The Value of a Municipal Cemetery in 21st Century Leeds

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Content

1 Question

2 Essay

15 Bibliography

17 List of Illustrations

Please see attached -
A Survey of the Municipal Cemeteries of Leeds

Statement

Cemeteries were built as a practical response to the unsanitary nature of urban church yards in the mid 19th century.

Question 1

What considerations were taken when designing the municipal cemeteries of Leeds and do these spaces hold the same value now as they did when the first cemeteries were built in the mid 19th century?

Question 2

What does this show about past and existing attitudes to death and design for death?

The Office of National Statistics stated that “In 2021, 40.2% of Leeds residents reported having no religion, up from 28.2% in 2011 (ONS 2021).

This essay argues that as an increasingly secular society, we have become detached from the process of what happens after death. Using a survey of Leeds’ Municipal Cemeteries, it maps how this detatchment is reflected in the spaces in which we bury the dead. In doing so it also explores our attitudes to death, with shifts between pragmatism, aestheticisation and efficiency over the 168 years covered by this survey, and the relationships between the spaces of the living and the spaces of the dead, with cemeteries shifting from being in close proximitiy to key amenities and population centres, to being in more rural or suburban locations, existing, in more ways than one, on the margins.

“Death is at once an everyday – universal – occurrence and an extraordinary experience in the lives of those affected” (Sidaway 2016)

As Sidaway writes, death is something shared by every human being, and it is happening at every moment. Yet at the same time it is a definitive moment that, when experienced in someone's life, can take years to overcome. This essay will show how death has been respected in the past and how we have become disconnected from it in current times. Cemeteries were built due to overcrowding and disease in the 19th century but grew to be respected places that people would visit in subsequent years. This essay will explore how they are used now and why this has changed.

Views will be outlined on what it means to be buried, looking at the literature, centrally *The Earth and its Dead* in *Dominion of the Dead* (Harrison, 2003). Harrison gives the reader an overall view on how the earth processes death and the cycle of human life on the earth as well as thoughts on what it means to be buried. According to Harrison (2003) a burial is seen as important due to the fact it gives the grieving a person a place of visitation. The sea is given as an opposing example of how this is important as the sea is seen as the ultimate grave, taking the body permanently away and unable to be visited.

Next the need for a municipal cemetery will be discussed, why this need developed over the last 150 years and how the first Improvements Act of 1755 influenced major development in the city of Leeds. The most important Improvements Act in relation to municipal cemetery development happened much later in 1842 and led to the first municipal cemetery, Beckett Street opening. The major influence over this came from Robert Baker, a campaigner of the time. In addition to this, we discuss the professionalisation of body preparation from the late 19th century onwards, which was due to Edwin Chadwick's sanitary re-form.

Another important developent to discuss is how the layout of places of burial has changed since the transition from urban church yard to municipal cemetery happened. Keith Snell outlines how church yards were laid out depentant on class in the essay *Gravestones, Belonging and Local Attachment in England* and the survey shows how over the 170 years since they were first built, municipal cemeteries have progressively been laid out in formulaic grid formations. The survey also highlights the infuence religion has had on the geographical location and also layout of the cemeteries themselves.

The essay will explore a case study in which the architect has designed a cemetery for reasons other than out of necessity, like municipal cemeteries are. It can then be evaluated whether a more secular society should consider it for future cemetery designs. This will be Carlo Scarpa's Brion Tomb which is also known as the Brion Sanctuary. "The place for the dead is a garden…I wanted to show some ways in which you could approach death in a social and civic way; and further what meaning there was in death, in the ephemerality of life – other than these shoe boxes" (Scarpa, C 1989). Scarpa has designed a cemetery which caters for both the deceased and the living. The case study will be compared to Guiseley cemetery which is studied within the survey: we will look at the what influenced the decision behind the locating of the cemetery and if consideration similar to Scarpa's, were made.

Further discussions around considerations that go into the design and placement of municipal cemeteries are covered in the argument Siegfried Gideon's chapter *The Assembly Line and Scientific Managment* , which helps us discuss how municipal cemeteries could be seen as purely places of practical necessity. Many cemeteries within the survey support this argument through their use of a grid formation.

The final discussion will be about changing attitudes towards cemeteries and how cemetery sites have evolved into having different uses other than burials of the dead. This could be because the need for cemeteries is diminishing due to increasing popularity of cremations. Indeed, 78.4% of body disposal in the United Kingdom (Ashes, 2022) is done through cremation. Cemeteries are being used as public places for recreation as discussed by Maddrell, A. and Sidaway in the chapter *Buried Bodies in an East London cemetery: Revisiting Taboo*. It could be said that cemeteries are being used for public parks and in some cases the cemeteries in Leeds are frequently being used as public walkways.

Maddrell (2016) further discusses the increase in popularity of individual places of memorial. An example of this is the public memorial bench or the scattering of ashes in places which hold high levels of sentiment to the individual (Maddrell, 2016). They argue that individual places of memorial could be more successful in retaining memories of the deceased.

“The sea has nothing to offer but a well - executed grave”. (Harrison, 2003)

“The earth is our ultimate stone, tablet or inscribable grave”. (Harrison, 2003)

Robert Pogue Harrison, the author of Dominion of the dead gives the reader an overall view and thoughts on how it could be seen that the earth processes death and the cycle of human life on the earth. As well as thoughts on what it could mean to be buried and “How do the living retain relationships with the dead?” (Harrison, 2003)

The author is interested in where the dead and the living have parallels. They state that burial is not only physical, but it is the storing of and preserving the past, putting it on hold. “We bury the dead to humanise the lands where we build our present and imagine our future” (Harrison, 2003). In making this statement Harrison is telling us that burying the dead, is putting the lives of the deceased on hold and creating a place for visitation where the visitor can imagine their future, without the deceased.

“We are not self-authored, that we follow in the footsteps of the dead. Everywhere one looks across the spectrum of human culture one finds the foundation authority of the predecessor” (Harrison, 2003). Humanity is a never-ending cycle, as humans we are replacements of the ones before us. Harrison’s thoughts on the purpose of burial suggests the importance of remembering the dead and to further progress as a society from what the deceased had built; signifying the importance of publicly displayed cemeteries as a respect to the deceased. “I would say that humans bury not only simply to achieve closure and effect a separation from the dead but also and above all to humanise the ground on which they build their worlds and found their histories”.
(Harrison, 2003)

Harrison offers the comparison of the sea as the ultimate grave explaining that the world offers us the foundations for building graves here as the sea offers no foundational support and nowhere the grieving can visit, offering instead the ultimate grave in its solidarity and stability, the earth is inscribable, we can build upon its ground, which the sea offers no such foothold for human world hood. No doubt that is why the sea, in its hostility to architecturally or texturally imprinted memory, often figures as the imaginary agent of ultimate obliteration”. It could be said that the sea takes away the ability to grieve, with no physical closeness to the site of death.

It is important to note how the layout of cemeteries has developed since the transition from urban church yard to municipal cemetery. Snell, in the essay *Gravestones, Belonging and Local Attachment in England (1700-2000)*, talks about the layout of church graveyards “it is often said that the north side of the church yard was reserved for the humble, the unbaptized, the social outcasts, the illegitimate’’(Snell,2003) . Snell goes on to discuss how it is often evident that people such as labourers are buried in the north and farmers are often buried in the south; “although the location of the church path was probably a more important determinant of the status burial location”(Snell, 2003). “Total anonymity was the fate of most of the local poor also, even if they escaped paper burial (group burial), and even in their families or burial clubs could afford an acceptably decent funeral in an appropriate part of the graveyard” (Snell, 2003). This show the majorly prevalent class system of the era. Even the means of a pauper burial, people of a lower class were relegated to certain areas and conditions of burying and mourning their loved ones, there is evidence of pauper burial within Beckett Street cemetery, Leeds.

Religious influence over design It is also important to paint a picture of how cemeteries have been viewed in the past. Social class in church yard burial, as shown here translated from social class of the living. Tarlow chose not to analyse public or parish cemeteries, ‘’which may contain less of a class bias, although it almost certainly exists there as well”. However, it is important to keep in mind how the urban church yards were laid out as this definitely influenced the municipal cemeteries. This is shown through the survey in the examples of Beeston and Whitkirk, these cemeteries as well as others, are located directly next to churches. It could be argued that these cemeteries are an extension to the already existing church burial yards and this location was seen as the only suitable one. Both of these examples are some of the oldest cemeteries within the Leeds collection having built in 1859 (Beeston) and 1881 (Whitkirk). It could also be said that that the Christian religion has large influence over the design and geographical plaement of the cemeteries as a large amount of the cemeteries have chapels placed at the centre of the site, especially the older ones.

As well as outlining the need for cemeteries in the past, it is worth noting the potential of what a cemetery could offer in the current times to society, other than a place to lay the deceased. This is shown in the example of a 20th century design which is Scarpa's Brion tomb, this design looks to view the cemetery in a progressive manner, the architect wanted to design a place to connect the living with the dead and to give both equal focus in the design. The Brion Tomb, which is located in Northern Italy was designed for the Brion family, who were famous founders of the Brionvega television production company. The design consists of a cemetery, adjacent to a collection of buildings and tombs. Central to the design is a symbol consisting to two rings, to represent the Brion couple. Within the site there are "ponds in which water lillies float and set apart from the rest of the elements of the ensemble, it is a concrete structure, a box split in half that seems to levitate above the platform surrounded by water, conveying a kind of balance to the place and to the visitor". (Azcona, 2023) As opposed to the 20th century cemeteries in Leeds, Scarpa manipulated the architecture to give the user moments of contemplation.

Whereas in the Leeds cemeteries, the simple grid layouts don't appear to do this. In the example of (intro comparison of) Guiseley, it is clear the cemetery is located within the picturesque setting of the Yorkshire countryside, however as discussed in the survey, it could be said that the locating of the
cemetery within the countryside wasn't intentional and instead it was most practical to locate this cemetery on the very edge of the town where space was available. Scarpa's Brion Tomb has been placed on the timeline within the survey, alongside the municipal cemeteries of Leeds to help show how as the 20th century developed, more considerations were given for a potential other purpose of the function of the cemetery. Of course, the Brion tomb could be designed without financial constraint, which the municipal cemeteries of Leeds could not have the luxury of.

Fig 381: Brion Tomb
(Sanchez, 2023)

Fig 381: Brion tomb
pond
(Sanchez, 2023)

One of the main arguments from the survey's of the Leeds cemeteries is the demand of municipal cemeteries as an essential, practical space in the mid 19th century. In the surveys of cemeteries in Leeds it was discovered that three of the earliest
cemeteries, Becket Street, Otley and Armley Hill Top opened next to hospitals and one of the larger cemeteries, New Wortley was opened next to a prison. This argues the point about cemeteries being places purely for practical processing of people. The facilities being grouped together supports the theory of the assembly line method of the processing of people. A text to argue that death has been mechanised in within the concept of the cemetery is Siegfried Giedion's chapter The Assembly Line and Scientific Management, this helps us understand how municipal cemeteries in Leeds could purely be for practical reasons, a way to process the deceased quickly. Giedion talks about how production lines help to support processing without interruption, the cemetery being adjacent to a hospital gives the ability for the bodies to be disposed of quickly due to physical closeness of the burial site.

The concept of a municipal cemetery within itself could be seen as an assembly line when it is adjacent to other so-called facilities, just another stop in the production line. Another supporting factor in this argument is the discovery, through the survey that the cemeteries were mainly laid out in grids. Each section of the grid corresponds to a numerical and alphabetical codewhich is used to locate the graves within the grid. This could be seen as insensitive, reducing the graves and people in them down to a code for ease of use by the cemetery and family. This could be seen as apparent of the design decisions at the time and the need to quick;y produce municipal cemeteries. Although functional and cost effective, this doesn't take into consideration the experience of the visitors to the cemeteries or respect for those buried. Thus, forgetting the argument of Robert Pogure Harrison's who respects the deaceased, even going as far to say that by burying the dead we "humanise the lands where we build our present and imagine our future" (Harrison, 2003). Therefore automating the cemetery by use of a grid could be said to de-humanise the land.

In 2013 two new cemeteries were built; Whinmoor and Kippax. In contrast to the previous sites, these were built away from anything which could be considered part of the assembly line as referenced by Giedion. They also offer a more aesthetically pleasing design to previous sites; a particular focus should be on the winding paths through the site. This shows a more considered design in relation to those mourning the deceased, as opposed to the previous straight grid system used, which could be seen to be pragmatic and without aesthetic considerations.

As demonstrated by Avril Maddrell, it could be said that death is becoming individualised and the need for a cemetery has been taken away. For example, public places have become places to grieve. For instance, the scattering of ashes in a location which has personal memories. Another example could be the memorial bench: the bench could be seen as a way of sharing the experience of grieving with the public. These could both be seen as a form of resistance from the mechanisation, perhaps reclaiming the experience back to the family dealing with deceased. Avril Maddrell's paper Bringing a Spatial Lens to Death, Dying, Mourning and Remembrance reveals that mourning is experienced through space, psychological, virtual, and physical sites of memorialisation, dependant on the bereaved persons, experience. The park bench could become a sacred space to re-visit for the grieving person. She follows on to say that everyday private spaces such as a chair, a car, a bathroom shelf or public spaces such as their seat at the local club. Spaces go from being everyday spaces to places of great significance. "For the bereaved various significant places can become sacred, sacred to the memory of the deceased, and to understand this we need to look at, but also beyond, the memorials and graves, which often bear that textural epitaph". It could be seen as important to have the individual relation to the site of memorial, something more personal that a shared space such as a cemetery.

To conclude, it is important to note that within the discussion in the essay and the analysis of the municipal cemeteries in Leeds it is evident that practically has more emphasis on the design and locating of the municipal cemeteries in Leeds. That said, the only two sites built within Leeds in the 21st century do seem to consider more of a focus to the nature of what a cemetery should include. This shows that humanistic ideals haven't necessarily changed and are being considered alongside a more a functional approach.

However, with the vastly increased use of cremation instead of burial, the need to create these spaces has decreased as shown in with the number of sites being built in the latter half of the 150 years in which the cemeteries of Leeds were built. This presents a growing separation within Harrisons reasoning for the why a cemetery is needed and what it means to be buried. This presents a new issue to modern society, of how we can remember the deceased.

If more weight were to be given to the design of the cemetery site, then it could be argued that cemeteries in Leeds could become places which support grieving and leisurely visitation. This kind of effort was evident in the earlier cemeteries of Beckett Street and Hunslet where one of the early aims of the design was to make it appealing to upper class visitors. If this same amount of effort was given to a modern-day cemetery design, they could become public parks and desirable places to spend time and grieve those who have passed.

This discussion of course only covers the council run sites, other religious groups could be said to hold more value in their sites of burial due to beliefs of the afterlife and such. Maurice Blanchot said "Only the religious have firm convictions capable of giving significance to life, and to death". (Blanchot, 1980). With this is mind, could a well-designed municipal cemetery for an increasingly secular society give more value to what happens after we pass?

However, as it stands it cannot be evidenced in the research whether people can grieve within a municipal cemetery in Leeds, it could be of benefit to make this discovery and have the opportunity to design places for grieving within the city.

If the essay were to be further developed then it could be beneficial to analyse further burial sites in Leeds to discuss how these alternative sites are valued within society. This can be seen in Carlo Scarpa's Brion Tomb, this example was designed for private use. This could be easily translated into a public space and give people the chance to have a shared space for the living and deceased.

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List of Illustrations

figure 1: Aerial view of Beckett Street cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:295]
figure 2: Image showing Beckett street cemetery (Geograph, 2022) [see fig:319]
figure 3: Beckett street cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:343]
figure 4: Beckett street cemetery lodge (Geograph, 2024) [see fig:343]
figure 5: Aerial view of Hunslet cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:296]
figure 6 Image of Hunsleytcemetery (Geograph, 2013) [see fig:320]
figure 7 Hunslet Cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:344]
figure 8 Hunslet cemetery lodge (Geograph, 2024) [see fig:367]
figure 9: Aerial view of Holbeck cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:297]
figure 10: Image of Holbeck cemetery (South Leeds Life, 2017) [see fig:321]
figure 11: Holbeck cemtery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:345]
figure 12: Holbeck cemetery lodge (Betty Longbottom, 2009) [see fig:369]
figure 13: Aerial view of Beeston cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:296]
figure 14: Image of Beeston cemetery Gods own country, 2011) [see fig:322]
figure 15: Beeston cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:346]
figure 16: Beeston cemetery lodge (Karen Allen, 2024) [see fig:370]
figure 17: Aerial view of New Farnley cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:299]
figure 18: Image of New Farnley cemetery Geograph,2024) [see fig:325]
figure 19: New Farnley cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:347]
figure 20: New farnley cemetery lodge (move market, 2019) [see fig:371]
figure 21: Aerial view of Otley cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:300]
figure 22: Image of Otley cemetery (Whyte, 2024) [see fig:324]
figure 23: Otley cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:348]
figure 24: Otley Cemetery chapel (Historic England, 2024) [see fig:372]
figure 25: Aerial view of New Wortley cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:301]
figure 26: Image of New Wortley cemetery (Geograph, 2024) [see fig:325]
figure 27: New Wortley cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:349]
figure28: no image
figure 29: Aerial view of Gildersome cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:302]
figure 30: Image of gildersome cemetery (longbottom, 2024) [see fig:326]
figure 31: Gildersome cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:350]
figure 32: no image
figure 33: Aerial view of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:303]
figure 34: Image of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (commonwealth war graves, 2024) [see fig:326]
figure 35: Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:351]
figure 36: no image
figure 37: Aerial view of Pudsey cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:304]
figure38: Image of Pudsey cemetery (Geograph, 2024) [see fig:328]
figure 39: Pudsey cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:352]
figure 40: Pudsey cemetery lodge (wikimedia, 2024) [see fig:373]
figure41: Aerial view of Yeadon cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:305]
figure 42: Image of Yeadon cemetery (commonwealth war graves, 2024) [see fig:329]
figure 43: Yeadon cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:353]
figure 44: Yeadon cemetery lodge (find a grave, 2009) [see fig:374]
figure 45: Aerial view of Lawnswood cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:306]
figure 46: Image of Lawnswood cemetery (Heeks, 2013) [see fig:330]

figure47: Image of Lawnwood cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:354]
figure 48: Image of Lawnswood cemetery lodge (British listed buildings, 2024) [see fig:375]
figure 49: Aerial view of Whitkirk cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:307]
figure 50: Image of Whitkirk cemetery (commonwealth war graves, 2024) [see fig:331]
figure 51: Whitkirk cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:355]
figure 52: no image
figure 53: Aerial view of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:308]
figure 54: Image of Armley Hill top cemetery (geograph, 2024) [see fig:332]
figure 55: Armley Hill top cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:356]
figure 56: Armley Hill top cemetery lodge (Kath K, 2019) [see fig:376]
figure57: Aerial view of Horsforth cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:309]
figure 58: Image of Horsforth cemetery (Commonwealth war graves, 2024) [see fig:333]
figure 59: Image of Horsforth cemetery entrance (Google, 2024) [see fig:357]
figure 60: Image of Horsforth cemetery lodge (Geograph, 2024)[see fig: 377]
figure 61: Aerial view of Morley cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:310]
figure 62: Image of Morley cemetery (Geograph, 2024) [see fig:334]
figure 63: Morley cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:358]
figure 64: Morley cemetery lodge (Google, 2024) [see fig:378]
figure 65: Aerial view of Harehills cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:311]
figure 66: Image of Harehills cemetery (Geograph, 2024) [see fig:335]
figure 67: Harehills cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:359]
figure 68: Harehills cemetery chapel (Hinson, 2024) [see fig:379]
figure 69: Aerial view of Garforth cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:312]
figure 70: Image of Garforth cemetery (Fenic funeral, 2023) [see fig:336]
figure 71:Garforth cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:360]
figure 72: no image
figure 73: Aerial view of Rothwell cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:313]
figure 74: Image of Rothwell Cemetery (Find a grave, 2015) [see fig:337]
figure 75: Rothwell Cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:361]
figure 76: no image
figure 77: Aerial view of Guiseley cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:314]
figure 78: Image of Guiseley cemetery (Commonwealth war graves, 2024) [see fig:338]
figure 79: Guiseley cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:362]
figure 80: no image
figure 81: Aerial view of Lawnswood cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:315]
figure82: Image of Lawnswood cemetery (google, 2024) [see fig:339]
figure 83: Lawnswood cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:363]
figure 84: no image
figure 85: Aerial view of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:316]
figure 86: Image showing Cottingley Hall cemetery (find a grave, 2015) [see fig:340]
figure 87: Cottingley Hall cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:364]
figure 88: Cottingley Hall cemetery lodge (Wikipedia, 2017) [see fig:380]
figure89: Aerial view of Kippax cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:317]
figure90: Image of Kippax cemetery (google, 2024) [see fig:341]
figure 91: Kippax cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:365]
figure 92: no image
figure 93: Aerial view of Whinmoor cemetery (Google 2024) [see fig:318]
figure 94: Image of Whinmoor cemetery (google, 2024) [see fig:342]
figure95: Whinmoor cemetery entrance (google, 2024) [see fig:366]
figure 96: no image

Figure 97 – 294 : Wood, M (2024) Drawings showing maps of the cemeteries in Leeds

Figure 295: Google (2024) Aerial photo of Beckett Street Cemetery. Available at:https://www.google.com/maps/place/Beckett+Street+Cemetery/@53.8072601,-1.5186019,671m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795c711db3bc51:0x2090e47ebe84dd4c!8m2!3d53.807257!4d-1.516027!16s%2Fg%2F1v1skrhp?entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/2024)

Figure 296: Google (2024) Aerial photo of Hunslet cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/search/hunslet+cemetery/@53.7695661,-1.5247461,475m/data=!3m1!1e3?entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 297: Google (2024) Aerial photo of Holbeck cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Holbeck+Cemetery/@53.7776081,-1.5627399,573m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795e845162af25:0xdddfb78125f0da33!8m2!3d53.777605!4d-1.560165!16s%2Fg%2F12xqwps2y?entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 298: Google (2024) Aerial photo of Beeston cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Beeston+Cemetery/@52.9357032,-1.2279659,685m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x4879e994f8492b87:0x88be59b89d1e1f6a!8m2!3d52.9357032!4d-1.225391!16s%2Fg%2F1tdb3t6h?entry=ttu (Accessed : 02/02/24)

Figure 299: Google (2024)Aerial photo of New farnley cemetery. Available at:https://www.google.com/maps/place/Tong+Rd,+Leeds+LS12+5PU/@53.7861606,-1.6373379,573m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795f6befa0e841:0xbc2aa943a2bd259a!8m2!3d53.7863199!4d-1.6351588!16s%2Fg%2F1v6p8cgg?entry=ttuotley (Accessed : 02/02/24)

Figure 300: Google (2024)Aerial photo of otley Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Otley+Cemetery,+Newall+With+Clifton+%26+Lindley+Cemetery/@53.9084732,-1.6867593,563m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x487bfd4892186971:0x318446332146de9a!8m2!3d53.9086751!4d-1.6854368!16s%2Fg%2F11dxkw46nv?entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 301: Google (2024) Aerial photo of new Wortley cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/New+Wortley+Cemetery/@53.794119,-1.5810061,672m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795ec0630e90f3:0x847989151576d069!8m2!3d53.7939859!4d-1.5786243!16s%2Fg%2F1tjyn75_?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 302: Google (2024) Aerial photo of Gildersome cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/search/gildersome+Cemetery/@53.7588996,-1.6352447,336m/data=!3m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 303: Google (2024) Aerial photo of upper lower Wortley. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Upper+%26+Lower+Wortley+Cemetery/@53.7868659,-1.5874619,672m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795ee8fc254cf3:0x13424c5ec1646579!8m2!3d53.7860797!4d-1.5858643!16s%2Fg%2F1tdykqw0?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 304: Google (2024)Aerial photo of Pudsey Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Pudsey+Cemetery/@53.796918,-1.6697031,672m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x487be18a90d27d83:0x92dbdc1148f7b2d!8m2!3d53.7977274!4d-1.6676737!16s%2Fg%2F11gv_d0dd_?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 305: Google (2024)Aerial photo of Pudsey Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Pudsey+Cemetery/@53.796918,-1.6697031,672m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x487be18a90d27d83:0x92dbdc1148f7b2d!8m2!3d53.7977274!4d-1.6676737!16s%2Fg%2F11gv_d0dd_?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 306: Google (2024) Aerial photo of lawnswood Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Lawnswood+Cemetery/@53.8472649,-1.5982646,671m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x4879590501af1d33:0x18965fc7295a58bc!8m2!3d53.8478051!4d-1.5961113!16s%2Fg%2F1tq6jlmt?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 307: Google (2024) Aerial photo of whitkirk Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Selby+Rd,+Leeds+LS15+0AA/@53.7969534,-1.4520926,336m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x4879430b89e62dbf:0x2b38f5fab7f7f4a4!8m2!3d53.7973236!4d-1.4517716!16s%2Fg%2F1thl4yt2!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 02/02/24)
Figure 308: Google (2024)Aerial photo of armley hill top Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Armley+Hill+Top+Cemetery/@53.8015646,-1.6166688,671m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795ef92ebeeb1d:0xcb3881891ba05d72!8m2!3d53.8022521!4d-1.6128171!16s%2F-

g%2F1tf35gm8?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 309: Google (2024)Aerial photo of Horsforth Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Horsforth+Cemetery/@53.8324189,-1.6537213,564m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x487958a2080b9f63:0xcd7e891cef2522f1!8m2!3d53.8326995!4d-1.6512664!16s%2Fg%2F1td0x_84?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 310: Google (2024)Aerial photo of morley Cemetery. Available at:

https://www.google.com/maps/search/morley+Cemetery/@53.745633,-1.6177394,565m/data=!3m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 311: Google (2024)Aerial photo of Harehills Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Harehills+Cemetery/@53.8064953,-1.5013309,949m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795c7c5bda57dd:0xf33ff2ad5c897ed4!8m2!3d53.806963!4d-1.499486!16s%2Fg%2F1tdm7vdb?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 312: Google (2024)Aerial photo of garforth Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Garforth+Cemetery/@53.7916361,-1.3794242,336m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x487943baf739e747:0x841d23f681a451c2!8m2!3d53.7916282!4d-1.3788073!16s%2Fg%2F1tfl9521?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 313: Google (2024)Aerial photo of Rothwell Cemetery. Available at:

https://www.google.com/maps/place/Rothwell+Cemetery/@53.7548897,-1.4737103,400m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795dd147268a39:0xd13d88798eeee266!8m2!3d53.7547054!4d-1.4723873!16s%2Fg%2F11h18b_7gq!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 314: Google (2024)Aerial photo of Guiseley Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Guiseley+Cemetery/@53.8846417,-1.7206238,398m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x487be3211bcd81df:0x4a21c71c7186e086!8m2!3d53.8847377!4d-1.7188397!16s%2Fg%2F1v_0j9br!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 315: Google (2024)Aerial photo of lofthouse Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Lofthouse+Cemetery/@53.7330763,-1.4966575,283m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795d820123f431:0xef602b73309fa895!8m2!3d53.7333017!4d-1.4957109!16s%2Fg%2F11c6qd73pk!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 316: Google (2024)Aerial photo of cottingley hall Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Cottingley+Hall+Crematorium/@53.7716768,-1.5846095,565m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x48795ef60a6f8fc7:0x23d67a2f16a3e7e3!8m2!3d53.771593!4d-1.582338!16s%2Fg%2F1thlmlll!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 317: Google (2024)Aerial photo of kippax Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Robinson+Ln,+Kippax,+Leeds/@53.768441,-1.3683099,238m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m6!3m5!1s0x4879424a4948c429:0x7d9a594951e11c2d!8m2!3d53.7686314!4d-1.3693746!16s%2Fg%2F1tfc1jll?hl=en&entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 318: Google (2024)Aerial photo of whinmoor cemetery Cemetery. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Whinmoor+Cemetery/@53.8365591,-1.4403315,572m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x487944b7d964dbcf:0x6dd51a5f62dcea8b!8m2!3d53.836556!4d-1.4377566!16s%2Fg%2F11df0mzn8k?entry=ttu (accessed: 02/02/24)

Figure 319: Geograph (2022) *Image of Beckett street cemetery.* Available from: https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/7137525 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

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Figure 321: south Leeds life (2017) *Image of Holbeck cemetery*. Available at: https://southleedslife.com/tackling-anti-social-behaviour-holbeck-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 322: Gods own country (2011) *Image of Beeston cemetery*. Available at: https://www.godsowncounty.co.uk/yorkshire-history/beeston-and-holbeck-graves/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 323: Geograph (2024) *Image of Farnley cemetery* https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/396083 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 324: Margaret Whyte (2024) *Image of otley cemetery*. Available at: https://www.oddquine.co.uk/gravestones/gravestones7.htm (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 325: Geograph (2024) *Image of new Wortley cemetery*. Available at: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/01/New_Wortley_Cemetery%2C_Leeds_-_geograph.org.uk_-_359440.jpg (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 326: Betty Longbottom (2024) *Image of gildersome cemetery*. Available at: https://www.ww1-yorkshires.org.uk/html-files/cemeteries/gildersome.htm (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 327: Commonwealth war graves (2024) *Image of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery*. Available at: https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/46229/leeds-upper-and-lower-wortley-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 328: Geograph (2024) *Image of* Pudsey *cemetery . Available at:* https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/5744013 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 329: Commonwealth war graves (2024) *Image of* Yeadon *cemetery*. Available at: https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/46389/yeadon-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 330: Reichard Heeks (2013) *Image of Lawnswood cemetery*. Available at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/11164709@N06/8751005114 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 331: Commonwealth war graves (2024) *Image of whitkirk cemetery. Available at:* https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/46230/whitkirk-church-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 332: Geograph (2015) *Image of Armley Hill Top cemetery. Available at:* https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/4641856 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 333: Commonwealth war graves (2024) *Image of Horsforth cemetery*. Available at: https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/46035/horsforth-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 334: Geograph (2024) *Image of Morley cemetery. Available at:* https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/2711403 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 335: Geograph (2024) *Image of Harehills cemetery. Available at:* https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/4880933 (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 336:Fenix Funeral (2023) I*mage of Garforth cemetery . Available at:* https://fenixfuneral.co.uk/locations/cemeteries/west-yorkshire/pontefract/garforth-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 337: *find a grave (2015) Image of Rothwell cemetery. Available at:* https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2507581/rothwell-cemetery (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 338: Commonwealth war graves (2024) *Image of* Gui*seley cemeter*y. Available at: https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/2040109/guiseley-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 339: Commonwealth war graves (2024) *Image of Lofthouse cemetery. Available at:* https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/4007022/rothwell-lofthouse-cemetery/ (Accessed: 03/02/24)

Figure 340: *find a grave (2015) image of Cottingley hall cemetery. Available at:* https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2165075/cottingley-hall-cemetery-and-crematorium (Accessed: 03/02/24)

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Figure 343: Google (2024) beckett *cemetery entrance.* Available at : https://www.google.com/maps/@53.8079894,-1.5174904,3a,90y,131.53h,97.1t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s8MplyWYGOolCxTs3YsD0yw!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 344: Google (2024) hunslet *cemetery entrance.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7688294,-1.5240687,3a,90y,283.14h,85.48t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s2CYKJAlXHRZDxqpkZXeplQ!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

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Figure 350: Google (2024) *Gildersome cemetery entrance. Available at:* https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7593352,-1.63297,3a,75y,241.29h,90.79t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sDH-YWvoJ3MknwZYpnUiu2Q!2e0!7i16384!8i8192?entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 351: Google (2024) *Upper and Lower Wortley cemetery entrance. Available at:* https://www.google.com/maps/@53. 7875235,-1.5854873,3a,75y,152.19h,87.94t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1szl94RjldBQFxMG95t43OQA-!2e0!6shttps:%2F%2Fstreetviewpixels-pa.googleapis.com%2Fv1%2Fthumbnail%3Fpanoid%3Dzl94RjldBQFxMG-95t43OQA%26cb_client%3Dmaps_sv.tactile.gps%26w%3D203%26h%3D100%26yaw%3D154.51526%26pitch%3D0%26thumbfov%3D100!7i16384!8i8192?entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

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Figure 354: Google (2024) *Lawnswood cemetery entrance. Available at:* https://www.google.com/maps/@53.8469196,-1.5927662,3a,75y,251.71h,90.73t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sxI7CjknT0WWYLZmvy2H9nQ!2e0!7i16384!8i8192?entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

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Figure 356: Google (2024) *Armley Hill Top cemetery entrance*. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.8022917,-1.6124414,3a,75y,226.34h,86.48t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sGmz-h7LL0jfrF-V1ATY_vAw!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

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Figure 358: Google (2024) *Morley cemetery entrence.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7464479,-1.6161121,3a,51.5y,173.08h,90.14t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sfhzqbjiWrgbLjQSGUZDs8Q!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 359: Google (2024) *Harehills cemetery entrence.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.8072443,-1.5019737,3a,90y,87.47h,76.52t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sgObs6VQazDYA86K4wo7suw!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 360: Google (2024) *Garforth cemetery entrance.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7916104,-1.3765107,3a,90y,268.23h,84.8t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1s_fb_hNfP1b3tUf4sxfQLfQ!2e0!6shttps:%2F%2Fstreetviewpixels-pa.googleapis.com%2Fv1%2Fthumbnail%3Fpanoid%3D_fb_hNfP1b3tUf4sxfQLfQ%26cb_client%3Dmaps_sv.tactile.gps%26w%3D203%26h%3D100%26yaw%3D75.56401%26pitch%3D0%26thumbfov%3D100!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 361: Google (2024) *Rothwell cemetery entrance.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7553054,-1.4723187,3a,75y,170.83h,86.52t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s3XGEIlyk2W2-WRnuFHKqrQ!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 362: Google (2024) *Guiseley cemetery entrance.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7553054,-1.4723187,3a,75y,170.83h,86.52t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s3XGEIlyk2W2-WRnuFHKqrQ!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 363: Google (2024) *Lofthouse cemetery entrance.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7332582,-1.4962503,3a,88.6y,67.25h,78.48t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sLj-1G5CMUB9Yf2IE_mH_IQ!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 364: Google (2024) *Cottingley Hall cemetery entrance.* Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7717596,-1.5800317,3a,90y,230.81h,89.56t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sq9tO8sXXW0L1pOJwuNlSqw!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed on: 01/02/2024

Figure 365: Google (2024) *Kippax cemetery Entrance*. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.7678679,-1.3695508,3a,90y,103.8h,92.06t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1sGtuOU0l-Y-H7ejujfmzY_g!2e0!6shttps:%2F%2Fstreetviewpixels-pa.googleapis.com%2Fv1%2Fthumbnail%3Fpanoid%3DGtuOU0l-Y-H7ejujfmzY_g%26cb_client%3Dmaps_sv.tactile.gps%26w%3D203%26h%3D100%26yaw%3D63.22233%26pitch%3D0%26thumbfov%3D100!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 366: Google (2024) *Whinmoor cemetery Entrance*. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/@53.8362297,-1.4384155,3a,75y,105.21h,75.9t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sgwsys4r8MWxhUU2SYxMO-Q!2e0!7i16384!8i8192!5m1!1e3?hl=en&entry=ttu (Accessed: 01/02/2024)

Figure 367: Geograph (2024) B*eckett street lodge*. Available at: https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/683405 (Accessed on: (02/05/24)

Figure 368: Geograph (2024) *Hunslet Cemetery Lodge* . Available at: https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/6759909

Figure 369: Betty Longbottom (2009) *Holbeck Cemetery Lodge*. Available at: https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q26656231#/media/File:Lodge_-_Holbeck_Cemetery_-_Fairfax_Avenue_-_geograph.org.uk_-_817445.jpg (Accessed on: 02/02/2024)

Figure 370: Karen Allen (2024) *Beeston Cemetery church*. Available at: https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2422370/beeston-cemetery (Accessed on: 02/02/2024)

Figure 371: Move market (2019) *New Farnley lodge*. Available at: https://themovemarket.com/tools/propertyprices/holbeck-cemetery-lodge-fairfax-road-leeds-ls11-8sy (Accessed on: 02/02/2024)

Figure 372: Historic \England (2024) *Otley Cemetery lodge*. Availalable at: https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101250551-pair-of-cemetery-chapels-at-otley-cemetery-otley (Accessed on: 02/02/2024)

Figure 373: Wiki (2024) *Pudsey lodge*. Available at: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cemetery_Lodge,_Pudsey_Cemetery_-_Cemetery_Road_-_geograph.org.uk_-_373867.jpg (Accessed on: 02/02/2024)

Figure 374: Find a grave (2009) Yeadon Cemetery lodge. Available at: https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2306441/yeadon-cemetery (Accessed on: 02/02/2024)

Figure 375: British listed buildings (2024) *Lawnswood cemetery lodge*. Available at: https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101375316-main-lodge-lawnswood-cemetery-adel-and-wharfedale-ward (Accessed on: 02/02/24)

Figure 376: Kath K (2019) *Armley Hill Top lodge*. Available at: https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2429352/armley-hill-top-cemetery

Figure 377: Geograph (2024) *Horsforth Cemetery lodge* . Avilable at: https://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/6727784 (Accessed on: 05/02/24)

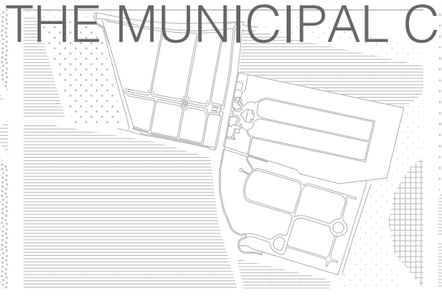
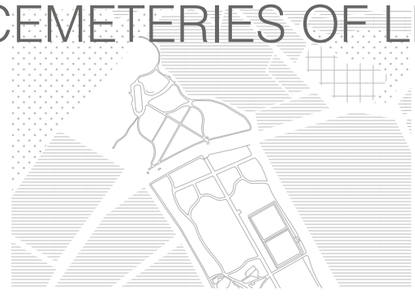
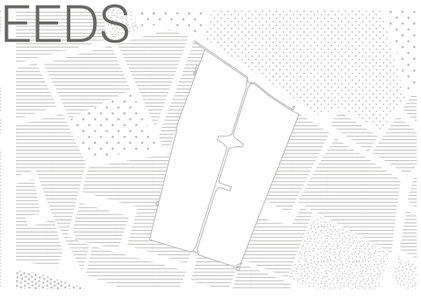
Figure 378:Google (2024) *Morley Cemetery lodge*. Available at: https://www.google.com/maps/place/Whiteley+H+%26+Son/@53.7462929,-1.6164055,3a,75y,90t/data=!3m8!1e2!3m6!1sAF1QipOiBX15M9jPyg3QRjN0Y5hWivaoG_FRebWKPR-9!2e10!3e12!6shttps:%2F%2Flh5.googleusercontent.com%2Fp%2FAF1QipOiBX15M9jPyg3QRjN0Y5hWivaoG_FRebWKPR-9%3Dw203-h152-k-no!7i3648!8i2736!4m10!1m2!2m1!1smorley+cemetery+lodge!3m6!1s0x48795fc0d-8181d67:0xa9b59495fc16a4f6!8m2!3d53.7462929!4d-1.6164055!10e5!16s%2Fg%2F1tdx_dm3?hl=en&entry=ttuhttps:// (Accessed on: 05/02/24)

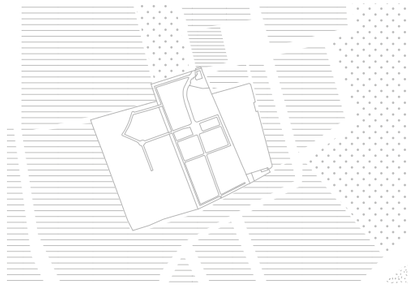
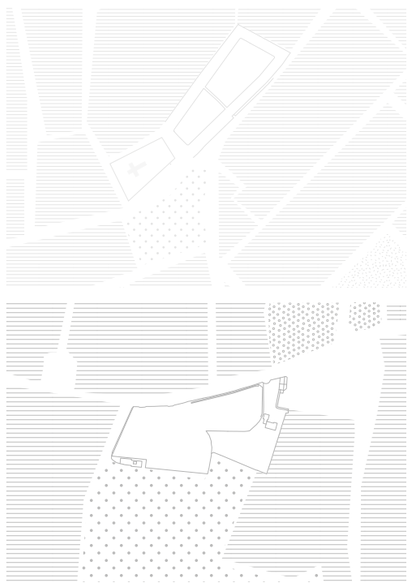
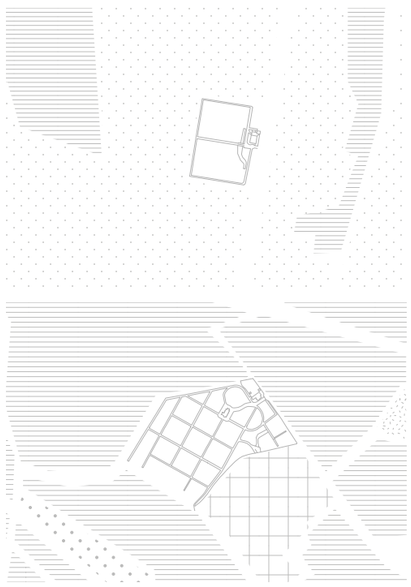
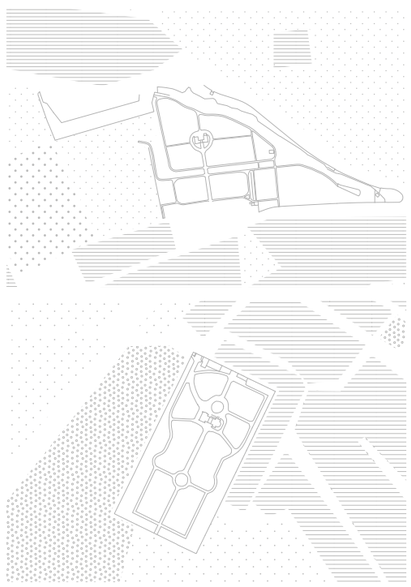
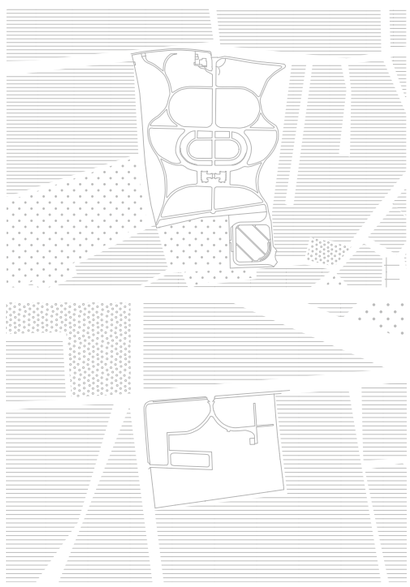
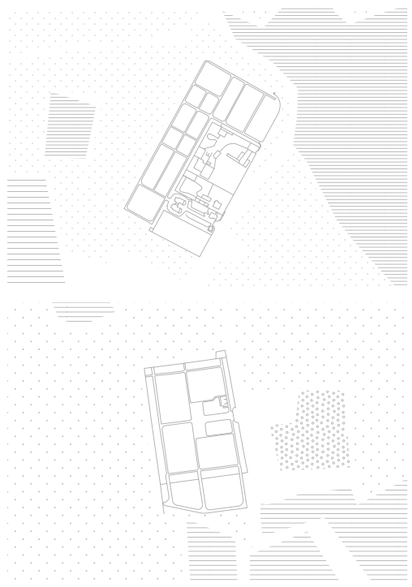
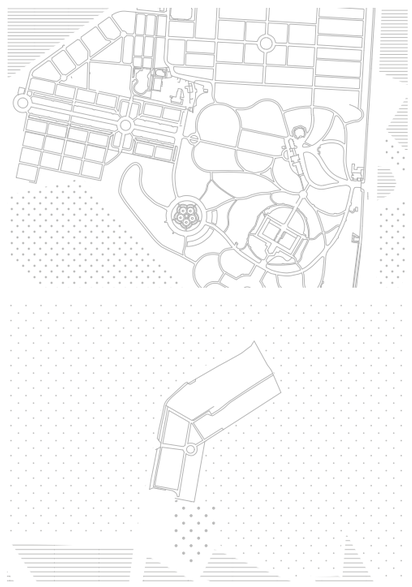
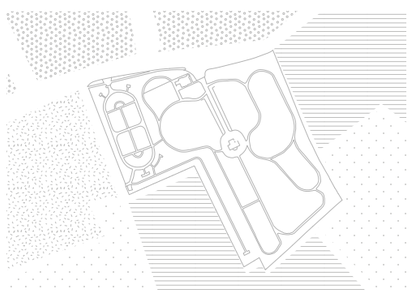
Figure 379: Colin Hinson (2024) *harehills cemetery chapel*. Available at: https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/WRY/Leeds/PhotoFrames/HarehillsCemeteryChapel_MB

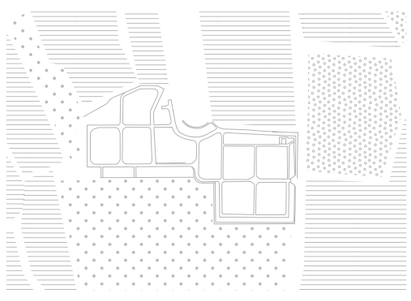
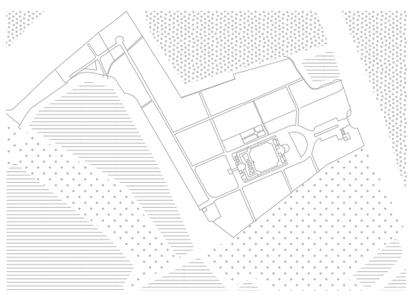
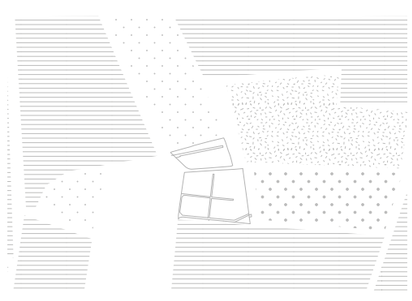
Figure 380: Wikipedia (2017) *Cottingley hall cemetery and cremetorium building*. Available at: https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Cottingley_Cemetery_Chapel_17_Nov_2017.jpg (Accessed (21/02/24)

Figure 381-382: Mili Sanchez Azcona (2023) Brion Tomb. Available at: https://www.archdaily.com/991218/architecture-that-hides-stories-a-look-at-the-brion-tomb-by-carlo-scarpa/633dc5d9dd0b89061383fd6d-architecture-that-hides-stories-a-look-at-the-brion-tomb-by-carlo-scarpa-photo?next_project=no (Accessed: 5/02/24)

A SURVEY OF THE MUNICIPAL CEMETERIES OF LEEDS

A survey has been carried out to assess the environments and circumstances in which the municipal cemeteries of Leeds have been built and what is required within the land of a cemetery for it to function. The survey is guided by the same method used in Requim: the medieval monastic cemetery in Britain (Roberta Gilchrist and Barney Sloane, 2005). The authors "analysed evidence to consider spatial regional and chronological trends from landscape to treatment of bodies within medieval burial" (Sloane, Gilchrist 2005). The study aimed to discover the sequences and patterns of medieval death and if there were "spatial, regional, and chronological trends, from the level of landscape down to the treatment of individual bodies". (Sloane, Gilchrist 2005)

The aim of the survey is to identify information and trends about the surroundings and designs of the municipal cemeteries of Leeds and discover if cemeteries have held the same value in society throughout the last 150 years as they did when they were initially built. Through analysing the evidence, it will become clear what was valued or devalued when these cemeteries were first designed, and located in the city and surrounding towns of Leeds.

The survey will use the constraints of time, location and size of the cemeteries to be compared and investigate what correlations could appear. The surroundings of the cemeteries will be analysed, observation will reveal if they are located within suburban, rural or town settings and if this changes dependant on time or location. Within the individual land of the cemeteries the layout design and associated buildings will also be investigated in the same way.

