

*Over 500 one-ton
blocks in place*



Work continues on Harlan Cemetery Assoc. retaining walls

HARLAN - Work has temporarily slowed on the Harlan Cemetery Association retaining wall project while Stowe Red-E-Mix staff forms an additional 200 four ft. x two ft. cement one-ton blocks to be placed along Cyclone Avenue.

The current 500 one-ton block retaining wall system replaced a stone retaining wall that had become overgrown and had begun to collapse. One 400' long retaining wall (see above) remains a work in progress as it awaits more blocks, while a smaller 220' long wall (below at right) has been completed along Cyclone Ave.

Crews from Burger Construction and Stowe Red-E-Mix have been working on the project that was funded by an anonymous donor.

Other projects

Other Cemetery Association projects have included new fencing and a NewCom cemetery software management system funded by the Cemetery Foundation.

The Des Moines-based firm said their system is based on a GIS mapping interface which will allow the Harlan Cemetery to be the first in Iowa to offer a web-based search of all cemetery plots and burials at the Harlan Cemetery. Anyone with a laptop, iPad or iPhone-like product will be able to find where their loved one is buried and it also can become a great

genealogical research tool.

Jeff Doty, NewCom's vice president of business development said, "Harlan's system becomes an important genealogical tool not only for finding burial information, but the systems offers the Association a document management system."

"The software can offer family's wanting to add to the history of their family and their loved a retention and retrieval system. It is capable of storing their obituary, family photos, birth certificates and any family history or documents they would want to share."

The software also includes plot sales, burial permits, updates burial information and comprehensive reports.

The Harlan Cemetery Assoc. (est. 1872) is run by a volunteer five-member board, and the cemetery is not owned by the City of Harlan.

Donations to the tax-deductible Harlan Cemetery Foundation can be made by sending them to P O Box 543, Harlan IA 51537.

