

BRIAR HERB FACTORY MUSEUM SITE, CLYDE:

POTENTIAL PRESENTATION & DISPLAY OPTIONS

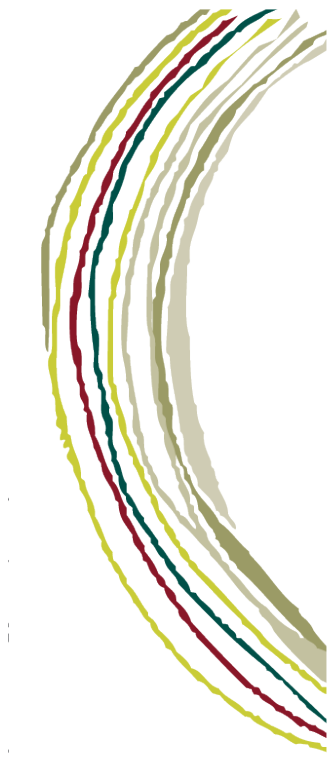


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INTRODUCTION

Proposed are two options for creating a more functional and cohesive display experience for visitors to the Briar Herb Factory Museum complex.

The first, less dramatic option involves retaining the tenant's house on site, but making it less intrusive to the purpose of the complex - to be a welcoming public space.

The second option is to reconfigure the complex to become a purely public space, focussing on its displays, utilising its current collection objects in a more cohesive flow. The areas outside would also be developed into garden spaces that support and enhance the industry-focussed stories that are told.

The vision would be to allow visitors to explore and discover things about Clyde and its environs as they wander through the various buildings.

PROPOSED SITE CHANGES

(ref: plan of existing layout of Briar Herb Factory Museum Complex, p 4)

To establish a more authentic heritage site, it is proposed paring back the buildings by removing the following:

- (C) Forge
- (D) Stables
- (H) Dairy
- Meat safe
- Covered area between the Factory Drying Shed (A) and the Goods Shed (B)
- Boat shelter (to be relocated)
- Lean-to additions at the back and south sides of the Factory Drying Shed (A)
- Public toilet block (to be relocated)

Image following: plan of existing layout of Briar Herb Factory Museum Complex

EXISTING LAYOUT OF
BRIAR HERB FACTORY MUSEUM COMPLEX



- EXISTING/RETAINED ELEMENTS
- PROPOSED DELETED ELEMENTS
- PROPOSED REBUILT ELEMENTS
- PROPOSED RECONFIGURED ELEMENTS
- PROPOSED RELOCATED ELEMENTS
- EMERGENCY EXITS
- PLANTINGS

GENERAL RECONFIGURED ELEMENTS

- A rebuild of the existing Factory Drying Shed (A) to make it fit for purpose (public use) using the same materials and detailing as currently exists, including the retention of the original venting machinery. Upgrade to ensure the building is insulated and pest / rodent free, with good, appropriately styled lighting systems. Note that it is important to retain the look, feel and heritage-integrity of the original building.
- A sympathetic addition to the north west side of the Drying Shed (A) to house the boat and other large objects that relate to the river / dam, including the concrete hopper.
- The relocation of the battery stamper to the opposite (south east) corner of the site (next to Fraser Street), and the sluice nozzle and quartz wheel to be also moved, this would form a gold garden trail around Holden Cottage. Comments passed on by an adjacent motelier indicated that many of his visitors are fascinated by the battery stamper, and this is what motivates them to go and visit the site. If the stamper was viewable from where Sunderland Street intersects with Fraser Street it would make the museum complex more definable to passing potential visitors.
- The development and landscaping of the exterior spaces to reflect local industries - herbs, gold, vineyards and orcharding.¹
- In the factory building (G) the interior is altered so that visitors walk from the former office display area and through the former hospital area [avoiding the low ceiling beam], thus creating a walled off display area for AV, hologram or other interpretive elements, while retaining accessibility.²
- Retain the Goods shed as is, and make good to ensure it becomes pest and rodent free. Replace PVC corrugated roofing 'skylights' for Polycarbonate UV protection sheets.

RECONFIGURATION RETAINING THE TENANT'S COTTAGE

The tenant's cottage being situated in the middle of the approach to the site creates confusion as to whether this corner section is part of the museum or a private property. This is exacerbated by the non-delineal boundary around the property (a lack of fencing) and the use of 'private property' signs visible from several directions on the lawn. At present there is 'tenant's creep' - where the tenant's belongings are encroaching onto pathways and other public areas, which confuses the issue more. (Although it is understood to be a temporary measure, it still potentially impacts visually on visitors who call in to view the museum and find it closed).

