



### Some Sacred Spaces in the United Kingdom

**'Abdu'l-Bahá in  
Bristol**


17 Royal York Crescent, Bristol

23-25 September 1911  
15-16 January 1913

Blessed, doubly blessed, is  
the ground which His  
footsteps have trodden ...

Bahá'u'lláh



He is, and should for all time be regarded, first and foremost, as the Center and Pivot of Bahá'u'lláh's peerless and all-enfolding Covenant, His most exalted handiwork, the stainless Mirror of His light, the perfect Exemplar of His teachings, the unerring Interpreter of His Word, the embodiment of every Bahá'í ideal, the incarnation of every Bahá'í virtue ... styles and titles that are implicit and find their truest, their highest and fairest expression in the magic name 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

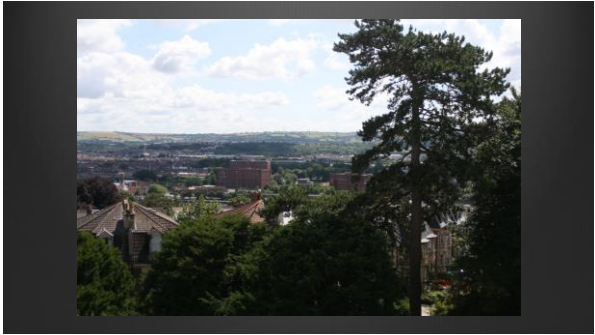
(Shoghi Effendi, The World Order of Baha'u'llah, p. 133)



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First Floor Flat, Flat 2, 17 Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4JY  
 OFFICE: 0844 8363636 | PHONE: 01274 344 000 | FAX: 01274 344 000

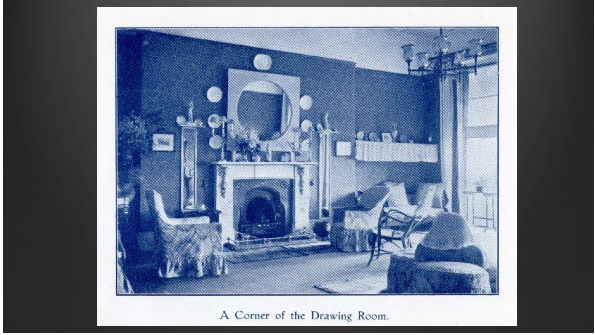
It feels that your intention to carry out renovation work, so that the former guest house can be brought closer in appearance to its condition at the time when 'Abdu'l-Bahá visited it, is entirely appropriate ...

[Universal House of Justice to the National Spiritual Assembly]

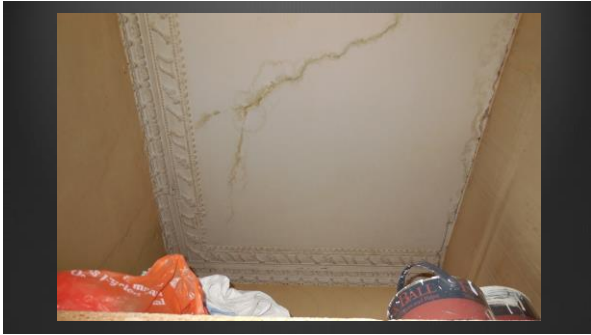
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[Universal House of Justice to the National Spiritual Assembly]



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Photograph taken on a wet day in January 1913

## Resting Place of Shoghi Effendi

New Southgate Cemetery,  
North London





Salutation and praise, blessing and glory rest upon that primal branch of the Divine and Sacred Lote-Tree, grown out, blest, tender, verdant and flourishing from the Twin Holy Trees, the most wondrous, unique and priceless pearl that doth gleam from out the Twin surging seas, upon the offshoots of the Tree of Holiness, the twigs of the Celestial Tree, they that in the Day of the Great Dividing have stood fast and firm in the Covenant; upon the Hands (pillars) of the Cause of God that have diffused widely the Divine Fragrances, declared His Proofs, proclaimed His Faith, published abroad His Law, detached themselves from all things but Him, stood for righteousness in this world, and kindled the Fire of the Love of God in the very hearts and souls of His servants; upon them that have believed, rested assured, stood steadfast in His Covenant and followed the Light that after my passing shineth from the Dayspring of Divine Guidance—for behold! he is the blest and sacred bough that hath branched out from the Twin Holy Trees. Well is it with him that seeketh the shelter of his shade that shadoweth all mankind.

