

Final Report

Prepared by MGS Architects
April 2018

Trinity College Campus Development Framework Plan



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Description

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MR CHARLES SITCH
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



PROFESSOR KENNETH HINCHCLIFF
WARDEN AND CEO

Trinity College is driven by a clear strategic purpose, to be a vibrant, diverse community, inspiring students of exceptional promise to imagine and achieve a better world. Underpinning this purpose are the College values of excellence, community, diversity and society.

The Campus Development Framework Plan (the Plan) will ensure that Trinity College remains a world-class educational institution, which will see our students thrive in close proximity to the environs of the University and the city.

To maintain our high standards and meet the challenges and opportunities ahead, we must develop and execute plans for utilising our campuses that will see Trinity continue to be an exceptional place to live, learn, work and visit.

The Campus Development Framework Plan supports the College Strategic Plan adopted in 2016 and will guide our campus development over the next 25 years. It recommends fourteen initiatives to improve the experience of students and staff alike, including the expansion of the Residential College, expansion of the Dining Hall, further expansion and diversification of the Pathways School, increased study and teaching spaces, with a wide range of landscaped spaces for active, reflective or community use.

The development of this framework involved extensive consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, both internal and external. We have listened to the expectations and ambitions of students and staff in developing a plan that not only respects the history and tradition of the College but also anticipates the needs of current and future students.

We endorse the Campus Development Framework Plan and eagerly anticipate its contribution to the life of Trinity College.

Charles Sitch
Chairman of the Board
Trinity College

Professor Kenneth Hinchcliff
Warden and CEO
Trinity College

Executive summary

BACKGROUND

Trinity College was founded in 1872. Originally a residential college and theological school, it has more recently gained additional international recognition for its Foundation Studies program which aims to prepare international secondary students for admission to the University of Melbourne. These three student cohorts, also known as Trinity's three pillars, are drawn to the College for its renown in providing a transformative educational and life experience.

In August 2017, Trinity's Board endorsed the Trinity College Strategic Plan: Unlocking Exceptional Promise. The College is driven by a clear strategic purpose *to be a vibrant, diverse community inspiring and enabling students of exceptional promise to imagine and achieve a better world*, and underpinned by the values of excellence, diversity, community and society. These values also form the foundation of the Campus Development Framework Plan (CDFP), which aims to ensure Trinity remains a world-class campus and learning landscape carefully engaged with its educational neighbourhood, while celebrating and enabling its three pillars.

CONTEXT

Trinity's enviable location offers students and staff easy accessibility to all that the Parkville National Employment and Innovation Cluster offers, including the University of Melbourne and adjacent hospitals. Unparalleled access to public transport supports a two-campus scenario for the Foundation Studies program, while also offering a deep connectivity to greater Melbourne and beyond. Additionally, Trinity is embedded in one of Melbourne's greenest corridors. With almost direct access to Royal Park, the College can play an important role in enhancing Melbourne's already rich biodiversity.

Trinity's built form, the development of which spans nearly 150 years, combined with its variety of landscapes inform a clear identity for the College. The Parkville Campus provides spaces for group gatherings and celebrations, teaching and learning, spontaneous interactions and moments of solitary reflection, which contribute to a clearly articulated Trinity Experience. The CDFP acknowledges and nurtures these experiences, attempting to augment and preserve them, and give them resilience into the future.

THEMES

The CDFP is framed by the following key themes:

A safe home for all students.

First and foremost, Trinity College will continue to provide a safe home for its community, remembering that it is at once a physical home, an ancestral home, a spiritual home and a home-away-from-home.

Reflecting our rich history

Trinity is well-known for its history, both before and after colonisation. The Campus will continue to reflect this history in its development.

Innovative and sustainable

Trinity will minimise use of energy and water, and maximise opportunities to increase biodiversity in all projects.

Connected with the community

The College will showcase itself to the broader community, while at the same time provide privacy where required on the Campus.

A learning campus

The Campus will offer a rich variety of internal and external spaces for a variety of pedagogical experiences, integrating inside and outside wherever possible.

A place to nurture and inspire

The Chapel and Bulpadock will continue to act as the shared hearts of the Campus, supported by a variety of spaces which will encourage community and diversity.

Well-positioned for future flexibility

All future development will offer inherent agility to ensure the College can adjust to the rapidly changing physical and pedagogical context.

World-class

The College will continue to offer a rare and world-leading experience to its students and staff, with a variety of high-quality indoor and outdoor spaces contributing to the achievement of this goal.

STRATEGIES

A series of strategies offer specific directions for the framework, considering both the precinct and campus scale.

