

CONDITIONS SURVEY DEFINITIONS

Site: Full name of cemetery with no abbreviations

Street Address: Approximate address of the cemetery, with no abbreviations.

City: City in which the cemetery is located, with no abbreviations.

Parish: Parish or county in which the cemetery is located, with no abbreviations.

State: State (no abbreviations) in which the cemetery is located, followed by the two-letter postal abbreviation for the state (ex. Louisiana--LA).

GPS Coordinates: A set of coordinates for the Global Positioning System.

UTM Coordinates: A set of coordinates (easting and northing) that indicates a unique location according to the Universal Transmencator Grid appearing on maps of the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Indicate the centermost coordinate within the cemetery boundary (include Zone, Easting and Northing coordinates).

Owner: Full name of the owner of the cemetery, with no abbreviations.

Contact: The name of the person representing the cemetery owner.

Phone: The telephone number of the contact person for the cemetery.

Surveyor: The first and last name of the surveyor.

Date: Date of the survey (ex: 01/01/2002)

Weather: Weather conditions at the time when survey form completed.

IDENTIFICATION:

Plot identification: Includes block number and plot number on site map.

Name(s) of interred: First and last name(s) of interred.

First burial date: Date of earliest interment (ex: 1802)

Last burial date: Date of most recent interment (ex: 2002)

Inscription: A transcription of the tomb or marker inscription recorded in the language in which it has been written. Include abbreviations, punctuation and historic spellings. The transcription is a document of what the surveyor sees and *should not include any guesses*.

Stone carver (if known): First and last name (if available) of stone carver. The stone carver may "sign" his or her work on the base of the marker or tomb, on the rear elevation, or on the top of the marker. Often, the carver's "signature" is in a different font than the inscription on the tomb or marker.

Location of mark: Location of the stone carver's "signature" in terms of geographic orientation. It may be found on the top, rear, bottom, or on the side of the stone.

DESCRIPTION:

Type of interment:

Tomb: mortuary structure associated with or containing one or more burial vaults.

Type of tomb present in the American Cemetery, Natchitoches, LA:

- *Mausoleum:* a tomb with accessible interior space, often containing wall or subterranean vaults and a small area intended for private prayer or contemplation accessed by a door. (Note: there is only *ONE* mausoleum in the American Cemetery, that of John Gideon Lewis, Sr.)













Marker: any non-tomb mortuary structure which does not accommodate an interment and whose form is often sculptural.

Types of markers present in the American Cemetery, Natchitoches, LA:

- *Headstone:* An upright slab embedded in the ground or in a separate stone base and which is inscribed.
- *Footstone:* An inscribed upright slab embedded in the ground or in a separate stone base that is associated with and commonly smaller than a headstone.
- *Ground tablet:* An inscribed marker laid flush with or slightly above ground level.
- *Basal:* A table grave supported by a low, solid wall base. It does not contain a casket or coffin within the walls.
- *Ruin:* A marker that has been destroyed and no longer retains its original shape.
- *Cross:* a cross, with or without inscription, placed in the ground or supported by a pedestal.
- *Pedestal obelisk:* A monumental, four-sided stone shaft, usually monolithic and tapering to a pyramidal tip, and stands on a pedestal.
- *Woodmen of the world:* a marker carved in the shape of a tree stump or wood stack, often including an inscription and a Woodmen of the World insignia. The Woodmen are a benevolent fraternal organization founded in 1890.
- *Pedestal column:* A single pillar standing alone as a monument surmounting a pedestal or pedestal base.
- *Funeral home plaque:* A small metal plaque that is the only marker (for recent burials).
- *Bedstead:* a marker with a headstone, footstone, and side rails designed to imitate the form of a bed.

TYPES OF MARKERS:

<p>Headstone</p> 	<p>Footstone</p> 	<p>Ground tablet</p> 	<p>Funeral home plaque</p> 		
<p>Basal</p> 	<p>Pedestal column</p> 	<p>Pedestal obelisk</p> 	<p>Cross</p> 	<p>Woodmen of the World</p> 	<p>Bedstead</p> 



Family name marker

Family name marker: A large headstone inscribed with the name of the family to whom the plot belongs. A family name marker does not indicate a burial--it only indicates a family plot.

