



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero – Review Report for a Historic Place **First World War Memorial Beacon, AUCKLAND** (List No. 9652, Category 1)



First World War Memorial Beacon, looking northwest (*Alexandra Foster, HNZPT, 16 May 2023*)

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PURPOSE OF REVIEW

The purpose of this review is to assess the heritage values of First World War Memorial Beacon. This follows its relocation to the junction of Quay and Lower Albert Streets, Auckland, and associated refurbishment in 2021-2.

The report concludes that the monument merits entry on the List in its new location and proposes that the category of the List entry is changed to a Category 1 historic place. The latter recommendation follows the memorial's reinstatement to its original, distinctive design and re-siting from a secondary position some distance away to a location that is commensurate with its initial function, landscape context, and social and historical importance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The First World War Memorial Beacon has special significance as Aotearoa New Zealand's earliest built monument to the Great War (1914-18) - a conflict of national and international importance. Erected by the Auckland Harbour Board (AHB) on the city waterfront in late 1915, the stone monument with its surmounting beacon commemorated the Board's enlisted employees and also served as a guiding light for vessels approaching nearby landings. Designed by the notable engineer W.H. Hamer, it forms a pioneering example of what later became a national outpouring of monumental construction commemorating the conflict, incorporating features that were later to become commonly used as well as rare or unique elements that directly reflect its earliness as a response. It has special value for numerous aspects, including its ability to reflect and convey information about the First World War from the Gallipoli campaign onwards, including high levels of overseas service and casualty rates, places where military operations took place, and peace commemorations following the Treaty of Versailles. The monument's subsequent history demonstrates ongoing attitudes to international conflict, including through its dismantling at a time of widespread anti-war sentiment in the late 1960s and early 1970s, and partial re-erection in 2000 elsewhere on the Auckland waterfront as national interest in commemoration re-emerged. In 2021-2, reinstatement to its original design and current location formed a direct outcome of First World War centenary commemorations to recognise the monument's particular importance.

The memorial was erected in Commercial Bay, previously known to Māori as One-Panea, which had been subject to successive reclamation in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Waitematā forms the ancestral waters of numerous iwi including Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei, and many kāinga and pā occupied its shoreline and headlands. One-Panea was a source of kaimoana, and also used for arrival and departure of waka. After the establishment of Auckland in 1840, the renamed bay became the main landing site for settlers and goods - including produce brought from afield by Māori - and formed one of the country's largest ports at the end of the century. In 1915, the AHB (formed in 1871) commenced the Quay Street West extension scheme, which involved construction of a new harbour wall, launch landings and shelter sheds on the Quay Street waterfront as part of longer-term plans to modernise port facilities. This occurred while nearby wharves were loading troops and military supplies during the First World War, a conflict in which nearly a tenth of New Zealand's population served overseas. In September 1915, the AHB decided to erect a memorial beacon beside the launch landings, commemorating its many employees who had enlisted.

The monument is an unusual example of a built monument erected while the war was in progress. A major civic employer, the AHB had particularly strong connections with Britain through its facilities'

role in imperial trade and commerce. The monument comprised an obelisk made of Coromandel granite surmounted by decorative ironwork and an electric lamp. It displayed inscribed shields and other symbols emphasising ties with the British Empire, and brass plates listed the names of AHB staff who served. It was first lit on 17 December 1915, while troops were being evacuated from Gallipoli – where 2779 New Zealanders died. As well as functioning as a beacon, the monument can be seen to have symbolised a shining example, a beacon of hope and also a safe return home.

As a 'living memorial', further information was added to the obelisk while the war was in progress. A later shield addition commemorates the Treaty of Versailles, signed in July 1919. When peace celebrations were held the following month, the monument was draped with festoons of lights.

In 1922-3, foreshore reclamation meant that the beacon became more distant from the waterfront. The monument remained in a triangular block until the late 1960s or early 1970s when it was dismantled and placed in storage. In 1999, an anonymous Jewish German refugee from before the Second World War (1939-45) funded restoration work, reflecting an upsurge in interest. The following year, Auckland City Council re-instated the memorial's main obelisk beside the historic Launch Offices, some 150 metres from its 1915 site. In 2021-2, it was prominently repositioned at its initial intersection and its full original monumental design, including unique beacon, was reinstated.

1. IDENTIFICATION¹

1.1. Name of Place

Name:

First World War Memorial Beacon

Other Names:

WW1 Memorial Beacon

1.2. Location Information

Address

Quay Street and Lower Albert Street

AUCKLAND

Additional Location Information

NZTM Easting: 1757454.4

¹ This section is supplemented by visual aids in Appendix 1 of the report.

NZTM Northing: 5921100.4²

Located within the road reserve on the north side of Quay Street at its intersection with Lower Albert Street.

Local Authority

Auckland Council

1.3. Legal Description

Legal Road, Lot 16 DP 131565 (RT NA77A/384), and Pt Lot 37 DP 131568, North Auckland Land District

1.4. Extent of List Entry

Extent includes parts of the land described as Legal Road, Lot 16 DP 131565 (RT NA77A/384), and Pt Lot 37 DP 131568, North Auckland Land District, and the structure known as First World War Memorial Beacon thereon. The extent includes land up to 1 m beyond the outer face of the monument's lowest step in each direction (Refer to map in Appendix 1 of the List entry report for further information).

1.5. Eligibility

There is sufficient information included in this report to identify this place. This place is physically eligible for consideration as a historic place. It consists of land and a structure fixed to land which lies within the territorial limits of New Zealand.

1.6. Existing Heritage Recognition

Local Authority and Regional Authority Plan Scheduling

NOT scheduled in Auckland Unitary Plan, Operative in Part [16 Nov 2016], (as amended).

² Approximate centre of First World War Memorial Beacon structure.

First World War Memorial Beacon is currently scheduled in the structure's prior position on Quay Street in Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part [16 Nov 2016], (as amended), Ref. 2727, First World War Memorial Beacon, Category B

For Category B items on Schedule 14.1, modification and restoration has Restricted Discretionary status; and demolition, relocation, new buildings or structures and subdivision has Discretionary Activity status. Maintenance and repair is permitted.

New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme

This place lies within a site that has been recorded by the New Zealand Archaeological Association. The reference is: R11/2572 - Reclamation: wooden piles, brick features, artefacts, well.

Other Heritage Recognition

New Zealand Heritage List Rārangi Kōrero: List No. 7158, Harbour Historic Area

Auckland Council Cultural Heritage Inventory: ID No. 20107 World War I Memorial Beacon

2. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1. Historical Information

Early History of the Site

Prior to European colonisation One-Panea, the bay which now borders Auckland's commercial centre, was linked with settlement in the valley of Waihorotiu and its adjoining headlands – traditionally associated with Ngāti Huarere, Te Waiohua and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei.³ Noted as the ancestral waters of numerous iwi including Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Waitematā is named to reference its waters which are smooth and glisten like māta (black obsidian rock).⁴ Waitematā was an important food-gathering place, with numerous kāinga and pā established around its shoreline, and many whakataukī that speak to the richness of its marine and terrestrial resources.⁵ Pare Tuhu was a settlement on the foreshore (now

³ David Simmons, *Maori Auckland*, Auckland, 1987, pp.83, 89.

⁴ Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, 'Te Pou O Kāhu Pōkere: Iwi Management Plan for Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei', 2018, p.4, URL: https://ngatiwhatuaorakei.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/58087_Ngati_Whatua_Orakei_Iwi_Management_Plan_FINAL.pdf [accessed 9 Feb 2023].

⁵ Email, Phil Wihongi, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Whai Maia, to Alexandra Foster, HNZPT, 'FW:Ref 1611 WW1 Memorial Beacon', 29 May 2023.

under Lower Albert Street), with Ngā-Ū-Wera being an associated pā on the adjoining headland.⁶ Prior to European arrival, the mouth of Waihorotiu and the wider shoreline were used for gathering kaimoana, and as a place of arrival and departure for waka.⁷

Following the commencement of European settlement in 1840, One-Panea was renamed Commercial Bay by the colonial administration and served as the main landing point for goods and settlers. Māori traders were key participants and beneficiaries of the coastal shipping, trade and exchange which occurred in this location, and to the east at Te Tōangaroa (Mechanics Bay) in the early years.⁸ Te Tōangaroa was also the site of the Waipapa Māori Hostel, developed for the express purpose of extending manaaki to those iwi groups and entrepreneurs who had travelled from as far away as Te Tai Rāwhiti and Te Tai Tokerau to bring their produce to market to feed the settlers.⁹ Successive reclamations were carried out to improve port facilities and expand commercial land as the town's economy developed.¹⁰ In the late nineteenth century, Auckland was one of the 'big four' ports of New Zealand, which collectively handled three-quarters of the colony's import and export business.¹¹

From 1871, all activity connected with Auckland's harbours was controlled by the Auckland Harbour Board (AHB), which had been founded in the same year.¹² The AHB managed a large area, extending from the Tāmaki River south of the nineteenth-century city, to Rangitoto and the North Shore further north.¹³ A major civic body and employer, the organization was

⁶ Malcolm Patterson, 'Statement of Evidence of Dr Malcolm Patterson on Behalf of: (A) Ngāti Whatua Ōrākei Whai Maia Ltd; (B) Supporting Mana Whenua', Environment Court ENV-2018-AKL-000078, 27 Aug 2018, URL: <https://www.maorilandcourt.govt.nz/assets/E74-Dr-Malcolm-Patterson-EIC-Ngati-Whatua-Orakei.pdf>; NZAA Site Record, R11/80, URL: <https://archsite.eaglegis.co.nz/NZAA/>. Pare Tuhu is identified as being located 'against the foreshore, at the foot of what is now Albert St' and Ngā Ūwera was the headland by the mouth of Waihorotiu.

⁷ Simmons, 1987, as cited in Patterson, 2018. Patterson identifies sites near the mouth of Waihorotiu including: Te Roukai 'a pipi bank which lay formerly between the site of the Waitemata Hotel and Pt Britomart, mouth of Horotiu Creek'; Waikōkota 'cockle waters – Freeman's Bay'; Te Whatu 'a rocky ledge at the foot of what is now Shortland St, where canoes were moored'; and Te Tarakaraahi 'a canoe landing at the foot of what is now Swanson St, opposite Te Whatu'; Email, Phil Wihongi, 29 May 2023.

⁸ Martin Jones, 'Report for a Historic Place Queens Wharf', Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 2010, p.7; Hazel Petrie, 'Maori Enterprise: Ships and Flour Mills,' in Ian Hunter and Dianne Morrow (eds.), *City of Enterprise: Perspectives on Auckland Business History*, Auckland, 2006, pp.36-46; Hazel Petrie, *Chiefs of Industry: Maori Tribal Enterprise in Early Colonial New Zealand*, Auckland, 2006, pp.226-230.

⁹ Email, Phil Wihongi, 29 May 2023.

¹⁰ Jones, 2010, p.7; John Barr, *The Ports of Auckland, New Zealand: A History of the Discovery and Development of the Waitemata and Manukau Harbours*, Auckland, 1926, Appendix 1x, p.150. The current site of First World War Memorial Beacon was part of twentieth-century reclamation works.

¹¹ The proportion was 79.7% in 1881 and 72.1% in 1911. The other three ports were Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin: Gavin McLean, 'Hobson to Hubbing: Change and Continuity in Auckland's Maritime History', in Ian Hunter and Dianne Morrow (eds.), *City of Enterprise: Perspectives on Auckland Business History*, Auckland, 2006, p.61.

¹² Barr, 1926, p.49.

