

Tales from the Crypt: Learning about Geography and History from the Local Cemetery

**Gale Olp Ekiss
Arizona Geographic Alliance**

This is a Cemetery...

Lives are commemorated—deaths are recorded—families are reunited—memories are made tangible—and love is undisguised. This is a cemetery.

Communities accord respect, families bestow reverence, historians seek information and our heritage is thereby enriched.

Testimonies of devotion, pride and remembrance are cast in bronze to pay warm tribute to accomplishments and to the life—not the death—of a loved one. The cemetery is homeland for memorials that are a sustaining source of comfort to the living.

A cemetery is a history of people—a perpetual record of yesterday and a sanctuary of peace and quiet today. A cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering—always.



This is a cemetery.

Lives are commemorated—deaths recorded—families are reunited—memories are made tangible—and love is undisguised.

Communities accord respect, families bestow reverence, historians seek information, and our heritage is enriched.

Testimonies of devotion, pride, and remembrance are cast in bronze to pay warm tribute to accomplishments and to the life—not the death—of a loved one.

The cemetery is homeland for memorials that are a sustaining source of comfort to the living.

A cemetery is a history of people—a perpetual record of yesterday and a sanctuary of peace and quiet today. A cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering—always.

Tales from the Crypt - Kinds



Binghampton--Tucson



Gila River



Holy Hope--Tucson



Morenci

Tales from the Crypt - Kinds



New Orleans



Okinawa



Arlington



Europe

Tales from the Crypt - Kinds



Australia



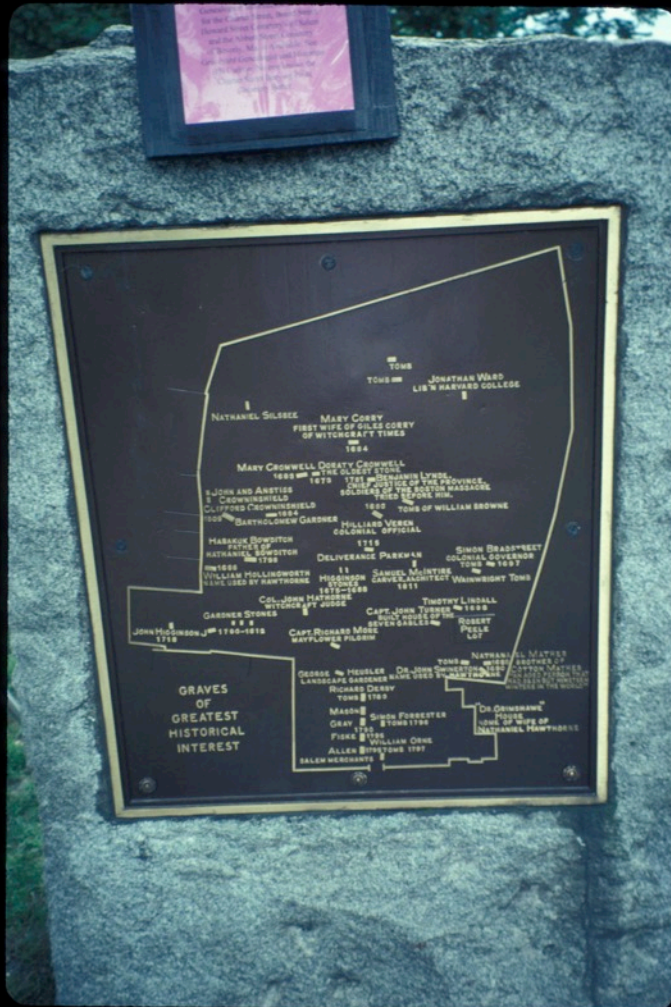
Chinese

Tales from the Crypt

How are cemeteries private spaces?

How are cemeteries public spaces?

