

Listed Building Consent application comments



War Memorials Trust

Our ref: WMO/169321 (WM2627)

www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/169321

Date of comments: 26th March 2026

Local Authority:	Cumberland Council (Copeland)
Planning ref:	4/25/2425/0L1
Description:	Listed Building Consent for the addition of two names to Lowca War Memorial

War Memorials Trust is the national charity for the protection and conservation of war memorials in the UK.

War Memorials Trust was made aware of the listed building consent application by one of its supporters in relation to Lowca war memorial, www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/169321. It previously submitted comment on 15th January 2026.

This document provides further comments following receipt of the consultation letter. The application proposes to add two names to the listed Lowca war memorial. Our previous advice drew attention to the need for research and information to establish whether commemoration already exists and we drew attention to possible candidates. We also highlighted the physical considerations for adding the names.

The new information includes the applicant's response consisting of a letter which references names on the Harrington war memorial, stating that the forenames start with a 'C' rather than a 'G' which therefore leads them to believe they are not commemorated there.

It is unclear which memorial the applicant is referring to as to our knowledge there are two. The first is a brass plaque war memorial in St Mary's Church, Harrington see www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/170467/. It is appreciated that the inscription font may be challenging to decipher and the 'G' could be mistaken for a 'C' but as the names are listed in alphabetical order by surname it is possible to see the similarities with some surnames that start with a 'G' illustrating the similarities in the 'C' and 'G' style. It would therefore appear they commemorate G. Askew and G. Whitehead from the photographic records we can see.

The second is the memorial now sited in the churchyard at St Mary's, in Harrington relocated c.2000, see www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/118650/. Again, the font is difficult to decipher and some later re-painting of the inscription may have unintentionally altered or affected clarity. Perhaps a similar assumption having been made. The World War I inscription appears to replicate those names that are on the plaque and therefore again likely to be G. Askew and G. Whitehead.

The evidence presented by the applicant is therefore inconclusive. Whilst it is ultimately a decision for the community, based on the information presently available adding names could result in a duplication and change the nature of the Lowca memorial. Before agreeing works, we would encourage the LPA to be satisfied they have the necessary supporting information. I would draw attention to helpsheets Researching the names on a war memorial, www.warmemorials.org/hshresearchnames and Researching the history of a war memorial www.warmemorials.org/researchhistory.

In respect of the addition, although entirely separate to the existing inscription there would appear be sufficient space on Lowca war memorial (WMO/169321) to include this. And the information provided appears to illustrate that the same format and font will be used which would follow the best conservation practice approach.

I hope this is of assistance. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact conservation@warmemorials.org or 020 7233 7356.

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