

Why are we **HERE?**

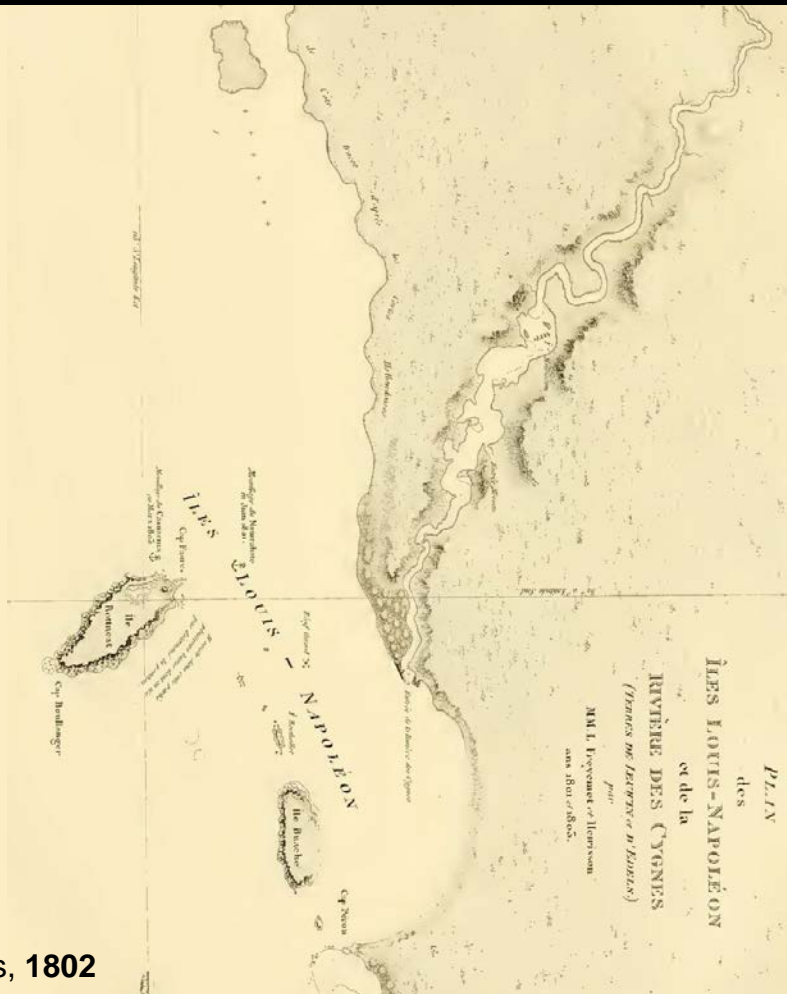


Why are we **HERE?**



*Willem de Vlamingh's ships, with black swans, at the entrance to the Swan River, Western Australia, coloured engraving (1796), derived from an earlier drawing (now lost) from the de Vlamingh expeditions of 1696–97*

