

Rectory Lane Cemetery, Tree Survey



Figure 1 Aerial Photograph of Rectory Lane Cemetery

Imagery (C) 2104 Getmapping plc, Map data (C) Google plc

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Summary

Rectory Lane Cemetery has a relatively high proportion of overall tree cover. Some of the older tree planting is clearly structured and planned, but in recent decades a large number of self-seeded trees have been allowed to grow. There are signs of efforts approximately 20 years ago to control the tree cover by felling some large sycamore and ash trees, but the stumps were left to re-grow and many have since formed large multi-trunk trees in a ring around the original stump. The cemetery requires some careful management to reduce overcrowding of trees, remove some of the excessive tree cover and restore a better arboreal species diversity by planned planting to create a more attractive landscape. The thinning of trees in selected areas will increase light and lengthen views, creating a greater feeling of space and security in the cemetery, whilst encouraging the remaining trees to form a healthy shape.

This report includes a brief identification and assessment of each of the trees in the cemetery. The assessment of the cemetery area is split into two sections according to the clear boundary between the older, Lower Area of the cemetery and the Upper Area. This boundary is formed by the remains of an avenue of yew trees. A third section of this report covers a strip of land on Rectory Lane outside the cemetery, but owned by the church and forming a backdrop to the cemetery landscape.

To the north, the Lower Area is fairly uniformly planted with specimen trees, predominantly English and Irish yews with some wych elms, an oak, cypress and an ornamental monkey puzzle tree. Many of these are fine specimens of good size and shape, though there are some which are distorted through overcrowding or by the excessive growth of ivy within the canopy. The Lower area includes the remains of landscape planting: a row of yews along one boundary and an avenue dividing the areas, plus a triangular positioning of the three wych elms. The landscaping has been obscured by self-seeded trees (mostly sycamore and ash) and by the loss of some of trees forming the avenue.

The southern, Upper Area of the cemetery generally has a more open landscape and less structured planting. The only discernible elements of landscaping are a row of silver birches and a short privet avenue near the top of the cemetery, a pair of holly trees either side of the central path, and a pair of box trees. Most of the other trees are, again, self-seeded ash and sycamore plus some cypress, hawthorn and yew.

The Rectory Lane area is densely covered, mostly with mature Leyland cypress, Norway spruce and cherry laurel trees. The cypress and spruce create natural screening of the houses on Rectory Lane, but the laurel has overgrown and created dense and oppressive shade on the lane.

This report identifies the main elements of the second phase of work, after preliminary clearance work during 2014 - 2016. It will be reviewed and updated as work progresses and as the plans for the cemetery are developed in conjunction with local residents and other stakeholders. Dacorum Borough Council's Tree Officer, Luke Johnson, was consulted at an early stage to understand his views on the trees in the cemetery and permission was subsequently obtained for the first phase of clearance work. Ongoing work will involve continued liaison and permissions as appropriate.

Lower Cemetery

Overview

The older, lower area of the cemetery includes some interesting and unusual specimen trees as well as the traditional cemetery trees. The general condition of the trees is average to poor, with extensive growth of ivy and elder within the canopies of several trees. Most trees are mature, with little succession planting and there are many self-seeded trees, predominantly ash, growing close to the boundary wall with Three Close Lane and within some of the graves.

Key Plan



Numbers on the Key Plan refer to trees identified as below.

1	Row of yews (a-i)	11	Ash	21	Yew
2	Yew	12	Yew	22	Ash
3	Wych Elm (a-c)	13	Yew	23	Turkey oak
4	Yew	14	Yew	24	Ash
5	Common yew	15	Ash	25	Yew
6	Irish yew	16	Yew	26	Holly
7	Monkey puzzle	17	Yew	27	Cypress
8	American cypress	18	Yew	28	Sycamore
9	Avenue of yews (a-m)	19	Yew	29	Ash, sycamore & elder
10	American cypress	20	Yew	30	Ash

