

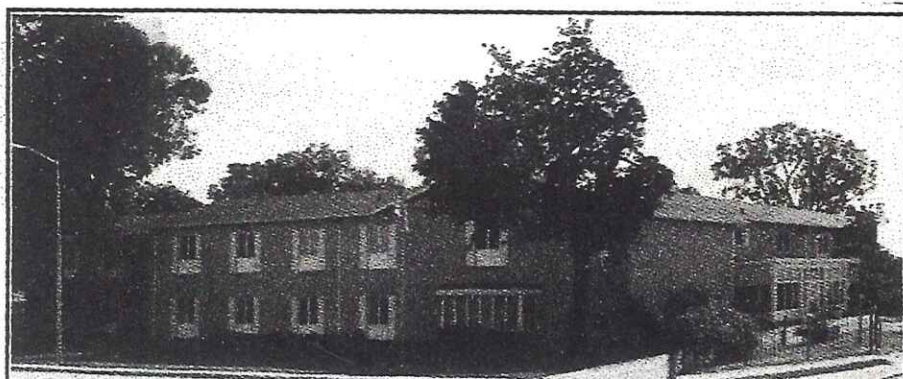
Reveal Place.
Revive History.
Restore Spirit.

Glen-wood

Restoration of Spirit

The Glenwood Cemetery Site-Specific Theatre Project
directed by Janet Haley





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Recipient of a 2010 Arts of
Citizenship fellowship with the
Ginsberg Center, UM-Ann Arbor.

Glenwood Cemetery Assn.

Over a hundred and fifty years ago the founders of Glenwood Cemetery envisioned a place for our community to remember and honor our ancestors and loved ones. The Glenwood Cemetery Association is charged with that vision both by preserving the historic mausoleums and monuments, and also maintaining the grounds and its significance. Of equal importance is the the community residents to learn and benefit from the historic value of those who are buried here.

The University of Michigan-Flint presentation of *Glenwood: Restoration of Spirit* is a great way for people to get interested in the cemetery and the lessons that can be learned here. The degree of respect and reverence shown by the historians and thespians involved in this project has been remarkable. This project is in line with our directive to keep Glenwood as a place for the living to remember and learn from those who have passed before.

The Association is dedicated to preserving the monuments and grounds to the best of its ability. Due to the normal wear of time many monuments are in need of restoration. Since Glenwood Cemetery is a nonprofit organization, we exist on the charitable contributions of the community. Your donations are always appreciated.

Glenwood Cemetery Association
2500 W. Court St.
Flint, Michigan 48503

The Rural Cemetery

by Dr. Ami Pflugrad-Jackisch, Assistant Professor of History, UM-Flint

The American rural cemetery movement originated in the northeast in the 1830s and 1840s and it dominated urban planning in the years leading up to and surrounding the American Civil War. Rural cemeteries were initially popular in northeastern states such as New York and Massachusetts. By the 1850s, however, rural cemeteries could be found in the upper South and throughout the Midwest. The rural cemetery movement developed in response to the nation's rapid industrial urbanization and population growth during the nineteenth-century. Along with this fast-paced growth came bewildering cultural, social, environmental, and economic change. Antebellum urban planners and landscape architects designed rural cemeteries to be peaceful and picturesque outdoor spaces where people could go to escape the noise, filth, and pollution of urban life. Hoping to "capture" a slice of nature, cemetery designers created winding paths that moved visitors through clusters of trees and around the natural hills and boulders of a landscape intended to contrast the sterile nineteenth-century street grids of the city. A precursor to the American park system, antebellum urban planners believed that creating park-like cemeteries would provide people with a place where they could to restore their body, mind, and spirit and forget the stresses of urban life.

As northeasterners migrated westward to places like Michigan, they brought their ideas about urban planning with them. The creation of Glenwood Cemetery, established in 1855, was connected to both the rural cemetery movement and the rapid growth of Genesee County and the city of Flint in the mid-nineteenth century. In the

thirty short years between 1850 and 1880 the population of Genesee County tripled and the number of inhabitants in the city of Flint increased seven-fold! As the city's old burial ground created in 1840s became increasingly inadequate for the demands of the growing city of Flint, a handful of citizens envisioned a forty-two acre rural cemetery on Court Street and Glenwood Cemetery was born. In 1879, Franklin Ellis noted that this carefully planned cemetery was created for both the internment of the dead and the pleasure of visitors. The "commodious and inviting footpaths,"... "the diversity and beauty of its grounds," and "the loveliness of the surrounding landscape" all made Glenwood Cemetery a first-rate rural cemetery comparable with those established in the northeast.

