

# MASTERPLAN BROOKWOOD CEMETERY

**Allies and Morrison**  
February 2020





FOREWORD *and* EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
BRIEF *and* BOUNDARY  
VISION FOR BROOKWOOD CEMETERY  
LONDON'S NECROPOLIS  
CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

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# Foreword

## why a masterplan was commissioned

Brookwood Cemetery is the largest cemetery in Western Europe and a designated Grade I listed heritage asset. It is currently on the Heritage At Risk Register following decades of dilapidation prior to its purchase by Woking Borough Council in 2014.

Woking Borough Council have undertaken significant emergency conservation work over the last five years. The Council is looking to the next ten years and the work of restoration which needs to be done. In discussion with Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund, it was agreed a Masterplan is needed to guide the future development of the cemetery.

This will be used to create a forward plan for the next ten to twenty years which will assist in securing future funding for the cemetery restoration, and in the subsequent implementation of any development.

## by whom

The commissioning client is Brookwood Park Ltd, a private subsidiary company set up by Woking Borough Council to operate the cemetery. The core client advisory group who have developed the brief and proposals with the Masterplan team comprises:

- Marilyn Scott, Director of The Lightbox, Woking
- Ian Tomes, Woking Borough Council Strategic Asset Manager
- Avril Kirby, Brookwood Cemetery Manager

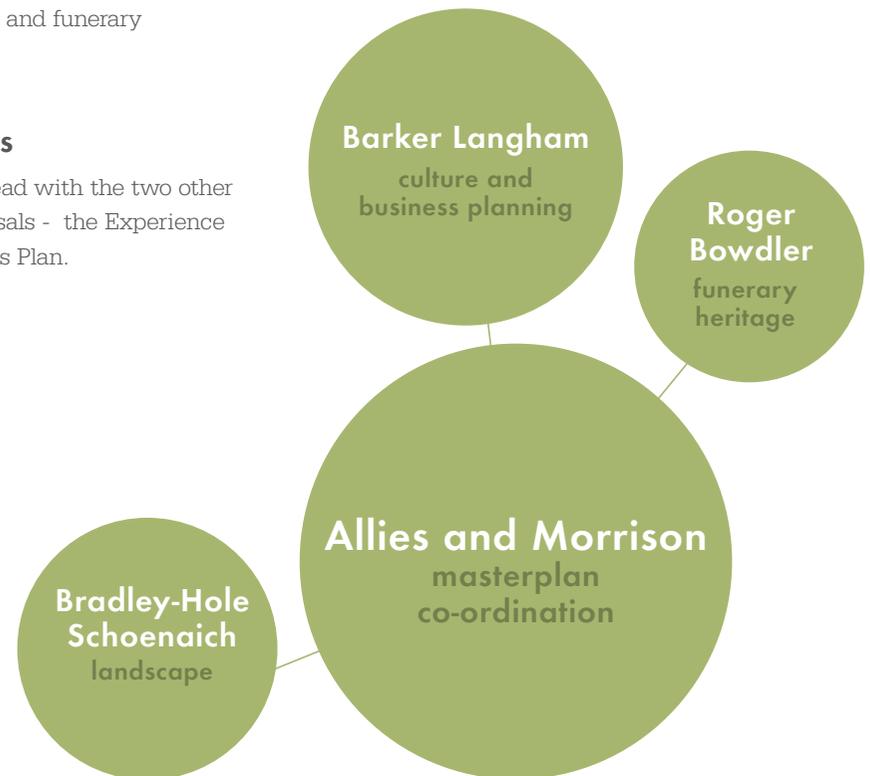
## masterplan authors

Allies and Morrison are the Masterplan coordinators working with a small team of advisors comprising:

- Barker Langham - cultural consultants (business and interpretive planning)
- Bradley-Hole Schoenaich Landscape (landscape design)
- Dr Roger Bowdler (heritage and funerary consultant)

## masterplan documents

This Masterplan should be read with the two other documents setting out proposals - the Experience Plan and the Outline Business Plan.



# Executive Summary

## briefing and vision

The Masterplan has been developed in dialogue with the core client advisory group. Consultations have been held with Brookwood Park Ltd, Historic England, Woking Borough Council Planning and Highways authorities, and with other cemetery stakeholders.

The Overall Vision for the cemetery, and a strategy for achieving this have emerged through briefing and consultation.

The Overall Vision sets the cemetery as an exemplar - a robust example of a sustainable working cemetery leading the way for other heritage cemeteries. It would achieve this as a restored heritage asset, a visitor destination and gracious public amenity, bringing people to experience the cemetery as a cultural destination, and showing them its qualities as a place of rest.

The cemetery's primary function is to provide a dignified and respectful last resting place for the deceased of Woking and beyond, of many faiths and none. This remains the prime objective and core focus for Brookwood as a working cemetery. All aspects of any future development are to sustain and support this.

## five masterplan steps

The strategy to realise this Overall Vision comprises five stages or 'steps' of development. Each of these builds upon the last to:

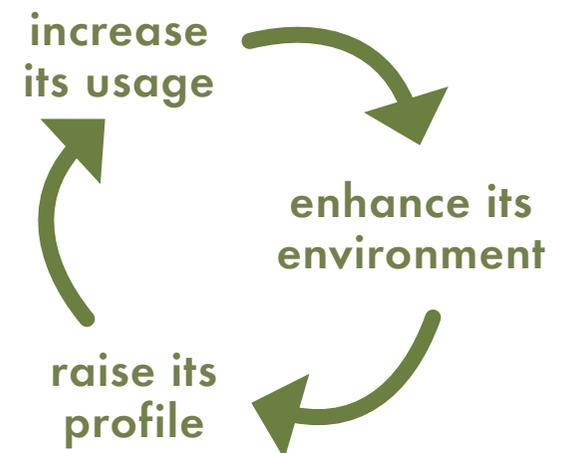
- enhance the cemetery environment
- raise its profile and
- increase its usage

The five Masterplan steps are:

- 1. Ongoing Tasks** - everyday maintenance and repair activities 'tuned' to support the Vision for the cemetery, particularly relating to landscape management and structures repair.
- 2. Initial Moves** - relatively small-scale improvements which can be implemented in the short-to-medium term. These include conversion of the former Superintendent's Lodge to a small cafe and exhibition space, and the enhancement of the old railway line as an important historic landscape feature.
- 3. Long-term Additions** - larger scale building and associated landscape and programme developments. These include a new larger education building for visitors, highways-related works to improve Cemetery Pales, and new avenues of trees, and allocates space for a potential new crematorium.

**4. Expanded Programme** - this adds a temporary exhibition space and a significantly expanded programme of arts and learning associated with the heritage cemetery. The diversification is pitched to attract arts audiences from Woking and London.

**5. Museum** - this would take Brookwood Cemetery as a destination to a new level. The Vision for the cemetery could be even more ambitiously fulfilled in a new museum developed on the site of the existing office block. Perhaps, provocatively, this would be a Museum of Death - uniquely suited to Brookwood Cemetery which is one of the most significant death-related locations in Europe.



# Brief

## aims and objectives for the masterplan

The requirements for the Masterplan were set out in the Masterplanning Brief dated June 2018 issued to those who tendered for the Masterplan project: The brief explains that Woking Borough Council are “looking for ideas and advice - the Council is currently investing £1.5 million in the (cemetery) site each year plus support from Historic England so there is an urgent need to look at other grant support, but until a Masterplan is in place this is not possible.”

The following list of aims and objectives for the Masterplan are stated in the brief:

- Assess the existing heritage assets and consider their significance and work needed to remove any risk to their continuing survival
- Assess the ongoing maintenance and conservation programme and make recommendations for the long term
- Assess the existing wildlife on the site and make proposals to enhance the wildlife habitat
- Any physical intervention should be guided by a respect for the historic and aesthetic integrity of the site and its setting
- Improve funerary services and develop a sound financial future for the cemetery as a funeral business
- All recommendations will ensure that the historic and natural resources are to be sustainably managed through sensitive conservation. These

requirements must be balanced collectively with the current and future operational needs of the cemetery

- There is a strong desire to open up the cemetery to a wider audience by increased access, interpretation, events and public engagement and to increase volunteer activities
- Improve visitor facilities, parking, toilets, signage and services
- Future funding needs will be considered including some methods of income generation
- Consultation should be an integral part of the Masterplan. This will involve primary consultees - Woking Borough Council, Historic England. Secondary consultees - other site owners and operators within the cemetery, interested amenity groups and founders - Natural England, HLF (now NLHF) Brookwood Cemetery Society, The Gardens Trust.

## masterplan services

The following list of services is taken from the Masterplanning Brief:

The consultant is required to review work to date, and to undertake new research and consultation in order to:

- Develop a high quality Masterplan based on the project vision and objectives for the site encompassing the planning and context and designation

- Examine the site studies and constraints
- Make proposals for restoration and development for:
  1. Built Heritage
  2. Green space and landscape
  3. Interpretation - physical and digital and events
  4. Community facilities including a visitor centre
  5. Access arrangements
- Consult with stakeholders to contribute to the development of planning, interpretation and activities
- Identify a range of ways of generating community participation and engagement
- Review existing plan, and develop new plans for programmes, activities and events which will engage target audiences, support volunteer involvement and skills development, strengthen and build partnerships, and support the future financial sustainability of Brookwood Cemetery
- Make recommendations for operational and management arrangements including security
- Provide an outline business case and funding proposals
- Provide a phased timetable for the work to be carried out.

# Boundary

## Grade 1 list entry boundary

Throughout the document we have shown the whole cemetery site as shown on the Historic England list entry SU 95377 55906. This includes the Military Cemetery which is an important part of the interest of the whole cemetery. It also includes an area to the south west, now designated as an SSSI.

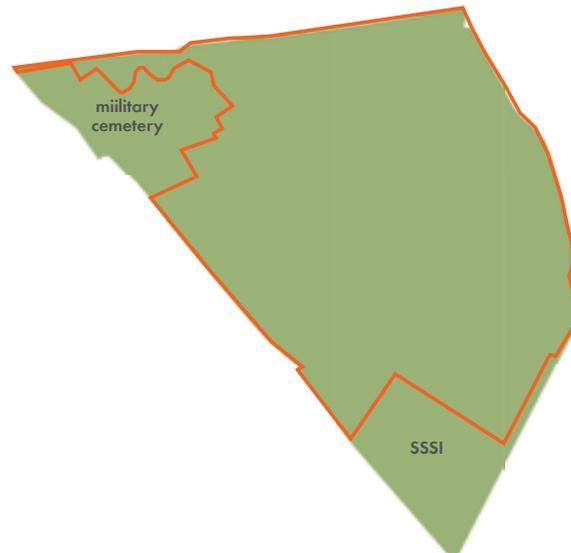
## masterplan boundary

The area for which Woking Borough Council commissioned a Masterplan does not include either the Military Cemetery, or the SSSI.

The Military Cemetery is excluded because it is administered by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the American Battle Monuments. These military cemeteries are separate to, and outside of, the management remit of the civilian Brookwood Cemetery owned by Woking Borough Council. Allies and Morrison have, however, consulted with both the CWGC and the ABM as significant neighbours of Brookwood Cemetery. There is ongoing collaboration between Brookwood Cemetery and the Military Cemetery in relation to aspirations for the cemetery as a whole, to open days and potential future shared events.

The SSSI is excluded as it is no longer an area for potential development

Other separately owned areas and private cemeteries within the Brookwood Cemetery site are included in the Masterplan area as these areas will be used for interments. They also share the infrastructure of the cemetery and need to be included in the the management of the site as a whole.



Masterplan boundary overlaid on the area of Brookwood Cemetery shown in the list entry



Masterplan boundary overlaid on Brookwood Cemetery ownership plan

# Vision for Brookwood Cemetery

## **an exemplary working cemetery**

- A leader in sustainable burial and disposal of bodily remains
- Highest reputation as a multi-cultural place for burial
- A leader in cemetery ecology, nurturing flora and fauna

## **an exemplary heritage recovery**

- Developing a robust model for heritage cemetery recovery after decades of neglect
- An exemplar for other Victorian cemeteries which have suffered similarly
- Making the cemetery's heritage relevant and meaningful to people today
- A unique restoration of a Victorian cemetery landscape

## **the jewel in Woking's cultural crown**

- An extraordinary cultural resource just 6 minutes from Woking
- Unique history which speaks of Britain's multi-cultural heritage
- Within 25 minutes drive of many major cultural and historic sites in Surrey
- A 45 minute train ride from London Waterloo
- A cultural draw for visitors - local and national, and international

## **a special place for the living and the dead**

- A place of remembrance
- A place of contemplation and reflection
- A place for the sharing of knowledge
- A place of discovery and learning
- A place of wellbeing



# London's Necropolis a guide to Brookwood Cemetery

John Clarke's book *London's Necropolis: A Guide to Brookwood Cemetery* (2nd Edition) has been a principal source of information for the Masterplan. It has been referred to throughout for the history of the London Necropolis Company; the history of the cemetery as built; the history of the cemetery as it might have been, but wasn't; the cemetery layout, buildings and designers; the cemetery landscape and planting; the early movement for green burials; the never-realised crematorium; maps current and historical, old photographs, and the multitude of people here.

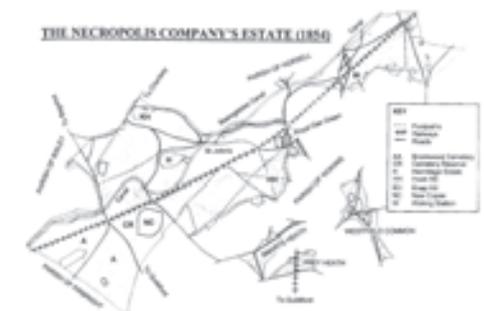
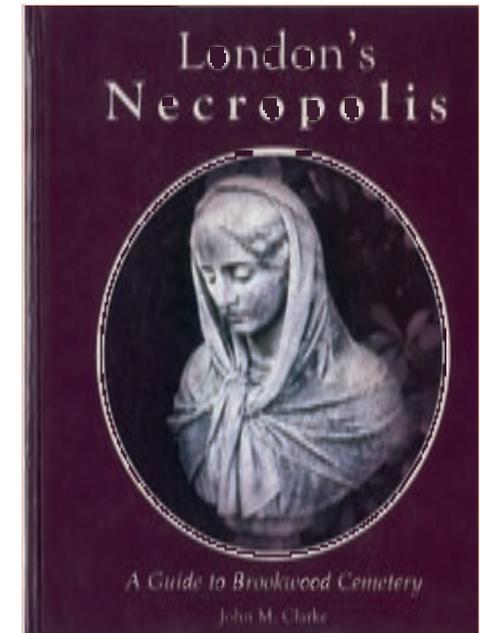
## intangible heritage

The book should also be a principle source for any projects arising out of the Masterplan. It is a mine of information. What the book gives us though, almost over and above all the intensive research and detail, is a sense of the intangible heritage of Brookwood Cemetery. The sense of the 'departed' is ever present and very strong in a cemetery. John Clarke's book brings that out not only for the many lives he has researched, but also for the place itself. So much remains in this huge cemetery, but so much also has gone. The 'missing' is as much part of the story as what is physically there. John Clarke explores 'what might have been' from the bold vision of the London Necropolis Company (whose estate originally encompassed 1200 acres and which shrank to the 'mere' 500 acres now covered by the cemetery listing) through the cemetery's first, never executed design

for a geometric axial layout, to the twice-mooted plans for a crematorium. He shows us 'lost' elements, the most potent of which is the Necropolis train and stations, but includes many other lost features of buildings and landscape. Some, like the young Victorian landscape are 'lost' through the passage of time, while others are lost through human decisions. Poignant all of them and together they are part of this intangible heritage.

The book communicates the strength of feeling which people involved with the cemetery have for the place. From the founders of the LNC to its stakeholders today, these people's passions create its spirit of place.

As much as the fabric and landscape of the cemetery, it is this intangible heritage, this Spirit of Place, that the Masterplan and all future works must seek to conserve.



The Necropolis Company's estate in 1854 showing the extensive common land acquired by the LNC



South Station (John Clarke collection)



Masonry works building (now Beard Construction HQ)



North Station (John Clarke collection)



Superintendent's office area including the former masonry works c. 1970



The Necropolis Train (John Clarke collection)



Gates to the Lodge c.1900 (Surrey History Society)



Above: View of the cemetery from the railway, taken in the early 1890s. The path leads down through the Odhams' section (see 8.12), with the Swedish Ground (see 8.15) in the middle distance. The Nonconformist Chapel and North Station are unmissable features in the landscape (see 8.38). (Author's collection)

The images on this page are of things no longer present at Brookwood Cemetery, but which are part of the cemetery's intangible heritage

# Conservation Management Framework

A Conservation Management Framework was commissioned by Woking Borough Council and prepared by Nicholas M Kelly of Dovetail Building Consultants. The Client Issue For Adoption dated 8 October 2016, issued to the Masterplanning team, provides the basis for the Masterplan. The Conservation Management Framework defines 10 Objectives for the development and improvement of Brookwood Cemetery:

## objectives of the conservation management framework

### **No 1 – Provide Heritage Assessments**

Assess the existing heritage assets, consider their significance, and identify assets at risk to inform conservation improvements

### **Objective No 2 – Obtain Funding**

Obtain project funding to allow for delivery of the core objectives, and in tandem with operational incomes to provide for the sustainable future maintenance of both heritage & natural resources, and for delivery of engagement activities.

### **Objective No 3 – Deliver Heritage Conservation Improvements**

Deliver a sensitive scheme of conservation improvements to ensure that the historic landscape and funerary monuments of the cemetery are conserved, including the re-acquisition and re-

incorporation of land sold historically, should opportunities arise.

### **Objective No 4 – Plan & Budget for Future Sustainable Maintenance**

Develop and deliver a planned system of inspection, management & delivery, including budget provision to provide a future maintenance regime for the sustainable management of the cemetery site and its resources.

### **Objective No 5 – Manage Environmental and Ecological Improvements**

Assess the existing wildlife of the site, identify key species of special interest or indicator species and propose management changes or projects to enhance the wildlife on site.

### **Objective No 6 – Deliver Ecological Conservation Improvements**

Deliver a sensitive scheme of ecological improvements to ensure that the historic landscape and funerary monuments operate harmoniously with the ecological needs of the site.

### **Objective No 7 – Improve Funerary Activities**

Improve the services provided, restore key monuments and memorials and develop a sustainable financial future for the cemetery, including where necessary the delivery of new funerary technologies

### **Objective No 8 – Engagement of the Public**

Work with local interest and community groups and partners to develop an exciting range of holistic and innovative outreach.

### **Objective No 9 – Deliver Access Improvements**

Ensure that the cemetery and facilities are accessible by all, making sure that the heritage and wildlife resources of the cemetery can be enjoyed by everyone, and find new ways of engaging visitors.

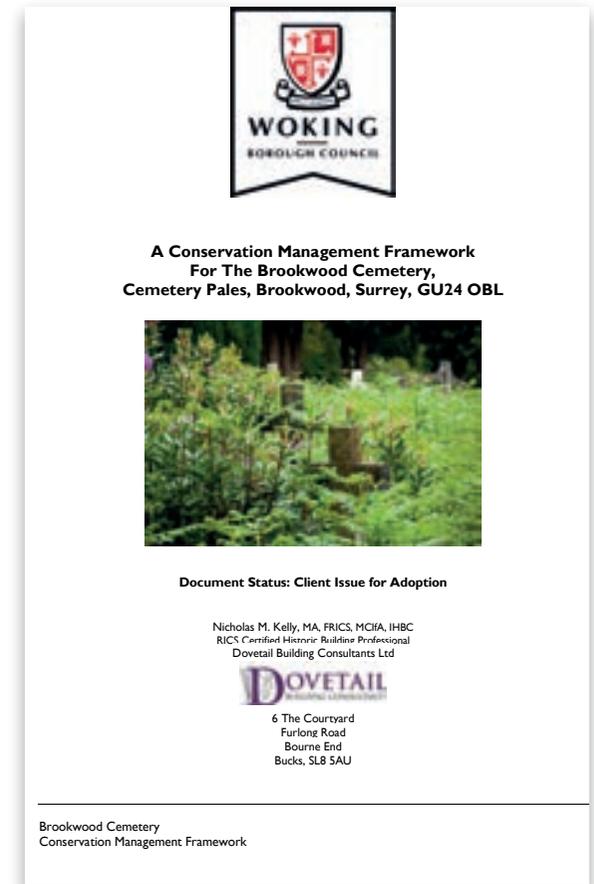
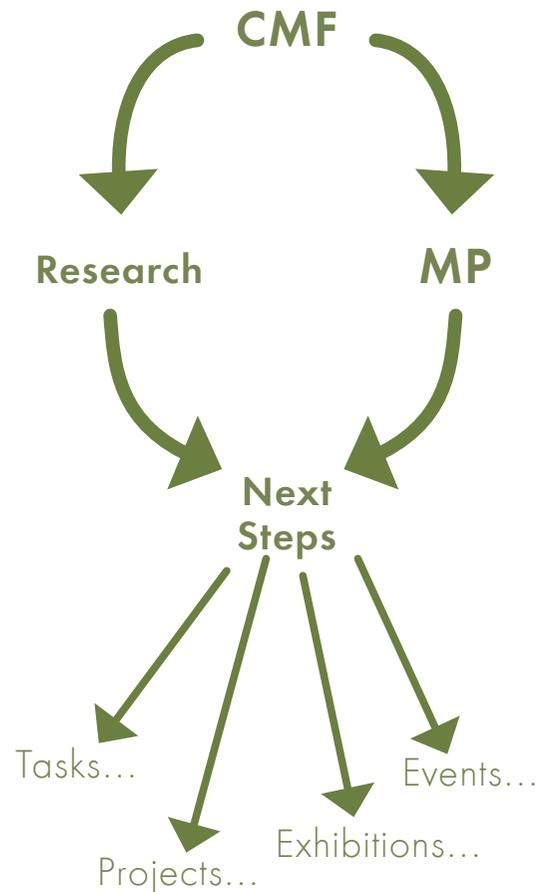
### **Objective No 10 – Improve Visitor Facilities**

Improve existing facilities for visitors, including sensitively designed additional facilities (parking, toilets, access, signage, services), including the road approach, to help the cemetery become more accessible and sustainable and introduce facilities that support the local community, whilst maintaining the Cemetery as a place of remembrance paying particular sensitivity to those visiting the Cemetery to pay respects to the deceased. Activities and resources aimed at existing and new visitors.

## CMF relationship to Masterplan

The Conservation Management Framework provides an overall, comprehensive management strategy for this very large and complex heritage site. The Masterplan takes the information contained in the framework and uses it to develop an overall spatial plan, together with supporting business and experience plans. These three aspects of the Masterplan will guide restoration and development of Brookwood Cemetery over the next 10-20 years, helping the management team to prioritise and focus restoration resources and effort. The Conservation Management Framework recommends further research and investigations relating to aspects including, but not limited to, structures, commemorative structures and monuments, drainage, landscape, ethnology and sociology, archaeology, potential for World Heritage Site designation, access needs, burial communities, arboricultural needs, ecological management, archaeology, demographic data, funerary practices. The extensive and exciting range of research opportunities perfectly illustrates the complex nature of the cemetery.

Research and further investigations will also be required for projects emerging from the Masterplan. The guidance in the CMF sets out the rich array of aspects to be considered when a project is selected. Research should be used to inform, test and develop proposals as they are taken forward.





**1**

**ANALYSIS**

# 1.1 Who is the Masterplan for?

## People at the heart of the cemetery

This Masterplan is for the stakeholders of Brookwood Cemetery - a group of people who range from those involved in the detail of the development and delivery of the conservation scheme, to those with wider shared interests. Groups include site owners and operators, neighbours, heritage and conservation stakeholders. The breadth of interest reflects the great - and exciting - range of people and communities involved in the cemetery. Indeed, this diverse range of communities is the heart of the place. In accordance with Objective no. 8 of the Conservation Management Plan, a series of initial meetings has been held with different groups (see 4.3 in this document). We thank those who gave their time to attend, and for your helpful - and inspiring - advice and comments.

## what did you tell us

The following common threads emerged from consultation:

## keen interests

- Restoring the cemetery
- Sharing the history of the cemetery
- Sharing the stories and history of each different community
- Widening awareness of the cemetery
- Encouraging visitors

- Educating young people in particular
- Making it relevant to people today
- Making a place where people can learn about, talk about, perhaps start to come to terms with, death
- Creating a better visitor experience (perhaps including a little cafe)
- Continuing to improve the cemetery's appearance
- Nurturing the Victorian planting scheme
- Making the place feel safe as well as special and secluded
- Improving signage and wayfinding
- Collaborating between military and civilian cemeteries for tours and visits
- All this while keeping the cemetery a cemetery (not turning it into a 'country park')

## challenges

- Parking
- Lack of loos (in the civilian cemetery)
- Long history of neglect prior to recent commitment and investment
- Security, safety and vandalism
- Drainage
- Managing vegetation
- Confusing layout
- Busy road
- Fragmented ownership

## written comments

In addition, we are grateful to have received written comments on the August draft issue of the Masterplan from The Brookwood Cemetery Society, Historic England, Surrey Wildlife Trust. Detailed advice has also been received from the cemetery's landscape architect, Geoff Ward. These comments are included in appendix 4.3 in this document together with brief summaries of how the Masterplan has responded.





Display boards from stakeholder consultations in July 2019

# 1.2 Significance of Brookwood Cemetery

## significance overall

- The most intriguing English cemetery outside the capital, and in the top 5 for historic interest in the country
- The largest and the most distinctive landscaped cemetery anywhere, using its Surrey heathland setting to full advantage
- Its monuments offer a unique insight into Victorian and Edwardian Britain, and its place in the world
- Its military area is of international significance
- It is unsurpassed for its combination of areas used by different faith groups

## landscape significance

- Distinctive Surrey heathland
- A Grade I registered funerary landscape: one of only 10 in the country
- Mature avenues of giant redwood trees, amongst the first to be planted in Britain
- Quality of planting, reflecting history of cemetery landscape design from formality to glade
- Variety of zones: from dressed dignity to wilderness
- Interplay of nature and design
- Area of 500 acres: discovery and mystery

## commemorative significance

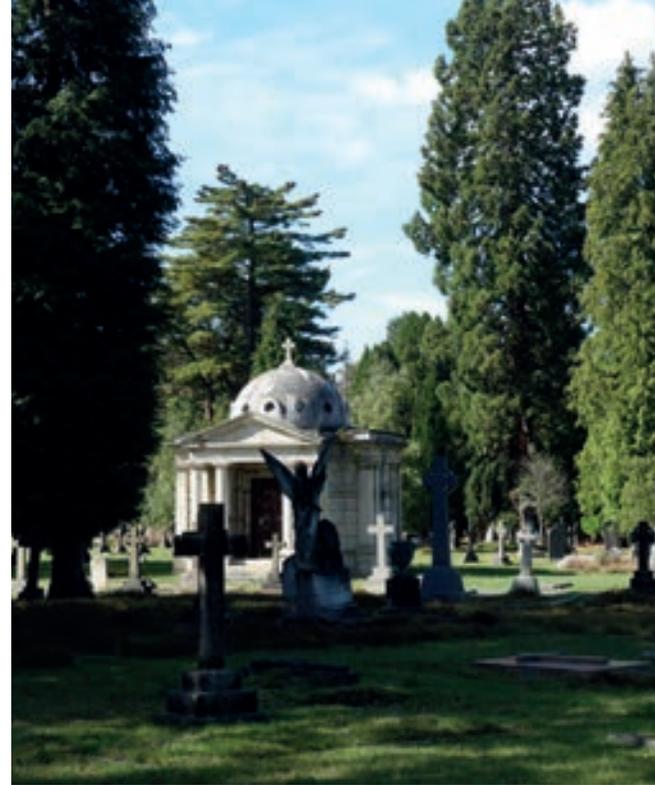
- 18 listed structures: just the tip of the wealth of historic interest here, with more discoveries to be made
- Lots known about the occupants: sound basis of research
- Bringing to life the idea of Victorian deaths and funerals as significant social events
- Industrial, artistic, military, commercial, intellectual, imperial histories each reflected in the monuments
- Sculpture, architecture & design, geology, lettering all there to enjoy
- Sheer quantity of tombs: unsurpassed potential for personal discovery
- Different faith groups reflected in zones
- Unique heritage of transplanted remains from London

## military significance

- Of international importance for its military burials
- Main US cemetery in Britain from the First World War, in the distinctive mode of the American Battlefield Monuments Commission
- Largest CWGC cemetery in UK (including German burials): unique 1939-45 memorial
- Area for Turkish pilots of WW2
- Royal Hospital Chelsea plot
- Private memorials to the victims of war

## significance today

- A major resource linked to London for the gracious disposal of the dead
- One of Surrey's great cultural riches
- Rescued from decline and mismanagement: a bold investment in an area's heritage
- Cemetery at a junction in its history: intervention needed now
- Reflecting the diversity of today's UK
- A place of discovery: of nature, people, death. And life.



# 1.3 The Site

## summary timeline of historical development

Brookwood Cemetery, initially known as the Woking Necropolis, was established to address the problem of burying London's dead.

**1852** an Act of Parliament is passed to allow the London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company to buy 2268 acres heathland from Lord Onslow and to create a cemetery.

**1854** consecration of the Anglican cemetery to the south side. Northern half is designated as the Dissenters or Unconsecrated ground when the site is first laid out.

**1854** first burial.

**1862** Parsee chapel opens.

**1866** peak number of burials 3842

After **1880**, as cemeteries open nearer London, numbers of burials begin to fall.

**1890s** Muslim burial grounds (the first in Britain) open.

**1902** construction of the walls to Cemetery Pales road.

After **1914** there is a general rise in popularity of cremation, and a further fall-off in burials.

**1917** large new military cemetery is laid out on the north cemetery, and later extended to accommodate the Second World War dead.

**1942** Necropolis train and the station at Westminster Bridge Road are destroyed during an air raid. The rail track is dismantled after the war.

**1950** an area known as the Glades of Remembrance is opened to receive cremated remains, including those from Woking's own crematorium (established in 1889) Designed by Edward White.

**1959** cemetery sold to Alliance Property and thereafter to a series of private owners, each neglecting care of cemetery.

**1975** Act of parliament allows sale of cemetery land.

**1975 - 2014** period of land sales.

**1980s** area in south cemetery including part of the old railway line, sold to the Ismaili community

**1982** purchase by St Edward Brotherhood of the former Anglican chapels and the site of the south station.

**1985** purchase of cemetery by the Guney family.

**1992** Formation of the Brookwood Cemetery Society

**1999** sale of area of land in south cemetery to Serbian Orthodox church.

**2014** cemetery site acquired by Woking Borough Council.

## cemetery layout

The layout was planned by the LNC's architect, Henry Abraham during the committee stages leading up to the 1852 LNC's private Act of Parliament. The chapels and stations, including refreshment rooms, were designed by Sidney Smirke who took over from Abraham in 1853.

The cemetery was divided by the road Cemetery Pales into two roughly triangular, unequal halves. The southern half – the first to be developed - was originally all consecrated. The northern half was for nonconformists. The cemetery railway - arguably the cemetery's most unusual landscape feature and now unique in Britain - crossed from north to south over the Pales, culminating at the south station.

