

LOWER BRANDYWINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CEMETERY

101 Old Kennett Road ~ Wilmington, DE 19807

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www.lowerbrandywine.org

Cemetery Regulations and General Information 04.29.15

“SALE” of plot/s conveys only the right of interment and not the ownership of land; thus resale or transfer by a plot holder is not permitted.

No interment may be made until proof of ownership of the plot has been furnished. The location of individual graves in a plot must be established in consultation with the cemetery manager before excavating begins. The Cemetery reserves the right to require prepayment of services furnished to open and close graves.

Interments other than those from cremations must be made in a concrete vault or its equivalent in strength and durability. Cremated remains must be made in an urn or other appropriate container of equivalent strength and durability.

Double depth interments to accommodate two burials in the same grave space may be made provided that the first burial is made at double depth, double depth burials can only be made in plots of two graves or larger, double depth burials are not permitted in single grave plots.

The construction of all monuments, markers, foundations, and structures both above and below ground, must first be approved by the cemetery manager. The construction and maintenance of all monuments and foundations are to be at the plot holder's expense in accordance with cemetery regulations. Mausoleums are not permitted. Not all areas of the cemetery have the same size requirements for markers, you must check with the cemetery office to check for the requirements for the area in which your plot is located. The foundations for above ground monuments must be flush with ground level foundations for flush ground markers must be left below ground level so the marker sits flush with ground level. All foundations must be 24” in depth and match the base size of the monument or marker.

Above ground monuments in multi-grave plots are limited to one upright monument for the plot and one additional flat marker (flush with ground level) for each grave in the plot. In single-grave plots all markers must be flush with ground level. All corner markers must be flush with ground level and eight inches minimum depth.

Planting of perennials at the ends of monuments or anywhere on plots by plot holders or their families is no longer permitted. A mulched flower bed for annuals only extending no more than sixteen inches in front of the monument is permitted. Existing perennials and flowerbeds are not covered under perpetual care and must be maintained by the plot holder or their families to cemetery specifications. You may request a copy of all the specifications by contacting the cemetery office.

The cooperation of plot holders and their families is requested in the prompt removal of potted plants, cut flowers, and holiday decorations when they have become unsightly. The use of artificial flowers is discouraged.

The schedule of plot prices and burial fees rendered by the cemetery are revised from time to time. A portion of the sale price of all plots is placed in a trust for the purpose of care and upkeep of the cemetery. The care of monuments and plantings on individual plots is the responsibility of the plot holder or their families.

The general intent of these regulations is to maintain the cemetery in the best possible condition. The Cemetery, therefore, reserves the right not only to prohibit any planting or construction, but also to remove or correct any condition, which is at variance with this intent.

The Cemetery is not responsible for any items placed on Cemetery property.

Holidays Observed by the Cemetery (Closed for Interment Purposes)

New Year's Day	Martin Luther King Birthday	Presidents' Day	Good Friday	Easter Monday
Memorial Day	Fourth of July	Labor Day	Columbus Day	
Thanksgiving Holidays (Thursday and Friday)				
Christmas Holidays (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)				

The Cemetery does not offer burials on Sunday.

Lower Brandywine Cemetery Planting Standards

Plantings: Tree planting, by lot holders, is no longer permitted on any cemetery plots. You may donate a tree to plant around the perimeter of the cemetery if you wish.

Perennial planting, by lot holders, is no longer permitted on any cemetery plots. Existing perennials, on individual plots, must not exceed forty inches in height, and may not encroach on adjacent plots.

Annuals may be planted in mulched beds in front of monuments. The beds may not extend more than sixteen inches from the marker.

The plot holder or their families must maintain all plantings on individual plots. The Cemetery is not responsible for any plantings that are cut or damaged by landscapers or animals.

Decorating Regulations

No artificial flowers are permitted between March 15th and November 1st.

Glass containers of any kind are not permitted.

Holidays

Wreaths, baskets, crosses, etc. may be placed prior to a holiday and will be removed approximately 10 days after the holiday.

Artificial flowers, wreaths, mounds, baskets, and other decorations are permitted between November 1st and March 15th.

Cut flowers and potted live plants are permitted any time.

All decorations will be removed when they become unsightly.

The general intent of these and any other regulations is to maintain the cemetery in the best possible condition. The Cemetery reserves the right not only to prohibit the placement of any item but also the right to remove items that are damaged, unsightly, or at variance with Cemetery regulations.

