



(photo by M. Landriault)

## Franklin Corners' Cemetery desecrated by vandals; OPP investigating

At Franklin Corners' crossroads Riceville is to the west, Fournier to the east, St. Isidore to the south and Plantagenet to the north. First settled in 1830 by Benjamin Franklin it has been reduced over time from a place of lumber trade and shops to an easily overlooked settlement of a few homes. The one remaining feature is the cemetery with a large maple and a tall pine and headstones telling a history of 150 years. Last Friday night, Dec. 2, vandals entered the cemetery and desecrated some 32 headstones, both old and new. Most damage was centred on the west side of the cemetery away from the main road. However the vandals did boldly walk a destructive diagonal from the northwest corner to the southeast corner. Cemetery committee members headed by John Clemens just recently completed repairs to many of the older markers only to find them pulled from the ground and in many cases broken on Saturday. The Hawkesbury OPP Detachment is investigating.

Franklin Corners' Cemetery Riceville, Dec. 1989