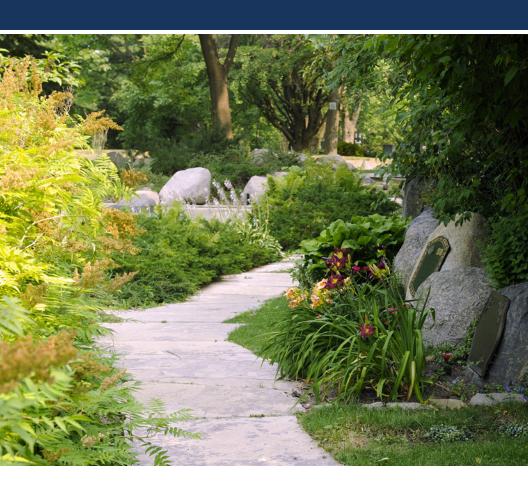
## MOUNT PLEASANT

Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Centres





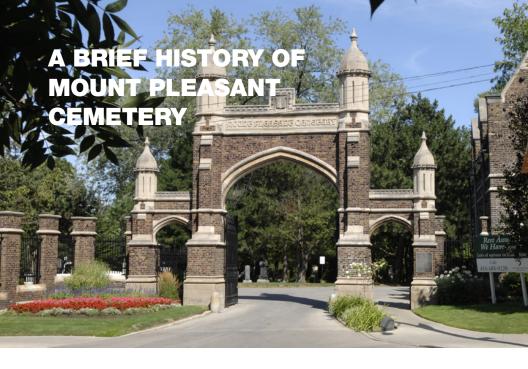
# MORE THAN A LIVING MEMORIAL TO PAST GENERATIONS, MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY IS ONE OF THE CUSTODIANS OF OUR COUNTRY'S

emulates that of a living city. It reflects the rich mosaic of cultures that have joined together to form the City of Toronto and, indeed, all of Canada. For well over a century, the movers and the shakers, the famous and the infamous, the rich and the poor have made this cemetery their final resting place.

Serving the Toronto community since 1876, Mount Pleasant is one of Canada's most historic cemeteries. Its lush green space and tranquil wooded areas are the final resting-place for influential political figures, artists and other prominent Canadians. Mount Pleasant is also home to the stunning Garden of Remembrance, a unique area that provides innovative options for those who choose cremation.







## **OUR CEMETERY ROOTS DATE BACK TO 1826**

On January 30, 1826 the York General Burying Ground was established through an act of the parliament of Upper Canada. This first non-sectarian burying ground in the Toronto area was better known as The Strangers' Burying Ground or Potter's Field, and was located on the north-west corner of Yonge and Bloor Streets. Today, the York General Burying Ground is known as Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries (MPGC), which owns and operates ten cemeteries in the Greater Toronto Area.

By 1850, the area surrounding Potter's Field had become quite built up, and the residents of Yorkville decided they

no longer wanted a cemetery in their midst, so they lobbied the government to have it closed. They won their petition and the cemetery was ordered closed, the bodies to be removed and re-interred elsewhere. A new cemetery was needed. At about this same time, a group of Presbyterian businessmen opened a small non-sectarian burying ground, the Necropolis, in what is today's Cabbagetown. MPGC purchased this cemetery in 1855, and many of the remains from Potter's Field were re-interred in this cemetery. Others were re-located to Mount Pleasant Cemetery which MPGC established in 1876.

## MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY ESTABLISHED IN 1876

Today's Mount Pleasant Cemetery, the largest property administered by MPGC, was formally opened to public inspection in November of 1876. The land on which the cemetery is located has a fascinating history that goes back to December of 1798 when the Crown deeded Lot 19 in the 3rd Concession. from the Bay (a surveyor's description of the parcel of land now occupied by the cemetery) to the Honourable David William Smith who had been appointed Surveyor General of Upper Canada (on July 1, 1867 renamed Ontario) earlier in the year. As it turned out, this 200-acre grant became but a small portion of the immense landholdings Smith was able to accumulate throughout the province during his tenure as the new province's influential surveyor-general. It is reported that Smith held a grand total of 20,000 acres in 21 townships all across the province.

