



Chinatown Public Art and Interpretation Strategy



Vision:

To pay respect to the Traditional Owners and other cultural groups that established Chinatown and to capture the key historical and cultural stories

Objectives:

- celebrate the existing public art
- expand the public art collection
- support local artists

Who has been involved/Stakeholders?

Nyamba Buru Yawuru Staff and Cultural Reference Group

Broome Chinese Community Committee

Broome Historical Society

Shinju Matsuri

Goolarri Media

Chamber of Commerce

Broome Walking Tours

Old Chinatown residents

Shire of Broome Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC)

Youth Advisory Council (YAC)

Shire of Broome (officers & Council)

Chinatown Stakeholder and Community Reference Group

Chinatown Traders

Chinatown Steering Committee

Note: Details of meeting including dates and attendance can be provided upon request.

How do we tell our stories?



1. Interpretation

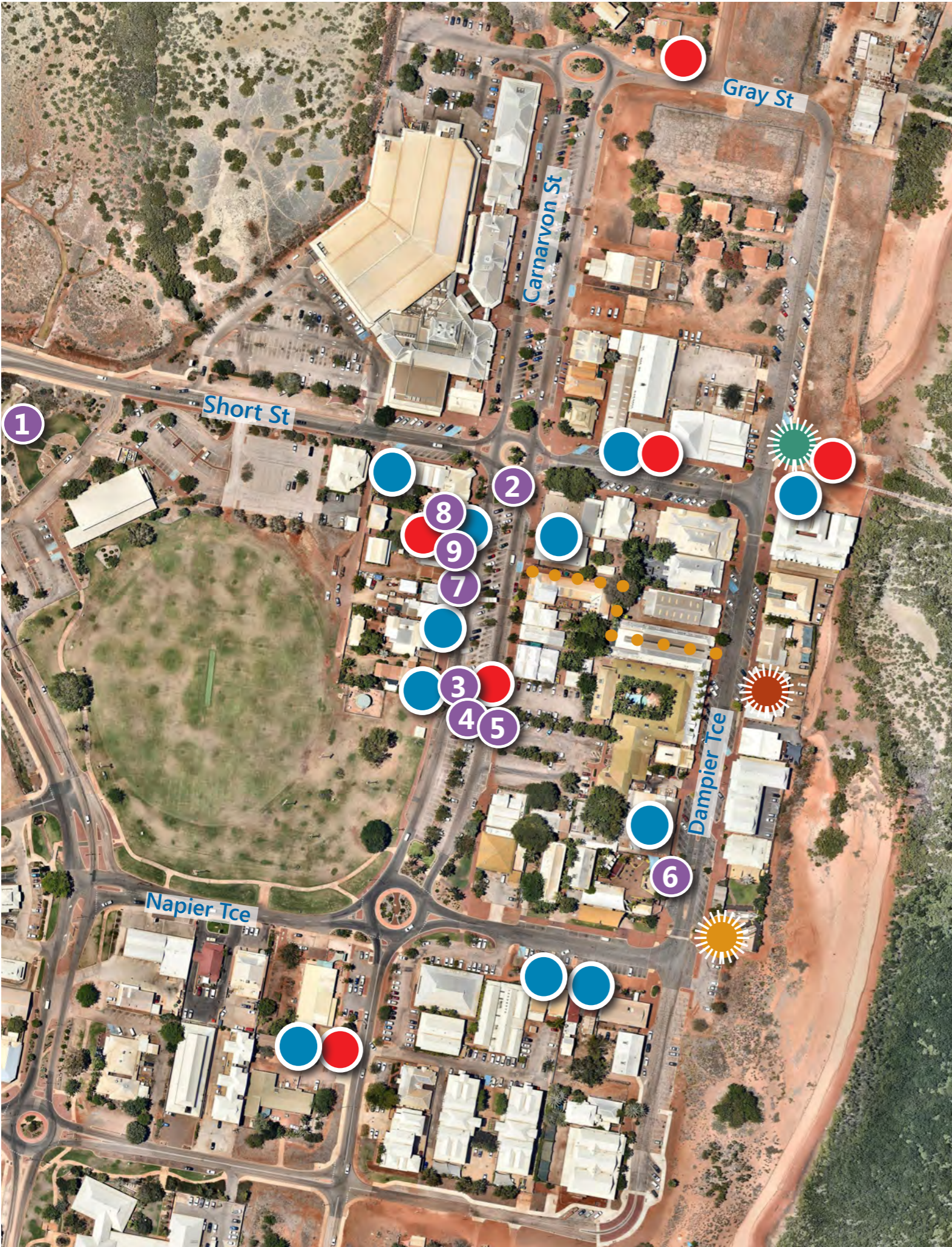


2. Public art



3. Integration into the landscape

Existing Public Art and Interpretation in Chinatown



Existing Heritage Trails & Interpretation

- Jetty to Jetty Trail Sites (Nyamba Buru Yawuru + Shire of Broome)
- Johnny Chi Lane's Free Self Guided Historical Walk (Tenants of Johnny Chi Lane)
- Broome Heritage Trail (Broome Historical Society)
- Streeter's Jetty Interpretation shelter (Shire of Broome)
- Story of the Australian Pearl (Cygnet Bay Pearls)
- Pearl Luggers (Willie Creek Pearls)

