

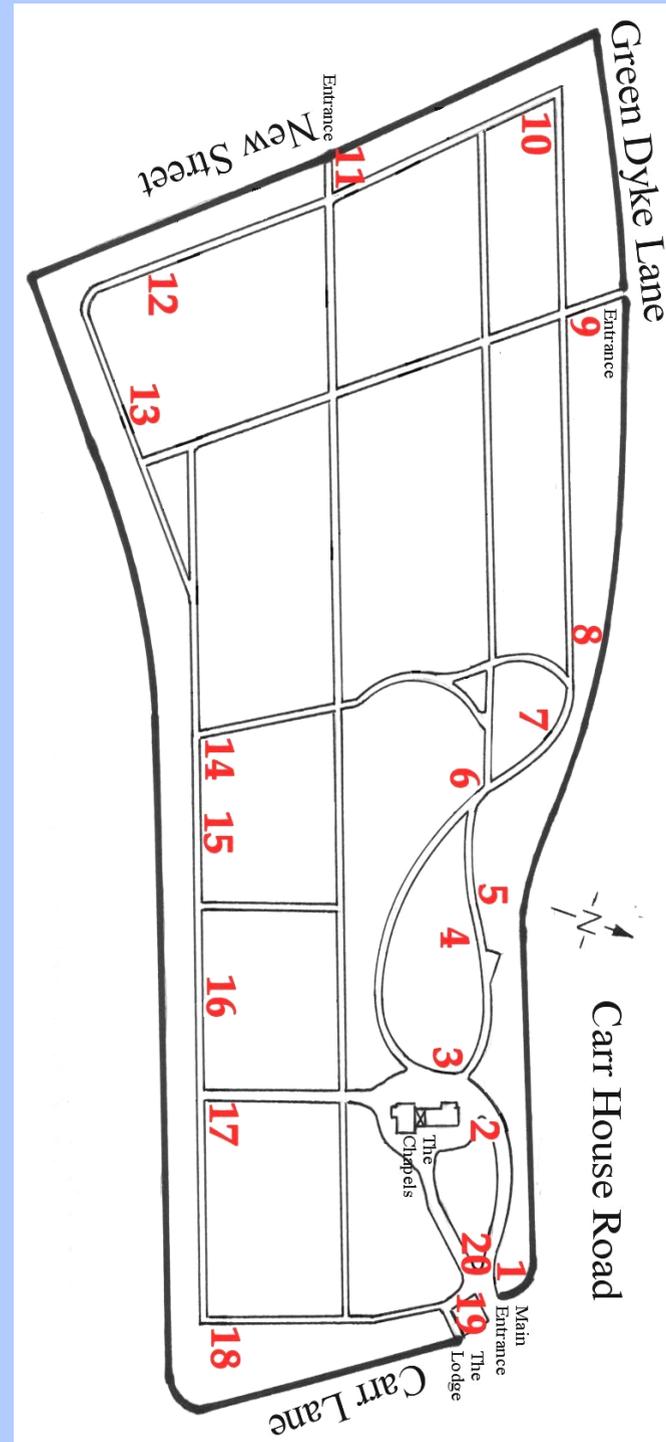
16 Tuby Grave—George Thomas Tuby was known as the ‘Prince of Showmen’. He was elected to the Town Council in 1896, becoming Alderman in 1913 and Mayor in 1922. Tom was described at various times as ‘proprietor of steam horses’, ‘showman’ and ‘amusement caterer’. As a generous man, he regularly gave the proceeds of his fairs to causes such as orphanages, infirmaries, nursing homes and workhouses. He also treated inmates of the workhouse to seaside day trips by train. Tom’s portrait hangs in Doncaster Mansion House.

17 Dissenters’ Area—When the cemetery was originally laid out, this point stood on the boundary between the Consecrated Ground (A to M) and Unconsecrated (N to V), the former being used for members of the Established Church and the latter for Dissenters (Nonconformists). The division between the areas began at the southern boundary wall and ran uphill along the right hand edge of the path, as far as the chapels. It then passed through the archway between the two chapels before heading on up to the north boundary.

18 Carr Lane—The road outside the eastern boundary wall is a long established route towards Carr Grange, Decoy Bank, Black Bank and Doncaster Carr. The former Corporation Schools, which stand across the road from the cemetery, were erected in 1895. A plaque on the nearer building carries the name of Frederick Brightmore, the then Mayor of Doncaster, who is buried in Section C. This corner is the point from which the earliest located photograph of the cemetery was taken, by Eleph George Bisat, c.1890.

19 The Lodge—The residence of the cemetery supervisor for over 130 years. Grave-digging and general day-to-day upkeep of the cemetery was managed from The Lodge and the building contained a secure room where the grave and burial registers were kept. R. J. Johnson adapted the architectural style of Decorated Gothic to match that of the chapels. After standing empty and derelict from 1992 until 2014, The Lodge was sold to a private owner, who has undertaken excellent restoration of the Grade II listed building. It is now in residential use.

20 Cross of Sacrifice—In 1923 the Doncaster Cemetery Committee received a letter from the Imperial War Graves Commission requesting permission to construct a war cross on a prominent site. The committee readily granted permission and a location near to the main entrance was suggested.



Heritage Circuit

A SELF-GUIDED WALK AROUND
HYDE PARK CEMETERY



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www.fohpc.org.uk

info@fohpc.org.uk



1 Cemetery History—Hyde Park Cemetery was opened on 1st January 1856 and is one of the first municipal cemeteries outside of London. The majority of burials within the cemetery were carried out during the reigns of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII, and are of people who helped transform Doncaster from a busy market town into a modest industrial one.

