

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT**

MEMORIAL GARDEN BY-LAWS

BY-LAWS OF THE MEMORIAL GARDEN OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT.

1. **THE MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE:** This Committee, hereinafter called the “Committee” shall be comprised of three members in good standing of Trinity Church, who will be appointed annually by the Vestry. At least one member of the Committee shall also be a member of the Vestry.
2. **USES:** The Memorial Garden is dedicated to the use of interment of cremains, memorial services and private meditation. Cremains may be strewn amongst the plantings or buried and an engraved flagstone may be purchased with the name and dates of birth and death. A flagstone may also be purchased to honor anyone buried elsewhere who would qualify for interment here. Urns may not be used.
3. **ELIGIBILITY:** Members and former members of Trinity Church and their immediate families and others who are approved by the Committee in consultation with the Rector are eligible to have their cremains interred and/or the placement of an engraved flagstone. A reservation, accompanied by the appropriate contribution, for interment and/or the placement of an engraved flagstone may be made at any time. A certificate acknowledging the reservation will be issued and a copy thereof kept in the permanent records of the Committee. This reservation may be used by the person to whom it was issued or his or her designee provided the designee meets the criteria as set forth in this paragraph. If the reservation is never used, the amount paid will be deemed to be a donation to the Memorial Garden. A plaque containing the names of all persons interred in the Memorial Garden will be displayed in the Narthex of Trinity Church and the names of donors and those they are honoring will be listed in the Memorial Garden Book in the Narthex.
4. **PROPERTY RIGHTS:** All property rights in and to the Memorial Garden shall remain with the Vestry of Trinity Church, Nichols and none shall be vested with any individual by virtue of the payment of an interment or any other contribution or donation.
5. **ALTERATIONS, DECORATIONS AND FLOWERS:** No one, other than the Memorial Garden Committee, may change or alter the Memorial Garden in any manner. No plaques, plants, flowers, statuary, flags or other form of decoration, whether permanent or temporary, shall be placed, planted, used or installed in the Memorial Garden except for those approved by the Committee in the general landscape plan. Temporary flower displays as an adjunct to a service of interment may be permitted, subject to any limitations made by the Memorial Garden Committee and shall be removed within a reasonable time.
6. **MEMORIAL AND INTERMENT SERVICES AND CREMAINS:**
 - a. No cremains shall be interred in the Memorial Garden except at a service conducted by the Rector or another clergyperson approved by the Rector and the Committee.

b. Burial Rites shall be in accordance with the worship and practice of the Episcopal Church as set forth in the *Book of Common Prayer* and in consultation with the Rector or other form acceptable to the Rector.

c. Cremains to be buried are to be placed in a biodegradable container which is then placed in the ground and covered with topsoil at the time of committal. Alternatively, cremains may be placed loose into the ground or strewn amongst the plantings and covered with topsoil.

d. No cremains may be stored on the Church premises prior to the interment ceremony without prior permission of the Rector.

e. Nothing, including the interred cremains, may be removed from the garden without the consent of the Committee. No rights shall exist in the donor's estate or anyone else, to have any flagstone or cremains removed. In the event of removal, all expenses are to be borne by the person requesting the removal and must be done by a person selected by the Committee.

7. COST: In keeping with the intent of the garden, there is no formal fee for the internment. However, a contribution, as listed on the application form, is suggested to cover the costs of preparation, plaques, and engraving. All monetary gifts will be placed in a restricted fund to be used for the maintenance of the Memorial Garden. In no case shall an inability to pay prevent the use of the Memorial Garden.

8. DISPOSITION OF FUNDS: All contributions and donations received by the Committee shall be administered by the Committee. Income from this fund shall be devoted to the further development, operation and maintenance of the Memorial Garden and any excess shall be added to the principal of the fund. If income is insufficient for the operation and maintenance of the garden, the principal may be invaded to make up the deficiency. The Committee will do its best to maintain and preserve the Memorial Garden within the constraints of its budget and funding. In the event that operational funds for Trinity Church need to be withdrawn from the principal of the Memorial Garden fund, this may be done only by unanimous vote of the Vestry and in such amount that the maintenance of the Memorial Garden will not be affected.

9. RELOCATION OF ENGRAVED FLAGSTONES: In the unlikely event of an action by the Parish, Diocese, Government, or God, which would necessitate the closing or abandonment of Trinity Church, Nichols as an active parish of the Episcopal Church, the Committee would have the discretion to remove the engraved flagstones and/or soil and place the stones and/or soil in another suitable location. Should this occur, pastoral care for families who would be affected would be a priority. After their input, arrangements would be made for the relocation of the Memorial Garden, or a portion thereof, to other consecrated property and a re-committal service would be held.

TRINITY MEMORIAL GARDEN

Application for interment and/or placement of a memorial.

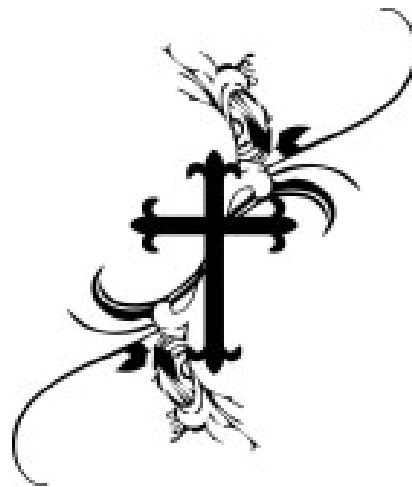
The Memorial Garden Committee has established suggested contributions for interment of cremains and for placement of memorial markers in memory of deceased family members. The establishment of such contributions are in accordance with the By-Laws of the Memorial Garden which are attached for your review.

Suggested contribution: \$400

This covers the cost of the Sexton's fee for ground preparation, the flagstone and brass markers and engraving of the flagstone and brass markers.

Flagstone marker only: \$300; Brass marker only: \$100; No markers: \$50

Contributions above these amounts are always welcome and will be applied to the continuing maintenance of the Garden.



Trinity Memorial Garden Application Form

Name of applicant/deceased_____

Address_____

Telephone_____

Date of birth of person being interred_____

Nearest relative name_____

Address_____

Telephone_____

Is the applicant a member of Trinity Church? Y____N_____

Flagstone Marker? Y____N_____ Brass Marker? Y____N_____

Please return completed form to:

Memorial Garden Committee
Trinity Episcopal Church
1734 Huntington Turnpike
Trumbull, CT 06611