

Commonwealth War Grave, Fromelles, Northern France

Our Services

- Assessment of Ground Conditions



Geotechnical Assessment of Ground Conditions

Arena Seating is to provide temporary tiered seating structures for the dedication of the new Fromelles Commonwealth War Grave near Lille, France in July 2010.

The site was the scene of a major battle in July 1916 that saw Australian and British casualties reach 6500 in a single day.

Rapid burial of the dead in mass graves occurred in 1916. Subsequently, between 2007 and 2009 some 250 bodies were recovered, identified as best they could be and re-interred in the new war grave site.

Very soft ground, Argiles ses Flandres, so typical of the Western Front meant all structures from the Sacrificial Cross to the peripheral wall and the beams on which the headstones were set were piled to a depth of 7m to 8m.

Concern on the strength of the near surface soils and their bearing suitability for the temporary structures for the dedication services was in doubt.

CGL attended site to determine in situ strength and CBR determination and made recommendations within a few days of commission to allow planning to proceed.

Client: Arena Seating