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# ANZAC MEMORIAL BRIDGE, KAIPARORO

## SUBMISSION TO THE NEW ZEALAND HISTORIC PLACES TRUST

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### BACKGROUND

The Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) is the lead national professional body representing the engineering profession in New Zealand. It has approximately 11,500 Members, including a cross-section from engineering students, to practising engineers, to senior Members in positions of responsibility in business. IPENZ is non-aligned and seeks to contribute to the community in matters of national interest giving a learned view on important issues, independent of any commercial interest.

As the lead engineering organisation in New Zealand, IPENZ has responsibility for advocating for the protection of New Zealand's engineering heritage. A key element of protecting engineering heritage is to ensure that the contribution it has made, and is continuing to make, to the development of our modern society is widely recognised and appreciated. Profiling engineering heritage is also a means of ensuring society has an understanding of the value of engineering and of the engineering profession.

### SUBMISSION

This submission provides comment on the Significance Assessment, which is presented on pages 26 to 29 of the Registration Report entitled *ANZAC Memorial Bridge Historic Place Report* ("the report").

### AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE OR VALUE

IPENZ has no comments in relation to the aesthetic significance or value of Anzac Memorial Bridge.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OR VALUE

IPENZ notes the significant historical value of ANZAC Memorial Bridge. From the report it appears that ANZAC Memorial Bridge has significant historical value given its role as the local commemorative structure for ANZAC Day ceremonies.

IPENZ notes and supports the assessment that ANZAC Memorial Bridge is significant or of value given the role it played in linking the Wairarapa road infrastructure with State Highway 2.

## **SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE OR VALUE**

As stated above, IPENZ notes the significant role that ANZAC Memorial Bridge plays as the local commemorative structure for ANZAC Day ceremonies.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OR VALUE**

IPENZ notes that ANZAC Memorial Bridge was designed by Arthur Falkner. According to the report Mr Falkner used his local knowledge to design the arch design of the bridge to ensure the bridge was able to cope in the local environment and conditions.

We note that ANZAC Memorial Bridge is considered to have local technological significance or value “as one of the first, and only remaining, concrete bridges in the north Wairarapa”.

An IPENZ Member and specialist in bridges notes that the use of concrete bridges was well established by the early 1920s. The same Member also notes that a number of these bridges are still in use around the country.

## **CONCLUSION**

IPENZ supports the New Zealand Historic Places Trust’s proposal to register the ANZAC Memorial Bridge as a Category I historic place.

IPENZ appreciates the opportunity to make this submission and is able to provide further clarification if required.

Tim Davin

Director – Policy