

KILMARTIN CEMETERY

Meanwhile the Institute had been raising funds by means of card parties and travelling baskets, and a canvas of interested families was conducted which brought in a total of \$175.00, (the Greer family of Sparta donating \$30.00).

In the Spring of 1962 Mr. Oscar Temple, a cement contractor of St. Thomas, was engaged to build the enclosure to contain the stones. Every stone in good enough condition was incorporated into the memorial, with the large stones placed on a cement floor in the centre of the enclosure. St. James Church provided the corner-stone (8x16x2) which read: "Site of Kilmartin Church, 1838-1905, restored 1962". A cement walk was laid to the fence facing the Yarmouth Centre road, with the marble posts which formerly enclosed the Buchanan plot placed along each side of the walk. Work was completed by June 14, 1962, and in the fall the plot was seeded and a garden gate placed in the fence opening leading to the walkway.

In May of 1963 some landscaping consisting of six evergreens and sixty privet were planted around the enclosure and the committee were asked to make plans for the dedication of the memorial. Mrs. Julien G. Martin was now a member of the cemetery committee as she had succeeded Mrs. John Penhale as president of the W. I.

Restoration Costs

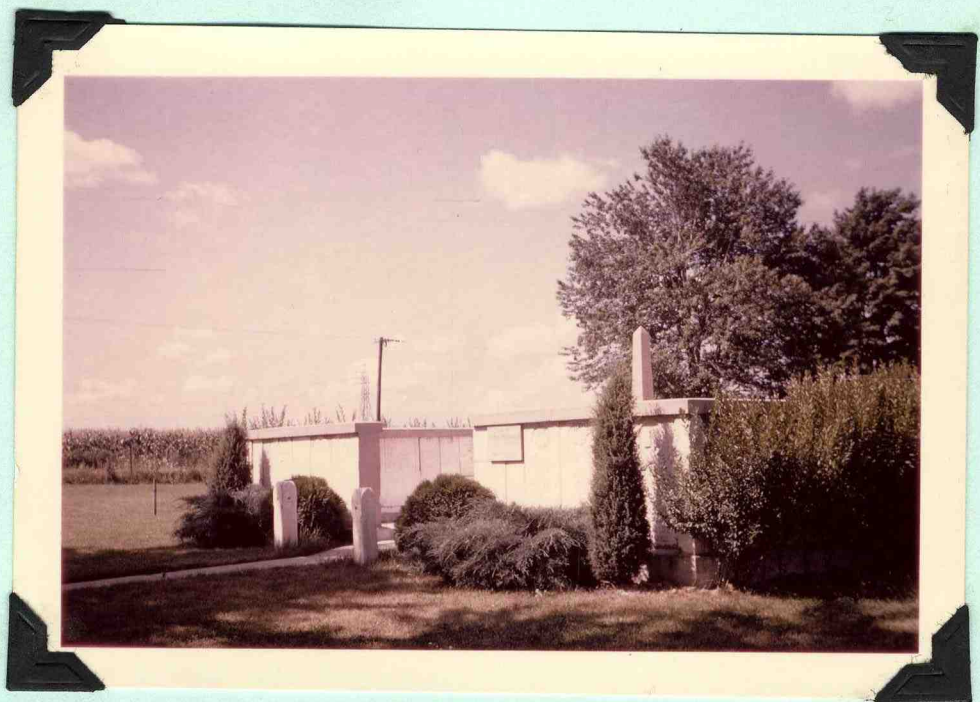
Enclosure, from Cemetery Fund	\$200.00	
Yarmouth Glen W. I.	<u>342.54</u>	\$542.54
Levelling lot (Yarmouth Township)		15.00
Seeding and gate		37.35
Landscaping		45.00
1963 Dedication programs		2.90
1966 Centennial trees		<u>11.81</u>
Total costs to Yarmouth Glen W. I.		\$654.60
Cornerstone provided by St. James Church		<u>60.00</u>
Total cost of the project		\$714.60

The dedication ceremony took place on the afternoon of June 23, 1963, on the occasion of the observance of Kilmartin-St. James 125th Anniversary. The program opened with the singing of "O Canada" followed by the introduction of the official representatives: Mr. J. A. McBain M.P., Mr. R. K. McNeil M.P.P., the Reeve of Yarmouth, Mr. Mason Tansley, and Mrs. Vermont Pow, substituting for Mrs. J. D. Galbraith, President of Elgin County W. I. A history of the cemetery was read by Mrs. Ferguson Campbell. The dedication and prayers were given by Rev. W. A. Kincaid, minister of St. James Church. A hymn "Faith of our Fathers" was sung, and the singing of "The Queen" closed the impressive ceremony.

The cemetery is the responsibility of the Yarmouth Glen W. I. The township grants of \$50.00 yearly pay for the upkeep of the cemetery and the mowing of the grass. In 1966 a further donation of \$15.00 was received from Clare Greer of Sparta. Also in 1966, as a Centennial project, a purple beech and two flowering crabs were planted on the grounds.

In regard to the up-keep of cemeteries of which there is no owner, at the East Elgin District Annual, May 26, 1953, the Federated Women's Institute Board gave the information that these cemeteries are the legal responsibility of the Municipal Councils and the local Women's Institute should contact the council regarding needed improvement.

KILMARTIN - CEMETERY



KILMARTIN CEMETERY 1967

In 1969 Mrs. Allan Hooker, W. I. president replaced Mrs. Julien G. Martin on the cemetery committee and Mrs. Ferguson Campbell resigned. Caretakers in 1963 were Russell McCallum Jr. and from 1964 to 1969 Douglas Campbell. In 1970-1971 the cemetery committee were: Mrs. Harold R. Davis, Mrs. Allan Hooker and Mrs. Donald McGregor. In 1972 the committee appointed were Mrs. Harold R. Davis and Mrs. Allan Hooker. Caretaker from 1970 was Brian Hooker. Cemetery committee 1974-75, ;975-76 Mrs. Harold Davis, Mrs. Joe. Bechard. Caretaker, Paul Bechard.



KILMARTIN CEMETERY

(before renovation)

Most of the members of Yarmouth Glen W. I. did not have any ancestors buried in the cemetery. One exception is Ferguson Campbell. He is pictured here as he shows his son Douglas the tombstone of his grandparents, James Campbell, who passed away in 1859, and Margaret Campbell, who died in 1857.



CEMETERY DEDICATION

The remodelled pioneer Kilmartin Cemetery in North Yarmouth was dedicated in special services Sunday afternoon, June 23, 1963, as part of St. James Church 125th Anniversary celebration.

All the old tombstones were placed in a box-shaped wall at the front of the cemetery. The Yarmouth Glen W. I. undertook the project under the leadership of Mrs. J. C. Penhale.

At left. Mrs. J. C. Penhale, Mrs. Julien Martin, 1963 President Yarmouth Glen W. I., Rev. W. A. Kincaid, minister of St. James Church, and at the right, Yarmouth Township Reeve, Mason Tansley.

LATEST BURIALS IN KILMARTIN CEMETERY AND NEXT OF KIN

John B. McIntyre, Nov. 1909.
Daughter Mrs. Mary Heydon, St. Thomas.
Grandson Clinton Heydon, R. R. 8, St. Thomas.

Samuel A. Greer, Jan. 1937.
Son Clare Greer, Sparta.

Eliza McIntyre 1937
Sarah McIntyre 1938

Niece Janette McIntyre, Toronto.

These two graves are not marked, and the names are not on the family monument.

There was a report that there was a burial probably of a child in the 1930's.

MAC DONALD MONUMENT

East Side John MacDonald 1815-1855.
Margaret MacKay wife of John MacDonald 1805-1877.

South Side Hugh MacDonald 1844-1879.
John Alex MacDonald 1848-1887.
Mary MacDonald died Sept. 27, 1930.

West Side Ronald MacDonald died at Isaquena Co., Miss. U.S.A. 1842-1867.
Donald MacDonald died at Grenville Mich., U.S.A. 1839-1894.

North Side Kate Innes MacDonald wife of Fleckenstein 1851-March 11, 1899.

