Peninsula University Hospital

BATESSMART.™ architectus



Healing Country, Healing People

Location	Frankston | Bunurong Country, Australia
Area	116,000 sqm, 206 beds, 15 operating theatres
Tower	12 storey tower with 35,000 patients per year
Completion	2025



First Nations Engagement Outcomes

The following four narrative opportunities are taken directly from the integrated insights of the two Traditional Owner groups that were consulted as part of the project.

REHABILITATION + HEALING PEOPLE + COUNTRY

Traditional Owners recognised that the new hospital can act as **a metaphor for the greater healing that needs to happen between First Peoples and non-First peoples**, and as an agent of change that plays a role in cultural affirmation and strengthening. By bringing **a holistic focus on wellbeing that encompasses, mental, physical and community health** that is predicated on embedding and amplifying First Peoples knowledge and culture the project can be an active contributor to **reconciliation at scale**.

CELEBRATING THE LANDSCAPE + CONNECTING TO COUNTRY

Traditional Owners highlighted the **significance of the wetlands surrounding the site and the historical landscape** of the region including Kananook Creek, making reference to the importance of the coastal environment as a source of food, water, fire and shelter. **Representations of native flora and fauna and use of sedimentary stone** such as sandstone was deemed important in connecting the project to place as well as an important step towards healing and caring for Country.

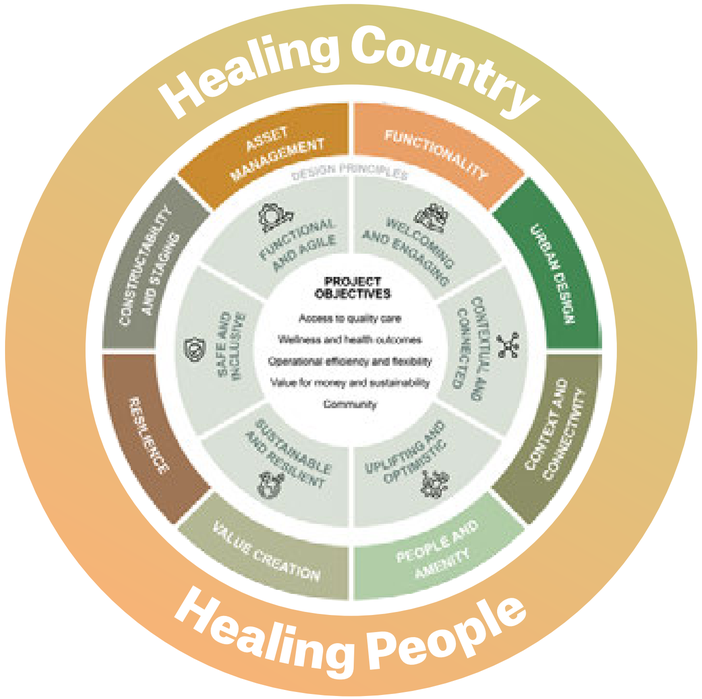
TRUTH TELLING + THE IMPACTS OF COLONISATION

Traditional Owners reiterated the importance of truth-telling and revealing the impacts of colonisation, particularly as it relates to both the alteration/destruction of landscapes and **inequalities in health and economic participation** experienced by First Peoples communities. Traditional Owners suggested that a project narrative that tells stories of local relevance and encourages conversations around the destructive nature of sand and lime stone mining on the landscape of the Peninsula is of particular relevance.

A LIVING + EVOLVING CULTURE: PAST, PRESENT + FUTURE

Traditional Owners reiterated that First Peoples culture is a living and contemporary culture that is constantly evolving. Culture is not anchored in a pre-colonial landscape and is very much future focused. Traditional Owners expressed the importance of **honouring the past, acknowledging the present** and **building a pathway to the future** for First Peoples and non-First Peoples through the project. Both historical and contemporary modes of storytelling was highlighted as an important opportunity not to be missed in the project. Ensuring that the memorialisation of culture is avoided in this storytelling was deemed important as to not reinforce the notion that First Peoples culture exist exclusively in the past.

Design Principles
Connecting with the
Whole Peninsula















The Frankston City community is over represented in terms of dis-advantage and resultant health outcomes

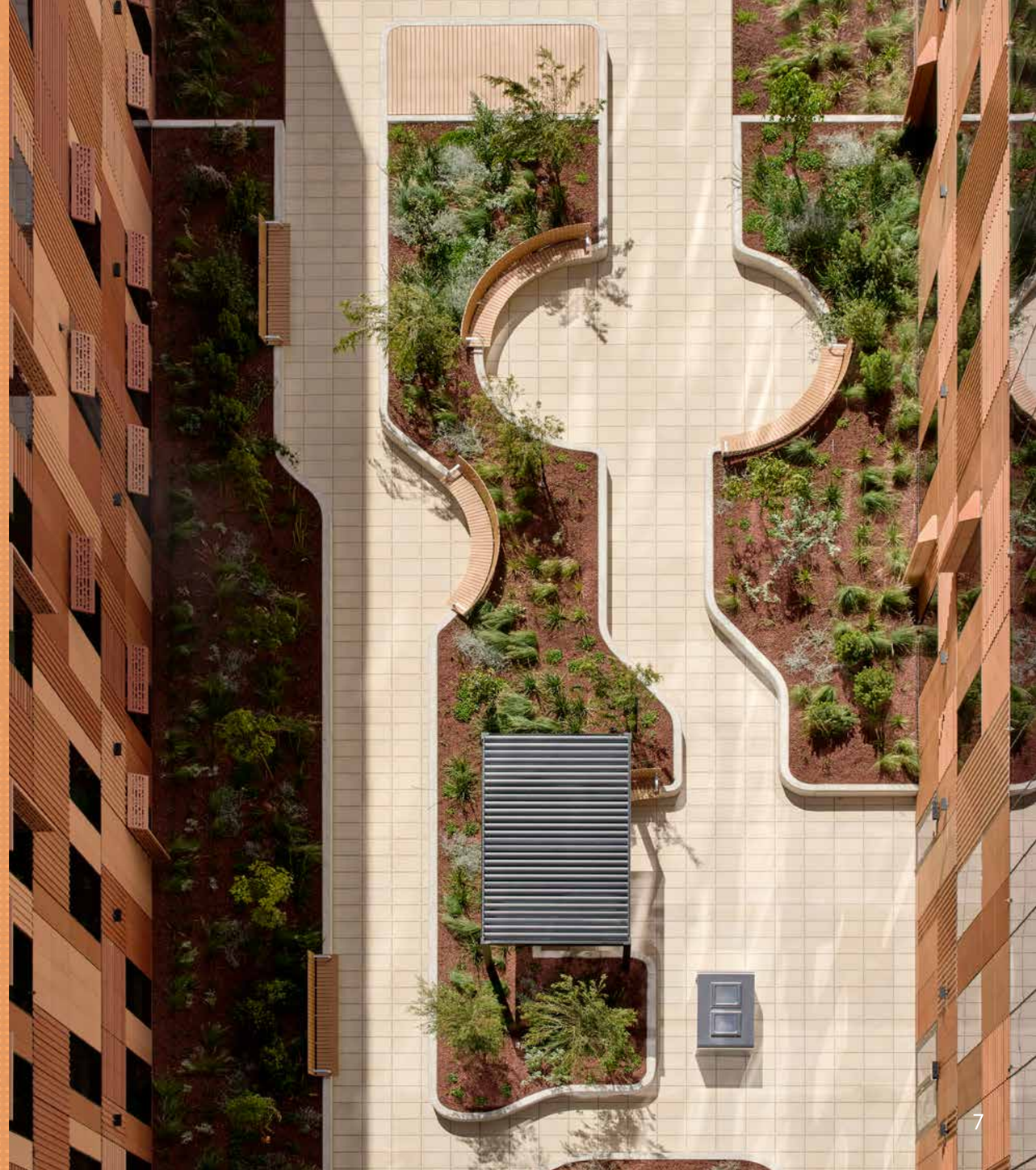


The Mornington Peninsula is also a place that has been adversely effected by:

- Coastal erosion & sea level rise
- Climate change impacts
- Biodiversity loss
- Water and land pollution
- Overdevelopment pressure



We propose that disconnection to Country are under-recognised contributors to community health and wellbeing.



