

Spotlight on Headstones: England Plot Restored with Help of State Match-Fund Grant



The stacked polished granite shaft monument bearing epitaphs of William England, Olive Stanton England Enright, and their son, Eugene A. England, now upright after restoration, had been leaning due to failure of concrete and a tilted footing.

Endowment Fund Update

Salem Pioneer Cemetery's Endowed Fund was established within The Salem Foundation Charitable Trust in 1999 for long term care and protection of the cemetery. In 2010, the fund's earning power was boosted by \$5,351 in gifts from seventy-seven individual contributors.

To help the City toward an enhanced level of maintenance and to accomplish betterment work that could not be undertaken otherwise, the ongoing goal is to build the endowment to \$500,000. In the current market, the value of the fund stands at \$476,731.23. Proceeds from the endowment provided the City with supplemental funds in the amount of \$11,108.97 in 2010. Endowment funds typically are used for special cemetery-wide projects and major monument repairs and stabilization. In 2010, a part of the proceeds was used to match a grant from the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries to repair the collapsing concrete-capped England family plot near the cemetery's Hoyt Street entrance.

Straightening and repair of monuments in pioneer cemeteries is a constant requirement. Deteriorating mortar, ground movement, burrowing rodents, and out-of-control vegetation can destabilize even a concrete-capped raised plot contained within a masonry stem wall. Regular visitors to Salem Pioneer Cemetery will notice that the disrepair that had become increasingly apparent at one such burial plot, that of William England located a short distance inside the Hoyt Street entrance, has been remedied.

The England Plot, No. 949, is a prominent example of the many fine raised plots throughout the cemetery having stem walls of tooled masonry, coping stones, and stone steps centered in the east wall affording access to the headstone platform.

The restoration, begun in October, 2010, was spurred by a \$4,000 match-fund grant from the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries, which is staffed by the State Parks and Recreation Department. The City Parks Operations Division, as grantee, conducted the open bidding process and awarded the contract to Jeff Hilts Marker Setting. Pacific Concrete Construction and Mike Tappan Masonry were sub-contractors. City Parks staff member John Kleeman was project coordinator.

The project called for breaking up and removing the failing 4-inch-thick concrete cap, removal of monuments and stem wall coping stones, bringing a deflected north wall into proper alignment, filling and leveling the above-grade mound of earth, pouring an improved reinforced concrete cap, and returning monuments to their original positions. (continued on page 2)



Plot No. 949, the plot of William England, is shown with new concrete cap having sectional expansion joints and a very slight crown to facilitate run-off.

England Plot (continued from page 1)

William England (1829-1901), an Oregon pioneer of 1852 from Illinois, was Salem's leading wagon and carriage maker. He was a member of Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, founders of the cemetery. The I.O.O.F. conducted ceremonies at England's burial, a customary honor accorded by the fraternal order to its brethren.

England married Olive Stanton of Salem in 1879. Their son, Eugene, predeceased his father and mother and was the first to be laid to rest in the plot eventually shared by his parents, his mother's second husband, John F. Enright, and others. Olive England Enright (1851-1936) was among the first women to be graduated from Willamette University's College of Law after women were granted admission to the professional school in the 1880s. Active in the Women's Suffrage movement, she headed the Salem Equal Suffrage League in 1912, the year women achieved the right to vote under Oregon law.

Jeff Hilts, restoration general contractor, buttered a footprint pocket with mortar before returning a headstone to its correct position in the concrete cap of the England Plot.



Innovative Solution Returns Damaged Zinc Marker to Plot 754

Readers of last year's annual report will remember the feature article on Salem Pioneer Cemetery's noteworthy collection of cast zinc gravemarkers. Eagle Scout candidate Eric Nettleton and fellow members of BSA Troop 108 conducted the 2009 survey that identified as many as twenty-four metal markers of the type made popular in American cemeteries by the Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Included in the survey was one marker that was in storage awaiting repair.

The marker of Salem builder W. J. Polley (1833-1898) on Plot 754 adjacent to a secondary lane had been struck accidentally by a vehicle sliding in mud and was sheared away from an unyielding bottom edge that was embedded in concrete. The shaft with cap separated from the base intact. The challenge was to make a durable repair of the base, which was shattered at the corner of impact.

Dave Talbott, president of Architectural Castings, Inc. of Portland, and his shop crew freed the marker's bottom edge from the concrete plinth and, using modeling putty, reconsolidated the base so that a mold could be made for casting. A hollow base was cast of glass fiber-reinforced concrete which was color-matched to the zinc shaft. Stainless steel bolts were used to fasten both the hollow shaft to the base and the turned bottom edge of the base to a new concrete plinth.

The Polley marker jointly commemorates W. J. Polley and his infant son, Alvin Henry (1883-1884). The father's and son's epitaph tablets are bolted into the hollow shaft framework on opposing sides. The original threaded bolts securing the tablets are brass and did not require replacement since they were not corroded. Although the base is a replica in a substitute material, it makes the marker's continued presence in the cemetery possible and visually complete.