¹³ Jones, 2010, p.8.

traditionally dominated by members with strong mercantile connections. Its board was made up of individuals that were appointed or elected by the government, city council, adjoining Highway Boards, the Chamber of Commerce, and the payers of Harbour dues.¹⁴

In 1903, following a rapid increase in trading activity, the AHB employed engineer, W.H. Hamer (1869-1940) to prepare plans and oversee works for further extensions to the port facilities.¹⁵ Hamer had previously occupied the important role of Resident Engineer of the London and India Dock Company, based at the Royal Victoria and Albert Docks in London.¹⁶ His innovative 1904 plan for Auckland included the construction of a network of reinforced concrete finger-wharves at right angles or inclined from the Quay Street frontage, a design that was at the forefront of technological developments in New Zealand.¹⁷

By 1908, works extended Hobson Street and created a finger wharf at its north end, west of the current site.¹⁸ Larger ferro-concrete wharves were constructed further east at Railway (later Kings) Wharf in 1904-8, and Queens Wharf in 1907-13.¹⁹

Imperial ties and the outbreak of war

This general expansion of facilities under Hamer prefaced what has been termed 'The Queen City's reign'.²⁰ Between 1911 and 1930, Auckland increased its share of New Zealand's import and export trade from a quarter to a third.²¹ As a major facility dealing with overseas trade, the port's ties with the other parts of the British Empire were strong. This was particularly true after the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914, when British cargo was increasingly shipped directly to the city.²²

The port's connections with Great Britain were mirrored by sentiment in much of broader society. When Britain declared war on Germany in August 1914, a large number of New Zealanders volunteered for military service immediately.²³ The ensuing international conflict

¹⁴ Barr, 1926, pp.49-52, cited in Jones, 2010, p.8.

¹⁵ Jones, 2010, p.8.

¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 9.

¹⁸ Barr, 1926, Appendix 1X, p. 150.

¹⁹ Jones, 2010, p.17.

²⁰ McLean, 2006, p.60.

²¹ *ibid.*

²² *ibid.*; Auckland Harbour Board, *Auckland Harbour Board, New Zealand: Official Handbook*, Auckland, 1915, p.47.

²³ Richard Wolfe, *Looking Back, New Zealand 1900-2005*, Auckland, 2007, p.36.

- considered the first global, industrialised war in human history – lasted until 1918 and had a seismic effect on many nations, including New Zealand. Almost a tenth of this country's contemporary population is estimated to have served overseas, many travelling abroad for the first time. Considerable numbers were killed, wounded or incapacitated through illness. Due in part to its traumas, the war is believed by many to have fostered a new sense of national identity.²⁴

The AHB quickly demonstrated its support for the military cause by donating the considerable sum of £1000 to the Auckland Patriotic Fund.²⁵ The body was heavily involved in the preparations for conflict, providing storage space for cargo on Queens Wharf and organising the departure of the troops from the Auckland wharves.²⁶ In late September 1914, 2000 soldiers marched through the city to the wharves to board troop ships, cheered by large crowds.²⁷ Troops continued to embark from these facilities on many other occasions during the war. Embarking forces included the 1st and 2nd Māori Contingents in 1915 and the 3rd Māori Contingent in 1916, which encompassed Pasifika soldiers from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Tonga, Kiribati, Tuvalu and other Pacific nations as well as Māori from across New Zealand.²⁸

Many AHB employees volunteered for overseas service, causing a serious reduction in the organisation's personnel.²⁹ In spite of this, the AHB initially continued to develop its waterfront facilities. In 1915, it commenced the Quay Street West extension scheme, which involved lengthening Quay Street to Hobson Wharf and providing the extension with a new harbour wall.³⁰ Five launch landings and two shelter sheds were also erected in association with this work for smaller crafts engaged in excursions around the Hauraki Gulf.³¹

²⁴ 'New Zealand and the First World War', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/war/first-world-war-overview/introduction>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 15-Apr-2016 [accessed 10 Jul 2023].

²⁵ *New Zealand Herald (NZH)*, 12 Aug 1914, p.9; 21 Aug 1914, p.6.

²⁶ *Auckland Star (AS)*, 25 Aug 1914, p.4.

²⁷ *NZH*, 23 Sep 1914, p.9.

²⁸ *NZH*, 17 Sep 1915, p.8; '3rd Maori Reinforcements depart from New Zealand', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/maori-reinforcements-depart-new-zealand>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 15-Jul-2013 [accessed 9 Feb 2023]; Christopher Pugsley, *Te Hokowhitu a Tu: The Maori Pioneer Battalion in the First World War*, Auckland, 2015, pp.40, 45-6; James Cowan, *Maori in the Great War*, 1925 (republished 2011), pp. 26-7; Monty Soutar, *Whitiki! Whiti! Whiti! E: Māori in the First World War*, Auckland, 2019, pp.201-2, 204, 311-2, 400, 412-3, 415, 462-3; Martin Jones, 'Report for a Historic Place O'Neill's Point Cemetery', Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 2022, p.12.

²⁹ Barr, 1926, p.93.

³⁰ *NZH*, 11 Feb 1915, p.4; 2 Mar 1915, p.7; 4 Jun 1915, p.7.

³¹ Construction work had been completed by October 1915: 'Official Handbook', *The Ports of Auckland and Manukau New Zealand 1916*, December 1916, p.35; Lisa Truttman, Timespanner blog <http://timespanner.blogspot.co.nz/2011/08/shifting->

On 13 September 1915 - just over a year after the declaration of war - the AHB resolved to erect a memorial obelisk to remember its numerous employees who had enlisted.³² Recognising both their patriotism and sacrifice, this was to be associated with the new works.

Construction of the Memorial Beacon (1915)

The AHB's decision was a groundbreaking one, involving the first built monument to the Great War erected in New Zealand.³³ Pre-existing memorials to the conflict by communities in this country largely consisted of tree plantings and boards of honour. In its monumental intention and appearance, the AHB memorial was to form the earliest New Zealand example of an international phenomenon demonstrating the impact of global, industrialised conflict through commemorative built edifices. Not only were such monuments to eventually become commonplace throughout New Zealand, but also in other nations touched by the war, including Russia, Canada, Australia, and Great Britain.³⁴ First World War Memorial Beacon reflects how impactful the high levels of enlistment and participation in the war effort were on local communities, even before the scale of later losses were felt.

The AHB monument was to be erected beside the new launch landings on Quay Street, and to simultaneously function as a daylight beacon and a guiding light at night.³⁵ The decision to create the memorial was accompanied by an AHB resolution to grant its permanent officers on active service further leave of absence on half pay. The Board rescinded an earlier decision to erect a roll of honour in the Board's public office.³⁶ The site chosen for the new memorial was immediately between the new shelter sheds on the edge of the waterfront - a short distance to the west of the recently-built Ferry Building (1909-12), itself a major symbol of AHB activity and the main commuter gateway in and out of Auckland.

Significantly, the AHB memorial was created while local troops, including many AHB employees named on the monument, were fighting at Gallipoli (April-December 1915),

[story-of-aucklands-memorial.html](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Heritage/Heritage%20Places/Heritage%20Places%20List/story-of-aucklands-memorial.html) [accessed 21 Feb 2023].

³² NZH, 15 Sep 1915, p.6.

³³ Jock Phillips, quoted in NZH, 24 Apr 1999, p.A5; Chris Maclean and Jock Phillips, *The Sorrow and the Pride: New Zealand War Memorials*, Wellington, 1990, p.69; Jock Phillips, *To The Memory: New Zealand's War Memorials*, Nelson, 2016, p. 85.

³⁴ Phillips, 2016, p.13.

³⁵ AS, 11 Apr 1916, p.2. The Harbour Board Chairman's statement in 1916 noted that '[i]t being necessary to erect a beacon to ensure safe navigation to the landings advantage was taken to erect a suitable beacon upon which a roll of honour could be placed giving the names of all the Board's employees who had enlisted for the defence of King and Empire. The Board considered this to be a fitting public recognition, and also hoped it would serve as a stimulus to enlist for those staying behind'.

³⁶ NZH, 15 Sep 1915, p.6; 22 Sep 1915, p.5; Auckland Harbour Board Minute Book 8, pp.140-1.

considered a landmark event in the development of New Zealand's national identity during the war. Individuals named on the monument who fought at this battle included Arthur Stanley Corlett, carpenter; Douglas Selwood Hewett, clerk; Charles Edward Stewart, seaman; Reginald Arthur Basley, draughtsman; and Seymour Thomason Spencer, civil engineer.³⁷ Soon after the Gallipoli campaign began, memorial services were widely held to collectively remember the fallen and injured.³⁸ The number of honour boards placed in sports clubs, schools and churches throughout the country increased.³⁹ By July 1915, calls for permanent, built war memorials emerged, most prominently by the mayor of Auckland, J. H. Gunson, who favoured the construction of a utilitarian monument that would include a roll of honour.⁴⁰ Memorial trees were also planted in the same month, including two pōhutukawa at Eastbourne.⁴¹

The AHB memorial conformed to Gunson's suggestion in its inclusion of a roll of honour and functionality. The nineteen-foot (5.8 metres) high structure was designed by W.H. Hamer, who initially prepared two proposals for consideration. The chosen design comprised a stone obelisk, surmounted by decorative ironwork and an electric lamp.⁴² Incorporation of the latter, associated with the recent establishment of new generation plants that expanded electricity supply to much of the central city, reflected the AHB's wider modernisation of its facilities in the early 1900s.⁴³ The memorial was constructed by John Bouskill, a monumental

³⁷ 'Alfred Stanley Corlett', Archives New Zealand, URL: https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE10271243; Online Cenotaph, 'Douglas Selwood Hewett', Auckland War Memorial Museum, URL: <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C6850> [accessed 27 Jan 2023]; Online Cenotaph, 'Reginald Arthur Basley', Auckland War Memorial Museum, URL: <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C38080> [accessed 27 Jan 2023]; Online Cenotaph, 'Seymour Thomason Spencer', Auckland War Memorial Museum, URL: <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C33594> [accessed 27 Jan 2023]; Online Cenotaph, 'Charles Edward Stewart', Auckland War Memorial Museum, URL: <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C15026> [accessed 27 Jan 2023].

³⁸ e.g. *NZH*, 10 May 1915, p.10; *Press*, 17 May 1915, p.9; *Hawera & Normanby Star*, 22 May 1915, p.1; *Otago Daily Times*, 1 Jun 1915, p.10.

³⁹ See for example, *Timaru Herald*, 30 Mar 1915, p.3; *Ashburton Guardian* 9 Jul 1915, p.7.

⁴⁰ *AS*, 2 Jul 1915, p.2; *Wairarapa Daily Times*, 9 Jul 1915, p.4; *AS*, 13 Jul 1915, p.4.

⁴¹ *NZH*, 17 Jul 1915, p.6; *Dominion*, 16 Jul 1915, p. 9; Stuart Park, 'Report for a Historic Place War Memorial, Kaitia', Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, 2012, p.19.

⁴² *NZH*, 22 Dec 1915, p.9.

⁴³ Hamer's specifications included a three-quarter inch iron pipe through the middle of the obelisk 'as a duct for the Board's electric cables'. Auckland had begun to convert to electrical lighting in 1900, and with the establishment of a thermal electricity plant at the Patteson Street rubbish destructor in 1908 and the Kings Wharf coal-powered Thermal Station in 1913, electricity had been extended to much of the central city by 1915: Auckland Harbour Board Contract No. 679, National Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa archives; Tony Wilson, 'Lampstands (3)', Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga List Report. 2005.

mason, who won the tender with an estimate of £187.⁴⁴ Bouskill had previously created a monument to the New Zealand Wars at Pokeno (1898), the imaginative concept of which has been described as 'a foretaste of a new era in monument-building'.⁴⁵ Bouskill's firm went on to erect eleven First World War monuments by 1925.⁴⁶

The AHB memorial beacon was first lit on 17 December 1915, in the same week that New Zealand troops were being withdrawn from Gallipoli (15-20 December).⁴⁷ The monument was completed in less than the estimated time, despite waterfront strikes in October and November that year.⁴⁸

The completion of the monument was reported in the *Auckland Star* as follows:

'Workmen were engaged putting the finishing touches this morning to the new beacon erected in Quay Street, near the launch landings, opposite the Sailors' Home. This, besides being a guide for launch vessels, will also serve the important purpose of bearing the roll of honour of employees of the Harbour Board who have gone to the front. The list of names inscribed already totals 40, and there is another plate left vacant for those who are yet to go in the future. The beacon takes the form of an obelisk erected on a base of five tiers of steps of unpolished Coromandel granite. This is surmounted by a square, solid block of granite, polished, and above is a shaft of the same material beautifully finished. Above this is an artistic twisted metal support, on top of which is a red globe, which at night time will show a light. Under the regulations of the Harbour Board, launches coming to the landings have to sight this beacon and get in line with a white diamond affixed to the front of the Sailors' Home before they turn to run in...'⁴⁹

⁴⁴ AS, 13 Oct 1915, p.11; Auckland Harbour Board Contract No. 679, National Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa archives.