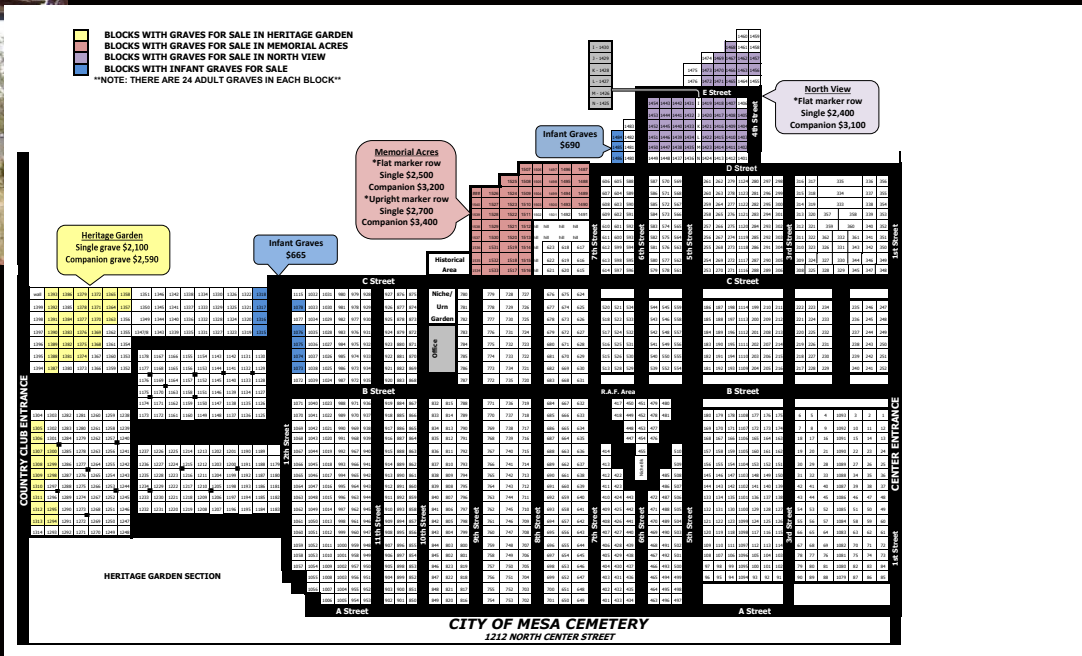
Tales from the Crypt - Maps



Tales from the Crypt - Maps



Taylor, AZ



Mesa, AZ

Tales from the Crypt - Landscape



Old or New?

Tales from the Crypt - Landscape



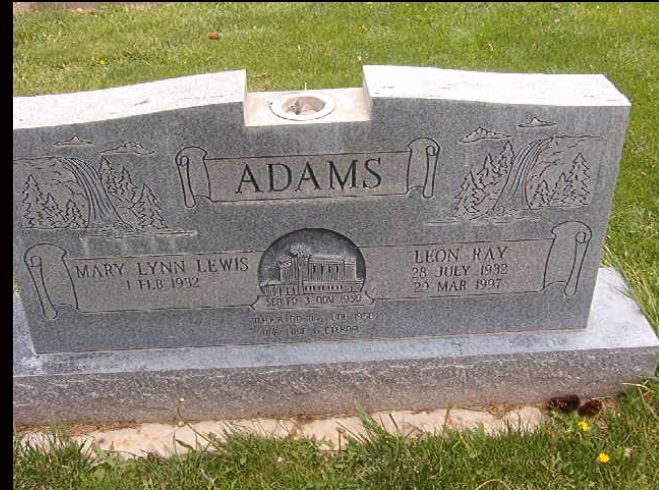
Grass/Trees/Shrubs or Natural?



Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



Finality of Death



Religious Symbols



Life Taken Too Soon



Long And Eventful Life

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



Innocence and Purity



Farewell and Friendship

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



Love

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



What Organizations Are
Represented On This
Stone?



