



Gardiner G. & Samuel S. Howland, Silhouette by Auguste Edouart, 1840.  
National Portrait Gallery #91.126.49A

*“There’s no need to read over my shoulder, Sam. You can have all the New York Marble Cemetery news in just a minute.”*



*New York City  
Landmark*

*National Register  
of Historic Places*

The first privately owned, nonsectarian cemetery in New York City, established in 1831.

The half-acre Cemetery lies hidden in the interior of an East Village block; its underground vaults are concealed beneath an open lawn and enclosed within a 12-foot masonry wall and wrought-iron gates.

The Cemetery’s 156 vaults have accommodated over 2000 burials in an arrangement designed, during an era of frequent epidemics, to safeguard public health from the little-understood ravages of infectious disease.

The vaults form a grid of 26 rows of six vaults each beneath the lawn, and the wall bears numbered tablets naming the original family vault owners.

Today, each vault belongs to the heirs of its 19<sup>th</sup> Century owner and all current owners have the right to burial here.

*Postmaster: Address service requested*

**NEW YORK MARBLE CEMETERY, INC.**  
P. O. Box 315 New York, NY 10159

## SEEING EYE TO EYE

A VISUAL RECORD  
OF THE NEW YORK  
MARBLE CEMETERY’S  
EARLY 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
OWNERS & BURIALS



Benjamin Wright by an unidentified artist, ca. 1830.  
Detail, Private collection

**ANNUAL RECEPTION**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2006**  
**2-4 PM**

Featuring 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Portrait Images,  
Refreshments & Distant Cousins

Owners’ Meeting at 3pm

Look for handsome iron gates at 41½ Second Avenue  
adjacent to Provenzano Lanza

Two blocks North of Houston Street in the East Village

RSVP: Caroline S. DuBois (212) 206-1106

# NEW YORK MARBLE CEMETERY

www.marblecemetery.org

SECOND AVENUE  
ABOVE EAST SECOND STREET

*New York City  
Landmark*

*National Register  
of Historic Places*

ESTABLISHED 1831

APRIL 2006

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A NEW EXHIBIT, "SEEING EYE TO EYE," is a collection of small images portraying early Cemetery owners and their families. It was prepared for Open House New York last fall, but never saw the light of day because of torrential rains. Weather willing, it will be on display for the Annual Reception and Owners' Meeting on May 7.

More than 90 images were provided by descendants, by museums, and by historical societies. Although they vary greatly in size, style, condition, and quality, all give an intimate look at the people whose names and accomplishments are so familiar. Included are formal busts in oil on canvas or boards, many by New York's leading artists, such as Asher B. Durand, Henry Inman, Rembrandt Peale, and the team of Waldo & Jewett. Others are steel engravings, silhouettes, or miniature watercolors on ivory. Each leaves the indelible impression of a person very much alive, not planning on using the family's marble vault anytime soon.

## LOOKING FOR MORE PORTRAITS

Do you or a relative own a 19<sup>th</sup>-century portrait of your Cemetery ancestors or do you know where to find one? If so, please contact Anne Brown:

(410) 586-1321; 10375 Mackall Rd., St. Leonard, MD 20685-2490; or office@marblecemetery.org

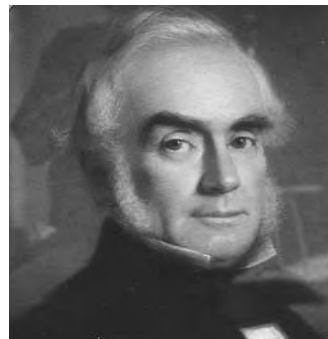
Thanks to several new Web sites, many funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, it is now much easier to locate works owned by even the smallest institutions. Many of them encourage dissemination of their works



Mary Ann Karrick Riggs  
Enamel on copper. New-York  
Historical Society #1943.186



Fidelia Wellman Marshall  
by Charles C. Ingham. Smithsonian  
American Art Museum #1985.54



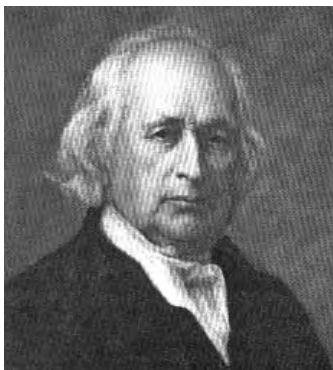
Moses Hicks Grinnell  
by an unidentified artist.  
Private collection



Elizabeth Bailey Kent  
by Daniel Huntington.  
National Portrait Gallery #68.9

for educational and noncommercial purposes. Paintings over private mantelpieces, though, remain elusive. Please consider letting your own family portraits enjoy a wider audience.

— ANNE W. BROWN



Silas Holmes  
by an unidentified artist. New York  
State Museum, Albany #2003.41.86



Ruth Amelia Smith Russell  
by William Sidney Mount.  
Long Island Museum of American Art,  
History, & Carriages, Stony Brook



Edward A. B. & Neddy Graves  
by George Harrison Hite, 1850. Detail.  
Private collection



Gardiner Spring  
by Alexander Hay Ritchie. Published in  
Brick Church Memorial, 1861

# TILL DEATH DO US PART?

## COUPLE EXCHANGES WEDDING VOWS IN HISTORIC CEMETERY

On Sunday, July 3, 2005, two hundred family members and friends gathered at the New York Marble Cemetery for a rite of passage—but this ceremony was not what you would expect to see at a final resting place.

