”Den nya kolumbariet i skogskyrkogården ”
”The New Columbarium in the Woodland Cemetery ”

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A historic review of the creation and development of Skogskyrkogården, and how it finally came to be a world heritage site.

1912

The Stockholm City Council decides to allocate an area of land in the south of Stockholm as a cemetery. The area consists mainly of a gravel and sand ridge covered in coniferous forest, and eventually the cemetery will cover a little over 100 hectares.

1914

To find the designer of the new cemetery, an international architectural competition is announced. In brief terms, the task at hand is to design an area that preserves the original natural values, without taking anything away in terms of architecture or artistic expression. The area was to be given a dignified air, and it also had to be easy for the public to find their way around it.

1915

The competition is closed, and first prize is awarded to the young architects Gunnar Asplund and Sigurd Lewerentz for their “Tallum” proposal.

1920—32

The wall around Skogskyrkogården is built by “emergency relief workers”; that is unemployed people from Stockholm. It is made of stone and is approximately 3.6 km long.
1940

The Woodland Crematorium. Photo: Susanne Hallmann.

The Woodland Crematorium and the three chapels, Tron (faith), Hoppet (hope) and Heliga korset (the holy cross), are completed after three years of construction. The buildings are inaugurated in June, and Asplund passes away three months later.

1961

Inauguration of the Remembrance Garden. It was designed by Lewerentz and is the first of its kind in Stockholm.

1994

Skogskyrkogården is entered onto the UNESCO World Heritage List. The list consists of cultural and natural environments that are of outstanding universal value. This means that Skogskyrkogården must be cared for and preserved for value. This means that Skogskyrkogården must be cared for and preserved for future generations.

2014

The New Crematorium. Photo: Mikael Almehag

Inauguration of the New Crematorium. This crematorium was designed by the architect Johan Celsing and fulfills all environmental requirements in terms of purifying the flue gases.
Cemeteries and burial sites

In Stockholm one can choose graveyard at the public cemeteries managed by either the cemetery administration or the churches of the church of Sweden. Membership in the Swedish church is not necessary.

At the burial places of the church of Sweden there are often certain conditions, for example, that the deceased should have lived in the congregation for a certain number of years.

In older facilities, access to burial sites is limited. At burial places with newly built neighborhoods, there is greater freedom of choice regarding the location and size of the gravestone.

The deceased who have been registered in Stockholm have the right to a free- burial site under 25 years. Then, in most cases, grassland can be extended for 15 years for a fee. Care of the graveyard is responsible for the graveyard owner himself. Care of the graveyard can also be purchased through the cemetery administration.

The cemetery administration in Stockholm has 11 general cemeteries and 13 funeral chapels.

Find the grave - out of order

On our site you can find help finding a grave through a search function containing about 185,000 burial places and about 525,000 dug at Stockholm's 11 general burial sites.

Memorial

Interment in the memorial is a grave condition under which the ashes of the deceased strewn or buried in a common grave site.

Memory Lunden gives survivors the opportunity to have a place to go to in order to remember and honor their deceased without the individual grave site requirements for the care and supervision. However, it is not possible for relatives to attend the burial and not know exactly where in the memorial garden interment occurred. Embellishment occurs in common smyckningsplatser.

Burial custom

In Sweden, we use two main burial, individual grave for the coffin / urn or memorial.

Kistgrav- or urngravplats

Individual grave casket or urn gives survivors the opportunity to attend the funeral and have a headstone or other digging device, and to plant the plants on the grave.

Individual grave site at the following cemeteries are reserved for those who at his death was registered in Stockholm: Brännkyrka cemetery, burial Vastberga, Bromma cemetery, cemetery Spånga Hässelby cemetery. Special rules also for interment on Galärvarvskyrkogården.
Cemeteries Administration in the City manages memory groves on the northern cemetery, cemetery Spånga, Bromma cemetery, Råcksta cemetery, HÅsselby cemetery, the Woodland Cemetery, Brännkyrka Cemetery and Cemetery Beach. Swedish church congregations also have memory groves, contact the township directly.

In all memory groves, both locals and non-locals be buried.

**Common askgravplatser and common askgravlund**

Engraving High askgravplatser common and common askgravlund is something between a memorial and urngravplatser. Cemeteries Administration is responsible for the management, but you can put flowers at a joint smyckningsplats. The tomb can be provided with the names of the buried and the relatives will be present at the burial. A grave in the common askgravplatser or the common askgravlunden have a closed season in 25 years.

Askgravplatser found at Woodland Cemetery, Galärvarvskyrkogården, Bromma cemetery and Brännkyrka cemetery. Currently (August 2017), only askgravplatser offered on Brännkyrka cemetery where askgravplatserna at Woodland Cemetery and Galärvarvskyrkogården is full. Bromma cemetery ongoing earthworks why askgravplatserna can not be used until at least 2018. New askgravplatser expanded at Woodland Cemetery. The entry into service 2018th

Askgravlundar available at the Northern cemetery, Sandsborg Cemetery, Bromma cemetery and Galärvarvskyrkogården. At Sandsborg Cemetery can spread the ashes in the grove also be done using water. A new askgravlund expanded at Woodland Cemetery.

