

York in World War I

Australia declared war on Germany on 5 August 1914 and offered 20,000 men to the British Government, consisting of 12 battalions of infantrymen and 3 brigades of light horsemen. In the rush to enlist, the first from York were Dovey, Kett and Wollett who enlisted on 17 August. By the end of 1914, there were 56 enlistments from York. When the First Convoy sailed, it had 11 men from York. Eventually there were 597 men (and one woman) who enlisted from York. About 203 of them (34%) were killed or died from war-caused injuries or illnesses.

York's most highly decorated son was Lt. Lawrence Dominic McCarthy who was awarded a Victoria Cross and 2 Croix de Guerre. Other York men were awarded 2 Military Crosses, 2 Distinguished Conduct Medals, 17 Military Medals and some lesser decorations.

McCarthy was born and baptised in York in January 1892. Orphaned, he was brought up in orphanages at Subiaco and Clontarf. After being a farm apprentice and sawmill contractor, he enlisted in the 16th Battalion, trained at Blackboy Hill and Broadmeadows, and sailed from Melbourne in December 1914.

McCarthy served at Gallipoli from the Landing until the Evacuation. In 1917 he earned the Croix de Guerre With Palm at Beaumetz.

On 23 August 1918 at Madame Wood, McCarthy singlehandedly took 5 German machine guns, killed 20, wounded 50, and captured 700 yards of trench. He was awarded the Victoria Cross and another Croix de Guerre, becoming known as the Super-VC.

McCarthy and wife lived in Perth from 1920 to 1927 and in Melbourne thereafter. Their only child Lawrence was killed aged 24 at Bougainville in May 1945. McCarthy died aged 83 in Melbourne in 1975.

Funded by ANZAC CENTENARY LOCAL GRANT FUND 2016

Sculpture By

Courtesy Australian War Memorial Image no :

Text by DR MIKE GALVIN RFD AND ROB O'CONNOR QC

Three logos to be included

The Krupp Gun

Following World War 1, captured war equipment was brought back to Australia and awarded to various local governments and returned service organizations for display as a reminder of the victory won at immense cost in human sacrifice. Many pieces were reserved for the then, future Australian War Memorial. This 77 mm Krupp Field Gun, no. 5948 was a state of the art German artillery piece in 1917-1918. It was presented to the Shire of York in 1920.

The gun was captured by men of the 28th Battalion (2nd Division) near Vauvillers, France in a battle on 11-12 August 1918 in the general area of operations of Villers-Bretonneaux.

This was part of the great advance against the German Army which commenced on 08 August 1918 and resulted ultimately in German defeat.

York was strongly allied to the 28th Battalion. 43 men are shown as serving with the Battalion at their date of death or discharge and a further 8 originally served with the Battalion before being transferred to another unit. 13 of the 51 men from York who served with the Battalion did not return.

Lieutenant Edwin Edmondson, 28th Battalion, participated in the capture of this Krupp gun on 11-12 Aug 1918. He was killed by an explosive shell in the assault on Mont St Quentin on the morning of 02 Sep 1918 whilst commanding "C" Company.

Edwin was born in York in 1889; he left Australia with the 16th reinforcements of 28 Bn. and is buried near Peronne, France.

DATE: 19/02/2016

SCALE: 1:XX

NO.	DESCRIPTION	BY	DATE

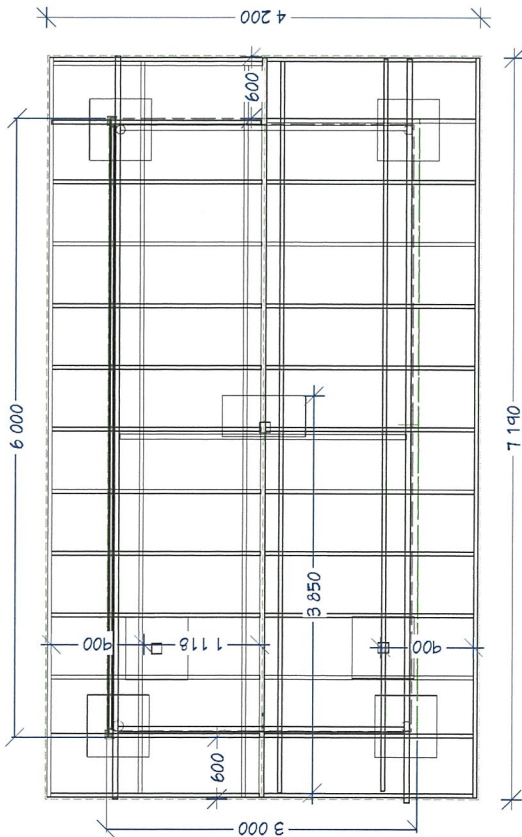
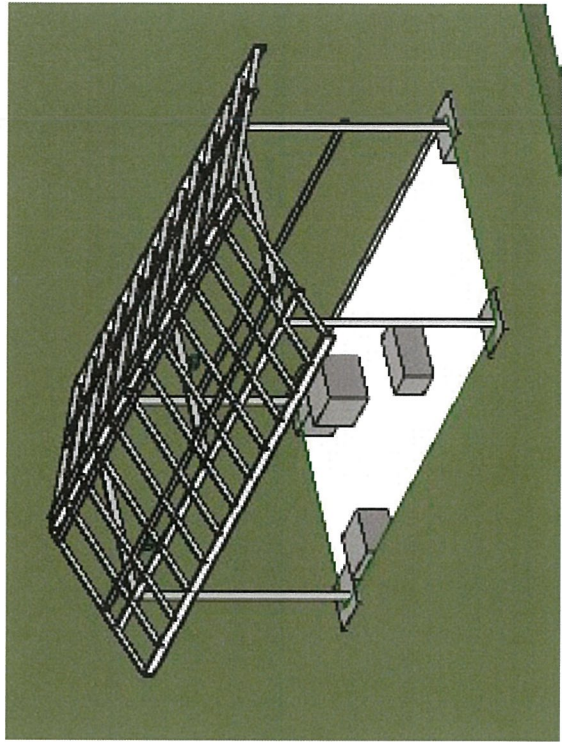
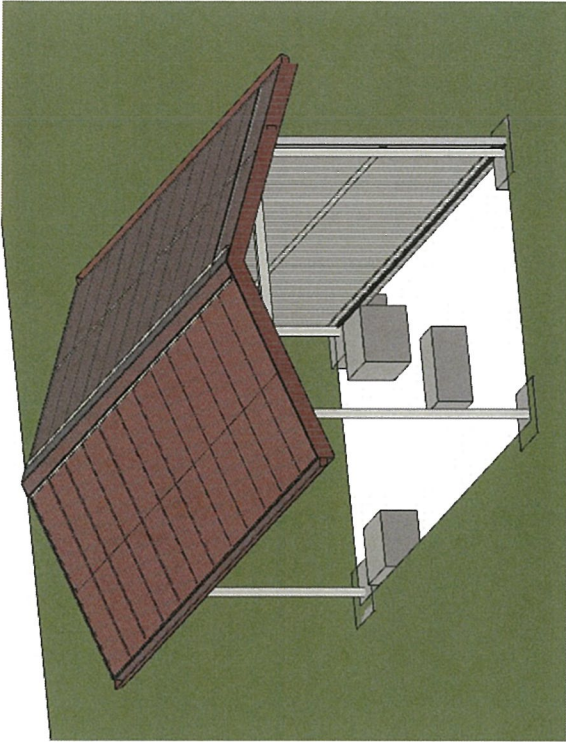
SHEET TITLE
Multiview

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Gun Cover

PLAN PREPARED BY
RELIABLE RENOVATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION
PO BOX 781 YORK NSW 2373

Project for
York Shire

Avon Tee
York



Specification

- Eave height is 2700 mm
- Posts are 90x90 SHS colorbond
- Footings are 450mm diameter concrete, 500mm deep
- Floor is 100mm concrete slab
- Walls are open , North wall closed with colorbond corodek
- Wall top beams are 100x50 RHS colorbond
- Wall girts are 38x76 colorbond
- Roof framing is 38x76 RHS colorbond
- Roof is corrugated colorbond steel



HERITAGE INTELLIGENCE (WA)

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30 September 2015

MEMO

To: Carol Littlefair
Curator: The Residency Museum
Shire of YORK

Subject: Query re TOWN HALL, War Memorial, York

Hi Carol

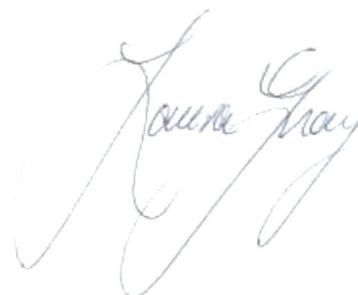
Further to your query, I make the following comment:

The York Town Hall is included in the State Register and is a place of exceptional significance, as such, the general expectation is that no plaques or other elements would be attached to the fabric of any registered place, even the plaques attesting to State heritage significance. Should such a proposition be considered as a preferred outcome, then State Heritage Office approval would be required. The installation of an element associated with commemoration of wartime would be more appropriate to the Memorial and Park (also State registered) or the RSL building.

Similarly, it is my understanding that memorials and commemorative elements associated with Australians at war should be retained as intended with no elements removed. However, York's War Memorial & Park (inHerit database no 2891) is a State Registered place as for the Town Hall, as such, any changes or conservation works to the Memorial or the Park in its entirety would be subject to approval by the State Heritage Office. It is my experience that memorials remain intact as original. "Refurbishment" of the war memorial would need further detailing and clarification and State Heritage Office approval prior to any further action or works commencing.

I trust that information assists in clarifying the requirements for State registered heritage places. I am available to discuss further.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Laura Gray', with a large, stylized initial 'L'.

Laura Gray

HERITAGE INTELLIGENCE (WA)

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8 March 2016

MEMO

To: Carol Littlefair
Curator: The Residency Museum
Shire of YORK

Subject: Query re War Memorial, York

Hi Carol

Further to your query, I make the following comment:

The York War Memorial is included in the State Register (inHerit database no 2891) and is a place of considerable significance as a World War One commemorative memorial, as such, the general expectation is that no plaques or other elements would be attached to the fabric of the memorial, or other elements or structures impact the setting of the memorial or vistas to and from.

I note the Len Zuk's sculpture had been temporarily erected at the south end of the Memorial Park to commemorate the 100th anniversary of events associated with World War One. I understand that no approvals from the State Heritage Office have been granted for the temporary siting of the sculpture at the York War Memorial.

Meanwhile plans are underway to locate and house the Krupp gun and a bas-relief of McCarthy, consistent with the commemorative nature of the York War Memorial and in accordance with the guidelines and policies in the Conservation Management Plan.

The Conservation Management Plan (Bizzaca 2011) details a number of policies and recommendations with regard to retaining the heritage significance of the memorial and its setting with vistas to and from all sides of the park. The Conservation Management Plan is the guiding document for any future "development" of the York War Memorial and will be the primary reference for the Shire of York and the State Heritage Office in their considerations. (Conservation Management Plan Policy 26)

Other relevant policies are;

Policy 7. The use of York War Memorial is a place of remembrance and commemoration is essential to retaining and conserving its significance and should be respected.

Policy 8. The visual setting and location of York War Memorial and its various elements are integral to its significance and should be retained. New construction, demolition, intrusions or changes which would adversely affect the significance, setting, vistas or relationships are not appropriate.

- Policy 14. York War Memorial as a whole is of considerable significance; the open setting of York War Memorial, including vistas to and from the site; and, the Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.
- Policy 18 Retain and conserve the form of York War Memorial as a landmark site in the townsite.....
- Policy 19 Retain and conserve the open setting around the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' Memorial. No new work should impact either visually or physically on the vistas to and from the monument.

A further extract from the Conservation Management Plan expresses the significance of the place.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

York War Memorial, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is a fine, representative example of a monumental memorial designed in the Classical style to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War One and, together with its park setting, achieves a high level of aesthetic value;

the ionic column and pedestal form of the 1923 stone monument and its masonry detailing (such as laurel wreath) are characteristic and symbolic features used to indicate remembrance, honour and pride of those who lost their life for their country;

since 1923 up to the present day; some 88 years, the place has been the centre for ANZAC Day and other commemorative services for the local community and, as such, has – and still does - symbolised the sacrifice, sadness and hope of war to generations of York residents;

the place is not only an important architectural landmark in York's historic townsite, but is integral to the aesthetic, social and cultural fabric of York, thus contributing to the local and wider communities' sense of place;

the place has close associations with the York sub - branch of the Returned Servicemen's League, the Shire of York and the families of the 73 local men to whom the 1923 monument pays tribute; and,

the place has associations with York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, who was awarded a Victoria Cross for extreme gallantry in 1918.