‘Abdu’l Bahá - Will and Testament

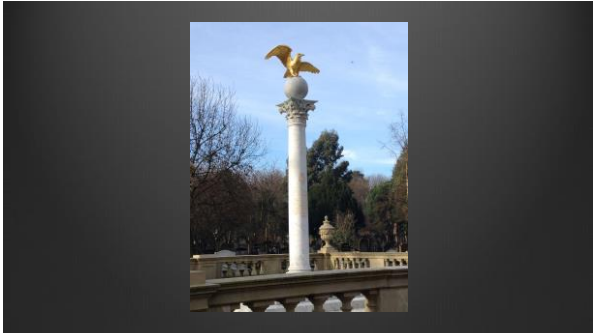




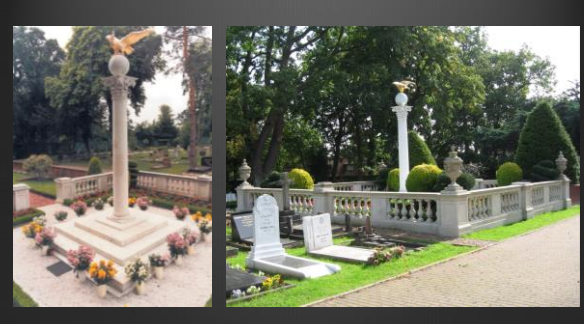
### Resting Place of Shoghi Effendi

In 1958 his grave was built of the same dazzling white Carrara marble he had himself chosen for the monuments of his illustrious relatives in Haifa, a simple grave as he would have wished it to be. A single marble column, crowned by a corinthian capital is surmounted by a globe, the map of Africa facing forward - for had not the victories won in Africa brought him the greatest joy during that last year of his life? - and on this globe is a large gilded bronze eagle, a reproduction of a beautiful Japanese sculpture of an eagle which he greatly admired and which he had placed in his own room. No better emblem than this symbol of victory could have been found for the resting-place of him who had won so many victories as he led the hosts of Bahá'u'lláh's followers on their ceaseless conquests throughout the five continents of the world.

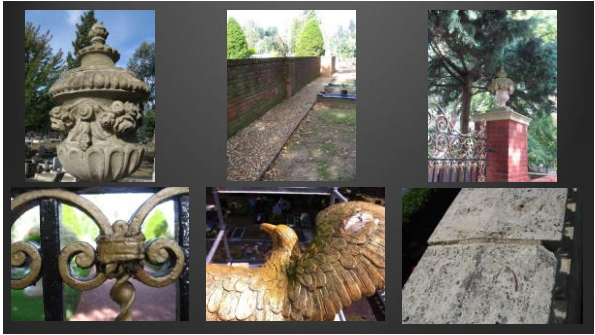
(Ruhiyyih Khanum, The Priceless Pearl, p. 450)



