



Nunhead Cemetery

Conservation Management Plan, 2023 to 2033

Draft

LUC in conjunction with Rees Bolter Architects

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1 Executive summary

- 1.1 Nunhead Cemetery was bought by the London Borough of Southwark in 1975 and is now managed by the Southwark Council Parks and Natural Environment department. The cemetery forms one of the seven Victorian cemeteries, known as the Magnificent Seven, which encircle central London.
- 1.2 It was consecrated in 1840 as a direct response to the shortage of burial space within inner London. Active until the early 20th century, the cemetery suffered bomb damage in the Second World War and closed in 1969. Without maintenance to keep it in check, woodland developed among the gravestones leading to what is now a valued landscape.
- 1.3 Additionally to the bomb damage, there was vandalism and neglect of the buildings and monuments. The council acquired the cemetery in 1975, and reopened it for burials in 1980.
- 1.4 Today, the cemetery is one of the largest areas of natural secondary woodland in Central London. As such, it is valued by the local community as a space for walking and for enjoying and learning about the natural environment as well as being a functioning cemetery.
- 1.5 The overall strategy for Nunhead Cemetery can be summarised as:

Southwark Council's vision is to continue to preserve and enhance the unique heritage and character of Nunhead Cemetery, as one of London's most important historic cemeteries. This can be achieved through opportunities to increase the amenity and biodiversity value of the cemetery, whilst satisfying the diverse needs of current and future generations of visitors, whose family and friends are buried in the cemetery.

- 1.6 Within the overall vision are a number of objectives:
 - Positively welcome people into the cemetery, in terms of both physical and social access
 - Continue to provide a well-maintained and clean site.
 - Improve the environmental quality and sustainability of practices carried out in the site.
 - Maintain the historic buildings and landscape character

- Enhance the cemetery’s biodiversity value, whilst ensuring provision for visitors.
 - Provide opportunities to increase community use and involvement.
 - Develop the site as a community resource catering to the diverse needs of the local community.
 - Ensure all those involved in the management and maintenance of the cemetery effectively use this Conservation Management Plan as a working document, including the local community.
- 1.7 When managing the cemetery, **Section A**, the action plan found on page 7 should be reviewed on a monthly basis, and actions agreed between the Bereavement Services Manager and cemeteries team and records kept regarding decisions and actions taken.
- 1.8 **Section B** from page 65 provides background information on which the actions are based.

2 Introduction

2.1 Nunhead Cemetery is owned by the London Borough of Southwark, and managed by the Southwark Council Parks and Natural Environment department. The 20.14ha cemetery forms one of the seven Victorian cemeteries, known as the Magnificent Seven, that encircle central London and is significant for its historical, cultural and wildlife value.

Purpose of the Conservation Management Plan

2.2 The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been prepared for the London Borough of Southwark by LUC to inform the future conservation and management of Nunhead Cemetery.

2.3 This CMP draws on the extensive catalogue of existing information, most notably the Conservation Management Plan (LUC, 1997), and the Nunhead Cemetery Management Plan (Scott Wilson Resource Consultants, 2000), as well as council strategies and studies. It also provides a summary of current use and management of the site.

2.4 The aim of this report is :

- to provide a clear evaluation of Nunhead Cemetery, its development, current pressures and requirements, and its significance in terms of heritage, ecological and community value;
- based on this evaluation, to put forward a management vision, policies and an implementation plan, which recognises the cemetery's past, caters for the present and plans for the future.

Section A

Management Guidance

3 Future management

‘Conservation management needs to be sensitive to legal, ethical, theological and public attitudes and, in particular, to the controls and guidelines on how to treat human remains, associated artefacts and grave markers’ (Historic England, Paradise Preserved, p.21)

- 3.1 This chapter presents overall management policies covering the Nunhead Cemetery. The policies arise from the understanding and significances of the cemetery and the issues surrounding the conservation of those significances and values, as described in **Section B**. The policies work towards achieving the overall aim for the cemetery and each policy is referenced to the appropriate issue number discussed in **Section B**. The references to Character Areas are to different areas within the cemetery that are distinguished one from another by use, vegetation type or management. See **Chapter 10** and **Figure 10.1** for more information.
- 3.2 The current management is aware of and is already dealing with a number of issues outlined in the Action Plan, where resources allow.
- 3.3 In each table under the heading of ‘Responsibility’ the Bereavement Services Manager is named as being responsible for making sure that the actions are implemented. In doing so they will often be co-ordinating many other roles and bringing work together to achieve the overall objective.

Overall strategy for Nunhead Cemetery

- 3.4 The overall strategy for Nunhead Cemetery is summarised below:

Southwark Council’s vision is to continue to preserve and enhance the unique heritage and character of Nunhead Cemetery, as one of London’s most important historic cemeteries. This can be achieved through opportunities to increase the amenity and biodiversity value of the cemetery, whilst satisfying the diverse needs of current and future generations of visitors, whose family and friends are buried in the cemetery.

Aims

- 3.5 The strategy has the following aims. The action plan sets out how we will achieve these aims.
1. Positively welcome people into the cemetery, providing access and information, which is suitable for a range of abilities and disabilities. Ensure a healthy, safe and secure experience for visitors, whether attending burial ceremonies, visiting relatives interred in the cemetery or enjoying the cemetery as an area of open space with access to a variety of natural habitats.
 2. Provide a well-maintained and clean site, maintaining the landscape, buildings and infrastructure of the site to consistently high standards. Clean means that litter is not allowed to accumulate, buildings are not stained or covered in graffiti, and dog fouling is not present. This is one of the Green Flag Park award criteria.
 3. Improve the environmental quality and sustainability of practices carried out in the site. Maintain the landscape character and enhance the cemetery's biodiversity value, whilst ensuring provision for contemporary users.
 4. Understand, conserve and ideally enhance the historical and cultural importance of the buildings, monuments and landscape of the cemetery. Promote this importance to those visiting and using the cemetery.
 5. Provide opportunities to increase community use and involvement, particularly through events, education, interpretation and building partnerships. An example of active and positive community involvement in the management, maintenance and promotion of the cemetery has been the role played by the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC) and this should be encouraged to continue.
 6. Develop the site as a valuable resource for the community, a source of pride, in a way that celebrates its historic and natural attributes, and ensures effective promotion of its value to the community.
 7. Ensure all those involved (including the local community) in the management and maintenance of the cemetery effectively use this Conservation Management Plan as a working document.

SECTION A. Management context

Policy: To ensure the smooth management of the cemetery and ensure the landscape character is maintained under guidance from this CMP.

Management Context						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
1 (a)	All	The lack of burial space in the face of growing populations is a key concern for cemeteries across London. Under the 1976 Act, there are no further burials to occur in the nature reserve area.	To ascertain whether future burial is a possibility at Nunhead Cemetery.	As per the Cemetery Strategy (2012), it is recommended that a review of Nunhead Cemetery is undertaken to ascertain whether there is scope for a limited number of additional burials and how that could be acceptably achieved.	As required	Bereavement Services Management and Policy & Programmes team
1 (b)	All	Historically there has been no strategic program of infrastructure repair. Maintenance of monuments is currently only undertaken when	Put in place a proactive program of repair of monuments and infrastructure, and seek to have the site	Produce a maintenance and repair plan, with costs for repair, priorities and potential source of funding as well as a programme, which is appropriate for the nature of the items being maintained.	Annual review, and as resources become available.	Bereavement Services Management, possibly helped by FONC and structures specialists.

Management Context

Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		<p>funding has become available or safety issues necessitate repair. A combination of historical factors and lack of funding for restoration has led to the cemetery being included on the Heritage at Risk Register.</p> <p>It has been on the Register for some time, came off in 2002 as a result of Lottery Investment but went back a few years later as a result of unresolved issues and continuing</p>	<p>removed from the Heritage at Risk Register.</p>	<p>Carry out repairs that are necessary to maintain public safety and to retain significant infrastructure and monuments.</p> <p>Communicate with Historic England to keep them informed of condition and repairs undertaken.</p>		

Management Context						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		deterioration of the historic fabric.				
1 (c)	All	Voluntary work by FONC is an integral part of the site maintenance and presents opportunities for increasing voluntary contribution.	To support FONC and other volunteers and build on this important relationship.	The Council should engage, support and celebrate the volunteers who are vital to the management, conservation and operation of the cemetery, especially FONC. Ensure both FONC and corporate volunteer groups work in line with tasks identified in this management plan. Support and training should be given where required. Advice on the care of maintenance of historic items can be found on the Historic England web site .	Quarterly review with FONC	Bereavement Services Management, FONC and other volunteers.
1 (d)	All	Regular communication with stakeholders is important to ensure good working	To enhance communication and involvement of stakeholders	Ensure all relevant stakeholders are consulted on management decisions that affect nationally designated features and important community assets.	Quarterly review As and when communication is required	Bereavement Services Management

Management Context						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		relationships are maintained.	in site management.	Engage stakeholders in regular consultation to ensure an understanding of conservation activities.		
1 (e)	All	Management responsibilities need to be clearly defined or recognised.	Clarity over management roles and expectations.	Maintain clearly defined management organogram found in appendix 5 of those involved with the management and maintenance of the cemetery.	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management
1 (f)	A	Planting around graves in the formal lawn areas of the cemetery is sometimes inappropriate and has gone unchecked, which has a negative impact on the aesthetics of the site. This does not include wildlife	To ensure aesthetic landscape character of the cemetery is not compromised.	Review advice regarding planting around graves and ensure this is appropriate given the character and context of the cemetery and adequately communicate and enforce with grave owners. This may for instance involve provision of leaflets or signage on site, or if possible, developing requirements that can be distributed directly to families	Write formal policy when resources become available	Bereavement Services Management

Management Context

Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		planting around older graves in the 'wilderness' areas.		and individuals tending graves. This would require a sensitive approach.		
1 (g)	All	Issues arising from dogs include nutrient enrichment and mess from dog fouling that is not picked up, disturbance of mourners, compaction and damage to grass areas used by larger groups of dogs.	To ensure controlled access of dogs to the cemetery.	Monitor effectiveness of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) on controlling dogs at the cemetery. Ensure correct PSPO signage is displayed at the cemetery	Ongoing monitoring. Review of PSPO every 3 years.	Bereavement Services Management in conjunction with Parks Liaison Officers (PLOs) and the Environment and Community Protection team

Archaeology

Policy: To conserve, and where appropriate enhance, the heritage significance of both known and unknown archaeological assets within Nunhead Cemetery.

Archaeology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
2(a)	B, D	There is the potential for disturbance to buried archaeological remains as a result of rooting and animal action.	To reduce unnecessary disturbance to buried remains as a result of rooting and burrowing action	To manage trees in accordance with an adopted Woodland Management Plan. Continued management of vegetation within open lawn areas of the cemetery should be undertaken to ensure that areas do not become overgrown, as this will reduce rooting issues.	Woodland Management Plan to be delivered as part of East Lodge HLF project in 2023. Annual review	Bereavement Services Management in consultation with FONC and other volunteers
2(b)	B	Gravediggers within the cemetery work within the ICCM safe code of practice. However, there is still the potential for the	To reduce / mitigate unnecessary disturbance, truncation and removal of buried remains	Archaeological monitoring of grave digging is not something that can be reasonably undertaken on a routine basis (APABE 2017, 1). In addition to being impractical, attempts at piecemeal archaeological	Develop a formalised strategy and policy on dealing with disturbed remains, when	Bereavement Services Management

Archaeology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		disturbance, truncation, and removal of buried archaeological remains as a result of grave digging.	as a result of grave digging	recording of remains exposed in this way are likely to be unrewarding. Grave digging staff comply with the ICCM Safe Code of Practice.	resources become available	
2(c)	All	Same as 2 (b)	Same as 2 (b)	The digging of any fresh graves in areas of the cemetery known to be of archaeological significance should be avoided unless all graves in the area are first excavated archaeologically (APABE 2017, 2). Should these circumstances arise the Archaeological Officer at Southwark Council must be consulted for further guidance on the appropriate archaeological requirements.	As required	Bereavement Services Management, Archaeological Officer

Archaeology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
2(d)	All	There is the potential for the disturbance, truncation, and removal of buried archaeological remains as a result of development or maintenance related work.	To mitigate the disturbance, truncation, and removal of buried archaeological remains as a result of development or maintenance related work.	If minor or larger scale development/ maintenance is to a depth of 5 feet or more that is likely to disturb burials of 100 years old or more, then the relevant area should be archaeologically evaluated beforehand and any subsequent exhumations may need to be monitored, or if necessary, carried out, by suitably qualified archaeologists (APABE 2017, 2). In relation to the potential for archaeology relating to the other known assets on the site and any further potential unknown remains an assessment of their significance and the development impact may be required, possibly followed by further evaluation/	As required	Bereavement Services Management

Archaeology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				mitigation. In either circumstance, the Archaeological Officer at Southwark Council should be consulted in order to establish the appropriate archaeological requirements.		
2 (e)	D	There is the potential for the eastern catacombs (located in the north of the cemetery and shown on the plan on page 79) to be restored as a visitor attraction.	To conserve the eastern catacombs and promote both their, and the wider cemetery's heritage significance	There is an opportunity to restore the eastern catacombs as a visitor attraction. Consult with FONC where feasible. Any work will need to be preceded by a condition assessment and schedule of works for conservation.	If and when funding opportunities are identified	Southwark Council, Bereavement Services Management, FONC.
2(f)	All	There is the potential for the cemetery to become an Archaeological Priority Area (APA).	To conserve the heritage significance of the cemetery	The Greater London Archaeological Priority Area (APA) Guidelines (2016) states that 19 th century or earlier burial grounds should be included in	As required	Bereavement Services Management

Archaeology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				APAs even if still in use. As such, there is the potential for the cemetery to be locally designated as an Archaeological Priority Area (APA). Such designation would be an immediate indicator of the known archaeological interest of the cemetery and would act as a trigger for consultation with Southwark's archaeological Officer in the event of any proposed development.		

Buildings, memorials and structures

Policy: To conserve, and wherever possible, enhance Nunhead Cemetery’s historic buildings and their settings.

Buildings, memorials and structures						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
3 (a)	A	Grade II Listed East Lodge is in very poor condition following fire damage and long-term decline, and is on the Heritage at Risk Register. Plans are in progress to restore the Lodge and turn it into a community and visitor Hub leased by an operator.	To ensure the restoration of East Lodge.	Complete the feasibility work on East Lodge and implement a programme of repairs and conversion works to secure the fabric of the buildings and bring it into beneficial use.	Currently underway, progress can be viewed on the project webpage at link to East Lodge Project webpage	Policy and Programmes team

3 (b)	A	Grade II listed West Lodge is in fair condition, but private residential use has resulted in screening around the lodge, which erodes the composition of the pair of lodges flanking the entrance gates.	To ensure the preservation of the aesthetic value of the entrance to Nunhead Cemetery.	In the long term, consider ways in which the setting of the two lodges can be linked, and presented in union with the main entrance gates.	Long term	Bereavement Services Management
3 (c)	A	The perimeter walls along south and west boundaries are in poor overall condition. All of the original railings have been replaced with mesh panels and many of the tall brick piers have been reduced in height because of	To ensure the preservation of the historic walls to the cemetery.	Southwark Council is improving the wall along Limesford Road. Planning permission was received in September 2022 and faculty permission was received in October 2022. Consider whether leaning brick piers should be shortened, with a significant loss of character, or rebuilt above ground level, with consequent loss of historic fabric. Consider replacement of the mesh panels as they begin to fail,	Annual review and as funding becomes available	Bereavement Services Management

		concerns about their stability.		either with replicas of the original railings, or with contemporary infills more in keeping with their setting. The metalwork is an important part of the prevention of vandalism and trespass.		
3 (d)	A	Memorials and monuments throughout the site, with the exception of the lawn burial areas, are at risk of damage from the unrestricted growth of trees, bramble and woody shrubs. As vegetation takes over there is the risk of the loss of the information on inscriptions. Weathering of the memorials and monuments can	To ensure close monitoring and timely repairs to significant monuments and to ensure the information within the inscriptions is recorded.	The general policy for memorials is to allow the majority of stonework to age and weather naturally, with priority given to the restoration of significant monuments, mostly located alongside the principal paths. In all areas, however, there needs to be recognition that the weathering will need to be managed and that vegetation will need some control, rather than abandonment of those areas entirely. A regular regime of inspection and repair of the significant memorials is required, including dealing with small defects and at early stage to reduce the risk of toppling and of further losses. Currently FONC	Annual review and when funding becomes available. Currently FONC are recording information on memorial headstones twice every month.	Bereavement Services Management. Recording of memorial headstones is being carried out by FONC.

		also lead to the loss of inscriptions.		are carrying out a structured recording of the memorial headstones to ensure the information is not lost. Support FONC in recruiting more volunteers to continue this work.		
3 (e)	A	<p>There are a number of significant monuments at risk and there is insufficient funding for restoration.</p> <p>More information about the monuments at risk can be found on page 115 and / or the Heritage At Risk Register at link to Historic England at risk register webpage or the interactive map Heritage at Risk 2022 (arcgis.com)</p>	Maximise opportunities to secure funding for memorial restoration.	<p>Continue to explore opportunities for funding of the repair of memorials, including in liaison with FONC, who are already involved in raising funds.</p> <p>Liaise with Historic England in reviewing the extent of listing of individual memorials, which may assist with fundraising. Other opportunities include: The Architectural Heritage Fund, The National Heritage Lottery Fund, The Heritage of London Trust, and The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF).</p> <p>Create a plan that identifies and prioritises repairs required to the more significant memorials.</p>	Annual review and as resources become available to make applications for funding	Bereavement Services Management FONC Policy and Programmes team

				<p>Within areas which are to be the subject of managed decay, and where further damage and losses may be expected. Follow Best Practice guidance (e.g. APABE 2017) for recording any memorials that are to be moved, or laid flat.</p>		
3 (f)	A	<p>The significant monuments are generally located alongside the principal routes and therefore more accessible to visitors and prone to wear or damage.</p>	<p>To ensure all significant monuments are well maintained.</p>	<p>Prioritise repair and investment for the larger, more significant memorials which are easily accessible to visitors. These are generally alongside existing paths, but safe access will need to be created or maintained to memorials set away from the main paths which are considered to be significant.</p> <p>This access should not be in the form of formal paths, but may involve pruning back of vegetation hindering access for inspection and repairs.</p>	<p>Create a map of the significant memorials in addition to those mapped in Figure 7.4 on page 91.</p> <p>Carry out repairs as and when required</p> <p>Annual review</p>	<p>Bereavement Services Management FONC</p>

3 (g)	A	The presence of utilitarian 'temporary' buildings within the cemetery, such as the depot and the FONC cabins are visually intrusive.	To reduce any intrusion on the aesthetic value of the cemetery.	The council is progressing plans to restore the East Lodge building and the area around the Linden Grove entrance with community spaces, a café and facilities for FONC. The FONC cabin will be removed and replaced with a new modular building for practical volunteer work.	Annual review The timescale for the East Lodge project can be found on the project webpage at https://www.southwark.gov.uk/eastlodge	Bereavement Services Management
3 (h)	All	Historically, there has been a significant issue with damage and desecration of memorials; this has been much reduced in recent years.	Minimise any damage to the fabric of the cemetery from vandalism.	Monitor the cemetery for any signs of increasing vandalism. Ensure that gates and perimeter fences remain secure when the cemetery is closed overnight.	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management
3 (i)	A	Public access is not normally available inside of the chapel at the centre of the cemetery.	Increase opportunities for the public to engage with the historic features of the site.	Consideration should be given to increasing use of the chapel for exhibitions and other functions, possibly including weddings, that would allow the chapel to be open for more of the time, and	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management

				<p>which could provide a source of income.</p> <p>Funding has been allocated to investigate the feasibility of restoring the chapel.</p>		
3 (j)	A	There are no toilets provided within the cemetery that can be accessed daily by the public.	To ensure all visitors can enjoy Nunhead Cemetery in comfort.	The council is progressing plans to restore the area around the East Lodge with community spaces, a café, toilets and facilities for FONC and their volunteers. Alongside the proposed toilets in the East Lodge building, FONCs new cabin will have toilets for use by volunteers and for events when FONC are on site.	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management
3 (k)	D	Some residents of Ivydale Road have opened informal access to the cemetery from their gardens with some subsequent fly tipping.	To preserve the historic boundary of the cemetery and ensure residents do not put themselves at risk from	Ensure that the boundary is sound and liaise with the residents of Ivydale Road to close up informal openings in the walls and remove fly tipping.	Ongoing. Annual review	Bereavement Services Management

			unstable monuments.			
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Landscape

Policy: To ensure the significance of the cemetery's landscape features are understood, and that they are conserved as important assets and enhanced wherever possible.

Landscape						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
4 (a)	All	The site is located within the Conservation Area of Nunhead and makes a significant contribution to the character of the local area. The tree cover and pinnacle of the Anglican chapel are key features of the local skyline.	Retain the key landscape features of the cemetery including the lime tree avenue, the tree cover, Anglican Church and key views.	Use this CMP to provide an understanding of the key landscape features of the cemetery and ensure that all management and maintenance actions are designed to conserve and enhance those features.	Annual review.	Bereavement Services Management
4 (b)	A	New pathways in addition to those in Bunning's original	Bunning's original path	Ensure that original pathway network is preserved and new	Annual review As funding becomes	Bereavement Services Management

		design have been created in some areas.	layout should be conserved.	informal paths are restricted.	available to carry out works to paths	
4 (c)	C, D	Although tree-pruning works are undertaken to open up views, the important views to St Paul's and to the east of the site can become obscured by dense vegetation.	Historic and protected views are preserved for future enjoyment.	Ensure that important views (as indicated in Figure 10.2 Protected and Important views on page 142) are protected in local planning policies and development strategies. Review the frequency of existing maintenance and amend as appropriate to ensure views are maintained. This may, for instance, require a three-year cyclical programme of tree pollarding or crown reduction.	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management, Tree Team. Input from FONC
4(d)	A	A lack of policy (or enforcement) of rules around lawn burials, planting and headstone design has led to a	To ensure aesthetic value of the cemetery is not compromised.	Review memorial policy to ensure the aesthetic qualities of the cemetery are upheld.	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management

		detrimental impact on aesthetics and maintenance.		Ensure existing graves are maintained to this policy.		
4 (e)	D	Surface water inundating paths around eastern boundary of site and within immediate vicinity of the entrance lodges.	To ensure visitors can still access the cemetery during or after wet weather.	Consider where further works to pathways are required to improve drainage from paths, which become inundated during periods of heavy rainfall.	When funding is identified carry out drainage surveys in high use areas identified with drainage issues	Bereavement Services Management Input from FONC Policy and Programmes team
4 (f)	A	As the memorials become overgrown by vegetation over time, Cultural heritage becomes less accessible and less visible and becomes potentially less valued by the public.	Cultural heritage is preserved and accessible for future enjoyment.	Regular grounds maintenance operations should include clearance of scrub or woody vegetation back to and around the first line of memorials.	According to the grounds maintenance schedule Annual review	Bereavement Services Management
4 (g)	D	The grass areas between the paths and the first row of	To improve grassland	Grass margins between paths and the first line of memorials should be	Early spring reminder to maintenance	Bereavement Services Management

		<p>memorials beside paths are currently strimmed short. In some cases, the strimming is down to ground level leaving no vegetation. In some areas, spring bulbs are accidentally cut before they are able to flower.</p>	<p>habitat along path edges</p>	<p>maintained as sections of meadow. In particular, areas where bulbs have been planted should be allowed to flower and die back before the area is cut again. However, aggressive and woody growth must be kept in check to ensure that they do not become established.</p>	<p>team, to avoid cutting bulbs</p> <p>Annual review</p>	
4 (h)	All	<p>It is sometimes challenging for the grounds maintenance contractors to meet expectations with regards to sensitive maintenance of the site. Issues include the timing of pruning operations and grass mowing</p>	<p>To ensure that the grounds maintenance contractors have the appropriate specifications to provide the appropriate maintenance for all the</p>	<p>Check that the maintenance contract is clear on the maintenance objectives for all regimes in the cemetery, and that operatives have the necessary information and skills to carry out the work to the required standards.</p>	<p>An annual review of the landscape maintenance specifications to make sure they are achieving required standards according to the maintenance contract.</p> <p>Consider and</p>	<p>Bereavement Services Management and contractors</p>

		and strimming in relation to potential wildlife disturbance.	regimes in the cemetery		adapting maintenance according to feedback. Training and monitoring should be on going.	
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Trees

Policy:

To maintain the woodland cover whilst managing any new growth, whether deliberate planting or natural regeneration, to provide access to key monuments and to avoid harm to the significance of the cemetery.

To increase variety of understorey (and hence increase biodiversity) by introducing glades and reducing tree cover in some areas. Key locations for glade management are in the more open areas south of the site of the demolished Non-conformist Chapel, up the hill towards the pond and beyond.

To maintain key formal planting such as the lime avenue leading from Linden Grove to the Anglican Chapel.

To identify significant and veteran trees, and provide suitable conditions for those trees to both flourish and for their visibility to be retained as features of the landscape.

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
5 (a)	D	Need a Woodland Management Plan to provide a long-term strategy, to coordinate tree management and woodland planning, and coordinate with other aspects of the	The arboricultural resource is safeguarded.	Alongside the borough wide Tree Management Strategy (Link to Southwark Tree Management Strategy) a Woodland Management plan should be written for the cemetery, in line with the Forestry Commission	2023, the East Lodge project will provide a Woodland Management Plan for the Cemetery.	Bereavement Services Management, Tree Team

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		cemetery management and operation.		<p>standards for conservation. This should provide the background of the tree cover in the cemetery, based on the latest tree survey, a strategy for coordinating the management of the trees with the other functions of the cemetery and more detail on the actions summarised below which need to be taken to implement that strategy.</p> <p>Investigate funding for woodland management through the Forestry Commission / Natural England.</p> <p>The nature and frequency of tree surveys undertaken</p>	<p>Surveys per Tree Team's schedule. Annual review</p>	<p>Tree Team, Policy and Programmes team</p> <p>Tree Team</p>

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				across the site to provide current information for the strategy should take account of factors such as disease and the function of the cemetery, needing to be more frequent when changes are taking place.		
5 (b)	D	<p>Almost 50% of the trees in the cemetery are ash, which is a species under the threat of a disease (<i>Chalara</i> dieback of ash) which could lead to major loss of the species.</p> <p>Three other trees species, sycamore,</p>	Protect the level of woodland cover in the face of potential loss from disease of ash, and other key species.	<p>Monitor for the occurrence of ash dieback. Follow advice current at the time for dealing with the disease.¹ This includes careful felling of trees that have died and pose a threat to safety.</p> <p>Monitor for the signs of pests and disease in other susceptible species; oak</p>	Ongoing monitoring. Annual review	<p>Tree Team</p> <p>Tree Team</p>

¹ The London Tree Officers Association (LTOA) provides up to date guidance on tree health and management.

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		oak and lime with the ash make up over 80% of the overall tree species are also susceptible to disease, again causing a major change in the landscape if there are major losses to these diseases. There is a wide range of other species, both large tree species such as horse chestnut, plane and smaller species such as hawthorn and		for AOD or COD for example, and manage according to current advice. Monitor for the occurrence oak processionary moth, mark trees affected and liaise with the Forestry Commission on its treatment and measures for protecting the public from the irritating effect of hairs from the caterpillar ² . Advise the public to be aware, particularly of affected trees. Either create space through the clearance of self-seeded saplings, or take advantage of space	Ongoing monitoring. Annual review Ongoing monitoring. Annual review	Tree Team Tree Team Monitoring for pests and disease could also

² <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/oakprocessionarymoth>

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		<i>Prunus</i> spp, but in smaller numbers.		created through the falling or necessary felling of trees, to increase the variety of tree species. This can be achieved through planting other tree species that are suitable for the site and less susceptible to disease. Examples include lime (e.g. <i>Tilia cordata</i>), birch, hornbeam, field maple. Consider replacement of the Lombardy poplars with a more appropriate species of tree of similar shape, suitable for this public setting.	Ongoing monitoring. Annual review Tree planting as and when opportunities and funding are available	be carried out by FONC with ultimate responsibility remaining with the Tree Team.
5 (c)	D	While there are a large number of trees in Nunhead	Maintain a healthy age structure of	Through management of natural regeneration and additional planting,	Ongoing. Annual review	Bereavement Services Management, Tree Team

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		<p>Cemetery, not many new trees have been planted. However, it should be noted that there are a large number of saplings with stems 300mm diameter at breast height (DBH) in the wooded areas, which were not picked up by the 2018 survey.</p> <p>New tree planting took place in 2019/20 helping to address this issue.</p>	trees, with succession planting.	<p>maintain a mix of trees to ensure that there is always a mix of old, mature and young trees.</p> <p>Carry out periodic thinning to promote the growth of specimen trees and to allow light to reach the floor to encourage a shrub layer and ground flora. Also consider location, and thin trees that are actively causing problems with significant historic fabric.</p>	Carry out thinning every 5 years and planting as advised by Tree Team	
5 (d)	D	There are a few mature and veteran trees, which merit	Manage veteran trees to conserve	Keep a map of veteran trees updated. Significant trees in the cemetery are	Review of tree survey every three years	Tree Team

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		particular care, both to prolong the life of the trees and to ensure the safety of people visiting the cemetery.	them as long as possible as items of heritage significance and ecological assets, but minimising risks to the users of the cemetery	<p>shown in fig 11.1 on page 149.</p> <p>Survey regularly for safety and carry out any work needed to both preserve the health of the trees and public safety.</p> <p>Through pruning and clearance of saplings, and carefully planned and executed felling of trees that interfere with the veteran trees, maintain space for the veteran trees to grow and to receive sufficient light and nutrients to thrive.</p> <p>While controlling access around the trees (for the sake of the trees and the safety of visitors) manage</p>	<p>Survey following strong winds</p> <p>As needed</p> <p>As needed</p>	<p>Tree Team</p> <p>Tree Team</p> <p>Bereavement Services Management</p>

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				<p>Remove sapling growth on a regular basis from these monuments and memorials to avoid additional damage.</p> <p>Remove existing trees if the significance of the memorial or monument is high enough to warrant the felling of the trees and if the operation can be carried out safely and following the requirements of the TPO.</p>	<p>As required</p> <p>Annual after review</p>	<p>Bereavement Services Management, Tree Team</p> <p>Tree Team</p> <p>Tree team</p>
5 (f)	A, B, D	Unplanned growth has also led to the blurring of the more formal elements of tree planting, and to the older trees becoming swamped	Manage trees to retain the formal landscape elements of the cemetery, such as key	Keep tree growth back from the first row of graves bordering the major paths by controlling self-seeded sapling growth and trimming branches.	Annual	Tree Team

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		by younger trees, reducing their vigour and visibility.	paths and avenues.	Along the smaller paths, the experience of 'tunnelling' through the woods is attractive. To retain this feature, trim branches away from the path itself so that branches do not intrude from the sides and there is 2m headroom above the path.	Annual	Tree Team
5 (g)	D	Lack of structural variety in the woodland and reduction in biodiversity.	Vary the structure of the wood land to improve biodiversity	Maintain glades in the woodland to improve biodiversity, clearing once every two years to control self-seeded sapling growth. Thin areas of woodland where access is needed, and to encourage a more varied understorey.	Once every two years As required On going	Tree team Tree Team Tree Team

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				Retain felled timber on site, stacked in tidy piles within the woodland to provide habitat.		
5 (h)	D	There are trees on the borders of the cemetery growing close to private property, particularly on the eastern boundary and hence potentially presenting a danger to those properties if not maintained in a sound state.	Maintain trees in a safe condition, both for user for the cemetery and those bordering the cemetery	<p>Using the most recent tree survey data, map the cemetery in terms of safety zones, highlighting those areas of greatest public access and potential impact of falling branches and trees on structures within the cemetery and on its boundaries.</p> <p>Use this safety zone map to provide an inspection strategy.</p> <p>Inspect trees for safety based on this strategy, and after storms.</p>	<p>When resources are available</p> <p>Spring 2022</p> <p>Annual and after storms</p>	<p>Tree Team</p> <p>Tree Team</p> <p>Tree Team</p>

Trees						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				Carry out any work resulting from the inspection, or when damage occurs, in a prompt and safe manner, retaining timber in neat piles where possible, setting the piles as far within denser areas of woodland as possible, particularly in more formal areas.		

