

Walking With Angels

Procedures for Documenting Cemetery Burials

David Walker

Ottawa TMG Users Group

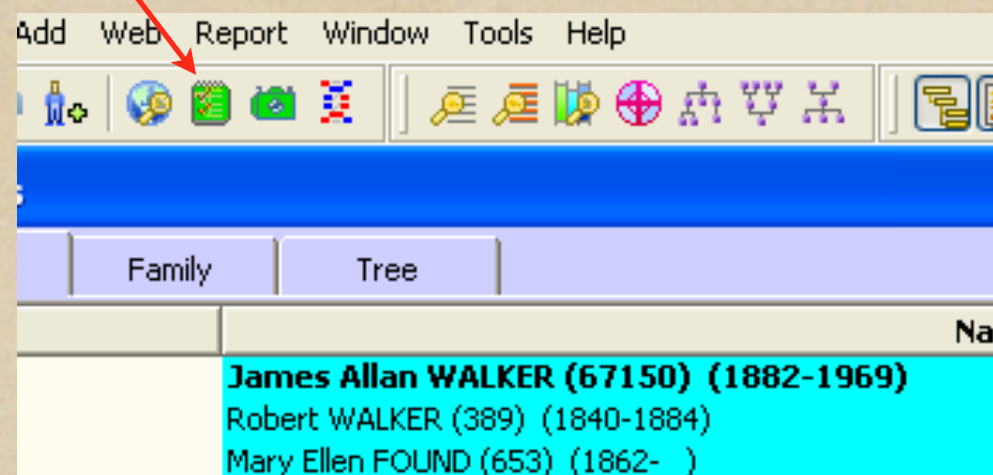
21 November 2010

TMG Research Log

Use the TMG Research Log to compile a To-Do list of archives to visit to research burials, then cemeteries to visit.

Prior to your trip, print the Research Log. Report > List of > Tasks. Under Options select Sort by > Task Name. This will print your entire list.

Click here to start or add tasks for a given person or tag



Research Log All Tasks for James Allan Walker (67150)

Task

- PEI, PARO - BMD info
- PEI, PARO - BMD info on children
- PEI, Pleasant Valley, Floral Hills Cemetery - r

Subject : Person James Allan Walker (67150)

Designed : 14 Oct 2006
Edited : 17 Nov 2010
Planned : ____
Begun : ____
Progress : ____
Completed : ____



All Tasks for James Allan Walker (67150)



Focus : A Person 67150
Sort : by Keyword
Keyword Filter :
Task Name Filter :
Count : 3



Add Edit Copy Delete Close Help



Click here to add each task

Research Task

Person   James Allan WALKER (67150)

Event   Not assigned yet

Source   Not assigned yet

Repository   Not assigned yet

Edited : 17 Nov 2010

Task Name : PEI, Pleasant Valley, Floral Hills Cemetery - marker photos & coords

Designed : 17 Nov 2010

Planned :

Begun :

Progress :

Completed :

Keyword : Expenses : \$0.00

Comment :

OK Cancel Help

Start task entry with geographic location.
Printing task list will then sort alphabetically.

Task List

If you wish to limit it to one cemetery, one city or one province, then use the Project Explorer to create a Focus Group.

1. If the Focus Group window is not already displayed, select Window > Focus Group. If you have people already in the Focus Group window, select Remove All.
2. In the Project Explorer window, select Filter the Project Explorer.

Selections for burial list by state (also select Primary names)

Filter the Project Explorer

Filter | Query by Example

| (| * Field | Subfield | Operator | Value |) | Connect |
|---|-----------|----------|----------|----------------------|---|---------|
| | Burial... | State | = Equals | PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND | | END |

☒ Primary names ☐ Non-primary names ☐ Both

OK Load... Save as... Clear Cancel Help

Selections for burial list by city (also select Primary names)

Filter the Project Explorer

Filter Query by Example

| (| * Field | Subfield | Operator | Value |) Connect |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Burial... | City | = Equals | SUMMERSIDE | END |

☒ Primary names ☐ Non-primary names ☐ Both

OK Load... Save as... Clear Cancel Help

Selections for burial list by any place field (also select Primary names).

This example will include Bedeque, Lower Bedeque & North Bedeque.

Filter the Project Explorer

Filter Query by Example

(* Field Subfield Operator Value) Connect

☐ Burial... Any Place Field Contains BEDEQUE END

☒ Primary names ☐ Non-primary names ☐ Both

OK Load... Save as... Clear Cancel Help

Selections for burial list by any place field (also select Primary names).

This example will include only burials in North Bedeque.
However, I have already documented some of the 212 burials.

Filter the Project Explorer

Filter Query by Example

(* Field Subfield Operator Value) Connect

☐ Burial... Any Place Field = Equals NORTH BEDEQUE END

☒ Primary names ☐ Non-primary names ☐ Both

OK Load... Save as... Clear Cancel Help

Add a second condition to the Project Explorer filter, for which there are no exhibits. This final list has dropped from 212 to 81 names. This additional filter avoids unnecessary visits to tombstones already photographed.

Filter the Project Explorer

Filter Query by Example

| (| * Field | Subfield | Operator | Value |) Connect |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|---------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Burial... | Any Place Field | = Equals | NORTH BEDEQUE | AND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Burial... | # of Exhibits | = Equals | 0 | END |

☒ Primary names ☐ Non-primary names ☐ Both

OK Load... Save as... Clear Cancel Help

Project Explorer Window

The Project Explorer window will now display only the filtered people (not names, since we selected only primary names).

Display the Focus Group window, and clear all entries.

In the Project Explorer window right click anywhere within the list of names, then select Add all names to Focus Group.

Report > List of > People > Focus Group > Current Group.

Report of List of People. Select Focus Group, Current Group. Select Print Preview until you like the results, then save as a file or send to printer.

Report Definition Screen - List of People

Configuration name: List of People [v]
[Add] [Delete]

Subject(s) of the report : ☐ Use the Current Focus Person

☐ One person
11505 [person icon] John W. WALLACE (11505) b. 1786, d. 09 Dec 1867

☐ Filtered group
ancestors of daw [v]
[Add] [Edit] [Delete]

☒ Focus Group
Current group [v]

☐ Selected people on the Project Explorer

☐ All people in the project

Report Destination : [Properties]

☒ Print Preview

☐ Save to :
File type : Acrobat (PDF) [v]
File name : c:\documents and settings\david\my documents\the master ...

☐ Printer

1 [v] Copies

Page number for first page : 1 [v]

Print page range : 1 [v] - 32767 [v]

[Options...] [Create Report] [Save Settings] [Cancel] [Help]

Select items for each column.

Report Options

General | Page Options | Fonts | **Output Columns** | Secondary Output | Places | Miscellaneous

| | Sort Order | Column Type | Heading | Width |
|-------|------------|---|------------|-------|
| 1 | 1 | Name Group* tag; Last, Given Names | Name | 25 |
| 2 | 2 | Spouse's Name Group* tag; Last, Given Names | Spouse | 25 |
| 3 | 3 | Birth Group* tag; Date | Birth Date | 15 |
| 4 | 4 | Death Group* tag; Date | Death Date | 15 |
| 5 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | |
| 9 | | | | |
| Total | | | | 80 |

OK Cancel Help

A typical report for one cemetery with known burials not yet documented.

List of Selected People Buried in North Bedeque Cemetery

| Name----- | Spouse----- | Birth Date----- | Death Date----- |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (--?--), Emily A. | Clark, Ewen Edmund | 22 Jan 1851 | 8 Sep 1912 |
| Baker, Annie | MacCaull, Artemas | 1878 | 1951 |
| Baker, Emily Ann | Montgomery, Benjamin | 1847 | 1934 |
| Baker, George Clark | Sudbury, Ora Helen | 14 Nov 1912 | 4 Nov 1978 |
| Baker, George T. | | 1875 | 27 Aug 1876 |
| Baker, Jemima | | 1874 | 14 Feb 1891 |
| Baker, John Montague Clark | Glover, Sarah | 10 Feb 1829 | 12 Jan 1892 |
| Baker, Major | | 1851 | 21 Mar 1872 |
| Baker, Sarah E. | | 1871 | 12 May 1892 |
| Baker, Theodore | | 1849 | 27 Dec 1869 |
| Baker, William | | 1857 | 23 Feb 1872 |
| Bearsto, Isabella | Robins, Thomas | 1809 | 28 Apr 1869 |
| Blackmore, Gertrude | | 10 Aug 1881 | 1944 |
| Blackmore, Joseph | Clark, Marjorie | 14 Aug 1843 | 1918 |
| Borthwick, Christopher | | 16 Dec 1825 | 9 Sep 1876 |
| Borthwick, John | Glover, Catherine | 1797 | 11 Mar 1844 |
| Brown, Grace Harriet | Montgomery, Norman Ramsay | 1870 | 16 Oct 1952 |
| Brown, William | Montgomery, Ann | 1826 | 1910 |
| Cairns, Agnes | Silliker, Jacob | c 1835 | 11 Nov 1888 |
| Cairns, Ella Georgina | Cairns, John Scott | 26 Mar 1904 | 12 Mar 1995 |
| Cairns, Florence Maria | Marchbank, John Percy | 24 Mar 1883 | 15 Aug 1969 |
| Cairns, Gertrude | Taylor, George Henry | 23 Oct 1870 | 16 Aug 1895 |
| Cairns, Janet | MacMurdo, Thomas | 31 Aug 1856 | 18 Feb 1947 |
| Cairns, Jenet | Kirkland, James | 1839 | 23 Oct 1880 |
| Cairns, John | Crawford, Maria | 1841 | 18 Feb 1899 |
| Cairns, John Elton | | 7 Nov 1884 | 8 Jul 1960 |
| Cairns, John Glen | McCaull, Elizabeth | 1787 | 16 May 1871 |
| Cairns, John Scott | Cairns, Ella Georgina | 16 Feb 1895 | 25 Nov 1973 |

Once you have printed your report, clear the filter in the Project Explorer.

Knowing Where to Search Once in the Cemetery.

