

FANNIN • LEHNER

PRESERVATION CONSULTANTS

## REPORT OF TEST EXCAVATIONS IN CROSS STREET CEMETERY, MEDFORD MA TO DETERMINE BELOW GRADE METHODS USED TO ERECT RELOCATED GRAVESTONES AND MONUMENTS.

On August 12, 2024, Fannin • Lehner Preservation Consultants - Minxie J. Fannin, Managing Principal, James C. Fannin, Jr., Senior Associate and Paul Butterworth, Crew Chief, performed test excavations to determine the type and extent of foundations beneath the headstones and monuments in Cross Street Cemetery, which was moved to Oak Grove Cemetery in 1958.

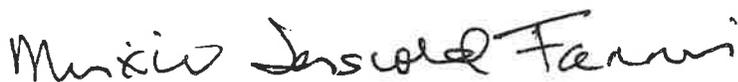
A total of five excavations were made plus extensive probing in several areas. The findings were recorded and photographs taken of all five excavations. The map accompanying this report shows the location of each excavation. It was found that the rows were numbered from back to front. The last row, 11 is only a half row. It is understood that there are probably unmarked burials in the open area between Row 11 and the front wall of the cemetery.

The following notes were made regarding what was discovered in each excavation:

- Excavation A – Row 11 – A marble shaft that once held an oval marble marker which is no longer extant. There is a concrete foundation in which the shaft is held. The concrete is 5” +/- below grade. It measures 15” wide, 50” long and 10” +/- deep. The 5”X5” shaft is set with 6” of concrete in front and 3”+ of concrete in back.
- Excavation B – Row 10 – Intact slate headstone, #326 – Lydia Otis Clapp. Stone is set in a continuous concrete foundation running from the first stone in the row to the central walkway. Foundation extends 9” in front, 7” in back with a depth of 10”+/-.
- Excavation C – Row 7 – Small marble obelisk, #238 – Roland H. Hathaway. Base of obelisk firmly attached to a concrete foundation, 27” wide, clearly placed there when concrete was wet. Foundation extends 10” from front of base and 3” from back. This wide section of the foundation is part of a narrower continuous one holding headstones in Row 7 on the south section of the row.

- Excavation D – Row 5 – Marble monument with marble mid-base and granite lower base, #169 – John McRae, Catherine McRae – tilted. Excavated to a depth of 8” plus extensive probing. No concrete foundation located.
- Excavation E – Row 3 – Marble headstone, #71 – Sarah Clapp James. Broken and fallen. Excavated and uncovered bottom fragment in concrete foundation which runs the length of the southern section of the row. Bottom fragment brushed clean and a test fit performed to see if top fragment conformed to the top of the bottom fragment. Top fragment fit perfectly on the fragment held in concrete.
- Excavation F – Row 7 – This was extensive probing to determine if the concrete foundation extended through the central pathway. After numerous probes, it was clear that the continuous southern foundation terminated at the central path. The foundation resumed on the north side of the path.
- Conclusion – The unbroken stones stand very straight at varying heights, many fully exposed while a number of others are quite short and most of the inscription is beneath the turf. There was no metal skeletal framework found below grade. A concrete foundation was found running along most of the rows of headstones. This appears to be a trenched pour that keeps any stone captured in the concrete in a level and plumb position. If a stone is tilted then it is likely broken below grade. Tilted monuments were set without the concrete foundation and have succumbed to the attack of frozen turf and other forces. It appears from this study that conservation of a majority of the broken stones will involve reattaching them to the base fragments standing below grade in the trenched concrete foundation. The Gravestone/Monument Condition Assessment will address this situation along with stones and monuments that are uniquely broken or dislocated.

