



## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

### 11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

#### PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 8.8 Remembering the fallen
- 8.1.3 Developing public parks & gardens

#### HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 501 World Wars & other wars

#### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is a cultural landscape valued for its aesthetic characteristics, including the monument quality of the sandstone masonry pillar and podium of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial, its siting on the summit of the hill, the symbolism of the structures and plantings, and the views (sequential and static). (Criterion 1.1)

The complete panorama (and the view of Fremantle and the Gage Roads in particular), the urban parkland containing mature trees and open spaces, and the open character and almost constant breeze at the summit (particularly in the warmer months) are all aesthetic characteristics of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* that continue to attract visitors and locals alike, are valued by individuals and communities and contribute to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 1.1 & 1.3)

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is one of the most significant landmarks within Fremantle. The Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial (visible from sea), the mature Norfolk Island pines of the north-eastern section (part of the High Street vista from the Round House), the landform (topographical features), and the mature Canary Island palms all contribute to the landmark value of the place. (Criterion 1.3)

#### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

---

\* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert and Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1989. References to symbolism in architectural elements, motifs and plantings are taken from Oline Richards' *Inventory of War Memorials in Western Australia*, Perth, April 1996.

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is associated with the obelisk that was erected on the summit of the hill before 1874 for use as a trig point for surveying and navigation purposes. (Criterion 2.2)

Since the erection of the first memorial, the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial in 1929, *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* has been the chosen site for various memorials commemorating the Australian and Allied servicemen and women who lost their lives in World Wars One and Two, Korea, Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam. (Criterion 2.2)

Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* has been a popular lookout for both locals and visitors, and the panorama from its summit has been the subject of a number of artistic works and representations of the developing settlement at Fremantle. Use of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* as park and gardens dates from this time period and the beautification of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* dates from its vesting as a park in 1904. (Criterion 2.2)

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is associated with various ex service organisations such as the Returned Servicemen's League, Fremantle Legacy, the Royal Naval Association, the Royal Marines Association, the Submariners' Old Comrades Association, the Netherlands Ex Servicemen's Association, the US Submariners' Association, the RAN Corvettes Association, and the Allied Merchant Seamen's Association. *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* has been the location of various commemorative ceremonies held by these and other veteran associations. (Criterion 2.3)

### 11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

The place has been the site of a main Fremantle landmark or trig from before 1874 with the first obelisk or monument being replaced by a war memorial that continued to provide a datum for surveying and navigational purposes. (Criterion 3.2)

### 11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* has social significance as a place commemorating those who served during various wars to both the wider community and specifically to ex service organisations such as the Returned Servicemen's League, Fremantle Legacy, the Royal Naval Association, the Royal Marines' Association, the Submariners' Old Comrades Association, the Netherlands Ex Servicemen's Association, the US Submariners' Association, the RAN Corvettes Association, and the Allied Merchant Seamen's Association. The importance of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* to these communities is evidenced by its inclusion in the City of Fremantle Municipal Inventory and the ongoing public debate regarding the protection of the War Memorials. (Criteria 4.1 & 4.2)

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is highly valued by the local and wider community as a lookout and park. Historically, the site has been used as the vantage point for a number of artistic works. *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* has become one of Fremantle's foremost tourist destinations for visitors to the area. (Criterion 4.1)

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is held sacred by many people as evidenced by ongoing public debate since the erection of the first memorial. <sup>1</sup> (Criterion 4.1)

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is an important element within the urban fabric of Fremantle that contributes strongly to Fremantle residents' sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

## 12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

### 12.1. RARITY

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is an uncommon landscape and is rare as one of the three most impressive monumental Western Australian war memorials where the existing landforms and setting are integral with the principal monument, and include subordinate monuments, memorial plantings and a grand setting with views of land and waterscapes. The other two places are the State War Memorial within the setting of Kings Park, Perth, and the Mounted Desert Corps Memorial within the setting of Mount Clarence, Albany. (Criterion 5.1)

The Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial within *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is the largest single monument to the fallen of the First World War built in the Inter-War period in Western Australia in terms of height of obelisk/pillar and land area covered. (Criterion 5.1)

The Royal Navy Memorial within *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is the first memorial to the personnel of that force in Australia. (Criterion 5.1)

The Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial within *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is unusual as an Inter-War memorial as it does not include the names of the fallen to whose memory the place is dedicated. The construction of pillar and obelisk type monuments is a design now rarely practised. (Criterion 5.1 & 5.2)

### 12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

The Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial within the context *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is representative of the practice of erecting memorials on existing prominent landform features and within existing parkland. (Criterion 6.2)

The United States Navy Submarine memorial and the Periscope memorial within *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* are representative of the post-World War Two practice of creating memorials using the victor's own military hardware in contrast to the pre-World War Two custom of displaying trophies taken from the enemy. (Criterion 6.2)

### 12.3 CONDITION

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is in good condition overall with the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial in fair condition.

### 12.4 INTEGRITY

---

<sup>1</sup> The degree, geographical extent and meanings of the sacredness held by individuals and communities has been identified as an area for further research within this assessment. See 'Further Research' at page 28.

The early landform is largely intact although limestone outcrops have been quarried and landscaping introduced both of which have contributed to the values of the place. The original intention of the place as a landmark or trig has been retained in the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial despite the demolition of the nineteenth century obelisk used for this purpose. The intention of the place as a public park (vested in 1904) has been retained.

Current uses as public park and war memorial are compatible with the heritage values of the place but since the erection of the first memorial in the park occasions have demonstrated that the two uses have conflicted with one another from time to time.

The viability of the place to continue as a park in the long term is high. The viability of the place to remain a war memorial will continue to depend on how current and future generations value the memorials erected by past generations. Transgression of sanctity by a variety of secular activities has a long history at the place and will likely continue to impact on the presentation of structures and plantings occasionally.

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* has high integrity.

## 12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The place has high authenticity in layout, structures and plantings that date from the 1920s and 1930s.

There are few accretions overlain on earlier fabric. Accretions have included more recent memorials that have historic and social value as well as low-grade bins, seats and other park furniture.

There is no surface physical evidence of the landmark erected in the nineteenth century or the stone lined well and pump. Subsurface investigations have not been carried out.

## 13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence has been compiled by Kristy Bizzaca, Historian. The physical evidence has been compiled by Christopher Paterson and Don Wallace of Palassis Architects.

### 13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* comprising the prominent hill overlooking Fremantle, eleven memorial structures (including the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial on the summit), landscaping of lawns, trees, garden beds, paths, drives and walls is used both as parklands and as a place of remembrance.

Prior to the arrival of the Swan River colonists in 1829, the Fremantle area was part of the district of Midgegoorong.<sup>2</sup> Fremantle is believed to have been used by Aboriginal people primarily in the summer, when fish could be caught in the shallows at north Fremantle, small game hunted, fruits gathered, and fresh water obtained at a mineral spring, *Dwerda Weelardinup*, near Cantonment Hill.<sup>3</sup> One of the main tracks in the district led to

---

<sup>2</sup> O'Connor, S. & Thomson, R. (Centre for Prehistory, UWA), 'Report on the Investigation into the Aboriginal Heritage of the Arthur Head Area, Fremantle', Prepared for the Fremantle City Council, June 1984, p. 5.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, pp. 6 – 7.

Cantonment Hill or *Walyalup*, an Aboriginal word meaning 'Sea Eagle's nest'.<sup>4</sup> It is possible that, like Cantonment Hill, *Monument Hill* was also utilised by the Aboriginal people as a high lookout.

The first documented European structure at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* was an obelisk which had been erected as a trig point by 1874, similar to those that had been established at Buckland Hill and Naval Base, and was used for navigation purposes.<sup>5</sup> A circa 1880 plan of Fremantle shows the location of the obelisk and records the site as 'Obelisk Hill'.<sup>6</sup> Photographs of the obelisk show the surrounding landscape as comprising limestone outcrops and low scrub.<sup>7</sup> Obelisk Hill proved to be a prominent vantage point even at this early stage and a number of early drawings and photographs were taken from this location.<sup>8</sup>

The discovery of gold in the Kimberley, Murchison and Eastern Goldfields regions in the 1880s and 1890s had a significant impact on the development of Western Australia. Like other areas throughout the State, Fremantle was transformed as a result of the gold boom and the huge increase in population due to the goldrushes.<sup>9</sup> Although the majority of immigrants were passing through Fremantle on their way to the goldfields, a large number stayed on, finding work on the wharves and in the factories and foundries that were being established in the outlying areas of Fremantle. As few could be accommodated in Fremantle itself, 'canvas towns' developed at Willis Point, *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* and in East Fremantle.<sup>10</sup> At this time, existing vegetation was removed from *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* and used for firewood and other purposes.<sup>11</sup>

---

4 Margaret Howroyd, Interview with Kenneth Desmond Colbung MBE JP, 28/3/1988, Fremantle City Library, Oral History Project, Tape 1, Side 1. It should be noted that Fremantle itself is sometimes referred to as *Walyalup*. (O'Connor & Thomson, op. cit., p. 11.)

