

# TRANSLATING SPACES

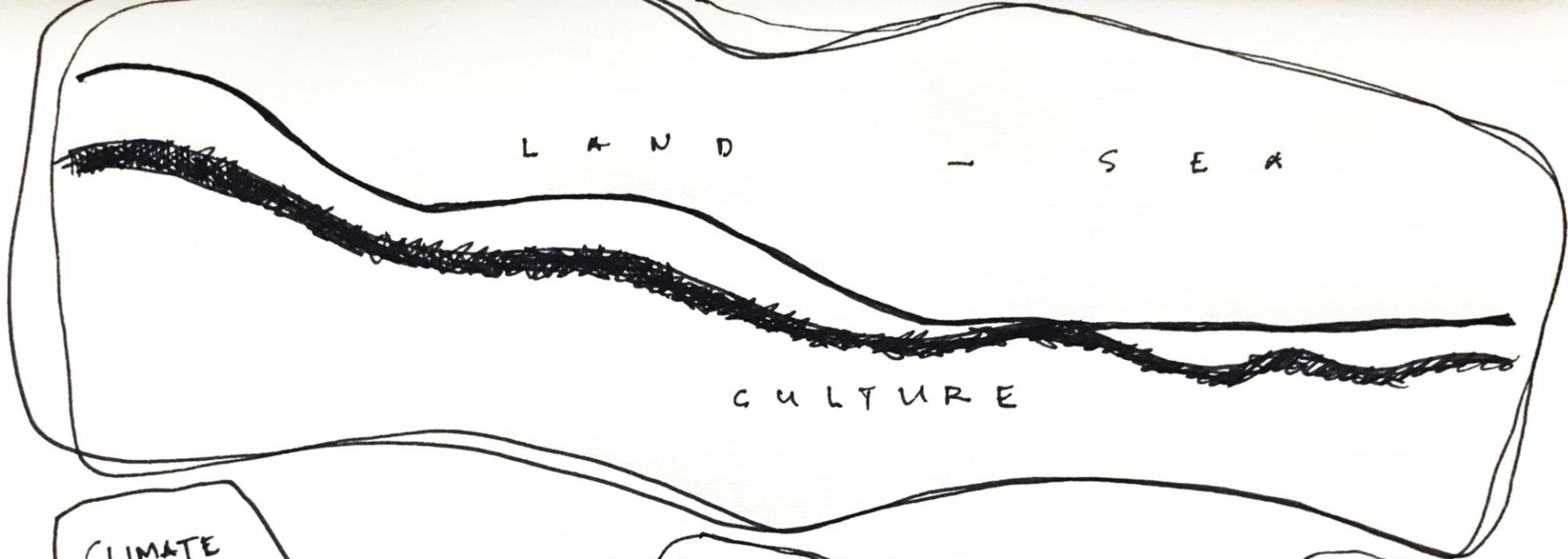
## *Designing for Climate Migrants*

*Lizzie Yarina, Prof Penny Allan, and Prof Martin Bryant*

*ICOMOS Culture: Conserving it Together Conference*

*Suva, Fiji, October 2018*

*Theme 4: Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development*



CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
MIGRATION

NEW PLACES

OLD  
CULTURES

CONSERVATION

RESILIENCE

INDIGENOUS  
WORLD  
VIEWS

CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
SCIENCE

HAVING  
IMPACT

SYNTHESISING THROUGH LOCAL STUDIES

1. TRANSLATING SPACE

2. LANDSCAPE AS MIDDLE GROUND

3. INDIGENOUS ECOLOGIES

## *Problem statement*

**Relocation in the Pacific is evident as an adaptation to climate change.**

Migration to non-customary lands will increasingly become an adaptation technique.

Climate change threatens not only land, livelihood and habitat, migration threatens culture.

# *Climate Change Risk in the Pacific*



Cyclone Winston

Risks: Sea-level rise; water resource depletion; coral reef degradation; agriculture; human health (Campbell and Bedford)

Cumulative effects: Poor land and sea management practices; and waste management practices

# *Climate Change Risk in Fiji*



Cyclone Winston

## *Research question*

How can communities retain cultural identity within the places of the diaspora?

## *Methodology*

Mapping histories and trajectories of migration, to understand movement patterns.

Engaging with the Fijian diaspora community, learn about their cultural practice in the context of Aotearoa.

