance issue and the lakes being dredged on several occasions. The lakes have also suffered problems at times with the uncontrolled growth of algae and botulism causing deaths amongst water birds. In the 1990s a report into the water quality of the lakes highlighted problems with the accumulation of bed sediments, heavy metals and detergents being collected in the lakes.

³ Ibid, p. 2-3.

**Record Photograph 50**

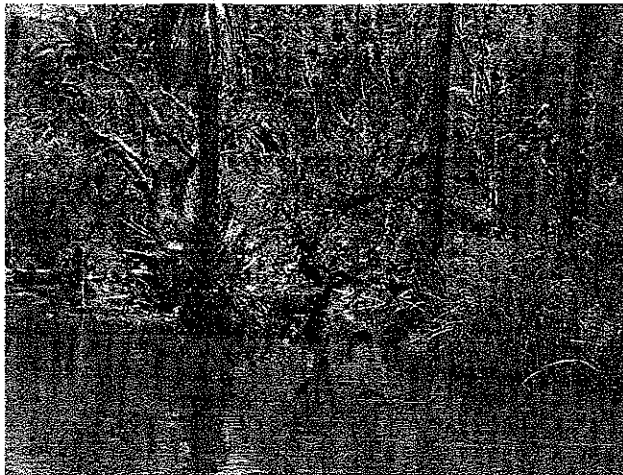
West Lake flooding during winter rains. Note the deteriorated capping to the limestone wall edging the lake. (June 2003)

A number of recommendations of the report have been adopted including the deepening of the lakes, removal of bed sediment, planting of paper bark species on the islands to induce water staining, regular litter cleaning of the lakes, reduction of leaf litter entering the lakes and introduction of aquatic flora and fauna. Water fountains have also been introduced to help aerate the water. These changes have helped to improve the condition of the water but algal growth is still a problem in summer.

The documentary evidence suggests that the limestone walls to the edges of the lakes have, since their construction, undergone a series of repairs and that they have been raised in height. In places these walls are in poor repair and the concrete capping is loose or missing.

3.2.4. Islands

The island in the West Lake is in very poor condition. Following the recent dredging of the West Lake, parts of the island have collapsed into the lake leading to the inundation and death of certain trees and shrubs and the reduction in the depth of the lake. Structurally the East Island would appear to be in fair condition but the planting is in poor condition because it has been overgrown by Spanish Reed or Bamboo. The Spanish Reed was part of the original planting scheme but it has spread throughout the island and taken over from other less hardy species. The East Island was originally intended to provide a refuge for waterfowl but the undergrowth is now too dense for nesting.

**Record Photograph 51**

West Island inundated with water during dry late summer months. (April 2003)



Record Photograph 52
Bitumen path being lifted by
surface feeding tree roots of a
mature Fig. (June 2003)

3.6.1. Paths

In places, the surface feeding buttress roots of the mature Fig Trees are lifting the bitumen-paved paths. In some cases this is pronounced and could potentially trip pedestrians or cyclists.

3.7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Location

Generally there have been very few permanent structures within *Hyde Park* that may have left archaeological evidence. Prior to the development of Third Swamp into *Hyde Park* the place was used as a camp ground first by the Aboriginal owners of the land and at the end of the Nineteenth Century by immigrants from Europe on their way to the Goldfields. It is not known exactly where these camping areas were located. It is also likely that any surface evidence of these places has been removed long ago, probably when the land was cleared and graded in the late 1890s.

There have never been any major buildings constructed in *Hyde Park*. The only structures to have been removed from the park are the 1898 gates opposite Palmerston and Lake Streets, the 1901 fountain, the 1914-15 gazebo and the urinal circa 1911. It is very unlikely that any evidence of the 1898 gates exists as the section of the park that contained these gates was removed from the park in 1914 to allow for the widening of Glendower Street. There may be some archaeological evidence on the sites of the former 1901 fountain, 1914-15 gazebo and the urinal (circa 1911) however all these structures were small or of light weight construction and only foundations may remain. There is no visual evidence of any remnants of these structures.

4. ANALYSIS OF THE DOCUMENTARY AND PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

4.1. DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE OF THE FABRIC AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE SURVIVING FABRIC

This sequence is based upon the information set out in the documentary and physical evidence sections of this report.

Pre and early European occupation	Indigenous landscape, Boojemooling, seasonally occupied of by the Yabbaru Bibbulman people. Named Third Swamp by Europeans.	Surviving indigenous trees: Paperbark, Jarrah, Flooded Gum.
1890s	City of Perth leases camping areas at Third Swamp to European travellers unable to find accommodation elsewhere in the city.	No Evidence.
1897	Construction of roadway along the south and west boundaries of the reserve (Throssell and Glendower Streets). Construction of timber picket fences to Glendower and Throssell Street boundaries. Double timber gates erected opposite Lake and Palmerston Streets on Glendower Street.	Extant but the alignment of Glendower Street has been modified Replaced with pipe rail fence in 1914. Lake Street gates removed 1923, gates to Palmerston in 1946.
1898	Construction of picket fence to Vincent and Clifton (William) Street boundaries as well as around Lincoln Street in the south-east corner. Clearing of undergrowth, reeds and sedge to swamps – some mature trees such as Paperbark, Jarrah and Flooded Gum retained.	Fence to Throssell replaced with pipe rail fence in 1915 and fence to Vincent replaced in 1923. Ongoing
1899	Reserve officially named <i>Hyde Park</i> and placed in the care of J.G. Braithwaite. Completion of path encircling lake. Southeast corner of site returned to reserve but remains outside park fencing. The Mayor, W. G. Brookman donates a three tiered cast iron fountain. Built by G. Waugh. Situated inside main Lake Street entrance to Park.	Extant Not developed until 1920s. Fountain removed in 1918 after repeated vandalism – replaced by circular bed planted with palms.
1900	Gardener instructed to plant trees, exact number and species unknown. Drain constructed from park to Bulwer Street to lower water levels in lakes.	

1901	Avenue of Plane trees around lake perimeter planted.	Extant
1904	Timber wicket gates installed on north-east and south-west corners of the park.	Replaced with cyclone gates in 1923.
1904 - 05	Six acres of Couch grass planted to south side of park.	Largely replaced with kikuyu grass post 1920s.
1905	Palms planted in park – transplanted from original location in Stirling Street.	Exact location and palm species unknown
1906	Islands being cleared and planted. One planted with a patch of Cannas and the other Plantains. Trees from Hamel State Nursery planted in park – possibly Carob, Moreton Bay Fig, Port Jackson Fig, various Cypress, Plane Trees, Norfolk Island Pines, Red Flowering Gum, Silver Wattle and Cape Lilacs. (Exact number and species planted in park unknown). Edges to lake raised and jarrah board retaining wall constructed around edge. Fence removed from Lincoln Street and realigned to include south-west corner of park. Half length cricket pitch constructed in south-eastern corner of park.	No evidence of these plantings on islands. Mature examples of all these tree types are found in park, except for the Silver Wattle which is a short lived species. Jarrah board retaining wall re-laid in 1911. Replaced with pipe rail fence in 1914 – 1915. Removed by 1920s.
1908	Six Jarrah seats provided in park – refer to photographs for detail. Swampy edges to lake filled with sand.	Seats replaced in 1918 – no examples remain. Extant
1909	Trees planted in park, species unknown.	-
1909	Cricket pitch constructed in north-east corner of park.	Pitch removed 1921 for playground.
1910	Twelve-foot wide pathway constructed from Throssell-Vincent corner to lake path.	Extant – now bitumen paved.
1911	Path constructed from corner of Throssell and Norfolk Streets to path around West Lake. Turnstile erected at Norfolk Street entrance.	Extant Replaced with cyclone gate 1923.

1912	<p>Trellis constructed in front of Men's Urinal (first shown on plan as 'Lavatorium' in 1911).</p> <p>14 acres of couch planted in park to keep scrub down.</p> <p>Lakes filled with mains water for the first time.</p>	<p>New toilets constructed 1917.</p> <p>Largely replaced with kikuyu post-1920s.</p> <p>Filled again in 1913 – this becomes standard practice</p>
1913	<p>Causeway between the lakes constructed using fill removed from the south side of the park.</p> <p>Tarring of footpaths begins.</p>	<p>Extant</p> <p>Repaired many times since.</p>
1913 / 1914	<p>Rotunda constructed on north side of East Lake.</p>	<p>Removed 1956.</p>
1914	<p>Glendower Street widened.</p> <p>Pine trees planted around perimeter of park - mostly Monterey Pines some Aleppo.</p> <p>Picket fence on Glendower and Clifton (William) streets replaced with cement post and pipe rail fence.</p> <p>Stone border constructed around lakes.</p>	<p>Extant</p> <p>Many senescent Monterey Pines removed – few remain.</p> <p>Fencing removed 1946.</p> <p>Repaired 1922, 1936 and 1965.</p>
1915	<p>Picket fence on Throssell Street replaced with cement post and pipe rail fence.</p> <p>Causeway planted with couch, 5 beds of shrubs and 20 trees including 16 Plane Trees and an unspecified number of Palms.</p> <p>Dredging of lakes. Silt deposited on islands raising them 60cm above water level. Islands cleared for planting.</p> <p>Grounds scarified for replanting of lawns. Six acres completed.</p> <p>Hoses and sprinklers provided for watering lawns from city water supply. Lattice sheds provided for storing hoses at several points in the Park.</p>	<p>Removed 1946.</p> <p>8 mature Plane Trees and 4 assorted palms extant on causeway.</p> <p>Watering system upgraded several times since.</p>
1915 - 1916	<p>Stone edging installed around the lakes and west islands, but not along causeway.</p>	<p>Repaired 1920s, 1936, 1953 and 1965.</p>

1916	<p>Remainder of grounds planted with couch and buffalo lawns, except the south east corner.</p> <p>West Island planted with Buffalo grass, garden bed laid out containing Palms, shrubs, 105 Rose bushes and 220 Pelargoniums.</p> <p>East Island planted with Buffalo grass, garden bed laid out containing Palms, Bamboo (Spanish Reed) and Pampas Grass plus shrubs and trees to provide cover for waterfowl.</p> <p>Lighting installed - five posts along causeway and twelve others around Park.</p>	<p>Largely replaced with Kikuyu post-1920s.</p> <p>Palms extant. Island left to go wild circa 1960s.</p> <p>Palms, Bamboo (Spanish Reed) and Pampas Grass extant.</p> <p>Lighting has been upgraded several times since.</p>
1917	<p>New toilets constructed.</p> <p>Thirty-two trees planted to replace those that were destroyed or died.</p>	Removed c. 1960s
1920	<p>Jarrah kerbs added to paths.</p> <p>Fountain removed and garden of palms planted on the site.</p> <p>Development of south east corner with pathways and plantings of palms, Jacaranda trees and lawn.</p>	<p>Not replaced after 1960s</p> <p>Garden bed replanted / upgraded c. 1960s</p> <p>Further planting of Jacaranda trees c. 1940s</p>
1921	<p>North east corner of park laid out as a children's playground.</p> <p>Lincoln Street removed and replaced with a path in the same location.</p> <p>Palms, Jacarandas and grass planted in south-east corner of park.</p> <p>Tarring of pathways at south east corner.</p>	<p>Re-located and then removed in 1923 as location unsafe.</p> <p>Path removed c.1960s.</p> <p>Mature Palms extant in this area but the Jacarandas are a more recent planting.</p> <p>Extant</p>
1922	<p>20 jarrah seats provided.</p> <p>New tool shed constructed.</p> <p>Playground established in north east corner, then moved west to centre of Park.</p>	<p>None extant</p> <p>Removed c.1960s.</p> <p>Removed 1923.</p>

1923	<p>Unpaved portion of Vincent Street beside the park was planted with grass and then an avenue of Palms set in 9 feet (3 meters) from the road.</p> <p>Lake Street Gates removed for use at south-east corner of park but not used due to white ant damage – replaced with single cyclone gate.</p> <p>New entry path constructed to south-east corner of park, new cyclone gates installed.</p> <p>Undeveloped section on Vincent street graded and grassed.</p> <p>New timber post and galvanised iron tube fence erected on Vincent Street – replaces earlier picket fence</p> <p>Small entrance gates around park replaced with cyclone gates</p>	<p>Palms removed and road widened 1949</p> <p>Cyclone gate removed 1946</p> <p>Gates removed c.1948</p> <p>Extant</p> <p>Fence removed 1946</p>
1924	Palmerston Street double gates replaced with a small pedestrian cyclone gate.	Cyclone gate removed 1946
1931	Throssell Street fence re-located to line of macadamised roadway.	Fence removed 1946
1932	<p>Forty Pine trees planted.</p> <p>Drinking fountain installed.</p>	Not extant.
1936	Limestone retaining walls constructed around lakes.	Extant but repaired in 19??, 1965 and raised in height in ?
1946	<p>Fences removed from the park but some gates retained to prevent car access to park.</p> <p>Northeast portion of park graded to remove drop from footpath to Park floor.</p>	<p>Gates removed c.1948</p> <p>Extant</p>
1949	Canary Island Date Palms removed from William Street boundary.	Extant
1940s – 50s	Cricket pitch established in south-west corner.	Removed c.1960s.
1953-59	Stone edging of slopes along causeway.	Extant

1956	Rotunda demolished.	-
1959 - 60	New pumps and reticulation installed.	Replaced 1991.
1961	Park connected to state electricity grid and the 31 lamps were replaced with incandescent lights	Replaced with mercury vapour lights 1965.
1965 - 1970	Major works programme undertaken which included the following: Children's playground - west side. Removal of poor specimen trees. Barbecue facilities -- north side. Picnic facilities -- south side. An elderly citizens rest area with surrounding shrubs and flowers -- north-east corner. Install new toilets near new playground (west). Renovate bitumen paths to a regular width of 12 feet with low garden kerb	Upgraded c. 1980s. - Upgraded c. 1980s. Extant Shrubberies extant. Extant Not all paths renovated.
1965	Incandescent lighting replaced with mercury vapour lights on steel standards.	New light fittings 1991.
1966	Replace eastern toilets. Equipment shed and plants shed -- east side.	Extant Extant
1971	Water playground (3 ponds) -- north side.	Closed 1982 and modified in 1984.
1974	State Electricity Commission constructs high tension pylons and power lines across park.	Extant
1976	Lot 637, narrow strip of land on William Street near Glendower Street, excised for bus stop.	Extant
1982	Coin operated gas barbecues installed.	Extant
1984	Toilets for disabled people constructed. Water playground converted to spray type water play area.	Extant Mosaics installed on floor of basins c.1990s
1990	Historical interpretation plaques installed.	Extant
1991	Access ramps constructed to park entrances.	Extant
	Turbine pump installed for watering installed.	Extant
	21 new light poles installed in park.	Extant

1992	Brick shade house to north of lakes demolished.	-
	Gazebo erected.	Extant
1996	Canary Island Date Palm re-located from a crowded part of the park to be beside the 1992 Gazebo, replacing a palm there that had died.	Extant
1997	Seven senescent pine trees removed from Vincent Street boundary.	-
	Perimeter planting of Jacarandas and Illawarra Flame Trees to William and Vincent Streets.	Extant
	Four tortoise ramps installed in each lake.	
2003	Coral Trees removed from south-west corner.	

4.2. SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT AND INFLUENCES UPON THE LANDSCAPE

The development of *Hyde Park* can be broken roughly into seven stages:

4.2.1. Boojamooling

Typical of the seasonal and permanent water bodies that were found to the north of the city on the Bassendean sands, the wetter areas of Boojamooling would have been vegetated with Paperbark Trees *Melaleuca preissiana* and Flooded Gums *Eucalyptus rudis* with reeds and sedge growing on the edges and shallower parts of the wetlands. On the higher ground above the wetlands there would have been Jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*, Marri *Eucalyptus calophylla*, Sheoak *Allocasuarina fraseriana* and Banksias *Banksia sp* with an understorey of low shrubs such as Hibbertia, Hovea, Eriostemon and other herbaceous perennials.

As Boojamooling (Third Swamp or *Hyde Park*) was one of the larger lakes in the area that did not dry out in summer, it was an important camping area and meeting place for the Yabbaru Bibbulman people. During their seasonal occupation of the place they would have harvested the plant and animal resources of the wetlands and constructed huts using the bark of the Paperbark Trees. There is no physical evidence of these earlier uses.

4.2.2. Third Swamp, Early European Use

Following the European settlement of the Perth area the Yabbaru Bibbulman people were discouraged from using their traditional camps and meeting places. Boojamooling became known as Third Swamp and was used by Europeans intermittently as a drovers' camp. Unlike the other wetlands and lakes in the area to the north of Perth, Third Swamp was not drained or cleared for intensive agricultural use. This was probably due to the presence of a permanent water body and the sloping topography of the land surrounding the lake.

