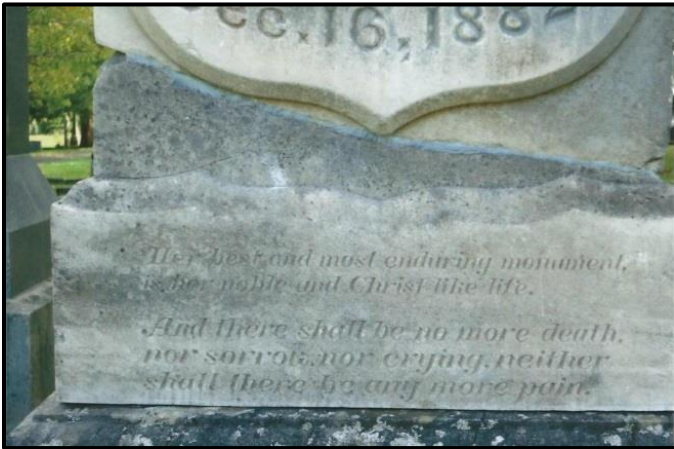


Conservation Highlights:

Martha Adams Headstone Repaired and Upright



Scriptural detail, headstone epitaph of Martha E. Adams, first wife of minister-educator-legislator Sebastian Adams, plot 712

A sensitive undertaking of the 2016 field season for Jeff Hilts, the City’s contractor of record for professional headstone repairs, was presented by the broken headstone of Martha McBride Adams (1831-1882). Martha was the first wife of Sebastian C. Adams (1825-1898), creator of a scholarly tour-de-force in the form of an illustrated scroll (21 feet long) published in 1871 as *A Chronological Chart of Ancient, Modern, and Biblical History*. In 2007, the Oregon State Library placed editions of the Adams scrolls from its collections on display for the public.

Martha, first-born of the accomplished children of James and Mahala (Miller) McBride, came with her parents overland from Missouri to Yamhill County, Oregon, in 1846 at the age of c. fifteen. James McBride, having studied medicine in St. Louis, applied himself to farming, “doctoring,” and preaching while he rose to prominence in politics. He served in the Territorial legislature, helped form the Republican Party in Oregon, and crowned his career as influential ambassador to the Kingdom of Hawaii (1863-1866) in the Lincoln administration.

Sebastian Adams, the Yamhill County preacher and school teacher whom Martha married in 1851, is noted for having opened, in c. 1856, a school at McMinnville that was acquired two years later by the Baptist Church and chartered as McMinnville College (later, Linfield College). Martha bore Adams his four children. He served a term as State senator (1868-1869) and, after

relocating to Salem, served as minister of the Christian Church in the capital for thirteen years.

Martha’s gravemarker, nearby her husband’s in plot 712, is an example of fine late 19th century stone carving wherein an impressive effect is gained by the build-up of one or more plinths atop a high base.



A noteworthy feature of the marker is its display of as many as two verses of Scripture together with a motto.

At issue for the conservator was how to reshape the compromised butt end of the marble die, or tablet, for secure resetting into the keyway of the plinth without harm to the lowermost inscription on the die face, which is the often-used verse, Revelation 21:4, “And there shall be no more death nor sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain.” Above the verse is the motto, “Her best and most enduring monument is her noble and Christ-like life.” Her headstone was made upright again by repairing the break along a diagonal fault line in the lower tablet and by clearing the tablet’s broken key stub from the plinth keyway and epoxying to the die butt a patch from which to shape a new custom-fitted key.

Donors Sustain \$600,000 Endowed Fund

Steady support from the community has maintained the earning power of the Salem Pioneer Cemetery Endowed Fund at or above the target level of \$600,000 for the last three years. The fund was established by the Friends within the Salem Foundation Charitable Trust in 1999. In 2016, the fund’s value was boosted by \$8,085 in contributions from seventy-three generous supporters.

The fund allows the City of Salem, as titleholder, to accomplish betterment work that could not be undertaken otherwise. In 2016, endowment proceeds provided the City with \$9,480 to supplement budgeted funds and cover headstone repairs and other expense. At year’s end, the market value of the fund was reported at \$662,985.

