

RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING SARDIS CHURCH TRUST IN CHARLTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

Sardis Church Trust was created by order of the Charlton Superior Court on January 27, 2016. The Trustees of the Sardis Church Trust hereby recite the history of the Trust property and adopt the following rules:

HISTORY OF THE TRUST PROPERTY

On February 3, 1913, W.O. Gibson deeded the trust property to "The members of Sardis church and their successors as such members for all time to come". Sometime prior to October 15, 2015 there ceased to be any members of Sardis church. A petition was filed in the Charlton Superior Court on October 15, 2015 asking that the title to the trust be placed into a trust to effectuate the intention of W.O. Gibson in regard to the charitable gift of Trust property. The Charlton Superior Court granted the petition and placed the property in Trust under certain terms and conditions. The order of the Court is attached as Exhibit A.

The purposes of the following rules include:

- a) Providing for the maintenance of the cemetery in its traditional condition to the extent that funds are available; and,
- b) Providing for the safe and orderly use of the cemetery.

RULES FOR THE TRUST PROPERTY

1. The Trust shall retain fee simple title to all property described in Exhibit A. Anyone allowed to place a grave on said property is only granted a license to use any designated burial plot for the purpose of interring a deceased person according to these rules as may from time to time be amended.
2. The Trustees intend the cemetery to be properly maintained and will undertake all reasonable efforts in furtherance thereof. However, there is no contract, guarantee, or representations of "perpetual care" as defined in Official Code of Georgia Section 44-3-131(13). Sardis Church Trust is a Church cemetery and is exempt from the requirements of the Georgia Cemetery Act of 1983 pursuant to O.C.G.A Section 44-3-131(4).
3. The Trustees or their duly authorized designee are to enforce all rules and regulations, and to exclude from the property of the Church any persons violating the same.
4. The Trustees reserves the right at any time to adopt new rules or to amend, alter, or repeal any rule, article, section, paragraph, or sentence in these rules.

5. All grave openings and closings shall comply with the requirements set out in Exhibit B.
6. Any installation, repair or alteration of any monument shall comply with the requirements set out in Exhibit C.
7. Before any grave is opened a fee of \$1,200.00 shall be paid to the Trust.
8. The Trust nor the Trustees can guarantee the preservation of any grave or monument. Neither the Trust nor the Trustees assumes any liability for responsibility for damage to any body, casket, monument nor burial space.
9. Any person entering the cemetery grounds does so at his own risk and waives and releases any claim for liability of any sort against the Church, its members, or the Committee. Any person bringing claim against the Church, its members, or the Committee shall indemnify and hold harmless the Church, its members, and the Committee from any such claim, including reasonable attorney's fees, and shall similarly hold the Church, its members and the Committee harmless from the claims of third parties arising from the funeral, burial, and upkeep of the cemetery.
10. All monies for the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery shall be deposited into a fund to be known as the Sardis Cemetery Trust Fund. The corpus and income of the fund shall be deposited in a bank, savings, and loan institution, or other depository approved by the Trustees. Two signatures shall be required to withdraw more than \$500.00 from the fund at any one time. Charitable donations will be gratefully accepted.
11. All grading, landscaping work, improvements of any kind, and all care on plots, shall be done, and all trees, shrubs, and herbage of any kinds shall be planted, trimmed, cut, or removed and all opening and closing of plots, and all interments, disinterments, and removals shall be made, only with the approval of the Committee or designated agent.
12. All graves must be marked with a permanent headstone.
13. There are to be no trucks or other vehicles in the cemetery without approval by a Trustee. Those who do not comply with the rules and regulations of the Trustees are subject to any damages as reasonable assessed by the Committee.
14. No one shall be interred in a plot without the approval of the Trustees. The Trustees may restrict burial to relatives of those already buried in the Cemetery.

15. Any funeral home burying a body in the Cemetery shall provide to the Trustees the names and addresses of the next of kin, the heirs of the deceased person and/or the person to be contacted regarding the grave.
16. The contributions that have been received over the last several years have only been enough to provide a minimum level of care for the cemetery. The moving of items to mow or removing of unsightly faded wreaths and other items significantly increases the cost of maintaining the cemetery.

To the extent that there are available funds, it is the policy of the Trustees that the cemetery will be maintained in a manner so that its appearance remains as near as possible to its traditional appearance.

Therefore, the placing of boxes, shells, toys, metal designs, ornaments, chairs, settees, glass, wood, or iron cases and similar articles on plots is prohibited, and if placed, the Trustees may remove them. Artificial, dyed, or preserved flowers, photographs, souvenirs, wreaths, or flags or other emblems are subject to the approval of the Trustees and may be removed by the Trustees.

17. Littering on the drives and paths, or on any part of the cemetery grounds, or in the buildings, is prohibited.
18. The cemetery grounds shall be open during daylight hours only.