

BE PREPARED FOR YOUR PHOTO SHOOT AT THE CEMETERY

TIPS & GUIDELINES

Taking photos of the tombstone is the ideal way to document the information on the stone without causing deterioration.

You will need the following:

1. A buddy – Safety in numbers – It also goes quicker with a partner
2. Wear your genealogy pin or carry your membership card with you
3. Digital camera – If you don't have a digital camera, you can be part of the photo team by cleaning the stones and holding back plants. You will typically take about 200+ photos. Bring extra camera batteries and be sure all the batteries are charged
4. Camera memory card and an extra one. Be sure your personal pictures have been removed from the memory card as we download your pictures at the end of the day onto a laptop computer.
5. Cell phone on you – Be sure it is charged – In case of emergency
6. Sensible shoes
7. A brush with long handle and a couple of rags – plastic dish scrubber. Don't use metal scrubbers as they cause damage
8. A soft rubber tip from a toothbrush works wonders to trace out the letters of words when the tombstone is hard to read.
9. Clippers – to cut away overgrowth – just enough to read the inscription
10. Gloves – to protect the hands from the stone surfaces & cold
11. Hat – to keep out the sun or keep your head warm
12. Bottle of water to drink
13. Bug spray
14. Kneeling pad
15. A large spray bottle of water - to mist the stone to remove moss when it is hard to read.

16. Note pad & pen – If you can't read the stone and can't do a rubbing, write it down and take a picture of the note right after the picture of the stone you can't read
17. Put all the items in a bucket and keep it in your car
18. Don't wear jewelry as you may lose it in the cemetery. Don't make yourself a target for thieves as they may see your big flashy jewelry shinning in the sun from a distance.
19. Don't wear perfume or hair spray as they may draw bugs toward you.
20. Take a bathroom break before going to the cemetery. Not all cemeteries have offices or bathroom facilities.
21. Lock your car – Be sure to put your keys in your pocket.