

MARKER No. 15: MARGARET THOMSON (d. 1853) daughter of P. & H. Thomson

EXISTING CONDITIONS

- The marble headstone is in poor condition as it is broken into two (2) fragments and there is slight material loss around the fracture line (marble also appears to be friable and soft around fracture line). Inscriptions are partially legible.
- The bottom headstone fragment is leaning in the ground, shored up by non-original concrete berm. The upper fragment is lying on the ground in a horizontal position, surrounded by overgrown vegetation.
- The headstone fragments are experiencing biological growth and slight staining.
- Partially-buried sandstone base fragments are visible near the marker.



Before (July 2009)



After (September 2009)

TREATMENT SUMMARY

A. Excavation/Fragment Recovery

1. Carefully remove concrete berms and remove headstone fragments from ground.
2. Cut back vegetation.
3. Search for sandstone base fragments.
 - ▶ six base fragments were recovered (with the exception of some minor losses, these fragments formed a complete base).

B. Cleaning

1. For removal of biological growth and general soiling, clean the marble headstone and sandstone base fragments with D/2 Architectural Antimicrobial.
 - a. Clean water at low pressure (max 400 psi) and hand-pump sprayer.
 - b. Natural and nylon bristle brushes (varying stiffness and size).
 - c. Avoid dissolution or erosion of the stone.

C. Re-attachment and Repair

1. If recovered, re-attach sandstone base fragments using two-part stone epoxy and threaded stainless steel pins.
 - ▶ the resultant seams were pointed/patched with a custom-mixed Type N mortar.
2. Re-attach two marble headstone fragments using two-part stone epoxy and threaded brass rods.
 - a. Point and infill where necessary around attachment seam with custom-mixed, lime-based, marble repair mortar (Type O mortar with marble dust).
 - ▶ removed concrete berms from marble marker (some minor spalls occurred during removal).
 - ▶ cracks and losses along a “line” at the bottom of the marker were filled with milk of lime and lime slurry.
 - ▶ some larger cracks and a small spall near the attachment seam were injected with a solution of B-72 resin.

D. Reset and Level

1. If sandstone base is recovered and repaired, reset base at proper depth upon a new compacted gravel foundation and set marble headstone into slotted sandstone base with a Type O mortar slurry. Point joint with Type O mortar.

E. Site Preparation and Repair

1. Place pea gravel around base