

HISTORIC RED HOOK

Edward Saulpaugh

Born 1821 Died 1867

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

One of the tallest, white, marble monuments in the cemetery. A tapered column topped with urn, heavily eroded, far behind the church, three or four rows west of the cedar trees, south of the central access road

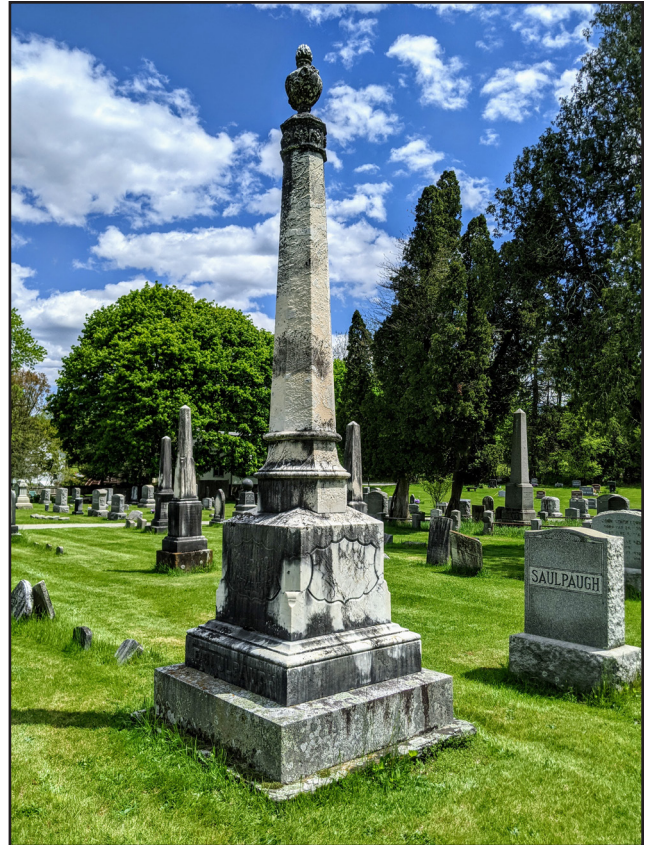
There are three people's names engraved on one of the tallest monuments in the cemetery. The monument is notable for its height, its design, and for the tragic beauty that erosion has inscribed on it over the last 150 years. It is also mysterious at first glance because two of the sides are blank and those engraved on it are a bit unusual. One side remembers Edward Saulpaugh. The other remembers his wife Lucy Ann and the brother of his son's wife, Lorin Sagendorf.

The absence of any other names on the monument can be explained by the fact that Edward and Lucy's only child, Eugene Saulpaugh removed to Los Angeles. It is likely that the monument was erected after Edward's death and space was left for Eugene and his wife, so when Lorin passed in 1922 and Eugene was still living, his name was stuck in under Lucy's, rather than put on a side that might have gone to Eugene's family.

Edward Saulpaugh was a farmer. He may have had other business dealings or perhaps held mortgages for others as his wife's name appears in legal notices in the newspapers regarding lawsuits after his death. Or perhaps he was uncommonly good at farming and thus was able to afford such a tall, impressive grave-marker. Edward enlisted for two years during the Civil War in June of 1863 and at the time his address was in Madalin (a hamlet of Tivoli). He died of Typhoid fever in 1867 at only 46 years of age.

Edward's son Eugene Saulpaugh married Eva D. Sagendorf in 1876 and they had three children, Maud Saulpaugh (1878-bef. 1910), Truman Andrew Saulpaugh (1880-1931), and Ralph Eugene Saulpaugh (1883-1937). Some time after Ralph was born, Eugene and Eva separated and she dropped out of available records' reach after 1913. It would appear Maud died young and Truman and Ralph ended up in Los Angeles where they died in the 1930s. Only Truman had children, two daughters, Olive and Leona. Lorin Sagendorf married Almeda Newberry and they did not have any children together. She survived him by more than two decades and is buried with her brother's family in Malden, NY.

Time marches ever onwards, much like the erosion of Edward Saulpaugh's marble monument. Though



HISTORIC RED HOOK



not the only one to suffer in this and every burying ground the world over, its slow destruction is an ironically ugly sort of beauty. Pollutants mixing with water vapor which steadily drench the porous stone with acid rain react with the calcium carbonate base of marble and limestone, converting it to calcium sulfate or calcium nitrate, which is then washed away. On this particular monument, one can see veins of the stone that contain more of this calcium carbonate have eroded faster, leaving the surface rougher in some places than others. Fissures and cracks are developing due to erosion which one day will cause water and ice to fracture the stone, but for now paint a melancholy sort of

landscape around the inscriptions. When it was new, the Saulpaugh monument would have been polished and pristine, white and gleaming.

Research and writing by Sarah K. Hermans, 2022

Sources:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/89174977/edward-saulpaugh>

Death Notices, 1859-1918 Dutchess & Columbia County, New York

New York State Death Index

New York, U.S., Town Clerks' Registers of Men Who Served in the Civil War, ca 1861-1865

1850 Federal Census, Red Hook, Dutchess Co NY, Edward Saulpaugh

1860 Federal Census, Germantown, Columbia Co NY, Andrew Sagendorf

1865 NY State Census, Red Hook, Dutchess Co NY, (Stone house) Edward

1865 NY State Census, Germantown, Columbia Co NY, Andrew Sagendorf

1880 Federal Census, Red Hook, Dutchess Co NY, Eugene Saulpaugh

1900 Federal Census, Red Hook, Dutchess Co NY, Lawren Sagendorf

1900 Federal Census, Manhattan, NY Co NY, W.57th St, John H Johnson

1905 NY State Census, Manhattan, NY Co NY, W. 57th St., John H Johnson

1910 Federal Census, Manhattan, NY Co NY, 103rd St., Eva Salpaugh

Social Security Death Index

WWI draft card for Ralph Salpaugh

WWI draft card for Truman Andrew Salpaugh

1920 Federal Census, Red Hook, Dutchess Co NY, Anna W Saulpaugh

1920 Federal Census, Red Hook, Dutchess Co NY, Lorin Sagendorf

1920 Federal Census, Yonkers, Westchester Co NY, Rockland Ave, Frank Schaffer

1930 Federal Census, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co CA, Foot Hill Blvd, Eugene Salpaugh

1930 Federal Census, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co CA, Ralph Saulpaugh

Rhinebeck Gazette, 7 Apr 1939

Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle, 14 Mar 1889

Poughkeepsie Evening Enterprise, 30 Mar 1895

Red Hook Journal, 13 Jul 1917

New York, New York, U.S., Extracted Marriage Index, 1866-1937 cert #2585, cert #21231, & cert #18171

"Greenhouse Gases and Grave Stones" by Joe Schwarcz PhD | 20 Mar 2017 <https://www.mcgill.ca/>

"How does acid precipitation affect marble and limestone buildings?" <https://www.usgs.gov/>

"The Effects of Acid Rain on Cemetery Stones" April 25, 2017 by Andrea Becker <https://sciencing.com/>