PRECINCT SCALE

A two-campus college

Trinity's increasing student population will be located on two campuses, known as Parkville and City North, at 200 Victoria Street, Carlton. Residential College and Theology students will be located on the Parkville Campus, while Pathways School students will be located on both campuses.

Trinity leases space in 200 Victoria Street. The building's owners are preparing plans to add eight habitable levels to the existing seven-storey structure. Trinity plans to occupy additional levels in the redeveloped facility.

A green thread

Trinity's expansive Bulpadock will anchor the green spine which connects the University of Melbourne's sequence of green open spaces.

Connected

Trinity will continue to benefit from Parkville's unparalleled and increasing access to public transport and bicycle paths, allowing the College to further reduce its dependence on private vehicles.

Embedded in its rich context

The College will continue to draw from its rich context, connecting with surrounding biodiversity hotspots, and reflecting its heritage, both before and after colonisation.

CAMPUS SCALE

Campus life

Ensuring that all cohorts have appropriately sized and well-located facilities into the future, especially in terms of hospitality spaces, social spaces, and teaching and learning spaces, is a priority, fostering a lively and diverse campus. The Dining Hall will be primarily dedicated to the increasing needs of the expanding Residential College cohort, with a new hospitality offering supporting the needs of the Pathways School in the long term. Burge and Jeopardy will be reimagined as a world-class learning precinct, open to all cohorts, providing integrated indoor and outdoor spaces bookable throughout the day and year.

Interface

Each interface has the opportunity to relate differently to its context. More secluded, planted edges will continue to offer privacy to the Residential College along Royal Parade. More public functions will be focused towards Tin Alley, which is currently undergoing rapid transformation from a service lane to a major pedestrian thoroughfare. In the future, Trinity College has the opportunity to showcase its excellent academic offerings and facilities to the world along this interface.

Gateways, access and parking

With pedestrian amenity and safety compromised by parking in the Campus heart of the Bulpadock and College Oak, the CDFP proposes cars be removed from these areas, except on ceremonial occasions. Vehicular access, for both parking and maintenance, will be largely restricted to Gate A.

Neighbourhoods and flexible zoning

Trinity's three pillars will continue to be loosely aligned with different areas of the campus, coming together in the Bulpadock and Chapel. With safety an increasing concern across all Australian university campuses, it is important that the Campus is equipped with strategies to segment the campus when required. Despite this increased security, Trinity College will remain welcome and opening to the broader community.

Connection to Country

Trinity has shown a continued and meaningful commitment to the experience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Every project, regardless of scale, is seen as an opportunity to reflect the continuing narrative of Australia's First People and Connection to Country. Ongoing engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advisors is important in order to ensure the campus is a culturally safe and respectful place.

Landscape

With the Bulpadock and College Oak providing a rare open space in Parkville, Trinity has an opportunity to anchor the University's green spine. The large open spaces will be retained, with small modifications, and smaller spaces will be enhanced to ensure the Campus offers an array of learning landscapes. Pre-colonisation landscape and indigenous fauna will be integrated into future development.

PROJECTS

The Development Framework Plan proposes a series of projects to be developed over the coming 25 years.

EARLY WINS (IMMEDIATELY)

A number of initiatives involve relatively simple manoeuvres which can have a long-lasting and significant impact in realising the CDFP's vision. Called *early wins*, to be implemented immediately, these projects have been identified as follows:

1. Gateway Building Hospitality

With the Dining Hall's capacity under pressure, the Gateway Building's existing hospitality offering will be revisited, encouraging Pathways School students to use their dedicated facilities. The building's ground floor is imagined as a more flexible space, with sitting areas and microwaves facilitating flexible eating arrangements.

2. Consolidated Royal Parade Car Park and Plaza

The car park between Behan and Royal Parade can be reconfigured to increase its efficiency while simultaneously improving the residential experience for Behan residents. The project has the opportunity to play an important role in the presentation of the Residential College to Royal Parade.

SHORT TERM PROJECTS (0-5 YEARS)

A number of projects can be completed in the short term (0-5 years), including Project 100 and flow-on projects. It is important that development be staggered so as to minimise the impact of construction on the Trinity Experience.

3. Project 100

The new accommodation building in the northeast corner of the site will see the population of the Campus increase from approximately 300 students to 370 students. This project is scheduled to be completed before the end of 2019 for residential occupation at the beginning of the 2020 academic year.

4. Dining Hall Extension and Vatican Lawn

This increased Residential College will place additional capacity pressure on the already strained Dining Hall. A new extension to the east of the Dining Hall will provide a sympathetic addition, which will increase the connection between the College and the pre-

colonisation river red gums adjacent to College Walk. A new basement to the extension provides the opportunity to relocate back-of-house spaces, and potentially the kitchen, unlocking additional space on the ground floor and improving connections in this zone.