In my opinion; any consideration of the Len Zuk's sculpture remaining at the York War Memorial beyond its temporary anniversary commemorative situation would impact the significance of the York War Memorial and its setting and vistas. Whilst the sculpture is a fine

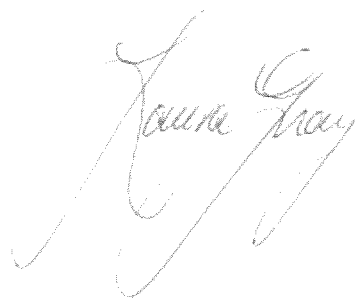
sculptural element, it is somewhat whimsical in nature, and together with the "100" element, clearly represents a specific anniversary event that is inconsistent with intention of the York War Memorial. It would significantly impact the solemnity of the York War Memorial and its landmark setting that commemorates a very significant world event and its York associations.

Should such a proposition to retain the Sculpture in its current location be considered, then State Heritage Office approval would be required (Conservation Plan Policy 25) and such an application would highlight no previous approval for the Sculpture.

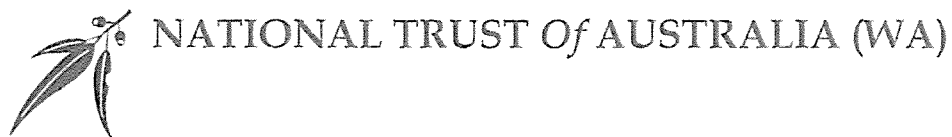
I trust that information assists in clarifying the requirements for State Registered heritage places, and the guidance provided by the Conservation Management Plan.

I am available to discuss further.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laura Gray". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Laura Gray



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Our Ref:2661:SM:SM:20160107

Ms Carol Littlefair
Curator, Cultural Heritage
Shire of York
PO Box 22
YORK WA 6302

7 January 2016

Dear Ms Littlefair,

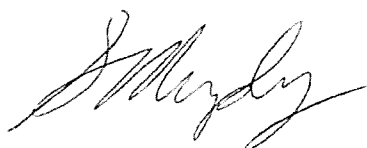
RE: Request to add plaque & sculpture to memorial stone

Thank you for your letter requesting permission to add a plaque and bas-relief sculpture to the memorial stone at the York Courthouse Complex.

The commemoration of WW1 service personnel including Lawrence McCarthy VC winner is certainly a worthy project and one that should be encouraged. However the National Trust does not support the use of the memorial stone for any additional commemoration. The existing memorial is quite specific and its content relates strongly to the interpretation of the Courthouse Complex. To add more plaques with quite different content would likely dilute the meaning and appreciation of both stories which would not be the best outcome.

We would encourage the Shire to consider another location that relates more closely to the subject matter of WW1 so that the intention behind the commemoration is clearer and of sufficient prominence in its own right.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Murphy
Director, Conservation

From: Billett, R.S. (Major) War Trophies from the First World War 1914-1918, 1999,
 Kangaroo Press / Simon & Schuster Australia Pty Ltd, 20 Barcoo St,
 Marr, East Rossville NSW 2069 / ISBN 0 86417 977 4

SY063-06/16
 APPENDIX H

APPENDIX 10

Western Australia Directory of Allotted Trophies

Table App. 10.1 Western Australia Directory

Ceded	Nature	Number	Captured	Unit	Place
Albany	75-mm gun	574	20 Oct. 18	10 ALH	Jenin
Armadaile	105-mm how.	4752		French Govt	
Armadaile	77-mm gun	442	18 Sep. 18	3 Inf. Bde	
Boulder	105-mm how.	15144	14 Aug. 18	11 Bn	
Boulder	105-mm how.	12019	8 Aug. 18	44 Bn	
Broome	77-mm gun	165	8 Aug. 18	44 Bn	
Bunbury	77-mm gun	19246		A Corps	
Busselton	77-mm gun	8324		13 Inf. Bde	
Carnarvon	15Pr BL gun Mk IV	4233			
Claremont	75-mm gun	461		ALH	
Collie	104-mm gun	5664		ALH	
Cottesloe	75-mm gun	94	1 Oct. 18	10 ALH	Amman
Fremantle	150-mm how.	288			
Fremantle	150-mm how.	955	8 Nov 1917	10 ALH	P29 P28 P28
Geraldton	barrel only	375		ALH	
Guildford	105-mm how.	211	8 Aug. 18	44 Bn	
Kalgoorlie	105-mm how.	15123	14 Aug. 18	11 Bn	
Kalgoorlie	105-mm how.	15132	14 Aug. 18	11 Bn	
Katanning	75-mm gun	615		ALH	
Kellerberrin	77-mm gun	19329	18 Sep. 18	11 Bn	
Midland Junction	75-mm gun	121	20 Sep. 18	10 ALH	Jenin
Moora	75-mm gun	393		ALH	
Narrogin	77-mm gun	4253	18 Sep. 18	11 Bn	
Northam	75-mm gun	503		10 ALH	Jenin
Perth	105-mm gun	15131	18 Sep. 18	11 Bn	
Perth-Subiaco	77-mm gun	5806		11 Bn	
Pingelly	75-mm gun	546		ALH	
WA Museum	77-mm gun	408	18 Sep. 18	16 Bn	
WA Museum	150-mm how.		25 Jul. 16	11 Bn	Pozières
Wagin	77-mm gun	1122	12 Aug. 18	28 Bn	Villers-Bret.
Wagin	105-mm gun	553			
York	77-mm gun	5948	12 Aug. 18	28 Bn	Villers-Bret.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN YORK WAR MEMORIAL



**Prepared for the
SHIRE OF YORK
and
THE RSL YORK SUB-BRANCH**

**KRISTY BIZZACA
June 2011**

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

York War Memorial is included in the Shire of York's Municipal Heritage Inventory and Town Planning Scheme Heritage List, classified by the National Trust of Australia (WA) and entered into the State Register of Heritage Places.

Since the unveiling of the Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial on ANZAC Day 1923, *York War Memorial* has been the centre of commemorative services and observances and, as such, generations of York families have close ties with the monument.

York War Memorial is of considerable significance at local and state levels and has a high degree of integrity and authenticity.

The premise of this report is that the cultural heritage significance of a place is one of its main attributes and should be retained, respected and enhanced for present and future generations.

Therefore, the assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and the recommendations in this conservation plan should be used by the owners and users of the place, together with any relevant authorities, as the basis for any decision about the management, maintenance, conservation, interpretation, development and future use of the place.

As the primary responsibility for *York War Memorial* lies with the Shire of York in which the place is vested, this conservation plan should be adopted by them as the guiding document for the retention and conservation of the assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and as the framework for any decision making associated with the place such as physical works.

The use of *York War Memorial* as a place of remembrance and commemoration is essential to retaining and conserving its significance, and should be respected.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

- 1914 - 1918** Following the outbreak of World War One, Australia pledged its support for Britain. Many York men made the decision to leave their families and places of work to serve in Australia's military forces.
- By the end of the war, 73 men from the town had died as a result of the hostilities, including, tragically, members from the same family.
- 1920** Planning for the erection of a memorial to commemorate those locals who died during World War One began with the formation of a Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Committee.
- 1922** In **May**, the Committee invites designs for the memorial and Messrs. Powell and Cameron are later appointed the Honorary Architects for the project.
- Portion of the railway reserve is identified and eventually taken over as 'a most suitable site' for the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial.
- 1923** In **January**, the Returned Soldiers Monumental Works, Karrakatta (Wales and Gillies) is contracted to complete the memorial at a cost of £410.
- The Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is unveiled by the Hon. H. P. Colebatch CMG, then Minister for Education and Justice, at a ceremony on ANZAC Day, Wednesday, **25 April 1923**.
- By **November**, the *York War Memorial* park had been planted with grass and 'it was intended in the near future to place War Trophies within the enclosure'. One of the War Trophies later displayed is a 77mm Krupp Gun seized by the 28th Battalion east of Villers – Bretonneux, France on 12 August 1918.
- 1992** The place is afforded full protection via legislation as a result of its interim entry into the Heritage Council of WA's State Register of Heritage Places.

- c. 1994** The York RSL dedicates a new monument at the *York War Memorial* site to York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, who was awarded a Victoria Cross on 14 December 1918.
- 1995/1996** The place is included in the Shire of York's Municipal Heritage Inventory, which is later adopted as part of the Town Planning Scheme.
- c. 2003** Two polished granite tablets engraved with the 73 names of the men killed during World War One are installed on the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.
- 2004** Reserve 46912 is created for the *York War Memorial* site for the purpose of a war memorial and vested in the Shire of York, which is responsible for the management of the place.
- 2005** A draft conservation plan is compiled for the RSL York Sub – Branch. This project coincides with grants provided for the restoration of *York War Memorial* and for the Krupp gun.
- 2006** On ANZAC Day, 25 April, the restored Krupp gun is returned to York as part of the service. (Note: This War Trophy is currently held in the Shire of York Works Depot.)
- 2011** In June, conservation work of the 1923 monument begins carried out by Perth Monumental Masons.
- York War Memorial* continues to serve the purpose for which it was originally established in 1923.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

York War Memorial, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, is located on Reserve 46912, which is bound by South Street to the north, Railway Street to the south and east, and the railway reserve to the west.

The reserve is grassed with an overgrown bed of plantings just to the south of the centre of the site and several trees to the north. On the north and east sides, the grassed area is raised above the level of the road by a concrete retaining wall. A white

painted, timber post and rail fence with a wire arbor encloses the southern and western sides.

Situated on a square concrete pad in the northern portion of the site is the c. 1994 granite monument. On this unfinished stone is a badly weathered bronze plaque dedicated to York-born recipient of a 1918 Victoria Cross, Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy.

The 1923 monument is located close to the centre of the reserve. It is in the Classical style, incorporating sober and dignified stylistic elements popular with the design of war memorials throughout Australia.

Built primarily of sandstone on a tiered, base, the structure comprises a square pedestal on either side of which are two pairs of miniature, decorative ionic columns of concrete construction. These columns support two, semi-oval-shaped stone lintels with masonry detailing.

The pedestal has decorative, scrolled masonry on its east and west faces. At the top of the north and south faces is a laurel wreath around which the words 'HERE YORK HONOURS THOSE WHO FELL 1914 – 1918' are inscribed. Two polished York granite panels have been installed below this inscription in c. 2003. These have been engraved with the names of the York men who were killed during World War One and the infill of this has been painted white.

The pedestal also serves as the foundation for a four-section, stone column surmounted by a decorative, ionic capital and stone ball. Each section was fitted onto a dowel which ran from the pedestal base up through the centre of the column.

CONDITION, AUTHENTICITY & INTEGRITY

Although there have been some changes to the *York War Memorial* site in terms of plantings and the installation of the c. 1994 granite monument, overall the place has a high degree of authenticity and integrity. With the exception of the c. 2003 granite panels, the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is largely unchanged and therefore significantly intact.

Physical evidence shows that there has been no major refurbishment or regular maintenance of the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial and the c. 1994 granite

monument, which has caused both to suffer from severe weathering and bore water staining. In June 2011, this is being rectified through conservation works.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

York War Memorial, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is a fine, representative example of a monumental memorial designed in the Classical style to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War One and, together with its park setting, achieves a high level of aesthetic value;

the ionic column and pedestal form of the 1923 stone monument and its masonry detailing (such as laurel wreath) are characteristic and symbolic features used to indicate remembrance, honour and pride of those who lost their life for their country;

since 1923 up to the present day; some 88 years, the place has been the centre for ANZAC Day and other commemorative services for the local community and, as such, has – and still does - symbolised the sacrifice, sadness and hope of war to generations of York residents;

the place is not only an important architectural landmark in York's historic townsite, but is integral to the aesthetic, social and cultural fabric of York, thus contributing to the local and wider communities' sense of place;

the place has close associations with the York sub - branch of the Returned Servicemen's League, the Shire of York and the families of the 73 local men to whom the 1923 monument pays tribute; and,

the place has associations with York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, who was awarded a Victoria Cross for extreme gallantry in 1918.

CONSERVATION POLICY

The premise of the conservation policy is that the cultural heritage significance of a place is one of its main attributes and should be retained, respected and enhanced for present and future generations. Its aim is to provide a framework for the conservation of this cultural heritage significance, which is appropriate, viable and sustainable.

