



2019 SMITH'S FERRY CEMETERY GRAVESTONE RESTORATION PROJECT

Final Summary Report to
Holyoke Community Preservation Act Committee
December 2019

The 2019 Smith's Ferry Cemetery Gravestone Restoration Project was funded by the Holyoke Community Preservation Act. Local volunteers and members of the Holyoke Preservation Trust's Friends of Holyoke's Historic Cemeteries & Monuments contributed to the project along with the Holyoke Department of Parks & Recreation, and the Department of Public Works.



HOLYOKE PRESERVATION TRUST, INC.

92 Race Street, Holyoke, MA 01040 * 413-437-0466 * info@holyokepreservationtrust.org

To: Community Preservation Act Committee
Re: Summary Report for Smith's Ferry Cemetery Project
Date: December 2, 2019

501(c)(3) non-profit
organization

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TaMara Conte of Historic Gravestone Services of New Salem, MA restored 10 gravestones at the Holyoke City owned Smith's Ferry Cemetery over a period of 4 weeks. The 10 selected stones had ambient dirt with biological growth; some were broken and fragmented; some were leaning and sunken; some stones had cracks in the plinth, missing mortar, missing lead and missing bases.

The restorations included:

- excavation of existing stone, resetting and leveling the base and/or tablet with lime mortar,
- reattaching fragments with *Jahn* material,
- cleaning the stone, and
- replacing dirt and grass seed.

All restorative work was in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and American Institute of Conservators code of ethics. Before and after images are attached to this report.

The historic cemetery at Smiths Ferry will be monitored and maintained by Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department and the Department of Public Works. It has been a cooperative effort between the Departments and Friends of Holyoke Historic Cemeteries. There are several other stones that need more intensive repair including some that were affected by this year's strong wind storm. In addition to additional gravestone restoration, landscaping, tree work, signage and fencing are needed in the near future.







The Friends will be addressing a National Register application with approval from the Parks and Recreation Department, the Holyoke Historical Commission and Massachusetts Historical Commission.







We wish to acknowledge the Community Preservation Committee for their support of this significant restoration of Smith's Ferry Cemetery.







Respectfully submitted,

Olivia Mausel
Holyoke Preservation Trust's Friends of Holyoke Historic Cemeteries & Monuments

c: Holyoke Parks & Recreation Department
Holyoke Department of Public Works

LAST	FIRST	STYLE	STONE	CONDITION	TREATMENT	BEFORE	AFTER
Smith	David	tablet	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, broken, may need base and consolidation	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level, reset tablet in new base w/lime mortar		
Gould	Abigail	die/base	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, leaning 30°, crack in plinth, missing mortar	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level, fill plinth w/Jahn, reset die with lime mortar		
Lyman	Asahel	tablet	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, broken in 2 pieces, needs new base	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level, reset tablet in base w/lime mortar, reattach fragments w/Jahn		

Smith	Sally J	die/base	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, leaning, sunken, missing material on plinth, broken 2 fragments	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level and mortar die on base, reattach fragments w/Jahn		
Smith	Milo	D/B	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, leaning, sunken, missing material on plinth, broken 2 fragments	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level and mortar die on base, reattach fragments w/Jahn		
Smith	Clarissa	tablet	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, broken 2 fragments, may need base and consolidation	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level, reset tablet in base w/lime mortar, reattach fragments w/Jahn		

Smith	Lucy	tablet	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, leaning 20°, tilted	Excavate, clean stone, reset tablet plumb		
Unknown #1 Dashiell	#1 Willard	D/B	granite	ambient dirt & biological growth, fallen	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level, reset die with compound		
Unknown #2 Green	#2 Amanda	D/B	marble	ambient dirt & biological growth, fallen, sunken base, broken plinth	Excavate, clean stone, reset base level, reattach broken plinth with Jahn, mortar plinth and die on base		
Upton	Thomas	die/base	granite	ambient dirt & biological growth, tilted, off base center, missing lead	Excavate, clean stone, base level, reset die with lime mortar	