# History



London Necropolis Railway (John Clarke - London's Necropolis)



1856 engraving of the cemetery (from J. Clark London's Necropolis). The railway is visible to the far right of the image, and the Ring towards the left. The Guildford-Bagshot road is in the foreground. The now huge and significant Giant Redwoods which now line the cemetery railway line are not seen in the engraving, though formal avenues are visible around, and radiating from, the Ring



Dedication of the Glades of Remembrance 1950 (John Clarke - London's Necropolis)

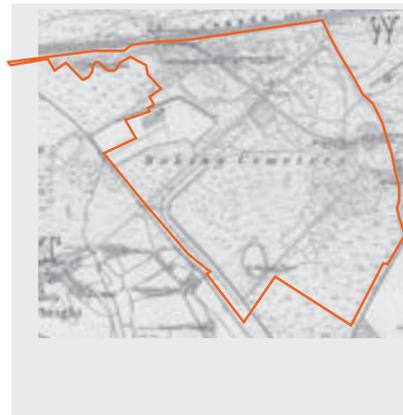


The London terminus of the Necropolis Railway (Credit: SSPL)



The former south cemetery station

The spire of the non-conformist chapel



1873 Ordnance Survey showing the cemetery development to the east of the site



1868 Ordnance Survey showing the military cemeteries to the northwestern part of the cemetery, the Glades to the south of Cemetery Pales, and the gridiron of paths and graves in the south cemetery



The cemetery in 2019 with white areas showing land owned (freehold) by other parties

# Design

## a rare transitional design

Across its enormous acreage, Brookwood brought together the informal, picturesque Arcadian landscape design and a more utilitarian grid layout in a combination which was unusual at the time of its design. The Arcadian funerary landscape trend of the early 19th century combined the picturesque qualities of a private park with graveyard monuments. The design at Brookwood combined this Arcadian vision, complete with its straight and its serpentine paths, with the grid layout promoted more recently by J C Loudon. All areas were planted to J C Loudon's principles (On the Laying Out, Planting and Managing of Cemeteries, published in 1843) in an attractive, ornamental landscape.

The informal layout, with its circular and serpentine paths, offered an Elysian vision for burial space for the wealthy at the north-eastern side of the cemetery. First class graves were accommodated in the prestigious central Ring. In the areas to the south-west, the utilitarian grid provided a space-efficient layout for pauper burials. Axial paths running parallel to the Pales in both the north and south cemeteries connected the picturesque and gridded areas.

## landscape and planting

Following J C Loudon's principles, trees were planted to line the drives and paths and enclose the site perimeter. The sombre evergreens which he

recommended for cemeteries included monkey puzzles, Cedars of Lebanon, Giant Redwoods (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) from America, bay trees, Portugal Laurels and Rhododendrons. The landscape design and planting scheme at Brookwood seem to have been the combined work of Sidney Smirke and Broderick Thomas. Work was carried out by the local nurseryman Robert Donald, of Goldsworth.

Other trees introduced later included a wide variety of pine, cedar cypress, holly beech and yew, acacia, azalea, magnolia. These represented a development beyond Loudon's ideas and a reflection more of the American 'rural cemetery movement' wherein cemeteries would become more 'a pleasure garden instead of a place of graves' (John Clarke p.25)

## buildings

The buildings in the cemetery are generally rather small in scale, settling into the picturesque, rural landscape. Smirke's chapels and stations, constructed in an unusual 'ephemeral' style and materials (timber-frame and render) would have contrasted with the more normal, monumental stone structures found in contemporary, similarly prestigious cemeteries elsewhere. The modest scale and style of the existing buildings within the cemetery complement the idea of the Arcadian landscape.

The exception is the modern office building next to the former Superintendent's Lodge - an

unsympathetic development which dominates Cemetery Pales and the main entrances into the cemetery off the Pales.

## military cemetery

Though still modest compared to the monumental scale of major memorials in northern Europe, the memorials and structures within Brookwood's Military Cemetery follow a different, more formal language to the buildings in the civilian side. Indeed the whole character of the Military Cemetery contrasts with the relative informality of the civilian side. With its manicured lawns and regular rows of headstones laid in a disciplined and orderly fashion, the design of the Military Cemetery embodies the 'repose and dignity' afforded to the fallen.

Of the Military Cemetery buildings, the American chapel is the most dominant - a focus of an axial layout and cruciform paths.

## glades of remembrance

This area was designed by Edmund White as a sequence of 'glades' with paths leading to areas for burial or scattering of cremated remains. Following the trend for design after 1945, White introduced a natural wooded setting combined with a pool and fountain. The informal Pool of Serenity sits near the entrance at the head of a deep drainage moat.



Buildings and monuments forming groups within picturesque landscape (The former Anglican Chapel and Bent Memorial in c. 1880.)



St Cyprian's Avenue in c.1907, showing the serpentine route leading to the Ring, historically the most prestigious of the burial areas in the south cemetery (John Clarke - London's Necropolis)



Map (courtesy of Surrey Gardens Trust) showing the combination of serpentine paths and the grid-iron layout



The British Military Cemetery c. 1925 (John Clarke - London's Necropolis)

# Connections

## local links

Locally, Brookwood is known and appreciated by those living nearby as a place to walk. Commuters use the cemetery as a cut-through to the station, either by foot or by cycle. There is a cycle-store by the station.

National cycle routes 22 and 23 pass through Guildford town centre, and pass close to the cemetery. The cycle route “Saturn Trail” along the Basingtoke Canal passes through Brookwood north of the cemetery on the other side of the mainline railway.

Surrey Live’s website details a walk through Pirbright, linking it to Brookwood.

## to and from surrounding Surrey

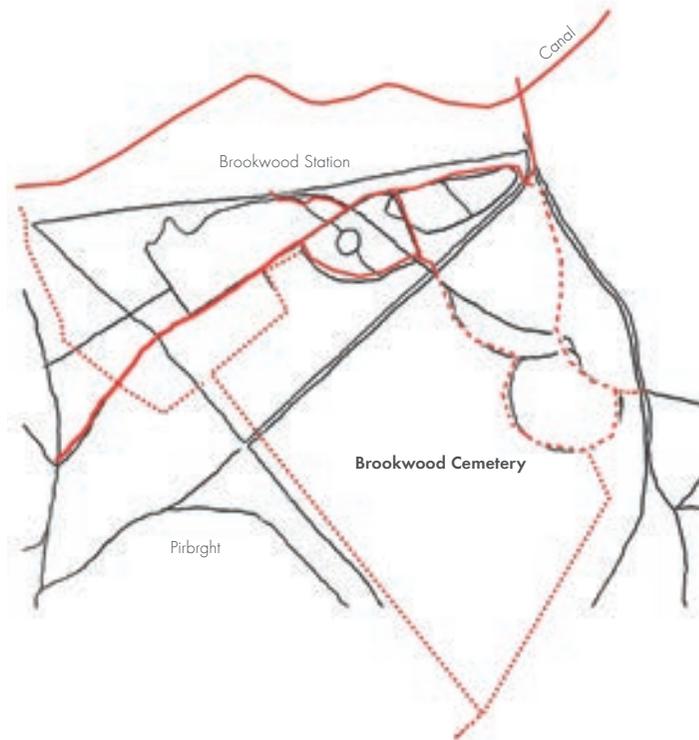
South and east of Brookwood Cemetery lie a number of Surrey’s important historical and cultural sites, including Compton and the Watts Gallery, Guildford Cathedral, Clandon Park, West Horsely Place, Woking Palace, The Lightbox, and Wisley RHS gardens. Brookwood is within a nominal 25 minute car journey from most of these cultural sites. From Woking the rail connection is extremely quick and easy. Despite the close link, many people living in Woking are apparently unaware of Brookwood cemetery.

Large areas of (poorer) land to the west and north are owned by the army, with army towns Farnborough and Aldershot a short direct train ride away.

## linking to London

Brookwood Cemetery’s rail link to London remains, even though no longer to its original Waterloo terminus or via its (now destroyed) dedicated rail link. This easy connection to London, and through London to an even wider context, is something that Brookwood Cemetery may capitalise upon to increase its appeal to national and international users and visitors.

## local



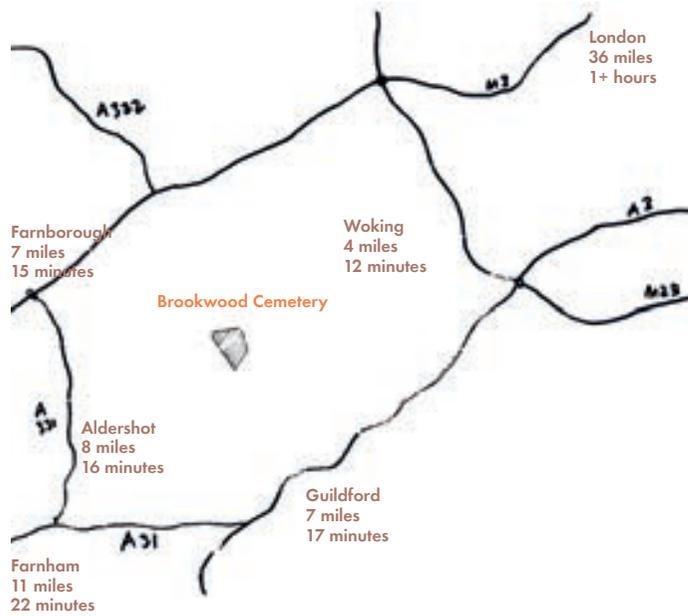
Cycling links to the canalside ride, and through the cemetery to Pirbright

- Existing cycle routes
- ..... Potential new cycle connections



Local walking routes and nearby heathland

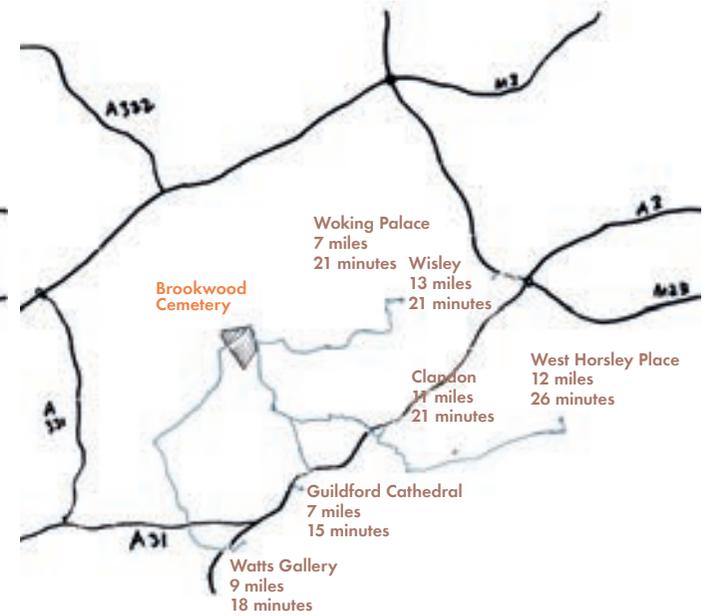
## regional



Major road network



Smaller road network

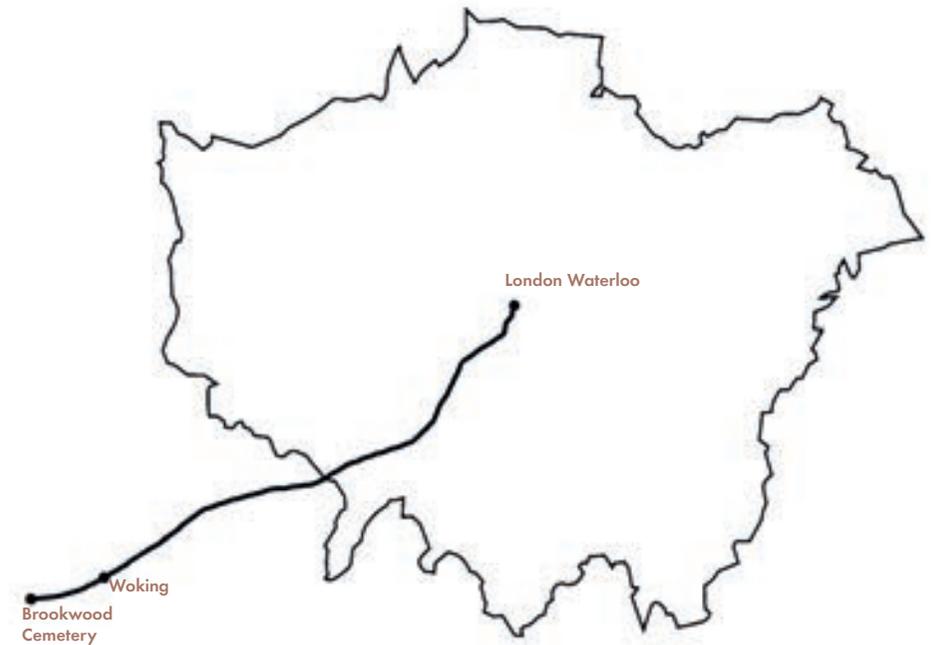


Links to Surrey historical sites

## national



Rail network and journey time overlaid on the major road network

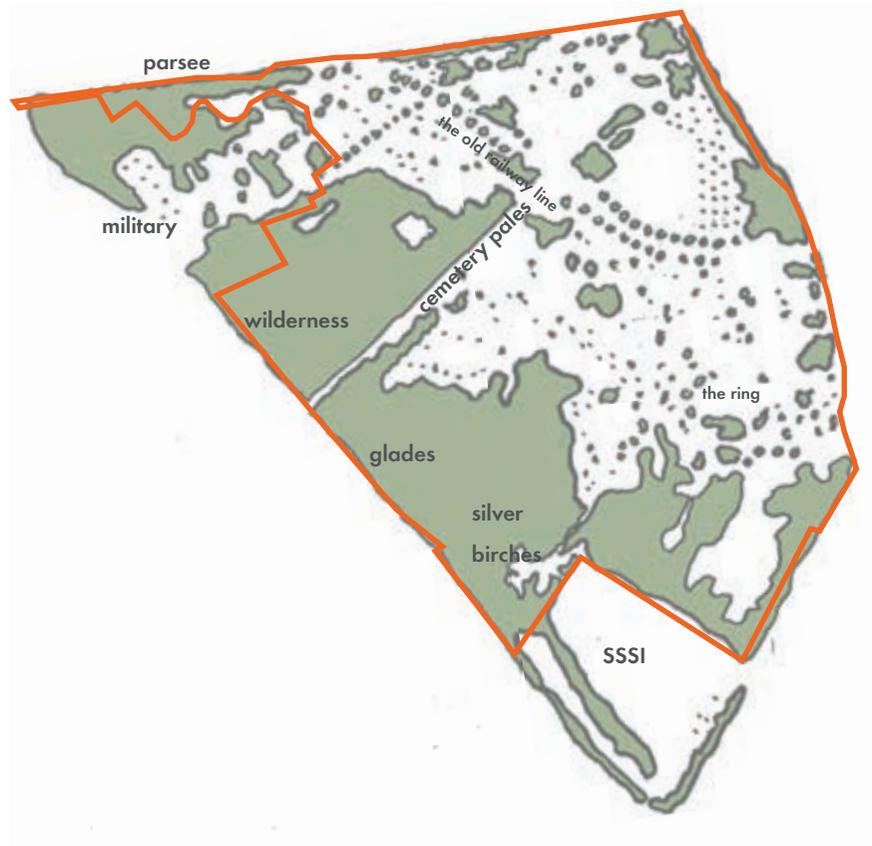


The Necropolis' relationship to modern greater London

# Layers of the Site - Landscape

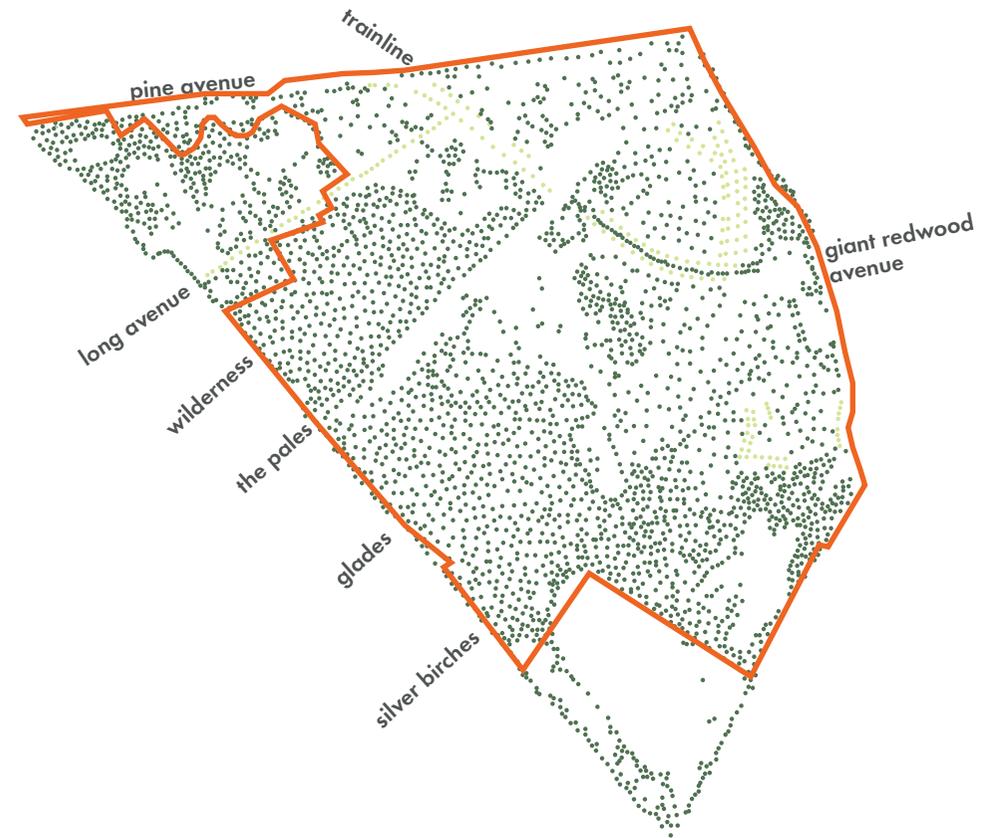
## tree density

Largely self-seeded woodland areas contrast with the more open grass and heathland, and formal planting in the east



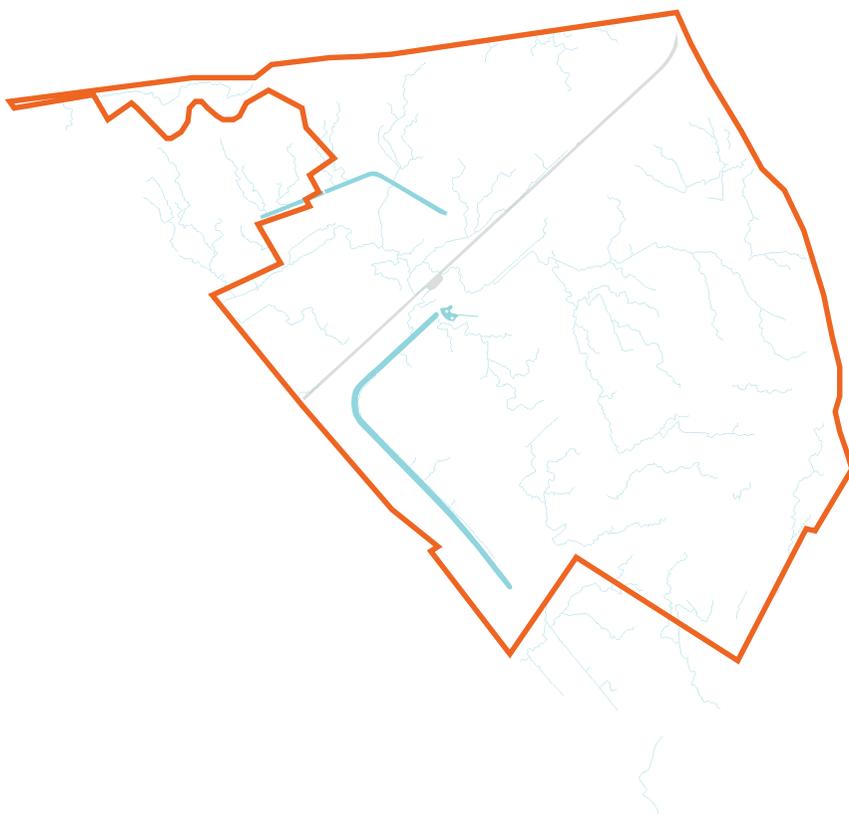
## formal and informal tree cover

Formal lines of Giant Redwood follow the old railway line, Long Avenue and St Andrew's Avenue. Remnants of lines of formal avenues can be seen south of the Ring.



## water

Streams and ditches (layout mapped from WSP report 2016 Lidar Survey)



## acid grassland and heather

Existing acid grasslands and mixed grassland/ heathland (mapped from Surrey Wildlife Trust survey 2016)

- acid grassland/mixed acid grassland and heathland
- neutral grassland



# Layers of the Site - Built

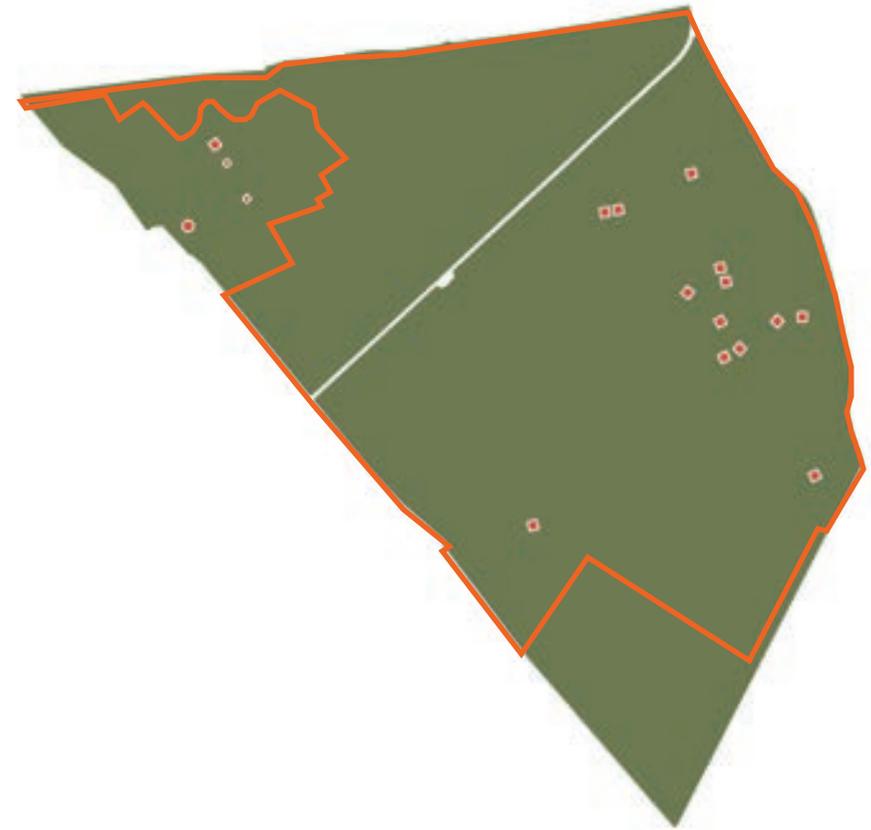
## graves

(monuments and headstones only - not showing unmarked graves)  
Records of many graves and plots have been lost over time, and the new cemetery management is actively engaged in ongoing research to establish occupants and ownerships. See also appendix 4.1



## monuments and structures

Including the listed structures and the recently revealed Colquhoun chapel in the south west corner of the cemetery.



## primary routes through the cemetery

The old railway line and Long Avenue are lined by Giant Redwood trees. Cemetery Pales is lined by a wall on both sides



## buildings for the living

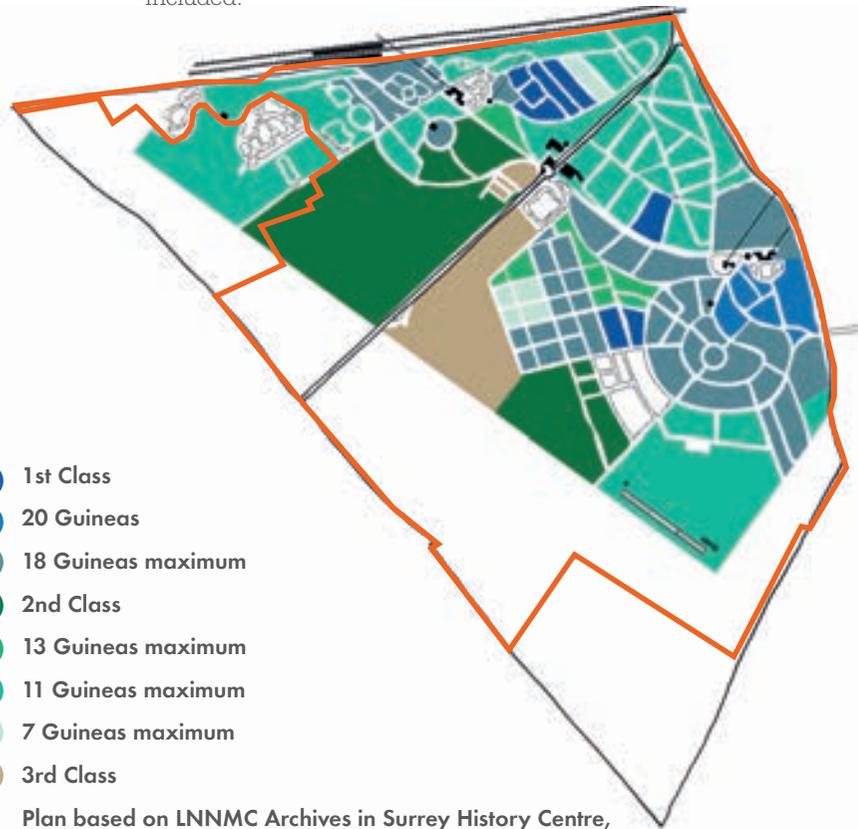
Buildings locate themselves in clusters around the main cemetery routes: positioned close to and orthogonal to the Pales; set back away from Long Avenue. The old stations hugged the railway line, but chapels are set away addressing the wider cemetery landscape.



# Layers of the Site - Cultural

## Victorian class areas

The most expensive grave plots are in the most desirable areas: close to the Victorian chapels, near to the cemetery stations in both the south and north cemeteries. Also desirable were the places highly visible from pathways including St Cyprian's Avenue leading to the Ring. The pauper burial grounds are not included.



- 1st Class
- 20 Guineas
- 18 Guineas maximum
- 2nd Class
- 13 Guineas maximum
- 11 Guineas maximum
- 7 Guineas maximum
- 3rd Class

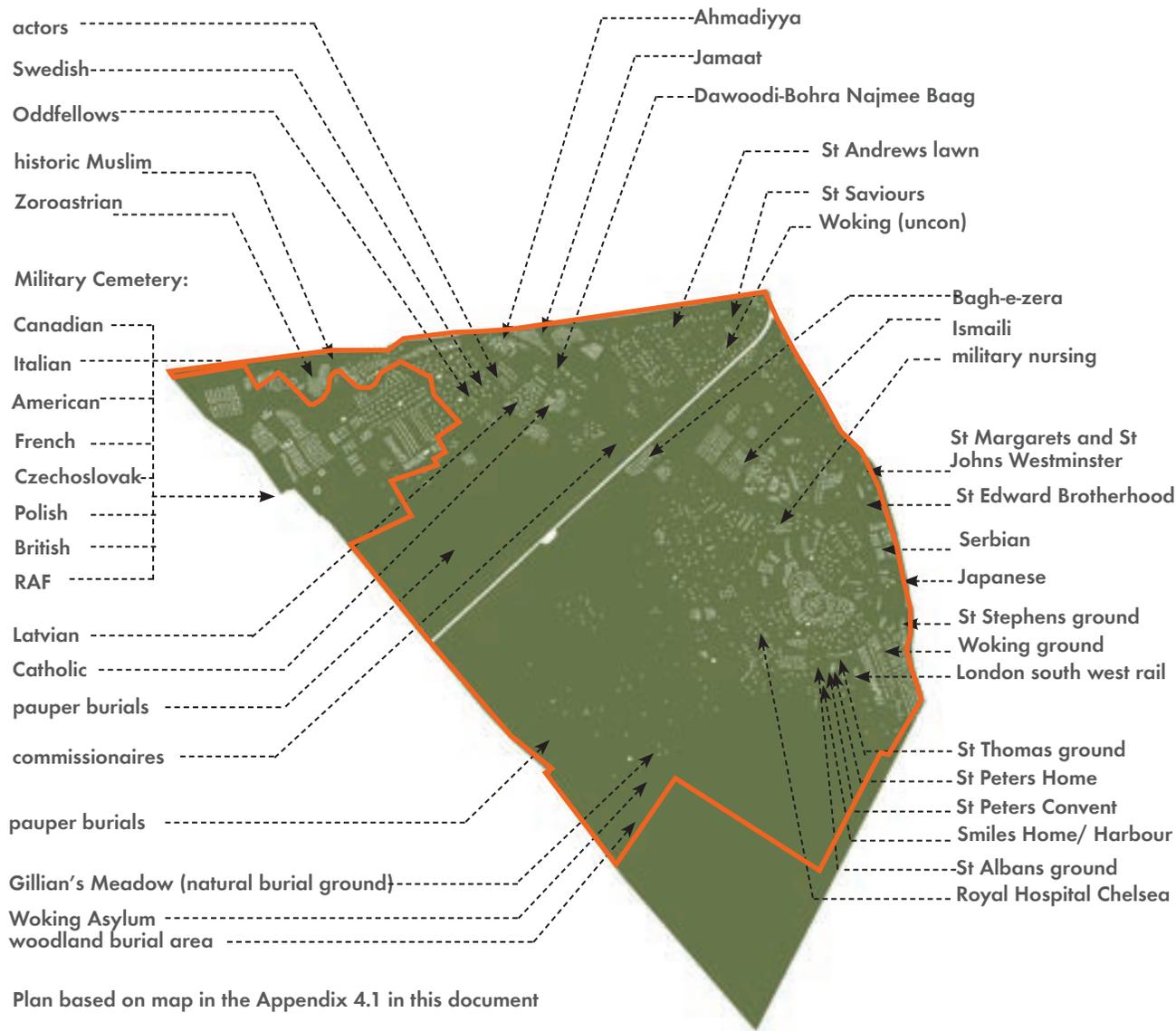
Plan based on LNNMC Archives in Surrey History Centre, source Angela Herman (2010) "Death has a touch of class: Society and Space in Brookwood Cemetery 1853-1903"

## historic burial hierarchy

The plan below groups together the Victorian premium areas, second class areas and third class areas identified in the map opposite. It also includes the pauper burial zones noted by John Clarke for both the north and south cemeteries.



- Premium burial plots
- 2nd Class / Mid range burial plots
- 3rd Class burial plots
- Pauper burial areas



Plan based on map in the Appendix 4.1 in this document

## burial communities (historic and current)

London parishes historically formed the majority of the LNC's business. Burials came from south and west London, as well as from some inner city parishes with whom the LNC won contracts. Contracts guaranteed exclusive and spacious burial grounds that catered for all denominations. Parish and faith communities were able to be buried in the same area. Other groups choosing to be buried near to their community fellows included actors and the Oddfellows, veterans of the armed services, groups of workers such as the railwaymen.

Community grounds remain a fundamental characteristic of Brookwood Cemetery. The London parish grounds are little used nowadays but other community burial grounds have developed. The Military Cemetery and civilian cemeteries both include areas dedicated to different nationalities. Many of the north cemetery burial grounds are in active use today - the Muslim, Catholic, Zoroastrian and Latvian cemeteries are examples - forming strong centres for their communities. The Muslim burial areas in the north and south are both wishing to expand.

Brookwood's pioneering green burial tradition has been revived and continued by the new cemetery management. Gillian's Meadow in the southwest corner offers a field free of headstones which is dedicated for green burials. Woodland burial in the western fringes is increasing.

# Layers of the Site - Governance and Maintenance

## current ownership

White areas show freehold land not currently owned by the cemetery. WBC are currently negotiating the purchase of the property coloured grey.



## current maintenance

The level of maintenance across the site varies depending on

- who owns the land
- whether it has visible graves in it (the woodland areas have very few)
- whether it is currently used for burial and/or visited regularly

The active burial grounds are looked after but care is fragmented and lacks a shared, coordinated approach to the historic landscape.



