



Etched in Stone

A Practical Guide to Designing
a Lasting Cemetery Tribute



MAPLE RIDGE
FUNERAL CHAPEL

Designing a permanent tribute is a collaborative family journey.

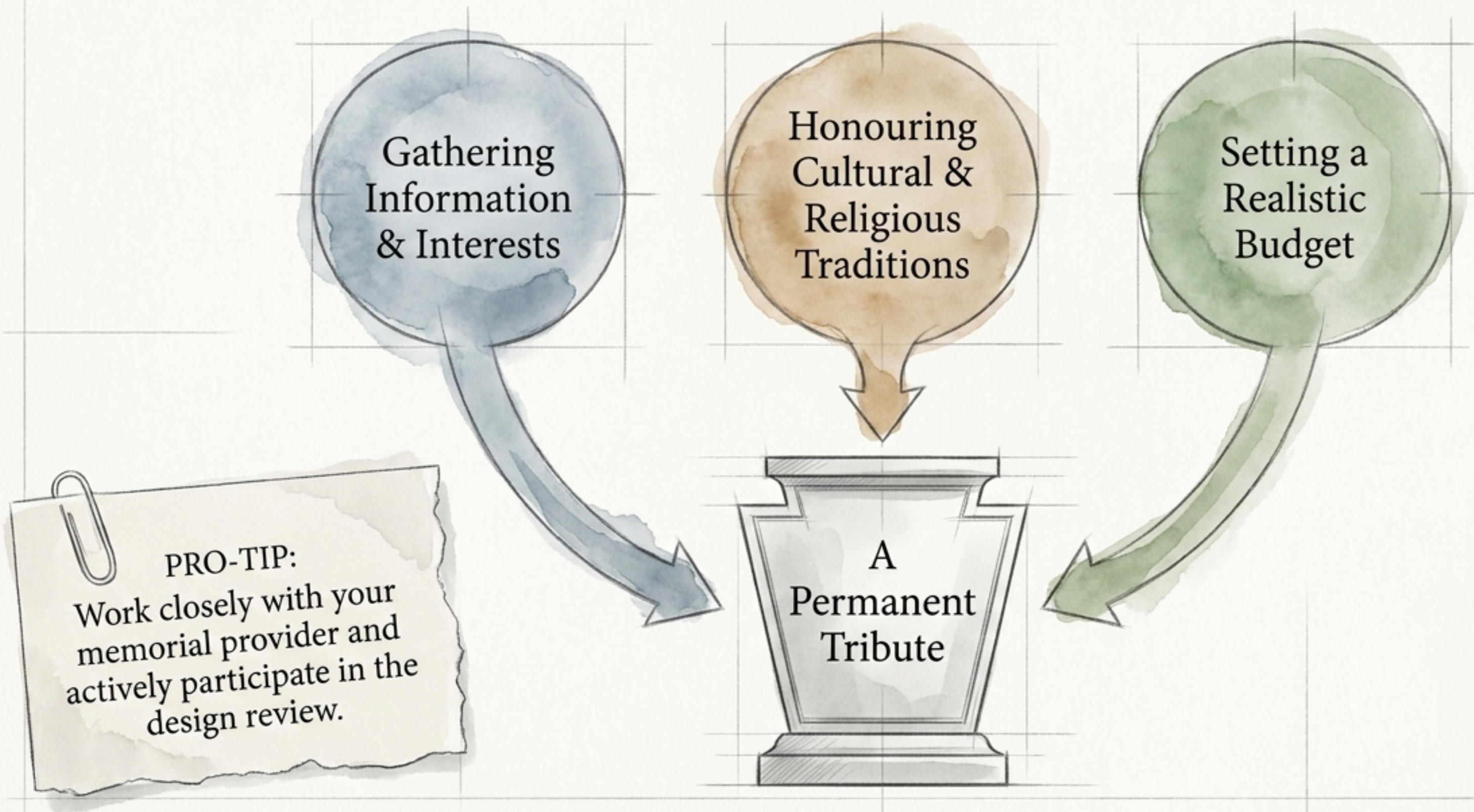
Gathering
Information
& Interests

Honouring
Cultural &
Religious
Traditions

Setting a
Realistic
Budget

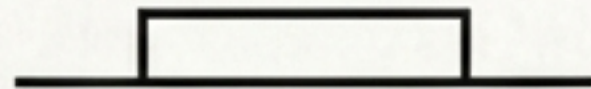
A
Permanent
