

[54] **BASE FOR CEMETERY MONUMENTS WITH URN RECEIVING CAVITIES**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

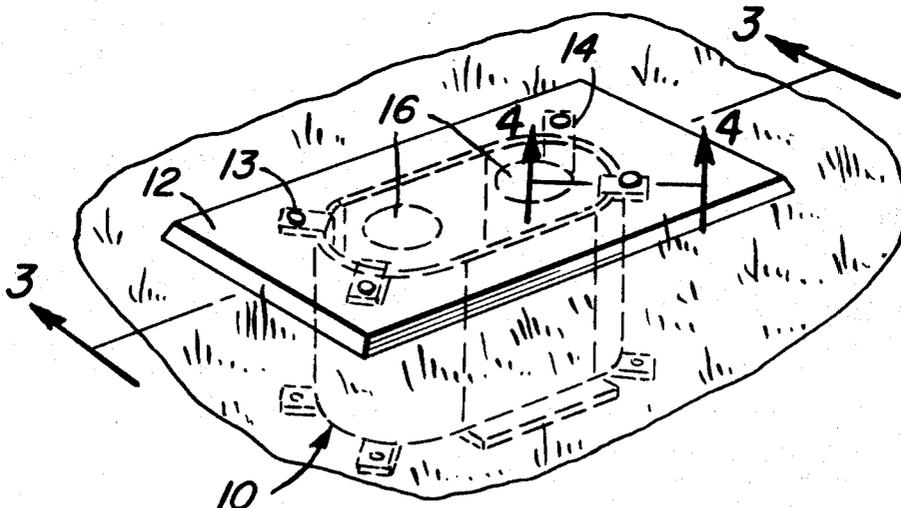
A cemetery monument base is provided which is relatively inexpensive to produce, yet long lasting and impervious to the elements. The base includes an attractive, durable housing of stainless steel, or other non-corrosive materials, which jackets a heavy concrete core having several urn receiving cavities therein, and with a plurality of mounting brackets extending therefrom.

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5 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures



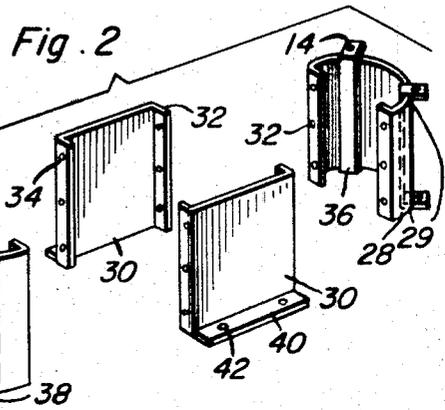
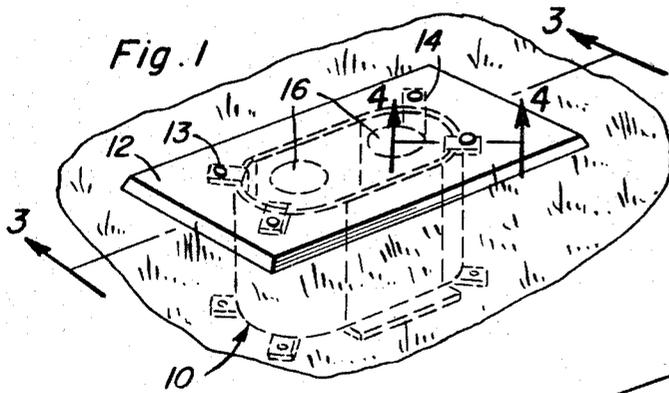


