

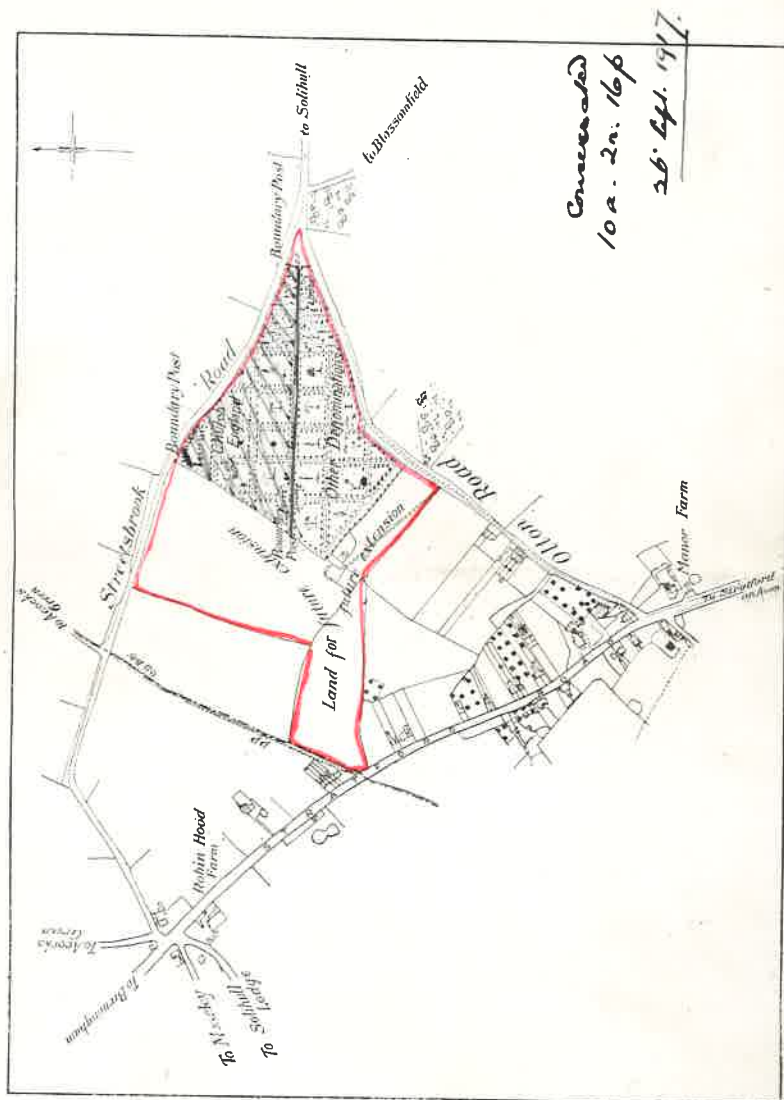
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PUBLIC
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Souvenir.

Opening
of the
Bolithull
Cemetery

26th September,
1917.

R718.



PLAN OF CEMETERY.

Rural District Council of Solihull

in the County of Warwick.

OPENING OF THE NEW CEMETERY AND CONSECRATION

OF A PORTION OF THE GROUND,

on

WEDNESDAY, 26th SEPTEMBER, 1917.

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Rural District Council of Solihull.

COUNCIL.

Chairman :

Councillor J. T. B. HARTLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR C. BURTON BLYTH.

Councillor T. BIRKETT BARKER, J.P.	Councillor J. JESSE JAMES
" T. M. BURMAN, J.P.	" CYRIL R. LUNN, M.B.
" JOHN CORBETT	" E. MOAKES
" THOMAS CHAMBERLAIN	" MARTIN MAGOR
" F. B. CROWTHER	" T. A. MOAKES
" G. F. DOWNES	" H. W. NOCK
" J. C. GILBERT	" H. P. PHILLIPS
" W. T. HORTON	" C. H. SMITH
" H. HUNTLEY DAVIE	" A. UNDERHILL
THE REV. DR. ROBERT WILSON.	

CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor F. B. CROWTHER.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor A. UNDERHILL.