...and that our healthcare environments can play an important role in rebuilding these relationships.



Mornington Peninsula, Victoria

On the land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation



Melbourne

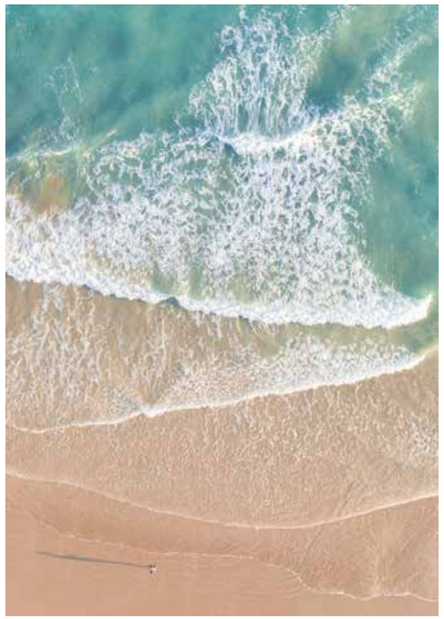
Port Philip Bay

Peninsula University Hospital

Hospital Catchment Area

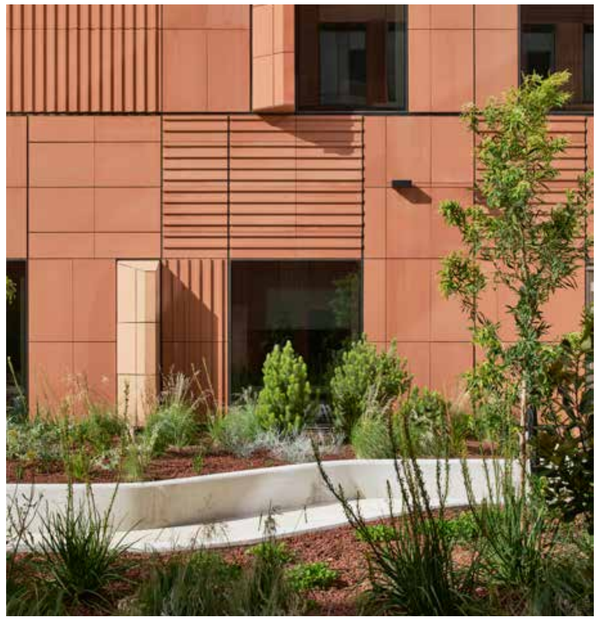
Bass Strait

Design Concept
Coastal References & Landform













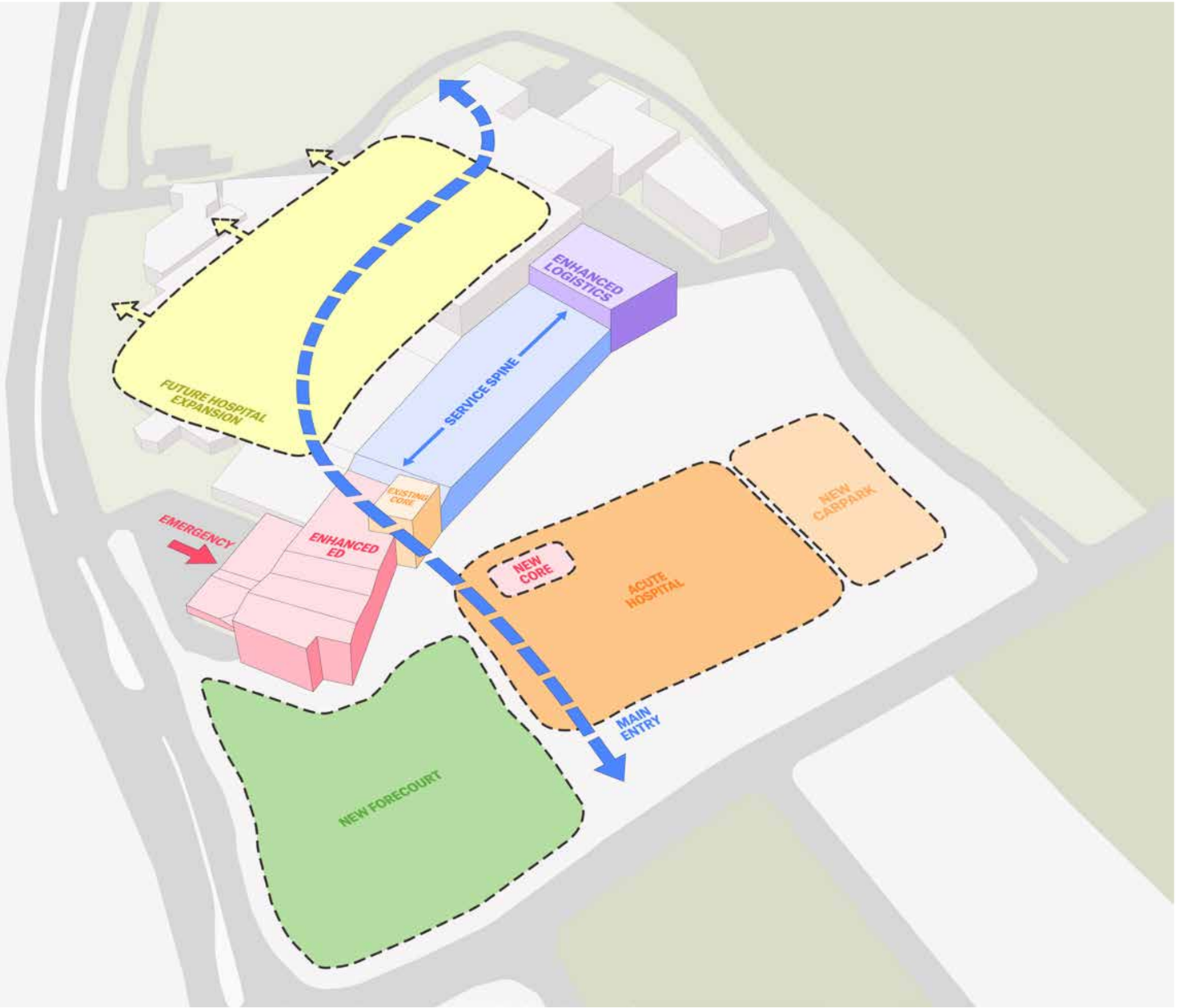

Gate 2
Main Entrance
Gate 1





Masterplan
Unified Campus

— Unify campus into a complete and functional whole
— New acute hospital parallel to street
— Generous public forecourt to Hastings Road corner
— Unlock future expansion to the east



