

Thanks

The many leaders and members of migrant communities who made up the generous contributors to the co-design process from August 2023 to March 2024.

Peak organisations - SA Multicultural Commission, Multicultural Communities Council of SA, Australian Migrant Resource Centre for support and involvement.

February 7 evening consultation session supporters: Australia Day Council of SA, Te Dong Association, Migration Museum team at the History Trust (HTSA), volunteer Cathy Chong AM, Migration Museum Foundation committee members.

Migration Museum Renewal (MMR) Project Steering Group: Elizabeth Ho OAM (Chair) Angela Hazebroek OAM (Co-design leader) HTSA officers: CEO Greg Mackie OAM, Dr. Kristy Kokegei, Paul Rees, Jessamy Benger.

The History Trust of South Australia acknowledges the support of Migration Museum Ambassadors, The Hon. Hieu Van Le AC, Mrs Lan Le, and The Hon. Julian Stefani AM.

The History Trust of South Australia offers special thanks to members of the project Reference Group who brought a high level of community experience, knowledge and engagement to the table.

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Contents

We acknowledge and respect Traditional Owners across Australia as the original custodians of our land and waters, their unique ability to care for country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past, present and emerging whose knowledge and wisdom has, and will, ensure the continuation of cultures and traditional practices.

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Introduction

The History Trust of South Australia is a statutory arm of the SA Government, with a Board of Trustees and an operational team of museum, education, collections, events and history outreach experts supporting statewide digital and in-person access to experiences and resources.

It carries the community's trust to keep safe our State's stories, memories and material evidence of the past, to promote our history through its museums, school programs, events and activities such as the Bay to Birdwood and SA's History Festival, and to foster knowledge growth and history activity across our cities and regions. It respects the primary role of First Nations people in the history of this place.

One of the three key state museums that it runs is the Migration Museum, the first of its kind in the world, and established in 1986 with the continuous involvement of many migrant groups and organisations.

The Migration Museum Foundation has from 2001 been the recipient of many community donations, creating the courtyard 'family tree' of engraved pavers named for over 2,800 families from all parts of the world, and conserving funds to support museum programs.

The work of the Migration Museum goes beyond inspiring curiosity and interest in the special story of migration and its profound impact on the shaping of South Australia. The entire Museum site sustains contemporary cultural expressions, making it a "living" Museum, and one that is literally buzzing with community arts, events and workshops.

With this understanding, and knowing that renewal of the site after nearly 40 years of operation is a pressing need, the History Trust has gone out to community for answers to help shape the next forty years.

This report is the result.

^{1.} Ahlan Wa Salan exhibition launch, 2023



Why Renewal?

The Migration Museum turns 40 in 2026 and was the first museum of its type in the world.

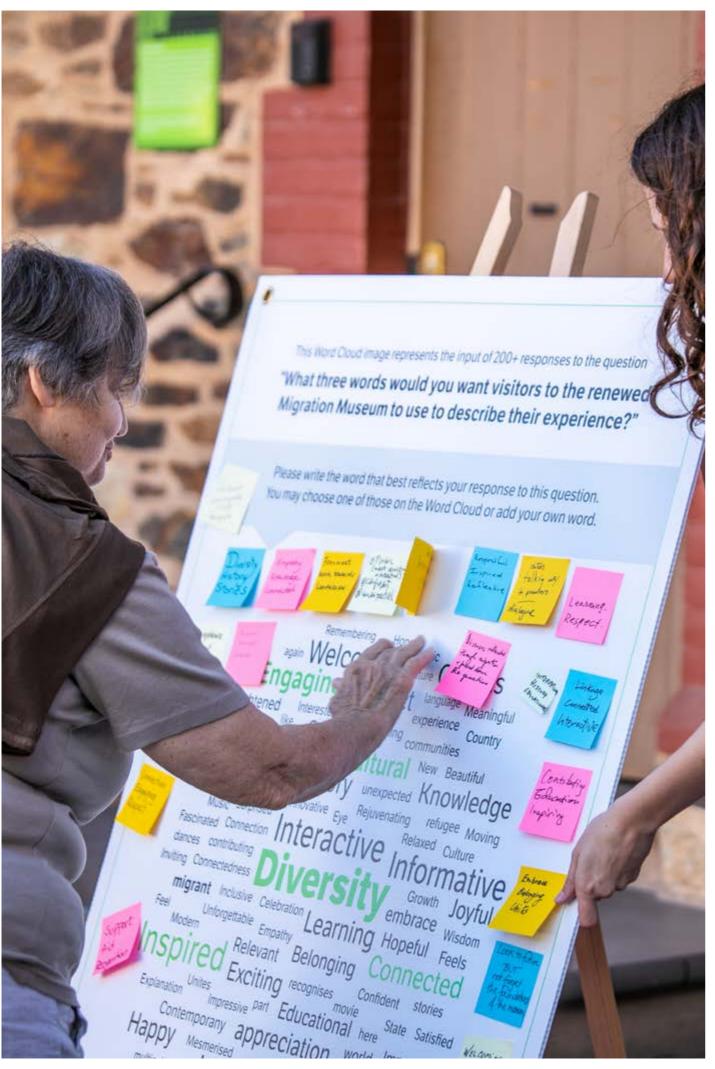
The Migration Museum continues to mean as much to communities today as it did then. There is overwhelming evidence of support for renewal from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, whether they arrived last century or this century. Most also see that meaningful inclusion of newer communities and a deeper reflection of the continuity of migration impact can only be achieved through renewal.

The site and permanent exhibition remain virtually unchanged, tired, outdated, and in urgent need of sensible solutions to the current dilemmas of glaring non-compliance, discomfort and unworkability.

The listed heritage buildings open to the public and housing the permanent exhibition have major structural problems – the first repair phase in 2021/2 was seriously disruptive, and the second (pending) will require permanent display removal.

The Migration Museum Foundation has gathered community donations over two decades for the Museum, engaging over 2,800 families in the courtyard paver 'family tree' project, but now finds itself frustrated in fundraising by the site's limitations, disrupted exhibition facility, and tired presentation.





O2
Co-designing solutions with community

Ensuring that the History Trust reflects audience and community expectations for a 21st century Migration Museum has been foundational to developing this report, and the co-design methodology has been the vehicle.

Support from diverse communities for comprehensive Migration Museum renewal has been overwhelmingly demonstrated through a co-design process facilitated by the History Trust from August 2023 to March 2024.

Co-design outcomes that have influenced the concept design are referenced throughout this report.

