



Monument and memorial condition survey

Name of cemetery/burial site

IDENTIFICATION	Name (of earliest burial)	Location
		Dimensions
	Date	Listing entry number and grade

DESCRIPTION	Main features of monument				
	Sculptor/stonemason				
	Principal materials			Type of inscription	
	Limestone	Granite	Sandstone	Incised	Filled
	Marble	Slate	Brick	Painted	Lead
	Bronze	Iron	Lead	Raised	Mortar
Details					

STRUCTURE	Ground condition		Type and extent of plant growth					
	Good/level	Subsidence						
	Collapsed	Soft soil						
	Notes		Overall structural condition					
	Condition of foundation (if visible)					Sound	Tilted	Angle:
						Disrupted	Fallen	
		Collapsed				Laid flat		

MATERIALS	Types of deterioration		Surface condition	Condition of inscription
	Loose elements		Surface dirt	Legible
	Missing elements		Organic growth	Partly legible
	Cracking		Graffiti	Illegible
	Damage from cramps		Delamination	Obscured
	Disruption		Powdering/spalling	Faded
	Open joint/cracked pointing		Eroded	Missing filling

SUMMARY	Overall condition		Specialist report required?	
	Very bad (hazardous/unstable)		Yes	No
	Poor (ongoing deterioration/potential instability)			
	Fair (some decay but generally stable)			
	Good (stable with no obvious ongoing decay)			
Other factors (eg vandalism, overhanging trees)				

Date of inspection Inspection carried out by

Return form and photos to

How to use this monument and memorial condition survey form

This form is designed to observe and record the nature and condition of monuments.

Identification

- Where possible identify the name and date of the earliest burial. If the inscription is obscured or illegible, then leave blank.
- Location should be briefly described relevant to nearby permanent landmark such as building, gate, other monument. Do not use trees as a landmark in case they are later felled.
- Location should also be recorded on a site plan or satellite photo.
- Use a tape measure to record dimensions (length x breadth x height, in mm) of main monument (not including kerbs or other surrounds).
- If listed, the listing entry can be found by searching online at: historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/

Description

- Identify main features/style of the monument such as 'chest tomb', 'obelisk', 'sculpture'. If the monument is listed then the 'listing description' will help. Can you find the name of the sculptor or stonemason?
- Tick the materials used. There may be more than one (for example, a limestone chest tomb with iron railings). If unsure what type of stone, then use the 'Details' space to say so.
- Tick the type of inscription (if visible). This may be more than one choice (for example 'incised' and 'filled'). If unsure then use the 'Details' space beneath the options to say so.

Structure

- Walk around all sides of the monument; assess and then tick the relevant ground condition(s). Include in 'Notes' any other observations that might affect the stability of the monument (for example: 'collapsed adjacent vault', 'standing water').
- Enter the type and extent of vegetation both on and around the monument. If this is obscured by the growth, refer to **Clearing vegetation from monuments and memorials** advice note before undertaking any removal.
- If the foundation is visible, record its construction (for example 'brick', 'stone slab') and condition.
- Examine how the monument is constructed and identify defects and distortions; tick the relevant condition.

Further advice

More information and our downloadable pdfs **Clearing vegetation from monuments and memorials** and the **Carrying out a burial monument and memorial condition survey**, available on: historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/cemeteries-and-burial-grounds/