Flint, Mich. Dec. 23, 1860

A letter from Henry Howland Crapo, to his eldest daughter, Mary Ann Crapo Orrell.

My Dear – my very dear – Daughter, Mary Ann –

How long – how very long – it has been since I wrote you last; it has indeed been a great while, and I fear you will hardly overlook my long silence...

There is an imperative duty of maintaining always, with my children, that close, constant and affectionate correspondence which is so essential to foster & keep alive those sweet and happy emotions affection, – which should ever be found in all families; as they might be a solace & comfort to all amidst the strife and turmoil, – the cares and anxieties, – the labors and disappointments, – and the ills and sorrows of life...

Why can't you all come & make a good long stay? Not exactly a visit, – but come and be at home for a long time, – and see how we

live and spend our time. I know your husband Mr. Orrell would be interested in seeing how we look here, and what my business prospects are, what kind of society we have, – and what the prospects of this country are for future growth and prosperity. Do come...

Store your goods, or lock up your house and come and stay a long, long while. If Mr. Orrell should get uneasy I can set him "to work" – and work after all is the great business of life...nothing but "Work", "Work" – care, anxiety and "Work" – all the time "Work". Sometimes I think that work would not be much if there could be occasionally some "slack-up", – some respite; – but this constant, unremitted drag gives no rest, – but wears out not only the body but the spirits.

And yet I do not envy the lazy, indolent person, and would by far prefer my life of toil with the consciousness that I am laboring not for myself so much as for dear & loved ones, At all events I am quite certain that steady labor in some useful employment, if not too constant and beyond your strength & the laws of health, is far more conducive to happiness than constant idleness.

.....But you will all come, – won't you?

The Wolverine Citizen, 1866

Rankin:

Dear Sir: Not having had an opportunity of visiting Glenwood Cemetery for several months, I was glad to avail myself of the kindness offered me by a friend to accompany him there, two weeks ago last Thursday, and during our ride we both could not help wishing

that a plank walk was laid all the way from the city of the living to the city of the dead. The distance being considerable, and many, not having vehicles, have left all that life held most dear to them, to sleep in this beautiful spot, and are only able to make few chance visits—like myself—to this home of their loved and lost, the monuments of which seemed to us as we entered, like white robed saints rising from their graves. The kiss of the frost had been heavy upon the leaves, and here and there the maples sought to hide their blushes behind greener trees, and the breezes that followed us down the secluded walks were soft as the whispers of angels.

They do well to call this “the home of the dead,” for there are many tokens that the living have a home feeling upon the flowery turf that covers their buried ones. We read those tokens in the fresh bouquets and flower baskets resting on the peaceful mounds, in the chairs fixed by headstones, in family enclosures, in the rich vases that were wont to grace the marble mantle and in the half twined wreaths and freshly broken stems that showed where warm hands of living children had been arranging buds for little hands that were too cold and stiff to hold them.

The grounds here are kept in good order and many family plots are beautifully laid out and carefully attended to. Here the familiar names of many dear and valued friends and acquaintances met our eye as we passed the beautiful granite shafts or pyramids of marble raised to their memories—and the tears would come unbidden at the recollection of the many warm and kindly hearts which here lay chilled and sealed up in the narrow house until the day of resurrection. As we wended our way to a lovely spot made dear to us as the resting place of her whose bridal and bier were within a few months of each other, we noticed a large and freshly ornamented lot just occupied by all that remains of the late Jacob Smith, the first white

settler of the Grand Traverse. The brave and daring pioneer whose lodge was the nucleus of our beautiful young city of Flint, whose spirit has been forty two years gathered to his fathers—here he now rests, from a life of activity and usefulness, while the improvements he commenced advance with giant strides. And the brave and patriotic, who gave their lives for their country—they too sleep sweetly here; from the gory field they have come, to the family plot, where the robin sings a quiet lullaby over them as they “rest and dream not”, while columns of marble at their quiet heads—like the finger of the glorious dead pointing heavenwards, speak a noble record of past heroism. Alas! many a living mother has buried her heart and her household in this city of green mounds, and is now looking longingly and wearily to the time which shall reunite her to the loved and lost “over the river.”