Tribute

PRO-TIP:
Work closely with your
memorial provider and
actively participate in the
design review.



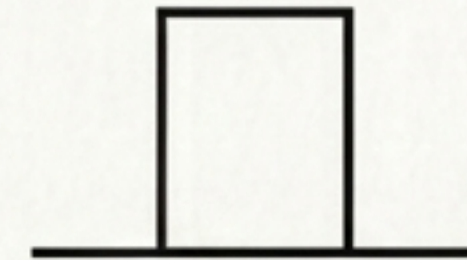
Choosing between a ground-level marker and an upright monument.

Markers



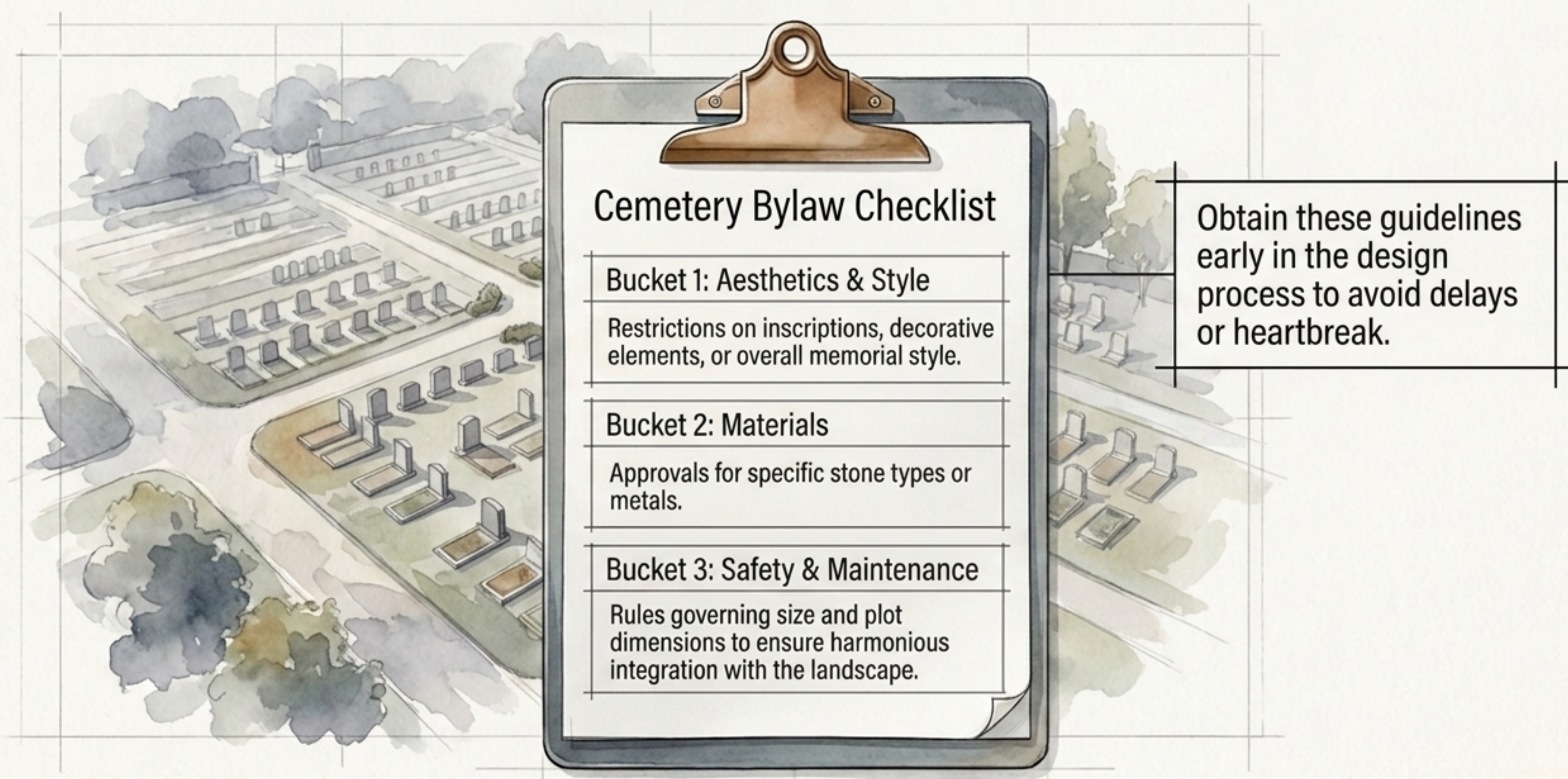
Smaller and simpler. Flat rectangular stone lying on the ground. Includes basic name, dates, and brief inscription.

Monuments



Traditional vertical headstones. Larger, prominent, with more room for customization, sculptures, or statues.

Review cemetery bylaws early to prevent design heartbreak.



Cemetery Bylaw Checklist

Bucket 1: Aesthetics & Style

Restrictions on inscriptions, decorative elements, or overall memorial style.

Bucket 2: Materials

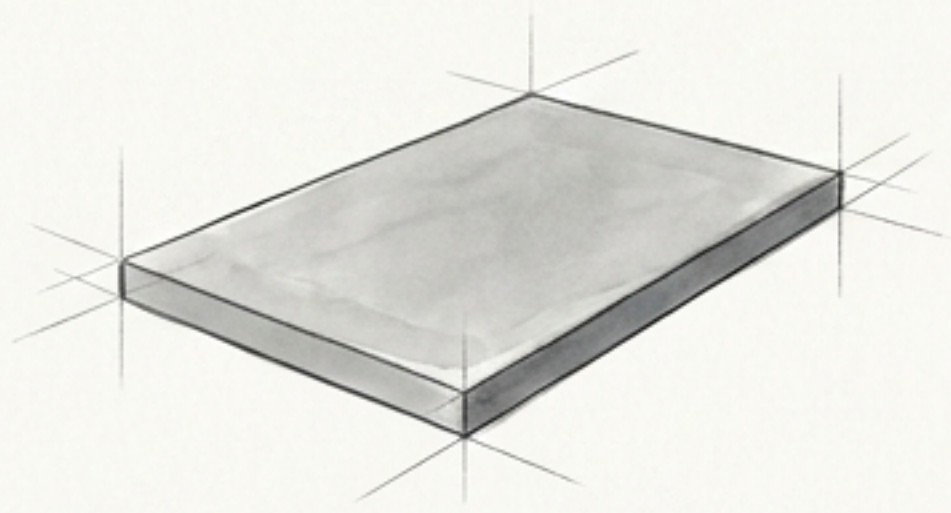
Approvals for specific stone types or metals.