The survey will look at the locations of the cemeteries in relation to the city of Leeds, the date they were built, the buildings and entrances on the cemetery sites and the surroundings of them and what correlations happen between the information and the use of the cemeteries. Information was used from the Leeds city council to learn whether the cemeteries are available for use, to reserve for future use or if they are full. To begin the survey, each cemetery will be described and particular features of each one will be outlined.

Aerial Photo

Entrance

General image

Assosiated building

Map

Survey Guide

Key and scale bar

fig 1: Aerial view of Beckett Street cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 2: Image showing Beckett street cemetery (Geograph, 2022)

fig 3: Beckett street cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 4: Beckett street cemetery lodge (Geograph, 2024)

Beckett street cemetery was the first municipal cemetery to open in Leeds in 1845 (shortly followed by Hunslet). (Leeds city council, 2024) The cemetery covers an area of 70,000 sqm and is two miles from the city centre in the suburban town of Harehills and is next to St James' hospital, one of two main hospitals which serve the city of Leeds. (This supports the argument that the cemetery is a practical space. There is a volunteer ran group called Friends of Beckett Street Cemetery who maintain the upkeep of the cemetery. This is since the municipal services committee decided in 1984 to close the cemetery because of vandalism and heavy upkeep costs. Sylvia Barnard established the voluntary group made up of relatives of the dead, ecologists and historians who united to oppose the plan to close the cemetery and in 1985 the plan to close the cemetery was scrapped meaning the group had a voice when it came to establishing a management plan for the maintenance of the site. (Street, 2024). The neo gothic entrance and lodge are also relevant to the time it was built; the pathways are also lined with trees.

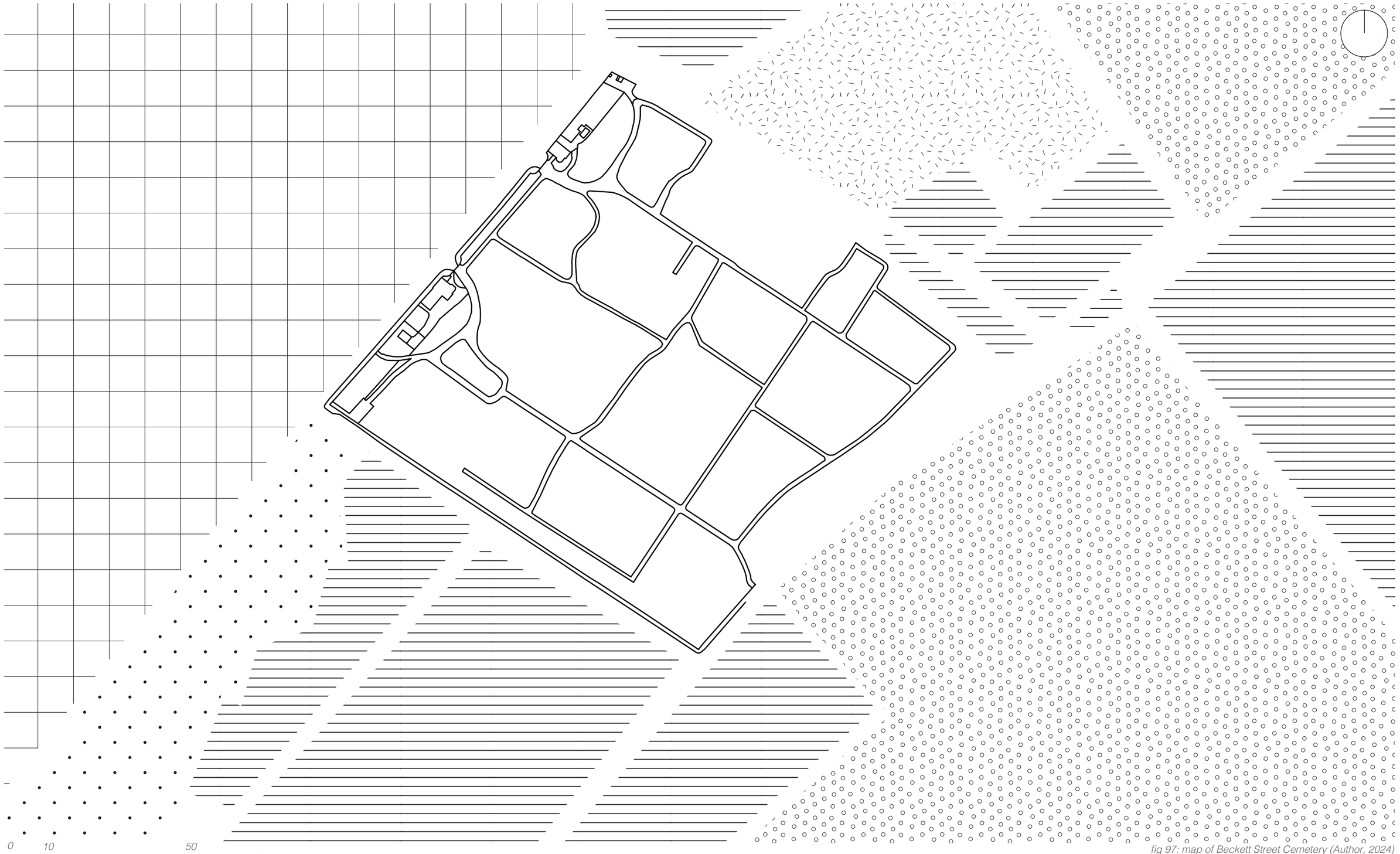
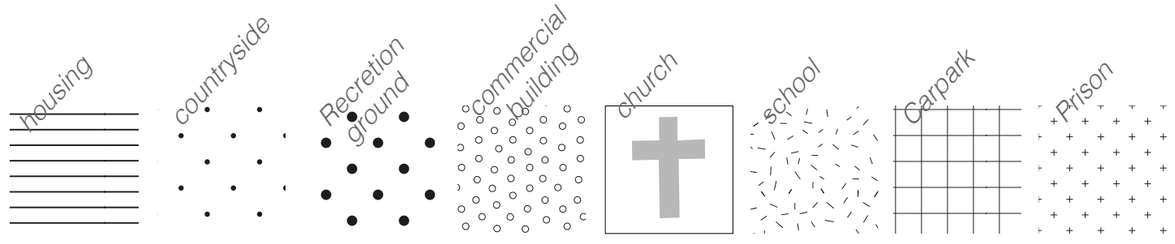


fig 97: map of Beckett Street Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beckett Street 1845



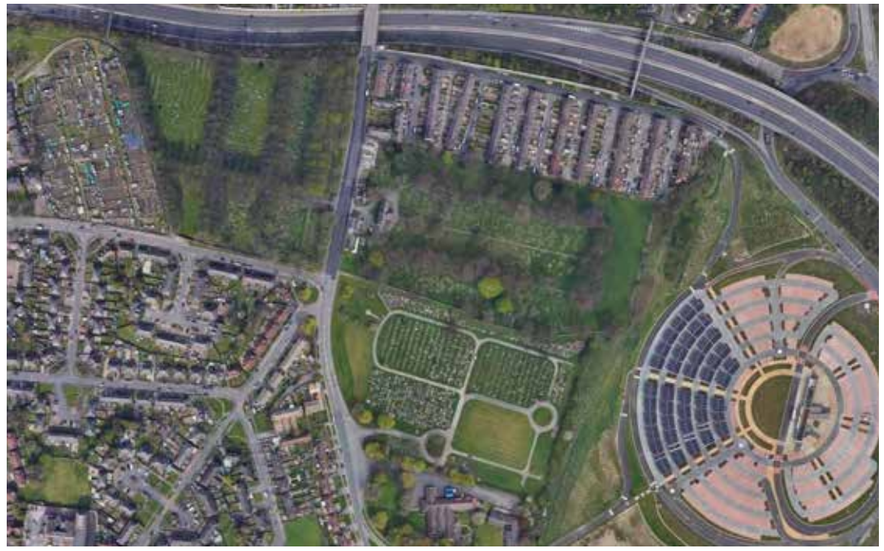


fig 5: Aerial view of Hunslet cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 6 Image of Hunsleytcemetery (Geograph, 2013)

fig 7 Hunslet Cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 8 Hunslet cemetery lodge (Geograph, 2024)

Hunslet cemetery which opened in 1845 (Leeds city council, 2024) is still available for burial today. It is in a suburban area and next to a motorway, the M621 which was built in 1972. It covers an area of 101,000 sqm and 4.1 miles away from Leeds city centre. “The layout of the cemetery is simple and symmetrical. Two parallel tree-lined paths leading from west to east are symmetrically arranged parallel to a central path aligned on the chapels. All three routes are linked by a path leading north to south at the east end of the cemetery’’. (Gardens, 2009) The cemetery is set on a hill which is common of cemeteries built in the 19th century. There are also two tudor style lodges. Most of the older graves are guinea graves, these graves hold 20 people and the graves were left open until they were full, guinea graves meant people could have a marked grave rather than an unmarked one.

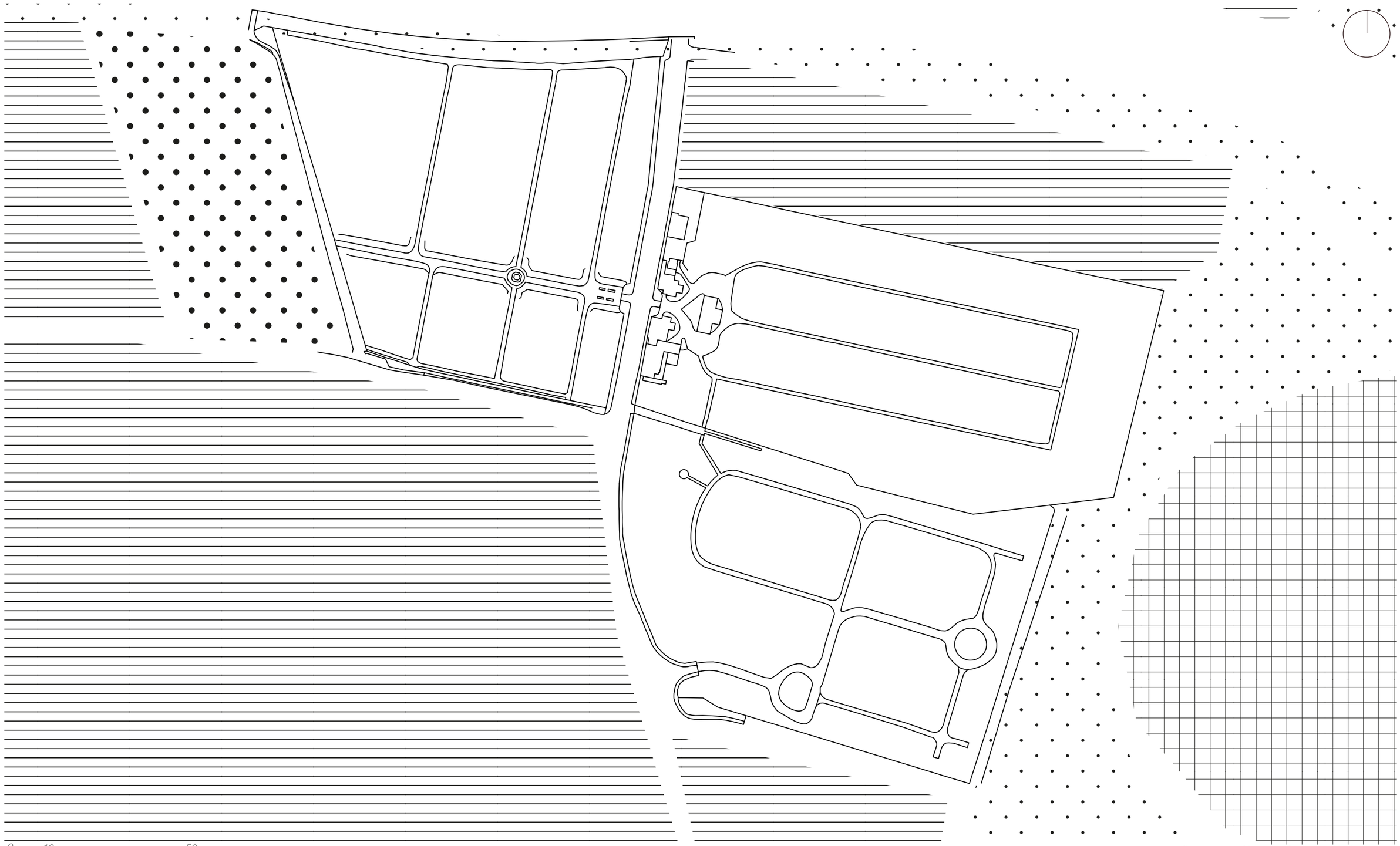


fig 98: map of Hunslet Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Hunslet 1845

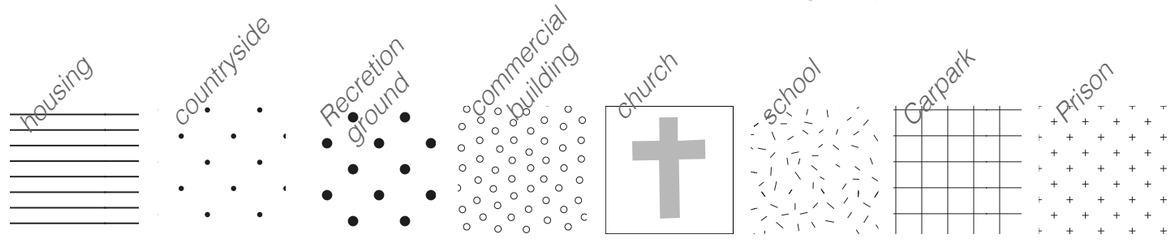
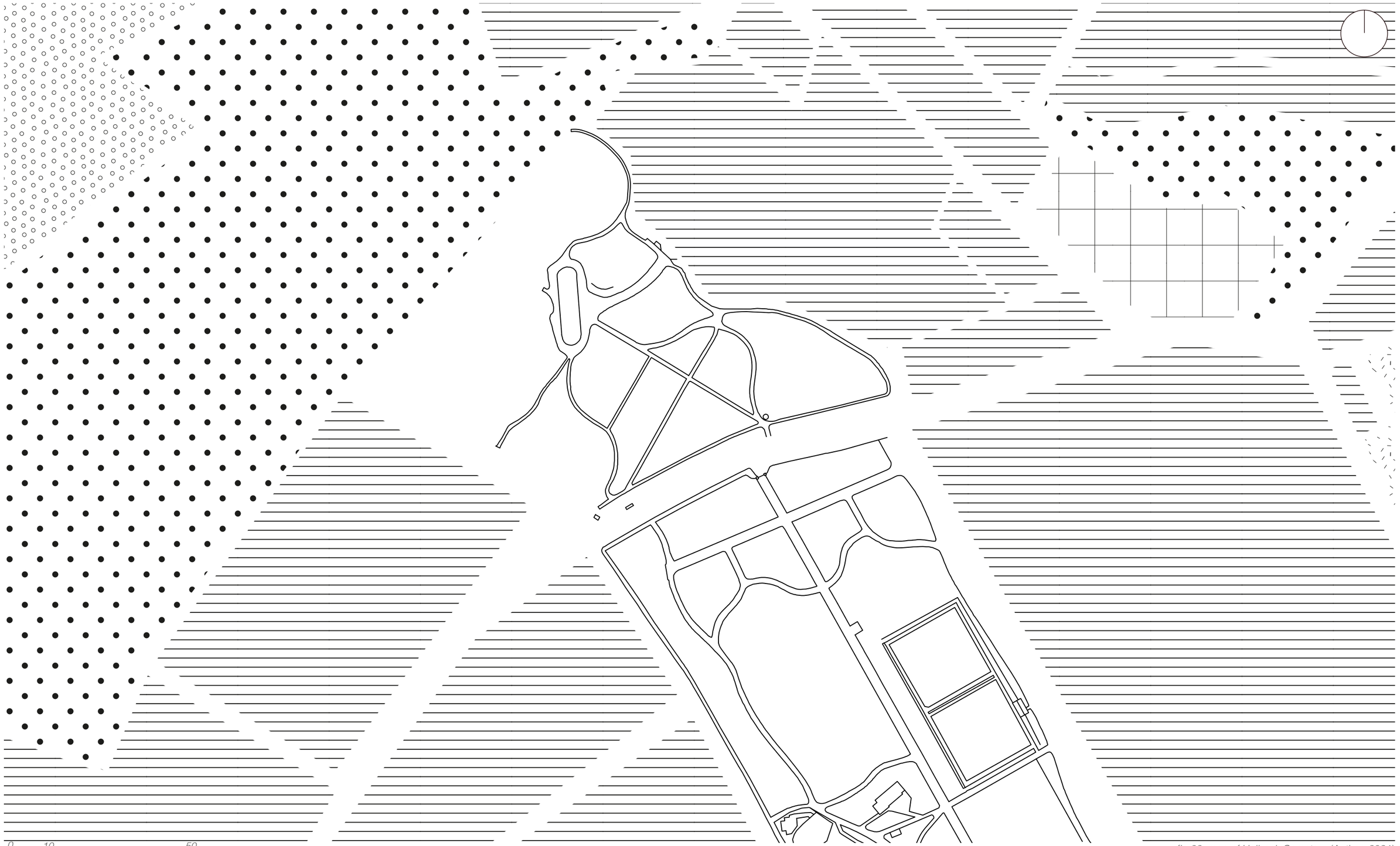


fig 9: Aerial view of Holbeck cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 10: Image of Holbeck cemetery (South Leeds Life, 2017)

fig 11: Holbeck cemtery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 12: Holbeck cemetery lodge (Betty Longbottom, 2009)

Holbeck cemetery opened in 1857 (Leeds city council, 2024), this coincided with the closure of the graveyard at St Matthew's Church nearby in Holbeck Moor. It is currently not available for burials as it is full having closed in 1940 after 83 years. It covers an area of 35,000sqm and 2.3 miles away from Leeds city centre. Either side of the cemetery are rows of houses, and it is sandwiched between two recreation grounds. "Typical of many Victorian Cemeteries it is situated on an elevated site. It overlooks Leeds and a vast expanse of country beyond." (cemetery f. o., 2014). There is a friends of Holbeck volunteer group which was established due to growing concerns over vandalism of the site. The cemetery is set out in two parts, split by a road and in a grid formation with some curved pathways, the architecture on site including the entrance is in a gothic revival style.



0 10 50

1:2000 at A3

fig 99: map of Holbeck Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

Prison

Holbeck 1857

fig 13: Aerial view of Beeston cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 14: Image of Beeston cemetery Gods own country, 2011)

fig 15: Beeston cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 16: Beeston cemetery lodge (Karen Allen, 2024)

Beeston Cemetery opened in 1859 and is currently closed to burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area 11,500 sqm and 2.6 miles from Leeds city centre. It is surrounded by rows of houses and a main road. The friends of Holbeck cemetery also take care of Beeston cemetery. It is laid out in two equal sized sections and the perimeter is lined with trees and a low stone wall. It is adjacent to St Marys parish church.

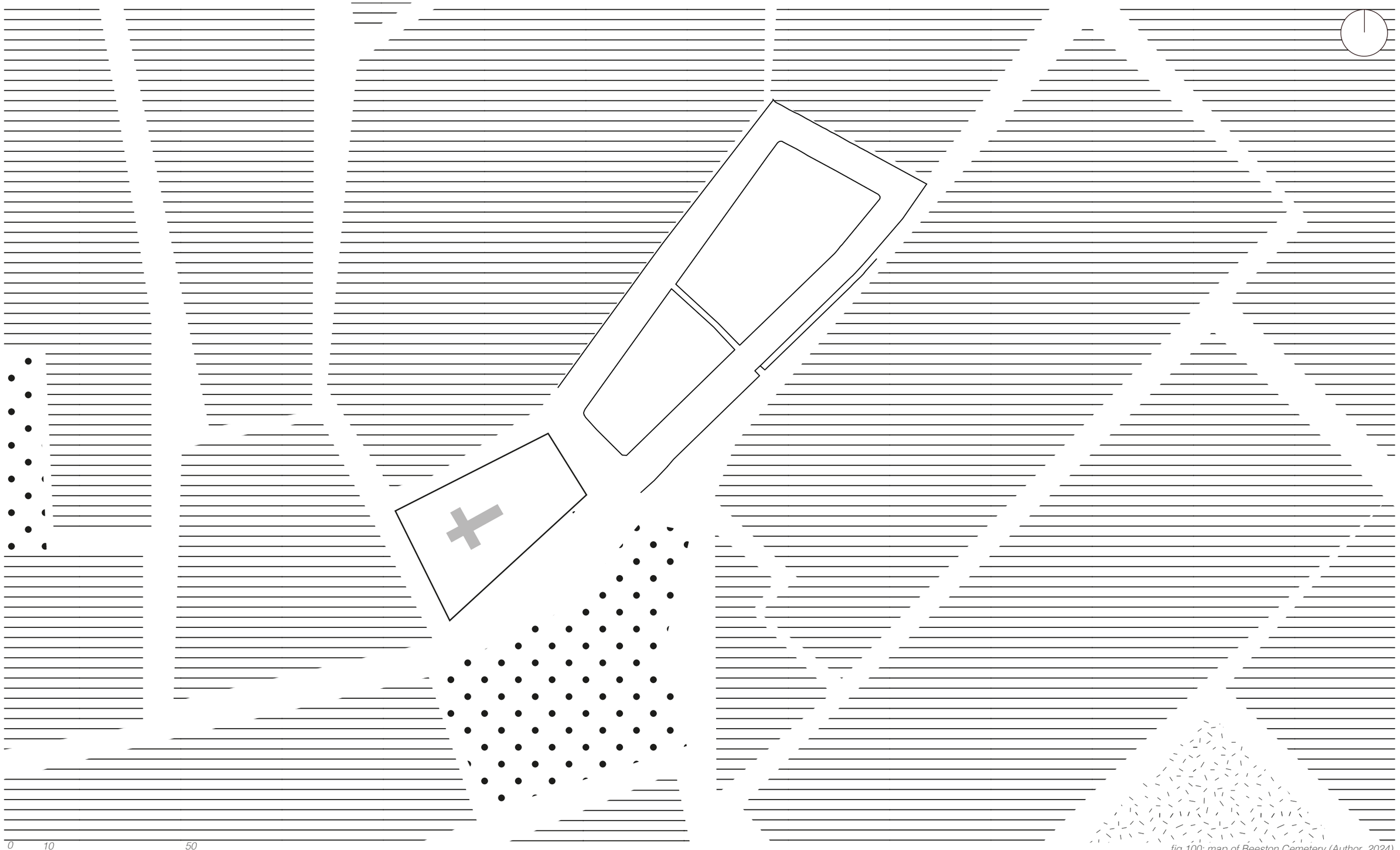


fig 100: map of Beeston Cemetery (Author, 2024)

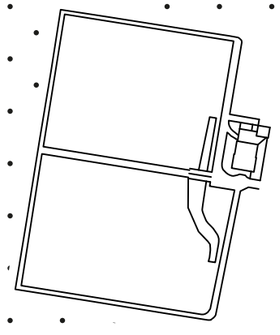
housing
countryside
Recretion ground
commercial building
church
school
Carpark
Prison

Beeston 1859

fig 17: Aerial view of New Farnley cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 18: Image of New Farnley cemetery Geograph,2024)

fig 19: New Farnley cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 20: New farnley cemetery lodge (move market, 2019)

New Farnley cemetery opened in 1860 and is still open to this day for reservations of burials and is in a suburban area in the countryside (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 40,500 sqm and is 4.2 miles away from Leeds city centre, is places next to a main road and surrounded by countryside. The cemetery comprises of various burial grounds for synagogues and Jewish societies in Leeds. The cemetery appears to be the most densely packed of all the cemeteries in the survey. It is laid out in a basic grid formation and doesn't appear to have much in terms of landscaping or trees.



0 10 50

1:2000 at A3

fig 101: map of New Farnley Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

Prison

New Farnley 1860

fig 21: Aerial view of Otley cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 22: Image of Otley cemetery (Whyte, 2024)

fig 23: Otley cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 24: Otley Cemetery chapel (Historic England, 2024)

Otley Cemetery opened in 1962 and is still open for reservations for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers are area of 48,000 sqm and is located on the edge of the town of Otley, which is 11.8 miles away from Leeds city centre. This cemetery is near a hospital, in a suburban area, in the countryside and near a recreation ground. It is laid out in a grid formation, with curved and treelined pathways and in the middle of the cemetery there is a disused chapel.

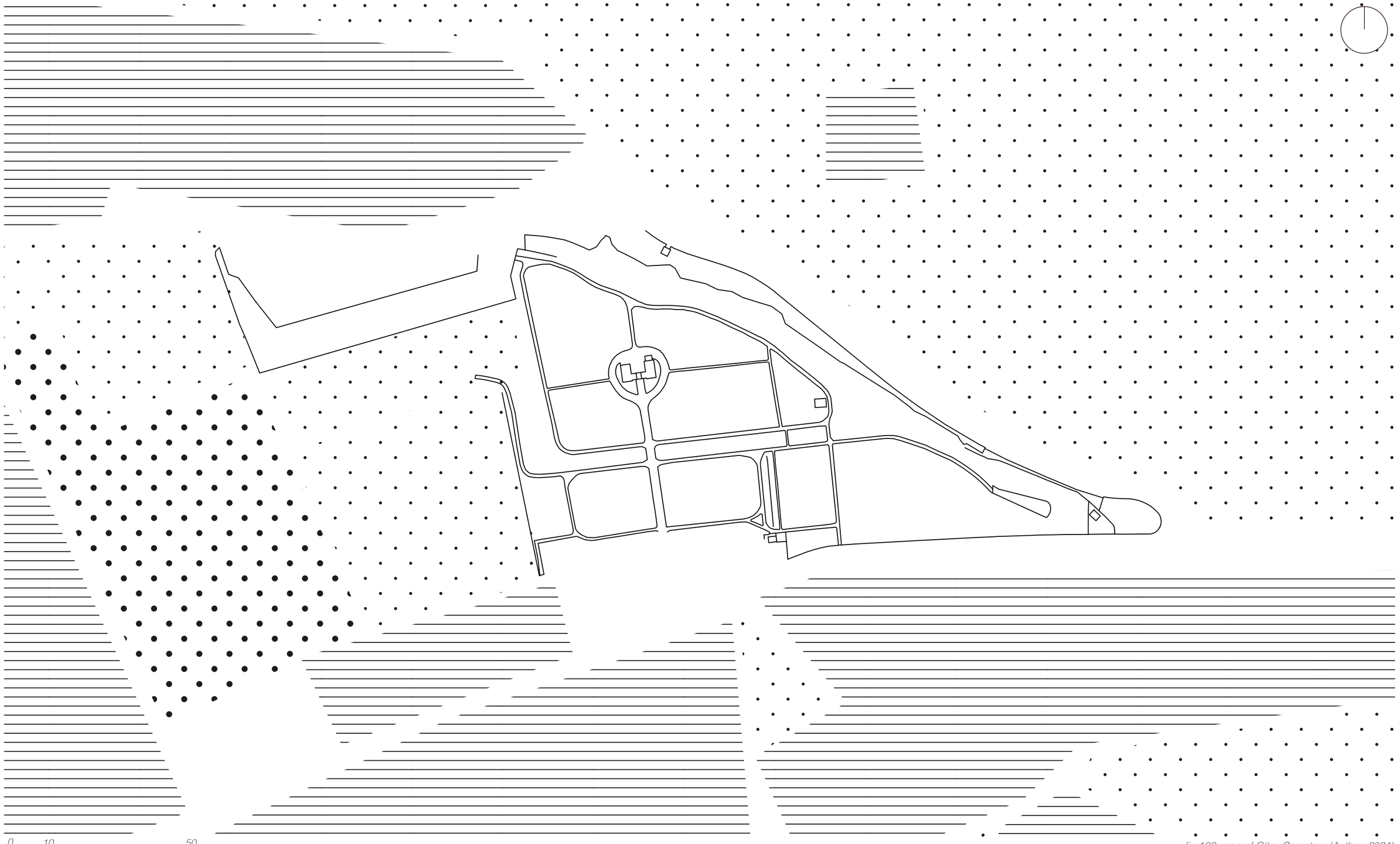


fig 102: map of Otley Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Otley 1962

fig 25: Aerial view of New Wortley cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 26: Image of New Wortley cemetery (Geograph, 2024)

fig 27: New Wortley cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 28

New Wortley cemetery opened in 1962 and is available to be reserved for burials. This cemetery covers an area of 41,000 sqm and is in a suburban area which is 1.8 miles away from Leeds city centre. It is also next to Leeds prison which opened in 1847. The site is 1.8 miles southwest of Leeds city centre. It is split into two halves with a pathway running down the centre which is used a public footpath.

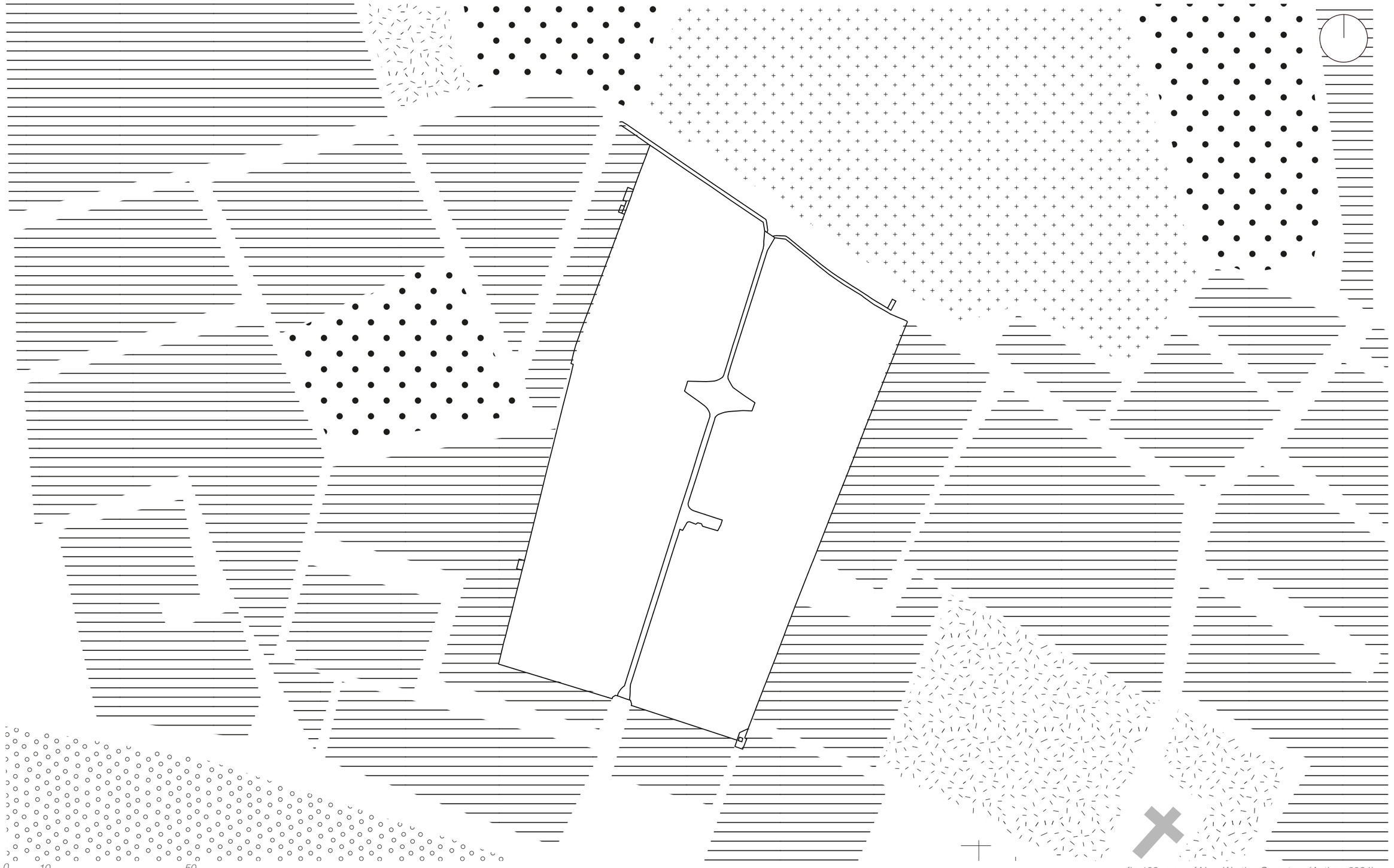


fig 103: map of New Wortley Cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Wortley 1962

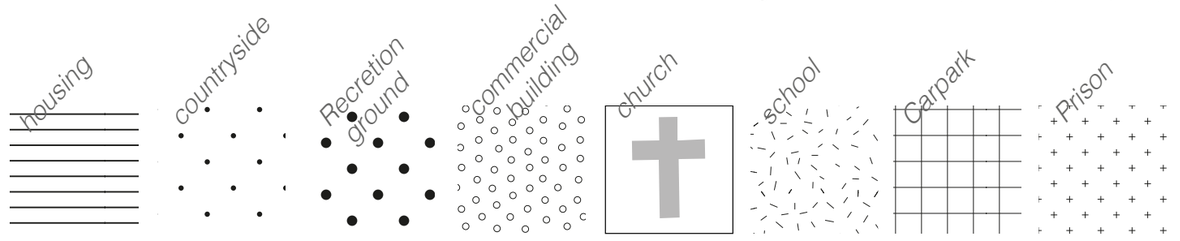


fig 29: Aerial view of Gildersome cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 30: Image of gildersome cemetery (longbottom, 2024)

fig 31: Gildersome cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 32

Gildersome cemetery opened in 1865 and is currently available for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 8,000 sqm and is 5.5 miles southwest of Leeds city centre. This cemetery is in a suburban area next to a recreation ground, it is also close to St Peters church so it could be said that the cemetery was placed there as an extension to the church burial ground. It is laid out in a grid with four sections with pathways in a cross shape.

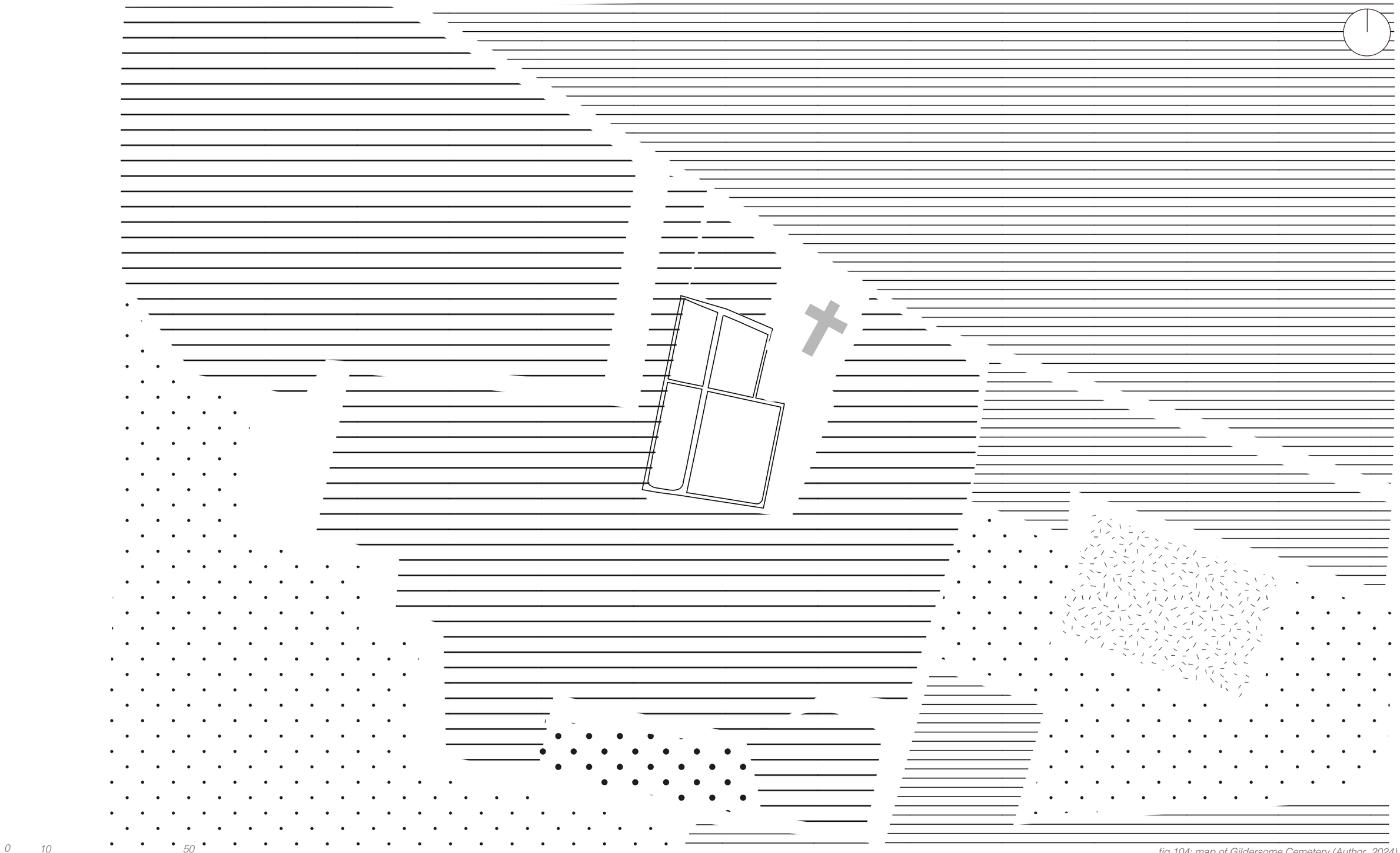


fig 104: map of Gildersome Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome 1865

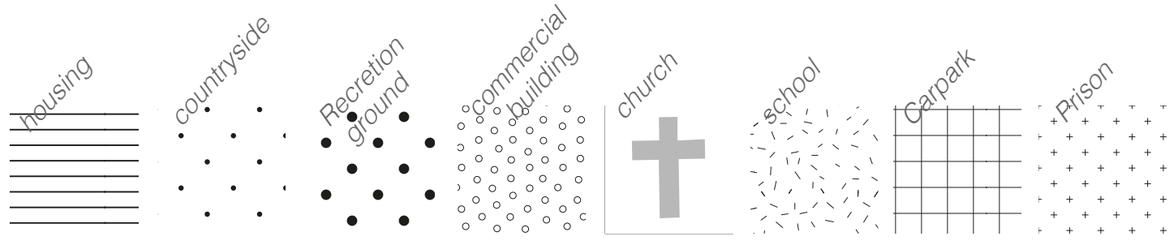
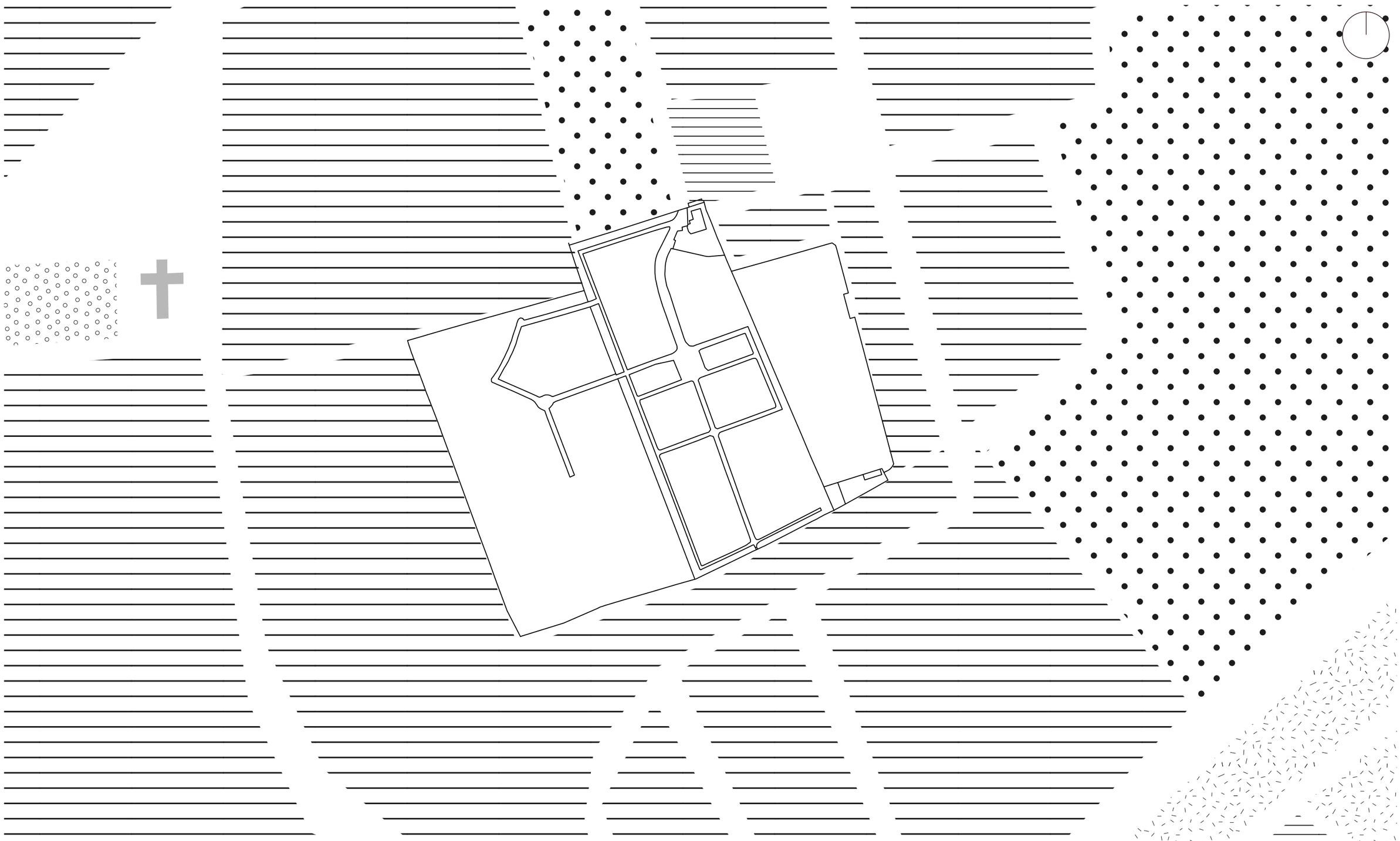


fig 33: Aerial view of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 34: Image of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (commonwealth war graves, 2024)

fig 35: Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 36

Upper and lower Wortley cemetery opened in 1865 and is still available for reservations for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 41,000 sqm and is 2 miles southwest of Leeds city centre. This cemetery is completely enclosed by houses therefore it is only reachable by a footpath which runs through the houses.



0 10 50

1:2000 at A3

fig 105: map of Upper, Lower Wortley Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

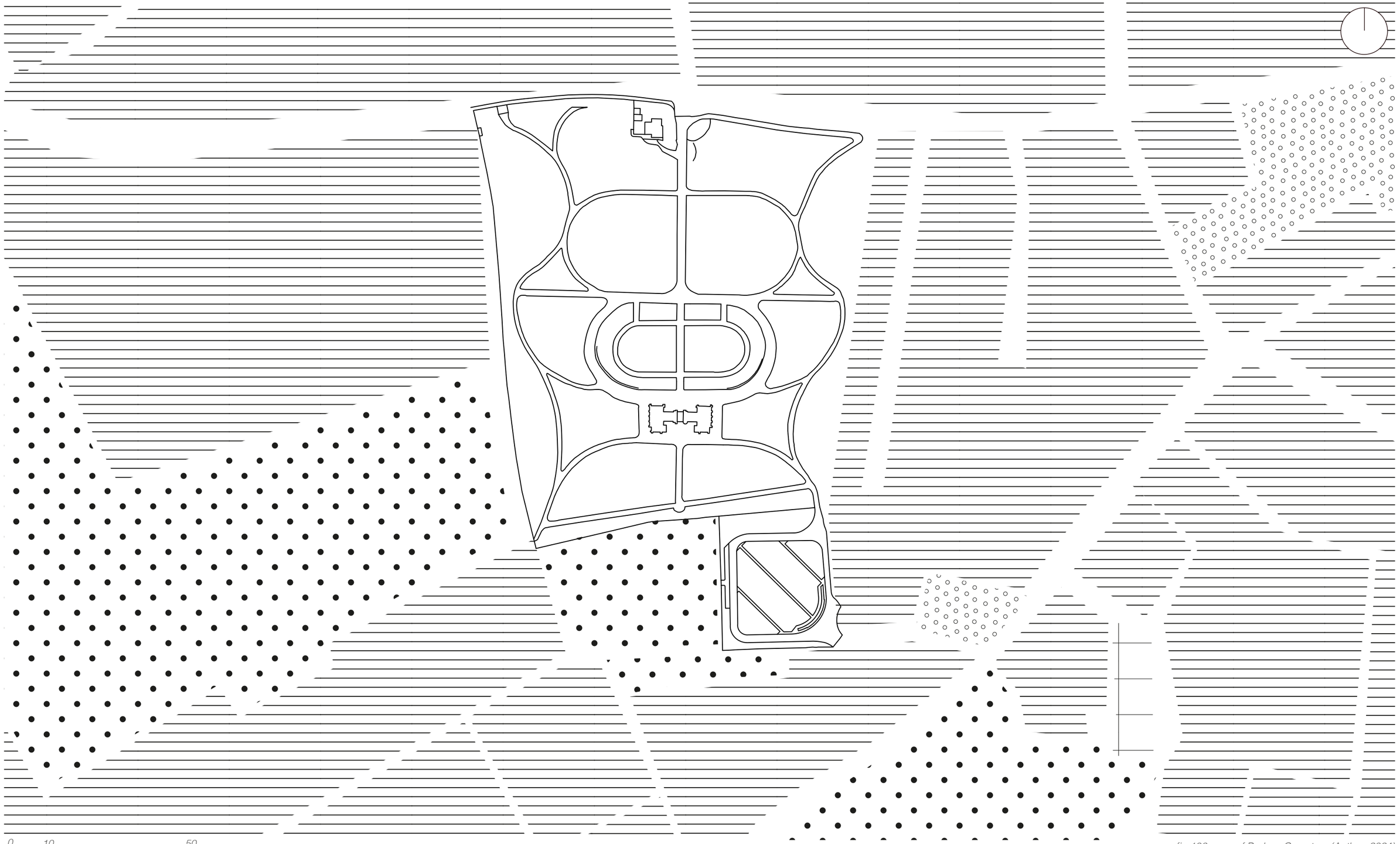
Prison

Upper, Lower Wortley 1865

fig 37: Aerial view of Pudsey cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 38: Image of Pudsey cemetery (Geograph, 2024)

fig 39: Pudsey cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 40: Pudsey cemetery lodge (wikimedia, 2024)

Pudsey cemetery opened in 1875 and is still available for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 48,000 sqm is 5.9 miles to the west of the Leeds city centre. This cemetery is in a suburban area and near a recreation ground. The cemetery is designed with curved, tree lined pathways as well a chapel in the centre and a gate house at the entrance. It is divided into two main sections, the east consecrated side, and the west general side. The site is cared for by the friends of Pudsey cemetery volunteer group to preserve the cemetery as an important civic site. (Cenotaph, 2020)



0 10 50

1:2000 at A3

fig 106: map of Pudsey Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

Prison

Pudsey 1875

fig 41: Aerial view of Yeadon cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 42: Image of Yeadon cemetery (commonwealth war graves, 2024)

fig 43: Yeadon cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 44: Yeadon cemetery lodge (find a grave, 2009)

Yeadon cemetery opened in 1875 and plots are still available for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 22,000 sqm and is 9.4 miles away from Leeds city centre. This cemetery is in the countryside on the edge of the town of Yeadon, it is also very close to the Leeds Bradford airport and is regularly used by people who plane watch. Visitors of the cemetery say the plane watchers make it difficult to have a suitable place to grieve. The cemetery has a very simple entrance with a metal gate and has a simple grid layout.

