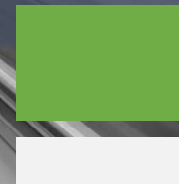




Michael Robertson

Australian Standards 4204 Update





AS 4204
Headstones and
Cemetery Monuments

In 1994 the first Australian Standards for AS 4204 was produced.

Over the last two years members from Cemetery and Monumental Associations across Australia convened to review the standards and proposed changes to the current standards.

The revised Standard is released 1 April 2019.

Why are there changes to the Australian Standard for Monumentation?

Numerous deaths and injuries have occurred across the world and recently in Australia

before



after



The minimum serviceable life of the monument is 50 years.

There is a calculated force the monument needs to withstand without falling over.

Silicones are not to be used as an adhesive

Pinning of monuments is more defined

Stone Sizes updated

So what are the major changes?



Serviceable Life

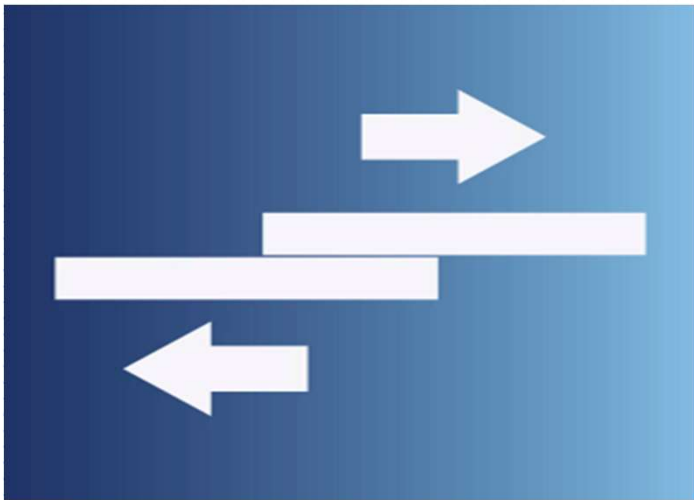
- Serviceable life of a monument may vary based on jurisdiction. Serviceable life may be 50 years and up to 99 years or the tenure period as specified by the Cemetery Authority. It is intended that by following the requirements of this Standard, a monument will meet the defined serviceable life.





Load Testing

For monuments in which the highest part of any component is greater than 600mm above ground level, this component shall be designed to withstand a horizontal load force of 700 N applied at its apex or 1.5 m from the ground in any direction, whichever is lower. (load after 5 years).



Adhesives and Dowels



One of the biggest issues is the use of Silicone as an adhesive.

Silicone is not an adhesive.



Dowels should be not less than 10mm and need to be Stainless Steel 316, Copper 443 or Fibreglass.

Mild steel is not acceptable.

Adhesives and Dowels

08



Element	Minimum thickness (after polishing) mm
Kerbs	
Horizontal	50
Vertical	75
Ledgers	70
Backstones	150
Ashlar kerbs	75
Headstone	100

