

THE GRAND SECTION

Girt by Sea, Girth By Desert



An insight into the inner workings and reflection of the architectural and bicycle odyssey across Australia's Grand Section, the 25th Latitude in 2017.

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Introduction

The broader 'Australia' is largely unknown. 85% of Australians live within 50km of the coast on this 7.7 million square kilometer big land massⁱⁱ. The extensive majority of Australia is classified as 'Very Remote Australia', only 2.6% of the population residing there. ⁱⁱⁱ

Undoubtedly, within this 50kms is where you will find the capital "A" Architecture only attainable for a select few. Australian architecture as a typology has been transposed, an offshoot of European civilization, expressed as colonial constructs in stone and classical order, as well as the new-age, pseudo Australian mongrel designs that seem to adhere to no doctrine beyond that of the designers own. As an architecture student you exist within this new architecture, wrapped up in layers of assumptions, optimism and powerful individuals who are revered like gods. Cities and urban settings are the problem the dogma *tells* you to apply your creative and critical thinking to. Yet, there is a little part of you that wonders, what's beyond these limits?

With changing societal living trends and expectations, increasing urbanism and housing density, the fringe is creeping further from the ground plane and the edges towards our red center. Central Australia in many ways is the fringe of our country. It is the edge of social justice, cultural awareness and survival. Journeys past *have* widely explored the urban realm of the edge, where the inland seems forgotten. To fully understand the reality of our own country it is crucial that we begin to explore, invest in and understand the nature of the entirety of Australia and its respective habitations.

The Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarship assisted to enable a focused study of *How Place influences Inhabitation* across the girth of Australia. Surprisingly, something architecturally unprecedented.

A lineage exists; Journeys in Australia

Australia has a little known history of pilgrimage, undeniably entwined with architecture. Predating many modern pursuits of the 20th and 21st centuries, the notion of traversing the inland of Australia extends back at least 40,000 years to Dreamtime Ancestors, on 'Walkabout'. 'Walkabout', not wandering aimlessly, but 'wandering' with purpose.

In contrast, contemporary Australian architectural journeys started over 40 years ago and have helped define "Australian architecture". Studying Australia has led to a uniquely Australian approach to architecture which is at the forefront of sustainably, cultural understanding and architectural thinking.

In learning of these lineages, it becomes clear that the intimate partaking of and interpreting the broader Australia, its landscape, people and spaces has immense and ongoing value. The educational value of journeys in landscape should not be underestimated;

◆ You are continuously aware of the landscape, it is the generator of our culture, our myths and legends. It was the generator of the myths of the aboriginal people before us "

/Australia's architectural identity/ 1984 Gold Medal address, Philip Cox

Many of these architecture centric journeys were fixed in the temperate and urban experience of the edge of the country. The centre as far as we know has been devoid of this architectural investigation.

Troppo's Punkahs & Pith Helmets

Pivotal to the development and identity of vernacular tropical Australian architecture is Troppo. Specifically vanguards, Adrian Welke and Phil Harris, who undertook a journey as students in 1977. Setting off in a VW Kombi clockwise around Australia they embarked on an investigation beyond the coastal edge and beyond Australia's recorded architectural history in pursuit of the diversity of approaches to shelter making. They wrote about these things in a history of Australia's own architecture, "*influences in Regional Architecture*".^{iv}

These writings and accompanying practice have led to a uniquely Australian architecture that has been defined by the climate and place. Undoubtedly, Troppo have made a significant contribution to the direction and thinking within Australian architecture.



Image left the ACME crew;
Adrian Welke, Phil Harris, James
Hayter and Justin Hill

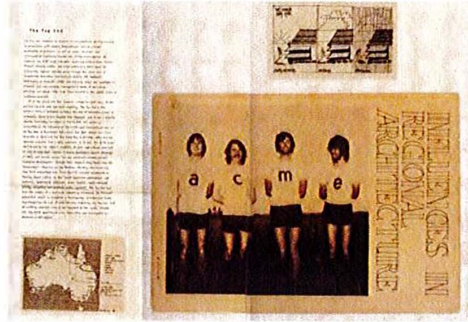


Image center: documenting
the journey



Image right the V/W kombi van

Pholeros' Sculptures of The Top Ends

Paul Pholeros instigated and embarked on a multitude of notable journeys. An early bus journey serving as the precedent for *Tropo* and one of particular mention accompanying artist, Marr Grounds (son of architect Roy Grounds) in 1976, *Sculptures of the Top Ends*. A three month long journey across the top ends of Australia, making environmental art, holding exhibitions as an exchange with the indigenous communities they visited. Through the experience of site specific experiences of culture, landscape, shelter making and communication, the role of architect and architecture is challenged.

Such journeys influenced a field of action for Pholeros, encouraging a move beyond the doctrine of phenomenology of architecture to the threshold of data, architecture becomes the agent to improve living conditions and health. This manifested into the NGO, Healthabitat whose work is founded on a scientific approach to ensuring guaranteed measurable outcomes in architecture, reducing poverty, improving lifestyle and health. Or more simply put,

"In God we trust, all others bring data."

W. Edwards Deming

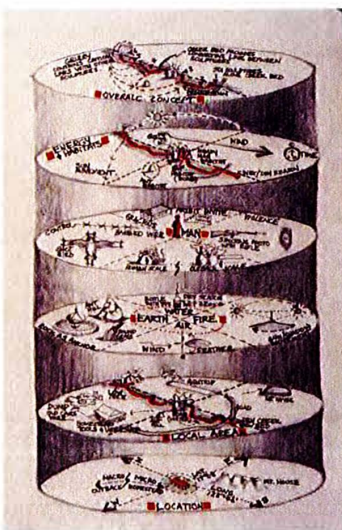


Image Left PP's seminal
drawing encapsulating place,
people, stuff



Image center: Sculpture at the
top ends

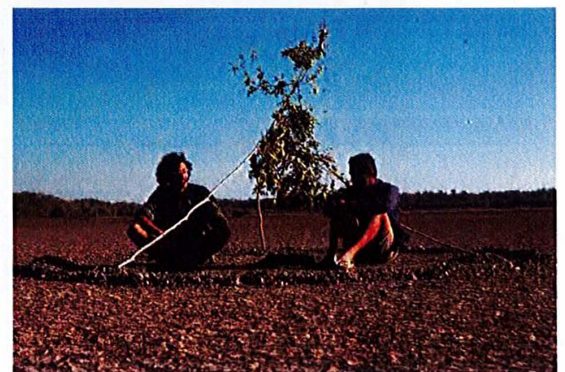


Image right: Marr & Paul
alongside one of their pieces of
environmental art

Philip Cox

Philip Cox, producing seminal work thru 1960's - 90's, reflecting for the first time in this country an appreciation for and adaptation of the rudimentary utilitarian built forms of the Australian vernacular. This Influence grew from him undertaking a grand tour of Australia as a conscious alternative response to the European model. ^{vi}



◆ when I was a student /1957-1962 Sydney University/ was that one's education was not complete without either the grand tour of Europe or taking the finishing course at either Harvard or Yale post graduate schools I think I was one of the first students from Sydney University who didn't adopt that procedure It was more important for me to understand my own country, to experience its urbanism, to contrast this with its vast interior, and to experience first hand its architectural history."

Philip Cox, Gold Medal Address from 1984^{vii}

Harpers' Desert Explorations

Andrew Harper has been walking Australian deserts since 1995, whereby through slowness champions walking as an agent for scientific and ecological understanding of Australia's great arid wilderness. Only through journey and slowness does one explore the landscape in greater detail, informing a deep understanding of its interconnectedness.

"The desert deserves to be approached gently, so its mood is revealed. The way people have always approached the desert was on foot as we have done today That reveals the country- the continuum of country. w



Image left: The landscape in detail



Image right: Dr Mike Smith and Andrew Harper examine the findings from a survey dig, 2010

The Idea

In 2016 I was awarded the Student Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarship to support the collaborated research journey, *The Grand Section; girth by desert, girth by sea*, with UON masters of architecture student, Owen Kelly. Essentially we wanted to learn more about our own country, our initial proposal states;

• we want to invest in broader Australia to inform a better understanding of what it is, and how architecture fits in. •

The research journey attempts to go beyond the institutionalized teachings of architecture by adding dimensions of physicality, slowness, conversation and the exchange to study and explore the reality of Australian habitation towards an appropriate architecture. We are broadly devoid of a holistic connection to Australia as fringe dwellers, minimally constituted in our curriculums, habitations and the in-between. Architecture as we know it typically invests in the well populated coast.

Learning from the critical regionalist and phenomenological doctrines of Professors Richard Leplastrier, Paul Pholeros, Brit Andresen, John Roberts & Peter Stutchbury, teaching is through narrative, journeys and observations where a uniquely strong ethos and design philosophy on 'site' has been instilled through this story telling. However, the unspoilt site and accompanied romanticism, is an exclusive model for a select few. Along with a lineage that exists, these teachings provide precedent to investigate and partake in journey and narrative within Australia;

Max Freeland's (Architecture in Australia: A History 1968) words resonate;

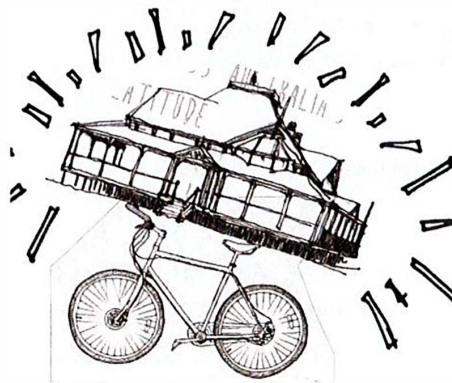
"I country's architecture is a near perfect record of its history. Every but/ding captures in physical form the climate and resources of a country's geography, and the conditions of its society... Every but/ding explains the time and place in which it was built."

In a similar manner as the Grand Tourists, this trip would be both conventional and radical, adhering to proven architectural doctrine whilst breaking the mould of architect as tourist. The radical break from architect as tourist resonates with journeys of place based in slowness and builds upon cultural and architectural precedents.

To engage with 'Australia' and the in-between across its girth over a one year period would be the initial steps of exploration to understand Australian inhabitation. One question, *How does place influence inhabitation?* Provided a lens for analysis with latitude 25, providing a guiding arbiter for purposeful meander.

Site specific experiences of landscape, shelter-making and understanding will engender documented analysis and responses, be that the daily act of refuge, conversation, site analysis, sun tracking, building, drawing or making.

Through this approach we aim to give ourselves a holistic education in the broader Australia, its people, its landscape and its architecture.



How?: The Process

Pilgrimages past made, from centuries old to those more recent were scrutinized. The tools implemented, ethos' undertaken and reflections of these journeys were interpreted and appropriated into *The Grand Section*.

Key tools that were implemented to create The Grand Section journey;

- The principles of *A Grand tour* and *section* converge to create the underlying ethos
- Following an abstract arbiter dictates the path of travel
- Slowness
- An ongoing exchange, exhibitions enroute
- A stolen hierarchy to categorize thinking
- More than just architecture and architects

***The Grand Tour* meets an architectural Section**

"The Grand Section" combines the principles of; the educational rite of passage undertaken by English architects who underwent "The Grand Tour", and that of an architectural drawing, a 'section' .

- **The Grand Tour:** Dating back to the 16th - 19th centuries, The Grand Tour was a result of the secularization of the pilgrimage^{ix}. Generally reserved for the wealthy bourgeois, beginning as an individual tour accompanied by a teacher to help guide, organize and comment on their journey, the journey evolved over the centuries. Journeying Europe, learning was carried out through observation, sketching, documentation of buildings and landscape where students were exposed to the cultural legacy of classical antiquity, the Renaissance, art and society.
- **A section:** The 'section' is a powerful architectural drawing crucial to understanding building, phenomenology and interrelationships. The emergence of section dates back to the early fifteenth century, first appearing as an "analytical device" to depict Roman ruins, later the section progressively become a "generative instrument" for architectural practice. * The logic of the section is instrumental to architecture, where the vertical is an essential tool allowing one to see and understand in a new perspective.

The two converge to create *The Grand Section*. Latitude 25 Deg S, east to west becomes the section cut through the girth of Australia. Concurring with Philip Cox, the 'cultural cringe' has impacted an incomplete knowledge of the Australian vernacular, more geographically relevant, Australia should be the primary endeavor for a student studying Australian architecture.



Image · The Grand Tour+ a 'Section' = The Grand Section of Australia

Following an abstract Arbiter removes preconceptions

Latitude 25 becomes the arbiter for purposeful meander, removing any preconceptions of where 'good architecture' might exist. This ensures the reality of the country is looked at, not the reinforcing of ideas and assumptions.

Latitude 25 as a section bisects the metaphorical heart of the country, Uluru. From the east to west, the section journeys from The Pacific Ocean, through The Great Dividing Range, Red Centre and many different countries to the Indian Ocean. Latitude 25, is book ended by two islands flanking the island continent, the largest sand island in the world, Fraser Island on the east and a tragic sanctuary on the west, the limestone outcrop Dorre Island.

A route which is a heartfelt attempt to better understand our own country, outside of the imposed dogma of the institution.

Slowness & the in-between

The journey proposed to be undertaken by bicycle. Using the age old method of learning, slow movement through country, deliberately slowing the pace reflects many historical and contemporary precedents, notably the notion of the aforementioned pilgrimage.

A reorientation of value towards the time in transit, not the destination; the process rather than a result.

Exhibitions enroute; the exchange

Breaking the role of tourist requires an investment in the place, using the collaborative journey of *Sculptures of the top ends* as precedent, engagement and informal reciprocation is a powerful entity;

∴ Then we would make a /Jile humpy art gallery and have an opening. We would make /Jile sculptures for our hosts We were guests of Aborigines wherever we went We would sit around a fire making art while they made drdgerdoos 'x

Marr Grounds, Sculptures of The Top Ends 1976

Exhibitions enroute were implemented not only as a tool to document the changing influences on inhabitation across Australia's girth, but also to create conversation amongst locals surrounding Australian architecture and as a form of exchange with the community as a gesture of gratitude for investing in us and The Grand Section.

A stolen hierarchy; Place, People, Stuff

Ensuring a consistency over the course of the journey, two tools were employed:

The asking of one question, always provided a homogenous lens to analyse through, **How Does Place influence Inhabitation?** And a stolen hierarchy to categorise our thinking and findings, **Place, People, Stuff.**

Paul Pholeros characterised architecture as concerned with *Place, People and Stuff*, in that order. Putting ecology first illustrates the degree, in his belief, to which environmental concerns take precedence over the second concern; 'people' and third concern; the 'stuff' or built context, where architecture sits. Conventionally, architecture would put concern about 'stuff' first, yet the belief of architecture to advance our objectives for the environment and society allows architecture to be interpreted and categorised through a new lens, lower down the hierarchy. **xii**

This question interrelates with the stolen hierarchy. By placing emphasis on place and how all it comprises has, does and will influence the respective type of habitations detracts again from a conventional study of architecture.

More than just Architecture & Architects

Sympathetic, considered architecture has the ability to provide for the valid demands which exist regionally and remotely in Australia. Typically though, rchitecture is generally only attainable for and accessible by the wealthy, literate and coastal residing. This study attempts to begin to define for its journeymen, the broader role of architecture and how its 'effectiveness' is measured in Australia beyond houses for the eligible as per the above criteria. It is by looking at the entirety of a place; its geology, ecology, hydrology, history, industries, inhabitants and future can this be understood.

Stepping outside of the indoctrinated dogma of aesthetics, proportion & materiality, the study begins to think about and ask questions on landscapes, toilets, overcrowding and its inhabitant's future plans for inhabitation.

7650kms & 10 months : Lessons learnt

Over the course of the 10 month journey, 21 approximately one week 'stops' along latitude 25 in towns and communities comprised the study.

Dictated by the arbiter along with factors of accessibility to weather, water and food, time was spent in these places being present. Each stop was consistently unique, having its inherent landscape and history dictate its present state, inhabitants and forms of inhabitation.

The journey being formative and insightful, key lessons have been realised;

- Talking a universal language, communicating with the illiterate and literate
- The power of an exchange ("Ngapartji-Ngapartji), investing yourself in the place
- By going slower, you see more
- Using an abstract hierarchy, question and arbiter to focus your study
- Making architecture accessible for the vast majority
- Architecture of broader Australia, along the 25th latitude

Communication, speak the universal language

Our audiences were broad, non-architectural and at times illiterate. Testing and developing communication skills in real circumstances was invaluable, seeing directly the results in trying to converse with people ensured quick adaptations and evolution.

Drawing as a universal language was realized as the most powerful and tangible communicator to our vast audiences from literate to illiterate, ages between six and seventy, interested and uninterested.

In our exhibitions we learnt quickly to implement drawings, models, town plans, cartoons and a great deal of humour rather than 'words'. These proved relatable to many eyes, often with feedback such as:

"live there! That's my house and that's where my cousin's house is. "

(Pointing to the town plan), Year five primary school students, Stop# 17: Meekatharra

Coming to this realization has given us greater appreciation for the work of Paul Pholeros and the constant medium of his communication through drawings, ensuring his work is relatable to all. His cartoon overview of the nine healthy living principles for Healthabitat is an exceptional example, layered in meaning, the drawings say more to all than what words could say to a few.

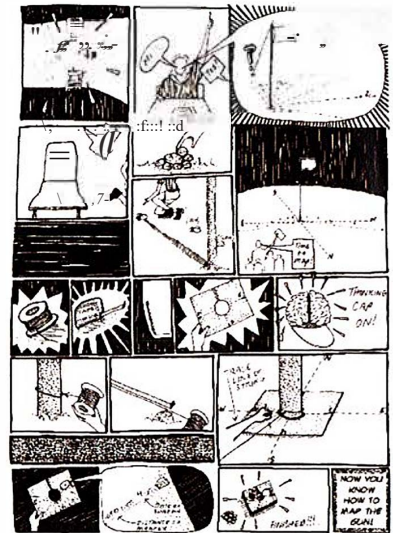
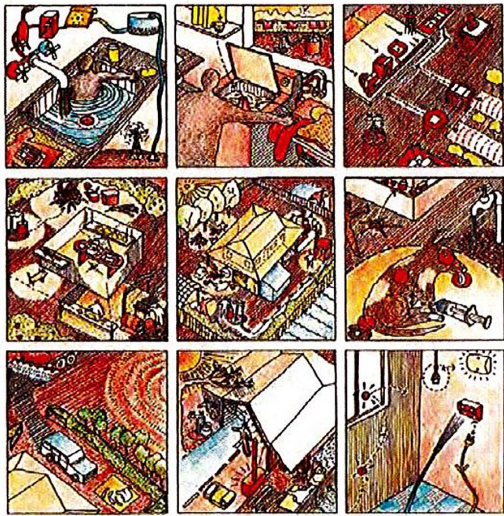


Image Left: The Nine Healthy Living Practices (HLP's). linkingsafety and Image Right The Grand Sections instructional, health of people to the functions of key parts of the housing and surrounding living environment How to map the sun'. Exercise for Useless Loop Pnmary School, Stop # 19

"Ngapartji-Ngapartji"; the power of the exchange

"Ngaparyi-Ngaparyi" (adv. To each other, reciprocally, cooperatively- Piganyayaraj Yankunyyayara to English).

At each stop, time was spent being present, observing, studying and documenting the place and gaining anecdotal and hard data to then be collated into an informal exhibition in a public place.

We found the idea of exhibitions enroute was more powerful than we could have ever foreseen. Regardless of the format or quality of drawings, the power existed in the exchange with the community and the people who had given us their time throughout our weeks stay. Not only was the exhibition a worthwhile tool to document the change in building types & styles and influences on inhabitation across the girth of Australia but was a genuine way of giving back to the community, constantly developing our communication, analysis and documentation skills.

The documentation created at each stop was constantly disseminated through our social media platforms and subscribers which reinvigorated and broadened the conversation and education surrounding Australian architecture. The networks grew through the influence of us being present on the ground and an online presence.

·saw your Marree exhibition, twas beautiful We call this Ngapar! Ji Ngaparr F

Elliat Rich, Industrial Designer, Stop # 12: Alice Springs

Working out of informal, public spaces such as caravan camp kitchens and libraries broke down the preconceptions placed on architects & architecture. Many have no idea of the role of an architect, yet for the few who know the meaning, experiencing The Grand Section allowed clarity;

..I didn't know that's what architects did, I didn't know you could talk to them

George Gorringer, Mythika Elder; Stop #06: Windorah

We found creating this regional and remote presence of architecture allowed tangible experiences for people to relate to and come to consider and partake in the conversations surrounding their town's buildings, their homes and the greater role of architecture.



Image Left: Laverton Office;
Laverton Caravan Park Camp
Kitchen



Image Centre: Re-presenting to
interested park visitors. Laverton
Kitchen



Image Right: Useless-loop
primary school. teaching kids
about sun and making
cardboard cubby houses

Slowness

The bicycle was chosen as the agent to remove any ability to go fast. Doing so, we were utterly immersed, constantly participating in the surrounding environment without any intermediary impinging on experience, instantly creating conversation amongst fellow travelers. It proved an intimate mode of travel to connect with landscape and people where focus is taken off the destination and reoriented towards the time in transit, the process rather than a result.

By allowing oneself time to see, think and process the landscape, people and buildings, you become intimately aware of and understand the nature of many fundamental architectural principles, crucial to the success of architecture; sun, wind, water and landscape.

..(by slowing down/ You've noticed the difference It's revealed to me how much you need to see and notice if you're going to do architecture Because the placing of our buildings on the earth demands that we pay attention and how that is done so you keep the quality of its place in the experience of it.. "

Bot Andresen, Architect UON Masters of Architecture final critique

Resonating with Andrew Harpers ideas of slowness, detail reveals itself which otherwise is missed as we move through space and life at fast pace. By being entirely present in a place and allowing oneself uninterrupted time for people and flexibility around their going-ons, the quality of information and learning always surpassed expectations.

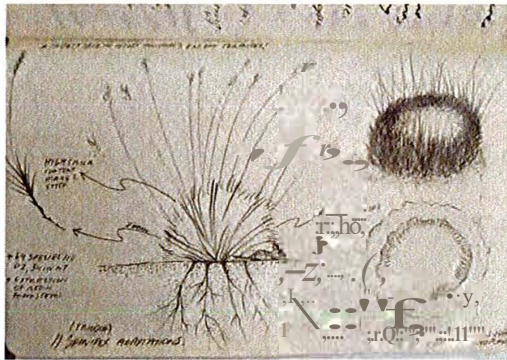


Image left: By slowing down, observations have greater detail

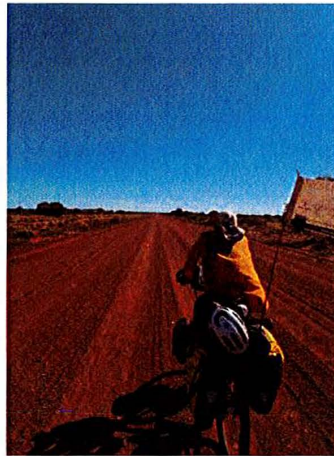


Image center: The agent for slowness



Image right: A typical camp set up, taking refuge in the landscape

Using a hierarchy, question and abstract arbiter to focus your study

Employing the hierarchy of *Place, People & Stuff* focused our study, ensuring the analysis and documentation being undertaken did not conform to a conventional architectural analysis and appreciation.

Using one guiding question, "*How does place influence inhabitation?*" allowed a consistent lens to focus the study, allowing us not to be overwhelmed by what we were looking at.

The arbiter of the 25th latitude removes any preconceptions and assumptions to dictate the path of the journey.

Employing these tools in the journey always ensured we learnt of the role of architecture within ecologies and within people's lives, past, present and future, rather than an appreciation of aesthetics, and the stand alone form.

The success of what we were uncovering and analysing began to be measured on a buildings greater role, by understanding holistically its place in its context. We now understand it is not just about buildings, in fact it is the least important and often comes as a result of the other factors; *Place and People*. Water is undervalued and sewerage systems are under-considered.

Accessible & Open Source architecture

It is important that the public be made aware of the design process and of good design. The purpose... should be... (the) elevation of public awareness not only of design standards but performance of the profession generally, so that the public regain their confidence in us"

(Australia's architectural Identity) 1984 Gold Medal address, Philip Cox

Through the documentation from making to seeking refuge and site observation, it was of great importance to share all learnings through online dissemination enroute. This not only allowed us to reach an audience larger than just the Architectural community to create conversation surrounding Australian architecture, yet to ensure our findings, observations and documentation was open source, accessible to anyone and everyone.

Through our learnings and the audiences we have engaged with, we have realized typically how inaccessible and unattainable 'architecture' is for the greater majority of Australia. Not

only do most people not know what the role of an architect is, but have never experienced good design to warrant the value of seeking designed spaces where instead they tend to evolve out of necessity with salvaged materials. Dealing with the non-architecturally indoctrinated has encouraged a realization that architectural language is often vague, jargonized and rarely defined. Language and simple communication not only clarifies thinking but ensures architectural ideas are tangible for all audiences. We believe it is important to ensure data, thinking, findings and valuable references of documentation and journeys are accessible to empower and inspire not only fellow students and professionals in architecture, but also greater audiences in other vocations.



Image: Stop #03, Theodore exhibition, open to the community for discussion

The Architecture uncovered along the 25 latitude

Key architectural findings:

- The breadth of Indigenous architecture is largely unknown, traces are evident in later built forms
- Buildings of the late 1800's - early 1900's were grand and aspirational
- Material use is directly correlated to resources available
- The transportable fad of the late 1900's
- Government housing for the Indigenous and lower socioeconomic is typically lacking
- Heritage listings are seeing the demise of grand buildings
- The *Place* and *People* directly influence the *Stuff* (architecture)

Indigenous Architecture is largely unknown, traces are evident in later built forms

The Indigenous Architecture of Australia is largely unknown. Visiting towns and Indigenous communities' enroute, discussing the notion of indigenous architecture particular to that place, we were typically received with comments declaring, "*there wasn't any*", This is no surprise as there is little teachings or easily available literature and references accessible to those outside of academic institutions understanding how to source such information.

Paul Memmott's *Gunyah, Goondie and Wurley* provided an invaluable personal reference throughout our journey and a tangible account of Indigenous architecture that in fact once existed in many of the places we visited. This architecture proved to be the epitome of critical regionalism, an understanding of place and resourcefulness directly responding to geography, materials at hand, climate, food sources and family structures. Grown from frugality and scarce resource, holding an integrity without flourish. Using this as reference we were successful in creating conversation surrounding the various types of

indigenous architecture respective to each place, informing towns, elders and community members of histories that was unknown to them.

Due to many different factors and interventions following white settlement, this architecture evolved. Camps and similar structures constructed of modern materials, namely corrugated iron evolved from traditional forms where certain elements have transcended into contemporary built forms. One noticeable element being, The Bough Shade (an open structure with a mesh top covered with a grass, brush or spinifex matting). Typically utilised in central Australia, we found this form to be iconically Australian, utilized in early colonial architecture as verandah structures and is still seen today in remote towns generally in older structures, racecourses and animal shelters.



Image Left: Remnants of a Wigarra Bough shade at Wooleen Station. circa 1960



Image Centre: Bough animal shade. Laverton racecourse



Image Right: The original shearing shed at Bullara Station. 1923. Spinifex and wire netting roof

Buildings of the late 1800's - early 1900's were Grand and Aspirational

Many of the towns we visited were birthed from the rise of primary industry and production, most throughout the late 1800's to mid 1900's. The buildings are a reflection of the patchwork history since their inception, and illustrate a different attitude towards architecture than seen today.

The public buildings of these initial years were grandiose structures of merited local workmanship, local materials and local ambition. Typically of Grand Federation Free style and the Victorian Federation & Edwardian style^{xiii} embody this aspirational public architecture and played a more prominent role in society compared to today. This architecture acted as a symbol, uniting a community in their shared vision, embodying a genuine long term investment in the place it was typical of the grand public buildings to be of mixed construction, a local natural or shaped stone base or first story, brick above or lightweight timber construction.

Some 100 years on, these grand buildings are some of the last remaining vestiges of the yesteryear, reflecting a time of prosperity and community aspiration. Buildings which have been in constant use and inhabitation are those which today are icons of towns, these being: pubs, community and masonic halls, and churches.

Original homesteads too fit into this category of grand, aspirational architecture. Built in the same era as the notable public and civic buildings, they reflect a sustaining and prosperous period in pastoralism. Woolen homestead, Stop #18 was constructed in 1918 and today would be equivalent to a cost of approximately \$1 million, something unachievable today we're told in the current state of the pastoralism industry.^{xiv}

Philip Cox believes;

. The architecture which demonstrates a unique Australian language and the best response yet to the Australian environment is the homestead. The Australian Homestead was the first building type to unfetter itself and respond to new living conditions and the new landscape, the Australian sunlight and a new society. It holds good that Australian housing generally remains the most identifiable type of Australian architecture and this characteristically has demonstrated inventiveness, originality and response to the landscape •

Material use is directly correlated to resources available

As per Max Freeland's quote suggests, the architecture of each town and community is incredibly telling of its history. Each buildings explain a particular time and condition, capturing its evolution and changing nature over time.

There seemed to be a notable trend in the establishment of a town and community and its original built forms. Colonially settled towns of small scale, local enterprise seemed always to utilize what was at hand. There was a direct correlation between materials of the place and the buildings always represented in these grand buildings of aspirational quality, namely the local pub. Government instigated, funded and supported communities, (from our observations) typically indigenous were always devoid of these grandiose, aspirational public buildings. Lacking notable public buildings with only few constructed civic spaces, government funding typically ensured materials were transported and utilized from elsewhere, namely besa block.

In these colonially settled towns, the materials utilized at hand tended to create an architecture style or typology identifiable to that place. Materials employed in the early buildings of places according to our observations along The Grand Section route showed;

- East Queensland utilised the large straight forest timbers available
- West Queensland had rammed earth buildings along with stone influenced to its close vicinity to south australia and the nature of migration across the border
- South Australia utilized stone. Many stone homes and buildings were made of local sandstone, limestone
- Central Australia lacks large timber, seemingly had no identifiable style
- West Australia tended to utilize handmade masonry from local dirt and large timber from its Southern parts

The transportable fad of the late 1900's

Over the course of the century, with the changing nature of industry and the boom and bust nature of much of the resource sector, architecture has changed to express this. From an era of prosperity and investment in architecture, the trend generally in many remote towns has now reoriented towards transportable houses and dongas.

Due to the outsourcing of industry and production, new built architecture is a commitment unattainable for most due to regional allowances of up to 30% extraxv for materials, labour and transit. The inland is becoming ever more dominated by this transportable fad, a type of architecture requiring a minimal investment and commitment to the place, an economical option dependent on mechanical heating and cooling with a restricted life expectancy.

In Stop #16: Laverton, a local of 26 years advised us *"I have only seen one house 'bw!' here.. For our new house extension we've ordered a donga.*

Not only prevalent to central Australia, this type of architecture pervaded West Australian towns we visited. Stop #19: Useless Loop (on the WA coast) embodied this thinking. A salt mining town, dating back to the 1960's, comprised of temporary forms of inhabitation; dongas and transportables homes yet the time frame of 51 years speaks of permanence.

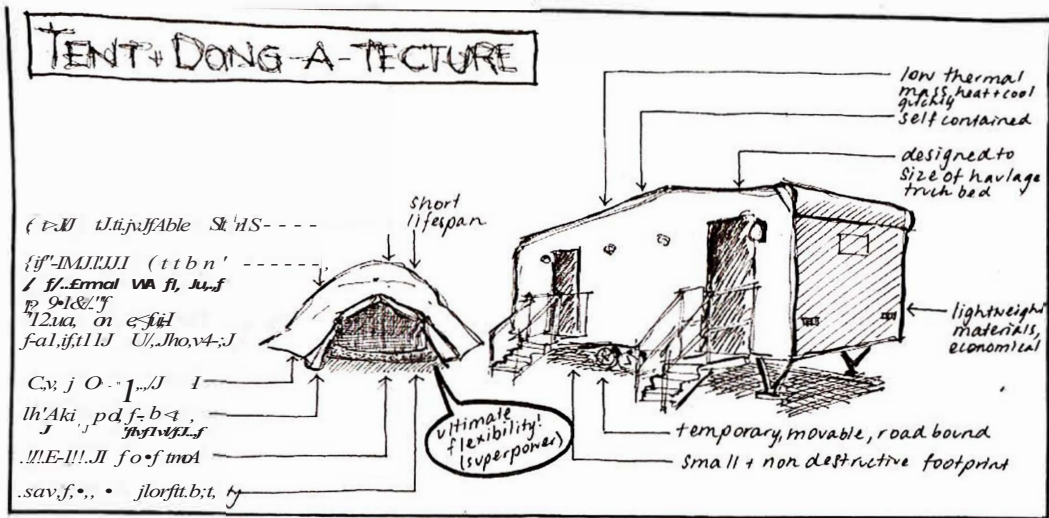


Image: Meekatharra Exhibition, analyzing the types of habitation throughout the town

Government housing for the Indigenous and lower socioeconomic is typically lacking

Travelling through towns and communities where government housing dominated housing types, we witnessed in most circumstance them lacking in quality consultation, design, construction and maintenance.

Transposed Anglo-Saxon typologies of shelter, community and living arrangements ensured houses mostly were not responsive to cultural differences and the Australian climate, many proving unlivable after years. Residents of the Wallace Rock Hole community we spoke to talked of their homes and the seeming lack of accountability for poor construction and maintenance. In reporting issues, they could wait months for a toilet to be looked at where tenant policies ensure residents are not allowed to attempt fixing and addressing problems themselves.

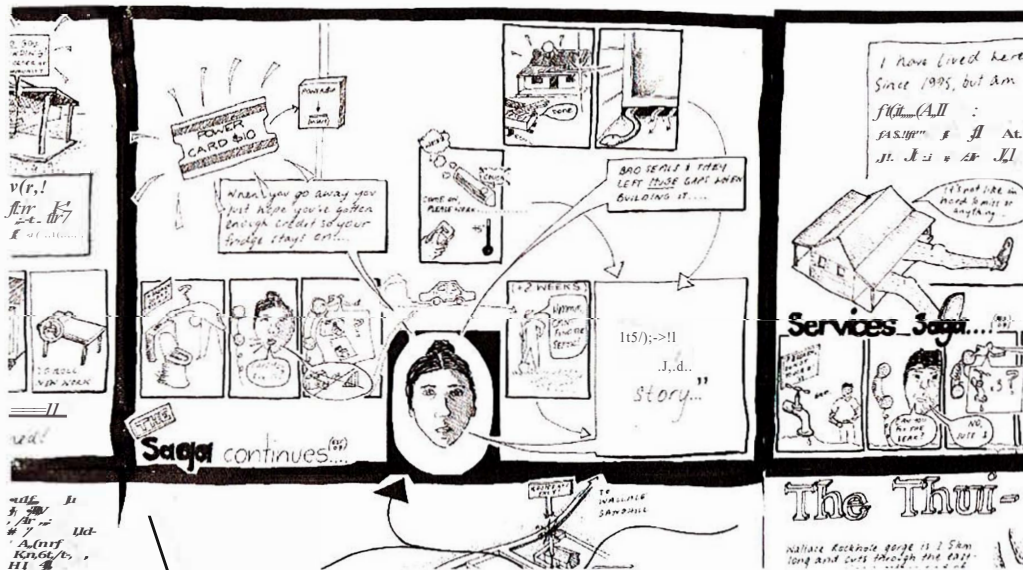


Image: Wallace Rockhole Exhibition documenting services sagas experienced by residents

Visiting the Mutitjulu community at the base of Uluru, Stop #14 we chatted to them at a pivotal time. They had just been granted a \$10 million allocation for the refurbishment of existing and construction of new dwellings. Questioning them on their ideas, architects in mind and scope to move forward with they responded with;

"/1 typical three bedroom house costs \$750,000, you don't really get much out of \$10 million. The designer doesn't matter . as long as WE are a part of the consultation.. "

Gary Cole, Mutitjulu community leader

There are known examples of quality housing such as that by Healthabitat, Troppo and Groome^{xvi} addressing such issues, we were unable though to witness or experience these. For the most part, the issue seems to become broader than the design of the dwelling, the management and maintenance of the dwelling from cradle to grave by the government is what is lacking typically leaving residents in subpar living conditions.

With the decentralization of services and shire responsibilities and government policy constantly changing, this changes how these people access their food, money, allowances and housing where the lack of consistency and change in implemented legislation sees service workers come and go with little work or results delivered to justify their inspection visits and maintenance checks.

Heritage listings are seeing the demise of grand buildings

A heritage predicament exists. Many of the grand public buildings, homesteads and houses of small regional and remote towns are hugely symbolic and integral to Australia's history.

Many are being encouraged into heritage listing, making them susceptible to becoming heritage items. Whilst the heritage status attempts to protect them from easy demolition or non-sensitive alterations ensuring authentic longevity, their venerability becomes almost self-harming. In order to use, renovate and maintain these buildings, strict guidelines have to be adhered to and monitored, which makes using these buildings complex, more expensive and disenchanting, impeding perceptions it can't keep up with the changing times.

Again in Stop #16: Laverton, The Coach House from 1901 because of its heritage significance has been vacant for many years with its future uncertain. The last remaining single storey hotel in Australia designed to incorporate an enclosed carriage way apparently has only five contractors in Australia who are allowed to work on the building where of course this comes at a premium cost.



Image: The Coach House, Laverton

The Place and People directly influence the Stuff (architecture)

Through these findings, it becomes clear the interconnectedness and more importantly the interdependence of the place and its people and how this ultimately influences architecture. It allows one to realise that architecture is not a stand alone entity. To analyse and document its value, effectiveness or place is to understand its context holistically, to understand the reality it exists in and what has been influenced by.

Bertrand de Jouvenel, the eminent French Political Philosopher, has characterized "Western Man". This in retrospect encapsulates the problems which arise from our broad disconnection from the reality of our country, people and slowness;

"He tends to count nothing as an expenditure, other than human effort he does not seem to mind how much mineral matter he wastes and, far worse, how much living matter he destroys. He does not seem to realise at all that human life is a dependent part of an ecosystem of many different forms of life. As the world is ruled from towns where men are cut off from any form of life other than human, the feeling of belonging to an ecosystem is not revived. This results in a harsh and improvident treatment of things upon which we ultimately depend, such as water and trees."

Bertrand de Jouvenel ^{XVI}

Relevance of The Grand Section

The Byera Hadley Scholarship has played a vital role in supporting *The Grand Section*, providing a validity and hence gravitas for auxiliary support and sponsorship.

The journey is part of a greater lineage of Australian pilgrimage, dating back thousands of years and part of a 50 year old endeavor to pursue the notion of Australian architecture. This contemporary lineage though, has had a gap for 40 or so years following Troppo's kombi journey.

The base line study that *The Grand Section* is, is of continuing interest and importance to me as a student, architect and educator, to ensure its contribution to the identifying of an Australian Architectural typology.

Future agency

The journey has proven immense personal reward. By informing a theory, making and practice of architecture and being, the journey has begun to acquaint us holistically with Australia, unveiling the realities of our own country and the potential of architecture.

An enriching journey most notably giving us skills, confidence and a direction for our own future agency, shaping the direction of what we believe are real issues surrounding an appropriate Australian architecture.

The Dogma & Curriculums

This research and conversation has further relevance to the architecture profession, wider industry and dogma, pioneering in a sense by uncovering what is largely unknown.

By stepping outside of the institution, challenging the doctrine and championing slowness to investigate our own country, we have realised there is gap in what is currently accepted as our architectural training. There is a gap between the education and practice of architecture, theory and actual buildings, there is a need for connecting with reality, not the perception of "good architecture" that floats somewhere between academia and a building.

In reflecting on our undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, we agree that the institution is meritorious in creating a platform for thinking and creative problem solving. Yet, wrapped up in the expectations and requirements of 'title registration' requiring architects to gain industry experience, little opportunity or incentive exists to learn about and understand Australia outside of the inhabited edge or contemporary practice of architecture. There is a need for alternatives to be considered in the training and birthing of Australian architects, where the entirety of Australia is the focus.

An important comment to make is that not one architectural scholarship in architecture is focused on Australia, all are for travel 'abroad'. Bizarrely, we are encouraged to look elsewhere for inspiration and precedent when, as a nation we have specific and quote unique design issues we need to be considerate of and design for.

As a student and young professional, I believe it is important to encourage the continuing of such a lineage of investigation.

"I encouraged other students to do likewise because without some self-evaluation it is difficult to know how to proceed in the future because I most sincerely believe to live in Australia is to be dominated by its landscape"

Australia's architectural identity | 1984 Gold Medal address, Philip Cox ^{xv}

Industry, Call to action

By observing and not redesigning" on our journey, we have allowed ourselves to come to terms with the reality of broader Australia. While the focus still remains on the cushy coast, there is incredible opportunity for agency that exists when stepping outside of the inhabited edge into the seemingly forgotten inland.

Big opportunities for creative and critical thinking (which architects are trained for) exist for huge sections of inland Australia where industries are dying and indigenous art and tourism are becoming over saturated compromising the identity of a place. The aspirational architecture of towns which once stood as symbols uniting communities are being left unoccupied, with the centre becoming pervaded by drab and thoughtless relocatable buildings. Contrary to most people's belief, work in the construction and architecture professions in the inland of Australia looks ever more inviting, there is a directness to life and architecture beyond the cities that is alluring.

The gravitas following The Grand Section we hope will reinvigorate conversations surrounding Australian architecture, within and outside of the architectural community.

"I've watched your movie on You Tube. I like the ideas and focus that have emerged from the trip very much - the field of action for architects in inland Australia."

Kieran Finnane. Journalist, Stop# 12: Alice Springs

<https://t.me/www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og59hhPSWinU&t=6s> (Link to movie submission for talk at 2017 Student Conference)

Recommended Reading

The literature references and readings we have been introduced to and found over the course of our education and The Grand Section Journey is something important to collate to ensure a comprehensive, open source and accessible reference list exists. These readings are concerned in topics of Australia, architecture, landscape, slowness and philosophy.

[books]

- *The Inhabitations of man in all ages* , violet-le-Due, Eugene-Emmanuel
- *Positional Doubtful* , Kim Mahood
- *The Biggest Estate on Earth* I Bill Gammage
- *Take 2 Housing Design in Indigenous Australia & Take 7 Housing Australia: How architects can make a difference* , Paul Memmott
- *Gunyah, Goondie & Wurley: The Aboriginal Architecture of Australia* , Paul Memmott
- *Songlines & Fault lines* I Glenn Morrison
- *Sculptures of The Top Ends* , Paul Pholeros and Marr Grounds
- *Dark Emu* , Bruce Pascoe
- *Housing for Health - The Guide* , Healthhabitat
- *Cities for people* , Jan Gehl
- *The Long Weekend in Alice Springs* , Craig San Roque's
- *Regional Influences in Australian Architecture* , Troppo
- *Small is Beautiful, economics as if people mattered* , E F Schumacher

[articles]

- *On Slowness & Slowly (improving) Vision* , Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects
- *Australia's architectural identity* , 1984 Gold Medal address, Philip Cox
- *Richard Lepplastrier's 1999 gold medal address*

Conclusion

The broader 'Australia' seems a little less unknown. Many preconceptions, assumptions and expectations have been enlightened by reality, all through the important dimensions of physicality and slowness. By being present, The Grand Section journey has uncovered a great deal about broader Australia, the nature of architectural principles and one's own self in which the institution could never teach.

Australian architecture as a typology has been transposed, yet it is a clear reflection of Australia's own history, evolution and forceful landscape. The built form has endured to be one of the best living symbols of a history otherwise unknown, interdependent and interconnected with its place and people, existing within a broader ecology. By learning these relationships, architecture can no longer be separate or analysed and appreciated as a stand-alone entity

A focused study across the girth, is no longer unprecedented. The lineage continues.



Acknowledgements

- NSW Board of Architects: Trustees Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarship
- University of Newcastle (UON), SABE & out(fit): support and sponsorship
- Metro Cycles Newcastle & Noel Macfarlane of Vivente
- Stuart Pinkerton furniture, Newcastle
- Derive Design, Newcastle
- Andrea Nield
- John Roberts
- Richard Leplastrier
- Adrian Welke & Troppo
- Every local and journeyman that showed us kindness and support and gave us their time

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- i <http://www.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/1301.0Feature%20Article32004> - How many people live in Australia's coastal areas
- ii <http://www.ga.gov.au/scientific-topics/national-location-information/dimensions/area-of-australia-states-and-territories>
- iii <http://www.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/abs@.nsf/46d1bc47ac9d0c7bca256c470025ff87/794d620169dd1a89ca256dea00053a6e!OpenDocument>
- iv <http://www.troppo.corn.au/learning-from-the-past/>
- v <http://www.marrgrounds.corn.au/1976-sculpture-of-the-top-end-1977/>
- vi Journal, Drawing on Drawing, David Holmes, Byera Hadley Journal 2015
- vii <https://architectureau.com/articles/philip-coxs-as-hook-address-from-1984/>
- viii <http://www.andrewharper.com.au/>
- ix Journal, Drawing on Drawing, David Holmes, Byera Hadley Journal 2015
- x Book, Manual of Section Paul Lewis, Marc Tsurumaki, David J Lewis
- xi <http://www.marrgrounds.corn.au/1976-sculpture-of-the-top-end-1977/>
- xii https://archive.org/stream/Understanding_Sustainable_Architecture/Understanding_Sustainable_Architecture_djvu.txt
- xiii Book, A pictorial guide to Identifying Australian Architecture, Richard Apperly, Robert Irving, Peter Reynolds
- xiv <https://www.thegrandsection.com/blog/2017/11/8/the-grand-section-guardian-017-stop-17-meekatharra>
- xv <https://www.bmtqs.corn.au/construction-cost-table>
- xvi Book, Take 2 Housing Design in Indigenous Australia, Paul Memmott
- ; [book] Small is Beautiful, economics as if people mattered I E F Schumacher
- ; <https://architectureau.com/articles/philip-coxs-as-hook-address-from-1984/>

APPENDICES

The 21 stops, Travelogue

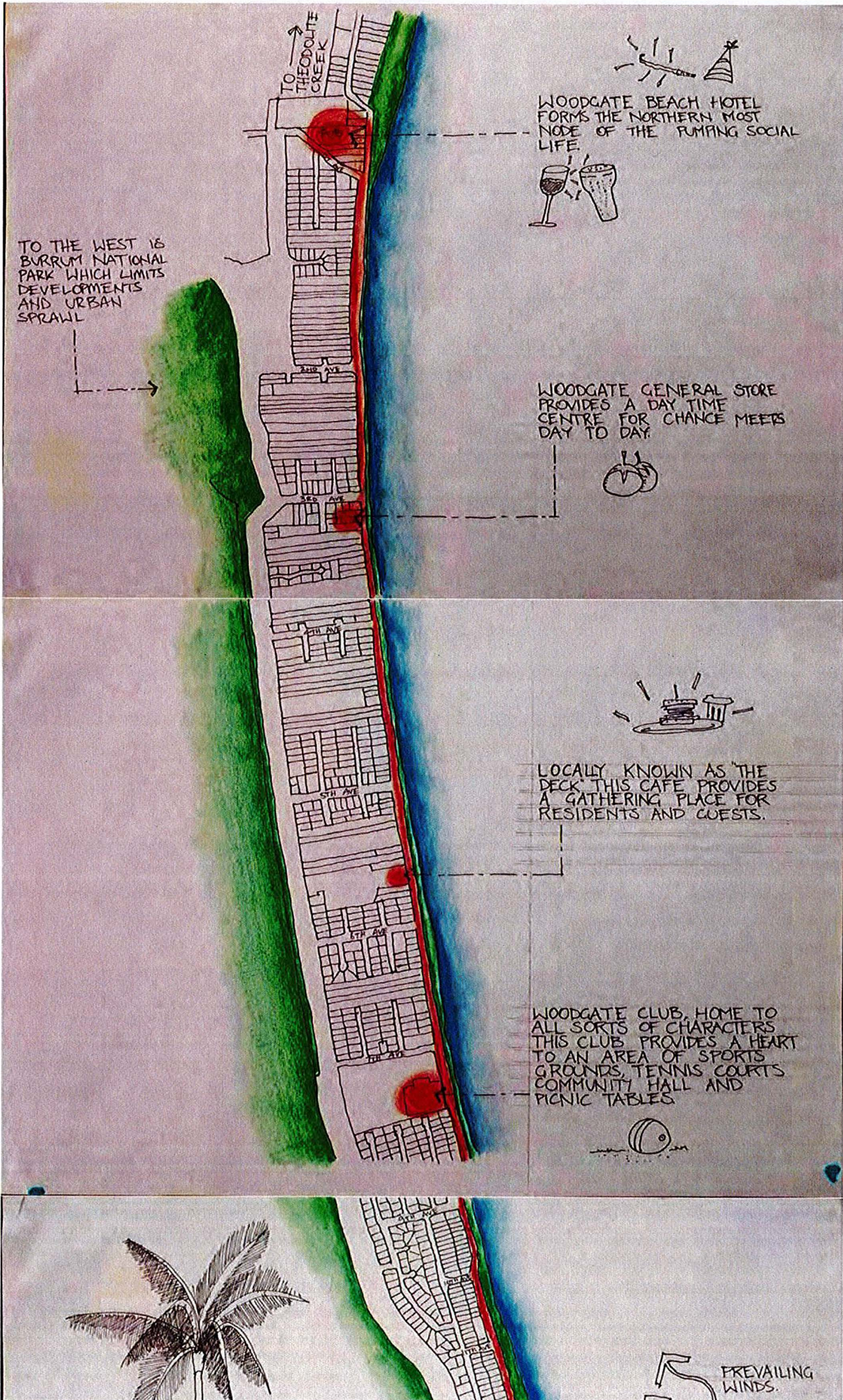
Slogs written enroute were a reflection of each stop through the hierarchal lens of *Place, People & Stuff*. Encompassing the analysis, findings and documentation respective to that place, the focus is more than just architecture. Intending on reaching a broader audience than the architecture community, these blogs were disseminated enroute following each stop through social media and email subscriptions. Each blog attached the exhibition content to allow people to be able to enter into and stay up to date with the conversation surrounding Australian architecture The Grand Section was creating.

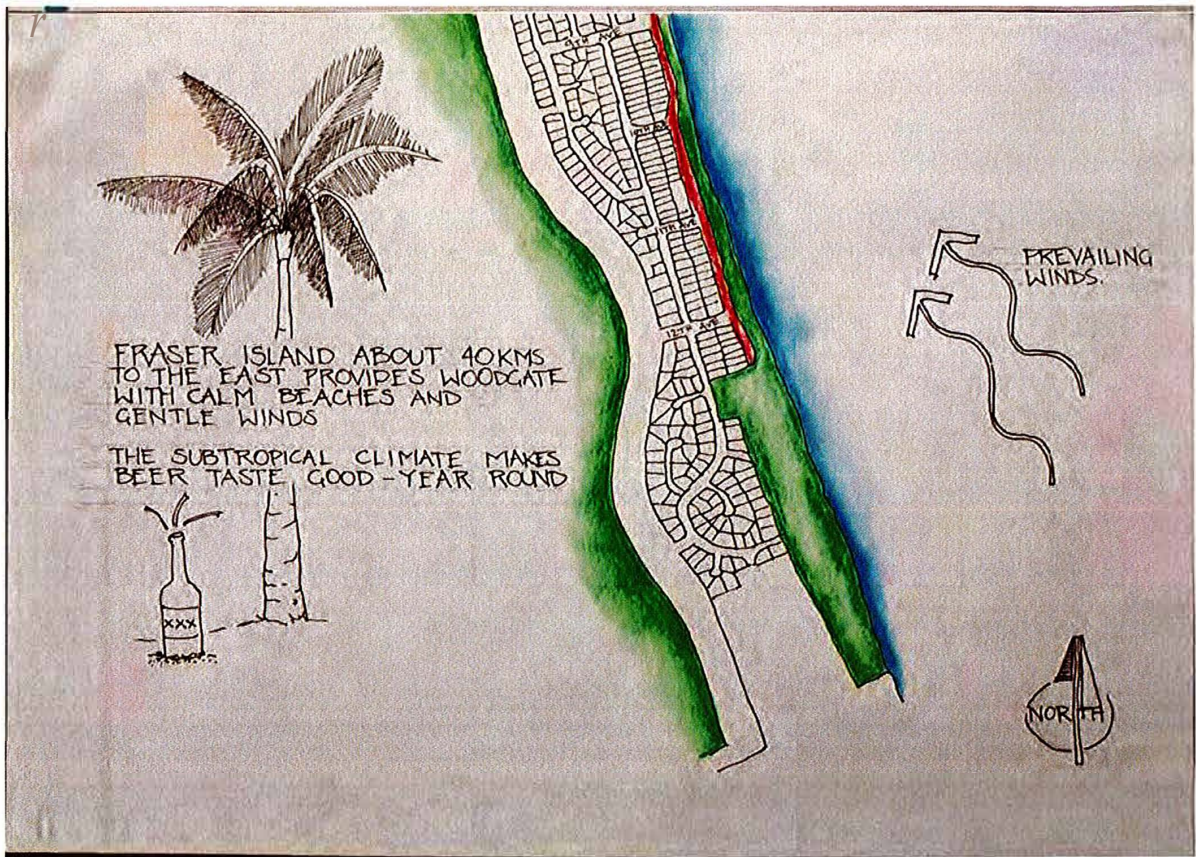
To view, share and download exhibition documents, zines and drawings please visit each blog at www.thegrandsection.com/blog

Stop 01: Fraser Island

25.02.17

Ow n was sure to note in his drawing. •The subtropicll climate makes beer t,1ste good -year round"





People

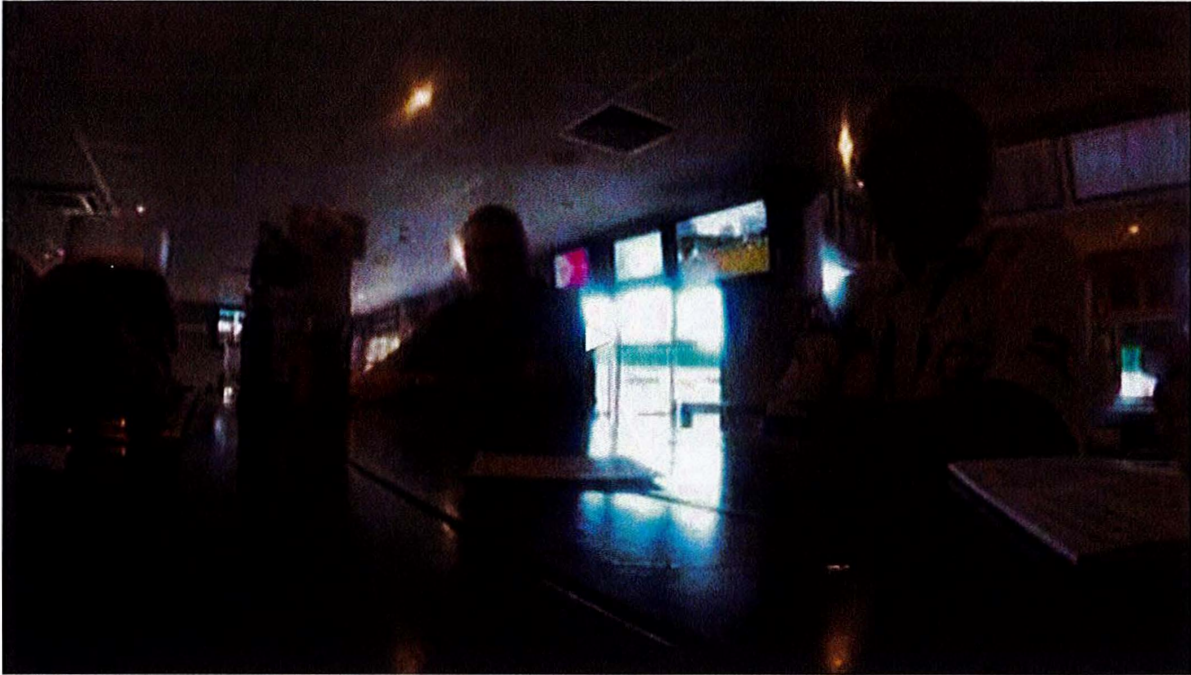
file median age is 61, which gives context to the slowed pace and lifestyle. The slowness is what it's all about.

The seasonal flux of people is one to mention. Resident population is approximately 1000, come holiday period especially Christmas and New Year's. Woodgate told us of our holiday boom of rent, but now you've missed it, population, once in a while to 3000 or so. It's just capable of withstanding when it comes to the weekend, noticeably a different dynamic. The Christmas period is a time to more than double guests than throughout the sleepover week. The police usually get out helmets. One day so were the 4WD's and eskies.

We met Vicky, the owner of The Woodgate Beach Club, a 10-acre park and long term Woodgate resident of 15 years. The man knows the place inside and out. Sitting in the Serenity (one of the long side of the managers he referred to) greeted me in their half-hourly routine. He showed us much of our knowledge of the place, people and buildings. He owns the two masonry houses located at the corner of the park, one a holiday home where he and his family live, the benefits of the slow life over time such as the front deck. We met Kirsty, a different generation and not being locals have an interesting perspective of Woodgate. They were quick to jump on board and give us a hand where needed.

Wayne Willey, a local real estate agent, one of the few whom we interviewed. He came to Woodgate about 5 years or so. First, he bought a house, then he started to build houses where people live. This not only comes from his professional work but his own house. He designed it by using a scale model that was left outside for a year to see if it would work as envisaged. He says he wouldn't change much except the size - he is looking to down size and down scale. The most residents of Woodgate are about 100 or so, but they are a mix of people. Some are good, some are not so good. Wayne says the most interesting thing is that although he tells us the beach is a look at the town. The population is that the town is a mix of people, some are good, some are not so good, and many for sale. Living is cheap, real estate is cheap, but no economy.

Andy, the manager of The Club, said he saw the sign to Woodgate and turned off. He drove in town, saw the beach and has never looked back since. Like most Woodgatians, Andy and his wife are very interested in the (lack of) pace, having always lived on the beach, the further north he gets the less the swell gets (perfect for getting older). He tells us of the town's patterns: The bowls competitions during April and October and the cooler, calmer winter months. July and August bring in "southerners" (for 4-6 weeks at a time), swelling the town's population, trade, social activity. The club has a membership of about 600-700. And maybe only 100 bowlers, clearly "it plays an important part in the community but not solely for bowlers." Andy also laughs about the limitations of a small town stating "if you cut your finger here and by the time it reaches the other end of the village you have lost your arm".



But if you think Woodgate is all a bit too relaxed. Check out these cheeky locals! Here another local Contest Alans comments on the negatives of presence at times of 'destructive' youth.

Stuff (Architecture)

'what Architecture?' we asked. Lacking a consistent style where emphasis is on functionality not aesthetics, with few buildings responding 'well' to the environment we noted the most important aspect to be the social connection • The low scale, front verandah where you sit of an afternoon and wave from or shout out to passersby's from. So there it is. our approach. To look at the edges of the 'living room' (The Main Street. The Esplanade) and the elements that make up the 'nucleation' and to understand how people live. we looked at use patterns, design principles and elements, materials and styles and made some recommendations.

There are social nodal points along the Esplanade that create social hot spots that pull activity from the otherwise sleepy streets. The Club. The Pub. the Cafe and General Store/Takeaway Shop share Woodgatians social routines. Limited variety ensures all options are used. The houses along the Esplanade act as a medium to continue social engagement: 'Hello', 'How you going?' and "you two are very energetic" sail from balconies, verandahs and porches to people along the street, walking, idling, or driving (slowly, always slowly!).

The town follows a design trend of clear style. the evolution from *midden* site. to beach resort has been organic. one can't help but think the fishing shack. slap it up with whatever approach is still in the laid back psyche of the town.

through our study we found that house designs were almost inconsequential. Poor ventilation. little or no eaves. planting almost non-existent. we don't want them to get in the way of the view, and orientation dictated by the view. In response to proposing to die 11 houses no, then we, we told it was too hot), show housing to be almost a late thought. The small scale, street verandahs and wide streets with buffering trees to the breeze indicate the prominent social connections that the town thrives on.



Exhibition

The bowling club Monday 13th at 12-8pm. The eldest 96 was playing Bolivia the entire time. The chawng and card banter come on hit me with something interesting. The back drop to our other theme exhibition with visitors few and far between. We're willing to go along. Instead of here we gave them a core on one presentation.

It was afternoon tea time. We had coffee with the half strength coffee. In hand we present part with a microphone to the group, the stood still for staff and stragglers. They were so interested with a confirming "YES!" and laughs at times to observations we had made or statements said. There were many questions before resuming cards. The exhibit had given much feedback and said we nailed it.

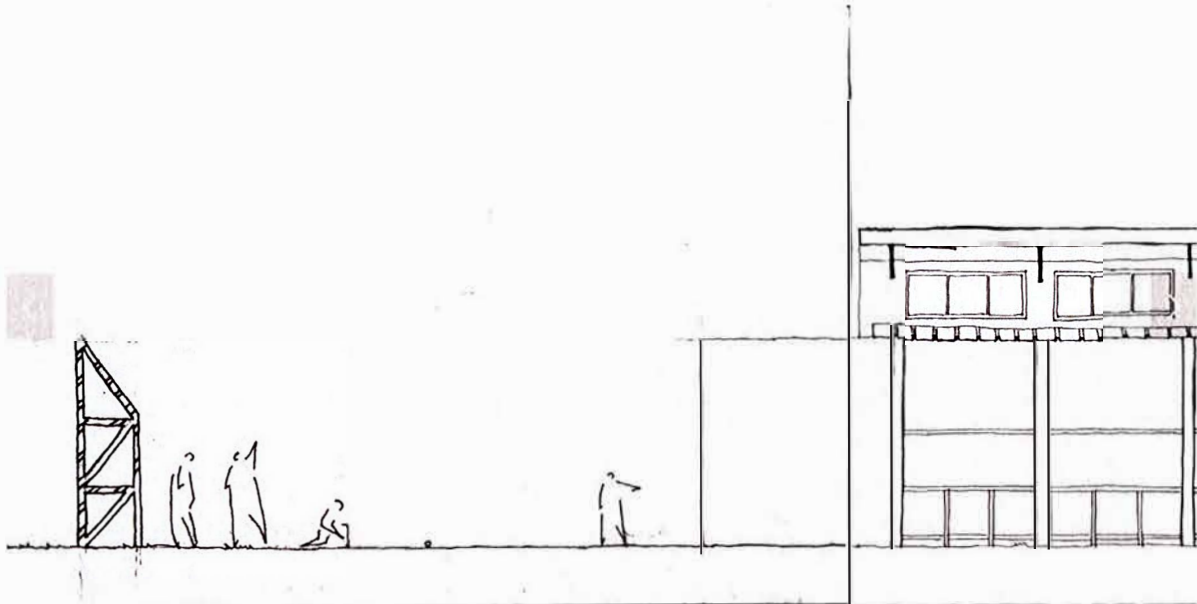


The highly entertaining Bolivia Card Ladies at The Woodgate Club. (One of their own shouts: "Okay ladies, this time we yell sex...giggles!")

As a response to studying the wonderful Woodgate, we came up with some recommendations,

- "Old" external shading which can reduce heat gain by up to 90%.
- Orient to allow for natural control sun and capture prevailing cooling breezes from the street and NW.
- Louvers provide excellent air flow which is also a good acoustic barrier.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and strong windscreens in front of the building to provide shade, windbreak, and privacy.
- Keep vegetation to the street to contribute to the overall appearance and to provide a buffer zone between the building and the street.
- Small "clever" design features in streets are easy on the eyes, the knees.
- Use the whole street; protect, extend, improve the sidewalk, create stops, provide shade, and provide a safe and comfortable environment.

It is clearly the most important thing to improve. The most important thing to improve is the local development and becoming more integrated; it's a key. This is a key to the fashion, one length of the wall. It's a key to the bold and more consistent headings with less format. So, towards the upward, the learning is the first step.



In Transit (in reflection)

Next stop Theodore. 6 days riding. Challenging terrain. The very uplull undulations awaited us. Little did we know the amount of culp, it was the tail end of The Burnett Ranges alongside The Great Dividing Range further inland. Travelling through Waka Waka country (area 10,700 sq. m) we found ourselves in Mt Peuy whHewe had a serendipitous happening at the pub. Meeting Glen an uncle of a friend of Owen's from Uthgow. his 900 acre plot hosted us for the evening. He gave us the local knowledge of the place and quad biking along the ridge line we truly were able to understand the rolling topography of the region and the overwhelming presence of logging. Onward through Eldsvold and the Burnett for 10 Wulih country (area 8,300 sq. km). a stay in the Boranra State forest water top up at Cracow and the mostly down hill, relieving stretch to Theodore. We learnt a great deal of the significance of the nomadic Fred Brophy's boxing troupes through the areas, the existence of 'Evolution' Gold mines (did again the multitude of 'dong.is' as housing! amongst picturesque landscapes. The power of the bicycle is proving itself, not only do we smell the change in country and hear the change in birds and frogs, we feel the moments of contraction and release in the topography'. tree varieties and presence of inhabitation. People shout from the road, "There is a big one coming up" and conversation is spurred immediately whenever stopped side of road or flopped in a chair in the town's main street. where are ya goin >.. Ya doin what! r.

Theodore. a part of the Banard shue. a town built on water and home to a 'communally owned' pub with everything feeding back into the local town- what a model hey? Stayed tuned for stop 10J.



Stop 03: Theodore

20.03.17

The Grand Section Guardian #005 - Stop 03, Theodore

April 6, 2017

Place

In the fertile lands covered in dense **Bricolow scrub**, bottle trees and prickly pear; low ranges rising to the horizon. The subtropical and sub-humid climate, with variable rainfall, provides relatively pleasant conditions year-round. At the junction of two water courses, the Dawson River and Casile creek is a fertile junction abundant in nourishment from both the land and water. We were told by a local elder this was a special place to the Wulli Wulli people. Being the traditional owners of this land: their country covered an approximate 8300sq km area. They would have fished and hunted porcupine, living off the banks of the Dawson River, and within nearby areas. Significant cultural and burial sites including caves with a four-fingered hand print and **bull crowns** (a male initiation site) exist in the local area where many artifacts such as grinding stones, rock axes, and flake and core stones continue to be unearthed, the local elders their custodians.

The 1920s irrigation schemes purpose built around the center. Theodore now stands at the junction and lies on the margin of the tail end of the Bowen, and Great Artesian basins. The Bowen containing the largest coal reserves in Australia with the Great Artesian Basin being the largest and deepest basin in the world. water held in a sandstone layer, and provides white fella's the only source of freshwater through much of inland Australia.

The geological and tectonic history of the region is complex with the deposition comprising essentially Permian and Triassic rocks, some 6-7 million years old, beneath the surface of the Great Artesian Basin. Coal is known at several levels in this region (these measures along with those found in the Hunter Valley are among the most important sources of black coal in the Southern Hemisphere) where metalliferous minerals are found on this margin of the basin also.

The extensive central plains and lowlands correspond closely to the Bowen basin as a geological structural entity. Resistant Mesozoic thick Jurassic, Paleogene, and Tertiary extensive tablelands, bounded by the Dawson and Expedition Ranges. This south central tableland slopes gradually to the south, in accordance with the structure of the Mesozoic rocks. Believe it or not, Castle Creek flows the opposite way to the Dawson River and is speculated as a last remnant of an inland sea. The Dawson is drained by the Fitzroy river system which includes the Mackenzie River.

History records show that while fella's were on the scene in the mid 1800s, mostly to buy their hands as cattle, sheep and growing crops. This initially took the form of a 30,000 acre grazing property called Woolthorpe that was eventually divided into a series of smaller stations such as Old Walloon and Camboon. As the plan for Theodore was developed these stations again had parcels divided into workers blocks closer to the town.

Originally controlled by the Queensland government, the scheme was administered by the state commissioner of irrigation who was responsible for the allocation of land, financing of the scheme, and employment of workers. Theodore had its beginnings in 1912. Legislation was passed by the parliament of Queensland for the construction of the Nathan dam project: a major irrigation scheme for the country. The objective was to become the urban and administrative center of the scheme. Land around the junction of Castle Creek and Dawson River was resumed where a total of 30,000 acres of land - the combination of dry and irrigated land, available for farming allotment under the scheme.

Applicants without experience and money could not be considered, because such persons would be burdens on the scheme, spoon-feeding them to develop a spineless community and dependence on the state. (In the green book, Theodore promotional brochure, 1926). The whole scheme was designed as a gravitation supply. But, until the Nathan Dam would be completed water had to be temporarily pumped from the levee, and carried by main canals and distributionaries to a waterwheel on each farm.

People

Lexie Beasley (nee. Dodd)

Local cattle stations, such as Camboon station, relied heavily on Indigenous labour during the war years and, as a result, enjoy a long and cooperative relationship with the local Wullu Wullu people.

It was the legacy of this station that in 2015, the Wullu Wullu people were recognized as traditional owners of the land with their 14 year native title claim successful due to the perpetual line of ancestry of local Lexie Beasley (nee. Dodd). Her great great grandpa lived here and worked on the Camboon station since 1919, she told us of her long history with the place and much of our as1011shmen1 showed us records of ancestors being 'removed' to missions under the Aboriginal Protection and Preservation Act at the request of fellow white colonists. This was often for much more than harmlessly drinking alcohol, often leaving children and family in the care of other family.

Just staggering.

We asked what the meaning of Native Title was to them and it means freedom of access to the local lands holding significant sites and burial grounds allowing them to hunt, learn and teach the younger generations about the land and its traditional way of life.

They showed us their growing personal collection of indigenous artefacts they personally salvaged, told us how much of a delicacy eating plump hibernating-ready echidna is and of some future plans on claimed lands. Bidding us farewell, Lexie warned us "look out for the junjad", the hairy and smelly man much like the boogie man that'll get us. A lovely safeguard well wish.



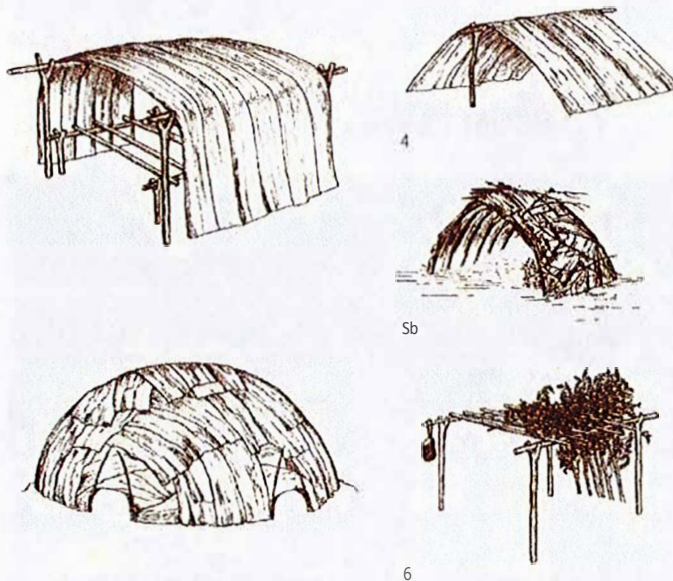
Lexie & Les showing us their personal collection of artefacts from the area - grinding stones, rock axes, flake, core stones and gorgeous red ochres.



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Stuff (Architecture)

Little is known about the Wullu Wullu dwellings or their structure however research suggests shelters using green supple branches covered with cabbage tree palm or flattened Ti-Tree bark (a type of Malaleuca) would have been used. The women built a small fire at the entrance of each shelter to protect from the cold and the sand fly. In addition many caves in the area also bore evidence of continued habitation.

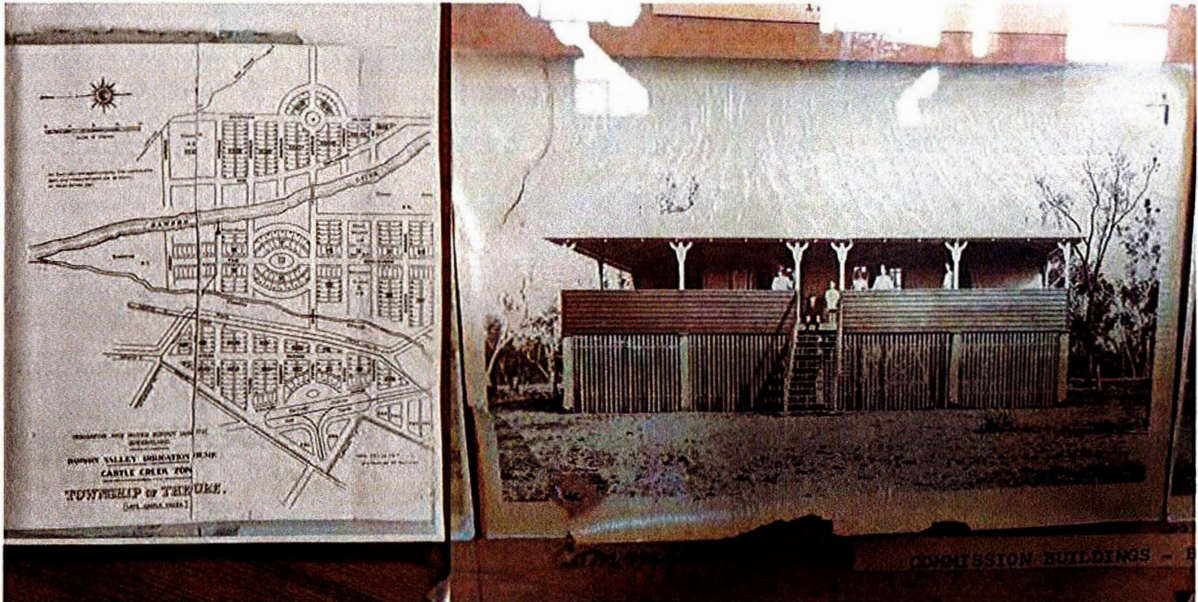


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The most distinctive element of the town plan is undoubtedly the main planning. The street layout is a grid with a central boulevard, the Bourke Street, which runs north-south through the town. The orientation and the arrangement of the buildings, the quercus trees representing the local flora, and the use of the Bourke Street as a connecting axis north-south through the town are symbolic of the town's history and its development.

Early settlements in the area, such as the Ross at Old Melbourne in the 1850s, consisted of small hut dwellings with timber and shingled roofs in large sturdy timbers with timber shingle roofs built over a raised stump bed log footings due to the rocky soils.

Permits were granted to settlers in the 1900s to build temporary dwellings during the first six months of the erection of permanent buildings. These temporary buildings were commonly used during the Gold Rush by miners and the built dual skin of corrugated iron roof to catch the sun and the inner tent structure to provide heat gain, allowing a breathable environment. We have been using a similar set up after seeing this. It's with three skins - working a treat.



The ground facades along the street are a fitting of planning controls from the 1920s. It was a rule that buildings were to be set back well back on each allotment. Leaving vacant space on which business premises or, more substantial structures could eventually be erected. This has led to a homogeneous streetscape with some substantial and aspirational buildings as a legacy to the development of pioneering Australia. These plots in town were quarter-acre blocks. City, Scotland, 1911.

The building controls were set on the style of buildings that the commissioner allowed, allowing timber for the town's main buildings, the clearing required by the street. The word we have made up: meaning with 'trandaahs. btt. LOTS or BV, with a central front ascending staircase. and setback. a respectable distance from the street where setbacks were given a 'plan type' to ensure consistency. The main houses of this dominate architectural style of the town, in the days of architecture despite the location and situation, or height over time. Aspirational buildings from the 1950s dot the 801, low, long, long from the street and functional in the case of gold leaf building of the 'Cott' Cott' Picillif' rleatle.

Exhibition, Sunday 26th March.



The Dawson Folk Museum, a wonderful old pump house from the 1950s, a handsome industrial building of stonework and pebbledash was home to our exhibition and presentation. Earlier in the week the volunteers of the historical society undertook the exhibits and cleaned the dusty room to reopen for the season we sat down to read and flick through the histories and documentation. We were lucky enough to coincide on the Sunday with the opening of the museum, the well-known "know your history" so had our BIGGEST intentional AUDIENCE EVER (about 50). There was a BBQ lunch and a great setup of tea, coffee, tables and chairs. Much better than what we usually offer.

Running late (due to our anti-rhynchonish exhibition) we sped down to the museum at 1pm. Everyone? Well, we were exclaiming "they're here!" upon arrival.

Whilst setting up, our audience of the well-known and the new, began to react to us to give our presentation, also our most eager audience yet asking questions and inquiries looking at our diagrams and preparing our Wikis.

Not a great deal of breeze passed through the mall, steel framed industrial windows during the presentation but all audience members focused intently on the entire show. Upon its conclusion we had great feedback and questions, a lot about the cycling and some about the presentation. Many of the local and businesses asked for copies of the exhibition to put on display including the Museum, they thought it fantastic.

We received our best feedback yet. When an old cockle for a farm in the old Owen (the winded up to open and said "I've talked to some of the other cockles and we are pretty sure the storms come from the southwest! We had dawn north east.

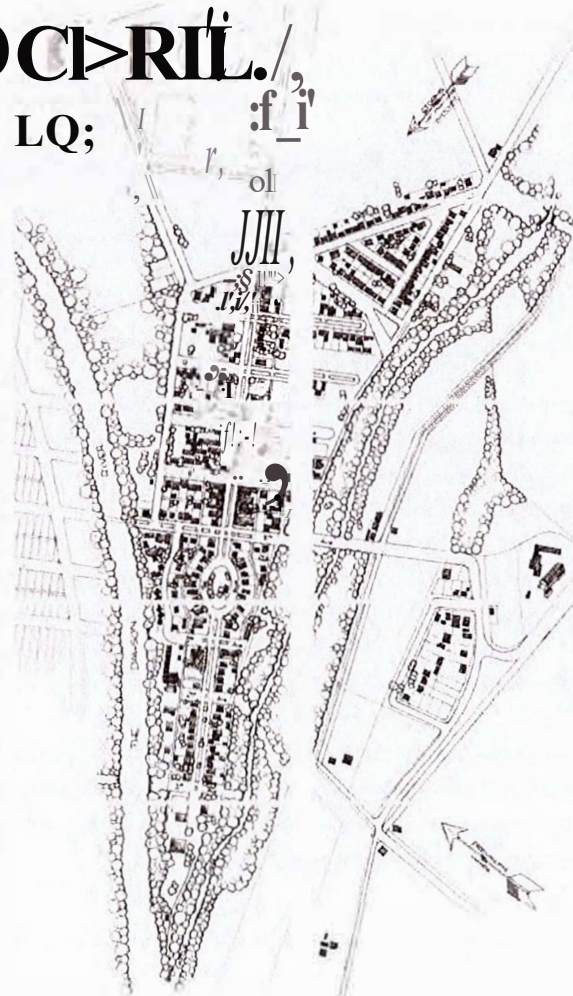
We commented on the contrast of architecture today compared to those who had initially responded directly to the place. Today being low to the ground, easy to use, filled with a lack of external space and protection from sun, wind and rain, increasing the ambient temperature of the house and the surroundings. Quiring architectural ideas for external cooling, a design to control built non-for-a-moment for, or, of the historical society, to the immortality? Look at the place.

„f!ECDD CI>RIÜ./ ARCWIT CT LQ; &fTU:i=

19 22 **THE SCHEME**
The scheme is based on the old layout of the town, which was a grid of streets. The new layout is a more organic, flowing pattern that follows the natural contours of the land. It includes a central square, a main thoroughfare, and several smaller streets that branch off. The buildings are arranged in a way that creates a sense of enclosure and community.

19 24 **EARLY DWELLINGS**
The early dwellings were simple, rectangular structures with steeply pitched roofs. They were built on the banks of the river, where the water provided a natural source of cooling and protection from the sun. The buildings were made of local materials, such as stone and timber, and were decorated with simple patterns and colors.

19 25 **HOTEL THEODORE**
The Hotel Theodore was a grand, multi-story building that was built in the late 19th century. It was one of the most important buildings in the town, and it served as a meeting place for the community. The hotel was built in a style that was popular at the time, with ornate details and a central tower. It was a symbol of the town's prosperity and its connection to the world.



19 27 **TRAIN STATION**
The train station was a simple, rectangular building with a gabled roof. It was built in the late 19th century and served as the main point of entry and exit for the town. The station was built on a slight rise, and it had a platform that was accessible to the public. The station was a symbol of the town's connection to the world and its role in the regional economy.

19 50 **A TESTAMENT**
The testament was a simple, rectangular building with a gabled roof. It was built in the late 19th century and served as a place of worship for the community. The testament was built in a style that was popular at the time, with ornate details and a central tower. It was a symbol of the town's faith and its connection to the world.

19 M **NEW MILL**
The new mill was a large, rectangular building with a gabled roof. It was built in the late 19th century and served as a place of industry for the town. The mill was built in a style that was popular at the time, with ornate details and a central tower. It was a symbol of the town's prosperity and its connection to the world.

20 00's **TODAY**
The town today is a mix of old and new. The old buildings are still standing, but they have been replaced by new buildings that are built in a more modern style. The town is still a mix of old and new, and it is a place where the past and the present meet.



Stop 04: Roma

02.04.17

The Grand Section Guardian #006 • Stop 04, Roma

April 26, 2017

Awml wind to say tile very least. Ascheduled week tu, ned to two quite quick /. cutting out the nett stop Cha1lev1lle. The Mandandan1I dta11 pe,son. Da11en, vath overwhelming enthusiasm and persuasiveness about the work going on dnd was able to convince us to play a pa, t 'n tren dreaming cefeb,ations. It's Gnyah get wild!!

Place

The town of Roma is a slowly growing town located at latitude 26°31'31.32" S and was the first S-CJzeted settlement following Queensland's separation from New South Wales in 1859. It is a county town, it is a source of natural gas and oil. Fertile alluvial plains made up of reactive black soil, a source of the Dungli creek that has been a food and water source for over 10,000 years. as witnessed by the Mandandan11 people.

In 2010 recent times these natural resources have seen developments in Gas and Oil extraction (coincidentally the site of Oz' first natural gas discovery) sheep and cattle grazing and tapping into the Great Artesian Basin that dwells some 550 meters below the town. Roma and many of the settlements west of the Great Dividing Range rely on artesian water. This being water, is trapped in underground reservoirs of porous, permeable rock, often at great depth.

Today much of the countryside Roma (often a result of land clearing) is timberless. other plants are timbered with bungalow. Myall, Sandalwood, Wilga, Whitebark, Brodiaea, and silver-leaf Iron Bark. Very little Cypress Pine. supplying nearby pine mills and hence broader Australia.

The climate is 'dry' with statistics showing April - September being the driest period of the year. Winter is said to be shall and cold. nights often below zero. As seen by the amount of air conditioners the real killer is summer. temperatures getting to a consistent 45 degrees. flies an erpletive inducing nuisance.

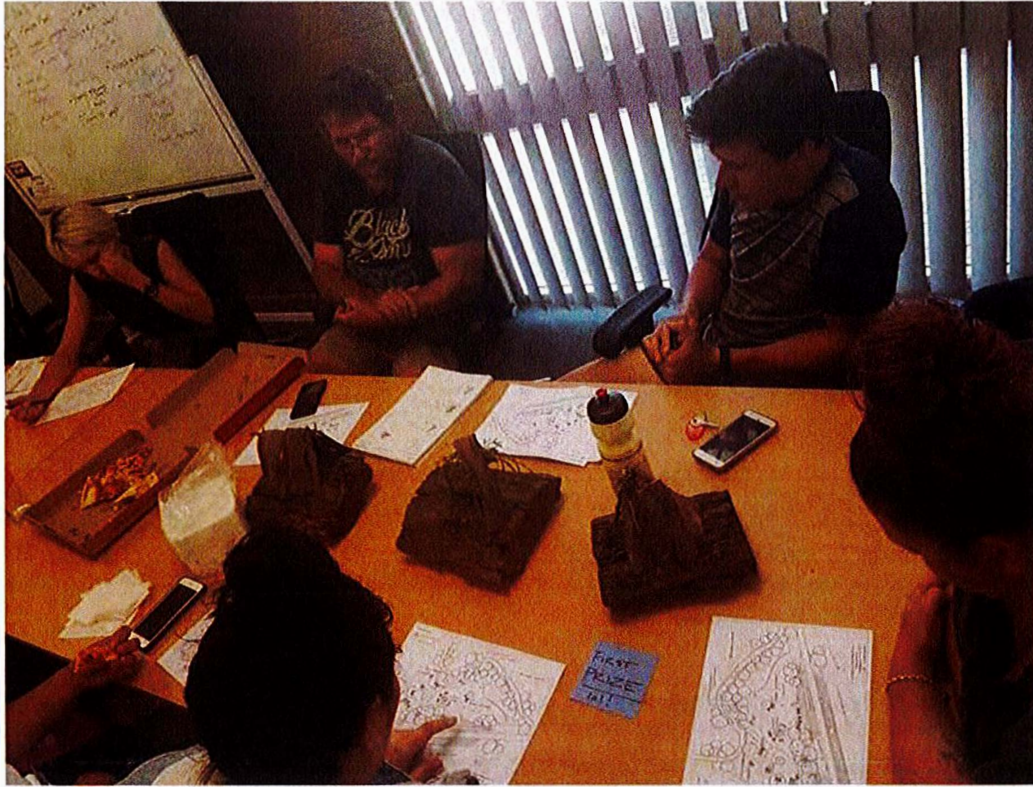
Roma, center of the Southern Cross is the commercial hub of a vast grazing area with the largest store cattle market in Australia. Once sheep, now as a result of dingoes and other factors the major industry is cattle. where the biggest Cattle yards in the Southern Hemisphere lie just outside of town and attract buyers and sellers from as far west as Alice Springs. Geographically, Roma exists in a pivotal place at a crossroads of the Warrego and Carnarvon highways. major transit routes formerly defined by Cobb & Co and probably aboriginal pathways. At this intersection, a north turn takes one to Emerald, south to St George & NSW, east to the Sunshine Coast and west to the border and all the towns in between. A place where long affiliated locals, new comers, foreigners and many generations of families meet.



People

The traditional owners of the land are the Mandandanji people. Today made up of some 4000 members. with 300 living descendants embodying 14,000 years of connection to country and a history, spanning at least 40,000 years. Mandandanji meaning 'fishing net people'. The Mandandanji thrived in the Roma area, away from the fertile Bungli Creek. and bit of coal pits in the significant, the old town of Roma. including Bor1, R111, Bw11 Sites and the 'Second National Police Districts. located on the beautiful side location between Roma... Surc't. some 86kms down south.

One can only imagine the butal1t1 t1c 'let's, vo,ic' of if they could talk. the National Police were federally funded Aboriginal troopers usually under the command of a white officer who were involved in the removal of Aboriginal camps who were the settlements. Over the first two decades of the Mandandanji, they were fighting for their title. The history of the butal1t1 t1c, pit1t, could11; odd considering all the swrow, ding r'obs 111\ 'bien' of the d. iims. The mob road, ly are tal. rg 11t11, e \Jth 'etc. onch.; for tenting d'it: '1 t11111 o'hc. pr0v1d1ng" 'g, ass loots' p1ese11n. 0'Pv ha, t' b11gnt 11-ques 01 t1e fut' und tte, u1 ort, 't1ad1n 01 CO, nllv, v1t' 1t-1t fh0j't'Cs 1n the p1p>1nt. -t 0 r h; j, ut o, 'i<. che'f' (f110C1t1 t'e'11H10nsh1p,; W(h,)S()f\), lth fl1t: no,;.



The excitement never stops when models are on the table!! The Mandandanji meeting room!

Stuff (architecture)

Roma's architecture is predominately white, being the case for many Australian towns. However, lucking on the chance to spend some time with the Mandandanji mob we thought we would take the opportunity to explore some other Australian architecture with some firsthand know-how on Ginyahs!

Ginyahs, also known as Wurhes is the term for shelters used by Indigenous Australians that varied in form and function depending on the climate, length of stay, season and available materials. Like whitefellas these structures were built around key resource points, generally food and/or water. Some huts used seven or eight structures a year which responded to the varying seasons and weather patterns.



.....

We were briefed on creating a Ganyah at Walkabout Park to stay as a more permanent structure and also to transform a car trailer into a float with a traditional Ganyah setting for the parade. So what's the best way of communicating with people? Why, models of course! Through research I & a quick response from the excellent P. Merritt Owen did a great job of recreating three different model Ganyahs typical to the SW QLD area. Made with twig sticks and bent bark on pieces of fire wood (kindly donated from the bank of a near by pub) they were shown to the elders for judgement and feedback. We returned with a post-it note stating "yillonee". The models although a bit small scale were an excellent insight into construction methods and material sourcing.



Of course we wouldn't go to all the trouble of making models and then forgot to take some decent photos of them.

The legendary uncle Duck then took us out to collect bark and forked branches from Box Gums, teaching us the not so traditional method of using a chainsaw to cut out the bark shape needed. Walking through the bush, he taught us of the plants, the trees and medicine and how this was knowledge passed down from his father and uncles. Now, to our enthusiastic whole families.



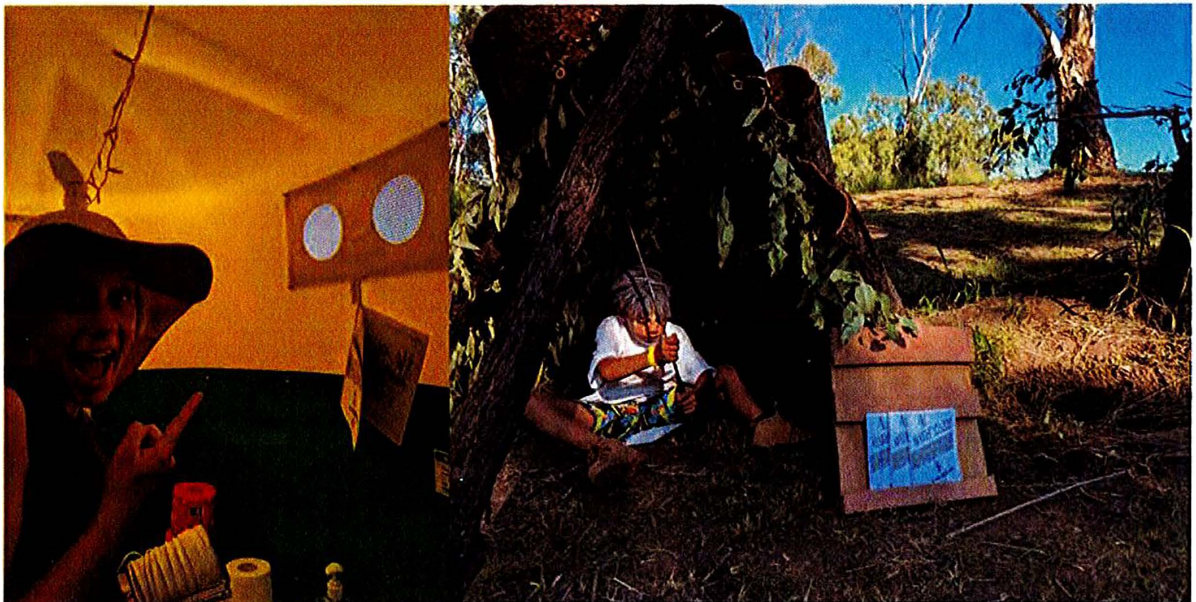
As with many of these towns, the public buildings hold an aspirational air where pubs are common place and of locals routines. The first three of the buildings erected in the town were hotels, before they built a single house. As per previous towns, older houses are predominantly of timber weatherboard and corrugated iron built off the ground, with louvre screens in verandahs as a response to the local climate; the black soil and climate. The "BIG MYSTERY" of Roona is what I've dubbed the "bushland bull-nose" pattern, known to Roma and towns up to 300kms west, the feature is a roof profile of bent corrugated iron. Only to be found in the profile of the structure unless it has at times has sagged under other ways. No one seen's to know this! ...tier. Of row, it, into into into.



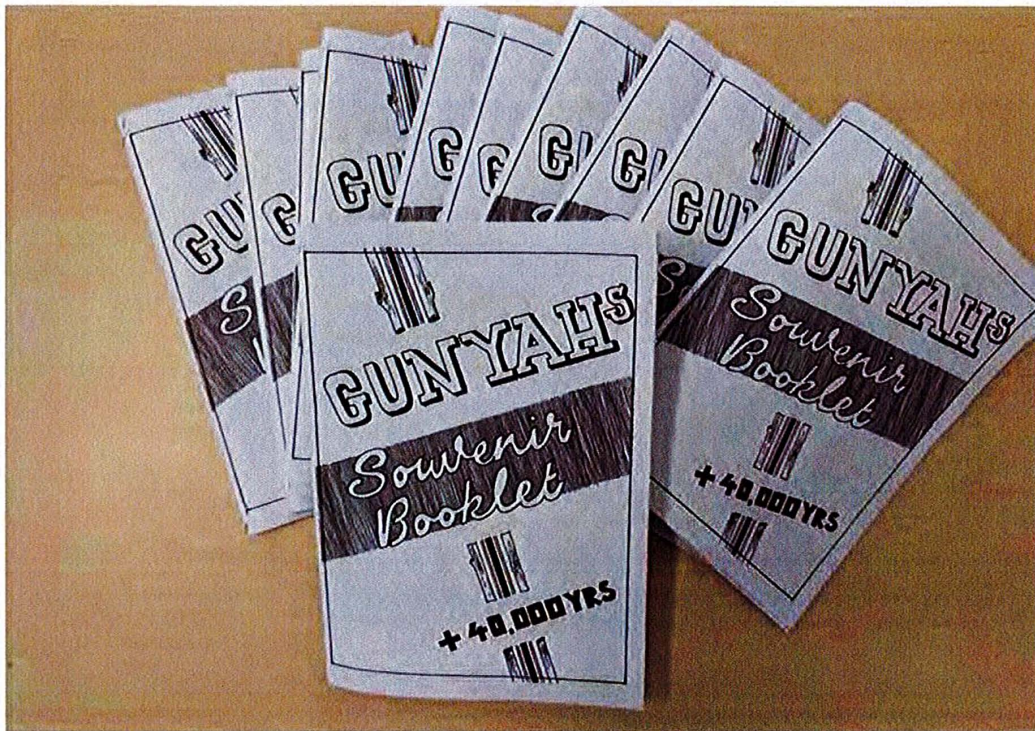
General Lot size, 300sqm with a couple told us this was a response to a common resident of a local place, having large cars, caravans, tables and the lot. The happy medium between a property and small town block. Gradually over the years, the identity of the town has changed. As many places, such as 2010 in response to the boom in oil & gas, quick, easy and cheap homes were built on artificial hills in a flood zone which is a result of the "blue-ribbon" district of town...oops. Little of these houses are brick veneer, but a concrete slab on the ground, regardless of orientation which of course are incorrect to the place: it doesn't respond to the heat of this climate heats up in the summer and radiates heat late into the evening while in the winter they stay cold and don't address the exact black soil. These homes now have cracked walls, sinking slabs and pavements.

Sustainability of materials used, timber, brick, concrete, steel, glass, etc. The use of timber is a good choice for sustainability of materials used, but the use of concrete and steel is not. The use of glass is also not a good choice for sustainability of materials used, as it is not a natural material and is difficult to recycle. The use of brick is a good choice for sustainability of materials used, as it is a natural material and is easy to recycle.

Exhibition, Saturday 15th April



The exhibition is a response to the local community's need for a space to display their work and ideas. It is a chance for the community to share their experiences and knowledge with others. The exhibition is held in a large, open space, which allows for a variety of displays and activities. The exhibition is open to all members of the community, and it is a great opportunity for people to learn from each other and to have fun. The exhibition is a great way to spend a day, and it is a chance to see some of the best work from the local community.



[Click here to download your Gunyah Zine booklet today!](#)

As a response to studying Roma and the indigenous architecture particular to the area, we came up with some suggestions:

- **Keep in mind the soil type:** black soil is reict,-e. Footings need to be able to accommodate the movement. Seen commonly in the Olde, buildings, the use of piers are effective.
- **Consider the weather;** design for year to year changes. Even different houses maybe?
- **Mind the flood zone;** understand flood areas and levels. Piers double as a response to this to raise the dwelling above expected water levels.
- **Shading;** to the north and west is common and required. Heat here can be unbearable. Keep the sun off external walls to minimise heat gain and keep ambient temperature around dwellings low!
- **Think about others;** when moving downhill, raising home up by building an earthen mound to avoid flooding etc. be mindful what will happen to you, neighbours with the water shed. The blue ribbon dsl, is unprecedentedly needed due to a new suburb built up, and redirecting flood water their way.
- **The bastardised bull-nose;** is particular to the place. Keep it alive and include it in your new design? Put it everywhere.

In Transit (in reflection)

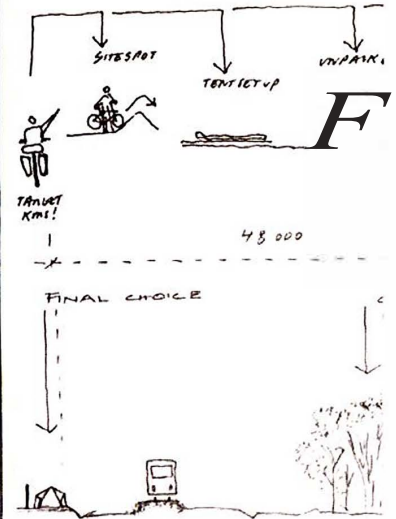
As we took the mob of our architectural cycling odyssey they all replied in their own way on walk about.

I guess we are looking for something interesting by doing. When we departed Walkabout Park David handed us a bunch of 81,000 bush. He said use it for Volf first fire. The green smoke will keep the mox away and it will be a smoking ceremony. When you leave brush away your footprints to keep you, spirit, you on the trip.

We rode in the morning onto the fifth stop. Quilpie some 78kms due west along the original Cobb & Co route. Estimated seven days, but being accustomed to covering more ground, we arrived in five. About 260kms west we were on the edge of the sprawling riparian corridor in which we inhabit. where the dirt quickly goes from brown to red. trees and plants are of a different kind, notably pines, acacia. Shade more sparse and thinned, rocky soil and large light, of shade, ground don't even listen to, roach, when he tells you it's 100km is that. It's a little bit of a...

Many say there's nothing in the red centre; maybe it's that we are still partially on the edge but we don't and continue to do many things. Animals... live differently. Maintained fences maintaining man defined boundaries. dingo fences meaning, a neat, tidy, civilisation, a vehicle in transit, and things little life fall through, or food and shelter out tent. Either a result of increased fitness or easy terrain. The latter most likely the last day hosted our longest distance covered yet. 120kms. A stack on Bobbie's back saw her over the hill, a little battered and of perfect timing, as conveniently, police, pulled up a lot long after. Her reply being "e'll be right on, ceweget to the puhand hve d..."

And so, here we are in Quilpie, for a pub feed and a beer as reward.



fd1teo by the fank15t1c Jen Richa,ds

Cheers.

Duøtyø fhüsy

Stop 05: Quilpie

24.04.17

The Grand Section Guardian #007 - Stop 05, Quilpie

May 8, 2017

R&D drill, and the piercing sun beat down. Flies and menaces. Water always in pairs of the convoluted. Average annual rainfall is around 12 inches. Average evaporation is 18 inches upon the surface, in basin rainfall. "The 100% no water restriction." A baffling conversation.

Place

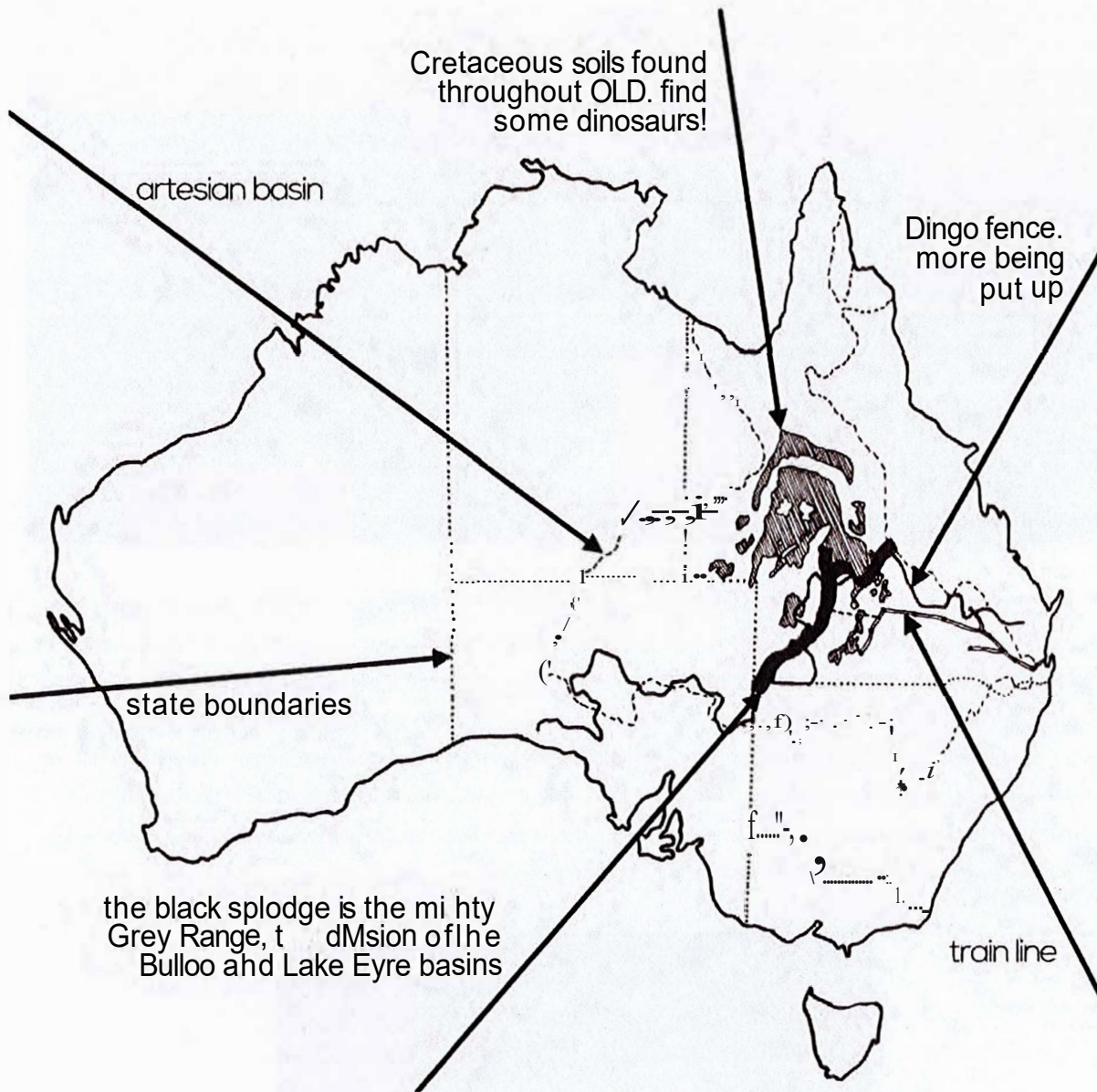


Originally the junction of four indigenous language groups, the Wadjalangi, Ngandangara, Puthanara and Maranganji according to anthropologist Norman Tindal. However, this settlement was established by European scholars. This settlement zone belongs to the same indigenous tribes living and hunting in small groups and walking in the area.

Today bottled water is only supplied by the lift source. A thick, sticky, and hot sludge, out of the ground. One must use cooling fans, in the roof space, or the speed of the high off the gas, and hold the hot water close, not kill the trees and the ground. The bores are drilled 1000 feet deep. The holes fill drink bottles and direct bore water to the dunes, through the pads, five hours to clear the pipes of cool water, the heating up. Told by an old cocky. The old bore came out of the ground 300 below the ground. The water is cooling wicks, 1100

Surrounded by large properties of unfathomable size, the main industries are grazing (it is strong sheep and cattle country) and council road maintenance. However the sheep are under threat from dingoes and lack of pasture, government and superannuation funded 'exclusion fences' are a saving answer. On the coast with our comfortable lifestyles, superannuation looks very different. We were told by a local many years ago statistics showed for each beast, 40 acres is needed. Today, apparently not much has changed.

Opals are present and the landscape is predominantly flat and rocky with breakaway topography from the Grey ranges to the west of Quilpie. Or, as Owen insultingly queried one of our incredible hosts, "what are those pimples there for?". Those "pimples" define two water catchment areas; on the eastern side of the watershed, is the Bulloo river catchment making its way into vast swamps aptly named Bulloo Downes, west runs to Lake eye...eventually. Minimal old growth and large timbers are present due to the semi-arid climate and lacking nutrients of the clay soil. Genuses of acacia are more prevalent than any other tree, we're told they're some of the hardiest. Mulga and Gidgee are two species in particular where their shape funnels water toward the trunk and the elongated needle leaf are small to ensure minimal evaporation.



The Layers of Quilme: Migit? should be invited comma

Today Quilpe i, OfiUllSIK ;,JUVll it; fulu1e, m ybl' QG C1pt1111bic 111 , , , , , 1 l1nd dEvelOfine11t Uy (*JUll(tl w s [tit,IE-d ,S a two :,) mE -Jt?., Quick BUY NOW!

People

Peter Stutchbury had said to us before we left, "they're the most generous kind" in reference to farmers. In view of the people we've met and the reception we've received, we concur. The generosity continues to be overwhelming: from "Why don't you come home with me!" at a l?ring 1V>ksr1,,r ro. "w,:vf: got ii (011g,11n the lilJ('l',,r(l wo1f1 V,(1 like {) SUV ltl rhal" a,1J "f.))UJE-, Whill Slll: Cir, _di(' '/l)l' in S Jrrhn-?, irrf attire to wear to The Centenary Ball. Country hospitality is like no other. Being the week of Anzac day and the Centenary for the town we experienced this great sense of community and character.

We have admired, and it is particularly noticeable in the women, the multiplicity of roles these people play. From mothers, farmers (**invisible farmers**), caterers, business owners or workers and active community members it wasn't unusual for us to hear in eloquent English with pearls around ones neck and handbag in hand "I best go put these licks out".



Lyn is a local artist who captures the landscape and its vivid colours magnificently. We were both astounded at the amount of oranges and reds she must go through in her work at Eagle Gallery. Having a hugely popular studio/gallery attached to the family home she plays hugely active and integral roles in her community, during the centenary celebrations we witnessed it all. We had the privilege of gallery sitting for her over a few days during that frantic time and the amount of old locals calling in for nostalgia's sake just to be reminded of the specifics of beauty in the Quilpie landscape was astounding. Her ability to capture and resemble so much, we are in awe and hopefully one day our drawings may harness some of her greatness. Husband Jack is a man of all men. A retired mining registrar throughout the local opal fields he has an intimate acquaintance and knowledge of the land. just as an old cocky would. Chatting about Coobe, Pedy, we commented that it was like the Wild West. Jack with a knowing smile said "It is the wild west".



The wonderful Lyn Barnes, amazing artist and great lender of suits! click on the image to check out her website.

During our stay it's the centenary celebrations for the town. bustling with many non-locals. John, & Gail Stafford, they are so, so interesting. We were happily entertained at the rum and raffle night SLNise Anzac day ceremony and, needless to say, have been one of our biggest supporters. He introduced us to the first time to the way of the grey nomads, a happy lifestyle, and social activity of the lifestyle. He has done many things including being a part of the Home Base which is a lovely village to suit those living this non-adult lifestyle with all the large sized bars and bobs, associated.

Stuff (architecture)

Indigenous architecture used traditional timber structures from creek lines to make domes, structures, and other things (and other things, in fact). Sometimes a mix of clasp and glass windows set back from the main domes provide a sheltered area for the hot sun. ... or try to get windows, light, and air, which would work up there, rather than sell what you've got out there. It's not to say that the architecture is not good, but it is, in fact, that Gonyah's ain't got style.

The lack of large, straight timber is embodied in Mobile woolshed, now in the hands of the 4th generation of the historic name: Rutledge. Structural timber forms a basic orthogonal skeleton on the interior of the shed. No trusses and the like. Typical of such sheds, corrugated iron sheets are then used to span this minimal structure. Rolled into arc forms against the corrugations, the sheets become self-supporting and are fixed minimally to the timber structure. What a great lesson in the utilisation of minimal structural material.



In contrast to this was the Mobile homestead, it is a living oasis amongst the 60,000 acres of red dirt. A few generations ago Brian Rutledge's father dammed the river in parts and so the house exists as a part of a stimulated and healthy ecosystem. A dwelling which has evolved over years having a section relocated there and added to over the years, it was reminiscent of an English manor with broad, generous screened-in verandahs for living in and north-facing deciduous vines with a bucket load of tree shading around.

Certain themes are becoming very prevalent in these towns the further we head west. Habitation dictated by location, water, heat, cool and the economy.

These places are kings of adaptive re-use. The old Quilpie hospital built in 1922 was split into various components and has since been turned into five houses and a Golf Club! With a lack of or the expense of skilled labour, materials and transit, the answer is to move already existing buildings, bring in demountables, dongas or old buildings from afar. Many houses were moved from nearby Adavale when Quilpie got a train line and became the administrative centre for the shire. As a result of this, approximately 90% of houses are raised for transport or put-down. Timber is preferred, masonry is rare and transit is cheaper than a new build. A notion we aren't too familiar with in our coastal habitation.

Before there were buildings to be re-used, the original white fella buildings of Quilpie had an aspirational quality, something we are beginning to become familiar with. The first two-storey timber building being the pub with generous verandahs and although it burnt down, is known as one of the great buildings in the town's history. Old public buildings such as banks and hotels are dotted throughout the town oozing beauty, tradition and history. Some of the only masonry buildings in town.



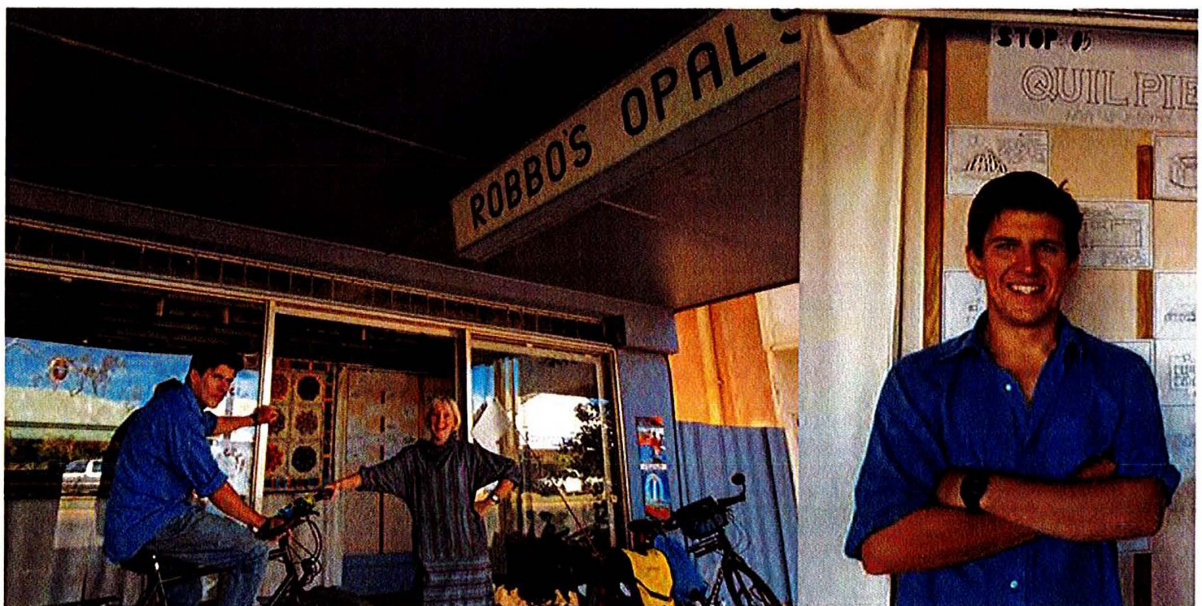
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More noticeable the further west we travel is the presence of 'Gey nomads'. Usually a caravan of campervans is common sight. They are either permanently on the road or on 11-month long adventures. It is not unsaid that these folk are keeping the country towns afloat. Their value is recognised in the town economy and vitality where dump points are integrated naturally amongst public parks and areas.

The social aspect is huge for the nomads. Prevalent in habitation throughout history these vans tend to create a circular buffer with a fire and social point at its centre. Instead of traditional wagon fares or (Logg's mobile fortifications) in the circular form holding cattle and horses at its centre to protect against raiders and animals, it's to make sure everyone has a prospect of social activities and the habitual 'happy hours' from sunset onwards. Most interestingly these temporary camps are dictated not by resources, which has guided habitation for millennia, but are purely the result of leisure. A fascinating new paradigm. One of these evenings we provided the evening entertainment by picking bulbs out of all of Cliff's clothing, taking pictures and laughing they loved it.



Exhibition, Sunday 30th April



As I report: 'Robbo's Opals', is displaying beautiful quilts by local legend Elaine. I hosted us and our exhibition on the Sunday following the quilt picnic earlier in the year. I think that's the reason for the success in the street once the downtown bakery closed at 12. The space is small, but it was perfect for the job.

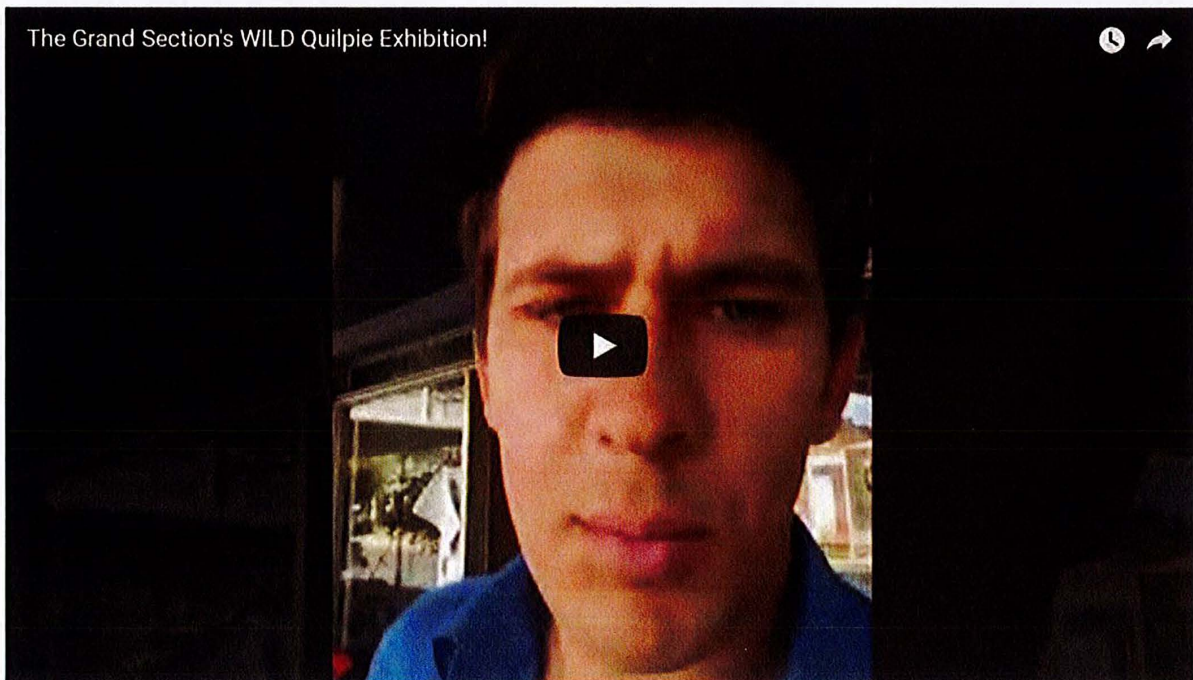
Showing our Gonyail zine (ii winning format! from stop 04:ROMA. Memmott, book on Gonyah's. and oul work for Quilpre along with tea. coffee and n1IcIowave baked cakes we had some great locals pop i1Iadmire the I;unlorous 'Arc/>1:Ms' and give us stories of then; that's the gold we're after. in doing these - the cIneedotcI stuff. The power of a slutty drawing to get someone Wk11g Is a111Z11g

Our QuilpieArc/Ji•bits was initially an attempt to document 100 bits pa1ticulM to Quilpie influencing habitation. we ended up with 22% of the word and a fourfold increase in socialising. The bits ranged from cooling tanks to exclusion fence,. homesteads, caravans and wool sheds. A broad range but a great lesson and reason for being in each.

As a response to studying the "archi-bits" of Quilpie, we came up with some suggestions:

- **Hot & Corrosive water;** are attributes of the only water available. Cooling tanks are required where easily defined, and accessible services for maintenance could be a good idea. Over flow and excess water treatment should be considered.
- **Dust;** is ruthless. Consider ways to minimise wind carrying dust through the use of grass/plantings and trees, good seals, orientation and effective landscaping eg. dirt mounds.
- **Movable & Adaptable buildings;** are,; common answer to construction. Materials & labour aren't readily accessible or cheap. Buildings are often brought in on trucks so prefab, longevity and transpo, I-ability are concepts to keep in mind.
- **External shading;** to the north and west, along with large verandahs is common and a good consideration for keeping sun off external walls hence lowering ambient temperature and heat gain. This lowers dependence on mechanical heating and cooling.
- **Design for the heat;** is something you can't put aside. It can get very hot, and cold. Consider capturing breezes and cross ventilation, even evaporative cooling. High ceilings with generous shading, thermal mass and south light along with two skins could be very effective considerations.
- **Nomads;** are valuable to the community and support the local economy. Considering their presence and keeping them in the town is healthy for everybody. Consider good, accessible public amenities, dump and fill up points with clear signage. Good camp sites lure them in.

Using the format (zine) we have found most valuable to display at following exhibitions, you can download your Quilpie dose here:



CLICK HERE FOR YOUR LITTLE MAGAZINE FIX OF QUILPIE "ARCH I-BITS"

Go on, go to "iO!" boss as p,ev,olrsly mentioreo. W-;f: s11- ,11>c: „ppreat<: the whole colleu,on b, t1e time Western Australia conies M0(1r>d

In Transit (In reflection)

Windorah is a town 214km North West of Quilpie.

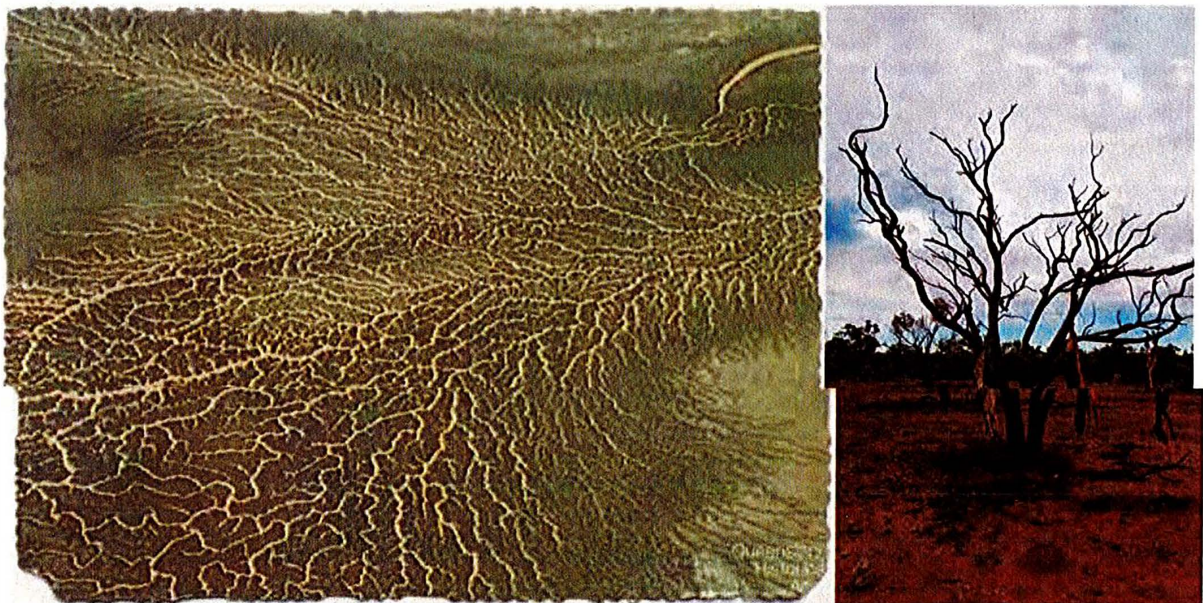
Convinced by the locals that one "MUST" go to Eromanga, we had left a little late to make it to Eromanga before nightfall where about 40km out we saw a car coming towards us with lights flashing. It was John Shadforth and his intrepid band of Grey Nomads to come and save us. They gave us a lift in four (just as a special) Quilpie, us dinner and Lee's Hoorah (we certainly didn't feel like we deserved it after only 60kms).

Eromanga is home to the largest Dinosaur fossil site which was discovered about 90kms from the town on a station by a local family. It is the very family who have instigated the Natural History Museum hosting this amazing discovery and other megafauna. Approaching the shining galvanized shed looms large and obtrusive in the red bush setting and as you walk into the spacious and raily inside you question the 'validity' of this "museum", this was of course very different. An hour soon turned quickly into three hours with us baiting the obliging staff with questions delving even deeper into millions of years of history. The staff were passionate and knowledgeable where the museum is no typical 'lifeless' one.

Here one is guided through prepping workstations covering dinosaur bone from day. Seeing shelves of casts yet to be prepped, and a Holotype collection room which is usually tucked away in the back of archives. It feels like a very 'countdown' way to experience such a thing and that's the beauty of it. Feeling that you were part of a team working on an exciting project. There is life in the work ahead. Funding the restriction. What an inspiration!

The country in this area changed so rapidly. Dense low Mulga scrub gives way to vast open spinifex plains that are dotted with cattle and very occasional shearing shed. Heading into 'channel country' we watched a storm roll towards us for over 12 hours on the North West front. Gwirling and lashing bringing channels up further along. Small dips through channels dotted with the vibrant green of river gums. Small trees in drier areas grow multiple trunks, allowing them to direct water and a better chance of survival. Small rises appeared to become sparse. Rocky plains came and went as they became replaced by red sticky clay soil. Only to give way to rocks again. Random solitary hills lose form from the plains and vanished again. It's quite a sight.

We arrived at Windorah two days after leaving Eromanga after a long 150 km stint in. Rewarding ourselves with lots of chips, gravy, bread, butter and beer.





A bit of an action shot at the Quilpie Ball. Spirits are high for the next stop!

Edited by the wonderful Jennifer Richards!

Cheers.

