



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Work Commences on Eastern Precinct

The Australian War Memorial today commenced work on the development of the grounds on the eastern side of the building.

The project, to be carried out by PBS Building, will restore the current temporary carpark to a landscaped environment, provide an underground carpark for almost 200 cars, improve bus parking and access for schools, provide a new café facility and incorporate the National Service memorial.

“Designed by award winning architect, Richard Johnson of Johnson Pilton Walker, this long-planned project will greatly improve the amenity of the Eastern Precinct for visitors and the local community,” Director of the Australian War Memorial Steve Gower said.

“It will enhance the natural landscape and reinforce the corridor of open woodland down Mt Ainslie and on to the Memorial’s grounds, increasing the number of trees on the site and re-establishing the open woodland as a significant part of the site.

“The project has been planned for some time, and will bring much needed construction work to Canberra region during these difficult economic conditions,” Steve Gower said.

During the construction period, there will be some changes to the Memorial’s site. The Outpost Cafe and its external toilets will be closed. The Memorial will still be open from 10am to 5pm each day, with toilet and cafe access inside the building.

Public parking will still be available; however access parking for people with a disability and coach parking will be relocated in late May.

For more information see [www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au) or call (02) 6243 4346.

The project is expected to be completed by ANZAC Day 2010.

**Further information:**

<http://www.awm.gov.au/projects/>

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