



# Rules and Regulations of the Quaker Hill Burial Ground Association, Inc.

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Revised November 6, 2023

# QUAKER HILL BURIAL GROUND ASSOCIATION, INC.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Quaker Hill Burial Ground Association, Inc. (the "Cemetery") is a not-for-profit corporation responsible for the care and maintenance of five (5) cemeteries, all in the Town of Pawling, New York. They are:

The Quaker Hill Cemetery, 29 Church Road  
The Quaker Cemetery, 701 Old Quaker Hill Road  
The Akin-Toffey Cemetery, off Kirby Hill Road  
The Akin-Leach Cemetery, on Quaker Hill Road  
The Taber Cemetery, off North Quaker Hill Road

Of the above, only the Quaker Hill and the Quaker Cemeteries are active for burials, but plot sales in the Quaker Cemetery are limited to family members of those in the cemetery. New plots in the Quaker Hill Cemetery are available for purchase.

Except for the Taber Cemetery, access to any of the cemeteries is permitted during daylight hours. Access to the Taber Cemetery requires permission from the surrounding landowner.

### SALE OF PLOTS

All plots in the Quaker Hill and Quaker Cemeteries are sold in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of New York and shall not be used for any other purpose than as a burial place for dead human beings.

A letter of agreement will be issued to the purchaser of each plot. The agreement will include plot number and section as they appear on the Cemetery map. Purchaser must provide contact information, including e-mail address, for future correspondence from the Cemetery regarding maintenance and operation of the cemeteries. Families of the interred are expected to keep the Cemetery aware of future contact information changes.

The sale of a cemetery plot conveys burial rights for human remains and the right to place a monument or marker. Sale does not convey title to the land.

The purchase price is a one-time charge that covers the permanent maintenance of the plot. It must be paid in full before a letter of agreement is issued, or burial is allowed to take place. See the price list on the last page of this document.

## RESALE BY PLOT OWNERS

Plot owners may dispose of the burial rights under certain conditions:

- 1) If no burial has taken place the plot may be re-purchased by the Cemetery at the original purchase price upon documented proof of purchase.
- 2) If there is a body or cremated remains already interred, the plot can only be transferred to a blood relative. This relative can be as distantly related as the fourth (4th) generation from the original owner. A spouse is not a blood relative.

## HEIRSHIP RIGHTS AND GIFTS

Burial rights obtained through inheritance shall be recorded with the Cemetery by the person receiving the inheritance. If the plot or plots are not specifically mentioned in the will and are not left to a specific person or persons, ownership passes to the descendants of the owner. Under these circumstances, the surviving spouse does not share in the ownership, but she (he) has an absolute right to be buried with the late husband or wife.

Transfer of rights by gift within a family can be done by giving the Cemetery a document of Irrevocable Designation for the person or persons receiving the gift.

## BURIAL AND INTERMENTS

No interment shall be allowed without permission being first obtained from the Cemetery and payment in full for the plot and interment made to the Cemetery. Plot owners are prohibited from allowing interments to be made on their plots for compensation.

All Funeral Directors shall provide the Cemetery with Certificates of General Liability and Automobile Insurance annually naming the Cemetery as Additional Insured.

The marking, digging, and filling in of each grave following burial is the responsibility of the Cemetery. All other work done in the Cemeteries, including grading, and reseeding the grave site, is the responsibility of the Caretaker under the supervision of the Board of Directors. The Funeral Director will provide the Cemetery with a Burial-Transit Permit with the name, age and date of birth and death of the deceased, the time and date of the interment, and if not an adult, the name(s) of parent(s) or legal guardians(s) of the deceased.