⁴⁵ Maclean and Phillips, 1990, pp.26-7.

⁴⁶ *ibid.*, p.114.

⁴⁷ NZH, 22 Dec 1915, p.9; Truttman, Timespanner blog <http://timespanner.blogspot.co.nz/2011/08/shifting-story-of-aucklands-memorial.html> [accessed 23 Feb 2023], citing W.H. Hamer in the Auckland Harbour Board report for 1916; 'Evacuation of Gallipoli begins', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/troops-evacuated-from-anzac-bay-and-suvla>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 11-May-2021 [accessed 21 Feb 2023].

⁴⁸ NZH, 22 Dec 1915, p.9.

⁴⁹ AS, 18 Dec 1915, p.9. While this description claims the monument had five steps, another contemporary news article (NZH, 22 Dec 1915, p. 9) states there were four steps, a number confirmed by a January 1924 photograph showing the structure: Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 655-2.

Hamer's specifications included tablets and shields for each face of the monument, but not all of these appear to have been attached when it was first erected.⁵⁰ Brass name tablets were placed on two faces of the main obelisk, and on the base there were at least two attached shields. One of the latter was inscribed with the words, 'This beacon was erected by the Auckland Harbour Board to record the services of those members of its staff whose names are inscribed above, who voluntarily gave their all in the cause of liberty and freedom at the call of the Mother Country in the Great World War of 1914'. A second shield listed the names of the current Board members of the AHB.⁵¹ The Latin words 'Qui moruit ferat palmam' (let him who has won his laurels wear them) were also inscribed around the monument.⁵² The most public side, facing Quay Street, featured the roll of honour; the shield outlining the purpose of the memorial; the word 'palmam'; and the date '1914' inside an attached metal wreath.⁵³

The memorial represents an early response to the conflict that was later taken up around the country in a national outpouring of commemoration. The beacon's incorporation of an obelisk - an ambiguous symbol of both life and death, frequently associated with funerary commemoration - became widely utilised and formed a departure from pre-existing monuments to the 1899-1902 South African War.⁵⁴

Several aspects of the design emphasised the importance of ties with Great Britain, and the AHB's support for the British Empire. Announcing the monument's completion, the chairman of the AHB, H. D. Heather emphasised the resilience of such notions, stating that '...we can and shall stand as an Empire, like the beacon we have now erected, "Four square to every wind that blows"'.⁵⁵

⁵⁰ AS, 18 Dec 1915, p.9; Auckland Harbour Board Contract No. 679, National Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa archives.

⁵¹ Statement of Finance and Works, Auckland Harbour Board, 1916, New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa archives.

⁵² AS, 18 Dec 1915, p.9.

⁵³ 'Beacon and Roll of Honour' photograph, 'Statement of Finance and Works, with Estimates for 1916', Auckland Harbour Board, 15 February 1916, New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa archives.

⁵⁴ Maclean & Phillips, 1990, pp.61, 97.

⁵⁵ AS, 22 Dec 1915, p.8.



Figure 1. Lit beacon in original position on waterfront with Port in operation behind
(‘A view showing the Harbour Board’s war memorial on the waterfront’, 29 Jun 1922, Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, AWNS-19220629-40-1).⁵⁶



Figure 2. Original position of First World War Memorial Beacon (red circle), flanked by shelter sheds, with Quay and Sturdee Streets running left to right behind monument and Albert Street at far left, 12 Jan 1916.
(Detail from Henry Winkelmann, ‘The Ferry Building and Auckland Waterfront, 1916’, Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 1-W1373).

Other aspects of the monument’s design continued earlier traditions that did not find common currency as the Great War wore on. For example, it named all of those who served in the war rather than only those who had been killed.⁵⁷ New Zealand was to lose 18,166 men and women during the conflict, encompassing the highest percentage of military aged men in the British Dominion per head of population. Two-thirds of them died during the

⁵⁶ *Auckland Weekly News Supplement*, 29 Jun 1922, p.40

⁵⁷ Maclean and Phillips, 1990, p.108.

Western Front campaign (1916-18), after the erection of the memorial beacon.⁵⁸ As casualties mounted, an increasing emphasis emerged to commemorate those who would not return.

This shift in perspective may also explain why the use of a beacon as a visual and functional form was also not widely adopted for further war memorials but remained unique. Its evident symbolism as a shining example, a beacon of hope and a guiding light to ensure safe passage was superseded.⁵⁹ It was also to remain the only built occupational monument erected during the conflict, the creation of most other memorials being organised by local communities, churches and schools.⁶⁰

It was, however, intended to be very publicly visible. In January 1916, the AHB asked to install a bright light on the side of the street opposite the beacon 'to set off the roll of honour at night', a request that was acceded to.⁶¹

Subsequent modification and removal (1916-68)

Throughout the First World War, troopships and warships continued to arrive and depart from the port. From 1917, the wharves were put under military control and manned with armed guards.⁶² Harbour fortifications on North Head were also manned and an examination anchorage off the head was brought into operation. This monitored vessels coming and going from the port.⁶³

The memorial continued to be serve as a living monument to the AHB's enlisted employees throughout the war. Subsequent to its erection, the second attached tablet was inscribed with 40 names; a third plate was added with the names of another 36 men; and the notation 'Killed', or 'Died' was inscribed alongside fifteen of the names on the tablets. These plaques may have been altered or added as men enrolled during the remainder of the war, although

⁵⁸ Ian McGibbon, 'First World War - Impact of the war', Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, updated 13-Jul-12, URL: <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/first-world-war/page-8> [accessed 21 Feb 2023].

⁵⁹ Maclean and Phillips, 1990, p.96.

⁶⁰ *ibid.*, pp.82-3, 108.

⁶¹ *NZH*, 28 Jan 1916, p.7.

⁶² Barr, 1926, p.92. In 1913, 94,000 Aucklanders visited the battleship HMS New Zealand which berthed at Queens Wharf. The ship went on to participate in several notable battles in the First World War: Jones, 2010, p.17; John Rose, *Akarana: The Ports of Auckland*, Auckland, 1971, p.132.

⁶³ The number of merchant ships visiting the port declined and all port development work not considered essential was suspended during the war: Rose, 1971, p.132.

a newspaper article at the end of 1918 suggested that the roll of honour was still incomplete at that time.⁶⁴

Two further bronze shields were also subsequently inscribed or added to the monument. One of these listed overseas places New Zealand soldiers fought or were stationed during the war.⁶⁵ Individuals named on the memorial also served in these places including David Walter Johnson who was killed in action at the Somme, and James Pollock who was killed in action at Passchendaele.⁶⁶ The other shield was inscribed with the words: 'War Declared 4th August 1914. Victorious Peace signed at Versailles 26th June 1919'.⁶⁷ The monument consequently mapped development of the war, its impacts on serving soldiers, and ultimate resolution through peace. During peace celebrations in 1919, the memorial beacon was draped in festoons of lights.⁶⁸

From 1915, members of the AHB proposed turning a vacant block to the south of the beacon into a larger 'peace memorial'.⁶⁹ After the war, the Board drew up plans for the proposed memorial park which included a Corinthian column and war trophies on each apex of the triangle.⁷⁰ Auckland City Council initially supported the scheme as well as plans to erect the Auckland War Memorial Museum in the Auckland Domain. However, in 1920 it withdrew its support for the park due to a lack of public support.⁷¹

In April 1919 the Māori Battalion, the only force to return as a unit, disembarked at nearby Queen's Wharf before parading up Queen Street to a formal reception at Auckland Domain.⁷²

⁶⁴ *Observer*, 21 Dec 1918, p.3.

⁶⁵ Photographs by Robin C. Wood, Auckland NZ, 22 October 1968, New Zealand Maritime Museum archives Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa.

⁶⁶ Online Cenotaph, 'David Walter Johnson', Auckland War Memorial Museum, URL: <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C7764> [accessed 27 Jan 2023]; Online Cenotaph, 'James Pollock', Auckland War Memorial Museum, URL: <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C12448> [accessed 27 Jan 2023].

⁶⁷ Photographs by Robin C. Wood, Auckland NZ, 22 October 1968, New Zealand Maritime Museum archives Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa.

⁶⁸ *AS*, 11 Jul 1919, p.5.

⁶⁹ *AS*, 15 Dec 1915, p.8; 24 Jan 1916, p.4; 2 Feb 1916, p. 8; 11 Dec 1918, p.10; 11 Mar 1919, p.6.

⁷⁰ *AS*, 11 Mar 1919, p.6.

⁷¹ *Evening Post*, 27 June 1919, p.7. *AS*, 31 Mar 1920, p.4; *NZH*, 10 Nov 1920, p.6.

⁷² *AS*, 5 Apr 1919, p.5; *NZH*, 5 Apr 1919, pp.10, 16; 7 Apr 1919, p.9; Pugsley, 2015, p.78.

In 1922-3, Quay Street was straightened with further reclamation of the harbour, distancing the memorial from the waterfront and possibly removing or modifying its need as a beacon. The memorial remained on its original site but was now incorporated into an enlarged triangular block.⁷³ The flanking shelter sheds were moved north onto the newly reclaimed land, beside a new harbourfront wall. During the same period Hobson Wharf was replaced and renamed Princes Wharf (1921-4).⁷⁴



Figure 3. Memorial in original location during reclamation works; one relocated shelter shed is visible at far right of image.

(Detail from J.B. Arnold, 'City of Auckland, 1924', 12 Jan 1924 Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 655-2).

By 1933, a small garden had been planted around the monument.⁷⁵ During the Second World War (1939-45), the Public Works Department constructed a large concrete warehouse on the associated block, to store supplies for the US forces and to house the United States Joint Purchasing Board staff stationed in Auckland.⁷⁶ Princes Wharf was leased to the US military from August 1942 for the duration of the war.⁷⁷ The memorial was still on the same site in 1968, when detailed photographs of the structure were taken. At that time, there were three rolls of honour in place, and four shields - one of which was blank.⁷⁸ The latter appears to have replaced the original shield which listed names of AHB Board members.

⁷³ See photograph 22 December 1923, Winkelmann, Record Id 1-W614 and photograph 25 March 1933, Richardson, Record Id 4-5327, Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

⁷⁴ Barr, 1926, pp.58-9; 94-6.

⁷⁵ Photograph, 25 March 1933, Richardson, Record Id 4-5327, Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

⁷⁶ Truttman, Timespanner blog, URL: <http://timespanner.blogspot.co.nz/2011/08/shifting-story-of-aucklands-memorial.html> [accessed 21 Feb 2023].

⁷⁷ Denys Bevan, *United States Forces in New Zealand: 1942-1945*, Alexandra, 1992, p.57.

⁷⁸ Photographs by Robin C Wood, Auckland NZ, 22 October 1968, New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa



Figure 4. Memorial beacon with small surrounding garden, at centre right, after reclamation works were completed

(‘Looking south west from the Ferry Building in Quay Street West’, 26 Mar 1933, Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, 4-5327)

Removal of the memorial from its original site occurred when the AHB undertook substantial changes to the organisation of the port. The memorial was taken from the site sometime between 1968 and 1973, when the Travelodge (now Copthorne Hotel) and Downtown car park were constructed as part of the AHB’s ‘Downtown scheme’. These alterations were intended to revitalise the waterfront area, providing income for port operations and developments that included redesigning the wharves to accommodate container ships.⁷⁹ Removal took place at a time of growing anti-war sentiment and protest, linked with reactions to the Cold War and conflict in Vietnam. Many war memorials during this period were allowed to decline and decay.⁸⁰ In 1988, Ports of Auckland Limited replaced the AHB.⁸¹

archives.