Below are the policy statements relating to *York War Memorial* and are meant as a guide. Further discussion about these policies can be found in Section 8 of this report:

- Policy 1.** The assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and the recommendations in this conservation plan should be used by the owners and users of the place, together with any relevant authorities, as the basis for any decision about the management, maintenance, conservation, interpretation, development and future use of the place.
- Policy 2.** The conservation of the significance of *York War Memorial* and its elements should be carried out in accordance with the principles outlined in the Australia ICOMOS' *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance* (the *Burra Charter*).
- Policy 3.** Any decision, work or other matters likely to affect the cultural heritage significance of the place should be undertaken with reference to this conservation plan, in accordance with the principles of Australia ICOMOS' *Burra Charter*, in compliance with all heritage and statutory bodies, and guided and supervised by appropriate professionals.
- Policy 4.** This conservation plan should be reviewed every five – ten years to take into account the passage of time, works completed as well as any changes which have impacted the appropriateness or applicability of the policies, and the necessary amendments made.
- Policy 5.** The *Burra Charter* should be the framework used to guide all considerations for the future conservation, changes, adaptation and use of *York War Memorial*.
- Policy 6.** *York War Memorial* and its various elements should be retained and conserved in accordance with the assessed significance and the recommendations in this conservation plan.
- Policy 7.** The use of *York War Memorial* as a place of remembrance and commemoration is essential to retaining and conserving its significance, and should be respected.
- Policy 8.** The visual setting and location of *York War Memorial* and its various elements are integral to its significance and should be retained. New

construction, demolition, intrusions or changes which would adversely affect the significance, setting, vistas or relationships are not appropriate.

Policy 9. Some changes, such as new memorials or the display of war trophies, may occur if they are associated with the significance of the place, but are not desirable where they would adversely affect this significance. New work should be sympathetic and not impact the significance of *York War Memorial*, including visually or physically, or detract from its interpretation and appreciation.

Policy 10. The elements assessed as being of considerable or some significance should be retained and conserved in accordance with the recommendations of this conservation plan. (See Policies 14 & 15.)

Policy 11. The elements assessed as being of little significance may be retained or removed on the basis of required function and use. (See Policy 16.)

Policy 12. The elements assessed as being intrusive should be removed where possible to allow for conservation or more appropriate change. (See Policy 17.)

Policy 13. The opportunity exists to interpret and promote *York War Memorial* based on its considerable significance at local and state levels. (See Policy 24.)

Policy 14. Zones and elements of Considerable Significance.

York War Memorial as a whole; the open setting of *York War Memorial*, including vistas to and from the site; and, the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.

Policy 15. Zones and elements of Some Significance.

The c. 1994 stone monument; the c. 2003 polished York granite panels; and, the landscaping and retaining wall.

Policy 16. Zones and elements of Little Significance.

The flag pole; the arbor; the post and rail fencing; and, the plantings.

Policy 17. Intrusive zones and elements.

The concrete pad upon which the c. 1994 stone monument is situated.

- Policy 18.** Retain and conserve the form of *York War Memorial* as a landmark site in the townsite, including the platform created by the retaining wall.
- Policy 19.** Retain and conserve the open setting around the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial. No new work should impact either visually or physically on the vistas to and from the monument.
- Policy 20.** Consider the development of a landscape plan by a relevant professional with heritage expertise.
- Policy 20.** The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is of considerable significance and should be retained and conserved. No additional changes to the monument are considered appropriate and it is preferable that any conservation work be carried out in situ.
- Policy 21.** The c. 1994 stone monument is of some significance and should be retained and conserved. The replacement of the concrete pad with a more sympathetic surround or base may be considered at a future date and/or as part of any landscape plan for the place.
- Policy 22.** Regular maintenance of *York War Memorial* should continue to be carried out having due regard to the significance of the place as a whole, the various elements and this conservation plan.
- Policy 23.** Any required repairs to *York War Memorial*, in particular the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, should be done in consultation with and under the supervision of a relevant heritage professional.
- Policy 24.** Consider the development of interpretation for the place by a relevant heritage professional.
- Policy 25.** *York War Memorial* is entered into the State Register of Heritage Places. Under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*, any development, including new work, landscaping and interpretation, must be referred to the Office of Heritage for advice prior to its commencement.
- Policy 26.** As per Policy 1, this conservation plan should be used by the Office of Heritage, the Shire of York and any other relevant authorities as the basis for any decision making, including planning and approval processes, relating to *York War Memorial*.

Policy 27. Any works arising from requirements to comply with statutory regulations should be evaluated against the assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and the recommendations in this conservation plan.

Policy 28. As per Policy 7, the use of *York War Memorial* as a place of remembrance and commemoration is essential to retaining and conserving its significance, and is expected by key users and stakeholders like the York RSL and the local community. This expectation is best achieved by the long term conservation, maintenance and presentation of *York War Memorial* together with any suitable interpretation.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The primary responsibility for *York War Memorial* lies with the Shire of York in which the place is vested. It is responsible for the day-to-day management, maintenance and conservation of the place as well as for providing adequate financial provision or identifying appropriate grant funding in order to achieve these obligations.

This conservation plan should be adopted by the Shire of York as the guiding document for the retention and conservation of the assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and as the framework for any decision making associated with the place such as physical works.

The timeframe in relation to the commencement and completion of conservation policies for *York War Memorial* varies. The following provides a prioritised summary of when policies should generally be achieved.

Essential (work to be done urgently)

- Adopt this conservation plan as the guiding document for the conservation and management of the place.
- Accept and understand that the key policy statements (Section 8.1), the policies arising from the requirements of the client, owner, occupants and/or users (Section 8.6), the policies arising from the cultural heritage significance of the place (Section 8.2), and the policies arising from external requirements (8.5) are the main basis for this conservation and management.

- Appoint an officer/position to be responsible for the day-to-day management of the place.

Short term (immediate work to be done within one – two years)

- Carry out policies arising from the physical condition of the place (Section 8.4.) and identify a schedule of works required.

Medium term (desirable work to be done within five years or when resources allow)

- Consider the development of a landscape plan by a relevant professional with heritage expertise (Policy 20, Section 8.3.1; see also Section 8.3.1 & Section 8.4).

Long term (optional work to be done within ten years or when resources allow)

- Carry out policies arising from interpretation opportunities (Section 8.4).
- Review this conservation plan (Policy 4, Section 8.1 & Section 9.3).

Ongoing

- Carry out regular maintenance of the place (Section 8.3.3).
- Ensure proper records associated with the conservation and management of the place are kept.



Figure 1: Location plan of *York War Memorial*.

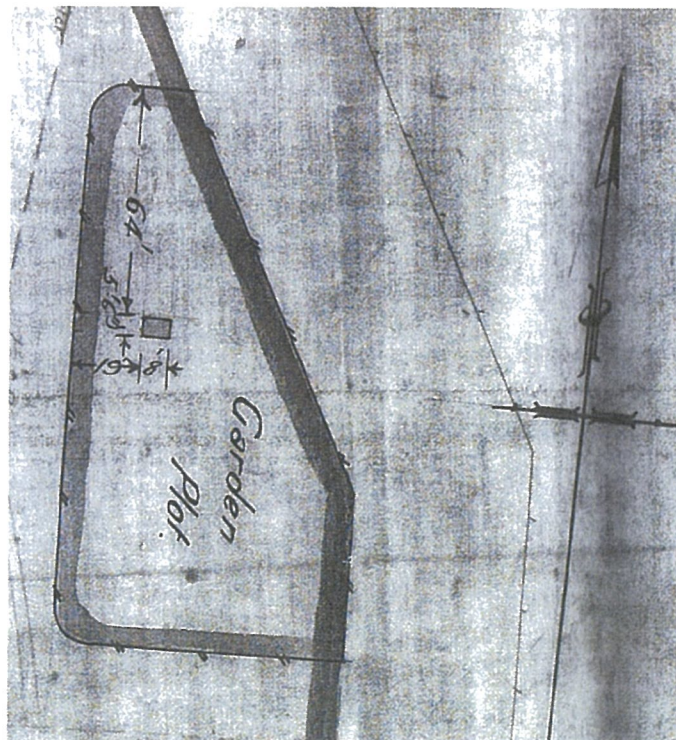


Figure 2: Site plan of *York War Memorial*. Source: GSR, York, Lease of Land for Soldiers Memorial Site to York Municipal Council, W&W Plan No. 22183, 1923.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. BACKGROUND

York War Memorial, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, is located on Reserve 46912, which is bound by South Street to the north, Railway Street to the south and east, and the railway reserve to the west.

This reserve is designated for the purpose of a war memorial and vested in the Shire of York, which is responsible for the management of the place.

Since the unveiling of the Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial by the Hon. H. P. Colebatch CMG on ANZAC Day 1923, *York War Memorial* has been the centre of commemorative services and observances and, as such, generations of York families have close ties with the monument.

As a place of commemoration and remembrance, *York War Memorial* is of considerable significance at local and state levels.

The purpose of this report is to facilitate the conservation and management of this important heritage place for present and future generations of the York community.

2.2. HERITAGE LISTINGS

The place is included in the Shire of York's Municipal Heritage Inventory and Town Planning Scheme Heritage List, classified by the National Trust of Australia (WA) and entered into the State Register of Heritage Places.

2.3. METHODOLOGY

This Conservation Plan has been developed as per the brief prepared by the Heritage Council of WA, which is widely used by heritage conservation professionals in this state.¹ This brief is based on the principles and guidelines developed by the Australia ICOMOS for the conservation of places of cultural significance, in particular the *Burra Charter*², as well as James Semple Kerr's *The Conservation Plan*³.

2.4. PROJECT TEAM

This Conservation Plan for *York War Memorial* has been prepared by Kristy Bizzaca, Heritage Consultant for the Shire of York. It is based on a draft report compiled by Laura Gray, Heritage and Conservation Consultant, and Dr John Coe, Historian, for the RSL York Sub - Branch in 2005.

2.5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Tyhscha Cochrane, Deputy CEO, Shire of York

RSL York Sub – Branch

Julie Rae, York Research & Archives Centre, The York Society Inc

Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, Curtin University of Technology and WA Branch of the Returned and Services League

Arthur Jones & Joan Jaques, Perth Monumental Masons

¹ http://www.heritage.wa.gov.au/assets/files/General_Publications/conservationBrief0210.pdf, June 2011.

² http://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/BURRA_CHARTER.pdf, June 2011.

³ Kerr, J. S., *The Conservation Plan*, National Trust of Australia (NSW), Sydney, 1990.

3. DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

This section comprises a historical overview of the development of *York War Memorial* since its establishment in 1923.

The documentary evidence has been compiled from: research notes by Dr John Coe in 2005; and, additional material supplied by Julie Rae of the York Research and Archives Centre, The York Society Inc, and Jacqui Sherriff of the 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, Curtin University of Technology and WA Branch of the Returned and Services League.

No social history or history of Aboriginal occupation has been completed as part of this project.

3.1. BRIEF TIMELINE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF YORK⁴

1829	The Swan River Colony was founded on 18 June.
1830	Ensign Dale of the 63 rd Regiment 'discovers' the fertile Avon Valley during an expedition in July. The district is thrown open for selection later that year and, on 25 November, the Town of York is gazetted.
1835	Revett Henry Bland and Arthur Trimmer purchase the first town allotments in what became known as 'Blandstown'.
1837	A military outpost is established at York in the vicinity of the existing Courthouse.
1850	Transportation begins and the first convicts arrive in York in 1851. Construction of the Convict Depot (now The Residency Museum) on the eastern side of the Avon River commences in 1852.
1868	The York District Road Trust was founded. This was superseded by the York Roads Board in 1871.
1885	The Eastern Railway was extended from Chidlow to York in this year.
1880s – 1900s	The railway not only signaled the shift of the commercial part of the town from Blandstown further north to Avon Terrace, but, together with the construction of the line to the principal port at Albany as well as the

⁴ Unless otherwise referenced, the information in this section comes from: Michael Tooby & Associates in association with Fiona Bush, 'Conservation Plan for Blandstown Village Heritage Precinct', prepared for the Friends of Blandstown Association Inc. & The York Society Inc., February 2007, Section 3; 'Monger's Trading Post', Heritage Council of WA (HCWA) assessment documentation, 15/12/2000; &, 'Imperial Hotel, York', HCWA assessment documentation, 13/7/2007; <http://www.awm.gov.au/atwar/ww1.asp>, June 2011.

goldrushes which occurred in this period, gave impetus to massive growth of the area. All railway traffic passed through York and thousands of prospectors made their way to the Eastern Goldfields on foot from the town. The majority of the commercial premises along Avon Terrace date from this time.

1914 - 1918 Following the outbreak of World War One, Australia pledged its support for Britain. This was met with great enthusiasm and, as with other towns throughout the country, many York men made the decision to leave their families and places of work to serve in Australia's military forces.

By the end of the war, 73 men from the town had died as a result of the hostilities, including, tragically, members from the same family.