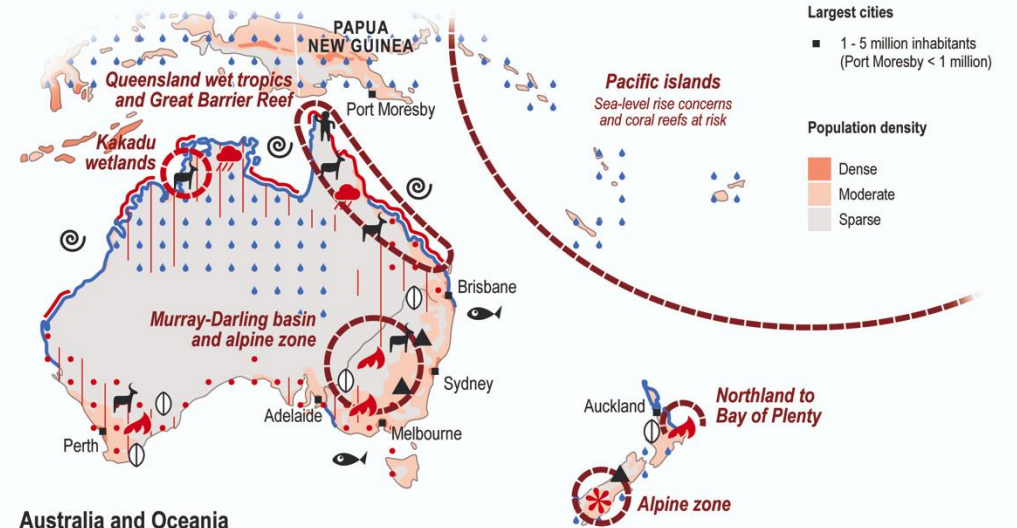
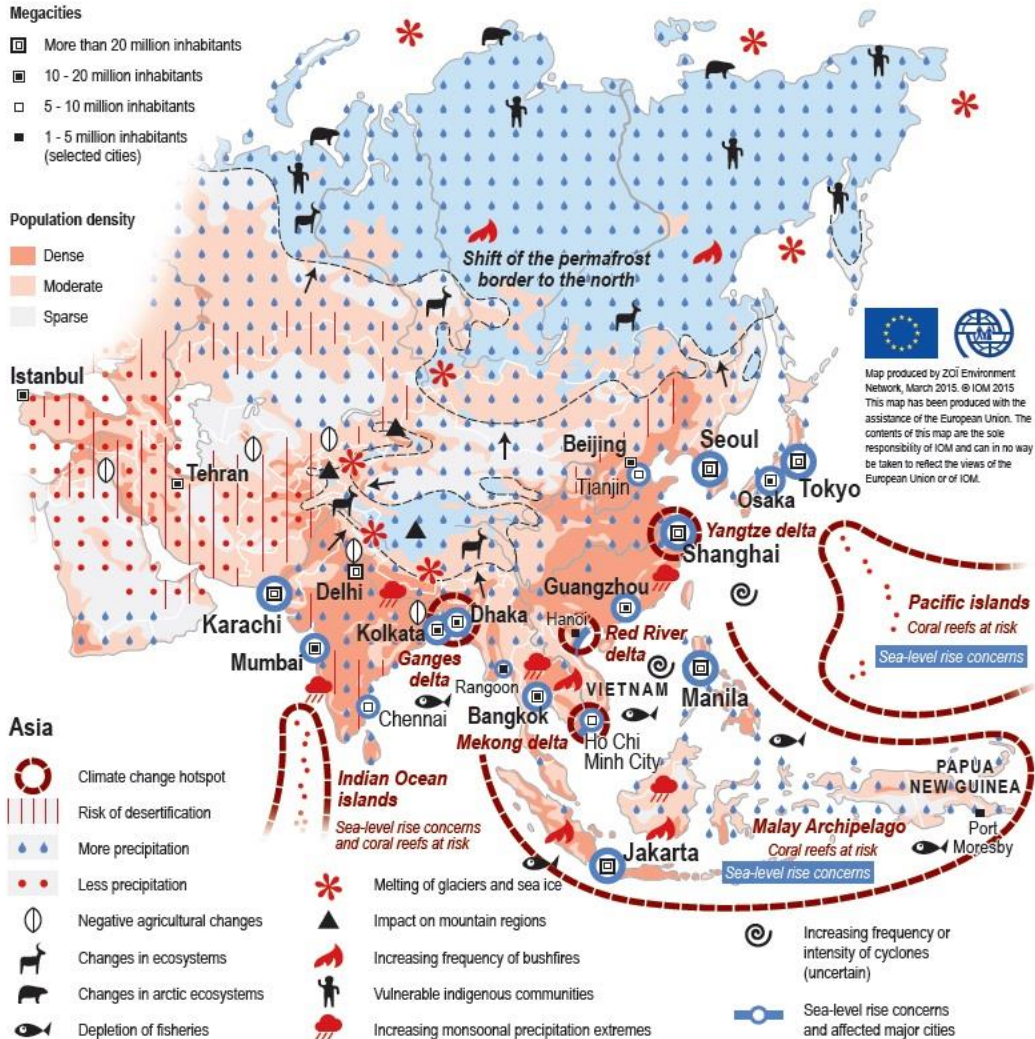
Spatial design in diaspora sites in New Zealand for Fijian *migrants*, to *'translate' culture*.

# CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND

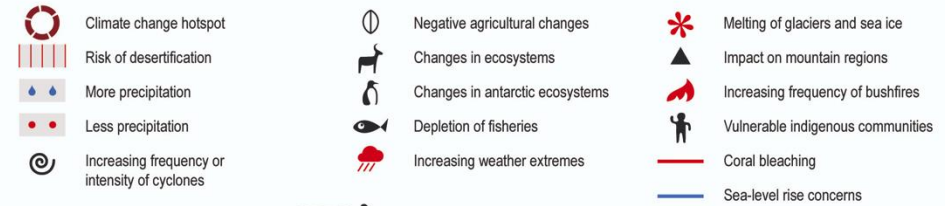
*Migration*



# Climate Change and Migration



## Australia and Oceania



# *Migration as Adaptation*

Movement within customary lands

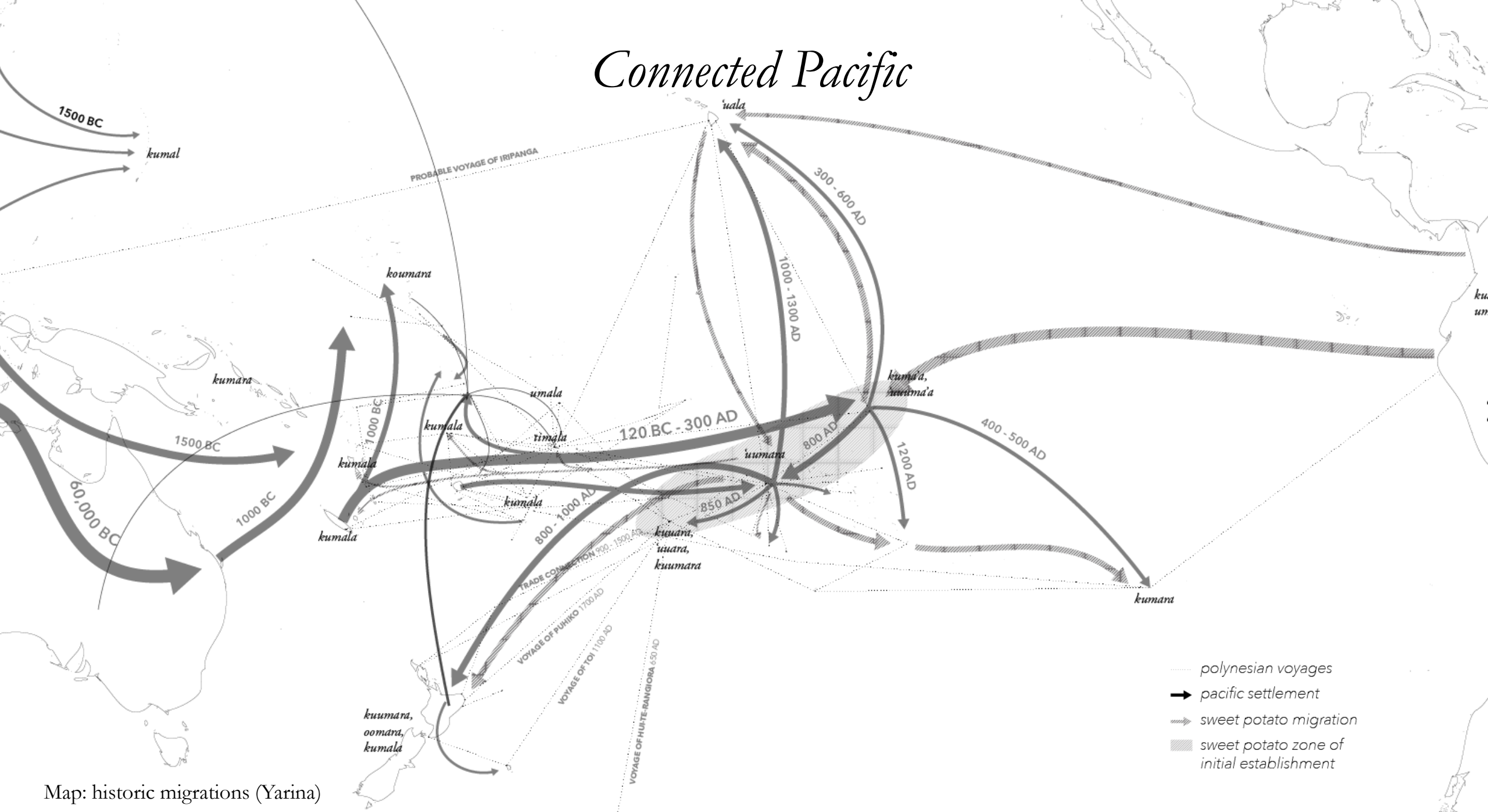
Domestic relocation outside customary lands (i.e. to freehold land or to another group's freehold land)