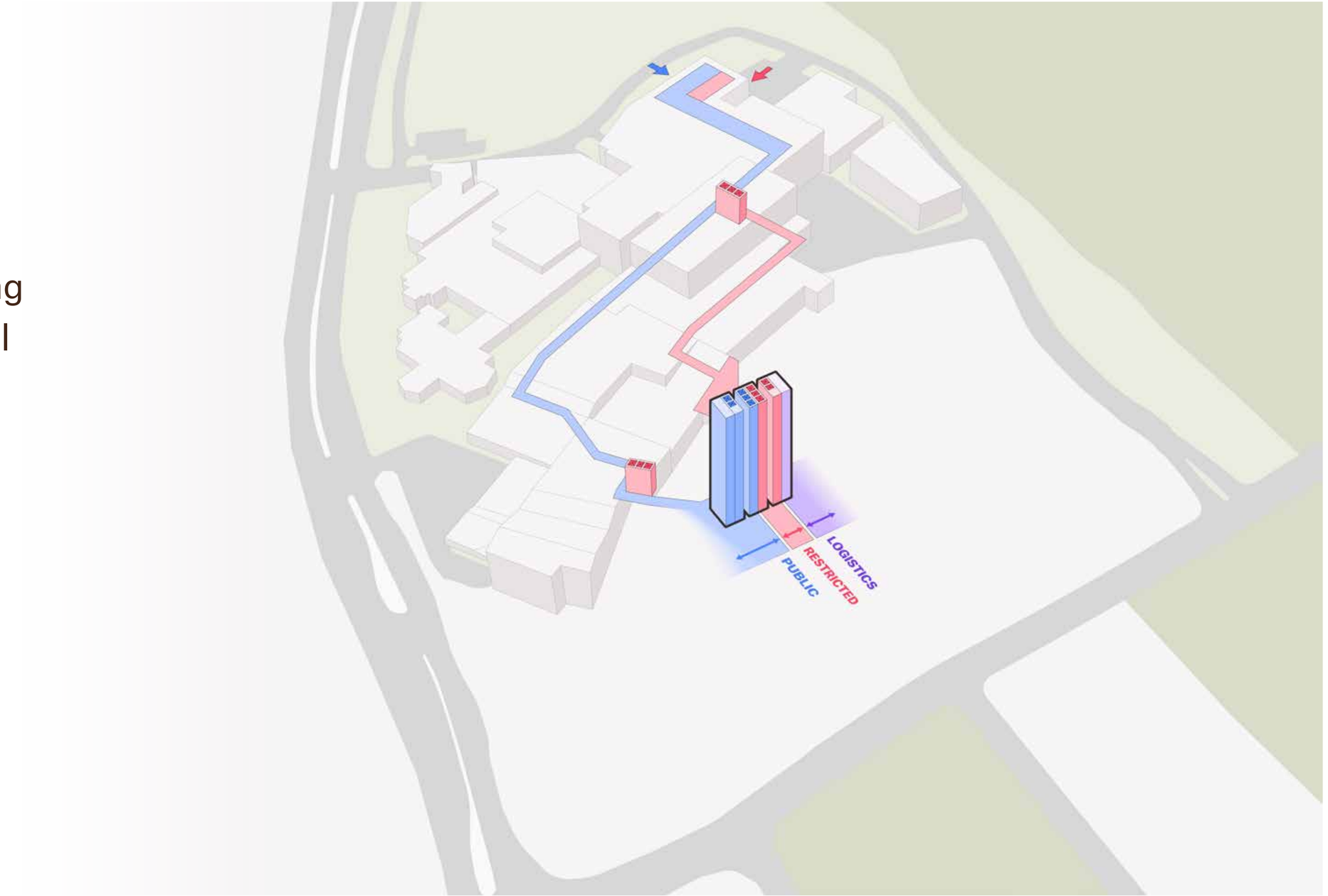
New Circulation
Stitching Old & New

— Carefully suturing the old and new flows together
— Continuous operation throughout
— New staff courtyards between corridors



New Core
Location & Flows

— Centralise service core serving new and existing
— Separate public, clinical and logistics flows



Theming Application and Distribution
In Consultation with Country

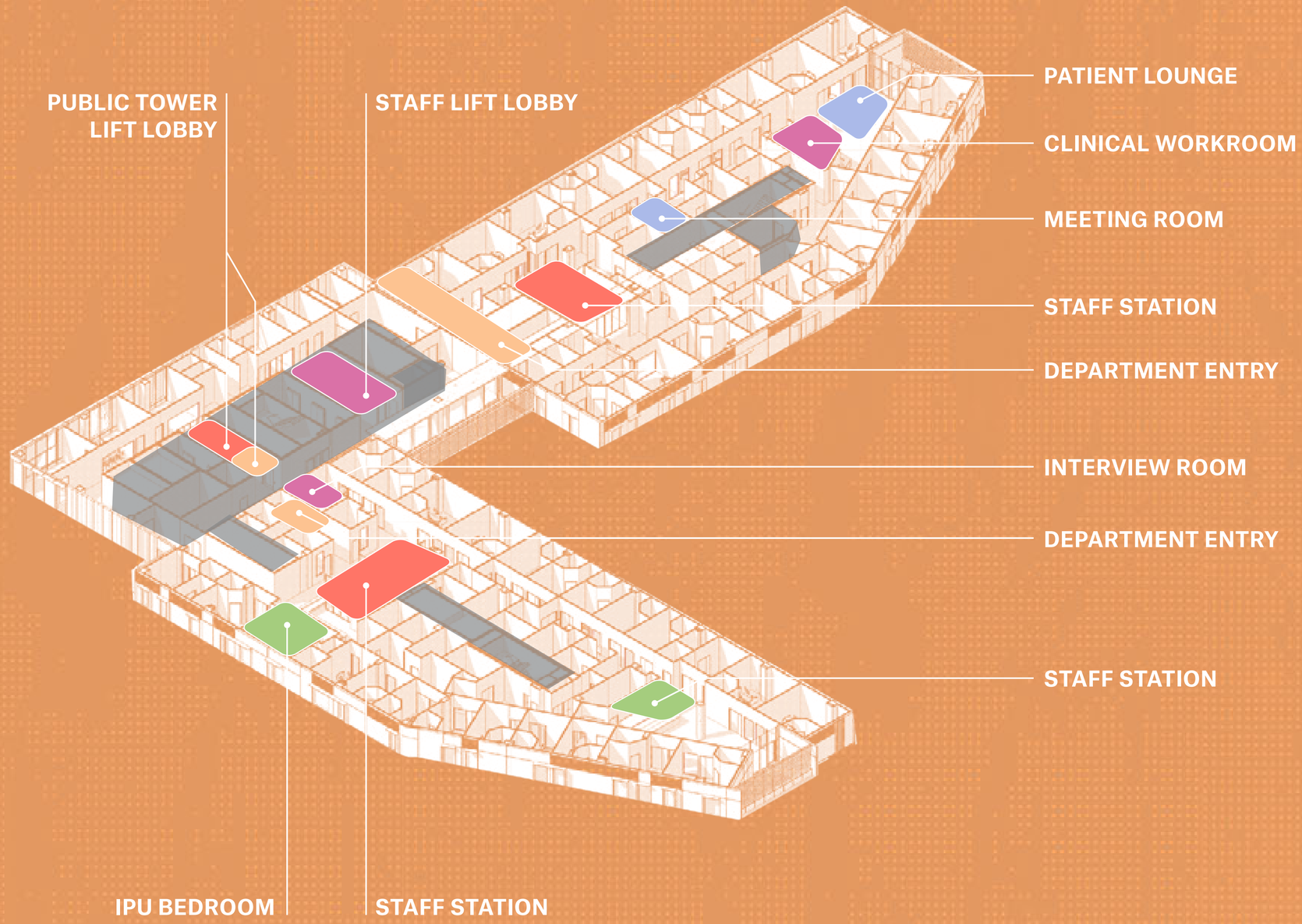
SKY
LAND
WATER

Level 12 Lighting the way
Level 11 Watching the sky
Level 10 Helping families
Level 9 Reclaiming nature
Level 8 Knowing history
Level 7 Enriching biodiversity
Level 6 Connecting habitats
Level 5 Sharing knowledge
Level 4 Respecting habitats
Level 3 Protecting the vulnerable
Level 2 Restoring the reefs
Level 1 Remembering the wetlands



