

RULES AND REGULATIONS



OF THE CORPORATION

The historic Hingham Cemetery is one of the oldest burial grounds in the country, dating from about 1672. The property makes up a large part of Hingham's Lincoln Historic District, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and is the burial place of many historic figures of both national and local significance.

Its redesign in the mid-1800s, only seven years after Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Watertown, Massachusetts, put Hingham Cemetery at the leading edge of the important Garden Cemetery Movement which swept the country over the next 80 years, creating beautifully landscaped, open spaces filled with elaborate, artistic memorials for the enjoyment of the general public. Hingham Cemetery's impressive arboretum of both native and foreign trees was originally planted over 170 years ago.

Because of these historical elements, the Cemetery hosts visitors every year from across the country and overseas with interests in genealogy, colonial headstone iconography, photography, and historical research.

For additional information or for assistance:

visit hinghamcemetery.org

or contact us at

info@hinghamcemetery.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The all-volunteer Board of Directors of The Hingham Cemetery Corporation (*the Cemetery*) serves as caretakers dedicated to the maintenance, restoration, and preservation of the grounds and monuments of this historic burial place. Our objective is to offer a burial ground and services consistent with the Town's environment, the Cemetery's beautiful, natural setting, and its long history.

To fulfill our mission, we recognize:

- our non-profit status;
- our non-sectarian character;
- the Cemetery's rich history;
- our obligation to serve our lot holders, funeral directors, clergy, and the general public;
- the importance of our role as a neighbor within the community; and
- the public use and enjoyment of the Cemetery's grounds consistent with their peaceful, natural, open-air setting.

Our mission reaffirms Adam Wallace Thaxter's wish upon his gift of land in 1837 to establish the Cemetery: that its condition should correspond "with those feelings of respect and gratitude...toward [Hingham's] distinguished ancestors whose remains are interred within its limits."

2. INTRODUCTION TO THE RULES & REGULATIONS

The Cemetery is owned and, through its Board of Directors (*the Board*), operated by The Hingham Cemetery Corporation, a non-profit private corporation existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Board is dedicated to the maintenance, restoration, and preservation of the burial and memorial sites, monuments, and grounds of this historic landmark as well as the beautifully restored Ames Chapel.

In the interest of our burial space Licensees, visitors, and other interested parties, the Board has adopted the following Rules and Regulations which supersede all prior Rules and Regulations. The Board may amend the Rules and Regulations at any time.

“THE GLADE” COLUMBARIUM FOR INTERMENT OF CREMATION REMAINS

Purpose and History of the GLADE COLUMBARIUM

“The Glade,” a small hollow within Hingham Cemetery, contains a columbarium for interment of cremation remains only. The Glade was established in 2023 and is sited in the northwest section of the cemetery abutting the Hingham Historical Society. The land was kindly donated by Jonathan Bouve and then developed by the Board of Directors to create a peaceful and serene cremation area.

This peaceful site offers a place for simple, above-ground burials of ashes. Urns of cremation remains are placed in compartments called “niches.” Up to four urns per niche are permitted. Benches are located nearby to provide a spot for quiet contemplation and remembrance. The Glade offers an alternative to traditional burial for those who cherish the formal, traditional gardens of the past and wish to choose a final resting site for their loved ones as well as a place of perpetual beauty for the living.

The Glade employs a simple design. A modest granite stone covers each niche. Only Decedents’ names and dates of birth and death are permitted on the niche stone. Space can be left blank for later insertion of the dates of death of surviving family members.

All burials are coordinated with the family or funeral home, and the Cemetery will maintain detailed records of all interments and memorializations.

Purchase of a Niche within The Glade

Each engraved niche stone is assigned a number, which is specified on the corresponding License to Inter, with records of the same duly kept and with a sketch map of the area showing the sequence of niche stone numbers and the locations of the memorializations.

Niche Stone Engraving Guidelines

The space on the niche stone for each Decedent may be engraved with only two lines, with the Decedent's name only on the top line, and the Decedent's birth and death dates (or space left for later insertion of the date of death in the case of surviving family members) only on the second line.

ALL names are engraved at the same time, with space for the date(s) of death to be added as appropriate, and all centered appropriately. ALL engraving is done through the Cemetery, and drawings of the engraving must be submitted to the executive director for Board approval.

