

PARADISE PRESERVED



An introduction to the assessment, evaluation, conservation
and management of historic cemeteries

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**An introduction to the assessment, evaluation, conservation and
management of historic cemeteries**

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Foreword

Cemeteries are highly valued by their local communities and others. First and foremost, cemeteries are places to respect and commemorate the dead, and so are important to the families and friends of people who are buried there. Local people also use cemeteries for exercise and relaxation, and for the study and enjoyment of nature and local history. Space for burials is becoming scarcer, especially in urban and suburban areas where there is pressure to develop land. At the same time, the condition of many cemeteries is deteriorating due to inadequate or inappropriate management. Lack of resources has also contributed to the deterioration of cemeteries. In 2001 a Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry on cemeteries examined current provision for burials, discussed the question of maintaining existing cemeteries and looked at options for the future. Subsequently the Government asked English Heritage and English Nature to provide guidance on the conservation and management of cemeteries. This document is the first response to that request; comments and suggestions for future editions are welcomed.

Government policy is that 'local burial and cremation facilities should offer a fitting environment for the bereaved and enhance the life of the community' and that 'cemetery services must be consistent with broader Government policies on the environment and cultural heritage' (Home Office 2001) The Government policy statement, *The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future* DCMS and DTLR 2001) emphasises the importance of the historic landscape and features such as cemeteries in shaping the identity of neighbourhoods. Properly managed green spaces are essential to successful and sustainable urban regeneration. Better understanding of cemeteries may also help inform issues on the horizon like the location and design of new cemeteries. The debate on green space, including cemeteries, continues through the Government Spending Review on Public Space and the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce.

For further information on the spending review see:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/Spending_Review/spend_ccr/spend_ccr_index.cfm and <http://www.press.dtlr.gov.uk/0109/0398.htm>.

The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce:

<http://www.urban.dtlr.gov.uk/taskforce/index.htm>.

This publication is intended for local authority and other cemetery managers, conservation officers, elected members and local people interested in getting involved in caring for their own cemetery. It is not a complete manual, but an introduction to the issues involved in cemetery conservation and management. The significance of cemeteries as landscapes of historic interest or wildlife value is explained, and the importance of conserving both designed and natural features of cemeteries is highlighted. There are suggestions on how to evaluate cemeteries and use statutory designations to protect them, and an explanation of how to use Conservation Management Plans for medium- and long-term, as well as day-to-day, care of cemeteries. Advice on where to look for more detailed information and support is given in the Further reading and Useful contacts sections. For example, guidance on churchyards may also be

useful for cemeteries, although different conservation issues apply to each kind of site. English Heritage and English Nature plan to issue detailed advice on practical aspects of cemetery conservation and management; details will be published on both organisations' websites in due course.

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Introduction

In cemeteries, designed and natural features are combined to create unique and important landscapes. The cemetery design interest could include the layout of the site with avenues, roads and footpaths, boundaries, and burial plots; the building of impressive gateways and special buildings such as chapels, mortuaries and shelters; the introduction of monuments; and planting with trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants that evoke mourning and contemplation. In time, this artificial environment is softened, overlaid and sometimes obliterated by the growth of the original planting, and by the natural arrival of other plants. Wildlife colonises these quiet, green spaces, which quickly become important habitats for plants and animals.

As an important record of the social history of the area it serves, a cemetery may be said to contain the biography of a community. Its design and layout reflect the fashions of the time when it was first opened; different religions and denominations are characterised by different styles of commemoration; the inscriptions on the monuments contain important information about the people who are buried there. Different types of cemetery have special significance to the people who made and maintain them, and each makes its own special contribution to our heritage. As general interest in genealogy and family history grows, so does the importance of cemeteries to the wider community as repositories of biographical information.

Monuments and buildings

The inscriptions on memorials, the design of monuments, the architecture of buildings and the landscape design shed light on past social customs and events and combine to make a cemetery an irreplaceable historical resource. Erecting elaborate memorials (sometimes commissioned from the leading sculptors and architects of the day) was a way not only to commemorate the dead but also to show or command respect. Some exceptional monuments are individually Listed for their historic or sculptural importance, but all memorials possess some value as tributes to past lives and as visual components in the special cemetery landscape. Knowing what we value now, and will value in the future, is one of the greatest challenges English Heritage faces as it begins to address our sepulchral and memorial inheritance.

Chapels, lodges, walls and other structures are the largest architectural presence within cemeteries. In some cases, notably where a cemetery has been surrounded by later suburban development, the cemetery lodge and chapel may be the only architecturally significant buildings in the neighbourhood, and thus provide important landmarks that help to create a sense of place. Many cemetery buildings have fallen out of use and have suffered from a consequent lack of maintenance and from vandalism. They form key visual elements in the overall design and deserve careful upkeep.

Landscaping

Cemetery landscapes were carefully designed to create sites fitted for the dead and to evoke meaning. An idealised landscape setting could represent the Elysian Fields of ancient myth, a catacomb the exemplary lives of the

early Christians, or a carefully tended garden the Arcadian tranquillity of the afterlife. Planting was often designed to enhance the symbolism of the landscape. Yew trees linked the cemetery with the more traditional burial sites of ancient churchyards and, along with other evergreen trees, signified both eternal life and the sombre shades of grief. Weeping willows expressed mourning, while oak and laurel brought to mind the wreaths with which heroes were celebrated in Antiquity. The more ordered, grid-like layouts of the mid-nineteenth century cemetery relate to a more rational approach to the question of cemetery design. Eminent landscape designers were commissioned to lay out cemeteries. It is only by understanding these landscapes that we can tend them appropriately and hand them on to future generations. The most historically important designs are being added to English Heritage's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens.

Wildlife and the natural heritage

Cemeteries were often developed from green field sites, and many now have remnant habitats and features like heaths and hedges. As pockets of countryside locked within urban areas and as inherently quiet places, cemeteries can provide a range of habitats that can support a diversity of wildlife. The common toad, hedgehog, woodmouse, deer, badger, and a chorus of birds such as woodpecker, wren, and blackcap, are found in cemeteries, as well as a surprising variety of wildflowers, fungi and lichens. Some cemeteries can be locally important sanctuaries for uncommon or protected species, such as bats, spotted flycatcher, slow-worm, stag beetle, and orchids, that are otherwise rare in our towns and cities. For example, Broadway Cemetery, Peterborough, has the largest population of meadow saxifrage in Cambridgeshire; Morden Cemetery has the only green winged orchids in London; The Rosary in Norwich has heather and wood speedwell, which originate from the days when the site was heathland lying outside the city.

Cemeteries can also form an important part of the 'green corridor' networks of parks, gardens, and other open spaces that enable wildlife to move from site to site and to the countryside beyond. As more cemeteries are surveyed, their nature conservation interest is revealed and many have been designated important sites for conservation.

Local amenity

Cemeteries are not just communities of the dead; they are thoughtful places, reflecting the impact of time on humankind and our efforts to escape oblivion. They make an important contribution to the local environment and to the quality of life of the local community. The principal function of any cemetery is to provide a place to inter and commemorate the dead, and a focal point for mourning and religious observance. However, because they provide green oases within built-up areas, cemeteries are also places for rest and contemplation in a more general sense, offering opportunities for fresh air and exercise, or simply a place for quiet communion with Nature. The coexistence of Nature and Art, sometimes in an uneasy alliance, accounts for much of the charm of such places.

