



### Landscape Character Area: War Memorials

This area of Poole Park includes three memorials within a garden setting. The Municipal War Memorial, opened in 1927, commemorates the victims of the First and Second World War. The memorials to the Burma Star Association was added after the Second World War and the Lord Mountbatten Memorial added in the 1980s.

The Municipal War Memorial was designed by local Architect J.A. Allner and displays a striking stone cross set against the horizon at the edge of the boating lake. Allner also designed the approach including ornamental gates and pillars at the boundary to Parkstone Road and a linear Rose bed. Formal hedging and colourful bedding contribute to the distinctiveness and sense of importance of this part of the Park. The War Memorials' Character Area is of particular importance for its strong historic and aesthetic value and its commemorative meaning both locally and nationally. The Municipal War Memorial is a Grade II Listed structure and of national importance.

Despite past changes to this area - the loss of a historic line of oak trees to the west, alterations to the layout of the formal gardens - the distinct linear processional arrangement and the strong view axes can still be experienced today. However, other alterations have had a negative impact on the fabric and the setting and there is the opportunity to remove these. Our proposed improvements include:

- Removal of the traffic calming measures on the Drive, including the speed hump, road markings and signage and replacing with a new raised table
- Removal of the unsympathetic 'dogtooth' style coping on the Rose bed planter; replacing with flat Purbeck stone as in the original design
- Resurfacing of paths with natural stone paving
- Repairing the fabric of the Listed War Memorial
- Providing step-free access to the Memorial to serve the elderly community and wheelchair users living north of Parkstone Road and general users of Poole Park.

#### Conservation Management Plan Policies:

**CA:WM 1** To continue to maintain the War Memorials Character Area as a place of commemoration.

**CA:WM 2** To conserve the historic fabric of the memorials.

**CA:WM 3** To maintain and enhance the historic character of the setting as it was designed by J.A. Allner and as it has evolved to date, i.e. linear approach, views to the lake beyond, formal hedges and lawns with areas of seasonal display.

**CA:WM 4** To enhance public enjoyment including access and interpretation without compromising the historic and aesthetic value of the memorials or the Park setting.

Proposals are illustrated here with reference to the above policies.



Early 1930s - View from east showing the Municipal War Memorial located on the edge of the boating lake (Source: Paul Hillmann Collection)

Mid 1930s - View showing approach including the linear planter, hedging and the cross with the boating lake beyond (Source: Paul Hillmann Collection)

# The War Memorials