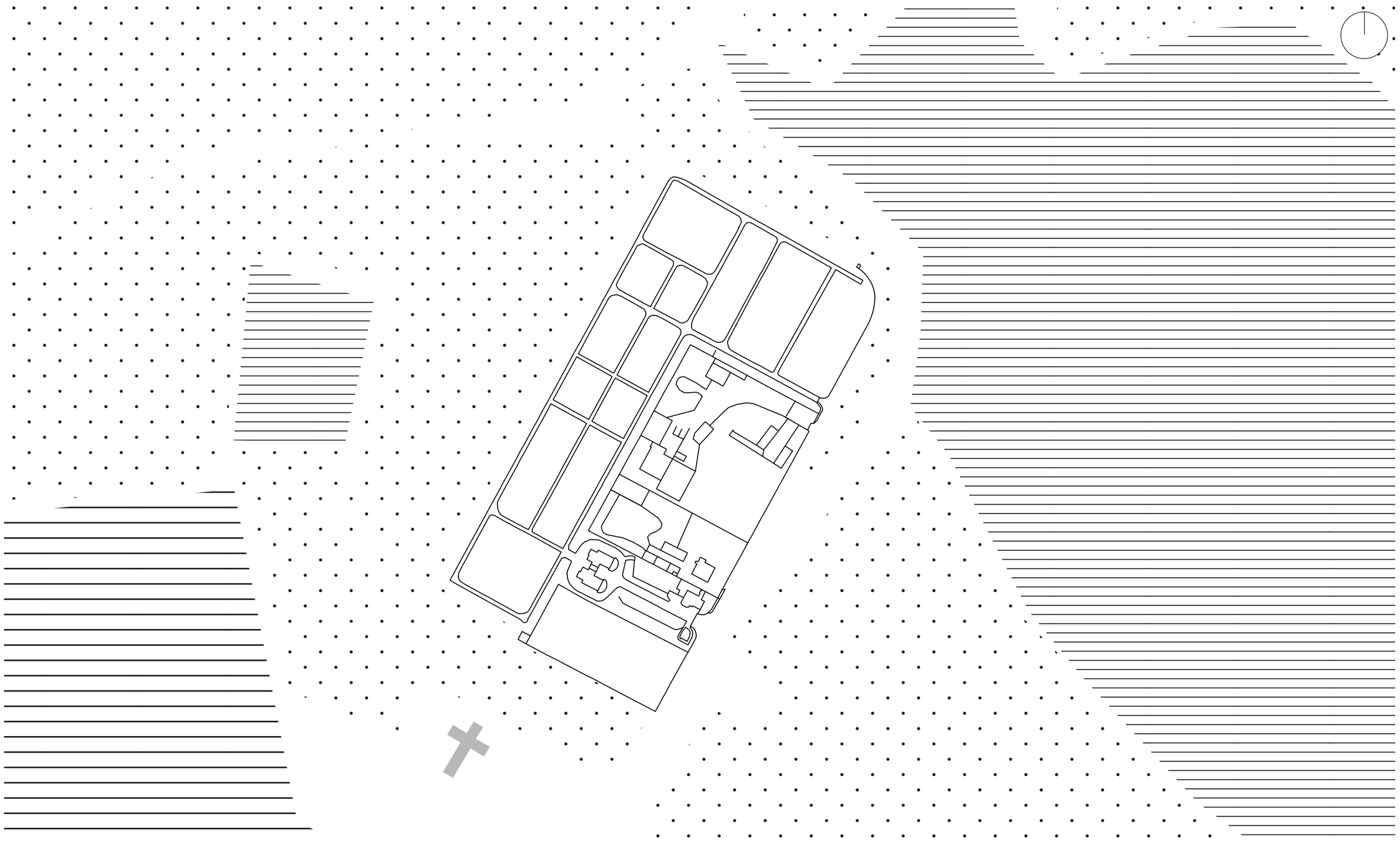


fig 107: map of Yeadon Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Yeadon 1875

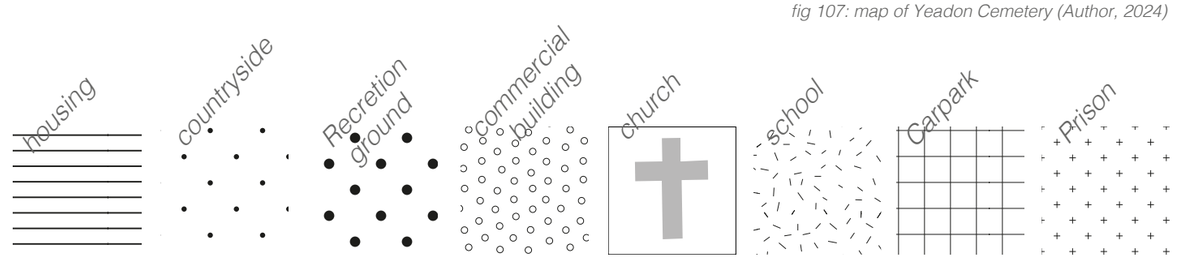


fig 45: Aerial view of Lawnswood cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 46: Image of Lawnswood cemetery (Heeks, 2013)

fig 47: Image of Lawnwood cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 48: Image of Lawnswood cemetery lodge (British listed buildings, 2024)

Lawnswood cemetery opened in 1876 and the attached crematorium opened in 1905, (10 years after the first cremation in the UK) (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 224,000 sqm and is 4.1 miles north of Leeds city centre and is in a suburban area, next to a main road. The cemetery is laid out in a curved grid formation, this is because it was built around the time that cemeteries were used for high class leisure. There is a friends of Lawnswood cemetery group which was set up in 2011 who take care of the 53 acre site alongside Leeds city council. (cemetery F. o., 2013)

fig 108: map of Lawnswood Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lawnswood 1876

housing
countryside
Recretion ground
commercial building
church
school
Carpark
Prison

fig 49: Aerial view of Whitkirk cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 50: Image of Whitkirk cemetery (commonwealth war graves, 2024)

fig 51: Whitkirk cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 52

Whitkirk cemetery opened in 1881 and is closed to burials (Leeds city council, 2024). This cemetery covers an area of 11,000 and is 4.4 miles east of Leeds city centre in a suburban area and next to a recreation ground. It is also next to St Mary's church and graveyard which means it could have been placed here as an extension an already existing burial ground. It is made up on one section which has a pathway around the outside.

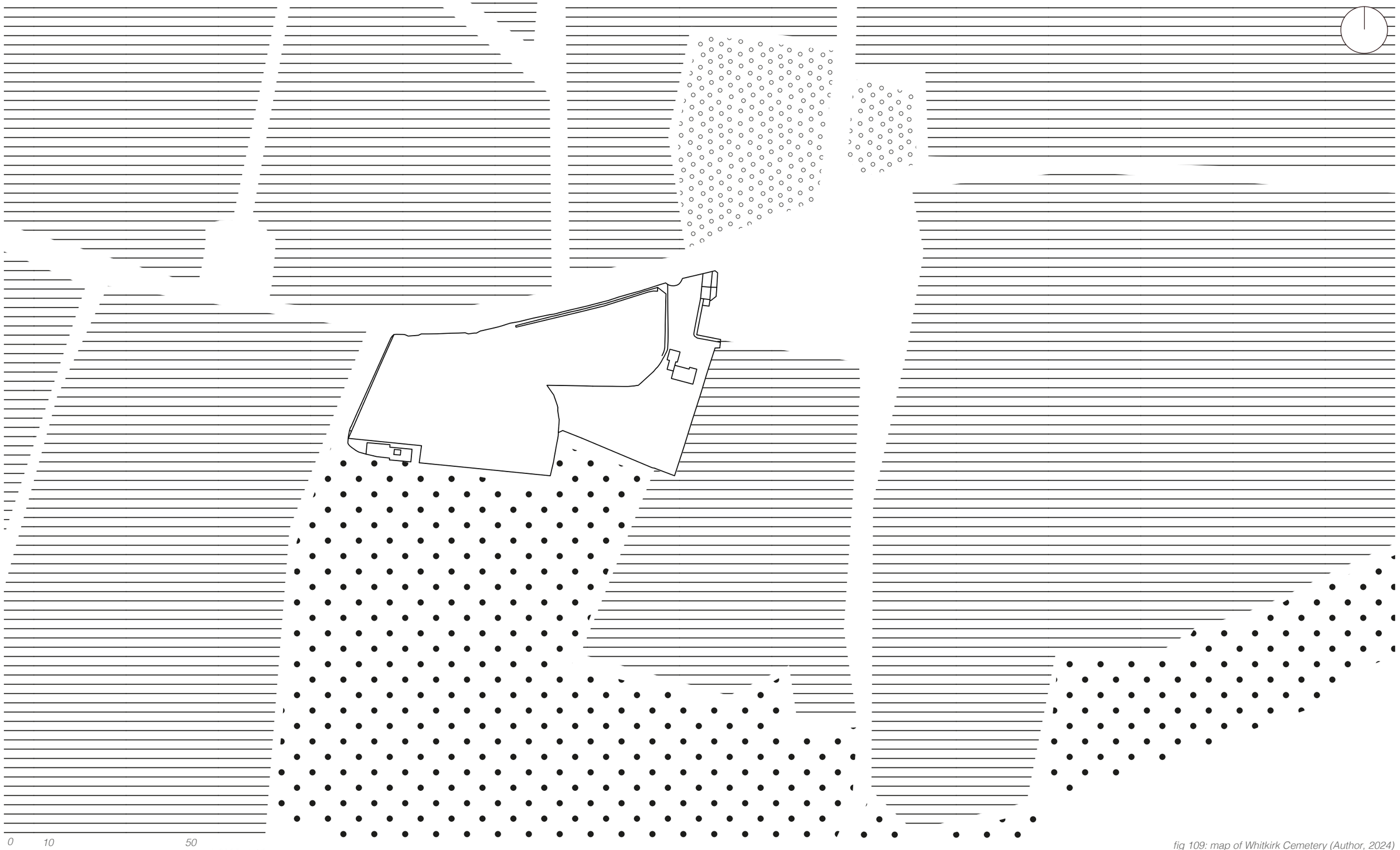


fig 109: map of Whitkirk Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Whitkirk 1881

housing
countryside
Recretion ground
commercial building
church
school
Carpark
Prison

fig 53: Aerial view of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 54: Image of Armley Hill top cemetery (geograph, 2024)

fig 55: Armley Hill top cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 56: Armley Hill top cemetery lodge (Kath K, 2019)

Armley Hill top cemetery opened in 1892 and is still available for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 47,000 sqm and is 3 miles west of Leeds city centre and next to St Marys hospital, in a suburban area. The general cemetery is laid out in a grid formation, but the entrance has curved pathways. The curved pathways lead to a disused chapel and most of the burial plots are behind the chapel.

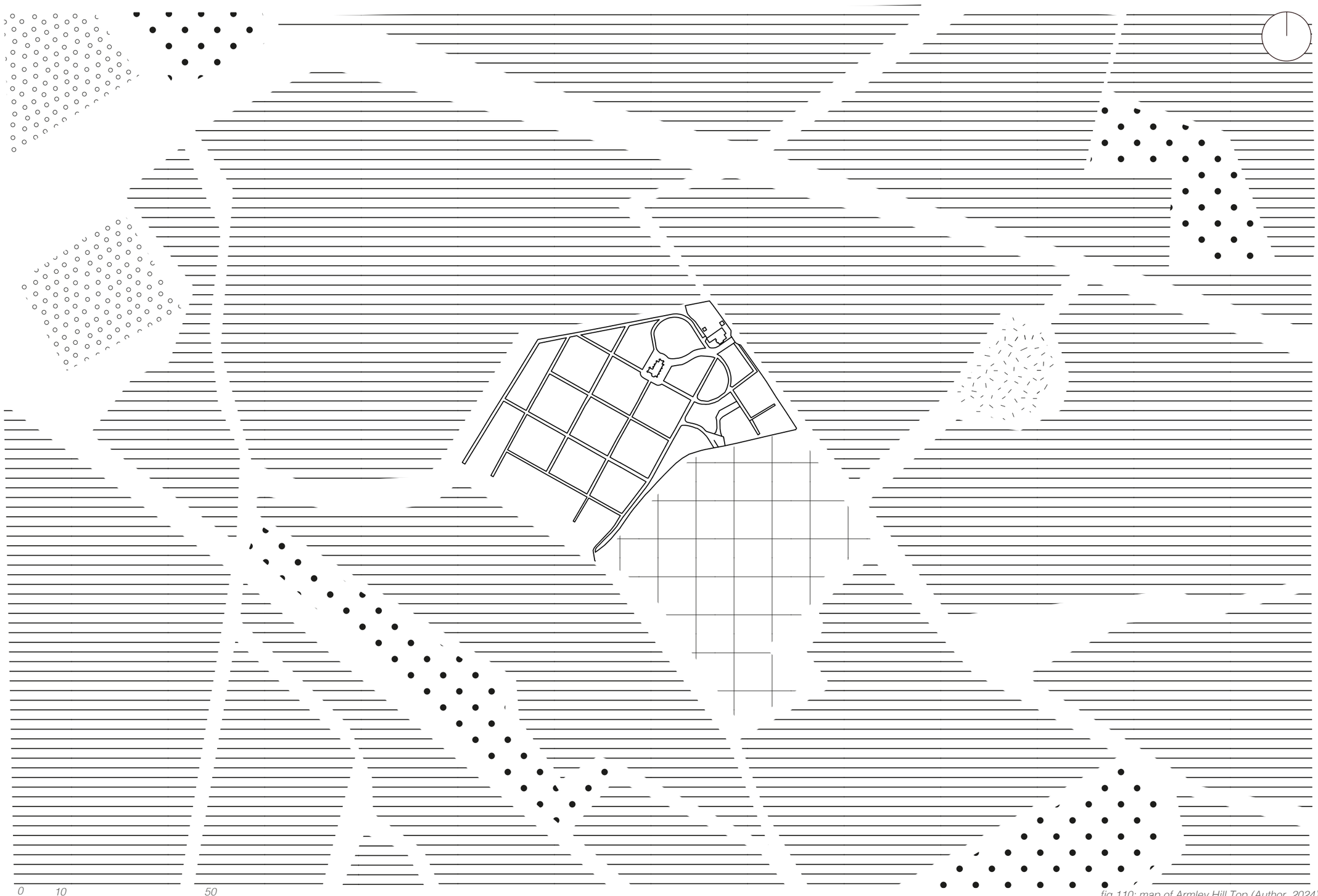


fig 110: map of Armley Hill Top (Author, 2024)

Armley Hill Top 1892

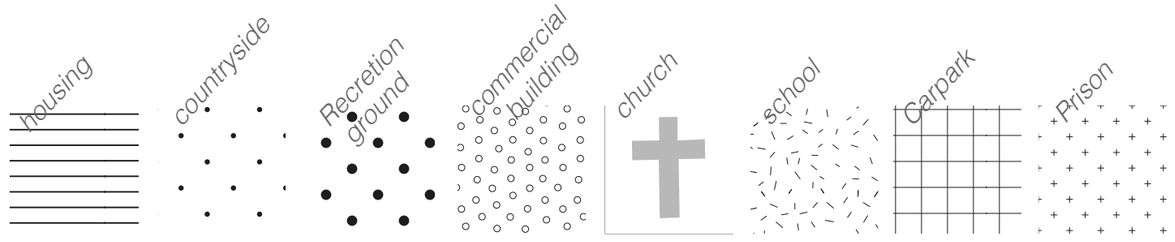


fig 57: Aerial view of Horsforth cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 58: Image of Horsforth cemetery (Commonwealth war graves, 2024)

fig 59: Image of Horsforth cemetery entrance (Google, 2024)
fig 60: Image of Horsforth cemetery lodge (Geograph, 2024)

Horsforth cemetery opened in 1881 and has closed for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). This cemetery covers an area of 25,000 sqm and is 5.2 miles northwest of Leeds city centre in a suburban area and adjacent to a recreation ground. It has a disused chapel in the centre and a lodge next to the entrance. It is laid out in a grid formation, but the outer pathways are curved and treelined.

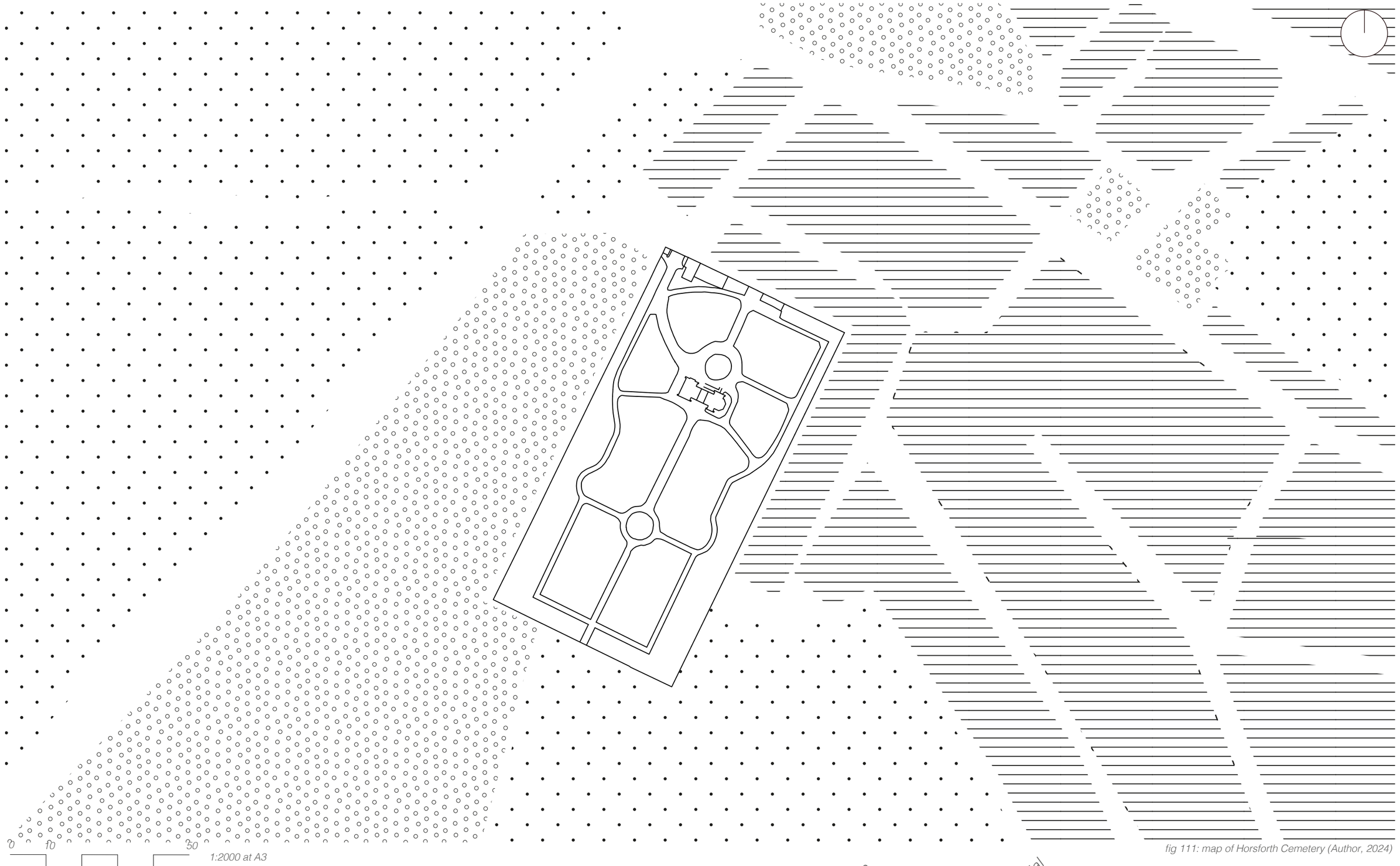


fig 111: map of Horsforth Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing
countryside
Recretion ground
commercial building
church
school
Carpark
Prison

Horsforth 1881

fig 61: Aerial view of Morley cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 62: Image of Morley cemetery (Geograph, 2024)

fig 63: Morley cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 64: Morley cemetery lodge (Google, 2024)

Morley cemetery opened in 1884 and still has available plots for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 44,000 sqm and is 5.9 miles southwest of Leeds city centre, close by to the M621 motorway and adjacent to an industrial estate and a school as well as being in a suburban area. There is a lodge next to the entrance and the cemetery is split into sections with curved pathways throughout.

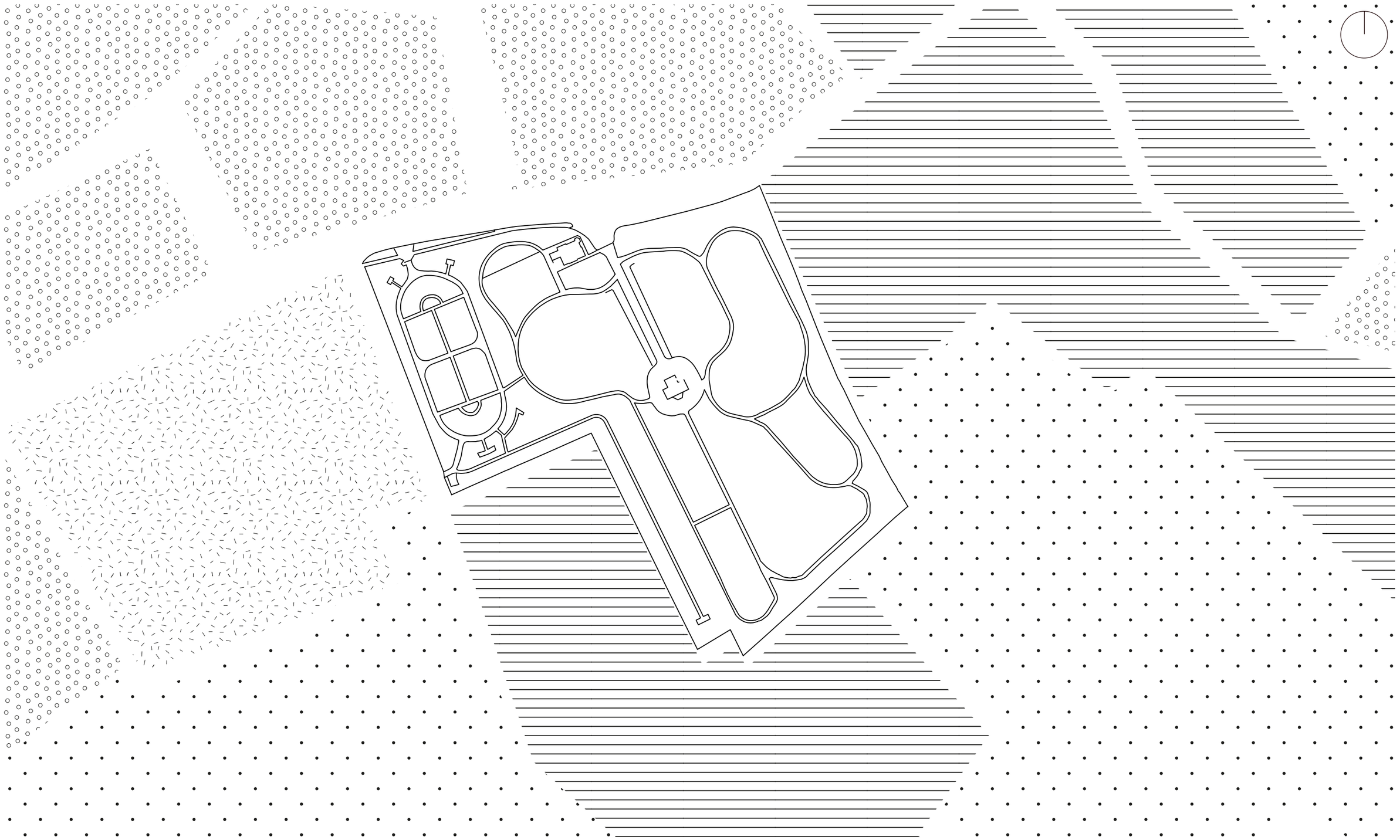


fig 112: map of Morley Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Morley *1884*

fig 65: Aerial view of Harehills cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 66: Image of Harehills cemetery (Geograph, 2024)

fig 67: Harehills cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 68: Harehills cemetery chapel (Hinson, 2024)

Harehills cemetery opened in 1908 and is currently full for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 186,000 sqm and is 2.6 miles east of Leeds city centre in a suburban area and adjacent to a recreation ground. The cemetery is close by to Beckett Street cemetery and St James' hospital (one of two main hospitals of Leeds). There is a disused cemetery chapel on the site, the cemetery is laid out in a grid formation and there are pathways throughout the site which are curved and treelined.

0 10 50

1:2000 at A3

fig 113: map of Harehills Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

Prison

Harehills 1908

fig 69: Aerial view of Garforth cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 70: Image of Garforth cemetery (Fenic funeral, 2023)

fig 71:Garforth cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 72:

Garforth cemetery opened in 1911 and is available for reservations for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 24,000 sqm and is 8 miles east of Leeds city centre, in a suburban area next to a recreation ground. It is worth noting that the town of Garforth is surrounded by countryside on the outskirts of Leeds. It is also next to St Marys church (Garforth) and graveyard, laid out in a grid formation with tree lined pathways.

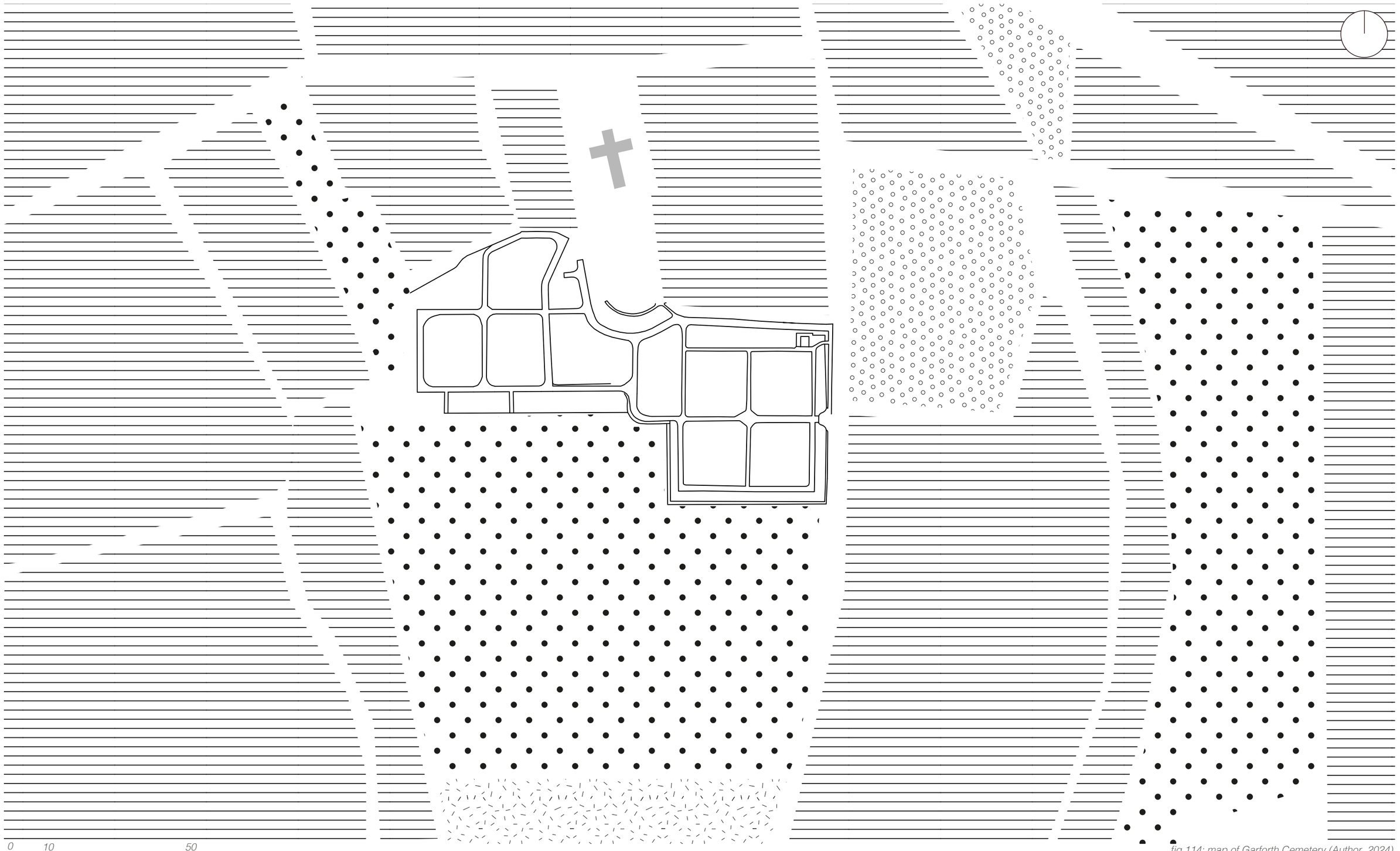


fig 114: map of Garforth Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Garforth 1911

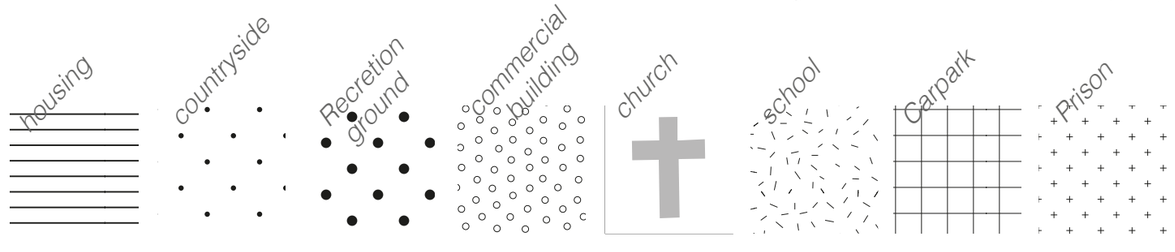
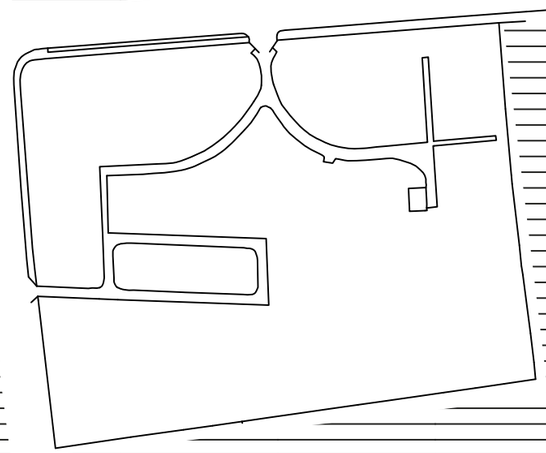


fig 73: Aerial view of Rothwell cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 74: Image of Rothwell Cemetery (Find a grave, 2015)

fig 75: Rothwell Cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 76:

Rothwell cemetery opened in 1918 and is currently available for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 19,000 sqm and is 7.1 miles away from Leeds city centre in a suburban area and next to a recreation ground. The cemetery has two arched pathways which divides it into 3 sections. It has a low wall which separated it from the adjacent pathway and road, this low wall makes it easily visible from the road.



0 10 50

1:2000 at A3

fig 115: map of Rothwell Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

Prison

Rothwell 1918

fig 77: Aerial view of Guiseley cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 78: Image of Guiseley cemetery (Commonwealth war graves, 2024)

fig 79: Guiseley cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 80

Guiseley cemetery opened in 1922 and is still open for reservations for burials(Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 16,000 sqm and is 10 miles northwest of Leeds city centre on the edge of the suburban town of Guiseley. The cemetery is surrounded by countryside as well as being straight after the last houses on the edge of the town. It is set in a simple grid formation and a few trees and a low wall which separates it from the countryside.

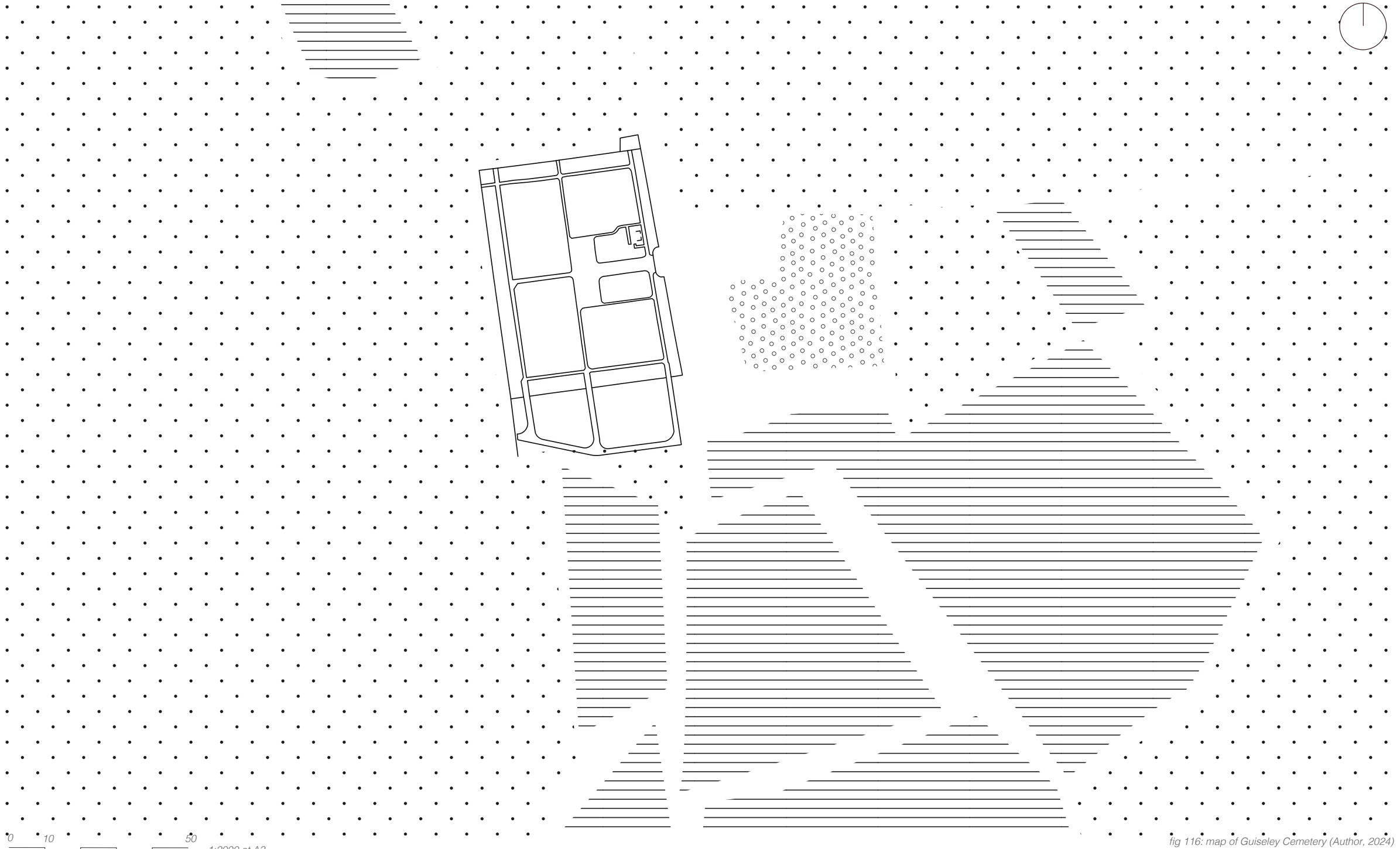


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fig 116: map of Guiseley Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing

countryside

Recretion ground

commercial building

church

school

Carpark

Prison

Guiseley 1922

fig 81: Aerial view of Lawnswood cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 82: Image of Lawnswood cemetery (google, 2024)

fig 83: Lawnswood cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 84

Lofthouse cemetery opened in 1932 and is still available for burial reservations (Leeds city council, 2024). This cemetery covers an area of 13,500 sqm and is 8 miles south from Leeds city centre in the rural town of Lofthouse. It is on the perimeter of the town next to housing and a recreation ground. It is set in a simple grid formation, and it is surrounded by a metal fence.

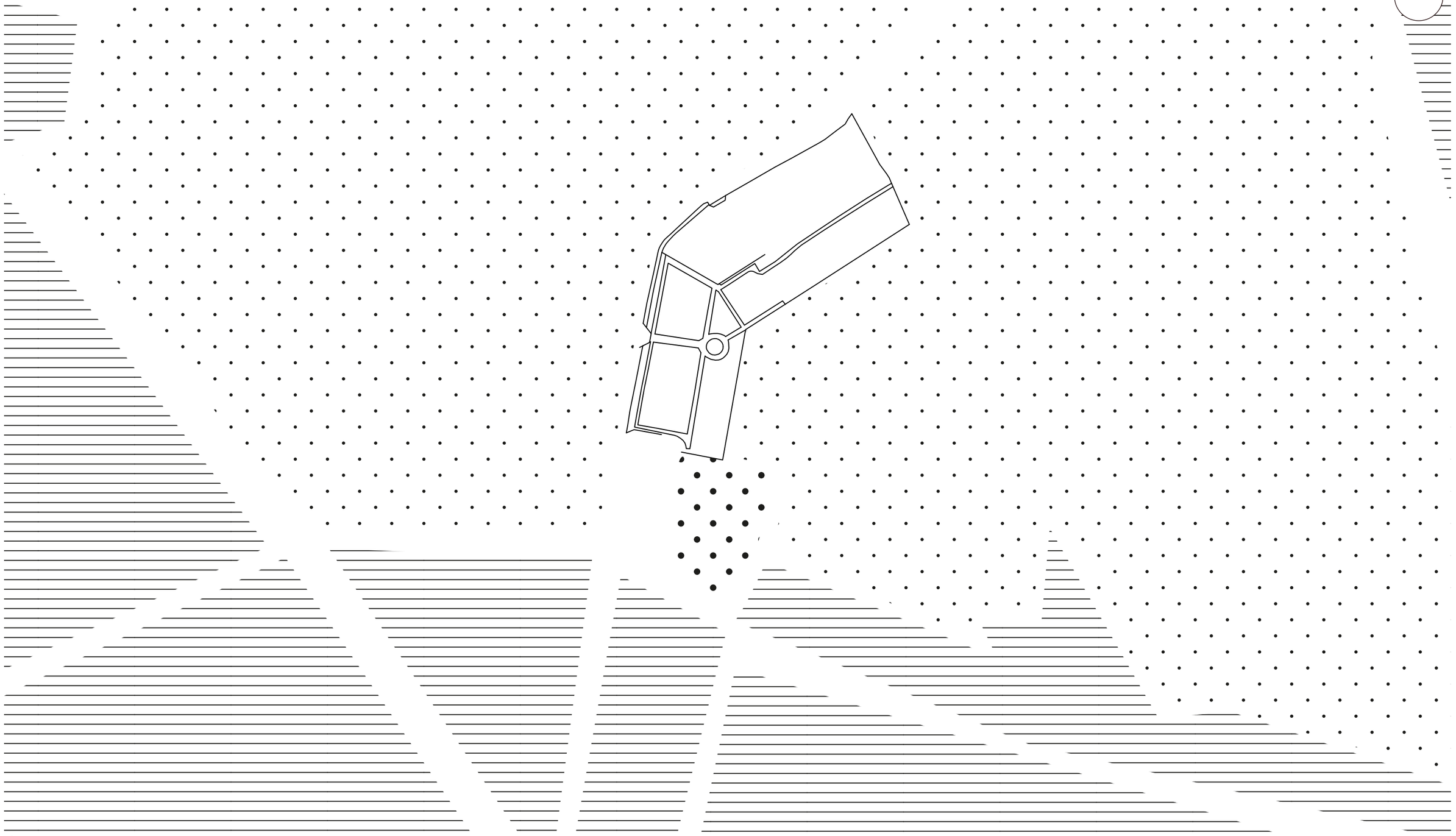


fig 117: map of Lofthouse Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse 1932

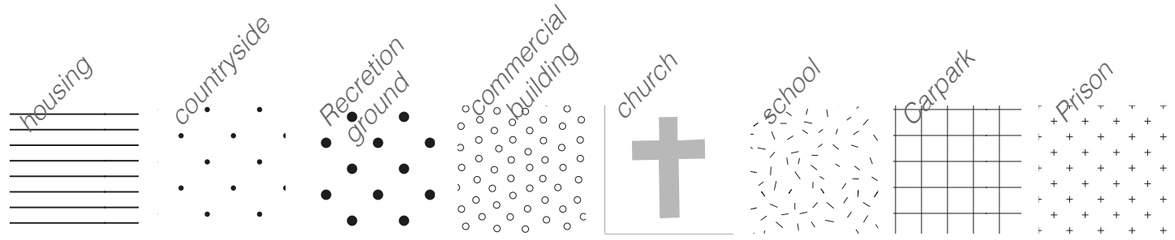


fig 85: Aerial view of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 86: Image showing Cottingley Hall cemetery (find a grave, 2015)

fig 87: Cottingley Hall cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 88: Cottingley Hall cemetery lodge (Wikipedia, 2017)

Cottingley Hall cemetery opened in 1938 and the attached crematorium opened a year before this in 1937 and still has availability for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 66,000 sqm and is 2.9 miles southwest from Leeds city centre. The It is in a suburban area, near a recreation ground and next to the m621 motorway. The cemetery itself is laid out in a simple grid formation. The crematorium is in the centre of the site and consists of two buildings which are separated by a garden, there is also a carpark.

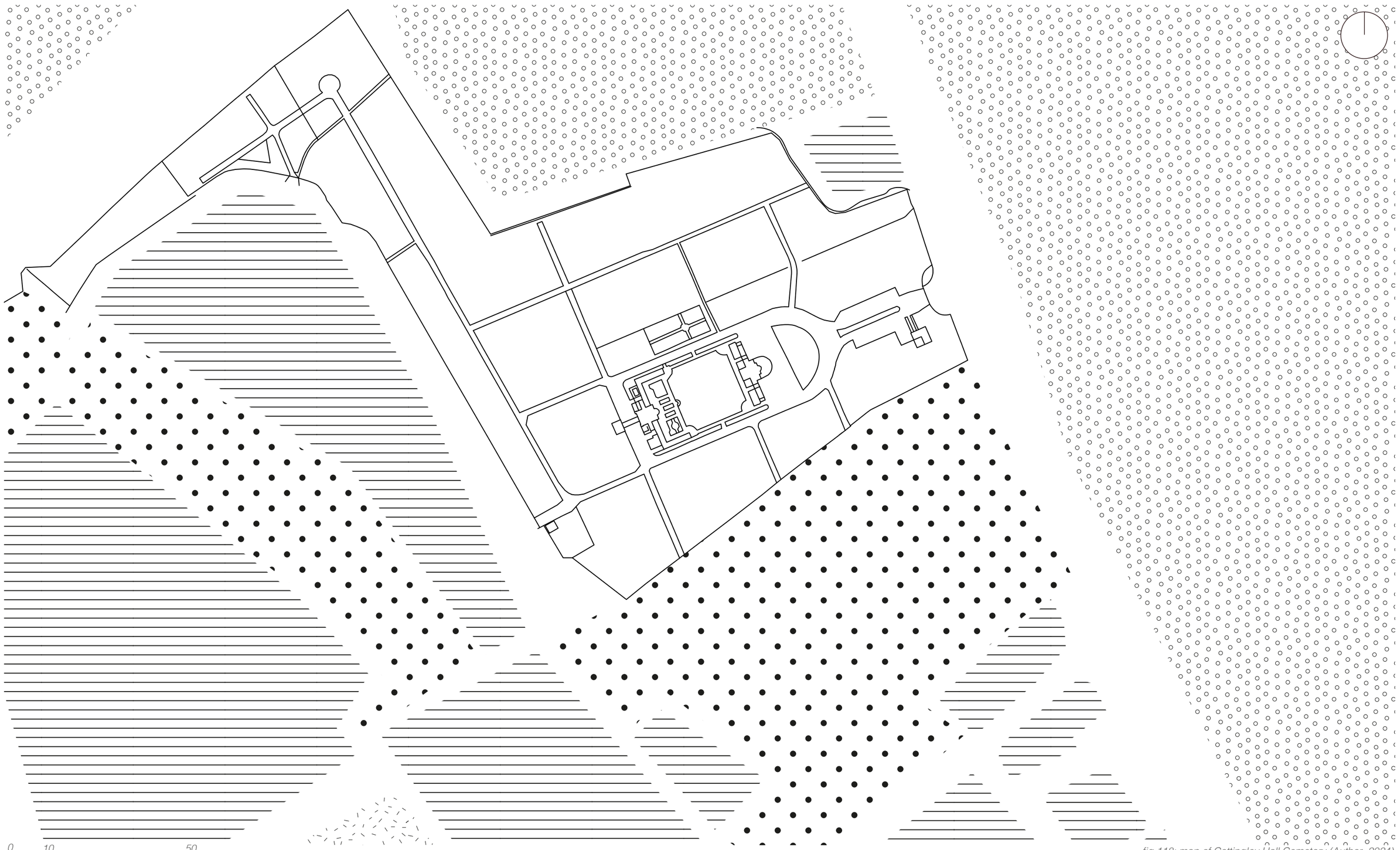


fig 118: map of Cottingley Hall Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cottingley Hall 1938

fig 89: Aerial view of Kippax cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 90: Image of Kippax cemetery (google, 2024)

fig 91: Kippax cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 92

Kippax cemetery opened in 2013 and currently has availability for burial reservations (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 11,000 sqm and is 8.9 miles east of Leeds city centre. It opened in 2013 and is in the suburban area of Kippax which is surrounded by countryside. It is enclosed by a recreation ground, a primary school and housing. The cemetery is in two halves which are split by a small road. The larger of the two sides is set in a simple grid formation.