5. Royal Parade West redevelopment

Trinity's terraces at the corner of Morrah Street and Royal Parade are currently being designed as the new Foundation Studies campus. Additional learning, social, hospitality and staff spaces will ensure Foundation Studies students continue to be provided with world-class facilities.

6. Northern Recreation Zone

Trinity's interface with its northern neighbours will be fundamentally altered with the development of Project 100. This interface is reimagined as a car-free recreation zone, connecting to the new facilities in Project 100.

7. The Bulpadock and College Oak Quad

At the heart of the Campus, the Bulpadock and College Oak Quad will become safer and benefit from greater amenity through the removal of vehicular access and car parking.

8. Evan Burge - Jeopardy Learning Commons

The CDFP reimagines the ground floors of both the Jeopardy and Burge Buildings as a new world-class learning commons, linked by a sheltered interstitial learning courtyard.

MEDIUM TERM (5-10 YEARS)

These projects are seen as important to the realisation of the Campus vision. They are however, more complicated than the short-term projects or less critical to the functioning of the Campus so can be completed within a longer timeframe (5-10 years).

9. Gateway Building Cafe and Learning Landscape

A new cafe will fully revitalise the ground floor of the Gateway Building, accessible to Trinity College students from all cohorts, and potentially the broader University Community. This project is contingent on the completion of the new teaching and learning facility at the corner of Morrah Street and Royal Parade, which will free up classrooms on the ground floor of the Gateway Building for other uses. The exterior spaces will be reimagined as sheltered learning spaces, with seating and tables offering study and collaboration spaces primarily to Pathways School students.

10. Cowan Cloister and the Secret Garden

The secluded atmosphere of the Residential College neighbourhood will be articulated in the new Secret Garden on Royal Parade. This learning landscape will encourage individual reflection, and offer quiet spaces for small gathering, an escape from the broad open spaces of the College core.

11. Trinity Walk and the Chapel Plaza

The Chapel will be more visible from Royal Parade, with a high-quality plaza inviting the public into the College. A new walk will connect the Chapel and Bulpadock to Tin Alley, linking the College into the green spaces of its precinct.

12. The Deanery Residences and Garden

The Deanery, which currently houses the Dean of the College, could be renovated and extended to provide townhouse or apartment style accommodation for additional senior staff. Alternatively, it could provide a Tin Alley address for the Centre for Indigenous Studies.

The surrounding Deanery Garden will see the small open space surrounding the residence reimagined as an intimate courtyard garden modelled on Oxbridge precedents. While this is a relatively simple project, it will offer a new learning landscape for small groups and individuals, as well as a function space for private gatherings.

LONG TERM (10+)

Long term projects are the final elements required to complete the CDFP. They are shown as high-level suggestions and can be reframed over the coming decade.

13. Southwest corner redevelopment

The southwest corner of the site, currently occupied by the OWL Building, offers the opportunity to increase the presence of the College at the Campus's most prominent interface. The Development Framework Plan suggests increasing the density of this corner, creating, with its new neighbour, the Western Edge Biosciences Building, a new gateway to Tin Alley.

14. North Gatehouse

There is an opportunity to bookend the Royal Parade interface with a new porterhouse building, which could involve the refurbishment of the Gourlay building. A new extension at this location could provide a new Royal Parade address for the College.

A WORLD-CLASS CAMPUS

The CDFP imagines future development at the Parkville Campus as cementing the College's place as a world-class College. The Campus will continue to nurture the traditions and day-to-day events which inform the Trinity Experience, with gentle development reinforcing its identity, rather than redefining it. World-class spaces, both indoor and outdoor, will ensure Trinity continues to support its students and staff in realising their potential, allowing them to imagine and achieve a better world.

Development Framework Plan

Landscape

The landscape plan is an illustrative drawing, depicting textured paving and soft landscaping, envisioning the Campus after implementation and at planting maturity.

LEGEND	
1	Project 100
2	The Dining Hall extension
3	Vatican Lawn
4	The Sharwood Room flexible recreation space
5	Junior Common Room flexible gathering space
6	Senior Common Room
7	Northern Recreation Zone
8	Consolidated Royal Parade car park/flexible plaza
9	The Bulpadock
10	The College Oak
11	The Deanery Garden (and potential redevelopment)
12	Evan Burge - Jeopardy learning commons with learning courtyard, connected by new linking pavilion
13	Cowan Cloister
14	The Secret Garden
15	Gateway Building ground plane with new external learning landscape
16	Trinity Walk
17	Chapel Plaza
18	Southwest corner redevelopment (maximum 3-5 storeys)
19	Northern Gatehouse

