

## St. Andrew's Cemetery

June 25th, 1822 - Almost one hundred Presbyterians living in Belleville petitioned the Government "seeking a piece of ground for the erection of a Presbyterian Church and burying ground in connection with and under the Rules and Terms of the Established Church of Scotland."

Important citizens of Belleville who signed the petition were: Jonas Canniff, Thomas Petrie, Anson Hayden, Asa Yeomans, John Taylor I, Dr. Marshall, John Maybee, John Turnbull, William Wallbridge, William Twick, Roswell Leavens, Benjamin Clapp, John Ferguson, Jacob Meyers, and William Yager.

Early July 1822 - The Surveyor General of Upper Canada viewed the petition, and noted that there were "several lots vacant and grantable".

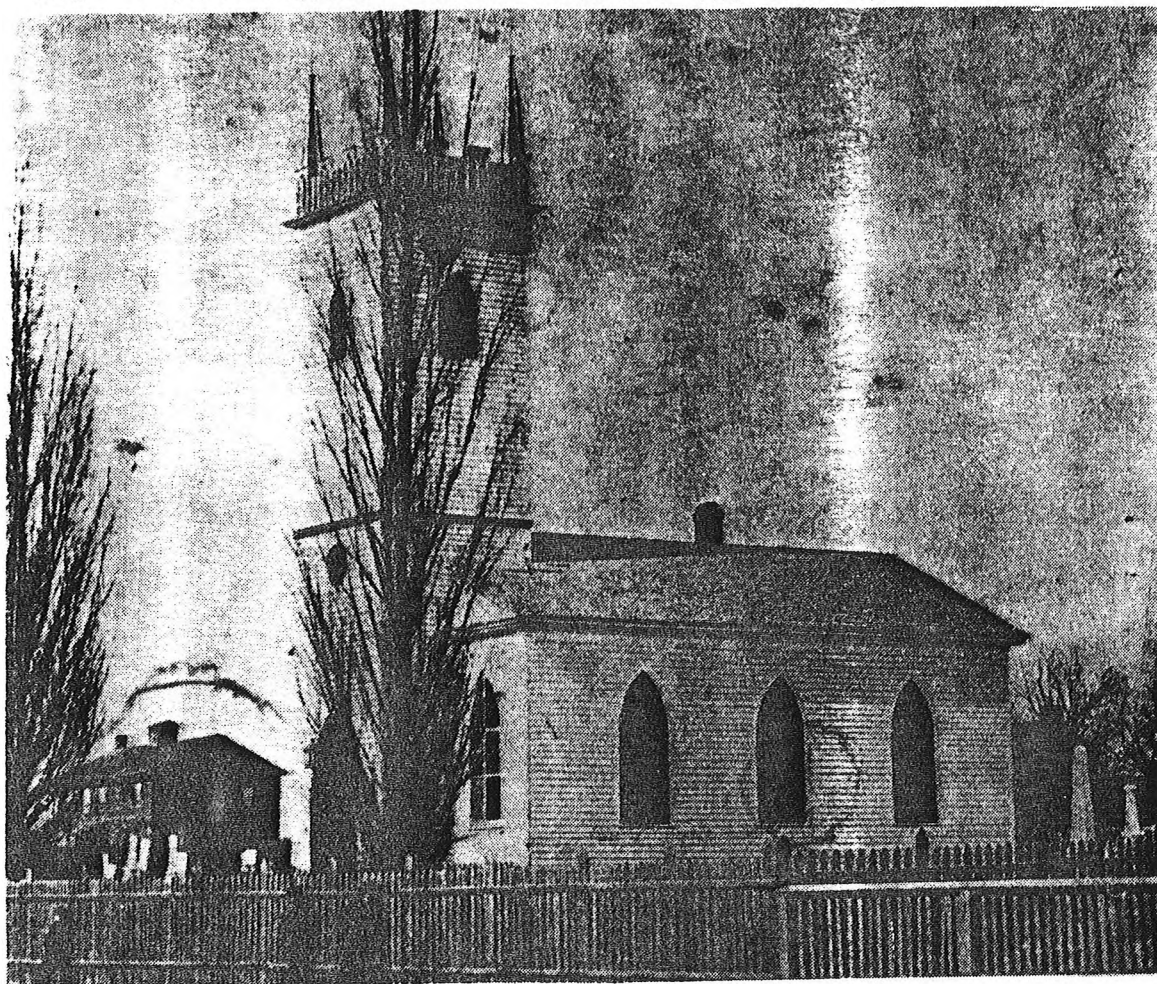
July 24, 1822 - The petition was read in Council, and one vacant lot was recommended for the petitioners.