1920 Planning for the erection of a memorial to commemorate those locals who died during World War One began.⁵ This represents part of an Australian-wide trend to honour and remember those who had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in war through the erection of monuments. This was particularly prevalent after World War One at which time national identity and pride, the legend of the Anzac and the creation of the Anzac Day memorial service were at the forefront of community sentiment.⁶

3.2. CHRONOLOGICAL OVERVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF YORK WAR MEMORIAL

1920 A Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Committee is formed in York to erect a monument to commemorate those who died during World War One.⁷

1922 Planning of the memorial gains momentum early in the year with an account opened to receive donations by the York branch of the Returned Servicemen's League.⁸

In **May**, the Committee invites designs for the memorial 'the cost of which is not to exceed £500'.⁹ Messrs. Powell and Cameron are later appointed the Honorary Architects for the project.¹⁰

⁵ *The West Australian*, 8/5/1922; *The West Australian*, 11/5/1922.

⁶ See Richards, O., 'War Memorials in Western Australia', Perth, 1996, pp. 1 – 9.

⁷ Information provided by Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, Curtin University of Technology and WA Branch of the Returned and Services League.

⁸ General Meeting, 25/4/1922, RSL York, Minute Books, ACC 2921A, MN 798, State Library of WA (SLWA), in Information provided by Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, op. cit.

⁹ *The West Australian*, 8/5/1922.

¹⁰ 'Souvenir of the Unveiling of the York Fallen Soldier' Memorial', Chronicle Print Works, York, 25/4/1923.

On **22 June**, the York Council decides to make an approach to the State Government which eventuates in portion of the railway reserve taken over as 'a most suitable site' for the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial.¹¹

1923

A contract for the construction of the monument is entered into in **January** between the Committee and the Returned Soldiers Monumental Works, Karrakatta (Wales and Gillies) for a cost of £410.¹²

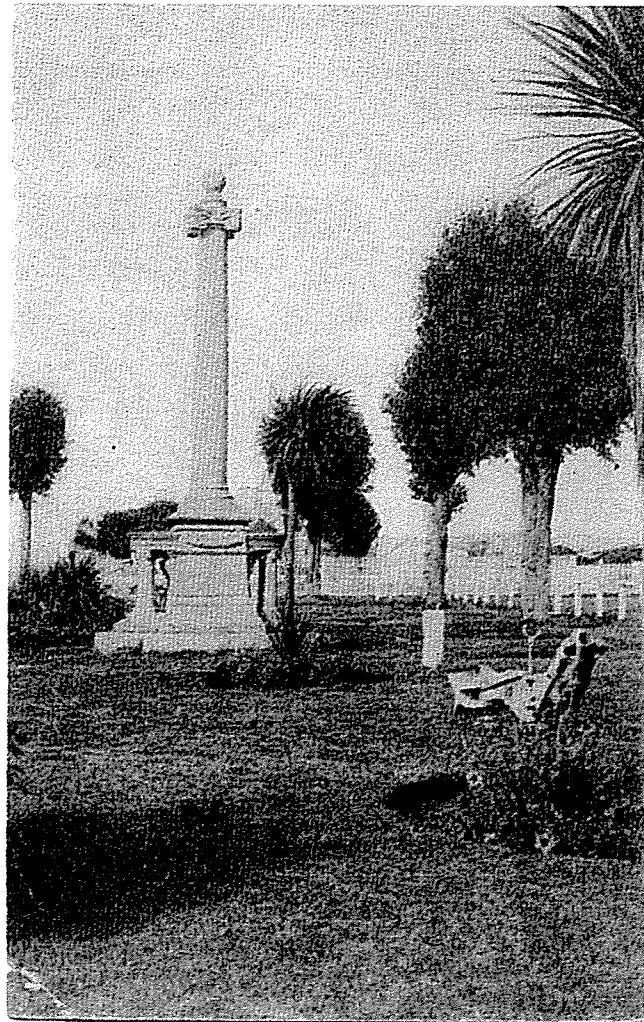


Figure 3: *York War Memorial*, 1920s, showing landscaping and painted white timber post and rail fence.
Note: There are no plaques on the monument. Source: The Residency Museum, York, P02.064.

¹¹ York Municipal Council Meeting, 20/6/1922.

¹² Contract Agreement between The York Fallen Soldiers Memorial Committee and Returned Soldiers Monumental Works, Karrakatta, 10/1/1923.

The Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is unveiled by the Hon. H. P. Colebatch CMG, then Minister for Education and Justice, at a ceremony on ANZAC Day, Wednesday, **25 April 1923**.¹³

In **July**, the York Council accepts control of the monument at the request of the Committee¹⁴ and enters into a 7-year peppercorn lease for the site.¹⁵

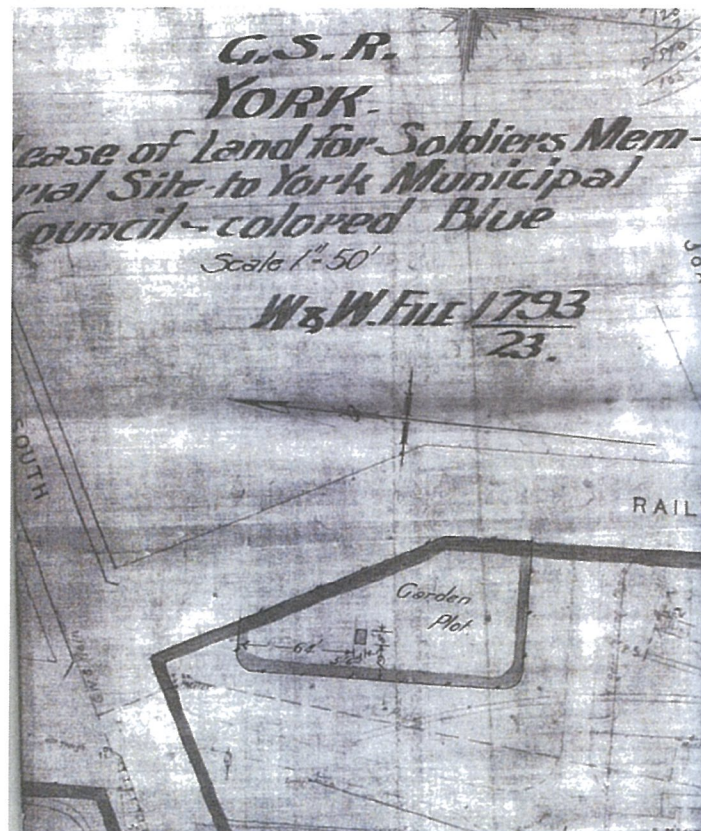


Figure 4: Lease of land for *York War Memorial*. Source: GSR, York, Lease of Land for Soldiers Memorial Site to York Municipal Council, W&W Plan No. 22183, 1923.

By **November**, the *York War Memorial* park had been planted with grass and 'it was intended in the near future to place War Trophies

¹³ 'Souvenir of the Unveiling of the York Fallen Soldier' Memorial', Chronicle Print Works, York, 25/4/1923; *The West Australian*, 23/4/1923.

¹⁴ York Municipal Council Meeting, 3/7/1923.

¹⁵ Lease agreement between the Commissioner of Railways and the Municipality of York, 8/8/1923.

within the enclosure'.¹⁶

¹⁶ Quotation from York Municipal Council, Annual Ratepayers Meeting, 27/11/1923. See also Committee Meeting, 16/11/1923, RSL York, Minute Books, ACC 2921A, MN 798, State Library of WA (SLWA), in Information provided by Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, op. cit.

War trophies captured by Australian troops began to be distributed to states and, through State committees, on to towns from 1919 to 1922. The pieces were then handed over to local Trustees with a view to being displayed in parks, gardens or buildings.¹⁷ One of the War Trophies allocated to York was a 77mm Krupp Gun seized by the 28th Battalion east of Villers – Bretonneux, France on 12 August 1918.¹⁸

1930

The lease of the site was renewed 'indefinitely until determined by six months' notice on either side'.¹⁹



Figure 5: York War Memorial, 1930.
Source: *The Sunday Times*, 4/5/1930.

¹⁷ http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/war_trophies.asp, June 2011.

¹⁸ *The Aiming Post*, The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of Western Australia, Newsletter, Issue3/2001, October 2001; &, 'History Sheet of War Trophy', in Information provided by Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, op. cit.

¹⁹ Correspondence dated 30/4/1930 & 7/5/1930 between WAGR & Municipality of York, in Information provided by Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, op. cit.

- 1985** *York War Memorial* is classified by the National Trust of Australia (WA).²⁰
- 1992** The place is afforded full protection via legislation as a result of its interim entry into the Heritage Council of WA's State Register of Heritage Places.²¹
- c. 1994** The York RSL dedicates a new monument at the *York War Memorial* site to York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, who was awarded a Victoria Cross on 14 December 1918.²²



Figure 6: A portrait of Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, VC, c. 1919. Source: <http://cas.awm.gov.au/photograph/P01383.016>, June 2011.

Born in c. 1892 at York, his parents died young and McCarthy was sent to St Joseph's Boys' Orphanage (later Clontarf) in Perth. He was working as a contractor when war broke out, but soon enlisted and served in the 16th AIF Battalion.²³ His 'extreme gallantry' which saw him receive a Victoria Cross is described as follows:

²⁰ HCWA, Online Database, Place Number: 2891.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Correspondence dated 28/1/1994 between R. Johnston & Municipality of York, in Information provided by Jacqui Sherriff, 'Remembering the Wars' ARC Linkage Project, op. cit.; http://www.awm.gov.au/research/people/honours_and_awards/person.asp?p=353963, June 2011.

²³ <http://adbonline.anu.edu.au/bicgs/A100211b.htm>, June 2011

Near Madam Wood, east of Vermandovillers, France, on 23 August McCarthy performed what the official war historian rated as 'perhaps the most effective feat of individual fighting in the history of the A.I.F., next to Jacka's at Pozieres'. The 16th Battalion, with McCarthy commanding 'D' Company, had attained its objectives but the battalion on the left was unable to make headway. Accompanied by Sergeant F. J. Robbins, D.C.M., M.M., McCarthy attacked the German machine-gun posts which were preventing its advance. They raced into the enemy trench system, shooting and bombing as they went, destroying three machine-gun positions. When his mate fell wounded, McCarthy pressed on, picking up German bombs as he continued to fight down the trench 'inflicting heavy casualties'. Coming upon another enemy pocket, he shot two officers and bombed the post until a blood-stained handkerchief signalled the surrender of the forty occupants.

This feat of bravery, which resulted in the award of the Victoria Cross, had an extraordinary conclusion. As the battalion historian records, 'the prisoners closed in on him from all sides ... and patted him on the back!' In twenty minutes he had killed twenty Germans, taken fifty prisoners and seized 500 yards (460 m) of the German front. This jovial hero believed that there was 'a V.C. in everybody if given a chance'.²⁴

- 1995/1996** The place is included in the Shire of York's Municipal Heritage Inventory, which is later adopted as part of the Town Planning Scheme.²⁵
- c. 2003** Two polished granite tablets engraved with the 73 names of the men killed during World War One are installed on the north and south sides of the plinth of the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.²⁶
- 2004** Reserve 46912 is created for the *York War Memorial* site for the purpose of a war memorial and vested in the Shire of York, which is responsible for the management of the place.²⁷
- It is also in this year that the first stage of the National Servicemen's Memorial is unveiled at Johanna Whitely Park, thus providing a second site of remembrance for the York community.²⁸

²⁴ Quotation from <http://adbonline.anu.edu.au/biogs/A100211b.htm>, June 2011.

²⁵ HCWA, Online Database, Place Number: 2891. The importance of *York War Memorial* to the York community was confirmed as part of the review of the Shire's Municipal Heritage Inventory in 2008.

²⁶ Information provided by Dr John Coe, 2005.

²⁷ Crown Land Title, Vol. LR 3129, Folio 16; &, other Information provided by Dr John Coe, 2005.

- 2005** A draft conservation plan is compiled for *York War Memorial* by Laura Gray, Heritage and Conservation Consultant, and Dr John Coe, Historian, for the RSL York Sub – Branch.
- This project coincides with grants provided for the restoration of *York War Memorial* and for the Krupp gun.²⁹
- 2006** On ANZAC Day, 25 April, the restored Krupp gun is returned to York as part of the service.³⁰ (Note: This War Trophy is currently held in the Shire of York Works Depot.)
- 2011** In June, conservation work of the 1923 monument begins. This is being carried out by Perth Monumental Masons.³¹
- York War Memorial* continues to serve the purpose for which it was originally established in 1923.

²⁸ *The Listening Post*, February 2004, p. 13; *The Listening Post*, June 2004, p. 15; http://www.nashos.org.au/~wa/york_2.htm, June 2011; <http://www.nashos.org.au/~wa/WA%20Memorial%202005.html>, June 2011.

²⁹ Information provided by Shire of York, June 2011.

³⁰ *The Listening Post*, June/July 2006, p. 6.

³¹ Information provided by Shire of York, June 2011.

4. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

This section examines and describes the physical fabric of the place and aims to identify any changes which have been carried out since its original construction.

The physical evidence is largely based on that undertaken by Laura Gray and Dr John Coe in 2004 and 2005.

