

2 Burngreave Cemetery

Introduction

Burngreave Cemetery is a large municipal burial ground of Victorian origin. Although it is intensively maintained, it contains a number of important habitats:

- a small area of relict ancient woodland;
- extensive areas of acid grassland;
- pockets of species-rich neutral grassland.

The cemetery has many mature trees of a wide range of species. It is home to a variety of birds, but lacks nesting cover.

The current maintenance regime keeps the site tidy and safe, but there are concerns about:

- the impact of excessive mowing on the habitats listed above;
- the impact of herbicide on some of the trees.

Site details

Site name

Burngreave Cemetery.

Location

The grid reference for the site is SK 361 892.

Map 1 (below) shows the location of Burngreave Cemetery within the Burngreave district.

The site lies within a short distance of several other sites covered by the Burngreave Green Audit, including:

- 01 Abbeyfield Park (150 metres west);
- 05 Open spaces between Sedan St and Ellesmere Rd (200 metres east).
- 09 Burngreave Recreation Ground (50 metres southeast);

Land owner

Sheffield City Council.

Nearest road/street

The northern entrance is on Scott Road; the southern entrance is at the junction of Melrose Road and Burngreave Street.

Adjacent land use

Roads, housing, private gardens, public recreation space and school grounds.

Size

The site covers approximately 15 hectares.

Present management

The site is currently managed by Sheffield City Council. The grass is mown every three weeks from April to September. Herbicide is applied to control growth where the mower cannot reach (e.g. along the edges of the paths and around stonework).

In 2003, maintenance workers spent several months cutting back the growth of self-sown saplings from the headstones and monument.

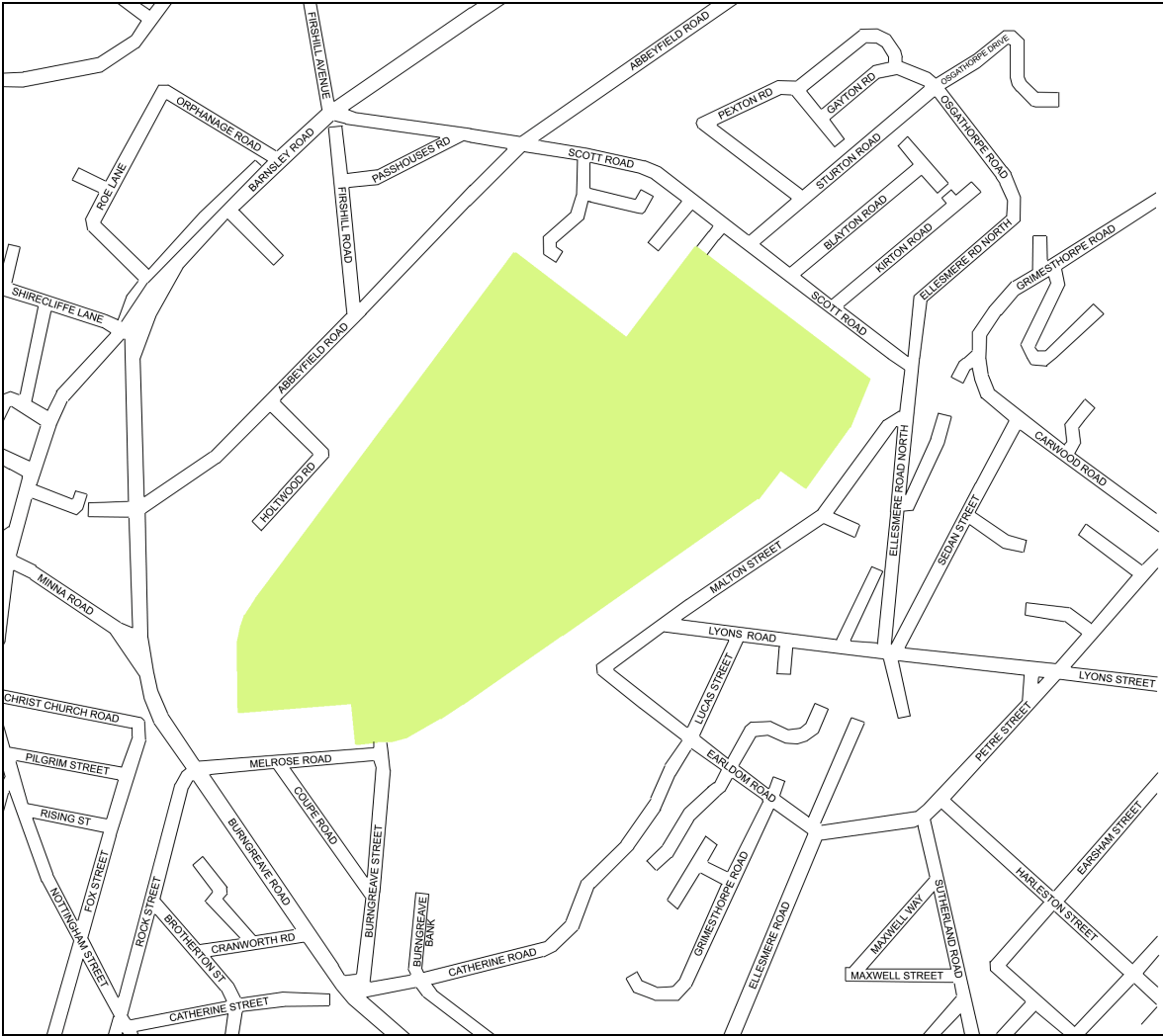
In its service charter, the City Council states that it will:

“Ensure a high standard of horticultural maintenance in Cemeteries. The grass will be cut on a cycle of 3 weeks during the growing season April to September.”

UDP designations

The site was designated as an Open Space Area and a Local Nature Site (Ecological) in the 1998 edition of the Unitary Development Plan. The chapel is included within the adjoining Area of Special Character. Definitions of these designations can be found in Section 5.5.

Map 1: Location map



Ecology

Phase 1 habitat survey

Site description

The vegetation of Burngreave Cemetery consists primarily of close-mown grassland with trees and occasional beds of ornamental shrubs. Detailed surveys were undertaken of the trees and grassland flora.

The trees date from various periods in the site's history. There is a small group of sessile oaks (*Quercus petraea*) with a scattering of native bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), which is probably relict ancient woodland (see Map 3). There are avenues of mature trees, particularly common lime (*Tilia europaea*), that are remnants of the original Victorian structure planting. Flowering cherries (*Prunus* sp.) and many other decorative species were added in the 20th century. Self-sown saplings of sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and other species have established themselves amongst the stonework of the older graves and monuments; their growth is cut back periodically by the maintenance staff.

All the grassland within the cemetery is shown as “amenity grassland” on the Phase 1 Habitat map (see Map 2) because it is mown every three weeks from April to September. However, this description is potentially misleading. The grassland is *not* the monoculture of perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) usually associated with amenity grassland. It is diverse in character and holds a range of herbaceous species. The soil conditions vary greatly due to past disturbance, leading to a rather erratic distribution of species. There are fragmented areas of acid grassland (see Map 8), indicated by the presence of sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) and heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*). There are also patches of species-rich neutral grassland with ox-eye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and other wildflowers.

Extensive areas of mature (flowering/fruitlet) ivy (*Hedera helix*) on some of the boundary walls and monuments provide important habitats for birds and insects, including the holly blue butterfly (*Celastrina agricola*). They provide valuable nesting cover for songbirds, which is in short supply across the site as a whole. Two stands of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) towards the centre of the site also offer nesting cover, but are in need of management.

The beds of ornamental shrubs contain rather commonplace species that are of limited ecological interest. Some, such as *Cotoneaster* and *Pyracantha*, provide food for birds in the form of berries. Around the chapel there are beds of hybrid bush roses (*Rosa* spp.), which are pruned annually. The war memorial towards the northeastern end of the site is also well maintained. It is planted with low hedges of holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and a range of herbaceous perennials, including bloody cranesbill (*Geranium sanguineum*). Various other ornamental species can be found on individual graves.

Although Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is present, it is restricted to a number of discrete clumps. These are cut back periodically and the species is prevented from spreading by mowing.

Habitats of interest

The results of the habitat survey are shown on Maps 2 to 8.

Although tree cover exceeds 30% in several parts of the cemetery, there is little that could be truly described as woodland. The impacts of shade and mowing have restricted the development of ground flora beneath most of the trees. However, there is a group of low-growing oaks (*Quercus* spp.) in the southwestern corner of site that appears to be a remnant of Burn Greave Wood (see Map 3). Native bluebells are scattered beneath the oaks, surviving despite being mown every three weeks. Two species of woodland fungi were found in this area: bay bolete (*Boletus badius*) and common earthball (*Scleroderma citrinum*). Burn Greave Wood is described by Mel Jones (1986) as a “*known ancient woodland now lost*”. In addition to bluebell, three other ancient woodland indicators were noted: bush vetch (*Vicia sepium*), hairy wood-rush (*Luzula pilosa*) and wood horsetail (*Equisetum sylvaticum*).

Patches of lowland dry acid grassland are dotted across the cemetery (see Map 8). Of the species associated with this habitat, sheep’s sorrel and cat’s-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) are the most widespread. Heath bedstraw and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) also occur, but are mainly restricted to the western side of the site. In 1991 the Sorby Natural History Society recorded trailing St John’s-wort (*Hypericum humifusum*) near the southeastern corner of the site. There is also anecdotal evidence that heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) once grew in the cemetery. It is difficult to identify all the grasses that make up the close-mown turf but wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) is certainly present, together with other fine-leaved species.

There are also areas of species-rich neutral grassland with red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), ox-eye daisy, bird’s-foot-trefoil, common sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*), meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) clover (*Trifolium* spp.) and other species.

Habitats of lesser interest include:

- the dense growth of mature (flowering/fruiting) ivy on the boundary walls and monuments;
- the stands of gorse at SK 361 892;
- the small overgrown area near the Scott Road entrance (SK 362 895).