In the 1890s Third Swamp provided temporary accommodation for numbers of Europeans who had travelled to Western Australia for the Goldrush but had been unable to find accommodation in Perth. In 1887 there were as many as 200 tents erected in the area. Photographs show that some of these 'camps' had brick chimneys and other more permanent features. It is highly probable that during this time the indigenous vegetation was altered as any easily collected wood would have been used for fuel. No evidence of this use of the place is visible today.

4.2.3. Establishment of Third Swamp Reserve (1897 – 1899)

The third swamp had been noted for public reserve as early as 1873 but it was not until 1897 that it was formally reserved for public gardens and work began on developing the land. This delay was probably due to the slow growth of Perth and the West Australian economy. A similar sequence of events happened with the development of Kings Park where land was reserved in 1871 but development did not begin until after the population boom and prosperity of the Goldrush.

Between 1897 and 1899 preliminary works were carried out at the Third Swamp Reserve under the direction of Councillors Oldham, Hall and Brebber. These works included establishing roads to the south and west of the reserve to allow public access, the construction of a fence around the reserve to keep out wandering stock and indicate the extent of the reserve and clearing the land of scrub and the lake of reeds and sedge. It would appear that no substantial trees were removed at this time.

4.2.4. Development of *Hyde Park* (1899 – 1936)

Between 1899 and 1936 J.G. Braithwaite, as the City Gardener for the Town of Perth, was responsible for the establishment of the parklands at *Hyde Park*. The work carried out at this time laid the foundations of the mature landscape that is evident on the site today. The major elements that define *Hyde Park* today are the lakes and the collection of mature trees set amongst expansive lawns.

Topography

Prior to the establishment of the lawns throughout the park the ground was cleared and graded but generally the topography of the site was largely left unaltered. Some soil was removed from the southern side of the park to construct the causeway across the lake and the edges of the lake and the islands were formalised with retaining walls and raised. Originally the retaining walls were constructed from Jarrah boards but these were gradually replaced with limestone walls.

Original Vegetation

Substantial indigenous trees were retained, however, numbers were removed possibly because they declined due to the surrounding development of the park and establishment of lawn. It would appear that these trees were retained to provide shade and amenity for the park while it was being developed and to give the landscape a sense of scale. There is no record of new indigenous trees being planted in the park. The only native Western Australian trees known to have been planted in the park at this time were the Red Flowering Gum and the West Australian Peppermint Tree. (These trees were not indigenous to *Hyde Park*).

Prior to the establishment of lawns throughout the park, clearing indigenous shrubs was an ongoing task as was the removal of reeds and sedges from the edges of the lake and islands. There is no record of new indigenous shrubs or herbaceous plants being planted in the park and several requests by local residents to sow wildflowers in the park were refused.

Lakes and Islands

The lake and islands are shown on the earliest drawings of the park and were obviously an important feature from the establishment of the park. Apart from the construction of the causeway in 1913, the general size and shape of the lake and islands has remained relatively unaltered. The wide open 'sheet' of water was much praised in contemporary reports and considerable effort was expended in keeping the lake full and clear of rushes. Early accounts suggest that the lake was only ever one to two feet deep (300–600mm) and that it was dredged to remove sediment as early as 1915.

The modification of the landscape surrounding the park in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries changed both the water catchment area of the lake and its natural drainage pattern. This led to the need to artificially drain or fill the lake to maintain the permanent lake. Mains water was used to fill the lake as early as 1911 to prevent it becoming a bed of 'malodorous sludge'. The use of mains water would have been expensive and is an indication of the value placed on the permanent lake.

The islands were raised in 1915 and then cleared and planted with grass and exotic shrubs trees and palms. It would appear that the smaller East Island was intended to provide a refuge for water birds and was planted with Spanish Reeds (bamboo) and bushes to provide them with cover. The larger West Island was intended to be a colourful, horticultural display and was planted with large numbers of roses and flowering herbaceous plants as well as beds of palms and exotic trees. In places there were views across these islands to the other side of the lakes. These islands have been largely let go since the 1960s and as they have become overgrown with self sown plants and the original plantings have matured, the views across the islands have disappeared. In the last few years the West Island has begun to subside.

Landscape Design

The selection and positioning of trees throughout *Hyde Park* shows the influence of the Gardenesque style of garden design that was popular for the design of municipal gardens well into the first half of the 20th Century. A hallmark of this style was the use of a diverse collection of exotic and unusual species presented in a manner that displayed the distinctive features of each plant. This was often achieved by using plants with contrasting forms and characteristics. Apart from avenues, trees tended to be placed in informal clumps within a lawn rather than scattered loosely across the space.

Round beds of flowering herbaceous plants, shrubs and palms were also a feature of the Gardenesque style and they can be seen in historic photographs of *Hyde Park*. Generally the beds have a 'wedding cake' form with larger sculptural trees or palms placed in the centre. None of these round beds have survived but there are a number of isolated palm trees that would appear to have once been the centre-piece of a bed. Generally the smaller, less robust and short lived plants have not survived.

Plant Selection

Apart from a few examples where large single species plantings were made, such as the Plane Trees surrounding the lake or the palms lining Vincent Street, there is no specific record of the planting of individual trees or of the exact numbers and species planted in the park. The reports of the City Gardener list the numbers and species of trees to be planted generally in the parks and gardens of the City of Perth but no reference is made as to where the plants were allocated. While these reports give an indication of the trees that were available at the time, the age of individual trees in the garden has to be deduced from historic photographs, on-site inspections and a knowledge of the tree's growth pattern. Aerial

photographs from 1936, 1942 and 1948 are particularly useful in determining the number and type of trees in the park in the early Twentieth Century.

It has been deduced that the trees and palms that date from this period of development include the following trees from eastern Australia: Bunya Pine, Norfolk Island Pine, Illawarra Flame Tree, Moreton Bay Fig, Port Jackson Fig, Kurrajong, Queensland Lacebark, Red Cedar, Sweet Bay (Victorian Box), Tasmanian Blue Gum and Norfolk Island Hibiscus. The following exotic pines and cypresses were planted: Aleppo Pine, Monterey Pine, Canary Island Pine, Monterey Cypress, Pencil Cedar and Himalayan Cedar. The following broad leaved exotic trees were planted: London Plane, Coral Tree, Carob Tree, Camphor Laurel, Poplar, Oak, Elm, Weeping Willow, Cape Lilac, Peppercorn Tree and Tree of Heaven. Only two trees native to Western Australia were planted, Red Flowering Gum and West Australian Weeping Peppermint. The following palms were planted: Canary Island Date Palm, Petticoat Palm, Cotton Palm, Senegal Date Palm, Palmetto Palm, Cocos Palm and Cliff Date Palm.

Labour intensive horticultural activities such as bedding displays were never established in *Hyde Park*. The following shrubs and herbaceous plants were known to have been planted: Oleander, Cannas, Roses and Pelargoniums.

Although the plant selection used at *Hyde Park* was limited by the species available from commercial nurseries and the State Nursery at Hamel, a great deal of thought appears to have been given to the overall theme of the park and the selection and location of each plant. The majority of the planting represents a selection of species that are hardy, heat tolerant and appropriate for the climatic and soil conditions of *Hyde Park*. Generally the trees and palms represent a selection from similar climates including Eastern Australia, South America, the Mediterranean Region, West Coast of North America, Middle East and Asia. Trees with a greater need of water were planted close to the water's edge or where the water table was accessible.

The majority of trees in the park are evergreen and the various shades produce a solid background which seasonally is contrasted by autumn foliage tones and a limited selection of flowering specimens. In particular, the Plane Trees provide a change in foliage colour before finally dropping their leaves to "open up" the centre of the park to the winter sun. Visual interest comes from the juxtaposition of the deciduous and evergreen trees and the varying shades of green. For example the dark glossy green of the figs contrasts with the lighter shades of the planes and camphor laurels. Further contrast is provided by the small leaved conifers with their distinctive forms as well as by the variety of palms and the sculptural statuesque araucarias that punctuate the flat topped tree canopy at various points.