Nov. 3rd, 1822 - Church Trustees received a half acre lot (no. 31) at the Southeast corner of Church and Hotel (Victoria) Streets. Trustees were very disappointed by the size of the grant, so framed a reply to the government seeking more land.

Nov. 14th, 1822 - The new petition sent to Sir Peregrine Maitland, Upper Canada's lieutenant-governor, hinted that this new request should be granted due to "similar privileges being granted to others" (namely the Roman Catholics).

- Nov 27th, 1822 - The Executive Council of the Government considered the petition for additional land and refused it. No reasons were specified.
- Jan 22nd, 1823 - The Congregation drew up a further petition to the Government, this time with specific reference to the fact that the Roman Catholics received ten lots (or one acre). The Congregation requested equal treatment, and asked for lot 30 - just South of the lot already promised - also that the two lots be considered a single grant.
- Feb. 23rd, 1823 - The congregation received the news that the request for additional land (lot 30) had been granted.
- Dec. 3rd, 1827 - Official title to the land was requested by the Trustees.
- Dec 15th, 1827 - The land was granted to the Trustees and their successors.
- March 30th, 1829 - The Trustees received the deed for the land (one acre). The deed is dated March 16th, 1829. A burying ground will be part of this land use.
- Jan., 1831 - Work on the church was in progress.
- Sept., 1831 - The church was still being finished. The congregation was anxious to see it completed.
- Nov 6th, 1831 - The church was dedicated, with the first service being held the new minister, Mr. Ketchan.

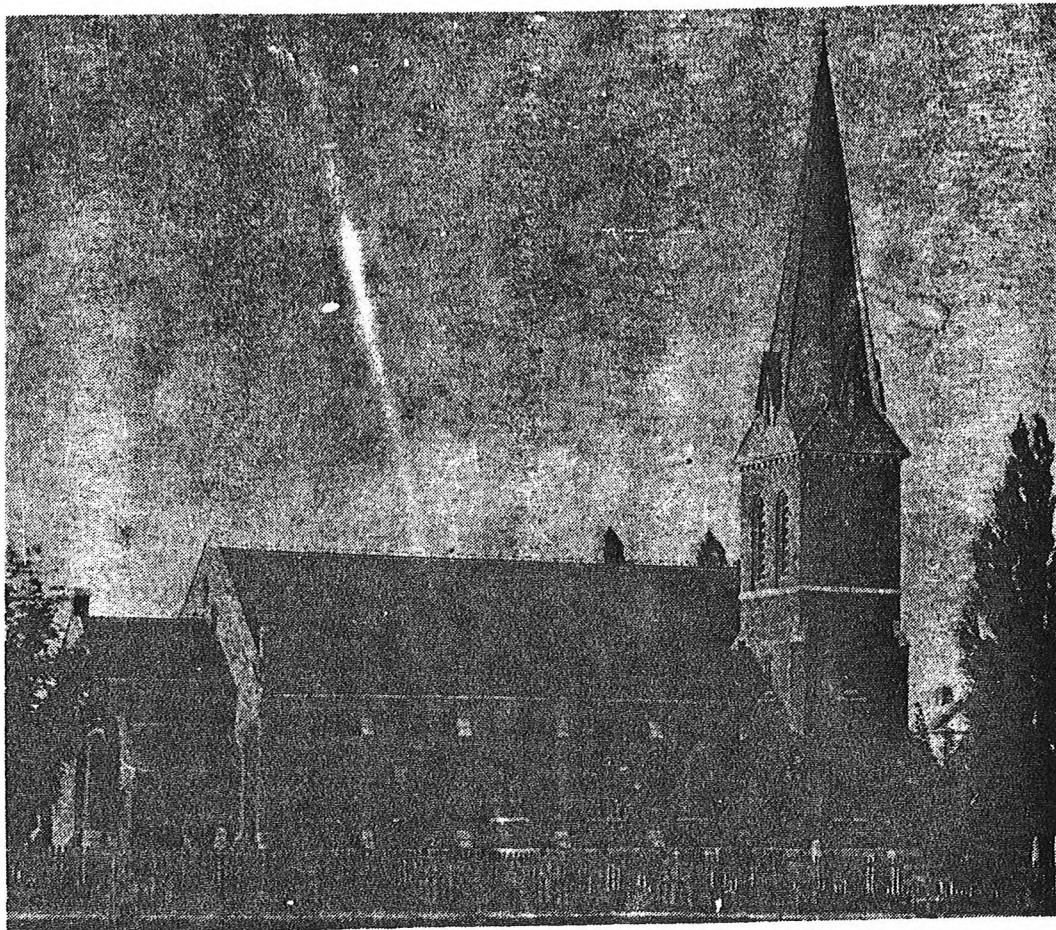
NOTE - HEAVILY FENCED CEMETERY AROUND THE CHURCH.



