July 7, 1936. E. M. WALTON 2,046,594

GRAVE MARKER

Filed Feb. 11, 1935

Fig. 1.

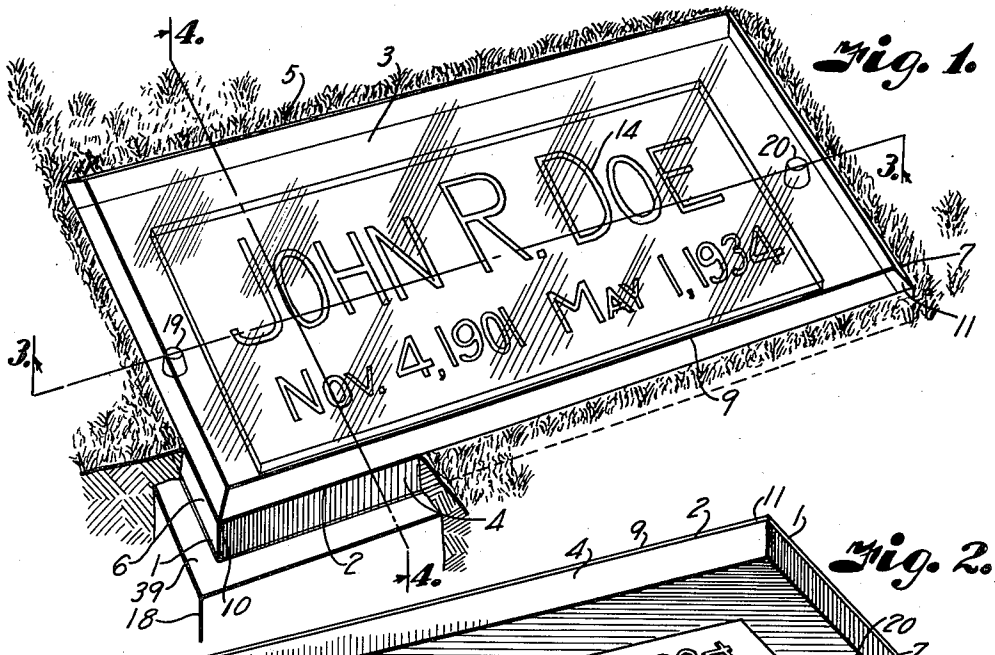


Fig. 2.

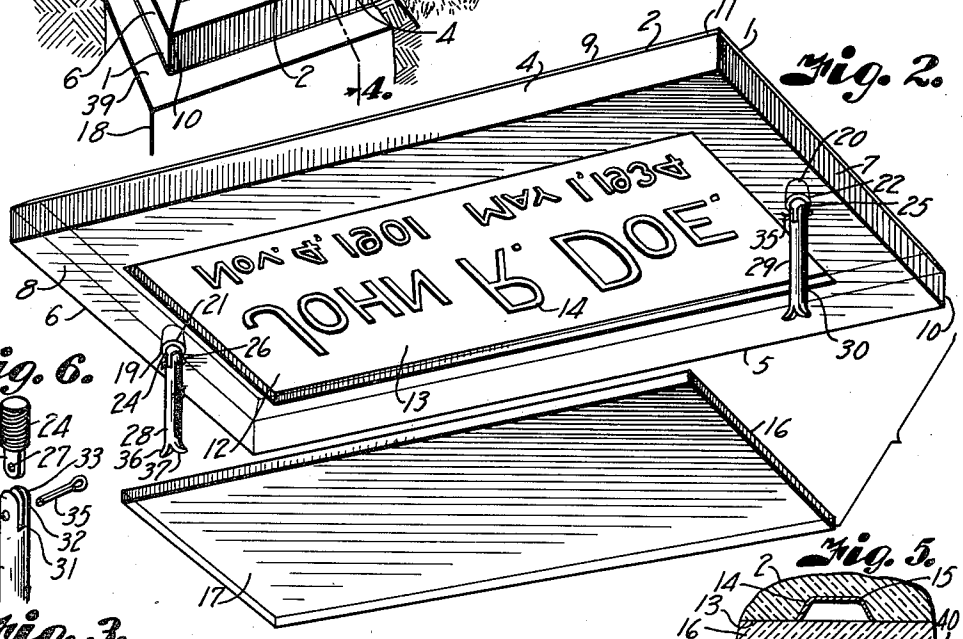


Fig. 6.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 3.

