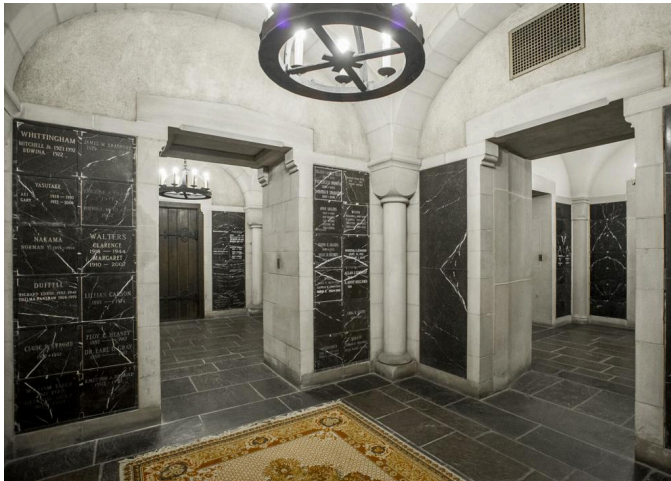




THE FIRST UNITARIAN CRYPT

The crypt, created in the 1930s, was the first of its kind in Chicago, serving both the congregation and the wider community as a sacred resting place and site for gathering to remember and celebrate the lives of those we love.



Secure your place in the heart of Hyde Park by purchasing a niche in the historic crypt of the First Unitarian Church of Chicago. For generations, members of the Hyde Park, Kenwood, and University of Chicago communities have been interred and memorialized here—an enduring testament to lives lived in pursuit of justice, wisdom, and community. In choosing a niche, you join this continuum, held in remembrance beneath the enduring stone of a church standing for love and service.

Crypt Niche Purchase Pricing* (includes perpetual care)

- Row 1 (upper): Regular Depth \$4,000, Extra Deep \$5,000
- Rows 2/3/4/5 (middle): Regular Depth \$5,000, Extra Deep \$6,000
- Rows 6/7 (lower): Regular Depth \$3,000, Extra Deep \$4,000

*Current First Unitarian members receive a 30% discount on *pre-planned* purchases. Graduates, Faculty, and Staff of the University of Chicago and the Meadville Lombard Theological School receive a 15% discount on *pre-planned* purchases.

Service Fees (In addition to niche purchase)

- Interment Ceremony in Bay or Crypt Chapel: \$300 (pay officiant directly)
- Opening and Closing: \$500 for each occasion
- Niche Cover Inscriptions: \$100 plus \$15 for each character (including spaces)

To learn more, arrange a visit, or choose your niche today, please contact our Administrator, **Jeffery Moseley**, at administrator@firsttuchicago.org or our Senior Minister, **Rev. David Messner**, at revdave@firsttuchicago.org

Many remarkable people have their remains interred in the First Unitarian Church Crypt, including:

- [Ralph Wendell Burhoe](#), Theologian and Scientist, Templeton prize winner
- [Hans Gustav Güterbock](#), Renowned Hittitologist at the Oriental Institute (Now ISAC)
- [Morton D. Hull](#), Five-term US Congressman who funded the construction of the church and crypt
- [Frank Knight](#), UChicago Economics Professor, and “Father” of the Chicago School of Economics
- [Christopher Moore](#), Associate Minister of the church and the founder of the Chicago Children's Choir (now Uniting Voices).
- [Shailer Mathews](#), Dean of the U of C Divinity School and leader of the Social Gospel movement and the emerging Chicago School of Theology
- [Pauline Daly McCoo](#), Artist, Teacher, and Civil Rights Leader, She was the First African American Member of the Church, joining the church in 1948
- Selina and [George Reed](#), among the first African American members of the church. George was a leading chemist who served on the Manhattan project, at Argonne National Laboratory, and in NASA’s lunar space program.
- [Curtis W. Reese](#), Unitarian Minister and Noted Humanist Thinker (and President of the American Humanist Association)
- [Paul Shorey](#), UChicago Classics professor, reported to be able to recite the Iliad from memory
- [Von Ogden Vogt](#), a senior minister of the church
- [Yau Chun Wong](#), Leading Chicago Architect and protégé of Mies van der Rohe

