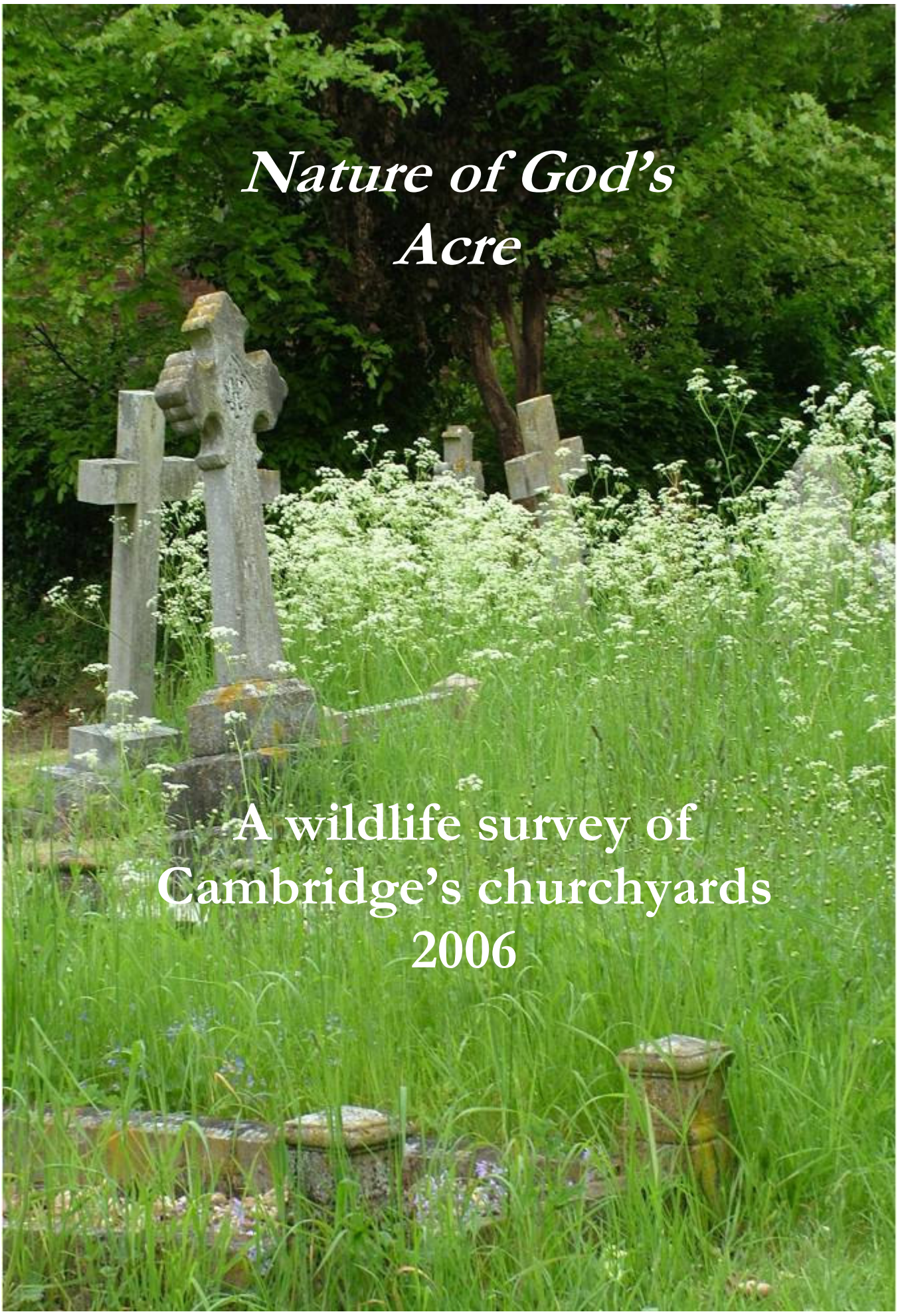


Nature of God's Acre

A wildlife survey of Cambridge's churchyards 2006

Supported by The National Lottery® through the Heritage Lottery Fund

Heritage Lottery Fund

Cambridge City Council

Cambridge Sustainable City

A WILDLIFE SURVEY OF CAMBRIDGE'S CHURCHYARDS, 2006

This survey was carried out by the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Biological Records Centre, and the Cambridge Greenbelt Project.

This survey was also undertaken with the advice and help of Rev. Nigel Cooper, of Ely Diocese.

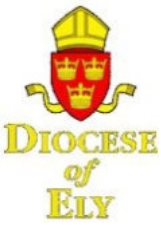


Table of contents

Introduction

Churchyards, cemeteries and the grounds of other places of worship can be oases for wildlife in a bustling modern city. They are often a remnant of habitats long lost and can play an important role in conserving these habitats and the species that use them. As a result of this, churchyards are a mosaic of habitats with their own Biodiversity Action Plan. They are places of tranquillity, reflection and sanctuary.

Many churchyards were often established on old meadows or pastures and can be rich in species now lost from other areas in the city. In spring and summer many of these sites are flower rich havens buzzing with insects and alive with the song of birds.

Some unusual habitats exist in churchyards that make them important for things like lichens, mosses and bats.

Many of the city's churchyards were surveyed during the summer of 2006 to assess their value in terms of wildlife. This report provides a summary of the findings and includes a map, some key species found and also some possible management suggestions for each churchyard surveyed.

General Management Guidelines

There are many different habitats found in churchyards, and where possible it is important to maintain all of these different habitats. The key habitats found in churchyards, are trees and shrubs, grassland (long and short grass), headstones/walls and flower filled borders. These provide important areas where animals can find food, shelter and breed. All areas for wildlife will need some form of management otherwise they will turn into areas of scrubby trees. Although this is a valuable habitat in itself, it does need to be kept in check otherwise it replaces large areas of other habitats such as grassland or flower beds which support different and often scarcer species.

Sites with a regular maintenance regime only need a slight adjustment in timing and amount of management undertaken to produce dramatic improvements for wildlife. There is obviously a need for those people who use the site to agree with the alteration in management, as there are often concerns that, for example areas of grass being left uncut can lead to the site looking uncared for.

In certain sites where areas have been left unmanaged there is an understandable desire to re-implement management. This usually involves the removal of large overgrown shrubs, tall herbaceous vegetation and cutting rank grass. However this immediately removes those features that may well be important for wildlife at that particular point. So it is best, if possible to do this work progressively, understand what is already living there and keep some of the habitat undisturbed. Unfortunately these areas can encourage anti-social behaviour because it looks as though nobody is looking after them. Littering can be a severe problem in certain areas and obviously should be discouraged. Therefore at certain sites it might not be deemed suitable to alter the management too greatly.

Trees and shrubs don't necessarily have to be native species to be of value for wildlife, but generally this is more favourable. Many churchyards have trees of considerable age and these are of particular interest as they provide habitat for scarcer species.

There is no preference of long grass over short as they both offer different habitats for different species. Obviously short grass is very often desired in churchyards, to indicate that they are being looked after and respected.
Regularly mown, unsprayed or unfertilised areas of grass can hold very interesting assemblages of fungi. A group of fungi called Waxcaps are indicative of such management. So if an area is noted as having fungi at certain times of year then keeping it mown regularly is very important and allowing the grass to grow long can actually harm some potentially important species.

When grass is allowed to grow long its value for wildlife can increase tremendously. Not only does not cutting it allow any herbaceous plants present to flower, which in turn provides nectar and pollen for many species of insect, but the longer grass provides cover for many insects, amphibians and small mammals. However, it is not always possible to have large areas of uncut grass. One solution is to keep a regular cutting regime along the borders of the grassy areas and adjacent to paths, but leave the rest to grow long over the summer. In the autumn these areas could then be cut and the cuttings removed and composted on site. It is desirable, if possible, for a small area of the long grass to be retained over the winter months. This provides habitat for insects and small mammals to survive in over the winter and this area can then be cut the following autumn. It is best to alternate the area of over-wintering grass. There could, for example be two areas designated as 'over-wintering' areas which can alternate from year to year.

The herbaceous borders found in many churchyards are invaluable for nectar and pollen feeding insects. These areas are usually managed in such a way as to provide a colourful feature throughout the season. This in turn provides food for plant feeding insects that will, in turn, help support other species. So where mixed herbaceous borders occur, wildlife will already be plentiful.

Another very valuable habitat that churchyards provide which is unique to them is the presence of bare rock, in the form of gravestones and to a lesser extent boundary walls and the church buildings themselves. These can support very impressive assemblages of lichens. Because the gravestones are made of different sorts of rock they can vary in pH which will then support different lichen species. The gravestones have been present at these sites for many years and this has allowed the lichens to grow to quite impressive sizes. Lichens, and to a lesser extent mosses, provide habitat for many microscopic animals, such as mites, springtails, beetles and other insects which use them for food, shelter and breeding.
They do not need much management as such, but there may be a need to remove encroaching vegetation, such as Ivy, which shades out the lichens. Other than that they are a very simple 'feature' to manage, and gravestones encrusted with lichens look very attractive and can add character to any churchyard.

Additional features that can be included if there is space include a log pile in a shady corner. This will support many creatures that need dark and damp areas to live in.

This is also similar for compost heaps, the hedgehog being one species which readily uses them. Having a pond will also increase the value for wildlife of any site, however they are not often found in churchyards and it may well be difficult to incorporate one.

Surveyed Churchyards

All Saints Church, Jesus Lane

General Description

A disused city church, managed by the Church Conservation Trust. A key is needed to enter the rear section of the grounds. Brick walls and wooden fences surround the grounds which are generally overgrown.
A gravel path leads from the main paved entrance around the side of the building to a wooden gate. The rear grounds of the church mainly consist of compacted soil and gravel with a large amount of low growing vegetation and a couple of small trees. The front section of the grounds which are separated from the pavement by a low stone wall is particularly overgrown.

Flora and Fauna

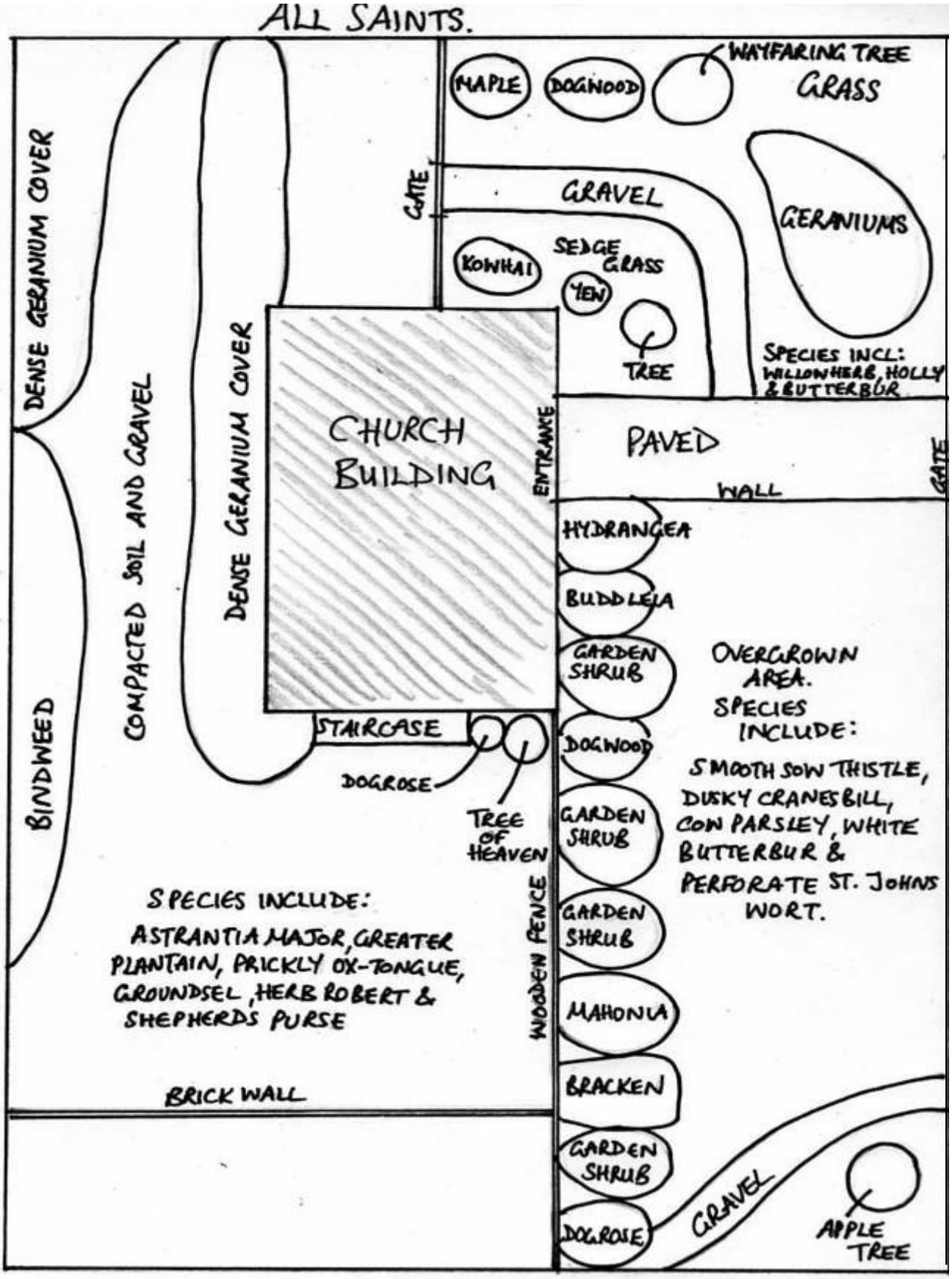
The rear section of the churchyard has several areas of particularly dense ground cover by Geraniums. Other low growing species present include Herb-Robert, Greater Plantain, Bristly Oxtongue, and Lesser Trefoil. Around the fence line of this area and against the church building itself include species such as Herb-Robert, Groundsel, Black Horehound, Smooth Sow-thistle and Shepherd's-purse. The rear fence which backs on to houses is in places covered with Black-bindweed. A Dog Rose and a young Tree of Heaven are found beside the church building.

Bristly Oxtongue
(*Picris echinioides*)

The side section of the church contains a variety of trees and shrubs including a Yew tree, a Field Maple and a Kowhai tree. Holly, Bracken and Dogwood are also present. Smaller plant species include Pencilled Crane's-bill, *Astrantia major*, Willowherb, Ground-ivy, Wall Lettuce and Butterbur.
The front section of the churchyard is very overgrown and consists of a mixture of garden shrubs and wild plants. Shrubs present include Hydrangea, *Mahonia lomariifolia*, Buddleia and Dogwood. Other plants include Dusky Crane's-bill, Common Nettle, Cow Parsley, Rose, Green Alkanet, Perforate St John's-wort, White Dead-nettle and Enchanter's-nightshade.

Lichen was observed to be present on both the church building and the surrounding walls.

`Map


ALL SAINTS.
MAPLE
DOGWOOD
WAYFARING TREE
GRASS
GATE
GRAVEL
GERANIUMS
KOWHAI
SEDGE GRASS
YEW
TREE
SPECIES INCL: WILLOWHERB, HOLLY & BUTTERBUR
DENSE GERANIUM COVER
COMPACTED SOIL AND GRAVEL
DENSE GERANIUM COVER
CHURCH BUILDING
ENTRANCE
PAVED
WALL
GATE
HYDRANGEA
BUDDLEIA
GARDEN SHRUB
OVERGROWN AREA.
SPECIES INCLUDE:
SMOOTH SOW THISTLE, DUSKY CRANESBILL, COW PARSLEY, WHITE BUTTERBUR & PERFORATE ST. JOHNS WORT.
STAIRCASE
DOGWOOD
DOGROSE
TREE OF HEAVEN
GARDEN SHRUB
BINDWEED
SPECIES INCLUDE:
ASTRANTIA MAJOR, GREATER PLANTAIN, PRICKLY OX-TONGUE, GROUNDSEL, HERB ROBERT & SHEPHERDS PURSE
WOODEN FENCE
GARDEN SHRUB
MAHONIA
BRICK WALL
BRACKEN
GARDEN SHRUB
GRAVEL
DOGROSE
APPLE TREE

Management

Trees and Shrubs: The overgrown area is very valuable but will need some management otherwise it will become unsightly and too tall. The number of shrubs is also a valuable feature.

Herbaceous Areas: These areas could do with cutting a portion of them every spring, just to keep the area from becoming too rank and to encourage fresh growth. The plant species present indicate that there has been disturbance in the past.

Grass: The grass does need to be cut, but as mentioned previously the provision of long as well as short grass will boost its value for wildlife. Ideally half could be cut in the spring and half in the autumn with an area left over the winter.

Buildings and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Catholic Church of our Lady and the English Martyrs, Hills Road

General description

A large church situated on the corner of a busy junction. Two sides of the churchyard are separated from the road by low stone walls while the third is next to a school car park, with no wall between.