Open Gates to Heaven

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



Biographical

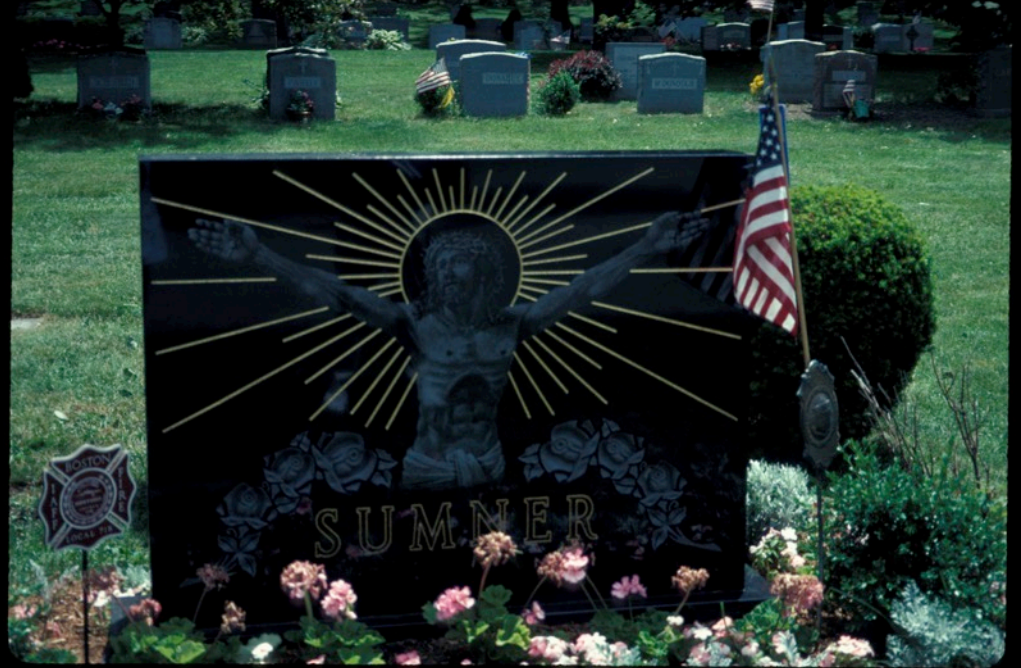
Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



What Do The Symbols Signify?

Biographical

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



What Religions are Represented?

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



What Religions/Parts of the World are Represented?



Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



What Religions are Represented?

Tales from the Crypt - Symbols



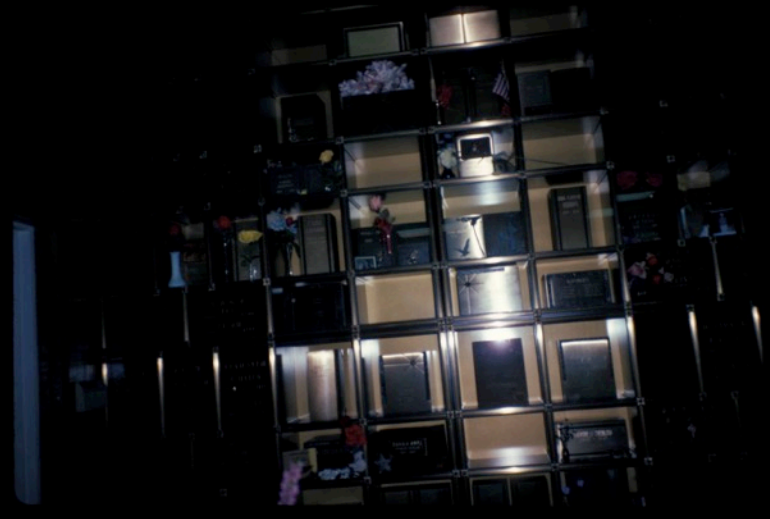
What Religions are
Represented?

Tales from the Crypt - Regions



What Organizations Have Created These Regions?

Tales from the Crypt - Regions



New Regions

Tales from the Crypt - Regions



Cyprus Trees and Open Gates

Tales from the Crypt - Regions



Guess What Groups Of People Are Buried In These Regions?

Tales from the Crypt - Regions



Guess What Group Of People Is Buried In This Region?