⁷⁹ The memorial is still shown on the triangular site in the 1968 map NZ Map 3249, and the 7 November 1968 photograph 7A5240, in Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, but was removed prior to or during the development of the site in c.1973. See photographs 8-4, 786-A023-5, 786-A024-2, 786-A024-3, and NZ Map 5977g, in Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries; The AHB scheme included office space, retail shops, and a pedestrian square on seven acre block between Queen and Hobson Streets. Rose, 1971, p.168.

⁸⁰ Phillips, 2016, p.202. According to former Auckland Harbour Board chief executive Bob Lorimer, the memorial was placed in storage in 1969 during the development of the area, with the intention of eventually reinstating it elsewhere- although this never eventuated: NZH, 24 Apr 1999, p.A5.

⁸¹ Ports of Auckland Tāmaki Herenga Waka, ‘Our History’, URL: <https://www.poal.co.nz/our-story/history> [accessed 21 Feb

Initial Restoration and Re-siting (1999-2021)

Although participation in war commemoration declined in the mid- to late-twentieth century, from the 1980s events such as Anzac Day underwent a renaissance, with an increased number of young people attending services that commemorated New Zealanders killed in war and returned service men and women, which also became associated with the emergence of a distinct New Zealand identity.⁸² On 24 April 1999, on the eve of Anzac Day, the *New Zealand Herald* reported that the dismantled obelisk and associated rolls of honour had been discovered in Shed 51 on Bledisloe Wharf.⁸³ The shields were later found in the New Zealand Maritime Museum, but the ironwork spire orb and wreaths were not recovered.⁸⁴

Auckland City Council approved restoration and re-installation of remaining parts of the memorial beacon after an anonymous Jewish German benefactor, who had migrated to New Zealand prior to the Second World War, offered to fund it - a contribution that can be seen to reflect the suffering of Jewish communities during that later conflict.⁸⁵ The monument was restored in early 2000, with plaques and new wreaths re-attached to the obelisk and a new stone ball on its apex replacing the original ironwork spire and orb.⁸⁶ It was re-erected on the corner of Quay and Hobson Streets, outside the Launch Offices (also known as Launchmans building) which had become part of the New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa in 1993.⁸⁷ The memorial was officially unveiled shortly after Anzac Day in 2000.⁸⁸

2023].

⁸² Phillips, 2016, pp.199, 211; 'Modern Anzac Day', URL: <http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/modern-anzac-day> (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 21-Sep-2022 [accessed 21 Feb 2023].

⁸³ *NZH*, 24 Apr 1999, p.A5.

⁸⁴ *NZH*, 26 Apr 1999, A3; 8 Dec, 1999, p.A7.

⁸⁵ *NZH*, 8 Dec 1999, p.A7; 20 Apr 2000, p.A3.

⁸⁶ The brass name plates and bronze shields had, in the meantime, been given to New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa and accessioned as: New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa ID No.9067, Accession No.1992.225.

⁸⁷ Salmond Architects (n.d); 'About', New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa, URL: <https://www.maritimemuseum.co.nz/about> [accessed 21 Feb 2023]. When the First World War Memorial Beacon was re-erected, the museum was known as New Zealand National Maritime Museum.

⁸⁸ *NZH*, 20 Apr 2000, p.A3.



Figure 5. View of memorial in modified form as repositioned beside Launch Offices, looking northwest (Martin Jones, HNZPT, 29 October 2013)

Centenary, relocation and refurbishment (2021 onwards)

Remembrance of the First World War and other conflict continued to increase in importance into the early twenty-first century. Between 2014 and 2018, centenary commemorations of the Great War were observed around New Zealand with national and local events. Intending to ‘foster a better understanding among New Zealanders of our military heritage and the impact of the First World War on families, communities and those who served overseas’, central government appointed notable public figures to help guide and plan the centenary.⁸⁹ Members of the national committee included Sir Bob Harvey, former mayor of Waitakere City, and noted historians Dame Anne Salmond and Monty Soutar. Auckland Council similarly appointed a committee to organise Auckland-specific activity, with politician and historian Sandra Coney as the inaugural chair. In 2014 Harvey, who was also the chair of Waterfront Auckland, proposed re-siting the First World War Memorial Beacon closer to its original position. The location and reduced scale of the monument as re-erected in 2000 was not felt to reflect its high level of value as a war memorial and heritage structure. This plan was

⁸⁹ Kate Chapman, ‘Diverse group plans WWI centenary’, *Dominion Post*, 7 Jul 2012, URL: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/7237346/Diverse-group-plans-WWI-centenary> [accessed 4 May 2023]

subsequently presented to and endorsed by the Auckland commemoration committee and later supported by Auckland Council. Discussion between the latter and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga secured a site and commitment to refurbish commensurate with its importance and impact as initially conceived and built.

In 2021, in tandem with a \$350 million Auckland waterfront public space redevelopment, the memorial was relocated to a new position very close to its original site, on the land reclaimed by the AHB in 1922-3.⁹⁰ Prominently positioned beside the waterfront on Quay Street and opposite Lower Albert Street, the new site restored the monument's relationship with important historical components of its contemporary landscape when initially built. This was achieved through reinstating the monument's proximal relationship to notable AHB buildings such as the 1913 shelter sheds (relocated in 1922-3), which once again flanked the memorial, and the adjacent Ferry Building. Visual connections to and from the Waitematā Harbour were also restored.

Refurbishment returned the memorial to its original design and monumental scale.⁹¹ This initially involved reconstructing previously missing steps forming the lower base of the monument. In November 2022 a replica ironwork spire and a handblown glass beacon, complete with functioning light, were installed on top of the obelisk. Lit up each night, this directly added to the monument's impact as a visual and commemorative landmark. Completion of the restoration was announced by national television news. At this time, Council staff noted that 'the opportunity to restore an important part of the city's history ... has been an honour'.⁹²

Prominently positioned in a popular pedestrian thoroughfare for both commuters and international cruise passengers, it is highly accessible attraction for public appreciation and understanding about the memorial and its meaning

⁹⁰ NZH, 2 Jul 2021, URL: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/aucklands-world-class-waterfront-development-opens-to-the-public/FADIMWYXGV44C4I2JA6X42VWTA/> [accessed 7 Feb 2023].

⁹¹ Our Auckland, 30 Nov 2022, URL: <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/news/2022/11/glorious-1915-orb-returns-to-quay-street-a-beacon-for-safe-journeys-home/> [accessed 26 Jan 2023].

⁹² *ibid.*; Kim Baker Wilson, 'WWI-era glass orb replica returns to Auckland waterfront' 1 News, URL: <https://www.1news.co.nz/2022/11/29/wwi-era-glass-orb-replica-returns-to-auckland-waterfront/> [accessed 22 Feb 2023].



Figure 8. First World War Memorial Beacon in its current context, looking north from Lower Albert Street, with Waitematā Harbour behind and ferries berthed at Queens Wharf at far right.

(Martin Jones, HNZPT, 19 Jan 2023)

Associated List Entries

Harbour Historic Area, AUCKLAND (List No. 7158)

Ferry Building, AUCKLAND (List No. 102, Category 1 historic place)

Queens Wharf, AUCKLAND (List No. 93, Category 1 historic place)

Wharf Pavilions (Two Buildings), AUCKLAND (List No. 670, Category 2 historic place)

Launch Offices, AUCKLAND (List No. 608, Category 2 historic place)

2.2. Physical Information

Current Description

Context

The First World War Memorial Beacon is located in Auckland's Central Business District (CBD), beside the main waterfront to the Waitematā Harbour. It is prominently sited on the north side of the intersection of Quay and Lower Albert Streets, the same intersection which the monument was originally installed at, in a comparable position to its original 1915 location. The Auckland waterfront is one of the main gateways to Auckland City for commuters, tourists, and business as a transport hub, including public transport ferries and cruise ships via the Ferry Building, commercial import and export port activities, and recreational outdoor

space and hospitality. The memorial is approximately 35 metres northeast of its 1915 location and some 175 metres east of the position it occupied between 2000 and 2020.⁹³



*Figure 6. First World War Memorial Beacon in its current context, looking east along Quay Street, with Ferry Building immediately behind and Queens Wharf at far left.
(Alexandra Foster, HNZPT, 21 Feb 2023)*

The site lies within the Harbour Historic Area (List No. 7158). The historic area is important for reflecting developments to the Auckland waterfront at a time when it became New Zealand's pre-eminent port. It contains a number of significant buildings and structures, including several that are also individually listed as historic places, such as the Ferry Building (List No. 102; Category 1 historic place); the Wharf Pavilions (List No. 670; Category 2 historic place), also called shelter sheds; and the former Auckland Harbour Board Workshops (List No. 2649; Category 2 historic place). The Wharf Pavilions, two buildings which were initially created at the same time as the 1915 memorial and flanked the monument when it was constructed, are located to the east and west of the present position, visually flanking the structure once again. Another design element in the landscape replicates the Harbour Board fence.

The Harbour Historic Area itself forms part of a broader waterfront landscape that reflects Auckland's historical evolution and importance as a commercial port during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This is recognised through other listings in the immediate vicinity such as the Quay Street Historic Area (List No.7159) and the Customs Street Historic Area (List No.7160).

⁹³ See Appendix 2: Visual Aids to Historical Information – Historical Photographs

The site and structure

The site encompasses a stone memorial and land extending one metre beyond the base of the memorial on all sides. The memorial structure comprises four stone steps; a square, stone base; and a stone obelisk surmounted by twisted ironwork spire holding a red glass beacon. Several metal plates, shields and other ornamental elements are attached to the stonework.

The structure incorporates much of the memorial created in 1915, but with some modifications: its base consists of four modern stone steps; it is surmounted by a replicated twisted ironwork spire and a spherical beacon; and some of the metal attachments (notably near the top of the obelisk) are modern additions or reproductions.



*Figure 9 (left). Showing south and east faces with 1913 shelter shed and Princes Wharf in background;
Figure 10 (right). Showing north and west faces with Quay Street and Lower Albert Street in background.
(Martin Jones, HNZPT, 19 Jan 2023)*

The large, square base is of polished Coromandel granite. It contains bronze tablets on all four faces. Those on the south, east and west faces are of identical, scrolled design.

That on the south face states:

‘This beacon was erected by the Auckland Harbour Board to record the services of those members of its staff whose names are inscribed above, who voluntarily gave their all in the cause of liberty and freedom at the call of the Mother Country in the Great World War of 1914’. And also a quote: “‘A country which defends its liberties in the face of tyranny, commands the respect of all; such a country does not perish” (King Albert of Belgium to his people)’.

The shield on the east face is inscribed:

‘Battle Honours. Samoa. Egypt. Gallipoli. France. Belgium. Palestine. Mesopotamia. German E. & W. Africa. Italy. Russia. Austria. The Balkan States. The Occupation of Germany. And the Seven Seas.’