**Remembering Sally Donovan
1956-2016
Cemetery Preservation Consultant
for
Salem Pioneer Cemetery**

In 2003, the Salem Parks Operations Division commissioned a comprehensive conservation master plan for Salem Pioneer Cemetery with the object of developing protocols for handling maintenance issues, many of which differ from those of parks. The resulting plan of 2004 and its companion handbook (a guidance leaflet for the public), were prepared by Sally Donovan, principal of the Hood River-based consulting firm which she established 1987 and through which she offered full-spectrum cultural resource management services with a pioneering specialty. Her work in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and northern California established Donovan and Associates as a leader in promoting best practices for the care of historic cemeteries in the region.



Born and educated in Nebraska, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts at the University of Nebraska, Sally launched her career as a photographer, cartographer, and technical illustrator. Then, at the University of Oregon, she gained a Master of Science degree in historic preservation in 1987. Six years

later, while active as an experienced consultant, she returned to the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts to join the faculty as an adjunct member. Over a ten-year period, she helped train the next generation of professional preservationists.

Sally determinedly waged a battle against pancreatic cancer for some years before her death last November. She had, throughout, maintained her practice with the help of her husband and associate, Bruce Howard, and kept up the work close to her heart, which was supporting the stewards of historic cemeteries in communities throughout the state. In her capacity as a member of the forerunner of the current Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries, Sally had advocated for recognition of Oregon's pioneer cemeteries in statute and for State support where protection and restoration were needed. Last May, Sally was recognized for her life's work with prestigious honors from the Oregon Heritage Commission (Heritage Excellence Award) and the UO School of Architecture and Allied Arts (George McMath Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation).



Sally Donovan and Bruce Howard, principals of Donovan and Associates, were pictured in August, 2003, beginning their assessment for an overview of site development history and the maintenance and restoration master plan that continue to guide City Parks personnel and the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery in their work on the grounds today.



Salem Pioneer Cemetery was host to a publicly sponsored technical workshop on gravemarker conservation for historic cemetery stewards of the mid-Willamette Valley in May, 2004. Donovan and Associates was engaged to demonstrate appropriate procedures. Sally is shown at the freshly leveled and reset marble headstone of Martha J. Watt, wife of Samuel Farrar, Plot 412. Bracing lumber was left in place while setting mortar cured.

During the 2004 Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries grant-assisted demonstration workshop co-sponsored by the City of Salem and Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, Sally analyzed several challenges presented by the broken marble headstone of Lovisa McAfee (1834-1868) in Plot 373. The tablet had an old weathered break and failed setting mortar, which left the marker leaning precariously in its base. FOPC volunteers and the City's conservator of record later collaborated on a successful repair.



Community Service Volunteers Give Valuable Support in 2016

Professional Benefit Services, Inc.

Highly motivated employees of Professional Benefit Services, Inc. were accompanied by family members (eleven adults and two teenagers in all) when they arrived to reinforce FOPC's regular volunteers on July 9. They pitched in to remove a staggering amount of brush and brambles growing along the north boundary fence and brought mounds of cuttings to the central drive to be collected for composting.

Jeff Brown
B.J. Howell,
Emma and Tristan
Greg Jones
Mitch Jones
Rene Jones

Tory Jones
Grant Kendall
Lauren Lalack
Joseph Lee
Garth Rouse
Ruthie Rouse



Mitch Jones and Garth Rouse brought first of many piles of brush cuttings and debris from the north fence line to the central drive for collection.

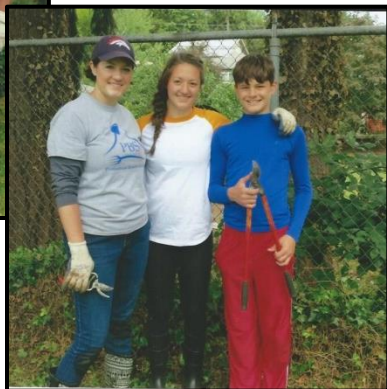


Right: Tory Jones, Lauren Lalack, and René Jones.

Below: Jeff Brown, Joseph Lee, and Greg Jones.



Right: B.J. Howell, daughter Emma, and son Tristan joined fellow workers on the north boundary fence line.



