“I Sleep to Awaken”

When nitrous oxide pioneer Horace Wells was reburied in 1908 at Hartford’s Cedar Hill Cemetery, his son Charles commissioned Louis Potter to create front and side relief sculptures for the memorial monument. After the side sculptures were stolen in the 1980s, the Horace Wells Club and other donors funded replacement bronze castings by Anatoly Mikhailov. Shaded day-long, the north-facing side sculpture (left) features a woman with her eyes closed in repose among symbols of sleep (poppies) and night (stars). Cast in bronze beneath the sleeping woman (right) are four words: “I Sleep to Awaken.” (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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