Fig. 3

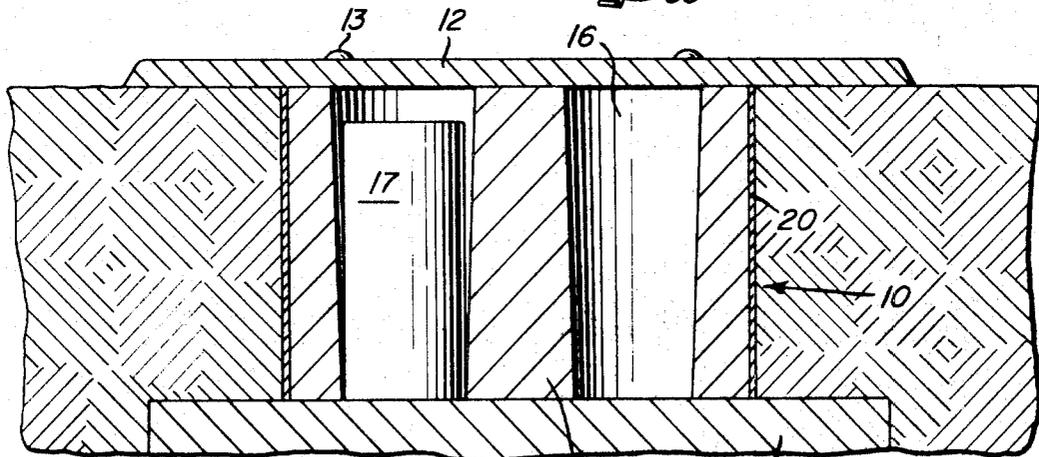
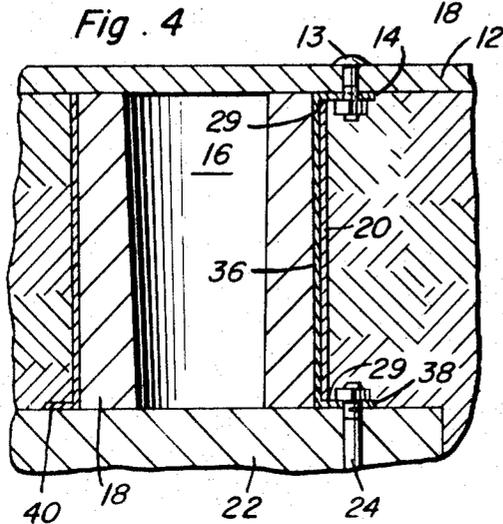


