BACKGROUND & SITE APPROACH

GLADES CONCEPT

1811
- The concept of Glades by John Nash
- Original proposed plan of Regent’s Park

1870
- St Katharine’s Glade and Villa
- The Villa was bombed during the war

2014
- The remains of St Katharine’s Glade is still visible in the landscape today

Future tree planting

Oppportunity to create a series of Glades

PLAY

What you have told us

Must Have
- Narrative
- Multiple age groups
- Challenge
- Signage and Information
- Accessibility, connectivity
- Equipment
- Visibility
- Sensory
- Kiosk, changing rooms and toilets
- Picnic area
- Hide and quiet place
- Water and Sand
- Seating

Must Consider
- Changes in level
- Adult gym equipment
- Native animals, park life
- External areas around existing playground

Don’t Want
- Conflicting uses
- Loss of provision
- Focus on single central feature
- Themed park
- Age limit

Consultation & Design
In order to help shape the designs and ensure regular visitors to the playground have a chance to comment, we have been carrying out consultation. This has included workshops with local schools and community groups, an outline questionnaire, conversations with visitors to the playground and site observations of how children use and value the space. These concepts have been drafted in response to the initial consultation.

Let us know what you think!

Project Timeline and Background

Following on from the improvements to Marylebone Green and Hanover Gate playgrounds in recent years, we will improve the Gloucester Gate playground to provide an imaginative and playful landscape that maximises the play value, improves accessibility and provides an inviting space in the park setting.

Next steps
Further design work will follow once we have an agreed concept design. There will then be another opportunity in Spring 2015 to provide feedback before we produce the final plans. Work on the playground is expected to go ahead in Winter 2015. Please check for updates during that time.

Programme:
- Consultation & concept development
- Outline design
- Detailed design development/planning
- Construction

Consultation
Winter 2014
Spring 2015 Consultation on final designs
Summer 2015
Starts Winter 2015/16
PLAY CONCEPT

PROPOSED PLAY CHARACTER

- Entrance Glade
  Formal and open entrance maintaining key views

- Play Glade
  Active, central play area with play structures, equipment and café

- Orchard Glade
  Gently sloping hill with fruit trees and tall grassland with mown paths and future sculpture installations

- Play opportunities
  To spread into the landscape

- Nature Glade
  Building on the existing characteristics of St Katharine’s Glade. Temporary flooded area with marginal planting

- Sports Glade
  Area maintained for sports and events

Play Types:

- Sensory
- Construction
- Challenging
- Fantasy
- Reflective
- Natural
- Change in Levels
- Sculptural
- Equipment
- Seating
- Incidental
- Sports
- Exploring
- Free Play
- Picnics
- Water

PLAY INTO PARK
PARK INTO PLAY

- Connect the play area with the park. New play opportunities outside of the playground area
- Bring the character of the park into the play area. Connect play with Nature
- Establish visual links between play and surroundings. Potential for additional footpaths between ‘Glades’

ORCHARD GLADE

NATURE GLADE

SPORTS GLADE
PLAY CONCEPT

PLAY INTO PARK - PARK INTO PLAY

The Play Glade Strategy

• Enhance the existing play offer
• Create a safe play environment for children, comfortable and reliable for parents
• Promote quality access and movement to and within the Play Glade
• Connect the Play Glade with Nature
• Merge the Play Glade with surrounding park
• Play Glade to have a narrative that relates to the existing character of the surrounding park

1. Play Glade
2. Orchard Glade
3. Nature Glade
4. Sports Glade

PLAY / PARK STRATEGY

PLAY ZONING

PLAY / PARK STRATEGY

ACCESS AND MOVEMENT STRATEGY

Key Points

- Introduction of orchard for family picnic
- Informal play to spread into park and orchard
- Creation of timber play trail
- Introduction of planted areas into grassland - creating planting refuges
- Introduction of marginal planted areas

TREE PLANTING STRATEGY

- Existing trees
- Proposed trees to form play Glade

Main access
Main route within play area
Play routes

Park to go into Play
Play to go into Park
**PLAY GLADE SKETCH**

**CHARACTER AREAS**

- **Carer / Seating Base**
  A beautiful base for carers to be comfortable and enjoy their visit to the playground. Soft surroundings, comfortable seats and great overseeing of the play zones.

- **Sand play**
  Essential for flexible and so many play opportunities. Structures, sculptures, diggers, and water are all essential here.

- **Seating / Informal play**
  A zone for younger children near the kiosk and the open park. A soft zone with varied planting, seating for picnics and making informal bases from where the whole playground can be explored.

- **Adventure Tree play**
  An area to challenge older children. Drama and excitement must be generated through vertical play zones, dizzy heights, dens in the sky, sliding, and climbing. The zone is on the glade edge and is richly planted providing enclosure and views to the wider park and into the other play zones.

- **Dips and Mounds**
  The whole play area can use levels to dramatic effect. The landscape must vary to continuously challenge children and change perspectives. From fine textured ripples to large scale plunging slopes. Levels must be used to define and make distinct spaces and play zones.

- **Water play**
  The imaginative use of emerging water, rills, water ponding and soaked sand for castles making must inform the areas for younger children to play collectively or alone.

**ROUTES**

- **Access route**
- **Main play route**

**PLANTING**

- **Park planting to merge into play**

**FACILITIES**

1. **Existing toilets building**
   - Refurbished to service both public and play users

2. **Existing shading structure**

3. **New kiosk**
   - New building to service both public and play users
   - Spill out space

**CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT**

- Interpretation of the ‘Glade’ concept defining the play area
- Proposed trees to consolidate and densify tree glade
- Play spaces to have informal / organic character
- Play areas to be extended into the park
- Inclusion of ‘vertical play’ with structures, mounds and slopes. Possibility in connecting play with tree canopy
- Central focus as social gathering and play

**Existing hedge and fence to be retained**

- Existing hedge
- Existing fence to be retained.

**New access to play area**

- Existing hedge and fence to be retained.
CHARACTER AREAS

CARER / BASE
- COMFORT
- SHELTER
- SHADE

SEATING / INFORMAL
- DISCOVERY
- NATURAL

PLANTING TRAIL
- EXPLORING
- FANTASY

ADVENTURE TREE
- DARING
- PROGRESSION

SAND PLAY
- CREATING
- STRUCTURES

DIPS AND MOUNDS
- CHALLENGING
- DARING

WATER PLAY
- WATER
- MOVEMENT

CLIMBING