

PRECINCT C
CORNER OF ADAMS AND STERLING
STREETS

- THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE OFFERS:
- A themed shelter as a gateway statement at the corner of Adams and Sterling Streets
 - The integration of materials and concepts based on local aboriginal cultural history into the shelter design and supporting artworks
 - The opportunity to tie in with the Grampians Peaks Trail journey through the provision of supporting artworks
 - The valley tract of Salt Creek incorporating the existing Salt Creek Art Trail and additional artwork of indigenous themes.

RECENT HISTORY

Prior to the arrival of Europeans the area was inhabited by the Chapwurrung Aboriginal people. The first pastoralists took up properties in the late 1830s. A small European township developed which was initially known as Mount Sturgeon. A Post Office of that name opened on 1st July 1852. As the early settlers were predominantly Scottish, it was renamed Dunkeld from 1st January 1854 after the Scottish town of Dunkeld. The Hamilton to Ararat railway reached Dunkeld in 1877.

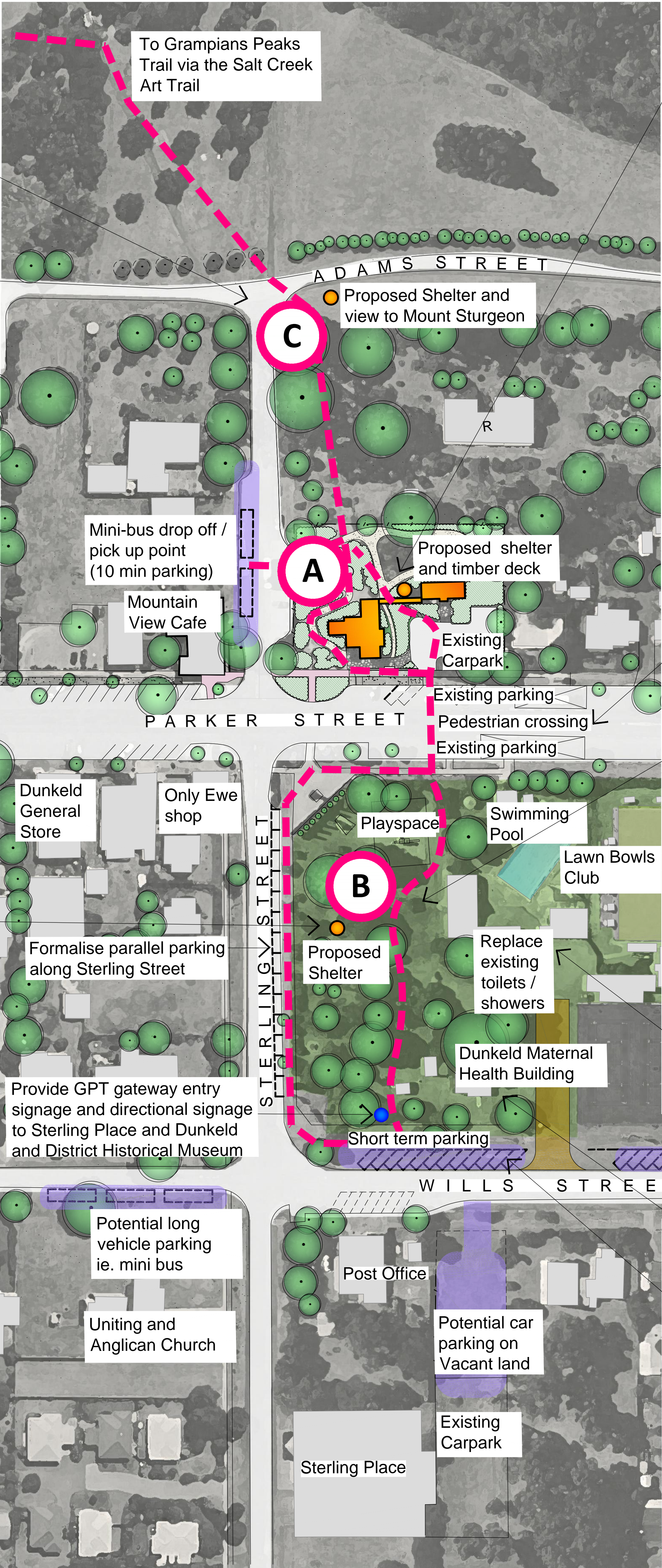
Dunkeld became mainly a pastoral area, with some areas growing fodder and fodder seed. Stone quarrying in the Grampians has led to the use of a significant amount of local stonework within the township. There has been continuous milling of timber taken from Victoria Valley in the Grampians. Also enduring has been the use of Grampians honey flora by Dunkeld apiarists.

