

THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY
ROCHESTER'S 14621
NEIGHBORHOOD

By Angelica Perez and
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"WE CAN NEVER GET A RE-CREATION OF COMMUNITY AND HEAL OUR SOCIETY WITHOUT GIVING OUR CITIZENS A SENSE OF BELONGING."
-- PATCH ADAMS

EXTREMELY HIGH RATE OF
ABANDONMENT AND
VACANT PROPERTY...
CRITICAL ISSUE IS
AFFORDABILITY, AND THE
LACK OF ADEQUATE
RESOURCES FOR HOME
CONSTRUCTION,
REHABILITATION OF
VACANT HOMES, AND
MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING
HOMES.....



OVERCROWDING IS A COMMON OCCURRENCE, WITH REPORTS OF AS MANY AS TWENTY TWO PEOPLE LIVING IN A THREE BEDROOM HOUSE – AN ISSUE THAT IS USUALLY ADDRESSED ONLY WITH NEIGHBOR COMPLAINTS, OR WHEN A TRAGEDY OCCURS. A NUMBER OF ARSONS HAVE LEFT MORE STRUCTURES VACANT, AND IN SOME CASES HAVE SET OCCUPIED HOMES ON FIRE.....



OVER 700 BUILDINGS STAND VACANT, OUT
OF 3,000 VACANT STRUCTURES CITY-
WIDE....



MANY SMALL BUSINESS ARE FIGHTING TO
STAY OPEN





LARGE PORTIONS IN THIS AREA CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE. SOME OF ITS STREETS ARE EVEN CONSIDERED AMONG THE MOST DANGEROUS IN ROCHESTER.....



BUT THERE IS STILL HOPE...

We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own.

Cesar Chavez

In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it.

Marianne Williamson

FACTS -14621

It's a large neighborhood in the northeast quadrant of Rochester. It is primarily contained within the boundaries listed above with the exception of a long tendril that runs along the Genesee River all the way to Lake Ontario.

This part contains Seneca Park, known for its spectacular Genesee River gorge, as well as the Seneca Park Zoo. Another attraction is the El Camino Trail, popular with bicyclists and known for its beautiful Wall\Therapy murals. Conkey Cruisers, a neighborhood bicycling program, hosts a ride here during the summer.

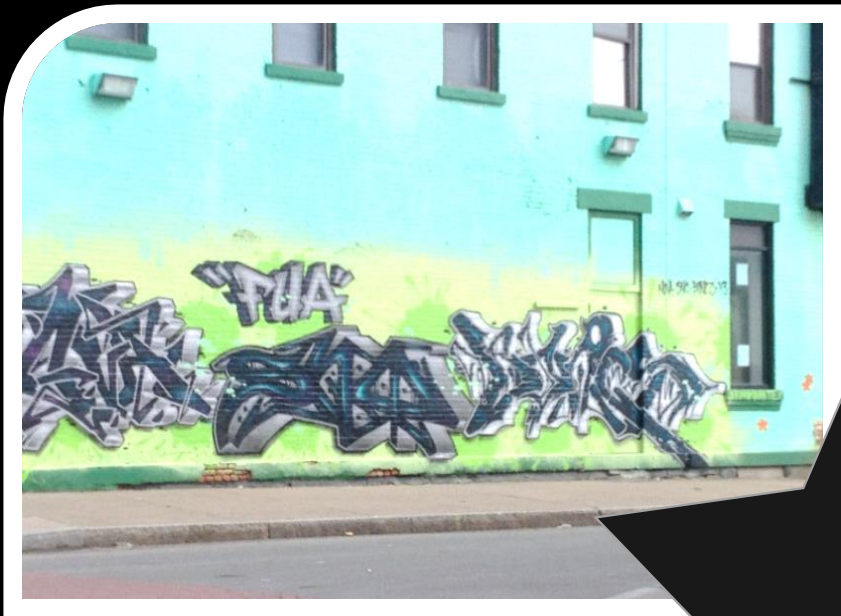
African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Eastern Europeans make this one of the most ethnically diverse neighborhoods in Rochester.

The area around Hudson & Norton (down to at least Avenue D, and north to Rt. 104) was known as "Polish Town" and was home to waves of mostly Eastern European immigrants. Polish were most prominent, but Ukrainian and Lithuanian were also present.