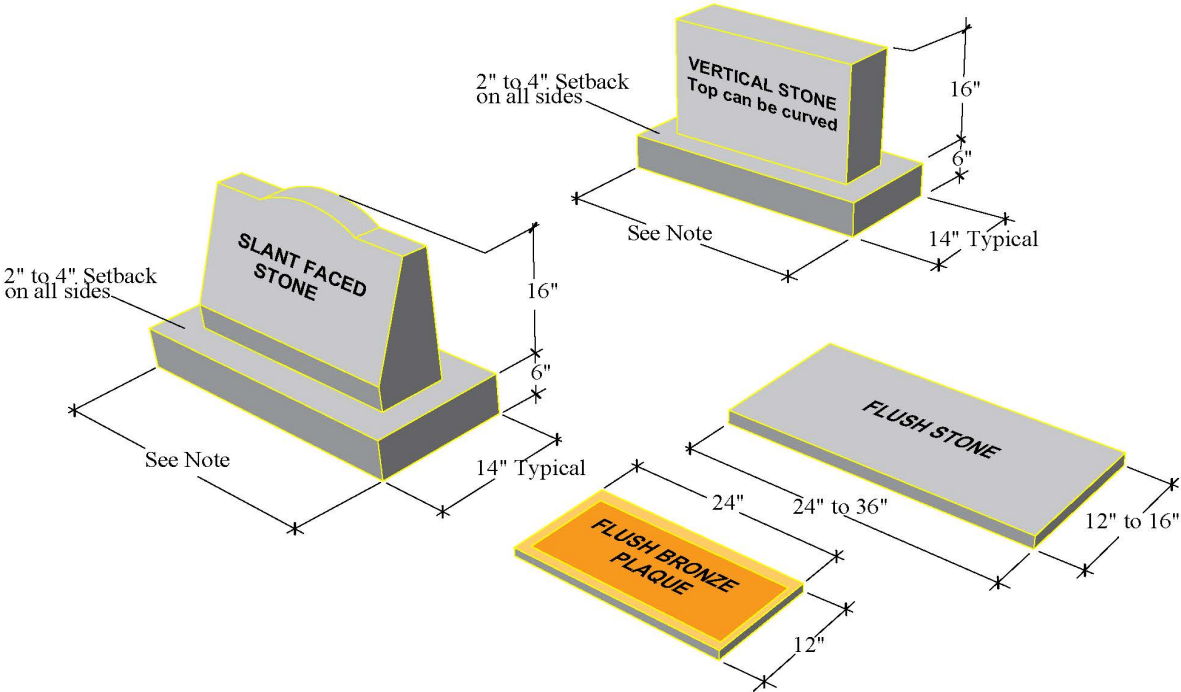
Burials in these cemeteries are in plots measuring nine (9) feet by four (4) feet. Concrete vaults or grave liners are required for interments in all graves except in the Natural Burial area. Burial of one human remains in a casket and one cremated human remains or two cremated human remains are permitted in each plot. Cremated remains must be in canisters or urns, made of wood, metal, plastic, or concrete. Cremated remains may not be scattered over any part of these cemeteries.

Burials may take place any day but there will be a surcharge for burials on Saturday, Sunday, or holidays. Nothing herein shall require the Cemetery to provide grave openings and/or interments if they are unable to because of severe weather conditions, or because the ground is frozen. See attached price list.

Disinterment will be allowed at the direction of the Cemetery provided the provisions of Section 1510(e) of the NYS Not for Profit Corporation Law are complied with.

Monuments and plaques are to be installed on concrete foundations except in the Natural Burial section. The Cemetery will install the foundations and invoice the funeral director, provider of the monument, or the family. The cost is based on the size of the monument or plaque that is to be installed on the foundation. See the price list at the end of this document. All monuments must be constructed of granite or bronze. Granite monuments must only be the colors of natural stone and can be of two types: 1) Horizontal at ground level, or 2) Vertical on a stone base. The thickness of the base shall be six (6) inches above the foundation. Vertical stones shall be no higher than sixteen (16) inches above the foundation. Vertical stones shall be set back two (2) to four (4) inches from all edges of the base. For a Vertical monument marking two (2) graves, the requirements are the same, but the monument can be wider (See Note).

Acceptable Shapes and Dimensions for Monuments and Markers



NOTE: Monument bases can be up to 36" wide for single plots and up to 60" wide for two adjoining plots.

The Cemetery may repair or remove any monument or marker that has fallen into disrepair and/or creates a dangerous condition, provided that the Cemetery has first given the owner at least sixty (60) days to effect repair, and the owner has failed to do so. Any monument or marker that is removed as provided above shall be replaced with a flush bronze or granite marker suitably inscribed.

Planted material may be placed within 16" of the face side of monuments and within the plot lines of the plot associated with the monument. The plot owners or descendants are responsible for weeding, watering, trimming, and maintaining the plants. The Cemetery will remove any planted material if it becomes unsightly, taller than the monument or encroaches on adjoining plots. Cut flowers or live plants in non-breakable containers can be placed to decorate grave sites. Placing glass containers as receptacles for flowers, either artificial or grown, is prohibited. Any form of decoration containing wire or other metal that can injure maintenance workers is prohibited. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove all flowers, wreaths, or other decorations from plots as soon as they become unsightly, and to remove, after due notice to the lot owner, any embellishment on the lot, effigy, or inscription which, in the opinion of the Cemetery, is unsightly, dangerous, or inappropriate.