Dusty & Timmy

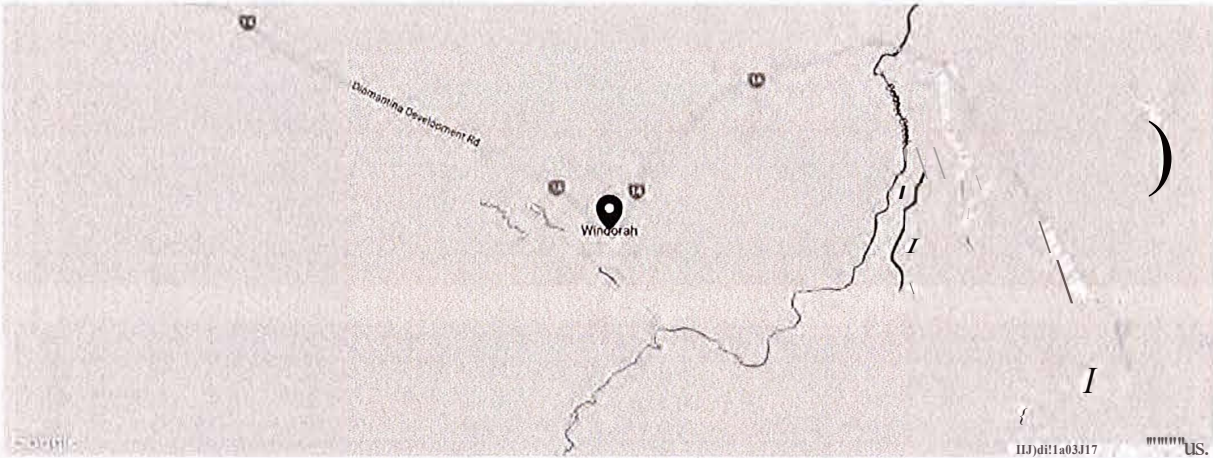
Stop 06: Windorah

05.05.17

The Grand Section Guardian #008 - Stop 06, Windorah

May 20, 2017

the smallest town, yet some of the biggest thinking. Indigenous elders, artists, teachers, people as usual wearing many hats, playing many roles. The stark white ghost gums seem unique to the place, a beautiful contrast to the blushing red earth.



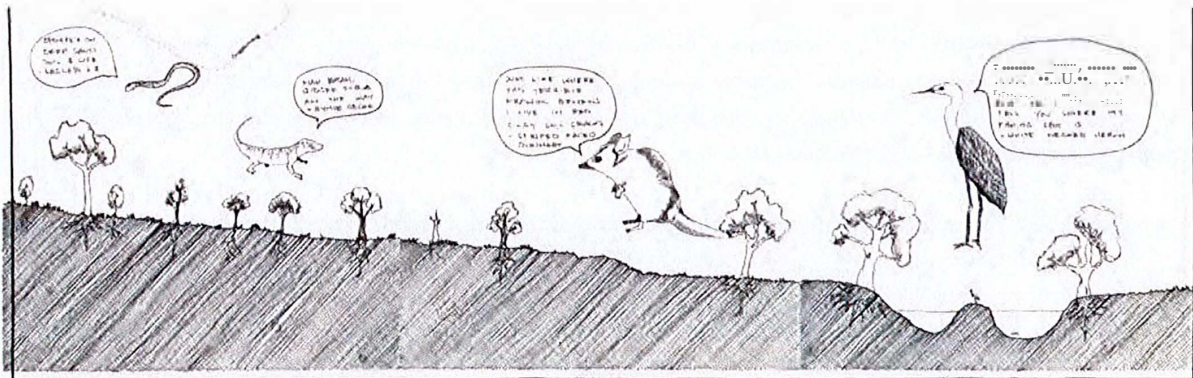
Place

Windorah, an Aboriginal word, "Big Fish", dubs itself the 'hem of the channel country' and is a deceptively fertile place in water and out. At the junction of the Thomas and Barcoo, two rivers for the Cooper's Creek, which is the lifeline of the channel country and part of an ancient plain, between the Flinders Ranges and The Gulf of Carpentaria.

When in the Cooper's Creek can span up to 100kms, acting as a natural irrigation system for the country. It is the best cattle fattening country in the world. The sweet country is largely nutritious. To the west, red sand hills to the east, the black wattle, hanner country.

Cooper's Creek is home with gum, a shrub common in the area of the hammers, and often of the Coohban tree, that provides plentiful shade: a welcome refuge for camping and animals. White-necked herons, fish, and many mammals for the day.

The town of Windorah is situated 10 kilometers uphill from the main channel. The Cooliberrys, gums on the riverbank give way to flat open, herb-lands, with a variety of shrubs and grasses growing. It is an open, grassy hilly area upon deep clay soil, with a flood. Red sand hills are a good guide to the woodlands and the sandy hills that form the town site, snugly above the flood here. Eucalyptus, Mulga and Spinifex, are.



COOPER CREEK SECTION

The section from Windorah (left) to the Cooper's Creek showing the variety of vegetation and geological changes all in 10kms.

Unlike all of the other towns we have visited, flooding is welcomed and in fact depended on with the town just sitting out of the flood zone. "There hasn't been a good flood for five years", but when the water does come the land flourishes. It is said to be an incredible sight where herbage shoots up quickly over the heights of cars.

Gazetted in 1880, white industries were, sheep and cattle, now moving into oil, gas and tourism as part of the future economy. Road maintenance and a caravan park extension form the backbone of the local work load.

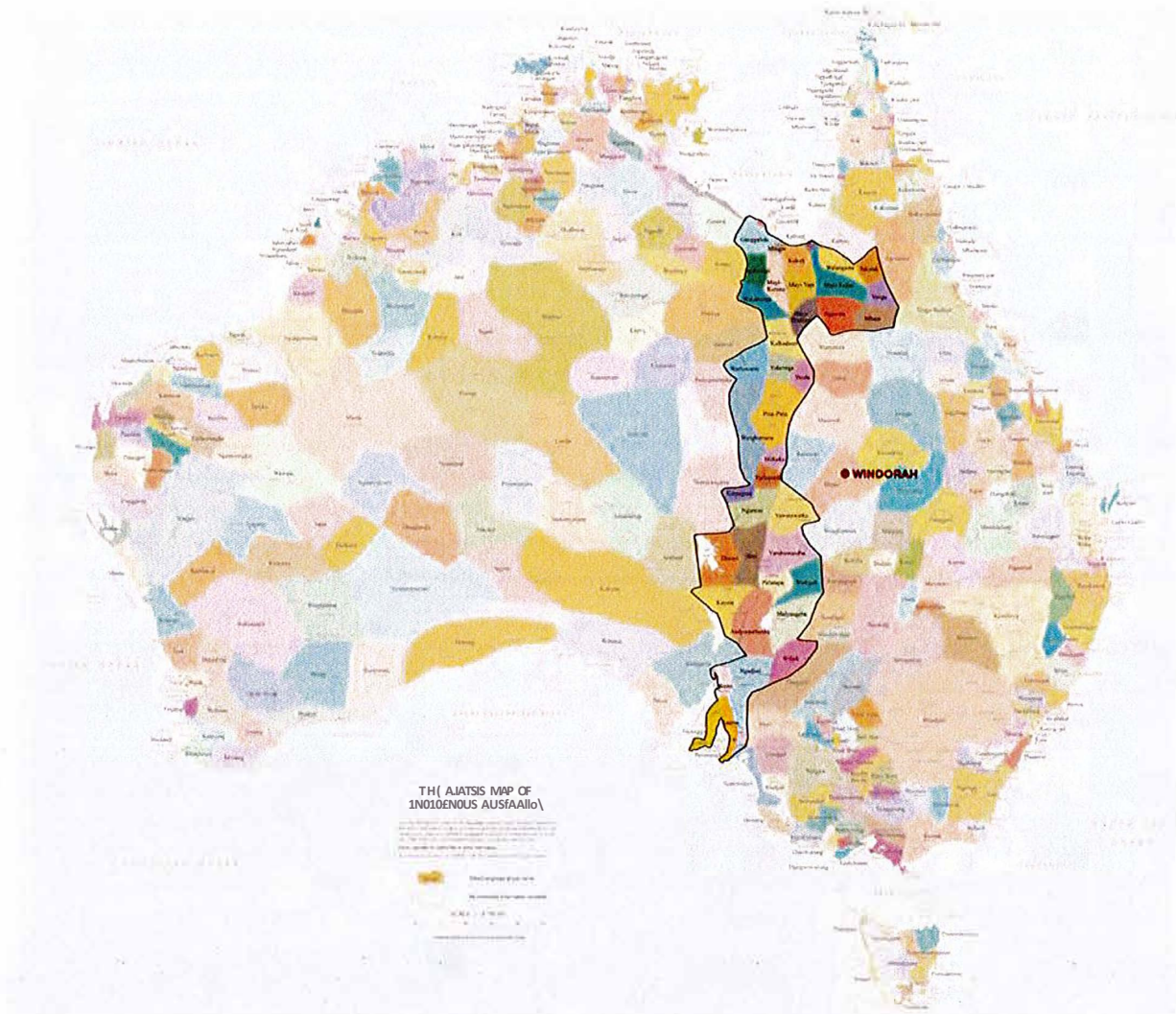


Figure 1: Aerial photograph of the Windorah area, showing the location of the Mithaka people's traditional lands (indicated by the red circle).

People

The Mithaka people are a traditional Aboriginal Australian people of the Windorah area. They are a small, close-knit community of approximately 75-80 people. The Mithaka people are the traditional owners of the land. They are a traditional Aboriginal Australian people of the Windorah area. They are a small, close-knit community of approximately 75-80 people. The Mithaka people are the traditional owners of the land. They are a traditional Aboriginal Australian people of the Windorah area. They are a small, close-knit community of approximately 75-80 people. The Mithaka people are the traditional owners of the land.

The local indigenous tribes of the Windorah area were not in fact the Mithaka people according to the Norman Tindale map (below), it was part of the Birria peoples land. As a result of massive displacement to missions as well as a trend of indigenous mobs clearing out overnight if they suspected they were to be taken from their land (from interview to Indigenous Elder Alice Gorringe from June 2000) the custody of this part of Australia has come under the care of the Mithaka people and their native title determination.



Upon arrival, we were cold by the information center that the cops were looking for us, luckily we didn't have to cut and run, merely a check in. Rob, the local cop, was a constant source of information and support for our stay. Rob and his wife Victoria were incredibly generous to us, paving the way for us by making introductions to the various people of the town to give us an insight into their houses and minds/knowledge of the place. These connections in a place are invaluable. The locals seem to connect other locals talking that investing time in us is a great idea. It really is fantastic to witness processes evolving on architecture over our week stay in a place and their learning of principles to employ to improve their living spaces, comfort and impact on place.



Local Police Officer, Rob and his lovely wife Victoria pointing out where we went wrong, Owen is laughing because he hasn't seen it was his spelling yet

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the walls are a fantastic 300mm thick lending itself to a cool interior

PIS-E-CAKE



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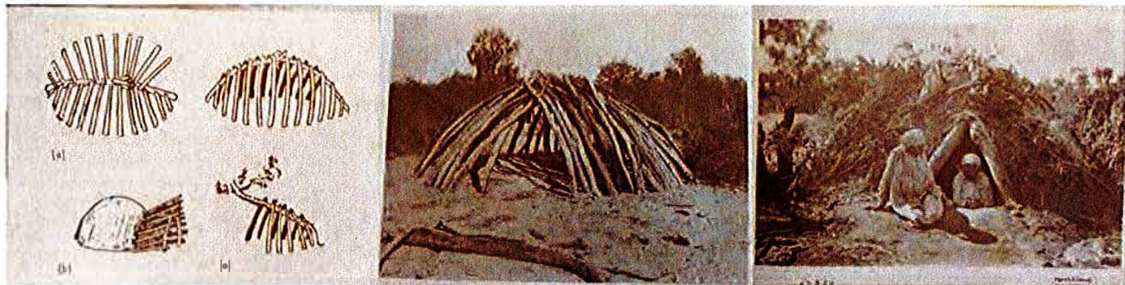
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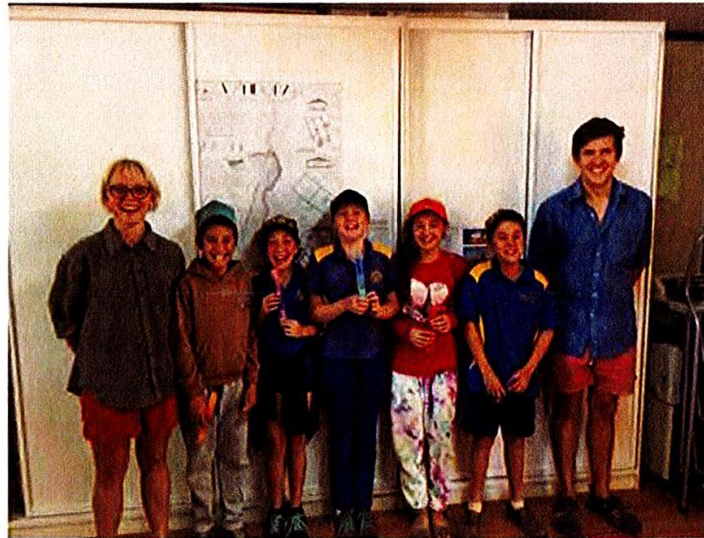
IMPORTANT!

This construction method was once common throughout south-west Queensland and Note Boiling fat used to seal the

... ..



Exhibition, Friday 12th May



Children and staff at the exhibition, Friday 12th May, with the author and other staff members.

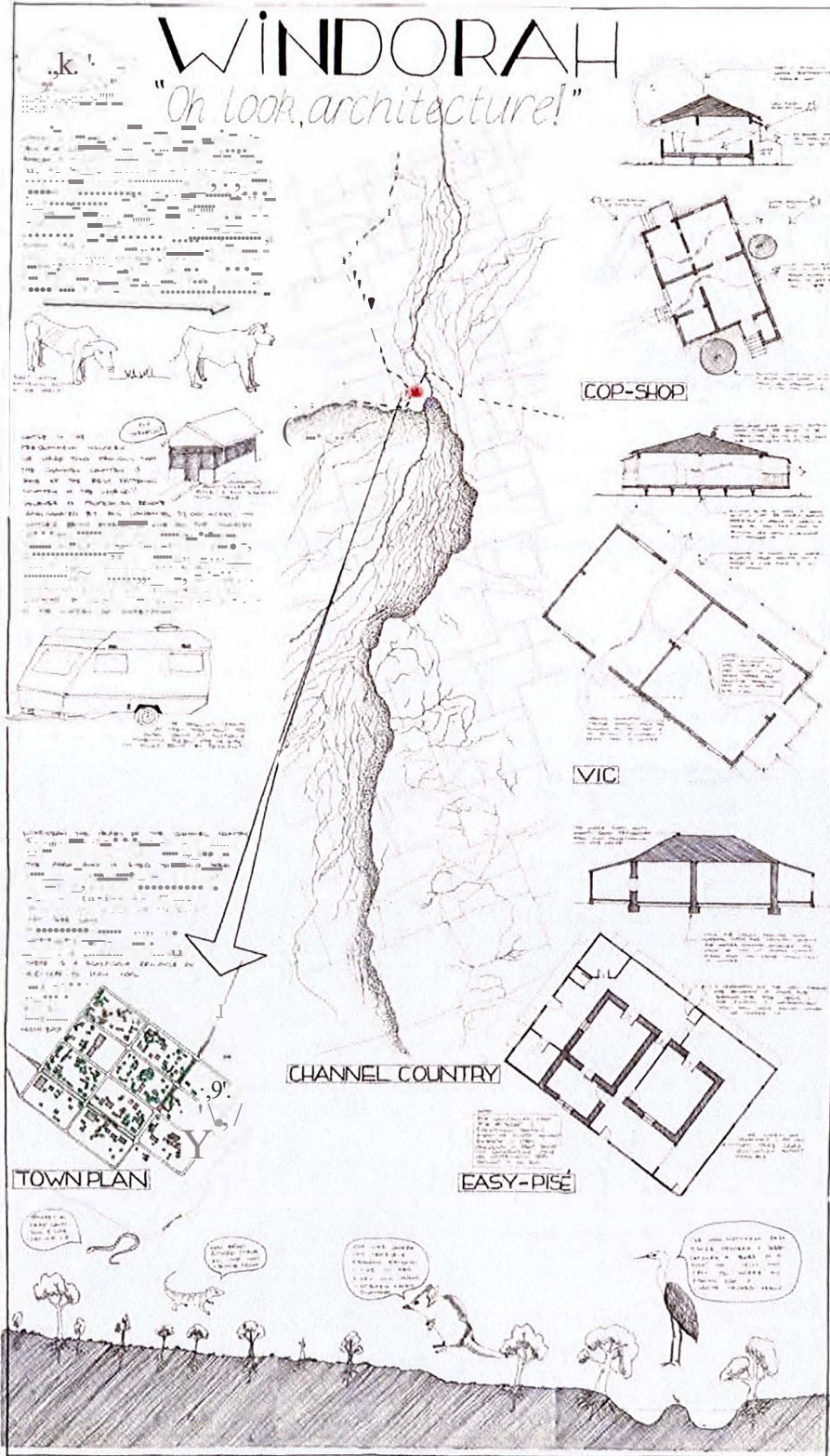
Wanting to work with the local school children, the lack of a blue card prevented it so instead we invited the school along to the exhibition time with zoooper doopers (fantastically artificially flavoured ice blocks) as incentive.

What a great experience to have to re-orient ones thought and habit of communication to present to a younger audience. Although the kids didn't have a clue about 'architecture' (who does) we talked about the architectural history of Windorah starting with the Indigenous Architecture and the use of a fire to warm the dried mud, they

Although in a simple format, the locals enjoyed the content, giving great feedback about the buildings we had analysed such as "they also used to boil up cows hooves and horns to reduce them to get the gelatin for binding". A lot of the information featured was brought to their attention which they didn't previously realise, where our 'proposed house' featuring principles we think suitable for the place was received well. Featuring a "bring back the Pisé!" comment, George thought it a fantastic idea and one that makes sense. The local police officer is keen to experiment and build one!!!

WINDORAH

"Oh look, architecture!"

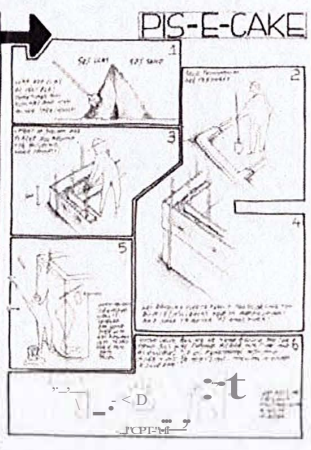


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The following is a list of the buildings and structures shown in the plan. The names are written in a stylized, handwritten font.

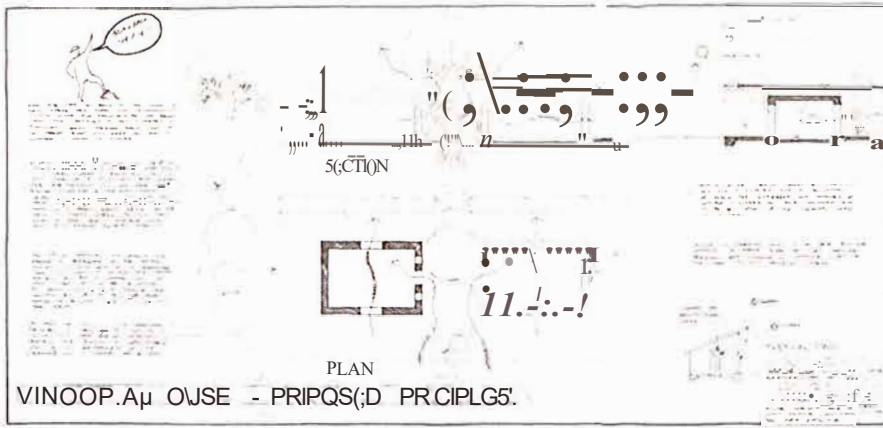
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The following is a list of the buildings and structures shown in the plan. The names are written in a stylized, handwritten font.



COOPER CREEK SECTION



We even took the radical step of proposing building principles that we think could work for the harsh but wonderful Windorah climate. This aims to use the thermal mass of the... se to regulate... initial... HUI... S... r... du t... a... n... t... n... p... r... t... s... ,... l... h... p... l... a... r... t... i... r... ,... n... s... s... l... e... y... I... E... d... u... -... U... I... E... (... l... e... c... t... i... r... g... w... i... t... h... t... h... e... f... l... y... f... o... o... t... c... s... \... :... I... d... s... p... l... C... ;... d... e... outlons... r... u... u... c... t... o... ,... p... e... s... a... l... d... s... ,... t... h... e... r... c... o... n... t... i... n... u... o... n... o... f... t... h... i... s... i... n... g... t... i... l... '... h... o... e... I... l... '... o... u... t... o... f... n... i... t... H... a... t... k... \... W... t... ,... r... e... l... i... e... t... i... o... n... \... H... a... l... m... T... h... e... ,... I... d... e... H... i... D... e... a... ,... I... n... l... e... l... i... n... H... i... l... y... v... i... c... i... t...)... t... o... s... i... /... I... l... l... e... "n... of being able to have a tangible building to have discussions around, with locals dropping in throughout the week constantly informing and changing our direction.

In Between (In reflection)

Pictures below from our time in Windorah also. From sewing yellow nets with tooth floss to the 'fly-proof ruts'. evening drawing ,no general swif.



We met some bikers (motor) at the Windorah servo and asked what the road was like west, to Birdsville. "Pretty boring" came the reply, though we know that is the perception of most. WOW, were we in for a shock! Perpetually changing landscape, vegetation, geology and topography kept us on our toes and made riding a pure delight. In fact, we couldn't ride slow enough even though we were on a washboard gravel road, except for 30kms west of Birdsville, that headwind can get stuffed.

Grasses changing in a definite line at the base of sand hills demarcate changes in soil, moisture and flood lines, these seeming to be the most fertile covered in trees and shrubbery. Clay pans devoid of vegetation termed as "waste land" scatter the tussock-ed plains, changing into rock (gibber) fields of a red sheen that stretches between sand hills. The soil changes from fine blushing red sand to brown, white and yellow dirt. The cattle are plump and healthy, though looking one wonders how it is so. The dry sweet feed is the answer.

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Cheers.

(getting really) Dusty & Thirsty

Stop 07: Birsdville

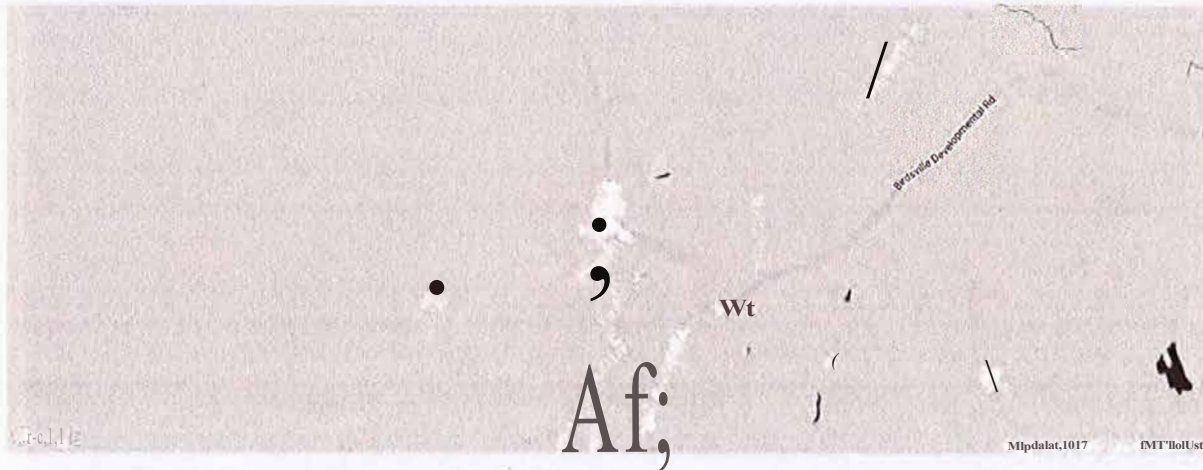
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The Grand Section Guardian #009 - Stop 07 Birdsville

July 2, 2017

Birdsville, population 115 (± 7000), a place of dynamic flux, existing for tourism. Long affiliated locals manage the role of local town guide, advocate and pastoralist with apparent ease and their scarcity means they have a significant place in the community and surrounds. Stone and masonry buildings were prolific and notably novel compared to the other towns we have been. Our first glimpse of the world through desert peaks in a town garden, was a graceful sight. Symbolic of what exists beyond the limits of 'civilisation'.

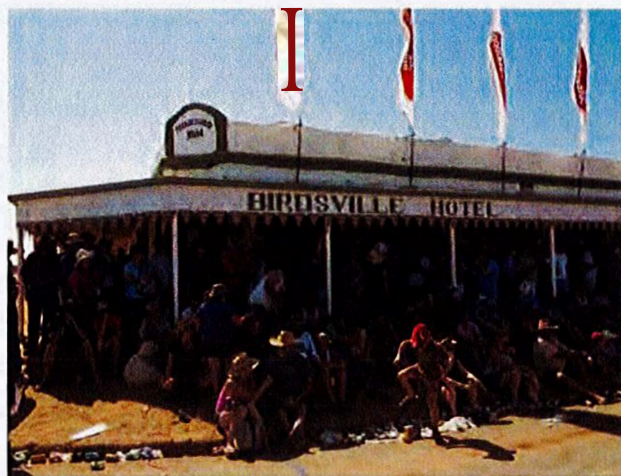
Bobbles father and friend and Owen's parents and uncle joined us in the town bringing supplies, and good times. a huge family affair.



Place

Friday 19th • 26th May

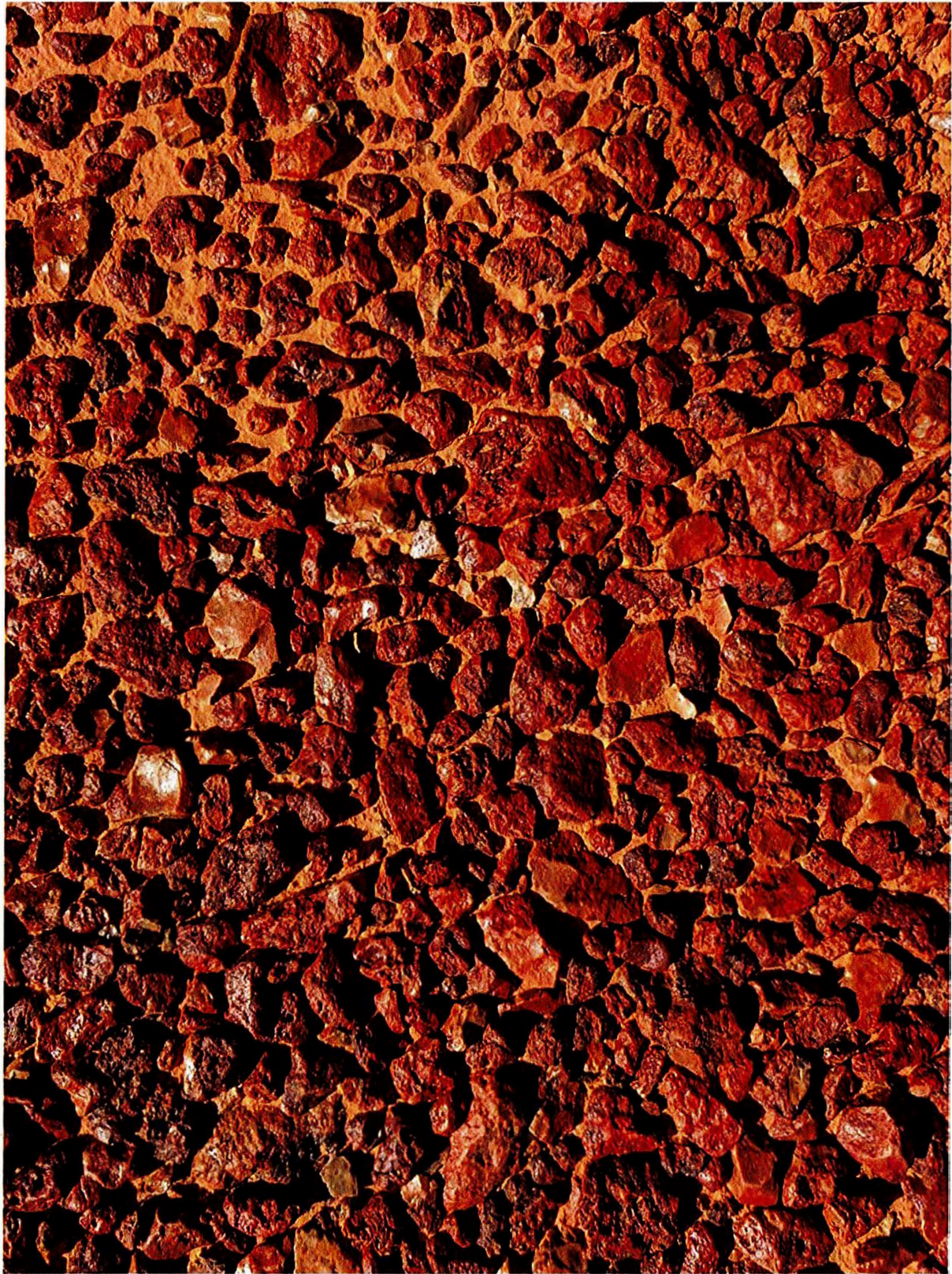
The Diamantina River system drains the already dry land, eventually emptying into Lake Eyre to the south west on average every 8 years. The Diamantina catchment covers an area of 158,000 square kilometers. This river system is made up of permanent water holes in dry periods sometimes dry but if there is rain it can be a river that is 10 kilometers wide, this is 'the fatter country'. This 'boom and bust' cycle means plants have adapted and formed remarkable strategies to cope with water and respond rapidly when water is available. For instance, salt bush is prolific and has adapted to the unforgiving landscape. It has three phases to complete its lifecycle, each needing water to ensure it stays alive. If this water doesn't come when needed it sheds its leaves and shrinks up until all the nutrients stored in the healthy roots, waiting when it comes.



Birdsville in drought...note the large increase in patrons at the hotel as well as the underage drinker, centre.

These grasses and shrubs hold a huge amount of nutrients (which otherwise would go into the soil) even when dry which is why it is called 'some of the best cattle fattening country in the world'. As you travel further west along latitude 25 degrees south you are met with the parallel sand dunes of the Simpson Desert, some up to 20 meters high. They run north-west to south-east and house an abundance of life, crazy eh.

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 coll11ng <oooi!•.



Gober/Gober/Gober me a man after midnight. The natural tessellation of the gobbers is like an orgy of ovals... or something. The gobbers change character, just as much as the landscape

ft,1' iO\\Ost,p of B1rds,,lle ,,as cng,,al1 settled as Clustoms town" the 1880's lor entry n QIO bt:0,e UP states tnd te1r1tOPes ,,e1e i11 ct.dlw1th ach other as they are tod,tY. A) 1 he) on 1 n110, *<Jule 11m t1e botton110 top of th countly those t:t'ten,g tht- stc1te would h1d1* to pcv the0 Uutv b fo,e 101111;t;1ng 011 \\th a popul4,t1r,n of 11 S (••7000) 1h5 srnall 101:n s,,ells bi-annually fo, the Jure -s,g Bast, ard the ,nfan-ovs ho1se race that happens n Septmbei. A to,,n t1eat swells n s1ze by 1100, has to ha,e s,gn,ficant 1dras11u<111re. 1e ,ere told by t1e m*/or that 11copes. only just. Last year t.e channel countrJ w,elled lor that wee end strana,ng many 1,x,r,m n t1,e town for days, apparently they ate and drank the place dry.

People

The indig,mous people or the a,ea are the wangkangu11u.11Mluya11di tribes who ro,me<1 an 1n1eg,11 pall or u,e nonh Y>uth 1rade 10111e ttirough the channel count,y lhat sM, the d,istribut,on or och,e. a,e-; and g,ind1ng s1ones to name a few. d1str,buted horn the Gulf or Ca1pentdria 1D t11e Flinders ranges: Ausual,a's s,ilk road. L,fe was cente<ed around 11e pt:rm dntmt .1ntt sem,-pe,,manent wc?terholes on1 soai..ages throughout the Mt&d. Song,ltnes and dre,,m-time stories e,pla1n t1e lc1rdS<<tpes(1nd connect the,s geois1aph1cal features th,ocgh s101,es ,1nd songs. us<d as a nav,gat,oral tool.

In addition these Song-lines weave spirituality, lore, history and learning into everyday life. This is demonstrated in the story of "Two Boys Dreaming" (ref) which details how to cross the Simpson desert.



Two Boys Dreaming, a traditional Aboriginal dot painting depicting a spirit being with outstretched wings, symbolizing a journey or dream.

Just to the ,est or s,rdsville ,s the count,y the Mt,thaka mob ,windorah area, who are the recogn,sed custodians. From our meetings In w,ndo,ah. and perrec, t,m,ng we ,ere tck,y ,nough to be invited oot for 1\,odays to join a big team ,ork11go11 and uncovering hugely e,c,1ing stuff wh,ch could change the ,eal \\e think about 11tral A1,sua1ian habitat on ano what hes below. The teani consisted or; Mt1haka descendants. Mclaeolog,sts. p111t cloud mapping spte,alists. a butc e,, old station h,,nds. kids. , ,m1111 pe,sonofl | l he CJmeleers,, a 1oumahs1, a reseach assc1111 ard educuors along \\11h hO 1rch,tecture students It,SJ o,at happf:l 1D b roll,ng by. Ou, eyes and m,nds we,e opened. learo,rg 3 great deal about rocks. ,dent,(ying a11,facts and d1,e,hng rema,ns. Se,end,p,tous to say the least.



Stone circles east of Birdsville, man made, use still speculating! Click the image to see the ABC story on the Mtthaka work and uncovering we were somewhat a part of.

Bronwyn and Peter ...

... This ...

Ntil Brooks ...

... This ...



Don Rowlands ...

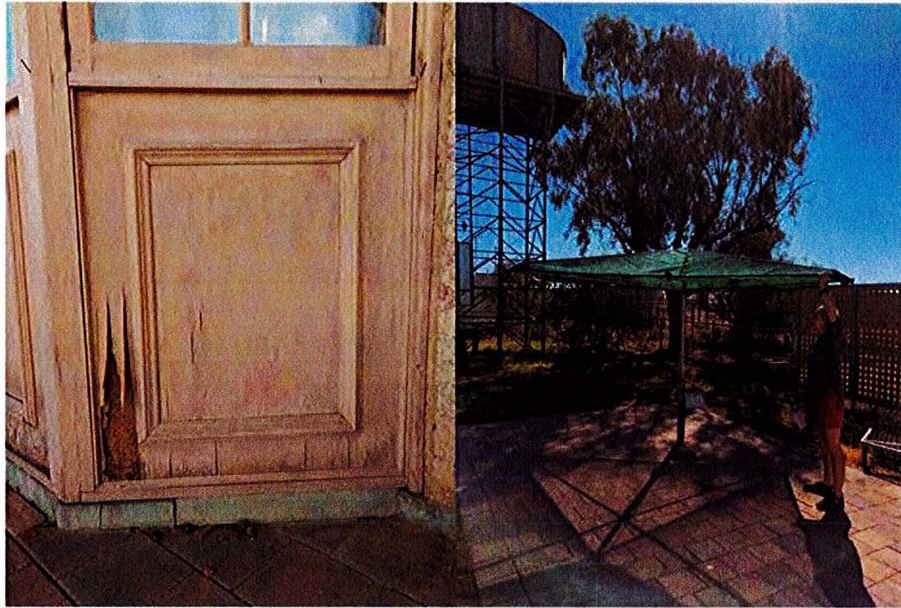
Stuff (architecture)

... This ...

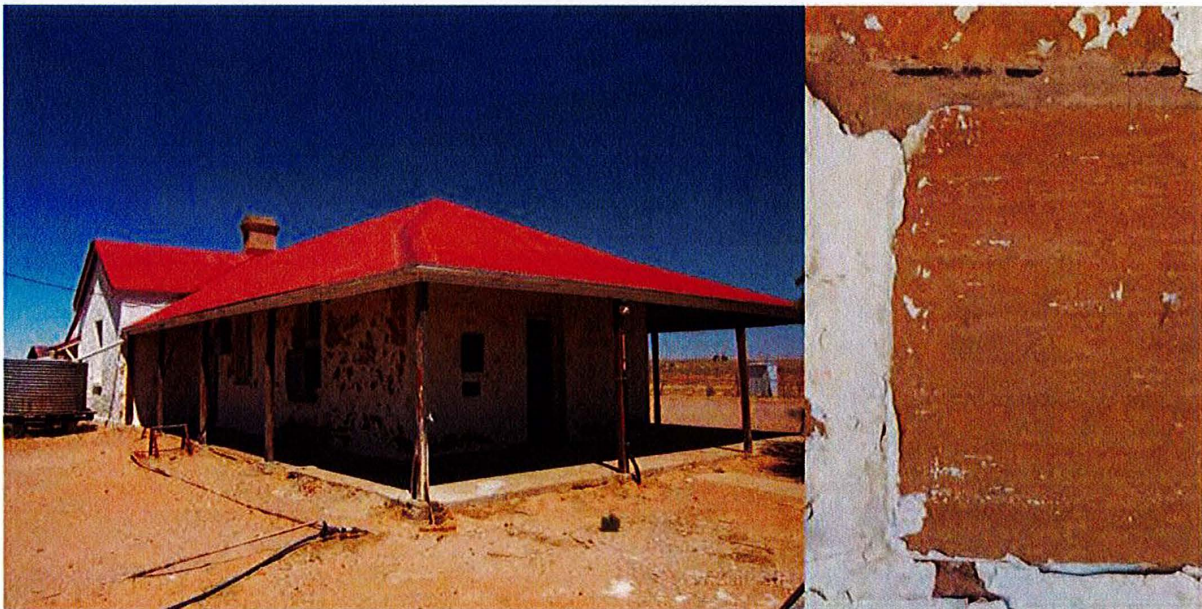
The amount of infrastructure in the town is significant; huge amounts of demountable shower blocks and cabins, ready to cope with the 700% flux in population. The caravan park explodes to over 700 sites as required with a new kitchen block on its way in (on the back of a truck) as we were there. We were interested in the Besser block cabins well orientated to capture the cool southerly breezes. We were blown away by the masonry and stone used in the town. There was a notable contrast between the architecture of Birdsville and the previous towns we have visited. We came across the first two storey brick house for some time and collected a range of temperature data in the buildings and ...

Concrete we've told is roughly \$660/m³ compared to \$110/m³ on the coast, and so with freight of building materials, building skill and accommodation one can imagine how expensive it is to build a masonry building. Mostly though, these are built by the council and are reserved for officials in the area. Double brick with small eaves. residents told us these houses performed far superior in staying cool once the design was tuned on.

The UV out here is terrible. Materials need to be constantly maintained and sealed, those not maintained, especially timber and clothes, last decay.



The council house is one of the finest examples of hewn sandstone used in the town. The stone work is in blocks up to 400mm thick bound together by a gypsum mortar, tuck pointed and finished with a cemented lime render. All local materials, the stone quarried on the outskirts of town, gypsum and lime too. We visited a now unused quarry which had an exposed sandstone bed and scattered chips of gypsum.

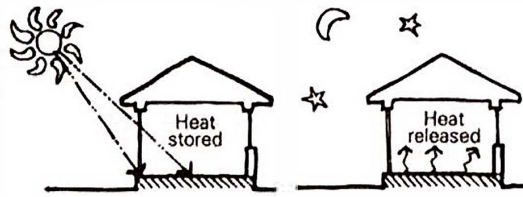


Still though, transportable homes exist. Quite high off the ground, one house had a HUGE eastern covered deck where the residents lived, south though "seemingly the winter, outdoor spaces to escape the horrific summer heat which on its summers is high enough to get below 30C. Night-time flushing of hot air doesn't happen, and is generally the reason for the lack of other, more comfortable houses. On the other hand, desert nights are cold, and so the high, double-paneled and tinted glass and tinted glass panels are or use material design considerations, mostly left unconsidered. That's a hard one to find ...

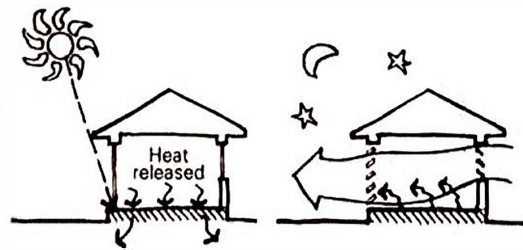
It's a common theme in the region, the high, double-paneled and tinted glass and tinted glass panels are or use material design considerations, mostly left unconsidered. That's a hard one to find ...

The high average temperature and low diurnal change of the Birdsville summer means the masonry walls don't get a chance to cool down. re-enter center stage... air-con. However we were told the house works beautifully in winter! The house has two great bough shade roofs to outdoor spaces covered in light gauge wire with cane glass or other branches placed on top. Add a sprinkler in the hot weather and you've got yourself a fantastic evaporative cooling system.

On a side note there seems to be a critical lack of understanding about how thermal mass works in many places we have seen. It is common that people are aware that a slab on the ground provides better insulating properties than a raised floor "relocatable" however the effective use of thermal mass seems to be missing.



Thermal mass works by storing heat during the day and releasing it at night.



Thermal mass works by storing heat during the day and releasing it at night. The diagram shows heat being released from the masonry wall during the day and at night.

Exhibition

Due to our time in Birdsville being somewhat sporadic from family visiting and us going out to join the Mithaka crew for a few days we thought the best approach for us would be another zine, handed out around town to the locals we had met. Appropriately titled 'The Stone Weekly, regularly irregularly' (the first and most likely last issue) we focused on the stone and masonry of the town including our data and costing gathering. A small token that we hope blurred the line of tourist and made their time invested in us somewhat worthwhile.

ISSUE BIRDSVILLE

MAY 17

CJ

THE

STONE

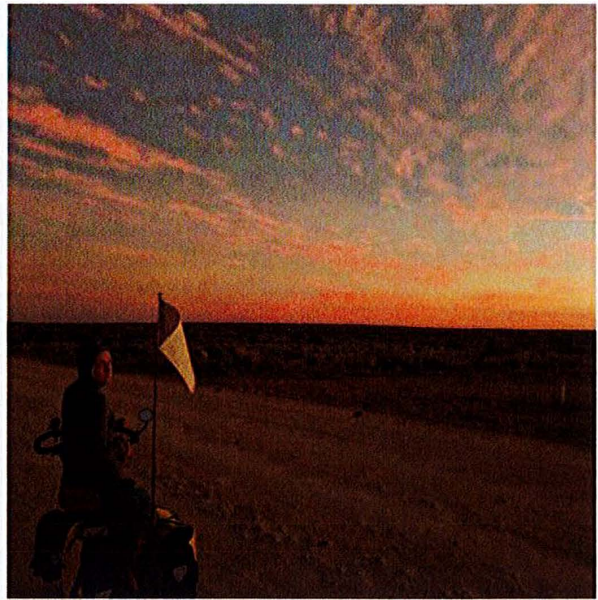
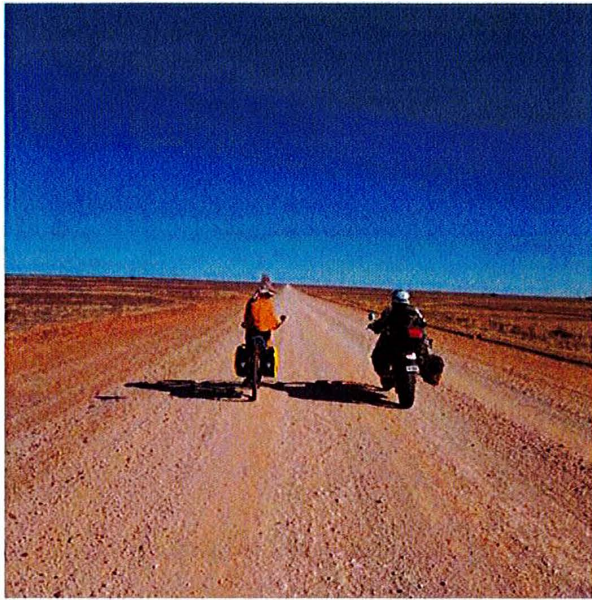
WEEKLY

Regularly Irregular!

Download your issue here, click on the image! The most sought after zine on the metaphorical shelf this week!

In-between (in reflection) - Birdsville to Maree

519 kms!! Our biggest in-between period yet. The prevailing winds we've encountered on the trip thus far are south east, fine when you're riding east to west - somewhat of a tailwind. Due to our change of heading effectively (looking at the map) taking a left turn at Birdsville to avoid the 1200 Simpson Desert sand hills, the prevailing tail wind changed to a HEAD WIND! Gravel, gibber and washboard roads, a 10km/h average speed, with a side of chilled wind and sprinkled with evenings below zero, it has been our hardest stretch yet.



Edited by the lovely Jen Richards!

Keep those legs pumping!

Dusty, Thirsty

Stop 08: Marree

03.06.17

oving row (at the beginning of spring) from the Gilbert's Ostrich to the Great Victorian Desert wildflowers, abundant with wattle of red and white flowers with yellow patches of yellow. Purple broad-leaved Puccinia arid white and pink fluffy mullah r'Ullish's dotting the red soil. Bobbie has taken the great interest in understanding the flora's appearance. In particular, the adaption of the plants to survive in the desert environment, into architecture, sometimes she has seen the intricate structure mechanism in Eucalyptus to endure depend on and recover from fire damage with the biome evolution dating to 67 million years ago; Holy shit!

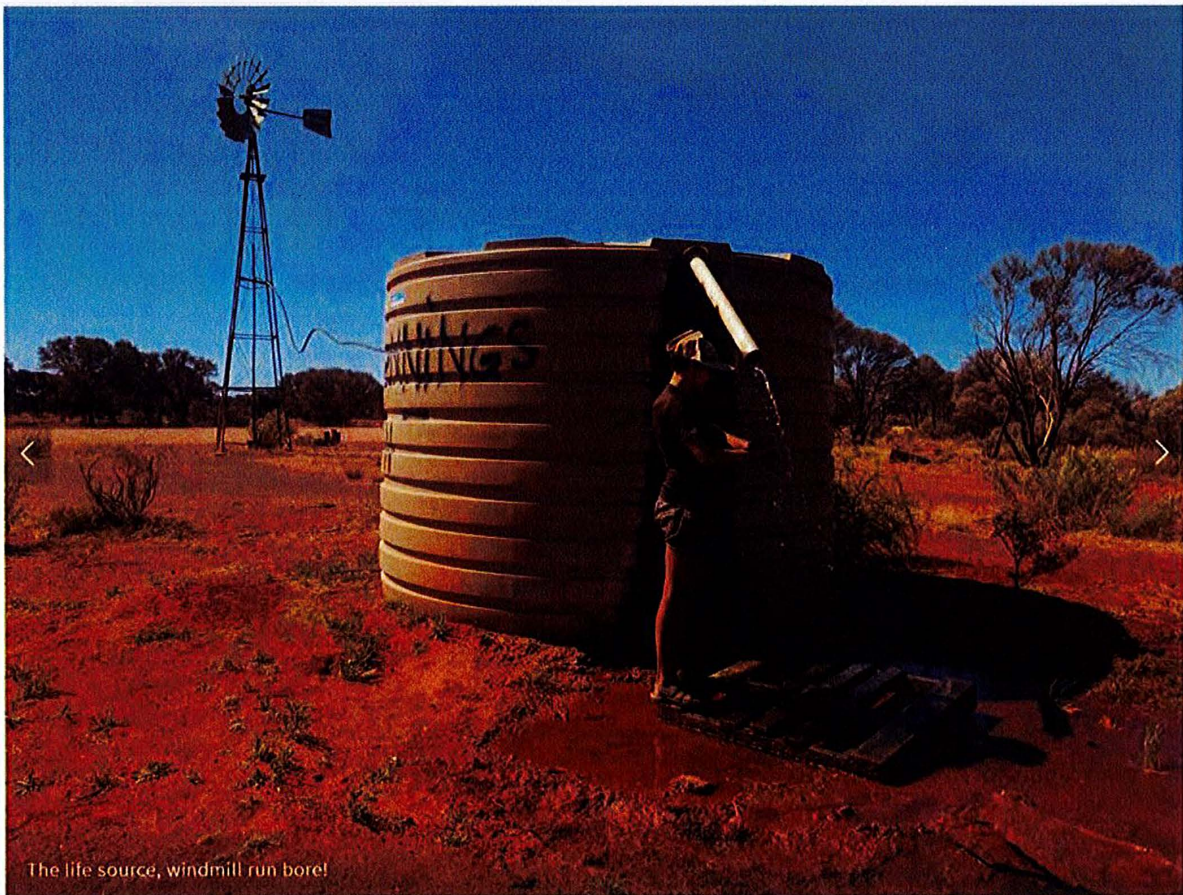
Lines change to east view on the way as you head west and the dunes, dominating although mostly covered in grass and shrubs. Contrary to what the brochure from Docker River Camp Ground told us, it was not just 'flat from here (except for the occasional rock)' outcrops. Gnammas holes and equivalent mountainous headwind that was blowing on the last few days was excellent. ... (That's Owen's opinion).

We made it to Tjukayuli roadhouse, in four days, which did happen to be Bobbie's birthday. That morning Owen treated himself to a bouquet of desert flowers and then, regular morning muesli in the tent, breakfast in bed equivalent.

Three days before Larberton they were unbearable. It was only able to get a peddle we were getting thrown off our backs with sheets of dust whipping and covering us. We waited roadside taking cover for five hours till the evening when, finally the wind dies down to do us, last 15kms for the day.

It didn't die down however, the evening seemingly contentless due to a lack of visibility. Riding, you can't seem to fathom speed, terrain or if you're riding uphill or downhill so we go, here amongst everything else that comes; out at night, comical mounts or spiders, and snakes.

Riding in Laverton, doing as we had done in previous days we were up by four days to the west picking up with sunrise. And so, riding in at lunch time we came across a pub! The first for us, since Mice Springs, so, near 1000kms ago. We indulged in the much needed carb gorge: beer, hot chips, gravy and bottled beer.



The life source, windmill run bore!

Cherish.

Dusty & Thirsty

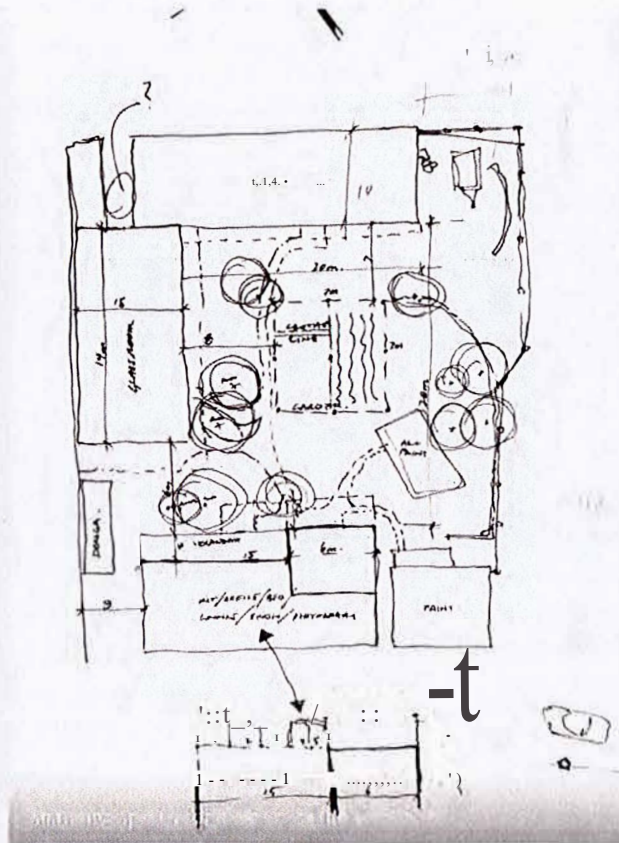
Edited by the bloody brilliant Jen Richards. Thanks again Jen. YOU BLOODY RIPPER!

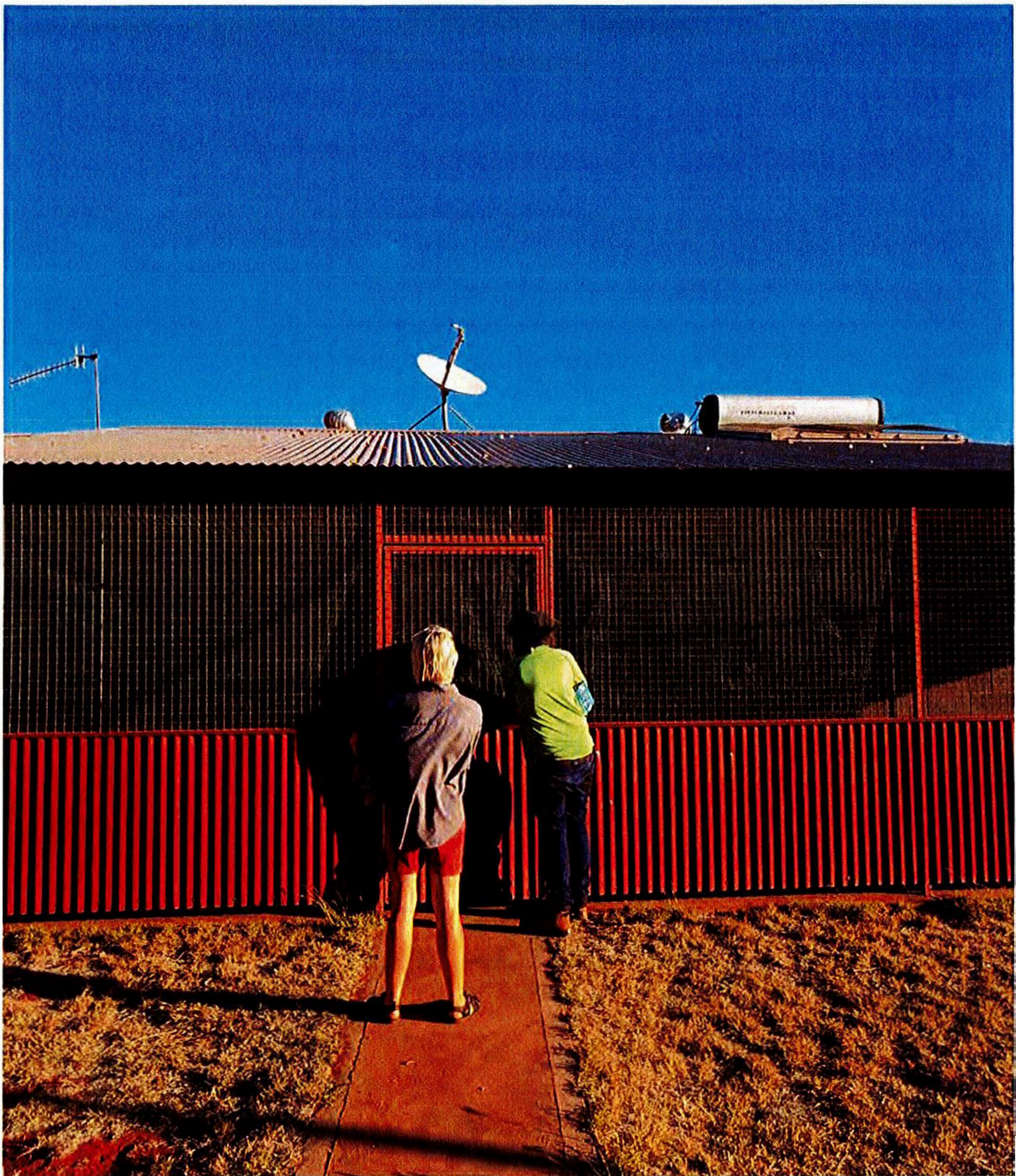
References

- [i] Connected to Country, essay, 2010, David Brooks, www.warburtonarts.com
- [ii] www.warburtonroadhouse.com.au
- [iii] Under the road, the desert essay 2010, Gary Proctor, www.warburtonarts.com
- [iv] Under the road, the desert essay 2010, Gary Proctor, www.warburtonarts.com
- [v] Gungah, George and Witley, Paul Memmott, 2007

Back in Warburton proper the art for the gallery is made at the Art Centre, which Gary and Mon work out of. A mongrel of uses crammed into a residential block. Since Alice Springs we have been talking about, but not seeming to experience a space where black and white people can meet voluntarily and where people can be comfortable and

perhaps through one of the key aspects is the fact that there are full time residents/live in visitors who provide passive surveillance and a continuous reference point for people coming and going.



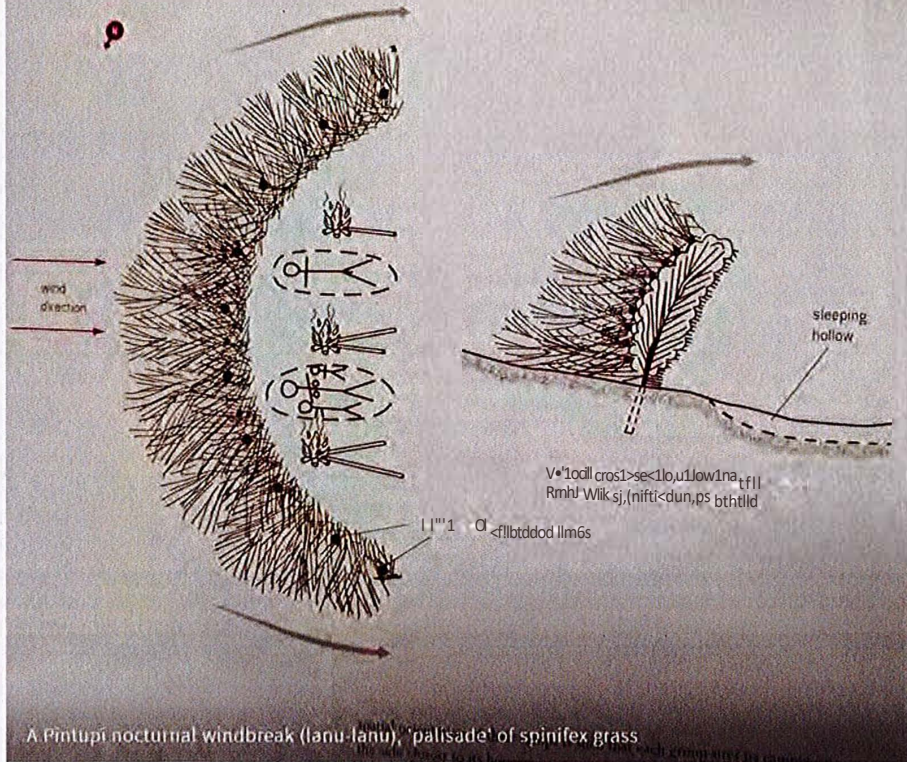


Warrburton Cage Style - Dwellings are robust with layers of security separating innabants from the street. Bessa block, steel, concrete, corrugated iron.

Digg1& dee;e,,, t,)lq 1teer ...e smre S''(L1R),ssu...;oth bre,-11). the \1-u11Jrt 'it'fi*lit*, \,ndO\, scrE'cns *eP wo*P' for 10<ks tluQ;-h by \,d. ctt,el1y or;1 of ri q,ff11i' p;:s t'O't'S q'bdh \,j' -)r'fiss- ...:s to t'tro h'10C1's i' t'f; r'e-1h*o'lf t'P oL: b''\,,"t,all rol,rt we \,t -4 ;,n; bouct ot1,cd rt t'Y' lre,d/ sh1E-GdPct '1ht; cewen+ \,h,e-llP;,, ir-e :o: \,1r*Cufl'. h;:(l'tr" UP 111t'J;: t'tii / t;,(US- -'D d :e: { t'lt> S,Ce*P'or - Q d i act. t,)11fi; l;:-t'f O';\l*1S c:ho \,fie' 'O' < t'd \,('''''''<1 \,V'k'') (r'e1 vtd '1't' b ;,r,r;ir;)11e*S'S' v;nc;r c'p(nGVd ;ir hoc' ;et' ;1* P;1(1) eu 'P th' *9cm' lly. l'v;v ;,fr; t'<1 :e'l \, t'f1(th: *1m'p' (t) Q* h3d '1ss p1011tr;,-1

Whilst much residential architecture was cagey...the community buildings were often very open, still robust but far more welcoming. The low-fenced lime green church in town has a series of external shade structures, fire bins, a toilet block, and stage and PA system in the front yard in the heart of town. This can be heard, turned up to 11 most Friday and Saturday evenings. Flexible and adaptable where movable seating and a speaker's create a usable space that can be easily re-arranged to suit whoever wants to blast their eclectic 90's music mix. We were told, the inside is almost irrelevant. It's the outside, dirt and carpeted ground which is used. (see drawings on exhibition poster)

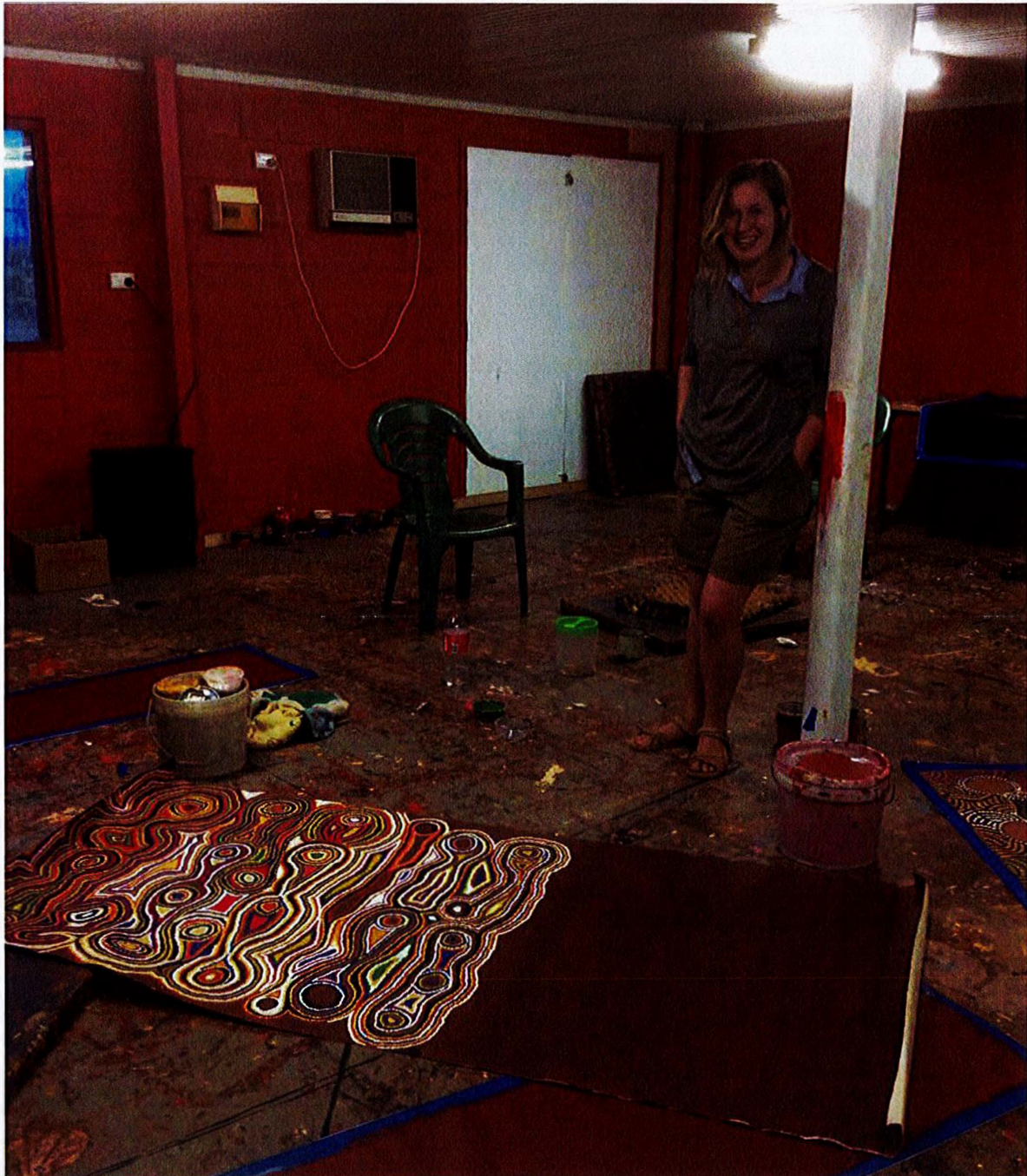
';/ \, < > j; =0) S'Cb' < > , t (1%;H -)r'l d i l)0 - l'fd 'e'oc ut l,rr. l;S; Tj,h lU* 'lt' -)< > 11 -)(ub-U) i i'rd 'i;... 'tr 'E' .0 - j'f'f'c'11'of' - 'no;'' *; 'l e onab ;1\ (S. t'eY' Shj;e' j; ; t b-ll-Pr / De;:i in d. O;-w.r'\, P;: t1;-j'p'l < > e' < > e' l' r'e ;,p' r'ets n'p1 < > c'c'f'e < > c'te,r,u; < > cho; ; n'f f' < > k'r*1 l'p '1,')U\% , r011e; ;,n; r'm r' l'i\ S 1... r11, < > Ofite; ;< > t'f'e ;,=1 - Made from rendered concrete block with a monumental courtyard design this bad boy is out of place in its sharpness of detail and planning. Almost a shock to the unwary traveller who elsewhere is used to community art galleries being tucked into whatever building was vacant at the time. However unlike the church the formality of this building does not invite you to stay and enjoy the carefully thought-out space. There are some politics behind this though that may mean the building hasn't reached its final form. Regardless of those, the building creates a presence, is aspirational and gives further credibility to the cultural collection.