The process has confirmed that there is strong community ownership of the Migration Museum and what it represents, and a firm collective view that renewal after nearly 40 years is vital, especially for engaging new generations.

Co-design has been voluntarily and incredibly well supported by highly representative peak bodies described in Community Leaders Speak (see page 8), including the Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia, the Australian Migrant Resource Centre and the African Communities Council. It has been further assisted by smaller groups and individuals:

- Leaders of Vietnamese, African, Arabic, Lebanese, and Chinese communities - and 145 voluntary contributors drawn from 53 cultures/ cultural organisations in a face-to-face workshop model.
- High profile individuals committed to multicultural values, including current or former members of the SA Multicultural Commission or serving on relevant NFP Boards, artists and historians.
- Specialist contributors experts in refugee and new arrival mental health research, in education, in NDIS and in ageing services.
- 68 contributors through an invited evening community "reaction testing" event at the Migration Museum, assisted by the Australia Day Council of SA.

Central to the co-design strategy has been a Reference Group of ten highly involved members meeting to propose and test co-design topics, evidence and findings, to decide a list of guiding principles for concept development, and to respond to design proposals.

^{4.} Community Consultation to test co-design findings, 2024

May 2024 The renewal proposition **Achieving renewal** 6 Co-design workshops with 145 contributors from 53 culture / language groups to capture renewal Explore renewal feasibility 40 engagements with Reference Dovetailing with structural repair Group project HTSA museum officer and curator Fundraising campaign design workshop Expert consultation with: 68 attendees: Community First Nations representatives Consultation evening event Educators **Confirmation of Guiding Principles** Curators and museum team Museum designers Baukultur design response and Reference Group feedback Detailed design and costings consistent with Guiding Principles Final report Steering Group Renewal project delivery Briefings to Trustees of the History Trust of SA and Minister for Education Report back to co-design contributors and stakeholders Realisation **Discovery**

02.1 Community Leaders Speak

Mrs Miriam Cocking - Chair, Multicultural Communities Council of SA

Understanding the evolving nature of history and heritage, we firmly believe that the Migration Museum needs to undergo updates and expansion to remain a relevant and dynamic institution. The MCCSA is in staunch support of the Migration Museum Renewal Project, recognising the importance of preserving and sharing our collective history for future generations.

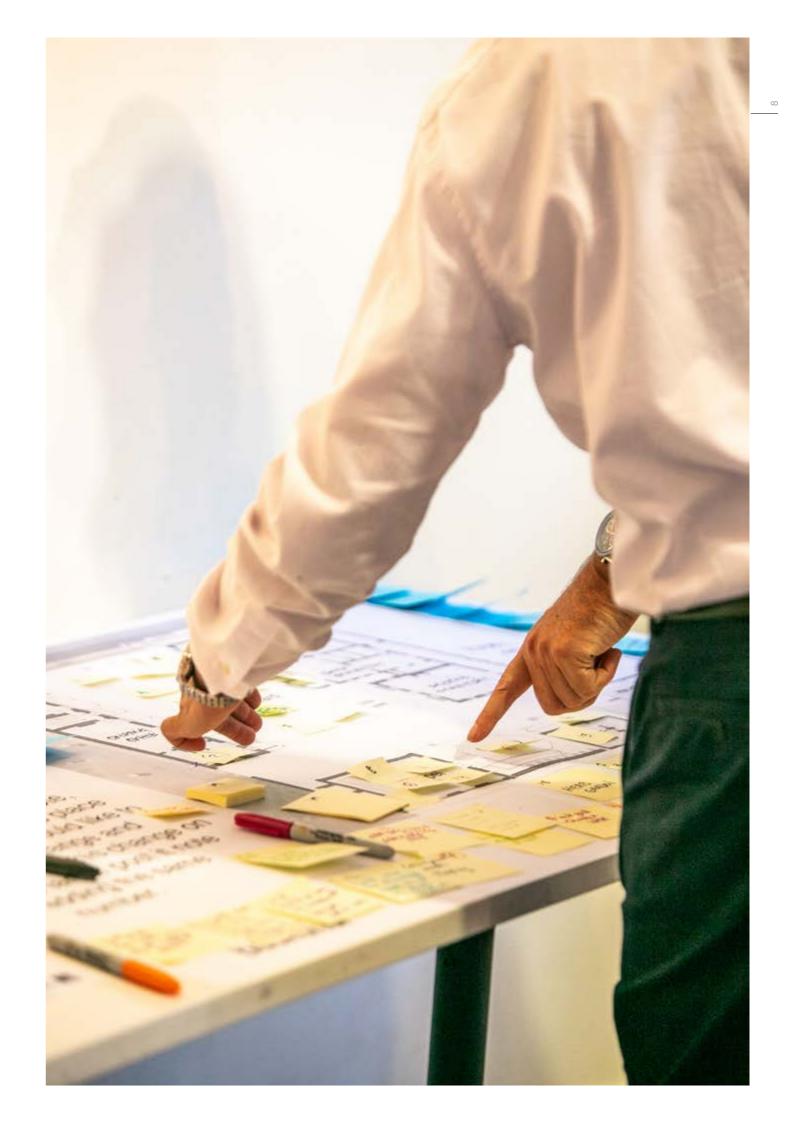
The power of history to educate, inspire, and unite cannot be dismissed, and we are confident that the renewed Migration Museum will continue to serve as a beacon of cultural understanding and appreciation for years to come. We pledge our ongoing support and commitment to maintaining a strong connection between the MCCSA and the museum.

Operating for over 50 years, the Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia has always worked in the interests of migrant communities and today represents 125 community organisations - about 75% of the total CALD community in SA.

Ms Mirsia Bunjaku - CEO, Australian Migrant Resource Centre

I can attest to the overwhelming support and enthusiasm from culturally and linguistically diverse communities for the renewal of the Migration Museum. It serves as a vital educational resource for our school students...and its dedication to respecting and celebrating diversity has a profound impact, particularly on recent refugees and new arrivals..The Migration Museum stands as a symbol of unity and inclusivity, essential for promoting community resilience and harmony.

The Australian Migrant Resource Centre – focused on statewide settlement and support for new communities, aged care and NDIS, with 66 member community organisations, hosts SA Refugee Week, and allied to the African Communities Council and the Middle Eastern Communities Council.



Co-designing solutions with community

Mr Denis Yengi - Chairperson, African Communities Council of SA

I have witnessed first hand the significant contributions that African South Australians have made to our state over the last 15 to 20 years. Their stories are marked by resilience..this project will truly honour and preserve these narratives for future generations to learn from and appreciate. I fervently urge you to consider the immense value that renewal would bring to our community. It will genuinely position the Museum as a welcoming and inclusive environment for all individuals, regardless of their background, origin or year of arrival in South Australia.

