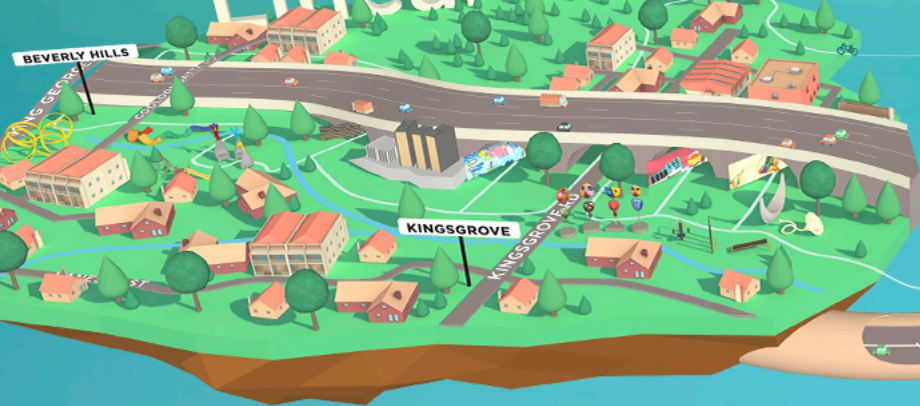


Canal to Creek

WestConnex | Transurban

THE WESTCONNEX PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Linear Park



St Peters

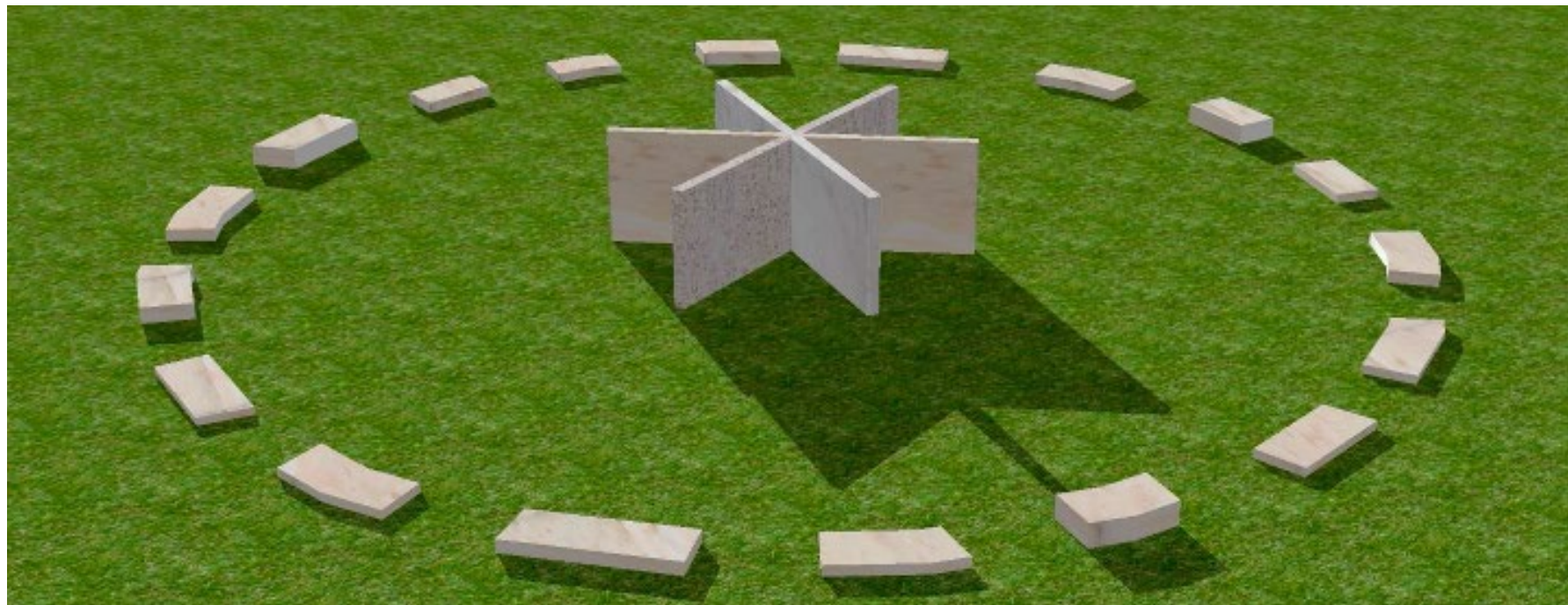


