



Aerial view of the model of the Martyrs Memorial to be erected at Sydney's Rookwood cemetery.

Martyrs memorial to be built at Rookwood, Sydney

A monument to the memory of the six million Jews who perished during the Second World War is to be erected at Rookwood Cemetery.

The project is a combined venture of the Jewish Messrs M. Mann, M. Beirman, C. Koss and L. Rosen Cemetery Trust and the Sydney Chevr Kadisha.

Plans for the proposed memorial were released late last week at a meeting of the two organisations and communal representatives.

Trust chairman, Mr Felix Freeman, said that the community will not be called upon to financially assist in erecting the memorial

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He said the memorial will be a communal effort for the future generation.

Estimated cost of the project is \$17,000 and the memorial has been designed by architect, Mr H. Seidler, and engineers, P. O. Miller, Milston and Ferris, who have

Milston and Ferris, who have donated their services.

The memorial will be situated in an acre-and-a-half of land near the main road at the cemetery.

It will carry the inscription "*In memory of six million Jews killed by the Nazis during the War 1939-45.*"

"May the world never again witness such inhumanity of man against man."

Appropriately the shape of the Memorial evokes a sense of confinement, the enclosure of a concentration camp.

The plan form of the surrounding walls is the elliptical shape of an egg. The egg has always been symbolic of resurrection and immortality. The focal point in the "compound" of the Memorial is a large (14 ft. high) central wall carrying the simple inscription cut into polished black granite.

Continuously around the 6 ft. 6 in. high enclosing concrete walls (poured in rough boarded forms) are twenty names of the most infamous extermination camps. These are composed of letters cast into the wall and form an integral part of it.

The entrance is formed by half elliptical assembly space defined by black granite seats. From it a path leads into the compound through

into the compound through bronze gates. This path is surfaced with cobble stone paving in the characteristic wavy pattern used on the streets of many central Euro-

pean cities—the streets over which most of the victims would have been herded to their death.

The rest of the compound is surfaced with jagged gravel, uncomfortable to step or walk on—an appropriate foreground to the names of places, the horror-meaning of which the Memorial aims to imprint on the mind of the visitor.

Representatives at the meeting were *Mr H. S. Goldstein*, president of the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies, *Mr H. Nebenzahl*, president of the Polish Federation, *Rabbi Dr Y. Kemelman*, (Chevra Kadisha executive), *Messrs M. Griffiths, S. Redelman* and *N. Marmot* (Trust members).