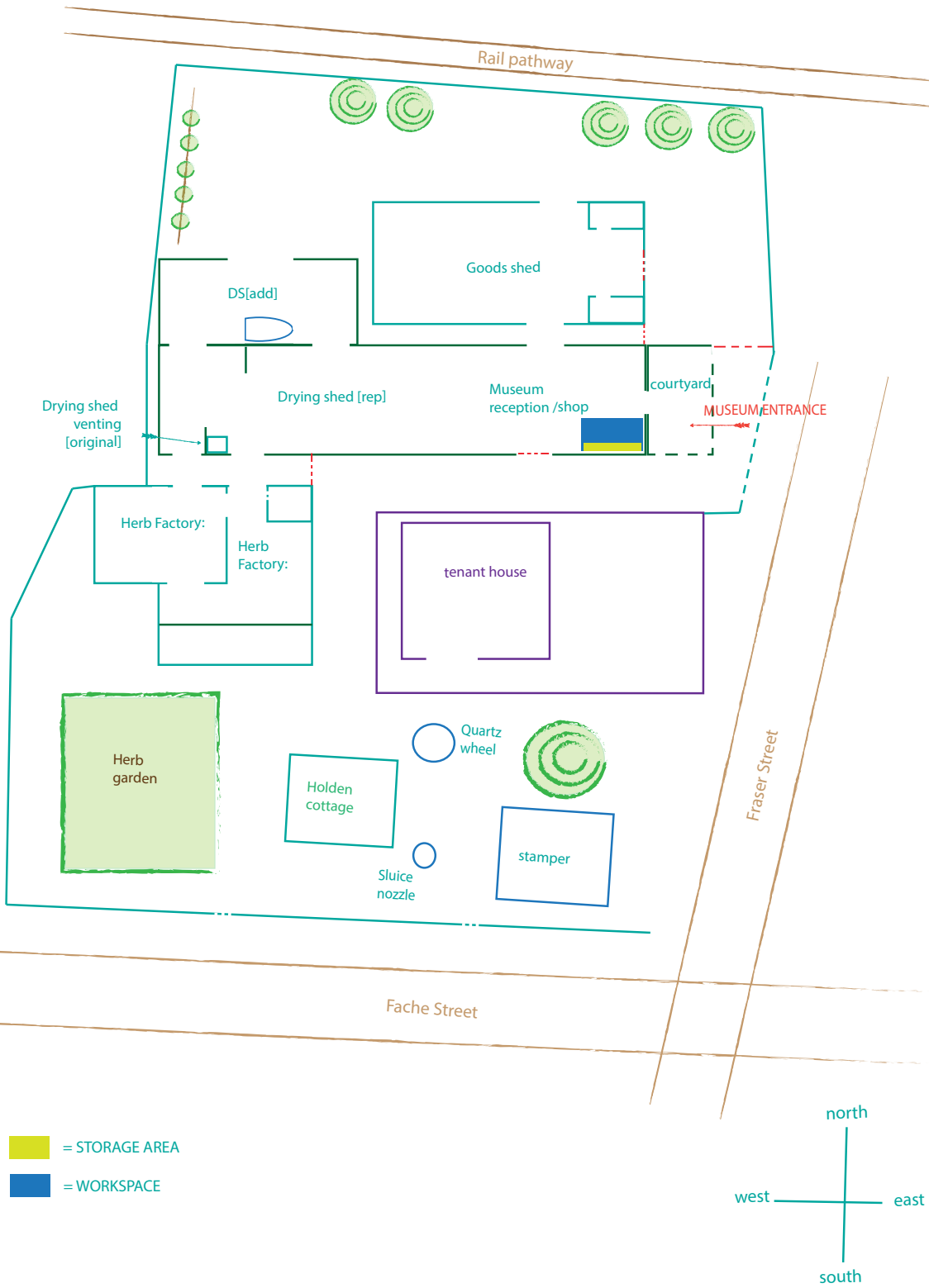
If the option of retaining the property as tenanted is favoured, then it would be prudent to clearly define the boundary between house and museum, by fencing around the property. The fencing should be aesthetically sympathetic to the theme of the museum, and clearly define and enhance the remaining garden areas as a public destination.