Bucket 3: Safety & Maintenance

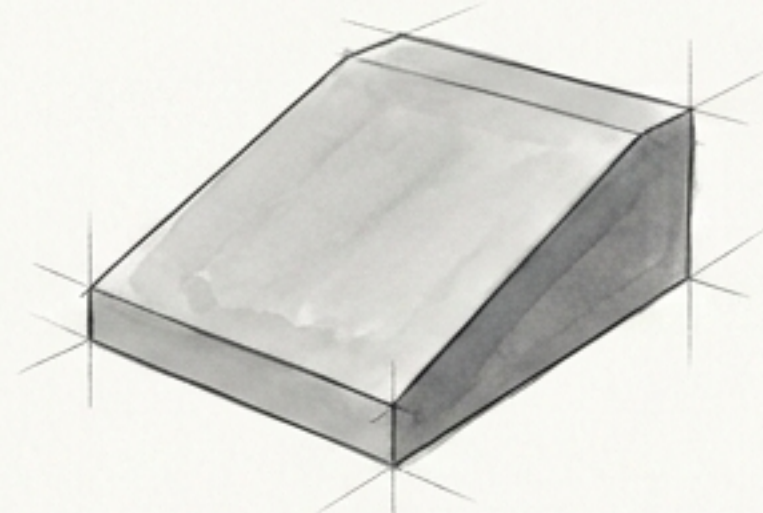
Rules governing size and plot dimensions to ensure harmonious integration with the landscape.

Obtain these guidelines early in the design process to avoid delays or heartbreak.

