

Listed Building Consent application to add Sgt George Henry Smith to Burbage War Memorial

Burbage War Memorial is located within the memorial green at the junction of Church Street and New Road in Burbage. The memorial was listed as being of special architectural or historical interest on 9th December 2019 and had its 100-year anniversary in 2021.

This application is for listed building consent to add the name of Sgt George Henry Smith to the war memorial. The inscription would read SGT. G H SMITH LEICS REGT.

Research into the history of Sgt Smith was undertaken by Burbage Heritage Group following a request from Sgt Smith's daughter. Sgt Smith was born in Lincoln in 1908, joining the Leicestershire Regiment in 1929. He then moved to the Army Reserves in 1937. After marrying Kathleen Meakes, Sgt Smith resided in Flamville Road, Burbage. Sgt Smith was reported as missing in action on 18th March 1945, subsequently on 19th February 1946 communication was sent to Mrs Smith that her husband was presumed to have been killed in action. Research has shown that Sgt Smith is not remembered on a war memorial at any location in the UK.

Sgt Smith's name would be added to the Second World War section of the war memorial 1939-1945, where there is still room for some additional names to be added, see pictures.

The inscription work would be undertaken by David Heppingstall, a skilled memorial mason, who has already confirmed he would be honoured to undertake this work. Mr Heppingstall has previously added several names to the memorial (prior to the monument being listed) and his work is of an exceptionally high standard. He has a lot of expertise in this area and will be sensitive to the listed nature of the monument to ensure future preservation.