Rochester History: A "Genesee Journey"

Click the image below and follow the stories of upstate New York, Rochester, and the Memorial Art Gallery through artworks in the Gallery’s collections. Portraits, landscapes and decorative objects all provide a glimpse into aspects of American life in the past.

Now that you have seen what Rochester used to look like, go to the next page and explore how things have changed.

Colin Campbell Cooper
Main Street Bridge, 1908. Oil on canvas.
Gift of Hiram W. Sibley, 1926.20

Main Street Bridge today.
Photo by Jim Bishop
Take a Day-trip! Rochester's Recent Past

Do you recognize the places in the artworks below? If you can, take a trip with your family and find the locations of these scenes. Try to stand where the artist stood!

What looks familiar in each artwork?
What do you know about these places?
What did the artist see that you don’t see today?

Clockwise from top left:
George Harvey, *Pittsford on the Erie Canal*, 1837. Oil on panel. Gift of the Margaret M. McDonald Memorial Fund, 2005.33

More scenes of the Rochester area on the next page!
More Rochester Scenes from MAG’s Collection

The artwork at top left was painted by George Herdle, MAG’s first director!

Clockwise from top left:

Your Rochester: What other interesting Rochester scenes do you know? Can you draw or paint them from pictures or memory?

Bonus: See more Rochester day-trip ideas [here](#)—they include places you may recognize!