The grounds are separated into two parts, one to the side of the church and one to the front. Both parts consist mainly of mown grass. The side section has borders of shrubs and the front contains larger shrubs and trees, and some beds of cultivated flowers.

There are two gravestones present in the front section of the grounds.

Flora and Fauna

The side section of the churchyard, while consisting mainly of mown grass also has a border running along the side of the church building containing such shrubs as Mahonia, Hydrangea, Lavender, Spindle and *Aucuba japonica*. Mixed in with the grass, particularly along the boundary wall are species such as Dandelion, White Dead-nettle, Chickweed, Hawk's-beard, Black Horehound, Small Nettle and Creeping Cinquefoil.

Creeping Cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*)

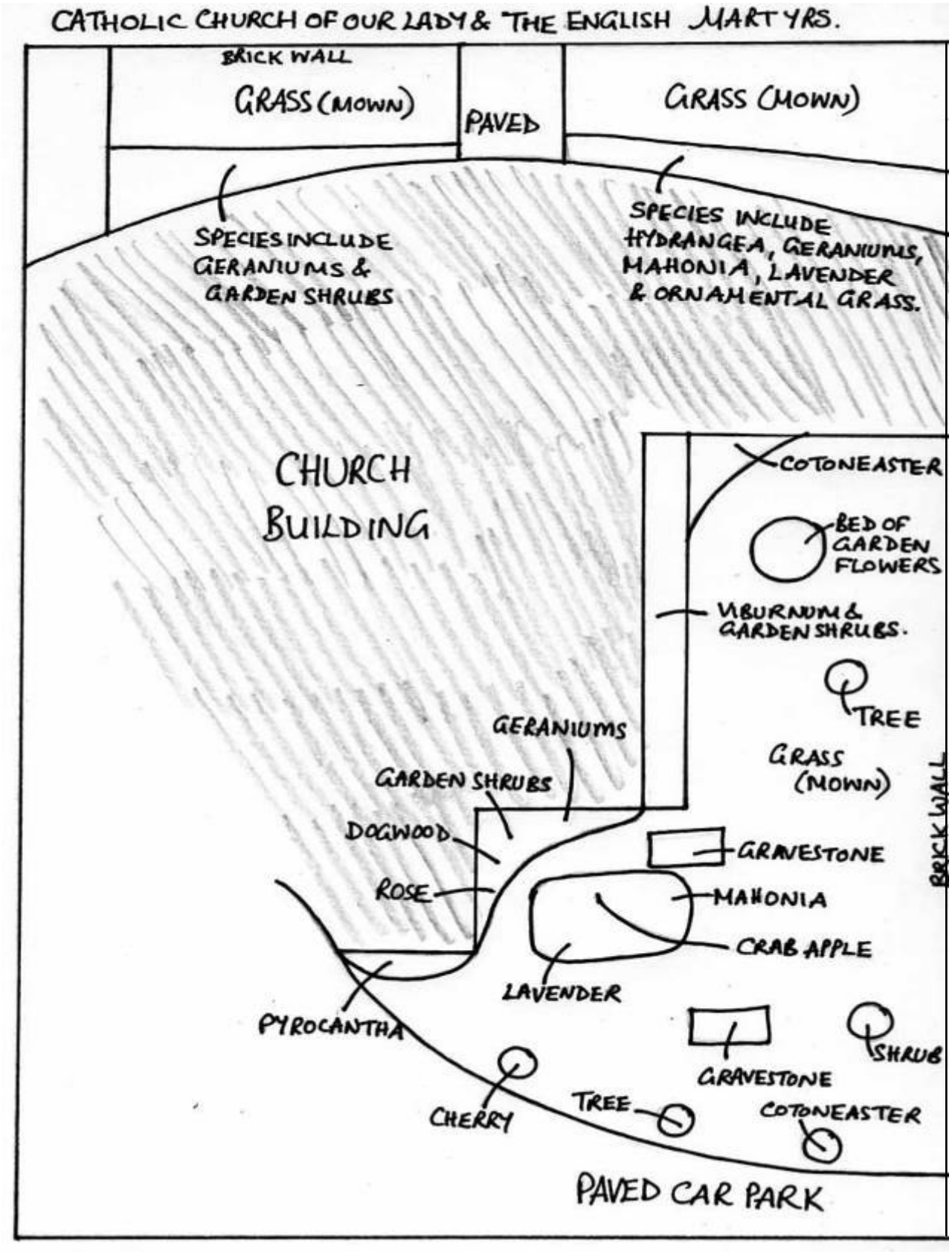
The front section of the churchyard also mainly consists of mown grass and has borders of shrubs against the church building, this time containing species such as Cotoneaster, Viburnum, Dogwood, Rose and Pyracantha.
There are also several small trees present including Cherry and Crab Apple and two central borders, one containing a variety of cultivated flowers and the other with shrubs such as Mahonia and Lavender.

Wild flowers such as Yarrow, Shepherd's-purse, Cyclamen and Butterbur are found amongst the shrubs.

Pigeons were observed in the grounds but no other avian species were present at the time of the survey.

Lichen was also observed to be present on both the church building and the surrounding wall.

Map


CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS.
BRICK WALL
GRASS (MOWN)
PAVED
GRASS (MOWN)
SPECIES INCLUDE GERANIUMS & GARDEN SHRUBS
SPECIES INCLUDE HYDRANGEA, GERANIUMS, MAHONIA, LAVENDER & ORNAMENTAL GRASS.
CHURCH BUILDING
COTONEASTER
BED OF GARDEN FLOWERS
VIBURNUM & GARDEN SHRUBS.
TREE
GERANIUMS
GARDEN SHRUBS
GRASS (MOWN)
DOGWOOD
GRAVESTONE
ROSE
MAHONIA
CRAB APPLE
BRICK WALL
LAVENDER
PYROCANTHA
SHRUB
GRAVESTONE
CHERRY
TREE
COTONEASTER
PAVED CAR PARK

Management

This is a very urban and visible site, which may have more pressure on it to be kept very tidy and less opportunity for areas to be allowed to go 'wild'. However this is still a valuable site for wildlife and with a few minor adjustments to the current management, this value could be further increased.

Trees and Shrubs: These offer valuable cover to the local bird population in a very built up area. In autumn they will also provide fruit. As they increase in size their value to wildlife will also increase. When trimming of the shrubs is needed outside of the growing season, it would be preferable to do this as late in the winter as possible so that as much of the fruit can be consumed by the local birds. Alternatively different areas of the grounds could be cut in successive years providing a continuous supply of fruit through the winter months whilst still managing them.

Herbaceous Areas: These increase the amount of cover available to the local wildlife, as well as important nectar sources to various insects when flowering. These will need managing but leaving unmanaged clumps to over winter will provide habitat for insects.

Grass: There is limited scope for this, but if possible allow a band to be left uncut along the shrub beds. This would allow those plants present to flower and provide more suitable habitat for insects. This could then be cut and removed in the autumn.

Building and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Great St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Passage

General Description

A well visited church in the centre of Cambridge, this church has a tidy yard to the front of it, which is managed by the council.

A large portion of the churchyard is mown grass, along with several paved and gravel areas, and some borders of shrubs.
The yard is bordered on three sides by a railing fence and on the fourth by the church itself. There are a number of gravestones and monuments present along with tubs of cultivated flowers.

Flora and Fauna

Shrubs in the churchyard are mainly found in borders of bark chippings around the perimeter of the area, and include Lavender, Juniper, Cotoneaster and several garden plants.

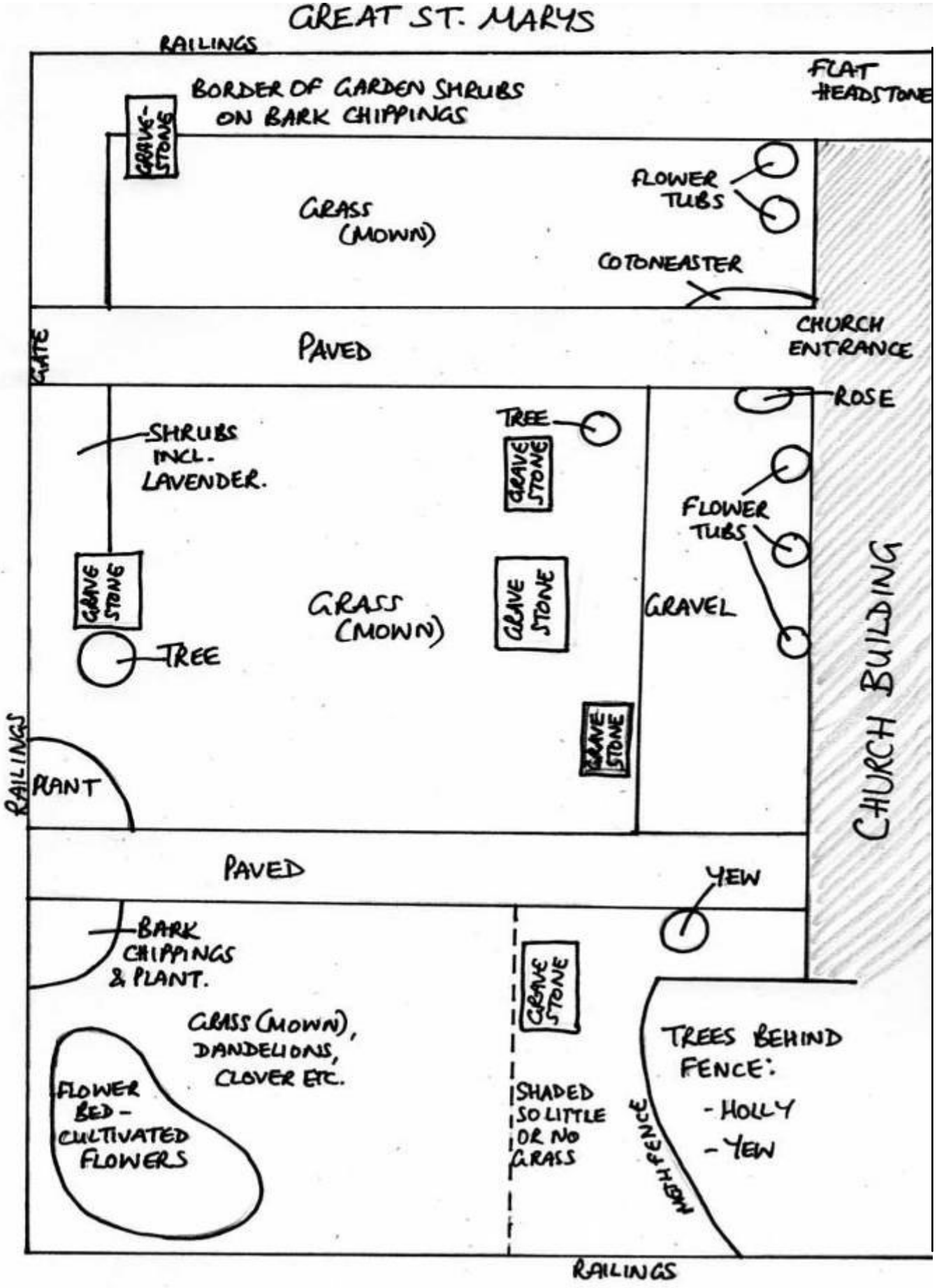
Two ornamental trees are present in the main section of the churchyard, while a large Yew tree is found nearer to the edge. A Holly tree and another Yew are situated behind a mesh fence at the side of the church. These provide shade to the extent that there is little or no grass present in this area.

Cultivated flowers are found both in a bed at the corner of the yard and also in a number of tubs near the church entrance.

Amongst the grass and shrubs, several wild flower species were observed including Cowslip, White Clover, Yarrow, Common Daisies and Dandelion.

Lichen was found to be present on both the church wall and on headstones.

Map


GREAT ST. MARYS
RAILINGS
BORDER OF GARDEN SHRUBS ON BARK CHIPPINGS
FLAT HEADSTONE
GRAVE-STONE
FLOWER TUBS
GRASS (MOWN)
COTONEASTER
GATE
PAVED
CHURCH ENTRANCE
ROSE
TREE
SHRUBS INCL. LAVENDER.
GRAVE STONE
FLOWER TUBS
GRASS (MOWN)
GRAVEL
TREE
CHURCH BUILDING
RAILINGS
PLANT
PAVED
YEW
BARK CHIPPINGS & PLANT.
GRASS (MOWN), DANDELIONS, CLOVER ETC.
FLOWER BED - CULTIVATED FLOWERS
SHADED SO LITTLE OR NO GRASS
TREES BEHIND FENCE:
- HOLLY
- YEW
HIGH FENCE
RAILINGS

Management

With the site being well visited and used there would be minimal opportunity to alter the management.

Trees and Shrubs: The presence of Holly and Yew are of great value because of the cover as well as the abundant fruit available. The pruning of the fruiting bushes, if possible, should be delayed until later in the winter so that as much available fruit has been eaten by birds.

Herbaceous areas: These are limited, but the presence of flowering plants adds greatly to the value of the site for wildlife.

Grass: There is very limited scope for leaving an area uncut due to people frequently using it in the summer. However in the south eastern corner there is potential to allow the grass to grow long. This does not have to be much, maybe a concave line from the plant, encompassing the flowering bed and then to the eastern boundary.

Building, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Histon Road Cemetery, Bermuda Terrace

Flora and Fauna

The cemetery contains many tree species including Ash, Beech, Elder, Holly, Hawthorn, Lime, Holm Oak, Sycamore and Yew. Brambles, Tutsan and Laurel are also present.

Smaller nectar plants are also in abundance, including Creeping Buttercup, Oxeye Daisy, Germander Speedwell, Ground-ivy, Knapweed, Lady's Bedstraw, Black Medick, Spurge, Creeping Cinquefoil, Cleavers, Forget-me-not, Autumn Hawkbit, Spear Thistle, Bird's-foot-trefoil, Yarrow, and Wood Avens. Also, Primrose, Smooth Sow-thistle, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill, Green Alkanet, Pendulous Sedge, Sun Spurge, Hairy Sedge, Spotted Medick, Greater Plantain, Hoary Plantain, Creeping-Jenny, Groundsel, Herb-Robert and Black Horehound.

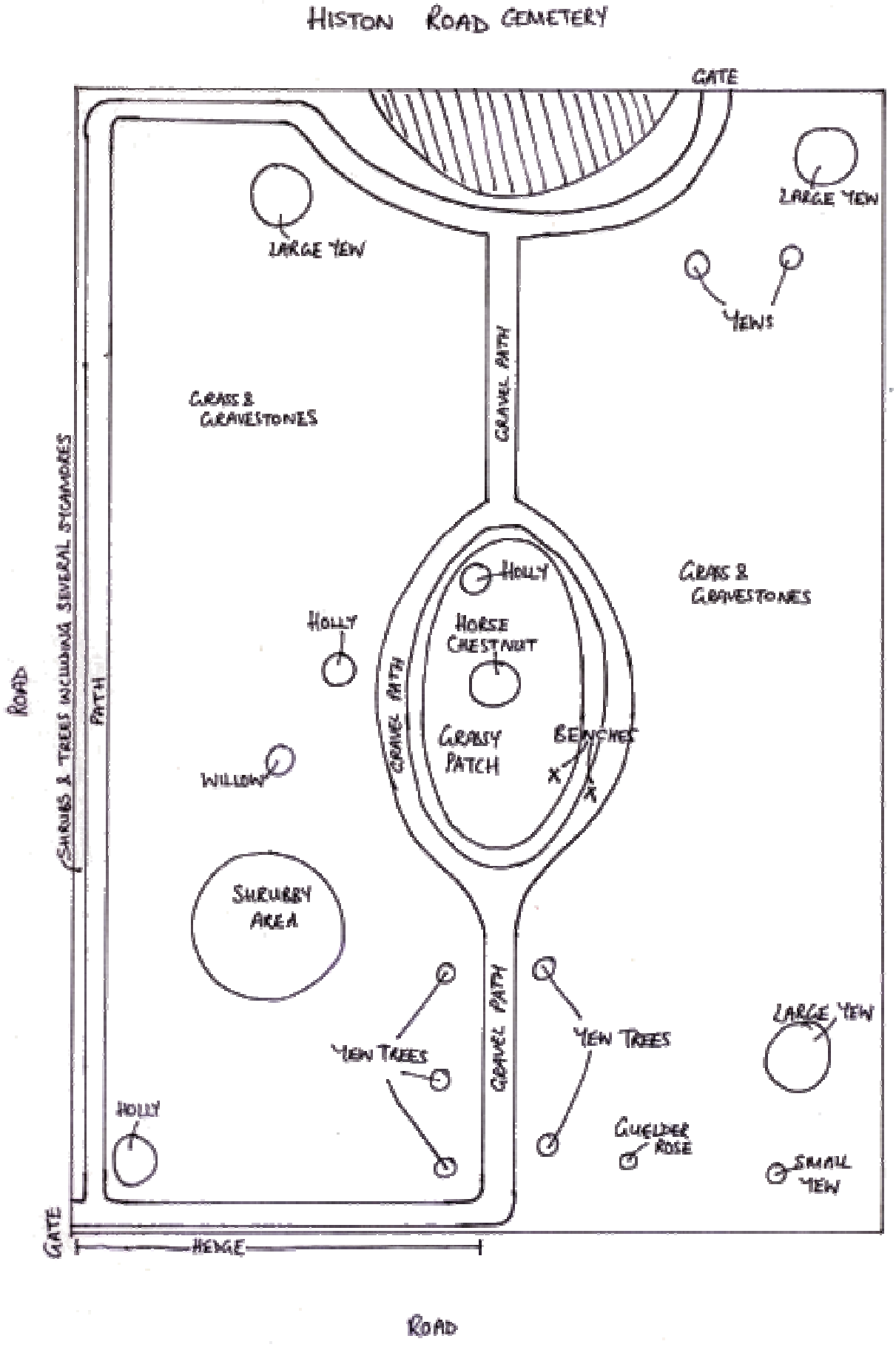
Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*)

A Red Admiral butterfly was observed and lichen was noted to be present on the headstones and the trees.

