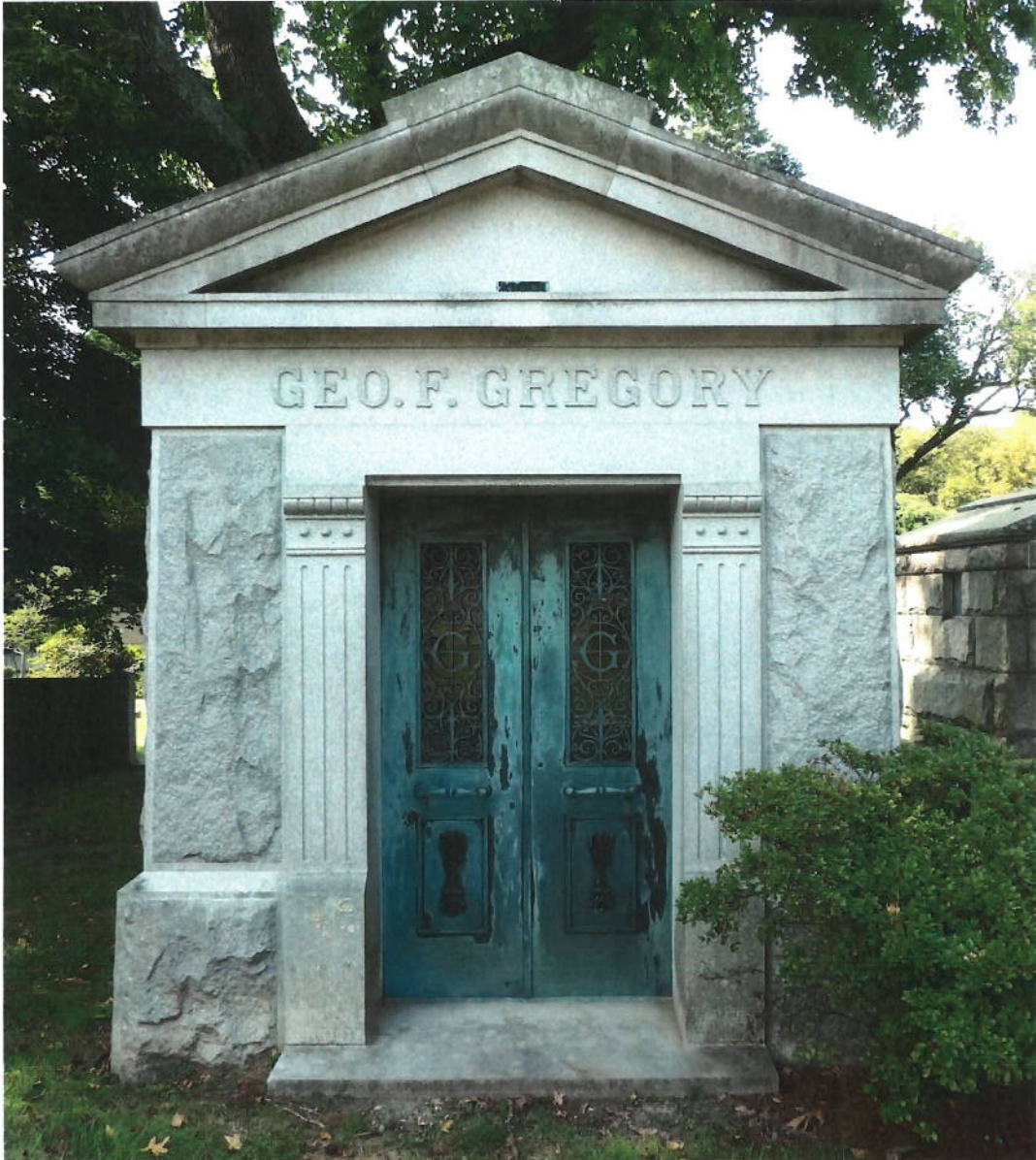


Woodlawn Cemetery Biographical Research

Gregory Mausoleum



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The Gregory mausoleum is in the Heather Plot along Lawn Avenue in Woodlawn Cemetery, with a bush in front on the right side, a small variety of maple to the left, and a large sweetgum tree looming overhead. The land is slightly sloped, and the mausoleum itself is similar in size to several others in the surrounding area. The front facade faces east and has a concrete foundation underground. It is constructed of Light Barre Vermont granite, which is mostly rusticated below the frieze with sections of smooth granite at the corners of the building, above and below the smooth section where the building angles inward, and on the front face where the external walls meet the fluted pilasters on either side of the doors¹. The rest of the exterior is constructed of smooth granite, including the pilasters, which angle inward at the same point as the outer wall sections and transition from a flat surface to the fluted pattern above the angled portion. The external walls angle inward slightly, subtly drawing the eye upwards to the architrave and the frieze, which reads "Geo. F. Gregory" in raised letters. The roof structure consists of three pieces, cut to prevent water damage to the structure. The doors are constructed of bronze, designed to be similar to those of the T. B. Graham Mausoleum which is also located in Woodlawn Cemetery.² Each door contains the letter "G" in the top window section, with an inverted torch on the lower section.