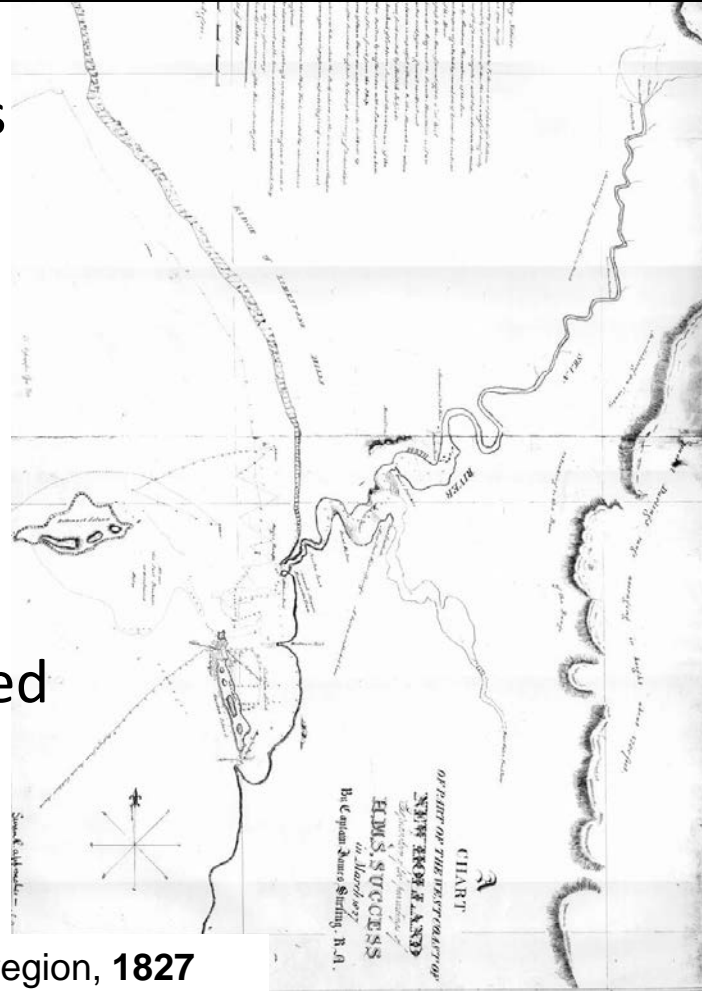
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Péron's Map of The Swan River and environs, **1802**

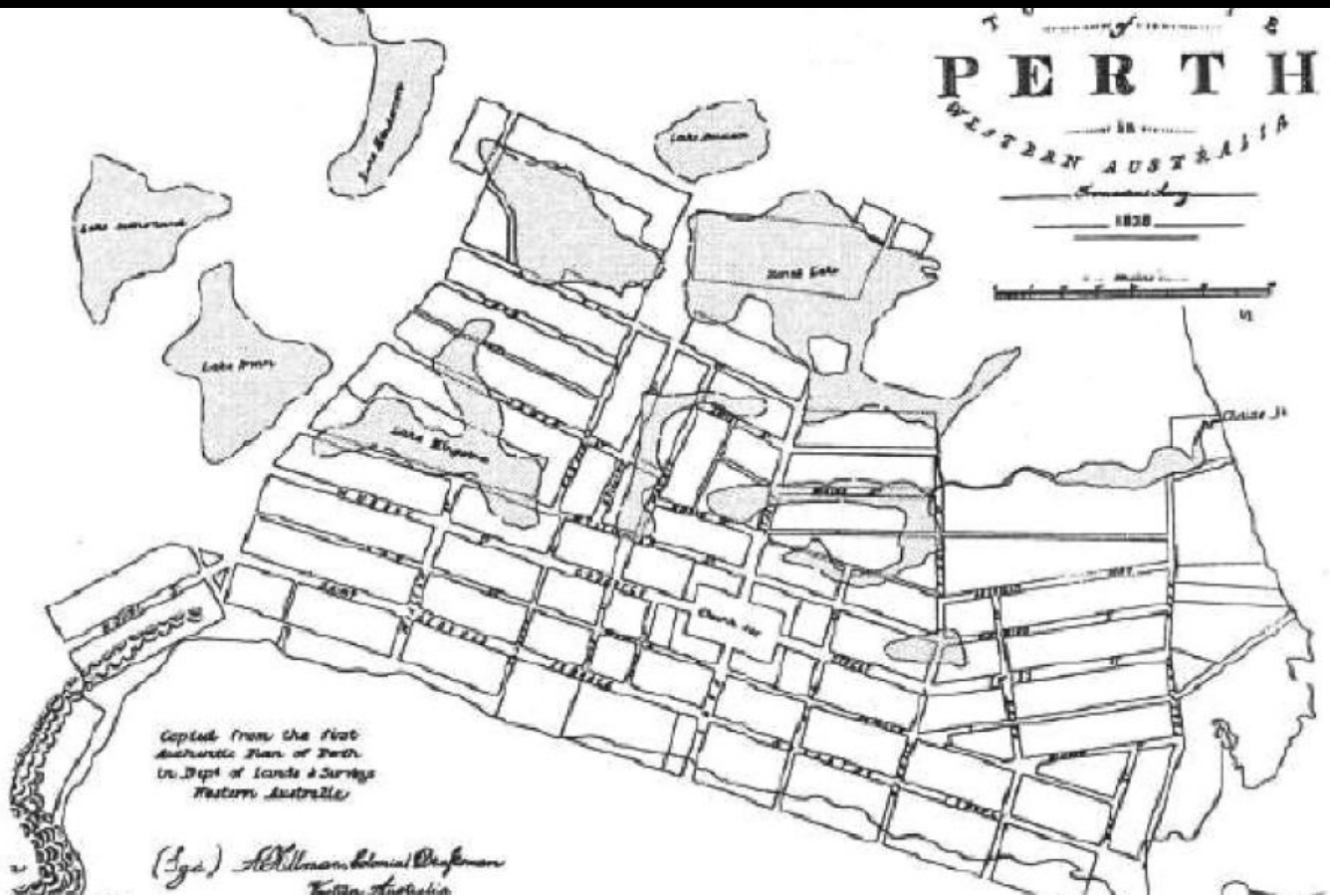
## Why are we **HERE**?

