

Glen Leslie News

The Morrison Monument Project

In September 2023, the Glen Leslie Cemetery Committee and Bob Leslie, grandson of Edith and Kenneth Morrison, were contacted by Ron Thoreson of Plumb Level Heritage Preservation Ltd. in regard to the leveling of the large Morrison headstone.



Mr. Thoreson had recently purchased specific equipment to perform the kind of work necessary to bring headstones back to the way in which they were originally installed. After much searching for the right equipment, Mr. Thoreson finally found what he needed in the US.



The upper stone was estimated to be 1350 lbs. with the upper base being estimated at 750 lbs for a total lift of 2,100 lbs.

After the plot locations were marked, the upper stone and upper base were found to be close to the centre of the plots. They were lifted and blocked but after further excavation, a change of plan was necessary when it was discovered that the sub-base had been poured in place over very large fieldstones. As such, shifting that mass would not leave it on a solid footing. After cutting the base sufficiently to become centered under the marker, a new level base was poured to encase original material in place. Once the cement was cured, the headstone was lowered onto the sub-base.



"The marker now again stands as it was originally planned; to proudly mark these Glen Leslie pioneers".
R. Thoreson

Mr. Thoreson estimates that five average-sized headstone could be done in a day. This includes the headstones where the plot size is topped with cement. Mr. Thoreson provides the equipment, insurance and his expertise on a rental basis. If anyone is interested in leveling their loved ones' headstones, it may be worthwhile considering renting the equipment as a "community project" and taking care of several stones at the same time. As the Glen Leslie Cemetery's annual clean-up day occurs the first Saturday in June that would be an ideal time to see how many volunteers would be interested in utilizing the equipment of Plumb Level Heritage Preservation Ltd. and pass their requests on to the secretary/treasurer of the Cemetery.