5 Information from Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library; Reece, R. & Pascoe, R., *A Place of Consequence*, Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 1985, pp. 97 – 98; *The Morning Herald*, 17 December 1907; Archdeacon and Cochlan's Survey of Gage Roads, copy held with the Fremantle Local History Collection, 1874.

6 Undated Plan of Fremantle [c. 1880], held at Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library. There was some speculation that the area was also known as 'Church Hill'; however, a plan of Fremantle dated 20/3/1833 shows that Church Hill was approximately located in the vicinity of the former cemetery at what is now Alma Street. (Part of Fremantle, dated 20/3/1833, held at Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library.) [It should be noted that speculation rose after use of the name Church Hill in correspondence found in *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1924-25). This file was not viewed by K Bizzaca as it was unable to be located at State Records Office. Photocopies of this information have been provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*.]

7 Photograph, 1372, Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library; BL 6226B, Battye Library Pictorial Collection.

8 Reece & Pascoe, op. cit., p. 98. Some of the artistic works done from *Monument Hill* include Julian Rossi Ashton's 1887 panorama of Fremantle, A. C. Cooke's 1894 lithograph of Fremantle, and a 1924 panoramic photograph by Stewart Gore. (Seddon, G., *A House, A Cottage and A Shop: 186 High Street, Fremantle*, Bookmark Publishing House, Guildford, 1993, pp. 9, 31 & 34.)

9 Stannage, C. T., *The People of Perth*, Perth City Council, Perth, 1980, pp. 193 – 194.

10 Rubinich, T., *Plympton to East Fremantle: A Century of Schooling 1898 – 1998*, East Fremantle Primary School, pp. 1 – 2; Lee, J., *This is East Fremantle*, Publication Printers, Perth, 1979, p. 2; Ewers, J. K., *The Western Gateway: A History of Fremantle*, UWA Press, 1971, Second Edition, p. 88.

11 Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 712.5.

By 1897, the place had become known as *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*; likely to have taken its name from the obelisk monument.<sup>12</sup>

On 20 July 1904, Obelisk Reserve 9335 (Town Lot 1519) was vested in the Fremantle Municipal Council for use as a park. The vesting was subject to the Council's agreement that it would maintain the obelisk and that the land would be repossessed by the Government should it be needed for defence purposes. Compensation would only be paid to the value of any improvements which had been carried out to this land.<sup>13</sup>

Immediately after the vesting in 1904 quarrying began at the reserve subject to the approval and specifications of Fremantle's Town Engineer. Blasting in the area resulted in a number of complaints from local residents who believed that this was damaging the foundations of their residences. The Fremantle Tramways Board was one of several companies who had an agreement with the Fremantle Council to remove capstone and pitching stone from the reserve for ballasting purposes.<sup>14</sup>

From 1904, various landscape works were carried out to *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. Tenders were called for the erection of fencing on 16 February 1906 and, in 1907, trees were planted along the High and Swanbourne Street elevations.<sup>15</sup> In 1908, a horseshoe shaped footpath was constructed around the obelisk, fixed jarrah seats and sets of swings were constructed, a drinking fountain installed, and a shelter shed was erected on the obelisk at a cost of £64/10/-.<sup>16</sup> A post and rail fence was erected in 1909 to protect growing trees from goats and cows.<sup>17</sup>

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* became a popular park and lookout with locals and visitors. A description of the site in *The Morning Herald* on 17 December 1907 is as follows:

*Monument Hill* is one of the picturesque spots of the parent municipality. This is a well-known land mark, the obelisk on which is familiar to all those who navigate this coastline. Owing to its elevation and the uninterrupted view of Fremantle's "Seven Hills," this is a popular resort, and presents panoramic views of the outlook that is appreciated by all visitors. It is in the evening, however, when the sun sinks beneath the horizon of the western ocean that *Monument Hill* is really appreciated by visitors and residents alike. Whichever direction the breeze may come from, it always blows cool across *Monument Hill*, and at the close of the hottest day a half-hour spent on this resort will prove truly invigorating.<sup>18</sup>

In 1908, *The Evening Mail* reported Council's plans for the continued beautification of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* including the removal of limestone outcrops and construction of gravel footpaths.

---

12 *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1897, cited in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 712.5.

13 *The Mail*, 25 June 1904; Correspondence in *Monument Hill* Reserve, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Box 6, Item 12 (1906); Land Memorial, in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library.

14 Correspondence in *Monument Hill* Reserve, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Box 6, Item 12 (1906).

15 *Government Gazette*, 16 February 1906; Letter dated 13/11/1907, in *Monument Hill* Reserve, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Box 6, Item 12 (1906).

16 Correspondence in *Monument Hill* Reserve, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Box 6, Item 12 (1906).

17 Letter dated 6/7/1909, *Monument Hill* Reserve, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Box 6, Item 12 (1906).

18 *The Morning Herald*, 17 December 1907.

Enthusiasm for the project was such that it was suggested that Queen's Square be disposed of with funds going towards these works.<sup>19</sup>

In 1919, J. W. Bateman amongst others first raised the concept of the erection of a memorial to commemorate members of the Fremantle community who had died in World War One.<sup>20</sup> It was not until 1921 that the memorial issue was raised by Mayor Frank Gibson who stated 'that it was a reflection on the town that it was the only one of its size in Western Australia that did not have a memorial'.<sup>21</sup> On 5 December 1921, the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Committee, a deputation comprising three local businessmen, approached Council with recommendations that the site for the memorial be confirmed as *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* and proposed to raise £4,000 to £5,000 through public subscription towards its erection.<sup>22</sup>

In 1922, designs for the Fremantle War Memorial were called for and the winning design awarded to Wilkinson & Ross architects for an elaborate plan comprising a colonnaded tower and lookout chamber.<sup>23</sup> Local sculptor Pietro Porcelli was initially contracted to complete the memorial and he began work in 1925. (By this time the obelisk had been demolished.)<sup>24</sup> After some controversy, the contract with Porcelli was dissolved and, in 1927, local architectural firm Allen & Nicholas were appointed to modify the existing plans in light of the available funds.<sup>25</sup> In October 1927, local builder and Councillor R. Rennie was awarded the contract for erection of the memorial at a cost of £5,931.<sup>26</sup>

One of the reasons attributed to the delay in the erection of the memorial was lack of public interest in contributing to the project and, as a result, the Council waged a constant battle to raise funds and civic pride.<sup>27</sup> A number of fundraising events such as concerts and plays were held to raise money.<sup>28</sup> The Chairman of the Australian War Memorial Board was even asked if Longstaff's *Ghosts of Menin Gate* could be exhibited at Fremantle to raise funds for the war memorial.<sup>29</sup> Council files show that Archbishop Riley and the Editor of the *West Australian* were to help in a final effort to raise funds for the erection of the fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' War Memorial. Collection tins were also handed around on the day of the unveiling ceremony.

---

19 *The Evening Mail*, 28 July 1908.

20 Hitchcock, J. K., *The History of Fremantle 1829-1929*, Fremantle City Council, 1929, p. 83.

21 Moroney, J., 'Fremantle War Memorial: Patriotism or Civic Pride?', Layman, L. & Stannage, T. (eds.), *Celebrations in Western Australian History: Studies in Western Australian History X*, Centre of WA History, April 1989, p. 54. It should be noted that the ten year delay between the initial proposal to erect the war memorial and the unveiling of said memorial has been discussed in above article. (See also Moroney, J., 'Fremantle War Memorial: Patriotism or Civic Pride?', Honours History Thesis, Murdoch University, 1987.)

22 *Ibid.*, pp. 54 – 55.

23 *Advertiser*, 28 April 1922.

24 *Advertiser*, 27 February 1925; *Advertiser*, 22 May 1925. Permission was given to the demolition of the obelisk on 16 December 1924. Correspondence shows that the Surveyor General intended to fix the replacement monument's position so that it could continue to be used as a reference point. (Correspondence in *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1924-25).)

25 Moroney [1989], op. cit., p. 55.

26 *Ibid.*, p. 56.

27 *Ibid.*, pp. 55 – 57.

28 *The Sunday Times*, 23 April 1923; *The Sunday Times*, 18 March 1923; Program for Handel's Messiah, 21 December 1928, in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940.

