

BERNDT MUSEUM building an ally

The new Berndt museum will be a participatory and inclusive museum, a museum that is accessible physically, intellectually and emotionally. A museum that is multifaceted and mutable, blurring the distinction between inside and outside, display and storage, museum and research institution.

A museum in the process of becoming, a site of evolving knowledge, production and exchange. A renewable resource for visitors,

students, researchers and public alike, agile and nimble, quick to adapt to inevitable future challenges.

The new museum will enable easy entry and exist to support and encourage existing Aboriginal practices and kin-related etiquettes and that respect and support the layering of Aboriginal knowledge systems.

The new museum will be a malleable space with no binding architectural identity, the semblance of a workshop, display space or warehouse that can adapt and expand with internal volumes that are fluid and accessible. A platform combining all the traditional functions of the museum with research, exchange, and learning, aspiring to excellence in all its different aspects to create an internationally significant museum acknowledged for culturally significant and sensitive programmes.

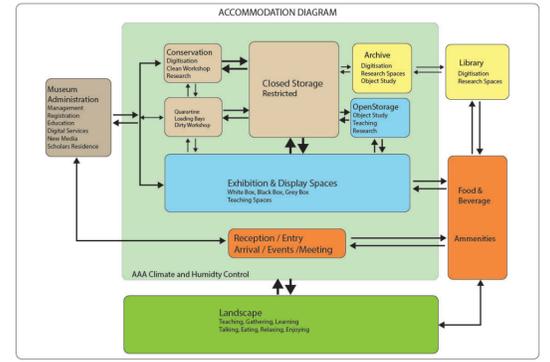
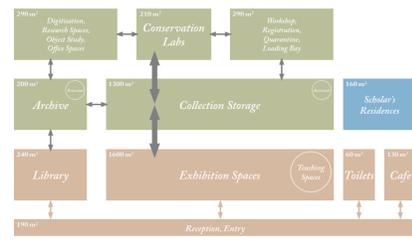
The new museum will use new technologies and design solutions to enhance the safety of the collection while creating new opportunities for deep and dynamic engagement that liberate visitors to connect with objects, ideas and each other on their terms and at their own pace.

The new museum is carefully sited and orientated to suit the prevailing environmental conditions, and strategically located to partner directly with students and visitors, to enhance the cultural life on campus and beyond and to strengthen the teaching and research nexus for the collection.

This site will encourage strong long-term partnerships with different communities of interest and other institutions to develop effective systems for dialogue, learning, and ongoing research. The new museum will be a hub and energising node working creatively and strategically to engage with and include all potential partners and collaborators across the campus and region as well as nationally and internationally.



The museum functions were organised into related activities to fully exploited the synergies between them and then laid out along a long axis to ground the public program spaces and ensured easy universal access. The resulting design was open, porous and accessible and well integrated with existing pathways on the campus. Curling the form inwards and reducing the long axis resulted in an elegant solution creating physically and intellectually connected spaces in a new aspirational and empowering civic space.



CONTENT ORGANISATION RE-IMAGINED

A FACILITY THAT IS...

Permeable Approachable Accessible Connected Inclusive Adaptable Flexible Smart Humble Responsive Integrated Human Engaging Supportive Useful

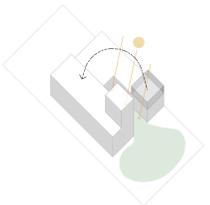
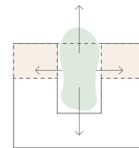
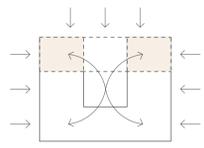
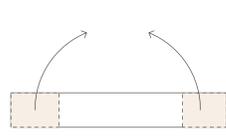
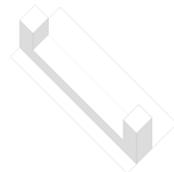
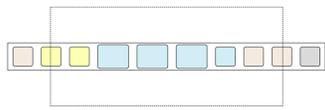
A string of program that is accessible along its length, porous enough to maintain existing desire lines across campus.



OUR CONCEPTUAL LOGIC

The building design emphasises the relationships between related activities, materials, and technologies to improve the sustainability and environmental performance of the new museum – passive solar design, controlled daylighting, LED artificial lighting, natural ventilation, water treatment and recycling and local ambient energy sources.

The building uses a carefully considered material language; gabion walls and weathered timber cladding speak of place, country, and site. The gabion walls will blur and soften the edge of the building and create an effective transition between inside and outside, shading the interior skin and improving thermal performance and ventilation.



STRING OF PROGRAM TOO LONG FOR SITE

TURN UP ENDS TO MAKE FIT

LONG PLAN IS OPERATIONALLY INEFFICIENT SO, CURL UP THE PLAN

BETTER LINKS BETWEEN PARTS

A NEW ROOM IS CREATED

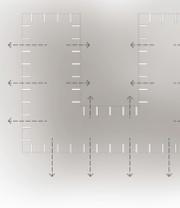
RESULTING FORM

SHIFT MASS TO IMPROVE SOLAR ACCESS TO COURTYARD

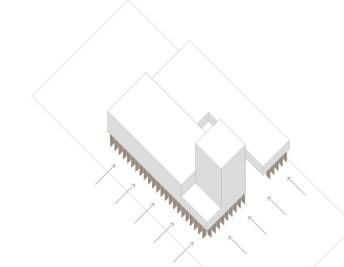
KEY COMPONENTS

A NOTE ON BUILDING ORGANISATION:

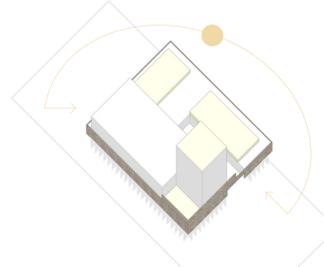
The principle public functions are located on the ground floor with spaces for the display of the collection, teaching, gathering and talking as well as space for viewing of individual objects. Above this are spaces for research, teaching and object study with facilities for library/archive and open store as well as a museum café and museum administration. Stacked in the tower are spaces for collection store, conservation, and digitisation. Related functions are clustered together and layered to maximise access and efficiency.