WestConnex | Transurban

VADEA
NSW

VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Asterisk: GILL GATFIELD

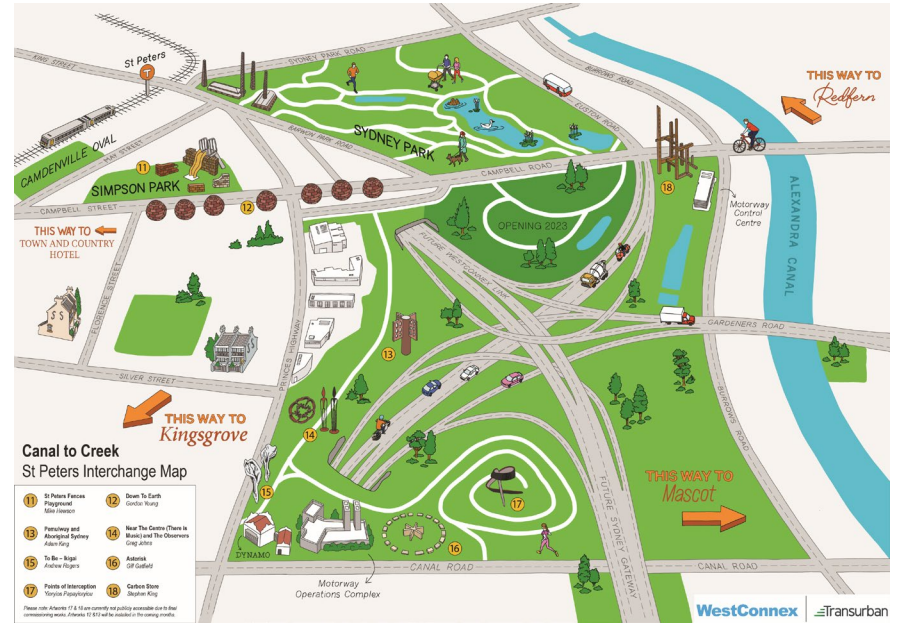
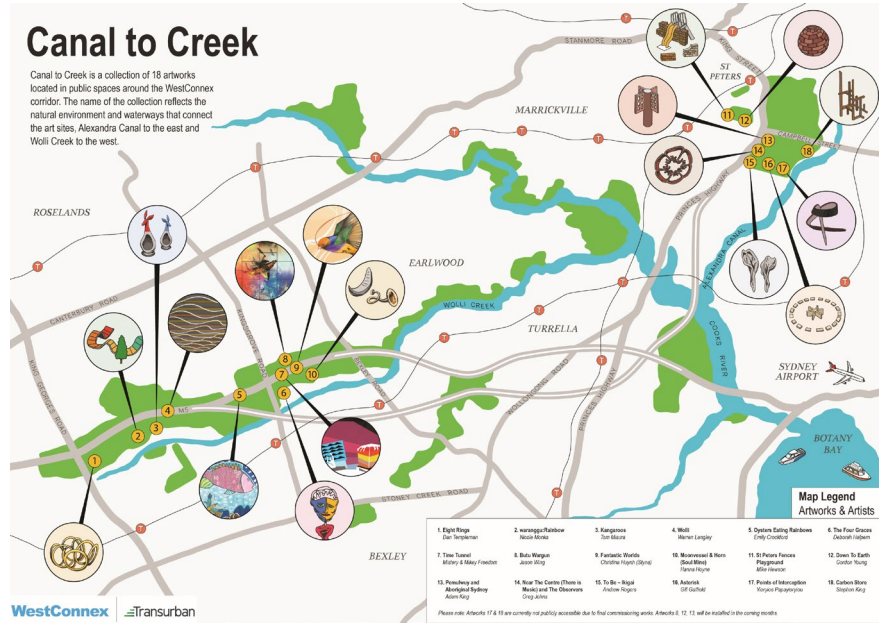