The mature trees found in cemeteries screen out noise and pollution from surrounding roads, making them among the few places where silence can be enjoyed in the increasingly noisy urban environment. Because they are free of traffic, they can provide safe, attractive routes for pedestrians, especially the elderly and those with small children.

Special interest groups can use cemeteries for activities that are compatible with the character of a burial site, such as bird watching, sketching, botany and educational visits. Cemetery Friends Groups offer a number of ways for local people to get involved: social and fund-raising events, genealogical or family history research, business or private sponsorship and volunteering for activities such as clearing bramble, leading walks and running open days. Organisations such as the National Association of Memorial Masons also run initiatives such as their school scheme *Hunt the Daisy*.

We need to take a rounded approach in our efforts to conserve and manage cemeteries, taking into account all their special meanings and characteristics.

The history of the English cemetery

Until the mid-seventeenth century, although high-status burials took place inside churches, in vaults sunk into the floor, nearly all the dead were interred in parish churchyards. This monopoly was first challenged in the 1650s, when Nonconformist burial grounds like Bunhill Fields, on the northern fringe of the City of London, began to be opened; the earliest Jewish burial ground, in London's East End, dates from 1657. Throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries there was increasing criticism of burials in Church of England graveyards and vaults in urban areas. Churchyards were full to overflowing, which created insanitary conditions and spread disease. From the mid-seventeenth century onwards, people like Sir Christopher Wren, John Evelyn and Sir John Vanbrugh revived the Ancient Roman idea of burial with cemeteries on the outskirts of town. The first such burial ground was opened in Bloomsbury in 1714.

As the idea of the neoclassical cemetery gained ground, outdoor burial became increasingly attractive. In the 1770s urban cemeteries were created in Edinburgh (Calton Hill) and Belfast (Clifton), but not until 1819 was the first public cemetery in England opened, in Norwich (The Rosary). During the 1820s several more provincial cemeteries were opened, but still there was no national movement for cemetery creation. There was no legislation to allow public authorities to set up publicly accessible cemeteries. Instead, most were created by private Joint Stock Companies, set up expressly to make a profit from the interment of the dead. Private enterprise was responsible for the first public cemetery in the capital: All Souls' Cemetery at Kensal Green, which was opened in 1833.

Cemeteries legislation

By 1850, urban churchyards had had their day. Over-full, exclusively Anglican, and suspected of being sinks of contamination, they were closed in large numbers over the next few years. A public alternative to the profit-making private cemeteries was needed, however; the Metropolitan Interment Act of 1850 allowed for the provision of publicly-funded cemeteries in London, and was extended across the country by an Act of 1853.

This ushered in a boom in the construction of public cemeteries by publicly-financed Burial Boards run by parish vestries (the ancestors of today's local authorities). Scores of cemeteries were set up in the 1850s and 1860s. In many cases, the architect who designed the mortuary chapels and other structures was also commissioned to provide the layout, but other sites were laid out by nationally-known landscape designers. Many of these landscapes were of very high quality, incorporating careful compositions of chapels, lodges and catacombs and enhanced by many memorial structures, and planting. By 1900 there were few towns that did not have their own public cemetery. They were not only repositories of the dead but also places of resort for mourners and others: as cities expanded, so surviving areas of green spaces assumed ever more importance. They were, however, very high-maintenance places, too.

Up to this time, cemeteries had only received burials, but the ancient alternative of cremation was soon to return. In 1874 the Cremation Society was founded, but the first official cremation did not take place until 1885, at the great cemetery of Brookwood, outside Woking. (So special was this cemetery, which remains the largest in Europe, that it even had its own railway line that brought entire funeral cortèges from Waterloo Station virtually to the graveside.) In the 1890s Manchester, Glasgow and Liverpool built crematoria, but it was not until 1902 that the greatest of all such installations, the Golders Green Crematorium, was opened in North London. Further crematoria, set in their own distinctive landscapes, followed throughout the twentieth century as the cremation movement accelerated. By the Edwardian period, however, the 'Great Age of Death' had passed its zenith. Burial and mourning customs were changing, moving away from the elaborate Victorian ritual of commemoration towards a more private, less showy grief. The mass death of World War I confirmed this tendency. The dignified restraint of the cemeteries and memorials of the Imperial War Graves Commission provided a model for a new style of remembrance.

Layout and design

Early nineteenth-century burial grounds were utilitarian walled enclosures with minimal planting. Early cemetery designers lacked models to follow: churchyards had developed almost organically, following local precedent, and public parks did not yet exist. Instead, the private landscape park provided inspiration, with chapels taking the place of country houses as the centres of attention. The boundary walls, entrance lodges, and a scattering of Arcadian memorials were all there to be borrowed. The Parisian cemetery of Père Lachaise strongly influenced design from 1815 onwards. Its combination of straight and winding paths, a profusion of monuments, and a number of imposing structures set amid a carefully planted setting that sought to remind the visitor of Arcadia, was widely copied in English cemeteries. These landscapes developed in splendour as each new memorial added an extra note of interest.

The landscape of the early Victorian cemetery was usually laid out informally in the picturesque style, with sweeping drives and serpentine lines of trees emulating the legacy of the most fashionable designers of the day such as Humphry Repton. Planting was very carefully designed, with trees lining the drives and paths, and enclosing the perimeter of the site. John Claudius Loudon's practical and influential book, *On the Laying Out of Cemeteries* (1843), promoted a more utilitarian layout, often based on a standard grid pattern that did not fit well with informal picturesque principles but was undoubtedly a more efficient use of land; it made finding a grave easier, too. Loudon believed that cemeteries should also be morally improving, educational, soothing and dignified places, a view to which many others subscribed. The many cemeteries created as a result of the 1853 Act were planned with either a picturesque layout or a grid pattern, or a combination of the two.

The provision of cemeteries continued into the twentieth century. After World War II most were laid out on standard grid patterns. Lawn cemeteries were introduced, with memorial stones set flat into the grass,

providing a large expanse of open lawn and making maintenance much easier.

Conservation crisis

The loss of landscape maintenance skills and reduction of budgets in the late twentieth century meant that cemetery landscaping could no longer be maintained to the original high specification. Another problem was the increasing age of many of the memorials, many of which were designed with little thought for their long-term care. As monuments get older, they are more likely to need attention. Metal fixtures rust, stone cracks, earth settles, and all these can cause a memorial to become dangerous. In those cases where funds have been left for upkeep ‘in perpetuity’, the value of the legacies has been eroded by inflation. As time passes, descendants move away or families die out, and private upkeep of family tombs has become the exception rather than the rule.

Economic difficulties too have arisen. Many of the private cemeteries were under-capitalised from the outset, and had not allowed for rising costs in their start-up calculations. Their once-elegant assets became fearful liabilities, as costs mounted and revenues from burials dwindled. By the 1960s, crisis point was being reached. Some companies locked the gates and simply walked away for good: Highgate Cemetery and Nunhead Cemetery were effectively abandoned until local groups decided to find a way out of the impasse.