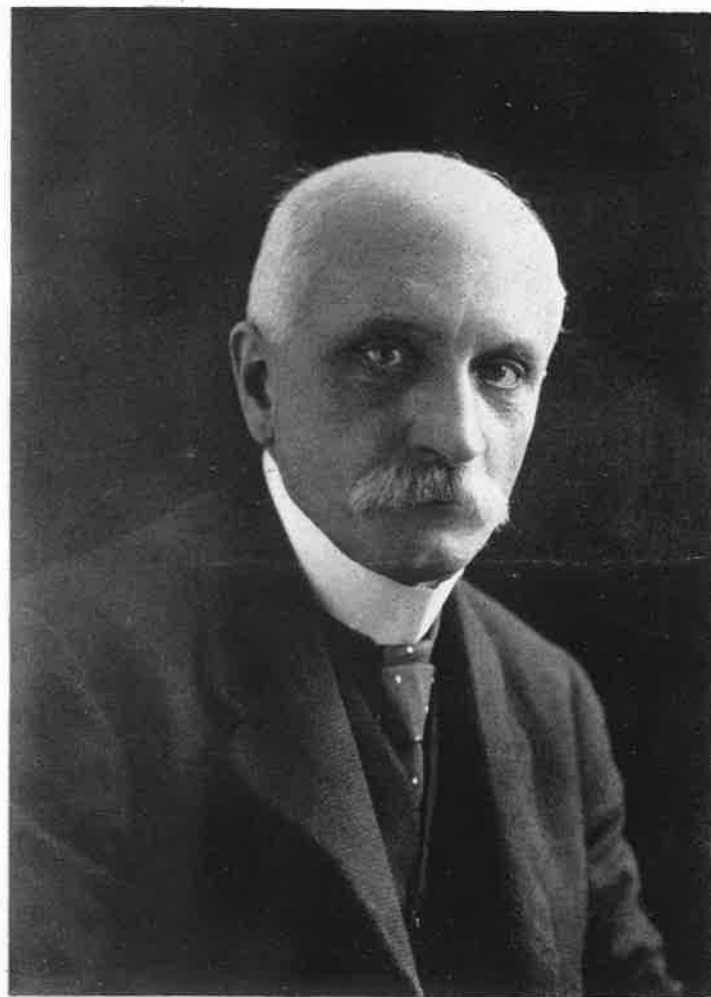
Councillor C. BURTON BLYTH	Councillor E. MOAKES
" J. T. B. HARTLEY, J.P.	" MARTIN MAGOR
" W. T. HORTON	" H. W. NOCK
Councillor H. HUNTLEY DAVIE.	

F. LADBURY THOMPSON, *Clerk to the Council*

A. E. CURRALL, *Surveyor to the Council.*



COUNCILLOR J. T. B. HARTLEY, J.P.
Chairman of the Council.



COUNCILLOR F. B. CROWTHER.
Chairman of the Cemetery Committee.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS
AT THE
CONSECRATION OF A PORTION OF THE
SOLIHULL CEMETERY
by
The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Birmingham
on
Wednesday, 26th September, 1917.

The Petition for the Consecration will be presented to the Bishop by the Chairman of the Council.

The Clergy, Choir, and the Members of the Council, and the Council Officials, will proceed with the Bishop round the portion of the Cemetery to be Consecrated, and return to the Site of the Chapel.

The Bishop will deliver an address, and after the Sentence of Consecration has been read, the Service will conclude with Prayer, a Hymn, and the Blessing.



VIEW OF GROUND LOOKING SOUTH EAST,

DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF THE CEMETERY.

The present Burial Grounds for the Solihull District (which comprise the Solihull, Olton and Shirley Wards) are the Graveyards attached to the Parish Church of St. Alphege, Solihull; St. Mary's Shirley, and that belonging to the Franciscan Monastery at Olton.

Interments according to the Parish Registers date as far back as the 13th Century at the Parish Church and have continued to a recent date.

Vaults and Family Graves in many cases are still available, but for some years there has been great difficulty in providing graves for parishoners not having such vaults or family graves.

In November, 1910, matters became so serious that the Church Wardens convened a Vestry Meeting to consider the question of providing additional ground. This and subsequent meetings took place, with the result that at a specially convened meeting of the Vestry on November 27th, 1910 it was resolved to approach the District Council and request them to obtain the necessary powers for providing a Burial Ground for the Parish, and on 9th December a deputation from this meeting attended before the District Council and laid the case before them when it was decided to carry out the request of the deputation.