### Renovating the Guardian's Resting Place

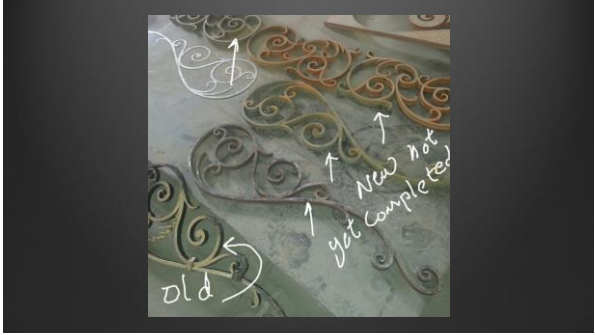


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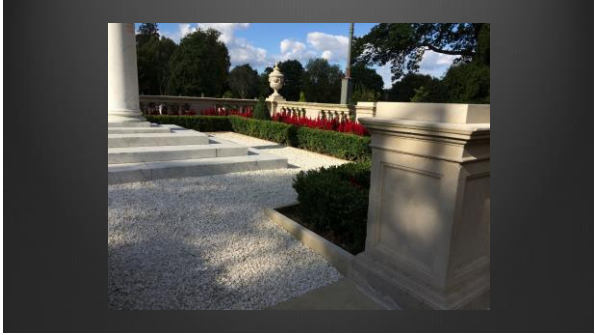
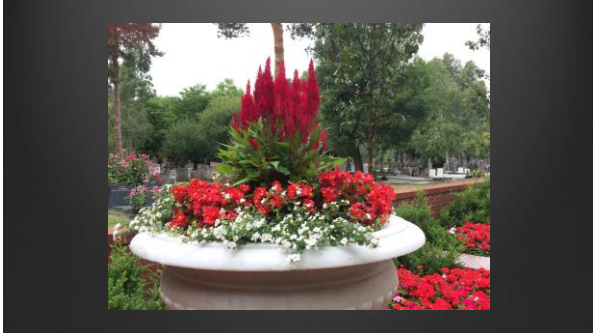
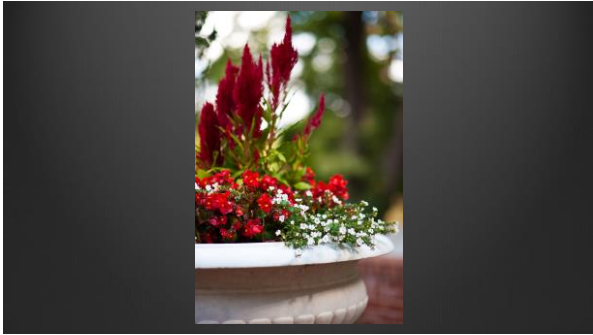
Restore or replace?

The House of Justice feels that where features of the Resting Place can be preserved and restored they should be, given the historical significance of the site for Baha'is. Of course, if a particular feature is beyond repair—as appears to be the case with the entrance gate—then a high quality replacement should be found that resembles the original as closely as possible ...



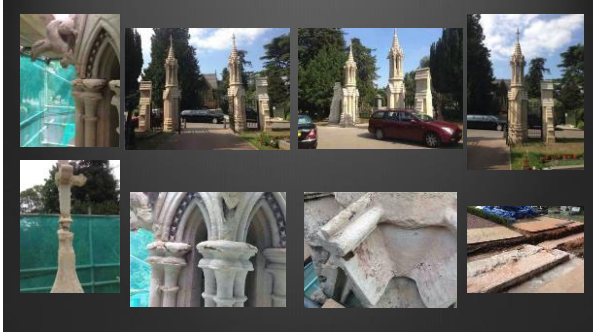
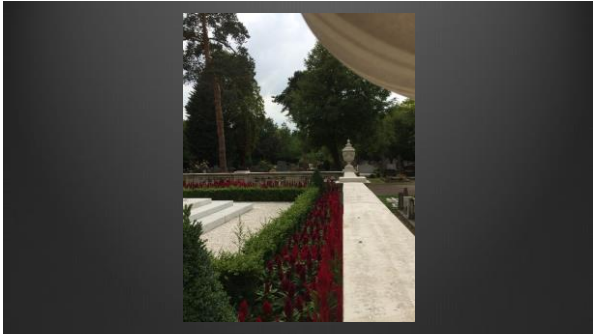


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The vision ...

With regard to the arboricultural aspects of the site, your aim should be to maintain the area such that it retains a pleasing woodland character: green and verdant for much of the year, and evidently well managed at all times. If this requires particular trees or shrubs to be replaced, rather than simply cut back, there is no objection to this, but you should aim to retain to the extent possible the original layout of the grounds.

