

Description of the 550 Squadron Memorial Window

The window depicts the view through the cockpit of an aircraft returning home. The gold and green in the lower section represents the earth, with the blue and white in the upper section representing the sky and clouds. The upturned “V” of yellow lights denotes the runway with a flarepath. Images of a church and a windsock signify the landing point as North Killingholme.

The 550 Squadron badge is central, and the motto “PER IGNEM VINCIMUS” translates as “THROUGH FIRE WE CONQUER”. At the sides of the badge are the Squadron number and the Squadron Identification Letters “BQ”.

In the sky are represented three constellations – from the left – the Plough, the Little Bear and Cassiopeia. Following the line at the bottom of the bowl in the Plough leads to Polaris, the North Star. Taking a line from the end of the handle of the Plough through the North Star leads to Cassiopeia, the “W” formation. Above Cassiopeia a Lancaster heads towards Polaris.

The images at the very top of the panels show the symbols for Alpha and Omega whilst in the middle is an image of the moon in the first phase.

The base of the window pays tribute to all who served within the various divisions that were based at North Killingholme in the period 1943-1945 – RAF, RAAF, RCAF, RNZAF and WAAF.