Ecology

Policy: To protect and enhance important aspects of the site's bio-diversity and nature conservation.

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
6 (a)	All	Invasive species: Japanese knotweed, butterfly bush and laurel and have all been recorded on the site whilst regeneration of sycamore and snowberry may reduce woodland diversity.	To eradicate Japanese knotweed from the cemetery and control other species of concern	Review management of Japanese knotweed in line with the guidance outlined in paragraph 12.14 of this CMP. Review ongoing management of buddleia, snowberry and laurel; identifying priority areas for control and removal.	As required	Bereavement Services Management Ecology Officer
6 (b)	D	Lack of woodland structure diversity. The woodland lacks a scrub layer, glades and edge habitat. It has been identified that in the past there	Appropriate management of the woodland in line with Forestry Commission guidelines.	See point 5a Carry out successive tree planting, in line with the Woodland Management Plan.	See point 5a.	Bereavement Services Management. Tree Team

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		has been a loss of succession planting, leaving the woodland vulnerable to a greater risk of declining quality. However, recent planting in the cemetery will go towards to addressing this.				
6 (c)	D	Impacts from tree and/or woodland management on bats, birds, and invertebrates.	To ensure invertebrates, nesting birds and roosting bats are safeguarded.	Any work to trees, hedgerows and scrub should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (March – August inclusive), and with due regard to potential bat roosts.	As required. Annual review	Bereavement Services Management, Tree Team Ecology Officer
6 (d)	All	Lack of grassland species diversity and herb rich grassland: A	To encourage pollinators and other insects to	Relaxation of mowing regimes to allow flowering grasses and herbs to flower. This could be of particular	Initial review of mowing regimes	Bereavement Services Management

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		significant amount of the grassland is maintained very short, reducing species diversity and offering low value habitat for wildlife. There is a conflict between managing grasslands aesthetically for visitors' vs managing for wildlife.	flourish at the cemetery	benefit along the borders and woodland edge habitats, and would provide increased connectivity across the site for insects. Some areas of grassland could also be enriched with wildflower over-sowing to benefit a range of invertebrates (including pollinator species) and other wildlife. These could become wildlife-focused zones with appropriate signage to educate visitors of their importance. Particular areas that would lend themselves to this management include Windsor Walk, The Beeches, and The Avenue.	Wildflower over seeding and signage when funding becomes available	
6 (e)	All	Ivy is present, increasing the biodiversity of woodland as it provides nesting	Minimise hazard presented by trees near to pathways.	Control ivy in high risk zones such as along boundaries and adjacent to paths so that hazards can be identified. Ivy elsewhere should be	Annually in the winter	Bereavement Services Management Tree Team

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		<p>habitats, good sources of nectar and berries, but if unchecked can mask weaknesses in trees and therefore present a safety concern, potentially increasing the risk of loss of branches or even major limbs through decay and disease.</p> <p>If growing through monuments, the roots can also cause damage as they grow and expand.</p>	Minimise damage to key monuments.	<p>left unless it is causing a hazard, or damage to key monuments.</p> <p>Advice on clearing vegetation from monuments and memorials can be found on the Historic England web site following this Link to guidance on clearing vegetation from monuments and memorials.</p> <p>A woodland management plan for Nunhead Cemetery is being developed as part of the East Lodge project. This will set out advice for ivy management in the cemetery.</p>		

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
6 (f)	All	Tree variants including variable-leaved hawthorn created by Victorian horticulturalists still thrive in Nunhead, and are possibly now rare elsewhere.	Rare species are protected and retained.	Identify and map any rare tree variants such as variable-leaved hawthorn as part of Woodland Management Plan and ensure these are preserved.	Initial mapping Annual review	Tree Team
6 (g)	All	A range of tree species of interest have been recorded on the site as reported in the 'Management Plan Nunhead Cemetery 2017-2022'. However, regular monitoring is not undertaken on the site so understanding the impact of any management (or lack	Ecological monitoring becomes part of the annual management of the site, informing management practices.	Identification, mapping and surveying of veteran and those mature trees of particular ecological value, and create a management plan to protect them in the long-term;	Initial mapping Annual review and monitoring	Tree Team Ecology Officer

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		of), or changes in the environment is unknown.				
6 (h)	All	There is opportunity to build on FONC's involvement with enhancing biodiversity within the site.	Public engagement regarding biodiversity on site.	Species surveys undertaken will present a snapshot of the species currently using the site. Further surveying could be undertaken with community involvement by organising a Bioblitz or similar event. The Ecology Officer and other professional ecologists could be employed to ensure survey methods are appropriate and species are correctly identified.	Ongoing. Annual review	Bereavement Services Management. FONC and other volunteers. Ecology Officer Consultant ecologists
6 (i)	All	Lack of habitat diversity and composition: a majority of habitat present comprises uniform	Improved habitat diversity for wildlife.	Planting a greater diversity of native scrub for wildlife. In particular, planting of elm could encourage the white-letter hairstreak butterfly (<i>Satyrrium w-album</i>), which has been	New planting as funding becomes available.	Bereavement Services Management Ecology Officer

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		woodland across a majority of the site.		recorded within the cemetery and is a local Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP) species (see Figure 11.1 on page 149 for areas to focus management for this species). Formal planting areas such as the flowerbeds by the north and south entrances should focus on pollinator friendly plants and shrubs.	Annual review	
6 (j)	B, D	Wetland habitats are restricted to a single pond and localised flooding around paths during periods of heavy rainfall.	Improve and where possible increase wetland habitat. Enhanced wetland habitats supporting greater numbers of associated species.	Open up the vegetation around the existing pond to allow more light to reach the water, and reducing the gradient of the pond banks, could improve this pond for wildlife. Work with FONC on funding applications (for example to Cleaner, Greener, Safer Link to Southwark webpage for Cleaner Greener Safer grants) for a suitable scheme.	Spring 2023, then on-going with annual review	Bereavement Services Management Ecology Officer

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				In areas that are seasonally wet and cause access issues, any improvements to access should consider the creation of shallow ditches (swales) alongside the paths so that seasonal water is kept off the paths but can be retained for wildlife. Historic England advice should be sought prior to any landscaping work.		
6 (k)	All	There is limited information for visitors on biodiversity in the cemetery.	Improved public understanding of the cemetery's importance for wildlife.	Provide interpretation boards to inform visitors of the importance of the cemetery for wildlife.	Pending funding	Bereavement Services Management Ecology Officer Policy and Programmes team

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
6 (l)	All	An activity bat survey in Summer 2018 indicated a number of bats active within the cemetery, but no rare species.	Ensure that the cemetery remains a suitable habitat for bats.	<p>Install bat boxes and species-targeted bird boxes, such as for woodland species, to encourage these species to use the site. Introduction of bat and bird boxes should be discreet and away from key views (which will also have the likely added benefit of being better for the bats and birds).</p> <p>Undertake a project to map all bird and bat boxes, and consider consulting on appropriate new locations for new boxes, with Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and seek to involve any interested local bat groups.</p> <p>Ensure that for any work carried out in the cemetery is assessed for its</p>	Installation of habitat boxes when funding becomes available for installation and for maintenance	Bereavement Services Management Ecology Officer Policy and Programmes team

Ecology						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				<p>potentials impact on bats and appropriate actions taken to ensure that bats are protected and any impacts avoided or mitigated.</p> <p>Carry out surveys every 3 years to ensure that there is an up to date awareness of where bats are in the cemetery, and whether the uses the cemetery and its buildings as roosts, foraging and/or resting.</p>		

Visitor experience and infrastructure

Policy: To ensure the needs of the visitors are a key consideration in the continued management and maintenance of the cemetery.

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
7 (a)	All	The sound of maintenance vehicles and machinery (e.g. strimmers) can impact on the tranquillity of the cemetery, particularly when burials are taking place.	Tranquillity within the cemetery is preserved.	Look into feasibility of replacing the grounds maintenance vehicles with electric vehicles to reduce disturbance from noise within the cemetery and to improve sustainability.	Feasibility study underway in December 2022, by the Policy and Programme s team	Bereavement Services Management, Maintenance contractor Policy and Programmes team
7 (b)	All	There is a lack of consistency in the design of signs, and the interpretation they provide; some are not in the right location	Improved orientation and understanding amongst visitors to the cemetery.	Identify a brand for Nunhead Cemetery in liaison with the Communications team, which can be used across all signage and interpretation on site. This must involve consultation with FONC and	As funding and resources become available The East	Bereavement Services Management Communication s team

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		and some are in poor condition.		<p>the Conservation team, as the cemetery is in a conservation area. Where possible signage and interpretation should be consolidated to de-clutter.</p> <p>The number of signs should be kept to a minimum, ensuring discreet but visible locations are utilised, to limit clutter and reduce negative visual impacts, while still providing the necessary interpretation and guidance.</p> <p>Develop a programme to improve site interpretation to include maps at all entrances with opening times. Furthermore, ensure interpretation considers the character of the cemetery and is used as a resource to improve the overall quality and perception of the cemetery character. The development of 'accessible signage' should follow recognised</p>	Lodge Restoration project will produce an Interpretation Strategy at Nunhead Cemetery	FONC Policy and Programmes team

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				good practice guidance and carry out an Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA). The two sources of guidance are Sign Design Society The Sign Design Guide and BS 8300-2:2018 Design of an accessible and inclusive built environment.		
7 (c)	All	There is limited seating around the cemetery and site furniture varies in style and condition.	An appropriate amount of seating is provided for visitors.	<p>Audit and review of seating provision and styles in burial areas for those visiting graves.</p> <p>Consult on new seating style and locations with FONC, prior to installation.</p> <p>Keep site furniture to a minimum, ensuring it utilises discreet locations to limit clutter and reduce negative visual impacts while still providing the necessary support for users.</p>	When funding is available	<p>Bereavement Services Management</p> <p>FONC</p> <p>Policy and Programmes team</p>

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
7 (d)	All	There are no publically accessible toilet facilities for visitors to the cemetery. Toilets at the FONC cabin are available when the group is on site.	On site toilet facilities are provided for visitors if feasible.	Accessible public toilets will be provided at the East Lodge, once its restoration is complete. FONCs new cabin will also have toilets for use by volunteers and for events when FONC are on site.	More information regarding timescales for the East Lodge restoration project can be found at Link to East Lodge project webpage	Policy and Programmes team
7 (e)	All	Many of the paths within the cemetery may be difficult to access for some users due to gradients	To improve accessibility for people with disabilities including	Consider where further works to pathways is required to improve accessibility, increase camber where feasible, and improve drainage, as	Undertake EQIA as soon as possible, when	Bereavement Services Management

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		and the condition of path surfacing. However, the section of the Green Chain walk through the centre of the cemetery is less steep and has a better surface than some of the other paths in the cemetery.	wheelchair users. Bunning's original path layout should be preserved.	some paths become inundated during periods of heavy rainfall. Carry out an Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) and follow recommendations.	funding is available Annual review	Policy and Programmes team
7 (f)	All	A need to control unauthorised parking on Linden Grove, so it is available for visitors to the cemetery.	Unrestricted parking is available at Linden Grove, for users of the cemetery and there are 'Blue Badge' bays for visitors with	Monitor parking on Linden Grove and consider installation of a CPZ (controlled parking zone) to prevent permanent parking of vehicles in this area as required.	Initial review Annual review Consultation on Nunhead Area CPZ completed	Highways and Network Management Team leisure/nunheadcpz2022/

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
			disabilities on Daniels Road 125 metres from the Linden Grove entrance, and on Linden Grove 200 metres from the Linden Grove entrance.		Link to Nunhead CPZ Consultation	
7 (g)	All	Facilities for mourners need to provide for their needs, for instance access to a tap.	Facilities for mourners are sufficient.	Maintain the publicly accessible tap at the Limesford entrance in good working order. The council is progressing plans to restore the East Lodge with community spaces, a café and facilities for FONC.	Annual review Progress on the East Lodge project can be viewed on this	Bereavement Services Management Policy and Programmes team

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
					webpage Link to East Lodge Project webpage	
7 (h)	All	Maintenance operations are not always carried out in a manner that is sensitive to the natural environment, e.g. strimming spring bulbs prior to flowering.	See point 4(g) and 4(h)	See point 4(g) and 4(h)	See point 4(g) and 4(h)	See point 4(g) and 4(h)
7 (i)	All	PSPOs introduced in 2018 have restricted the number of dogs with one walker to 6, with a maximum	To ensure that dogs accessing the cemetery are controlled and do not	Monitor effectiveness of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) on controlling dogs at the Cemetery	Review of PSPO every 3 years.	Bereavement Services Management working with Parks Liaison

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		number of 3 off the lead at any one time. Areas of the cemetery have also been zoned as dogs on lead only. See dog control areas shown on the map on page 179. Enforcement of these restrictions are key to their success.	disturb other visitors to the cemetery or harm the landscape and facilities within the cemetery'			and Enforcement Officers.
7 (j)	All	Visitor numbers and demographic are currently unknown.	Visitor numbers and usage are fully understood	Automatic visitor counting machines were installed in February 2021 at the main entrance gates on Linden Grove. Data from these counting machines will be used to understand visitor patterns. To better understand the characteristics of who visits the cemetery and who does not, further information would be needed	Survey to be undertaken in the summer months, when resources	Policy and Programmes team

Visitor experience and infrastructure						
Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
				regarding demographic profile and other features (e.g. number of dogs). The East Lodge project will seek to capture that information by recording visitor profile information at events and activities starting in 2024. This will help the council to ensure management is reflecting the needs of users, including cultural preferences.	are available Annual review	
7 (k)	All	The cemetery has achieved Green Flag Status.	Green Flag standards are maintained.	Maintain Green Flag Award.	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management
7 (l)	All	The cemetery is of unique cultural significance, which is currently overlooked due to a perceived relative lack of tourists	The CMP recognises and promotes the importance of the cemetery.	Promote Nunhead Cemetery in liaison with the Communications team	Annual review	Bereavement Services Management and Communications Team

Visitor experience and infrastructure

Issue No.	Character Area	Current management issue	Objective	Management action	Timescale and completion status	Responsibility
		in comparison to Nunhead Cemetery's sister cemetery at Highgate.				

4 Implementation and review

4.1 The Conservation Management Plan will be continually reviewed, revised and re-written. The cycle for the Plan is to:

- Write and adopt the plan.
- Operate according to the strategy and policies held within the plan.
- Take forward the policies into a more detailed management and maintenance plan or instructions that provide specifications and work schedules based on the objectives in this CMP.
- Monitor the operation of the plan.
- Review the working of the plan.
- Revise and improve the plan where necessary to reflect on-going developments such as changes to visitor access or revised financial projections.

Circulation

4.2 The Conservation Management Plan will be circulated to relevant council teams and interested parties within the stakeholder working group and other partners including FONC. It will also be published on the council website.

Monitoring and review

4.3 Monitoring the implementation of the action plan is fundamental for the success of the plan. This monitoring should lead to future amendments to the action plan.

4.4 The key areas for monitoring at Nunhead Cemetery are:

- Condition of listing buildings, monuments, memorials and structures
- Protection of archaeological interest
- Condition of war Graves and war memorials
- Headstone condition and subsidence of burials
- Woodland and tree conditions and quality

- Path condition and accessibility
 - Visitor perception
- 4.5 The CMP should be reviewed on an annual basis, revised in year 5 (2028) and re-written in year 10 (2033).
- 4.6 This monitoring, review and revision should be carried out under the direction and ownership of the Bereavement Services Manager, and be subject to review by the Natural Environment Asset Manager, and other key stakeholders such as FONC. Changes should be ‘tracked’ at each revision.
- 4.7 The purpose of these reviews is to:
- Incorporate information newly available (e.g. visitor surveys, ecological surveys, tree surveys);
 - Take changing circumstances into account (such as a step up in the funeral business);
 - Include the results of monitoring with fine-tuning of projects where necessary;
 - Assess achievements over the first five years in terms of a) policy (success and failures) and b) projects.
- 4.8 Each review should set out a further detailed schedule of works and a timetable for future plan reviews. A ten-year review may be sufficient in the longer term.
- 4.9 It is fundamental that the CMP is seen as ‘dynamic’ and is flexible and responsive to change. As new information becomes available, consideration may need to be given to modifying or changing prescriptions. Such changes should always be assessed in the light of the CMP aims on page 6 and the key objectives and strategy established within this CMP and should not have an adverse impact upon the essential character of Nunhead Cemetery.
- 4.10 In keeping with the best practice, significant changes of direction should be widely consulted to gain consensus before adoption.

Section B

Supporting Information

5 Introduction

The preparation of the Conservation Management Plan

5.1 The CMP method consisted of the following five stages:

- Step one:** Information gathering about the site and its current use through a review of documentary information and previous surveys, complemented by a number of surveys carried out as part of this CMP process to measure any recent changes.
- Step two:** Based on this information, preparation of an evaluation of the cemetery and its component parts based on a number of themes including archaeology, built heritage and structures, ecology, landscape and public use. This step sets out the significance of the cemetery in terms of heritage, natural environment and community value.
- Step three:** Consideration of the issues and opportunities for the cemetery including identification of factors that might threaten the significance of the cemetery and those features that make Nunhead Cemetery special.
- Step four:** Development of the management approach for the cemetery through a vision, management policies and actions.
- Step five:** Setting out the approach for implementation, monitoring and review once the CMP is adopted.

Main sources

5.2 The main documentary sources of information to inform the development of the CMP are included in **Appendix 2**.

Consultation process

5.3 The development of the CMP has been informed by consultation with several stakeholders and interested parties, including:

Table 5.1 Key Organisations consulted in drawing up the CMP

Consultee	Role
John Wade	Southwark Council
Pippa Krishnan	Southwark Council
Candy Edwards	Southwark Council
Sam Rees	Southwark Council
Gillian King	Southwark Council
Matthew Hill	Southwark Council
Andrew Robinson	Idverde (The Council's Grounds Maintenance Contractors)
Jeff Hart and others	Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC)
Christopher Laine CMLI	Historic England, statutory consultee

6 Historic Development

Context

- 6.1 Nunhead Cemetery is the second largest of the seven great Victorian Cemeteries of London constructed between 1832 and 1841 to provide a solution to London's burial problem. At the time, the overcrowding in inner-city cemeteries had reached crisis point; recent burials were opened up as new graves were dug, corpses were dismembered to make space for new burials, and body snatchers raided graves to sell corpses as medical cadavers. The smell of the dead lingered around graveyards and disease was spread to those handling diseased corpses. An outbreak of cholera in 1848 that killed 60,000 people in the UK forced the government to take action. A series of Burial Acts were passed in the early 1850s that banned burials within the city (Dunning, 2017).
- 6.2 The Magnificent Seven cemeteries offered sanitised, attractive places for burial outside the city where the Victorian fashion for elaborate funerals could be conducted. Each of the cemeteries was an independent commercial concern except for Highgate and Nunhead Cemeteries. These were built by the London Cemetery Company following an Act of Parliament in 1836, which proposed three new cemeteries to the north, south and east of the city.
- 6.3 Highgate and Nunhead Cemeteries enjoyed elevated rural positions overlooking the city. The site at Nunhead was also chosen in part due to its popularity as a rural retreat for city-dwellers; even then it was a destination for the living and the dead.

Historic development

1840 - 1900

- 6.4 In 1840, the surveyor James Bunstone Bunning (1802 – 1859) was appointed to design the layout and initial built structures (including the entrance lodges, gateways, temporary chapels, and likely also the catacombs). Bunning was a London-born architect, most famous for his contributions towards the design of Highgate Cemetery, the Coal Exchange on Lower Thames Street and the Caledonian Market in Islington. He was also Clerk of Works (later Architect) to the City of London. Bunning's design for visitor circulation at Nunhead Cemetery

comprised of sweeping paths that made the most of the topography of the site, and views from Nunhead Hill.

- 6.5 In 1844 the architect Thomas Little won the competition to design the Anglican and Non-conformist chapels, which he did in Decorated Gothic style. Little went on to design the layout and two chapels at Paddington Cemetery.
- 6.6 At the time of its construction, Nunhead Cemetery was surrounded by open countryside as illustrated in the paintings of John Poulter (1824 – 1921) included in **Figure 6.1**. (pages 72 and 73) Linden Grove was created in the 1840s to provide access to the cemetery from Nunhead Lane, with Nunhead Grove following about 10 years later. Over the next 40 to 50 years the development of streets and housing spread rapidly, infilling the open areas and enclosing the cemetery as illustrated in the map progression included in **Figure 6.2**.³ on page 74.
- 6.7 The financial success of the cemetery has fluctuated since its inception, mainly due to competition with other nearby cemeteries in Camberwell, Lewisham and Deptford. The construction of the Crystal Palace railway halted burials between 1863 and 1865, and then fraudulent behaviour by the company's registrar, discovered in 1865, cost the company several thousand pounds.
- 6.8 Around this time, it became fashionable to place flowers by gravesides and so greenhouses were erected about 70m south-east of the Anglican Chapel to provide flowers. This proved to be a good source of income for the company.

1900 - 1950

- 6.9 This was a period of great contrast in the history of the cemetery. The early part of the 20th century was a period of steady growth and improvements at Nunhead Cemetery. These included the construction of a deep drain to release more land for common graves, new tree planting on unmarked graves and a new entrance constructed off Limesford Road in 1909 that provided access to the cemetery for residents of the new Waverley Park Estate.
- 6.10 However, during the Second World War, the cemetery's paths, vaults, graves and vegetation suffered much bomb damage. The Dissenters Chapel was damaged so severely it was considered beyond repair and demolished after the war in 1952.
- 6.11 The removal of iron railings as part of the war effort opened the cemetery to vandalism.

³ Tibbalds (2012), Peckham and Nunhead Characterisation Study

1950 - Today

- 6.12 The London Cemetery Company had been in financial difficulties since the end of WWII and as a result, the levels of maintenance were reduced. Woodland and scrub began to take hold, and in 1969 The London Cemetery Company ceased trading at Nunhead and the cemetery's gates were locked.
- 6.13 Woodland quickly developed and the site became notorious during the 1970s for vandalism and anti-social behaviour. In 1975, following a local campaigning and in a bid to regain control of the site, the London Borough of Southwark by an Act of Parliament successfully bought the cemetery for £1. The following year the Anglican Chapel was gutted by fire.
- 6.14 Following the Council's possession of the cemetery, it was divided into two parts, described in the Rights of Reinterment Act 1975 as the 'burial lands' and the 'open space lands' (**Figure 6.3**) on page 75. The burial lands were subject to the legislation applicable to municipally owned cemeteries, whereas the open space lands were named Waverley Park, and in this area no further burials were permitted under any circumstances.
- 6.15 In 1980, the cemetery re-opened for burials. However, concerned at the impact this was having on the cemetery, the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC) was formed by local residents in November 1981 so that the local community could have a voice and involvement in the management of the cemetery.
- 6.16 Since Southwark Council's purchase, the cemetery's significance has been recognised with several designations:
- Nunhead Conservation Area (1986)
 - Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (1987)
 - Grade II* Registered Park and Garden (1987)
 - Local Nature Reserve (2003)
- 6.17 In 1998, Southwark Council and FONC submitted a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and were awarded a grant of £1.25 million to undertake essential repairs to the Anglican Chapel, restoration to the gates, walls and railings, the repair of 50 monuments, access improvements and landscaping works. Work was also undertaken at this time to open up the views from Nunhead Hill to St Paul's Cathedral and the views south-east. The works were completed in 2001.
- 6.18 The cemetery as a whole, and the Grade II East Lodge, are included on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register (Historic England, 2023). Vegetation is causing disruption to monuments and obstructing appreciation of the designed landscape.

The East Lodge is noted as a building that plays a key role in the landscape due to its position at the main entrance and its symmetry with the West Lodge. However, its condition was deteriorating. In September 2014, the council began to work with FONC to assess the future of the East Lodge. In early 2015, Historic England agreed to help in this assessment by granting funding to Southwark Council to have structural and condition surveys undertaken, and an options appraisal for the lodge produced. The condition surveys and options appraisal produced in 2017 established the current condition of the building and provided a series of options and outline costs for the potential future use of the building.

- 6.19 The options appraisal report recommended that the project be delivered in two phases with an urgent package of enabling works being progressed as a priority to prevent further deterioration of the building. Phase one enabling works were completed in March 2021. These consisted of dismantling parts of the building at risk of collapse, and stabilisation of the walls. Additional structural works and drainage works were carried out in 2022. Phase two involves architectural design development and construction work to restore the building for public use. The design element of Phase two was progressed in parallel to the enabling works and planning permission was approved in 2022. For further information on project progress please see the project webpage at www.southwark.gov.uk/eastlodge.
- 6.20 The restoration of the East Lodge has been a council plan target since 2018 and remains a commitment in the Southwark Plan 2022. [New Southwark Plan](#)
- 6.21 Today, the cemetery is one of the largest areas of natural secondary woodland in central London. As such, it is valued by the local community as a space for walking and for enjoying and learning about the natural environment.

Figure 6.1 Paintings by John Poulter (1824 – 1921)



Poulter (c.1850), Nunhead, south from Harders Road [Southwark Art Collection/South London Gallery Collection, c/o Southwark Council]

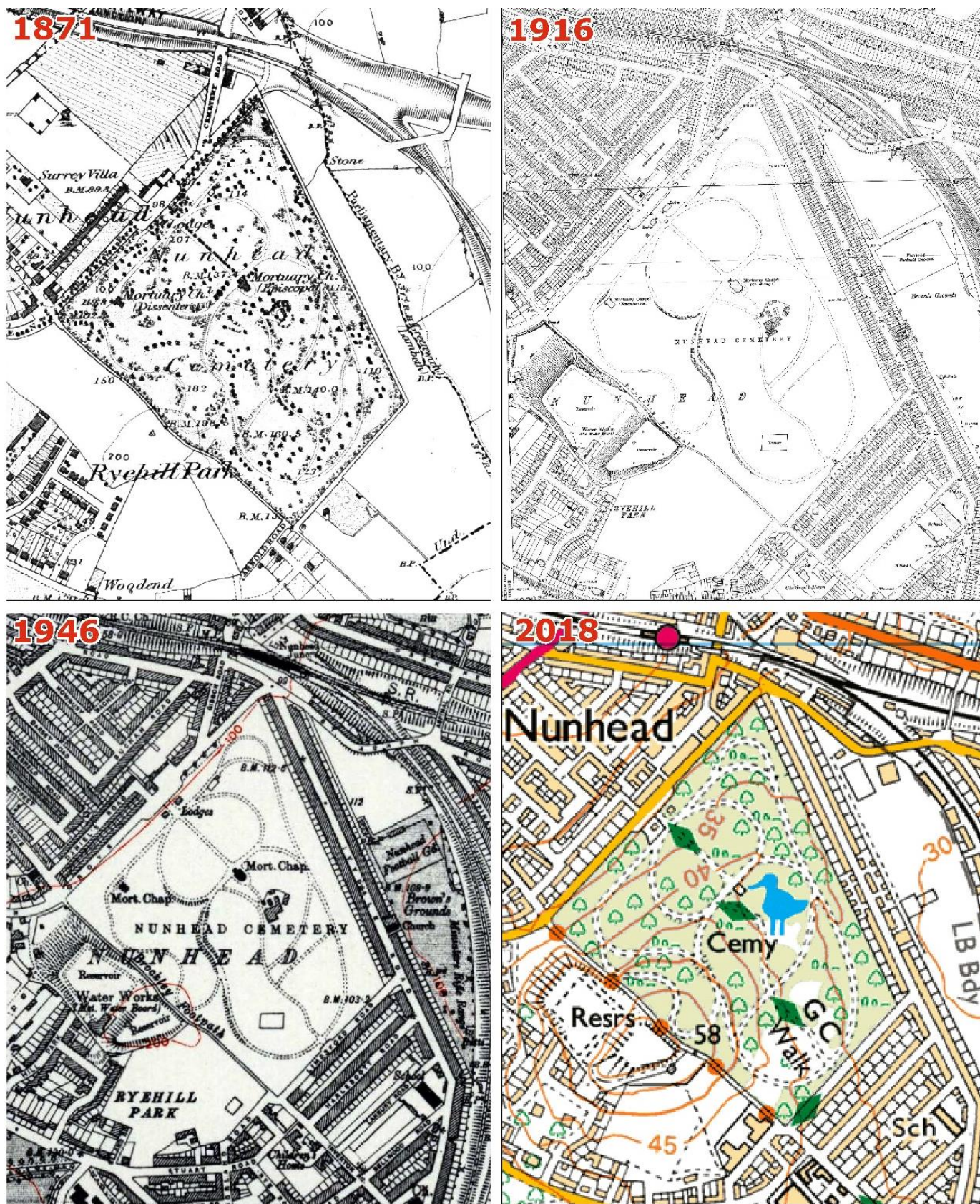


Poulter (1850), St Paul's and the Thames from Nunhead Hill [Southwark Art Collection/South London Gallery Collection, c/o Southwark Council]



Poulter (1855), View from Nunhead Hill East [Southwark Art Collection/South London Gallery Collection, c/o Southwark Council]

Figure 6.2 Evolution of the cemetery landscape from 1871 to 2018



Southwark Cemeteries
Conservation Management
Plan

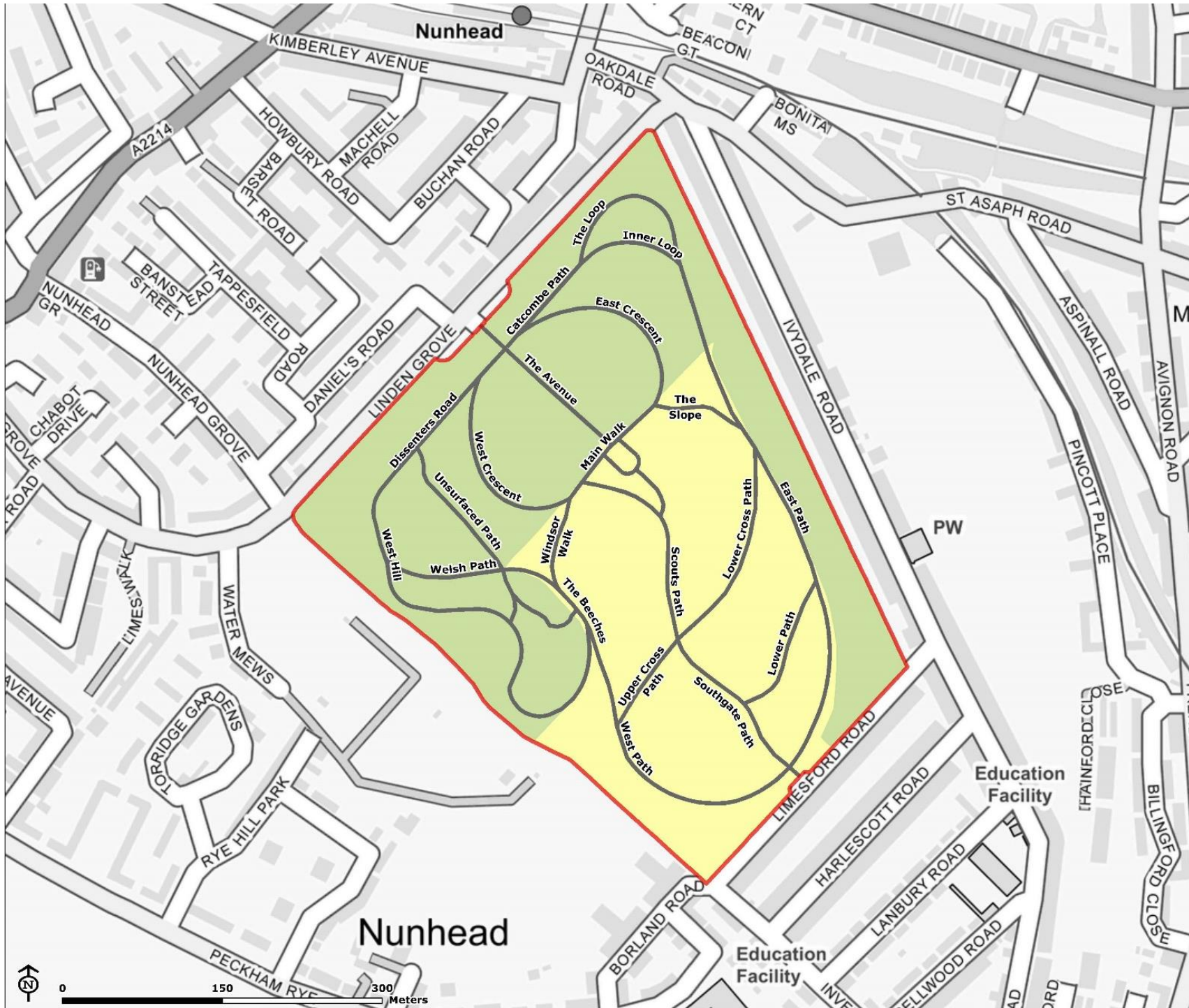
Figure 6.2 Evolution of
Nunhead Cemetery, 1871
to 2018



Source: Ground Sure, Scottish National Library

Map Scale @ A4: 1:9,000

Figure 6.3 Burial Lands and Open Space Lands, 1975



**Nunhead Cemetery
Conservation Management
Plan**

Figure 6.3: Burial Lands and Open Space Lands, 1975

- Nunhead Cemetery
- Footpaths
- Division of Cemetery Management**
- Cemetery Area
- Nature Reserve/Open Space Area

Map Scale @A3: 1:3,500



7 Management information

7.1 The following chapter summarises the key factors, which need to be considered in managing the landscape of Nunhead Cemetery. Summaries are provided of the cemetery’s natural characteristics and the strategic policy context, which underpins and guides management operations. Details are also provided of protected features together with a description of current land uses.