Comments on Individual Trees

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
1	Row of 10 mature yews (numbered 1a to 1i) 12-14m high	Generally good condition and creating an effective screen. Yews 1c, 1d and 1f have some die-back in upper branches.	+++	+++	Lift crown to 2m to create footpath. Monitor die-back on 3 affected trees. If car parking is not implemented, plant additional 3 yews to complete the row.	Retain trees. Monitor wall for signs of cracking.
2	Yew 14m high	Good condition and a prominent tree near Rectory Lane entrance	+++	+++	None.	Retain.
3	Three Wych elms (numbered 3a to 3c) 14-18m high	Good general condition. These are rare trees and although not normally considered as cemetery trees, they were probably planted.	+	+++	Remove dead wood in canopy of all three trees.	Retain.
4	Common yew 12m high	Good condition. Ivy within the crown was cut back in 2014/2015 and the tree is recovering well.	++	++	None	Retain.
5	Common yew 14m high	Good condition. Ivy within the crown was cut back in 2014/2015 and the tree is recovering well.	++	++	None	Retain.
6	Irish yew 8m high	Lop-sided shape but otherwise good condition. Some growth of ivy in the crown, controlled by severing trunks at ground level.	++	+	None	Retain.
7	Monkey puzzle (Chile pine) 15m high	Good condition, probably dating from pre-1842 when land was parkland. Crown somewhat crowded by other trees, but these are also of landscape value and should be retained.	++	+++	Consider removing dead wood, but this is not a priority as the ground beneath tree is not frequently occupied and the cost of the work is unlikely to be justified by the risk of injury.	Retain.

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
8	American cypress 10m high	Leaning trunk but stable and in good condition. Crown somewhat crowded. Probably planted prior to cemetery's foundation.	++	++	None	Retain.
9	Avenue of 12 Irish yews labelled 9a to 9m and one stump, 9c. 8m high	Mostly good condition, though several have had significant growth of ivy and/or elder in the crowns. A key landscape feature of the cemetery.	+++	+++	Plant yew to replace 9c. Remove ivy from remaining trees (especially 9a-9f). Inter-planting to create a symmetrical avenue is not recommended due to risk of over-crowding.	Retain.
10	American cypress 18m high	Leaning trunk but stable and in good condition	+++	+++	None	Retain.
11	Ash 15m high	Good shape and mostly in good condition but some signs of squirrel damage to bark.	0	++	None	Retain.
12	Yew 11m high	Good condition and in a prominent position near a junction of historic footpaths.	+++	+++	None	Retain.
13	Yew 12m high	Good condition, and located adjacent to a historic footpath	+++	++	None	Retain.
14	Yew 7m high	Good condition, and located adjacent to a historic footpath	+++	++	None	Retain.
15	Ash stumps	Saplings felled in 2015.			-	-
16	Yew 11m high	Good condition. Two sycamore saplings adjacent felled in 2014.	++	++	None	Retain
17	Yew 8m high	Formerly had a heavy growth of ivy, mostly removed in 2014. Tree recovering well and in reasonable condition. Ash and elder saplings nearby were felled in 2014.	++	++	None	Retain

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
18	Yew 8m high	Formerly choked with ivy (mostly removed) and in poor condition.	++	0	Fell. Plant additional Irish yews as indicated in Masterplan.	-
19	Yew 10m high	Heavy growth of ivy weighing down remaining branches. Elder growing in crown has been felled but branches remain caught in crown.	++	0	Continue to remove ivy and review.	Retain if possible
20	Yew 10m high	Moderate growth of ivy weighing down branches, some removed in 2014.	++	+	Remove ivy	Retain
21	Yew 10m high	Moderate growth of ivy weighing down branches.	++	+	Remove ivy	Retain
22	Ash 18m high	Significant squirrel damage throughout and several large branches have fallen in recent years. Poor overall shape and crowded by adjacent trees.	0	0	Fell	-
23	Turkey oak 10m high	Some squirrel damage and the tree is somewhat crowded by adjacent trees.	0	+	Retain and monitor condition.	If squirrel damage worsens consider felling.
24	Ash 18m high	Large tree with twin trunks and a heavy growth of ivy. Some signs of squirrel damage and occasional dropping branches but low risk.	0	++	Ring the ivy at a height of about 5m to prevent excessive growth spreading through the crown.	Retain.
25	Yew 8m high	Good condition	++	++	None	Retain.
26	Holly 11m high	Slightly sparse leaf cover may be a sign of disease.	0	+	Monitor health and fell if condition declines.	Retain if possible.
27	American cypress 20m high	Good condition	++	++	None	Retain.

