



1 Anzac dawn ceremony 2015 2 Eastern trench showing Tory St sewer being protected 3 View of the tight nature of the site

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park and Underpass (Arras Tunnel)

Project Location: Wellington

Memorial Park Alliance (Alliance members: NZTA, Downer, HEB Construction, Tonkin & Taylor, and AECOM) for NZ Transport Agency & Ministry of Culture & Heritage

Disciplines: Geotechnical, Structural, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical, Traffic



Pukeahu National War Memorial Park in the Capital opened for Anzac Day 2015 and is already a national treasure, much loved by Wellingtonians and visitors alike.

The project driver was unfinished business. Since the 1920s there were plans for a national war memorial park but the vision for the park was never completed. The 1930s saw the Carillon and Dominion Museum, then the vision lost impetus, despite the 1964 Hall of Memories addition. The Tomb of the Unknown Warrior (2004) saw interest resurge but it took the imminent centenary of the Gallipoli Landings to make fulfilling the vision urgent.

To create the park the Memorial Park Alliance was formed of NZ Transport Agency, Downer NZ, HEB Construction, Tonkin + Taylor and AECOM (formerly URS), assisted by Wraight Athfield Landscape and Architecture, Road Science and Dunning Thornton. Preliminary park concepts required merging into a unified project, and the challenge was to complete design, construction and commissioning of a state highway tunnel and memorial park within 33 months.

Complicating factors were historic buildings, extensive archaeology, difficult ground conditions, sensitive neighbouring activities and complex underground services. State Highway 1 travel times could not be adversely affected.

Delivery required innovative design solutions, exemplary design/construction interfacing, creating strong partnerships and team work. Tommy Parker, NZTA Highways and Network Operations Manager, described it as 'our most successful alliance to date. Memorial Park Alliance has demonstrated how successfully we can deliver in very challenging circumstances.'

Testimony to the project's success was its early delivery under budget, people flocking to the park, numerous awards and accolades won.

Judging & Copyright Statement

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