

To answer these questions, Mapping Edges uses walking and mapping, among other ethnographic and design research methods, to explore neighbourhoods such as the UTS precinct.

Walking generates particular questions by engaging our bodies and senses, as well as our minds. Walking can point to the 'plantiness' of cities, such as how edges of streets are cultivated with edible plants, tree-lined according to masterplans, or left to grow as spontaneous ecosystems. We are mindful that these landscapes are created together by people, plants, animals and objects. We recognise examples of stewardship in the way people cultivate plants to make green corridors, care for small parks and forgotten parcels of land, or, as in the case of the UTS precinct, how professionally designed green spaces border with individual and vernacular gardens and planting. We usually think of this process as 'walking with plants'.

The Planty Atlas of UTS developed a community walk in 2019, starting at Quay St, where UTS Library used to be, and finishing in front of the library's current location at UTS Central. The walk was planned according to permaculture principles: 'observe and interact'; 'apply self-regulation and receive feedback'; 'value the marginal and use edges'; 'use and value diversity'; and 'use small and slow solutions'.

The walk is about redirecting attention to the edges of the UTS precinct, observing green pockets, gardens, parks, and spontaneous plants. There are a variety of plants and planting practices, starting with the designed landscape of UTS Alumni Green and of the newly developed Darling Square. In contrast to these designed spaces, the UTS neighbourhood is

also home to plants that have escaped from gardens. Carried by birds, bats or rats, as well as on the soles of shoes and the seams of clothes, seeds grow between buildings, around drains, and along rail lines. There are edible plants on the front steps of TAFE, and at The Ultimo Community Garden. The established ornamental garden at TAFE is remixed by The Students' Collective with vernacular garden design. Plants push through fences and across human-made borders, escaping and creating new edges and landscapes around the Powerhouse Museum and along The Goods Line. Can you identify any common plants, like kangaroo grass, parsley or bee-friendly flowers? Are these plants sowed or spontaneous? How are humans part of the lives of these plants?

By walking regularly, paying attention to plants, and documenting what you see, you can learn a lot about your immediate environment.

For instance, during our residency in summer 2019, the drought, heat, and pollution from bushfires had created a dry, dusty and impoverished landscape, where even established gardens, unless equipped with an irrigation system, were withering away.

With this map, we invite you to participate in this ongoing project: walk at your own pace, and let us know what you see, sense and think with the hashtag #mappingedges on Instagram or Twitter.

What is your vision for a planty campus?

But why walking? We are interested in finding out how people understand, contribute to and relate to ecologies in cities. How do people tend to plants and support wildlife? How do they design for and with plants in their gardens, balconies, and verges? And, conversely, how do plants design our city and generate a sense of place? What kind of knowledge circulates among people who care for plants? How is climate breakdown perceived and experienced by people thinking about plants? Can the environmental stewardship practices already present in our city expand? How can human participation be prompted?

This project presents an opportunity to think about how plants shape the ways we look at, feel about, and imagine a place. *The Planty Atlas of UTS* invites you to imagine a more planty university campus, starting from our library, an important centre for transdisciplinary, conviviality, play, and research. The library creates a much-needed social space for people from all over the university to think differently about possible futures and what we can do to shape them. The library is also a great place to start walking experiments.

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This booklet has been designed by Megan Wong and Ella Cutler.

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We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, upon whose lands we stand and walk. We pay respect to the Elders past, present, and future, acknowledging them as the traditional custodians of knowledge for these lands.

The Planty Atlas of UTS

UTS Library 2019 Creative in Residence - Alexandra Crosby and Ilaria Vanni, from the research studio **Mapping Edges.**

Map of the

UTS Precinct:



Plant key

- UTS Haymarket campus—*Platanus* plane tree.
- Darling Square—*Eucalyptus saligna* blue gum.
- The Goods Line—*Salvia rosmarinus* rosemary.
- Mary Ann St Park—*Rosa* rose.
- Ultimo Community Garden—*Petroselinum crispum* parsley.
- TAFE edible plants garden—*Rheum thabarbarum* rhubarb, *Salvia rosmarinus* rosemary, *Foeniculum vulgare* fennel.
- TAFE ornamental garden—*Camellia sasangua*, *Rhipsalis cereuscula* coral cactus, *Acacia spectabilis* Mudgee wattle.
- UTS Alumni Green—*Philodendron xanadu*.
- UTS Library—*Ficus macrophylla* Morton Bay fig or Australian banyan.
- UTS Tower—*Eucalyptus pulverulenta* silver-leaved mountain gum, *Gardenia jasminoides* cape jasmine.
- Central Park Mall—*Anemone* windflower.