Australian stone—Pilbara marble, Chillagoe marble, Sydney 'Tunnel stone', heritage sandstone
Approx. 12m Dia. x 1m H

ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGE

Location of public artworks

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD



Concept

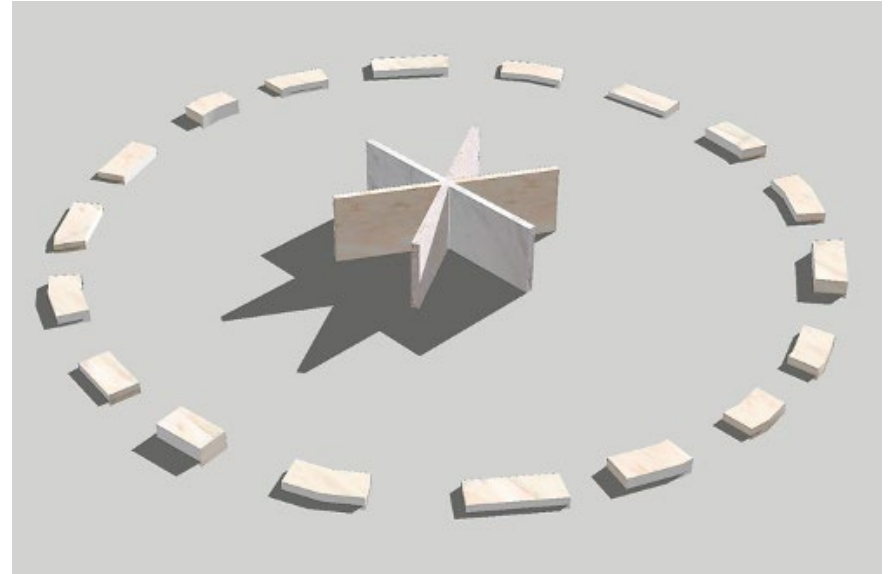
ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Named after the Ancient Greek word 'asteriskos' meaning 'little star', the distinctive star shaped sculpture *Asterisk* makes connections across cultures, time and place. Combining ancient stones and celestial form, the sculpture explores the metaphysical realms of earth and sky. It speaks to human journeys and ancient stellar navigation systems used to guide Indigenous travellers on journeys far and wide.

Made from four unique rock types sourced from across Australia, the sculpture's intersecting planes reveal markings that trace the history of the oldest continent in the world. One plane is a composite of stone discovered during construction of the WestConnex M8, deep within the earth below the sculpture's site.

This stone, anchored by rock from the north and the west, holds the memory of this land, reshaped to enable new destinations. *Asterisk* is orientated to Ginan, the smallest star in the Southern Cross, recently officially given its Australian Aboriginal star-name. Situated on Cadigal and Kameygal land, welcoming visitors at the entrance to new sculpture parklands, *Asterisk* is a modern compass placing equal value on different perspectives.

From <https://www.gillgatfield.com/asterisk/>



ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGE

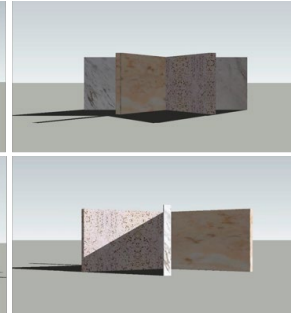
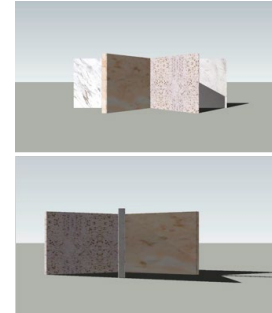
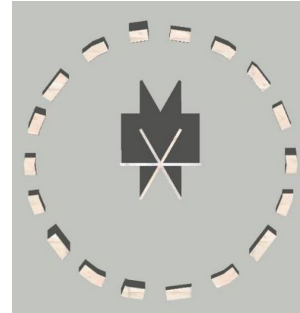
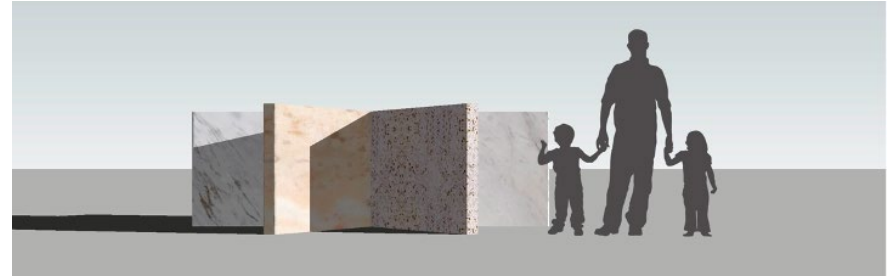
Concept