Dimensions: The height, width and depth (or length) of the primary stone, base, and other features of the tomb or marker, in inches.

Orientation: Compass direction of the primary face or surface that contains the inscription (the orientation of unmarked graves is "unknown").







Interment status:

- *Active:* A body has been interred in the past twenty years.
- *Inactive:* No bodies have been interred in over twenty years, but the space is still usable because it is sealed. (Most grave markers and tombs in the American Cemetery are "inactive.")
- *Abandoned:* The tomb/marker is open, vacant, or derelict.

State of interment:

- *Standing:* The tomb or marker maintains its structural form and support.
- *Ruin:* The tomb or marker has been destroyed through collapse or demolition.
- *Fragment:* A piece or pieces of a tomb or marker that have dissociated from the original fabric. The tomb or marker no longer reads as a whole.
- *Relocated:* The tomb or marker has been moved from its original site and relocated to another portion of the cemetery. (Note: relocation of a tomb or marker must be verified through historic documentation.)
- *Altered:* The tomb or marker has been modified through patching or reassembly, or by replacing parts of the monument.
- *Replica:* The original tomb or marker has been removed from its original site and replaced with an exact copy. (Note: replication of a tomb or marker may be indicated on the new gravestone inscription, but this must be verified through historic documentation.)
- *Tilted:* The tomb or marker has shifted horizontally due to settling of the earth.
- *Sunken:* The tomb or marker has shifted below or partially below grade.

STATES OF INTERMENT:

<p style="text-align: center;">Standing</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Ruin</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Fragment</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">Altered</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Tilted</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunken</p> 

Type of interment:

- *Individual:* The tomb or marker contains only one interment.
- *Family:* The tomb or marker contains two or more interments from the same or related family.
- *Undeterminable:* Interment representation is not clear (unmarked graves are *always* "undeterminable").



Pedestal

Pedestal: A support for a column, statue or urn consisting of a base, dado or die, and a cornice, surbase or cap. A pedestal has more tiers than a base.

Base: The lowest visible element of a tomb or a marker that is above ground level. (Many unmarked basal markers have lost their primary stone and only have a base showing.)



Base

Ornament: Ornament is *integral to the structure of the tomb or marker.*

- *Urn:* A cylindrical container with a foot that is integral to the structure of the tomb or marker. It may be open or closed.
- *Sculpture:* Any masonry ornament integral to the structure of the tomb or marker which is not a plaque, urn, or relief or incised decoration.
- *Cross:* A cross that is integral to the structure of the tomb or marker.
- *Plaque:* A thin, flat piece of cast metal applied to a tomb or marker.
- *Relief decoration:* Decorated carved relief above a background plane.
- *Incised decoration:* Decorated carved incision below a background plane.
- *Ornamental vase:* Vase that is integral to the structure of the marker.
- *None:* No ornament present on the tomb or marker.

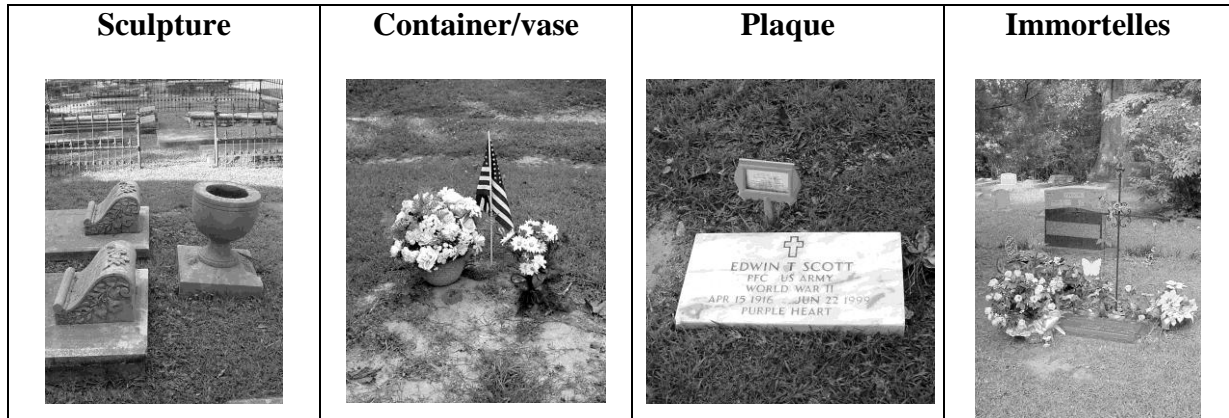
TYPES OF ORNAMENT:

<p style="text-align: center;">Urn</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sculpture</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cross</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Plaque</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Relief decoration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Incised decoration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ornamental vase</p>	

Furniture: objects related to but *not permanently attached* to the tomb or marker.

