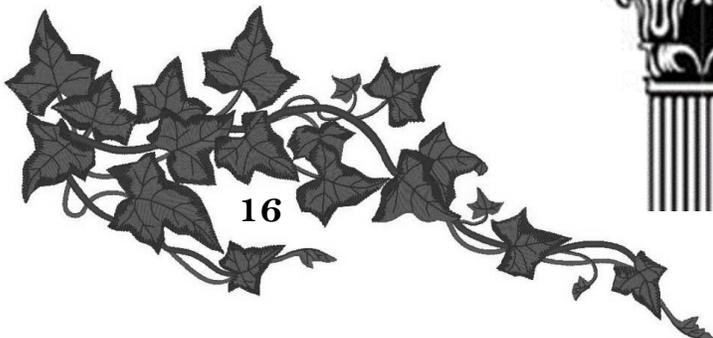
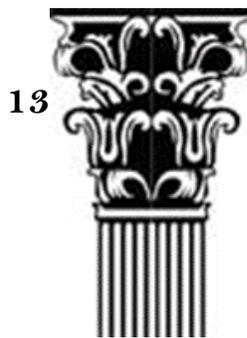
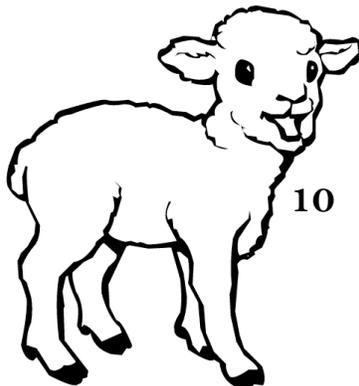
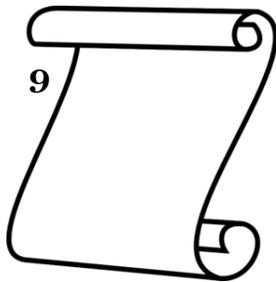
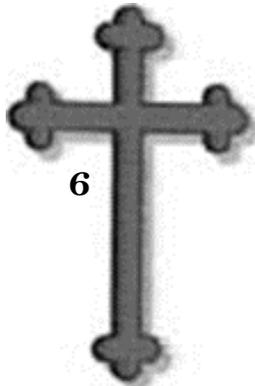
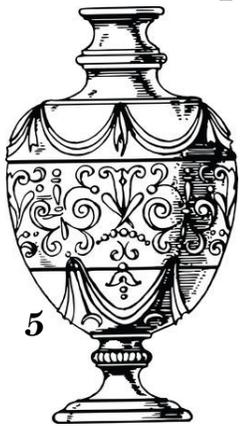
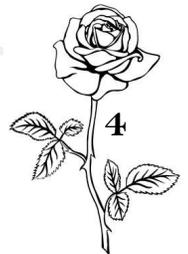
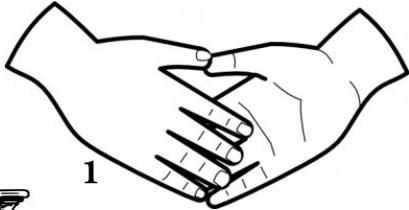


Victorian Cemetery

Scavenger Hunt

Circle each of the symbols as you find them in the cemetery!



MEANING OF VICTORIAN CEMETERY SYMBOLS

1 HANDS CLASPED

Having hands clasped on a grave often means a marriage partner or a close friend that has died and depicts their last farewell. You can sometimes tell the gender of the person by the cuffs on their sleeve. Coinciding with the dress of the time, men wore straight cuffs and women wore lace or puffed ones. If a straight cuffed arm is clasping from behind, it likely means that a husband, who died previously, is leading his wife to join him in the afterlife.

2 CELTIC CROSS

The Celtic or Irish cross, taking the form of a cross within a circle, generally represents eternity. It is likely that the deceased is of Irish or British Isles heritage. Some say that St. Patrick introduced the Celtic Cross in the Middle Ages in an attempt to convert pagan kings to Christianity.

