

Matter 15 Action 71: Clarify significance of heritage assets Pow Bridge and War Memorial in St Bees

St Bees WWI Memorial, Station Rd

The grade II listed WWI memorial, one of two in St Bees (the other being near the lych gate within the priory grounds) was commissioned slightly after the other in response to the belief that it was not sufficiently large or public. It was opened in August 1923, bears a likeness of St George and the dragon and is to the design of noted local artist J. D. Kenworthy, who had lost his eldest son at the Somme.

Pow Bridge

The bridge is listed grade II* and dates back to 1585. It was built at the behest of Edmund Grindal, and later widened from twelve to twenty-four feet. The Grindal coat of arms on the bridge is a 1912 replica, the original having been removed (causing some controversy) to the interior of the school to protect it from damage.

The view from Pow Bridge is one of the key views in the conservation area, taking in both the priory and school buildings, and the greenery to either side and behind.

The pedestrian route alongside the 16th/19th century bridge is actually a small separate bridge that takes people closer to the water, where they are able to enjoy an enclosed, picturesque little space, as well as appreciate the dual arches underneath the bridge that belie its phasing.