- *Sculpture:* Any three-dimensional object not permanently attached to the tomb or marker. Sculpture may include urns, figures, crosses, etc.
- *Container/vase:* A container not permanently attached to the tomb or marker that holds flowers or other immortelles.
- *Plaque:* A commemorative tablet or medallion unattached to the tomb or marker.
- *Immortelles:* Temporary ephemeral offerings.

TYPES OF FURNITURE:



Landscape: The setting surrounding the tomb or marker. May include one or more of the following: brick, asphalt, concrete, soil, grass, vegetation or other ("other" includes leaves).

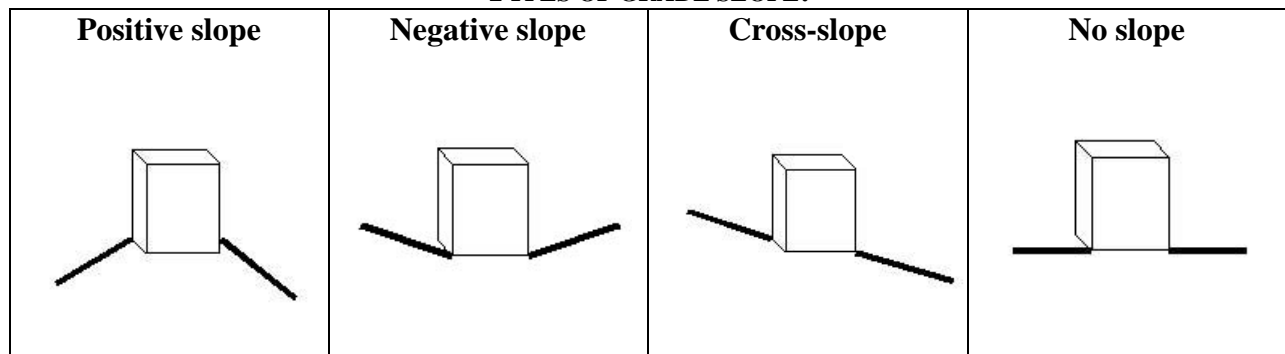
Enclosure: A curb, wall or fence separating a tomb, marker or family plot from the remainder of the cemetery.

- *Curb:* A low edging that surrounds the plot and is six inches high or less.
- *Wall:* A structure that surrounds the plot and is greater than six inches in height.
- *Fence:* A metal enclosure that surrounds the plot.

Grade slope: The slope of the land on which the tomb or marker lies.

- *Positive:* The tomb or marker is at the top of a rise.
- *Negative:* The tomb or marker is at the bottom of a rise.
- *Cross-slope:* The tomb or marker intersects a slope.
- *None:* The tomb or marker is on flat ground.

TYPES OF GRADE SLOPE:



Degree of slope: Rated from 0 (low) to 3 (high). (Degree of grade does not need to be indicated if there is no slope).

MATERIALS:

Primary structure: The portion of the tomb or marker which contains the inscription.

Base: The lowest element of the tomb or marker that supports the primary structure (ex: bricks or concrete supporting a basal marker).

Surface finish: The stucco, concrete and/or paint applied to the surface of the tomb or marker.

Ornament: Decorative elements that are an integral part of the tomb or marker. These include most urns, crosses, sculpture, plaques, and all relief and incised decoration.

Roof: The top covering of a tomb. (Note: this applies only to the mausoleum.)

