

8.2 Concept B: Rustic/Naturalized

This concept was based on capitalizing on the “rustic” character of Cliffside Cemetery as a small, rural cemetery. The inspiration for this concept was the nature of the local community, whose economy is driven by outdoor-based activities: agriculture, tourism and recreation. With the Enderby Cliffs visible from the site, the idea of an unpretentious, “contextual” design theme emerged, focusing on the relationship between people, the land and the natural environment.

The key features unique to this concept include:

- Replacement of the existing wrought iron cemetery gate with a custom-designed weathering steel swing gate, featuring a stylized representation of the Enderby Cliffs and the Shuswap River, with the cemetery name incorporated into the steel panel;
- Establishment of a visual buffer along the entry drive using wooden screen fence panels alternating with columnar evergreens;
- Use of a double row of dense evergreen shrubs along the top of the proposed new memorial wall;
- Use of cut, weathering steel panels bolted onto the proposed ledgestone-clad memorial wall;
- New roadways designed with a large turnaround loop to minimize the amount of new road needed to service the new section;
- Informal, meandering pedestrian pathways through the new sections, tying into a woodland trail running through a proposed new green burial area;
- Tree-lined roads except the east loop, which is framed by existing evergreens;
- Reuse of the former gazebo site for future columbaria, potentially with a shade structure and informal, deer-resistant perennials in a surrounding planting bed;
- A significant natural stone feature placed like a glacial erratic, to serve as a focal feature for a scattering garden with native shrubs and stone slab benches;
- A naturalistic cremation garden with small columbaria units arranged on flagstone paving and surrounded by mixed evergreens and small deciduous trees, and
- A large green burial area at the southeast corner

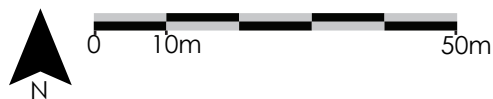
Following review by City of Enderby Staff, Concept B was selected for refinement and became the Preferred Land Use Plan. The graphic on the facing page represents this refined version.

Concept B: Preferred Land Use Plan "Rustic/Naturalized"

- 1 Cemetery Entry:** new, weathering steel gate + restored brick pillars. Shrub clearing for visibility
- 2 Entry Drive:** wood screen fence panels + evergreen hedge
- 3 Arrival Area:** feature water pump for visitor use. New cemetery map and register
- 4 Park Area:** family columbaria within "park zone" and with cut stone benches
- 5 Memorial Wall:** new 1.5 m retaining wall with stone cladding and inset panel for sandblasted names; hedge planting on top
- 6 Upper Cremation Garden:** with in-ground cremation lots + linear columbaria walls
- 7 West Edge & Lower Cremation Garden:** wooden screen fence on segmental concrete retaining wall. Improvements to cremation burial area including stone shard surfacing + scattered groundcover plantings
- 8 Single Sided Columbaria and memorial wall with stone pavers and low, native groundcovers**
- 9 Work Shed:** accessible from existing road, to be screened by vegetation



- 10 Street Trees and Irrigation:** cemetery drives "street tree" plantings
- 11 South Edge:** vegetation on southern edge to be thinned and maintained
- 12 Northeast edge:** potential new (open) perimeter fencing
- 13 Columbaria:** native shrub planting and columbaria space on former gazebo site
- 14 Central Amenity Space:** monumental rock feature, constructed from local stone slabs + boulders. Native evergreens, slab stone seating around scattering garden
- 15 New Development area Amenity Space:** scattered columbaria units in wooded setting in "tear drop" road loop. Footpath with perimeter in-ground cremation lots
- 16 New Development area Casket Burial**
- 17 Green Burial Section**
- 18 Nature Walk:** pathway established through existing woodland area. Scattering opportunity within
- 19 Old Section Interpretive Signage:** natural and culture interpretive signage in old section
- 20 Roadways:** remove curbs and road resurfacing, excluding old section roads



LEGEND

- Columbaria
- Entrance
- Water Line

Approx. area of 265 casket lots = 1192.5m²
Estimated Interment lots: 920, at 5' x 10'

NOTE: Capacity figures provided are estimates of the maximum number of lots that could be created according to the current grave sizes, information provided by the City of Enderby.