A Committee was subsequently appointed to visit various sites and make enquiries, and this was done in several eligible parts of the district. Eventually the land situate at the junction of Robin Hood Road, and Olton Road containing about 42-acres was unanimously decided on as being in every way the most suitable.

Plans, Estimates and Particulars were prepared and application was made to the Local Government Board and the Home Office for sanction to purchase and lay out the land for a Cemetery, and in due course an enquiry was held at the Board Room, Solihull, on the 18th October, 1912, by F. H. Tulloch, Esq., an Engineer appointed by the Local Government Board to enquire into the application of the Council, after which he inspected the site and trial holes made in various parts of the ground.

After due consideration of the application the consent of the Board was given and the requisite plans, specifications and estimates were prepared for carrying out the work.

The site from many points of view is one of the best possible, being on high land at the North West of Solihull, and from which a fine view is obtained over Birmingham to the North, Shirley to the South, Bromsgrove and the Lickey Hills to the West, Yardley, Coleshill and Shustoke to the East.

It is about 500 feet above sea level and the sub-soil is principally sand and gravel. The land is well situated for a Burial Ground having easy sloping gradients North and South with a fairly level ridge on which the Main Drive is made.

It is easy of access from all parts and is sufficiently removed from the residential districts not to be in any way detrimental to the same.

It is bounded on the North by the Robin Hood Road, on the South by the Olton Road, and on the South West by the Stratford main road.

The portion of the land at present laid out contains about 20 acres, and lies between the Olton and Robin Hood Roads, terminating at the junction of these two roads with Streetsbrook Road, and is enclosed with unclimbable iron fencing and is well drained.

The main approach is from the Solihull or East end of the Ground by a carriage drive 30 feet wide, and extending to the present boundary a distance of 450 yards, from which by easy curves the drive will eventually continue for about 430 yards to the Stratford Road, at which entrance a Lodge will be erected, allowing a through drive from Stratford Road to Streetsbrook Road.

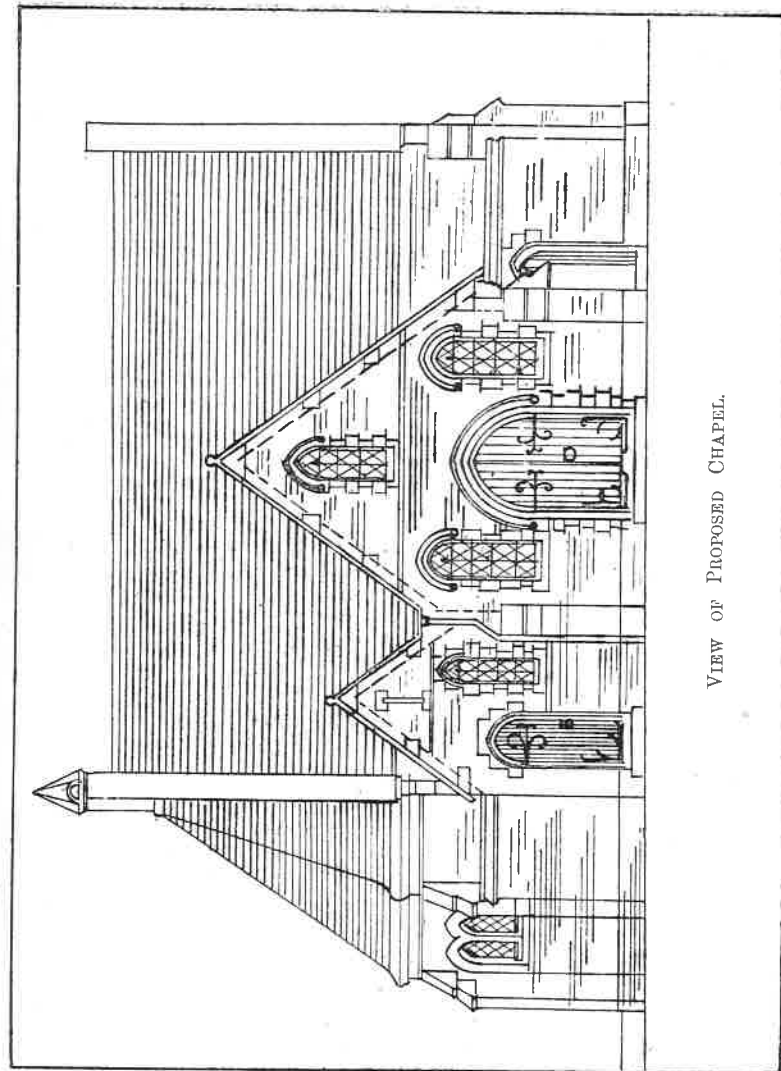
There is another carriage drive 20 feet wide and about 480 yards in length from Robin Hood Road to Olton Road, 300 yards of which is at present completed.