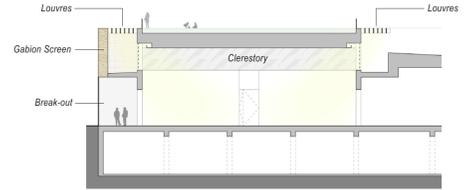
FUZZY EDGES



A PERMEABLE + APPROACHABLE BUILDING



ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIVE: GABION BRISE SOLEIL WRAPS BUILDING PLANTED ROOFS CONTROL GLARE AND HEAT GAIN GEO-THERMALLY ASSISTED CLIMATE CONTROL



CLERESTORY OPENINGS FURTHER DIFFUSE OR BLOCK OUT DAYLIGHT USING A DUAL BLIND SYSTEM HOUSED WITHIN PANES OF LAMINATED OBSCURE GLASS

THE GABION

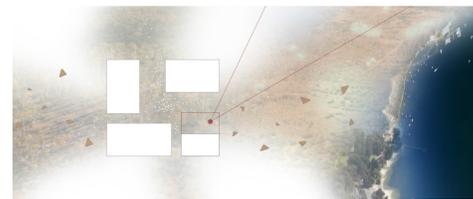
A steel gabion cage has the purpose of 1) mediating daylight, and, 2) allowing the primary architectural component of the building to be given over to a deliberative engagement process.

We envisage a process whereby the content of the gabion screen will not be determined by the architects or even the client representative. Rather, it is determined through consultation with the various communities represented by the Berndt collection – across thousands of kilometres and separated by oceans.

THE GABION WILL BECOME A REPOSITORY OF 'PLACE'



SITE STRATEGIES



PLANTING

A new landscape scheme reconnects the site with Derbarl Yerrigan and Karta Koomba, creating a place for ceremonial and social activities, cultural learning, and exchange that flows into and around the new building. The existing trees and other vegetation on site will be reused as far as possible. The new plantings will create pleasant and meaningful spaces that complement the museum and its cultural programmes.

New plantings of local species include the local eucalypts (jarrah, marr) and banksias, as well as understorey like kangaroo paws and everlastings. In addition, large mature grass trees will provide structural vegetation to create structural and compositional elements from relevant native vegetation communities, particularly Banksia-eucalypt woodlands characteristic of the Swan Coastal Plain.

A focus on plants of cultural significance will be developed with appropriate cultural guidance to emphasise the intimate link between local ecology and culture including plants for food and medicinal purposes.

PARKING

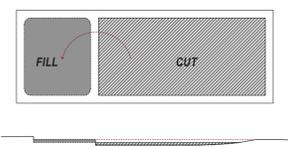
A semi-basement cut into the site, accessed via University Club basement carpark, with consolidated exit route.

University Club parking is sequestered as student parking between hours of 9-11am and 2-5pm (non-peak times) allowing western portion of site to be landscaped.



CUT + FILL

The site level is raised to match the University Club to enable basement carparks to consolidate. This also brings the new museum ground floor closer to other neighbouring buildings.

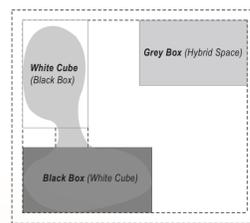


AN ADAPTABLE BUILDING

New kinds of spaces will collapse the traditional boundaries between front of house and back of house, display, and storage to create new relationships and experiences and to promote innovation and encourage porosity, participation and new understandings.

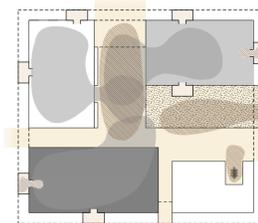
The new museum will expand the usual repertoire of spatial typologies and display conditions in for art with spaces able to integrate traditional, emerging and challenging new art forms to reconceptualise the conventional gallery as display volume, performance space or experimental "laboratory" – White Cube, Black Box, and Grey Box spaces.

The new museum will be porous, accessible and approachable, open to daily activities like looking, learning, meeting, talking, sitting, yarning, playing, working and eating, processes that imbue a place with meaning and create strong cultural and personal associations.



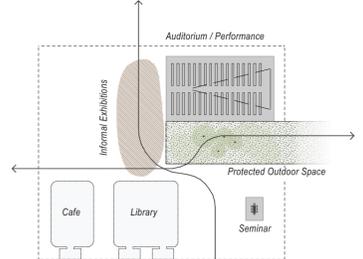
GREY BOX, WHITE CUBE, BLACK BOX

Grey Box: Fitted with lighting rig, sprung floor, high grade acoustic shell, black out and technology to enable multiple functions including performances, lectures, concerts as well as exhibitions.



SUPPORT SPACES – INTERMINGLING

Spaces between display areas function in supportive as well as autonomous roles. Break-out spaces on the edge of main display areas offer 'time-out' and reconnection to landscape, as well as informal teaching opportunities.



BROADER APPEAL

A series of spaces throughout the facility that are utilised by the wider university and public, further embedding the new building in its context.

