

Abbreviations and Terms used in Funeral Directors' Records

Transport

Carette	A motor hearse with a shelf behind the driver to accommodate a child's coffin
Glass hearse	A glass sided horse drawn hearse
Open hearse	An open sided horse drawn hearse
H/1 (2)	Abbreviation for hearse and one or two following limousines
Lim	Abbreviation for limousine
Brougham	A horse drawn carriage for mourners
Machine	A type of horse drawn mourning carriage
Walking	A funeral where the coffin is carried at shoulder height from the home to the church and then the cemetery

Coffin

Waxed	A wax finish to the exterior of the coffin
Bar handles	Metal coffin handles either fixed or hinged
Pol. coffin	Abbreviation for a polished coffin
Unpol.	Abbreviation for an unpolished coffin
Mount	A wooden plinth for a nameplate
Wriggled	A hand-cut nameplate using a twisting movement
'White'	A coffin covered in white fabric. White was usually used for a child.
Shell	A plain inner coffin without handles or nameplate but lined internally. It would be placed into a finished coffin, sometimes termed as 'case'
EB	Electro-brassed (handles or name plate)
NS/NP	Nickle silver/nickle plate
Wreath holders	Decorative caps covering the screw holes on a coffin lid. Wire would be threaded though the tribute and tied around the holder to keep it in place.

Burial

Con	Consecrated
'D Con Res'	D section consecrated with the grave reserved in advance
Re-open	Digging an existing grave
Reserve	A grave purchased in advance

New for one/two A new grave dug to accommodate one/two burials

DTG Abbreviation for 'Direct to Grave', that is the hearse taking the coffin to the grave and by-passing the chapel

NG Abbreviation for new grave

R&R Abbreviation for removing and replacing a memorial on a grave

Cremation

B&C Cremation medical forms (now Forms 4 & 5)

Form A Application for Cremation (now Form 1)

Documentation

Form E Coroner's Certificate for Cremation (now Form 6)

CBO Coroner's Burial Order (Form 101)

Others

Place in Taking a coffin into church over night

Mty Abbreviation for mortuary

PM Abbreviation for post-mortem

TP Abbreviation for temporary preservation (arterial embalming)

'Prep' Abbreviation for preparation (arterial embalming)

S/B Abbreviation for stillbirth

T&T Abbreviation for Times & Telegraph newspapers

Grat Abbreviation for gratuity

Cond Abbreviation for funeral conductor

Memo cards Abbreviation for mourning cards

Scotch cords Ornamental cords used in Scotland to lower a coffin into a grave and held by invited mourners.

OM Abbreviation for Own Minister

January 2021

www.brianparsons.org.uk