

Adopted February 2019 at Cabinet

Locally listed park and garden Paines Lane Cemetery boundary and description

Paines Lane Cemetery is a modest but early cemetery built without chapels or lodge located just north of Pinner High Street. It was opened in 1859/1860 and is the first purpose built cemetery to be established in Harrow. It is set along Paines Lane which is an old route existing from at least Tudor Times and includes a range of different types of tombstones such as slabs, crosses, celtic crosses, angels and a war grave.

The cemetery retains the boundaries that it had when it opened and has never been built on. While portions of the walls and the railings along Paines Lane have been lost the general layout of the cemetery is unaltered. The basic cruciform layout with a central turning circle for hearses survives within a soft landscaped setting which includes yews and a pair of Cedars. The cemetery also retains its original walls on two sides with entrance gate piers with iron gates that are topped with a fleur-de-lys design.

The cemetery has not become overly cluttered with graves and tombstones and parts of it remain relatively open. The lack of buildings and the small number of trees within has helped it to maintain the character of a rural churchyard. The cruciform layout of paths help to compartmentalise different sections of the cemetery, with the Non-Conformist section at the eastern area of the graveyard discreetly separated from other areas.

The cemetery was established when efforts to enlarge Pinner's parish churchyard of St John's to provide burial ground for non-conformists were thwarted.

Of particular note, the cemetery contains the Grade II listed grave of Horatia Nelson Ward (1801-1881) who was the daughter of Horatio Nelson and Emma Hamilton. She is buried with two of her children in a grave which is topped by a horizontal stone slab and surrounded by iron posts and a railing. In 1859 she had come to live near Tookes Green in Pinner where one of her sons, Nelson Ward was already living. Two of her children are buried with her including her daughter Eleanor, knocked down in Pinner High Street by a runaway horse.

The wife of Sir Ambrose Heal, who founded the famous furniture store in Tottenham Court Road, is also buried in the cemetery. The grave of Alice Rose Heal (1859-1901) consists of a bronze panel with floral motifs on a simpler stone headstone. The Heals resided in the Fives Court which is an important Arts and Crafts house by Smith and Brewer that is grade II listed.

The cemetery has a strong group value with the grade II listed Grave of Horatia Nelson Ward, the grade II listed Fives Court on Moss Lane and the East End Farm and Pinner High Street Conservation Areas.

The listed grave of Horatia Nelson is located in the cemetery and so provides its context. It was listed on 25th May, 1983. The list description reads: 'To Nelson's daughter, buried with her son and daughter. Inscribed horizontal stone slab with low iron post and rail surround'.

The cemetery has strong group value in the setting of Pinner Conservation Areas as it provides the source of strategic views, aids views of historic buildings and provides a buffer to surrounding suburban development in relation to Pinner's conservation areas. As the Pinner Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Document notes: 'Strategic views across Pinner include views to and from Pinner Hill towards Pinner Cemetery and views towards Harrow on the Hill from Pinnerwood Farm and Pinner Hill'. Similarly it notes 'The physical and aesthetic attributes of open space should not be underestimated. These areas aid views of the historic buildings within the conservation areas and create buffers from surrounding suburban development. The most notable of these, which directly affect the conservation areas, are ...Pinner Cemetery between East End Farm CA and Pinner High Street CA'.

Map of Paines Lane Cemetery

