

EPITAPH

The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery

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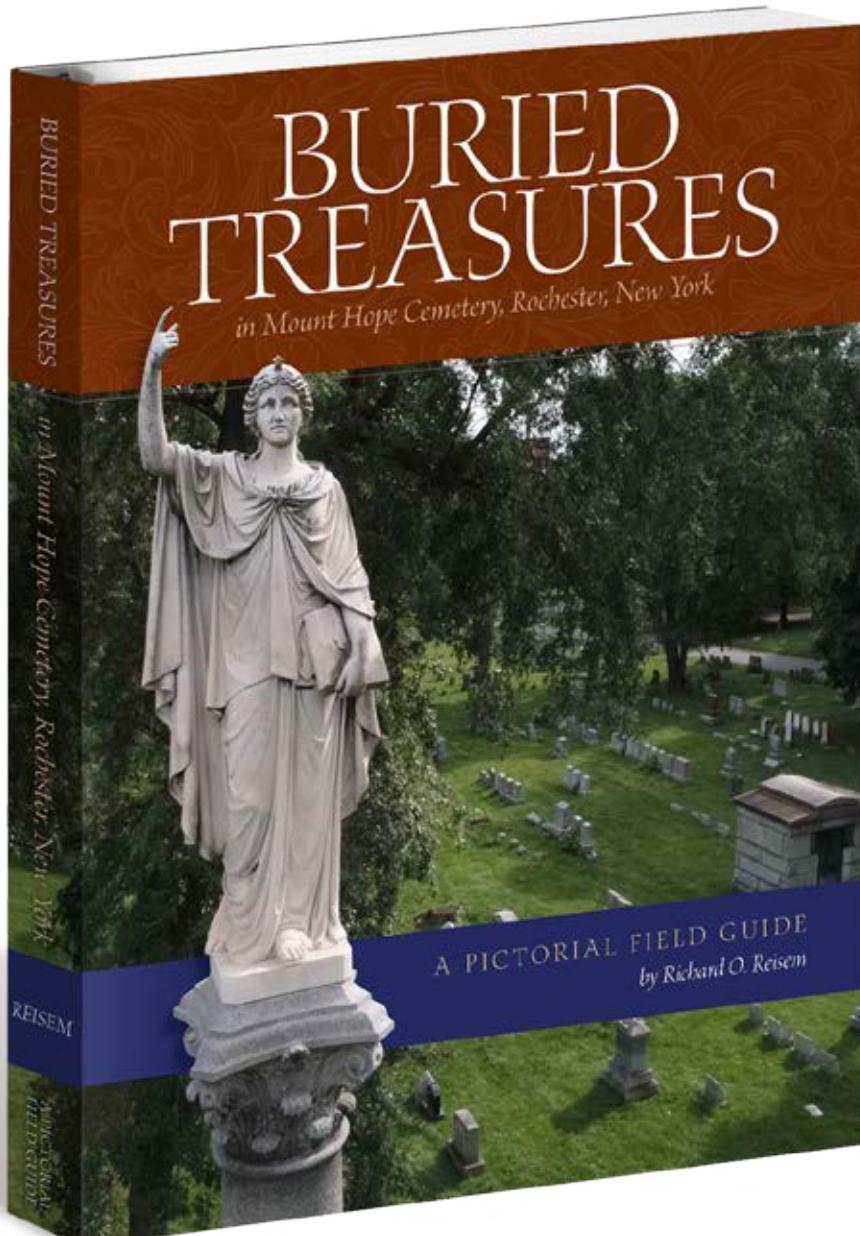
A MAJOR NEW BOOK FROM THE FRIENDS OF MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

This is the ultimate Mount Hope Cemetery book. History comes alive in this book through the lives of a select number of the 350,000 people who are buried here.

Through biographic sketches of more than 650 permanent residents of Mount Hope Cemetery, this book becomes a fascinating history of Rochester, New York, America's first boomtown in the early 1800s, when it was the flour-milling capital of the world.

Rochester morphed to become the third largest clothing manufacturing center in the U.S., and soon after, a horticultural phenomenon. Leading the flourishing nursery business was Ellwanger and Barry, owners of the largest such operation in America. Kodak became the world's colossal leader in photography. George Eastman is mentioned on 14 separate pages in this new book.