Neglected site management is not benign. Unchecked, woody plants and other invasive species erode the landscape design, damage or destabilise memorials and undermine the diversity of wildlife. Neglect is not the only problem, however. Local authorities are obliged to offer burial places, but suitably large sites in urban settings are hard to find and even harder to afford. The pressure upon cemetery managers to utilise every available green space within existing cemeteries for burial presents the greatest immediate threat to cemetery landscapes. Disinterring bodies is a very expensive operation, but bulldozing memorials is all too cheap; new burials can be placed in between the plots occupied by much older burials, or encroach upon paths and avenues. An alternative is to clear older cemeteries and re-use the ground. Whilst the disinterring of bodies is an immediate threat to closed burial grounds, ancient sites and private cemeteries, it is less of an issue for operational municipal cemeteries at present, although it may become a problem in the medium to long term. Such practices are among the biggest threats facing historic cemeteries.

Protection through statutory designations

Various statutory designations can be applied to cemeteries and to their associated buildings and monuments in recognition of their historic or architectural interest, their importance as historic landscape designs or wildlife habitats, or their amenity value. Designations highlight special importance and the need for conservation. In addition, there are various non-statutory ways of recognising the importance of a building or site.

A cemetery is best protected when designations are combined to protect the significant or valuable characteristics of the site: for example, Listing and inclusion on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens refer to specific sites, but they can also be used together, alongside measures such as Conservation Area designation or Tree Preservation Orders and Local Nature Reserve designation to strengthen the protection given to any particular site or its features.

It is important to note that the process of designation -- whether for historic or nature conservation importance -- is a continuous one, and that many cemeteries have not yet been surveyed, or surveyed in detail. Even if no designations apply to it, a cemetery may nevertheless be of local importance. A full evaluation of the national significance of these special places requires many more years' study. Research and survey can be used to evaluate the significance of each cemetery, and to support grant applications, whether or not the site has Listed, Registered, Conservation Area or nature conservation status (see *Analysing and evaluating cemeteries, Conservation Management Plans*). Indeed, such information can be used to inform the designation process. The work of various Friends Groups has been especially important in increasing awareness of the importance of individual cemeteries. Many have been re-assessed recently for Listing, Register or nature conservation status. Kensal Green cemetery now has almost 140 individually Listed tombs, but this tally is exceptional; and some cemeteries have more than one designation. Schemes like the Memorial Awareness Board's *Cemetery of the Year* awards help promote quality maintenance and community involvement.

Listed Buildings and monuments

Listed Building designation affords some protection from alteration, demolition, or inappropriate development on neighbouring sites. Most significant cemetery buildings date from the Victorian period (1837-1901), and the criteria for Listing buildings built between 1840 and 1914 are very strict. The guidelines seek buildings that:

- are interesting works by major architects or important examples of the work of local architects of merit.
- form an important part of an architecturally sensitive streetscape or are part of a larger group built to a single design or purpose.
- are very complete and/or early example of specific building type or built with a pioneering form of construction.
- are very rare survivals of a specific building type.
- are of definite architectural quality, or are an expression of a technical or social innovation of the period.

The criteria for Listing monuments are slightly different. A monument is considered Listable if it exemplifies or incorporates:

- notable sculpture or architecture, or the work of an important designer
- interesting symbolism
- unusual materials (eg Coade stone, iron, unusual stone)
- commemoration of an interesting person
- rarity of survival (eg wooden memorials)
- regional specialities (eg slate in Leicestershire and Cornwall, cast iron in Sussex).

Grade I or II* Listed Buildings and monuments are of 'outstanding architectural or historic interest'. The difference in grading between Grades I, II* and II is not significant as far as the need to apply for Listed Building Consent is concerned; the principal practical implication of grading is that Grade I and II* buildings may be eligible for some grants that are not available for Grade II buildings.

Listing covers all parts of a building, including the interior, and protects fixtures and fittings, as well as outbuildings, boundary walls and all other structures 'within the curtilage'. Once a building has been Listed, its setting is also protected. Listing does not guarantee that the building or monument will never be altered, demolished or developed, but by requiring the owner to get Listed Building Consent for the work and providing interested parties with an opportunity to comment or object, it ensures that the special historic and architectural interest of the structure is taken into account in any planning decisions relating to it.

Listing has a considerable impact on the management of cemeteries, since Listed structures cannot be dismantled, altered or repaired in any way that affects their special interest without Listed Building Consent. Moreover, their setting might be compromised by inserted memorials nearby: this is a real consideration, which carries weight. The fact that a structure is not Listed does not mean it has no architectural or historical value. Cemeteries are under-studied and under-surveyed: only a small percentage of monuments and buildings within cemeteries has been Listed, and most larger urban cemeteries are likely to have some buildings and monuments worthy of consideration for Listing.

The English Heritage website gives details on what Listing means, how to get buildings considered for designation, and how to apply for consent to carry out work on a protected building or monument (see Useful contacts) To find out whether buildings and monuments are Listed contact your local planning authority or the National Monuments Record Centre (NMRC).

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

Scheduling is the only legal protection specifically for archaeological sites. Decisions on national importance are guided by criteria laid down by the

Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, covering the basic characteristics of monuments. They are:

- extent of survival
- current condition
- rarity
- diversity or presence of at least one important attribute
- importance of the period to which the monument dates
- fragility
- connection to other monuments, or group value
- potential to contribute to our information, understanding and appreciation
- extent of documentation enhancing the monument's significance

Buildings at Risk Register

English Heritage's Buildings at Risk Register (updated annually) identifies Grade I and II* (and in London, Grade II) Listed Buildings and structural Scheduled Ancient Monuments that are at risk or vulnerable through neglect and decay to try to find ways of securing their future. The Register includes listed cemetery structures at risk. The London Register covers all grades of listed buildings at risk, in addition to cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds at risk. (see Further reading).

To find out whether a structure is at risk, consult the local authority planning department or visit the English Heritage website.

The Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest

Registered sites are of national, rather than regional or local, importance. Inclusion in the Register is a material consideration in planning terms so, following an application for development which would affect a Registered park or garden, local planning authorities must, when determining whether or not to grant permission, take into account the historic interest of the site. For inclusion in the Register, the historic significance of a site is judged against the following criteria:

- Sites with a main phase of development before 1750 where at least a proportion of the layout of this date is still evident, even perhaps only as an earthwork;
- Sites with a main phase of development laid out between 1750 and 1820 where enough of this landscaping survives to reflect the original design;
- Sites with a main phase of development between 1820 and 1880 which is of importance and survives intact or relatively intact;
- Sites with a main phase of development between 1880 and 1939 where this of high importance and survives intact;
- Sites with a main phase of development laid out post-war, but more than 30 years ago, where the work is of exceptional importance;
- Sites that were influential in the development of taste whether through reputation or references in literature;

- Sites that are early or representative examples of a style of layout, or a type of site, or the work of a designer (amateur or professional) of national importance;
- Sites having an association with significant persons or historical events;
- Sites with strong group value.