International migration of individuals

Planned community *relocation*

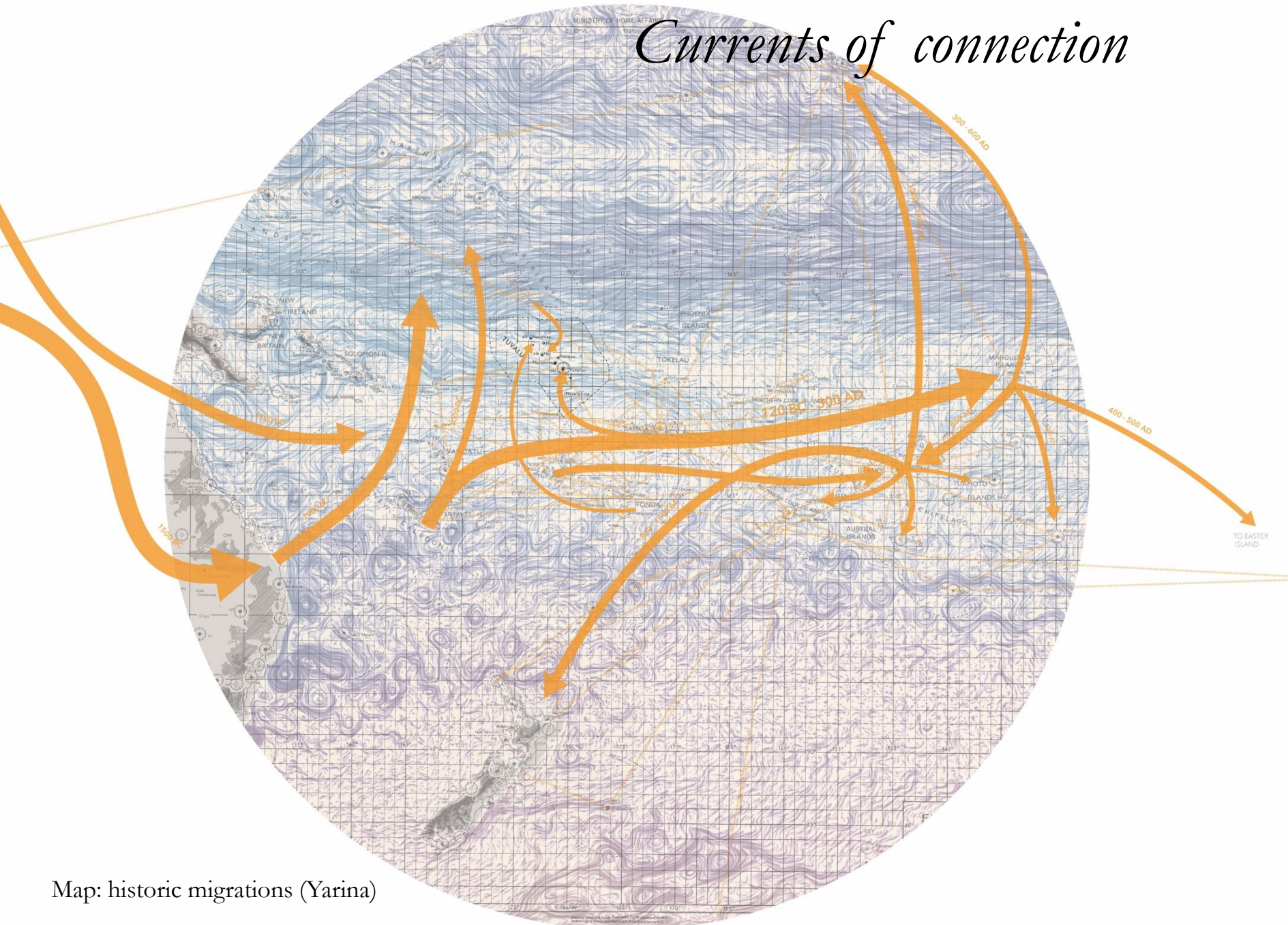


# Connected Pacific



Map: historic migrations (Yarina)