This was the city of Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony. A Rochesterian founded Western Union Telegraph Company; another Rochesterian started Xerox. Bausch and Lomb created one of the great optical companies. Exxon Mobil was started here by Hiram Everest. A Rochesterian



founded a national political party, the Liberty Party. The first dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Rochester won a Nobel Prize. William Warfield was the internationally renowned bass-baritone singer, actor, and America's musical ambassador around the world. Malcolm E. Gray, president of Rochester Can Company, invented the five-day workweek.

A Rochester real estate mogul owned Manchester United, the richest soccer club in the world. Henry A. Ward, world-renowned geologist and naturalist, stuffed and mounted P.T. Barnum's giant elephant, Jumbo. William Kimball's tobacco factory was one of the largest in the world, producing a billion cigarettes annually. The Rev. Dr. Algernon Crapsey was put on trial by the Episcopal Church for heresy, convicted, and excommunicated. Alexander Millener, who lived 103 years, was General George Washington's drummer boy. Author Kurt Vonnegut—in writing *Slaughterhouse Five*—based the character Billy Pilgrim on the tragic life of Edward R. Crone, Jr.

A Rochester attorney by profession founded the science of anthropology. Buffalo Bill Cody created the forerunner of his Wild West Show in Rochester. The voting machine was invented here, as was the machine gun, the internal combustion motorcar, and the fish hatchery.

A persistent Hartwell Carver promoted the transcontinental railroad. His cemetery monument, built by a grateful Union Pacific Railroad, adorns the cover of this book. Frank Gannett launched his publishing empire here. This book brings it all to life, from the tavern owner who operated the best oyster bar in town, to the man who persuaded Czar Alexander to sell Alaska to the U.S.

DETAILS ABOUT THE BOOK...

Title:

Buried Treasures
in Mount Hope Cemetery
Rochester, New York

Subtitle:

A Pictorial Field Guide

Author:

Richard O. Reisem

Format:

230 pages, 6 by 9 inches, concealed metal spiral binding that allows pages to lie flat

Cover:

Foldout cover reveals a 13-inch-wide cemetery map with locations of 70 famous gravesites numbered with a list of their names.

Biographical sketches of more than 650 interesting permanent residents from the Revolutionary War to 2017.

Photographs:

More than 200 color photographs, including high-resolution flying-camera drone pictures, 52 portraits (mostly black-and-white) of major historical figures, and an 18-page portfolio of stunning cemetery scenes and unique features

Index listing 1,044 people discussed in the book

Retail Price:

\$35 (prepublication and early-release price: \$25)

Publisher:

The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery

Sales Outlets:

- Mount Hope Cemetery Office, 1133 Mount Hope Avenue
- Landmark Society, 133 South Fitzhugh Street
- Historic House Parts, 540 South Avenue
- Mount Hope Cemetery Gatehouse, open on tour days
- www.fomh.org
- and many more outlets to be determined