As the years went by, little happened with the property other than it being sold to a variety of early Torontonians; Draper, Lane, Elmsley, Thompson, Marsh, etc. Then, starting in 1852, small parcels of land were split off (or severed, another surveyors term) so that before long a number of people became part owners of Lot 19. A few of them began farming some of the land, but for the most part the site of

the future Mount Pleasant Cemetery remained rolling countryside miles north of the fast growing city of Toronto.

In fact it was the remoteness of the property that led to the Trustees of the Toronto General Burying Grounds (as MPGC was then known) purchasing Lot 19 in 1873 for \$20,000. Soon thereafter they engaged the services of Henry Engelhardt, a skilful Germanborn landscape architect who set about developing the first 40 acres of the new cemetery complete with waterfalls, ponds, bridges and treelined avenues. After months of work and an expenditure of \$40,000 (a great deal of money in those days), the public was invited to inspect Mount Pleasant Cemetery on November 4, 1876.

In 1883 the cemetery was enlarged by 53 acres when a large plot was purchased for \$15,000. Five years later this property was resold to the Moore Park Land Company when it became apparent that a new cemetery to serve the needs of the western part of the fast growing city was to become a priority for the trustees. The \$55,000 received from the developers of the Moore Park District was used to purchase land for the new Prospect Cemetery on St. Clair Avenue West



which opened in 1890. In 1900, a little more than 7.5 acres of land were added to Mount Pleasant Cemetery with the purchase of the Fiskin property that abutted the cemetery to the south. It is on this property, in what is now referred to as Section Two, that the imposing Eaton family mausoleum and other similar structures were to be erected over the ensuing years.

In 1910 the trustees purchased a further 2.93 acres of property from the Rosedale Land Company on which the stately Mount Pleasant Mausoleum was soon constructed.

Over the years, the Trustees relinquished small parcels of land for such civic projects as a small park on the west side of Yonge Street, the ill-fated Belt-Line Railway (an early commuter line that ran through the eastern part of the cemetery in the early 1890s) and a right-of-way for a new road which was to provide residents of north Toronto a much needed north-south thoroughfare

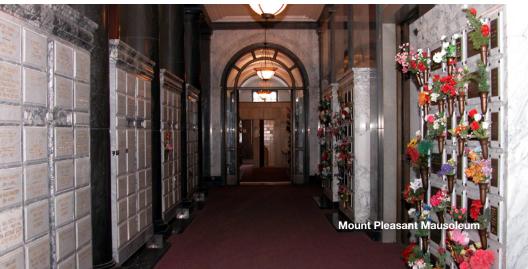
through the cemetery. This section of Mount Pleasant Road (originally to be called Kinsmen Road) opened to traffic around 1919.

Today the cemetery comprises a total of 205 acres and is one of the largest in Canada. The waterfalls, ponds and bridges have disappeared over the years, but the tree-lined avenues remain. Mount Pleasant Cemetery is justifiably proud to claim one of the finest arboretums in North America.

In 1997, not content to rest upon its well-established laurels, Mount Pleasant Cemetery introduced the first Garden of Remembrance to Ontario. Essentially a cemetery within a cemetery, the Garden of Remembrance offers a large variety of commemorative options for those families who choose cremation. The following year, a glass conservatory was erected within the garden, offering families the option of indoor entombment of cremated remains, with a decidedly outdoor flavour.







## YOUR OPTIONS AT MOUNT PLEASANT

Mount Pleasant offers a wide variety of burial alternatives, and although it is a historic cemetery, new burial spaces of various sizes and in various locations are available. Please check with the office regarding current final arrangement options. The site also features two memorial areas located in the mausoleum that are available for services and for moments of personal reflection.

