

The Norden Cemetery was declared an abandoned and neglected cemetery according to MA General Law 114 Section 18 by the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen on July 12, 2006. At that time the Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee officially took over maintenance of the cemetery.

Despite searching through many records, contacting different churches, town and state officials and contacting many family members of people buried in the cemetery, no records have been found at this time.

With no official records to use, committee members did extensive research using the gravestones, town records from Uxbridge, Millville and Blackstone, Worcester County Court Records, U. S. Immigration Records, and anecdotal stories from family members to help determine who is buried in the Norden Cemetery. The Committee was also seeking to establish family relationships of people buried in this cemetery.

During our research of death records it became very clear that there are many unmarked graves in this cemetery. To minimize any problems that might occur in the future, the Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee is establishing conditions and procedures for future burials in the Norden Cemetery.

These conditions and procedures have been designed to protect and preserve the integrity of the cemetery, to protect and respect the graves of the people buried in this cemetery and to provide a general outline for future burials in this cemetery.



Norden Cemetery Guidelines & Regulations



*Uxbridge Historic
Cemetery Committee*

April 2008

Conditions for Interment

at Norden Cemetery

Deed or proof of ownership of burial lot in the Norden Cemetery is required.

Burials must be coordinated by a funeral director.

Procedure for Interment at Norden Cemetery

1. Contact Buma Funeral Home.
(508-278-2755)
2. Provide a deed or proof of ownership for the lot and a death certificate to the funeral director from Buma's.
3. Meet at Norden Cemetery with representative from Buma Funeral Home and local grave digger (Tony Martini) to determine the exact place for interment.
4. If there is no space for a regular burial, cremains may be allowed.
5. Funeral Director in charge **must** contact the **local grave digger** recommended by Buma.
6. Funeral Director in charge **must** use a **local vault company** (list provided by Buma).
7. A photocopy of the death certificate, burial permit and deed or proof of ownership document **must** be sent to the Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee.

This information should be sent to:
Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, MA 01569
<http://www.uxbridge-ma.gov>

Gravesite Decorations

1. The Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee requests that all funeral flower arrangements be removed by family members within two weeks of interment.
2. Memorial flowers and decorations may be placed on family gravesites or removed from family gravesites at any time by family members. They should be durable, suitably anchored, and easily removable.
3. The Uxbridge Cemetery Committee will follow the dates listed here for removal of decorations not picked up by family members.

Decorations placed on or after November 1st will be removed January 31st.

Decorations placed on or after February 1st will be removed April 30th

Decorations placed on or after May 1st will be removed July 31st

Decorations placed on or after Aug 1st will be removed October 31st

4. Decorations may be removed at the discretion of the Historic Cemetery Committee.

5. The planting of trees, shrubs or bushes in the ground is **not permitted**.

6. Existing trees, shrubs, and bushes **will be removed** if they are threatening "by means of roots, branches or otherwise" other monuments or walkways in the Norden Cemetery.

7. There shall be **no** fencing or curbing placed around individual or family gravesites.

Grave Monuments and Markers

1. If a new monument is needed, the size will be dependent on space. The Historic Cemetery Committee encourages the use of flat markers for new grave sites.
2. The burial site **must** have a permanent grave marker.
3. Names may be added to existing monuments.

Any special requests not addressed in these guidelines and regulations require prior notification of the Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee