

Family Estate for Ashes Interments

Available at Gungahlin only, a family estate comprises a square beam with a central garden, usually with a tree. It has eight lawn allotments, a pair to each side of the square, which are always sold in pairs.

While the gardens are a shared space, families are permitted to plant small shrubs and perennials in the side of the garden that fronts their pair of allotments that will not spread or overly encroach on neighbouring allotments.

Fees: includes: an allotment fee; an interment fee; a maintenance fee; and a memorial permit application fee. The cost of the headstone and/or the plaque is not included in the allotment fee. Please see **Price List** for current fee.

Process: Prior to an ashes interment taking place, Canberra Cemeteries requires the completed Application for Exclusive Right of Allotment form and a copy of the Cremation Certificate. Ashes interments can take place 7 days of the week. Ashes may be interred on a weekend, but because no staff are normally present, the family must be prepared to bring a small spade to backfill the opening after they have placed the ashes. For placement of ashes booked between 9.00am and 3.30pm on weekdays, Canberra Cemeteries staff are available to assist, if required. If a family does not want to be present during the ashes interment, Canberra Cemeteries staff will perform the interment on their behalf.

Monuments and Plaques: Small monuments or plaques placed on the beam are allowed. A temporary grave marker will be provided for the interim period between the burial and the monuments being installed. White crosses are not permitted on the grave. Canberra Cemeteries requires the headstone or plaque



to be erected within 2 years of the first burial occurring. It is strongly encouraged that the headstone or plaque be installed as soon as possible after the burial occurs.

To initiate the construction of the headstone, the Exclusive Rights Holder (ERH)* will need to complete the memorial permit application form with their chosen stonemason, who will then return it to Canberra Cemeteries for processing. A memorial permit will be issued to the stonemason after the application has been approved. The approval process

takes up to 2 weeks. *Please note*, there is no provision for a vase in a family estate allotment. If the family wishes to make provision for flowers they will need to incorporate a vase in the headstone. Please see **Information Sheet: Construction of Monuments** for more details.

If the family decide on a plaque rather than a headstone for the grave, the ERH will need to contact Canberra Cemeteries to discuss plaque options and

costings. The appropriate plaque application form and supporting information will then be given to the ERH to complete and return to Canberra Cemeteries for processing. Please note that in the interim period between the burial and the plaque being installed, a temporary grave marker will be provided.

Please see **Information Sheet: Plaque Installation** for full details.

Canberra Cemeteries will not be responsible for any personal, valuable or sentimental items that are placed on the grave. All cleaning and maintenance of the headstone is the responsibility of the family.

The **Exclusive Rights Holder of the Allotment is the person(s) who completes the Application for Exclusive Right of Allotment form prior to the burial occurring or at the time of the allotment purchase. They become the sole authority on any future matters regarding the allotment, including burials and memorialisation.*