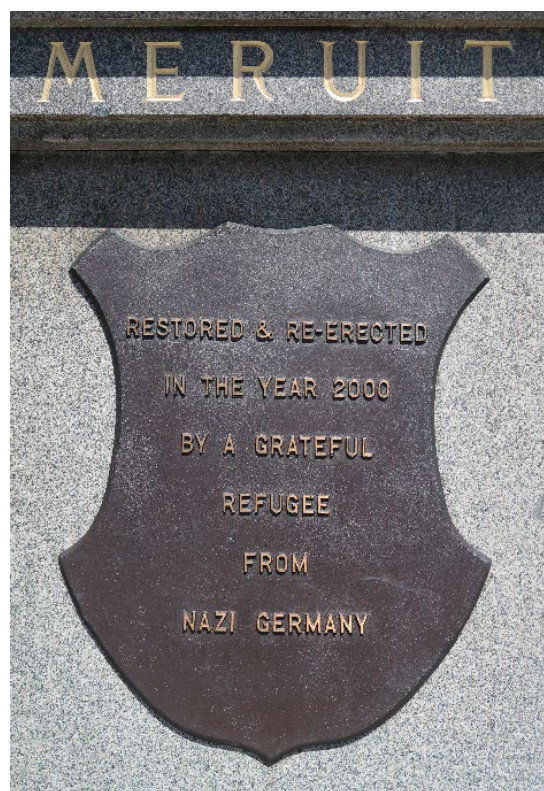
The shield on the west face states:

‘War declared 4th August 1914. Victorious peace signed at Versailles 26th June 1919’
[n.b. peace was actually signed on the 28th June 1919]

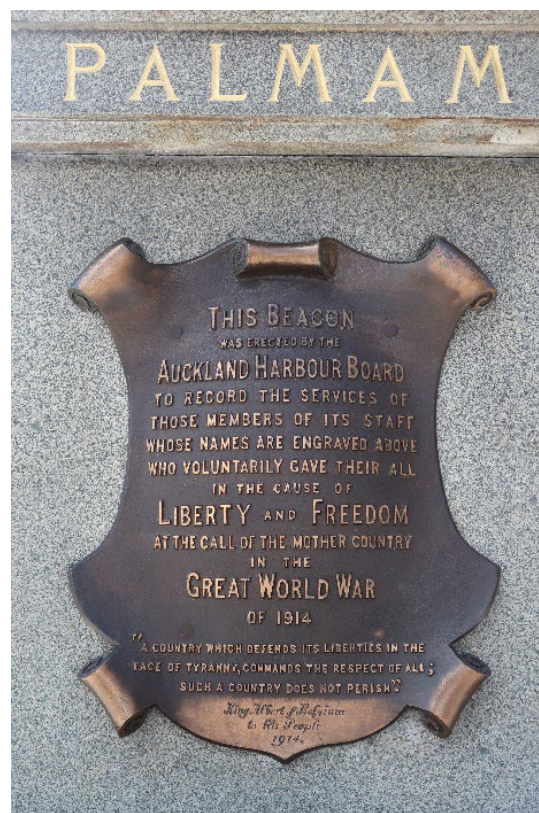
The shield on the north face is of simpler design and bears the words:

‘Restored and re-erected in the year 2000 by a grateful refugee from Nazi Germany’

A projecting cornice on top of the base contains a Latin inscription, which is picked out in gold. This incorporates a word on each face, running from east, to north, to west, to south. The inscription states: ‘Qui meruit ferat palmam’ (let him who has won his laurels wear them).



Figures 7. Showing shields on east and north faces
(Martin Jones, HNZPT, 15 March 2023)



Figures 13 and 14. Showing shields on west and south faces
(Martin Jones, HNZPT, 15 March 2023)

The overlying obelisk is of polished Coromandel granite, like the base, and contains long, tall brass plates on all faces except on its north side. Each plate is prefaced by the words 'Roll of Honour'. Those on the south and east faces have 40 names each, and that on the west has 36. The names are not arranged in alphabetical order. Some contain the words 'Killed' or 'Died' against them. No military ranks are given.



Figure 15. Roll of Honour plate on west face with bronze wreath above.
(Alexandra Foster, HNZPT, 16 May 2023)

At the top of the obelisk, on the same three sides as the name plates, are large bronze wreaths. These are modern replicas. The one on the south face encloses the date 1914. That on the west face contains holes in the stonework that appear to have been created to take four numbers, possibly the date marking the end of the First World War, 1918. Marks

near the top of the north face of the obelisk may suggest that another wreath or similar attachment once existed here.

The obelisk is surmounted by a replicated twisted ironwork spire, supporting a 500mm diameter hand blown red glass beacon orb of modern creation which lights up at night.⁹⁴ These elements faithfully re-establish the 1915 arrangement, based on photographic and other evidence.

Comparisons

The creation of war memorials throughout New Zealand was a nationwide expression of an international phenomenon which 'spread from Europe with the globalisation of imperial warfare'.⁹⁵ Public monuments reflect community commemoration and, demonstrating the unprecedented scale of the loss which was intimately felt in every community, hundreds of monuments to the First World War were erected throughout New Zealand. At least 453 surviving Great War memorials have been recorded.⁹⁶ In his 2016 publication *To The Memory: New Zealand's War Memorials*, historian Jock Phillips has noted that the First World War Memorial Beacon 'was New Zealand's first free-standing memorial of the Great War'.⁹⁷ A pioneering example of the use of this form of commemoration, the monument was the only one initially conceived and erected while New Zealand troops were serving at Gallipoli.

The First World War Memorial Beacon in Auckland represents an important initial stage in the development of built monuments to the Great War, combining features that ultimately became uncommon due to the high death toll – notably in its commemoration of all serving personnel and its dual ornamental and functional purpose – with aspects that remained more typical, such as its Imperial iconography, rolls of honour, and adoption of the obelisk form.⁹⁸ The obelisk, with its funerary associations, was rarely used for earlier monuments to the South African War but became commonplace in memorials to the First World War.

⁹⁴ Our Auckland, 30 Nov 2022, URL: <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/news/2022/11/glorious-1915-orb-returns-to-quay-street-a-beacon-for-safe-journeys-home/> [accessed 26 Jan 2023].

⁹⁵ Phillips, 2016, p.13.

⁹⁶ <http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war/interpreting-first-world-war-memorials> [accessed 17 March 2014]; Phillips, 2016, p.139.

⁹⁷ Phillips, 2016, p. 85.

⁹⁸ Over 80% of New Zealand war memorials only include the names of the dead. 'Interpreting First World War memorials', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/war/interpreting-first-world-war-memorials>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 13-Jan-2022 [accessed 12 July 2023].

Although largely ornamental, First World War Memorial Beacon was also functional with its beacon forming an integral aspect of its design. Creation and use of the AHB's memorial as a beacon is believed to be unique amongst war memorials in New Zealand and appears to be one of only a few undertaken internationally.⁹⁹ The prevailing approach to Great War commemoration in the years following the conflict favoured ornamental over functional structures. Analysis in 1990 of a full but not complete sample of New Zealand memorials concluded that the vast majority were purely ornamental. Of the relatively few functional monuments, 23 were halls, seven were libraries and several were bridges.¹⁰⁰ The Auckland War Memorial Museum (1924-9; List No. 94, Category 1 historic place) was purpose-built as a museum to commemorate those who had fallen in the First World War, although it also included a separate cenotaph monument (1929; List No. 122, Category 1 historic place) in front of the main structure.

The memorial beacon is also a rare example of a monument erected to the conflict by an employer for its employees. Such occupational monuments are much more uncommon in New Zealand than in Great Britain. This may, in part, have been due to the comparatively small size of businesses in this country. The few occupational memorials that do exist are generally connected with larger institutions, including banks, government departments and – in the case of the First World War Memorial Beacon – a major civic body.¹⁰¹ Jock Phillips describes occupational memorials, both monumental and buildings, as 'surprisingly rare'. Specific examples identified by Phillips include a Nurses Home Memorial Hall at Taranaki Hospital (1919-21); the Nurses' Memorial Chapel, Christchurch Hospital (1927-8); Gisborne Freezing Workers Memorial, Kaiti Hill, Gisborne (1923); and Railways Department locomotive AB608 'Passchendaele' (1925).¹⁰²

Most First World War memorials were created after the conflict ended. Another wartime memorial was erected at Kaitia (List No. 9985, Category 1 historic place) in March 1916, a few months after the First World War Memorial Beacon. This stone memorial is composed of

⁹⁹ Other memorial beacons identified around the world include a memorial beacon in Dundee, Scotland, erected in 1929; one on Mt Greylock, in Massachusetts, USA, erected in 1932; and the Parkes War Memorial Beacon erected in 1939 in Australia. Molly Moynihan, 'Mount Greylock Veterans War Memorial Tower', Historic North Adams, 24 Jan 2019, updated 23 Feb 2020, URL: <https://historicnorthadams.com/items/show/74> [accessed 20 Feb 2023]; 'Parkes War Memorial', New South Wales War Memorial Register, URL: <https://www.war memorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/parkes-war-memorial> [accessed 20 Feb 2023]; Editors of The Gazetteer for Scotland, 'Dundee Law', in 'Gazetteer for Scotland', URL: <http://www.scottish-places.info/features/featurefirst125.html> [accessed 20 Feb 2023].

¹⁰⁰ Maclean and Phillips, 1990, p.78.

¹⁰¹ *ibid.*, p.88.

¹⁰² Phillips, 2016, p.108.

a draped column below an angel with a long inscription in both English and Te Reo Māori. It was relocated in the 1960s to be placed alongside a Second World War memorial. In 1993, both Kaitiaia memorials were relocated to their present position in Remembrance Park.¹⁰³ The Kaitiaia monument to the Great War has been recognised as a Category 1 historic place because of its very early date for a First World War memorial; its poetic, bilingual text; its origination by Māori and concern for both Māori and Pākehā; and the prominence given to it both by the local community and by scholars of New Zealand War memorials.

Relocations of monuments reflect a public desire to keep war memorials relevant as landscapes used by communities shifted in their focus and physical use. Many First World War monuments have been relocated since their creation, generally to more prominent positions. In relation to more recent relocation and refurbishment, historian Jock Phillips has noted that 'perhaps the best expression of the growing appreciation of war memorials in the 2000s was the money and energy put into giving older memorials a new lease of life'.¹⁰⁴

As a direct consequence of its earliness and unusually complex history of alteration, relocation and refurbishment, the First World War Memorial Beacon has particular ability to demonstrate changing attitudes and approaches to the First World War from the Gallipoli campaign to the present day. This includes attitudes to peace as what may be New Zealand's only First World War monument to directly refer to the Treaty of Versailles, as well as a decline in commemorating international conflicts in the 1960s and '70s, and a more recent resurgence in interest - including during the Great War centenary.¹⁰⁵

Construction Professionals

Designer: W.H. Hamer

Mason: John Bouskill

Hamer W.H.

W.H. Hamer (c.1869-1940) was educated at Rugby, England, and in the mechanical workshops at King's College. He was subsequently articled to E.G. Mawbey, the waterworks

¹⁰³ Park, 2012, pp.10-13, 16.

¹⁰⁴ Phillips, 2016, p.211.

¹⁰⁵ Truttman, Timespanner blog, URL: <http://timespanner.blogspot.co.nz/2011/08/shifting-story-of-aucklands-memorial.html> [accessed 11 Jul 2023].

engineer at King's Lynn, Norfolk, who was also President of the County Engineers and Surveyors' Association. By the early 1900s, Hamer occupied the post of Resident Engineer of the Victoria and Albert Docks in London, said at the time to be 'unsurpassed in the completeness of its arrangements by any other docks in the world.' Employed by the London and India Dock Company during this period, Hamer worked in a department with an expenditure of more than £200,000 and was in charge of over a thousand workmen.¹⁰⁶

In January 1903, Hamer was appointed Engineer to the Auckland Harbour Board and arrived in New Zealand a few months later.¹⁰⁷ In July 1904, he produced his blueprint for the modernisation of Auckland's port facilities, involving a radical reorganisation of the waterfront using innovative aspects such as ferro-concrete wharves.¹⁰⁸ Work was undertaken on the Railway (later Kings) Wharf extension in 1904-8, the Ferry Jetty in 1907, and the Queens Wharf in 1907-13, although it was not until the 1920s that some elements of his scheme such as the Princes Wharf (1921-4) were completed.¹⁰⁹ Hamer is said to have overseen construction of parts of the Queens Wharf himself.¹¹⁰

Hamer's opinion was evidently sought for other harbour-related projects including at Thames and Whakatane.¹¹¹ In 1907, he also produced a set of plans for a canal between the Waitemata and Manukau harbours, although this was never built.¹¹² Keeping up-to-date with methods of wharf construction and new machinery, he undertook tours of inquiry to Australia (1914), Canada and the United States (1918), and the ports of Great Britain (1920).¹¹³

Hamer resigned from his post with the Auckland Harbour Board in December 1924.¹¹⁴

¹⁰⁶ *Evening Post*, 19 Jan 1903, p.5; *Otago Witness*, 21 Jan 1903, p.23; *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 1902-03, 10th edition., URL: <http://www.1902encyclopedia.com/L/LON/london-18.html> [accessed 27 Feb 2023].