Typical IPU Floor
Narrative Application Example

- ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS
- GLAZING FILM
- SIGNAGE
- FINISHES
- FURNITURE

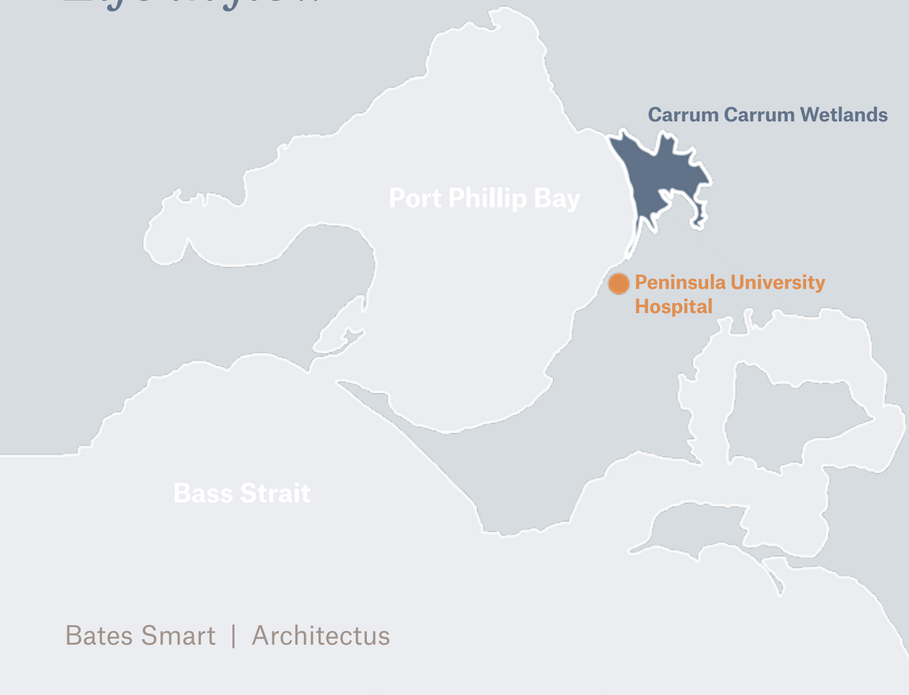



Building T Lifts
You are in Building T - Level 9
A
B
C
D
E
9
Building T
Lift
9

Level 1

Carrum Carrum Wetlands
Remembering the wetlands

A thriving habitat
A lost world
Nature of resilience
Life in flow





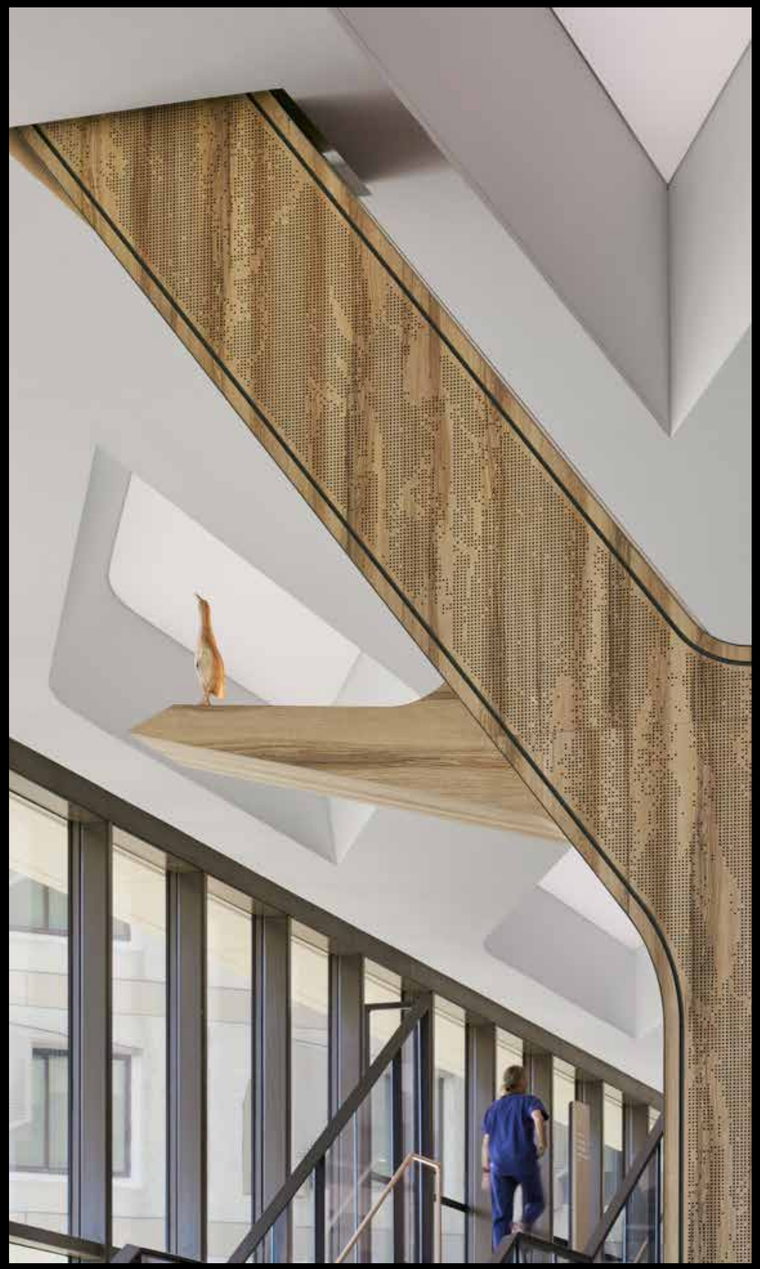
Community engagement is important to all public art, but especially in healthcare settings



Jody Rallah
Inner Guidance

Jody Rallah's artwork embedded in the external paving of the Arrivals Garden narrates the lifecycle and migration patterns of the short-finned eel.