Summary of information

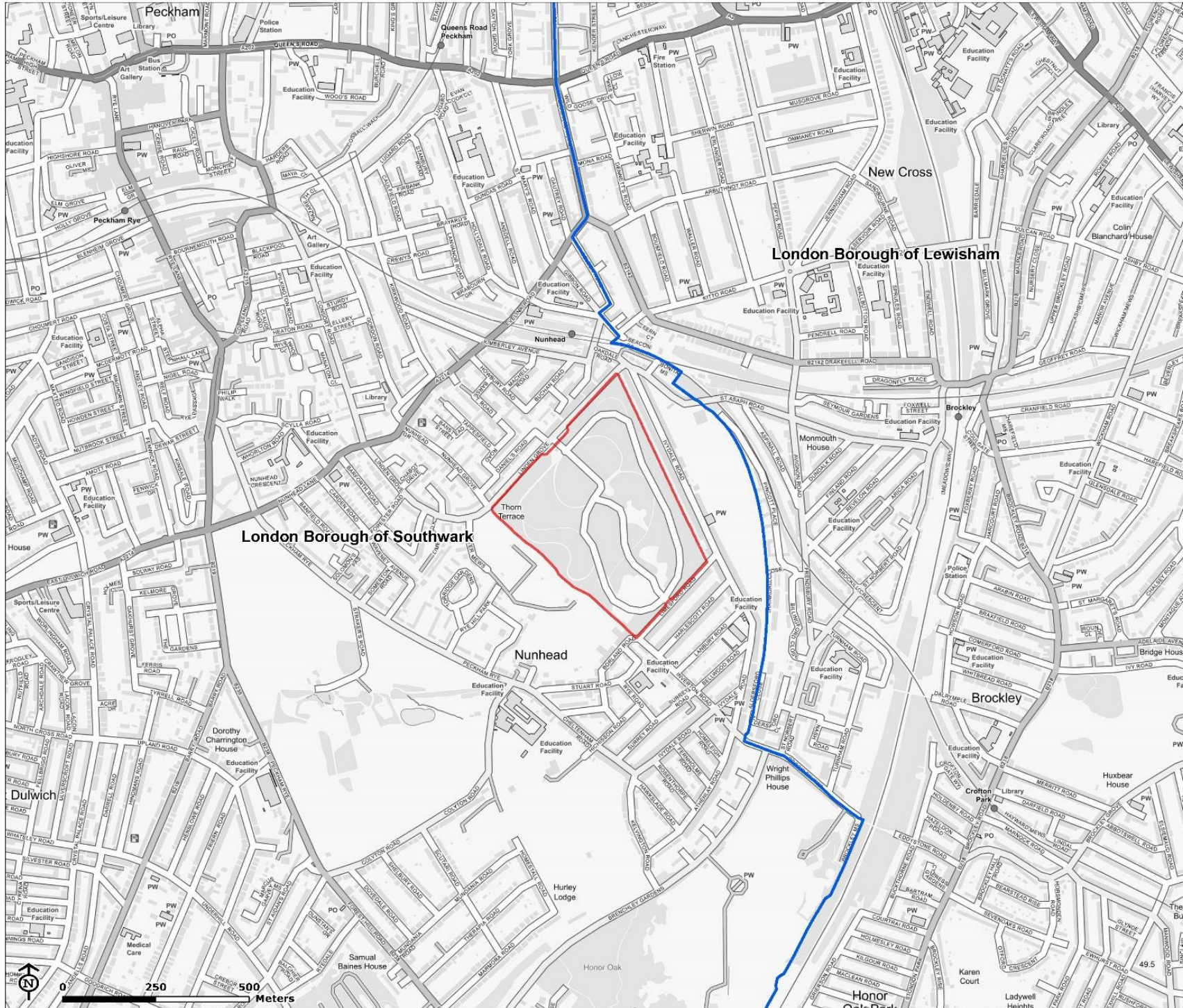
7.2 **Table 7.1** summarises the key site information for Nunhead Cemetery. A map showing the location of the cemetery within Southwark can be seen in **Figure 7.1** and key features of the cemetery are shown in **Figure 7.2**.

Table 7.1 Site summary

Name	Nunhead Cemetery
Address	Linden Grove, Southwark, London SE15 3DT
Location	The main entrance is located on Linden Grove on the north-western boundary. There is a second entrance on the south-eastern boundary on Limesford Road. Both of these roads are lined by residential houses and form the immediate boundary at these two ends of the site. To the north-east the gardens of residential properties along Ivydale Road border the site, and to the south-west the Brockley Footpath runs along the boundary between the cemetery and Nunhead Reservoir (owned by Thames Water) and Stuart Road Allotments (managed by local residents).
Grid reference	TQ 35462 75604
Wards	Nunhead and Queens Road Ward and bordering Peckham Rye Ward

Dates/phases	Consecrated, 1840 Closed, 1969 Bought by London Borough of Southwark, 1976 Restoration works, 2001 East Lodge restoration, underway in 2022
Ownership	London Borough of Southwark

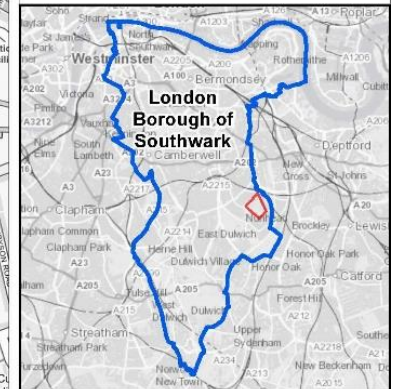
Figure 7.1 Location Plan



**Southwark Cemetery CMP:
Nunhead Cemetery**

Figure 7.1: Location Plan

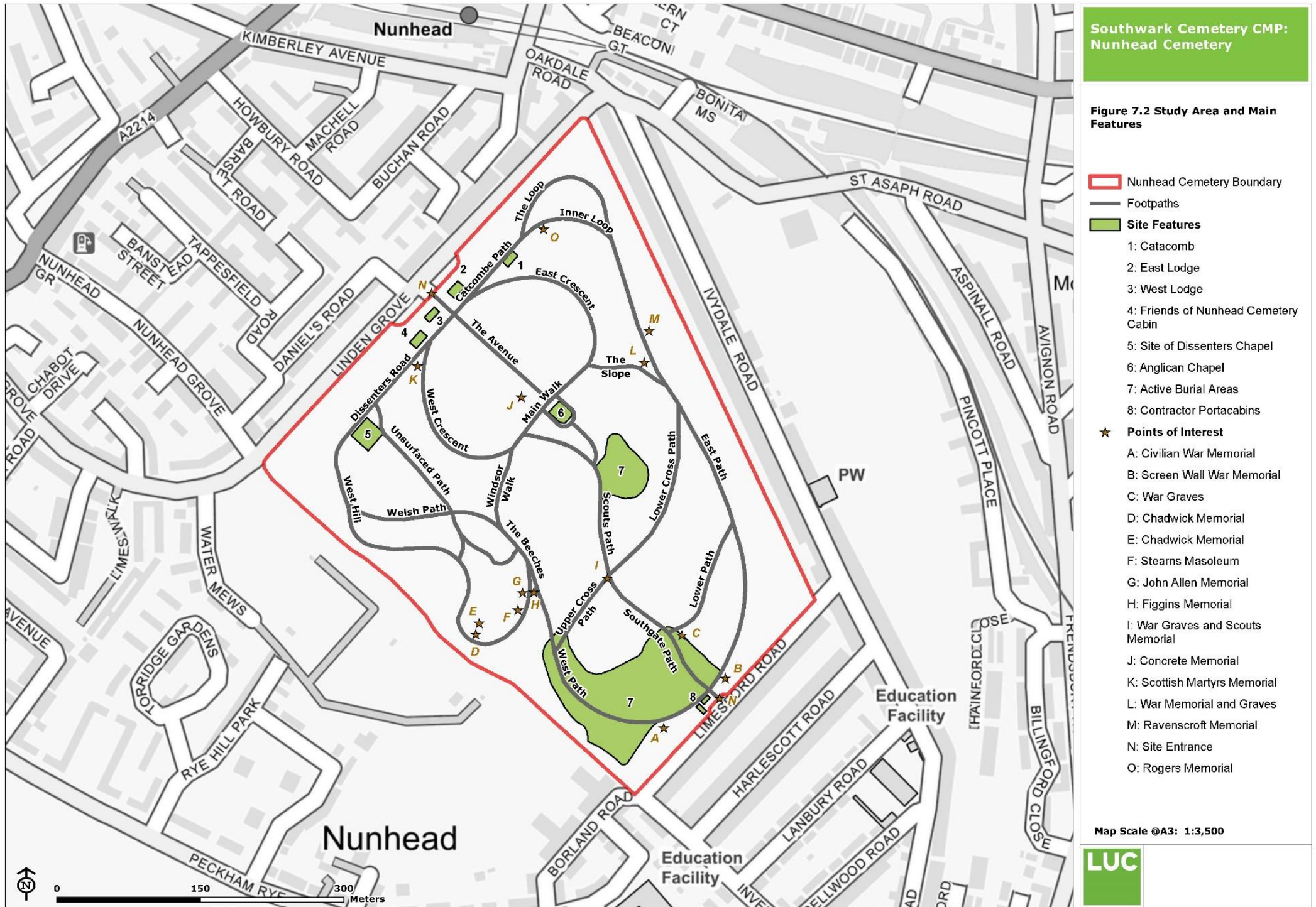
- Nunhead Cemetery Boundary
- London Borough of Southwark Boundary



Map Scale @A3: 1:10,000



Figure 7.2 Study Area and Main Features



Natural characteristics

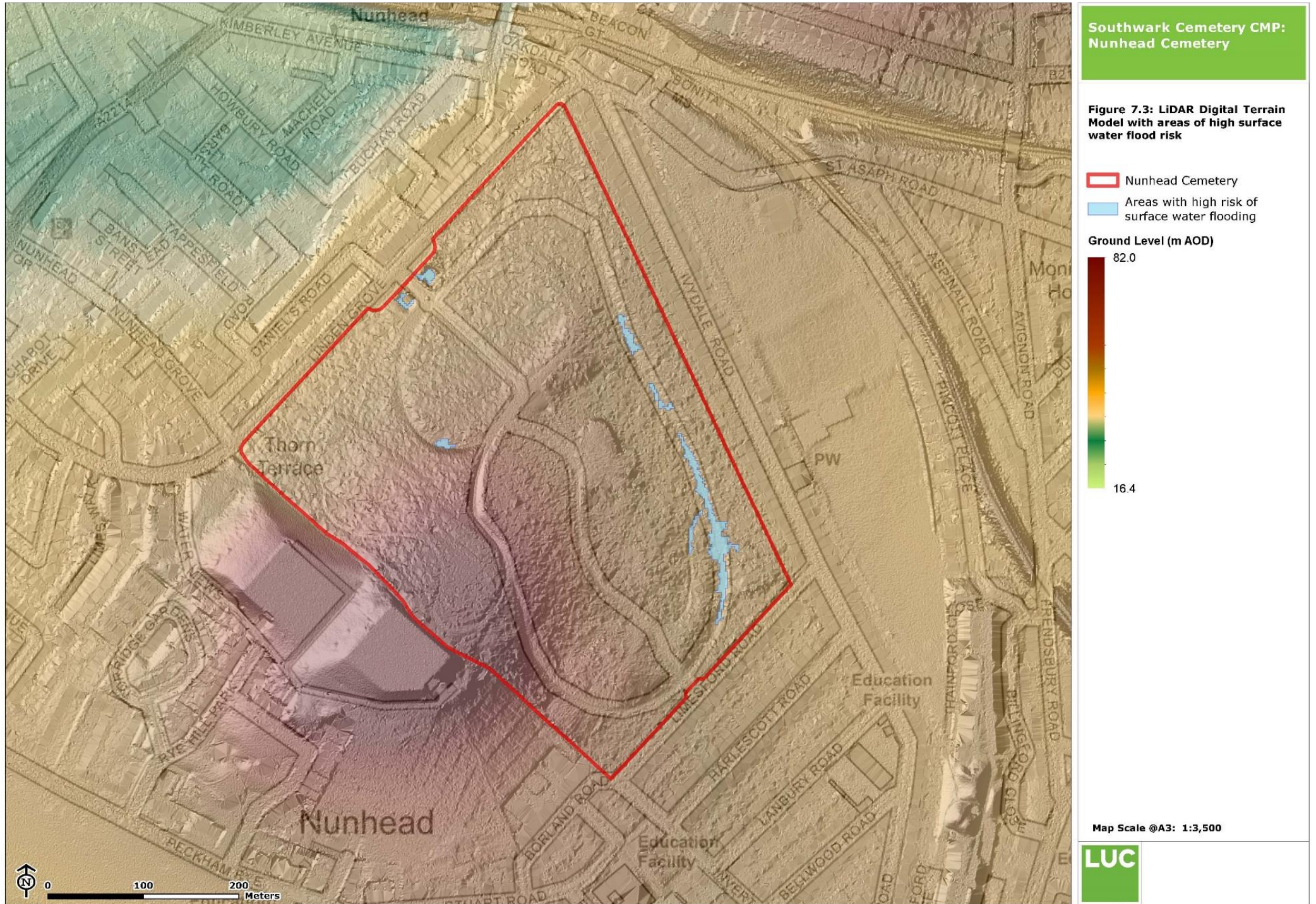
Topography, geology and soils

- 7.3 Nunhead Cemetery lies at around 50 metres above sea level. The main entrance is on the north-eastern slope of a conical hill (historically called Nunhead Hill, but also referred to as West Hill) where the 100 foot contour line runs in parallel with this boundary. Halfway along the south-western boundary the site rises to the hill's summit at 60 metres. Bunning's original layout of pathways took advantage of the natural topography of the site, with sweeping paths around this hill cutting into the hillside in some locations before leading up to spectacular views from the summit across London.
- 7.4 The topography largely follows the natural form of the land, although there are areas that have been raised to accommodate further burials. These areas are the two most recently active burial sites within the cemetery, but there is now no space for new graves. They can be seen in **Figure 7.2** on page 79.
- 7.5 The underlying geology dates back 48 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene period and is dominated by London Clay formation – Clay and Silt (local environment previously dominated by deep seas). Nearby bedrock is of sedimentary clay, silt and sand (local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas). This mix of deep sea and estuarine geology is typical of the flood plain of a river such as the Thames.

Ground water and hydrology

- 7.6 Due to the cemetery's hillside location, water drains from the summit of Nunhead Hill in the west to the north, east and south of the site.
- 7.7 The Environment Agency (EA) Flood Data Map indicates that the cemetery falls within Flood Zone 1, which has a low probability of flooding. This is where the annual probability of flooding is less than 1 in 1000.
- 7.8 Looking in more detail at the data available from the EA, areas of the site with a high risk of flood from surface water each year (greater than 3.3%) include:
- the immediate surrounds of the two entrance lodges,
 - the East Path that skirts the eastern edge of the site.
- 7.9 Consultation with the council and FONC have confirmed historic issues with drainage around East Lodge and localised issues with inundated paths around the eastern corner of the site.

Figure 7.3 LiDAR Digital Terrain Model with areas of high-risk surface water flood risk



Legislation and policy context

National Planning Policy Framework

7.10 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in July 2018, replacing the earlier 2012 NPPF. The 2018 NPPF was updated in February 2019 with minor amendments and was further updated in July 2021. The NPPF sets out statutory provisions and provides guidance to local authorities and others on planning policies for England and how these should be applied.

7.11 The NPPF 2021 has three overarching objectives⁴; economic, social and environmental. The most relevant to the management of Nunhead Cemetery are:

- **a social objective:** ‘to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;’
- **an environmental objective:** ‘to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy...’.

7.12 The NPPF sets out a requirement for Local Planning Authorities to include strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places, and make sufficient provision for ‘conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure’.⁵

Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

7.13 To conserve and enhance the historic environment, local planning authorities are required to take into account:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;

⁴ Para 8 NPPF, July 2021

⁵ Para 20 NPPF, July 2021

- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place'.⁶

7.14 When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be.⁷ Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens should be exceptional.⁸

Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

7.15 Local planning policies should identify, map and safeguard local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration and creation. Local Plans should also promote the conservation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.⁹

7.16 Development proposals where the primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported, whereas those that pose significant harm that cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts, adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for), should be refused. Development incorporating biodiversity should be encouraged.¹⁰

Open space and recreation

7.17 The NPPF recognises the importance of access to high quality open spaces for the health and well-being of communities. Policies within Local Plans should be based on up to date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities in terms of both quality and quantity.¹¹ Planning decisions should protect

⁶ Para 189 NPPF, July 2021

⁷ Para 199 NPPF, July 2021

⁸ Para 200 NPPF, July 2021

⁹ Para 174 NPPF, February 2019

¹⁰ Para 175 NPPF, February 2019

¹¹ Para 96 NPPF, February 2019

and enhance access by protecting and enhancing public rights of way and adding links to existing networks.¹²

Regional Planning Context

The London Plan

7.18 The First London Plan was adopted in 2004 and set out the spatial development strategy for Greater London, providing a framework for development and use of land over the next 20-25 years. It provided strategic, London-wider policy context within which boroughs should set their local planning policies. Between 2008 and 2016, revisions and new plans were published. The London Plan 2021 was published as a replacement plan, replacing all previous versions and alterations, on 2 March 2021¹³. A number of policies in the London plan are of relevance to this CMP.

7.19 These include:

- Policy GG1 Building strong and inclusive communities
- Policy GG2 Making the best use of land
- Policy GG3 Creating a healthy city
- Policy D5 Inclusive design
- Policy D8 Public realm
- Policy S1 Developing London's social infrastructure
- Policy S4 Play and informal recreation
- Policy S5 Sports and recreation facilities
- Policy S6 Public toilets
- Policy S7 Burial space
- Policy HC1 Heritage conservation and growth
- Policy HC3 Strategic and Local Views
- Policy HC4 London View Management Framework
- Policy G1 Green infrastructure
- Policy G3 Metropolitan Open Land
- Policy G4 Local green and open space

¹² Para 98 NPPF, February 2019

¹³ <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/london-plan/new-london-plan/london-plan-2021>

- Policy G6 Biodiversity and access to nature
- Policy G7 Trees and woodlands.

Local Planning Context

Greater London Authority Biodiversity Strategy and BAPs

7.20 The UK Post 2010 Bio-diversity Framework sets out the national strategy for wildlife conservation based upon action plans for habitats and species and a Local Biodiversity Action Plan has also been prepared by the London Borough of Southwark.

The New Southwark Plan (2022)

7.21 The New Southwark Plan (NSP) is a borough-wide set of planning policy documents that contain:

- The regeneration strategy for the borough
- Policies that are used to make decisions on planning applications
- Key development sites with land use and urban design requirements
- Visions for each of the borough's unique neighbourhoods.

7.22 The New Southwark Plan was adopted in February 2022. It can be found at [New Southwark Plan](#)

7.23 Policies of relevance to Nunhead Cemetery in the New Southwark Plan include:

- AV.12 Nunhead Area Vision
- P20 Conservation areas
- P21 Conservation of the historic environment and natural heritage
- P22 Borough views
- P23 Archaeology
- P51 Walking
- P57 Open Space
- P59 Green infrastructure
- P60 Biodiversity
- P61 Trees

Southwark's Cemetery Strategy (2012)

7.24 Nunhead Cemetery was not the main focus of the 2012 Cemetery Strategy due to its designation as a Local Nature Reserve and its Grade II* listing on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. However, the following recommendation for Nunhead Cemetery was made:

- Short-term options: expansion of existing Muslim Burial site on previously topped up ground, and provision elsewhere in new layouts.

Muslim Burials were however all located at Camberwell Old Cemetery rather than Nunhead.

Southwark Open Space Strategy (2013)

7.25 In order to satisfy both the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the London Plan (2012), Southwark Council produced and adopted an open space strategy in 2013, which identifies a series of open space standards that the council aims to achieve. The standards look at quantitative, qualitative and accessibility components to help to ensure adequate levels of provision for open space, based upon existing and anticipated future needs until 2026.

7.26 Nunhead Cemetery falls within the Peckham and Nunhead sub-area. Opportunities to improve connections to the spaces in the east of the sub-area, linking in with Nunhead Cemetery and the existing Green Chain Walk were identified as part of this study.

7.27 The cemetery is referenced as making a significant contribution to the area's special character and noted to require protection and enhancement.

Southwark Tree Management Strategy (2013)

7.28 The Southwark Tree Management Strategy sets out a policy framework for the trees owned, managed and protected by the council. The key objective of the strategy is to improve the maintenance and management of the borough's trees in order to enhance the condition and overall safety of Southwark's tree stock. The strategy recognises that trees have a wide range of environmental, aesthetic, economic, health and biodiversity benefits and should be protected where necessary.

The All London Green Grid (2012)

7.29 As part of the Supplementary Planning Guidance paper The All London Green Grid (2012), strategic green infrastructure opportunities for this area include promoting and enhancing connections between the open spaces north from Crystal Palace

Park towards Burgess Park, including One Tree Hill, Sydenham Wells Park, Horniman Gardens, the Camberwell cemeteries, Peckham Rye Common and Park.¹⁴

Legal context

Historic environment legislation

7.30 The key pieces of legislation relating to the protection and treatment of the historic environment are the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) and the Town and Country Planning Act (1990). The 1979 acts offers protection to nationally important archaeological remains through scheduling which prohibits any disturbance without consent. The 1990 Act places a number of duties on decision makers, key amongst these are:

- **Section 66** which states that, in considering applications affecting Listed Buildings, 'special regard' will be had 'to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses'; and
- **Section 72** which states that, in considering applications affecting Conservation Areas, 'special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area'.

7.31 In the operation of this law, the concept of 'preservation' referred to in Sections 66 and 72 has been interpreted as to do no harm to. The application of these laws and national policy covering the effects of development on the historic environment are outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

7.32 In relation to human remains, the Human Tissue Act 2004 is also relevant. Under this act ([Human Tissue Act](#)), a licence is required to hold human remains less than 100 years old for a purpose scheduled under the Act. Such purposes include scientific research and public display.

- In relation to burial ground there are also a number of archaeological guidance documents relating to the removal, analysis and curation of human remains. Those most pertinent to the recording of human remains include:
 - Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE). 2017. Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England (second edition).
 - IFA. 2004. Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains.

¹⁴ SPG Green Infrastructure and Open Environments: The All London Green Grid (2012)

- Historic England. 2018. The Role of the Human Otologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project

Cemeteries and burial grounds legislation

7.33 The majority of burial law is directed at specific types of burial grounds such as those operated by the Church of England (including ecclesiastical and common law), with few laws which apply to burial grounds in general. Burial grounds operated by Local Authorities come under the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977, and in some instances, individual burial grounds are subject to specific Acts of Parliament.¹⁵ Key legislation relating to cemeteries and burial grounds that is of particular consideration for Nunhead Cemetery is listed below:

- The Burial Acts (1852-1885)
- s21 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1975
- s9 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1976
- Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977
- s74 of the London Local Authorities Act 2007

7.34 Legal provision set out in s9 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1976 (covering the rights of burial authorities in relation to extinguishing burial rights) specifically excludes Nunhead Cemetery along with Camberwell Old and Camberwell New Cemetery.

Byelaws

7.35 There are no byelaws for Southwark's cemeteries.

Designations

Historic Environment

7.36 Nunhead Cemetery includes a number of buildings and monuments which are nationally designated. **Figure 7.4** includes a map detailing the location of historic designations. The following are a list of the nationally designated buildings and

¹⁵ Ministry of Justice 2010 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/burial-grounds-guidance-for-managers>

monuments, all of which are listed as Grade II. Further detail of these can be found in **Chapter 9**.

- Chapel of Nunhead Cemetery Listed Entry Number 1385646,
- East Lodge, Listed Entry Number 1385647, but on the At Risk Register with its condition described as 'Very bad'.
- West Lodge, Listed Entry Number 1385659
- Entrance, gate piers, gates and railings to Nunhead Cemetery, Listed Entry Number 1385648
- The Scottish Martyrs Memorial, Listed Entry Number 1385658
- Monument to Maria Proom, Listed Entry Number 1385651, also on the At Risk Register, with its condition described as 'Fair' with concerns about the structural stability of the monument due to ground subsidence nearby.
- Monuments to Thomas Humphreys, Listed Entry Number 1385654
- Monument to Henry Daniel, Listed Entry Number 1385649
- Monument to Sophia Kimpton, Listed Entry Number 1385653
- Monument to Oppenheim and Schroeter, Listed Entry Number 1385652
- Stearns Mausoleum, Listed Entry Number 1385657
- Monument to John Allan, Listed Entry Number 1385650
- Monument to Vincent Figgins, Listed Entry Number 1385655

7.37 There are a number of other historical features throughout the site which, although not designated, are appreciated for the historical merit and context within the cemetery. Southwark Council, possibly in consultation with FONC, may wish to consider discussing further designations with Historic England. Consideration will be given to memorials which:

- are the work of a noted architect, sculptor or designer;
- possess clear special qualities of design and execution;
- are part of a special group, or play a key visual role in the landscape;
- are of interest for their symbolism or iconography;
- have inscriptions of exceptional interest;
- are of clear interest for their materials or construction, or where these reflect regional specialities;
- form part of a special group, or play a key visual role in the landscape;

- commemorate people of clear national interest, for example an indicator would be if the individual is included in the Dictionary of National Biography; there are at least 50 individuals buried on the cemetery who are listed in the Dictionary.

7.38 For additional information refer to Historic England's Listing Selection Guide for Commemorative Structures: [Link to HE guide](#)

7.39 The cemetery sits within the Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area (designated in 1986 and shown on figure 7.4 on page 91) which recognises the area for its special architectural and historic interest. The cemetery plays an important part in the character and setting of the surrounding area as explored in **Chapter 9**. However, the Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area is also on the At Risk register and its condition is described as 'very bad'.

7.40 Nunhead Cemetery is also designated as a Grade II* on the Register of Historic Park and Gardens (Entry Number 1000824), and this is also on the At Risk Register with its condition described as 'Generally unsatisfactory with major localised problems'.

Figure 7.4 Historic Designations



Heritage and Environmental designations

7.41 Nunhead Cemetery has been recognised for its heritage and environmental value by a number of designations, which help to protect this important site from external threats such as development. These are listed in **Table 7.2** below, which includes details of the designations and the reasons for their designations. **Figure 7.5** includes a map detailing the Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCS) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).

Table 7.2 Heritage and Environmental designations

Heritage / Environmental Designation	Date of designation	Summary ¹⁶
Grade II* (ref GD1818) National Heritage List for England: Register of Parks and Gardens	1 st Oct 1987	List no.1000824 Reasons for listing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Saints' Cemetery, Nunhead is an early Victorian cemetery (1840) laid out by a commercial company to serve the metropolis. • The cemetery was designed by J B Bunning, a cemetery designer of note who had previously designed elements of Highgate Cemetery, London. • The layout of the cemetery skilfully exploits the undulating topography to create picturesque effects and vistas. • The cemetery contains an Anglican chapel designed by Thomas Little (b 1801), and other significant associated structures; the Nonconformist Chapel has been lost. • Elements of the cemetery layout survive, together with elements of the original planting.¹⁷ • The cemetery is included on the Heritage at Risk Register and described as being highly vulnerable and declining in condition.
Nunhead Cemetery	1987	Planning legislation requires that special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the Conservation Area. In doing this the emphasis will be on control rather than

¹⁶ From Historic England List Entry www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

¹⁷ <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1000824>

Conservation Area		prevention, to allow the area to remain alive and prosperous but at the same time to ensure that any new development accords with its special architectural and visual qualities.
Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation	1987	This designation protects the site from any development proposal that could result in the loss or damage to the site at a London, regional and national level. Nunhead Cemetery was selected due to its provision of an outstanding oasis for wildlife and the opportunities it affords visitors for the enjoyment of nature in extensive built environments.
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	1 st May 2003	LNRs are a statutory designation made under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. In 1975 the site was divided in two; a burial site and a public open space called Waverley Park where burial was prohibited. However, in 2003, the entire site was designated as a Local Nature Reserve. 16 species of butterfly have been found using the site.
Metropolitan Open Land (MOL)		The cemetery contains landscapes of historic, recreational, nature conservation and/or scientific interest worthy of protection on account of its value as strategic open land of significance to London as a whole. The presumption against development in the Green Belt applies equally to MOL. There is a general assumption against inappropriate development on MOL.