Image following: Reconfiguration plan with retention of tenants cottage

¹ Refer to illustration: Reconfiguration plan with retention of tenants cottage, page 6

² do.

RECONFIGURATION WITH
 RETENTION OF TENANTS HOUSE
 - BRIAR HERB MUSEUM COMPLEX



OPTION TWO: RECONFIGURATION UTILISING THE TENANT'S COTTAGE

In this option the tenant's cottage is reformed into the museum reception with shop area, public toilet, smoko space and operational storage included. This would allow the volunteers to greet and inform visitors on a professional level, while remaining in comfortable and proximal conditions.

The main entry from the street would be via a ramp, and the buildings would be fenced to create a self-guided flow around the site. Out front, the interpreted gold trail and herb garden would remain accessible from the street in an 'open-all hours' format.

RECONFIGURATION UTILISING THE TENANT'S COTTAGE OF BRIAR HERB MUSEUM COMPLEX

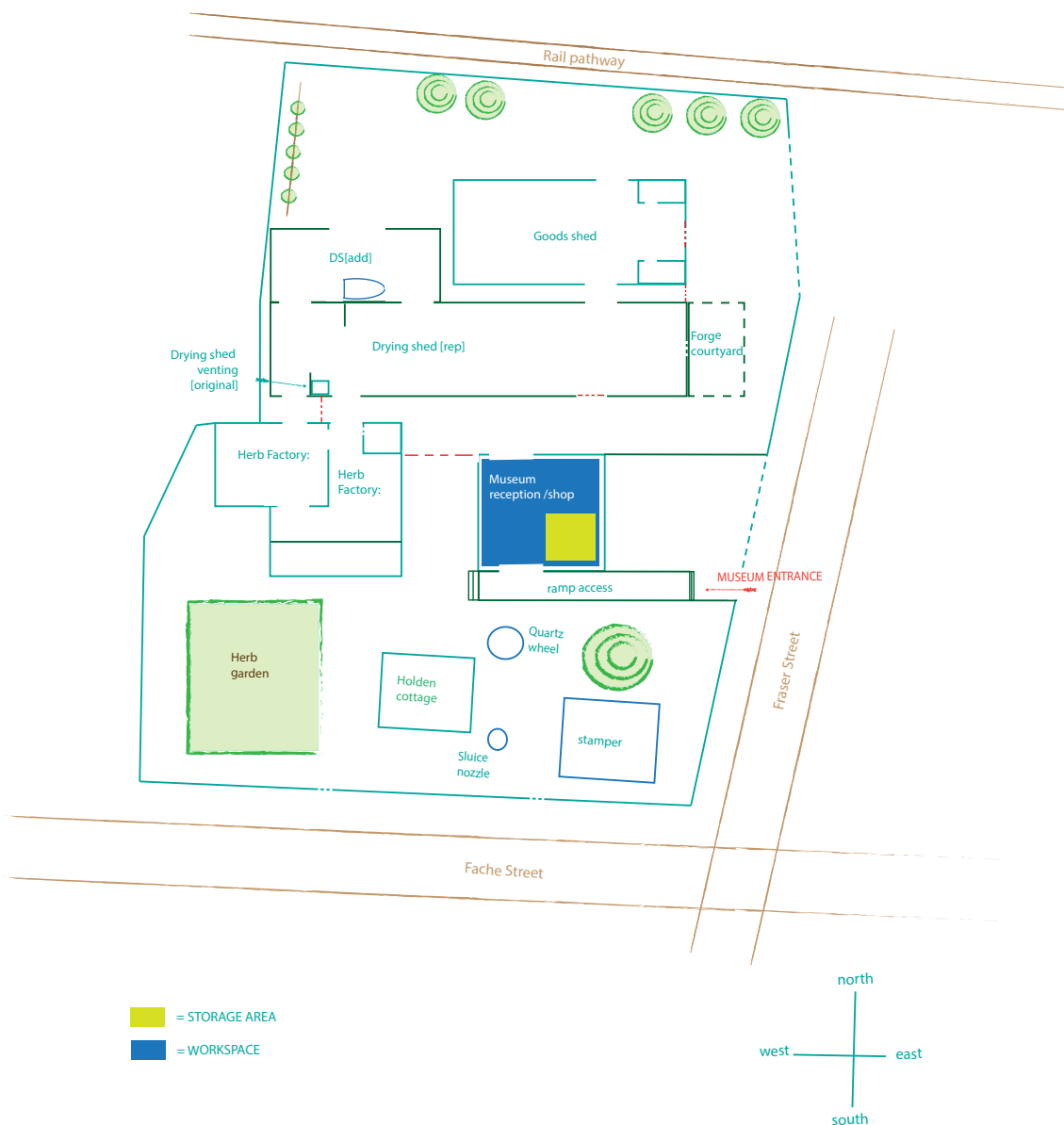


Image: Reconfiguration utilising the tenant's cottage