- ◆ You may be fortunate to have a cemetery map, with names of the plot owners.
- ◆ The P.E.I. Genealogical Society published an Index of Monumental Inscriptions for Prince County.
- ◆ They have also published a Cemetery Transcript for every cemetery on the Island, including stone numbers for each plot.
- ◆ Some of these publications include a map of the cemetery, so you can easily locate a given tombstone
- ◆ These publications are updated every few years

Items Required to Document the Burials

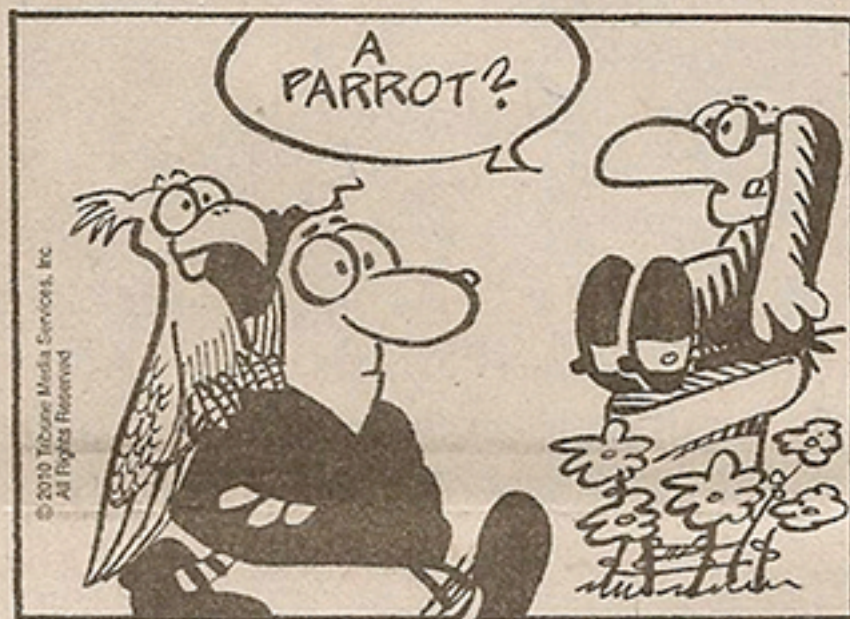
- ◆ Camera and zoom lens. My personal choice is a Nikon D90 DSLR with 18-200 lens.
- ◆ GPS. My personal choices are those available from TomTom. The TomTom One is small & light. The larger display of the TomTom Go630 is nice, but for cemetery work, the displayed coordinates are the same.
- ◆ A stiff brush to clean off lichens and grass clippings. A more time consuming cleaning process is required for heavily encrusted stones.
- ◆ Scissors or shears to cut grass at base of tombstone
- ◆ A notebook and pen/pencil. In addition to the digital photos, I write all inscription details. These hand written pages are used for data entry into TMG.
- ◆ Compact binoculars are useful for scanning several rows of stones.

GPS Considerations

If you cannot afford a GPS, even when they're on sale,
there is an alternative to consider.....

BROOM HILDA

by Russell Myers



GPS Considerations - a Word of Warning

There have been many stories about people who rely too much on the accuracy of their GPS, and cast aside common sense and good judgement. They are a useful tool, indeed, but so is the human eye.

Non Sequitur

THE
INEVITABLE
NAVIGATION
SYSTEM...

You have arrived at
your destination

Dist. by Universal Uclick

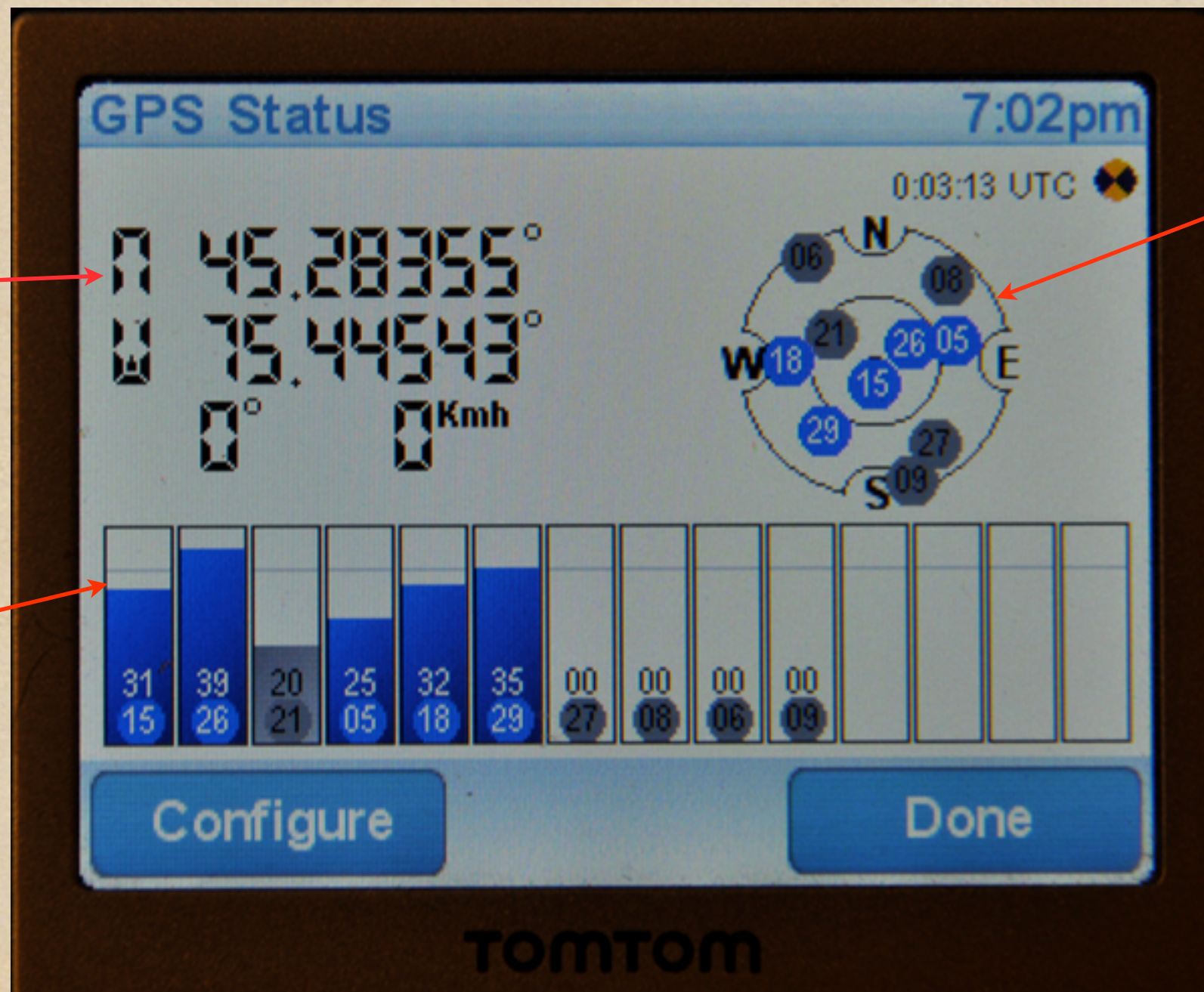


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GO COMICS.COM/POURSEUITUR

WILEYINK@EARTHLINK.NET

A Typical Display of a TomTom GPS



Current location
Updated every second
Accurate within ~6'

Satellite signal
strength.
Minimum three
are required

Satellite Locations
Centre = overhead
Inner circle = 45deg.
Outer circle = horizon

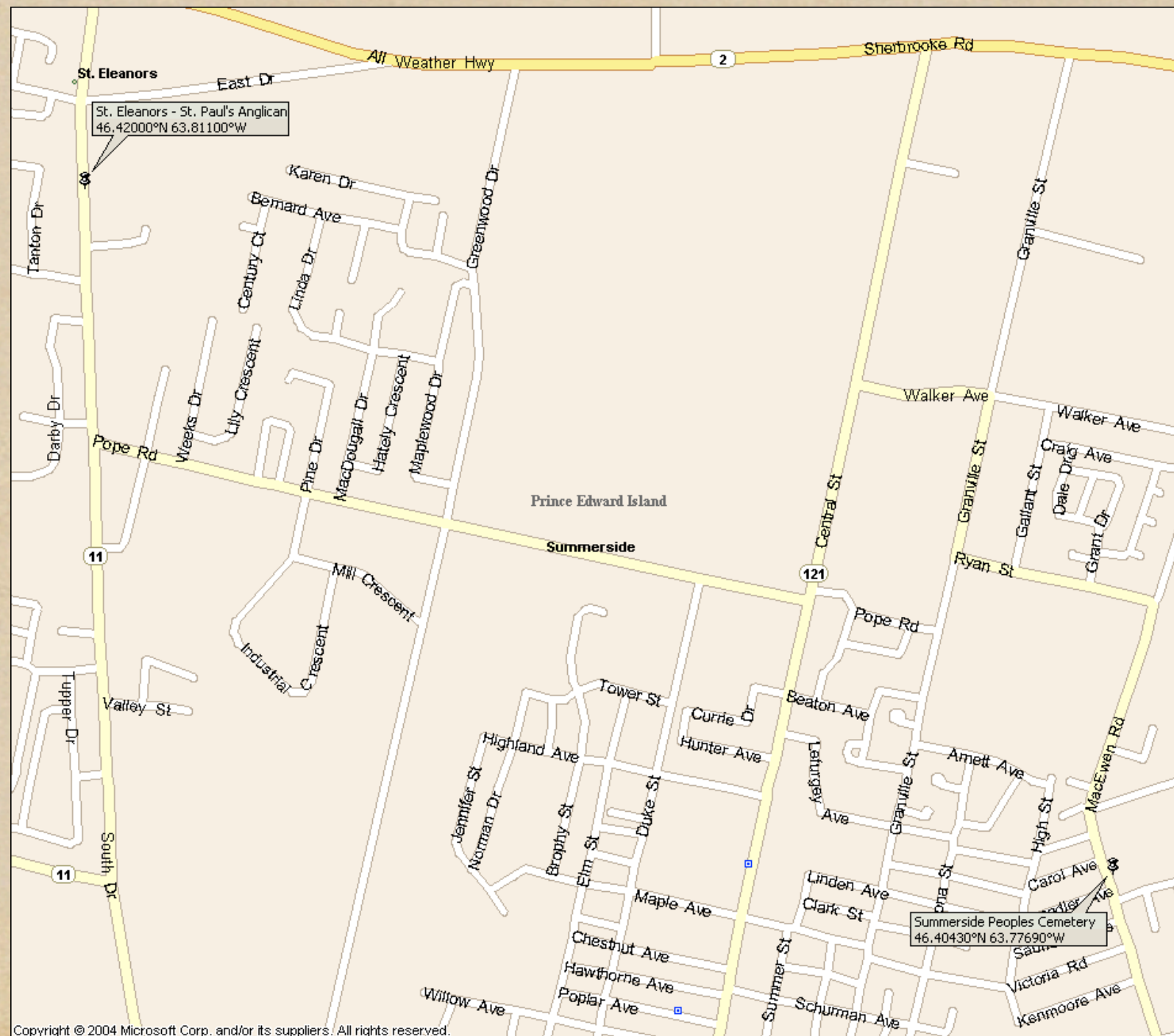
Use GPS Coordinates to Create a Map

Microsoft Streets & Trips

Plot cemeteries, churches, museums, archives..... Then plot your trip



Map cemeteries within a city with streets



Shopping for MS Streets & Trips 2010

| | Software Only | Software + GPS |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Future Shop | \$70.00 | \$100.00 |
| Staples | \$50.00 | \$100.00 |
| Microsoft* | US\$40.00 | US\$70.00 |
| Amazon.ca* | \$43.99 | \$73.99 |
| Ebay.ca* | \$28.00 | \$42.00 |

