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Heritage Protection Department - South
English Heritage
1 Waterhouse Square
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Your Ref UID 170339
Our Ref

18 May 2011



department for
culture, media
and sport

Dear [REDACTED]

**PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST
Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headquarters Building, 2 Marlow
Road, Maidenhead, Windsor and Maidenhead, Berkshire**

With reference to the English Heritage adviser's report dated 22 July 2010 about the request that the above building be considered for inclusion in the statutory list, I am now in a position to advise you of the Minister for Tourism and Heritage's decision.

The Minister has completed his consideration of all the evidence, including taking into account advice from English Heritage and the representations of others, and has decided that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headquarters Building is not of sufficient architectural or historic interest to merit listing protection under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

The Minister acknowledges the advice of English Heritage which recommends that the building merits listing for its architectural interest, materials and detailing and intactness.

The Minister is not persuaded however that the building's architectural design, decoration or craftsmanship is of special interest. In arriving at his decision the Minister noted representations from other parties that it is a generic and unremarkable office building and that the overall massing and shape of the building is not untypical or of particular note. He considers that the building is not a nationally important example of its building type and technique and does not possess any significant plan form.

The Minister considered the historic interest of the building and noted that despite the significant work of the Commission it does not of itself illustrate important aspects of the nation's social, economic, cultural or military history. He agrees with English Heritage that the administration of



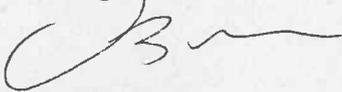
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the conservation and management of the war graves and memorials is not a claim to special interest and that the building was not built as a memorial to the nation's dead.

In conclusion, the Minister acknowledges the arguments presented on both sides of this case. However, on balance, he believes that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headquarters Building does not reach the level of historic or architectural interest required to be added to the statutory list.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. M.', written in a cursive style.


Heritage Protection Branch