A Pintupi nocturnal windbreak (lanu-lanu), 'palisade' of spinifex grass

Warbuton todayts ,Qt dissimla1 ll') 1nd,gt:nous con11nun1t1e, v,e've nand corre u-,ough: the RoodhOo fet\Ctd in lugh with fdZOr w"e titop, same 1u, ue nur comrounc, housesaed <tfEH 1qgh1 'n cages. Ma1eri,11, rerf a, push*d and t led ID their 1111111s oerlect pl<d11t 1es1mg g,ound<. Bt-ssa blork, concrete and co,n1'!,1teo iron tre te pectom1,am constnxt,on mult:rials. R>bU',t, h11d w1:aong a,,o res1lle,nt to hold L' to u,e use, OC(t1slonal va11dal1">m tp1Edominc1tely J,1ds dnd 0111v 1t111:(drcn-t ll"e the people-l. \:t:Jthr and chmate.

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Mon inside The Art Centre. Painting in view by Warburton Elder Christine West, we sat and watched as she worked. Entranced.

Working at the Art Centre as a volunteer, Monica, a film graduate and social worker, is an art-a-holic. She supports the artists in their work. She spends time with us around town, takes photos and documents the art collection to name but a few jobs in her huge scope of work. She expressed the value and benefit of her social work background, whilst being an M role. Dealing with people she can often be a managing, navigating through complex social and cultural situations. With Gary's energy allows you to see Monica's quiet strength and laughter at the idiosyncrasies of desert life that allow her to navigate the occasionally land-mined terrain of the Warburton scene. Welcoming us as your old friends, her warmth and hospitality truly made our time long with her willingness to entertain a constant barrage of questions.



Gary during a tour of The Art Gallery. His passion, energy and decades of knowledge fill the room, encapsulating all

arg.rol ind oys spjce for tilt' p&st 3D set1s. fb? m&n s a d)cd? to Qe fe(kcr \3d*. 1d0-irig ,ut t) J bust- ccrpp nb>v /;11),rton 11 tile ,:iti?SO'sGcu, "dsbt?&t?fl p1vda111, 4)"lbhst,n Jh-o port:T'u11lg t,,...=tuir?&f?C ;,nd e. t rs,;: \3du. 1ton (0!f;(t1on J1'C toq1,, lile or,J11"ig p1>2d \O&az of l&tr g&rtiira (1_ltur . 1&1 y }tot,S'c 11 :r?h, ;;rs 1;t, t-1" :f'e i,,_ (1'f'f' of ,;:1'j,,...OP 1 p1,1(* l' p&rt. m,1* t,,)'"0)!' c1r; b<4n (1'U11,g , sp,1,e tt-t' ;')in1'->r 'iil(icm-c,tabl 11 i1,;1,1 &pi* w st-1rf.

Ho *e;yd &?ln\$ "IS hon'g [i'l"l" s a Sillr"Ko:"O! p&rsor,1* spd(t' to ad*1o*,; ths, G,11 11S 'y'1=-t,t'f5) ,HC P=ISS,01' tr,,; S B\&- dHC r3:"g1bt?, crj,s ,as d11 sp:11 ric,(t' fl 1(\$t'&= . tt1* &ri-,*P' [y'111gf th? 'y'1)tu1,(e" \ff r;tilloil / \3S1 (CV ;&=i0t0? ;\d1bv ,t,; ,*it q;:t'f;fd l1) flj1tr'f'i, ;kr oon... ,;r;S piS>11r, &M- Jf, jidldfl,1 q&r(1ld (u't...&S 1f'f'11CGG *1IC t;:s ;&n-f;f,;sia*(Y&E d1:ep 1c*fl LZ t1'&?)E,11s O! elcE-s ,n,1:)Hiof: <r&f;s ;& re=- itlrJ);,w!f'f'11.

Not content with the market driven model of Aboriginal art & artefact prolific through the western deserts of Australia, Gary and the Art Centre has championed diverse art forms, preservation of the best works for cultural heritage and pushes to go beyond traditional audiences creating a broader dialogue. Warburton's main medium is canvas and acrylic dot paintings, however in the collection includes carving, weaving, pottery, photographs, glass and textiles. A large slump glass kinf sits in one of the rooms off the central courtyard and is responsible for some of the most tangible works we have seen. The potential, artistically and architecturally is HUGE.

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The Grand Section Guardian #015 - Stop 015 Warburton

October 3, 2017

Ride in, dusty and lunch hungry. Lime tuffis bilck I.S hows so the pre-prepared lunches don't wme out for anol11er hour, delayed fu11he1 by a drop in internet and EFrPOS se,vices. Camp dogs and dusi clouds hom ever cycling windowless cars_ Lunch when 1 does come 3 a su1pns,ngly 1a1ly bwger, the only hot and fillingop11on.1t's the off week for fresh food,,, couple of sad carrots for dinne,. Nothing unusual.



Place

7th - 17th September

Located in the semi-desert area to the south of the Gibson O.,,sert and the north of the Great Victoria O.,,sert lies the Brown and Warburton Ranges commonly called the Ranges. Nestled at the base of the Warburton range is the town still of the same name. with a population of about 300 it is the largest town/ "metropolis" in the Ngaanlaqarra (pronounced N1W(r)AN-J1RRRA) lands. 548 km east of Laverton and 555 km west of Yulara 'Uluru' this place has some serious remote credentials. It is this remoteness and the apparent lack of resources that has also helped to preserve the cultural and ecological qualities of the place. Warburton "e" noted is also the smallest community. The resources from this point to long, get delivered and unspoiled from the east 'Adelaide, Allee Springs; but now come from the West. from Perth!

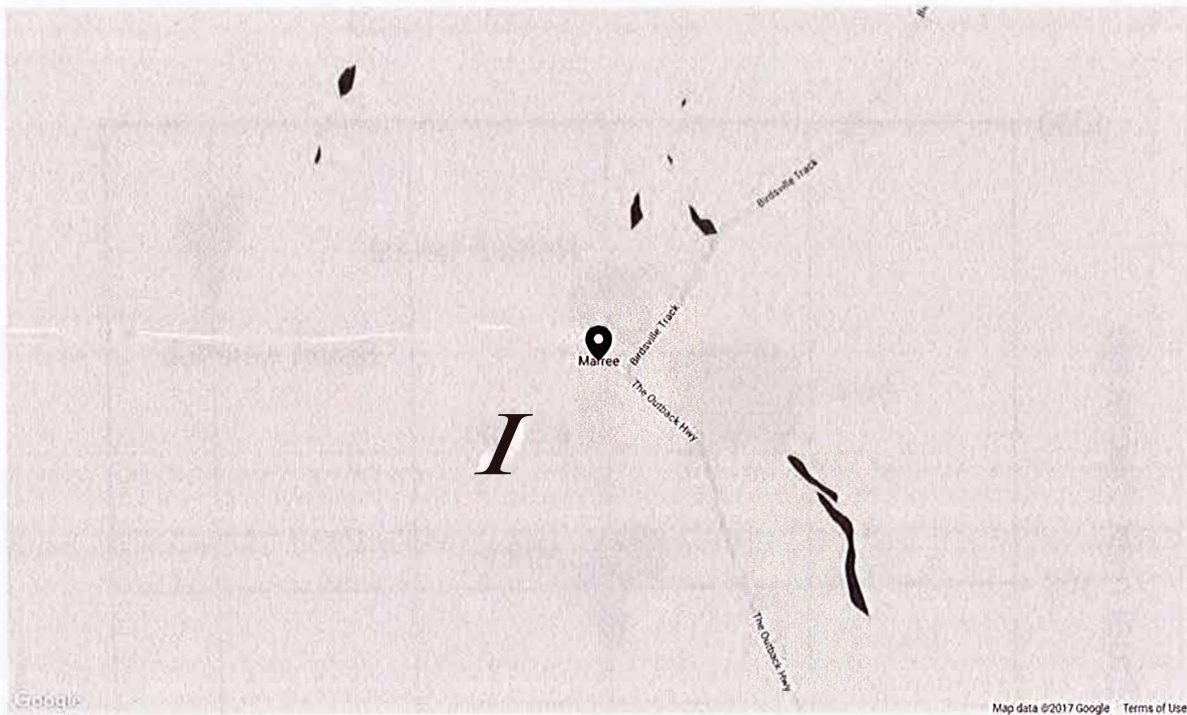
Stop 15: Warburton

07.09.17

The Grand Section Guardian #010 - Stop 008 Marree

July 7, 2017

W1,am! Boin: 5lick tourist operations churn ca,avans i1Hb rdsh. stioip attendants near the end of their three month stint talk easily w11h locals d1rd tourists aHe. Just out of town lies some of Australia's most fascinating arcllite<lural herotage and one of AuWalia's great mult1cullura1 sto11es.



Place

Friday 2nd • 9th June

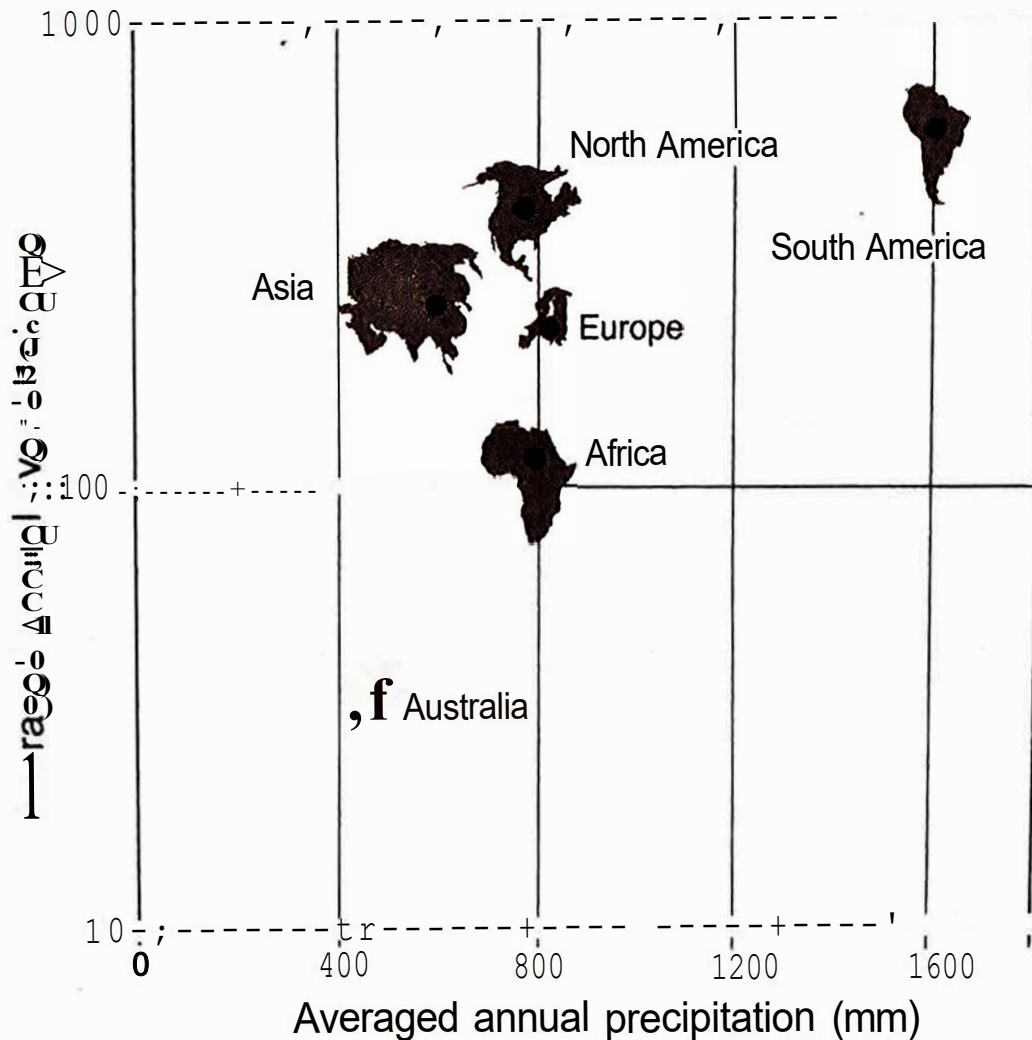
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Photos of Camel Trains in early Marree from 1909-20

However long before this, Marree was a pivotal point for indigenous Australians, the permanent springs being crucial to the north-south trade route through the channel country and places we previously wrote about. This trade route saw the movement of axes, ochre, boomerangs, narcotics and even architects! Well the architect bit is fairly anecdotal and they were more like specialist builders who could make 'deadly' gyalahs:

It is these natural springs, where water from the artesian basin comes up through geological fissures that established and continues to sustain this bit of country and its inhabitants. Located in the Lake Eyre Basin, Marree sits on the southern rim of the artesian basin (where water temperature is typically hotter), underground bores supply the town with its water requirements, even being untreated, rates are comparable to the treated city water of Adelaide. With water this expensive it becomes clear in this landscape that water is crucial to survival. Rainfall can be as low as 120mm annually, with evaporation rates 2900% of that.

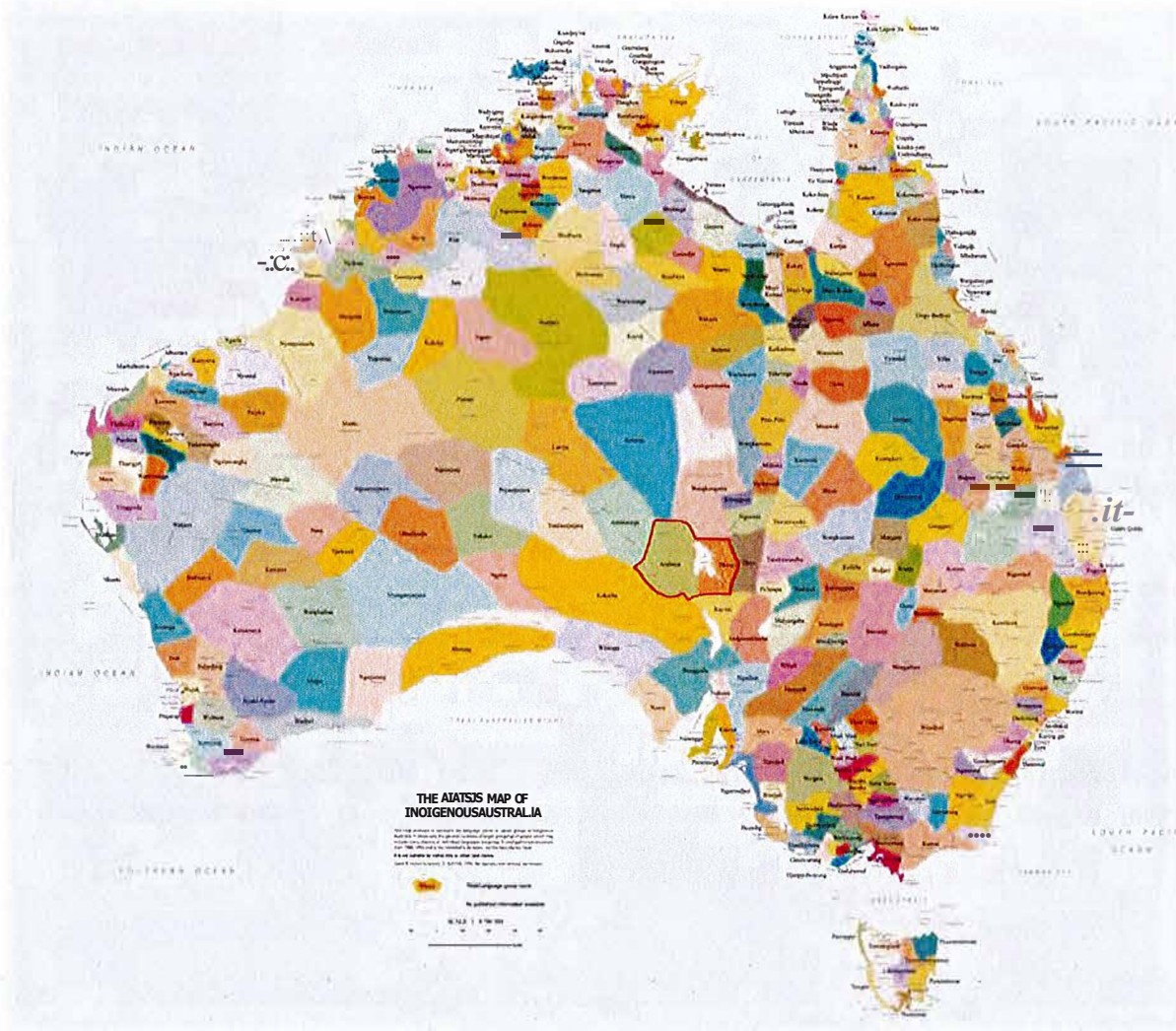


Graph showing the annual River Discharge of each continent (approximate) during period in the winter water deficit (copied from Mike Smith's [paper](#) 'The Archaeology of Australia's Deserts'). Thanks to geographer Terrence J. O'Rourke for the link.

Marree lies in The Eastern Desert/Arid Rivers Region. Having a distinct character this region has been referred to as 'The Desert Triangle' or 'The dead heart of Australia' (W. Gregory, 1905) due to its increasing aridity and desolation. Marree itself is bookended geographically by The North Flinders Ranges to the south and Lake Eyre to the north-west, a pivotal geological point between arid mountains and salt lakes. Marree's location has allowed it to continue in recent times to remain the launch pad of transport for tourism north and west bound from Adelaide.

People

Marree is part of the traditional land of the Arabunna people whose presence in Marree is still keenly felt and their language still alive. This strength of culture is partly a result of the Finniss Springs Mission that operated near Marree and made an active effort to ensure children remained on their traditional lands. The initiative to have an Arabunna centre allows scum like us two to look at and interact with indigenous artefacts and, most importantly, a traditional owner there to help with understanding and to put up with our barrage of questions!



Norman Tindale's map of Indigenous language groups with the Arabana and Dhirari tribes south of Lake Eyre outlined.

Mairee's multicultural history is fantastically rich and layered. The wonderful Indigenous past is overlaid with the more recent occupation by Europeans and "Afghans", a term used to describe anyone who looked ethnically Afghan. It is on the back of these Afghans and their teams of camels that the legend of the Birdsville and Oodnadatta tracks were made and the towns survived. Up until the 1920s cart teams were relied upon to carry goods from Maree to Birdsville and all of the stations and homesteads in between before being overtaken by motorized transport. The trip could take up to six weeks, loading and unloading each camel morning and night. There were stories of only three hours sleep per night! To quote an old camel rider on modern times, "it's good these days".

The racial line arrived in Maree in 1863 when the fully and fully developed division of the town. Europeans moved south of the town line, while the Aboriginals remained to the north. However, this complete segregation was not final and there were forms of interaction between the two groups. Along with the influx of the 1967 referendum, the "end of the white man's burden" vote:

"Do you approve the proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution entitled 'An Act to alter the Constitution so as to...it will in...ords relating to the People of the Aboriginal Race in any State and so that Aboriginals are to be counted in the Population?' etc, etc, of the 67 Referendum.



the present state of the town is similar to that of long ago. The main street is a long, straight road, and the houses are built on the same sites as in the early days. The town is a typical example of a pioneer settlement, and the people who lived here in the early days are still to be seen in the streets. The town is a typical example of a pioneer settlement, and the people who lived here in the early days are still to be seen in the streets.

Robert & Lizzie Khan were the first to settle in the town. They arrived in 1844, and their children were born here. The town was founded by the Khan family, and it has since become a thriving community. The town is a typical example of a pioneer settlement, and the people who lived here in the early days are still to be seen in the streets.

Sharon of Oulkaninna is a well-known figure in the town. She has lived here for many years, and her story is a testament to the resilience and strength of the community. She has seen the town grow from a small settlement to a thriving community, and she has played a significant role in its development. Her story is a testament to the resilience and strength of the community.

The understanding and caring for land sympathizes with aspects of traditional Indigenous land management and understanding.

Stuff (Architecture)

The most amazing building in the town is now a pile of dirt and stones, the remnants of Australia's first mosque. Built in 1884 the first mosque was a 'bush mosque' of external rammed earth dwarf walls (approx. 1500mm high) timber branches and log structure with a gable bough shade roof, rotated toward Mecca (a bit different to Murrutt's mosque in Melbourne). An ablution pool (for washing the face, feet and hands before prayer) edged with timber graced its entrance and was built by the Afghan cameliers who quickly earned the respect of their Christian and Indigenous peers through the six week return slog to Birdsville. The power that this site holds is of immense value, not just as a historical tid-bit but as a symbol of multiculturalism, acceptance and cohesiveness in Australian history.



Australia's first Mosque at France built, 1884, and Australia's newest Mosque in Melbourne, under construction, 113 years later. Look at the image for a compelling discussion on the history of Islam and Mosque architecture in Australia. Particularly relevant in this article is what the world seems to be caught up in.

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As a response to studyinc the "Rail-Est.te" of Marree we came up with some suuultions:

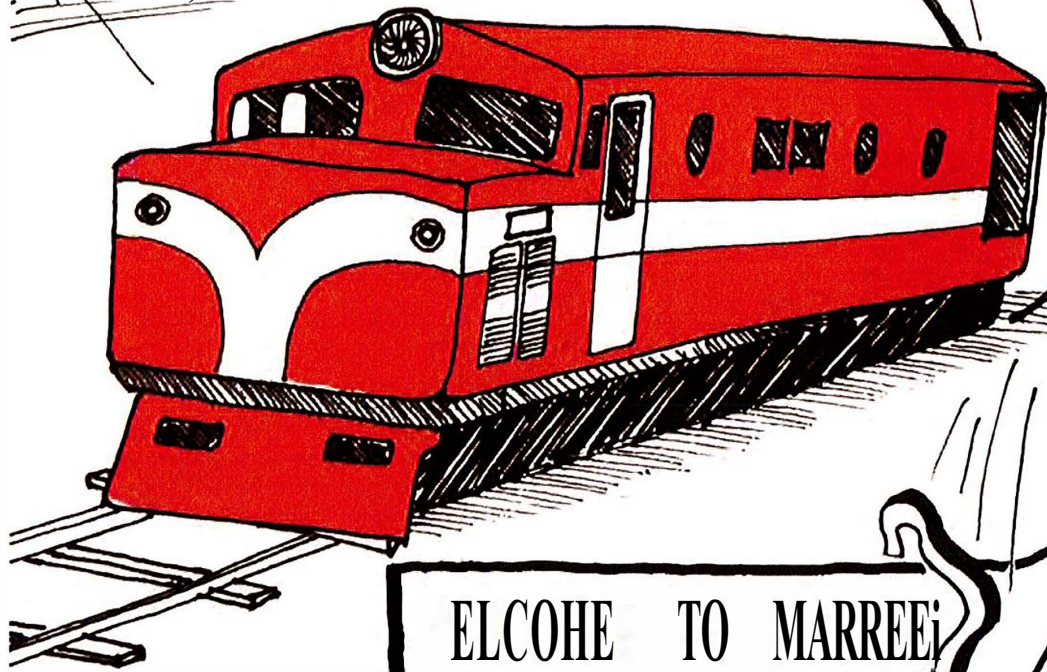
- Almost anythin1 can bt htd up with rail Irons! Itarn to wtd,
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Exhibition, Friday 9th June

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WELCOME TO MARREE!

A town that was built around a railroad. Today you can still see the railroad building the town, Literally! The town is built by parts of the Old Ghan Railway!!! Follow this map on a tour of the best "RAIL-ESTATE" and see how people are re-using, adapting and recycling the materials around them (the Old Ghan Railway!) into Architecture!

MARREE'S

RAIL-ESTATE

WfrikN(J, TtJll<

16 STOPS • 1 HR • 3.6 KMS



In Between, Marree - The Oodnadatta Track

The famous Oodnadatta track follows mound springs, Lake Eyre, sand dunes and a flat plain and pans from Marree to Oodnadatta. The Great Artesian Basin reveals itself on the surface along this route. More than anywhere else we've witnessed. These mound springs are escape points of (the) some still flowing. The Great Artesian Basin has been thoroughly tapped into by unrelentingly bored. Politicals and towns and mining operations which anecdotally are reducing the flow rate of bores and mound springs. vast and decisive changes in the landscape are a constant surprise.

A 1070km trail to Gas Stop 09, will reveal more. stay tuned....

Edited by the fantastically Jen Richards

Cheers.

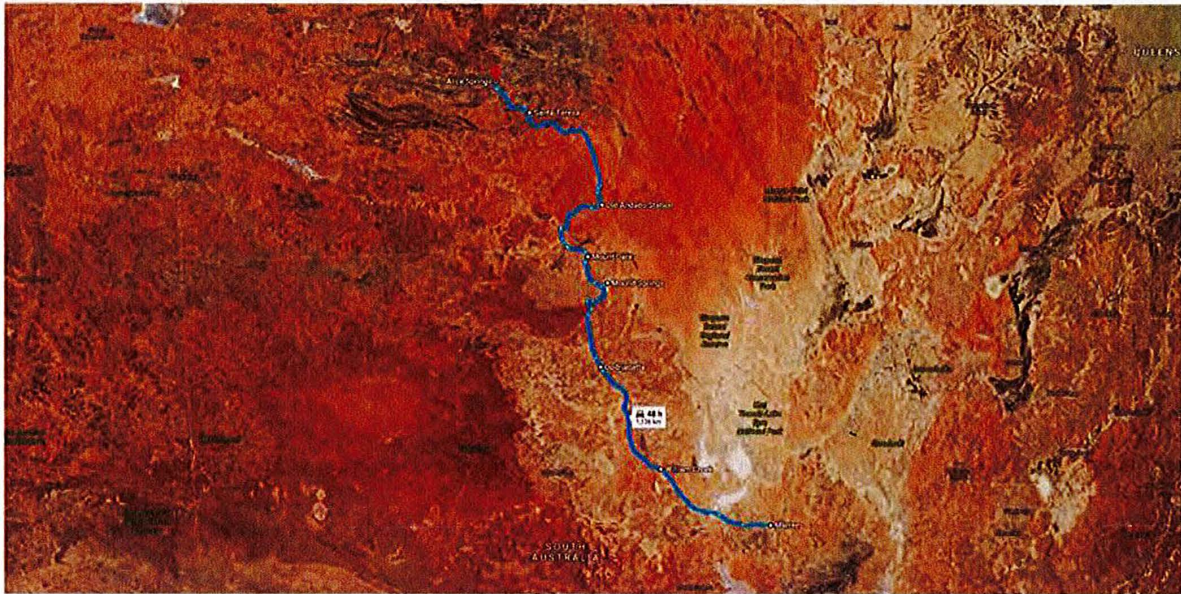
Dusty & Thirsty

Non Stop 09 - 011:
Marree - Alice Springs

The Grand Section Guardian #011 - Non Stops 009-011 -In-Between - Marree To Alice Sp.,ings

August 19, 2017

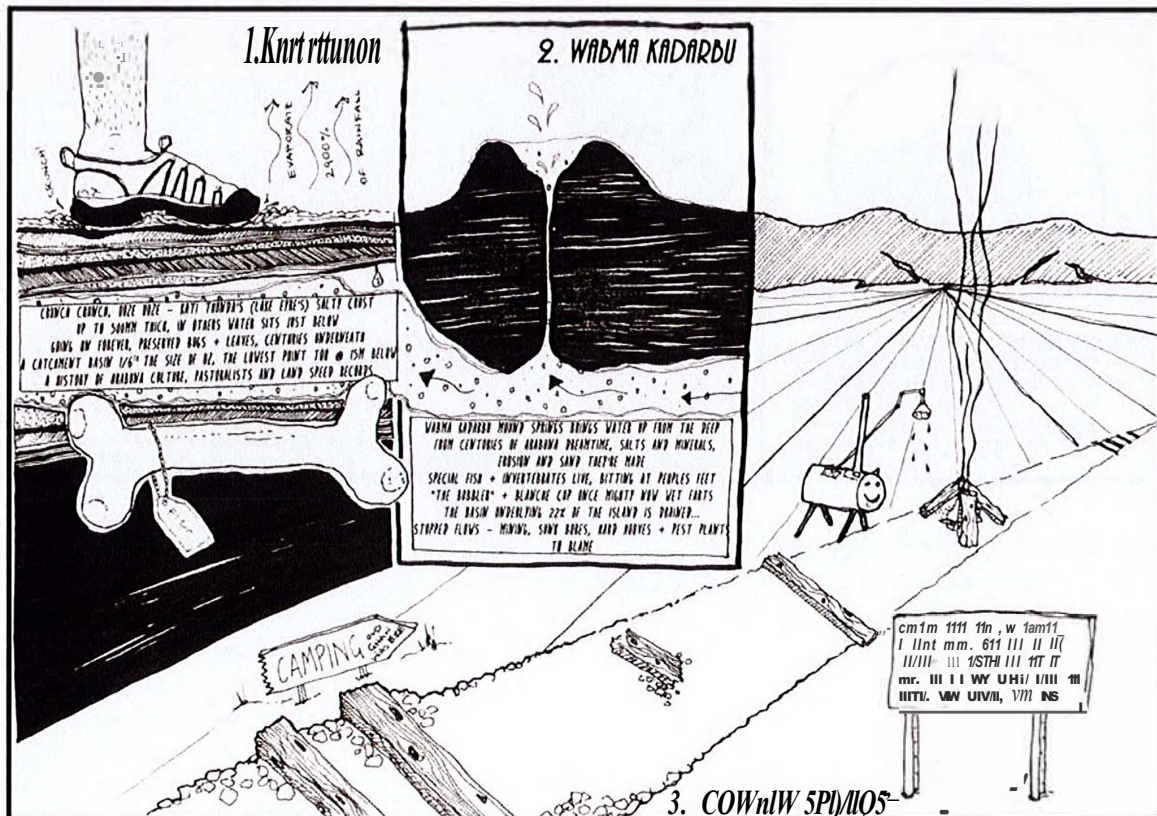
10th • 29th Jun • 2017



The In-between. Just as critical as the destinations or stops. Through ownership we are fully immersed in the place. People and stuff (architecture). It is through engaging with the broader Australian condition and all it comprises that we are learning the most and blowing many preconceptions down, there it is. Having an in-depth understanding of the value of how place influences mobility, routes, connections, a 'good' architecture for people and place.

We're uncovering this bit by bit. Blow by blow as you can see below. Travelling the Oodnadaba and Baines crack through SA and NT and Diei. Nganampa, Wangkanguru and Arabunna country to name a few. It was a peak season, and so we were inundated with dust and traffic from the Finke, and 4-wheel convoys.

Check out some of our shilly sketchy reflections of the in-between non stops 009-011, Marree. Alice Springs (10th-29th June) and the information.ca1a (hard • , anecdotal) and knowledge we've collected.



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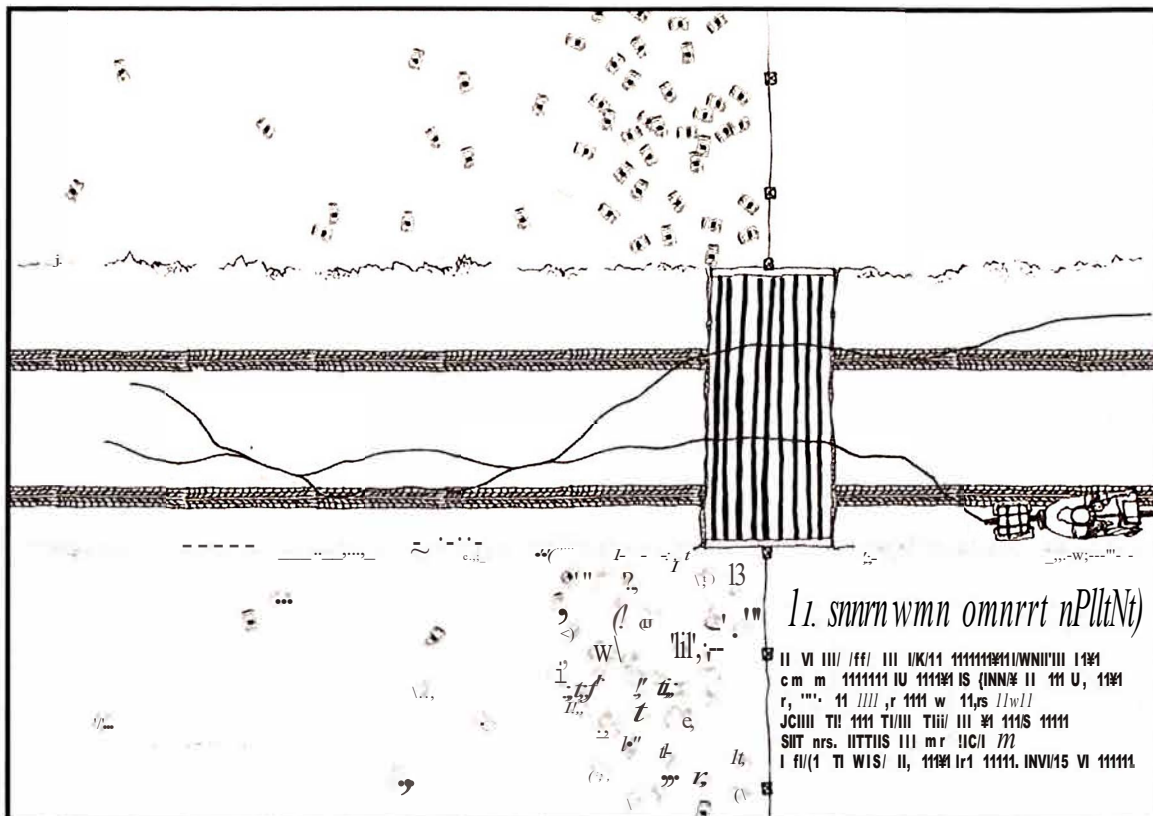
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(gettinc more...) Dusty&. Thirsty

Not edited by the wonderful Jen Richards, so please excuse ALL mistake if they're there...

Stop 12: Alice Springs

22.07.17

"This is a great adventure, a hard ride with serious intent. I do hope Bobby and Owen light a passionate discussion (they always are) in Alice. It is a community that is hard working, resilient and creative so I expect new activities and pride in what AS means to Australia. Their travelled and fresh young eyes are always a good lens with which to view your town, refresh your energy, implement necessary change and make it more just and inclusive.n

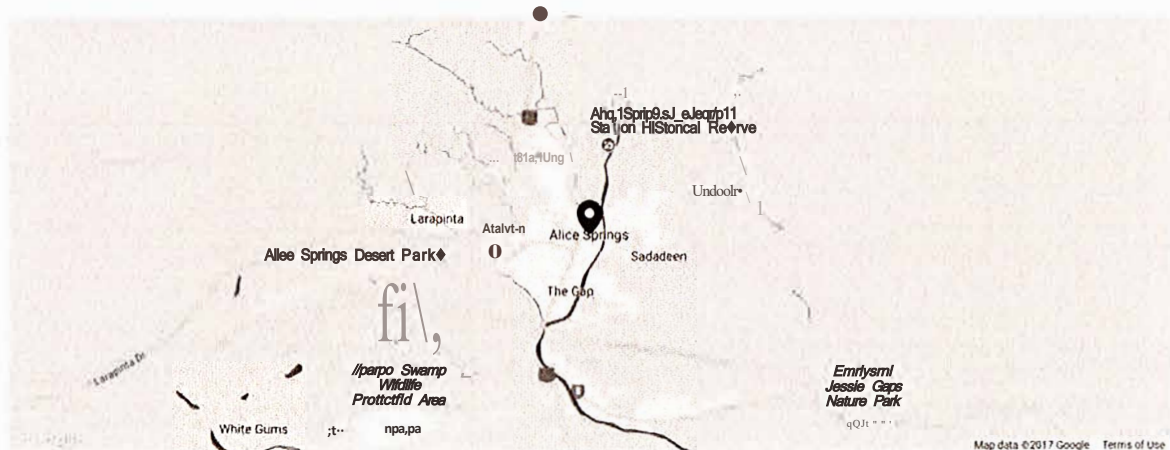
Andrea Nield, Architect, Alice Springs News Online Stop# 12: Alice Springs

The Grand Section Guardian It012 - Stop 012 Alice Springs (Mparntwe)

August 23, 2021

The landscape is more powerful than most. We cycled through vast horizontality, undulating ancient sea beds and were profoundly moved by the contrasting verticality which meets us in the Alice Springs surrounds. The MacDonnell ranges has a demanding presence, passing through the gap we're left speechless. Layers of eroded angled strata saying all.

There is an intensity to this place that makes you sit up and take notice. The scale of Alice is graspable by one mind, tantalizingly tangible, you can hold all the complexities and contradictions by their threads and understand how one action reverberates through the web of repercussions.



Place

22nd - 30th July

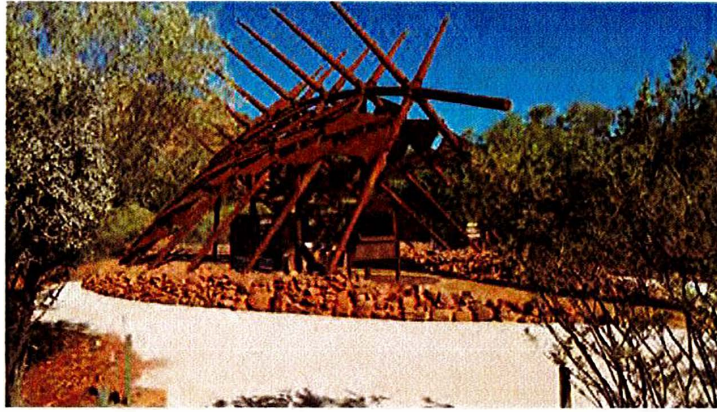
Alice Springs (Mparntwe) lies in-between Australia's deserts. Snug, just out of the ecological boundaries that define Australia as the driest inhabited continent. The rugged hills that encircle Alice are part of an ancient mountain range that has defined in-habitation for tens of thousands of years.

The reason for the name "Alice Springs" was not a spring but a lady named Alice, a stagnant pond which gets caught at a bend in the Todd River and some granite misnamed by white settlers. An ironically appropriate name for what is now Australia's frontier territory where ignorance has led to much complexity.

The town is defined by the surrounding geography, axis's decided and shot off prominent features almost on the cardinal points. Following the Todd River, it is so prominent the town is divided east and west of it, sacred hills dotted through the town are part of the ancient dreaming of the Arrernte (pronounced Ahrrinda) people, the traditional owners of this land. Geography for us gained prominence when we began to map the layers as we usually do. Curving desert edges lined up with language group boundaries and geographical formations defined space in opposition to our orthogonal division of space as white fellas. The land is telling of so much out here.

Alice Springs physical bounds are dictated by landscape but the vibrant cultural and social bounds are much less tangible. Its location and density of services mean the footprint for the city stretches way into the western deserts, up the Stuart Highway and drifts down through the Flinders ranges. A town of 24,000 with a footprint of a sprawling metropolis.

Isolation and remoteness geographically define Alice Springs (AS) as the centre, in most other aspects though when you come to engage with the place, it seems to be on the edge. On the edge of black and white, culture, language, social welfare, poverty and wealth, education and health.



© 2014, All rights reserved. This is a U.S. Government work, and as such, is in the public domain in the United States of America.

Ki,ron Finnont (Journalist and wondtrwomort, Alice Springs onlin*)

One of these strong women we are in admiration of. A force to be reckoned with and a literary genius. Reporting this frontier country and all it entails to the world, her work is invaluable and possibly the only of its kind. There was an incredible sense of wholeness to her presence, as if time was never pressing (when in fact 'time' for a journalist must be a continually pressing concept). Each question was received with great thought and a considered response. We both agreed a rare asset to possess and one we had not experienced in the trip particularly in a journalist. Giving us huge insight into Alice, its people and its happenings she patiently and willingly entertained our hypothetical prodding and ridiculous un-articulated questions. Vividly, she spoke of the value of relationships and their accumulation in informing her life, perspectives and work.

In return she wrote an excellent **article** and returned to watch our presentation & exhibition after which she wrote another one!! Wacko! To be the receptor of such work and genuine presence is a privilege.

Mtryn Show /Youth Work,r & Cofftt 1/aost</i>

Staying with Meryn for our time in Alice we were introduced to the realities of being a Youth Worker. How incredibly undervalued and demanding we came to the conclusion. These people caring for the welfare of and shaping our future generations are required to have the emotional resilience, patience and tolerance of a robot, engagement skills of a baby sitter, and hugely flexible working hours intertwined with in depth cultural awareness and understanding. What a complex space to navigate and operate sanely in. And on top of that she is an apprentice coffee roaster, further a part of the cultural future of the City. Hats off to you Mez.

St,ph 1/aow /Dirctor of Htalthab/tat, Public and Envrirtmenta/ Htoth Offic<r for Nganampa Health Council, UPK Program Coordinator & Certified Mad Dog/

Through Owen's previous work with Healthabitat and contacts around the place we had heard of the mysterious Stephan Rainow through whispers and legends, contacts seemed apprehensive about how to approach contacting him and so, we rang with much trepidation. Going to see him at his office on the industrial edge of Alice (in the same complex also was NPY Women's Council & Tjanpi Desert Weavers) we met an incredibly warm, welcoming and knowledgeable man whose life time of work is all in one job. "I've got a very boring resume" we were told. Steph's approach to indigenous affairs was refreshing, his approach is to build a solid base that people can launch from. He sees his work as doing this through the improvements to the living environments or education (they have made five albums about healthy practices such as showers, toilets and the like). The idea of cultural sensitivity is an under current in his work, he is not there to save the culture, that is not his job, he is there to treat people as people and make sure their dunny works. We were lucky enough to see some of his catalogue of early drawings by Paul Pholeros, the jokes, the failed film story board and the A3 sized UPK report to ensure that it inconveniently stuck out of bookshelves!

Mikt Gilliam (Photograph,,; ,ntrtpntntur, rntngadt and advocatt)

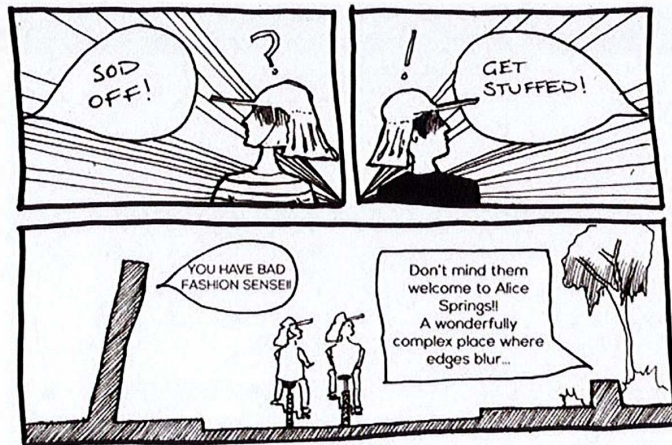
A renowned photographer and artist Mike is passionate about Alice and its potential for the future. His place at Hele Crescent is a bohemian hub in an industrial section of town. The "Coffee Horse" serves up banging beetroot chai's (Bobbies favorite), light lunches and tasty treats that are devoured by the east side dwelling "greeny" workers from the CLC who are more than happy to escape the confines of the office and sit opposite a tyre repair shop for their mid-morning latte. Mike has made a place beyond culture though, his true passion lies in places that attempt to make landscapes and ecologies healthier than when he found it. His rear property line instead of being built has been opened and is encouraging the natural water shed down the sacred mountain to take its natural course. A large ditch at the back of the site, retains this run off (rather than sending it to the street) and absorbs it into the site. It's about allowing the water to move slowly. Driveways slope to soakage and trees provide shade for people and animals. Crazy! Mike's generosity of time and enthusiasm for design was contagious. Sharing years of knowledge at a semi-automatic latte Mike made our note taking hands ache and our brains strain.



The magical workshop where Mike's mad creations abound

Stuff (Architecture)

The introductory comic for our exhibition says it perfectly.



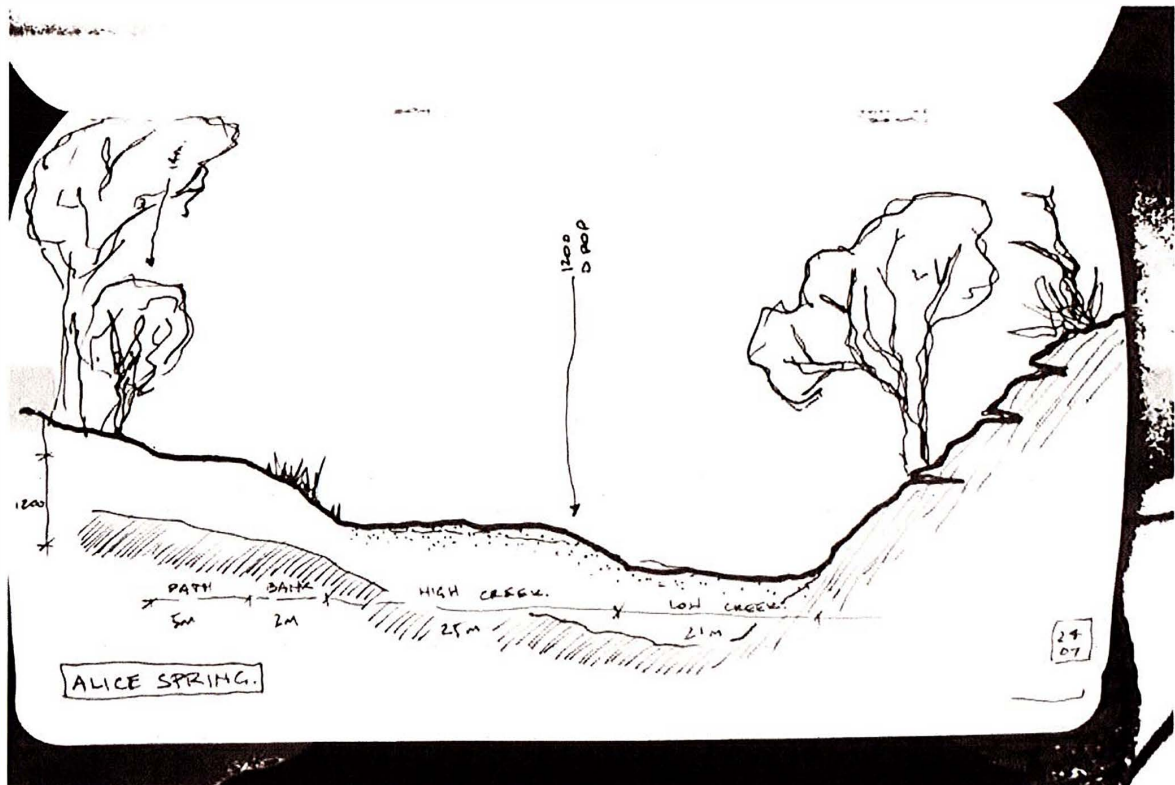
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Alice is a city on edge. The green edges of the town are inhabited by the indigenous mobs or occasional European tourists without the pre-conceived ideas of edgy situations. The new gigantic law court building defines it's edge with dark glass and neck hurting proportions. The old law court has a grass edge across the street that acts as a waiting room. Geography creates edges that are then inhabited by people who want the perceived safety from the more edgy characters of late night Todd Street. Attempts at making troublesome spaces 'friendly' are enthusiastically embraced by council and the infrastructure team with many lovely benches and 'place-making' being built into the street fabric. Actual inhabitation of these spaces is limited and restricted to the 9-5 workday.

Pockets of innovative thinking are manifest in front lawns, industrial estate cafes and failed storm water retention schemes. All of these hint at the complex and talented matrix that underlies Alice's architecture.

There are 18 housing associations throughout the town known as 'town camps' often on special purpose government leases where their location is dictated by direction of traditional lands. Each town camp typically comprises a distinct Indigenous community based on language and kinship groups where residents often have strong links with remote communities hence a great deal of mobility. It is said although there have been undeniable improvements in living conditions from illegal squatters to land tenure, humpies and tin sheds to houses, living standards still remain unacceptably low. Issues persist with quality and maintenance of housing, health, education, employment opportunities and self-determination. **(Tangentyere Council)**



Exhibition, Friday 28th July 2017.

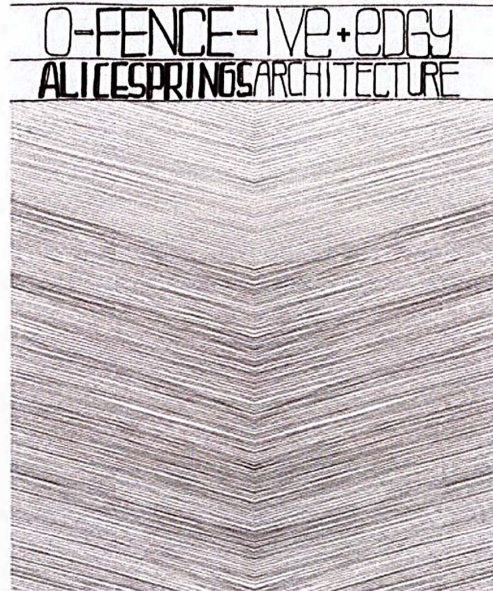
soft edges, hard edges? Why look at edges.

Due to great timing and no other reason we were in Alice Springs at the same time a 2 week intensive University of Newcastle (UON) elective was running. In fact many of the students are our fellow peers and cohort along with Chris Tucker as mentor & coordinator. They took on the mammoth task of tackling projects concerned around housing in town camps, youth and communities under the guidance of Tangentyere design. Considering we were told on countless occasions to make change one must be around at least 10 years these guys presented some well-considered & sensitive suggestions to tackle some of the problems at hand.

A presentation and critique session was organised for the students, much more formal and organised than the air our presentations tend to take. At the acceptance of Tangentyere they allowed us to present at the end of the day - to make us feel somewhat more comfortable and informal we took up presenting our work in the walkway outside the shop instead, on the edge - just as the topic of our presentation took. Easy and lucky for us the large audience hung around and listened to what we had to say about edges, bearing through the loud foot traffic and drag of tables at end of business.

And so, the title of this exhibition takes this into its stride.

Unfortunately feelings of fear, issues of security (perceived or real) and safety is exercised into the fully or part definition of impenetrable private space creating a massive divide between this and public space. Also known as a house fence. We noticed that not only residential areas, but began to analyse edges of the built environment of landscape and community. Follow the link to get your offensive and edgy architecture fix!



Check out the IMACI... Alice Springs News as a reflection of our exhibition - [HERE!](#)

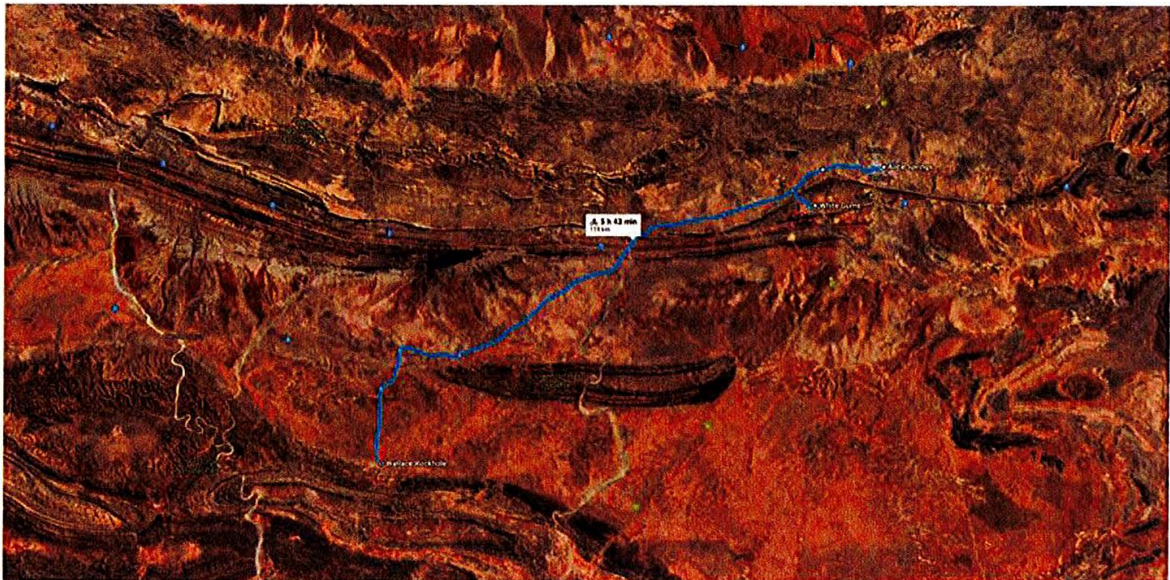
Check out the second article written by Kieran Finnane in Alice Springs News as a reflection of our exhibition - [HERE!](#)



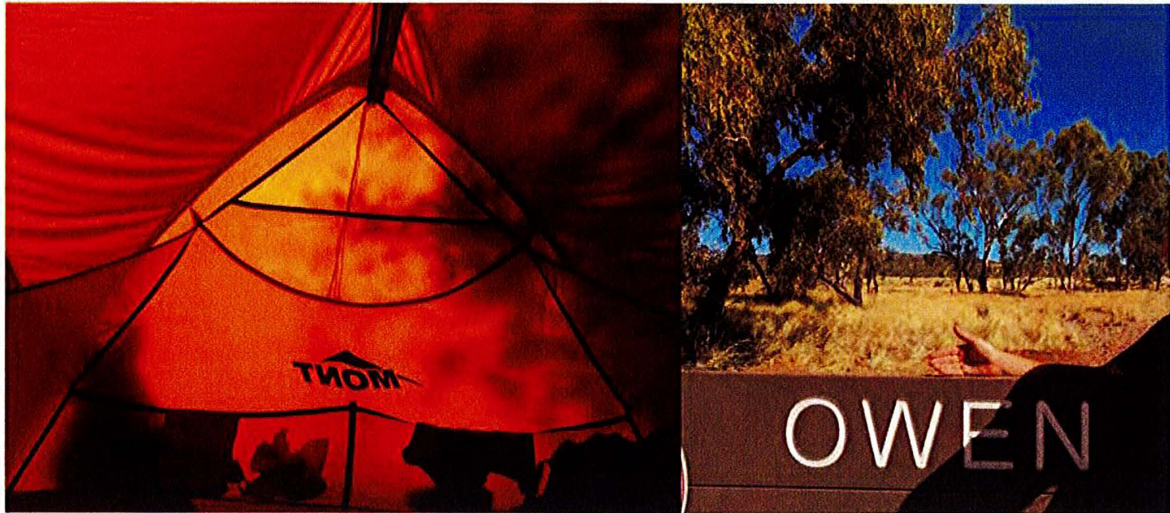
Suggestions

- There is a critical lack of edges for cultures to intermingle on a voluntary basis. Where activities are based on mutual enjoyment and livability.
- Consider edges to co-exist and inter-mingle for everyone for fun
- low permeable fences over tall solid fences
- Engage with your front yard, this further reduces the need for fences
- What would happen if we removed the fences and built an edgy centre where lots of things could co-exist....?
- Use public space in conjunction with private spaces for informal gatherings, meet ups or a wrestle
- Keep water on site and in the ground, slow it down. Encourages animals, greater biodiversity, healthier plants, better air, less bushfires.
- Ensure geography is respected to maintain riparian corridors, promoting vibrant and healthy life
- Keep things at the human scale....low, less than 5 stories high
- If the g10lll'd 'loo, s 11dh th dle is 11th thaliks Jan Gehl.
- Niht 1s JS 1moo1t(lnf ,1s ct 1, et1si1e5ses ,3rd \$paces \:1P moEd 111rd, on that coepr tfe hours o' then igrt \111ens1,t' pub;c riefsef'CP -dirt e\ on 1h? streEt 11'(1 bcd>ll' Scl,111, It'Oll(1115 Crull d id 1d1.

In-between (in reflection) Alice - Wallace Rockhole



The 120km or so easy track from Alice to WRH. Check out that bloody geology from Mesozoic. The range at the top of the image is the MacDonell and at WRH led marker is upon the base of the James Range.



A short stint of only 120km or so, but we took it slowly. At 011, point adopting a dog Millie for 12 hours, from Shifta (pic above) she waited for a stick to be thrown. In the
 .11emle county, we follow the MacDonnell Ranges on our left side out of Alice and cut south as does the trailing workcourses through to Owen Springs here to
 reach the gravel entrance road into Wallace Rockhole. Overwhelmed by the geology of the ranges, ridges resembled dinosaur backs, the red perpetuated.

Lined in Mallee shrubs we arrived upon crest about halfway down the emerald road. Looking forward, appeared the red stained James Range and behind us the deep
 blue hued William MacDonnell Ranges. This book end created a powerful sense of locality.

Horse poo was everywhere, an introduction to what was to come. We cycled into the small town, "Tidy Town" winner signs dating back to the 1950s proud. The kids on
 the school court stared in amazement at our heavily laden bikes, waving and returning "hellos" into the shop/camp ground. "we're here to stay for a
 week, the owner looked amazed stumbled back a little and the shop assistant exclaimed "if's go, go to air . . .

Edited by the fantastical Jon Richards

Creels.

Dusty & Thirsty

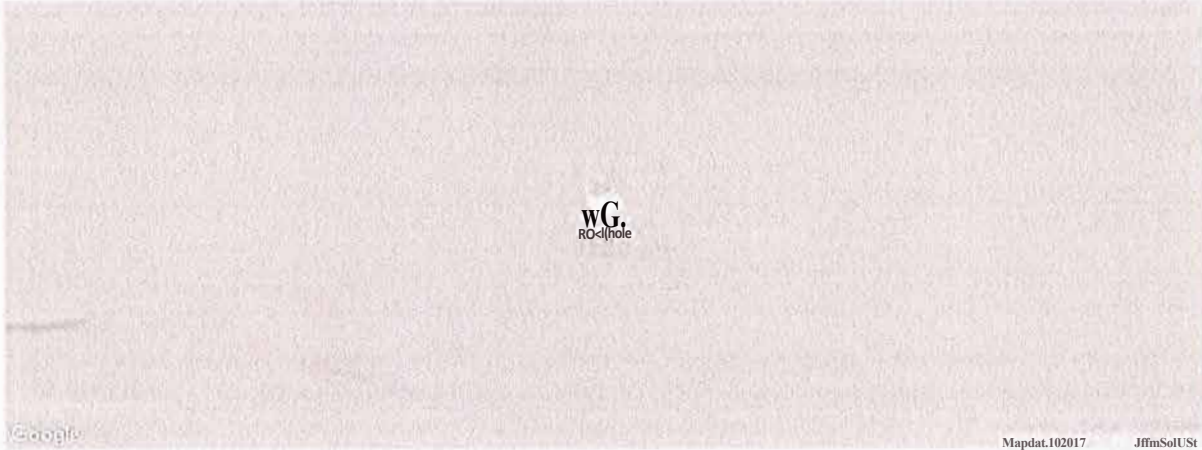
Stop 13: Wallace Rockhole

02.08.17

The Grand Section Guardian #013 - Stop 013 Wallace Rockhole

August 27, 2017

PERMIT REQUIRED, PERMIT REQUIRED says the milp at the CLC (Central Land Council). In reality permits are not required and the ongoing battle between community and Policy is fought so often in the range of red tape. The small indigenous community is only 117km from Alice Springs, down a 'dead-end' road at the edge of the sand hill country and nestled into the red face of the James range. A once strong town caught metaphorically and literally in-between a rock and a hard place.