*plus shipping (can be
downloaded from
Microsoft, 60 day trial)

Procedures at the Cemetery

Take a photo of the church & adjacent cemetery. Record the coordinates of the church at its main entrance.



Procedures at the Cemetery

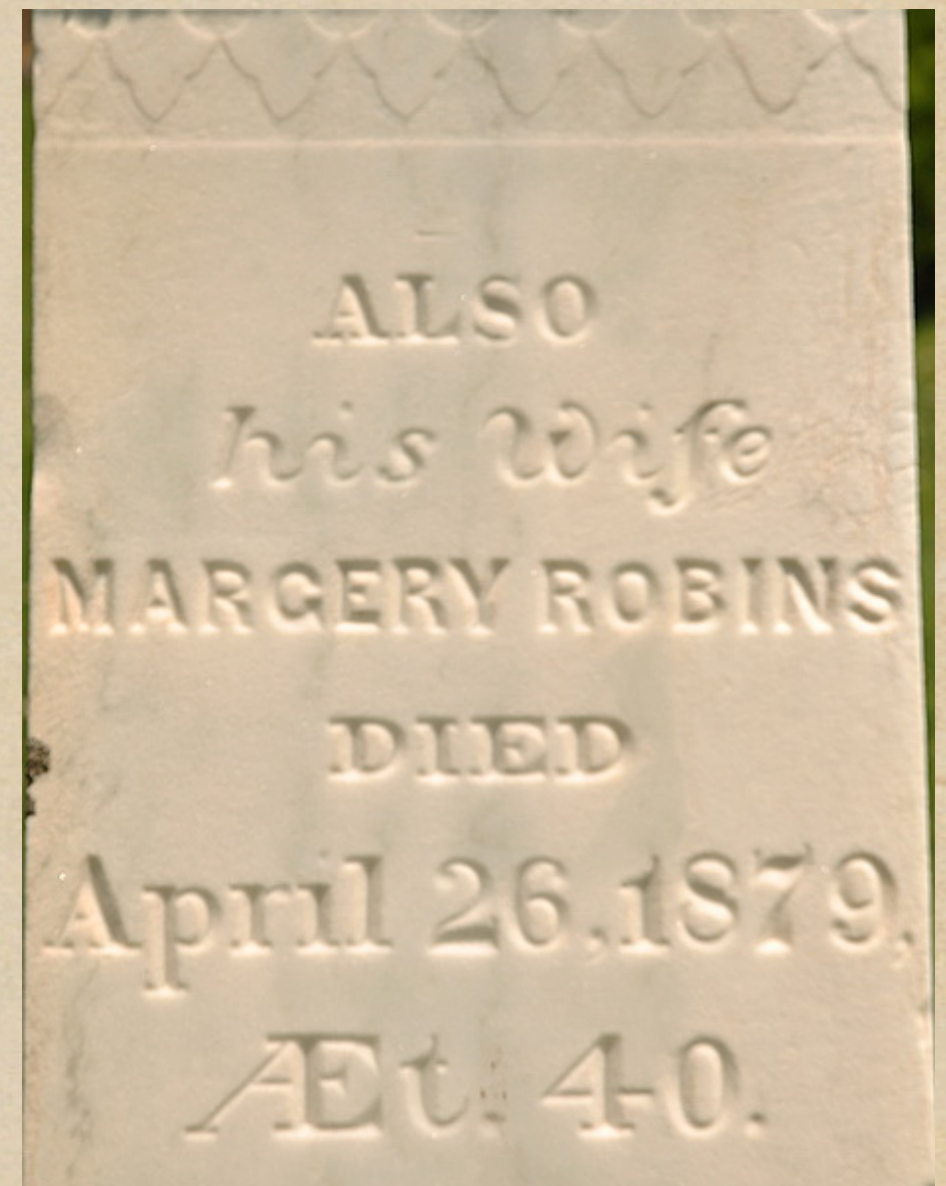
- ◆ Take an overall photo of the cemetery, including its main entrance, gate, sign, etc. Record the coordinates of the cemetery at its main entrance.



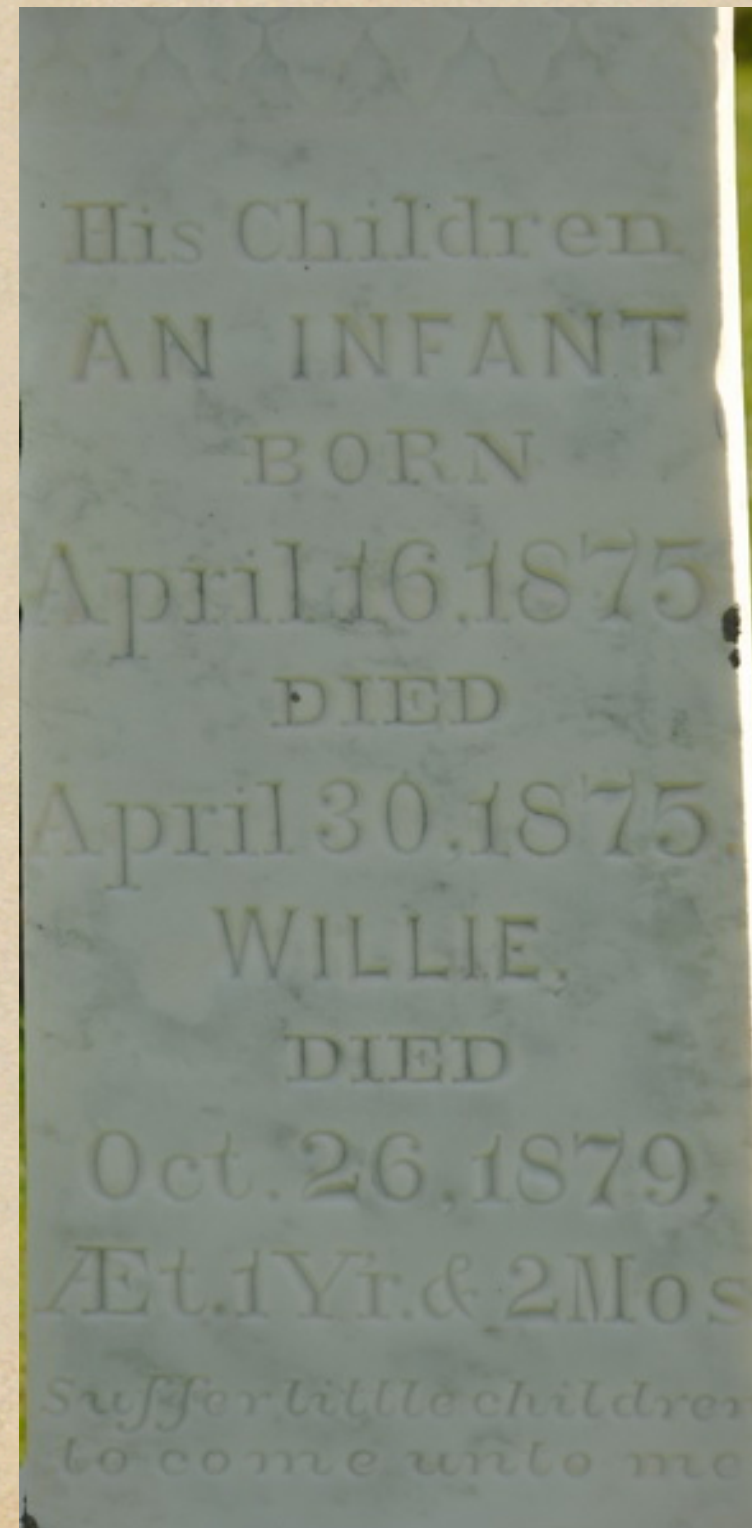
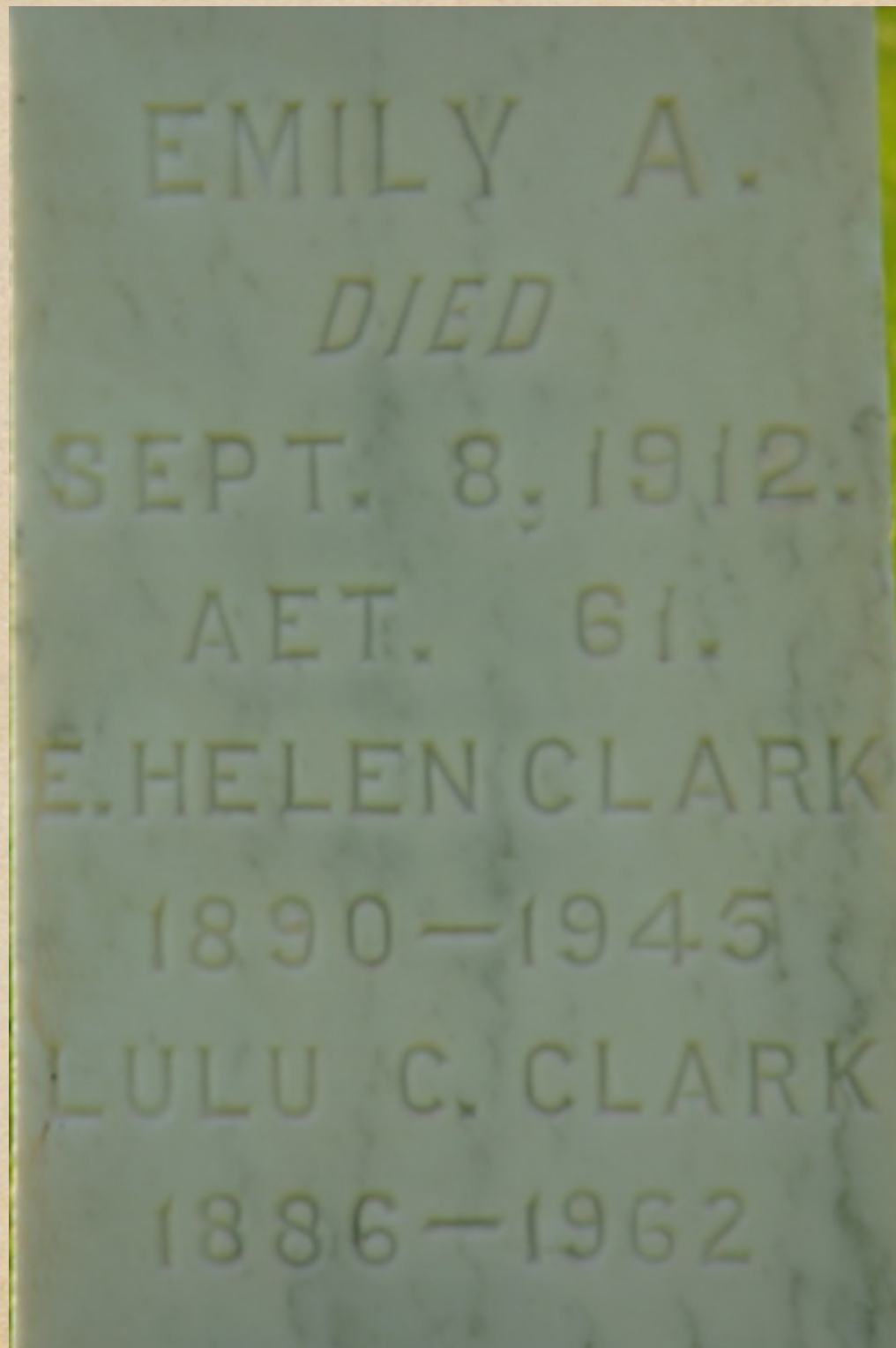
Procedures at the Cemetery