The land is divided up into sections or walks cut at right angles to the main drives, and the ground allotted to the Established Church is on the North East side, and that for the Nonconformists on the South West side.

At the Main Entrance are Caretaker's Lodge and Offices, built of Staffordshire bricks with Hornton Stone Dressings. Part of the Lodge for the time being will be used as a Mortuary Chapel until a permanent Chapel is erected, which will be situate on the highest part of the land at the West End of the Main Drive, and encircled by a carriage drive 30 feet wide.

The building work has been carried out by Messrs. Thomas Bragg & Sons of Shirley; the Iron Fencing, Gates and Palisades by Messrs. Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Limited, of Wolverhampton.

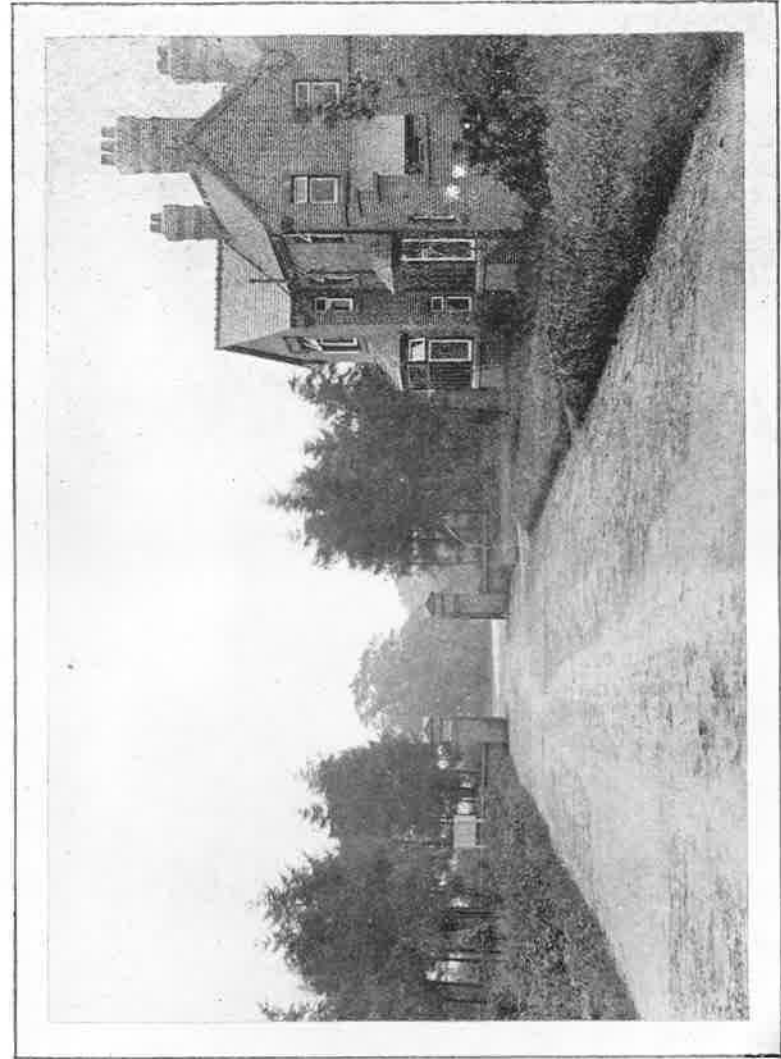
The whole of the work including drainage and laying out of the Cemetery has been carried out by the Council by direct labour, and under the supervision of Mr. A. E. Currall, the Surveyor to the Council.



VIEW OF PROPOSED CHAPEL.



VIEW OF ENTRANCE (Gates, &c., at Cemetery).



ENTRANCE SHEWING CARTAKERS LODGE



VIEW OF GROUND.