4.1. SETTING

York War Memorial, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, is located on Reserve 46912, which is bound by South Street to the north, Railway Street to the south and east, and the railway reserve to the west.

The reserve forms an integral, visual part of the streetscape and importantly allows for vistas between the 1885 *York Railway Station (fmr)*, the 1880s/1890s *St Patrick's Catholic Church* group, the 1890 *Convent of Mercy and School (fmr)* and the 1892 *York Flour Mill* in the distance.³²

The reserve is grassed with an overgrown bed of plantings just to the south of the centre of the site and several trees to the north. On the north and east sides, the grassed area is raised above the level of the road by a concrete retaining wall. A white painted, timber post and rail fence with a wire arbor encloses the southern and western sides.

The 1923 monument is located close to the centre of the reserve with a flagpole directly to the south.

³² Information from HCWA, Online Database, June 2011.



Figure 7: Looking south to York War Memorial site. Source: Google Maps Streetview, June 2011.

Situated on a square concrete pad in the northern portion of the site is the c. 1994 granite monument. On this unfinished stone is a badly weathered bronze plaque dedicated to York-born recipient of a 1918 Victoria Cross, Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy.

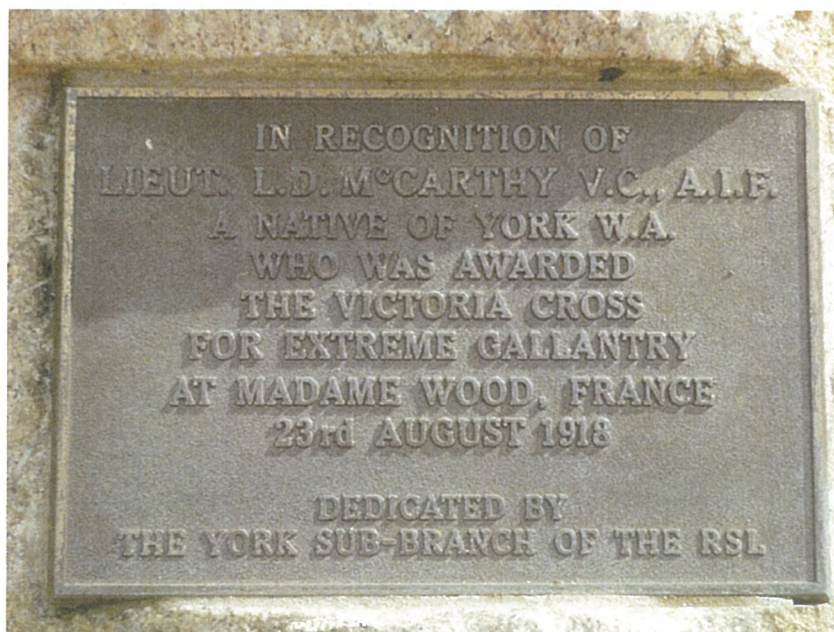


Figure 8: C. 1994 bronze plaque on granite monument. Shire of York, May 2011.

4.2. CURRENT FUNCTION OF THE PLACE

In 2011, *York War Memorial* continues to serve the purpose for which it was originally established in 1923.

Over time, only minimal changes have taken place to the fabric of the 1923 monument and to the reserve in which it is situated.

4.3. DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVIVING FABRIC

This description focuses on the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.

The 1923 monument is in the Classical style, incorporating sober and dignified stylistic elements popular with the design of war memorials throughout Australia.³³

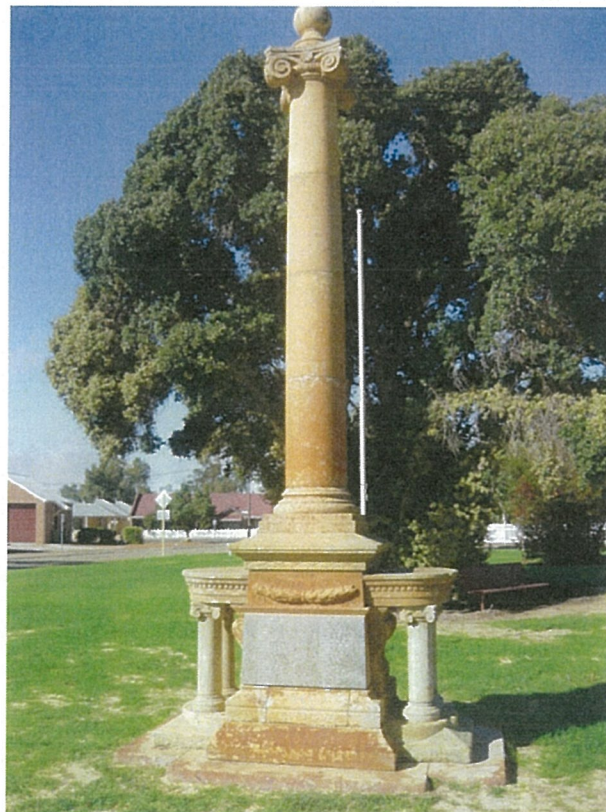


Figure 9: 1923 monument, north elevation. Shire of York, May 2011.

³³ Apperly, R, Irving, R. & Reynolds, P., *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and terms from 1788 to the present*, Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1995, pp. 154 – 161.

Built primarily of sandstone on a tiered, base, the structure comprises a square pedestal on either side of which are two pairs of miniature, decorative ionic columns of concrete construction. These columns support two, semi-oval-shaped stone lintels with masonry detailing.

The pedestal has decorative, scrolled masonry on its east and west faces. At the top of the north and south faces is a laurel wreath around which the words 'HERE YORK HONOURS THOSE WHO FELL 1914 – 1918' are inscribed. Two polished York granite panels have been installed below this inscription in c. 2003. These have been engraved with the names of the York men who were killed during World War One and the infill of this has been painted white.



Figures 10 & 11: North (left) and south (right) elevations of the 1923 monument. Shire of York, May 2011.

The pedestal also serves as the foundation for a four-section, stone column surmounted by a decorative, ionic capital and stone ball. Each section was fitted onto a dowel which ran from the pedestal base up through the centre of the column.³⁴

³⁴ Information provided by Arthur Jones, Perth Monumental Masons, May 2011.



Figure 12: Column detail of 1923 monument. Shire of York, May 2011.

4.4. CHANGES TO THE SURVIVING FABRIC

Although there have been some changes to the *York War Memorial* site in terms of plantings and the installation of the c. 1994 granite monument, overall the place has a high degree of authenticity and integrity. With the exception of the c. 2003 granite panels, the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is largely unchanged and therefore significantly intact.

4.5. CONDITION

York War Memorial as a whole is highly intact; however, physical evidence shows that there has been no major refurbishment or regular maintenance of the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial and the c. 1994 granite monument, which has caused both to suffer from severe weathering and bore water staining. In June 2011, this is being rectified through conservation works.

5.0. ANALYSIS OF EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence supports the physical evidence in terms of the development of the *York War Memorial* site from the date of the construction of the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial up to the present day (June 2011). This means that the original concept and use of *York War Memorial* and its subsequent changes are well understood as per the below.

5.2. DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1923 | The Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial was erected and unveiled on ANZAC Day. Photographic evidence shows the names of the fallen were not on the monument at this time. |
| 1920s – 1930s | The <i>York War Memorial</i> site was grassed and fenced, small garden beds and trees planted, and War Trophies displayed. |
| c. 1994 | A granite monument to York-born and Victoria Cross winner Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy was dedicated. |
| 2000s | By this time, the early plantings had nearly all been removed in favour of an easy to maintain grass lawn. |
| c. 2003 | Two polished York granite tablets engraved with the 73 names of the York men killed during World War One were installed. |
| 2006 | On ANZAC Day, the restored Krupp gun is returned to York, but is currently held in the Shire of York Works Depot. |
| 2011 | Conservation work of the 1923 monument begins. |

5.3. IDENTIFICATION OF QUESTIONS NOT RESOLVED OR CONFLICT OF EVIDENCE

While the exact timing of the erection of c. 1994 granite monument and the installation of the c. 2003 granite panels is not yet known, nor have any original plans been located, this is not an impediment to assessing the significance of *York War Memorial*.

5.4. COMPARATIVE INFORMATION³⁵

The construction of war memorials following major wars is part of an Australian-wide trend to honour and remember those who had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, and is a reflection of the value individuals, the community and the nation place on this role. The erection of memorials became particularly prevalent after World War One at which time national identity and pride, the legend of the ANZAC and the creation of the ANZAC Day memorial service were at the forefront of community and national sentiment. The memorials varied in form throughout Australia but were generally represented as monuments, ornaments or in Western Australia as practical buildings.³⁶

Besides *York War Memorial* (also known as *Monument and Park, York*), the Heritage Council of WA Online Database indicates there are approximately 20 places associated with war memorials entered into the State Register of Heritage Places. These include a number of monumental memorials ranging in form from: traditional obelisk monuments of which the 1929 Fremantle War Memorial (*Monument Hill & War Memorials, Fremantle*) is an example; figures of an Australian soldier such as those at the 1920 *Boulder War Memorial* and the 1921 *Kalgoorlie War Memorial*; to comparatively rare structures like the commemorative light of the 1940 *Nedlands War Memorial*.

While the use of a column as part of the design of a monument is not as common as that of the obelisk form, it is by no means rare. Probably the most comparable to the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial at *York War Memorial* is the Jewish War Memorial at Kings Park. Dedicated on 6 June 1920, this was created by well known sculptor Pietro Porcelli and consists of an ionic column of stone with carved lion's heads at the base and the Star of David at the top.³⁷

In general, *York War Memorial*, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, is therefore representative of other memorials established in Australia to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice during war time.

³⁵ Unless otherwise referenced, all information in this section is from: HCWA, Online Database, June 2011.

³⁶ See Richards, O., 'War Memorials in Western Australia', Perth, 1996, pp. 1 – 9.

³⁷ See Considine & Griffiths Architects, 'Kings Park Conservation Plan for Developed Areas', prepared for Kings Park and Botanic Garden, 1999, Precinct 2.

6.0. ASSESSMENT & STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This section identifies the nature of the significance of the place based on the documentary and physical evidence. The assessment criteria used here are those developed by the Heritage Council of WA in order to consider heritage sites for possible entry into the State Register of Heritage Places.³⁸ The Statement of Significance is the principal reference for the formation of the conservation policy.

6.1. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

6.1.1. AESTHETIC VALUE

The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is a fine example of a monumental memorial designed in the Classical style. The ionic column and pedestal form of the stone monument and its masonry detailing are symbolic features used in the design of such commemorative structures and, together with its park setting, achieves a high level of aesthetic value. (Criterion 1.1)

With its park setting bound by South Street to the north, Railway Street to the south and east, and the railway reserve to the west, the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial has landmark value in the York townsite. (Criterion 1.3)

York War Memorial forms an integral architectural and visual part of the historic streetscape. It's relatively open setting also allowing for vistas between the 1885 *York Railway Station (fmr)*, the 1880s/1890s *St Patrick's Catholic Church* group, the 1890 *Convent of Mercy and School (fmr)* and the 1892 *York Flour Mill* in the distance. (Criterion 1.3)

6.1.2. HISTORIC VALUE

York War Memorial has broad associations with the development of York and its townsite since the 1830s. (Criterion 2.1)

³⁸ http://www.heritage.wa.gov.au/assets/files/General_Publications/Criteria%20for%20assessment.pdf, June 2011.

Since the unveiling of the Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial on ANZAC Day 1923 up to the present day (2011), *York War Memorial* has been the focus of ANZAC Day and other commemorative services in the town of York; some 88 years. (Criterion 2.2)

York War Memorial has close associations with the York sub - branch of the Returned Servicemen's League, the Shire of York and the families of the 73 local men who fell in the line of duty during World War One and to whom the 1923 monument pays tribute. (Criterion 2.3)

York War Memorial has associations with York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy of the 16th AIF Battalion, who was awarded a Victoria Cross for extreme gallantry for his actions at Madam Wood, France on 23 August 1918. (Criterion 2.3)

6.1.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

6.1.4. SOCIAL VALUE

Since 1923, *York War Memorial* has been the centre for ANZAC Day and other commemorative services for the York community and, as such, has – and still does - symbolised the sacrifice, sadness and hope of war to generations of York residents. The site serves as a reminder of York's, Western Australia's and Australia's involvement in World War One and commemorates the ANZAC spirit, thus contributing to local and national identity. (Criteria 4.1 & 4.2)

As an integral part of the aesthetic, social and cultural fabric of York, *York War Memorial* contributes to the local and wider communities' sense of place. This is evidenced by its inclusion in the Shire of York's Municipal Heritage Inventory, its classification by the National Trust of Australia (WA) and its entry into the State Register of Heritage Places. (Criterion 4.2)

6.1.5. RARITY

6.1.6. REPRESENTATIVENESS

The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is a representative example of the monumental memorials established to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War One. The column and pedestal form of the stone monument, its Classical design, and masonry detailing (such as laurel wreath) are characteristic and symbolic features used to indicate remembrance, honour and pride of those who lost their life for their country. (Criterion 6.1)

6.1.7. CONDITION

Overall, *York War Memorial* is in fair condition; however, the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial and the c. 1994 granite monument have suffered from severe weathering and bore water staining.

