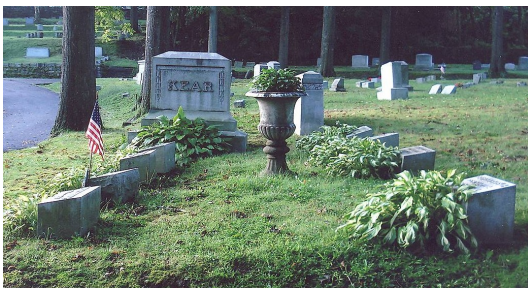


FAMILY PLOTS

In the 1800s and the 1900s, many of the burial plots purchased at the Charles Baber Cemetery were large plots of several generations. The type of plot varied from family to family and from one century to the next. The family plots of the 1800s and early 1900s tended to have iron rail fencing (Graeff) or short stone or concrete walls enclosing the plot. Once the family plot was enclosed, the formation of the memorial markers were of two types: the patriarchs, like Baber (1885) and Yuengling (1872), with plots at the main entrance, had a large obelisk in the center with their name on it and all other family members had smaller markers. The smaller markers can vary in size and style or they can be the same size and shape. The second type has a large ornate obelisk or monolith in the center of the plot and all family members have the same memorial marker like the Donaldson (1872) plot also at the main entrance.



By the mid and late 1900s the family plots, while still prevalent, tended not to be fenced or boxed in. They were of two types. Each type contained a large block, pedestal, or eclectic central monument bearing the family name with the individual markers, either similar or varying in size and style, centered, squared off or lined up in rows around the central monument. The Luther (eclectic monument) and the Kear (block monument) have the central monument with the family name and the individual markers lined up on the sides. Kear has added a flair with hostas in a center pedestal and with matching hostas in front of each marker. The second type of family plot contains a central pedestal or eclectic memorial marker with the individual names scripted into the central monument like Bright (pedestal) and Thompson (eclectic). Some plots have individual markers with a first name or no name around the central marker, while others contain no individual markers, just the central memorial marker with all the names on it.



Large family plots are not as prevalent today, most likely because the grown children tend to no longer remain within the state or county of their birth; and because cremations replace the need for in-ground burials and offer other choices for the disposition of one's ashes, such as columbarium niches.