How much of eloquence is in the empty bouquet-holder and the leafless framework of a garland lying at the base of a tall monument we passed. The laurels of fame had withered upon the brows of those sleeping beneath, and now the summer wreaths which a loving memory had twined, were faded too, and were as lifeless as the skeleton under the marble. And the marble itself will crumble at last, for the grandeur and loveliness of that which is only outward is alike perishable; yet with the hope of a blessed hereafter it is pleasant among the toils into which we must plunge while here, to remember that there are spirits watching for us, low winds waiting to lull us, and beauty to watch over us, and a lap of undisturbed peace like thine own—dear Glenwood—to receive us when our work is done and our labor finished.

Flint, November 9th, 1866

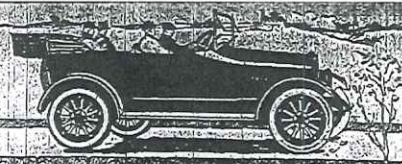
Frank

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Above: Dord Motor Car Company Ad, "Any
Member of the Family Car."
From the Flint Journal; June 16, 1917.

Left & Below: Source text for Will On the Hill
Shakespeare scene.
Courtesy Frances Willson Thomson Crapo Archives.



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UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
"NOBODY RESPONSIBLE"

THE SHOW

Cleopatra	- - - -	Mrs. Holmes
Shylock	- - - -	Mr. Fitzgerald
Juliet	- - - -	Mrs. Clarke
Romeo	- - - -	Mr. Atwood
Lady Macbeth	- - - -	Mrs. Willett
Macbeth	- - - -	Mr. Clarke
Miss Cawdor	- - - -	Miss Gold
Desdemona	- - - -	Mrs. Dord
Hamlet	- - - -	Mr. Lippencott

Galley slaves, guards, soldiers, sailors, mask-
ers, murderers, witches, ghosts, gravediggers and
many others "dead in it."

TIME—NOW PLACE—HERE

THE SCENE:
A Room in Desdemona's Apartments.

Wigs from Whigville.
Shoes from Fitters of Feet.
Music by the Funnysmith Orchestra.
Piano furnished by Franc Smith.

HISTORICAL REMARKS

The original characters who are with us this
evening are the only surviving members of the
company that was making an indefinite run at the
Della Theatre prior to and during the reign and
surrender of our Sweet Auburn to General
Motors. During the turmoil which followed nine
of the company succeeded in making their escape
up Flint River in Cleopatra's barge, sustaining life
during their perilous voyage on Egyptian figs and
Capulet dates. They finally heaved anchor off
Hitchcock's grove, where they lived a free and
careless life on a rise of real estate overlooking
the stream and upon the stock L'Auto which was
grazing thereon. They were found by the Park
Commission during one of their recent expeditions
to locate the once beautiful and attractive hamlet
of Flint.

THE SIDE SHOW

COMMITTEE IN CHARGE
F. S. WILLSON B. T. ATWOOD
C. H. BONBRIGHT

Ladies are requested to leave their rats on dur-
ing the performance.

Gentlemen smoking rooms Foyer First Floor.
Go Carts and Ambulances may be ordered for
10:15.

You will confer a favor upon the management
of this house by reporting any over-attention by
my husband to lady patrons.

SATURDAY EVENING: "TUB NIGHT"
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Glen-wood

Restoration of Spirit

The Glenwood Cemetery Site-Specific Performance Project
September 23rd - October 3rd, 2010

Reveal place.
Revive history.
Restore spirit.

An original theatre experience, created with community memory.

Project Company

Director/Concept/Script Composer: Janet Haley
Research and Lead Writer: Elizabeth Brooks, *MLS Theatre and Community*
Female 19th Century Costume Design: Christina Bellows
Male 19th Century Costume Design: Federica Garcia
Dramaturgy: Phillip Barnhart, *MLS Theatre and Community*
Music Director: Kate Lennie, *MLS Theatre and Community*
Costume Construction: Samantha Jarrett and Jessica Flemming
Photographers: Tara Moreno and Joe Schipani
Graphic Designer: Drew Smith
Properties and Design Consultant: Shelby Newport
Clarinet Composition: Bobby Anderson
Special Contributor and Script Consultant: Andy Morton
Stage Manager: Garrett Zwerk
Script/Devising Ensemble: Nic Custer, Destiny Dunn, Jessica Flemming, Alex Ghattas, Janet Haley, Courtney Hatcher, Aubrey Kellerman, Beth Brooks, Garrett Zwerk. With special contributions by Andy Morton, Jessica Back, Phillip Barnhart, Josh Clark, Tara Devereaux, Nick Hale, Cassandra Justice, Natalie Sevic, Amanda Ranville.

Cast of Characters

The characters are fictional composites, inspired by 19th century virtues, historical research, community interviews and the experiences of the devising ensemble working in Glenwood Cemetery.