Actual capacity could be less due to subsurface conditions (such as tree roots, soil conditions, and undocumented infrastructure and interments), or other issues not currently known and accounted for. Further research and site work is required to proof and refine these estimates

8.3 Concept Area Descriptions

The following section describes, illustrates and provides precedents for the Concept Areas identified on the Preferred Land Use Plan.

Cemetery Entry and Entry Drive

See 1 and 2 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use plan

Improving the entry into Cliffside Cemetery involves enhancing the site’s visibility, visitors’ “first impressions,” and establishing an authentic, appealing character to help unify the site and establish a positive visitor experience. This would include:

- Installing a new cemetery gate to convey the unique character of the site and establish its natural, rustic character. A laser/water-cut weathering steel panel with a motif inspired by local scenery (such a view of the Enderby Cliffs, as shown right) would introduce this durable, cost-effective material in a way that could be used on other features throughout the site.
- Restoring the existing Enderby brick columns.
- Clearing and re-landscaping the gateway site so it can be more easily managed to present a welcoming quality.
- Installing a wood panel fence with hedging would screen views north and create a more attractive entry sequence.



Figure23: View from the cemetery entry drive to adjacent property. Source: LEES+Associates



Figure22: Enderby Cliffs. Source: <http://enderbyartscouncil.ca/>



Figure21: Cut steel entry gate, Elk Falls Cemetery, Campbell River, BC.

Source: Lees+Associates

Signage and Wayfinding

Various locations on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The installation of section markers, for example, made of weathering steel per the image to the right would assist with way-finding as well as tying cemetery amenities together visually.

Interpretive signage describing the natural and cultural history of the Enderby area and Cliffside Cemetery would add interest and a low key amenity to this picturesque area.

The traffic pylons and concrete Jersey barriers currently installed at the site to manage vehicle and pedestrian traffic should be replaced with features with similar aesthetics to the cemetery gate, for example, natural stone boulders and steel panels for signage.

Arrival Area and Park Area

See 3 and 4 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use plan.

This area, shown below, seems well-suited to serve primarily as an amenity space. Installing a cemetery map with site information and a rustic but functional hand-operated water pump (precedent shown right) would encourage visitors to bring real flowers to place on graves while adding to the site’s rustic charm.

Replacing current site furnishing with a suite of benches and a picnic table would invite visitor use. Boulder seating and gravel surfacing with shrubs at the base of trees would add to the effect.



Figure24: Section Marker, Source: <https://ndga.wordpress.com/2013/05/03/escritorios-de-design-grafico-ambiental-108/>

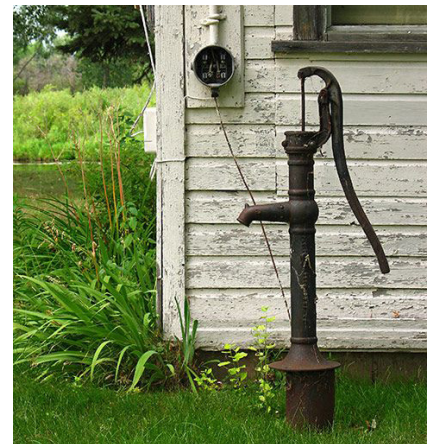


Figure25: Water Feature, Source: <https://twitter.com/carlosmoradiaz>



Figure26: Existing Condition “Park Area”.

Source: LEES+Associates

Memorial Wall and Upper Cremation Garden

See 5 and 6 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The existing upper cremation garden is designed with concrete bands that serve as curbs, lot dividers and narrow walkways. Since these are functional and in good condition, they should be retained. This would allow the focus of improvements to be on the graves and the adjacent areas.

Suggested upgrades include:

- Retain the existing infrastructure of the cremation garden, allowing the three south, curbed sections to remain as cremation interment space, but convert the north section into a scattering garden. This area should be constructed with a below-ground ossuary to contain most of the remains, thereby reducing the visual and horticultural impact of many sets of cremated remains in a limited area. A small amount of each set of cremated remains could be scattered by families or staff in the planted bed area. A proprietary soil amendment designed to counteract the effects of cremated remains (which have high pH and salt content) should be incorporated into this area. Native, deer-resistant ornamentals should be planted around a suitable natural stone boulder engraved with the name of the garden and a fitting phrase.
- To the west of the existing concrete retaining wall, install a second cast-in-place concrete wall designed to be clad with natural ledge stone. Removable, honed black basalt panels could be installed to enable this to serve as a memorial wall. Panels would be engraved over time with the names and dates of decedents. This memorial wall could serve to memorialize not only those who have been interred in the scattering garden at Cliffside Cemetery, but could also accommodate the names of those who were interred in other cemeteries or were scattered elsewhere.
- Between the existing wall and proposed wall, a planter should be created for a double row of hardy, deciduous hedging. Due to the width of the bed and the dense planting, a guard rail may not be necessary, though installing a temporary railing may be prudent until the hedge is fully established. The rear embankment should be planted with native mahonia, per Figure 31.
- Extending from these graves, a gravel path should be established to access three 40 - 60 niche double-sided columbaria. For optimal sun exposure, the niches face east / west.
- Additional in-ground cremation lots could be established along the path edge, along with benches and low shrubs.
- Ornamental trees with spring and fall interest could be planted to frame the columbaria. Shrubs should be planted to emphasize the framing, and create a defined, attractive quality.



Figure 28: Existing Conditions,
Source: LEES+Associates



Figure 29: Existing Conditions,
Source: LEES+Associates



Figure 27: Family Columbaria,
Source: Lees and associates



Figure30: Memorial Wall and Upper Cremation Garden Schematic Plan, Not to Scale



Figure31: Memorial Wall with Removable, Honed Black Basalt Memorial Plaques

West Edge and Lower Cremation Garden

See 7 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The existing cremation garden along the west edge of the cemetery appears somewhat unkempt, accentuating the quality that this important area is situated on “left over space.” Key issues include:

- Disintegrating lava rock mulch over exposed landscape fabric;
- Ornamentation (artificial flowers and other trinkets) that are now faded and weathered;
- A lack of consistency in the size, elevation, alignment and quality of installation of markers;
- Overgrown, weedy vegetation, an eroding west slope and inconsistent fence line;
- A margin of poor quality lawn and nothing to soften the hard edges, and
- Proximity to the tool shed, which has a utilitarian appearance.

Proposed improvements focus on increasing aesthetic appeal of the cremation garden by establishing an improved sense of visual unity, amenity and care. Recommendations include:

- Document graves, remove and catalogue markers. Remove existing gravel and landscape fabric.
- Regrade and replace with rounded river cobble (~75- 300 mm diameter) over a base of round 10-25mm drain rock. The river cobble should be hand-placed around reinstated markers.
- Markers should be set evenly and consistently. Non-compliant ornamentation should be removed.
- Incorporate planting medium between the double row and where possible between smaller markers. Plant with low, drought-tolerant alpine species in naturalistic groupings.
- Remove the existing utility shed and extend the cremation interment area.
- Define the edge between interment space and road by:
 - Installing a 150 mm wide, concrete flush curb along the edge of the gravel road;
 - Replacing the soil inside the curb;
 - Installing a low, hardy groundcover, such as kinnickinnick or carpet juniper, or
 - Replacing the existing lawn with new, more drought-tolerant grass species.



Figure 33: Existing Conditions, Ornamentation
Source: LEES+ASSOCIATES



Figure 34: Existing Edge Condition,
Source: LEES+Associates



Figure 35: Existing Edge Condition,
Source: LEES+Associates

The west edge of the cemetery along the property line is overgrown and difficult to maintain due to the varying height and stability of the embankment, the nature of the fence-line vegetation and the poor quality wire fence.

Proposed improvements should focus on establishing a clean, attractive edge that will screen foreground views over the adjacent farm without impeding the mid and background views of the scenic landscape beyond. Recommendations for this area include:

- Remove most existing vegetation, unless it will not impede installation of a perimeter wall.
- Install a 1 - 1.2 metre height interlocking Segmental Concrete Unit (SCU) or mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) retaining wall along the property line.
- Install a wooden screen fence approximately 1.5 metres tall along the top of the retaining wall to establish a clean, continuous edge to enclose/partially screen the lower cremation section.
- Negotiate with the adjacent owner regarding the perimeter wall and fencing. This is likely to be appreciated as ornamentation from the cemetery sometimes blows onto his property, which has been a concern.