In a solemn service at this peaceful landmark, Adrianna Dufay and Mac Premo were married in the oldest non-sectarian cemetery in New York City. For the first time ever, Trustees of this beautiful “secret garden” collaborated with a local couple to host their wedding and bring new life to the once virtually inaccessible site.

Mac and Adrianna met in 1996, when they shared an apartment in the East Village just two blocks away from the Cemetery. Now, almost ten years later, they returned to their old neighborhood to get married.

In all the years they lived in the East Village, neither Mac (wood sculptor) nor Adrianna (Internet editor) had ever been inside the mysterious Marble Cemetery. “We had looked through the front gate before, but it was always locked,” Mac said.

In 2004, while taking a Sunday stroll with both of their fathers, who were in town to meet for the first time and celebrate the couple’s engagement, they walked past the Cemetery and found the gates wide open for Open House New York. They entered and found a sunny, quiet half-acre green space insulated from the hustle and bustle of the Lower East Side.



“A great place to get married.”

### BE A HOST FOR OHNY

If you live in the NYC area and would be able to help us out on

**Saturday or Sunday  
October 7 & 8, 2006**

please join us as a host for the

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Open House New York**

NYMC is one of 200 usually inaccessible sites showcasing the best of the city’s architecture.



Welcoming many first-time visitors even in the rain at last Fall’s OHNY.

### OPEN 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAYS

Thanks to Sophie Truslow, one of our Trustees, the Cemetery is open from April to October on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month from 11–3 pm. Check our Web site: [www.marblecemetery.org](http://www.marblecemetery.org)

“The space is beautiful,” Adrianna said. “We had been looking for wedding locations, but nothing seemed right. When I saw the Marble Cemetery, I thought, ‘This would be a great place to get married.’ A strange use for a cemetery. But it turned out my fiancé and our fathers—we were all thinking the same thing.”

During their visit, one of the Trustees described plans to restore the Cemetery grounds to their original condition. The Trustees hope to raise funds to repair the Cemetery’s 175-year-old Greek-Revival walls, which are collapsing from traffic vibrations, acid rain, and gravity.

By making the grounds available for weddings, fund-raisers, corporate events, and other festivities, the Trustees hope to preserve the New York City Landmark and make it more accessible to the community.

Adrianna and Mac are proud to support the historic site with their wedding. “Weddings can be very expensive. It’s nice to know that we’re actually doing something useful for the community,” Mac said. “We’re helping preserve a beautiful, historic landmark as well as providing a unique setting for our ceremony. Also, we’re the first people to get married here. How often in New York can you do something that unusual?”

After the ceremony, their guests threw grass seed instead of rice, and toasted the newlyweds with champagne. Then (in a reversal of the usual somber funeral procession), the couple led their guests on a joyous wedding parade along Second Avenue to the subway and continued their party at the Brooklyn Brewery in Williamsburg.

After so many years of neglect, the Cemetery is building a new tradition of happiness and stewardship, while maintaining its historic character.

## NEW YORK MARBLE CEMETERY, INC.

P. O. Box 315 • New York, NY • 10159

[www.marblecemetery.org](http://www.marblecemetery.org)

Local contact: Caroline S. DuBois (212) 206-1106

### TRUSTEES

Anne W. Brown, office: (410) 586-1321  
Peter C. Luquer; Sophia D. L. Truslow  
Caroline S. DuBois; Rodman P. Neumann

### ADVISORY BOARD

Includes more than 20 owners, neighbors,  
historians, genealogists, and preservationists



The wall as backdrop for wedding guests.

## TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY RESTORATION FUND

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

The wall survived with no new damage this winter, yet the the long-term goal of rebuilding the wall, restoring the tablets, and enhancing the landscaping remains as strong as our need to maintain the site.

To raise funds for restoration, we must:

- Regularly open the site to visitors.
- Practice the best historic restoration techniques and management policies.
- Receive significant financial and operational support from owners and friends like you.

Please send your generous contribution to help restore and protect this fragile historic open space.

— Thank you

## GIVING — THANKS TO OUR DONORS

The Trustees are extremely grateful to these organizations and these generous individuals for their support:

(Names withheld in this version for Internet privacy)



### CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- ▶ Drainage in the alley was corrected. Much of the runoff was from misdirected gutters of neighboring roofs.
- ▶ Tangles of cable TV wires were rerouted from lying on our walls. Next are old telephone wire intrusions.
- ▶ Rubble will be removed near our rear wall by the NYC Dept. of Design and Construction in exchange for receiving access to a waterproofing project of the adjacent men's shelter.

Send your check to:

NEW YORK MARBLE CEMETERY, INC.  
P. O. Box 315 • New York, NY • 10159

Enclosed is my contribution:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationship to the Cemetery (descendant, neighbor, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

For more information on gifts of appreciated stock or for a financial statement, call the office (410) 586-1321 or write [treasurer@marblecemetery.org](mailto:treasurer@marblecemetery.org)

Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

NEW YORK MARBLE CEMETERY, INC. is a Sec. 501 ( c ) (13) registered charity.