Species of interest

The site holds several species of plants associated with ancient woodland: sessile oak, bluebell, bush vetch, hairy woodrush and wood horsetail.

The species associated with acid grassland are noteworthy: sheep's sorrel, heath bedstraw, harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*) and, if still present, trailing St John's-wort. The areas of poor, acidic soil have also been colonised by fox-and-cubs (*Pilosella aurantiaca*), an attractive naturalised alien.

Although they are by no means rare, the presence of ox-eye daisy, meadow vetchling, bird's-foot trefoil and other wildflowers adds greatly to the site's appeal. They are both visually attractive and an important source of food for invertebrates.

There are many non-indigenous and/or ornamental trees within the cemetery. Whilst some of these are fairly commonplace, there are a few more unusual species:

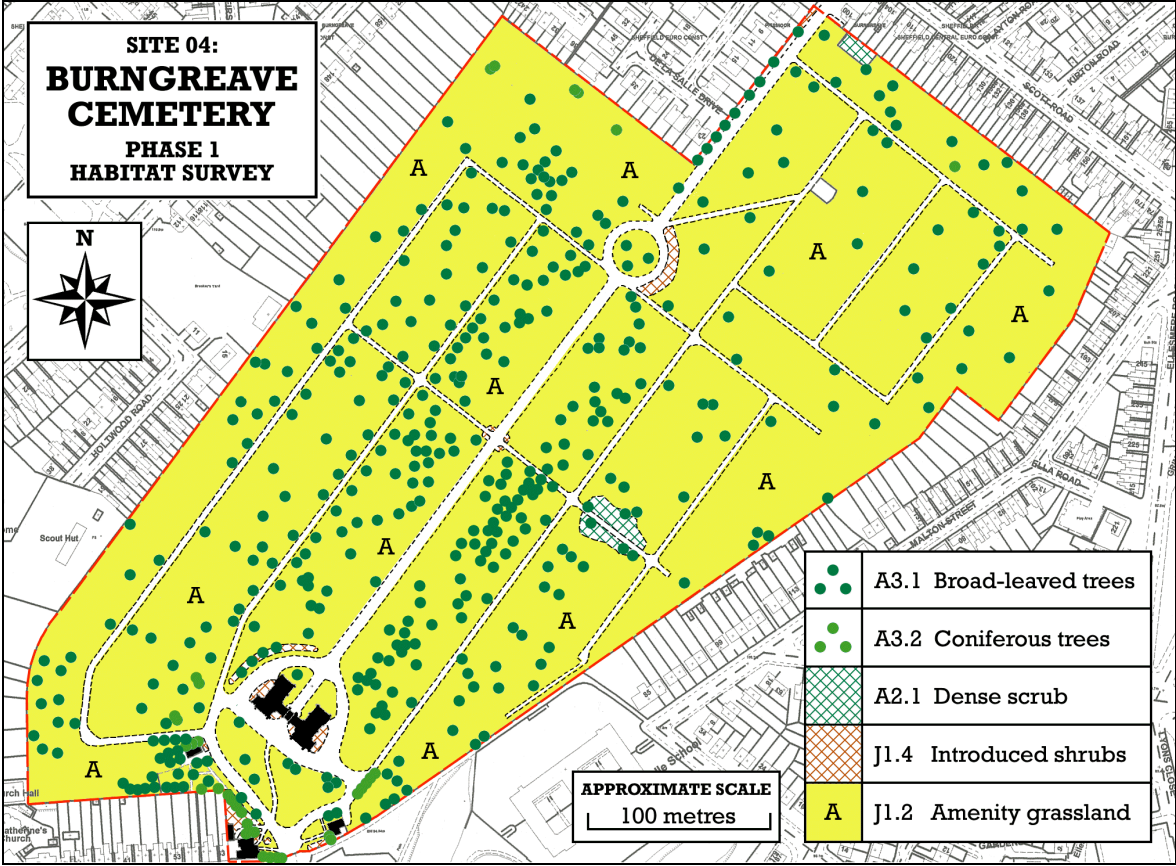
- a mature Oregon maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) at SK 3587 8928;
- a mature weeping ash (*Fraxinus excelsior* 'Pendula') at SK 359 892;
- a semi-mature tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) at SK 360 893;
- a Himalayan whitebeam (*Sorbus thibetica* 'John Mitchell') at SK 359 890.

The fruit-bearing trees (*Sorbus* and *Malus* spp.), concentrated on the southeastern side of the main drive, are an important source of food for birds. The scattered bushes of holly (*Ilex aquifolium*, plus cultivars) offer secure nesting cover as well as food. Where holly and ivy grow in close proximity, they provide a habitat for the holly blue butterfly.

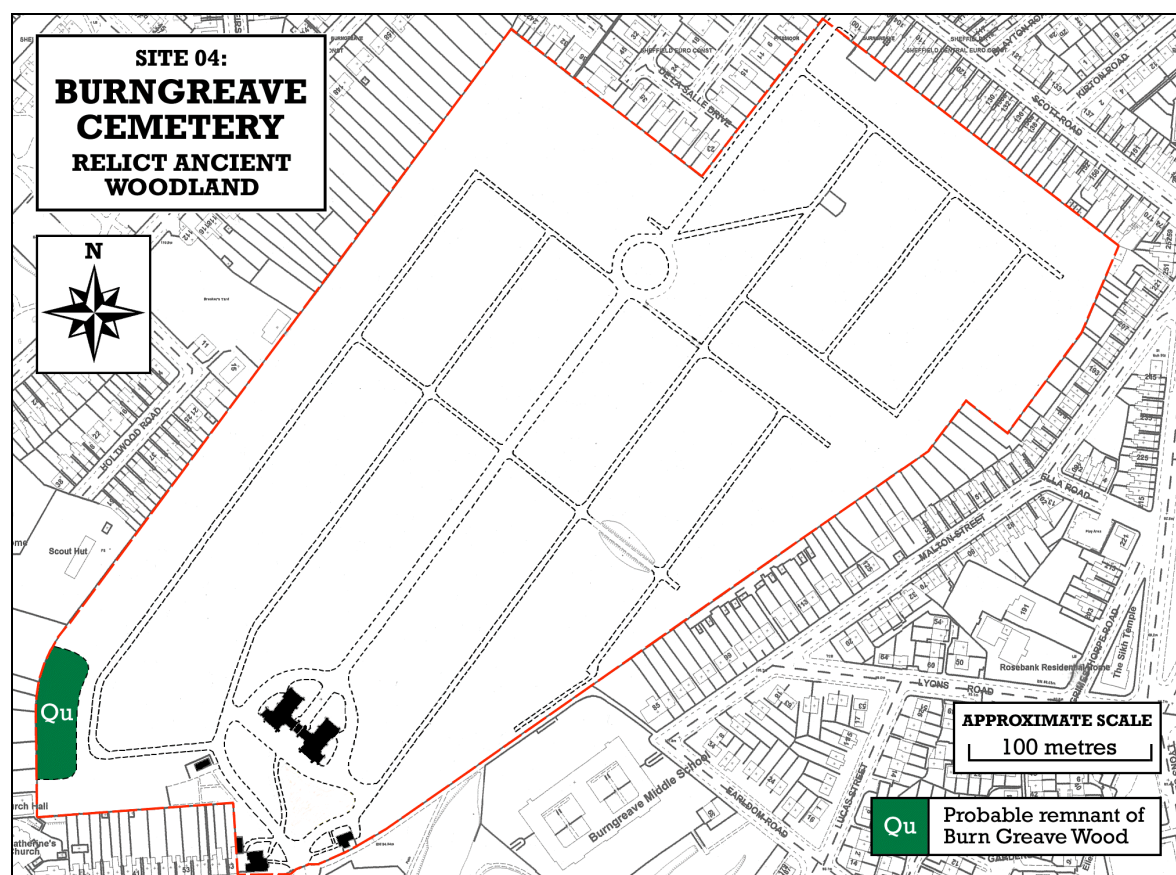
Invertebrates of interest include the holly blue and speckled wood (*Pararge aegeria*) butterflies.

Breeding birds include bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*) and a range of more common species associated with parks and gardens.

Map 2: Phase I habitat map



Map 3: Location of relict ancient woodland within Burngreave Cemetery



Tree survey

Notes

The survey covered all the mature and semi-mature trees within the cemetery, but *not*:

- low-growing shrubs;
- self-set saplings rooted in stonework;
- multi-stemmed trees that are periodically cut back by maintenance workers.

The fieldwork coincided with an intensive programme of clearance work during which many self-set saplings were removed. At the start of the survey laburnum (*Laburnum anagyroides*) was particularly abundant but over the summer most of the smaller specimens were removed.

The aim of the survey was to locate and identify each tree. The condition of individual specimens was not recorded. However, it was noted that some trees were displaying signs of herbicide damage, such as deformed foliage and reduced leaf cover. The species affected included London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), common lime and purple crab (*Malus x purpurea*).

Results

The results of the tree survey are shown on Maps 4 to 7.

Burngreave Cemetery contains more than thirty different species of tree, of which just ten are indigenous to the British Isles. The remaining species are aliens and/or cultivars.

Common lime is abundant in the northwest and southwest sections, where it forms an avenue along both sides of one of the main paths. It occurs far less frequently in the northeast and southeast sections, and is absent from the far northeastern end of the cemetery. As a hybrid, common lime does not produce fertile seed so all the specimens are the result of deliberate planting. Most of them are mature, dating from the original Victorian structure planting. There are a few semi-mature specimens, including a group of three immediately southeast of the chapel that may be a different species (possibly small-leaved lime, *Tilia cordata*).

Sycamore is both abundant and widespread, occurring throughout the cemetery. There are a number of large specimens in the southeastern and southwestern sections, plus many semi-mature specimens. Other members of the *Acer* genus also occur in smaller numbers. There are two field maples near the Scott Road entrance plus a few Norway maples (*Acer platanoides*) and a solitary Oregon maple in the southwest section.

