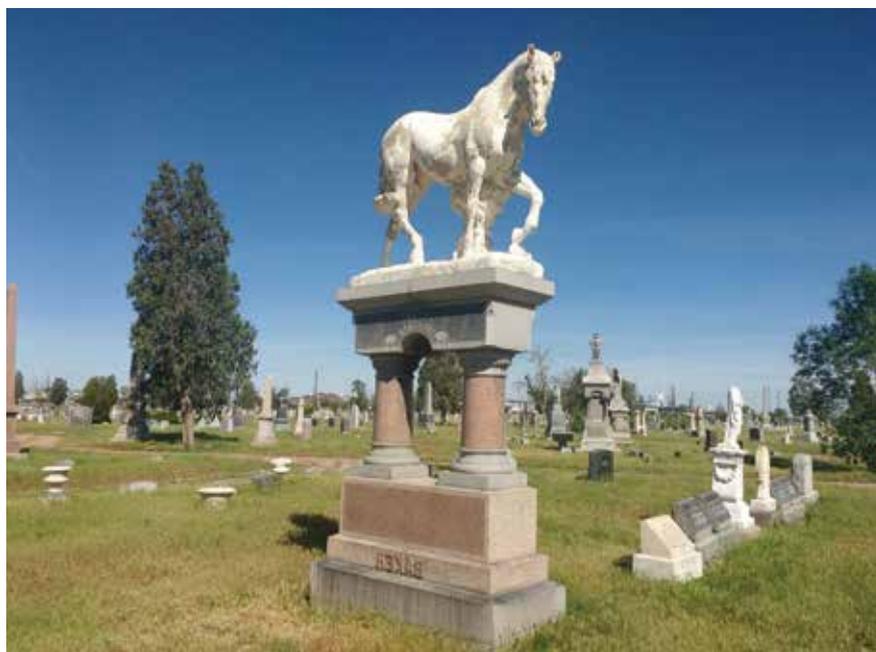




# Digging up Cemetery Records on FamilySearch: Unexpected Surprises

Karen L. Newman says that searching to the end of the microfilm roll is a must for successful research

CEMETERY RECORDS ON *FAMILYSEARCH* CAN CONTAIN MORE THAN just current cemetery listings and tombstone inscriptions for a certain county in a particular collection. For example, under “Cabell Co. cemetery records, 1793-1943” for Cabell County, West Virginia, [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/319671?availability=Family%20History%20Library](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/319671?availability=Family%20History%20Library), you can find cemetery records compiled in 1940, a listing of early cemeteries from newspaper and magazine records, 1853-1854 death records compiled by a local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter and Hampshire County and Harrison County, West Virginia cemetery records. When I searched those cemetery records on *FamilySearch*, I found the same record set, except labeled “Hampshire Co. cemetery records, 1829-1924” and “Harrison County, West Virginia, deaths, vol 1” for the other two West Virginia counties. The image group for all three record sets in these counties is 7896443.



“cemetery, sculpture, architecture, support, pedestal, travel, structure, statue,” author PPD, uploaded 22 January 2019 (Pixnio.com)

You can find family histories in cemetery records. A copy of the Dameron – Damron family newsletter is in the Lawrence County, Kentucky and Wayne County, West Virginia record sets “Some cemetery markers from Wayne Co., WV, and Lawrence Co., Kentucky.”, [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/2357069](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/2357069). This newsletter covers cemetery records

from Greenup County, Kentucky, Lawrence County, Kentucky and Wayne County, West Virginia. This same newsletter is also found under “Greenup Co., Ky, cemeteries.” There is no indication a family newsletter is in any of these sets.

Sometimes you can find religious affiliation records among cemetery records. Montgomery County, Ohio cemetery records contain “Scrapbook of family deaths, 1977-1987, cemetery members, assessments and receipts, and membership file” for Temple Israel, [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/738885?availability=Family%20History%20Library](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/738885?availability=Family%20History%20Library). These personal membership files contain letters written to temple management, obituary and other newspaper clippings, and a family record sheet listing the temple member’s birthdate, death date, occupation, phone number, marriage date, when and where of a bar/bat mitzvah, names of children and spouses, when moved to Dayton, Ohio, parents’ names, and where buried.

Church records from 1831 to 1884 and a school register from 1866 to 1886 are found in “Tombstone inscriptions: cemeteries in Adams County, Ohio” at FamilySearch, [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/277165?availability=Family%20History%20Library](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/277165?availability=Family%20History%20Library). Daughters of the American Revolution compiled information into a book entitled