View of St. Andrew's, circa 1860. The building to the left is Belleville's first hospital, built in 1832, as the result of a £200 government grant, to aid the sufferers of the cholera epidemic. The 28 by 44 foot hospital was described as being in a "ruinous condition" about the time of this picture.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1862 - Mr. McLaren has sent his report to the Second Session of The Canada Presbyterian Church (Free Church) at Toronto. It indicates that 30 new communicants were added to the John Street congregation this past year, bringing the total to 191. He also conducted 23 baptisms. Because of extremely dry weather, prayers will be offered for God to send reasonable rain upon the earth.

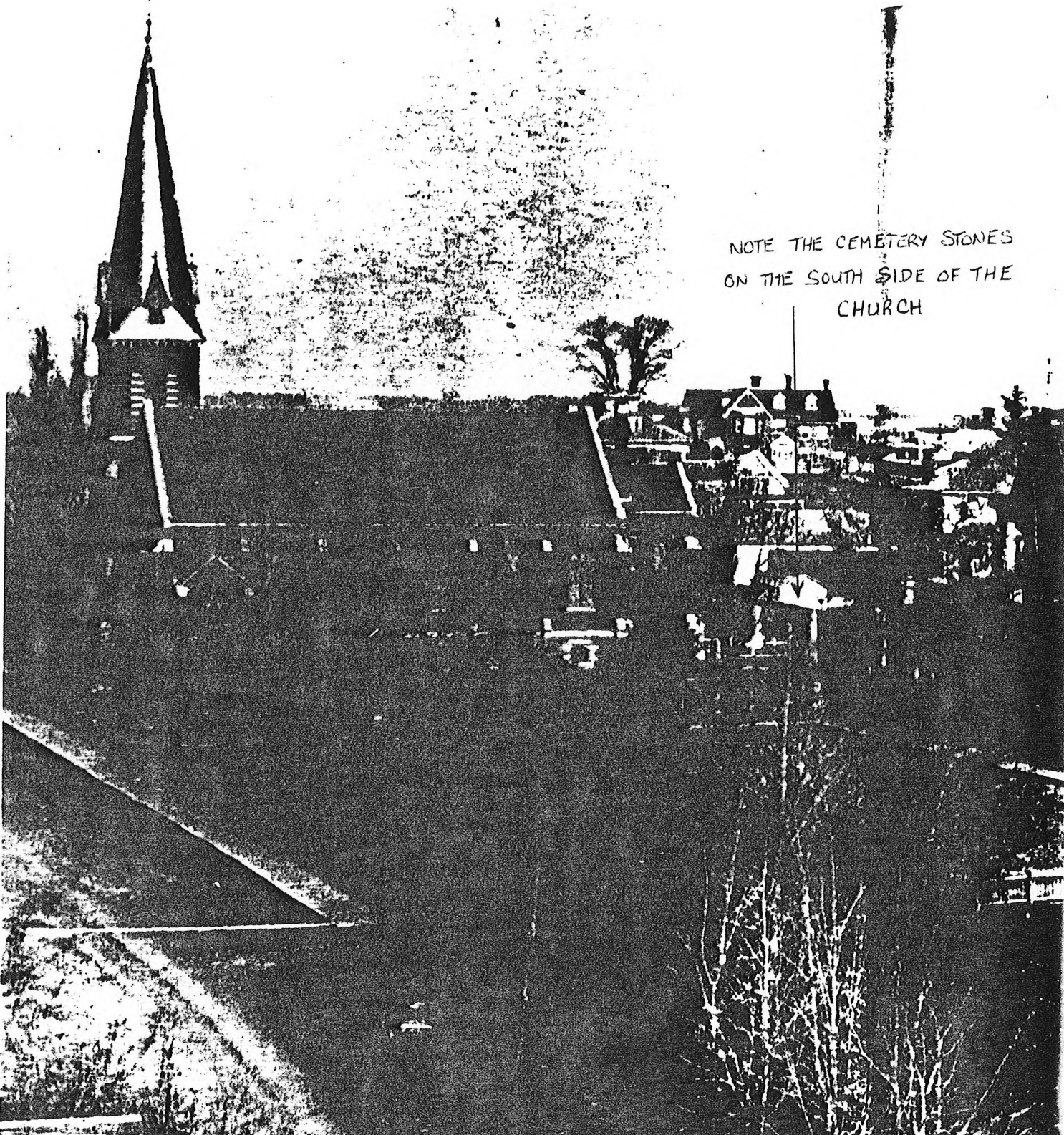
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1862 - The 34th Session of the Synod of The Presbyterian Church in Canada (in connection with the Church of Scotland) convened last Wednesday in Toronto. We were represented by Mr. Walker and Mr. Neilson, while Stirling sent Mr. Buchan and Dr. Boulter (the latter being a principal spoke in the Stirling community and a strong supporter of our Church). Synod declared