29 Letter dated 31/5/1928, Memorial (new) appeal, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 142 (1926-29).

Approximately £3,880 was raised from public subscription towards the cost of the war memorial, the balance, £2,100, was provided by the Fremantle Council.<sup>30</sup> (By 15 February 1934, £174 was still owing to Rennie for the construction of the war memorial and this was subsequently paid by the Fremantle Council.<sup>31</sup>)

On 25 April 1928, the foundation stone of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial was laid by His Excellency Governor Campion. As part of the ceremony, Dr J. S. Battye was asked to prepare a history of the memorial by the Memorial Committee and a copy of this document, dated 25 April 1928, was placed under the column. The completed memorial was unveiled on Armistice Day 1928 by the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Robert MacMillan.<sup>32</sup>

A letter to the Inspector of Police from Fremantle's Town Clerk dated 16 April 1929 records the misuse of the war memorial by youths. The letter implies that some members of the public did not realise that 'this spot is sacred'.<sup>33</sup> This apparent lack of respect is a recurrent issue throughout the history of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* dating from the erection of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Monument in 1929. For example, several years later, in February 1932, two members of the RSL made complaints to the Fremantle Council regarding the use of the war memorial as a 'two-up school'. The Council in turn reported the incident to the Inspector of Police for his action.<sup>34</sup>

In September 1932, the floodlights at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* were officially turned on by Colonel C. H. Collett. The floodlit war memorial was a special photograph feature in the *Western Mail* on 15 September 1932.<sup>35</sup> Later in that year, kerbs were replaced and gravel paths were bitumenised at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*.<sup>36</sup>

Fremantle's Head Gardener, F. Howell, wrote a number of reports in 1933 about vandalism at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* including the deliberate destruction of a Norfolk Island Pine and the illegal removal of 500 petunia seedlings from the reserve for which the Council offered £25 for information.<sup>37</sup> He also reported that the site was being used for 'purposes not in keeping with the sacredness of the memorial' and that Council

---

<sup>30</sup> Correspondence in Memorial (new) appeal, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 142 (1926-29). A final statement from Allen & Nicholas Architects dated 7 February 1929 states that the total cost for the project was £6252/-. (Statement dated 7/2/1929, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1930-32).)

<sup>31</sup> Correspondence in *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1933-34).

<sup>32</sup> Hitchcock, op. cit., p. 87; Copy of J. S. Battye paper, Memorial (new) appeal, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 142 (1926-29). See also copy of original document at Photograph 381, Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library.

<sup>33</sup> Letter dated 16/4/1929, Memorial (new) appeal, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 142 (1926-29).

<sup>34</sup> Letter dated 11/2/1932, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1930-32).

<sup>35</sup> Letter dated 11/9/1932, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1930-32); *Western Mail*, 15 September 1932.

<sup>36</sup> Letter dated 1/11/1932, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1930-32). Similar repair works to the kerbs and paths also occurred in 1935. Letter dated 2/4/1935, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1935-36).

<sup>37</sup> Correspondence in *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1933-34).



employees were required to clean up empty beer bottles and wash down the base of the memorial on a number of occasions.<sup>38</sup>

It seems likely that concerns about incidents such as vandalism at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* resulted in the appointment of Wardens in the early 1930s. The role of the warden was to supervise the conduct of all visitors to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial. The appointment was for a year and small presentations were held at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* for incoming and outgoing Wardens.<sup>39</sup>

On 15 May 1935, the RSL wrote to the Fremantle Council expressing its appreciation about establishing the Anzac Day service at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* on a permanent basis.<sup>40</sup>

As part of a joint Fremantle Council and RSL Arbor Day project 27 identification tablets for trees were ordered from Fremantle Foundry at a cost of 6s each. On 25 August 1935, representatives from each of the units that had served during World War One planted Phoenix palms (*Phoenix canariensis* or Canary Island palms) along Swanbourne Street and these were later marked with the permanent identification plates.<sup>41</sup>

In September 1935, work commenced on the grading of the cliff at the Bateman Street boundary of the reserve and the erection of a retaining wall at the foot of the cliff.<sup>42</sup> Earlier that year approximately 400 cubic metres of sand was transported to the south-eastern corner of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*.<sup>43</sup>

Albert Jenkinson, who is believed to have been the first caretaker *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* was appointed on 22 December 1935.<sup>44</sup>

In April 1936, the Inspector of Police informed the Fremantle Council that every effort would be made to put a stop to the deliberate vandalism of flower beds at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. Several days prior to this statement a bed of 40 to 50 dahlia plants had been deliberately destroyed.<sup>45</sup>

The Mayor's 1936 Annual Report stated that £900 had been allowed for the completion of the layout of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* in the coming budget.<sup>46</sup> (See Photograph 1669, Local History Collection, City of

---

<sup>38</sup> Letter dated 18/12/1933, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1933-34).

<sup>39</sup> Correspondence in *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1930-32); Correspondence in *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1933-34).

<sup>40</sup> Letter dated 15/5/1934, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1933-34).

<sup>41</sup> Letters dated 13/8/1935, 9/8/1935 & 17/9/1935, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1935-36); *Sunday Times*, 1 September 1935; *West Australian*, 26 August 1935; *Daily News*, 24 August 1935.

<sup>42</sup> Letter dated 9/9/1935, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1935-36).

<sup>43</sup> Contract dated 11/2/1935, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1935-36).

<sup>44</sup> Letter dated 22/12/1935, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1933-34).

<sup>45</sup> Letters dated 29/4/1936 & 30/4/1936, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1935-36).

<sup>46</sup> Mayor's Annual Report, in Fremantle Council Minutes, 23/11/1936, in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 712.5. See also Photograph 1669, Local History

Fremantle Library.) By 1938, approximately £15,000 had been spent on the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial and its grounds: 'the whole of which has been laid out with beautiful lawns, flower beds, shrubberies, paths and drives, and today is one of the beauty spots of Fremantle.'<sup>47</sup> With the popularity of the spot, Council gave permission to such organisations as the Fremantle Naval Band to hold concerts and the like at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*.<sup>48</sup>

In 1937, Claude Nicholas, of Allen & Nicholas, was asked to inspect damage to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial. He noted that although slight fretting had occurred on the weather sides of the buttresses, and portion of the entablature and column, there was no cause for concern at this time.<sup>49</sup>

A reception was held at the War Memorial in August 1937 in honour of General Sir William Birdwood. As part of the ceremony, Birdwood and Sir J. J. Talbot Hobbs planted a tree each.<sup>50</sup>

After the outbreak of World War Two, Fremantle quickly developed as a significant strategic port for the Allied Forces: 'Never before in its history had the Inner Harbour been forced to accommodate such an aggregate of shipping.'<sup>51</sup> During the War, Fremantle was the largest submarine base in the southern hemisphere providing support for the US Navy, the Royal Navy, the Royal Netherlands Navy and other allies.<sup>52</sup>

In the early years of World War Two the floodlights at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* appear to have been disconnected. On 9 April 1940, the Town Clerk wrote to the Municipal Tramway and Electric Lighting Board requesting that the lights be reinstalled, primarily in an effort to minimise vandalism and misbehaviour.<sup>53</sup>

Council records show that in 1940 a price was given for the installation of wrought iron panels and one gate at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. The gate was to have been constructed by an East Perth company, Cyclone Fence & Gate Co. Pty. Ltd., at a cost of £15/10/-.<sup>54</sup> (No further information has been found regarding this gate.)

---

Collection, City of Fremantle Library. Many of the palm trees appear to date from this building campaign.

<sup>47</sup> Letter dated 8/4/1938, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1938-39).

<sup>48</sup> Letters dated 22/9/1936 & 6/10/1936, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1935-36); see also *Fremantle Advocate*, 8 October 1936. The Fremantle Naval Band was warned by the Council after some vandalism occurred during one of the band's concerts. (Ibid.)

<sup>49</sup> Letter dated 26/5/1937, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1937). It should be noted that two years later concern was again raised regarding the fretting and discolouration of the memorial's Donnybrook stone. It is not known if minor repair works were carried out in either 1937 or 1939. (Ibid.; Letter dated 26/4/1919, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1938-39).

<sup>50</sup> Letter dated 25/8/1937, *Monument Hill*, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/3, ACC 1377, Item 138 (1937).

<sup>51</sup> Ewers, op. cit., p. 149.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid., pp. 148 & 149.

<sup>53</sup> Letter dated 9/4/1940, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 4.

<sup>54</sup> Letter dated 19/6/1940, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 4.

During World War Two, a number of complaints were made by Council regarding the conduct of servicemen stationed at the gun posts at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*.<sup>55</sup> In July 1942, the Head Gardener reported that these men were playing football on the reserve. The Fremantle Council wrote to their Commanding Officer:

We respectfully suggest that this practice be stopped, as such sport is inconsistent with the sentiments which are associated with a memorial of this nature, and is tending to bring one of our most admired reserves in disrepute.<sup>56</sup>

The servicemen ignored the directions of the Head Gardener and the Council's complaints continued into 1943.<sup>57</sup> Things came to a head in October of that year when it was reported that the men were using the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial as a wicket during cricket matches. As a result of a strongly worded letter of complaint, the Council was told that the personnel in question had been reprimanded and was assured that the incident would not happen again.<sup>58</sup>

This issue of respecting the 'sacredness' of the war memorial was again raised in June 1946 when Memorial Warden Claude Nicholas expressed his opposition to plans for a torch light and firework display at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. He stated that 'such a display of gaiety [sic] and revelry' was not warranted on such a solemn reserve.<sup>59</sup>

In that same month, the Fremantle Branch of the RSL recommended that railings, similar to those at the State Memorial, King's Park, be erected at the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial in an effort to impede 'juvenile hooliganism'.<sup>60</sup> However, Council resolved not to erect the railings at the memorial.<sup>61</sup>

A 1949 report on the irrigation at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* mentions the existence of a stone lined well and a pumping plant.<sup>62</sup> (No further information has been found regarding these elements.)

