



Trinity Historical Society

Adopt a Headstone Project

January 2022

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Background:

The cemetery at St. Paul's Churchyard was used from 1731 until 1888, when the new Anglican Cemetery was opened about a half a kilometer away. A search of available burial records, which start in 1757, indicates that more than 2100 individuals were buried in the churchyard. Of those who originally had grave markers only 188 headstones remain. The inscriptions on the headstones were recorded onto paper by two students in the summer of 1993 at which time 138 were legible.

In the winter of 2019-2020 we entered this information into an Excel spreadsheet using a standard format for Newfoundland cemeteries kindly supplied by Mr. Dale Jarvis of Heritage Newfoundland. A grid has also been created such that the location of each legible headstone can be identified.

Since 1993 many of the headstones have developed a lean at advanced angles and some have broken. The angle of lean of the stones is increasing with time and causes stress on the stone which eventually can lead to more fracturing. The base of the War Monument located in the churchyard was also badly fractured.

Project:

We have begun a **Three Phase** project to upright, repair, and clean the headstones and restore the Monument.

Phase I

We have completed **Phase I** of our project which was the restoration of the War Monument. We also added four storyboards around the monument which tell the stories of the 21 men whose names are engraved in the marble. This work was completed in time for a November 11th, 2021 ceremony, at which identified family members and descendants of the fallen performed the unveilings. The restoration of the monument, and the installation of the memory boards, has transformed the area around the monument into a special memorial park where all can come, read the stories of these young men, and reflect on the sacrifices they made.

The cost of this restoration and enhancement of the monument was \$12,661.60. Our fundraising totaled \$13,751.20 for Phase I and included a grant from Veterans Affairs, a donation from the Town of Trinity, private donations, and the proceeds from the ticket sales on a donated hooked rug depicting the church. The \$1,089.60 in excess of Phase I costs will be applied to Phase II of the project.

Phases II and III

Dale Jarvis introduced us to Ms. Robyn Lacey who is currently enrolled in a PhD program in Archaeology at Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN). Robyn's particular interest is in Newfoundland Cemeteries, and she has been advising us on the best methods to upright and care for the headstones. She and her husband Ian Petty, who is also a PhD student at MUN and an experienced archaeologist and heritage professional, have recently formed the company Black Cat Cemetery Preservation. Combined, Robyn and Ian have 20 years of experience in the heritage sector.

Robyn and Ian did a site visit at St. Paul's in September 2021 and provided an estimate for the headstone restoration. The cost estimate to restore the approximately 50 highest priority stones (**Phase II**) is \$12,875.20 plus tax, and the estimate for the remaining stones (**Phase III**) is \$19,392.80 plus tax. The more damaged the stones, the more costly they are to restore. We have engaged Black Cat Cemetery Preservation to restore the headstones and we hope to start this restoration in the spring of this year. Although some cleaning of the stones is possible, reengraving the inscriptions is not advised as it can further damage the stone.

Our Fundraising initiatives:

Our Ticket Drive

We initiated our first fundraiser, for the headstone restoration project in 2020 but had to postpone it due to the Covid Pandemic. This fundraiser was a ticket drive on

an original painting, entitled "The Dunfield Rocks", generously donated by Mr. Ed Roche. We are now able to resume our fundraising efforts and will restart the ticket sales on "The Dunfield Rocks" as soon as the tickets can be made available.

Our Adopt a Headstone Campaign

There are many thousands of descendants of the individuals buried in St. Paul's cemetery. Many of them are interested in family genealogy and they may be willing to donate towards the restoration of the headstones. Our intent is to identify and make contact with descendants, inform them about our project, and solicit donations in memory of their ancestors. We would like to involve the general membership of the Trinity Historical Society in this community effort of the Society.

If you have an ancestor buried in St. Paul's Cemetery, we ask that you consider donating to this restoration project. If your ancestor has a headstone, we will supply a photo of the headstone as it currently exists and a second one when it is up-righted and cleaned. We will also provide whatever information we can find on your ancestor. Conversely, if you have any information about your ancestor(s) we would appreciate having copies for inclusion in the Trinity Historical Society Archives.

If you do not have an ancestor buried here but are aware of friends or acquaintances who are descendants of individuals buried in the cemetery, we ask you to make contact with them and make them aware of this project to preserve an important part of our heritage.