ACCSA is a peak body representing communities from over 46 African countries in SA.

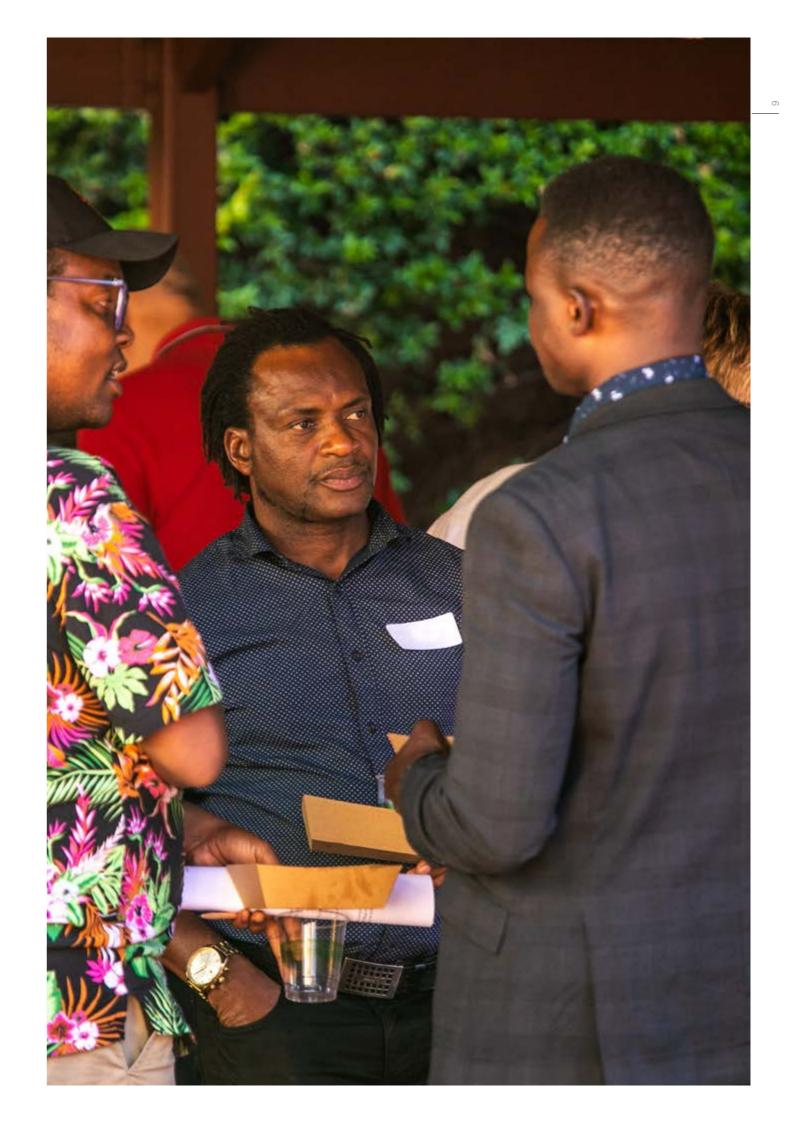
Professor Tahereh Ziaian - Internationally recognised expert in transcultural psychology, public health and youth well-being in refugee and non-refugee migrant communities in Australia and overseas.

I wish to strongly advocate the value of the Migration Museum to our society.

It is critical that young people with migrant experiences can feel supported to celebrate cultural practices and to feel proud of their heritage in Australia. Research shows that feeling safe and supported to connect with their cultural community and the wider Australian community enables young people to access resources for well being, to draw on the resilience that these resources can create.

The Migration Museum enables celebration of identities and migration stories... shared in a central location between long term Australians and newcomers. These opportunities help increase empathy and understanding from the majority..which contributes to a sense of belonging for newer Australians... As our research has shown, this celebration and recognition of diverse identities and cultures is critical for wellbeing and positive settlement outcomes for all migrants and especially those from refugee backgrounds.

Professor Ziaian is currently Professor of Psychology (Community Health) at UniSA, a UNESCO RILA (Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts) Companion, and Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at UNNSW and a respected contributor to numerous relevant refugee and migrant research efforts over decades.



02.2 What the Community Says

What has been affirmed about this Museum through this process?

It tells stories that inspire many emotions and connections.

It is considered vital to explaining our migration history to students, visitors and new arrivals.

It celebrates our cultural diversity and works against racism.

It means a lot to migrants who have made South Australia what it is today.

It is a beloved city space for community cultural expression.

And...It needs to be renewed.

This word cloud reflects the ideas, values and feelings that close to 200 co-design contributors have offered as exemplars of what the Museum should represent.

Collectively these are the conclusions of the many contributors speaking both individually and on behalf of their communities about renewal .

They say:

- This is the right time for a 21st century Migration Museum, with an upgraded exhibition space and fitout and a site that responds to modern audience needs for a dynamic visitor experience, no matter whether they are tourists, locals or students.
- This is the right time to re-affirm that the Migration Museum underpins many educational and community-building aspirations

 acknowledging First Nations, telling the migrant history stories, hosting the contemporary events and commemorations that hold communities together.
- This is the right time to express respect for diversity and engage our young - working against discrimination and racism, showcasing the cultural, linguistic and economic gifts of our migration policy, and celebrating the value of our distinctive success as a multicultural society.
- This is the right time to ensure that the Migration Museum remains relevant and reflective of the evolving demographics and cultural landscape of South Australia – actively supporting new and emerging communities with a message of inclusion and sharing experiences, from food to literature, from music to the visual arts, from welcoming customs to traditional stories.





O3 Educating for a fairer and safer nation

One of the strongest themes in the renewal conversations has been about orienting future adults towards multicultural values.

Many co-design participants have experienced racism and stereotyping and there is rising concern about this across our society.

Many see the Migration Museum as an exceptional space to support a safer, fairer society, but also that renewal investment in order to truly engage student audiences is overdue.

First Nations will be involved in any renewal process. The full story of Australia will be interwoven with migrant experience and told as part of truth-telling.

Older migrant generations want younger ones to never forget the stories of hardship and triumph that explain the migrant contribution to South Australia.

Migration Museum education programs can shape the perspectives of the young, especially those transitioning through multiple generations, and digital resources can extend the reach.

In a dedicated space students can think not only about the specifics of their own story, but also shared history with other migrants and refugees. This experience emphasizes a common ground, forged in many cases by overcoming challenges and trauma.