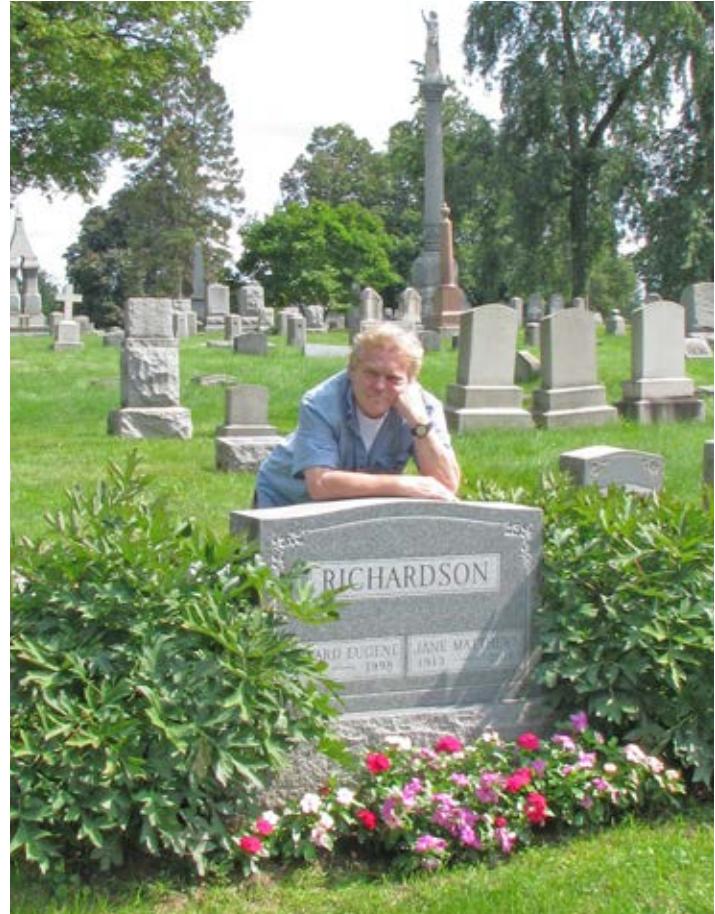


by Richard Reisem

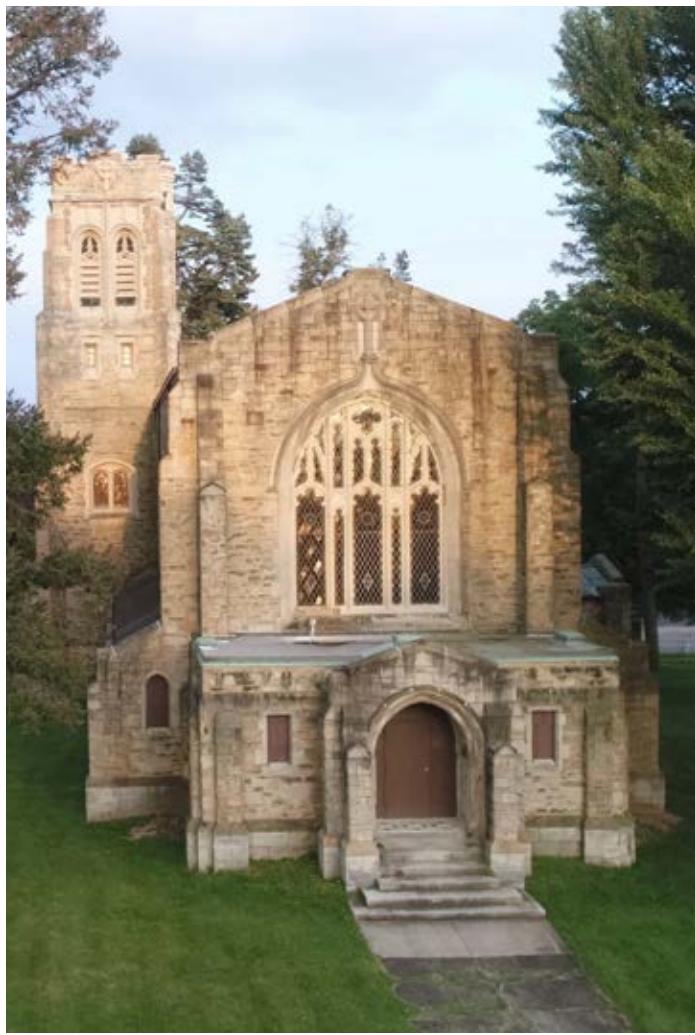
Ahighlight of the new *Buried Treasures* book is a drone-operated, high-resolution camera that puts a new perspective on the landscape and monuments in Mount Hope Cemetery. Instead of craning your neck to see the handsome sculptures standing on top of 50-foot columns, you can see them head-on and study their exquisite stone carving with the verdant cemetery landscape stretched out far below. Richardson made a number of such splendid photographs that dramatically enhance the book. Once he had started taking photos for the new *Buried Treasures* book, he realized the importance of having a drone camera and purchased one in April 2017 in New York City, specifically to provide unique photographs for this book.

But Richardson contributed so much more than exciting aerial pictures. He photographed more than 100 significant monuments and buildings at ground level with his particular talent for compelling composition and careful lighting. Look for his credit line in many photo captions.

Ron Richardson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colgate University and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology. For nearly 30 years he taught photography and world aesthetics at RIT and The Harley School. In 1984, he was invited to Kyoto, which



Besides being a photographer, Ron Richardson tends 19 gravesites of relatives.