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
28	Sycamore 20m high	Large tree with extensive squirrel damage and creating a risk to pedestrians and cars on Three Close Lane.	+	0	Fell	-
29	Stumps of ash, sycamore and elder saplings	Trees removed in 2014/5			-	-
30	Stump of ash, adjacent to wall.	Tree removed in 2015			-	-

Key to Table

Historical Value

- 0 Trees unlikely to have been planted deliberately
- +
- ++ Trees with a possible link to the formal layout of the cemetery or parkland prior to the cemetery's creation.
- +++ Trees planted as part of the landscaping of the cemetery or former parkland.

Landscape Value

- 0 Little or no benefit to the future landscaping proposals for the cemetery
- +
- ++ Significant contribution to the overall landscape of the cemetery
- +++ Significant feature of the cemetery's landscape.

Additional Comments on Particular Trees

1 Row of Common Yews

This row of 10 mature yew trees lies just within the northern boundary of the cemetery, forming an effective screen for the adjacent flats. Many of the trees are 1-2m from the boundary retaining wall, which is only 9" (225mm) thick yet appears to be in generally good condition. Some ground anchoring is recommended in the structural report (Refer to structural report for details).

Most of the trees are in good condition. Trees labelled 1c, 1d and 1f show signs of recent die-back in some branches. This has been assessed by two arboricultural consultants; both were unable to definitively identify the cause but they suspect an infection by *Phytophthora*. If correct, the infected trees may continue to deteriorate but are unlikely to infect others in the vicinity. *Phytophthora* spores are carried underground in the groundwater, and the flow of groundwater would be downhill towards the built-up areas of the High Street and away from the cemetery.

22 Ash

A large branch has recently fallen from this tree and further signs of squirrel damage are evident. In particular, the main leaders highlighted in the photograph show substantial damage and are in danger of falling.

This tree requires urgent attention.



Figure 2: Ash tree showing signs of squirrel damage (ringed)

28 Sycamore

Large mature tree partially overhanging Three Close Lane, with a moderately heavy growth of ivy through the crown. There are signs of squirrel damage in several areas, though the extent of damage is difficult to assess due to the ivy. However, several large horizontal branches have died back and are in danger of falling; some of these overhang the footpath and highway on Three Close Lane and should be addressed urgently.



Figure 4: Sycamore adjacent to Three Close Lane

Upper Area

Overview

The upper area of the cemetery is more steeply sloping and contains a lower density of tree planting, except for a small terraced area right at the southern end. In general, there are few species of interest, with the dominant species being sycamore, ash, holly, yew and, at the southern end, some large silver birch.

In the open areas, there are several multi-trunked sycamores which have grown from the stumps of trees felled approximately 40 years ago, forming a ring of trunks around the original stump.

Many of the boundary areas in the Upper Cemetery have a dense growth of saplings and small trees. In many cases the trees are so close to the boundary wall as to risk damage, either by action of the roots or the movement of the upper parts of the tree. Some sections of the boundary wall are already leaning, though in most cases the lean is into the cemetery so it is unlikely to have been caused by trees within the cemetery. Some extensive thinning is required to remove most of these saplings and small trees, to retain the views across the cemetery and the footpaths around the perimeter.

Some succession planning is needed in the top section, at the north-western end of the cemetery, where a line of silver birches was planted some 40 years ago along a steep earth bank. These birches serve to separate a small flat area of the cemetery which has an altogether different feel, being relatively shaded and away from the main pathways. Over time, this area has become badly overgrown and the birches are nearing the end of their lives but it could, with careful management, be retained as a separate area for quiet contemplation, retaining the woodland flora which currently exist in the shaded areas.

Further planting is proposed around the existing entrance onto Three Close Lane. The purpose is to provide screening of the flats and to replace the large sycamore tree shown on the aerial photo (next page) but felled in about 2010 (to the right of tree no. 26). Native species such as oak and beech are proposed.