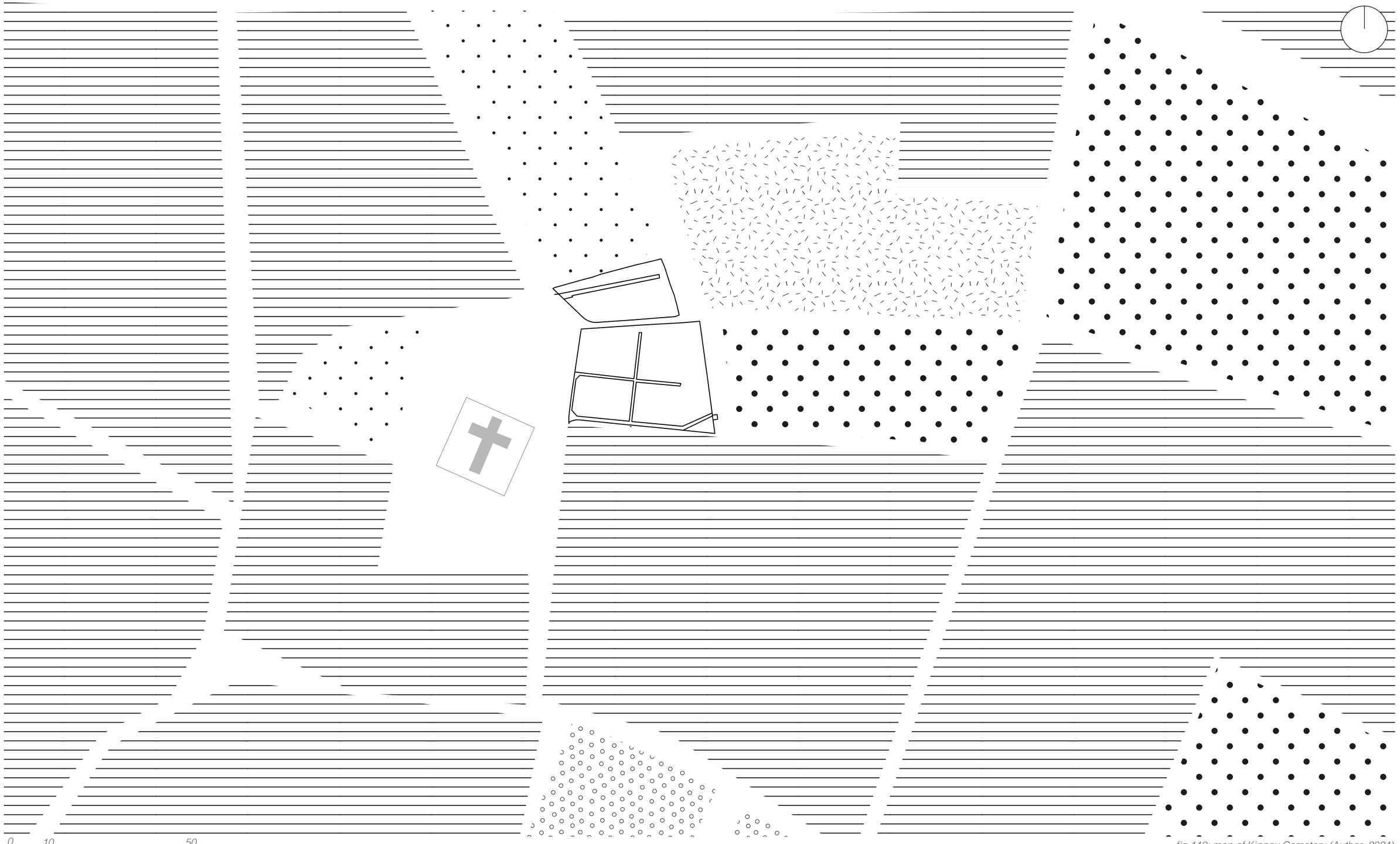


fig 119: map of Kippax Cemetery (Author, 2024)

Kippax 2013

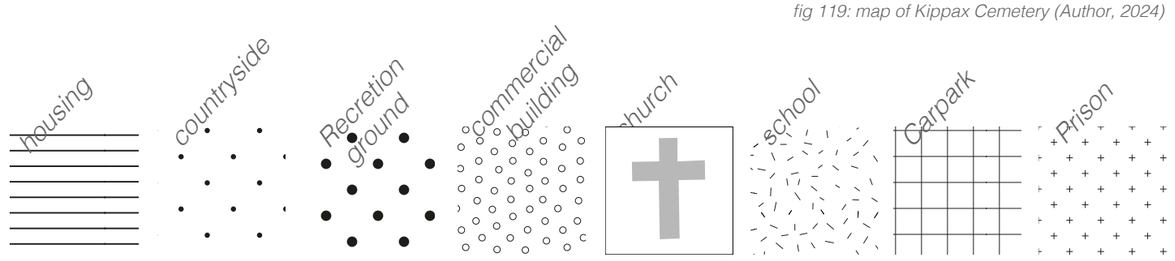
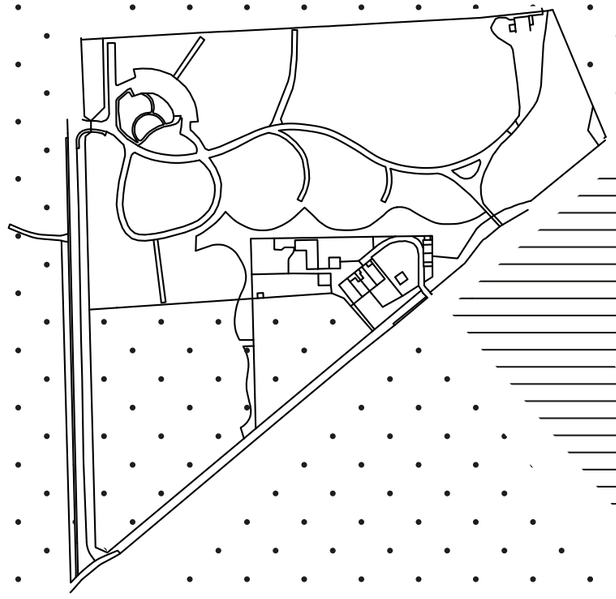


fig 93: Aerial view of Whinmoor cemetery (Google 2024)
fig 94: Image of Whinmoor cemetery (google, 2024)

fig 95: Whinmoor cemetery entrance (google, 2024)
fig 96

Whinmoor cemetery opened in 2013 and has currently has availability for burials (Leeds city council, 2024). It covers an area of 50,000 sqm and is 6 miles northeast of Leeds city centre on the outskirts of the town of Whinmoor. The cemetery is surrounded by countryside and separated from the town of Whinmoor by a main road and quarry. This site is the only public cemetery in Leeds which has specific plots allocated for Muslin burials, this follows a request from the association of Leeds mosques. (bbc, 2023) The cemetery is divided into sections by curved pathways and Is separated from the adjacent road by rows of trees.



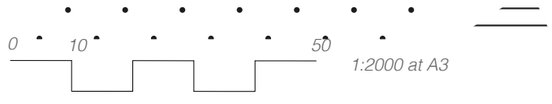
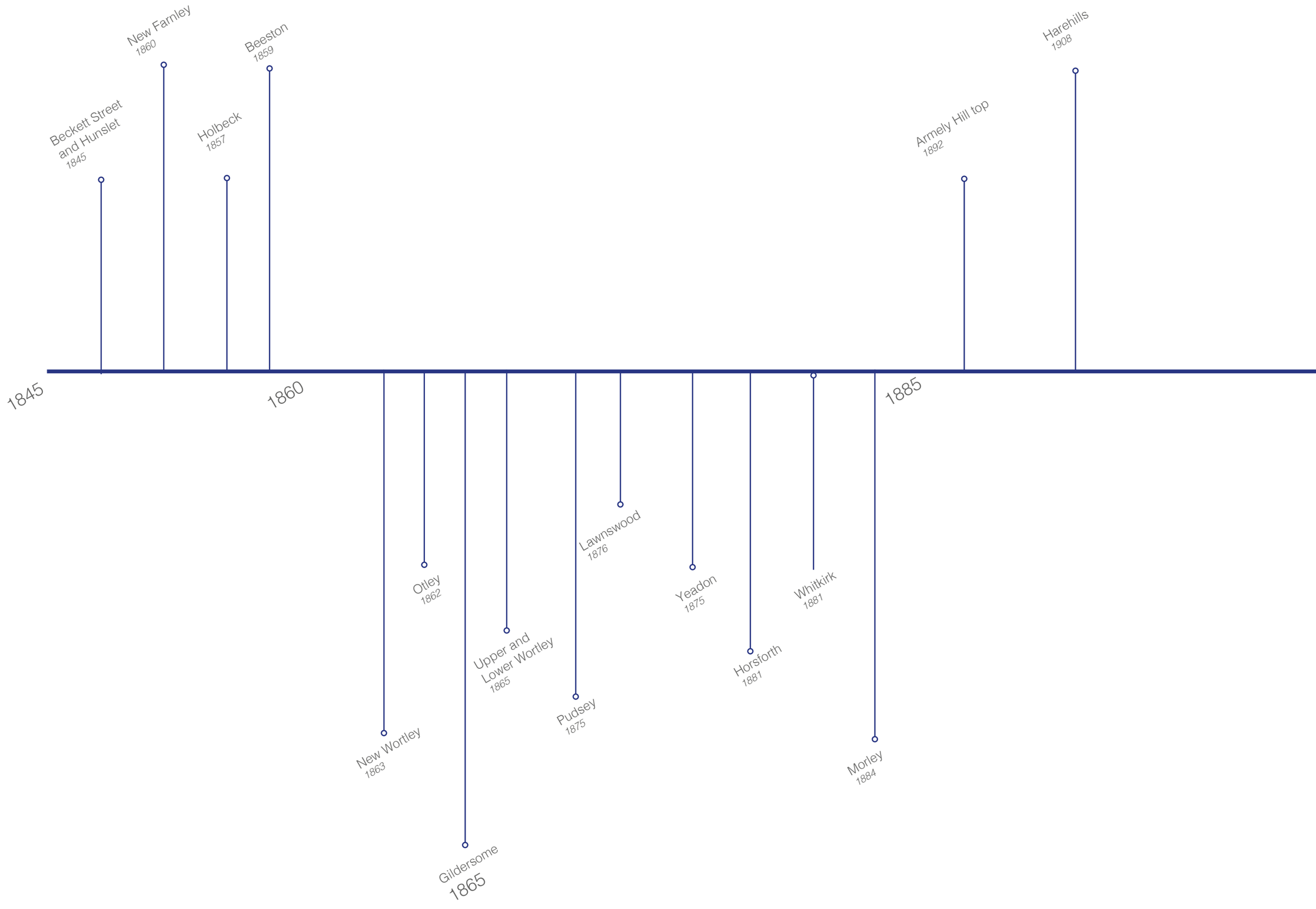


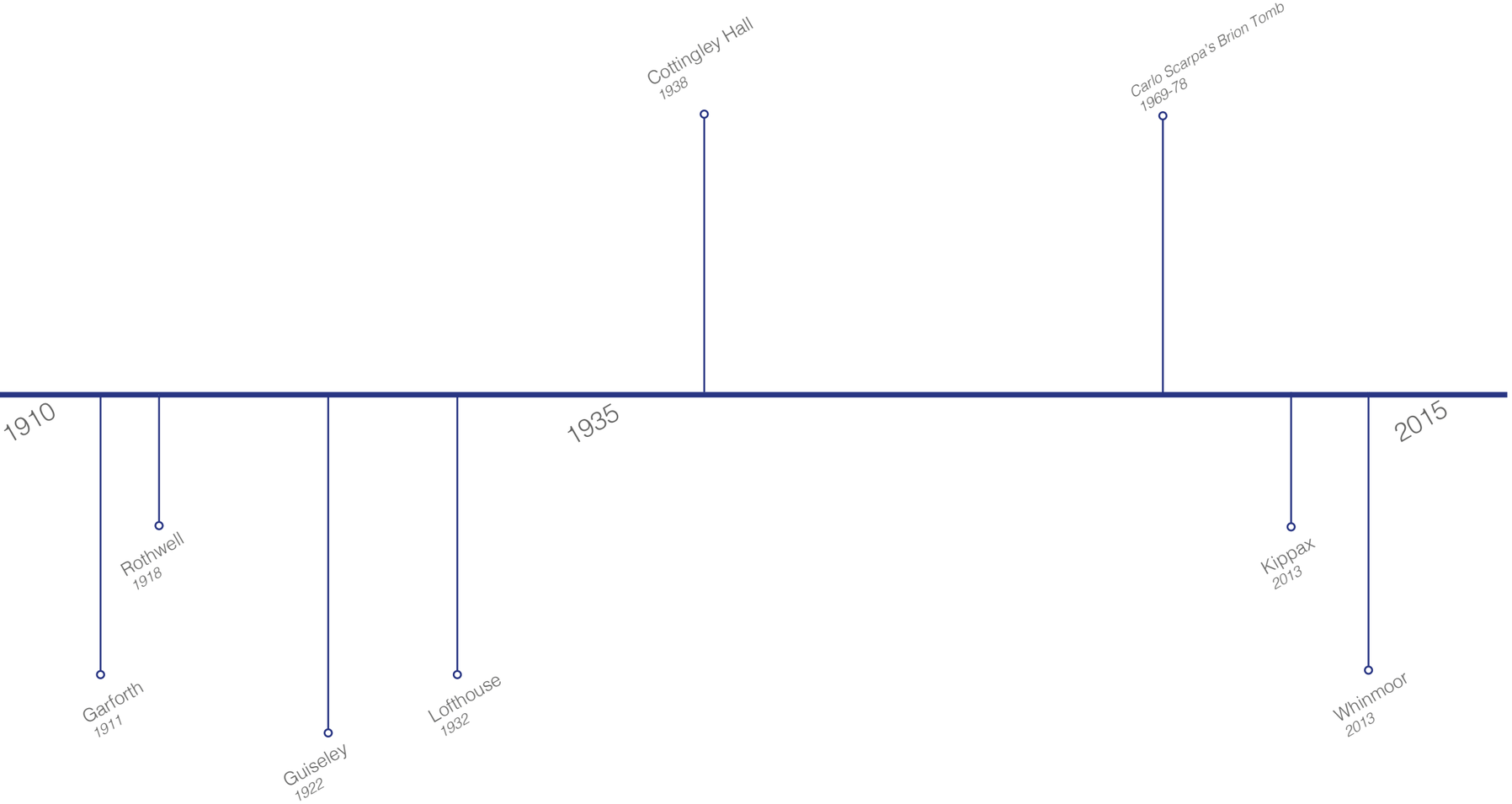
fig 120: map of Whinmoor Cemetery (Author, 2024)

housing
countryside
Recretion ground
commercial building
church
school
Carpark
Prison

Whinmoor 2013

Timeline of the when the municipal cemeteries in Leeds opened

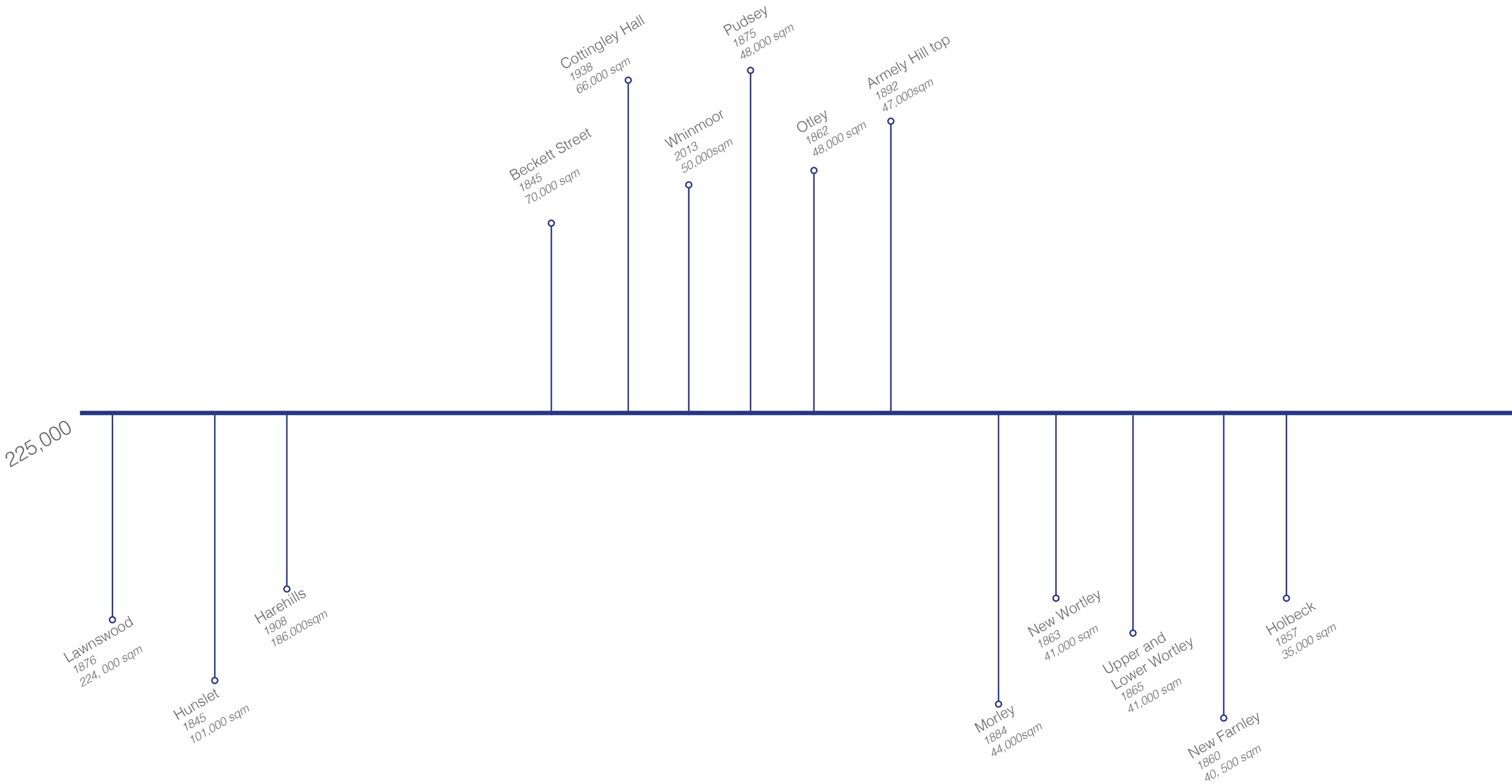


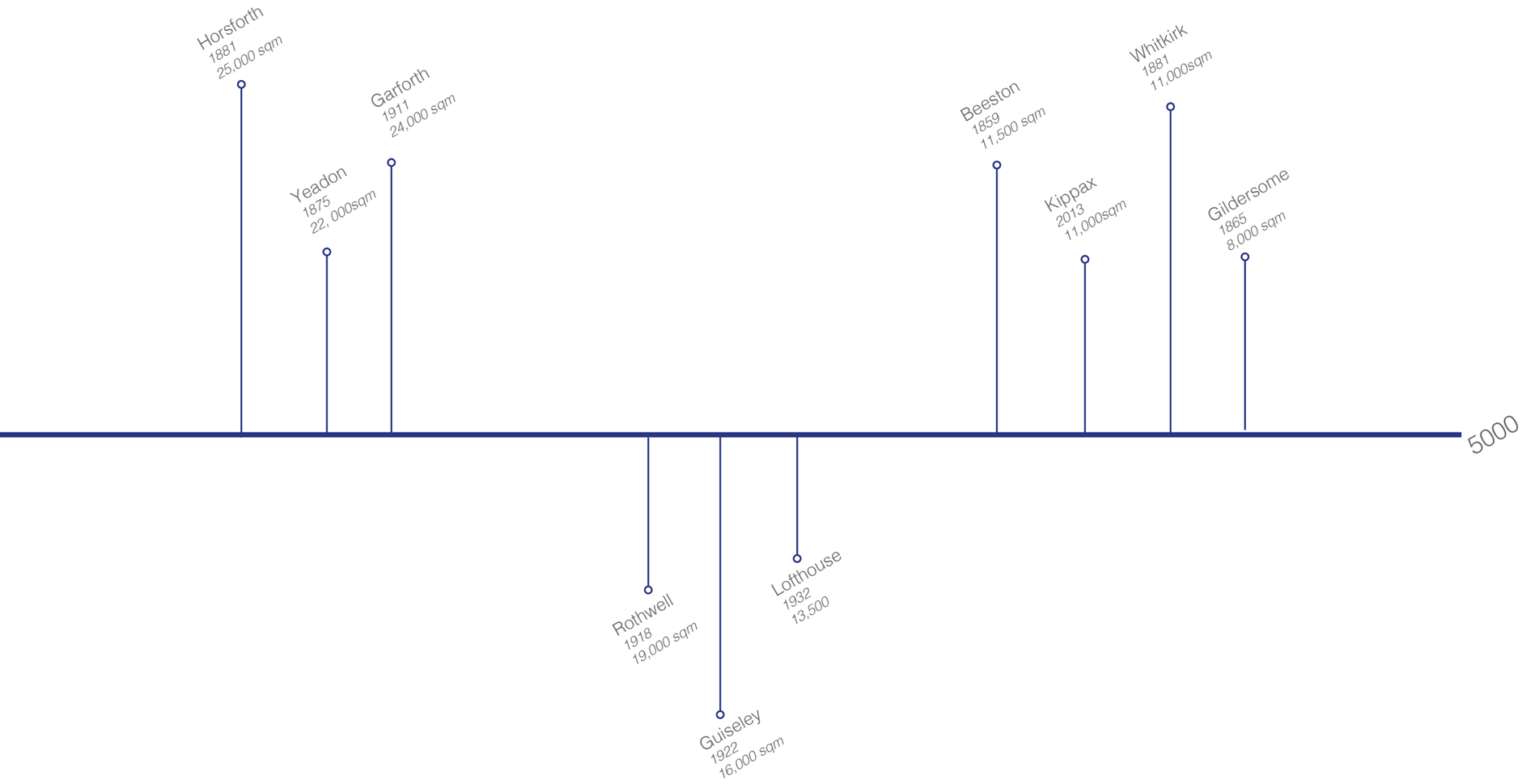


The cemeteries which are closer to the city centre are generally the older ones and the cemeteries which are furthest away are the newer ones.

The first cemeteries were built in four years between 1845 and 1859, followed by a gap of four years until most of the cemeteries were built in a period of 30 years, between 1863 and 1884. After this a gap of six years was between Morley and Armley Hill top until 16 years later between 1911 and 1938 five cemeteries were built. Finally, after a large gap of 75 years Kippax and Whinmoor were built most recently in 2013.

size of cemetery (sqm)





Through comparing the timeline and the information given about the size of the cemeteries we can see: The biggest cemeteries are Beckett street (224,000 sqm) Hunslet (and Lawnswood, this directly correlates to the time they were built as they have been the open the longest out of the total of 24 therefore had the most time for people to request burials there.

The smallest are Gilersome (8000 sqm), Whitkirk and Kippax (both 11,000 sqm). Gildersome is the exception to the rule as it is the smallest, but it opened in 1865 which makes it one of the oldest cemeteries. This cemetery was placed next to a church graveyard so therefore space was limited. The same also applies to Whitkirk, it is an older cemetery but also placed next to a church graveyard whereas as Kippax is the newest cemetery, built in 2013 it has the least opportunity for burial applications therefore the smallest amount of space is occupied by burials.

Distance from the city centre

Leeds city centre

1.5 miles

2.5 miles

3 miles

5.5 miles

Harehills
1908
2.6 miles

Beeston
1859
2.6 miles

Cottingley Hall
1938
2.9 miles

Armely Hill top
1892
3 miles

Horsforth
1881
5.2 miles

Gildersome
1865
5.5 miles

New Wortley
1863
1.9 miles

Upper and Lower Wortley
1865
2 miles

Beckett Street
1845
2 miles

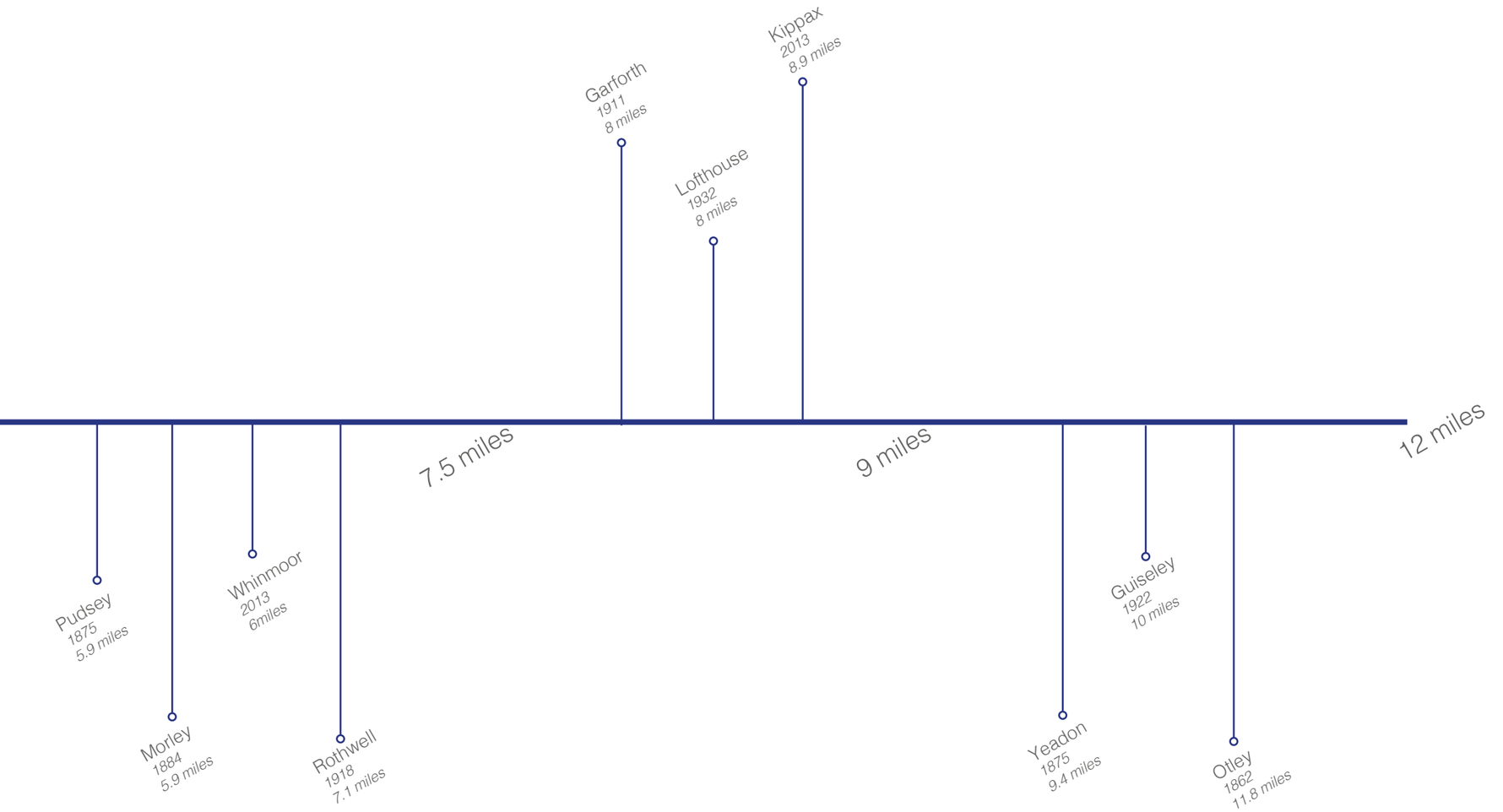
Holbeck
1857
2.3

Hunslet
1845
4.1 miles

Lawnswood
1876
4.1 miles

New Farnley
1860
4.2 miles

Whitkirk
1881
4.4 miles



This section summarises the findings between the map and the timeline, we can clearly see that cemeteries built earlier on are closer to the city centre that the newer cemeteries.

Cottingley Hall, one of the newest cemeteries which was built in 1938 does not comply to this explanation as it is close to the city centre at 2.9 miles away. As this cemetery has a crematorium attached it could be said that the intention when building this site was to be making the crematorium available to the wider population of the city.

There are cemeteries such as Whinmoor (2013), Lofthouse (1932) and Guiseley (1922), which are on the edge of the towns directly after the last rows of houses. It could be said that they were they designed to be as close as possible to the houses so that they felt like a continuation of the town. If they were intended to be in a countryside setting, then they would be further into the countryside.

Through comparing dates and locations of the cemeteries within the towns in which they are set we can see that the cemeteries which were built pre 1908 are located within the towns, nearby other town centre amenities such as schools, shops and recreation grounds. Then when we look at the cemeteries which opened post 1908 we can see that the majority are located on the outskirts of the towns in the countryside. An alternative explanation of this could be that the newer cemeteries are generally located in more towns which are further away from the city centre and therefore in more rural locations. The exceptions to this rule are Yeadon (1875), Otley (1862) and which are 9.4 and 11.8 miles away from Leeds city centre. (reason)

An explanation for this could be If they were built earlier on, land could have been prioritised within the town centres, but later cemeteries needed to be built on the outskirts of towns where land was available.

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

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Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Maps and images of cemeteries in ascending date order

Scale bar and key

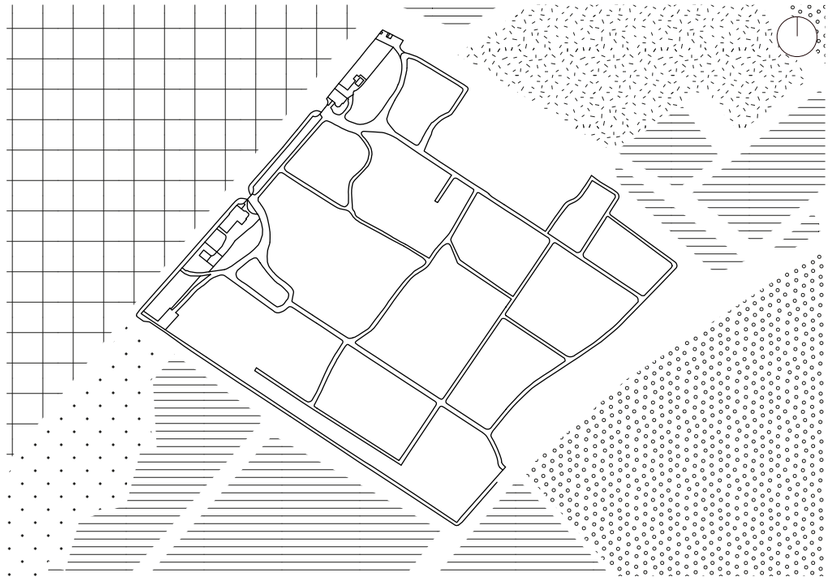


Fig 121: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beckett Street
1845

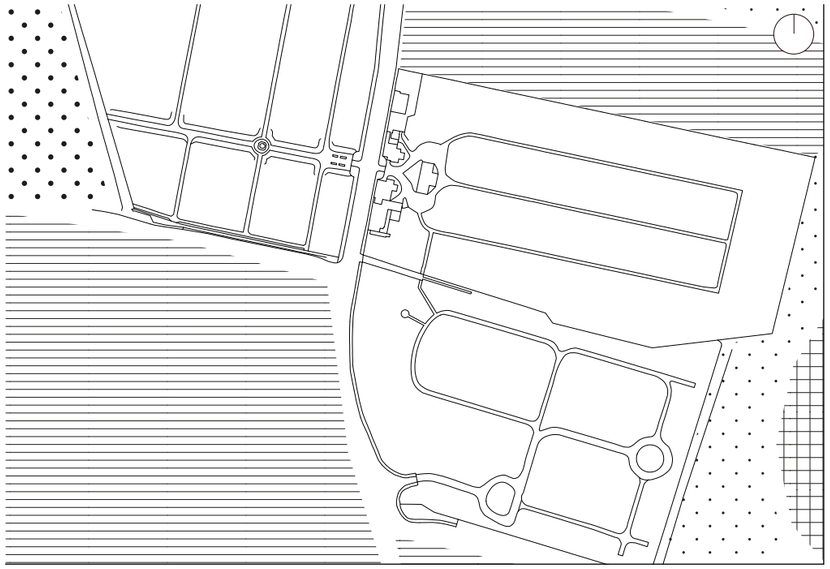


Fig 122: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

Hunslet
1845

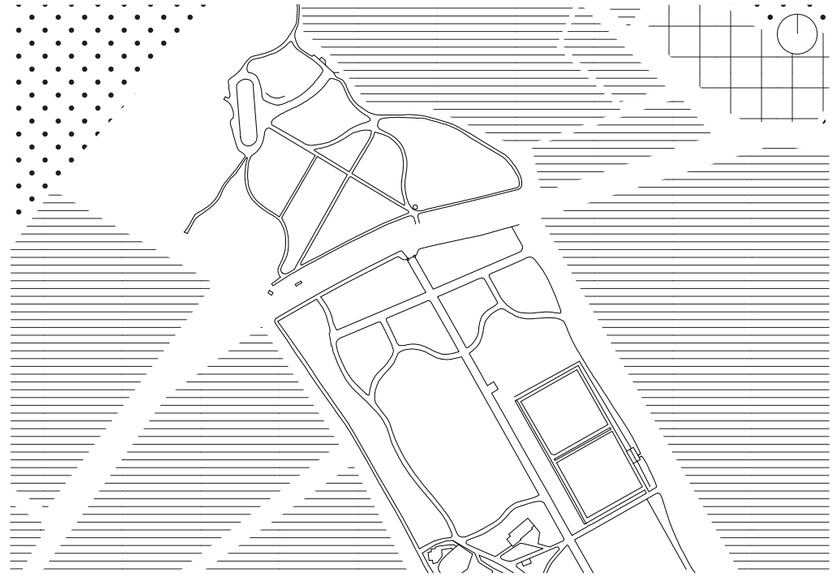


Fig 123: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)

Holbeck
1857

Fig 127: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Wortley
1863

Fig 128: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome
1865

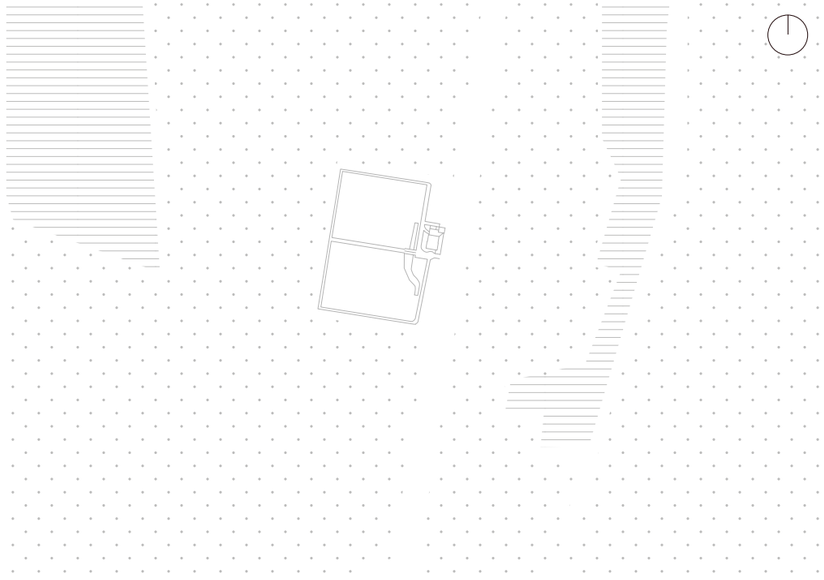
Fig 129: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Cemeteries with a curved layout

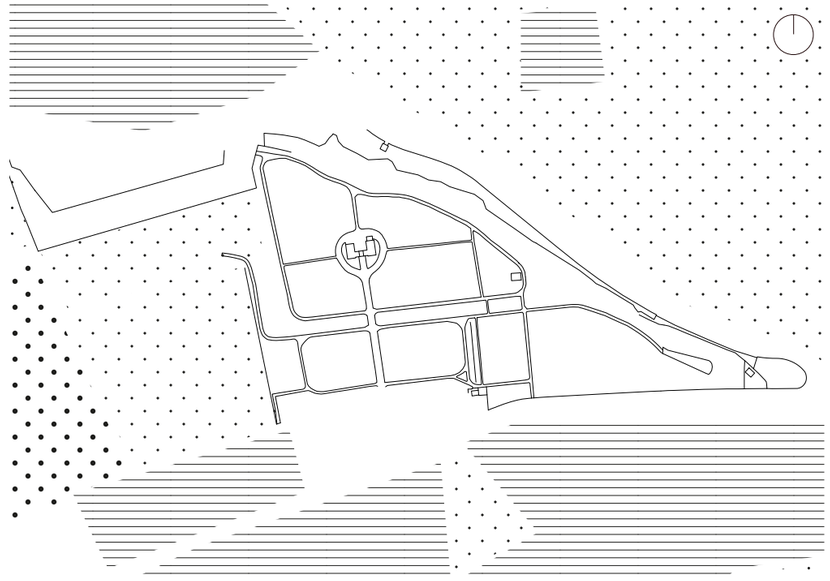
Beeston
1859

Fig 124: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)



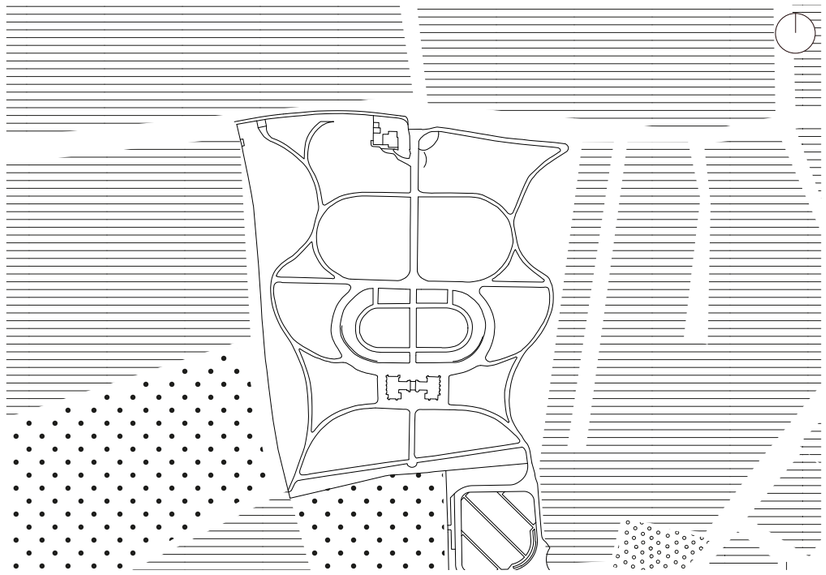
New Farnley
1860

Fig 125: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)



Otley
1862

Fig 126: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)

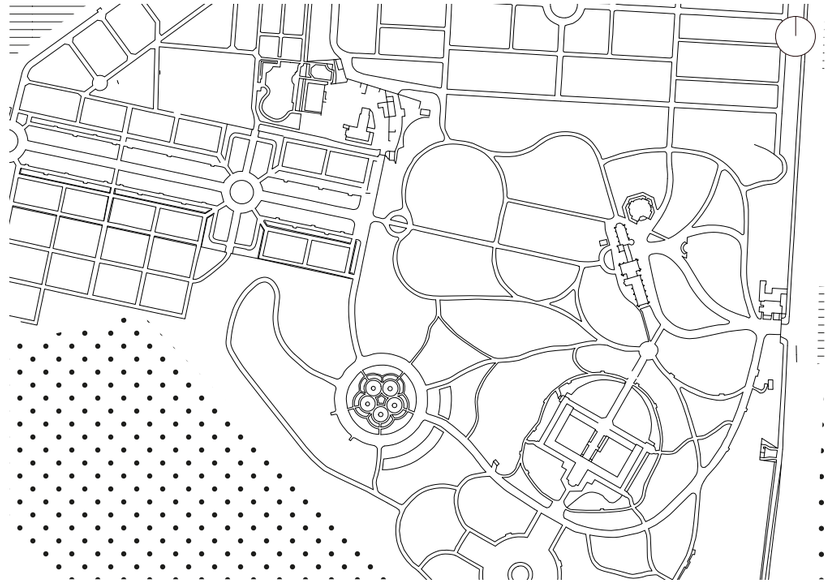


Pudsey
1875

Fig 130: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)

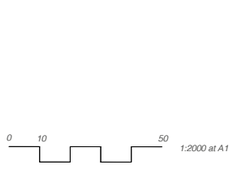
Yeadon
1875

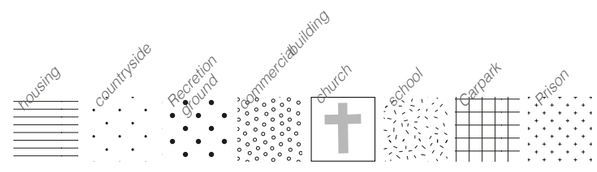
Fig 131: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)



Lawnswood Cremetorium
1876 *added in 1905*

Fig 132: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)



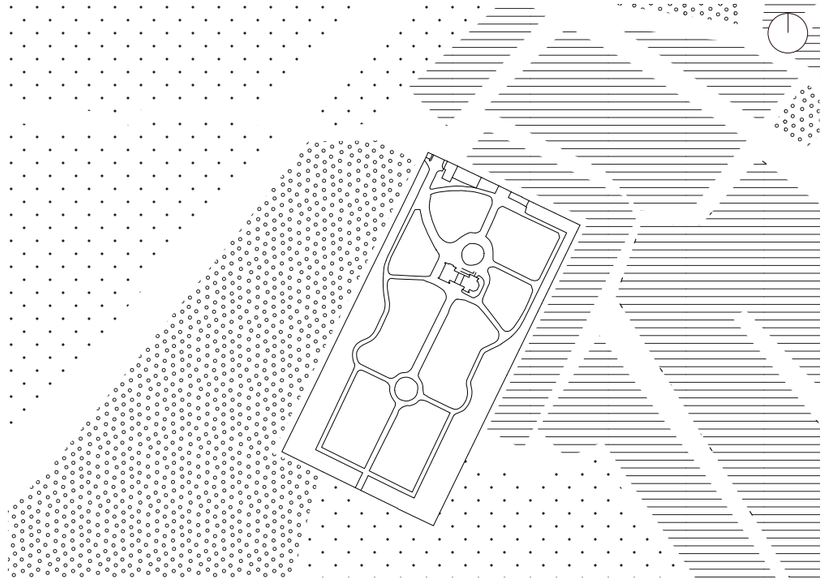


Whitkirk
1881

Fig 133: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)

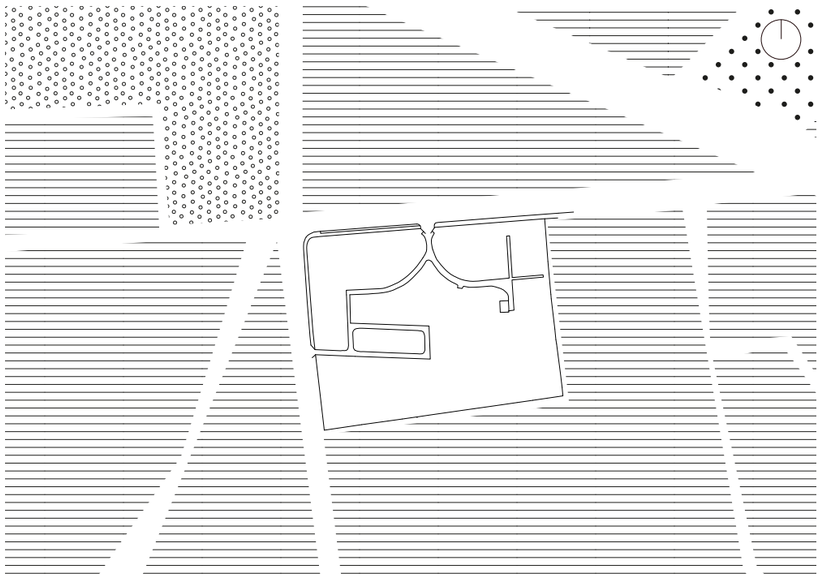
Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 134: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)



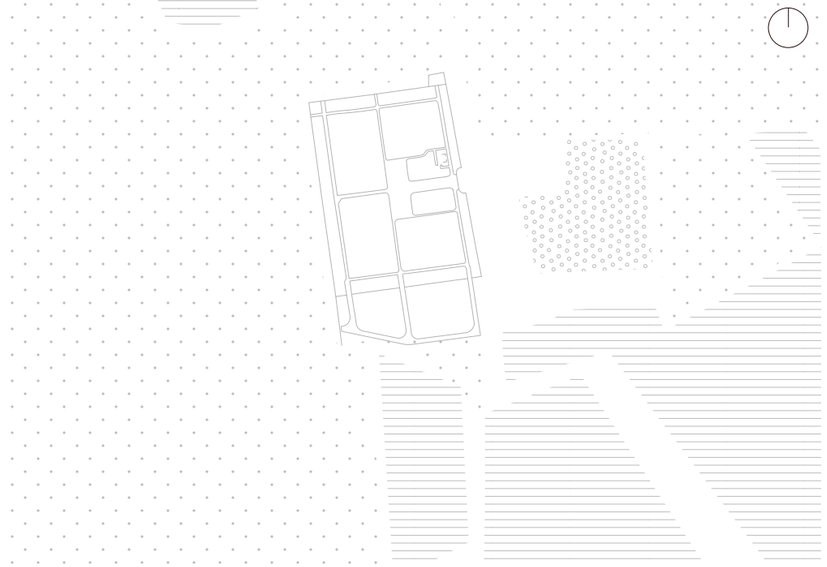
Horsforth (cremetorium)
1881

Fig 135: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)



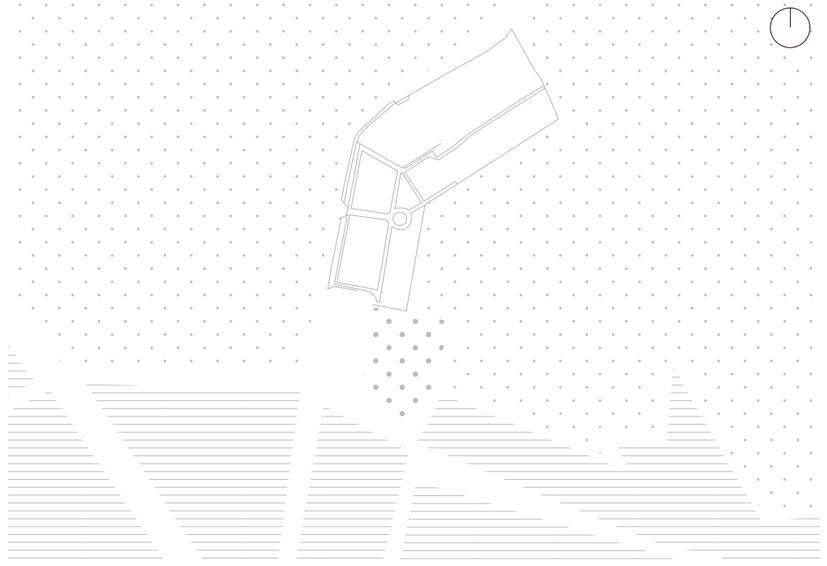
Rothwell
1918

Fig 139: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)



Guiseley
1922

Fig 140: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)



Lofthouse
1932

Fig 141: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries with a curved layout

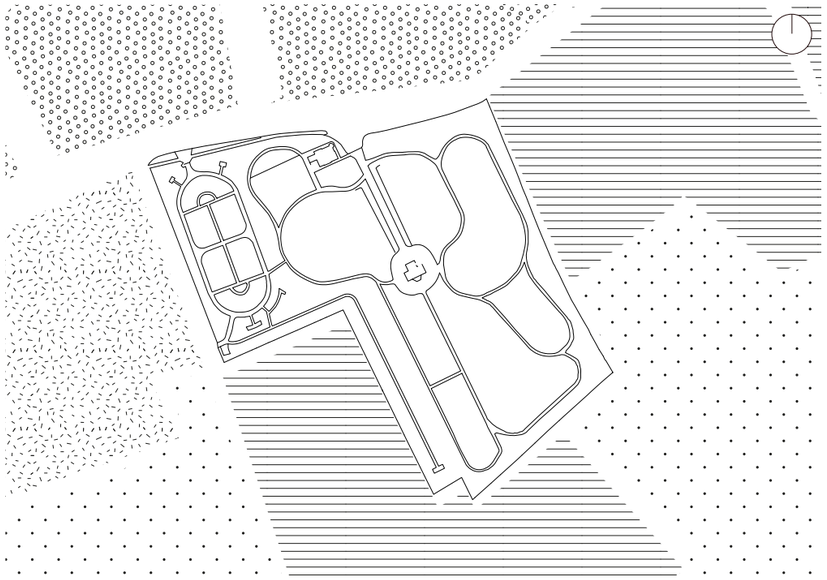


Fig 136: Map of Morley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Morley
1884

Fig 137: Map of Harehills cemetery (Author, 2024)