In the case of cemeteries, these criteria are augmented by the following supplementary criteria:

- Cemeteries laid out before the Burial Acts (with 1850 being taken as the cut-off date) where enough of the layout of this date survives to reflect the original design.
- Cemeteries laid out between 1850 and 1914, where the landscape survives intact and is of special historic interest because of one or more of the reasons set out as points i. to vi. below.
- Cemeteries laid out after 1914, but over 30 years ago, which are of exceptional importance because of one or more of the reasons set out as points i. to vi. below.
 - i. the landscape design is of particular historic interest in its own right;
 - ii. the layout offers a good example of the work of a designer of national renown;
 - iii. the site includes a pioneering example of any landscape feature particularly associated with cemeteries;
 - iv. the cemetery has structural planting of exceptional quality;
 - v. the structural elements, such as chapel(s), lodge(s), means of enclosure, horticultural buildings, and monuments, are, as a group, of exceptional quality (these usually being Listed as buildings of special architectural or historic interest, with the main elements Listed at Grade I);
 - vi. there is a social context of particular note which is reflected in the landscape.

Further information is provided in *The Register of Parks and Gardens. An Introduction* (see Further reading). English Heritage anticipates that its current Register review will result in nearly 100 cemeteries being evaluated as nationally important. The English Heritage website gives details on how to get sites Registered and NMRC will provide information on individual Registered. Where sites are not registered, the county gardens trusts and local history societies' volunteers may be able to help with archive and other historic research.

Conservation Areas

Conservation Areas are areas 'of special architectural or historic interest the character of appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. They are usually designated by local planning authorities and – in London – also by English Heritage. A number of cemeteries have already been designated as Conservation Areas in their own right.

This designation controls development and tree works. Conservation Area status also offers control over demolition of some buildings but generally cannot cover the wholesale clearance of small structures such as headstones. Extra controls can be applied by local planning authorities in individual Conservation Areas using Article 4 Directions. Any new development must meet the test of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the Conservation Area.

For details of local Conservation Areas contact your local authority planning department. The English Historic Towns Forum also has many useful publications (see Useful contacts).

Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)

TPOs are made by local authorities on the basis of amenity value, and can be applied to individual trees or groups of trees. The trees may be important features in the historic landscape design, and valued both as veteran specimens and because they provide wildlife habitat. A designated tree should not be cut down, lopped, topped, uprooted or damaged without the local authority's consent, and should be protected from harm (including harm to its roots caused by any adjacent development). Further information is available from:

www.regeneration.dtlr.gov.uk/info/env/treeshedges/tpo/index.htm

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) represent the best wildlife and geological sites. They are notified by English Nature. There are currently just over 4,000 SSSIs, spread throughout the country and covering in total about 6% of England. About 900 SSSIs, covering some 500,000 hectares (ha), are urban or on the urban fringe, but no cemetery has yet been designated an SSSI. The biodiversity interest of many cemeteries has probably been overlooked. English Nature's website has information on selection and notification or declaration of wildlife sites and their management and funding, and individual sites: www.english-nature.org.uk under 'special sites'.

Local Nature Reserves

Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are places with wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally, which give people special opportunities to study and learn about them or simply enjoy and have contact with Nature. Local authorities are able to declare LNRs (under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949). Over 670 LNRs have now been declared in England, including three cemeteries: Abney Park (London), Bisley Road (Stroud, Gloucs), and Tower Hamlets (London). More are being proposed. English Nature's guidelines for LNR designation require the production of a management plan. For details and advice about LNRs, contact your local authority planning department or local English Nature office.

Sites of Nature Conservation Importance

There are also Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs or SINC), and County or Local Wildlife Sites. These sites are of importance to local communities, often affording people the only opportunity of direct

contact with Nature, especially in urban areas (DoE 1994, paragraph 15 and DoE 1994a). They are selected by a survey and evaluative process, and are often given protection within a Local or Unitary Development Plan. For example, the 'Magnificent Seven' cemeteries in London are all identified as having Importance for Nature Conservation, and three of them – Highgate, Tower Hamlets, and Nunhead – have Metropolitan status too. New guidance for identifying Local Wildlife Sites will shortly be published by Government.

Geological interest and RIGs

The geological interest of cemeteries lies in the stonework of the tombstones, memorials, mausolea and other built structures. Such sites of interest can be identified as being of local importance and afforded protection in local plans. The application of the Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) designation for cemeteries and churchyards has been debated but as yet no decision has been made.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans

Following the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (DETR 1995), Local Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) are being drawn up to plan and guide conservation action as part of a nationwide strategy to protect and manage habitats and species. A BAP should consist of generic actions, a Habitat Action Plan (HAP), and Species Action Plan (SAP), as well as an outline of the audit of the area in which it covers, and details of the partnership, and how it expects to work. These include plans for cemeteries and churchyards in many areas to identify the priorities and targets for conservation, and work that needs to be carried out. Local BAPs are prepared by partnerships of organisations, usually facilitated by the local authority or local Wildlife Trust (www.wildlifetrusts.org.uk). The site management plans developed as part of the BAP targets aim to integrate the varied interests and functions of cemeteries.

Protected and Biodiversity Action Plan species

A number of wild animals and plants are afforded legal protection under various Acts, most notably the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Many of these can be found in cemeteries: they include bats, badger (protected under the Badgers Act 1992), most birds, slow-worm, common lizard, and grass-snake. Management of both the natural and built structures (such as lodges, mausolea or shrubberies that are bat or bird roosts) could affect these species, and legal protection has recently been increased for activities that can disturb, injure, and/or kill individuals, their eggs and young, and/or damage or destroy their nests and/or places of shelter. Cemetery managers are urged to consult their local English Nature team for guidance.

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan also identifies species that require urgent conservation action – Priority Species, and Species of Conservation Concern – both at national level and through the local BAP process. Many of these, such as hedgehog, song thrush, linnets, bullfinch, spotted flycatcher, and stag beetle, can be found in cemeteries.

More information on habitat action plans and protected species is available from the English Nature website: www.english-nature.org.uk under 'wildlife' and 'biodiversity action plans'.

Other controls

There are other controls governing management and change within cemeteries. Church of England sections are subject to the Faculty Jurisdiction Measure, under which consents may be required from the local Diocese to move memorials, adapt cemetery layout or undertake conservation work. Detailed information on the operation of the Faculty system, including wildlife, is given in the General Synod of the Church of England's Code of Practice (see Further reading).

Conservation Management Plans

There are about 7,000 ha of cemeteries in England, and nearly all of them have some special local, if not national, importance. Nonetheless, judgements have to be made concerning their historic, aesthetic, wildlife and amenity value, and the extent to which they can sustain change or should be preserved as they are.

The question of how best to manage these large and complex sites can best be solved by co-operation between the various professional disciplines and interested parties involved. An integrated approach makes it much easier to manage the cemetery effectively, find the right balance between high-level maintenance and benign neglect, and make the best use of scarce resources. For example, it is not true that wildlife will always flourish best where natural processes have been left to take their course; the right kind of management encourages diversity, and balances the need to preserve historic interest with the promotion of biodiversity, whilst maintaining a pleasant and secure environment in which visitors can feel at ease.

A Conservation Management Plan is a tool for assessing what matters and why, and working out what needs doing and how to go about it. The best plans integrate all interests, and are especially effective when all those concerned with the cemetery have been involved in drawing them up. Friends Groups can play a particularly valuable role, identifying issues to be addressed, co-ordinating voluntary labour, maintaining links with the local community and fund-raising. Consultation should include local residents: people whose homes overlook the cemetery may have strong feelings about it, even if they never visit the site.

Preparing a Conservation Management Plan

Drawing up a Plan is a two-stage process. The first step is to describe accurately the cemetery and all its features, its significance, the resources available and the possible constraints. The second step is to work out what needs to be done and how. The following table illustrates this process of assessment through to developing management programmes.