Council records indicate that Fremantle Legacy was responsible for conducting the dawn service at the War Memorial from circa 1949. At this time, the services organised by the RSL were conducted in the afternoon of Anzac Day.<sup>63</sup>

Plans for the erection of memorial entrances at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* to commemorate those who had died in World War Two

---

<sup>55</sup> Letter dated 30/7/1942, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 4. Records show that the Commonwealth's Department of the Interior also had an oil store located on Swanbourne Street, between Knutsford and Broome Streets. (Letter dated 16/5/1940, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 4.)

<sup>56</sup> Letter dated 30/7/1942, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 4.

<sup>57</sup> Letters dated, 17/5/1943 & 23/8/1943, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 11.

<sup>58</sup> Letters dated 11/10/1943 & 14/10/1943, Parks & Reserves, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 11.

<sup>59</sup> Letter dated 7/6/1946, Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 25.

<sup>60</sup> Letter dated 13/6/1946, Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 25.

<sup>61</sup> Letter dated 16/7/1946, Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 25.

<sup>62</sup> Letter dated 12/9/1949, Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 40.

<sup>63</sup> Letters dated 23/3/1950 & 14/4/1950, Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 46; see also *West Australian*, 29 April 1953.

were well underway by 1948.<sup>64</sup> The entrance pillars and bronze panels were designed by City Architect Claude H. Nicholas, with each pillar commemorating one of the armed services and a special entrance in honour of the Women's Auxiliary Services. The existing lamp standards were also utilised in the plans for the World War Two memorial and bronze plaques again commemorating the four services were designed for each of the four lantern piers at the corners of the upper podium of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial.<sup>65</sup>

The cast bronze panels and badges for each of the armed services as well as bronze ornamental work was carried out by Wunderlich Ltd in Sydney at a cost of £1,340/-/-. Perth monumental masons Wilson Gray & Co. were contracted to construct the grey granite entrance piers at a total cost of £1,550/-/-.<sup>66</sup> Due primarily to a lack of material, the sub-contractors were unable to meet the original deadline of Anzac Day 1952. On 25 April 1952, only the bronze plaques for the lantern piers at the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial were unveiled by the Archbishop of Perth, Dr. R. W. H. Moline.<sup>67</sup> Work also done for this ceremony included cleaning the War Memorial and repairs and repointing to the stonework at a cost of £217.<sup>68</sup>

The Mayor's 1953 Annual Report states that the rose gardens and lawns at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* were a recognised civic feature. The next year the rose pruning demonstrations at the site received special mention as part of the City's horticultural activities.<sup>69</sup>

In 1955, the RSL again reported that the desecration of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial by vandals and by children who were using the place as a playground.<sup>70</sup>

The Fremantle Council removed one of the Norfolk Pine trees at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* at the request of the RSL in 1957, after they reported that the tree impeded the view of people during the Anzac Day ceremony.<sup>71</sup> In this period, repairs were also carried out to one of the stone entrance pillars after an accident involving a tourist bus.<sup>72</sup>

It was not until April 1961 that work continued on the erection of the World War Two memorials at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. In this year, the Fremantle Council accepted a tender of £3,600 for the construction of the granite gates, with approximately £600 of this allocated towards the establishment of garden plots, kerbing and bitumenising.<sup>73</sup> On Anzac Day

---

64 Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 35.

65 Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 46.

66 Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 50.

67 Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 50; City of Fremantle, 'Report and Statement of Accounts', 21/10/1952.

68 Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 46; Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 50.

69 City of Fremantle, 'Report and Statement of Accounts', 31/10/1953; City of Fremantle, 'Report and Statement of Accounts', 31/10/1954.

70 Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 74.

71 Letters dated 3/5/1957 & 7/5/1957, Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 87.

72 Letters dated 8/4/1957 & 4/6/1957, Correspondence in Parks & Ovals, Fremantle City Council, AN 217/6, ACC 1596, Box 87.

73 *West Australian*, 18 April 1961; Fremantle City Council, Minutes of Ordinary Meeting, 16/4/1962; Fremantle City Council, Minutes of Ordinary Meeting, 21/5/1962. It appears that

1963, the World War Two memorial entrances for the four services were unveiled at Knutsford and High Streets. An entrance gate was also dedicated at Swanbourne Street in honour of those who had given their lives in service with the Women's Auxiliary Services during World Wars One and Two.<sup>74</sup>

During this time period, consideration was also given to the construction of a stone plinth with a bronze map 'so that visitors can identify the places and islands which they can see from Memorial Reserve'.<sup>75</sup> Although it is not known why the plans did not go ahead, it was suggested that a competition be held for the design of this monument.<sup>76</sup>

In early August 1964, two ornamental bronze mountings (6 inches in diameter with a bronze ring) were stolen from each of the memorial entrances at High and Knutsford Streets. At the time, Fremantle CIB believed that considerable force had been used to remove the bronze mountings, which were fastened to the stone pillars by 3 1/4 inch bolts. The ornaments were valued at £100.<sup>77</sup>

A 21 inch diameter mounted torpedo dedicated to the memory of US Navy submariners who died at sea during World War Two was unveiled on 8 September 1967. The torpedo memorial was unveiled by Rear Admiral Herman J. Kossler, Commander of the US Naval Forces in the Philippines.<sup>78</sup> (It is interesting to note that in 1981 it was discovered that the torpedo had in fact been mounted upside down.<sup>79</sup>) Plaques on the memorial recognise the close links between the Fremantle community and US submariners, as indicated by the joint financing of the project by the US Submarine Veterans' Association and the City of Fremantle.<sup>80</sup>

On Trafalgar Day, 21 October, 1972, a memorial was unveiled by Governor Major General Sir Douglas Kendrew, which was dedicated to those members of the British and Allied Navy submarine crews of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Flotillas based in Fremantle during World War Two. The memorial comprised a periscope from HM Submarine *Tabard* built at Scotts Shipyard, Greenock, Scotland in 1945.<sup>81</sup> As with the 1967 torpedo memorial, the periscope memorial was also erected in recognition of the close ties between Fremantle and the various allied services based in the area during the War.<sup>82</sup>

---

the major reason for the initial delay was the lack of material available for the gates' construction. It is not known why the work took another ten years to complete; however, the main reason for their eventual construction appears to have been the Empire Games of 1963. (City of Fremantle, 'Report and Statement of Accounts', 21/10/1952.)

74 Site Inspection, 1 August 2000; City of Fremantle, 'Annual Report and Statement of Accounts', 30/6/1963. Plaques and pillars commemorating the Australian Military Forces and the Royal Australian Air Force during World War Two are located at the Knutsford Street entrance, and those to the Royal Australian Navy and the Merchant Navy on pillars at the High Street entrance.

75 Fremantle City Council, Minutes of Ordinary Meeting, 15/10/1962.

76 Ibid.

77 *West Australian*, 8 August 1964.

78 *Port of Fremantle Quarterly*, Summer 1968, p. 19.

79 *Fremantle Gazette*, 13 May 1981.

80 Site Inspection, 1 August 2000; *Port of Fremantle Quarterly*, Summer 1968, p. 19.

81 *West Australian*, 23 October 1980; Information from Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940; 'Annual Memorial Service Periscope Memorial *Monument Hill* Fremantle', 24 October 1999 [pamphlet]. The waterfall feature, which has now been planted, is believed to have been originally part of the periscope memorial.