## underlying cultural values

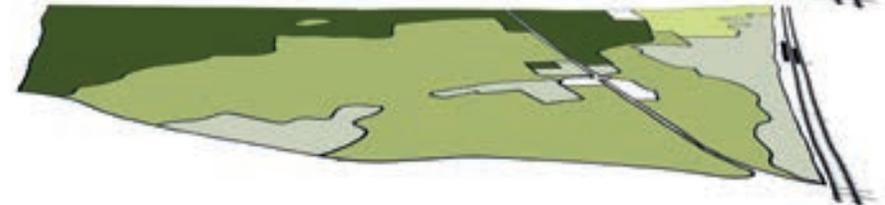
The current form and state of the landscape reflects a series of cultural layers overlaid on the Surrey heathland. These layers begin with the paths and planting first laid out in the mid 1850s, the maintenance of which was closely linked to the class of burial area. The greatest care would have been lavished on the more expensive plots, and less on the lower class areas. Pauper areas in the west of the site would have been left effectively as heathland. As the demand for Church of England and non-denominational Christian burial tailed off (for various reasons including the increasing popularity of cremation), the earliest and busiest areas in the south and north cemeteries became less used and less visited. These areas were neglected as business refocussed generally towards the north cemetery and the burial grounds of other faiths. A few actively maintained pockets of the cemetery can still be found in the south cemetery in privately-owned properties belonging to St Edward Brotherhood, the Serbian Orthodox Church, the Japanese Shin Buddhist temple and Ismaili community.

Since acquiring the cemetery, Woking Borough Council have improved the maintenance of the little used, but prestigious historical areas, and have started to recover the original structure of the Victorian planting scheme. Their approach aims to balance heritage and ecological significance, recovering monuments whilst still nurturing habitats, such as acid grassland and heather, which have grown up in the years of neglect. The pauper areas with few visible graves have developed into wilder birch woodland. The active burial grounds are looked after by their communities, giving these areas their own landscape characters.

Landscape character



Current governance and maintenance



Historic burial hierarchy



Map of 1873



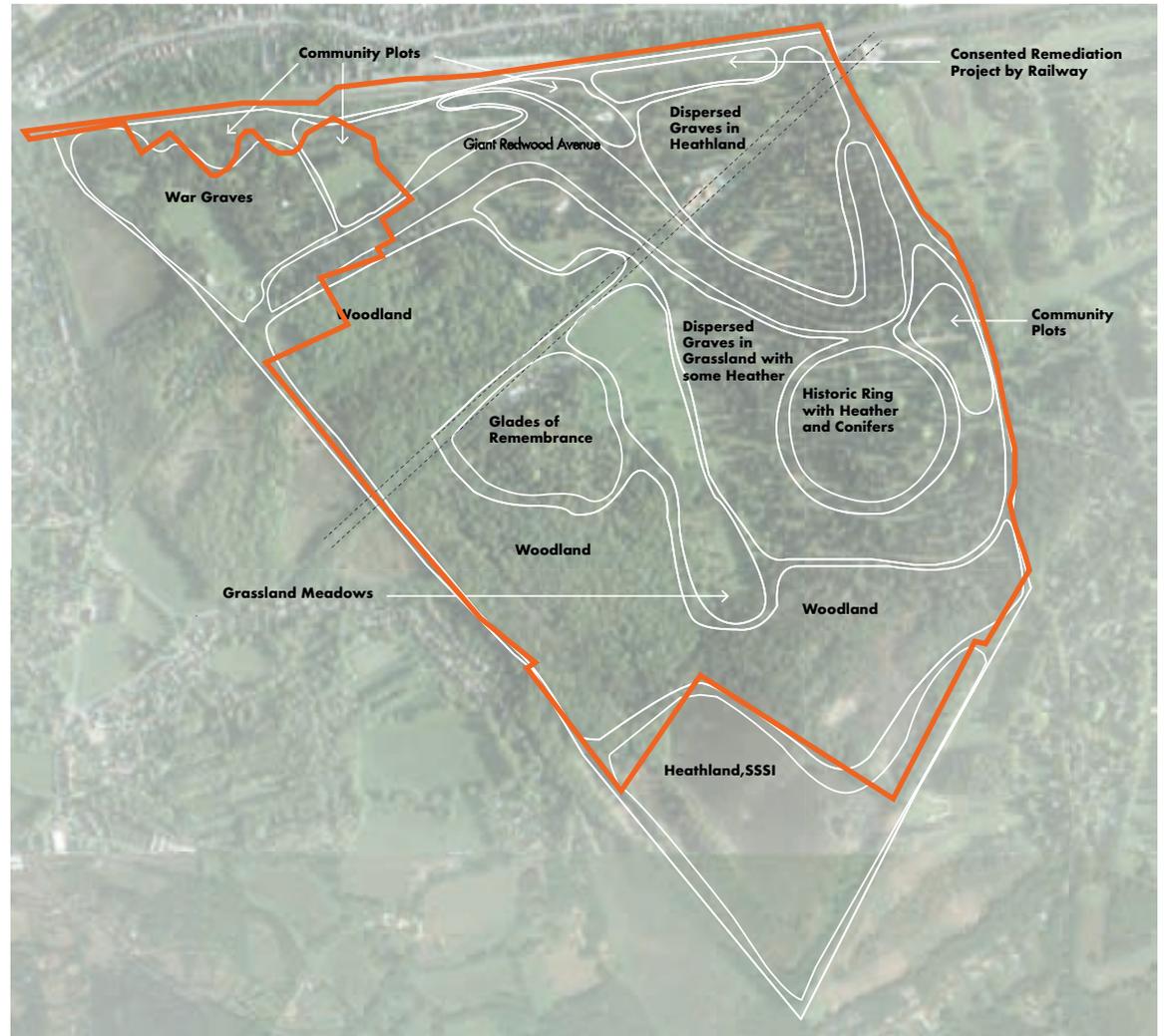
View of 1856



# Landscape character

Long-term neglect of the cemetery, prior to its relatively recent acquisition by Woking Borough Council, has had both positive and negative effects on the landscape of the cemetery. On one hand, neglect has allowed the acid grassland and heather to thrive, which is one of the main reasons that the cemetery is so important ecologically. The cemetery contains a number of rare and protected habitats and species. The acid grassland and relict heathland support unusual varieties of moss and fungi as well as uncommon plant species such as Devil's Bit Scabious which provides an important nectar source for rare bee species. On the other hand, the neglect, with only recent management interventions, has tended towards a uniform landscape with less and less distinction between different parts of the cemetery. This increasing sameness does not reflect the great range of cultural values which underlie the memorial landscape and which make the cemetery so important culturally. Nevertheless, the different areas of the cemetery do have their own special character - illustrated opposite - which could be enhanced by management,

Experienced together with its pattern of memorials and headstones, the landscape of cemetery is its most important characteristic. It is the living embodiment of the cemetery's cultural values, reflecting the Victorian values that founded it and the diversity of communities who bury their dead in it. It symbolises a complex, multi-cultural society's relationship with nature and death over nearly two centuries.



Plan of the cemetery showing the different 'character areas' (Note the boundaries are indicative only)



Dispersed graves in acid grassland /heathland



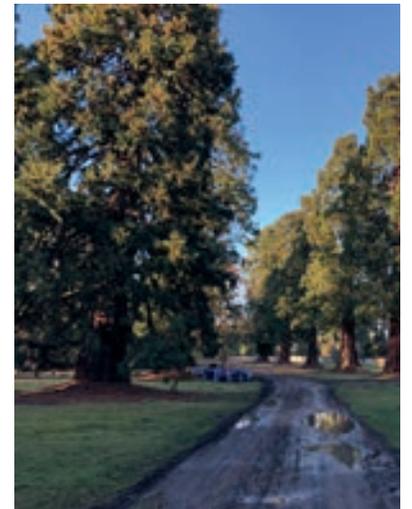
Grassland meadow



Dispersed graves with some heather



Historic ring



Giant Redwood Avenue



Glades of Remembrance



War graves



Enclosed community plots



Enclosed community plots



Woodland



# 2

## CHALLENGES, ASSETS AND RESPONSES

# 2.1 Challenges, Assets and Responses

Challenges and assets were discussed with stakeholders

landscape and ecology

## challenge

- Much of cemetery being colonised by dominant species thus losing its original character
- The Victorian planting scheme is no longer legible
- Character will gradually be lost if the land is allowed to revert to being the “waste of Woking” (as it was originally called before the cemetery was founded there)

## asset

- Fantastic range of flora and fauna
- Site of Nature Conservation Interest
- Specialness of this part of Surrey
- Rare opportunity to cultivate and celebrate the different landscapes within the cemetery, from formal and tended, to managed heathland, to woodland magic

## response

- Landscape management to bring out different landscape characters
- Restore historic ring to Victorian splendour - a unique heritage undertaking
- Celebration of the magnificent Giant Redwood avenue, the earliest and grandest in the UK



Better reveal the Giant Redwood avenue along the old railway line

# short to-medium term

## very large site

### challenge

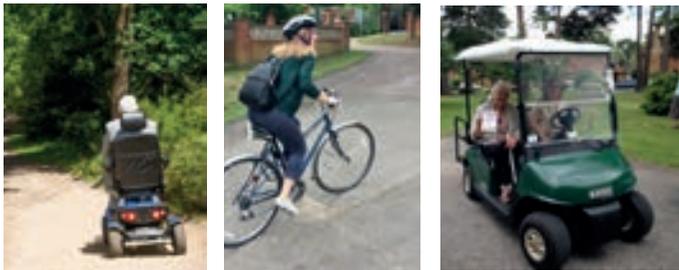
- Long distances to walk.

### asset

- Can support many different activities without inconveniencing others.

### response

- Better, localised parking in the cemetery
- Cycle hire and cycling routes
- Buggy and mobility scooter hire
- Cycle/buggy/scooters could be trialled for a period to see how well this idea works



## parking

### challenge

- Funerals may bring 30-40 cars onto the site. Current inadequate parking - mourners park anywhere in the cemetery, sometimes on graves
- Up to 40 cars for Sunday services at the Brotherhood
- More funerals and visitors will bring more cars
- Crowds of randomly parked cars ruin the spirit of the cemetery

### asset

- Huge site has opportunities to create hidden, landscaped car parks to serve many different parts of the cemetery
- Cemetery walls and areas of woodland will screen parking areas

### response

- Identify areas where cars could be parked discreetly, conveniently located to serve different parts of the cemetery
- Use areas of self-seeded woodland but minimise impact on mature trees
- Landscape screening to the car parking areas to be integrated into the cemetery's soft landscaping



**X** parking on verges



**✓** discreet, landscaped parking areas

# short to-medium term

## reversing neglect

### challenge

- Many parts of the cemetery are visually unappealing, despite its landscape setting and rich heritage

### asset

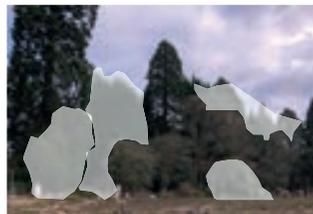
- Bold commitment by new owners, Woking, to recover the special qualities of the cemetery.

### response

- Programme of small, careful improvements will add up (landscape maintenance, tree management, graves management, better parking, bins, signage) to gradually reverse the decline.



Drainage recovery is ongoing



Tree management

## complex layout of routes and paths

### challenge

- Confusing layout - easy to get lost
- Historic layout now partially eroded
- Layout of paths does not naturally guide the visitor around the cemetery
- Reliance on lots of signage.

### asset

- Variety and richness of different paths and routes
- Sense of discovery
- Historic layout still perceptible

### response

- Bring out subtle 'hierarchy' of routes to help guide visitors
- Strengthen important original routes eg. railway line
- Link up existing paths to create a clear and inviting circuit around the cemetery, encouraging exploration of the full cemetery including the wilder areas



# short to-medium term

## working cemetery

### challenge

- Need to balance respectful place of burial with imaginative inquiry into theme of mortality.

### asset

- Growing interest in idea of death in society - education and engagement.

### response

- Co-ordinate different routes for welcoming different groups of visitors.
- Different methods of interpretation for different groups of visitors.



Brookwood is a working cemetery

## huge amount of hidden information

### challenge

- Can only scrape the surface.
- Overwhelming 'making sense of the multitude'.

### asset

- Fascinating deeper social histories waiting to be told.

### response

- Visitor centre with archive and exhibition space.
- Convert existing building eg. the Lodge?
- Information points around the site.
- Enhanced digital offer.



The Lodge (former Superintendents' Lodge) in 2019



Image of an archive and visitor centre

# short to-medium term

many different groups and (multiple ownership)

## challenge

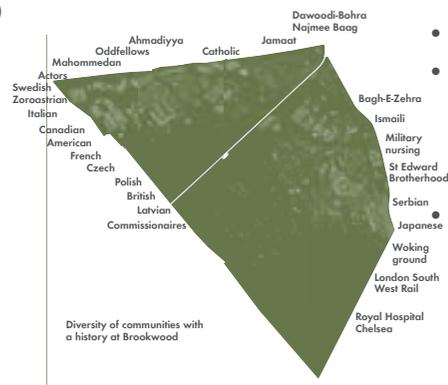
- Difficult to engage with all, and co-ordinate for funeral timings, care for cemetery.
- Need for overall vision.

## asset

- Richness and diversity.
- New owner Woking Borough Council committed to recovery of the cemetery, and to working with groups.

## response

- Multi-cultural community of different stakeholders (community board) to guide and advise.
- Website as organisational resource
- Community artist (national funding schemes currently available for this)



a huge, unique, but little known asset

## challenge

- Cemetery little known, and little visited, even by those living in nearby Woking.
- Cemetery can feel an empty, even lonely place

## asset

- Great sense of hugeness of cemetery, and of solitude
- Great potential to increase its local appeal
- And to raise its profile more widely.
- Place so big, can bring in many more visitors without affecting atmosphere

## response

- Improving the cemetery - its appearance, and provide better visitor experience.
- Improving marketing and publicity.
- Introducing a few, new appropriate activities to bring people here to appreciate the cemetery (promoting education, wellbeing eg. Forest School in secluded glade? Small classical concerts?)



Drake memorial has been recently repaired, but could benefit from further restoration



Summer classical concerts in a glade



Forest School in a woodland glade

# short to-medium term

## monuments

### challenge

- Many neglected
- A vast number of historic monuments – legal owners have disappeared - too many for cemetery management to handle alone

### asset

- Modern working cemeteries don't have such beautiful dignified monuments – they are an asset
- Sculptural and artistic excellence in many
- The collection is an integral part of beautiful landscape

### response

- Restoration strategy based on selective prioritising of the historic monuments
- Already much work completed to make monuments safe (March-August 2019, 7093 monuments inspected, 486 identified at risk, 241 repaired)



Monuments and mausolea in Brookwood Cemetery

# longer term

## financial sustainability of the cemetery

### challenge

- Current rate of burials on its own does not cover operational expenses.

### asset

- Plenty of potential
- Space available for many more burials.
- Previous Acts of Parliament pave the way for possible crematorium.

### response

- Explore potential for making Brookwood Cemetery a leader in environmentally responsive death.
- Promote more green burials.
- Possible introduction of environmentally sustainable crematorium.



Jae Rhim Lee's mushroom burial suit is one imaginative response to the environmental impact of death



## Cemetery Pales

### challenge

- Busy, noisy road
- North and South cut off from each other.

### asset

- Cemetery Pales part of the historic character of cemetery.

### response

- Overall, encourage the idea that the north and south cemeteries are related and connected.
- Pales road seen as a walled 'road through a memorial landscape'.
- Measures to slow down traffic.
- Better pedestrian crossings.



Cemetery Pales seen as a 'stitch' between north and south

## making Brookwood Cemetery a destination

### challenge

- Distance from London discourages visitors, so Brookwood needs to offer more than the other 'magnificent heritage cemeteries'.

### asset

- Combination of landscape and multi-cultural heritage is extraordinary and unique.
- Historic relationship with London (Necropolis railway).
- Major international place of military treatment.
- But this needs to be brought out and made relevant to today's audiences.

### response

- A Surrey resource with wider appeal.
- Rebuilding cemetery's relationship with London - for visitors *and* as place to be laid to rest.
- Building on Brookwood's international appeal.
- Enriching the cultural offer - introducing contemporary art, film, performance, events to bring out the relevance of the Cemetery.



The Necropolis Railway



HRH Princess Musbah Haidar



Zaha Hadid architect



Gottlieb Wilhelm Leitner

## making Brookwood Cemetery an exemplar

### challenge

- Brookwood is not alone in Britain as a heritage cemetery in crisis after decades of neglect.

### asset

- Highly significant, Grade 1 listed site of great potential.

### response

- Chance to create an exemplary approach to conserve interest of Brookwood, and learn lessons for other cemeteries elsewhere.
- Extraordinary potential for inclusive recovery of Britain's diverse heritage
- Honouring the memory of visionaries such as Gottlieb Wilhelm Leitner, buried at Brookwood.



3

PROPOSALS

# 3.1 Spatial principles

Each of the Masterplan Steps 1 to 5 is guided by these spatial principles. They apply as much to the Ongoing Activities and Initial Moves, as to the more ambitious proposals for the Long-term Additions and Museum.

## strengthen the railway line

This significant route - a key part of the history of the cemetery - has been eroded over time. Parts have been lost through land sales, parts simply closed off. It was once the defining route from the north to the south cemetery. Nowadays, though much of it still remains, it is difficult to see.

Emphasising the railway route offers a great opportunity to bring out the historical layout and logic of the cemetery, encouraging understanding of the cemetery and how it was originally laid out and used, and to link the north and south cemeteries.



## Cemetery Pales as a 'seam'

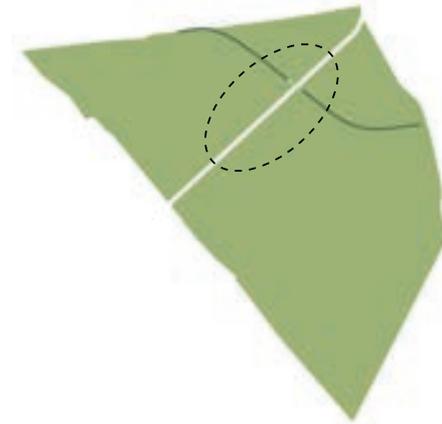
Cemetery Pales could be transformed from a road which splits the cemetery into two isolated halves, into a route which helps unite them.

This may be done directly with new pedestrian connections from north to south. Or it may be done visually with new avenues of trees planted both side of the Pales, which can be seen almost touching each other across the road as one drives down the Pales.



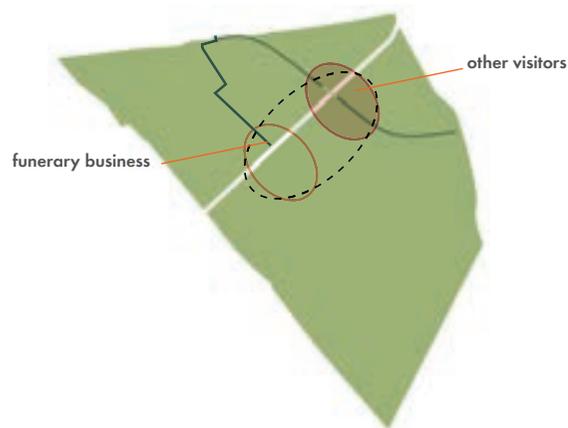
## gather around the centre

New development (new buildings or parking) should focus around the centre of the cemetery. The road provides ready-made access to these places, minimising disturbance elsewhere in the cemetery. Places near the road are naturally busier. Concentrating new interventions around the Pales helps keep the rest of the cemetery quieter and more tranquil.



### separate hubs for funerary business and other visitors

The needs of different groups of visitors to the cemetery need to be carefully accommodated. Having different centres for people coming on cemetery business and for other visitors would be one way to cater for these different groups. Glades House is already the focus of cemetery operations. A visitor centre located a little distance away, by the crossing of the old railway line and Cemetery Pales, would be central, convenient and easily accessible (by car from the Pales and a relatively short walk from the station).



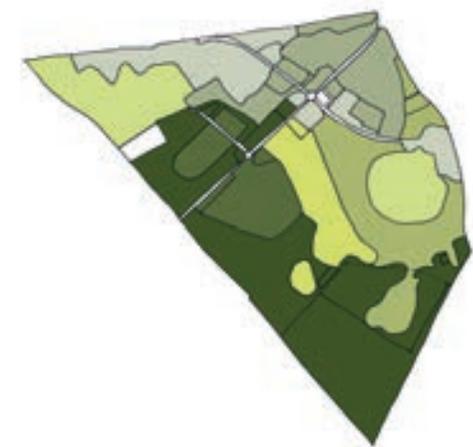
### curate the longer circuit

The layout of this enormous cemetery as been compromised over time - partly by the loss of old routes, partly by land sales. The resulting current layout can be confusing. A new footpath which links up with existing paths would create a simple circuit which would encourage the visitor to explore the whole cemetery. The original visitors' route would have been around the smart areas, never to the wilder pauper zones. The circuit would take in the full range, giving a better understanding of history, engage with landscape and natural diversity, promote wellness, fitness, all round appreciation.



### burial areas with different characters

Encourage the development of burial areas to enhance the experience and significance of the landscape. Graves and landscape are to be managed to bring out the different characters of the cemetery areas. These can range from a highly manicured setting and traditional burials to more naturalistic wooded and heathland landscapes and natural burials. The different areas should all be seen as part of one cemetery, a harmonious whole, the landscape flowing one to the next.



## 3.2 Ongoing Tasks

**Step 1 of the Masterplan entails ‘tuning’ the regular maintenance and repair tasks to support the Vision for the cemetery. It sets in motion practices to intensify and enhance its memorial landscape.**

### landscape management

- Reveal historic Giant Redwood Avenue
- Improve tree skylines
- Promote change towards the original Victorian character
- Promote differences between character areas
- Adjust mowing regime to enhance historic character
- Mow edges to paths
- Manage and reduce woodland
- Manage tree chapels

### structures repair

- Restoration of monuments
- Boundary wall repair
- Fences and security
- Drainage recovery

### memorial landscape

- develop burial areas to enhance landscape characters, including appropriate types of grave and memorial
- define dedicated areas for faiths and cultural groups
- avoid new graves in areas for future development

### funerary business and operations

- Operations as existing
- Encouraging green burials

### programme and interpretation

- Activities as existing including:
- Walking tours led by Brookwood Cemetery Society volunteers
- Open Day
- School visits

# Landscape management

Long term neglect with only recent management interventions has contributed towards a uniform landscape with less and less distinction between different parts of the cemetery. This increasing sameness does not reflect the great range of cultural values which underlie the memorial landscape and which make the cemetery so important culturally.

The landscape of the future cemetery should elegantly accommodate, in a harmonious whole, the different cultural interests which will continue to shape it. Managing and nurturing the rich ecology of the cemetery is an integral part of this process, contributing to the different qualities of place found across the Cemetery by considering the guidelines set out in the Surrey Wildlife Management Plan. But ecology is one interest alongside valuing and caring for the heritage of different groups. The special character of different areas of the cemetery could be enhanced through management. Balancing the natural habitat with heritage recovery will evolve a range of different landscape experiences, helping us understand and enjoy the cemetery as a living memorial landscape.

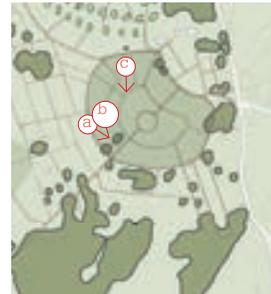
Changes to the management regime could be developed to promote diversity in both landscape character and habitat creation. Following detailed surveys, the tree canopy needs to be selectively reduced to promote good specimens which will improve the appearance and biodiversity. Opening up areas within the woods invites visitors into these 'secret' areas.



# Landscape Management

## 1. reveal historic Giant Redwood Avenue

- Reveal a broadwalk avenue through removal of all vegetation on railway embankment (maintaining ongoing liaison with WBC's arborist)
- Emphasise historic railway corridor and connections between north and south cemetery.
- The Giant Redwood avenue would bear similarity to the existing avenue through the Military Cemetery
- Consider how the removal of vegetation should be managed to protect species such as breeding birds and bats.



## 2. begin to retrieve original Victorian landscape of Ring

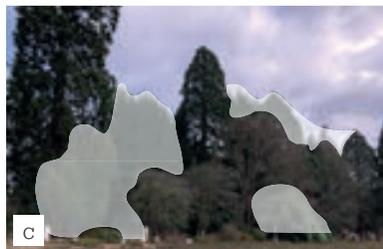
Promote change towards the original Victorian character through clearance of vegetation on historic Ring

- Clearance of heather and scrub to reveal this particular historic place.
- Through clearance, the appearance will be more tended and in contrast to the wider landscape
- Remove stone fragments in agreement with heritage team, and support existing mowing regime to return to Victorian character of historic Ring.

Adjustments to landscape maintenance respond to the heritage conservation need, whilst also considering guidelines in the Surrey Wildlife Management Plan.

### 3. improve tree skyline

- Through selective thinning of trees, particularly in the north, the shape of key trees will be revealed as per the original cemetery design and the horizon improved.
- Some trees are too close to each other
- Removal of some under-storey vegetation will benefit long term future of selected specimen trees.
- Give prominence to significant trees
- Selective thinning should also take into account breeding birds and bats.



### 4. promote differences between character areas

Intensify the different characters of the different areas through clearing of vegetation, whilst also promoting particular aspects of planting:

- Heather and grasses to be promoted for heathland character zones.
- Restoration to Victorian character for the historic ring.
- In historic Ring, lawn and moss to be kept free of heather and scrub.
- Increase sense of openness by reducing woodland
- Need for continued control of invasive vegetation, in particular *Rhododendron ponticum*. Retain specimens which have landscape value and stands which are of value as screens and enclosures around parish plots.
- Strengthen screen planting in areas on the boundary where it is weak in order to ensure that the cemetery remains a place of tranquility.



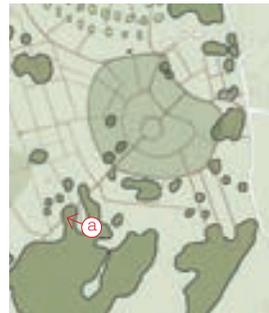
# Landscape Management

## 5. adjust mowing regime to enhance character of the Ring

Regular and close mowing as shown below could reduce the amount of scrub encroachment and encourage a more uniform and orderly setting reminiscent of the original Victorian design.

It may be possible to remove some of the fragments from the graves which are beyond restoration and where the cemetery has no records of the owners - this obviously to be considered on a grave by grave basis. The landscape management of the historic Ring, including this closer mowing, could then be eased.

- a. existing ground vegetation amongst kerb fragments
- b. tended vegetation that increases the visibility of monuments and grave stones .



## 6. mow edges to paths

Neat edges in contrast to meadows and natural settings create a contrast that conveys a sense of care and tamed nature rather than neglect.

- a. Meadow by the Natural Burial Ground
- b. Existing large log bollards could be replaced with smaller, firmer but less obtrusive wooden pegs
- c. Simple wooden pegs to prevent roadside parking on verges
- d. Long grass and native wildflower mix with mown edge, creates a well maintained look and encourages biodiversity.

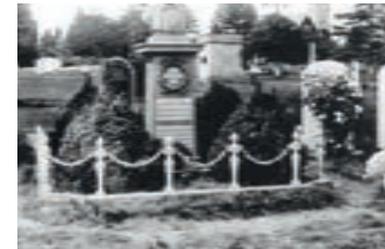
## 7. Manage woodland

- Manage overgrown woodland, taking into account protected species, to retrieve landscape character and to create naturalistic edges and a strong contrast between enclosure and openness.
- Selective tree removal to mitigate impact of tree colonisation that has led to uniformity.
- Clearance of trees near streams and ditches to reduce sedimentation and gradual filling of these trenches.
- Potential to enhance ground flora in these areas, particularly around the Colquhoun Chapel and alongside walkways within woodlands/ alongside the moat by planting of native bluebells/ snowdrops/wood anemones.



## 8. Manage Tree Chapels

Young conifers, originally planted to form small hedged enclosures to graves have grown into interesting and dramatic 'tree chapels'. The tree chapels are testament to the passage of time and to a long period of neglect. They are an unusual feature, characteristic of Brookwood. Some are beyond salvage, some could be retained and managed to enhance their special qualities. See Appendix F for detail landscape management guidelines.



# Structure repair

## 9. restoration of monuments

On the At Risk Register are a large number of the cemetery's monuments. These include statutorily listed assets as well other significant (some potentially listable) structures. Their condition and need for attention varies from poor to critical.

The cemetery management has carried out a large number of repairs to address health and safety issues, and the programme is ongoing. Appendix 4.4 contains a strategy for the prioritisation of the conservation of monuments. Descendants/ family/ friends/ interested groups could be approached regarding funding for restoration work and future maintenance.



## 10. boundary wall repair

Repair of collapsed sections of the boundary is ongoing. Damage to the wall has been caused by car accidents on the Bagshot Road, as well as structural movement, and previous long-term lack of maintenance.

Built in 1902 to replace the wooden original Cemetery Pales fence, the boundary wall is nevertheless an integral part of the cemetery's character.

Repairs are to be like-for-like.

Any future alterations to the wall to allow new openings for entrances or connections across the Pales road should, where possible, be located in either (a) areas requiring structural repair or (b) rebuilt areas where fabric will be newer and less significant.



## 11. fences and security boundary fences

The western perimeter of the cemetery is currently a 'leaky' boundary. A secure fence is desired to prevent vehicular entry to the cemetery site (with its risk of tipping and antisocial behaviour). The fence should nevertheless be discreet in appearance and appropriate for rural setting, and allow frequent easy access for walkers and cyclists.

### Fences within the cemetery

As a principle, fences should be avoided within the cemetery, so that all areas are seen as part of one cemetery, all sharing the same parkland landscape.

Chainlink fences are currently required by the Military Cemetery to prevent entry by deer and protect the existing horticulture regime. It is recommended these chainlink fences, and indeed any other fences if really required, are at least planted to form hedge-like enclosures and to integrate them better into the cemetery landscape.



Example of a discreet boundary fence between the working cemetery and the Site of Special Scientific Interest in the southwest corner



Chainlink fence surrounding the Military Cemetery

## 12. drainage recovery

Recovery of the old drainage system is ongoing. New landscaping and new building work will need to be carefully coordinated with the drainage system to ensure changes in the ground do not adversely affect graves or existing landscape features.



System of drainage ditches is visible in the extract from the 1856 view of the cemetery



The moat north of the Pales

# Develop the Burial Landscape

Brookwood Cemetery will gradually fill up as it becomes increasingly better kept, better known, more popular. It may not now fulfill its original Victorian ambition to be the place of burial “for all of London’s dead, for ever” but it will nevertheless receive a lot of bodies and ashes. The business plan suggests a gradual increase in interment rate from the current 175 funerals a year to around 600 funerals per year. Over the next 30 years, this amounts to 18,000 bodies. Where should they go?

Currently the choice of resting place is very free, with an informal approach to where graves should go. The size and relative emptiness of Brookwood allows this to happen - at least for the moment. 18,000 is a small figure compared to the 250,000 people currently buried at Brookwood. But the cemetery’s capacity for random grave location and informal planning will begin to reduce as the space fills up. A plan is needed for future grave locations so that the memorial landscape is enhanced. This will ensure the cemetery continues to offer an appealing final resting place for the different groups who it is hoped will use it well into the future.

The Muslim burial grounds - currently the busiest in the cemetery - will need to expand and indeed are already looking for new space in the cemetery. The Ismaili cemetery is reaching capacity. For those which are minority groups in Britain, these faith cemeteries are a focus and source of strength for community identity. The groups and their cemeteries are growing and, according to the catchment analysis (Peter Mitchell Associates 2015) may constitute 70% of future burials.

The Zoroastrians, and national communities including the Serbian, Latvian and Swedish cemeteries still have capacity, but may look in due course for new space.

The landscape of the cemetery is intimately linked to its graves and the communities who use it. The evolution of the landscape relates to the gradual ongoing changes in British society. The resulting pattern of landscape is at once a testament to the original Victorian vision, and an evolving pattern.

The pattern underlying the landscape is expressed in the ‘character areas’ identified in section 1.3 in this document. These offer a guide to the pattern of future interments. Traditional burial favoured by Muslim groups

could be focused around the existing Muslim community burial grounds in the north eastern parts of the cemetery. Extending graveyards here would help keep community burials together, and help preserve and strengthen group identities. There are already some historic non-conformist graves in these areas, so research and further consultation would be needed.

Another location for future group burial areas would be to colonise the woodland in the former pauper burial grounds towards the western wide of the cemetery. Glades and clearings cut in these areas could also offer places for woodland or green burials. Issues relating to Muslim burials in consecrated land should be addressed with the Diocese.

