

Adelaide Botanic Gardens and Botanic Park

Kadaltilla Board Meeting, 18 Sept 2025



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium

Botanical Gardens



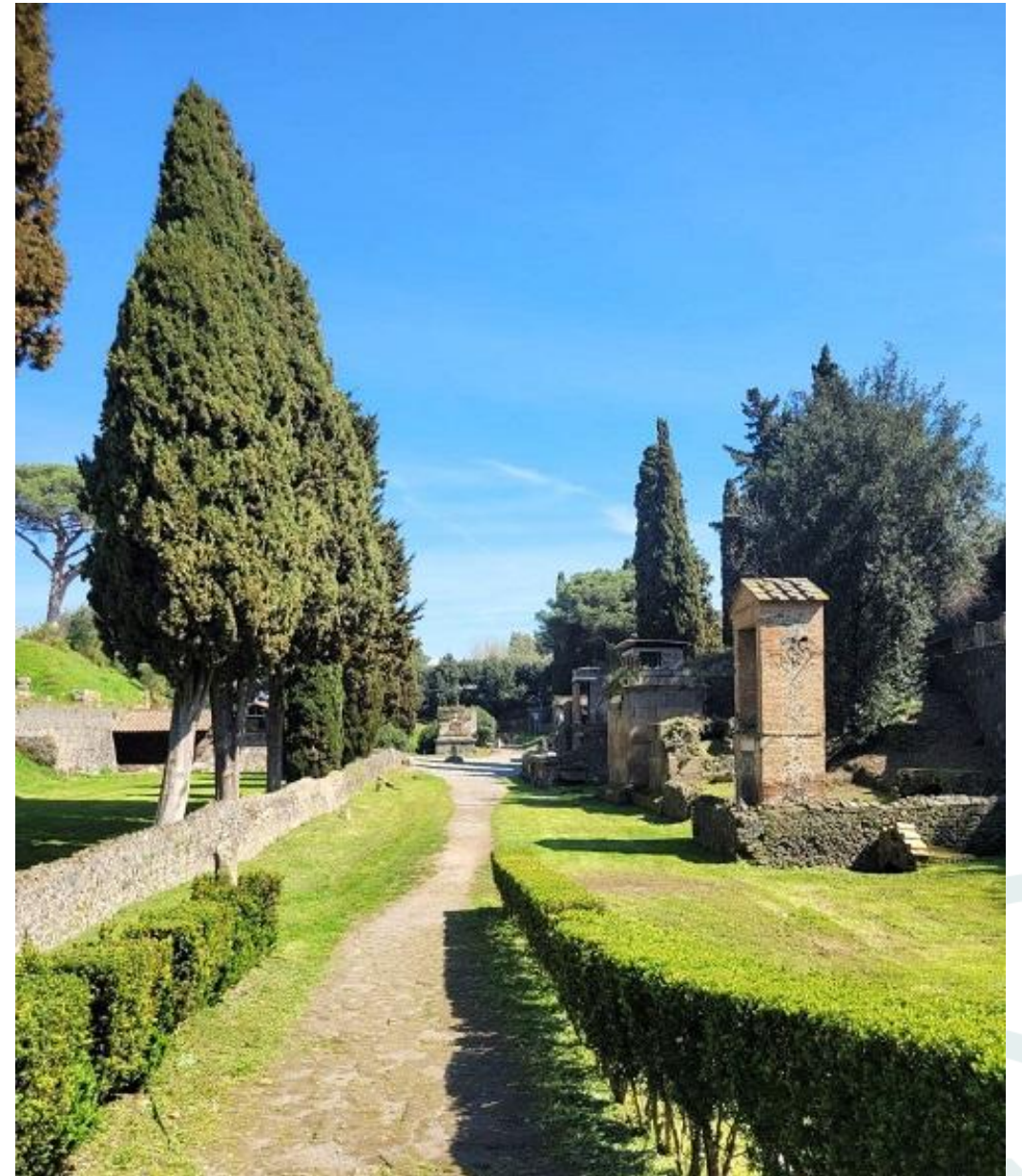
Egypt, 18th Dynasty – 1500-1200 BCE



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium



Pompeii, 79AD

Botanical Gardens

- Orto botanico di Pisa 1544
- Orto botanico di Padova 1545 – continuous



G. Agostini del. incipit

L. Orto Kier in Venezia



Adelaide



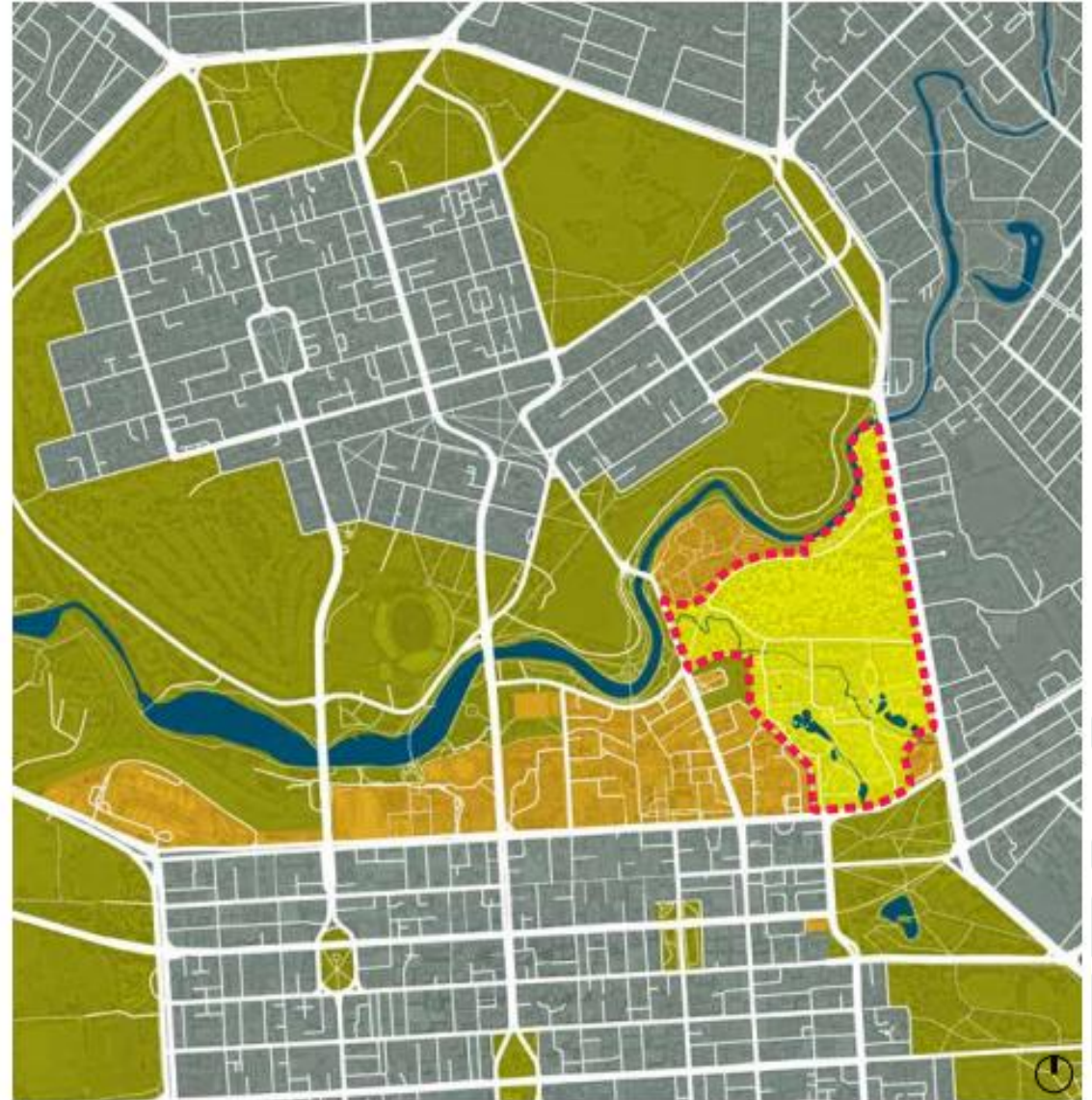
UN  Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park