St. Andrew's from Victoria Avenue, about 1880, showing the tombstones, the picket fence, and the recently planted trees on Victoria, then known as Hotel Street.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1878 - Mr. Maclean this day paid me a pastoral visit, but remained only briefly. He is much concerned about the lack of elders at St. Andrew's, there being only two. The four gentlemen nominated in July of 1877 have all declined to accept the nomination. The Kirk Session regrets very much the difficulty experienced in securing additional elders. There must be several more than the present two if the work of the Lord is to be carried out effectively within St. Andrew's. If only I was younger and could undertake this important work on behalf of our Church . . .

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NOTE THE CEMETERY STONES  
ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE  
CHURCH

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and the  
Belleville High School, with the tower of John  
Street (Free) Presbyterian Church (visible at right),

1831

Church finished - Ketchan arrived -  
burial likely

1834

Mary Stuart buried in church yard

Recollection of Jean Smoke

1832-1932

Wm<sup>K.</sup> Blaind

- buried beneath these walls

and

Jean Martin  
Blaind

"became identified with this church in 1832 and  
who now lie ~~check plaque wording~~  
beneath these walls"

- tribute from granddaughter

Eliza Cardinell Dolph

nothing in Session records for 1932-34  
" " Manager " " " "

~~[check 1932]~~

In loving memory of Margaret Fairbairn and Marion Jacoby, daughters of William Fairbairn and Mary Marshall Fairbairn and great granddaughters of Mary Stuart, who died in 1834 and is buried in the church yard.

Margaret and Marion were always active in the church dating back to children in the Mission Band and Sunday School. They sang in the choir, taught Sunday School and belonged to church groups. Margaret served on the Board of Managers for 14 years and was also church secretary. Margaret died October 13th, 1985 and Marion died September 2, 1991.

Memorial services were held in the church.

The pulpit fall is dedicated to the Glory of God and in their loving memory by her sister Jean Smoke and Marion's sons Bill and Bob Jacoby.

1874

Minute of the Kirk Session survive from 1869 (July 27), but there is no record of any notification from Town Council that burial must cease within the town limits in 1874.

1894

Mar. 7

Managers

Committee "re cleansing up church yard" submitted an account for \$6.

