THE ORIGIN OF THE ROSE QUARTZ MONUMENT

By Van King

Rose quartz monuments are not rare. Scotts Rose Quartz Quarry in Custer, South Dakota gets orders for rose quartz on a frequent enough basis that they set aside any suitable monument-size blocks for that purpose during their mining operations and have done so since the 1920s. My interest in the beautiful rose quartz monument in Mount Hope Cemetery is that it isn’t from South Dakota, but from Albany, Maine.

Only within the last ten years has there been an explanation for the wonderful color of rose quartz. The mineral has sub-microscopic particles of a reddish purple to a bluish purple mineral called dumortierite. That mineral occurs in such minute quantities that proving what the mineral actually was had to wait for modern technology to answer the question. Because the color is due to particles included in the host quartz, even the most transparent pieces of rose quartz have a “sleepy” haze and most pieces are really cloudy pink.

Rose quartz is found in rocks that are common sources of raw material used in making the finest porcelain glaze. That mineral is called feldspar. Such was the origin of this block in Mount Hope Cemetery. The stone is about 4.5 x 3 x 2 feet and weighs about 4,500 pounds.

This rose quartz monument marks the resting place of Julius J. Andersen (1879-September 25, 1954) and Leona M. Andersen (1879-February 1, 1938). From Julius’ obituary in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, we learn only the highlights of who the Andersens were. Julius emigrated from Germany in 1893 and became a highly respected tailor in Rochester. Both he and Leona were active in their church, including its Missionary Society. Julius was a member of the Masons, Fireman’s Benevolent Society, and the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

I became interested in discovering the current location of this rose quartz monument as part of researching the history of feldspar mining in Oxford County, Maine and the Bumpus Quarry of Albany, in particular. It was a small quarry that had a turbulent history at several levels. The quarry was leased by Harry Bumpus from his wife’s brother and sister, Allan and Sybil Cummings, on June 1, 1927. Unfortunately, Sybil died about three weeks after the lease date, leaving no last will and testament.

After a mourning period, the quarry started operations in September of that year, but the process of probate lasted four years and Sybil’s heirs were anxious to get their share of the mining profits. Rose quartz had been found almost immediately in the quarry, but it initially did not have appreciable value. The quarry should have yielded about $1,000 profit per year for its feldspar output, but there was a complication. An enormous quantity of beryl crystals were soon discovered, and there was great fanfare about the crystals being of record size.

The weight of the beryl sold from the quarry was about 100 tons, and the heirs hoped to get their share, but a family feud prevented disbursement of funds. Finally, a comment in Business Week magazine in 1930 sent the probate issue to court: the quarry is “better than owning an oil well”. During the Depression the heirs were very eager to get their share of the “oil well”. Unfortunately, as is usually the case, expectations had been raised to unsupportable levels, and the family feud eventually resulted in the heirs getting about $175 each—along with the loss of love and family.

Rose quartz continued to be produced by the quarry, whenever mining was active, and it eventually was a large share of income for a minor who grew up to be a gift shop owner, Stanley I. Perham (1907-1973).

Sometime in 1950, Julius Andersen, at age 71, ordered his rose quartz monument from Perham’s store. Leona Andersen died twelve years earlier, and she may or may not have already had a marker for her plot. Julius’ motivation to acquire a rose quartz monument for himself and his wife is unknown. Monuments made of South Dakota rose quartz were known well enough, but
rose quartz from Maine had yet to be fashioned into grave markers of any kind. One must imagine that Julius and (perhaps) Leona had been tourists in Maine and had visited Perham's store where they became familiar with rose quartz's beauty. The personal visit is the only reason that seems adequate to have inspired Julius to pick the rare Maine rose quartz for his monument.

The Oxford County newspaper, Advertiser Democrat, in Maine published a photo of the raw rose quartz block as it was being crated for shipment to Rochester on October 27, 1950. At the time of shipment, the block weighed about 5,000 pounds and was claimed to be a rose quartz block of record size for any locality east of the Mississippi River. It was also revealed that the stone was destined for use as a cemetery monument in "New York". It may be surmised that it was a special order and that Stanley Perham had directed the excavation of the block.

During the time period, the Cold War between the U.S. and Russia was escalating and the Federal Government was paying high premiums for quarries to produce beryl. It was the chief ore of beryllium, which was essential to initiating the nuclear reaction resulting in atomic bombs. The Bumpus Quarry, which had spawned a feud over its beryl production, was again producing beryl for the Strategic Minerals Stockpile in 1950.