 Park Lands

 Civil, cultural, scientific, health, research and educational institutions

 Waterways

 City and suburbs



What is a botanic garden?

BGSH Act says we...

- a) Establish and maintain botanic and other gardens for the use and enjoyment of members of the public...
- b) Establish in, or in connection with, its gardens exhibitions of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history
- c) Establish and maintain a herbarium... To retain original specimens included in this herbarium
- d) Accumulate and care for specimens, objects and things of interest in the fields...
- e) Accumulate and classify data...



What is a botanic garden?

BGSH Act says we...

- f) manage all lands and premises vested in or under the control of the Board...
- g) manage all fund vested in or under the control of the Board...
- h) carry out or promote research into matters of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history
- i) disseminate information of interest (in these fields...)

...and new provisions around commercial activities.



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
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What is a botanic garden?

Visitors say:

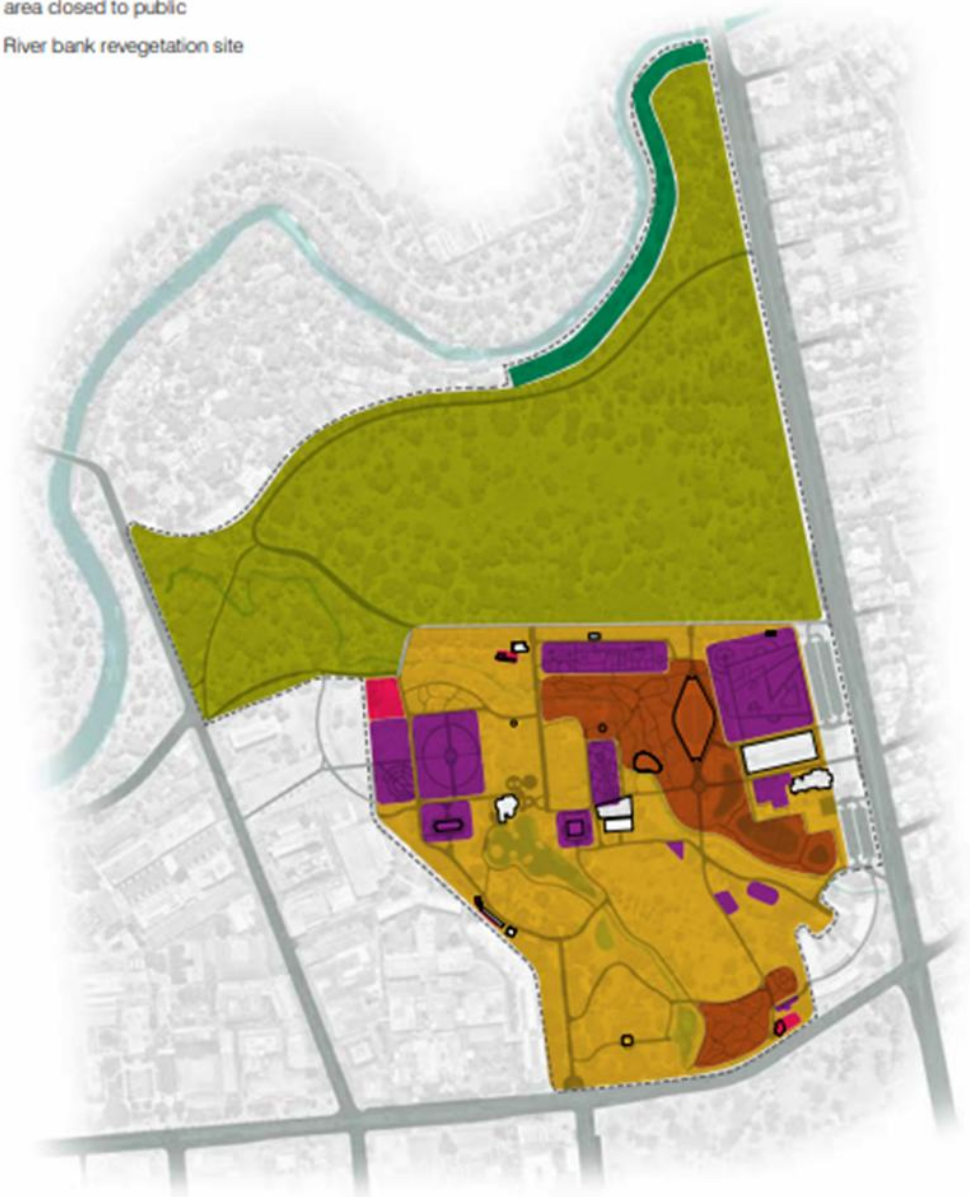
1. It is peaceful and tranquil
2. It showcases a wide diversity of plants
3. It displays plants that appear healthy
4. It makes me feel safe when visiting
5. It has a pleasing physical layout
6. It presents well as a tourist attraction
7. It displays a special collection of plants
8. It offers a broad range of experiences



Garden and Park



- Traditional Botanic Garden - open lawns and gardens
- Arboretum specimen trees and lawns
- Formal - structured display garden
- Informal - naturalistic display garden
- Service area closed to public
- Torrens River bank revegetation site