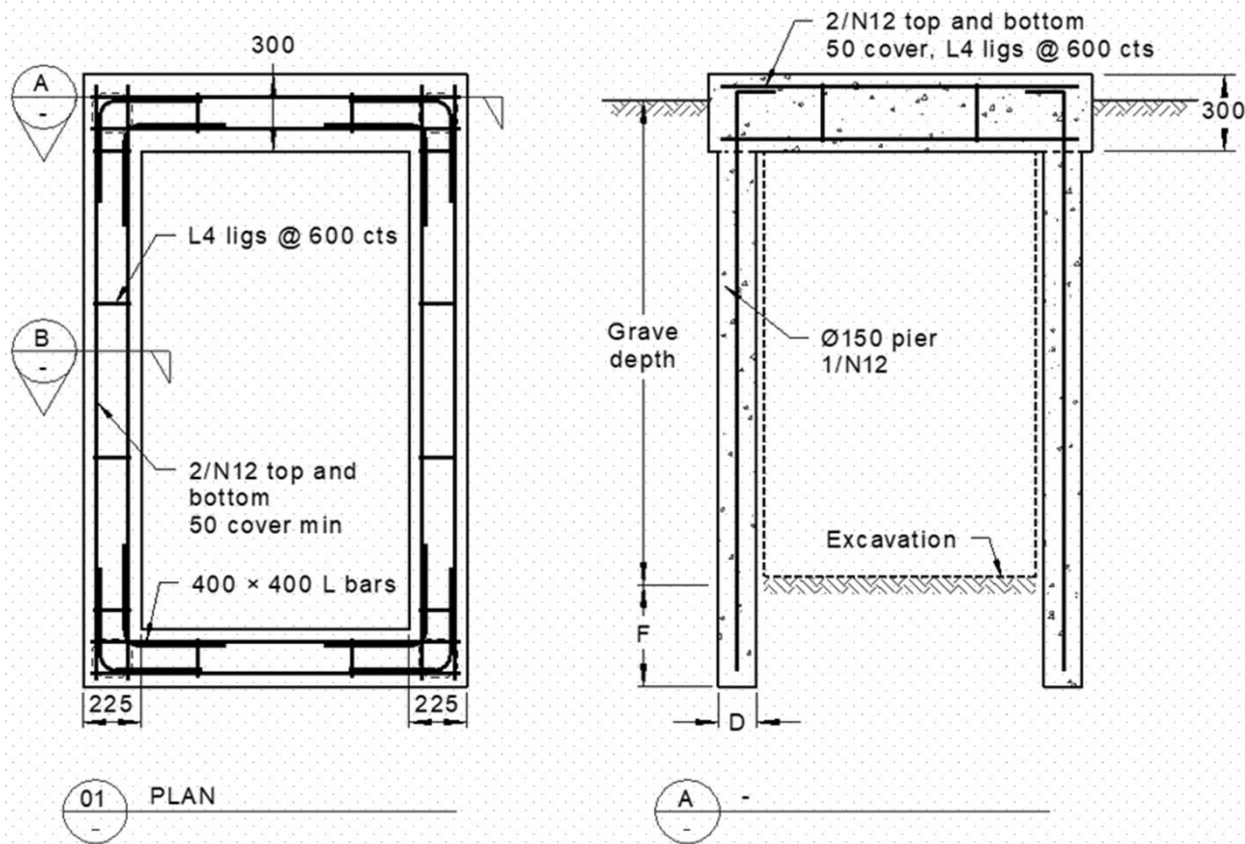
Minimum Stone Thickness

NOTE 1

Headstone (free standing) thickness may be lowered to 75 mm after polishing, provided the maximum height of the monument is 900 mm.

NOTE 2

NOTE : Ledger thickness may be lowered to 60 mm after polishing, provided the maximum width is 800 mm or less.

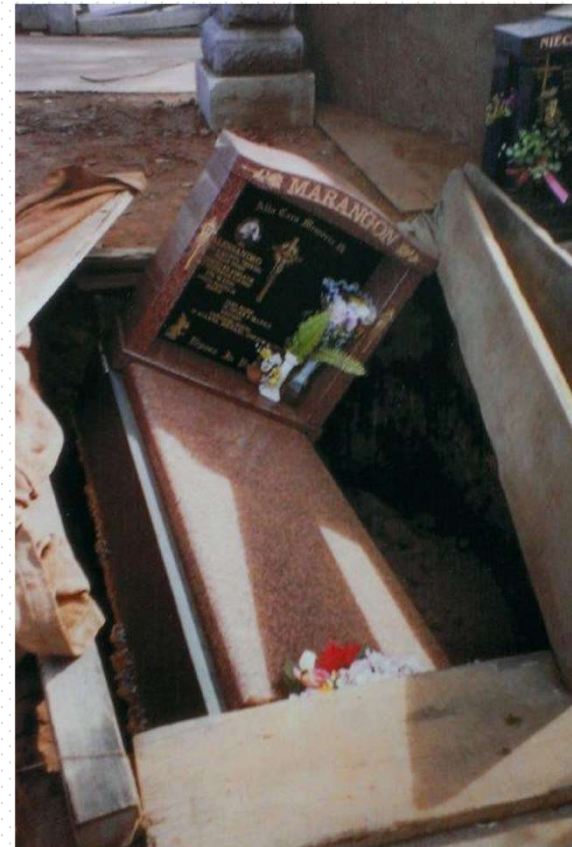


Main points for footings of a monument

Footings are one of the most important aspects of the longevity of a monument

Four piers to a single monument

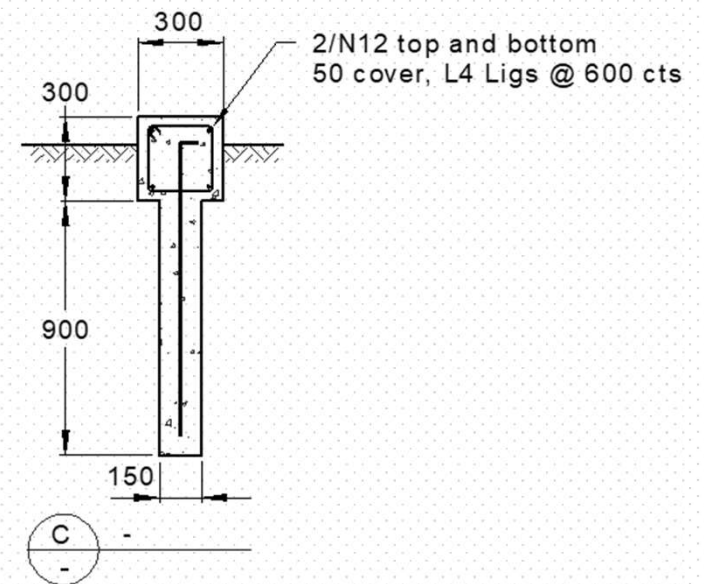
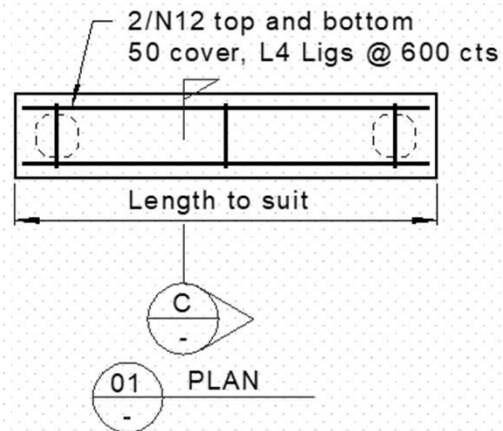
Any pier must be a minimum diameter of 150mm and must extend past the lowest interred person in to undisturbed ground



Headstone only footing

Two piers per single site

Pier depth minimum of 900mm





THANK YOU