# Town of Stowe, Vermont

# CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

September 2016

The Selectboard of the Town of Stowe hereby ordain that the following Rules and Regulations have been established for the benefit and protection of all who have burial interests in Town Cemeteries. All former rules are hereby repealed.

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**STOWE CEMETERIES**
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**
September 2016

**Vision Statement of the Stowe Cemetery Commission:**

The Town of Stowe Cemetery Commission will provide a well-maintained setting for the interment and commemoration of the dead and for the comfort and inspiration of the bereaved and the general public. The Commission will strive to accommodate the desires of families and individuals within the Town's and Commission's Cemetery rules adopted for the operation of Stowe's Cemeteries. The Cemetery Commission pledges to provide compassionate and efficient service in a manner that respects human dignity.

## SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

**Artificial Color:** The coloring, painting, enameling, lacquering, bronzing or similar application to any part of a memorial.

**Base:** The above ground structure that is erected or placed upon the foundation and upon which the upper part of the monument or the die stone is placed.

**Cemetery:** A burial park for the disposition of human remains of the deceased.

**Cemetery Commission-Stowe:** Seven (7) residents/former residents of Stowe appointed by the Selectboard as authorized by the Town of Stowe Charter. The Commission is responsible for ensuring perpetual care of the Town's Cemeteries and is charged with insuring that the Stowe Cemeteries are administered in a professional manner**.**

**Cemetery Superintendent:** A Town of Stowe Department Head employee responsible for the operation of Stowe Cemeteries.

**Certificate of Burial Rights (formerly "Deed"):** A contract between the Town of Stowe Cemetery Commission and the holder of a Certificate of Burial Rights. The Certificate grants the right to interment in a specified Stowe Cemetery lot(s) and is contingent upon adherence to current Town of Stowe Cemetery Commission rules and regulations. (Note: The term "deed" has been used in the past in reference to Certificates of Burial Rights. A "deed"/Certificate of Burial Rights in no way implies ownership to land in the Stowe Cemeteries. Land in the Stowe Cemeteries is not sold.)

**Cremated Remains:** The remains of a deceased person after incineration in a crematory.

**Deeds-Cemetery:** Refer to Certificate of Burial Rights.

**Flag Holder/Memorial Marker:** A stick-type device used to mark graves.

**Former Resident:** A person who was a legal resident in the Town of Stowe for ten (10) years. The spouses and adult children of former residents may also purchase burial rights, provided they too lived in the town for ten (10) years.

**Foundation:** The underground concrete structure that supports the above ground monument.

**Grave:** A space to accommodate interment.

**Interment:** The act of burying the remains of the deceased in the earth.

**Inurnment:** The burial of the cremated remains of the deceased in an urn.

**Lot:** A numbered division within the Stowe Cemeteries measuring four (4) feet by twelve (12) feet in the main cemetery and three (3) feet by four (4) feet in the Memorial Garden, which may contain up to two (2) cremated remains

**Corner Marker:** Granite or metal objects used by the Cemetery Commission to locate or mark the corners of a lot or group of lots.

**Marker:** A memorial which is flush with the ground.

**Memorial:** A monument, headstone, tablet and/or marker, including its below ground foundation.

**Memorial Garden:** That area of the Stowe Cemeteries reserved for the burial of cremated remains.

**Monument:** That portion of a memorial that extends above the surface of the ground including the base.

**Natural (green) burial:** The burial of non-embalmed human remains, including cremated remains, in a manner that allows the remains to decompose in the earth.

**Perpetual Care:** The maintenance of cemetery lawns, plantings and access roads, fences and buildings.

**Resident:** A person who has been a property taxpayer in the Town of Stowe for five (5) years or has declared the Town of Stowe his/her legal residence on state or federal income tax forms for the last five (5) years.

**Vault-Burial:** A one-piece unit with cover, usually made of concrete, and sized to receive a single casket in a grave. **(An inverted vault used in natural burials is a one-piece unit without a cover and inverted over the body or cremated remains to protect the sides and top of the grave from collapsing and allow the body or cremated remains to contact the earth.

**Vault-Receiving:** That structure within the Stowe Cemeteries which is used for the temporary storage of remains in a casket or urn usually during the winter months or on other occasions when immediate interment is not possible.