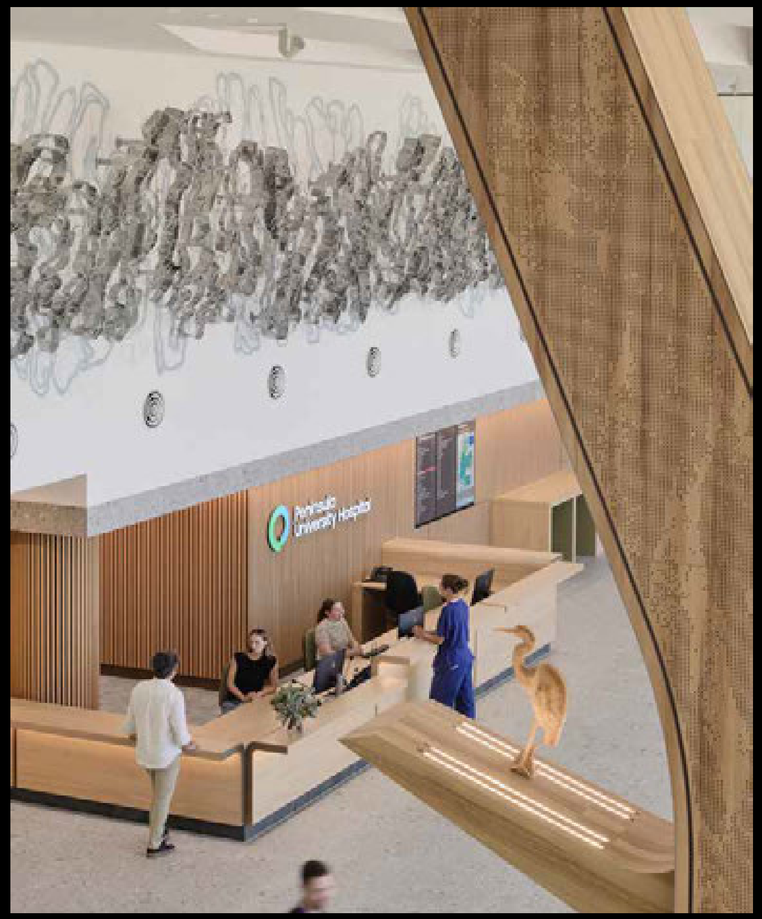





Peninsula
University Hospital

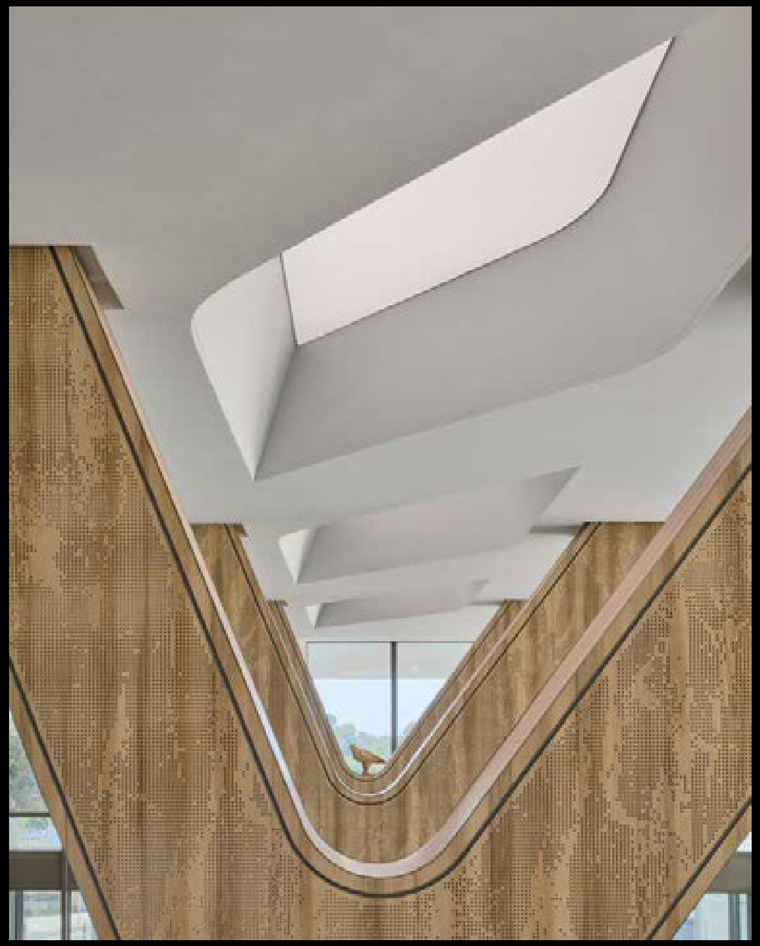
Hannah Quinlivan
Whispers of the Wetlands

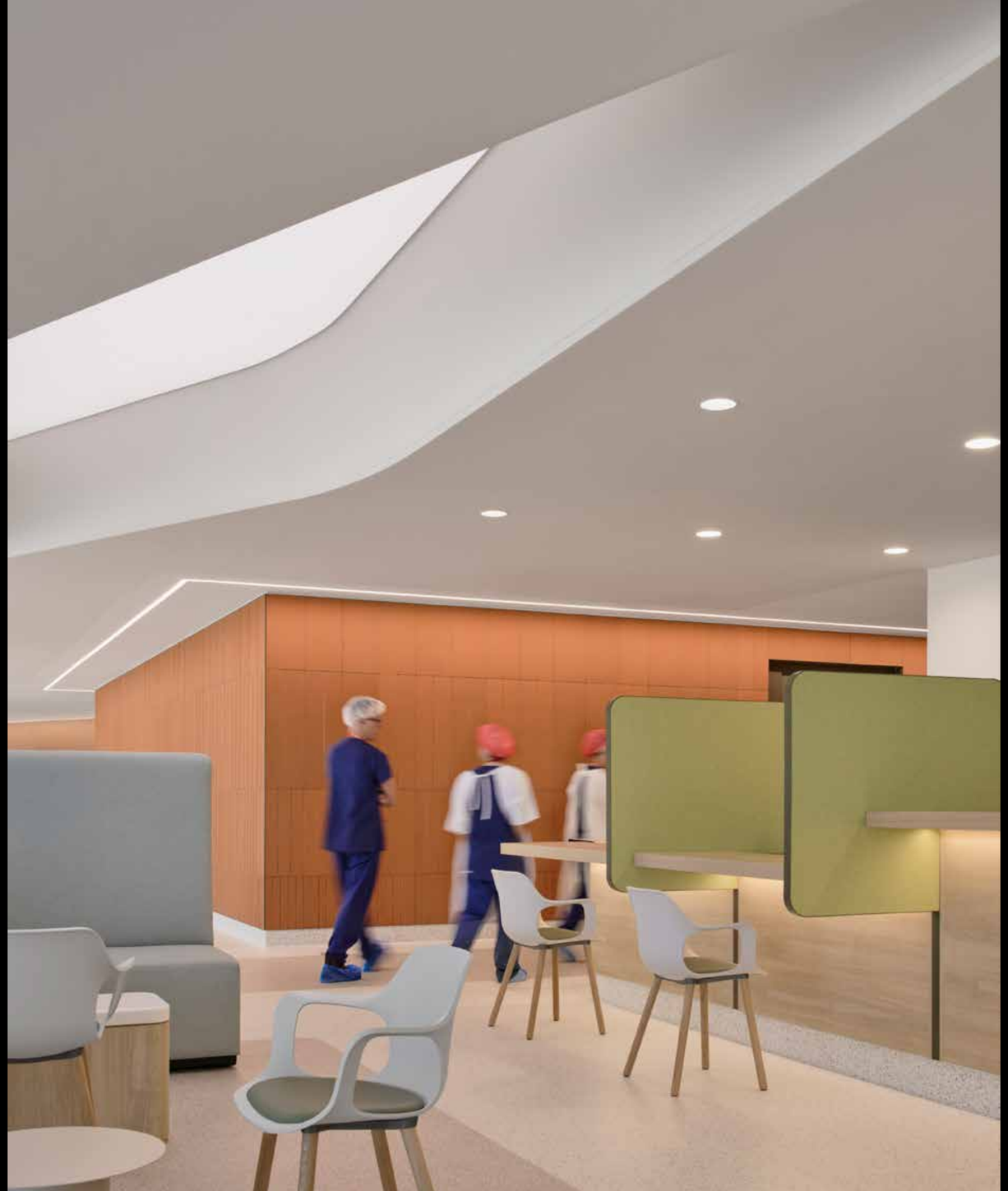
Hannah's reception mural and sculpture represents the streams and riverbeds of the nearby Carrum Carrum Wetlands.




Building T Lifts









Level 2

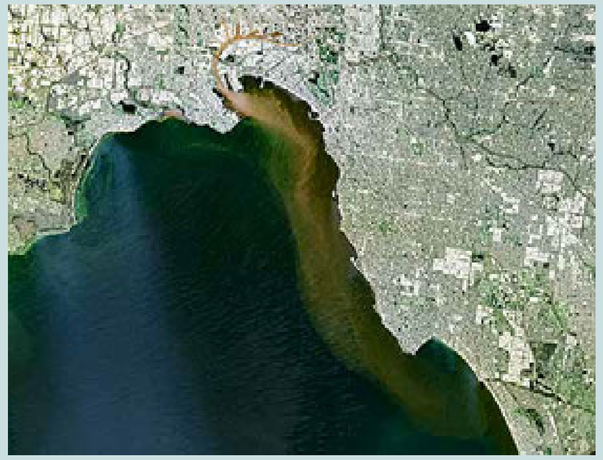
Port Phillip Bay (Nairm)
Restoring the reefs





Many years ago, Port Phillip Bay was home to nourishing shellfish reefs, rich with life beneath the waves. Colonisation took its toll, depleting all but fragments.