Place

02-09 August 2017

At the base of The James Range on a bed of sandstone, siltstone and limestone deposits, Wallace Rockhole, WRH/ essentially sits in the 40km swale between it and the western MacDonnell Ranges.

Entering down the 18km gravel entrance road one arrives at a rise, bookended by the stunning views of the blue MacDonnell ranges to the North and the Red hills of the James Range to the south. The literal Wallace Rockhole was one of many waterholes that the indigenous people used in the area as part of their semi-nomadic hunter-gatherer routes.

The 200 million year old James Range that creates an east west spine that Wallace Rockhole nestles into providing the gorges and channels that hold and funnel water for this country. This volcanic and igneous landform is an important geological and ecological feature that sustains inhabitation. The gorge behind the town is where its namesake comes from, Wallace Rockhole. Water in this landscape runs against the grain of the geology so this 1.5km north-south running gorge houses a string of water holes. One near permanent waterhole, Thuiarta has supported human and animal habitation for thousands of years. The gorge houses engraved rock art, known as petroglyphs. After questioning the traditional Owner (TO) about three symbols pointing to the cardinal points he said the art was a part of a map directing traditional owners through the landscape.



;

Ti: 14/0's

the Intervention

People

Located...

Ken Porter

t\11rying ar...

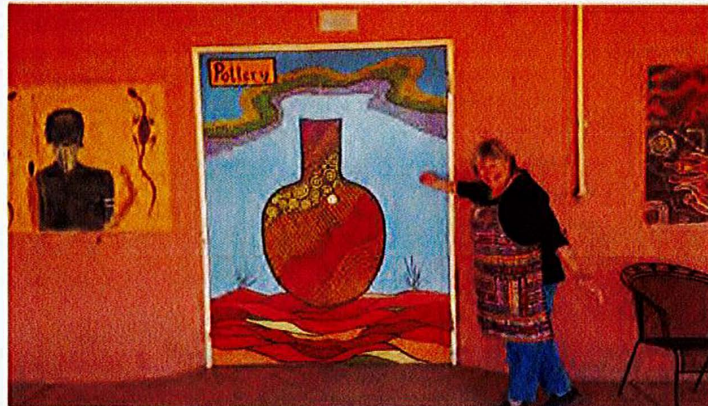
K...s...



Su Brown

A St: Hill* r ltrd QueenS, land<-1c, 111yirig out he1 early stint of tm to foti1 n10111hs n tl: -,n, di rowl,, Su w,ls one of rht' liftst f-Of)le v-f met. Sue htki been 1.1slng ht1 poHM') c-,pe, t15E' over tht? post l? ell year to build tip the 11Qttter / studio n the community c, eat11, g a comfoitcble and st.1pportiv1 community pace for anyone n the commul't' / tov, sit 311d use. mch: (tu,,) school children.

In 2010 the community agreed to her pottery progr, m w, 11, the s1, pulat0on 'no go, ernmenl funding', kbt1•1111g the effe<l of the cons1ant cli nge o,, er of go, ernment on poliv. 1111d111g and g, ant,, S-be hascrowo flnded the program, ra•ses over S100CO •eh y••r an<l the p,, 11e1ptualo has just ,eceiveM its 3rd tonne of ctav!!



Su, 11 V1f K1P?y1trt<Wit u,,) l' E:roA)h• Cct1•/ ;. M2>P1J •• -1o't 1, 101'• \Q1t ,,, f'f "f, •, 11 VG t0r-t Click on lht pkl,, to find out more about what ,he it up to and jump on boudt

Much like Sue, we have found the retired mobs trotting around our roads known as "grey nomads" to be incredible resources. The skill sets they hold are HUGELY valuable being f\plcauy lfoM the generations of 11e long careers" \ngle areas or e)pt1se. With the1rwillingnec;s and generosity to shr11e. help, check in on things and people 111 the'r retired eMs th<• are lmdc,vcllue-d a1'd und r.1pp1e<:iated. A g'tnt1tic force to be ,eckoned with

Angela

A talented and steady handed local lady wh•J v,hen not v,or ing as a teacher...a,de ls staving away 111 the pottery making beautiful ...arks. We were mtroduce<110 Angela 10i.cn dnnoyng HE1 wtl, qllestion as sti nntd to tolus 0111n11ute clay detail) ,nth pott,:1y dnd ca,11,, to p11t-e1, -te 1e quiPl se11t1 of dttt<11111ndion clad skill. Dteply 1mme,sod in the town with fam,ly, thE school. pottery and occasional tourism Angela's Quiel competency 11 stilt challenged by the lnb11,ty to Eft mt1,ntenance Cont? e.1ound her house Dy tli "super shire,, n,e succ s or her pa11ery work ls "" p 111hanks to the pass,on ard generosity of S<1e's hrd work wiu, fun, 1in6 an,1 sha,,,g ,,: sk•ll. Havir•g a fully 1rsot11ced and suooal t1,1e n\,1ron111cent at ,, and has allowed P•:Oole StJul ts Angela t1> up 3,111 orid fut11er thEir 31t•stic f111it1ts.



Stuff (Architecture)

Govmme11t suppli ho,,s,ng. Too hot il, \urnm r. too colct 'n winter. Ses.sa-blocks. ;ue prot, fic. Th' alt ceint r clnd ,tl rtteth no1t11 iarir, g ,e1<1nd1h Me the town't, on1 1 In ornH! community sp,1ees. r11e sto, e ell th1 bad.1 of tilt? sp, Ke t•)D acts as. 1 c.ommuncy spct?-. p ple pas,sing and e. •Chdnging 1.1r1111?1xtion. Commonly n tht:ljt commun,t•t•> 1 u'E splht work 1:11v - stores dPO s1 ops a,e <fo m: 0-a,;}. the sita t•11'.

From humpies and tents to tin sheds to the now common brightly coloured Bessa-block housing, buildings here are not unlike those of other communities and outstations we've come through.

HOUSING



Slowly but surely, the programs developed by the community were addressed and a new image started to emerge. Gone were the tents. And one by one the tin shacks and shelters were dismantled or relocated and renovated for other uses.

Gone are the days when meals were prepared and cooked outside in kitchens (?) like this one.

Housing continued...

Today in 1996, the community comprises 24 homes and 3 shelters. These modern structures include facilities such as air conditioning and solar hot water. Water reticulation to all homes, lawns and gardens are a feature.

It has been their community's demonstration of self help and its determination in 'owning their patch' which has had the most significant effect on the overall outlook and attitude the community enjoys today.

Removal of community housing from land leasing and tenure arrangements... with the government still ongoing in these communities, some up to 99 years. This still leaves authority over housing lacking with unacceptable and inferior construction, maintenance and repair regimes along with overcrowding not helping the problem.

Housing is often ill-considered and not designed particular for the place or harsh desert sun and hard bore water. Suburban solutions are fitted to these place where the nearest plumber or handyman may be 120km away due to the implementation of 'super shires' (in this case, the MacDonnell Shire Council) taking control.

In the 2007 intervention responsibility for essential services were taken away from the WRH community such as an operating service garage and mechanic taking local labour, trade and independence away from community members. Now a broken down car either stays stranded or a tow truck from 120km away is ordered, a week or so lost and weeks of pay or Centrelink allowance.

TENDER

**NORTHERN TERRITORY HOUSING COMMISSION
ON BEHALF OF**

WALLACE ROCKHOLE COMMUNITY

Tenders closing at 2.00pm on the 15th August 1986 are invited for 2x2 bedroom and 1x3 bedroom houses at Wallace Rockhole.

CONTRACT NO. P.H. 3/86/87

Tender documents including a detailed schedule of works will be available at the Northern Territory Housing Commissions Office, Parsons Street, Alice Springs.

Tenders on the supplied form and in the supplied envelope must be lodged in the Tender Box, First Floor, 9 Parsons Street, Alice Springs prior to the prescribed closing time.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

108595v2

28 — Centralian Advocate, Friday 18-7-86

Newspaper snippet from the Wallace Rockhole archives, 1986. Design unknown.

It's the same old story with the houses as "e vere told by a few residents circa 2007. Shoddy construction, fly screens with snake sized gaps and the dreaded red dust storms which is unimaginable until experienced one night the wind blew relentlessly, while we tried to sleep dust was coming through our tent falling on our faces. Caking all belongings. If, tap leaks or toilet stops working residents are forbidden to touch it and fly to it, the problem themselves. Calling the 'super shue' workmen (based in Alice) to 'it one tap is unlike to be fixed' and in that case you may be waiting weeks anyhow.

One resident shared her tale; the toilet stopped working, the super shue workmen called for her to send a photo. With no internet, mobile phone reception or even a postbox in the town, it's impossible. Unfortunately, she couldn't find the septic system so she couldn't do anything about it. These dire concepts make life so many of us:

People still hold the idea that "Aboriginals wreck housing". You would probably "wreck" it too if nothing got fixed, your toilet didn't work, your taps leaked and your doors were put on wrong.

Something we hadn't come across yet was the way in which power is obtained by residents; through a power card. Like a pre-paid phone credit, a paper card is purchased in denominations of \$10, \$20, \$50 etc. and entered into the power box. Voila! (or, as the Australians say "Vwais"), no more quarterly bills which seems like a great option for the low income earner or those unable to put money away. But you've just got to hope you buy enough credit to last whilst you go away and the \$5 emergency power button only works once.



Details from our exhibition showing the power card and leaving toilet ongoing maintenance.

Another card system used is the 'Basics Card' introduced during the intervention and officially described as "A reusable card that gives you access to your income managed money through EFTPOS facilities at approved stores and businesses". This is mandatory for people (primarily Indigenous Australians, although apparently to be rolled out nation wide) on welfare payments to mitigate the buying of alcohol, porn and cigarettes. There was mixed feelings about this roll out into the communities with some people happy with it, believing it helped with alcoholism. Whilst others feeling like it created segregation and 'shame' for the users, the card being a distinctive green and only useable at approved shops. In addition it requires internet services and power (along with keeping all receipts for 7 years) for the EFTPOS system to work which can be problematic for an isolated town and shop. When the power is cut (surprisingly regularly) people who need to buy food have to drive 120km to Alice Springs and spend time and money on travel.

The school is one of the only other public buildings, a mongrel assortment of demountable buildings are shipped in bits and pieces from elsewhere. There has been schooling in the community since 1977, beginning in a tin shed it now looks much different. One overly large shaded outdoor play area space was a "waste of money" the teachers aid told us - another government addition. The kids don't really use it and it's not designed well so you can watch all of the kids at once. Three walls are blocked in which doesn't do wonders for the gusty wind and dust. Large air-con units and satellite dishes mount the demountable buildings trying to make up for what a lack of good design doesn't do.

Learning of all of this and experiencing these foreign concepts for us amplifies and gives more merit to the work of Healthabitat (see web link below) and what they achieved in remote Indigenous communities and *Housing for Health*. Community discussion, local staff, and hardware that works, functioning houses, dust breaks - good health. Check it out, acquaint yourself with some real architecture. Fuck yeah!

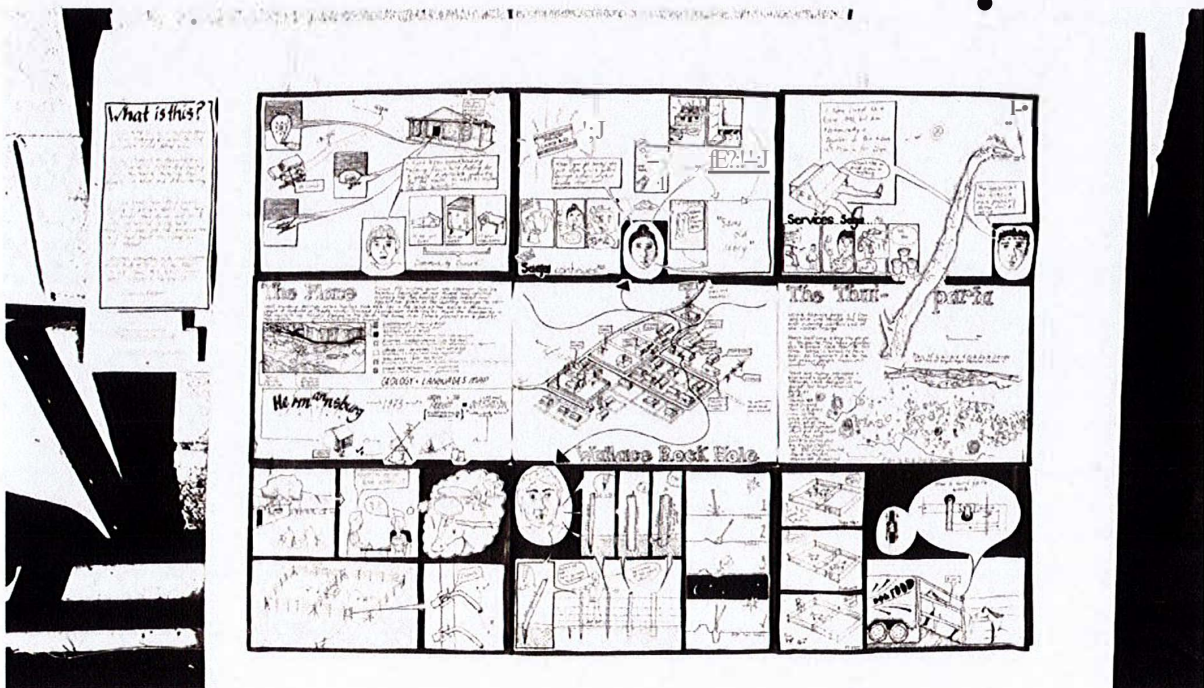
Healthabitat have been doing this work since 1985!! Have a look at this TED talk by Fari Pholeros for an overview of their work. IT STARTED IN AUSTRALIA!!



Exhibition, Thursday 9th August

Walldce Rockhole's population has many speakers whose first or even third language is not English and so we attempted to create an exhibition that is legible through graphics alone. It's a linguistic challenge trying to communicate in a universal language, we're slowly improving taking only the best cues from people who have done this superbly in the past, such as the late and great: Paul Pholeros and Leunig. Our approach was simply to document our conversations with people and the information we learnt from them about how they live and what influences it. From the day to day routines of locals, plumbing, house woes, town history and progression it was great to absorb knowledge and learn. Especially when many conversations prior to this were with 'whitefellas' working in Indigenous affairs who often mused that they would love to see someone ask the (Indigenous) people what they think about their houses.... Consultation, a crazy thought it seems.

The most informal yet. With no real space to present we 'borrowed' a board from the art centre and propped it up in the shop just above the blankets and around the corner from spannes and baked beans. Conversations about the work were few and brief but we found out later, on that some of the locals were pretty chuffed that we had invested this time and effort into documenting these things in a way that was honest and that showed something tangible for the time that people put into us during our stay.



The final board! Left next to the baked beans for all shoppers to see. Click on the image to make it bigger.

Suggestions

- If in doubt look at the Healthhabitat website.
- If working somewhere, ask people from that place what they want and need. Honest, open consultation that doesn't reek of box ticking.
- Once things are checked, regular maintenance should be scheduled and enforced OR
- train and employ locals; skills training and building

In-between (In-reflection) Wallace Rockhole to Uluru

12th • 17th August



Minimum equipment required

Safety - your responsibility

Driving in soft sand

Aboriginal and



A cleverly edited map that shows the route we took from Wallace Rockhole. Following the bends of the beautiful Finke gorge and cutting across Desert Oak (mammoth sized) scattered sandhills.

Heading to Uluru via the Stuart highway being overtaken by four bus caravans and 1oad trains sou,,ded pa,,cularly unappealing, so we decided to take the "Boggy Hole" track. This aptly name<J track cu south ilom He1mannsburg following along the fir. e River before cuning ac,oss sa11d dunes. e11du1g up on the Ernest Giles 1oad. Trending for 111s area. w,,ter cuts against the gr,,in of the geology leaving breathtaking gorges and rocky outcrops.

we took a "shot cut of 15km" (it was 25kms) from Wallace Rockhole that followe<l west along the JamE-5 Range. Knowing this was going to be a sandy stretch we we,,, somewhat ready lo, some long days and short distances. little did ,ve reahse tlOugh this was going to be the 11arost secuon of the trip thus far (over-ruling" here we've stated that befo,e) yet ln ,et,ospect also the most encouraging.

Fo, country that was a povilege to 1*,ness t was ha,d as sM. O en up at 5.30am to leave by sunrise they we,e nine or so hour days of pushing (dragging) and very littl riding th1ough deep river sand. 1ve1 pebbles. bed 1ock and bull dust. There were 1ea1s. sweat, blood, sp,n,fex spikes. desert oak bu11s. ridiculous water rations and gl1m food svpphes and it was only fi,e days through this ha1d stuff.

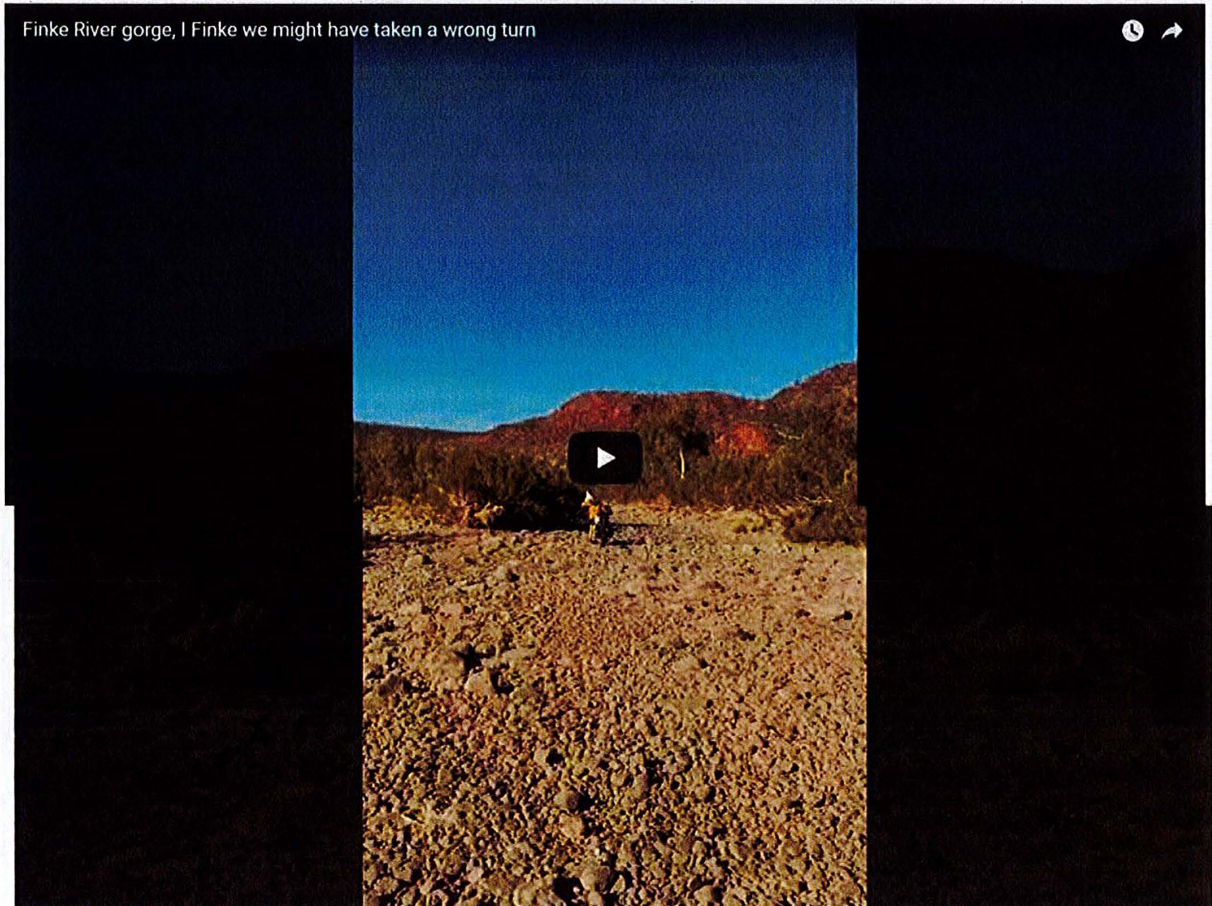
we lea,nt first-hand of the benefi of the matting of acaoa needles to minunise erosion 1and eose the pus1ng th1ough sand), the value of the life source; water, soil. ecology, geology. rip.irian corridors. ruthless bturs and Jppropriate materials. wild ,1n11ms. ,solat,on. temperature variations. wmds, sun and animal tracking.

Once out and onto the m,1i11oad we were s,,etct,e<l fo, a lot of things and so relied on ge11e1os*ty of people D b1ing up ou, spirits ano wate, at1011s to something 1ell1stic. We we1e ove1wf1elmed Jnd our lhir t easily quenched. rwo secuety gua1ds en bought us me1t n1s on the11 return run. in 11swi gulp we ,nh,led t1t1 nwa1y goodness and -ve,e counting <M blessings leaving no more e,cuses but to be gene10us t>.?ings.

Cycling into Uluru we sketclwcl our i1ppro,1ch, from 50m-s out the beating heart nses,wer the nin of s,,nn n,ines slowly reve,1ing itself. n-e fi1st g111npse lelt hke an ,mll'cnse achievement, an over'l'helming sense of joy and ,elicf was all consum,ng. The purpose bu,lt ,esort did not disippo111t. Ov,en treating himself w,th a full litre of milk and Bobbie - yogurt and fnJlt.

393 km t.lkrng eight days ,ang,ng from 20 km to 106 km oet)<ndng on te11a,n.

St,c ing out like sore thumlls. we had ce1ta1nty turned Dusty l. T111sty into reality (our Joke of an email t>?Ing dustyMlll11sty@t11eg1andse-tlon.com). r11ey say the be5! Jokes•• bosro ,n fct!



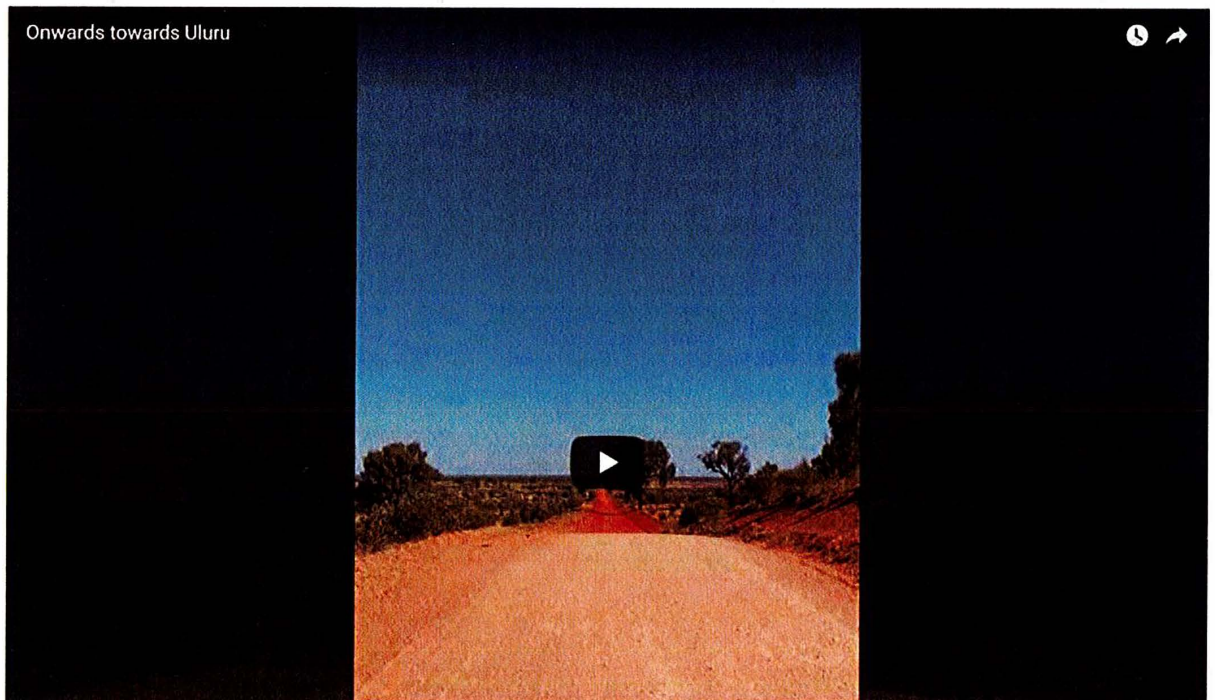
"II/SERT DRAWINGS OF APPR04(H?



Cheers,

Dusty & I hit!..y

Edited by the Fantastic Jen Richards



Stop 14: Uluru

17.08.17

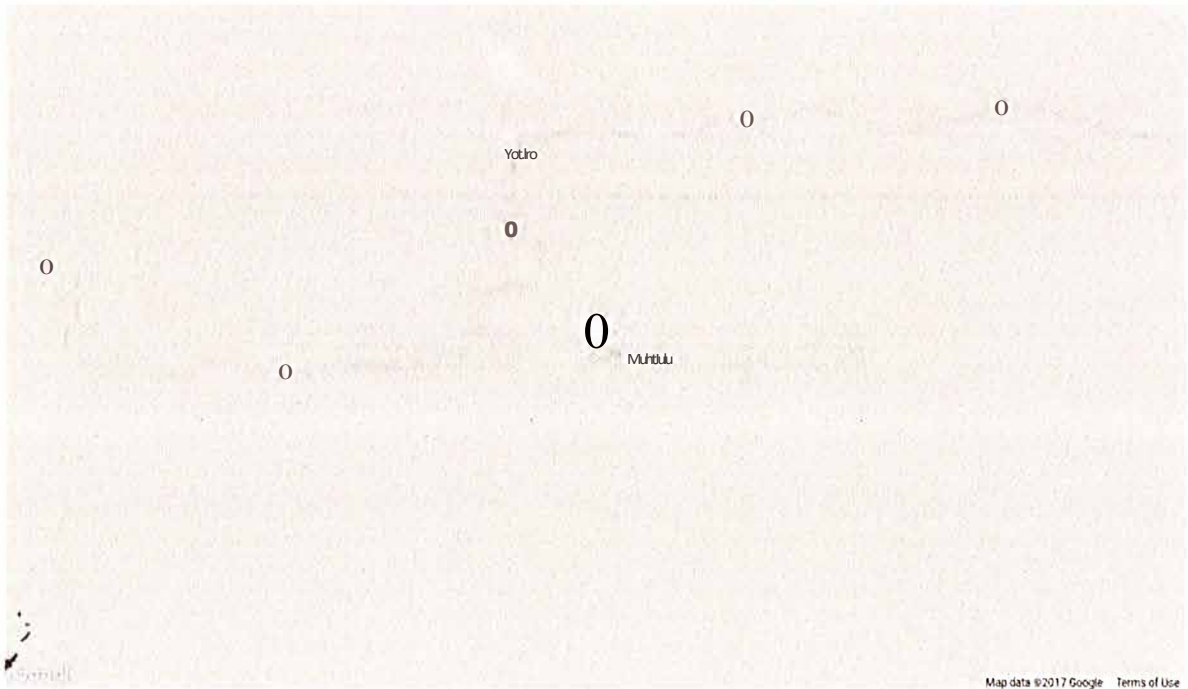
The Grand Section Guardian #014 - Stop 014 Ulu, u

LANGUAGE WARNING:

THERE IS A LOT!!

THIS IS A BIT OF A BEAST OF A BLOG BUT COVERS GROUND THAT IS AT THE CENTRE OF AUSTRALIA'S BLACK, WHITE RELATIONS AND HAS BEEN FOR OVER 100 YEARS!

.....



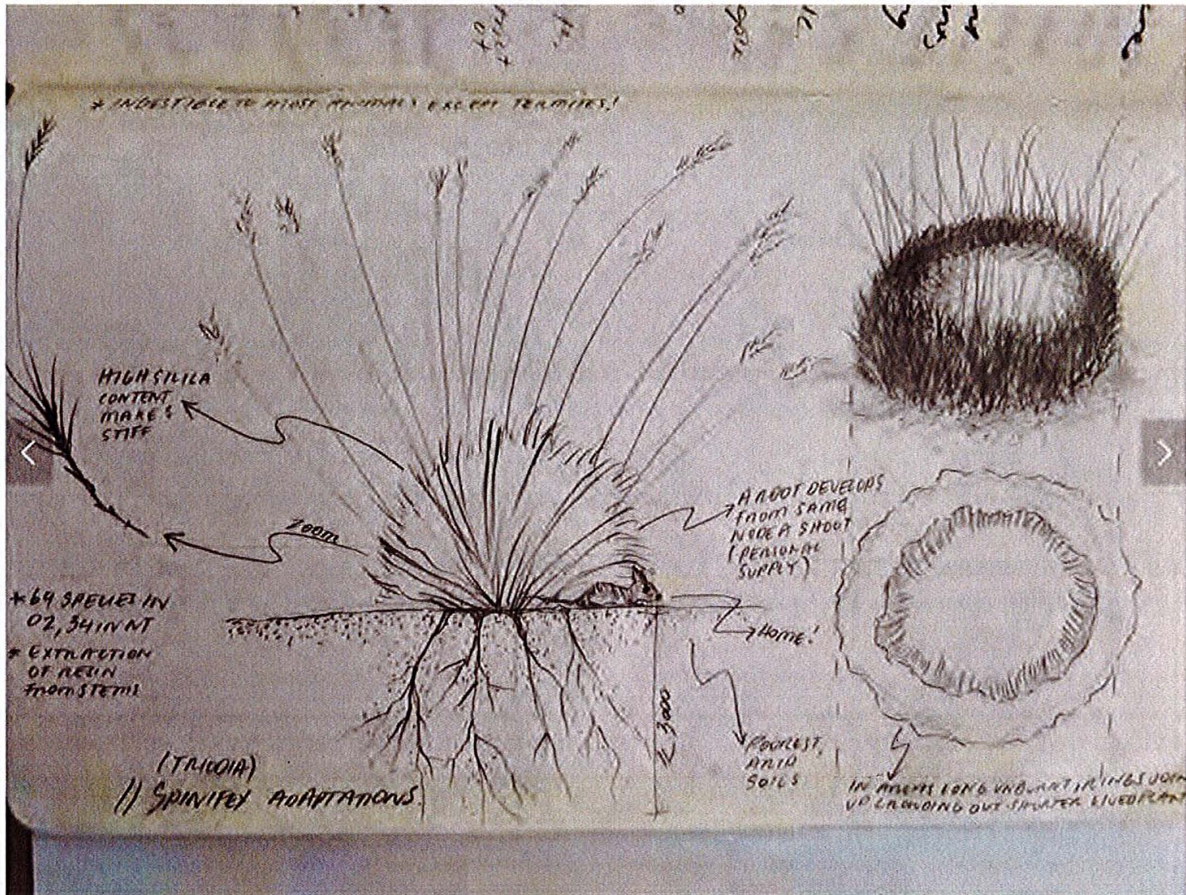
Place

17th - 26th August 2017

According to the Anangu people this incredible landscape was created at the beginning of time by ancestral beings with Tjukurpa (the law) governing all.

For the Anangu people, Uluru is a sacred place. It is a place of great spiritual significance and is considered one of the most important sites in the Anangu culture. The surface is impressive, extends 5-6 kilometers underground as well (possibly).

Today this is largely referred to as Uluru, the official and Aboriginal name. Similarly, Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) was pushed up by the same orogeny but not by so many degrees. Spinifex and Desert Oak scrub. This contrast amplifies the power of the massive rocks that dominate the landscape for a 50km radius.



Ulu, u has been a powerful and significant place to, thus, it is of great importance. In the 1950s, the shapes of the rock are no longer so, less and embedded in the sites for both men and women comprising the rock. It was not until the 1950s that tourism began its steady and tightening grip.

The closest town is 463 km away, namely Alice Springs. Emergency services for people stuck on the rock climb 11 fly from Alice Springs, which can take an overnight stop for people before they get to safety, and as a result story goes. 578,000 bill.

Only 21 km to the north west of the rock, itself is the township of Yulara, the most biggest city in the Northern Territory. It is the biggest contributor to the NT economy. So whilst it is a small town, there are 14 places to eat and drink, a police and fire station, a gallery, a supermarket, a post office, a conference center and a shop. It is the most popular of the 65 tours and experiences that are on offer from the hotel and tour companies. With a transient staff population of 1200 and upwards of 400,000 people visiting the national park every year, this place has huge infrastructure to cater for the demands of tourism.

Sitting quietly to the east of the rock, is the closed Aboriginal community of Tiitjira, a town of about 300 people. The "Range" is a long, narrow, and remote, and is a part of the Northern Territory. The Tiitjira community is a part of the Northern Territory. The Tiitjira community is a part of the Northern Territory. The Tiitjira community is a part of the Northern Territory.

Regardless of this, the Tiitjira has ahead, had a complex and pivotal history.

People

People exist in three distinct places in and around the Uluru area, these are, Mutitjulu, Yulara and "Rangerville".

Mutitjulu

The local people of Uluru are the Anangu, a group of the Pitjantjatjara people. They are living in the Uluru area. The Pitjantjatjara people are a group of the Pitjantjatjara people. They are living in the Uluru area. The Pitjantjatjara people are a group of the Pitjantjatjara people. They are living in the Uluru area. The Pitjantjatjara people are a group of the Pitjantjatjara people. They are living in the Uluru area.



Mutitjulu Community is only about a kilometre from Uluru!

After Anangu people's first night in the settlement, the exploration of the area was a difficult task. The 1870s and 1930s were the years of the 'Petition' (Aboriginal Reserves) including Uluru and Kata Tjuta. The 1940s saw the focus from government has been conservation and tourism. From 1936, tourists started to come to Uluru, and as interest increased ad hoc accommodation facilities were built at the base of Uluru with aboriginal people being actively discouraged from visiting or staying. 1958 saw the area including Uluru and Kata Tjuta excised from the Aboriginal Reserve and gazetted as Ayers Rock-Mount Olga National Park named by Giles and Gosse. Aboriginal people had no rights to enter the area. As a result of the 1976 *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act*, a 1978 submitted claim along with great lobbying and an Act amendment saw in 1985 a large ceremonial 'Handback' event returning the National park to its traditional owners.

11/11) ,, 1111 11<,(01((1or,ion (,,11s 11r,11w,t,t' ../(lit: :11111111e,, of r,t'GVc>11r11f1t. on r:1:0/01'oe,11111-11111 11)201" . KJ 11f.O11,1? trm Jb1t and 11q1,m11t' dou.r; o: ,11<OY,, - 11111 P11-11 11U1'11S-S41'0f 1f 11-11' 11u,, t:11 1111e ,11-11 11sc 11f,11, ,11, 11ua/om;11 11,11e 11c ,11m 11d1111 - 11M 81), 111d 11J 11L1ub1oc11o 11E11w,1111, 112' : 11s ;

HOWEVER, there were imposed conditions including the 99 year lease^[iii] of the land back to the Commonwealth government as a national park managed by Parks Australia with a portion of receipts going back to the Traditional Owners. And so, that brings us to today with 67 years remaining. Tjukurpa (Spiritual Law) continues to determine the responsibilities of the present-day Anangu and their relationship to country created by their ancestors.

Moreover, Mutitjulu was ground zero for the intervention back in 2007. The government sent in Police, ADF troops in tanks and convoys uninvited of course to mark the beginning of the policy reforms.

"...a lot of our mothers who'd experienced the Stolen Generation. They ran up to the sand dunes to hide their kids, so you can just imagine they were reliving something they'd experienced"^[iv].

Whilst we were there Men's Business was on, yes they still practice ceremony here! A cultural space that restricts access for anyone else in certain parts of the community and or landscape to allow them to carry out their sacred business which after they then travel thousands of km's down to SA picking up elders and other men along the way. Female Anangu rangers and Mutitjulu residents have to be back into the town by 2.30pm inside their houses, leaving work and other duties to avoid any contact with the business which is forbidden. Ideas that our Western employment and cultural frameworks would struggle to accommodate.

Gary Cole

A community leader at Mutitjulu we were lucky enough to catch up with, in between him juggling lunch, his 6 month old son in arms and managing the local council workers, Gary talked passionately about how Uluru was his peoples place. He acknowledged that Mutitjulu has many issues similar to other indigenous communities; low local employment, poor housing stock and overcrowding. Observing that the intervention was a massive shock to the community with accusations thrown at many of the towns men (where 10 years on still nothing is proven, injuring pride and community cohesiveness).

Gary was optimistic and aspirational about the future of Mutitjulu whilst skeptical and not particularly empathetic with Yulara and the management there. There are community plans to create a campground for tourism, lifting the no alcohol ban and building a club house for sports and social events so the locals have a place they can hang out. Due to the township bans residents are prohibited from purchasing alcohol in Yulara or having a drink at any bar. Interestingly Gary talked a lot about the prospect of 2084 when the 99 year lease over the National Park is over and the control of the Park is handed back to the Anangu people. Once this happens Mutitjulu has the touristic honeypot that is their cultural heritage by the balls.



rydLQJTHW - tyLu... f'kkt,tat lyLIdM U (U t,c.,tr* U W f. an-t* O'W
fH" fton

Yu(ara

The big belsty ^{of} th,sbil of track is Yulara (Aye1s Rock Resor1).1he p,,rpose built tourism tO\\OShip of uluru. It is noted as one of the la,gest resorts in the uthern
Hern,sphe,, comprising usual 'town-like' facitities as mentioned before. blah blah blah. With J staff population of about 1200. most of these transient mix-bags stay for an
average of 13 months which has increased in recent years. Some of the "long term" residents are reaching the 9 year mark. however theS<? are few and far bE\\een. Worke,s
a,e often there to work for their stint, save cash and then head b,,ck ,o the coast to their previous lives, VulaM i\ manageci byV<-y\ge<. Indigenous Tourism Australia. O\\ned
by the Indigerous Land Co,poration IILCI where from 2011 the •IC established an Indigenous Training and Employment Strategy with a 2018 go11 of 50% 111oige'ous
em'plo'fment. They proudly boast that al the e!XI of 2016 they employed 11B Indigenous staff (37% Indigenous en,ploymen(), of which is only6'1b local A1anguv; (which
equals 19.08 (X'Oplel. The1e was .i heavy dose of skeptic'sm towards this 11a1s1ic by the Local Range,s agreeing the lack of local .nangu comprising workfo,ces.

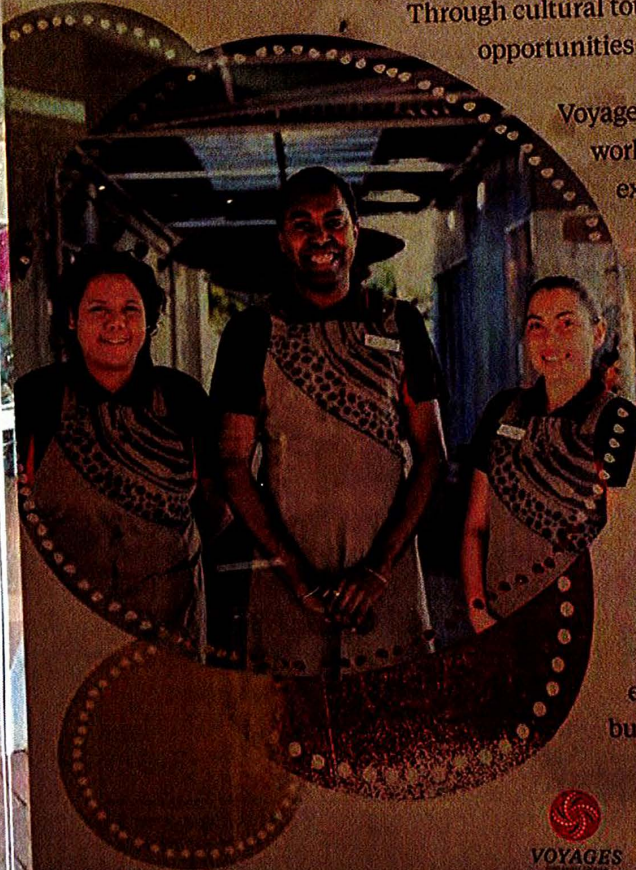


KULATA ACADEMY CAFE

Supporting Indigenous trainees on the road to success

OUR VISION

Through cultural tourism we create opportunities for Indigenous Australians.



Voyages Ayers Rock Resort offers a world class Indigenous tourism experience where guests can engage with Indigenous people and their culture whilst experiencing the magic of Uluru and Kata Tjuta.

Each year up to one hundred Indigenous trainees undertake the accredited enterprise-based training program at our National Indigenous Training Academy.

We partner with Anangu communities through employment, training and business opportunities.



Through cultural tourism we create opportunities for Indigenous Australians
Funding support provided by the Australian Government

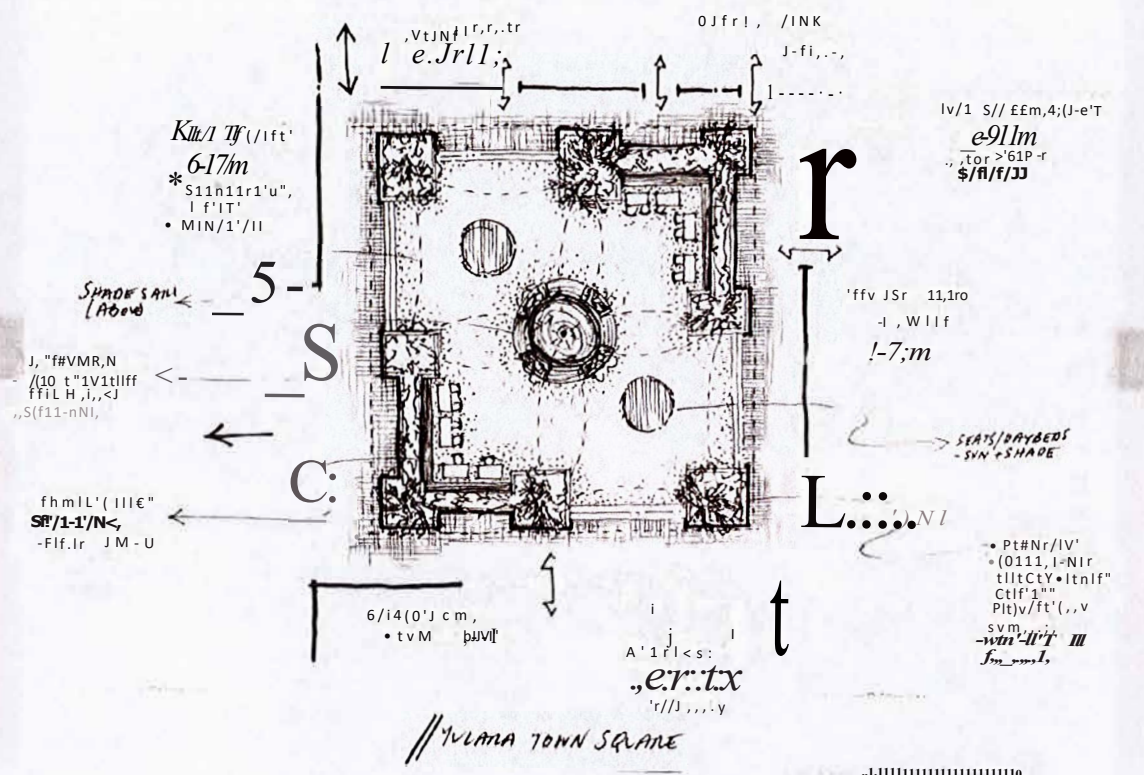
At Kulata, trainees of our National Indigenous Training Academy take the first step in their hospitality career. Here, trainees learn a range of skills in a supported environment to help prepare them for exciting careers in the hospitality industry.

Thank you for your support.

Kulata cafe is the go to place in Kulata town square for a \$9.50 pie and salad and is where Voyages' National Indigenous Training Academy operates as hospitality training. In the smallest font on the page, you will notice that this is also funded partly by the Australian Government.

Pttr Whitt (Gtnral /lanagr of J of 4 hottls)

The General Manager of one of the 4 hotels was massively generous in shouting us a drink and giving us his time by meeting up at very short notice to talk about Yulara, Voyages (managing company) and the future of the place and tourism. Peter is in charge of 282 rooms and self-contained apartments which at the time we talked to him were almost all full, hardly surprising when 90% of people who visit Uluru stay at Yulara. He has been there three and a half years and is really enjoying working with young staff in the Indigenous training program finding it much more rewarding than similar hospitality positions. At almost bursting levels of occupancy Peter mentioned that they need more rooms to accommodate the growing demand of tourism. Apparently in the late 90's Yulara laundry was the biggest in the southern hemisphere. Peter says the Voyages team has been working with the Mutitjulu community since 2011 to build better relationships but thought that since they are a closed community they wouldn't want to build any tourist facilities. Interestingly Peter made the point that their high Indigenous employment is a tourist draw card with older Australians appreciative of the everyday interactions they can have with Indigenous Australians at Yulara regardless of where their mob are from.

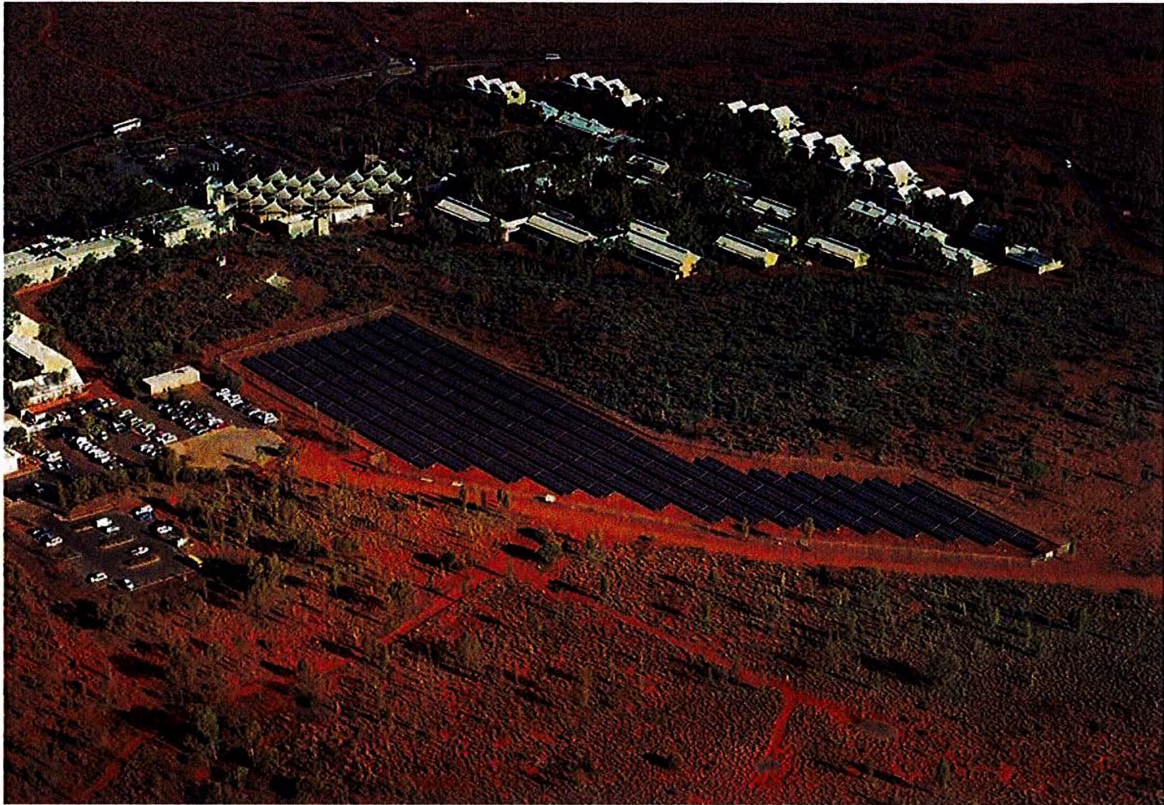


Rongev/11•

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Tegan Shorwood (Notiona Parks)

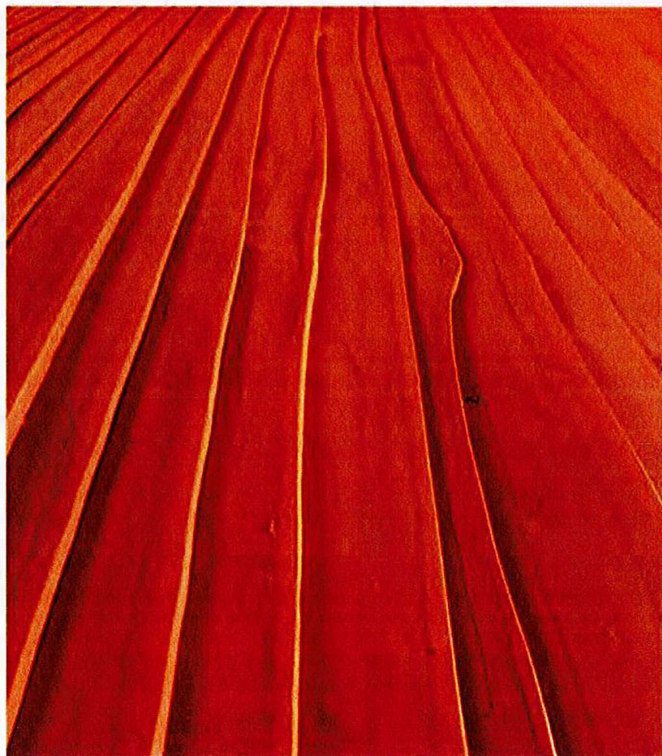
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The Solar Field in view of the road as a conscious decision to make a statement by Voyages management

to cater for the self-dubbed 'oasis' in the middle of the desert. three 55 meter semi-trailers take us a 1663 kilometer bi-weekly trip bringing supplies and fuel to the oasis from Adelaide. In 2015/2016 these trucks were back-loaded with 2649 tonnes of glass, cardboard, steel, and paper to be recycled in Adelaide. The remaining 6.058.5m³ of rubbish was buried at the resort's own tip and burnt. Like most rubbish tips today suddenly in the 21st century we have a less chaotic way of dealing with waste? Water from 17 bores is pumped up from the 7000 year old water reservoir inside the Uluru Katajuta National Park to water people, fountains, pools, washing machines, toilets, cafes, taps and gardening. The shallowest tapping into the reservoir at a mere 29m, with the ones in use being rotated regularly.

The award winning Cultural Centre designed by Gregory Burgess in 1993 has a strong place in the minds of the Mutitjulu locals yet has differences from the maintenance manager and rangers. Mutitjulu residents were a part of the consultation process, employed as tradesmen and laborers, used local materials and made the mud brick and laid trem. There is still a sense of ownership and pride over the site. Other great principles such as, locally sourced materials to minimize waste were employed. The mud brick is seen as a tedious material by management, hard to maintain where timber is worn and failing due to the harsh environment. Copper roof tiles are obsciously out of the budget to repair and replace.



Similar circumstances exist with only 9 year old constructions as well, the *Talinguru Nyakunyjaku* sunrise viewing platform is a highly considered design of steel and timber, quite beautiful. Steel seems to be the best performer, we were told "if you can keep it away from electrolysis its fine. You have to somehow earth the steel and you'll have no rust." Timber is used for its 'aesthetic' yet it just doesn't last. Requiring regular maintenance (when maintenance lists are endless), if sand blows and builds up leaving it in any way in contact with the ground it's end is nigh, termites move in fast and feast away.

Housing in Mutitjula is a similar story as the other Indigenous communities we've been through. A lack of consultation, poor construction and maintenance and culturally insensitive house design means that houses just don't work as they should. A typical 3 bedroom home can have up to 20 people at times staying where the older generation still prefer to sleep outside and be around fires. A story we were told where an overflowing toilet caused all inhabitants to sleep in the yard, not being fixed for weeks is not an uncommon story. There is promise though, \$10 million dollars has been allocated to Mutitjula as an NT Remote Aboriginal Investment towards replacing and refurbishing homes with a requirement for locals to be employed and the workforce at least 35% indigenous. Costing has been formulated and when a typical house costs \$750K, you really don't get much for \$10mil. Check out this graph on the trajectory of costing of remote indigenous housing[[ix](#)], it's obscene! *Gasp!

Table 2: Examples of Increasing housing costs In the Northern Territory (a)

RI9IO	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	06/07
Vili Rreung						
<i>No. houses</i>			4	2	0	
<i>Average cost</i>			\$165,170	\$191,825	0	
<i>Increase</i>						
Yapakurlangu						
<i>No. houses</i>	1	6	1	3	4	
<i>Average cost</i>	\$139,160	\$152,405	\$160,000	\$204,065	\$210,250	
<i>Increase</i>	100%	110%	115%	147%	151%	
Miwatj						
<i>No. houses</i>	6	12	5	1	5	6
<i>Average cost</i>	\$148,750	\$173,299	\$188,561	\$230,000	\$257,800	\$399,916
<i>Increase</i>	100%	117%	127%	155%	173%	269%
Central Remote						
<i>No. houses</i>	2	0	0	9	0	16
<i>Average cost</i>	\$135,150			\$182,000	0	\$335,025
<i>Increase</i>	100%			135%		248%
Garrak Ja,ru						
<i>No. houses</i>	6	8	3	t	4	2
<i>Average cost</i>	\$150,619	\$160,287	\$211,000	\$188,560	\$210,750	\$399,692
<i>Increase</i>	100%	106%	140%	125%	140%	265%
North West						
<i>No. houses</i>	4	6	7	7	1	
<i>Average cost</i>	\$167,775	\$169,429	\$162,045	\$209,506	\$244,000	
<i>Increase</i>	100%	101%	97%	125%	145%	
Alice Springs						
<i>No. houses</i>	1	3	0	0	0	3
<i>Average cost</i>	\$110,000	\$148,676				\$270,000
<i>Increase</i>	100%	135%				245%
Total houses	20	35	20	23	14	27
Total cost	\$2,986,775	\$5,738,910	\$3,530,795	\$4,518,948	\$3,217,000	\$9,369,280
Territory av.	t49,339	163,969	176,540	196,476	229,786	347,010
Increase	100%	110%	t18%	132%	154%	232%

(a) Up to 2005 the table shows the estimated cost of three bedroom houses only, at the time of grant confirmations no allocations, but does not include the cost of project management.

Source: Data sourced from DLCS and DPFM. NT Government

^{ix} CFM is based on a centralised process of planning and design, with 6 standard designs communities can chose from.

Table 3 Examples of Increasing housing costs in Central Australia (a)

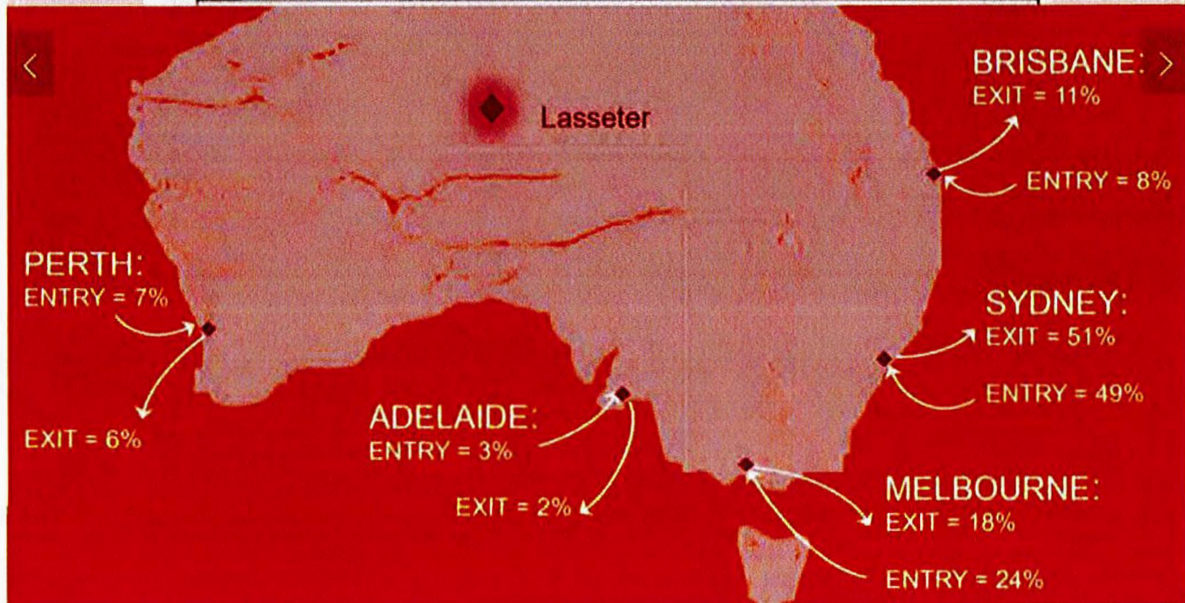
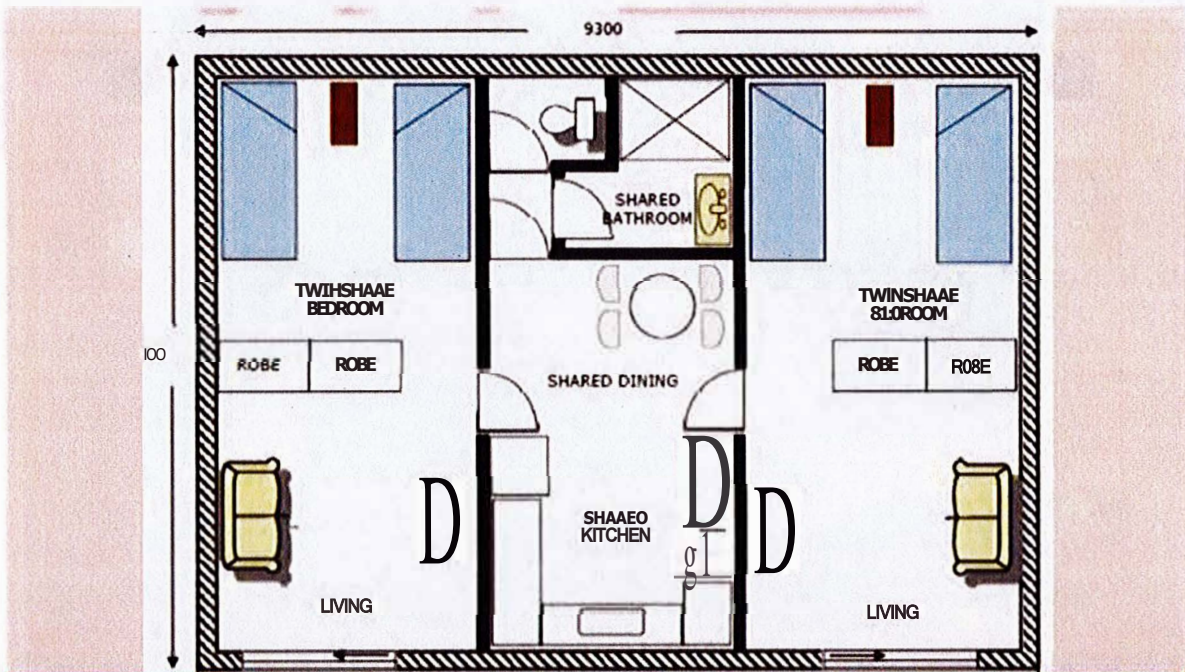
Location	1999/2000	2000/01	2003/2004	2006	2007
Alice Springs town camp					
Cost	\$199,000 (3brm)			\$270,000 (3brm)	
Increase	100%			136%	
Kintore					
Cost		\$150,800	\$180,000 (3brm)	\$360,000 (4brm)	\$370,000 (3brm tender)
Increase		100%	119%	238%	245%
Anmatjere					
Cost			\$180,000 (3brm)		\$279,900 (duplex)
Increase			100%		156%
Yuendumu					
Cost			\$180,000 (3brm)		\$335,000 (prefab) (a)
Increase			100%		186%

(a) As no OLGHs data is available yet for 2007 we used this amount which is the accepted tender price for 16 units built in the Central Remote Region, using prefabricated houses

Source: Data sourced from OLGHs and OPIFM, NT Government

V/llen ,mqul1ing about 6 des,gnt, fo, the newwo<k they lepil w,th .tdot>\$n'l m,me, as long as WE Jle J pa,t of the consu11a11011'. Gaty p,a,sro the process of G*eg B,,1gess and hik team who se1 up an office in Mut,julu 1D wo, k wilt, the community.

on the other side !Yulara s,del the hOlels a,e ing revamped and the most interesting pa,1of,t all ,s the staff accommodaoun. For the mO<e shor1 term wo1ker1 n ho1p11tllty etc. they Me housed In what 1l known as 's1, ,. Share-. As one would In boa1dingschool, two adults sha,e a room ,with no walls for pr,vcy and only one end where a sliding entiance door ,s rece,ving na,11al hgl1t & air, walking th,ough someone's 'broroon1- 1D gt to yOlif own. A lady wt spoke w,1h when she first airi,ed sh.11ed a te<1roo111 with 1e, 111ar1age, su1ely no, gl1e1 way to escapewo, k hou1 woes.