Types of material:

- *Marble:* A metamorphic stone, white or variously colored and sometimes streaked or mottled; can take a high polish. Usually white and crystalline, although may be pink.
- *Limestone:* A sedimentary rock consisting mainly of calcium carbonate or magnesium carbonate often containing fossil remains. May be cream, tan or dark gray.
- *Granite:* A hard igneous crystalline rock consisting of small, visible amounts of other materials. Usually red or gray variegated.
- *Brick:* A solid masonry unit of clay or shale molded into a rectangular shape while plastic and burnt in a kiln. Usually red, salmon, or red-orange colored.
- *Concrete:* A hard, compact material consisting of cement mortar, sand aggregate, gravel and water. Usually gray or white, although may be colored.
- *Metal:* Includes wrought or cast iron.
- *Stucco:* A plaster made of lime, cement and sand used for surface finishes and decorative work.
- *Modern coating:* A thin exterior coating based on oil or emulsion.
- *Limewash:* A thin exterior coating of calcium or magnesium carbonate (lime) and water. Usually white, although may be tinted.
- *Cement wash:* A thin exterior coating of cement which is harder and more durable than limewash.

History of repairs: Indicate visible or historical repairs made to the tomb or marker. Indicate repairs on the primary structure, base, ornament, surface finish and roof.

CONDITIONS:

Conditions: Indicate degree of deterioration for the primary structure, base, surface finish, ornament and roof.

0 = no deterioration

1 = slight deterioration

2 = moderate deterioration

3 = significant or total deterioration

Forms of deterioration include:

- *Collapse:* Complete or partial failure of the structure.
- *Loss:* Absence of all or a portion of the original fabric.
- *Fragmentation:* Fragments from a tomb or marker that have dissociated from the original fabric. The tomb or marker no longer reads as a whole.
- *Disaggregation:* The loss of granular material when a masonry unit is touched or rubbed.
- *Erosion:* The gradual surface loss of material and/or detail caused by weathering that results in an overall granular texture.
- *Cracking:* Fractures of various lengths on the surface material that have not developed into fragments. Indicates structural damage.

- *Exfoliation*: Loss of material along the surface of a masonry unit (especially in brick).
- *Efflorescence*: White, crystalline surface deposits caused by the presence of water-soluble salts.
- *Finish detachment*: The failure of surface finish attachment to masonry resulting in flaking, peeling or complete loss of material.
- *Corrosion*: Surface oxidation of metals resulting in color, texture and dimensional changes.
- *Bio-growth*: Growth of microflora (usually algae, fungi or lichen) on the surface of the tomb or marker.
- *Vegetation*: Growth of macro plant forms (ivy, moss, grass, vines, etc.) or their roots.
- *Alterations*: Intentional modifications to the original fabric.
- *Open/missing joints*: Loss or deterioration of mortar between masonry units.
- *Soiling*: Surface deposits usually dark in color that are caused by moisture, pollution or anthropogenic origins (bird droppings, paint, etc.).
- *Graffiti*: Intentionally inscribed or applied markings, often the result of vandalism but may also occur from gravestone rubbings. May include visible footprints or cat scratches.
- *Metallic staining*: Colored stains on masonry units caused by the corrosion of metals.

Overall condition: Rank the overall state of the entire tomb or marker.

0 = extremely deteriorated condition (structural failure)

1 = poor condition (significant threat to structure and/or total loss of decorative features)

2 = moderate deterioration (structurally stable, significant or progressive loss of decorative features)

3 = good condition (structurally stable, decorative features and finishes largely intact)

Overall integrity: Rank the overall authenticity and retention of original fabric for the entire tomb or marker.

0 = total loss of integrity (25% or less of original materials remain, or an overwhelming presence of inappropriate replacement materials or alterations)

1 = low integrity (26% - 50% of original materials remain, or a significant presence of inappropriate replacement materials or alterations)

2 = moderate integrity (51% - 75% of original materials remain, or an obvious presence of tolerable replacement materials or alterations)

3 = high integrity (76% or more of original materials remain, or a minimal presence of tolerable replacement materials or alterations)

Inappropriate replacement materials or alterations: Replacement materials or alterations that are not in keeping with historic materials and/or use of the tomb or marker.

Examples include the application of a concrete surface finish, repointing brick with cement mortar, etc. (Does not include traditional maintenance regimens).

Comments: Please include any comments you may have regarding the tomb or marker.