**Vault-Urn:** A container made of durable non-biodegradable material with the maximum size of twelve (12) inches by fifteen (15) inches by eleven (11) inches and used for the storage of cremated remains. The urn vault may be used with or without an urn.

## SECTION II: GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Purpose & Authorization of Use

1. The purpose of the public cemeteries shall be a burial place for the remains of the deceased and those that want to pay their respects. Other types of low impact secondary uses such as walking and jogging are permissible provided they do not interfere with the primary use. Any uses other than those stated must receive advance written permission of the Stowe Cemetery Commission.

2**.** General Conduct: The public visiting the Stowe Cemeteries shall be mindful of proper decorum. The following must be observed:

a. Refrain from loud, boisterous or obscene talking or language. Interruptive conversations or noise is not permitted within hearing distance of funeral services or interments.

b. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in Stowe Cemeteries.

c. Peddling or soliciting of any commodities or services is not allowed within the Stowe Cemeteries.

d. The placement of signs, notices or advertisements of any kind within the Stowe Cemeteries is not permitted without the expressed written permission of the Stowe Cemetery Commission

e. Visitors to the Stowe Cemeteries are prohibited from gathering, picking, cutting or injuring in any manner the fauna or flora. The defacing, damaging or destroying of any plants, lawn, fence, structures, trees, bushes or memorials in the Stowe Cemeteries is prohibited.

f. Discharging firearms or facsimiles of such or weapons of any kind within the Stowe Cemeteries, except by a military escort accompanying a veteran's funeral or attending a memorial service is prohibited.

**g.** Caskets or urns outside of a receiving vault shall not be left unattended in any Stowe Cemetery.

2. **Vehicles:**

a. Vehicles delivering vaults or other items will park out of sight or in an inconspicuous location during funerals.

b. No vehicle will be operated at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour within the Stowe Cemeteries.

c. No vehicle or animal will be driven or parked across or upon any grave, lot, or lawn except by permission of the Commission. Vault and monument dollies are excepted.

d. Snowmobiles, ATVs or similar vehicles are prohibited within Stowe Cemeteries.

3. Dogs are not allowed in Stowe Cemeteries with the exception of service animals assisting disabled persons.

4. Littering of any type in Stowe Cemeteries or the dumping of litter over the cemeteries' boundaries is prohibited.

5. The Stowe Cemetery Commission with the approval of the Selectboard sets the hours of operations and fees for the Stowe Cemeteries. The hours of operations and fees are available from the Stowe Town Clerk's Office.

6. The Stowe Cemetery Commission, the Town of Stowe or its employees will not be responsible for any order or arrangement made over the telephone nor will they be responsible for any mistakes occurring from the want of precise and proper instructions as to the particular space, size or location of any grave, lot or memorial.

7. These Stowe Cemetery Commission Rules and Regulations and any amendments thereto, shall be the sole agreement between the Commission/Town of Stowe and the holder of a Certificate of Burial Rights. The statement of any employee or agent, unless confirmed in writing by the Commission, shall in no way bind the Commission or the Town of Stowe.

8. The Stowe Cemetery Commission may, at its discretion, allow minor exceptions to the strict interpretations of any of these rules. Such exceptions shall not create binding precedents nor shall they affect the general application of any rule.

9. Donations and contributions may be made to the Stowe Cemetery Trust Fund or the Remembrance Program. The Commission cannot accept individual trust accounts. The Stowe Cemetery Commissioner may, with the approval of the Selectboard, expend the income from the Stowe Cemetery Trust Fund for the beautification, preservation, maintenance and improvement of the Stowe Cemeteries. Donations may be dedicated to a Commission approved project.

## SECTION III: BURIAL RIGHTS

1. Burial rights refer to the right to interment in a particular or specified lot within the Stowe Cemeteries.

2. The purchase of Burial Rights in Stowe Cemeteries is limited to Stowe residents, former residents (see definitions), their spouses and civil union partners.

3. In the case of immediate need if a person meets the condition of the definition of "resident" as defined on page three (3), except for the time requirement, then that requirement is waived.

4. Burial Rights will not be issued for the purpose of spaciousness.

5. A resident or former resident (see definitions) may purchase up to two (2) burial lots, or in the case of a legally joined couple, four (4) in total.