Key Plan



1	Sycamore	16	Cypress	31	Hawthorn	46	Privet avenue
2	Ash	17	Hawthorn	32	Holly	47	Ash
3	Sycamore	18	Common yew	33	Sycamore	48	Sycamore
4	Elder & ash	19	Holly	34	Cypress	49	Ash

5	Holly	20	Ash (stump)	35	Ash (group)	50	Sycamore
6	Holly	21	Sycamore	36	Ash	51	Ash (group)
7	Holly	22	Ash (stump)	37	Sycamore (stump)	52	Holly (group)
8	Ash (stump)	23	Hawthorn	38	Elder & cherry	53	Dense hedge of various species
9	Holly	24	Sycamore	39	Holly	54	Oak
10	Sycamore	25	Ash	40	Sycamore	55	Ash
11	Sycamore (stump)	26	Pair of Box trees	41	Holly	56	Ash
12	Sycamore	27	Blackthorn	42	Row of silver birch	57	Hawthorn
13	Sycamore	28	Pair of Amalanchier	43	Holly	58	Elm
14	Sycamore	29	Holly	44	Holly	59	Yew
15	Sycamore	30	Holly	45	Hawthorn		

Comments on Individual Trees

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
1	Sycamore 15m high	9-trunk tree of which 6 trunks were felled in 2014. Remaining 3 larger trunks are in poor health and dropping branches.	0	0	Complete the felling.	-
2	Ash 17m high	Twin-trunk tree in a prominent position near the Memorial Arch and footpath, mature and of a reasonably good shape.	0	+	Trim one dead branch which is hanging towards the arch.	Retain.
3	Sycamore stump	Felled in 2014			-	-
4	Elder and ash stumps	Saplings felled in 2015/6			-	-
5	Holly 8m high	Prominent tree, previously had a sycamore growing in the crown (felled in 2014) and slightly lop-sided as a result. Slightly sparse growth.	+	+	Monitor health and fell if condition deteriorates.	Retain
6	Holly 9m high	Good condition and in a prominent position. Slightly crowded by adjacent ash tree.	+	++	-	Retain
7	Holly 12m high	Prominent tree, previously had two sycamore trunks growing in the crown (felled in 2015) but otherwise in good condition.	+	++	-	Retain
8	Ash stump	Stump was re-sprouting but has now been poisoned.			-	-
9	Holly 9m high	Prominent tree near the main path, of good shape.	+	++	-	Retain

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
10	Sycamore 16m high	Large with three trunks. Presumably self-seeded originally and trunks re-sprouted after original tree felled decades ago.	0	+	Tree would interfere with the proposed Garden of Remembrance. Recommend felling to open up the views across the valley.	-
11	Sycamore stump	Stump was re-sprouting but has now been poisoned.			-	-
12	Sycamore 18m high	Large with 6 trunks and in good condition but some branches dropping. The proximity to traffic and pedestrians on Three Close Lane represents a risk in future.	0	+	Tree would interfere with the proposed Garden of Remembrance. Recommend felling to open up the views across the valley.	-
13	Sycamore 17m high	Large tree close to the boundary wall. Some branches dropping and represents a risk, as above.	0	+	Tree would interfere with the proposed Garden of Remembrance. Recommend felling to open up the views across the valley.	-
14	Sycamore 17m high	Large tree close to the boundary wall. Some branches dropping and represents a risk, as above.	0	+	Tree would interfere with the proposed Garden of Remembrance. Recommend felling to open up the views across the valley.	-
15	Sycamore 18m high	Large and prominent tree near the central path, with a very good shape.	0	++	-	Retain
16	American cypress 20m high	Large and prominent with a good shape. Six sycamore saplings near base were felled in 2015.	+	++	-	Retain
17	Hawthorn 6m high	Small tree against boundary wall with houses on Old Orchard Mews.	0	+	Monitor condition of wall. Tree may need to be removed if wall needs rebuilding.	Fell to avoid long-term damage to boundary walls.

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
18	Common yew 8m high	Healthy tree but growing immediately adjacent to (and in contact with) the boundary wall.	+	+	Fell tree to prevent further damage to the wall, but wall should be buttressed or removed before felling the tree.	-
19	Holly 8m high	Small twin-trunk tree growing immediately adjacent to (and pressing against) the boundary wall.	+	+	Fell tree to prevent further damage to the wall, but wall should be buttressed or removed before felling the tree.	-
20	Ash stump	Stump was re-sprouting but has now been poisoned.			-	-
21	Sycamore 20m high	Large specimen of good shape and condition. Ivy growing in the crown has been killed.	0	++	-	Retain
22	Ash stump	Stump was re-sprouting but has now been poisoned.			-	-
23	Hawthorn 9m high	Very heavy growth of ivy in the crown, causing tree to be weighed down. Tree is close to boundary wall but considered to be a low risk of damage.	+	+	Remove/kill ivy and monitor the health of the tree. Monitor risks of damage to boundary wall.	Retain if possible
24	Sycamore 10m high	Small tree in moderate condition and poor shape.	0	0	Fell	-
25	Ash 20m high	Large and prominent tree of good overall shape. Good condition generally. One dead trunk to W side removed in 2017.	0	++	-	Retain
26	Pair of box trees 4-5m high	Ornamental trees of good shape and an interesting feature. Good condition.	+	++	-	Retain