6.1.8. INTEGRITY

In 2011, *York War Memorial* continues to be used for the purpose for which it was originally established in 1923 and therefore has a high degree of integrity.

6.1.9. AUTHENTICITY

Although there have been some changes to the *York War Memorial* site in terms of plantings and the installation of the c. 1994 granite monument, overall the place has a high degree of authenticity. With the exception of the c. 2003 granite panels, the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is unchanged and therefore significantly intact.

6.2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

York War Memorial, comprising the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, a c. 1994 stone monument and landscaping, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is a fine, representative example of a monumental memorial designed in the Classical style to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War One and, together with its park setting, achieves a high level of aesthetic value;

the ionic column and pedestal form of the 1923 stone monument and its masonry detailing (such as laurel wreath) are characteristic and symbolic features used to indicate remembrance, honour and pride of those who lost their life for their country;

since 1923 up to the present day; some 88 years, the place has been the centre for ANZAC Day and other commemorative services for the local community and, as such, has – and still does - symbolised the sacrifice, sadness and hope of war to generations of York residents;

the place is not only an important architectural landmark in York's historic townsite, but is integral to the aesthetic, social and cultural fabric of York, thus contributing to the local and wider communities' sense of place;

the place has close associations with the York sub - branch of the Returned Servicemen's League, the Shire of York and the families of the 73 local men to whom the 1923 monument pays tribute; and,

the place has associations with York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, who was awarded a Victoria Cross for extreme gallantry in 1918.

7.0. GRADED LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE

This section identifies elements of *York War Memorial*, which are important in relation to their contribution to the Statement of Significance and to the significance of the place as a whole. This grading also informs the conservation policy and is considered in terms of a five-tiered system as follows:

Exceptional Significance (ES) – Such elements would warrant inclusion on any register of heritage places, particularly within a national context. Conservation is essential.

Considerable Significance (CS) – Such elements warrant inclusion on any register of heritage places, particularly within a state context. Conservation is essential.

Some Significance (SS) – This is the threshold for entry onto the Heritage Council of WA's Register of Heritage Places or the National Trust of Australia (WA)'s Classified List. Conservation of these elements is highly recommended.

Little Significance (LS) - Such elements neither contribute to nor detract from the significance of a place and their conservation is not essential.

Intrusive (I) – Such elements have an adverse affect on the significance of the place and should be removed when the opportunity arises.

7.1. ZONES AND ELEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following is a summary of the various zones and elements of significance of *York War Memorial* and serves as a guide to what is important and should be conserved:

Exceptional Significance

- Nil.

Considerable Significance

- *York War Memorial* as a whole.
- The open setting of *York War Memorial*, including vistas to and from the site.
- The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.

Some Significance

- The c. 1994 stone monument.
- The c. 2003 polished York granite panels.³⁹
- The landscaping and retaining wall.

Little Significance

- The flag pole.
- The arbor.
- The post and rail fencing.
- The plantings.

Intrusive

- The concrete pad upon which the c. 1994 stone monument is situated.

Although the restored Krupp gun has not been included in the above assessment, it is considered to be of Some Significance.

³⁹ **Note:** While the purpose of the panels is highly important to both the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial and *York War Memorial*, an argument could be made that the style and fabric is not necessarily sympathetic to the design and construction of the 1923 monument.

8.0. CONSERVATION POLICY

The premise of the conservation policy is that the cultural heritage significance of a place is one of its main attributes and should be retained, respected and enhanced for present and future generations.

It takes into consideration all the evidence previously presented as well as the client's needs and resources, statutory requirements, the condition of the physical fabric, and recommends a logical sequence of works to facilitate the short term and long term conservation of the place. Its aim is to provide a framework for the conservation of this cultural heritage significance, which is appropriate, viable and sustainable.

In general, the policy recommends that *York War Memorial* be retained and conserved.

8.1. KEY POLICY STATEMENTS

- Policy 1.** The assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and the recommendations in this conservation plan should be used by the owners and users of the place, together with any relevant authorities, as the basis for any decision about the management, maintenance, conservation, interpretation, development and future use of the place.
- Policy 2.** The conservation of the significance of *York War Memorial* and its elements should be carried out in accordance with the principles outlined in the Australia ICOMOS' *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance* (the *Burra Charter*).
- Policy 3.** Any decision, work or other matters likely to affect the cultural heritage significance of the place should be undertaken with reference to this conservation plan, in accordance with the principles of Australia ICOMOS' *Burra Charter*, in compliance with all heritage and statutory bodies, and guided and supervised by appropriate professionals.
- Policy 4.** This conservation plan should be reviewed every five – ten years to take into account the passage of time, works completed as well as any changes which have impacted the appropriateness or applicability of the policies, and the necessary amendments made.

8.2. POLICIES ARISING OUT OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE

As outlined in the Statement of Significance (Section 6.2) and the Graded Levels of Significance (Section 7.1), *York War Memorial* is of considerable significance at local and state levels and has a high degree of integrity and authenticity. This significance can generally be observed in the fabric of a place and it is therefore imperative that any matters affecting these elements be considered carefully in order to ensure this significance is conserved in the long term.

8.2.1. POLICIES ARISING FROM THE BURRA CHARTER

The principles and guidelines of the Australia ICOMOS' *Burra Charter* are the national standards by which all places of cultural heritage significance should be conserved and managed. Article 2 of the *Burra Charter* provides a summary of the main principles of this as follows:

Places of cultural significance should be conserved.

The aim of conservation is to retain the cultural significance of a place.

Conservation is an integral part of good management of places of cultural significance.

Places of cultural significance should be safeguarded and not be put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.⁴⁰

Policy 5. The *Burra Charter* should be the framework used to guide all considerations for the future conservation, changes, adaptation and use of *York War Memorial*.

8.2.2. POLICIES ARISING FROM THE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Statement of Significance for *York War Memorial* is listed in Section 6.2 of this report. The following recommendations relate specifically to the conservation of the elements outlined in Section 6.2.

Policy 6. *York War Memorial* and its various elements should be retained and conserved in accordance with the assessed significance and the recommendations in this conservation plan.

⁴⁰ http://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/BURRA_CHARTER.pdf, June 2011.

- Policy 7.** The use of *York War Memorial* as a place of remembrance and commemoration is essential to retaining and conserving its significance, and should be respected.
- Policy 8.** The visual setting and location of *York War Memorial* and its various elements are integral to its significance and should be retained. New construction, demolition, intrusions or changes which would adversely affect the significance, setting, vistas or relationships are not appropriate.
- Policy 9.** Some changes, such as new memorials or the display of war trophies, may occur if they are associated with the significance of the place, but are not desirable where they would adversely affect this significance. New work should be sympathetic and not impact the significance of *York War Memorial*, including visually or physically, or detract from its interpretation and appreciation.
- Policy 10.** The elements assessed as being of considerable or some significance should be retained and conserved in accordance with the recommendations of this conservation plan.
- Policy 11.** The elements assessed as being of little significance may be retained or removed on the basis of required function and use.
- Policy 12.** The elements assessed as being intrusive should be removed where possible to allow for conservation or more appropriate change.
- Policy 13.** The opportunity exists to interpret and promote *York War Memorial* based on its considerable significance at local and state levels.

8.2.3. POLICIES ARISING FROM THE GRADED LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Graded Levels of Significance for *York War Memorial* are listed in Section 7.1 of this report. The following recommendations are based on those developed by the Heritage Council of WA in their Conservation Plan Brief⁴¹ and relate to the elements outlined in Section 7.1.⁴²

Policy 14. Zones and elements of Considerable Significance.

York War Memorial as a whole.

The open setting of *York War Memorial*, including vistas to and from the site.

⁴¹ http://www.heritage.wa.gov.au/assets/files/General_Publications/conservationBrief0210.pdf, June 2011.

⁴² **Note:** As there are no items of Exceptional Significance at the place, a policy relating to this has not been included in this report.

The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.

The significant fabric of such spaces or elements should be preserved, restored or reconstructed as appropriate.

Reconstruction is desirable provided sufficient detailed information is available. Adaptation is acceptable to the extent of installing reversible small fixtures, services and partitions, provided this does not affect any external or internal fabric which is of exceptional or considerable significance. No significant fabric should be removed or action taken to confuse the sense of the space. Structural adaptation is generally unacceptable. However, minor structural adaptation may be considered if it is in keeping with the overall aims of the conservation policy and has minimal impact on the significant fabric. Any alterations to the building fabric should be documented.

For archaeological sites, disturbance of the area should be avoided where possible. Where disturbance cannot be avoided, an archaeological examination should be undertaken prior to other works taking place.

Landscape elements should not be removed without due consideration of their heritage values.

Where removal of significant trees is necessary due to their condition, replacement plantings of the same species should be made.

There should be no new works in open space areas which will adversely affect the setting of the building or obscure important views to and from the site.

Policy 15. Zones and elements of Some Significance.

The c. 1994 stone monument.

The c. 2003 polished York granite panels.

The landscaping and retaining wall.

The significant fabric of such spaces or elements should be preserved, restored or reconstructed as appropriate.

Adaptation is acceptable to the extent of installing fixtures, services and reversible partitions provided this does not affect the significant external and internal appearance of the building. Discrete structural additions and openings can be made. New or different finishes are acceptable, provided these do not obscure or damage important evidence of significant materials and finishes. Any alterations to the building fabric should be documented.

For archaeological sites, disturbance of the area should be avoided where possible. Where disturbance cannot be avoided, an archaeologist should be present when works are undertaken in order to identify and/or collect material of archaeological significance.

Landscape elements should not be removed without due consideration of their heritage values. Where removal of significant trees is necessary due to their condition, appropriate replacement plantings should be made.

There should be no new building work in open space areas which will adversely affect the setting of the building or obscure important views to and from the site.

Policy 16. Zones and elements of Little Significance.

The flag pole.

The arbor.

The post and rail fencing.

The plantings.

The fabric of such spaces or elements may be retained or removed depending on the future use requirements.

However, care should be taken to ensure that any such works do not detract from the significance of adjoining spaces or elements. Before removal ensure that comprehensive photographic and graphic recording is completed.

Policy 17. Intrusive zones and elements.

The concrete pad upon which the c. 1994 stone monument is situated.

Intrusive spaces or elements have been identified as detracting from the significance of the place and their removal, and/or replacement with more appropriate detailing, should be encouraged. Their removal needs to be assessed against other considerations, such as function and economics, before implementation. Before removal/demolition ensure that comprehensive photographic and graphic recording is completed.

8.3. POLICIES ARISING FROM THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE PLACE

The physical evidence for *York War Memorial* is outlined in Section 4 of this report. The following recommendations relate specifically to the conservation of the physical fabric of the place.

8.3.1. SETTING AND LANDSCAPING

Refer also to **Policy 8** and **Policy 9** (Section 8.2.2).

Policy 18. Retain and conserve the form of *York War Memorial* as a landmark site in the townsite, including the platform created by the retaining wall.

Policy 19. Retain and conserve the open setting around the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial.

The existing plantings to the south of the monument are obtrusive and consideration may be given to their removal. No new work should impact either visually or physically on the vistas to and from the monument.

Policy 20. Consider the development of a landscape plan by a relevant professional with heritage expertise.

Such a plan could take into account: the possible restoration of the early landscaping and plantings shown in the c. 1923 photograph (see Figure 3); make recommendations regarding new plantings and other issues such as universal access and drainage; and, indicate areas where any new memorials, war trophies or interpretation may be situated without adversely affecting the significance of *York War Memorial* as a whole or the existing monuments.

8.3.2. THE 1923 FALLEN SOLDIERS' WAR MEMORIAL

Policy 20. The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is of considerable significance and should be retained and conserved.

No additional changes to the monument are considered appropriate and it is preferable that any conservation work be carried out in situ. No harsh cleaning treatments should be used on the stone or c. 2003 plaques in order to remove the current staining or other restoration purposes. Any repointing of mortar between the stones or patching of the miniature concrete columns should be done in materials that match the existing.

8.3.3. THE C. 1994 STONE MONUMENT

Policy 21. The c. 1994 stone monument is of some significance and should be retained and conserved.

While no additional changes to the monument are considered appropriate and it is preferable that any conservation work be carried out in situ, the replacement of the concrete pad with a more sympathetic surround or base may be considered at a future date and/or as part of any landscape plan for the place.

