

I discovered in the Ashland Daily News and the ABA minutes that the bronze replica of "Whistler's Mother" came to Ashland by truck. The sculptor Julius Loester and the Ashland Boys' Association did the contract with Gregory B. Webb for the Maine granite base in New York City. Gregory B. Webb was an American contractor and his known address was 104 W. 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York City. The granite base was sent on railroad to Westerly, RI, to cut the inscriptions in Roman Chassis Style at the Fraquelli and Brusa Co. The granite base came into Ashland by Reading Railroad.

Interesting to know that The Neidel Celtic (1939) at River Bend Cemetery in Westerly R.I. cross show a number of human figures including the holy mother and child, the twelve apostles, and symbols of the four evangelists. The model for this cross was done by Julius C. Loester of New York City and the Neidel cross was cut by Fraquelli and Brusa Co. The Fraquelli and Brusa Co. ceased operation in the 1950's and it's no longer in business. So, the record of the Maine granite base company and the inscription company will never be found.

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