- ◆ Once a tombstone has been located, take photos of the entire stone from the front. Then take close-up photos of the front inscription, then left, right and back where there are inscriptions.
- ◆ With notebook in hand, write the inscriptions for each side. I use the left side of the page to mark a "P" to indicate that a photo has been taken. Below the "P" I write the coordinates for the stone, having placed the GPS close to, or on top of, the stone.

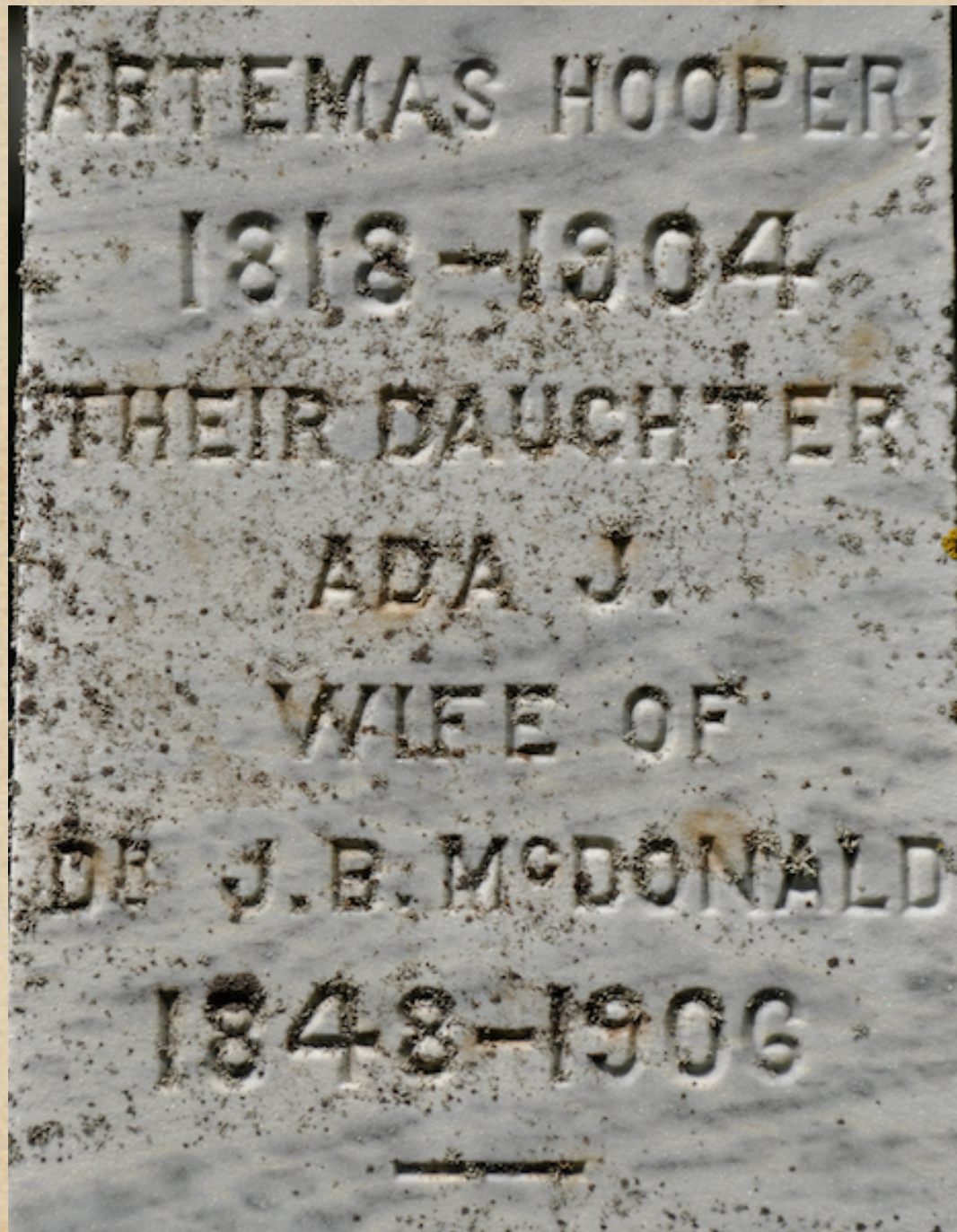
Photograph overall of tombstone, front & left detail