¹⁰⁷ *Taranaki Herald*, 17 Jan 1903, p.4; *Evening Post*, 19 Jan 1903, p.5; *Poverty Bay Herald*, 1 Jul 1903, p.2.

¹⁰⁸ W.H. Hamer, *Report on the Extension of Auckland Harbour*, [Auckland], 1904.

¹⁰⁹ John Rose, *Akarana: The Ports of Auckland*, Auckland, 1971, pp.134, 230-1.

¹¹⁰ *Observer*, 30 Oct 1909, p.2.

¹¹¹ *Wanganui Herald*, 24 Jun 1905, p.4; *Observer*, 23 Feb 1907, p.16.

¹¹² Barr, 1926, p.89.

¹¹³ *ibid.*, p.96.

¹¹⁴ New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa, AHB archives, SN47/20, *Annual Reports year ended 30 Dec 1924*, p.74.

John Bouskill

John Bouskill (c.1854-1933) was born in Westmorland, in northwest England.¹¹⁵ He emigrated with his family to New Zealand in 1883.¹¹⁶ After spending a year in Dunedin, Bouskill moved to Auckland where he initially worked as a building contractor with his brother William.¹¹⁷ In 1888, John Bouskill was responsible for the masonry of the Governor Browne Hotel in Hobson Street.¹¹⁸ The following year, he successfully tendered for the creation of a memorial tablet for the Auckland Free Library.¹¹⁹

By 1891, Bouskill was in partnership with Peter McNab.¹²⁰ Advertising as monumental masons, the firm was based in premises close to Symonds Street cemetery.¹²¹ As well as making and selling funerary monuments, Bouskill and McNab undertook general masonry work. Memorial tablets of their making included one in St Patrick's Cathedral to commemorate Bishop Luck (1896).¹²² In 1899, they were awarded a gold medal and three first awards at the Auckland Industrial and Mining Exhibition.¹²³ The partnership was dissolved in 1902, after which Bouskill operated on his own account.¹²⁴

As well as being a stonemason, Bouskill was a member of the Newton Borough Council; a chairman of the Mount Albert Road Board; and the second vice-president of the Auckland Bowling Centre.¹²⁵ He died in 1933.¹²⁶ Bouskill's son, John Bouskill junior, also operated as monumental mason.¹²⁷

Construction Materials

Stone, with brass plaques and bronze shields

¹¹⁵ *Auckland Star (AS)*, 31 Oct 1933, p.11.

¹¹⁶ *AS*, 17 Sep 1883, p.4; 4 Feb 1926, p.9.

¹¹⁷ *Star*, 3 Jun 1884, p. 2; *AS*, 31 Dec 1884, p. 2; 31 Oct 1933, p.11.

¹¹⁸ *AS*, 17 Dec 1888, p.4.

¹¹⁹ *AS*, 18 Oct 1889, p.2; 19 Dec 1889, p.4.

¹²⁰ *AS*, 16 Jul 1891, p.9.

¹²¹ *AS*, 11 Nov 1891, p.3.

¹²² *AS*, 14 Aug 1896, p.1.

¹²³ *AS*, 7 Feb 1899, p.5; 30 May 1899, p.7.

¹²⁴ *NZH*, 22 Feb 1902, p.8; 8 Mar 1902, p.7.

¹²⁵ *AS*, 31 Oct 1933, p.11.

¹²⁶ *AS*, 27 Oct 1933, p.1.

¹²⁷ In 1925, Bouskill junior purchased the Artistic Memorial Company in Symonds Street: *AS*, 6 Nov 1925, p.1.

Key Physical Dates

1915	Original construction
c.1916-18	Modification – Additional name plate added to the obelisk
c.1919	Modification – Additional inscriptions added to the base
pre-1969	Modification – One shield naming AHB Board members replaced by blank shield
c. 1969	Modification – Memorial dismantled and removed to AHB storage sheds
2000	Modification – Memorial restored and re-installed beside Launch Offices without bottom two steps, spire, and glass beacon orb. Stone ball added to apex, and inscription added to blank shield
2021-2	Relocation – Memorial relocated 175m east to its current location Modification – Two lower steps added; modern stone ball at apex of monument replaced by ironwork and glass orb replicating the original 1915 design

Uses

Transport	Navigation Lights – Water Transport (Former)
Commemoration	Memorial – World War One

2.3. Chattels

There are no chattels included in this List entry.

2.4. Sources

Sources Available and Accessed

Documentary material available during the preparation of this report included information in the Auckland Harbour Board archives, held by the New Zealand Maritime Museum Hui Te Ananui a Tangaroa. The archive includes annual reports, board minutes, committee reports and a quantity of other information such as photographs.

Information held by the Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, included a number of maps, plans and photographs of the waterfront area from the 1880s to today, available online at <https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/digital/>. Digitised newspaper accounts about the development of the waterfront, the erection of the memorial, and later

plans for the site were available on the National Library's digitised collection at Paperspast: <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers> .

A detailed registration report for a Historic Place by Martin Jones (2010) provided further information about the development of Queens Wharf and contextual information.

Publications about the Auckland Harbour Board and the development of the Ports of Auckland included John Barr's *The Ports of Auckland* (1926), John Rose's *Akarana: The Ports of Auckland* (1971), and an article by Gavin McLean in Ian Hunter and Dianne Morrow's *City of Enterprise: Perspectives on Auckland Business History*, Auckland (2006). Chris Maclean and Jock Phillips' *The Sorrow and the Pride: New Zealand War Memorials* and Jock Phillips' *To The Memory: New Zealand's War Memorials* provided valuable contextual information about First World War memorials in New Zealand.

Located on public land, the physical fabric of the site, notably the Memorial Beacon, was available and accessed for analysis in early 2023.

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3. SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT¹²⁸

3.1. Section 66 (1) Assessment

This place has been assessed for, and found to possess architectural, historical, and social significance or value. It is considered that this place qualifies as part of New Zealand's historic and cultural heritage.

Architectural Significance or Value

The First World War Memorial Beacon is architecturally significant as New Zealand's first built monument to the Great War. It represents the earliest manifestation of a memorial type - freestanding stone obelisks incorporating rolls of honour and imperial iconography - that became widespread throughout the country in response to high levels of community feeling towards the conflict and its impacts. It also incorporates numerous distinctive or uncommon features that reflect its role as a prototype. These include its functional beacon design and rolls of honour that commemorate all enlisted employees of the organisation that funded its creation – the Auckland Harbour Board (AHB).

The First World War Memorial Beacon is additionally architecturally significant for its design by the AHB's engineer, W.H. Hamer. Having previously held the important position of Resident Engineer of the London and India Dock Company in England, Hamer was at the forefront of technological developments in New Zealand through his modernisation of the memorial's associated, early twentieth-century waterfront.

The memorial's beacon element and other original design components were fully restored to the monument in 2021-2

Historical Significance or Value

The monument has high historical significance for the strength and longevity of its connections with the First World War, a conflict of national and international importance.

¹²⁸ For the relevant sections of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, see Appendix 4: Significance Assessment Information.

Created at an unusually early stage in the war, it remained a 'living memorial' throughout the rest of the conflict's duration and subsequently. It particularly demonstrates the impact of the world's first global, industrialised war on local communities, in this instance a workforce that saw high levels of enlistment. It reflects the strong ties that bound New Zealand to Great Britain in the early twentieth century, and the commitment of many organisations and individuals in this country to the British Empire.

The First World War Memorial Beacon has particular significance for its connections with New Zealand involvement at Gallipoli – regarded by some as a defining event in the development of this country's national identity. It is also notable for its association with other campaigns specifically commemorated on the memorial, and the Treaty of Versailles, which formally concluded the conflict in July 1919, shortly after which the monument was festooned with lights during peace celebrations.

The First World War Memorial Beacon is also historically significant for its close connections with the Auckland Harbour Board (AHB), an important Auckland institution that created the memorial as a rare occupational monument in New Zealand erected to the conflict. The AHB managed the ports on which the city depended for its economic well-being, and had particularly close ties with Britain as part of the latter's imperial commercial and trading network.

The monument has additional importance for reflecting ongoing attitudes to the First World War and international conflict in the later twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, including a revival of interest in remembering the conflict. Relocation of the monument to its current position from a more distant site in 2021-2 occurred as a direct consequence of centenary commemorations, and has reinforced its historical associations and function as a prominent feature of the Auckland waterfront.

Social Significance or Value

The place has social significance as a public monument. It commemorates an event that retains strong public interest. Dedicated to local men, its initial re-erection on Quay Street in 2000 and subsequent relocation to its current, more prominent position on central Auckland's public waterfront demonstrates on-going interest in remembering those who served and suffered in overseas conflict. The memorial's refurbishment and restoration to its original monumental proportions and design in 2021-22 additionally demonstrates ongoing public interest in the monument and its commemorative role, both nationally and locally.

3.2. Section 66 (3) Assessment

This place was assessed against the Section 66(3) criteria and found to qualify under the following criteria a, b, e, f, g, h, j and k. The assessment concludes that this place should be listed as a Category 1 historic place.

(a) The extent to which the place reflects important or representative aspects of New Zealand history

The First World War Memorial Beacon has outstanding significance as the first New Zealand expression of an international phenomenon of built war memorials commemorating the First World War. It is notable for its construction while the war was ongoing. Remembrance of the conflict through construction of such memorials became an extensive and important practice for communities throughout New Zealand, reflecting the seismic impact of the First World War on this country's society.

The monument also has outstanding significance for the unusual extent to which its history of creation and modification, including recent relocation and refurbishment, reflects changing attitudes towards war commemoration in New Zealand over more than a century, from early desires to acknowledge the war effort and its impacts, to later declining interest in remembrance in the mid- to late twentieth century, and the resurgence of commemoration in the twenty-first century.

The monument directly reflects other important aspects of national experience linked with the Great War, including the high proportion of service and mortality for men of military age. The number of servicemen commemorated on the memorial who did not return is broadly comparable with the national proportion. A greater percentage of New Zealand men of eligible age died in the conflict than from any other British Dominion. Almost a tenth of New Zealand's population served overseas.

The place demonstrates the strength of connections that bound New Zealand to the British Empire in the early twentieth century, including through a shared ideology and extensive commercial ties.

(b) The association of the place with events, persons, or ideas of importance in New Zealand history

The place has special significance for the strength and longevity of its associations with the First World War, the first global, industrialised conflict in human history. It is

particular connections with the Gallipoli campaign - a major event in the development of New Zealand's national identity. The monument is the only built war memorial known to have been conceived and erected during the course of warfare at Gallipoli and was first used in the same week that New Zealand troops were evacuated from the battlefield. The memorial commemorates numerous individuals who fought and in some cases were killed or wounded in this campaign. In addition to other fields of combat and service, Gallipoli is specifically referred to on the monument. The memorial is also especially notable for its commemoration of the Treaty of Versailles, possibly the only built monument in New Zealand to do so.

The First World War Memorial Beacon is significant as a rare example of an occupational monument erected to the conflict. It is notable for the strength of its connections with the Auckland Harbour Board (AHB), an important local institution. Both the land that the structure was originally built on, and that on which it is currently situated, was reclaimed and used by the AHB.

The monument is also significant for its close associations with its designer W.H. Hamer, a notable engineer who created an innovative scheme for developing the Auckland waterfront in 1904 - a remodelling that still substantially survives. The place has some significance for its connections with John Bouskill, who had previously erected a memorial to the New Zealand Wars at Pokeno which has been regarded as 'a foretaste of a new era in monument-building'.

