

Mankinholes Methodist Chapel Graveyard Memorial Survey

Background

Calderdale Methodist Circuit is responsible for the graveyard at Mankinholes. Some of the memorials contained in the graveyard are in an unstable condition and have the potential to cause harm or serious injury. **A survey was undertaken in October 2025 to consider the state of memorials**, to address safety concerns. This was undertaken by a firm of Chartered Architects: Historic Building Consultants. This has become especially important following the tragic events at Rawtenstall.

Methodology

Information was provided by the architect to allow a classification of the status of the monument. This was done based on a proportionate approach. Memorials have had one of the following classifications.

If memorials have been classified as Level 1, these are described as

Action is required to make the memorial safe or to stop the public accessing the memorial. This could be the permanent removal of the hazard or the temporary making safe of the hazard

If memorials have been classified as Level 2, these are described as

The memorial is not an immediate danger to the public but is not fully stable and will, therefore, need to be monitored every 12 months to assess any further deterioration of the memorial. The construction, material used, or position of the memorial may also qualify it as priority 2.

Finally, if memorials have been classified as Level 3, these are described as

The memorial appears stable. It should be reinspected in 5 years' time.

The initial survey identified a number of grave monument of concern.

Response

The Circuit responded to the survey, and followed this up with a further review in January 2025 with a local contractor, who has a great deal of experience working with graveyard. The Circuit has now instructed contractors to make safe those memorials of concern which have been classified as Level 1. This action will attempt to stabilise and secure monuments, where possible, but many monuments will be laid down, in the confines of the grave in a careful and respectful way.

The circuit is not currently taking any action in relation to Levels 2 memorials, but will continue to monitor these.

Responsibility for repairs

An owner, the Deed Holder or successor in title of a memorial, has the responsibility to maintain it so as not to present a hazard. They should then be asked to engage a suitably qualified memorial mason to agree the works with the Circuit and make the required repairs. All work should comply with the National Association of Memorial Masons Code of practice.

If you are the owner of any of the below monuments that require some action, then please contact us at the following email.

graveyards@calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk

A request to the grave owners or people visiting the graveyard, please do not simply stand the monument back up as this does not resolve the safety issues identified.

Graveyard Layout

As you approach the graveyard from the road, numbering commences at the left-hand side at 1. The rows start at row A at the very far end of the graveyard and then continue back. After row X, the row naming changes and there is X, X1, X2, XYZ, Y, Y1, Y2, Z, Z1, Z2 as you come back towards the road.

Status

The following monuments have been classified as Level 1, the below table shows these graves, details from the survey and a next steps response following a visit with the contractors.

Plot	Description	Height	Risk	Notes	Recommendation	Next steps after visit
A1	Headstone (Sykes)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay Flat
A7	Headstone (Grateley)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat, pending resetting by family	Found already flat on inspection
A14	Headstone (McKenna)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat, pending resetting by family	Lay Flat
D19	Headstone and Kerb (Sutcliffe)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay Flat
E3	Headstone (Glover)	C	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Laid flat at visit
E6	Headstone (Else)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay Flat
E19	Headstone (Brown)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay Flat
E23	Headstone and Kerb (Turner)	B	1	Plinth Loose	Dismantle and lay flat on grave or excavate and set at a greater depth.	Lay Flat
F6	Headstone and Kerb (Ninnis)	B	1	Leant Back	Straighten and pack vertical, consider setting deeper, or lay flat within grave.	Lay Flat
F18	Headstone (Marshall)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
G8	Rustic Headstone (Sutcliffe)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
G9	Headstone (Hiley)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
G12	Headstone (Hirst)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
H16	Stepped Cross (Hirst)	A	1	Shaft and Plinth loose	Dismantle to remove cross and lay in grave	Apply resin to secure, if this fails will lay flat
I11	Headstone (Pilling)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Laid flat at visit
J3	Headstone and Kerb (Sutcliffe)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat

J14	Stepped Cross and Kerb (Holmes)	A	1	Loose on Plinth	Remove cross and lay in grave	Lay flat
K9	Headstone (Sutcliffe)	C	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
K14	Headstone (Read)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
L8	Headstone (Mitchell)	B	1	Headstone loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Apply resin to secure, if this fails will lay flat
L10	Headstone, kerb and slabs (Hartley)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
L12	Headstone and kerb (Pickup)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
M4	Headstone (Mitchell)	B	1	Laid on one behind	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper, check memorial behind afterwards	Lay flat
M17	Headstone and kerb (Ashworth)	B	1	Headstone loose	Lay Flat (awkward due to kerbs) or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
N6	Headstone (Barritt)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay Flat - Check Stone behind after work
N17	Stepped cross (Walton)	A	1	Rocks	Dismantle and lay cross in grave	Lay flat
N19	Headstone and slab (Cockcroft)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat in grave	Lay flat
O2	Book (Alletson)	C	1	Book loose	Lay Flat in grave	Laid flat at visit
O8	Cross on base with slabs (Cockcroft)	A	1	All rocks	Dismantle and lay cross in grave	Lay flat
P3	Headstone (Marshall)	B	1	Fallen forward	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
Q3	Headstone (Whitaker)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Apply resin to secure, if this fails will lay flat
Q4	Headstone (Helliwell)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
Q9	Stepped Cross (Fletcher)	A	1	Loose	Remove cross and lay in grave	Lay flat
R7	Headstone (Barker)	A	1	Rocks	Lay Flat in grave	Lay flat
R11	Headstone (Tidswell)	B	1	Collapsing	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
R15	Stepped Cross (Dawson)	A	1	Rocks	Remove cross and lay in grave	Apply resin to secure, if this fails will lay flat
S3	Headstone (Dawson)	A	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat

S15	Obelisk on base (Sutcliffe)	A	1	Top loose	Remove top and place in grave	Lay flat
S22	Headstone (Parker)	A	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
S28	Headstone (Green)	B	1	Rocks	Lay within the kerb edge	Lay flat
T1	Stepped Cross (Oldfield)	A	1	Rocks on plinth	Remove cross and lay in grave	Lay flat
T13	Headstone (Brook)	B	1	Rocks	Lay flat in grave	Lay flat
T18	Stepped Cross (Fletcher)	A	1	Rocks on plinth	Remove cross and lay in grave	resin
T20	Headstone (Hirst)	A	1	Rocks	Lay flat in grave	Lay flat (need to prune tree)
T21	Headstone (Nightingale)	A	1	Rocks	Lay flat in grave	Lay flat
T24	Headstone (Hartley)	A	1	Rocks	Lay flat in grave	resin
U8	Headstone (Hirst)	B	1	Laid on one behind	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper, check memorial behind afterwards	resting on V8 - check after work on V8
U18	William Wilson	A	1	Rocks	Lay down if accessible	monument in tree - lay cross down
V5	Headstone (Marshall)	B	1	Rocks	Lay flat in grave	Lay flat
V8	Headstone (Sutcliffe)	B	1	Propped on on behind	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper, check memorial behind afterwards	Apply concrete at base to stabilise, if not possible then lay flat
V9	Headstone (Horsfall)	A	1	Propped on on behind	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Apply concrete at base to stabilise, if not possible then lay flat
V20	Headstone (Pilling)	A	1	Rocks	Remove from base and lay down	Lay flat
W19	Headstone (Meeks)	B	1	Loose	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
W24	Headstone (Thomas)	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Lay flat
Y2	Alred Cockcroft	A	1	Shaft loose	Remove cross and lay in grave	Apply resin to secure, if this fails will lay flat
L	John A. Gill	A	1	Rocks	Remove cross and lay in grave	Lay flat

Y2,6	James Lingard	A	2	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Apply concrete at base to stabilise, if not possible then lay flat
Z1, 13	Florence Greenwood	B	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper	Apply concrete at base to stabilise, if not possible then lay flat

The following were initially classified as Level 1 but after the follow up visit have been reclassified as Level 2, so show some movement, but do currently pose an immediate danger. The families of these monuments are invited to contact the circuit if they want to make remedial repairs.