The marker was reset courtesy of City View Cemetery, which also stores the original semi-permanently reconstructed base in case of future need. The restoration was privately funded.

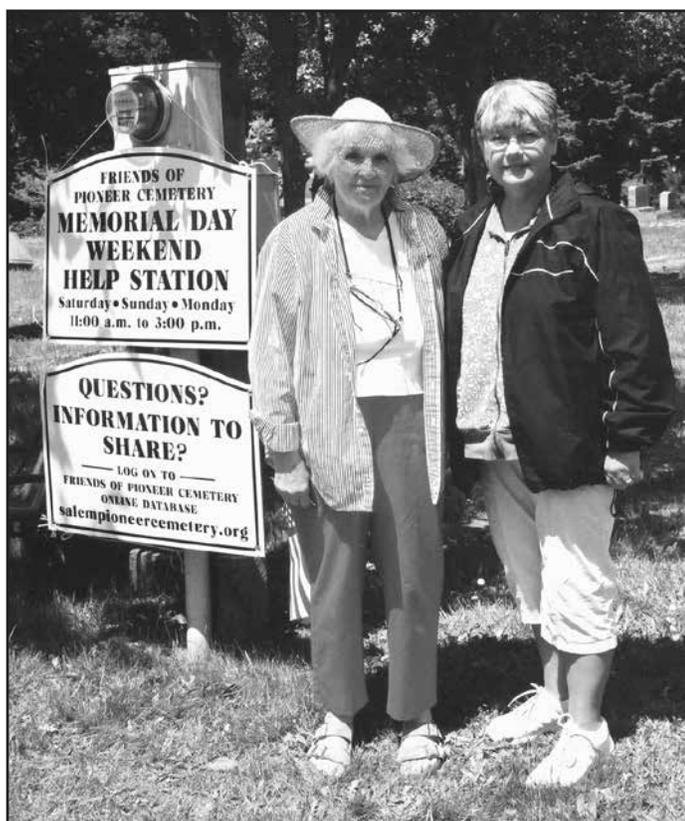
The cast zinc gravemarker of W. J. Polley was restored and reset in its historic place in Plot No. 754. Its irreparably damaged base was precisely replicated in glass fiber-reinforced concrete. The shaft and cap are intact original metal



Remembering Karen Tolle

Karen Sue Tolle was the model of a gracious volunteer. After having been active in many realms of community life, in 2009 she became a knowledgeable researcher for the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery online genealogical database. Karen's support of the organization was wholehearted and encompassing. She volunteered to staff the visitors' help station at the cemetery during Memorial Day weekend, and she was also a cheerful and effective presence at Saturday morning work parties. Even as she came to grips with cancer surgery and treatment, Karen made time to come by the grounds on a scheduled work day to greet the leaders and reassure them with her smiles. Karen's public-spirited consideration of the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery is reflected in the numerous memorial gifts received from donors following her death on August 11, 2010.

Karen was born on Valentine's day, 1952, in Kansas City, Missouri, the daughter of Ralph and Pauline Harness. She and her husband Lloyd were married in Raytown, Missouri in 1971 and raised two daughters, Jennifer Lynn (Mrs. Scott) Wynkoop of Vancouver, Washington and Sara Elizabeth Tolle of Salem. Karen delighted in her four grandchildren, Katie, Tyler, Colin, and Rebecca. She is warmly remembered by a wide circle of friends and fellow volunteers.



Karen Tolle (right) and founding FOPC genealogist Addie Dyal Rickey (left) staffed the Pioneer Cemetery Help Station for visitors on Memorial Day, 2009.

Cartwright Headstones Reset After Lengthy Dislocation

Among the cemetery's stately marble tablets illustrating a high point in area stone carving during the 1860s and '70s, is the gravemarker of Darius B. Cartwright (1814-1875), a Lane County pioneer who established a stage station on the west-side Territorial road near Lorane in 1853. Cartwright operated the renowned Mountain House Hotel until the time of his death. His headstone and a kindred stone jointly commemorating his two sons, Barton A. and James W. Cartwright, who had preceded him in death, appear to have been commissioned at the time of the father's death. The carver is unidentified.

The dies are 33 inches in height and have segmental-arched heads and deep-channel border surrounds. They also have in common a large circular epitaph cartouche above which is represented in bold relief the parting curtains of Heaven and the clasped hands of farewell to the earthly realm and entry to new life.

Burial records helped to verify the original placement of the Cartwright headstones in Plot 107, where only one of the original bases remained, that of D. B. Cartwright, the father. Some time ago, the headstones were stacked on a nearby plot, where they rested provisionally until 2010, when the stones were sawed for straight base ends and reset in new bases of concrete. Although the remaining original basalt base was irreparably fractured and rendered unusable, it was left as a physical record and the new base was placed in front of it to receive the repaired headstone of the senior Cartwright. The concrete bases were made by Jeff Hilts Marker Setting. The headstones were reset by FOPC field volunteers.