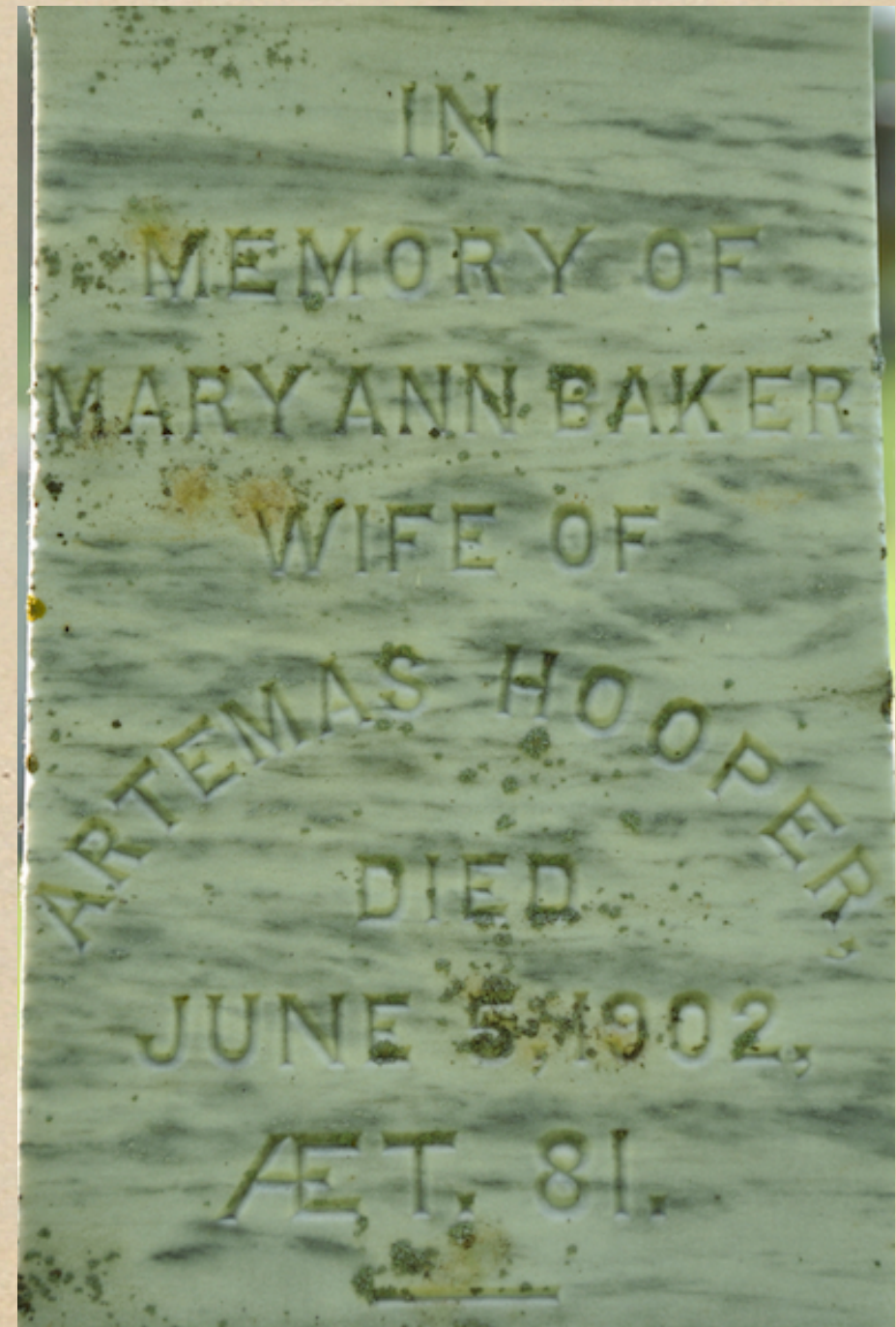
Right & Back detail



Adjusting Colour Balance

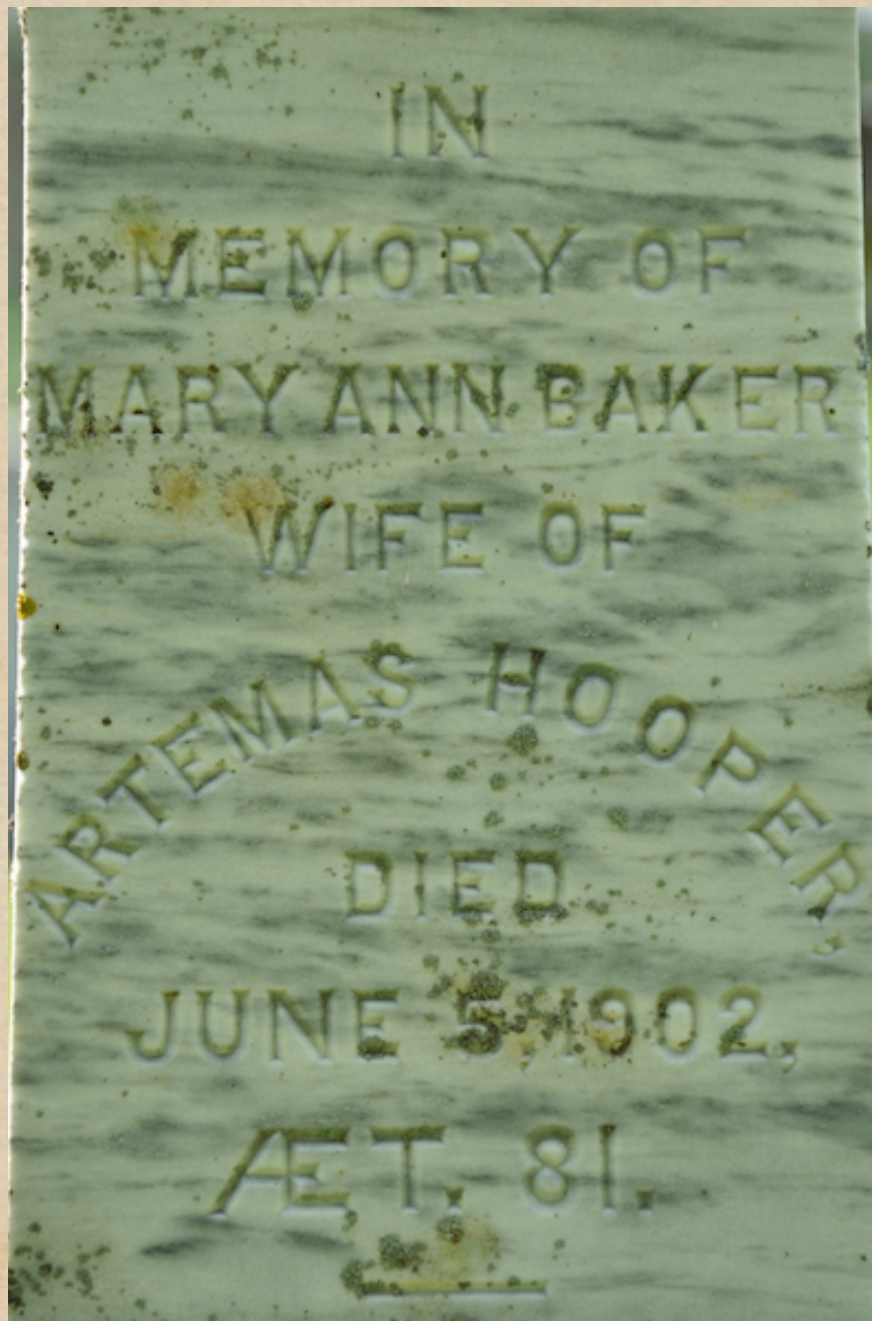


Direct sunlight

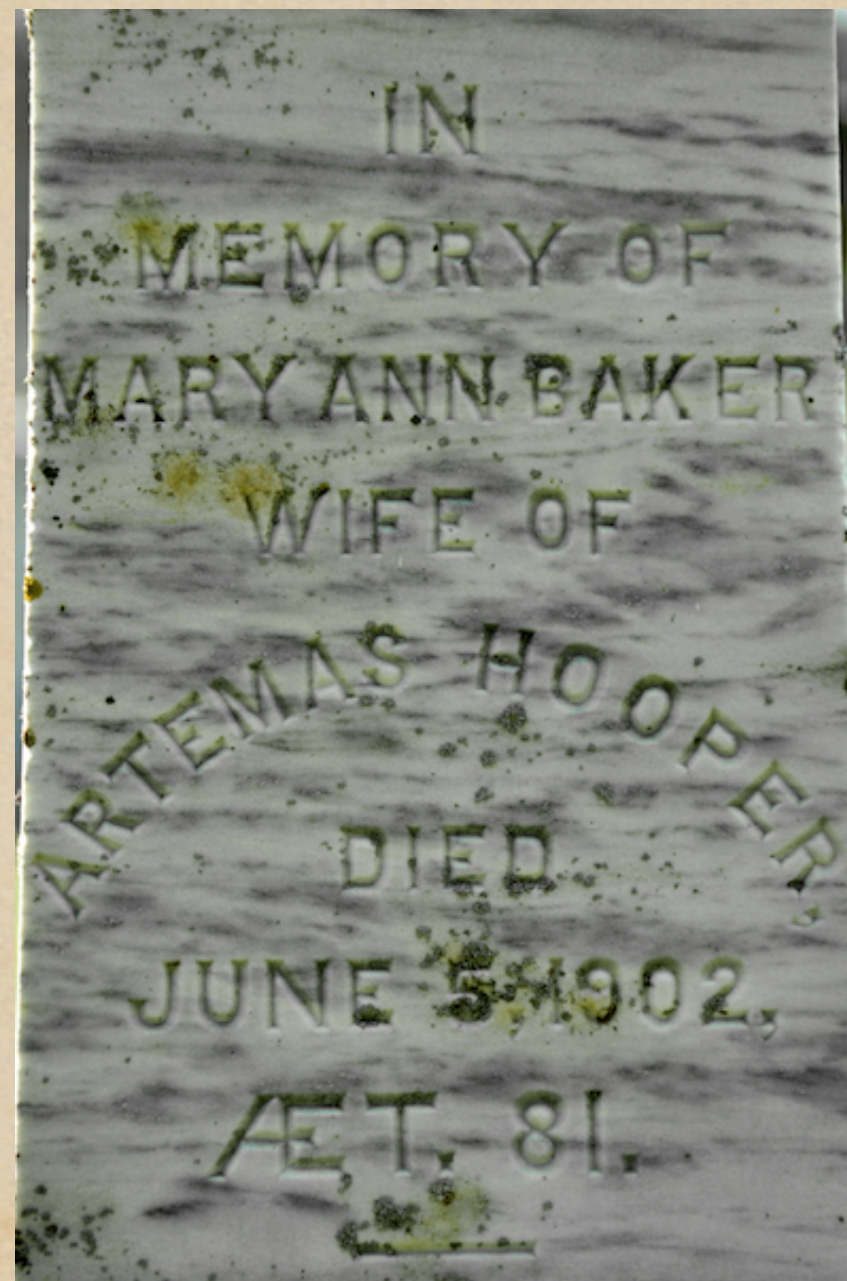


Shade

Adjusting Colour Balance

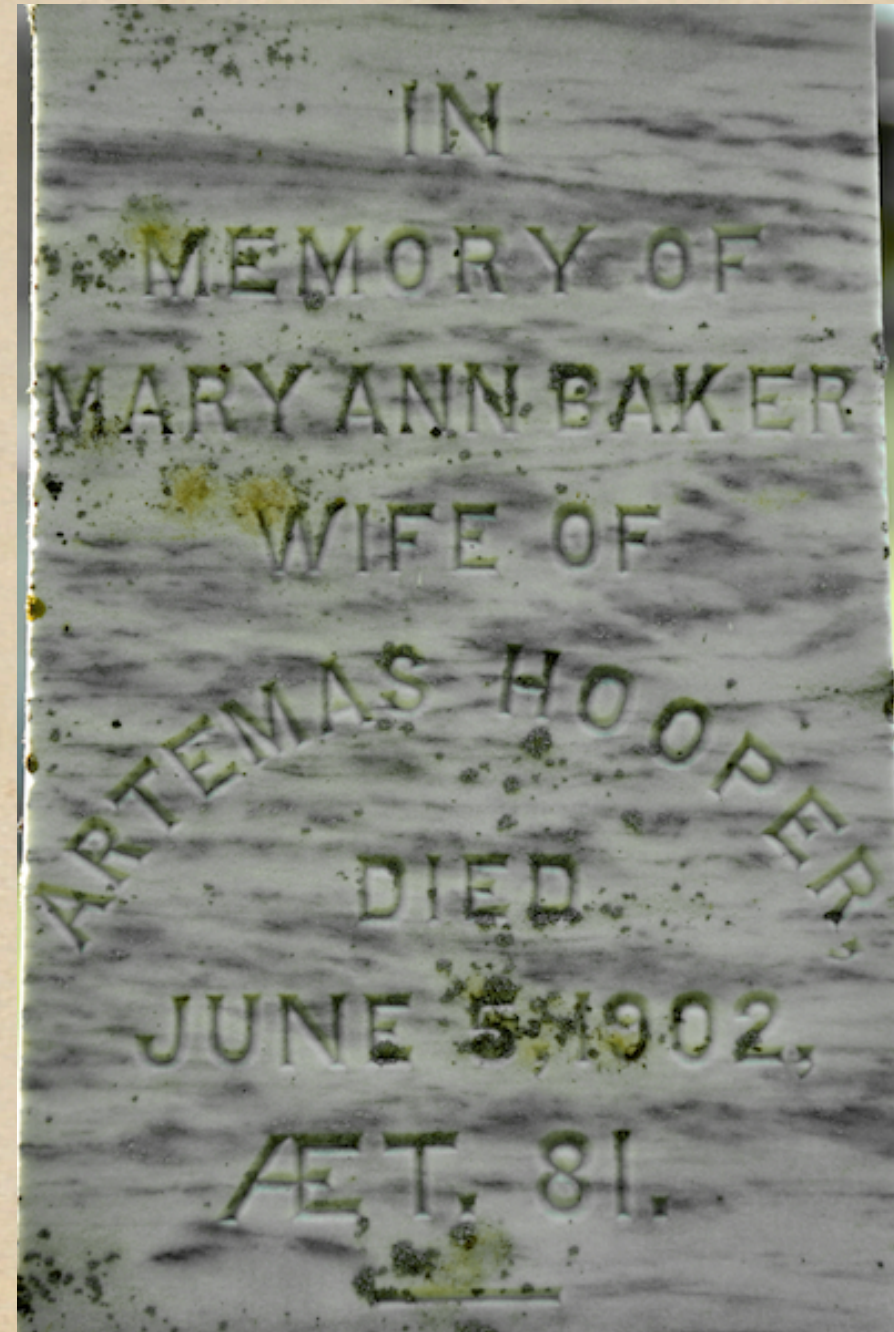
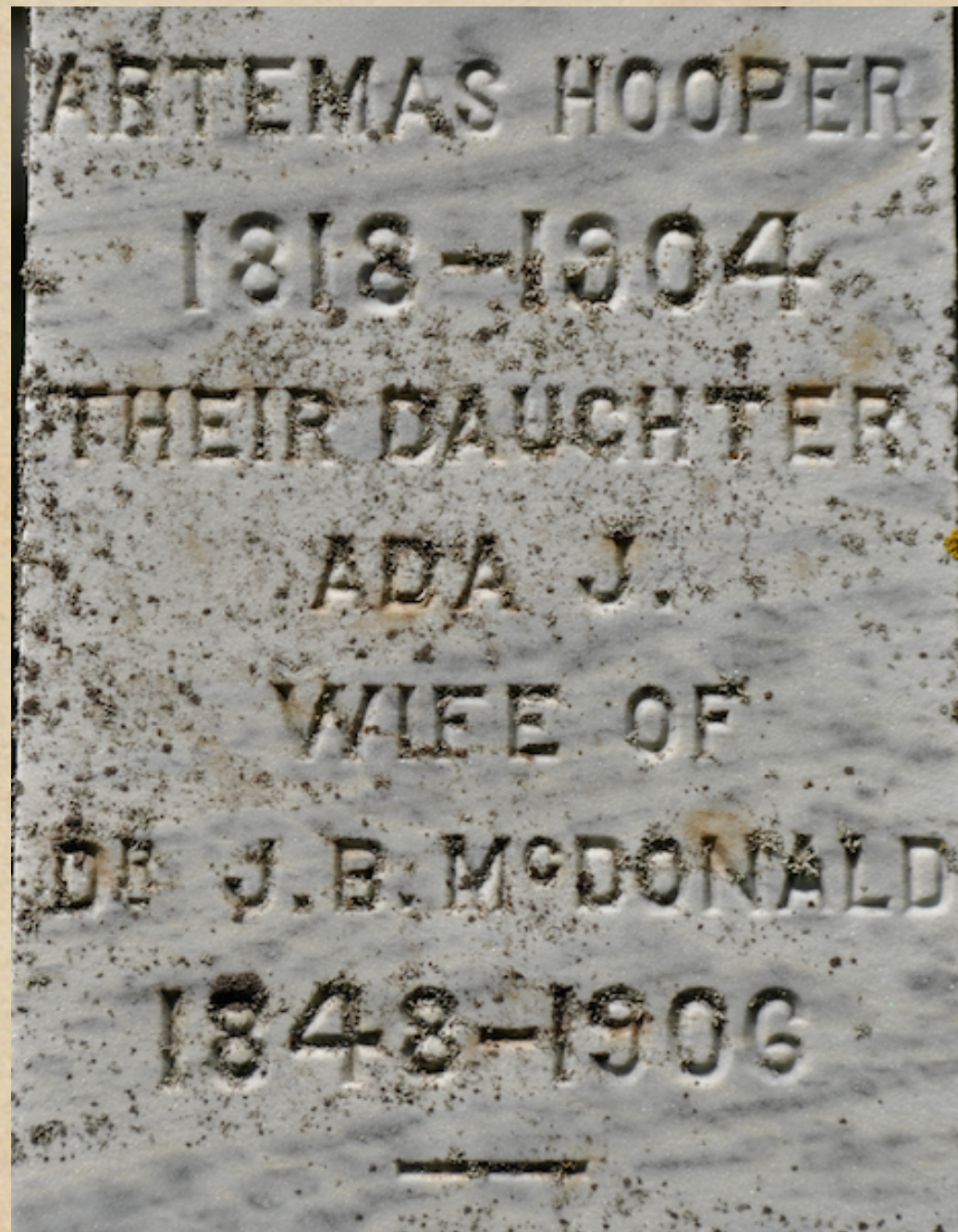


Original



Colour corrected

Adjusting Colour Balance



A better balance

Procedures at the Cemetery

- ◆ My preferred format of transcribing tombstones is shown below:
 - ◆ IMO / Henrietta Corey / Beloved wife of / Ebenezer Slocum / Who died 7th Jany. 1823, AEt. 82 years. / Also the above Ebenezer Slocum / Who died 23rd Mar. 1805, AEt. 75 years.
 - ◆ IMO is simply an abbreviation of 'In Memory of'.
 - ◆ ILRO = 'In Loving Remembrance of'
 - ◆ ILMO = 'In Loving Memory of'
 - ◆ BWO = 'Beloved Wife of'
 - ◆ Suffice to say that when recording a large number of stones, anything to save time is a good thing.
 - ◆ The use of '/' is simply to save paper, and represents a new line.

Procedures at the Cemetery

- ◆ As long as the script is legible, I include it in my notes. Often, one can get a clue as to cause of death, or the state of the deceased in their final days.
- ◆ I also write the name of the stone cutter.
