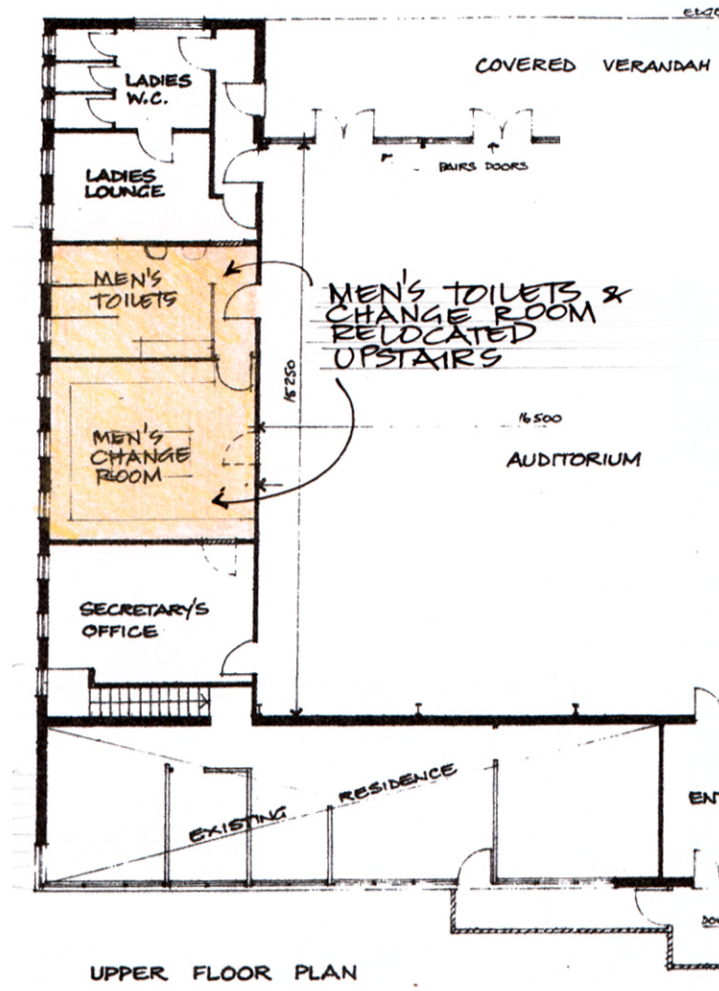


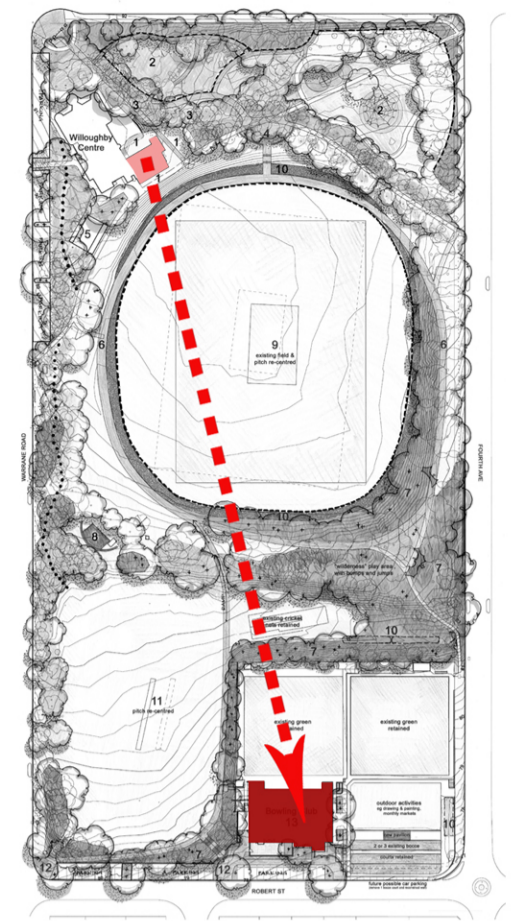
Option 1: Mills Room Relocation 1:200

@ A1

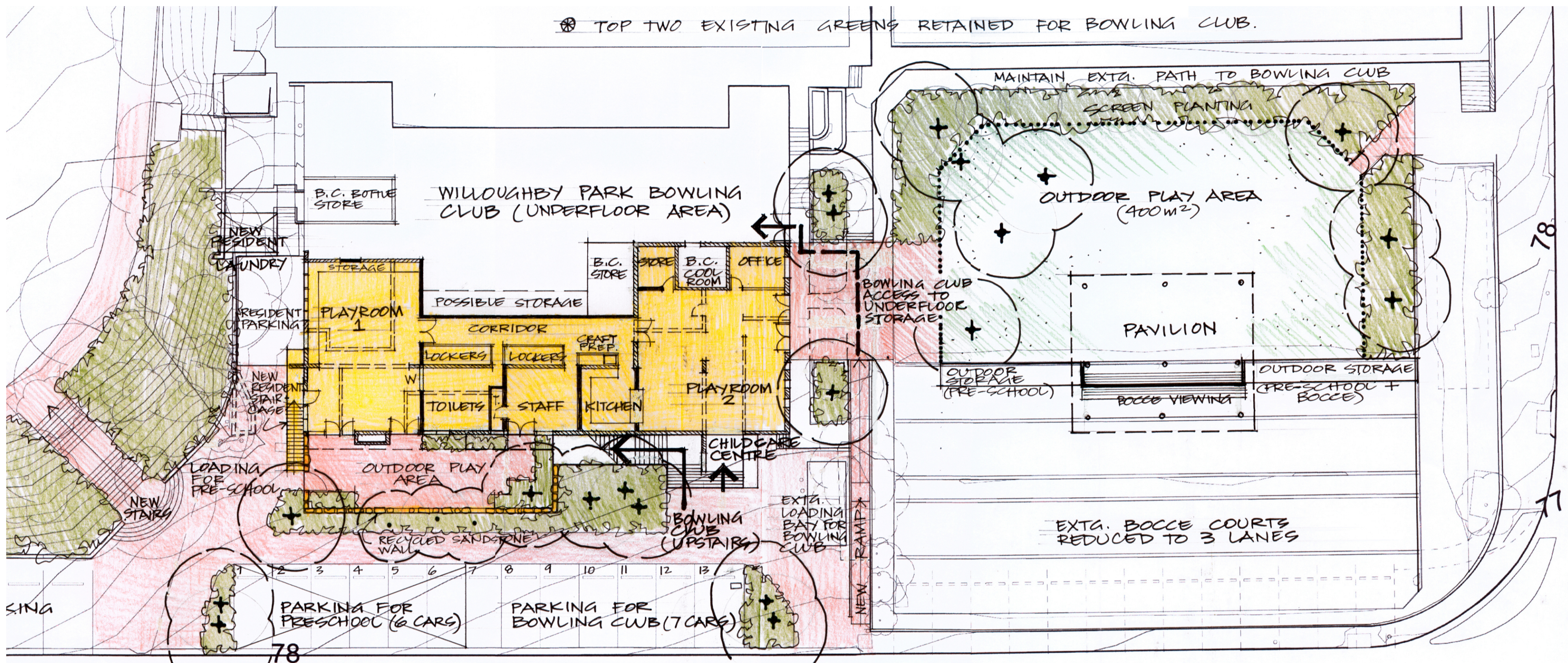


Upper level Alterations 1:200

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Proposed relocations



Option 2: Pre-School Relocation 1:200

@ A1

park history timeline

Aboriginal history

The North Shore of Sydney, including the municipality of Willoughby, was inhabited by two main sub-tribes of the Eora people, the Cammeraygal and the Wallumedegal. The Cammeraygals were recorded by the first Europeans as being the most numerous and powerful. There is evidence that the Cammeraygal were living in the area until 1820 but disease, displacement and massacres meant that by the 1860's Aborigines were only occasional visitors to the North Shore area.
(Source: Willoughby Fact Sheet 20- Aborigines, Willoughby City Library 2002)

1907 PARK PURCHASED

12 acres purchased by the Government for a park

1926 The park is described as "nothing but a sports area and a fine paddock of that obstinate weed 'Paddy's Lucerne'" and the growing conditions there "third-rate". He states "the first impression I had on seeing the area was one of amazement to see that not a tree or shrub has been planted... Planting on such soil is a difficult and expensive matter... The surface soil covering is a fine example of Wianamatta shale, with outcrop of rock showing, and the vegetation of grasses etc. shows that except on the lower portion no depth covering is over the rock" (A.A. Gollan, Superintendent of the State Forest Nursery.)

1926 FIRST PLANTINGS

Community groups plant a double row of Brush Box and Turpines along the northern end and half way down the eastern and western sides on the outer edge of the park. The water supply at this time is almost non-existent. The inner row of trees west of the cricket pitch is removed because it interferes with play.

1928 Council's Engineer reports that "the reconstruction of Warrane Rd. (which is now in hand) will make available about 10,000 cubic yards of good filling - nearly sufficient to complete this park in accordance with plans I have prepared" (proposing one full size oval and two small ovals).

