



# Trinity Historical Society

## Adopt a Headstone Project

### Final Update/Project Closure Report

July 20, 2023

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The Trinity Historical Society (THS) is pleased to report that Robyn Lacy and Ian Petty from Black Cat Cemetery Preservation completed their fifth work period on the restoration of the headstones in the churchyard at St. Paul's on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. They have now reset, repaired and cleaned all 188 headstones in the yard which is about one headstone per hour of work. Robyn and Ian are both archeologists and are experts in cemetery preservation. We are very pleased with their work. They have taught us much about the care of the headstones and what not to do to avoid damaging the stones.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the many individuals who made donations to this project. Many of you who made donations are descendants of those who are in the churchyard and we appreciate being able to make contact with you. Some of you have joined the Society and we welcome your membership.

As we previously reported, we completed the repair of the War monument and added storyboards which tell the stories of the 21 men whose names are on the monument in time for a ceremony on November 11, 2021. The storyboards were unveiled by descendants of these men. The repair of the Monument was done by Marsh Builders and Renovators Ltd.

The cost of the restoration and enhancement of the War Monument was \$12,661.60. We raised \$13,751.20 for this Project, which was Phase I of our churchyard restoration. We applied for and received a grant from Veterans' Affairs in the amount of \$5000.00, we received a donation from the Town of Trinity in the amount of \$2,500.00, and we raised \$4,060.00 in ticket sales for Pam Sullivan's hooked rug. The remainder of the funds raised came from private donations. The \$1,089.60 in excess of Phase I costs was applied to the restoration of the headstones. Phase II was restoration of the 50 headstones most in need of repair and Phase III was restoration of the remaining stones.

The restoration of the headstones was performed by Black Cat Cemetery Preservation. The cost for Black Cat to perform this work over four and a half weeks was \$35,267.99. We incurred additional costs related to materials and transportation of \$1,508.43. The total cost of the headstone restoration was \$36,776.42. We received a grant from Come Home 2022 in the amount of \$13,000.00 and we raised \$3,700.00 on ticket sales on the painting donated by Ed Roche. Mike Murphy of Halifax won the hooked rug on tickets and he donated this back to the Society. The rug was then sold at our in-person auction in August 2022 for \$1000.00. Masonic Union Lodge #28 donated \$500.00. The remainder of the funds raised came from private donors. We raised a total of \$36,920.75 and were able to complete the project on budget.

The success of this project depended on the efforts and contributions of numerous individuals.

Once again, we would like to thank Corey Jones for providing accommodations for Ian and Robyn at Trinity Cabins free of charge for the four- and one-half weeks that they spent in Trinity and we thank Pam Sullivan and Ed Roche for donating the beautiful hooked rug and painting for sale on tickets. We thank Ervin Locke for the donation of crusher dust used to stabilize the headstones. We thank those members of THS who helped with ticket sales and we thank Pam Sullivan and Sharon Jeans for their communications expertise. We thank THS staff members Jim Miller and Dean Bailey for their work in the organization and implementation of the Project. We thank Kyle Hurdle for his help on site.

We would again like to thank all of those who donated to the Project, those who bought tickets on the hooked rug and the painting, and the Government of NL for their support through the Come Home Year Program.

The Adopt a Headstone Project would not have been possible without this considerable effort and financial support.

The churchyard looks lovely following this restoration and we are very proud of what we have accomplished together. We believe caring for these headstones honours the memory of those who are buried there.

Kevin Toope and Ian Morris,  
Project Co-leads



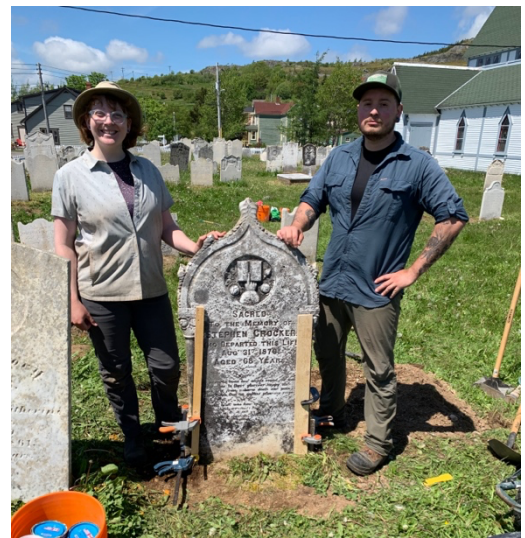
**War Monument with Storyboards**



**St. Paul's Churchyard Post Restoration**



**St. Paul's Churchyard Post Restoration**  
*Photo; Courtesy, Elaine Vokey*



**Robyn Lacy and Ian Petty**  
**Black Cat Cemetery Preservation**