

Woodland Cemetery



Guidelines for Relatives

The Woodland Cemetery is arranged in three sections, two where the grave is surrounded by trees and the grave is marked with a small horizontal plaque and the Lawn area where the grave is marked with a simple upright stone. In addition, there is a columbarium where cremated ashes can be interred and marked with a plaque.

The plan for the Woodland area is for it to become a natural wood with English woodland trees and plants.

After an interment, a plain wooden frame is placed around the grave while the ground is allowed to settle for a few weeks. The soil is then levelled off. In the Lawn area it will be planted with grass, which will be mowed regularly. In the Woodland area, the grave area can either be seeded with grass and meadow plant seeds or, if so wished, the relatives can arrange for it to be planted by the cemetery staff with a selection of woodland plants – please contact the Sextons for advice. There is a small charge for this planting and for the chosen plants or they can be supplied by the family but only from the approved list. This can be done a few weeks before the stone setting.

No plants other than those from the approved list can be put in or on the grave and no other decoration, such as gravel or bark, additional plaques or surround may be placed on the grave. Any unsuitable addition will be removed. Small pebbles can be placed on the name plaque according to Jewish tradition, but it is recommended that these are removed periodically as they can damage the stone.

Once the planting is complete, the plants will be allowed to naturalise in the woodland environment under the trees as they are planted. The ground will be kept tidy by the cemetery staff, but no replanting will take place, as part of the naturalising process.

For lawn burials arrangements, the memorial stone should be made by the approved stone masons.

If an adjacent plot is reserved, it will be grassed over until it is required. Where a second person is buried in an existing plot (double depth burial), the same process of settling and replanting will occur.

In all cases, arrangements for stone settings and agreeing the wording on tombstones should be made with the JJBS.

The Sextons will be happy to provide you with more information or guidance.

David Leibling
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