



Photo Clinic

How many ways are there to look at a thing? An INFINITE number of ways, according to Peter Faulkner, photography instructor at the Worcester Center for Crafts for over 25 years.

On Sunday, September 17, Peter Faulkner, in his exuberant style, taught those taking part in a photo clinic at the cemetery to enhance the quality of their images by "improving their seeing." Using his own photographs of Hope as examples, Peter showed the group how to refocus, to consider using different angles, and to think about their subject in an entirely different way.

After explaining how shape, form and light also impact photography, Peter went around offering individualized instruction to participants who had chosen a piece of sculpture or landscape in the cemetery as their focus.

Traditional and digital photographers alike who were in attendance picked up some beneficial tips and techniques and would agree that it was a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

- 1st Prize – Mark Doyle
 - 2nd Prize – Linda R. Davis
 - 3rd Prize – Susan E. Johnson
- Congratulations!**

Calendar orders must be received by January 15th
 Calendar, \$15; shipping and handling, \$5
 Call Elaine Pajka at 508-852-8007 or email
silvergirl@charter.net

The Fall Cemetery Walk

A cool, crisp, but sunny Sunday afternoon, October 29, proved ideal for this fall's cemetery tour, led by Bill Wallace and John Anderson. The tour concentrated on the southeast quarter of the cemetery, an area where most of the interments date from the twentieth century.

The tour started at the Canadian Cross, erected soon after World War I to honor those who served in the Canadian forces in that war and went on to the nearby Pfaffmann memorial with its remarkable bronze plaque. The tour examined the Reed Family oval, begun by Edgar Reed, co-founder of Reed and Prince Co., in 1927 and enlarged in 1930. It is the impressive work of its designers, Tiffany and Company of New York.

The tour stopped at a little known aspect of the cemetery and the city's history, the Moslem lot at the eastern edge of the cemetery, noting the burials of these little known early twentieth immigrants from the Ottoman Empire. Other sites visited included the Harris Mausoleum, the IOOF and All Saints lots, the free ground and the grave of the painter Joseph Greenwood.

The tour's culmination was a stop at and tour of the newly restored Shaw Mausoleum.

H.E. Shaw, a famous Worcester tobacconist and members of his family rest there. The mausoleum's restoration was a major activity of the Friends of Hope. The lovingly carried out work has brought the mausoleum's elegance back.

The tour demonstrated once again that Hope Cemetery has hundreds of stories to tell.



A Letter from the President

It is a great privilege to serve as President of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Hope Cemetery. The Friends, founded in 1991, promotes the conservation, beautification and recognition of the cemetery. The officers and board are stewards of the resources given to the Friends in the form of membership dues, grants received, donations from the wider community and fund raising events. We strive to keep our members and the general public informed of our work through this newsletter and other forms of communication. Because of the generosity of the community this past year, the Friends were able to orchestrate the design, purchase and installation of a new Children's Monument soon to be dedicated in the spring, the restoration of the Shaw Mausoleum, and the creation of a fund-raising calendar with beautiful photographs of the cemetery, its landscape and impressive monuments. Continued maintenance of four garden-like common areas and assisting the City of Worcester in caring for Hope Cemetery are also part of the work of the Board of Directors. Through programs such as Walking Tours, publication of a calendar, creation of the Children's Monument and our new genealogy project, we reach out and partner with other entities in the City to ensure the longevity of this most precious resource, Hope Cemetery.

We extend to you our best wishes for the new year in 2007.

Edla Ann Bloom, President



Tree Walk

A Walk Among the Trees

Originally designed as a garden cemetery, Hope Cemetery boasts many trees—from majestic champions to smaller ornamentals. In fact, the majority of its roads are named for the trees that flourish there. This fall, Massachusetts Audubon and the Friends of Hope Cemetery paired up to sponsor a guided walking tour that highlighted the cemetery's exceptional trees.

As gloomy and rainy as the original scheduled day of the walk was, October 8, the rain date, couldn't have been more beautiful. The tour, led by Lisa Carlin of Mass Audubon, began at the Nixon Gates, the location of a spectacular weeping beech, and continued to the older section of the cemetery where champion European beech trees as well as Norway maples, ginkgo, tulip, larch, cedars and arborvitae are to be found. Their form and shape, their foliage, flowers and fruit, as well as their lore and history, were featured topics.