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
27	Privet 5m high	Small and growing close to the boundary wall. Ivy growth in the crown should be removed.	+	+	Remove or kill ivy	Retain
28	Two amalanchier shrubs 1m high	Ornamental shrubs not traditionally associated with cemeteries, planted recently. Will reach approx. 3-4m only.	0	+	Consider removing (after seeking agreement from whoever planted them).	See left.
29	Holly 9m high	Small tree very close to boundary wall, with sparse growth in crown.	0	0	Fell.	-
30	Holly 10m high	Small tree of good overall shape and condition.	0	+	-	Retain
31	Hawthorn 9m high	In a crowded group of 3 trees near boundary wall. Minimal risk to wall at present. Moderate condition and shape but providing screening for houses.	0	+	-	Retain
32	Holly 11m high	In a crowded group of 3 trees (see above). Moderate condition and shape.	0	+	-	Retain
33	Sycamore 20m high	Very large tree with 13 trunks. Good condition generally and no signs of dropping branches, but shape of forks at base of trunk are likely to restrict lifetime.	0	++	-	Retain but monitor stability of the forks.
34	American cypress 20m high	Good shape and condition.	+	++	-	Retain
35	Ash 15m high	Group of saplings near the boundary wall, mostly elongated due to shading by birches and of poor shape.	0	0	Fell	-

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
36	Ash 14m high	Former stump which re-sprouted to create multiple trunks of poor shape.	0	0	Fell and re-plant with a more suitable species.	-
37	Sycamore stump	Multiple trunks in poor condition and with weak forks at base. Felled in 2016.			-	-
38	Elder and cherry stumps	Saplings felled in 2016.			-	-
39	Holly 6m high	Small tree previously with some ivy growth in the crown, removed in 2016.	0	+	-	Retain
40	Sycamore 10m high	Tree very close to boundary wall in an area where the wall has collapsed. If allowed to grow it would shade neighbouring house.	0	0	Fell	-
41	Holly 6m high	Small tree close to the boundary wall. May need to be removed to prevent damage to wall.	0	+	Monitor wall and fell tree if damage is likely.	Retain if possible.
42	Row of silver birches 18-20m high	Mature and prominent trees forming a feature at the top of the cemetery. Likely to have 10-20 years remaining life.	++	+++	Monitor health and plan succession planting. Control growth of ivy.	Retain as long as possible.
43	Group of holly saplings 6m high	Several trunks near the boundary wall, close enough to risk damage.	0	+	Trunk closest to the wall should be felled. Monitor others and fell as appropriate.	Unlikely to retain in the long term.
44	Holly 11m high	Large tree of good shape and condition.	+	++	-	Retain
45	Hawthorn 8m high	Good condition, but rather crowded and located beneath the line of silver birches. Common yew and holly saplings nearby.	0	+	Retain hawthorn to provide succession for birches if possible. Consider thinning yew and holly saplings out.	Retain

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
46	Avenue of privet 5m high	Overgrown hedge, forming a feature arch.	+	++	Light pruning and shaping to encourage stronger growth. Remove other saplings growing amongst privet.	Retain
47	Ash 20m high	Large prominent tree with a generally good shape. Large low-lying branch to the SW could be a weak point.	0	++	Remove branch to the SW.	Retain
48	Sycamore stump	Saplings felled in 2014.			-	-
49	Ash 18m high	Tall well-shaped tree emerging from the row of trees along S boundary.	0	+	-	Retain
50	Sycamore 18m high	Tall sycamore at the end of the S boundary, currently in reasonable condition but some early signs of die-back. Heavy growth of ivy.	0	+	Remove ivy. Monitor health and risks to footpath beneath.	Retain if possible
51	Group of ash sapling stumps	Felled during 2016			-	-
52	Group of holly 6m high	Small group of saplings near the boundary wall but with no apparent damage yet.	0	+	Monitor wall and fell if signs of damage occur.	Retain if possible
53	Dense hedge of various species 6 – 12m high	Dense and informal row of various species including oak, beech, sycamore, ash, hawthorn, yew and horse chestnut.	+	+	Remove dead and broken branches.	Retain
54	Oak 7m high	Young tree in good condition though somewhat shaded by large ash (47).	0	+	-	Retain