Generally the planting has been laid out informally with umbrageous trees lining the paths and groupings of sculptural plants such as palms and araucarias providing visual interest in the lawns between. Originally the whole of the park was bordered by a selection of Monterey and Aleppo pines which would have presented a solid dark green margin of needle leaved plants and combined with the lineal planting of Plane Trees around the lakes to contrast with the generally informal layout of the planting.

Built Elements and Park Furniture

Funds for the development of the park were always limited and a number of schemes for major improvements in the park were abandoned due to a lack of resources. Fencing and park furniture were plain, robust timber structures. Following problems with termite attacks, the timber picket fences and gates were replaced with post and galvanised rail fences and cyclone gates. The seats were simple timber boards without backs and they were supported on posts or were built around tree trunks. Most of the buildings in the park were timber framed, utilitarian structures such as the toilets, storage sheds for watering equipment and a tool shed. The only decorative items were the gazebo / bandstand and the fountain. Termite attack was an ongoing problem with wooden structures in the park. None of these items have survived to the present day.

4.2.5. Continuity and Maintenance (1937 – 1959)

During this time, work at *Hyde Park* was limited mainly to minor alterations and maintenance. This inactivity was common on many projects during this period and was partly due to shortages of funding and resources caused by the Great Depression and Second World War. Another reason for this period of limited change was the continuity caused when the thirty year long tenure of J.G. Braithwaite as city gardener was followed by his that of his son H. R. Braithwaite who served for twenty years.

During this time the fences and the gazebo were removed from the park. The palms lining Vincent Street were also removed. No new built elements were added to the park. It has been deducted that the trees and palms that date from this period of development include the following: Queensland Box Trees, Cape Lilacs, Orchid Tree, Nookta Cypress, Plum Pine and Strawberry Tree. It would also appear that most of the Jacarandas in the south-east corner of the park were planted at this time.

4.2.6. Refurbishment (1960-1989)

During the Second World War the condition and presentation of *Hyde Park* had declined due to shortages of staff and finances. In 1959 a ten year plan to revitalise the park was tabled and the refurbishment of the park was commenced. Refurbishment was mainly focused on improving the facilities in the park and new toilets, playgrounds and picnic areas were provided. Infrastructure to improve the maintenance and presentation of the place was also constructed including a new pump and watering system and new lighting. Paths were also upgraded and a number were removed including the perimeter path.

A programme of removing senescent specimen trees was implemented and a number of new trees, often different species, were planted to replace them. It has been deducted that the trees and palms that date from this period of development include the following: Bottlebrush, New Zealand Christmas Tree, Desert Ash, Chinese Hawthorn, Woman's Tongue Tree, Fishtail Palm and Kentia Palm. There are also less mature examples of the following trees that were most likely planted at this time: Port Jackson Fig, Camphor Laurel, Aleppo Pine and Weeping Peppermint.

During this time most of the garden beds were modified with the round beds being replaced with free form shrubberies. These shrubberies have added dense screens and enclosures to various locations around the park.

4.2.7. Conservation and Refurbishment (1989 – 2003)

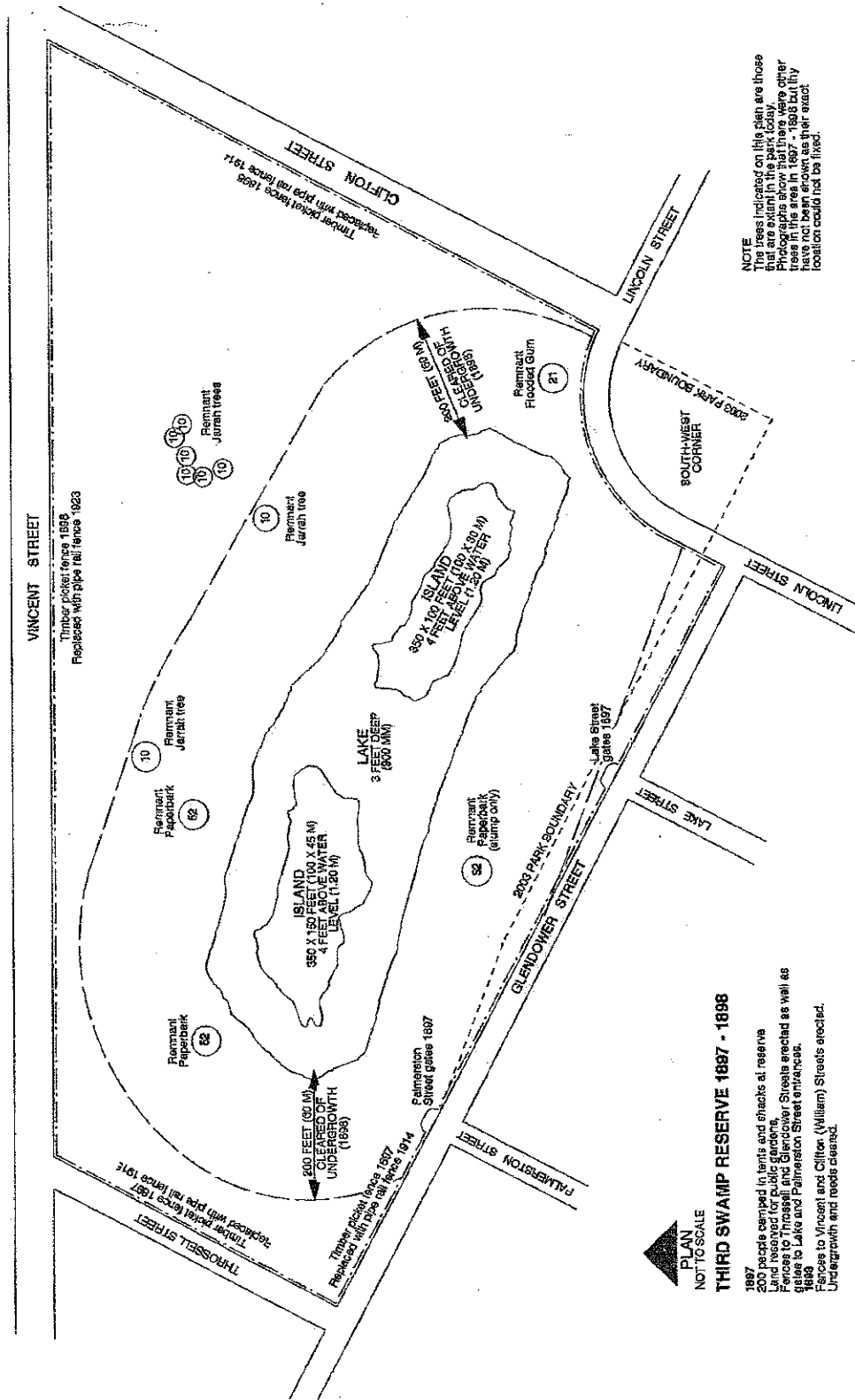
By the end of the 1980s *Hyde Park* was again in need of refurbishment. A major redevelopment of the park was proposed by the City of Perth and rejected by the community in favour of small scale change, conservation of the existing landscape and refurbishment of public facilities.

Toilets, playgrounds and picnic areas have been refurbished and new seats, lighting and signage installed. Two new gazebos have also been constructed. Most new built elements and park furniture exhibit a 'heritage' style. Work has also been carried out on the path system including the installation of ramps to allow access to the park by disabled people and the modification of the intersection between the causeway path and the Lake and Norfolk Street paths have been modified to slow cyclists crossing the park. New entry statements with brick paving, signage, lighting and small garden beds have been installed at most path entrances. Some of these works have involved the construction of hard landscape elements such as limestone retaining walls to garden beds. Again the watering system has been upgraded to improve the maintenance and presentation of the place. This involved the installation of a new pump and full reticulation of the park.

During this time a number of senescent trees have been removed and in some places replacement plantings have been made including the lineal planting of Aleppo Pines on Glendower Street, the lineal planting of Peppercorn Trees on Throssell Street and single plantings of a Himalayan Cedar, Red Flowering Gum and Water Gum. In other places new trees have been planted such as where the lineal plantings of alternating Jacarandas and Illawarra Flame Trees have been made to the perimeter of Vincent and William Streets to replace removed pine trees. Jarrah trees have also been planted where a Port Jackson Fig was recently removed.

New tree species planted in the park during this time include *Poinceana Delonix regia*, Swamp Cypress *Taxodium distichum* and *Magnolia Magnolia grandiflora*. One of the Swamp Cypresses and the Magnolia were both planted as commemorative trees.

