GO BEHIND THE SCENES AT MT. ELLIOTT CEMETERY WITH THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

DETROIT- The Detroit Historical Society’s Behind the Scenes Saturday tour series, presented by the DTE Energy Foundation, continues with a Mt. Elliott Cemetery walking tour on Saturday, September 8 at 10 a.m.

Mt. Elliott was consecrated in 1841—just four years after Michigan became the 26th state of the Union. A committee of leading citizens of the day, including the architect Robert T. Elliott, founded the cemetery. Elliott died in an accident during the construction of St. Mary's Church on September 10, 1841, only 12 days after the property was dedicated. As a result, the graveyard became known as Mt. Elliott Cemetery. Elliot became the first interment in Mt. Elliott Cemetery.

Given its unique place in Detroit’s history, Mt. Elliott serves as an important final resting place for many generations of both prominent Detroiter's and everyday citizens. Visitors will find a remarkable collection of monuments featuring the names of well-known Detroiter's such as Beaubien, Campau, Moross, Palms and many others. Mt. Elliott also holds the distinct honor as the home for the Firemen’s Fund Monument. It resides within a special section reserved for those who have served their communities as firefighters. Today, more than 165 years after Mt. Elliott Cemetery was created, it continues to provide a stately and serene environment in which to memorialize a loved one. With a manicured landscape and historic architecture, Mt. Elliott has secured its place in Detroit’s past as well as its future.

The Mount Elliott Cemetery Corporation was organized on February 23, 1864. It was incorporated on November 5, 1865 and placed under the care of 12 trustees, representing all nationalities of the Catholic parishes in Detroit. A second parcel of land was purchased on December 18, 1865, and a third on October 16, 1881, bringing the total acres to 65. In the fall of 1869, 1,490 graves were removed from Detroit's Old City Cemetery on Beaubien Farms and reinterred at Mt. Elliott.
The cost for the tour is $20 for Detroit Historical Society members and $30 for guests. Telephone reservations can be accepted with a Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are not sold the day of the tour. Those who register receive directions to the tour location, a map, and addition information in the mail 1-2 weeks prior to the tour.

For more information or to reserve your spot for the Detroit Historical Society’s Behind the Scenes tours or other 2012 events, call (313) 833-1801, or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

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