1901

July 1

MANAGERS

"J. McIntosh produced a sketch of the church yard in the vicinity of the proposed Shed showing the position of the graves" - it was referred to W. N. Ponton

1902

Apr. 21

Ponton wrote to Trueter re: shed for horse + carriage - plan is feasible "without interfering with any consecrated spot in the Church grounds"

- concern for burials

1906 - Manager - Committee to have headstones "straightened up and grounds improved"

*joint meeting of Session*

Kindly having undertaken to pay the expenses of the alterations, and that the property Committee Mrs Melloy, Col. Lazier, & Col. Stewart be a Committee to assist the Ladies Aid in deciding what shall be done, and in obtaining an estimate of the cost, with power to go on with the work as they may decide. Carried

Meeting adjourned

July 14  
1911

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY PASSED:-

The Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Belleville, consent to the Managers and Ladies' Aid improving the Church grounds on the North side of the Church on the understanding that no monuments will be moved or interfered with except with the approval of those entitled to consent thereto, and further that if any graves are levelled that a map or chart shall be first prepared showing clearly by actual measurements the location and name of each grave so that the same may at any time hereafter be identified. And further that so far as possible all ploughing and breaking up be avoided and that hand labor be employed if practicable, with top dressing, seeding and careful cutting and that if any part of the fence is moved the street line of demarkation be distinctly marked to prevent trespass either by chain or gas pipe fencing in some neat and attractive form, the intention of the Trustees being in every way to facilitate and encourage the improvement, without losing sight of the fact that the property is a consecrated grave yard and to

Managers

1912  
April 29

Roadway to be built on North  
side of tower to enable coal to be put  
in without cutting up lawn - Latre Ad  
to pay

Managers

1914  
Apr. 6  
[P. 180]

Deputation from Young People's Guild  
asked permission to use South Lawn  
for Tennis Court - request referred  
to Trustee -

Trustee's Action? P

No record of any trustee action in Minute -  
gap from 1913 to 1917

Managers

1914  
May 4  
[P. 182]

Further discussion on use of south lawn  
for Tennis Court. Board felt ~~it~~ request  
should not be granted

October 14,

5.

E. E. Timmerman, Esq..  
Secretary Board of Managers St. Andrews Church,  
11 Alexander Street,  
City.

Dear Sir,-

Re St. Andrews Church.

Your letter to Mr. A. Gillen of September 16th was handed to me October 5th, and your subsequent letter to Mr. E. H. LaRoche, Agent Phoenix Insurance Company, was shown to me as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, by him. I immediately called a meeting of the Trustees, which was duly held yesterday, and they unanimously confirmed the renewal of the Phoenix Insurance Policy which had been made at the time it became due on September 9th last. This renewal was made after consultation with other members of the Board of Trustees individually. Mr. LaRoche has now been notified that the Policy will continue in force, and we trust that this action will commend itself to the Board of Managers with whom we desire to co-operate in every way.

It is again respectfully suggested by the Trustees that the Treasurer of the Board, Mr. D. M. Waters should be the custodian of all insurance policies on the Church, Church property and Manse and that they should be deposited with the securities held by the Trustees. A proper schedule with dates of expiry and names of Companies could then be kept accessible to all.

The Trustees call the attention of the Managers to their Report for the year 1922, also to their letter of October, 1923, their letter of December, 1923, regarding important matters, including insurance and more especially with regard to the plan of the Church grounds, grave yards and plots, the preparation and filing of which was made a condition precedent of the Trustees' consent to the changes in the grounds, so that the graves and plots may be at all time easily identified and the rights of private individuals may be secured. To neither of these communications did we receive any reply.

The Trustees feel that these important and indispensable records of the Church with other documents, should be preserved in one central place as they have become more and more valuable with the passing of the years. The fact that six of the Policies of insurance upon the Church properties are not immediately available

or accessible and that copies have to be procured will, we have no doubt, appeal to Managers and Trustees alike, as suggesting a more systematic administration of the affairs and property of the Church, for which we are all, I suppose, equally responsible. We will hold another meeting of the Trustees at an early date as soon as the Policies are reported as complete. We have to-day been furnished with a list of these policies, two of which will apparently expire on November 20th, 1925, but these two policies are not in the hands of the Treasurer.