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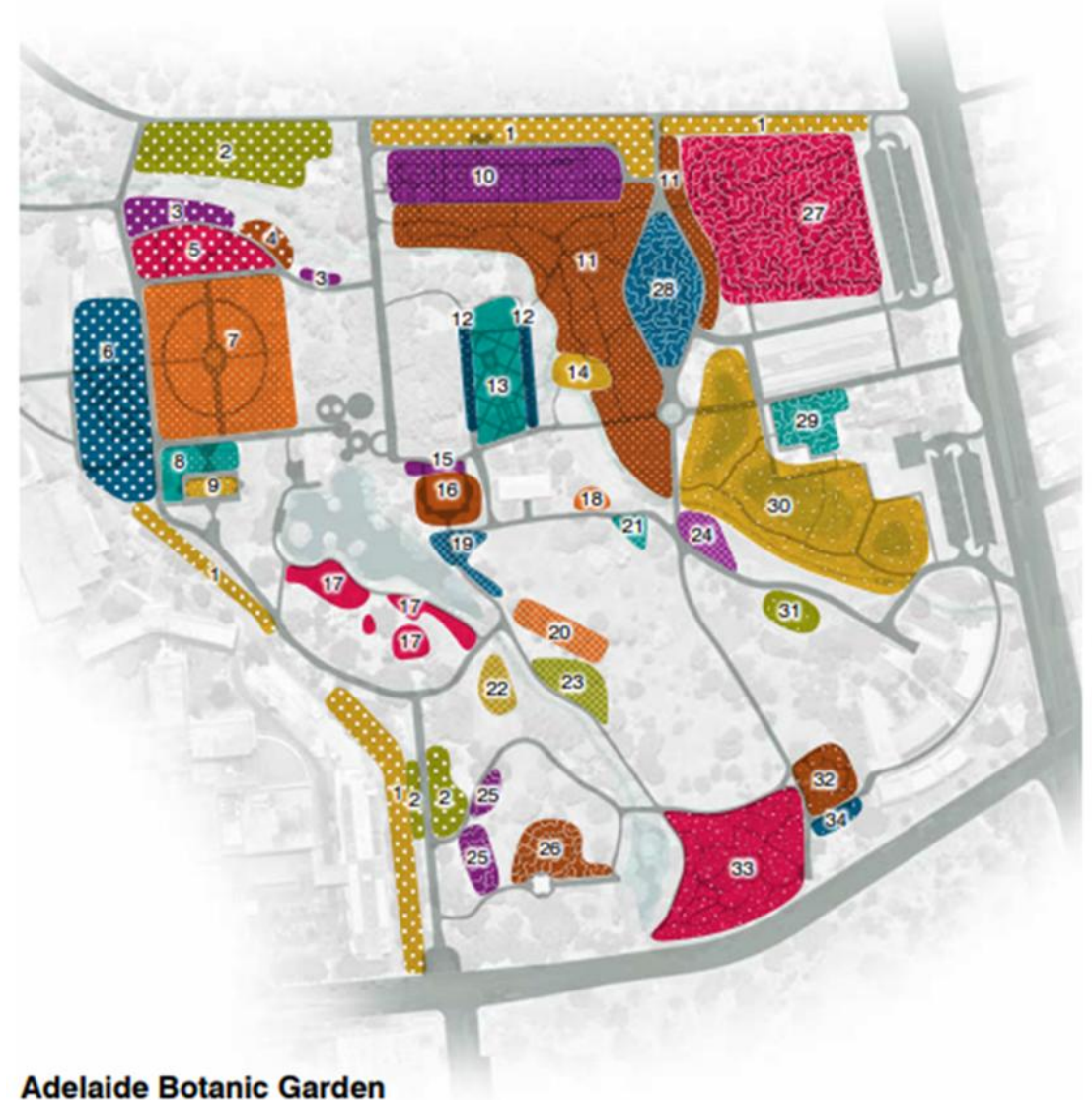




Living Collections

- 6,798 accessioned plants
- 239 plant families (out of 600)
- 1,312 plant genera
- 391 rare/vulnerable taxa (179 Australian, 212 international)

1. Screening Plants	7. Economic Garden	13. Mediterranean Garden	19. Hibiscus Display
2. Palms	8. Cacti & Succulents	14. Simpson Shadehouse	20. Araucaria
3. Solanaceae	9. Madagascar	15. Bromeliad (terrestrial)	21. Dahlia Display
4. Acanthaceae	10. Classground	16. Amazon Waterlily Pavilion	22. Nelumbo Pond
5. Western Wild Garden	11. Australian Forest	17. Cycads	23. Bamboo
6. Garden of Health	12. Wisteria Arbours	18. Native Cycads	24. Aloe



Adelaide Botanic Garden

Living Collections Over Time

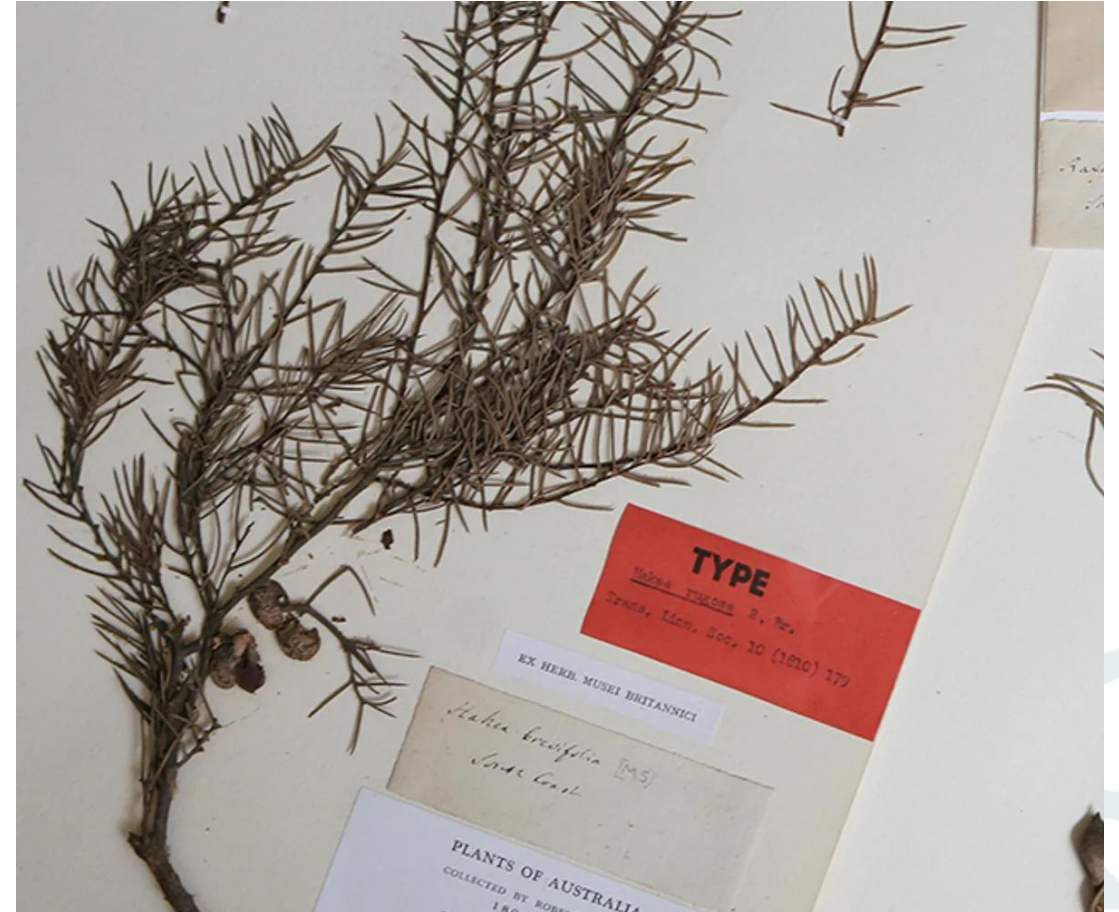
- Diversity
- Longevity
- Conservation
- Long-term Understanding