Existing Public Art & Memorials

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| 1 Reconciliation Mosaic | 5 'Our Indigenous Pearl Divers' Plaque (2001) |
| 2 WWII Air Raid memorial plaque (2004) | 6 Mural on Oasis wall (Roebuck Bay Hotel) |
| 3 Statues of Hiroshi Iwaki, Tokuchi Kuribayashi, and Keith Dureau (1977) originally part of the Sam Male Memorial on Male Oval | 7 Chinese Gate (Broome Chinese Community) |
| 4 Hard Hat Driver (1999) by Joan Walsh Smith and Charles Smith | 8 Sun Pictures Plaques |
| | 9 Shekki Interpretation Plaques |



Relevant Documents and Current Proposals

- Public Art Master Plan for Broome Town Site 2015
- Town By the Bay, Nyamba Buru Yawuru DRAFT 2017
- Shire of Brome Public Art Guidelines 2014
- Shire of Broome Guidelines for Developers Provision of Public Art - LPP 8.20 2013
- Draft EOI process for procuring public art funded by the Public Art Reserve 2017
- Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places
- Yawuru Gateway Project (NBV)
- Sam Su Lane Mural Project (SoB)
- Shinju Matsuri Chinatown Entry Statement Proposal (Dragon) (Shinju)
- Kimberley Centre for Culture, Art and Story

Interpretation Trail


This plan indicates the potential locations of a Chinatown Interpretation Trail, these locations would be finalised throughout the development phase of the project.

The project would be undertaken by the Broome Historical Society as part of an upgrade to their existing Heritage Trail.

It would be undertaken in close collaboration with key stakeholders, community groups and local families.

The trail may include signage including text and images/ maps/historic photos, creative lighting, sound, an app and/or a brochure.

The purpose of the trail is to explain the old uses of the buildings, highlight interesting historical and cultural facts and introduce the key Broome characters.

 Proposed interpretation trail locations



Public Art Opportunities & Themes

This plan outlines possible types of public artworks, their themes and locations. All the work would need to be further developed in collaboration with key Chinatown stakeholders. The processes for selecting artist, developing art briefs and funding the works will develop as the Chinatown Revitalisation Project progresses.

1 Welcome to Yawuru Country

Theme: Paying respect to the Traditional Owners and welcoming visitors to Chinatown.

Type of work: Large iconic sculptural work

Description: Work to be developed with Yawuru. Final location(s) to be determined. This work may teach people about aspects of Yawuru Country and people.

2 Chinatown Entry Statement

Theme: An iconic welcome to Chinatown

Type of work: Large iconic sculptural work

Description: Working with a well-known artist, the community would produce an artwork that is unique to Broome and represents all the cultures that make up Chinatown.

3 Huabiao

Theme: A formal Chinese welcome

Type of work: Sculptural

Description: There has been a suggestion that a Chinese huabiao (marble pillar) at the Short St roundabout would be an appropriate welcome symbol.

4 Broome Portrait Gallery

Theme: The People of Broome Past and Present

Type of work: Mural/artwork on walls

Description: Large portrait style photos of influential Broome people attached to the Sam Sue Lane fence, this would be very visual as you enter Chinatown.

5 The Shop Keepers

Theme: The celebration of the old shop keepers and their stores

Type of work: Sculptural

Description: An artwork that represents the unique selection of shops and the people who ran them. This might be a sculptural work inspired by an item commonly used by shop keepers such as an abacus.

6 The Sounds of Chinatown

Theme: The development of a unique Broome sound

Type of work: Mural on Roebuck Bay wall

Description: An artwork inspired by the characters and sounds that shaped the Broome music, theatre and film scene. This may include history of Sun Pictures, Bran Nue Dae and local musicians, play writes and actors.

7 The Chinese in Broome

Theme: Celebrating and acknowledging the Chinese community

Type of work: Mural/artwork on walls

Description: An artwork undertaken by the Chinese community to celebrate the Chinese contribution to Chinatown. This may include the numerous festivals held in Chinatown and reference the decorations, colours, lanterns, sounds, food, music, traditions etc associated with the festivals.



8 John Chi Lane

Theme: John Chi Lane was a bustle of activity with many little shops including a pearling cleaning shop, boarding houses, long soup shop, a barber, billiard rooms, a carpenter, a diving boot maker, general stores, and a hotel. During festivals it was decorated with paper flowers, paper lanterns, flags, banners, cherry blossoms, ornamental arches.

Type of work: Mural/artwork on walls/sound

Description: Art work depicting the cultures that made up the town and activities that took place in the lane.

9 Sam Male

Theme: Statue of Sam Male

Type of work: sculpture

Description: The Male family has proposed to donate a sculpture of Sam Male to the Shire to acknowledge the contribution Sam made to the town.