Community members see the Migration Museum as a unique public setting for student learning about the remarkable impact of migration. They see that with renewal the Museum can build a positive attitude among the young in a safer, socially cohesive South Australia.

Khuyen(Quin) Tran - President, The Vietnamese Community in Australia / SA Chapter Inc

As an educator, a member of the South Australian Multicultural Commission, an elected Councillor and President of VCA /SA, I believe in the importance of sharing history with our young. It has been my pleasure to contribute to discussions about renewing the Migration Museum ...the first of its type in the world. I commend the idea of renewal - this is the only public space in South Australia that brings migrant history together.

There are a large number of schools that access the Museum and these stories are so important for our students. In my view, the Museum must remain up-to-date and relevant to younger generations, and communicate cultural diversity as a vital and positive aspect of modern society in our Great State of South Australia.

Through a thorough co-design process the Migration Museum Renewal Reference Group endorsed the following statements as genuine reflections of what community today believes any serious renewal process must deliver.

These principles should be embedded in site and interior design, heritage adaptive re-use decisions, exhibition curation values and themes, and community engagement practices. They accord with both state and federal multicultural policy frameworks.

Telling the Migration Stories, both Individually and Collectively

The Migration Museum tells the full history of Migration in South Australia, and is consistently up-to-date. Groups and individuals can identify with the place as part of a collective story of human migration, as new stories are gathered and represented over time.

Showcasing the Value of Migration and its contribution to our South **Australian story**

The Migration Museum tells the stories of how migrants have shaped our society in the past, and how they continue to do so. The value of migration is clearly articulated, including beyond the immediate location of the museum.

Welcoming, Engaging and Inclusive for All

The Migration Museum is approachable for all people who use it, from the migration communities who are represented there, to visitors who come from time to time.

Creating Empathy through the Migration Experience

The Migration Museum articulates the experience of migrants both before and after arrival, both for the memories of those who have migrated, and to foster understanding and empathy within the community.

Supporting the rituals and annual cycles of communities

The Migration Museum is a place where our diverse communities can curate their annual rhythms of events, memories and celebrations.





The Migration Museum site context is characterised by:

- location within the city's cultural and education precinct
- alignment with the major cultural institutions of the State Library, South Australian Museum, including the Armoury Barracks Building, and the Art Gallery of South Australia. All have been included in urban design precinct masterplans in the past
- historical significance and evidence of former functions and relationship to the wider historical context of the precinct
- being located on Kintore Avenue, one of Adelaide's important memorial avenues with the ANZAC Centenary Memorial Garden Walk flanking Government House on its western edge and leading to the Torrens Parade Ground and historic Drill Hall.

Site Context

05.1 Site History



1851 - 1917 **Destitute Asylum**

A harsh refuge for the aged, infirm or disabled and expectant mothers. From 1880 to c.1910 it included a Lyingin (maternity) hospital for poor girls, women and sex workers.



1920-1973

Adelaide Technical College

The Adelaide Technical College used various site buildings and expanded into this new adjacent building in 1927.



1986 - Present

Migration Museum

The first of its type in the world, the Migration and Settlement Museum opened in 1986 during the State's Jubilee 150 as a museum of the History Trust of SA. The title Migration Museum was substituted some years later.

Kaurna Yerta (continuing)

1845 - 1851 **Native School Establishment**

(relocated Kaurna School started in 1839). Children were removed from family and Elders, housed and taught in English. Those remaining were sent to Poonindie Mission in 1851. (Robert Amery 2016)

1917 - 1920

Mixed use of site

SA Government Department of Chemistry operations and processing of 'Barwell Boys' - poor youth migrants from the United Kingdom destined for farm work, were among the uses.

1973 - 1978

Department of Chemistry

The SA Government Department of Chemistry returned to the site

05.2 Location Plan



Migration Museum



State Library of South Australia



South Australian Museum



Art Gallery of South Australia



Tram Line







- University of Adelaide (Physics Building)
- Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA)
- South Australian Museum
- The Armoury
- Archway Lawns
- State Library of South Australia
- Art Gallery Tram Stop
- National War Memorial



Site Context

05.3 Existing Site

The following illustrates the significant problems being experienced at the Migration Museum and the dire need for renewal. The aspirations and ideas to remedy these deficiencies and problems are detailed within the design concepts presented in this document.

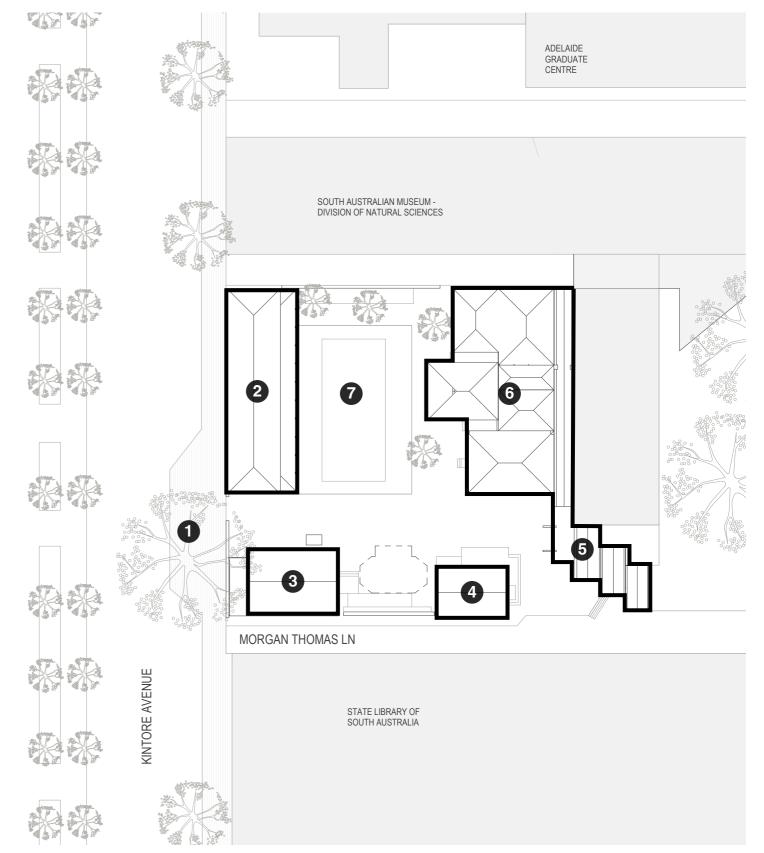
In relation to the heritage status of site buildings, there will be a vital need for adaptive reuse principles to be applied in any future renewal project so that the Museum can meet acceptable presentation standards for contemporary audiences.