6. Burial Rights conveyed by the Town of Stowe Cemetery Commission shall be the sole and separate rights of the person or persons named in the Certificate of Burial Rights. Burial Rights may be conveyed or assigned only to the owner's spouse and/or the biological or adopted descendants of their union.

6 The husband, wife or civil union partner shall have a vested right of interment of his or her body in any burial lot conveyed to the other. This right shall continue as long as he or she shall remain husband, wife or civil union partner of the owner of the burial rights or shall be his or her husband, wife or civil union partner at the time of the death of the owner of the Burial Rights.

7. On the decease of the owner of Burial Rights to a lot when the Burial Rights are not specifically mentioned in his/her will, an affidavit must be filed at the office of the Town Clerk, signed by one of the heirs at law or in the case of a minor, by their guardian. This affidavit must include a list of the names of all the known heirs and a majority of the known heirs must also designate one of their number as a representative who shall be authorized to sign orders for interments in the lot and to give all needful directions regarding the lot and Burial Rights.

8. The reversion (escheat) of a Certificate of Burial Rights to the Town of Stowe shall be done in the manner provided in Vermont Statute, Title 18, Sections 5532 to 5537.

9. The owner of a Certificate of Burial Rights may designate space within his/her cemetery lot for interment of persons not mentioned in rule three (3) above.

## SECTION IV: PROCEDURES AND FORMS

1. Full payment to the Town of Stowe Cemetery Trust is required before any contract is executed between a party and the Commission.

2. The Town of Stowe will issue, at the set fee, a Certificate of Burial Rights to those persons who qualify under Section III of these Rules and Regulations.

3. Burial lots will be assigned in numerical sequence. They will not be assigned out of sequence unless, in the opinion of the Stowe Cemetery Commission, it would be in the best interest of the Stowe Cemeteries to do so.

4. Certificates of Burial Rights ("Deed") that will not be used may be sold or donated back to the Town of Stowe. In a sale back to the Town, where the original purchase price is not known, the Commission shall set a fair price. Privately held Town of Stowe Cemetery Certificates of Burial Rights may only be sold back to the Town of Stowe. They may not be transferred or sold in any other manner.

5. A completed *Interment Form* (available from the Stowe Town Clerk's Office) must be filed with the Town Clerk before any grave can be opened.

6. No cremated remains will be accepted for burial in Stowe Cemeteries unless the *Cremation Certificate* is filed with the Stowe Town Clerk.

7. All work to be performed in Stowe Cemeteries, including the inscription or placement of memorials, requires an approved *Work Order Permit* from the Stowe Cemetery Commission.

Work Order Permit forms are available from the Stowe Town Clerk's Office or website www.townofstowevt.org.

8. Prior to placement of any remains, caskets or urns in a receiving vault of the Stowe Cemeteries, a *Receiving Vault Form* must be filed with the Stowe Town Clerk's Office. These forms are available from the Town Clerk's Office or website www.townofstowevt.org

9. Overtime Charges**:** Interments, disinterment or removals on holidays or weekends as well as late arrivals or funerals of unusually long duration may necessitate additional charges.

10. Holders of Town of Stowe Certificates of Burial Rights are responsible for notifying in writing the Stowe Town Clerk of any change in the legal mailing address. Notices sent to the Certificate holder at the last address on file in the Town Clerk's Office will be considered sufficient and proper legal notification.

## SECTION V: CEMETERY LOTS

1. The Town of Stowe Cemetery Commission will provide perpetual care as defined on page three (3).

2. The perpetual care assumed by the Stowe Cemetery Commission shall in no case involve the maintenance, repair, replacement of any memorial, foundation, corner marker or monument placed or erected upon any lot. By the purchase of a Certificate of Burial Right, the owner agrees that all monuments, gravestones, markers, plaques and memorial structures of any kind shall be set and maintained at the owner's expense and risk in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth in Sections VIII, IX, and X of this document.

The Town of Stowe, its employees, the Stowe Cemetery Commission collectively and individually, shall be held harmless from any liability due to damage, destruction or injury caused by the elements, an act of God, pollution, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, outside workers, invasions, insurrections, riots, or by the order of the military or civil authority, whether the damage be direct or collateral.