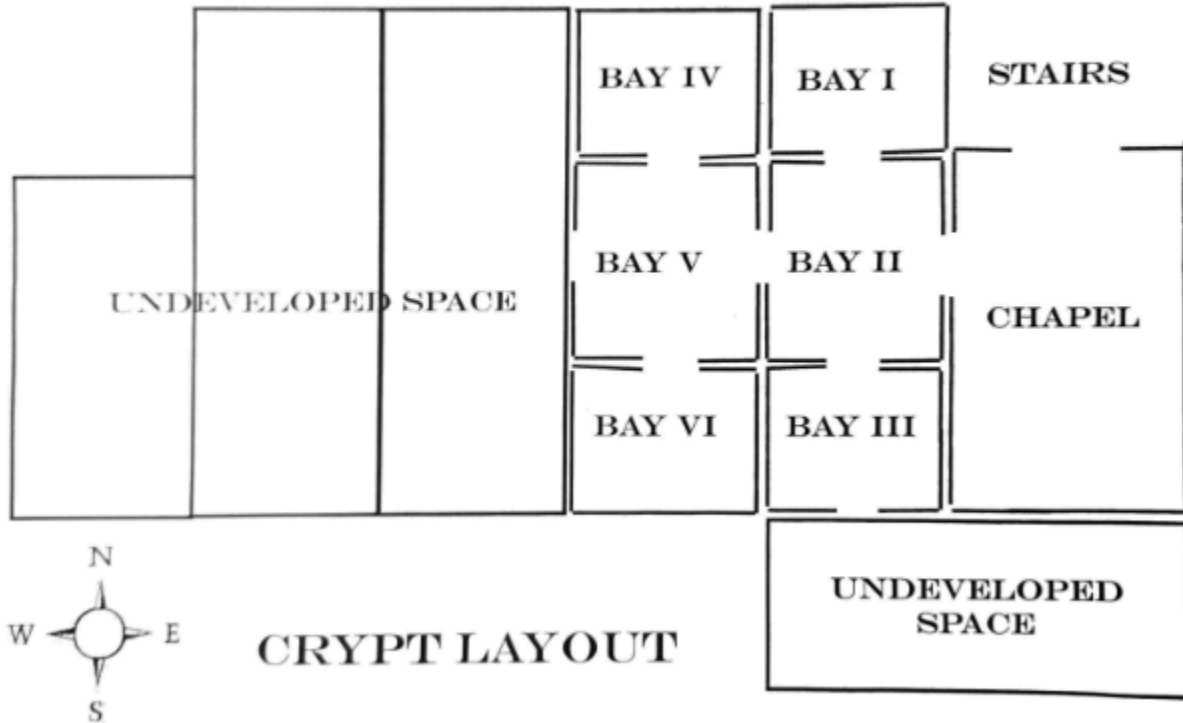
For Further History, please see the Hyde Park Herald Article:

https://www.hpherald.com/news/local/tales-from-the-first-unitarian-crypt/article_933bb86e-d2c2-11eb-ac62-ff3d6362f449.html

The Crypt is accessed by a grand, winding staircase from the main sanctuary,

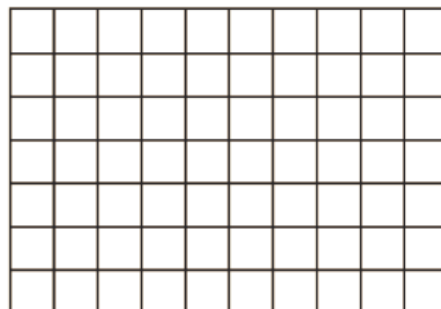
which leads into the chapel where ceremonies can be performed before interment. Smaller ceremonies are often held in the bay by the niche itself.

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO



We have a significant number of spaces available, allowing us to accommodate reservations of multiple adjacent niches to meet the future needs of family members. We are currently reserving in Bays 4, 5, and 6.