The drone camera travels up above the trees to obtain a rare frontal view of the 1912 chapel in Mount Hope Cemetery.



Richardson's flying camera records the fireman head-on atop a 55-foot column.

is the definitive center of Japanese culture. He received a scholarship to study Zen Buddhism and Japanese Arts in the context of Chado (the Japanese Tea Discipline) while living in Kyoto and returning there for a period of two years.

Ron's father, Howard Richardson, a Rochesterian, who himself had studied abroad at the University of Paris, traveled to more than 70 countries, some on assignments

for the U.S. State Department. Howard could take his family on many of his travels, so Ron Richardson received an introduction to a number of foreign cultures in Asia and Europe during his formative years.

Today, Ron Richardson devotedly tends to 19 of his family's graves at Mount Hope Cemetery

DONALD S. HALL

Photographer Extraordinaire

by Richard Reisem



Photographer Don Hall in a selfie before the Wilbur Coon monument. Hall is 6 feet, 1 inch tall, making the Tiffany Studios' massive monument 13 feet high.

I know very few people who are as knowledgeable about Mount Hope Cemetery as Don Hall. And he has the photographs to prove it. He came to the board of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery right around 2004, and he has been taking pictures of the cemetery ever since.

His first 18 years were in Columbus, Ohio, from which he left to obtain an A.B. degree in education at Stetson University, DeLand, Florida. From there, he went on to the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill where he was awarded a Master's degree in Education. Both Stetson and North Carolina had planetariums, and Hall applied his teaching abilities giving stellar speeches under their electric skies. He finally landed in Rochester to become the longtime director of the Strasenburgh Planetarium.

Now in retirement, Don Hall keeps up his speechmaking on a wide variety of subjects that particularly interest him and in conducting Mount Hope tours in spring, summer, fall, and winter. But in this book, it is his photographic skills that we celebrate. In this book, you can enjoy his cemetery photographs from all the seasons of the year and in all varied weather conditions.



Don Hall captured this weeping mulberry tree at 11:00 a.m., January 22, 2017 on a rare foggy day in Rochester.

January 22, 2017 was a particularly rare-weather day for photography. Hall awakened to look out at a foggy, foggy day. Fog may not be rare in London or San Francisco, but in Rochester, New York, it is special. Don grabbed his camera and rushed to Mount Hope Cemetery to shoot a host of appropriately doleful photos of a Victorian cemetery, which join his bright colorful fall foliage pictures, snow-decorated monuments in winter, blooming azaleas in spring, and deep, lush summer greenery. When you see these photos in the book, the caption likely reads, "Photo by Donald S. Hall".



On a winter day, Don Hall visited the Henry and Frederica Rosenberg monument and found it attractively decorated with snow.



