

Ballynure Old Graveyard

Church Road, Ballynure, Co. Antrim

GPS Co-ordinates: 54.77331, -5.95620

Ballynure Historical Group was formed in 1997 by Ballynure and District Community Association with the purpose of researching and preserving the village history. Part of the group's work has entailed the mapping and recording of the headstone inscriptions in the local graveyard. Little now remains of the old church that once stood within the graveyard next to which are the vaults of the landed gentry. An archaeological survey in connection with the recent A8 road bypass to the village has dated the site of the graveyard to Early Christian times.

There are over 400 plots within the graveyard with the earliest headstone being 1628 for Ellinor Clements, believed to be an ancestor of Samuel Langhorne Clemens aka Mark Twain. Other notable graves include those of the Rev Adam Hill, the Presbyterian Minister who was sympathetic to the United Irishmen as well as the ancestors of General Alexander Macomb the famous American hero from the war of 1812.

Along with the headstone transcriptions are the Grave Nos. and the Grid Reference from the original map. On the map, the plot numbers go in bands from left to right and top to bottom, but the grid lines are no longer present. (bg with the Grave number on the map stands for Ballynure Graveyard). A copy of a headstone photograph may be requested by emailing Lookup@nifhs.org and quoting the Grave number.

We are grateful to **Mr Stephen Bell** of the Ballynure Historical Group, assisted by **Mr Richard T. Wallace**, for allowing us to make the records available on our website and in our Research Centre.