1928-9 STAGE 1 PAVILION OPENS

Stage 1 of the Willoughby Centre (the two storey section which now houses the Kindergarten and Mills Room) is completed with an adjoining children's play area.

1941 Patriotic Carnival officially opened by Billy Hughes is held in the park to raise funds to purchase two ambulances for the fighting services in World War II.

1945 STAGE 2 HALL PROPOSED

Willoughby Youth Welfare Committee formed and a scheme for a recreational hall at the Willoughby Centre is prepared by Eric Nicholls, the Committee's honorary architect.

1951 First Annual General meeting of the Willoughby Bowling Club Ltd held. Tenders for the construction of the greens are called and a building application for the clubhouse submitted. Architect - Eric M Nicholls

1952 SECOND PLANTINGS

Rex Hazlewood describes Willoughby Park as "A park with possibilities, but at the moment rather vague in 'atmosphere'. Approaching it, one sees some tall gum trees and anticipates a bushland park, only to find most of the trees regimented in straight lines and equal spacing, something that bushland doesn't do. Naturally enough, most of our vague ideas on parks have come to us from England of Queen Victoria's day. So we get the attempt to introduce here the atmosphere of what someone has called 'The ordered beauty of England', - the would be avenues; formally clipped trees and shrubs; carpet bedding; borders of annuals; standard roses and so on. In a newspaper controversy that raged about the formal clipping of street trees in Mosman, one writer said he "preferred God's untidiness". If we are ever to develop any distinctive type of Australian park - and it is time we did - we must realise that this is an untidy country, and any assertion of our Australianism must be along lines of informality, and not of ordered beauty".

He goes on to recommend the planting of 400 Spotted Gums: "To weave in and out among the existing straight rows to make it look like bushland, and every now and again a grove of 20 or so ultimately to have a seat. A big grove in the north east and south west corners, and another solid planting behind the stone and iron gates... That is the broad outline. Perhaps it illustrates how simple it is to design parks if we can give up a lot of silly ideas about Australian inferiority, forget the gardening urge for bits and pieces and some of everything, and use a bit of imagination and not be frightened where it leads."

1953 BOWLING CLUB OPENS

The new Bowling Club is officially opened

1961 The Bowling Club building extended, architect Eric Nicholls

1967 Existing dressing shed behind the hall and grandstand constructed.

1968 STAGE 3 WILLOUGHBY CENTRE OPENS

Stage 3 of the Willoughby Centre (front section facing the corner of McClelland and Warrane Roads) is officially opened as the Clive A. Reid Pavilion.

1971 Mills Room for craft established

1971 Women bowlers admitted into Willoughby Bowling Club

1981 Family Fun Fairs and Carols by Candlelight in the park

1986 Willoughby Park listed in the Willoughby Heritage Study - 1986 "A 4 ha urban park surrounded on four sides by streets of federation houses. The park contains a fenced oval, a playground, bowling green and netball courts. It has significant plantings of spotted gums providing excellent shade, scale and distinction to the suburb..." "Significance: Part of a series of urban parks, complementing the rectangular road pattern".

1987 Planting of 100 trees along the western verge of Willoughby Park (Warrane Rd.)

1996 Opening of the bike track for children

2003 Statue 'Daphne' by Gaye Porter unveiled at the front of the Willoughby Park Centre.



2. climbing net



2. water play



3. porous gravel



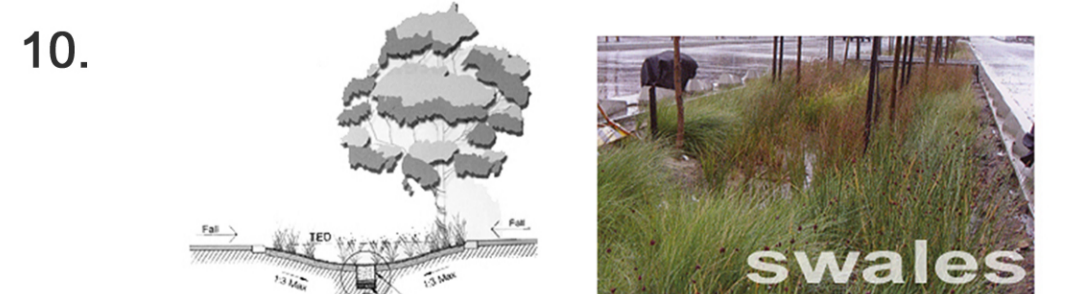
6. permeable paving



8. pavilion



9. oval fence



10. swales

Willoughby Park

Masterplan 1:200

@ A1



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