BGSH Science: Collections

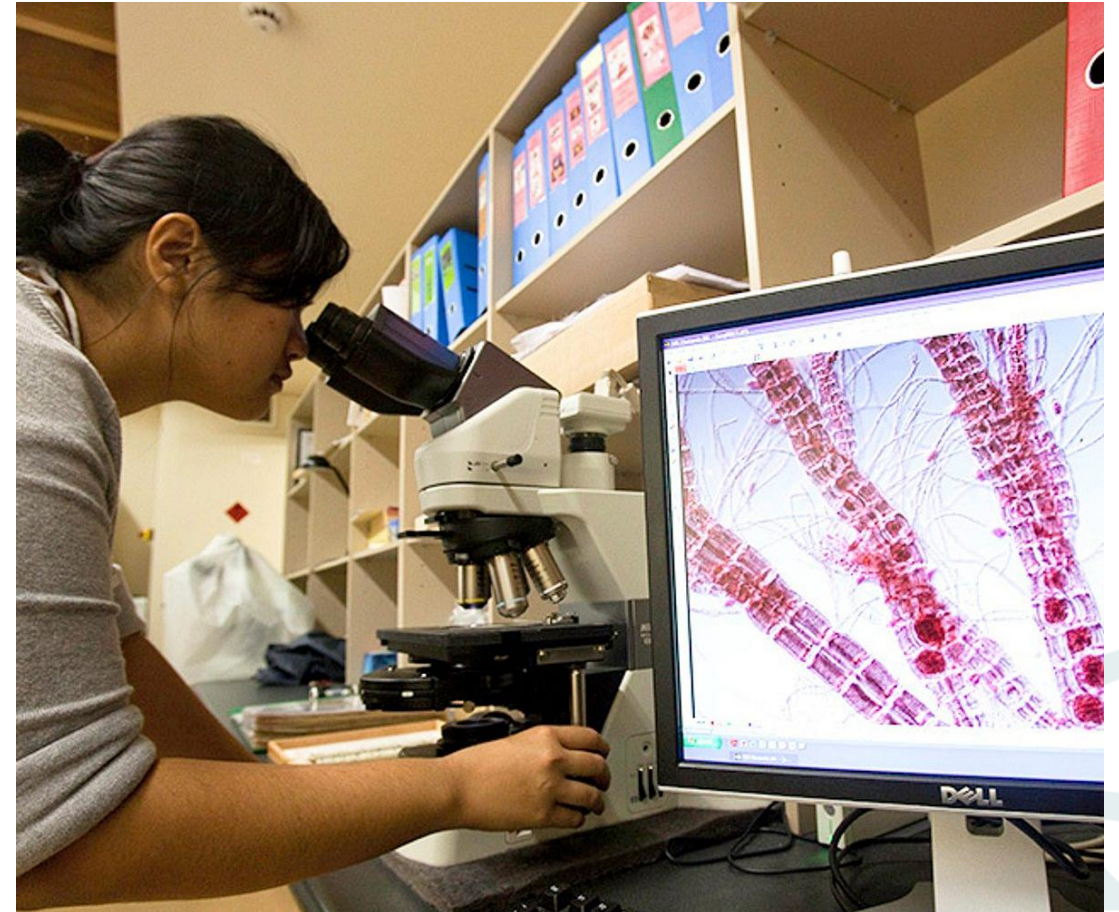
- Over 1,100,000+ Herbarium Specimens
- 800,000 vascular plants + collections of algae, bryophytes, fungi and lichens



Botanical Research

In the last 5 years:

- 654 publications, 40 research grants
- DNA sequences for 1,400 SA plant samples and 760 plant species
- 742,000 accessible plant records (Australian Virtual Herbarium: <https://avh.chah.org.au/>)
- 300 Citizen Scientists on DigiVol (digidol.ala.org.au)



SA Seed Conservation Centre

- 85% of SA Flora in Seed Bank
 - over 2,200 taxa
- 27,000 new specimens added in last 5 years



Public Engagement

An "average" year:

- 2,500,000 visits total
- 1,300,000 to ABG
- 25,000 school students
- Over 30 partnership projects
- 400 volunteers



What visitors come for:

- 35% indicated “**Viewing plants**” as their main activity at the Garden
- 16% indicated “**Relaxing/Reading**” as their main activity at the Garden
- 39% spent “**between two and three hours**” at the Garden
- 60% cited “**Friends/Family**” as the main information source that motivated their visit
- 40% suggested the main role of the Garden was to “**Provide a place of relaxation/wellbeing**”



Adelaide - Festival City



Partnerships



SEPT 2024 ④ APRIL 2025

CHIHULY

IN THE
BOTANIC GARDEN

ADELAIDE



Dale Chihuly, *Sapphire Star* (detail), 2010
9½ x 9½ x 9½", The New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx, installed 2017
© 2010 Chihuly Studio. All rights reserved.
Photographer: Scott Mitchell Leen



“An outstanding international event. The Botanic Garden is a wonderful venue for artistic/cultural presentations. They are strongly supported by ALL age ranges across our extended family. Really joyous, inspiring, and a huge boost to our State’s cultural standing”. – Visitor survey respondent







TOUCH OF GLASS

The colourful and intricate sculptures of contemporary glass artist Dale Chihuly have transformed the Adelaide Botanic Garden into a wonderland that's yours to explore, writes HELEN YOUNG

Emerging the node from the water, *Pantheus* is surrounded by lush shade plants



Glistening glass installations by American artist Dale Chihuly are drawing record attendances at the Adelaide Botanic Garden by day ... and by night.

The garden enjoyed its highest ever visitation figures during the recent long weekend as only the third city in the world outside the US to host Chihuly's massive outdoor exhibition, after London and Singapore.

The exhibition, which runs until April 29 and is an Australian exclusive, features 15 large-scale, sculptural installations created by the 83-year-old Seattle glass artist, who previously visited Adelaide in conjunction with the city's Jam Factory design centre in 2000.

Director of exhibitions for Chihuly Studio, Britt Cornett, says she has been working with the Adelaide team since visiting the Botanic Garden more than a year ago.

"There are literally thousands of pieces of hand-blown elements that make up the totality of the exhibition," Cornett says.

"From the moment we came out and wandered the garden, we spent three days here just taking in how incredibly beautiful it is."

"There's something really spectacular about being in the southern hemisphere, and being in Australia, that has presented this amazing backdrop that we have not been able to work in before. We had this vision of what we expected it might be, and I think it's probably exceeded that."

The display is free to visit during the day, but a special ticketed Chihuly Nights event



Dale Chihuly's Glacier Ice and Lapis Chandelier, main picture; Lime and Lava Red Tower, right; and Macchia Forest (detail). Pictures: Nathaniel Willson

1 - ADAM WILLSON



Story PATRICK McDONALD

LET THERE BE LIGHT

The Dale Chihuly glass exhibition at Adelaide Botanic Garden is setting records - and Advertiser readers can take advantage of a special ticket offer

“IT'S A DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE THAN SEEING THE WORK WITH NATURAL DAYLIGHT



showcases the works with dramatic nocturnal illumination from 6.45pm to 10pm each Thursday to Saturday.