Before cutting a swath diagonally across the cemetery to view other specimen trees and get a rare look at a healthy American elm which escaped the devastating Dutch Elm disease, the group stopped at the Coes lot where they spent some time considering the use of plants and trees on gravestones as symbols of remembrance...like lilies for resurrection, ivy for abiding memory, and a broken tree trunk for life cut short.

All in all, it was a day that inspired an appreciation for the trees which embellish the landscape and preserve Hope Cemetery as a beautiful garden cemetery.

Genealogical Research

Hope Cemetery has received many genealogical requests from all parts of the country – from Maine to Florida, Connecticut to California and beyond! People are really interested in their family history and cemetery records can be helpful in their research efforts.

To that end, the Friends of Hope Cemetery has become involved in answering these requests by sending to researchers photocopied burial information available at the cemetery office along with a map indicating the site of burial, photographs of the gravestone upon request, and a brochure describing the cemetery and its history.

In the near future we hope to generate a program on our website that will facilitate genealogical inquiries. Are your ancestors buried at Hope? Want to know more about your family tree?

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that among those interred at Hope is one of Worcester's most famous or, depending on your point of view, infamous judges, Webster Thayer (1857-1933). Judge Thayer presided at the murder trial of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti in the Norfolk County Superior Court in Dedham in 1920 and 1921.

Sacco and Vanzetti were Italian immigrant anarchists who were accused of robbing and killing a shoe company paymaster and guard in April, 1920. Their trial became a cause celebre in the 1920s with liberals and radicals here and abroad rallying in their support. Not surprisingly, much of the criticism of the trial and verdict was focused on Judge Thayer.

Demonstrations and protests over the verdict and the death sentence which Thayer had imposed marked the twenties. Alvin Fuller, Massachusetts's governor at the time, convened a special advisory panel to examine the case, but in the end the death sentence was carried out at the Charlestown Prison on August 23, 1927. Resentment replaced criticism, but Thayer continued to be its focus, reaching its culmination in the bombing of Thayer's house at 180 Institute Road at 4:00 A.M. September 27, 1932.

None of the Thayer family was hurt, but their maid, Joan Ashe, was injured and many windows in the Institute Road and Beechmont Street neighborhood were damaged. The police never charged any one with the bombing. The Thayer house was demolished and later, in 1946, Worcester's first prefab house was built on the site.

Judge Thayer, an alumnus of Dartmouth, Class of 1880, where he had captained the baseball and football teams, lived, under guard, only a few months longer, dying of a stroke in Boston April 19, 1933. His funeral at Saint Matthew's Church included a number of distinguished Worcester citizens, George F. Booth, Harry Stoddard, Samuel E. Winslow, and Dr. Homer Gage, among the honorary pall bearers.

Webster Thayer's widow, Bertha Brewer (1870-1967) and their daughter, Barbara Harrison (1901-1960) are also buried in the plot, which is on Rockwood Avenue, near the Canadian Cross.



This past year, the Friends of Hope Cemetery had the Shaw Mausoleum cleaned and planned to have the stained glass window removed and the window grate repaired. A member of the Friends saw the window, which had been vandalized in 1993, and made a gift to repair it. The window, depicting the three graces, was made around 1900. Here you see our restorer, Steve Striebel, holding the window prior to its restoration.

Friends of Hope Cemetery Board of Directors

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COMING EVENTS

- 🍷 **Winter Lecture**
- 🍷 **Arbor Day Celebration**
- 🍷 **Dedication of the Children's Monument**
- 🍷 **Annual Meeting**



We are pleased that the Children's Monument is now in place at the cemetery. This lovely tribute was made possible through the generosity of Rock of Ages Memorials, the City of Worcester, and many private donations. It will be dedicated in the spring.



Volunteers from the Gates Lane School 3rd grades plant a tree to celebrate Arbor Day. The tree was donated by Mrs. Howard Booth.

Friends of Hope Cemetery
119 Webster Street
Worcester, MA 01603