3 ANGEL

The angel, or "messenger of God," may appear in many different poses, each with its own individual meaning. An angel with open wings is thought to represent the flight of the soul to heaven. Angels may also be shown carrying the deceased in their arms as if taking or escorting them to heaven. A weeping angel symbolizes grief, especially mourning an untimely death. An angel blowing a trumpet may depict the day of judgment.

4 ROSE

Roses usually adorn the graves of young women, and they represent heavenly perfection and earthly passion. If the rose is broken, it indicates the deceased person's age: a broken bud may represent the girl was under 12 years old when she died; a partial bloom represents death during teenage years; a full bloom represents someone in the prime of their life.

5 URN (DRAPED OR UNDRAPED IN FABRIC)

Urns are a reference to Greek and Roman cultures that cremated their dead. However, Victorians did not cremate their dead. This symbol was used to show that this person was in tune with the classics, therefore knowledgeable and cultured. The shroud that sometimes covers the top of the urn represents the veil that exists between the world of the living and the world of the dead.

6 CHRISTIAN CROSS

The cross represents the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There are many variations of crosses that denote which denomination the deceased was in their life.

7 DOVE

Doves symbolize the Holy Spirit, purity, and devotion (often between married couples). Many also associated the dove with peace, as we do today. If the dove is depicted as flying on the monument, it is thought to be carrying the deceased's soul to heaven.

8 TREE STUMP

This symbol has a few meanings. Some the graves that use a tree trunk belong to members of the Woodsmen of the World brotherhood and insurance company, indicating the work of the person in their life as a carpenter or woodsman. It also can be used like a column and mean a life cut short and sometimes associated with a person that had a love for nature.

9 SCROLL

A scroll is a symbol of life and time unfolding. It is rolled up at each end to mark the beginning of a life and the ending of a life. Sometimes the scroll contains Biblical scripture or the story of the person's life that it memorializes.

10 LAMB

Lambs always mark the grave of a small child. Ancient Egyptians first used this symbol to present innocence and purity, and its symbol is carried on in Christian practice as it is linked to Jesus Christ as a shepherd.

11 SLEEPING LION

The lion serves as a guardian in the cemetery, protecting a tomb from unwanted visitors and evil spirits. It symbolizes the courage and bravery of the departed. Lions in the cemetery can usually be found sitting on top of vaults and tombs, watching over the final resting place of the departed.

12 OPEN BOOK

Open books usually represent scholastic knowledge (someone who was a devoted intellectual) or scripture (someone who was a faith leader in the community). The book being open represents this person's openness to knowledge or the word of God. This symbol is also connected with good deeds the deceased may have done being recorded in the mythical "Book of Life."

13 COLUMN

Columns are also a nod to Greek architecture. They were a symbol of strong support and usually dedicated to the head of the household of a Victorian family. Columns are also purposefully shown broken at times to symbolize a life cut short and gone too soon.

14 ANCHOR

An anchor could appear on the grave of a sailor or a lover of the seas. It also has a Christian connotation and is regarded as a symbol of safety, hope, and steadfastness.

15 CALLA LILY

Calla lilies represent majestic beauty and are often used to represent marriage or resurrection.

16 IVY

Ivy carved into a tombstone is said to represent friendship, fidelity, and immortality. The hardy, ever-green leaf of the ivy denotes immortality and rebirth or regeneration, as it is hard to remove. In many Victorian cemeteries, you will see ivy planted like a blanket over the ground where the body lays. This comes from the Victorian notion that the dead were asleep or at rest rather than gone forever.

17 CROWN AND CROSS

This emblem is often interpreted as symbolizing the reward in heaven (the crown) coming after the trials in this life (the cross). The crown symbolizes Jesus's role as both the King of Kings and as the sufferer on the cross. It is used in many denominations of Christianity such as the Church of Christ Scientists, as well as Freemasons.