2 Chapels—Two chapels were built at right angles to each other and linked by an arch under which a horse-drawn hearse could pass. Above the arch is a square tower surmounted by an octagonal bell chamber and a spire. The stone came from nearby quarries at Levitt Hagg and Brodsworth. The northernmost chapel (on the uphill side) was designated for use by members of the 'Established Church' and the other for 'Dissenters'. These buildings and the entire cemetery layout were designed by Newcastle-based architect Robert James Johnson, a favourite of George Gilbert Scott, whom he beat in gaining this commission.

3 Senior Family Grave—Henry Senior (1825-1900) was the man responsible for creating Doncaster's unique Sand House, a large ten-roomed dwelling which was carved from a single solid block of sandstone. This unique house came into existence in 1857 and survived until WW2. It stood only a stone's throw away from the cemetery's Green Dyke Lane gateway and only about three hundred metres from Henry's final resting place.

4 William Henry Pickering Grave—William was Chief Inspector of Mines in charge of the Yorkshire and North Midlands District. On the 9th July 1912 an explosion took place in Cadeby Colliery. A rescue party, led by William, went underground and began recovering bodies, but a second explosion occurred, killing him and many others. All this happened on the day when William had been invited to lunch with King George V and Queen Mary, who were visiting the area at the time. When the first explosion took place William decided that his duty lay with the rescue party. He is commemorated on a brass plaque inside Doncaster's Minster Church of St George.

5 Wildlife Area—The area of trees located near to the high retaining wall is being developed as a wildlife friendly habitat. The cemetery is a significant green space within the urban landscape and is an important area for a wide variety of species including bats.

6 Sir Isaac Morley Grave—This imposing tomb is the place of burial of one of only 2 titled persons in the cemetery and the only grave to have Sir inscribed. Isaac Morley became Mayor in 1839, being re-elected the following year. Queen Victoria's first child was born in 1840 and Doncaster Corporation resolved to 'present congratulatory addresses' to the Queen, Prince Albert and the Queen's mother. The Queen was 'graciously pleased to show her appreciation of the Borough by offering a knighthood' to the Mayor, who became a Knight Bachelor on 28th April 1841.

7 View of Doncaster Carr—From opening in 1856 until the late 20th century, the view south from here was virtually uninterrupted with only a few trees breaking the vista of Doncaster Carr. At the far side of this section lies the grave of Patrick Stirling, world famous Locomotive Engineer of the Great Northern Railway. He held this position at the plant works from 1866 until dying in office in 1895. It is said that he chose this particular final resting place as the loco sheds (known as Carr Loco) could be seen from here.

8 Original Boundary of Cemetery—When the cemetery opened, it occupied an area of 7½ acres. By the late 1870s burial space was already in short supply, so the cemetery was extended westwards in 1882, virtually doubling its size. This marker post lies on the original west boundary. It is interesting to note that all the curved footpaths lie in the original half of the cemetery, whereas a more rigid grid pattern is followed in the extension.

9 Tunnel Beneath—Beneath the line of the footpath that leads down the hill from the gateway lies a tunnel, cut through solid sandstone, dug to construct a main drain in 1853, made necessary by rapid growth following the arrival of the railway. At the gateway the tunnel roof is about 8m below ground. The tunnel runs beneath the path for almost 80m, coming to a dead end. At a similar distance outside the cemetery stood the famous Sand House. It was this tunnel, combined with the Senior family's house building business, which inspired the creation of the Sand House that now lies under Silverwood House.

10 Trees—As was usual in Victorian cemeteries many of the trees that were originally planted were weeping varieties representing sadness and mourning. The trees that remain are now amongst the best examples in the Borough.

11 New Street—This road was only created when the cemetery was extended to its present size in 1882. The extension was created by the purchase of 2 fields. An 1880 plan of the land proposed to be added to the cemetery shows a 6.5m wide strip at the edge of the additional fields, to be set out as a 'New Road' and later named 'New Street'. At the far side of New Street were terraced houses until the 1960s redevelopment of the area created the commercial and industrial units that we now see.

12 Panoramic View—The landscape sloping down to the south makes this corner of the cemetery an ideal location from which to view the site. Being in the 1882 extension, it is noticeable that hardly any of the later monuments are much more than 1m tall, reflecting the changes in taste in the late 19th century. Until the 1980s, outside the southern boundary was a large number of allotments which provided vegetables, fruit and flowers.

13 War Graves—This is the final resting place of 108 service personnel whose graves are maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. 82 such graves date from WW1, with the remainder from WW2. The 3 nearby graves are Corp L Wilcock, Private W.C.Gray and Gunner T.F.Wadley, all from WW1. It is worth mentioning that there are also servicemen buried here that do not have a CWGC headstone, as they were either laid to rest within a family plot, or overseas, with only a mention on a headstone here.

14 Ellis Grave—The unusually shaped headstone is the site of the first two burials to take place at the cemetery, just one day after its opening. Mary Ellis, wife of Henry, died on the 29th December 1855 aged 74. Her granddaughter, Mary Ann, died 3 days later on New Year's Day and was buried with her on 2nd January 1856. A licence from the Archbishop of York had to be obtained for the burial as the cemetery had not yet been consecrated.

15 Public Graves and Wildflowers—The area in the centre of Sections H & I contains over 600 unmarked graves, of over 4500 poorer members of society. The cost of a funeral was beyond the means of many families and the deceased were laid to rest in Public graves, with the cost being met from the public purse. One of nine locations of Public graves in the cemetery, this area is being established as a Memorial Meadow, to commemorate the 11,000 people who lie in Public graves on this site.