7.1 A further 15 sites with environmental designations are present within two kilometres of the cemetery. These include:

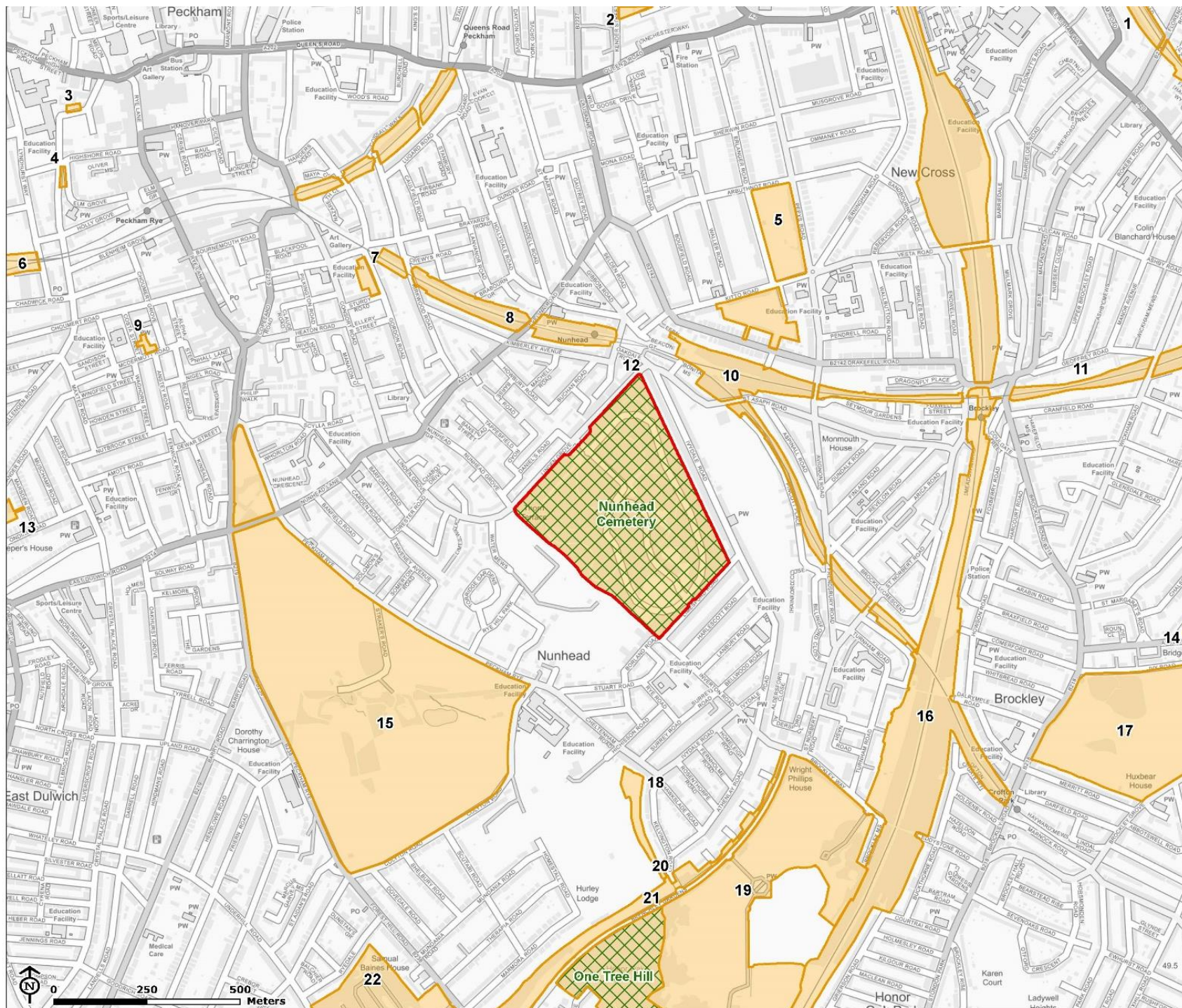
- One Tree Hill Local Nature Reserves,
- Forest Hill to New Cross Gate Railway Cutting,
- Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries,
- Camberwell Old Cemetery,
- Peckham Rye Park and Common,
- Nunhead Cutting,
- Brockley to St John's railsides,

- Camberwell New Cemetery,
- Honor Oak Crematorium and adjacent areas,
- Aquarius Golf Course,
- Brenchley Gardens,
- Nunhead Railway Embankments,
- Besson Street Community Garden,
- Telegraph Hill Park
- Consort Park

7.2 The view north-west from Nunhead Hill towards St Paul's cathedral (Fig 10.2 on page 142) is protected by policy in the New Southwark Plan (policy 19: Borough Views and Annex 4). This is supported by policy in the London Plan (2021), and the London View Management Framework SPG (2012). Under this policy, any development that exceeds the 'Threshold Plane of the viewing corridor' from the cemetery to St Paul's will be refused, and any development in the foreground or middle ground which could be to the detriment of this view as a whole will also likely be refused.¹⁸ North of the River Thames, this view is protected by the City of London under the 'St Paul's Heights' policy area.

¹⁸ Southwark Borough Views Background Paper, 2018

Figure 7.5 Location of other nearby sites designated as SINCs or LNRs



**Southwark Cemetery CMP:
Nunhead Cemetery**

Figure 7.5: Environmental designations

- Nunhead Cemetery Boundary
 - Local nature reserve
 - Sites of importance for nature conservation
- 1: New Cross to St Johns railides
 - 2: Besson Street Community Garden
 - 3: Bellenden Road Tree Nursery
 - 4: Bellenden Road Tree Nursery
 - 5: Telegraph Hill Park
 - 6: Grove Park Cuttings and Peckham Rye to East Dulwich Railides
 - 7: Consort Park
 - 8: Nunhead Railway Embankments
 - 9: McDermott Road Nature Garden
 - 10: Nunhead Cutting
 - 11: Brockley to St John's railides
 - 12: Nunhead Cemetery
 - 13: Centre for Wildlife Gardening
 - 14: Hilly Fields
 - 15: Peckham Rye Park and Common
 - 16: Forest Hill to New Cross Gate Railway Cutting
 - 17: Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries
 - 18: Aquarius Golf Course
 - 19: Camberwell New Cemetery, Honor Oak Crematorium and adjacent areas
 - 20: Brenchley Gardens
 - 21: One Tree Hill
 - 22: Camberwell Old Cemetery

Map Scale @A3: 1:10,000



Current land use and management

Current management

7.42 The cemetery is owned by the London Borough of Southwark. Overall management responsibility lies with the Southwark Council, and everyday grounds maintenance is contracted out. The Bereavement Services Team are responsible for overseeing all repairs and maintenance within the cemetery. The management team structure can be seen in **Appendix 5**.

General Maintenance

7.43 Grounds maintenance at Nunhead Cemetery is undertaken by the council's grounds maintenance contractor. The staff responsible for carrying out the work include a supervisor, operatives, additional hoc staff when required and park attendant who locks the cemetery daily. The contractor's responsibilities include:

- Horticultural maintenance of shrub and flower beds;
- Maintenance of buildings furniture, fixtures and fittings;
- Litter picking;
- Strimming or steam treatment of weeds in surfaced areas;
- Routine daily unlocking and locking of cemetery.

7.44 Japanese Knotweed control was successfully undertaken by a separate contractor with these works now complete.

7.45 In the absence of any council staff office onsite, the council's grounds maintenance contractor provides a very important operational presence during the working week for visitors.

7.46 The Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC), in liaison with the council and the grounds maintenance contractors, also carry out a range of maintenance tasks ranging from vegetation clearance and the seeking of funds for a variety of work within the cemetery.

Burials and Plots

7.47 New burials no longer take place at Nunhead Cemetery, however second interments happen on occasion. The last two active burial areas at Nunhead Cemetery became full in 2022, and no new burials are possible. One was located in the south-west corner of the cemetery, and was only used for second interments (no

new graves), and is characterised by modern headstones and tended graves. The second was located about 70m south-east of the Anglican chapel and contains mostly (but not exclusively) Muslim graves facing east. These are also modern in style and tended by friends and relatives.

- 7.48 Ground levels in both areas rise and fall between plots, and since 2002, soil has been imported to level sunken graves.
- 7.49 The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) monitor and maintain the four war grave sites at Nunhead Cemetery.
- 7.50 Since 2011, all records of burials, transfers of grave ownership, and memorial permits have been recorded on BACAS (Burial and Cremation Administration System). Prior to this, information was kept in handwritten registers. All existing registers and burial records (including those from the previous owners of the private companies) are now stored at Camberwell New Cemetery, and digitised wherever possible.

Tree and Scrub Management

- 7.51 Trees in the cemetery are the responsibility of Southwark Council, and are managed by the council's in-house Tree Team. Tree surveys are periodically carried out to inform management decisions.
- 7.52 The council has a borough wide Tree Management Strategy.
- 7.53 [Link to Tree Management Strategy](#)
- 7.54 The aspiration is to also have more detailed individual Tree and Woodland Plans for each Cemetery. At Nunhead Cemetery, this is being delivered as part of the East Lodge HLF project in 2023.
- 7.55 These individual Tree and Woodland Plans will consider the role of trees and woodlands within the unique landscape of each of the cemeteries, their interaction with the landscape, heritage significance, safety of users of the cemeteries and the monuments and memorials.
- 7.56 Plans will be formulated for monitoring the growth of trees and monitoring their impact on the other key aspects of each cemetery.
- 7.57 Plans will be formulated to ensure that, as time passes, the trees and woodlands remain healthy, have a good age structure, provide good habitats for wildlife, enhance the landscape, and that their impact on monuments and memorials is managed and minimised.

7.58 The Arboricultural Officers also make periodic inspections of standard trees in high target areas (high footfall and pathway edges) and, in conjunction with the Bereavement Services Development Manager and cemeteries operatives, work-schedules are agreed which are then carried out by the council's Tree Team.

Repairs and maintenance

7.59 Memorials are periodically inspected by the council's Contracts and Services Officers, who are trained in memorial safety inspections. Recommendations resulting from the inspections are carried out by the Bereavement Services Team where funding allows. This may, for instance, include removal of ivy where it is causing an issue. There has historically been no strategic programme for infrastructure repair.

7.60 Repairs of memorials are the responsibility of the grave leaseholder. If there is no leaseholder, the council will make memorials safe if required, usually by lying them flat. The council's Structures Team are involved in an ongoing programme of works to repair larger memorials.

The Friends of Nunhead Cemetery

7.61 The Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC) are an active community group established in 1981. The group aims to promote the conservation and appreciation of Nunhead Cemetery as a place of remembrance, of historic importance and of natural beauty and ecological benefit.

7.62 The group run bi-monthly guided tours, an annual Open Day, commemorative services and many other events in the cemetery and beyond. They also produce a quarterly members' newsletter (with news, features and letters), host a website ([Link to FoNC website](#)) and publish an extensive range of publications about the cemetery.

7.63 FONC is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that carries out a wide range of practical work on site, including ecological and woodland management, monument repairs and other appropriate functions. It is affiliated to the Association of Cemeteries of Significance in Europe; the National Federation of Cemetery Friends, The Conservation Volunteers, National Council of Voluntary Organisations, and Community Southwark. It has a membership requirement (£2 per year) and has its own public, personal and trustees limited liability insurance.

7.64 The group are encouraged to work with the council to:

- Input and comment on any future revisions of the Cemetery Strategy and management policies
- Highlight any management concerns and issues
- Report vandalism, damage, littering or anti-social behaviour
- Conduct research – e.g. cultural, historical, and monument inscriptions
- Fundraise and develop projects such as interpretation or heritage/nature walks
- Disseminate information on public meetings and consultations.

Site users

- 7.65 The cemetery is open to the public daily from 8:30am. The cemetery closes in winter at 4pm, in spring and autumn at 5pm, and in summer at 7pm.
- 7.66 Visitors include the bereaved, as well as those visiting for leisure. The site is popular with dog walkers and runners. Section 11 of the Green Chain Walk between Crystal Palace and Nunhead passes through the cemetery.¹⁹
- 7.67 Genealogy has become very popular and the cemetery draws visitors from all over the UK and abroad. As part of the Southwark Council's commitment to developing service and accessibility, it has teamed up with the specialist family history organisation Deceased Online, and records of the burials at Nunhead Cemetery are available via their website (<https://www.fonc.org.uk/grave-search-enquiries/>)
- 7.68 Southwark's Bereavement Services team also offer a chargeable 'search and locate' service to assess accessibility and provide a digital report. Enquiries can be made at cemeteries@southwark.gov.uk.

Events and activities

- 7.69 FONC run a range of events throughout the year including monthly cemetery tours, work parties, themed walks, and services. Their Open Day, held annually in May, has attracted visitors in their thousands. The cemetery has also often participated (as recently as 2022) in the London Open House architectural event which takes place on two weekend afternoons in September.
- 7.70 Revenue is generated by film crews and photographers using the cemetery, booked through the Southwark Film Office. FONC have suggested further revenue could be generated by use of the chapel for wedding blessings.

¹⁹ <http://content.tfl.gov.uk/green-chain-walk-section-11.pdf>

- 7.71 Nunhead and Peckham Film Festival has provided free film nights, held at the chapel, as well as 3D projections on the walls of the chapel.
- 7.72 Corporate volunteer work parties have undertaken practical work at the cemetery. These are organised and overseen by Southwark Council in conjunction with the council's grounds maintenance contractor and FONC.

Education and interpretation

- 7.73 The historic and natural features of the cemetery landscape and the species it supports provides a number of opportunities for the local community to come into contact with the historic and natural environment. FONC's monthly tours cover the historic and wildlife value of the site, and species-specific walks and talks are arranged during the year.
- 7.74 In addition, there are a number of interpretation boards around the site touching on topics such as history, wildlife, Music Hall (a type of theatrical entertainment popular in Victorian times with a number of Music Hall personalities buried at Nunhead Cemetery), monuments, war graves and the chapels. These have been installed on an ad hoc basis over the last few decades, and therefore are not uniform in style or design.

Visitor surveys

Cemetery Consultation 2011

- 7.75 Between July and September 2011 Southwark Council carried out a broad consultation with residents and stakeholders in relation to public opinion on the use of the cemeteries and future burials in the borough, given the lack of burial space available. Nine hundred and forty-two responses to a questionnaire were received with 1,000 individual detailed comments. More than 170 people attended consultation meetings that took place in a variety of locations.
- 7.76 A key objective of the consultation was to seek feedback on the burial options that the Council was considering in planning a long-term strategy for Southwark's Cemetery Service.
- 7.77 The survey also sought information about how and when people use the cemeteries. This was not cemetery-specific. Of the 942 respondents, 52% surveyed visited the cemeteries occasionally, 33% visited monthly, 10% weekly and 5% never visited the cemeteries. The largest majority of survey respondents visited the cemeteries for recreation (65%). This was followed by visiting a relative or friend's grave or memorial plaque with 'other' reasons also being cited.

Antisocial behaviour

- 7.78 Crime and anti-social behaviour at Nunhead Cemetery is relatively low, although there are issues with dog fouling. Southwark Council's Parks Liaison Officers (PLOs) undertake regular patrols of the cemetery, and are able to increase presence as and when required.
- 7.79 In 2018, Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) were introduced. At Nunhead Cemetery this includes designated zones for dogs, maximum of six dogs per handler, and fixed penalties for contravention of those orders. The cemetery now has zones where dogs are permitted off the lead, where they must be on a lead, and areas where dogs are not permitted (see **Figure 13.7** on page 179). Visitors may walk a maximum of 6 dogs per handler, with no more than 3 off a lead at any one time. The operation and success of the PSPO will be reviewed on a three-year cycle, a process that FONC will be involved in.
- 7.80 The Bereavement Services Development Manager liaises closely with the Police and Park Liaison Officers (PLOs) to seek to reduce anti-social behaviour in the cemetery.

Summary of key considerations

- 7.81 The following summarises the key considerations that have been highlighted above in this chapter. These are to be taken forward and used to guide conservation policies and management strategies.
- **1 (a)** The lack of burial space in the face of growing populations is a key concern for cemeteries across London. Under the 1976 Act, there are no further burials to occur in the area designated as a nature reserve.
 - Maintaining burial provision within Nunhead Cemetery was not fully considered within the Cemetery Strategy (2012), and there is potentially conflicting interests in terms of management of the site, both as a cemetery and as a nature reserve.
 - **1 (c)** Historically there has been no strategic program of infrastructure repair; maintenance of monuments is currently only undertaken when funding has become available or when safety issues necessitate repair. A combination of historical factors and lack of funding for restoration has led to the cemetery being included on the Heritage at Risk Register, and it is described as being "highly vulnerable and declining".

- **1 (d)** Voluntary work by FONC is an integral part of the site maintenance and presents opportunities for increasing voluntary contribution.
- **1 (e)** Communication with stakeholders is important.
- **1 (f)** Management responsibilities should continue to be clearly defined and communicated with stakeholders.
- **1 (g)** Planting around graves is sometimes inappropriate and has a negative impact on the aesthetics of the site. Although officers are aware of the issue, lack of regulations to enforce coupled with the sensitive nature of the issue means that action is not always taken to remove the planting.
- **1 (i)** Dog-related issues include nutrient enrichment of soil caused by dog mess that is not picked up, disturbance of mourners, compaction of soil, and damage to grass areas.

7.82 How these considerations are taken account of is described above in **Chapter 3**, Future Management.

8 Archaeology

8.1 This chapter consists of a discussion of the archaeological and historical background of the cemetery and its potential for archaeological remains. The focus of the chapter is archaeological assets that are belowground. Above ground, built heritage assets are discussed in **Chapter 9: Buildings, Memorials and Structures**, and the historic landscape in **Chapter 10: Landscape and design**. An overview of the historical background to the Cemetery can be found in **Chapter 6: Historic Development**.

8.2 This chapter is supported by:

- A Greater London Historic Environment Search (dated 19.04.2018);
- Review of historic mapping;
- Review of previous reports prepared to aid conservation and management of the cemetery;
- Review of a range of published secondary sources and unpublished archaeological reports;
- A site visit.

Archaeological and Historical Background

8.3 The table below details the time periods referred to in this report.

Period	Broad Date
Palaeolithic	800,000 BC - 8,000 BC
Mesolithic	8,000 BC - 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 BC - 2,500 BC
Bronze Age	2,500 BC - 800 BC
Iron Age	800 BC - 42 AD
Roman	43 - 410 AD
Early Medieval (Anglo-Saxon)	411 - 1065

Medieval	1066-1539
Post-medieval	1540-1901
Modern	1902 - Present

Prehistory

- 8.4 The modern London Borough of Southwark stretches roughly five miles from the River Thames to Sydenham Hill (Cowan 2000, 4). In prehistoric times, the Thames River was wider and shallower and the Southwark side consisted of low-lying marshes and braided river channels, interspersed with a number of large sand and gravel eyots (islands). Archaeological investigations in northern Southwark have revealed that this was the focus of early settlement, with land management on the higher and drier islands and well-preserved waterlogged structures and deposits surviving in the channels and lower-lying inter-tidal areas (Southwark Council 2018, 23-24).
- 8.5 In contrast there is very limited activity attested in southern Southwark, which comprised a hillier landscape that was forested (Cowan 2000, 4). Prehistoric flint tools and faunal remains have been found in Peckham some distance to the northwest of Nunhead cemetery (Cowan 2000, 7; Cotswold Archaeology 2017, 6) and single Palaeolithic flint (MLO8715) was also recovered from within the cemetery itself, although the exact provenance of this find is unknown.

Roman

- 8.6 The Romans settled on the banks of the Thames just after AD 43, founding Londinium. In Southwark, there is much evidence of settlement activity from the two large gravel islands which form the southern bridgehead for the original Roman bridge, and which still corresponds to the London Bridge area today (Southwark Council 2018, 25).
- 8.7 Major roads were built from London to other Roman cities in the south of England, including Watling Street to Canterbury (present day Old Kent Road) and Stane Street to Chichester (Newington Causeway and Kennington Park Road). One of these roads (MLO19469) – which runs from London to Lewes - lies approximately 50m east of Nunhead Cemetery. The road, thought to date to the early 2nd century, is possibly preserved in surviving public rights of way and street alignments and has been physically attested twice during excavations in the 1930s. These revealed a flint-gravel surface just over 6m wide, approximately 0.67m to 0.85m below present ground levels. Nonetheless, the route of the road remains somewhat speculative

and recent investigations along Ivydale Road (Compass Archaeology 2016; Cotswold 2013; and PCA 2012), which runs adjacent to Nunhead Cemetery, have proved negative. The projected route of the road is now classified as an Archaeological Priority Area (APA).

- 8.8 In the wider area, there have been isolated finds of Roman material, such as cremation urns and other objects found to the north-east of Nunhead Cemetery, but no more substantial evidence of sustained occupation has been found (Compass Archaeology 2016, 8). This suggests that the area was not densely populated and formed part of the hinterland of the settlement at Southwark, with some parts possibly being under cultivation (Compass Archaeology 2016, 8).

Early medieval

- 8.9 Following the departure of the Romans in 410 AD, settlement in northern Southwark continued to flourish; however, there is only limited archaeological evidence for this. By the time of the Domesday Book, written in 1086, Southwark was held by several Surrey manors and the church. In the years that followed, Southwark became a popular area for the upper classes and senior church members to build town houses, most notably the 12th century Winchester Palace (Southwark Council 2018, 27).
- 8.10 Nonetheless, much of southern Southwark – including the site of Nunhead Cemetery- remained forested by the Great North Wood, which is first mentioned in the 1272 assize records. Dominated by Oaks, the Great North Wood covered the Sydenham Ridge from Deptford in the north, to Croydon and Selhurst in the south and would have been an important resource for timber (including for shipbuilding), charcoal, tannin (for Bermondsey’s leather-making industries), and firewood.

Post-medieval

- 8.11 Nunhead lies within the ancient parish of St Giles and Camberwell in the Hundred of Brixton. It is first mentioned in a deed of 1583, in which Edgar Scott sold to Thomas and William Patching a fifth part of the manor of Camberwell Buckingham, including estates “lying at Nunn-head” (Southwark Council 2007a, 10). However, the origins of the name are unclear. According to some sources, the hamlet comprised of a few dwellings beside a tavern called the Nun’s Head, which is said to stand on the site of a priory, but this has never been substantiated (VCH 1967; Woollacott 1995 c.f. TVAS 2002, 5). Others (e.g. Beasley 1994) claim that the name is derived from the beheading of a mother superior who opposed Henry VIII’s dissolution of the monasteries. In particular, she is said to oppose the dissolution of St. John the

Baptist, Halliwell (Shoreditch) - which owned lands in Camberwell and Peckham in the 12th century and later formed the manor of Camberwell Friern.

- 8.12 The name “None Head” appears on John Rocque’s Topographical Map of the County of Surrey published in 1762 (Southwark Council 2007a, 10). This map shows the area as still largely rural with the settlement at None Head no more than a small group of scattered houses on the northern and western sides of what today is Nunhead Green. The future site of Nunhead Cemetery is shown as farmland on a prominent hill accessed by a lane.
- 8.13 The 1838 Tithe map of the area shows little change to the vicinity, with the area of the cemetery still open fields detailed as grassland and arable land.
- 8.14 Dewhirst’s map of the parish of Camberwell, dated 1842, continues to show Nunhead as a small hamlet surrounded by market gardens and open fields. However, it also shows the recently consecrated Nunhead Cemetery, which had been laid out on a 52 acre site on Nunhead Hill to the south of Nunhead Green in 1840 with a new road to connect the cemetery to Deptford Lane (now Queens Road), Peckham and Nunhead Lane and Peckham Rye in the other direction. The cemetery originally featured two lodge houses either side of the main gates and two temporary chapels, generally held to be built in timber. These were replaced by permanent structures in 1844.
- 8.15 The first burial in Nunhead Cemetery took place in October 1840. Most burials took place in simple plots, with ‘common graves’ being unmarked, as was typical for the time. A large number of private burials were in brick lined graves, covered with a ledger stone or ledger-stones, on top of which a monument can be placed (Woollacott 2010). Vaults were also used, and according to the 1841 ‘Plan of the Southern Station Nunhead’, 14 public vaults were located in the northeast part of the cemetery. A vault is also marked on the 1871 OS map (LXXVIII) near to the junction between The Beeches and West Hill path; it most likely represents the mausoleum of John Allan erected in 1865. This vault is also depicted on the 1879 OS map. A map showing the consecrated land can be seen in **Figure 8.1**.
- 8.16 The cemetery originally also contained five separate sets of catacombs (in addition to those located beneath the Anglican and non-conformist chapels – discussed in **Chapter 9**), all potentially built to designs by James Bunstone Bunning – the London Cemetery Company’s architect. Four of the catacombs - the Eastern Catacombs and shaft catacombs No. 1, 3 and 4 – are located to the east of the main entrance, while the fifth – No. 2 – was located in the Dissenters section near to the Scottish Martyrs monument. The Eastern Catacomb constructed c.1840 was the largest and most elaborate with 144 burial cells (Woollacott 2006, 15). It was

originally located beneath the temporary episcopal chapel, demolished in 1844 (Woollacott 2006, 15), and remained accessible via a flight of stairs. Following investigation in the 1970s they were sealed, although at the time it was intended that in the future they would be restored (Woollacott 2006, 15). Today the site is overgrown.

- 8.17 The other four catacombs were shaft catacombs, of which only two – shaft Nos 1 and 2 – were used. The other two – shafts Nos 3 and 4 – were demolished in 1890 and 1898, and subsequently replaced by burials. No 2 shaft was also abandoned and demolished by the cemetery company early on. However, the No 1 shaft was accessible until 1975, at which time it was surveyed. It was found to be 16ft deep and contain 30 burial cells, of which only seven housed human remains (Woollacott 2006, 15). The investigation found the structure to be unsafe and, as a result, the coffins interred within it were removed (Southwark Council 2007b, 19). The external parts of the structure were then demolished, and the shaft backfilled with hardcore (Woollacott 2006, 15).
- 8.18 In addition to the lodges, chapels and vault, the 1871 OS map (shown in **Figure 6.2**) also depicts two rectangular buildings – most likely stables - set at right angles to each other, to the south east of the Anglican Chapel. Behind the two buildings are two adjoining greenhouses and a fifth, small square building is depicted just west of these. The erection of the green houses appears to have been in response to the need to make the grounds more attractive as competition from other public cemeteries grew. As a result, flower production became an important part of the company business and, in addition to the green houses, which were remodelled several times prior to their demolition in either the mid-1970s (Historic England Listing description: 1000824) or mid-1980s (according to cartographic sources), a nursery was maintained in the southern half of the cemetery. This is first visible on the 1894 OS map, and is last shown on the 1948 OS map; thereafter the area was used for burials.

Modern

- 8.19 At the turn of the 20th century, Nunhead Cemetery continued to be a popular burial location and it was only after the First World War that its popularity began to wane. During the Second World War, the Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell was the fourth most heavily damaged borough in London and the cemetery suffered greatly from bomb damage, labour shortages, and the removal of iron railings from the boundary walls to assist the war effort (Southwark Council 2007 b, 13). The Bomb Sight website [accessed April 2023] records five hits to the cemetery, with three high explosives recorded close to Iydale Road, and another two near Linden Grove.

During the bombing, Thomas Little's Non-conformist mortuary chapel - built in 1844 to replace an earlier temporary building - was severely damaged and, as a result, demolished in 1951 (Woollacott 2006, 1 - 12). The site of the chapel is now a grassed open area.

- 8.20 Following the Second World War the cemetery continued to decline, and finally closed in 1968. Burials in existing graves were permitted for a while, and it has been suggested that several unofficial burials may have also taken place (Woollacott 2010, 85). Thereafter the cemetery fell into a state of disrepair suffering from vandalism and fly tipping. It also became increasingly overgrown, with the formal Victorian era lawn cemetery disappearing beneath woodland and vegetation (Southwark Council 2007b, 13).
- 8.21 In response to the threat of redevelopment in the 1970s, a Friends group was formed to protect the heritage and ecology of Nunhead Cemetery and, in 1975, the Southwark Council purchased the cemetery for nominal sum of £1 (Southwark Council 2007b, 13). The cemetery reopened in 2001 after an extensive restoration project funded by Southwark Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- 8.22 Burials are still on going, although the cemetery is now nearly full. To date, over 300,000 burials in around 46,000 graves at Nunhead Cemetery have been recorded according to Deceased Online ([deceased online](#)), some of which are unmarked. The quantity of burials has meant that multiple interments have taken place both in, and between existing burials and some areas are very dense in burials. For example, square 13 is estimated to contain more than 10,000 people in 750, mostly 'common graves' (Woollacott 2010, 84). The Nunhead Cemetery Historic Landscape Study and Restoration Management Plan (LUC, 1997) notes that the cemetery has received more than 2 million burials.

Summary

- 8.23 With the exception of a single Palaeolithic worked flint, there is no known archaeological evidence for **prehistoric, Roman and medieval** activity within the cemetery. There is also very little evidence for any activity within these periods in its immediate environs. It seems likely that the site was forested during these periods and, as such, any potential archaeological assets would likely relate to hunting activity and, later to forest-based industry.
- 8.24 Cartographic sources indicate that the site had been cleared and converted to agricultural land by the later **post-medieval period**, and potential archaeological assets relating to this phase of use, would likely comprise of cultivation soils. However, the potential for any unknown prehistoric to early post-medieval

archaeological remains to survive within the site is very low given its subsequent use as a burial site.

- 8.25 The main known archaeological considerations of the site are therefore comprised of the buried remains of former cemetery structures, as well as the numerous burials. However, whilst all in-situ burials have heritage significance, only those over 100 years old would be considered of archaeological interest. In the case of Nunhead Cemetery, this would mean that a significant proportion of the burials may be classified as being of archaeological interest.