Unfortunately, the ravages of weather have not been kind to the monument in Mount Hope Cemetery. Hidden cracks have been affected by frost and ice and have widened so that the monument is now in fragile condition.

He made a living for more than 30 years printing these glass-plate photographs and selling them to the loggers, as well as to the logging companies to provide a record of their activities.

By the second decade of the 20th century, the forests were gone, along with the logging camps. Clarke decided to move to Rochester around 1915 to live with his two sisters at 5 Madison Park South, just off west Main Street. Their house is a charming 1830s board-and-batten cottage on the southeast corner of the Susan B. Anthony Square, still standing as you can see in the photograph.

Of the thousands of glass-plate negatives that he made over those decades, Clarke selected 98 to take with him to Rochester, where they were stored in a tool shed until they were discovered in 1972 and stored again until 2004, when they were rediscovered and historians...
called them artful, museum-quality photographs about a seminal period in American history.

William Clarke, who was born in New York City of Irish parents in 1859, died in Rochester in 1930 at age 71 years. He is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Range 8, Lot 272.

(The author is thankful to Cynthia Hawk, Landmark Society, for passing along knowledge of Clarke's historic glass-plate negatives she learned at Rochester Photographic on Park Avenue.)

Logs from northern Pennsylvania loaded for rail transport to a lumber mill.

Self-portrait of William Clarke at a logging campsite.

Clarke's monument is in Range 8, Lot 272.

5 Madison Park South where William Clarke lived until he died in 1930.
MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS OF MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

It is our generous members who support our preservation, restoration, beautification, educational, and promotional programs benefiting the great cultural resource in our community, Mount Hope Cemetery. We are profoundly grateful for your financial assistance, and we thank each of the following 515 members for helping to make Mount Hope the outstanding place that it is.

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Woodside Granite

Life
Brown, Dorothy
Caffrey, James
Clark, John C. III
Collins, Dr. Sarah H.
Curran, Pat
Dean, Nancy Watson
Forest Lawn Cemetery
Gabel, Laurel K.
Humes, Dorothy T.
Keaveny, James F.
Maclntyre, Alexander
Milton, William H.
Nadk, Cynthia
O'Kell, Carol
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Roch. Area Comm. Foundation
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Nesmith, Emily L.
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Kingston, A. and Logan, E.
Leone, Janet and James
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Roes, Herbert
Smithson, Elaine
Sullivan, Thomas
VanZant, John R.
Wyland J. and LaPointe, R.

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Berrymahan, Donna and Bolinger, Jean
Birken, Eric and Marcia
Brandt, Carol
Buholtz, Eileen
Burger, Thomas
Copeland, Charles
Corcoran, Patricia
Crego, Frank and Susan
Curris, R. and Brown, J.
Czerkas, Alfred and Jean
Decaro, Patricia

D'Esopo, Valera
Draves, Sue
Eisenhart, Richard H.
Fisher, Mary Vernon
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Fowler, Gail M.
Garazek, George
Gerhard, Glen and Gwenyth
Giordano, Carolyn L.
Holcomb, Grant
Husson, Christopher
Jackson, Thomas and family
Jaschik, Sue
Kendig, Benjamin
Kechley, John
Lawrence, Jane and Doug
Lothhouse, Eleanor M.
Luckhurst, Susan
Marquis, Robert and Diana
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Miller, Richard N.
Mueller, Florence
Noldt, Roger W.
Patrivald, Gari-Anne
Richardson, Ronald E.
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Schmitt, Victoria S.
Sena, Susan M.
Shapiro, Miriam
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Swan, Phil and Judy
Sweeney, Mary Ellen
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Warren, Paul R.
Weber, Stephen
Wilke, Richard
Williams, Anne C.
Williams, Dr. T. Franklin
Zarcone, Linda
Zicari, Craig J.
Ziobro, J. and Pasto-Ziobro, D.