Management

This is a very important site in the city. It has a wide range of interesting plants and the grassland holds several plants that are of wildlife value.

Map


HISTON ROAD CEMETERY
GATE
LARGE YEW
LARGE YEW
YEWS
GRASS & GRAVESTONES
GRAVEL PATH
SHRUBS & TREES INCLUDING SEVERAL SYCAMORES
ROAD
PATH
HOLLY
HOLLY
HORSE CHESTNUT
GRASS & GRAVESTONES
GRAVEL PATH
GRASSY PATCH
BENCHES
WILLOW
SHRUBBY AREA
YEW TREES
YEW TREES
GRAVEL PATH
LARGE YEW
HOLLY
GUELDER ROSE
SMALL YEW
GATE
HEDGE
ROAD

Holy Trinity Church, Market Street

General Description

Located in the centre of Cambridge, this small churchyard is surrounded on three sides by a railing fence and on the other by the church itself.

There is one area of headstones with the rest of the yard being taken up with a mown lawn area, several trees and borders of shrubs. There is a paved path near the church entrance, and a wooden shelter in one corner, although this is separated off from the rest of the churchyard. A tree stump can be seen in the centre of the grass area.

Flora and Fauna

Many of the plants and shrubs occurring in this churchyard are garden varieties.

Shrubs include Hydrangea, Cotoneaster, Lavender and Dog Rose. There are also a number of trees present. These include large Holly and Yew trees, False Acacia, Cedar, Magnolia and Creek Dogwood.

Nectar plants appearing in the churchyard include Bindweed, Ivy, Harebell and Smooth Sow-thistle.

Pigeons and a Dunnock were seen in the churchyard.

Lichen was found to be present on the church wall, the headstones and the trees but not on the church building itself.

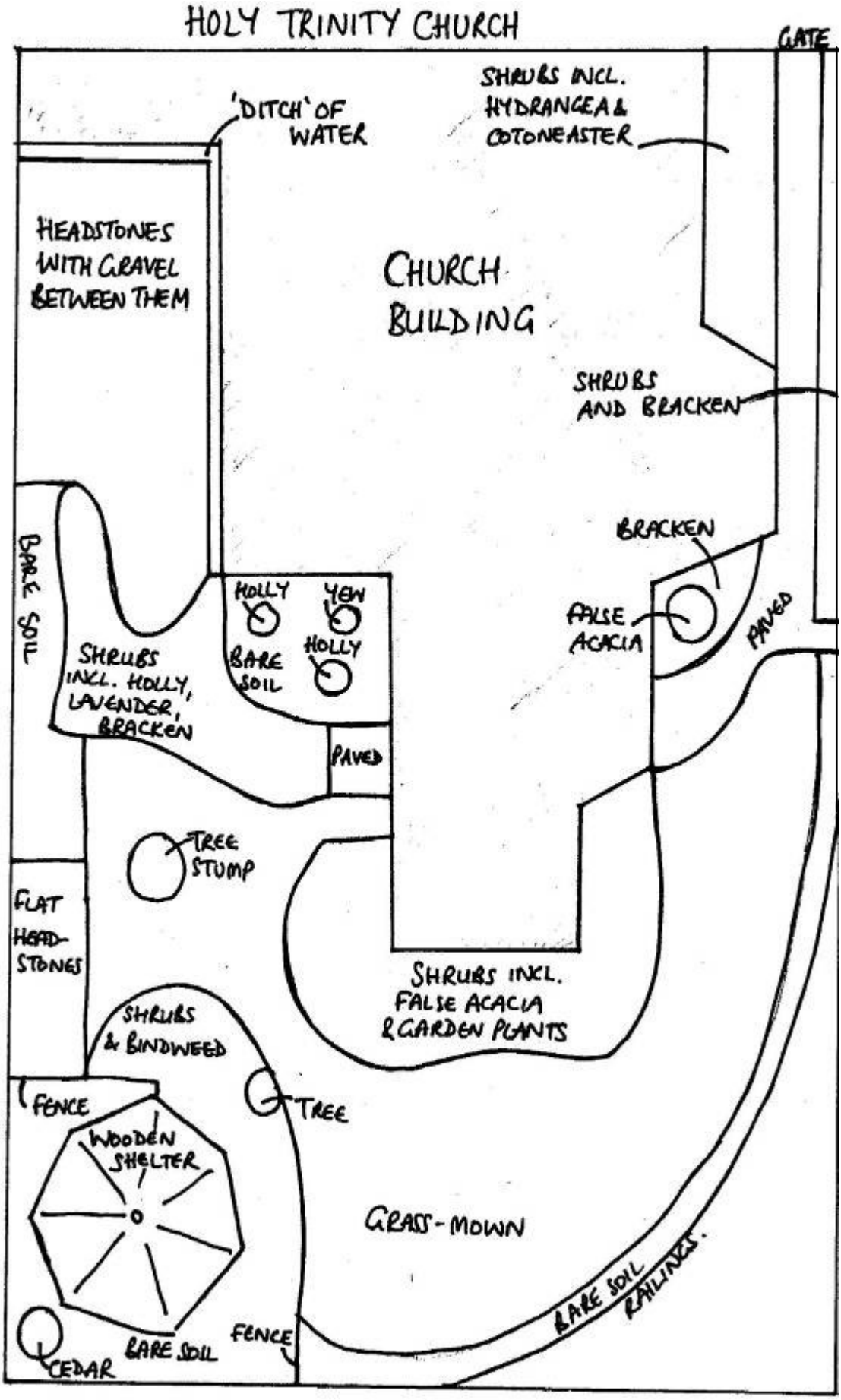
Management

This churchyard has a wooded feeling. Works to improve the site for wildlife will be difficult without loosing some of the wildlife that can already be found there, for example Dunnock.

Trees and Shrubs. The presence of species such as Cotoneaster, Holly and Yew provide a source of winter fruit for birds but also provide important cover. Allowing the fruit to remain on the plant for as long as possible over the winter will ensure that the local birds are able to utilise this resource. There is a need to manage them but if it can be delayed their value will increase.

Building, gravestones and boundary features. The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Map


HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
GATE
SHRUBS INCL. HYDRANGEA & COTONEASTER
'DITCH' OF WATER
HEADSTONES WITH GRAVEL BETWEEN THEM
CHURCH BUILDING
SHRUBS AND BRACKEN
BRACKEN
FALSE ACACIA
PAVED
BARE SOIL
HOLLY
YEW
HOLLY
BARE SOIL
SHRUBS INCL. HOLLY, LAVENDER, BRACKEN
PAVED
TREE STUMP
FLAT HEAD-STONES
SHRUBS INCL. FALSE ACACIA & GARDEN PLANTS
SHRUBS & BINDWEED
FENCE
TREE
WOODEN SHELTER
GRASS-MOWN
BARE SOIL
RAILINGS
FENCE
BARE SOIL
CEDAR

Little St. Mary's, Trumpington Street

General Description

The front section of the churchyard is managed by the council and is tidy while the rear section is a wilderness of winding paths and trees, specially designed with wildlife in mind by garden designer Tessa Hobbs.

A railing fence surrounds three sides of the churchyard, with a brick wall of another building along the fourth side. There are two entrances to the churchyard, one to the front and one to the side, connected by a paved pathway.

While weedkiller is used in the front section and the grass is kept mown short by the council, the church is responsible for the rear section. There are several features of particular wildlife value in the rear section, including a compost heap and a log pile.

Gravestones have been moved to be incorporated into the design of the rear section, some forming part of paved paths. Other paths consist of bark chippings, soil or grass.

Flora and Fauna

The front section of the churchyard consists mainly of mown grass. There is a large Yew tree at the front as well as a number of garden shrubs and ornamental grasses. There is also a line of trees including a Lime tree and various conifers down the side of the churchyard.
A large amount of fungi were observed in the front section growing in the grass and on the gravestones and monuments.
Smaller species in amongst the grass include Wall Lettuce, Greater Plantain, Ribwort Plantain and Selfheal.

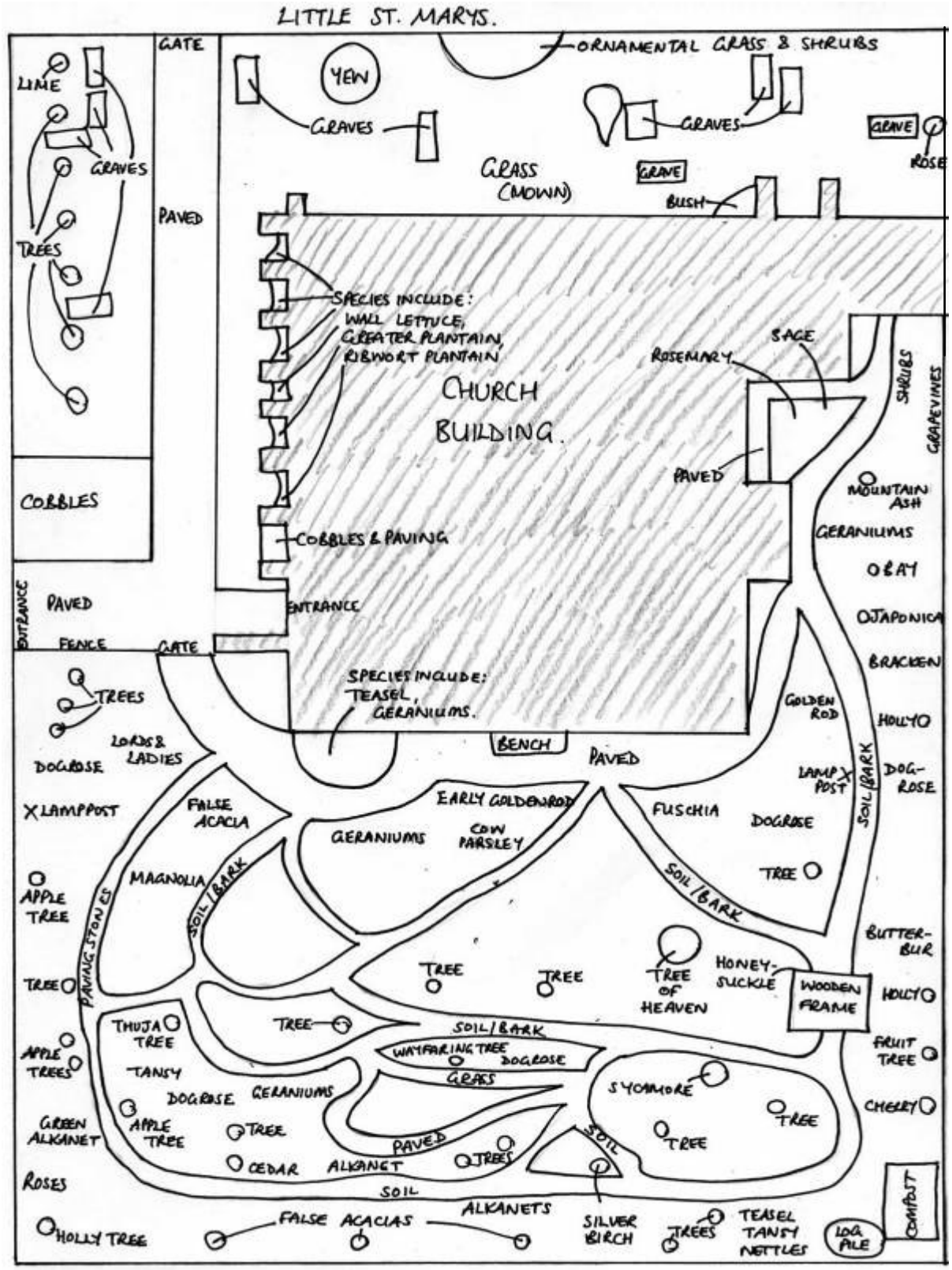
The rear section contains a number of mature trees including Ash, Sycamore, Yew, Holly, Apple, Silver Birch, Cherry, Cedar, Cypress, Field Maple, False Acacia, Bay, Japonica and Magnolia as well as a magnificent Tree of Heaven.
A large number of other wild plant species are also found growing, including Bindweed, Cow Parsley, Oxeye Daisy, Cowslip, Willowherb, Geraniums, Dog Rose, Cyclamen, Lords-and-Ladies, Wild Strawberry, Black Horehound, Speedwell, Early Goldenrod, Teasel, White Comfrey, Butterbur, Green Alkanet, Tansy, White Dead-nettle, Fuchsia, Meadow Crane's-bill, Harebell, and Honeysuckle.

Lords-and-Ladies
(Arum maculatum)

Blackbird, Robin and Wren were seen during the survey, as well as many insects. Lichens were found to be present on the church building, headstones and trees.

It was also exciting to find out that the nationally scarce moss, *Rhynchostegiella curviseta* has recently been recorded in a couple of areas at the rear of the church

Map



Management

The most important feature of this site is the presence of *Rhynchostegiella curviseta*. This nationally scarce species relies on the large number of trees and shrubs that produce the correct microclimate for it. This churchyard has examples of many of those features that make churchyards in general so important for wildlife. The presence of a compost heap and a log pile add to the interest.

Trees and Shrubs: The large number of individuals and species means that this is one of the most important features of this churchyard and maintaining the number and mix will be important for the future of the site. The shading produced by them has maintained the existence of the nationally scarce moss mentioned above, which increases the need to keep tree cover as much as possible, certainly where the moss occurs.

Grass: Although the grass at the front is regularly cut, the presence of lots of fungi in the autumn indicates the need for this management regime to continue. If it is possible to reduce the application of weedkiller then there is potential for the grassland to improve further. It would not be desirable, in this case, to leave an area to grow long as this may have a detrimental effect on the fungi, which are a feature of this piece of grassland.

Building, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site. The presence of moss and of one species in particular has already been mentioned so should be of paramount importance when looking into the management of these features. A detailed distribution of this species should be gained before any works, major or minor, are undertaken.

Mill Road Cemetery, Mill Road

General Description

A large cemetery set back from the road, which because of its excellent species rich grassland has been designated as a City Wildlife Site. Managed by the council, the cemetery is reached by a tree- lined path and has paths throughout, all leading to a central area with benches.

The main areas of grass are cut every two weeks, though left slightly longer in and around the gravestones. The vegetation of the back and side sections are left long, and are only cut twice a year or less. No chemicals are used anywhere on this site.

At the time of the survey cutting was in progress.

Flora and Fauna

The cemetery boasts a huge array of plant species and a number of bird and insect species were also observed.

Trees present include Swedish Whitebeam, Elder, Elm, Ash, Lime, Rowan, Sycamore, various pine trees, Horse-chestnut, Holly, Fig, Cherry, Yew and Beech. There were also many shrubs including Laurel, Buddleia, Cotoneaster, Holly, Dog Rose, Bramble, Tutsan and Pyracantha.