| 6 | General structural conditions - | The buildings housing the permanent |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | exhibitions have major structural |
| 2 | | problems which require significant |
| | | investment |

- Other parts of the site also have structural problems

| n | Street Entrance | The museum suffers from low visibility |
|---|-----------------|--|
| | | and lack of street presence and |
| | | identification |

- It is currently underwhelming with the absence of either artful or bold sign posting
- Further compounded through imposing walls and large street tree canopy at its entrance gates
- **Educational amenities** Non-compliant toilets for school groups or public visitation 3
 - No convenient assembly point with school bag drop off lockers prior to visitation of exhibits by school groups
 - Lack of effective education spaces with well-equipped technology and acoustic controls



| 6 | |
|---|--|
| _ | |

Exhibition Spaces



- Spaces are too small, feel constricted and cluttered, with dead ends and back tracking so that a logical flow is missing.
- Confusing exhibition and community displays
- Out of date exhibition display standards and interpretation
- Lack of digital technology for a generation seeking a digitally immersive environment and engagement
- Deficient natural light and respite
- Dark and gloomy with low ceilings
- Inadequate exhibition display lighting standards
- Change of floor level within the exhibition spaces not ideal for compliance
- Security is an issue
- Inadequate temperature and environmental control

Existing Administration (former Lying-in Hospital)

- Upper floor access and toilet amenities in the administration building are code non-compliant ie no lift or toilet amenities within the facility
- Current access to entrances to the administration building and other parts of the site are at varying levels.
- There is no clear and positive approach to building entrance(s)
- Inadequate temperature and environmental control
- Lack of contemporary workplace standards and environment



Courtyard

- The courtyard, whilst a popular outdoor gathering space, suffers under extreme weather conditions and has very little protection from the elements. Shelter is inadequate and unsightly
- Lack of appropriate outdoor facilities for cultural food and hospitality events
- Ongoing concerns of deterioration of the 'family tree' donor pavers located in a heavily trafficked area
- Lack of soft landscaping to function as heat sink and flexible overflow activity space
- Piecemeal compliance to level changes is unsightly and remains a safety hazard.
- Lack of lighting for evening events

Site and building security

- Secure after-hours grounds are not possible due to the open southeast corner of the site
- Limited outdoor and indoor surveillance so that monitoring is an issue

06.1 Overarching Principles

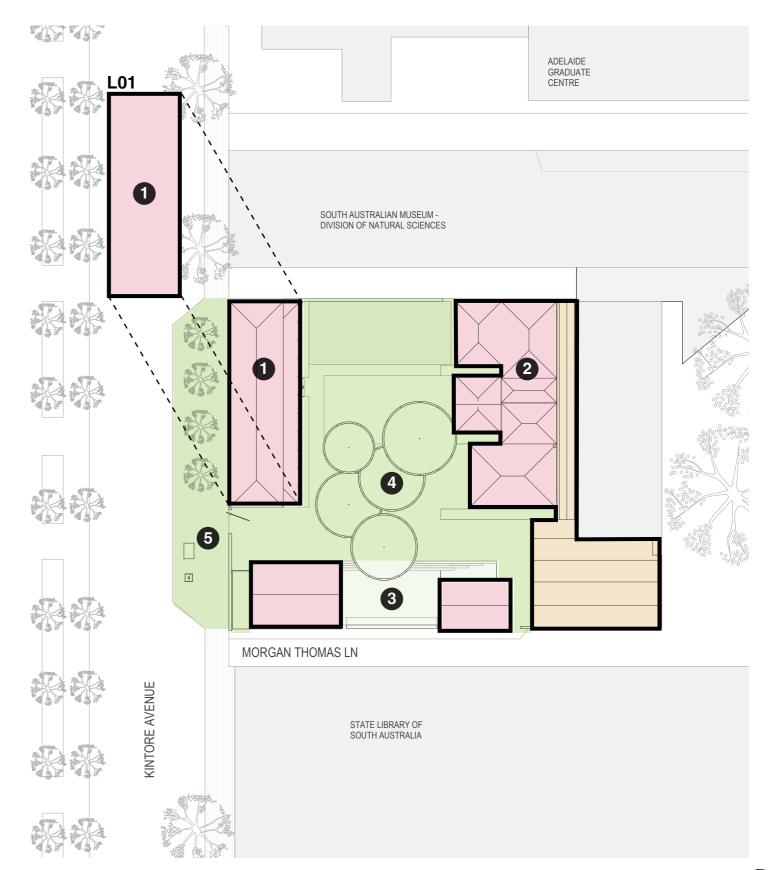
The logical answer to serve the duality of the site's purpose and how it operates is to define a community wing (1) and a curated exhibition wing (2), with supporting functions in the remaining buildings, including engagement with the courtyard.

This will mean that the site can better deliver on responding to community needs.

It can also avoid the confusion that currently exists between the formal History Trust museum role to tell the history of migration and changing community display needs.

These functions were put together under the old model and present problems for the History Trust team in exhibition presentation which would be solved by having a high turnover/low turnover separation of spaces. This solution has also avoided the need for any major new build investment in trying to link the two buildings as they have complementary but distinct functions that can be supported through low cost wayfinding improvements.