Harehills
1908

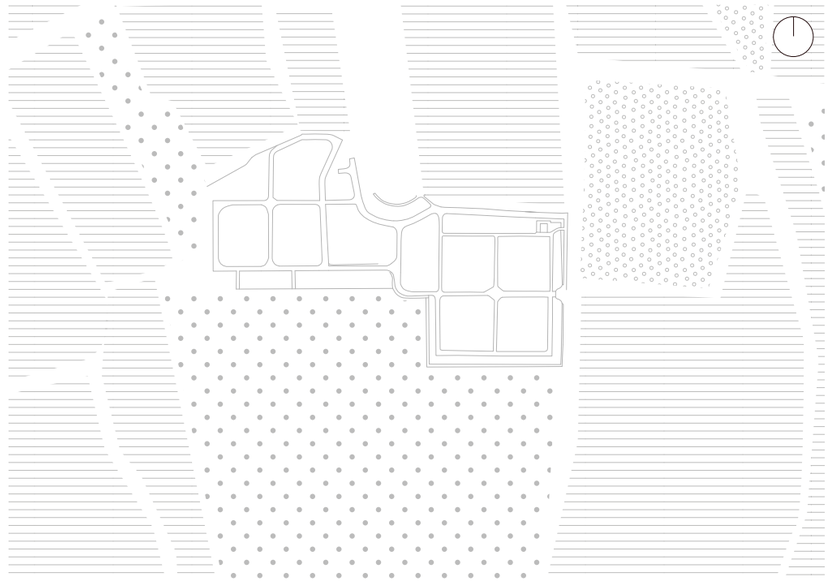


Fig 138: Map of Garforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Garforth
1911

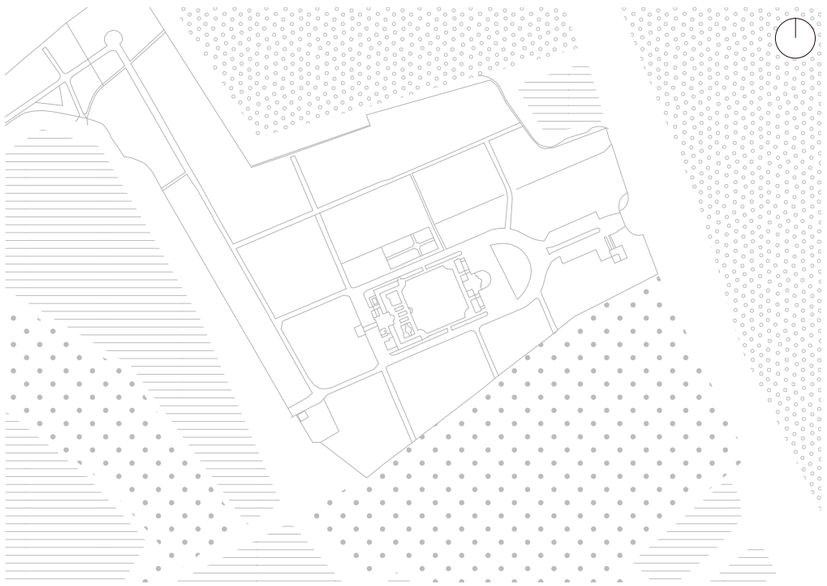


Fig 142: Map of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 143: Map of Kippax cemetery (Author, 2024)

Kippax
2013

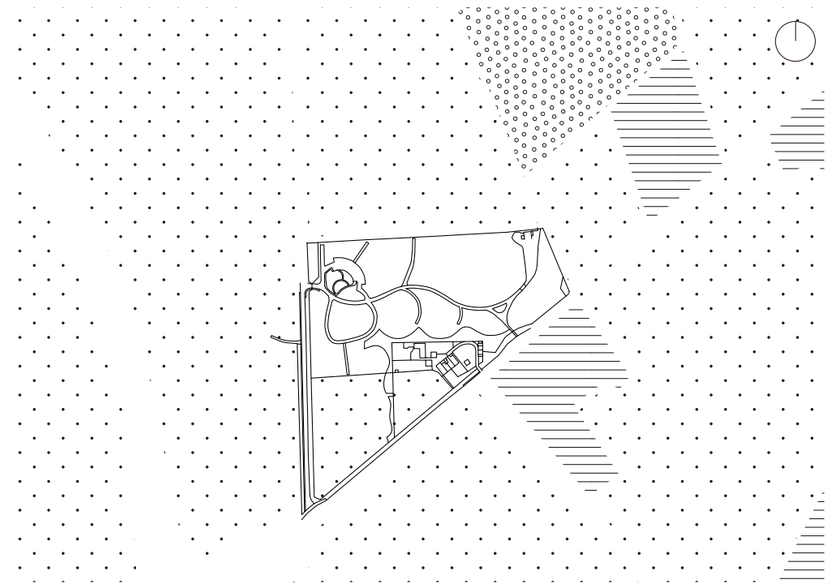
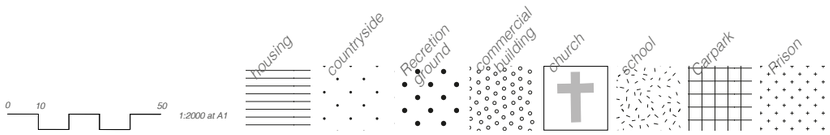
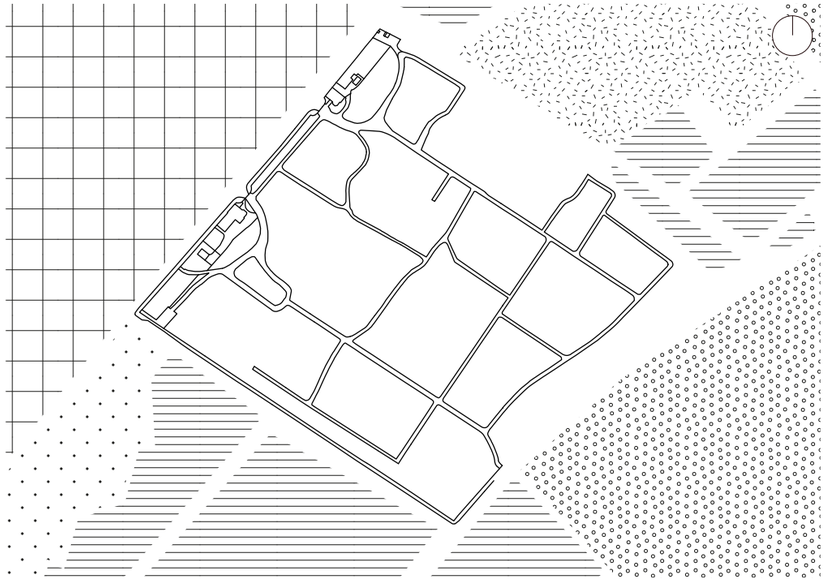


Fig 144: Map of Whinmoor cemetery (Author, 2024)

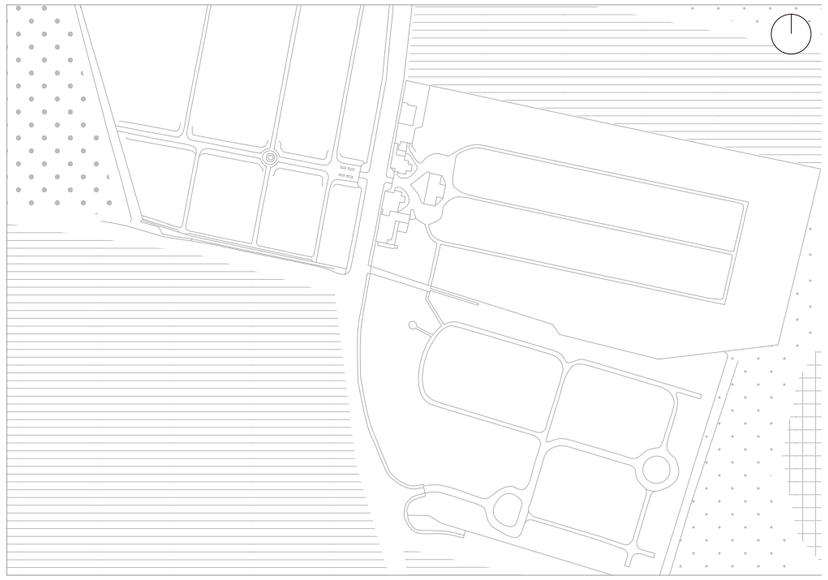
Whinmoor
2013





Beckett Street
1845

Fig 145: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)

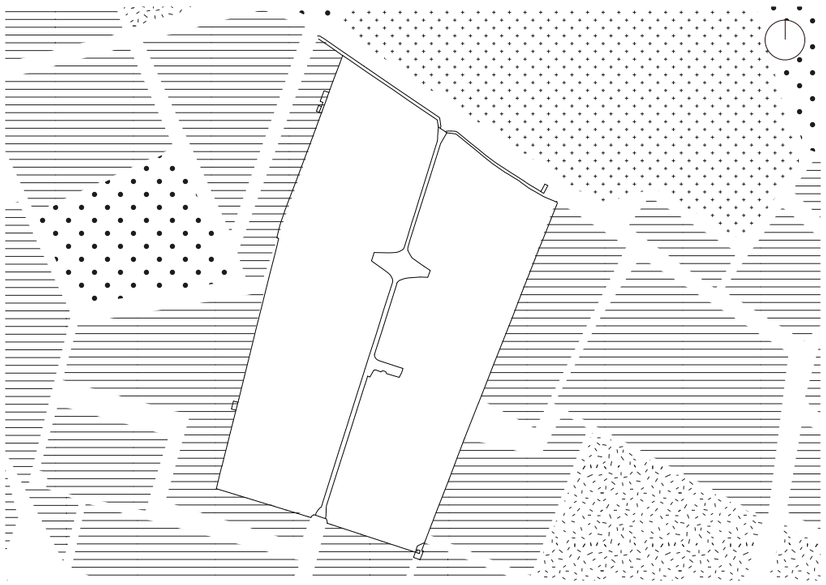


Hunslet
1845

Fig 146: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

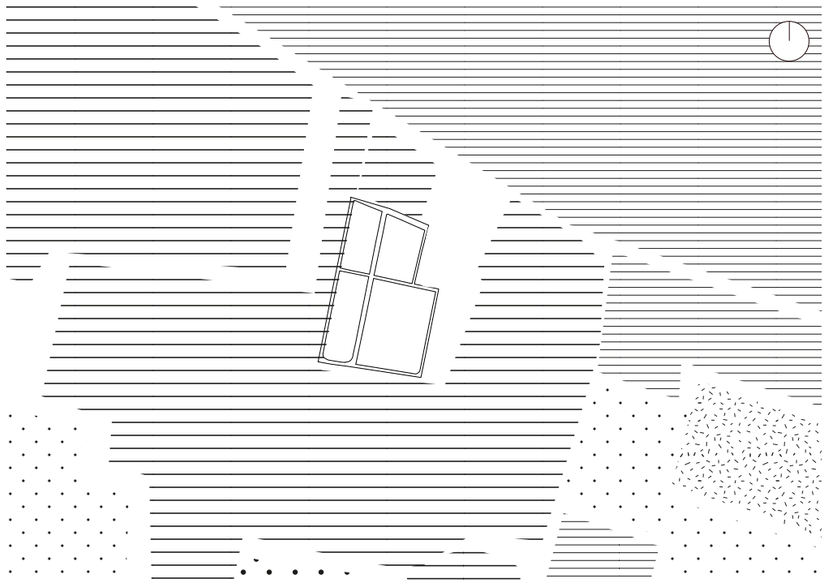
Holbeck
1857

Fig 147: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)



New Wortley
1863

Fig 151: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)



Gildersome
1865

Fig 152: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Fig 153: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries whith a simple grid layout

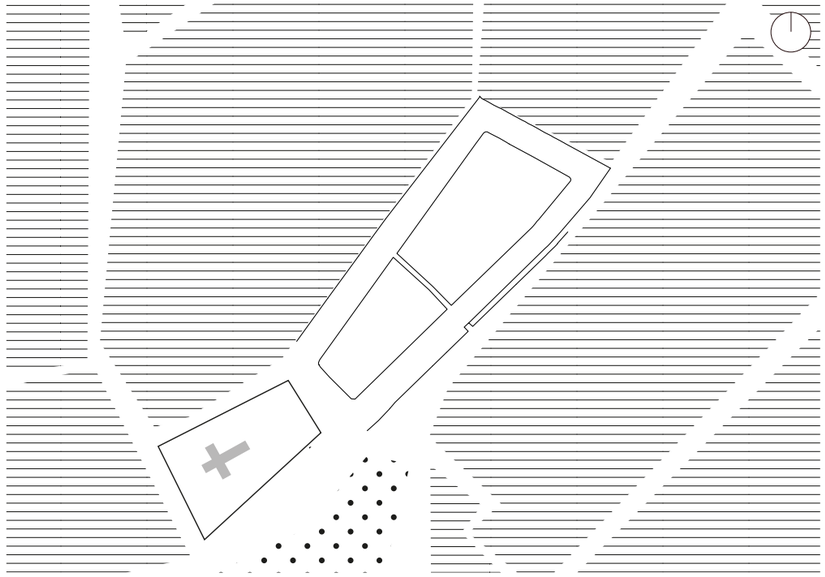


Fig 148: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beeston
1859

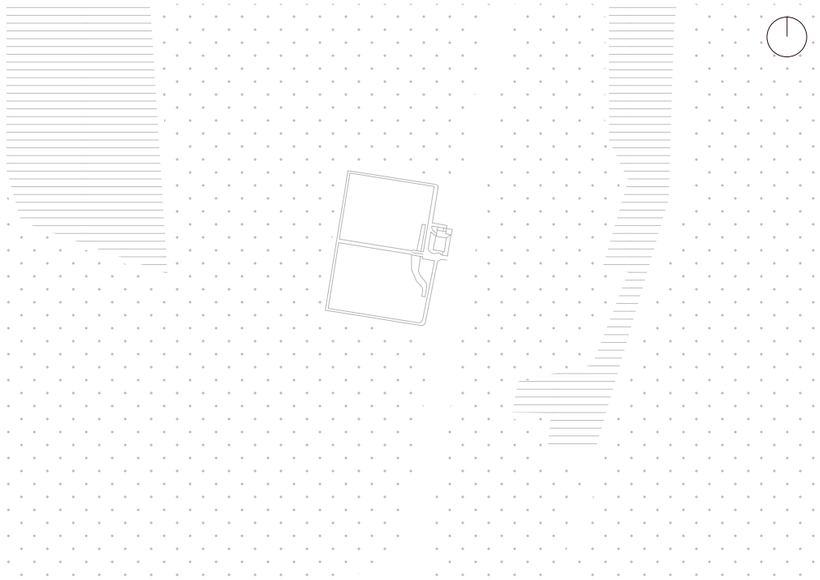


Fig 149: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Farnley
1860

Fig 150: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Otley
1862

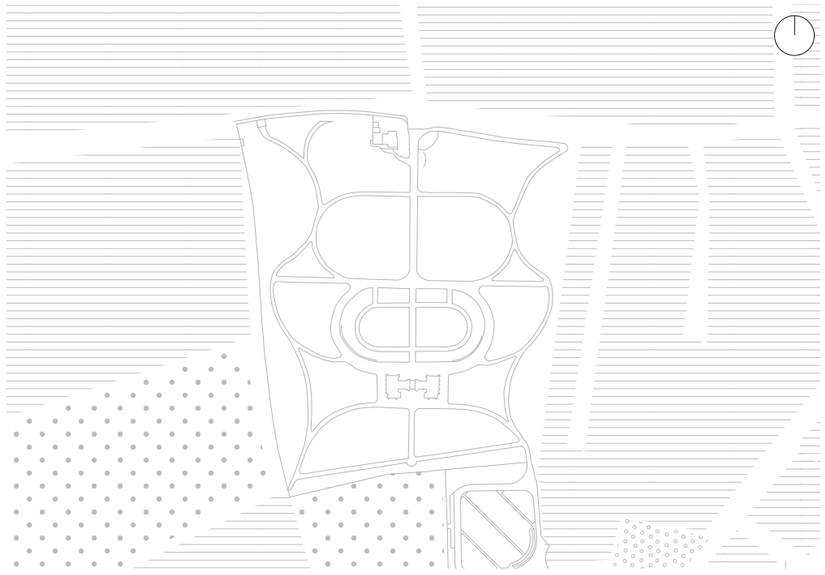


Fig 154: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)

Pudsey
1875

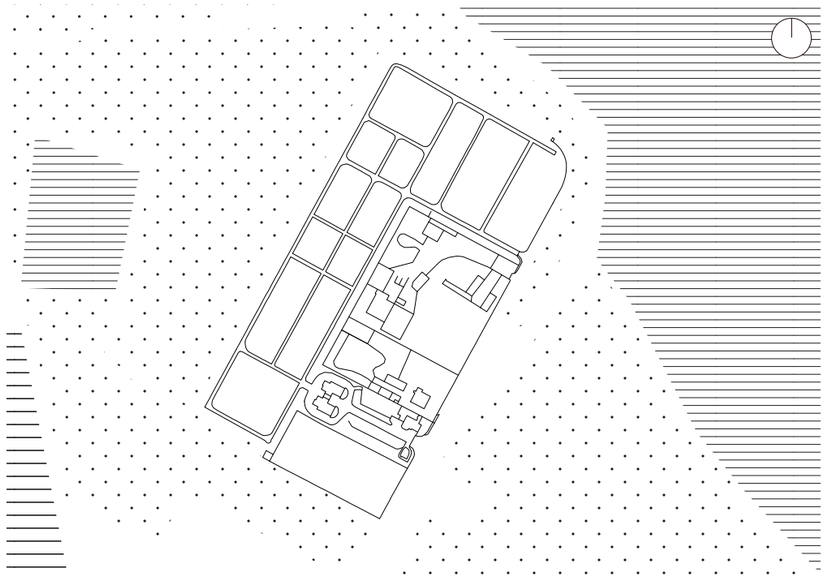


Fig 155: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)

Yeadon
1875

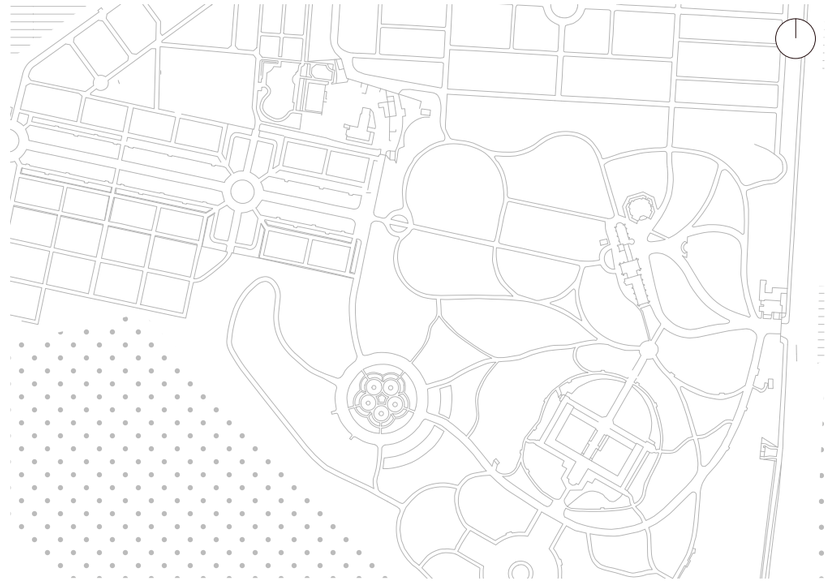
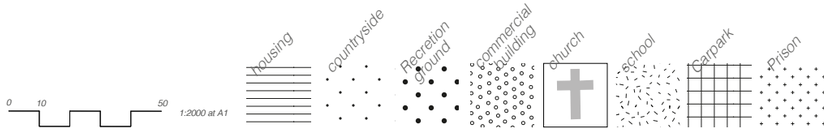


Fig 156: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lawnswood Cremetorium
1876 added in 1905



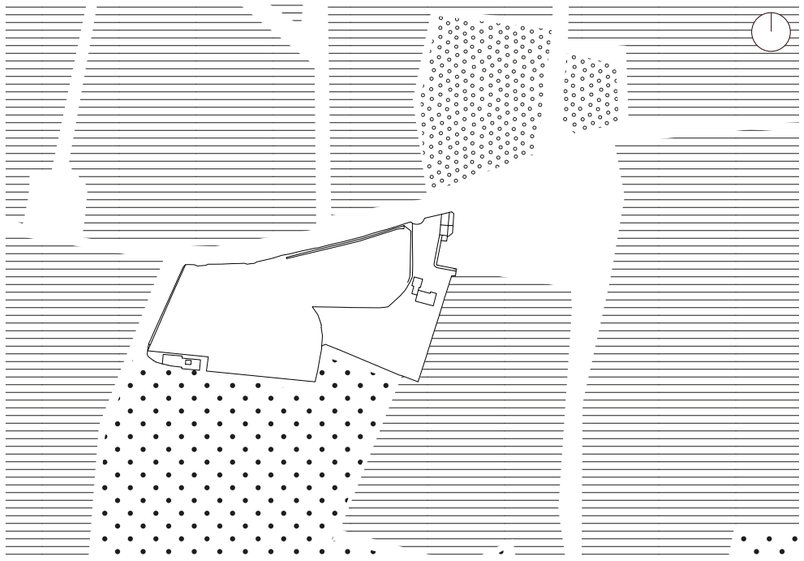


Fig 157: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)

Whitkirk
1881

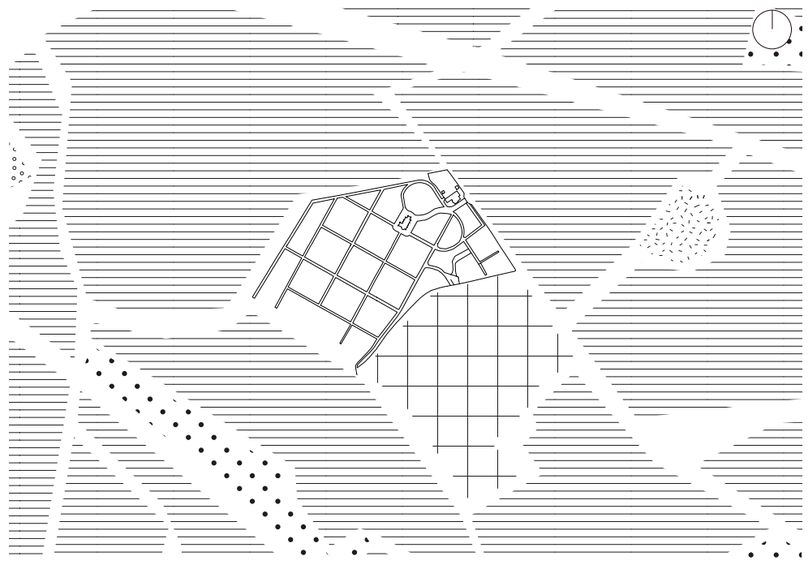


Fig 158: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)

Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 159: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Horsforth (cremetorium)
1881

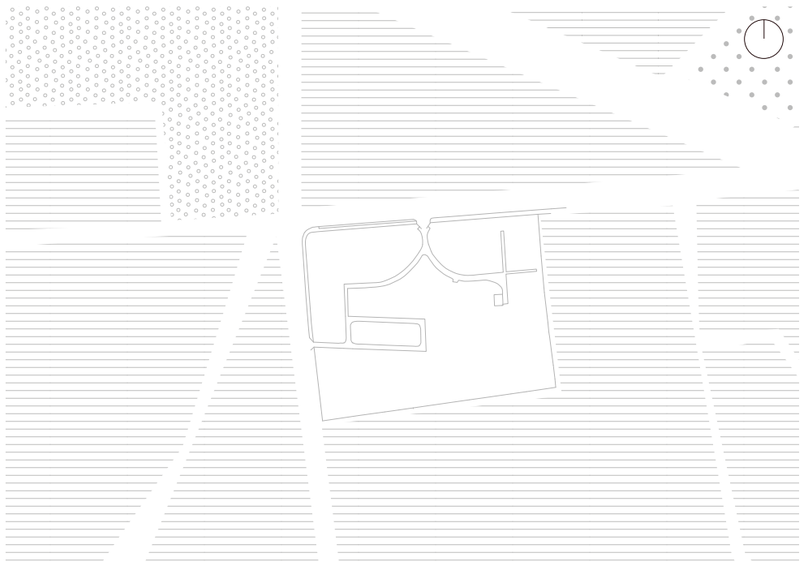


Fig 163: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)

Rothwell
1918

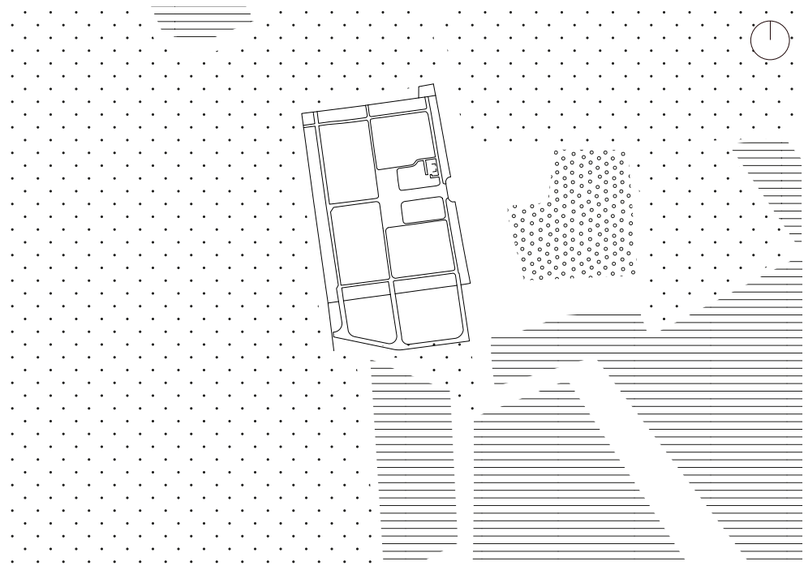


Fig 164: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Guiseley
1922

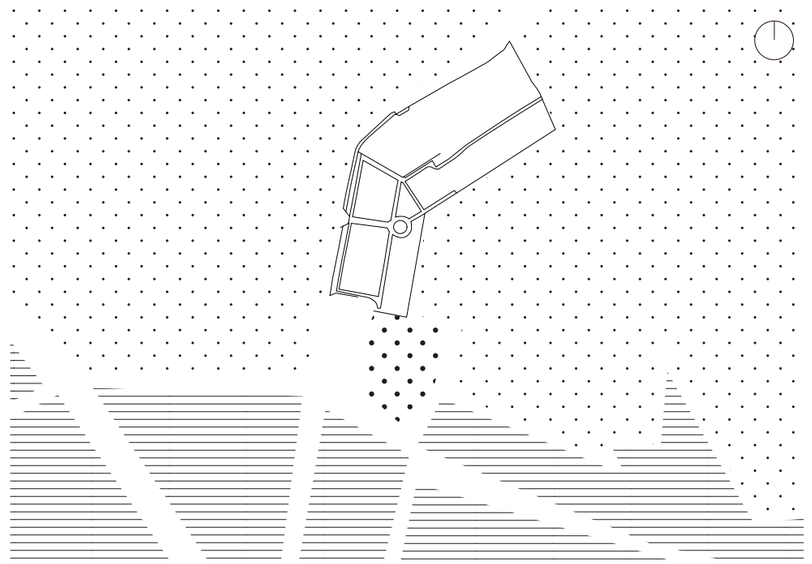
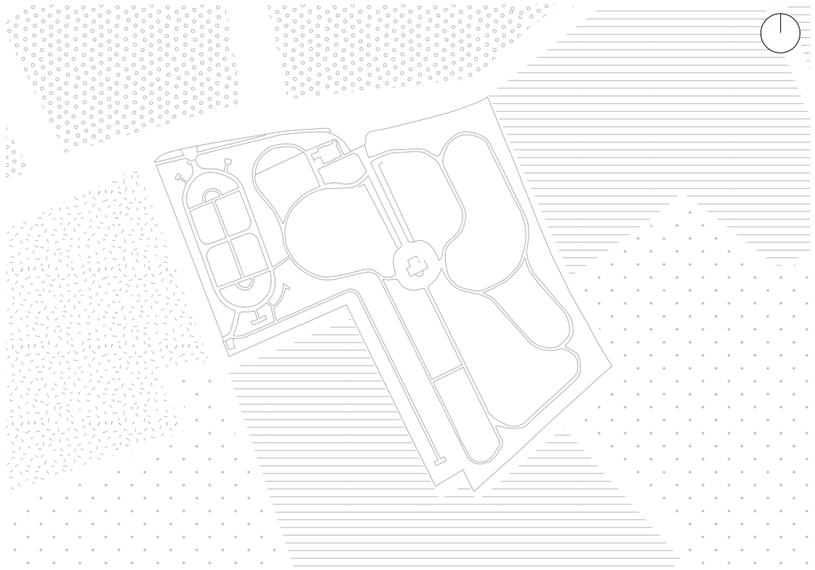


Fig 165: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse
1932

Cemeteries whith a simple grid layout

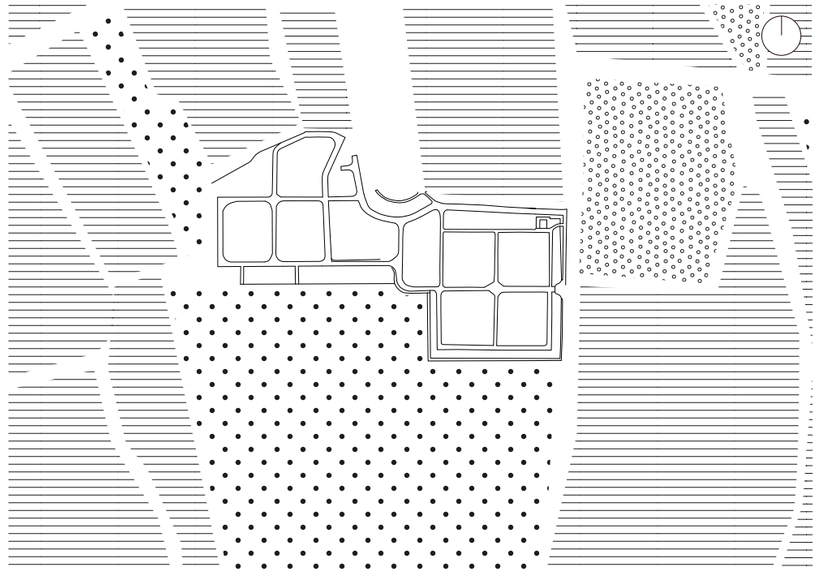


Morley
1884

Fig 160: Map of Morley cemetery (Author, 2024)

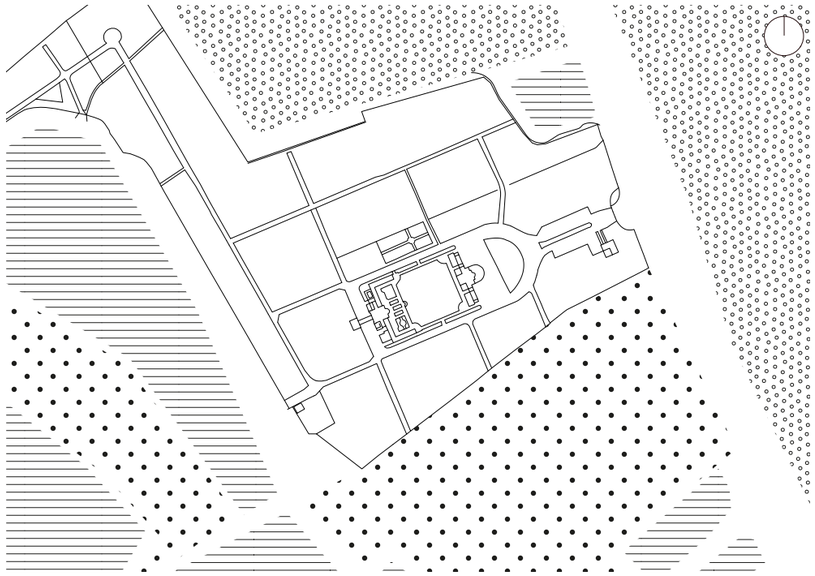
Harehills
1908

Fig 161: Map of Harehills cemetery (Author, 2024)



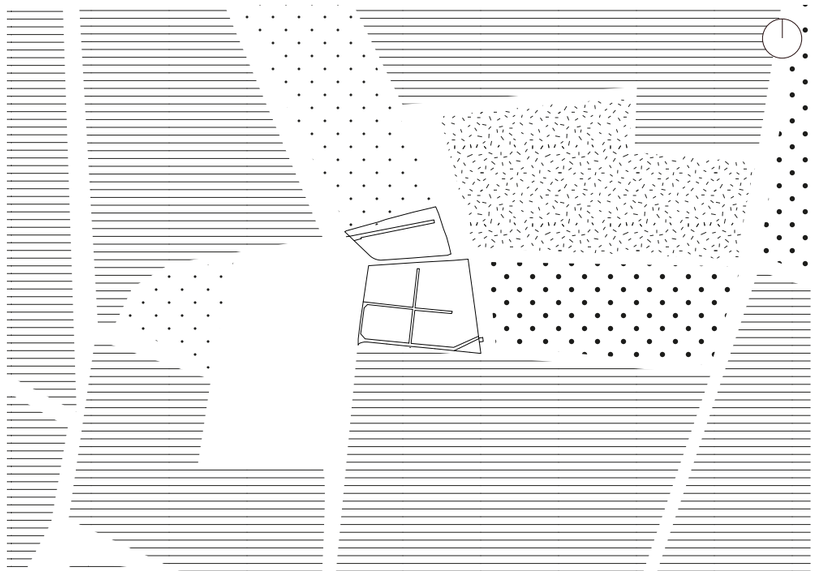
Garforth
1911

Fig 162: Map of Garforth cemetery (Author, 2024)



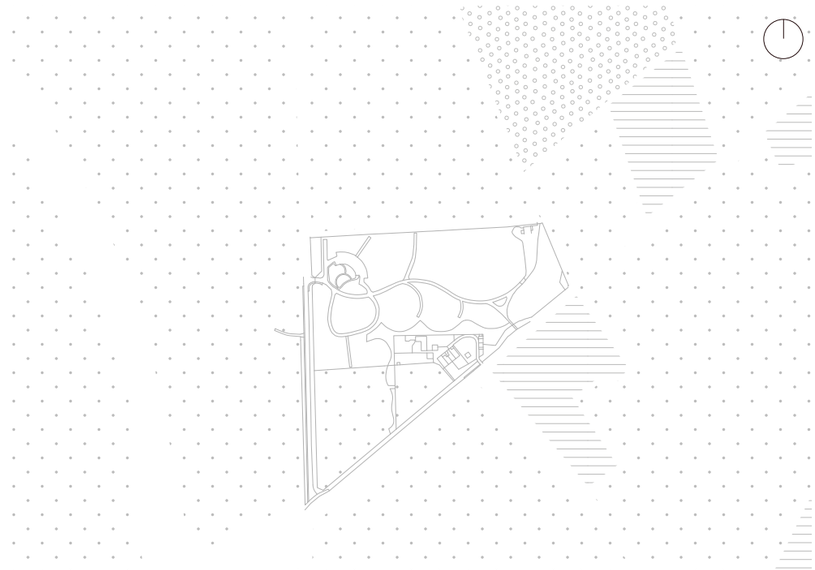
Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 166: Map of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Author, 2024)



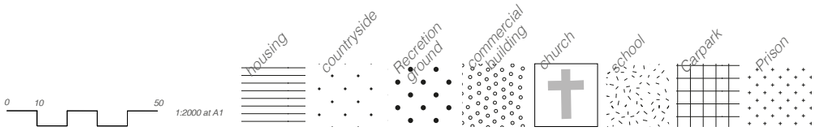
Kippax
2013

Fig 167: Map of Kippax cemetery (Author, 2024)



Whinmoor
2013

Fig 168: Map of Whinmoor cemetery (Author, 2024)



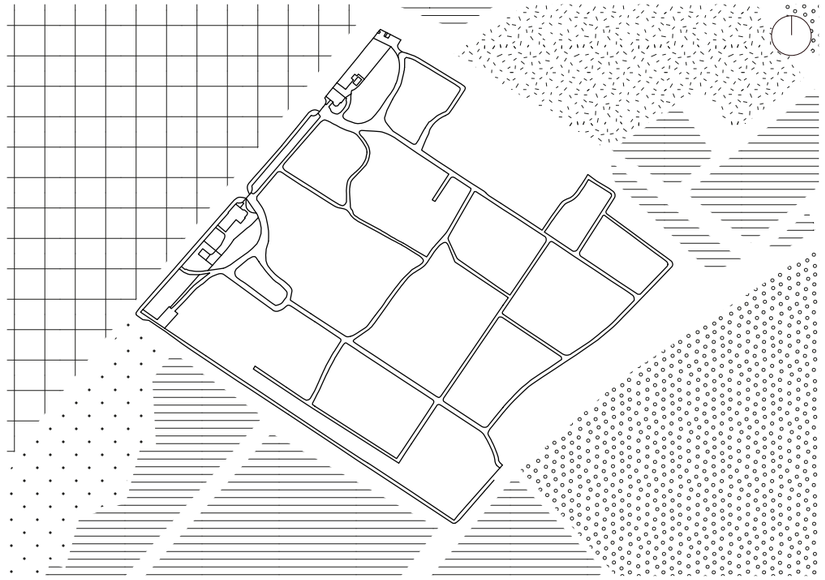


Fig 169: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beckett Street
1845

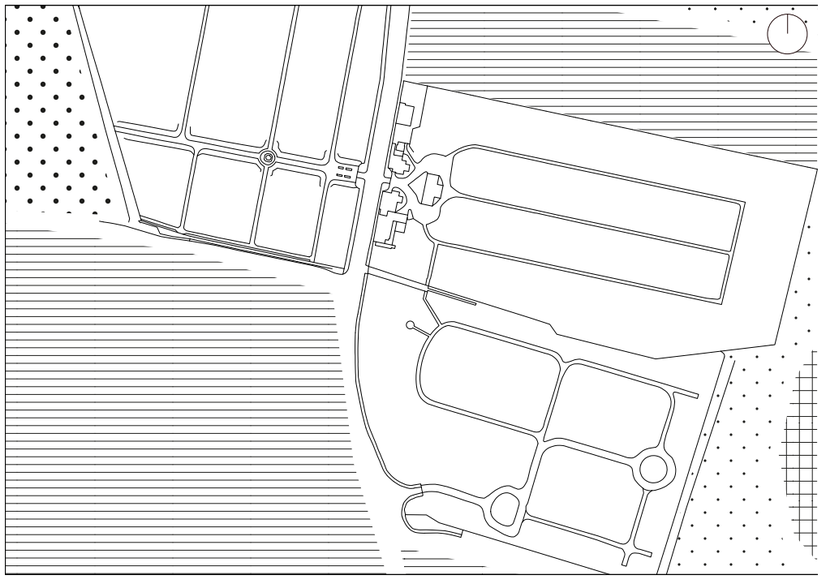


Fig 170: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

Hunslet
1845

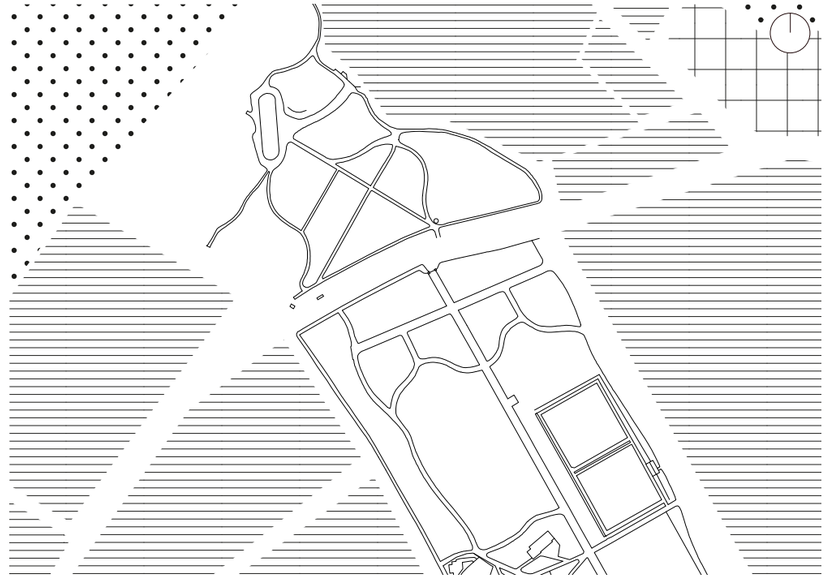


Fig 171: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)

Holbeck
1857

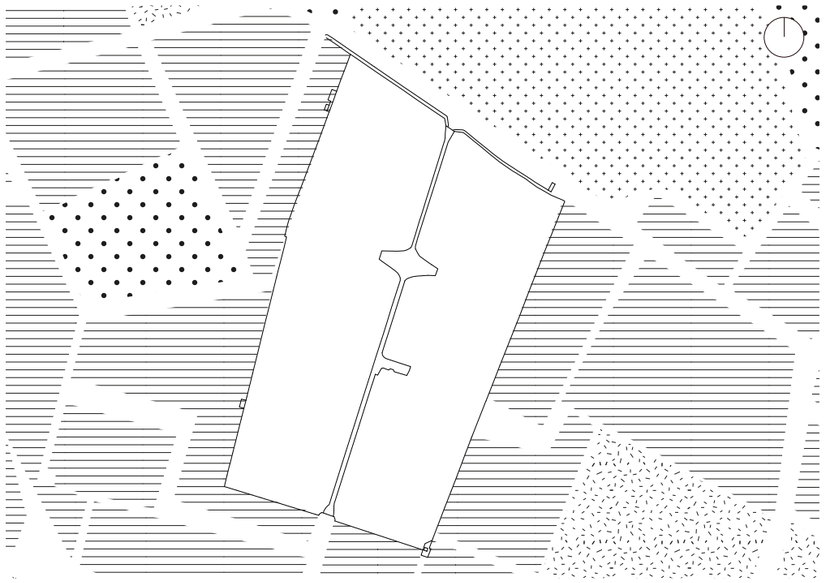


Fig 175: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Wortley
1863

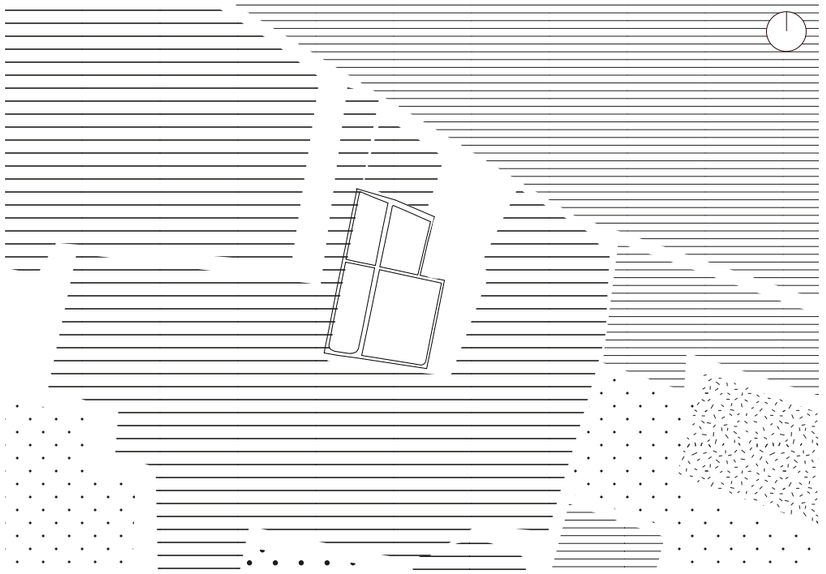


Fig 176: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome
1865

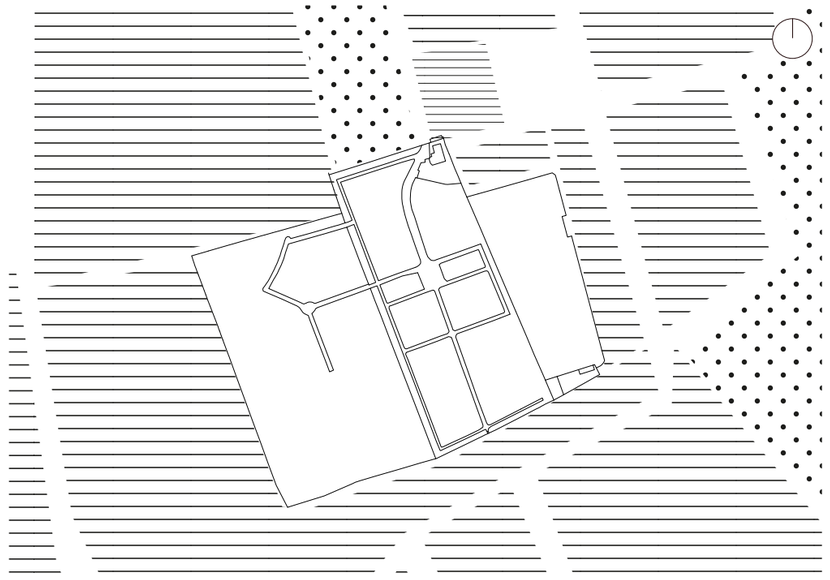
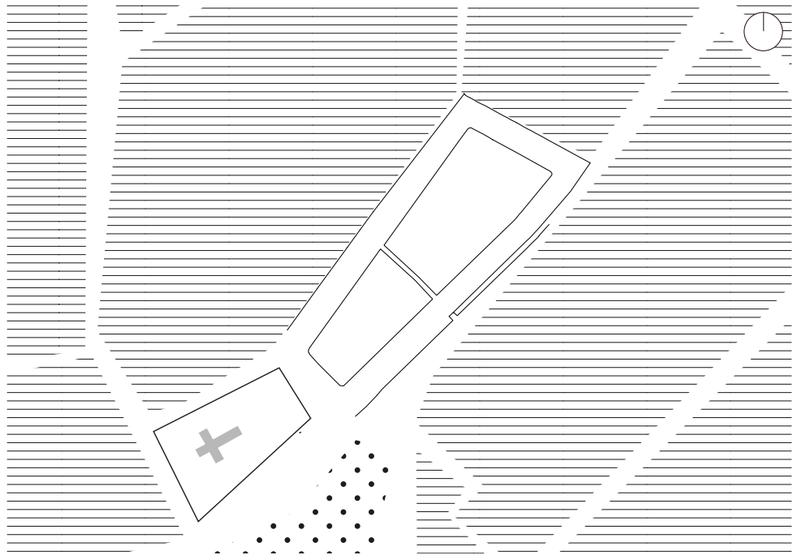


Fig 177: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

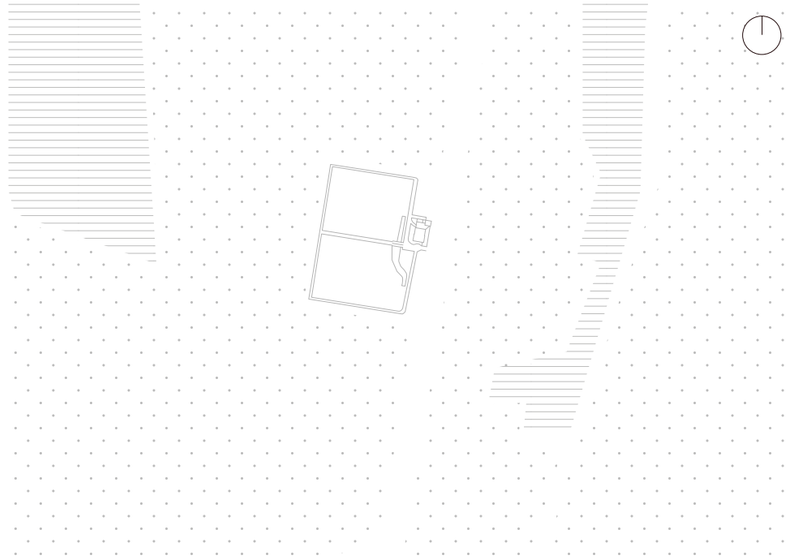
Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Cemeteries whcih adjacent to town centre amenities



Beeston
1859

Fig 172: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)