(e) The community association with, or public esteem for the place

Community association with, and public esteem for First World War Memorial Beacon is demonstrated both through its initial creation and maintenance as a 'living monument' in a prominent public place and, after a late twentieth-century hiatus when it was placed in storage, its reinstallation, relocation and refurbishment in the early twenty-first century. These efforts have restored the memorial to its original design and monumental scale as well as reconnecting the structure with the Waitematā and other Harbour Board buildings.

(f) The potential of the place for public education

The place has outstanding value for the unusual extent to which it can convey information about important aspects of the First World War - an event of national and international importance - and the commemoration of this conflict. As New Zealand's first built monument to the Great War, and also utilised as a 'living memorial', it is rare

in its ability to provide public education about the evolution of the conflict from the Gallipoli campaign onwards - including other overseas fields of operation, the Treaty of Versailles and peace celebrations - as well as community attitudes to the world's first global, industrialised war. The monument's potential is especially enhanced by its prominent position in one of the country's busiest thoroughfares and recreational precincts, close to Auckland's main Ferry Building for local commuters and Queen and Princes Wharves for international cruise ship visitors.

With a varied history of removal and relocation in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, it also has an unusual capacity to demonstrate changing attitudes to remembrance during this period, including upsurging interest reflected by national and local centenary commemorations. It forms a notable and distinctive part of a wider historic area capable of providing public education about New Zealand's maritime history and international connections, and the involvement of its diverse peoples, including Māori and Pasifika communities, in these developments.

(g) The technical accomplishment, value, or design of the place

The place has outstanding technical value as a pioneering example of monumental design commemorating the First World War. It is New Zealand's first freestanding, built monument to the conflict, incorporating many of what would become commonplace features for such memorials throughout New Zealand in subsequent years. These elements include a stone obelisk form, rolls of honour, and imperial iconography – the first of these not generally featured on earlier war memorials in this country, such as to the South African War. The monument incorporates some notable aspects that were not subsequently widely taken up, including a combined ornamental and functional design, and incorporation of plaques focussing on all enlistees rather than servicemen who died. In this, it reflects its role as an initial prototype, unusually created while the war was still in progress.

(h) The symbolic or commemorative value of the place

The First World War Memorial Beacon has special value for its commemorative functions. It was created to remember local enlistees in an international conflict with seismic impacts on local communities. The monument's commemorative value is enhanced by its function as a 'living memorial', which was added to and modified as the conflict progressed and was concluded. It includes commemorative features that are considered

rare on monuments of its type, including its incorporation of plaques commemorating all enlistees and another referring to the Treaty of Versailles which established peace.

(j) The importance of identifying rare types of historic places

The First World War Memorial Beacon has special value as a rare type of monument, forming the only known example connected with the Great War to have been used as a beacon, and a rare example of a First World War monument created to acknowledge the contribution of employees of a specific workforce. Both of these elements directly reflect the unusually early context in which the structure was designed and created, most other monuments having been erected in the years subsequent to the conflict. Design and use of the monument as a beacon is unusual internationally.

(k) The extent to which the place forms part of a wider historical and cultural area

The First World War Memorial Beacon is significant as a notable contributor to an important and well-preserved wider area that demonstrates the development of the Auckland waterfront and the nature of New Zealand's connections with the rest of the world in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Reinstated in 2021 to a position reflecting its original location in the historical landscape, the monument makes a particular contribution to this area through its distinctive nature, important history and visual prominence. The wider area contains a large number of directly related features that formed part of its contemporary cityscape. These are recognised by an unusually high density of listed historic places and three historic areas, including the Harbour Historic Area which the place forms part of. Elements of a similar age – and with which it was closely associated – such as two wharf pavilions and the Ferry Building, remain in existence a short distance away. The place also lies within an important ancestral Māori landscape associated with Waitematā harbour and the foreshore.

Summary of Significance or Values

The place has outstanding significance for the strength and longevity of its associations with the First World War, the first global, industrialised conflict in human history. It represents the first New Zealand expression of an international phenomenon of built war memorials commemorating this war. It forms a pioneering design for such a monument, incorporating many of what would become commonplace features for First World War memorials throughout New Zealand. It also encompasses rare features, such

its use as a beacon, which are consequent to its early creation while the war was in progress.

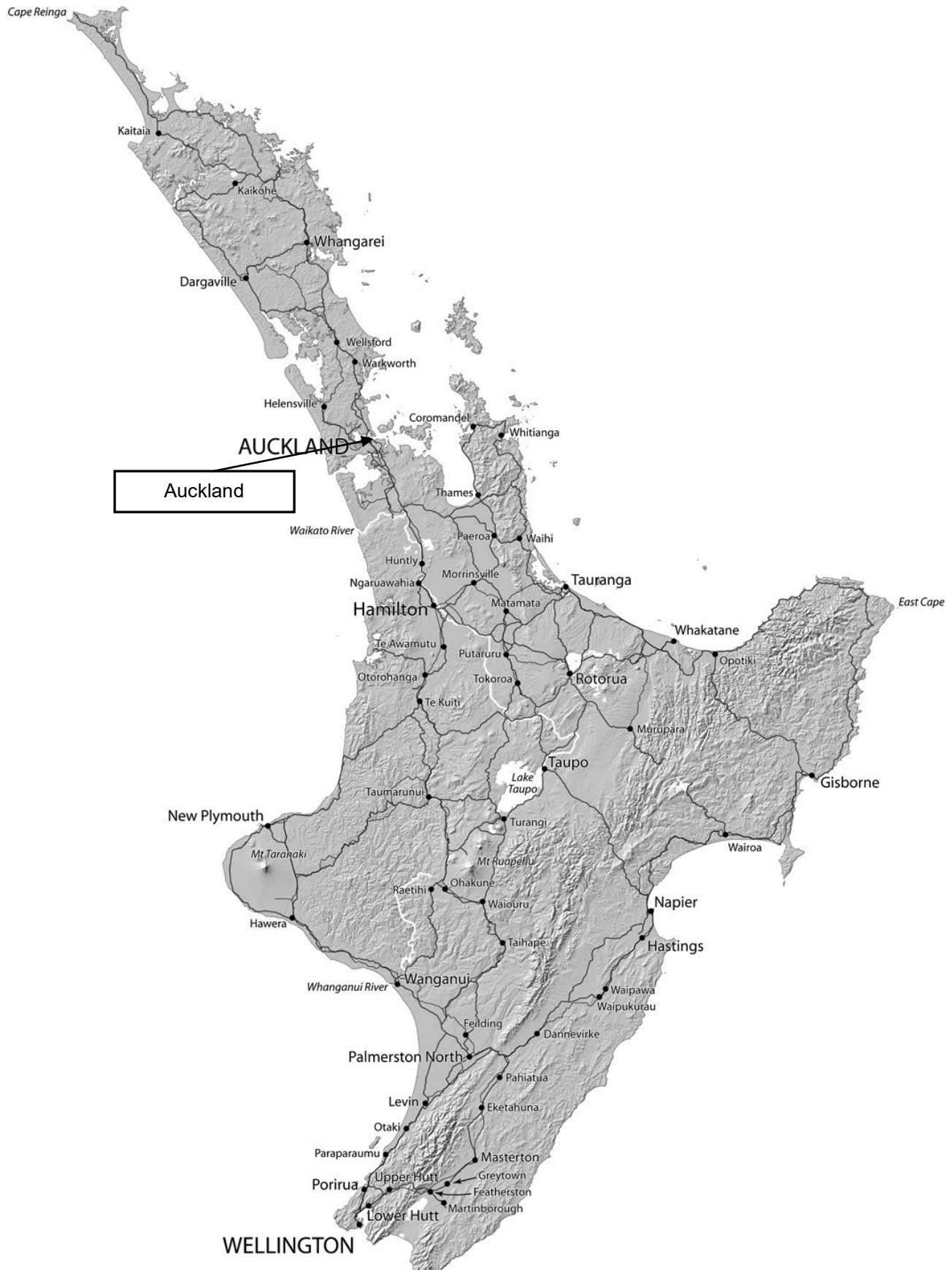
The place has also outstanding value for the unusual extent to which it can convey information to the public about important aspects of the war. As New Zealand's first built monument to the conflict and also utilised as a 'living memorial', it is rare in its ability to provide public education about the development of the First World War from the Gallipoli campaign onwards, as well as subsequent community attitudes to war commemoration. New Zealand's participation at Gallipoli has been considered particularly significant in the evolution of New Zealand's identity. The memorial is also especially notable for its commemoration of the Treaty of Versailles, possibly the only built monument in New Zealand to do so.

The monument retains special commemorative value into the present, as demonstrated by its relocation to a more prominent site that reflects its original landscape context, and refurbishment to its initial design in 2021-2.

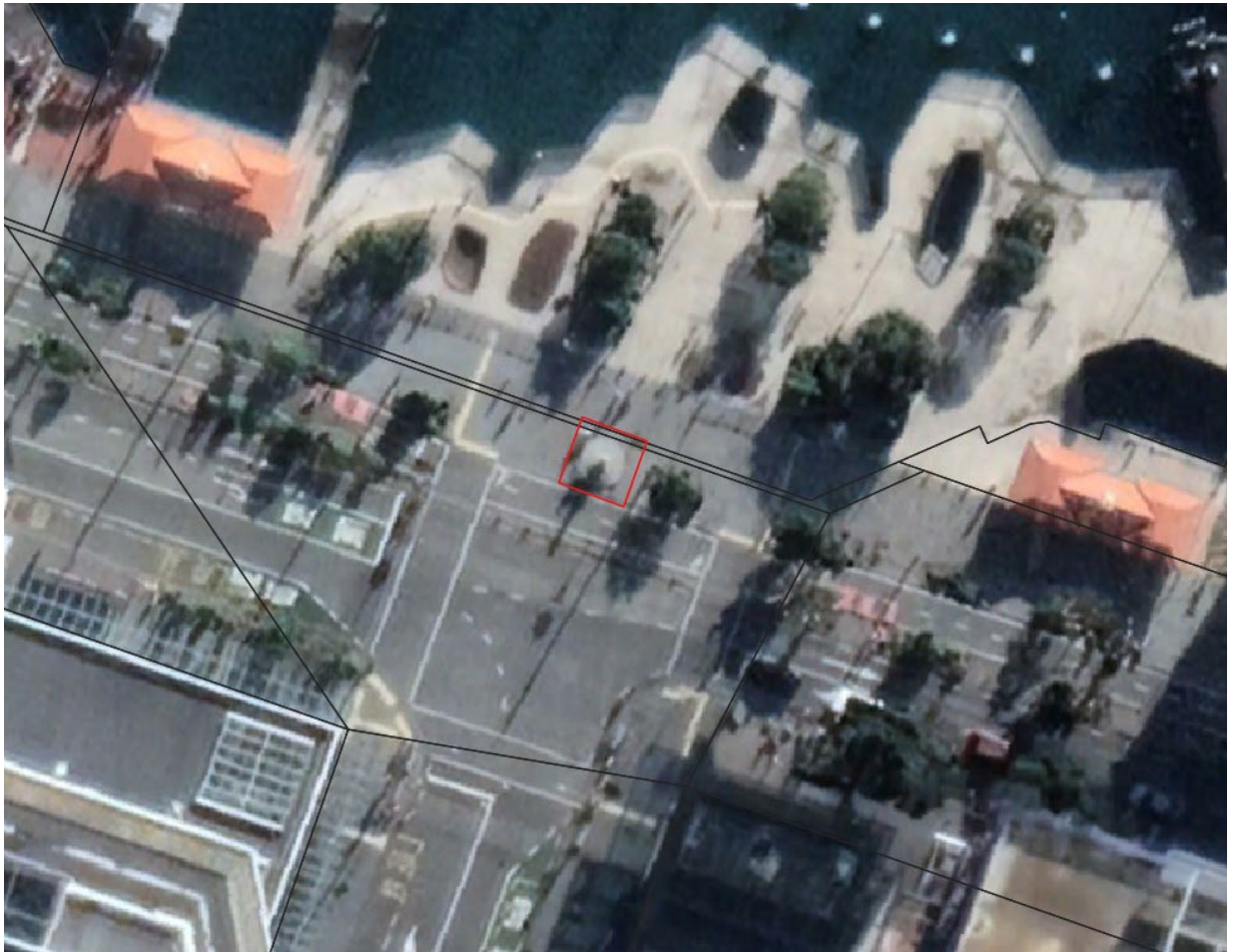
4. APPENDICES

4.1. Appendix 1: Visual Identification Aids

Location Maps



Maps of Extent



Extent of First World War Memorial Beacon, outlined in red

(QuickMap with Google Earth overlay)

Extent includes the land described as part Legal Road, part Lot 16 DP 131565 (RT NA77A/384), and part Pt Lot 37 DP 131568, North Auckland Land District and the structure known as First World War Memorial Beacon thereon. The extent incorporates an area 2.8m in each cardinal direction from the centre of the monument, extending 1m beyond the outer face of the monument's lower step.