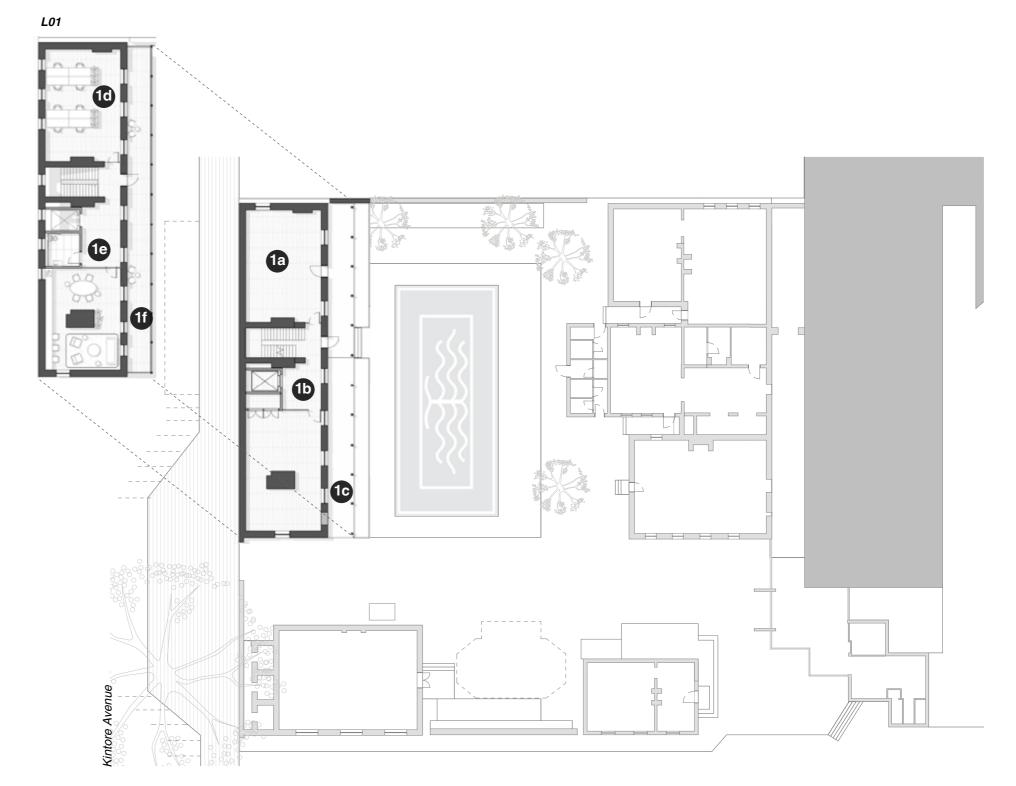
- Community (L00) and Administration (L01)
- Exhibition wing renewal the Migrant Story
- Multipurpose education and community event space
- Central courtyard event space
- Kintore Avenue Entry
- Heritage Restoration
- New Addition
 - Landscaping Works





Contemporary Community Space and Administration wing

- Ground floor: Demolish minor walls, refurbish, and upgrade space as two (2) large community spaces complemented with audio visual and acoustic capability.
- Insert new lift and lobby area and upgrade stair as required to comply with code requirements.
- Improve all DDA requirements with the removal of piecemeal sundry ramps and steps and regrade (1:20) verandah surface to generously and gently arrive at new main entrance of landing for the building. Form new steps and lineal seating wall with greenery planters to suit and cohesively contain the gradient changes.
- Upper floor: Refurbish and upgrade space to open workspace / stations with support flexible meeting spaces for Migration Museum administration staff. This is to include workplace IT systems and equipment as well as unified temperature control systems.
- Upper floor: Insert new unisex access toilet / kitchenette and breakout space.
- Upper Floor: Insert compliant railing to balcony.



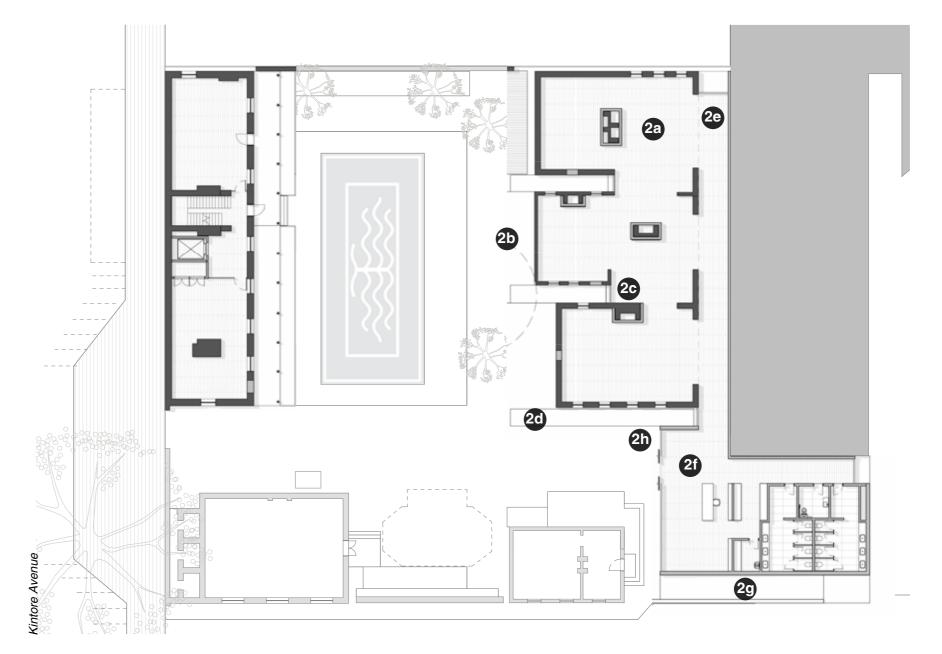
Morgan Thomas Lane





Exhibition wing renewal the Migration Story

- Demolish internal walls where appropriate. Retain and box around chimney structures to create a series of generous and usable exhibition zones with improved open circulation flow. As part of the refurbishment, provide all new timber floors, solid ceilings and walls to contemporary exhibition standard including respective supplementary lighting, exhibition cabinets, immersive audio-visual capability, and temperature control systems.
- Remove existing toilet facilities from courtyard and make good the interface of façade and roof of the exhibition building.
- Insert full height glazing panels between building blocks to allow natural light and aspect to penetrate the exhibition space for respite and well-being.
- Insert reflective water pools between building blocks and edge of building denoting the entry of the exhibition wing entrances as well as providing sensory features.
- Re-roof and insert new ceiling along circulation area with lineal slot skylight for diffused natural light entry.
- Demolish the existing entry addition and create a new 'fit for purpose' addition to house foyer congregation space, reception, bag / lockers, gift shop and toilet amenities.
- Gentle graded access route from lane way to entry court and greater courtyard.
- Optional position for relocated Migrant statue.



