

*honoring,
remembering,
and serving
Cincinnati's
Jewish community*



Jewish Cemeteries
of Greater Cincinnati 

Pre-Arrangements

Preparing for the end of life by purchasing a cemetery lot and making your burial arrangements before the need arises is a gift of love. Your family will not have to make difficult decisions at the most trying of times. They'll know your wishes and will be able to fulfill them. You will reduce the financial burden on those you leave behind, and you'll also avoid future price escalations.

If you are interested in making pre-arrangements or purchasing a cemetery lot, please contact our independent sales associate, Bill Kahn, at **513-403-3875**.

Purchasing a Cemetery Lot

Several factors should be considered in choosing a cemetery lot. Many people like to purchase lots in the same cemetery as their relatives or in the cemetery that has been historically associated with their synagogue. Another important consideration is the proximity of the cemetery to family and friends to facilitate visiting.



The location of the lot can be chosen from a map or on site at the cemetery. The choice of a lot is a personal choice and can be influenced by different preferences, such as the desire to be near a tree, near a walkway, etc.

Another important question is the number of lots to purchase. Some purchasers wish to provide for future generations of their families, while others desire only a single lot or two for the owner and spouse.



Active Cemeteries

Walnut Hills Cemetery/Administrative Office

Walnut Hills opened in 1850 and for most of its years was a United Jewish Cemeteries property operated by delegates from two Reform congregations, now known as Rockdale Temple and Wise Temple.

JCGC's administrative office is located in the Walnut Hills Cemetery.

Covedale Cemeteries

There are eleven Covedale cemeteries, dating back to the early 1900s, including **American Beneficial, Golf Manor 1, 2 and 3, Beth Jacob/Price Hill Congregation, Beth Hamedrash Hagodol, New Hope, Northern Hills, Tifereth Israel, Yad Chorutzim and Kneseth Israel** (not owned by JCGC). All the Covedale cemeteries are Orthodox except Northern Hills, which is Conservative.



Price Hill Cemeteries

There are nine Price Hill cemeteries. **Judah Touro** and **United Jewish Cemeteries-Price Hill**, originally the Shereth Israel cemetery, are both Reform cemeteries dating back to the 1850s.

Schachnus, an Orthodox cemetery, was established in 1874 after the founding of Beth Tefyla congregation by



Rabbi Schachne Isaacs. **Montefiore Mutual Benefit Society**, founded in 1871, later purchased land for its cemetery from Beth Tefyla. **Hirsh Hoffert, Chesed Chel Emmes (CCE)** and **Spanish – Hebrew Society (SH)** are all Orthodox cemeteries dating back to the early 1900s. CCE and SH are not part of JCGC.

Adath Israel – Price Hill and Love Brothers Cemetery, both Conservative cemeteries, date back to the mid 1800s and early 1900s, respectively.

Clifton Cemetery

Soon after buying the land the Clifton cemetery sits on in 1848, when his neighbors let him know they would prefer if he built his house elsewhere, Charles Kahn sold it to a congregation for use as a cemetery, stating, “If you do not care to have a Jew living near you, you cannot object to dead Jews.” The cemetery became part of UJC in 1931.

Montgomery Cemetery

UJC opened a cemetery in Montgomery in the early 1950s. Now JCGC’s most active cemetery, this Reform cemetery subsequently opened a Conservative section, as well as a section for Adath Israel Congregation.

Hamilton Cemetery

For many years, Bene Israel served Hamilton’s Reform Jewish community and maintained a cemetery on Pleasant Avenue, adjoining a Conservative cemetery owned by Beth Israel. In 1970, Bene Israel became affiliated with Wise Temple, and subsequently the cemetery became part of UJC.



History

Since 1821 some 26 Jewish cemeteries have been formed in the Greater Cincinnati area. Recognizing that many of the originating congregations had ceased to exist, similar problems faced all the cemeteries, and that the leadership base was aging, a small group of community leaders embarked on a multi-year project to address these issues. Ultimately, 22 of these cemeteries determined that it was in their mutual best interest to create a new, merged organization, which would assume responsibility for the perpetual care of the existing cemeteries and the creation of such new cemeteries as will be necessary to serve the Jewish community's future needs.