THE CEMETERY IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ITEMS PLACED ON CEMETERY PROPERTY

Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church Cemetery Buy-Back Policy

02/2015

At times, cemetery lot holders may wish to sell their burial rights back to the church. **We highly encourage such individuals to consider donating lots back to the cemetery.**

Generally, it is in the cemetery's interest to facilitate the repurchasing of burial rights to maintain control and integrity of the process. The cemetery can resell the burial rights. By contract, lot holders are not permitted to sell their burial rights to third parties.

In the past, the cemetery has repurchased burial rights for lots at 30% of their original sale price. The rationale was that the cemetery put 70% of lot sales into **The Perpetual Care Trust Fund**, and thus the funds were not available any longer for lot buy-back. This policy also tended to discourage owners from selling back their burial rights.

There are potential liabilities associated with lot buy-back. If the cemetery repurchases an unencumbered lot from an original owner, there is very little risk. If someone other than the original owner wishes to sell back a plot, the potential risks increase dramatically. If the lots are encumbered with burials and or monuments, or bushes the potential risks also increase dramatically. Therefore, **the cemetery solely reserves the right to engage the services of an attorney to process a lien search, fees to be deducted from the buy-back price, in any case where such complicated encumbrance is suspected.**

Buy-Back policy:

The cemetery committee is authorized to buy back burial rights from ORIGINAL lot holders. The terms and conditions of the buy-back are determined by the cemetery manager according to the following general guidelines.

1. Full Buy-Back (original lot holder wishes to sell back the burial rights for the entire plot, no burials have been made in the plot, and no monuments or plantings are on the plot)

The cemetery committee may repurchase burial rights for lots for up to 50% of the current selling price, but not more than the original sales price.

2. Partial Buy-Back — unoccupied plot (original lot holder wishes to sell back the burial rights for a portion of a plot, no burials have been made in the plot, and no monuments or plantings are on the plot)

The cemetery committee may repurchase burial rights for lots for 50% of the current selling price, but not to exceed the original sales price. The buy-back amount shall be prorated based on the percentage of the lot being sold back. Monument construction and/or re-location must be considered and discussed, with arrangements, agreements, and related fees settled, prior to such sale/buy-back can be finalized.

3. Partial Buy-Back-occupied plot (original lot holder wishes to sell back the burial rights for a portion of a plot, some burials have been made in the plot)

The cemetery committee shall make an offer, to the lot holder, based on the lot assessment. Monument construction and/or re-location must be considered and discussed, with arrangements, agreements, and related fees settled, prior to such sale/buy-back can be finalized.

In all cases, the cemetery manager shall make a written assessment of the situation in a manner that can be presented to the committee for involvement with any approval of sale. The cemetery manager's assessment shall include sales potential of the lot(s) being returned, the general condition of the existing arrangements, and expenses, if any, of relocating monuments, removing plantings, and other modifications, permanent or temporary.

In all cases where, in the cemetery manager's assessment, there is any question about ownership of the lot, the Cemetery Manager shall bring the matter to the Cemetery Committee for resolution. It is the person, who wishes to sell the burial rights, responsibility to provide documentation to substantiate his or her ownership and or authority to sell the rights. Whether the documentation is sufficient is solely up to the discretion of the Cemetery Committee. The following are offered as guidelines for sufficiency.

1. Original bill of sale signed and notarized by the original lot holder.
2. Documents confirming the transfer of the burial rights to a third party; Will, Letter of Transfer, other.

It is general cemetery policy to not buy back burial rights from anyone other than the original owner. The Cemetery Committee may make exceptions to this rule, if and only, in cases where the potential liability to the cemetery, cemetery personnel, and Cemetery Committee members is understood to be sufficiently limited.

Monument and Marker Size Limits

Lots that are Three Graves wide and Larger: Maximum base size, 78" long by 16" wide by 10" high. Maximum die size is 60" wide by 10" thick. Maximum height above ground 42".

Lots that are Two Graves wide: Maximum base size, 60" long by 14" wide by 8" high. Maximum die size is 46" wide by 8" thick. Maximum height above ground 36". Most popular base size, 44" long by 14" wide by 8" high. Most popular die size is 36" wide by 8" thick.

Single Grave Lots: 12" high x 24" wide Flush markers only.

Cremation Lots: 12" high x 24" wide Flush markers only.

Foundations: For monuments, foundations must be the same length and width as the monument base. For flush markers, foundations must be the same size as the marker. All foundations must be 24" deep poured concrete.

Section H: Lots 129 – 145: 12" high x 24" wide Flush markers only.