10 Diver's Quarters & the Boat Building Industry

Theme: The Malay and Japanese divers' quarters, boat-building shed and shell sorting sheds used to line this area of the Bay and was the home and workplace of many quintessential Broome characters.

Type of work: sculptural

Description: a sculptural work that might represent the boat building industry or the iconic Japanese Diver's Club entry archway. Final location to be determined.

11 The Pearling Story (timeline)

Theme: A time-line that depicts the history of pearling including traditional uses of pearl shell, the button industry, the hardships of diving, indentured labour and black birding, cultured pearls etc.

Type of work: Interpretation/sculptural

Description: To align with the time-line work outlined as part of the integrated works (point G page 4) a bronze sculpture shall be created that represents the traditional owners involvement in the pearling industry and the original uses of pearl shell.

12 The Tram

Theme: The tram from the 'Old Jetty' bringing goods into Chinatown.

Type of work: Sculptural/Discovery

Description: An artwork inspired by the tram line controllers for switching the line which were located near the corner of Napier Tce and Carnarvon St.

13 The Bay

Theme: The bay as the life source

Type of work: sculpture/interpretation/kinetic

Description: An artwork explaining the importance of the Bay past present and future, this maybe a series of works or a large iconic work in the Bay. Sound and movement may be an interesting way to represent Broome's diverse climate and tides. This may be located anywhere along the foreshore or Bay.

Stories to be integrated into the landscape architecture

The purpose of this plan is to indicate what stories might be integrated into the landscape architectural works. The plan outlines possible methods for integrating the stories into the built form. All the work would need to be further developed in collaboration with key Chinatown Stakeholders.

New surfaces and materials to be influenced by textures and surfaces of the past. For example bottles turned upside were used as footpaths, shell-grit and black sand formed the surface on the tram tracks and lane way and buildings were built from corrugated iron.

A The Common Gate

Theme: acknowledging the existence of the Common Gate and the racial divide in Chinatown

Type of work: Lighting

Description: Light the location of the fence and Morgan's camp area (lighting will need to comply with airport regulations).

B + B Jila

Theme: Identifying the location of some of the permanent fresh water soaks

Type of work: Art work/patterns integrated in to the paving

Description: Work to be developed with Nyamba Buru Yawuru. Final location(s) to be determined.

C Chinatown food shops

Theme: Food was a major part of Chinatown. This works would celebrate and identify some of the key historic food shops and vendors around town.

Type of work: Functional art such as benches (various locations)

Description: The work may take the form of bowl/vessel shaped benches or text about the different shops may be text integrated into the benches or on the ground. This piece would need to be developed with the Historical Society and the old Broome families.

D The Playground

Theme: Circus / Boat building / Mangroves / Growing up in Chinatown

Type of work: Playground

Description: A playground inspired by the history and culture of Chinatown. Several themes have been presented to allow the playground designers opportunities to pick a theme that would suit their intent. The stories of growing up in Chinatown could be a sound or written interpretative elements linked to the playground.

E The Colourful Community Events

Theme: Festivals

Type of work: Shade structures (various locations)

Description: Integrate symbols and items from key historic and cultural events and festivals such as the Merdeka festival, Mooncake Festival, Shinju Matsuri Festival of the Pearl, Hung Seng Festival, Chinese New Year, Japanese Bon Festival.



F The Japanese in Broome

Theme: Highlighting the important role the Japanese community had in Chinatown and to emphasise the beauty and colour they brought to town

Type of work: Mosaic or colourful paving patterns integrated into the paving

Description: An artwork inspired by the colourful patterns of the Japanese kimonos

G The Pearling Story (time-line)

Theme: A time-line that depicts the history of pearling including traditional uses of pearl shell, the button industry, the hardships of diving, indentured labour and black birding, cultured pearls etc.

Type of work: Interpretation / discovery / sculptural / ground

Description: A linear series of panels or inserts in the paving displaying text and photos. This would running the length of Dampier Tce on the Bay side. It is proposed that the three existing bronze sculptures are relocated to be part of the time-line with an additional bronze sculpture installed to represents the Traditional Owners involvement in the pearling industry and the original uses of pearl shell. (refer to the public art plan for details of sculpture)

H Chinatown Now and Then (The Look-out)

Theme: Chinatown now and then / reflection point / waiting place

Type of work: Look out / interpretation / discovery

Description: A raised look out with reference photos/maps so people get a sense of how the town has changed and imagine what it would have been like when the bay was full of boats and town full of activity. The form of the look out my be inspired by Sammy the Dragon or another iconic Chinatown form. This was the site where there was the first passage through the mangroves and the first landing site.

I The Mangroves

Theme: The mangroves

Type of work: functional - seating and structure / interpretation

Description: Descriptive work that explains the ecology of the mangroves, their traditional and current uses, and how they have changed.

J Multi-cultural Chinatown

Theme: The different languages of Chinatown

Type of work: signage

Description: multi-lingual signage on all signs. Locations to be determined.