Figure36: Existing Conditions



Figure37: Proposed Improvements.

Street Trees and Irrigation

See 10 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The established in-ground casket section in the “new area” of the cemetery, which was cleared in 1962, is flat and open. Although easy to maintain, this section lacks definition and character. The lack of trees accentuates the large scale of the areas between the existing roads. Planting an allée (double row) of shade trees along these drives would reduce the scale of the site and add considerable visual interest and appeal. Using species with seasonal interest (spring flowers and/or fall colour) would help enliven the site as well as creating some welcome shade in summer.

Trees should be spaced to allow for snow storage. Irrigation will need to be installed; though this should be relatively straightforward due to the underground water line that runs across the site through this area. Alternatively, tree watering bags could be used for a few years until trees are established.

South Edge

See 11 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The view to the south extends over a farmer’s field and to the surrounding, rolling hills. The vegetation along the south edge appears overgrown and unruly. As the views in this direction are pleasant, no fencing is needed. Instead, a comprehensive thinning and/or clearing should be undertaken. The condition of the perimeter fence should be checked and trees and shrubs worthy of retention should be identified and protected. Alternatively, this area could be cleared and an entirely new, more manageable “hedgerow” of smaller species could be planted.

Northeast Edge

See 12 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The east edge, which runs along the old section, could easily be improved with new wire fencing installed on the existing fence posts (which appear solid). There is no need to screen the neighbouring lands as the field adds to the rural appearance of the cemetery, and the famous Enderby Cliffs are visible in the background.



Figure 38: Current Edge Conditions - East Edge, Source: LEES+Associates Figure 39: Established Interment Zone, Source: LEES+Associates

Central Amenity Space

See 14 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

This central node is intended to serve as an amenity space for visitors, with possible scattering. Located in the center of the currently undeveloped interment area, this will provide a focal point for the new section, and will connect to the roads along an informal, mowed path.





Features include

- A significant feature boulder to represent the iconic Enderby Cliffs
 - Feature is intended to attract people to this space ;
 - Boulder could be engraved with name of space, quotes or used for memorial engravings;
- Random, fitted flagstone (represented conceptually below) will define a space for reflection or gatherings. Surrounding shrubs define the perimeter and enclose the space;
- Intended for formal or informal events/gatherings, or celebrations.
- An underground ossuary could be incorporated.
- Surrounding plantings should include ornamental trees with spring bloom and/or fall colour. Shrubs and perennials to be salt-tolerant due to presence of cremated remains;



Figure40: Large Rock Feature

Legend

-  Ornamental Shrubs and Scattering Location
-  Enderby Cliff Feature
-  Flagstone
-  Mowed Path

