



Australian war memorial team visits project site



The planned Australian Memorial relates in form to the Carillon

The Australian War Memorial team brought the Anzac spirit of comradeship with them when they visited the project on Monday last week.

They were here to discuss design and construction matters in preparation for installing the Australian memorial. The team was led by Miles Hannah, Assistant Director for the Office of Australian War Graves, and included Peter Tonkin from architects Tonkin Zulaikha Greer who designed the memorial.

The memorial will feature 15 columns, each 6 metres tall, standing opposite the New Zealand War Memorial.

The week ahead

- Inspection with CCTV camera of the historic brick sewer that runs from Tory Street through part of the project site. The Alliance is protecting the sewer during the earthworks.
- Nearing completion of the steel sheet pile retaining wall that is being installed to protect the foundations of Mount Cook Police Barracks and Tasman Gardens Apartments.
- Ongoing: test pits at Inner City Bypass intersections to locate the position and level of service ducts ahead of planned improvements to traffic flow.
- Earthquake: Both the site and office came through Sunday's 6.5 earthquake intact.



Soil strata in the area between HMNZS Olphert and the War Memorial at the Taranaki Street end of the site; the trench is about 6m deep at this point

Trench exposes history of Mount Cook soil

The project trench is revealing the geological history of Mount Cook, a hill between two water systems: the Basin's former swampy lagoon and stream on one side and a river that ran through a gully along Taranaki Street many millennia ago.

The photo shows three layers of soil, the top layer being gravels and soil deposited by the ancient river in flood. The other two layers are greywacke rock in different stages of weathering (or decomposition), the slightly browner layer at the bottom being a rock ridge undulating through the site in a north-south orientation. The rust-orange line is a layer of iron rich soil deposited by water trickling down through the sediments.

The good news for the site is the strength of the soil is generally as expected and is working well for gripping the ground anchors for the temporary retaining walls.