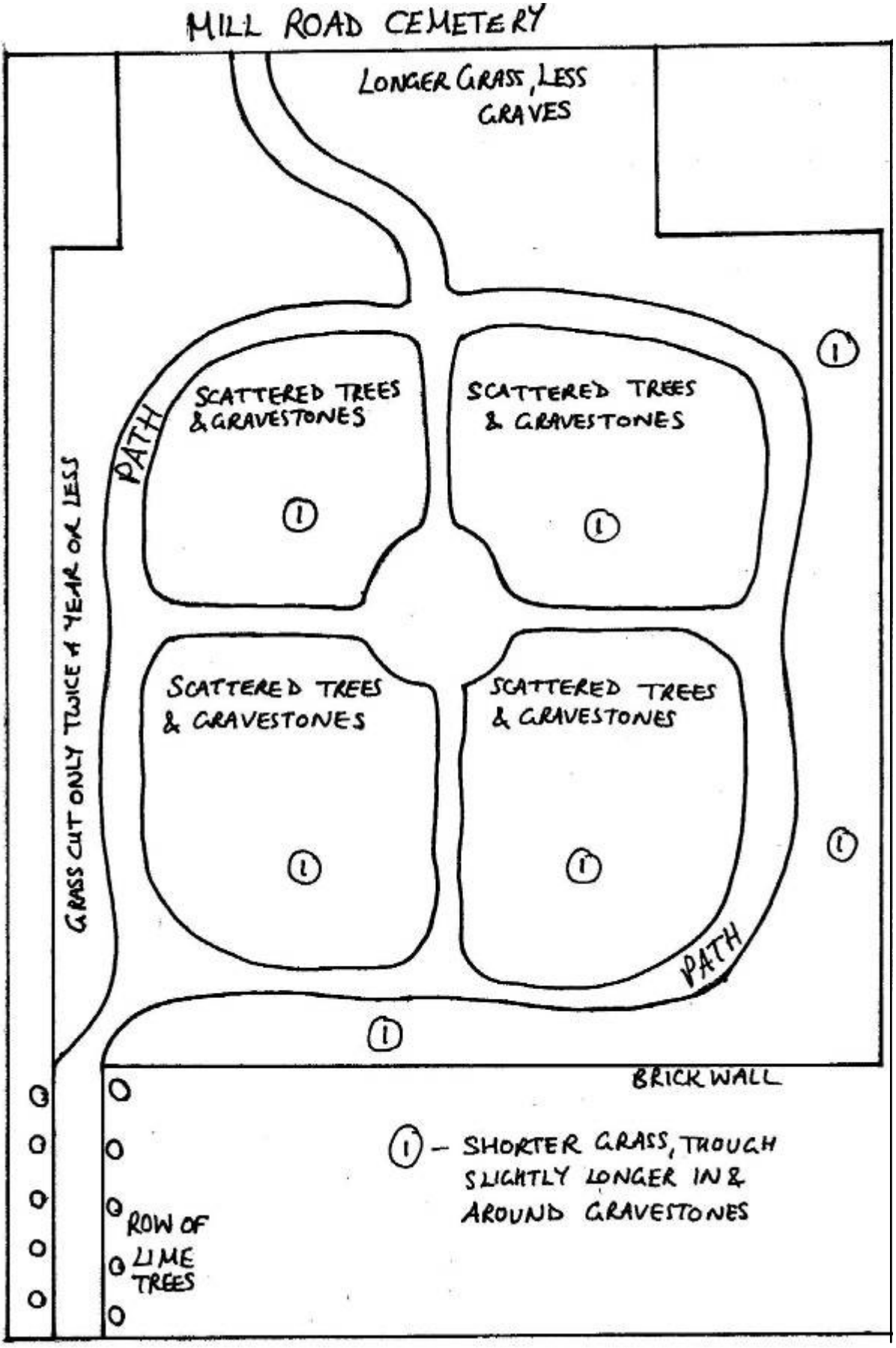
Over 80 nectar plant species were recorded in the cemetery during this survey. These included such species as Yarrow, Hedge Bindweed, Common Mouse-ear, Sun Spurge, Bittersweet, Field Speedwell, Salad Burnet, Cyclamen, *Astrantia*, Hoary Ragwort, Canadian Fleabane, Lady's Bedstraw, Oxeye Daisy, Spotted Medick, Ivy, Broomrape, Greater Celendine, Wild Clary, Red Clover, Burnet Saxifrage, Hoary Plantain, Selfheal, Black Nightshade, Herb- Robert, Biting Stonecrop and Traveller's-joy.

Bittersweet /Woody Nightshade *(Solanum dulcamara*)

Bird seen include Blackbirds, a Robin, Starlings, Crows, Collared Doves and a Wood Pigeon.

Squirrels were observed as were Meadow Brown and White butterflies.

Map


MILL ROAD CEMETERY
LONGER GRASS, LESS GRAVES
SCATTERED TREES & GRAVESTONES
SCATTERED TREES & GRAVESTONES
SCATTERED TREES & GRAVESTONES
SCATTERED TREES & GRAVESTONES
PATH
PATH
GRASS CUT ONLY TWICE A YEAR OR LESS
BRICK WALL
ROW OF LIME TREES
(1) – SHORTER GRASS, THOUGH SLIGHTLY LONGER IN & AROUND GRAVESTONES

Management

The site is very extensive and has a feeling of 'gentle' management, with nature given a little bit more space. Its influence on the surrounding area is immense, both for wildlife and people.

Trees and Shrubs: The variety, size and distribution of trees and shrubs gives extra importance to this site. Shrubs should be allowed to flower and fruit before any trimming occurs. When individuals are lost they should be replaced with suitably native species or those which show a value to wildlife, e.g. Cotoneaster or Buddleia.

Herbaceous Features: There are very few formal beds, the majority of herbaceous areas have a less formal feel to them. However, both types are important to maintain the diversity of the site.

Grass: The most important aspects of maintaining the grassland interest is the removal of the cuttings and also the timing of the cut. There are, of course areas that are regularly cut where timing is not an issue as short grass is desired. It would be preferable to allow certain areas of the main body of the grassland to grow longer. For example the site could be divided into quarters and one quarter could be cut in April and in September and the rest can be cut more frequently. The areas being left to grow longer can be alternated from one year to the next.

As mentioned in the General Management Guidelines it is desirable to leave areas uncut over the winter. Also, removing the cuttings will help to increase the quality of the grassland.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

St. Andrew's Church, Cherry Hinton

General description

This large churchyard on the edge of the city has a wide variety of plants, both ground flora and shrubs and trees. The churchyard has been designated as a County Wildlife Site, because of its valuable neutral grassland.

The churchyard is surrounded by a wall, most of which is covered in shrubs and Ivy. Much of the churchyard's grass is kept short, but there are patches of longer grass, and shrubby wooded areas, which are important wildlife habitats. In spring, the site is a sea of white from the vast amounts of Cow Parsley that grow here.

Within the churchyard there are a number of wildlife features, including a compost heap and log piles, as well as a patch of nettles and longer grass.

Flora and Fauna

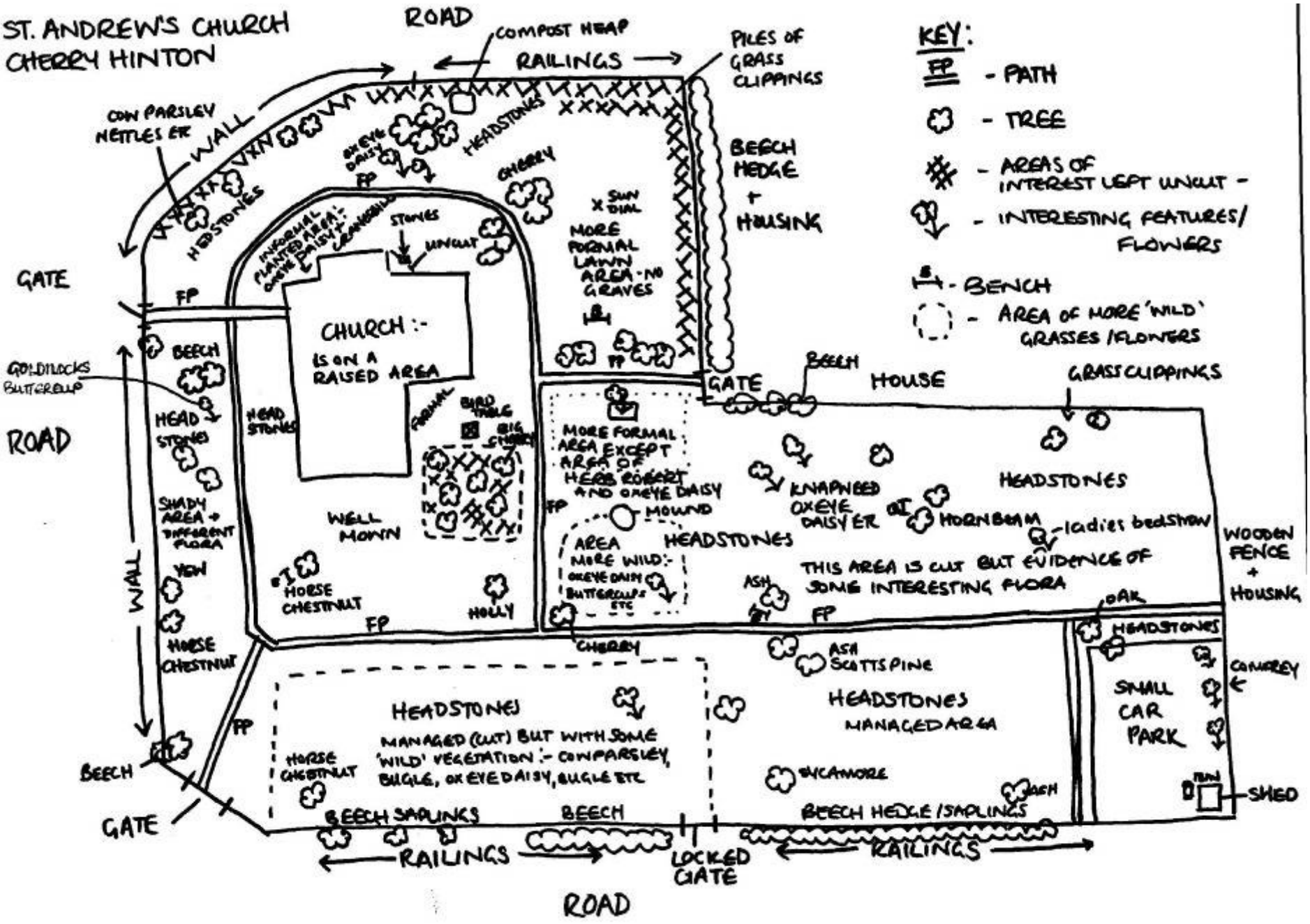
There are a wide variety of trees, including mature trees on the site. Species include Ash, Rowan, Oak, Hornbeam and Silver Birch. The hedged areas surrounding the perimeter of the site include trees and shrubs, such as Beech and Holly, as well as large areas of Ivy.

Throughout the churchyard, there is also a wide variety of nectar plants, including, Bindweed, Cowslip, Ribwort Plantain, Lady's Bedstraw, Bugle and Knapweed.

During the survey, Blackbird, House Sparrow, Robin and Wood Pigeon were also recorded.

Lichen was also recorded on both the church building and gravestones.

Bugle
(*Ajuga reptans*)


ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
CHERRY HINTON
ROAD
COMPOST HEAP
RAILINGS
PILES OF GRASS CLIPPINGS
KEY:
FP - PATH
- TREE
- AREAS OF INTEREST LEFT UNCUT -
- INTERESTING FEATURES/ FLOWERS
- BENCH
- AREA OF MORE 'WILD' GRASSES /FLOWERS
CON PARSLEY
NETTLES ETC
WALL
HEADSTONES
OXEYE DAISY
FP
CHERRY
SUN DIAL
BEECH HEDGE + HOUSING
GATE
FP
STONES
UNCUT
INFORMAL PLANTED AREA:- OXEYE DAISY + CRANESBILL
MORE FORMAL LAWN AREA - NO GRAVES
CHURCH :-
IS ON A RAISED AREA
GOLDILOCKS BUTTERCUP
ROAD
BEECH
HEAD STONES
HEAD STONES
FORMAL
BIRD TABLE
BIG CHERRY
MORE FORMAL AREA EXCEPT AREA OF HERB ROBERT AND OXEYE DAISY
MOUND
FP
GATE
BEECH
HOUSE
GRASS CLIPPINGS
KNAPWEED
OXEYE DAISY ETC
HEADSTONES
HORNBEAM
-ladies bedstraw
SHADY AREA + DIFFERENT FLORA
YEW
WELL MOWN
AREA MORE WILD:- OXEYE DAISY BUTTERCUPS ETC
HEADSTONES
THIS AREA IS CUT BUT EVIDENCE OF SOME INTERESTING FLORA
WOODEN FENCE + HOUSING
WALL
HORSE CHESTNUT
HORSE CHESTNUT
HOLLY
ASH
FP
OAK
HEADSTONES
CHERRY
ASH
SCOTTS PINE
CONIFER
HEADSTONES
MANAGED (CUT) BUT WITH SOME 'WILD' VEGETATION :- COWPARSLEY, BUGLE, OXEYE DAISY, BUGLE ETC
HEADSTONES
MANAGED AREA
SMALL CAR PARK
FP
BEECH
HORSE CHESTNUT
SYCAMORE
ASH
BIN
SHED
GATE
BEECH SAPLINGS
BEECH
BEECH HEDGE / SAPLINGS
RAILINGS
LOCKED GATE
RAILINGS
ROAD

Map

Management

Trees and Shrubs: The presence of the number of trees and shrubs of different species and age is important to this site, therefore very little should be done to the trees, except were tree surgery is needed to reduce any risk of falling branches. If any trees need to be replaced then the same or similar species should be planted. Shrubs should be allowed to flower and fruit and if there is a need to clear them back, then it should be left as late into the winter as possible.

Herbaceous Features: There is a wide mix of plants in the churchyard providing a good source of nectar for a range of insects throughout a large part of the year.

Grass: This site is still an active gravesite, therefore there will be a need to maintain a regular cutting regime. However, if areas could be left to grow long over the summer, and then some areas cut in the autumn, leaving the rest to provide over wintering habitat for many species, this would further enhance the site for wildlife.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

St. Andrew's Church, Chesterton

General description

This is a large and varied churchyard in Chesterton. Parts of it are managed specifically for wildlife, including a wildflower meadow area, which has been planted with a variety of wild flowers, including Cowslip and Sweet Violet.

There is a Yew tree lined path running through the centre of the churchyard. Either side of this path there is a large area of mown grass and gravestones. Within this though, there are also several larger trees and shrubs of a variety of species, including Cherry, and Holly.

Three sides of the churchyard are surrounded by a shrubby hedge area, with a wide variety of species in. On the side running parallel to the road, is a low wall and a row of Sycamore trees.

One other area of note is in the top left corner, there is a fantastic 'wild' area of Bramble, Elder and fern.

Flora and Fauna

As touched on in the general description, there is a wide variety of trees and shrubs in this churchyard, including, Ash, Hawthorn, Oak, Rowan and Dog Rose.

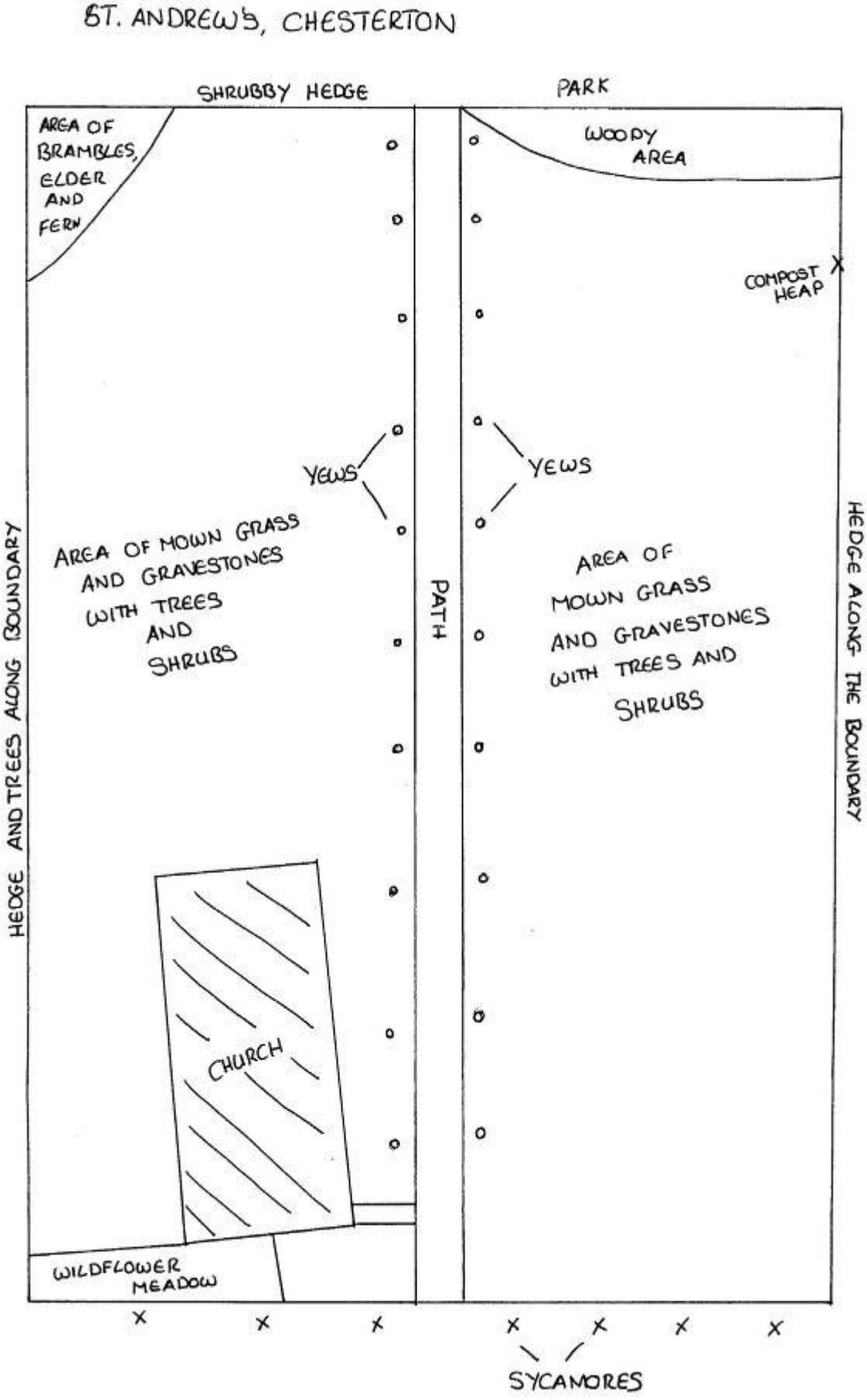
The nectar plants found within the grassy areas include species such as, Bindweed, White Campion, Ground-ivy, Ribwort Plantain, Common Mallow and Red Clover.