3. In-ground flowers may be planted on one side only within one foot of the headstone at a width not to exceed the width of the base. No other plantings are allowed on any cemetery lot unless placed there by or at the direction of the Commission. Town of Stowe employees, under the direction of the Cemetery Commission or the Cemetery Superintendent, shall have the authority, with no liability, to remove all floral decorations, flags, shrubs, plants or herbage of any kind and their receptacles which in the judgment of the Commission or the Superintendent have become unsightly, dangerous, diseased, detrimental or which do not conform to the regulations outlined herein.

a. Cut flowers, funeral arrangements and/or memorabilia may be placed on graves but will be removed within one week or when they become unsightly, whichever comes first.
b. It is recommended that all cut flowers be placed in invertible, in-ground vases.

The Commission, its Commissioners and the Town of Stowe and its employees shall not be liable for any floral arrangements, plants or receptacles that are lost, misplaced, stolen or broken.

4. No scraped ground and/or mounded graves are permitted in the Stowe Cemeteries.

5. Artificial flowers or simulation of flowers, floral displays, wreaths or similar devices may be displayed only between November 1 and June 1.

6. The Commission reserves to itself and to those lawfully entitled, a perpetual right of ingress and egress over graves and lots for the purpose of passage to and from other graves and lots.

7. All grading, landscaping, and improvements of any kind within the Town of Stowe Cemeteries shall be made by its Cemetery Superintendent with the knowledge of the Cemetery Commission. Work by private contractors shall be done under special written permit only. Alterations made on lots within Stowe Cemeteries without special written permits from the Commission may be removed or changed at the expense of the holder of the Certificate of Burial Rights responsible for initiating the changes.

8. No easement or right of interment is or will be granted to any Certificate of Burial Rights holder in any road, drive, alley or walkway within the Stowe Cemeteries.

9. The scattering of cremated remains is prohibited in Stowe Cemeteries.

10. Small American flags in proper holders may be displayed at gravesites in the Stowe Cemeteries from May 1 to Veterans Day

## SECTION VI: RECEIVING VAULT USE

1. The Receiving Vault is for temporary use only. All caskets and urns must be interred by May 31. Under no circumstances will a body or remains be considered as interred or buried by reason of being placed therein.

2. All caskets and urns placed in the receiving vault shall be tagged with the name of the deceased, name and address of the legal representative and the name, address and phone number of the attending funeral director. In addition, a *Stowe Cemeteries Receiving Vault Form* shall be filled out and filed with the Stowe Town Clerk's Office.

3. Full payment of all Stowe Cemetery fees and purchase of cemetery lots is required at the time the caskets or urns are placed in the receiving vault.

4. The Stowe Cemetery Commission, at its sole discretion and without notice, may remove a casket with its body from the receiving vault and bury it in a single grave if suitable arrangements for the final disposition are not made within a reasonable time or if the body is not in a good state of preservation.

## SECTION VII: INTERMENT, DISINTERMENT AND REMOVAL

1. Interment, disinterment and removals are subject to the rules and regulations of the Town of Stowe, its Cemetery Commission, Lamoille County and the State of Vermont.

2. Once a casket containing a body is within the confines of the Stowe Cemeteries, a funeral director, his employees or agents shall not be permitted to open the casket or to touch the

body without the consent of the legal representatives of the deceased or duly executed court order.

3. Town of Stowe employees or their designees will perform all grave openings and closings in the Stowe Cemeteries and will do so under the conditions and fee structures established by the Town of Stowe and its Cemetery Commission.

4. *Interment Orders* are required twenty four (24) hours in advance, in the absence of any religious strictures, and *disinterment/removal orders* are required five (5) business days in advance.

5. Every interment of a casket shall require a one-piece burial vault with cover both made of concrete or a material approved by the Commission, except when that requirement restricts a person in the practice of his/her religious beliefs. Inverted vaults are required for natural burial of bodies and/or cremated remains in the main cemetery.

6. If inadequate instructions or circumstances will delay the opening of an interment space within a lot, the Commission shall use its best judgment in locating a suitable opening. Neither the Commission nor its employees shall be held liable for damages for any errors

7. The Commission shall correct any errors with interment, disinterment, removals, transfers or conveyances of burial rights or inscriptions and shall do so using its sole discretion.

8. Neither the Commission nor the Town of Stowe shall be liable for misinformation provided to them in interment orders or for funeral delays resulting from disputes over burial rights.