Archaeological Potential

- 8.26 The use of the site as a cemetery from the mid-19th century onwards means that even if any archaeological assets of earlier date had been present within the site, they will by now have been all but entirely removed. As such, with the exception of ex-situ stray finds of earlier date, the only known archaeological potential of the site relates to its use as a cemetery. In this regard, potential archaeological assets comprise of the remains of the demolished buildings and infilled catacombs. The remains relating to the Eastern and shaft No.1 catacombs, as well as the chapel are likely to survive better than that of those relating to the stables and greenhouses, and remainder of shaft catacombs, as their locations have not subsequently been used for burials. Any surviving remains relating to these assets will primarily be of evidential and historical value.
- 8.27 The burials – both human remains and their burial accoutrements – are the other potential archaeological assets. While all in-situ burials have heritage significance, only those of 100 or more years old are considered to be of potential archaeological or evidential value, (APABE 2017, 1) in terms of their ability to inform us about past social and religious beliefs, as well as life expectancy, health and disease. As such, a significant proportion – but not all - of the burials at Nunhead Cemetery will qualify to be of potential archaeological interest. It should be noted that while Nunhead Cemetery is not currently an Archaeological Priority Area, the Historic England, Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service's 'Greater London Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines' (2016, 14) states that historic burial grounds dating to the 19th century or earlier should be included in Archaeological Priority Areas, even if still in use. As such, the status of the burials may be liable to review in the future.
- 8.28 The burials will have further heritage significance as a result of their communal value, derived from their commemorative, symbolic, social and spiritual function. Certain burials, such as the multiple war graves, may also have associative

historical significance, as will those of notable individuals who have been interred in Nunhead Cemetery. A full account of these 'notables' is provided by Woollacott in his 'Nunhead Notables' (2002 (2nd Edition)), 'More Nunhead Notables' (1997), as well as in 'Buried at Nunhead: Nunhead Notables volume 3' (2014) and 'Buried at Nunhead: Nunhead Notables volume 4' (2019) by Ron Woollacott and Michèle Louise Burford.

- 8.29 Buried human remains may not be disturbed without specific authority. Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857 makes it an offence to remove buried human remains without a licence from the Secretary of State or, in relation to consecrated ground, a faculty (permission from the Church). Any burials that are less than 100 years old are subject to the Human Tissue Act (2004), the fundamental principle of which is consent. Burials should not be disturbed without good reason but, where and if necessary, human remains should always be treated with dignity and respect, with particular weight being given to the feelings and views of living family members when known.
- 8.30 For remains over 100 years old, there is no legal obligation to trace next of kin but it is ethical to accord views of living close family members strong weight. Where excavations are planned at Nunhead Cemetery, it would be ethical to take reasonable steps, such as placing advertisements in local newspapers, to alert local people who may be descendants of interred individuals so that their views may be heard (APABE 2017, 4).
- 8.31 Full guidance on the best practice for the treatment of human remains, refer to the document 'Human Remains excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England' - which also offers some guidance on non-consecrated grounds – has been published by the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England and is available online at: [Link to human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England](#)

Potential Issues

- 8.32 Nunhead Cemetery is now largely overgrown and wooded, and whilst an important wildlife habitat, rooting and animal burrowing may disturb and spread buried remains, potentially even bringing them to the surface. It may also destabilise those graves that have brick linings.
- 8.33 Disturbance, truncation, and removal of buried archaeological remains may occur as a result of intrusive ground works. At Nunhead Cemetery, such works may

constitute grave digging, including the reopening of existing graves for further interments.

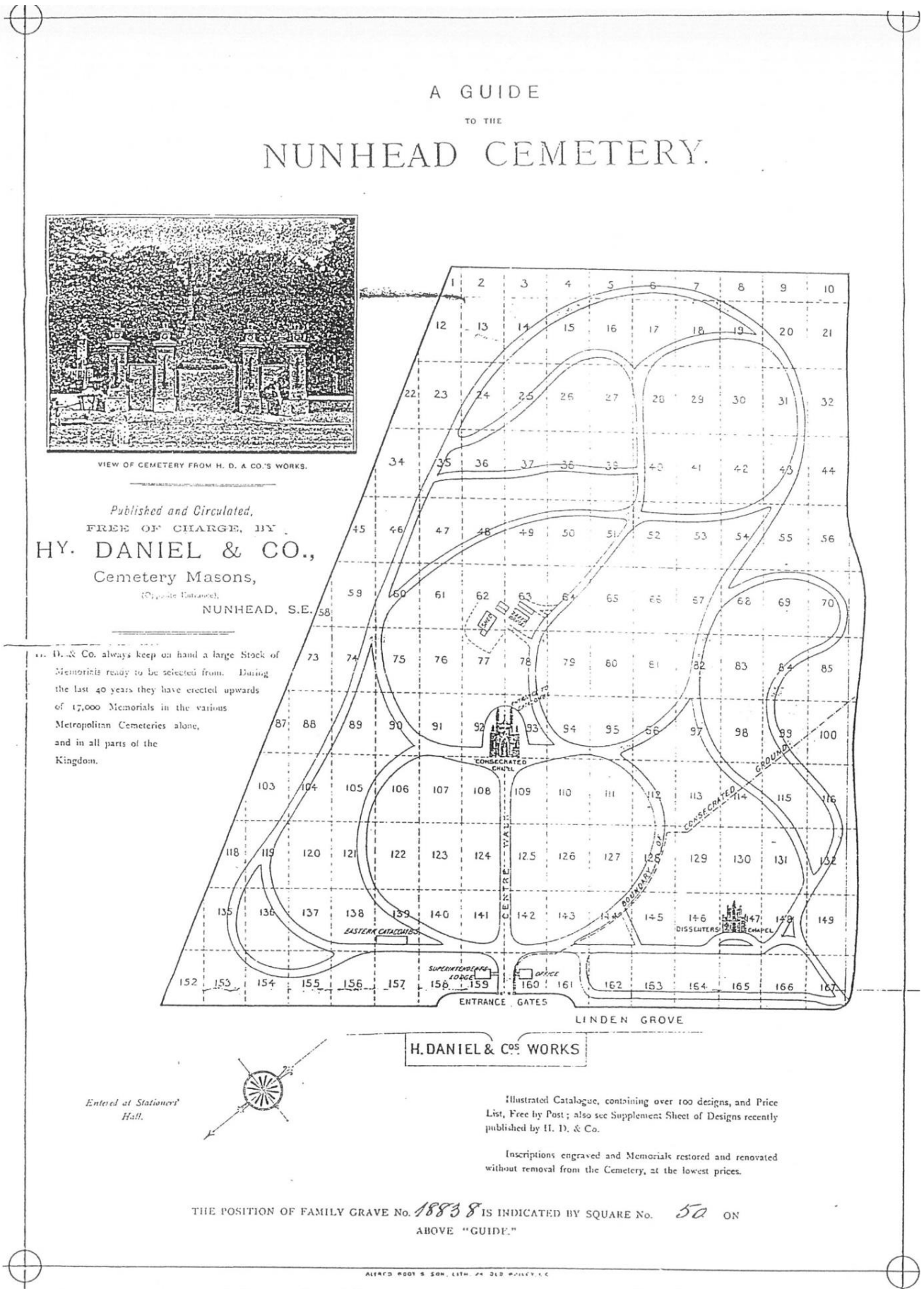
- 8.34 When digging graves, it is possible that subsidence and ground movement, as well as, rooting and animal action may mean that buried human remains are, on occasion, encountered.
- 8.35 In addition to grave digging, there may also be a potential for development related works, for example the installation of drainage. Other potential ground intrusive work may include tree felling, in the instances where roots are removed.

Summary of key considerations

- 8.36 The following summarises the key archaeological and historical issues, which need to be considered in future conservation policies and management strategies.
- **2 (a)** There is the potential for disturbance to buried archaeological remains as a result of rooting and animal action.
 - **2 (b)** Grave diggers within the cemetery work within the ICCM safe code of practice. However, there is still the potential for the disturbance, truncation, and removal of buried archaeological remains as a result of grave digging.
 - **2 (c)** There is the potential for the disturbance, truncation, and removal of buried archaeological remains as a result of development or maintenance related work.
 - **2 (d)** There is the potential for the Eastern Catacombs to be restored as a visitor attraction.
 - **2 (e)** There is the potential for the cemetery to become an Archaeological Priority Area (APA).
- 8.37 Current and future management of Archaeology and History is described in **Chapter 3**.

Figure 8.1 Consecrated land surrounding the Dissenters Chapel, Nunhead Cemetery

Extract from Guide to Nunhead Cemetery c1880



This was published & circulated 'free of charge' by H. Daniel & Co. Cemetery Masons whose offices & workshops were opposite the main entrance gates on Linden Grove. The hand written numbers within the bottom sentence show the location of the relevant grave.

9 Buildings, memorials and structures

- 9.1 Current and future management of Archaeology and History is described in **Chapter 3**.
- 9.2 This chapter considers the buildings, memorials and other structures located within Nunhead Cemetery.


Memorials



- 9.3 The monuments and memorials may be divided into four groups:
1. Group monuments; including War memorials, Scottish Martyrs, and the Scouts' memorial.
 2. Major monuments; the larger, individually designed, monuments that are to be found adjacent to the principal pathways in the areas closest to the chapel and on the high ground with good views. **Figure 7.4** includes a map showing the Historic designations at Nunhead Cemetery and **Table 9.1** provides a corresponding table with details of each structure.
 3. Lawn burial memorials; recent burials that are still open in character, in contrast to older burials within the overgrown designated nature reserve area.
 4. Minor monuments; the vast majority of monuments from the period up to about 1960 are to be found spread across the remaining areas, and are now set within dense woodland. The occasional war grave can be seen, their clean appearance contrasting with their neighbours.
 5. 'Common grave' markers first permitted at the beginning of the 20th century, of no more than 12 inches by 12 inches, mainly located well away from the major paths. Many have been disturbed by bomb damage or vandalism, and are no longer in the correct position.
- 9.4 Responsibility for the safety of monuments and memorials within Nunhead Cemetery lies with Southwark Council. Memorials are periodically inspected by the borough's appropriately trained Contract Services Officers. Recommendations arising from the inspections are carried out by the Bereavement Services Team where funding allows. This may for instance include removal of ivy where it is


causing an issue. There has historically been no strategic programme for infrastructure repair.


- 9.5 Any work to a monument that is listed will require Listed Building Consent. Any work to monuments should be undertaken by appropriately qualified specialists, who comply with current standards and best practice guidance. However, minor repairs can be carried out by suitably trained and supervised FONC volunteers who have considerable experience in such work.
- 9.6 Repairs of memorials are the responsibility of the grave leaseholder. If there is no leaseholder, the council will make the memorials safe if required, usually by lying them flat. The council's Structures Team have been involved in a ten year programme of works to repair larger memorials, after a survey by an external consultant and in consultation with FONC where possible.
- 9.7 Over the last 25 years funding has been secured to restore a number of memorials:
- In 2001, the Heritage Lottery project funded the restoration of 50 key memorials.
 - In 2008, the council's Cleaner Greener Safer department carried out repairs to 14 memorials.
 - In 2010, three further memorials were repaired on Main Avenue.
 - In 2012, two further memorials on Main Avenue were repaired.
 - In 2017, memorials at the north end of the east side of Main Avenue were restored in a bid to improve the appearance of the entrance.
 - FONC has also funded the restoration of a number of large memorials and its volunteers have also repaired parts of many others
- 9.8 The removal of any grave monument should follow the following guidance from The Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE). It is best practice that prior to any gravestone being moved, adequate record of it should be made (2017, Annex S3). Grave markers remain the property of the grave owner. If grave markers are to be cleared, an accurate plan should be made showing the position of each stone, linked with a record of its inscription etc. Pro forma gravestone recording sheets have been produced for this purpose (Mytum, 2000). A photographic record of each stone should be made. If a stone is in situ, care should be taken that its location is recorded in sufficient detail that the information on it can be linked unambiguously with the remains of the burial for which it was a marker.


Table 9.1 Location of major and listed monuments, buildings and structures


Built structure	Description	Image
<p>Anglican Chapel</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1972.</p> <p>Anglican cemetery chapel, now deconsecrated. 1844.</p> <p>This building replaced a timber structure built as a temporary chapel for burial. Constructed in brick, with Kentish ragstone cladding, the chapel was designed by Thomas Little (1802-59), winner of an open competition for the mortuary. It is in a decorated Gothic style with freestone dressings. Bath, Portland and Caen stone was used for carvings and structural details.</p> <p>In plan the chapel comprises of a large porte-cochere (porch large enough to shelter a vehicle and occupants from the elements) flanked by octagonal turrets at the front of the building and an octagonal chapel to the south; sandwiched between them is an antechamber. Following a fire, which was started deliberately in 1976, the interior and the roof were completely destroyed. The chapel is now maintained as a ruin. Below ground level is a crypt, which was restored during Heritage Lottery Funded works completed in 2001, and the</p>	



Built structure	Description	Image
	<p>chapel was stabilised without a roof to enable access.</p> <p>Despite its current poor state, this building still makes a dramatic statement, standing as it does at the head of the avenue facing the main gates.</p> <p>The Anglican chapel is subject to an ongoing programme of repair works. CIL Funding for a feasibility study for the restoration of the chapel has been secured.</p>	
<p>Site of the Dissenters chapel</p>	<p>The architectural competition won by Thomas Little included the Dissenters chapel, located in the north west of the cemetery. It was set on a crypt and also replaced a temporary chapel. It was T –shaped in plan, similar in style to the Anglican chapel. It was demolished in 1952 following war damage.</p>	
<p>Lodges to the Linden Grove entrance</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1972.</p> <p>Built c1840.</p> <p>The twin two-storey lodges were designed by James Bunstone Bunning and constructed c1840. East Lodge accommodated a general office whilst West Lodge provided accommodation for the superintendent.</p> <p>Designed in a neoclassical style, of yellow brick with chimneys in</p>	 <p>East Lodge</p>

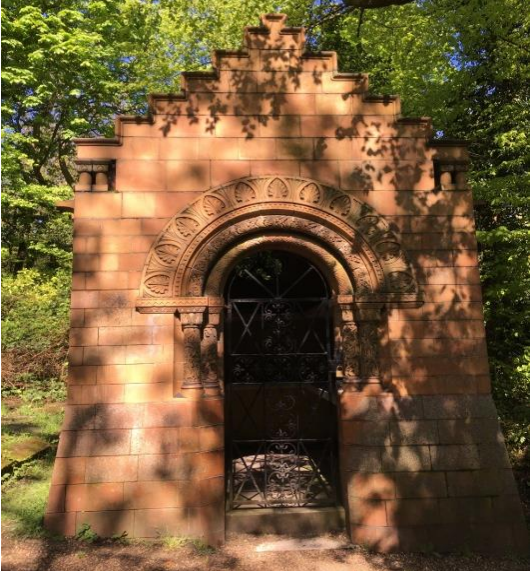

Built structure	Description	Image
	<p>imitation of sepulchral monuments capping the pyramidal roofs. The East Lodge was extended in size in 1876 to provide accommodation for the superintendent in a similar style but with a canted bay window. It suffered war damage in 1941, remaining uninhabitable for some time. After the closure of the cemetery in 1969, both lodges fell into disrepair. The West Lodge was restored by Southwark Council in 1981, and was subsequently sold as a private residence.</p> <p>The East Lodge was damaged by fire in the 1970s and underwent work commissioned and paid for by FONC in 1996 to stabilise the building, and protect it from further immediate damage. However, the building remains in poor condition and is on the Heritage at Risk Register (since 1988). It is protected by a temporary roof until the building is restored.</p> <p>A condition survey and options appraisal was undertaken in 2017, and provided a series of options and financial information, for the potential future use of the building. In February 2018, Southwark Council successfully</p>	 <p data-bbox="922 689 1094 725">West Lodge</p>


Built structure	Description	Image
	<p>secured £1million towards the future restoration of East Lodge. Enabling works have included drainage enhancements, underpinning of the foundations and scaffolding upgrades. These works have helped to stabilise the Lodge and prevent further deterioration and were completed in November 2022.</p> <p>The council is progressing plans to restore the East Lodge building and bring it back into use with community spaces, a café and facilities for FONC. Improvements include the area around the Linden Grove entrance. The FONC cabin will be removed and replaced with a new modular building, facilitating practical volunteer work.</p>	
<p>The Scottish Martyrs Memorial</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1998.</p>	


Built structure	Description	Image
<p>Monument to Maria Proom</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1998</p>	

Built structure	Description	Image
<p>Monument to Thomas Humphreys</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1998</p>	

Built structure	Description	Image
<p>Monument to Henry Daniel</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1998.</p>	 <p>A tall, ornate stone monument featuring a statue of a standing female figure at the top. The monument is set on a decorative base with intricate scrollwork and is surrounded by dense green foliage.</p>
<p>Monument to Sophia Kimpton</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1998.</p>	 <p>A rectangular stone monument with a decorative, curved top edge. The monument is set on a simple base and is surrounded by dense green foliage.</p>

Built structure	Description	Image
Monument to Oppenheim and Schroeter	Grade II. Listed 1998.	
Stearns Mausoleum	Grade II. Listed 1998	
John Allan	Grade II. Listed 1998	

Built structure	Description	Image
<p>Monument to Vincent Figgins</p>	<p>Grade II. Listed 1998</p>	
<p>Depot adjacent to the Limesford Road entrance</p>	<p>A series of four steel containers are located alongside the southern pathway.</p> <p>The council has plans to update and improve the Limesford Road boundary including sensitively managed repairs to the wall, seeking not to disturb the historic burials within the cemetery.</p> <p>Faculty permission for the works was received in 2022. An application for planning permission is also required prior to works commencing.</p>	



Built structure	Description	Image
FONC porta cabin	Timber temporary porta cabin building adjacent to West Lodge	

Boundaries and entrances

9.9 Table 9.2 below describes the boundaries and entrances to the cemetery.

Table 9.2 Boundaries and entrances

Built structure	Description	Image
<p>North boundary to Linden Grove</p> <p>List Entry Number: 1385648</p>	<p>Originally formed with metal railings set in stone plinths, above a brick wall and between tall brick piers, with ornamental stone caps with acroteria at the corners. A gateway at the western end giving access to the Dissenters chapel area was formed in about 1844. The railings to the western section were replaced in brickwork and the western gates were infilled in 1887. The remaining railings were removed in about 1942; temporary infills were replaced with new metal railings in 2000.</p>	
<p>Linden Grove gateway</p> <p>List Entry Number: 1385648</p>	<p>The central section of the Linden Grove boundary is set back from the road to form a recessed entrance, with railings and plinths of similar design, but set between Portland stone piers. The tree sets of ornamental metal gates are probably original. The original railings were removed in about 1942; the temporary infills were replaced with the present metal railings in about 2000, when the piers and walls were substantially rebuilt.</p>	

Built structure	Description	Image
	<p>The inverted flaming torches on the piers were added at that time, the original designs having been lost.</p>	
<p>Boundaries to Brockley Footpath and to Limesford Road</p>	<p>Originally formed with metal railings set in stone plinths above a brick wall, and running between tall brick piers with stone caps, stepped to follow the contours of the path. Many piers have been reduced in height to increase stability. The railings were removed in about 1942 and have not been replaced. Mesh panels of c1975 in steel angle framing now infills the spaces between the piers.</p>	
<p>Limesford Road Gateway</p>	<p>The recessed section of boundary was formed in 1909, there having been no entrance on this frontage originally. Metal railings set in stone plinths, above a yellow stock brick wall, and running between tall stone piers with stone caps. There are a pair of ornamental metal gates. The original metalwork was removed in about 1942. The temporary infills were replaced with new metal railings in about 2001. The brickwork may have been rebuilt during the 20th century.</p>	

Summary of key considerations

- 9.10 The significant built structures at Nunhead Cemetery were constructed in two early phases; Bunning's designs of 1839-41 for the boundary structures, the twin lodges to the Linden Grove entrance, the four shaft catacombs and the eastern catacomb, followed by the Anglican and Non-conformist chapels of 1844-6, both with catacombs, to the design of Thomas Little.
- 9.11 Apart from the Limesford Road entrance of 1909, subsequent change has generally comprised the removal or destruction of original structures, or the addition of intrusive new elements. The shaft catacombs were filled in, the Dissenters chapel was demolished and the Anglican chapel was damaged by fire. Railings have been removed, brick walls have deteriorated and the East Lodge was previously in a poor and deteriorating condition, but has since undergone works to stabilise its structure during 2022.
- 9.12 Whilst the cemetery appears to have been steadily populated by gravestones throughout the period of operation up to about 1950, most of the monuments of significance, and which line the principal pathways (**Figure 7.4** on page 91), were constructed in the period up to about 1920, the exceptions being the War Memorials.
- 9.13 Memorials within cemeteries, being invariably located next to recent excavations, are always at risk of becoming unstable. At Nunhead Cemetery this is exacerbated by the shrinkable clay substrate and the vigorous growth of trees and other vegetation. The larger memorials, being founded on brick vaults have generally suffered less from this but, being more architecturally ambitious, have increased risk of deterioration in their elements above ground.
- 9.14 The following summarises the key considerations. These are to be taken forward to inform the future conservation policies and management strategies.
- **3 (a)** Grade II Listed East Lodge is in poor condition, following fire damage and long term decline, although subsequent structural works have been completed and restoration is envisaged. It is on the Heritage at Risk Register. A project is underway in 2023, to turn the Lodge into a shared café and community space.
 - **3 (b)** Grade II listed West Lodge is in fair condition but private residential use has resulted in screening around the lodge which erodes the composition of the pair of lodges flanking the entrance gates.

- **3 (c)** The perimeter walls along south and west boundaries are in poor overall condition. All of the original railings have been replaced with mesh panels and many of the tall brick piers have been reduced in height because of concerns about their stability.
- **3 (d)** Memorials and monuments throughout the site, with the exception of the lawn burial areas, are at risk of damage from the unrestricted growth of trees, bramble and woody shrubs. As vegetation takes over there is the risk of the loss of the information on inscriptions.
- **3 (e)** There are a number of significant monuments at risk and there is insufficient funding for restoration.
- **3 (f)** The significant monuments are generally located alongside the principal routes.
- **3 (g)** The presence of utilitarian ‘temporary’ buildings within the cemetery, such as the depot and the FONC porta cabins are intrusive.
- **3 (h)** There has, historically, been a significant issue with damage and desecration of memorials; this has been much reduced in recent years.
- **3 (i)** Public access is not normally available inside of the chapel at the centre of the cemetery, except under FONC supervision.
- **3 (j)** There is no shelter or toilets provided within the cemetery that can be accessed daily by the public. Public toilets are envisioned at the restored East Lodge and toilets will be available in the new FONC cabin when FONC are on site.
- **3 (k)** Some residents of Ivydale Road have opened informal access to the cemetery from their gardens, and fly tipping occurs along this boundary.

9.15 Current and future management of buildings, memorials and structures is described in **Chapter 3**.

10 Landscape and design

10.1 The cemetery's character has radically transformed since it was built in 1840. It has evolved from an ordered and maintained space of remembrance, to a wilderness that reminds the visitor that life continues after death. However, it has retained its purpose as 'a haven of tranquillity and remembrance' providing an oasis of calm in a now highly populated and busy, sprawling metropolis. The following chapter summarises the key attributes of the surrounding landscape before focussing on the character of the cemetery itself.

Understanding the physical surroundings

Associations with features outside the site

- 10.2 Nunhead Cemetery sits within the London National Character Area (NCA) 112: Inner London. This area is characterised by the broad Thames Basin flood plain, which rises on either side to provide panoramic cityscape views across the city, such as those glimpsed from Nunhead Hill within the cemetery. Parks and green spaces offer highly valued pockets of tranquillity, whilst in turn the low wooded ridges to the north and south provide a green backdrop to the internationally important buildings of the city, such as St Paul's Cathedral.
- 10.3 Nunhead Cemetery is located within the 'Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area', the boundaries of which broadly follow the edges of the cemetery. Linden Grove to the northeast and Limesford Road to the south-east are included in the Conservation Area.
- 10.4 Nunhead Cemetery contributes greatly to the character of the surrounding area. Situated on higher ground, its tree cover provides a green backdrop to the otherwise residential area of Nunhead, and the pinnacles of the Anglican chapel are a key feature on the skyline from outside the cemetery. The cemetery's location within a quiet residential area combined with the dense tree canopy across the site provides an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity despite its urban location.
- 10.5 At 20 hectares in size, the site's contribution to tree cover in the borough is considerable. The cemetery is located within two kilometres of 17 (see **Chapter 12: Ecology**) green spaces and woodland habitats as shown in **Figure 7.5** on page 95

This network provides important connectivity for the movement of species across the landscape and as the largest of these sites Nunhead Cemetery is an integral part.

Landscape character within the site

- 10.6 Many of the significant 19th century cemeteries were regarded as much as public landscapes as functional burial places.
- 10.7 In stark contrast to its original open and highly managed design, today the landscape at Nunhead Cemetery is dominated by secondary woodland, which restricts views across and out of the site, obscures the features of the designed landscape and has restricted good access in some locations. However, there are aspects of the designed landscape which remain, including:
- The main approach through the gate pillars, between the entrance lodges and up to the Anglican chapel (although this is compromised by the poor condition of the East Lodge, and the privately owned West Lodge);
 - Bunning's historic path layout remains largely intact;
 - Views from Nunhead Hill to St Paul's Cathedral (frequent management is required to ensure these views do not diminish);
 - Some original feature planting including the formal avenue of lime trees that line the main approach, and boundary planting.
- 10.8 Dividing the cemetery into character areas facilitates assessment and understanding of the site as a whole, and provides more manageable geographical units, within which issues and opportunities can be identified and discussed.
- 10.9 This chapter considers the contribution of the component parts of the cemetery. Key factors that have been used to define these character areas include land use, topography, vegetation and built fabric.
- 10.10 For the purposes of this Conservation Management Plan, the character areas of the cemetery have been divided into four broad typologies which have informed the consideration of management opportunities:
- 1 **Designed landscape**; listed buildings and structures, formal entrance and approach leading up the lime tree avenue to the Anglican chapel. Key monuments line the major routes around the cemetery.
 - 2 **Glades and open views**; areas of more open woodland, in particular to the south of the site of the demolished Dissenter's chapel, which provide views of St Paul's Cathedral.

- 3 **Active cemetery**; managed cemetery with undulating topography in some areas, and headstones at odd angles. Maintained war graves.
- 4 **Wilderness**; secondary woodland and enclosed pathways giving the visitor sense of seclusion and discovery.

10.11 The character areas are illustrated in **Figure 10.1 Character Areas** on page 138 and details of each area are included in the tables below.

A. Designed Landscape



View south up approach drive to Anglican Chapel.

Designation/ summary protection

- Listed buildings designations, Registered Park and Garden (Grade II*), Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area (1986), Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserve

Summary description

Formal northern entrance with sense of (slightly faded) grandeur on entering which provides the visitor with a sense of arrival, and is flanked by the East and West Lodges.

Lime tree avenue leading visitors up to the Anglican chapel.

Larger memorials set back from main approach, within mown amenity grass.

Larger monuments that generally line the main paths of the cemetery.

Management issues/opportunities

Issues:

Poor condition of East Lodge, of which restoration is underway in 2023. Until the restoration is complete, the balance of the entranceway and space inside the gates will remain compromised.

Lack of control over West Lodge, due to private ownership

Need for restoration of listed monuments

Need for restoration of monuments not listed, but of historic significance

Threat of damage by woodland encroachment

Health / condition of historic trees

Opportunities:

Funding has been secured to develop a detailed Heritage Lottery Fund application for funding to fully restore the East Lodge.

Should additional funding become available, adopt a management strategy that protects key monuments from future damage where possible.

As part of the implementation of this Conservation Management Plan, put in place a process of identifying significant monuments for future listing / protection.

Diversify future use of the chapel to generate income, which could support further restoration of monuments that are in decline.

B: Glades and open views



View north towards St Paul's Cathedral, framed by trees.

Designation/ summary protection

Registered Park and Garden (Grade II*), Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area (1986), Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserve. View to St Paul's Cathedral protected by local planning legislation.

Summary description

Areas characterised by more open glades, steep hillside and far-reaching views. Presence of trees means that active management is required to prevent views closing.

More open feel as walking around major routes.

Management issues/opportunities

Issues:

Views are vulnerable to loss if management is not sufficient to maintain open views.

Opportunities:

Maintaining the open view creates opportunities for encouraging more diverse habitats, such as open scrub and meadow, by reducing shade through reduction of canopy size.

Larger tree works are undertaken by the council's in-house Tree Team. Future maintenance by further coppicing could be undertaken by FONC and corporate volunteer groups, with support from the council.

C: Active cemetery



Burial area for second interments towards the south-western corner of the site.

Designation/ summary protection

Registered Park and Garden (Grade II*), Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area (1986), Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserve.

Summary description

Area for second interments (no new graves) with short amenity grass and tended graves, bordered by trees which provide a sense of seclusion and privacy for mourners.

Undulating topography and graves at odd angles.

Maintained War Graves.

'Feature trees' are declining in their formality. For example, the Lombardy poplar avenue is no longer intact, and many other 'feature trees' are now enclosed by woodland.

Management issues/opportunities

Issues:

Undulating topography increasing the risk of trip hazards and headstones falling, with the potential to injure visitors.

Encroaching woodland and loss of designed horticultural features, impacting on the character of the area.

Opportunities:

Manage woodland edge to ensure woodland does not encroach further, and to increase diversity of habitat.

Restore designed horticultural features, such as the lime tree avenue and historic lines of trees throughout the site to retain these features. Consider replacing the Lombardy poplars with a more appropriate species of tree of similar shape, suitable for this public setting.

Should resources become available, undertake regular monitoring of gravestones and trip hazards, undertaking remedial work where required, and as funding allows.

Once all current burial space in the cemetery has been filled, the management approach for the cemetery should be reviewed, in case adaptations are required.

D: Woodland nature reserve



Enclosed woodland path.

Designation/ summary protection

Registered Park and Garden (Grade II*), Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area (1986), Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserve.

Summary description

Enclosed secondary woodland, which has claimed large areas of the cemetery, with some older and distinctive trees giving the feel in some places of walking through mature woodland. The woodland is dominated by very tall ash trees along the eastern half of the site, in particular.

Memorials are largely at risk, or already damaged by, tree and vegetation growth.

Enclosed pathways, which provide the visitor with a sense of both seclusion and discovery.

Topography generally level and low-lying.

Management issues/opportunities

Issues:

In some locations, the woodland diversity is in decline due to the lack of resources for management, resulting in an even and maturing age structure. This will be having an impact on the range of species supported by this habitat.

Potential for losing key ash trees to Ash Dieback (*Chalara*)

The site is a popular place for dog walkers resulting in dog fouling, wear to grass areas and risk of disturbance of mourners. Dog fouling in particular causes an issue by enriching the soil, which encourages more vigorous species to dominate, outcompeting important species.

Opportunities:

When resources become available, create, adopt and implement a Tree Management Plan that includes a cyclical management approach to the woodland, where significant trees are retained to become veterans for the future, whilst others are coppiced on a long rotation so that the diversity of the woodland is maintained. The removal of self-seeded sapling of less desirable species should be prioritised.

Provide a strategy to increase variety of trees planted to compensate for loss of ash trees due to Ash Dieback.

