

Monolith and Pedestal Monuments

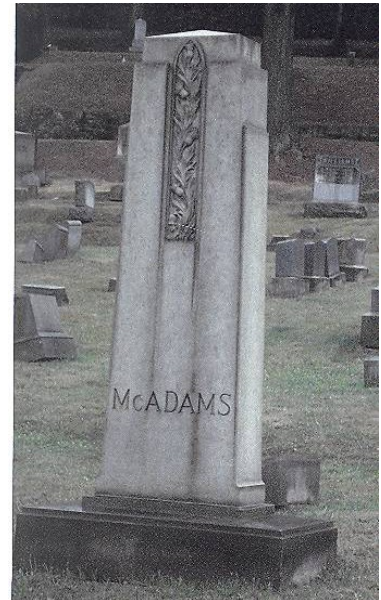
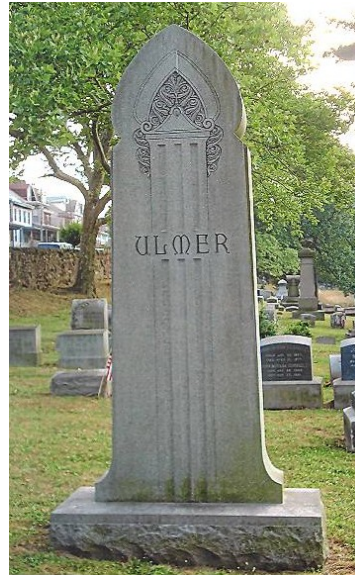
The Charles Baber Cemetery has an impressive array of headstones\ grave markers. This issue covers very large solid marble or granite markers called monoliths and pedestal monuments. The first type, called a **monolith**, is usually a large and/or tall single block of stone. The monolith may be attached to a single or two tier stone base or cemented into the ground. The monoliths in Baber Cemetery are tall and slender in thickness as compared to the pedestal and eclectic monuments. All of the Baber monoliths represent a family plot with usually only the last name on the monolith and smaller headstones in front or around the large monolith bearing the name and information about the individuals buried there. The monoliths are adorned with etchings, motifs and designs on their face.



The Hoffman and the Kerr monoliths to the left are similar in that they both used the cross symbol and both bear the information of three deceased family members– the Hoffman on its base and the Kerr on its face. The Kerr monolith is the oldest monolith with burial dates of 1911 and 2 from 1932. The Hoffman monolith has burial dates of 1942, 1973, and 1991. The headstones are small markers with initials.

The Hoffman monolith's shape, while being one solid stone, is designed as two outer columns supporting an inlaid surface which gives the effect of looking into a window. The inlay is of an inner window pane framed cross with a floral design behind the cross. The Kerr monolith is square with the cross offset against a flat back.

The Ulmer monolith and the McAdam monoliths, to the right, bear the family name with the information of the family members inscribed on the individual markers situated in front of the monoliths. Three monoliths sit on one tier bases. The Ulmer is pointed at the top with a long flowing torch etching in the center. (Actually the symbol looks more like a Roman or Greek structure with a roof and 4 long flowing columns.) The McAdam monolith has a floral design on its center and its capital is indented from the main stone with an outlaid panel on both sides.

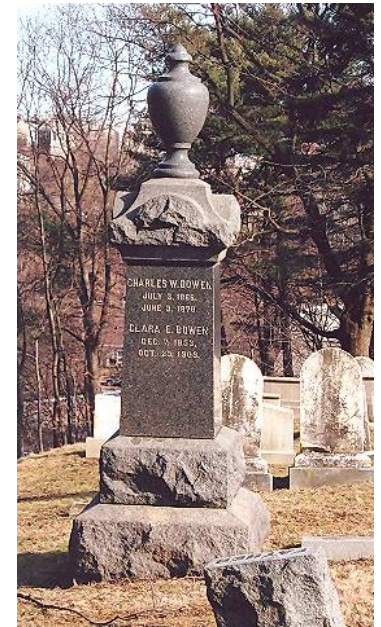
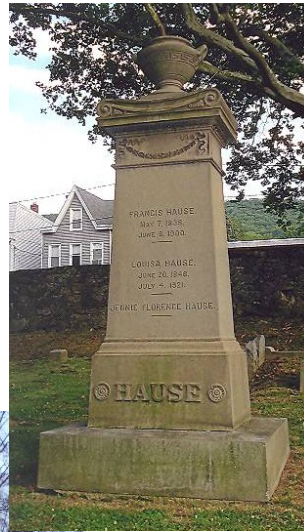


The two pictures on the left are the back and front view of the same Zerbey monolith. The monolith does not have a base and is cemented into the ground. It has a floral etching inserted on its face above the family name. When it was installed, it appears that two trees were planted on each side with a shrub planted at its front.

This is a sampling of a few monoliths, with many more throughout the cemetery. Each of the monoliths, when seen up close, is quite beautiful.

Monolith and Pedestal Monuments

Pedestal monument: A large structure with four faces for inscriptions and flat vertical sides (tapering or straight) topped either with a flat capital or pediment (triangular roof-like structure). There may also be an urn above the pediment or the capital. (The styling is adapted from architectural styles found in ancient Pompeii and usually is enriched with inscription, motifs and ornamental styling on four faces.) Most often, these monuments are large and made of either granite or marble.



There are a wide variety of the pedestal monuments throughout Baber Cemetery with a great many different designs and motifs. The Palmer monument with the laureate (1st picture on the left-to the rear) bears

only one name and serves as its own marker.

Other monuments like Rickert and Bright bear 7-8 names with the small grave markers in front or behind the monument.

The picture below shows 3 pedestal monuments and a smaller squatter monument between the lower two pedestals. There are many other pedestal monuments located on the Market St. level and by the 16th St. side, some will be covered in other issues. Each pedestal monument is unique unto itself and fascinating to

view.