## **Ground Burial**

- A single grave, which can accommodate up to two caskets with a flat memorial
- A single grave, either adjacent to a limestone wall, on which to place a marker, or adjacent to a wroughtiron memorial rail supporting teal bronze markers
- A single grave that can accommodate up to two burial containers (caskets or cremation urns) and permits an upright monument
- A larger lot of two or more graves that permits an upright monument

## Cremation

Cremated remains may be:

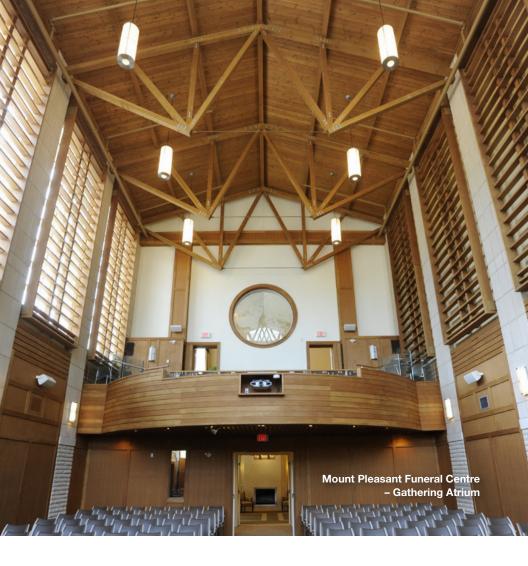
- Placed inside the Mount Pleasant Mausoleum in glass-, marble- or bronze-fronted niches, where a small memento may be displayed with the urn
- Placed outdoors in bronze- or granite-fronted niches throughout

- the Garden of Remembrance
- Interred in a grave, family lot or urn space
- Scattered in one of the memorial scattering areas, among groundcover in an indigenous stand of oak trees or in one of the rose gardens.

## Mount Pleasant Mausoleum

Dating back to 1920, Mount Pleasant Mausoleum is a classic example of Georgian architecture, with granite exteriors and finely detailed bronze, marble and wood interiors. It features:

- Marble-fronted crypts;
- Two chapels for committal, funeral or memorial services and for moments of private reflection
- Columbariums with glass-, marbleor bronze-fronted niches
- Crypts that can accommodate one or two caskets
- Crypt fronts made of white Italian marble on which bronze lettering may be placed



## **SPECIAL FEATURES**



## **Mount Pleasant Funeral Centre**

Host visitation, funeral, cremation, interment or memorial service, and reception all in one beautiful facility. Our location features a lovely two-and-a-half storey gathering atrium to hold services, four elegantly designed visitation rooms and two reception areas with direct access to outdoor patios. Likewise, there's an inviting coffee lounge, a product selection room and state-of-the-art audio/visual system to accommodate tribute videos.



## **Mount Pleasant Cremation Centre**

In 1972, we opened our third crematorium in the Toronto market at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, in the lower level of the Mount Pleasant Mausoleum. Since then, we have continued to serve the growing number of people who choose cremation. As of 2014 Mount Pleasant became the first of our locations, and the first in North America, to be upgraded with the most technologically advanced cremation equipment — complete with an emissions abatement system that eliminates nearly 100% of all emissions and particulate matter. Completing the upgrades, the cremation centre was renovated to accommodate expanded witnessing capacity in a comfortable and dignified environment.



## Mount Pleasant Arboretum

Mount Pleasant Cemetery's Arboretum is one of the finest tree collections in North America. The Arboretum Book contains a small sampling from this beautiful collection.



## Garden of Remembrance

Another option for those who prefer cremation is the Garden of Remembrance. In addition to a glass-roofed conservatory, the garden is composed of five areas that reflect its distinctive physical features including:

- The Gateway of Hope leads into the garden between granite-faced columbariums
- The Eternal Gardens form a walkway to a central fountain, surrounded by flower planters and rose gardens. Cremation urns may be placed in the walls that form the gardens
- The Pool of Reflection is the centrepiece of the Garden of Remembrance. Urns may be buried near the water's edge or placed in niches along the spacious walkway that surrounds the pool
- A bridge leads across the River of Memories, a tranquil stream with natural boulders placed along its course. Memorials may be placed on the bridge railing, and cremation urns buried at the base of the boulders
- The Forest of Remembrance is a stand of mature trees where ashes may be buried and memorials placed within the forest.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Mount Pleasant Group

Pre-planning

Ground Burial and Entombment

Cremation

Our Cremation Centres and Cremation Technology

Cremation Witnessing

Natural Burial

**Product Selection** 

Additional Tools and Resources

## **MOUNT PLEASANT GROUP (MPG)**

We are a not-for-profit corporation. This means we are not owned or subsidized by any level of government. All revenues generated over-and-above expenses are retained within the organization for the operation of our properties. This allows us to invest in innovations that our customers see value in such as environmentally advanced cremation centres, indoor mausoleums, natural burial areas, modern and spacious multi-functional funeral centres and geothermal/solar niche buildings to name a few.

