Oak Grove Cemetery

Oak Grove Cemetery was established in 1855 and designed by Josiah Brown, who is also known for his designs of early city mills including the Union, Borden City, and the now demolished Montaup Mill.

Originally 47 acres and now over 100 acres, Oak Grove was inspired by Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The original 47 acres of land was purchased by the city from Dr. Nathan Durfee at the high price of $200 an acre. The elevated site was chosen over less expensive parcels because of its central location and natural appropriateness for cemetery use and perhaps because of the importance of the owner. In return for the purchase of his land, Durfee agreed to buy a parcel between North Main St. and Highland Ave. which the city had originally acquired for a park. The new cemetery was located in the relatively undeveloped northeast section of the city.

Oak Grove, Fall River's largest city-owned cemetery, was developed in the mid-19th century as a rural garden cemetery, and its natural beauties and imposing monuments reflect the wealth and pride of the mill owners and the city's elite buried here.

The city's principle families are buried here, the Bordens, Durfees, Braytons, Davols, Chaces, and other founding fathers who shaped Fall River's industrial and civic growth. In 1866 Oak Grove became the final resting place for over 255 children in just one year.

Rules & Regulations

Oak Grove Cemetery adheres to **Chapter 114** of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The following local regulations will be strictly enforced with the cooperation of the general public. These rules were established by the Board of Park Commissioners.

- Vehicles and pedestrians are not allowed to enter when the cemetery is closed.
- Dogs and bicycles are prohibited.
- Anyone damaging cemetery property or headstones will be arrested.
- Any activity other than cemetery business is not allowed.

Cemetery Rules

In order to maintain our cemetery in a dignified and orderly manner, the following decorating guidelines have been established. The guidelines are designed to allow a more uniform overall appearance of Oak Grove Cemetery. Adornments are an important part of the grieving process, but the safety of visitors is also important. Please take a moment to review out guidelines for decorating your loved one's grave.

Flowers and Decorations

- From May 1 to October 31 ground level flowers in non-breakable flower containers.
- After October 31 ground level flowers & decorations are allowed only on:
- 3 days before & after a holiday or special anniversary (Special date must be engraved on grave marker)
- Memorial Day flowers are allowed May 1 through the Monday following Memorial Day.
- Christmas flowers & decorations are allowed December 1 through first full week of January.
- Veteran's flags/flag markers are permitted.
- Live plantings/shrubs with approval of the Park/ Cemetery Board.

Prohibited Items

- Plastic Flowers are not allowed.
- Glass and/or breakable items of any nature are prohibited.
- Driving metal, wood, wire, nails, or posts into the ground is not allowed. (only Veteran's flags/flag markers are permitted to be inserted into the ground.)
- Enclosures of any kind are not allowed. This includes fences, ditches, rocks, decorative curbing or other landscape/edging items.

Guidelines

These guidelines were established by Oak Grove Cemetery for the maintenance and upkeep of the property.

Cremations

In a traditional size grave, four cremations may be allowed in one casket.

Lowering the Casket

Lowering the casket into the grave as part of the Interment Service is only allowed if the family of the deceased requests it prior to the burial service. Only City Cemetery personnel will be allowed to operate the lowering device. Cremains may be placed in the grave by family members at any burial service.

Monuments

- Only one upright monument may be erected on two adjacent graves, which shall be of 42" high including the base and no more than 24" wide, or the stone must be flush with the ground.
- Only two stones will be allowed on a traditional size grave, one at the head-end of the grave and a flat stone at the foot-end of the grave.
- All work must be completed as fast as possible under the inspection of the Superintendent, and materials not used must be removed as the work is completed.
- More specific information is available in the Cemetery office, or by contacting them at 508-324-2750.

Transfer of Graves and Lots

No sale or transfer of graves shall be valid without the expressed written consent of the City, endorsed and entered on records by the City.

Hours

June through September

- Monday through Saturday: 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- Sundays: 9:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

October through May

- Monday through Saturday 7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.
- Sundays: 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Burial Fees

1 Grave Lot	$1500.00 (open incl)
2 Grave Lot	$2000.00
4 Grave Lot	$4000.00
Cremation lot	$500.00 (4 Cremations)
Grave Openings	$750.00
Sat/Holiday Openings	$1125.00
Cemetery Liners	$600.00
Single Grave Sat Holiday Opening	$1875.00
Welfare Grave Single Grave/ No Sat Opening	$750.00
Welfare Buybuck	$800.00
Cremations Opening	$350.00
Cremations Sat/ Holiday Openings	$725.00
Removals	$2000.00
Government Markers	$50.00