8.3.3. OTHER GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Policy 22. Regular maintenance of *York War Memorial* should continue to be carried out having due regard to the significance of the place as a whole, the various elements and this conservation plan.

Work to the grounds and basic cleaning of the monuments using nothing more than water and a soft brush can generally be done. However, any other type of cleaning (such as graffiti) should be carried out by or under the guidance of relevant professionals.

Policy 23. Any required repairs to *York War Memorial*, in particular the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, should be done in consultation with and under the supervision of a relevant heritage professional.

8.4. POLICIES ARISING FROM INTERPRETATION OPPORTUNITIES

A per **Policy 13** (Section 8.2.2), the opportunity exists to interpret and promote *York War Memorial* based on its considerable significance at local and state levels.

The Interpretation Australia Association describes interpretation as follows:

Heritage interpretation is a means of communicating ideas and feelings which help people understand more about themselves and their environment. There are many different ways of communicating these ideas, including guided walks, talks, drama, displays, signs, brochures and electronic media.⁴³

⁴³ <http://www.interpretationaustralia.asn.au/about-ia/what-is-interpretation>, June 2011.

As a place of commemoration and remembrance, war memorials have an important story to tell and offer a unique experience to users, visitors and the general public; not only in terms of the history and significance of the place itself, but in relation to the effect wars have on individuals, families and communities. It is therefore essential that any interpretation experience should respect this purpose.

Policy 24. Consider the development of interpretation for the place by a relevant heritage professional.

Such interpretation could share the story of the place in a way which takes into account: its history and considerable significance to the York community; the simple, dignity of the setting, form and design of *York War Memorial* as a whole; and, any landscape plan. (See also **Policies 8, 9, 18, 19 and 20.**)

No new work should adversely affect the significance of *York War Memorial*.

8.5. POLICIES ARISING FROM EXTERNAL REQUIREMENTS

In general, any development of a place is subject to external statutory requirements. The following recommendations relate specifically to those impacting *York War Memorial*.

8.5.1. POLICIES ARISING FROM CURRENT HERITAGE LISTINGS

York War Memorial is included in the Shire of York's Municipal Heritage Inventory and Town Planning Scheme Heritage List, classified by the National Trust of Australia (WA) and entered into the State Register of Heritage Places.

Policy 25. *York War Memorial* is entered into the State Register of Heritage Places. Under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*, any development, including new work, landscaping and interpretation, must be referred to the Office of Heritage for advice prior to its commencement.

Policy 26. As per **Policy 1**, this conservation plan should be used by the Office of Heritage, the Shire of York and any other relevant authorities as the basis for any decision making, including planning and approval processes, relating to *York War Memorial*.

8.5.2. POLICIES ARISING FROM STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Town Planning Schemes, Health Acts, Building Code regulations, the Disability Discrimination Act, fire safety regulations and other statutory constraints apply to any place and may affect *York War Memorial*. Where compliance with a regulation or by-law would compromise the heritage value of a registered place, the advice of the Office of Heritage may be sought to assist with negotiations as the *Heritage Act* binds the Crown.

Policy 27. Any works arising from requirements to comply with statutory regulations should be evaluated against the assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and the recommendations in this conservation plan.

8.6. POLICIES ARISING FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CLIENT, OWNER, OCCUPANTS AND/OR USERS

York War Memorial is a reserve designated for the purpose of a war memorial and vested in the Shire of York, which is responsible for the management of the place.

It is understood by the Shire of York that the function and use of the place will not change in any foreseeable future and that this is the expectation of key stakeholders such as the York RSL as well as the wider community.

Further to this, the Shire of York recognises the considerable significance of the place as a site for commemoration and remembrance for the local community and has undertaken this plan to understand this obligation and the requirements for the conservation of *York War Memorial*.

In June 2011, it is also currently carrying out a program of conservation works to the site which are being done in consultation with and by relevant professionals with heritage expertise.

Policy 28. As per **Policy 7**, the use of *York War Memorial* as a place of remembrance and commemoration is essential to retaining and conserving its significance, and is expected by key users and stakeholders like the York RSL and the local community. This expectation is best achieved by the long term conservation, maintenance and presentation of *York War Memorial* together with any suitable interpretation.

9.0. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

This section is concerned with the implementation of the conservation policy (Section 8). It is intended to outline the best means of undertaking the conservation of the cultural heritage significance of *York War Memorial*, including who will be responsible for policy implementation.

9.1. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTING POLICIES

The primary responsibility for *York War Memorial* lies with the Shire of York in which the place is vested. It is responsible for the day-to-day management, maintenance and conservation of the place as well as for providing adequate financial provision or identifying appropriate grant funding in order to achieve these obligations.

This conservation plan should be adopted by the Shire of York as the guiding document for the retention and conservation of the assessed significance of *York War Memorial* and as the framework for any decision making associated with the place such as physical works.

It is recommended that an officer be appointed or designated position identified, who will be the responsible person through whom all management and work decisions should pass. All decisions should be done with reference to this conservation plan, with the advice of an appropriate professional if relevant, and with regard to statutory requirements and processes.

9.2. TIMEFRAME FOR IMPLEMENTING POLICIES

The timeframe in relation to the commencement and completion of conservation policies for *York War Memorial* varies. The following provides a prioritised summary of when policies should generally be achieved.

Essential (work to be done urgently)

- Adopt this conservation plan as the guiding document for the conservation and management of the place.

- Accept and understand that the key policy statements (Section 8.1), the policies arising from the requirements of the client, owner, occupants and/or users (Section 8.6), the policies arising from the cultural heritage significance of the place (Section 8.2), and the policies arising from external requirements (8.5) are the main basis for this conservation and management.
- Appoint an officer/position to be responsible for the day-to-day management of the place.

Short term (immediate work to be done within one – two years)

- Carry out policies arising from the physical condition of the place (Section 8.4.) and identify a schedule of works required.

Medium term (desirable work to be done within five years or when resources allow)

- Consider the development of a landscape plan by a relevant professional with heritage expertise (Policy 20, Section 8.3.1; see also Section 8.3.1 & Section 8.4).

Long term (optional work to be done within ten years or when resources allow)

- Carry out policies arising from interpretation opportunities (Section 8.4).
- Review this conservation plan (Policy 4, Section 8.1 & Section 9.3).

Ongoing

- Carry out regular maintenance of the place (Section 8.3.3).
- Ensure proper records associated with the conservation and management of the place are kept.

9.3. REVIEW

The Shire of York is responsible for the review of this conservation plan. This should be done every five – ten years to take into account the passage of time, works completed, and any changes which have impacted the appropriateness or applicability of the policies. The conservation plan should then be updated accordingly.

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APPENDICES:

Request for Approval of Changes and additions to York War Memorial Monument and Park

Heritage Place no: 02891
Railway Street
York
WA 6302

The Shire of York has been fortunate to obtain Grant Funding under the Anzac Local Centenary Grant scheme to make improvements and appropriate additions to the above place , in line with the Conservation Management Plan for York War Memorial prepared by Kristy Bizzaca in 2011.

The Shire of York submits a request to the Heritage Council for the approval of the following Works:

1. Repainting in situ of weathered white lettering on the c.2003 polished granite tablets,
according to Policy 20 of the Conservation Plan.

Policy 20. The 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial is of considerable significance and should be retained and conserved. No additional changes to the monument are considered appropriate and it is preferable that any conservation work be carried out in situ.

Consultation has been undertaken with Laura Gray, Regional Heritage Advisor, in regard to this and all subsequently mentioned Works and the project is being managed by Carol Littlefair, Curator, Cultural Heritage for the Shire of York, an experienced professional Museum Curator of 20+ years experience.

Policy 23. Any required repairs to *York War Memorial*, in particular the 1923 Fallen Soldiers' War Memorial, should be done in consultation with and under the supervision of a relevant heritage professional.

2. The addition of a small, separate low plinth adjacent to, but separate from, the war memorial to be placed in the grass at the foot of the memorial, recording the names of sixteen WW1 soldiers which are currently missing from the memorial.

Recent research to commemorate the Anzac Centenary has shown that sixteen soldiers who either died in action or of injury/illness caused by WW1 have not been commemorated on the memorial and the intention is to right this omission without making any alteration to the existing fabric of the memorial. A low rectangular plinth of grey granite with white lettering to match the existing panels on the memorial is envisaged.



The plaque to be of matching colour with white lettering, similar to this existing panel on memorial and to accommodate 16 names.

3. The reinstatement of the Krupp Gun, a WW1 trophy armament under a purpose built shelter
In the Conservation Plan timeline at 1923 it was noted:

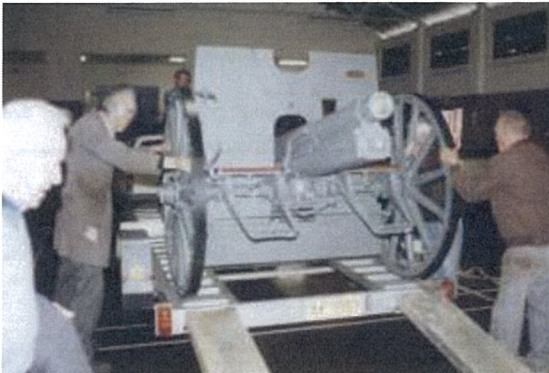
By **November**, the *York War Memorial* park had been planted with grass and 'it was intended in the near future to place War Trophies within the enclosure'. One of the War Trophies later displayed is a 77mm Krupp Gun seized by the 28th Battalion east of Villers – Bretonneux, France on 12 August 1918.

This gun, awarded to the Shire of York in the early 1920's, was displayed in the War Memorial Park until approximately 2001 when its condition had deteriorated to such an extent due to being totally exposed to all weathers that it was removed for conservation.



This was the condition of the Gun in 2001.

It was the subject of a grant obtained by the RSL, conserved by the WA Royal Artillery Historical Society and completed in 2006.



The Gun after conservation.

Since then it has been kept under cover at the Shire Depot and brought out only for annual Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services. The gun has strong links to York. It was captured by men of the 28th Battalion (2nd Division) near Vauvillers, France in a battle on 11-12 August 1918 in the general area of operations of Villers-Bretonneux. This was part of the great advance against the German Army which commenced on 08 August 1918 and resulted ultimately in German defeat. York was strongly allied to the 28th Battalion. 43 men are shown as serving with the Battalion at their date of death or discharge and a further 8 originally served with the Battalion before being transferred to another unit. 13 of the 51 men from York who served with the Battalion did not return.

Lieutenant Edwin Edmondson, 28th Battalion, participated in the capture of this Krupp gun on 11-12 Aug 1918. He was killed by an explosive shell in the assault on Mont St Quentin on the morning of 02 Sep 1918 whilst commanding "C" Company.

Edwin was born in York in 1889; he left Australia with the 16th reinforcements of 28 Bn. and is buried near Peronne, France.

Therefore the gun, which had previously been displayed near the War memorial for over eighty years, has demonstrable high significance to the site.

Situating the Krupp Gun at the War Memorial Park is intended to fulfil the original intention behind the placement of the Gun.

During and just post WW1 numerous enemy armaments were collected as war trophies, many of them intended for the planned Australian War Memorial and to distribute around the nation as lasting recognition and reminders of the cost in human sacrifice that had enabled their capture. There was very careful consideration of the placement by the Department of Defence at the time and armaments were allocated, where possible, to places that had strong links with the AIF units that had captured each piece. Each town had to sign an agreement that they would “arrange for the trophy to be permanently housed in a public park, garden or building within the town and be responsible for its preservation and safe custody”. [Billett, R.S., *War Trophies of the First World War*, Kangaroo Press, 1999].

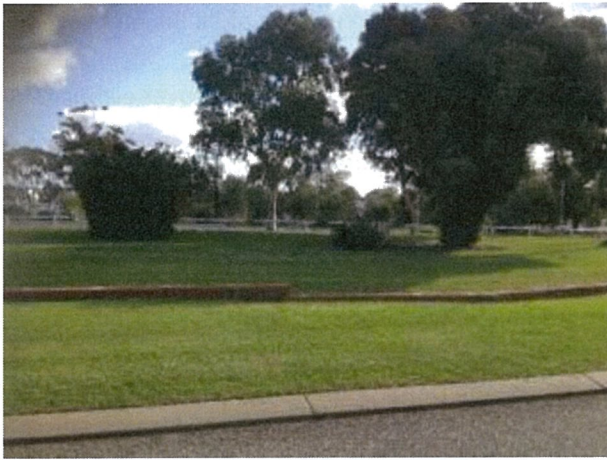
York was allocated this Krupp Gun and it stood near the War Memorial from 1921 until the effects of decay standing in the open air for eighty years had deteriorated it so badly that it required conservation, being virtually disintegrated. Since then it has been housed in the Shire Depot being brought out only on special occasions, eg Anzac Day.

