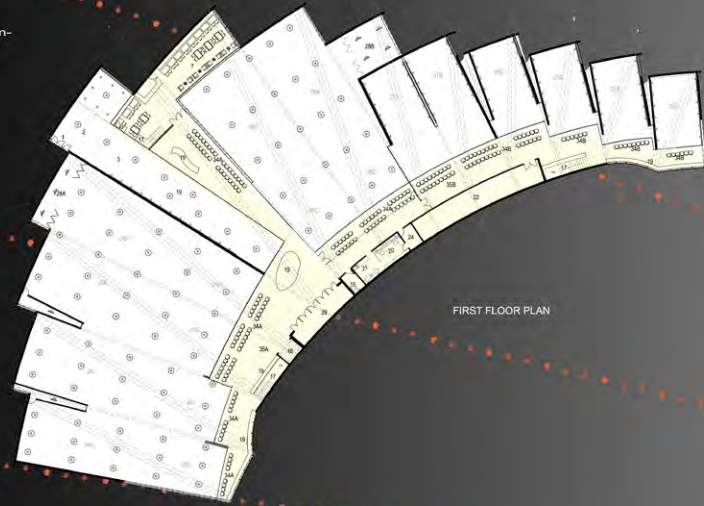
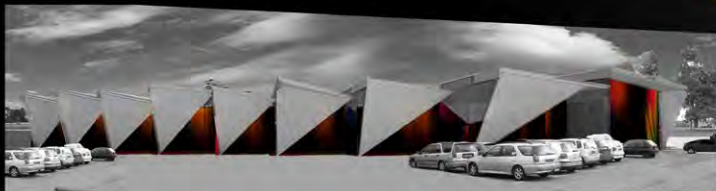
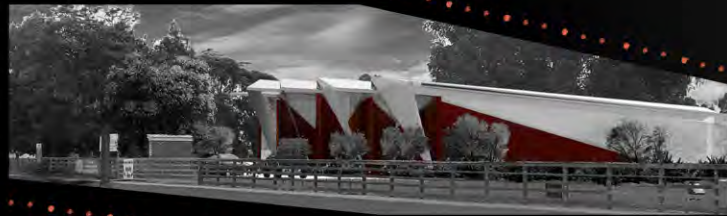


LUCKNOW RECREATION CENTRE

NOL

The design responds to questions of when a building becomes architecture - responds immediately to the functional and spatial requirements of a local community, but in doing so, is proactive and positive in creating engagement, and not just a passing, incidental experience.

