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CONTAINER SUPPORT FOR GRAVESTONES

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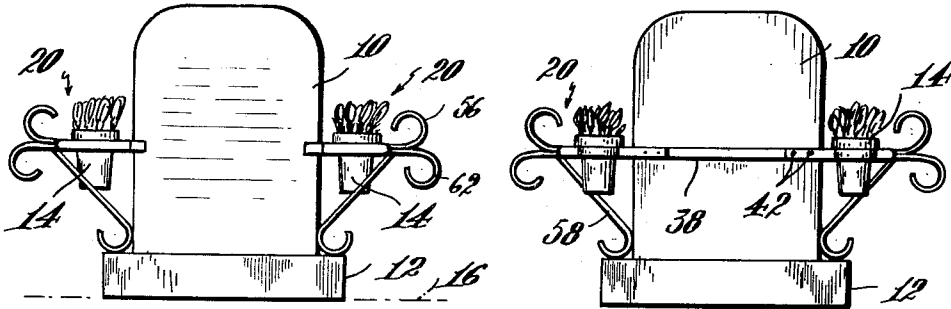


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

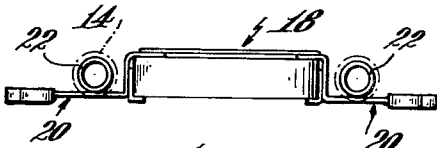


Fig. 3

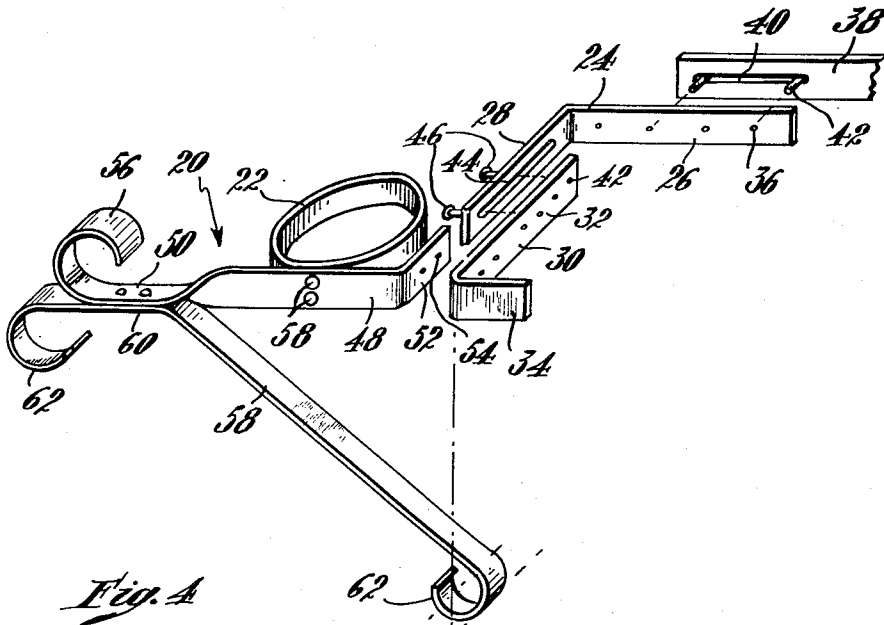


Fig. 4

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**CONTAINER SUPPORT FOR GRAVESTONES**

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3 Claims. (Cl. 211-71)

This invention relates to a device for supporting containers for flowers, plants and the like on a gravestone, and has for its principal objects to provide a device which is adjustable in size so as to fit stones of different girth; to provide a device which will hold the containers above the base of the stone and hence out of the way of mowing equipment and to enable trimming close to the base of the stone without interference from the presence of such containers; to provide a device which will support containers in laterally spaced relation to the sides of the stone rearwardly of the front face; and to provide a device which is ornamental when applied to the stone, symmetrical in appearance, durable, easy to install and inexpensive to manufacture.