Selecting a physical silhouette to match your vision



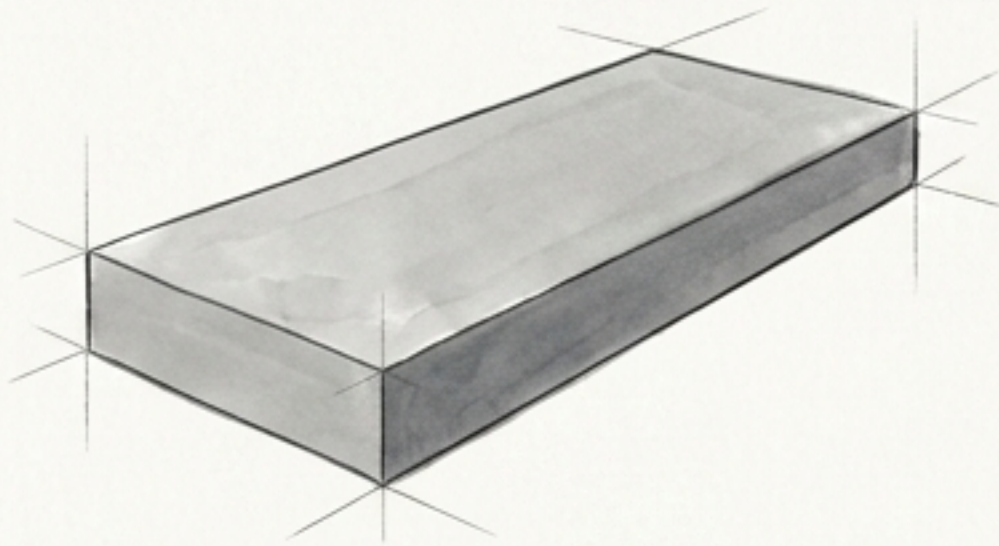
Lawn Level Marker



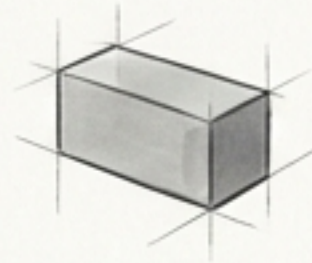
Slant / Bevel Marker



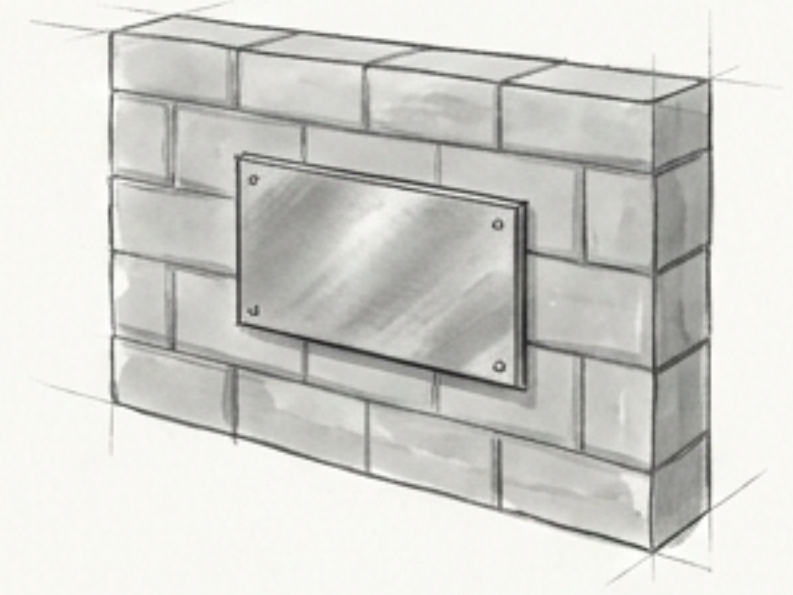
Upright Headstone



Ledger Stone

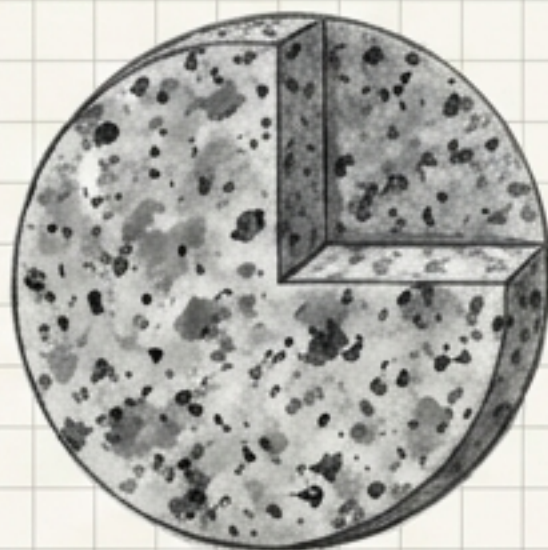


Footstone

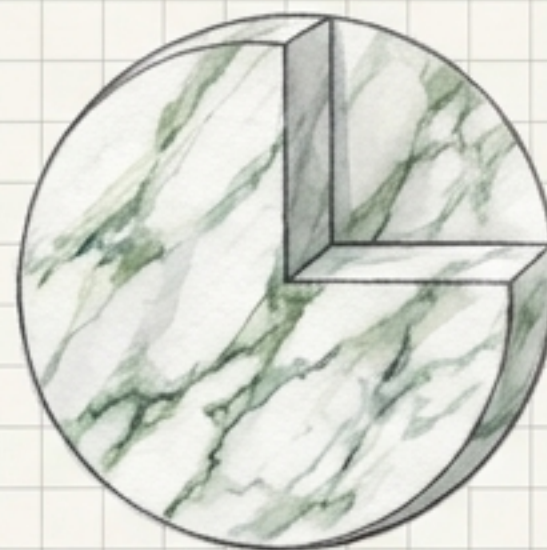


Niche Marker