PREPARING A CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The first stage in managing a site involves an assessment of what matters and why – usually a conservation plan. Specific management actions or detailed prescriptions can follow this but should not precede it. (adapted from Kate Clark, 2001)

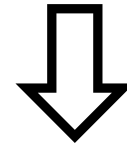
ASSESSMENT

Understand the cemetery
Assess significance
Define issues and constraints
Set vision and policies

CONSERVATION PLAN

ACTION

Management programme including management prescriptions and maintenance checklists
Budgets and work programme
Option appraisal and feasibility study for new developments like new burial plots (if appropriate)
Business planning
Monitoring and review of management plan (including programme of condition surveys)



MANAGEMENT PLAN

Analysis and evaluation of the significance of the cemetery for the Conservation Management Plan will require research and survey, which might include:

- Documentary research into written descriptions, maps and plans of the site;
- Architectural survey;
- Monument and sculpture survey;
- Biographical survey of the people buried in the cemetery – social, ethnic or religious groups, or notable individuals;
- Landscape design survey;
- Ecological survey;
- Survey of the local community's views on what they value and how they would like to be involved;
- Appraisal of the current care of the cemetery – by visitors as well as official guardians.

Assessing historic or cultural importance is particularly difficult in the case of cemeteries. They have been neglected in official surveys of architecture and landscape, a situation that is only now being rectified. Some of the key indicators of quality and significance that could be used to determine the importance of a cemetery are:

- The number of Listed structures within the cemetery;
- The inclusion of the cemetery in the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest;
- Conservation Area status;
- The existence of any wildlife or environmental designations covering the cemetery.

It is, however, important to remember that the absence of any official designations should not be regarded as evidence that a cemetery has no significance or value. It may simply mean that the cemetery has not yet been included in the national surveys. Regardless of official designations, therefore, the local assessment of the cemetery's conservation significance should take into account the presence and integrity of:

- Entrance lodges, gates or screens; boundary walls or railings;
- Chapels;
- Other significant buildings: mausolea, catacombs etc;
- Monuments that are striking because of their architectural design, decoration or sculptural quality;
- Burial sites of famous or important people;
- Evidence of the historic layout, and of subsequent adaptations of the layout;
- Evidence of the historic planting, including notable trees;
- Diversity of wildflowers, fungi, shrubs, trees - especially rare and protected species;
- The presence of wildlife, including birds, mammals, reptiles and insects - especially rare and protected species.

Identifying key issues, problems and opportunities

The Conservation Management Plan should set out clearly the key issues involved in the conservation of the cemetery. These might include:

- controls over the site or restrictions on proposed work, including statutory designations
- financial constraints
- the condition of buildings, monuments and memorials
- the condition of landscape features
- site security
- ecology and wildlife
- the need to accommodate new burials
- access and community use

Problems that need to be addressed might include:

- damaged or dangerous structures and trees
- the need to repair or renew hard landscaping
- blocked or broken drainage systems
- the need to repair or renew planting
- lack of security and the need to maintain or repair gates, fences and boundary walls
- vandalism and vagrancy

The cemetery might present opportunities that should be investigated. These might include:

- the potential to make the cemetery accessible to the local community and the wider public
- the use of volunteers, for research, survey and recording, for practical tasks such as clearing brambles, and for organising events and activities
- the encouragement of biodiversity: following a Habitat Action Plan (see below)
- the potential to use the cemetery as an educational resource
- the availability of funding (see Funding)

Setting priorities

The second part of the Conservation Management Plan sets out the work programme. It should set out priorities for attention in the short, medium and long term. The Plan is also a tool for the local community and Friends Groups in planning how they can help to look after the cemetery. The topics addressed in this part of the Plan might include:

Short term

- co-ordinating research efforts effectively, for example by using local studies libraries and collections, local history and family history groups, Friends Groups and wildlife groups;
- devising an efficient and accessible way of gathering together all the available information, pictorial, photographic and written;
- devising a system for regularly updating records and further condition surveys for monitoring purposes
- urgent repairs to dangerous structures
- urgent repairs to entrances and boundaries

Medium and long term

- monitoring and reviewing the Plan, its inventories and surveys, and the effectiveness of policies and repairs
- specified repairs to buildings and monuments; Listed monuments and structures will be obvious priorities for repair work on account of their special interest
- restoration of historic landscape
- habitat creation and management tasks
- day-to-day maintenance
- new developments including new burial areas

Conservation Plans in Action and *Informed Conservation* (see Further reading) provide advice on Conservation Management Plan and researching historic sites and buildings.

Maintenance and repair of memorials in the Conservation Management Plan

The comparatively recent development of cemeteries means that there is less reliance on local building materials and design forms than would be the case with an historic churchyard, for example. In both cases, however,

the principles, procedures and practice of implementing appropriate maintenance and repair of memorials will be the same. Maintenance and repair must be based upon a sound understanding of the separate elements that go to make up the memorials, and how they may be reasonably expected to perform.

Types of memorial

The most common form of memorial is the simple headstone, but cemeteries contain a vast range, including pedestal tombs, crosses, obelisks, table tombs, chest tombs, ledger stones and allegorical sculpture. The care and maintenance of each memorial will vary according to its complexity, and the level of expertise required to plan and implement any interventions will also differ accordingly.

Materials and how they deteriorate

The predominant group of materials used for memorials is stone. Other materials used include brick, plaster, terracotta, artificial stone, cast and wrought iron, bronze, lead, copper and timber. Inscriptions may be either incised or stand proud of the surface, and may be gilded, painted or filled with metal. The variety and combination of materials found in memorials must be taken into account before starting any repair or conservation work, as each material will respond differently to the agents of decay, and to any remedial action. Relevant expertise must be employed to correctly identify the material or materials from which each memorial is constructed and to make an assessment of its condition. Repair procedures must be carefully tailored to the materials, as inappropriate methods will not only prove ineffective but may also cause lasting damage to the memorial.

All materials decay when exposed to the weather. However, the rate of deterioration will vary according to the susceptibility of each material to the dominant weather characteristics. For example, limestone is more easily eroded by acid rain than a true sandstone, but both may suffer equally disastrous damage from the build-up of soluble salts, some of which are deposited by acid rain, behind the surfaces of the stone. All materials are affected by a combination of deterioration factors, so their correct analysis is essential to the success of any remedial work. Decay factors may include:

- the original design: carvings trap water, joints crack as a result of poor detailing, inadequate rain protection leads to staining;
- the original materials: stone used out of its natural bed cracks, and the juxtaposition of incompatible materials can cause preferential decay;
- the original construction: embedded iron fixings expand as they rust, pushing masonry blocks apart, or inadequately bedded railings start to tilt;
- previous repairs of poor quality: unsuitable mortar accelerates decay around joints.

Maintenance is essential to the long-term well being of memorials, yet inappropriate maintenance may be as damaging as no maintenance at all. The excessive build-up of soiling and biocolonisation, the establishment of invasive plants and blocked drainage are just a few of the ways in which

lack of maintenance promotes decay. However, most lichens, mosses and some small ferns and wildflowers can be left on monuments and walls provided they are not so lush that they are causing structural damage or obscuring carved details. Woody species such as *Buddleia* should be removed. Examples of inappropriate repair and maintenance include inexpertly applied or inappropriate cleaning chemicals, application of unsuitable paints and surface treatments, and poorly executed mortar repointing.