Section O: Due to the layout of the other plots in Section O, the following rules and regulations will apply for plantings, monuments, and markers.

Shrubs, trees, or bushes of any kind are not permitted on these plots.

Bench style markers are not permitted on these plots.

Monument sizes and placements on plots are as follows: The monument will sit back to back to the monument on the adjoining lot. This will ensure monuments will be in line on the left and right sides in that area of the cemetery.

Maximum sizes and cuts for your monument are as follows:

Base: Maximum Width – 12 inches with a flat saw cut on backside of base

Maximum Length – 60 inches

Maximum Height – 8 inches

Die: Width **must be** – 8 inches (front to back)

Maximum Length – 48 inches (left to right)

Maximum Height – 30 inches (bottom to top)

Overall height of monument may not exceed 38 inches from the ground to the top of monument.

Plot Holders who want a flush marker instead of an upright monument:

Maximum Length – 60 inches (right to left)

Maximum Width – 12 inches (front to back) with a sawed cut on backside.

Thickness **must be** – 6 inches

Two grave plots in the same area, which are laid out head to head, may have a flush ground marker, centered over both graves.

Maximum size of marker can be no bigger than 36 inches long (left to right); 24 inches wide (top to bottom).

All plots may have a flush marker at the foot of each grave space, after a burial is made in that grave space.

Maximum size of marker can be no bigger than 24 inches long (left to right); 12 inches wide (top to bottom).

No corner markers are allowed on these plots.

Just as in the rest of the cemetery, monuments and markers must have a solid foundation. Foundations for surface monuments must be flush with ground level. Foundations for flush ground markers should be left down to accommodate the thickness of the marker, so the marker sits flush with ground level. Foundation must be the same size as monument or marker and extend down below the frost line, at least 24 inches deep.

Schedule of Prices - April 2017

101 Old Kennett Rd., Wilmington DE

LOWER BRANDYWINE CEMETERY 19807

04.20.2017

Grave Plot Prices*

Full Burial Plots

	Flat Marker	Monument
Single Grave Plot (4' x 8')	\$1,825	
Double Grave Plot (8' x 10')		\$4,725
4 Grave Plot (16' x 10')		\$9,450
Multiple Plots of 6 Graves or larger		2350/Grave

Cremation Plots

Double Plot (2 burials)		\$1,050
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Interment Prices*

Interment Time ----->	<u>Regular Hours</u> M-F (9AM-3PM),	<u>Overtime</u> M-F (3PM-5PM), Sat (9 AM - Noon)	<u>Sunday & Holidays</u>
<u>Full Burials</u>			-
Excavation & Closing (Single Depth)	\$1,575	\$2,000	Closed
Excavation & Closing (Double Depth)**	\$2,000	\$2,500	Closed
Infant Burials (up to 36" casket)	\$725	\$725	Closed
<u>Cremations</u>			
Excavation & Closing for Cremation (without vault)	\$650	\$900	Closed
Excavation & Closing for Cremation (with vault)	\$850	\$1,025	Closed

Additional charges apply for:

- Jackhammer used to open the grave (only when ground is frozen) \$125
- Use of an vault supplier other than our designated one (currently Cooper Wilbert Vault Company) \$225
- Burial site snow removal (price based on area to be cleared and snow depth) Ask for Quote
- Monument, flat marker or foundation movement to accommodate a burial Ask for Quote

Administrative Fee	(no funeral home)	\$300
Geneology Fee		\$50/hr.

* All prices are subject to change without notice

Regular Cemetery Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12: 00 PM

All funerals must be scheduled to occur between 9:00 AM and 3:00 pm on weekdays, or overtime charges will apply.

The cemetery requires 3 full working days notice for all grave openings. Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays are not considered working days. Example - for a Monday burial, the cemetery needs to be notified no later than 3:00 PM on the preceeding Wednesday. **Double-depth interments are permitted in 2 grave or larger plots provided that the initial burial is made at double depth. The charge for a double depth interment is indicated in the above Schedule of Prices. **Double depth burials are not permitted in single grave plots.** Your compliance with these rules is appreciated. For further information, please contact the Cemetery Manager, Linda Natali at (302) 658-0454 (office) (302) 563-1535 (Cell) or email linda.natali@comcast.net

New Year's Day
Martin Luther King Birthday
Presidents' Day
Good Friday
Easter Monday
Memorial Day
Fourth of July
Labor Day
Columbus Day
Thanksgiving Holidays (Thursday and Friday)
Christmas Holidays (Christmas eve and Christmas)