Lichen could be found on the church walls and also on the gravestones.

Bird species that were seen during the survey were Song Thrush and a pair of Collared Doves. A Holly Blue butterfly was also recorded.

Yew
(*Taxus baccata*)

Map


ST. ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON
SHRUBBY HEDGE
PARK
AREA OF BRAMBLES, ELDER AND FERN
WOODY AREA
COMPOST HEAP
YEWS
YEWS
AREA OF MOWN GRASS AND GRAVESTONES WITH TREES AND SHRUBS
AREA OF MOWN GRASS AND GRAVESTONES WITH TREES AND SHRUBS
PATH
HEDGE AND TREES ALONG BOUNDARY
HEDGE ALONG THE BOUNDARY
CHURCH
WILDFLOWER MEADOW
SYCAMORES

Management

Trees and Shrubs: The variety of age and tree species on this site is of benefit to wildlife. If any trees need to be replaced then the same or similar species should be planted. Shrubs should also be allowed to flower and fruit before clearing them back in the winter (if this is deemed necessary).

Herbaceous Features: There is a wide mix of herbaceous plants, providing a good nectar source for a variety of insects. The conservation area which has been left and planted with wildflower species is great, and will really enhance the site.

Grass: This site is still an active gravesite, therefore there will be a need to maintain a regular cutting regime. However, if areas could be left to grow long over the summer, and then some areas cut in the autumn, leaving the rest to provide over wintering habitat for many species, this would further enhance the site for wildlife.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

St Andrew the Great Church, St Andrews Street

General Description

Situated in the middle of Cambridge, this triangular churchyard is surrounded on two sides by a railings fence and on the third by the church building.

The management routine of this churchyard is unknown, however, in the far corner is a meadow area containing many wild flowers, which apparently has been left uncut.

The rest of the grass area is mown short, a paved path runs alongside the church building and there are several gravestones and monuments scattered throughout the yard.

Flora and Fauna

There are several large trees in the churchyard, the two biggest being an Ash tree and a Plane tree. There is also a Fatsia tree and a Holly tree. One border contains a Hollyhock tree alongside two planters containing cultivated flowers including Busy Lizzies.
Ribwort and Greater Plantain, and White Clover are found amongst the grass.

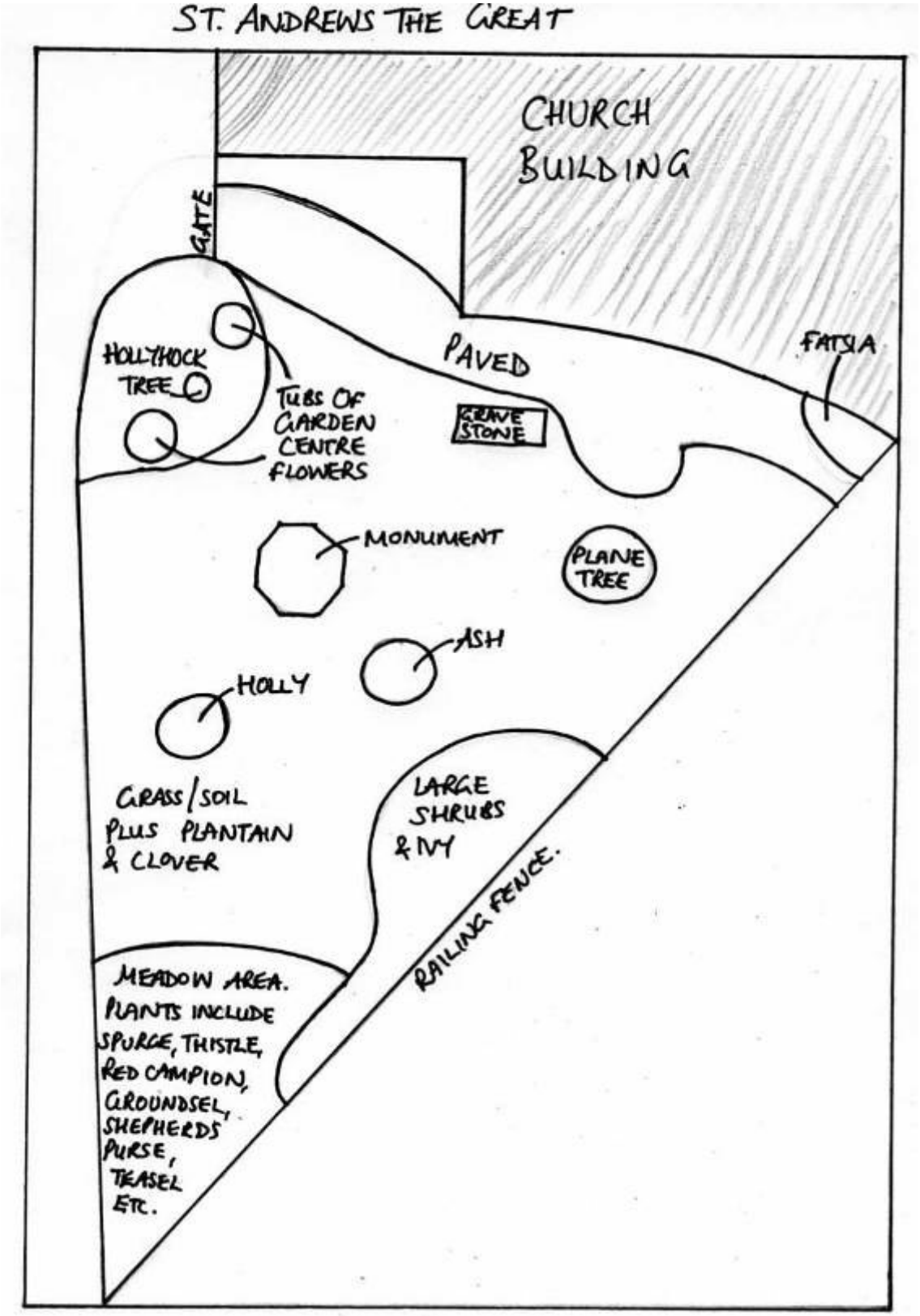
Holly
(*Ilex aquifolium*)

The meadow area in the far corner of the churchyard contains such species as Oxeye Daisy, Ground-ivy, Selfheal, Lady's Bedstraw, Willowherb, Yarrow, Spurge, thistles, White Dead-nettle, Greater Celendine, Teasel, Wood Avens, Wild Strawberry, Red Campion, Creeping Cinquefoil, Square-stalked St John's-wort, Herb-Robert, Smooth Sow-thistle, Canadian Fleabane, Groundsel and Shepherd's-purse.

Pigeons and a Blackbird were seen in the churchyard.

Lichens were present on the church building, the church wall, the headstones and the trees.

Map


ST. ANDREWS THE GREAT
CHURCH BUILDING
GATE
HOLLYHOCK TREE
TUBS OF GARDEN CENTRE FLOWERS
PAVED
GRAVE STONE
FATSIA
MONUMENT
PLANE TREE
ASH
HOLLY
GRASS/SOIL PLUS PLANTAIN & CLOVER
LARGE SHRUBS & IVY
RAILING FENCE.
MEADOW AREA. PLANTS INCLUDE SPURGE, THISTLE, RED CAMPION, GROUNDSEL, SHEPHERDS PURSE, TEASEL ETC.

Management

Trees and Shrubs: The presence of several large trees in such a small site does have an effect on the amount of light getting to the ground and also the amount of leaf-fall that occurs in the autumn. However they are an important feature of the site and should be maintained.

Herbaceous Features: The meadow area to the north of the site was set up several years ago by the City Council and the Cambridge Group of the Cambridgeshire Wildlife Trust. It contains both annuals and perennials so its management needs to be quite specific. For the annual species the area needs to be dug over in the autumn to allow the seeds to germinate in disturbed ground. However there is a need to do a certain amount of weeding to reduce the presence of undesirable species such as Sow-thistle, and Groundsel which could easily swamp the more desirable species. It is important that the perennial species are left undisturbed and only some weeding when necessary takes place.

Grass: This has only limited potential for encouraging wildlife, due to the presence of large over shadowing trees. However, the adjacent meadow area will provide an area of longer grass and taller vegetation, which will increase the diversity the site.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

St Barnabas C of E Church, Mill Road

General Description

This churchyard is split into three sections. The front section is separated from the road by a low stone wall. There are three entrances joined by a paved path and leading to a large area of brick paving outside the church entrance. The side section is enclosed by a gate at both ends and is left wild. The third section is at the back and consists of mainly paving, surrounded by buildings but with some borders of shrubs.

The church is responsible for the management of the grounds. The grass is cut approximately once a month, and the side area is never cut. None of the grounds are managed specifically for wildlife and there are no gravestones.

Flora and Fauna

In the front left hand corner of the grounds is a border with a small hedge of shrubs made up of Rosemary, Dogwood, Field Maple and Mahonia.
An area of mown grass by the church entrance also contains a Yew tree. A border of wood chippings runs along the church building, and contains a large population of Wood Sorrel. There are four trees present in a row by the front wall, including Field Maple and Cherry trees. A large Lime tree is present at the far end of the front section.

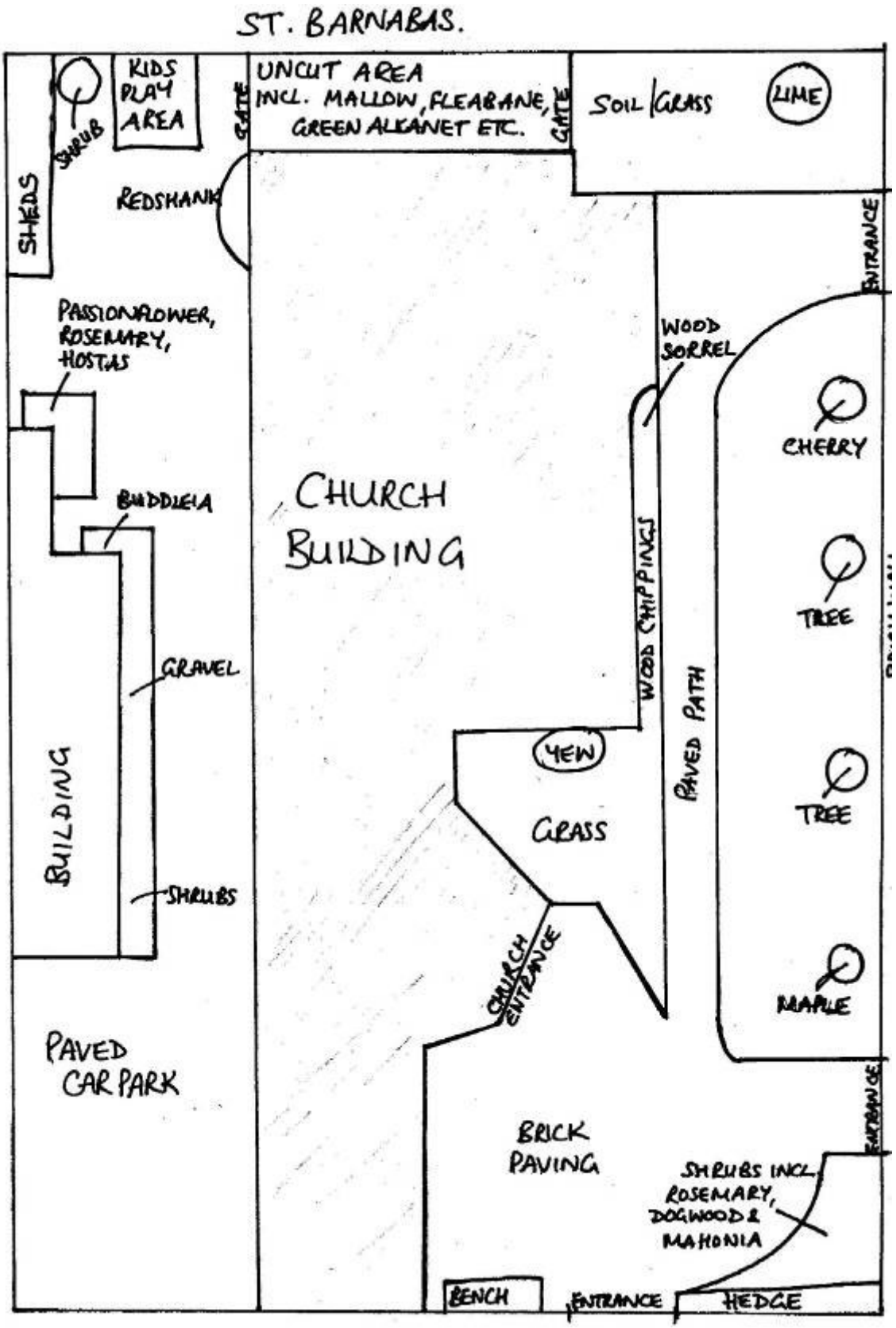
The uncut area at the side of the church mainly contains such species as Common Mallow, Canadian Fleabane and Green Alkanet. Also present are thistles, Greater Plantain, Shepherd's-purse, Wood Avens, White Dead-nettle, Smooth Sow-thistle and Wood Sorrel.

The rear section of the churchyard is mainly paved. There are several borders however, containing such species as Buddleia, Passion flower, Rosemary and *Hostas*. There are also several other types of garden shrubs, Redshank and Clematis were also observed.

Common Mallow
(*Malva sylvestris*)

A House Martin was seen flying back and forth to a nest under the roof overhang of the front of the church.

Map


ST. BARNABAS.
KIDS PLAY AREA
SHRUB
SHEDS
GATE
UNCUT AREA
INCL. MALLOW, FLEABANE, GREEN ALKANET ETC.
GATE
SOIL/GRASS
LIME
REDSHANK
ENTRANCE
PASSIONFLOWER, ROSEMARY, HOSTAS
WOOD SORREL
CHERRY
BUDDLEIA
CHURCH BUILDING
WOOD CHIPPINGS
TREE
GRAVEL
PAVED PATH
YEW
BUILDING
GRASS
TREE
SHRUBS
CHURCH ENTRANCE
MAPLE
PAVED CAR PARK
BRICK PAVING
SHRUBS INCL. ROSEMARY, DOGWOOD & MAHONIA
BENCH
ENTRANCE
HEDGE

Management

Trees and Shrubs: Although they are of limited number the presence of trees and shrubs provide some cover and suitable habitat for certain species.

Herbaceous Features: As above but if individual plants need to be replaced then doing so with suitable species that encourage wildlife would be preferable.

Grass: There would be very little to gain in altering the management of the grass. The site suffers from littering and longer grass may encourage this further.

St. Benedict's Church, Benet Street

General Description

A large and complex churchyard that is managed by Corpus Christi College.
The grassland habitat is mown weekly, with no areas being left uncut, and weedkiller is used on the paths.

Gravestones have been moved and can be seen both at the front and the back of the churchyard.

None of the grounds are managed specifically for wildlife.

Flora and Fauna

A number of trees and shrubs have been recorded in this churchyard. These include Elder, Field Maple, Holly, Privet, Lawsons Cypress, Wayfaring-tree, Dogwood, Rhododendron, Hibiscus, Bay, Snowberry, Alder and Hydrangea.