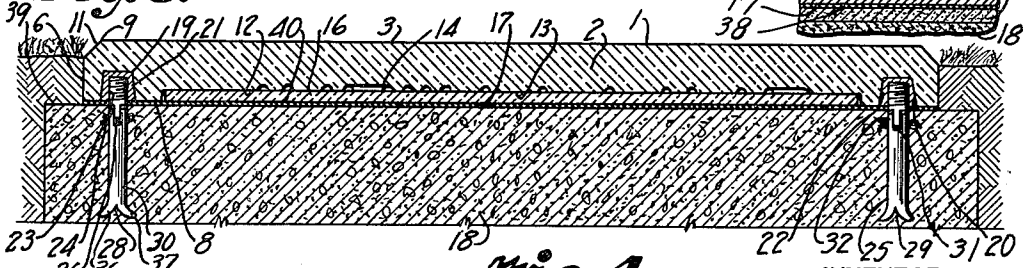
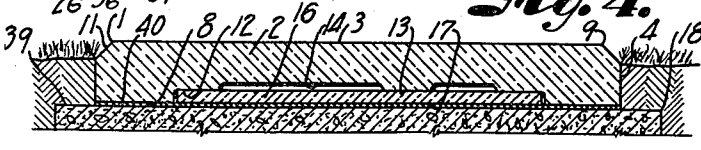


Fig. 4.



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Patented July 7, 1936

2,046,594

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,046,594

GRAVE MARKER

Edgar M. Walton, Kansas City, Mo.

Application February 11, 1935, Serial No. 5,960

8 Claims. (Cl. 40—124.5)

This invention relates to grave markers and has for its principal object to provide a marker wherein the inscriptions, legends or ornamentations thereof are protected from the elements and remain clearly visible throughout the years.

Other important objects of the invention are to provide a marker which can be readily and securely attached to a monolithic base that is preferably inset into the ground; to provide a marker which is not subject to corrosion or disintegration brought about by atmospheric conditions, soil acids and other ravaging effects to which markers are ordinarily subjected; and to provide a marker capable of withstanding mechanical shocks caused by rough handling during shipping or manufacture, or by a lawn mower or other device used in cemetery maintenance work around the marker.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the invention, I have provided improved details of structure, the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a marker constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of parts of the marker shown in disassembled spaced relation.

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the marker on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a vertical cross section on the line 4—4, Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a detail fragmentary section particularly illustrating the formation and inlay of the inscription letters or characters of the marker.

Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the anchoring devices employed in securing the marker to a base.

Referring more in detail to the drawing:

1 designates a marker including a block or slab 2 constructed of a transparent material of high mechanical strength and having a low coefficient of expansion such as for example a borosilicate glass. While the slab 2 may be of any suitable shape, it is illustrated in the present instance as being of rectangular form and having a flat upper face 3, side and end faces 4—5 and 6—7, and a bottom face 8.

The upper edges 9 and the corners 10 of the slab are preferably bevelled or rounded as indicated at 11 and the under face 8 is provided with a rectangular shaped recess 12 to provide an inset field or cite 13 on which the inscription or other legend is cut or engraved in any conventional manner such as for example by a sand blast. It will be noted that the letters 14 are cut reversely with respect to the bottom face 8, but when viewed from above through the flat upper face 3, they have the proper appearance. After the letters 14 have been engraved into the glass they are preferably inlaid or coated with silver or similar leaf 15 as illustrated in Fig. 5 so as to promote a bright attractive character when viewed from above, as shown in Fig. 1.

After the letters have been formed and inlaid the recess 12 is closed by a panel 16 of slightly smaller dimensions to provide space between the edges thereof for a weld or suitable cement such as used in the cementation of glass. The panel 16 is formed of the same material as the slab 2 so that it will be identical in appearance and have the same co-efficient of expansion. After the panel 16 has been inserted and cemented in the recess, the lettering or other inscription is hermetically sealed from moisture, dirt, or other elements that might have a corrosive effect upon the inlay of the characters.

When the panel is in position in the recess, the lower face 17 thereof lies flush with the plane of the bottom face 8 of the slab as shown in Fig. 3 to lie flatly against a suitable base or foundation 18 on which the marker is secured as later described.

Formed at the respective ends and extending upwardly from the lower face 8 of the marker are sockets 19 and 20 having their bottoms terminating short of the upper face 3 and having their walls roughened to retain deformable metal inserts 21 and 22 that are applied therein and have bores 23 for accommodating threaded studs 24 and 25.

The bores 23 in the inserts are of substantially smaller diameter than the studs so that when the studs are threaded therein the metal will be expanded outwardly into keying relation with the roughened surface of the sockets to securely anchor the studs therein.