The Arcadian swathes of grassland, and of mixed acid grass and heather, offer a different burial environment. Grass and heather could perhaps be lifted and relaid over green burials (or even lawn burials) preserving the openness of the landscape. This open landscape would contrast with the intimacy of the enclosed plots and wilder woodland glades.

The historic Ring may be restored as the historic core of the Necropolis. Any new monuments and graves in the Ring should conform to a controlled set of guidelines appropriate for a traditional heritage cemetery.

## Spirit of Place

The different places, community cemeteries, parts of the landscape that make up Brookwood Cemetery each have their own spirit of place. One can imagine them almost as an 'urban development' in a landscape – the monuments as buildings forming centres, neighbourhoods, villages, settlements. The urban environment of each of these memorial landscapes is created by the quality, diversity and density of its monuments, its planting and its topography. The descriptions below start to articulate the experience of these different environments – their spirit of place. The environments may change over time, becoming denser as settlements fill up with more burials. The form of burial chosen for an area and the manner of care of its landscape should both contribute to its spirit of place.

## Historic Ring

*gracious, grand and leafy  
well-tended 'streets' and 'crescents'  
of historic well-to-do graves*

The Ring is characterised by its range of high quality, Victorian monuments including family mausolea, elaborate sculpture, crosses on stepped bases, headstones. The arrangement follows the circular and radiating paths with graves laid out in sympathy with Victorian serpentine geometry. Quite populous, but grandeur is given by the generous spacing of adjacent graves. There is a sense of walking amongst the Victorian Great and Good, along well-to-do, well-tended leafy Victorian city crescents.

## Active community plots

*enclosed urban village or city  
different scales and densities of settlement  
landscape within or without*

Each community plot is like a 'settlement' be it a village or little city in the landscape, each with its own spirit of place. The beautiful regular rows of closely-spaced identical, sculptural, ziggurat stone monuments of

Dawoodi-Bohra Najmee Baag might be seen as a dense city centre, surrounded and enclosed by landscape. The Ismaili cemetery with its perfectly regular grid of small stone markers is another ordered urban environment, set in a landscape of mown grass. The Zoroastrian cemetery, with stone monuments and family mausolea, is a grand leafy, well-tended city centre, similar to the Ring. The Italian Catholic mausolea are the apartments in a dense, social, city centre.

The higher ground along the northern boundary has been terraced to create more space for Muslim burial grounds. The pragmatically-made brick retaining walls are at odds with the material palette of the Victorian cemetery, but the terraces they form enable a greater density and offer a more slightly separated, elevated area for traditional graves.

The community plots are characterised by different 'built' environments, some dense with no planting and others with monuments more loosely spaced and separated by landscape. Community plots tend to physically define their boundaries. The planted, tree'd or hedged boundaries sit most naturally, forming a series of "rooms" in the landscape.

## Grassland meadow

*grassland meadow  
openness, long view  
Arcadian*

This meadow was recently retrieved through the clearing of large areas of self-seeded trees which had encroached from the west. The meadow is one of the joys of Brookwood Cemetery, providing the open Arcadian landscape seen beyond the denser 'urban environments' of the cemetery. New burials should seek to minimise impact on the grassland to preserve this quality of openness as well as its precious ecology, and its sense of almost virgin turf. Hedged enclosures should be avoided, so as not to interrupt the long meadow view. Green burials and lawn burials would be appropriate here, again promoting the sense of Arcadian expanse.

## Dispersed graves in heathland

*wild heathland  
scattered resting places  
time and generations passing*

The loosely-spaced graves, some complete with curbs or rails, others part lost beneath vegetation, sit in broad swathes of rough acid grassland and heather. The spirit here is of a scattered rural settlement in a wilder heathland where nature is holding sway, and that humankind's place in the world is ultimately to succumb to time and this greater natural destiny.

## Dispersed graves with some heather

*heavenly swathes of purple  
scattered monuments  
seasonal, cyclical renewal*

Heavenly purple swathes transform this scattered rural settlement to a heathland paradise in the heather season. With its spectacular seasonal delight returning year after year, and its deer and wildlife, this landscape expresses the idea of life and renewal. New graves here would be dug and laid over with heather, with or without a headstone, promoting this highly attractive native habitat.

## Glades of Remembrance

*intimate, planted and tended  
tranquil  
leafy filtered light*

The area was originally designated a memorial garden for cremated remains and laid out with a lake constructed at its entrance. Formed with wooded and semi-wooded pathways, each section with its distinct planting and atmosphere, the glades themselves were named fern, maple birch and pine. The distinctive planting needs to be recovered and new interments to follow the pattern intended for the memorial garden.

## Woodland

*magical clearings  
containing little cities or villages  
each enclosed by woodland  
secret, hidden*

The self-seeded woodland along the western boundary - the wilderness beyond all the other settlements - is a magical environment. All one's senses respond to it; the crunch of leaf and sticks beneath the feet, the smell of mushrooms, the mesmerising layers of silver birch trunks receding away, the dense thickets, the contrast of brighter dappled light where the trees thin out, and the pools of light in the clearings.

The woodland contains the unmarked graves of paupers and a few marked graves where trees have grown up around headstones. There is space here for many more burials which could still preserve the qualities of this magical woodland. Woodland burials, where graves are positioned near to existing young trees, would continue a trend already begun.

In addition, clearings could be made which are reached by natural paths - secret, enclosed and separated from each other by deep curtains of trees, the brightness of these glades contrasting with the shadows of the surrounding woodland.

These clearings could each be home to different memorial environments, from the regular tomb grids of Dawoodi-Bohra Najmee Baag or the Ismaili community, to the pure grassland of green burials, to lines of traditional graves facing Mecca, or encircling the glade. Each glade should have its own character, but always be enclosed and defined by the surrounding woodland.

## **Giant Redwood avenue**

*aged, gracious, historic, framed route  
continuous, uninterrupted, grassy*

Early photos show the landscape either side of the rail track as it passes down the Giant Redwood avenue free of headstones and monuments. Even now the wide stretch of grassland curving slowly down between the lines of giant trees is largely free of graves, at least along its southern side. The Ismaili Cemetery has been cut into part of the avenue as it approaches the Pales, but otherwise the Giant Redwood avenue in the south cemetery remains a wide, curving grassland route.

This sense of the avenue as a gracious, grassy promenade through the cemetery should be retained even as the cemetery fills up with more graves. The avenue is a single, significant landscape element and should remain uninterrupted. It should not be subdivided along its length by any grave or community cemetery enclosures. The openness and clarity of the avenue contrasts with the grave-filled plots beyond it. This helps define this important historic route and provides a sense of clarity in this complex landscape.

## **War Graves**

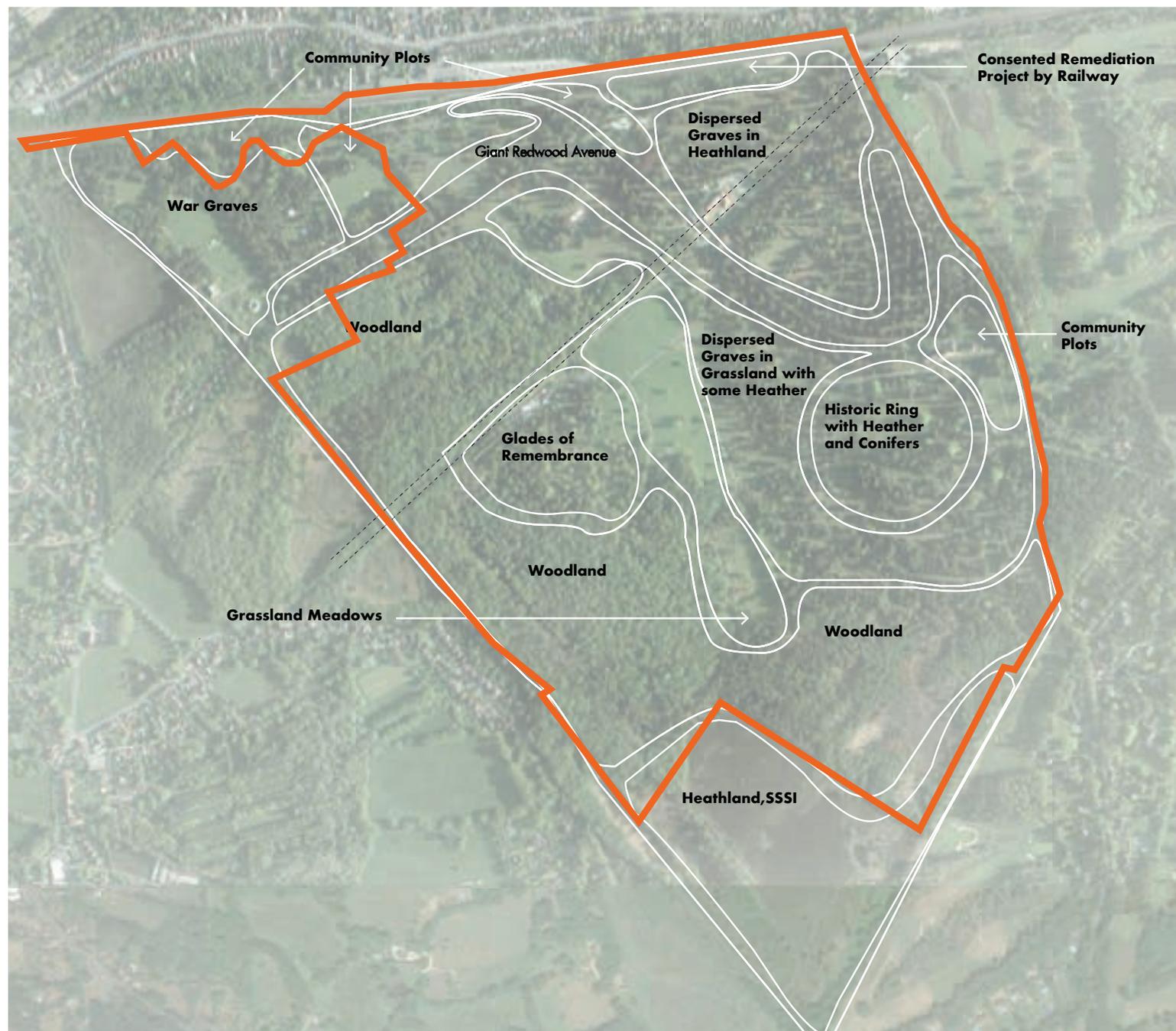
*discipline, control, care and national pride*

The Military Cemetery is not part of the Masterplan remit, but its spirit of place needs to at least be mentioned here as it has a strong influence on the spirit of the whole cemetery. The communities represented in the Military Cemetery are commemorated by rows of regular, vertical headstones and crosses in perfectly manicured lawns.

## Landscape Character

The special character of each different part of the cemetery reflects the range of its underlying cultural values. Characters range from woodland, to heathland, to the more manicured landscapes of the Ring and the war graves - each a combination of the area's memorials, its topography, flora and fauna.

The memorial character of the landscape can be enhanced by landscape management, and sympathetic location of new graves.



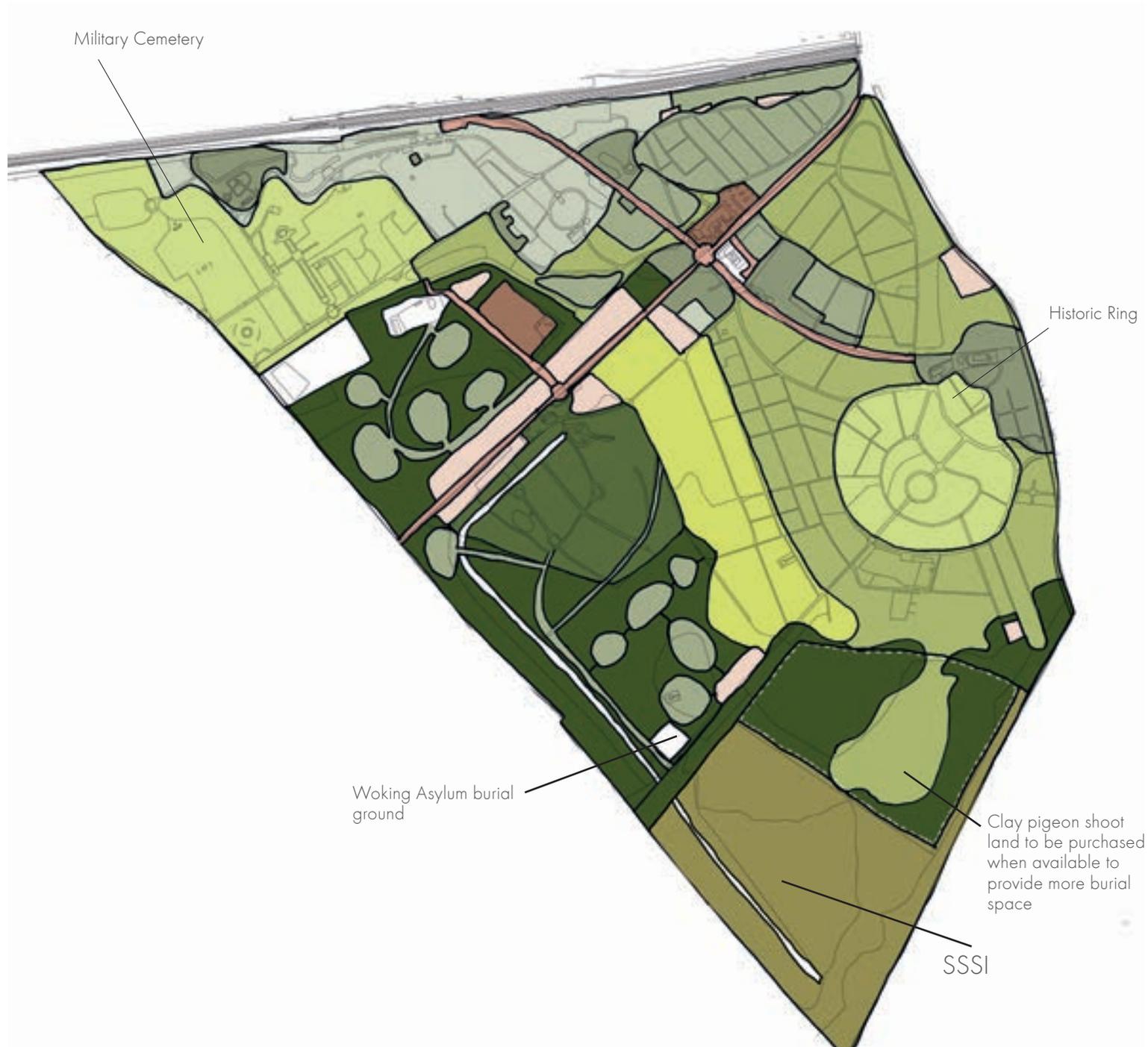
**Future Burials**

*(Plan is indicative only, and will need detailed research and development in the next phases of design work)*

- Highly manicured landscape burial
- Burials in open grassland (potentially natural or 'lawn' burials to maximise the grassland)
- Heathland burials (mixed grass and and heather)
- Community, faith burial grounds (WBC-managed)
- Community-owned burial grounds
- Potential defined extensions to community and faith cemeteries (land owned and managed by WBC, boundary indicative only)
- Glades, cremated remains only
- Woodland burials

**No New Burials**

- Temporary parking areas
- Public routes
- Zone for potential future building
- SSSI



## 3.3 Initial Moves

Step 2 of the Masterplan includes all the Step 1 tasks, and in addition sets out relatively small-scale improvements which can be implemented in the short-to-medium term.

### landscape and structures

- Railway line enhancement
- Station entrance garden
- Pockets of parking
- Former Superintendent's Lodge conversion
- Woodland rides and glades
- Woodland toilets
- Information points

### funerary business and operations

- 5% increase in number of funerals based on deaths growth projections, 175->259

### programme and interpretation

- Increased tours and programming:
- New hires to support volunteers, programme, and community arts

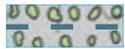


The Giant Redwood avenue and the overgrown raised trainline

# Landscape and Structures

## initial moves

- Railway Line - enhance Giant Redwood avenue with a green tunnel near the station in the north cemetery
- Station entrance garden
- Convert the former Superintendent's Lodge to a visitor centre and courtyard gardens
- Cut new glades and rides in woodland
- Pockets of parking
- Woodland toilets and information points



Giant Redwood avenue



green tunnel along north part of historic avenue



station entrance garden



visitor centre at former Superintendent's Lodge



new glades and rides



pockets of parking

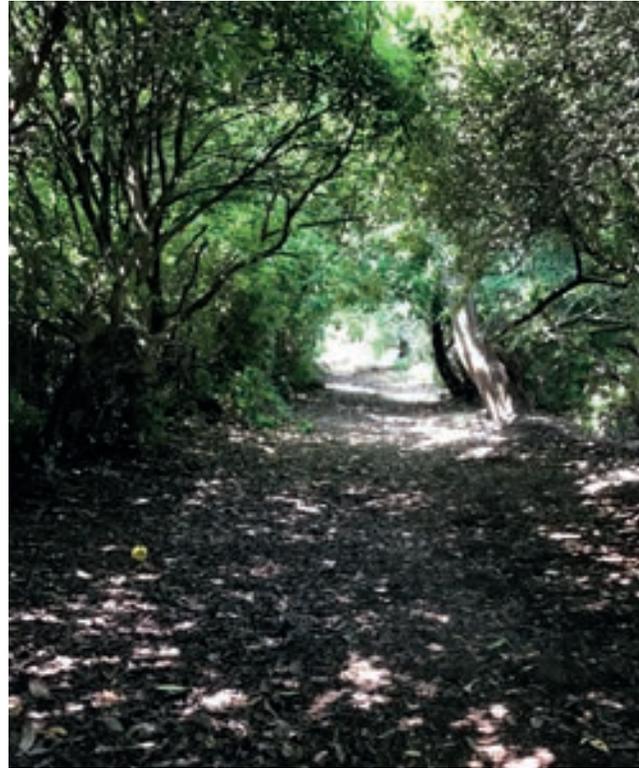


## 1. railway line

- a. Continuing on from the initial clearance of the railway embankment, the station end of the old railway line will be planted with native hedgerow species to create a tunnel experience for those arriving from the station.

The hedgerow would discreetly screen visitors from funerals and vice versa, but openings along the length of the tunnel could allow framed views and regular access, and avoid unsafe-feeling dark areas.

- b. A hoggin path is proposed along the entire length of the railway corridor near the station, from the 'green tunnel' in the north cemetery, through the Giant Redwood avenue in the south.
- c. The choice of materials on tracks shall avoid adverse impact on acid nature of the soil. or bring in additional nutrients or detrimentally change the geology of the local area around the path.



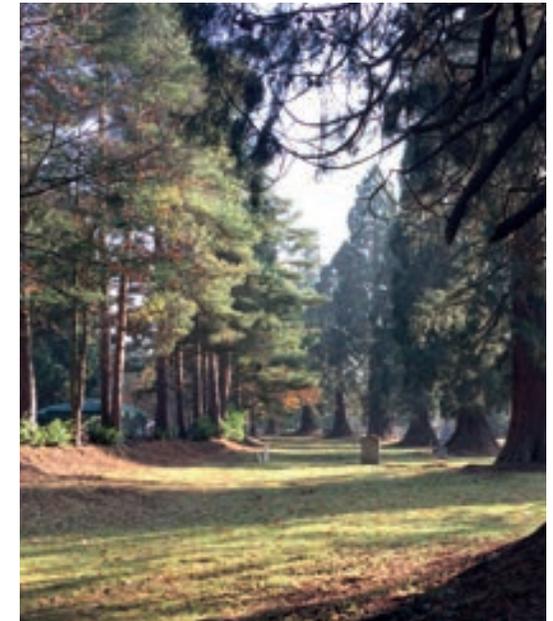
The railway line will be planted with native hedgerow species, or develop the existing Rhododendrons (seen above) to create a tunnel experience for those arriving from the station



Hoggin path along the entire length of the railway corridor and along Giant Redwood avenue



Necropolis train passing through the Anglican section, photo taken July 1938



Eastern line of Giant Redwoods is obscured by younger trees and scrub which could be cleared to reveal the historic axis.

# Landscape and Structures

## 2. station entrance garden

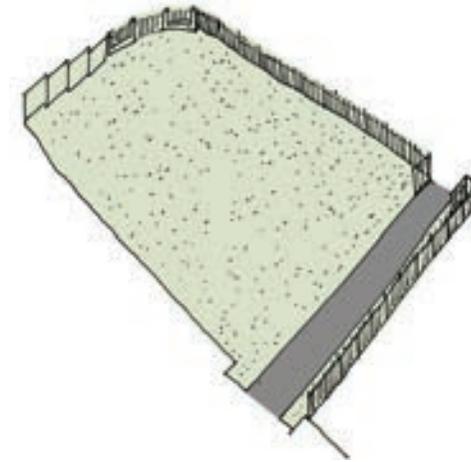
The area of land just south of Brookwood station currently forms an unprepossessing entrance to Brookwood cemetery.

The Masterplan proposes to transform this entrance to improve the arrival experience and to help orientate the visitor. New paths will be laid, including one to guide visitors to the historic railway route leading to the south cemetery. The garden will contain new planting, an information point and a place to sit.

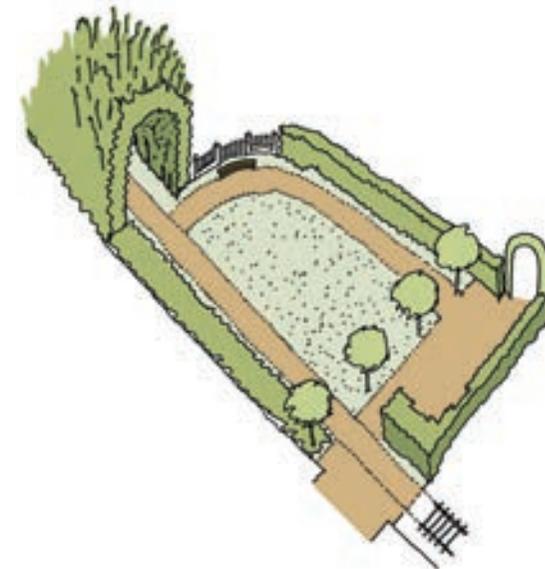
The land is currently owned by Network Rail, from whom the land will need to be purchased, or with whom negotiations will be needed to carry out this work.



Photo of the station entrance garden in early 2019. The historic gates and stone piers seen in this photo are now closed off (and have graves beyond), but nevertheless offer a potentially attractive feature.



Sketch showing the station entrance 'garden' as existing with a single tarmac path and surrounded by metal security fencing.



Sketch showing transformation of the land (currently owned by Network Rail) seen and passed through when arriving at the cemetery from Brookwood station. The area would be replanted, and new paths laid. One would lead to the old railway line and take visitors down the historic route. This links clearly across to the south cemetery and the historic Ring. Alternatively, visitors for the north cemetery could use the existing entrance (replanted and re-signed).

### 3. pockets of parking

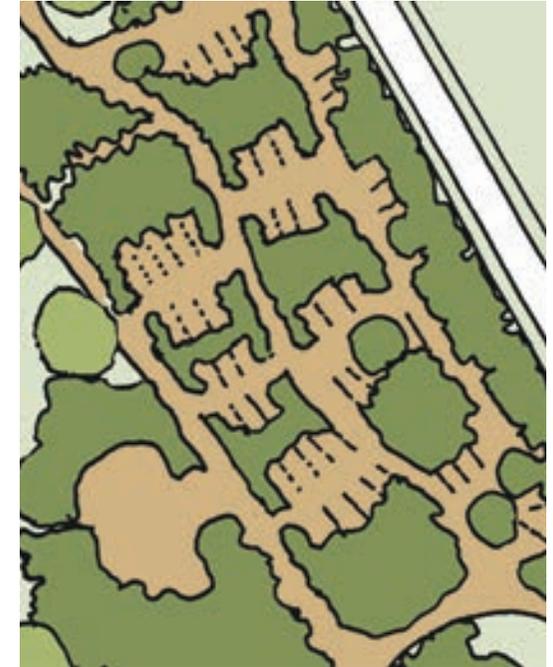
Cars are an essential part of modern life in Brookwood Cemetery; the distances are so large, and many people who visit graves are elderly and not mobile enough to walk long distances.

Parking needs to be provided at strategic locations around the cemetery to make the walking distances manageable. Adequate space for parking is needed so that visitors do not need to park in random locations, sometimes on old graves. But cars en masse detract from the Arcadian atmosphere of the cemetery, so parking needs to be convenient but discreet.

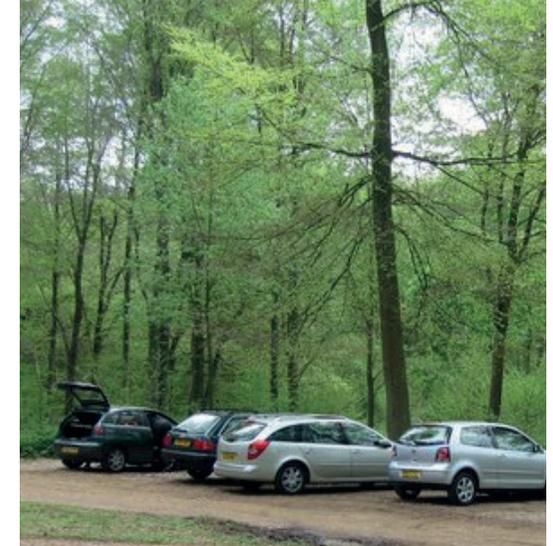
The Masterplan proposes discreet pockets of parking around the cemetery, either in amongst trees and/or surrounded by hedging.



Example of a new parking area combined with new tree planting



Example sketch plan of new parking in and around existing trees



# Landscape and Structures

## 4. convert the Lodge to a visitor centre

The 1854 parsonage, subsequently the former Superintendent's Lodge, and now called the Lodge, is an attractive historic (even though much altered) building in a central location within the cemetery. It is located right where the railway line route crosses the Pales road. The Lodge is well placed to serve the cemetery as a visitor centre and small cafe. Visible from the road, its life and social activity will make the entrance to the cemetery inviting.

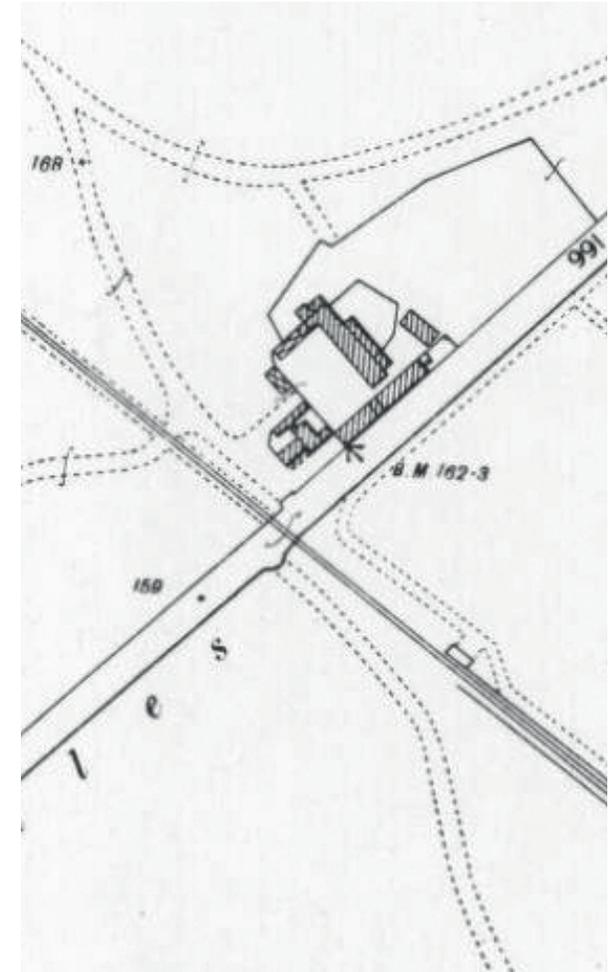
The photos opposite and the 1873 map show that the land north of the Lodge used to be part of the cemetery before it was appropriated for office block parking. The Masterplan proposals reclaim this land (relocating office parking as necessary) to re-establish the open, landscape connection between the Lodge and the cemetery.



The Lodge in c.1900 showing the vehicle entrance nearer to the building and obviously separate from the railway line



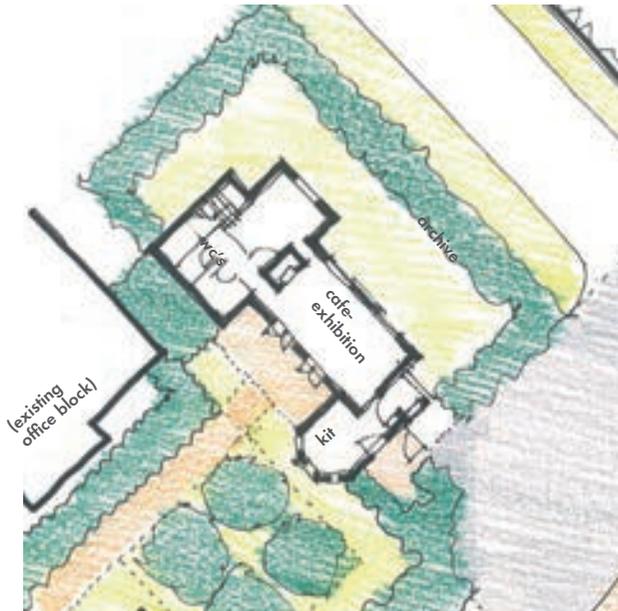
The Lodge in the 1970s showing the courtyard of glass houses to the northwest of the Lodge.



Extract from OS map 1895 showing the courtyard of stabling block, paint and coffin workshops to the northeast of the Lodge. Also seen are the entrances to the north and south cemetery either side of, and separate from, the railway line.



Sketch showing the Lodge as existing with its garden cut off from the cemetery by the office block parking lot, and hemmed in by modern brick garden walls.



Sketch proposal of the ground floor of the Lodge converted to a cafe with small kitchen, WC's and small meeting room.

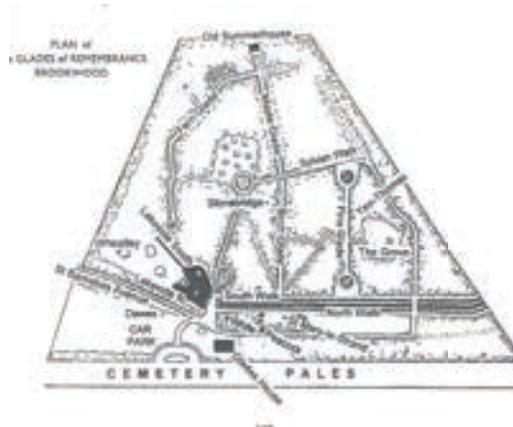


Sketch showing the proposed conversion of the Lodge to a visitor centre, and the opening out of the garden connecting it to the cemetery. The retained garage could be converted to an Education Room or other use associated with the Visitor Centre. A series of gardens could provide outdoor learning spaces and a cafe terrace.

# Landscape and Structures

## 5. cut new glades and rides in woodland

Birch trees and self-seeded conifers have overtaken the western part of the cemetery, The woodland 'wilderness' is a magical environment with potential for greater biodiversity. The woodland has however encroached further and further into the open heathland and the more tended cemetery landscapes. Its wilderness magic will be intensified if contrasted with these other more open cemetery landscapes. Clearing and managing the edge of the woodland, and cutting of new glades and rides into the woodland will allow access into the wood and will introduce a new quality of light. New marginal habitats with hazel coppice and native hedgerows will enhance biodiversity and habitats for nesting birds. As Silver Birch is a relatively short lived tree, thought could be given to selective thinning and replacement with longer term species such as oak, sweet chestnut and possibly alder in wetter areas .



Historical plan of the Glades of Remembrance as originally planned (1940) showing the woodland walks



Aerial map 2019 showing the loss of Glades and encroaching woodlands.



The Colquhoun Chapel, one of the oldest buildings at Brookwood, c.1858



The Colquhoun Chapel in early 2019



Creating open glades and long rides to break tree cover and create dynamic moments of transition and reflection and diversity along woodland edges.