FIGURE 15
 Third Swamp Reserve 1897 - 1899
 Kelsall Binet Architects



NOTE
 The trees indicated on this plan are those that are shown in the plan and are not necessarily the same as those in the area in 1897 - 1899 but they have not been shown as their exact location could not be fixed.

THIRD SWAMP RESERVE 1897 - 1899
 1897
 200 people camped in tents and erected at reserve
 Land reserved for public gardens,
 Fences to Throssell and Glendower Streets erected as well as
 fences to Lake and Palmington Street on 11/12/97.
 1898
 Fences to Vincent and Clifton (William) Streets erected.
 Undergrowth and reeds cleared.

FIGURE 16
Hyde Park 1900 – 1912
Kelsall Binet Architects

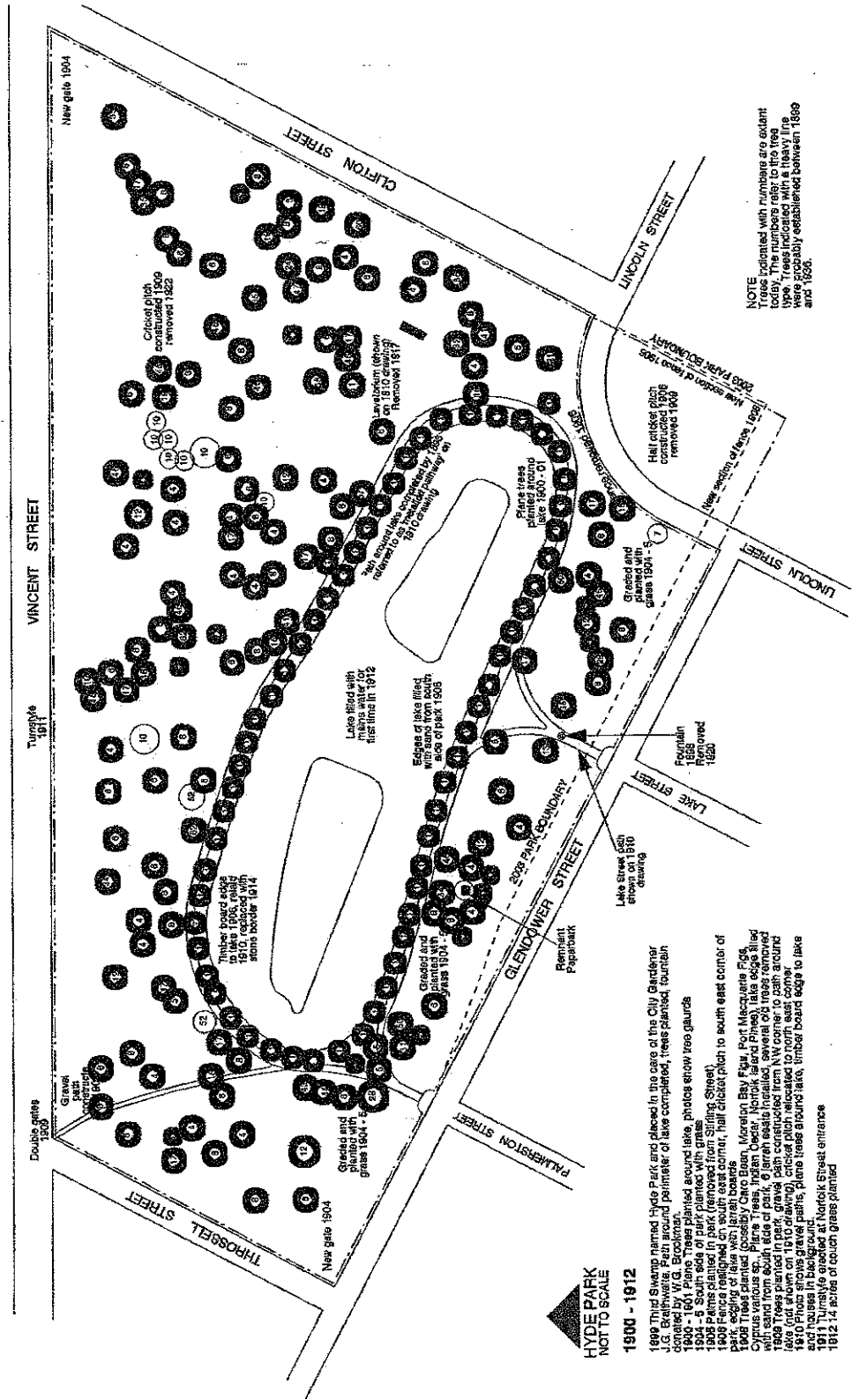


FIGURE 19
Hyde Park 1960 – 1989
Kelsall Binet Architects

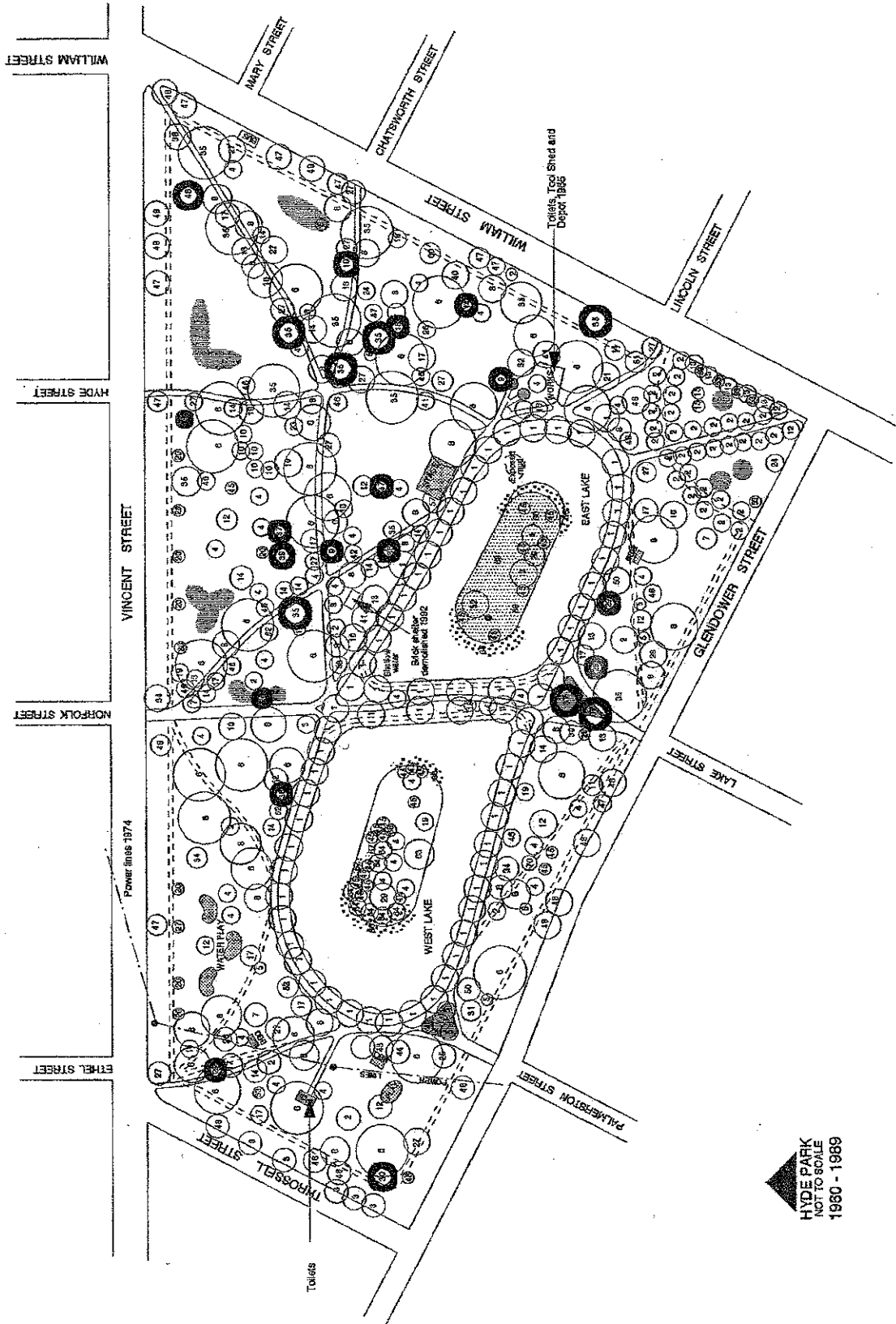
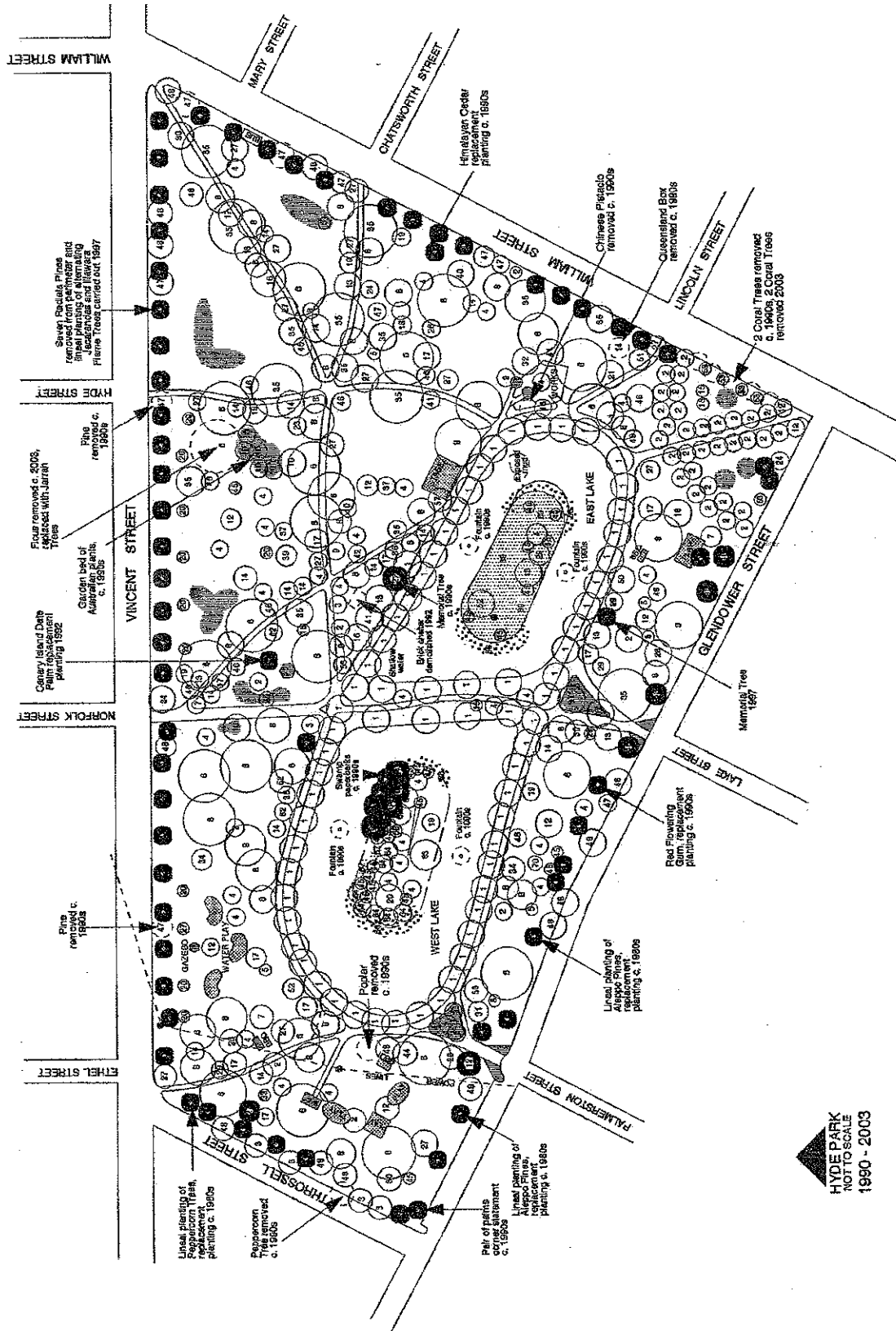


FIGURE 20
Hyde Park 1990 - 2003
Kelsall Binet Architects



HYDE PARK
NOT TO SCALE
1990 - 2003

4.3. IMPORTANT TREE SPECIES IN THE PARK

The following trees and palms are discussed further because they are unusual plants in Western Australian parks or because they are a dominant species that makes a strong contribution to the nature of the park.

4.3.1. Boojemooling

The documentary and physical evidence suggest that the mature species of the following trees date from prior to the establishment of *Hyde Park*.

Paperbark *Melaleuca preissiana*

This member of the Paperbark family is always found growing close to water or on sites with a high water table. The thick trunk covered white papery bark, cream coloured bottlebrush flowers and crooked pendulous branches of small leaves and twigs characterise this species. Two examples of this tree can be found on the outer side of the path on the northern side of the western lake (Section 4). There is also the dead stump of an earlier tree on the southern side of the western lake. There is only one other population of these once common trees in the Town of Vincent.

Jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*

The dark brown, stringy bark and round wooden nuts are distinctive features of this gum. Three populations of jarrah survive in the park the most substantial being a copse in the north east section near the Vincent Street frontage. These trees appear to be re-growth from the main trunk of the original tree that may have burnt by a bush fire or felled for wood. As this area was the last to be cleared in the development of the park they provide a link to the vegetation that would have been found on the higher ground around the original swamp. An equivalent but larger population exists in the south-east corner of Keith Frame Reserve close to the Town of Vincent's Administrative Offices.

Flooded Gum *Eucalyptus rudis*

This tree favours wet locations and periodic flooding and would have been prevalent throughout the wetlands in colonial Perth. The persistent rough bark on the lower trunk and smooth bark on the upper branches is a major characteristic of this gum.

A large solitary specimen remains in the park close to the eastern lake near the pathway from Lincoln Street (Section 11). Although the original trunk has disappeared the resultant growth has developed into substantial trees. Flooded Gums can still be seen at the south-east corner of Robertson Park near the Fitzgerald Street frontage as well as in the Smith's Lake area of North Perth.

4.3.2. Establishment of Hyde Park (1899 – 1936)

Based upon historic photographs, documentary evidence of the types of trees and palms that were being planted in City of Perth parks during this time and a knowledge of the types of plant species that were available in Perth at this time, mature examples of the following trees date from this era:

Moreton Bay Fig *Ficus macrophylla*

One of the first species to be planted in the park and indicative of the late nineteenth century selection for parks and reserves due to its hardiness, ease of growth, shady canopy and glossy, dark green foliage. Major use of this tree can be seen in the peripheral plantings at Beatty Park Reserve, Forrest Park and Leederville Oval, with two fine examples in Robertson Park.

Port Jackson Fig *Ficus rubiginosa*

This in association with the Moreton Bay Fig is one of the major landscape elements of *Hyde Park* and contributes to the distinctive quality of the place. Any large scale replacement of this species will alter the character and significance of the place. The Port Jackson Fig possesses similar characteristics as the Moreton Bay Fig but with a slightly smaller leaf and attractive clusters of yellow, rounded fruits. This tree is a major defining element in the parks and reserves of the Town of Vincent. Examples can be seen at Beatty Park Reserve, Leederville Oval and Robertson Park.

Norfolk Island Hibiscus *Lagunaria patersonii*

The Norfolk Island Hibiscus is a distinctive, slender, pyramidal tree with small pink hibiscus flowers and grey green leaves. This tree is renowned for its drought tolerance and hardiness and has been used in the past as a street tree in the Town of Vincent. A single tree is located beside the path leading from the William, Vincent Street corner. Comparable examples can be seen in Russell Square, Northbridge.

Cape Lilac or White Cedar *Melia azederach*

The small lilac clusters of perfumed flowers, rich yellow autumn display and orange brown berries are features of this tree. This deciduous tree is noted for its hardiness and was the first species to be used as a street tree in the town of Perth in the 1850's. The extensive use of this species in the nineteenth century gave a distinctive look to the Town of Perth and due to the ubiquity of this plant it is seldom used today. There are two plants in the park and others can be seen in Beatty Park Reserve and Robertson Park.

Australian Cedar *Toona australis*

Two trees are located on the southern side of the park close to the Glendower Street frontage. They are one of the few examples of deciduous Australian trees of which few specimens are seen in Perth. The tree is noted for its valuable wood that is easy to work and

of a rich mahogany colour. A mature example can be seen to the south of the War Memorial in Kings Park.