Silver birch (*Betula pendula*) is widespread. Some specimens bear the weeping characteristics of the cultivar 'Tristis'. There is a single specimen of weeping ash in the southwest section, to the north of the chapel. Oliver Gilbert (1989) describes how the planting of such "Trees of Sorrow" became fashionable in Victorian cemeteries. It is likely that evergreens would have made up much of the original planting but all that remain are a few scattered specimens of holly (some of which may be cultivars). The *Leylandii* conifers are a much more recent addition.

The Victorians considered blossom-bearing trees to be inappropriate for cemeteries, but fashions changed in the 20th century. In the 1960s and 1970s the trend was to "cheer-up" cemeteries by planting varieties of *Sorbus*, *Malus* and *Prunus*. Trees of these genera dominate the southeast section of Burngreave Cemetery. In spring there is a colourful display of blossom from whitebeam *Sorbus aria* and *S. intermedia*), rowan (*S. aucuparia*), purple crab (see Photo 9, below) and Japanese flowering cherry (*Prunus serrulata* 'Kanzan'). Many of these trees also bear fruit that attracts birds in autumn and winter. Some of the trees marked on the maps as *Sorbus aucuparia* are cultivars, including *S. aucuparia* 'Fructu Luteo' and *S. hupehensis*.

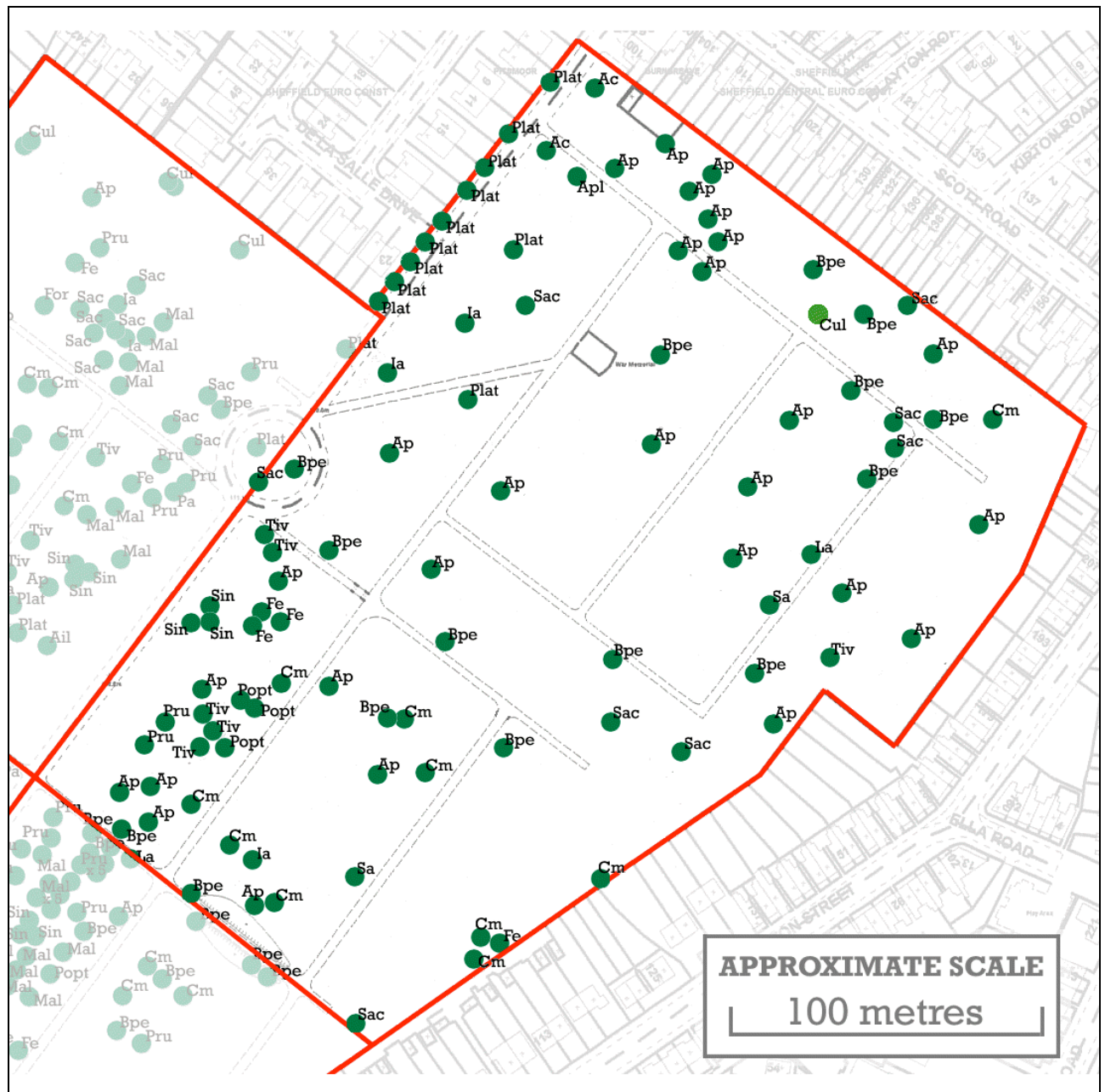
Mature specimens of hawthorn (*Crataegus* sp.) are scattered across the site. Some of these are ornamental cultivars (e.g. *C. laevigata* 'Paul's Scarlet') but others may be remnants from old field boundaries (see Map 9).

Several species of oak can be found within the cemetery. There is a mature specimen of Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) in the northwest section, plus a number of younger trees that are probably its

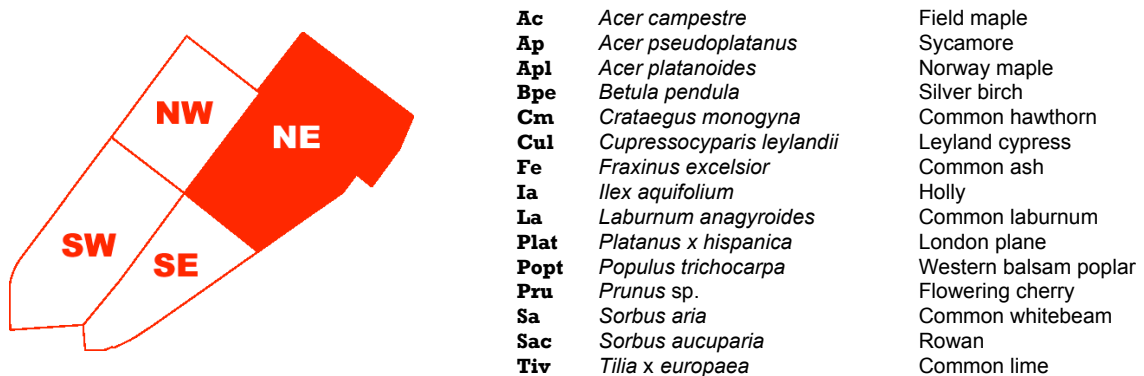
offspring. A cluster of sessile and pedunculate oaks near the southwestern corner (see Map 3) is probably a remnant of Burn Greave Wood. Some of the trees marked on the maps as unidentified species of *Quercus* are possibly the product of hybridisation between *Q. cerris*, *Q. robur* and/or *Q. petraea*.

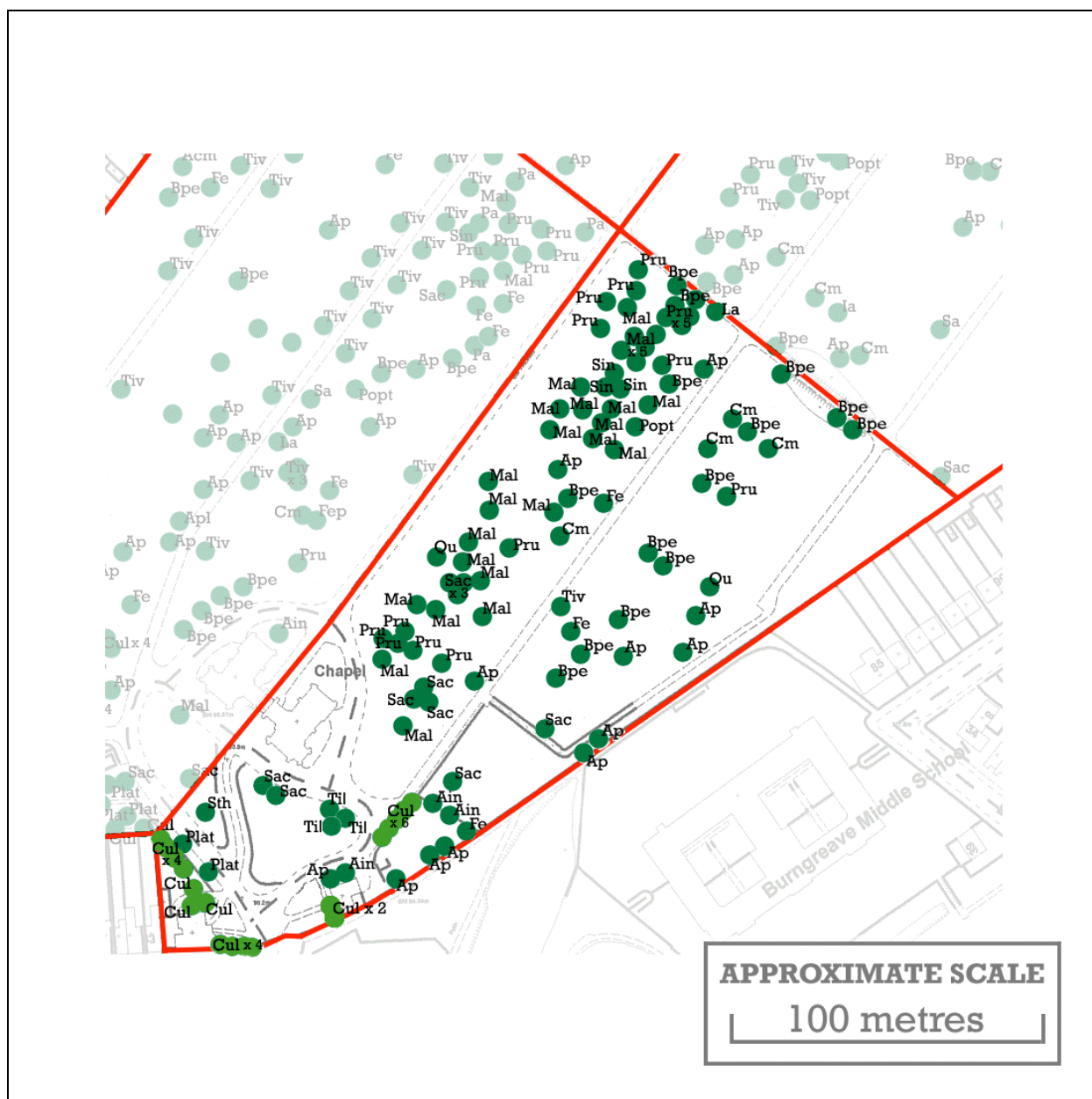
London plane (*Platanus _ hispanica*) is most abundant in the northern end of the cemetery. It forms a striking avenue along one side of the drive from the Scott Road entrance.