Current Identifier

Legal Road

Road	
Road Id	247666
Road PAR ID	5251505
Road Parcel Value	
Road Appellation Value	
Road Area	
Road Nonsurvey def	
Road Parcel intent	
Road Calculated Area	
Road Land Dist	North Auckland
Road Title Reference	
Road Statute Action	
Road Statute Purpose	
Road Statute Name	
Road Statute Comments	
X (New Zealand Map Grid)	2,667,875.577
Y (New Zealand Map Grid)	6,482,794.258
Graphical NZMG X	2,667,875.58
Graphical NZMG Y	6,482,794.26
Id	5251505
Legal revision	03-Jan-23
Label	
Graphical Area (Hectares)	0.1368
Graphical Perimeter (m)	172.80
Report Generated from Quickmap (http://www.quickmap.co.nz) on Friday, 10 February 2023. Information provided by this service is sourced from third parties. Custom Software can not and does not provide any warranties or assurances of any kind whatsoever in relation to any data or materials provided through this service. Any person wishing to rely on the information shown must independently verify such information.	

(QuickMap Property Information)

Lot 37 DP 131568

Parcel	
Details	Click Here
Id	7067537
Island	North
Legal revision	03-Jan-23
Section	Pt Lot 37
Plan	DP 131568
Parcel Area	
Title	
Estate type	
Purpose	
Owner	
Corporate	
Historic Owner	
Statute	
Statute Historic	
Topology Class	Primary
Land District	North Auckland
Parcel intent	FEE SIMPLE TITLE
Total area	
Nonsurvey def	(DP 397737) 12-08950060505 12-08950060502 12-08950034700 12-08950060501 12-08950020507 12-08950070608 12-08950060607 12-08950060214 12-08950070503 12-08950070209 12-08950060509 12-08950060217 12-

(QuickMap Property Information)



**RECORD OF TITLE
UNDER LAND TRANSFER ACT 2017
FREEHOLD
Search Copy**



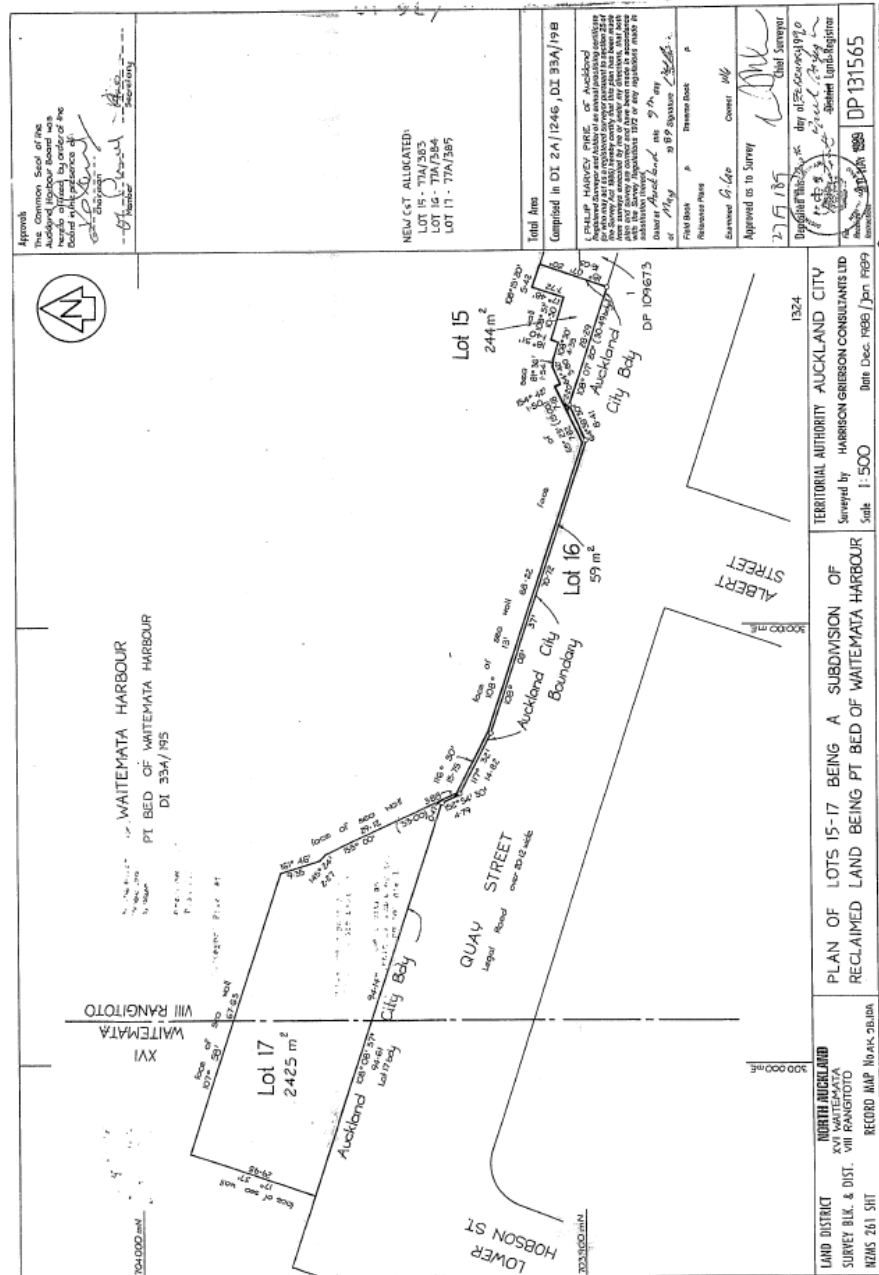

R. W. Muir
Registrar-General
of Land

Identifier **NA77A/384**
Land Registration District **North Auckland**
Date Issued 26 February 1990
Prior References
DI 2A/1246 DI 33A/198

Estate Fee Simple
Area 59 square metres more or less
Legal Description Lot 16 Deposited Plan 131565
Registered Owners
Auckland Council

Interests

Subject to a right to lead, convey, drain and transmit electrical current and impulses, and gas, telecommunications, water and sewage rights over part marked X on DP 186713 created by Transfer D311139.7 - 15.9.1998 at 10.41 am
Subject to a right of way over part marked X on DP 186713 created by Transfer D311139.13 - 15.9.1998 at 10.41 am
Subject to a right of way (pedestrian) (in gross) over the within land in favour of the Auckland Regional Transport Authority created by Easement Instrument 7566979.3 - 5.10.2007 at 9:00 am
Subject to a right of way (pedestrian) over all the within land created by Transfer 7631640.1 - 27.11.2007 at 9:00 am

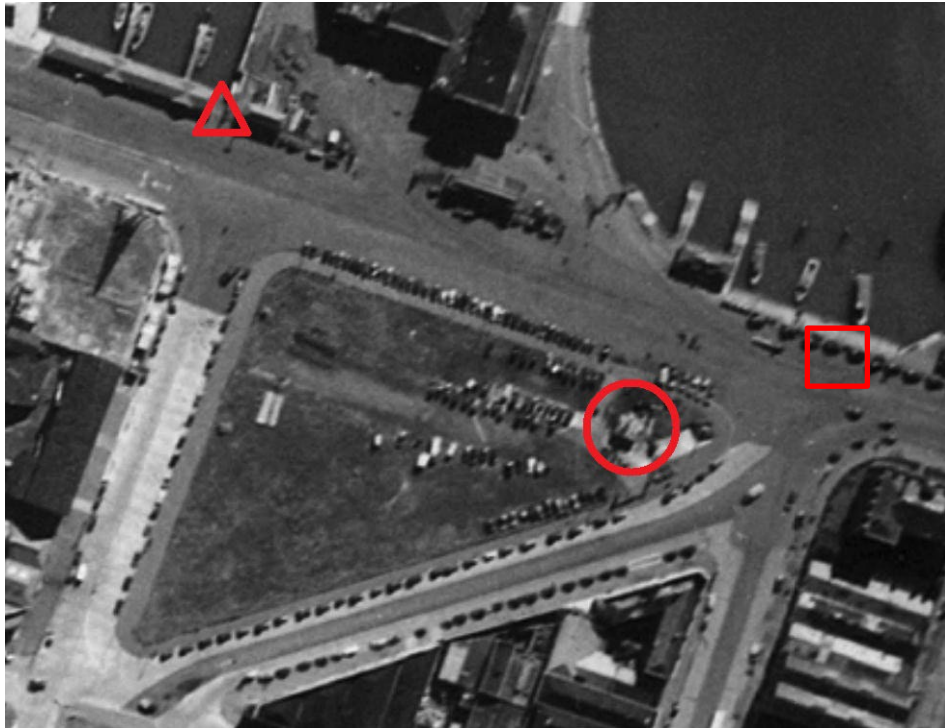


Transaction ID 446821
Client Reference afoster001

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4.2. Appendix 2: Visual Aids to Historical Information

Historical Photographs



Aerial photograph, c.1940, showing the original (1915) position of the memorial beacon (circled), its previous (2000) position (indicated by a triangle), and its current position (indicated by a square)

(Auckland Council, GIS Viewer <http://maps.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/aucklandcouncilviewer/>)

4.3. Appendix 4: Significance Assessment Information

Part 4 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Chattels or object or class of chattels or objects (Section 65(6))

Under Section 65(6) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, an entry on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero relating to a historic place may include any chattel or object or class of chattels or objects –

- a) Situated in or on that place; and
- b) Considered by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga to contribute to the significance of that place; and
- c) Proposed by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga for inclusion on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero.

Significance or value (Section 66(1))

Under Section 66(1) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may enter any historic place or historic area on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero if the place possesses aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, technological, or traditional significance or value.

Category of historic place (Section 66(3))

Under Section 66(3) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may assign Category 1 status or Category 2 status to any historic place, having regard to any of the following criteria:

- a) The extent to which the place reflects important or representative aspects of New Zealand history
- b) The association of the place with events, persons, or ideas of importance in New Zealand history
- c) The potential of the place to provide knowledge of New Zealand history
- d) The importance of the place to tangata whenua
- e) The community association with, or public esteem for, the place
- f) The potential of the place for public education
- g) The technical accomplishment, value, or design of the place
- h) The symbolic or commemorative value of the place

- i) The importance of identifying historic places known to date from an early period of New Zealand settlement
- j) The importance of identifying rare types of historic places
- k) The extent to which the place forms part of a wider historical and cultural area

Additional criteria may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act for the purpose of assigning Category 1 or Category 2 status to a historic place, provided they are not inconsistent with the criteria set out in subsection (3).

Additional criteria may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act for entering historic places or historic areas of interest to Māori, wāhi tūpuna, wāhi tapu, or wāhi tapu areas on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero, provided they are not inconsistent with the criteria set out in subsection (3) or (5) or in regulations made under subsection (4).

NOTE: Category 1 historic places are 'places of special or outstanding historical or cultural heritage significance or value.' Category 2 historic places are 'places of historical or cultural heritage significance or value.'