



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

16 October 2019

Københavns Kommune  
Technical and Environmental Administration  
Islands Brygge 37, 155  
Postbox 394  
2300 København S  
Denmark  
Att: Jens Peter Munk

Dear Technical and Environmental Administration,

Please accept this letter as the Australian Embassy's formal application to seek permission for the installation of a memorial stone in Churchillsparken in Østerbro for the purpose of commemorating Australian servicemen who are interred in Denmark, including those who died in support of Denmark's liberation during the Second World War.

### Background

During the Second World War, several members of the Royal Australian Airforce lost their lives flying missions over Denmark. While we know that 68 airmen lie buried around Denmark with the largest group at Esbjerg Cemetery, we are also aware that many servicemen lost their lives over Danish waters and have not been interred. An Australian soldier of the First World War who died while returning home after the war, is also interred in West Copenhagen Cemetery.

This proposed monument would be the only monument in Copenhagen attesting the combined sacrifices made by the Australian servicemen.

The ties between our countries are continuously growing stronger. Our armed forces are involved in many of the same conflicts around the world, fighting to protect our shared values of peace, democracy and freedom. While the geographical distance between our two countries is great, our peoples are closer than ever before. More than 60,000 Australian claim Danish heritage and Australia welcomes Danish exchange students and tourists every year. We have strong business ties and through the Crown Princess, Denmark will have a former Australian as queen.

A monument would not only honour the memory of those Australians who sacrificed their lives in support of the liberation of Denmark, but would also stand as a testament to the strength of the relationship between our countries and our shared values. Placing the monument in the capital of Denmark would be an important gesture.

Financing details of the monument have been finalised with the total cost for the development and installation estimated to be a maximum of DKK 155,000 including moms. The development and installation cost has been funded by the Embassy.

## Location:

It is proposed that the stone will be located at the north-eastern corner of the new Museum of the Danish Resistance in Churchillsparken in Østerbro, denoted with a red circle on the map (see Attachment A). The area is close to Sjællands Revolin, where the Danish monument to the Allied fallen during the Second World War stand. Furthermore, Churchillsparken also contains several other installations relating to international conflicts of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The location of the Museum of the Danish Resistance also compliments the proposed location of the memorial stone, as many missions flown were in direct support of the Danish resistance.

## Specification of materials and text:

The installation is being developed with the following specifications:

- Black granite with polished surfaces and rough sides. Black polished granite is often used in memorial stones as the surface becomes reflective, which adds to the solemn atmosphere. The monument will also be sloped to drain any rain.
- Measurements: length 140 cm, width 90 cm and depth 50 cm, with a sloped surface of 20 degrees.
- The lettering will be engraved with gold in ANTIKVA font.
- The stone will be engraved with the Golden Wattle (Australia's national flower)
- The logos of the Royal Australian Airforce and the Australian Army will also be included as inlays casted in bronze.
- The stone will be graffiti-treated.
- The text will read:

This stone stands in memorial to Australian Servicemen of the First and Second World wars who are at rest in Danish soil.


Their valiant sacrifice stands testament to the common devotion to freedom and democracy that our nations share.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

"Lest we forget"

## Memorial construction

While the memorial stone is being developed and will soon be ready to be installed we would like to ideally be able to make an announcement regarding the immediate establishment of a memorial. We would like to make this announcement in conjunction with the Embassy's Anzac Day commemorative service on 25 April.



The developer:

The stone is being developed and will be installed (including casting of the foundation) by Raadvad Stenhuggeri APS, out of their Gilleleje section. The point of contact for the development is Mr Stig Andersen of Raadvad Stenhuggeri. Raadvad Stenhuggeri was selected based on their services offered and previous experience – amongst other things with the restoration of Stockholm Castle, their work in Frederiksborg Slotshave and several other projects.

Raadvad Stenhuggeri can be reached by phone on 45 56 12 80 or via e-mail on [info@raadvadsten.dk](mailto:info@raadvadsten.dk).

Rounding off:

In summary, we request in the first instance the permission for the installation of a memorial stone in Churchillsparken with the abovementioned materials and text.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Ellen Miller

Ambassador

Australian Embassy, Denmark