- 1829: Captain James Stirling founded Perth as part of the Swan River Colony
- Stirling thought the natural environment around Perth was “*as beautiful as anything of this kind I had ever witnessed*” and advocated that a colony be established here



Captains Stirling's Map of the Swan River region, **1827**

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Colonial Draftsman A. Hillman's **1838** plan for Perth **shows the wetlands that existed at the time**

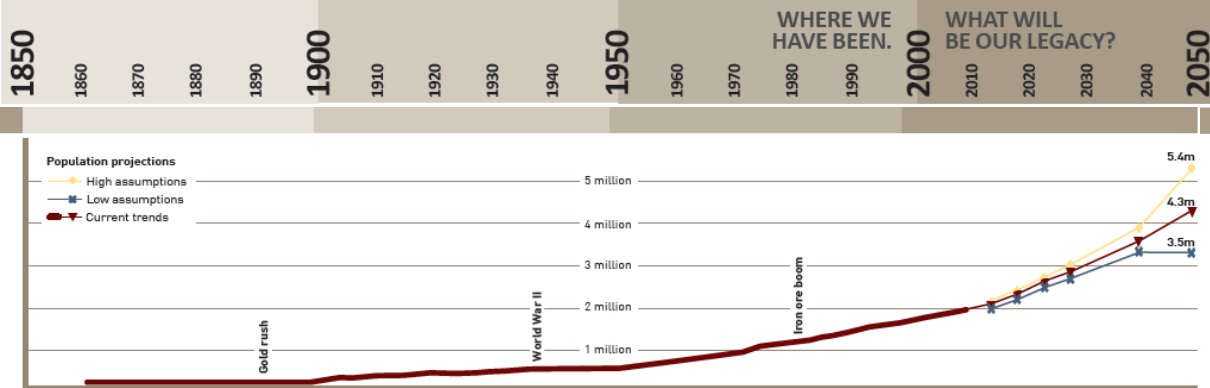
- For the first time in history, the majority of the human population resides within urban areas, with over 3 billion people living in cities across the world