INTENDED FLOW OF RECONFIGURED
BRIAR HERB MUSEUM COMPLEX
- DRY WEATHER

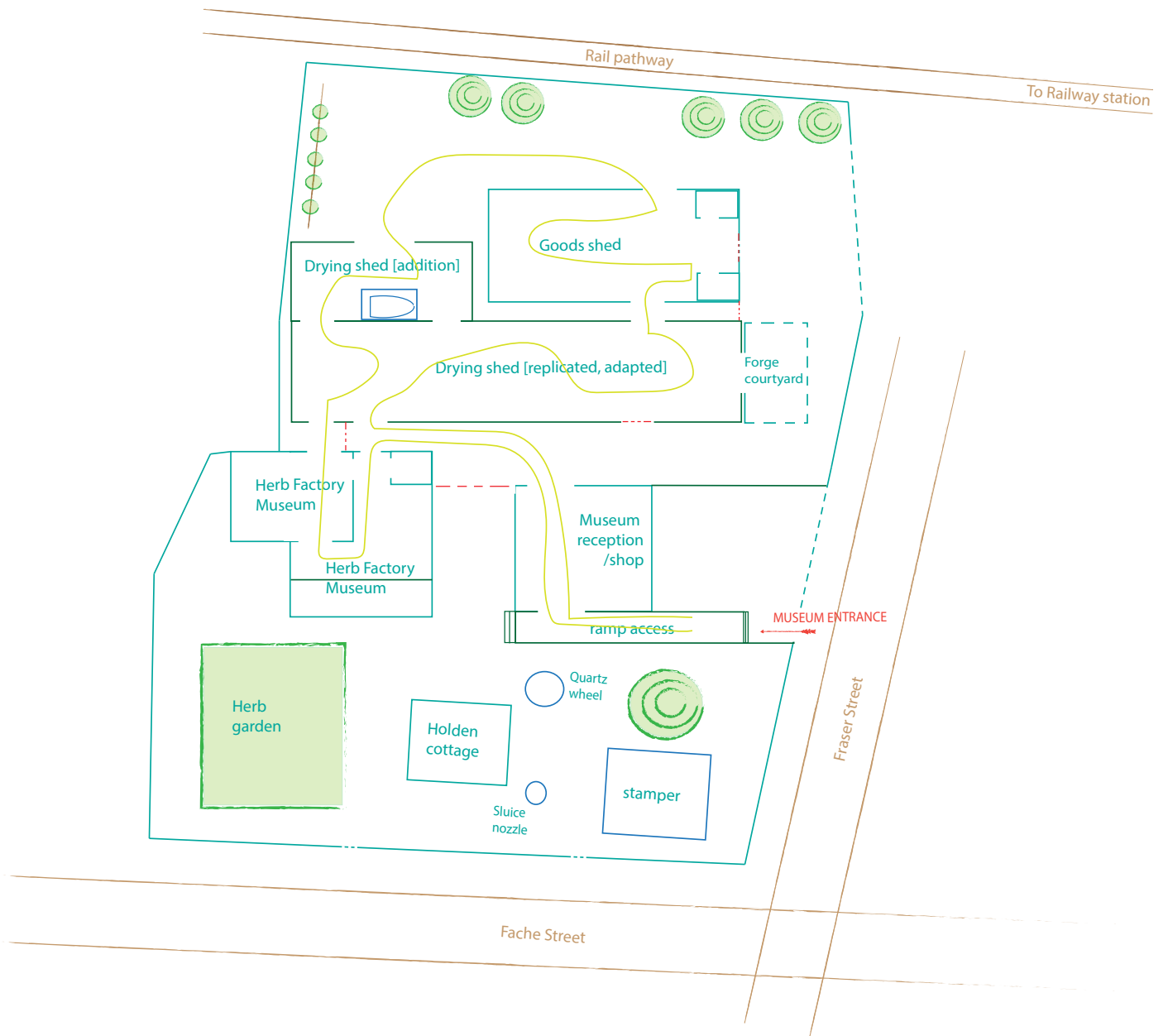


Image: Intended flow of visitors, dry weather

INTENDED FLOW OF RECONFIGURED
BRIAR HERB MUSEUM COMPLEX
- WET WEATHER

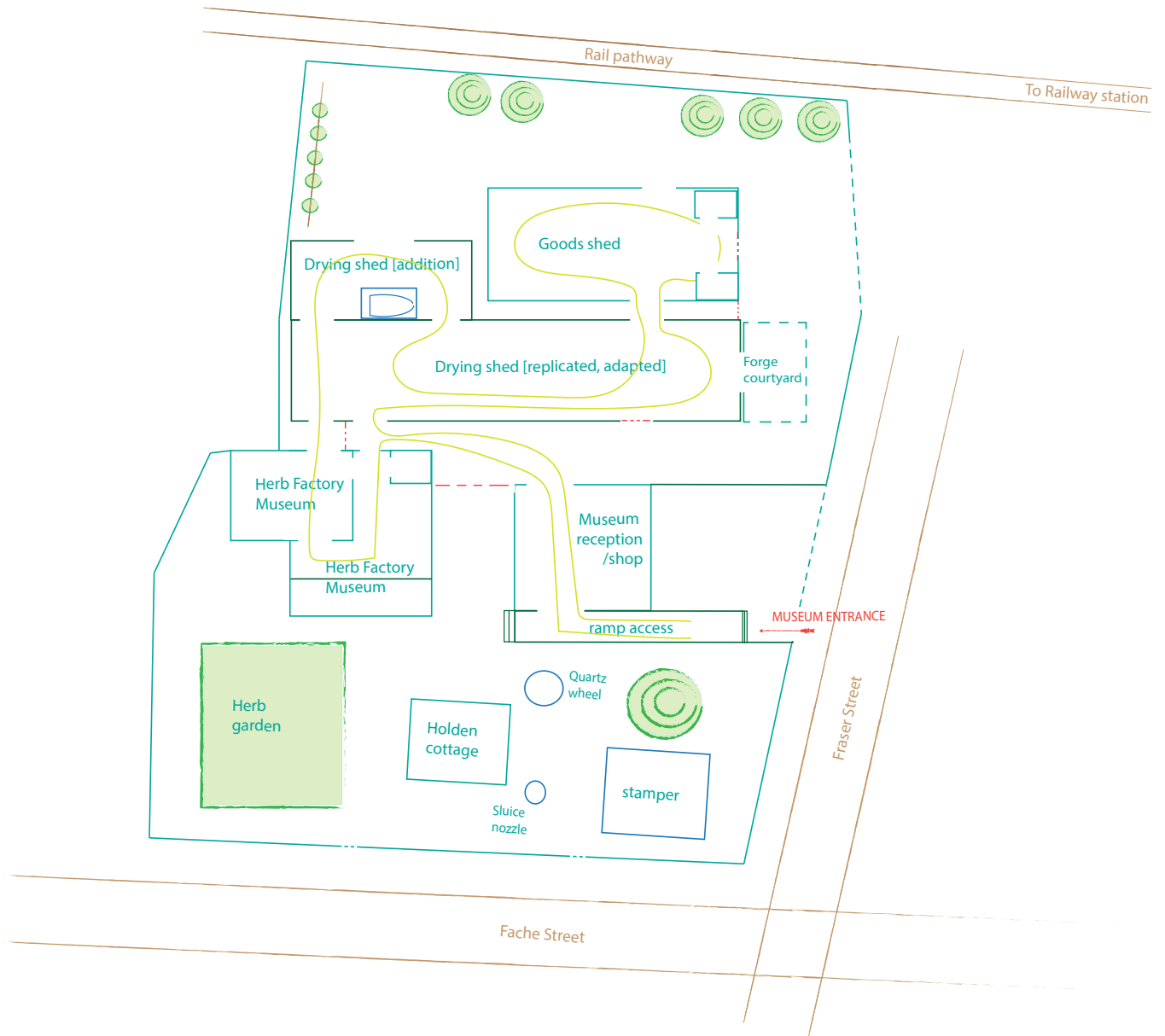


Image: Intended flow of visitors, wet weather

POTENTIAL THEMING ARRANGEMENTS

Understanding the volume of the collection that is on display per area and theme is critical when calculating the layout and reorganisation of spaces and buildings.

