# UK government unveils five innovative designs for Queen Elizabeth II memorial in St James’s Park



# Plans Unveiled for Memorial to Queen Elizabeth II

A new national memorial to honour Queen Elizabeth II is taking shape, with a shortlist of five innovative design concepts revealed by the UK government. Among the ideas are a stunning canopy of stone lily pads, a cast of a Windsor oak tree, and a poignant statue depicting the late Queen alongside her beloved husband, Prince Philip. The designs aim to celebrate the Queen's extraordinary life of service and to create a serene space for reflection in the heart of London.

The public will soon have the opportunity to provide feedback on these early concepts, which are showcased online. Lord Janvrin, the former private secretary to the Queen and now chairman of the Queen Elizabeth Memorial Committee, remarked on the Queen’s legacy, stating that her “extraordinary life of service profoundly touched countless individuals, and she was a figure of great respect and admiration.” This sentiment reflects the intention behind the memorial—to encapsulate the impact of her reign while offering an inclusive space for all to remember her.

The memorial will be situated in St James’s Park, a fitting location considering its historical significance and proximity to Buckingham Palace. The competition for the memorial, aimed at finding a design that fosters a tranquil environment amid the bustle of city life, saw notable architectural firms submit proposals. Renowned teams, including Heatherwick Studio and Foster + Partners, are among those shortlisted. The winning design is anticipated to be announced in Summer 2025, with the final installation expected to coincide with the Queen's 100th birthday in April 2026.

In addition to these national efforts, local communities are also coming together to commemorate the Queen. In Rutland, plans have been unveiled for a striking 7ft bronze statue of the Queen accompanied by a Corgi—an emblematic tribute that acknowledges her fondness for the breed. This statue is set to be unveiled on the first anniversary of her passing, providing a local gathering place for reflection on her life and contributions.

As the nation prepares to remember Queen Elizabeth II, the wide-ranging designs and the significant public engagement signal a collective desire to honour her legacy. The emphasis on creativity and personal connection within the memorial designs illustrates the profound respect held for the late Monarch across the UK, ensuring her memory will be cherished for generations to come.

The journey towards establishing this memorial marks an essential chapter in the ongoing appreciation of a monarch whose impact extended far beyond the British Isles, resonating with people from all walks of life. As the public engages with these plans, the memorial is poised not just to commemorate but also to serve as a beacon of reflection, celebrating a legacy defined by service, grace, and unwavering commitment.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.thetimes.com/uk/royal-family/article/queen-elizabeth-memorial-news-qv29xc2sr), [[2]](https://competitions.malcolmreading.com/queenelizabethmemorial/updates/government-announces-the-shortlisted-design-teams-for-the-national-memorial-for-queen-elizabeth-ii)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.thetimes.com/uk/royal-family/article/queen-elizabeth-memorial-news-qv29xc2sr), [[4]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leicestershire-64815197)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://archinect.com/news/bustler/10330/heatherwick-foster-partners-named-to-uk-s-queen-elizabeth-ii-memorial-design-contest-shortlist), [[5]](https://www.archdaily.com/1027399/foster-plus-partners-and-heatherwick-studio-amongst-shortlisted-teams-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-national-memorial-in-united-kingdom)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leicestershire-64815197)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.thetimes.com/uk/royal-family/article/queen-elizabeth-memorial-news-qv29xc2sr), [[6]](https://www.itv.com/news/london/2025-02-25/boris-bus-and-gherkin-designers-among-shortlist-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-memorial)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.thetimes.com/uk/royal-family/article/queen-elizabeth-memorial-news-qv29xc2sr), [[7]](https://www.building.co.uk/news/big-names-on-shortlist-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-national-memorial/5134547.article)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thetimes.com/uk/royal-family/article/queen-elizabeth-memorial-news-qv29xc2sr> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://competitions.malcolmreading.com/queenelizabethmemorial/updates/government-announces-the-shortlisted-design-teams-for-the-national-memorial-for-queen-elizabeth-ii> - The UK government has announced the shortlist for the Queen Elizabeth II National Memorial Masterplan Design Competition. Five teams have been selected to submit design concepts, with the winning team to be announced in Summer 2025. The memorial will be located in St James’s Park, London, and aims to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II’s extraordinary life of service while providing a space for reflection. The final design is expected to be unveiled in April 2026, coinciding with what would have been the Queen's 100th birthday.
3. <https://archinect.com/news/bustler/10330/heatherwick-foster-partners-named-to-uk-s-queen-elizabeth-ii-memorial-design-contest-shortlist> - Heatherwick Studio and Foster + Partners are among the five teams shortlisted for the Queen Elizabeth II National Memorial Design Competition. The competition seeks to create a memorial that honors the late Queen's life of service and provides a space for reflection. The shortlisted teams will submit their design concepts in the coming months, with the winning design to be announced in Summer 2025. The memorial will be located in St James’s Park, London, and is expected to be completed by April 2026.
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leicestershire-64815197> - Plans have been revealed for a permanent memorial to Queen Elizabeth II in Rutland, England. A 7ft bronze statue is set to be placed outside Oakham Library, featuring the Queen with a Corgi dog, symbolizing her association with the breed. The statue is expected to be unveiled in time for the first anniversary of the Queen's death. The project aims to honor the Queen's legacy and provide a place for the community to reflect on her life and service.
5. <https://www.archdaily.com/1027399/foster-plus-partners-and-heatherwick-studio-amongst-shortlisted-teams-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-national-memorial-in-united-kingdom> - Foster + Partners and Heatherwick Studio are among the five teams shortlisted for the Queen Elizabeth II National Memorial Design Competition. The competition seeks to create a memorial that celebrates the late Queen's life of service and provides a space for reflection. The shortlisted teams will submit their design concepts in the coming months, with the winning design to be announced in Summer 2025. The memorial will be located in St James’s Park, London, and is expected to be completed by April 2026.
6. <https://www.itv.com/news/london/2025-02-25/boris-bus-and-gherkin-designers-among-shortlist-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-memorial> - The design teams behind London's Boris Buses, the 2012 Olympic cauldron, and The Gherkin have been shortlisted to create a memorial for Queen Elizabeth II in central London. The competition attracted a wide range of creative talent from across the UK and internationally. The shortlisted teams will submit their design concepts later in the Spring, with the winning design to be announced in Summer 2025. The memorial will be located in St James’s Park, London, and is expected to be completed by April 2026.
7. <https://www.building.co.uk/news/big-names-on-shortlist-for-queen-elizabeth-ii-national-memorial/5134547.article> - Foster & Partners, Heatherwick Studio, and Wilkinson Eyre are among the five teams shortlisted by the UK government to design a memorial to Queen Elizabeth II. The competition aims to create a permanent memorial in St James’s Park, London, celebrating the late Queen's life of service and providing a space for reflection. The winning team will be announced in Summer 2025, with the final design expected to be unveiled in April 2026, coinciding with what would have been the Queen's 100th birthday.