Entering the mausoleum, the space itself is on the smaller side, measuring 6'9" wide and 5'10" long. Tennessee Pink marble covers the ceiling and the walls with the exception of the interior of the architrave down to the floor, which is made of Light Barre Vermont granite that was once polished.³ On either side wall there is a stained-glass window containing a wreath of wrapped leaves with a "G" in the center and a section of wrapped leaves held by two ribbon

¹ Specification for the Gregory Mausoleum, 1921, Box MM07, Folder 52, Woodlawn Cemetery Records(1863-1999), Avery Drawings & Archives, New York, NY.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

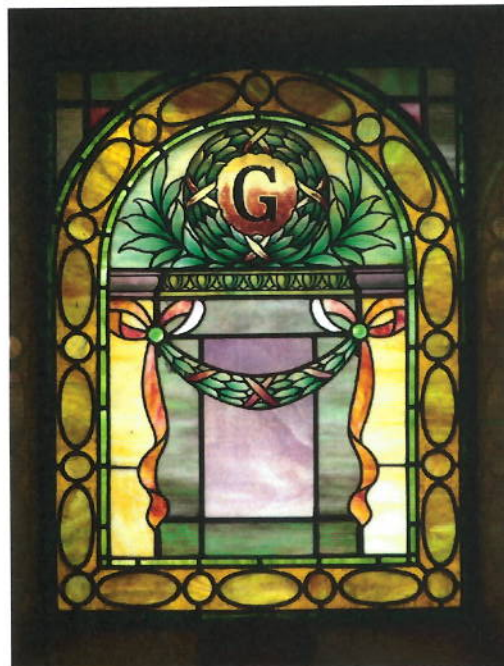
bows. At the back of the mausoleum there are a total of six crypts, all of which are filled except for the one at the bottom left. Those interred in this mausoleum are Susan J. M. Gregory, George F. Gregory, Margaret A. Gregory, Ruth G. Condon, and Clifford S. Condon.

When it comes to the current condition of the mausoleum, there are a few forms of notable damage to the building. There is significant delamination on all rusticated sections of granite, due to temperature changes over the last century since its construction, and the granite floor on the interior of the mausoleum was stated as being polished, however the current condition is similar to that of the smooth pilasters, having lost the polished appearance over time.⁴ The bronze doors have a significant amount of patina on the exterior, as do the bronze vents on each side of the building. Lichen is present all over the lower sections of the building and the roof structure, however, despite the large sweetgum tree looming over the roof, there are no saplings growing from the building. The roof has darkened in color over time due to the presence of biological growth, but lower portions of the building are still the light gray color associated with the Light Barre granite used for the mausoleum. Despite the varying forms of deterioration present, there are no signs that the building has failed to properly contain the people interred in the mausoleum, indicating that the design of the mausoleum was well thought out and the ventilation works as planned.

As a whole, the mausoleum appears impersonal upon first glance, with no obvious religious symbols or distinctly personal details, however some symbolism is present within the more decorative parts of the building. Since the doors were based off of those from another mausoleum, they are not inspired by anything about the family interred there and Margaret Gregory, who commissioned the mausoleum, most likely just liked how they looked and the

⁴ Specification for the Gregory Mausoleum, 1921, Box MM07, Folder 52, Woodlawn Cemetery Records(1863-1999), Avery Drawings & Archives, New York, NY.

symbolism matched what she wanted to include.⁵ The “G” on the doors along with the “G” in the stained glass windows shows pride in the family name and a desire to leave a legacy attached to the family by building a mausoleum that displays their initial. Inverted torches symbolize life being extinguished, and they may have been used on the doors of the mausoleum to represent a life taken before its time, as George died at the age of 56.⁶ As stated in the contract, the stained glass was explicitly left to the choice of the family for design, so it is the most personalized part of the mausoleum. Despite mainly containing a wreath and ribbons, the choice to include the ribbons alongside the greenery ties in with the ribbons on the inverted torches, again pointing to the idea of a life extinguished. Leaves often represent triumph or victory over life, showing the desire to celebrate a life lived well while also mourning the life that has been lost.⁷



Stained-glass window inside the Gregory Mausoleum.

⁵ Specification for the Gregory Mausoleum, 1921, Box MM07, Folder 52, Woodlawn Cemetery Records(1863-1999), Avery Drawings & Archives, New York, NY.