JOHN MCINTYRE MONUMENT

Mary wife of John McIntyre, died 1864, aged 38 years.
John McIntyre died 1892 aged 77 years.
Duncan son of John and Mary McIntyre died 1873 aged 18 years.
Bella daughter of John and Mary McIntyre, died 1895 aged 38 years.
Eliza died June 24, 1937, name not on monument.
Sarah died March 6, 1938, name not on monument.

HISTORY OF YARMOUTH CENTRE UNITED CHURCH

For Centennial Sunday, October 29, 1967.

This centennial year, marking the one hundredth birthday of Canada, has been a time of great rejoicing for us Canadians as we reflect on how wonderful it is to live in a country, our homeland, for a whole century. Locally, we have an added beautiful experience in that our church has roots even deeper than those of the Dominion of Canada.

Let us go back to the "Mother Methodist Church" of this vicinity where grandparents and great-grandparents of some of the present congregation worshipped and took communion. 1836 is the earliest record we have of Methodist work here, when St. Thomas circuit had Sparta, Port Stanley, Union and Townline, with ministers Ames, Clark, Warner and Starr. At the end of the latter's pastorate in 1871, the country charges were detached, and at a conference in Belleville, a Yarmouth circuit was arranged, composed of Talbot Road Church (Yarmouth Centre had not yet been named), Townline, Salt Creek (the site of which on Radio Road near the 10th concession is now marked only by a well-preserved pioneer cemetery) and Legg's Appointment in Westminster Township. Rev. Wm. Hadwin was pastor, residing at the Yarmouth appointment in the house which was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Taylor (Parents of Mrs. Chester Gloin.)

The church, a frame building was on the west side of the Tower Road (the side-road leading to the railroad crossing), a few rods north of the Talbot Road. In 1873 Rev. George Madden came to this charge, and at this time the first Sunday School was organized with Donald McIntyre, Sr., Supt. A little later, he was replaced by Mr. George Newcombe, for whom, with his devoted wife (afterwards first president of the Ladies' Aid) was dedicated one of the beautiful memorial windows which adorns our present church.

In 1875, at a conference in Brantford, the circuit was again changed, making Sparta the residential point of the new minister, Rev. J. A. Stonehouse, with Yarmouth, Orwell, Salt Creek and Port Bruce attached.

In 1883 the Yarmouth charge felt keenly that theirs was not a suitable place of worship and set about erecting a church which better reflected their thanks for so many blessings. The building was moved to the corner of the Talbot Road, and sided with white brick, stained glass windows were added, and a choir loft behind the pulpit. Formerly the choir had occupied one of the corners nearest the door, and at one time was led by a precentor with a tuning fork. About this time, the first Ladies' Aid was organized, with Mrs. Newcombe president and Mrs. Wm. Heydon (Mrs. Huntley's mother) secretary. One of their early work assignments was the making of the church seat cushions still in use some 75 years later.

By now, Rev. Joseph Philip was in charge and the circuit was 3-point. Minimum salaries were undreamed of, and budget arrangements are interesting: Salary \$300; Board #250; Fuel \$50; Horse keep \$60; Moving expense \$21.60; Children's keep \$66.65; and incidentals \$2. Of this amount, Yarmouth Centre's share was \$282. Until 1886, collections were in charge of the "Class leaders" and were handed in quarterly as Brother Shepherds family's contributions, but not until Mr. Graham's pastorate in 1901 were there printed financial statements. About 1906 another beautiful memorial window was given by James, Walter and George Westlake and their sister Mrs. Wm. Paddon, for their mother, Mrs. Mary Ann Westlake. A few years later, another window in memory of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Ross (grandparents of Dayton Mills) was presented by their family. Mr. Ross was a long-time Sunday School Supt., and Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Archibald Palmer were the outstanding Sunday School teachers of the very little folk of that time. One of the earliest memories of church attendance of this writer was the perfect attendance of the paternal grandparents of Dayton Mills, Mr. and Mrs. George Mills. Mr. Mills, totally deaf, never heard a sermon or music, but he apparently heard God and the angel choir and knew church was the place to commune. Two other lovely old couples, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Balkwell and Mr. and Mrs. Small (grandparents of Clarence and Granville Gloin), were always present in the front rows and always knelt for prayer. And could we forget the McIntyre family, the Misses Kate and Belle and their brother? Miss Kate has passed on within this decade after having celebrated her 100th birthday.