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LONDON CEMETERY COMPANY (UNITED
CEMETERIES COMPANY) - RECORDS
OF HIGHGATE CEMETERY

H. M. C.
23145
NATIONAL REGISTER
OF
ARCHIVES

Caunden Public L, Holborn

The main records of St James Cemetery Highgate are the various burial and grave registers and the indexes to the registers. Duplicates of some items are held at the cemetery, including a grave register and partial indexes to burials and also the originals of large scale maps of the cemetery showing the location of individual graves. The ownership of the west side of the cemetery has now been passed (1981) to the Friends of Highgate Cemetery. The records were acquired between 1970 and 1975 from Nunhead and Highgate Cemeteries. Many of the volumes have been extensively damaged by water and are partly illegible.

The main series of records are as follows:-

DB Day books 1839-1967
Flowering records:-
F/1 Annual Flowering book 1948-1957
F/2 Flowering books 1933-1969
F/3 Ground books 1927-1965
GR Highgate grants (Private graves 1907-1929)
IF Incumbents fees
IN Index to registers 1839-1963
OB Order books 1908-1937
R/1 Burial registers 1839-1959
R/2 Duplicate burial registers 1860-1968
R/3 Burial registers (unconsecrated ground) 1840-1968
R/4 Duplicate burial registers (unconsecrated ground) 1865-1931
R/5 Register of vaults, graves etc nos 1-48,999
R/6 Register of common graves 1918-1968
UO Undertakers orders
WA Weekly wages and expenses

Additionally photographs of the plans of both the west and the east sides are held. (2 boxes)

Description of types of records:-

- IN Indexes - These provide the main access to the burial and grave registers. Each volume of the index covers a period of years eg 1854-1859. In each volume index entries are arranged by letter and then by year within each letter. For each year the names of people whose surnames commence with the same letter are listed in random order. Therefore to locate someone with the surname 'SMITH' who died in 1856 it will be necessary to search through the names of everyone with a surname beginning with 'S' who was buried in 1856.
- Indexes give details of the deceased including place of death (abode), burial and grave numbers and whether buried in 'consecrated' or 'unconsecrated' ground (place). Before 1850 some indication of the type of grave was also given eg 'private grave', 'catacomb' etc (Description).
- R/
1-4 Burial registers - There are two series of burial numbers, one for burials in 'consecrated' ground and one for burials in 'unconsecrated' ground. There are duplicate sets of both registers. Details of the place of death (abode), date of burial, age of the deceased and the name of the person who performed the ceremony are given. Some volumes have parts missing.
- R/5 Grave registers - Details of the location of the grave, date of the granting of the grave and details of the purchase are given together with the names of those buried in the grave with their year of internment.
- DB Day books - These give the same information as the Burial registers, except that they give more details of the burial itself including the hour of burial, size and depth of grave, size of coffin, details of the stone and name of undertaker. The order of listing varies slightly from that given in the burial register. The books are a record of each day's activities.
- R/6 Common grave register - This is arranged by year and then by grave within each year. The name, age and date of burial of each person interred in the grave is given.
- GR Highgate grants (private graves) - These are the 'stubs' of grants of exclusive rights of burial in private graves. They give the number and description of the grave eg 'Brick vault' etc and the name and address of the owner of the grave. Often a receipt from the owner is attached - this was supplied when the grant was sent by post.
- F/
1-3 Flowering records - These were concerned with payments for the upkeep (or flowering) of graves. There are three series of books Flowering books arranged by date, Annual Flowering book arranged by name of person first buried in the grave with a name index and Ground books arranged by square (the cemetery is divided into a grid to locate graves) with a name index.
- OB Order books, consecrated and unconsecrated ground - These are concerned with payments made for burials and graves. The information given includes details of the grave and deceased and the name of purchaser. Payments relate to such items as cost of vaults and graves, removals and replacings, re-openings and reclosings, various fees etc.
- WA Weekly wages and expenses - These list wages and expenses separately for each week. Information given includes insurance, rate of wages and amount of payments. Expenses relate either to excavating - ie work relating to the digging of graves etc, or miscellaneous, eg petty cash payments.

IN Incumbents fees - These are arranged by areas eg Battersea, Holborn etc. There is an index to the areas in a separate volume. The arrangement within each area is by date. Information given includes name and address of incumbent and the value of his fees.