Tour Guides - "The Sacred and the Profane"

Reverend Memory; *clergyman who stands for decorum and truth.*
PHILLIP BARNHART

Pioneer Spirit of Polly Todd; *a tavern keeper who adores the anecdotal.*
BETH BROOKS

The Spirits of the Age

Nostalgia; *an upper-class gentleman; inspired by E.H. Thompson.*
NICK HALE

Domesticity; *an upper-class woman, inspired by Maria Stockton.*
NATALIE SEVICK

Hope; *a middle-class lady who is expecting a baby; wife to Chance.*
TARA DEVEREAUX

Chance; *a laborer who married above his station; one who falls as society rises.*
JOSH CLARK

Curiosity; *sister to Possibility; inspired by the Art Class and Ladies' Library Association.*
JESSICA BACK

Possibility; newspaper publisher; writer; inspired by FH Rankin, Sr. and Jr.
NIC CUSTER

Devotion; an upper-class wife whose loss blooms into beauty, inspired by Mary Belcher, Mary Ann Crapo Orrell and Patti Perkins.
LIZ TAYLOR

Faith; sweetheart to Doubt.
DESTINY DUNN

Doubt; a fictional clerk of J. Dallas Dort, sweetheart to Faith.
DEVIN MCLEAN

Anxiety; betrothed to Ambition
LYNN CANNON

Ambition; fictional clerk of J. Dallas Dort; betrothed to Anxiety.
DENNIS FOREN

Joy in Duty; inspired by the daughters of H.H. Crapo.
AUBREY KELLERMAN

Philanthropy; seen playing his pipe.
BOBBY ANDERSON

Courage; a WWI soldier struggling to re-enter civilian life.
PHILLIP KAUTZ

Esperanza; a vision of Chloe's imagination, waiting to be revealed.
COURTNEY HATCHER

The Spirits of Today

Chloe; an isolated poet and private history buff.
JESSICA FLEMMING

Fortitude: a teacher whose calling is resurrected.
JENNA WINANS

Cooperation: an international student new to UM-Flint.
SHIH-TING KAO

Defiance; a student exploring destruction as the path to creation.
CASSANDRA JUSTICE

Wonder; a student considering service.
KENNETH A. HOPKINS, JR.

Generosity; the memory of a daughter who appeared with a cemetery pear.
CHARLOTTE LEMELIN

Future; a Glenwood descendant who experiences grace.
ALEX GHATTAS

Community Partners

Glenwood Cemetery
Peter Lemelin, Sexton

Genesee County Historical Society:
Michael Freeman

Dr. Ami Pflugrad-Jackisch
UM-Flint Assistant Professor of History

Mona Younis
UM-Flint Center for Civic Engagement

UM-Flint Department of Theatre and Dance

MLS / Theatre and Community, UM-Flint

Flint Genealogical Society

HIS 413 Winter 2010 Students:

Bonnie Cleffman	Katherine Richards
Sierra Fox	Justin Shanlian
Laura King	Anthony Swim
Justin Lecea	Kierra Whitty
Hayley Morris	Jeanette Routhier
Nicholas Price	HIS 413 Research Assistant

Project Resources

Perry Archives, Buick Gallery/Sloan Museum:
Trudy Krueger, Dale Ladd

Bob and Shirley Florine

Flint Public Library

UMF Frances Willson Thompson Library; Crapo archives

Dave White, Kettering University

Mike Hamilton, Flushing High School

Patti Perkins

Perry Lemelin

Nancy Hanna Michael Madden and all the research librarians at the
Flint Public Library

Flint Genealogical Society at the Perry Archives Genealogical
Society volunteers at FPL

Paul Gifford, Archivist at the Frances Wilson Thompson Library,
UM-Flint

Librarians at state Library, Lansing and Genesee District Library

Joseph Ghattas, UM-Flint, Faculty

Directors of and members of the Swartz Creek Senior Center,
Melinda Soper, Executive Director

Carman-Ainsworth Sr. Citizen Center, Director Linda Moore

Richard Abram, Mayor of Swartz Creek,

Mary Anne Call, Marge Hallitt, Laura Haugh, David Jensen,
Lee Long, Martica Thompson, Betty Lou Wright, Helen Potter

Seth Gilbert – original concept discussion

Alea Orr

Thank you for your support and contribution

Melissa Brown

Laura Friesen

Carolyn M. Gillespie and William Irwin

Ginsberg Center, UM-Ann Arbor

Linda Letts

Doug Mueller

Kay Kelly

Let's Go Arts/FYE/UM-Flint, Summer 2010

Let's Go Arts/FYE/UM-Flint, Fall 2010

Bob Mabbitt

Peggy Roddy

Kelsey Ronan

Mel Serow

Torch Bar and Grill

UM-Flint/RCAC

Jeremy Winchester

Mona Younis

A final word of gratitude, for opening the gates :

Peter and Danielle Lemelin, Charlotte and Grace

Director's Note

I was born, raised and educated in the city of Flint. And I confess, I have driven by Glenwood Cemetery for years and years, and it had never even occurred to me to wonder what was behind the iron fence. I know I'm not alone.