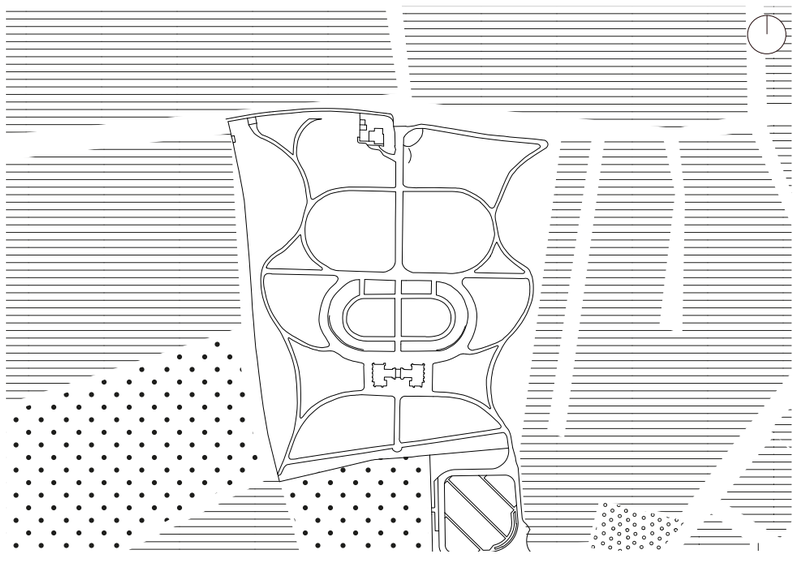


New Farnley
1860

Fig 173: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)

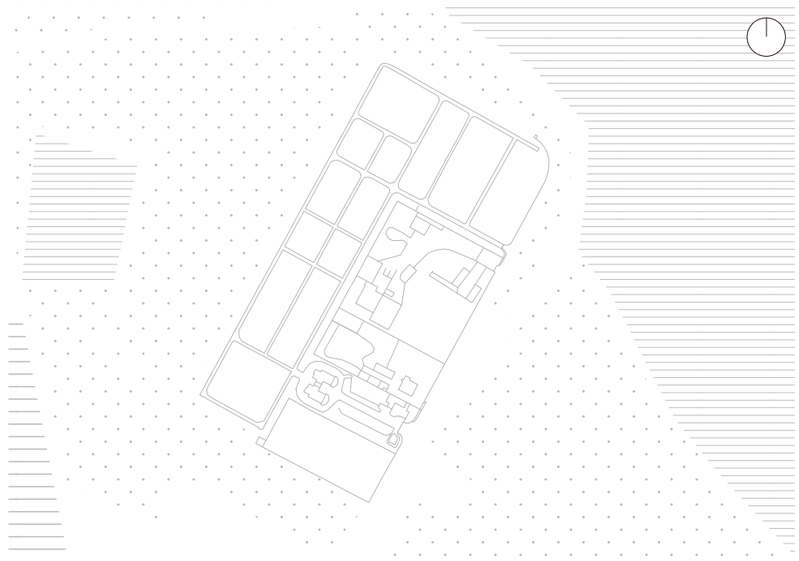
Otley
1862

Fig 174: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)



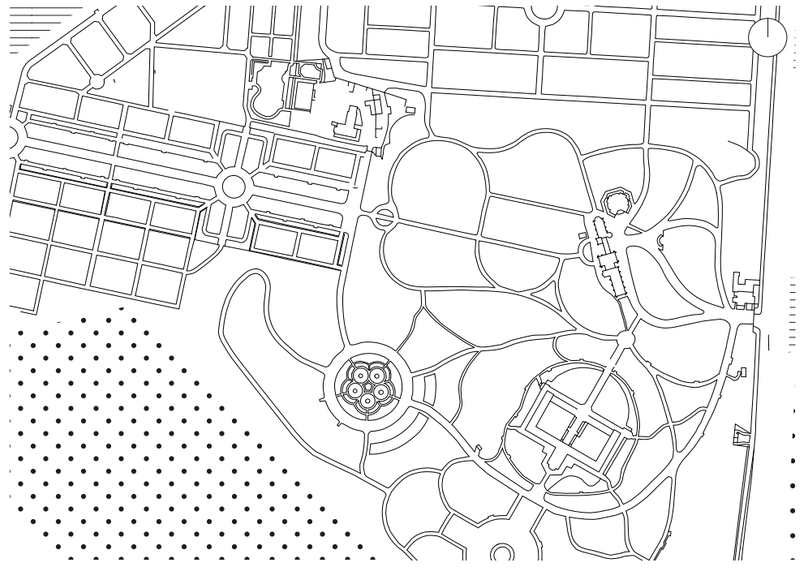
Pudsey
1875

Fig 178: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)



Yeadon
1875

Fig 179: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)



Lawnswood Cremetorium
1876 added in 1905

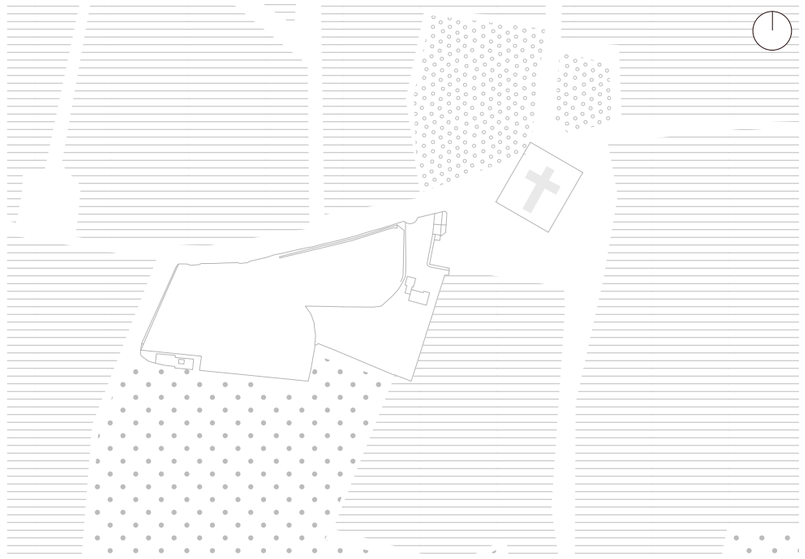
Fig 180: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)

commercial

0 10 50

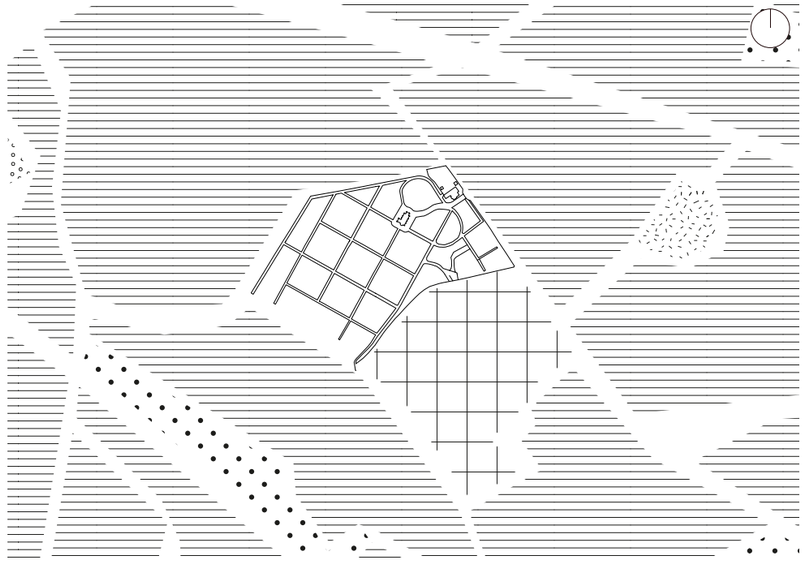
1:2000 at A1

housing countryside Recretion Ground building church school Carpark Prison



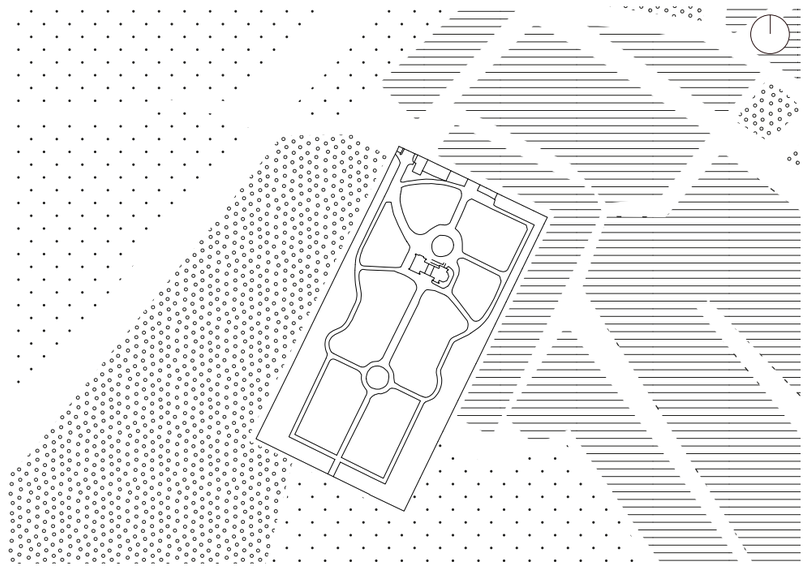
Whitkirk
1881

Fig 181: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)



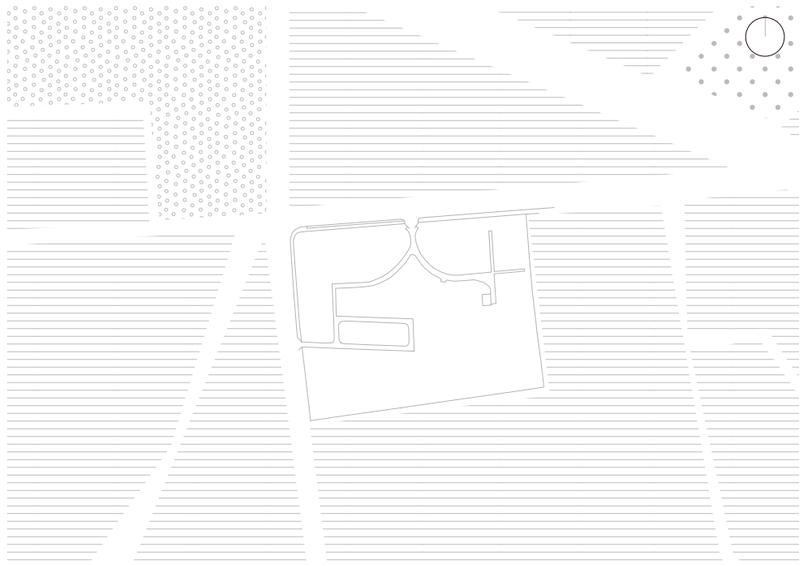
Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 182: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)



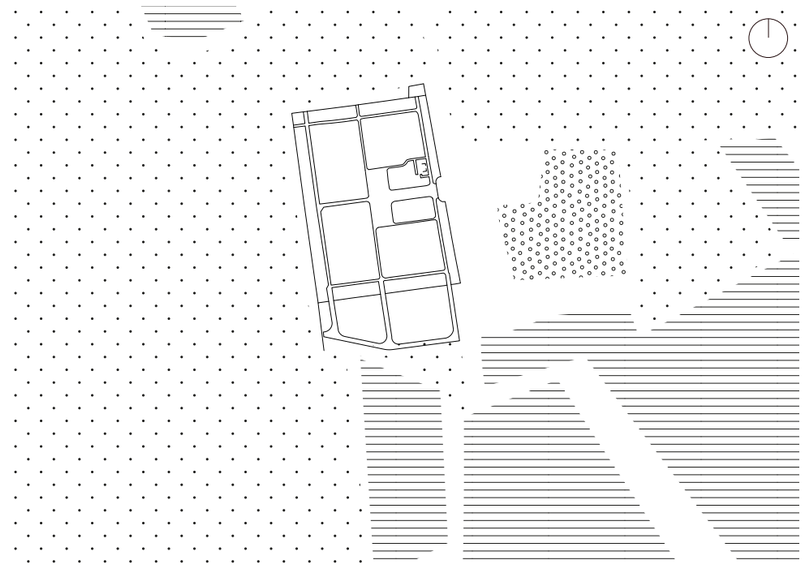
Horsforth (cremetorium)
1881

Fig 183: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)



Rothwell
1918

Fig 187: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)



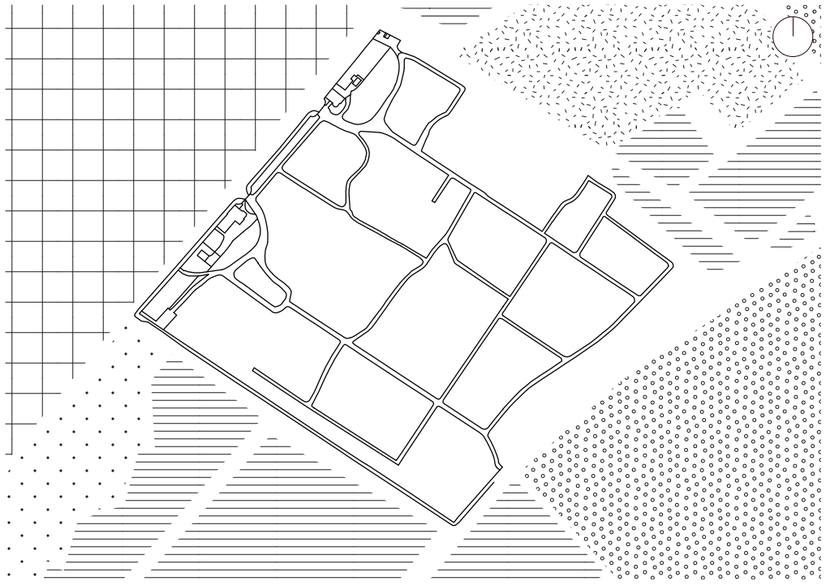
Guiseley
1922

Fig 188: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse
1932

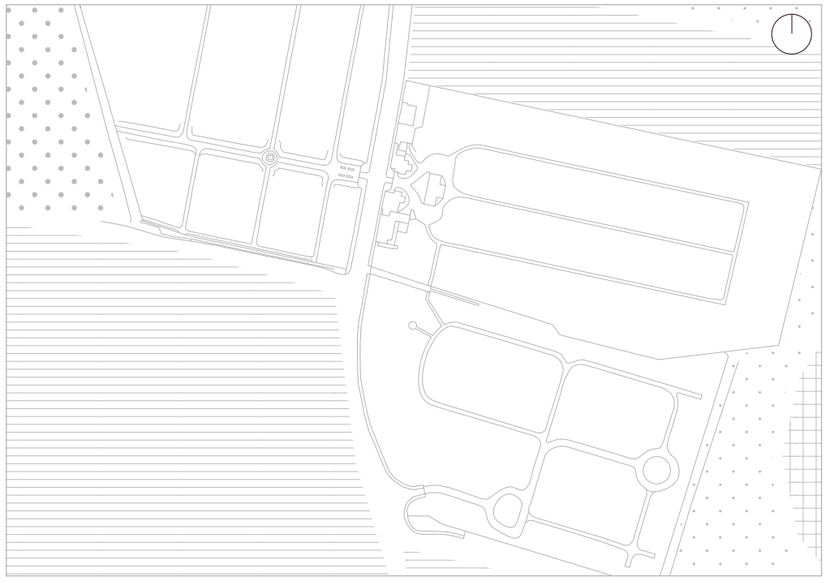
Fig 189: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries whcih adjacent to town centre amenities



Beckett Street
1845

Fig 193: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)

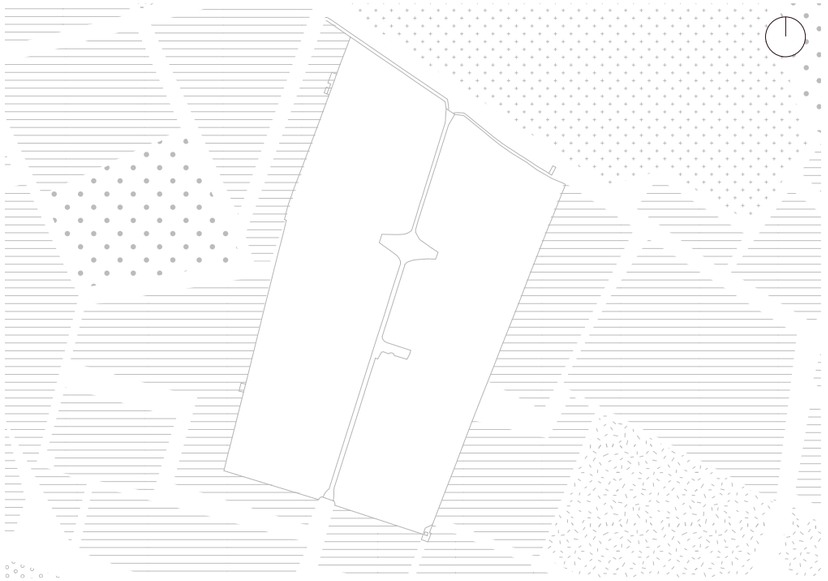


Hunslet
1845

Fig 194: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

Holbeck
1857

Fig 195: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)

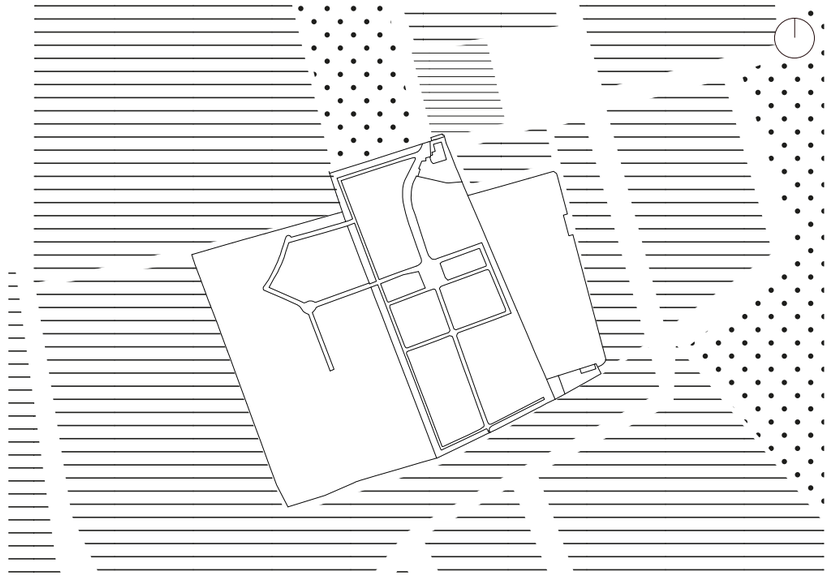


New Wortley
1863

Fig 199: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome
1865

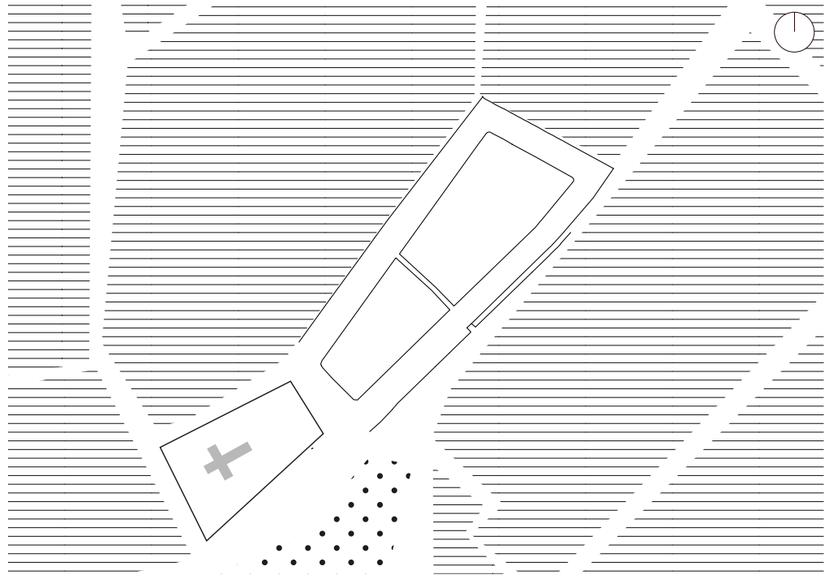
Fig 200: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)



Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

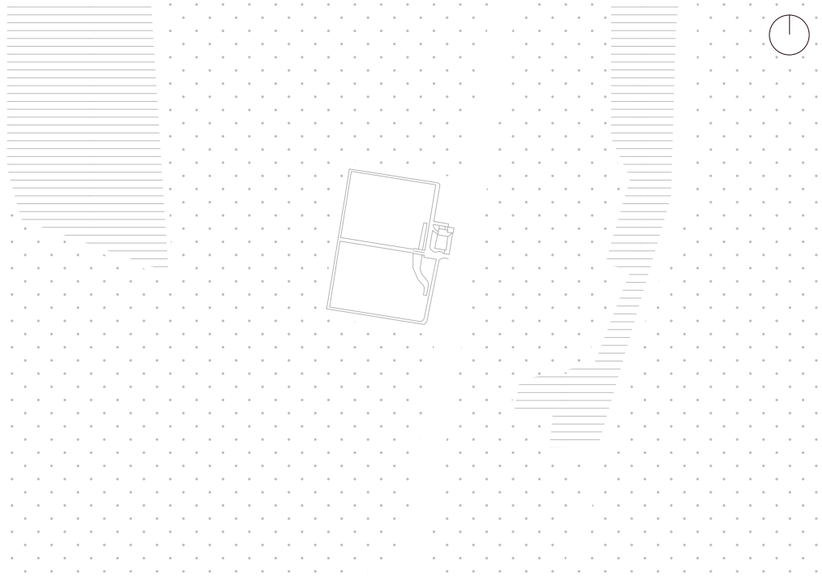
Fig 201: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries whcih adjacent to a recreation ground and leisure activities



Beeston
1859

Fig 196: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)

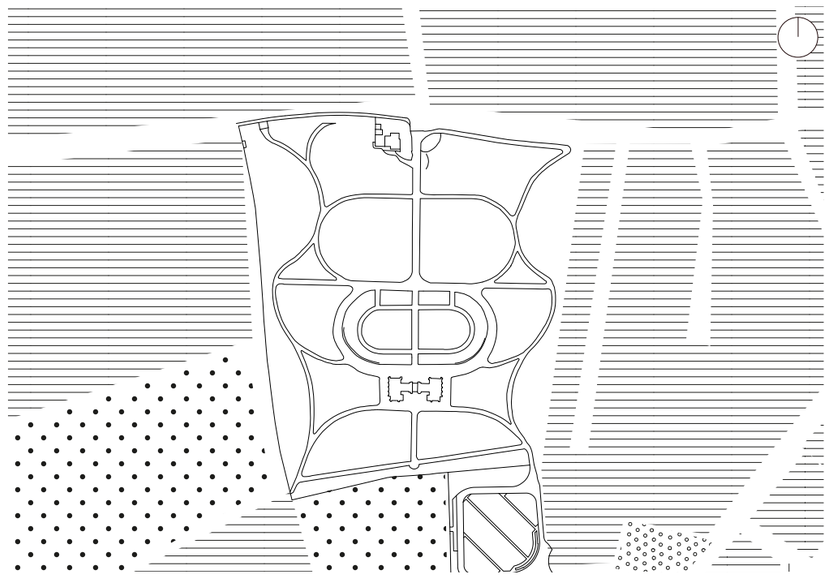


New Farnley
1860

Fig 197: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)

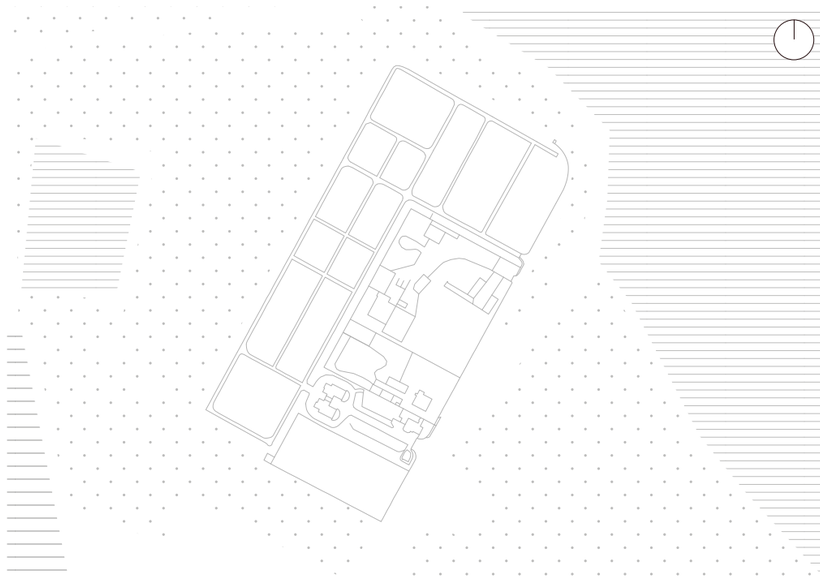
Otley
1862

Fig 198: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)



Pudsey
1875

Fig 202: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)

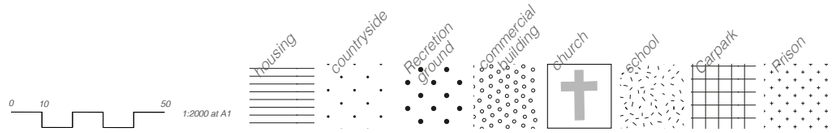


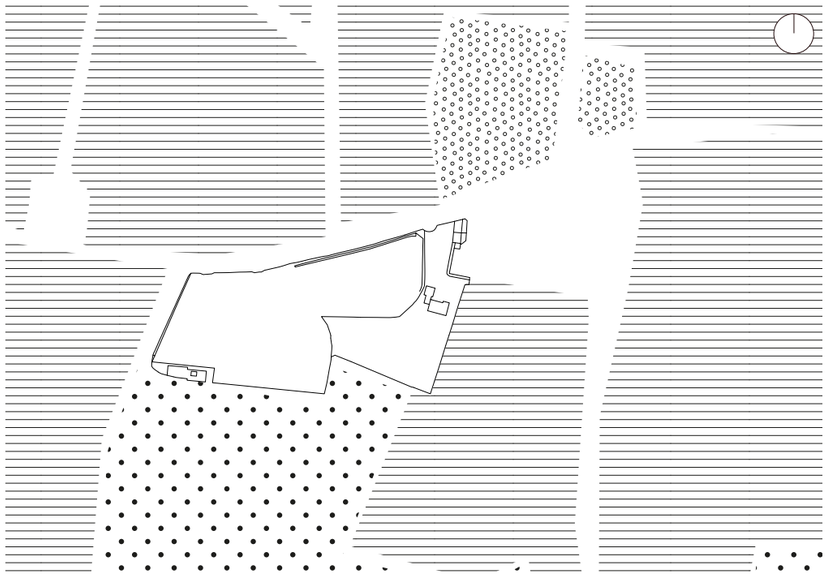
Yeadon
1875

Fig 203: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lawnswood Cremetorium
1876 added in 1905

Fig 204: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)





Whitkirk
1881

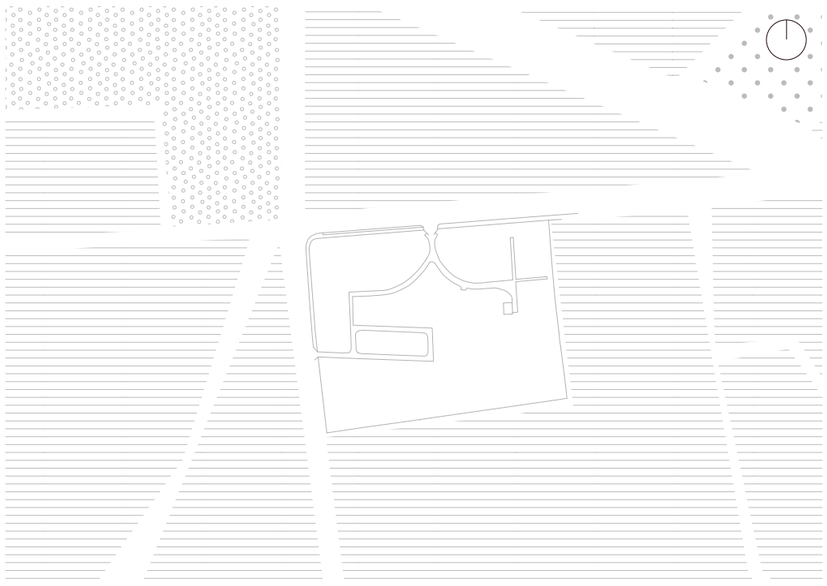
Fig 205: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)

Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 206: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)

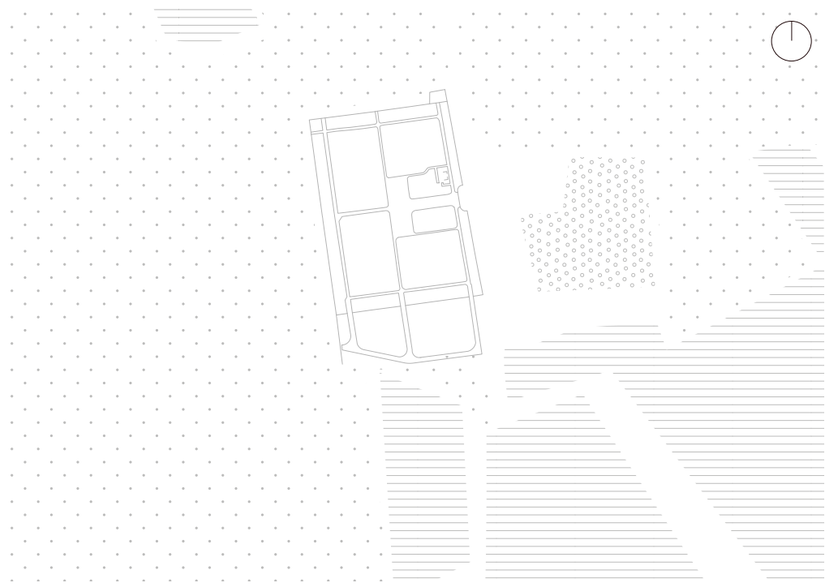
Horsforth (cremetorium)
1881

Fig 207: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)



Rothwell
1918

Fig 211: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)



Guiseley
1922

Fig 112: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse
1932

Fig 213: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries whcih adjacent to a recreation ground and leisure activities

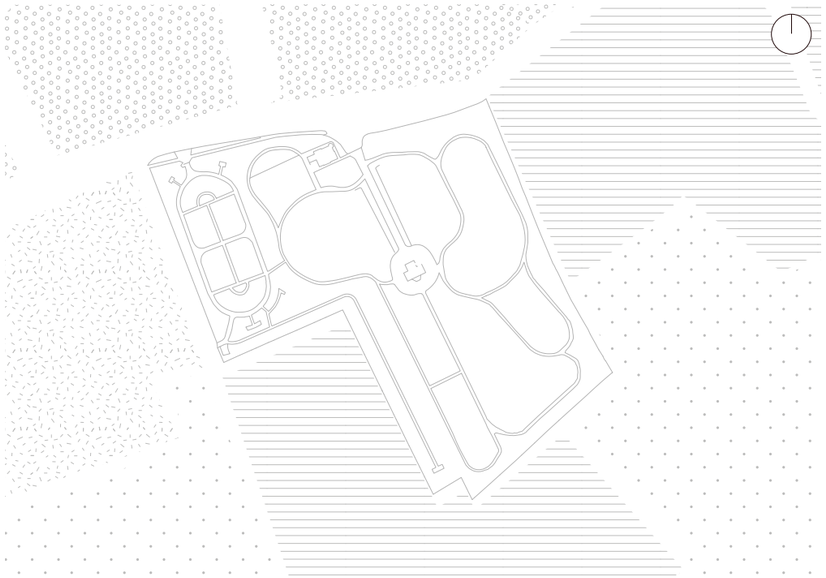


Fig 208: Map of Morley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Morley
1884

Fig 209: Map of Harehills cemetery (Author, 2024)

Harehills
1908

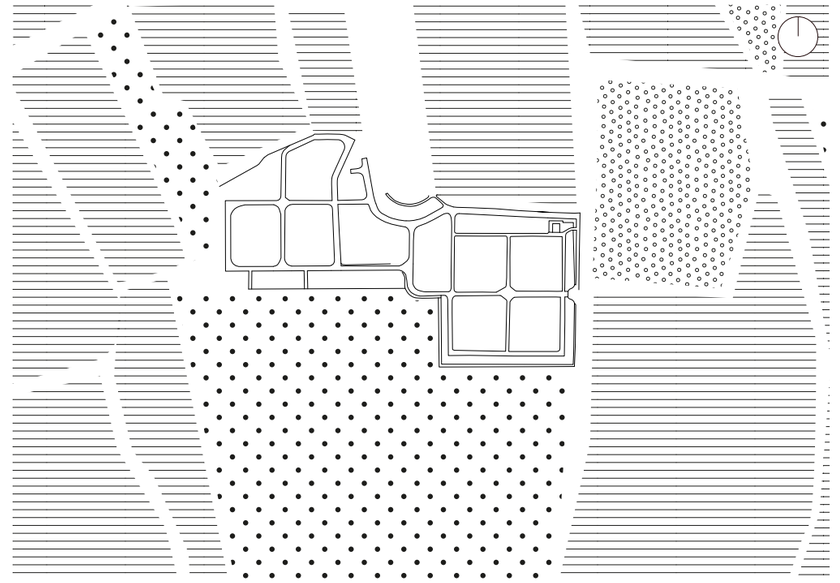


Fig 210: Map of Garforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Garforth
1911

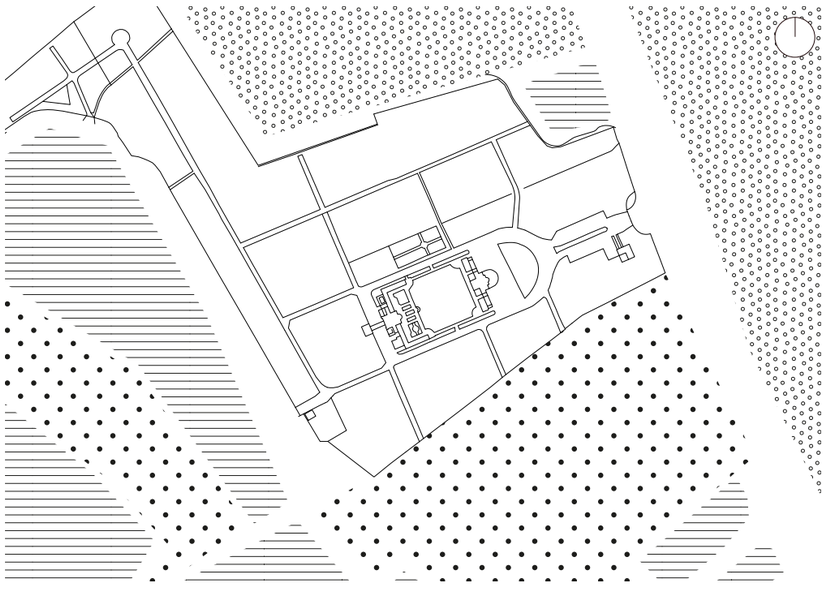


Fig 214: Map of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cottingley Hall
1938

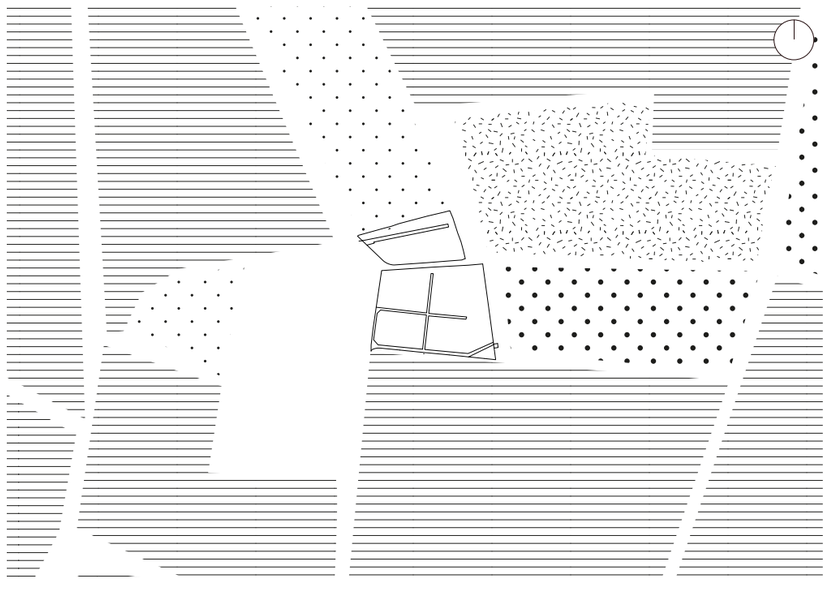


Fig 215: Map of Kippax cemetery (Author, 2024)

Kippax
2013

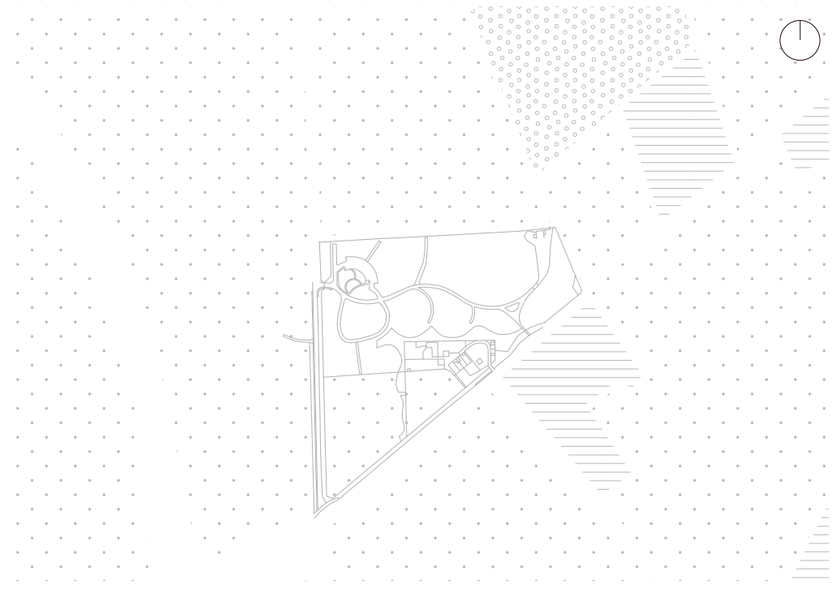
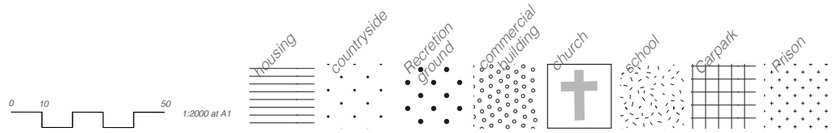
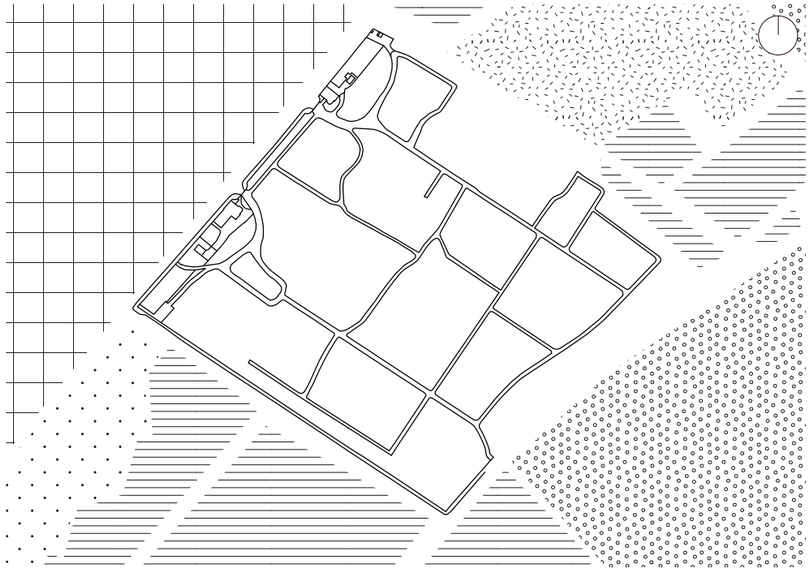


Fig 216: Map of Whinmoor cemetery (Author, 2024)

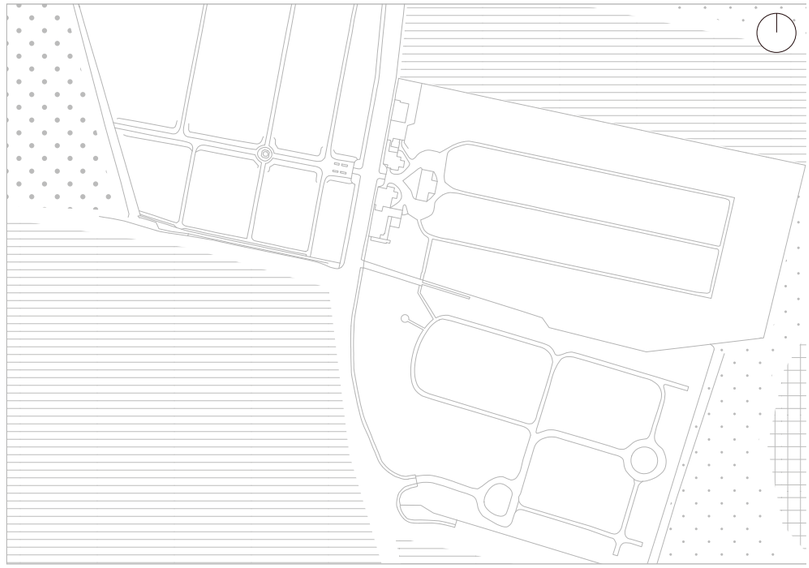
Whinmoor
2013





Beckett Street
1845

Fig 217: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)



Hunslet
1845

Fig 218: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

Holbeck
1857

Fig 219: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Wortley
1863

Fig 223: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome
1865

Fig 224: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Fig 225: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries which are adjacent to a hospital

Three of Leeds cemeteries are in close proximity to the city's hospitals, an example of this would be Beckett Street cemetery, located near St James hospital. Beckett street is one of the closest cemeteries to the city centre at 2 miles away. Beckett street was one of the first cemeteries to be built, in 1845 and its proximity to St James hospital leads us to believe that this was a practical decision to have it located close to the city centre and close to the hospital. This is evidenced further by Beckett street being known to have the most guinea graves, (otherwise known as inscription graves) out of any cemetery in the UK. Guinea graves were shared graves and headstones for people who could not afford a grave of their own and wanted to be shared of the shame of having an unmarked grave. (cemetery F. o., 2014). This was common practice at Beckett street cemetery due to St James hospital being previously elected to be the cities workhouse. A workhouse "admitted paupers who were ill and destitute" (Wildman, 2022). Otley cemetery which is near Wharfedale hospital was built in 1862 and is the furthest away from the city centre at 11.8 miles away. "Like St James hospital, Wharfedale Hospital's origins lie in the establishment of a local workhouse" (NHS, 2024) which was set up in 1873. Contrary to the theory discusseabout Beckett Street cemetery, this cemetery was built before the hospital or workhouse so maybe this theory can be reversed and it could be said the hospital was built in this location due to the cemetery being there.