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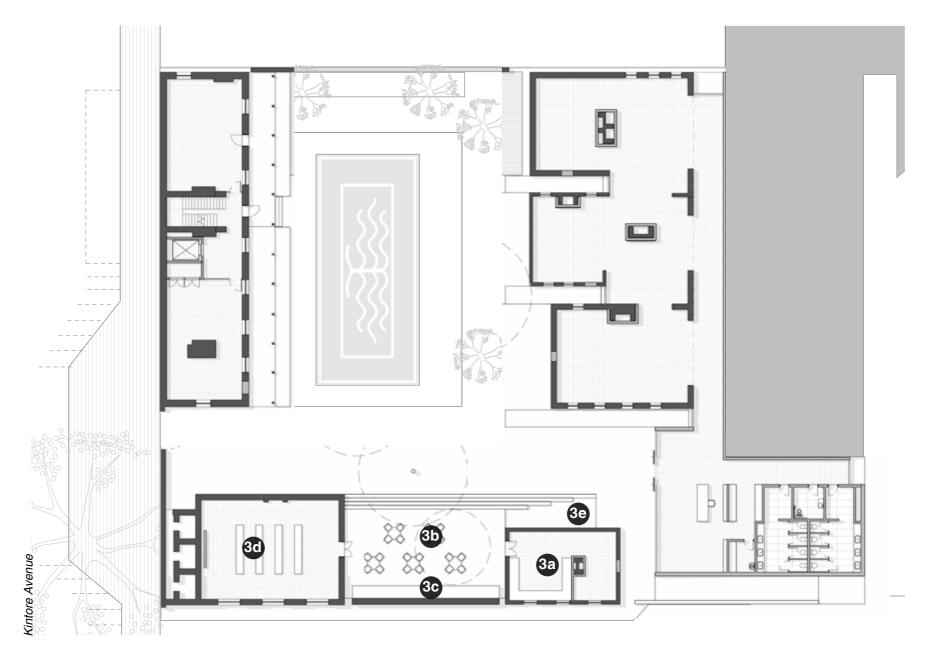




Multipurpose education and community event space

- Refurbish current store building internally to accommodate preparation kitchen with storeroom. Retain the chimney features but remove walls where required.
- Demolish existing outdoor shelters. Create a new terrace area connecting new preparation kitchen and chapel with stepped seating bleachers, sheltered cover and green trellis over.
- Insert outdoor lineal cooking preparation bench and outlets for portable cooking equipment by the community. Terrace area to be used for cooking area for large events or dining outdoor area for other smaller intimate events or community meetings.
- Remove existing kitchen and refurbish chapel space to a state-of-the-art multi-function auditorium meeting space with complementary AV, lighting, and acoustic control.

Incorporated graded walkway (1:22) within built fabric of the terrace.

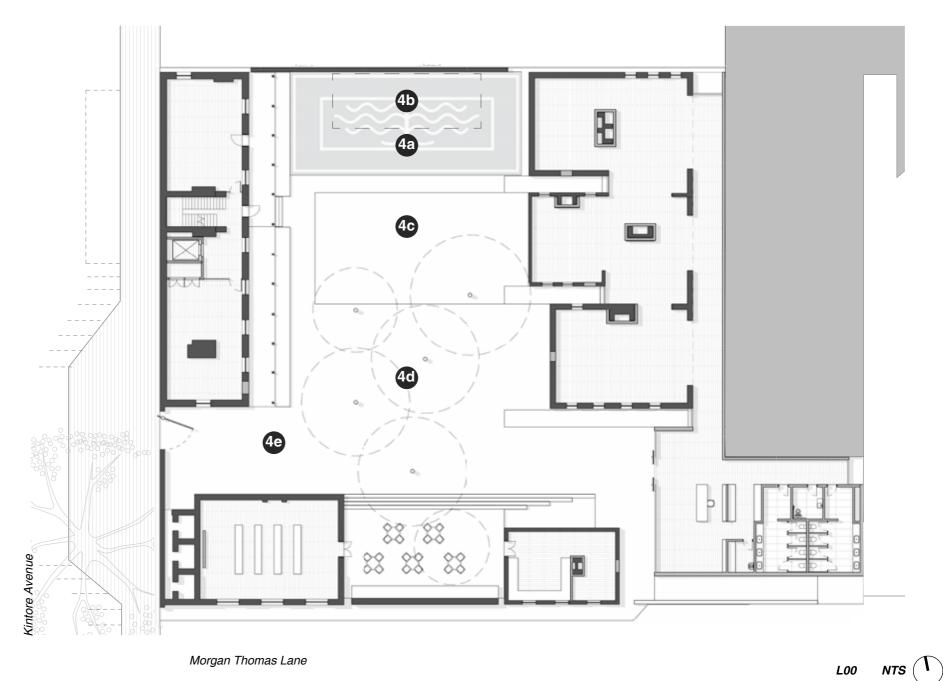


Morgan Thomas Lane LOO NTS



Central courtyard event space

- Relocate and re-orientate the 'family tree' of engraved pavers to northern end of courtyard; allows preservation. Complement with new donor wall for future migrant representation.
- Location for temporary performance stage during festival or event times.
- Remove hard pavement and insert green lawn and landscaping to act as heat sink and soft surface area for runoff play area and flexible congregation space for performances including outdoor theatre/ film functions and other events.
- Erect a series of new 'parasol' structures for weather protection and shade for the central courtyard with lighting and speaker systems. Structures allow 'dappled light' to filter through whilst providing protection from rain.
- Resurface hard stand areas to undercover area and main entrance way connecting exhibition, community, and event spaces with artful and varying paver matrix and or material.

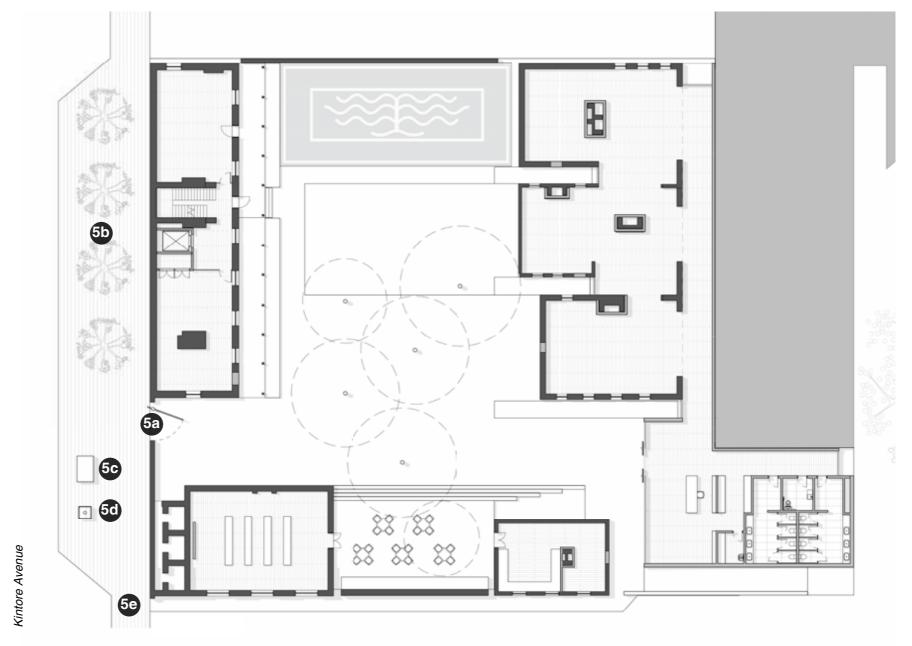


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Kintore Avenue Entry

- Replace gate with an artful statement denoting the entry whilst ensuring the grounds are secured.
- Remove existing tree at the entrance way and replace with new vegetation beds and line of trees stretching across the historic façade of the community building north of the entry gate way.
- Second alternative position for the relocation of the Migration Museum statue to Kintore Avenue denoting the Migration Museum entrance.
- Provide a tall totem multifaced signage on Kintore Avenue with lights and possible artful animation denoting the Migration Museum entrance from afar.
- Examine the potential to upgrade the approach to the Migration Museum consistent with the quality of ANZAC walk.



