

Case Name: Shrewsbury Civic War Memorial

Case Number: 1444697

Background

The listing of Shrewsbury War Memorial is being reassessed as part of Historic England's First World War commemoration project.

Asset(s) under Assessment

Facts about the asset(s) can be found in the Annex(es) to this report.

Annex	Name	Heritage Category
1	WAR MEMORIAL	Listing

Visits

None: Data from other sources.

Annex 1**Factual Details****Name: WAR MEMORIAL****Location**

Shrewsbury War Memorial, The Quarry, St Chad's Terrace, Shrewsbury, SY1 1JL

County	District	District Type	Parish
	Shropshire	Unitary Authority	Shrewsbury

History

The aftermath of the First World War saw an unprecedented wave of public commemoration with tens of thousands of memorials erected across the country, both as a result of the huge impact the loss of three quarters of a million British lives had on communities and the official policy of not repatriating the dead, which meant that the memorials provided the main focus of the grief felt at this great loss.

One such memorial was raised at Shrewsbury, as permanent testament to the sacrifice made by the members of the local community who lost their lives in the First World War. The cost of the memorial was raised by public subscription. The memorial cost £4400, with the remaining funds collected being split between the Royal Salop Infirmary and Shrewsbury Orthopaedic Hospital.

The memorial was designed by George Hubbard FSA FRIBA, of Hubbard and Moore, around a central figure by Allan Gairdner Wyon FRBS. The monument was built by Messrs Kirkpartrick and the statue was cast by A B Burton, of Thames Ditton. The memorial was unveiled on 29 July 1922 by George Herbert, 4th Earl of Powis, the Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire, in a ceremony presided over by the Right Reverend John Kempthorne, the Bishop of Lichfield.

George Hubbard FSA FRIBA was born in 1859 in Market Bosworth, and was responsible for a number of war memorials, including the Grade II listed Cambridge and Motttingham War Memorials. He was twice elected Vice President of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Allan Gairdner Wyon FRBS was born in 1882, and studied sculpture at the Royal Academy. Wyon was assistant sculptor to Hamo Thornycroft, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of British Sculptors. Wyon sculpted a number of war memorials, including the memorial to Edward Wyndham Tennant in Salisbury Cathedral, the Hinckley War Memorial, the Institute of Mining Engineers War Memorial and the Cambrian Railways War Memorial. As well as a number of church memorials, Wyon sculpted the East Wind figure, for the Grade I listed 55 Broadway, London.

An inscription was added to the frieze of the memorial in 1949, and was unveiled by General Sir Oliver Leese in a ceremony presided over by Bishop Suffragan of Shrewsbury on 6 November 1949. The inscriptions in the floor and in front of the gate were also added after 1945.

Details

First World War memorial by George Hubbard, with sculpture by Allan Wyon, erected in 1922.

MATERIALS: Portland stone rotunda with bronze figure.

DESCRIPTION: The memorial comprises a Portland stone open rotunda, with a domed stone canopy and entablature resting on six Ionic columns. The frieze is inscribed IN MEMORY OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF SHROPSHIRE WHO FELL IN THE TWO WORLD WARS 1914 – 18 AND 1939 – 45. The internal frieze is decorated with the arms of the six boroughs of Shropshire, one above each column. The rotunda sits on a three stepped granite plinth, and is surrounded by a circular set of bronze railings, cast in a lozenge pattern.

The centre of the rotunda is occupied by a bronze statue of Saint Michael depicted as the field commander of the Army of God, in a full set of Gothic plate armour and holding a pennanted lance. His right hand is held out in benediction, he has a halo in the shape of a solar cross and he is framed by a large pair of feathered wings. The statue stands on a low hexagonal plinth, which is surrounded by 6 hexagonal plaques inlaid into the floor of the monument.

Right in front of the statue, the first plaque is inscribed REMEMBER / + / THE GALLANT / MEN AND WOMEN / OF SHROPSHIRE / WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES / FOR GOD KING AND / COUNTRY / 1914 – 18 + 1939 – 45. Moving clockwise, the other five plaques show the county arms of Shropshire, a Croix de Guerre, an empty cross in front of a rising sun, the badge of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and the arms of the town of Shrewsbury.

A brass plaque laid in the ground in front of the gates of the enclosure is inscribed: This War Memorial was built in 1922-3 in honour of the men and women of Shropshire who fell in the Great War of 1914-18. The war / dead of 1939-45 are also commemorated by this monument. It was designed by George Hubbard and Son and built in Portland stone. / The richly embellished floor shows the County and Regimental arms on a gold mosaic background. The seals or arms of the six / boroughs of the County are embossed on the inside frieze. The bronze figure of Saint Micheal beneath the canopy is by A G Wyon. //

Selected Sources

Books and journals

Archer, G, *The Glorious Dead: Figurative Sculpture of British First World War Memorials*, (2009), 208

'Shropshire War Memorial' in *Lichfield Mercury*, Vol 45, No 2245, (4 August 1922), 4

Websites

Information on war memorials from the Imperial War Museum database, accessed 30 May 2017 from <http://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/13913>

Information on war memorials from the War Memorials Online database, accessed 30 May 2017 from <https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/165666/>

Map**National Grid Reference:** SJ 48748 12460

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The above map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF – 1270484_2.pdf.

