

General information regarding the Petition for the

Relocation of the Victorian Boer War (South African Soldiers) Memorial

Presently situated at the intersection of St.Kilda Road and Albert Road, Melbourne

IMPORTANT NOTE: This sheet is for general information only and is not part of the Petition. DO NOT print this document on the petition.

The relocation of this Memorial has become necessary due to the proposed construction of the Domain Rail Station.

The Memorial is of the highest significance to the military history of Victoria and Australia as it commemorates 'All Australians' who fought and died from 1899 to 1902. Initial enlistments were Colonial troops and following Federation in 1901 enlistments were Commonwealth troops even though actual recruitment was in the control of the individual States.



The Memorial was constructed on Crown Land with funds raised through public subscription and dedicated in 1924, ten years before the completion of the Shrine of Remembrance on the opposite side of St.Kilda Road. When more funds became available the four sandstone lions and their granite pedestals were subsequently added. The size and location of this site has, for many years, rendered this Memorial unsuitable for commemorative services and there is no Boer War Memorial on the Shrine grounds.

The present Government proposal is to disassemble the memorial, place it in storage for a number (?) of years pending completion of the Rail Station and then reconstruct it on the present inadequate, but by then substantially reduced site at the entrance to the Station.

The 'Melbourne Metro Rail Authority Environment Effects' Statement reports -

"The concept design for the re-siting of the Memorial to the west of the station box with stairs and platforms immediately to its east appears to be an unsatisfactory outcome which compromises the setting of the structure a change to the setting and presentation of the memorial is likely to result from its relocation on the site and there would be a consequent adverse impact on its aesthetic values."

It is therefore logical that this Memorial, the very foundation stone of our State's Military Memorial History and Heritage, should be located with Victoria's other important military memorials and monuments in the Shrine of Remembrance precinct.

The matter is of deep concern to the descendants of thousands of Victorian Boer War veterans and to the people of Victoria in general.

Your urgent support, by the signing of the attached petition and also seeking others to sign, is needed.

IMPORTANT: to ensure the signatures you collect are valid:

- Do NOT make any changes to the text of the petition or write any other comments or notes on the document.
- Print the two pages of the petition 'back to back' otherwise use only page 1. The second page is not valid unless printed on the back of page one. Stapled pages are NOT acceptable
- only collect signatures from Victorian residents, as other signatures are not valid and will not be counted
- only collect handwritten original signatures, not photocopies or scanned signatures
- do not allow anyone to sign for someone else, unless the other person is incapable of signing and agrees
- each signatory must include their name, address and signature (only Victorian addresses are acceptable)
- ensure people only sign sheets with the text of the petition at the top or on the front side.

NOTE : Page 2 may only be used if printed on the back of page 1.

Please return to - Geoff Dare, P O Box 113, Mulgrave, Vic, 3170

For further information contact Geoff on 0417 593 001 or email; nasho11@tpg.com.au