I received no notice direct or indirect of any joint meeting of the Board of Trustees and Managers having been called, as referred to in some of the correspondence, nor did Mr. Masson K.C., or Mr. Waters, Treasurer of the Board. More frequent joint meetings on matters of importance as they arise will be of mutual benefit and will prevent any misunderstandings. We all have the same main object and aim.

I write on behalf of Mr. A. Gillen, Secretary of the Board, in his absence from the City to-day.

WNP/GM

Yours truly,

Chairman Trustees St. Andrews Church.

1935  
Apr-16

SESSION  
would seek permission from Board of  
Managers and Trustee to allow part  
of grounds on south side of Church to  
be used as recreation ground

1935  
May 7

### Managers

Board approved using lawn for  
tennis court and "consent of  
Trustee be asked"

1935  
May 14

### TRUSTEES

Discussion on use of church lawn  
for Tennis Court - Committee set up -  
one stone needed to be moved -

John Andrews  
died Aug-26, 1862

Copied from Trustee Book - of Oct. 18/2001

May 14, 1935

A discussion took place with reference to a request from the Young Peoples Association of the Church for use of the church lawn for a Tennis Court. When it was requested by the Chairman of the Board that Messrs. <sup>Tannaahill</sup> ~~Cannell~~, McGie and Springer with the Secretary be a committee to inspect the church lawn, the committee found that there was one monument erected on the lawn which would be required to be moved. The Inscription on the monument reads as follows

Sacred to the Memory of  
John Andrews  
who departed this life Aug 26<sup>th</sup> 1862  
Aged 54 years.

This monument is erected 30 feet from the south side of the dividing line of the church property.

## NOTES from the MINUTES of the BOARD OF MANAGERS

- 1938 June 6 Board moved to investigate the building of a tennis court.
- 1951 April 2 Board of Managers discussed question of tombstones on the north side of the church and referred the matter to the Board of Trustees, with the Managers indicating that they would act on the Trustees' recommendation
- 1951 June 4 K.S. Hill reported that the Board of Trustees had taken no action, because of the small number of trustees present at the last meeting
- 1955 Sept. 12 The Board of Managers instructed Dr. R. Brain to approach the Board of Trustees re: removal of fences around tombstones on the north side of the church and fixing the tombstones in place - *nothing in Session minutes*
- 1957 March 4 As the last item on its agenda for the 8 p.m. meeting, the Board of Managers decided to recommend to the Trustees that the tombstones once enclosed by fence be placed flat on the ground. - *no reference in Trustee minute of March 4*
- 1957 May 6 Motion approved that "the tennis courts and nets be made available to the High School girls during school hours."  
*Session agreed on May 12*
- 1958 June 2 The tennis courts were to be leased to the Belleville Recreation Commission providing that suitable arrangements can be made for supervision
- 1959 May 4 The Board approved the same arrangements for the use of the tennis courts as before.
- 1965 Dec. 6 The tennis courts were to be used for parking
- 1966 Feb. 1 The Board approved improvements to the parking lot.  
1973 March 15 - TRUSTEES old parkette on north side of church

Telephone Conversation with Dr. Robert Brain of 68 Greenfield Park  
(962-7717) on June 3, 2001:

1. Bob recalls being on the Board of Managers, but does not recall his approach to the Trustees on behalf of the Managers.
2. He does recall a fence around a tall monument on the south side of the church, near the tennis courts.
3. He recalls that there were grave markers on the north lawn. Some had been vandalized and were broken. He moved about a dozen of these broken stones and some bases around to the east end of the church where they were placed against the church wall. He may have used a wheelbarrow in the move, but did it by himself, with no one else helping. There was no attempt by Bob or anyone to match up the broken pieces or record any information from these broken stones.
4. Several stones remained on the north lawn and, perhaps about a year later (after new vandalism had broken more stones), he moved the broken pieces to the east end.
5. Bob believes he was given the moving of the markers, because he was (1) a recent arrival (2) young and (3) strong.
6. He recalls that there was some thought given to establishing a flower garden on the north lawn.
7. When the St. Columba congregation was organized in the developing east end of Belleville, Bob (and his wife Gwen) left St. Andrew's. He has no idea about what became of the stones after this time.