Theft and vandalism must be added to the list of potential sources of deterioration. Surfaces are defaced by graffiti or by abrasion, and components are broken off. Metal roofing materials are attractive to thieves, and entire monuments may be stolen for resale as 'architectural salvage'.

Identification, documentation and management

The first step is to create an accurate inventory. Although it may not be possible to equal the archaeological exhaustiveness of a model such as that presented in Harold Mytum's *Recording and Analysing Graveyards* (2001), a preliminary survey is likely to reveal much of interest, and should not only record what is there but should also describe its condition. It should include both written and photographic evidence. Although some specialist input may be needed for the initial analysis of geology and for surveying the more complex structures, the bulk of the recording can be done by volunteers.

First principles of repair

It should be the aim of the repair and maintenance processes in general to slow down any mechanisms of decay, remove the causes and effects of structural instability and provide security whilst preserving as far as is possible the historic integrity of the memorial. Such an approach is consistent with the principles of conservation rather than restoration (Brereton 1995). It is rarely acceptable, for example, to replace missing ornamental detail, particularly if the design of the replacement is conjectural. Exceptions to this rule must be judged on a case-by-case basis.

Health and safety

Safety concerns in cemeteries have begun to focus on the structural integrity of headstones and other memorial features, after some well-publicised accidents and fatalities involving children. Poorly secured or physically damaged memorials can pose a hazard for cemetery workers and visitors. In this context, the Confederation of Burial Authorities and the Institute of Burial and Cremation Administration (IBCA) have published, in consultation with the Health and Safety Executive, national guidance on the management of memorials (IBCA, 2000; see www.ibca.co.uk/docs). This document includes advice on setting policies towards cemetery staff training; quinquennial safety surveys, testing and recording; risk assessment; remedial actions and site signage.

Whilst the temporary dismantling or laying flat of high-risk headstones is a reasonable response to safety concerns, such actions would not be acceptable as permanent solutions for cemeteries and monuments of

architectural or historic interest. Indeed, such actions would usually require the benefit of Listed Building Consent, which would not be given lightly – especially when there are viable alternative, cost-effective strategies available.

A better option is to isolate and cordon-off potentially dangerous features. Temporary propping, first aid treatment and structural repairs can all then follow, to restore employee and public safety and the special interest and integrity of the monument concerned.

Levels of expertise

Some tasks involved in the maintenance of cemetery memorials are definitely the province of professional experts. Architects and surveyors will be needed where buildings are involved or where memorials take the form of large structures. They can also advise upon whether the services of an engineer may be required in cases of serious structural instability. Specialist conservators may have to be employed to evaluate and analyse material condition, treat decay, and clean and stabilise the surfaces of tombs and monuments. Masons, builders and metalworkers will be needed to carry out first aid repair of broken headstones, provide temporary support to dislodged elements, repoint failed joints and rebuild materially sound table tombs. However, volunteers can be asked to tackle the bulk of the cyclical work, including the production and regular updating of the condition assessment reports in the inventory, grass cutting, removal or control of vegetation, and basic cleaning following worked examples and after appropriate training.

Historic landscape restoration in the Conservation Management Plan

Management programmes need to sustain the character of the historic design. The significance of the historic landscape design of cemeteries is often overlooked and designs are disrupted by unfortunate developments such as the location of new burial plots in carriage drives and paths or the introduction of new landscaping. Changes are sometimes inevitable but a good understanding of the cemetery layout and the aims of the design will help guide decisions towards the placing of harmonious or inconspicuous new memorials alongside old ones and the avoidance of placing new burials in key avenues and paths. Planting should be in keeping with the historic design including the siting of trees and shrubs, and chosen species and forms, and features like paths, hedges and borders. In programming cemetery maintenance tasks, thought needs to be given how to enhance the historic design and integrate nature conservation interests, like the natural propagation of primroses and violets, and environmentally sensitive management. Guidance on Conservation Management Plans for historically important designed landscapes will be published by English Heritage. The Garden History Society (www.gardenhistorysociety.org.uk) and county gardens trusts (www.gardenstrusts.co.uk) may also be able to advise on the historic interest of cemetery designs.

Ecology and wildlife in the Conservation Management Plan

The principal wildlife habitats found in cemeteries are woodland and species-rich grassland, although many also support thickets, scrub, heath, veteran trees and wetlands. There will also be the built structures, which

can provide habitat for lichens and basking places for insects and reptiles. Without management of any kind the vegetation will almost always develop into secondary woodland, as has happened at many cemeteries. Management aims to 'arrest' this succession. Given the other interests within cemeteries, management for wildlife should link to local conservation priorities like the BAP-and aim, wherever possible, to diversify the range of habitats – for example, some grassland, some woodland. Creating new habitats such as ponds may not be appropriate, and may add to resources required in future years.

Managing for wildlife is generally less intensive, and can be quite resource-efficient. It can also complement the historic designed landscape and add a romantic quality. Vegetation need not be cut so regularly, nor is they any need to cut to formal lines in some parts of the cemetery, although it is good practice to demarcate areas managed for wildlife so as to show that apparent 'neglect' is intentional and managed.

There are some management principles which English Nature encourages. All vegetation management should ideally take place outside the bird-breeding season (February to July). Most woodland and shrub management should be carried out between October and February. Selective felling of trees within woodland stands helps to increase their age diversity. On south-facing areas it is often beneficial to create a graded edge between wooded and open areas, to maximise structural diversity. Where there are no health and safety consequences, some dead trees could be left standing to encourage invertebrates that depend on this habitat. Some of those felled might be left to rot *in situ*. Grassland management can be undertaken to benefit wildflowers and insects by cutting either once (June) or twice (June, October) a year, and ensuring that the cuttings are removed. Composting of cuttings should be encouraged rather than burning, but if there is the only available option, then one specific burn site should be identified.

Problem species or those that become invasive may need to be controlled or eradicated to benefit biodiversity, preserve the historic importance or improve the appearance of a cemetery. Some exotic species, such as giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed, require specific management techniques, whereas stinging nettle and bramble usually only need regular cutting back. The use of herbicides, pesticides and other chemicals should be resisted wherever possible. In some cases, e.g. for the control of rhododendron and Japanese knotweed, they may be no alternative option, but expert guidance should be sought before action is taken.

It is good practice to divide the cemetery into wildlife management compartments and to rotate management over a number of years, permitting costs and workload to be spread while the site is gently and incrementally restored. Different habitats require different styles of management: grasslands, for example, require regular attention in order to maintain their value and should be prioritised for resources, whereas woodlands can be left untouched for years without undue adverse effects.

Creation of new habitats may appear an easy way of increasing wildlife diversity, and the introduction of wildflowers like bluebells and wild garlic adds colour to the landscape. However, any such interventions should be undertaken with care. Selective tree and shrub planting may be desirable, as most cemetery woodlands are 'recent' and species-poor (and appropriate new planting could restore the historic landscape design); but since those species that are present are those that have best adapted to the management to date, introducing new ones may not be successful. Increasing species diversity of grasslands by sowing seeds is more difficult, and generally requires removing the topsoil to reduce competition from existing species. All plantings and seeds should be obtained from reputable, and ideally locally provenant sources. Scions could be made from historically important trees and shrubs to grow identical replacements. Planting should be in keeping with other historic interests such as the landscape design, and, most importantly, planting in habitats known to be of existing nature conservation interest, such as relict species-rich grasslands, should be avoided.

