

Krumlin Methodist Chapel Graveyard Memorial Survey

Background

Calderdale Methodist Circuit is responsible for the graveyard at Krumlin. 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 Feb 2026 to consider the state of memorials**, to address safety concerns. This was undertaken by a firm of building contractors with vast experience in graveyard work. This has become especially important following the tragic events at Rawtenstall.

Methodology

Information was provided by a Chartered Architects: Historic Building Consultants 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 of the highlighted monuments. The Circuit will now look to instruct 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. In many cases for this graveyard there are issues with not only the monument but the surrounds and kerbs.

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

The Graveyard layout is referenced in <https://www.calderdalecompanion.co.uk/ph2731.html> and consists of graves across three rows. The below table shows the layout of the graves, the key family name and also the reference number from above.

-	-	-	-	-	Wadsworth 308	Truncove 310	Whitely 311	-	-	B&L 314	-	-	-	C	
Wadsworth 201	-	-	-	-	Bottomly 208	Dyson 210	-	-	-	Lord 214	Fairbank 215	-	-		B
Taylor 101	Darby 102	Whitely 103	-	-	Taylor 108	-	Foster 111	-	-	Schofield 114	Wadsworth 115	Fairbank 116	Walker 117		
14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Path	

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.

In some cases, level 1 stones have been laid flat at the time of the survey.

Plot	Ref	Identification	Description	Risk	Recommendation
A1	117	<p>"In Loving Memory Of A dear husband JACK WALKER died suddenly 29th June 1968 aged 62 years. So loved, so missed.</p> <p>Also his beloved wife ELIZABETH BEATRICE Died 10th July 2002, aged 82 At Peace</p> <p>K BROWN"</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Lay flat
A3	115	<p>In Loving Memory of ANNIE ELIZABETH the beloved wife of Samson Wadsworth who died Dec. 4th 1936 aged 52 years.</p> <p>Also the above SAMSON WADSWORTH who died June 4th 1960, aged 78 years.</p> <p>"At Rest"</p> <p>E. HITCHEN</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Lay flat

A4	114	<p>In Loving Memory Of ELIZABETH (LIZZIE) the beloved wife of EDMUND F. SCHOFIELD Died Jan 17th 1941 aged 70 years.</p> <p>Also the above EDMUND F. SCHOFIELD Died April 8th 1943, aged 70</p> <p>K BROWN</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Lay flat
A13	102	<p>In Loving Memory of SAMUEL Beloved Husband of Louisa Darby, Died 3rd August 1946, aged 66 years.</p> <p>Also the Above named LOUISA DARBY Died 29th September 1957, aged 76 years.</p> <p>Also GEORGE ARTHUR Infant Son of the Above Died 28th April 1910 aged 8 months.</p> <p>"The Lord is my shepherd"</p> <p>JURY</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Remove foot of the grave and lay flat in confines of the grave.

A14	101	<p>In Loving Memory Of WILLIAM JAMES TAYLOR Died 21st Dec. 1944 aged 59 years.</p> <p>Also SARAH HANNAH TAYLOR Beloved Wife of the Above Died 11th April 1957, aged 72 years.</p> <p>"At Rest"</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Remove Kerb & Headstone and place in centre of the grave
B3	215	<p>In Loving Memory Of SARAH ANN the beloved wife of Thomas Fairbank of Moor Field, Barkisland, who died Jan 18th 1927, aged 65 years.</p> <p>Also of the above THOMAS FAIRBANK, who died Jan 28th 1932 aged 73 years.</p> <p>Also of ELLEN daughter of the above who died Feb. 6th 1947 aged 51 years</p> <p>HITCHEN TUEL LANE S. B.</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Remove Kerb & Headstone and place in centre of the grave

B14	201	<p>At the head of the surround:</p> <p>Sacred to the Memory of On the north-west facet:</p> <p>NELLIE WADSWORTH Called to Rest July 26th 1923 aged 17 years.</p> <p>On the north-east facet:</p> <p>ARTHUR WADSWORTH Called to Rest March 4th 1939 Aged 35 years.</p>	Headstone with Kerb	1	Remove Kerb & Headstone and place in centre of the grave
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There were no Level 2 graves identified in the survey.