



Tree Stones

William & Mamie Aull's family monument, located in section 58, lot 390, is an excellent example of a style of memorial art called a tree stone.

Grave markers don't just represent an individual person, or even, like the Aulls, a whole family; they reflect the trends of an era and the cultures which produce them.

Although tree stones first begin to appear in the 1850's, the art form really begins to take off nearer to the end of the 19^{th} century. Looking at this from the broader vantage point of history, it makes sense.

Facing a world of growing industrialization, towns swelling into cities, and rapidly changing technology, people at this time were responding with the idealization of an imagined 'rural' past.



We can see this in the characteristics of popular art from the late 1880's; Art Nouveau and the Arts & Crafts style of architecture.

Both movements produced some truly amazing art inspired by the shapes and lines that make up the natural world.

If you're a person who is living in this medley of cultural context who is asked to think of how best to memorialize a person or family, it won't take your brain long to suggest the form of a tree.

Symbolically, trees are hugely significant to cultures around the world—including what we refer to as the 'Victorian Era'.

If we understand these symbols, tree stones can tell us a lot about the person or family they memorialize.

Broadly speaking, a monument in the shape of a tree evokes the 'family tree'.



The number and shape of the branches may represent the lives of different family members.



A stump or broken branch may indicate a life cut short.

Trees and tree stumps also provide a natural backdrop for a number of other symbols:







Birds perching in the branches may be standing in for the idea of a spirit freed from mortal form.

Ivy may represent the concept of renewal or tenacity.

An anchor may represent hope or faith; though perhaps, like hammers or axes, they indicate a person or family's trade.

Tree stones were particularly popular at garden cemeteries like Woodland, which is home to a number of variations on this theme.

Though the demand for tree stones began to recede by the mid-1920s, the symbolic power of trees has endured.



Many modern grave markers, though not tree shaped, incorporate similar elements of design.

Even if the style is chosen purely for aesthetic reasons, the meanings we ascribe to them are developed by the time and place in which we live.



Woodmen of the World

During the 1890's, tree stones became associated with the Woodmen of the World; a fraternal organization which offered members benefits similar to life insurance today—in particular, assistance with burial expenses.

Tree stones were one type of grave marker recommended to members; several versions were available at low or no cost to members of the organization.

The above emblem often appears on these grave markers, sometimes accompanied by the Latin phrase *Dum Tacet Clamat*, which means "though silent he speaks".

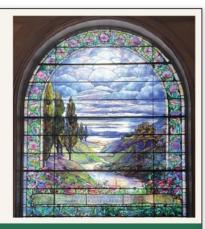
Upcoming Events!



JOIN US FOR THE TIFFANY CHAPEL CONCERT SERIES

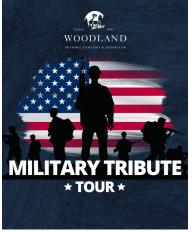
October 11th • 2:00 - 4:00pm • with an intermission

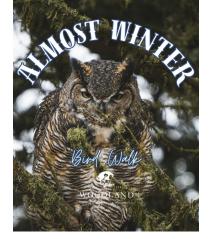
Price: \$40 a ticket
Refreshments will be provided. For more information,
and to purchase tickets go to woodlandcemetery.org
or call 937-228-3221



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Tree Tour

Military Tribute Tour

Almost Winter Bird Walk



Lantern Tours SOLD OUT!

Wow! Our History Mystery Murder & Mayhem lantern tours have already sold out for the month of October!

Thank you for your support, and keep checking back; History Mystery Murder & Mayhem is offered throughout the year!



Don't get caught by surprise:

Please be sure to bring home all decor items that you wish to keep.

Key:

Dark Green = Weekly Clean Off Orange = Do Not Clean Off Soft Grey = At Woodland's Discretion

Support Woodland:

Woodland is proud to remain an active part of the Dayton community as a popular place to walk, relax and enjoy.

We invite you to contribute to the Woodland Arboretum Foundation to ensure that what's meaningful to you today, continues tomorrow! Your gift makes an immediate impact on the horticulture, arboriculture, and restoration efforts needed to maintain

one of Dayton's most historic and beautiful outdoor museums.

Thank you for your generous support of Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum.

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Come Visit Us!



Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

If you need help finding where someone is buried, need directions to a particular area, or have questions about pre-planning or funeral services, Woodland's Staff is here to assist you!

Volunteer opportunities

Woodland is seeking volunteers to give presentations to community groups on subjects such as local history, notable biographies, and trees.

Not into public speaking? Consider getting involved with our horticulture team, or assisting with special events & research projects.

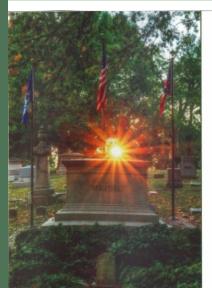
*If there is something you'd like to see here at Woodland please reach out to us & suggest it!

Tours & More:

We welcome walkers, runners, and wanderers -- leashed dogs & school groups.

Register for a guided tour visit the Woodland Cemetery website! Learn about fascinating Daytonians resting peacefully in one of America's oldest rural garden cemeteries!

Or check out our <u>virtual tours!</u> (if you really don't want to go outside)





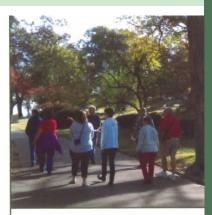
HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

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