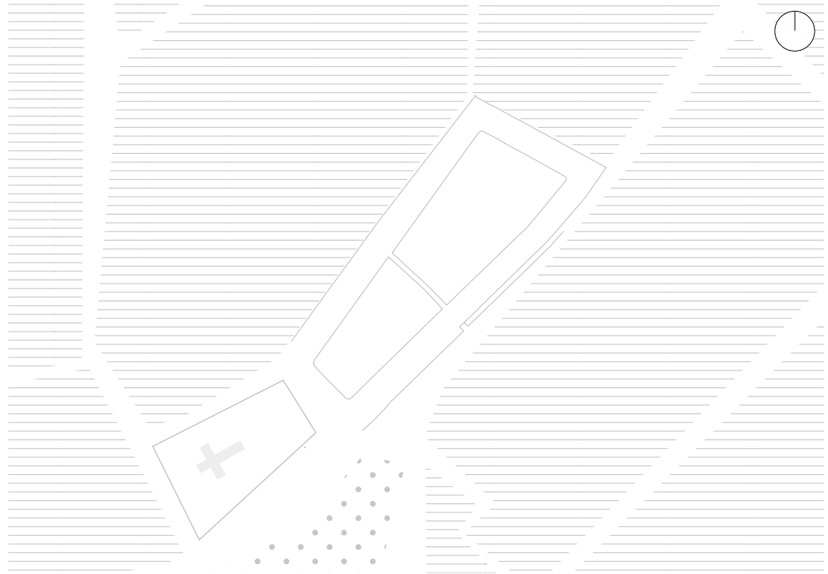


Fig 220: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beeston
1859

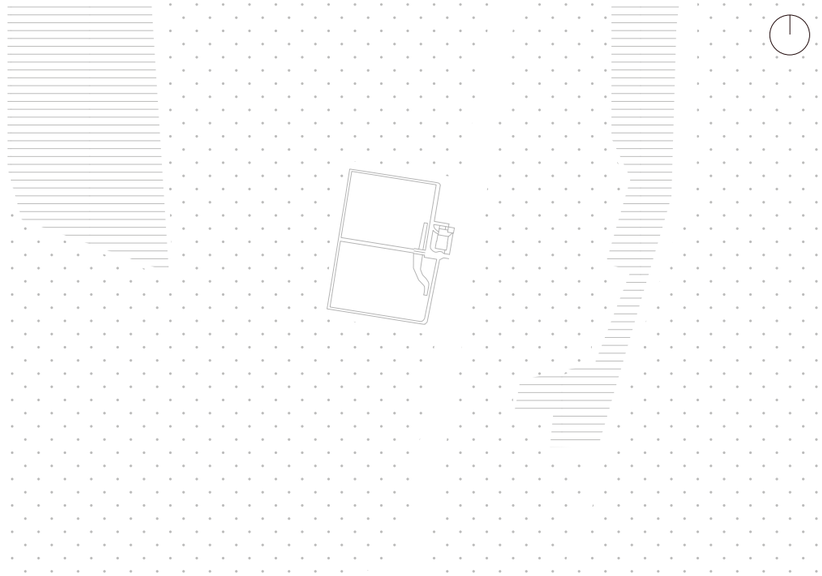


Fig 221: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Farnley
1860

Fig 222: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Otley
1862

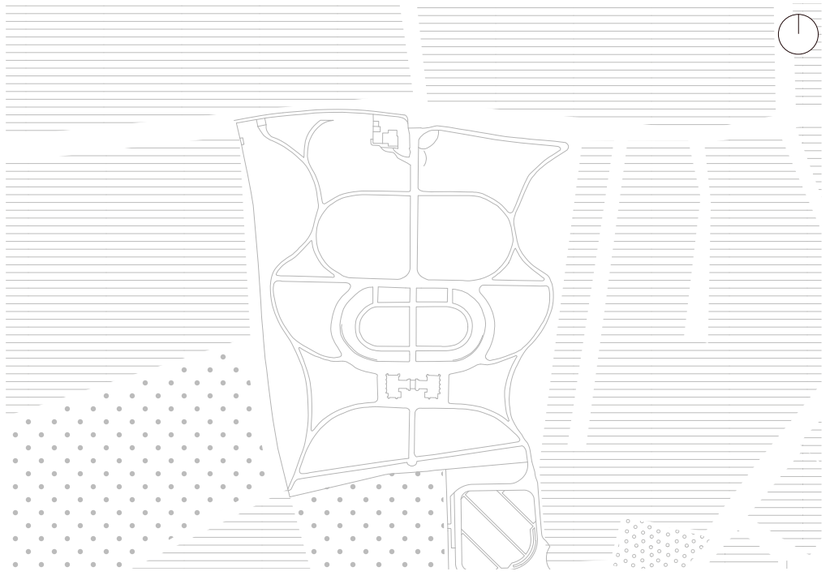


Fig 226: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)

Pudsey
1875

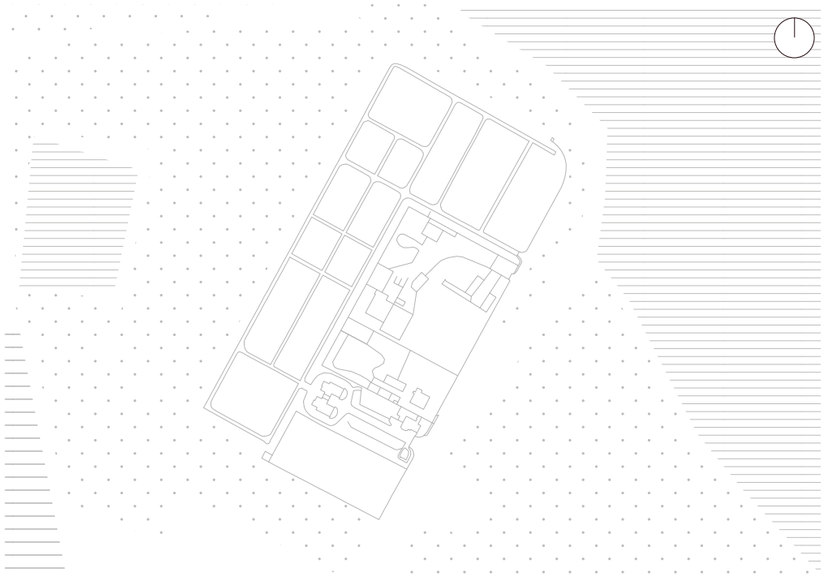


Fig 227: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)

Yeadon
1875

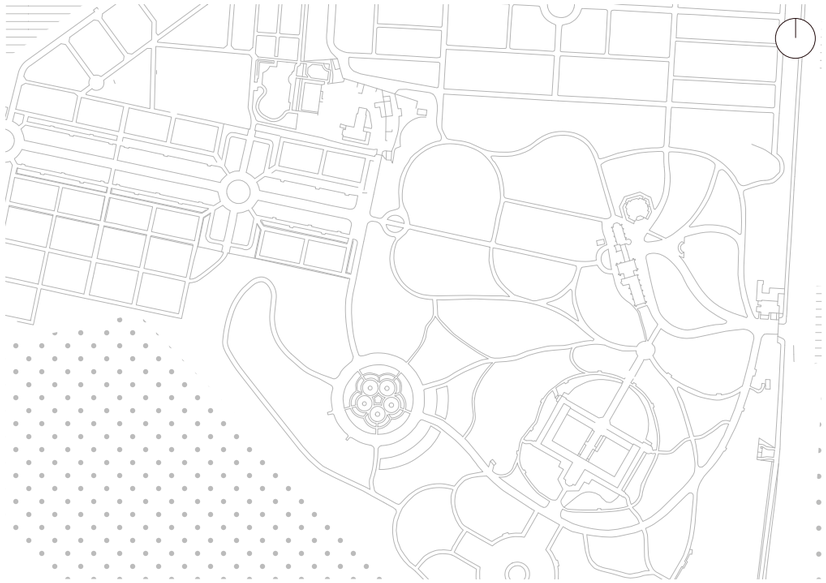
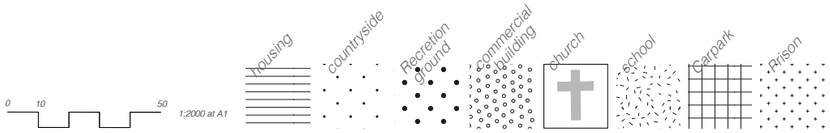
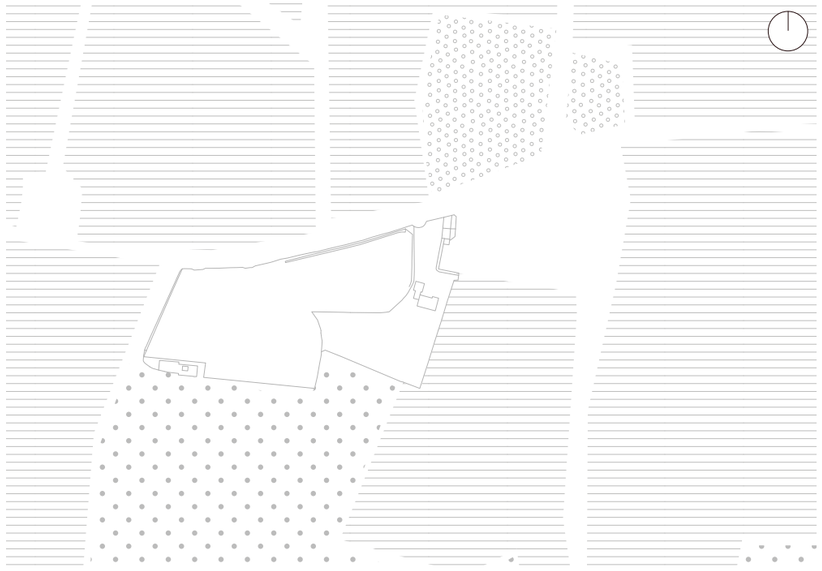


Fig 228: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)

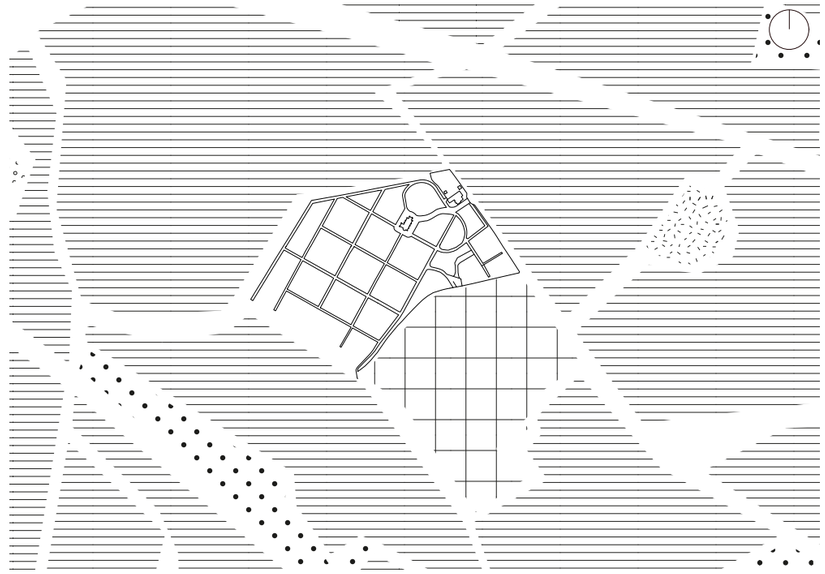
Lawnswood Cremetorium
1876 added in 1905





Whitkirk
1881

Fig 229: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)

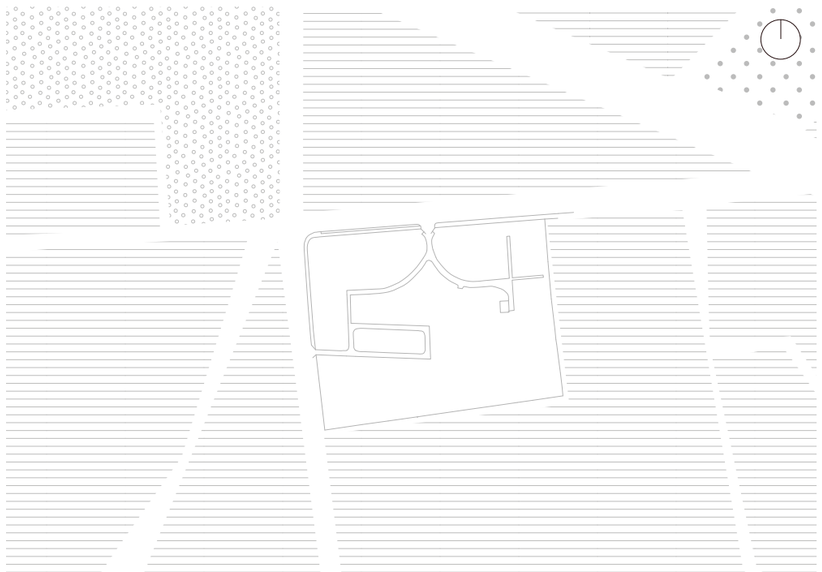


Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 230: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)

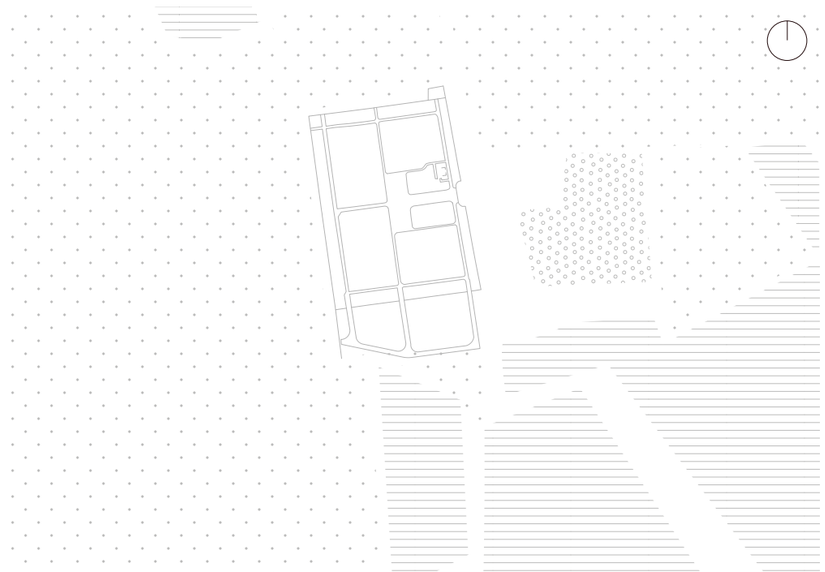
Horsforth
1881

Fig 231: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)



Rothwell
1918

Fig 236: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)



Guiseley
1922

Fig 237: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse
1932

Fig 238: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries whcih adjacent to a hospital

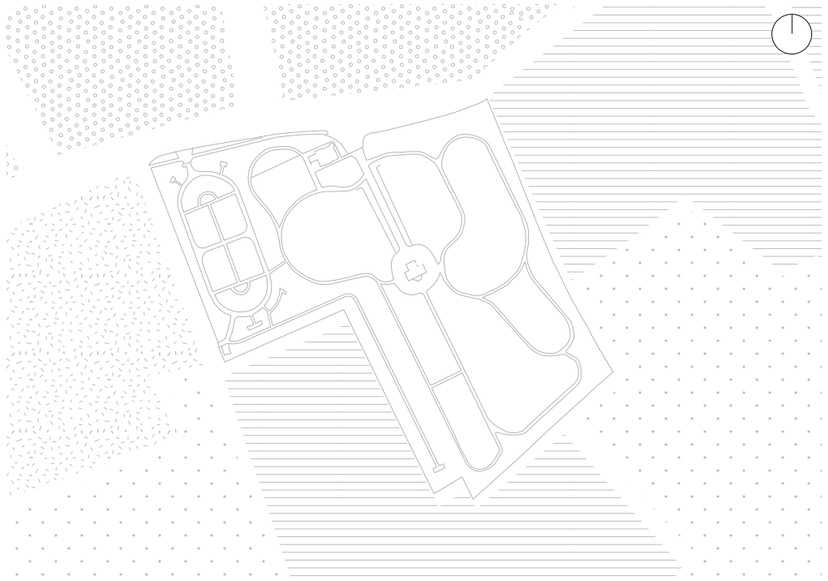


Fig 232: Map of Morley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Morley
1884

Fig 233: Map of Harehills cemetery (Author, 2024)

Harehills
1908

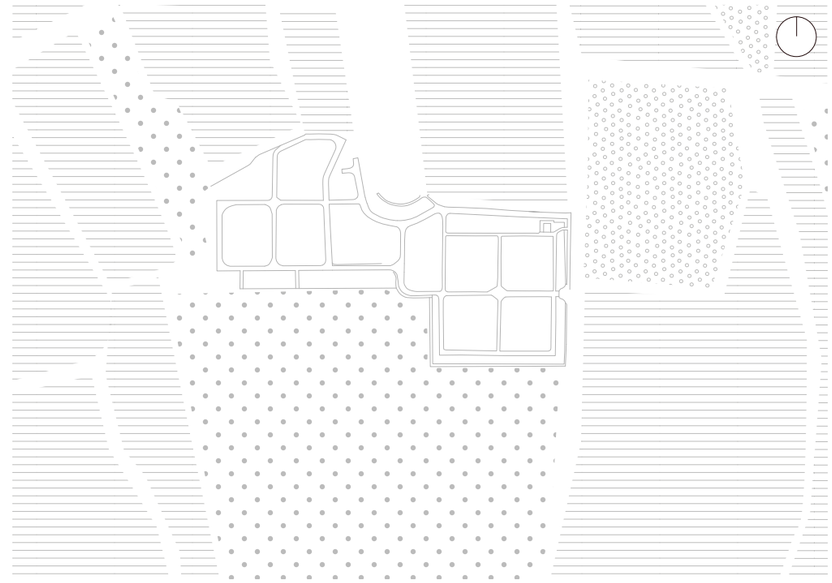


Fig 235: Map of Garforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Garforth
1911

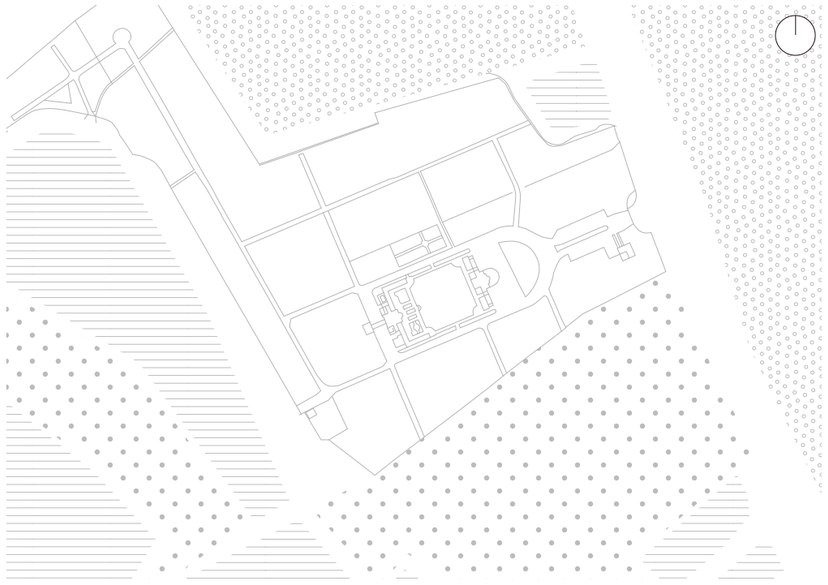


Fig 239: Map of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 240: Map of Kippax cemetery (Author, 2024)

Kippax
2013

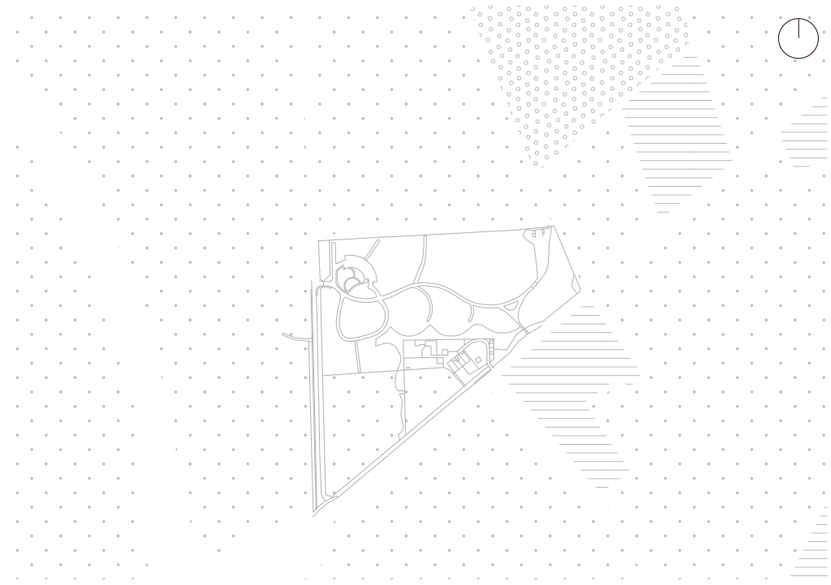
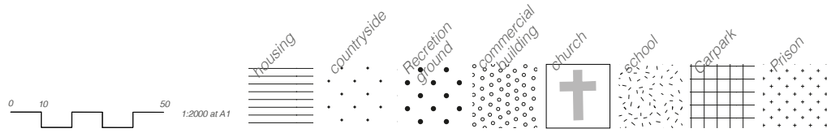


Fig 241: Map of Whinmoor cemetery (Author, 2024)

Whinmoor
2013



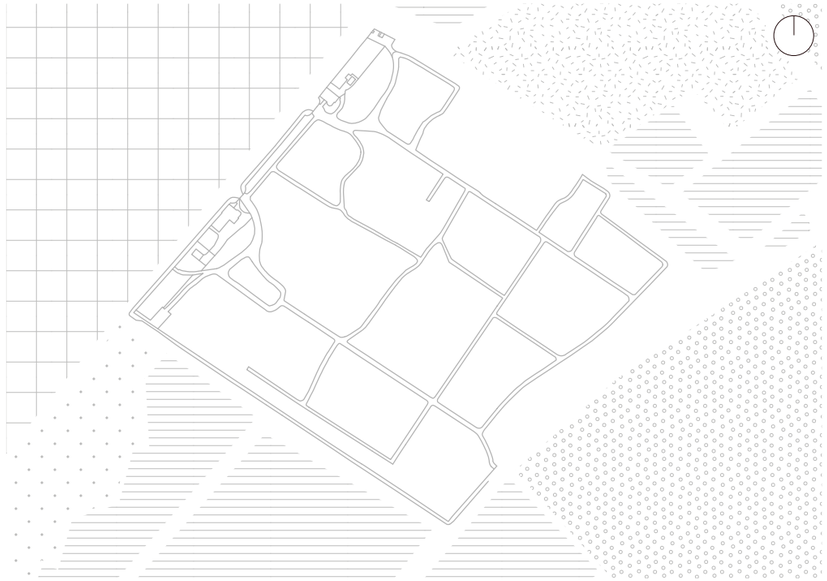


Fig 247: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beckett Street
1845

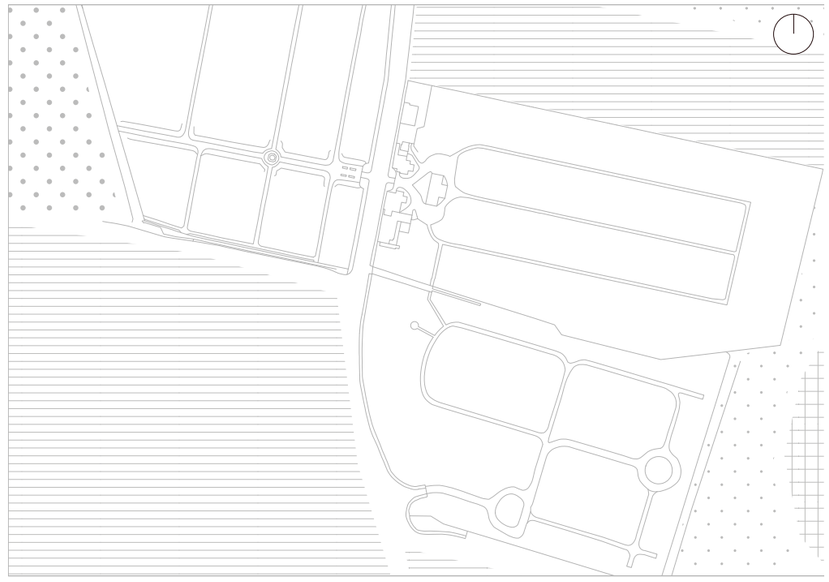


Fig 248: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

Hunslet
1845

Fig 249: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)

Holbeck
1857

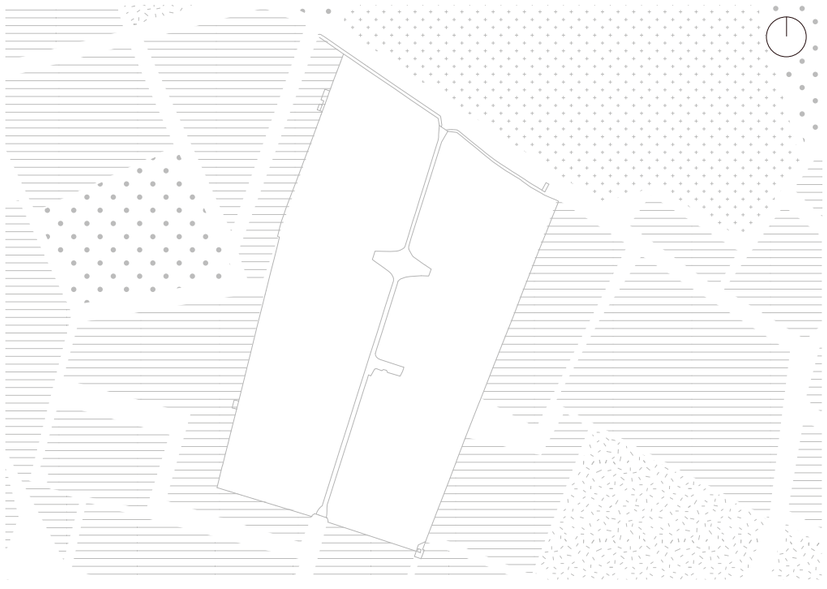


Fig 253: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Wortley
1863

Fig 254: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome
1865

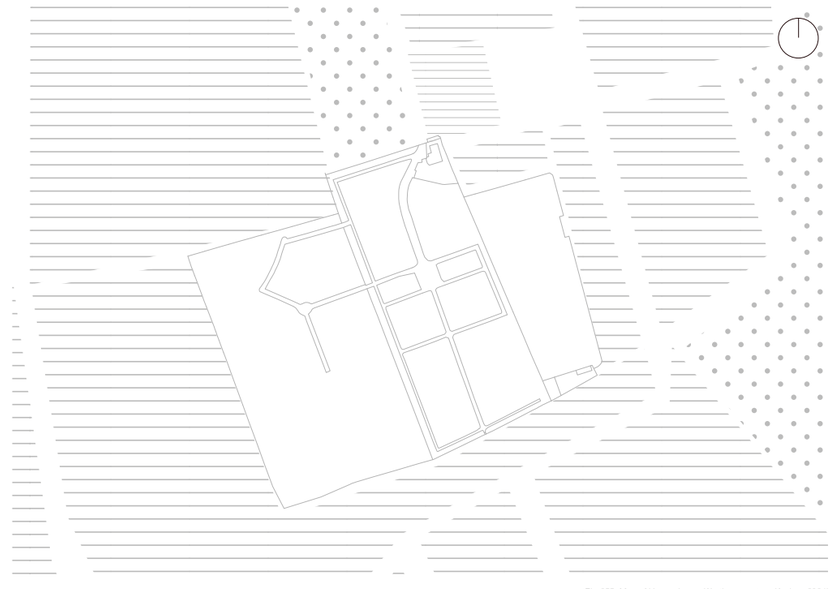


Fig 255: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Cemeteries whcih are in areas of countryside

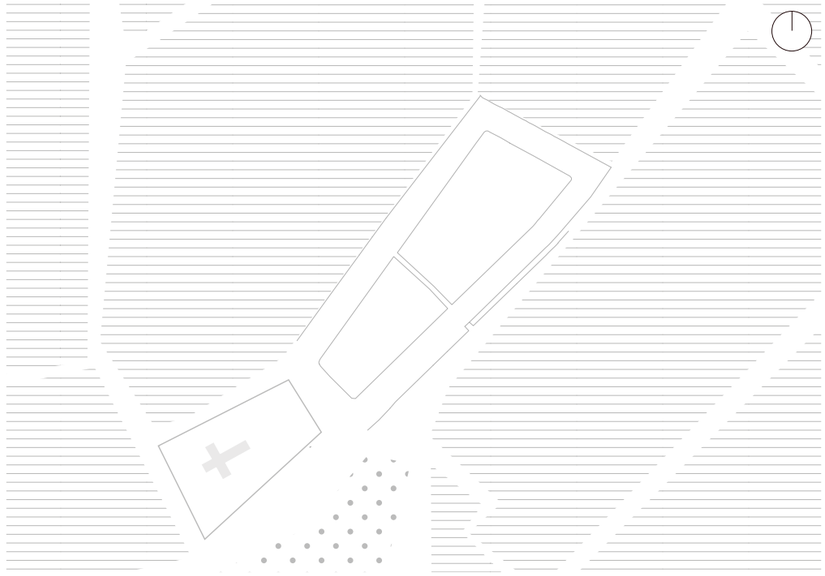


Fig 250: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beeston
1859

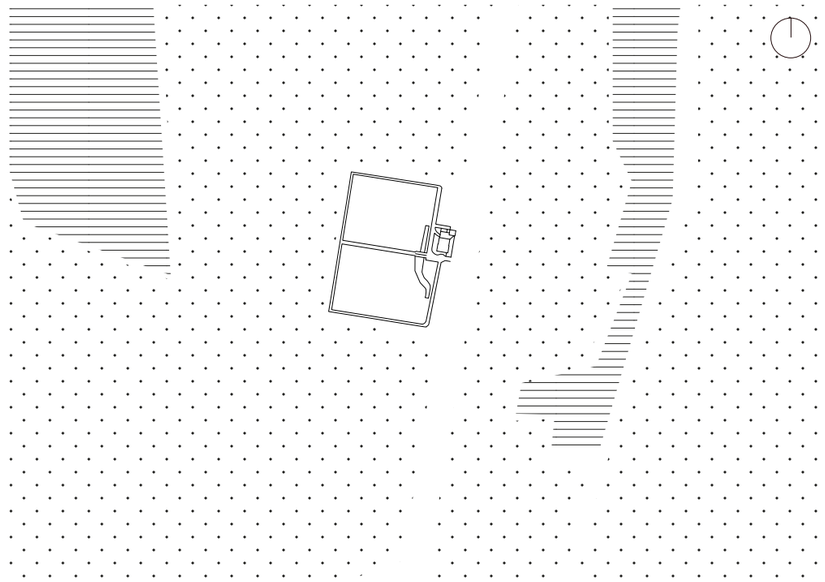


Fig 251: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Farnley
1860

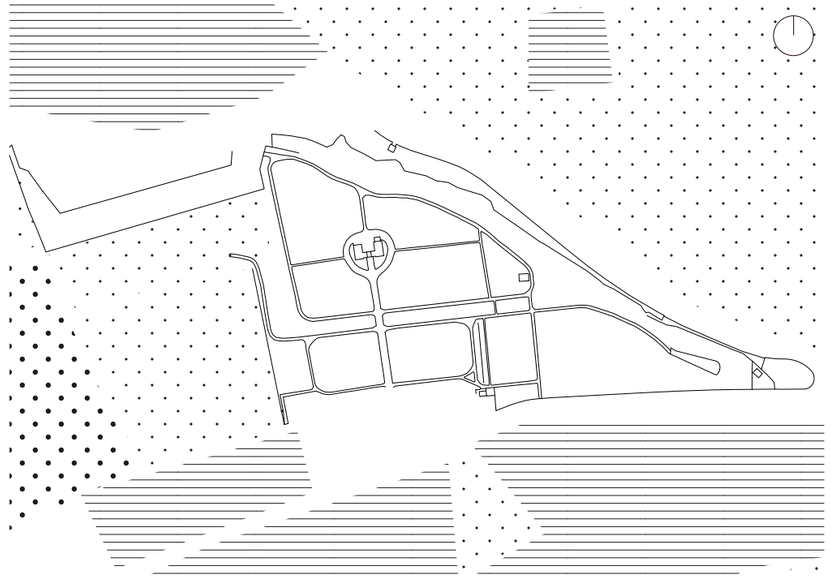


Fig 252: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Otley
1862

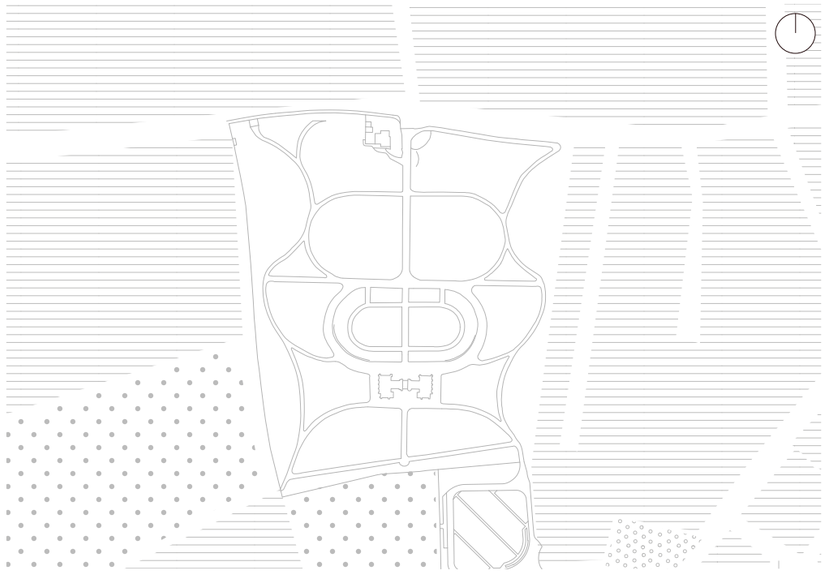


Fig 256: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)

Pudsey
1875

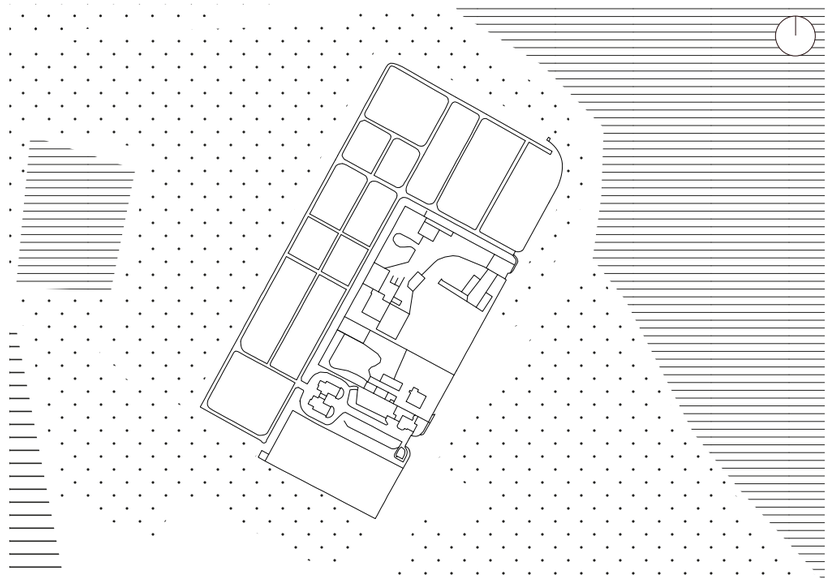


Fig 257: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)

Yeadon
1875

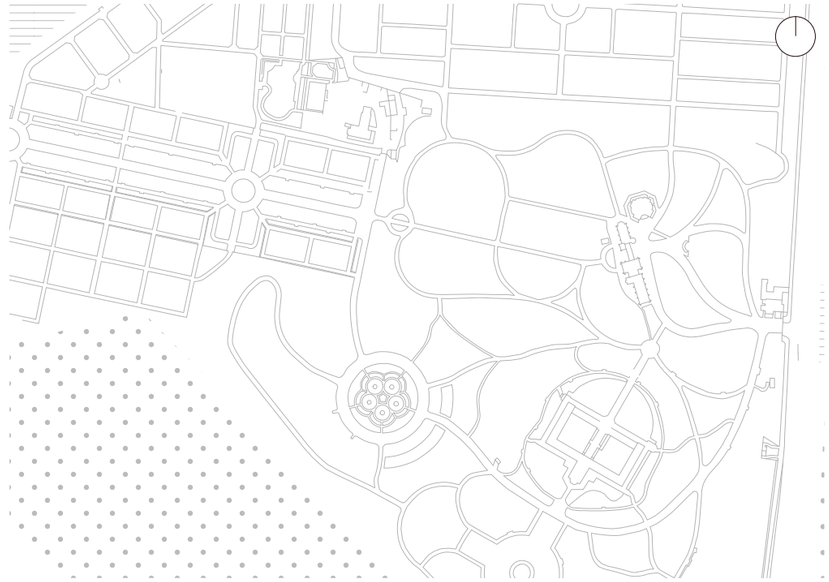
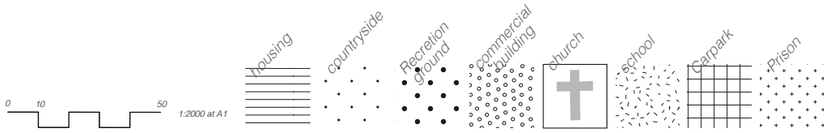


Fig 258: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lawnswood
1876

Cremetorium
added in 1905



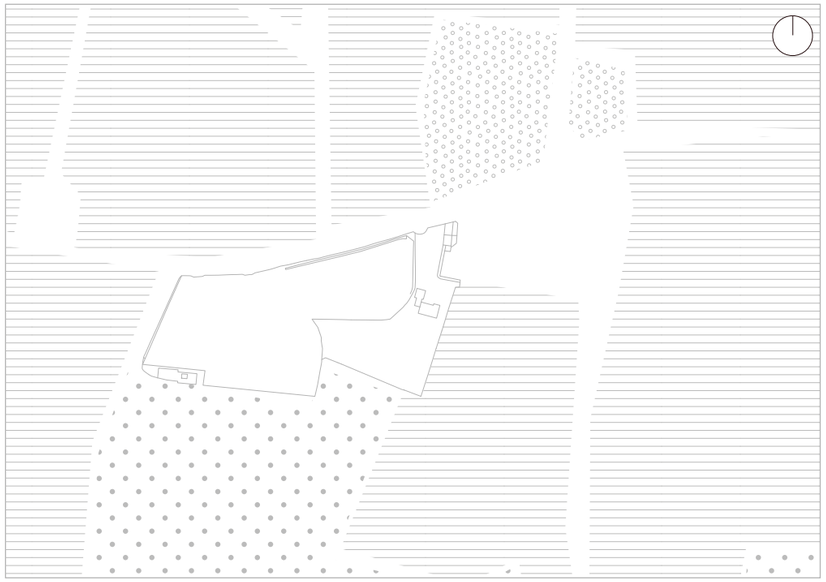


Fig 259: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)

Whitkirk
1881

Fig 260: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)

Armley Hill Top
1892

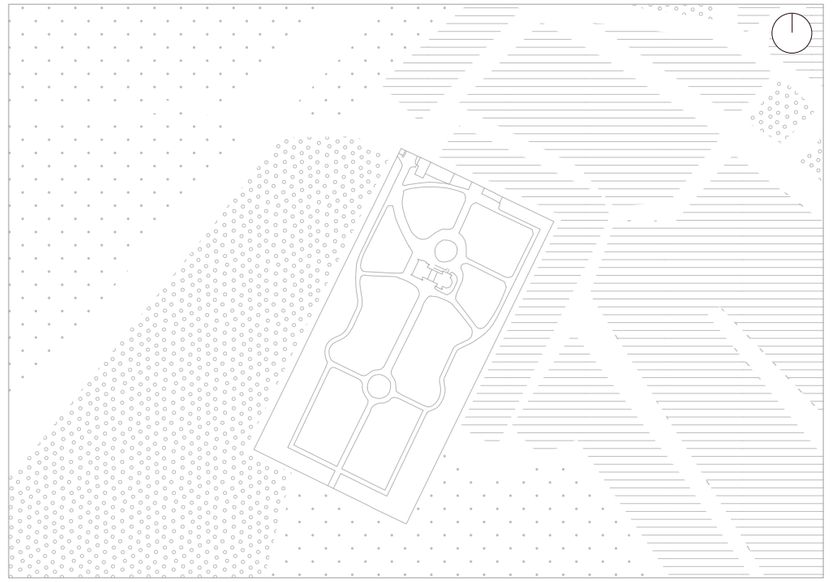


Fig 261: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Horsforth
1881

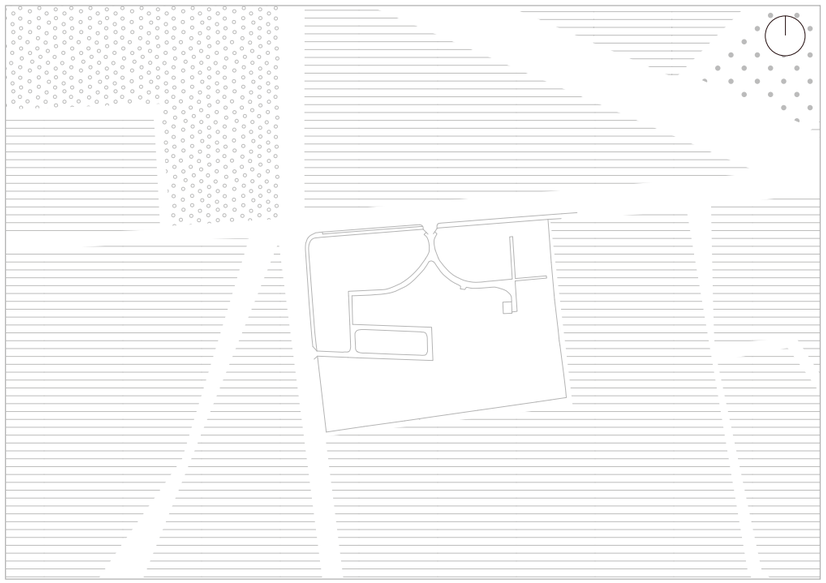


Fig 265: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)

Rothwell
1918

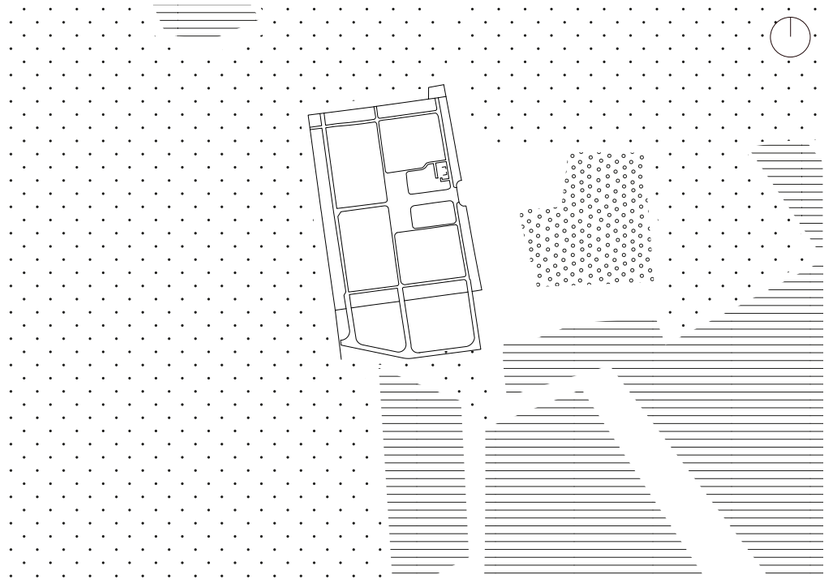


Fig 266: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Guiseley
1922

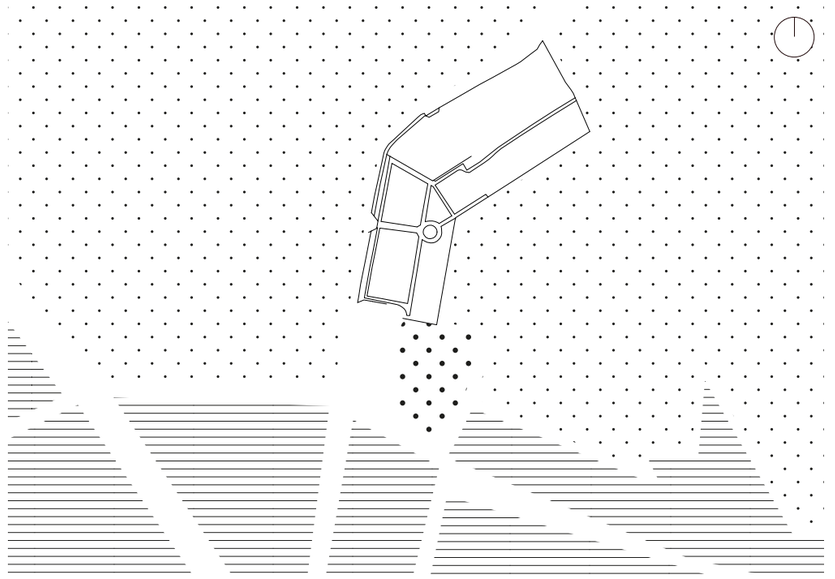


Fig 267: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse
1932

Cemeteries whcih are in areas of countryside

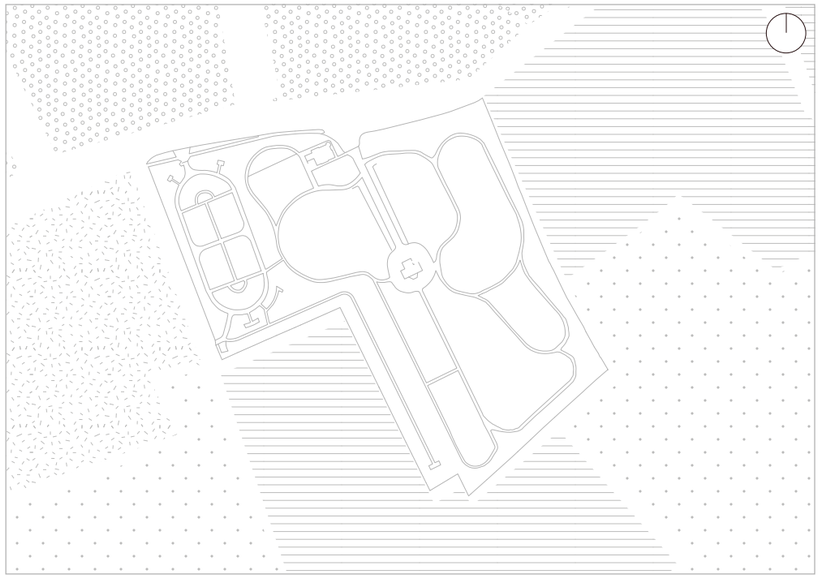


Fig 262: Map of Morley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Morley
1884

Fig 263: Map of Harehills cemetery (Author, 2024)

Harehills
1908

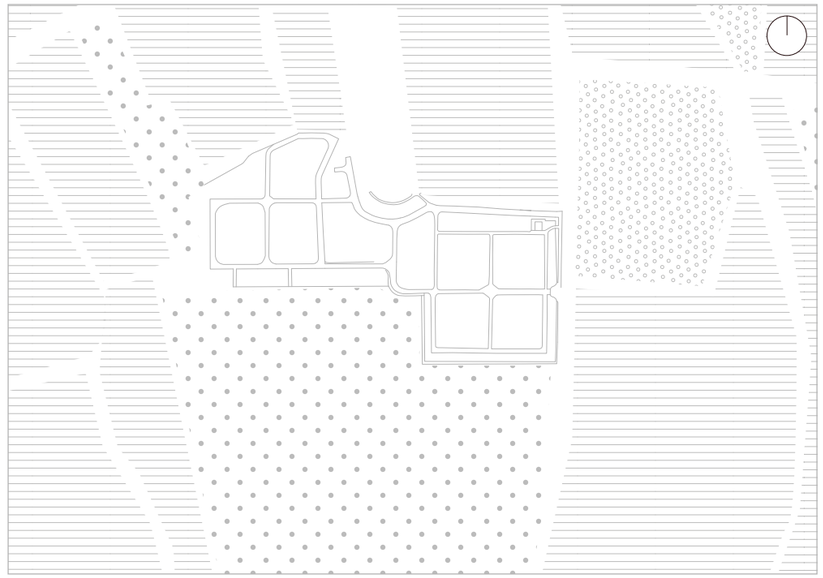


Fig 264: Map of Garforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Garforth
1911

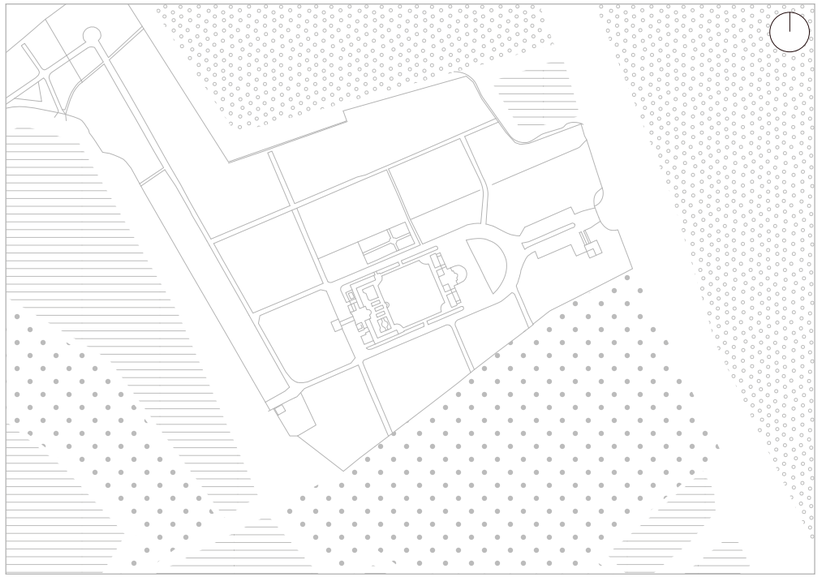


Fig 268: Map of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 269: Map of Kippax cemetery (Author, 2024)

Kippax
2013

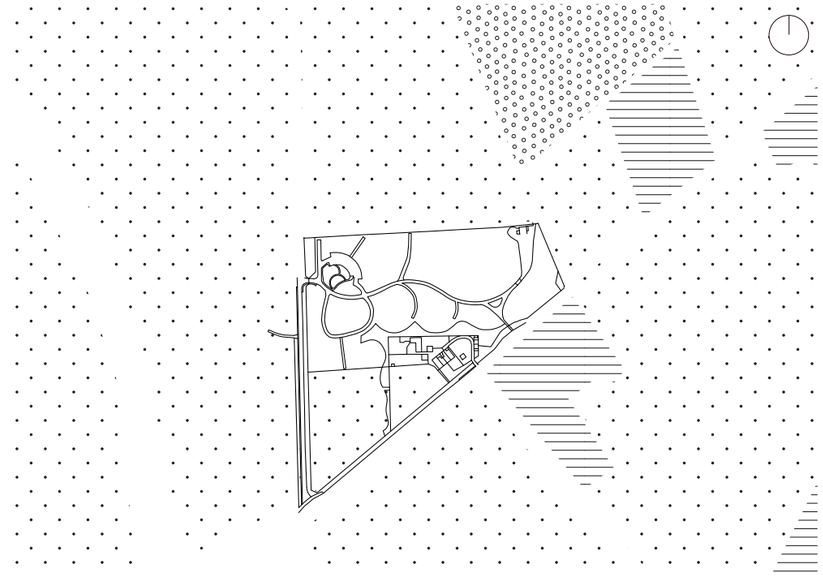
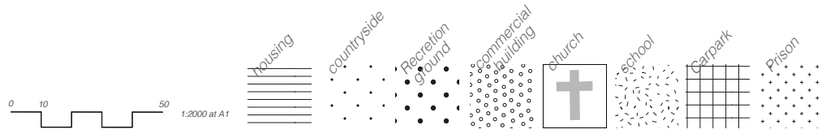


