A Reminder

Remember!! On Sunday, September 11, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the old North Gatehouse, members of the Friends have the opportunity to meet the author and photographer of Mt. Hope: America’s First Municipal Victorian Cemetery. Bring your book if you wish to have it autographed by Richard Reisem, the author, and Frank Gillespie, the photographer. Books will also be on sale.

Refreshments will be served.

The Horticultural Tour

On Saturday, June 25, Ed Olinger, a landscape architect and member of the Friends of Mt. Hope, conducted a horticultural tour of the cemetery. Between 40 and 50 persons took the tour and stayed until the end. At the beginning, Ed discussed the four stages in the development of Mt. Hope’s collection of trees and asked Tish McKinney and John Pearsall to comment on the gardens that they maintain at the entrance.

He then showed tour members a series of specimen trees throughout the old part of the cemetery. The trees included unfamiliar ones such as the Variegated Sycamore Maple, Cucumber Tree, Caucasian Spruce, Koster Blue Spruce, two Oriental Hydrangea Trees, and a beautiful Fernleaf European Beech. More familiar specimens were the Tulip Tree, Scotch Pine, different varieties of oaks, and the Japanese Red Maple.

The tour took us into some parts of the cemetery that aren’t usually traveled and showed its natural beauty.
One of the most visited graves in Mt. Hope Cemetery is that of Susan B. Anthony. Next to her lies her sister, Mary Anthony, seldom noticed or remembered by visitors, yet as Susan B. said many times, "Without Mary my work would have been impossible."

Mary, born on April 2, 1827, was rarely in the limelight, but her quiet involvement behind the scenes enabled Susan to carry on her work. Susan often acknowledged Mary's efforts in public and her words appeared in the Rochester newspapers and others. At the celebration of Mary's 70th birthday, her sister said, "I cannot tell how she has helped and sustained me. She has kept a home where I might come to rest. From the very beginning she has cheered and comforted me. She has looked after the great mass of details, my wardrobe, my business, etc., leaving me free."

Mary did all those things and also aided her financially at times and relieved her of some family responsibilities. The Anthony family was a close one, and at times of serious illness Susan would return home to help care for the invalid, postponing or canceling tours and whatever else was on her schedule. When death seemed imminent for family members, she was there to hold their hands. But whenever she traveled, she knew Mary was home to handle whatever problems occurred and to notify her when necessary. Mary was generous, saving money in case Susan needed it, and there were times when she did. "Susan will need this. She will use it for doing what I can't do—putting suffrage before the public."

Mary had a career outside of the home as a teacher and principal in the Rochester School System, her service totaling 26 years. After her retirement from education, the sisters spent more time together, and she would occasionally accompany Susan on her trips.

Her sister said of Mary, "She, not I, is the suffrage pioneer in the family. She attended the first women's rights convention, and when I came home from teaching school I heard nothing but suffrage talk, and how lovely Lucretia Mott was, and how sweet Elizabeth Cady Stanton was. I didn't believe in it then, and made fun of..."
it, but Sister Mary was a firm advocate. My brother-in-law used to tell me that I could preach women's rights, but it took Mary to practice them."

The first Women's Rights Convention was held July 19-20, 1848, in Seneca Falls, New York. A few weeks later it came to Rochester, and it was that meeting that Mary and her parents, Daniel and Lucy Anthony, attended. For several years Mary served on the state and local levels as corresponding secretary for the New York State Suffrage Association and president of the Rochester Political Equality Club. During one summer vacation, she worked in the New York City office of her sister's newspaper, *The Revolution*, which was then foundering due to financial difficulties. A test of her commitment to suffrage came in 1872. Mary and her sister, Guelma McLean and Hannah Mosher, accompanied Susan B. Anthony to the polls and voted. Eleven other women also voted at the same polling place that day, but only Susan B. Anthony, the leader, stood trial. Another 35 women, all of whom had previously registered, attempted to vote in Rochester but were turned away by the election inspectors.

After Susan B. Anthony's death in 1906, Mary, fulfilling her sister's request, traveled with Rev. Anna Howard Shaw on the long, tiring journey to Oregon to work on the suffrage campaign there. She worked hard at the Portland headquarters in what turned out to be a losing cause. The women of Oregon did not win the vote that year.

After Mary returned home, she became ill and never recovered. She died on February 5, 1907. In her lifetime she had given her sister loyalty, devotion, and often a helping hand.

If you ever visit Susan B. Anthony's grave, pause and think for a few minutes about Mary. Remember, "Without Mary my work would have been impossible."

**Statues in Mt. Hope**

One arm of the mourning figure of a woman encircles the cross, while her hands hold a garland of flowers.
Tours

The regular Sunday cemetery tours will be at 2 and 3 o'clock through October 30, 1994. They will resume on May 7, 1995, at the same times.

Special tours are available throughout the year. Call 461-3494 and leave a message for information. Someone will contact you to arrange the tour.

Slide Program

The Friends of Mt Hope have a slide program about the cemetery. For information and arrangements, please call Ellie Klein at 473-0778.

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