Fig. 4



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Fig. 5

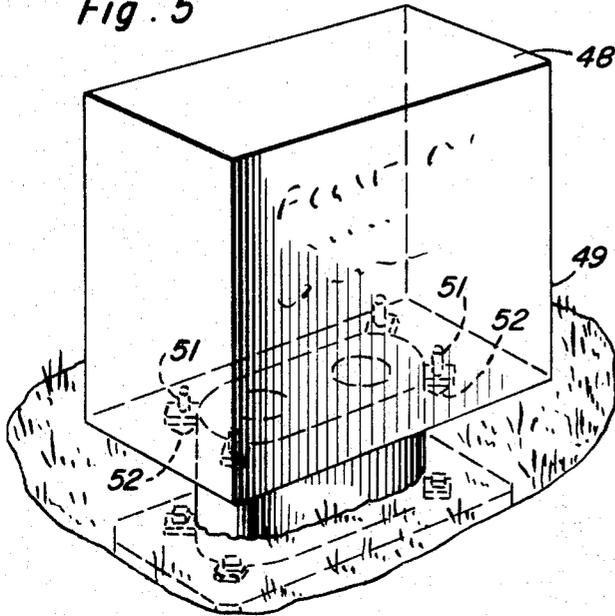


Fig. 6

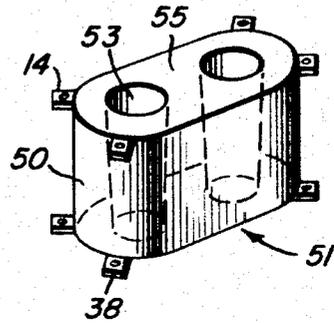
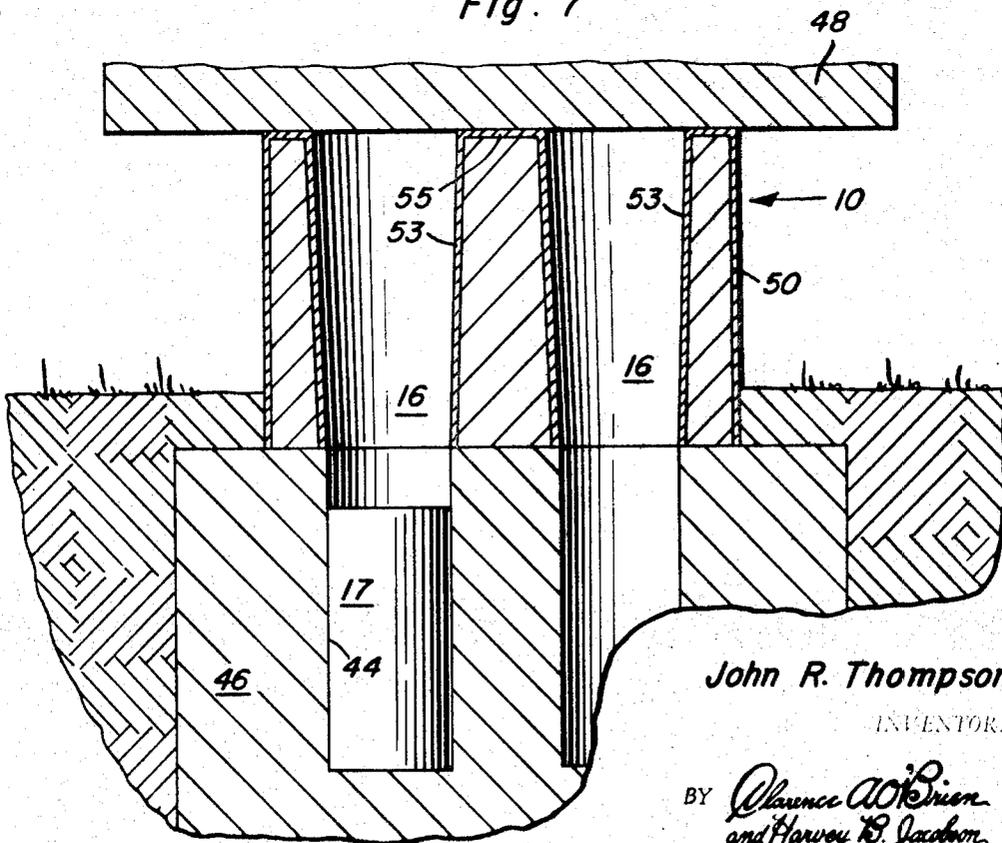


Fig. 7



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BASE FOR CEMETERY MONUMENTS WITH URN RECEIVING CAVITIES

Generally, the present invention relates to cemetery monument support bases, and more particularly to monument bases with receptacles therein for holding cremation urns.

In the past, cemetery monument bases have been provided, many of which were made from granite, marble, and other stone materials, being shaped with square corner edges which were susceptible to cracking and chipping over a period of years. With modern day lawn cutting equipment, it is difficult to cut around such conventional monument bases, often damaging the bases in the process. Furthermore, conventional monument bases are often unanchored and above the ground for the most part, rendering them vulnerable to damage or destruction by possible vandalism.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a cemetery monument base which is relatively simple and inexpensive to produce, yet is long lasting, functional, and of a durable construction.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a cemetery monument base which is comprised of a heavy core material surrounded by a stainless steel jacket which is attractive in appearance and impervious to the elements.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a method of producing cemetery monument bases by pouring a hardenable material, such as concrete, into a surrounding stainless steel jacket and inserting several anchoring brackets into the material prior to hardening.

It is still another object of the present invention to provide a cemetery monument base having curved end portions which create a smooth outer surface not susceptible to cracking and chipping over a period of years.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a monument base of heavy core construction which contains several urn receptacles therein which may be easily sealed from the elements or possible damage by vandalism.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a cemetery monument base which may be mounted either partially above or entirely below the ground and which is easily fastened between the foundation and the monument.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective, phantom view of the monument base mounted underground and anchoring a ground level monument in place.

FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view of the surrounding jacket and bracket assemblies.