# WHY are we here?

## Western Australia 1850 – 2050



Emerging trends



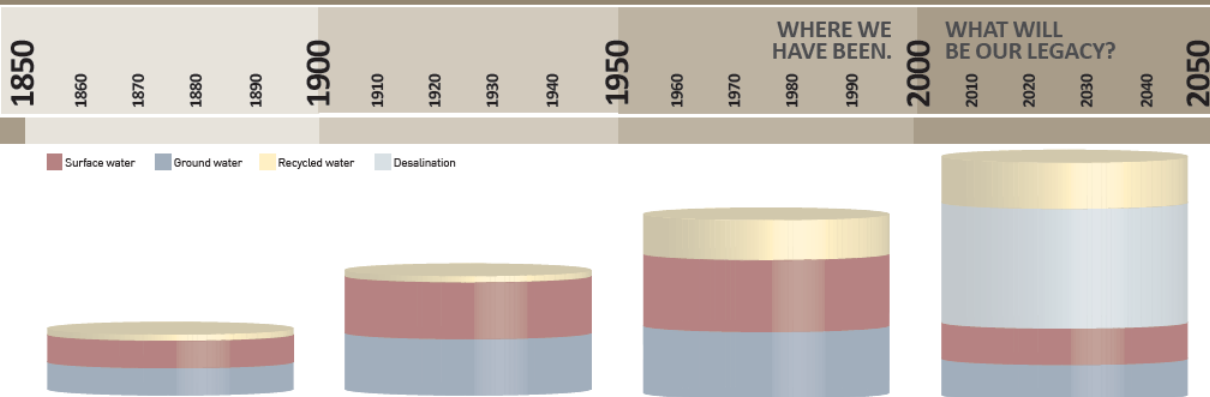
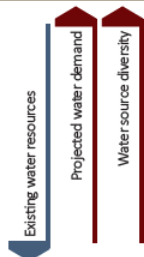
# WHY are we here?

## Western Australia 1850 – 2050



Emerging trends

Water sources



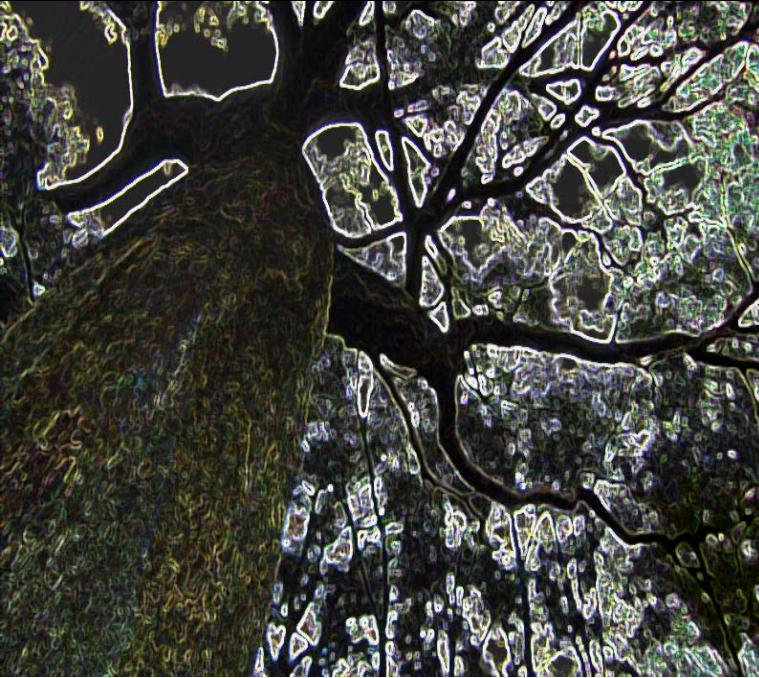


## Challenges identified for the Environment under the State Planning Strategy 2050:

Avoiding and minimising further loss of biodiversity is complex because it involves taking action to manage:

- all forms of pollution;
- the impacts of climate change and natural hazards (flooding and bushfire);
- land clearing that results in habitat loss;
- environmental degradation, salinity and erosion;
- predation and displacement by introduced species;
- weed infestation; and
- plant and animal diseases.

Why are WE here?



Centre for  
Environment &  
Biodiversity



Harry  
Butler  
Institute