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

The circular form of *Asterisk* invites people in and generates intrigue—from every angle the artwork reveals a new and unique view. Older children and adults can see the star shaped connection at the centre, touch the smooth stone, explore the intersecting planes and discover complex shadows cast within and beyond the form. For younger children, *Asterisk* offers an immersive experience, with details hidden in the stone and secret spaces to explore—the perfect place for games, like hide and seek.

Organic abstraction | sundial | star

Named after the Ancient Greek word for star, *Asterisk* also darkens and lightens like a star, reflecting shifts in sun and moon light. Interacting with nature, changes of season, and passing of time, the natural stone sculpture brings an organic warmth to geometric abstraction.



ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGES

Concept

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Astronomy | navigation

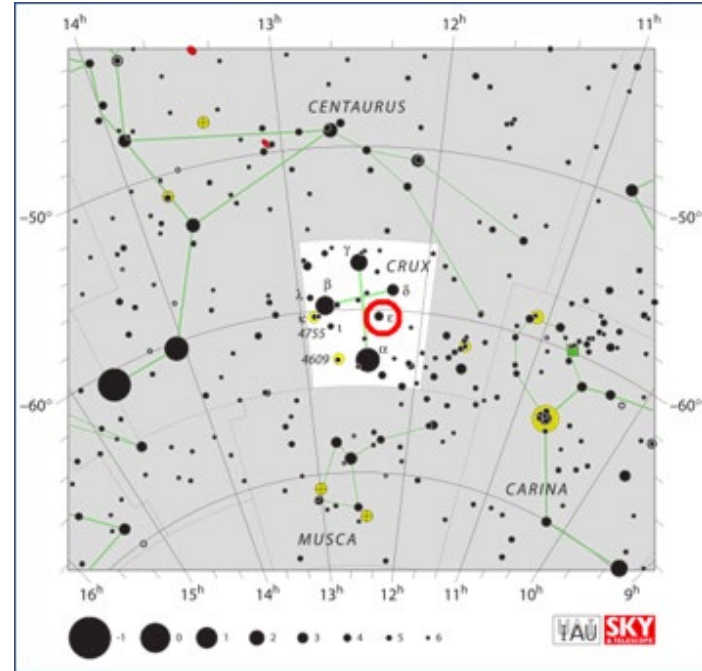
Stars have guided humans for centuries. Located at the entry to the new parklands and pointing to Ginan (Epsilon Crucis), the fifth brightest star in the Southern Cross, *Asterisk* reconnects people to this ancient tradition of using the stars for navigation. Ginan represents a red dilly-bag filled with special songs of knowledge and was recently officially recognised by its Australian Aboriginal star-name.

In determining the orientation of *Asterisk*, the artist consulted with Australian astronomers and academics who hold this knowledge, including:

- Dr Duane Hamacher (Monash University and Curator of www.aboriginalastronomy.com.au) and
- Kirsten Banks (University of NSW, Sydney Observatory guide, and descendant of the Wiradjuri people).

Epsilon Crucis in the constellation Crux (the Southern Cross)

Image from *The Conversation* on 11/1/2021 at <https://theconversation.com/the-stories-behind-aboriginal-star-names-now-recognised-by-the-worlds-astronomical-body-87617>



Concept

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Milky Way star map featuring the Milky Way, Moon and ancestor spirits by Bill Yidumduma Harney, Senior Wardaman Edler.

Image from International Astronomical Union on 11/1/2021 at <https://www.iau.org/public/images/detail/iau1707a/>



Concept

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Asterisk is also a response to the contrasts of dark and light in the journey through the twin tunnels that pass under the west end of the site. These ideas relate also to the night sky. Celestial objects have a magnetic pull which can be found also in tunnels, like underground caves where movement flows beneath the earth.