In accordance with the invention the device comprises a rigid strap having members adapted to be adjustably secured to the four sides of the stone at a predetermined height above the base, arms extending horizontally outwardly from the sides, braces secured to the outer extremities of the arms inclined inwardly and downwardly and having their inner ends in abutting engagement with the sides of the stone above the base, and means secured to the horizontally extending arms spaced from the sides of the stone and the outer extremities of the arms adapted to hold containers suitable for containing cut or growing flowers and/or plants.

The strap is made up of members for engagement with the back and sides at the rear corners, other members for engagement with the front and sides at the front corners, means adjustably connecting the rear members for adjustment width wise of the stone, and means adjustably connecting the front and rear members at the sides of the stone for adjustment from front-to-back. The arms are made of flat stock twisted intermediate their ends so as to have vertically disposed portions adjacent the sides of the stone substantially in the plane of the front face and horizontal portions outwardly thereof, the outer extremities of which are curled upwardly and inwardly. The braces have flat portions engaged with the undersides of the horizontal portions of the arms, the extremities of which are curled downwardly and inwardly and the inner ends of said brace portions are curled downwardly and outwardly so as to provide a cylindrical bearing surface for engagement with the sides and base of the stone. The means for holding the containers comprise rings secured to the rear sides of the vertical portions of the arms in spaced relation to the sides of the stone. The front-engaging portions of the front members are abbreviated so as to have contact with the margins of the stone adjacent the corners.

The invention will now be described in greater detail with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is a front elevation of a stone with the device attached thereto;

FIG. 2 is a rear elevation of the stone with the device attached thereto;

FIG. 3 is a top view of the stone with the device attached thereto; and

FIG. 4 is an isometric exploded view of one-half of the device showing the relation of the component parts to each other and to the stone, the latter being shown in dot-and-dash lines.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown a stone comprised of a head panel 10 and base 12 to which is secured the supporting device, which forms the subject mat-

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ter of this invention, for holding containers 14 in spaced relation to the sides of the stone and rearwardly of the front face well above the base 12 and the ground level indicated by the line 16.

The device is in the form of a multi-part strap 18 (FIG. 4), designed to be applied to the back, sides and front faces of the stone for holding an arm 20 extending horizontally from each side of the panel 10, to the rear side of which is secured a container holder 22, herein shown in the form of a ring for receiving the lower part of a cylindrical container such as a flower pot. Obviously, the holder 22 may be of any desired configuration, for example rectangular, to receive a container having a rectangular cross-section or of polygonal cross-section so as to receive a container of cylindrical or multisided cross-section.

Referring particularly to FIG. 4, the device is made up of two rigid angle members 24 which have right-angulantly disposed arms 26 and 28 for engagement with the back and sides of the panel 10 at the rear corners, and two rigid angle members 30 having right-angulantly disposed arms 32 and 34 for engagement with the sides and front at the front corners of the panel. The arms 26 of the rear members 24 are provided with one or more threaded openings 36 by means of which these parts may be adjustably secured to a connecting member 38 containing slots 40 at its opposite ends through which screw bolts 42 may be placed and screwed into the threaded openings 36. The adjustment between the rear members 24 provides for applying the device to stones of different width. The arms 32 of the front members 30 are provided with a plurality of threaded openings 42 and the arms 28 of the rear member 24 are provided with slots 44 for receiving screw bolts 46 by means of which the arms 28 and 32 may be adjustably secured to each other in overlapping relation. This adjustment provides for difference in thicknesses of the stone.

The arms 34 of the front members 30 are of abbreviated length so that they have engagement with only a relatively narrow marginal portion of the front face of the stone and hence do not overlap or conceal any of the decorative facing applied to the front face.

Each of the arms 20 is comprised of flat stock twisted intermediate its ends so that it has a flat, vertically disposed portion 48 adjacent the side of the stone and a horizontally disposed portion 50 outwardly thereof. At the inner end of the vertically disposed portion 48 there is a rigid right-angulantly disposed flange 52 containing openings 54 for receiving screw bolts by means of which it is fastened to the arms 32 of the front member 30, so as to extend outwardly in a substantially horizontal position. The outer extremity of the horizontal portion 50 is curled upwardly and inwardly at 56. The holders 22 are secured to the rear sides of the vertical portions 48 by means of screw bolts 58 or the like, so that they are spaced from the sides of the stone and rearwardly of the front face.

