ICE STORM DAMAGE TO MT. HOPE

Mt. Hope's trees suffered extensive damage in the ice storm. During the week after the storm, work crews started removing debris and will continue until the job is finished. They are doing an excellent job, but it will take time considering the scope of the damage. As of April 3, 600 large dump truck loads of debris have been removed from Mt. Hope, and there's more to come.

Rare specimen trees were damaged, but some can be saved with professional help. Gravestones became casualties when hit by fallen limbs. In particular, the Celtic cross on the Sibley lot, designed by Claude Bragdon, was broken by falling branches.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM N. HALL

William N. Hall was born in Scotland in 1818 and came to the United States in 1832, settling in St. Lawrence County. He was a carpenter by trade and came to Rochester in 1850. When the Civil War started, he enlisted as a private in Company H, 78th N.Y. Infantry for a three-year term on October 4, 1861, even though he was over 40 years old. By March 25, 1862, he was promoted to captain of Company H.

The 78th N. Y. Infantry fought in the Virginia Campaign, at Gettysburg, in the Chattanooga and Rossville Campaign (1863), and the Atlanta Campaign (1864). The specific battles in which Hall fought are unknown, but in later life he said that he fought in many and was injured only once. He suffered a bruised hip from being hit with a spent shell.

Upon returning to Rochester, he was very active in the G.A.R. Hall was one of the delegates to the
One of the large monuments in Mt. Hope is located on the Henry S. Potter lot and was done by the firm of Peter Pitkin in Rochester. The base, an eight-foot pedestal, and an oblong cap are made of Clark Island granite. On the side of the monument is a large medallion head of Potter in profile. Two Italian marble figures on the top, representing "Hope consoling Sorrow," complete the monument. The entire monument cost $6,000, a considerable sum in 1874.

Who was Henry Sayre Potter? He was a prominent businessman in Rochester between the years 1850 and 1884, the year of his death. Potter was born in Galway, Saratoga County, on February 14, 1798, and came with his parents, Nathaniel and Mary Sayre Potter, to Seneca Falls in 1801. His father purchased and cleared land for a farm. In 1808 the family moved to Canandaigua, where his father died in 1810. Potter taught school for a winter, became a merchant's clerk, and in 1818 moved to Pittsford, New York, where he again clerked in a general store. Eventually he formed a partnership with the owner, and in 1826 became the sole owner. His successful merchandise business laid the foundation for his wealth.

Potter married Harriet Benedict in 1824, and the couple had two sons and three daughters. He moved with his family to Rochester in 1850 and bought the David Hoyt house. It is now known as the Hoyt-Potter House and was recently purchased by the Landmark Society. Potter was an organizer and director of the Eagle Bank. He invested in the New York and Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Co., became its largest stockholder, and was elected its first president. Many smaller telegraph companies eventually merged into this company, and on April 4, 1856, the name was changed to The Western Union Telegraph Co. Potter was its first president and served until July 30, 1856, when he declined re-election.

James Reid, in The Telegraph in America, characterized Potter as "... a rich, active, stirring citizen," and said "... he entered into his duties with much zeal." Reid also acknowledged that Hiram Sibley was "... the directing spirit of the enterprise and devoted his whole time to its vigorous prosecution." Sibley succeed Potter as president.

Potter then devoted his time to real estate and the Eagle Bank and its successors, until his death on January 9, 1884.
NICOLA CANTALAMESSA-PAPOTTI (1833-1910)

The Erickson monument, "The Weary Pilgrim," and the Ellwanger monument with its large figure of St. John on the Isle of Patmos, often elicit questions from tour members about their sculptor. Both were done by Nicola Cantalamessa-Papotti, an Italian sculptor, who was born in Ascoli Picino, Italy, on January 31, 1833. He was educated by the Paci Brothers in Ascoli, then by Pietro Tenerani, and finally at the Academy of St. Luke in Rome.

In 1957, he first visited the United States, where over the years he received many commissions. One was for the memorial for President James A. Garfield. His works were displayed at the Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Louis Expositions.

The Ellwanger monument was completed in 1874. It was constructed by Peter Pitkin's firm in Rochester, but the sculpture was cut in Rome by Papotti. The total cost was $4,000.

Upon leaving the academy, Papotti started what was to become a long, successful career. He received a commission from Ferdinand II for "St. Emidius (Emygdius) Baptising Blessed Polidia," and also a commission from Pius IX for a relief sculpture, "St. Joseph's Dream," on the base of the column of the Immaculate Conception (Rome) in 1856-57.

Details about the Erickson monument aren't known. There are two other sculptures by Papotti in Rochester. One is the Barry monument in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, dated 1878. The other one, "Love's Mirror," dated 1875, is part of the permanent collection of the Memorial Art Gallery and is on display there. It was shown at the Philadelphia Exposition in 1876.

Papotti entered competitions, accepted both private and public commissions and designed cemetery monuments in both Europe and the United States. His works were of a religious or secular nature.

Papotti died in Rome on August 31, 1910.

(Based in part on a translation by Rev. Robert McNamara, Archivist, Diocese of Rochester, of an article in Thieme-Becker, KUNSTLER LEXICON, for E. Robert Vogl, Director, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, who made it available to the Friends).

Ellwanger Monument

Barry Monument
CAPTAIN HALL
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unveiling of the monument for General Slocum at Gettysburg, where he commanded the remaining members of the 78th N.Y. At age 94 years, he went to New York to view the maneuvers of the fleet and paid a visit to General Daniel E. Sickles.

The Civil War probably was the high point of his life and of much significance to him. He wanted to be remembered as an Union Army captain. Mt. Hope has its share of generals, but it is ordinary soldiers, led by good officers, who fight and win the battles. Each has a story to tell, and this was Captain Hall's. He died at age 95 in 1913.

NEW MEMBERS
Joyce Decker
Elaine Smithson
John and Carol Schwartz (correction)

CEMETERY TOURS
Sunday tours resume on May 5 at 2 and 3 p.m. from the north gatehouse. Special tours can be arranged at any time during the year by calling 461-3494 and leaving a message.

SLIDE/TAPE PROGRAM
A slide/tape program about Mt. Hope is available to groups and organizations. There is a brief introduction and time for a question-answer session after the program. For information call 461-3494.

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