Clearing new woodland paths of 2 meters width and new woodland footpaths with MOT roadbase material and soil is an economical and sustainable way of creating paths which promote self seeded vegetation.



Clearing rides of 10 meters width through the woodland provides opportunities for varying management regimes and new planting ranging from small avenue trees, coppice of hazel and sweet chestnut or native hedgerows.

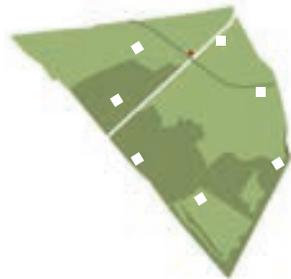
# Landscape and Structures

## 6. information points

Information points could be located around the cemetery. These may be simple information signs, but could also offer shelter and seating. The small structures would be points of orientation - each perhaps with its own special character - helping to guide visitors around the cemetery.

The structures should be very carefully placed and sized to consider not only their effect on the wider cemetery landscape, but also the views out from the shelters and the quality of space within and around them. They could encourage contemplation.

Structures could be designed specially as places for Muslim visitors to pray. Other structures elsewhere could be designed for uses such as floral services which would support the cemetery funeral operations.



Examples of shelters and Information Points in landscape

## 7. toilets

Toilet facilities will be provided within the cemetery chapel and the new visitor centre. But, in addition, handy toilets could be located in the far southern corner of the cemetery. This would serve visitors to the south cemetery, and also a Forest School down in the Glades.



Example of wc's in the landscape, including waterless toilets

# 3.4 Long Term Additions

Step 3 of the Masterplan proposes larger scale building and associated landscape and programme developments

## landscape and structures

- HS2 reinterments
- Potential crematorium
- Cemetery Pales project
- New Education Building
- Visitor Parking
- Planting to restore the Victorian character of the historic ring
- New avenue planting

## funerary business and operations

- 10% annual increase in number of funerals based on deaths growth projections and higher penetration due to the visitor business, 175 funerals ->326 funerals per annum
- Potential cremations
- Income from HS2

## visitor programme

- As per initial moves at increased scale

## visitor interpretation

- As per initial moves, plus
- Higher spec and larger permanent exhibition
  - Potential for digital layer



# Landscape and Structures

## proposals

The Long-term Additions to the cemetery comprise buildings and associated parking and infrastructure to support its continuing operation in the future, and to further raise its profile. A location for a possible future crematorium is considered. A new Visitor Centre will provide facilities to attract and accommodate visitors from further afield.

A new crematorium and parking areas would be focussed around the Pales, making new spaces within the wooded and 'wilderness' areas.

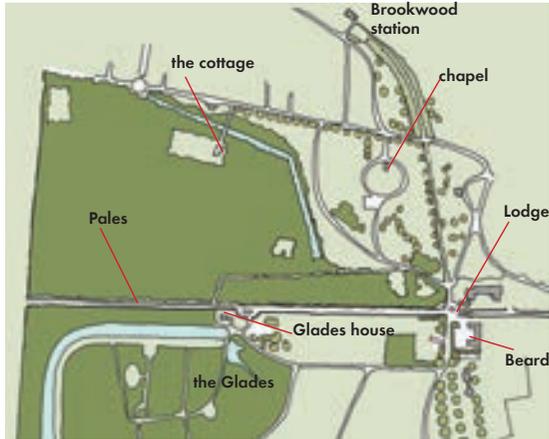
The Visitor Centre remains centred on the former Superintendent's Lodge and the crossing of the railway line and the Pales.

New links increase connectivity between north and south cemeteries.

New avenues are proposed to visually link the north and south cemeteries. These would in time be a 21st century complement to the long-lasting 19th century avenue planting.

The restoration of the character of the Victorian planting scheme for the historic ring would be a unique and exemplary undertaking.





Existing plan of the central Pales area

Key to landscape plan opposite

-  existing footpath
-  new footpath
-  tree avenues
-  visitor parking
-  pocket parking



Proposed plan of the central Pales area. (Note number of parking spaces is indicative only, and dependent on further site study and development of more detailed briefing)

# Landscape and Structures

## potential crematorium

A crematorium could increase the appeal of Brookwood cemetery to a wider audience, potentially reviving the London market. There is an opportunity for 'green crematorium' at Brookwood, helping to make the cemetery a leader in sustainable burial or cremation, appealing to those with an interest in minimising the ecological impact of death.

A crematorium was previously envisaged for Brookwood Cemetery, and two locations were considered, both approved by separate Acts of Parliament. The Masterplan locates space for a potential new crematorium north of Cemetery Pales opposite the Glades, close to the area approved under the 1946 Act.

A crematorium here would occupy a new clearing in the existing woodland. Set away from the road, it would be surrounded and discreetly screened on all sides by trees. The proposed location of a crematorium in the woodland means it would have minimal visual impact even in winter.

New pockets of parking would be formed within the self-seeded woodland north of the Pales, minimising

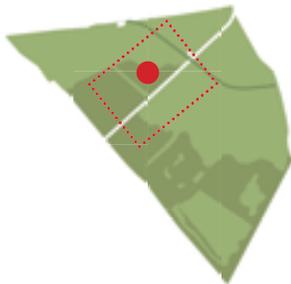
impact on mature trees. Parking would well hidden near to the Pales wall. The existing woodland clearing would be planted to create new avenues and pathways from the parking areas to the crematorium.

The location of a crematorium and its associated access and parking is one of the few areas believed to be free, or relatively free, from burials (obviously pending further investigations). Any existing graves would be carefully researched and located to inform proposals.

The forecourt entrance to a crematorium would mirror the existing forecourt entrance to Glades House. Together they would form a formal opening either side of the Pales, creating a sense of arrival.



Plan from John Clarke's book showing location of the crematorium as proposed under the 1946 Act of Parliament



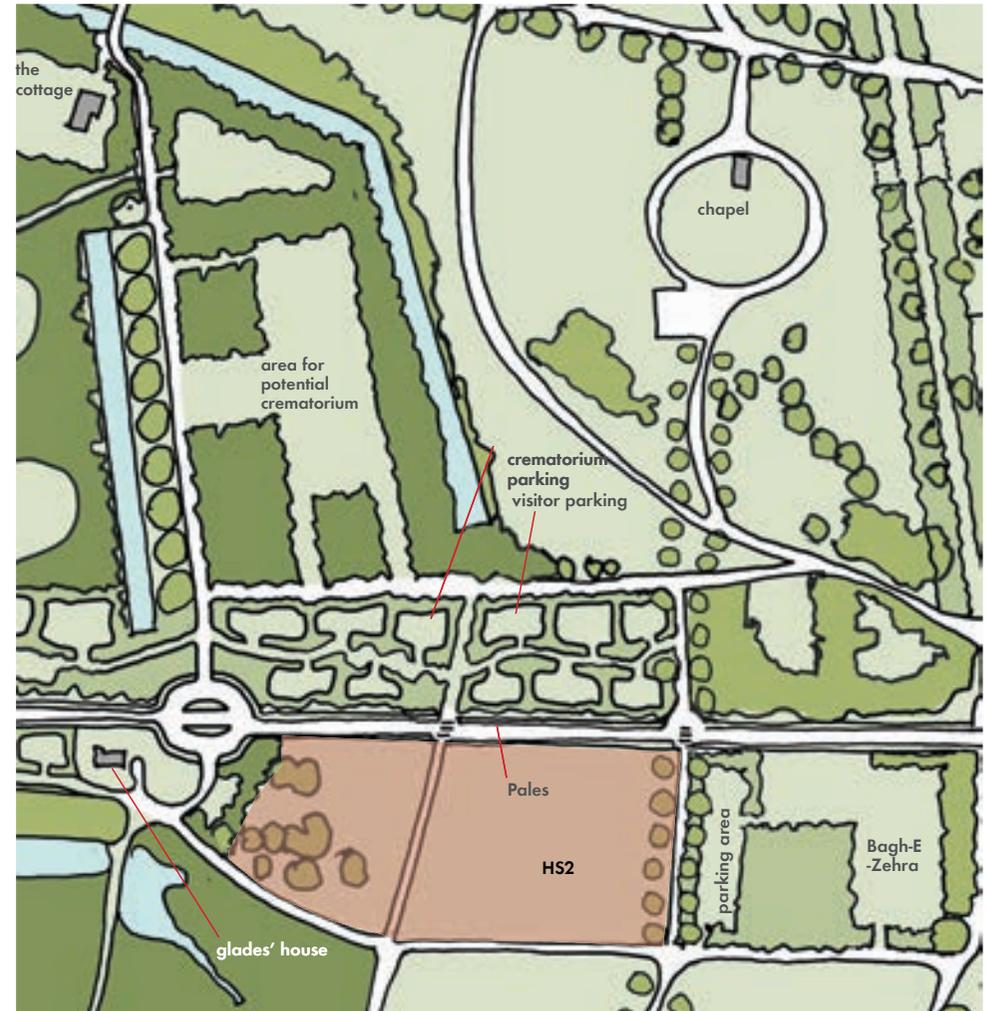
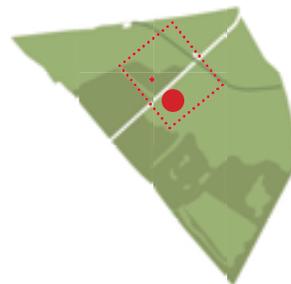
Plan extract showing the potential location of a crematorium, parking and access

# Landscape and Structures

## HS2

The area for the HS2 reinterments, south of the Pales, will be flanked by two new footpaths which connect across the Pales into the new visitor parking area.

A new avenue of trees leading down from the chapel in the north cemetery will pass alongside the new HS2 ground.



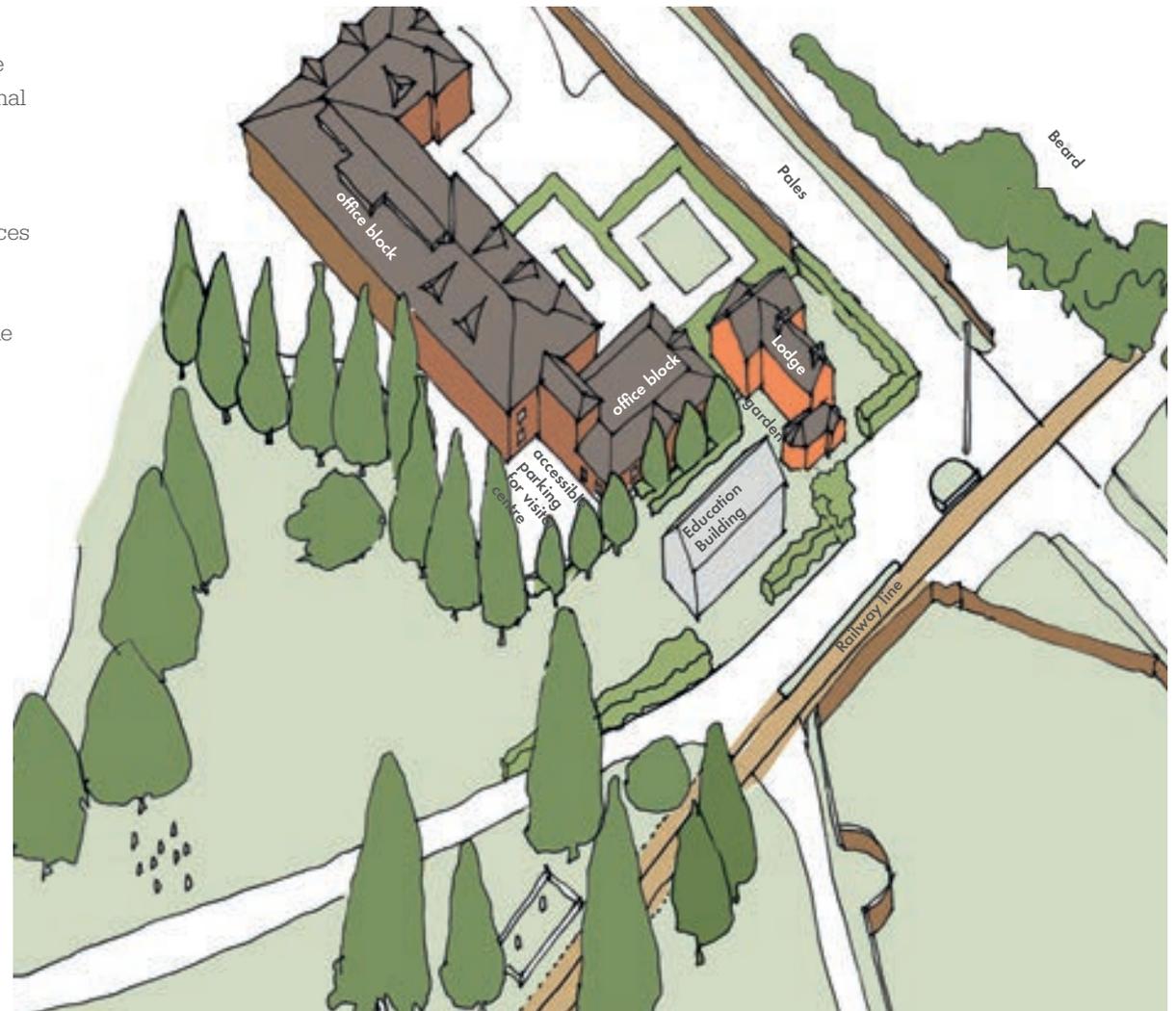
Plan extract showing the location of HS2 in an area south of the Pales.

## new education building

A new two-storey addition to the visitor centre would be positioned near to the converted Lodge, offering additional visitor facilities, and enclosing a garden.

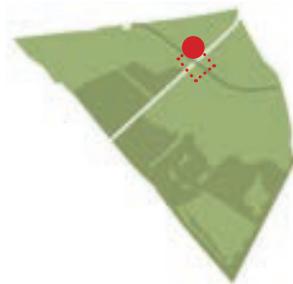
The new facilities could include a permanent exhibition space, and larger education space. Potentially these spaces could be used for wakes.

The building would be serviced by the access road to the office block.



Axonometric showing new building providing additional visitor facilities

Bahg-e-Zehra



# Landscape and Structures

## planting to restore the Victorian character of the historic Ring

The character of the grounds bears only a vague similarity to the original Victorian vegetation. Today there is much appreciation of wilderness with historic cemetery statues overgrown and claimed by nature. However at Brookwood one could have both - a restored Victorian landscape in the historic Ring in contrast to the wilder aspects of the woodland and parts of the northern cemetery. This is a unique opportunity to restore an historic cemetery to its original character with some fully restored statues and monuments surrounded by the type of vegetation shown in the images on the right.

The restoration should be integral with an ongoing assessment of the long-term health of historic planting on the site, and the longer term planting proposals.



Restoration of landscape in the historic Ring. Image shows the Anglican Chapel and Bent family memorial 1880



South Metropolitan Cemetery, Norwood, Surrey an example of John C. Loudon's cemetery design



Pelham-Clinton memorial in its current state bare of vegetation



Extract from 1856 map showing historic Ring



Victorian planting style, Brodsworth gardens



Pelham-Clinton memorial in c. 1899 with planting that would have been typical for the period.

## visitor parking

- a. Car park areas to be surfaced with reinforced gravel
- b. Car park surfacing to be stable and green
- c. Extract plan showing new visitor and potential crematorium parking within trees. A new avenue leads across from the parking areas up to the chapel.



Plan showing potential new areas for car-parking.

Note the parking numbers are indicative only, dependent on further briefing and site study.

# Landscape and Structures

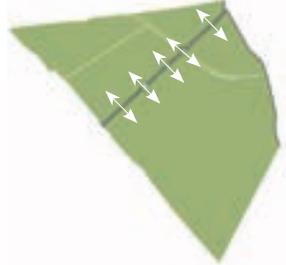
## Pales project

The Masterplan envisages a transformation of the Pales from a busy bypass route, slicing through the cemetery, to a walled road which passes through a memorial landscape. New entrances, crossing and alterations to the cemetery walls all introduce new spaces along the road which are intended to encourage drivers to slow down.

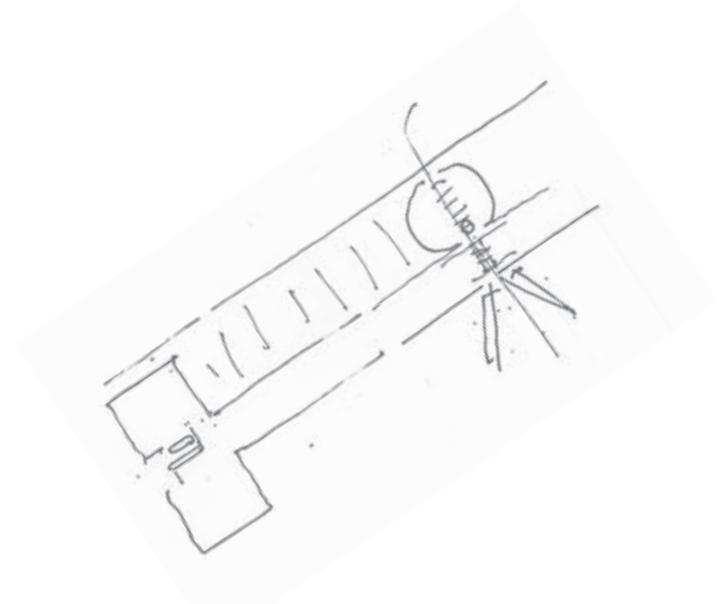
The sketch on this page illustrates the idea that the walls would be altered in places, pierced, pushed back to form formal, even geometrical spaces, one or both sides of the Pales.

A potential new entrance to a crematorium in the north cemetery, would mirror that opposite to the Glades, forming a formal forecourt through which the Pales road will pass. Pedestrian crossings with bollards and a different surfacing across the carriageway will add further punctuation to the route. A new entrance to a visitor carpark will offer another walled space past which traffic will travel.

New avenues of trees would be seen either side of the Pales, seeming to continue across the road, and beneath which traffic would pass.



The existing Glades forecourt



Concept sketch showing the idea of spaces, forecourts and routes opening off the Pales.

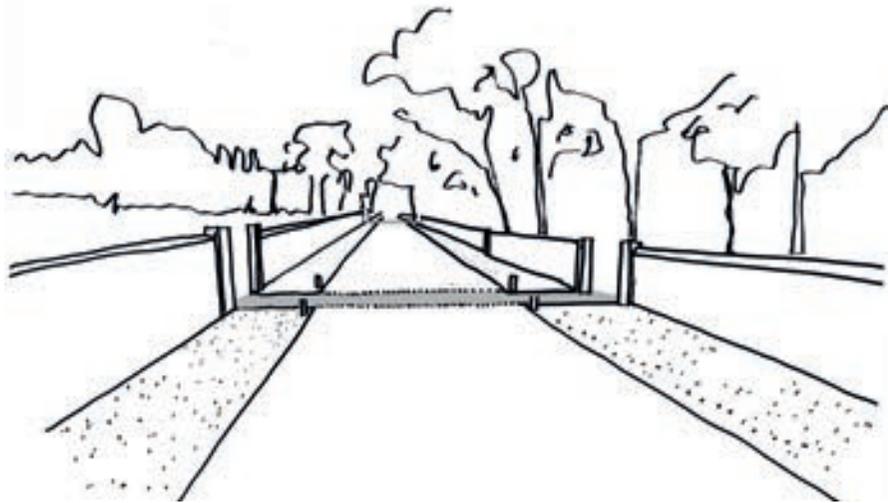


Examples of walled forecourts and entrances making spaces along roads

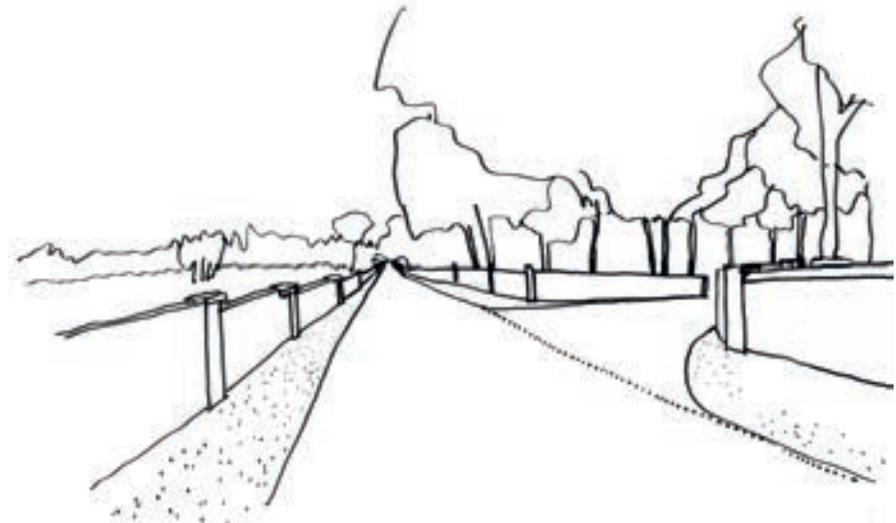
Example of a differentiated surface to a crossing



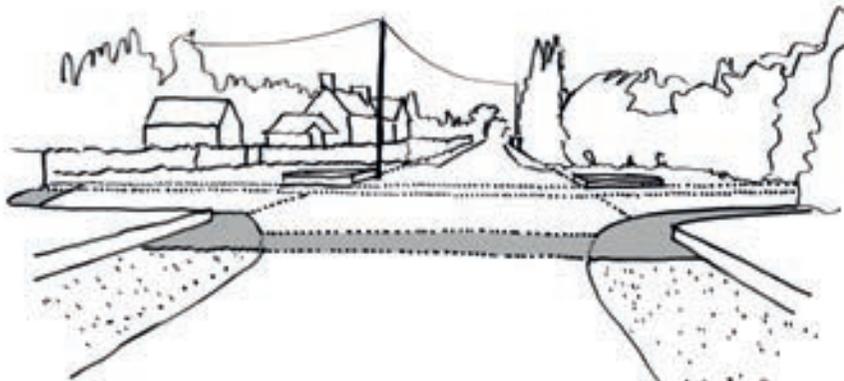
Examples of views through gateways in walls; such views would visually connect the north and south cemeteries across the Pales



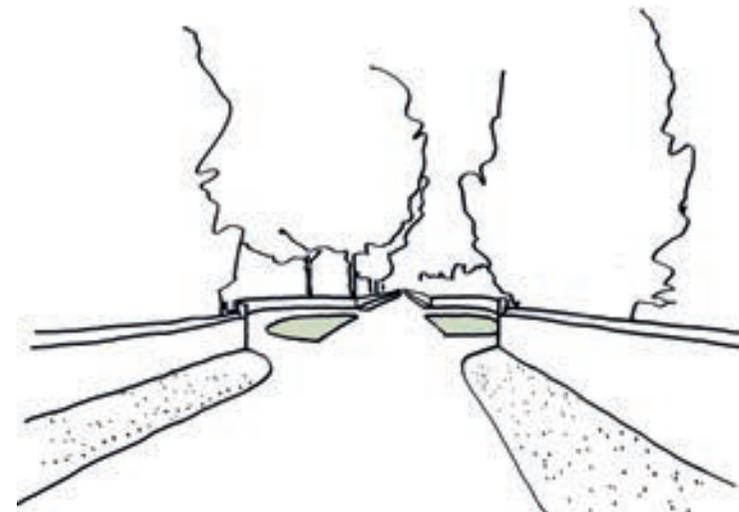
Pedestrian crossing at intervals along the Pales, passing through new openings in the cemetery wall. The crossing would be signified by bollards either side on the verges, and by a high-friction strip across the carriageway in a contrasting material



A new entrance to new visitor carpark



The line of the old railway and a pedestrian route both cross the carriageway, encouraging drivers to slow down by this main entrance to the cemetery



An entrance to a potential new crematorium would be formed by a new forecourt matching the existing entrance to the Glades

# Landscape and Structures

## planting of new avenues

Avenues could be planted to frame the newly cleared rides within the woods. These new avenues or lines of coppice would in time provide a 21st century partner to the rRedwoods which could still be there in 2000 years.

The lines of trees that cross Cemetery Pales will be legible from some distance as one drives along the road, signalling that the cemetery is on both sides of the wall. By creating perpendicular lines to the road, traffic may be slowed down.

There could be formal avenues and lines of coppiced trees that would provide a more informal structure, reflective of the looser landscape character of the cemetery. Coppice management is based on cutting trees down to the ground on a 5-7 yearly cycle and is recognised as a woodland management practice that provides maximum biodiversity.



Coppice trees in woodland



Coppice trees in woodland ride



Plan showing location of potential new avenues



Coppice stands planted within woodland rides

Typical species for a formal intervention within the woodland structure could be created with fastigate Hornbeams that provide some enclosure as shown on the right.

Other options are lime trees that come into leaf early in the year with bright, lime green juvenile foliage and strongly scented flowers. In autumn their bright yellow foliage colour forms a focus within the cemetery.

Sweet gum trees from North America form magnificent avenues with their bright orange autumn colour and distinctive foliage.

When Brookwood cemetery was first planted, many new species that had recently been introduced to Britain were used which explains the dominance of North American conifers. There is a need for a long term tree planting strategy for replacement trees. This is in keeping with the original vision for the cemetery as older trees go into decline. Some areas could benefit from a new layer of tree planting in the form of individual specimens or avenues addressing the long term future of the tree canopy in terms of historical implications, amenity, biodiversity, longevity and climate change considerations. Detailed surveys need to be carried out prior to strategic proposals.



Hornbeam avenue at Radley School



Liquidambar avenue giving strong seasonal interest



New avenues planted within woodland rides

# 3.5 Expanded Programme

Step 4 of the Masterplan adds a temporary exhibition space and a significantly expanded programme of arts and learning associated with the heritage cemetery. The diversification is pitched to attract arts audiences from Woking and London.

## landscape and structures

As Step 3 Long Term Additions plus

- New building for temporary exhibitions

## funerary business and operations

As Step 3

## visitor programme

As per Step 3 plus

- Temporary exhibitions
- Small scale, classical open air music
- Open air cinema

## visitor interpretation

As per Step 3 plus

- Thematic temporary exhibitions
- Site and context-specific film



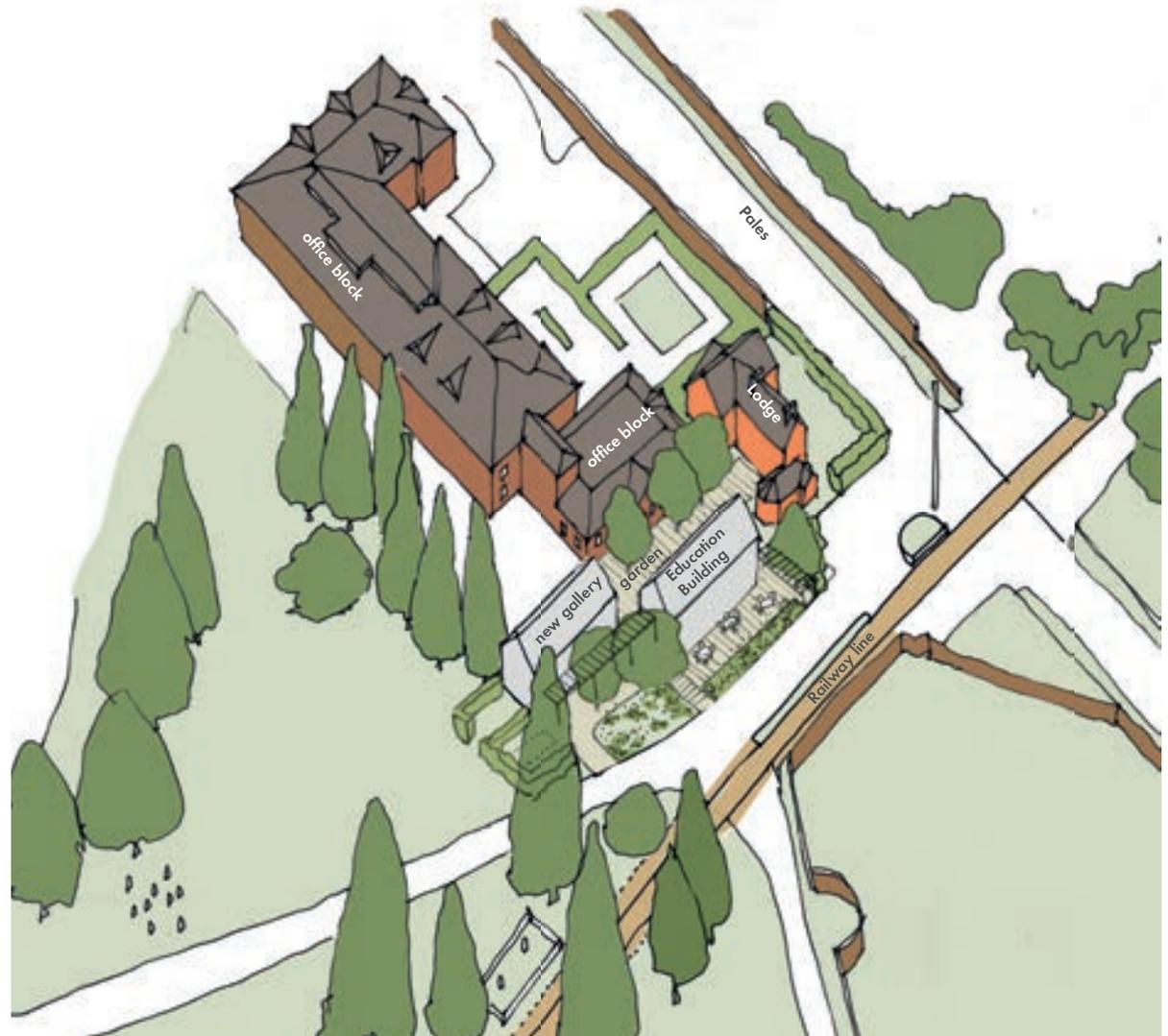
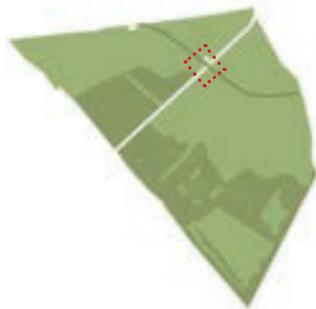
# Landscape and Structures

## new gallery

The second of two new buildings for the visitor centre encloses a small courtyard and forecourt and further screens views of the 1990s office block. Together with the converted Lodge, the buildings would provide a collection of spaces connected by the courtyard and forecourt.

The new building would provide a new temporary exhibition gallery. This would help host a significantly expanded programme of arts and learning associated with the heritage cemetery. The diversification is pitched to attract arts audiences from Woking and London.

The second building could also contain further meeting rooms and a dedicated archive to support the activities in other visitor centre buildings.





Exhibition: Life before Death: Walter Schels (Wellcome Collection photography exhibition)



Coffin display at Tot Zover, Amsterdam. The museum holds programmes and exhibitions exploring ideas of death and funerary practice.



C19th depiction of an undertaker keen to profit from 1840s cholera outbreak (Science Museum)



19th century amulet used for protection against cholera



Exhibition: ideas and exploration of technologies for ecological burial like this 'mushroom suit' by Jae Rhim Lee.



