

A Cemetery for Our Unique Community

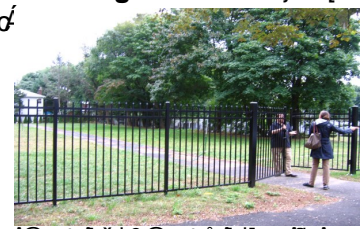
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What makes this a Jewish cemetery? In addition to allowances for who may be buried within our cemetery, our rules comply with traditional Jewish practices. In this cemetery, bottomless grave liners are required. Burials are not permitted on Shabbat or on Jewish holidays. Ceremonies can be performed only by Jewish clergy. If religious symbols are used on markers, they must be Jewish symbols only.

If I change my mind about using this cemetery, can I sell my plot? Plots may be resold only to Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, with the approval of the Cemetery Committee. Unwanted plots may also be donated to BHS, for resale or for the burial of an indigent member of the Jewish community.

If you have designated a grave for a particular person, but wish to use it instead for a different person, you can do so if you are the owner of the plot. (For example, a BHS member buys two plots for herself and her husband, but finds that she needs it for her parents who predecease her). To do this you must make arrangements with the cemetery and inform the BHS office. Both keep track of the grave sites.

What about cremation? You are encouraged to discuss this choice with the Rabbi. Although Reform Judaism does not encourage cremation, cremated remains may be buried in the BHS cemetery at Maimonides. As many as two sets of cremated remains, or one casket and one cremated remains may be buried in one plot.

(continued on reverse)

Brooklyn Heights Synagogue Beit Chaverim at Maimonides Cemetery Cemetery Plot Reservation / Purchase

Please reserve ____ grave sites for me / my family.

I am a member of Brooklyn Heights Synagogue.

Name(s) _____

Best phone number to call (for any questions we may have) _____

Number of sites @ \$3,600 _____

Total of enclosed check \$ _____

(made out to Brooklyn Heights Synagogue)

Please mail this form to us or leave it with our office staff:

Brooklyn Heights Synagogue
131 Remsen Street
Brooklyn NY 11201

718-522-2070 or office@bhsbrooklyn.org



You will receive a deed for the gravesite(s) from the Maimonides Benevolent Society.

At the time of bereavement

What about a funeral home? BHS has experience with a number of Jewish funeral homes in the area and can advise you on location and provide contact information. BHS does not endorse any specific recommendations and does not have special arrangements with any funeral home.

Are there other costs involved in a funeral?

In addition to the plot and funeral home or mortuary expense, there are cemetery charges at the time of interment. Sundays are more expensive than weekdays; interments after 3:30 pm on weekdays or noon on Sundays incur higher labor charges. If you choose to conduct the funeral as a graveside service, there will be additional cemetery charges.

These charges are made by Maimonides Benevolent Society, the cemetery administrator, not by BHS.

Who maintains the grave after the burial?

Grave site owners can either purchase a Perpetual Care program from Maimonides at the time of burial or pay for annual care. The current cost of the Perpetual Care program is \$3,755 (single grave site) or \$7,510 (double grave site). This covers planting of evergreens, trimming, and weeding of the grave site. It also provides for general maintenance of pathways and plantings in the cemetery. Alternatively, you may opt for an annual care program; \$177 per year for a single grave or \$334 per year for a double grave.



After the interment

Can I maintain the grave site myself with flowering shrubs or flowers? In addition to Perpetual Care, family members are welcome to add their own plantings, with the understanding that Maimonides staff cares only for its own plantings. Please note that family plantings may not extend beyond the boundaries of the gravesite.

When should a monument be erected? It is traditional to erect a headstone approximately one year after the interment date, and to dedicate the monument at an unveiling ceremony. This unveiling ceremony, like the interment ceremony, may be conducted only by family members or Jewish clergy. The scheduling of your unveiling ceremony should be done in coordination with both the Synagogue and the Maimonides office.

What kind of monument may be erected? You may choose from a variety of styles and materials. However, only single and double headstones are permitted in our section of the cemetery. The heights and sizes of all headstones will be uniform, as provided by the BHS Cemetery Committee. No non-Jewish icons may be displayed on headstones, footstones, or monuments. Fencing or walling of 'family plots' is not permitted; neither are mausoleums or other grave site buildings.

Can we erect a memorial bench or plant a memorial tree? There are a limited number of places in the cemetery for memorial benches or additional trees. If you are interested in doing so please contact the Executive Director for availability.

Are there any additional fees connected with monuments? Before the monument can be set in place, the cemetery must provide a foundation for it. The cost of the monument itself is generally paid directly to the monument makers.

Questions?

Please call Linda Harvey, our Executive Director, if you have questions about our cemetery. She can be reached by phone at 718-522-2070 x122, or by email at lindaharvey@bhsbrooklyn.org.

If you have questions about the rituals of mourning and burial, speak with Rabbi Lippe or Rabbi Romano.

A good web resource is MyJewishLearning.com; a good book is *Saying Kaddish: How to Comfort the Dying, Bury the Dead, and Mourn as a Jew* by Anita Diamant.



Brooklyn Heights Synagogue

Cemetery

Guide



Brooklyn Heights Synagogue

131 Remsen Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201

718-522-2070 office@bhsbrooklyn.org

www.bhsbrooklyn.org

Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

