

“It’s so simple, it’s very elegant, it’s very inclusive and it really is a place where everyone is welcome”

Rosemary McKenzie-Ferguson (Founder of Work Injured Resource Connection and Senate Committee Advisor)

Category:

**AUSTRALIAN STONE
Best Civic Project**

Project: **The National Workers Memorial, ACT**

Architecture: **JPW Architects**

Designers: **JPW Architects, ICS, TTW Engineers**

Builder/Developer: **Pyramid Constructions, Rocksolid, SA Precast**

Stone supplied: **Austral Juperana granite (WA) and Balmoral Green granite (SA), AustralAsian Granites; Darwin Brown granite (NT), Southpac; Natone granite (Tas), Melocco Stone; Bluestone (Vic), Bam Stone; Mugga Mugga porphyry (NSW), Boral; Grandee granite (NSW), Marblecraft; Bianco Mist marble (Qld), Cairns Marble & Granite; Mintaro Slate (SA), Mintaro.**

Installed by: **Rocksolid**

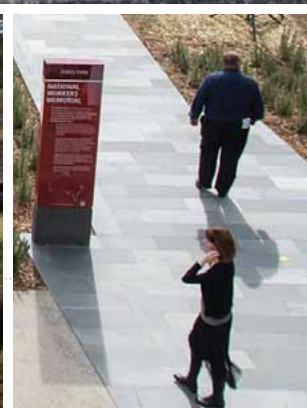
Simple and elegant

The National Workers Memorial is dedicated to those who have suffered as a result of a workplace tragedy. On average, 450 people are killed and 7000 injured each year due to work-related incidents. The National Workers Memorial is a place for people who are united by an understanding of the value and risks of work, and how the consequences of these risks, as they play out in our everyday lives, are felt across our country. Every life is precious and unique but the ‘ripple effect’ of upset and loss is universal.

A grove of columns, crafted from stone sourced from every state and territory, are arranged around a map of Australia and define the “Workers’ Glade”. Ripples in the pavement emanate from the base of each column, each inscribed with values and fragments of stories. Symbolic rosemary plantings, invite visitors to pick votive offerings for loved ones.

Stone is an integral and striking part of the commemorative nature of this memorial. The stone has been especially hand-crafted and carved by an expert stonemason. The design was developed in close collaboration between architect, engineers, stone specialists, masons and fabricators.

The stone columns are a very slender, seven metres in height, and only 280mm square in plan. To achieve this, stone units of 280 x 280 x 900mm were core-drilled, and fitted to a custom-designed stainless steel bracketing system devised to allow each stone to work as a composite structural unit with a stainless steel ‘backbone’. Each unit was epoxy-set into position over the brackets on site. **05**



The design draws together materials, craftspeople, historic references, personal stories and key messages from around the country. The story of how the memorial has been made is as important as the completed work itself: crafted by the hands of workers, and dedicated to the people of this country.