In order to reinforce and prevent sagging of the arms 20, either by the weight of the containers or by some one leaning on the support, braces 58 are secured to each arm. Each brace has a flat horizontal portion 60 secured to the horizontal portion 50 of the arm by suitable bolts or the like, the outer extremity of which is curled downwardly and inwardly at 62 to provide, in combination with the curl 56 at the end of the arm, an ornamental appearance. The portion of the brace inwardly of the horizontal portion 60 inclines downwardly, inwardly and rearwardly so that its lower end abuts the side of the panel adjacent the base 12. Preferably the lower end of the brace is curled downwardly, outwardly and upwardly to provide a cylindrical bearing member 62 for engagement with the

side of the stone adjacent the base and the upper surface of the base and also to impart an ornamental appearance thereto.

The device, as described above, is made of flat stock in such simple shape as to be extremely easy to manufacture, to be installed on the stone and to be easily adapted to the girth of the stone and will provide a durable, attractive adjunct which will support flowers, plants and the like in an attractive manner and so that they need not be removed by attendants during the process of mowing and/or trimming the ground about the stone.

It should be understood that the present disclosure is for the purpose of illustration only and that this invention includes all modifications and equivalents which fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A device for supporting containers on a gravestone above the base, comprising a rigid strap having members for engagement with the back, sides and marginal edge of the front leaving the major portion of the surface area of the front unobstructed, means adjustably securing the parts together in frictional engagement with the stone to sustain the strap at a predetermined heightwise position relative to the base, an arm secured to each of said members of the strap engaged with the sides so as to extend laterally from the sides in a horizontal position, each arm being comprised of flat stock twisted intermediate its ends so as to have a vertically disposed portion adjacent the side of the stone situated substantially in the plane of the front face and a horizontally disposed portion outwardly thereof, the outer extremities of which are curled upwardly and inwardly, a brace comprised of flat stock having a flat part disposed against the underside of the outer portion of the arm and secured thereto, said portion having a downwardly and inwardly curled extremity and a part extending downwardly and inwardly from the arm into engagement with the side of the stone above the base, the extremity of which is curled downwardly and outwardly relative to the side of the stone so as to provide a cylindrical bearing surface for engagement with the stone, and a rigid ring secured to the rear side of the vertical portion of each arm in a horizontal position for holding a container spaced from and adjacent the side of the stone rearwardly of the front face.

2. A device for supporting containers on a gravestone above the base, comprising a first pair of rigid members having right-angularly disposed arms for engagement with

the back and sides at the rear corners, a connector part adjustably secured to the arms having engagement with the back, a second pair of rigid members having right-angularly disposed arms for engagement with the sides and front solely at the front corners leaving the major portion of the surface area of the front unobstructed, the arms of the first pair of members being engaged with the back side, means adjustably connecting the arms of the first and second pairs of members having engagement with the sides of the stone to each other, said components permitting adjustment of the parts for application to stones of different girth, and said arms of the second pair of members having engagement with the front side being abbreviated so as to lap over only the marginal edges of the front side, arms secured to said second pair of members so as to extend horizontally outwardly from the sides substantially in the plane of the front side of the stone, braces secured to the extremities of the arms extending downwardly and inwardly therefrom into engagement with the side of the stone above the base, and rigid holders secured to the rear sides of the arms for holding containers in spaced relation to the sides and rearwardly of the front face.

3. A device for supporting a receptacle at each side of the upright portion of a gravestone above the base, comprising a band extending circumferentially of the back and sides, said band having ends terminating at the front side close to the margin, leaving the major portion of the surface area of the front side unobstructed, said band including back and side components adapted to be shortened with respect to the back and sides and securing means for fixing said components to clamp the band to the upright portion of the stone, an arm secured to the band at each of the sides so as to extend horizontally outward therefrom above the base, a brace supporting each arm, said brace being secured at one end to the outer end of the arm and having a bearing at its other end in the angle between the intersecting surfaces of the base and side of the upright portion, and a receptacle-supporting member secured to the rear side of each arm in spaced relation to the side.

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