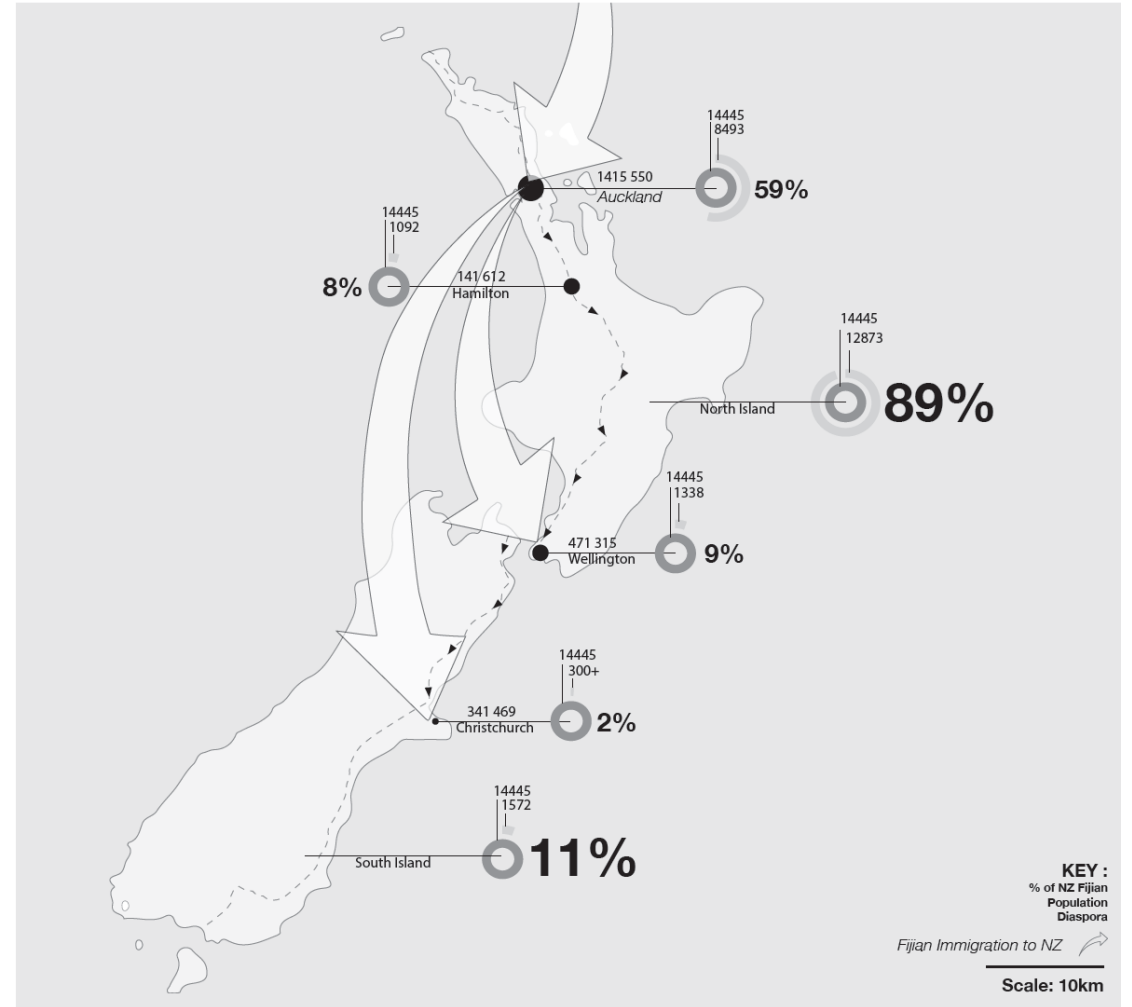
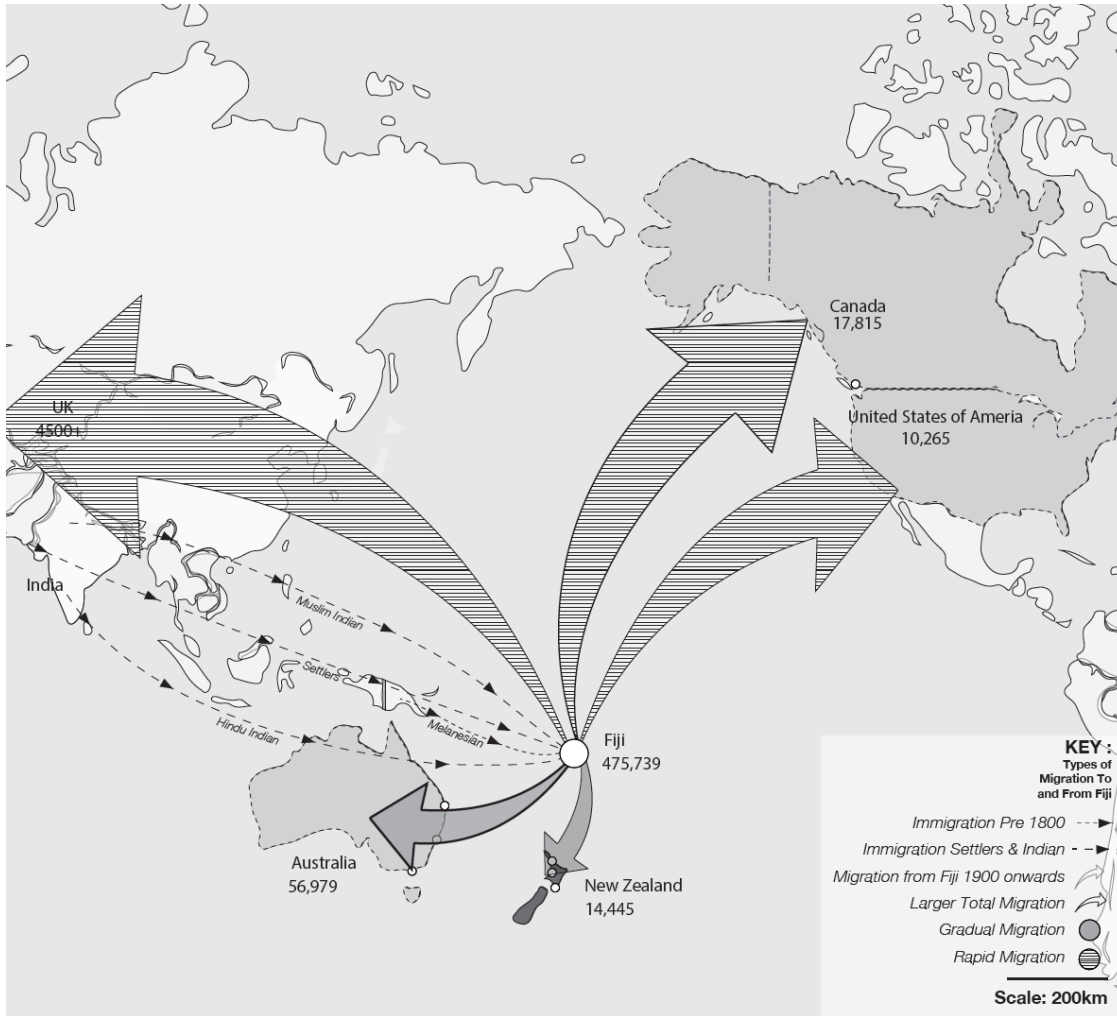
# *Currents of connection*



Map: historic migrations (Yarina)