Some of the more unusual specimen trees include a Himalayan whitebeam at SK 359 890 and a tree of heaven at SK 360 893.



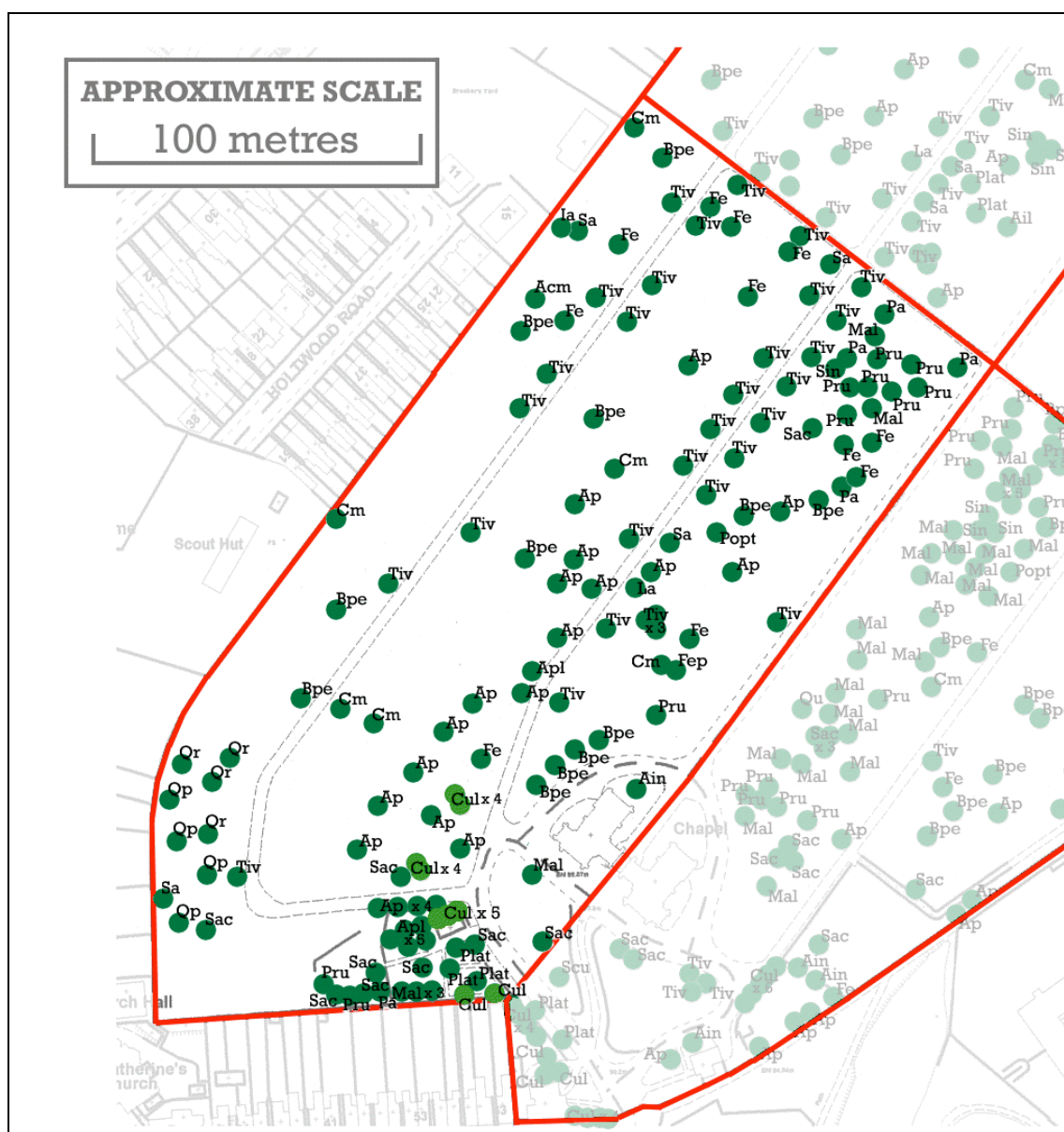
Map 4: The dominant tree species in Burngreave Cemetery (northeast section).



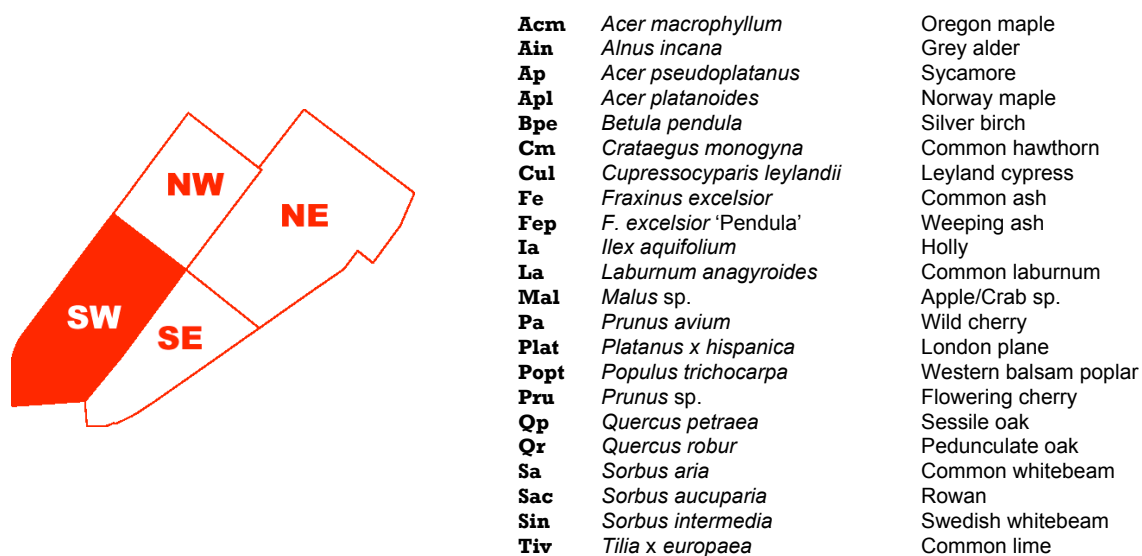


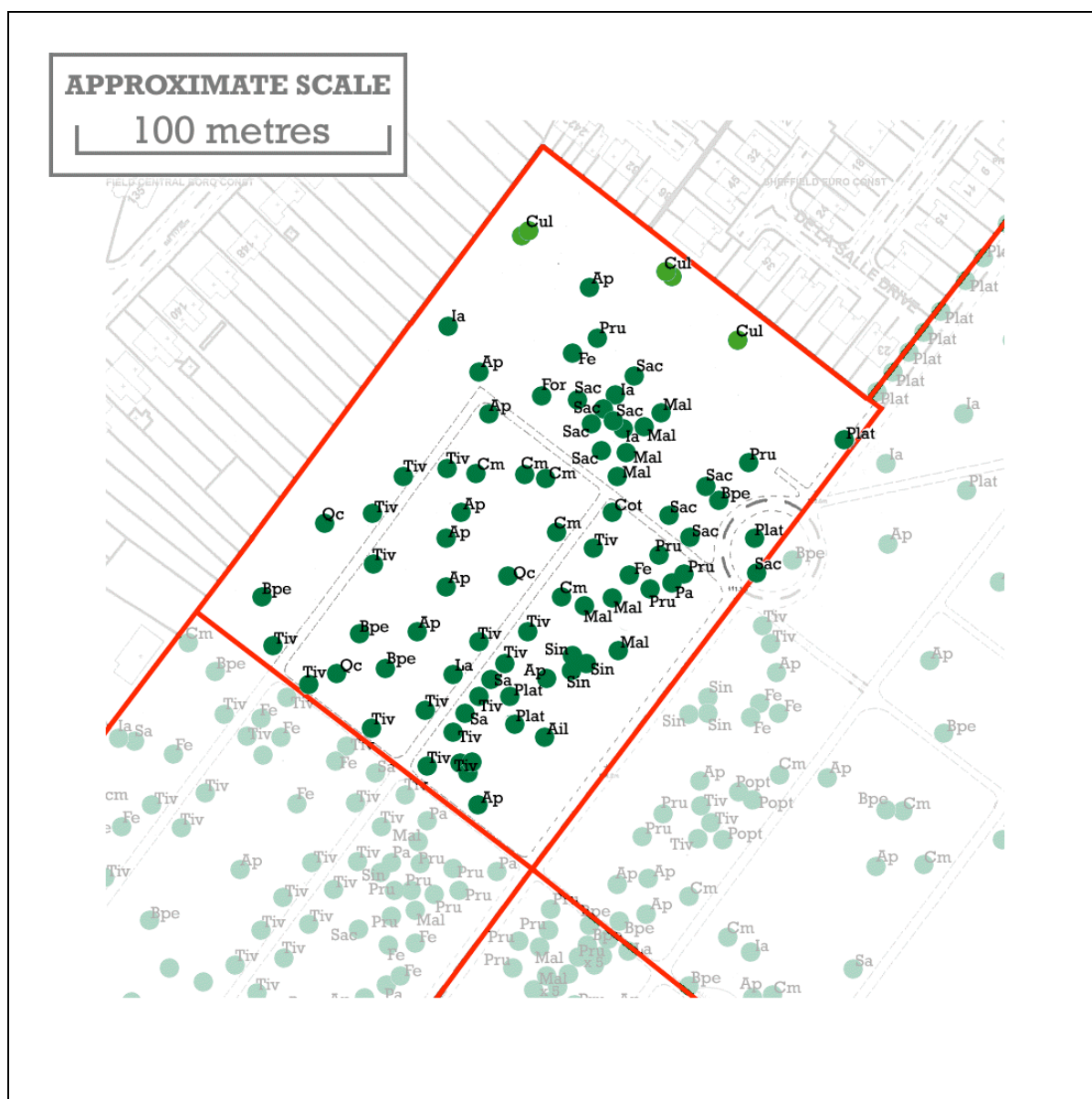
Map 5: The dominant tree species in Burngreave Cemetery (southeast section).

