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T. J. MOORE.

MAUSOLEUM.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 17, 1906.

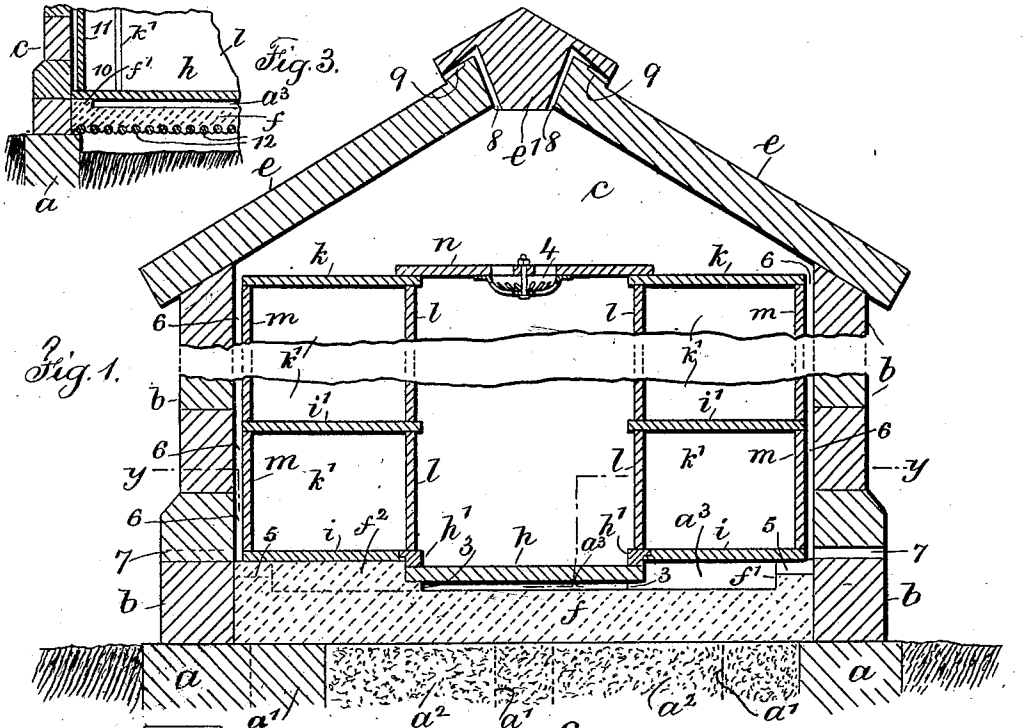


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

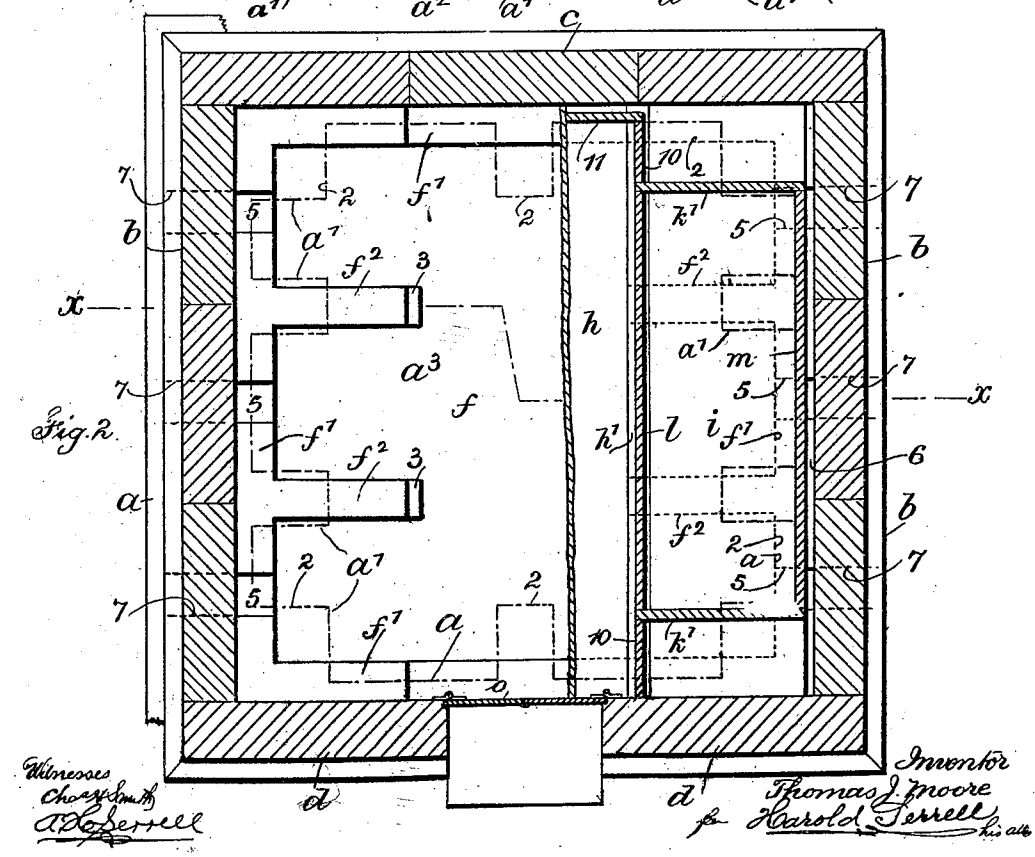


Fig. 2.

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MAUSOLEUM.

No. 863,303. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 13, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. MOORE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Richmond Hill, in the borough of Queens, city and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Mausoleums.

My invention relates to a tomb or mausoleum above ground and particularly to an improved construction of the same whereby a thorough natural ventilation of all parts of the structure is obtained without in any degree detracting from the strength, appearance or stability of the structure.

In carrying out my invention I provide the foundation walls with interior buttresses or off-set portions. This foundation may inclose the earth or a bed of cinders or similar material and the upper surfaces are advantageously level. These may also be level with the surface of the earth outside the foundation wall. Upon this foundation and bed of cinders if employed, I lay a bed of concrete with a level upper surface, the continuity of which is interrupted by a raised edge and prolongations or ribs jutting out into the same and having off-set ends. The marble or other floor of the mausoleum is laid upon these off-set ends and upon portions of the raised edge, while the lower shelves of the catacombs are laid upon the projections and the edges. The adjacent floor and catacomb shelf edges are finished off with edge slabs and the backs of the catacombs are a short distance from the inner surfaces of the main walls so as to leave narrow air spaces, and the raised edge of the concrete bed is made