



**BRIEF HISTORY OF ILKLEY CEMETERY & THE MEMORIAL AVENUE**

Ilkley's original cemetery was sited around All Saints Parish Church, but by the 1870's this was becoming overcrowded.



The original graveyard at the Parish Church closed to new burials in 1878 but the gravestones remained in place until 1968. The gravestones were removed as part of a scheme to tidy up the area around All Saints Church following the demolition of the Wheatsheaf Hotel. Most gravestones were moved to the new cemetery and left in piles.



South and North Chapels 1966

In 1878 the Ilkley Cemetery was opened near the river on Cemetery Road (now called Ashlands Road). The new cemetery was built on 13 acres of land with two chapels, one for Anglicans on consecrated ground and one for Non-Conformists and Catholics which was un-consecrated. The plan below shows these different areas of the Cemetery.

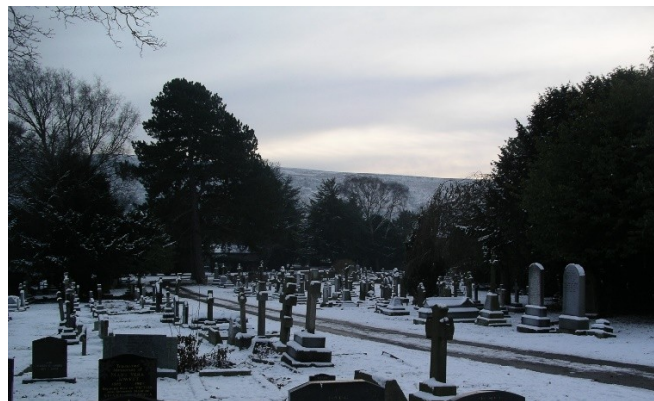




Catholic Section F



Non-Conformist Section A



General View

The old gravestones from All Saints Church that had been previously been left in piles were laid out to form a Memorial Avenue close to the Ashlands Road entrance in 2011 with generous support from the community who with the Friends of Ilkley Cemetery have continued to look after the area since then.

