

Trees in the Cemetery

Irish Yew

Before the land was bought for the cemetery in 1856, it was used for rough grazing and seems to have been without trees. The Burial Board who administered the cemetery, planted trees across the area. Most of the trees are evergreens as the Victorians considered them suitable for cemeteries.

These two trees, photographed in May 2013 are Irish yew and face the upper gates near the notice board. The Latin name for them is *Taxus baccata fastigiata*. (*Taxus* is the family name of the yew; *baccata* means 'red berried' and *fastigiata* means that the branches grow upwards.)

There are several other specimens of this yew in the cemetery, as well as some other yews. Since the photograph was taken, these two trees have been trimmed to allow people to pass between them and giving a view of the avenue beyond them..

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