82 Ibid. The names of 32 submarines and two depot ships are engraved on the base of the periscope.

A plaque, funded by the Korea and South East Asia Forces of Australia Association (WA Branch), was made in 1975 to commemorate those who were killed in action during the wars at Korea (1950-1953), Malaya (1948-1960), Borneo (1962-1966), and Vietnam (1962-1972). This was unveiled by Fremantle Mayor W. A. McKenzie on 11 May 1975.<sup>83</sup>

Graffiti was sprayed on the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial prior to the Anzac Day ceremony in 1981 by a group of women's rights activists in a national campaign of similar demonstrations.<sup>84</sup>

The Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Association Memorial was unveiled at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle I* on 7 October 1984 to commemorate all those men who had served on the 56 Australian built corvettes; especially those who had lost their lives. Les Olsen, formerly of HMAS *Geraldton*, designed the memorial which was unveiled by Roy M. Ward ex HMAS *Gympie* and dedicated by Chaplain Clayton HMAS Leeuwin.<sup>85</sup> (At the time of a site inspection on 1 August 2000 this memorial was undergoing works.<sup>86</sup>)

The Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' War Memorial was again the subject of vandalism in the morning of 10 December 1984 when anti-war slogans were sprayed on the face of the monument.<sup>87</sup> As the stone proved very porous, various methods were used to remove the graffiti including anti-graffiti chemicals, sandblasting and acid.<sup>88</sup> The Fremantle Council reported that it had spent approximately \$3,000 in 1985/1986 on repairing deliberate damage done to the war memorials.<sup>89</sup> In November 1986, vandals again struck breaking fittings on the torpedo monument.<sup>90</sup>

In March 1991, the Netherlands Ex-Servicemen's Association of Australia (Inc.) requested permission to erect a stone plinth memorial at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*, the cost of which was to be fully borne by the Association. Dutch Services were based at Fremantle from 1942 to 1947, including seven submarines that had escaped from Java when it was taken by the Japanese in March 1942.<sup>91</sup> Instead of the stone plinth memorial, a plaque commemorating the Royal Netherlands Navy was unveiled in 1991.<sup>92</sup>

In August 1993, work commenced on the replacement of the front portion of the periscope memorial retaining wall at a cost of \$11,000. (Subsidence and structural problems meant that the memorial was in danger of slipping down

---

83 *Gateway*, Winter 1975, Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 13.

84 *Fremantle Gazette*, 29 April 1981.

85 Letter dated 26/89/1985, Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940; Site Inspection, 1 August 2000. The memorial was designed to allow seating for visitors. (Information from the Royal Navy Corvettes Association provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*.)

86 Site Inspection, 1 August 2000.

87 *West Australian*, 11 December 1984.

88 *The Times*, 18 December 1984.

89 City of Fremantle Media Release, 18 February 1986, Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940.

90 *Fremantle Gazette*, 18 November 1986.

91 City of Fremantle Minutes, 18/3/1991, in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940; *Fremantle Gazette*, 24 June 1981.

92 Information from the Netherlands Ex-Servicemen's Association provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*; Site Inspection, 1 August 2000.

the slope.) The funds were made available from money saved from the reticulation of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*.<sup>93</sup>

Plans were proposed in 1994 for the erection of a memorial in memory of those personnel who served in the Royal Navy during World War Two. The design by the Royal Naval Association consisted of a ship's anchor resting on a raised base.<sup>94</sup> Members of the Royal Naval Association in Australia and Overseas raised funds for the Royal Navy Memorial. The memorial was unveiled on 23 October 1994 by Sir Francis Burt QC and Lady Burt. The memorial is the first in Australia to commemorate the Royal Navy.<sup>95</sup>

Prior to the unveiling of the Royal Navy Memorial, a policy statement for *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* was drafted by the City of Fremantle's Architect, Agnieszka Kiera. This outlined the history of the reserve and detailed a number of policies regarding the retention of the existing grounds and plantings, conservation works, interpretation, and the erection of new memorials. Those policies relating to new memorials has informed the erection of subsequent memorials by dealing with such aspects as design, size, location and emphasising the need to maintain visual clarity between the new memorials and the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial.<sup>96</sup>

In 1994, a formal complaint was made by the Allied Merchant Seamen's Association to the Council after three tourist buses arrived at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* during a service commemorating the sinking of the *SS Athemia*.<sup>97</sup>

On 27 August 1995, the Allied Merchant Seamen Association held a service at which time a memorial was commemorated in honour of merchant seamen who died during World War Two. The memorial was unveiled by Miss L. Anderson, Mrs P. Hansen and Mrs P. McGilvary.<sup>98</sup>

Commodore David Orr RAN RTO unveiled a memorial to the Royal Marines on 3 November 1996. The monument was in memory of those members of the Royal Marines who had served in the South East Asia and the Pacific Theatre Operations during World War Two.<sup>99</sup>

In February 1998, the City of Fremantle accepted a \$5,000 grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the purpose of restoring the Fremantle War Memorial.<sup>100</sup> In 1997/1998, concern was raised regarding the disrepair

---

<sup>93</sup> *Fremantle Gazette*, 10 August 1993.

<sup>94</sup> Agenda of the Engineering Services Committee, 6/4/1994, in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940.

<sup>95</sup> *Fremantle Herald*, 1 October 1994; *Fremantle Gazette*, 25 October 1994; Information from the Royal Naval Association (Perth Branch) provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*.

<sup>96</sup> Agnieszka Kiera, City Architect, 'Monument Hill Policy Statement', City of Fremantle, September 1994 draft.

<sup>97</sup> *Fremantle Herald*, 3 September 1994.

<sup>98</sup> *Fremantle Gazette*, 25 August 1995; Site Inspection, 1 August 2000. Recognition of the role of the Merchant Navy during World War Two came after long time efforts by veteran merchant seamen, including battles with Federal Government for both acknowledgement and access to veterans' benefits. The Merchant Navy suffered the highest loss of life than any of the other services in World War Two. (*Fremantle Gazette*, 25 August 1995.)

<sup>99</sup> Site Inspection, 1 August 2000

<sup>100</sup> City of Fremantle Minutes, 9/2/1998, in Local History Collection, City of Fremantle Library, File 940. The actual grant application had been for \$40,000 based on figures which showed that the City was spending approximately this amount on the memorial and reserve per

of the various memorials. It was reported that the stone blocks were fretting, mortar deteriorating, bronze plaques in need of restoration, and steps and grounds in need of repair.<sup>101</sup> Mayor Richard Utting even called upon fellow Vietnam Veteran then Deputy Prime Minister Tim Fischer to help secure funds for the much needed restoration works.<sup>102</sup>

At the Annual General Meeting of the Netherlands Ex-Servicemen's Association in 1998 it was decided to upgrade the commemorative plaque at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* to a stone memorial. This was officially unveiled on 29 June 1999.<sup>103</sup> Two Norfolk Pine trees were also planted in 1999 in honour of Anzac veterans Frank Issacs and Len Hall.<sup>104</sup>

During the years 1998 to 2000, much community concern has been expressed with regard to the damage caused by skateboarders to the various memorials at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. What resulted was a battle led by ex service associations and members of the local community to gain wide spread support for the protection of the memorials, primarily through the introduction of a by-law prohibiting skateboarding and similar sports at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. Throughout this period the debate raged in local newspapers about the skateboarding ban with many articles and letters written in support and against.<sup>105</sup>

In early 1998, the Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* was formed 'to conserve, protect and maintain the memorials and parkland in remembrance [sic] of the many brave men and women who served their country'.<sup>106</sup> This alliance was formed from organisations that have had a direct association with the site including The Royal Naval Association, The Royal Marines Association, The Submariners Old Comrades Association, the Netherlands Ex Servicemen's Association, the US Submariners Association, the RAN Corvettes Association, and the Allied Merchant Seamen's Association.<sup>107</sup>

As part of the Ex Services Alliance's application for funding under the Centenary of Federation grants program an inspection of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* was carried out by architect Murray Slavin. The report noted repairs needed to the memorials as well as possible deterrents to skateboarding such as the installation of rails.<sup>108</sup> The 1998 restoration of the bronze ornamentation at the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial was also discussed. At approximately this time, four new copper lamps had also been

---

annum. (Local History Collection, Fremantle City Library, File 940; *Fremantle Gazette*, 24 April 1998.)

101 *Fremantle Gazette Community*, 29 August 1997, 12 December 1997, 19 December 1997; *Melville-Fremantle Community*, 17 – 23 June 1997; *Fremantle Herald*, 14 June 1997.

102 *Fremantle Gazette Community*, 29 August 1997.

103 Information from the Netherlands Ex-Servicemen's Association provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*.

104 Site Inspection, 1 August 2000.

105 Various newspaper articles from *Fremantle Gazette Community* and *Fremantle Herald* provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*; *Fremantle Gazette Community*, 21 March 2000; *Fremantle Gazette*, 14 March 2000.

106 Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*, 'Report on Preservation & Maintenance Requirements, Damage & Long Term Engineering Solutions of *Monument Hill*, Fremantle', 18 April 2000.

