



OFFICE OF AUSTRALIAN WAR GRAVES

Hobart Garden of Remembrance (GRM) Redevelopment Progress Updates

This document provides chronological progress updates on the redevelopment of the Hobart Garden of Remembrance (GRM).

2026 Progress

- Praxis Environment was engaged to conduct detailed historical, archaeological and heritage investigations. Its research covered the former pauper burial ground, cemetery records, aerial imagery and burial registers. Praxis prepared a Statement of Historical Archaeological Potential, Heritage Impact Assessment and Exhumation Plan, which informed decisions and approvals.
- The Regulator under the Burial and Cremation Act 2019 and the Director of Public Health were consulted on exhumation pathways.
- Stakeholder consultation was undertaken in Hobart on 26 February 2026.
- Engagement continued with key stakeholders, including Cornelian Bay Cemetery managers, heritage and health authorities, local government and Aboriginal heritage representatives.
- The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works approved the Medium Works Notification.
- Heritage Tasmania and the Tasmanian Heritage Council also granted Minor Works approval.
- A scope of works was developed to support a market tender for a safe, accessible and dignified commemorative site with capacity for future commemorations.
- Suitable commercial premises were identified to temporarily accommodate depot staff during demolition and construction.
- A demolition tender was released to the market.
- Further stakeholder consultation was undertaken in Hobart on 28 and 29 July 2026.

Progress to the End of 2025

- Structural assessments were undertaken.
- The full site was barricaded until the entry pavilion was remediated. Barricading was then limited to walls assessed as compromised.
- The entry pavilion was remediated, including works associated with the former visitor entrance.
- OAWG began assessing alternative sites.

- Legal advice was obtained on the appropriate response if human remains were discovered during subsequent construction.
- Archaeology firms were engaged early, and procurement was planned to support the thorough investigation, exhumation and reinterment of remains.
- A design firm was engaged to develop a new Hobart GRM using polished concrete panels on steel poles, consistent with engineering advice and the ACT GRM style. The agreed design principles were simple, functional, inviting, respectful, reflective and timeless.
- A 60% design concept was completed.
- Cost estimates were prepared to confirm the budget available for the redevelopment works.
- Replacement bronze plaques were procured.
- Planning, procurement and site investigations were conducted.



THEN, NOW AND IN PERPETUITY