One crisp late summer day in 2008, Mike Freeman and I were catching up over coffee in downtown Flint. He shared an idea for a Glenwood Cemetery fundraiser – UM-Flint theatre students could perform short biographical speeches on the landscape for a fall costume dress up tour. I was intrigued, he was excited, we were both really busy. Months passed. Just when I thought it had fallen off our plates, I was introduced to Dr. Ami Pflugrad-Jackisch, Assistant Professor of History at UM-Flint, and she provided the information to hook my head and heart: Glenwood was a rural cemetery. Not just a beautiful location for people to lay to rest their loved ones, but a green place, like a public park, for urban citizens to stroll, picnic, recreate and restore their bodies and spirits. I circled the verb restore on my notepad, and my heart jumped with these questions: If Glenwood's original intention is to restore the health and well-being of the living...could a theatre project help restore the cemetery to our community's memory and use? Could it contribute to the revitalization of downtown?

Meanwhile, I still was driving by the cemetery daily and had not yet experienced what was on the other side of the iron fence. In Fall 2009, Mike arranged a tour for the community partners on the project. At last I would pass through the gates. And what an image of wonder. It was a misty and cool afternoon, the trees were amber gold and quivering in the breeze. I saw names of streets, schools and

buildings on the monuments. Dave White and Peter Lemelin were sharing stories of Flint's history – things I never learned in school – with Kay Kelly and Mike Freeman chiming in. I had heard my grandparents and my father speak of these events, these people. And then it hit me. I was not just a citizen of Flint, I was a part of Flint's past, present and future. I was overcome by the beauty of the landscape, the generous conversation of those around me, and the meaning of history for the present. It happened not by reading about Glenwood in a book or online, not by talking about Glenwood in a meeting...but by being with people, in the place. The 3-D experience of this place ignited a profound civic engagement within me.

Members of the student creative ensemble have had similar epiphanies of engagement. One student likened it to standing on a vast web of connection – nearly invisible yet strong and beautiful, such as those webs woven by the industrious spiders of Glenwood. Another says the place makes him feel near – not only to his ancestors who lay at rest there, but to himself.

The character of Chloe represents a composite of our experiences in the making of this project – writers, artists and historians, partnering with community conversation and memory. Chloe's journey is ours. We hope she will inspire others to their own revelation of Glenwood Cemetery.

We are ever grateful to the people of Flint for this experience.

Janet Haley

Assistant Professor of Theatre, UM-Flint

September 19, 2010

Thank You

Our deep appreciation to community members who joined us for conversation...

March 27, 2010

Project Kickoff hosted by Genesee County Historical Society

Paul Adams	Dean and Joan Haley
David J. Barkey	Jesse James
Keith Bargas	Laura King
Mindy Brisbane	Jim Maxwell
Ruth Bryan	Hayley Morris
Bonnie Cleffman	Shelby Newport and Mark Baker
Richard Coats	Gary Pace
Debra L. Coats	Jerry Peer
Pam Ehrhart	Jeanette Routhier
Beth Gross	Dale Scanlon
Bob and Shirley Florine	Don Simons
Geraldine George	Les and Margaret Tippet
Joe and Mary Ghattas	Bob and Lorene Wilson
David and Joann Gluckman	Marta Wyngaard

August 7th, 2010

Project Open House at Glenwood Cemetery

Martha Bamford	Julie A Howie
Harry T. Bidelman	Stephen Landon
Mrs.Chartrand and Brooke Chartrand	Joe and Perry Lemelin
Edwin Custer	Shelby Newport and Mark Baker
Karla (Froehlich) Dzurak	M. Potbury
Kevin Dzurak	Roger Powell
Joe and Mary Ghattas	C. Spellings
Sharon Graham	Henrietta Sordyl
Dean and Joan Haley	Georgia Steinhoff
Renee Harrison	Douglas Tebo