#### BURIAL OF DOMESTIC PETS

Interment of cremated remains of domestic pets will be allowed in all sections of the Quaker Cemetery and the Quaker Hill Cemetery limited to no more than two pet interments per plot. All interments of cremated domestic pets are subject to these Rules and Regulations and shall be subject to the laws, ordinances, or requirements of the State of New York. All interments of cremated domestic pets must be made at a time and in a manner scheduled and approved solely by the Cemetery and are subject to additional charges that are effective on the date of the interment. Scattering of cremated pet remains is not permitted.

The authorization for interment of a cremated domestic pet will be granted by the Cemetery only with the consent of the plot owner of record, the plot owner's spouse, or the plot owner's direct descendant. Absent said consent, disputes will be resolved by the Board of the Quaker Hill Burial Ground Association, Inc. No interment of a cremated domestic pet shall be permitted in any plot until all charges for such plot are fully paid.

#### NATURAL BURIALS

All plots sold for Natural Burials are subject to the Rules and Regulations now in force or which the Board may hereafter adopt. The plots shall be used for no other purpose than the burial of the human dead. All plots must be paid for in full before an agreement is issued or interment can be done. Traditional interment right holders wishing to transfer to the Natural Burial area shall be given a credit of the original purchase price of their traditional interment space upon documented proof of purchase.

No transfer of ownership or interest in any lot shall become valid until such transfer or assignment is approved by the Board. The ownership of all relinquished plots must be returned to the Cemetery.

Natural Burials must be under the direction of a Funeral Director in accordance with NYS Law. Deceased persons to be considered Natural Burials shall not be embalmed or topically treated with sprays or compounds, unless with non-toxic products. Bodies accepted for burial shall be wrapped in a shroud, quilt, or blanket, and/or placed in a burial container that includes a board, integrated or separate, for stability.

All materials used in the manufacturing or construction of caskets, burial containers, shrouds, quilts, blankets, clothing, and urns shall be 100% biodegradable and non-toxic. Materials used must be plant derived, natural, animal, or biodegradable material, including the shell, liner, handles, fasteners, and adornments of any burial container, shroud, quilt, blanket, clothing, or urn. Materials used in the manufacturing, construction, and finishing of products used for Natural Burial shall not contain plastics, acrylics, or similar synthetic polymeric materials. Shrouds, quilts, and blankets used for Natural Burial without a casket shall have a natural wood backer (plywood and OSB are not acceptable) no less than 3/4" thick, 12" wide and the length of the body, to stabilize the body during the burial process.

Vaults and liners (partial, inverted, or otherwise) are prohibited. Cut flower funeral tributes without containers may be buried with the deceased. All other funeral floral tributes must be removed after the service, or they will be disposed of. Fresh cut flower remembrance tributes without containers may be placed on the grave at any time and will be removed by cemetery personnel upon becoming unsightly.

Grave markers are permitted but not required. Stones may not exceed 288 square inches (approximately 12 x 24 inches) in size and must lay flat. No foundations will be permitted. The marker must be constructed of a natural material. Only one memorial stone is permitted for each burial site. Stones may be engraved but must remain simple in appearance. Photographs, images, etc. are not permitted. The Planting of trees and shrubs shall be prohibited. No inscriptions, statues, embellishments, effigies, artifacts, lights, wildlife feeders, wind chimes, flags, or artificial decorations of any kind will be permitted. The Cemetery may reject/remove, without notice, any memorials that do not meet the specification.

Disinterments are considered irretrievable. Next-of-kin must sign a waiver attesting to their understanding that the body will not be moved unless ordered by the State. To protect and maintain the integrity and intent of the Natural Burial area, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to refuse the burial of any decedent for non-compliance of the Rules and Regulations as required in this section.

PRICE LIST FOR QUAKER CEMETERY AND QUAKER HILL CEMETERY

Does not include Services of the Funeral Director

Plot Purchase	\$1,250.00
Plot Purchase – Natural Burial	1,500.00 (Quaker Hill Cemetery only)
Interment - Full Size Grave	1,000.00 each, limit 1 per plot
Interment - Cremated Remains	350.00 each, limit 2 per plot, or 1 if with casket
Interment - Cremated Pet Remains	350.00 each, limit 2. Must be included with human burial
Foundation for Monument	250.00 per square surface foot
Saturday, Sunday, and Holiday Burials	300.00 Additional Charge
Additional Fees	Additional fees may be charged for winter frost penetration, snow removal or extra excavation to accommodate oversize burial vessels.

Adopted by the Quaker Hill Burial Ground Association Board on August 20, 2023.

Filed with the NYS Division of Cemeteries on October 26, 2023