Lewis Henry Morgan

A MILE IN HIS FOOTSTEPS

by Rose O'Keefe

Part One

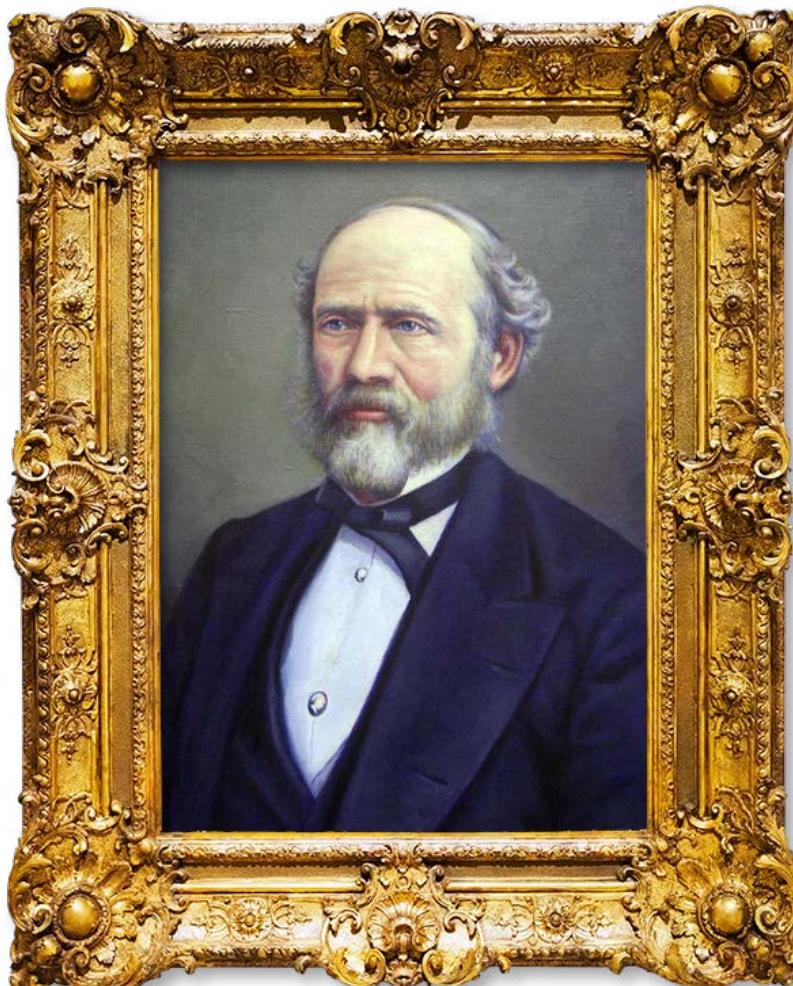
Strollers along Ravine Avenue may notice a somber mausoleum without knowing anything about Lewis Henry Morgan's family life or professional successes. He was born Nov. 21, 1818, in Aurora, Cayuga County, and died in his home in Rochester on Dec. 17, 1881. His Yankee ancestors had settled around Boston in the 1640s, and in 1792 his grandfather accepted 600 acres of land for service in the American Revolution.

Grandfather Morgan's choice of Scipio in south central Cayuga County to keep his sons from going to sea but didn't stop two sons from leaving. His third son, Morgan's father, moved to Aurora, overlooking Cayuga Lake, which during Morgan's youth was a rough frontier village. People were separated from each other by farmland around a bustling port, trading Erie Canal goods with New York City.

Morgan's father, Jedediah, and first wife had five children before she died. The second wife, Lewis' mother Harriet, had eight children before Jedediah died in 1826. By then the farm had grown to 700 acres with hundreds of cattle

and thousands of sheep, which three older brothers managed while his mother raised the younger children. At age 16, Lewis went to Aurora Academy where he enjoyed his studies and formed a weekly debating club.

He went to study law at Union College in Schenectady, the first non-denominational college in the United States, and graduated in 1840. Unlike many of his classmates who followed the Erie Canal boom westward because there was a glut of young lawyers, he stayed in Aurora and managed the farm for three years. He was so taken by the temperance movement that he wrote articles and lectured on it in 1842 and '43. Secret societies were popular in frontier country to break the isolation and to network. Morgan organized a social and educational club for men, The Gordian Knot, and in 1843 renamed it the Grand Order of the Iroquois. Their secret meetings in the woods at night, as well as a visiting lecturer, inspired Morgan and others to learn more about the Five Nations.



Lewis Henry Morgan, founder of the science of anthropology, is 200 years old on November 21, 2018.

By chance in 1844, he met a young Seneca man in a bookstore in Albany and then interviewed several Seneca men who told him about the Confederacy's tribes, clans and ways. Ely Parker was in Albany to press for settlement of land claims by the Ogden Co. As his relationship with Parker grew, Morgan visited the reservation of the Tonawanda band of Senecas and learned first-hand of the massive land swindle they were fighting. Morgan represented the band in Albany to no avail. The Tonawanda land case wasn't



A group of anthropologists from a meeting at the University of Rochester paid a visit to Lewis Henry Morgan's mausoleum on his 102nd birthday in November 1920.

settled until 1857, when Congress finally authorized funds to buy back acreage sold to the Ogden Land Co.

Morgan moved to Rochester in late 1844 and struggled to earn a living as trial lawyer for Monroe County's Court of Common Pleas. He opened a branch of the Grand Order in Rochester with Union graduates and Aurora men, as did others, and within four years the order had 500 brothers from Syracuse and Waterloo to Utica. The group lasted about two more years. He started visiting tribes in New York and Canada.