107 Ibid.

108 Ibid.



reconstructed and were artificially weathered to match those existing. The lamps currently form part of the lighting system.<sup>109</sup>

In 1998/1999, work was also carried out to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial under the direction of Peter Jones, Architect. This included rewiring, repair work to damaged stone and the installation of a lightning rod within the main column.<sup>110</sup>

The skateboarding by-law was advertised for comment in late 1999.<sup>111</sup> A total of 17,000 people responded in the public forum, the majority of these lending their support to the law. However, needing 75 per cent support, the skateboarding by-law was defeated by one vote at a meeting of the Fremantle Council on 14 February 2000.<sup>112</sup> The next month it was voted to put the law back onto the Council's agenda.<sup>113</sup>

In early 2000, the City of Fremantle accepted an \$80,000 grant from the Centenary of Federation towards the conservation of the Fremantle War Memorial.<sup>114</sup> A special Steering Committee was formed in March 2000 in order to address such issues relating to *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* as conservation, protection and the skateboard by-law.<sup>115</sup>

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* Steering Committee commissioned the preparation of a conservation plan in 2000. The preparation of this assessment documentation is part of that conservation planning and assesses the significance of the place. It is intended that the assessment shall be used to develop conservation policies and identify conservation works for the place.

In February 2001, *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* continues to function as a war memorial and park. A number of remembrance ceremonies are held there throughout the year by various ex service associations. The place is an important and attractive destination in Fremantle for locals and visitors alike.

## 13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is a prominent hill overlooking Fremantle containing eleven memorial structures (including the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial on the summit) that is landscaped with lawns, trees and garden beds and is used both as parklands and as a place of remembrance.

The place is sited on the limestone ridge that runs along the eastern edge of central Fremantle. It is bounded by High Street, Swanbourne Street, Knutsford Street, and Bateman Street on the north, east, south and west sides respectively. Surrounding development includes medium density housing of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The land rises on all sides to a summit

---

<sup>109</sup> Ibid., pp. 3 & 15. An earlier report, prepared on 20 January 1999, identified damage and discolouration to stonework with recommendations as to the cleaning and repair of this material. (Preservation and Maintenance Engineering, 'Fallen Sailors and Soldiers Memorial, Fremantle', prepared for Peter Jones Architect, 20 January 1999.)

<sup>110</sup> Tender documents provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*.

<sup>111</sup> *Fremantle Herald*, 22 October 1999.

<sup>112</sup> *Fremantle Herald*, undated, provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*; Fremantle Gazette, 1 October 1999

<sup>113</sup> *Fremantle Gazette*, 14 March 2000

<sup>114</sup> *Fremantle Herald*, 19 February 2000

<sup>115</sup> *Fremantle Community Gazette*, undated, provided by Chris Grisewood, Ex Services Alliance for *Monument Hill*.

roughly in the middle of the reserve. The lower land at the north eastern corner is developed as wooded parkland.

The boundaries of the place are close to level with the boundary streets except on parts of the western and eastern sides. On the west Bateman Street appears as a cutting into the limestone ridge and has a steep batterment. On the east along Swanbourne Street a wall retains the land but a wide verge with plantings brings the character of the place to the level of the street. Land on the diagonally opposite corner of the Swanbourne and Knutsford Streets intersection is developed as a small park and playground. The boundary edge treatments contribute to the place's contained character and set the place apart from adjacent 'precincts'.

Apart from the principal and earliest memorial on the summit of the hill, the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial, there are eleven other memorials (including three memorial gateways) sited across *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. Some of the plantings are also marked as memorials.

Six memorials are placed at intervals adjacent to the outer edge of the roadway or concourse that encircles the base of the podium of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial on the west, north and east sides. These memorials comprise (clockwise from the westernmost) the Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Memorial, the United States Navy Submarine ('the torpedo') Memorial, the Royal Navy Memorial, the Merchant Mariners' Memorial, the Royal Marines' Memorial and the Royal Netherlands Navy Memorial.

Two drives ascend the summit through the parkland. The shorter of these drives enters the place from Knutsford Street (almost as an axial extension of Solomon Street). The greater enters from High Street near its intersection with Swanbourne Street and is serpentine. Both join the concourse at the summit.

The Periscope Memorial, including its stone paving and rockery, is placed at either side of the High Street drive midway along the drive's ascent to the summit. Two of the memorial gates are sited at the entries of the drives from High Street and Knutsford Street and the third, the Women's Auxiliary Services Gate provides an entry off Swanbourne Street to two paths - one to the summit and one to the wooded parkland at the north-eastern corner of the place.

The eleven memorials, plantings, landscape features, views and the panorama are described in more detail below.

## **Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial**

At the summit of the hill, this large memorial is the focus of the place from almost all of the reserve. It comprises a central buttressed pillar type monument set on a two level stepped podium accessed by two flights of stairs on each of its four sides. Four piers, each surmounted by a lantern, define space at the change in level between the lower and upper parts of the podium. Beyond the concourse that encircles the podium and monument are four larger pillars that house floodlights directed at the four aspects of the monument. The composition comprises elements of both the Inter-War Free Classical and the Inter-War Stripped Classical styles together with elements peculiar to the design of memorials.

Materials used in the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial include limestone, concrete, cement render, sandstone, timber, copper, brass, bronze and iron.

## Podium

The cruciform plan of the two-level podium covers approximately 800m<sup>2</sup> with the square central upper level covering one quarter of that. Three-quadrant arcs 7 metres across at each of the four corners of the square podium, flights of steps central to the pillar and an arched cement rendered balustrade (now painted) edging the whole of the podium area together contribute to the effect of the podium being a low and open rampart circumvallating the monument pillar. This 'rampart'-like podium reinforces the monumentality of the central pillar on approach but once at the level of the podium it also provides four cardinal lookouts rather than fortifications over the land and sea.

The first level of the podium is retained approximately 1200mm above the level of the encircling roadway and ground level by a rockfaced ashlar masonry wall of tamala limestone. The base of this podium retaining wall abuts planting beds kerbed in concrete. Flights of 6 – 8 steps are in front of each of the four faces of the pillar. The level to the second tier, from which the stone pillar rises, contains further steps to each of the four faces. Piers surmounted by copper and glass electric lanterns define the corners of this square second tier. Both tiers of the podium and all eight flights of steps are constructed of concrete laid out on grid approximately 1200mm square mitred along the lines of the pillar's buttresses.

## Monument Pillar

The height of the monument pillar<sup>116</sup> is approximately 14 metres above the level of the upper podium. Constructed of dressed Donnybrook sandstone ashlar masonry, the pillar has four sides - the principal side of which faces west to the ocean - and is approximately 3600mm square in plan at the base. The main shaft of the pillar rises from the lower cornice at approximately 4000mm above the base and is approximately 2500mm square. The walls of the pillar shaft enclose a cavity which contains a lightning conductor connected to ground at the bottom of the pillar interior. Buttresses are set to the diagonal at each of the four corners of the pillar up to the level of the lower entablature. The upper entablature (cornice) is used unclassically by being continued in a segmental arch over a central and exaggerated keystone feature.

Each of the four faces of the pillar have specific features - these include:

- Copper plaque 'Fallen Sailors and Soldiers Memorial' below the lower cornice (West face);
- Theatres of World War One carved in relief below the lower cornice (Flanders on north face; Palestine on east face; and, Gallipoli on south face);
- Timber flagstaffs<sup>117</sup> above the lower cornice (West and east faces);
- Access hatches with wrought iron grilles behind the flagstaffs (West and east faces); and,
- Copper wreaths<sup>118</sup> 'suspended' from keystones (North '1914' and south '1919' faces).

---

<sup>116</sup> According to Richards, O., op. cit. columns and pillars (complete) as memorials represent honour.

<sup>117</sup> According to Richards, O., op. cit. the flags that are flown on memorials represent national identity and imperialism.

<sup>118</sup> According to Richards, O., op. cit. wreaths symbolise mourning.

### **Lantern Piers**

Four lantern piers mark the corners of the smaller square podium and rise 2 – 3 metres from the lower podium. They are similarly detailed to the main pillar but they are smaller in scale and constructed of paint finished masonry. Copper and brass plaques commemorating those forces who served in World War Two and subsequent theatres of war are fixed to the faces of the piers. Each pier is surmounted by a copper and glass lantern each with eight facets.

### **Eternal Flame Pillars**

Like the lantern piers the Eternal Flame pillars (set outside the encircling roadway or concourse) are detailed in a similar manner to the central pillar and are constructed of paint finished masonry. Floodlights are recessed into the 2 – 3 metre high pillars and these light the central stone pillar at night. Each of these pillars is surmounted with a sculpture of the 'Eternal Flame'<sup>119</sup> executed in copper.

### **Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Memorial**

The Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Memorial comprises a central polished sandstone faced monument approximately one metre high set in a sandstone-paved area. On the paving in front of the monument and on the face of the monument itself are fixed bronze plaques. The monument has a convex semicircular bench on its western side. The monument is surrounded by eight paired low sandstone bollards the form of which suggests use as seating. In August 2000, works were being carried out to this monument.

### **United States Navy Submarine Memorial**

The United States Navy Submarine Memorial comprises a torpedo mounted at eye level on a brown brick plinth within a paved area accessed from the concourse at the summit of the hill. The paved area is bounded on the north-west by a brown brick parapet wall approximately 600mm high that follows an arc symmetrical about the torpedo. A brass plaque and insignia are fixed to the brick plinth.

