

Guiding principles for the new Belmont Cemetery on McLean Land

3.31.00

*The Halvorson Company, Inc.
Landscape Architects and Site Planners*

1. **A respectful, reflective, peaceful, spiritual place**
 - provide the cemetery with an identity as a place where commemoration / remembering / grieving / communing / honoring occurs
 - comfort and inspire the bereaved
 - provide suitable and respectful memorialization
2. **A place in harmony with its natural setting and surroundings**
 - sustain indigenous plants and wildlife and support biodiversity
 - protect nearby wetlands
 - protect important trees
 - utilize plant species compatible with native plants wherever feasible
 - minimize high maintenance plantings
 - make creative and wise use of site resources
3. **A place that honors its own history**
 - preserve extant elements of the historic landscape wherever feasible
 - Highland Stock Farm barn foundation
 - stone walls and granite gate posts
 - pine allèe
(coordinate with land management committee for allèe outside cemetery)
 - use historic vernacular forms from the site for design inspiration
4. **The role of monuments**
 - provide appropriate memorialization of burials and cremated remains
 - blend visual effect of monuments with the landscape
5. **Circulation and parking**
 - offer alternate memorialization options appropriate to their landscape setting
 - provide for pedestrian access throughout the site and controlled links to the path system of adjacent protected open space.
 - provide internal vehicular access (max. 16'-0" wide) for:
 - corteges
 - cemetery visitors
 - operations and service personnel
 - provide convenient access from cemetery roadways to gravesites
 - provide safe entry/exit for vehicles at Concord Avenue.
 - provide seven (7) max. parking spaces
 - provide for access for pedestrians walking leashed dogs at perimeter of property
6. **Views**
 - remove conflicting elements (antenna and ancillary structures)
 - shape and reinforce attractive views within the cemetery and views of the cemetery from without
 - preserve the "country lane" character along Concord Avenue frontage
7. **Cemetery operations**
 - provide reasonable access for cemetery operational personnel
8. **Building**
 - design and site the future cemetery office carefully to enhance the visual character of the cemetery