Films: Violette Szabo



Histories: notable people Abdul Rahman Andak



Exhibitions: the architecture of Zaha Hadid



Literature and readings: books by HRH Princess Musbah Haidar "Arabesque" and Rebecca West are examples



Brookwood delicacies



Outdoor and indoor concerts, requiems, compositions on the theme of mortality

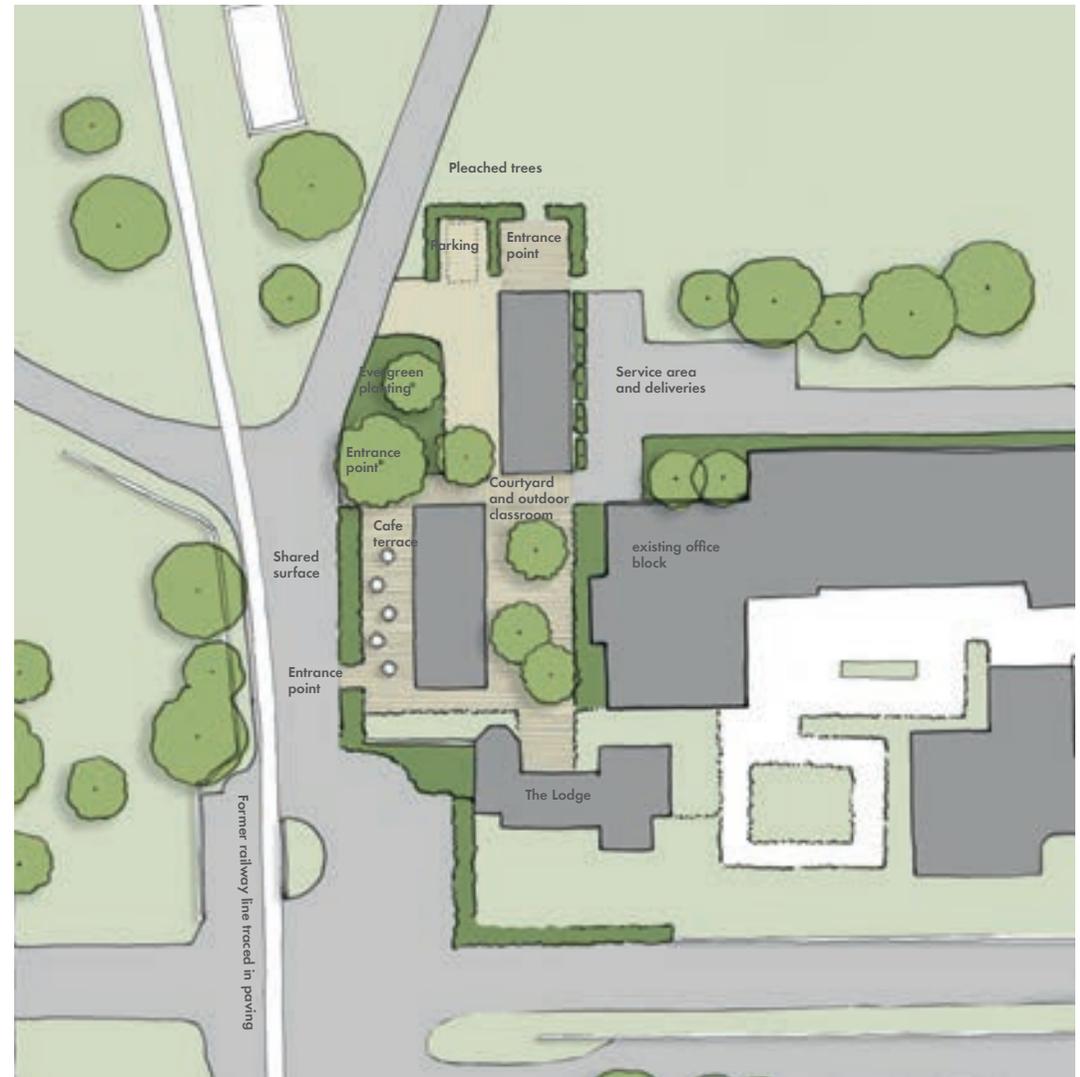


Examples of the (inexhaustible) potential for programming in the temporary exhibition space and across the cemetery. Refer to the Experience Plan for more information.

## new visitor centre gardens

The gardens are set between the converted former Superintendent's Lodge and two new buildings.

The layout connects new and existing structures from different periods and creates a direct access from the cemetery. A cafe terrace faces the afternoon sun and the inner garden screens the office building whilst allowing space for an outdoor classroom and exhibitions space.





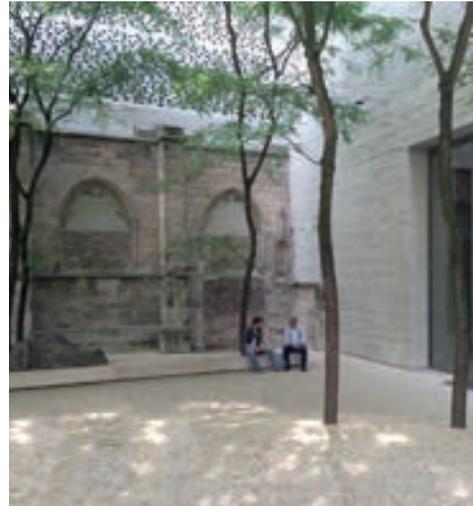
Hauser & Wirth gallery, Somerset; view of the buildings in landscape



Combination of new and old buildings at Ditchling Museum



Combination of existing and new buildings around a courtyard



New and old buildings around a gravel courtyard with trees - a possible model for the visitor centre courtyard



Brick and stone paving connecting historic and modern buildings



Pleached trees forming a screen between the visitor centre and the cemetery to the north

## 3.6 Museum

The Masterplan establishes a framework which could respond to even more ambitious plans in which, for example, the cemetery becomes the setting for a new museum. Perhaps, provocatively, this would be a Museum of Death, confronting a subject which no other museum in Britain has taken on as its primary purpose.

### landscape and structures

As Step 4 Expanded Programme plus

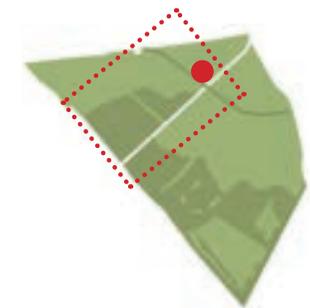
- Demolish 1990s office block
- Construct new building with museum, exhibition, education and associated spaces

### funerary business and operations

As Step 4

### visitor programme and interpretation

Includes Step 4 but significantly augmented



Proposed plan of the central Pales area



Brookwood Station

railway line reinforced

artist-in-residence

new glades for interments - layout indicative

burials parking 20 spaces

burials entry road

area for potential crematorium

chapel

P crem & visitor (60 total)

education and gallery buildings

Museum of Death

Pales

forecourt

P overflow (40)

HS2

late glades

Glades' House parking 20

Glades House

HS2

Bagh-E-Zehra

Lodge

Beard

P south cemetery (40)

new avenue

Ismailis

Grant Redwood Avenue

## **Reinforcing the quality of place**

The Masterplan establishes a framework, around the central Pales, which could respond to even more ambitious plans in which, for example, the cemetery becomes the setting for a new museum.

As with all of the interventions promoted in this Masterplan, such a museum would reinforce rather than undermine the unique quality of the place, ultimately underlining the purpose of the London Necropolis Company.

Perhaps, provocatively, this would be a Museum of Death, taking front-on, and as its primary purpose, a subject which no other museum in Britain has done.

## **A place for talking about death**

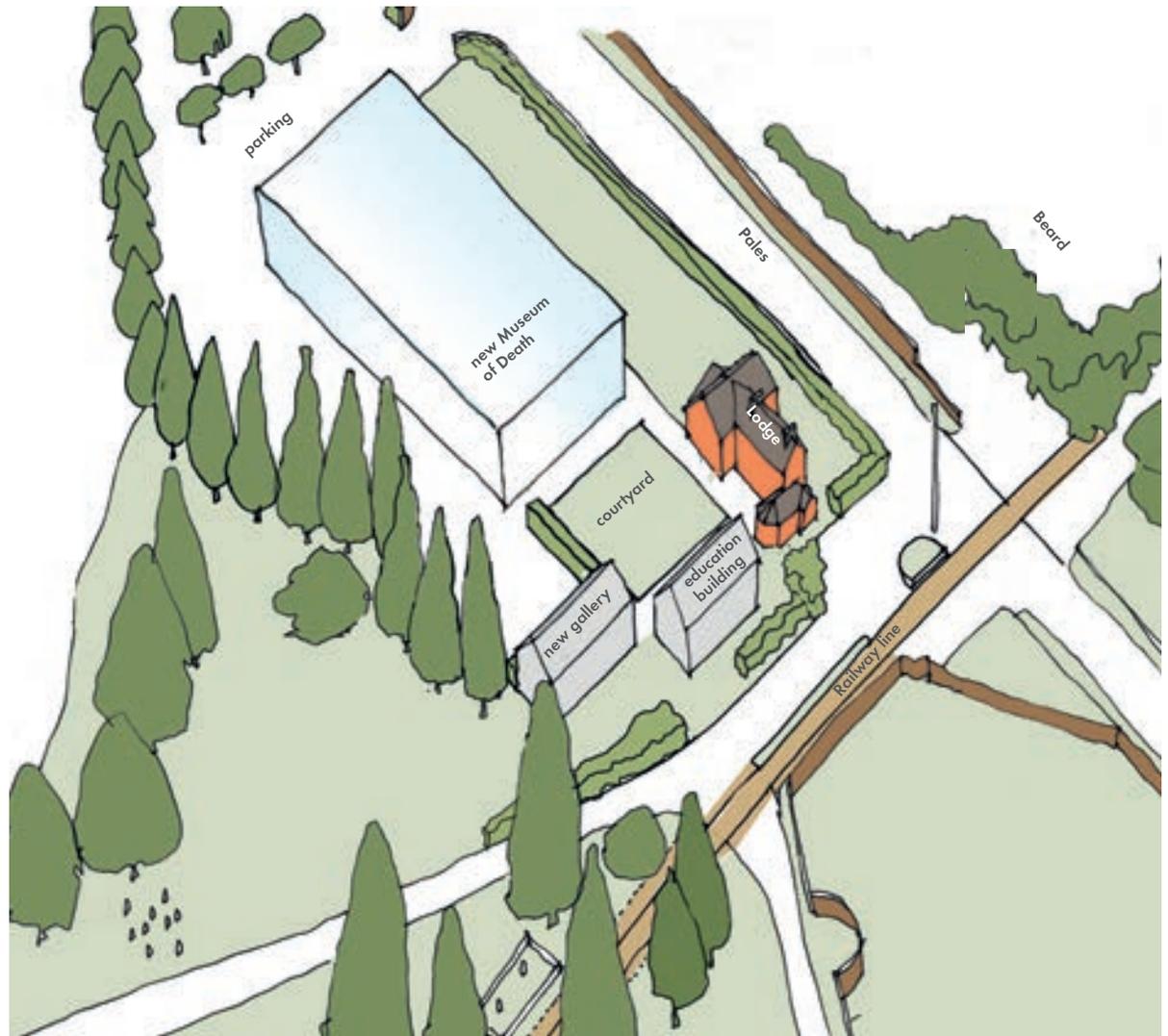
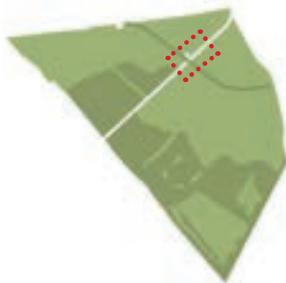
Brookwood Cemetery is one of the most significant death-related locations in Europe. It would be a location without equal for a place dedicated to the idea of society and death – a Museum of Death - where people can learn about, think about, and talk about death. Such a huge part of life, death is a social taboo often shied away from as a subject. This lack of openness affects the lives of the dying and the bereaved, and it is well recognised by groups such as Dying Matters.

The original vision for Brookwood Cemetery was ambitious. It was created in response to urgent calls for burial reform in the mid nineteenth century. Today, it can draw on that heritage to promote open dialogue around death. With its extraordinarily wide range of communities, and their different histories and customs, Brookwood Cemetery offers a unique opportunity for exploring different conceptions and understandings of death. Arts, history, technology, funerary practices would all be part of this.

A new building for the Museum of Death would occupy and redevelop the site of the current office block. It would transform this focal part of the cemetery and it would fundamentally change how the whole cemetery is experienced. Currently dominated by the prosaic, commercial office building, the cemetery would instead host, at this crux of the Pales and the old railway line, a new, significant building - one dedicated to exploring the central issue which the cemetery was founded to address.



A large but ethereal building set in landscape - the Louvre Museum at Lens, France offers an image for the Museum of Death



Axonometric showing the new Museum of Death built on the site of the demolished office block





## 3.7 Next Steps

### negotiations required with third parties to progress the initial masterplan steps

#### 1. Transformation of the Station Entrance Garden:

Purchase land from Network Rail or agree that required landscape work may be carried out.

#### 2. Improvement of the South Cemetery Entrance:

including a new pedestrian crossing and relocation of Beard's driveway entrance. This entails work on Jean Margaret Williams' land, so purchase of the land is required, or else an agreement to carry out alterations.

#### 3. Reposition Beard's entrance from the Pales:

needs agreement with Beard. Research needed on existing historic graves to enable possible new entrance.

#### 4. Reveal lost length of historic railway line:

contingent on (a) landswap with Beard and (b) landswap with the Ismaili Cemetery.

#### 5. Remove parking area to reveal view down Giant Redwood rail line avenue:

although the gravelled parking area is owned by Woking Borough Council, it is used by the Ismaili

Cemetery. Relocation of the parking should be broached with the Ismailis.

#### 6. Improvement to the North Cemetery entrance,

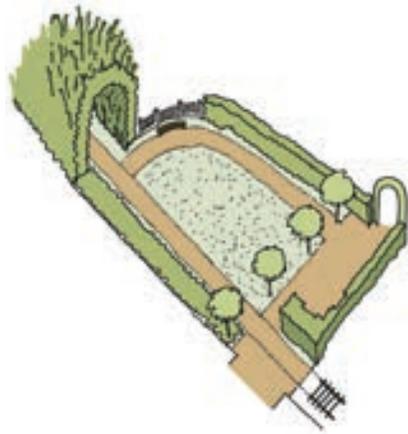
including (a) reinstate the original vehicle roadway entrance as separate to the historic railway line route (b) use the railway line as a pedestrian path alongside the roadway (c) form a larger garden for the cafe and visitor centre in the Superintendent's Lodge. These are all contingent on reclaiming the land used for parking by the office block. The land is owned by Woking Borough Council, but loss or relocation of parking spaces should be broached with the office occupiers.

#### 7. Use of The Cottage as residence for Artist-in-Residence:

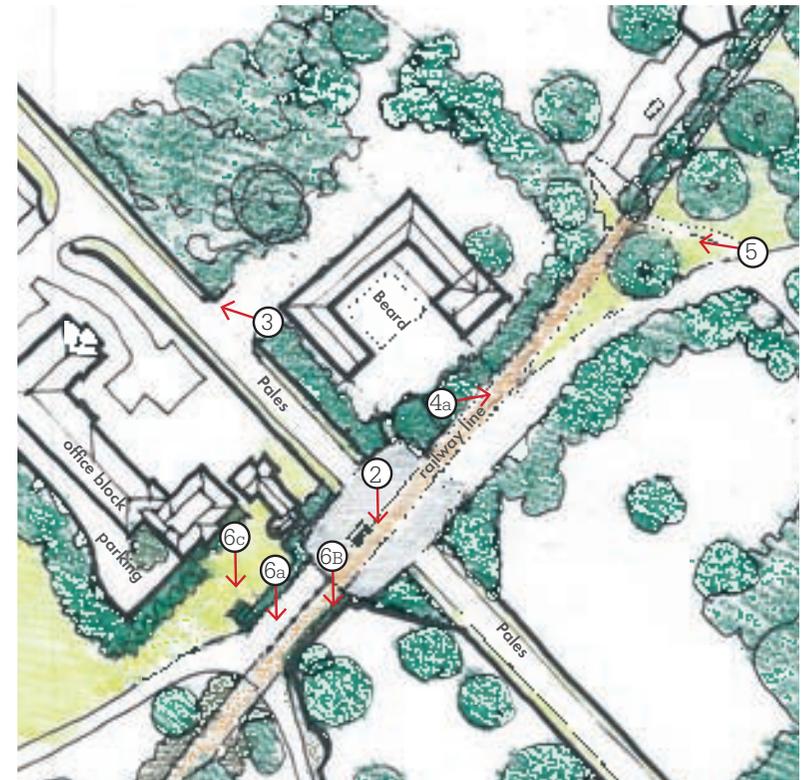
current tenant of cottage will need to vacate premises.



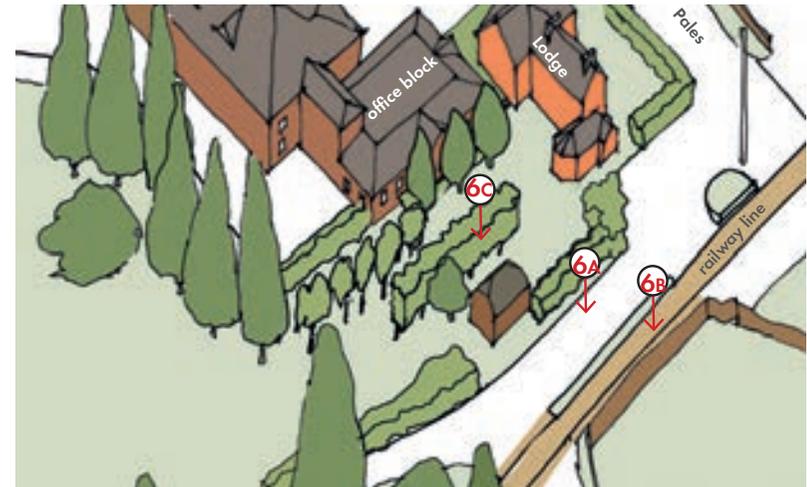
Key Plan locating items 1 to 7 on the list of Next Actions



Sketch proposal for transforming the Station Entrance Garden (1 on the list of Next Actions)



Zoom in key plan around the crossing of the Pales, locating items 2 to 6 on the list of Next Actions



Zoom in axonometric around the Lodge and the office block, locating items 6 (a,b and c)



# 4

# APPENDICES

# 4.1 Maps



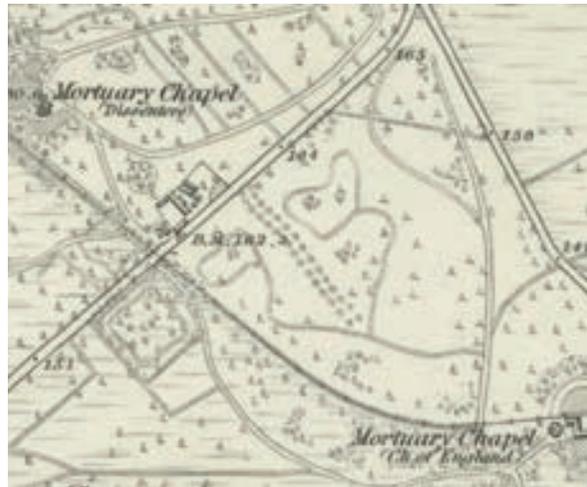
- St Margarets St Johns Westminster
- D
- F
- H
- St Andrews Lawn
- St Saviours (uncon)
- Woking (uncon)
- Chapel Hill
- E
- Lower (uncon)
- St Saviours (con)
- Upper aka Lawn
- Catholic
- Actors
- Swedish
- Oddfellows
- Foresters
- Commissionaires
- London Mosque / Jamaat

- The Ring
  - Reparation Ground
  - St Albans Ground
  - Woking (con)
  - St Stephens Ground
  - St Peters Home
  - St Peters Convent
  - Smiles Home / Harbour
  - Chelsea Hospital
  - Railway Ground
  - St Thomas Ground
  - B
  - C
  - A
  - Hilton's Grove
1. Canadian
  2. Italian
  3. American
  4. French
  5. Czech
  6. Polish
  7. RAF
  8. British

Map prepared by Brookwood Cemetery using information sourced from Deceased Online'  
 Provided by Brookwood Cemetery to Allies and Morrison 24 January 2019



1873 Ordnance Survey



1873 Ordnance Survey - extract showing railway crossing



1873 Ordnance Survey - extract of south cemetery



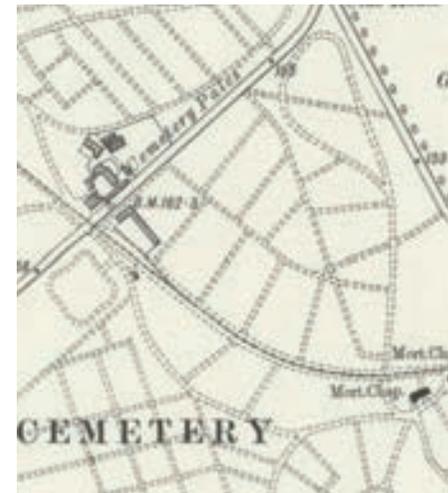
1895 Ordnance Survey west side extract



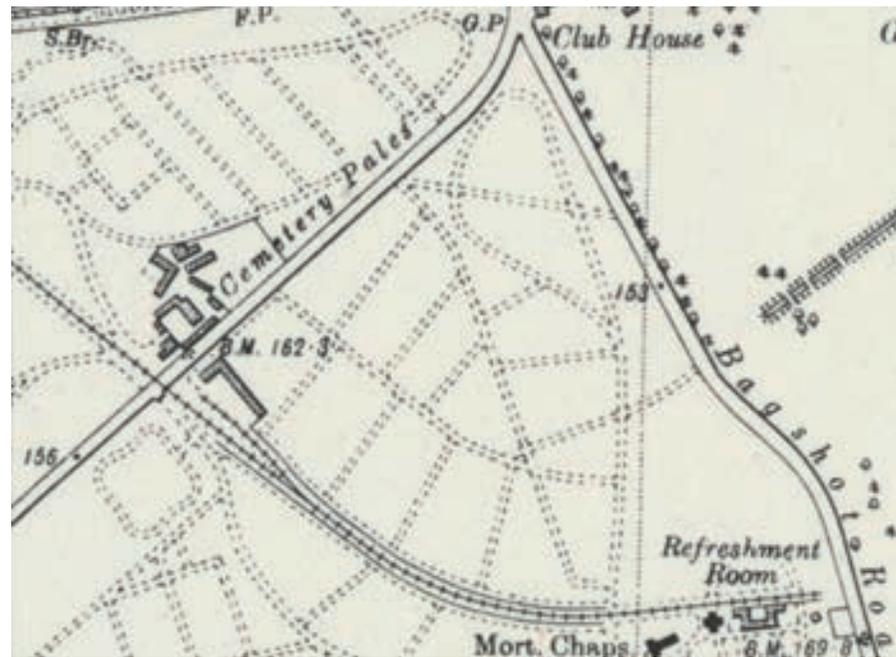
1894 Ordnance Survey extract of crossing



1913 Ordnance Survey west side extract



1913 Ordnance Survey extract of crossing



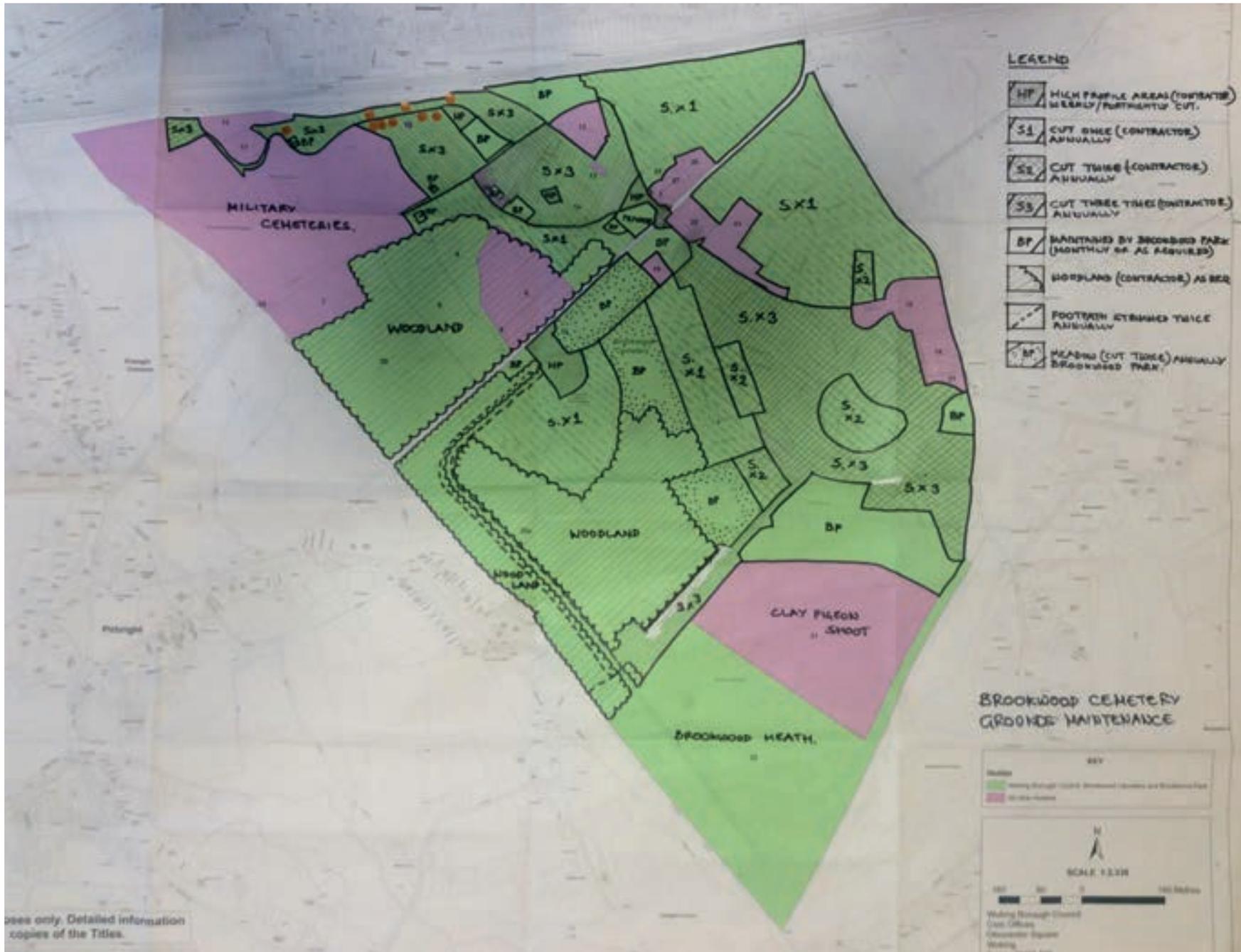
1928 aerial view of the cemetery (website britainfromabove.org.uk)

1938 Ordnance Survey extract showing the crossing



1961 Ordnance Survey with Military Cemetery

1968 Ordnance Survey with Military Cemetery



Cutting plan Brookwood Cemetery 2019

# 4.2 Buildings on the site

## extant buildings

### The Lodge

- 1854 construction of the Parsonage house (architect Smirke)
- 1885 used as the cemetery superintendent's lodge
- 1976 sold as private residence
- 2014(?) acquired by Woking Borough Council (currently let on short-term residential lease)

### Stonemasons' Yard

- Date (?) constructed
- Date (assumed 1970s) sold to Beard Construction
- Extended around courtyard in matching style

### Headquarters office block

- constructed on the site of the old glasshouse built in 1999.

### Chapels

- 1899 Roman Catholic chapel in north cemetery by architect CB Tubbs
- 1854? Anglican chapel in south cemetery by Smirke (owned by St Edward Brotherhood)
- 1909 larger Anglican chapel completed (now the Orthodox Church of St Edward Brotherhood)
- 1929 American Military Chapel most notable building on the site
- Former dissenters' chapel by Smirke (now owned by Dawoodi-Bohra Najmee Baag)

### The Cottage

- Date of construction not known (a building is shown in the 1873 Ordnance Survey map in this location)
- Residential
- Currently venue for the Trench Warfare Experience

### Glades House

- Date of construction not known (no building shown in this location in 19th and early 20th century maps)
- Cemetery office (was the old caretaker's lodge)

### Former buildings

- Stations designed by Smirke
- North station demolished in the 1950s
- South station destroyed by vandals in 1972
- Stables, masonry works and glasshouses (on the site of the current office block)



St Edward Brotherhood church c.1909-10



Anglican Chapel c.1901-1910 Architect: Cyril Tubbs and Arthur Messer



Anglican Chapel 854 Sidney Smirke



Former Catholic Chapel 1899 architect (probably) Cyril B Tubbs



Glades House



Former superintendent's Lodge 1854 Sidney Smirke



American Military Chapel Grade II c1929  
Architect: Egerton Swartout, John R. Pope and Harry B. Cresswell



Commonwealth War Graves Commission building



Office Block 1990s



Former dissenters chapel, now Dawoodi-Bohra  
Najmee Baag



Beard Construction office (former masonry works)

# 4.3 Consultations

## consultee list

Consultation Groups follow the same 'Levels' as identified in the Conservation Management Framework 2016,

Group 1 consists of those who are, or will be, directly involved with the minutiae of the development and delivery of the conservation of the cemetery -

- Brookwood Park Ltd
- Woking Borough Council
- Woking Borough Council - planning officer and conservation officer
- Historic England - Heritage at Risk and Development Management Teams

Group 2 comprises other site owners and operators within Brookwood Cemetery including Commonwealth War Graves Commission Brookwood Cemetery Society St Edward Brotherhood

To this Group 2 list we have added those communities who own or manage land within Brookwood Cemetery, and local and national amenity societies:

- Diocese of Guildford
- American Battle Monument Management
- Ahmadiyya Muslim Cemetery
- Jamaat Muslim Cemetery
- Ismaili Cemetery
- Jamaat Muslim Cemetery

- The Serbian Orthodox Cemetery
- Dawoodi-Bohra Najmee Baag
- Zoroastrians
- Swedish
- Oddfellows
- Music Hall Guild Of Great Britain and America
- Latvian
- Memorial Association of Free Czechoslovak Veterans
- Catholic
- Bagh-E-Zehra
- Jamaat
- Beard Construction
- Buddhist
- Turkish Airmen
- Said Plot
- The Victorian Society
- Surrey Wildlife Trust

Group 3 includes those with wider shared interests:

- Highway Authority
- Parish Council
- Pirbright Church
- Pirbright School
- Brookwood School
- Knaphill School
- Knaphill Community
- Knaphill News and Mail
- Holy Trinity Church Knaphill
- St Saviour's Church, Brookwood
- Pirbright Village News

## meetings

Regular monthly meetings were held with the client group. A presentation was given to the Brookwood Park Ltd board on 8 May 2019. The wider stakeholder community was consulted as follows:

### Meetings 17 April 2019

We had early conversations with the following stakeholders on 17 April to find out about their wishes for the cemetery  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission  
American Battle Monuments  
Beard Construction

### Meetings 2 May 2019

We also met on 2nd May 2019 with St Edward Brotherhood, and then held a drop-in session at Glades House. Stakeholders from Group 2 (site owners and operators) were invited to this session. Those who attended were  
Brookwood Cemetery Society  
Memorial Association of Free Czechoslovak Veterans  
Jamaat  
Ahmadiyya Muslim Cemetery  
Ismaili Cemetery  
The Serbian Orthodox Cemetery  
Music Hall Guild Of Great Britain and America  
Ismaili Cemetery (phone call)

### **Meetings 3 and 11 July 2019**

A small exhibition was set up in Brookwood Chapel, and presentations given on 3 and 11 July for Groups 2 and 3 stakeholders. Those attending were

- Commonwealth War Graves Commission (Les Kibble)
- Brookwood Cemetery Society
- Memorial Association of Free Czechoslovak Veterans
- Jamaat Muslim Cemetery
- Ahmadiyya Muslim Cemetery
- Ismaili Cemetery
- Pirbright Parish Council
- John Clarke
- Zoroastrian community

### **Meeting 17 July 2019**

A meeting was held with representatives from heritage and conservation stakeholder groups

- Historic England - Development
- Historic England - Historic Landscape
- Woking Borough Council planning

The National Heritage Lottery Fund were invited to attend this meeting, but, in order to avoid a conflict of interest, they asked to be consulted when the scheme is nearing readiness for submission for grant funding.

Surrey Wildlife Trust and The Victorian Society were also invited but did not reply.

Meeting TBA 2020

A meeting was held with Surrey County Council Highways on 26 July 2019

- Abi Solway
- i-Transport
- Allies and Morrison

### **Meeting 2 August 2019**

Allies and Morrison attended a meeting with Ray Morgan, Chief Executive of Woking Borough Council. RM encouraged an even longer term vision for the future of the cemetery, looking to 2052, the 200th anniversary of the founding of the cemetery. Idea of Museum of Death discussed.

### **Meeting 3 October 2019**

A meeting held with Ray Morgan, Brookwood Cemetery client representatives, and Historic England

- Historic England - Development
- Historic England - Historic Landscape

### **Meeting 11 November 2019**

A workshop was held with Historic England representatives from Development and Historic Landscape.