JCGC began operations in 2008 with initial funding provided by existing endowments from the merged cemeteries, a grant from The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati, and an ongoing endowment fundraising campaign under the auspices of The Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. With this funding in place, JCGC will be able to make needed repairs in the existing cemeteries. JCGC also plans to secure new land for a cemetery to serve the entire Jewish community in Greater Cincinnati.



FAQ

How do you maintain each cemetery's rituals and traditions now that they are all part of one organization?

As agreed before the merger went forward, each cemetery will maintain its own traditions. The



ritual governance of all JCGC cemeteries is overseen by a Ritual Coordination Committee, comprised primarily of rabbis in the community. This committee has Orthodox, Conservative and Reform subcommittees which oversee their respective cemeteries or sections thereof.

What do you charge for perpetual care?

JCGC does not charge separately for perpetual care. We charge for the purchase of the plot, as well as the interment. The cost of perpetual care is included in these charges.

My spouse and I are an interfaith couple. Can we be buried together in any of the JCGC cemeteries?

You may be buried together in one of JCGC's Reform cemeteries, but no rituals inconsistent with the teachings of Judaism may be performed, and no symbols or insignia inconsistent with the teachings of Judaism may be displayed there.



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3400 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, OH 45207
www.jcemcin.org
513-961-0178

Monuments

A monument or marker is an everlasting memorial acknowledging a life. It also locates where that person is laid to rest. To provide families with high quality memorials and to make the purchasing decision easier, JCGC partners with Acsent, a long established local dealer. Acsent uses only the best materials, creative designers and skilled craftsmen in the production of memorials. Together we offer a large selection of traditional and contemporary monuments and markers.

Most families prefer to have a monument or marker installed within the first year of death. The placement of monuments is as old as civilization itself. No other faith



calls for the deliberate, planned memorialization of loved ones as does the Jewish faith. A memorial is designed to serve three purposes. First, it should express our love and affection for the individual. The use of various symbols and information can perpetuate precious, personal ties. Second, it should reflect something of the personality, achievements, ambitions and beliefs of the deceased. Third, memorials have an added value for genealogists and historians, in that they show dates of death, ages, various relationships, often the name of parents and even birthplaces.

A monument or marker has many components: size, shape and color of the stone, style and depth of the lettering, information about the deceased, the use of ornamentation, carving of meaningful symbols,



and various types of finishes and edges. Today most monuments and markers are made of granite which comes in many colors. Tops and sides may be smooth or a “natural rock” surface.



The following information may be necessary when ordering a memorial: Name of cemetery, English name of the deceased, birth

date, date of death, relationships you wish to have shown (father, brother, husband, etc.), was the individual a Kohain, Levite or Israelite, any emblems you may wish (Holocaust survivor, Masonic Lodge member, caduceus for a doctor), religious symbols (Kohain praying hands, Mogen David, Menorah, etc.), deceased's Hebrew name and dates, deceased's father's and mother's Hebrew name, and any other expressive epitaphs.

Many families prefer to order customized monuments. Almost anything is possible with the etching and engraving techniques available today. A beautiful monument is an enduring testament of your love and affection.



If you are interested in purchasing a memorial, please contact JCGC at 513-961-0178 or Acsent at 513-721-5050. If you wish to visit the showroom, Acsent is located at 4124 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45223. Please allow 10 - 12 weeks for installation.

All but one of JCGC's cemeteries are still active. Our oldest cemetery is located at Chestnut Street and Central Avenue in the West End and was in use from 1821 – 1849. It is the oldest Jewish cemetery west of the Alleghenies. Several of our active cemeteries, including Walnut Hills, Clifton and Judah Touro, were started in the 1850s after Chestnut Street closed.



Contributions to our Friends Campaign have helped us fund needed repairs and provide for our long-term needs. If you would like to contribute to the Friends Campaign, please contact us.



1 Walnut Hills Cemetery/
Administrative Office
3400 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, OH 45207

2 Covedale Cemeteries
Sidney Road and
Anderson Ferry Road
Cincinnati, OH 45238

3 Price Hill Cemeteries
Sunset Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45205
4 Rosemont Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45238

5 Clifton Cemetery
730 Ludlow Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220

6 Chestnut St. Cemetery
Chestnut Street and
Central Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45203

7 Montgomery Cemetery
7885 Ivygate Lane
Cincinnati, OH 45242

8 Hamilton Cemetery
4201 Pleasant Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45015