Name of memorial: Belfast Korean War Memorial

**Inventory No. 803** 

**Place:** West side of City Hall, Donegall Square.

**Address and map reference:** Donegall Square West, Belfast. Map reference: J 337 739 (Sheet 15)

Co-ordinates: N54° 35' 48"; W 5° 55' 53".

Access: at all times. Parking: in adjacent streets and car parks. Disabled access: Yes.

**Position:** Free-standing memorial in a garden beside the City Hall.

**Description and dimensions:** White stone obelisk on a stone plinth. Height: appx. 950cms. Width: appx.

550cms.

**Recorded by:** Michael Pegum, 2 August, 2012.

Text:

(East side)

IN MEMORY OF the Officers and Men of THE 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION THE ROYAL ULSTER RIFLES Who lost their lives

in

**KOREA** 

and especially those who were killed

near this place

3<sup>RD</sup> – 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 1951

(Badge of the Royal Ulster Rifles)

(South side)

IN HONOUR OF the Officers and Men

of

THE VIII

KING'S ROYAL IRISH HUSSARS

Who gave their lives for the United Nations

in

**KOREA** 

and especially those of

"COOPERFORCE"

who died in this valley on  $3^{RD} - 4^{TH}$  JANUARY, 1951

(Badge of the VIII King's Royal Irish Hussars)

(North side)

IN MEMORY OF
The Officers and Men
Of THE 45<sup>TH</sup> FIELD REGIMENT
And
THE 170<sup>TH</sup> MORTAR BATTERY
THE ROYAL ARTILLERY
who lost their lives

in

KOREA

and especially those who died near this place ON 3<sup>RD</sup> – 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 1951

(Badge of the Royal Artillery)

(East side)

THE PEOPLE
THAT WALKED
IN DARKNESS
HAVE SEEN
A GREAT LIGHT. Is. 9. 2

(On the plinth)

MEN FROM MANY PARTS OF THE BRITISH ISLES, BUT PREDOMINANTLY FROM EVERY COMMUNITY AND PART OF IRELAND FOUGHT WITH THE R.U.R. IN THE 'HAPPY VALLEY' BATTLE IN DEFENCE OF SEOUL, CAPITAL OF SOUTH KOREA.

THE MEMORIAL ABOVE WAS CARVED BY A KOREAN MASON DURING THE SUCCEEDING BATTLES BEFORE BEING ERECTED ON 3 JULY 1951 OVERLOOKING THE BATTLEFIELD.

AS SEOUL EXPANDED THE MEMORIAL HAD TO BE MOVED AND WAS REPATRIATED TO THE DEPOT OF THE ROYAL ULSTER RIFLES AT ST. PATRICK'S BARRACKS BALLYMENA

IT WAS MOVED TO THIS FINAL RESTING PLACE ON 24 MAY 2008 WITH THE GRACIOUS PERMISSION OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

THIS RELOCATION WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM THE REGIMENTS AND VETERANS WHO FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE, INDIVIDUALS, TRUSTS, THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT AND SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS.