

Reading the stones

Name

Date

Write only what you can actually read. Do not rub the stone. Do not touch the carving. One clear name and one clear date is enough. Here is a made-up example of one filled row: What is written: Mary Byrne. What it is carved on: a headstone. Any date or age: 1891, aged 64. On a wet day, use the headstone on the board and the words printed below.

RECORD

Record what is carved on each stone you can read.

What is written	What it is carved on	Any date or age

SKETCH

Sketch the oldest piece of writing you find.

DATES

Write the oldest date and the newest date you found.

Oldest date:

Newest date:



The Lee family headstone, Coolaghmore, County Kilkenny, 1742, the latest year carved on it; photographed 2022. Photo: A.-K. D., Wikimedia Commons, CC0

IHS Here Lies ye body of John Lee who de parted this Life d ye 6th aged 64 years 1742 his brother Wil liam Lee died dber ye 15th aged 30 [?] years 17[..] his Son Laurence Lee died April ye 4th aged 19 years 1741 Erected by Mathew [Lee] his Son

The Lee family headstone, Coolaghmore, County Kilkenny, 1742, the latest year carved on it; photographed 2022. Photo: A.-K. D., Wikimedia Commons, CC0

Key words

inscription · memorial · evidence · date · headstone