

*St. James' Episcopal Church  
Hyde Park, New York*

*Regulations for Churchyard and Columbarium*

1. No wall, fence, railing, hedge nor any enclosure whatever shall be erected or planted around any plot. Corner stones of 6" x 6" may be placed at the corners of each plot to designate the limits thereof; such blocks not to exceed grade level, but to be sunk securely in the ground and on each of which the owners initials may be cut, and on one of them may be cut the number of the lot. (No initial or number will be of the raised type.)
2. No slab shall be placed in any lot except horizontal position; but headstones resting on a stone foundation laid in cement may be placed at graves. Headstones requiring dowels shall not have less than two, which shall be made of brass or copper. All bases to monuments must be rough pointed and bedded in cement. No grave may have more than one stone, this however, does not include the central monument. The Committee may direct the removal and prevent the erection of any monuments, or sepulchral structures, or inscriptions which a majority of the Vestry shall determine to be offensive or improper, or injurious to the appearance of the surrounding lots and grounds.
3. Effective as of May 28, 1968, only those monuments judged to be proper and fitting by the Churchyard Committee of St. James' Church shall be allowed in St. James' Churchyard. (The diagram and description should be submitted to the Churchyard Committee for their approval.)
4. No trees growing within a border, or in, or on the side of any avenue, shall be removed, destroyed, or mutilated, without the permission of the Churchyard Committee, but if any trees or shrubs situated in any lots shall, by means of their roots or branches or otherwise, become detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenues, or dangerous or inconvenient to passers by, it shall be the duty of the Churchyard Committee, and they shall have the right to enter said lot and remove the said trees and shrubs, or such parts thereof as are thus detrimental, dangerous or inconvenient.

5. All persons are prohibited from writing upon, scratching, defacing, or injuring any monument, fence or other structure in or belonging to the cemetery.
6. Flowers placed on graves must be put in window boxes or metal or concrete containers. No glass receptacles of any kind are allowed on lots. No artificial flowers are allowed.
7. Any person disturbing the quiet and good order of the place by noise or other improper conduct may be compelled to leave the grounds.
8. Trespassers are also liable to criminal prosecution.
9. The provisions and penalties of the law will be strictly enforced in all cases of wanton injury.
10. St. James' Church will not be responsible to lot owners for loss or damage by theft, vandalism, or otherwise.
11. Children under the age of 15 will not be allowed without an adult present.
12. The Trustees have no wish to interfere with the tastes of individuals in regard to the style of their improvements; but yet in justice to the interests of the whole, they reserve to themselves the right to preventing or removing any erection which they shall consider injurious to the immediate locality, or prejudicial to the general good appearance of the grounds; and also of removing or pruning any trees or shrubbery which may obstruct or mar the effect and beauty of the scenery, or may otherwise prove injurious, unsightly, or detrimental.
13. In making improvements select such materials and adopt such a mode of construction, as to secure the greatest possible degree of durability and permanence.
14. Monuments built up faced with thin slabs of marble and filled in with common masonry will not be allowed. They should be constructed of solid stone, which material should be made to lie on its natural bed and not edgewise or vertically, else the strata thus exposed to the action of the weather and the frost, would in time be opened and the whole structure would fall into decay and ruin. The foundations should be strongly laid in cement and not less than six feet where possible.

15. See pamphlet for separate rules and regulations for monuments.

16. In the selection of shrubbery concern must be given to its appropriateness. Hedges, etc. which give exclusive character to the plot may not be planted as they will destroy the unity of the churchyard. All plantings must be approved by the Churchyard Committee.

17. To maintain the quiet, meditative focus of the meditation garden the following rules have been established.

- 1) No visible plaques within the garden.
- 2) No statues or sculptures.
- 3) No potted plants or floral offerings (except at the time of a funeral or memorial service. Veteran's flags permitted on memorial days.
- 4) We request that Columbarium stones be engraved with names and dates only. (\*the only addition would be a simple cross, if desired.)

18. The cost of a plot shall be set by the Committee. All new plots shall include permanent maintenance.

19. The cost of opening and closing a grave will be set by the Vestry. For winter interments the receiving vault is available free of charge. For those who insist on interments in the winter there will be extra cost for snow removal and frost removal. (see attached addendum re. costs)

Approved by Churchyard Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by Vestry \_\_\_\_\_  
Date