Through a rebuilding initiative, Port Phillip Bay has seen large areas of the reefs restored. Oysters and mussels filter the waters once again, breathing life back into this vast ecosystem on our doorstep.



- Dense oyster and mussel reef historical distribution
- Oyster and mussel reef historical distribution
- Shellfish reef restoration sites



Level 4

Western Port
Respecting habitats







The mangroves of Western Port are where land meets sea, and where life quietly thrives among its shifting tides.

The mangroves of Western Port are recognised by UNESCO as a vital 'blue carbon' ecosystem, capturing and storing carbon for our shared future.


RESPECTING
HABITAT



Storytelling Examples

SKY
LAND
WATER

Level 12
Level 11
Level 10
Level 9
Level 8
Level 7
Level 6
Level 5
Level 4
Level 3
Level 2
Level 1

1. Narrative

Introducing a theme for each level.

Level 1 | Carrum Carrum Wetlands

Healing Country. Healing people. Remembering the wetlands.

Swampy marshland interpretation pre-colonisation



2. Storytelling

Expanding on the theme and narrative.

Level 3 | Bass Strait

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3. Snippets

Evocative statements speaking to the theme and level narrative.

Level 6 | Biolink

Making connections
Grow and prosper
A shared landscape
Repairing what was broken

4. Labels

Clear labeling to help educate viewers.

Level 10 | Portsea Back Beach



5. First Nations Engagement

We consulted two Traditional Owner groups to review and refine the artworks for cultural accuracy and clarity.

Level 5 | Monmar (Point Nepean)



Stone Axe Building
Handle wrapped higher and resin on axe head



Crafting A Coolamon
More defined healing knot and moved to base of tree

6. Wayfinding Index

An index aligning the levels with the departments for clear wayfinding.

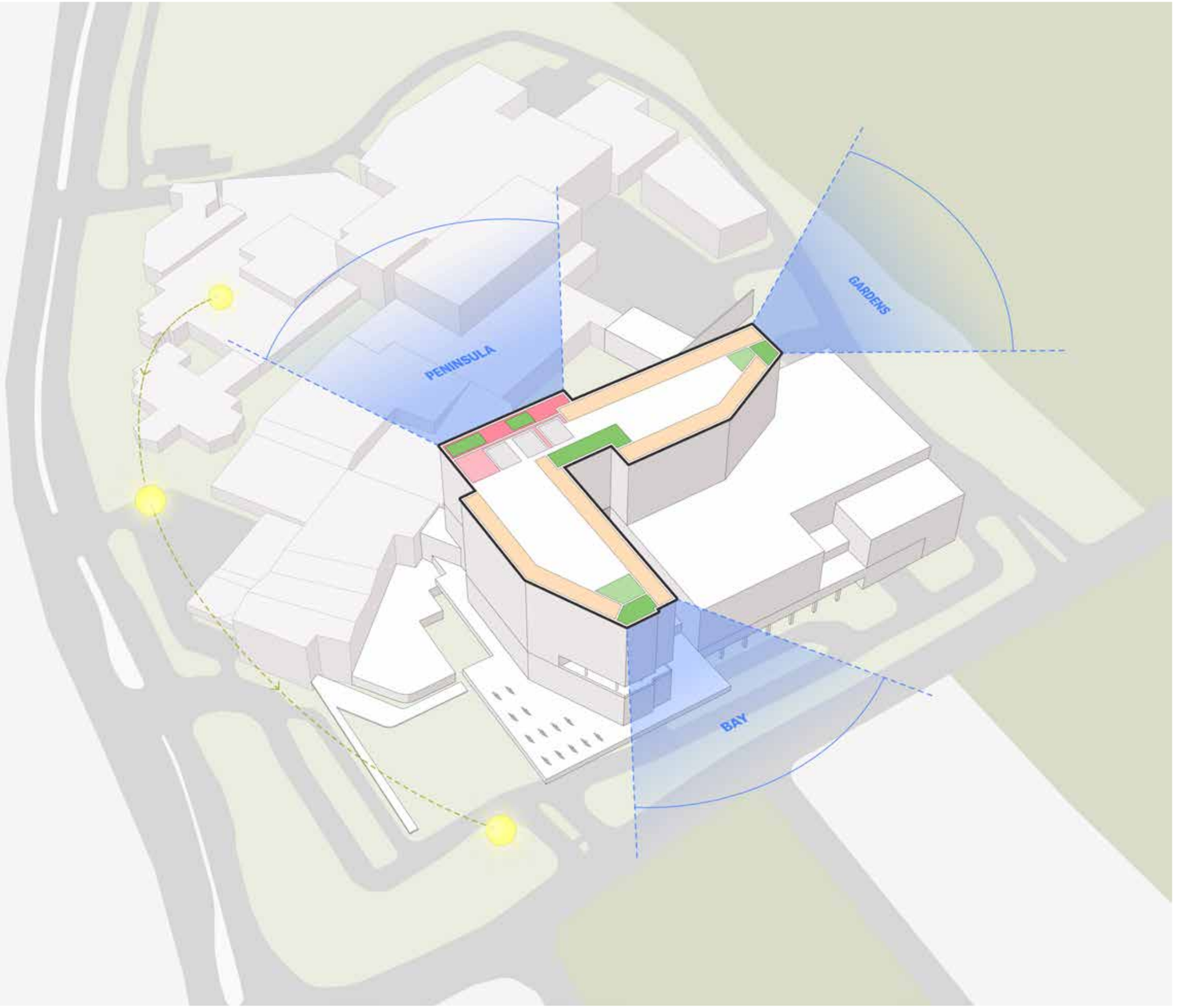
Level 12 | Night Sky (Star Mapping)

	LOCATION	DEPARTMENT	NARRATIVE
12	**Night Sky**	**IPU**	**Lighting the way**
8	Cape Schanck	Cancer Services/IPU	Knowing history
7	Regenerative	IPU/ICU	Enriching biodiversity
6	Biolink	Mental Health	Connecting habitats
5	Monmar	Women's health	Sharing knowledge
4	Western Port	Exemplar Health	Respecting habitats
3	Bass Strait	CSSD	Protecting the vulnerable
2	Port Phillip Bay	Operating suite	Restoring the reefs

