

Why does Medina have a Hall of Fame?

Two hundred years ago settlers were beginning to move into the heavily forested regions where Medina is located now. A waterfall on Oak Orchard Creek became a power source for the first sawmill in the area. These early pioneers found stone suitable for building foundations along the creek.

A decade later the famous Erie Canal was being constructed between the Hudson River and Lake Erie. The intersection of the canal and the creek was a perfect place for a village and "Medina" was born.

As the canal was dug through Orleans County, workers found sections of stone very near the surface. In 1837 John Ryan built the first sandstone quarry thus beginning a local industry that would grow tremendously for the next 80 years.

At the turn of the century there were 50 quarries covering 2,000 acres located between Medina and Holley in Orleans County. These quarries employed as many as 1,200 workers and immigrants to the U.S. from Ireland, Poland, Italy, Germany and England came to this region to earn "good money"; a stonebreaker could earn four dollars a day!

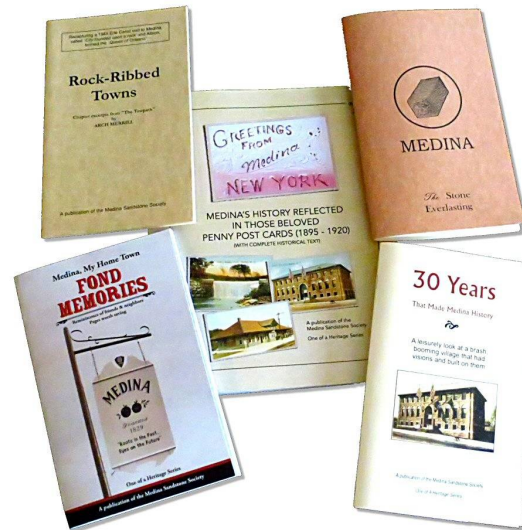
Stone from these quarries provided paving stones and curbing for the streets of Buffalo, Rochester, Cleveland and New York City. But more importantly a portion of the stone was used to construct structures large and small - homes, churches, civic buildings, monuments and more.

The Medina Sandstone Hall of Fame seeks to identify where these structures are located and give special recognition to the most significant based on their architectural beauty and other criteria. We hope to increase appreciation for this important product of Medina's and Orleans

Founded in 2004, the Medina Sandstone Society today is a New York State not-for-profit corporation with the purpose of becoming a viable community asset to aid local programs.

The Sandstone Society has engaged in a wide variety of activities, including:

- Understanding the renowned stone itself.
- Fostering community support and esteem, supporting local projects and celebrations.
- Established the Hall of Fame.
- Encouraging historic preservation.
- Marking special sites with sandstone tablets.
- Using grants and gifts to protect structures.
- Publishing texts of local interest.
- Honoring special citizens with awards
- Saluting Medina's status as an Erie Canal port.
- Sponsoring "walking tours" of historic sites.
- Recruiting associates called "Stone Cutters"
- Establishing a Medina civic endowment named the Sandstone Trust.



www.SandstoneSociety.org

**Medina Sandstone Society and Trust
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Printed January 2014

Medina Sandstone Society

Sandstone Hall of Fame

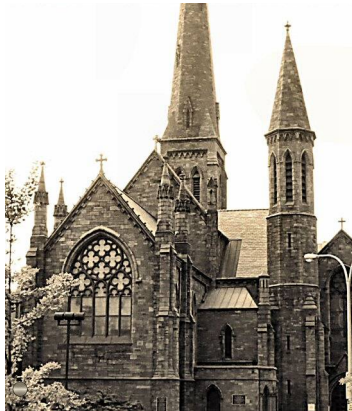
**Appreciating the
"extraordinary
ordinary" that
surrounds us in
western NY and
beyond.**



Inductees in the (first annual) 2013 Hall of Fame

St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral 128 Pearl Street, Buffalo, NY

Built in 1851 with sandstone from a Hulberton quarry. Designed by the famous architect Richard Upjohn. Destroyed by a gas explosion and fire in 1888, but the sandstone walls and spires survived and the church was rebuilt by Robert Gibson.



Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987.

Richardson - Olmsted Complex

(formerly the Buffalo Psychiatric Hospital)
400 Forest Ave.,
Buffalo, NY

The central tower and adjacent pavilions were constructed of red Medina sandstone in 1870.

Henry Hobson Richardson designed the buildings and Frederick Law Olmsted designed the surrounding grounds.

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1986.



St. Bernard's Seminary *(currently renovated as St. Bernard's Park apartments)* 2260 Lake Ave., Rochester, NY



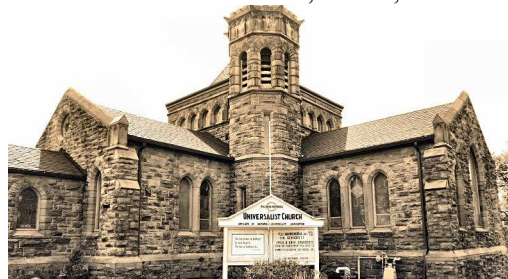
This group of four interconnected building was designed by noted Rochester architect Andrew Jackson Warner and built between 1891 and 1908.

These Victorian Gothic buildings contain Medina sandstone quarried in the Genesee River gorge at nearby Hanford's Landing. The stone is red with very distinctive white inclusions. Brick courses and designs beautifully accent the sandstone blocks.

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1996.

Pullman Memorial Universalist Church

10 East Park Street, Albion, NY

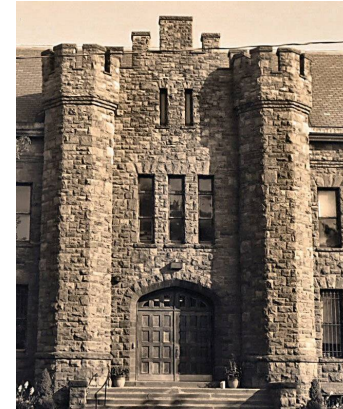


This uniquely designed church was built in 1894 by industrialist George M. Pullman, as a memorial to his wife and parents. Mr. Pullman spared no expense and chose flawless pink Medina Sandstone as the building material and commissioned Louis C. Tiffany to create numerous stained glass windows.

The building was designed by Solon S. Beman in the style of Old English Gothic with Richardson Romanesque features. Its long, low horizontal profile and its arrangement added to its unique design.

Medina Armory

(currently Orleans County YMCA)
Pearl Street, Medina, NY



Built in 1901, this beautiful structure is listed in the National Register of

Historic Places as of 1995. The sandstone used is a striking deep pink-brownish color.

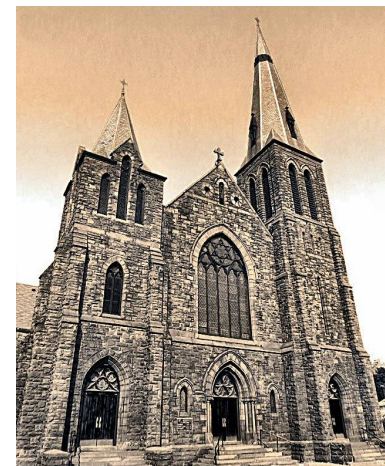
The famous architect, George Heins favored the castle-like form for this Armory which was patterned after the massive armory in

Buffalo built several years earlier.

Company F of the New York National Guard's 3rd Regiment operated out of this armory for almost 60 years.

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Eagle Street and West Avenue, Medina, NY



The cornerstone of this beautiful sandstone church, designed by architect A.A. Post of Buffalo, was set on September 21, 1902.

The design features two rectangular towers topped by soaring towers - the highest being 170 feet.

Now a part of Holy Trinity parish, the church has been part of the community for over 110 years.

The Medina Sandstone Society is proud to recognize these exceptional examples of Medina sandstone construction that are such an important part of our region and our nation's past and its future!