Listing:-Call Mark

DB/	<u>Day Books</u>		
1-107	1-51,208 [Burial numbers] 26 May 1839- 11 March 1967 Vols 68 and 69 on loan to Highgate cemetery		JM38D-JM40D
F/1/	<u>Annual Flowering book</u>		
1	Annual Flowering etc (index by name)	1948-1957	JMLA
F/2/	<u>Flowering books</u>		
1		1933-1937	JMLA
2		1937-1941	
3		1941-1946	
4		1946-1951	
5		1951-1957	
6		1957-1965	
7		1965-1969	
F/3/	<u>Ground books (index by name)</u>		
1	Squares 65-169	1927-1934	JMLA
2	Squares 1-62	1934-1940	
3	Squares 1-90	1941-1947	
4	Squares 91-168	1941-1947	
5	Old ground squares 1-62	1947-1954	
6	New ground squares 64-168	1947-1954	
7	Old ground squares 1-62	1954-1960	
8	New ground squares 64-168	1954-1960	
9	Ground book (Old and New grounds)	1961-1965	
GR/	<u>Highgate grants (private graves)</u>		
1	36887-44791	1907-1929	JMLA
IF/	<u>Incumbents fees (Arranged by area)</u>		
1		1925-1946	JMLB
2		1947-1968	
3	Index to areas		
IN/	<u>Index</u>		
1	A [Vol no.]	1839-1853	JMLB-JMLC
2	B	1854-1859	
3	C	1860-1866	
4	D	1866-1872	
5	E	1872-1878	
6	F	1879-1886	
7	G	1886-1894	
8	H	1895-1903	
9	I	1903-1911	
10	J	1911-1920	
11	K	1920-1929	
12	L	1930-1941	
13	M	1942-1963	

OB/ Order books, consecrated and unconsecrated ground

These have been very badly affected by water and the descriptions of each volume may not be completely accurate.

1		1908-1912	JMLD
2		1912-1916	
3		1916-1921	
4		1921-1926	
5		1927-1932	
6		1932-1937	

R/1/ Burial registers

1	1-1824 [Burial nos]	1839-1844	JM2A-JM3A
2	49-1600	1839-1844	
3	1825-2400	1844-1846	
4	1601-3183	1844-1846	
5	3201-6397	1846-1850	
6	3201-6400	1846-1850	
7	6401-9600	1850-1853	
8	6401-9600	1850-1853	
9	9601-12800	1853-1855	
10	9601-12800	1853-1855	
11	12801-16000	1855-1857	
12	12801-16000	1855-1857	
13	16001-19200	1857-1859	
14	16289-19168	1857-1859	
15	18833-20060	1859	
16	20061-21710	1859-1860	
17	19201-22392 [20509-22392 blank]	1859-1860	
18	22393-25600 [blank]		
19	19202-25600	1859-1863	
20	25601-28896	1863-1865	
21	28897-32192	1865-1867	
22	32193-35384	1867-1869	
23	35385-37392	1869-1870	
24	37393-41392	1870-1872	
25	41393-45392	1872-1874	
26	45393-49392	1874-1877	
27	49393-53392	1877-1879	
28	53393-57392	1879-1881	
29	57401-61392	1881-1884	
30	61393-65392	1884-1886	
31	65393-69392	1886-1889	
32	69393-73392	1889-1892	
33	73393-77392	1892-1894	
34	77393-81392	1894-1897	
35	81393-85392	1897-1900	
36	85393-89392	1900-1903	
37	89393-93392	1903-1906	
38	93393-97392	1906-1909	
39	97393-101392	1909-1912	
40	101393-105392	1912-1915	
41	105393-109392	1915-1918	
42	109481-113320	1918-1922	

43	113393-117392	1922-1926
44	117481-121392	1926-1929
45	121393-125392	1929-1933
46	125393-129392	1933-1938
47	129401-133392	1938-1943
48	133393-137392	1943-1950
49	137393-141392	1950-1959

R/2/ Burial registers (duplicates)

1	20505-21800	1860-1861	JM3A-
2	22233-24208	1861-1862	JM5A
3	24209-25984	1962-1863	
4	25985-27736	1863-1864	
5	27737-29720	1864-1865	
6	29737-31688	1865-1866	
7	31689-33560	1866-1867	
8	33561-35432	1867-1869	
9	35433-37432	1869-1870	
10	37433-39432	1870-1871	
11	39433-41368	1871-1872	
12	41369-43420	1872-1873	
13	43321-45288	1873-1874	
14	45289-47256	1874-1875	
15	47257-49192	1875-1876	
16	49193-51112	1876-1878	
17	51129-53096	1878-1879	
18	53097-55064	1879-1880	
19	55065-57064	1880-1881	
20	57065-59048	1881-1882	
21	59049-61392	1882-1884	
22	61393-63392	1884-1885	
23	63393-65392	1885-1886	
24	65393-67360	1886-1888	
25	67361-69312	1888-1889	
26	69313-71344	1889-1891	
27	71345-73392	1891-1892	
28	73393-75392	1892-1893	
29	75393-77392	1893-1894	
30	77393-79472	1894-1896	
31	79473-81568	1896-1897	
32	81569-83848	1897-1899	
33	83849-85392	1899-1900	
34	85393-87392	1900-1901	
35	87393-89392	1901-1903	
36	89393-91392	1903-1904	
37	91393-93392	1904-1906	
38	93393-95392	1906-1907	
39	95393-97392	1907-1909	
40	97393-99392	1909-1910	
41	99393-101392	1910-1912	
42	101393-103408	1912-1914	
43	103409-105392	1914-1915	
44	105393-107392	1915-1917	
45	107393-109392	1917-1918	