Current List Entry**List Entry Summary**

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: WAR MEMORIAL

List Entry Number: 1270484

Location

WAR MEMORIAL, THE QUARRY,

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
	Shropshire	Unitary Authority	Shrewsbury

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 17 November 1995

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: LBS

Legacy Number: 458358

Asset Groupings

This List entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

List Entry Description**Summary of Building**

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Reasons for Designation

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

SHREWSBURY

SJ4812SE THE QUARRY
653-1/14/657 War Memorial

GV II

War memorial. 1922-3. By George Hubbard and Son. Granite plinth and columns carrying canopy over bronze statue. Low granite plinth with bronze railings cast in lozenge pattern and fluted Ionic shafts carrying domed canopy. Inscription runs round cornice. Beneath the canopy, a statue of St Michael wearing armour and with vast wings. This figure is by AG Wyon. (The Buildings of England: Pevsner N: Shropshire: Harmondsworth: 1958-).

Listing NGR: SJ4881412192

This List entry has been amended to add sources for War Memorials Online and the War Memorials Register. These sources were not used in the compilation of this List entry but are added here as a guide for further reading, 19 January 2017.

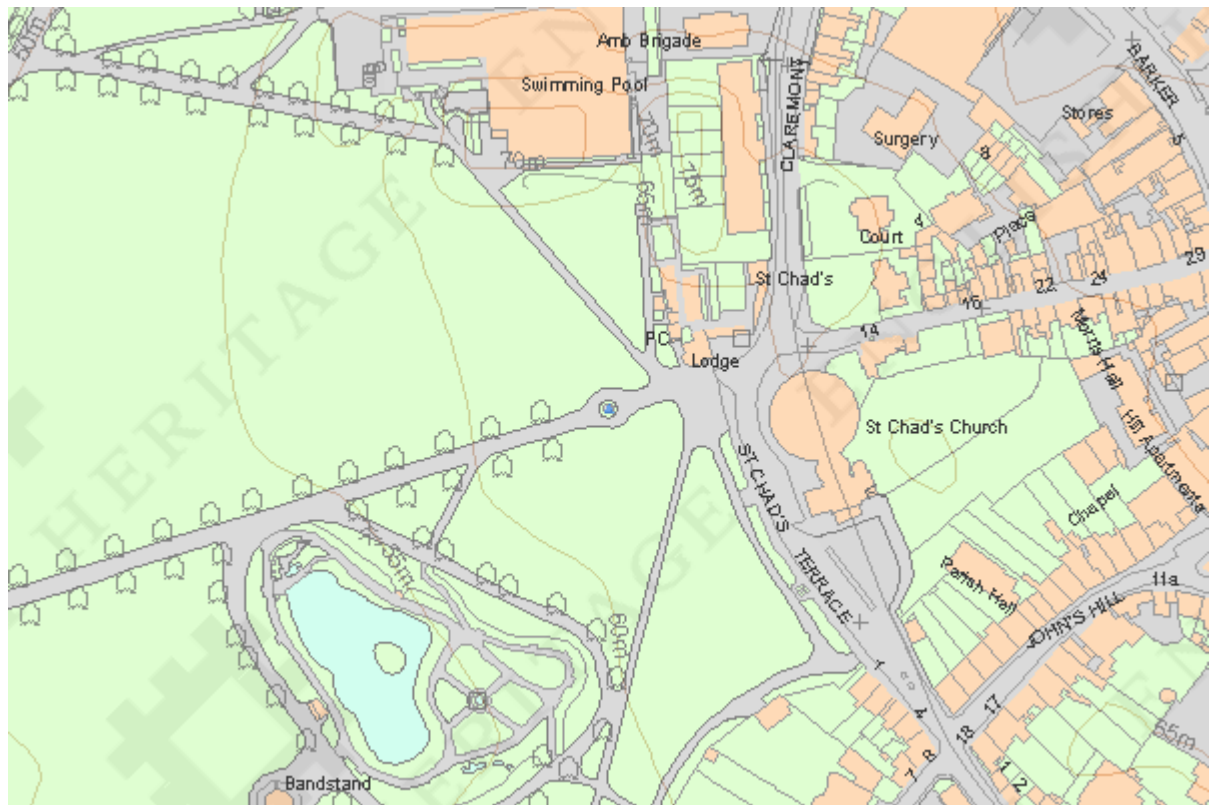
Selected Sources**Books and journals**

Pevsner, N, The Buildings of England: Shropshire, (1958)

Websites

War Memorials Online, accessed 19 January 2017 from
<https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/237736>

War Memorials Register, accessed 19 January 2017 from
<http://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/13913>

Map**National Grid Reference: SJ 48748 12460**

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