at intervals with depressions. The floor and lower shelves of the catacombs are thus raised above the surface of the concrete bed, thus providing an air chamber in my improved mausoleum beneath both the floor and the catacombs except for the supports of said parts, and this air chamber communicates with the air spaces between the walls and the catacombs and with openings through the walls to the air outside. These air chambers also open out above the catacombs and communicate with the outside air through openings in the roof, thus a complete circulation of the air is maintained within the mausoleum in an effort to keep the walls dry to prevent sweating and foul air and also to prevent any discoloration or staining of the floor or walls or molding even if the door of the mausoleum is closed tight.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a vertical broken section upon the dotted line x, x, of Fig. 2, Fig. 2 is a sectional plan upon the dotted line y, y, of Fig. 1; said figures showing clearly the features of my improvement, and Fig. 3 is a section showing a form of my invention.

The foundation walls a may be made of any suitable material of any suitable thickness and may extend to any suitable depth. Their inner surfaces agree approximately with the inner diameter of the mausoleum and their outer surfaces are preferably beyond the width of the walls.

b b are the side walls, c the back wall and d the front wall. These walls are usually made of stone, the lower layers being preferably thicker than the upper layers and tapered at the upper outer edge adjacent to the upper portions of the walls. The roof slabs e may be secured and laid in position on the side walls in any desired manner, and I prefer to employ a roof keystone e' coming between the roof slabs and having overhanging edges extending over outside of the upper portions of said slabs for the purpose of shedding rain from the connecting joints.