- ◆ Inscriptions can often include place names of where the deceased was born and died.
- ◆ Inscriptions can often include something like “Sarah, daughter of Robert & Mary”, where Sarah might be someone you didn’t know
- ◆ Infants often die before they can be baptized, so you might see them in the inscription as “infant son of.....”. Infant would usually imply an age less than a year, and might have missed being in a census.

Procedures at the Cemetery

- ◆ Record associated stones, such as foot stones.
- ◆ When photographing tombstones, take the same advice that portrait photographers give when photographing children - 'Get down to their level'. If necessary, get on your knees to photograph the tombstones to avoid distortion.
- ◆ Be mindful of your reflection in polished stones. You may have to position yourself to one side.
- ◆ A useful accessory is a black cloth with a hole cut out to accommodate the camera lens. Drape the cloth over your head, and your only concern is the relatively small reflection from the lens.
- ◆ Another useful accessory is a translucent reflector designed for portrait photography. Have someone hold this over the tombstone to diffuse glaring sunlight.

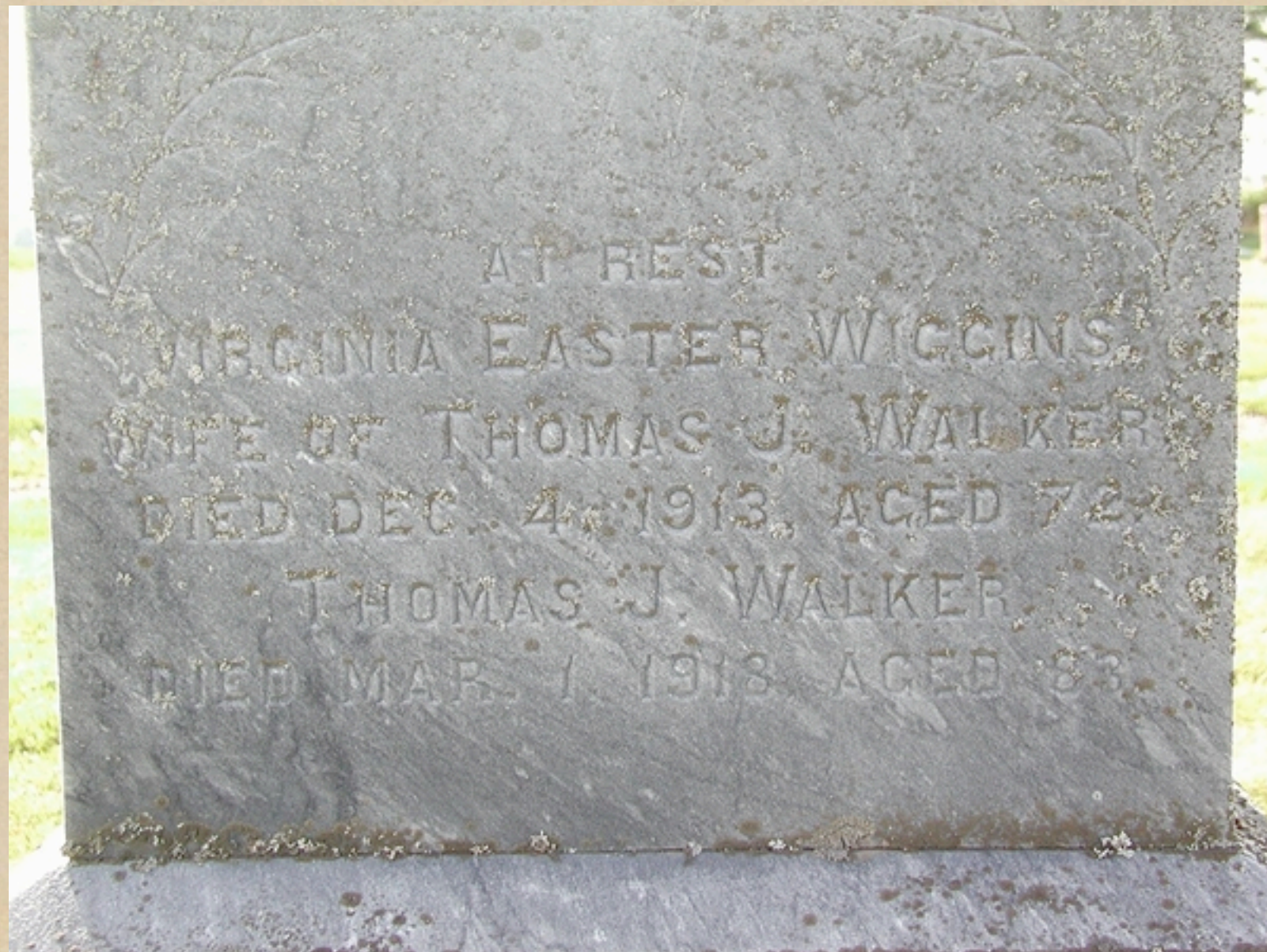
Editing Photographs

Likely corrections will include:

