



For immediate release

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### **19th Century Baseball Star Hick Carpenter to receive grave marker**

The Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) San Diego Ted Williams Chapter is pleased to announce the placement of a grave marker for 19th-century star third baseman for the Cincinnati Reds, Warren “Hick” Carpenter.

There will be a short graveside dedication on Thursday, August 4, at 10:00 AM. The public is welcome to attend. For the location, see the map on page 2.

This marker is part of SABR’s *19th Century Grave Marker Project*. The purpose and goal of the Project is to identify 19th-century baseball notables who either lack a grave marker or whose headstone is in dire disrepair, and then rectify those issues. Since the project’s initiation in 2015, it has procured grave markers for seven baseball pioneers: James Whyte Davis, Hicks Hayhurst, Andy Leonard, Pud Galvin, Bob Caruthers, Ed Williamson, and Luis Castro (the first Latin-American ballplayer in the American or National Leagues). Carpenter’s marker will be the Project’s eighth, but this is the first project where it has collaborated with a local SABR chapter for a grave marker.

“With every dedication, our project helps ensure that another piece of baseball history isn’t forgotten,” says Sam Gazdziak, chair of the Grave Marker Project. “One of the ways that SABR gives back to the game we all love is to help honor the pioneers from the 1800s and re-tell their stories for new generations of fans.”

Warren Wilson “Hick” Carpenter was born on August 16, 1855, in Grafton, Massachusetts. Widely known by his nickname (short for Hickory), he became a National League ballplayer in 1879. He played 11 full seasons in the majors, including eight with the Cincinnati Reds, all as a left-handed third baseman. In an age when fielders played without gloves, his athleticism made him a star and fan favorite at his off-handed position. His tenacious style of play gave rise to the term “hot corner” for third base. Also known for his hard hitting, Carpenter helped lead the Reds to their first pennant in 1882. In retirement, he moved to San Diego where he enjoyed fishing and watching baseball with his old Cincinnati sidekick, Hall of Fame infielder Bid McPhee.

Hick Carpenter died in San Diego on April 18, 1937, at the age of 81 and was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery. For more than 80 years Carpenter has been in an unmarked grave.

Last year, the Ted Williams Chapter funded the placement of a grave marker for Joe Quest, another 19th-century ballplayer also at rest at Mount Hope Cemetery.

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**Warren Wilson “Hick” Carpenter**

Born: August 16, 1855, Grafton, MA

Died: April 18, 1937, San Diego, CA

**Grave Site Location:**

*\*See map below\**

Mt. Hope Cemetery

3751 Market St.

San Diego, CA 92102

Masonic, Section S, Lot 49, Grave 8-A

