

Culture and the Stone:

Gravestone Forms and Motifs in a Southern Illinois Cemetery

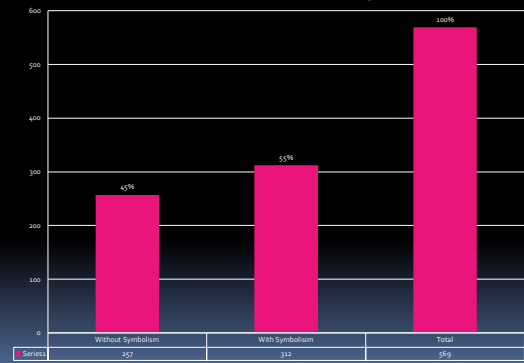
Presented by: Brian Evans

Mount Hope Cemetery

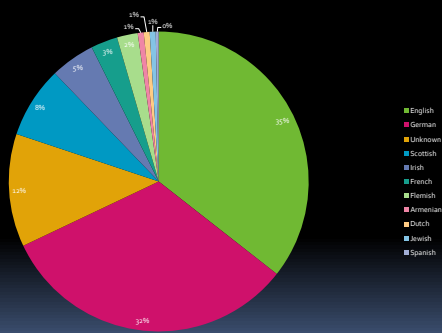
- Located in Belleville Illinois.
- Established 1884.
- Big cemetery
- 127 acres overall, 60 acres developed



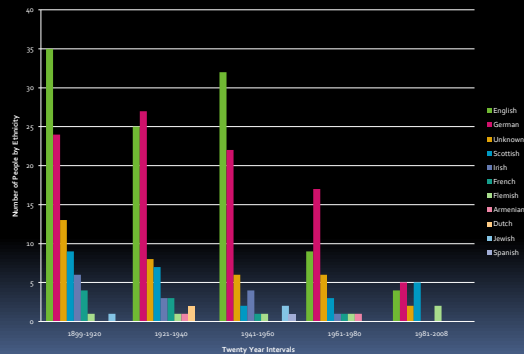
Total Number of Stones with and without Symbolism



Stones with Symbolism by Percent

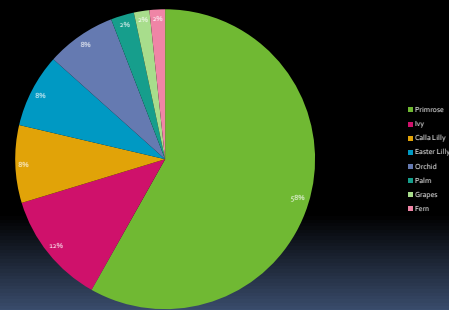


Section D Ethnicity of Tombstones with Symbolism



Flower Motifs

Flower Symbolism by Percent



Comparison of Primrose Motifs and Ivy as a Reflection of Commercialization

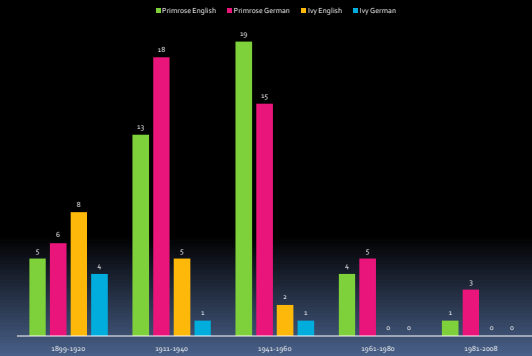
Primrose



Ivy



English and German Ivy vs Primrose Century Comparison



The Commercialization of Flower Motifs



Fraternities

Freemasons and The Sisterhood of the Eastern Star

- The Freemasons were transported from England sometime between 1720 and 1730.
- Based on the Liberal ideas of enlightenment.
- Symbol is comprised of a Square and Compass in the shape of a quadrilateral.
- Sometimes the letter G appears in-between them.
- Sisterhood of the Eastern Star originated around 1857 for women
- Symbol is a Five Pointed star



Independent Order of Odd Fellows

- Also Originated in England and transferred to America in 1819, more than a hundred years after the Freemasons
- The main symbol is three rings that denote Friendship, Love, Truth.
- Differentiated from Freemasonry by offering a form of Mutual benefits to members.
- It is not uncommon to find with other benefit offering Fraternities
- By the end of the 19th century The Odd Fellows rivaled freemasonry in membership.

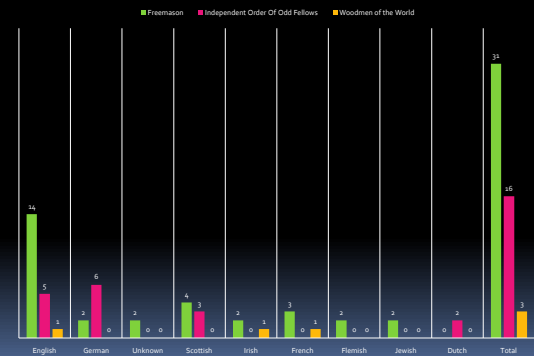


Woodmen of the World or W.O.W

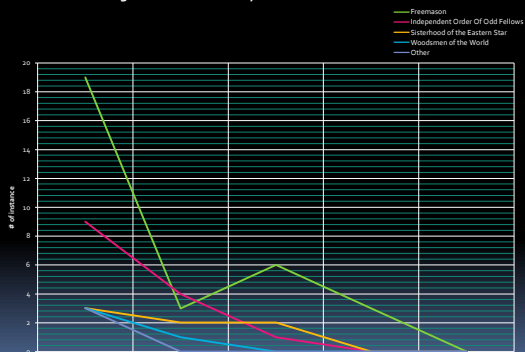
- The *Modern Woodmen of America* was started in 1883, by Joseph Cullen Root
- Eventually Root was expelled because of a feud with a head member
- He then started *Woodmen of the World*
- The Early Woodmen certificates offered Tombstone and Death Benefits for members
- The society originally barred members who worked hazardous occupations
- The W.O.W Symbol is a sawed off tree stump, and their motto is Family, Fraternity, Protection, and Service



Ethnic Makeup of Fraternities



The Falling Trend of Fraternal Symbolism on Section D Tombstones



■ The End

Thank You