Concept

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Place making | place-marker

In many contexts, an asterisk is a place-holder, a symbol or mark. It is used as a footnote in writing, as an editing tool in social media, and a symbol combining numbers in maths.

Since first used 2000 years ago by the Greek poet Aristarchus of Samothrace, the asterisk creates a visual and sensory pause a moment of reflection and redirection.

Made from the ancient rock of this land—both local and national, *Asterisk* celebrates a deep human connection with the environment and aims to deepen the restorative effect of the new park land. Inviting ideas, interaction and play, the sculpture encourages people to engage and build new experiences within this new meeting place.

Meeting place

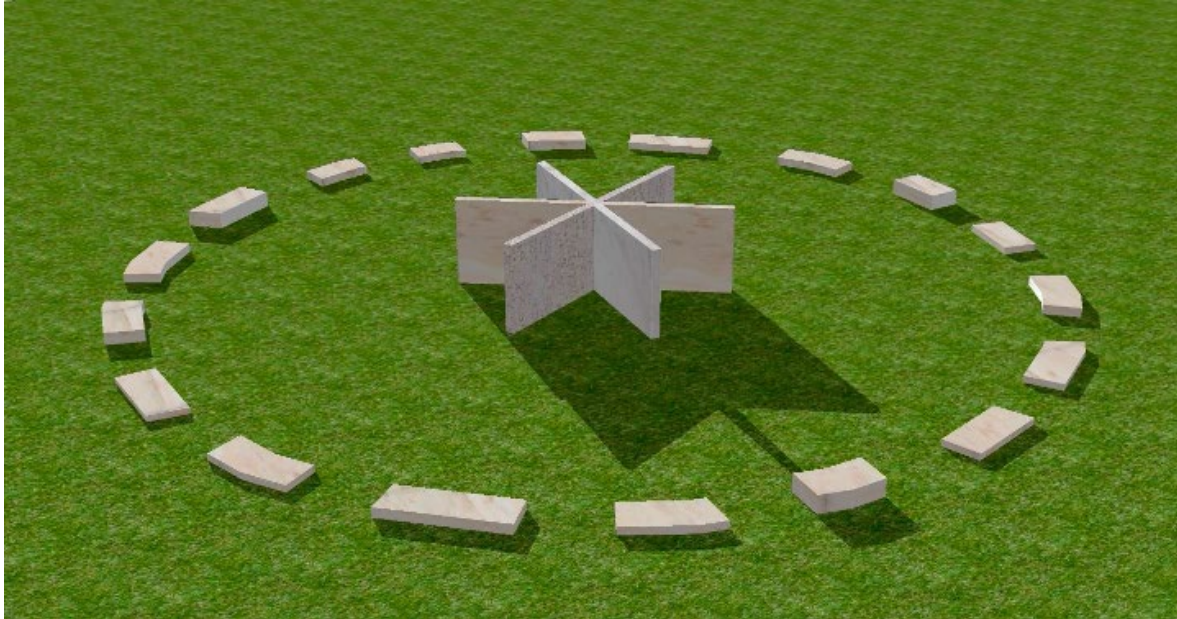
Viewed from the mound above, *Asterisk* marks a meeting place.



Design development

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Asterisk developed design 3D model



ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGE

Materials

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

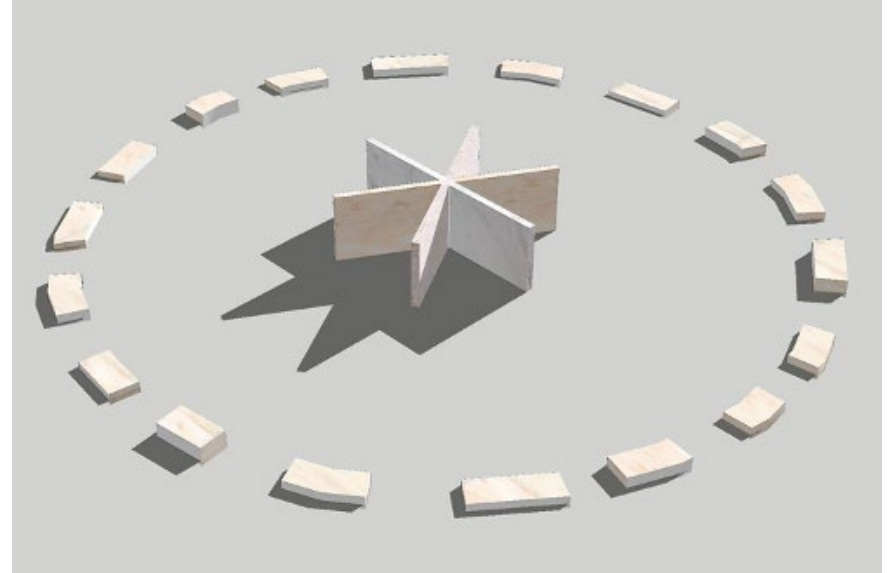
Asterisk:

