**National Park Authority is looking for hidden gems to celebrate local heritage**

The National Park Authority is inviting residents and visitors to highlight the special buildings, sites and features that make the Lake District special and should be celebrated.

A new campaign, designed to help protect the ‘commonplace or everyday’ heritage assets that are valued by people locally, but don’t have any existing protection in their own right under planning law is now live in the Lake District.

As part of this a new Local Heritage List is being compiled and anyone can help protect and celebrate a wide range of heritage features by nominating them for inclusion.

Rose Lord, the Lake District National Park Authority’s Built Environment Adviser says: “This is a really exciting chance for everyone and anyone to nominate the things that are important to them about their favourite area in the Lake District.

“Nominations can include buildings and structures, or archaeological features, field boundaries, parks, gardens, historic street furniture, signs, fountains and more.

“It’s a chance to tell us about what is important to you. We’re looking to find out what things are special to our communities and make sure they’re recorded properly.”

All nominations will be considered by a panel made up of council and voluntary heritage group representatives from across Cumbria and all successful sites will be added to the Local Heritage List which will be available to search online.

This will create a great research and educational resource; providing images and historical information about lesser-known features and sites. People will also be able to see what features they can find in their local area or on a favourite walk.

Cumbria is one of 22 areas to secure funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for its Local Heritage Listing campaign.

The Cumbria Local Listing Project is a partnership between Copeland Borough Council, South Lakeland District Council, Eden District Council, Carlisle City Council, Allerdale Borough Council, the Lake District National Park Authority, and Cumbria County Council.

Sites which are already on the 'Listed Buildings' list or are Scheduled Ancient Monuments can’t also be added to the local list. To check this and to nominate your site please visit: <https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/planning/planningpolicies/communityplanningpolicy/local-list>