Plane tree *Platanus x hispanica*

An early planting in the park that took advantage of the wet ground at the edge of the lake and now presenting a major statement with its tall leafy canopy and mottled bark. In winter its deciduous state adds a new dimension to the park by the "opening up" of the centre with extra light due to its leaf fall. The use of this species in appropriately damp sites in the wetter sections of Perth is exemplified by contemporary plantings in Money and Monger Streets [formerly Lake Thompson], Birdwood Square, Brigatti Gardens, Queens Gardens and Mount's Bay Road.

Silver poplar *Populus alba*

This ornamental deciduous tree has large silver backed leaves and a colourful display of yellow falling leaves in autumn. The single specimen in the park contrasts well with the adjacent Queensland Lacebark. Due to its need for space this decorative tree is rarely planted today.

Red Flowering Gum *Eucalyptus ficifolia*

A solitary specimen of this spectacular Western Australian flowering gum is situated to the West of the Lake Street entrance. It stands in an open grassed area and replaces an aged specimen that was originally growing in the same area. This tree was used extensively in the late Victorian and Edwardian period in Perth when it was popular as a specimen tree as well as for avenue and street tree planting. In the 1890s Fraser Avenue was lined with Red Flowering Gums and they were planted in Oxford Street in Leederville in the 1920s. The trees fell out of favour after a large number in Perth died from fungal attack in the late 1920s.

English Elm *Ulmus procera*

This species is one of the only two native English trees to be used in the park. In autumn their golden yellow leaves add to the foliage colour display. Two specimens of this deciduous tree are located on the southern side of the path around the lake, one close to the shrubbery at the Lake Street entrance and the other near the Palmerston Street entry. These trees have been planted near the lake to benefit from the high water table in this vicinity. Few mature specimens of this tree now exist in Perth as most have been removed with redevelopment. Kings Park has a comparable sized specimen in the older section of the park abutting Fraser Avenue while an aged planting from colonial times can be seen in the city at the foot of William Street.

Camphor Laurel *Cinnamomum camphora*

The large rounded canopy of light green leaves gives shade to the paths and sitting areas in the park as well as providing a colourful contrast to the darker leaved figs and pines. A strong camphor smell is also emitted when the leaves are crushed. With over thirty specimens in the park this tree is one of the dominant plantings that contributes strongly to the nature of the place. Many specimens of this tree that is tolerant of Perth's hot dry conditions were

planted in the older parks of Perth but due to their need for space this species is rarely used today. Good examples can also be seen at Beatty Park Reserve, Robertson Park and Perth Oval.

English Oak *Quercus robur*

This is one of the only two English trees found in the park. The large spreading crown of lobed leaves, the short very thick bole and acorns are the main features of this deciduous tree. Contemporary plantings can be seen at Perth Oval, Stirling Gardens, Kings Park and Queens Gardens.

Jacaranda *Jacaranda mimosifolia*

Seasonal colour is brought to the park in November with the flowering of this South American deciduous tree. The extensive use of this species at the south-east corner of the park has made it a major feature of the area. The south east corner was developed as the main entry to *Hyde Park* in 1923 but the planting of Jacarandas that line the path from the William and Glendower Street intersection date from the 1950s when they replaced the original avenue of palms. The arc of trees that follow the original curve of the former street may be an earlier planting. Other individual specimens are also located at various points throughout the park with major plantings occurring in the late 1990s along the Vincent and William Street frontages.

Illawarra Flame Tree *Brachychiton acerifolium*

This in conjunction with the Jacaranda has brought more colour into the park which is mainly planted with non-flowering specimens. This summer deciduous tree is a hardy species that comes from north eastern Australia and with its intense display of flame coloured bell shaped flowers on bare stems has added more visual interest to the peripheral plantings of Vincent and William Streets. An older example is located on the southern side near the Palmerston entrance.

Queensland Lacebark *Brachychiton discolor*

A fine example of this Australian flowering tree is located on the outer side of the path leading from the Palmerston Street entrance near the edge of the western lake. This tree with its large maple shaped leaves and impressive pink felted bell shaped flowers has reached a considerable size and provides a distinctive floral display which can be easily seen from the sunny open grassed area adjacent to the western edge of the path. It has been used extensively in Australian hybridising and a result of its crossing can be seen in a large mature specimen in Robertson Park at the rear of the cottage fronting Fitzgerald Street.

Norfolk Island Pine *Araucaria heterophylla* and

Bunya Pine *Araucaria bidwillii*

The distinctive form of these two hardy conifers from the east of Australia and Norfolk Island made them a popular tree for specimen planting in Perth gardens during the Victorian and Federation periods. In *Hyde Park* their tall silhouettes pierce the canopy of figs and camphor laurels bringing a landmark quality to the park. The earlier specimens were used as specimen trees in open grassed areas and a later planting in the south-west corner of the park was used to emphasise the main entrance at the corner. Generally the Norfolk Island Pines appear to date from the earliest phase of planting but the Bunya Pines are somewhat later in the 1920s. Specimens of Norfolk Island Pines of comparative age can be seen at Kings Park, Stirling Gardens and Government House Gardens and specimens of Bunyas of comparative age can also be seen at Beatty Park Reserve, Ivy Park, Lake Monger. Norfolk Island Pines are still popular plantings in parks and public open spaces today but Bunya Pines, due to their habit of dropping large mature cones, are not favoured.

Himalayan Cedar *Cedrus deodara*

The fine tall pyramidal shape of blue-grey, needle shaped foliage and pendulous spreading lower branches of this slow growing conifer was a distinctive feature at the eastern end of the park prior to its removal in the late 1980s by the City of Perth. Recently a young replacement tree has been planted in the vicinity. Few mature specimens of this uncommon conifer from India are to be found in Perth. Kings Park has a specimen that would have been planted at about the same time as the original tree in *Hyde Park*.

Monterey Cypress *Cupressus macrocarpa* and

***Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Aurea' (the golden form of the tree)**

A drought hardy conifer from the west coast of North America that is tolerant of infertile sandy soils. The distinctive pyramidal form of this tree and the fine scale leaves provide contrast in the planting scheme of the park. Specimens are located around the park and photographs from the 1930s show that they were also planted on the western island.

Pencil cedar *Juniperus virginiana*

A fine specimen of this rarely seen Juniper can be found at the western edge of the lakeside stage. The distinctive gin smell that emanates from its scale foliage provides an interesting odour during the warmer months. The only other specimen of comparable size is to be found in the Victoria Gardens in East Perth and is a remnant from the original Victoria Park nursery set up by the City Council to propagate plants for use in the parks and reserves of the former City of Perth.

Canary Island Pine *Pinus canariensis*

The long, blue green needles, tan coloured bark in large plates and tall narrow growth habit give this tree a decorative quality not usually associated with pines. One specimen is used as an entry statement on the east side of the Norfolk Street entrance to the park while the other is planted on the southern side of the path around the lake near the Palmerston Street entrance. Not many specimens of this unusual tree are to be found in Perth but a large mature example can be seen on the western side of Fraser Avenue near the entrance into Kings Park.

Aleppo Pine *Pinus halepensis*

The open rounded canopy of foliage, grey brown bark, yellow green needles and persistent cones are the distinctive feature of this long lived pine from the middle east. This tree is well adapted to dry sandy, coastal, alkaline soils making it a popular plant in Perth in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries. This pine, together with the Monterey Pine, was used in the original perimeter planting of the park. Today most of the short lived Monterey Pines have been removed or are in decline leaving isolated Aleppo Pines on the perimeter. Mature Aleppo Pines can be seen in a number of Perth parks and gardens established in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries. The use of a perimeter planting of pines to define a park was a popular motif of John Braithwaite and similar plantings can be seen at Beatty Park Reserve, Forrest Park and Woodville Reserve.

Palms

Palms were a new exotic element in the planting schemes of the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries as many had only been introduced into ornamental horticulture in the last decades of the 1800s.

The park has a varied selection of palms that are indicative of the choice that was available in the early years of its development and display a range of feather and fan shaped fronds types. They have been used mainly for specimen planting in open grassed locations or as part of a bed of palms. Both islands were planted with beds of palms and they can be seen in early photographs of the place. A lineal planting of Canary Island Date Palms was established along the full length of the Vincent Street frontage of the park in 1922 and in 1923 a small avenue of palms was laid out lining the entrance path in the south-east corner.