- ◆ Perspective correction
- ◆ Tilt correction
- ◆ Brightness/Contrast
- ◆ Cropping
- ◆ Resizing for TMG reports and Second Site
- ◆ Sharpen

Editing Photographs

Original



Editing Photographs

Perspective Correction



Editing Photographs

Enhance Contrast



Editing Photographs

Crop



Editing Photographs

Sharpen



Editing Photographs Before & After



Editing Photographs - Birds do what birds do...

Use of a cloning tool fixes that



Editing Photographs

Cloning Tool

- ◆ The cloning tool is available on all of the better photo editors
- ◆ It can be used to clean up clutter on and around tombstones
- ◆ It's also a useful tool to eliminate scratches, stains, water marks and torn emulsion on print photographs

Procedures for Entering Data in TMG

- ◆ Use your handwritten notes to enter the data into TMG
 - ◆ If there isn't a known burial date, simply enter a date in the Sort date field after the death so that the burial event is properly sorted.
 - ◆ Enter the name of the cemetery in the Detail field
 - ◆ Enter the coordinates in the Lat/Long field
 - ◆ I have my source created for the main family member in the plot
 - ◆ In the memo field type in the tombstone inscription, in the format described earlier. I begin each text entry with '[:CR:]Inscription: "In memory of / Ewen E. Clark.....etc"'
 - ◆ Use the Text Editing feature in TMG to scan for errors. View > Toolbars > Text Editing

Procedures for Entering Data in TMG

The completed Burial tag

Repeat all entries below for each person on the tombstone

The screenshot shows the 'Tag Entry' window in TMG. The 'Tag type' is set to 'Burial'. The 'Principal' is 'Thomas HOOPER Sr., (c1734-)'. The 'Detail' field is 'Bedeqe Cemetery'. The 'City' is 'Lower Bedeqe', 'County' is 'Prince County', and 'State' is 'Prince Edward Island'. The 'Country' is '-Canada'. The 'LatLong' is '46.34687~-63.73385'. The 'Memo' field contains the inscription: '[:CR:]Inscription: Sacred to the memory of / Thomas Hooper / United Empire / Loyalist / settled in Bedeqe / 1785 / Also his son / Elisha / died Mar. 18, 1860 / Aet. 78 / and his wife / Margaret Crosby / died May 31, 1843 / Aet. 62 / erected by Jane P. Hooper. Left side: Matilda Ann / wife of H.N. Hope / and daughter of Elisha Hooper / died Oct. 15, 1854 / Aet. 44. Right'. The 'Citations' list shows two entries: '2464 The Descendants of Thomas Hooper' and '2947 Cemetery Marker Thomas Hooper Sr.'. The 'OK' button is highlighted.

| Field | Value | |
|-------------------|--|-------|
| Tag type | Burial | |
| Principal | 14171 Thomas HOOPER Sr., (c1734-) | |
| Principal | 0 | |
| Date: | | |
| Sort date: | after __ __ 1817 | |
| Place style | U.S. StandardPlace | |
| Addressee | | |
| Detail | Bedeqe Cemetery | |
| City | Lower Bedeqe | |
| County | Prince County | |
| State | Prince Edward Island | |
| Country | -Canada | |
| Postal | | |
| Phone | | |
| LatLong | 46.34687~-63.73385 | |
| Temple | | |
| Memo | [:CR:]Inscription: Sacred to the memory of / Thomas Hooper / United Empire / Loyalist / settled in Bedeqe / 1785 / Also his son / Elisha / died Mar. 18, 1860 / Aet. 78 / and his wife / Margaret Crosby / died May 31, 1843 / Aet. 62 / erected by Jane P. Hooper. Left side: Matilda Ann / wife of H.N. Hope / and daughter of Elisha Hooper / died Oct. 15, 1854 / Aet. 44. Right | |
| Sentence | | |
| No more witnesses | | |
| Citations | 2 citations | |
| 2464 | The Descendants of Thomas Hooper | 3 |
| 2947 | Cemetery Marker Thomas Hooper Sr. | 3 3 3 |

Enter cemetery name
in Detail field

Enter LatLong
according to
format for
Second Site

Use Memo field to enter inscription

Add citations

Click OK when done

Procedures for Entering Data in TMG

- ◆ At the same time you have TMG open run your preferred image editor. For Mac users you can use a Mac editor as the two operating systems are transparent to each other. GIMP is great and free for both platforms.
- ◆ Once you have all of the textual data entered, display your tombstone photo(s), having performed any necessary image processing, such as perspective correction, rotation, cropping and brightness/contrast. On a PC you should work with copies of your original images, although ACDSee for PC saves the original in a separate folder. On a Mac, image editing is non-destructive, allowing you to revert to the original anytime.
- ◆ Once you are satisfied with the corrected image, resize to a maximum of 600 pixels, a reasonable size for reports and Second Site.

Procedures for Entering Data in TMG



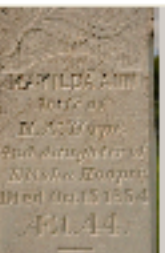


- ◆ With the Burial tag still open, click on the camera icon in the upper right corner
- ◆ Click Add to display the files in your Exhibits folder. Unfortunately, you cannot select more than one image at a time.
- ◆ Click on Properties > Description to open a text box for the caption.
- ◆ Repeat this exercise for each exhibit.
- ◆ When done, click Close in the Exhibit log window.

Procedures for Entering Data in TMG

The set of exhibits for the Burial tag

Exhibit Log: All Exhibits for Event Number 197033

| | | | | |
|-------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Sort | None | Filter | | |
| Focus | An Event | ID | 197033 | |
| Type | All Types | Rows | 2 | Cols 5 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 Marker - Thomas Hooper | 2 Marker - Thomas Hooper | 3 Marker - Thomas Hooper | 4 Marker - Thomas Hooper | 5 Marker - Thomas Hooper |

Tombstone, Thomas Hooper Sr. (1734-1816), Bedeque Cemetery (aka United Church Cemetery, Lower Bedeque), Prince County, Prince Edward Island.

1 (External) , (1-5) / 5 event (Burial) 1:197033

Add Scan View / Edit Delete Primary Properties

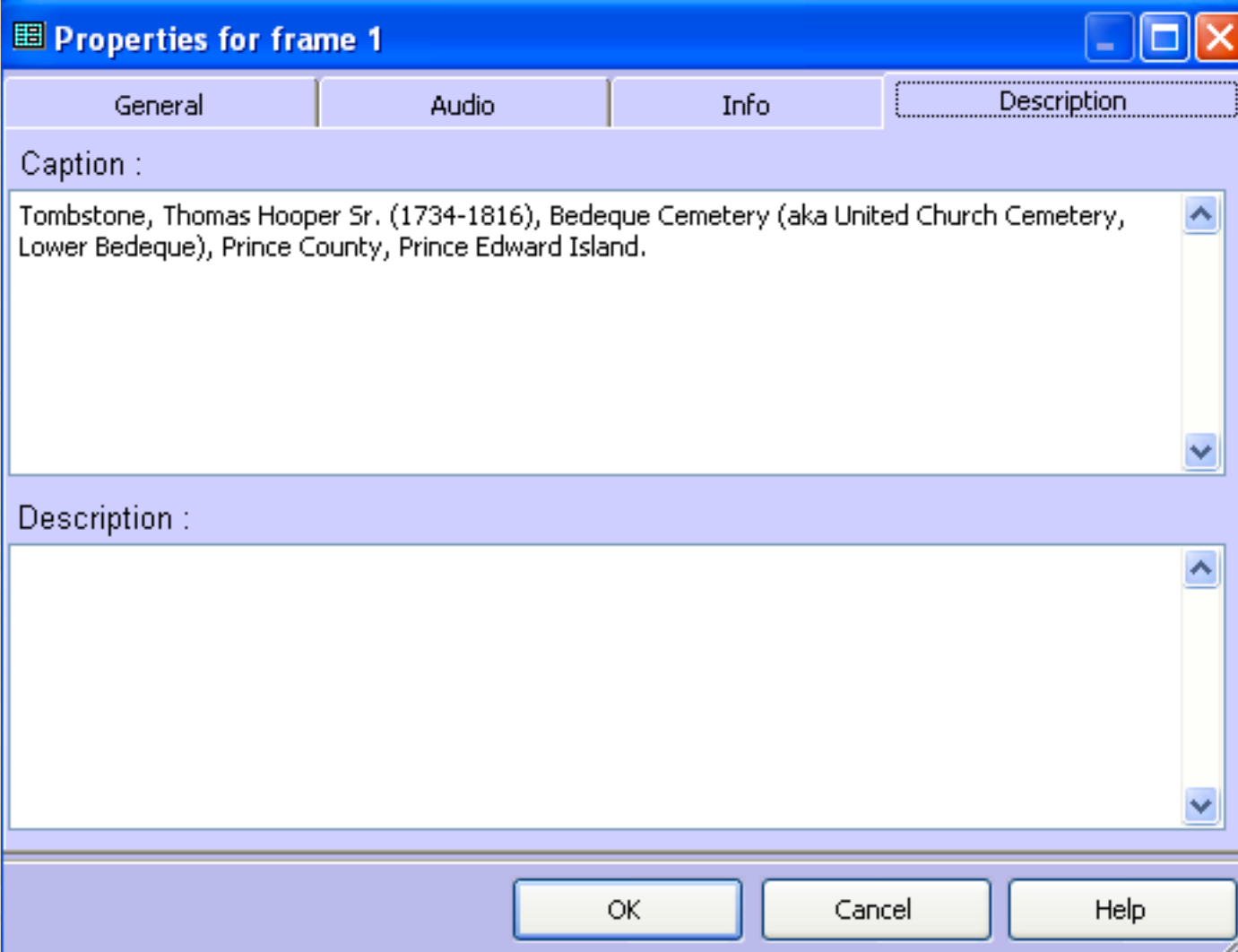
Close Help

When you have more than one exhibit, this clickable icon appears, allowing you to resort the images.