- **Lettering Font Style, Sizing, and Formatting**

For simplicity, consistency, and uniformity throughout The Glade, all engravings shall be in Modified Roman type.

ALL names shall be engraved in all capital letters, one inch and a quarter high. If a name is too long to fit on one line, the engraver may place letters closer together where possible to fit on one line or, if that is not possible, the engraver may make the engraving type size smaller.

ALL dates shall be engraved in capital letters no higher than one inch. Abbreviations of months shall be followed by a period, and a comma must separate the day and year, such as FEB. 14, 2023. The hyphen between birth and death dates shall be a straight line with no embellishments and shall be one and one-quarter of an inch long.

- **Symbols, Embellishments, Nicknames, Titles, and Homilies or Other Wording**

Titles, nicknames, homilies or other words, symbols, decorations, or other

embellishments are generally discouraged and shall be permitted only upon approval by the Board of Directors after review of a written proposal submitted to Management in advance.

Fees and Payments for THE GLADE Niche

The purchase price for each niche DOES NOT include fees for engraving the name(s) and dates on the niche. Additional fees for engraving done later (e.g., at time of death) are determined by the fees applicable at such later date.

Burial fees are separate and are charged pursuant to Section 6.06.

Management must receive payment in full at the time of purchase, prior to the interment of cremation remains

INTERMENTS at THE GLADE

As with all interments in the Cemetery, the Licensee must present Management with a burial certificate or other appropriate documentation pursuant to Section 6.05 before interment of any cremation remains.

Only human cremation remains may be placed in The Glade. Only a Cemetery employee or an agent contracted by the Cemetery may open the columbarium for internments and then only at a location approved by Management.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

As used in these Rules and Regulations, the following terms have the following meanings:

Board – The Board of Directors of The Hingham Cemetery Corporation.

Burial or Interment – interchangeable terms for the permanent disposition of bodily or cremation remains within the grounds of the Cemetery by burial, entombment in an above-ground crypt or mausoleum, or otherwise as the Board may, in its sole determination, permit

Burial Plot – space in the Cemetery Grounds identified in a License to Inter for burial of bodily or cremated remains as provided in Section 6.09(a)

Columbarium -- a structure on the Grounds containing niches identified in a License to Inter for the storage of urns with cremation remains

Grounds – all land owned by The Hingham Cemetery Corporation

Decedent – the person whose bodily or cremation remains are interred within the Grounds

Director – The Cemetery Director employed by and reporting to the Board to help administer its affairs and assist with the management of the Cemetery

Family Lot – a space within the Grounds comprised of two or more contiguous Burial Plots licensed at the same time to the same family group

License to Inter – the license issued by the Cemetery evidencing the right of the Licensee to inter bodily or cremation remains in and to erect Markers and Monuments on a Burial Plot or to inter cremation remains in the Memorial Garden or a Columbarium in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in these Rules and Regulations

Management – the Board or other persons the Board duly appoints to conduct or administer the business of the Cemetery, such as the Director

Marker – a memorial made of granite, brick, marble, bronze, or other stone or metal, that is flat and sits flush with or raises slightly above the surface of the ground

Memorial Garden -- an area of the Grounds set aside for memorial paving stones and the in-ground burial of cremation remains

Monument – a memorial, tablet, headstone, private mausoleum or tomb, coping, Burial Plot enclosure, urn, crypt, niche, or similar structure made of granite, marble, bronze, stone, or metal that extends substantially above the surface of the ground

Licensee – the holder of a License to Inter

The Glade -- a Columbarium located on the Grounds

THE CEMETERY'S RIGHTS

Hingham Cemetery's Rights as a Private Corporation

The Cemetery, through the Board, has the right, as it deems necessary or appropriate in its sole discretion, to:

- establish, amend, or replace these Rules and Regulations,
- establish policies and procedures,
- retain the services and set the compensation of all personnel, contractors, and employees,
- set all costs, fees, expenses,
- establish guidelines related to the purchase, selection, approval, and installation or placement of Markers, Monuments, flowers, decorations and other items on Burial Plots, the Memorial Garden, and Columbaria,
- establish guidelines for the conduct of all funeral and memorial services on the Grounds,
- establish guidelines for the conduct of all visitors to the Grounds, and
- handle all other matters and take such other actions as may be germane to the proper maintenance and running of the Cemetery.