

Asset Details

Asset name	43rd Wessex Division Memorial
Asset address	43rd Wessex Division Memorial Winyards Gap Chedington Beaminster West Dorset Dorset DT8 3SX
Additional location information	grid reference ST4915906096
Asset type	Structure

Heritage Significance

Value	Description	Level
Archaeological value	This value does not apply in this instance.	None
Architectural value	The memorial consists of a free standing, two-stage obelisk surmounting the base, all of which stand on a paved area with concrete posts and chain link fence. The lower plaque is inscribed to the memory of all ranks of the 43rd Division who died in World War II, and on the upper stage of the obelisk is the regimental badge. The memorial is situated in its original location within an area of woodland given as a memorial site in 1949. The architectural value of the structure is derived from its good quality design as a post-World War II war memorial.	Moderate
Historic illustrative value	The structure is instantly recognisable as a tribute to the men who lost their lives in defence of their country. It illustrates the impact of war on local communities and their collective need to grieve and to have a tangible focal point for that grief. This represents the continuation of the countrywide response to commemoration of those that lost their lives in the World Wars. The value is further enhanced by the completeness of the monument and its location within a simple but dedicated memorial space within the landscape.	Moderate
Historic associative value	The significance of the structure lies principally in its historic associative value, through its direct association with lives lost in World War II. The memorial collectively honours all ranks of soldier from the 43rd Wessex Division who lost their lives. It serves as a permanent record and is accessible to all relatives and visitors. In addition, the structure's plaque is attributed to Messrs Singer and Co of the J W Singer & Sons foundry in London, now recognised as one of the oldest fine art foundries in the world. Established in 1848, the foundry is famous for its bronzes, in particular war memorials and monuments.	High
Aesthetic or artistic value	The aesthetic value of the structure lies in the skill of the sculptor in creating a dramatic representation of solidarity and strength within the armed forces.	Moderate
Communal value	The communal value of the structure is high as it serves as a focal point for memorial services for the local community. It can also be visited by the community throughout the year for individual remembrance of lost relatives and comrades.	High



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