☪ Universal House of Justice



**Proposed Radial Trees**

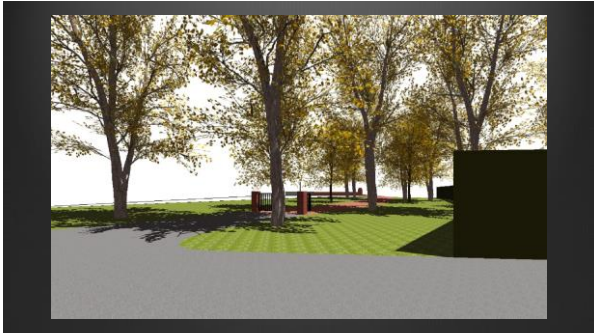
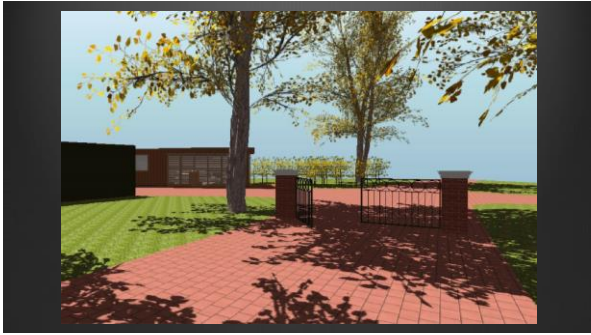
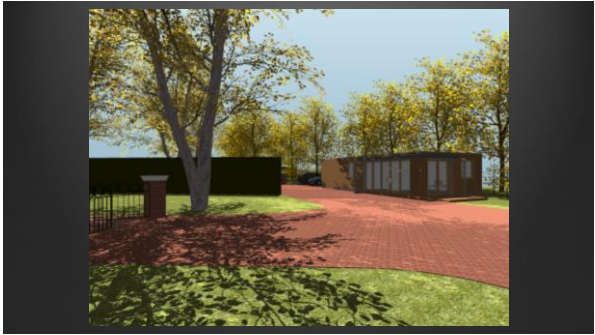
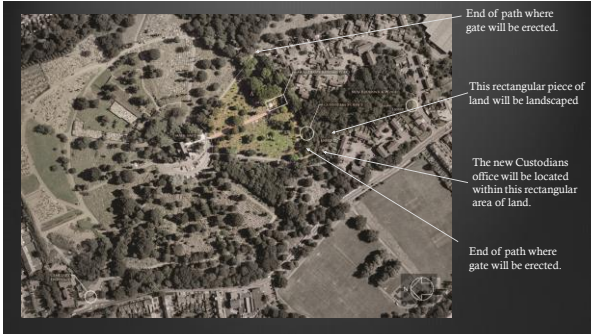
<i>Malus baccata</i> 'Street Parade'	<i>Malus</i> 'Evereste'	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer'
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**Bulbs and Groundcover Planting Palette for cemetery grounds outside the Resting Place**

<i>Narcissus poeticus</i>	<i>Allyga</i> - Bugle	<i>Vincetoxicum</i> Periwinkle	<i>Liriope muscari</i>
Bluebells	<i>Narcissus</i> 'Little Witch'	<i>Crocus tommasinianus</i> Naturalising Crocus	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>
Daffodils			<i>Galanthus nivalis</i> Snowdrops



# Some Sacred Spaces in the United Kingdom



Funds to donate to:

- ⊗ Guardian's Resting Place Maintenance Fund
- ⊗ Guardian's Resting Place Endowment Fund

<b>Guardian's Resting Place - general fund</b>	£
	5 YEARS
TOTAL INCOME 2013 - 2017 (estimated)	2015.17
	543,507
Maintenance Expenditure	264,771
Endowment - Guardian's Resting Place	450,261
Replacements - Custodian's house	91,687
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2013 - 2017 (estimated)</b>	<b>807,819</b>
<b>ANTICIPATED SHORTFALL at 31 December 2017</b>	<b>263,882</b>
<b>Guardian's Resting Place- Endowment Fund</b>	£
20 Year goal of £100,000 per annum	
Commenced in 2011 - target to 31 December 2017	910,000
Contributions to date	639,271
<b>REMAINING TO MEET TARGET at 31 December 2017</b>	<b>270,729</b>

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...for behold! he is the blest and sacred bough that hath branched out from the Twin Holy Trees. Well is it with him that seeketh the shelter of his shade that shadoweth all mankind.

(Abdu'l-Baha, The Will and Testament, p. 3)



## Mashriqu'l-Adhkár



Blessed is he who, at the hour of dawn, centering his thoughts on God, occupied with His remembrance, and supplicating His forgiveness, directeth his steps to the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár and, entering therein, seateth himself in silence to listen to the verses of God, the Sovereign, the Mighty, the All-Praised. Say: The Mashriqu'l-Adhkár is each and every building which hath been erected in cities and villages for the celebration of My praise. Such is the name by which it hath been designated before the throne of glory, were ye of those who understand.

(Baha'i Writings / The Tablets of Abdu'l-Baha - paragraph 115)

## TEMPLE LAND



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...the Master's vision provided for a variety of settings and circumstances in which the concept of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár could, in its embryonic form, be expressed. Consider His words in this regard:



*Siyah-Chal*, the name of the prison to which Bahá'u'lláh was imprisoned, means the "Black Pit".

As to the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár, it is of the utmost importance.... It may assume any form, for even if it be an underground pit, that pit shall become a sheltering paradise, an exalted bower, and a garden of delight. It shall become a centre wherein the spirits are gladdened and the hearts attracted to the Abhá Kingdom.

Indeed ... a broad range of possibilities for the expression of this law and its organic unfoldment in a particular locality can be imagined.

(Universal House of Justice 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'is in Iran.)

Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain, and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the meadow where mention of God hath been made, and His praise glorified.

Bahá'u'lláh

