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<u>**Title**</u>
Landscape Infrastructure: the exploration of new and synergistic exemplars in Sydney, Australia

<u>**Abstract**</u>
(260 words)

This paper explores the theory of Landscape Infrastructure in a Sydney context. This theory identifies the inherent infrastructural character of landscape and its capacity to convey other infrastructural systems.

The University of Technology Sydney's Landscape Architecture undergraduate program first introduced *Landscape Infrastructure* as a topic into its curricula in 2016. This posed two key aims relating to the application of Landscape Infrastructure theory to an Australian context, in lieu of its North American origins. First, it sought to identify the fundamental paradigms of Landscape Infrastructure that can be 'generalisable' and which exist outside of site specifics or a particular geopolitical context. Second, it sought novel instances of its application in the Sydney region. To respond, students began with an evaluation of relevant literature, followed by the distillation of principles and paradigms. These were then tested through a series of propositional design exercises that explored their application to a range of sites in Sydney. These included students 'reimagining' *The GreenWay*, a multifunctional landscape corridor in Sydney's Inner West and part of the proposed *Sydney Green Grid* network. Students then applied the theory to design proposals in Parramatta, one of Australia's fastest-growing urban centres.

This research confirmed the ability of Landscape Infrastructure to provide principles and paradigms towards the generation of synergistic outcomes. Through testing this theory on real sites, landscape revealed itself as not only essential to the 'grey', 'green' and 'blue' infrastructures, but to all systems that carry the functions that shape environments. Consequently, Landscape Infrastructure moves beyond integration of infrastructure with landscape, proposing instead that landscape itself is infrastructural.