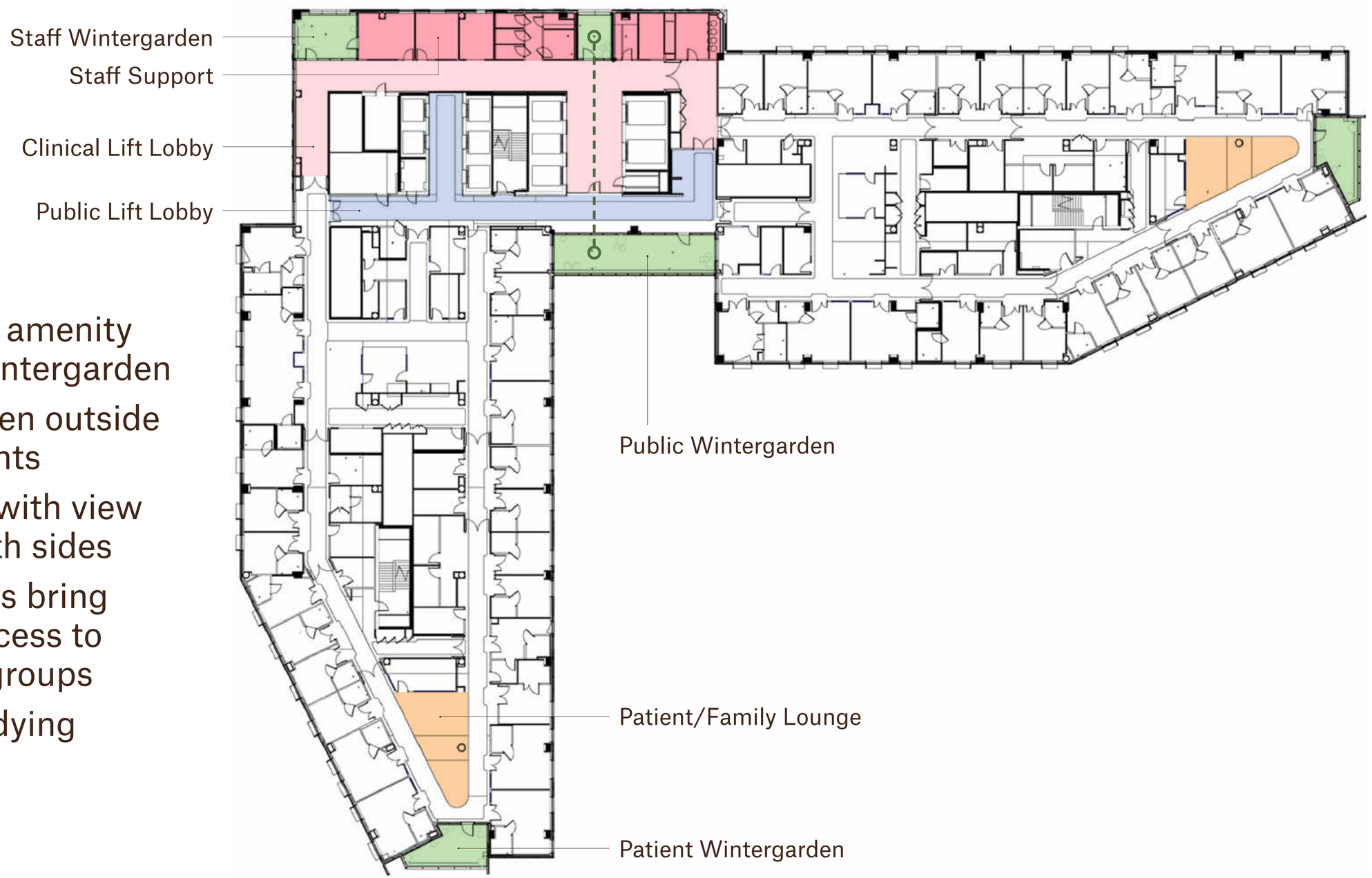
Tower Amenity

Patient, Public and Staff Amenity

— All patient rooms with expansive views
— Wintergardens at end of each wing
— Generous, light-filled working spaces for staff
— Dedicated wintergardens for staff



Level 10
Typical Floor



- Staff support and amenity with dedicated wintergarden
- Public wintergarden outside clinical departments
- Clinical lift lobby with view and light from both sides
- Open ended wards bring light, view and access to outside for large groups
- Private space for dying on Country

