

Nuriootpa War Memorial Pool Redesign

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My brief was to develop a digital concept for the re-design of the Nuriootpa War Memorial Pool premises. I intended the design to incorporate modern aesthetics as well as new and innovative facilities to modernise the enterprise while honouring the original history and values. I began my process by researching the current premises, investigating the origins of the pool and the original designer, Louis Laybourne Smith. I discovered the original design was constructed as a part of the town's growing community centre in 1945 as a post-war initiative to celebrate the social and civil liberties that soldiers fought for.

The pool throughout history is consistently seen as a symbol for community comradery, a key value I wanted to represent within my re-model, further emphasising the togetherness and community-friendly legacy of the space. To ensure my development proposal met the demands of the target demographic I independently investigated the industry and community needs. I visited and analysed the design of other facilities in the region, noting the pros and cons, the function and appearance of each design as well as interviewing locals to identify the demographic benefits of each location.

Further, I surveyed the Barossa valley community to highlight the already successful aspects of the current Nuriootpa pool design. This allowed me to gauge what new facilities and improvements were wanted by the community within my expansion proposal. Analysing each aspect of the premises individually I brainstormed ideas surrounding new facilities and beneficial upgrades, investigating ways to create an aesthetic yet feasible re-model that was financially and structurally reasonable and achievable to operate and maintain. I identified that Nuriootpa pool needed a new aesthetic upgrade and more entertainment-areas installed to allow the pool to compete with those surrounding within the region. Investigation of Marion aquatic centre designed by Peddle Thorps inspired the idea of water-play zones, highly requested by locals, thus greatly attracting the family demographic. Following my research, I generated ideas, creating 2-point perspective sketches and mock designs for my final proposal.

Developing these sketches further using different digital programs, I finally decided to use Live Home 3D to create photorealistic projections. Through development and refinement, I investigated colour and different textures, exploring both form and function of various materials, balancing aesthetic with application. For my final I decided upon a modern navy, white and silver/grey colour scheme as the neutral colours tone well with the surrounding environment and emphasise colour of the pool. The main aspects of my design apply basic shapes with muted textures to appear sleek and timeless, they are then highlighted by feature walls within specific areas attracting interest e.g. canteen and entry, using unique graphics.

My final design concept is a logical and successful re-design proposal for Nuriootpa pool. The addition of facilities expands the pool's demographic, entertainment value and operational benefit; supporting the future of the pool as a community space, honouring the original pool premises and community values; the proposed modernised and timeless aesthetics also increasing the visual appeal, attracting new clientele.