There are also many nectar plants present. Species include Primrose, Hollyhock, Busy Lizzies, Geraniums, Foxglove, Rose, Fuchsia, Clematis, Honeysuckle, Wall Lettuce, Ivy-leaved Toadflax, Yellow Oxalis and Hemlock.

A Blackbird was seen and there was a nest in the Privet.

Lichen was recorded on the church building and the headstones.

Management

This is a very intensively maintained site and is probably already valuable for wildlife for its shear complexity of different plants and features.

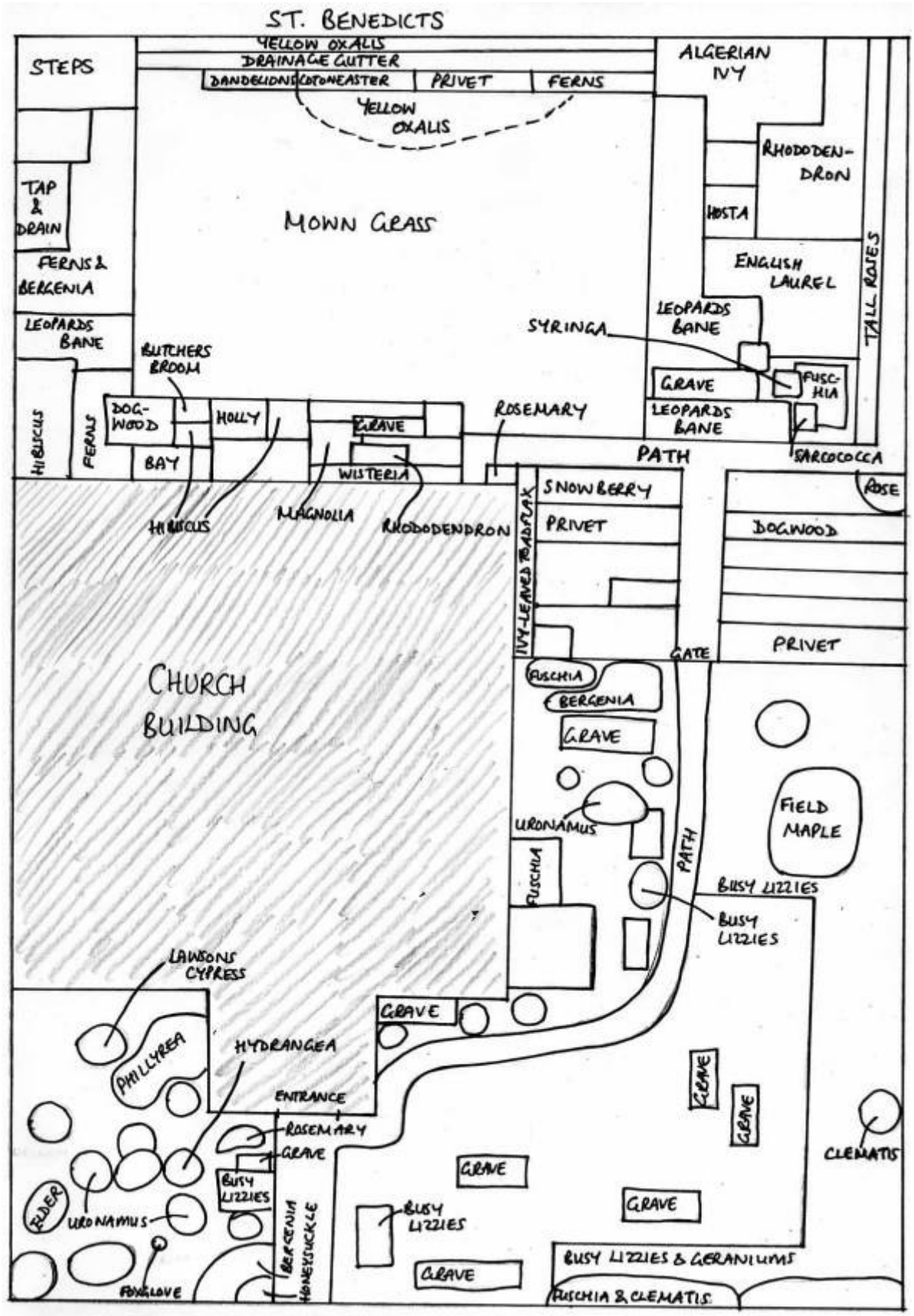
Trees and Shrubs: There are a good range of species providing habitats for a wide variety of wildlife.

Herbaceous Features: There are a good range of species and although there are not many that are native they provide lots of cover and the profusion of flowers will help support a wide range of nectar feeding insects.

Grass: Due to the nature of the site there may be limited opportunity to allow parts of the grass area to grow longer. But, as was mentioned in the General Management Guidelines, this sort of management over long periods of time may well support an interesting assemblage of grassland fungi. The continuation of this management may well be preferential and visiting the site in the autumn will show if there are fungi communities present.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Map


ST. BENEDICTS
STEPS
YELLOW OXALIS
DRAINAGE GUTTER
DANDELIONS
COTONEASTER
PRIVET
FERNS
YELLOW OXALIS
ALGERIAN IVY
RHODODEN-DRON
HOSTA
ENGLISH LAUREL
TALL ROSES
TAP & DRAIN
FERNS & BERGENIA
MOWN GRASS
LEOPARDS BANE
SYRINGA
LEOPARDS BANE
GRAVE
FUSC-HIA
BUTCHERS BROOM
DOG-WOOD
HOLLY
GRAVE
ROSEMARY
LEOPARDS BANE
HIBISCUS
FERNS
BAY
WISTERIA
PATH
SARCOCOCCA
HIBISCUS
MAGNOLIA
RHODODENDRON
IVY-LEAVED TOADFLAX
SNOWBERRY
PRIVET
ROSE
DOGWOOD
GATE
PRIVET
CHURCH BUILDING
FUSCHIA
BERGENIA
GRAVE
URONAMUS
FUSCHIA
PATH
FIELD MAPLE
BUSY LIZZIES
BUSY LIZZIES
LAWSONS CYPRESS
GRAVE
PHILLYREA
HYDRANGEA
ENTRANCE
ROSEMARY
GRAVE
GRAVE
GRAVE
GRAVE
CLEMATIS
BUSY LIZZIES
ELDER
URONAMUS
BERGENIA
HONEYSUCKLE
BUSY LIZZIES
GRAVE
FOXGLOVE
BUSY LIZZIES & GERANIUMS
FUSCHIA & CLEMATIS

Parish Church of St Clement, Bridge Street

General Description

A large churchyard stretching around three sides of the church. Surrounded in some places by railings, in another by a hurdle fence, and at one point it merges with the garden of a house.

The grassland habitat is kept mown, while the far side of the churchyard contains a number of mature trees of varying species.

The church is responsible for managing the grounds. None of the gravestones have been moved.

Flora and Fauna

The first section of the churchyard, by the church entrance contains such species as Wall Lettuce, Dandelion, Creeping Cinquefoil, ferns, Sycamore seedlings, White Clover, Spurge, Bramble and thistles.

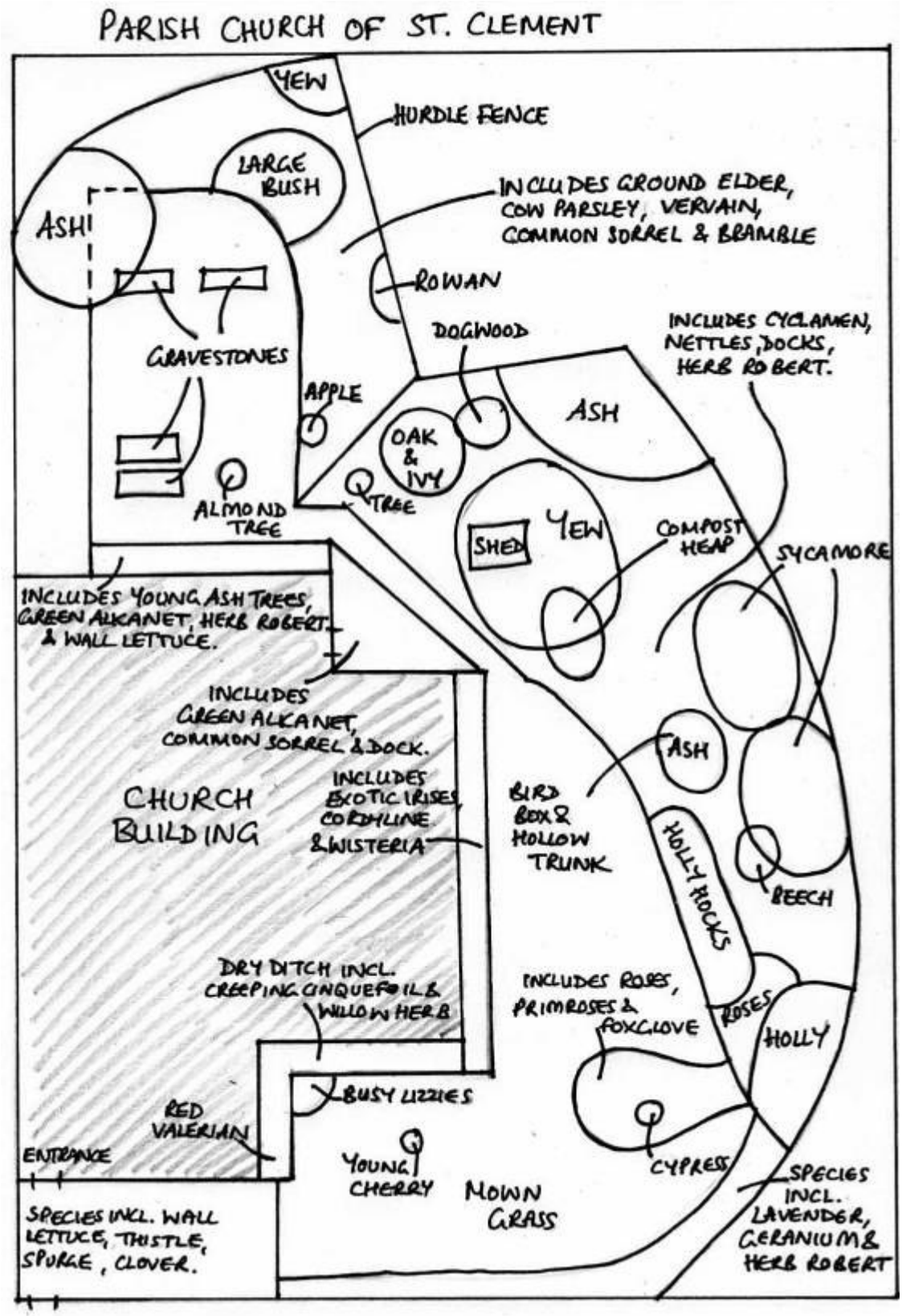
The grass area, which is mown short, also includes Ribwort Plantain, Selfheal, Clover, Ground-ivy, Creeping Cinquefoil and Spurge.

A ditch beside the church building itself contains Creeping Cinquefoil, Spurge, Willowherb, Selfheal and Red Valerian.
A young Cherry tree is present on the lawn area.
Further borders contain plants and shrubs such as Lavender, Geraniums, Rosemary, Roses, Cowslips, Herb-Robert, Common Sorrel, Dock, nettles, Primroses, Daffodils, Foxglove, exotic Irises, *Cordyline*, Wisteria and *Agapanthus*.

At the far side of the churchyard, trees include Ash (including one with a hollow trunk), Yew, Holly, Beech, Sycamore, Oak, Apple, Dogwood, Rowan and Almond. This area also includes species such as Ground-elder, Cotoneaster, Cow Parsley, Vervain, Green Alkanet, Peach-leaved Bellflower, *Hypericum*, Herb-Robert, Wall Lettuce, Cyclamen and Hollyhocks.

Cow Parsley
(*Anthriscus sylvestris*)

Map


PARISH CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT
YEW
HURDLE FENCE
LARGE BUSH
ASH
INCLUDES GROUND ELDER, COW PARSLEY, VERVAIN, COMMON SORREL & BRAMBLE
ROWAN
DOGWOOD
INCLUDES CYCLAMEN, NETTLES, DOCKS, HERB ROBERT.
GRAVESTONES
APPLE
ASH
OAK & IVY TREE
ALMOND TREE
SHED
YEW
COMPOST HEAP
SYCAMORE
INCLUDES YOUNG ASH TREES, GREEN ALKANET, HERB ROBERT & WALL LETTUCE.
INCLUDES GREEN ALKANET, COMMON SORREL & DOCK.
CHURCH BUILDING
INCLUDES EXOTIC IRISES, CORDYLINE & WISTERIA
ASH
BIRD BOX & HOLLOW TRUNK
HOLLY HOCKS
BEECH
DRY DITCH INCL. CREEPING CINQUEFOIL & WILLOW HERB
INCLUDES ROSES, PRIMROSES & FOXGLOVE
ROSES
HOLLY
BUSY LIZZIES
RED VALERIAN
ENTRANCE
YOUNG CHERRY
MOWN GRASS
CYPRESS
SPECIES INCL. LAVENDER, GERANIUM & HERB ROBERT
SPECIES INCL. WALL LETTUCE, THISTLE, SPURGE, CLOVER.

Management

Trees and Shrubs: The presence of a large number of trees and shrubs gives this site a wooded feel. The Ash with a hole in the trunk is of interest as it may well provide a dead wood habitat not regularly found within the city centre. There are several fruiting species, such as Holly and Yew. If these need to be trimmed then this should ideally take place later in the winter season so that much of the fruit can be utilised by the local bird population.

Herbaceous Features: The wide range of herbaceous species within this churchyard provides a good source of nectar for insects throughout the year. Also with the presence of a small amount of Bramble, Ivy and nettle, a wider range of commoner species could potentially be found. Ivy is an important species, not only for providing autumn flowers and winter fruit but also as a valuable hibernation site for butterflies, and other over wintering insects, as well as potentially bats.

Grass: There is potential for a band of grass to be left to grow through the summer around the church building. This would allow species such as Ground-ivy, Selfheal and Clover to flower and set seed. This can then be cut and cleared in the autumn. The area of grass at the back of the church could well be left over winter and cut the following to provide over-wintering habitat for various insect.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Additional Features: The compost heap, as mentioned in General Management Guidelines, also provides an additional wildlife habitat.

St. Edward King and Martyr C of E Church, Peas Hill

General Description

A paved walkway leads from the main gate to the entrance of the church building, with paved and gravel paths leading off from it. Gravestones are sited together in one area.

Several planters surround the church building itself, as does a border of garden shrubs.

Flora and Fauna

A number of trees and shrubs are present in the churchyard, including species such as Hazel, Yew, Whitebeam, Silver Birch, Bay, *Pachysandra*, Cotoneaster, Tutsan and Hydrangea.

Nectar plants present include Ivy, Pencilled Crane's-bill, Wild Strawberry, Wall Lettuce, Sea Aster, Harebell, Spurge, thistle, Goldenrod and violets.

Management

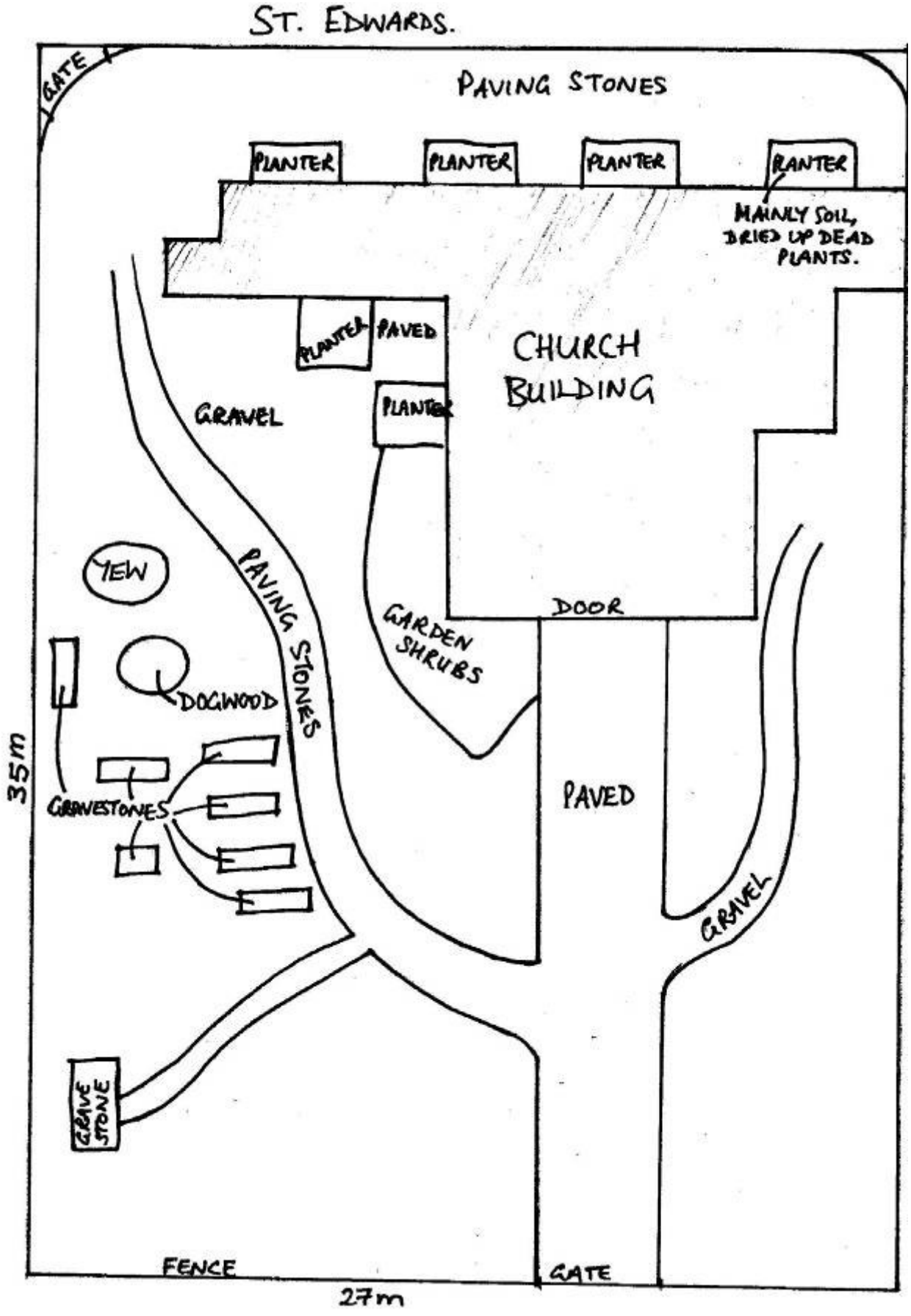
This is a small churchyard quite isolated from many green spaces.