**Bay 4 Sample Wall Layout: Each niche face is 12" square.
There are 10 Columns and Seven Rows.**



Sample Crypt Niche Interment Contract

Crypt Manager: _____

Crypt/Office Location: 5650 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, IL 60637 Phone: (773) 324 - 4100 ext. 110

Buyer(s): _____

Address: City, State, Zip : _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Individual(s) to be interred:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

This is a contract of sale to the Buyer(s) for the rights of Interment described below. Buyer(s) agree to all terms of the contract. Description of the Rights of Interment you are purchasing entitles Buyer(s) to have interred _____ urn(s) in the niche: Bay: _____ Wall: _____ Column: _____ Row: _____

Cost per selected niche: _____ # of interments: _____ Cost per interment: _____

Inscription fees: _____ TBD _____ Opening/Closing/Administrative fees: _____

Additional item(s): _____ Additional fee(s): _____

Total due at Interment: _____ **Date paid:** _____

Notes: Engraving costs to be determined.

I have read the foregoing and agree to be bound by all terms of this contract, including the back and acknowledge receipt of a completed copy of this contract:

Buyer: _____ Date: _____

Crypt Manager: _____ Date: _____

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND REGULATIONS:

The purchase of niche rights and subsequent use of all church property at First Unitarian Church of Chicago designated as the Church, shall at all times be subject to all the rules, regulations and procedures now in force or later enacted by the Church for the governance, control and management of the Crypt. Buyer acknowledges that nothing contained in this Contract shall restrict the Church's rights with respect to the operation of the Crypt. The Church shall have the authority to operate, manage and control the Crypt and to determine the design, type, size and location of all building, features, improvements and policies affecting operation of the Crypt including decoration, hours of operation, memorials and interment arrangements. The Church reserves the right to upgrade and improve the Crypt and all of the niches therein, including those purchased and to be purchased under this Contract. **INTERMENT FEE:** An interment fee will be charged by the Church at the time of any interment. Said fee must be pre-paid or included at the time of sale. **INSCRIPTION FEE:** Niche Buyer must purchase the inscription from the Church at the time of interment, unless said inscription is included in the cost of the Niche. The Church will install the inscription when possible after the Church receives payment for the inscription and Buyer pays any balance in full. Once permanent engraved memorialization has been completed on a niche it is not returnable or saleable. **ASSIGNMENT OR DESIGNATION OF INTEREST:** Buyer has the right, at any time, unless in default under this Contract, to assign Buyer's interest in this Contract to a third party, subject to the written consent of the Church. Such assignment must first be recorded in the Church's records before it shall become active. **BUYER(S) RESPONSIBILITY:** All Buyer(s) agree that they are each primarily, jointly and severable liable herein, and that no release of one or more Buyer(s) shall release any other Buyer(s). **PAYMENT OF CONTRACT:** No interments may be made, no monuments/markers/inscriptions may be placed and no right of interment, or any other rights shall pass to Buyer until the Total Sale Price is paid or unless written permission is granted by the Church. If such permission is granted, then any interment made or inscriptions placed before payment in full is made shall be considered only temporary, and buyer shall not have any permanent rights of possession. **NICHE DIMENSIONS ALLOWED:** Acceptable Niche urn sizes vary with each niche location and must be verified by the office before interment. **CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT:** The Church retains the right and option at any time that it is unable to fulfill any part of this Contract to return to Buyer all monies paid under this Contract, this contract shall become null and void. Or in the case of the Church being unable to provide the niche selected by the Buyer, the Church may substitute niche property, reasonably comparable in character and location to that which was originally selected. **PERSONAL USE:** Buyer agrees that the right of interment being purchased in this Contract is being acquired solely for use by Buyer or Buyer's designee and not for speculation and not with a view of resale or redistribution of the rights of interment. **CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Buyer is responsible for informing the Church Office of any change of address. **CHURCH RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE CHURCH CRYPT:** Complete rules and regulations will be furnished upon request of Buyer. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT:** Buyer agrees that this Contract and the crypt rules and regulations as currently existing and from time to time amended contains the agreement between Buyer and Church. Buyer understands that any statement or promise made by any counselor, agent, or other person claiming to represent the Church shall not be binding unless contained in this Contract. The Buyer(s) agrees to comply with the terms of this Contract and any and all regulations of the First Unitarian Church of Chicago as are existing or hereafter amended. Buyer(s) understand that this contract is binding upon Buyer(s), Buyer(s)'s heirs, Buyer(s)'s representatives and assigns.