Additional features may be added to specifically encourage some species, such as bat- and bird-boxes, sensitively-sited dead wood piles for invertebrates and fungi, and discrete areas of bare soil in sunny areas for bees and solitary wasps.

Managing for wildlife is often a good way of involving local communities in the upkeep of their cemetery, although this should not be seen as 'the cheap option'. A level of skill and training is required, but this can often be obtained via the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV - www.btcv.org/) and the Wildlife Trusts (www.wildlifetrusts.org.uk) who run specific training courses, or who can be brought in to 'kick-start' activity.

Funding

Funding for cemeteries is potentially available through the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) (www.hlf.org.uk) and the New Opportunities Fund (NOF) (www.nof.org.uk). The HLF supports projects that care for and protect our heritage, increase understanding and enjoyment, give people a better opportunity to experience heritage by improving access, improve people's quality of life by benefiting the community and wider public. Several cemeteries, including Nunhead and Hampsted Cemeteries in London, have already benefited handsomely from this source. The NOF *Green Spaces* programme aims to help communities and particularly the disadvantaged, understand, improve or care for their local environment.

The New Opportunities Fund's *Green Spaces and Sustainable Communities* programme was launched in 2000, and has allocated monies to a number of Award Partners, each running schemes to distribute monies to local authorities and community groups. Two schemes maybe applicable to cemeteries; English Nature's *Wildspace!* and BTCV's *People's Places*.

English Heritage also can offer grants for Grade I and II* Listed buildings and monuments; for Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens. Some local planning authorities also run grant schemes to repair historic buildings and preserve Conservation Areas.

The Architectural Heritage Fund (www.ahfund.org.uk) (which helps Buildings Preservation Trusts to rescue redundant historic buildings) publishes *Funds for Historic Buildings in England and Wales – a Directory of Sources*, a comprehensive annual guide to grants and loan schemes.

The Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Scheme (www.forestry.gov.uk) can provide funding for woodland management.

Volunteers and Friends

Volunteers – through amenity societies and Cemetery Friends' groups – have led cemetery conservation. Many of the Cemetery Friends started as pressure groups concerned about the neglect of a cemetery or proposals for inappropriate use. They are often involved in monitoring maintenance and restoration work and, if given the opportunity, help in a practical way. The Friends Groups link up through the National Federation of Cemetery Friends (www.cemeteryfriends.fsnet.co.uk). They also issue advice about setting up new Friends Groups. Other voluntary organisations like the BTCV, the county gardens trusts and the wildlife trusts can advise on organising projects and practical conservation tasks.

Further reading

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Useful contacts

Government organisations

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English Heritage can provide free copies of the 'listing description' of up to 3 buildings within 5 working days (or next day, for a fee).

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Website: <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk>

Email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk

Catalogue and ordering of free publications.

English Heritage Mail Order Service

c/o Gillards

Trident Works

Temple Cloud

Bristol BS39 5AZ

Tel: 01761 452530

Fax: 01761 452451

E-mail: info@gillards.com

Catalogue and ordering of priced publications.

English Nature

Northminster House

Peterborough PE1 1UA

Tel: 01733 455000

Fax: 01733 568834

Website: <http://www.english-nature.org.uk>

English Nature publications

PO Box 1995

Wetherby

West Yorkshire LS23 7XX

Tel: 0870 1214 177

Fax: 0870 1214 178

Website: English-nature@twoten.press.net

The Home Office

Constitutional and Community Directorate
50 Queen Anne's Gate
London
SW1H 9AT
Tel: 0207 273 3777
Fax: 0207 273 2029
Website: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

National Monuments Record Centre (NMRC)

NMR Services
Great Western Village
Kemble Drive
Swindon
SN2 2GZ
Tel: 01793 414600
Fax: 01793 414606
Email: info@rchme.co.uk
*To find out whether a building or monument is Listed, or a cemetery
landscape design Registered*

Historic Scotland

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh EH9 1SH
Tel: 0131 668 8600
Website: <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk>

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

12 Hope Terrace
Edinburgh
EH9 2AS
Tel: 0131 4474784
Fax: 0131 446 2277
Website: www.snh.org.uk

Cadw -- Welsh Historic Monuments

Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 3NQ
Tel: 029 2050 0200
Fax: 029 2082 6375
Website: <http://www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/>

Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru -- Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)

Maes y Ffynnon
Ffordd Penrhos
Bangor Gwynedd
LL57 2DN
Tel: 01248 385 500
Fax 01248 355782
Website: <http://www.ccw.gov.uk/>

Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

Local Authority Unit
7SW Rose Court
Southwark Bridge
London
SE1 9HS

Tel: 020 7717 6442

Fax: 020 7717 6418

For health and safety legislation and guidance see hsedirect at
<http://baldwin.butterworths.co.uk>

For HSE office addresses see

http://baldwin.butterworths.co.uk/search/pages/hseoffs_index.htm

For HSE local authority unit's publications see

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/lau/lacs/23-17.htm>

Local authority organisations

Local Government Association

Smith Square
London SW1P 3HZ

Tel: 020 7664 3000

Fax: 020 7664 3030

Website: <http://lga.gov.uk>

Confederation of Burial Authorities

The Gatehouse
Kew Meadow Path
Richmond TW9 4EN

Tel: 020 8392 9487

Fax: 020 8392 2997

Email: ibcabob@aol.com

Charities and voluntary organisations

Architectural Heritage Fund

Clareville House,
26/27 Oxenden Street
London SW1Y 4EL

Tel: 0207.925.0199.

Website: <http://www.ahfund.org.uk/>

National Federation of Cemetery Friends

42 Chestnut Grove
South Croydon
CR2 7LH

Website: <http://www.cemeteryfriends.fsnet.co.uk>

Email: Gwyneth1@btinternet.com

Website has links to other Friends' websites.

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)

36 St Mary's Street

Wallingford

OX10 0EU

Tel: 01491 821600

Fax: 01491 839646

Website: <http://www.btcv.org/>

UK's leading charity working with people to bring about positive environmental change

Friends of War Memorials

4 Lower Belgrave Street

London

SW1W 0LA

Tel: 020 7259 0403

Fax: 020 7259 0296

Email: fowm@eidonet.co.uk

Website: <http://www.war.memorials.com/>

Association of Gardens Trusts

70 Cowcross Street

London EC1M 6BP

Tel: 020 7251 2610

Website: <http://www.gardenstrusts.co.uk>

The national organisation of County Gardens Trusts engaged in conserving, researching, documenting and caring for parks, gardens and designed landscapes.

Fieldfare Trust

67a The Wicker

Sheffield S3 8HT

Tel: 0114 270 1668

Fax: 0114 276 7900

Website: <http://www.fieldfare.org.uk>

Promoting access to the countryside and environmental education for people with disabilities.

Monuments and sculpture organisations

Public Monuments and Sculpture Association (PMSA)

C/o Courtauld Institute of Art

Somerset House

Strand

London

WC2R 0RN

Tel: 020 7848 2614

E-mail: pmsa@pmsa.org.uk

Website: <http://www.pmsa.org.uk/>

For individuals and organisations interested in the history, conservation and promotion of Britain's public monuments and sculpture.

