

Construction of Monuments Fact Sheet

For full details the Exclusive Rights Holder should discuss specific designs with your Stonemason or Cemetery staff

The Exclusive Right Holder must abide by Canberra Cemeteries rules and policies and by the Code of Practice (Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003) with respect to the use and maintenance of the Burial Place. Additionally there are minimum requirements that need to be met to ensure that burials and burial areas are safe.

Monumental headstone areas are provided at Gungahlin, Woden and Hall Cemeteries. Monuments are to cover the full allotment in headstone areas. Specifications vary for each of these areas.

As required by the Code of Practice (Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003) an Application for a Permit to erect a Memorial, carry out repairs, alterations or additions (Permit Application) must be tendered for approval prior to commencing work on the construction of a monument. Removal of monuments may be required for those constructed without issue of a permit.

Permit Application form must be signed by the Exclusive Right Holder.

A standard monument comprises a foundation, a full kerb and a solid ledger that is made of stone or high density concrete. As a general rule loose coverings such as pebbles or scoria are discouraged as these inevitably become contaminated, are scattered around the monument and may be a safety hazard.

Standard metric monumental allotments are 2500 mm x 1250 mm.

Imperial monumental allotments are 2438 mm x 1219mm (site requirements must be taken into consideration when calculating width)

All monumental work must be in accordance with cemetery requirements (full details may be found in the document Regulations and Specifications for the Construction of Monuments; and/or otherwise specified by the approving officer; and to Australian Standard AS 4204-1994 Headstones and Cemetery Monuments. Together, these documents are to be regarded as the minimum requirements.

Full canopy type monuments are not permitted.

For unambiguous identification purposes the inscription must include the name of the deceased in characters from the Roman alphabet.

Headstones on the side of monuments specifically are not permitted.

Foundations are required to abut adjoining foundations, being separated by expansion joints

Foundations shall not extend above ground level or the concrete path (where provided) by more than 50mm at the highest point of the allotment.

Removal and replacement of ledgers/monuments for burials will be arranged by cemetery staff

Canberra Cemeteries will require removal or modification of monuments that do not meet these specifications.

All materials used should have a minimum predicted life of fifty years.

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