It is to honour the original agreement that the Shire intends to place this Gun at War Memorial Park under a shelter to protect it from the elements.

Policy 9. Some changes, such as new memorials or the display of war trophies, may occur if they are associated with the significance of the place, but are not desirable where they would adversely affect this significance. New work should be sympathetic and not impact the significance of *York War Memorial*, including visually or physically, or detract from its interpretation and appreciation.

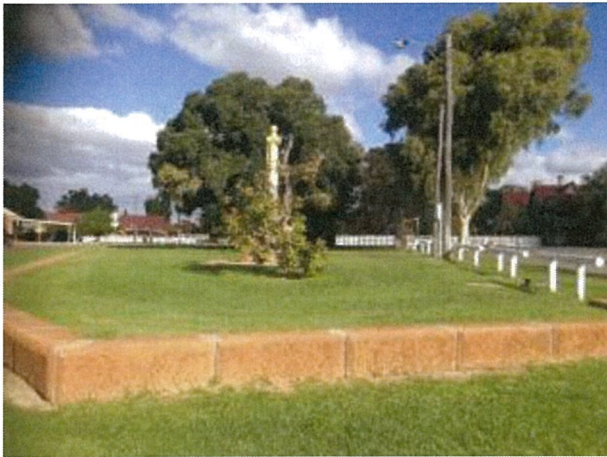
It is critical that the gun has a weatherproof shelter so that it does not decay to a similar condition again in the future.

It is intended to site this shelter between the two existing trees to minimise its visual impact and it has been designed to provide minimal obstruction of vistas, with only one solid side which is necessary to shield the gun from inclement weather on the side of the prevailing wind. Fortunately this side is the side which has least impact on the vistas mentioned in the Conservation Plan.

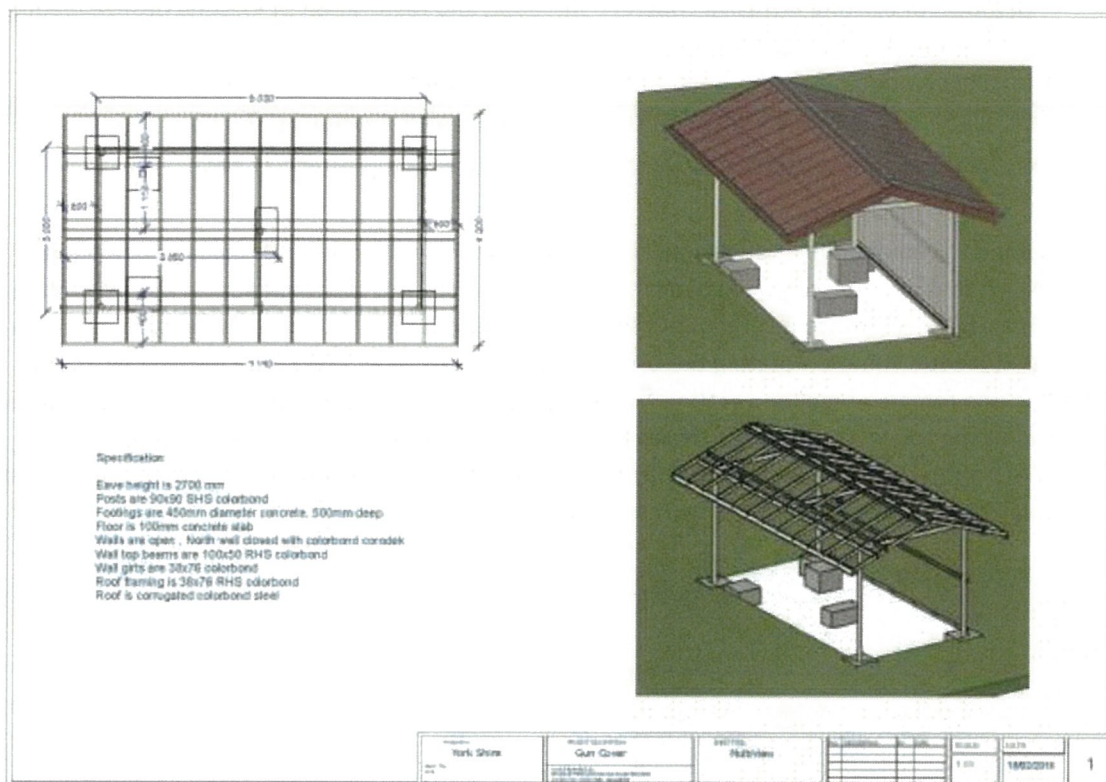


View of area between trees intended for Krupp Gun and shelter. This will be the view of the 'open' long side, looking towards the Gun, with the 'closed' long side behind the Gun.

The gun site will be placed in alignment on the central axis of the park, as is the war memorial, rock, and trees, again minimising disruption to vistas.



View showing central axis of the Park. The Gun and its shelter will be behind the large tree, which should hide much of the shelter's roof structure from this view.



Proposed design for Krupp Gun Shelter. White round pillars and red roof of similar pitch to surrounding buildings, are proposed. When considering the addition of built elements in a heritage setting such as this, the emphasis should be upon the Krupp Gun, which is the focus of the attention. The proposed design is intended to minimise intrusion and let the Gun be a more dominant feature than its housing.

The built elements are pared to the minimum required for the Gun's protection. Instead of a complete concrete floor, three blocks strategically positioned just above the grass surface will provide the base for resting points and secure attachment. The shelter is as simple a structure as possible and the surrounding buildings have been echoed in its design. The white, circular upright posts mirror the circular white posts in the building opposite and the grass edging. The roof pitch, red colour and corrugated material echo several nearby roof structures. The cream colourbond back wall to stop the prevailing wind also colour matches nearby buildings. [appears grey on this diagram but cream will be used].

In the Conservation Plan Zones and Elements of Significance assessment of the site it is noted that:

Although the restored Krupp gun has not been included in the above assessment, it is considered to be of Some Significance.

An interpretive bronze plaque describing the Krupp gun's significance will be affixed to the inner wall of the shelter. The gun will, according to military protocols, face away from the War memorial as it is an enemy armament.

4. Replacement of Rock with addition of Bronze Bas-Relief of Lawrence McCarthy VC and Bronze plaque commemorating the contribution of all York Service personnel to WW1, with

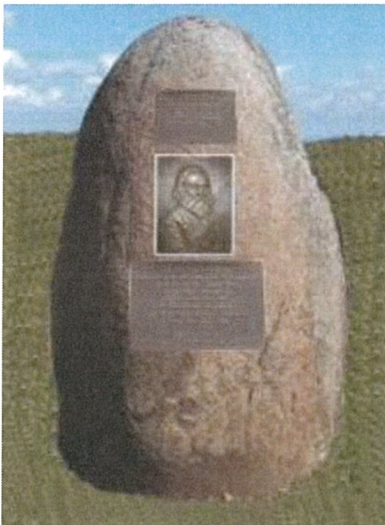
Removal of existing intrusive concrete surround and restoration of existing bronze plaque commemorating Lawrence McCarthy.

In the Conservation plan's Statement of Significance, mention is made that:
the place has associations with York-born Lieutenant Lawrence Dominic McCarthy, who was awarded a Victoria Cross for extreme gallantry in 1918.

It is intended to remove the existing small bronze plaque from the rock and restore the plaque. The rock will then be replaced by as similar a rock as possible, but slightly taller, to accommodate a pictorial depiction in bronze bas-relief of McCarthy under the restored pre-existing plaque, plus a bronze text plaque commemorating the broader contribution of all WW1 York Service personnel [including one female nurse] and setting McCarthy's VC deeds into context. The existing plaque will be placed at the top with the pictorial bronze bas-relief of McCarthy underneath and matching in width. The contextual text plaque will be situated underneath the pictorial one and be slightly wider. The intrusive concrete surround will be removed and the area turfed.



Existing rock and plaque. The rock to be changed for a slightly taller but similar one. The concrete surround to be removed.



Mock up of a similar rock with 1. existing plaque, 2. bas-relief of McCarthy and 3. general text about York service personnel in WW1 below [elements 2&3 are indicative only].



The bas-relief of McCarthy is intended to be based on this image from the Australian War Memorial.

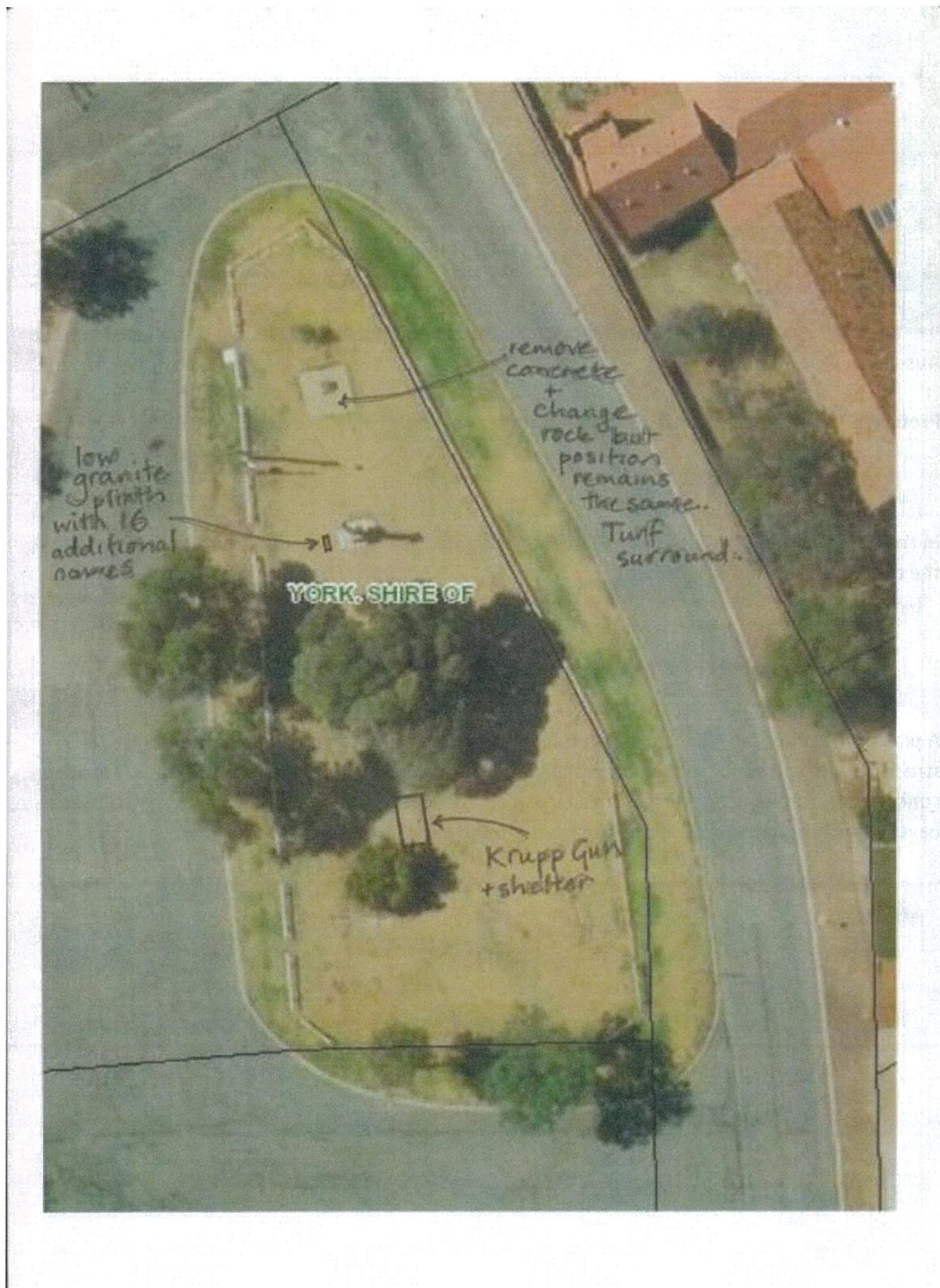
Proposed Texts for plaques are included as separate attachments.

In the Conservation Plan Zones and Elements of Significance assessment of the site it is noted that the concrete surround is classified:

Intrusive

- The concrete pad upon which the c. 1994 stone monument is situated.

A plan of the proposed Gun Shelter is attached. Every effort has been made to harmonise the structure with surrounding buildings, in terms of colours, round uprights and roof pitch. Three concrete anchor points for the gun to sit upon and be locked to, rather than a large slab of concrete, have been chosen to minimise the impact at ground level.



Aerial view of war Memorial Park showing siting of proposed changes/additions.

The Shire of York trust that these additions and alterations will be acceptable to the Heritage Council. We assure the Heritage Council of our best efforts in good faith to minimise intrusion and

abide by the recommendations of the Conservation plan for the Place, whilst adding interest and deepening the honour and respect shown to the memory of York's WW1 service personnel.

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