Balancing material durability with aesthetic weathering over time.



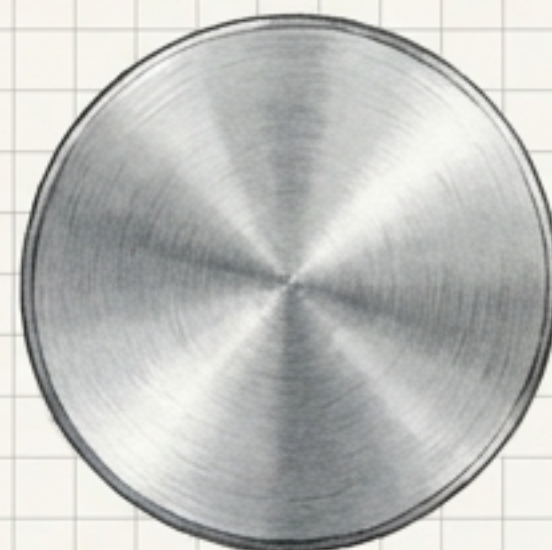
Granite



Marble



Bronze



Stainless Steel



Limestone

Material Durability Scale

Granite:	Highly durable, excellent weathering properties.
Marble:	Classic aesthetic, distinct weathering profile over decades.
Bronze:	Elegant, requires specific upkeep.