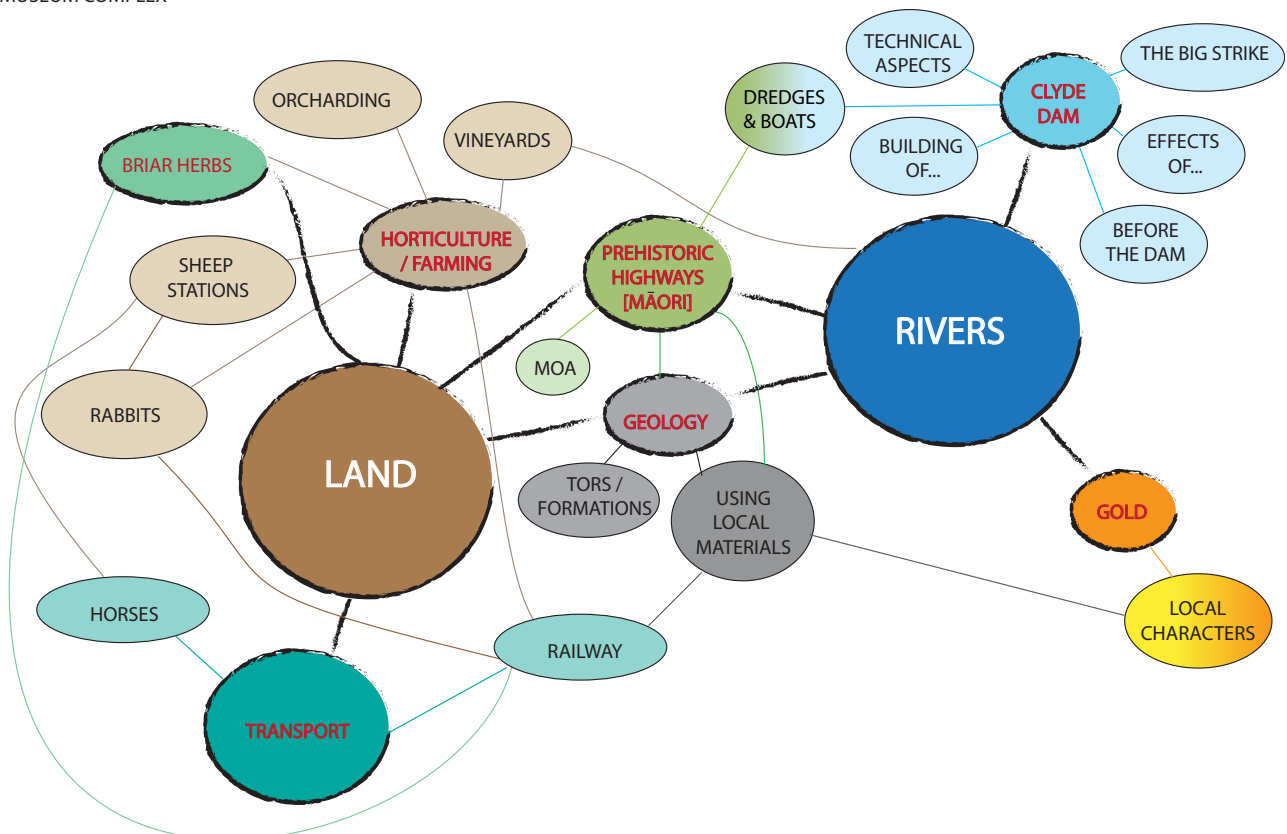
Amongst CHM Inc's collections are some significant large objects that sit on the exterior perimeter of the museum, such as the concrete hopper, that are pivotal in conveying the stories of the Clyde area. These should be incorporated into their respective areas.

Currently the region's stories are fractured between the two sites, with part elements in each area. The museum would benefit directly by presenting a more cohesive approach to each site - Briar Herb site to focus on local industries, and Blyth Street to focus on the social history aspects of the region.

On page 11 is a plan showing potential layout of themed areas - a more cohesive approach, linking inside to out, land and river activities.

Image: Proposed Briar Herb Factory Museum complex themes and links

Collection links
BRIAR HERB FACTORY
MUSEUM COMPLEX



POTENTIAL THEMING ARRANGEMENT
OF BRIAR HERB MUSEUM COMPLEX

