Brier Hill Cemetery, 452 Fortune Line Road

The Brier Hill Cemetery is an inactive cemetery which marks the resting place of some of the earliest settlers in the local communities. This property at Lot 1, Concession 3 in the former Township of South Crosby, was designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1990 as being of architectural value or interest. From that point, it has been maintained by the municipality as an abandoned cemetery.

This small cemetery is located on the north side of the road running along the boundary line between the former townships of South Crosby and the Rear of Leeds & Lansdowne.

One of the first land owners of the cemetery was William Middleton who left the land to his son Albert in his will dated 1877.

At the time of designation, it was noted that the monuments were all from the 19th century, and "were, for the most part; of local manufacture at Allyn's Marbleworks in Delta." The Marbleworks was noted in the Province of Ontario Gazetteer and Directory from 1869, as being owned by C. Allyn. In the 1871 census, there are two Christopher Allyns noted as living in Bastard Township, and both were denoted as marbleworkers. Christopher senior was 79 and Christopher junior was 50. The Allyns ran the Marbleworks throughout the mid-1800s.

It is said that there were some burials here dating as early as 1820s. (*SC- 1990-0042 accessed September 2023*) However, when visited on Oct. 2, 2023, the oldest gravestone still readable was from 1858 and most were from 1870s. Family



names in the cemetery include Beers, Denny, Summers, White, Weekes, Middleton, Lincoln.

Many headstones are broken, fallen over and in many cases level with the earth and grown over, which indicates that other people may be buried there, but their gravestones are no longer visible.

There are about 8 stones still standing in some fashion but a further 10 are flat on the ground.

Numerous interesting engraved stones here with creative and decorative touches - pictures of holding or shaking hands, trees, circles, rosettes, hands pointing up to the sky, ferns and scrolls.





ESTABLISHED 1860

Lot 1, Concession 3 Former Township of South Crosby