MAINTENANCE AWARENESS: Consider the long-term preservation of the monument. Ask about appropriate cleaning techniques to preserve the memorial's beauty and longevity, and consider eco-conscious design choices.

Customizing the specific anatomical elements of the stone.

Symbolism & Imagery:
Religious symbols, natural
elements, passions.

Inscription & Lettering:
Carefully chosen fonts,
name, dates.



Customization:
Epitaphs, quotes, career
achievements.

Establishing a physical landmark for multiple generations

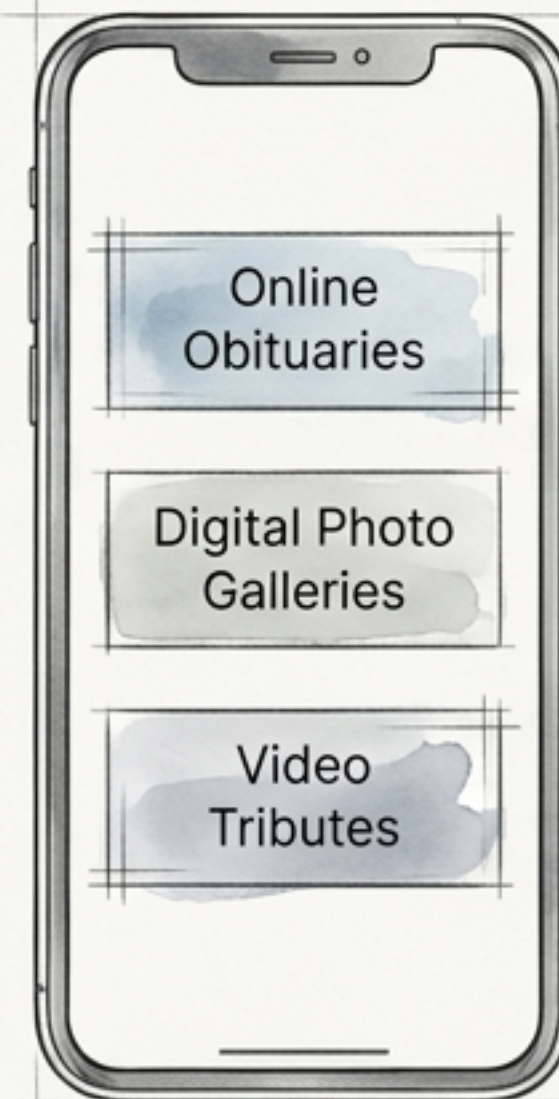
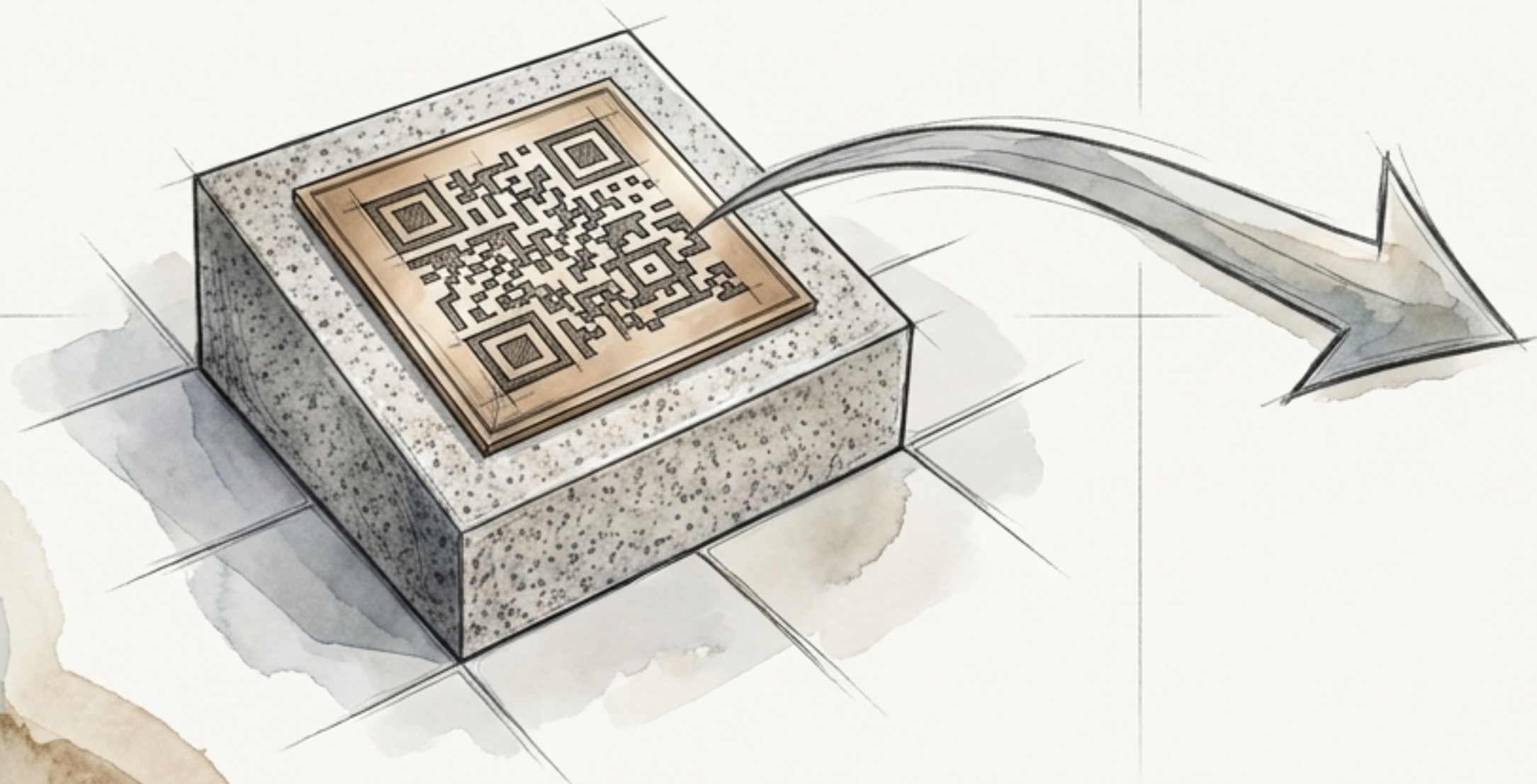
Include vital
genealogical
information.

