

Heritage Statement

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: 2025/90732

PARKWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

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Appendix A: Full Listing Entry (Historic England)	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Heritage Statement

Planning Application Reference: 2025/90732

Site Address: Parkwood Methodist Church, Parkwood Road, Longwood, Huddersfield, HD3 4TT

Proposal: Installation of two 1.8m free-standing perimeter fences (north and east boundaries)

1. Introduction

This Heritage Statement is submitted in support of a planning application for the installation of two new perimeter fences at the site of Parkwood Methodist Church. The purpose of this document is to assess the significance of the designated heritage asset (the listed church building) and to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on its heritage values and setting, in accordance with Paragraphs 194–202 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Policy LP35 of the Kirklees Local Plan.

2. Identification of Heritage Asset

Parkwood Methodist Church is a Grade II listed building, located on Parkwood Road in Longwood, Huddersfield. The building is a notable example of late 19th-century nonconformist religious architecture, constructed in local stone with classical and gothic revival influences typical of its period.

Listing entry summary (abridged – Refer to Appendix for full entry details):

- Constructed c.1880s.
- Ashlar stonework with slate roof.
- Symmetrical façade with lancet and arched windows.
- Distinctive gabled elevation and original boundary wall features.

3. Description of Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of:

- Fence 1 (North boundary): 1.5 m high free-standing dark green colored fence (approx. 35m length).
- Fence 2 (East boundary): 1.5 m high free-standing dark green colored fence (approx. 35m length).

Both fences are:

- Not affixed to any part of the listed building.
- Located at the outer boundary of the site.
- Constructed in timber with a sympathetic, low-visual-impact design in dark green color to blend in with the surroundings.

4. Assessment of Significance

The primary significance of Parkwood Methodist Church lies in:

- Architectural interest: As a late Victorian religious building with historic detailing.

- Historical interest: As a representation of the Methodist movement's growth in West Yorkshire.
- Social value: Continuing use as a place of worship and community gathering.

The curtilage and setting include mature trees, boundary walls, and ancillary buildings, though the northern and eastern perimeters are less formally defined and offer minimal contribution to the church's architectural or historical value.

5. Impact Assessment

The proposed fences:

- Do not affect the listed building fabric.
- Are positioned away from the church.
- Will be visually unobtrusive.
- Will not obscure any principal elevations or views of the listed building (1.5 m max height)

Therefore, the proposal is considered to have no harm or negligible impact on the setting or significance of the listed building.

6. Conclusion

In accordance with the NPPF (Paragraph 197), the proposed fences are modest in scale, reversible, and do not result in harm to the listed building or its setting. On the contrary, they enhance the public safety and continued use of the site by making it safer for families, children, and community members.

7. Statement of Justification

The fences are required solely for safety purposes due to dangerous level changes on site. They are fully reversible, non-permanent, and sympathetic in materials and design. They will not obstruct, alter, or be attached to any listed structure or curtilage feature. The applicant is committed to preserving and respecting the heritage of the site while ensuring safety for congregants.