

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 (Groteley) | 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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 |

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|-----|-----------------------------|---|---|----------------------|---|
| 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. |

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| 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 |