

How much gallery space will there be in the Australian War Memorial after the current redevelopment and how much of that will be devoted to the Australian Frontier Wars?

- A. 9954 sq m gallery space in pre-redevelopment Memorial¹
- B. 7748 sq m new gallery space produced by redevelopment²

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- C. 17 702 sq m total gallery space after redevelopment
 - D. 410 sq m gallery space to be devoted after redevelopment to 'pre-1914 conflicts', i.e. New Zealand Wars, Sudan, Boxer Rebellion, Boer War AND Frontier Wars³
 - E. 2.3 per cent = D. as a percentage of C.⁴ Note that the figure at D. includes space for four small imperial wars as well as the Frontier Wars. 'Planning the content [of the pre-1914 gallery] will commence in 2025. The decision on space allocation specific to frontier violence, will be made during the interpretive design process in 2026' (source: note 3 below).

¹ August 2023 emailed advice to Honest History from senior War Memorial officer.

² March 2023 [advice to Honest History from senior War Memorial officer](#).

³ ['Is this "substantial"? War Memorial finds another two square metres for the Frontier Wars \(and four other Pre-1914 conflicts\)', Honest History, 5 May 2023.](#)

⁴ This is the relevant calculation (rather than D. as a percentage of B.) as the Memorial has advised that the pre-1914 galleries will be developed in *refurbished* rather than new space. Note also that the 7748 sq m figure at B. is not beyond dispute. Former War Memorial officer Richard Llewellyn [believes the figure is only 4291 sq m \(comments\)](#); substituting Llewellyn's figure for B. above makes total gallery space after redevelopment (C.) just 14 245 sq m and D. as a percentage of C. becomes 2.9 per cent.'

Bottom line: Honest History has followed [the last 12 months of the Memorial' twists and turns on this subject](#). The War Memorial's 'much broader, much deeper' depiction of frontier conflict (then Council Chair Nelson in September 2022), its 'substantial' presentation of this part of our history (current Council Chair Beazley in early 2023), turns out, on the Memorial's own figures, *to be taking up just 2.3 per cent of total gallery space after the redevelopment – and that small proportion is to be shared with the contingents sent to the New Zealand Wars, the Sudan, the Boxer Rebellion and the Boer War*. Those contingents lost around 600 men killed, while the Frontier Wars killed somewhere between 20 000 (the Memorial's own figure) and 100 000 Australians.

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