Drawing Not to Scale

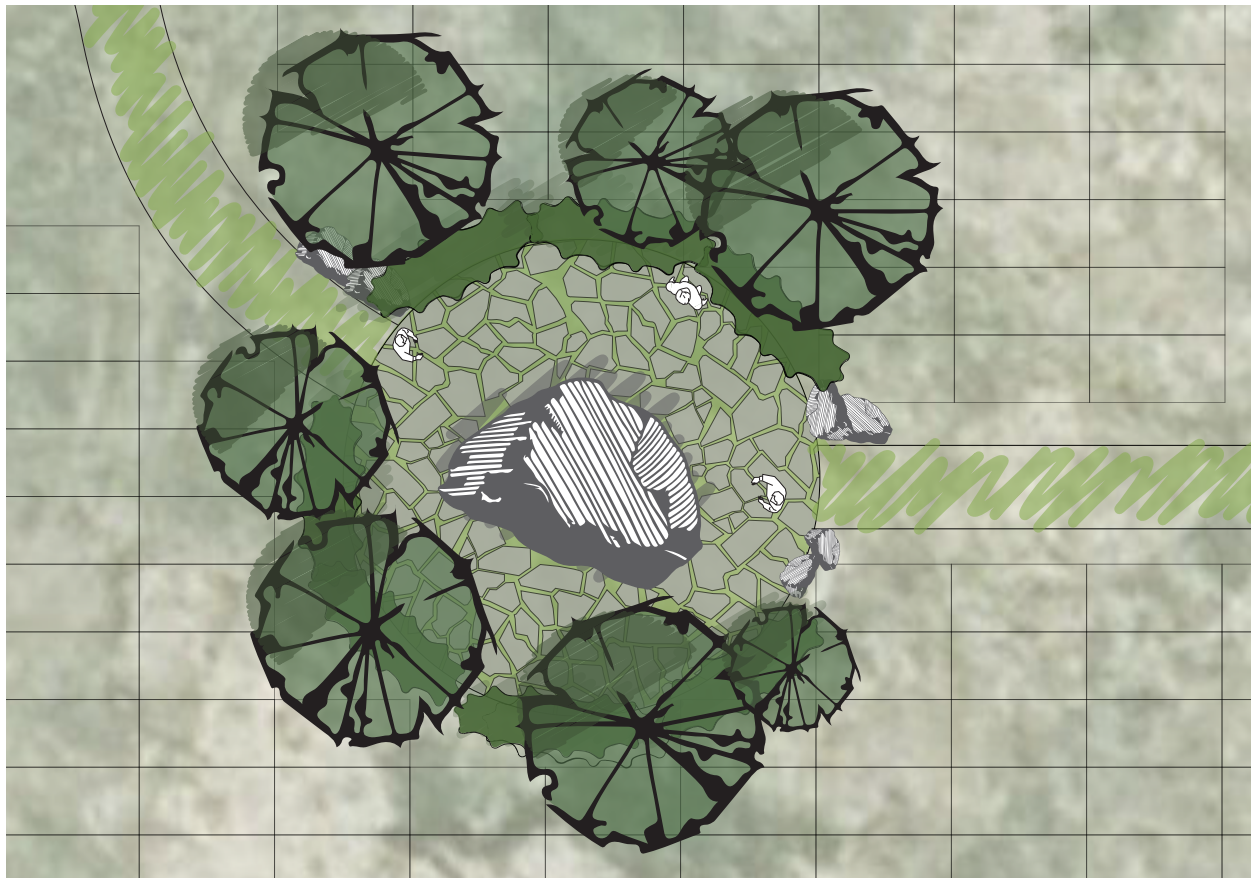






Figure41: Central Amenity Space Schematic Plan, Not to Scale

New Development Area Amenity Space

See 15 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

This central node will bridge the newly-developed, in-ground burial section with a new green burial area. Columbaria are proposed throughout the teardrop-shaped central area, each with a backdrop of two to three trees to create an effect similar to that of the image below. This space will include large boulders evocative of the Enderby Cliffs, visible to the east. These boulders could also serve as informal seating. A central path would wind through this area, either as a mown path or as a gravel trail.

- Legend
-  Feature Trees and Ornamental Shrubs
 -  Street Trees
 -  Mowed Pathway
 -  40 Niche Columbaria
 -  Sign
 -  Green Burial Area

NOTE: Drawing Not to Scale



Figure42: 40 Niche Columbaria in Wooded Setting. Source: LEES+Associates



Figure43: New Development Area Amenity Space Schematic Plan, Not to Scale

Green Burial Section

See 17 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

East of the current in-ground interment space is the undeveloped section of the Cliffside Cemetery, which is framed by mature native trees and shrubs. Due to its location away from the more developed sections and the presence of large trees, this area would be ideal for creating a green or “natural burial” area. Interments would take place in regularly sized graves, with no embalming, no vaults or grave covers, and only biodegradable caskets or shrouds. Graves would be restored to native grasses, groundcovers and possibly new trees, and the names of those buried would be sandblasted onto a communal stone rather than on a marker located directly on the lot.

Green burial options include:

- Expanding the existing grove of trees in the southeast corner by planting new trees on graves;
- Retaining the existing open, meadow character by restoring with native grasses and wildflowers, and
- Plant trees every few graves, or define an area where new trees could be planted in memory of the deceased.

Nature Walk

See 18 on Concept B, the Preferred Land Use Plan.

The southwest corner of the cemetery features a grove of mature trees. These trees should be preserved to define the site, link this edge with the old section and add to the overall aesthetics of the site. A meandering path through these trees could add interest and amenity to this area. If desired, scattering could also be permitted along the edges, with an underground ossuary installed at an appropriate location.



Figure44: Undeveloped Area



Figure45: Mature Tree Grove, Source: LEES+Associates

Source: LEES+Associates