Coleman, Fran
Cureo, William J.
David, William
Dennis, Ross
Doherty, Terry/Anne
Ebeling, Matthew/Kathleen
Eick, John/Sue
Eustance, Joyce
Fox, Donald/Lisa
Gibson, Barbara B.
Gillespie, Frank/Marilyn
Haney, Paul E.
Henderson, Linda
Hochreiter, Richard/Laurie
Hoffmeier Dr. John/Eleanor
Hunt, David/Joan
Hunt, Roger D.
Huizeler, Barbara/John
Juba, Sharon
Knapp, Elizabeth
Kone, Pam
Koon, Pamela
Kotok, David
Kovach, Judith
Kral, Karen
Leisman, Richard/Marie
Lerner, Hobart/Elinor
Logan-Baldwin, Emmelyn
Lomak, Tanya
Maletzke, Marta
McDonald, Linda/Robert
Montana, Ilene
Mosher, Clare
Noval, Barbara
O'Flynn, Patrick M.
O'Keehe, John R.
Olinger, Edward/Mary
O'Neil, Sue/John
Okvigg, Roger M.
Peek-Mead Family
Salath, Jodi
Schumaker, Joan
Schwartz, Vicki/Richard
Shilling, Donovan A.
Skuse, Richard H./Virginia N.
Smith, Eleanor D.
Smith, Marjorie
Square, Albert Tegg
Sekisons, Caroline T.
Stear, Robert L.
Steinberg, Linda
Stephens, Shirley R.
Swarts, James
Taylor, James/Arlene
Taylor, Joan S.
Tyndall, Lawrence/Mary Beth
VanDoren, Margaret J.
Vogt, E. Robert

Weatherup, Sandra
Weymann, Gertrud M.
White, Becky
Williams, Janea Freeland
Williams, Sharon D.
Wolf, Marilyn
Wurzer, Sandra
Young, Ann G. T.
Young, William E.
Yount, Terry
Kline, Louise H.

Basic ($20)

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Albert, Mary Jo
Allen Co. Public Library
Andersen, Susan L.
Andrews, Jill
Angell, Catherine
Arany, Joan B.
Atwell, Wilbur/Dorothea
Atzrott, Allison
Bain, Susan
Baird, Don/Jane
Baker, Sylvia
Baler, Rosanne
Barclay, Virginia J.
Barker, William H.
Barnes, Tara
Bean, Theodora A.
Belly, Robert/Mary
Bender, William
Bennett, Kate M.
Berce-Kaiser, Jayne
Beohme, Larry/Marge
Boester, Michael/Carrie
Bonhote, Karen A.
Boulfer, Janet
Brennan, Tom/Michelle
Brewer, William/Sandra
Brice, Carole/William
Brown, Carol
Brumfield, Miriam
Buckner, All/Knigge, Ann
Burr, Joan H.
Button, Lucia M.
Calder, Leslie/Geraldine
Calkins, Timothy/Bethany
Carnevale, Frank
Carr, Dennis
Cavuto, David
Chess, Patty/Mitch
Chote, Julie
Christopher, Barbara A.
Cleare, Carlet
Clickner, Todd
Cliff, Renee
Coffee-Baudanza, Deb/Lynda
Colangelo, Jane
Colbert, Eric, Bobbie, Catie
Colline, Suzanne M.
Cooper, Arlene
Crawford, James D.
Crossed-Rieck, Amy
Cuppini, Susan C.
Cushman, Gail
Dao, Debbie
Daughton, Carla
Wagner College was founded in Rochester, New York in 1883. It was named in memory of Johann Georg Wagner III, who died at age 19 years in 1873. His father, John George Wagner, Jr., was a Rochester industrialist who financed the first permanent facility for the newly formed Lutheran prosemimary, presenting the financial gift in memory of his deceased son whose untimely death denied him a future in the Lutheran ministry.

In 1917, Wagner College moved to Staten Island and today is a coeducational liberal arts college with more than 2,000 students. On the 125th anniversary of the beginning of Wagner College, representatives from the New York campus traveled to Rochester to lay a wreath on the grave of the person who gave the institution its name. Wagner College graduates living in the Rochester area joined the celebration and are gathered around the Wagner family monument. Twelve Wagner family members are buried in the plot.

The event occurred on Saturday, November 8, 2008, a chilly gray day in Mount Hope Cemetery. Addressing the small gathering is Wagner College President Dr. Richard Guarasci. Directly behind him, with a wreath in front of the headstone, is the gravesite of J. George Wagner III. Just visible on the far right is Lee Manchester, director of Media Relations at Wagner, who is videotaping the event. In front of him is Marilyn Nolte, president of the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery. After the ceremony, the group gathered at the George Eastman House for a reception.

