

# Basic Detail Report

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**Title**

Funerary Inscription for Tiberius Claudius Kerdon

**Date**

1st or 2nd century CE

**Dimensions**

18 1/2 × 11 × 2 1/2 in. (47 × 27.9 × 6.4 cm) object with pedestal: 20 1/8 × 14 × 7 1/4 in. (51.1 × 35.6 × 18.4 cm)

**Medium**

Marble.

**Classifications**

Sculpture

**Object number**

1927.28

**Published References**

Unpublished (as of 2024).

**Collections**

Sculpture

**Label Text**

This marble inscription from the Aegean island of

Kalymnos marks the grave of a young child named Tiberius Claudius Kerdon. The Greek text translates to “I, Tiberius Claudius Kerdon, of Ephesus [----] lie here. A child, not yet having looked upon my relatives, being of few years, two and a half.” Though Ephesus is identified as Kerdon’s origin, his burial on the island of Calymnos suggests migration or family ties across regions, a common occurrence in the interconnected Hellenistic world. The child’s first two names, Tiberius Claudius, are Roman in origin, suggesting either that the family’s ancestors migrated to Ephesus from Italy or, more likely, that they were formerly enslaved by a Roman citizen bearing that name. It was common in the Roman world for enslaved people, upon being freed, to take on the praenomen (first name) and nomen (family name) of their enslaver.

**Not On View**