Anatomy of a Monument

Structural Parts:

**Base:** Bottom-most piece of stone in a monument. It is set on the foundation and provides a visual foundation for the rest of the work. Some monuments contain a second base to provide a more elaborate setting for the work.

**Die:** Major component of the monument. It often contains decorative carving and inscriptions.

**Plinth:** Decorative member of the monument. It is usually located above the die and below the cap. It may contain elaborate moldings and carving.

**Cap:** Top-most piece of the monument. May contain more carving and molding. It may be peaked, rounded or irregular.

Figure 19.1. Pollette Monument, River Bend Cemetery, Westerly, RI
The Morgan Monument is made of eight pieces of granite.

**Figure 19-2. Morgan Monument, River Bend Cemetery, Westerly, RI**

- **Base:** A one piece base supports the monument and gives it stability.
- **Die:** Central stone in the monument, lettered with the name.
- **Wings (2):** The components which flare out from the die on each side.
- **Urns (2):** Vase like stones atop each post.
- **Posts (2):** Vertical components at the outside edge of each wing.