Within the foundation walls a I provide buttresses a' at intervals preferably formed with and extending out from the foundation walls, the inner surface of the foundation and outline of the buttresses is indicated at the dotted line 2 of Fig. 2.

Within the foundation a and buttresses a', I preferably provide a bed of cinders a^2 or other similar material which is preferably backed or rammed down tight and is of any desired depth so that the upper surface of these cinders and the upper surface of the foundation are on the same level. Upon this bed of cinders and the foundation buttresses I place a concrete bed f having a level upper surface, the continuity of which is interrupted. This interruption is caused by the raised edge f' which forms a boundary to the bed and by the ribs or prolongations f^2 which jut out or project from the raised edge at suitable intervals and which ribs or prolongations are provided at their extreme ends with off-set portions 3.

h represents a floor slab preferably in one piece from the front to the back wall of the mausoleum. This slab rests upon the off-sets 3 of the ribs or prolongations f^2 and at its ends upon recesses in the raised edge f' of the concrete bed, so as to be raised above the surface of the concrete bed f and form an air chamber a^3 between said parts and above the surface of the concrete bed f.

The catacombs are composed of the bottom shelves i i and intermediate shelves i', the top slabs k, end slabs k', the front slabs l and back slabs m, and as usual I so proportion these catacombs that each one is a receptacle for a single body and its coffin and retaining box.

The floor slab h along its edges is provided with edge slabs h' which preferably interlock with the edges of the bottom shelves i i so as to form a finish and provide a support for the front slabs l of the cata-

combs. I prefer that the slabs h h' and l shall be of marble, while the shelves i i', m and k be of slate; the slab n may be of marble or other suitable material and is a cover slab which extends over the space between the catacombs and above the floor slab h, and this cover slab is preferably supported on the edges of the top slabs k and front slabs l.

I prefer to provide openings in the cover slab n and a ventilation device 4 secured over the same. The recesses or passage-ways for air in the raised edge of the concrete bed are shown at 5, and the back slabs m of the catacombs are placed at an appreciable distance from the inner surfaces of the walls b so as to provide an air chamber 6, and the said walls b, at a suitable distance above the ground and preferably on a line with the upper surface of the ribs or prolongations f^2 of the concrete bed, are provided with air openings 7. Above the catacombs and the cover slab n there is a space beneath the roof and I prefer to provide openings 8 between the keystone e' of the roof and the adjacent ends of the roof slabs, which openings extend around and beneath the over-hanging portions of the said keystone so that an exit is obtained for the air above the catacombs at the center of the roof, and I further prefer as shown, to provide the off-set faces 9 at the upper edges of the roof slabs and beneath the over-hanging portions of the roof keystone so as to prevent water in a rain storm from getting up through the openings 8 between the roof slabs and the keystone.

o represents the door of the mausoleum which may be of any suitable or desired material; the doors however are usually made of metal so arranged as to have a ventilating panel, and in case the ventilating panel is closed and there is no means of otherwise ventilating the mausoleum, the air inside becomes very bad, the structure sweats and sometimes becomes moldy and the stone stained, and fine and expensive materials used in the construction thereof are thus often stained and ruined at least in appearance. These difficulties are overcome by the structure of my invention hereinbefore described, in which an adequate and perfect ventilation of the mausoleum is obtained regardless of the construction and condition of the entrance door.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that the floor and the shelves of the catacombs are supported upon the raised edge f' and the ribs or prolongations f^2 and off-sets 3 thereof above the surface of the concrete bed f, consequently these parts are over an air space which extends under their entire surfaces between the raised edge f' and that this air chamber communicates by means of the openings 5 with the vertical air chambers 6 and the air apertures 7 in the walls, consequently there is thus provided means for a constant circulation of the air beneath the floor of the mausoleum and the catacombs.