Exhibition, Saturday 26th August

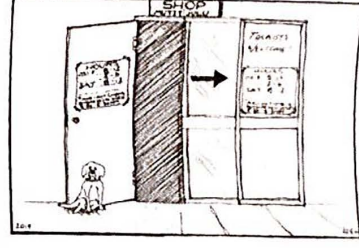
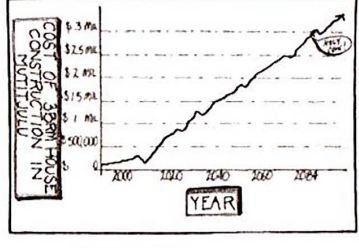
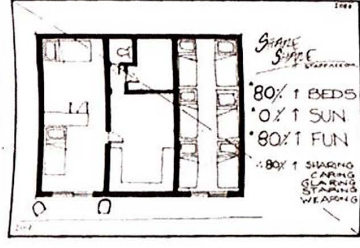
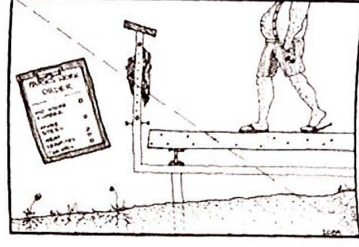
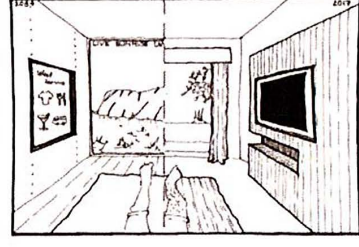
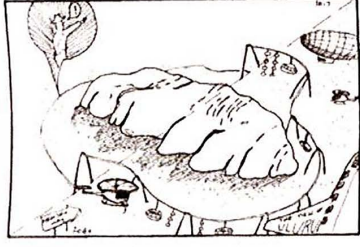
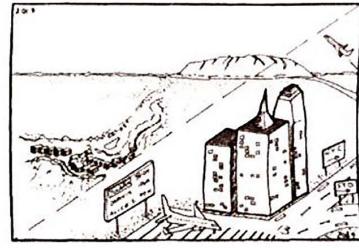
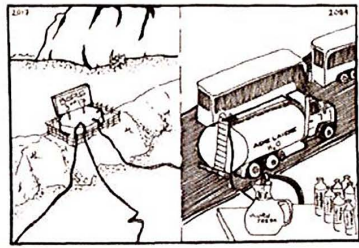
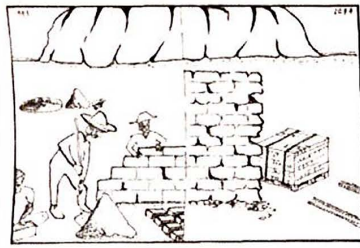


Places which become important to people develop, though the initial intention is often not clear. This is often the way in which cities and urban settlements develop. In talking about the local history of the area, it is important to note that the knowledge of the past is often limited to the written word, which does not seem to have a direct relationship to the actual situation. The celebration of the rock as an isolated attraction reduces the slow, repetitive, but often phantasmagoric development of the

the most important of the past is the development of the area, which is often not clear. This is often the way in which cities and urban settlements develop. In talking about the local history of the area, it is important to note that the knowledge of the past is often limited to the written word, which does not seem to have a direct relationship to the actual situation. The celebration of the rock as an isolated attraction reduces the slow, repetitive, but often phantasmagoric development of the



Limited run of 7. The worst selling item at Yulana!



The back of post cards. Offend and baffle your nearest nine visions of Uluru in the year 2024

[Z]

Uluru Arise! Built in 1933 by the local people a material that was built at the Uluru Arise. It was supposed to be a 100% 100% company from the 100% 100% in 1984.

Uluru Fresh! After the 17 beds at Uluru was built up in the 1980s an outside company began providing Uluru Fresh! Now the best selling merchandise!

The New Capital! By 2024 staff have increased by 2000% from the 100 in 2017. The old Uluru has been replaced with modern behind the scenes. Uluru behind 20 years.

Uluru Sky! After climbing the rock was closed the sky was not clear. It was supposed to be a 100% 100% company from the 100% 100% in 1984.

Standard Suite! By 2024 you no longer have to sleep the early morning shift. It was supposed to be a 100% 100% company from the 100% 100% in 1984.

Uluru Platform! By 2024 climbing Uluru prices have increased by 200% from the 100 in 2017. The old Uluru has been replaced with modern behind the scenes. Uluru behind 20 years.

Uluru Shop! After the 17 beds at Uluru was built up in the 1980s an outside company began providing Uluru Shop! Now the best selling merchandise!

Uluru Arise! Built in 1933 by the local people a material that was built at the Uluru Arise. It was supposed to be a 100% 100% company from the 100% 100% in 1984.

Uluru Fresh! After the 17 beds at Uluru was built up in the 1980s an outside company began providing Uluru Fresh! Now the best selling merchandise!

Some description on the back of each card containing a 90% of the total amount of the 2024

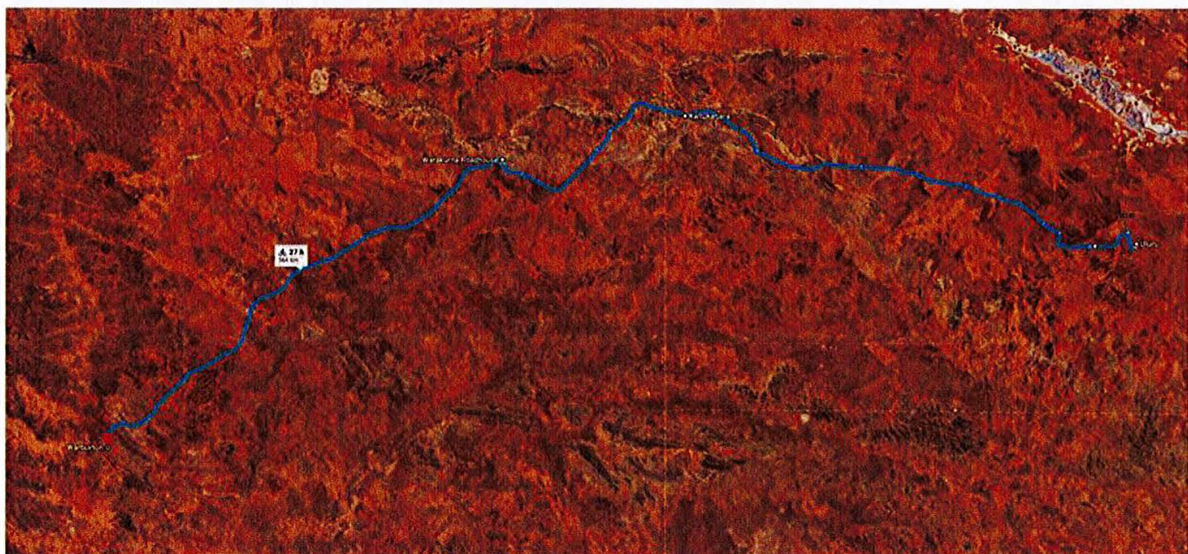


successions

- Sun is a killer, consider where timber is used
- Work with local groups to give ownership and pride to places and spaces
- A central courtyard with a variety of 'tree' spaces to sit, watch and stay is an excellent option especially in a transient town like Vulara.

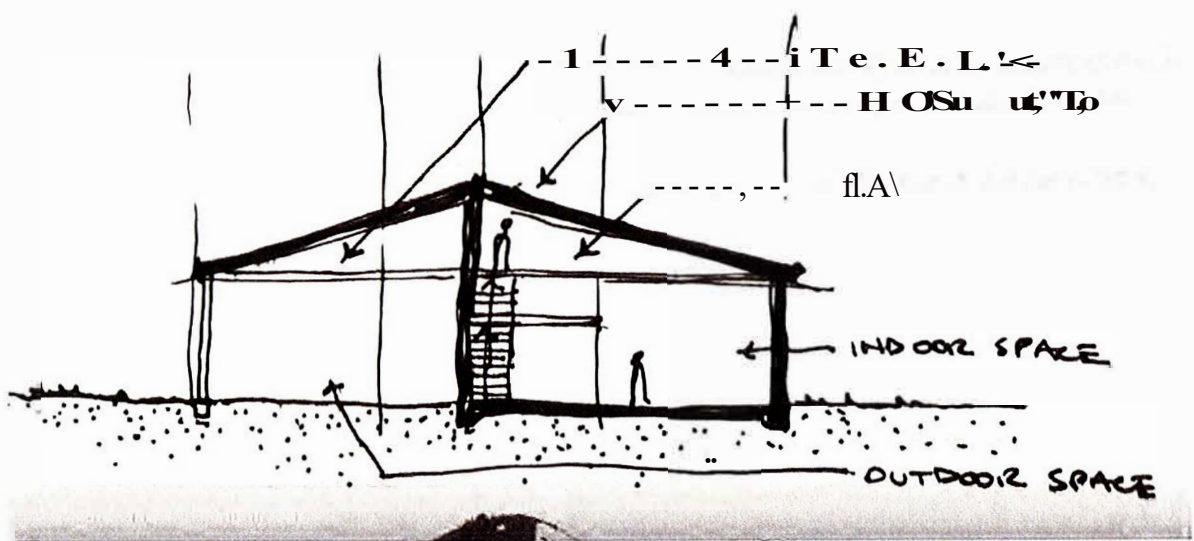
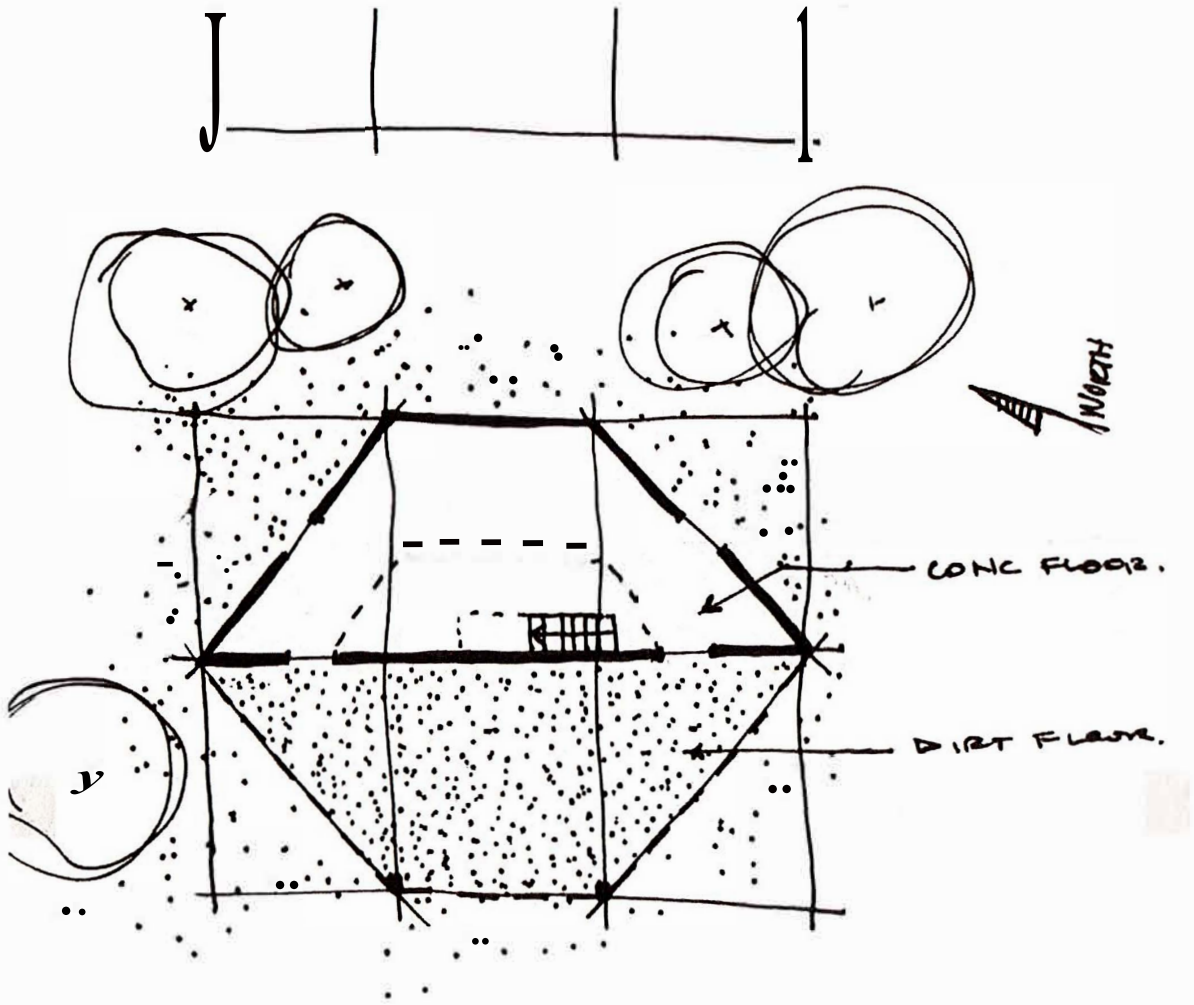
Inbetween (Uluru to Warburton)

Sunday 27th August - 6th September 7, 2017



Westward. In the first half of the past Kata Tjuta at sunset. It is a re-orientation of the space, by the last rays of unadorned desert sun. Breathing and silent. Light the sun, clouds and tricones of AAT Kings and bus pass in the morning by the desert, strict Y. It's done.

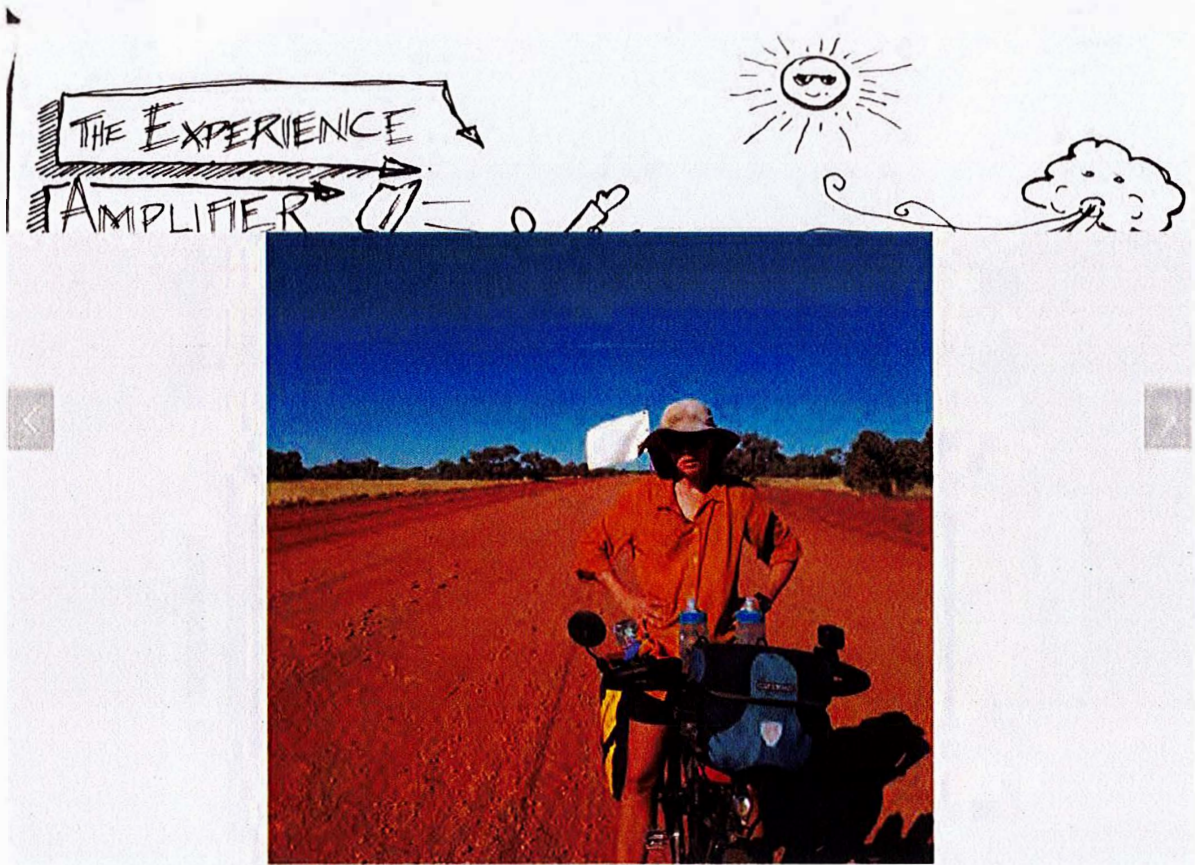
Undulating sand hills, quite similar to the landscape approaching Uluru, overlaid with oatmeal coloured tussocks, spinifex spikes and leafy Desert Oaks contrast against sunbaked red sand. Corrugated and sandy roads along with a Bore water refill saw Challenging and sandy days and salty morning teas into Docker River and the WA border. Anticipating to be Stop 15, things just didn't work out as planned it's the way 'time' works out here and so we continued westwards to the border. Just before Docker the Petermann Ranges made a reappearance and continued. Flanking us either side of the road for many km's, the deep red rock outcrops and formations were glorious. The scale almost unfathomable. We witnessed some really interesting abandoned indigenous housing at Futa Puta and Lasseret's Cays which seems to be an attempt at something different than what we've seen. Although, abandoned.



The arid landscape changed constantly with lone standing clumps of grass tufts, ghost gums, desert oaks and Mallee shrubs responding directly to microclimates and soil variations.

rtie warai...a road house saw uk hc\1ngd ddyoff to u1-e a bte.ak. Home, to the Gile We:1ther !tat10,, an impona1u we<t1er 11nd climctle observa1ory for the (Ot;fltry, we w1tf?S'ied the over *Whelming 1101 n1rg reh?1S of tte weatl, , lxllloo11 before \e hit the road in the grueling, chilly \ind, pre;a,ling SE morning winds. in the ahemoon 11nd1ng 1D change 1D • SW t1eac1;1na. The 1,1nd1capEs app10,1C11g wa1bu1ton again changea with Ow a,sappearanceof 11ePe1erma,1n Ranges. tong, slow ,nclines, chang,ng vegetation away 11am spi11fe, with bu1nt roadside country. Food was basic over the last st1etch ar.d rationed as ro.idhouse supplies dictated, essentially swiving on an 01o1.1supplyof ,lppl \ 1D ,n1"-e up for the k1ck of a11yother fre'sh food.

Accord111g w the locat Anangu ,ieopte dt cu1rent 1 1P1rr;o Plriyo season. se. isons ore fluid and 'named' by 1efe1ence to predictdble weather cond1ton1 at that MW of 1ea1, not Just how we ge.e1 ally ctass1fy the ne,t 3 n1onths b<,1ng 'spring'. Now, 11is the time when animals a1e breeding, food plants are llo,v Mg and fruiting and r.ptiles a1e appearing from h1be111,1lon. This leg h's been distinctly different in reference to these thi1gs, we've found bush tucker plants Oowe, 111d<111g t1edellC1ous honey grevill a. last season's bush bananas ,1nd r,uitf a few snakes (la1ge Mulgas and western and Ringed Bro•msl and a range of liiatds we've had to swe"e aiound.



•edited by the absolutely fantastic Jen Richards who has been working behind the scenes supplyin& us with research as we're peddlin& alone.



“Cheers.”

Dusty and Thirsty

[i] Sandstone with a high level of feldspar, creating granite like surface flaking.

[ii] An event that leads to a large structural deformation of the earth's crust and uppermost mantle due to tectonic interaction.

[iii] Welcome to Anangu land: World Heritage at Uluru- Kata Tjuta National Park, ro.uow.edu.au

[iv] www.sbs.com.au/nitv/nitv-news/article/2017/06/21/mutitjulu-community-was-ground-zero-nt-intervention-ten-years

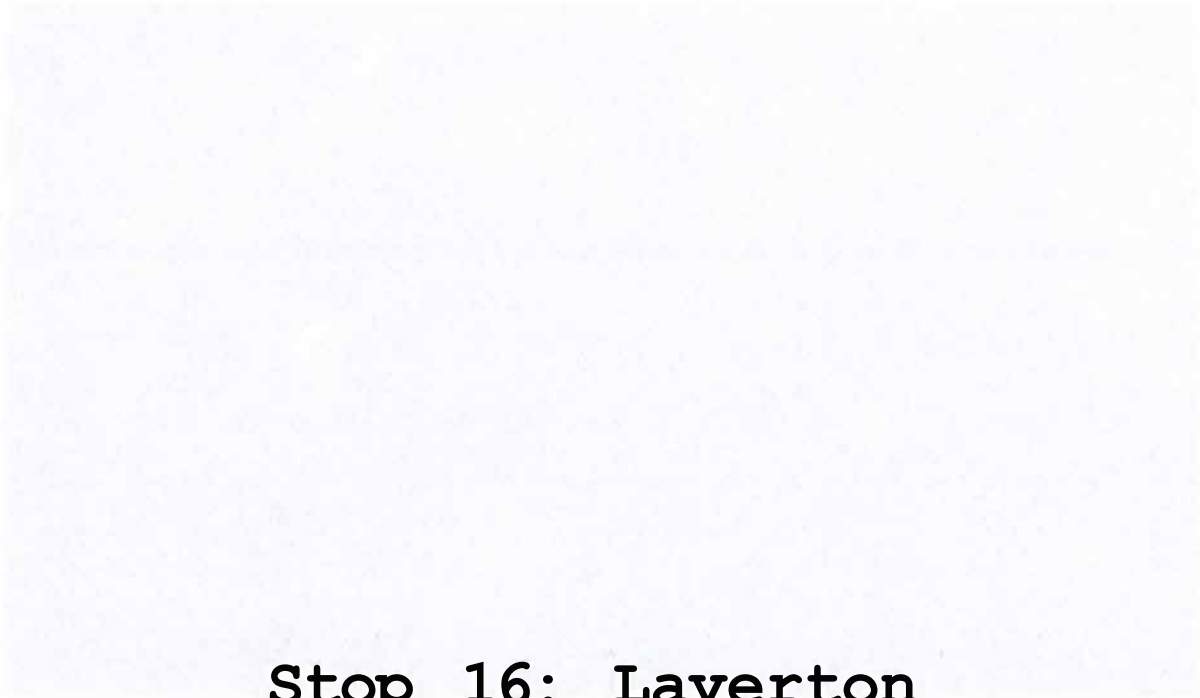
[v] Manta tourism guide, Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia Pty Ltd 2017

[vi] Camp dogs or “cheeky dogs” are far from the kinds of domestic dogs we’re used to. Something too when you first experience is hard to swallow. These are the terms describing the mongrel dogs hanging around communities. Often they are hungry, treated in a different manner, diseased, injured, un-hooded (hence the amount) and at times aggressive. Rocks in hand are the solution when they come running for the bike, viciously barking trying to bite shoes and tyres.

[vii] Manta tourism guide, Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia Pty Ltd 2017

[viii] <http://www.coxarchitecture.com.au/project/ayers-rock-yulara/resort/>

[ix] <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54b3998f64b09b217330bb42/t/54756128e4b0f1adacec2ac4/1416978728332/Cost-of-remote-Planning-Construction-in-Du-r-1-1-19-pr>



Stop 16: Laverton

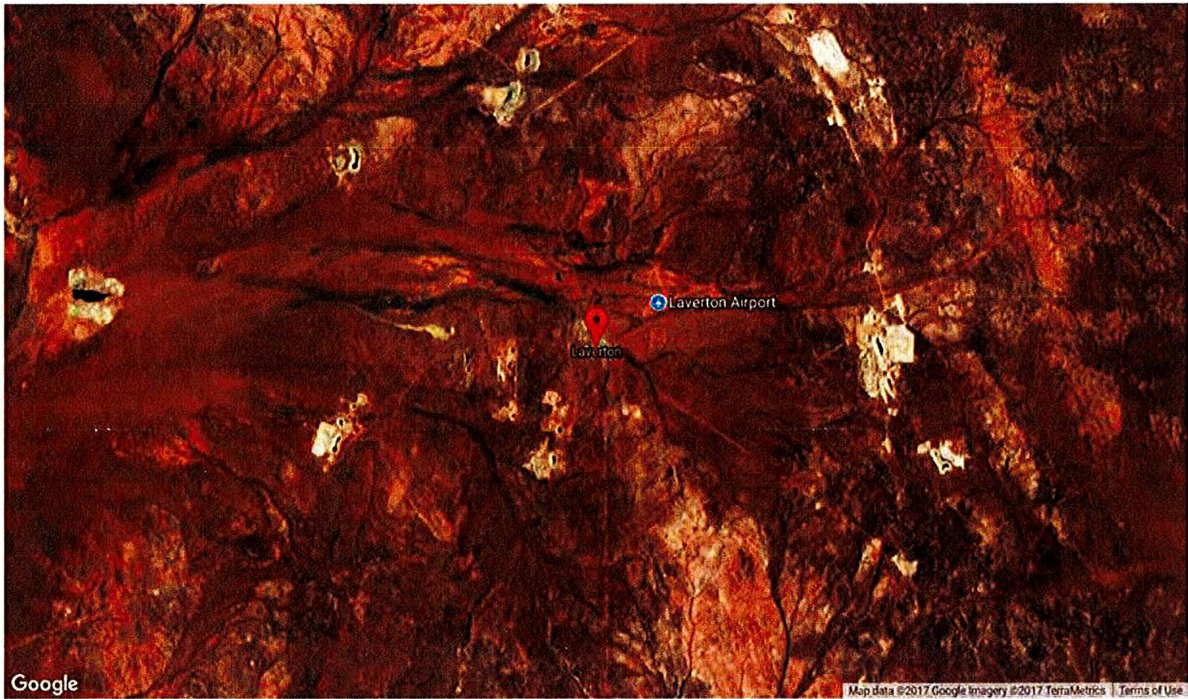
25.09.17

The Grand Section Guardian #016 - Stop 16 Laverton

October 23, 2017

Laverton in history and today almost feels as if no part of the ground has been left untouched. Rusty roads and broken prospectors' dreary huts are the landscape. Marmalade and hills rise above the hills. Behind the old brick OK et pitch, the unknown is simply, a landscape of hills.

One thing to consider: Gold exists in greater abundance in Australia than any other place in the world.



Place

24th September - 4th October 2, 2017

Laverton is a small town in the north-west of Western Australia, about 1,000 km from Perth. It is a mining town, and was founded in 1856. The town is located in a hilly area, and is surrounded by a range of hills. The town is a small town, and is a mining town. The town is a small town, and is a mining town.

Most settlements were located due to proximity of gold or other mineral deposits so unlike many other towns whose locality overwrote important indigenous sites, Laverton does not. ...well as far as we know.

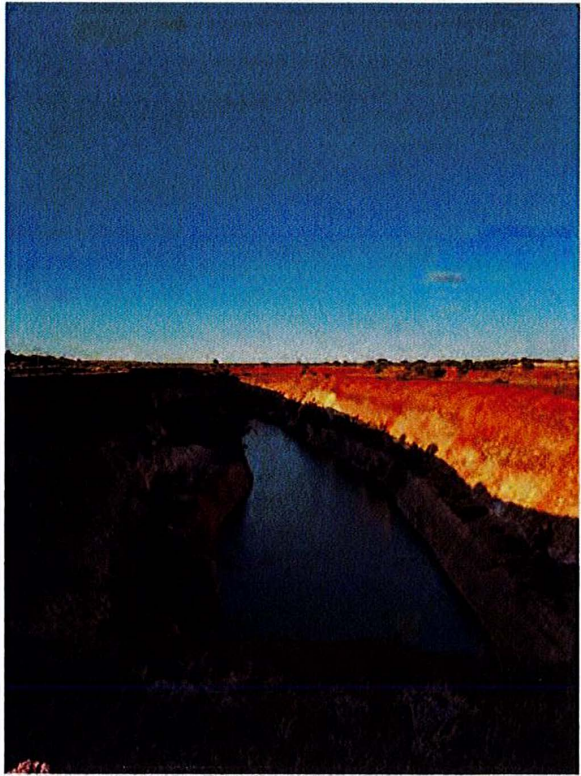
Laverton is a small town in the north-west of Western Australia, about 1,000 km from Perth. It is a mining town, and was founded in 1856. The town is located in a hilly area, and is surrounded by a range of hills. The town is a small town, and is a mining town.

Sandalwood resource, cutters then quickly turned to bright eyed prospectors when gold was discovered in the area in 1856. First named British Flag (after the first gold mine), the efforts of a local doctor, prospector and bike rider, Dr. Laver was responsible for the current name 'Laverton'. The township gazetted in 1900 was once a bustling hub at its peak of approx. 3000 folk, but succeeding only at the whim (as it still happens) of the gold economy correspondingly declined with low prices of gold in the 1960s.

the mafamous Nicolas, known as the Poseidon boom in the late 60's, 1960-1970 years with the RE-1nfluence of the strike, hot, and town redevelopment which in 4 months share price inflated from \$1.55 to \$28, crashing, overnight in its lifetime. There has been much development in technology over the decades and so 'gold nuggets' are no longer what the industry is after. Gold deposits of 12 grams per tonne of rock is seen as economical to mine and the going concern is 1 ounce (31.1 grams) and about \$1600. That means to get one ounce of gold, 16 tonnes of rock needs to be mined (extracted, crushed and extracted) equating to approximately 6.4 m³ are, 1.6.

WA mining brought in houses just as quickly as they've now disappeared as prices and changes in mining operations now fully out FIFO work, with private airstrips. I figure salaries and fully catered donga village with laundromats, bars and dining halls with five different flavours of ice-cream to choose from. Very little of those salaries, figures now see the local towns such as Laverton. Money gets earned and taken back to the coast as quid, is the route, rotates. Empty residential blocks, vacant buildings and a population of 100 are representative of another time reflecting these intricacies of the modern mining world.

With 10 permanent natural water sources, the life source is tapped into from below which is hydrothermal due to the age of the craton. Bores allow permanent water sources, where those and water filled open cut coal mine pits still provide the towns water today. One particular water filled open cut coal mine pit is known as 'the wedge' or the town's swimming pool.



'The Wedge' or as otherwise know the local swimming hole.

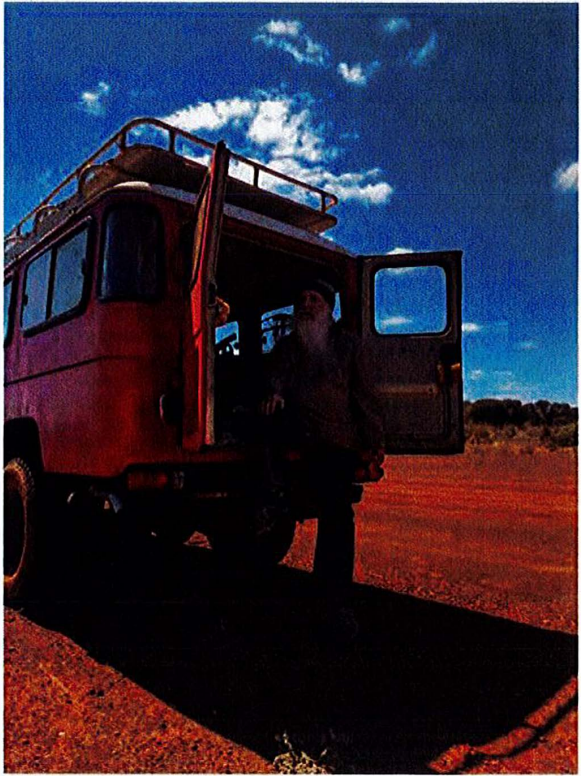
People

Jim Carter, Former Coach House Owner

Jim is one of those local treasures who should be mentioned, without interest in the quiet, old building of the main street, would not have the pleasure to meet and enjoy his company. Arriving in Laverton in 1959, the man is an encyclopaedia and walking archive of the town and more particularly the Coach House, which he refers to as 'My Building'. He has devoted his spare moments to the building, no doubt finding sleepless nights also. Responsible for enlisting the building on The State National Heritage Register he owned the building for a period running a newsagent & bit of everything store. Due to this he observed closely the changing times of Laverton and the nuances in the gold mining economy and its influences.

We were lucky enough to spend a few mornings with Jim and his amazing knowledge. He gave us a guided tour of some of the more forgotten sites on the fringes of the town. Jim drove us at a fast pace in his modified, fast Land Cruiser for a frightening speed, maxing out at 60kph (after the bikes this is hyper speed). We would stop next to a hole in the ground or a barrel discharging a stream of gas as we. Jim would proceed to pull out a folder of images and explain, the history of the place, tell us a story or two. He had a collection of pistols, a few rifles, a few shotguns, a few hippos and a few shunt stands, so many products.

At 10:10 Jim pulled out a bat and ball from some secret compartment. We had a quick 20/20 match on the old bat, cricket pitch. Score: Bobbi 2, run out by Carter, Jim in the first over.



Jim being a casual badass. Pulling 'The Red Cross Emergency Desert Crisis Pack' lunch out of the back, we were overwhelmed, especially with its deliciousness!!



Dinner with the Managers, Caral and Mai, the best roast we have had in about 7 months!

Immediately upon receiving the news, I was shocked and saddened. I had known Caral for many years and she was a wonderful person. I was very close to her and she was very close to me. I was very sad to hear of her passing and I was very grateful for the time we spent together. I was very grateful for the time we spent together and I was very grateful for the time we spent together.

Caral was a very kind and generous person. She was always willing to help others and she was always willing to listen. She was a very good friend and she was a very good colleague. She was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person.

Caral was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person. She was a very good person and she was a very good person.

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Laurinda Hill, Grtat Beyond Visitor Center Coordinator

Beinf, th hftl, gtr,iatlon of the 'Hill' family in La\l'tton. h= tieritdg illth town dates 1,1. to 15 nllur1: b-r,1r,1ns in 1895 J,; 3DH ht=1hil ,est.1:u 1nd ...orc-Jrt-d \\d' LA Hill Flimil n,embEls phN *el toles 1i lti? comm111111 fro,r, 1e svir to 111111g tnd lca; al bt,sn=ss rd1_a h c n <1mk)k? r. u,\,1, n,;: , , 1p=2p WtStno=nt iurd colle=ron 011ocal k11W/Prg? and unref=1WIG1111f of the n,wg'ng time oft,, ano L:n,rino,11110hs, rt'it. <1r? 11 1 Prminr lt) 11clv le=2r; <1, 1111 at <1t \, \, eir , , mprHSI't? ct,lmg 11 ta \, \, 1111 rir ,uppo,1 Jnd ,111? P=it1e-(e as , , ct rell/11 d111 ,;si:,;f, fOr:111?Siu=1S 15 15\, :irw.

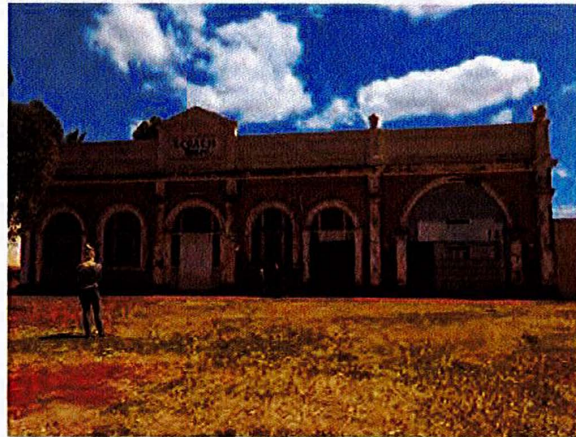
Stuff (architecture)

Max Freeland's words hold poignant and strong in reference to LA's architecture. Also a reference that Troppo used in the reflections of their 1977 journey in *Regional Architecture*.

"Every building captures in physical form the climate and resources of a country's geography, and the conditions of its society ... Every building evokes the time and place in which it was built." [vii]

Max Freeland's words hold poignant and strong in reference to LA's architecture. Also a reference that Troppo used in the reflections of their 1977 journey in *Regional Architecture*. Architecture was a symbol of what could be aspired to. Regardless of the location, the colonization approach dictated aspirational European inspired architecture.

The Coach House of 1901, a Federation style building, is the only one of its kind in the town. It was built in 1901, of a Federation style building, is the only one of its kind in the town. It was built in 1901, of a Federation style building, is the only one of its kind in the town.



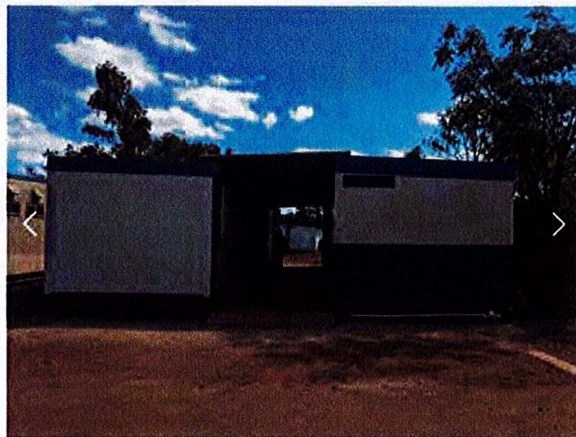
The Coach House as it stands today, slightly forgotten and slowly crumbling.

Conversely, contemporary mining architecture comprises of 'coongas' or 'relocatable', pre-fabricated buildings that come in and out on the back of a truck. Anach plumbing and power and you die good to go. This approach to architecture is almost the complete opposite to the 1901 approach. Architecture is merely limited to the time frame of the mine. Fly-in, fly-out work now means towns are no longer needed. Entrepreneurs aiming to attract customers, fancy buildings need not apply here. You don't need a pull if you have a mess on site and have to 'blow zero' tomorrow morning anyway (zero blood alcohol level). Typically planned, fabricated in a factory with sheets (also used in airplane's) and available anywhere. Passive solar design or cross ventilation are, not necessary if you have air-con available there, two weeks. Even when these Coongas are used within the town, they are commonly found on the fringe. Seemingly the temporary nature of these buildings also detracts from their ability to add meaningfully to the town's character.

We were told by a local that in the 26 years she has resided here, she has only seen one 'hull'. It is typical to, houses are bought in on the back of trucks from wherever, and Coongas ordered as 'house extensions'. Coongas were transportable. Be it the late 1900s asbestos sheeted houses or modern timberboard and lightweight construction.

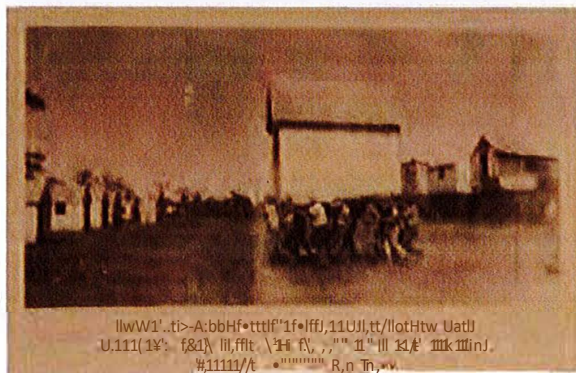
Some of the older buildings are, because of their historical value and as well as now they are also prone to becoming heritage items. Things can be somewhat of a two-edged sword. Whilst the heritage status awarded to them attempts to protect them from demolition or non-sensitively alterations ensuring longevity. They can be put into the '100-year basket'. However, it becomes almost self-harm, impeding perceptions it can keep up with the changing times. In order to use these buildings, strict guidelines have to be adhered to which makes using buildings a step more complex. For instance, with Tile Coach Houses, because of its heritage significance, apparently we are only five countries in Australia who are allowed to load on the building.

There is probably no better time now, to this heritage preservation but secretly, needs to be put in place. These small towns, their buildings integral to Australia's history are crumbling. Left behind with a future unsure.



Outside the mining architecture of the town we were struck by one big landscape feature, Faerie Grass. Used prolifically throughout the town. Covering the large road and at the end of the town, the areas used by the indigenous as a hangout spot opposite the council and patches of public space where a biologist spoke to it up, when we questioned people about this the common response was, that it's too hot for regular grass and maintenance with water is too expensive. Grass is more than just a plant it's a symbol.

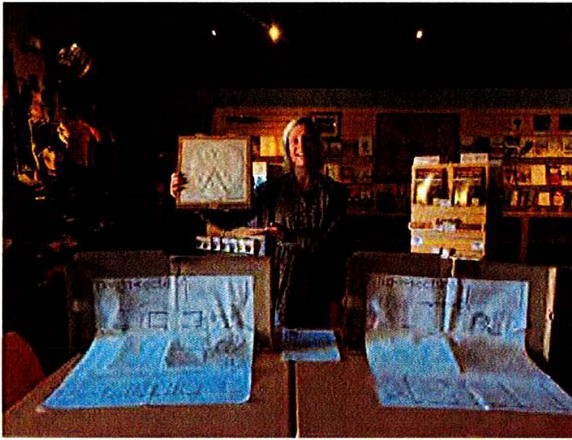
Another big aspect of the town, 'the wood line', which ran miles into the bush to collect timber and bring it to the 'cutting depot'. Steam powered machines, fires and underground mines, using propellers for structural integrity meant huge amounts of wood were used from the site. As landscape became deflated, the wood line companies, at their peak, were cutting about five tonnes of timber per day to the mines and towns around the area. It was one of the largest industrial uses of timber for fuel and, therefore, in the world in the 1900s. The men who worked on these lived in 'camps' which were transported by rail and along the wood lines. Once at location these Hardwood timber framed with corrugated iron cladding structures were built out of place by the men. How they lived, today are covered in brush and trees. Just so... let's show Coonga. The building is a reminder of the past. How much does your house weigh?



Today all that remains of the 50 or so mine sites many with associated townships are ruins or holes in the ground. Easy to miss or mistake for a natural formation. Jim Carter's 15 years of study on the subject is incredible and encyclopedic. The technological advances in mining now leave only mountains and valleys behind, manmade geography.

Exhibition, Saturday 30th September

Handmade architectural models, economic. Architecture in portable form - sliced. A collection of models to order for a price vs. a display model at the time. Models displayed either in a display case or in a portable display case. Models of LA's 1901 architecture, with its iconic 7 counterclockwise turn. The models are younger sister. Displayed in take away pizza boxes, portable and lightweight, just like a donga.



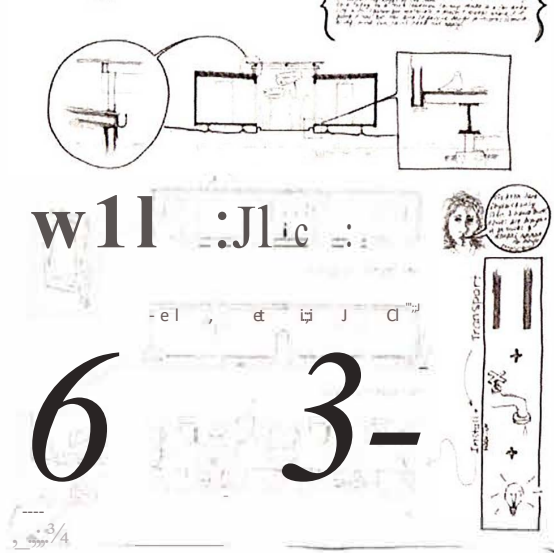
Info centre display, with beautiful model



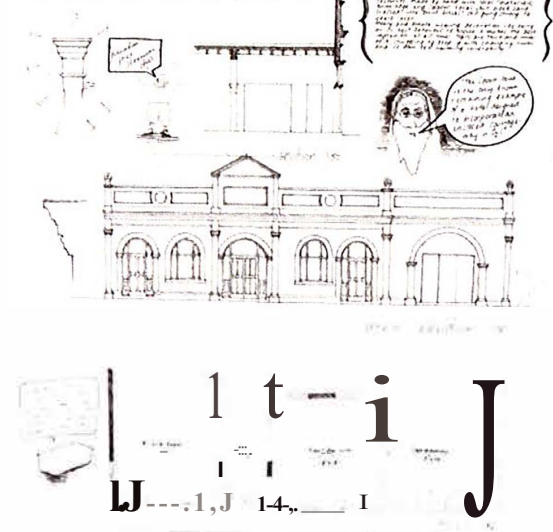
Caravan Park chats, people coming and going, informal discussions opening up conversations

Handmade architectural models, economic. Architecture in portable form - sliced. A collection of models to order for a price vs. a display model at the time. Models displayed either in a display case or in a portable display case. Models of LA's 1901 architecture, with its iconic 7 counterclockwise turn. The models are younger sister. Displayed in take away pizza boxes, portable and lightweight, just like a donga.

'Donga-tecture'



'Old-e-ecture'

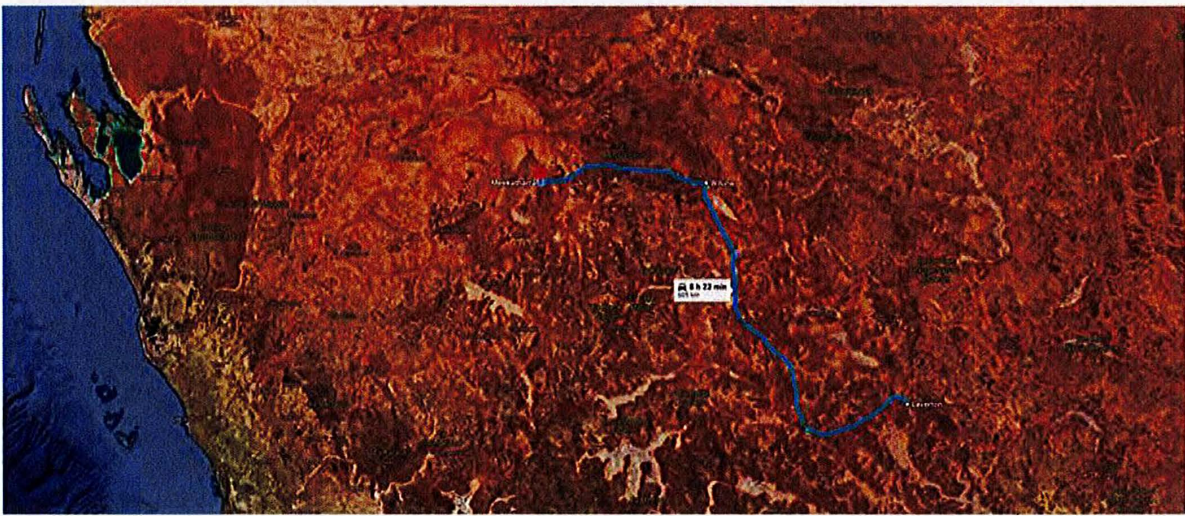


Suggestions

- Ensure that in places of development, a building won't be used. Take Revue, Newcastle as an example: how to breathe life into butclj, is in the incm of t'eu disus
- Consider the lifetime of the building you construct. How old will it grow to be? How long will the materials last? 116 ye, 1s like n, e Coach House, or 60 like many suburban homes today? What then?
- Long as a, e the choice. build in a way that's reusable. relocateable. / or recyclable... what about biodegradable? r1e b, 9 s1 m01 l we ;houfd fffi onovr lollascape 5OM Shac/0,t
- Bring back the palette. We should make it into a T-shirt)
- Re-use and convert the huge, abandoned Mies that will never be filled in. More town swimming pools? Water reserves? Inland marine parks? Rally-ways? Go-kart tracks? Mars training grounds? Amusement parks? AA ambitious wishing well? World's best ball pit? Abandoned open cut pilgrimage, walk? Inverted sky scraper?

In-between (Laverton & Meekatharra)

Wednesday 4th - Thursday 12th October



HOLY CRAP!!! WHAT IS THAT GREEN AND BLUE BIT!!! Getting close, we're in sniffing distance: incredible landscape scenery as the bird sees it.

As we cycled out we dropped by Jim's one last time. To bid farewell. Evidently by our presence he had carefully laid out incredibly thoughtful gifts for us to part with. Amongst the generous offer, of a lift due to the ominous weather he gave us things such as a small nugget of gold he had once dug up. A tinfoil hat Bobbie had coined on about their beddy days prior. Two slices of freshly baked and buttered bread and some party blowers for our arrival into Carrol von eventually. On the high, we began our in-between: cherishing the friend we had found in Jim and feeling elated.

Rain has been a ranty during the trip, especially throughout the centre. Nonetheless, I finally found us a 'bert' depicting Laverton, storm, turbulence and included. Wolfied about the caking dirt roads we decided to again take the scenic route though abandoned mirroring towns and almost forgotten history. Unfortunately. A chance exchange with the local population named Goldfields Highways. Fow dog turkeys, sen, 1raiteis, itd, our tailerster son. 53 11 ues long went our st company. Caution, sufficiency, cliff, who who, what, it led to would pass through and day. The thing being a mile, operation. always a tow huff, adicte< dC<oss the l, 1ndS<(1p from me rta1ly 111ES. 11th usc.on1irg to, (p<:itte the real meaning of noise pollution). In the still of the night, you could hear the truck about 3.5 minutes before they passed, so finding some to depart plane to kangaroo. The white Uddes of the industry everywhere; the tracks mowing over, the water finding new paths along the landscape. Lots of tyre marks everywhere. High pipes appealing to the diMPPE'Ming from some here, heard signs alerting the presence of high pressure gas, liffes back. The most astonishing thing, the night made it, being over ANY Pitfall (nature). The 11n1a of geology: upturned. pltd Jnd biHc.

At the end of day two, down into the town, arriving town, Appo, Jcthd by 1 km. 81 yllar ohl mJn 111 gu, c1. 1 lso arl oppo1umist i he !, as quick to offer showir. <rouc1 tt' al(11<dt)red 10/11 or G-V, ilia. tv.o mlP (321,m,; -ouch - here 1 d11 fl. ob 81&5s g1c\\dng up dt1ng th? fk:(1 of the to\m hJde ne 111es hom ,ge 1} cm'er: g'or cl1t, nken dWd 11, ,c,i.ers. a boysdream as he seemed to reach it in 1973 the m1r dos?d, o,e1n1gtr the pcpulat, on mo-l'd on bl1tdng le! abandonEd ard th' K' me for 11e class1Cd federation style puo +on1, r,rick bu1C1r, S1m,lar s:ory of t/O golC', elds. resourc c,ctatirg t?le:shing. Bob though encouraged us to climb the buildings and so took a 100m, E did.

The fort to the town, the use of the 'g' in the, r, l, j, c-5, ce, r, p, as a 111, st 1n(On'r: r:, en, 1bt>. N1'd ;O\ F'JS hnd our p 1ths: Pl, pl< ml, l\ n-1.11 1111 pt(s, ,cu, 1 :st, it, , 1n-on<1 11- :v'") ff, l, ,s, 1eQ Q\fh'dnrg: o, c(10111111111, udd ,trj/1 -p, r, 1,), g, 11st bl. 1n r>C', ,t, le d, *1 011 B1, s1 b, +H 1s ,yH\! *11, ,r, 7, , tbrm. r : 110: S, \< k1 th n, 1le-JL, 111 ,1*1: +. #) P. r, t, M(fOP of 011") 1 A wisis.

As per the... Day five... into Leirsh... BHP rurred... a S'O\er anti... top up... \t'rd pl!Ce. a \t'ld lbe. This is BHP closed communi...
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A survival pack from the wonderful Jim Carter full of fresh herbs, thoughtful gifts and some seriously good homemade bread

Day eight saw us into Wiluna for another top up. Home to the story of the /asr nomads, I...o Mandiklara elders were bro...t here a e, being let...ieved from... dese...
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[i] www.minerals.org.au, Rush, Australia's 21st Century Gold.

[ii] www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1046/j.1440-0952.2002.00912.x Regolith geology of the Yilgarn Craton, WA: Implications for exploration, R R Aand & M Paine

[iii] www.abc.net.au/goldfields/history/?section=about

[iv] www.laverton-outback-gallery.com.au

[v] From J Great g? Ologist we t... in la... ilon (Jmp \lton,, linl =): J tOn11fs ilpo10,1mo;ly ll ccits app11/11113lev smoo Q m11E I cunn• 132tams | oi gold,)(((.(1 Jll(< Ssir CO5t and S! lellQd J \$L)))f"i) f

[vi] t.gfocus.com.au

[vii] Max Freeland's, Architecture in Australia: A history 1958)

[viii] [11p/111tSI:111-n.Wi\).gov,d\(1\(f:\PI0\(t^\d*gOkift'ill/env1ronmc,\(a\),Impact.SlwoodlllE-S](http://11p/111tSI:111-n.Wi).gov,d(1(f:\PI0(t^\d*gOkift'ill/env1ronmc,(a),Impact.SlwoodlllE-S)

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Edited by Jen Richards! Thanks Jeni

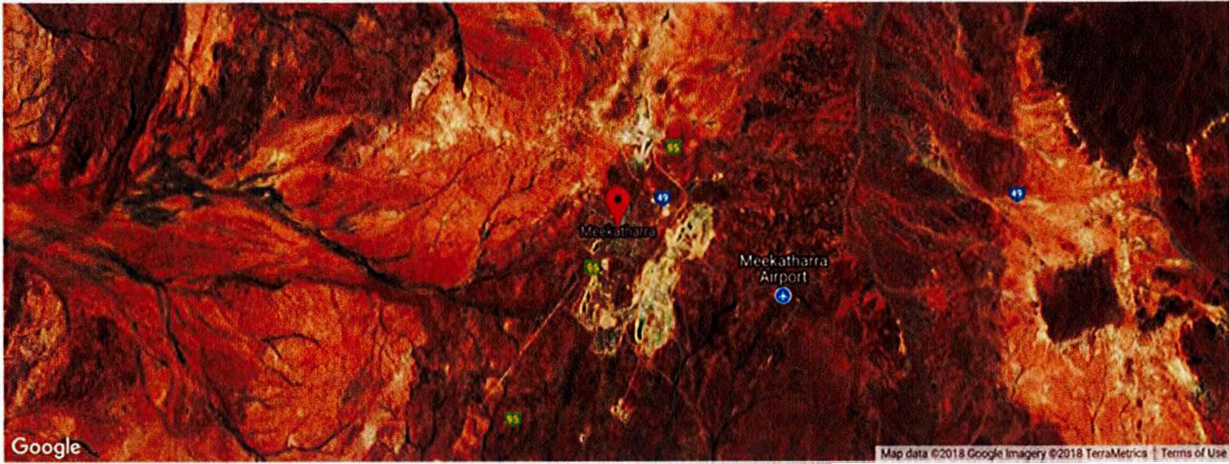
Stop 17: Meekatharra

12.10.17

The Grand Section Guardian #017 - Stop 17 Meekatharra

November 26, 2017

Surrounded by open culm mimes. with the protective mimes of 'habited' earth and small signs urging caution, Meekatharra still has significant deposits of gold, copper and iron to be dug. Meanwhile decade old gaping pits leave locals scratching their heads as to how to utilize these monumental sized conurbations to leverage tourism. The scale of modern ruins. The administrative centre of the region. Meekatharra is certainly not for the meek.



Place

12th-29th October, 2017

Located on the edge of Tjupany and Watjari lands "Meekatharra" apparently comes from the Watjari word for 'a place or little water, OR 'a place or a little water'. a small but significant difference. The lands around Meekatharra are scattered with sparse mulga, woodlands (that dot low hills and grassy outcrops that are separated by flat colluvium (material which accumulates at the foot of a steep slope) and alluvial plains). Huge manmade mesa's rise on the horizon above the flat scrub indicating monumental holes on the other side where gold, nickel, iron or copper has been dug out. Of a night, perpetual light separating the night sky and the ground plane indicates where digging is occurring. Sheep and cattle stations provide permanent inhabitation of vast chunks of the area. 300 year old sedimentary and volcanic rocks from the Archean period form the bed rock for this dry and dusty to decline.



Community groups are often run by the same people who eventually burn out, so...

Adell

The point of contact in many wurtly towns is the CR (Community Resource Center)...

The MeeKa MOWLER SFREE NOVEMBER 2017 Issue # 18 • Monthly WILD RUMOURS • FREE LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS • VISITOR INFO



Adelle, we are sorry this is the best photo we had of you...we won't put up the ones from later that night!

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Adelle ,s an asset to tile town a1ld helps eep. 11e community tog<1ht1,She, 1e1o currently sponsored for an Au cralian VISJ which men she ras to st'Y 'or thlt'(')

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Svenja (meeka goes green)

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Svenja started this in 2015 with a small grant from the council to cover insurances, she and some dedicated volunteers started recycling in Meekatharra. A lack of recycling has been the norm in past towns and has left us pondering and questioning consumption. These folk are energetic with great intentions to change the conservative views



Nigel

A local bloke who's been in Meekatharra for a long time. Nigel is a local bloke who's been in Meekatharra for a long time. Nigel is a local bloke who's been in Meekatharra for a long time. Nigel is a local bloke who's been in Meekatharra for a long time. Nigel is a local bloke who's been in Meekatharra for a long time.

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FIFO workers are at higher risk of suffering from mental health problems, 30% compared to the national average of 20% [iv]. If we're concerned about healthy people and healthy places, buildings are a part of this equation. The effects of this 'FIFO' phenomena further more are directly relative to the degradation these remote towns are experiencing, being reflected through their ruinous states and broad disrepair. It seems, many people, buildings and landscapes are suffering.

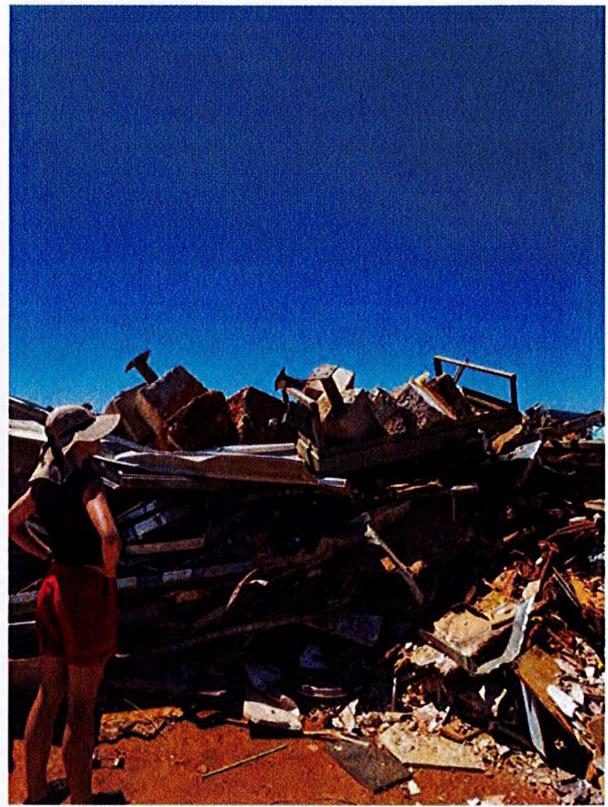
Stuff (architecture)

Meekatharra hosts all types of inhabitation. Long before the 'boom & bust' of the mining resources that underpins the town today the indigenous inhabitation of this place was seasonal. Small, easy to construct temporary camps would grow from the available resources. Mulga windbreaks and shelters were common [v].

When permanent inhabitation resulted in a town, the buildings, such as the 1907 pubs are aspirational in size and workmanship of materials, hopeful of a prosperous future. Here to stay, regardless of FIFO. Today, mining is uncertain and employees no longer live in town, the buildings reflect these changes toward (or perhaps backward) to 'impermanence'. Dongas and relocatable homes have become the norm, trucking in as required and easily relocated when needed. Seasonal prospectors, retirees & holiday-makers come and go, essentially nomads, these folks live out of vans, tents & caravans using communal living, kitchen and outdoor spaces. 'Inhabitation' is not limited to houses but includes all aspects of the built environment, permanent, temporary and even, big holes in the ground.

Colloquially, the name 'Sunning' is derived from some houses. Originally, the name came from the local. Its history, its site where locals not only go to hunt and salvage building materials but is also the destination to hunt Sungana (Gwan) as the, though the unsoiled, unrecycled waste. Many of the earlier buildings, typically constructed of asbestos have been wrapped and buried amongst the Sungana's and bent metals. A party really...

Houses are not too dissimilar to what we've seen before. A lot of unspottable and demountable. House prices can range from \$30,000 - \$150,000 with many vacant WA homes left vandalized and easy targets for the wanderers of the night. A recent indigenous housing complex has gone to the town. Not able to get into one - we think the house design from the outside quite good in being made of durable materials and a central sealable breezeway awning as well as sleeping space and sheltered outdoor space. But, as we've seen before with the masterplan not going to plan, the designed communal kitchen space and outdoor spaces have not been successful due to the poor leading of separate forms, which, even more, robe, being done together, solutions. Bringing into question the role of architecture. When should architecture attempt to create culturally appropriate spaces?

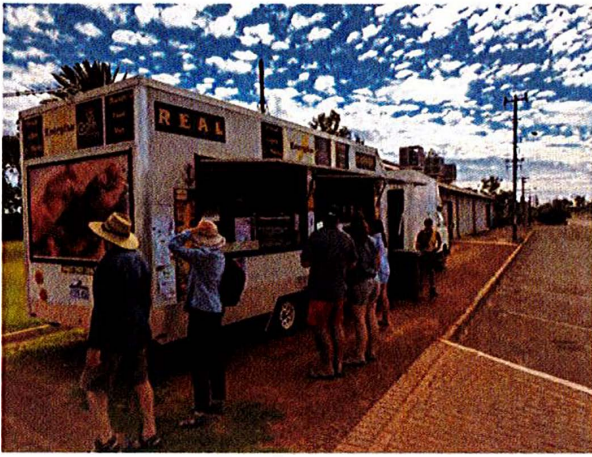


The Hardware store. Price match this one Bunnings!



Meekatharra primary school, level two walkway. Also great fun for primary school kids to climb on and over, much to the horror of their teachers

The most radical piece of architecture, sticking out like a sore thumb was by far the Food Van (http://1energisecafe.com/1). Parked on the prime intersection of town, the corner of the major street/highway frontages with parking out the front and palm tree park behind. Equipped with its own truck, generator, the cafe is completely self-sustaining using 2L diesel/h1, fuel. Roughly \$1000/month costs. Local drinking water and waste water tanks, filled and emptied every day with the highest quantities of water during winter, under the coffee cemented.



The Lunch rush at the Meekatharra radical food van

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Exhibition, Friday 20th & Monday 23rd October

Side of Food Van

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 with those we d10 engage with ,t was great to discuss the vary11g scales of ,nhab,tat,on an(get local insights ,nto town. Svenja even spent her whole lunch break with us.