9. Up to one (1) casket and four (4) cremated remains, or a total of five (5) cremated remains with no casket, may be buried in one (1) four (4) foot by twelve (12) foot lot, as per the annual fee schedule. Unless interment is in the Memorial Garden, cremated remains require an urn vault.

10. One (1) natural burial of a body is allowed per four (4) foot by twelve (12) foot lot and must be at least four feet deep.

11. Three (3) natural burials of cremated remains are allowed per four (4) foot by twelve (12) foot lot and must be at least four (4) feet deep.

12. Burial containers and shrouds for natural burial are limited to those made from material that are non-toxic/non-hazardous and natural /plant-derived, such as untreated softwoods, cardboard, sea grass, bamboo, wicker, hemp, papier Mache, wool, cotton and silk.

13. Shrouded bodies and containers for natural burials will be managed by their families, funeral directors and/or their personnel and will not be handled by cemetery personnel. Shrouded bodies must be wrapped head to toe and unless the shroud contains a support, the body will be supported on a solid board a minimum of one (1) inch in thickness and ten (10) inches wide and a least as long as the body. Plywood and particle board are not permitted.

## SECTION VIII: FOUNDATIONS

1. Commission approved foundations are required for all above-ground monuments. Foundations must be in place and cured before their monuments will be permitted on the Cemetery grounds.

2. The Commission reserves the right to excavate, build or approve all foundations and to set all markers and posts. A *Stowe Cemetery Commission Work Order / Permit* and a *Foundation Work Order* must be approved by the Stowe Cemetery Commission before any work begins. All foundation work shall be scheduled at the direction of the Superintendent of Cemeteries.

3. See Foundation and Memorial specification on page twelve (12).

## SECTION IX: MEMORIALS, MONUMENTS AND MARKERS

1. All memorials, monuments, markers or plaques and their foundations will be set and maintained in a safe condition at the owner's or the certificate of Burial Rights holder's expense. The Commission, in its sole judgment, may correct or remove unsightly or dangerous items at the expense of the owner or heirs of the Certificate of Burial Rights.

2. A *Stowe Cemetery Commission Work Order/Permit* must be approved by the Stowe Cemetery Commission and by the Stowe Cemetery Commission and scheduled with the Cemetery Superintendent before setting any items mentioned in this section.

3. Not more than one (1) above-ground memorial is permitted on any lot and must be located six (6) inches from the top border. Flush markers will be located six (6) inches from the bottom of the lot and/or, if used as a headstone, will be located six (6) inches from the top of the lot. Flush markers will be located above the urn vault for cremated remains.

4. All memorials will be constructed of granite, marble, fieldstone or bronze. Memorials set in designated Stowe Historic Cemeteries must be in keeping with those of the period.

5. Non-flush footstones are allowed only in the case of matching stones that were set on the lot prior to July 10, 1995.

6. Purchase of Commission-approved Corner Markers are required for all lots or group of lots. They will be sold and set in place at the direction of the Superintendent of Cemeteries prior to the placement of any memorials on the lot.

7. Above-ground mausoleums, columbariums and tombs may be constructed in Stowe Cemeteries only under the direction of the Commission.

8. The Stowe Cemetery Commission has specification requirements for memorials and markers; their foundations, dies, bases, joints, lettering, coloring, and setting. These specifications are delineated as part of the *Work Order/Permit* and Stowe Cemeteries Memorial and Foundations specification requirements. They are hereby made a part of the Stowe Cemetery Commission Rules and Regulations and are attached to this document.

9. Monuments, markers and their foundations may be removed from Stowe Cemeteries only by direction from the Cemetery Commission and only after the receipt by the Town Clerk of a

written order from the Certificate of Burial Right holder or someone designated by State Statutes. After removal, the lot shall be restored to its original condition at the expense of the party requesting removal and shall be done so under the direction of the Superintendent of Cemeteries.

## SECTION X: MEMORIAL GARDEN

1. Each cremation lot may hold up to two (2) cremated remains.

2. One flush marker, no larger than twelve (12) inches by twenty four (24) inches and four (4) inches in thickness, will be placed in the designated area of each lot. The cremated remains will be inurned/buried in front of the marker.

