Tombstones vandalized

SANTA CRUZ — City Councilman Arnold Levine inspects one of five tombstones damaged by vandals at the Home of Peace Jewish cemetery on Meder Street near Western Drive. Among those damaged is the oldest in the cemetery, that of Amy Steen, who died in 1877 at age 14. The girl's family bought the property for the cemetery from Moses A. Meeder, according to Levin. "Legend goes that Meeder agreed to sell the land as long as he could be buried there. As the story goes, the devil would never look for an Irishman there," Levin said. Other headstones damaged included those of David Hecht (1888), George Keek (1909) and Emma Hart (1882). Levine said the temple will coordinate restoration of the tombstones. The vandalism was discovered late Monday afternoon. Police are investigating.

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