

## THE PARK ON PARK

Showcasing an intricate harmony between nature and architecture, The Park on Park is filled with tactile earthy rocks, industrial recycled timbers, and concrete and copper finishes. This lifestyle build was designed with a focus on eco-friendly, sustainable design, and locally sourced materials. The garden is a mix of natives and exotics and features approximately 14,000 plants and 70 established trees across a half-acre of land.

### 1. Entry

A bespoke copper corten and brass front gate brings to life the local region, reflecting the historical discovery of gold during the Victorian Gold Rush, as well as the vines of the Yarra Valley. The driveway, keeping with the organic circular theme of the garden, is covered with a honey granite screening, allowing the earth to breathe.

A 20,000L water tank is concealed under the driveway and captures stormwater and household water. Along with the 6,000L recycled water system, it irrigates the garden through 400m of drip line. Small to medium plants, and larger lilly pilly waterhousia hedges feature along the side of the driveway, with a gorgeous meeting of salvias blending into the side landscape.

### 2. Front Garden

Over 200m<sup>3</sup> of soil from pond excavations during early construction and landscaping works were relocated to the front garden, providing privacy and a leafy outlook from the Wellness Centre. Locally-sourced honey granite landscape rocks throughout the front garden retain the earth and create a natural environment. The established lilly pilly waterhousia hedge attracts local birdlife. A mix of lomandra verday and tankia create interest and colour.

Radially sawn timber cladding the Wellness Centre, and many external walls of the main home, was supplied by Radial Timber, a Victorian company that harvests hardwood resources in a more sustainable method than traditional timber milling.

### 3. The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary, made up of honey granite landscape rocks, and a mix of smaller native plants and established trees again provides privacy to the home. The Sanctuary features banksia serrata trees, honey grevilleas, callistemons and snow gums. The birds, butterflies, and bees love the native selection.

### 4. Vegetable Garden

With plans to grow the size of the vegetable garden, we have a mix of herbs, vegetables, and edible native plants and flowers. Lining the ground with locally sourced honey granite toppings, the ground will breathe and feed with the bio organisms. A Diggers compost in the corten pots brought a harsh clay site to a living city of organisms, bugs and worms in under 6 weeks from install.

## GARDEN NOTES

### 5. The Sun Deck

The Sun Deck is home to a mixture of native and exotic plants. The ornamental apple trees are a nod to historical orchards of Park Orchards. The boab trees next to the steps of the entrance are stunning features against the stone cladding. The pathway toppings allow for breathability of the earth, and emit a satisfying 'crunch' under each footstep.

The landscaping rocks were placed so the home sits snugly in the landscape, seemingly on a ridge of rocks, with the external timber cladding carved to the shape of the 'ridge'. Playing on the architectural theme of bringing the inside out and the outside in, the ridge extends from the Sun Deck, into the home, and out to the back pond.

### 6. The River

The undeniable highlight of The Park on Park is the river flowing through the centre of the home. An incredible amount of clever and creative minds went into the design, construction, and ongoing maintenance of the river. Keen eyes may notice the local section of the Yarra River that the river is shaped from.

The apparent flow of the river from the upper pond to the lower pond plays on the same architectural theme, however the ponds and river form three separate ecosystems. *Vallisneria gigantea* was planted in the river due to the partial shade, and goldfish inhabit the river.

### 7. 'Upper Yarra Dam' Pond

This pond contains 8000L of water with two pumps providing an even spread of water over the rocks. Over 40m<sup>3</sup> of landscape rock has been placed into the concrete waterproof pond, and a cleanable foam filter system keeps the water healthy. Honey granite landscape rocks form the waterfall and the steps across the pond. Plants include water lilies, *cycnogeton procerum*, and *triglochin procerum*. The *dicksonia antarctica* soft tree fern was relocated from the property of a friend at Sassafra. Two eastern long neck turtles (affectionately named Laurie and Cal) call the pond home, along with a thriving population of fish. Algae management is achieved through regular servicing and barley straw bales.

### 8. 'Port Phillip Bay' Pond & Back Garden

This 16,000L pond sits at the end of the rock ridge wall that extends from the front to the back of the property. The large eastern mahogany log was sourced from Warburton and laid in place well before the house construction was fully underway. Permeable pathways weave through the garden past natives and lilly pilly hedges at the back of the yard. Small bunching forest of silver birch trees with *zoysia tenuifolia* and established overhanging Chinese elm trees brushing past our *miscanthus sinensis*.

## GARDEN NOTES

### 9. Fernery

Sitting within the back deck is a small garden of ferns and wetland plants. Crepe myrtle (natchez) would usually be a full sun tree but gains light through beautiful sun wells in the deck roof. Controlled rainwater from the roof filters down through the copper pipe, into the large pot, flooding the fernery area filled with ferns such as mother shield ferns, chicken ferns, kangaroo fern and pellaea rotundifolia.



#### More information:

<p><b>The Park on Park</b> offers corporate retreats, events &amp; wedding accommodation:</p>	<p><a href="http://www.theparkonpark.com.au">www.theparkonpark.com.au</a> Instagram: @theparkonpark</p>
<p>Get in touch with Shaun Laurie at <b>Laurie Landscapes</b> for your landscaping project:</p>	<p><a href="http://www.laurielandscapes.com.au">www.laurielandscapes.com.au</a> Instagram: @laurielandscapes</p>

***The Park on Park is located on the lands of the Wurundjeri people. Open Gardens Victoria wish to acknowledge the Traditional custodians and we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.***

These notes can be downloaded from the Open Gardens Victoria website:

[www.opengardensvictoria.org.au](http://www.opengardensvictoria.org.au)