3. Neither an urn nor a vault is required for the burial of cremated remains in the Stowe Memorial Garden. However, when neither is used retrieval of the cremated remains may not be possible.

4. An *Interment Order* must be submitted to the Stowe Town Clerk's Office prior to an interment being permitted. In addition, a *Cremation Certificate* must be presented to the Superintendent of Cemeteries or his/her representative at the time of interment.

5. Up to three (3) floral arrangements may be left at a cremation lot at the time of burial. These will be removed when they become unsightly or after one (1) week. Non-floral decorations or artificial flowers are not permitted in the Memorial Garden.

6. Due to space constraints, plantings of any type are not permitted in Memorial Garden lots. Fresh cut flowers are permitted in invertible, in-ground vases.

7. An American flag, in a proper holder, may mark cremation lots in the Memorial Garden from May 1 to Veterans Day.

## SECTION XI: WORK AND LABOR IN STOWE CEMETERIES

1. All work done in the Stowe Cemeteries shall be scheduled through the Stowe Cemetery Superintendent. No work will be scheduled on weekends or holidays except by special permission of the Cemetery Superintendent.

2. Any jobs conducted in the Stowe Cemeteries by non-Stowe employees must have the approval of the Cemetery Commission as evidenced by a signed Work Order/Permit. Such signed Work Order/Permit shall be presented to the Stowe Cemetery Superintendent for scheduling and a copy shall be kept with the workers while performing the job. Evidence of job competency may be required of such workers before the Cemetery Commission issues Work Order/Permits.

3. Non-Stowe employees performing work in the Stowe Cemeteries for a firm or as independent contractors to the Town of Stowe Cemetery Commission or to a private holder of a Stowe Certificate of Burial Rights shall have certificates of insurance on file with the Town of Stowe. Such non-Stowe employees shall be held financially responsible for any damage done in the course of their work.

4. Non-Stowe employees working in the Stowe Cemeteries shall refrain from attaching

ropes or cables to set monuments, trees or shrubs. They shall not block road or pathways; scatter materials over adjoining lots. They shall promptly and properly dispose of any debris resulting from their work.

5. Vehicles and heavy equipment shall not be driven over the lawns of the Stowe Cemeteries except as may be directed by the Cemetery Superintendent.

6. Materials, machinery and other construction items needed to accomplish work in the cemeteries will not be brought into the Stowe Cemeteries until required for immediate use.

7. Precautions shall be taken during excavation or construction work within the cemeteries to protect the lawns. All open excavations shall be marked and covered with plywood when left unattended.

8. The Stowe Cemetery Commission may order completed work removed if the quality of workmanship or the materials used is unsatisfactory.

## SECTION XII: APPEALS

1. Decisions of the Cemetery Commission may be appealed to the Stowe Selectboard within thirty (30) days of the date of the Commission ruling. The Stowe Selectboard shall hold a warned hearing at a regular or special meeting to hear the appeal and shall issue a written decision on the appeal within thirty (30) days of closing the hearing. A copy of the Selectboard's written decision shall at the same time be delivered to the Chairperson of the Cemetery Commission.

***Adopted by the Stowe Selectboard this 11th day of October, 2016***

*Work Order/Permit Addendum*

# STOWE CEMETERIES
# MEMORIAL & FOUNDATION SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

(The following memorial and foundation specifications have been adopted by the Stowe Cemetery Commission and the Stowe Selectboard and are a part of the Stowe Cemetery Rules and Regulations-Section IX, paragraph 8.)

1. All aboveground memorials except fieldstone must be set on a base.

2. All above ground memorials will comply with the following:
   a. The base must be at least 6" above grade.
   b. Total face area of the base and die may be no more than 20% of the area of the lot or group of lots.
   c. The overall width of the base shall not exceed 60% of lot or group of lots width.
   d. The base may not encroach on areas above the vault.

3. Flush markers may be used as headstones when no other upright memorial is on the lot and must be a minimum of 10" by 20" wide by 4" in thickness.
   a. Flush markers up to 15" by 30" wide will be a least 4" in thickness. Those larger than 15" by 30" will be at least 6" in thickness.
   b. Flush markers used to mark cremated remains not located in the Cremation Garden will be no larger than 10" by 15" wide by 4" in thickness and will be placed above the urn vault.
   c. When bronze is used in a flush marker, it will be affixed to a granite bed 4" to 6" thick as per the above sizes.