Salem 4th Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

As many as thirty-eight members, including children, of the Salem 4th Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints strengthened the work force on September 10. Organized by the Ward's committee on community service, they participated energetically. While the ladies and young persons tended burial plots, a men's team tackled the task of trimming, end-to-end, the overgrown boxwood hedge bordering the lengthy Commercial Street front. The team removed invading Himalayan blackberry from the hedge along the way.

Dakota Apperson
Janet Benefiel
Neil Brodniak
John Davis
Ryan Fallon
David Goodwin
Tressa/James/Sammi
and Bekah Hart
Jan Humber
Hart Laws

Virgie Lorenz
Rachel, London, Piper McKirdy
Peter Olsen family
Kendell/Travis Prestwick family
Jeremy, Elliot, and Sarah Rice
Laura and Stan Sterner
Brooke/Sam/Joey/and Shawn
Williamson
Nathan Winegardner
Charlotte Wolfe



FOPC's Sue Apodaca, standing left, joined Brooke Williamson, Charlotte Wolfe and youngsters at work rinsing grime from granite headstones inlaid in a concrete plot cap.



Above, from left: Hart Laws, John Davis, and Neil Brodniak tackled the street-front boxwood hedge with FOPC's Dale Palmquist.



Virgie Lorenz (right) and FOPC's Claudine Shaw teamed to prune and shape roses on the Meredith-Adams-McMahon family Plot 187.

Conservation Highlights: W.P. Johnson Broken Headstone is Consolidated

Collaboration between the experienced volunteers of Friends of Pioneer Cemetery (FOPC) and the City's contractor of record for professional repairs resulted in reconsolidation of a once-missing section of the marble headstone erected for Black pioneer W.P. Johnson (1820-1872), a Salem painter by trade, who was laid to rest in Plot 363. In 1880, Johnson's adopted daughter, Rosetta Bonter Johnson, was buried in the adjacent space upon her death at the age of about ten. Her grave was marked by her adoptive mother, Elizabeth Johnson, with a fine tapered shaft monument.



Recovered pieces of upper tablet in October, 2014.



W.P. Johnson headstone, Plot 363, professionally repaired by Jeff Hiltz, 2016.

A marble stone lying broken on the ground for an indeterminate period of time meant that the break lines would be rounded by long-term weathering. Pieces would not necessarily fit together in tightly interlocking fashion. Wide epoxy-filled joints, areas of loss, and color variation among differently-weathered stone pieces would be apparent at first. To have the pioneer's monument standing at its original height and maintaining its dignified presence once again is an invaluable improvement nevertheless. W.P. Johnson was founding director of the school for Salem's children of color that was organized in 1867.

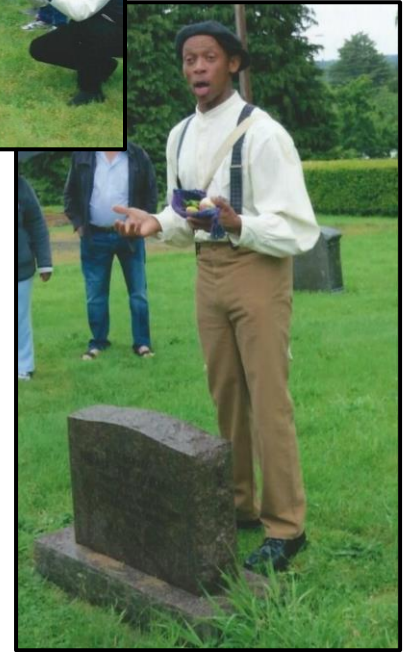
In 2014, while at work near the original five-acre plat of 1854 (the historical core of the cemetery), FOPC volunteers inspected the bottom third of a marble tablet still upright and secure in its original base. Probing the turf around the grave lot, the team discovered most of the headstone's missing epitaph section, which had fallen and broken into seven pieces.

Back Roads to Black History: Bus Tour Returns to Pioneer Cemetery



Left: Tour group is gathered at Plot 085 to see the collective monument to forty-three Black Pioneers at rest in Salem Pioneer Cemetery.