Australian stone—Pilbara marble, Chillagoe marble, and Sydney 'Tunnel Stone'

Asterisk Stone Circle:

Heritage Sandstone blocks recovered from roading works

- Aim is to unite the three stone elements in *Asterisk* through a connected white/cream colour palette
- From afar, *Asterisk* will 'read' as a white star ringed by a circle of gold/cream sandstone
- Shadow play in and around *Asterisk* will add dark contrast to the light-tones of the sculpture
- Stone details and differences will become more apparent as viewers approach *Asterisk*



ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGE

Materials

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

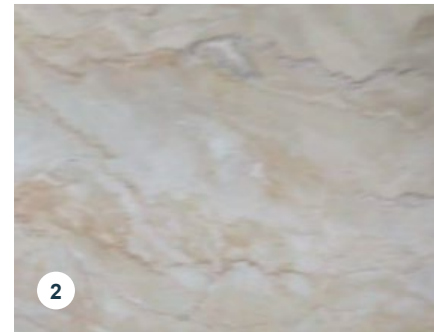
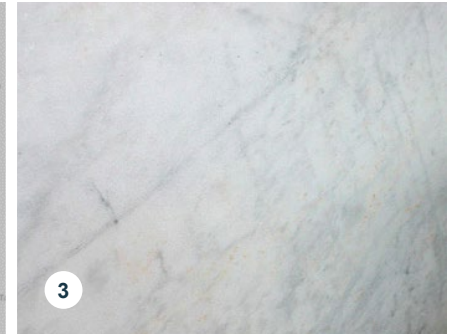
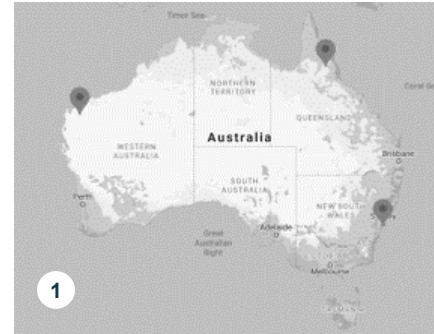
Australian stone

Pilbara Cream polished marble—Nanutarra WA Strong, hard marble—light cream with some gold/grey intrusions

Bianca Mist polished marble—Chillagoe North QLD Very fine grain, extremely hard marble—white with slight grey intrusions, and some translucent properties

'Tunnel Stone' polished composite—WestConnex M8 Sydney NSW Combination of sandstone, including harder white stone with silica crystals—cream, white and gold, with flecks of brown/black.

1. Image from Google Maps search on 17 Jan. 2021 at <https://www.google.com/maps/>
2. Pilbara Cream—WA
3. Bianca Mist—QLD
4. Projected finish of 'Tunnel Stone' composite (stone pieces between 10–100mm Dia.)



Materials

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Heritage sandstone

Asterisk incorporates a stone circle using heritage sandstone kerbstones (c.1860–1940) sourced from local community roads around St Peters. Like an ancient stone ring, found in cultures across the globe (including Neolithic Britain and Aboriginal Australia), the stone circle marks out a significant place.