FIG. 3 is a sectional view of the underground base shown in FIG. 1 with an urn inserted in one of the receptacles.

FIG. 4 is a sectional view along plane 4—4 shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a second embodiment of the monument base extending partially above the

ground with the bottom fastened to an underground foundation.

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the monument base shown in FIG. 5.

FIG. 7 is a sectional view of the above-ground monument base shown in FIG. 5.

Referring more specifically to FIG. 1, the monument base is indicated by the numeral 10, and secures a flat ground level monument 12 in place by way of a plurality of bolts 13 extending through flanges 14 of monument base 10. A pair of vertically extending urn cavities or receptacles 16 extend the entire height of monument base 10 to accept cremation urn 17, and are sealed from the outside by way of monument 12.

The monument base 10 is comprised of a core 18 which is made from a heavy hardenable material, such as concrete, surrounded by an outer jacket 20, preferably of stainless steel or similar materials. The outer surrounding jacket 20 may be formed from several pieces as shown in FIG. 2. A pair of upright semicylindrical end portions 28 are fastened to a pair of relatively flat side portions 30 by way of vertically extending flanges 32 adapted to abut each other and containing a plurality of apertures 34 which align with each other to accept bolts or similar fastening means. Several brackets 36 extend vertically along the inner surfaces of end portions 28 each including an upper horizontal flange 14 and a lower horizontal flange 38 extending outwardly from the curved end portions 28. If desired, the upper and lower edges of curved end portions 28 may include notches or slots 29, to accept the upper and lower horizontal flanges 14 and 38 respectively. This provides smooth upper and lower mounting surfaces and aids in the concrete pouring procedure hereinafter explained. The bottom of each flat side portion 30 includes an outwardly extending foundation flange 40 with holes 42 therein. Thus, monument base 10 may be anchored to a foundation of concrete, or similar material, by way of studs or bolts 24 which extend through flanges 38 and 40, as shown in FIG. 4.

The foundation may be in the form of a flat slab such as foundation 22 shown in FIGS. 3 and 4, or it may include a pair of receptacle extensions 44 as contained in foundation 46, shown in FIG. 7. Each receptacle extension 44 is adapted to align with urn receptacles 16 such that each urn is actually deposited in the extension 44 after passing through receptacle 16. This arrangement further insures that the cremation urn will not be harmed through vandalism or accidental damage to the monument.

Referring to FIGS. 5 and 6, it will be appreciated that the monument base may be partially elevated above the ground level to anchor the monument 48 in an elevated position wherein the edges 49 of monument 48 are substantially removed from the areas encountered by grass cutting equipment. It should also be noted that the jacket 50 of the monument base may be formed from a single piece, as more clearly shown in FIG. 6, rather than the four-piece construction illustrated in FIG. 2. The one-piece construction of jacket 50 provides a somewhat neater outward appearance and may be less expensive to produce, by such methods as welding, depending upon the number of units desired. Also, it is not essential that the foundation bracket 40, shown in

FIG. 2, be included in the one-piece construction where it is felt that lower flanges 38 will sufficiently anchor the base to the foundation. The one-piece construction may also include metal receptacle liners 53 connected to jacket 50 by way of metal top member 55.

The monument 48 is fastened to the base 10 by way of studs 51 which extend through upper flanges 14 and are held in position by nuts 52. It will be appreciated, that nuts 52 may be of a special configuration such that they may not be removed by standard tools, thus preventing the possibility of their removal by acts of vandalism. When desired, similar fastening means may be provided for foundation studs 24, to insure that

It is appreciated, that a versatile, relatively simple, inexpensive monument base is provided which is practically indestructible and highly impervious to the elements over a period of years. The size and number of urn receptacles may be varied in the field by the use of various mold configurations inserted prior to pouring hardenable material. Furthermore, the over-all length of each multi-piece monument base may be varied in the field by the insertion of additional side portions 30 between end portions 28 prior to the pouring process. Thus, the multi-piece jacket construction provides a high degree of flexibility.

The method of construction of the monument base may not be removed from the foundation.

high degree of flexibility of the multi-piece jacket construction.