In 1944, the town was ravaged by fire which destroyed one-third of the buildings in town. After World War II several remaining pastoral estates were subdivided for soldier settlement allocations. The resulting increase in population and the improvement in local transport led to the opening of a consolidated school (primary school) in Dunkeld in 1952.

A themed shelter may be constructed within the Dunkeld and District Memorial Park, close to the large Golden Elm tree. The area around the proposed shelter requires ground profiling to establish improved drainage.

THE GRAMPIANS AND GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL

- Will be one of Victoria’s most iconic walks extending between Mt Zero to Dunkeld
- A total distance of 160 kilometres
- 1.2 million visitors per year to the Grampians National Park
- 65% of visitors are day walkers
- 7% group walk / school groups
- Parks Victoria are encouraging a series of day walks, including a 3-4 day duration walk
- There will be ten trail heads or rest / bus / car pick-up points along the 12 or 13 day journey one way
- The walk can be undertaken in sections of approximately 15 kilometres between trail heads.
- Provides a multitude of scenic and cultural experiences from Aboriginal rock art, eel traps, short walks to waterfalls to longer walks to scenic features
- The Grampians contains the highest concentration of Aboriginal rock art in south eastern Australia, some dating back more than 20,000 years
- Parks Victoria anticipates an extra 35,000 people per annum will visit the Southern Grampians to use the trail



PRECINCT A
DUNKELD VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

- THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE OFFERS:
- A proposed gathering area located between the information centre and the existing amenities building and within the established native garden
 - An existing native garden space that lends itself to the establishment of a special meeting and gathering area, with iconic views to Mount Sturgeon and Mount Abrupt
 - A showcase of some of the indigenous plants that occur along the 160 kilometres of the Grampians Peaks Trail.
 - Close proximity to the retail strip with mini-bus short-term parking adjacent to the Mountain View Cafe
 - Integrated signage about the Grampians Peaks trail, its track conditions, expected weather conditions (updated daily) and hiker advice / clothing etc.
 - A proposed timber deck / shelter and photo opportunity with Mount Abrupt and Mount Sturgeon as the background to a photo
 - Sufficient seating for large groups ie. tour groups and school groups

- THE GATHERING AREA OFFERS:
- A defined space where groups can be assembled and briefed on the intended walk
 - A ‘gateway’ for people departing to walk the Grampians Peaks Trail or those arriving at its end.
 - Additional amenities, such as showers and shelter that will be integrated into the design

Amenities Management

- User pay systems for use of showers and lockers and long term car parking
- Smart locks - access for hikers and groups (VIC only)

Iconic views of Mount Sturgeon and Mount Abrupt from the Dunkeld and District Memorial Park and the Dunkeld Visitor Centre, particularly when crossing Parker Street.

PRECINCT B
DUNKELD AND DISTRICT MEMORIAL PARK

- THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE OFFERS:
- Day walkers and adventurous hikers of the Grampians Peaks Trail who are commencing or ending their journey at Dunkeld, the option of extending their walk to or from the proposed car parking available on Wills Street and continue through the Dunkeld and District Memorial Park, experiencing the beauty of Dunkeld's distinctive landscape features such as the iconic views of Mount Sturgeon and Mount Abrupt, the stone paving and walling.
- Use of local materials between Wills Street and the Grampians Peaks Trail include:
- Stone paving
 - Stonework as wallings
 - Local artwork, themes and motifs,
 - Indigenous planting

Replace the existing public toilets and pool use facilities as a first priority, then update the existing public toilets and showers at the Visitor Information Centre as a second phase as demand dictates.

Opportunity for the former Maternal Health Centre to be developed into a multi-use pop-up space (arts, retail, events)

- Wills Street provides significant opportunity for parking between Sterling Street and Templeton Street:
- Short-term to long-term car parking (approximately 37 parking spaces)

Parking Management

- Payment options for long-term
- Digital parking monitoring (smart cities)
- Smart lighting / security cameras
- Parker Street retail parking retains its short term parking restriction

Amendments:
14.08.2018 - REVA- Revisions as per Council feedback
17.08.2018 - REVb- Revisions as per Council feedback

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Title: CP01-Interim Concept Plan, Dunkeld Visitor Information Hub, Dunkeld

Client: Southern Grampians Shire Council

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