Trees and Shrubs: The relatively large number of trees and shrubs gives this site a wooded feel. It would be preferable to keep this over time as there will be species found here that require that sort of habitat. If plants need replacing then native species would be preferred, but cultivated species that provide some wildlife features e.g. flowers or fruit can be substituted.

Herbaceous Features: These are limited because of the nature of the site. However those species that are present provide some value in this isolated site.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Map


ST. EDWARDS.
GATE
PAVING STONES
PLANTER
PLANTER
PLANTER
RANTER
MAINLY SOIL, DRIED UP DEAD PLANTS.
PLANTER
PAVED
CHURCH BUILDING
PLANTER
GRAVEL
YEW
PAVING STONES
DOOR
GARDEN SHRUBS
DOGWOOD
35m
GRAVESTONES
PAVED
GRAVEL
GRAVE STONE
FENCE
GATE
27m

St. Giles Cemetery, All Souls Lane

General Description

This site is designated as a City Wildlife Site for its excellent quality grassland habitat.

Flora and Fauna

A large number of trees are present within the cemetery. Tree species include Ash, Elder, Sycamore, Horse-chestnut, Lime, Yew, Cherry, Holly, Pine, Beech and Walnut. Bramble and fern species were also recorded.

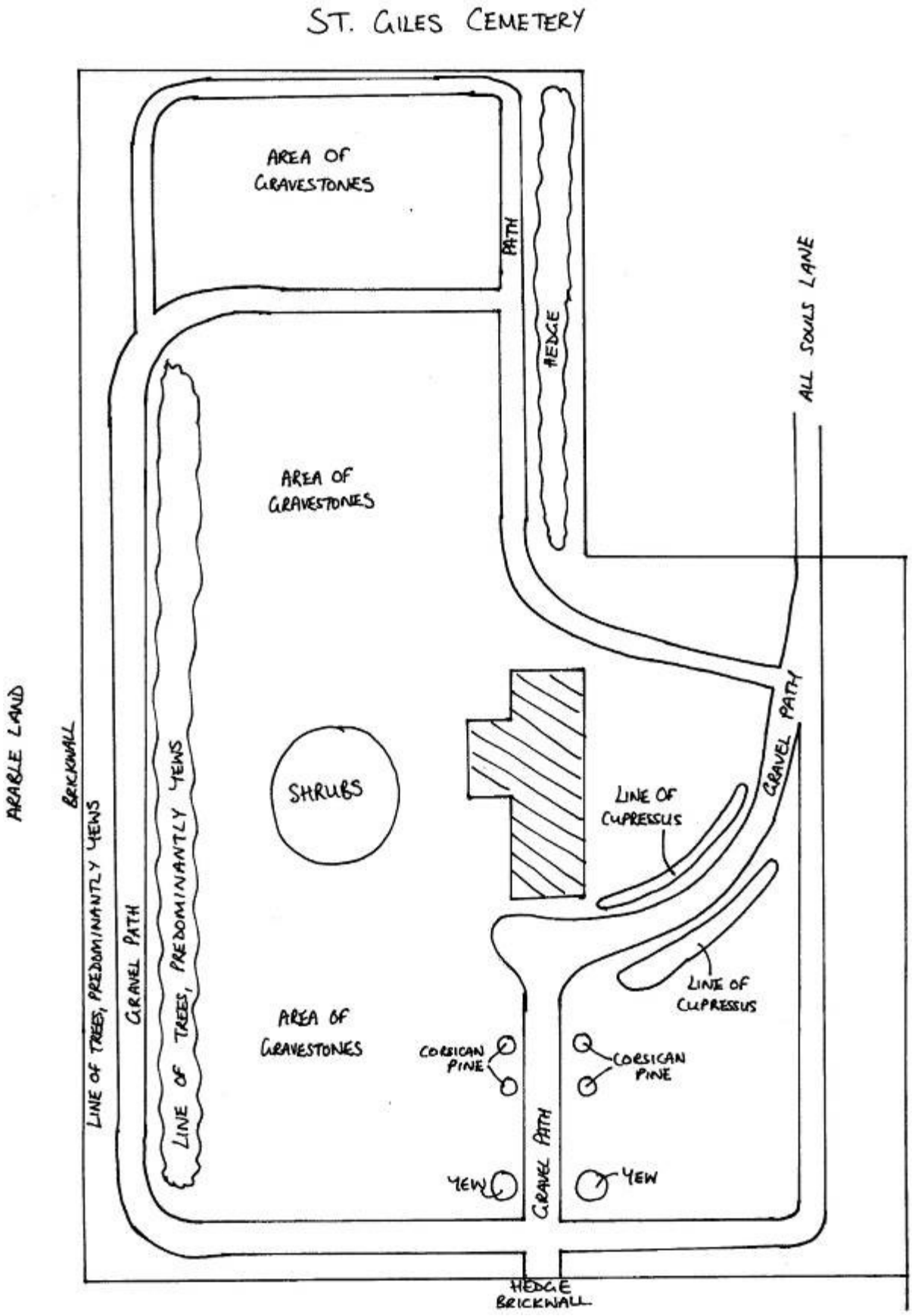
The cemetery also contains an abundance of different nectar plant species, including Bindweed, Red and White Clover, Ground-ivy, Ribwort Plantain, Cowslip, Selfheal, Knapweed, Sorrel, Lady's Bedstraw, Germander Speedwell, Cow Parsley, Cyclamen, Oxeye Daisy, Biting Stonecrop, Field Scabious, Common Ragwort, Green Alkanet, Smooth Sow-thistle and Creeping Buttercup.

Common Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)

Robins, Wrens, Crows, Wood Pigeons and Great Tits were all observed within the cemetery.

Lichen was observed to be present on both the church building and the headstones.

Map


ST. GILES CEMETERY
AREA OF GRAVESTONES
PATH
HEDGE
ALL SOULS LANE
AREA OF GRAVESTONES
ARABLE LAND
BRICKWALL
LINE OF TREES, PREDOMINANTLY YEWS
GRAVEL PATH
LINE OF TREES, PREDOMINANTLY YEWS
SHRUBS
LINE OF CUPRESSUS
GRAVEL PATH
LINE OF CUPRESSUS
AREA OF GRAVESTONES
CORSICAN PINE
CORSICAN PINE
YEW
GRAVEL PATH
YEW
HEDGE BRICKWALL

Management

Trees and Shrubs: The trees and shrubs are an important feature of the site for their number and age. The presence of various species of bird indicate suitably variable habitat. Very little should be done to the trees, except were tree surgery is needed to reduce any risk of falling branches. If any trees need to be replaced then the same or similar species should be planted. Shrubs should be allowed to flower and fruit and if there is a need to clear them back, then this should be done as late in to the winter as possible. However Bramble could soon become a problem in some areas if left unchecked. It is encroaching on the grassland for which the site is noted as being of city-wide importance.

Herbaceous Features: Most of the herbaceous plants are in the grassland so would be managed as the grass is.

Grass: As this is the most important habitat on the site it is important that suitable management is maintained/introduced. The extension of the site is still an active grave site so there is a need to maintain a regular cutting regime. In the main body of the site the grassland interest is at its greatest. Here large areas could potentially be left to grow long over the summer and then some cut in the autumn leaving the rest to provide over wintering habitat for many species.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

St. Laurence's RC Church, Milton Road

General Description

This church does not have a churchyard, but has borders around its car park which contain a variety of species of trees, shrubs and nectar plants. The borders are generally overgrown with Ivy.

Flora and Fauna

Trees present in the borders include Lime, Holly, Yew, Elder, Elm, Cherry and Sycamore. Laurel was also observed to be present as were Buddleia and *Pachysandra*.

Nectar plants observed included Cow Parsley, Green Alkanet, Chickweed, White Clover, Sorrel, Bindweed, Dog Rose, Perennial Sow- thistle and Geraniums.

Bindweed
(*Convolvulus arvensis*)

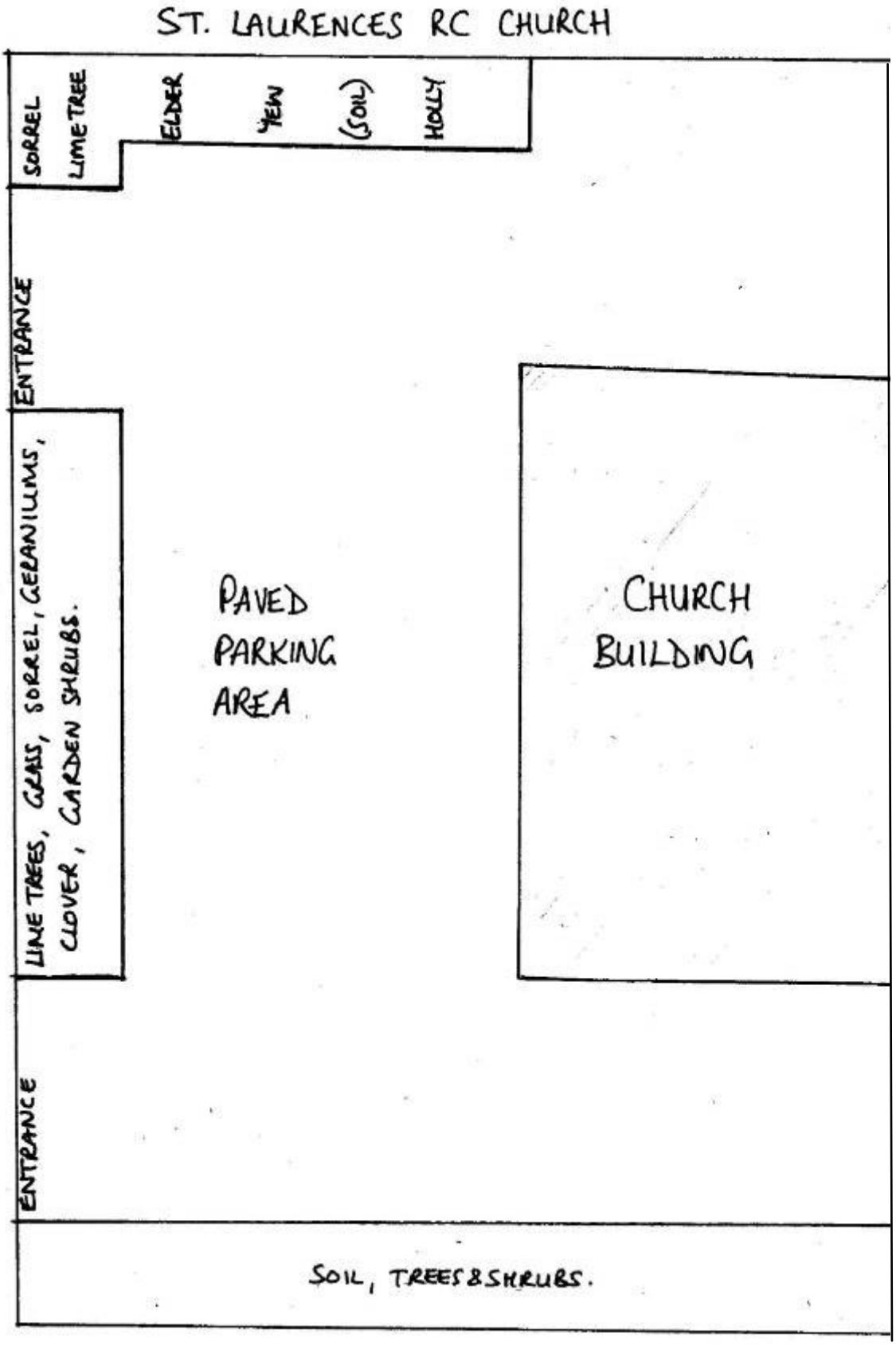
Management

Trees and Shrubs: Although a small number, they are still of value to the local area. The presence of Yew, Elder and Holly can provide fruit for birds during the winter months. Therefore any trimming should take place as late in the winter as possible to allow much of the fruit to be consumed.

Herbaceous Features: There is the potential to encourage woody species to grow around the base of the trees to cover the bare soil. Native Ivy would be suitable as it provides flowers and fruit, as well as cover.

Grass: Continual cutting twice a year in Spring and Autumn will help to develop this feature to some extent, reducing the rank nature of the area and allowing those herbaceous plants present to flower.

Map


ST. LAURENCES RC CHURCH
SORREL
LIME TREE
ELDER
YEW
(SOIL)
HOLLY
ENTRANCE
LIME TREES, GRASS, SORREL, GERANIUMS, CLOVER, GARDEN SHRUBS.
PAVED PARKING AREA
CHURCH BUILDING
ENTRANCE
SOIL, TREES & SHRUBS.

St. Paul's C of E Church

General Description

A fairly small churchyard situated between the church building and a busy road, surrounded by a low stone wall.

Much of the churchyard is paved, with grassland areas along both sides, and several borders in the centre mainly containing cultivated flowers and plants.

The church is responsible for managing the grounds. The grass is cut as and when it needs it, up to once a week in the summer. No areas of grass are left uncut and no chemicals are used on the grounds.

Flora and Fauna

Lime trees and a Cherry tree are found in the grassland areas of the churchyard. Holly and a Hollyhock tree are also present. Shrubs recorded include Hydrangea, Buddleia, Cotoneaster, Pyracantha, Mahonia, *Pachysandra* and *Aucuba japonica*.

Nectar plants present included Ribwort and Greater Plantain, Ivy, White Clover, Common Poppy, Green Alkanet, Yarrow, Hollyhock, Greater Celendine, Black Horehound, Small Nettle, Harebell, Wood Avens, Wild Strawberry, Chickweed, Wall Lettuce, Lavender, Groundsel, Common Mouse-ear, Shepherd's-purse, Yellow Oxalis, Mallow, Canadian Fleabane, White Dead-nettle and Honeysuckle.

Lichen was observed to be present on the church building, the church wall and the trees.

