

Funded by the John R. Graham III Family Endowment

Mount Hope Cemetery, Corp.

1048 State Street, Bangor, ME 04401 • Established in 1834

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Completed in 1909, Maine architect Wilfred E. Mansur (referred later at Mount Hope) designed the Cemetery Lodge or office. It would remain in use, with relatively few modifications, to the present time. Of Old English design, the Lodge originally held space for an office and a chapel, with large fireplaces gracing the main rooms. Maine Hill granite, from Mount Desert Island, and half-limbed stucco finish the building. The Lodge retains some of its original furnishings. (1)



The Samuel Veazie Tomb occupies a unique place in Mount Hope's history. Before other arrangements were made, General Veazie (who served in the War of 1812) allowed the cemetery to hold bodies in his crypt over the winter for spring burial. His crypt is partially dug into the side of Cemetery Hill. Veazie died in 1868; his wife having predeceased him in 1852. The Town of Veazie was named for the general. (2)



The Home for Aged Women Lot is one of several sites donated by Mount Hope Cemetery for charitable purposes. The site—donated in lots in the 1870s and 1890s—ultimately saw some fifty-three interments. During the same era, Mount Hope donated burial space nearby to the Bangor Female Orphan Asylum (later the Bangor Children's Home), where at least seventeen children would be buried, and, elsewhere in the cemetery, to the Home for Aged Men and to the Maine Charity School (later the Bangor Theological Seminary). (3)



The Maine Korean War Memorial is located just off Mount Hope Avenue. Some 233 Maine women and men died or were classified as missing during the Korean War, and to them the memorial, sponsored by the Maine Korean War Memorial Fund, was dedicated in 1995, and their names are inscribed on the fifteen-foot high, black granite "wall." The flags of each of the twenty-nine nations that participated in the conflict on the side of South Korea under the United Nations flank the white granite approach. A tablet depicting a map of the war zone is also present. (38)



The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Lot or Fort is one of the most frequented locations at Mount Hope. Started years earlier but dedicated in 1907, the donated site was intended as a burial space for those who had served in the Civil War, whether they had died during the war or subsequently. The lot features small markers for the dead (some thirty veterans would ultimately be buried there) as well as flags, cannons, and a masonry tower. (36)



The Amanda Skofield Memorial, created in 1927, remains one of the cemetery's most photographed monuments. A Classical "open temple" or circular colonnade constructed of white granite, it is topped with a rim or band of stone inscribed and dedicated inside to "A Beloved Mother." Skofield's resting place is marked by a smaller monument within the colonnade, and other markers are situated outside it for family members. (30)



The Hill Mausoleum, built in 1916, is another frequently photographed Mount Hope edifice. Frederick Hill had the circular, white granite mausoleum built to hold the remains of his wife, Maryann Hill, and her mother, as well as himself upon his death. He left arrangements for the mausoleum's perpetual care, including, initially, regular deliveries of fresh flowers and for the door to be left open from spring to autumn. (29)



Mount Hope holds a number of "zinkies" or "white bronze" markers. The zinc memorials became popular in the late 1800s and have generally held up well. The one shown here, a marker for the Kelley family, features a statue of Hope—typically shown as a Classic female figure—portrayed here with one arm crossed over her chest, the other holding an anchor. (5)



Fan, Fannie, or Nancy Jones purchased a fan-shaped marker for her death in 1909. Bangor's most well-known madam, she was also an astute businesswoman who owned property at the time of her death. Although she does not have a grave marker placed for herself, there are markers for others there, including those of children. Two of the children's markers featured doves—symbols of peace and purity. The stone for Harry Irvin retains its dove, the other does not. (6)



Colonel Luther H. Peirce of the 2nd Maine Regiment of Volunteers died in 1915 and bequeathed funds to have a memorial to his beloved 2nd Maine erected at Mount Hope. The third Civil War memorial at the cemetery, the fifteen-foot bronze sculpture of a faceless angel bearing aloft a wounded or dying man is mounted upon a fifteen-foot granite setting. Artist Vernon Shaffer created the memorial in the early 1960s. Located near the main State Street entrance, the memorial is inscribed, "Not Painlessly Doth God Recast and Mold Anew the Nation." (7)



The Soldier's Memorial, or the Civil War Memorial as it is often called, was built, and dedicated (1864), while the war was ongoing. One of the first memorials in America for the fallen soldiers, Mount Hope donated land for the memorial, which was built largely through subscriptions and initially at the urging of local citizens. The obelisk shaped memorial is inscribed for fifty-five of the fallen. War hero Stephen Decatur Carpenter was originally buried at the site, but later moved to a family lot. Only one person remains interred at the site. (9)



Franklin R. Webber and Martha Webber donated the Webber Waiting Room to Mount Hope in the early 1830s, after first donating iron fencing and new gates. Constructed largely of pink Maine granite and bronze, the circular waiting room was designed by George I. Mansur, brother of Lodge architect Wilfred Mansur. Measuring fifteen feet in diameter outside and ten feet inside, the building allowed people to wait inside, and out of inclement weather, for the trolley that ran along State Street. The waiting room remains popular with cemetery visitors and is now the cemetery's logo or emblem. (14)



Bangor attorney and later Maine Governor Edward Kent presided over the cemetery's 1836 dedication ceremony. He ultimately chose to be buried at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Massachusetts, but had a memorial built in his honor at Mount Hope. The granite obelisk towers above nearby markers, but is only one of the cemetery's commemoratives to regional politicians. Other politicians were buried at Mount Hope, including Maine Governors William D. Williamson, Israel Washington, Frederick H. Parkhurst, Harris M. Plaisted, and Fred Plaisted, as well as Hannibal Hamlin: a Bangor mayor, Maine senator, and Abraham Lincoln's first Vice President. (28)

Symbolism to look for on markers and monuments: Doves: peace, purity, sometimes Holy Spirit or resurrection • Urns: immortality • Draped Urns: life ended too soon, or, draped in general, partition between life and death, the trip to the afterworld • Angels: spirituality, being taken to the afterworld • Tree trunks: life cut short, the brevity of life • Broken Columns: life cut short, brevity of life • Ivy: friendship, immortality • Oak leaves: strength • Wreaths: eternity, immortality, victory • Roses: purity, love, spirituality • Lambs: innocence, purity • Lily: purity, innocence, resurrection • Anchor: safety, hope • Columns: an honorable life • Garland: victory over death