

MICHAEL SMITH & ASSOCIATES

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN

CURRENT PROJECTS

The Parratt Residence

We prepared the concept the documentation plans for the rear garden to include a netball/basketball key, pathway, and appropriate shrub planting over a 3 metre wide easement and two sections of retaining walls. The rear garden has a considerable slope, hence the need for retaining walls. After considerable effort in finding a landscape contractor to undertake the work, the contract was awarded to Sustainable Outdoor Connections, who commenced demolition and earthworks in early October 2023 and have made very good progress throughout October.

Four Recreation Reserves Masterplans- Baw Baw Shire

Our ongoing working association with Baw Baw Shire Council continued in assisting Council's Recreation Project Officer Planner, in preparing the graphic AutoCAD masterplans of four recreation reserves within the Shire. Council's Recreation Project Officer prepared the key directions for each reserve as a list and we imported the list to each plan and prepared the appropriate graphic layout to represent the key directions.

Cobblebank Subdivision Rockbank- Framework Planting

We recently completed stages 1, 1B, and 2 of the formative street tree layout for the new light industrial estate south-east of Melton. We prepared opinions of probable costs for the preparation of nature strips in terms of cultivation, soil preparation, grassing, and tree planting. We worked closely with Paul Farrell of PGF Projects Planning to Development, who is coordinating the consultant team, which includes traffic, lighting and civil engineers

WH Robinson Reserve, AH Capp Reserve and JC Donath Reserve

Darebin City Council engaged MSA as a successful panellist, to provide Landscape Architecture services to Council. MSA engaged Brent Gordon, now principal of Sports Design Group as our subconsultant, to prepare the documentation to replace the drainage and irrigation to all three reserves. WH Robinson Reserve requires the most work, which includes reprofiling the crossfall and spreading a layer of course growing medium to establish couch grass this summer, to enable soccer to commence in early April next year. As subconsultants to MSA, Surfcoast Surveying undertook the feature and levels survey of the three reserves, and Ground Science took soil samples at each to undertake chemical and physical analysis of amelioration requirements in terms of nutrients and drainage.

DR Atkinson Playspace Reservoir

As a panellist on the City of Darebin's consultant list, we were awarded the design contract to prepare concept plans to contract documentation for the replacement of the existing dated play apparatus at DR Atkinson Reserve in Reservoir. We met with Council Officers, Christina Plant and Todd Edward Hunter on site to discuss the requirements from Council's perspective. We are in the process of selecting play apparatus and the preparation opinions of cost for the supply and installation of each apparatus to ensure we don't exceed Council's construction budget.

Newsletter

SPRING 2023

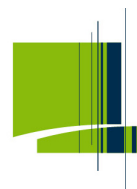


Parratt residence; retaining wall and court construction, including painted fences



WH Robinson Recreation Reserve; concept for irrigation by SDG, as our subconsultant to Council

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NEW PROJECTS

Rollo Street Park- Yarragon

Baw Baw Shire Council recently engaged our practice and subconsultant team, OPS Engineers, Workshop Architecture, Paoli Smith-Creative, Harlock Consulting, Stantec Lighting, and Econstream, to prepare a revised masterplan for the former primary school site within central Yarragon. The town has an interesting eclectic mix of retail shops and has become a popular stopping spot for travellers on the Princes highway. The former school site is only 100 metres south of the main retail strip. The 0.6 Hectare flat site, offers major opportunity to connect physically and visually to the retail precinct and provide carparking within the adjoining laneway to the site. The site has several groups of trees including several specimen trees. Our role is to work closely with Baw Baw Shire Council's Project Team and the Landscape Architects undertaking the street precinct design and documentation, then the local First Nations People, the Business Association and to the local community to ascertain the best use of the park to assist in enhancing the township as an already popular destination place.