Click on Properties > Description to enter text for captions.

Procedures for Entering Data in TMG

Entering text for the exhibit captions.



The screenshot shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Properties for frame 1". It has four tabs: "General", "Audio", "Info", and "Description". The "Description" tab is selected. Inside the dialog, there are two text entry areas. The first is labeled "Caption :" and contains the text: "Tombstone, Thomas Hooper Sr. (1734-1816), Bedeque Cemetery (aka United Church Cemetery, Lower Bedeque), Prince County, Prince Edward Island." The second area is labeled "Description :" and is currently empty. Both text areas have vertical scrollbars on their right sides. At the bottom of the dialog, there are three buttons: "OK", "Cancel", and "Help".

Properties for frame 1

General Audio Info **Description**

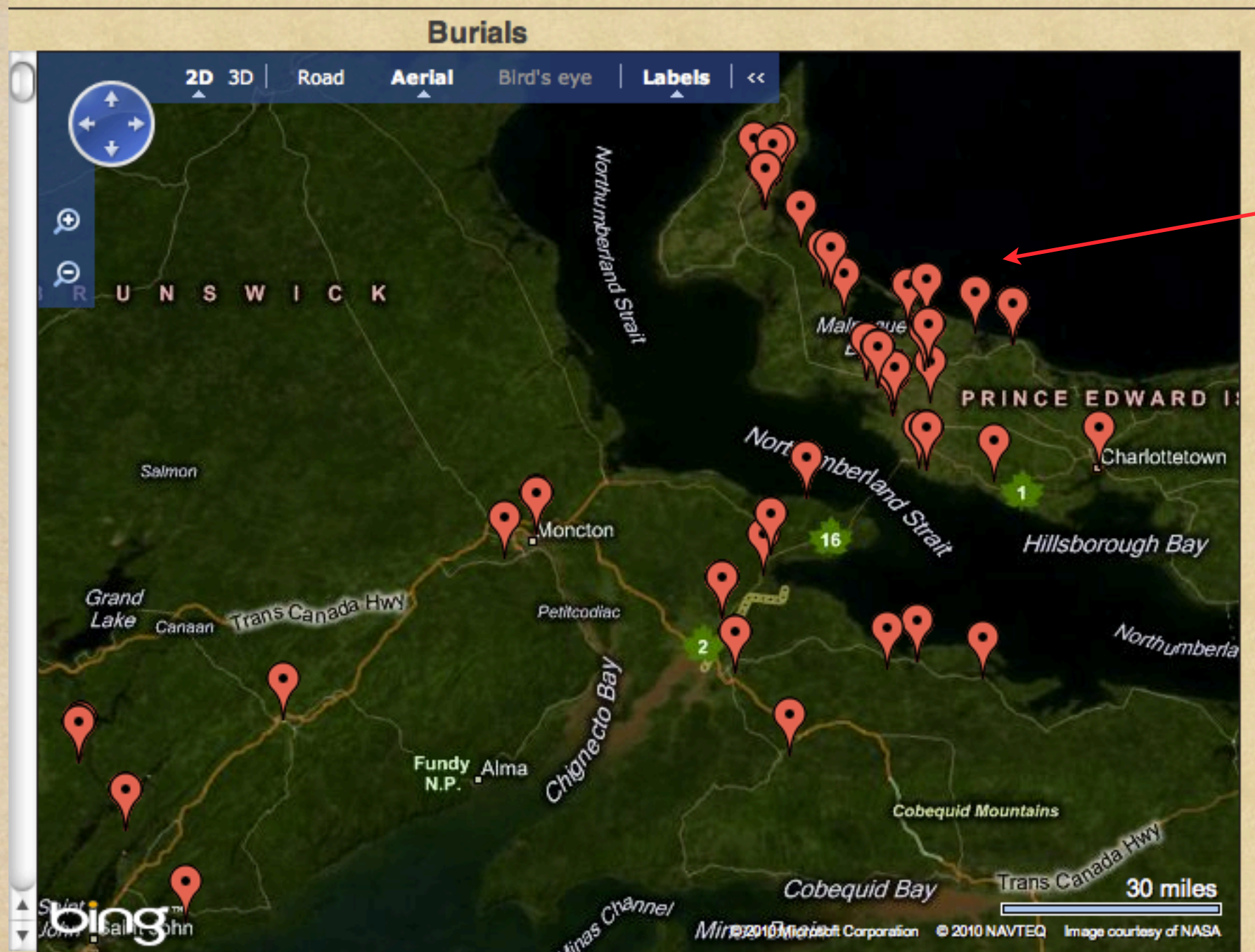
Caption :
Tombstone, Thomas Hooper Sr. (1734-1816), Bedeque Cemetery (aka United Church Cemetery, Lower Bedeque), Prince County, Prince Edward Island.

Description :

OK Cancel Help

Using Burial Data in Second Site

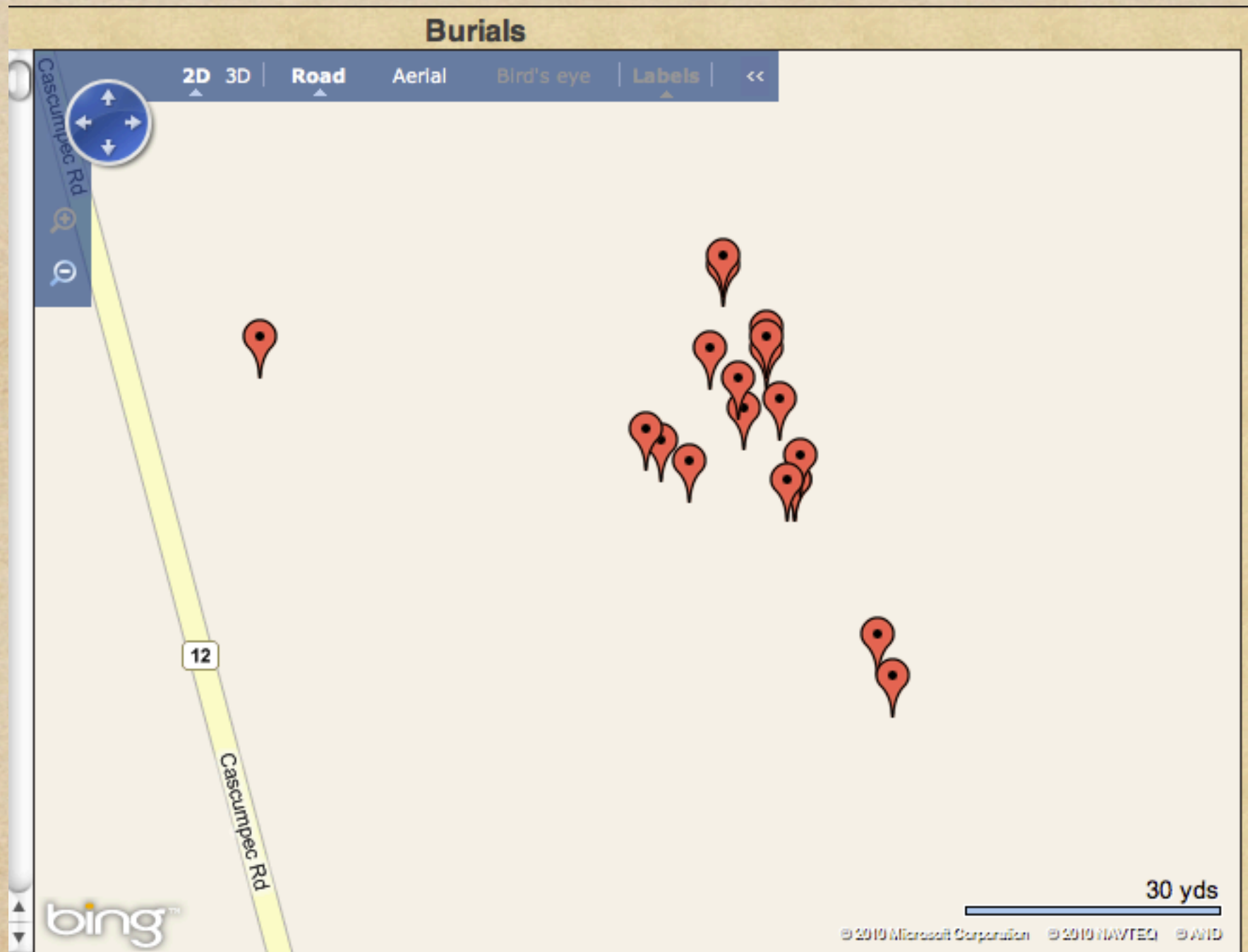
Create maps that pinpoint locations & list burials



In this view each pin represents a cemetery.

Using Burial Data in Second Site

Change View to Road & zoom to view individual tombstone locations



In this view, each pin represents a tombstone. Clicking on a pin will open a window that displays names & dates of the deceased.

Create Repositories in TMG & Second Site

A repository file was created in TMG to document cemeteries, churches, archives, museums etc. These are shown in an illustrated list in Second Site.

Repository

Information was gathered at Lower Waterville United Baptist Cemetery, Carleton County, New Brunswick, Canada, 46.256585~-67.588917.



Lower Waterville Baptist Cemetery, Carleton County, New Brunswick, Canada.

Conclusion

Your efforts to properly record textually and photographically all of your findings in cemeteries will be rewarded when you publish either in a report from TMG, or using the ultimate publishing tool called Second Site.