

Gravestone Worksheet #1

Name: _____

Stone #: _____

1. Use arrows to indicate on your stone where the Lunette, Border, Finial, and Inscription are located. Indicate if the stone does not have one of these elements.
2. What shape is your stone (vertical, horizontal, obilisque, individualistic)?
3. Transcribe your stone line by line. There are seven basic elements commonly found on gravestone inscriptions: (1) Header, (2) Epithet [terms of praise or identifying labels], (3) Name, (4) Formulas of Death, (5) Date, (6) Eulogies [usually hopes for the person in the afterlife], and (7) Age. Indicate what the parts of the inscription are used in each section.

| Inscription | Element |
|-------------|---------|
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4. What symbols are found on each section of the stone?
Lunette:
Finial:
Border:
5. What is the significance of each of these symbols? What is the underlying message of the stone?

Stone 1: Groton Cemetery, MA



Stone #2: Coddington (Quaker) Cemetery, Newport RI



Stone #3: Touro (Jewish) Cemetery, Newport RI



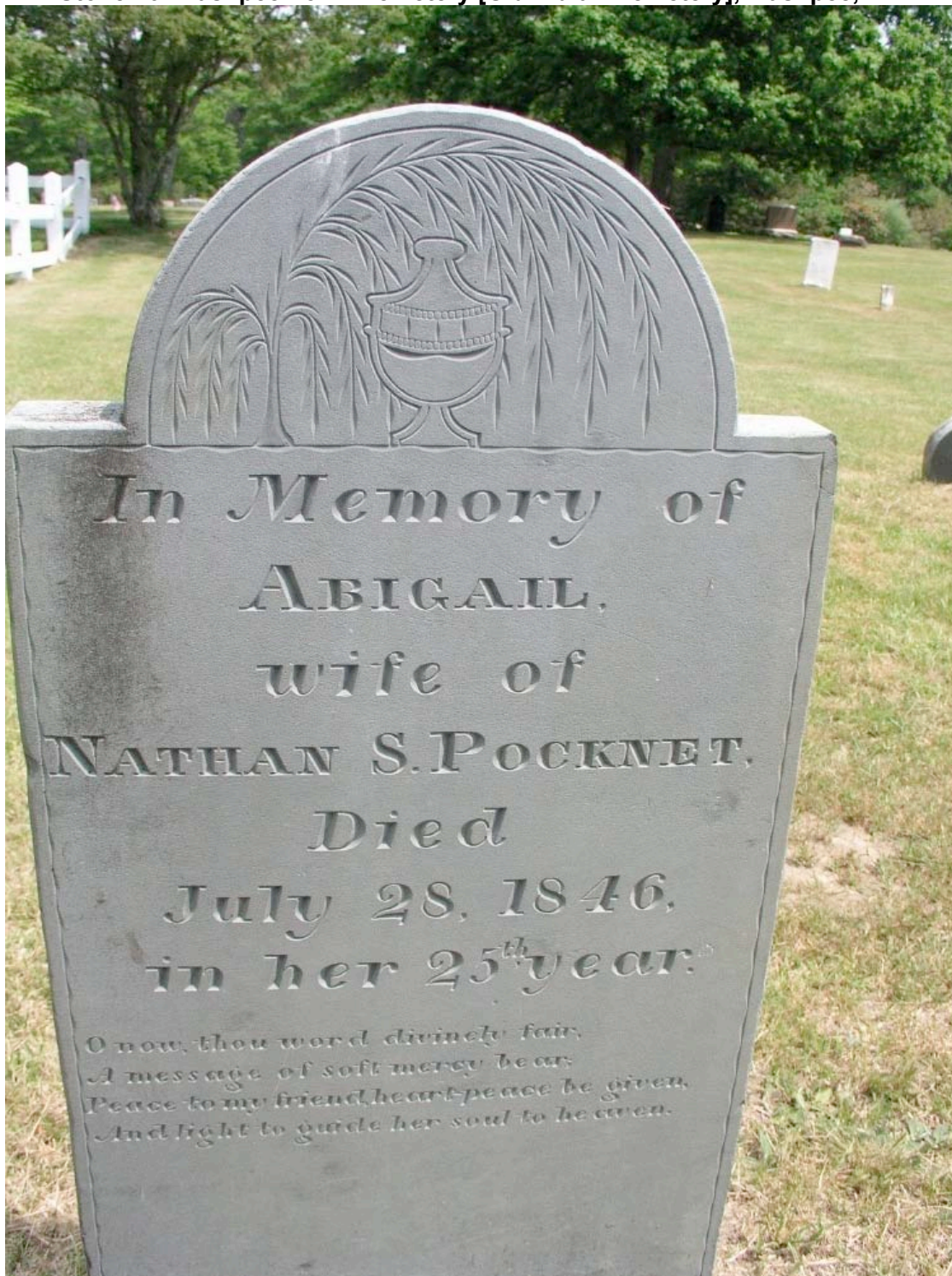
Stone #4: God's Little Acre (African American) Section
of Common Burying Ground, Newport RI



Stone #5: First Church of Cambridge (Cambridge, MA)



Stone #6: Mashpee Town Cemetery [Old Indian Cemetery], Mashpee, MA



Small Part of Inscription reads:

*“O now, thou word divinely fair.
A message of soft mercy bear;
Peace to my friend, heart-peace be given,
And light t guide her soul to heaven.”*

Stone #7: West Tisbury Village Cemetery, Martha's Vineyard, MA