Eight species of palms were growing in Hyde Park in the early Twentieth Century and they display a wide range of features, their characteristic slender trunks and crown of fronds being most noticeable. The Phoenix Palms provide seasonal colour with their orange date fruits as does the Queen Palm with its rounded ones. The Washingtonia Palms, due to their height, have provided a strong vertical element in the park and added interest to the skyline while the multi-stemmed Dwarf Fan Palm and Senegal Date Palm provide a contrast to the surrounding tree forms. The following palms can be found in the park:

Feather frond forms

Canary Island Date Palm *Phoenix canariensis*

Senegal Date Palm *Phoenix reclinata*

Cliff Dwelling Palm *Phoenix rupicola*

Queen Palm *Syagrus romanzoffiana*

Fan shaped fronds

Dwarf Fan Palm *Chamaerops humilis*

Sabal Palm *Sabal palmetto*

Cotton Palm *Washingtonia filifera*

Petticoat Palm or Skyduster *Washingtonia robusta*

Palms were used widely in parks under The City Gardener's jurisdiction, throughout the City of Perth.

Bougainvillea *Bougainvillea glabra*

An aged specimen of this popular climber can be seen covering a large proportion of a tall tree stump. During summer the brilliant purple floral display brings colour to a section of the park mainly devoted to foliage. The support for the climber is the trunk of a former Paperbark that was retained after the initial clearing of the swamp. Similar displays of Bougainvillea could be seen in the older section of Kings Park and Stirling Gardens but have been removed. The specimen in the park is one of the few examples extant as the rampant nature of this plant makes it unpopular for use in today's planting schemes.

4.3.3. Continuity and Maintenance (1937 – 1959)

Illawarra Plum or Brown Pine *Podocarpus elatus*

The conical shape and dark green, dense foliage of this Australian conifer from the eastern seaboard contrasts well with the Himalayan Cedar in the same vicinity. The tough, linear foliage enables it to withstand the conditions in this exposed eastern sector in close proximity to William Street. This tree species was available in Perth from the 1940s and the size of the specimen in the park suggests that it was planted at this time or in the 1950s.

Irish Strawberry Tree *Arbutus unedo*

A solitary specimen is located at the eastern end of the park to the north of the toilets. The orange red strawberry like fruits are produced seasonally following the clusters of small Lily of the Valley-like flowers and provide an attractive feature in this sector of the grounds. This slow growing tree was popular for specimen planting in gardens in the Georgian and Victorian eras and were used at Blythewood in Pinjarra and Strawberry Hill in Albany. There is also a mature example near Fraser Avenue in Kings Park. However, the size of the tree in *Hyde Park* suggests that it was planted in the second half of the Twentieth Century.

Nootka Sound Cypress *Chameacyparis nootkatensis*

A rare specimen of this North American tree is growing on the eastern edge of the path leading to the lakeside stage and in its protected position is surviving well. The flattened sprays of scale foliage hanging vertically from the pendulous branches of this tree give it a distinctive form and provide a contrast to the broad leaved trees.

4.3.4. Refurbishment (1959 - 1979)

Women's Tongue Tree *Albizzia lebek*

The large brown pods hanging in clusters are a distinctive characteristic of this tree. The dense canopy of fern like leaves contrast well with the smooth light bark and the sweetly perfumed mimosa like flowers are an added feature in the warmer months. Two specimens of this interesting plant occur in the park, one near the toilets at the eastern end and the other on the northern side of the lake, close to the intersection of the paths from Chatsworth Street and the causeway. These trees became popular for use in public gardens in the 1960s.

Kanooka or Water-Gum *Tristaniopsis laurina*

The Glossy dark green oleander-like leaves, clusters of small yellow flowers and distinctive mottled bark are features of this rarely planted compact eastern Australian tree. There is one example of this tree growing at the eastern end of the park to the north of the toilets. It is a replacement planting for the original specimen that was planted in the 1960s. These trees were introduced into public gardens in the 1960s and there is a fine specimen from this period in the garden bed at the south west corner of Beatty Park.

Palms

In the 1960s a Fishtail Palm *Caryota urens* was planted in the park, the current example is a replacement planting. Due to its intriguing frond formation of jagged leaf segments, the Fishtail Palm has been used as a major feature in the shrubbery on the east side of the pathway leading from Norfolk Street.

In the 1990s numbers of Kentia Palms *Howea fosteriana* were planted in shaded sections of the grounds.

4.4. AUTHENTICITY

Landscapes, by their nature as a living thing, are always subject to change as the elements within it grow, mature and decline. Growing a park of exotic plants is always to a degree experimental as the plants are not growing in their native environment and some trees will thrive and others will not and will require change. However, the basic landscape design of *Hyde Park* that was developed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is still largely intact and clearly discernible. The key elements of this design that have survived are the permanent water feature encircled with plane trees; the parkland setting; the diverse collection of exotic trees; the tree-lined shady walks; the areas of open lawn for informal

sporting activities and passive recreation; the use of trees and palms with contrasting shape, size, seasonal habit, vegetation colour, shape and type to provide visual interest and seasonal colour; and, the retention of surviving trees from the original landscape. Only remnants of the early perimeter planting of pines have survived but not enough to be legible as a border to the park.

Today the mature trees that were planted before the 1930s dominate the park. The remnant indigenous trees, the Jarrah, Paperbarks and Flooded Gum, are approximately 150 to 180 years old. The Plane Trees and figs are over 100 years old, the pines to the perimeter are over 90 years old and the majority of the remaining trees and palms are between 70 and 90 years old.¹ The Jacarandas in the south-west corner are probably only 50 to 60 years old.

A permanent lake with two islands was one of the first features established in the park. The indigenous rushes and sedges were cleared and in 1908 the edges were filled with sand to form a bank that was retained with timber boards. The causeway was constructed in 1913 forming the current configuration of the two lakes and in 1914 work began on building a stone border to the water's edge. It would appear that since its construction the height of the stone retaining wall has increased several times and records show that it has undergone repairs and partial rebuilding in 1922, 1936, 1953 and the early 1960s.

The East Island, while somewhat overgrown with Spanish Reed or Bamboo *Arundo donax*, is largely intact. The shape of the island is original and a number of the early trees, palms and grasses have survived. As a part of the 1916 landscaping of the island bushes were planted to provide cover for water birds. An early standard light fitting still stands at the western end of the island. A number of self seeded indigenous and native Australian trees have established themselves on the island as well as areas of rushes and sedge on the water's edge.

Unlike the East Island that was intended to be densely planted to provide cover for water birds, the West Island was originally planted as a horticultural display with beds of palms, flowering plants and roses set within a lawn. Today there is now no evidence of these manicured gardens but a number of the early trees and palms have survived. The island has become overgrown with self seeded native Australian trees and plants, a large number of self seeded palms and areas of rushes and sedges that have established themselves on the water's edge. The recent dredging of the West Lake has caused parts of the island to sink into the lake changing the form of the island and killing trees and plants that can not survive inundation. The early light standard that originally stood at the eastern end of the island has fallen over onto the ground.

It would appear that the paths leading from Lake and Palmerston Streets and the path surrounding the lake were established in the late nineteenth century and the remainder of the path network was established by the 1920s. Most of this early network of paths is still intact although a number have been widened and a few have been removed. The major path to be removed was the perimeter path that was set in from the boundary under the pine

¹ Aldous-Ball, Charles, *Significant Tree Inventory Arboricultural Assessment*, circa 1995.

trees. The paths across the causeway have been replaced with one central path. The paths were originally gravel but work started on tarring them as early as 1913 and by the 1920s key paths had been metalled (bitumenised). Jarrah edging to paths was installed in the 1920s but none remains. The low concrete edging to some paths dates from the 1960s.

The landscape of *Hyde Park* that was constructed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries did not have any major built elements or ornate park furnishings, rather it had a simple timber picket fence with gates, simple timber seats, a modest gazebo / bandstand and utilitarian structures such as storage shed and a urinal. The most ornate feature was the three-tiered cast iron fountain. By the 1960s all of these early built elements had been removed and the seats, lighting and gazebos in the park today are the third or fourth replacements of the original items. The playground equipment is all of recent construction although there were playgrounds in the park from as early as 1921.

The boundaries of the park have remained the same since the 1910s when a narrow strip of land was removed from the Glendower Street side and the south-west corner area was added to the park.

4.5. INTEGRITY

Today *Hyde Park* is used much as it was when first constructed, as a place for passive recreation, informal sporting activities, children's games and family and community activities and celebrations.