46	109393-111376	1918-1920
47	111377-113392	1920-1922
	[Volume missing]	
48	117393-119376	1926-1928
49	119377-121344	1928-1929
50	121393-123392	1929-1931
51	123393-125392	1931-1933
52	125413-127408	1934-1936
53	127409-129392	1936-1938
	[Volumes missing]	
54	137409-141424	1950-1959
55	141425-143912	1959-1968

R/3/ Burial registers (unconsecrated ground)

1	1-1200	1840-1857	JM5B
2	1201-2400	1857-1865	
3	2401-5664	1865-1880	
4	5665-9600	1880-1898	
5	9601-13600	1898-1914	
6	13601-17600	1914-1931	
7	17609-21560	1931-1958	
8	21585-22192	1958-1968	

R/4/ Burial registers (unconsecrated ground) (duplicates)

1	2401-5664	1865-1880	JM5C
2	5664-7640	1880-1890	
3	7641-9600	1890-1898	
4	9601-11600	1898-1906	
5	11601-13600	1906-1914	
6	13601-15600	1914-1922	
7	15601-17600	1922-1931	

R/5/ Registers of vaults, graves etc.

1	A	1-1536	JM6A-
2	B	1537-3165	JM6C
3	C	3166-4863	
4	D	4864-6560	
5	E	6561-8855	
6	F	8856-10999	
7	G	11000-12999	
8	H	13000-14999	
9	I	15000-16999	
10	J	17000-18999	
11	K	19000-20999	
12	L	21000-22999	
13	M	23000-24999	
14	N	25000-26999	
15	O	27000-28999	
16	P	29000-30999	
17	Q	31000-32999	
18	R	33000-34999	

19	S	35000-36999
20	T	37000-38999
21	U	39000-40999
22	V	41000-42999
23	W	43000-44999
24	X	45000-46999
25	Y	47000-48999

R/6/ Register of common graves

1	40800-51217 [numbering in the same sequence as above]	1918-1968	JM6C
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U0/ Undertakers orders

1	[Blank book]		JM6D
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WA/ Weekly wages and expenses

These have been very badly affected by water and the descriptions of each volume may not be completely accurate.

1		1901-1909	JM6D
2		1909-1917	
3		1918[?]-1922	
4		1934-1943	

Richard Knight, Local History Library, London Borough of Camden, revised 1982

RK/TJ

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add

ADDENDA TO LIST OF RECORDS OF HIGHGATE CEMETERY

All the records listed below are held currently (June 1984) at Highgate Cemetery.

DB/ Day books

108 13 March 1967+

N/2 Indexes (to burials)

May 1839 - January 1862 A-L *

May 1839 - January 1862 M-L *

IN/3 Index (to owners and some burials)

- 1 May 1839 - July 1859 *
- 2 February 1857 - October 1872 *
- 3 October 1872 - December 1878 *
- 4 January 1879 - October 1885 *
- 5 October 1885 - May 1893 *
- 6 May 1893 - December 1900 *
- 7 January 1901 - February 1908 *
- 8 February 1908 - April 1916 *
- 9 April 1916 - May 1926 *
- 10 May 1926 - January 1937 *
- 11 January 1937 - February 1954 *
- 12 March-1954+ *

P/ Plans

- 1 Old Ground (1 book)
- 2 New ground (1 book)

R/1/ Burial Registers (consecrated ground)

50 141393+ 1959+ *

R/4/ Burial Registers (unconsecrated ground)

8 21160+ 1958+ *

R/7/ Grave Registers (duplicates)

- 1 A 1-1536
- 2 B 1537-3165
- 3 C 3166-4863
- 4 D 4864-6560
- 5 E 6561-8855
- 6 F 8856-10999
- 7 G 11000-12999
- 8 H 13000-14999
- 9 I 15000-16999
- 10 J 17000-18999
- 11 K 19000-20999
- 12 L 21000-22999
- 13 M 23000-24999
- 14 N 25000-26999

* Recopy before filming. See also red

15	O	27000-28999
16	P	29000-30999
17	Q	31000-32999
18	R	33000-34999
19	S	35000-36999
20	T	37000-38999
21	U	39000-40999
22	V	41000-42999
23	W	43000-44999
24	X	45000-46999
25	Y	47000-48999
26	Z	49000-50999
27	AA	51000+

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*Held on microfilm at Holborn Library

Richard Knight
 Local History Library
 London Borough of Camden.
 June 1984