

Appendix 1

Implementation Examples

Following are some examples of conservation issues at Addington Cemetery. They include typical examples of common grave types, with recommended conservation interventions.

These examples complement guidance provided in Implementation Strategies and Recommendations in the main body of the conservation plan, as well as the Tabulated Guide to the Conservation of Monuments in Appendix 2.

The key for guiding timeframes for priority is as follows:

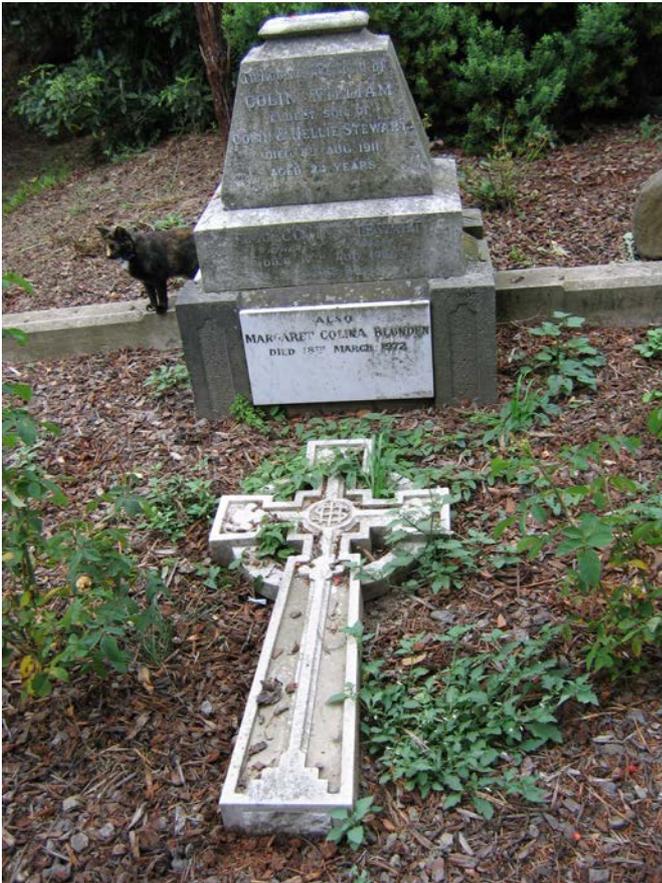
Immediate - as soon as possible

Urgent - required to prevent further deterioration (within three to six months)

Necessary - required to ensure good standard of maintenance (generally within one to three years, but could be a staged process covering up to five years or longer, given the scale of work at Addington Cemetery)

Desirable - whenever possible, or to enhance heritage values.

Photograph 1
Broken Headstone



Example – top part of headstone broken off

Issue – the stone surface lying against the earth can accelerate deterioration of the stone

Recommendation – insert pins and reinstate to upright position on base

Priority - Necessary

Who to Undertake – Stonemason

Additional Comments (for rejoining monuments):

- Rejoining should only be carried out by suitably qualified professionals.
- Broken headstone pieces may be rejoined using bronze or other non-ferrous dowels and appropriate adhesives such as acrylic or epoxy resins.
- Do not use Portland cement or Plaster of Paris.
- Do not use iron as it is potentially corrosive.
- Wash from lime mortar causes problems especially with sandstone or polished black granite.

Photograph 2
Broken Headstone



Example – headstone broken off and shattered in a number of places

Issue – the stone surfaces lying against the earth can accelerate deterioration of the stone, and the broken pieces could become separated and disassociated from the grave

Recommendation – Seek advice to have the broken pieces glued back together. If possible and practical, the headstone can also be pinned and returned to an upright position as with the recommendations with Photograph 1 above

Priority – Necessary

Who to Undertake - Stonemason

Photograph 3
Unstable Memorial



Example – unstable leaning monument (and broken and uneven concrete grave)

Issue – monument likely to topple and break, possibly damaging other graves or people in the process

Recommendation – Stabilise and reconstruct concrete slab, with sufficient reinforcing to secure the monument

Priority – Urgent to Necessary

Who to Undertake – Depending on the structure: Architectural Conservator, Engineer, Stonemason

Additional comments: A slight lean in a headstone is not in itself an issue and can add to the character of the historic cemetery. The issue is when it may collapse. There are a number of headstones/memorials at Addington Cemetery that are on a slight lean now and currently no intervention is required. They should be monitored however, and stabilised if the leans threaten their stability.