The Oregon Black Pioneers organization (OBP) conducted its annual day-long bus tour of places linked to African Americans in Oregon history on May 14. "Back Roads to Black History" originated in Portland under the direction of Kimberly Moreland and reached as far as Corvallis, Philomath, and Brownsville. The tour paused at Salem Pioneer Cemetery again this year to see OBP's combined monument to forty-three Black pioneers known to have been interred on the grounds. At the Sons of Confederate Veterans' monument to Hiram Gorman (c. 1835-1888), an emancipated slave and veteran of the Civil War who, after settling in Salem, became press operator for *The Oregon Statesman*, Chetter Galloway (above), a professional story teller traveling with the tour, enacted Gorman's role and presented his story to a captivated audience.



In Memoriam

Respectfully, and with regret, we note the passing of our Friends of Pioneer Cemetery as information is available.

Priscilla Lucille Johnson (July 28, 1916-Oct. 12, 2011)
Charles Bruce Kilen (August 11, 1925 - June 12, 2014)
Violet (Vi) Shepard (May 14, 1935 - Oct. 13, 2015)
Joe Wm. Bowersox, Jr. (Nov. 29, 1923 - Feb. 8, 2016)
Shirley Ann Ohmart (Dec. 28, 1937 - March 6, 2016)
Richard (Dick) French (July 10, 1920 - June 23, 2016)
Alyce A. Yoshikai (Nov. 30, 1928 - Sept. 6, 2016)
Marjorie J. Sullivan (Dec. 3, 1920 - Oct. 25, 2016)
Sally Jo Donovan (April 15, 1956 - Nov. 19, 2016)
Jane Arm Priest (August 1, 1922 - Dec. 26, 2016)

Chemeketa Community College

A team of Chemeketa Community College community service volunteers joined FOPC's Saturday morning work party on October 8. The students removed moss from concrete plot covers, pulled ivy and weeds, and, while working with granite headstones, they rinsed away grime and algae and carefully removed deposits of moss filling the incised lettering of epitaphs.

CCC Biology 101 classmates Corina Sanchez, Isabel Hanberg, and Daniel Garcia took on varied tasks in October.



Corina used water and a wooden stylus to remove moss from the incised epitaph of the polished granite headstone of Virginia Watson Applegate (1840-1923) in Plot 488.



ABOUT THIS MAILING

Friends of Pioneer Cemetery provides this Annual Report for your information in association with the Parks Operations, City of Salem Department of Public Works. If you wish to contribute to the Salem Pioneer Cemetery Fund, make additions or corrections to the mailing list, or have your name removed from the mailing list, a return envelope accompanies this report.

Friends of Pioneer Cemetery Field Unit Volunteers

FOPC field unit teams were at work from March through October, keeping a regular schedule of three days per month straightening, repairing, resetting, removing biological growth from headstones by the gentlest means possible, and performing supplemental grounds work. The regular volunteers pruned and composted roses, trimmed overgrown ornamental plants, removed unwanted moss from concrete plot caps, and pulled invasive vines and weeds. In 2016, field unit leaders Dale Palmquist and Mark Fields were supported by the afore-mentioned fifty-four community volunteers and by fourteen FOPC auxiliaries who turned out at various times between March 5 and October 24.

Suzanne Apodaca
Mark Fields
Jinglin Guo
Fred Klatz
Kathy Moreland
Pat Norman
Harold Otto

Dale Palmquist
Kiley Pine
Elisabeth Potter
Claudine Shaw
Virginia Slaughter
Ellen Stevens
Brian Sund

Monthly community work parties are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of the month in March and October and on the second Saturday, April through September. For those who are available to work on weekdays, two additional work parties a month are scheduled on Mondays. Volunteer help is always needed and welcome. Organized groups are advised to contact the City of Salem Parks Operations Volunteer Coordinator to make arrangements. Tibby Larson may be reached at 503-589-2197 or talanson@cityofsalem.net



On Memorial Day, May 30, Kiley Pine, Curator and Collections Manager of Salem's Willamette Heritage Center, turned out to help man FOPC's help station for cemetery visitors. As time allowed, she applied her hand to gently rinsing away with water the grime and biological growth on headstones of Edgar Barkus (1858-1934), Salem feed mill operator, and his wife, Mary, in Plot 029.