Fig 270: Map of Whinmoor cemetery (Author, 2024)

Whinmoor
2013



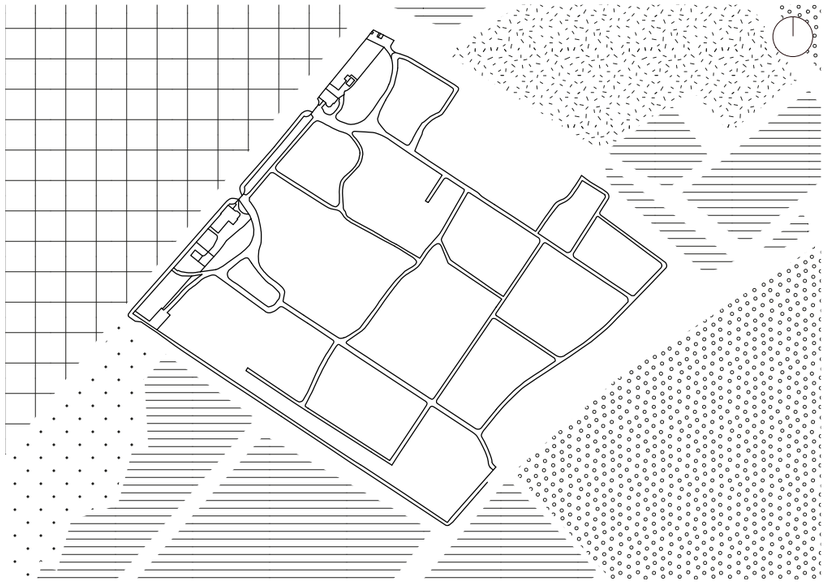


Fig 271: Map of Beckett Street cemetery (Author, 2024)

Beckett Street
1845

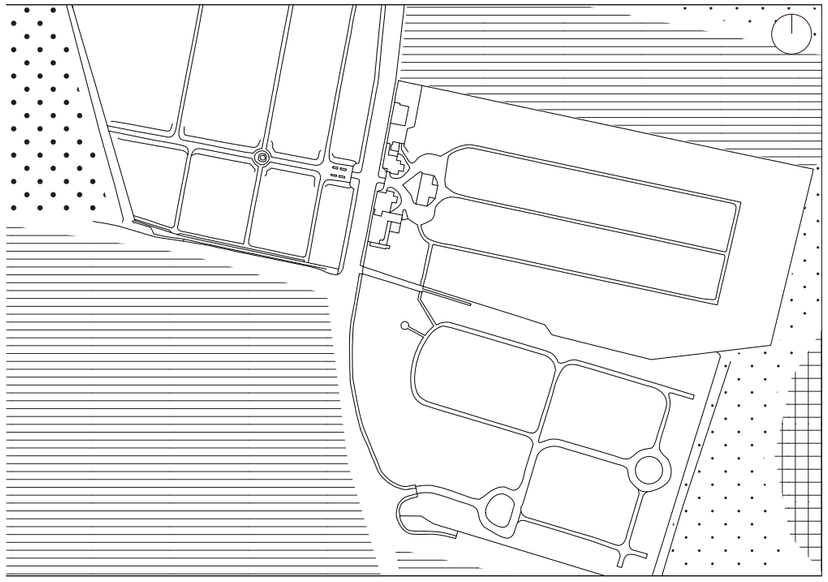


Fig 272: Map of Hunslet cemetery (Author, 2024)

Hunslet
1845

Fig 273: Map of Holbeck cemetery (Author, 2024)

Holbeck
1857

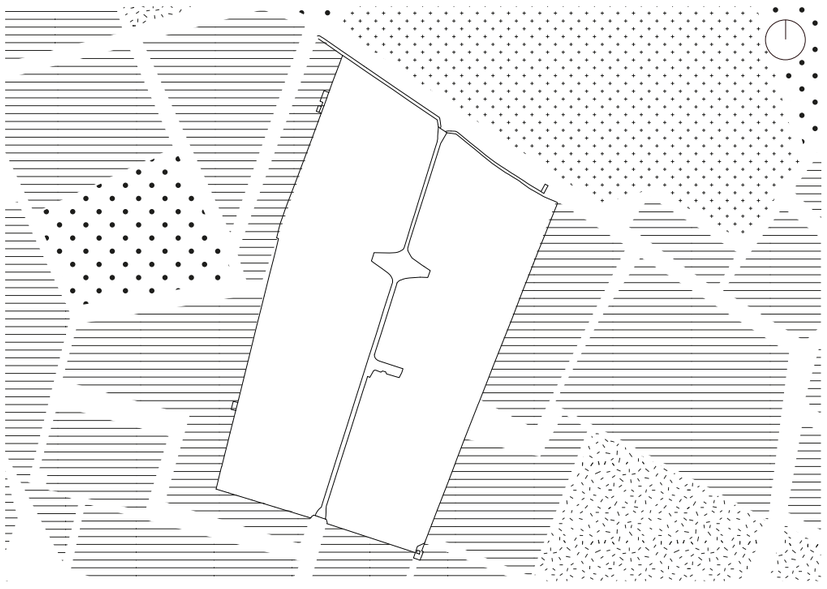


Fig 277: Map of New Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

New Wortley
1863

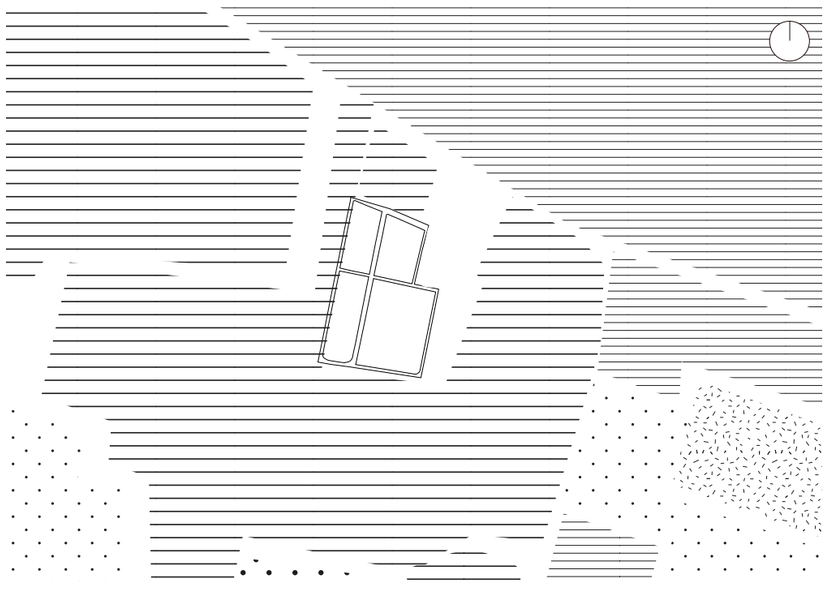


Fig 278: Map of Gildersome cemetery (Author, 2024)

Gildersome
1865

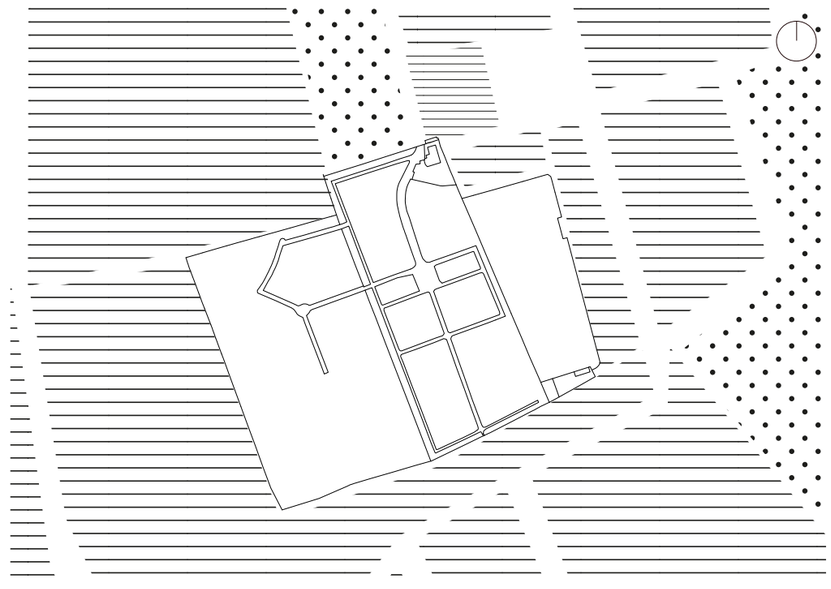
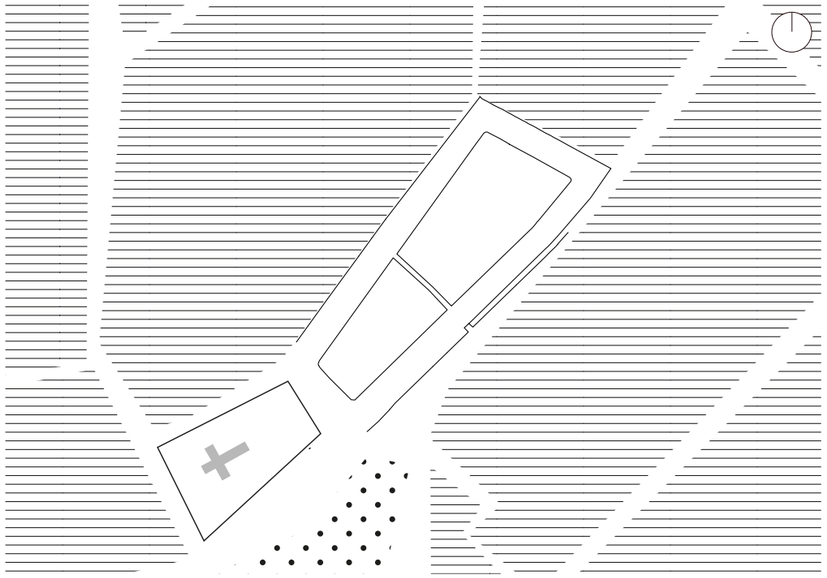


Fig 279: Map of Upper, Lower Wortley cemetery (Author, 2024)

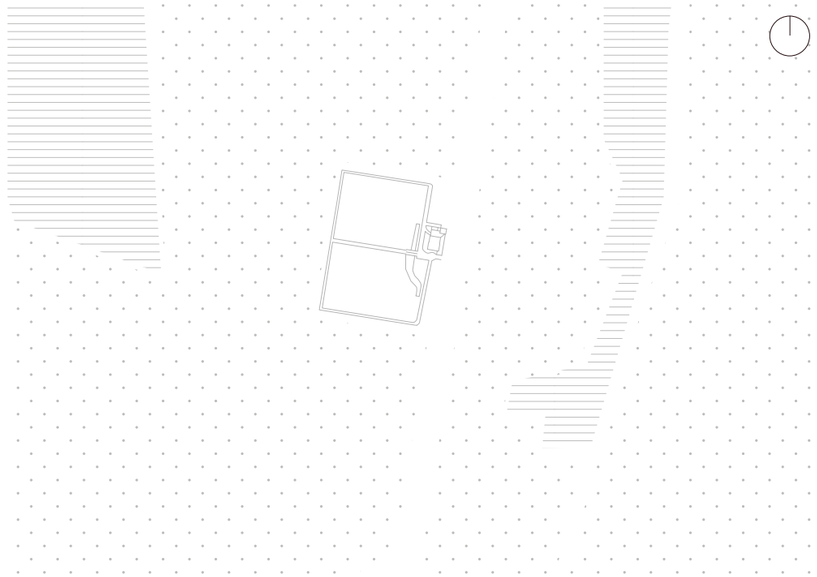
Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Cemeteries whcih are in areas of suburban density



Beeston
1859

Fig 274: Map of Beeston cemetery (Author, 2024)

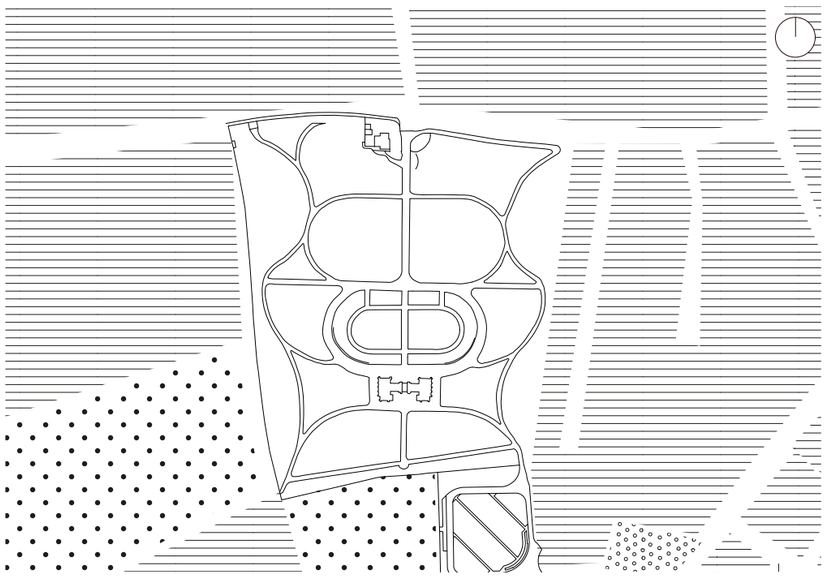


New Farnley
1860

Fig 275: Map of New Farnley cemetery (Author, 2024)

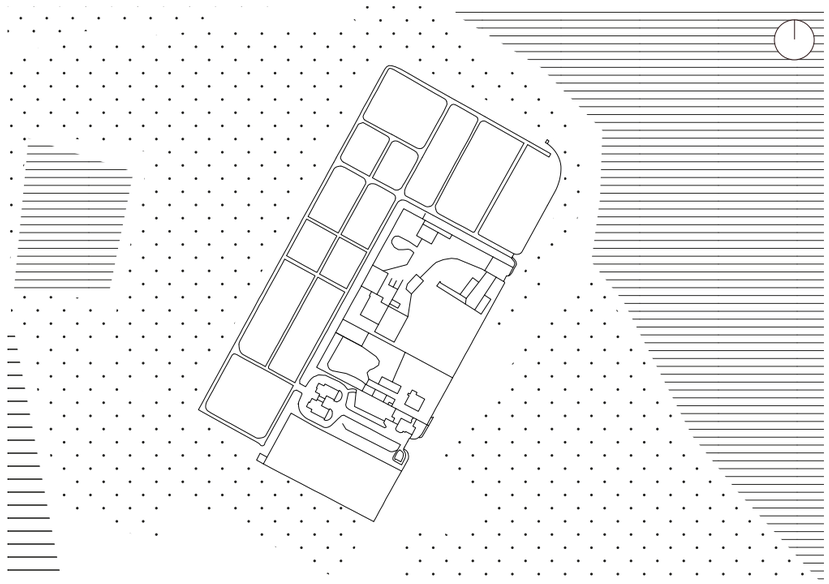
Otley
1862

Fig 276: Map of Otley cemetery (Author, 2024)



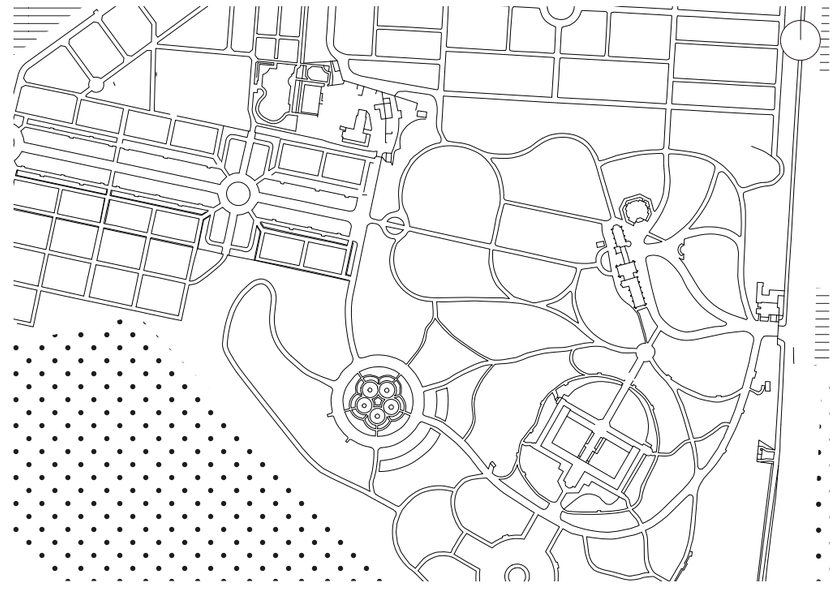
Pudsey
1875

Fig 280: Map of Pudsey cemetery (Author, 2024)



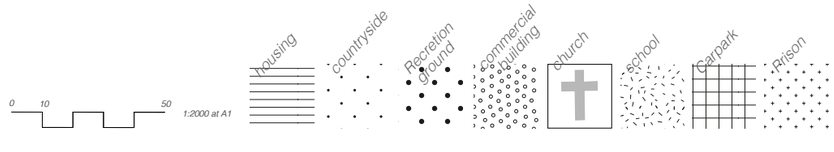
Yeadon
1875

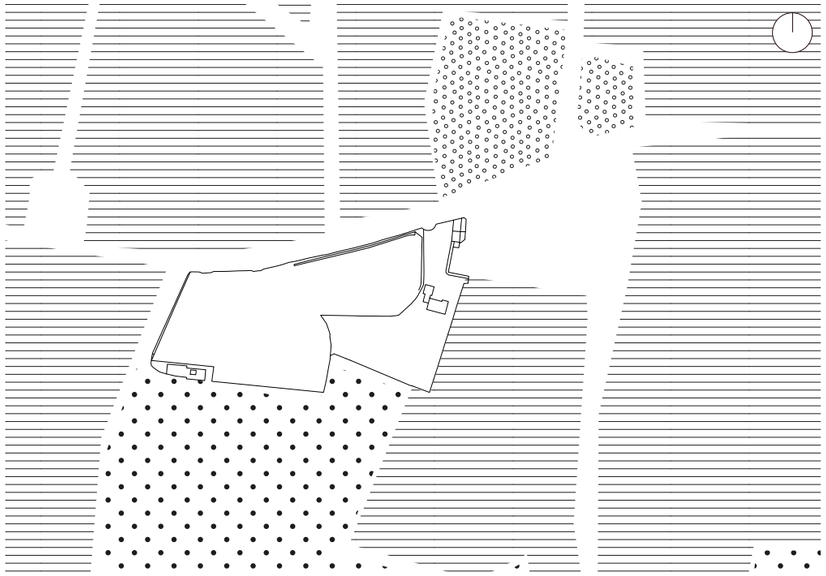
Fig 281: Map of Yeadon cemetery (Author, 2024)



Lawnswood Cremetorium
1876 added in 1905

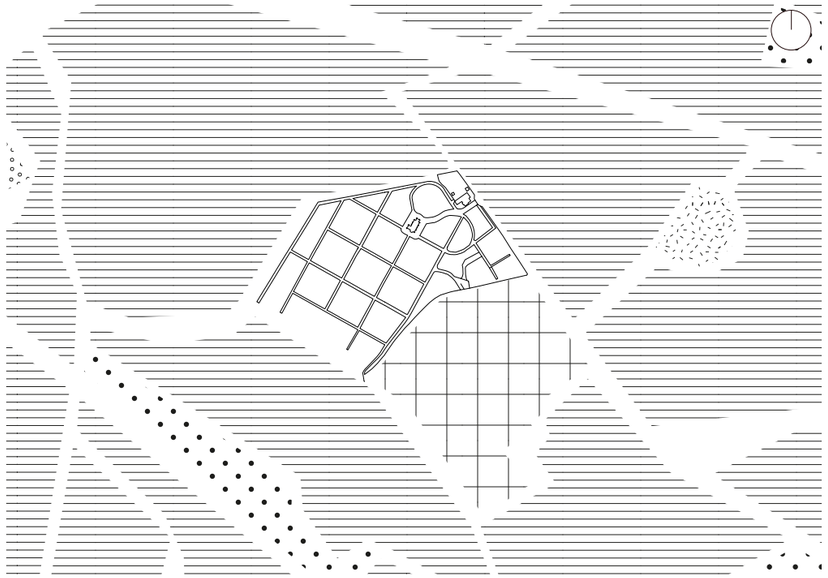
Fig 282: Map of Lawnswood cemetery (Author, 2024)





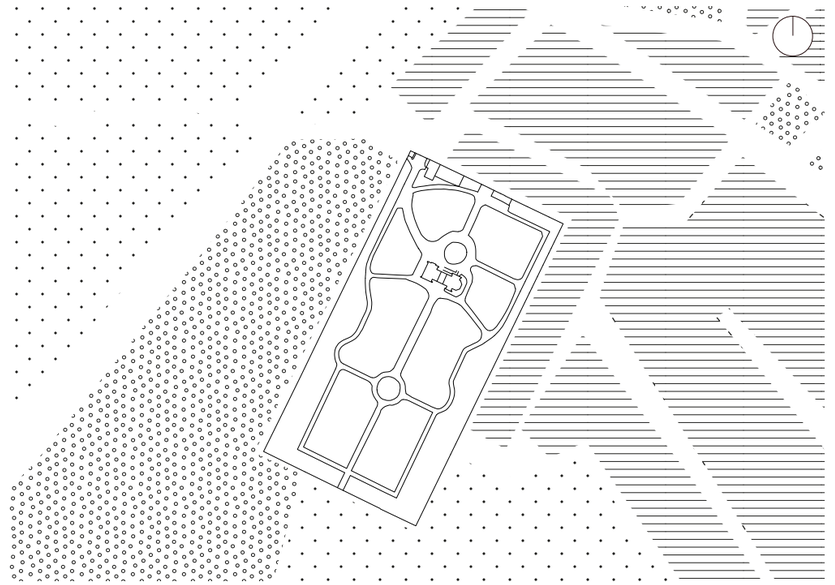
Whitkirk
1881

Fig 283: Map of Whitkirk cemetery (Author, 2024)



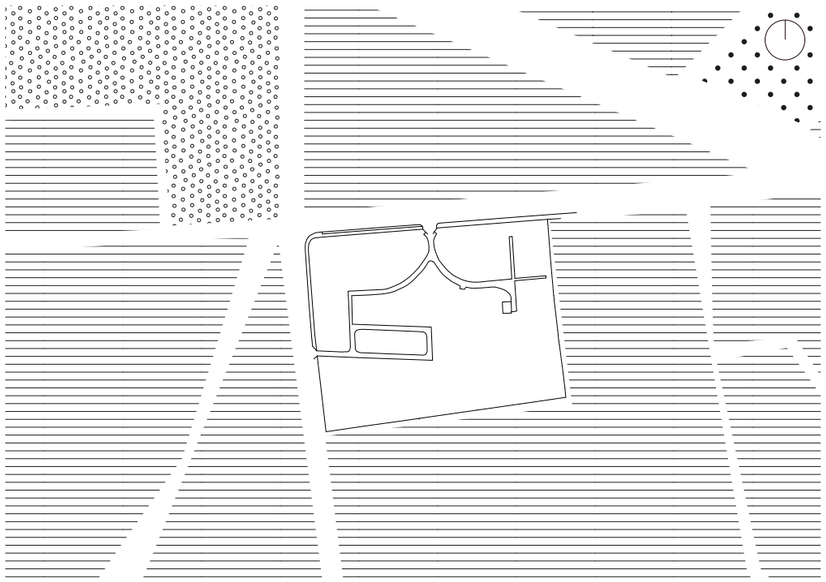
Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 284: Map of Armley Hill Top cemetery (Author, 2024)



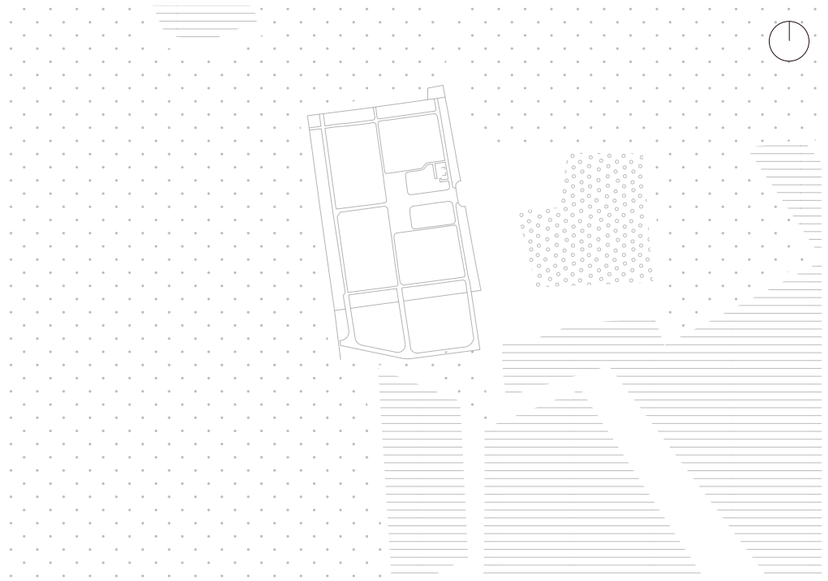
Horsforth
1881

Fig 285: Map of Horsforth cemetery (Author, 2024)



Rothwell
1918

Fig 289: Map of Rothwell cemetery (Author, 2024)



Guiseley
1922

Fig 290: Map of Guiseley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Lofthouse
1932

Fig 291: Map of Lofthouse cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cemeteries which are in areas of suburban density

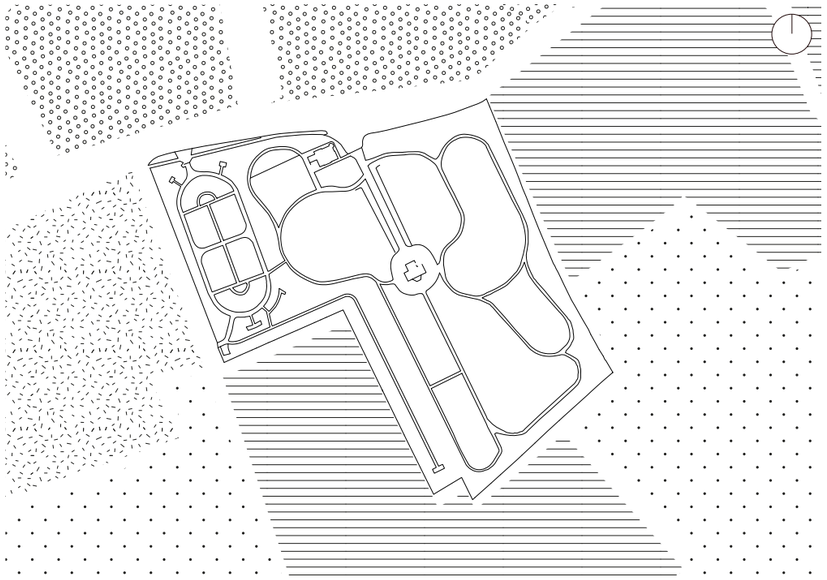


Fig 286: Map of Morley cemetery (Author, 2024)

Morley
1884

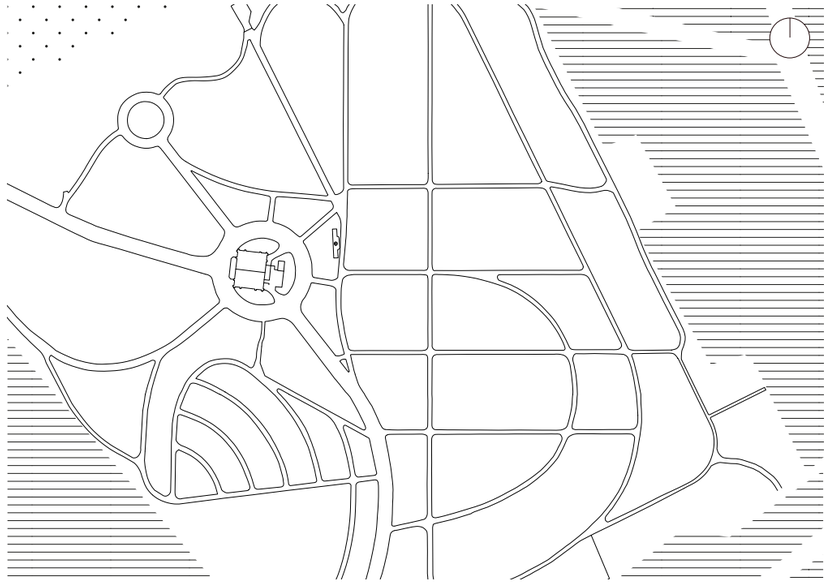


Fig 287: Map of Harehills cemetery (Author, 2024)

Harehills
1908

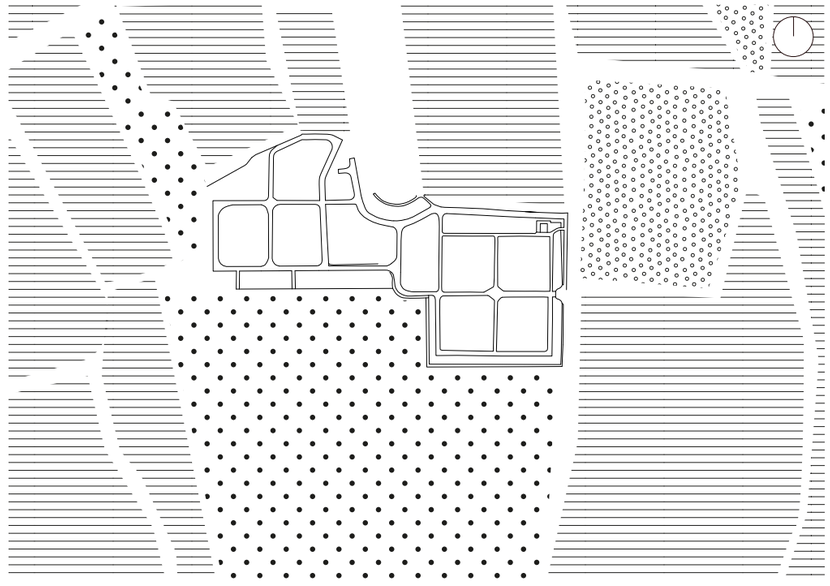


Fig 288: Map of Garforth cemetery (Author, 2024)

Garforth
1911

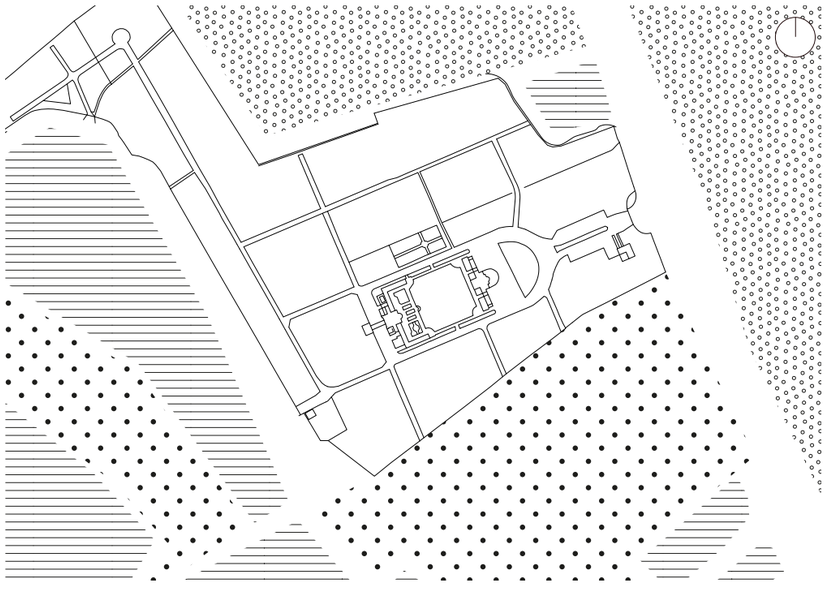


Fig 292: Map of Cottingley Hall cemetery (Author, 2024)

Cottingley Hall
1938

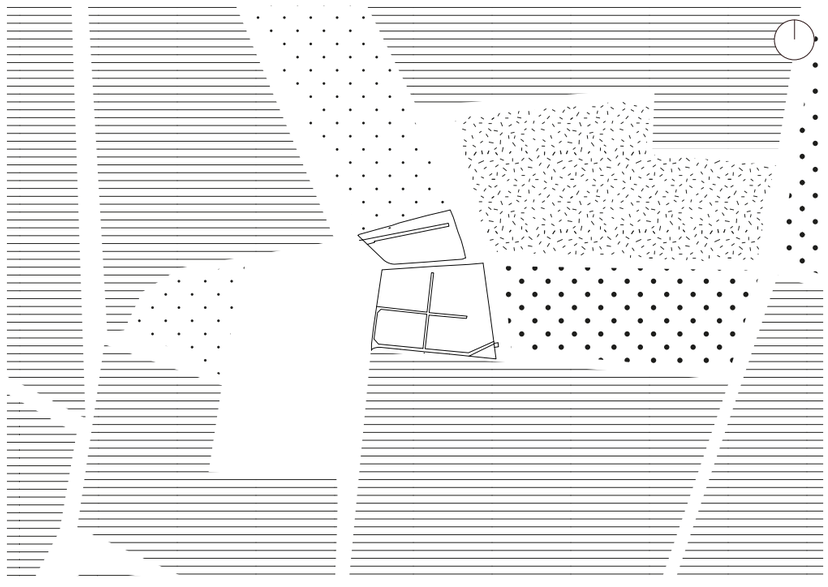


Fig 293: Map of Kippax cemetery (Author, 2024)

Kippax
2013

Fig 294: Map of Whinmoor cemetery (Author, 2024)

Whinmoor
2013

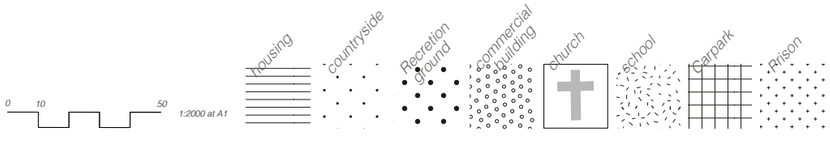


Fig 295

Beckett Street
1845
dissenters walk

Fig 296

Hunslet
1845
‘new’ part of hunslet

Fig 297

Holbeck
1857

Fig 301

New Wortley
1863

Fig 302

Gildersome
1865

Fig 303

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Aerial photographs of the Cemeteries

Together with the aerial view images, images of the entrances and views of the cemetery sites from google earth we can see how well the cemeteries are maintained at this present day. It is clear through these images that the newer cemeteries have less landscaping that the earliest cemeteries. All the cemeteries have pathways, which are used to divide the burial plots which are surrounded by lawn.

Beeston
1859

Fig 298

New Farnley
1860

Fig 299

Otley
1862

Fig 300

Pudsey
1875

Fig 304

Yeadon
1875

Fig 305

Lawnswood
1876

Fig 306

Cremetorium
added in 1905

Fig 295-306: Aerial images of Leeds cemeteries (google earth, 2024)

Whitkirk
1881

Fig 307

Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 308

Horsforth
1881

Fig 309

Rothwell
1918

Fig 313

Guiseley
1922

Fig 314

Lofthouse
1932

Fig 315

This next section summarises what was discovered about the layouts of land the cemeteries occupy. All the cemeteries are laid out in a somewhat of a grid formation. They differ in size, shape, and topography but they are all subdivided into sections which are divided by pathways. This formation makes it possible for people to locate a grave easily.

Comparisons revealed that there wasn't a particularly obvious pattern which dictated that the cemeteries closer to the city centre had a curved or simple grid pattern or vice versa. However the survey did communicate that the older cemeteries were "laid out very much in the style of parks with flowing paths of gentle curves and dry gravel for our Victorian ancestors to promenade on Sundays after church," (Burton,K 2023), Between the dates of 1859 and 1865 don't correlate to this as they are generally simple grid layouts and then the cemeteries built seem to replicate this earlier style of "flowing paths and gentle curves". (Burton, K 2023)

Morley
1884

Fig 310

Harehills
1908

Fig 311

Garforth
1911

Fig 312

Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 316

Kippax
2013

Fig 317

Whinmoor
2013

Fig 318

Fig 307-318: Aerial images of Leeds cemeteries (google earth, 2024)

Fig 319

Beckett Street
1845
dissenters walk

Fig 320

Hunslet
1845
‘new’ part of hunslet

Fig 321

Holbeck
1857

Fig 325

New Wortley
1863

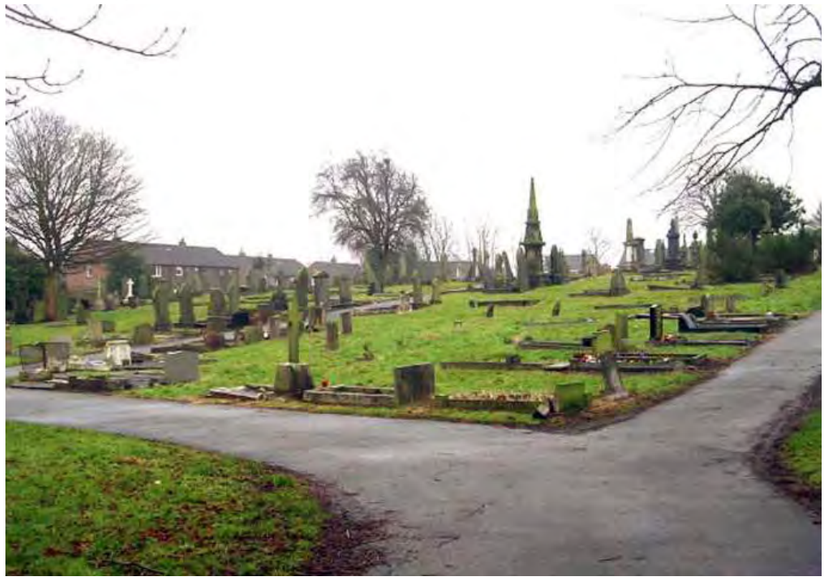


Fig 326

Gildersome
1865

Fig 327

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

General Photographs of the Cemeteries

The M621 motor way was built in 1972 (UKMA, 2020), as a major road leading into Leeds city centre. This motorway is in very close proximity to several of the cemeteries including Morley, Cottingley Hall and Holbeck. This demonstrates a disregard to the kind of environment that could be argued to be needed for a cemetery causing noise and disruption to the people that are spending time there. On the other hand it could be argued that the motorway makes to the cemetery sites more accessible.

It is notable that the cemeteries which have attached crematoriums, Lawnswood and Cottingley Hall have more provisions for visitors such as car parks. Cremation makes up 78.4% of body disposal in the United Kingdom (Ashes, 2022) therefore much more popular than burials.

Fig 322

Beeston
1859

Fig 323

New Farnley
1860

Fig 324

Otley
1862

Fig 326

Pudsey
1875

Fig 329

Yeadon
1875

Fig 330

Lawnswood
1876

Cremetorium
added in 1905

Fig 319-330: Images showing cemeteries of Leeds (various authors)

fig 331

Whitkirk
1881

Fig 332

Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 333

Horsforth
1881

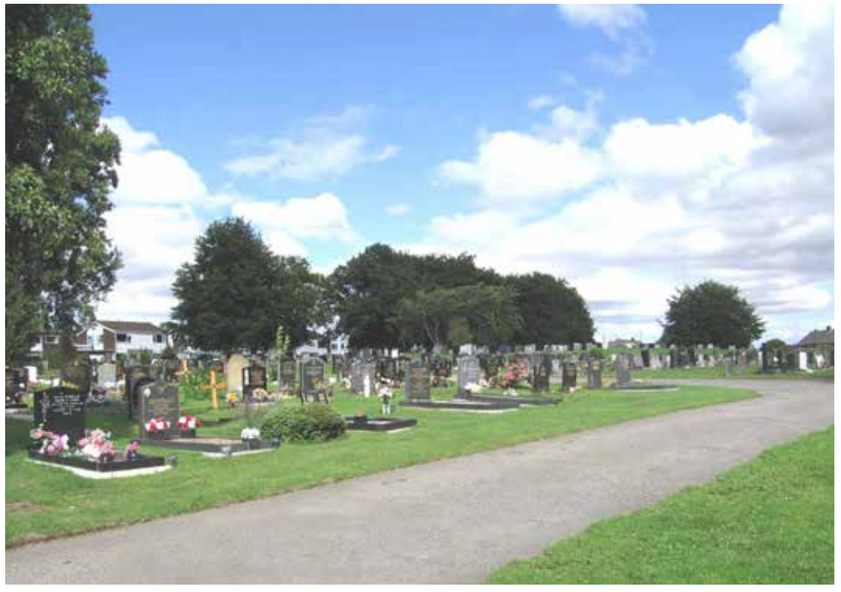


Fig 337

Rothwell
1918

Fig 338

Guiseley
1922

Fig 339

Lofthouse
1932

Morley
1884

Fig 334

Harehills
1908

Fig 335

Garforth
1911

Fig 336

Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 340

Kippax
2013

Fig 341

Whinmoor
2013

Fig 342

Fig 331-342: Images showing cemeteries of Leeds (various authors)

Fig 343

Beckett Street
1845

Fig 344

Hunslet
1845

Fig 345

Holbeck
1857

Fig 349

New Wortley
1863

Fig 350

Gildersome
1865

Fig 351

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Photographs of the Cemetery Entrances

Fig 346

Beeston
1859

Fig 347

New Farnley
1860

Fig 348

Otley
1862

Fig 352

Pudsey
1875

Fig 353

Yeadon
1875

Fig 354

Lawnswood
1876

Cremetorium
added in 1905

Fig 343- 354: Images showing cemetery entrances (google earth, 2024)

Whitkirk
1881

Fig 355

Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 356

Horsforth
1881

Fig 357

Rothwell
1918

Fig 361

Guiseley
1922

Fig 362

Lofthouse
1932

Fig 363

Morley
1884

Fig 358

Harehills
1908

Fig 359

Garforth
1911

Fig 360

Cottingley Hall
1938

Fig 364

Kippax
2013

Fig 365

Whinmoor
2013

Fig 366

Fig 355- 366: Images showing cemetery entrances (google earth, 2024)

Fig 367

Beckett Street
1845

Fig 368

Hunslet
1845

Fig 369

Holbeck
1857

Adjacent to a church

New Wortley
1863

Adjacent to a church

Gildersome
1865

No assossiated building

Upper, Lower Wortley
1865

Cemetery buildings

Most of the cemeteries have either one or two lodges on site, we can see that this is more common in the cemeteries which were opened pre 1908 except for New Wortley (1863) and New Farnley (1860) as well as Gildersome (1865) but this and Whitkirk (1881) are both adjacent to a church. After Harehills opened in 1908 none of the cemeteries were built with lodges or buildings on site apart from Cottingley Hall (1938) but this cemetery has a connected crematorium. Garforth (1911), Rothwell (1918) and Kippax (2013) were all opened after 1908 and do not have lodges on site but are adjacent to a church. The majority of cemeteries built before 1908 have lodges and buildings on site whereas the majority, built after this date don't have any buildings on site at all.

Fig 370

Beeston
1859

church in
middle

Fig 371

New Farnley
1860

fig 372

Otley
1862

chapel in the
middle - disused

Fig 373

Pudsey
1875

Fig 374

Yeadon
1875

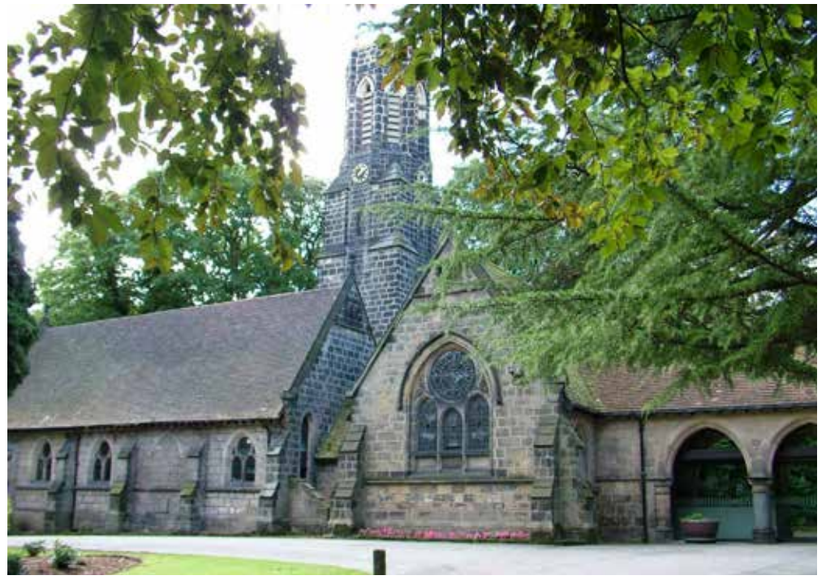


Fig 375

Lawnswood
1876

Cremetorium
added in 1905

Fig 367- 375: Images showing cemetery buildings (various authors)

No assossiated building

Whitkirk
1881

Fig 376

Armley Hill Top
1892

Fig 377

Horsforth
1881

No assossiated building

Rothwell
1918

No assossiated building

Guiseley
1922

No assossiated building

Lofthouse
1932

The analysis of the maps of the cemeteries revealed that some cemeteries were located next to churches and some cemeteries have chapels on the cemetery site itself. The cemeteries which are next to churches are Gildersome (1865), Beeston (1859), which opened consecutively. Whitkirk (1881) opened 22 years later and Garforth (1911) opened 30 years after this. For these two cemeteries there doesn't appear to be an evident reason other than the cemeteries were located here next to the churches purely as extensions to the church graveyards. All of these locations are small towns in Leeds and an extension to the church graveyard could have been the only available land. The cemeteries with (disused) churches/ chapels on the site are Hunslet (1845), Beeston (1859), Otley (1862), Pudsey (1875) Horsforth (1881), Harehills (1908) and Armley Hill Top (1892). Having been built in the last half of the 19th century is an important factor in the layout and design of the cemetery itself, these cemeteries all have curved walkways. This is important to note as pre 20th century cemeteries were often used as places to spend time.Lawnswood (1876) appears to be the only cemetery with a chapel which is currently in use, this could be due to the attached crematorium which results in increased visitation. As highlighted in the essay question itself, cemeteries were built as a response to the overcrowding of the urban church yards therefore It logically makes sense for municipal cemeteries to be built as extensions to these church yards. "The first cholera epidemic (1831- 2) killed 52,000 people in Britain and brought the problem of graveyard overcrowding into sharp focus". This was followed by a second outbreak in 1848-9 where more locations for cemeteries were needed due to the church graveyards really being at capacity. There is reason to doubt that the cholera outbreaks are the reason for cemeteries being located next to churches however the dates don't align showing that perhaps the only space suitable for these cemeteries was next to the churches. (Darlington history society, 2024)

Fig 378

Morley
1884

Fig 379

Harehills
1908

No assossiated building

Garforth
1911

Fig 380

Cottingley Hall
1938 (cremetorium)

Adjacent to a church

Kippax
2013

No assossiated building

Whinmoor
2013

To summarise the findings of the survey: It was discovered that the most influence over the location of a cemetery is to place the it where it is most practical for the time in which it is built for example the older the cemetery the closer to the city centre it is or the older the cemetery. It is evident that the value of a cemetery in society has declined over time due to the amount care taken over the design and layout of a cemetery. For example, this is evidenced in the older and lager cemeteries which generally have developed landscaping and designed pathways. In addition to this it is evident through the placement of the M625 motorway next to some of the cemeteries that the cemetery has been disregarded in society.

The towns with are in the countryside might have been picked for the later cemeteries because of limited space in inner city areas or it could simply be that the towns with country-side are the towns which are further away, and the later cemeteries get further out of the city centre as they get older.

Fig 376- 380: Images showing cemetery buildings (various authors)