"It's a dramatically different experience than seeing the work with natural daylight," Cornett says.

"It gives a visitor the opportunity to have two very different experiences, and you can't always do that in a traditional gallery setting."

"Light has been something that's critical to Chihuly's career from the beginning. He understood the importance of light transmitted on and through the glass. That's why he was drawn to the medium in the first place."

■ A full program of associated music performances, science talks and JamFactory exhibitions can be found at botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/chihuly
■ Advertiser readers can buy discount Chihuly Nights tickets for \$20 in October-November using the code advertiser@chihulynights
■ Book at events.humanitix.com/chihuly-nights

OCTOBER 19-20, 2024 SA WEEKEND 11

LATEST

Eight spectacular reasons you can't miss Chihuly's Adelaide Botanic Garden exhibition



By Glam Adelaide

Posted on September 27, 2024

THE AUSTRALIAN

ARTS > VISUAL ARTS

Chihuly's glassworks are a once-in-a-lifetime experience for botanic garden visitors

By TIM RICHARDSON

5:00am November 14, 2024

0 Comments

The genesis of Dale Chihuly's ongoing Garden Cycle, which started in 2001, lies in the artist's interest in and appreciation of historical glasshouses. On one level, it was simply the thrill of exhibiting "glass inside glass" that first drew him to formal botanic garden environments.

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State H



Dale Chihuly's Sapphire Star at Adelaide Botanic Garden; (inset) Dale Chihuly's Macchia Forest. Pictures: Nathaniel Willson

Glass shatters garden visitor record

Patrick McDonald

The Chihuly glass exhibition has smashed attendance records at Adelaide Botanic Garden, with more than 180,000 visitors in its first three weeks.

Its outdoor display of 15 large-scale installations by

leading US glass artist Dale Chihuly broke the previous daily visitation record on its opening day, September 27, with 10,529 attendances. A new record of 15,576 visitors was later set on October 7.

"The buzz surrounding the unveiling of the Chihuly works, combined with school

holidays and a welcome warm start to spring, has us tracking over double our attendance against the same period last year," Botanic Gardens director Michael Harvey said.

Chihuly in the Botanic Garden runs until April 29. It is free to visit during the

day. Advertiser readers can purchase discount \$20 tickets for the special Chihuly Nights event in October-November using the code advertiser@chihulynights

Book at events.humanitix.com/chihuly-nights



NIGHTLY AT 5PM

GLASS GARDEN

10 NEWS FIRST
ADELAIDE

HIGHLIGHTS

- ✿ 1.4 Million attendees
- ✿ 201,000 tickets sold
- ✿ 98% satisfaction rate
- ✿ 5,000 new plants

VISITORS



ECONOMIC IMPACT

- ✿ \$55.7M economic benefit to SA
- ✿ \$10.9M spent by South Australians
- ✿ \$103.3M total economic footprint
- ✿ \$1,290 average tourist spend
- ✿ 195,000 visitor nights
- ✿ \$6.12M wellbeing benefit
- ✿ 303 new jobs created



UNOFFICIAL





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South Australia

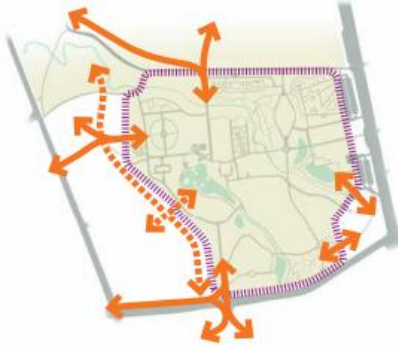


Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium

Where to next? Planning and Design Principles

8.1 Precinct Connections

Enhance the presence and identity of the Garden and make open physical and conceptual connections to the public realm and institutions neighbouring the Garden.



8.3 Entries and Arrival Experience

Enhance through consistent theming the major and lesser entries to both Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park in a manner appropriate to a significant State cultural institution.



8.5 Destinations

Acknowledge the legacies of the favourite visitor drawcards that exist in the Garden and seek opportunities to further develop existing or create new complimentary attractions within the Garden.



8.2 Garden Structure

Acknowledge the existing structure developed over the last century and a half, as a mix of 'formal and geometric' with 'informal and flowing' spaces, responding to site topography and culturally informed interventions.



8.4 Themed Precincts and Trails

Within the existing garden structure, develop themed precincts and trails across the Garden to provide a deeper, more engaging visitor experience for those that seek it.



8.6 Waterways

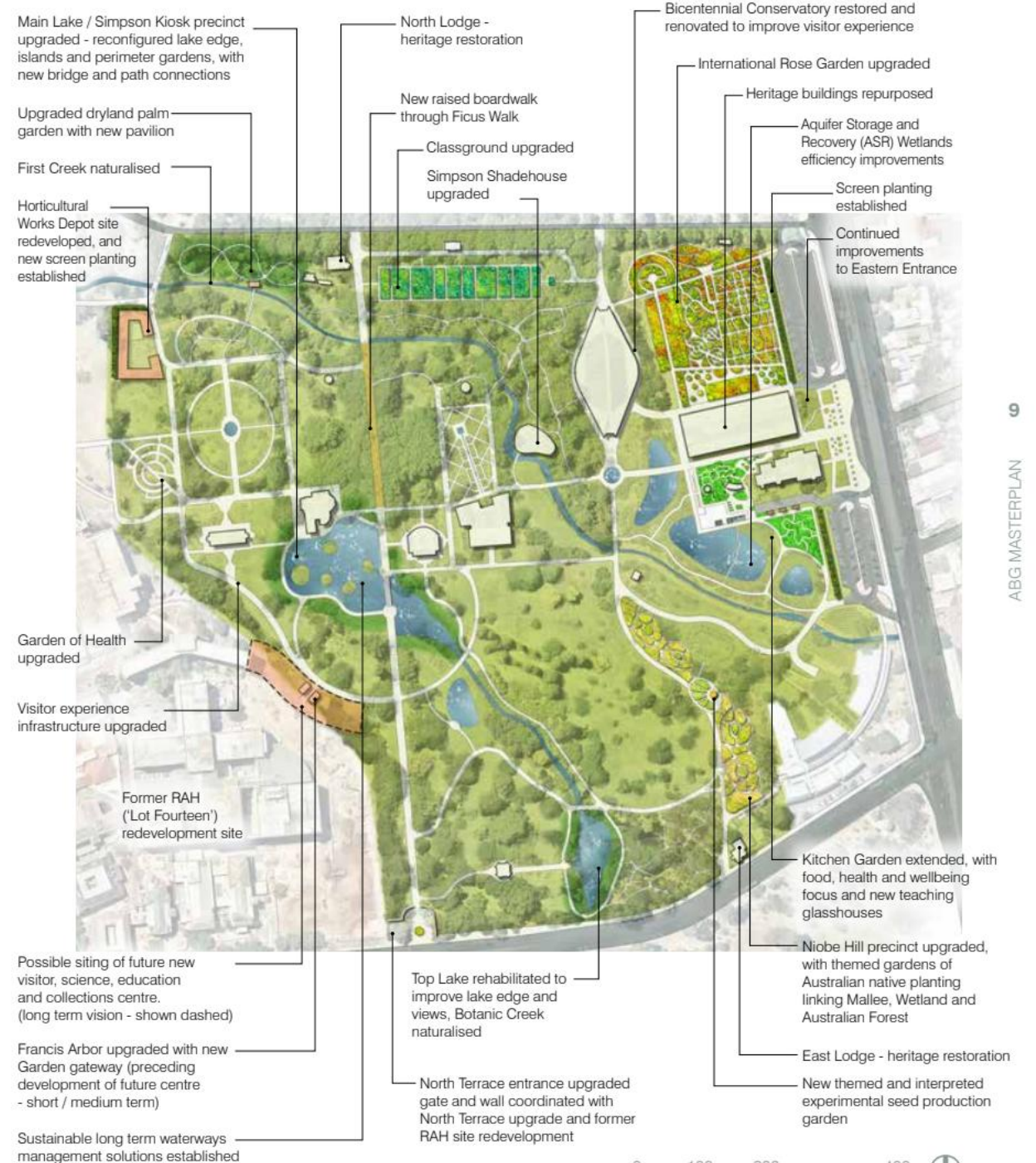
Improve the aesthetic, biodiversity and water conservation values of the Garden's waterways.



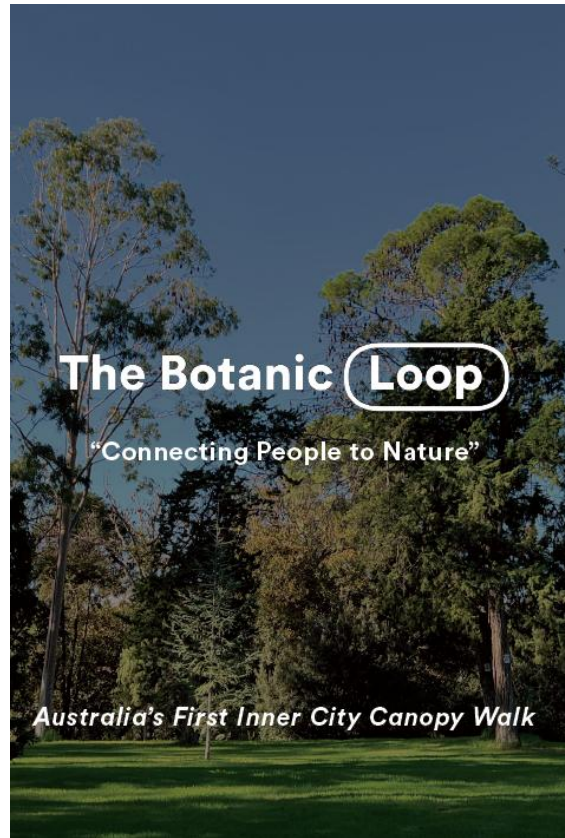
Masterplan

Recent and Current Priorities:

- Eastern Entrance ✓
- Upgrade Rose Garden ✓
- Simpson Kiosk Upgrade ✓
- Seed Production Garden ✓
- Lot Fourteen Integration
- North Terrace Entrance
- Classground Redevelopment



Botanic Loop by TreeClimb



The Botanic Loop would start at the **Friends Gate** alongside the North Lodge and circumnavigate the bat colony. Created with **3 viewing platforms** the loop would use **9 steel poles and 21 approved trees** finishing alongside the Zoo entrance. The **750m walk** would give users a new perspective of the Gardens while providing a unique opportunity to **captivate & educate** new and existing user of the gardens.