Tales from the Crypt - Regions

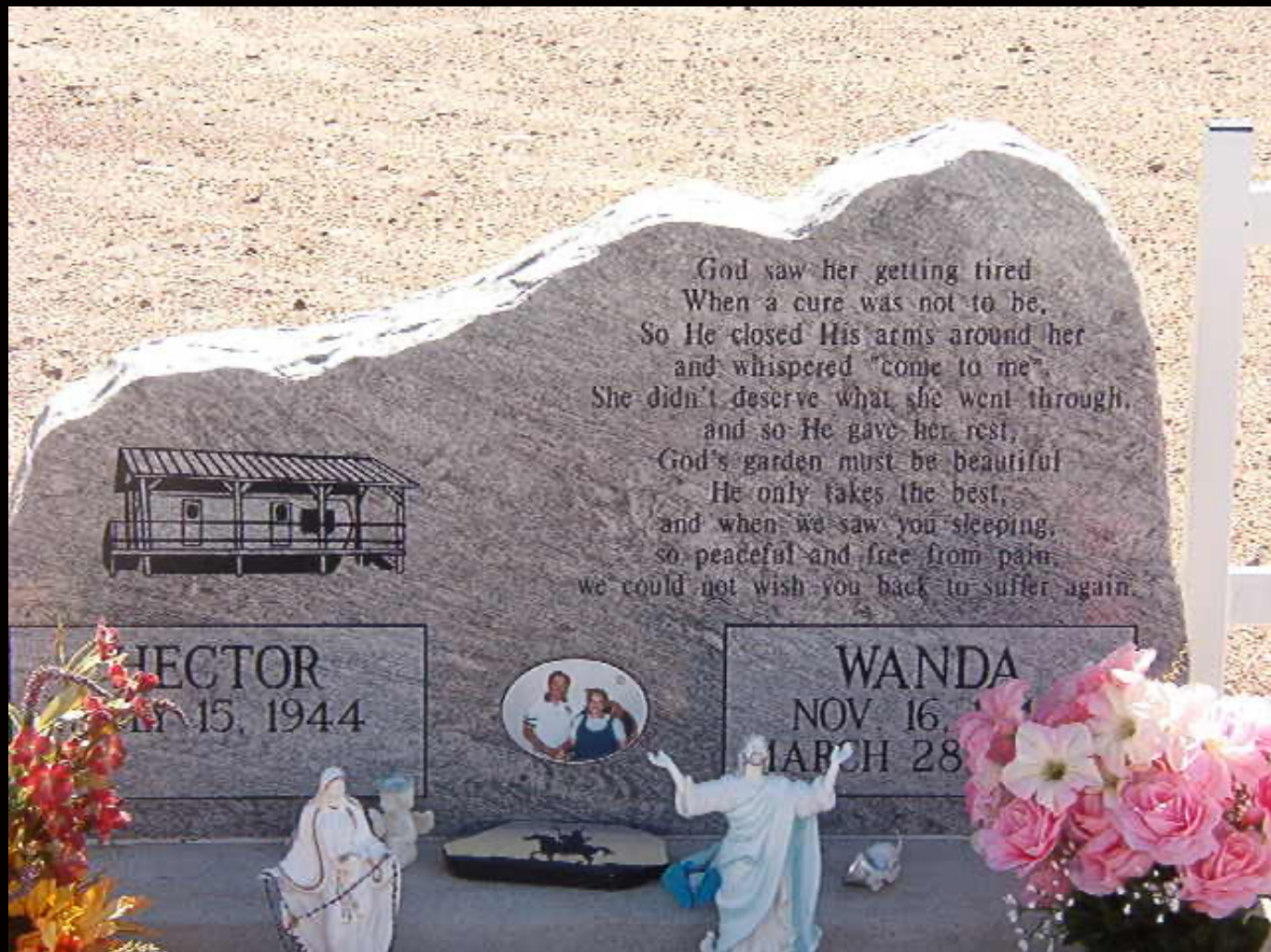


Guess What Group Of People Is Buried In This Region?