When two-thirds of the Seneca who were ordered to leave their ancestral lands for the Kansas territories died along the way, petitions flooded the Senate and protests were held between Rochester and Buffalo. It was at this time that Morgan offered the help of his Grand Order and delivered their memorial to the President and the Senate. When Morgan and his lodge brothers visited the Onondaga, Tonawanda and Buffalo Creek reservation to ask questions, they began the study known as scientific ethnology.

In October 1846, while he and two others visited the annual corn harvest festival, they asked to be adopted into the Tonawanda band and were accepted as warriors in the Hawk clan, allowing them to learn all but the most secret rituals.

In 1850, he spent six months revising his essays and

fourteen "Letters on the Iroquois" into a book, which was published in 1851 as *League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee, or Iroquois* in which Morgan was the first to criticize Euro-centric viewpoints. After League received excellent reviews in newspapers, he was invited to lecture in the homes of Rochester's fashionable Third Ward where merchants, bankers, lawyers, judges, and councilmen lived.

Whenever his law practice or Indian collection took him to Albany, Morgan visited his Uncle Lemuel Steele, whose family had moved there in 1816. Lemuel had started as a paper hanger, moved up to Democratic alderman and chief engineer of the fire department, and was

appointed director of the Mechanic's and Farmer's Bank of Albany. Morgan soon went to their house to see his cousin Mary Elizabeth Steele, a serious and intelligent woman who, with her brother William, was set to travel to Borneo as a missionary. Morgan tried to persuade her to stay, and when he failed, wrote a will in May 1851, bequeathing to her a treasured book, a gold chain, a silver cross, a pair of moccasins and his Bible.

But Lizzie changed her mind, didn't go to Borneo, and they were married three months later. They bought a modest Greek-style row house on Fitzhugh Street, that contrasted with the Whittlesey mansion across the street from it. They could have afforded to move to a more spacious house, but instead he spent his money on pricey mahogany furniture and decorations. The library he added had a skylight of stained glass 12 x 12 feet that was raised two feet above the ceiling. A triple-bay window on the east and glass doors on the west provided ample light. He devoted years to building up his book collection. His most expensive book was a 1576 Spanish dictionary from Mexico, valued at \$350.

To be continued in the next issue of the *Epitaph*.

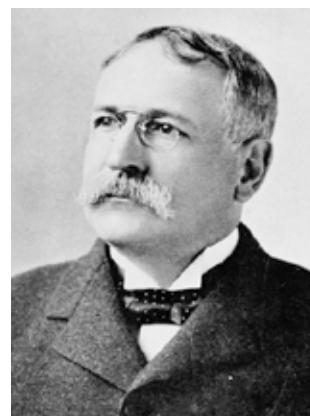
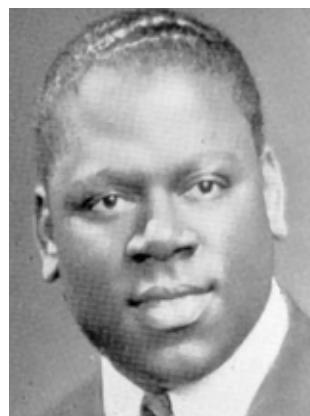




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Do you know these four people?



They are all important in Rochester's history. Read about them in the new *Buried Treasures in Mount Hope Cemetery*, available for purchase at the Friends annual meeting, Brighton Town Hall, 7:00 p.m., April 10, 2018.



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Basic annual membership is \$20.

Call 585-461-3494 for a supporter application.



See our colorful and informative Web site:
www.fomh.org

The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery

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Welcome to Our Website

The purpose of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery is to enhance the cemetery's potential as a cultural resource through education, preservation and promotion of Mount Hope Cemetery's unique heritage.

Established in 1980 as Rochester's first mounted volunteer cemetery.

WE ARE A PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATION INVOLVED IN MAINTAINING, PRESERVING AND PROMOTING THE CEMETERY'S HERITAGE. WE ARE A COMMITTEE OF THE ROCHESTER AREA CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.

WINTER TOURS 2014 Experience the beauty of Mount Hope for the holidays! These guided walking tours take place entirely on flat, paved roads.

Sundays at 1:00 PM
January 18, February 15, March 15, and April 19

Mount Hope Cemetery entrance: 1115 Mount Hope Avenue
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