# Migration



# *Fijians in Aotearoa*



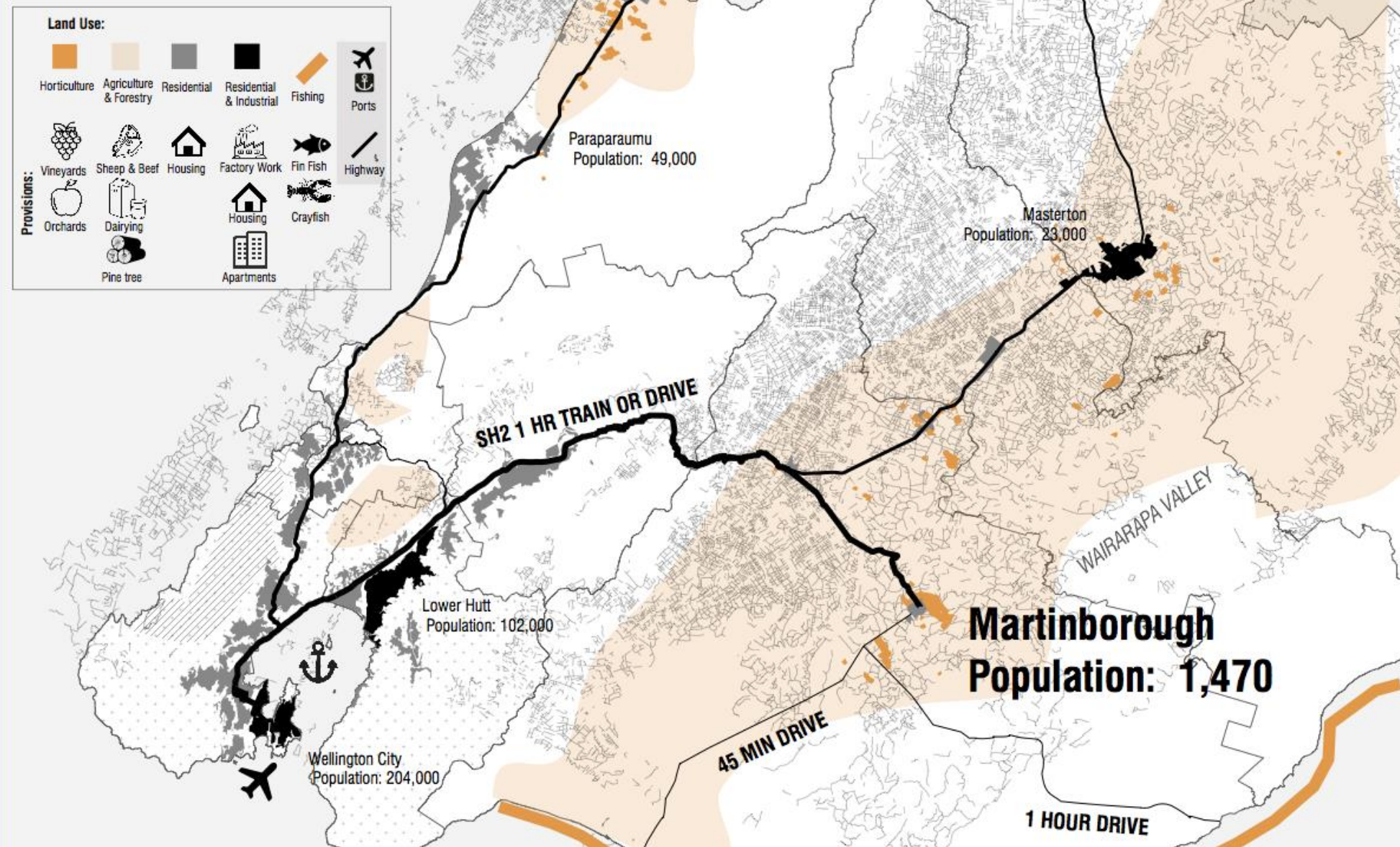
Fijian Village, Pasifika Festival, Auckland NZ





# Landscape Architecture Studio: *Designing for Climate Migration*





Migrant worker analysis, Billy Pearce

## *Embedding cultural meaning in spaces*

Consultation with migrant community:

It recognised the trauma associated with migration, even for those with migratory histories.

It reinforced the economic difficulties: a shared problem that migrants faced.

It reinforced the importance of common /public space as a place to share past and present culture.

