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# Gravestone Photography And Documentation



## Synopsis

Enrich Your Cemetery Research Gravestone Photography and Documentation reveals the techniques and tricks to taking beautiful photographs of gravestones that will help document the history of your ancestor or loved one. Gravestone condition, time of day, and weather can conspire against the genealogist and historian when trying to capture a legible image. Gravestone Photography and Documentation gives you the tools and knowledge to create great photographs. This book also guides you through documenting the grave site and cemetery using GPS coordinates, maps, and internet-based grave databases. Learn how to upload photos and data to the leading services. Gravestone cleaning recommendations are also covered in detail. Great Tips Include Chapter 1 " Document the Cemetery Chapter 2 " Using Google Earth Chapter 3 " When to Photograph Grave Sites Chapter 4 " Taking the Picture Chapter 5 " In-Ground Markers Chapter 6 " Record the Information Chapter 7 " To Clean or Not to Clean Appendix A " Medallions and Insignia Appendix B " Simple Reflector Card . Using a smart phone, a point and shoot, or sophisticated camera, anyone can make memorable photographs of meaningful, important, and historical grave sites.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Awhile back I decided to do some gravestone photography to "give back" to the genealogical community. For folks who have never done it it sounds kind of creepy. But I actually found it quite peaceful -- not many folks hang out in cemeteries, so even close to a major freeway just north of downtown Dallas I was almost always the only one there and the few times someone else came it

was people taking a shortcut, etc. Especially if you don't have a lot of photography experience, this provides a lot of tips on things you would otherwise learn by doing. Also, the book assumes that most readers will be going to a cemetery to photograph a few gravestones of relatives, not dozens or hundreds. There is one caution I would suggest that he doesn't mention that I learned the hard way: **\*\*\*TRIPLE-CHECK\*\*\* FIND A GRAVE AND BILLION GRAVES FIRST!** Before going to that cemetery I checked FindAGrave. I found TWO entries -- one of which was Abraham Zapruder. And nothing on Billion Graves. I visited about 6 times for 2 hours each and took about 2,000 photos. I also spent several dozen hours organizing and renaming individual images during the week. After doing that I looked up a name on Ancestry to check a middle name and found someone else had photographed 3,500 graves -- including ALL the graves I had photographed except for maybe 10-15 of the most recent. I photographed them with a tablet that didn't have GPS, so Billion Graves won't take them. Find A Grave has strict size limits and if I cropped my images to their size limits they would just be duplicative. I did a lot of "surroundings" shots but I would have to cut all that out. One thing he points out that is particularly important is TIME OF DAY. Photos with the sun in front of you will be pretty much useless.

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