Aluminum and polystyrene are rarely inspiring and therefore rarely valued. Especially on their 30th birthday as they take up a new home in the tip.

Facades matter, they talk to the street and the town. Parapets too.

Rather than air-con, set your tent up near a creek and just go for a swim (sound advice from Meekatharra year 5)

Forget your camp cooker - "You can cook a steak on the road it gets that hot" (more sound advice from Meekatharra year 5)

In-between (Meekatharra to Wooleen Station)

30th October - 2nd November (4 days)

Our so-called 'weekend' activities are rarely inspiring and therefore rarely valued. Especially on their 30th birthday as they take up a new home in the tip. Facades matter, they talk to the street and the town. Parapets too. Rather than air-con, set your tent up near a creek and just go for a swim (sound advice from Meekatharra year 5). Forget your camp cooker - "You can cook a steak on the road it gets that hot" (more sound advice from Meekatharra year 5).



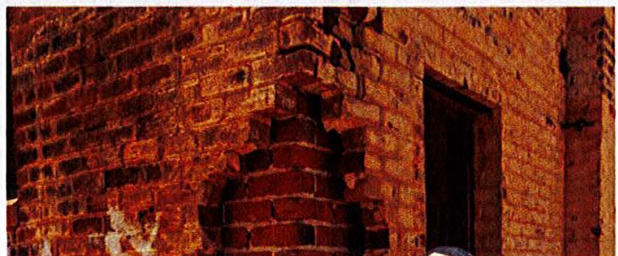
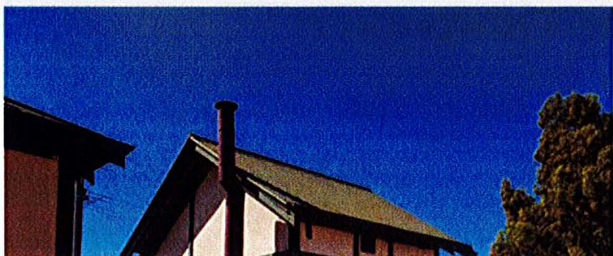
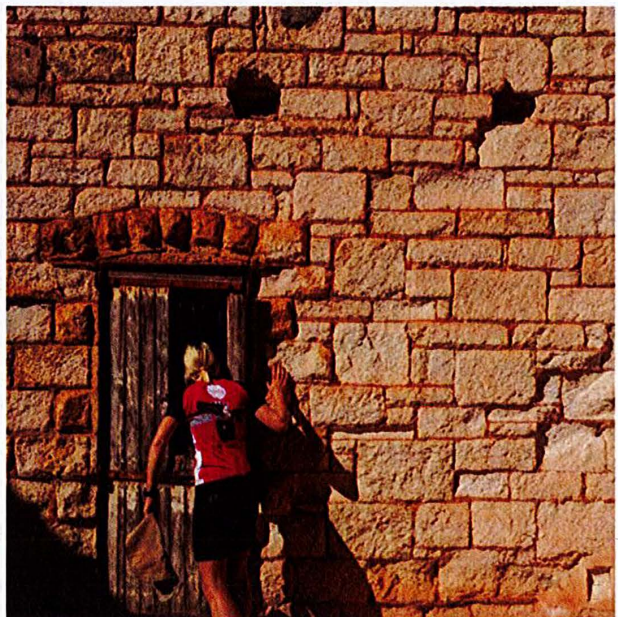
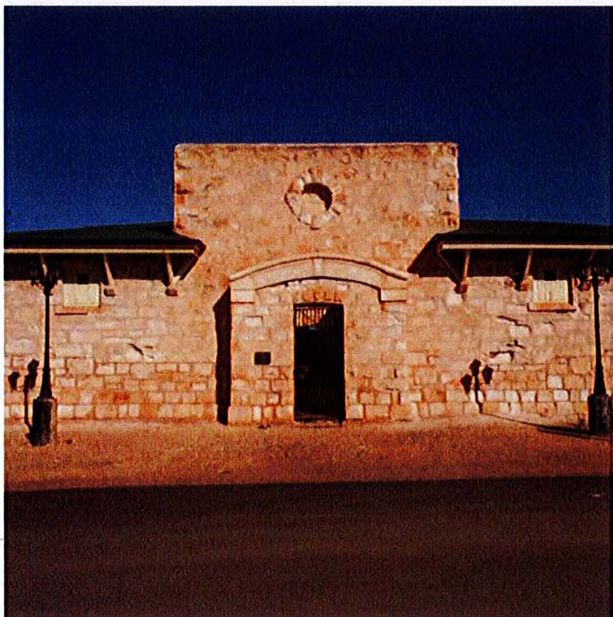
The Meekatharra picture gardens are emblematic of under used infrastructure in country towns.

The Meekatharra picture gardens are emblematic of under used infrastructure in country towns. The building is a small, single-story structure with a sign that reads "Meekatharra PICTURE GARDENS". The sign features two camera icons. The building is surrounded by a corrugated metal fence. Two people are standing in front of the building. The sky is clear and blue.



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It didn't take long though for the feelings of disenchantment and landscape upheaval to retreat as we quickly became the only presence on some lonely old roads through what seemed, harsh back country. Barren red earth, stark, nude even on its ground plane. Shade a highly sought rarity for us, with the Mulga much smaller and leaf coverage sparse, we soon realized we weren't alone as we began following fresh, shallow camel tracks, scat and footprints walking alongside. Following these for 2 days we finally came across their camp as we rode into the cool of the night. Two renegades who have been walking for 10 months across the continent! Epic!



Stop 18: Wooleen Station

02. 11. 17

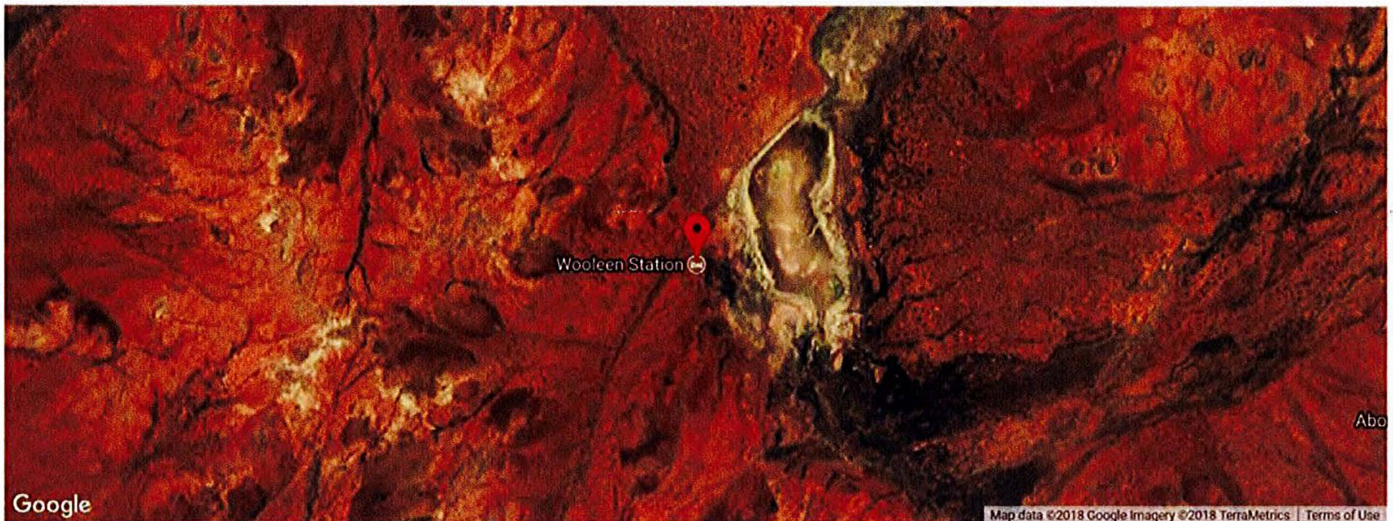
The Grand Section Guardian #018 - Stop 18 Wooleen

Opcemoer01 /

Towering Palms and Gums, like so many other sites throughout the trip, are the markNs of (white fella) inhabitation both past and present. Pushing through days of 40 degree heat and a persistent hot headwind, the "hike" gave us a goal to pedal for. What we would come to find is brave, bold, a bit stupid and completely inspiring. A cattle property without any cattle.

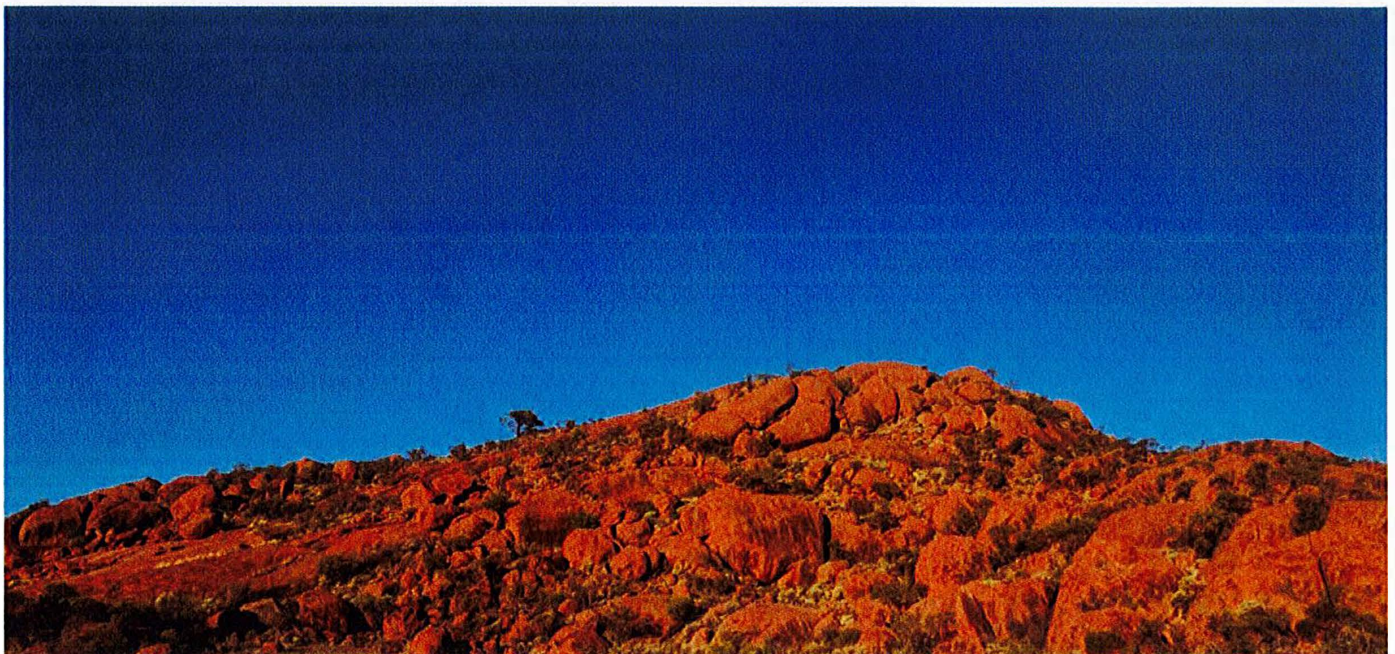
Place

2nd-10th November 15, 2017



The ride into Wooleen was some of the most brutal country we have seen yet, even to our untrained eyes. Denuded of grasses and undergrowth, the Mulga shrub battles to find water and hold onto red topsoil which blows in Willy willies across the road. This is Western Australia's pastoral country, which is why the land looks so lobbied. 75 years of mismanagement has contributed to a landscape that is clutching for air [1]. This is the backstory of wooleen.

Still in the geological area of the Yilgarn Craton this is some of the oldest country in the world. Over 3.6 Billion years old (I don't know, if you can understand the length of time because we don't really know). Granite outcrops that once would have easily rivalled Uluru in size are now some of the only significant landmarks that sit above the horizon line. Mammoth in scale against the flat (er) horizon. Places of great importance to black, white, scaled, furred and feathered beings alike. Cracks and crevices trap and hold water, saving lives and providing shelter for thousands of years gone by.



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We asked the difference between a farmer and a pastoralist, the answer: "farmers have money".

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WOOLEEN UPDATE:

After long periods of destocking over the last 10 years, on the 18th of November 2017, Wooleen station welcomed a few cows back onto the property. Whilst we were there, Frances and David were talking about the balancing act of conservation and pastoralism. If they give the land the time it needs to recover there may not be cows on there for 50+ years. whilst this would be the best way for conservation it leaves them alienated from the pastoral industry. Ahead of the hinges or the staunchly traditional pastoralist. Frances and David need to show that being environmentally sustainable leads to economic sustainability. A tough rope to walk. Good luck!

People

The place is seriously harsh, with almost no permanent water. We take our hats off to the Wadjari Mob who have lived in this area for thousands of years. We read groups of aboriginals would be almost constantly on the move in order to survive this climate. A constant search for water always the task at hand. Gndmma holes. c, wes soaks and moon soaks (places where water can be found on a full moon) were the go to, life essential party spots.

It was only this year that the Wajarri wer' finally awarded consent and recognition for their native title claim over the country they have managed for generations. a 20 odd year struggle. Meant to be a happy day. we were told sadness pervaded because over a 20 year long fight. struggle and death met many of the elders first. Wooleen is known to this mob as Bordj'u110 "good place". a feeling shared by the current mob on the station. The current mob being. Dave & Frances who, together they make quite the team.

Dave Pollock

it wasn't till several nights that we met David. with a sense of awe, a cut through the bush, a day of struggle alike when not getting a first, finally and child, still excited by new prospects of the future.

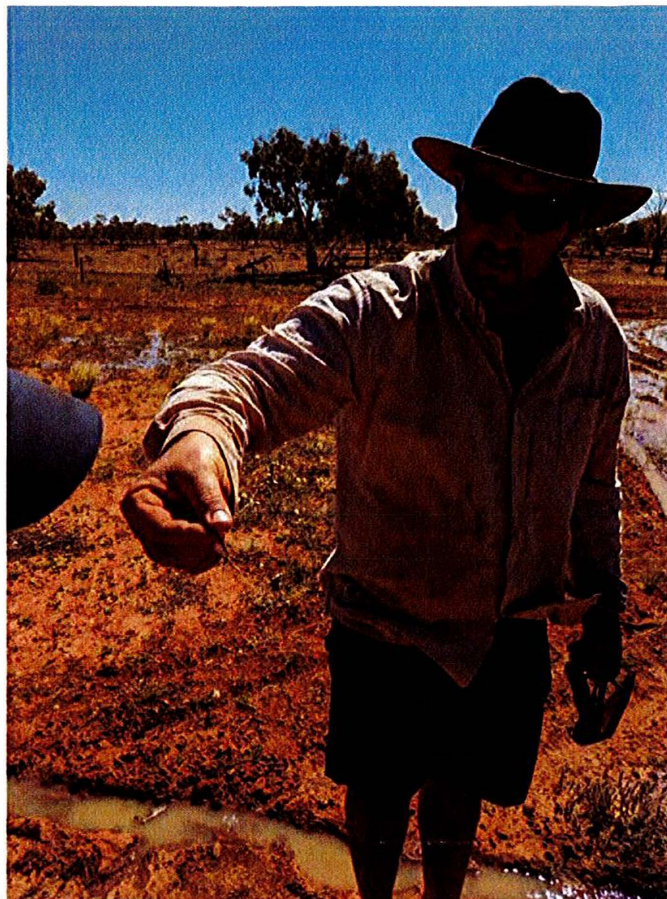
David pegged his relationships with family, financial, and the industry on the line when taking over management of the family business. It was clear Dave was the one who took the bold steps to begin collecting the land, to start the rehabilitation process. It is.

With his father taking up residence when Dave was a young boy, the red dust of woolen is well understood by him. He talks of the landscape intimately, like a sibling - he knows it well. He knows of certain (rare perennial) grasses and trees and knows exactly how many have even been over the entire 380,000 acres over his lifetime. He knows, of course, which he often refers to as "knowing the landscape". It all makes sense, and he knows the value of this place. An inspiration to talk to, the mother had definitely been thinking about every question asked to, over a long time. In the midst of writing a book about it all, he admits it's about making people aware of the issues of the pastoral industry and lease agreements, because if he doesn't, the broader audience will never know.

Frances Jones

As we push our bikes into the shade of the gums that surround the homestead, the dust from the road settles as it gets caught in the vegetation, and we are intercepted by a warm, instantly welcoming laugh with "Hi, you're early!" Frances invites us to follow old friends, effortlessly making us feel comfortable.

Frances arrived on the scene 10 years ago and has really been the catalyst in that has allowed Woolen to continue. The other attempts at rehabilitation on different properties fail. Frances is the perfect host, who is so lucky since woolen's manager, Glenn Snow, unlike the tourism we have seen elsewhere, the passion of Australia, which has sucked personality, local agency and long term habitat from a place, but here, has allowed David and Frances the breathing space they need to give the land room to breathe. Frances eloquently words this as being able to invest in the place, because it keeps them present.



David Jones, the author of the book 'The Land', is seen here in a dry, dusty landscape, pointing towards the camera.



Frances and Owen climbing out of a cave on Budara. Owen is thinking that he should have thought about how to get out before moving.

And although the tourism thing was something Dave's family also had done well and truly before Frances, you can feel and see her touch on the place. Her mind stretches over every detail, leaving a holistic-ness to the experience. Frances' background is in environmental tourism and marketing which she has had to squeeze to the nth degree to stop Wooleen going under. Only in the last few years do they feel like things are starting to straighten up from the roller coaster of a cow property with no cows.

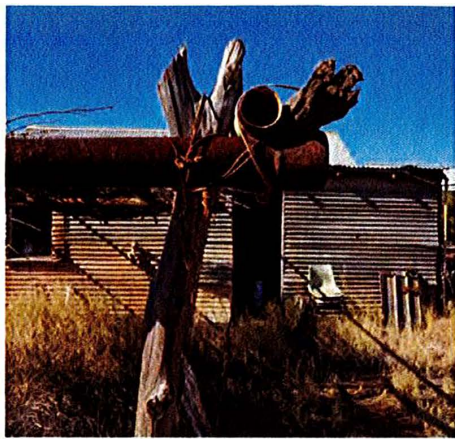
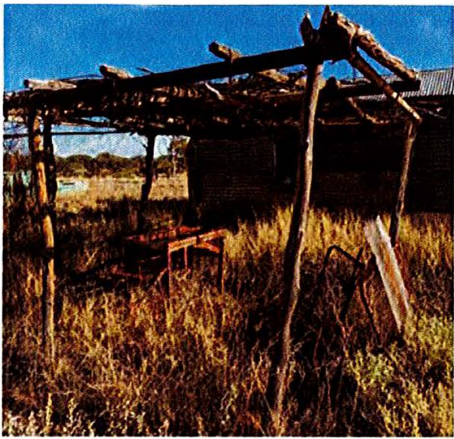


The crew! Owen is wearing his best shirt.

Stuff (Architecture)

There is very little research on the indigenous architecture of the area. Talking to David whose family have had a decade's long and productive relationship with the local mob reckons that they wouldn't have had much. Mulga humpies would have provided shade and there is significant evidence of cave use in the area. The granite boulder heap, a significant and important formation called "8111110 h's place" where the rock ceiling has been scalloped out due to innumerable fires. Ancient campsites. Caves provide roof shelters using the gigantic mass of millennia old stone formations. Digging down in some, permanent water resides.

A more comprehensive take on the Aboriginal shelter, is like the fantastic bough shades. made from whatever is at hand these brush stick shelters, are basically like sitting under a really good tree. They still adorn the old Indigenous quarters on Wooleen and David tells us some of the local mob always tell him to make sure not to knock them down.



The settle, a1chitectwe of Wooleen is emblematic of MOlthe, 1me, when the pl<oe s11ppo,ted villi,rnl life. A1edlthly ploce suppo111ng" healthy <11chitectwe. Sprawling aw, the homestead site lies a conglomeration of buildings.

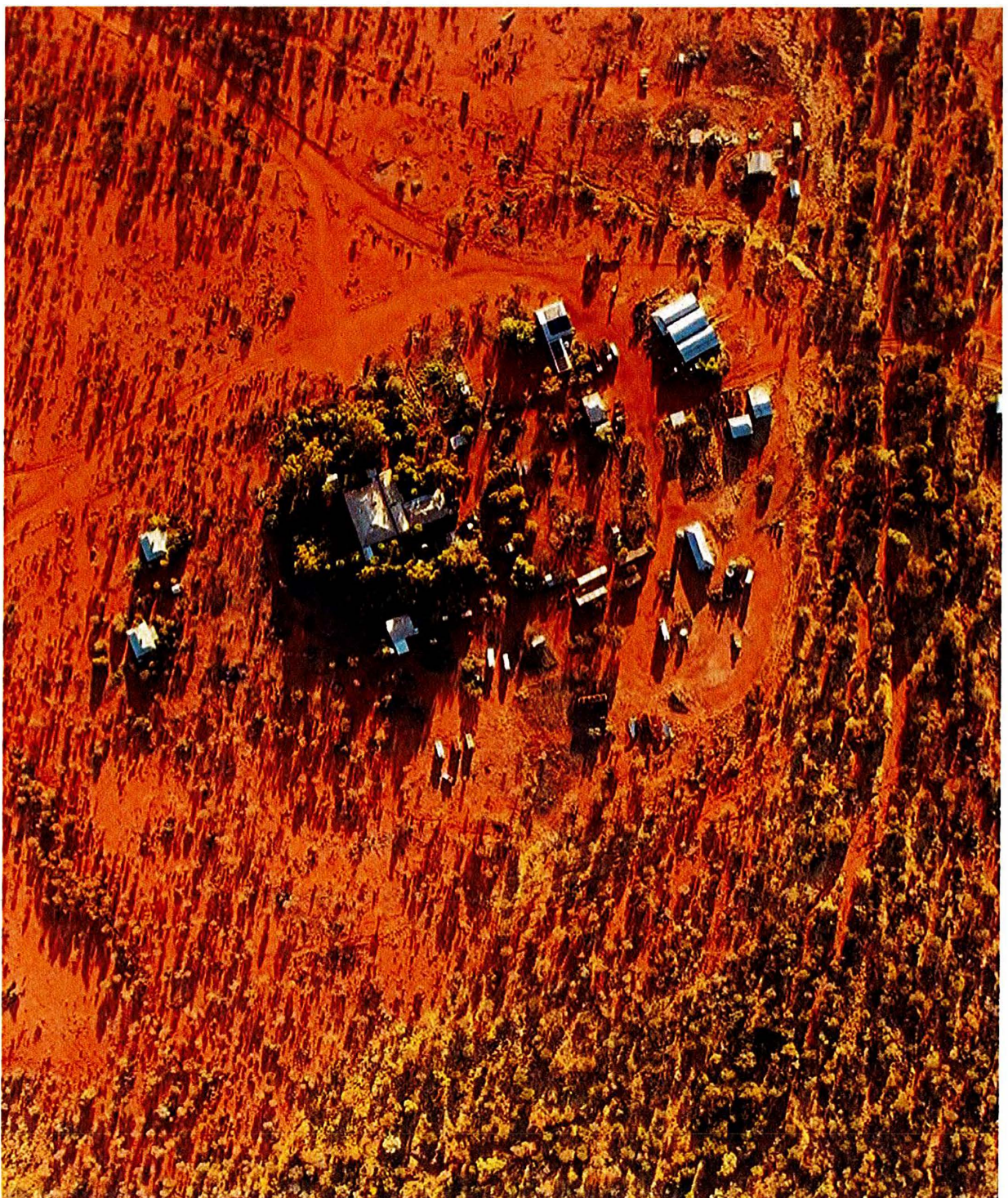
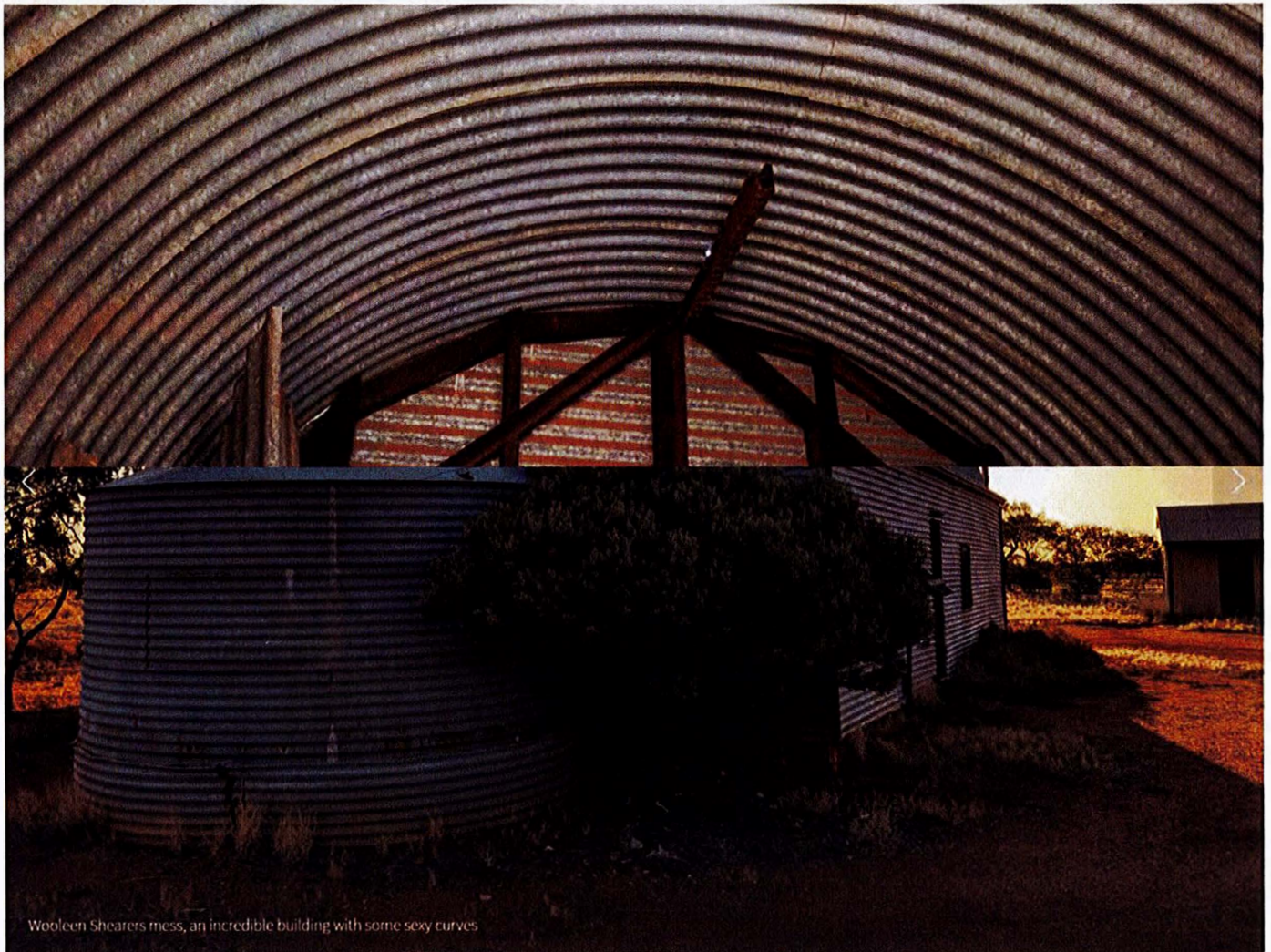


Photo of Wooleen Homestead from The Vagabond Life Insta. click on the picture to see more of their epic pics. Note the homestead vegetation

form an 's' shape, placed on either side of the space to be vaulted then riveted together with curved central piece to form a structure free space. Alf takes this to a whole new level with the Wooleen shearing shed mess which has two intersecting vaults (called the groin)! A bloody cathedral of corrugations! Onya Alf!

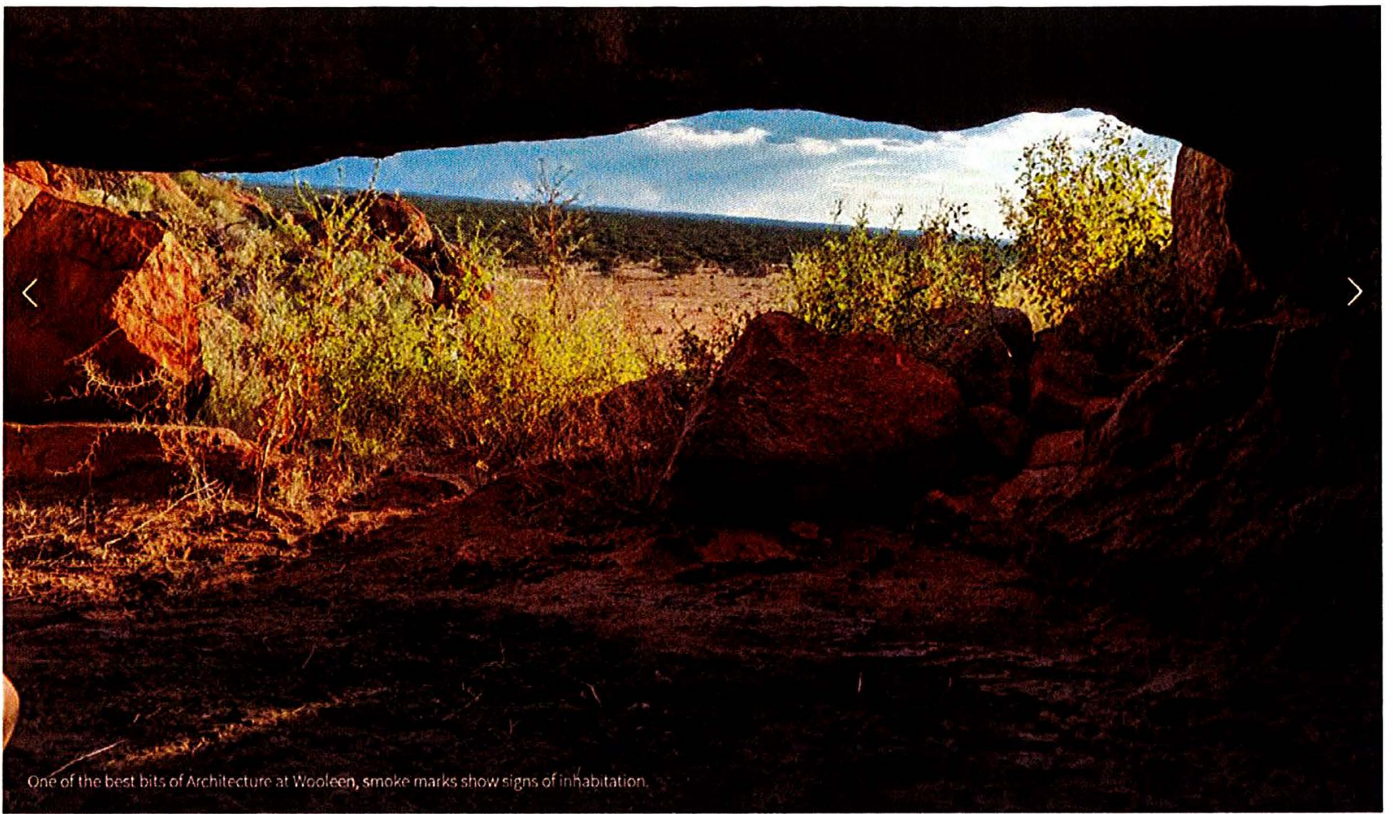


Wooleen Shearers mess, an incredible building with some sexy curves

The homestead was built as separate pavilions from bricks made from sand on the property. Grand in scale and planning. this pearl of a building is an earnest attempt at making British architecture work for the hot Australian climate. verandah's all around, tall ceilings, ventilated eaves, large roof voids. suspended timber floor and orientated to capture the 'sea breezes' help to cool the house to make it livable. However until recently (with the purchase of an evaporative air-con) during the height of summer. David and Frances would sleep outside. on the grass. on shearers beds. just on the edge of the sprinkler in order to stay cool. Regardless. a pretty grouse old building.

Outhouses and service buildings are built in a similar manner with large overhangs, ventilated eaves or vaulted ceilings. Guest houses built 1112004 also take lead from the building of the site with large verandahs and ventilated eaves however have used locally sourced earth for rammed earth walls. We are not convinced that this is the best option for hot climates (well. how they tend to be constructed with smaller eaves than required) however they were built for tourism, which only operates 11the cooler months so maybe they are a good option.





One of the best bits of Architecture at Wooleen, smoke marks show signs of inhabitation.

Being one of the only spots for accommodation close to the Murchison radio-astronomy observatory (CSIRO run) Wooleen is frequently asked to house contractors who can stay for months at a time. If put into the homestead accommodation, they take away opportunities for Frances and David to get in touch with their target and on-going market supporters. So...the ubiquitous donga enters discreetly through the back gate. Without the healthy land this is what is eco-pomical and accepted.

Exhibition, we left without finishing it ...

With a machine like WoolPen we couldn't help ourselves but (I)Pate a Wool z... (I)!! A small 111d/Mine documenting the Architecture of Wooleen. Looking at mate, idl u.e. construction details, textures, passive cooling techniques and propositions. However, this way, for the first stop that we couldn't get out of work finished. We had to leave them with an interest in life. Despite our best efforts we just could not finish the energy to keep working through the nights like we had planned, it each stop prior to enable us to have a little bit of rest. pre, or, technical thinking this speaks loudly of our fatigue. All thought, emphasis, son, volume, it is a constant stream slow enough.

On top of this, the interior is not only a combination of, or, a 11pu1pV>A but also, let's see, are keen for the Wool Pen to be 111,1e1d for the guest, to be joyful whilst visiting till hon'rsted. For the long, in current plans or documentation of the ho1wste, idl it's we're excited to finally have something dra1... up. We're here

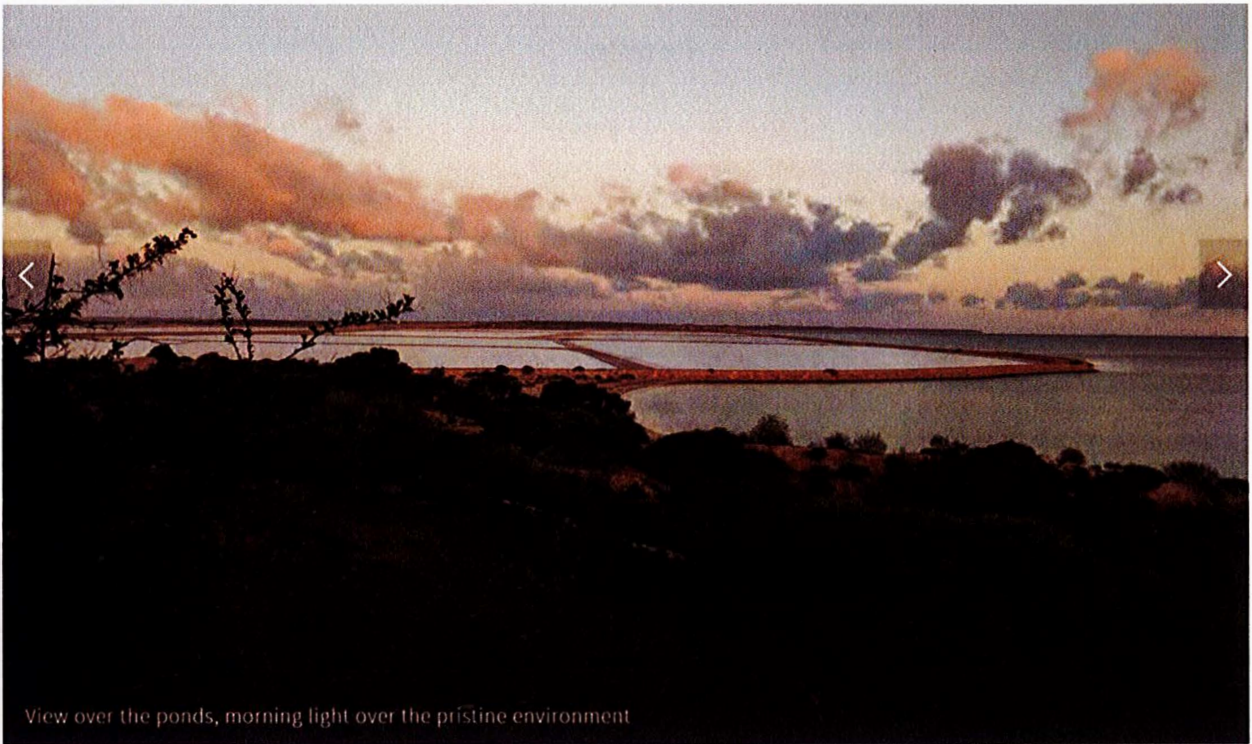
"... I'd be proud of the change. Well, the work does only get used for a fire escape plan on the back of guest 100111 doOs. Regardless, I had to be good. We finally s-111 through 1 p1111e1, c,s, on of tik 11w l,om Denham on the 2/th No. emb'tr bllov1111g l,tnp 19.



Wooleen Office / Dinner Invite

Stop 19: Useless Loop

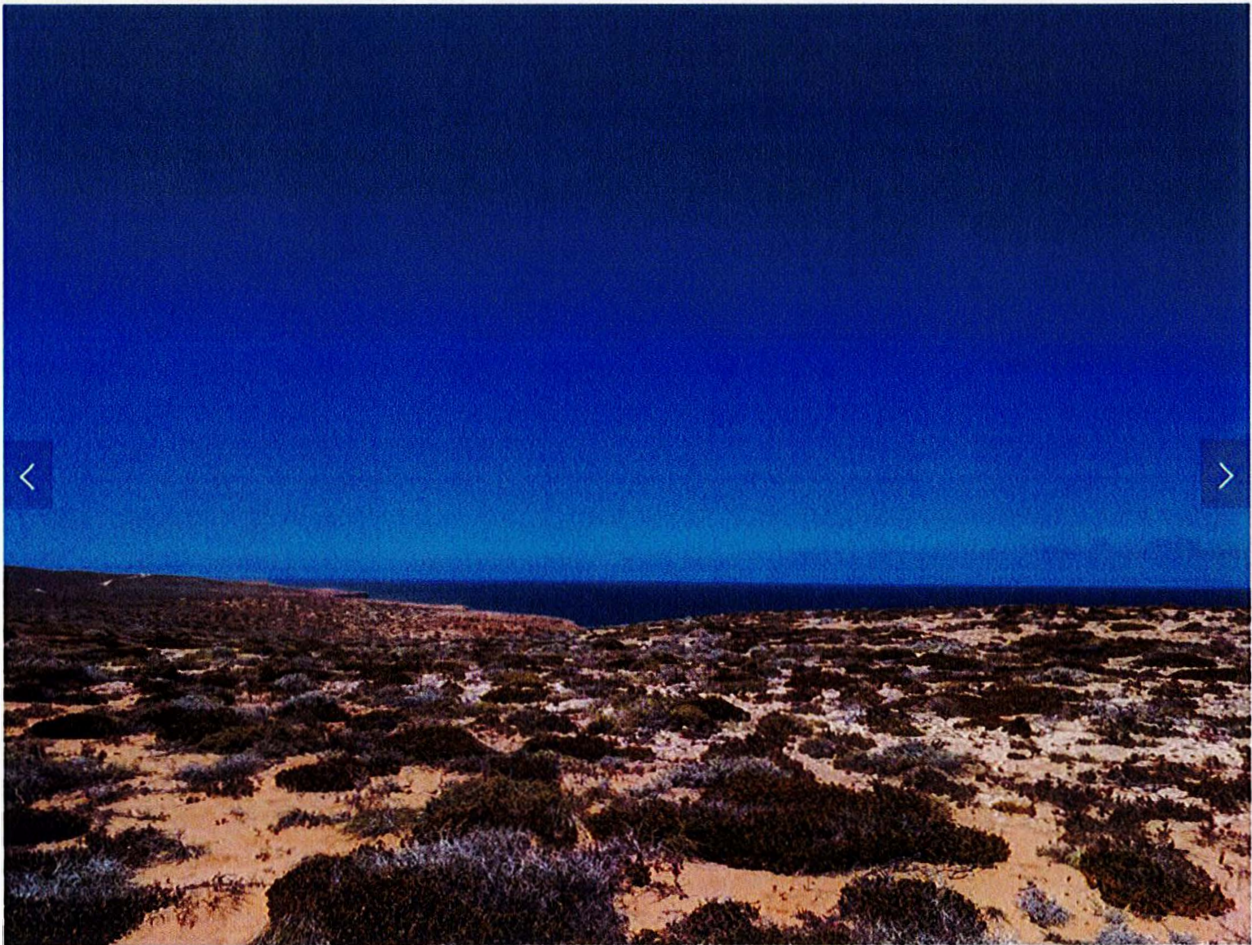
15.11.17



View over the ponds, morning light over the pristine environment

Today the sea walls are favoured fishing spots. with mullet, snapper, urd and some other types of fish that we didn't pay enough attention to hang out in huge numbers. Ougongs, Reef Sharks, Sea Turtles and Dolphins are common sights from these prime fishing holes.

Lying to west again is Steep Point, the most westerly point on the mainland of Australia. An overwhelmingly powerful place that really feels like you are standing on the edge of the continent, steep limestone cliffs shed off as the wind blows you in gusts towards or away from the churning Indian Ocean. Looking out, the flat horizon, the first time we see it in nine months, trying to imagine that the next piece of ground is South Africa.

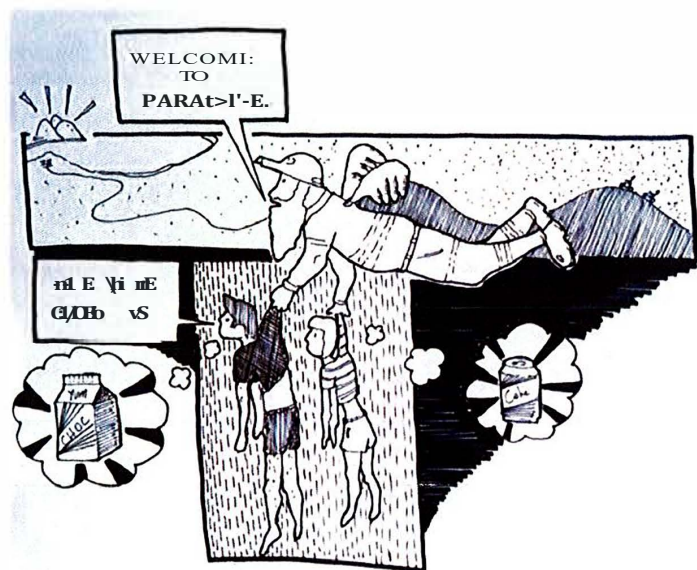


It's testifying the power of the place is not unfounded by the locals. The most common advice to stay on the P.I. is salt doesn't mean as much as coal or gold, because it's not a precious metal. The most common advice to stay on the P.I. is salt doesn't mean as much as coal or gold, because it's not a precious metal. The most common advice to stay on the P.I. is salt doesn't mean as much as coal or gold, because it's not a precious metal.

People

Living in the SPQ's (single person's quarters) amongst the mine contractors and single workers and eating alongside them in the mess we were grateful for the opportunity to experience the real thing, rather than just study it from afar. One of the most valuable things we came to learn of was, the routine of the mine and hence the town too. Understanding the workers routines, which dictate the use and inhabitation of the spaces in the town.

Phil (Town Services Coordinator)



We tried to make contact through contacts online and waited months; we had almost come to the conclusion to disregard Useless Loop as a stop. Then the "High-Vis Fairy" came into our email thread and had us organised to arrive, stay for the week, eat and get out of there in a short few emails, we were quite taken by the man's ability even then. Upon our arrival we came to experience in flesh Phil's ability to stretch his attention over the plethora of roles that are demanded of him.

Phil has worked in mine camps before with his expertise in the building of mine camps, and as many of the other locals was acutely aware of the beauty of the place. His role at Useless Loop was to ensure that the town ran smoothly. He had to ensure the buildings (all owned by the mine) are well looked after, the shop has stock and staff, the tavern is ready for thirsty miners, dinner comes out on time and there is enough grub to go around and to rescue any emergencies or unplanned scumbags who come to stay. One

morning we worked at a table in his office and were exhausted by the sheer number of call outs he had to attend to such a variety of circumstances. We will just stick to architecture thanks!

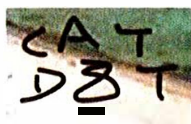
Phil was kind enough to give us a tour of the town one day (after knocking off), pointing out the plans for refurbishment, new houses, knock-downs, recently completed Reno's, community spaces and his most hated buildings in the town (which were obviously the ones we were most drawn to, stupid architects). Phil's ethos is to repair before replace, years of organising maintenance and knowing how materials weathered and what was needed to get the most from steel, timber or fibro was furiously scribbled down by us two as we tried to absorb as much knowledge as we could. The first time on the trip where maintenance was seriously considered. Owen is currently creating a shirt that reads: "MAKE MAINTENANCE SEXY"... (please email to place orders...)

Glen (Mine Manager)

The big boss, Glen, nine weeks new around town is in charge of the whole show at Useless Loop. We had heard about Glen and Phil was organising a meeting for us. Described to us (by someone we can't name) as a Byron Bay hippie, Glen smashed our pre-conceptions way out. By chance, we caught up with Glen over dinner at the mess one night, instantly understanding the trip, not just what we were doing but exactly why we were doing it, on a level that cannot be explained but is a connection that is a radical change in the way we live had to happen for any chance of 'sustainability'. Glen applauded us on going 'outside' and looking and thinking, saying "I'm proud of you" which left us all warm and fuzzy and sort of awestruck as to whether Glen was prophetic, knowing what we would get out of the trip more than we knew. His plans are now to double the amount of salt produced from Useless Loop, all to do with efficiency of management and processes, not more staff or 'stuff'. Thanks Glen.

Jeremy (Contract Operator)

Off a paved courtyard over two levels are 24 x 10.7 sqm donga bedrooms with ensuites, more commonly known as SPQ. This is where the self-titled shit kickers hang out. The contractors are the last to come and the first to go as the mine's production varies. We lived in these with Jeremy in the SPQ's where he was quick to jump on the website and our social media feeds to find out about the trip and where we've been. His good sense of humour and larrikin behaviour always made our afternoons a delight. Jeremy became our biggest advocate at Useless Loop, telling anyone and everyone about what we were doing with enough embellishment and humour to make it sound interesting and worth looking into! Jeremy is emblematic of many of the contractors and some of the full time staff. With three kids at high school Jeremy does his stints working at "the Loop" (for up to months at a time) while his wife and family live in Geraldton (five hours away). He too has been checking in on us ever since, especially on the hot day riding.



Cam (Ponds Supervisor)

Cam by all accounts was a really outgoing and so when we met him it was no surprise that he was in fact a nice, intelligent, patient, up for a laugh, but our expense, though us taking in the benefits and the things that we do see how salty the salt water was. Cam showed us through the whole production process of the mine. Cam is the other demographic of the mine, young with a wife and young family. One of them has just started at the primary school. Already here for 5 years Cam said he has no plans to move until his kids have to go to high school, the reason why so many families leave. He started out as a bricklayer but the power of the place at useless Loop drew him and he's hooked. Another victim of the incredible fishing, camping and swimming.

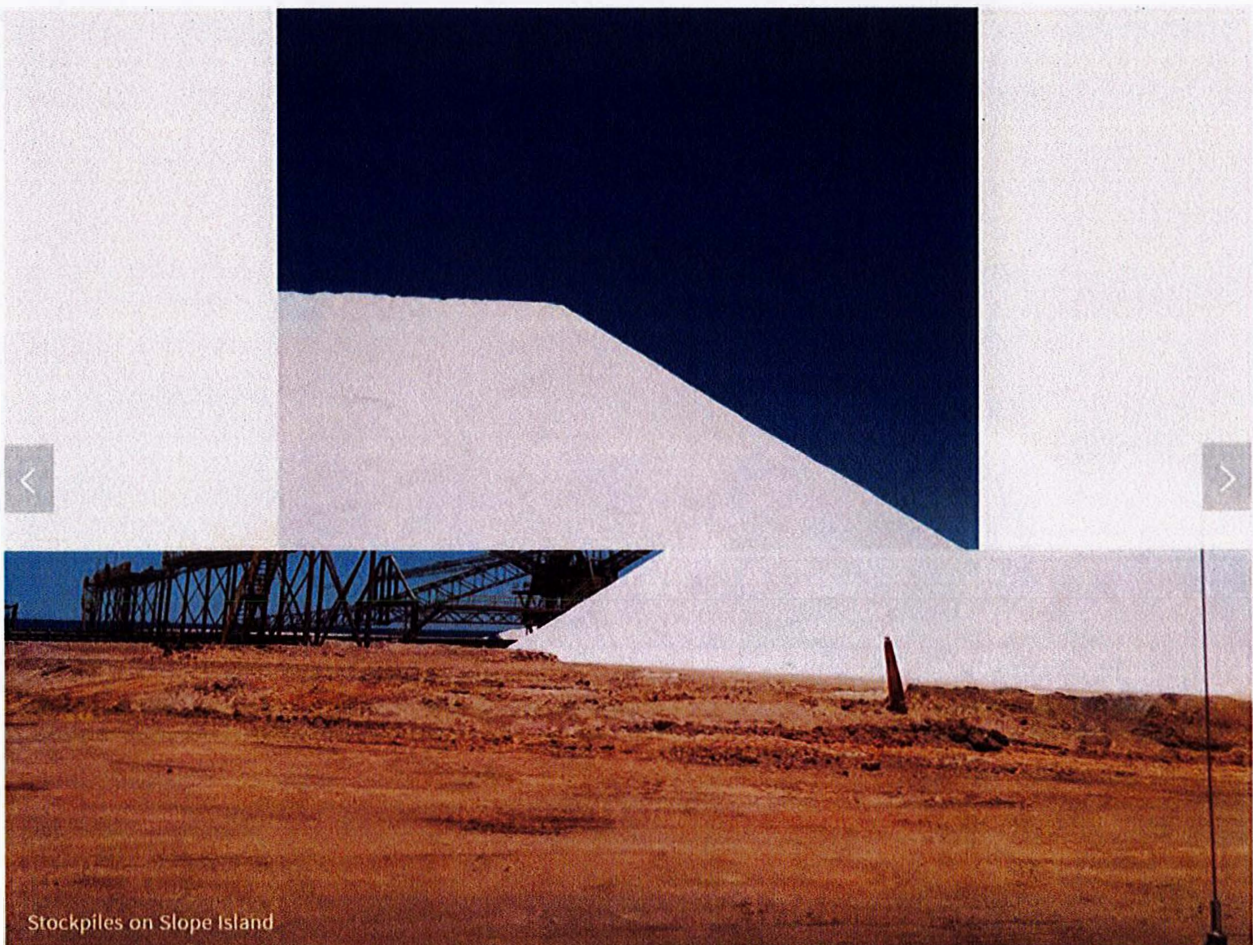


Stuff (Architecture)



Possibly due to the nature of mining, boom and bust as well as the economic rationalist approach of big business, the town has never had a definite future and as such it is uncertain how long the architecture will be needed for. Useless Loop as a town has also never had the need to promote itself to patrons which has been the driver for much of the permanent habitation we have seen across the colony. The main purpose of the residents was and still is to mine salt. ground architectural gestures were unwarranted and unrequired. Highlight the low tech nature of the mine and the product being a 'base metal' means that it seems unlikely that the mine will become useless... get it for a long time yet. Perhaps longevity is the smarter and cheaper option?

Another aspect of the architecture is the infrastructure of the salt mine itself. Local dirt and quarried stone walls create 'bars' that dam the ocean and increase salinity. filled with flood gates to control water levels and move increasingly salty water through the process. A 30 km 'flume' is an enhanced timber and occasionally asbestos open drain that gradually feeds the water into shallow 'condenser' dams that allow sun and wind to increase salinity and 'grow salt'. this is roughed up by a grader and then picked up by a harvester. put into a semi-trailer, dumped into a washery, washed with sea water then conveyor belts take the salt out via a sea way to a natural stand turned stockpile. (Look at Mining process page in the zint for more info) from here it is pushed onto another conveyor belt by dozers which take the salt to the ship. The 11 old ship loader cost 30 MILLION and is already showing significant rust. even though maintenance is carried out religiously, the seriously salty coastal conditions make this a constant battle. All in all though pretty low key for an international mining operation. Aside from the mechanical impossibilities we thought shiny stainless steel graders would be a lovely shiny addition to the salt mine as the current graders look decades old after only a few months due to the catalyst and acceleration which is the chlorides part of salt.



Stockpiles on Slope Island

Exhibition

Tuesday 21st a Thursday 23rd November, 2017

Figure 1. The stock market: how do you know? The Lsd-1, School got to 1rd€ tit? most of the l'dllt! As l,Sudl d'JllePgu,ol11 t'""CIP1:u)),(i need< of cor1N\;n1GH1on fer **Day One**, de mclde a cartoon uk<,t1unctional of 'Ho: to 11ap Sun- ano tet t' f111 U'f se*101 J,ds to cary out <M collect the> q11 dfo, us. **Day two** ,d1 1f111med d1nd c5k€1 -,;tat l'C-/ h.d l't?Jmt. All Jn wers wre obs"lVd1ons n1ade o: St1,den1s, e, cllly our mtent1011 to encot,rag1ng 'S' ang u,,ougb 11rew pe1!,pt?c're not 1e3 ;,bout the r1111ff O the SJn.

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Click on picture above to see the Useless Zine for yourself!

Suggestions

Observe variations and suggestions as to what stuff works in useless Loop.

- Add rainwater tanks
- Place services above ground. soil conditions degrade pipes and infrastructure
- Raise buildings for passive cooling and access to services
- Timber should be painted
- MAKE MAINTENANCE SEXY
- Social spaces are abundant but without programming can be useless
- Face the long side of your building east and west with deep verandah, the whole way along to capture southerly breezes and to have a spot to sit in the morning or afternoon sun in winter
- Slide to the west
- Corrugated metal, fibre cement and concrete appeared to be the best performing materials
- Dongas come on chassis. Look after the chassis and you look after the dongas thanlu Phil!
- Maybe turn the 30 km flight into a fun kids ride
- Make the most of the incredible views at useless Loop with windows that take small snapshots of the rather than the one big expanse. that's what verandahs are for
- The better the environment the better the sail. ..get the sea gear, growing man

In-between (Useless Loop to Wooramel Roadhouse)

Friday 24th November • Friday 08th December

The were 61 -, enough to be offered a flight from useless Loop to Denham and so our bike was shipped on the pilot boat previously in the week. The mail plane will be hatched on the way there - times 4 week to useless Loop. four seats or more, depending on if it's the big one or the small one: We got the 'Tidill one which was incredible. A bud's time to pilot allow, you to vncr'>tdhd a pl:VP it's 1*tv p;1,pt1ct1.e. \, fdkj conj. ro k n.N/HJ pldCP o, th g, o,md P' 1:,e, -of- then C<llle to \10111dnet < C1\1Mrl jn& M 1.1ph:~c, 1,"ge C\p pl.Jr.,u,g ,wd geotog,cal coirt\toct. \1,1 ; t,e1v

Stop 20: Wooramel Roadhouse

01.12.17

The Grand Section Guardian #020 - Stop 20 Wooramel Roadhouse

December 23, 2017

The Grand Section Guardian #020 - Stop 20 Wooramel Roadhouse is a typical of many 'roadhouse' stops, dictated by the nature of unspoiled roads. However, the nature of unspoiled roads evolves so too must the architecture of the road.

PLACE

Friday 1st - Sunday 10th December

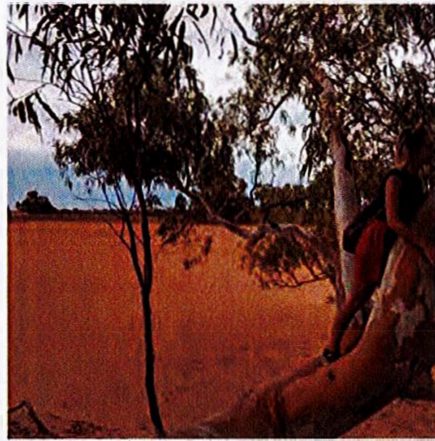
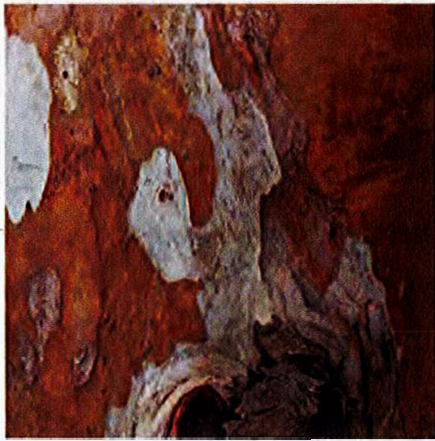
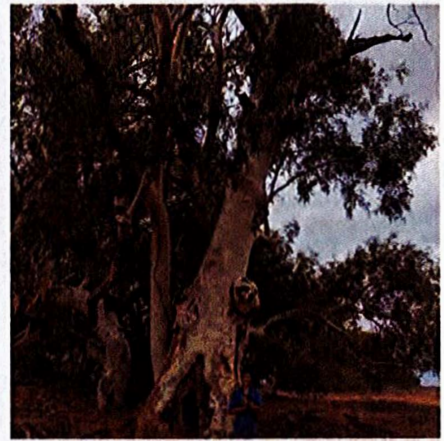
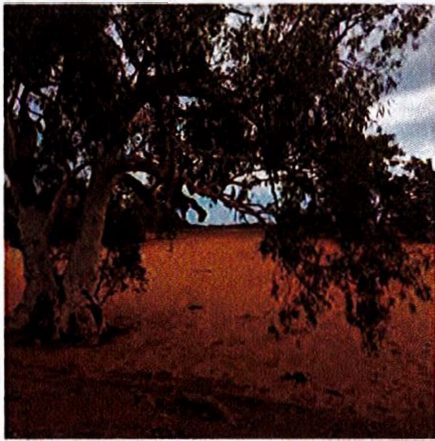


Located on 30 mostly roadside acres, Wooramel Roadhouse is only six kilometres from the ocean, however it is part of the branch of the coastline where the road runs into the sea. Climpesot the ocean from the road, the low acacia shrubs that dot the landscape amongst the red earth.

Predominately cattle country the land is buggered. The towers rise up on the horizon from the bush. The perennial grasses still cling to the sod are munched to their roots and look botched beyond saving. The browse line, the dune line, the trees are tall and high. Not as you might think, from the goats, numbers beyond count. Originally called upon for their milk, and handiness the bush is now a muck of everything. Stippling branches and the ground of new sprouts. Hold onto you, hilt!



The roadhouse is only about two kilometers from the Wooramel River, an upside down river where the water runs underground. Lined with ancient river red gums and old bird life, it sustains animals and humans alike with bores dotted along its banks tapping into the water table at 12m below and piping to places of inhabitation as required. The drier it is, the saltier the water. It's the kind that doesn't lather up in the shower.



We are told there is a deep history of the place with the local aboriginals. However all of the local people now live away, in Carnarvon or elsewhere. So it is something I had that we couldn't tip, more readily present. In fact we were not able to find any written history on the place at all.

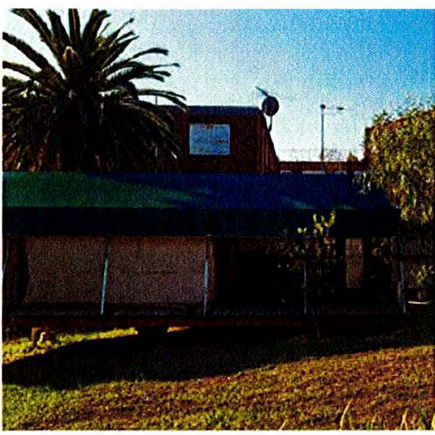
PEOPLE

Margaret and Neale, owners of the Roadhouse

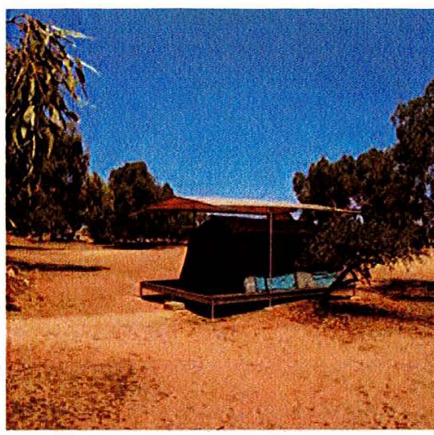
The owners of the Roadhouse and WA locals. Neale and Margaret have recently taken over the roadhouse and have made small but significant changes. As we walked in after a sweaty ride, Margaret instantly made us feel welcome despite our smell. Throughout the week as we intermittently inhabited the roadhouse, she weathered the storm of questions, requests and let us take over a table to draw, observe and document roadhouse life. Margaret is the workhorse of Roadhouse, ensuring customers leave happy, well-watered and fed. She was the only person to look at our exhibition in situ. In classic Margaret style her feedback was low key, she analysed the exhibition not through a hypothetical lens but as though we were in a job interview. She went on to talk at length about how, as an employer, she viewed the work and journey as something original, dedicated, taking in the fat and not needing all the bells and whistles of life and 5-star accommodation to be happy. All valuable aspects for employment, so time is something our parents will be mightily relieved to hear...

Neale currently drives daily to Carnarvon to operate another service station. Neale is the dreamer of the pair and is full of ideas to make things work better. Before buying the Wooramel Roadhouse, the previous owner commented that everyone wanted cappuccinos, so almost unsurprisingly, Neale put the coffee machines straight away. However it is these small observations that have made this business a success.