A small book, Wagner College: Four Histories, contains the story of the college's early years in Rochester, including profiles of the Wagner family. An electronic version can be downloaded free from http://stores.lulu.com/wagnercollege. A hardcopy version can be ordered at cost; details at lee.manchester@Wagner.edu.
A WALK IN MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

(The following poem was printed in the New Genesee Farmer, October 1840, which was just two years after Mount Hope Cemetery opened in October 1838.)

Come hither, he who fear the grave, and call it lone and drear,
Who deem the burial place a spot to waken grief and fear.
Oh, Come and climb with me this mount, where sleep the silent dead,
And through these winding gravel walks with noiseless footstep tread,
Stoop down and pluck the fragrant bud, just opening fresh above.
The peaceful bed, where slumbers one who died in youth and love.
Smell the pure air, so redolent with breath of summer flowers,
And take this sprig of evergreen, a pledge for future hours.
See yonder river sparkling through the foliage of the grove,
How gracefully its course doth bend; how still its waters move.
Sit 'neath the branches of this tree that spreads a grateful shade
To screen a spot for musing though, or holy converse made.
Look round this garden of the dead, where creep green myrtle vines,
Where boxwood surrounds the sleeper's home, and scented sweet grier twines;
Where lowly violets open to heaven their tiny eyes of blue,
Filled oft at morn with glittering tears, the drop of early dew.
And now bend upwards still your steps to gain the highest peak,
And let your eyes the view beneath, and distant prospect seek.

O, beautiful! thrice beautiful! — there blended hill and dale,
And here the lofty mansion, with cottage of the vale!
The city spires which look to Heaven, in whose high cause they stand
As guides to point the pilgrim's eyes toward this promised land;
The distant villages that speck with white the wavy green,
And farther still, the deep blue lake, with many a sail is seen.
Descend again and pause beside this vine-encircled tomb,
And tell me, is there aught around to fill the heart with gloom?
List to the feathered songsters' notes, that warble from the trees,
And hear the music soft that steals upon the whispering breeze?
Oh! say, do not fair Nature's tones awake the soul to bliss?
And does not thought ascent to heaven from such a spot as this?
And even the grave, doth not its voice, amid such flowery ground,
Say to the weary sons of earth, "Here sweet repose is found?"
Mount Hope! thy consecrated walks I never more may tread
And learn to die byコピー here the lessons of the dead,
Yet sweet 't would be to rest my flesh in hope beneath thy sod
Till the last trump should bid it rise, to see a Father, God!

BLUEBIRD REPORT FOR 2008

By Marilyn Nolte

During the 2008 nesting season, a lot of activity and competition took place for use of the bluebird nest boxes in Mount Hope Cemetery. Several boxes were used by wrens and one by chickadees. The season was considered a success, however, as a total of five successful bluebird broods were hatched—all using the boxes with the exception of one pair of bluebirds that utilized a tree cavity.

In late fall, the boxes were winterized. Perches were placed into the boxes and the extra vents sealed with corks. This provides shelter for birds that winter over. When spring returns, the perches will be removed and floor-screen platforms will be put in. Vaseline is sometimes put on the ceilings to prevent wasps from using the boxes as nesting areas.

Volunteers are always needed during the nesting season to monitor the boxes. Information can be obtained by contacting the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery, 1133 Mount Hope Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620 or at 585-461-3494.
MOUNT HOPE BECOMES A CERTIFIED WILDLIFE HABITAT

In 2008, Mount Hope Cemetery achieved the status of “Certified Wildlife Habitat” from the National Wildlife Federation. The certificate illustrated here recognizes our establishment and maintenance of an official wildlife habitat. Our certificate No. 110,905 was signed by David Mizejewski, naturalist, National Wildlife Federation, and host of Backyard Habitat on Animal Planet.

With this certification, Mount Hope Cemetery is added to the National Wildlife Federation’s worldwide network of mini-refuges. The organization recognized the Friends of Mount Hope for “conscientious planning, landscaping, and sustainable gardening (where) wildlife may find quality habitat—food, water, cover, and places to raise their young.”

For a number of years, the Friends of Mount Hope have demonstrated interest in enhancing the presence of wildlife in the cemetery. The organization assisted in the installation and maintenance of bluebird houses, which was enlarged with additional houses last year. Last fall, six owl boxes were installed, as well as several boxes for flying squirrels. Owls like to build nests in dead trees, and since the cemetery is planning to cut down dead trees, the Friends are working to develop suitable nesting places for owls. The cemetery continues to be home to many furry animals, including foxes. And hawks are a common sight gliding overhead.