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
55	Ash 12m high	Good condition, though growing in the shade of the birches (42).	0	+	-	May be suitable to provide succession when the birches are removed.
56	Ash 12m high	Good condition and a good backdrop for the proposed bench at the top of the footpath.	0	++	-	Retain
57	Hawthorn 8m high	Mature tree in reasonable condition. Some ivy in crown.	0	+	Remove / kill ivy in the crown.	Retain
58	Elm 14m high	Unusual species and in good condition.	0	++	-	Retain
59	Yew 6m high	Small tree in the line of birches, in good condition.	0	+	-	May be suitable to provide succession when the birches are removed.

Additional Comments on Individual Trees

53 Line of Trees

The south-western boundary of the cemetery comprises a very dense row of trees, approximately 5-10m tall, including oak, beech, sycamore, ash, hawthorn, yew and horse chestnut. The trees are so dense as to cause overcrowding of the canopies and none of the trees are of particularly good shape, and together they create a dense barrier with brambles, nettles and the like at the base. These trees produce significant shading of the top section of the cemetery, encouraging the growth of woodland flowers such as primrose amongst the grass and creating a quiet, contemplative atmosphere. With appropriate management, it could be tidied up whilst retaining this feeling of shade and enclosure.

Rectory Lane

Overview

There is a narrow strip of church land on Rectory Lane, outside the wall forming the western boundary of the cemetery. This lower area is generally unkempt and overgrown with Cherry laurel suckers and brambles. The upper (southern) section has recently been partially cleared and tidied by residents of Rectory Lane in order to improve the landscape on the approach to their houses.

Several of the trees in this area are tall conifers, forming a landscape feature and a backdrop for views from the cemetery, though they do also create a rather shaded and enclosed atmosphere on Rectory Lane. Selected felling and clearance is recommended to enhance the landscape.

Towards the southern end of this area is Cowper's Well, a historic feature which is currently visible only as a metal grille at ground level, though there are plans to make it more of a feature in future.



Key Plan

1	Cherry laurel
2	Irish yew
3	Cherry laurel
4	Spruce
5	Common yew
6	Spruce
7	Spruce
8	Spruce
9	Cherry laurel
10	Fir/pine
11	Laurel
12	Hawthorn
13	Fir/pine
14	Spruce
15	Hazel coppice
16	Spruce
17	Cherry laurels
18	Cherry laurel
19	Pine/fir
20	Spruce
21	Ash
22	Cherry laurel
23	Pine/fir

Comments on Individual Trees

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
1	Cherry laurel 10m high	Poor shape due to overgrowth and previous cutting back, as well as being crowded and shaded by the taller conifers.	0	0	Fell	-
2	Irish yew 14m high	Good shape but growing very close to the boundary wall and there are signs of heave.	++	++	Remedial works to the wall are proposed to avoid further heave from the roots (see structural report)	Retain
3	Cherry laurel 10m high	The tree's growth is affected by over-crowding and shading, resulting in a poor shape and structure.	0	+	Fell	-
4	Leyland cypress 16m high	Tall and upright with good form and apparently healthy, contributing to the landscape.	0	++	None	Retain
5	Common yew 12m high	Growing close to the edge of Rectory Lane and heavily shaded by surrounding taller trees, this tree has grown very lop-sided.	+	0	Fell	-
6	Leyland cypress 16m high	Tall and with a good shape. Contributes well to the landscape.	0	++	None	Retain
7	Leyland cypress 22m high	Tall and generally a good shape, though somewhat crowded by adjacent conifers.	0	++	None	Retain
8	Leyland cypress 18m high	Tall and generally a good shape. Twin trunks appear to be sound. Crowded by adjacent conifers.	0	++	None	Retain