0 10 20


A
B
C
D
E
Building T
Lift

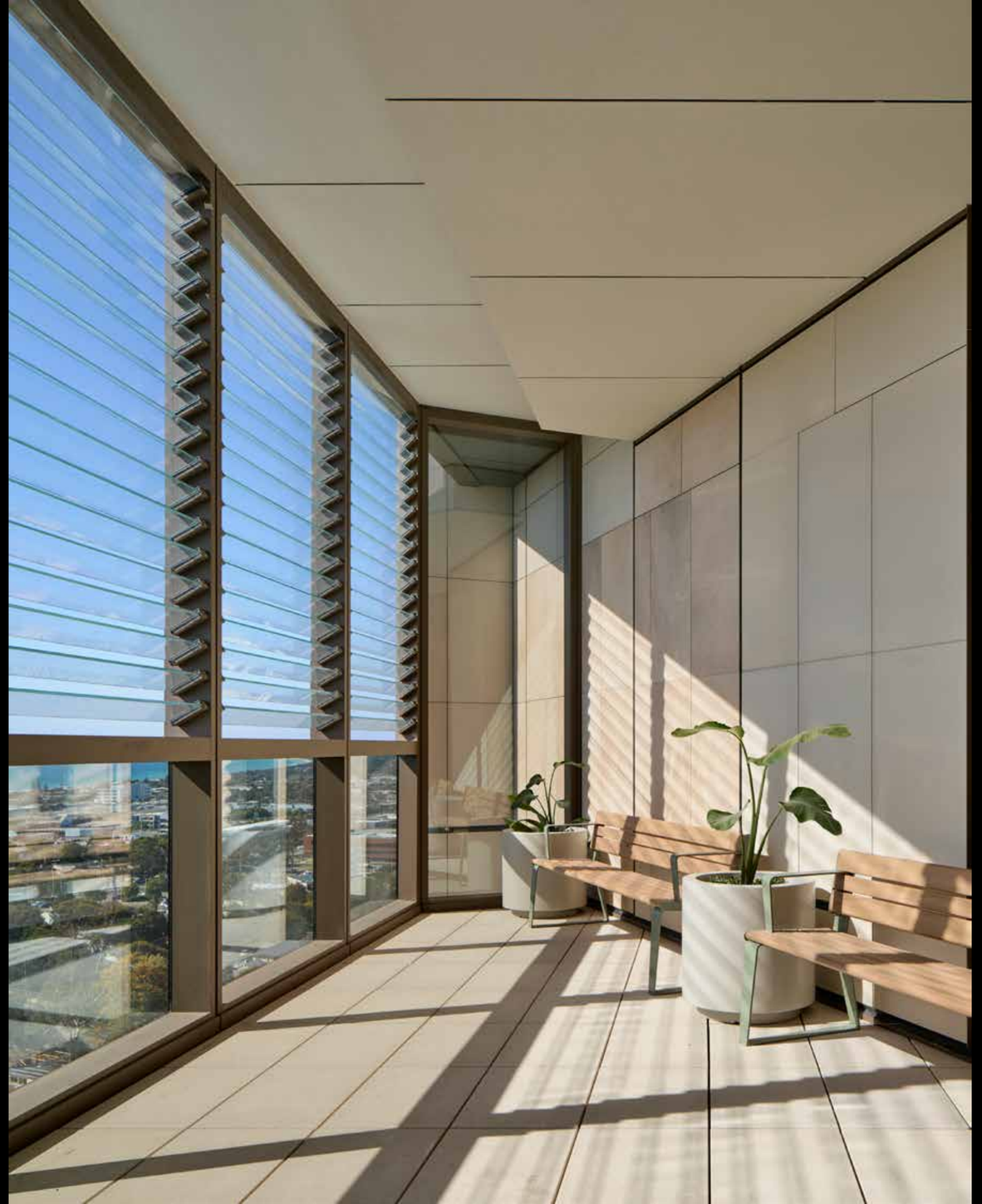

Building T Lifts
T3 Women's Health
Outpatient Services
B
T3
Reflective
Space


straße

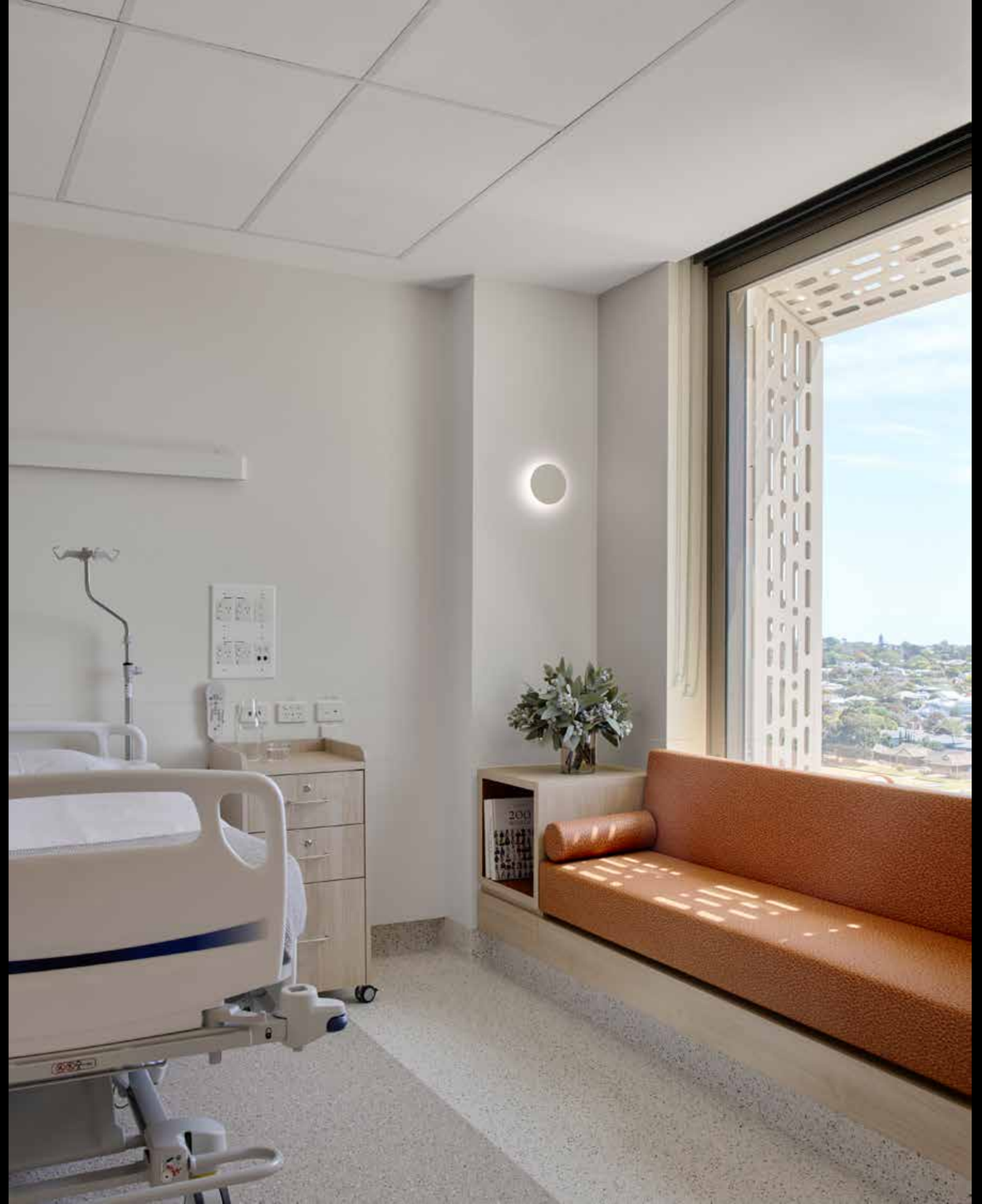





Lounge







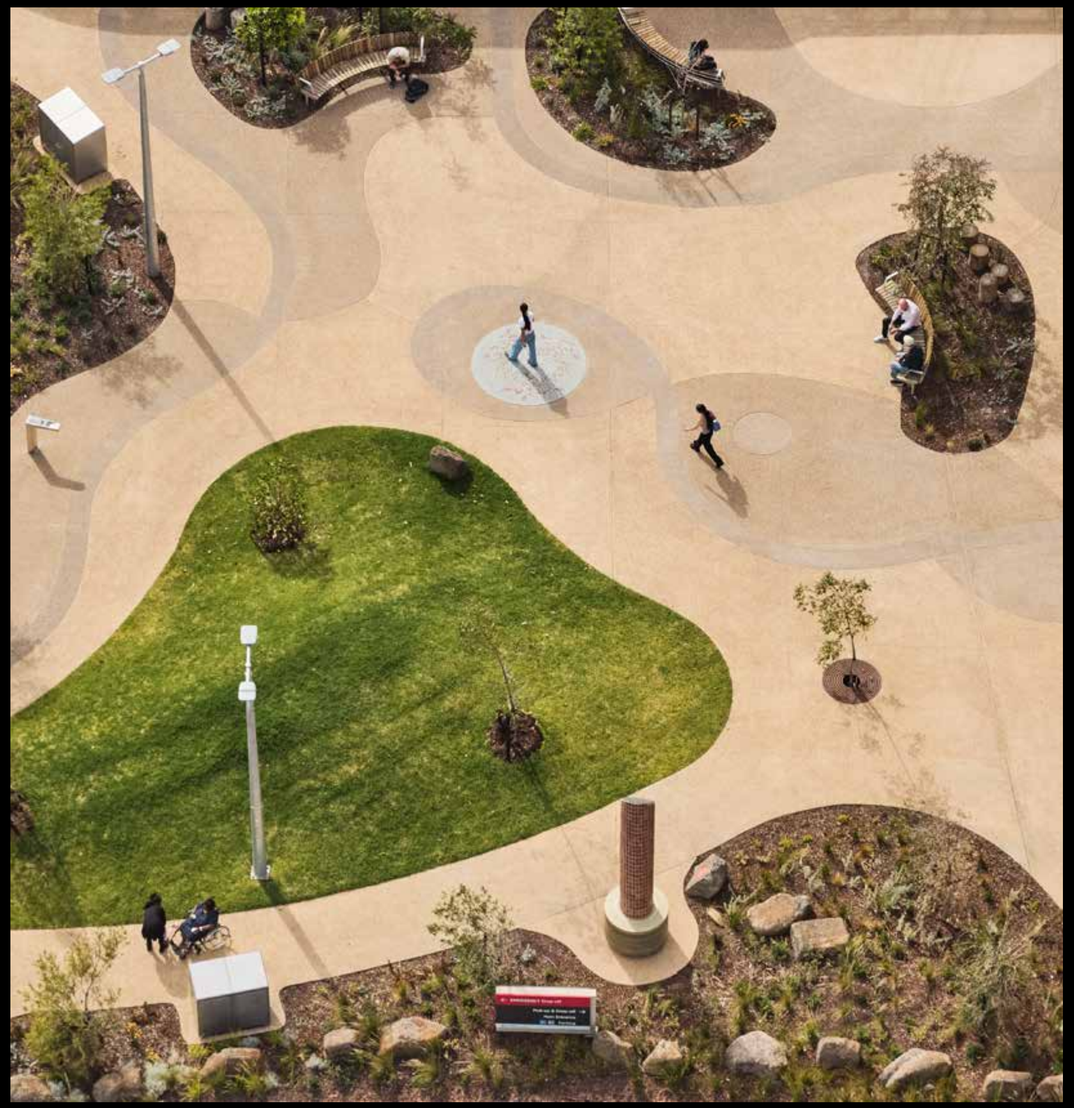




Already theres anecdotal commentary that the hospital is reducing staff leave, increasing staff retention and providing improved care to patients who now have access to larger more suitable spaces and the chance to escape outside around their treatment times



Community Engagement
Public artworks









Dan Elborne
The Pillar

Dan's workshops invited over 300 participants to create ceramic tiles for the hospital's entrance pillar artwork, with each receiving a replica of their tile as a meaningful keepsake.

Concept Communication
Public spaces



Thank you.

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