Ain	<i>Alnus incana</i>	Grey alder
Ap	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
Bpe	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch
Cm	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common hawthorn
Cul	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland cypress
Fe	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Common ash
Ia	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
La	<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	Common laburnum
Mal	<i>Malus</i> sp.	Apple/Crab sp.
Plat	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane
Popt	<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	Western balsam poplar
Pru	<i>Prunus</i> sp.	Flowering cherry
Qu	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak (unidentified)
Sac	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
Sin	<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	Swedish whitebeam
Sth	<i>S. thibetica</i> 'John Mitchell'	Himalayan whitebeam
Til	<i>Tilia</i> sp.	Lime (unidentified)
Tiv	<i>Tilia x europaea</i>	Common lime



Map 6: The dominant tree species in Burngreave Cemetery (southwest section).





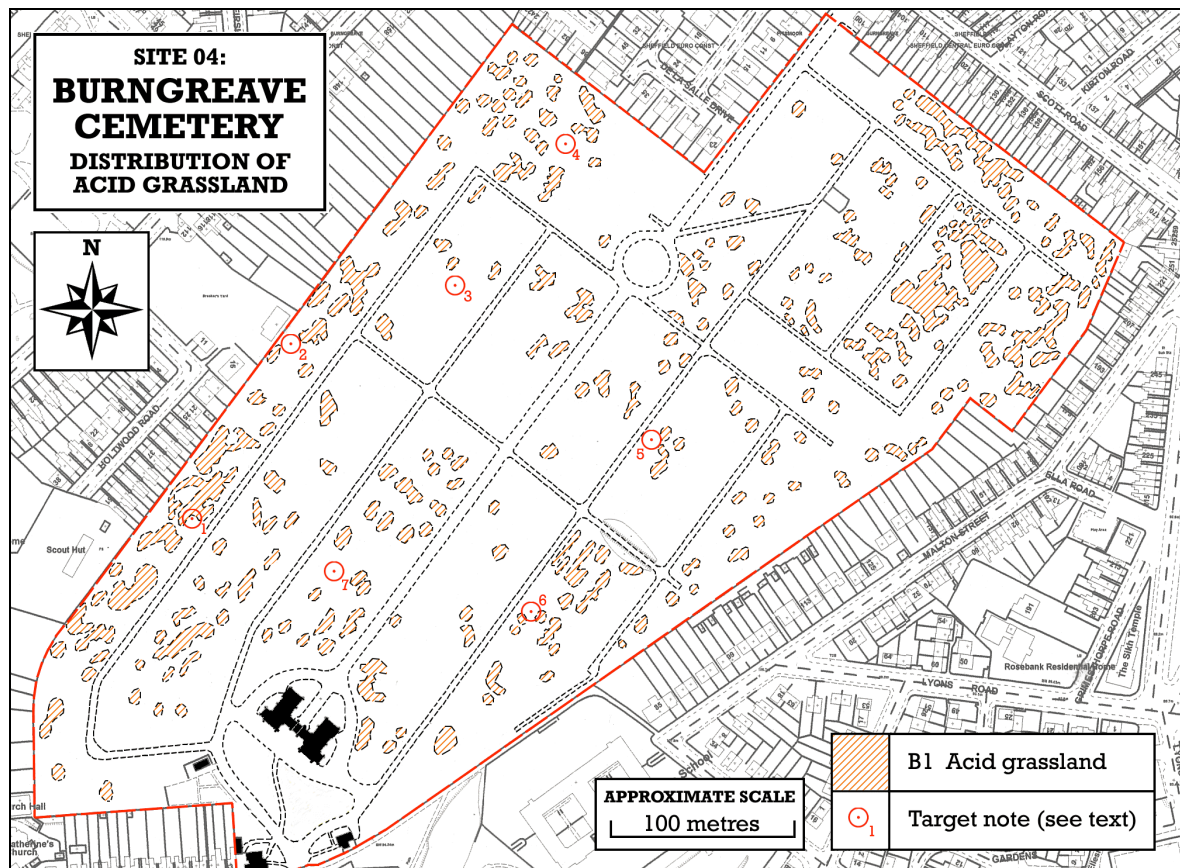
Map 7: The dominant tree species in Burngreave Cemetery (northwest section).

Ail	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of heaven
Ap	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
Bpe	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch
Cot	<i>Cotoneaster frigidus</i>	Tree cotoneaster
Cm	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common hawthorn
Cul	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland cypress
Fe	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Common ash
Ia	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
La	<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	Common laburnum
Mal	<i>Malus</i> sp.	Apple/Crab sp.
Pa	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry
Plat	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane
Pru	<i>Prunus</i> sp.	Cherry sp.
Qc	<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey oak
Sa	<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Common whitebeam
Sac	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
Sin	<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	Swedish whitebeam
Tiv	<i>Tilia x europaea</i>	Common lime

Grassland survey

A detailed survey of the grassland flora was undertaken. The most significant findings of the survey are summarised on Map 8, and in the accompanying target notes.

The distribution of acid grassland is denoted primarily by the occurrence of sheep's sorrel. Other indicator species, such as tormentil and heath bedstraw, are also present but are not as widespread.



Map 8: Distribution of acid grassland within Burngreave Cemetery.

Target notes

- 1 Extensive area of acid grassland with heath bedstraw, tormentil and sheep's sorrel.
- 2 Mosaic of acid grassland and species-rich neutral grassland, with ox-eye daisy. Fox-and-cubs is locally abundant
- 3 Wood horsetail is scattered throughout this area
- 4 Species-rich neutral grassland with meadow vetchling, ox-eye daisy, black knapweed and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*).
- 5 Harebell is present here with bird's-foot-trefoil, ox-eye daisy, yarrow and self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*).

6 Mosaic of acid grassland and species-rich neutral grassland, with bird's-foot-trefoil, bush vetch, tormentil, fox-and-cubs, etc.

7 Species-rich neutral grassland with meadow vetchling, bird's-foot-trefoil and greater bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus uliginosus*).

Invertebrates

A systematic survey of invertebrates was not undertaken in 2003. However, the following species of butterfly were noted:

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Small White
<i>Pieris napi</i>	Green-veined White
<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	Orange-tip
<i>Celastrina agricola</i>	Holly Blue
<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red Admiral
<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	Painted Lady
<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Small Tortoiseshell
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood
<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Wall

Speckled wood butterflies were seen on numerous occasions. Although this butterfly is listed as a Local Red Data Book species in the Sheffield Nature Conservation Strategy (1991), it has expanded its range considerably over the past decade. It is now widespread within the Sheffield area.

Holly blue is another Local Red Data Book species that has extended its range since the Sheffield Nature Conservation Strategy was published. Whilst it is not as abundant as the speckled wood, the holly blue is frequently seen where its larval foodplants (holly and ivy) grow alongside each other.

Derek Whiteley also supplied the following (undated) records from the Sorby Natural History Society's invertebrate database:

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	NATIONAL STATUS	HABITAT (WHERE KNOWN)
<i>Piezodorus lituratus</i>	Gorse Shieldbug	Common	Gorse and broom
<i>Nephrotoma flavescens</i>	a crane fly	Common	
<i>Epistrophe eligans</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Mature broad-leaved trees
<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>	Marmalade Hoverfly	Common	Grassland
<i>Eupeodes luniger</i>	a hoverfly	Common	
<i>Sphaerophoria scripta</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Open ground and grassland
<i>Syrphus ribesii</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Parks, gardens and orchards
<i>Syrphus torvus</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Mature broad-leaves or conifers
<i>Syrphus vitripennis</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Parks and gardens
<i>Cheilosia pagana</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Woodland, scrub and hedgerows
<i>Eristalis pertinax</i>	a hoverfly	Common	
<i>Eristalis tenax</i>	Drone-fly	Common	
<i>Volucella pellucens</i>	a hoverfly	Common	Deciduous woodland glades, scrub and hedgerows
<i>Andrena minutula</i>	a solitary bee	Common	
<i>Nomada panzeri</i>	a nomad or mason bee	Common	

Birds

Burngreave Cemetery holds a selection of birds that are typical of suburban parks and gardens. A total of 31 species were recorded during the survey period. Breeding was confirmed for 11 species. A further 10 species held territories during the nesting season and may have bred.

Noteworthy breeding species include bullfinch, goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) and long-tailed tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*). Species notable by their absence include song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*).

ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Sparrowhawk ⁵	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
Wood pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker ⁵	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Grey wagtail ⁵	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
Wren ⁵	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Dunnock ⁵	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Fieldfare ⁵	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Redwing ⁵	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Blackcap ⁵	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Chiffchaff ⁵	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Goldcrest ⁵	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Long-tailed tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Coal tit ⁵	<i>Parus ater</i>
Blue tit ⁵	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>
Great tit ⁵	<i>Parus major</i>
Treecreeper ⁵	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Starling ⁶	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
House sparrow ⁶	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Greenfinch ⁵	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Goldfinch ⁵	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Bullfinch ⁴	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>

SPECIES RECORDED ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION DURING THE BREEDING SEASON	POSSIBLE BREEDING SPECIES ¹	PROBABLE BREEDING SPECIES ²	CONFIRMED BREEDING SPECIES ³	NUMBER OF TERRITORIES HELD BY SELECTED SPECIES
Sparrowhawk ⁵	Starling ⁶	Collared dove	Feral pigeon	Wren ⁵ 8
Feral pigeon		G S Woodpecker ⁵	Wood pigeon	Dunnock ⁵ >3
Wood pigeon		Wren ⁵	Robin	Robin 7
Collared dove		Dunnock ⁵	Blackbird	Blackbird >8
G S Woodpecker ⁵		Mistle thrush	Long-tailed tit	Mistle thrush >2
Wren ⁵		Blackcap ⁵	Coal tit ⁵	Blackcap ⁵ 1
Dunnock ⁵		Chiffchaff ⁵	Blue tit ⁵	Chiffchaff ⁵ 1
Robin		Great tit ⁵	Magpie	Blue tit ⁵ >5
Blackbird		Chaffinch	Carrion crow	Great tit ⁵ 6
Mistle thrush		Greenfinch ⁵	Goldfinch ⁵	Bullfinch ⁴ >1
Blackcap ⁵			Bullfinch ⁴	Chaffinch >2
Chiffchaff ⁵				
Long-tailed tit				
Coal tit ⁵				
Blue tit ⁵				
Great tit ⁵				
Treecreeper ⁵				
Jay				
Magpie				
Carrion crow				
Starling ⁶				
House sparrow ⁶				
Chaffinch				
Greenfinch ⁵				
Goldfinch ⁵				
Bullfinch ⁴				

¹ Evidence: present on more than one occasion in suitable breeding habitat.

² Evidence: singing/displaying male in suitable breeding habitat on more than one occasion; pair in suitable habitat showing courtship or territorial behaviour; bird visiting probable nest site; nest building; anxiety calls; recently used nest.

³ Evidence: Adult carrying food or faecal sac; adult sitting on nest; nest with eggs/young; egg shells found away from nest; recently fledged young.

⁴ Priority species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

⁵ Species of Conservation Concern in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

⁶ UK Red List species

The distribution of birds within the cemetery is closely linked to the availability of nesting cover. With an abundance of mature trees, the area on the northwestern side of the main drive has the highest numbers. Birds are noticeably scarce in the northeastern corner where there are relatively few mature trees.

Although the cemetery has many trees, it lacks extensive areas of shrubs and undergrowth (e.g. bramble, *Rubus fruticosus*) that could offer nesting cover for species such as song thrush, willow warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) and whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*). The thick growth of ivy on parts of the boundary wall provides secure nest sites for blackbird (*Turdus merula*), robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) and wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*). The area of gorse at SK 3608 8922 also has potential, but needs management as it has become rather tall and straggly. Collared dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), dunnock (*Prunella modularis*) and greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*) probably nest in the ornamental shrubs and conifers around the Melrose Road entrance. Although blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*) and chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*) were frequently seen and heard within the cemetery, it is likely that they nest beyond its boundaries in the overgrown gardens at SK 3578 8913.

Outside the nesting season, many birds use the cemetery as a feeding ground:

- goldfinch feed on the seeds of weeds growing amongst the graves;
- mixed parties of tits, goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*) and other small birds move from tree to tree in search of insects;
- the *Sorbus* trees are stripped of their berries by fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) and redwing (*T. iliacus*);
- large flocks of starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) forage for invertebrates in the turf.

Other birds probably use the site as a secure roosting spot, particularly as it is relatively undisturbed after dark. One unexpected species that frequents the cemetery is grey heron (*Ardea cinerea*).

The chapel is home to a thriving population of feral pigeons (*Columba livia*) but, surprisingly, no other species appear to nest in the buildings. For several months in 1994 the feral pigeons were preyed upon by an escaped eagle owl (*Bubo* sp.) that took up residence in the cemetery.

Mammals

The most frequently seen wild mammal was the grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*). Two hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*) were also seen, plus a number of unidentified small mammals. Local people report seeing foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) on a regular basis.

The chapel was due to be surveyed for bats in February/March 2004.

Evaluation

Burngreave Cemetery is an essential component of the district's green environment. It is the largest open space within the area covered by the Burngreave Environmental Action Plan. Situated at the centre of the district, it is potentially accessible to the whole community.

From an ecological standpoint, the most important features of the cemetery are:

- the area of relict ancient woodland;
- the areas of acid grassland;
- the areas of species-rich neutral grassland.

For such an intensively maintained site, the cemetery holds an impressive variety of plants. The grassland flora include a colourful range of wildflowers, some of which are uncommon within the district.

The mature trees provide some important habitats, even though many of them are non-indigenous species or ornamental cultivars. They are also important landscape features, being visible from many parts of Burngreave.

The cemetery holds a range of birds that are typical of urban parks. The most noteworthy breeding species is bullfinch, a priority species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. There is a lack of nesting cover, which restricts the range of species. The stands of gorse and areas of mature ivy are particularly important for nesting birds.

Although the invertebrate fauna of the cemetery were not fully investigated, past surveys found species typical of parks and gardens. The 2003 survey found two species of butterfly that were, until recently, scarce in the Sheffield district.

The cemetery maintenance team does a good job of keeping the site tidy and safe. However, some areas would benefit from being mown less frequently. Mowing the relict ancient woodland (see Map 3, page 8) will, in time, wipe out the surviving bluebells. Perhaps some areas of acid grassland (see Map 8, page 16) could be left un-mown for a season so that the plants and invertebrates can be fully surveyed. If any alterations to the mowing regime are proposed, the following factors need to be taken into account:

- the wishes of bereaved relatives;
- the requirements of the City Council's service charter for cemetery maintenance;
- the possibility of Japanese knotweed spreading into un-mown areas;
- how the areas of changed mowing regime will be marked out on the ground so that the maintenance workers are aware of them.

Protective actions:

- safeguard the patches of acid grassland (e.g. protect them from tree planting);
- safeguard the patches of species-rich neutral grassland;
- safeguard the existing mature trees;
- safeguard the existing areas of mature (flowering/fruited) ivy;
- safeguard the stands of gorse.

Potential improvements:

- investigate the possibility of introducing a meadow-mowing regime in parts of the site
- increase the amount of nesting cover by planting belts/clumps of native shrubs;
- provide a child-safe source of water for wildlife (e.g. a bird bath);
- install durable nest boxes on some of the trees.

Species lists

Vascular plants: trees, shrubs etc

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple
<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Oregon maple
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of heaven
<i>Alnus incana</i>	Grey alder
<i>Alnus viridis</i> ¹	Green alder ¹
<i>Aucuba japonica</i>	Spotted laurel
<i>Berberis _ stenophylla</i>	Hybrid barberry
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch
<i>Betula pendula</i> ‘Tristis’	Weeping birch
<i>Ceanothus</i> sp. ²	Californian lilac ²
<i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i>	Franchet’s cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster frigidus</i>	Tree cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>	Wall cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster salicifolius</i>	Willow-leaved cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster</i> sp.	Cotoneaster (unidentified species)
<i>Crataegus laevigata</i> ‘Paul’s Scarlet’	Scarlet-flowered hawthorn
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common hawthorn
<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland cypress
<i>Erica cinerea</i> ³	Bell heather ³
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> ‘Emerald ‘n’ Gold’	Evergreen bittersweet
<i>Forsythia _ intermedia</i>	Forsythia
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Common ash
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ‘Pendula’	Weeping ash
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna ash
<i>Hebe</i> sp.	Hebe (unidentified variety)
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy
<i>Hypericum</i> sp.	Hypericum (unidentified species)
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Ilex</i> sp.	Holly cultivar
<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	Laburnum
<i>Lavandula</i> sp. ²	Lavender (unidentified species) ²
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	Oval-leaved privet
<i>Lonicera nitida</i> ‘Baggesen’s Gold’	Golden boxleaf honeysuckle
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Oregon grape
<i>Malus _ purpurea</i>	Purple crab
<i>Malus</i> sp.	Flowering crab (unidentified species)
<i>Olearia _ haastii</i>	Daisy bush
<i>Philadelphus</i> ‘Virginal’	Mock orange
<i>Platanus _ hispanica</i>	London plane
<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	Western balsam-poplar
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry
<i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	Portugal laurel
<i>Prunus serrulata</i> ‘Kanzan’	Japanese flowering cherry

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Prunus</i> sp.	Flowering cherry (unidentified species)
<i>Pyracantha</i> sp.	Firethorn
<i>Quercus</i> _ <i>rosacea</i>	Hybrid oak
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey oak
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate oak
<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Rhododendron
<i>Rhododendron</i> sp.	Rhododendron (unidentified species)
<i>Rhododendron</i> sp.	Deciduous azalea (unidentified species)
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Stag's-horn sumach
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Flowering currant
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose
<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	Japanese rose
<i>Rosa</i> sp. ⁴	Cultivated rose ⁴
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble
<i>Salix</i> sp.	Willow (unidentified species)
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> 'Albovariegata'	Variegated elder
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Whitebeam
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> 'Fructu Luteo'	Amber-fruited rowan
<i>Sorbus hupehensis</i>	Chinese mountain ash
<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	Swedish whitebeam
<i>Sorbus thibetica</i> 'John Mitchell'	Himalayan whitebeam
<i>Tilia</i> _ <i>europaea</i>	Common lime
<i>Tilia</i> sp.	Lime (unidentified species)
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Viburnum rhytidophyllum</i>	Leatherleaf viburnum