## Cemetery, Funeral and Cremation Establishments Managed by MPG

MPG manages ten non-denominational cemeteries, nine funeral centres, and four cremation centres in the Greater Toronto Area. Here is a list of dates of establishment in chronological order:

1826: Potter's Field (closed in 1875)	2000: York Funeral Centre
1850: Toronto Necropolis	2000: Elgin Mills Funeral Centre
1876: Mount Pleasant Cemetery	2001: The Simple Alternative Funeral
1890: Prospect Cemetery	Centres – Pickering
	2009: Mount Pleasant Funeral Centre
1928: Pine Hills Cemetery	2010: Mandaurala Francis Oceania
1948: York Cemetery	2010: Meadowvale Funeral Centre
1965: Beechwood Cemetery	2014: Mount Pleasant Cremation Centre
1979: Elgin Mills Cemetery	2014: Elgin Mills Cremation Centre
1981: Meadowvale Cemetery	2016: Thornton Cremation Centre
1984: Thornton Cemetery	2017: Meadowvale Cremation Centre
1993: Duffin Meadows Cemetery	2017: Thornton Funeral Centre
1994: The Simple Alternative Funeral Centres – Toronto	

1996: The Simple Alternative Funeral Centres – Mississauga

1998: Pine Hills Funeral Centre

## PRE-PLANNING

If you have already pre-arranged your funeral and cemetery arrangements then you're most likely aware of the benefits of pre-planning.

If you have not yet planned your final arrangements, or have just begun your research, here is some information for your consideration.

- Planning your own funeral is not top of mind for most but there are many benefits to planning ahead, both for you and your family. For one, it provides a clear record of how you would like to proceed, as well as direction to the executor of your estate.
- More than this, planning ahead lets you make your own decisions, from cremation to burial and all other cemetery and funeral services, to the type of memorial you want.
   Wrapped into all this, you can also

- begin to consider overall cost and how much you would like to spend.
- And that brings up the third main benefit: When you prepay, you are protected from inflation. And in doing so, you're protecting your family from having to make hard decisions about what's appropriate, and what's affordable.

Still have a lot of unanswered questions? Ask for an appointment with our Pre-planning Advisors. They are there to help answer all your questions and take you through every step of the process.

If our office hours are not convenient, or if you are unable to get to us, one of our Pre-planning Advisors will come to you. Contact our office and ask to have one of our representatives visit you at your home or office.

## **GROUND BURIAL AND ENTOMBMENT**

Most people are familiar with the concept of burial, or interment, but may not be aware of the variety of options that are often available. Many cemeteries offer one or more of the following:

**Ground burial:** burial of the casket below ground.

- Mausoleum: a large building that provides above ground entombments.
  - Single crypts accommodating one person
  - Companion crypt permits one or two entombments side-by-side

- Private family mausoleum:

   a small structure that provides
   above-ground entombment of, on average, two to twelve decedents.
- Private family estate: a small section of a cemetery, usually bordered by gates, shrubbery, or other dividers, that allows for ground burial of several members of the same family.

## If Casket Entombment

- Would you like other members of the family to be with your loved one in the future? This determines the size of the crypt.
- What type of memorial package would you prefer?

## If Casket Burial

- Would you like other members of the family to be with your loved one in the future? This determines the size of the lot
- What type of memorial do you prefer (a marker set flush with the ground or an upright memorial)?
- Would you like to protect your loved one's casket with a vault?
- What type of presentation would you prefer for the burial service, e.g. a tent canopy, chairs, mats leading to the grave, etc.?