Even some of the Swedish church congregations in Stockholm askgravplatser and / or askgravlundar their cemeteries, contact the township directly.

**Spread ash in nature**

You can also choose to spread your relative's ashes over the ocean, the mountains or other natural areas. This requires a special permit from the County Administrative Board in the county where the spread will occur.
The New Columbarium in the Woodland Cemetery

The Woodland cemetery is one of 15 World Heritage Sites in Sweden. It was designed by architects Erik Gunnar Asplund and Sigurd Lewerentz in 1915.

As a student from China, I was obsessed with the tranquil atmosphere, sacred chapels and beautiful landscape in the Woodland cemetery, which is quite different from the cemetery in China. After visiting it several times and doing some research, I found that there is an urgent problem about how to meet the demand of the growing graves, in the meanwhile to protect the precious trees and respect the great World Heritage Site.

I think the type of columbarium is a good solution to this problem. It’s like a compact graveyard in vertical which provides a place for people to mourn and also saves the earth for trees. And then I chose my site at the main entrance of the cemetery as an extension of the old columbarium, which is also a non-functional place and should be improved.
Process of Funeral

Death → Storage of Corpse → Funeral Ceremony → Cremation → Interment

Types of Interment

**Individual Grave Casket or Urn** → Individual grave casket or urn gives survivors the opportunity to attend the funeral and have a headstone or other digging device, and to plant the plants on the grave.

**Columbarium** → Cemeteries administration is responsible for the management, but you can put flowers at a joint smyckningsplats. The tomb can be provided with the names of the buried and the relatives will be present at the burial.

**Memorial Garden** → Memorial gives survivors the opportunity to have a place to go to in order to remember and honor their deceased without the individual grave site requirements for the care and supervision. However, it is not possible for relatives to attend the burial and not know exactly where in the memorial garden interment occurred.

**Scattering Ash in Nature** → You can also choose to spread your relative's ashes over the ocean, the mountains or other natural areas. This requires a special permit from the county administrative board in the county where the spread will occur.
Area of Function 1:200

Columbarium 410 m²

Main Entrance 50 m²
Reflecting Pond 27 m²

Light-Leading Corridor 27 m²
Bright Niche 2.5 m²

Main Columbarium Space 357 m²
Atrium (Transplanted Trees) 25 m²

Individual Mourning Room 4.4 x 6 = 26.4 m²

Ceremony Space 138 m²

Altar with Seating Stairs 120 m²

Preparing Room 6 x 2 = 12 m²

Administration 86 m²

Priest Room (Preparing, Placing, Resting) 14 m²
Office 14.3 m²
Tool Storage and Cleaning Room 14.3 m²
Storage Room 5.2 m²
Washroom 5.2 m²
Development of Shape

Study of Scotch Pine

- Height: 10 - 30 (40) m, fast growing
- Crown: pyramidal when young, later parasol-shaped, half-open crown, capricious growing
- Bark and branches: old bark is greyish brown, in rough strips, orange-brown higher up
- Leaf: needles, 2 together, stiff, bluish green, slightly twisted, 3 - 6 cm, evergreen
- Flowers: unremarkable, light lemon yellow, dark red to brown, fragrant flowers
- Fruits: hanging cones, single, sometimes 2 to 3 grouped together, 3 - 6 cm
- Spines/Thorns: none
- Toxicity: non-toxic (usually)
- Soil type: well-permeable and dry, slightly acidic
- Soil moisture: suitable for dry soil, withstand short flood
- Paving: tolerates no paving
- Winter hardiness: 2 (-45,8 to -40,1 °C)
- Wind resistance: good, also tolerates sea wind
- Resistance: resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
- Light requirement: light-loving
- Fauna tree: provides food for birds
- Playground tree: yes
- Tree for future: yes
- Application: parks, squares, tree containers, theme parks, cemeteries, roof gardens, coastal areas, industrial areas, large gardens
- Type/shape: clearstem conifer, specimen conifer, bonsai
- Origin: Europe, Northern Asia

Native to large portions of Europe and Northern Asia, where the tree is used often in forestry. Initially pyramidal, but later spreading out and growing irregularly to form a parasol shape. The crown usually grows at top high bare trunks. However, the lower branches remain full, if the tree has ample free space around it. This can produce very characteristic growth patterns. In its early years, growth is slow, but faster as the tree matures. The bark is a striking orange-brown, later turning greyish-brown and peeling off in large strips. Young twigs are green and turn yellowish grey. The stiff, slightly twisted needles grow in pairs and are bluish green and 3 to 6 cm long. The greyish brown oval cones are 3 - 6 cm long and 2 - 3.5 cm wide. Grows even in extreme conditions.
THE WOODLAND CEMETERY MODEL
The Woodland Chapel Model (case study)
The Site Model