For local park users, the heritage stone circle offers:

- an inner space where people might gather and connect
- ‘stepping stones’ for active play and places to sit and rest
- an encircling frame/‘kerb’ enhancing the sculpture’s shadow play
- tactile rough-hewn stone contrast to the smooth planar stones
- meaningful re-use of heritage stone from the local community



1. Heritage sandstone blocks Metro yard April 2019

Connection detail

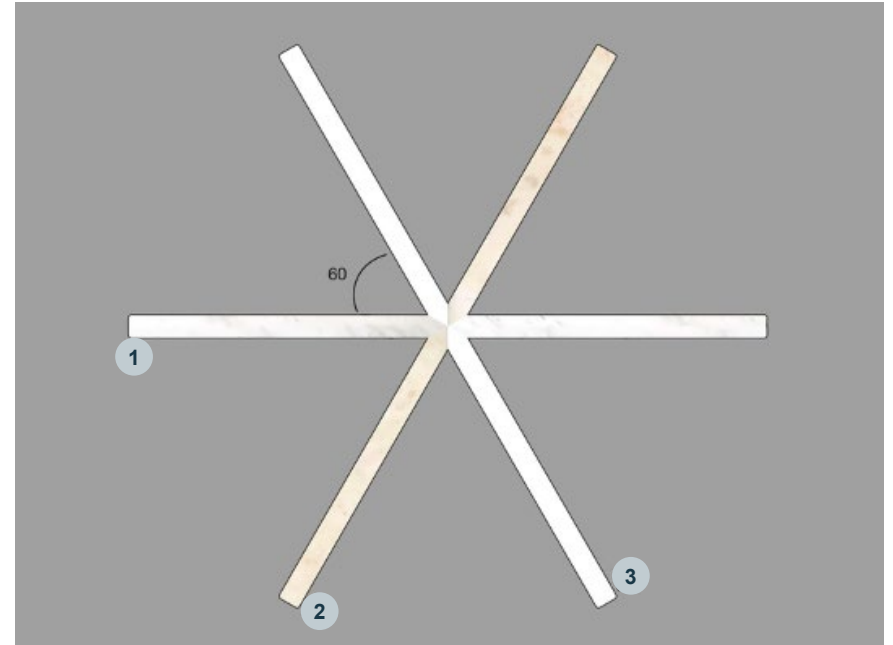
ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Specifications

- 60 degree angles to centre of each span
- Each span est. 100mm thick
- 20mm pencil arms to all edges
- 1 and 2: polished 20mm stone slabs, reinforced concrete armature, mitred corners
- 3: nature stone and white aggregate polished concrete
- All surfaces: penetrating sealers

Australian stone

1. Bianca Mish polished marble—Chillagoe, North QLD
2. Pilbara Cream polished marble—Nanutarra, WA
3. 'Tunnel Stone' polished aggregate—New M5 Sydney, NSW



ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGE

Connection detail

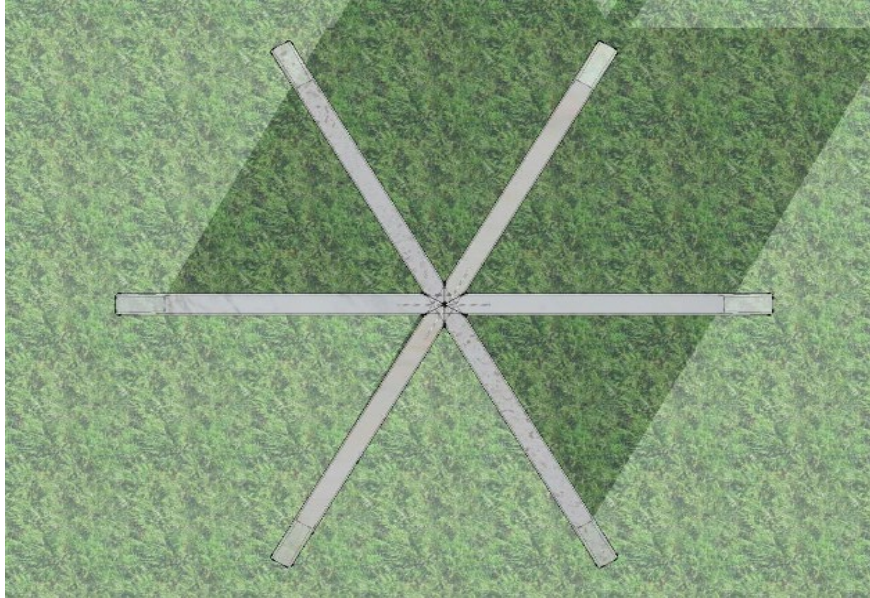
ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD



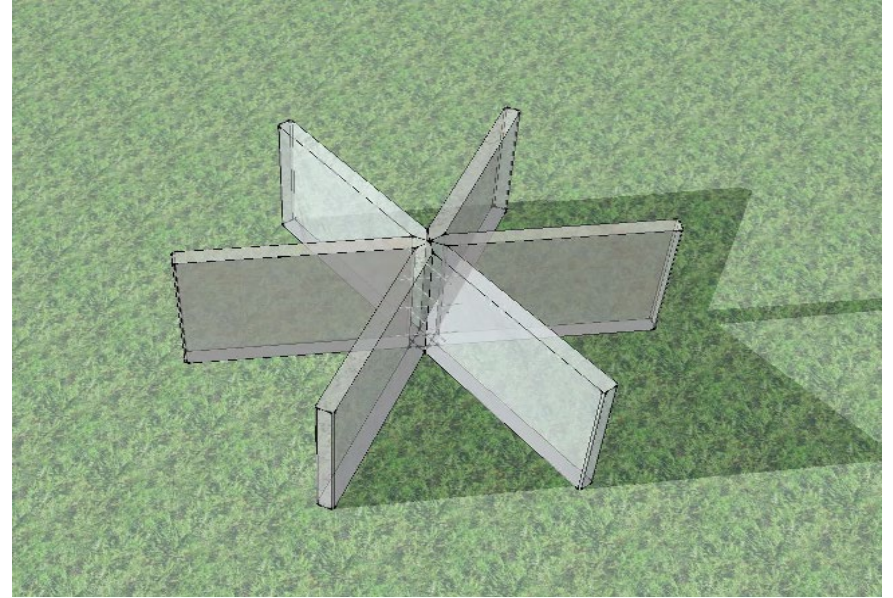
3D modelling

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Asterisk centre connection – Plan view



Asterisk panel connection – Elevated view



ARTIST CONCEPT IMAGES

Planning process

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Materials and fabrication

- Composite stone and concrete elements—materials, steel and fabrication
- Crate and transport concrete elements to stone fabricator
- Natural Stone—materials and fabrication
- Transport stone to Sydney
- Materials—WestConnex M8 tunnel stone, sandstone kerbstones
- Transport, storage and processing WestConnex M8 stone for fabrication
- Sandstone kerbstones and larger stones—shaping, cleaning
- Crate and transport sculpture to site

Installation

- Footing design, documentation and certification
- Footings (excavation, reinforcing, pouring concrete)
- Installation and commissioning (including site equipment)
- Installation of stone circle kerbstones and larger tunnel stones
- Landscaping around immediate area

Planning process

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

Dimensions

Asterisk:

2.8m Dia. x 900mmH comprising three intersecting panels:

- Sydney Tunnel stone 2.8m x 900H x 100mmW
- Pilbara marble 2 x 1.4m x 900H x 100mmW
- Chillagoe marble 2 x 1.4m x 900H x 100mmW

Asterisk Stone Circle:

Approx. 12m Dia. comprising approx. 15–18 blocks approximate size 800 x 450 x 300mmH (dimensions TBC after stone and site selection)

Approximate weights

Asterisk:

2280 kg

Asterisk Footing/steel 6030 kg

Total 8310 kg

Asterisk Stone Circle:

est. 15–18 blocks: 3,750kg–4,500kg

(each block @ 800 x 450 x 300 (.108m³) = approx. 250kg)

Artwork installation

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD

- Sculpture is factory fitted to precast footing
- Sculpture is transported and installed on footing
- Using precast lugs, sculpture is lifted from Hiab truck onto level compacted site
- Design allows for cover over footing: topsoil + plant cover
- Stone circle blocks to be laid on compacted level ground, slightly embedded to eliminate movement



1. 2. July 22 2020

3. 4. July 24 2020

Installation complete

ASTERISK: GILL GATFIELD



Welcome to the Creative Revolution

CODAWORX, DEC. 9, 2020

Gill Gatfield speaking from 21", 51", Asterisk discussed at 27"