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L01 - SKETCH PLAN

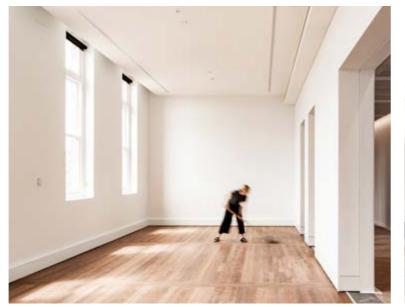


13.

06.2 Look and Feel

The following images have been presented to the Reference Group as examples of spaces that affirm strong co-design aspirations for more light, more greenspace and courtyard shelter.

13.

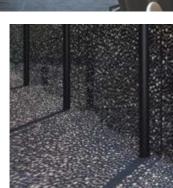


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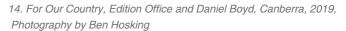












15. ABG Native Garden, TCL, Adelaide, 2011, Photography by Ben Wrigley, Emily Taylor

18.

16. Bourke St Cycleway, GroupGSA, Sydney, 2021 Photography by Simon Wood

17. Albert Park Primary School Performance Hub, SXWA architects, Melbourne, 2023, Photography by Peter Bennetts

18. Parque Mangallanes en Sevilla, Guillermo Vázquez Consuegra, Seville, Spain, 2019, Photography by Fernando Alda

19. Targ Blonie Market, Aleksandra Wasilkowska Architectural Studio, Blonie, Poland, 2022, Photography by Nate Cook

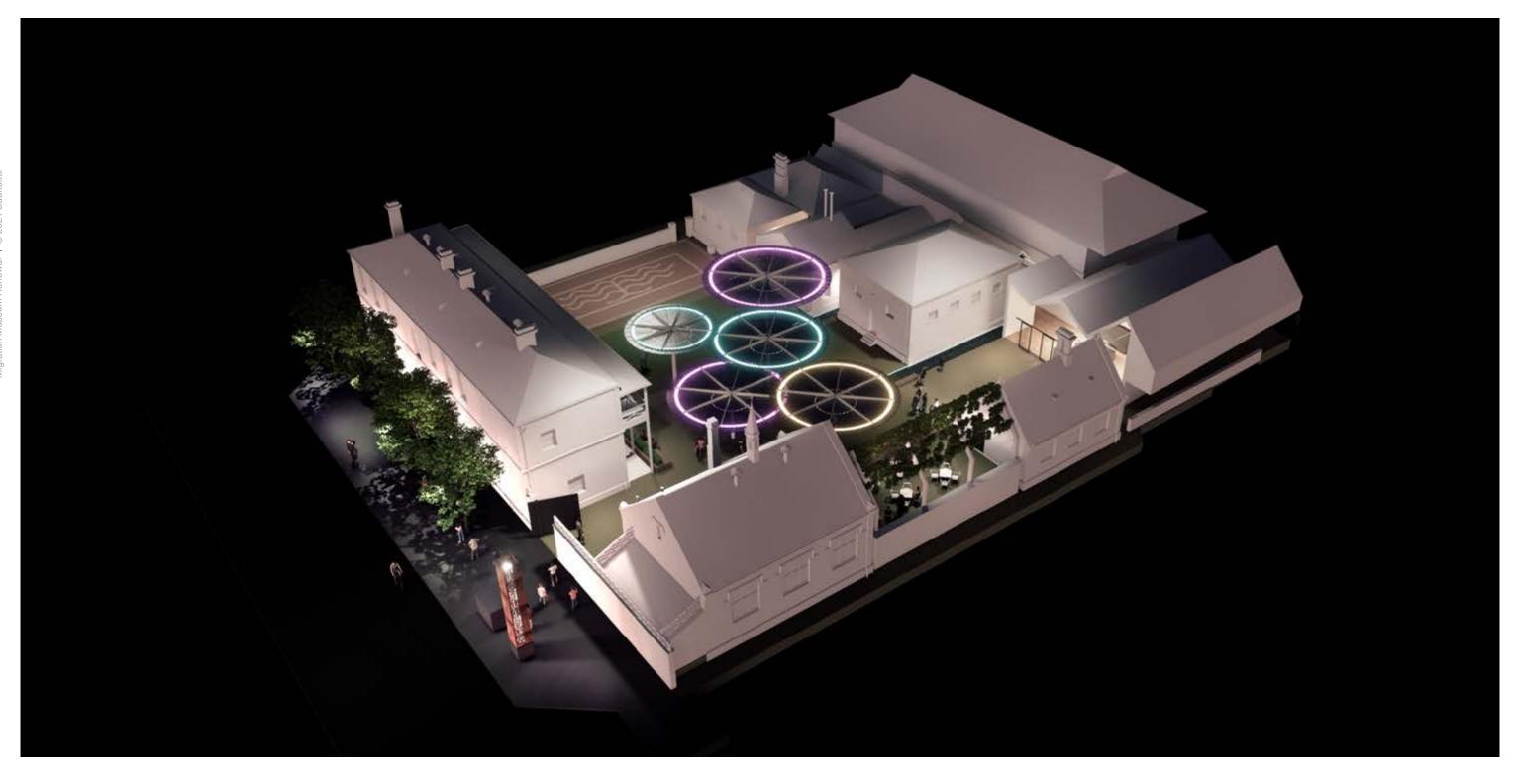
















The community speaks

This is the right time

for a 21st century Migration Museum, with an upgraded exhibition space and fitout and a site that responds to modern audience needs for a dynamic visitor experience, no matter whether they are tourists, locals or students.

This is the right time

to express respect for diversity and engage our young - working against discrimination and racism, showcasing the cultural, linguistic and economic gifts of our migration policy, and celebrating the value of our distinctive success as a multicultural society.

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to re-affirm that the Migration Museum underpins many educational and community-building aspirations – acknowledging First Nations, telling the migrant history stories, hosting the contemporary events and commemorations that hold communities together.

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