Street Art and graffiti are inextricably entwined with and contributing factors for broken windows, societal disarray, economic and moral decay of the aforementioned cities, but in this area you can find the most creative graffiti displays covering walls which shows the creative side of the residents.





ART CAN BE CREATED
INTO ANYTHING.....

GRAFFITI ART THE
URBAN STREET ART.

MORE ABOUT 14621:

The rich heritage of Rochester's 19th century immigrants is still present in Group 14621, particularly along a stretch of Hudson Avenue known affectionately as Polish Town. Here, St. Stanislaus Kostka Church draws hundreds each year to its annual Polish Arts festival. This Romanesque Revival Church, dedicated in 1909, received the Landmark Society's Special Achievement Award in 2004 for restoration on the interior and 120 foot bell tower.

Other historic landmarks remain in the area. On St. Paul Street, the Rochester School for The Deaf, founded in 1876, maintains a scenic campus. Old Carthage, the city's earliest settlement and river port in the 1880's, was located a few blocks north.

Food and specialty stores reflect that rich mixture. Shoppers can find Asian groceries and Caribbean delis along with neighborhood classics.



ON THE WESTERN EDGE, LIES OLD CARTHAGE, THE AREA'S EARLIEST SETTLEMENT. TWO CENTURIES AGO, THE BUSTLING RIVER PORT AT THE LOWER FALLS OF THE GENESEE RIVALED ITS VILLAGE SISTER TO THE SOUTH: ROCHESTERVILLE. EAST OF CARTHAGE IS POLISH TOWN, NAMED AFTER THE WAVES OF POLISH IMMIGRANTS WHO BEGAN TO SETTLE THE AREA IN 1880S. THEY BUILT STREETS OF STURDY WORKMAN'S COTTAGES AND IN 1907 COMPLETED THE LAVISH ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH. TODAY THE CHURCH'S NEWLY RENOVATED 102-FOOT SPIRE TOWERS MAJESTICALLY OVER HUDSON AVENUE. ON THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE DISTRICT, ST. ANDREWS PARISH ALSO TRACES ITS ROOTS TO IMMIGRANTS, THIS TIME FROM GERMANY.

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

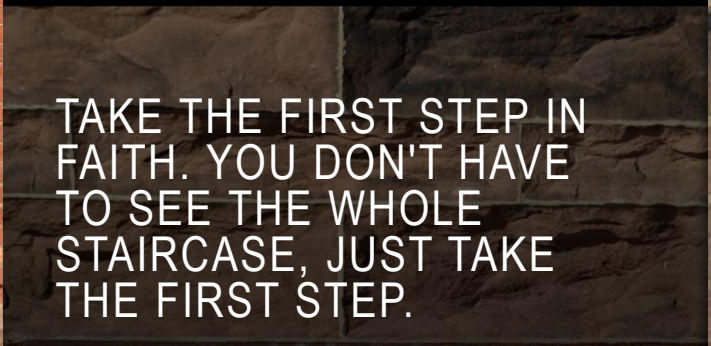
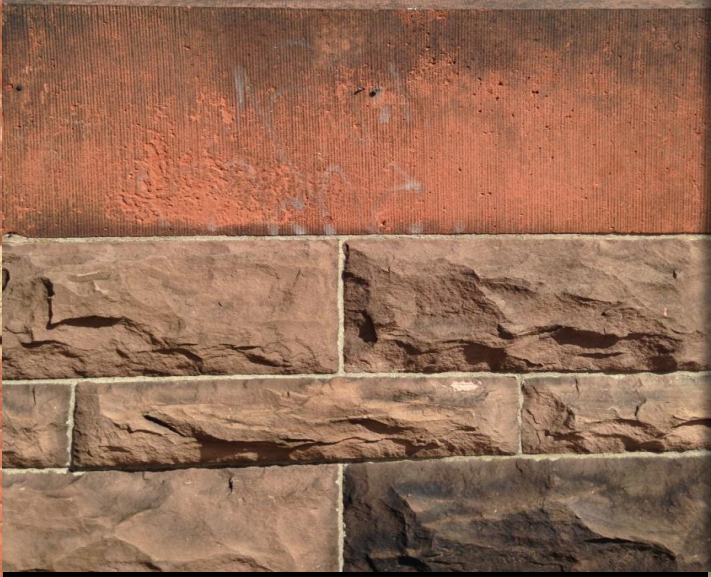




THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS A DYNAMIC, CHRIST-CENTERED CONGREGATION OF BELIEVERS. DEDICATED TO PREACHING AND TEACHING GOD'S WORD.
THE FIRST SERVICE OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS WAS CONDUCTED ON OCTOBER 7, 1947.