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
9	Cherry laurel 7m high	Crowded and shaded by other trees, leading to poor shape. Overhangs the road leading to shading and an enclosed feeling.	0	0	Fell. Small leaning holly tree (3m high) near road edge should also be removed.	-
10	Norway spruce 20m high	Tall tree with a good shape and contributing to the landscape.	+	++	None	Retain
11	Cherry laurel 10m high	Spreading tree with multiple forks and suckers, generally of poor shape and shaded by taller conifers.	0	0	Fell and remove suckers.	-
12	Hawthorn 11m high	In reasonable condition but slightly lop-sided as a result of shading by conifers. A suitable tree to provide lighter shade than the laurels.	0	++	Trim ivy to prevent excessive growth in crown.	Retain
13	Norway spruce 18m high	Good condition and shape. Tree contributes to the landscape.	+	++	None	Retain
14	Leyland cypress 16m high	Tall and generally a good shape. Twin trunks appear to be sound.	0	++	None	Retain
15	Hazel 7m high	Coppiced hazel very close to and leaning against boundary wall.	+	++	Re-coppice	Repeat coppicing
16	Leyland cypress 16m high	Tall and generally a good shape.	0	++	None	Retain
17	Cherry laurel 5m high	Group of laurel saplings with multiple trunks and suckers, of little landscaping value and close to the boundary wall hence risk of damage in future.	0	0	Fell and remove suckers.	-

Ref.	Species & Approx. height	Condition	Historical value	Landscape value	Work required	Long term planning
18	Cherry laurel 7m high	Spreading tree with multiple forks and suckers, generally in reasonable shape but shaded by taller conifers.	0	+	Fell and re-plant with a more suitable, lighter shrub	-
19	Norway spruce 20m high	Good condition and shape. Tree contributes to the landscape.	+	++	None	Retain
20	Leyland cypress 17m high	Tall and generally a good shape. Twin trunks appear to be sound.	0	++	None	Retain
21	Ash 6m high	Poor shape with several forks at 2m height due to leader damage. Squirrel damage to branches.	0	0	Fell	-
22	Cherry laurel 6m high	Good shape and condition	0	+	None	Retain
23	Norway spruce 20m high	Good condition and shape. Tree contributes to the landscape.	+	++	Trim ivy around trunk to prevent excess growth into the crown.	Retain

Key to Table

Historical Value

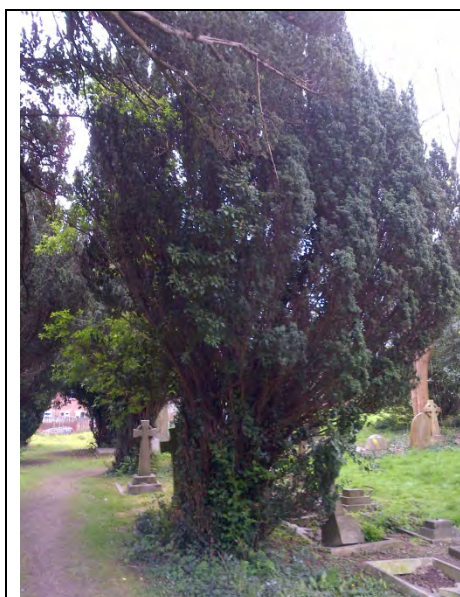
- 0 Trees unlikely to have been planted deliberately
- +
- ++ Trees with a possible link to the formal layout of the cemetery or parkland prior to the cemetery's creation.
- +++ Trees planted as part of the landscaping of the cemetery or former parkland.

Landscape Value

- 0 Little or no benefit to the future landscaping proposals for the cemetery
- +
- ++ Significant contribution to the overall landscape of the cemetery
- +++ Significant feature of the cemetery's landscape.

Appendix - Photographs of Individual Trees

	Yew tree (Lower area, no.2)		One of three wych elms (Lower area no.3a)
	Yew tree with moderate growth of ivy in canopy (Lower area no.4)		Cluster of yew, cypress and monkey puzzle tree in Lower area (nos. 5, 6, 7 & 8)



Part of the avenue of yews separating the lower and upper areas (no.9h). Note growth of ivy and elder within the canopies.