Tales from the Crypt - Regions



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



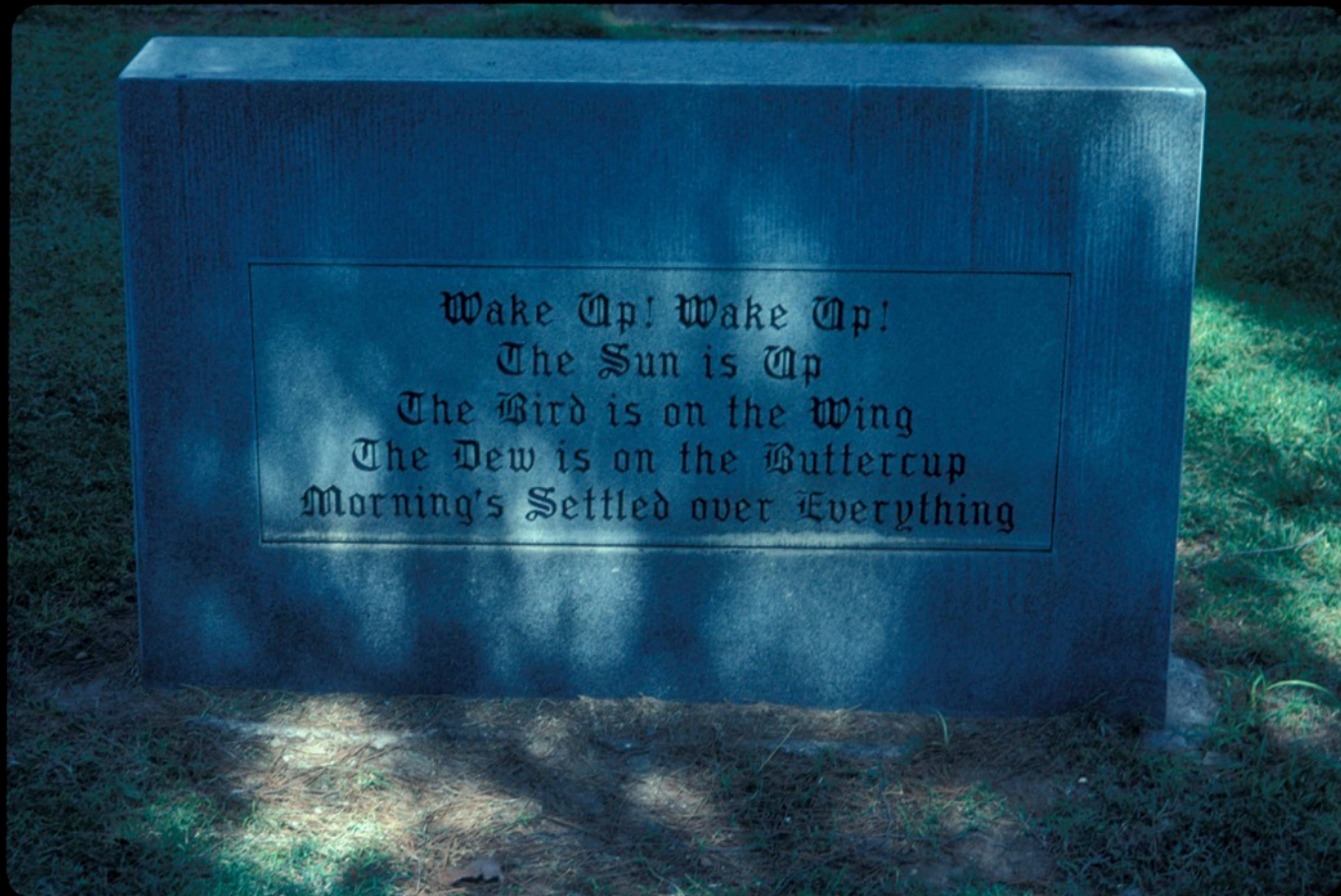
Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Epitaphs



Tales from the Crypt - Countries of Origin



Tales from the Crypt - Countries of Origin



Tales from the Crypt - Countries of Origin



Tales from the Crypt - Countries of Origin



Tales from the Crypt - Countries of Origin



Tales from the Crypt - Personalizing



Tales from the Crypt - Personalizing



Tales from the Crypt - Personalizing



Tales from the Crypt - Shapes and Textures



Tales from the Crypt - Shapes and Textures



Tales from the Crypt - Shapes and Textures



Tales from the Crypt - Shapes and Textures



Rich and Poor



Tales from the Crypt - Shapes and Textures



Rich and Poor



Photo Credits

All images were taken by Gale Ekiss except for:

- Gila River <https://images.findagrave.com>
- New Orleans <https://cdn.vox-cdn.com/thumbor>
- Arlington https://media.npr.org/assets/img/2012/10/22/arlington_wide
- European Cemetery <https://c1.staticflickr.com/>
- Mesa Cemetery map <http://www.mesaaz.gov>
- Finality of Death, Life Taken Too Soon, Long and Eventful Life
<http://boredomtherapy.com/secret-cemetery-symbols/>
- Buddhist graves <http://c8.alamy.com/comp>
- South American graveyard <https://i.pinimg.com/>
- Veteran Cemetery <http://cdn.abclocal.go.com>