## **CREMATION**

Cremation is an alternative to casket burial or mausoleum entombment: it does not limit the funeral in any way. Should you choose cremation, you will still have the same options for memorialization that any other family has. Cremation can take place before or after the funeral service.

## A few facts about cremation

 If you choose cremation for your loved one, you can still have a service.

- You have numerous options for the final resting place.
- You can bury an urn in a cemetery, providing a permanent resting place where family and friends can visit.
- You can place a portion of cremated remains in a keepsake urn and a portion in an urn in a columbarium niche, providing a permanent location where you can pay your respects.
- You can scatter the cremated remains.

## OUR CREMATION CENTRES AND CREMATION TECHNOLOGY

Available at these MPG locations:

- Meadowvale Cemetery
- **Q** Mount Pleasant Cemetery
- **♀** Elgin Mills Cemetery
- **♀** Thornton Cemetery

As the interest in cremation has grown, we have sought to find ways to enhance the service in two specific areas: environmental cleanliness and adapting to customer needs.

## **Environmental Cleanliness**

Mount Pleasant Group is proud to continue its strong heritage as an innovator bringing advanced cremation technology and modern witnessing facilities to the communities we serve in the GTA. Our cremators are the cleanest in North America. It may surprise you just how clean our new cremators are. In fact, many common activities in our daily lives contribute far more contaminants in the air we breathe, and in far less time than our cremation centres do.

We are proud to present the first crematoriums in North America with fully automated environmental abatement systems. These technologically advanced units eliminate nearly 100% of all emissions and particulate matter making them

the cleanest cremators throughout North America. Independent testing confirms our emission levels are so far below the Ministry of the Environment's safe health thresholds that several contaminants are non detectable.

## **Customer Needs**

Our cremation centres were designed keeping in mind the cultural, religious and last-rite practices preferred by the vast range of customers coming to us. Our goal has always been to create modern, family oriented facilities with expanded witnessing capabilities in a comfortable environment that allows families to safely and comfortably witness the cremation process. Witnessing is vital to many religions, which consider cremation an essential part of their service. For Hindus and Sikhs, tradition demands that the oldest son light the flame or funeral pyre. This is accomplished remotely within the witnessing room by pushing a button that starts the cremation process. For others, the act of witnessing is not a religious ritual but rather a respectful expression of their final farewell or helping them bring some sense of closure.

For more information about our cremation technology, please ask for our more detailed brochure on cremation and cremation technology titled "Are you thinking about cremation?".

## CREMATION WITNESSING

Cremation witnessing is another way to say a final goodbye to a loved one in a comfortable, spacious environment prior to the cremation. Many of us think of cremation as taking place in very old, dark places using industrial equipment.

Witnessing feels a lot like a memorial service or graveside service. At our funeral and cremation centres, family and friends can gather in the bright, well-lit, modern and comfortable witnessing rooms. There, the casket is placed on a special lift in front of the cremator doors. If the family wishes. they can ask a faith leader, celebrant or officiant to share a few comforting words with the group and then, at the appropriate time, a button is pressed by a designated family member or one of our staff, automatically opening the doors and gently pushing the casket directly into the cremation enclosure, where the cremation process begins.

For many, especially those of the Hindu, Sikh and Jain faiths, being present during the cremation is an important part of their faith and traditions. For others, it's a respectful way to say a final goodbye. But until

recently, North American crematoriums weren't suited to accommodate witnessing. Most are old, cramped and very hot. We have upgraded all of our crematoriums with state-of-the-art equipment and entirely new, welcoming environments that completely transform the experience. Now families and friends can witness cremation in a dignified space in comfort.

The benefits of witnessing are largely personal. For some people, being present when the casket takes its final iournev into the cremation enclosure is comforting or may be part of their traditions. For others, it may demystify something that they weren't able to be part of in the past. But the cremation equipment that makes witnessing possible also has other benefits. Once we put witnessing at the center of the cremation process, we needed specially designed equipment that would accommodate the witnessing room concept. This allowed us to incorporate the most advanced, cleanest and most environmentally responsible cremation equipment in the world.