### **Royal Navy Memorial**

The Royal Navy Memorial comprises a splayed cement rendered masonry monument approximately one metre high. The monument is painted white, has polished pink granite tablets with gilt inscriptions, supports a small anchor and welded chain and is flanked by two small brick seats/ledges integral to the monument. The monument is set within a paved area and surrounded on three sides by a low parapet wall and bench/ledge constructed of limestone, reconstituted limestone units and brick pavers.

### **Merchant Mariners' Memorial**

This memorial is similar in overall form to the Royal Navy Memorial. Both memorials flank the approach to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial from the north – one of the remarkable vistas of the place.

The memorial comprises a dressed ashlar limestone splayed top monument approximately one metre high on which are fixed brass plaques and at the

---

<sup>119</sup> According to Richards, O., op. cit. the eternal flame symbolises remembrance.

base of which a small anchor is lain. The area in which the monument is set is approximately 10m<sup>2</sup>, brick paved and surrounded on three sides by a limestone wall less than a metre high.

### **Royal Marines' Memorial**

The Royal Marines' Memorial comprises a small, rough-cut pink granite monolith (approximately 1m<sup>3</sup>) set on a stepped plinth of rockfaced and polished granite. The monument is set within an area paved with polished pink granite approximately 5m<sup>2</sup>. Several brass plaques are fixed to the monolith. No walls or cordons mark the memorial off from the surrounding lawns.

### **Royal Netherlands Navy Memorial**

The Royal Netherlands Navy Memorial is similar to the memorials to the Royal Navy and the Merchant Mariners. It comprises a small splayed monument set within a paved area with a low wall on three sides. The monument is faced on vertical sides with sandstone and a polished black granite tablet overhangs the splayed top. The tablet has gilt inscriptions. The paving and coping to the low limestone wall are sandstone. The back wall has a bench/ledge. Bronze plaques are fixed to the monument and wall.

### **The Periscope Memorial**

The central monument of this memorial is the periscope of H.M.S. Tabard which is erected in a large stone paved area with a large arced and battered retaining wall of grey granite random rubble. The largely stainless steel periscope is mounted at ground level and is highly polished to the height of a standing reach. The rubblework continues to what is now a garden bed on the southern side of the drive but the southern 'rockery' appears to have once been a waterfall.

### **Women's Auxiliary Services (Swanbourne Street) Gate**

The Women's Auxiliary Services Gate on Swanbourne Street marks a pedestrian entrance to the place. Like the other two pairs of gates it comprises a pair of gate piers approximately 2500mm high; however this gate also has an ornamental steel arch with a central lantern spanning the two piers which are set approximately 2 metres apart.

Each pier is constructed of dressed grey granite each face of which is battered. Approximately 300mm from the top of each pier the pier is stepped in an Inter-War Art-deco style ziggurat form. The top of each pier is capped with copper. The steel arch has the central feature of the cross formee (the motif used in relief at the ends of the stair balustrades of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial) and has been painted black. The filigree ornament of the arch, its crude fixing to the granite piers and the cruder use of conduit to the lantern indicate that the arch and lantern were probably added later.

Bronze tablets are set into the granite piers on the front and inside faces.

### **Royal Australian Navy and Royal Merchant Navy (High Street) Gate**

The Royal Australian Navy and Royal Merchant Navy Gate on High Street marks the vehicular drive entrance from High Street with two stepped

granite piers similar to those of the Women's Auxiliary Services gate. The two piers are set apart approximately ten metres and each has only a single bronze tablet. These tablets are set into the granite fronts of the piers. Midway up the inside faces of both of the piers is evidence that fixed hardware has been removed (probably the bronze medallion rings evident on the Knutsford Street Gate). There is no evidence that any hinged gates were ever fixed to the piers.

### **Royal Australian Air Force and Australian Military Forces (Knutsford Street) Gate**

This gate comprises two grey granite piers similar to the two preceding gates. This gate flanks the vehicular entry off Knutsford Street. They are similar to the High Street Gate but to the inside face of each pier is fixed a bronze ring approximately 150mm in diameter mounted on a bronze medallion with a three petal flower motif.

### **Memorial Plantings**

Cast iron tablets mounted on posts indicate a number of memorial plantings over *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*, however the older (1935) seven tablets may not be in their original positions as the posts are recent and sequences of plantings are incomplete. All the older tablets mark mature *Phoenix Canariensis* palms that grow on the perimeter of the reserve, are marked with the words 'REMEMBER' and indicate by whom the tree (not necessarily the tree marked) was planted. All but one 'planted by Mr C. Nicholas' memorialises groups of people. Groups so remembered are as follows:

- Signallers;
- Heavy Artillery;
- 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion;
- 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion;
- Engineers; and,
- Civic Fathers.

The young Norfolk Island pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*), planted near the mature specimens of the north-eastern section of the place in 1999 are dedicated to the memories of Frank Isaacs and Len Hall.

There are numerous other plantings not marked which may have been memorial plantings. These include the two senescent groves of peppermint trees (*Agonis flexuosa*) through which paths to the summit pass; the grove of palm trees (*Phoenix canariensis* and others), rose beds (*Rosa sp.*) and mature Norfolk Island pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) in the north-eastern section of the park; the avenue of mature *Phoenix canariensis* along the serpentine drive up the summit from High Street and the perimeter plantings of these palms around the place.

### **Plantings generally**

Many of the plantings have already been described in the section entitled 'Memorial Plantings' above. Other plantings include beds for annuals some of which lay fallow in July 2000 others of which were planted out and in bloom. The remainder of the reserve ground is grassed except for the

batterment along Bateman Street at the west. That batterment is rough-grassed and vegetated with Sweet Alice (*Alyssum sp.*) – a plant which grows wild around Fremantle.

The main plant species used at the place are set out in the table below. An asterisk indicates that some have been marked as memorials.

Name	Common Name	Use
<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>	Peppermint tree	Groves
* <i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island pine	Parkland
* <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> <sup>120</sup>	Canary Island palm	Avenues, grove, an specimen
<i>Phoenix sp.</i>	Various palms	Grove and specimen
<i>Rosa sp.</i>	rose	Bed

### Drives, paths and walls

There are two main drives accessing the summit concourse from High Street and Knutsford Street they have been described above. Several curved paths cross the site and intersect with each other and with the drives. The two paths that cross the roadway from Knutsford Street in the southern section of the reserve are bifurcated around planting beds.

All drives and paths are paved with blue metal bitumen and kerbed with concrete.

Low walls which in part retain earth and in part form a parapet wall are located at the boundary of the park and inside the line of palms on Swanbourne and Knutsford Streets. The wall has a stepped 'ziggurat'-like coping similar to the three gates and is mostly cement rendered. Where the wall is at its highest on Bateman Street, it is not rendered and the random rubble limestone construction is evident. Where the render is broken elsewhere the construction shows the use of red brick and limestone masonry.

### The panorama, views and vistas

The panorama and views from the summit's concourse and more particularly from the podium of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial are impressive and attractive features of the place. The panorama comprises the full 360° from the horizon of the Indian Ocean in the west to the head of the Darling Ranges in the east.

Principal features of the prospect in the round include:

- the 180° view of the Indian Ocean including Garden and Rottneest Islands;
- the distant 120° view of the Darling Range;
- the view of the pines at Cottesloe;
- the obelisk at Buckland Hill;
- the view of the north metropolitan coast;
- the view of Kings Park and the top floors of Perth's office towers (QV1, Central Park, the Bankwest Tower and lesser towers);

<sup>120</sup> According to Richards, O., op. cit. palms symbolise victory.

- the view from the podium down Solomon Street south to the South Fremantle Power Station; and,
- elements of interest within the townscape of Fremantle (the main cell block and south knoll of Fremantle Prison, the Round House and Arthur Head, the Town Hall) and the townscape as a whole.

Aspects to *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* are less impressive than the prospect from the place. Views to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers Memorial are most impressive in the immediate and local setting and from sea. Notable places from which the place is visible include the Round House (the pines of the north-eastern section form an edge to the High Street vista at its highest point), along High Street, and from Gage Roads and Inner Harbour among others.

There are a number of views to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial from within the immediate setting of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* which are impressive and include:

- The axial vista from the south (extension of Solomon Street) to the main pillar flanked by gate piers;
- The view to the pillar showing the shaft above the undulating form of the grassed knoll on the eastern section of the site;
- The revelatory sequence of views of the pillar from High Street and the High Street Gate, through the avenue of palms flanking the serpentine drive, through the approach to the summit and the concourse; and,
- The axial vista from the north-eastern corner of the place to the bifurcated path, rose bed, steps, podium and monumental pillar.<sup>121</sup>

Aspects to elements of the place other than the central Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial include:

- The view along Swanbourne Street of the avenue planting of palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) within a lawn verge;
- The similar view along Knutsford Street; and,
- The view of the narrow path and wild batterment on the western side of Bateman Street.