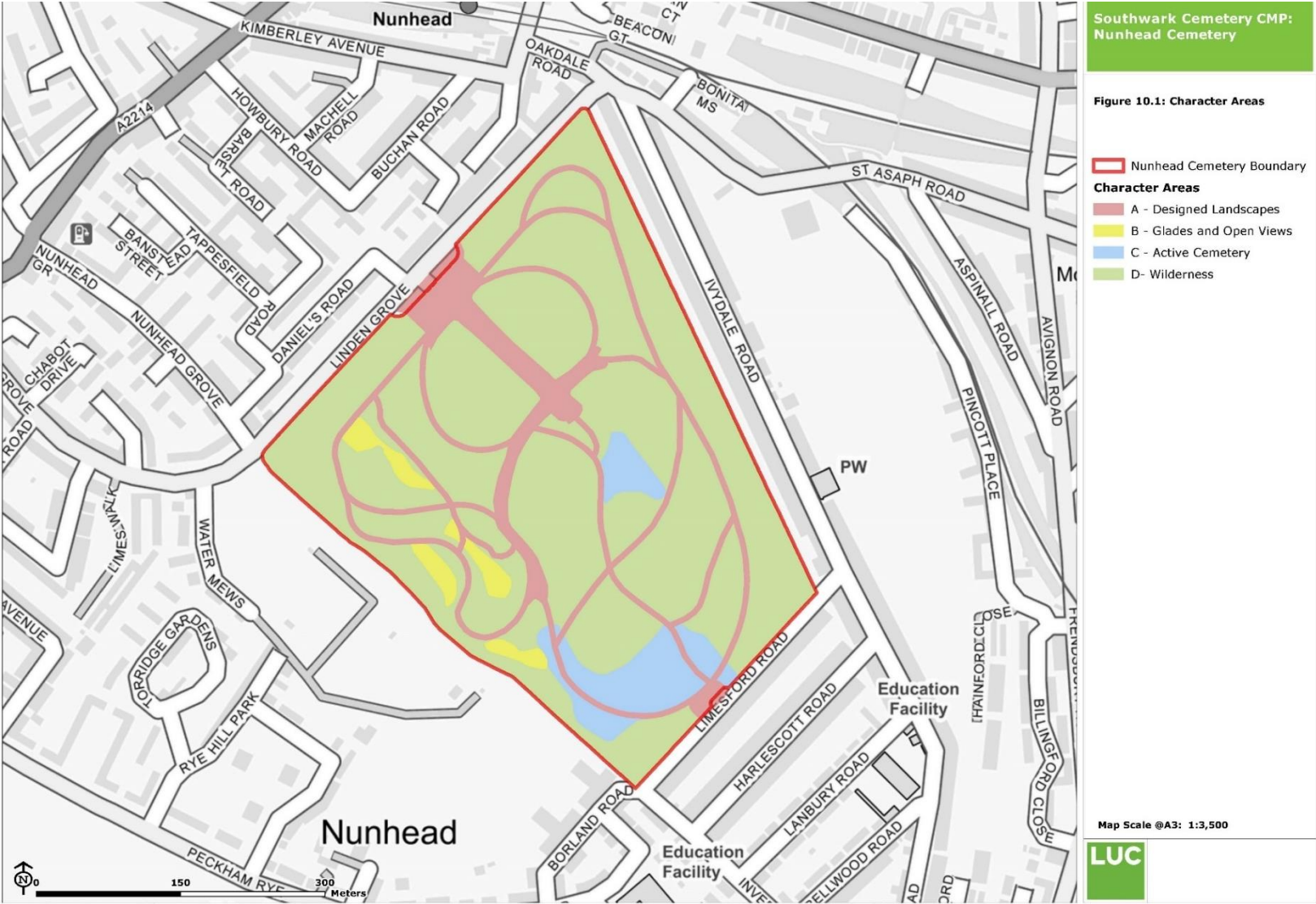
On wider paths cut tree and shrub growth back to encourage habitat variety, and a more open feeling.

Continue to enforce the PSPOs.

Should resources become available, consider the introduction of licenced dog wardens within the dog walking community to help crack down on irresponsible dog walkers, dog fouling and adherence to zones designated by the PSPO.

Ensure that the design of any path improvements is well considered, to be in keeping with the historical and natural setting. It should also be considered that loose gravel products are not accessible for some people, and bound-gravel products are not suitable for steeper gradients.

Figure 10.1 Character Areas



Trees in the landscape

- 10.12 The cemetery was originally planted with trees along the boundaries, with a few formal 'feature trees', such as avenues, and small clumps of trees. A few trees on site appear to pre-date the cemetery's foundation, and so may have been original 'in-field' or 'field boundary' trees, prior to the cemetery's construction.
- 10.13 Since the 1960s, during its closure, the cemetery has developed into secondary woodland from self-seeded trees. Whilst the tree growth now provides good habitat value and a secluded atmosphere, damage as a result of trees growing through or collapsing on monuments has been significant, and a general approach to the management of this in the future will be set out in this plan in the following **Section 11. Trees.**



Functional relationships

- 10.14 Nunhead Cemetery has reached capacity and is no longer an active burial site, except for second interments. The needs of the bereaved are of principal importance when considering the operational and cultural needs of the site. The mosaic of open grassland, woodland edge and woodland habitat has made this an important oasis for wildlife, supporting a range of urban flora and fauna, and also adds significantly to the atmosphere of tranquillity for mourners.

10.15 Nunhead Cemetery has been a popular place of recreation for visitors to come and enjoy a moment of quiet and fresh air, since its inception. Today, as a local green space, it offers an important green lung for local visitors. The Green Chain Walk crosses south-east London from Thamesmead to Nunhead Cemetery, and brings walkers through the site from further afield.

10.16 Therefore, the management of the cemetery needs to deliver on four key concerns, all of which are inter-connected:

- As a place of burial;
- As a place of historic significance;
- As a place for quiet recreation and education;
- As a space for wildlife.

10.17 Many of these concerns are complimentary and can be managed harmoniously. However, there are two areas of conflict, which will require close management consideration and resources.

- 1 The continued preservation of historic monuments, and the management of the site for wildlife.
- 2 The inevitable loss of space for new burials. Management will need to decide at the point that the cemetery reaches capacity whether it is then closed to further burials

Views and visual relationships

10.18 Immediately following its construction, views from the cemetery would have been open and far-reaching. John Poulter's painting looking east from Nunhead Hill illustrates this (**Figure 6.1** on page 72). Accounts at the time describe the cemetery as commanding fine views of the Thames and Greenwich, neither of which are visible today (Clarke, 1862). However, there are still some important views from the cemetery that are protected and can be seen in **Figure 10.2 Protected and Important views** on page 142 and **Figure 10.3 Views across the site**, on page 143.

10.19 Due to the woodland, and boundary lined with trees, views out of the site are sometimes restricted. The only direct views out of the cemetery to the surrounding streets include from the main approach to the chapel, looking north-west out of the main entrance gates. Here, the three storey 1970s buildings of the Barsest Estate on the far side of Linden Grove obstruct sightlines from the gates into central London.

Views in this direction from further into the site, by the chapel reveal the centre of London and the London Eye.

- 10.20 The privacy and separation from the world outside the cemetery afforded by the original planted boundaries have today been magnified by the enclosed secondary woodland. However, during winter the close proximity of the surrounding housing, particularly on Ivydale Road is visible through the trees.
- 10.21 The views from the top of Nunhead Hill were opened up once more as part of the restoration works facilitated by the Heritage Lottery Fund in 2001. The view north, towards St Paul's Cathedral, provides an important reminder of the site's history in providing a final resting place for the occupants of the city. In the distance, beyond St Paul's, is Highgate Cemetery, Nunhead Cemetery's 'twin'. This view is protected by Southwark policy, in the New Southwark Plan (policy 19: Borough Views and Annex 4). Under this policy, any development that exceeds the "Threshold Plane of the viewing corridor" from the cemetery to St Paul's, will be refused, and any development in the foreground or middle ground, which could be to the detriment of this view as a whole, will also likely be refused.²⁰ North of the River Thames, this view is protected by the City of London under the 'St Paul's Heights' policy area.
- 10.22 Facing east-south-east from the summit, there were once views of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In 2023, the view from the bench positioned to enjoy this view was obscured by vegetation; the view north from the bench looking towards St Paul's Cathedral was also compromised. Maintenance of the vegetation in these areas is essential to maintaining these important connections between the cemetery and the countryside beyond the bounds of the city.
- 10.23 A less prominent but important view is from the open burial area along the West Path. From here, a view east provides a glimpse of the spire of St Andrews church. In this part of the cemetery, the absence of other views, combined with the quiet nature of the surrounding houses, gives a tranquil, almost village-like atmosphere. Efforts should also be made to preserve this view by controlling tree growth across the site.

²⁰ Southwark Borough Views Background Paper, 2018

Figure 10.2 Protected and Important views



**Southwark Cemetery CMP:
Nunhead Cemetery**

Figure 10.2: Protected and important views

Nunhead Cemetery

Designated view

① View to St Pauls Cathedral

Undesignated views

② View of city and London Eye

③ Long distance view

④ View to St Andrews Church spire

Map Scale @A3: 1:7,500



Figure 10.3 Views across the site



Clockwise from top left: View north-west from main approach to the Anglican Chapel across to city centre and the London Eye; the view out of the site to St Paul's Cathedral from the viewing bench in April 2023, the view east from Nunhead Hill is also currently obscured; view east from West Path in burial area out towards St Andrew's Church.

10.24 As well as views out of the cemetery, there are a number of internal views, including that from the Linden Grove entrance to the chapel, along the Main Walk, Dissenters Road, the Catacombe Path, the prominent monuments on Windsor Walk, the Beeches and West Hill. See **Figure 7.2** for the location of these paths.

Artistic/literary and cultural associations and representations

- 10.25 There are numerous so-called 'Nunhead Notables' interred at Nunhead Cemetery, some of national importance, of local importance or simply quirky. Many feature in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, which records significant, influential or notorious figures who shaped British history. FONC have so far published five illustrated volumes of 'Nunhead Notables' by Ron Woollacott, more latterly with Michelle Burford, which detail short biographies of over eight hundred eminent men and women who have been buried at Nunhead Cemetery.
- 10.26 Among them are people who have contributed much to the worlds of arts and sciences, religion, politics, medicine and welfare, sport and entertainment. A number of famous figures of the Music Hall and Variety traditions and English Literature and others, are celebrated on interpretation panels in the centre of the site, near the War Graves and Boy Scouts grave and adjacent to the Figgins memorial. Two further volumes of 'Notables' are in preparation and many feature in FONC's general and themed guided tours of the cemetery.
- 10.27 Military and naval figures are also well represented in private graves. They participated in various campaigns from the late eighteenth century up to recent times, and include eight veterans of the Waterloo campaign of 1815, ranging in rank from Private to Field Marshal.
- 10.28 The cemetery's special character has inspired poetry (by Victorian Charlotte Mew and Maurice Riordan 2007), a novel (by F. Gwynplaine MacIntyre, 1994), and has featured in films and television series, most notably the 1971 film 'Melody' (which opened as S.W.A.L.K.) by Waris Hussein.
- 10.29 The cemetery and views from Nunhead Hill have also provided inspiration to artists, including to John Arthur Poulter (1824-1921) whose work is included in **Figure 6.1**. Poulter is buried at Nunhead Cemetery. J.M.W. Turner also sketched the London skyline from Nunhead Hill.

Summary of key considerations

10.30 The following summarises the key considerations, which have been highlighted throughout this chapter. These are to be taken forward to inform the future conservation policies and management strategies.

- **4 (a)** The site is located within the Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area, and makes a significant contribution to the character of the local area. The tree cover and spire of the chapel are key features of the local skyline.
- **4 (b)** New, informal pathways, in addition to those in Bunning's original design, have been created in some areas.
- **4 (c)** Although some tree pruning works are undertaken to open up views, the important views to St Paul's and to the east of the site can be obscured by dense vegetation.
- **4 (d)** A lack of enforcement of policy around lawn burials, planting and headstone design has led to a detrimental impact on aesthetics and maintenance.
- **4 (e)** During wet weather, surface water is inundating paths around the eastern boundary of the site, and within the immediate vicinity of the entrance lodges.
- **4 (f)** As vegetation encroaches memorials, cultural heritage becomes less accessible and potentially less valued.
- **4 (g)** The grass areas between the paths and the first row of memorials beside paths are currently strimmed short. In some cases the strimming is down to ground level leaving no vegetation. In some areas spring bulbs are cut before they are able to flower.
- **4 (h)** It is sometimes challenging for the grounds maintenance contractors to meet expectations with regards to sensitive maintenance of the site. Issues include the timing of pruning operations and strimming or mowing grass, in relation to potential wildlife disturbance.

10.31 Current and future management of landscape and design is described in **Chapter 3**.

11 Trees

Summary of current situation

- 11.1 Trees are a major component of Nunhead Cemetery. A tree survey from September 2018 noted over 2,400 trees. Some are in formal groups, such as the lime trees bordering the walkway from the main entrance on Linden Grove up towards the chapel, and remnants of the formal open landscape of the original cemetery design, However, the majority of the trees form the woodlands that have established over the old burial sites. Significant trees visible from the main pathways are indicated in **Figure 11.1**. *Please note, the recording of tree canopy size during the 2018 tree survey has been found to be inaccurate, for example, the lime trees that border the approach road to the chapel have had their canopy size recorded incorrectly. As the base map for **Figure 11.1** is the map from the tree survey, the actual size of the significant trees is not always a true reflection of actual tree size.*
- 11.2 The 2018 tree survey results show the location of the trees, but also provide information on the species present, and the diameter of the stem at 1.5m above the ground, which can be used as a rough guide to the age of the trees.
- 11.3 The species data shows that the ash are the most abundant species, followed by sycamore, oak and lime, with these four species making up over 80% of the trees in the cemetery. This can be seen in **Table 11.1**.

Table 11.1 Designations Analysis of species based on Aworth Tree Schedule 2018

Species	Common name	Number recorded	Percent of total	Cumulative percent
Fraxinus spp	Unspecified ash	1189	48.77%	48.77%
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	477	19.57%	68.33%
Quercus spp	Unspecified oak	178	7.30%	75.64%
Tilia spp	Unspecified lime	146	5.99%	81.62%
Unknown Species		102	4.18%	85.81%
Castanea sativa*	Sweet chestnut*	101	4.14%	89.95%
Ulmus spp	Unspecified elm	53	2.17%	92.12%

Species	Common name	Number recorded	Percent of total	Cumulative percent
Populus spp	Unspecified poplar	45	1.85%	93.97%
Crataegus spp	Unspecified hawthorn	23	0.94%	94.91%
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	18	0.74%	95.65%
Platanus X hispanica	London plane	17	0.70%	96.35%
Crataegus monogyna	Common hawthorn	16	0.66%	97.01%
Prunus spp	Unspecified prunus	10	0.41%	97.42%
Fraxinus excelsior	Common ash	9	0.37%	97.79%
Robinia pseudoacacia	False acacia	7	0.29%	98.07%
Sambucus nigra	Elder	7	0.29%	98.36%
Populus balsamifera	Balsam poplar	6	0.25%	98.61%
Pinus Spp	Unspecified pine	4	0.16%	98.77%
Salix spp	Unspecified willow	4	0.16%	98.93%
Quercus robur	Common oak	3	0.12%	99.06%
Acer campestre	Field maple	2	0.08%	99.14%
Albizia julibrissin	Persian silk tree,	2	0.08%	99.22%
Alnus cordata	Italian alder	2	0.08%	99.30%
Corylus avellana	Common hazel	2	0.08%	99.38%
Pyrus spp	Unspecified pear	2	0.08%	99.47%
Taxus baccata	English yew	2	0.08%	99.55%
Tilia cordata	Small leafed lime	2	0.08%	99.63%
Acer platanoides	Norway maple	1	0.04%	99.67%
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse chestnut	1	0.04%	99.71%
Ailanthus altissima	Tree of heaven	1	0.04%	99.75%
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	1	0.04%	99.79%
Cupressus spp	Unspecified cypress	1	0.04%	99.84%

Species	Common name	Number recorded	Percent of total	Cumulative percent
Juglans nigra	Black walnut	1	0.04%	99.88%
Quercus ilex	Holm oak	1	0.04%	99.92%
Salix fragilis	Crack willow	1	0.04%	99.96%
Sorbus aria	Whitebeam	1	0.04%	100.00%
	TOTAL	2,438		

**Please note this table is based on the survey data which has not been fully field-checked and there are some instances where trees have been wrongly recorded in the spreadsheet; for example, horse chestnuts along Linden Grove have been incorrectly recorded as sweet chestnuts. Hence, while it is possible to draw general conclusions on the major species distribution of tree species in the cemetery, the accuracy of figures for numbers of trees of a particular species need to be verified through additional surveying.*

Figure 11.1 Significant trees



11.4 Using ‘Mitchell’s Rule’, named after the late world famous UK tree expert, Alan Mitchell, which assumes that most broadleaved trees will add around 1.5 to 2cm of girth per year, we have approximated the age of the surveyed trees in Nunhead Cemetery, presenting the results in **Figure 11.2** and summarised in **Table 11.2**. For the calculation, we have assumed that the trees will increase in girth by 1.5cm per year, rather than 2cm, as many of the trees are in woodland situations where they tend to grow taller to find light, and also have thinner trunks. The ‘planting’ date represents both formal planting as well as the start of natural regeneration.

11.5 The results show:

- A few trees which pre-date the cemetery, including a large oak, planes and a sycamore;
- A steady growth in tree planting from the beginning of the 20th century with a peak around 1956, dropping sharply thereafter, apart from;
- A spike around 1998.

Figure 11.2 Approximate date of origin of trees, based on Aworth Tree Schedule 2018

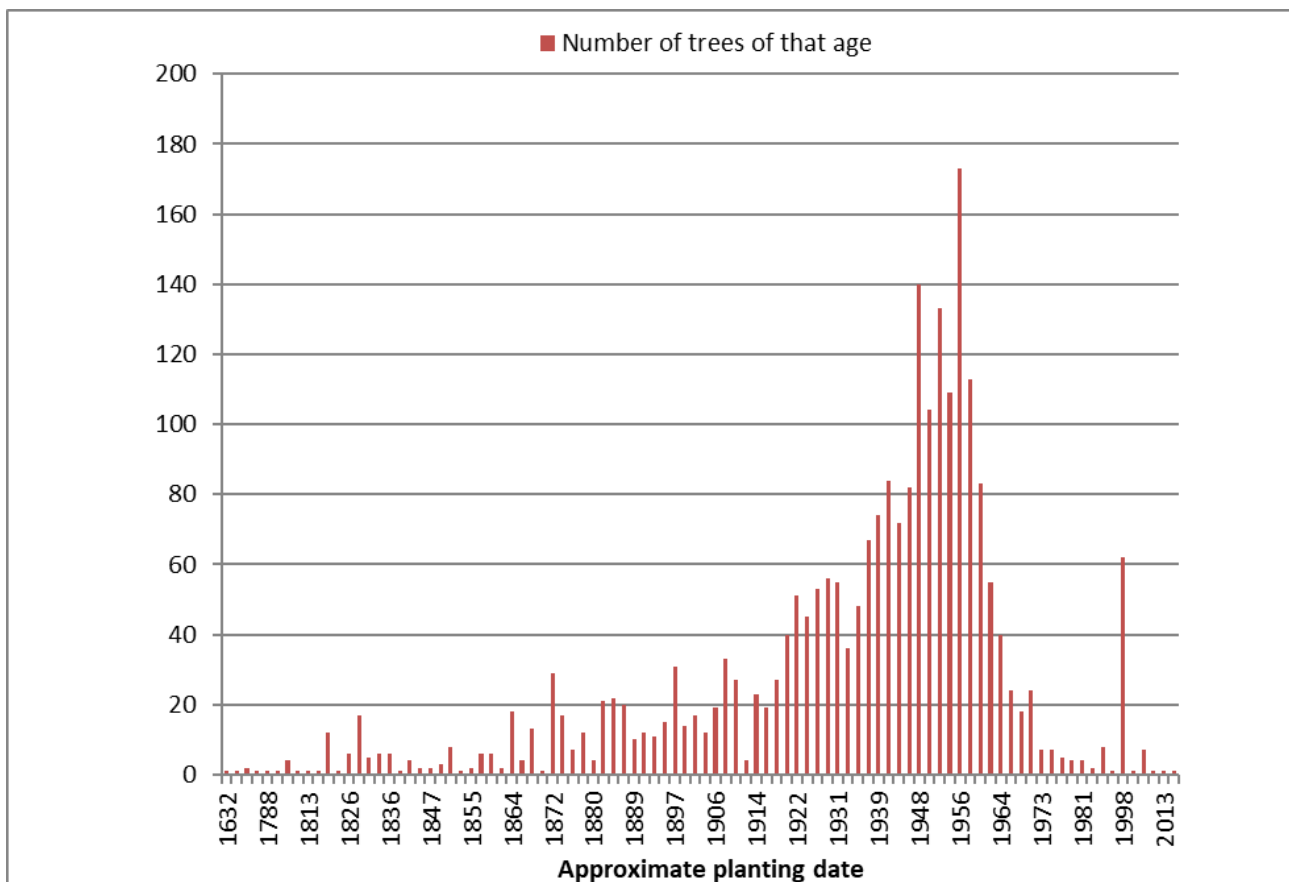


Table 11.2 Comparison of approximate date of origin of trees, and stages of development of the cemetery

Approx. 'Planting' date	Trees in that range	Stages in development of Nunhead cemetery
Pre 1700	2	Area is still largely rural with no more than a small group of scattered houses on the northern and western sides of what today is Nunhead Green. The future site of Nunhead Cemetery is farmland.
1700 to 1800	5	Area of the future cemetery still open fields detailed as grassland and arable land.
1800 to 1850	72	Nunhead Cemetery consecrated in 1840, cemetery had been laid out on a 52 acre site on Nunhead Hill to the south of the Green.
1850 to 1900	286	Used for burials
1900 to 1950	1084	Steady development, new tree planting
1950 to 1970	852	Company in difficulties, woodland developing. Gates closed 1969
1970 to 2000	124	1975, Council repossessed cemetery, reopened for burial in 1980
Post 2000	11	Cemetery under council management

11.6 The deliberate planting and natural regeneration of trees in Nunhead Cemetery has resulted in a landscape which is largely woodland, much of it from natural regeneration, over the older graves, with selected areas of more open grassland, avenues and individual trees. While this provides an attractive landscape, which is popular with visitors and is valuable for its wildlife potential, there are a number of issues that need to be addressed.

Summary of key considerations

11.7 Trees have a major impact on a number of aspects of the cemetery, including for example the landscape, condition of memorials, access, and ecology. Their management needs to be coordinated with these factors. Hence, while this CMP contains guidance on their management, a more detailed Woodland Management Plan is needed. This would provide a more detailed analysis of how factors such as disease and climate change will affect trees, and will coordinate future tree

management with all the other aspects of the cemetery management. A Woodland Management Plan is being developed in 2023, as part of the East Lodge project and will provide this information.

11.8 Key considerations in tree management are the species, age and nature of the trees themselves, as well as where they are growing and their impact on other features of the cemetery.

- **5 (a)** A Woodland Management Plan will provide a long-term strategy, and coordinate tree management with other aspects of the cemetery management and operation.
 - None of the trees are protected through Tree Preservation Orders, although they are in the Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area that affords similar protection for trees over 7.5 centimetres in stem / trunk diameter, measured 1.5 metres above the ground (or 10 centimetres if thinning to help the growth of other trees).
- **5 (b)** Almost 50% of the trees in the cemetery are ash, which is a species under the threat of a disease (Chalara dieback of ash) which could lead to major loss of the species.
- **5 (c)** Three other tree species (sycamore, oak and lime) with the ash, make up over 80% of the overall tree species. These are also susceptible to disease, again potentially causing a major change in the landscape if there are major losses due to these diseases.
- **5(d)** Should the canopy naturally reduce, for example as a result of ash dieback, Historic England see this as a potential opportunity to restore the historically more open character of the cemetery, which used to have a less tree canopy cover. This must be balanced with the council's climate change strategy, recognising the benefit of trees particularly in urban areas, and the cemetery's status as a local nature reserve.
- **5(e)** There is a wide range of other species, both large tree species such as horse chestnut, plane and smaller species such as hawthorn and Prunus species, but in smaller numbers.
- **5(f)** While there are a large number of trees in Nunhead Cemetery, there appears to have been little recent planting. However, it should be noted that there are a large number of saplings with stems less than 300mm DBH (diameter at breast height that is 1.5m above ground) in the wooded areas which have not been picked up by the survey.

- **5(g)** There are a few aged and veteran trees that merit particular care, both to prolong the life of the trees and to ensure the safety of people visiting the cemetery.
- **5(h)** Unplanned tree growth in the woodland areas, over old memorials for example, has led to damage of some memorials and loss of access to and visibility of others.
- **5(i)** Unplanned growth has also led to the blurring of the more formal elements of tree planting, and to the older trees becoming swamped by younger trees, reducing their vigour and visibility.
- **5(j)** Uncontrolled tree growth can also impact on key viewpoints both within the cemetery and to locations outside, such as the key view to St Paul's Cathedral and towards Highgate Cemetery.
- **5(k)** Lack of structural variety in the woodland, and associated reduction in biodiversity.
- **5(l)** There are trees on the borders of the cemetery growing close to private property, particularly on the eastern boundary, and have the potential to present a danger to those properties, if not maintained in a sound state.

Key aims and objectives for future management

- 11.9 The woodland that has developed naturally in Nunhead Cemetery over the older graves and memorials is, to many, a key component in the value of the cemetery, both for the mystical spirit it provides. This is the sense of nature gradually reclaiming both those laid to rest there and their memorials, and the cemetery's value as an important habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna.
- 11.10 However, the formal avenues and lines of trees, in particular the lime avenue leading up from the Linden Grove entrance to the chapel are also important features, providing a contrast to the informality of the woodland and a setting for the memorials in that area.
- 11.11 The veteran trees scattered around the cemetery are also of importance for their heritage and ecological value.
- 11.12 The overall vision for managing trees in the cemetery is to conserve and enhance these key factors while addressing the issues described above. In doing so, it can be ensured that the trees continue to contribute to the character of Nunhead Cemetery; as a place of mystery, a place for all to wander peacefully, to continue to

offer consolation to the friends and families of those that are laid to rest here, while still retaining key historic design components and providing a rich habitat for fauna and flora.

11.13 The key policies for achieving this vision are to:

- Maintain the woodland cover, whilst managing any new growth, whether deliberate planting or natural regeneration. This is in order to provide access to key monuments.
- Increase variety of understorey, and hence increase biodiversity, by introducing glades and reducing tree canopy cover in some areas. Key locations for glade management are in the more open areas south of the site where the demolished Dissenters Chapel used to be located, and up the hill towards the pond, and beyond.
- Maintain key formal planting, such as the lime avenue leading from Linden Grove to the chapel.
- Identify significant and veteran trees, and provide suitable conditions for those trees to both flourish and for their visibility to be retained as features of the landscape.
- Should there be a naturally occurring significant loss of canopy cover in the future, for example due to ash dieback, a balance should be found between keeping some areas of a more open nature as per Historic England's advice, and planting new trees in other areas, with succession planting being implemented.

11.14 Current and future management of trees is described in **Chapter 3**.

12 Ecology

12.1 This chapter provides an overview of the ecology at Nunhead Cemetery, including its value in the wider landscape and the range of habitats it provides. Biological records were obtained via a data request to Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL). A walkover survey was also undertaken to assess the type of habitats present across the site. In addition, Southwark Council commissioned a bat survey during 2018, this comprised a dusk and dawn transect and a static detector survey.

Baseline

Designated Sites

12.2 A number of sites designated for their nature conservation value, lie within a 2km buffer of Nunhead Cemetery, as identified within biological records provided by GiGL (see **Figure 7.5**). Nunhead Cemetery itself is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR), which is a statutory designation. One Tree Hill is another LNR that is located just over 1km away. In addition, Nunhead Cemetery itself is designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) of Metropolitan Importance. This is a non-statutory designation, which receives protection through the planning system, with Metropolitan SINC's being identified as of value at the London level. SINC's can also be designated at Borough and Local levels. A further 14 SINC's lie within 2km of Nunhead Cemetery, including Forest Hill to New Cross Gate Railway Cutting, which is also of Metropolitan importance. Further details of these designated sites are summarised in **Table 12.1** below.

Table 12.1 Designated Sites within 2km of Nunhead Cemetery

Name	Designation	Qualifying Features	Distance From Site	Orientation
Statutory Sites				
Nunhead Cemetery	Local Nature Reserve	One of London’s most important Victorian cemeteries, combining historical and wildlife interest with a character that is almost unique. It contains the nearest large area of woodland and scrub to southcentral London, and is an outstanding site for its location. The site is particularly notable for its breeding bird and invertebrate populations.	N/A	N/A
One Tree Hill	Local Nature Reserve	This is a steep hill with wooded slopes and open grassland on top. Woodland is dominated by hybrid black poplar and London plane, with a wide variety of other trees and shrubs. The woodland has a good structure, and the ground flora includes bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>). This is one of only two sites in the Borough with acid grassland.	1.34 km	184°
Non-Statutory Sites				
Nunhead Cemetery	Metropolitan Site of Importance	One of London’s most important Victorian cemeteries, combining historical and wildlife interest with a character	N/A	N/A

Name	Designation	Qualifying Features	Distance From Site	Orientation
	for Nature Conservation	that is almost unique. It contains the nearest large area of woodland and scrub to southcentral London, and is an outstanding site for its location. The site is particularly notable for its breeding bird and invertebrate populations.		
Forest Hill to New Cross Gate Railway Cutting	Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	An extensive railway cutting between New Cross Gate and Forest Hill stations, in a built up area of south London. The most representative site in London for habitats developing on active rail sides, it also demonstrates well their important role in allowing natural vegetation to develop in the heart of the inner city. It supports a surprisingly diverse flora and fauna.	0.95 km	132°
Brockley and Ladywell Cemeteries	Borough Grade I Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	<p>These two cemeteries contain grassland rich in wildflowers and many fine mature (mainly non-native) trees. In common with many Victorian cemeteries, they are also of considerable historical interest.</p> <p>Ladywell Cemetery is more open in character and contains acid grassland habitat, uncommon in Greater London.</p>	1.45 km	116°

Name	Designation	Qualifying Features	Distance From Site	Orientation
One Tree Hill	Borough Grade I Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	This is a steep hill with wooded slopes and open grassland on top. Woodland is dominated by hybrid black poplar and London plane, with a wide variety of other trees and shrubs. The woodland has a good structure, and the ground flora includes bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>). This is one of only two sites in the Borough with acid grassland.	1.34 km	184°
Camberwell Old Cemetery	Borough Grade I Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	This is a Victorian cemetery containing an excellent selection of mature trees, including several old oak pollards, presumably old boundary markers pre-dating the cemetery, a particularly fine pear tree (<i>Pyrus communis</i>) and a single native black-poplar (<i>Populus nigra</i> var. <i>betulifolia</i>), a nationally scarce and declining tree. There is a good diversity of common grassland flowers around the paths.	1.60 km	206°
Peckham Rye Park and Common	Borough Grade I Site of Importance	A large park with several valuable habitat features. The most important of these is the only remaining aboveground section of the River Peck.	0.83 km	238°

Name	Designation	Qualifying Features	Distance From Site	Orientation
	for Nature Conservation	Across some sections, much of the bankside vegetation is unmanaged, and forms the most natural stream in the borough. The site supports a good bird population. Small numbers of pipistrelle bats are present. The nationally-scarce musk stork's-bill (<i>Erodium moschatum</i>) occurs in short turf in the north of the Common.		
Nunhead Cutting	Borough Grade II Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	Lewisham's rail sides comprise an extensive series of low disturbance wildlife habitats and a vital network of green corridors. The key rail side habitats include rough grassland, tall herbs, scrub, scattered trees and woodland, which occur together in various combinations to form a very large linear patchwork. Extending throughout the borough, the rail network provides feeding and breeding sites, shelter and means of dispersal for very many species of plants, bird, mammals and insects.	0.41 km	29°
Brockley to St John's rail sides	Borough Grade II Site of Importance	Lewisham's rail sides comprise an extensive series of low disturbance wildlife habitats and a vital network of green corridors. The key rail side habitats include rough	1.67 km	74°

Name	Designation	Qualifying Features	Distance From Site	Orientation
	for Nature Conservation	grassland, tall herbs, scrub, scattered trees and woodland, which occur together in various combinations to form a very large linear patchwork. Extending throughout the borough, the rail network provides feeding and breeding sites, shelter and means of dispersal for very many species of plants, bird, mammals and insects.		
Camberwell New Cemetery, Honor Oak Recreation Ground and adjacent areas	Borough Grade II (SINC) Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	A large area of open land, including a cemetery, a park, allotments and the site of a former nursery, with a good range of plants and animals.	1.08 km	164°
Aquarius Golf Course	Borough Grade II Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	Flower-rich grassland on the eastern banks of a covered reservoir. The best example of neutral grassland in the Borough.	0.94 km	180°
Brenchley Gardens	Borough Grade II Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	This linear park has a narrow strip of woodland along its north-western edge, with a good structure and wide variety of trees including aspen, which is rare in Southwark. It also contains patches of cowslips.	1.14 km	180°

Name	Designation	Qualifying Features	Distance From Site	Orientation
Nunhead Railway Embankments	Borough Grade II Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	Two steep, narrow railway embankments covered in dense woodland.	1.26 km	356°
Besson Street Community Garden	Local Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	A wonderful community garden with a truly cosmopolitan feel, with trees and shrubs from around the world reflecting Lewisham's diverse population. This area supports breeding populations of common frog, smooth newt and stickleback.	0.73 km	25°
Telegraph Hill Park	Local Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	This park has many fine trees, many unusual to London, dating back to the original landscaping, and an attractive, undulating terrain.	0.97 km	305°
Consort Park	Local Site of Importance for Nature Conservation	An interesting small park with scattered scrub of goat willow and buddleia.	0.96 km	311°

Habitats

12.3 Key habitats which lie within Nunhead Cemetery include:

- Broadleaved woodland;
- Semi improved neutral grassland;
- Amenity grassland;
- Standard trees;
- Scrub; and

- Ornamental planting.