We have already received unsolicited donations of \$100 from an individual who has ancestors buried at St. Paul's, and \$1000 from another individual in appreciation of the work being carried out by the Society. You may simply be interested in the preservation of this beautiful cemetery and wish to make a donation.

Please make your donation to "The Trinity Historical Society Adopt a Headstone Project". Donations may be made by e-transfer, cheque, cash, or credit card. The Society will provide a tax receipt in the amount of your donation. e-transfers can be sent to info@trinityhistoricalsociety.com. **If you send an etransfer, please include your mailing address such that we can send the tax receipt.**

Our address is:

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Please find below a list of the names inscribed on the headstones:

Names Engraved on Gravestones – Old St. Paul’s Cemetery, Trinity			
Surname	First Name	Surname	First Name
Answorth	John	Hiscock	Jane
Archar	Thomas	Hiscock	Josiah
Ash	Catherine	Hiscock	Sarah
Ash	Joseph	Hiscock	Sarah
Ash	Mary	Hiscock	Mary
Ash	Martha	Hiscock	William
Ash	Richard	Hodder	Richard
Bailey	David	Hogarth	Patience
Bailey	Elizabeth	Hurdle	Mary
Bailey	Sarah	Ivamy	Elizabeth
Baily	David	Jones	Ann
Baily	John	Jones	Mary
Bannister	John	Jones	William
Bannister	Martha	Lockyer ??? see notes in WB	James
Basstone	William	Lockyer	James
Biyly	Elizabeth	Lockyer	James
Biyly	John	Lockyer	Joanna
Brine	Ann	Lockyer	William
Brine	Elizabeth	Maher	Edward
Brine	John	Milly	Emma
Bro(..) Broomfield (NGB)	Sara	Moore	John
Brock	Andrew	Moores	Dinah
Buchanan	Arthur	Moores	Catherine
Bugden	William	Morley	George
Budgen	William	Morley	Mary
Burnell	Eliza	Morris	Elizabeth
Burnell	John	Morris	James
Butler	James	Morris	Joseph
Butler	Mary	Mullett	Elizabeth
Churchill	John	Murphy	Harriet
Churchill	Joseph	Murphy	Thomas
Churchill	Reuben	Newell	Catherine
Clinch	George	Newell	Hannah
Clinch	Hannah	Newell	James
Clinch	John	Newell	Jonah
Clothier	John	Newhook	Charles

Clothier	Mary	Parrott	Catherine
Collins	Thomas	Parsons	Elizabeth
Collis	James	Peckham	Susannah
Collis	Jane	Peckham	Elizabeth
Collis	Mary	Peckham	William
Corderoy	Ann	Peckham	Susannah
Crocker	James	Pelley	Mark
Crocker	Louisa	Penny	Samuel
Crocker	Stephen	Pinhorn	Martha
Dampier	Thomas	Pittman	Benjamin
Day	Amy	Pittman	Joseph
Day	Charlotte	Pittman	Mary
Day	Elizabeth	Possell	Mary
Day	James	Pottle	James
Day	Joseph	Pottle	John
Doherty	James	Powell	William
Doherty	Mary	Quin	Jeremiah
Doherty	Patrick	Quin	Sarah
Dwy(..) Dwyer (NGB)	John	Randell	?
East	Emily	Randell	John
Farnham	Sarah	Randell	William
Fifield	Charity	Re(?)stone	Jane
Folow	Thomas	Roe	James
Foster	Joseph	Ryen	Darby
Foster	Joseph	Spurrell	John
Foster	Will	Suley	Rich...
Fowlow	Amelia	Sweet	?
Fowlow	Elizabeth	Sweet	John
Fowlow	Joseph	Sweet	Mary
Fowlow	Joseph	Sweet	William
Fowlow	Patrick	Tavener	Joseph
Furner	John	Taverner	James
Garland	Samuel	Thibes	Martha
Geebis	Elizabeth	Toop	Grace
Goldsworthy	Howard	Toop	Matthias
Goldsworthy	Ann	Toop	Reuben
Gover	Joseph	Walter	Elizabeth
Gover	Joseph	Waterma	Ann
Granger	William	Waterma	Rob
Granger	Willie	Waterman	Richard
Grant	William	Way	Catherine
Green	William	Way	James
Guppy	John	White	William
Guppy	Robert	Wileol(?)	Sarah
Hart	John	Wize(?)	Morris
		Woolfry	Honour