

"I didn't want to go," Capasso remembers. "I liked my work. My friends. My home town. I worked ten to twelve hours a day, six days a week for Mr. DeLucia, but it was a joy because he taught me to have a respect for the buildings we repaired and restored - convents, homes, apartment buildings." But, being under-age, Capasso had to move with his parents to New Haven, where he first began to work with his father at the old Cott Soda Company. A short time later, he found a job on a mason crew, working for the Dayhill Company of New Haven. It took Capasso's new employer a very short time to realize that they had "a good, a very good mason" working for them, and he soon was promoted to foreman of their mason crew. Capasso worked for Dahill for seven years until he decided he wanted to start his own company and begin to realize his own "American Dream."

In the meantime, he had married Louisa Pelusa Capasso of East Haven. Like her husband, Louisa was born in a small

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town in Italy and they both became naturalized American citizens. Louisa's family own Tolli's Pizza in East Haven and Louisa, like her parents, is independent and wanted her husband to have his own company. Today, she is his partner in G & L Capasso Restoration, Inc. "Guiseppe did learn a new trade when he married me," Louisa brags, "He now is a tradesman also at making pizzas."

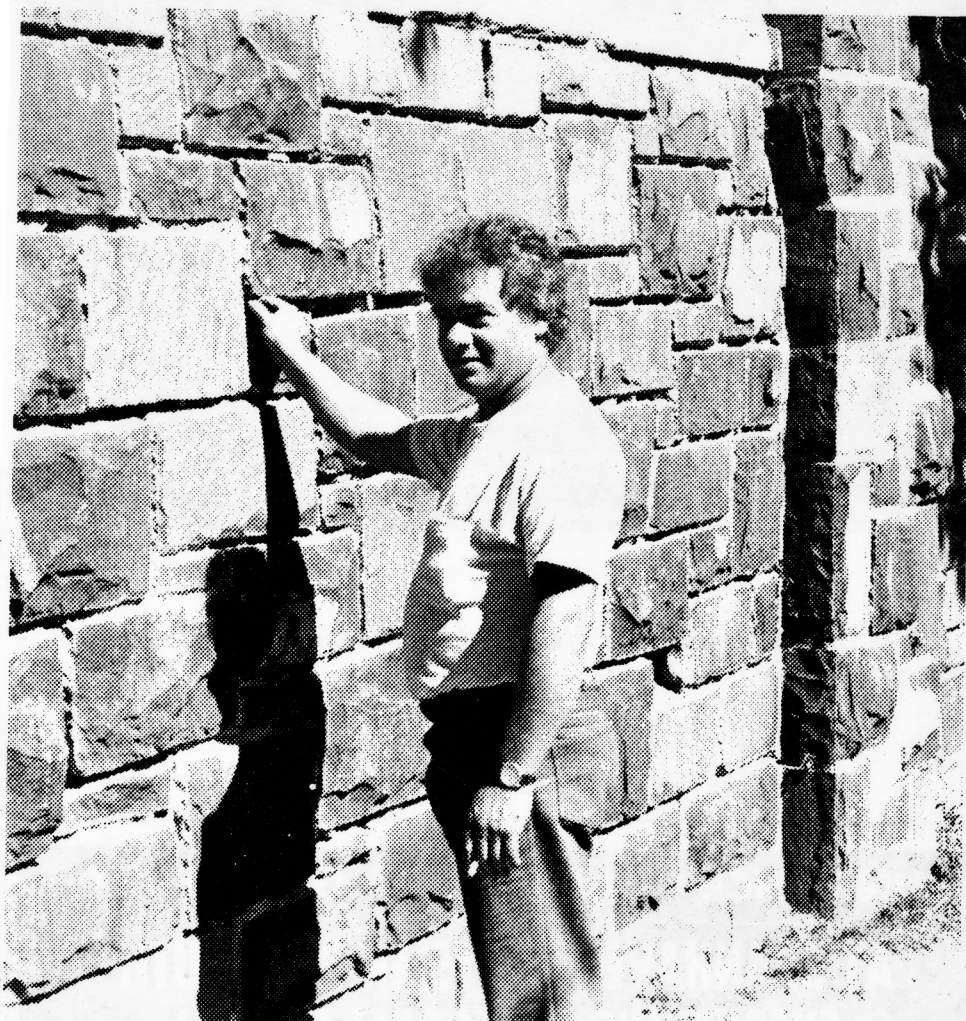
Capasso has done numerous restoration projects of note since he began his business. Besides Lighthouse Point, he has worked on rebuilding and repointing the chimney at Yale Divinity School and helped repair various sections of old St. Mary's Church on Hillside Avenue in New Haven, among others.

"I have no high school education. Only one year at the Middle School in East Haven," Capasso says. "I learned my trade from a great master in the old country. I only wish he could have the opportunities I enjoy as a master mason in

America. People respect and appreciate good tradesmen here. Today, young people need schooling and to learn as apprentices in trades like masonry. One of my sons is beginning to work with me and he has the touch, but he needs formal schooling as well." The Capasso's have three sons: Vinny, 12; Carmine, 10; and Joey, 9.

Capasso hopes he can finish what he started at Edgerton. "The entire wall needs to be repaired soon," he says. "It would be a shame to see such fine work of men of the past fall apart and be forgotten."

DeVane says her non-profit group is working on winning every possible form of funding available to finish the wall and to begin the massive work of restoring the entire park. "Anyone interested in donating to the restoration," she says, "please send your contributions, no matter how small, to the Edgerton Park Restoration Fund, Inc., Box 6163, Hamden, CT., 06517."



MASON AT WORK. *Guiseppe Capasso points to the damage in the 85 year-old-wall.*