12.4 Bare, open ground is also an important habitat, and although not an extensive habitat, is one which can occur as a component of the habitats described below.

Grassland

12.5 Small areas of grassland are present within the site, primarily linear habitat adjacent to pathways. Amenity grassland is present in the north and central parts of the cemetery, with the sward maintained to a short length and dominated by perennial rye grass *Lolium perenne*. Semi-improved neutral grassland is located in small areas, this is mostly in the south, in areas where grass is allowed to grow long, and comprises of species including herb robert (*Geranium robertianum*), common cats ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), cut leaved cranesbill (*Geranium dissectum*), bristly ox-tongue, speedwell (*Veronica* sp.) and red clover (*Trifolium pratense*).

Woodland

12.6 Semi-natural broadleaved secondary woodland dominates the site, with graves dispersed amongst the habitat. The canopy is dominated by sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), with frequent ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and oak (*Quercus robur*), occasional beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), lime (*Tilia x europaea*) and London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*), with ivy (*Hedera helix*) dominant throughout. The canopy is fairly dense, with limited understorey and ground flora, however bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) is locally dominant. Shrub species included frequent holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and rarely noted variable-leaved hawthorn (*Crataegus heterophylla*) and elm (*Ulmus minor*). Semi-natural broadleaved woodland provides valuable habitat for a range of wildlife, including invertebrates, reptiles, fox, birds and bats, including foraging and sheltering opportunities.

Standard Trees / Treelines

12.7 Standard trees and treelines were also present in addition to woodland habitat. Several ancient veteran trees are present within the cemetery, which provide a valuable resource for a variety of species including fungi and invertebrates. Formal tree lines are primarily adjacent to main paths and the main entrance areas.

12.8 **Figure 11.1** includes a map detailing feature trees visible from the pathways of the cemetery.

Scrub, tall ruderal and ornamental planting

12.9 Areas of scrub and ornamental planting, and tall ruderal habitat are present in small areas throughout the cemetery. These are mostly located adjacent to paths, and contribute to the habitat diversity within the site.

Standing water

12.10 A small pond is located in the north west of the site. It is surrounded by a bare earth path, adjacent to which are areas of tall ruderal habitat, connected amongst the woodland. The pond is not vegetated.

Invasive Plant Species

12.11 Laurel (*Prunus Laurocerasus*) and snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) have both been deliberately planted within the cemetery, but have become invasive as a result of fast growth and insufficient maintenance, spreading rapidly and shading other native species out.

12.12 The snowberry is seen as a symbol of purity, and was thought to be appropriate for cemeteries. This view is still held by some, who feel that it should be allowed to grow in discrete areas, next to the monuments it would probably have been planted around, but managed and controlled to avoid spreading elsewhere.

12.13 Laurel can become very dense, and reaches a height of around 15m. Its rapid growth, coupled with its evergreen habit and its tolerance of drought and shade, often allows it to out-compete and kill off native plant species. It is spread by birds, through the seeds in their droppings. Where it can be controlled the laurel can provide good hedging and shelter. However, it should be removed within the woodland areas to encourage the growth of a more varied ground and shrub layer of native species.

12.14 Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was successfully treated by the council's grounds maintenance contractor, in a fenced-off area south of Nunhead Hill. The plant's route to site was likely through introduction either through imported topsoil or through planting as an ornamental plant.

12.15 Japanese Knotweed is a highly successful plant and given the right conditions, the plant can spread underground laterally up to 7m from the visible plant above ground, and 3m deep in suitable soil. It is strongly recommended that the following steps are taken to ensure that the plant is successfully eradicated and the risk of further infestation at Nunhead Cemetery is prevented.

- A written record of all known and treated patches of knotweed has been documented, including the date of recording, the size of the patch, its grid reference, the height of the stems above ground and a photograph. This is to ensure continuity of treatment, should there be a change in staff and a clear record of treatment progress for the landowner.
- The knotweed should be treated by a specialist contractor in late August / early September each year, with a second treatment visit two weeks after the first to ensure all plants are treated.

12.16 There is a recommendation in Southwark SINC Review (2016) to control and keep scrub /ruderal encroachment at bay along wider paths including Beeches pathway.

Species

12.17 A number of protected and / or notable species have been recorded in the site, and within a 2km buffer, as identified within the GiGL records. These include Species of Principle Importance for Nature Conservation and Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP) priority species. The following species, or species groups, are considered of particular interest, given the habitats present on site, and potential management implications:

- **Invertebrates** – a diverse range of invertebrates have been recorded within the site, and within 2km, including the white letter hair streak butterfly (*Satyrrium w-album*), cinnabar moth (*Tyria jacobaeae*), stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*) and other notable species associated with woodland, trees, scrub and deadwood;
- **Birds** – nearly 40 species have been recorded in the surrounding local area, highlighted within available biological records. These include black redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*), and those associated with woodland, mature trees, dead wood and scrub, such as lesser spotted woodpecker (*Dendrocopos minor*), firecrest (*Regulus ignicapillus*), spotted flycatcher (*Dendrocopos minor*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) and linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*). FONC records indicate that a survey of breeding birds in the London area in 1988 and 1989 recorded around 45 species in Nunhead Cemetery.
- **Amphibians** - common toad (*Bufo bufo*) and common frog (*Rana temporaria*) associated with waterbodies and deadwood;
- **Reptiles** – there are historic local records of three common and widespread species: common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*) and

grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), associated with grassland/scrub and deadwood. There is no evidence that these are currently present on the site

- **Bats** – The biological records search indicated that three species of bat have been recorded within 2km. Bats are supported by the trees within the site, which provide potential roosting opportunities, as well as woodland and woodland edge habitat, providing optimal foraging and commuting habitat. Species include common and soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) and (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*) and noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*).

12.18 Southwark Council commissioned The Ecology Consultancy to undertake Bat activity surveys during August 2018²¹, the results of which are summarised below:

- Commuting and foraging behaviour was observed, including common and soprano pipistrelle and noctule, although it is possible that more species are using the site.
- Although no bat roosts were recorded as part of this survey, recorded activity around the typical emergent and re-entry times indicate that it is highly likely bat roosts are present within, or directly adjacent to the site.
- Activity was recorded throughout the site; the majority of activity was focussed around the centre of the site.
- Further surveying is recommended, including a ground level tree assessment.

12.19 Further detail of protected and notable species found within 2km of the site is in **Appendix 4**.

Summary of Current situation

12.20 The site is a designated Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Metropolitan SINC and is noted for the extent of woodland and scrub, and its breeding bird and invertebrate populations.

12.21 The cemetery sits within a wider network of sites of regional and local importance including parks, woodlands and railway embankments.

12.22 Species of Principal Importance and Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP) priority species have been recorded within 2km of the site.

²¹ The Ecology Consultancy (2018) Nunhead Cemetery, London Borough of Southwark. Bat Activity Surveys.

- 12.23 Woodland areas within the site provide habitat for a range of wildlife including bats, invertebrates, birds and reptiles.
- 12.24 Local species records of particular note include three species of bat, stag beetle and black redstart.
- 12.25 Opportunities for ecological enhancement include management of the woodland understorey, enhancement of areas of standing water and control of invasive species.
- 12.26 Significant consideration should be given to the habitat value of the mature trees on the site, looking to preserve these through pro-active management where necessary.
- 12.27 Management to enhance habitat quality for bats should be prioritised. This may include developing a coppice management cycle and sensitive tree management to maintain the older trees. The value of some of the larger monuments as bat roosts should also be considered.

Summary of key considerations

- 12.28 The following summarises the key considerations, which have been highlighted throughout this chapter. These are to be taken forward to inform the future conservation policies and management strategies.
- **6(a)** Invasive species: Japanese knotweed, butterfly bush and laurel and have all been recorded on the site, whilst regeneration of sycamore and snowberry may reduce woodland diversity.
 - **6(b)** Lack of woodland structure diversity: woodland lacks scrub layer, glades and edge habitat, loss of succession, leaving trees vulnerable to a greater risk of damage and/or decay as a consequence of pest and diseases, and the impacts of climate change.
 - **6(c)** Impacts from tree and woodland management on bats, birds, and invertebrates.
 - **6 (d)** Lack of grassland species diversity and herb rich grassland: A significant amount of the grassland is mowed short, reducing species diversity and offering low value habitat for wildlife. There can be conflict between managing grasslands aesthetically for visitors, and managing for wildlife.

- **6(e)** Ivy present increases the biodiversity of the woodland, but also possibly masking weaknesses in trees and therefore presenting a safety concern. There is a risk of loss of tree branches or even major limbs, through decay/disease.
- **6(f)** Tree variants include three variable-leaved hawthorn created by Victorian horticulturalists still thrive in Nunhead Cemetery, one of these varieties, the Variable-Leaved Hawthorn is considered rare in urban settings.
- **6(g)** Regular monitoring of species of importance is not undertaken at the site, so understanding the impact of management, or changes in the environment is unknown.
- **6(h)** There is an opportunity to build on FONC's involvement with enhancing biodiversity within the site.
- **6(i)** Lack of habitat diversity and composition: a majority of habitat present comprises of uniform woodland, across most of the site.
- **6(j)** Wetland habitats are restricted to a single pond, and localised flooding around paths during periods of heavy rainfall.
- **6(k)** There is limited information for visitors on biodiversity in the cemetery.
- **6(l)** Bat surveys in summer 2018 improve the understanding of this species' use of the cemetery.

12.29 Current and future management of ecology is described in **Chapter 3**.

13 Visitor experience and infrastructure

13.1 This chapter summarises visitor experience and infrastructure at Nunhead Cemetery.

Approaches to the cemetery

Main entrance on Linden Grove

13.2 The main entrance to Nunhead Cemetery is located on the north-western boundary of the site, on Linden Grove. The Grade II listed gate piers and gates are set back from the road. Traffic calming measures, offset to the east side of the gates, slow traffic and provide a safer crossing point for pedestrians. The set back entrance also provides informal, but limited parking for visitors (space for approximately 24 vehicles).

Figure 13.1 Nunhead Cemetery main entrance



Main entrance gates with offset traffic calming measures, and view framed by the lime tree avenue up to the Anglican chapel beyond.

- 13.3 Inside the gates, but visible from outside the cemetery, are the West and East Lodges. The West Lodge is in private ownership, and for privacy, the owner has placed a close-board fence inside the ornate railings of the cemetery. Ivy growing from inside the owner's garden covers the six pillars that surround the private garden.
- 13.4 The East Lodge has been covered with scaffolding for over 20 years to protect the building from further decay due to the elements. This obscures the building and detracts from the grand character of the entrance.
- 13.5 The vehicle gates remain locked unless required to be opened. Access for pedestrians is through a pedestrian gate to the east side of the main gates.
- 13.6 From the main gates, the lime tree lined view up to the imposing Anglican Chapel is impressive.



Above: East Lodge



Above: West Lodge

Limesford Road entrance

- 13.7 The southern entrance is located on the south-eastern boundary, on Limesford Road, and was added in 1909. Like the main entrance, the gates here are also set back from the road, with informal parking for approximately 6 vehicles. The vehicular gates at this entrance provide access for both pedestrians and authorised vehicles. The gates are open, during cemetery opening hours.

Figure 13.2 Limesford Road entrance



Above: Limesford Road entrance is set back from the road, with single access point for pedestrians and vehicles and the Lombardy poplars visible beyond.

13.8 The gates are flanked to the west by a modular building, which is used by the grounds maintenance team. Although kept tidy, it does not have the grandeur of the entrance lodges at the main entrance. To the east is an area of maintained lawn, and a screen commemorating those who fought in the First World War, and who are buried in the cemetery. The path leading north from the entrance into the site is lined by Lombardy poplars, which form an incomplete avenue. The land immediately inside the entrance has an open feel, and second interments are sometimes undertaken here, although there are no burials in new graves in this location.

Visitor arrival and facilities

Car parking

13.9 There is limited car parking outside Nunhead Cemetery, confined to the areas where the entrance gates are set back from the road. At the main entrance on

Linden Grove there is space for approximately 24 vehicles. The Limesford Road entrance has space for just six. Informal parking is available in the quiet, residential streets that surround the cemetery.



Above: Parking at the entrance on Linden Grove entrance



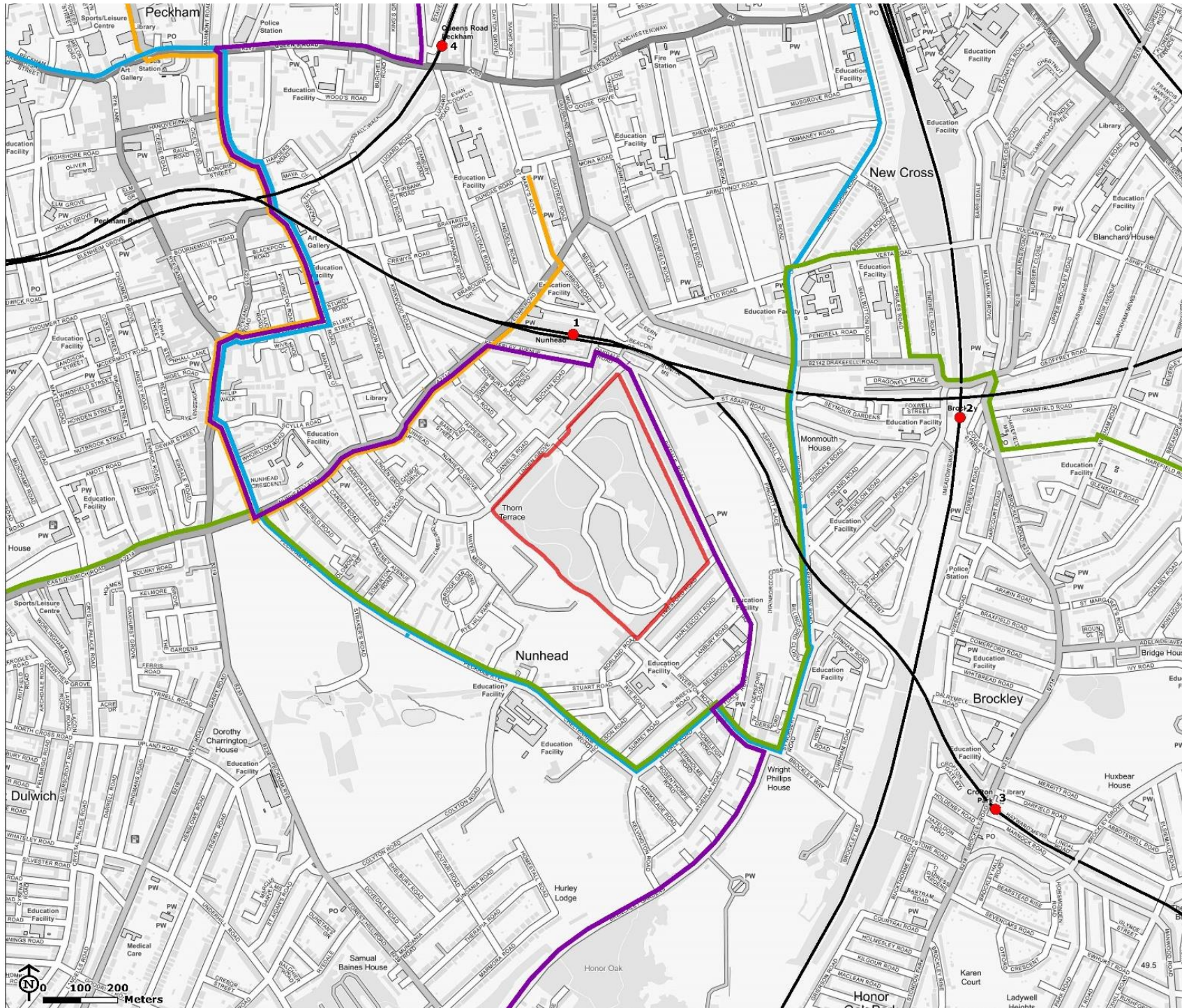
Above: Parking at the entrance on Limesford Road

Public transport

13.10 The cemetery is well served by local infrastructure with numerous nearby bus links, rail links, and footpath network (**Figure 13.3**). The Green Chain Walk ([Green Chain Walk - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](https://www.tfl.gov.uk/gov/transport/other-transport/green-chain-walk)) created in 1977, was set up to encourage greater access to green open space between Thamesmead in the north, and Crystal Palace in the south. The walk passes directly through the cemetery and encourages visitors from further afield.

13.11 Nunhead Cemetery can be accessed via a number of public transport routes. Bus routes 78, 343, 484 and P12 all stop within a 6 minute walk of the cemetery, and Nunhead train station is a 4 minute walk (managed by Thameslink). Nunhead Station has poor accessibility with many steps, and no lift access to the platforms. The cemetery is further served by Crofton Park (Thameslink), Brockley (London Overground and Southern trains) and Peckham Rye (London over ground) train stations, all of which are within 25 minutes' walk.

Figure 13.3 Public transport to Nunhead Cemetery



**Southwark Cemetery CMP:
Nunhead Cemetery**

Figure 13.3: Public Transport

- Nunhead Cemetery
- Underground and Railway Stations
- 1: Nunhead (5 mins walk)
- 2: Brockley (16 mins walk)
- 3: Crofton Park (17 mins walk)
- 4: Queens Road Peckham (17 mins walk)
- Bus Route**
- 78 - Shoreditch High Street Station to St Mary's Road
- 343 - City Hall to New Cross
- 484 - Lewisham to Denmark Hill
- P12 - Surrey Quays Shopping Centre to Brockley Rise

Map Scale @A3: 1:10,000



Visitor facilities

- 13.12 Facilities for visitors at Nunhead Cemetery are limited. There are no public accessible toilets on site, however FONC have a toilet within their cabin at the north end of the site, which is opened for public use whilst members are on site. The council's grounds maintenance contractor is based in a cabin at the south end of the site, which provides facilities for grounds maintenance staff only, and not for the public.
- 13.13 The FONC cabin is in poor condition and detracts slightly from the formal designed aesthetics of the Linden Grove entrance area. The grounds maintenance contractor's cabin, whilst maintained in a tidy condition also detracts from the open nature of the Limesford Road entrance.
- 13.14 As of February 2018, Southwark Council successfully secured £1million towards the future restoration of East Lodge. Two phases of enabling works took place in 2020 and in 2022; they consisted of dismantling parts of the building at risk of collapse, stabilisation of the walls, scaffold adaptation, and drainage investigations. These works have helped to stabilise the East Lodge and prevent further deterioration. The council is progressing plans to restore the East Lodge building and the area around the Linden Grove entrance, with facilities for FONC, community spaces, and a café. The FONC cabin will be removed, and replaced with a new modular building for practical volunteer work.

Figure 13.4 Facilities for FONC and grounds maintenance teams



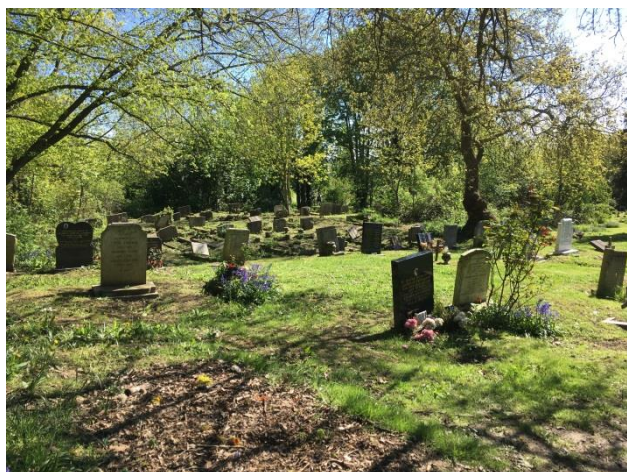
Above: FONC cabin, located just west of the main entrance



Above: the grounds maintenance contractor's cabins, located immediately west of the Limesford Road entrance

Burials and headstones

- 13.15 Burials at Nunhead Cemetery are overseen by Southwark Council's Bereavement Services team. Second interments are mostly in pre-purchased graves, and are marked by a mix of either traditional kerbside or lawn burial memorials.
- 13.16 Nunhead Cemetery contains interments in a variety of grave styles. The historic burial information records held by Southwark Council are not full and accurate, therefore it is not possible to accurately state the number of burials that have occurred within the cemetery. Many are unmarked, 'common graves', and 'private' burials in brick-lined graves, brick vaults and catacombs. The monuments and gravestones of the historic graves across the site are in varying condition, and therefore pose a health and safety risk, and on-going cost to the council. Due to budget restrictions, repairs are generally undertaken on a reactive basis where there is a risk to the public.
- 13.17 Monument repair is a complex, time-consuming, costly and essential exercise. We acknowledge that these factors mean that repairs are usually reactive; however, work will be undertaken to ensure there is a schedule of the listed, and other noteworthy monuments, to allow prioritisation for future restoration. The council, FONC and other partners can then use this information to carry out targeted, proactive conservation when necessary, and as opportunities arise to secure funding.
- 13.18 Future management will need to consider the balance between safety, the cost of stabilisation or restoration, and the heritage value of the monument.



Above: Area where second interments are undertaken, located by the West path



Above: Area of graves, located south of chapel, with Muslim burials facing east.

Site furniture

13.19 Benches and litter bins are installed across the site, and are in varying condition.

The benches in particular are inconsistent in style as illustrated below. It is suggested that a detailed audit is carried out, of the style of benches and litter bins, and the need for them in their current locations, with a view to adopting a coherent style for future replacements, and a rationalisation of any unnecessary furniture.

Figure 13.5 Site furniture



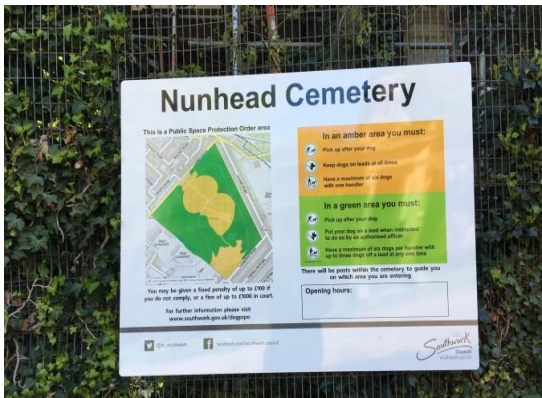
Above: Various styles of site furniture: benches, bins and way markers.

Interpretation and signage

13.20 There is a wide variety of interpretation signage at Nunhead Cemetery, which has been produced on an ad hoc basis over a number of years. A lack of consistency of design and branding may be confusing for some visitors. Signage ranges from formal map boards, to temporary laminated signs.

- 13.21 Visitors at the main entrance on Linden Grove are greeted by two maps, the first is hung on the fencing surrounding the East Lodge, illustrating the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) area for dog walkers. The second map board is located at the bottom of the lime avenue, and contains a detailed interpretation board with an illustrated map and noticeboard with information about site management and events. A second noticeboard in a different style is located on the opposite side of the path, and contains notices of FONC activities.
- 13.22 Visitors at the Limesford Road entrance are greeted by a PSPO map board, a black noticeboard with contact details for the cemetery and some FONC notices, and an interpretation board by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.
- 13.23 Similarly, there is no consistent approach to interpretation for the site with boards of varying detail and quality in the communication of the site's history.
- 13.24 The East Lodge project will include an interpretation strategy, which will review how information about the cemetery is communicated with the public, in an engaging and easy to understand way. The strategy will include proposed designs and materials for signs. It is proposed that the strategy is used for all future signs throughout the cemetery.

Figure 13.6 The variety of signs for visitors



Above: Permanent PSPO information board



Above: Temporary information signs about the East Lodge project



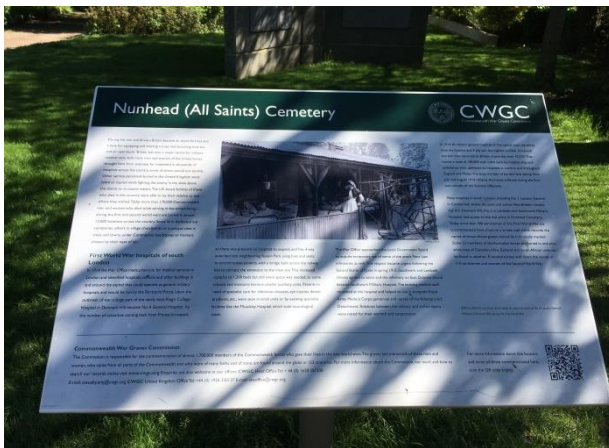
Left: Temporary information sign about the proposal to refurbish the East Lodge



Above: Interpretation panel with noticeboard located at Linden Grove entrance



Above: Older style black FONC noticeboard, located at the Limesford Road entrance

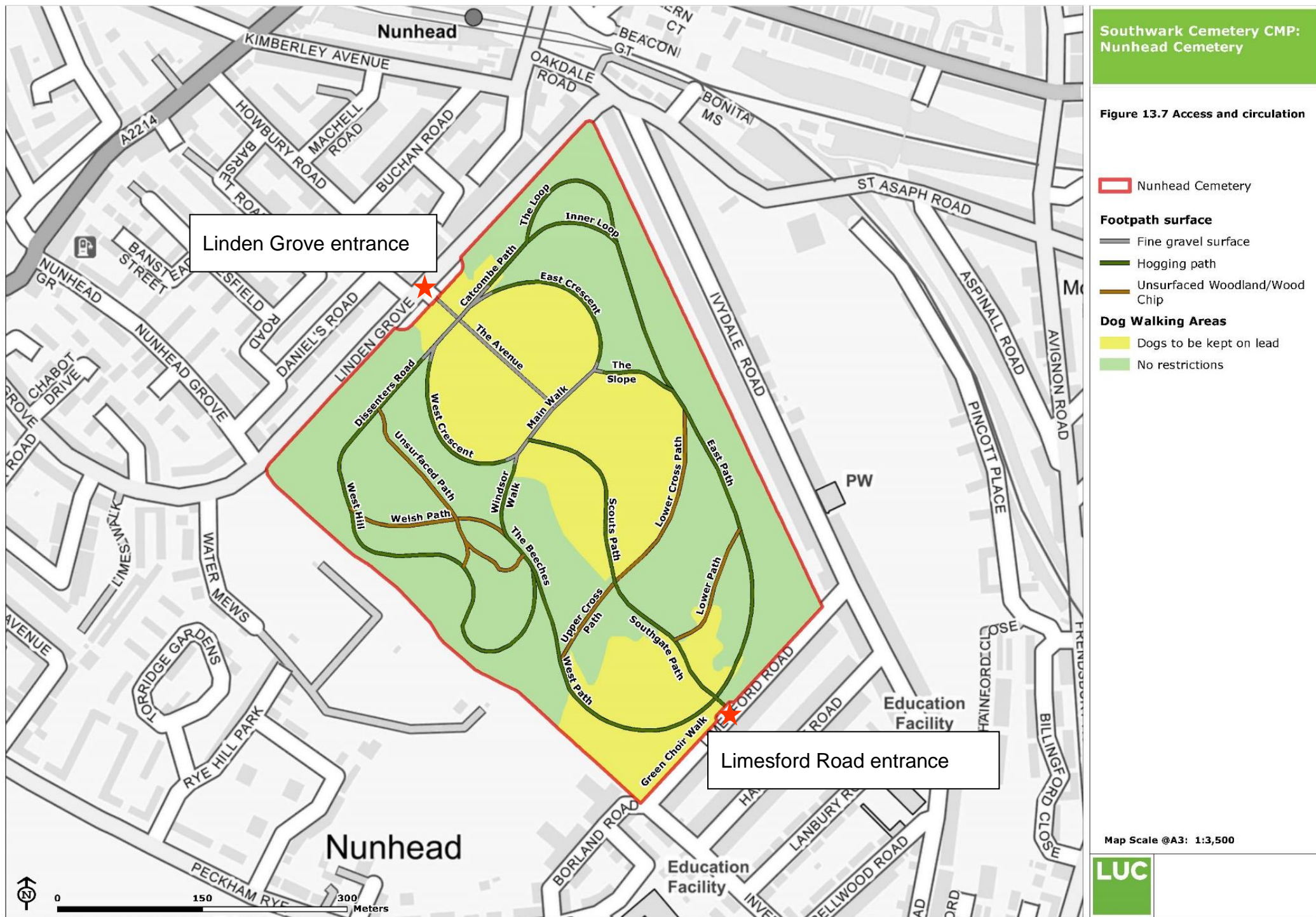


Above: Various styles of interpretation panel and signs around the site, including the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, long black panels, contrasting white panels with maroon trim and small white signage with blue trim.

Access within the cemetery

- 13.25 Bunning's original path layout is largely intact. The sweeping routes make good use of the topography of the site and provide visitors with multiple routes to explore the cemetery. These are largely in good condition.
- 13.26 Surfacing by the two entrances has been laid most recently as part of the HLF project works undertaken in 2000. This is a 'tar and chip' surfacing material (tarmac, with gravel adhered to the surface), which appears to be serving the site well.
- 13.27 The 'tar and chip' path continues up to the summit of West Hill / Nunhead Hill, and around the west path to the Limesford Road entrance.
- 13.28 Other surfaces include informal woodland paths, which are either bare earth or covered in bark chippings. In areas where drainage is clearly an issue during wet weather, plastic mesh has been laid over the paths.
- 13.29 Many of the paths are uneven, with loose surfacing, and are often muddy, preventing or restricting access to the site for some people with disabilities. There are also areas of the cemetery that have steep gradients, which may prove a barrier to access, particularly for people in wheelchairs. An Equalities Impact Assessment should be undertaken on the cemetery.
- 13.30 Generally, it is understood that the south-eastern side of the site is the wettest. Puddles were evident on site visits (**Figure 13.7**).