TAKE THE FIRST STEP IN
FAITH. YOU DON'T HAVE
TO SEE THE WHOLE
STAIRCASE, JUST TAKE
THE FIRST STEP.

MARTIN LUTHER KING,
JR.







Brown's Memorial

Where the magic begins.....We are very fortunate and grateful to have been a part of this amazing internship. Initially we were nothing but strangers to them but we became like a family where they opened to us and showed us what life and giving to others really means. The stories of courage were very inspirational to us and heartfelt. They showed us that there is hope and light at the end of the tunnel, failure is not an option. This community has been through a lot and they keep on fighting. They have never given up and we shouldn't either. Join in to help make the difference.

COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING; KEEPING TOGETHER IS A
PROGRESS; AND WORKING TOGETHER IS A SUCCESS.

HENRY FORD

Cultural Mosaic:

African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Bosnians, Ukrainians, and Turks have joined European-Americans to make this one of the most ethnically diverse residential area in greater Rochester.

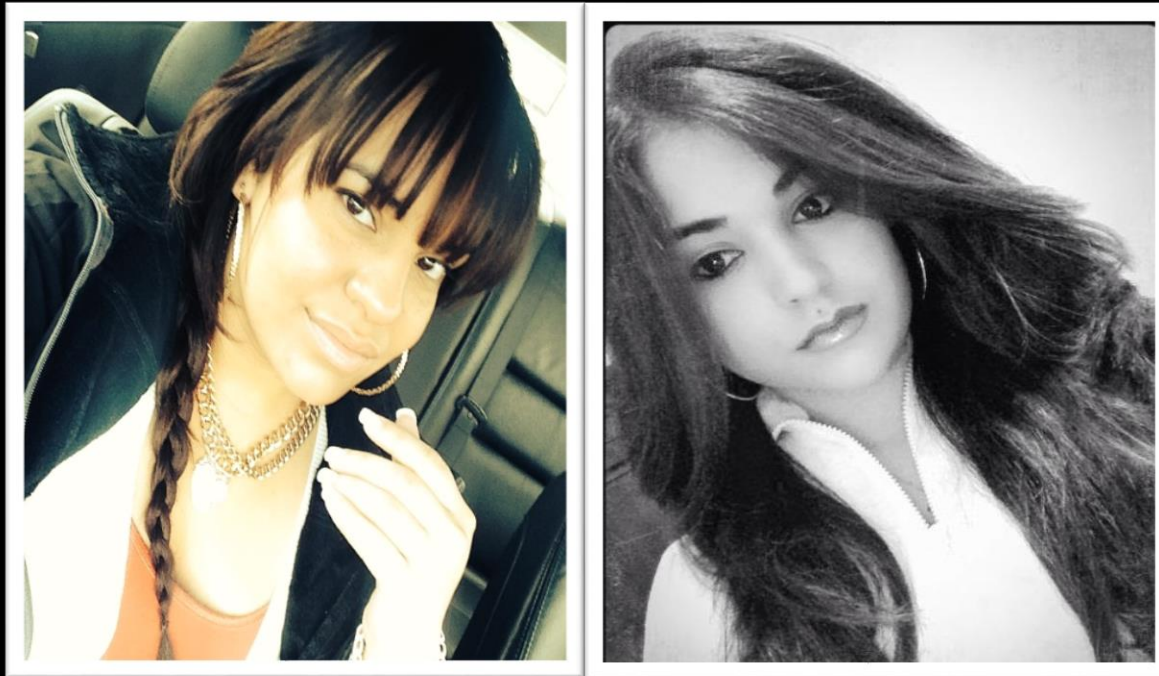




There are amazingly wonderful people in all walks of life; some familiar to us and others not. Stretch yourself and really get to know people. People are in many ways one of our greatest treasures.

Bryant H. McGill

SPECIAL THANKS TO JENNIFER WOLFLEY FOR THIS AMAZING OPPORTUNITY,
WITHOUT YOU THIS COULDN'T HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE. WE ALL LOVE AND
APPRECIATE THE INCREDIBLE JOB AND EFFORT YOU GIVE TO THIS
COMMUNITY.



Photojournalism by Angelica Perez and Migdeisy Suros.

Rochester Institute of Technology

Criminal Justice