Photograph 4
Multiple Breaks



Example – Multiple breaks in relatively thin slabs

Issue – In many cases this is due to vandalism, and there is the risk that the broken pieces are removed and become disassociated from the grave.

Recommendation – glue pieces together and reinstate if possible. If not possible to reinstate, seek advice on resetting in a new concrete slab/desk.

Priority – Urgent/Necessary

Who to Undertake – Conservator/Stonemason

Additional Comments: Fragments of headstone could be set in concrete or some other way to present the fragments being removed. However, it is critical to ensure that if the fragments are set in concrete, they definitely belong to that burial/grave site.

Photograph 5 Collapse



Example - concrete slab/vault distortion or collapse, generally due to compaction of grave fill (sometimes due to vandalism)

Issue - potentially unstable (and can make the headstones/monuments unstable), and it can appear unsightly

Recommendation -One option is to cover the cracked concrete area with gravel. This is an affordable, minimum labour option which has been endorsed by the Historic Cemeteries Conservation Trust of New Zealand. It has the advantage of retaining the original concrete below the gravel. In some cases, under professional guidance, it may be best to record then remove the broken stone, correct ground level and reset concrete

Priority - Immediate/Urgent where the stability of other elements of the grave (and safety of people) is being compromised. Generally the priority ranges from Necessary to Desirable.

Who to Undertake - Stonemason/conservator for correcting ground level and replacing concrete, but for infilling with gravel, Council staff may undertake.

Photographs 6 Railings



Example – bent wrought iron railing with some parts missing, rusting, broken

Issue – looks untidy, iron corroding, parts could become disassociated with the grave

Recommendation – For rusting iron, thoroughly hand clean to get loose rust off, then apply fisholene or if going to paint afterwards, apply anti-rusting guard and then paint with oil based paint. For broken, bent iron, parts of the concrete plinth of the rails could be reconstructed and rejoined. Where parts of the railing have been removed, they could be reinstated where original location is known.

Priority – Necessary to Desirable

Who to Undertake – Historic iron specialist

Additional Comments: Only paint where there is an indication of the original paint colour (often it was black). For the most part, rust on wrought and cast iron is not causing major problems at Addington Cemetery. The area where the iron joins the concrete plinth or the earth is where most corrosion is occurring and this is the main reason to apply fisholene or paint.

Note: Cast and wrought iron should be riveted, not welded.

Photographs 7

Delamination of Stone



Example – Delamination of stone

Issue – Parts of original stone is falling away and historic inscriptions are disappearing

Recommendation – Have assessed on a case by case basis. A possible solution is to clean off all moss/lichen/dirt, record the information inscribed, then apply a poultice over the entire stone to rid it of salts, then micro grout it solidify the loose bits. For some stone, such as the slate one in the above photo on the right, the delamination is exacerbated by frosts. One solution could be to put a breathable cover (such as straw) over the stone during heavy winter frosts.

Priority – Desirable, dependent on further information. For the most part addressing delamination is difficult.

Who to Undertake – Stone Conservator

Additional Comments: Delamination is where a hard outer crust forms on the stone and causes it to come away and fall off. In many cases, there is very little that can be done to address it. While a poultice may be a solution to get rid of the salts causing the hard outer crust, it would need to be done every 5-10 years since salts will continue to enter the stone through the ground. Micro grouting is a technique developed by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) for reattaching or consolidating heritage fabric such as fresco and stonework. Micro grouting involves drilling tiny holes in the stonework, flushing the holes with alcohol to clean them and then very gently injecting lime fly ash grout.

Photograph 8
Lead Lettering



Example - Lead lettering falling off

Issue – Heritage fabric is broken or lost and inscriptions become hard or impossible to read

Recommendation – Lettering can be re-leaded, although this may require extensive work. An alternative would be to record as much of the inscription as possible and photograph with the sun slanting across the face of the stone.

Priority – Medium

Who to Undertake – Re-leading only to be carried out by experienced professionals. Systematic recording can be carried out by Council staff or volunteers.

Photograph 9
Tree Roots



Example – tree growth adjacent to graves

Issue – roots are damaging graves and shade encouraging moss growth

Recommendation – Seek advice from arboriculturalist. Where the tree does not have historic value, carefully remove at just above the ground level, taking care to protect graves. This may involve removing limbs and then poisoning the stump and roots. Stabilisation or repair of the grave can then be carried out.