Plot	Description	Height	Risk	Notes	Recommendation
F10a	Headstone (Sutcliffe)	B	2	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper
Q5	Large Cross (Sandbach)	A	2	Cross coming loose	
R8	Headstone (Hooson)	A	2	Rocks	Lay Flat in grave
S14	Headstone (Crabtree)	A	2	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper
X1,8	Headstone (Pilling)	A	2	Against Wall but rocks	Set Deeper or fix bracket to restrain to wall
Y7	Sarah Sutcliffe	A	1	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper
Y8	Eleanor Horsfall	A	2	Leant on one behind	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper, check memorial behind afterwards
Y11	Emma Fielden	A	2	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper

The following were classified as Level 2 in the survey. The families of these monuments are invited to contact the circuit if they want to make remedial repairs.

Plot	Description	Height	Risk	Notes	Recommendation
C19	Headstone (Slater)	C	2	Propped	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper
D11	Headstone (Howarth)	C	2	Slight Movement	Periodically monitor and review
F21	Small Headstone (Crowther)	C	2	Leant Back	Periodically monitor and review

G6	Small Headstone (Calvert)	B	2	Loose but propped	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper, check adjacent stone after
H21	Stepped Cross (Lingard)	A	2	Shaft slightly loose	Periodically monitor if movement becomes greater then remove cross and lay in grave
K3	Headstone (Hirst)	B	2	Rocks	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper
M6	Headstone (Leah)	B	2	Laid on one behind	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper, check memorial behind afterwards
N15	Headstone (Stocks)	B	2	Rocks Slightly	Periodically monitor and review
O5	Stepped Cross (Crabtree)	A	2	Moves slightly	Periodically monitor if movement becomes greater then remove cross and lay in grave
P6	Headstone and kerb (Wilson)	B	2	Moves very slightly	Periodically monitor and review
Q7	Stepped Cross (Crabtree)	A	2	Moves slightly	Periodically monitor if movement becomes greater then remove cross and lay in grave
Q8	Stepped Cross (Jones)	A	2	Moves very slightly	Periodically monitor if movement becomes greater then remove cross and lay in grave
S5	Headstone (Sutcliffe)	A	2	Moves slightly	Periodically monitor and review
S24	Headstone (Greenwood)	A	2	Propped in kerb	Periodically monitor if movement becomes greater then remove cross and lay in grave
T4	Headstone (Mitchell)	B	2	Moves very slightly	Periodically monitor and review
T22	Stepped cross (Wilson)	A	2	Rocks Slightly	Periodically monitor and review
U5	Headstone (Widdup)	B	2	Moves	Periodically monitor and review
U9	Headstone (Pilling)	A	2	Propping one behind	Periodically monitor and review if both are stable retain.
U25	Headstone (San Garde)	A	2	Moves very slightly	Periodically monitor and review
V2	Headstone (Holt)	A	2	Moves very slightly	Periodically monitor if movement becomes greater then remove upper section and lay in grave
V6	Headstone (Mitchell)	B	2	Moves	Lay Flat or excavate and set deeper
W5	Headstone (Hooson)	B	2	Leant	Periodically monitor and review
W7	Headstone (Newell)	B	2	Laid on one behind	Periodically monitor and review if both are stable retain.

W16	Headstone (Brookfield)	B	2	Propped on adjacent stone	Periodically monitor and review if both are stable retain.
X12a	Stepped cross (Speak)	A	2	Rocks	Periodically monitor and review
X30	Headstone (Prime)	B	2	Rocks	Periodically monitor and review
X1, 12	Headstone (Wild)	B	2	Moves very slightly	Periodically monitor and review
Y10	Morris	A	2	Top Loose	Remove Top and set withing grave
Y2,5	Martha Hartley	A	2	Slightly and Propping	Periodically monitor and review
Z1,7	Sally Thomas	B	2	Very Slight movement	Periodically monitor and review
Z1, 8	Florence A. San Garde	B	2	Very Slight movement	Periodically monitor and review
Z2, 4	Charles Crabtree	B	2	Very Slight movement	Periodically monitor and review
Z2, 5	Henry G. Cockcroft	B	2	Very Slight movement	Periodically monitor and review
Z2, 6	Emily Cockcroft	B	2	Propped on adjacent stone	Periodically monitor and review if both are stable retain.
Z2, 7	Howarth Dawson	A	2	Very Slight movement	Periodically monitor and review
Z2, 11	Sarah Mitchell	B	2	Moves slightly	Periodically monitor and review