

# Glossary of **Symbols** for Studying Cemeteries

SYMBOL	INTERPRETATION	SYMBOL	INTERPRETATION
Anchor	Hope	Lamb	Innocence
Angel, flying	Rebirth; Trumpeting: call to the resurrection; Weeping: grief	Laurel Wreath	Immortality
Arch	Victory of life; or victory in death	Pall, Pick, Spade	Mortality
Bird	Eternal life. Birds in flight: flight of the soul	Rooster	Awakening, the Resurrection
Broken column	Life cut short	Sythe	Death, the divine harvest
Candle, flame	Life	Shell	The Resurrection, life everlasting
Columns, doors	Heavenly entrance	Skull, skeleton	Mortality
Crown	Glory of life after death	Sun setting	Death
Dove	Purity, devotion	Sun rising, shining	Renewed life
Drapery	Mourning, Grief	Thistle	Of Scottish descent
Fern	Humility, Sincerity	Tree	Life. Tree sprouting: life everlasting. Severed branch: Mortality
Figs, Pineapples	Prosperity, eternal life	Urn	Symbol of the soul
Flower	Frailty of life. Severed blossom: mortality	Vine	The sacraments
Garland	Victory	Weeping Willow	Nature's Lament
Hand Pointing up; pointing sideways	Heavenly reward; Friendship	Winged Face	Effigy of the soul of the deceased
Heart	Love, mortality, love of God	Winged Skull	Flight of the soul from mortal man
Hourglass	Passage of time	Wreath	Victory
Ivy	Friendship	Wheat sheaves	The divine harvest