Priority – Urgent to Necessary, on a case by case basis

Who to Undertake – Council staff under the guidance of arboriculturalist.

Additional Comments: Trees that have high heritage value for the cemetery need to be treated differently. Some yew trees are likely to be well over 100 years old and are themselves part of the grave/memorial. Under the guidance of an arboriculturalist, identified limbs of trees could be removed or pruned to lessen the impact on the graves. In some cases, it may be necessary to remove historic trees, but this should only be done weighing up all the considerations. It may be possible to take cuttings of some trees to replant where their lineage is important. (See also Photograph 10 example).

Photograph 10
Historic Trees within/adjacent to Grave Sites



Example – historic trees within grave sites

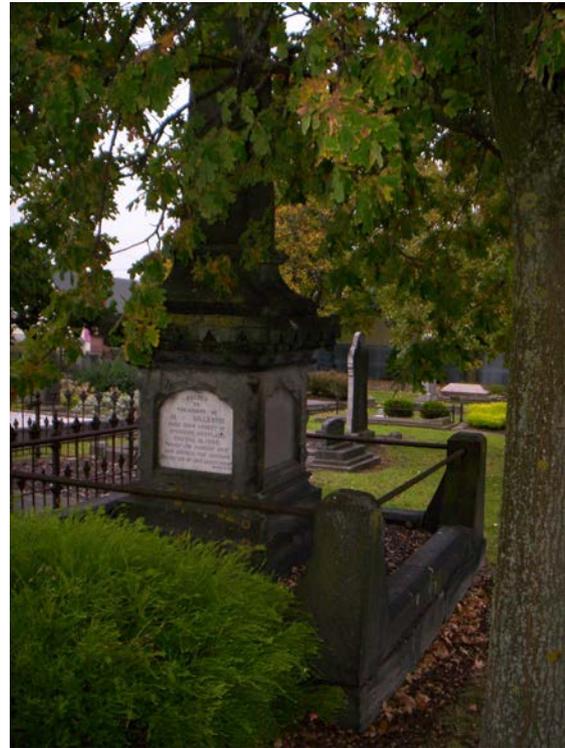
Issue – the trees themselves are part of the memorial and have heritage value, but as they grow, the trees over time are damaging other historic features such as railings, headstones, vaults.

Recommendation – seek the advice of an arboriculturalist. One solution may be to take out the inner limbs of the trees but retain the height and form of the tree. Consider taking cuttings of historic trees should replacement be deemed necessary in the future.

Priority - Necessary

Who to Undertake – Seek advice from arboriculturalist.

Photographs 11
New Oaks



Example – oaks planted in line in pathways between graves

Issue – while these trees are pleasant to look at presently, if left, they will grow to a substantial size and their roots will impact on the adjacent graves. In addition, the trees drop acorns (and will continue to do so), which may result in wilding oak seedlings. Finally, the shade created by the oaks is causing damp (and associated moss) on some headstones.

Recommendation – remove the line of young oaks, taking care not to damage the graves in the process.

Priority – Urgent/Necessary

Who to Undertake – arboriculturalist

Photographs 12
New Plantings



Example – invasive plantings/weeds (eg ivy in photographs above)

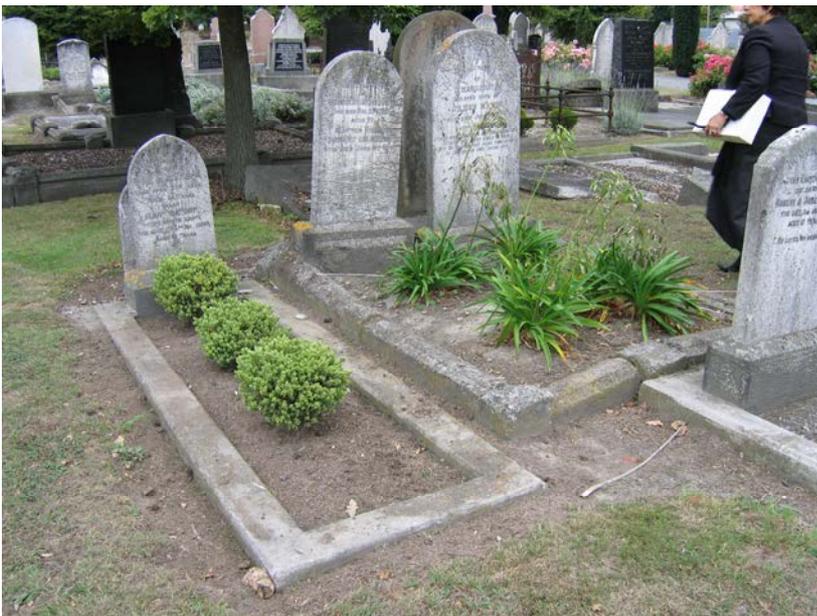
Issue – damages stone, ironwork, obscures inscriptions, invasive