## **NATURAL BURIAL**

Available at these MPG locations:

- Duffin Meadows Cemetery
- Meadowvale Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Centres

## A Natural Return to the Earth

Natural burial is becoming increasingly popular as a way to lessen one's environmental footprint. With this form of burial the body is allowed to return to the earth as naturally as possible – without embalming and in biodegradable caskets, urns or shrouds.

## A Tranquil, Peaceful Setting

While natural burial has existed for hundreds of years in Europe, it was not available in the GTA until 2012 when we opened the first natural burial ground at Meadowvale Cemetery in Brampton. In addition to our Meadowvale location we now have a second natural burial section at Duffin Meadows Cemetery in Pickering.

## Our Definition of Natural Burial

Natural burial can be defined in many ways. For our purposes we have taken

into account the health and safety of our staff and visitors to the cemetery while providing a natural alternative for those seeking an environmentally conscious approach to ground burial. Designed to let nature take its course, promote a "tread-free" mind-set and encourage people to refrain from walking on the graves, the plants and grasses in these burial grounds are left to grow freely. Additionally, we do not permit placing tokens of remembrance, such as teddy bears, photographs or flowers on the graves. As an alternative, a central memorial feature area provides a peaceful vantage point to pay respects.

## Interment Rights

Interment rights are available in our natural burial sections at Meadowvale Cemetery and Duffin Meadows
Cemetery. They consist of single graves that can accommodate one casket and one biodegradable urn with ashes, or two biodegradable urns of ashes.
Scattering ashes is not permitted in these sections.

## PRODUCT SELECTION

## Caskets

A casket serves two purposes: it holds the deceased, and it allows for the remains to be moved from one location to another. A casket can also be personalized to reflect the personality of the deceased, such as emblems affixed to the corners or special embroidery of the interior.

On a deeper level, the casket plays another role. Often, people have difficulty coming to terms with the death. For some, having a casket at a funeral service can help enlighten them with what's happened, and help them come to terms with their loss.

Caskets come in numerous designs, from plain to elaborate, and may be made from wood, cloth-covered wood or metal.

## Cremation Urns

Similar to a casket in purpose, a cremation urn holds the deceased. If there's a funeral service, it also acts as a physical symbol of the person, and can provide a focal point for family and friends to gather around – to grieve and to share memories. Some urns can also be personalized, with inscriptions or photos.

Cremation urns are available in a range of materials, designs and sizes. Ask us about size before choosing, as not all urns can accommodate the volume of cremated remains or will fit into every niche.

## Keepsake Jewellery

Keepsake jewellery is designed to hold a small portion of cremated remains, a lock of hair, flower petals or earth from the gravesite. Unique and elegant, this jewellery is designed for both men and women, and comes in options including pewter, brass, sterling silver and gold.

## Memorials

What people sometimes call "grave stones" are actually memorials. Beautiful and often made from bronze or granite, these act as landmarks for family and friends to come visit, while also preserving the deceased's memory through customization or inscription or design. They might sit upright (monuments) or lay flat on the ground (markers).

With ground burial, the options include upright granite monuments, markers in granite or bronze which lie flat on the grave, or a boulder. With casket or urn entombment, the memorialization is the inscription on the crypt or niche front.

There are also memorial options not associated with burial such as having their name inscribed in a Book of Remembrance or on a Tree of Life.

## Casket and Urn Vaults

A burial vault is an outer container for the casket or urn that provides an extra layer of protection against sub-surface elements as well as the weight of the soil. The casket or urn is placed inside the vault which is then lowered into the ground. Pricing depends on the structural materials used, the degree of reinforcement and other features. While the use of vaults is mandatory in some cemeteries, we believe it should be based on personal choice.

## Photoceramics and Frames

Nothing is more personal than a photograph. You can create a lasting image of your loved one through a photoceramic. Available in black and white or colour, and sized to fit a variety of bronze or stainless steel frames that

sit on a ceramic base, these can be installed right onto a monument, crypt or niche, or taken home to display.