Kiewa River Community Park- Concept Design

Indigo Shire Council engaged our practice to work closely with the local community of Kiewa and Tangambalanga in the review of the Masterplan undertaken in 2021, to then complete a revised Masterplan for the Kiewa River Community Park and concept layout. Access to the Kiewa River adjacent to the site is important, as are the two existing large sheds of the former Catchment Management Authority. One shed is currently used as the Men's Shed. We are awaiting the Council's discussions with the community on the possibility of the base for the Men's Shed being located in Tangambalanga. We are currently preparing the AutoCAD preliminary concept plan, preparatory to undertaking a meeting in-person with the community and Council's Project Team.

Bundoora Primary School

Haskell Architects engaged our practice to visit the primary school to critique several sections of slopes used extensively by children for play and activities. We inspected the school on several occasions to ascertain zones and how to control erosion and create more functional use. Our work will focus on the needs of locals.

Kerang to Koondrook Rail Trail

We are in the final stages of engineering and signage detailed design and contract documentation. OPS Engineers have prepared the structural drawings for the 22 kilometre trail. Paoli Smith -Creative prepared the interpretive wayfinding and warning signage for the trail.

Bennett Road Subdivision- Gisborne Framework Planting

Working with Damian Loughnan of G2 Urban Planning, we met with the two property owners intending to subdivide their properties south-east of Gisborne to 2 hectare lots. We are to prepare the buffer planting plans to mainly the new internal road boundaries. Fortunately the long-standing owners established formative tree planting to their main boundaries years ago. We will be meeting with Macedon Ranges Town Planner on the layout once preliminary plans have been prepared.

Newsletter

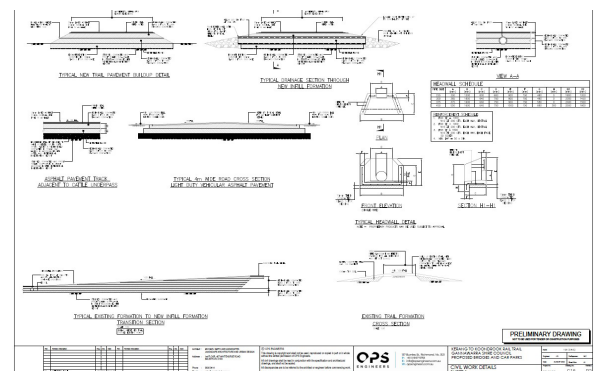
SPRING 2023



Site of the Rollo Street Park

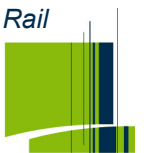


Kiewa River community park site; existing conditions



One of OPS Engineers' Civil Works Drawings, Kerang to Koondrook Rail Trail

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NEW PROJECTS

Northcote Golf Course Trail and North Park

We prepared the layout for the trail with OPS Engineers, A.S. James, Ryder Consulting and Surfcoast Surveying, all assisting to prepare the concept layout for the 800 metre long trail to the eastern edge of the golf course. Several holes and greens have been adjusted to make way for additional community open space to the eastern edge of the golf course. A key component of our work has been the preparation of the concept plan for the nature-based playspace within a well treed corner. Space to be now known as North Park. Council is seeking community comments on the trail layout and North Park between November this year and February 2024.

NEW STAFF

Jee Joon

The practice welcomes Jee Joon, a graduate Landscape Architect, with over two years of experience in landscape design, drafting and rendering. He has a Diploma and Bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from RMIT University and Singapore Polytechnic. Jee Joon has joined the practice to work on a range of multi-disciplinary projects.

Sally Parsons

Welcome to Sally Parsons, a graduate Landscape Architect, who joined the practice to work on a range of multi-disciplinary projects having graduated from the University of Melbourne's Bachelor of Design majoring in Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning. She has a strong foundation and genuine interest in design principles and horticulture to achieve sustainable landscape responses. Sally is completing her Certificate in Horticulture at Melbourne Polytechnic.

Sarah Winch

Sarah recently joined the practice to assist with administrative duties, particularly in the preparation of major multi-disciplinary tender submissions. She is about to complete the Bachelor of Arts Degree with Honours, majoring in Philosophy, Politics and International Relations.

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*The site for North Park,
part of the Northcote Golf
Course*

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