| Type of burial space | Physical characteristics | Ownership and purpose | Sacredness | Identity of the deceased |
|----------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Cemetery | * location close to/outside to settlement * larger size * gate and boundary * internal demarcation | * varied ownership but principally secular * purpose varied over time * burial of an entire community | * presence of the recently bereaved * local pilgrimage over generations * permanence | * protecting and celebrating some individual identities; corpse integrity key |
| Churchyard\ | * location close to/within settlement * smaller size * gate * limited internal demarcation | * Church ownership * spiritual benefits accrued from usage * burial of an exclusive community | * religious ritual * local pilgrimage * limited pilgrimage in recent time erodes sacredness * lacking permanence | * congregation more important than individual; corpse integrity not key |
| Burial ground | * location close to settlement * size varied * physical characteristics differentiated | * ownership by distinctive sub-group * purpose including ethnic, national, religious expression * burial of a defined sub-community | * possible religious ritual * limited pilgrimage over time eradicates sacredness * lacking permanence | * distinctive group identity celebrated; importance of corpse identity variable |
| Mass burial | * location not connected to settlement * small size * no external or internal demarcation | * no ownership * purposes varied but including exigency, punishment and the concealment of murder or genocide | * limited original pilgrimage * may accrue national or international pilgrimage over time * may gain permanence depending on politics | * no acknowledge ment of identity; punishment through anonymity and random placement |
| War cemetery | * location in war zone * size variable * gate and boundary with uniform design features * strict internal demarcation | * national ownership * practical and national political purposes | * national and international pilgrimage * permanence dependent on politics | * political meaning attached to corpse identity and integrity |
| Pantheon | * variable physical characteristics | * national ownership * national political purposes | * sacred through presence of 'celebrity dead' * national and international pilgrimage | * corpse not always present; corpse integrity not important. |

Derived from Rugg, J. (2000). Defining the place of burial: what makes a cemetery a cemetery? *Mortality*, 5, 3, pp259-275.