After a long period of dislocation, the matching pair of broken headstones of Territorial stage station operator Darius B. Cartwright, right, and his two sons were reset in appropriate places in Plot No. 107.

Volunteer Field Crew Turned Out for a Productive Year

Once monthly, from March through October, Friends of Pioneer Cemetery field volunteers gather for a Saturday morning session aimed at improving the cemetery one work area at a time. Volunteers from all parts of the community help reset fallen markers, prune heritage roses and ornamental plants, remove moss and vines, collect debris, and carry out other improvements. Also, a week after Memorial Day, volunteers turn out to collect the masses of spent flowers and cone vases that had been set out upon the grounds.

In recognition of the number of service hours contributed to the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, Grant Rutherford, a Wal-Mart Associate, once again qualified the Salem Foundation Charitable Trust's Pioneer Cemetery Fund to receive a grant of \$250 from the Wal-Mart Foundation under the company's Volunteerism Always Pays program.

Dale Palmquist and Mark Fields, field leaders, were grateful for support of the following volunteers who joined work parties in 2010.

Suzanne Apodaca and daughters Erin and Amie
Judy Brown
Gwen Carr
Mikala Chenault
Caleb Clark
Alyssa Ekdahl
Art Fogarty
Marilyn Halgrimson
Sedonia Harsh
Jane Hope
Karen Hutchinson
Cameron and AnnMarie Jones
Marjorie Jordan
Fred Klatz
Nicole Leach
Ben & Kalene Martinez: Haylee, Nickolas, Rebecka
Moya McKeehan
T. Randy Miles
Kathy Moreland
Pat Norman
Harold Otto
Elisabeth Potter
Willie Richardson
Susan Robinson
Penny and Jose Ruiz
Grant Rutherford
John Scott
Karen Sewell
Claudine Shaw
Pam Smith
Matt Soots
Alicia Suarez-Guerrero and daughter Naomi

Devin Thompson
Nancy Umeda
Bill and Linda Warren
Tristan Wrosch

The roster of field volunteers included members of Oregon Northwest Black Pioneers, students from the Universities of Oregon and Connecticut, and South Salem, Sprague, and West Salem High Schools. Also represented were Blanchet School, Salem Academy, and Judson Middle School.

In addition to those listed above, Shannon Holbrook of the South Salem High School English Department led student volunteers Richard Liao, Tanya Lavars, and Cheyann Burke. Sharon Trammell of the Restored Church of Christ headed church volunteers Steve Scunto, Kevin Heman, Travis Clark, and Melissa Clark.

Bishop John Russell and Gordon Fisher directed a dozen volunteers from Keizer Third Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in spreading gravel to improve the parking area at the lower end of the central drive.

Volunteers are always needed and welcome. For schedule information, contact Tibby Larson, Volunteer Coordinator, Salem Parks Operations Division, tal arson@cityofsalem.net 503-589-2197.



Regular volunteers kicked off the 2010 field season with a pruning session in February. Back row, left to right: Dale Palmquist, Harold Otto, Fred Klatz, Mark Fields, Randy Miles, and Grant Rutherford. Front row: Claudine Shaw, Karen Sewell, Kathy Moreland, and Suzanne Apodaca.



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Permanent Plot Number Guides Set



This guide marking Plot No. 908 is one of more than 120 row-end guides being installed by volunteers to help in locating a given tier in the gridiron of numbered plots.

In the past year, Volunteer Field Crew leaders Mark Fields and Dale Palmquist installed the first section of a permanent row-end plot number guide system they devised using glass fiber-reinforced concrete cores, the heads of which are stamped with plot numbers. The cores are then buried in the margins of the central drive in 12-inch segments of hard plastic scrap conduit filled with packed gravel. Because the heads of the guides, with their incised numbers, are flush with the ground they are visible but cannot be broken off. In the coming year, guides will be set the full length of the drive on both sides to help visitors and workers get their bearings. Dave Huffman of In Loving Memory Concrete Creations, Inc. is the supplier of the concrete cores.

City Parks Seasonal Personnel Are Valuable Factor in Upkeep

Parks Operations seasonal personnel perform valuable maintenance services for Salem Pioneer Cemetery. Crew member George Rosal gained experience in cemetery grounds care in California before coming to Oregon. He recognized a hazard in the collapsing grave of William C. Dunbar, son of W.R. and Eliza A. Dunbar, in the SW corner of Plot 416. Authorized to correct the problem, and aided by co-worker Gary Gillam, Rosal removed the slumped sod and filled and packed the void with sandy loam. He then spread compost and re-seeded the leveled surface. Rosal and Gillam also raised and straightened the footstone of young Willie (1884-1886) and groomed adjacent graves.



Seasonal City Parks Operations personnel George Rosal, left, and Gary Gillam sectioned sod for removal from the collapsing 124-year-old grave of young Willie Dunbar in preparation for filling and leveling the site.