### **Meeting 3 December 2019**

A workshop was held with Historic England Historic Landscape.

**DRAFT SPATIAL MASTERPLAN HISTORIC ENGLAND COMMENTS 02/10/2019**

**Context, vision and significance**

Heritage and land use here:

1. Important historic structures and landscape (designated and regulated by legislation)
2. Ongoing societal process – the contemporary use of the past with structures left from a very recent past (regulated by societal practice)
3. Green structure – separate policy areas bringing together natural resource management, nature conservation, recreation

Double loading – old inherent meanings combined with newly added ones. Therefore attachment to place and private memories become important factors that impel engagement in a masterplan for this place. Landscapes only become really spectacular when you know what you are looking at.

**Connecting elements across cemetery -**

Cultural memory – interplay between present and past in socio-cultural context  
 Individuality v conformity – writing an identity for yourself, collective consciousness and service, individuality  
 Different strengths of private engagement, participations and personal involvement  
 Aesthetic - dense with imagery, rich with tradition  
 Encounters with mourning and mourners through different faith structures, nationalities and societies  
 Layered meaning and symbolism, iconography (of the past and the present) – visual culture, isolating a story in a moment, freeze framing it, utilising design and aesthetics  
 Human dimensions of environmental quality – our need for an environment like this to enable us to mourn and reflect  
 Scale and vision of original landscape design to enable a space with a co-existence of functions  
 Using visual language to communicate ideas, ethical codes  
 Underlying order – conventional story and meaning, collective memory of historical events  
 Active use – enhancing the quality through continuous change, personal relationships with and memories attached to the place their relatives and friends are buried  
 Experience and perception– everyday experiences, time and generations passing, long lived species, seasons, day and night – regeneration and regrowth of nature, change and regeneration  
 Technology and Movement- industrialisation, space, shifts in dwelling, settlement, connections

**Design Questions: How to make this vision serve enough people to be a valued proposition - toolkit to use including management of the unique illusive mix of past and present**

What key dimensions do people focus on when they perceive Brookwood?  
 How are these dimensions subjectively evaluated by people in the course of their everyday experiences?  
 How do such evaluations affect how people use Brookwood for a given activity?  
 Has the vision of this place changed so radically?

How to make sense of this site and the numerous elements it holds?

How do we create a compound of past and present – polite society that is respectful of the past but dreaming of the future, embodying promises of times to come, civility, dignity, and deference to our descendants?

**Layers and characterisation or multiple dimensions?**

Here the collection of everything seems obvious but each thing is important and has great meaning so you need to learn about each of those as a designer. This place is greater than the sum of its parts.

The overall context plays a vital role in defining Brookwood's character. More than the single elements the cultural, green environment in its totality influences the relationship that people build in Brookwood. Attention is being paid by visitors to single elements – paths, tombstones, trees, flowers, former landscape ideals and structural remains, and this works hand in hand with experiential aspects (personal memories, recognition, touch, smell). However, it is the totality of these tangible and intangible aspects that influence the relationship the visitors build to these places.

Contextual awareness here is:

**1. Scales - moving between different scales to create a sustainable project, what cultural space does Brookwood relate to at which scale:**

- International context in which the cemetery is located – faith context, design context, memorialisation context, global community connections, burgeoning digital context
- Relationship to other cemeteries nationally/regionally – kinship of sense across similar cultural landscapes, understanding how Brookwood is an aesthetic appropriation of other culture's and nations cemetery landscapes
- Its relationship to London and population growth as a whole, its vast scale and physical remoteness compared to the Victorian Cemetery tradition, to the culture of memorial open spaces
- The designed landscape approach of Brookwood within its local context
- Local landscape resource - sense and react based on environment

**2. Activities of memorialisation – moving to the smaller levels of attention, individual acts of remembering in a social context now transcending the original disciplinary boundaries as well as national boundaries**

- Group memory (of family, friends, community internment, societies, veterans)
- National memory (invented traditions and transnational memory sites ie national plots and military)
- Forgotten memorialisation – lost plots and records

**3. Movement Patterns – the way the place functions that knits all the scales together**

- infrastructure and connection (how to access its urbanity in the country)
- diversity and mixture
- areas of active use v area of 'neglect' and conservation
- lines and anchors
- boundaries and watercourses

Different type of characterisation – composite landscape of various constructs, cultivated over time by different communities to create various experiential areas (not landscape character areas):

- Formality, infrastructure and structural devices including orientation
- Memorialisation structure
- Age structure
- Designed landscape
- Green structure

**Masterplan challenges and responses:**

- Placing yourself directly in the landscape relationship (soft and hard) – the special purposes that this site had when it was originally established
- Understanding cemetery landscape as distinct cultural space and technical term – delivering through the actions of dwelling in burials, memorialisation and reflection as opposed to a park which is a label for appropriating specific landscape qualities and aesthetics for recreational use by the public (active creation v passive consumption)
- Engaging extra experiential relationships of cemetery over 'park' landscape including tranquillity, secretive, contemplative, age = special atmosphere strengthening, retaining the human dimension of environmental quality and its position of importance to those visiting, working and living in the area
- As a site that demands respect – rational management model
- Increasing interconnection with other heritage sites, urban parks, cultural trails, commons, greenways to enhance both cultural and natural qualities
- Appreciating different ways of seeing and perspective – understanding diversity
- Confronted by the sublime – making the vastness measurable to deliver an overview
- Background knowledge of time and scale – allowing the experience of the passage of time and scale on which the world has changed to introduce the idea of the landscape as a cultural space which is subject to flow and senescence
- Use = appropriation of the place
- Burial legislation, rituals, density and future use – future burial ground space requirements in the north and south sections, how to work with inheritance from faith and class divisions
- Flexibility to green context – the unusual dimension of 'urban greenspace' in a urban/rural hinterland on its planning and management status, collaborative approach to support various policy areas
- Balance between landscape and nature in totality defining the character terms for the future cemetery – conscious selection of elements in active conservation to aid recognition v strangeness and uniqueness of cemetery aided by deliberate choice of nature
- How to hold a collective role for the community and neighbourhood Brookwood is located in and the for the individuals and communities that have relatives buried there
- Increased access as not strictly 'public space' (defined as places of interaction, social encounter and exchange with a wide range of activities) with existing issues of inclusion and exclusion
- Platform for increasing creative cultural activities that do not neglect its role as an important memorial site

- Allowing users to adopt an attitude that contributes to its strengthening position as a well-maintained place demanding respect

**Future prospects and restoration?**

I understand the past, I barely understand the present, and I have no idea about the future.

The public engagement in this masterplan process has not finished as a 'framework' for making decisions yet as this is an ongoing design process – the creative process of re-evaluation creates a culture of consultation that enriches any design response and create valuable spin-offs that we cannot see yet.

The vision of this space - who we were, who we are, who we will be – that is why Brookwood is the jewel in our cultural crown.

Is it appropriate to see Brookwood cemetery as a green memory site – symbolising nature at work?

What is the present tense for this site? Should it hold onto the past labels or have easiness in using it in the present? The weight of history can be hard to innovate – the leading edge of newness, fusion between past and present go back into the past and using it – consuming the past to help us face the present

Recognition of the remains as a collective memory site – reflections on trans- temporality, pluralistic understanding of the processes we face, linking a 'not-far-away' past with the contemporary, live in the moment, agent of change but inability to control events

Make natural cycles visible – make sure the past helps you cope with the present, unstable, time will vanish in a moment, we are part of the environment

Pace of life and defined set of rules of conduct for visitors of a cemetery – experience in the depth/pace we need to explore our mortality (JC Loudon principles) the past helps you understand the present

**Cultural memory (death) museum proposals:** Where is this best sited? Investigation in how to reconcile private and collective cultural memory perspectives – collective remembering at the different scales from private setting to public sphere:

- New day? How can we learn from Loudon's original lessons about the spatial/mourning experience for the here and now
- Doing physical things to connect
- Spiritual power station – can this be a 'vessel' structure that creates a link between us and our temporal environment

## Masterplan response to comments from Historic England

The Historic England comments build a picture of what they wanted to see from the Masterplan. HE's main request, which we discussed with them in our workshop sessions, was that we set out the connection between burials, communities and the landscape, and that we consider the experiential qualities of the memorial landscapes. So our overarching response has been to develop the study on 'cultural values of the landscape' now included in the Masterplan documents pages 31-35 and pages 58-63. The study addresses many of the points HE have made above.

In other points, HE suggest broad themes, some of which are describing an approach to thinking about the cemetery, others are themes to be developed in the next stages of design and research. Points are noted and have been addressed broadly in this Masterplan.

## Masterplan response to comments from The Brookwood Society

Text additions to Masterplan as follows:

- (i) Reasoning for proposed location for a crematorium better explained
- (ii) Regular openings in railway line screening to allow access, egress and framed views, and to avoid unsafe dark areas
- (iii) Scepticism re continuing rail line through Beard property noted. Detail to be further explored in next stages, and idea possibly realised with less disruption.
- (iv) Acknowledge need for further research into historic graves
- (v) Importance of ecological assets acknowledged
- (vi) Crematorium matching forecourt entrance proposed in lieu of roundabout. This is a more discreet intervention - more discreet than traffic lights also. Pales proposals agreed in principle with SCC Highways, to ensure safety, to be further developed at next stages
- (vii) Masterplan suggests bikes and buggies could be trialled for a year to see if the idea works
- (viii) Have noted special national funding available for Artist-in-Residence, so does not need to be paid for by Woking.

The Society's point that the cemetery's '...primary function is to provide a dignified and respectful last resting place...' has been included right at the beginning of the Masterplan, in the Executive Summary vision and briefing, reflecting the importance of this emphasis.



**THE BROOKWOOD CEMETERY SOCIETY**

**BROOKWOOD CEMETERY ~ MASTER PLAN**

Presentation prepared by  
Allies and Morrison with Roger Bowdler as Heritage advisor  
The Brookwood Cemetery Society Members Review meeting 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019

Brookwood Cemetery Society would like to thank Allies and Morrison and Marilyn for the presentations that have been made in respect of the Master Plan developed for Brookwood Cemetery.

As stakeholders in Brookwood Cemetery for the last 27 years with a wealth of knowledge of its history, we feel that the plan has some welcome aspects but also areas of concern, the greatest of which is the proposal of bike hire / tours and cycle route and or motorised buggies.

The Society would find it most helpful to have sight of any written reports and supporting research documents that will clarify the council's future plans for the cemetery.

These are our observations: -

**Planned second crematorium for Woking** ~ Care must be taken with its location, to avoid (as much as possible) traffic congestion on the already busy Cemetery Pales. Any resulting desecration of existing grave is a concern to us. If this initiative is to be pursued, we feel the construction of a suitable entrance and a large area for car parking, could be better achieved perhaps by converting the Red House / ACI.

**Railway entrance, North Cemetery** ~ The creation of a garden area here would certainly enhance the first experience of arriving by train and entering the cemetery, prior to visiting a family grave or to enjoy a peaceful walk around.

**Route of the train** ~ making this another pathway through the cemetery would give visitors a different view, providing it is not screened off. We have security/safety concerns about dark areas that may result from tree screening which could give cover for undesirable elements that may choose to frequent the area and make visitors feel vulnerable. Continuing through Beards property seems excessive, especially creating a new entrance for them potentially in another area where there are existing graves which are part of the cemetery's history.

**Change of use for the original Superintendent's Office** ~ There are certain graves of celebrity and notoriety which can be emphasised. The walks by the Brookwood Cemetery Society over the last 20 plus years have featured these, not only in the monthly walks on the first Sunday but also in the 'extra private' walks undertaken by Society members, sometime approaching 30 per year. All these walks are provided by very knowledgeable and dedicated society volunteers. The society's base at the Lodge allows these activities to happen, and to provide refreshments, as well as being a home for the society's publications. The Superintendent's office would make for a more central location for this activity and encourage visitors to extend their visit with a welcome cup of tea, light bite or cake by converting part of it into a tearoom, with elements of a museum and exhibits and explanatory texts thus giving an educational dimension. The tearooms could also provide a facility for a wake or business meeting.

**Parking areas and toilets** ~ Small areas of parking are much needed on both sides.

**Raising its profile** ~ Although this is a very special place – unique even – it is still a working cemetery. Mourners are entitled to have their loved ones' funerals conducted with quiet and respect, yet visitors are to be encouraged, especially those for whom it is a first visit. The Brookwood Cemetery Society has achieved this for well over 20 years and has worked well with the previous owners to ensure this and looks forward to working with Woking Council going forward. However, any development needs to consider the unique nature of Brookwood Cemetery which has an exceptional landscape and is a site of special scientific interest (SSSI). The Surrey Wildlife Trust's survey took place in 2015 to identify and protect the flora and fauna.

**Increase in use** ~ Its primary function is to provide a dignified and respectful last resting place for the deceased of Woking and beyond, of many faiths and none. It can only make this an appealing option by providing the right ambience for this to happen. This should remain the prime objective and core focus for the cemetery and future crematorium.

**Traffic calming** ~ The creation of a roundabout would involve removing graves which are 'in the way'. Two sets of traffic lights, along Cemetery Pales one with a turn right filter would be safer and obviate the necessity for a roundabout. This would mean that graves could be left undisturbed. Exhumations always attract unwanted publicity and feelings tend to run high. Any reburials would need to be handled with dignity. It is also noted there are additional openings onto Cemetery Pales, planned could this not cause more danger to this road?

**Bicycle Route / Bike / Buggy Hire** ~ maybe this has been misinterpreted. Encouraging the hire and use of bicycles throughout the cemetery is incompatible with the dignity of such a place and would offend many religious communities and cause potential safety issues as well as having a detrimental effect on the local ecology in a SSSI. Who would manage the hire, storage and maintenance of the bikes / buggies?

**Artist in residence** ~ The post of artist in residence is aspirational at best and, in our view if it is a paid post, it would not be cost-effective for the council taxpayers of Woking. Further clarification of this post would be appreciated.

**Visitor centres** ~ would these be information boards? Further clarification would be helpful, please. Visitors should be encouraged to come to the cemetery but in a respectful way not as an *ad hoc* coach party.

It would be pleasing to know what the intention is for the future of the cemetery. Surely the main driver for any of the proposed changes must be to promote it as a desirable final resting place.

To quote a testimonial written by The Times in the early days of the cemetery.

*"No more beautiful spot could be selected. The cemetery itself is of immense extent, in the centre of a lovely country, and produces a sense of peace, quietude and freedom, which is sadly lacking in the congested appearance of the cemeteries in and around the metropolis."*

For information, it was noted that there are spelling errors on the presentation.

Commissionaires	~ should be Commissionaires
Namjee Baag	~ should be Dawoodi-Bohra Najmee Baag
Ismaeli	~ should be Ismaili
St Edwards Brotherhood	~ should be St Edward Brotherhood
Bagh-e-zera / Baag-e-zehra	~ should be Bagh-E-Zehra

## feedback on August draft from Geoff Ward

3 October 2019

Dear Anna

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft conservation management plan for Brookwood Cemetery.

In commenting, I have largely kept my focus on the landscape management aspects of the plan as this is where my expertise and my current involvement with the cemetery lies.

Broadly speaking I welcome the proposals within the document which seem well thought out and which offer a phased approach towards improving the landscape and ecology of the site, alongside opportunities for increased income generation, improved visitor experience and wider conservation management.

P46 and 47. The suggested enhancement of existing avenues of Sequiadendron (although referred to as Sequoia in the document) and the enhancement of the tree skyline elsewhere through selective removal of less important trees is very welcome. Again this will need careful assessment and appropriate publicity to avoid unnecessary criticism over tree removal which can be a sensitive matter. On going liaison with the Council's arborist ( given the blanket TPO on the site ) will be important here. Mention of this in the document might be useful.

P47. I support the approach which recognises distinct landscape character zones and the proposed adjustments to landscape management to reflect and enhance these. It is appreciated that this is a high level plan rather than a detailed working document, but I do think it important that the implementation of the landscape management proposals is undertaken after a more detailed assessment of the impacts on each area so that the objectives are clear to all. I think this is particularly important in respect of the proposed removal of heather scrub from the Ring which may be of concern in the context of the previously published Surrey Wildlife Management Plan. It might be worth including words to this effect on page 47 for the avoidance of doubt.

P 48: Changes to mowing regimes particularly on edges of roadways to ensure that there is a balance between public expectation of what a well maintained cemetery should look like and the need to conserve the unique ecology of the site is a sensible compromise. This year there has been a spectacular amount of flowering Devil's Bit Scabious on the site which is rare in the South East and an important source of food for insects. This has been achieved partly as a result of additional survey work to identify locations and advise to contractors/staff and through careful maintenance ie. avoiding cutting between July and late autumn. Is it worth mentioning in the report those species of particular rarity and interest at Brookwood?

P 49: The woodland management proposals again are sound with recommendations to enhance ecology, landscape and access. It might be worth considering some active measures to enhance ground flora in these areas, particularly around the Colquhoun Chapel and alongside walkways within woodlands/ alongside the moat by planting of native bluebells/snowdrops/wood anemones. It is also the case that most of the woodland areas are relatively young, dominated by Silver Birch which has invaded what was originally an open heath landscape. As Silver Birch is a relatively short lived tree maybe thought should be given to selective thinning and replacement with longer term species such as oak, sweet chestnut and possibly alder in wetter areas. Maybe mention could be included in the initial moves section on P60.

P48 and 55. The proposals to improve tracks and protect verges are welcome, although appropriate choice of materials on tracks to avoid adverse impact on acid nature of the soil should be highlighted.

P49. Is it worth mentioning here the need for continued control of invasive vegetation. There has been an extensive programme of invasive species control and particularly the removal of Rhododendron ponticum. Some larger specimens of Rhododendron ponticum of landscape value have been retained as have stands which are of value as a screen/enclosure around parish plots.

However continued control measures will need to be implemented to avoid regrowth and further invasion.

There is some mention of additional planting in the plan, but I wonder whether this could be expanded in a couple of areas-

P74. Tree planting : it would be useful to mention the need ensure that there is a long term strategy for replacement planting in keeping with the original vision for the cemetery as older trees go into decline.

P76 Shrub/screen planting: again it would be useful to mention the need for an ongoing assessment of the long term health of historic planting on the site and longer term planting proposals.

It may be in the longer term considering collaboration with local nursery suppliers to look at suitable species for replanting and new planting. Working nurseries have had an important role historically in developing hybrid Rhododendron and other species and there may be an opportunity given the past links with the cemetery to celebrate this.

I do also feel that there needs to be some mention of the need to strengthen screen planting in areas on the boundary where it is weak in order to ensure that the cemetery remains a place of tranquility. The north east corner of the site is particularly exposed to the adjacent road and the railway line and associated newly constructed car park on the north side are prominent.

There are also a couple of specific points which I have picked up which you may wish to address

P22. Local links: mention of exercising of dogs - this is a contentious issue at the moment. The current policy is to exclude dogs apart from registered assistance dogs, to ensure that the cemetery remains a place of tranquility and dignity. There is some pressure to allow dogs on leads which it is felt would compromise the cemetery in a number of ways - so there may be a view from the Council that this reference to dogs should be removed as any such use is currently unauthorised.

P81 Violette Szabo-for information she is commemorated on the missing persons plaque in the military cemetery.

Finally, the proposal for design guidelines to ensure a consistent approach to use of materials will be of great value. I would be happy to assist in the preparation of this if necessary.

I hope that these comments are useful, please do let me know if there is anything which you think would be useful by way of further explanation. I would also be happy to be involved in further discussions if required.

Masterplan response: text additions to documents as follows

- (i) need for ongoing liaison with Council's arborist noted
- (ii) presence of rare and protected habitats and species noted
- (iii) suggestions for woodland trees and planting included
- (iv) path material, mowing advice noted
- (v) ongoing control of invasive vegetation included
- (vi) need for long term strategy for tree replacement noted
- (vii) need for strengthening boundary screen planting noted
- (viii) ref to dog walking omitted

Dear Anna

Many thanks for giving me the time to comments on the set of three plans recently produced. In addition I apologise that I have not as yet been able to attend any meetings, summer is a very busy time of year for ecologists.

I have the following comments to make and in addition the following broad comment that the plans were an interesting read and many of the ideas will work well in Brookwood Cemetery, I just feel that it is missing an fully integrated approach with the diverse range of biodiversity that is known to be present and in my mind is of paramount importance to conserve going into the future.

**Experience Plan Brookwood Cemetery Allies & Morrison (2019)**

P32 The Past – Although in the first paragraph there is mention of ‘precious and ecologically diverse green space’, it then only mentions the Wellingtonia trees and none of the rare and protected habitats or species present.

P35 Here it talks about the neglect of the cemetery (and in other places in the documents), which is true. However, this has also allowed the acid grassland and heather to thrive which is one of the main reasons that the cemetery is so important ecologically.

Whilst it is understandable that there is a need to expand interest and encourage public engagement (eg forest schools, museum and visitor centre), it will be important that this is not to the detriment of the sensitive ecology and therefore this will need to be given consideration. For example P50 Outdoor theatre.

**Master Plan Brookwood Cemetery Allies & Morrison (2019)**

P21 The use of amenity grassland in ecologist terms imply a football pitch or some such, could this be changed to ‘grassland’ or ‘open grassland’?

Also in Layers of the Site – can a layer for the acid grassland and heather be included?

P32 Asset SNCI is not on the list.

P34 Paths – Care should be taken that there is not too much compartmentalisation across the cemetery, as this openness is one of the beauties of the site, that flora and fauna do not have many barriers and that the ecology is largely contiguous. The current paths and tracks provide an important part of the acid grassland habitat. Also care should be taken with any new paths that the material used does not to bring in additional nutrients or detrimentally change the geology of the local area around the path.

P42 Cemetery Pales as a Seam – This would need to be carefully thought through to ensure minimal loss of important habitat.

P46 Reveal Historical Giant Redwood Avenue – In principle a good idea, thought should go to how the undergrowth connects and is being used by protected species such as breeding birds and bats.

P47 Improve Tree Skyline – Selective thinning will improve the woodlands and overall appearance of the site and should take into account breeding birds and bats as well as Champion Trees.

P47 Promote Differences... - 4.b should be re-examined particularly with regards to wanting to be Heather free. In addition, although there is plenty of common mosses around it should be remembered that there is a moss in the cemetery that is only found in the cemetery and nowhere else in the UK and has been named after Brookwood Cemetery. Scrub can also be a very important and vital component of the habitats.

P48 Mow Edges to Paths – It would be useful to have a more in-depths discussion with regards to these points especially d. Introducing wildflower mix of likely non-native origin would be a mistake when there is plenty of ready made green hay available on the site of local provenance.

P49 – Manage Woodland – Woodland management will be an important part of the overall management of the site, as long as protected species are fully taken into account.

Masterplan response: text additions to Masterplan and Experience Plan as follows

- (i) better acknowledge significance of ecological aspect of site
- (ii) presence of rare and protected habitats and species noted
- (iii) SNCI noted
- (iv) advice to ensure protected species are fully taken into account
- (v) managing of certain planting to consider breeding birds, bats
- (vi) only native wildflower species in meadows

In addition, a drawing showing the acid grassland and heather is included as ‘layer of the site’ emphasising the importance of this habitat

## emailed consultation invitations

On Monday, 29 April 2019, 09:55:26 BST, Avril Kirby <avril@brookwoodcemetery.com> wrote:

Dear Friends and Colleagues

At Brookwood Cemetery we are looking to develop a Masterplan to help us in planning the future of the cemetery over the next 10-20 years - both as a working cemetery and as a special place to visit. For this we have engaged a small Masterplan team. The team is led by architects Allies and Morrison and includes a landscape designer, cemetery specialist and visitor-heritage adviser. They would be keen to meet you to hear your thoughts about Brookwood Cemetery, what you value about the place and also what you feel might be improved.

Two or three representatives from the team will be available for a discussion on Thursday 2nd May between 1pm and 5.30pm, here at Glades House. You are invited to come and share your thoughts with them. Please let me know if you would be able to come along, and I can arrange a specific time to meet. Alternatively, please feel free to drop-in.

Kind Regards

Avril Kirby

Brookwood Cemetery Manager  
Tel: +44 (0) 1483 472222  
Fax: +44 (0) 1483 472223  
Email: [avril@brookwoodcemetery.com](mailto:avril@brookwoodcemetery.com)

Brookwood Park Ltd.  
Glades House, Cemetery Pales,  
Brookwood, Woking, GU24 0BL  
Website: [www.brookwoodcemetery.com](http://www.brookwoodcemetery.com)

From: Anna Joynt <[ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com](mailto:ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com)>  
Date: Tue, 25 Jun 2019 at 16:12  
Subject: Brookwood Cemetery Masterplan consultation invitation  
To: Anna Joynt <[ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com](mailto:ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com)>  
Cc: Frida Sherrell <[fsherrell@alliesandmorrison.com](mailto:fsherrell@alliesandmorrison.com)>, <[18150.file@alliesandmorrison.com](mailto:18150.file@alliesandmorrison.com)>

Dear All,

Following on from initial conversations with a number of you in April and May, we are inviting cemetery stakeholders to come and discuss emerging ideas for the Masterplan for Brookwood Cemetery. There are two opportunities to come and meet members of the Masterplanning team.

Venue: Brookwood Cemetery Chapel, Oak Avenue, GU24 0BL (a map is attached showing the chapel location, taken from <https://brookwoodcemetery.com/contact-us/>)  
Times 4-7pm on Wednesday 3rd July and on 4-7pm on Thursday 11th July

On each of these days, there will be a short presentation by the team at 4.15pm and 6.15pm, so if you miss the first presentation, there will be a second chance. We look forward to seeing you at one of these sessions.

Kind regards

Anna

RSVP



# 4.5 Transport technical note



i-Transport LLP  
Grove House, Lutyens Close, Chineham Court  
Basingstoke, RG24 8AG

Tel: 01256 338640

## Technical Note

Project No: ITB15047  
Project Title: Brookwood Cemetery, Brookwood  
Title: Masterplan Technical Note  
Ref: ITB15047-001A TN  
Date: 10 July 2019

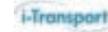
### SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 i-Transport has been appointed by Brookwood Park Ltd to provide highway and transport advice in relation to the development of a masterplan for Brookwood Cemetery. The emerging proposals include: (i) the introduction of a new crematorium and vehicular entrance; (ii) proposals to increase visitor numbers to the historic cemetery and make a new dedicated entrance and car park for these visitors; and, (iii) the provision of new and improved pedestrian crossings across Cemetery Pales between the north and south cemeteries.

1.1.2 This Technical Note provides further information in relation to the proposals from a highway and transport perspective to inform discussions with the local highway authority, Surrey County Council. The Technical Note also sets out the scope of the proposed Transport Statement to be submitted in support of a future planning application for agreement with Surrey County Council.

1.1.3 The remainder of this Technical Note is structured as follows:

- Section Two: Emerging Masterplan - provides information in relation to the emerging masterplan, the proposed access arrangements and pedestrian crossing improvements;
- Section Three: Transport Statement Scope – sets out the proposed scope of a Transport Statement to be submitted with a future planning application; and
- Section Four: Summary and Conclusion – provides a summary and conclusion.



Brookwood Cemetery, Brookwood  
Masterplan Technical Note

### SECTION 2 EMERGING MASTERPLAN

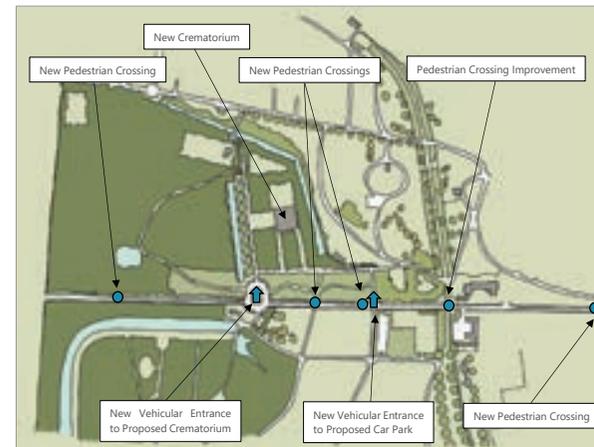
#### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This section of the Technical Note provides information in relation to the emerging masterplan and sets out the proposed vehicular access arrangements. Information is also provided in relation to the pedestrian crossing improvements proposed.

#### 2.2 Emerging Masterplan

2.2.1 A copy of the emerging masterplan is provided in **Appendix A** and an extract of the masterplan is provided as **Plate 2.1** below. The key highway and transport elements of the proposals are also summarised in **Plate 2.1** for ease of reference.

Plate 2.1: Emerging Masterplan



Source: Allies and Morrison and Consultants Illustration

2.2.2 As shown on the masterplan, the emerging proposals are as follows:

- A new crematorium to the north west of Cemetery Pales. The crematorium would be accessed via a new junction onto Cemetery Pales. Two areas of car parking will be provided which could be used by visitors to the crematorium: one area of car parking with circa 60 spaces located to the east of the access; and, an area of overflow car parking with circa 50 spaces located to the west of the car access. The location of the car parking is shown on **Plate 2.2**;
- A new vehicular entrance onto Cemetery Pales providing access to a visitor car park. The visitor car park is shared with the new crematorium, albeit separate entrances are proposed to allow visitors to the crematorium and visitors to the historic cemetery to arrive and depart using different routes;
- Pedestrian crossing improvements over Cemetery Pales to allow visitors to walk between the north and south cemetery. These link to existing or proposed walking routes within the north and south cemeteries; and
- Some additional areas of car parking to the south of Cemetery Pales. These areas of car parking are all accessed via the existing access points onto Cemetery Pales and the approximate location and number of proposed car parking spaces is shown on **Plate 2.3**.

**Plate 2.2: Emerging Masterplan Car Parking Provision**



Source: Allies and Morrison and Consultants Illustration

## 2.3 Proposed Crematorium Access

2.3.1 A new access is proposed onto Cemetery Pales to the crematorium. It is proposed to replicate the form of the existing access to the south cemetery to provide access to the crematorium and the emerging proposal is shown on drawing **ITB15047-GA-001**. This provides the opportunity to create a sense of arrival to the crematorium whilst still maintaining the priority for vehicles travelling on Cemetery Pales. It is envisaged that give-way markings would be introduced on both the existing access and the proposed access, with visitors then using the access points onto Cemetery Pales in one direction.

2.3.2 In recognition of the character of the road, Cemetery Pales is subject to the national speed limit (60mph). In order to establish existing vehicle speeds, a speed survey was undertaken on Cemetery Pales in September – October 2017 and the results of the speed survey are summarised in **Table 2.1**.

**Table 2.1: Recorded Vehicle Speeds along Cemetery Pales**

	North-East Bound	South-West Bound
Average Speed (mph)	44.2mph	43.1mph
85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed (mph)	51.7mph	50.7mph

Source: Speed Survey

2.3.3 As summarised in **Table 2.1**, average vehicle speeds in both directions are below 45mph whilst 85<sup>th</sup> percentile vehicle speeds are between 51mph – 52mph.

2.3.4 Drawing **ITB15047-GA-001** demonstrates that 2.4m x 160m visibility can be achieved at the proposed access, which is the level of visibility required based on the guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and the recorded speed of traffic on Cemetery Pales. This will require some of the wall to the north of Cemetery Pales to be moved back to behind the visibility splay, and the approximate extent of the wall to be relocated is shown on drawing **ITB15047-GA-001**.

2.3.5 At the existing entrance circa 2m x 160m visibility can be achieved because the verge on the southern side of Cemetery Pales is circa 2m wide in this location. The visibility available at the existing access from a 2m set back is shown in photograph 2.1. There has only been one Personal Injury Accident in the most recent five-year period involving vehicles emerging from the proposed access when it is used by vehicles throughout the day. With this accident, the failure of the vehicle emerging from the access to judge the approaching vehicles speed is identified as a causal factor. The existing level of visibility is therefore adequate and there is no need to move the existing wall on the southern side of Cemetery

Pales. Moreover, it is noted that the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (TD41/95) and Manual for Streets allow a 2m x-distance to be used in certain situations.