Recommendation – eradicate (eg by cutting at stem and leaving to die)

Priority – Necessary

Who to Undertake – Council staff

Photographs 13
Plantings on Graves



Example – Recent plantings on graves

Issue – If not carefully maintained, will obscure headstones and potentially damage stone and ironwork over time.

Recommendation – Carefully maintain recent plantings. For example, the roses should be trimmed hard with hedge cutter (post-flowering) and agapanthus, hebes etc should be pruned and thinned regularly.

Priority – Necessary

Who to Undertake – Council staff

Additional Comments: Avoid new plantings on graves.

Photograph 14
Recent Plantings on Burial Sites



Example – Recent tree plantings in areas of known and likely burials

Issue – While recent plantings, such as in the photograph above, are not necessarily a fault or issue, they have the potential to become so if they damage graves.

Recommendation – Avoid the use of woody trunked species, such as the native Rangiora shown in the photograph above (whereas the tussocks and ponga are smaller and less likely to cause damage). Consider relocating the recently planted species such as Rangiora to the proposed walkway area to the east of the cemetery. If ground penetrating radar shows no burials near the area of the foundations of the Sexton’s shed, this may be another suitable alternative for the young native trees.

Priority – Necessary/Desirable

Who to Undertake – Council staff/Addington Bush Society

Photographs 15 Lichens and Mosses



Example – Biological Growth, notably mosses and lichens

Issue – Some growths are eating into stone, including obscuring inscriptions

Recommendation – Seek advice on a case by case basis as not all growth is causing damage. If removing biological growth, ensure this is done very carefully. In some cases, as with the photograph above, the main parts of the lichen can be scraped off carefully with a scalpel, then loose material gently brushed off the surface of the stone. In some cases it may be appropriate to use a biocide (see additional comments below).

Priority – Necessary/Desirable

Who to Undertake – Ideally a stone conservator, or an expert with experience in removing mosses/lichens on historic structures

Additional Comments: There is considerable discussion about the best way to deal with biological growth. English Heritage advises that most lichens, mosses and some wildflowers can be left on monuments so long as they do not obscure carved details, and do not recommend the use of chemicals. The National Trust of Australia's guide to conserving cemeteries cautions against removing biological growth and recommends expert advice if anything other than gentle brushing off is required. The HCCTNZ similarly cautions, but states that if it is necessary to remove biological growth, then use only preparations based on quarternary ammonium compounds eg benzylkonium chloride. For lichens, algae, fungi and moulds, the HCCTNZ recommends Kemsol "Mosskill".

For Addington Cemetery, the lichens and mosses are causing damage to the stone, including the inscriptions and in general should be removed. If a biocide is to be used, it is essential that it doesn't have soluble salts in it.

Note: Headstones at Addington Cemetery shows that different types of marble and stone have different types of lichens and mosses.

Photograph 16
Dirty Headstone



Example – Dirty headstone

Issue – Obscures historical inscriptions and can cause damage

Recommendation – *In general, do not clean* unless not cleaning will result in information loss (text/pictorial inscriptions) or dirt is hiding faults that need to be assessed/addressed

Priority – Potentially desirable, although non-intervention may be most appropriate in most cases

Who to Undertake – Stone conservator/stone mason or Council staff with appropriate training

Additional Comments: Do not clean headstones often, and do not clean unstable stones. Avoid acidic cleaners on marble or limestone. An effective gentle way to wash light soiling is washing with small quantities of water and natural fibre brushes. Never use wire brushes. Don't clean with water at a time when there is a risk of freezing temperatures before the stone dries out. Never sandblast or use high-pressure sprays on monuments.