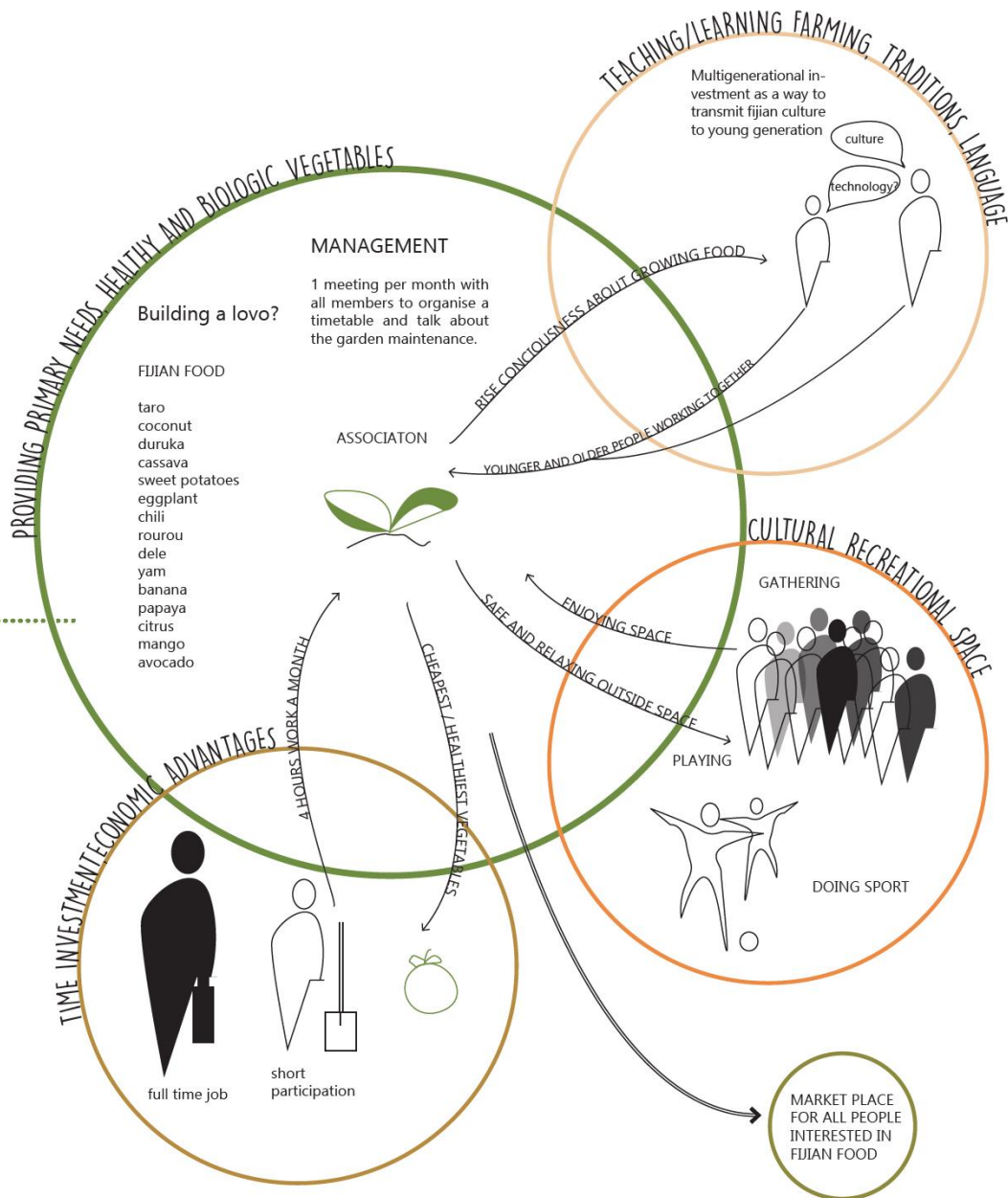
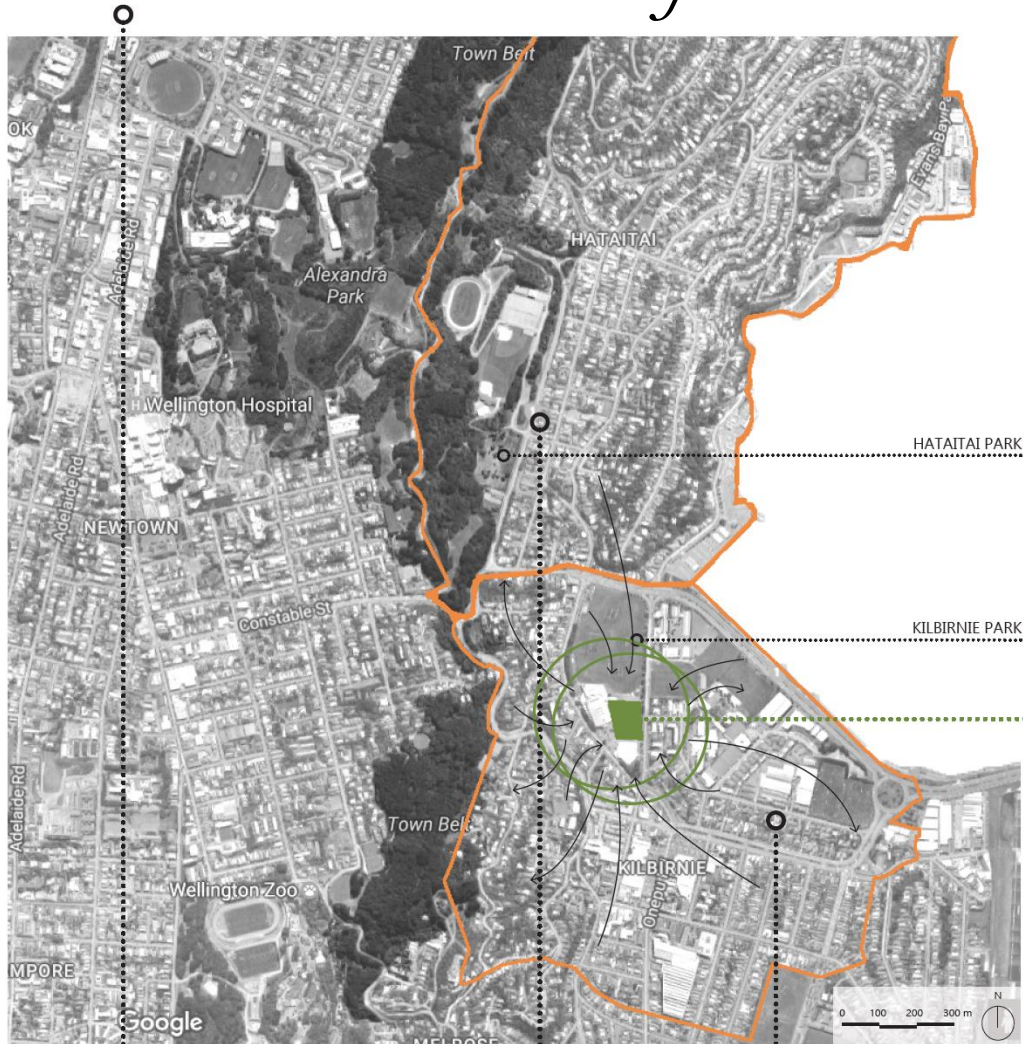
It reinforced the spiritual and physical importance of the relationship between land, water, church, storytelling, food and sport.

# DESIGN OUTCOMES:

*Hybrid spaces for Fijian climate migrants in New Zealand*

*A network of Fijian spaces for Kilbirnie,  
Wellington*

# A Fijian Growing Cooperative in Kilbirnie



- |                |                                  |                           |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CITY CENTER    | HATAITAI                         | KILBRNIE                  |
| working place  | living place                     | fijian and pacific people |
| shopping place | fijian and pacific people        | sport fields              |
| other churches | hataitai park and alexendra park | along the see             |
|                | in between town belt and sea     | wellington mosque         |
|                |                                  | Indian Association        |