Management

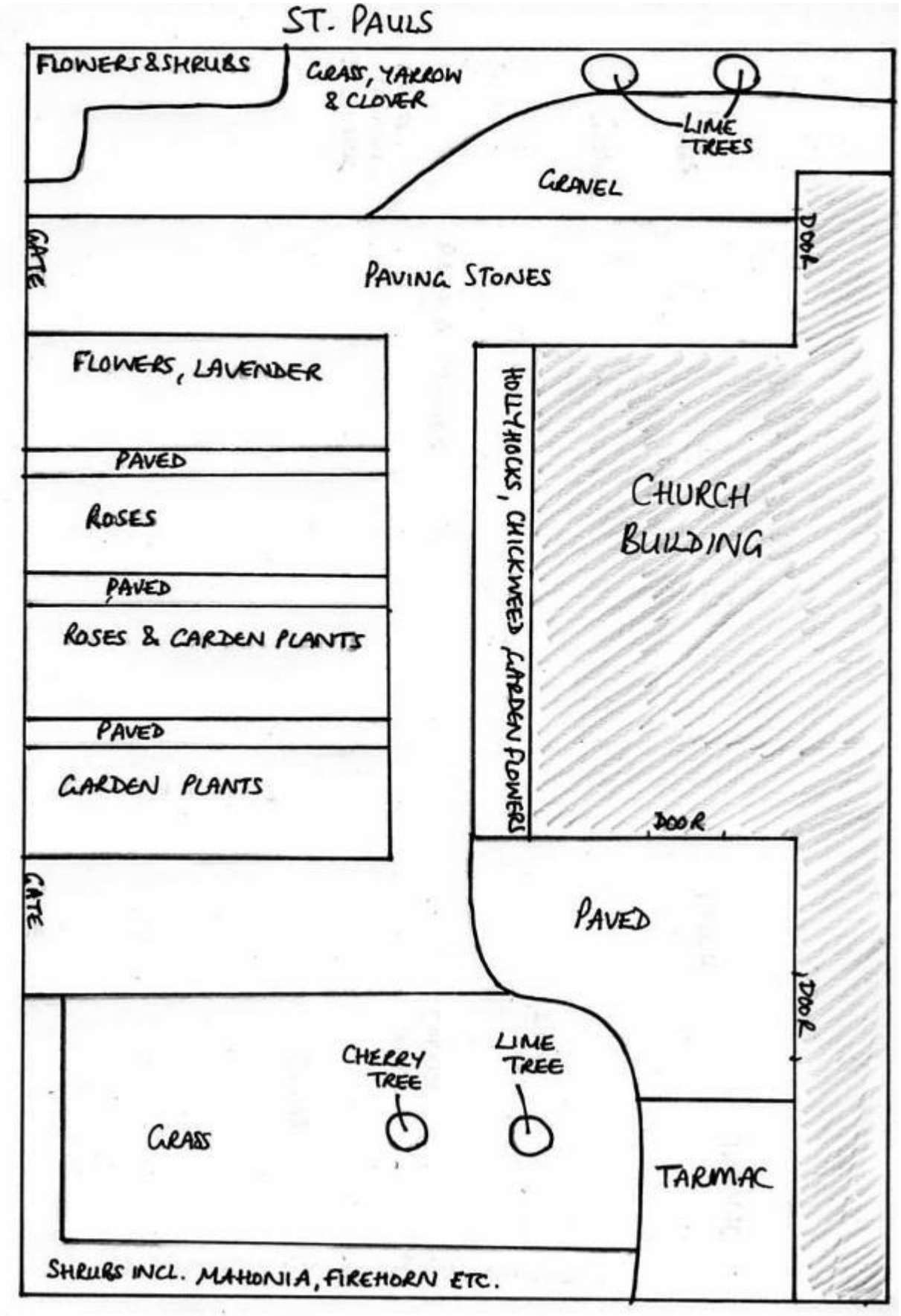
Trees and Shrubs: The small number of species provides important cover and food for some species. Their value is enhanced by the presence of lichens.

Herbaceous Features: The large areas of herbaceous plants provide a good source of nectar and cover for many species of insect. The variety also means that there will always be something flowering throughout the spring and summer.

Grass: The potential to let at least a small area of grass to grow long through the summer, particularly at the western end of the site, would enhance the site considerably for wildlife.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Map


ST. PAULS
FLOWERS & SHRUBS
GRASS, YARROW & CLOVER
LIME TREES
GRAVEL
DOOR
GATE
PAVING STONES
FLOWERS, LAVENDER
PAVED
ROSES
PAVED
ROSES & GARDEN PLANTS
PAVED
GARDEN PLANTS
HOLLYHOCKS, CHICKWEED, GARDEN FLOWERS
CHURCH BUILDING
DOOR
GATE
PAVED
DOOR
CHERRY TREE
LIME TREE
GRASS
TARMAC
SHRUBS INCL. MAHONIA, FIREHORN ETC.

St. Phillip C of E Church, Mill Road

General Description

Consists of a small grassy area at the front and an area at the side which is mainly gravel.

Flora and Fauna

The area at the front of the church contains Mahonia, Sun Spurge, Dandelion, Creeping Cinquefoil and Canadian Fleabane.

The side area is mainly gravel but also contains Smooth Sow-thistle, Willowherb, Black Horehound and Spurge.

Management

There is very little potential to enhance the area as it is. However if resources were available the planting of an area of bushes and introducing some herbaceous plants into the gravely area would certainly improve the site for wildlife.

Grass: If it was left to grow long over the summer and with the planting of native plug plants within it, this would help increase its value for wildlife considerably.

The Round Church, Bridge Street

General Description

A fairly small, well visited and tidy churchyard near the centre of Cambridge, which is managed by the City Council. It is mainly surrounded by a low stone wall, has a large paved area and several tubs of flowers.

There is also a lawn which is mown regularly to keep it short. No areas of grass were left uncut but it is not known whether any chemicals were used in the grounds. The gravestones have been moved and are distributed around the churchyard.

Flora and Fauna

There are several large trees present in the churchyard, particularly on either side. These include a large Silver Birch, a Holly tree, Elder, Dogwood, Fig and Yew.

Around the lawn area of the yard and along the surrounding wall are several beds of shrubs and plants, some of which also contain several wild flower species. Shrubs present include Lavender, Cotoneaster, *Mahonia lomariifolia*, Buddleia and ornamental grasses.

Greater Plantain was present on the lawn. Other wild species present include Smooth Sow-thistle, Purple Spurge, Black Horehound, Canadian Fleabane and Shepherd's-purse.

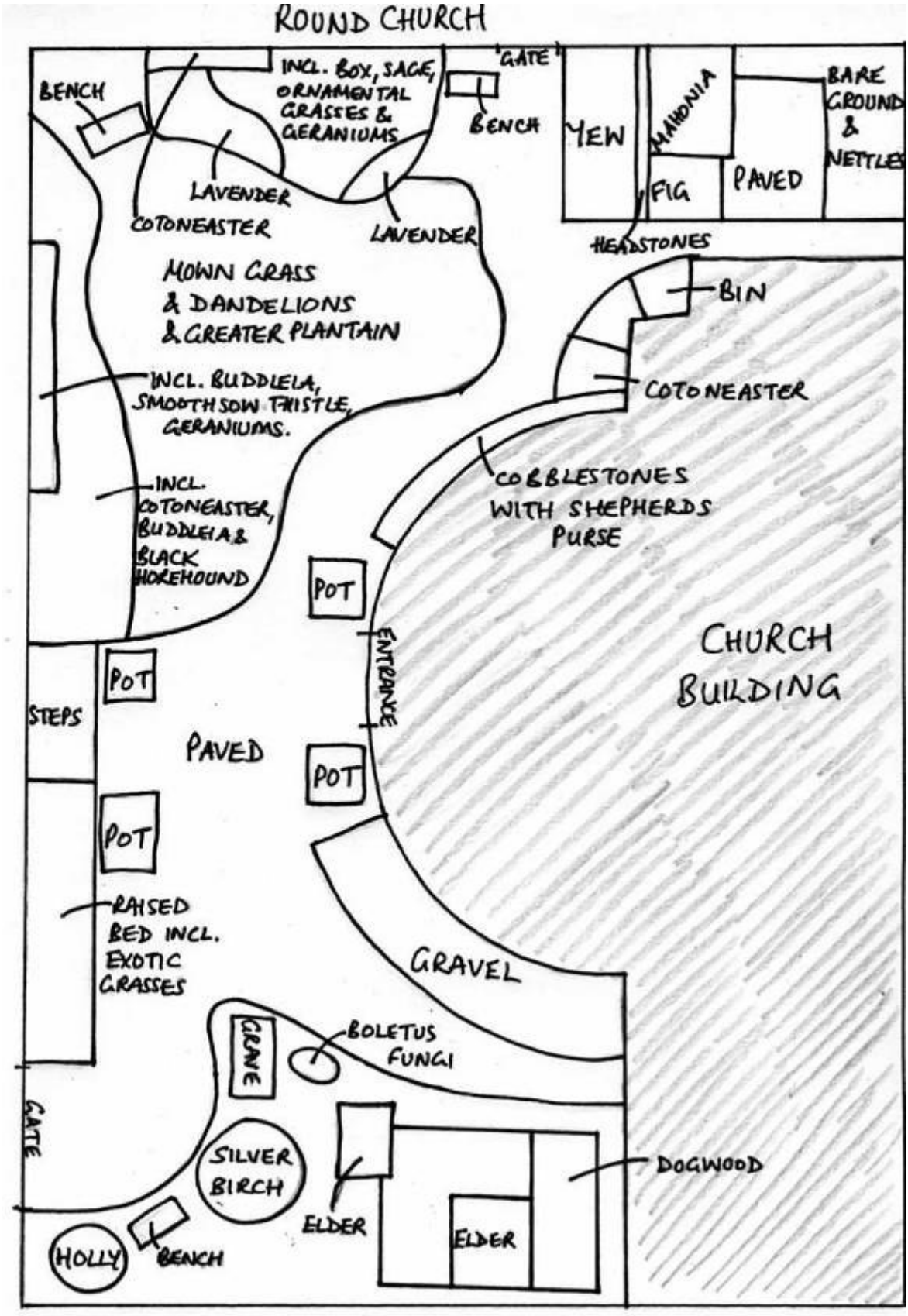
Tubs near the church entrance contain various cultivated flowers including Fuchsia, Geraniums and Petunias.

A Boletus fungus was seen in one area of the churchyard.

Pigeons and a Blackbird were also present.

Lichen was observed on the church wall and on the headstones.

Map


ROUND CHURCH
BENCH
INCL. BOX, SAGE, ORNAMENTAL GRASSES & GERANIUMS
GATE
BENCH
YEW
MAHONIA
BARE GROUND & NETTLES
FIG
PAVED
LAVENDER
COTONEASTER
LAVENDER
HEADSTONES
MOWN GRASS & DANDELIONS & GREATER PLANTAIN
BIN
INCL. BUDDLEIA, SMOOTH SOW THISTLE, GERANIUMS.
COTONEASTER
COBBLESTONES WITH SHEPHERDS PURSE
INCL. COTONEASTER, BUDDLEIA & BLACK HOREHOUND
POT
ENTRANCE
CHURCH BUILDING
POT
STEPS
PAVED
POT
POT
RAISED BED INCL. EXOTIC GRASSES
GRAVEL
GRAVE
BOLETUS FUNGI
GATE
SILVER BIRCH
DOGWOOD
ELDER
ELDER
HOLLY
BENCH

Management

Due to its importance as a tourist attraction there is very little scope for major changes in the management.

Trees and Shrubs: The species found are mainly native and several provide fruit in the winter and good cover. Native species should be used if any need replacing and any management should occur when there are as few fruits on the plant as possible.

Herbaceous Features: The limited range of nectar bearing plants will help support the local nectar feeding insects, Lavender being of particular note.

Grass: There is no real opportunity to alter the management of this, unless chemicals are currently being used, then any possible reduction in their use would be beneficial.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: The value of the existence of a lichen community should be recognised and any works involving damage to these should allow for the continuation of lichens in at least some of the site.

Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces

General Description

This church doesn't have a churchyard but there is a small green area at the front of the building, separated from the road by a low stone wall. There is one soil border containing shrubs, and two trees.

The church is responsible for managing the area and the grass is cut every 2- 3 weeks in summer with no areas being left uncut.

No areas are managed specifically for wildlife and the church has had problems with pigeons in the past.

Flora and Fauna

Two trees are present- a Cherry tree and a Lime tree. The soil area also contains several ornamental bushes.

Nectar species present include Ivy, Spurge, Shepherd's-purse, Black Horehound and Honeysuckle.

Lichen was found to be present on the church building, the church wall and the trees in the churchyard.

Management

There is very limited opportunity to enhance the site for wildlife.

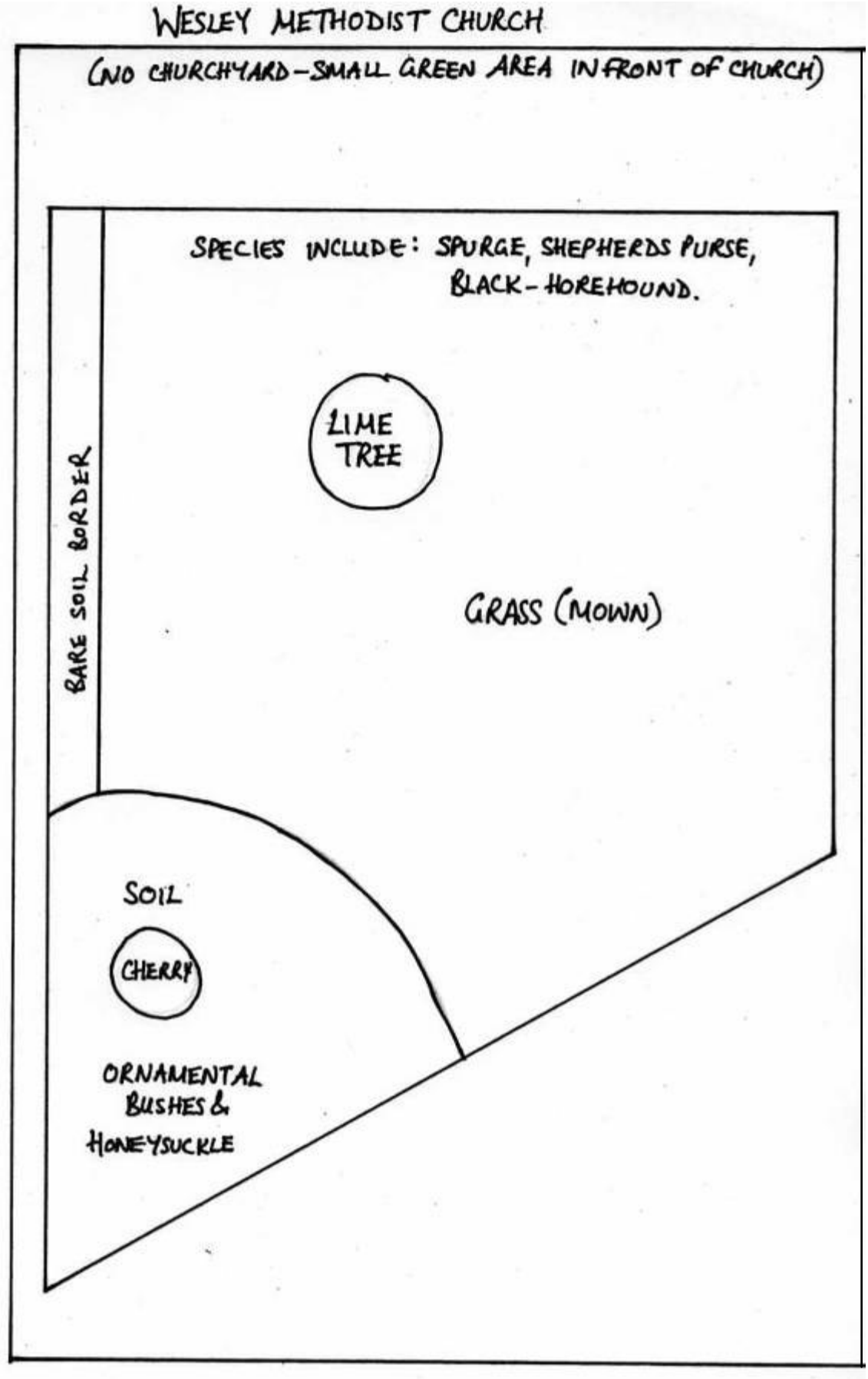
Trees and Shrubs: The few trees and shrubs are of limited local importance due to the large number of mature trees adjacent within Christ's Pieces. However, they will still support local wildlife.

Herbaceous Features: The Ivy and Honeysuckle are important nectar and fruiting plants so their presence is of note. However, they should be left as late into the winter as possible before being managed, to allow the local bird population to consume the fruit.

Grass: The area surrounding the Lime tree and along the edges of the site could be left uncut for the summer and cut in the autumn. This would allow the wild flower species to flower. Alternatively plugs of native species could be planted in there and then left to flower.

Buildings, gravestones and boundary features: No lichens were found during the survey. However, if they do develop in the future then they should be noted as an important feature and preserved where possible.

Map


WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH
(NO CHURCHYARD - SMALL GREEN AREA INFRONT OF CHURCH)
SPECIES INCLUDE: SPURGE, SHEPHERDS PURSE, BLACK-HOREHOUND.
LIME TREE
BARE SOIL BORDER
GRASS (MOWN)
SOIL
CHERRY
ORNAMENTAL BUSHES & HONEYSUCKLE

Acknowledgements

This survey was co-ordinated by Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Biological Records Centre and Cambridge Greenbelt project. We would like to thank the following for their support and contribution to this project:

- Reverend Nigel Cooper and the Ely Diocese
- Cambridge Sustainable City
- St. Andrew's Church, Chesterton and St. Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton who allowed us to hold training sessions in their churchyards.