

National Trust of Australia



NATIONAL TRUST

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The National Trust extremely concerned over the remains of soldiers uncovered during current road works at Gallipoli

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) is deeply concerned about the current road works being done along the Second Ridge Road at Gallipoli.

In 2005 the National Trust expressed its concerns about the preservation of human remains during road works along the Coast Road at Anzac Cove. Again in 2007 the Trust made representations to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Mr Billson, the Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs (now current Minister) Mr Griffin, and the former Prime Minister, Mr Howard, regarding human remains along the Second Ridge Road.

The ACT National Trust Heritage Officer, Dr Peter Dowling, has visited Gallipoli several times over the past four years and on each occasion he has found human bone eroding to the surface along the Second Ridge and in other areas of high tourist impact. "We have alerted the Office of Australian War Graves and have proposed a survey technique which would locate and conserve any human bone found on the surface or during road works."

"The Second Ridge Road marks the line of no-man's-land between the Allied and Turkish lines. It was the area most heavily fought for during the whole Gallipoli campaign."

The Trust was quite shocked to hear media reports of human bone being exposed and damaged by road work activity along the Second Ridge.

Dr Dowling stated that these young soldiers whose bodies have never been recovered, who have no headstones to identify them, deserve better than to have their remains disturbed by heavy earth moving equipment. "It really does not matter which side they fought on, they lost their lives there and they are due our deepest respect and admiration.

For further information contact:

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