

Definition of a war memorial for funding purposes



War Memorials Trust

Introduction

There is no legal definition of a war memorial. Public perception of what is, or is not, a war memorial often differs.

In 2014, the now defunct, UK war memorials website published details of the criteria to enable a war memorial to be recorded by the Imperial War Museums War Memorials Register. It is outlined on their page [What is a war memorial?](#) This was developed in consultation with a number of other organisations including War Memorials Trust. The criteria were the basis for the development of this document which outlines the definition of a war memorial for the purposes of funding through the grant schemes run by War Memorials Trust.

War Memorials Online provides further comment on how a war memorial can be defined on its page [What is a war memorial?](#)

The final decision on eligibility for funding is at the sole and absolute discretion of War Memorials Trust's Board of Trustees.

Ineligible for funding

1. dedications that have been added to other gravestones which commemorate a war casualty buried elsewhere
2. items which do not meet the criteria for recording on the War Memorials Register see link above.
3. memorials commemorating representatives or associates of groups that have appeared on the government's list of '[Proscribed terrorist groups or organisations](#)'

Eligible for funding

1. memorials located in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man
2. memorials to conflicts from any point in history to the present day
3. memorials that commemorate the impact or acts of war, conflict or victory
4. memorials that record thanksgiving for the safe return of individuals and the coming of peace
5. memorials that commemorate the service, return or death of military personnel during war, conflict or other active service
6. memorials that commemorate the wartime service or death of civilians serving in non-combatant organisations
7. memorials that commemorate civilians, including refugees and internees who suffered or died as a result of war or conflict
8. memorials to the service, suffering and death of animals during war or conflict

To discuss eligibility

If you wish to discuss whether your war memorial is eligible under this definition for funding through the schemes operated by War Memorials Trust then contact the charity on the details below.

If you believe your war memorial is eligible and wish to apply for funding then follow the advice on how to [Apply for a grant](#) and complete a [Grants Pre-application form](#).

Please note that this helpsheet is intended to offer informal advice and is a distillation of experience. The information contained in this helpsheet is not exhaustive and other sources of information are available. War Memorials Trust is not responsible for the content of external sources.

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