**Photograph 2.1: Visibility available from existing access to the left from a 2m setback**



## 2.4 Proposed Visitor Car Park Access

2.4.1 A new vehicular entrance onto Cemetery Pales providing access to a visitor car park. The emerging proposal is shown on drawing **ITB15047-GA-002** and is in the form of a simple priority junction with a 5m wide carriageway and 6m radii. Visibility splays of 2.4m x 160m can be achieved, which are in accordance with the guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and the recorded speed of traffic on Cemetery Pales. Some earthworks will be required either side of the proposed access road to address the level difference between Cemetery Pales and the site but the gradient of the proposed access road into the visitor car park will not exceed 1 in 20.

## 2.5 Proposed Pedestrian Crossings

2.5.1 It is proposed to provide a series of pedestrian crossings on Cemetery Pales to assist visitors to cross between the north cemetery and the south cemetery. They have been located to connect to existing

and proposed paths within the cemeteries and the pedestrian crossings are shown on drawing **ITB15047-GA-003**. The pedestrian crossing proposals include a 2m wide path across the highway verge linking to dropped kerbs and tactile paving. Bollards will also be provided to highlight the presence of the crossing. There could also be an opportunity to provide a change in surface treatment at the crossings (with a buff coloured high friction surfacing) to highlight the presence of the crossings, subject to agreement from Surrey County Council.

2.5.2 At four of the proposed five crossings, a minimum of 1.5m x 160m visibility can be achieved. The visibility splays are shown on drawing **ITB15047-GA-003**.

2.5.3 One of the proposed crossings is located circa 90m from the Cemetery Pales / Bagshot Road junction. On the approach to the junction Cemetery Pales has a 30mph speed limit, with vehicle speeds being lower because of the proximity to the junction (which is signal controlled). At the proposed crossing in this location it is possible to achieve:

- 1.5m x 160m visibility to vehicles approaching from the south-west (i.e. where speeds will be higher because vehicles are travelling along the section of Cemetery Pales which is derestricted);
- 1.5m x 90m visibility to vehicles approaching from the north-east when crossing from the southern side of the road to the northern side of the road (i.e. where speeds will be lower because vehicles are exiting the Cemetery Pales/Bagshot Road junction and Cemetery Pales has a 30mph speed limit); and
- 1.5m x 43m visibility to vehicles approaching from the north-east when crossing from the northern side of the road to the southern side of the road (i.e. where speeds will be lower because vehicles are exiting the Cemetery Pales/Bagshot Road junction and Cemetery Pales has a 30mph speed limit).

2.5.4 The level of visibility available at the proposed pedestrian crossings is therefore considered acceptable.

## SECTION 3 TRANSPORT STATEMENT SCOPE

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 A Transport Statement will be submitted to support the planning application for the proposals at Brookwood Cemetery. This section of the Technical Note sets out the proposed scope of the Transport Statement for discussion and agreement with Surrey County Council. It is proposed that the Transport Statement is structured as follows:

- Section One – Introduction;
- Section Two – Existing Conditions and Promoting Sustainable Transport;
- Section Three – Proposed Development, Site Access and Parking;
- Section Four – Traffic Impact; and
- Section Five – Summary and Conclusion.

3.1.2 The remainder of this section of the Technical Note sets out the proposed scope of each of these chapters of the Transport Statement.

### 3.2 Existing Conditions and Promoting Sustainable Transport

3.2.1 This section of the Transport Statement will provide a review of the existing conditions in the vicinity of the site and the opportunities for travel by sustainable modes.

#### Walking and Cycling

3.2.2 There are no footways on Cemetery Pales but there is a network of paths across the site which link to Brookwood Station and then onward to Connaught Road. These provide pedestrian and cycle access to the site and the Transport Statement will provide information on these links.

#### Public Transport

3.2.3 The site is located to the south of Brookwood Station which provides four services per hour to London Waterloo, two trains per hour towards Basingstoke and two train per hour towards Alton. The nearest bus stops to the site are located to the north of the Railway Station on The Brook Wood and the A324 Connaught Road. These provide access to the service 28, service 48, service 91, service 47 and service 690. The site is therefore ideally located in terms of public transport accessibility. The Transport

Statement will provide a detailed review of the train services and bus services in the vicinity of the site and the opportunities for staff and visitors to travel by these modes.

#### Highway Conditions

3.2.4 The Transport Statement will provide a review of the highway conditions on Cemetery Pales, White Hart Corner and Avenue De Cagny. Personal Injury Accident data will also be obtained for these roads (inclusive of the junctions at Guildford Road to the west and Bagshot Road to the east).

### 3.3 Proposed Development, Site Access and Parking

3.3.1 This section of the Transport Statement will provide information on the proposed development, site access arrangements and parking provision. The emerging proposals are summarised in detail in Section Two of this Technical Note.

3.3.2 An independent Stage One Road Safety Audit will be undertaken on the proposed access arrangements and pedestrian crossings and Surrey County Council's Road Safety Team will be asked to undertake the Audits.

3.3.3 Swept path analysis will also be included in the Transport Statement to demonstrate that the proposed access arrangements can accommodate the necessary vehicles.

### 3.4 Traffic Impact

3.4.1 The Transport Statement submitted with the planning application will quantify the traffic impact of the proposals on the local highway network surrounding the site. A first principles approach will be used to derive the traffic generation which will be based on:

- The existing number of funerals held at the Brookwood Cemetery site and the approximate number of guests per funeral and any anticipated changes to these arrangements as a result of the proposals. The timing of the funerals will also be taken into account, noting that funerals are held outside of the periods when the highway network surrounding the site is at its busiest (i.e. 08:00 – 09:00 and 17:00 – 18:00 during the week);
- The existing number of staff working on the site (including grounds maintenance) and any anticipated changes as a result of the proposals; and
- An estimate of the additional visitor numbers to the site who have come to visit the historic cemeteries. The timing of these visitor movements will also be taken into account, noting that

they will be predominantly during the day and at the weekend when the highway network surrounding the site is quieter.

3.4.2 This information will be used to quantify the traffic generation of the proposals. The distribution of traffic will be based on the existing proportions of traffic travelling north-east and south-west on Cemetery Pales and the Transport Statement will quantify the impacts on the local highway network surrounding the site. It is not anticipated that the development will result in a significant increase in peak hour traffic movements. It is not therefore proposed to undertake detailed junction modelling.

### 3.5 Summary and Conclusion

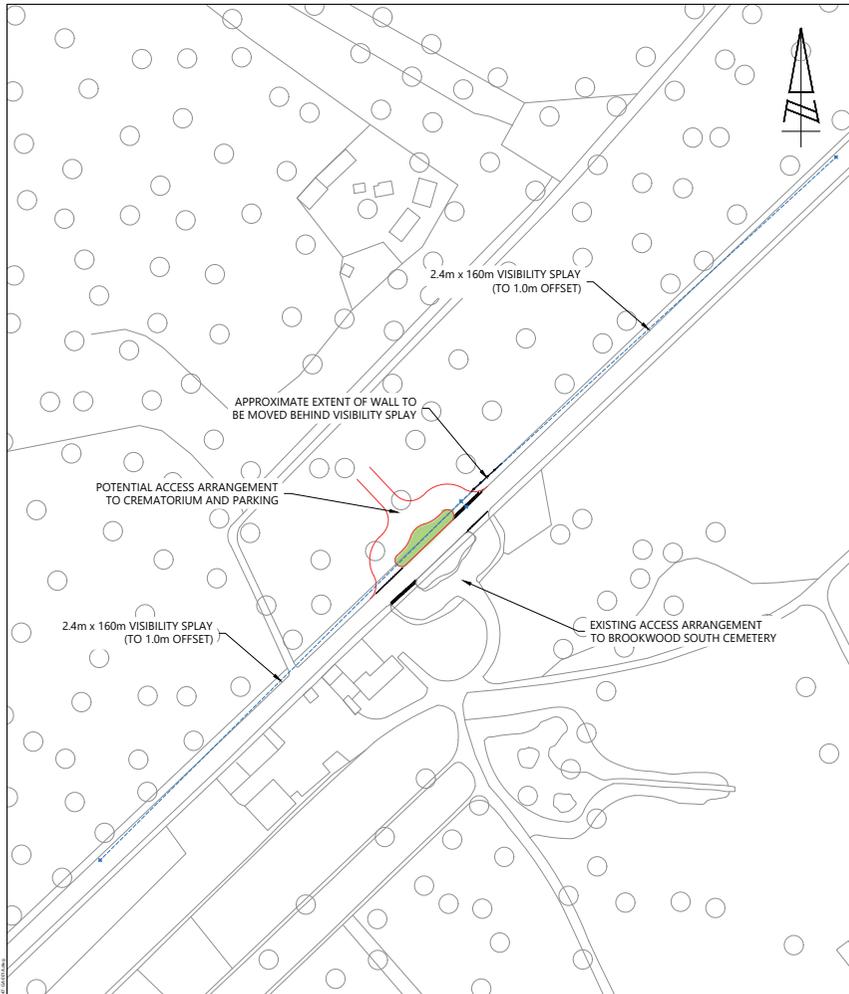
3.5.1 This section of the Transport Statement will provide a summary and conclusion.

## SECTION 4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

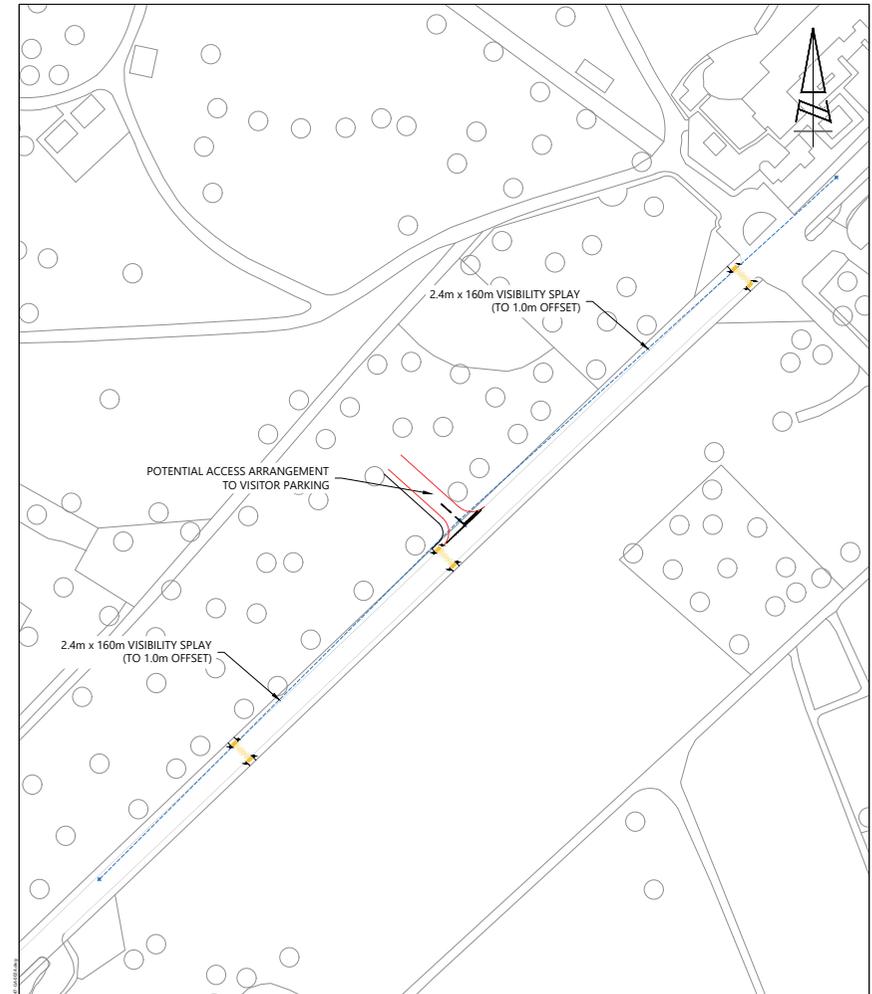
4.1.1 i-Transport has been appointed by Brookwood Park Ltd to provide highway and transport advice in relation to the development of a masterplan for Brookwood Cemetery. The emerging proposals include: (i) the introduction of a new crematorium and vehicular entrance; (ii) proposals to increase visitor numbers to the historic cemetery and make a new dedicated entrance and car park for these visitors; and, (iii) the provision of new and improved pedestrian crossings across Cemetery Pales between the north and south cemeteries.

4.1.2 This Technical Note provides further information in relation to the proposals from a highway and transport perspective to inform discussions with the local highway authority, Surrey County Council. The Technical Note also sets out the scope of the proposed Transport Statement to be submitted in support of a future planning application for agreement with Surrey County Council.

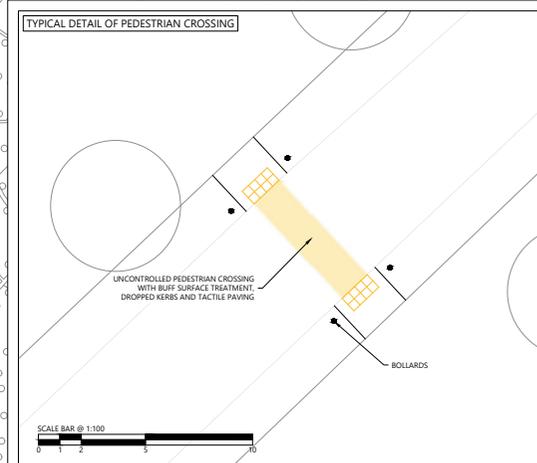
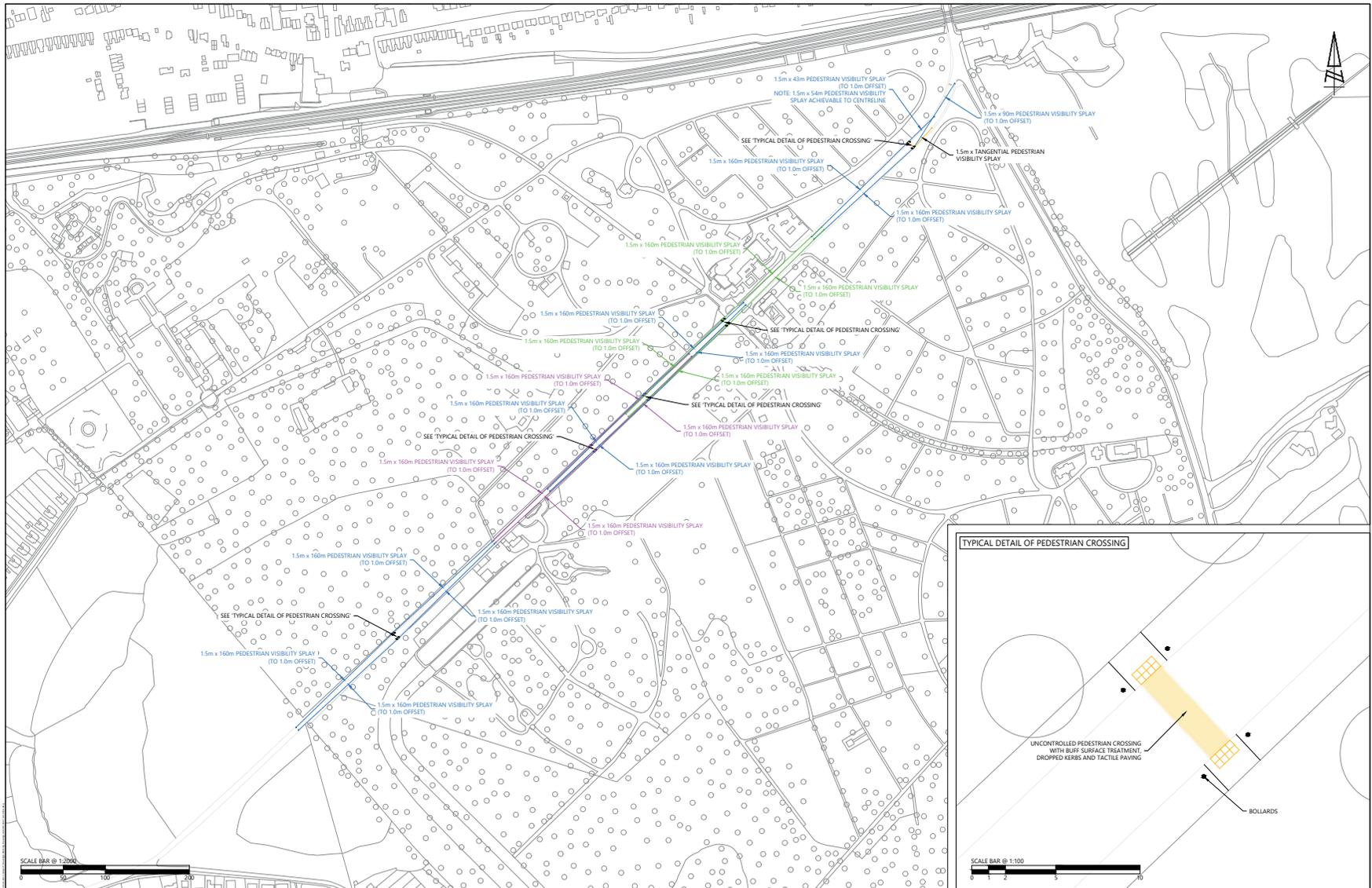




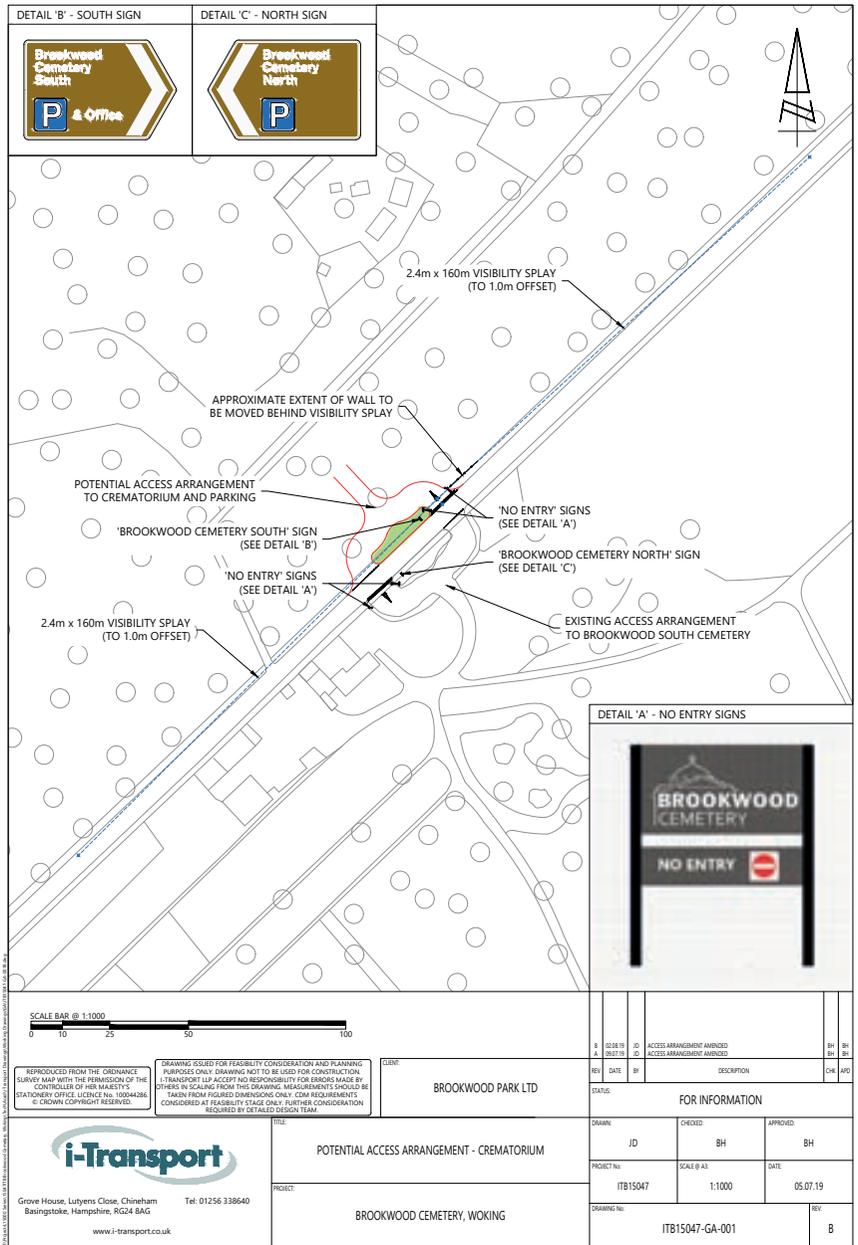
SCALE BAR @ 1:1000 0 10 25 50 100		A 20/19 JD ACCESS ARRANGEMENT AVOIDED BH BH	
<small>REPRODUCED FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE LICENCE NO. 100044286 © CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED.</small>		<small>DRAWING ISSUED FOR FEASIBILITY CONSIDERATION AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. DRAWING NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION. I-TRANSPORT LLP ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ERRORS MADE BY OTHERS IN SCALING FROM THIS DRAWING. MEASUREMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN FROM FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY. COM REQUIREMENTS CONSIDERED AT FEASIBILITY STAGE ONLY. FURTHER CONSIDERATION REQUIRED BY DETAILED DESIGN TEAM.</small>	
<b>i-Transport</b> Grove House, Lutyns Close, Chineham Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 BAG Tel: 01256 338640 www.i-transport.co.uk		CLIENT: BROOKWOOD PARK LTD STATUS: FOR INFORMATION DRAWN: JD CHECKED: BH APPROVED: BH PROJECT NO: ITB15047 SCALE @ AS: 1:1000 DATE: 05.07.19 DRAWING NO: ITB15047-GA-001 REV: A	
TITLE: POTENTIAL ACCESS ARRANGEMENT - CREMATORIUM PROJECT: BROOKWOOD CEMETERY, WOKING			



SCALE BAR @ 1:1000 0 10 25 50 100		A 05/19 JD FOOTWAY AMENDMENTS BH BH	
<small>REPRODUCED FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE LICENCE NO. 100044286 © CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED.</small>		<small>DRAWING ISSUED FOR FEASIBILITY CONSIDERATION AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. DRAWING NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION. I-TRANSPORT LLP ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ERRORS MADE BY OTHERS IN SCALING FROM THIS DRAWING. MEASUREMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN FROM FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY. COM REQUIREMENTS CONSIDERED AT FEASIBILITY STAGE ONLY. FURTHER CONSIDERATION REQUIRED BY DETAILED DESIGN TEAM.</small>	
<b>i-Transport</b> Grove House, Lutyns Close, Chineham Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 BAG Tel: 01256 338640 www.i-transport.co.uk		CLIENT: BROOKWOOD PARK LTD STATUS: FOR INFORMATION DRAWN: JD CHECKED: BH APPROVED: BH PROJECT NO: ITB15047 SCALE @ AS: 1:1000 DATE: 05.07.19 DRAWING NO: ITB15047-GA-002 REV: A	
TITLE: POTENTIAL ACCESS ARRANGEMENT - CREMATORIUM AND PARKING PROJECT: BROOKWOOD CEMETERY, WOKING			



<p>Great House, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU Tel: 01296 338640 www.i-transport.co.uk</p>		<p><b>POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS</b></p>		<p>DATE: 05/07/19</p>	<p>BY: AS SHOWN</p>	<p>FOR: BROOKWOOD PARK LTD</p>
<p>FOR INFORMATION</p>		<p>BROOKWOOD CEMETERY, WOKING</p>		<p>PROJECT ID: IB15047</p>		<p>DATE: 05/07/19</p>
<p>IB15047-GA-003</p>		<p>BROOKWOOD PARK LTD</p>		<p>DATE: 05/07/19</p>		<p>BY: A</p>



NB: signage is indicative for the purpose of Highways discussions only. Design of all signage is to be developed and to be high quality and appropriate for the Grade 1 listed cemetery.



The curved forecourt to the Glades would be mirrored to form an entrance to an area in the north cemetery for a potential new crematorium



New pedestrian crossings would be formed with a path through the grassy verge, tactile paving, buff coloured change in surface treatment, and bollards to highlight the presence of the crossing. An appropriately low-key rural crossing to encourage slowing down of traffic.



Example bespoke signage

## emailed correspondence relating to Surrey Council Council highways advice

8/13/2019 Allies and Morrison Mail - RE: Brookwood Cemetery Pales

**Allies and Morrison** Anna Joynt <ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com>

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**RE: Brookwood Cemetery Pales**  
1 message

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**Ben Howard** <ben.howard@i-transport.co.uk> 9 August 2019 at 16:47  
To: TDP Woking/EAI/SCC <tdpwoking@surreycc.gov.uk>  
Cc: Anna Joynt <ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com>

Hi Abi – thanks for your time at the meeting on Friday 26 July and your email below on the pedestrian crossing visibility. Apologies for the delay in coming back to you but in terms of my notes from the meeting:

[New Access to North Cemetery Crematorium](#)

We discussed the proposed access arrangement and the logic for mirroring the existing arrangement and retaining the priority on Cemetery Pales. Your reservation was whether vehicles would use the junction in the 'one-way' manner that's intended. We've had a look at the road markings and signage in a bit more detail and updated the drawing to include:

- Clearer give way markings to reinforce the 'exit only';
- No-entry signage either side of the proposed 'exit only'. These would be private signs using the existing cemetery style signs and we've provided an indicative sign to give an idea of what we were envisaging. I've also attached a screenshot showing some similar signs that we have implemented previously which have been successful elsewhere to give further context to what we could provide; and
- The existing brown tourist signs amended and replicated to indicate the location of the 'in only' to the north and south cemetery.

As discussed, we are essentially replicating the existing arrangement which appears to work well in practice. We are also proposing clearer signage and markings to enforce the one-way arrangement.

You were going to discuss this further with your colleagues in Road Safety and come back to us.

[New Access to North Cemetery Visitors Car Park](#)

You seemed comfortable with the proposed access to the visitors car park from a highway perspective. We will need to provide swept path analysis in the Transport Statement to demonstrate that coaches could use the junction. Any gates we propose at this entrance at a later date will need to be set back sufficiently from the edge of the highway.

[Proposed Pedestrian Crossings](#)

You were content with the proposed pedestrian crossing arrangements (dropped kerbs, tactile paving and bollards) and visibility splays (1.5m x 160m). Whilst you had no objection to the buff coloured surfacing we propose, you were going to discuss with colleagues whether this would be acceptable. We are keen this is retained if possible to highlight the presence of the crossings.

As you note below, there is one crossing where we do not achieve 1.5m x 160m pedestrian visibility because of the existing bend in Cemetery Pales and the proximity to the Cemetery Pales/Bagshot Road signal junction. We discussed that speeds are likely to be lower and we accept that we will need to do a speed survey to justify the level of visibility we can achieve.

[Scope of Proposed Transport Statement](#)

You were content with the scope of the proposed Transport Statement set out in our note and that junction modelling will not be required.

Let me know if you have any comments on the above and we look forward to hearing from you.

Regards, Ben

**Ben Howard**  
Associate Partner

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=a4038f6385&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-a%3Ar39990712562472016%7Cmsg-f%3A16414048...> 1/17

04/12/2019 Allies and Morrison Mail - RE: Brookwood Cemetery Pales

**Allies and Morrison** Anna Joynt <ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com>

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**RE: Brookwood Cemetery Pales**  
1 message

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**TDP Woking/EAI/SCC** <tdpwoking@surreycc.gov.uk> 21 August 2019 at 13:27  
To: Ben Howard <ben.howard@i-transport.co.uk>  
Cc: Anna Joynt <ajoynt@alliesandmorrison.com>

Hi Ben,

Sorry for the late response on this. My colleagues in the Road Safety Audit Team have been away on leave.

Access- In principle they are happy with the proposed access arrangements, subject to tracking to show that the largest vehicles can manoeuvre. What will happen to the existing businesses (Beard and Qubix) that are accessed from Cemetery Pales? Will there be a new access, or will they use the proposed arrangement? Any signs on the highway will need to be highway signs, with the appropriate Traffic Regulation Orders. They are also keen for the speed limit on Cemetery Pales to be reduced to 40mph, and recommend that Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) are installed to further reduce vehicle speeds on Cemetery Pales. It should be noted that the VAS will require a power source.

Pedestrian Crossings- They are not keen on the use of a buff surface for the crossings due to maintenance issues. They are further not clear what the actual benefit/ accident reduction potential is for these.

Kind regards,

Abi

Abigail Solway  
Transport Development Planning Officer  
Transport Development Planning  
Surrey County Council  
Tel No: 02085418768  
[www.surreycc.gov.uk/tdp](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/tdp)

### Phone call A&M (Anna Joynt) to i-Transport (Ben Howard) 21 August 2019

Requirement for Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) recommended by SCC Highways is to be negotiated with Surrey County Council as part of next stage design development. Electrical supply is not currently available on Pales, although will be needed for any future crematorium development. Solar-powered VAS is to be researched in next stages. Visual impact on Cemetery Pales will be a heritage issue.

## 4.6 Sources of information

Masterplanning brief	Brookwood Park Ltd	Drawing DRN-OPT2 Rev A	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff
London's Necropolis: A Guide to Brookwood Cemetery	John Clarke	Appendix D proposed mitigation measures	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff
A Conservation Management Framework for - Brookwood Cemetery	Nicholas M Kelly, Dovetail Building Consultants	Arboricultural Report 23 February 2015	Andrew Pinchin
Brookwood Cemetery land register 14 August 2015		Brookwood Cemetery Catchment Comparison and Public Transport Analysis - May 2016	Peter Brett
Brookwood Titles Attribute Table		Brookwood Cemetery Catchment Analysis - May 2015	Peter Mitchell Associates
Brookwood Cemetery - ownership Oct 2018		Brookwood Cemetery Management Plan - Summary 2016	Surrey Wildlife Trust
Documents pertaining to Planning Application SCC ref 2018_0085 for the remediation and development of the previous tip site in the north cemetery		Brookwood Cemetery Habitat Management Plan - October 2015	Isabel Girvan
Technical Note (drainage) dated 18.01.2016	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff	Islamic Cultural Centre plot plan	
Brookwood Cemetery Staff Structure		Signage works	DMA Signs
Brookwood Burial stats over three years		Tree Report 23.05.2019	Mark Welby
Going Green Advert		Brookwood Memorial Safety Notice	Brookwood Cemetery
New Price Lists - 17-12-18		Memorial Safety Policy.Brookwood Cemetery - 2019	Brookwood Cemetery
Open Day Poster 1		Listed monuments	Brookwood Cemetery
Map of BROOKWOOD NORTH SIDE NON CONFORMIST		Victoria Cross holders	Brookwood Cemetery
Map of BROOKWOOD SOUTH SIDE ANGLICAN			
Brookwood Sections (Current) EMAIL VERSION		Death has a touch of class: society and space in Brookwood Cemetery, 1853–1903	Agatha Herman (2010) Journal of Historical Geography
C2707 Brookwood Cemetery NVC Survey Report - Final October 2015	Isabel Girvan		
Brookwood Military Cemetery – Conservation Management Plan 2017	CWGC	'Burying the dead': making Muslim space in Britain	Humayun Ansari (2007) Royal Holloway, University of London
Scans of graves plots (south cemetery – undated)			
Glades House plans, sections and elevations - dated sept/Oct 2017	Rowney Sharman Water Environment		
Drainage Investigation Review dated 20 Feb 2018	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff		
Appendix A Topography	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff		
Appendix B OS mapping	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff		
Appendix C drainage site mark-up	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff		
Drawing DRN-OPT1 Rev A	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff		

## 4.7 Managing tree chapels



Design intent, Bradlaugh Memorial 1891



Mature chapel



View from inside



Remove lowest and dead branches



Hedge enclosure



Remove lowest and dead branches



Remove and replant with dwarf hedges

# 4.8 Design Guidelines

**guidelines should be developed by the cemetery for the detail design of**

- Landscape design
- Memorial landscape layouts
- Headstones
- Mausoleum
- Graves maintenance
- Protective railings
- Gates
- Furniture
- Bollards
- Walls
- Hard landscaping
- Edgings
- Signage
- Welcome cabins
- Waterless WCs
- Bike docks
- New buildings