Figure 13.7 Access and circulation



Linden Grove entrance

Limesford Road entrance



Summary of key considerations

13.31 The following summarises the key considerations, which have been highlighted throughout this chapter. These are to be taken forward to inform the future conservation policies and management strategies.

- **7(a)** The sound of maintenance vehicles and machinery (e.g. strimmers) can impact on the tranquillity of the cemetery, particularly when burials are taking place.
- **7(b)** There is a lack of consistency in the design of signs, some are not in the most suitable location, and some are in poor condition.
- **7(c)** There is limited seating around the cemetery, and site furniture varies in style and condition.
- **7(d)** There are no toilet facilities for visitors to the cemetery (with the exception of FONC cabin facilities, which are only available when the group is on site).
- **7(e)** Many of the paths within the cemetery may be difficult to access for some users due to gradients, and the condition of path surfacing. However, the Green Chain Walk through the centre of the cemetery is less steep and has a smoother surface than some of the other paths in the cemetery.
- **7(f)** Vehicle parking on Linden Grove has been mis-used in the past, with caravans parking long-term. These have now been removed, but there is still a need to manage the parking in this area.
- **7(g)** Facilities for mourners are insufficient, for example there is a lack of access to running water for watering flowers. However, plans are in progress to improve this, with an accessible tap as part of the East Lodge development and an accessible tap has been included in the facility off Limesford Road.
- **7(h)** Maintenance operations are not always carried out in a manner which is sensitive to the natural environment, for example strimming spring bulbs prior to flowering.
- **7(i)** PSPOs introduced in 2018 have restricted the number of dogs with one walker to six, with a maximum number of three off the lead, at any one time. Areas of the cemetery have also been zoned as 'dogs on leads' only. Enforcement of these restrictions are key to their success.
- **7(j)** Visitor numbers have been recorded as part of the East Lodge project, however visitor demographics are not recorded at present although will be

collected through the East Lodge HLF project, especially on attendance at events and activities.

- **7(k)** The cemetery has achieved Green Flag Status.
- **7(l)** The cemetery is of unique cultural significance, which is appears to sometimes be overlooked, considering the relative lack of tourists in comparison to Nunhead's sister cemetery at Highgate.

13.32 Current and future management of visitor experience and infrastructure is described in **Chapter 3**.

14 Significance

Significance for past, present and future generations

14.1 Before considering the issues that affect a heritage asset, or developing policies for its conservation or management, it is necessary to define what it is that gives significance to the place, collection or item, and therefore warrants protection. This chapter considers the heritage values of Nunhead Cemetery to form a statement of significance for the cemetery. Consideration has been given to the key significances within the estate, according to the themes explored in this CMP, as follows:

- **Evidential:** ‘the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity’
- **Historical:** ‘the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present – it tends to be illustrative or associative’
- **Aesthetic:** ‘the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place’
- **Communal:** ‘the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory’
- **Ecological:** ‘the quality and extent of habitats and the rarity of species supported’

14.2 Significance is essentially a hierarchical concept, using ascending levels of value. Those used here follow guidelines established by James Semple Kerr (The Conservation Plan, 1996), and adopted by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England and others. The levels of significance are:

- **Exceptional Significance:** important at national to international levels, reflected in the statutory designations of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, and equivalent nationally graded sites (including those of ecological and nature conservation value)
- **Considerable Significance:** important at regional level or sometimes higher, e.g. Grade II Listed Buildings
- **Moderate Significance:** predominantly of local significance, but may be of a regional group value (e.g. a vernacular architectural feature)

- **Neutral Significance:** neither important nor detrimental to the site
- **Intrusive:** features or aspects that actually detract from the value of a site. A modern corrugated iron shed adjacent to an important medieval building might be a good example

14.3 A low designation of significance does not necessarily imply that a feature is expendable. Furthermore, there are many instances where parts or aspects of the place may be susceptible to enhancement or reduction of significance, as currently perceived, especially where there is a lack of information or understanding at present. Instances of this are highlighted in the following text.

Evidential value

14.4 The evidence of past human activity illustrates the evolution of a place, the people and cultures that were indicative of the time. At Nunhead Cemetery, the strong evidence of human activity over the last 180 years demonstrates the changes in cultural approach to death and burial.

14.5 The numerous designations that are afforded to the cemetery, which protect it from development, include its designation as a Grade II* Registered Parks and Garden, which recognises its importance at a National level of exceptional significance. Further designations of structures within the site, and its wildlife value, illustrate its significance both regionally, and locally. Nunhead Cemetery's inclusion within the list of nationally important cemeteries created by Historic England (Paradise Preserved, 2007) confirms the site's *exceptional significance*.

14.6 Aside from a few trees, which are thought to pre-date the cemetery, there is little evidence from within the site to indicate human activity prior to 1840. Evidence of previous land use can be found in old maps and paintings, such as those by John Arthur Poulter (1824-1921), see Figure 6.1 on pages 72 and 73.

14.7 However, human activity since the creation of the cemetery is highly evident throughout:

- Bunning's original path design, grand historic buildings and monuments that showcase the Victorian celebration of death
- The transformation of the once highly manicured cemetery into an unmanaged woodland is evidence of the changing financial course of the cemetery, and cultural attitudes towards it

- the cemetery's setting on the side of Nunhead Hill has seen the development of London, which was once at a distance but has now enveloped the site
- the burials that have taken place, with an increasing number of different faiths, and changing style of burials and memorials

14.8 Together these are of *exceptional evidential value*, as they chart the cemetery's development since its creation.

Historical value

14.9 As a cemetery, Nunhead is a place that unites past and present people, through a shared experience; for 180 years, people have come here to mourn the deceased, and reflect on life.

14.10 The part played by Nunhead Cemetery in the public cemetery movement is of exceptional significance. Nunhead Cemetery was completed relatively early in the public cemetery movement, and was pivotal in crystallising what were to become the design conventions in the layout of public cemeteries (LUC, 1997). James Bunstone Bunning was a prominent figure at the time and had worked on Highgate, Nunhead's 'sister' cemetery. John Claudius Loudon (a leading horticulturalist of his day) published a book 'On the Laying out of Cemeteries' (c.1844), in which he advocated design principles which bore great resemblance to the design of Highgate Cemetery, and in particular Nunhead Cemetery.

14.11 Indeed, the Victorian cemeteries of the era were considered destinations in themselves, and Nunhead Cemetery's location, chosen to provide a burial space outside of the over-crowded city, was in an area already popular with day-trippers from London.

14.12 Today, visitors to Nunhead Cemetery tend to be mainly local people, visiting graves or using the site for quiet recreation. The cemetery is less well-known than its sister cemetery at Highgate. This is likely to be due to the popularity of those interred at the cemeteries; Highgate is home to the graves of Karl Marx, George Eliot (Mary Anne Evans), Michael Faraday, amongst many other famous names, making it a popular destination for tourists. Whereas, many of the deceased at Nunhead Cemetery, although nationally known at the time, have not been of enduring fame. FONC have done much to celebrate the people buried at Nunhead Cemetery; work that is important to ensure that the historical value of the cemetery is preserved.

14.13 While Nunhead Cemetery may not be historically quite as significant as Highgate Cemetery, it is still of *considerable historic significance*.

Aesthetic value

14.14 Bunning's landscape design for the cemetery has been based consciously around its hillside setting, making best use of the slope to create an imposing entrance, and sweeping paths around the hillside. The original design with lodges flanking the entrance, is of great importance for visitors upon arrival. These features remain largely intact, although threatened by the lack of management control over West Lodge, and lack of funding to restore the East Lodge, although an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund is scheduled for autumn 2023, for funding towards restoration of the East Lodge.

14.15 The historic layout would have been characterised by a stark contrast between the open views across the interior, enclosed by the dense belt of boundary trees. Today, views within the site are limited to short stretches along pathways, which have narrowed due to vegetation growth, and feel enclosed, with a few filtered views to the exterior.

14.16 The design of gravestones and monuments reflects the changing aesthetic taste in society at the time, and the social class of the individuals buried. The fine gothic design and stonemasonry of the Victorian era is in stark contrast to the design and construction of modern memorials.

14.17 The aesthetic experience of the cemetery today is predominantly of a place that has been reclaimed by nature. Whilst the vegetation growth over and through monuments provides a dramatic quality and charm, it presents a management conflict where it threatens the cemetery's historic integrity and poses a potential safety concern to the public. Nevertheless, the site is highly valued for its woodland, both for ecology and amenity and the adopted management approach must balance the aesthetic value of both its historic and present landscape.

14.18 Therefore, while the original design intents are largely masked, they have not been destroyed, and the combination of that design structure, the varied design of buildings and monuments (some listed), together with the peaceful and quiet atmosphere produced by the woodland, combine to ensure that Nunhead Cemetery has *considerable aesthetic significance*.

Communal value

- 14.19 Nunhead Cemetery's communal value derives from the collective experience of commemoration; as a burial space for many thousands of people, over a period of nearly 180 years. Since its creation, mourners have gathered here to remember their loved ones, creating a communal significance, and strong emotional tie for the relations and friends of those buried here.
- 14.20 The presence of war graves and memorials, consciously evokes the two World Wars of the 20th Century, which had a significant impact, not only on the local community, but also on national scale. Interpretation boards at Nunhead Cemetery help visitors understand the significance and impact of these events, on the local community.
- 14.21 The community surrounding the cemetery has transformed, from a small hamlet in 1840, to dense residential housing today. The changes in burial style over this period, reflect the changes in the social class and cultures of those buried. For example, the division in social class was very clear during the 19th century. The difference can be seen, between the elaborate Victorian memorials and the communal, unmarked graves of the poor. There are no new extravagant memorials on the same scale as some of the historic monuments, and any division in social class is much less visible. The area of Muslim burials reflects the cultural changes in the surrounding community, as the cemetery continues to be a site of remembrance for the whole community.
- 14.22 Nunhead Cemetery has a strong 'social value' for the local community, as evidenced by the foundation of the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC) in 1981, who formed in order to protect the site from development. FONC is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that carries out a wide range of practical work on site, including ecological and woodland management, monument repairs and other appropriate functions. It is affiliated to the Association of Cemeteries of Significance in Europe; the National Federation of Cemetery Friends; The Conservation Volunteers, National Council of Voluntary Organisations, and Community Southwark. It has a membership requirement (at a fee of £2 per year) and has its own public, personal and trustees limited liability insurance.
- 14.23 Those who use the site for recreation also value the cemetery highly. Dog walkers, wildlife lovers and tourists regularly use it. Despite its transformation from open cemetery to enclosed woodland, the cemetery retains its special quality, as a place of peace and tranquillity.

- 14.24 The site's spiritual value is great and varied, and a key consideration for future management. Since its inception, the cemetery has been designed to serve those of differing beliefs; the primary building on the site is the Anglican Chapel where Christian funerals were held. However, the Dissenters Chapel was also a significant designed aspect of the original layout, built to serve those who did not conform to the Anglican faith; it has since been demolished. Today, the cemetery continues to serve a range of faith communities. There is also a tangible spiritual value contributed by its current value as a place of 'wilderness', within an urban setting.
- 14.25 All these values combine, to ensure that the cemetery has *considerable communal value* for the local community, and *moderate communal value* at a national scale.

Ecological value

- 14.26 The ecological value is based on the quality and extent of habitats, and the rarity of species supported.
- 14.27 The site is a designated Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Metropolitan Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), and is noted for the extent of woodland and scrub, and its breeding bird and invertebrate populations. The mature trees in the cemetery are a key habitat for a variety of species including bats and invertebrates.
- 14.28 Local species records of particular note include three species of bat, stag beetle, black redstart, lesser spotted woodpecker, common toad and common lizard.
- 14.29 The cemetery also sits within a wider network of sites of regional and local importance, including parks, woodlands and railway embankments, and Species of Principal Importance (SPI) and local Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP) priority species have been recorded, within 2km of the site.
- 14.30 Therefore, through its designations, location within an area of dense urban development, and variety of habitats and species found, the cemetery is regarded as having *moderate to considerable ecological value*.

Summary/Statement of Significance

- 14.31 Nunhead Cemetery should be valued as a site of national significance for its design; Bunning's layout was pivotal in the development of design principles that led the

public cemetery movement. Furthermore, it is designated as a Grade II* Park and Garden by Historic England with features of regional and local importance.

- 14.32 It is a place where the collective communal experience of commemoration, joins communities of the past and present. The cemetery documents changing cultural attitudes towards burial and death, changes in aesthetic taste, sociality and ethnicity in the local community, and the fluctuations in the financial history of the site.
- 14.33 Its aesthetic transformation from manicured lawn cemetery to 'wilderness', has created an extra dimension to the site's value, presenting a conflict between management of the historical and ecological values, which needs to be balanced. The declining condition of the monuments, as the woodland takes over, is having a detrimental impact on the historic value of the site.
- 14.34 The strong, emotional ties of the local community are evidenced by the active Friends group, and popularity of their events. The cemetery presents wonderful opportunities to engage with and educate the public; the existing success of the Friends group is supported, and will be built upon.
- 14.35 The significance of the cemetery's ecological value is recognised by its status as an LNR and Metropolitan SINC, designated for the extent of the woodland and scrub habitat present, and the breeding bird and invertebrates it supports.
- 14.36 Our understanding of the ecological, communal and historical value of Nunhead Cemetery could be improved. Should funding become available, ecological monitoring would enhance our understanding of the site's value for wildlife. Visitor numbers have been recorded since February 2021 and should increase understanding of levels of use, and how the cemetery is used by visitors. Should funding become available, proactive management of the major memorials would help to protect these historic features from future deterioration.

Appendix 1. References

Southwark Council reports and documents:

- Southwark Plan 2022
[Southwark Plan 2022 - Southwark Council](#)
- Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan, 2014
[Peckham and Nunhead AAP 2014.pdf](#)
- Southwark Open Space Strategy, 2013
[3.1.1 Southwark open space strategy Jan 2013 low res \(6\).pdf](#)
- Peckham and Nunhead Characterisation Study 2012
[1.1.6 Peckham and Nunhead Characterisation Study March 2012 \(1\).pdf](#)
- Southwark Borough Views Background paper 2017
[EB14 - Southwark Borough Views Background Paper \(2017\).pdf](#)
- Southwark Nature Action Plan 2020
[EIP183 - Southwark Nature Action Plan 2020 \(1\).pdf](#)
- Tree Management Strategy (January 2013)
[Tree Management Strategy - Southwark Council](#)
- Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area Appraisal (2010)
[Nunhead Cemetery CAA.pdf](#)
- Nunhead Cemetery Management Plan 2017-2023 (LBS, 2017)
- Nunhead Cemetery: Historic Landscape Study and Restoration Management Plan (LUC, 1997)
- Southwark Council. 2007a. Nunhead Green Conservation Area Appraisal. Available online at:
[Link to NGCAP above](#)
- Southwark Council. 2007b. Nunhead Cemetery Conservation Area Appraisal. Available online at: [Link to NCCAA above](#)
- Southwark Council. N.D. New Southwark Plan Evidence Base: Archaeological Priority Areas (APAs). Available online at:
<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/5886/EB13%20->

[%20Southwark%20Archaeological%20Priority%20Areas%20Report%20\(2017\).pdf](#)

- Southwark Cemetery Strategy (2012)
[Cemetery Strategy Main 25.04.12 \(5\).pdf](#)

Other documents:

- Dunning, H. (2017). A History of Burial in London. Available online at: [link to a history of burial](#)
- Historic England (2017), *Heritage at Risk: London Register*. London
- Historic England, 2007. Paradise Preserved: An introduction to the assessment, evaluation, conservation and management of historic cemeteries.
- Historic England, Caring for Historic Graveyard and Cemetery Monuments. Available online at: [Link to HE, caring for Historic graveyards](#)
- Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, 2007. Briefing: Cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds. (CABE: London)
- Edward Walford, 'Peckham and Dulwich', in *Old and New London: Volume 6* (London, 1878), pp. 286-303. *British History Online* [link to Old and New London volume 6](#) [accessed 25 May 2018].
- Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials of England (APABE). 2017 (2nd edition). Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds. Available online at: [Link to Archaeology UK guidance](#)
- Compass Archaeology. 2016. 107-109 Ivydale Road, Nunhead, London Borough of Southwark, SE15 3DT: An Archaeological Evaluation. Unpublished Report.
- Connor, T. 2000. Memorandum by Southwark Regeneration (CEM 77). Available online at: [Link to Southwark Regeneration memorandum](#)
- Cotswold Archaeology. 2017. Malt Street Regeneration, Borough of Southwark, London: Archaeological Watching Brief of Ground Investigation Monitoring. Unpublished Report.
- Cowan, C. 2000. Below Southwark the archaeological story. London Borough of Southwark and Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee.

- Edward Walford. 1878. 'Camberwell'. In *Old and New London: Volume 6*, pp. 269-286. *British History Online* [Link to Old and New London Volume 6](#) [accessed 29 May 2018].
- Historic England 2009. Nunhead Cemetery (1000824) Listing Description. Available online at: [Link to HE Nunhead Cemetery listing](#)
- TVAS 2002. Borland Road and Stuart Road, Nunhead, London Borough of Southwark: An archaeological Desk-based Assessment. Unpublished report.
- Woollacott, R. 2010. *Investors in Death: The Story of Nunhead Cemetery and the London Cemetery Company and its Successors*. Friends of Nunhead Cemetery.
- Woollacott, R. 2006. *The Victorian Catacombs at Nunhead: a Short History of the Chapel Catacombs, Shaft Catacombs and the Eastern Catacomb in the Nunhead Cemetery*. Friends of Nunhead Cemetery.
- Woollacott, R. 1995. *A historical tour of Nunhead and Peckham Rye*.
- [Link to British Newspaper Archive](#) [accessed 20.05.2018]
- [Link to Old Maps website](#)
- [Link to Old Maps online website](#)
- Google Earth Pro historical imagery

Appendix 2. Key reference documents

The table below provides details of relevant documents that may need to be referred to in carrying out future management of Nunhead Cemetery.

Document	Link (if available)
'Archaeology and Burial Vaults: A guidance note for churches'. ADCA Guidance Note 2	
'Large Burial Grounds Guidance on sampling in archaeological fieldwork projects' (2015) Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE).	Link to Large Burial Grounds guidance document
'Paradise Preserved: An introduction to the assessment, evaluation, conservation and management of historic cemeteries (updated 2007)'.	Link to Paradise Preserved document
'Caring for Historic Graveyard and Cemetery Monuments' (2011)	Link to Caring for Historic Graveyard and Cemetery monuments document
List of Registered Cemeteries	Link to list of Registered Cemeteries
Landscapes of Remembrance	Link to Landscape of Remembrance
The Conservation, Repair and Management of War Memorials	Link to HE Conservation, repair and Management of War Memorials and Link to HE Conservation, Repair and Management of War Memorials UPDATE
Cleaning of War Memorials	Link to Cleaning of War Memorials
Commemorative Structures	Link to Commemorative Structures document
The new Historic England guideline 'The Role of the Human Osteologist in an Archaeological Fieldwork Project'	Link to HE guidance The role of human Osteologist
Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England (2005, revised 2017).	Link to Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains document

Appendix 3. Glossary

Term	Definition
Ancient and Monuments and Archaeology Act (1979)	An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters; to provide for the recovery of grants under section 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1972 or under section 4 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 in certain circumstances; and to provide for grants by the Secretary of State to the Architectural Heritage Fund ²² .
Archaeological interest	There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially may hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places and of the people and cultures that made them (NPPF definition). There can be an archaeological interest in buildings and landscapes as well as earthworks and buried remains.
Archaeological potential	In some places, the nature of the archaeological interest cannot be specified precisely, but it may still be possible to document reasons for anticipating the existence and importance of such evidence. Circumstantial evidence such as geology, topography, landscape history, nearby major monuments and patterns of previous discoveries can be used to predict areas with a higher likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future.
Archaeological Priority Area	Generic term used for a defined area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or particular potential for new discoveries. They are sometimes called other names including Archaeological Priority Zones, Areas of

²² GoV. (2018). Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979: accessed [11.12.2018] <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46>

	Archaeological Significance/Importance/Interest or Areas of High Archaeological Potential.
Architectural interest	In listed buildings this refers to buildings that are important to the nation because of their architectural design, decoration and craftsmanship. Also includes important examples of significant plan forms, particular building types and techniques, such as using cast iron, the early use of concrete and early prefabricated buildings.
Bearer	The bearer is a device, often constructed in concrete, which supports the memorial at the head of a grave.
Burial, kerb set	A system of burial where the grave is outlined by a kerb, often of granite, with a headstone at one end.
Burial, lawn set	The lawn grave was designed on the war grave principle (to have only a memorial of limited size at the head of the grave with the rest of the grave laid to lawn). In this manner the limited area available for burial is best utilised. In addition maintenance is easier to accomplish with large mowing machinery being used to keep the area in a neat condition.
Columbarium and niche	A columbarium is a place that is designated for the interment of the ashes after someone is cremated. The niches are the receptacles within a columbarium, which are for containing the ashes after someone has been cremated.
Conservation	The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance (NPPF definition).
Conservation area	An area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance, designated under what is now s69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Curtilage	In law, the curtilage of a house or dwelling is the land immediately surrounding it, including any closely associated buildings and structures, but excluding any associated open fields beyond.
Designated heritage asset	A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation (NPPF definition).

Designation	The recognition of particular value(s) of a significant place by giving it formal status under law or policy intended to sustain those values, including heritage
Desk-Based Assessment	A desk-based assessment is a written research document. It will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area, and the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment, or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so.
Equality Implications	Public bodies are responsible for ensuring that their plans, policies and activities do not unfairly discriminate against a group protected by equalities legislation. It is the responsibility of the public bodies that we advise to ensure that they have paid due regard to local equality implications when implementing our advice
Flood zone	<p>Areas of differing risk from flooding, as defined by the Environment Agency. Current zones are defined by the risk each year the area has of flooding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) High, greater than 3.3%. 2) Medium, between 1% and 3.3% 3) Low, between 0.1% and 1% 4) Very low, less than 0.1%. <p>Separate zones are calculated for flooding from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5) Rivers or the sea 6) Surface water 7) Reservoirs.
Harm	Change for the worse, here primarily referring to the effect of inappropriate interventions on the heritage values of a place.
Heritage	All inherited resources which people value for reasons beyond mere utility.
Heritage, asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing) (NPPF definition).

Heritage, cultural	Inherited assets which people identify and value as a reflection and expression of their evolving knowledge, beliefs and traditions, and of their understanding of the beliefs and traditions of others
Heritage, natural	Inherited habitats, species, ecosystems, geology and landforms, including those in and under water, to which people attach value
Historic environment	All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged and landscaped and planted or managed flora (NPPF definition).
Historic Environment Record (HER/GLHER)	A public, map-based data set, primarily intended to inform the management of the historic environment. Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use (NPPF definition). Historic England maintains the Historic Environment Record for Greater London.
Historical interest	For buildings this refers to buildings that have important aspects of the nation's social, economic, cultural or military history, such as industrial buildings, railway stations, schools, hospitals, theatres, and town halls.
Maintenance	Routine work regularly necessary to keep the fabric of a place in good order
Metropolitan Open Land	Metropolitan open land (MOL) is a form of land designation within London. Land designated as MOL is intended to be protected as an area of landscape, recreation, nature conservation or scientific interest. MOL designation provides land with the same level of protection as the Green Belt.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	The revised National Planning Policy Framework sets out government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It was last revised in February 2019.
Planning (Listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)	The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act is a UK Act of Parliament introduced in 1990 that changed laws relating to the granting of planning permission for building works, with a particular focus on listed buildings and conservation areas.

	It created special controls for the demolition, alteration or extension of buildings, objects or structures of particular architectural or historic interest, as well as conservation areas.
Port-cochere	<p>A porte cochere, of French origin, was originally an entrance or gateway to a building large enough to permit a coach to be driven through it into the interior courtyard beyond.</p> <p>Later, the term was applied to a porch roof built over a driveway at the entrance to a building (usually known as the carriage porch). This roof had to be large enough to accommodate a carriage or other wheeled vehicle, since its purpose was to provide shelter for those getting in or out of the vehicle.</p>
Preserve	To keep safe from harm.
Repair	Work beyond the scope of maintenance, to remedy defects caused by decay, damage or use, including minor adaptation to achieve a sustainable outcome, but not involving restoration or alteration
Restoration	To return a place to a known earlier state, on the basis of compelling evidence, without conjecture.
Sensitivity	The likelihood of typical development impacts causing significant harm to a heritage asset of archaeological interest. Sensitivity is closely allied to significance and potential but also takes account of an asset's vulnerability and fragility.
Setting of a heritage asset	The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral (NPPF definition). The surroundings in which a place is experienced, its local context, embracing present and past relationships to the adjacent landscape.
Significance	The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence but also from its setting' (NPPF 2019 definition). The sum of the cultural and

	natural heritage values of a place, often set out in a statement of significance.
Sustainable	Capable of meeting present needs without compromising ability to meet future needs.
Truncation	Truncation or cut when applied to archaeological evidence is a context that represents a moment in time when other archaeological deposits were removed for the creation of some feature such as a ditch or pit.
Value	An aspect of worth or importance, here attached by people to qualities of places
Value, aesthetic	Value deriving from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place
Value, communal	Value deriving from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory
Value, evidential	Value deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity
Value, historical	Value deriving from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present

Appendix 4. Biological Records of protected and notable species within 2km of Nunhead Cemetery

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Fungi		
Brown Birch Bolete <i>Leccinum scabrum</i>	RL_DataDeficient	N 1267m
Higher Plants - Flowering Plants		
Silver Hair-grass <i>Aira caryophyllea</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 496m
Loose Silky-bent <i>Apera spica-venti</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc RL_LowerRisk	W 4m
Box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	RL_DataDeficient Nationally Rare	N 621m
Pale Sedge <i>Carex pallescens</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 4m
Cornflower <i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National	N 621m
Viper's-bugloss <i>Echium vulgare</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1357m
Meadow Crane's-bill <i>Geranium pratense</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1322m
Stinking Hellebore <i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Nationally Scarce	N 1036m
Bluebell <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	W&CA Sch8 Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1299m
Solomon's-seal <i>Polygonatum multiflorum</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 4m
Shrubby Cinquefoil <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	RL_LowerRisk Nationally Rare	W 4m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Butcher's-broom <i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 5	N 1328m
London-rocket <i>Sisymbrium irio</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1142m
Corn Spurrey <i>Spergula arvensis</i>	RL_Vulnerable	N 616m
Wild Pansy <i>Viola tricolor</i>	RL_LowerRisk	W 4m
Invertebrates - Spiders		
Wasp Spider <i>Argiope bruennichi</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 642m
Invertebrates - Dragonflies & Damselflies		
Hairy Dragonfly <i>Brachytron pratense</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 258m
Invertebrates - True Bugs		
A True Bug <i>Asiraca clavicornis</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable B	N 1267m
Invertebrates - Beetles		
Hawthorn Jewel Beetle <i>Agrilus (Anambus) sinuatus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable A	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Cicones undatus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Dasytes plumbeus</i>	Nationally Notable B	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Diplocoelus fagi</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable B	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Dorytomus ictor</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable B	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Enicmus brevicornis</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable	N 1267m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
A Beetle <i>Kalcapion semivittatum</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable A	N 1267m
Stag Beetle <i>Lucanus cervus</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 2np NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable B	W 896m
A Beetle <i>Mecinus janthinus</i>	Nationally Notable A	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Synchita separanda</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1267m
A Beetle <i>Temnocerus longiceps</i>	Nationally Notable B	N 1267m
Invertebrates - Butterflies		
Glanville Fritillary <i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National RL_Endangered	N 1276m
White-letter Hairstreak <i>Satyrrium w-album</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc RL_Endangered	N 1267m
Invertebrates - Moths		
Jersey Tiger <i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 2np	N 1241m
Cinnabar <i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1267m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Oak Hook-tip <i>Watsonalla binaria</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1311m
Invertebrates - True Flies		
A True Fly <i>Volucella inanis</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc Nationally Notable	N 1267m
Invertebrates - Ants, Bees, Sawflies & Wasps		
An Ant, Bee, Sawfly or Wasp <i>Andrena (Plastandrena) pilipes</i>	Nationally Notable B	N 1267m
Amphibians		
Common Toad <i>Bufo bufo</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1266m
Common Frog <i>Rana temporaria</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 5 Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 970m
Reptiles		
Slow-worm <i>Anguis fragilis</i>	W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.1k/i NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1285m
Grass Snake <i>Natrix natrix</i>	W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.1k/i NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1199m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Common Lizard <i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.1k/i NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1349m
Birds		
Lesser Redpoll <i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National Bird-Red	N 717m
Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	SW 426m
Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Birds Dir Anx 1 W&CA Sch1 Part 1 Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1276m
Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1299m
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 673m
Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 744m
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 500m
Swift <i>Apus apus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 4m
Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 862m
Barnacle Goose <i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Birds Dir Anx 1	SW 783m
Long-tailed Duck <i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	W&CA Sch1 Part 1	SW 783m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1292m
Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	W 4m
Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 783m
House Martin <i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 4m
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	W 4m
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	SW 426m
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1199m
Swallow <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 783m
Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	W 4m
Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 4m
Linnet <i>Linaria cannabina</i>	BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	N 138m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans</i>	Birds Dir Anx 1	N 1357m
Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1355m
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	N 138m
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	SW 862m
Willow Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 138m
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1299m
Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	BAP Priority London	W 4m
Firecrest <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	W&CA Sch1 Part 1 Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 783m
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	SW 783m
Tawny Owl <i>Strix aluco</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1269m
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	N 1299m
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	W&CA Sch1 Part 1 Bird-Red	SW 1300m

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	W 4m
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	W&CA Sch1 Part 1 Bird-Red	SW 783m
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1138m
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc Bird-Red	N 1357m
Mammals - Terrestrial (excl. bats)		
European Water Vole <i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.1k/i W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.1t W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4a W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4b W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4c NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1355m
West European Hedgehog <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 1276m
Mammals - Terrestrial (bats)		

Species	Designation	Bearing and Distance of most recent record (m)
Noctule Bat <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 4 Cons Regs 2010 Sch2 W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4b W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4c NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	W 4m
Pipistrelle Bat species <i>Pipistrellus</i>	Cons Regs 2010 Sch2 W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4b W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4c BAP Priority London	SW 709m
Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 4 Cons Regs 2010 Sch2 W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4b W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4c BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 95m
Soprano Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Hab&Spp Dir Anx 4 Cons Regs 2010 Sch2 W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4b W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4c NERC Act Section 41 BAP Priority National BAP Priority London Local Spp of Cons Conc	N 95m
Bats <i>Vespertilionidae</i>	Cons Regs 2010 Sch2 W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4b W&CA Sch5 Sec 9.4c BAP Priority London	SW 1171m

Appendix 5. Full team structure for Southwark Bereavement Services