Design family
memorials to
honour multiple
loved ones in one
location.



Preserve your
family's heritage
for future
generations to
visit and study.

Connecting physical memorials to lasting digital narratives.



Enhance the memorial experience by incorporating digital bridges between the physical site and lasting online tributes.

Essential questions to ask your cemetery provider.



- ☐ What are the exact size and plot dimension limits?
- ☐ Are there any hidden installation or long-term maintenance fees?
- ☐ What are the specific restrictions on laser etching or imagery?
- ☐ Do you offer any available grief support resources or aftercare services?

Don't hesitate to ask cemetery staff any questions throughout the process.

The Blueprint Workpad: Part 1

The Basics

Type (Marker / Monument):

Material (Granite / Marble / Bronze / Limestone / Stainless Steel):

Preferred Shape:

Preferred Colors:

Personalization

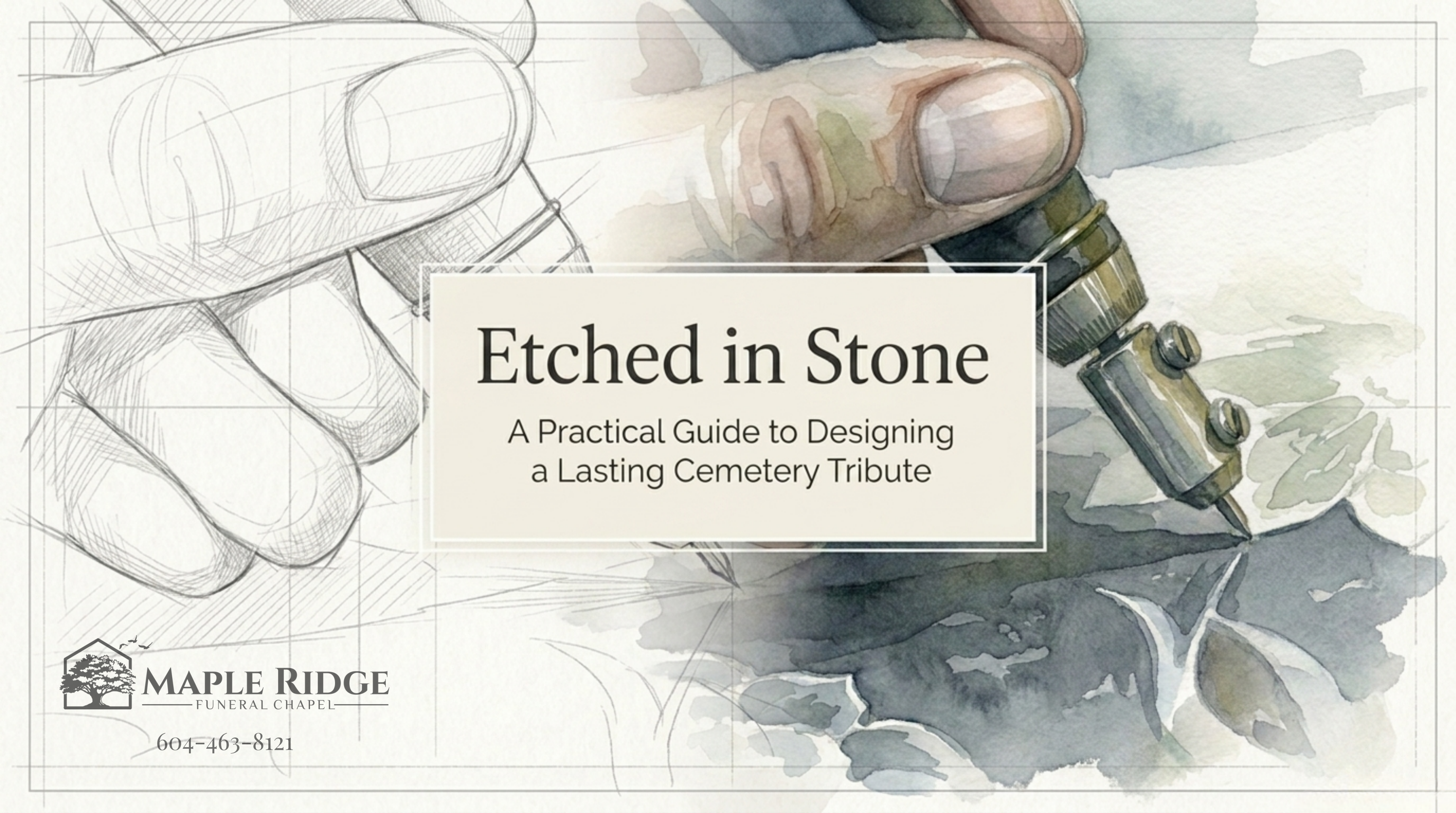
Hobbies:

Career:

Passions:

Favourite Quote / Bible Verse:

Other Details:



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