¹ recorded by the Sorby Natural History Society on 01 May 2000

² planted on one (or more) of the graves

³ recorded by the Sorby Natural History Society on 13 July 1987

⁴ includes at least eight different unidentified species/varieties

Flowering herbs

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Alchemilla mollis</i>	Garden lady's-mantle
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> ¹	Scarlet pimpernel ¹
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i> ²	Snapdragon ²
<i>Aquilegia</i> sp. ³	<i>Aquilegia</i> (unidentified cultivar) ³
<i>Aster novi-belgii</i> ¹	Confused Michaelmas daisy ¹
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge bindweed
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy bitter-cress
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy bitter-cress
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black knapweed (hardhead)
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red valerian
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common mouse-ear
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay willowherb
<i>Chenopodium album</i> ¹	Fat-hen ¹
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear thistle
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field bindweed
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth hawk's-beard
<i>Crocsmia pottsii</i> _ <i>aurea</i>	Montbretia
<i>Crocus</i> sp.	Crocus
<i>Dianthus</i> sp. ⁴	Pink (unidentified cultivar) ⁴
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	American willowherb
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great willowherb
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved willowherb
<i>Epilobium tetragonum</i>	Square-stemmed willowherb
<i>Euphorbia</i> sp.	Spurge (unidentified species)
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese knotweed
<i>Fragaria</i> _ <i>ananassa</i>	Garden strawberry
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common fumitory
<i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i>	Common hemp-nettle
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
<i>Galium saxatile</i>	Heath bedstraw
<i>Geranium</i> _ <i>magnificum</i> ²	Purple cranesbill ²
<i>Geranium dissectum</i> ⁵	Cut-leaved crane's-bill ⁵
<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	Small-flowered cranesbill
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb-Robert
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i> ⁴	Bloody cranesbill ⁴
<i>Geranium</i> sp.	Crane's-bill (unidentified species)
<i>Geum</i> sp. ⁴	<i>Geum</i> (unidentified cultivar) ⁴
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood avens (herb bennet)
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>	Mouse-ear hawkweed
<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	Leafy hawkweed

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	Spanish bluebell
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i> _ <i>non-scripta</i>	Hybrid bluebell
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell
<i>Hypericum humifusum</i> ⁵	Trailing St John's-wort ⁵
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i> ²	Perennial candytuft ²
<i>Lamium album</i> ¹	White dead-nettle ¹
<i>Lamium purpurea</i>	Red dead-nettle
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Autumn hawkbit
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy
<i>Linaria repens</i> ¹	Pale toadflax ¹
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common toadflax
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common bird's-foot-trefoil
<i>Lotus uliginosus</i>	Greater bird's-foot-trefoil
<i>Lupinus polyphyllus</i> ¹	Garden lupin ¹
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common mallow
<i>Matricaria matricarioides</i>	Pineappleweed
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black medick
<i>Narcissus</i> sp.	Cultivated daffodil
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy
<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i> ¹	Green alkanet ¹
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i> ¹	Redleg ¹
<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>	Fox-and-cubs
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater plantain
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass
<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	Trailing tormentil
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping cinquefoil
<i>Primula</i> sp. ²	Primula cultivars ²
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser celandine
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild radish
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's sorrel
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled dock
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting stonecrop
<i>Sedum spectabile</i> ²	Iceplant ²
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common ragwort
<i>Senecio squalidus</i>	Oxford ragwort
<i>Senecio viscosus</i>	Sticky groundsel
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge mustard
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Perennial sow-thistle
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly sow-thistle

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth sow-thistle
<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn spurrey
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common chickweed
<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	Feverfew
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
<i>Trifolium dubium</i> ⁵	Lesser trefoil ⁵
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	Scentless mayweed
<i>Tussilago farfara</i> ¹	Colt's-foot ¹
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging nettle
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great mullein
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common field speedwell
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved speedwell
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i> ⁵	Hairy tare ⁵
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush vetch
<i>Vicia sp</i>	Vetch (unidentified species)
<i>Viola arvensis</i>	Field pansy
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common dog violet
<i>Viola sp.</i> ²	Pansy cultivar ²

¹ recorded by the Sorby Natural History Society on 13 July 1987

² planted on one (or more) of the graves

³ recorded by the Sorby Natural History Society on 07 May 2000

⁴ planted in the beds around the War Memorial (SK 362 894)

⁵ recorded by the Sorby Natural History Society on 11 July 1991

Grasses, sedges, rushes, etc

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common bent
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow foxtail
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False oat-grass
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot
<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>	Wavy hair-grass
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	Common couch
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red fescue
<i>Festuca</i> sp.	Fescue (unidentified sp)
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog
<i>Juncus</i> sp	Rush (unidentified sp)
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial rye -grass
<i>Luzula pilosa</i>	Hairy wood-rush
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i> ¹	Smaller cat's-tail ¹
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual meadow-grass
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth meadow-grass

¹ recorded by the Sorby Natural History Society on 13 July 1987

Ferns, horsetails, etc

BOTANICAL NAME	ENGLISH NAME
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male fern
<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>	Wood horsetail
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken

Fungi

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	NOTES
<i>Boletus badius</i>	Bay bolete	Under oak trees at SK 358 891
<i>Boletus chrysenteron</i>	Red-cracked bolete	Widespread
<i>Scleroderma citrinum</i>	Common earthball	Mostly under oak trees at SK 358 891

Species/habitats of nature conservation importance

Local red data book species

holly blue butterfly (*Celastrina agricola*);

speckled wood butterfly (*Pararge aegeria*).

BAP Priority Habitats

lowland dry acid grassland – a Priority Habitat in the UK BAP and the Sheffield LBAP;

ancient woodland – a Priority Habitat in the Sheffield LBAP.

BAP Priority species

bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*) – a priority species in the UK BAP.

UK BAP Species of Conservation Concern

blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*);

bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*);

blue tit (*Parus caeruleus*);

chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*);

coal tit (*Parus ater*);

dunnock (*Prunella modularis*);

goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*);

great spotted woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*);

great tit (*Parus major*);

greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*);

sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*);

wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*).

UK Red List birds

bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*);

UK Red List birds (continued)

house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*);

starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*).

UK Amber List birds

dunnock (*Prunella modularis*);

mistle thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*).

Previous surveys

AUTHOR/RECORDER	DATE	COVERAGE	LOCATION
Julie Westfold	July 1987	Botanical data: species lists for grassland and disturbed areas.	Filed at Ecology Unit under Sheffield Habitat Survey (Inner City) Phase 1 Reference 8-E-2.
Austin Brackenbury	July 1987	Zoological data: records of Diptera, Lepidoptera, Coccinellidae, Araneae.	
Louise Slack	July 1991	Botanical data: species lists, plus map showing location of trailing St John's wort (<i>Hypericum humifusum</i>)	Filed at Ecology Unit under Sheffield Habitat Survey (Inner City) Phase 2 Reference 8-E-2.
Austin Brackenbury	July 1991	Zoological data: records of Diptera, Lepidoptera and Hymenoptera	

References

Gilbert, O. (1989) *The Ecology of Urban Habitats*. London, Chapman & Hall.

Jones, M. (1986) Ancient Woods in the Sheffield Area: The Documentary Evidence. *Sorby Record*, No. 24, p. 7-18.

History & Geology

Geological survey

The raised ground along the western side of Burngreave Cemetery is underlain by the sandstone known as the Silkstone Rock. The low ground in the centre of the site lies upon shale. The Parkgate coal seam runs along the shale's southeastern edge, passing about 50 metres east of the chapel. The high ground to the northeast is underlain by an unnamed sandstone.

The shafts shown on the 1855 Ordnance Survey map suggest that coal was once mined within the area now occupied by the cemetery (see Map 9).

Archaeological survey

Two archaeological or historical features were identified within Burngreave Cemetery in the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service SMR and the English Heritage NMR. Four additional features were identified within the limits of the site on historic Ordnance Survey maps.

A further eight features were identified from archive records within the immediate vicinity (i.e. 500m) of the site. These included evidence of Romano-British metalworking (SMR 894), Andover 7th Day Adventist Church (NMR 38NE 325), find spots of worked flint (SMR 3193) and two Roman coins (SMR 890 and SMR 1091).

Historical survey

Burngreave Cemetery is first shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6" map (1905). It was opened in 1860 by the Burial Board for the Township of Brightside Bierlow and was one of the first public cemeteries to be opened in Sheffield [38]. The site of the cemetery is previously shown as agricultural land and the southern tip of the cemetery was formerly part of Burn Greaves Wood. It corresponds to a series of plots of land referred to as *Buske Meadow*, *Osgathorpe Hills* and *Wigfall Meadow* on Harrison's map of Southall Soake (1637). The area remained largely unchanged until the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6" map (1855), after which it would appear to have been exploited for coal mining and gravel extraction.

The layout of Burngreave Cemetery is shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 25" map (1905). It is laid out parallel and perpendicular to an axis aligned from north-east to south-west. The main entrance to the cemetery on Melrose Road is flanked by two lodges, both of which are Grade II Listed Buildings. A second entrance and additional lodge were created on Scott Road when the cemetery was extended in around 1900. Two chapels, linked to a central tower by carriage arches, lie close to the southern extent of the cemetery. A broad driveway leads from these chapels to the Scott Road entrance, via a turning circle at the centre of which lay a pump. The layout of the cemetery has

remained largely unchanged, with the exception of the addition of a war memorial first shown on the revised edition Ordnance Survey 25" map (1935).

A Roman coin hoard was found close to the eastern edge of Burngreave cemetery during the course of building work on Scott Road in 1905. This hoard comprised an unknown number of silver coins associated with sherds of Derbyshire ware pottery - presumably the urn that contained the coins. Although the hoard was dispersed, 35 coins dating from Vitellius to Marcus Aurelius (AD 69-180) were recovered and lodged in Sheffield City Museum.

