

HERTFORDSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
LOCAL LIST: **DACORUM**

Present Name of Site
TRING CEMETERY

Historic Name (if known)

Parish/Town
Tring

National Grid Reference of Principal Building (Chapel):

Present Area (approximate) 8 acres (originally 5 acres 37 perches)

Brief Description

A Victorian cemetery laid out between 1891 and 1893 on land gifted by Nathaniel Mayer Rothschild north of the western road to Aylesbury at the edge of Tring. The north and west boundaries are to farmland and to the east is Donkey Lane with houses of Tring beyond it. The line of the Roman Road, Akeman Street lies on its southern boundary (the exact line of the road is undetermined).

As in other sites (Heath Lane, Hemel Hempstead and St Albans) the land was divided between that to be consecrated for Anglican burials (3 acres) and that left unconsecrated for Nonconformist burials (2 acres). The area is a rough rectangle bulging to the Southeast corner with a curving drive from the lodge in the Southeast corner to the mortuary chapel at the centre of the site. The boundaries are of a low brick wall, lower at the south side facing the Aylesbury Road, and surmounted by iron railings. Trees and shrubs line this boundary providing screening.

Chapel: The single chapel is rectangular with north and south porches designed by William Huckvale. It is built of flint with brick angle-buttresses at the corners and stone window dressings and an East Window with three-light tracery. The roof is steeply pitched and tiled with a bell gable at the western end. A 'tudor' polygonal chimney of brick is surmounted by a twisted chimney pot with a crenellated top.

Approach: The **Lodge** in the southeast corner is set back from Akeman Street and served as the Caretakers House with small garden attached. It is in the neo-Elizabethan style with flint and brick walls under a tiled-roof. It is of two storeys

The site is entered from Akeman Street between double wrought iron gates hung between banded brick and stone piers, capped with stone. A smaller gate for pedestrians is to the north (lodge) site. From here the drive curves upwards through the consecrated land to the chapel sited on a small hillock, along the lines originally laid out through an avenue of cypress trees.

Burial Grounds: The consecrated land is to the south of the site and divided into two unequal portions by the drive. It is attractively undulating and surrounded by trees and shrubs in a lawn-style with no intrusive paths on the southern portion. Paths elsewhere are narrow and of tarmacadam.

The unconsecrated ground to the north of the chapel has a square path around the site and encompasses the Garden of Rest which is immediately adjacent to the north wall of the chapel, surrounded by a hedge and with a central trees and circular tree-bench.

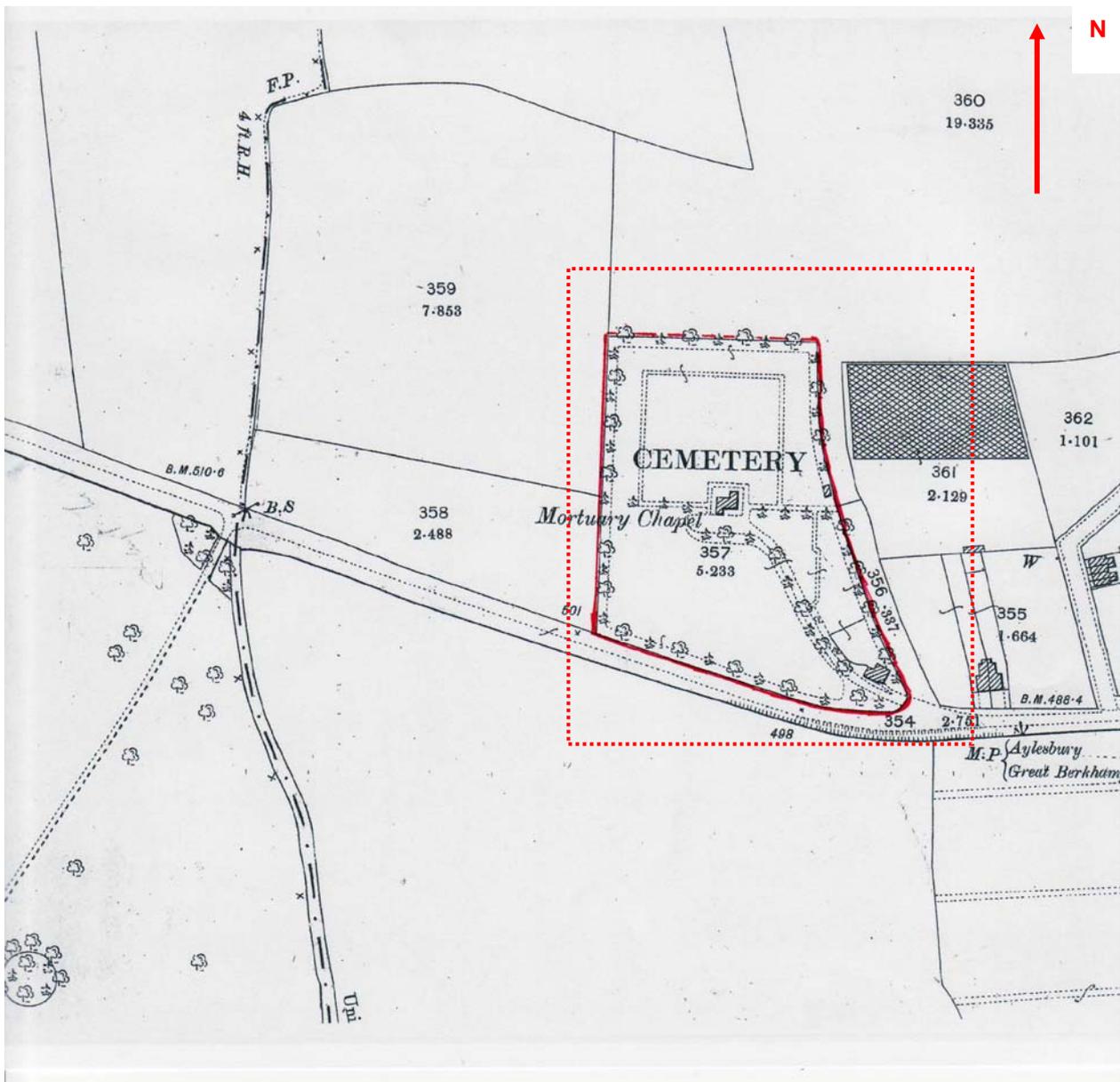
The most prominent monument is the obelisk to the Grange family (late 19th and 20th centuries) of pink granite sited to the east of the chapel and backed by conifers.

Mr Hill, Head Gardener to Rothschild, advised on the planting at the invitation of the Local Cemetery board in 1893, much of which still survives. The supplier was Messrs Lane and Son,

Nurserymen. There is a wide variety of mature conifers around the perimeter of the cemetery with clipped shrubs along the Akeman Road boundary alternating with the trees.

Important people associated with site: Donor: Nathaniel Mayer Rothschild Architect: William Huckvale Landscape Advisor: Mr Hill, Rothschild's Head Gardener
Assessment of significance: A Victorian
Principal Uses: Burials including 'Green Eco' Burials
Public Access/Rights of Way: Open
Designations: (e.g. Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Conservation Area, Listed Buildings, EH Register of Historic Parks & Gardens, Tree Preservation Orders, SSSIs, Nature Reserve, National Trust, County Wildlife Site, etc)
Sources of information: Report available from HGT Conservation Group
Site visited by: Hertfordshire Gardens Trust Date: 2009, 2014

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 1899. Scale: 25":1mile. Sheet XXV.14



As a Garden of Remembrance, tranquillity is of great importance – hence the suggested buffer round the site (not to scale)

