

No people who turn their backs on death can be alive. The presence of the dead among the living will be a daily fact in any society which encourages its people to live. Huge cemeteries on the outskirts of cities, or in places no one ever visits, impersonal funeral rites, taboos which hide the fact of death from children, all conspire to keep the fact of death away from us, the living . . .

Never build massive cemeteries. Instead, allocate pieces of land throughout the community as grave sites—corners of parks, sections of paths, gardens, beside gateways—where memorials to people who have died can be ritually placed with inscriptions and mementoes which celebrate their life. Give each grave site an edge, a path, and a quiet corner where people can sit. By custom, this is hallowed land.

CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER, SARA ISHIKAWA, MURRAY SILVERSTEIN *et al.*, *A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction*, 1977

Still in the countryside among the lowly
Death is not out of fashion,