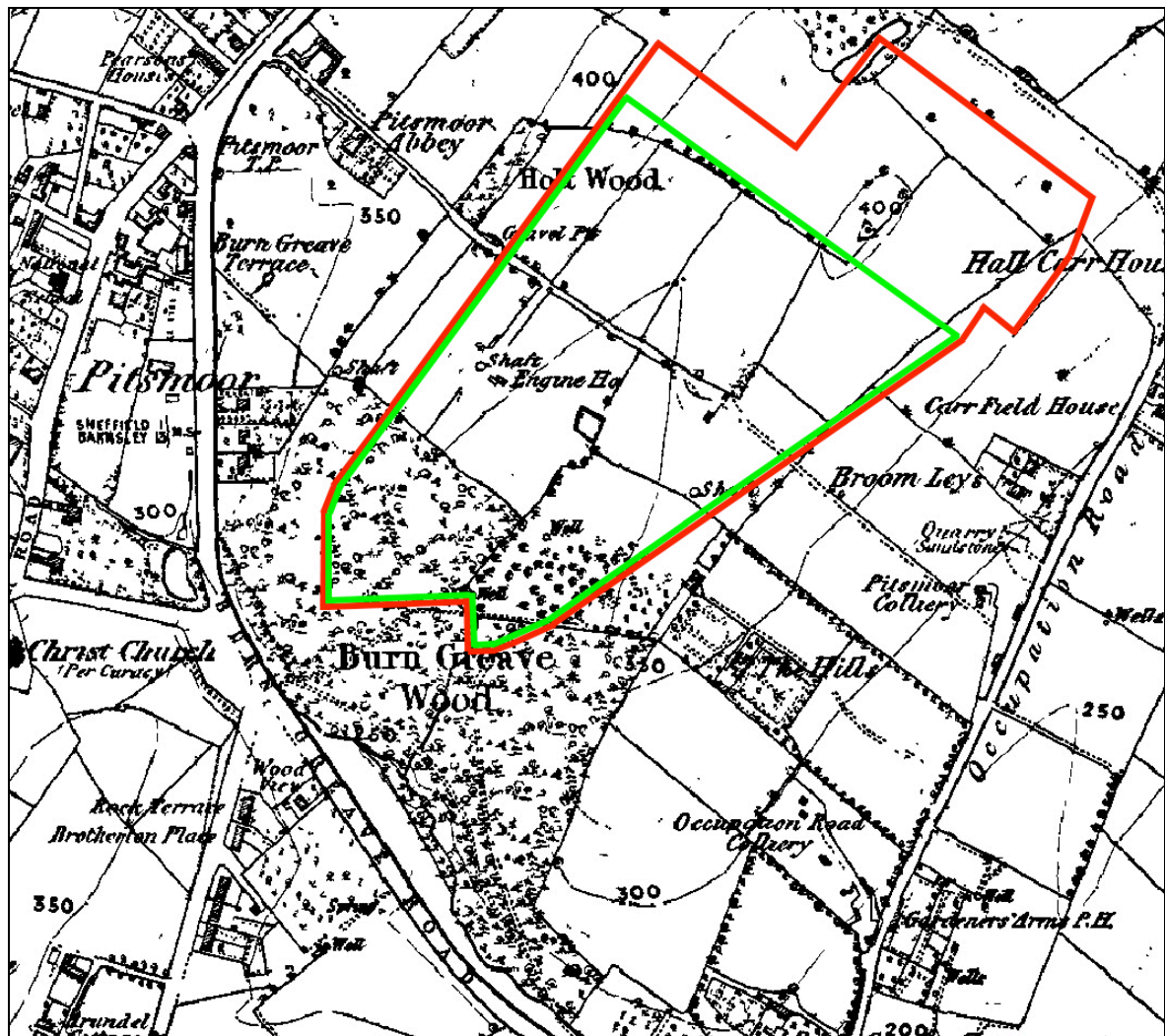
Burngreave cemetery is designated as a Registered Park or Garden (GD 3428). It was one of the first public cemeteries established in Sheffield and was constructed between 1859 and 1860. The 27 acre site, formerly agricultural land and part of Burn Greave Wood, had previously been used for coal mining and gravel extraction. It was purchased for £5,400 and a further £11,600 was spent on laying out the grounds and building the chapels and lodges [38]. The mortuary chapels - one Church of England, the other Non-Conformist - and attendant buildings were built by William Flockton and Sons of Sheffield. They were linked to a central tower with an elaborate stone spire. Both chapels and the tower are designated as Grade II Listed Buildings. Approximately two-thirds of the cemetery was consecrated for Church of England use by the Archbishop of York in 1861. In 1905, 9 acres of adjoining land was purchased and the cemetery was extended. The cemetery is still open for burials and has been administered by Sheffield City Council since. Remedial work was carried out to improve the cemetery in the 1980s, including the removal of many stone surrounds and some monuments.

Recommendations

Burngreave Cemetery is one of the most significant sites within the study area. It is a Registered Park and Garden and the chapels and tower are designated as Grade II Listed Buildings. The burial ground is still in use and was renovated during the 1980s. Both chapels and the associated tower have become slightly dilapidated in recent years and restoration of these structures could be considered. Given the continued use of the cemetery, the erection of interpretative signage may be considered inappropriate. However, interpretative materials illustrating historic land use and the creation of the cemetery may enhance understanding of the site in the local community.

Notes from the ecologists

Map 9 shows the district in 1855. The area now occupied by the cemetery was mainly agricultural land with a small area of woodland towards the southwestern tip. This was part of Burn Greave Wood, which is described by Mel Jones (1986) as a "*known ancient woodland now lost*".



Map 9: The Pitsmoor district in 1855. The modern day boundary of Burngreave Cemetery is superimposed in red. The boundary in 1893 is superimposed in green.

An illustration from 1873 shows the area to the southwest of the chapel as being formally laid-out with low-growing shrubs and occasional semi-mature trees. The high ground to the northeast can be seen in the background and appears to have few trees. The large-scale OS map of 1893 shows a more even distribution of trees across the site, with avenues along all the main driveways. Most of the trees are broadleaves but there are scattered conifers.

The trees in the northeastern section are younger than those in the rest of the cemetery, having been planted since 1905. Whilst it is abundant across much of the site, common lime is noticeably absent from the 1905 extension.

The 1893 map also shows a small patch of woodland near the southwestern tip of the cemetery, which coincides with the area of oaks and bluebells found there today. It seems likely that this is a remnant of Burn Greave Wood.

Community

The Burngreave cemetery is the largest green space surveyed within the consultation area and received a good level of response to the questionnaire. The cemetery dates back to the 1800's and still being used today. Local people appreciate both its wildlife and historical value enjoying especially a feeling of tranquillity from the mature trees growing on the site. However the disused chapel on the site is the main subject of concern for visitors and the conflict of interests between dog walkers and other visitors.

User Survey Results

The user survey showed that the most popular activity taking place on the site was dog walking and taking a short-cut. Other activities Included cycling, walking, jogging and visiting graves. The busiest day was Monday and with the exception of Saturday the site was at its busiest during the AM and MD survey with the majority of visitors being adults. On Saturday the majority of visitors were children and they visited during the PM survey. There were low numbers of elderly, infant and teenage visitors

Site Problems

Drug and solvent abuse

There is a problem with drug abuse in the cemetery and used needles have been found littered around the site.

The large areas of trees provide protection and shelter for both dealers and users at night.

Crime

There is graffiti on the chapel walls.

Local residents have reported joy riders racing through the cemetery also.

Litter

The cemetery lacks sufficient litterbins thus the presence of litter in many areas of the cemetery.

Dogs

The cemetery lacks sufficient dog bins therefore the site has a problem with dog mess.

Not all dog owners are clearing up after their dogs.

There is concern that dog owners allow their dogs to roam freely across graves that are still visited and this is disrespectful.

Facilities

The cemetery lacks the basic facilities such as seating and toilets, which visitors feel there should be.

Landscape and access

There are a number of tombstones, which have collapsed and in need of maintenance.

There are some overgrown areas of scrub encroaching onto the pathways.

Maintenance

The chapel stands empty and unused and is open to attacks of vandalism and graffiti on its outside walls.

Site solutions

- Restore and maintain the chapel and put it forward for community use.
- Provide and manage a small amount of sustainable seating areas in more open parts of the cemetery.
- Provide more dog bins at entrance points to the site and encourage dog walkers to clear up after their dog and stay on the footpaths.
- Provide more litter bins on the site
- Ensure the gates to the cemetery are locked at night to restrict car access.
- Restore the fallen tombstones and cut back any excessive overgrowth near footpaths.

Community Suggestions

From the options provided within the questionnaire the most popular suggestions to improve Burngreave recreation ground were;

- More places to sit down
- Litter control
- Stopping dog mess
- Low colourful planting
- More city council rangers

Community suggestions for changes to improve the site focused on restoring the chapel and the different facilities it could offer issues raised by dog walking. The most popular responses were to;

- Have constant maintenance
- Dog bins on site
- Restore the chapel
- Create some seating
- Have toilets on site

Question 7 provided an insight as to what people would ideally like to be able to do on the site of Burngreave Cemetery. The response emulated the desire to have the chapel restored and improve the facilities for dog walking. The following suggestions were made;

Dog walk

Visitors feel that their presence walking their dogs in the cemetery is abundant and an active discouragement to those that would otherwise abuse it.

Use a dog bin

Many dog walkers interviewed are aware of the problems of dog mess and already clear up after their own dogs. They want to keep the area clean and are sure dog bins on the site will improve the situation and encourage others to do so.

See more wildlife

The response to see more wildlife describes the communities interest in creating and maintaining sustainable habitats for birds, insects and small mammals such as bird boxes, habitat piles and wildflowers.

See more people

The response to see more people terms the need for more publicity, more encouragement and reason to visit. People who were interviewed wanted the rest of the community to get involved with the cemetery and visit more often.

Re-open the chapel for the community

The major response in all the interviews was to open up the chapel. Lots of ideas were given such as a café, a crèche and a youth club but the overall feeling was that it should be something that the community can use.

Sit and relax

Good, clean seating to be able to use and enjoy but also have to have peace of mind and not worry about their personal safety or that of their children.

Feel safer

Regardless of time of day, visitors just want to be able to visit the park without feeling insecure or worried.

Jogging

There was a request to install running tracks to follow around the site

Stay longer

Have the facilities on site needed to stay for a longer visit such as

Toilets.