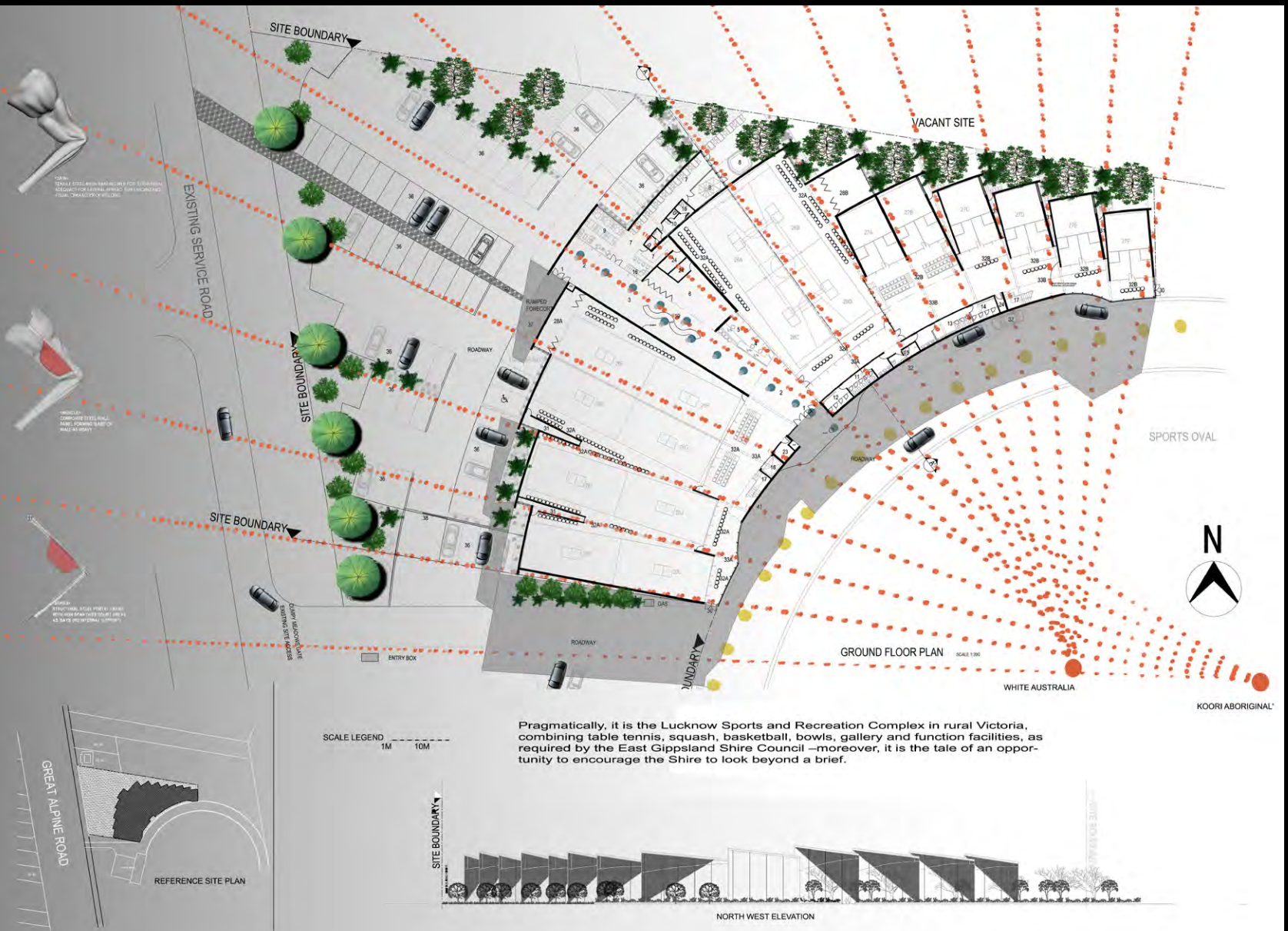


The design simultaneously explores relationships between:

1. Native Koori and White Australia cultures, and the
2. Sport/health ambitions and the (anatomy and histology of the) human body...

In doing so, it creates a formal public building of stature and prominence to draw tourist interest, as well as promoting the value of sport and health in the rural community. An innate organic architecture is created, by way of the dialogue between the building elements, between and within the various cultures in the community and between the site and its context.

- The dispersed and varied break-up of the community encourages the use of common anthropological qualities of a building. Unconsciously recognisable as universally appropriate, and expressive of simple, generic design principles.
- Modular building design of repeatable/flexible building units encourages replication of building in other rural areas, able to be modified/adapted to the constraints of different sites, as well as the sites themselves being 'mapped'.
- site is mapped as a narrative, a manner consistent with Aboriginal paintings descriptive of local landscapes
- 2. 'interference pattern' of cultures extruded three-dimensionally as built form
- 3. axial/radial lines linking site with its greater context, warmly embracing the visitor but also 'reaching out' to the greater community
- 4. series of roof forms indicative of nomadic shelters, such as the use of folded bark sheets over frameworks of straight branches
- 5. positive/negative play of building forms, contrasting solid and glazed areas of the building
- 6. expressed, repeated elements to represent the importance of the support of the individual within the greater society
- Screens as a stretched, wrapping skin over the entire building, providing weather (rain/shade) protection (as well as triangular structural bracing to end bays) with a subtle cellular matrix pattern of perforated stainless steel. Overhangs are tactile and kinetic in energy, indicative of the webbing of skin and tendon between human digits.
- Structure as a human endoskeleton - a strong and light rigid support structure articulated through various joints - the insulating double-skin construction of the exterior walls represents the articulation of antagonistic pairs of muscles of the human body, working in unison to create movement.
- The ochre-coloured bases of walls are expressly heavy and muscular in their representation, seating the building in its landscape and creating a potential energy in its presence.
- Includes integrated technical innovations such as the 'infill' areas between radiating segments used as ventilation shafts to flush stale air from the building. Building services are intrinsically linked with the structure, as an autonomic nervous system.



Pragmatically, it is the Lucknow Sports and Recreation Complex in rural Victoria, combining table tennis, squash, basketball, bowls, gallery and function facilities, as required by the East Gippsland Shire Council - moreover, it is the tale of an opportunity to encourage the Shire to look beyond a brief.