The Memorial Awareness Board (MAB)

Southbank House
Black Prince Road
London SE1 7SJ
Tel: 020 7463 2020
Fax: 020 7463 2008
Website: <http://www.namm.org.uk/>

Historic environment organisations

The Churches Conservation Trust

89 Fleet Street
London
EC4Y 1DH
Tel: 020 7936 2285
Website: <http://www.visitchurches.org.uk/>
Cares for redundant churches.

Council for the Care of Churches

Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3NZ
Tel: 020 7898 1000
Website: <http://www.churchcare.co.uk/>
Co-ordinating body for Diocesan Advisory Committees; publishes advice on all aspects of caring for churches.

English Historic Towns Forum

PO Box 22
Bristol
BS16 1RZ
Tel: 0117 975 0459
Fax: 0117 975 0460
Website: <http://www.historic-towns.org/ehtf>

Garden History Society

70 Cowcross Street
London EC1M 6BP
Tel: 020 7608 2409
Fax: 020 7490 2974
Website: <http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.uk>
National amenity society for the study and protection of historic parks and gardens.

The Victorian Society

1 Priory Gardens

London

W4 0LT

Tel: 0208 994 1019

Fax: 020 8995 4895

Website: <http://www.victorian-society.org.uk/>

Email: info@victorian-society.org.uk

National amenity society for the study and protection of Victorian and Edwardian architecture.

Wildlife organisations

The Living Churchyard and Cemetery Project

Arthur Rank Centre

National Agricultural Centre

Stoneleigh Park

Warwickshire CV8 2LZ

Tel: 02476 858347

Fax: 02476 858347

Website: <http://www.ruralnet.org.uk/~arc/>

The project works to enhance wildlife in and promote conservation and community use of all kinds of burial grounds.

Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC)

3 Wynnstay Grove

Manchester

M14 6XG

Tel: 0161 248 5731

Fax: 0161 248 5736

Website: <http://www.religionsandconservation.org>

A charity that works with religious communities and environmental groups around the world to create and expand efforts to care for the environment.

The Bat Conservation Trust

15 Cloisters House

8 Battersea Park Road

London

SW8 4BG

Tel: 020 7627 2629

Website: <http://www.bats.org.uk>

Membership organisation devoted to the conservation of bats and their habitats.

The British Lichen Society

C/o Department of Botany

Natural History Museum

Cromwell Road, London

SW7 5BD

Website: <http://www.argonet.co.uk/users/jmgray>

Email: bls@nhm.ac.uk

The Wildlife Trusts

The Kiln

Waterside

Mather Road

Newark

Nottinghamshire

NG24 1WT

Tel: 0870 036 7711

Fax: 0870 036 0101

Website: <http://www.wildlifetrusts.org>

Email: info@wildlife-trusts.cix.co.uk

Conservation charity dedicated to wildlife conservation, with network of 47 local wildlife trusts. Website includes links to local wildlife trusts.

Professional and crafts organisations

The Cremation Society of Great Britain

2nd Floor, Brecon House

16/16a Albion Place

Maidstone

Kent

ME14 5DZ

Tel: 01622 688292/3

Fax: 01622 686698

Email: cremsoc@aol.com

Website: <http://www.cremation.org.uk/>

The National Association of Memorial Masons

27a Albert Street

Rugby

Warwickshire

CV21 2SG

Tel: 01788 542264

Fax: 01788 542276

Website: <http://www.namm.org.uk/index.htm>

Email: enquiries@namm.org.uk

To further the memorial masonry industry and safeguard the interests of the bereaved through the promotion of high standards, wide choice and increased understanding in all matters relating to natural stone memorials.

Heritage Building Contractors Group

C/o Linford Group Ltd

Quonians

Lichfield

Staffordshire

WS13 7LB

Tel: 01543 414 234

Fax: 01543 410 065

Email: dlinford@linford-bridgeman.co.uk

Institution of Civil Engineers

1 Great George Street
London
SW1P 3AA
Tel: 0207 222 7722
Fax: 0207 222 7500
Website: <http://www.ice.org.uk/>

Royal Institute of British Architects

66 Portland Place
London
W1N 4AD
Tel: 0207 580 5533
Fax: 0207 255 1541
Website: <http://www.architecture.com/>
Email: admin@inst.riba.org

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Building Conservation Group

12 Great George Street
London
SW1P 3AD
Tel: 0207 222 7000
Fax: 0207 222 9430
Website: <http://www.rics.org.uk/>
Email: info@rics.org.uk

Stone Federation of Great Britain

Construction House
56-64 Leonard Street
London
EC2A 4JX
Tel: 020 7608 5094
Fax: 020 7608 5081
Website: <http://www.stonefederationgb.org.uk/>

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

109 The Chandlery
50 Westminster Bridge Road
London
SE1 7QY
Tel: 020 7 721 8721
Fax: 020 7 721 8722
Website: <http://www.ukic.org.uk/>
Email: ukic@ukic.org.uk

Institute of Burial and Cremation Administration

SCI UK

75 Manor Road

Horsham St. Faith

Norwich

NR10 3LF

Tel: 01603 891123

Fax: 01603 893050

Website: <http://www.ibca.co.uk>

Sets ethical professional and social standards for the management of burial, cremation and related services, and provides education and training.

Institute of Leisure and Amenity Managers (ILAM)

ILAM House

Lower Basildon

Reading RG8 9NE

Tel: 01491 874800

Fax: 01491 874801

Website: <http://ilam.co.uk>

Represents every aspect of leisure, cultural and recreation management and is committed to the improvement of management standards.

Urban Parks Forum Ltd

Caversham Court

Church Road

Caversham

Berkshire

RG4 7AD

Tel: 0118 901 5200/5270

Website: <http://www.urbanparksforum.co.uk/>

Funding

English Heritage

See 'Government organisations', above.

Heritage Lottery Fund

7 Holbein Place

London

SW1W 8NR

Tel: 020 7591 6000

Fax: 020 7591 6271

Website: <http://www.hlf.org.uk/>

Email: enquire@hlf.org.uk

Wildspace!

LNR Grants Management Team

English Nature

See 'Government organisations', above.

People's Places

BTCV

People's Places Award Unit

36 St Mary's Street

Wallingford

OX10 0EU

Application pack: 01491 821 600

Email: information@btcv.org.uk

Doorstep Greens

Doorstep Greens National Project Team

Countryside Agency

1st Floor, Vincent House

92-93 Edward Street

Birmingham

B1 2RA

Tel: 0121 233 9399

Information: 0845 0000121

Website: <http://www.countryside.gov.uk/doorstepgreens/>

Email: doorstepgreens@countryside.gov.uk

English Heritage is the lead national body for protecting the historic environment and promoting public understanding and enjoyment of the heritage. It is the Government's official advisor on all matters concerning heritage conservation, and provides funding for archaeology, Conservation Areas, and the repair of historic buildings including cathedrals and churches. It is also responsible for some 400 properties that are in the nation's care.

English Nature is the statutory advisor to Government on nature conservation in England and promotes the conservation of England's wildlife and natural features. Through the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, English Nature works with sister organisations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on UK and international nature conservation issues.



ENGLISH HERITAGE



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