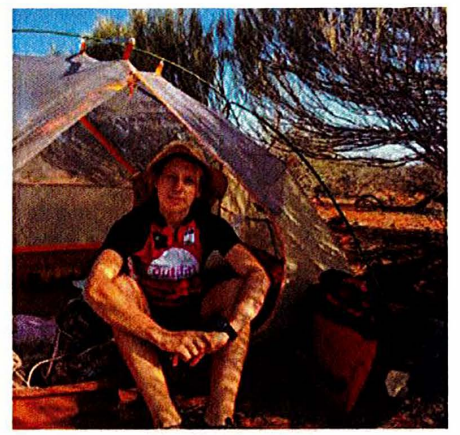
He is fully aware of the challenges of the roadhouse and knows that in order to keep up things must change too. Only two kilometers up the road from Wooramel Riverside Retreat, it is a busy place with a lot of activity. It is a place where people come to rest, to eat, to drink, to relax. It is a place where people come to see the sights, to experience the beauty of the area. It is a place where people come to enjoy the view, to breathe the fresh air, to feel the sun on their faces. It is a place where people come to have a good time, to create memories, to make the most of their time. It is a place where people come to stop.



Stuchbury's rent



Woorage: Eco-ten



The Grand Section Tent

One of the most admirably adaptable qualities that Neale and Margaret have discovered is resilience. With some tough times under the belt, stiff competition and relatively hard circumstances to operate a business in they are cheerful, willing to help a couple of cycling scumbags and quietly optimistic. A quality we have grown to cherish seemingly more prevalent outside of the cities.



Neale, Margaret, Bobbie and Owen with air gap to help protect against smelly cyclists.

Opinion from 6.1m. 6p11 ((. 7 ul ttle)01sv se(isor). the (1ew at #C- Ro#idl,ol,St .,01k lon# dc1ys.1r (1dd11on to this th:v li,c on site too. The-t! t1: #11mst zero ,Hren1tit-is 'lor cnt.,taininent or recreat,on |urless 1ou l>e long ,alks thro#gh p,1ddoci-. ,s,hich ,e p,1,took 'h ,11d ,ere 111st ple,1sant. #1-11g#1 ,wd Ne,1e realise t1e re<11tes of this" It+ libt:1lit<, lhC/ ,1llow lhl-if \tn'f, a1m11g le fJ"0U!# lol'g,t v1y HCl c#m,ocbt; ff>1,t1on\l. Wo... w t1e Ro,lchou"t' wt1en l'OI U11s'j 's rel,hNL t1me <per t1t#clng JMP#1- ,1nd #nvest1nf, n ,1 #p1O-Cl1r(#nc11s 's tt,: norn, r#&I' (l' t'f(1n mlilhWt de-,111ng t1:1r#es or tt' like. T11s 's J t'(ct,r1q1_# tiscd BJ t10 dt,1) .s 111-u pool of st,1ff opttons is PO# ,ndless n #h 11g r#01t 1# r,o,1(11ousr. \ spollec,1;], C#(Hl <fcl effr(t1:"lt. th:y b1 !t1(# il _#11

STUFF

Wooramel Roadhouse is a conglomerate of buildings consisting of the main r?lorat, 1ble rwclhou?e building, a big shed our the front, " c?111p g?lound with c;1mp kitchen thP ubl<1u?1ous ctonga toilet block and accommodation rooms.

Roadhouses began as a stopping and ref?ement po,nt fo? truck? w?o were the mdin pat?ons of the road, but as tec.hnology p,ogresses so too does mile?ge/tank w e removing the need for stops so often. Today, Grey Non?ads ,ind foreign tourists In rent?l vans zip back and fonh along the West Australian coasr. More and more c.irs 1od,ly can drive half way up the continent Of? one tank of petrol: 800kms just like that. This calls in to Question the ro,son-d-etre l woflky/itench way of saying 'reason for being') fo? ye olde ,oadhouse.

How does a petrol sration become d sure stop when there is no longer the p?nary need for people to stop for petrol? As we've seen before, diversification is the answe. With pet,ol as 'the magnet', the ,oadhouse makes their living from what they sell Inside the shop with the booming (seasonal) tourism of WA helping to push people up and Clown the coast. Tourism is projected to grow with the WA government strategy w,mting growth to have a value of 12 billion by 2020, aiming to double its v,?lue since 2010. fo? Wooramel, petrol is no longer sustdining, but people always need a break. a loo, a drink and something to eat and sometimes even a night's stopover. Inc,easingly impo,tant is the powe, of an online presence, good <111aily service,; clean amenities are a quick g,ab for prospective custome,s on wiki camps, trip advisor or racebook. Actual expe,ience is becomng ,ccessrble via online reviews and dictates <lot!

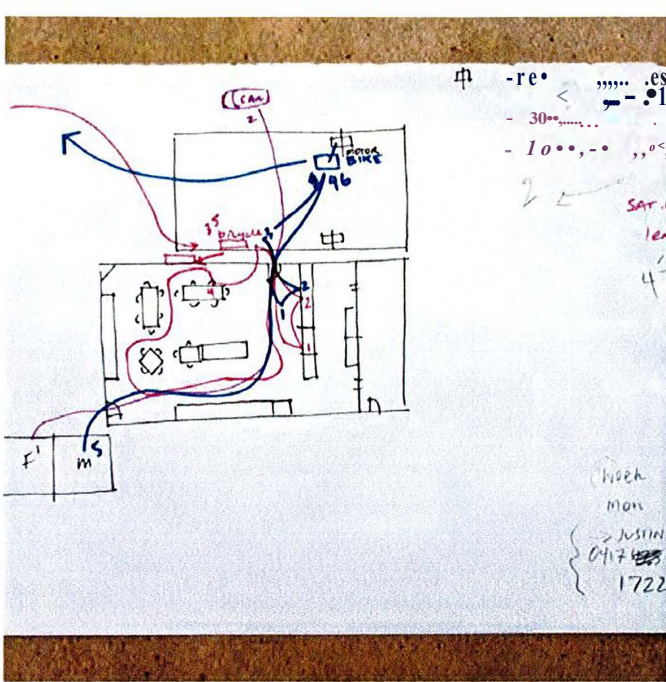
How does a,?hitecture work within this environment? Initially it is the arcl?itecture that signifies an Impending stop. Big bold moves have to be eye catching at 100km/h, we are talking some serious Gthry vibes. However, w?en referring to the caravan park Neale made an off-hand comment that 'people love ties', perhaps having a wonderful garden is just as powerful as havine a fancy shed out front. now that people are able to share 'experience' online.



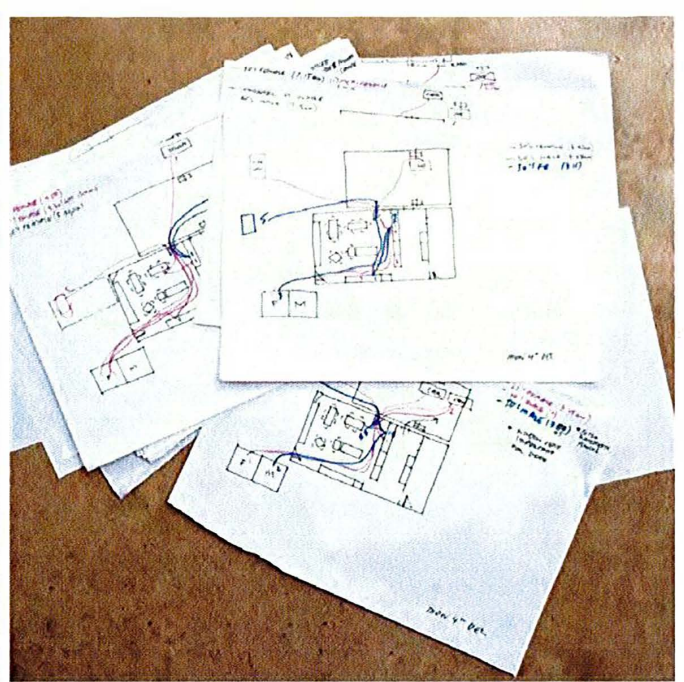
Gehry VS Garden - the ultimate architectural showdown

Once people h,we made the dec,sion ro stop at Woor,imcl Roadhouse rhe scale changes. detarls and orientation become paramount. People need 10 know clearly ,1nd eff?c,ently whot their options a,e and whe,e they are go,ng or there could be ,nassconrus,on! Tourist a-geddon! Symbolism becomes impo,tant t?1ldirectng people in <1nd out as q?111ckly as possible. Ihe simple' f?ont avinng ove, the entry door is t?e dea, wwbol of an ePtry, causing no confusion. We spent two days mapping the mo'ements, t?1n?e arcl s?ops oi everyone 1?;a; Willkea into tne ro,?ld?ouse. We found out rh;it:

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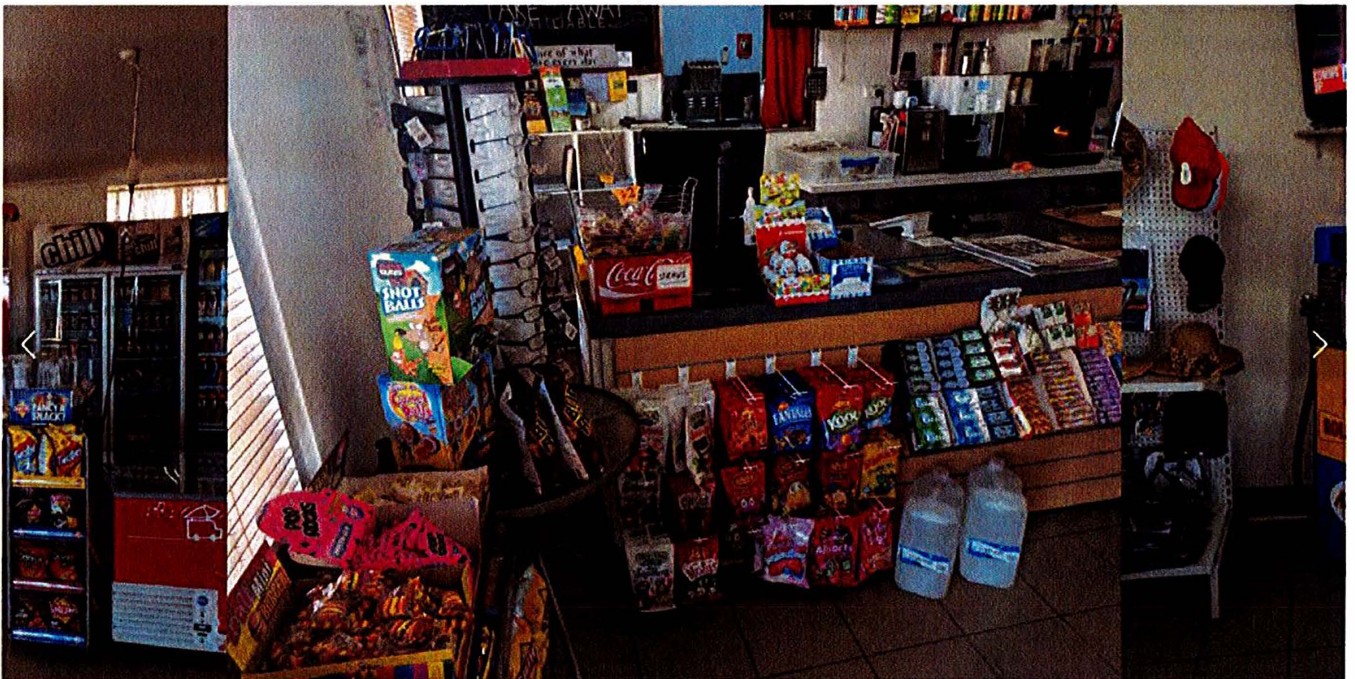


Mapping movement



lots o' mo-ement

It became clear that orientation was crucial. clear views of stock, toilets and point of sale became the markers for easy and efficient movement and transactions of customers. Being a place of high turnover, of customers becomes paramount in the busy tourist season.



EXHIBITION

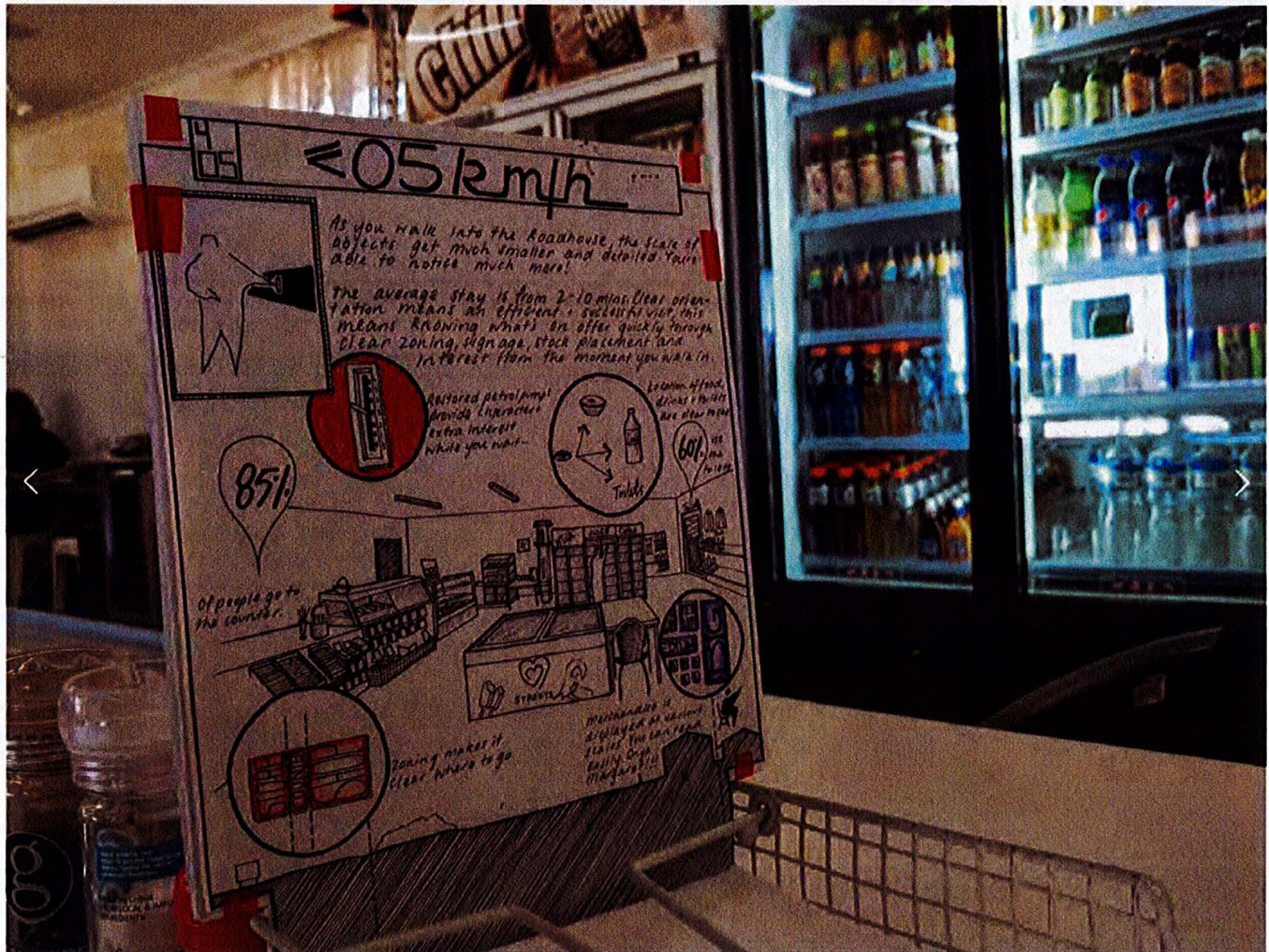
The serviette holders (which no one read)

7th & 8th December 2017

And so, what does it take for people's attention to be grabbed at the varying speed of experiences? What is the difference in symbolism for travelling in the car at 90km/h and that of walking at less than 5km/h? Taking cues from *Learning from Las Vegas* and Jan Gehl's ideas of the speed of experience we took a step a bit left of field to look at symbolism of space, rather than the buildings.

Learn from Las Vegas talk of an importance to take a non-judgemental stand in studying new space order. to, instance looking at the architecture of petrol stations. And so, for our week of study we studied signs, reassured fonts and looked at styles of communication according to different speeds. From the road to the chocolate bar, we looked at varying scales and tracked where people went once in the shop. length of time stayed and what they did. It's not particularly sexy to think about cars or petrol stations in architecture but the reality is there is much to learn from how speed dictates experience, scale, symbolism and communication. No judgement. remember. the judgement comes later... online.

In keeping with the slower pace of inside and wanting to blend seamlessly into the Roadhouse aesthetic we opted for a napkin "things" which provided a series of information, "Learn from Woommel Roadhouse" about the Roadhouse and three speeds of experience - 90 km/h (fast, on highway), 60 km/h (fast, on petrol forecourt) and <30 km/h (walking inside). Actually surprisingly, no one seemed to read one of the five information "things" dotted on the tables inside the roadhouse. Right in front of people's eyes as they ate lunch, the customers seemed to stare blankly in to nothing, we were quite surprised... anyway. A highlight was that we made a suggestion and the next day, Margaret had stock accordingly to give it go. Thanks Margaret!



Suggestions

- Stock products vertically rather than horizontally to ensure direct views from entry for clear orientation
- Use the reverse side of entry signs for provocations or more detailed information as people are still at an intermediate speed. The power is in the returning customer we've told.
- Accentuate the character of the roadhouse with information that the futuristic character pieces so they don't get lost in space
- Novelty is a huge winner! Use a giant Priscilla Queen of the Desert wind vane to signify a cracking spot to stop. Similar to the 'Big' objects around Oz.
- use what you got. wrecked cars out the back of the roadhouse could be converted into funky set-pieces. how's that for all 'Eco tent'!



Stock stacked vertically to lead it better from the front door. Want a chocy? BAM!! Right there!

IN-BETWEEN, Wooramel Roadhouse - Carnarvon

Sunday 10th - Tuesday 12th December

The day we left the wind swung around to a head wind, it would only be disappointing if it were any different. However, being the final stretch, we weren't too concerned as with cycling on tar being easy we felt we should at least work for the final arrival. We took the 124kms slow, stretching it out over 3 days, not only to savor the final days of cycling and simplicity of life on the road but also to ensure a planned roadside convergence for the final day of cycling into Carnarvon.

The landscape continued as before. In the level ground plane, high browse line and row vegetation. The odd muddy pool laid from the rain days before, quickly drying back to cracked textures.

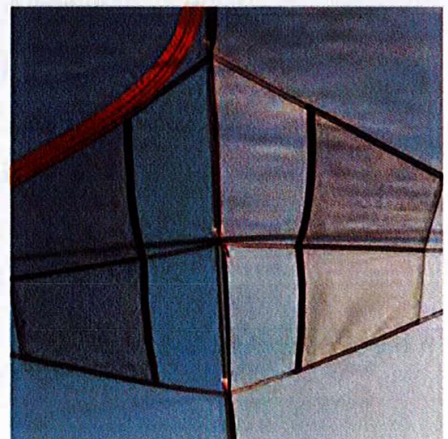
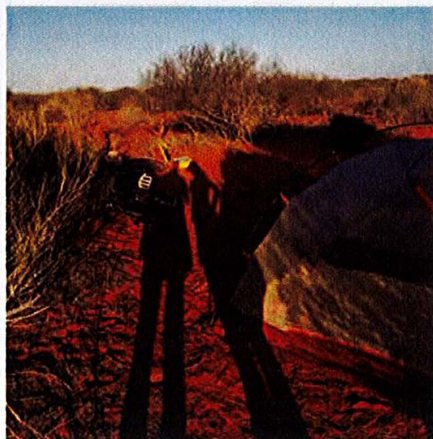
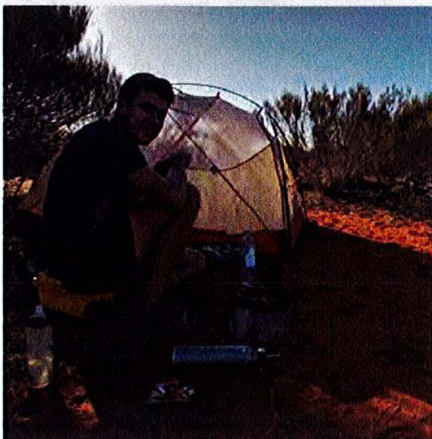
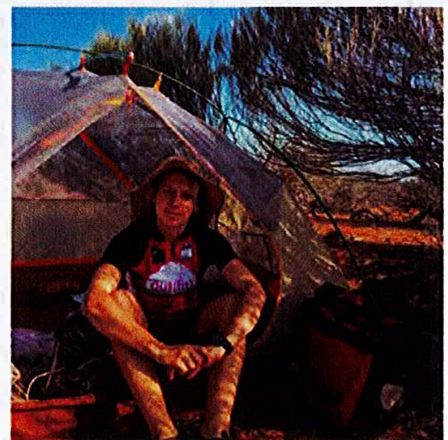
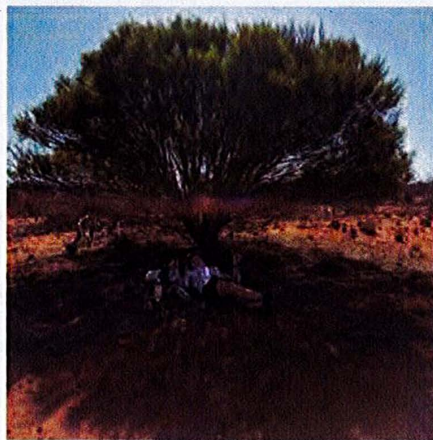
We were astonished by the amount of goats and sheep (there is certainly some intermingling going on) alive and dead. The goats seemed to not even flinch at the copious amounts of campervans, cars and 2 dog semi's trampling the roads. When we came along though, it was as though someone had shot them... running off into the scrub with terrified bleats. 'Slowness' really seems to throw **everyone** off.

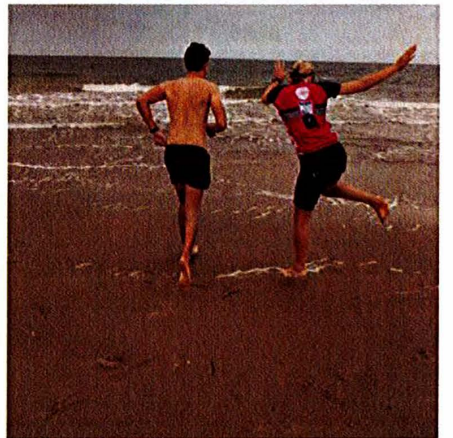
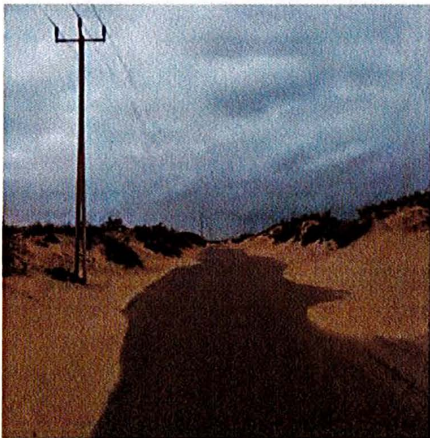
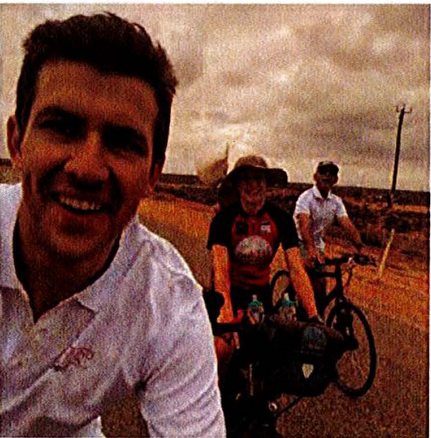
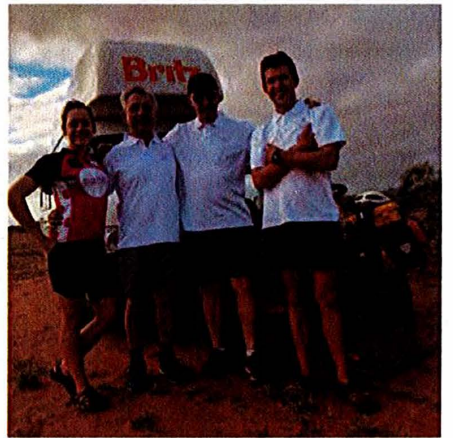
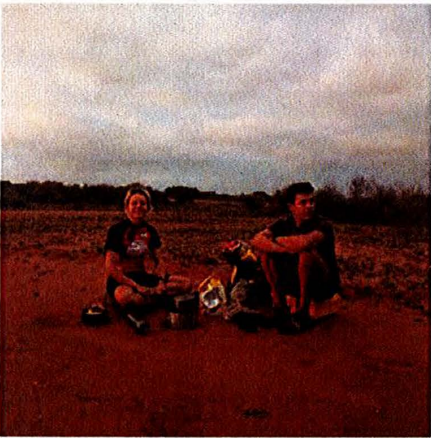
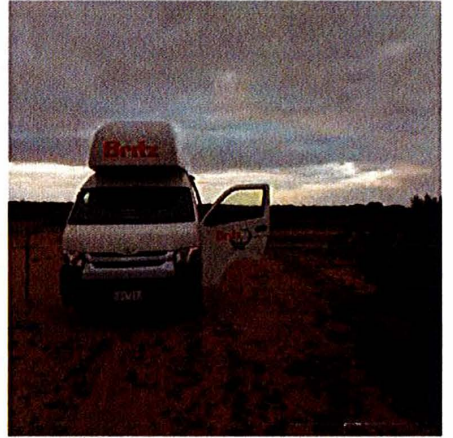
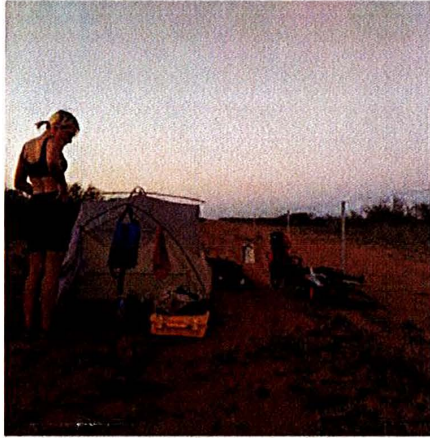
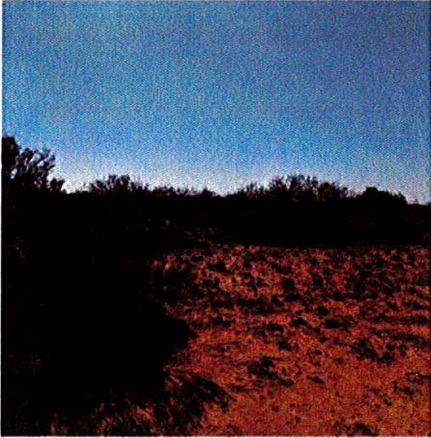
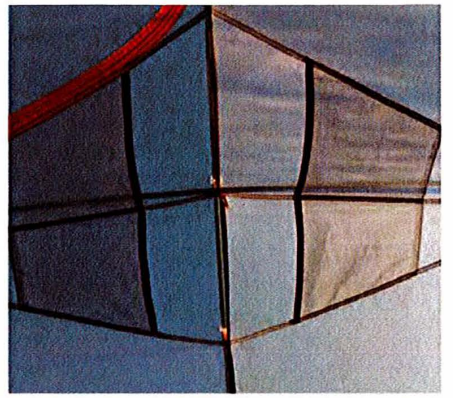
There was a beautiful air amongst the riding, it was the first stretch where we took elongated roadside breaks, some hours sitting and watching, we seemed to share a mutual peace which we hadn't noticed present before, finally, actually slowing down not just in speed but in our heads. Knowing we only had 100 kms or so of tar left there was no need to rush. Intermingled was the excitement of the end, and the trepidation, and allure of the future. A bitter-sweetness.

We pulled up on the last night 74kms shy of Carnarvon, the criteria for a campsite different to the usual, it had to be accessible for a campervan. Bobbie's dad, Chriss, and lifelong friend Gerry flew from the east coast, hired a campervan, pushbike in Perth and gassed up the North West coastal Highway to fulfil their intention from the start of riding into the final stop with us. The familiar faces were assuring and the riding together a powerful moment we kept up our habitual roadside routine, sharing with the two guests and giving a safety briefing on our cycling etiquette and bell communications or as Owen calls it... 'talking dong'. They both took turns in cycling, driving and having a go on our fully loaded bikes (Bobbie's bike fully loaded weighs approx. 62kg, Owen's 77kg), getting the serious shakes before their arms could adjust to the loaded bikes with their ashen faces expressing their astonishment and appreciation of how we had made it this far.

Cycling into town at breakfast time, sweet coastal hibiscus and frangipanis filled the air alongside the waft of breakfast bacon and toast from houses. The landscape was mostly flat and as we got closer to the most western point, drift sand crossed our path. This whole trip has demolished our preconceptions about our own country so it is only right that the last day after almost perfect weather for 10 months it is overcast and spitting rain. Fighting against the raging southerly's that continually hammer the west coast this time of year we rode straight to the water. The Indian ocean, turned into brown chop, was a powerful sight, the edge of the continent we dragged our bikes to the water's edge ceremoniously "kissing" the water edge with our wheels before jumping in fully clothed. The weightlessness of the water seeming to mirror the feeling of arrival. A surreal moment followed by a celebratory beer at 9.30am.

One week to go.....





Edited by Jen Richards, ya legend!

Stop 21: Carnarvon

&

Stop 22: Corre Island

(The island we couldn't get to)

12.12.17

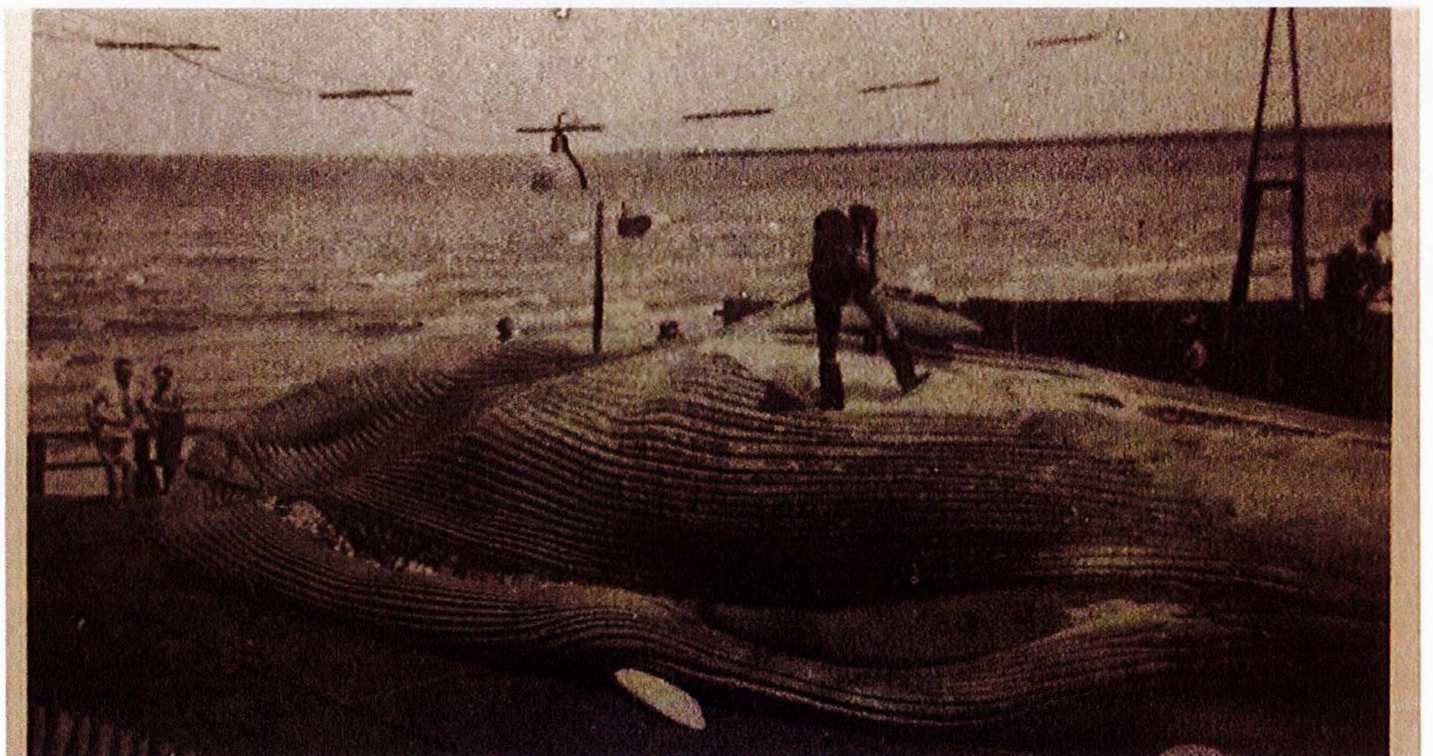


Chinamans Pool, an arm of the Gascoyne River which supplied the town with water and a swimming hole over the years. Father and daughter modelling team strut their stuff.

Strategically located in the middle of what was serious wool country, Carnarvon carved its name through a astonishing amount of industries in a short time period. From the wool rush of the early 1900's that exploited the nutritious rangelands of the Me., **(Click here to check out Woolun 8101 for the current reality of this legacy)** fruit and vegetable growing since the 1920's, space exploration of the 1960's, commercial whaling, fishing and tourist fishing to a sole, farm today attempting to prove that, ultimately, energy production is economically viable. Carnarvon's place has proven extremely diverse.

A well-travelled smart-ass, Jack Buzohc[i], in 1928, realising the suitability of Carnarvon to tropical conditions he had seen, made a recommendation to grow bananas and trialed the first crops on the alluvial sandy soil on the bank of the Gascoyne River. Carnarvon is now considered the fruit bowl of Western Australia (WA), providing approx. 70% of the state's winter fruit and veg. At this time of year this country provides bananas, mangoes, zucchini, eggplant, pumpkin, watermelon, rock-melon and table grapes. Water is pumped from the Budong Aquifer or as the locals call it the 'upside down river' to water the excess of plantation throughout the year. This aquifer, not only provides for the town's pastoralists. 48% of all water, pumped out is used for mining and industry. Anecdotally the water, is getting saltier as the rate of use is exceeding the rate in which it is being filled. 10,000 years we're told water takes to percolate down to the aquifer. On the note of water, almost no houses have gutters.

A long term local told us that Carnarvon is some of the best fishing in Australia. Heck even the town runs off a fish o'clock. If the 'rntillet,ue rnrning" you'll be getting that plastering job done later. The tradie simply won't turn up. Carnarvon's industries also reflect this abundance. As with many Australian cities around the similar time, whaling had a short stint in the town in the 1950's with a yearly quota of 650 humpbacks legislated by the government. Eventually whaling was banned and prawns became the new go to, which still continues today. Fresh seafood is available from a shop just up from the commercial harbour. However, you would be hard pressed to find a local restaurant using the local seafood. The takeaway fish and chip shop was the only place we found using local fish.





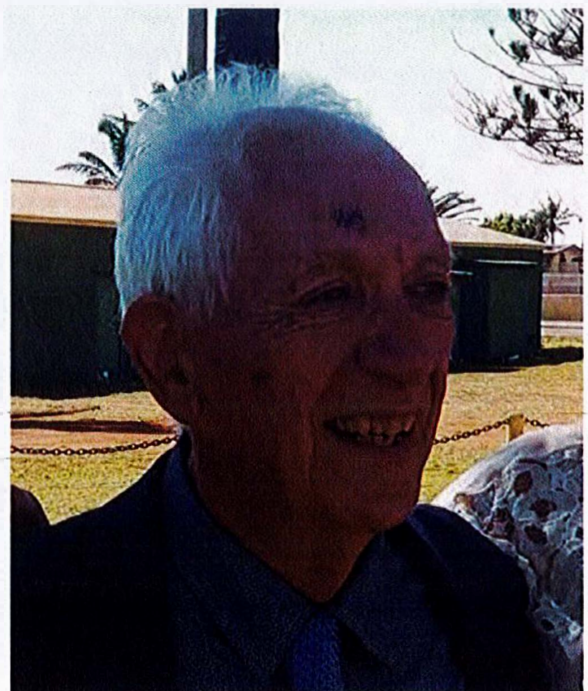
Sabrina jumped in the van and quickly gave us a tour around town pointing out the 'Norwesters' and giving us the history of the geography, the town is built on former sand dunes!

John McCloy

A well known, long term local, who plays an especially poignant role in the School of the Air. With Australia being the only country with school of the air, over his 23 years he's loved everything about it, until now due to them closing the whole thing and amalgamating regional centers to a central Perth base. He talks of the romance of the prior method (until 2004) of teaching via radio and running home visits to students in the 500km radius of Carnarvon three times a year while teachers were not just 'teachers' but would become a part of each remote family's life. Proof of the value the older generation has in the community. John volunteers at the space museum and on the local radio imparting his knowledge and wisdom of the place on all who is willing to listen, tourist or not.

We have met people like John the whole way across the continent, ageing, retired, long term locals whose knowledge of their place is unmatched. They have consistently been the ones to give us time, knowledge and cups of tea. We have been blown away by the hospitality of ageing Australians. However again and again we see older generations moving away from where they have lived for better health services, access to pharmacy's, doctors and the like. This is especially prevalent when moving into full time care in a purpose built dormitory with other room mates who are in the same situation. For us it's such a shame that towns and generations lose the ability to connect with people beyond their own age group who have often experienced and overcome many of the same issues and who can teach us so much about a place and how "things" work.

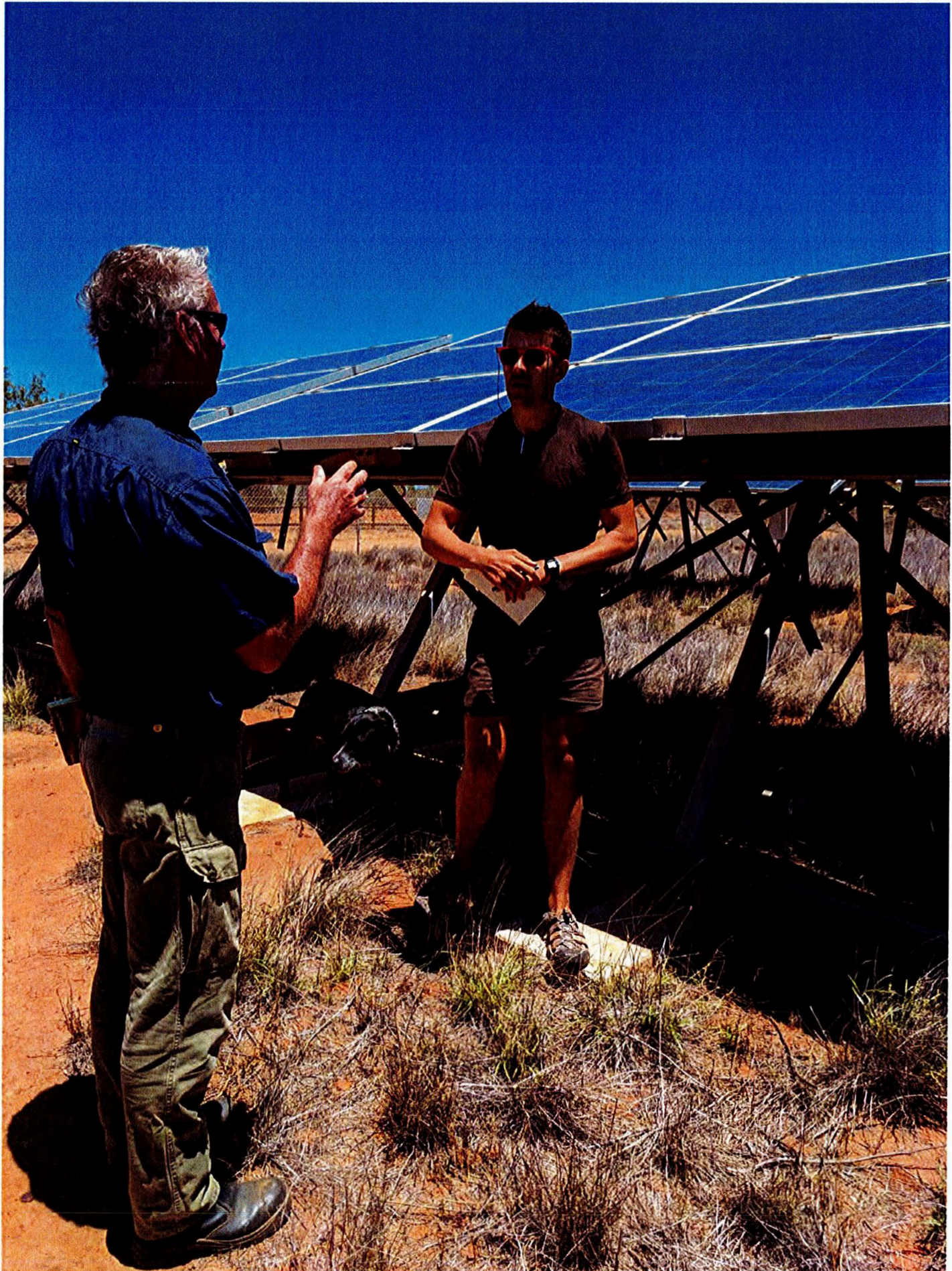
Thanks John.



Lu, Safex

Another local, who through his ancestry. He, Fullerton has long family ties to the area. Proud of his colonial heritage, his family were some of the first settlers who built (1111) on, ' (k O' ii. O1'1' g., rdfa(hf•I nPC1,1(tt1 (/(*ships (ha' rook lht• wool 1111: il1' poll 1111, l110(hl'i O11' delive1'Cl ii.

Lex is the brain behind the 'Solar' solar project that attempts to provide an economically viable model for alternate energy production. Lex has partnered with the local
tonizon energy company to sell energy 111b t1e d1rd however this is t1Jrd to mJke J quid from. Lex has now cre..ited an ice making plant that uses energy from ths sun to
cle,1te ice. not 1e111<11kbb m itself but the p1ocess of llt' p1am 's 1110e intE-res1,ng. The ice machines ,un all day and a,e bagged ,mtl stored 111a too1 room. Smee sola,
p01-el l11's d111f1g thP day t1e cool ,oom d taken 10 -1 / d1g11PS d11ng the day and heats up 10 -14 deg,ees at night 111re. T1e same wcl1n1que is <1pp1ed to the hou0P
where the air-con 's lch screaming J11 day and IS t1e sun go:s down and t1e solar power fades. they're turned off with the house s1,1yng cool from ,ts daily blasting. Lex
approach to solar power is D use 'sh11-lo<1ds. but clwnge the paue, n of use 10 use the ene,gy mostly 01 only w1ulst you've got ,t.



Lex is looking down the path down east to use 'critical mass' of power

Donna and Nic, Central Coast Caravan Park

Donna, hosts and manager of one of the seven caravan parks in the town. Luckily for us Donna and Nic were keen cyclists and adventurers and have covered the park, showers, warm showers, with the price free accommodation for cyclists. Donna and Nic are not uncommon in terms of what we have seen across the continent, outsiders who are interested in and willing to take initiative and often the ones running tourist parks for a slim profit before taking their hard-earned cash and moving on. However, we have also heard stories of people expecting to stay for 18 months and end up there for 20 years. They are two intrepid adventurers operating off the ethos of using a new mode of travel each time they set off into the world from cycling to sailing and horse riding. Next up....kayaking.

Donna was kind enough to park our exhibition on Saturday. Standing behind our market stall and yelling at other locals until they came over and participated. A power that us 'blow-ins' find it hard to wield, or even possible. The incredible ability of a local third party to persuade people to get involved is always appreciated by us. Thanks to Donna our Architecture exchange was actually quite successful.

Stuff (architecture)

Carnarvon is a town with a patchwork history of industry and black and white relations. The buildings of the town are symbolic of this. With no clear style, the town's buildings stand around with varying constructions. Most of the grand buildings in the town centre though all belong to a similar time period or the early 1900s when the place was thriving and the port was busy.

Single-story and double-story brick veneer mansions take up the prime waterside real-estate. The plots are even varied, where only one is of the scale and grandeur that we have seen in most other stops across the continent. The original homes of the place line one street (the first street in town), all dating back to 1890, 1910 and were town houses built by many of the surrounding pastoralists. Well built, block and brick, generous verandas to live in, large roof cavities for ventilation and well established gardens.

Dominating the biggest hill in the area is the Carnarvon Tracking Museum which has helped co-ordinate communication on missions such as Apollo 11 in the 1960s. The old European Space Agency antenna is now only a base sitting just off from the main satellite dish. This ruin is now an expensive bird house which we thought was absolutely beautiful, the monumental power of simple geometries in concrete is hard not to like.



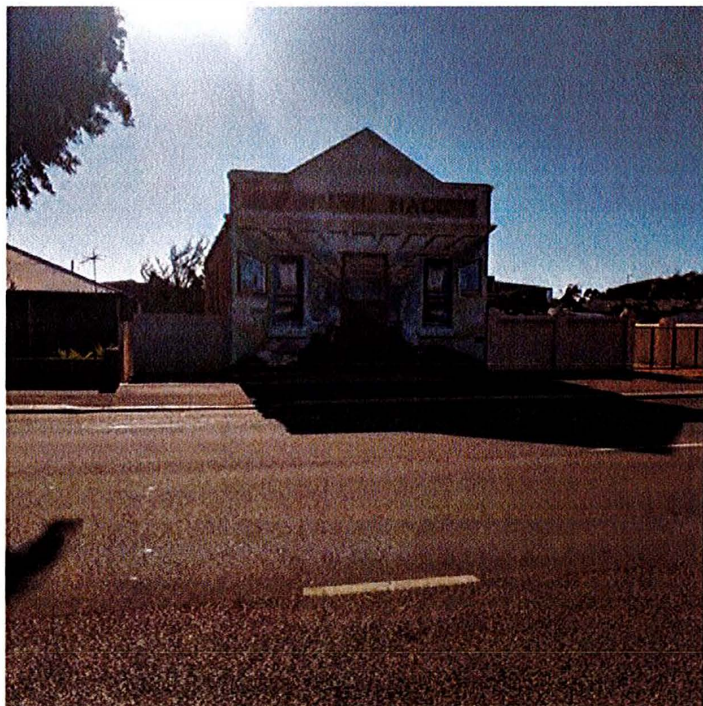
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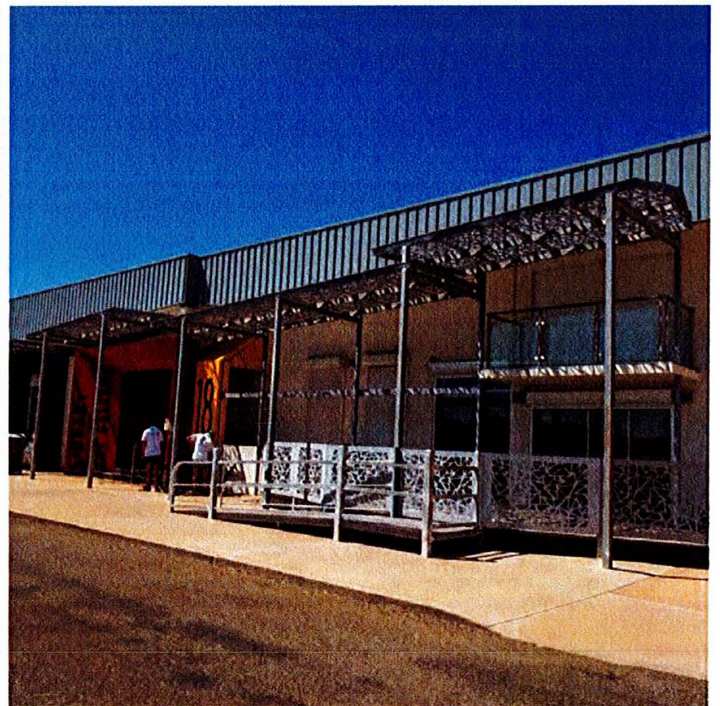


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Son1e1hing not unusu.il D simila, places we've come ar,oss. the1P is i Jack of and ,j di,e need for suit,ible retirement ,rmd aged ca,e facilities for the ageing population. The eldeily ,11e fo,ced to move else1-1he1e tusually Geraldton Ol Pe, thi. eav111e 1're11 homes ,11d am111u11111es t11ey've often played a huge ,ole 'ff1esta1Jnsh111g which 's a huge problem. It's 4ear there is a great d311 of opportunity for sensitive thinking Mound the age,ng in the sm111 towns ,1nd ,egional pMts of Australia that ensures healthy and holi01ic ageing.



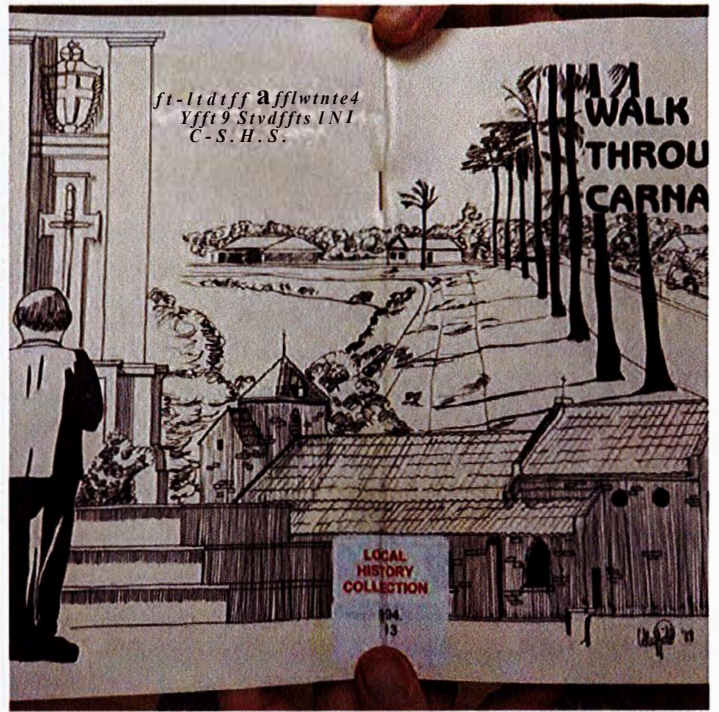
The Old Parish Hall, the beautiful building Sabrina purchased



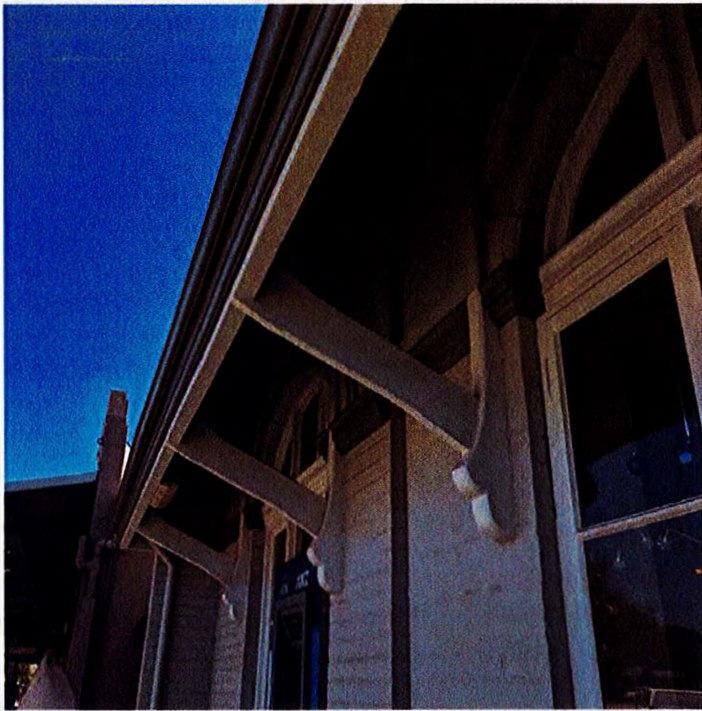
The new library, repurposed old squash courts



New library entrance gesture



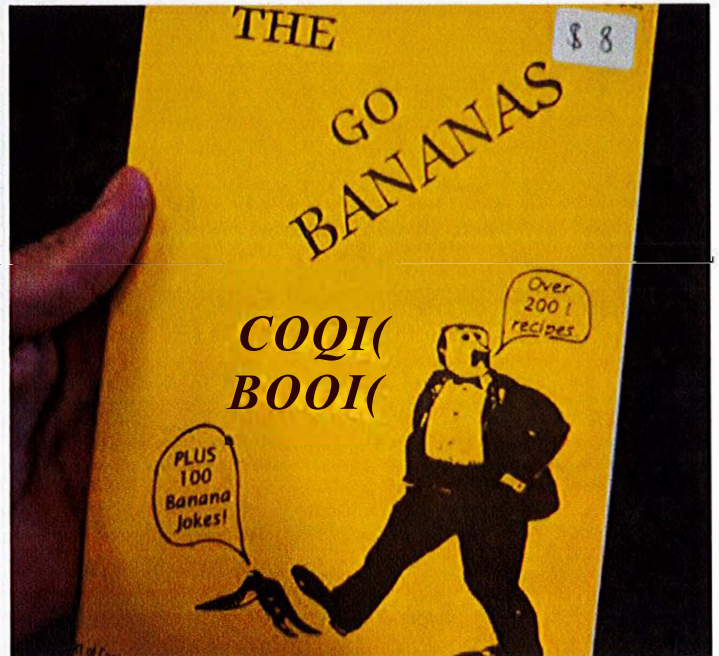
Cover of a book on C...lmaillon



b.>autiful ANZ bank avming suppa,ts



Facade Ornamentation, the old commone.ealth bank



- As a third party to watch you is priceless to create momentum, even better that it is to get someone with a loud voice to believe in what you are doing and you are away. Thanks Donna!!

Some things we learnt for this particular type of engagement:

- How a presence for multiple days, in a frequent, public place creates a sense of familiarity and ongoing conversation amongst the locals
- Very little, or just a sign of what you're doing before they even walk your way. Most importantly that you're NOT selling anything!
- An interesting still or de(occupied) space which lends in with the above point
- A shady spot to sit under in your street, where you're ALWAYS visible
- Just listen. Even if it's uncomfortable or you're hungry...

Stop #22: Dorre Island • The stop we couldn't get to

One of Australia's forgotten histories and the place where we were meant to finish our trip.

Thanks to a contact from Useless Loop we had a boat lined up to make the 60km (1.5 hour each way) trip to the island from Carnarvon and it all sounded good! However, in what is surely an appropriate way for a trip about 'peace' to finish, the weather was too rough for most fishermen, one of the lobster traps had been clogged with sand so boats couldn't move in or out and there was no good fishing in the deeper water. Our last option was for a flight over the islands, however after months of silting and sleep, lying in the dirt, not actually touching the ground on the Island seemed like a cop out and by doing this it would have 'made' it about the 'destination' without slowness, which is not what this whole thing has been about. So, in deep reverence to the place we had fish and chips, we watched the sun set over the Indian Ocean instead. The horizon line was a jagged line far away proving the roughness of the sea.



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In her famous book *The Passing of the Aborigines*, Daisy Bates recalls:

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""""-full/ >w.: wee the tom' of Ue liv,inq cleod. M/Jen l lci:dc:d c1 Sem,e, l1/cmd ,,, Nov:-mt'f' i9J:l ll'e'e ,;e,e 011y 1iftcen 11en left olive. bt,, l CQ(11;e| tlw'y 'q' q'c-<:
11o1' Af:1f <1t:1111-0en:n v.om't'n on [Ja]rre Island, many of rhtllll Uea 11dd0,, l do<1 nA cnunr d1e 1;1oves th'e. **B**



Bernier & Dorre Island Cards

The In-between (Carnarvon - Perth)

17th -20th December 2017

Yell th,s OE- is going to t1(r1liff't'f'l. IOkms no longP1. The "blitz" (1111pe' that Off wo,d>dul 0uppo, l (ft'W hæl hi,ed in p,,11' 11oS the ,ww' Slit'ed. l IOknis with .vind
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Whilst t w,is ,1 celfb1,,tion of the '0 month '0,11nev dnd ,1 de,11 de,n,11<,1t1)n of ,ts -end. il lett more l0e dn openine pc1ty and the beg111,ting of someth11g m,,ch large,. M,1ybe. it's jus11hp s111 of '1tw besi advrn1ure yel, ... life".

Still ra111ne11ng awdy al biogs and the b1st vestiges d11ectly 1ela1ed to lf"" tlip we hden't really hcd lime to cte,omp,esd t1nd 1e,10e it's all ow,. Q11 n11nds a,e still racing ,y,ng '0 collect lllie l.is! st, 111g of tft1 !rip and 1e ll down '0 some plilce whP,e llve can leave it and get a p1ope1 look ,1 it. Fo, now Jaime ,1nd lan,el tft1 e ar1optect us '0 Ch11sma. show11g lIS d landscape south of Pa, ll whe,e l1ees a,e of an unfathomable sw,. wale, is plenuful and 1he hills roll. We cie due back by lhe 6th 1f,ng,rs uossed | Janua,y on lhe east coast aret thanks lo ,1 g,eat lack of c1f1o1dable public transpo1 and being loo Slubbo111 to fly 1e1 loo quick) back we,e busily uY"" & lo wo1 hout a flJY hack w1id1 w1l flOSI likely b> hitch hiking. Slowness is key right?



Chriss (Bobbie's dad), Rick Lepastrier, Emily from Troppo (back) & Bobbie

What's Next... ?

'Nell t11sly. t1e tr.in0ition liark to r.rility we h11k will C0>11.1nly be ,1 tougl1 one. 1hellough1t of a t,estyl< not as in tune with r,e env,ronmfnt. tft?g111d of Q11 p1cvi0t, ,e,1lities a,1d b,1c into op,:r,11ng o,,t or ,1 house is ,nti,nat,ng.

- Owen h u promind himself one week off to play a video game in a dark room eating ice-cream
- Bobble wants to have a night of swing dancing
- We need some time to reflect. Alth)ugl* ,e, o_:-p61,nr1, need to bft r,,ck in r't e,111"1Pg rror,-v, W&" r't,r,d to)!low fJlll..tlvrs t111e en 1t.ft'n <nd coll:t-n aul i"CH,gl'is. Th, 11d111111d JOvlll</ , ll,e stepu111g sto,e for 1;1d wire, r,,:;l, '-enu,1 5; e 1 so11,e lllP,, but dbo 1;Q1110 :.l'cl ,,,t & ,,,;pect-Jl,1((11,,;)
- We are humbled to be invited to talk at the next international Deerubbin conference, March 2018 (<http://www.ozetecture.org/masterdass/deerubbin-2018/>)
- We've got a book to write.,, o,arc- s ,11yanc out l11ac ,if,11.,led 11th publ1st11rg. plc-osc g1r us som,, 'l'OI tips J'fO co>v111cc someone to pt,bilsh o v book, 11,ar, ,o,, to ew1vo11e s;lo bu11vht ou, book wt,i,t w- fdd ,t up tu, p1,s<lf- u,1uu11,huul our tft1l Nol ontv dtd thi' ,>olgt<1' 'fOll d lJuul.. bt,l ,t d0o <pt u0 go11,, f11d1 huatl, 1'h1s1 Dl l h' 10,1d.
- We've got a touring national exhibition off the back of the bikes to organize and build, Dl,,11n1i for ,,,it, ro 111r11M,1_1-Aug) &,,r V>:r)C IS. 'd' t b, p, llrg j11 ll' <11 t'At'itut1u1 ,d't' ll;:dtdPP) llll() (l'l: lol0e pd1U1r1e,11 '>llt,l,t,l' tldf, j11 P"l' 1,t t'f'it' bAcAQ (Jll' b'l't' t'K d 11,dk put)ll. 4pd. & ll lll:l'":-dlcl t'f'JO' d l'r:,11,;r'f' <:rnr1f'0 {1. 11h) (r) t'e=id' > ft, t0 ,r l,1; (Jht,n 11n0 rrr- Nif'0' d ;:t1,H' ;:;,,<1;,, ;:r,1K1' t,t' l'ar_11r' /nd t'f'1C,l'l)l'r'rt' /b,o=r: f=12- tu tr'e g11r r: t;1; ,; 1\$rd(1-r l'r ,; ,; ,; ,; n1 1*(e ?Jl' c "P; ift') K;1; ,; ,; ,; on 110,1,1,0,11f' Ol t;e; ,1 0on, ,;c t'te ,;1,1_) j1r' & ;:r) nwc' &01 i' ,;o,;r'ter 1) o'1'1'1 11Jl1- be01 ,; ,; ,; n0, : : <:05, 119:!

- **We've got to build a house for Owen's parents.** Owens pMents ,ire ingeniously plann,ng cllle;d for theu' dng ,md would llk!' il sm,ill ho,Pe n whicli rhPy c.ir, ag!' g,,icefully .11trl easily it, in rle' 011e Mountains. NQ,W. Vè hMe bæ11 otte,ed the inca,'fible oppo11unity of dPsigning Jnd building the home with ow b;11+ hands. W0 ,lf' so bloody eag., to t;t' 11 dltl c1uu,1ly dldl d>1g1111g. 1c1k111gdl of this 1leo1 y'l't' hc11e dtlU111Uldled r0111 CU l0lllllt'V dlld S;d11 bwd111g! VEHRRRRR!
- **What about an architecture conference in the red centre?** We've got to g<t Olt to the cent, ". broaden oursel,1es, 011' mmds ,md Mll1,1te ourselves with the re01ay of this (0lllHr,. Stay t1,,1ed.
- **The ideas go on**.....t1e futllle s lmght and r11dybe d lrltle dndy,

So fol@s. sla' tuned.

Cheers for now,

Dusty & Thirsty

Edited by the brilliant Jen Richards - you are the bomb!

References

[1] <http://www1.ausretowns.con1.au/town/c,1r narvon-wa>

[1] <http://www.avstrailafo1 everyone.com.au/lva/bernie,-001,e-h1story.htm>