In Fig. 2 of the drawing I have shown the catacombs as shorter in length than the interior dimensions of the mausoleum, so that there are air chambers of appreciable area at the ends of the catacombs. These are closed in by the vertical end faces 10, and I have shown and employ an end slab 11 off-set from the back wall c and extending across from side to side of the catacombs so as to complete the continuity of the internal air chambers and at the same time so as to preserve the internal appearance of the mausoleum.

I do not limit myself to the proportions or arrangement of the catacombs, nor to the general dimensions of the mausoleum or proportions thereof, as the same may be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention, nor do I limit myself to the employment of a cinder foundation within the stone foundation and its buttresses, as the cinder or similar material foundation may be dispensed with and the earth occupy its place and also be at an appreciable depth below the top of the foundation.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a form of my invention in which when the cinders are dispensed with and the earth is below the level of the foundation walls a reinforced concrete bed construction of any desired character may be employed in connection with which rods 12 of metal are placed across from side to side of the foundation embedded in the concrete for supporting the same and maintaining the integrity of the structure when other support is absent.

The roof slabs may be set at any desired angle of inclination.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a mausoleum, the combination with a suitable foundation, the floor slabs and the bottom slabs of the catacombs, of a bed of concrete on the foundation having projections above the floor level so arranged as to extend beneath and provide supports for the catacomb and floor slabs and form chambers for the passage of ventilating currents of air beneath the catacombs and floor, and the catacombs off-set from the main side walls to provide air chambers there being openings through the walls communicating with said air chambers and also with the air chambers beneath the catacombs and the floor.

2. In a mausoleum, the combination with a suitable foundation, the floor slabs and the bottom slabs of the catacombs, of a bed of concrete on the foundation having projections above the floor level so arranged as to extend beneath and provide supports for the bottom slabs of the catacombs and the catacombs and said projections having off-set ends at 3 to provide supports for the floor slabs intermediate of the floor level and the level of the catacomb slabs so that chambers may be formed for the passage of ventilating currents of air between the catacombs and the floor slabs, and the catacombs off-set from the main side walls to provide air chambers there being openings through the walls communicating with said air chambers and also with the air chambers beneath the catacombs and the floor.

3. In a mausoleum, the combination with a suitable foundation, the floor slabs and the bottom slabs of the catacombs, of a bed of concrete on the foundation having projections above the floor level so arranged as to extend beneath and provide supports for the catacomb and floor slabs and form chambers for the passage of ventilating currents of air beneath the catacombs and floor, and the catacombs off-set from the main side walls to provide air chambers there being openings through the walls communicating with said air chambers and also with the air chambers beneath the catacombs and the floor, and the catacombs made shorter in length than the interior dimensions of the mausoleum so that there are air chambers of appreciable area at the ends of the catacombs and an end slab 11 off-set from the back wall of the mausoleum and extending across from side to side of the catacombs so as to complete the continuity of the internal air chambers and at the same time preserve the internal appearance of the mausoleum.

4. In a mausoleum the combination with a suitable foundation, of a concrete bed laid upon the foundation

with a level upper surface, a raised edge to the bed of concrete and prolongations or ribs at intervals jutting out from the raised edge and interrupting the continuity of the upper surface of the concrete bed, said ribs or prolongations having off-set ends at a lower level and the front and back edges recessed on the same level as the off-set portions, a floor slab received upon said off-set portions and recesses and forming the floor of the mausoleum, bottom catacomb shelves received upon said ribs or prolongations and edges, and edge slabs at the intersection of the floor slab and bottom shelves of the catacombs, leaving clear passage-ways or chambers for air beneath these slabs.

Signed by me this 6th day of July 1906.

THOMAS J. MOORE.

Witnesses:
A. H. SERRELL,
E. ZACHARIASEN.