## Lanterns and Vases

A beautiful fitting to a marker or monument, a vase offers an elegant place for flowers. A lantern provides candlelight for reflection. Available in bronze or stainless steel, vases and lanterns come in different sizes and designs.

## Memorial Wreaths

A memorial wreath or a monument saddle is a meaningful way to pay tribute to the deceased. Wreaths, which are available in a variety of shapes and sizes, are displayed on the grave with a stand which is supplied with the wreath. Saddles are designed to be mounted on top of the monument. Wreaths can be displayed from November 1st to March 31st, whereas saddles can be placed year round.

## **ADDITIONAL TOOLS & RESOURCES**

## **Cemetery App**

Discover the burial spot of a loved one; Mount Pleasant Cemetery's arboretum which is one of Canada's most diverse; and all notable figures buried in Mount Pleasant Group's cemeteries with our mobile search tool: **Finditatmpg.com** 



## **Our Price Lists**

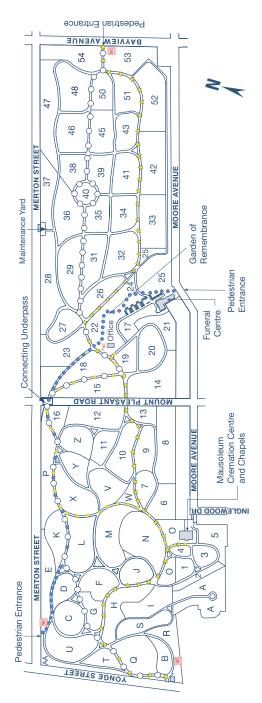
For your convenience, copies of our current price lists for all MPG locations have been posted on our website **www.mountpleasantgroup.com**. You can review them online or download them for future reference.

Interment right prices (graves, crypts and cremation niches) can vary widely from one location to another within each cemetery. Accordingly, please note that for most interment right prices, we indicate the starting price. In the case of monuments, markers and cremation urns, prices vary according to size, shape and materials used.

For more specific information relating to our prices, or any other issues, please contact the cemetery or funeral centre directly.

# **NOTES**

## EMETERY MAP



# DIRECTIONAL ROAD LINES

- BROKEN YELLOW ROAD LINE (BETWEEN CEMETERY OFFICE AND CREMATORIUM/MAUSOLEUM CHAPELS)
- SOLID YELLOW ROAD LINE (FROM YONGE STREET, WEST MOUNT PLEASANT ENTRANCE OR BAYVIEW PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE TO CREMATORIUM/MAUSOLEUM CHAPELS) SOLID BLUE LINE (FOR HERITAGE/BELTLINE PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE)
  - WHITE ROAD LINE (MAIN ROAD FROM YONGE STREET ENTRANCE, BENEATH MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD TO BAYVIEW PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE)
- PORTABLE WASHROOM (year-round) 💌 PORTABLE WASHROOMS (summers only)

DRINKING FOUNTAIN

# Office Hours

We are closed on Sundays and public holidays. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

## Gate Hours

Daylight Saving Time to September 30 October 1 to Eastern Standard Time E.S.T. to Daylight Saving Time

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



## **Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Centres**

375 Mount Pleasant Road Toronto, Ontario M4T 2V8 416 485 9129 mountpleasantinfo@mountpleasantgroup.com

## Other establishments managed by MPG:

**Beechwood Cemetery** 

905 669 1827

Duffin Meadows Cemetery

905 427 3385

Elgin Mills Cemetery, Cremation and

Funeral Centres 905 737 1720

Meadowvale Cemetery, Cremation and

Funeral Centres

905 451 3716

Pine Hills Cemetery and Funeral Centre

416 267 8229

Prospect Cemetery

416 651 4040

Thornton Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Centres

905 579 6787

Toronto Necropolis Cemetery

416 923 7911

York Cemetery and Funeral Centre

416 221 3404

The Simple Alternative Funeral Centre – Mississauga

905 602 1580

The Simple Alternative Funeral Centre – Pickering

905 686 5589

The Simple Alternative Funeral Centre – Toronto

416 441 1580

## Did a death just occur?

Call us for immediate assistance: 1-800-408-6033

## www.mountpleasantgroup.com