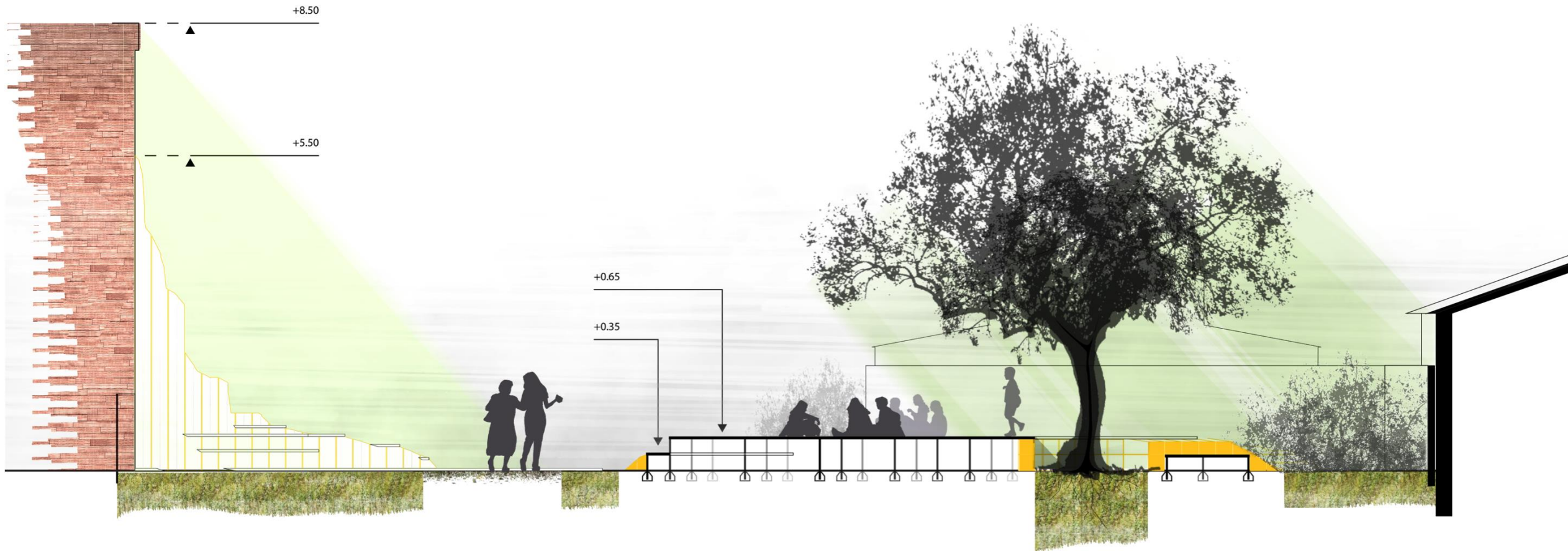
Design: Leocadie Pelbois

# *A Fijian Growing Cooperative*



*Design: Leocadie Pelbois*

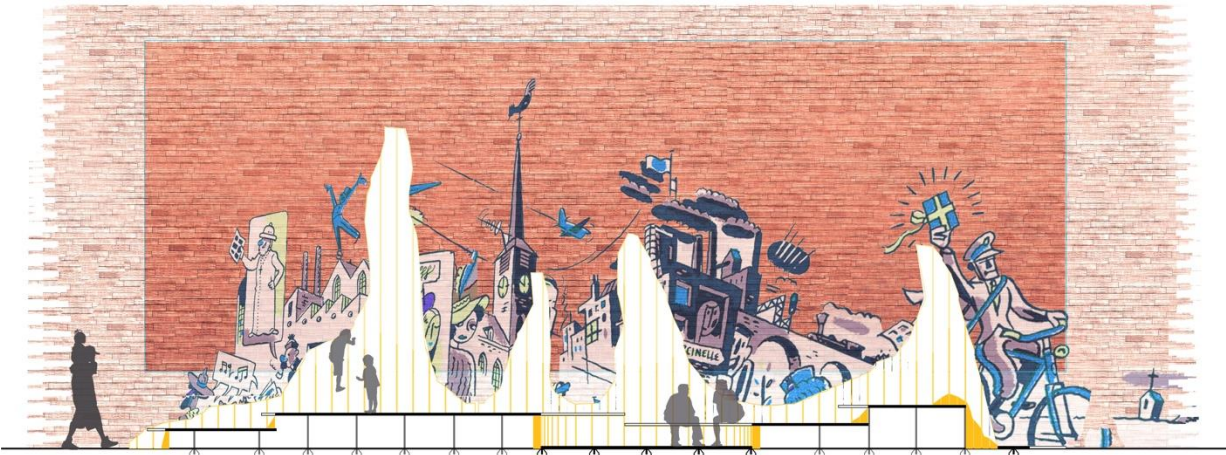
# *Fijian Spaces for storytelling in Kilbirnie*