Formed on the projecting ends of the studs 24 and 25 are ears 26 having apertured openings 27 for attaching anchors 28 and 29 each including a shank 30 having a slotted upper end 31 to form spaced ears 32 and 33 to engage the respective sides of the ears 26. The ears 32 and 33 have openings 34 therein aligning with the openings 27 to pass a fastening device such as a cotter pin 35 therethrough to hingedly connect the anchors with the studs. The depending end of the anchors have forked ends 36 and 37 to retain the anchors imbedded in the foundation 18.

After the panel 16 has been cemented in place

and the anchors applied, the entire lower face of the marker is coated with a mineral paint 38 to provide a background for the letters 14, for example, a black asphalt paint. This coating not only provides a background for the letters, but it also lends to the hermetic seal of the panel 16 and acts as a cushioning element between the marker and the base 18.

When the marker is to be installed, a pit is formed in the ground of sufficient size to accommodate the base 18 which preferably extends beyond the side and end edges of the marker as shown at 39 in Fig. 3. The pit is then filled with concrete up to the depth of the marker from the surface of the ground, after which a layer of neat cement 40 is applied over the upper surface thereof and levelled off to form a supporting face for the marker. The marker carrying the anchors is then applied over the base and the anchors are pushed into the soft cement until the lower face of the marker is bedded into the layer of neat cement.

The marker is then adjusted to level position and left until the cement has set. Dirt may then be filled in over the foundation up to the edges of the marker as shown in Fig. 1 to complete the installation.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that I have provided a marker wherein the legends or other insignia thereon are hermetically sealed from the elements and, therefore, remain clearly visible through the upper face of the marker.

Due to the nature of the material from which the marker is constructed, it is not subject to breakage or chipping caused by shocks or collision of a lawn mower therewith when cutting the grass in and around the marker. Since the marker is constructed of water-proof, substantially non-porous material, having a low co-efficient of expansion, it is not subject to deteriorating effects of moisture or temperature changes.

It is also apparent that after the concrete of the base is set, the marker is retained by the anchors tightly thereagainst so that it is impossible for moisture to enter thereunder.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A marker including a block of boro-silicate glass having a recess in one face and provided with characters reversely engraved in the bottom of said recess to be read through an opposite face of the block, metallic leaf material backing the engraved faces of said characters, a boro-silicate glass panel having the same co-efficient of expansion as the block for closing said recess, means for hermetically sealing the panel into the recess, and a mineral coating covering said recessed face of the block and said panel.

2. A marker including a block member of boro-silicate glass having a recess in one face, a boro-silicate glass panel member having the same co-efficient of expansion as the block for closing said recess, means for hermetically sealing the panel member in the recess, and a mineral cushioning material covering said recessed face of the block and said panel, one of said members having letters on a side thereof facing the other member.

3. In combination with a monolithic base, a marker on said base including a flat slab formed of boro-silicate glass and having a recess in the lower face thereof to form an inset letter site, a boro-silicate panel sealed in said recess, a mineral coating between the marker and said base, and anchoring devices hingedly connected to the slab adjacent the side of the recess and embedded in said base.

4. A marker including a slab having a socket in the base face thereof, a deformable metal insert in the socket, a stud threaded into the insert and wedging the insert into the recess, an anchor, and means pivotally connecting the anchor with said stud.

5. A marker including a slab having a socket in the base face thereof, a deformable metal insert in the socket, a stud wedging the insert into the socket and having an apertured ear projecting from said slab, an anchor having an apertured end engaging the ear, and a fastening device extending through said apertures to hinge said anchor to said stud.

6. A marker including a block of transparent material having a recess in its rear face to form a site and having characters cut in said site, a transparent panel filling the recess to cover the characters cut in said site, means sealing the transparent panel in said recess, and a mineral coating covering the rear face of the panel and surrounding portion of the block to form a back ground for the characters and to cushion said marker when anchored to a supporting surface.

7. In combination with a monolithic base, a marker on said base including a slab formed of transparent material and having a recess in the lower face thereof to form an inset letter site surrounded by a flat marginal face for support on said base, a panel sealed in said recess for covering said letter site, and fastening means projecting from said marginal face for engaging in said base.

8. In combination with a monolithic base, a marker on said base including a slab formed of transparent material and having a recess in its lower face surrounded by a flat marginal face for support on said base, a panel sealed in said recess, lettering material in said recess visible through said slab and protected by said panel, fastening means projecting from said marginal face for anchoring the slab to said base, and a cushioning material between said slab and base.

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