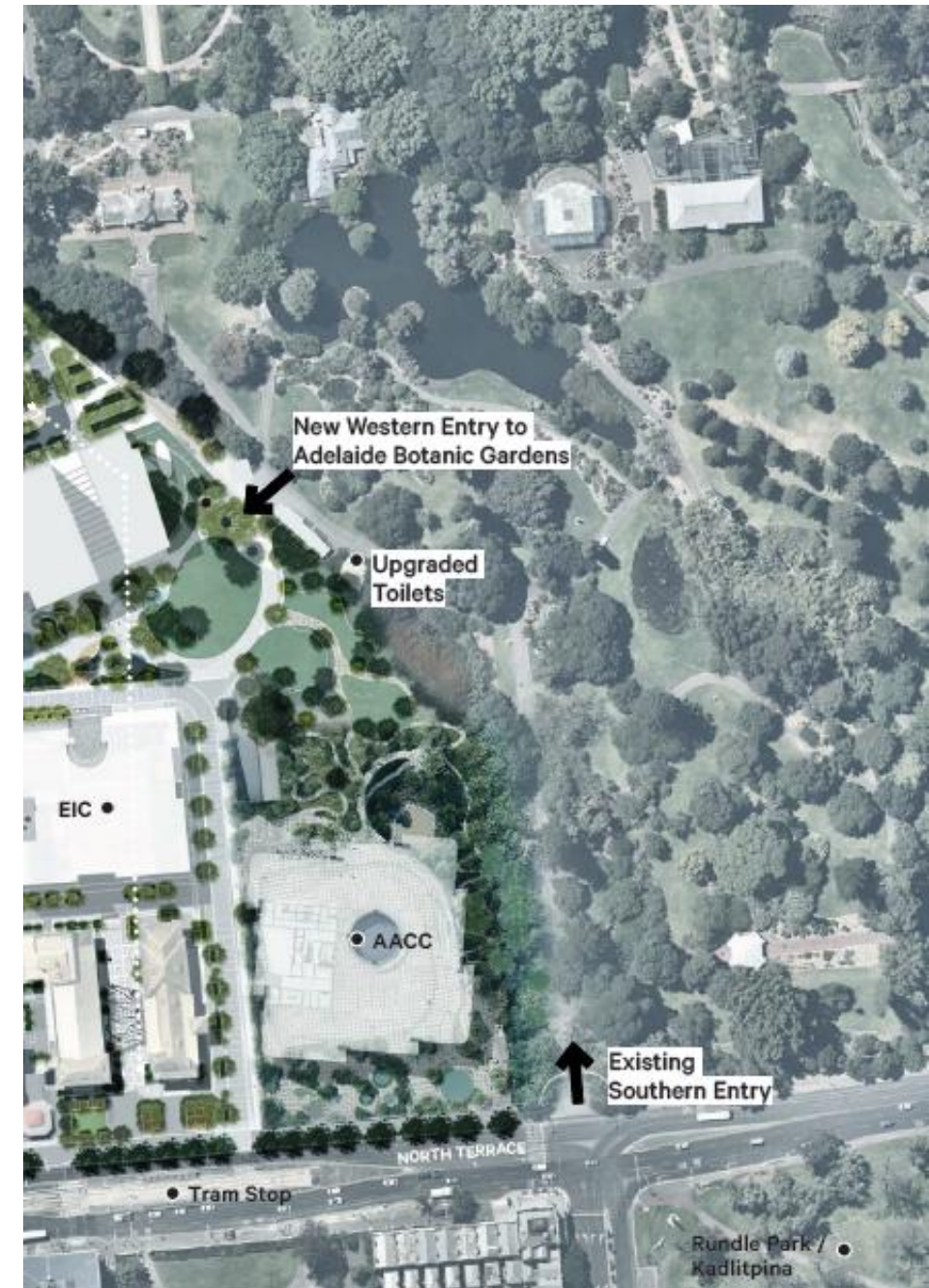


Botanic Loop

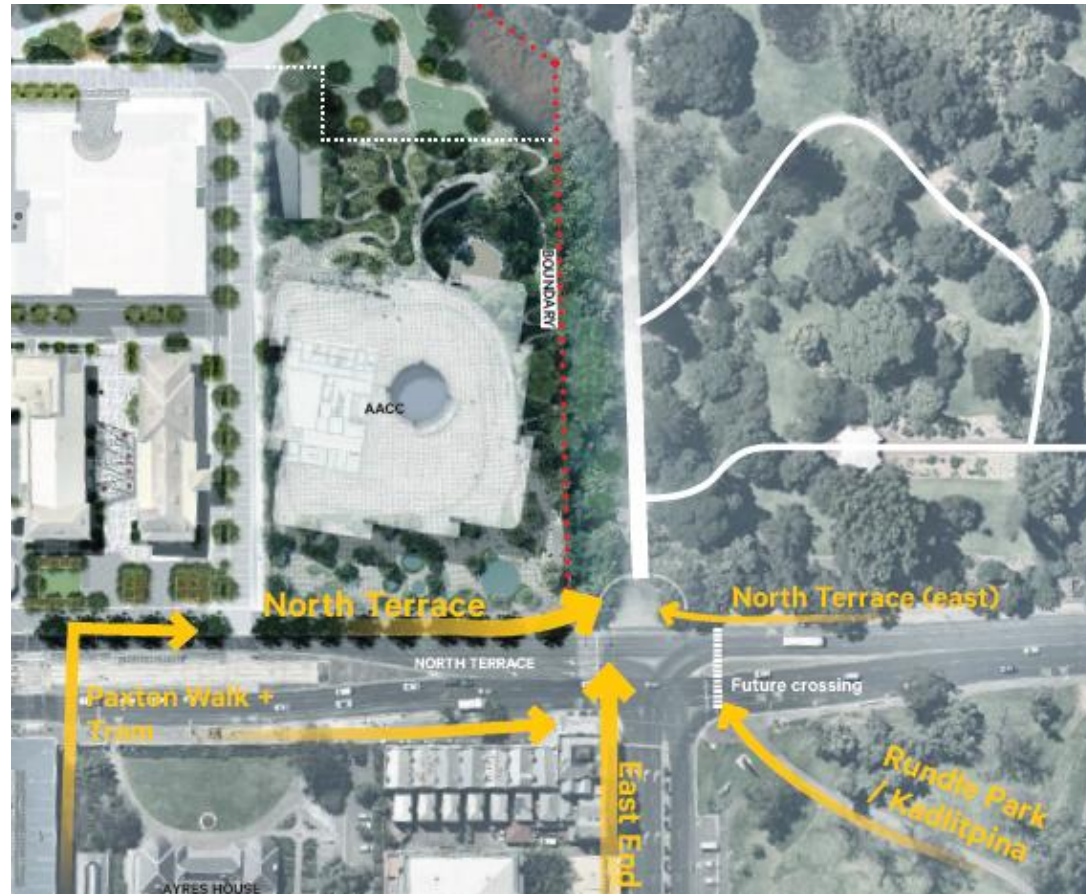
- DA Approved by City of Adelaide
- Currently finalising EPBC Act approval from Commonwealth
- April / May 2026 Construction
- Opening Oct 2026



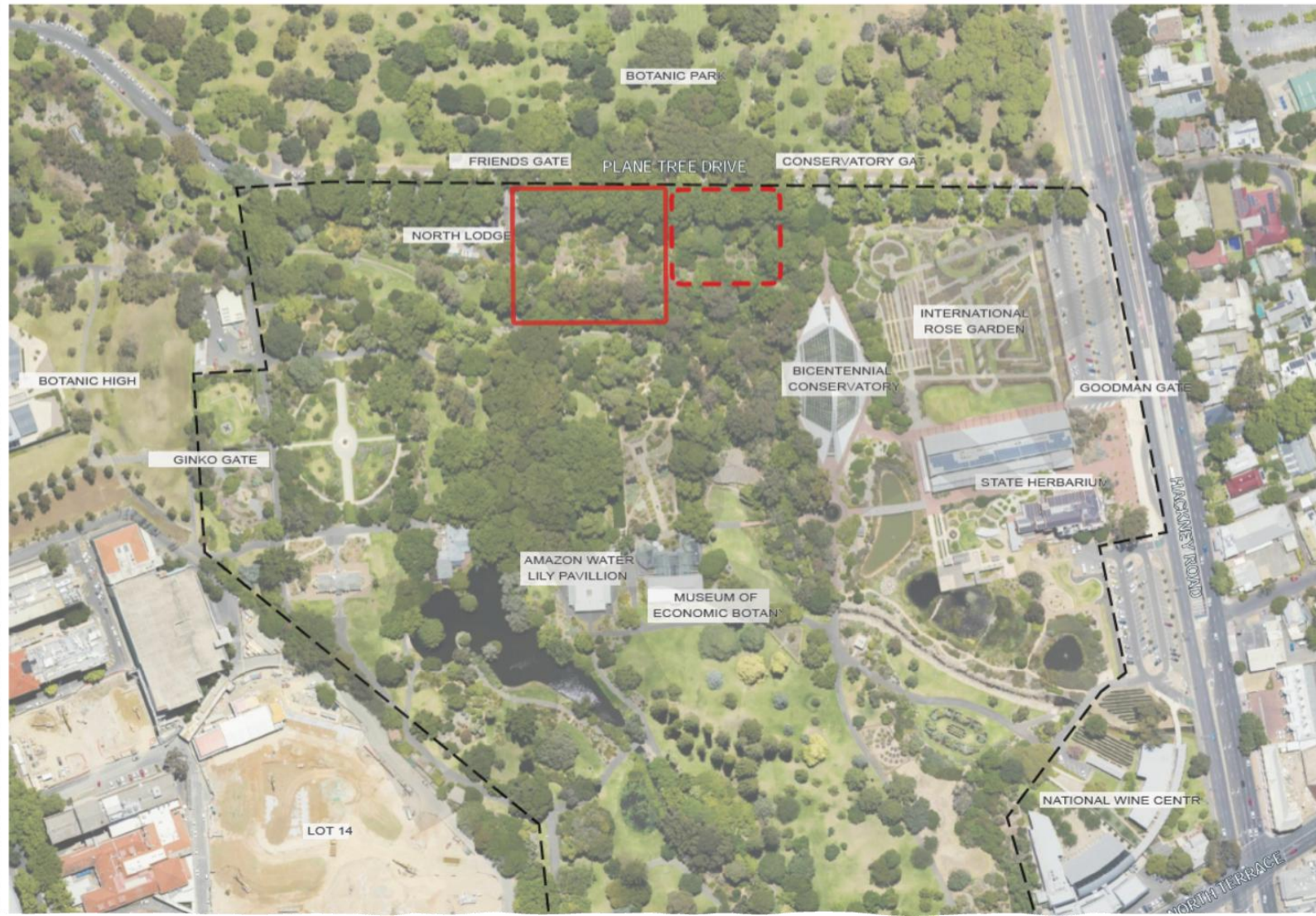
Lot Fourteen Integration



North Terrace Entrance



Classgrounds Redevelopment



- Project Scope
- - - Potential Additional Scope
- - - Adelaide Botanic Gardens (ABG)

What is a Botanic Garden?

