



Memorials on Harbour Trust land

The Harbour Trust receives many requests to install memorials on the land that it manages. Please read on for information about how such requests are handled by the Harbour Trust.

Background

The Harbour Trust manages places that possess significant environmental, heritage and scenic values. A key aim of the Harbour Trust is to protect and interpret these values within the context of managing these places as public parks.

Memorials have a valuable role in acknowledging and interpreting the heritage values of a place, and in enhancing the visitor experience. To achieve this, memorials need to be sensitively designed and located, with appropriate content.

Consideration of proposals

The Harbour Trust may initiate, or third parties may put forward, proposals for memorials. When assessing a proposal for a memorial the Harbour Trust will consider the following matters:

1. The subject must have a significant and/or historical connection to the place.
2. The proposal's consistency with the Harbour Trust's objects, plans and policies.
3. The Harbour Trust will identify a suitable location for memorials, addressing heritage, visual, and functional aspects (which may include co-locating related memorials).
4. The Harbour Trust may specify the design, dimensions, materials and content of the memorial; as well as its form (for example, a ceremonial plinth or an asset that process a level of amenity, such as a bench, tree, path or structure).
5. The content of the memorial should enhance the general public's understanding of the place.
6. Memorials should generally not relate to subjects memorialised elsewhere.
7. The cost of establishing and maintaining the memorial should rest with the proponent.
8. Whether the proposal is supported by a relevant association/group/current military unit (if relevant). The Harbour Trust will assist with communication between groups where possible.
9. Whether separate approval is required for the use of a military emblem (under SECTION 83 of the *Defence Act 1903* all Australian Defence Force emblems, flags and other accoutrements are prohibited from use, without the approval of the Minister for Defence (or their delegate). Permission can be sought via written request to the respective service's brand inbox. Email addresses are:

- army.brandmanager@defence.gov.au
- navy.brand@defence.gov.au
- afhq.brandmanager@defence.gov.au

More information can be found on the Navy, Army or Air Force websites.

10. Whether registration as an official war memorial is required – for more information, visit warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au.
11. Any other matter which the Harbour Trust considers relevant to the specific proposal.

Decisions

The Harbour Trust may allow exceptions to the matters outlined here and has absolute discretion on whether to agree to a proposed memorial. A successful proponent may be required to enter into a formal agreement. The Harbour Trust reserves the right to remove, replace or relocate a memorial if needed for any reason, including public safety grounds and without compensation.

Note

Earlier schemes such as memorial benches for general members of the public have been discontinued.

Contact

For more information please contact the Harbour Trust:

- Email: info@harbourtrust.gov.au
- Phone: (02) 8969 2100

Below: The former parade ground at Georges Heights is the site of Mosman's annual Anzac Day dawn ceremony. The area to the left of the flag platform has been identified as an appropriate place to co-locate memorials for the various defence units that served at Chowder Bay / Gooree, Georges Heights and Middle Head / Gubbuh Gubbuh. To the right, a Lone Pine was planted in 2022 along with an interpretative plaque.

