

LOCAL HISTORY

176 Years Ago: On July 1, 1841, land was purchased for Rose Hill Cemetery between Lodi, Douglas, Highland and Willow streets. When Syracuse became a city in 1848, Rose Hill was the primary municipal burying ground. Thousands of people are buried here, but over time many of the stones have been lost or destroyed and a number of the graves are sunken. Some of the people buried here include Harvey Baldwin (the first mayor of Syracuse), Oliver Teall (Erie Canal superintendent), Thomas Leonard (involved in the Underground Railroad and the escape of Harriet Powell), and Prince Jackson (participated in the Jerry Rescue). Rose Hill was abandoned as an active cemetery in the early 1900s and was converted into a city park in 1910.

Dan Connors for the Onondaga Historical Association



Post-Standard file photo

Gravestone of John Kennekamp, who died Feb 10, 1900, and was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery. He was in Company I, 149th, New York Volunteers.