



Headstones and cemetery monuments

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AS 4204:2019

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Cemeteries and Crematoria Association of Victoria
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Master Stone Masons Association Victoria
Monumental Masons Association of NSW
Monumental Masons Association of SA
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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia Committee BD-071, Cemetery Monuments, to supersede AS 4204—1994, *Headstones and cemetery monuments*, in response to a request from the cemetery industry and to a subsequent survey.

The objective of this Standard is to enable cemetery authorities and monumental masons to specify minimum structural design criteria, performance, installation and renovation requirements for headstones and cemetery monuments so that these meet the designed serviceable life.

Due to the specialist nature of mausolea they have not been included in this Standard. The committee is currently preparing a second stage specifically on above-ground mausolea.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in a Standard to define the application of the appendices to which they apply. A “normative” appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

This Standard includes a commentary on some of the clauses. The commentary directly follows the relevant clause, is designated by “C” preceding the clause number and is printed in italics in a box. The commentary is for information and guidance and does not form part of the Standard.

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1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This Standard specifies minimum structural design criteria and performance for construction of new and renovation or repair of headstones, monuments and commemorations above and below the natural ground surface. It does not set out to preclude artistic endeavour.

NOTE [Appendix A](#) deals with recommended installation practice.

1.2 Application

This Standard is intended for use by planning authorities, cemetery authorities, monumental masons and all persons involved with the design, installation, renovation and general requirements of headstones, monuments and commemorations. This Standard is not intended for use in the design and construction of official Australian war graves. For guidance on official Australian war graves, refer to the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG).

1.3 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

NOTE Documents for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS 2738.3, *Copper and copper alloys — Compositions and designations, Part 3: Cast Products*

AS 2870, *Residential slabs and footings*

AS 3600, *Concrete structures*

AS 3700, *Masonry in buildings (known as the SAA Masonry Code)*

AS 3972, *Portland and blended cements*

AS/NZS 2080, *PVB (Poly Vinyl Butyral) Interlayers Paints*

AS/NZS 2208, *Safety glazing materials in buildings*

AS/NZS 4671, *Steel reinforcing materials*

1.4 Definitions

For the purpose of this Standard the definitions below apply.

1.4.1 administrative terms

1.4.1.1

approved drawings

drawings approved by the relevant cemetery administration for the construction of monumental work

1.4.1.2

cemetery authority

body appointed to administer the affairs of a cemetery or crematoria on behalf of its constituent owners