A botanic garden is a specialized garden dedicated to the collection, cultivation, and display of a wide variety of plants, each labelled with its botanical name. These gardens serve multiple purposes, including scientific research, education, conservation, and public enjoyment. They are essential for plant research and conservation, studying plant genetics, ecology, and biology.

Botanic gardens provide educational opportunities for students, researchers, and the general public to learn about plant species, their habitats, and their uses. Additionally, they play a crucial role in conserving endangered plant species by maintaining living collections and seed banks, while also offering a space for recreation and appreciation of plant diversity.







Who Benefits?

- As of the 2021 Census, South Australia had approximately **198,000 children aged 0–9**.
- Across the state, there are about **229,000 carers**, covering all forms of caring roles

Children 0–9: There are about **198,000 children** in this age group in South Australia (based on 2021 Census).

Carers: There are around **229,000 individuals** providing care in some capacity (broadly defined).

Overlap: Not all carers care for 0–9 year-olds; some care for older children, those with disabilities, or elderly persons.

Kinship/Grandcarers: At least **2,200 children** are under the care of registered grandcarers, with broader estimates placing the number of children in informal kinship care closer to **7,000**

Formal Care: Around **4,000 children** are in formal care arrangements.



Broader Benefits

Greater childhood engagement in nature benefits society by **reducing health burdens, boosting learning outcomes, strengthening communities, fostering environmental stewardship, saving costs, and enriching cultural identity.**

1. Health and Wellbeing Benefits: Reduced long-term healthcare costs and a healthier, more resilient population.
2. Educational and Cognitive Benefits: Higher educational achievement and a workforce better prepared for complex problem-solving.
3. Social and Community Benefits: Stronger social capital, reduced antisocial behaviour, and safer communities.
4. Environmental Stewardship: A generation more committed to tackling climate change and biodiversity loss.
5. Economic Benefits: Long-term economic resilience and reduced public expenditure.
6. Cultural and Identity Benefits: Greater cultural awareness, respect for Country, and intergenerational knowledge transfer.



**Play the Botanic Way!
The joy of discovering
global plant diversity.**

Thank you, and see you in the gardens...



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Questions



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Chihuly Logistics



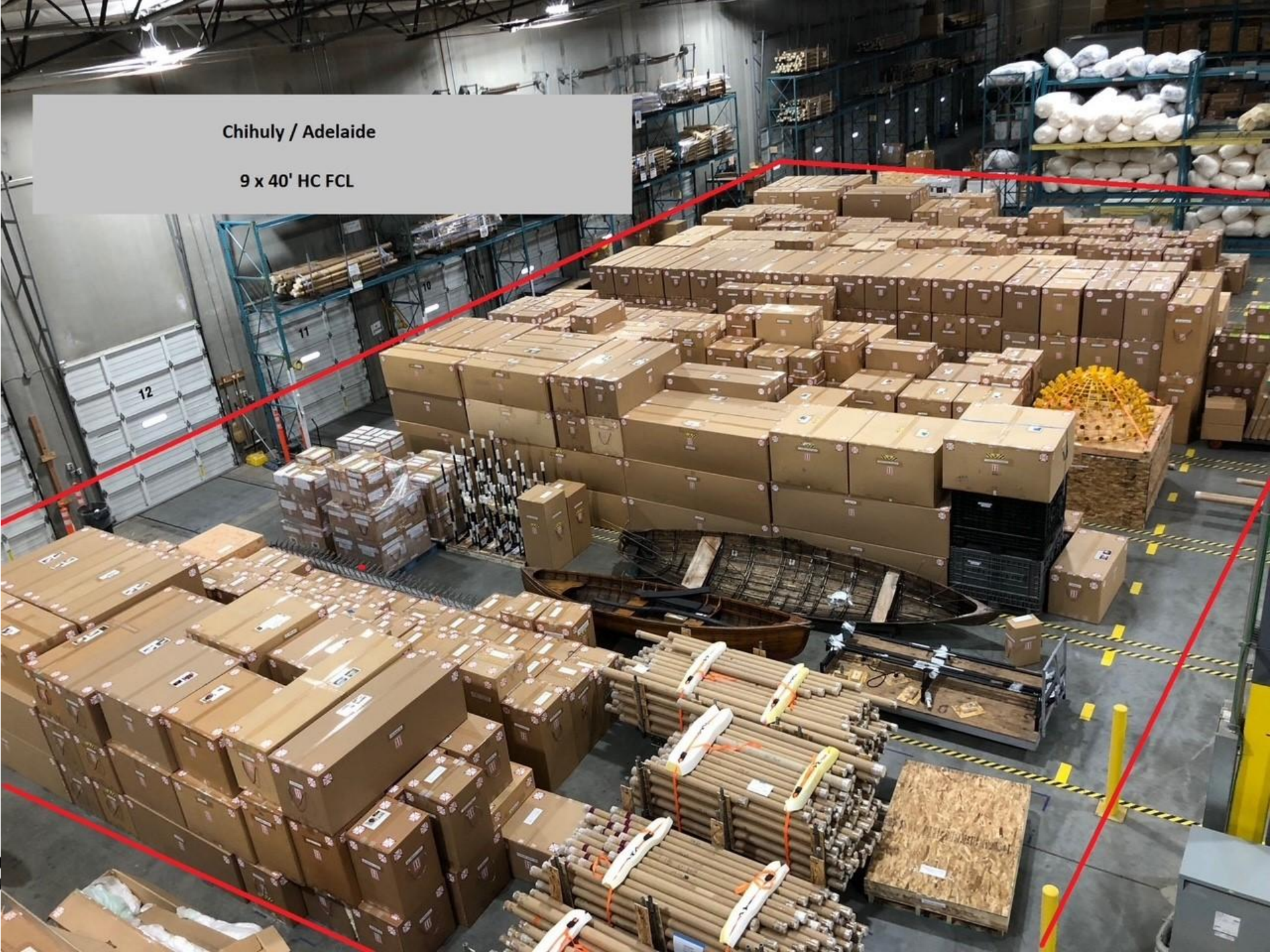
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Chihuly / Adelaide

9 x 40' HC FCL







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