Respectfully submitted,

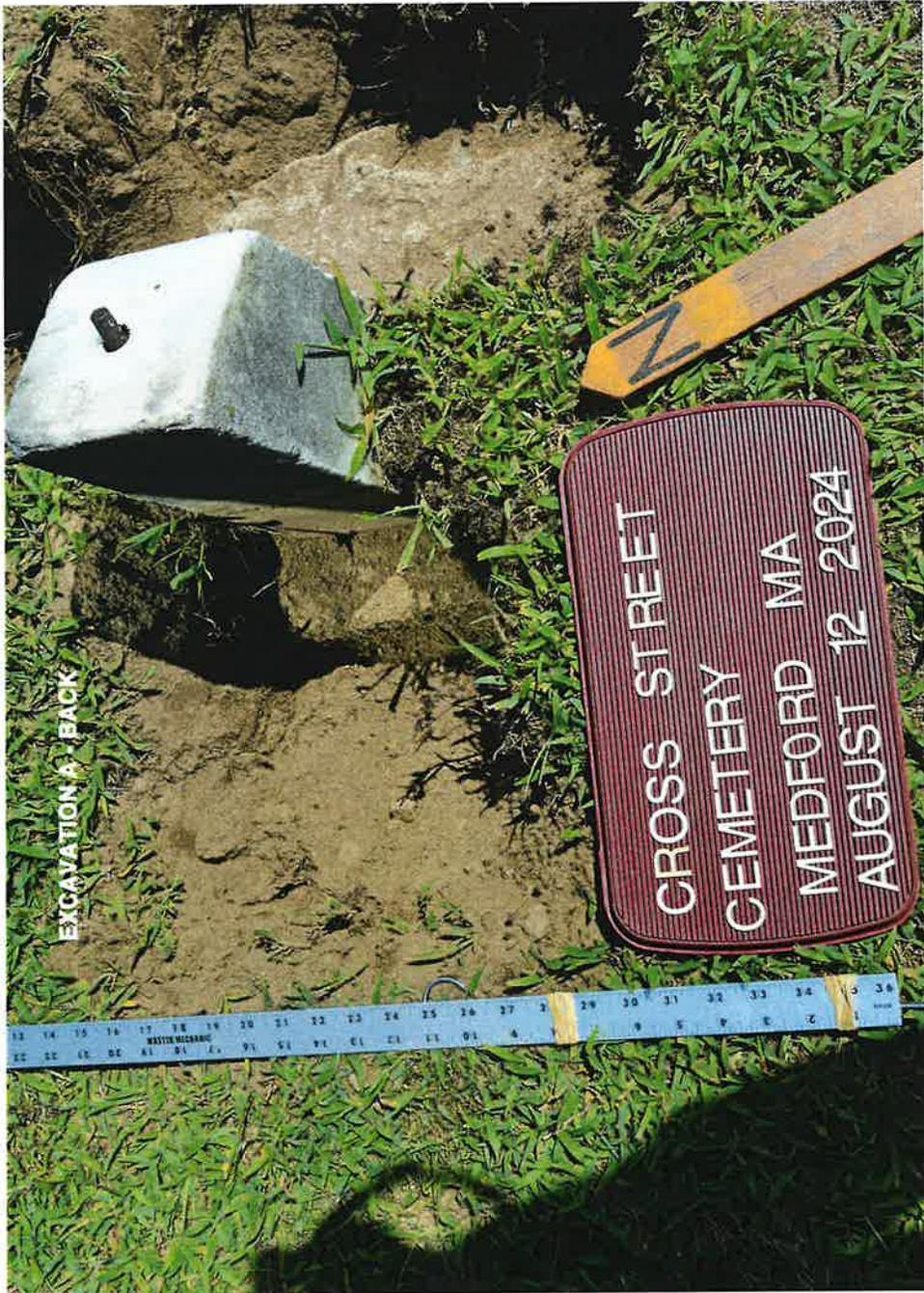


Minxie Jensvold Fannin  
Managing Principal  
August 26, 2024



EXCAVATION A - FRONT

CROSS STREET  
CEMETERY  
MEDFORD MA  
AUGUST 12 2024



EXCAVATION A - BACK

N

CROSS STREET  
CEMETERY  
MEDFORD MA  
AUGUST 12 2024



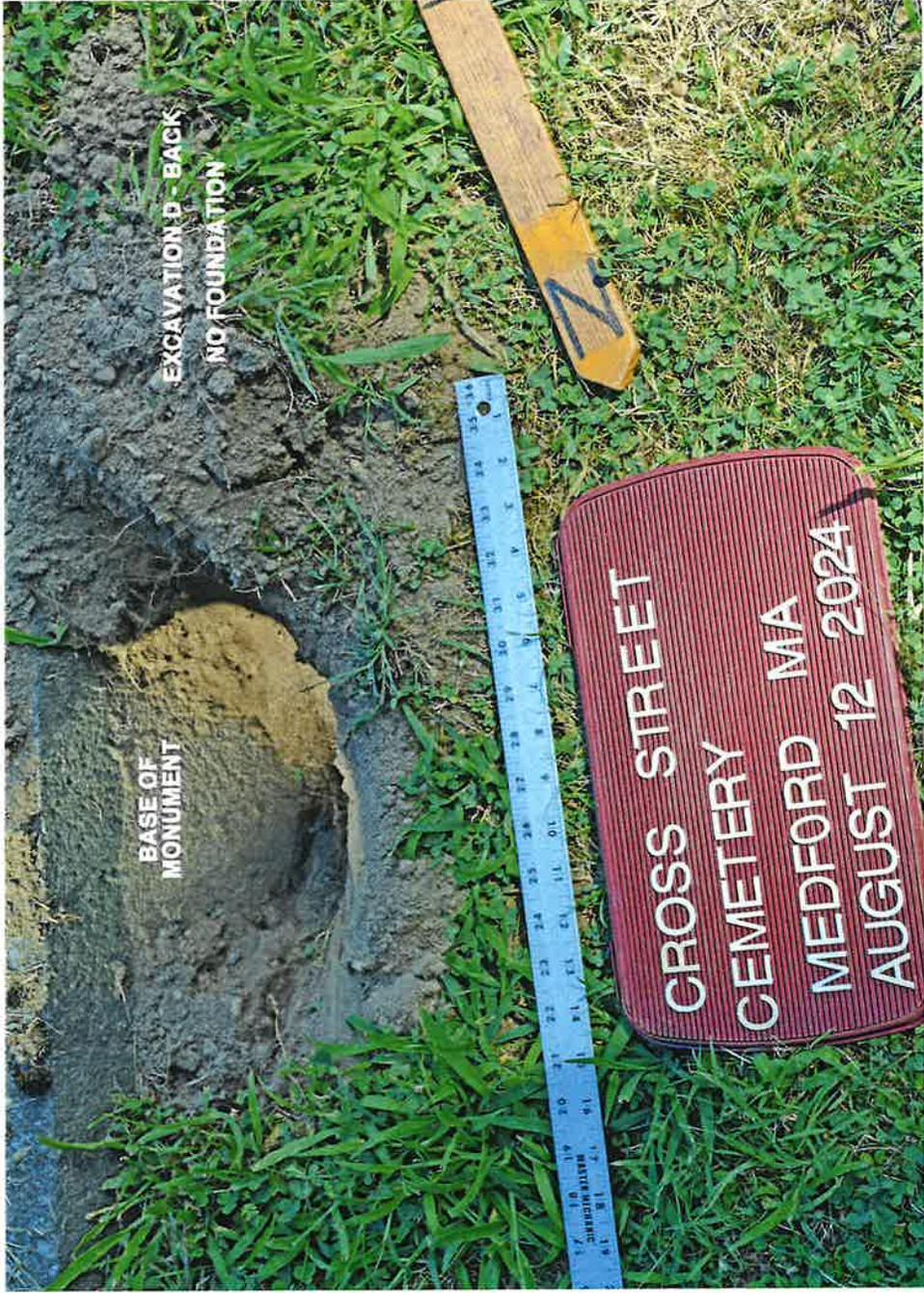


EXCAVATION B - FRONT

CROSS STREET  
CEMETERY  
MEDFORD MA  
AUGUST 2024



EXCAVATION C - FRONT



BASE OF  
MONUMENT

EXCAVATION D - BACK  
NO FOUNDATION

CROSS STREET  
CEMETERY MA  
MEDFORD MA  
AUGUST 12 2024



EXCAVATION E

HEADSTONE WITH  
BASE FRAGMENT  
EXTENDING FROM  
CONCRETE  
FOUNDATION

CROSS STREET  
CEMETERY  
MEDFORD MA  
AUGUST 12 2024

N