

# DAVID WILLIAMS POULNABRONE



The existing car park at Poulnabrone portal tomb is a square cut from the landscape that gives no regard to the site it serves. It is an example of a piece of large scale infrastructure unintelligently dominating a small meaningful place.

The new car park is defined by a single linear element - a wall that is always implying a movement outward into the landscape. The geometry of the existing car park is prescribed by the road, the proposed car park moves into the landscape, bringing vehicles around the wall - the first move into the land.

The wall follows a datum about which the landscape rises and falls, recessed an initial 1500mm into the soil. This reduces the visual impact of the car park as seen from the road, and physically brings you to ground, lowering you in before bringing you back out into the land.

The cast in situ concrete wall collects rainwater and groundwater by a drainage channel along its length, with water flowing downhill to the car park base level. Exaggerated weep-holes allow the wall itself to act as a water catchment. Collected water is stored in tanks within the wall and used to provide toilets for visitors, and to fill a trough for local animals on site.