4. Slant markers less than 20" by 18" may not require a foundation but must be set in a bed of crushed stone under the supervision of the Superintendent of Cemeteries. It must be a depth of no less than 2' and at least 1" wider on each side of the marker.

5 The thickness of the die unit may have a tolerance of 3" over or 3" under the specified dimensions. Other dimensions of memorials may have a tolerance of 1" over or 2" under the specified dimensions.

6. The bottom of every stone, (i.e., monument, base or marker) will be dressed to an even level bottom bed so that it will stand plumb and rest firmly and level. To achieve this standard, field stone flush markers may be set in a crushed stone bed.

7. All joints on memorials will be sealed against moisture and with non-staining material on clean dry surfaces.

8. The use of bronze is approved for dowels and also for tablets when attached to monuments or markers of granite provided the bronze has been cast from an alloy containing no less than 85% copper or more than 5% lead. Other non-corrosive metals of proven permanency may be used with the approval of the Commission.

9. No lettering and carving on flush markers, except bronze plaques, shall be raised.

10. Artificial coloring on any part of the stone is prohibited except that all incised lettering on memorials may be highlighted by an application of a clear coating or a shadowing agent. The

agent shall be up to two (2) full numerical values darker than the average background color of the stone to which it is applied as judged against the Munsell Neutral Value Scale, Matte (31 step scale). Clear coating and shadowing agents must be resistant to water and ultra-violet rays and must be able to withstand hot water washing of up to 800 psi.

11. Signs or advertisements of any kind or anything that could be construed as signs or advertisements are not permitted on any memorial, monument or marker in the Stowe Cemeteries. The words "perpetual care," or "endowed,' on memorials, monuments or markers are not permitted.

12. The name, initial or inscription on each monument or marker must correspond with the name and record in the Office of the Town Clerk and the Commission and no changes shall be made except upon written request of the proper parties and with the permission of the Commission.

13. The setting of all monuments will be scheduled with the Superintendent of Cemeteries.

14. A memorial shall not be set on any lot to which a Certificate of Burial Rights (Deed) has yet to be assigned or on any lot which does not have corner markers set by direction of the Commission.

15. The Commission has the authority to reject any plan or design for any memorial.

16. No monument or marker will be removed from Stowe Cemeteries except by order of the Commission and with a written order from the Certificate of Burial Rights (Deed) holder or someone designated by State Statutes. Following the removal of a monument or marker, the lot will be returned to its original condition at the expense of the party requesting the removal and shall be so done under the direction of the Superintendent of Cemeteries.

## FOUNDATIONS

1. Commission approved foundations are required under all above ground monuments as per contract. Foundations must be in place and properly cured before the monuments they are to support are allowed on to the Cemetery grounds.

2. The Town of Stowe reserves the right to designate how and when excavation and foundation work will be accomplished and who will accomplish it.

3. The top surface dimensions of any foundation will be no less than the dimensions of the base or stone to be set upon it.

4. The top surface of the foundation will be level with the ground.

5. Foundations will be constructed with the use of frames at the top of the foundation. Frames will be at least 2" in depth from ground level down.

6. Foundations will be a minimum of 4' deep.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGE MONUMENTS

These requirements shall be applicable for monuments greater that 6’ in width or 6’ in height:

1. A site visit by the Cemetery Commission will be required to determine if a proposed monument is appropriate for the location.

2. Prior to the design of the monument foundation, a soils evaluation will be conducted to determine the bearing capacity of the soils.

3. All monuments meeting the above size criteria shall be installed on reinforced concrete foundations.

4. Plans for steel reinforced concrete foundations shall be prepared and sealed by a qualified professional engineer.

5. The foundation shall not encroach on the space reserved for burials.

6. Contractors shall take all necessary precautions to protect existing roadways, lawn areas and gravesites from damage. All disturbed areas shall be repaired as necessary to restore them to their previous condition.

7. The Superintendent of Cemeteries shall observe all construction.

8. The costs for the services of the Town of Stowe employees will be borne by the applicant in accordance with the most current fee schedules.

9. Contractors will be responsible for the safety of their employees and shall comply with all applicable safety regulations including VOSHA.

***Adopted by the Stowe Selectboard this 11th day of October, 2016***