Sycamore saplings and re-sprouting stumps beneath the memorial bench (Lower area near no.9h)



Sycamore and ash saplings and re-sprouting stumps within a grave near the yew avenue (Lower area near no.9k)



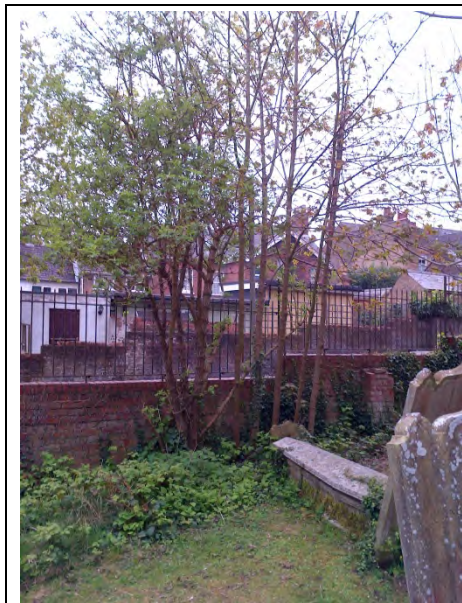
Yew trees heavily weighed down by ivy growing in the canopy (Lower area nos. 16 & 18). (Note also fallen bough in background from ash tree no.22)



Large sycamore with several boughs showing sign of die-back and squirrel damage (Lower area no.28)



One of a row of large yew trees on the north-eastern boundary (Lower area no.1i)



Examples of ash saplings near the boundary wall with Three Close Lane, felled in 2015. (Lower area near no.17)



Multi-trunk ash tree near the arch at the entrance to the Upper area (no.2)



Ash saplings and elder tree growing adjacent to the boundary wall on Three Close Lane, felled in 2016 (Upper area no.4)



Holly and ash trees near the central footpath in the Upper area (nos. 2 and 6)

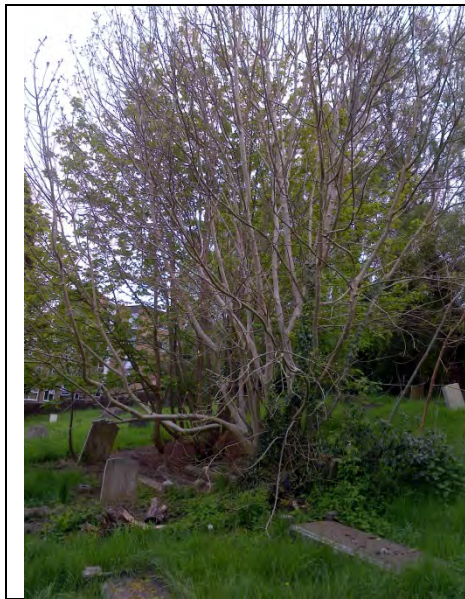


Cypress tree with a cluster of sycamore saplings (saplings felled in 2015) (Upper area no.16)

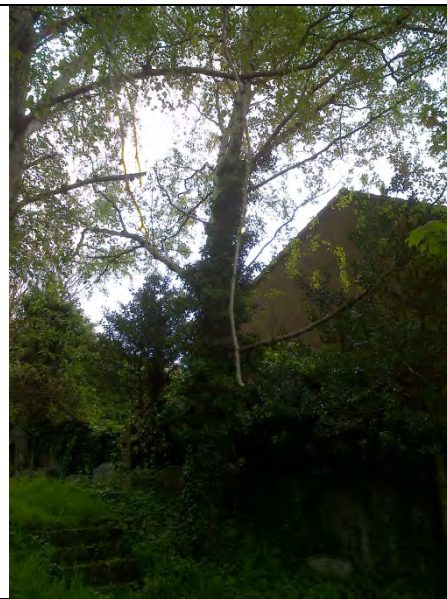


One of several large multi-trunk sycamore trees in the Upper area (no.13)

	Hawthorn tree near the western boundary wall (Upper area no.17)		Hawthorn tree with extensive growth of ivy in the canopy (Upper area no.23)
	Multi-trunk sycamore (Upper area no.25)		Pair of ornamental box trees (Upper area no.26)
	Cluster of hawthorn and two holly trees against the boundary wall (Upper area nos. 31 & 32)		Large multi-trunk sycamore near the eastern boundary wall (Upper area no.33)



Sycamore re-growing from a stump, plus elder and cherry, all felled in 2016 (Upper area nos.37 & 38)



The western end of the row of silver birch near the top of the cemetery (Upper area no.42a)

Hazel and cherry laurel trees growing close to the outside of the boundary wall in the Rectory Lane area, (Rectory Lane nos.15 and 17) with the trunk of Leyland cypress (no. 16) in the foreground.



View north from the southern end of Rectory Lane. Leyland cypress (no.20) and Norway spruce (no.19) in the foreground.