## Subsequent alteration

The sub-sections above have described fabric at the place, some of which was not introduced until after the first memorial was erected. There appears to be little or no overlay of fabric on pre-existing structures apart from tablets fixed to earlier memorials. Other accretions are minimal and include City of Fremantle concrete bollards across the site, crude concrete and timber slat benches around the podium base of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial, green plastic bins, a 'dog latrine', some signage and services.

Evidence of vandalism includes graffiti.<sup>122</sup> Obscure evidence of use includes the presence of a waxy residue on the arrises of the podium steps of the main

<sup>121</sup> The axis perpendicular to the north (-eastern) face of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers Memorial appears to extend from the podium to the distant State War Memorial at Kings Park, Perth but this has not been tested with precision.

<sup>122</sup> Engraved graffiti on the pillar of the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial appears to date from the 1970s and 1980s, although there is evidence that some illicit inscriptions have been



memorial and of retaining walls across the place that may indicate that the place is used by skateboarders to 'rail-slide' on the structures.<sup>123</sup>

## Appearance and condition of the place

The condition of elements that comprise the place are set out in a table below. The place is in good condition overall with the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial in fair condition.

---

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial Podium</b></li> </ul>	<p>Badly cracked concrete paving units with some undulation and potential for ponding of rainwater. Open joints between units encourage organic growth. Rockfaced limestone wall displays excessive water seepage, which encourages organic growth and failure of mortar. Some deterioration of limestone evident due to above. Garden beds at base of wall encourage retention of moisture. Some mechanical damage by vehicles on concourse – abrasion. Reinforced edge beam to wall spalling in part due to corrosion product in metalwork. Steps to podium from concourse exhibit signs of excessive wear, cracking and are in part unsafe due to slippery residue of 'rail-sliding'. Steps to upper podium display some signs of wear and cracking however are generally in good condition. Balustrade and masonry stringers to steps exhibit signs of considerable cracking and frequent and ongoing repair. Paint finish may be contributing to retention of moisture and appears to be an ineffective long-term solution.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Monument Pillar</b></li> </ul>	<p>Pillar is generally in good condition and regularly maintained. There are, however, some areas of concern including vandal damage (engraved and ink marker inscriptions) and some weathering erosion on 'Gallipoli' face perhaps exasperated by too severe repair methods. Evidence of earlier movement can be seen in southwest buttress identifiable by expanded mortar joint widths. Spalling of sandstone face which judging by extent of previous plastic repairs has been an ongoing problem. The stone appears to be chemically treated and long term effects of this are undetermined. Metalwork is bright and timber flagstaffs are clear finished as a result of recent cleaning.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Lantern Piers</b></li> </ul>	<p>Lantern Piers are paint-finished masonry in good condition. Copper lanterns have recently been reconstructed and are in good condition.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Eternal Flame</b></li> </ul>	<p>Eternal Flame Pillars are paint-finished masonry in</p>

---

removed by abrasion particularly on the 'Gallipoli' or south elevation. Later graffiti or 'tags' in place tend to be rendered using black ink markers.

<sup>123</sup> 'Rail-sliding' means the riding of a skateboard along an edge, usually a step or handrail, in a way such that only the underside of the board, rather than the wheels, is kept in contact with that edge.

<b>Pillars</b>	good condition. Verdigris patina is retained on flame sculptures.
• <b>Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Memorial</b>	This memorial is in good condition but shows mechanical damage from 'rail-sliding'. Works were being carried out to this memorial in August 2000.
• <b>United States Navy Submarine Memorial</b>	This memorial is in fair condition. paving shows some subsidence. The mounting brackets of the torpedoes are corroding and the paintfinish is weathering.
• <b>Royal Navy Memorial</b>	This memorial is in good condition.
• <b>Merchant Mariners' Memorial</b>	This memorial is in good condition.
• <b>Royal Marines' Memorial</b>	This memorial is in good condition.
• <b>Royal Netherlands Navy Memorial</b>	This memorial is in good condition. A graffiti 'tag' has been inscribed on the polished black granite splayed tablet top.
• <b>The Periscope Memorial</b>	This memorial is generally in good condition.
• <b>Women's Auxiliary Services (Swanbourne Street) Gate</b>	The piers of this memorial are in good condition. The filigree steel arch has almost lost its black paint finish.
• <b>Royal Australian Navy and Royal Merchant Navy (High Street) Gate</b>	This memorial is in good condition but has evidence of now removed bronze medallion mounted rings to each pier.
• <b>Royal Australian Air Force and Australian Military Forces (Knutsford Street) Gate</b>	This memorial is in good condition.
• <b>Memorial Plantings and plantings generally<sup>124</sup></b>	Plantings are generally well-cared for and in good condition. Some sequences of avenue or paired plantings are incomplete. The peppermint groves appear to be senescent.
• <b>Drives, paths and walls</b>	Bitumen drives and paths are generally in good condition. Some paved surfaces are badly cracked. Some kerbing is damaged in locations across the site. Walls are extensive across the site and some areas are badly damaged due to water seepage, incompatible repairs and mechanical damage.

<sup>124</sup> This is a general note about the condition of the planting and has not involved the advice of an arboriculturalist. It is provided so that the intactness and integrity can be understood only.

### 13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION<sup>125</sup>

Of the 144 local government authorities in Western Australia, all but seven reported war memorials of some kind in 1996 with several reporting many. Most of these date from the Inter-War period in which the first memorial at *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* was erected. War memorials include the monumental (abstract sculptures, altar stone/slab forms, boulder/rough cut stone, cenotaphs, columns, crosses/crucifixes, female figures, gothic forms, honour boards, obelisks, plaques/tablets, pillars, plinth, urns/vases, soldier statues and walls) and the practical (Ornamental-functional, buildings<sup>126</sup>, plantings and other). *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* contains memorials of both types and several sub-types in its memorials and plantings.

As a collection of war memorials and a place where the existing landforms and setting are as remarkable and integral with the principal monument, there are only two other places in Western Australia comparable with *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*. These places are the State War Memorial within the setting of Kings Park and the Mounted Desert Corps Memorial within the setting of Mount Clarence, Albany. All have a principal monument, subordinate monuments, memorial plantings and a grand setting with views of land and waterscapes.

If considered as a monumental structure alone, the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial is the largest monument to the fallen of the First World War built in the Inter-War period in Western Australia in terms of height of obelisk/pillar and land area covered. It is unusual as a monument to those who fell in World War One that it does not identify their names.

The Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial within the setting of *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is representative of the practice of erecting memorials on existing prominent landform features and within existing parkland.

The United States Navy Submarine Memorial and the Periscope Memorial within *Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* are representative of the post-World War Two practice of creating memorials using the victor's own military hardware in contrast to the pre-World War Two custom of displaying trophies gained from the enemy.

The Royal Navy Memorial is the first memorial to the personnel of that force in Australia.

Other examples of the Inter-War Art Deco and Inter-War Free Classical styles exemplify the characteristics of the styles better than the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial largely because the designs have not been confined by the dominant space programming and symbolism inherent in the design of war memorials nor by the synthesis of two styles. The Edith Cowan Memorial Clock at the junction of Fraser Avenue, Malcolm Street and Kings Park Road

---

<sup>125</sup> Comparative information provided here which sets the place and its components within the context of Western Australian war memorials is based on Oline Richards' *War Memorials in Western Australia*, 1996 and analysis of the data therein provided.

<sup>126</sup> Comparisons with memorial buildings such as hospitals, schools, pools and pavilions, are largely excluded from the arguments presented here. Nevertheless, the degree to which the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial provided a functional building that would not otherwise have been provided – i.e. a lookout – should be considered. Indeed the first and more elaborate design included a lookout chamber and tower. The place was not designed solely as a place of remembrance but also as a topographical landmark and as a lookout at a 'beauty spot'.

in front of Kings Park, Perth, is stylistically very similar in detail to the Fallen Sailors' and Soldiers' Memorial and is also rendered in Donnybrook stone but is of much smaller scale.

Comparative works by the architects of the competition winning design and the constructed design, Wilkinson & Ross and Allen & Nicholas respectively, have not been investigated.

*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle* is representative of the erection of land marks, trigs or topographical markers on high points of coastal land. Comparison with other trigs or landmarks has not been investigated in detail.

#### **13.4 REFERENCES**

No key references.

#### **13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH**

The degree, geographical extent and meanings of the sacredness held by individuals and communities for the place should be investigated and defined in greater detail to understand the relationship between this and other aspects of the place's significance. For instance, is the whole of the place held sacred or only components of the place and what does this mean? What secular activities transgress this sacredness?

What role did the 'Memorial Warden' play in the control of behaviour and development at the place?

Whether the stone lined well and pumping plant exists and its location.