*Design: Ninon Migrayou*



# *Spaces for storytelling*



*Design: Ninon Migrayou*

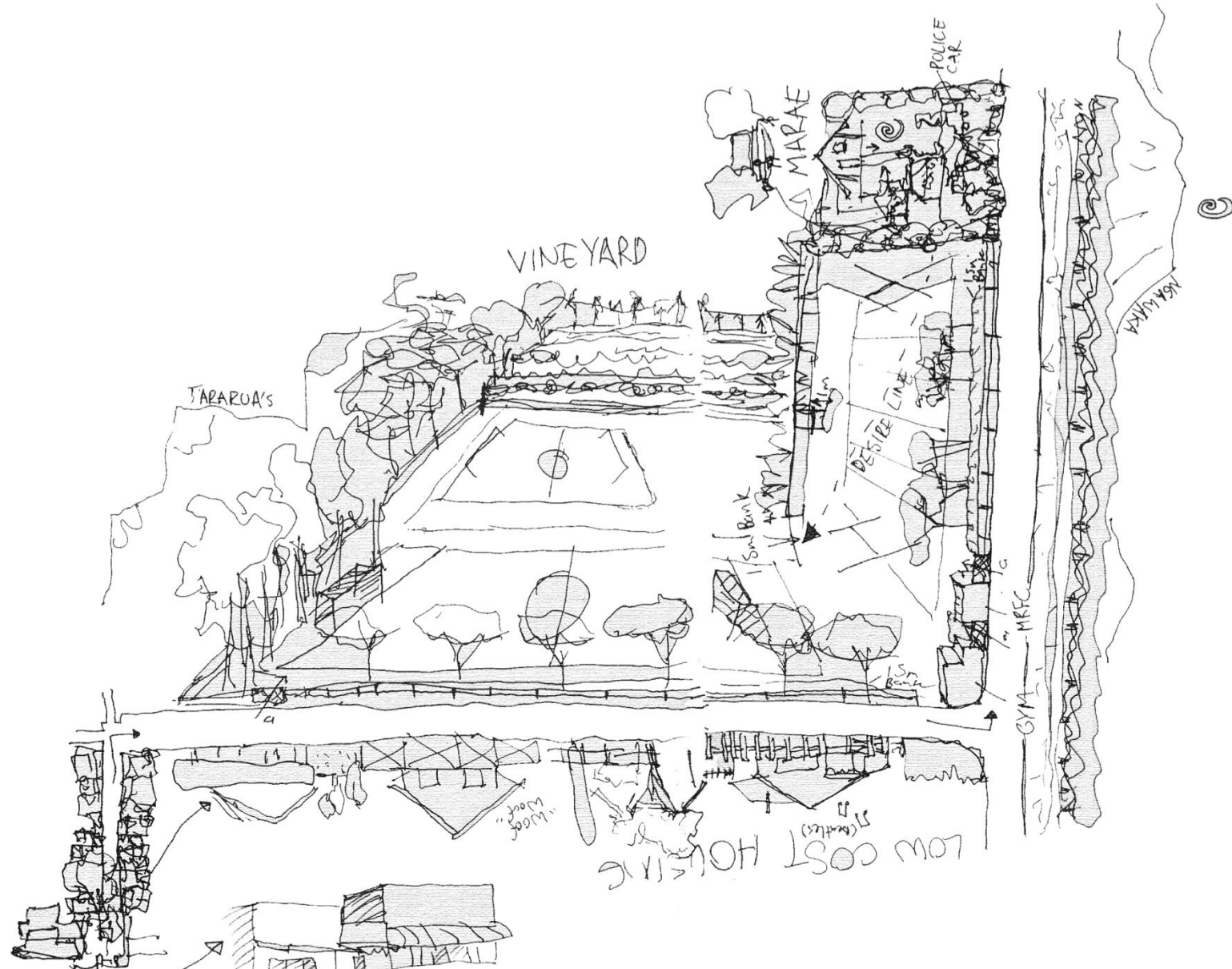
# *A Fijian Lovo and Waterfront*



*Design: Freddie Bensemman*

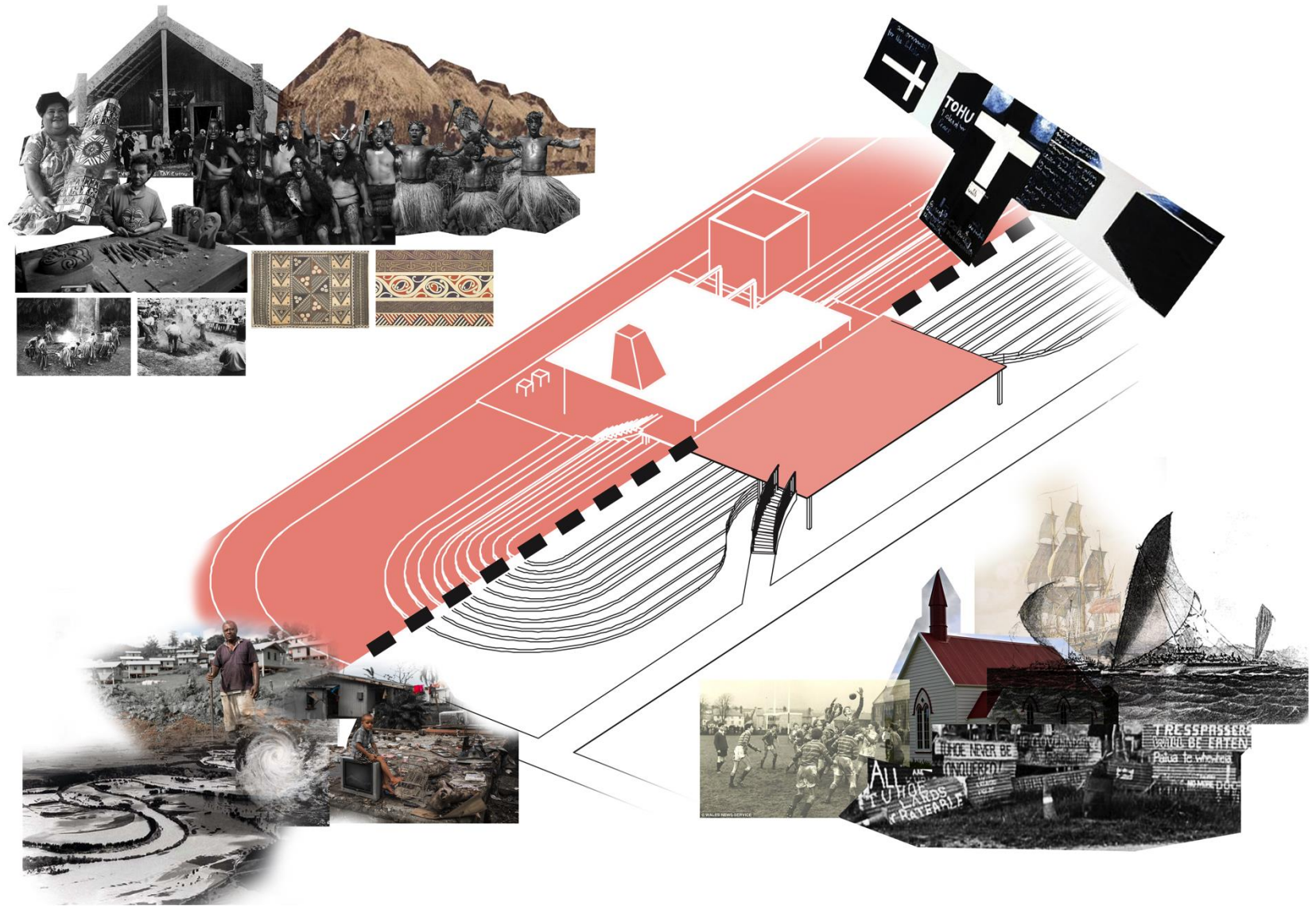
*A network of Fijian spaces for  
Martinborough*

# A Rugby Pitch for Fijian and Pacific Migrants



Design: Billy Pearce

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*Design: Billy Pearce*

# **LARGER IMPLICATIONS:**

*Translating Spaces and Migrating Heritage*

## *Culture at work*

The projects highlight culture as a dynamic rather than a static concept.

They show the importance of a network of cultural spaces.

They show how qualities of an existing place can exist with new cultural input.

They show how design can encourage place based cultures to adapt to ex-situ sites, allowing essential cultural practices to persist *while new ones develop*



## *Scale*

Each project used the mappings to influence design by examining coastal vulnerability, transportation and trade routes across the Asia-Pacific region at a range of scales. A series of issues emerged. These broad themes became key drivers for the individual design schemes and their island-wide or regional ripple effects.

This studio positions site design relative to the complex problems of our era (such as climate change displacement) without defaulting to mega-scale ‘solutions’. It shows the importance in landscape design to understand and engage with the larger-scale implications of site based designs and *the problems faced at the local level.*

## *Conclusions*

While housing and jobs are important, our work suggests creating space for cultural practice will be an equally important endeavour, and explores how these spaces can encourage larger community-buildings as well.

Beyond Aotearoa, as climate change redraws borders and mobilizes populations, modes of design practice which can accommodate the needs of migratory and displaced populations will become *increasingly important*.

Questions?