

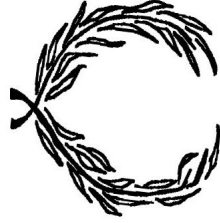
Ivy
The ivy, due to its vitality and clinging nature, represents eternal life and everlasting love.



Calla Lily
Calla lily represents beauty and marriage. It is important to note that all graves bearing the calla lily are found no earlier than mid-19th century, after they were first imported to America.



Wreath
The Wreath, often depicted more specifically as a laurel wreath, celebrates eternal life, and thus “victory over death”.



Oak Leaf
Much of the oak leaf symbolism comes from the potential of the acorn. While the acorn, itself, is not always present, its diminutive size, but potential to grow into a majestic, and towering oak tree, shows its power. It is a seed that represents the possibility of growth, as well as abundance.



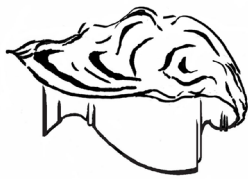
Book
A book is often equated to a human heart, which, for centuries upon centuries, was believed to be where the soul and personality of an individual resided.



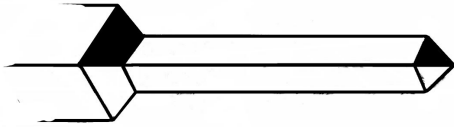
Handshake
A handshake represents a “heavenly welcome or an earthly farewell.” One distinguishing characteristic between handshakes are the sleeves, which denotes specific relationships.



Draped Urn
The draping found on both urns and obelisks represent the “veil between earth and heaven.” Drapery has been used extensively throughout history in burial practices involving objects, family, and the deceased.



Obelisk
The obelisk's existence in cemeteries comes from a resurgence in interest in Egyptian culture. The obelisk, itself, embodies a ray of sunshine.



All of these symbols can be found in Forest Home Cemetery Section N, the same section as the Haymarket Martyrs' Monument as well as through out Forest Park Cemeteries.

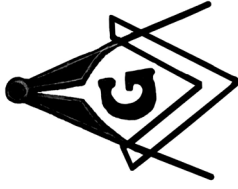


Forest Home and German Waldheim (now merged) exist due to the desire for a non-denominational cemetery that would allow any symbolism on the gravestones. It has been the final resting place to persons of all beliefs, backgrounds, ethnic race, or Fraternal association.



www.forestparkhistory.org

Freemason
Freemasons/Mason's carved symbol includes a compass, a carpenter's square and a capital G. Since much of the freemason history and symbolism is shrouded in mystery, the exact meanings of these carvings are unknown. For example, the G is thought to represent either geometry or a Christian God.



Order of the Eastern Star
The Order of the Eastern Star (OES) is the female counterpart to the freemasons. If the bottom of the star tip is pointing at a grave, the individual was a member.



Trestone
Woodmen of the World (WoW) are often present in sculpted tree stumps, which represent equality. Before the 20th Century, every membership included a tombstone, though, in more recent times, their moto still includes “no woodman shall rest in an unmarked grave.”



Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) is represented through three linked chains, which mean faith, love, and truth.