⁶“Funerary Art Symbolism.” Oakdale Cemetery. Accessed October 11, 2022. “Obituary,” *Asbury Park Press*, July 31, 1917, 2.

⁷ “Funerary Art Symbolism,” Oakdale Cemetery.

Overall, this mausoleum is in decent shape, as the deterioration does not appear to be affecting the structural integrity of the building. There are no clear signs of failure in the crypt chambers, and despite the significant delamination and biological growth on the exterior, the mausoleum is in good condition.

As for the family interred in the Gregory mausoleum, Susan J. M. Gregory was the mother of George Frederick Gregory, whose name is across the front of the mausoleum. Susan died on June 26, 1904 according to the inscription in the mausoleum, and although her will indicated that she owned several pieces of jewelry with diamonds, furniture, real estate, and a plot in Woodlawn Cemetery, information about her life was scarce.⁸ She was born as Susan J. Morison, and had two sons with her husband Samuel Gregory. Her first child was George, who was born in approximately 1861 and is buried next to his mother in the Gregory mausoleum, and her second child was Robert, who was born in approximately 1868.⁹

Susan's first son, George Frederick Gregory, married his wife, Margaret Appleby Gregory on December 14, 1892 at St. Agnes's Chapel.¹⁰ Although more information could be found about his life than that of his mother, documentation about George's life was still scarce, especially compared to the information available about his wife Margaret. Margaret Appleby Gregory was born on August 2, 1870, in Spotswood, New Jersey, to Julia P. and John Outcalt.¹¹ In 1880, Margaret was living with her parents, older brother David, and her cousin Julia Bampton in East Brunswick, New Jersey.¹² Margaret gave birth to their daughter Ruth on April

⁸ "Wills, Vol 0733-0735, 1904-1905" *New York, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015., Pg 317-320.

⁹ US Census Bureau, *1870 United States Federal Census*, New York Ward 16 District 7, New York, New York; Pg 288A.

¹⁰ "Gregory -- Outcalt," *New York Times (1857-1922)*, Dec 15, 1892, 4.

¹¹ "Volume: Roll 2208 - Certificates: 261350-261849, 29 Mar 1923-30 Mar 1923," *U.S., Passport Applications, 1795-1925* [database on-line]. Pg 19-21. *Ancestry.com*.

¹² US Census Bureau, *1880 United States Federal Census* [database on-line], East Brunswick, Middlesex, New Jersey; Roll: 790; Pg 386A. *Ancestry.com*.

13, 1896, at 114 W 71st Street, indicating that based on their address in the 1900 census, George and Margaret were living with John and Julia Outcalt, Margaret's parents, at the time.¹³ George was listed as a dry goods merchant on the census, while John was listed as a capitalist. The Outcalt family had one servant at the time of the census.¹⁴ In 1905, the New York state census still listed the family as living at 114 71st Street, however John's occupation was listed as a cereals manufacturer and the Outcalt family employed a total of six servants.¹⁵



Margaret Gregory (left) and Ruth Condon (right) from their passport applications.¹⁶

In 1909, Julia Outcalt passed away, with her will indicating that she had owned the property and house at 114 W 71st Street in New York City, a home and property in Spotswood, New Jersey where her son lived, and a significant amount of jewelry, portraits, and furniture.¹⁷ The aforementioned information regarding the wealth of the Outcalt family along with the lack of information regarding the family of George F. Gregory shows that the wealth in this family

¹³ "Volume: Roll 2208 - Certificates: 261350-261849, 29 Mar 1923-30 Mar 1923," U.S., *Passport Applications, 1795-1925* [database on-line]. Pg 21-23. *Ancestry.com*. US Census Bureau, *1900 United States Federal Census*, [database on-line], Manhattan, New York, New York; Roll: 1103; Pg 16.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ US Census Bureau, *New York, U.S., State Census, 1905* [database on-line], Election District: A.D. 19 E.D. 18; City: Manhattan; County: New York; Pg 18. *Ancestry.com*.

¹⁶ "Volume: Roll 2208 - Certificates: 261350-261849, 29 Mar 1923-30 Mar 1923," U.S., *Passport Applications, 1795-1925* [database on-line]. Pg 21-23. *Ancestry.com*.

¹⁷ "Wills, Vol 0875-0877, 1909-1910" *New York, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015., Pg 466-471.

came from the Outcalt side of the family. By 1910, George, Margaret, and Ruth had moved to the Sherman Square Hotel in Manhattan, where they were still living as of 1915, when Margaret held an informal dance for Ruth at the Plaza hotel.¹⁸ In 1917, however, George died on July 29 of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 56 in Spring Lake, New Jersey, and was interred at Woodlawn Cemetery after his funeral.¹⁹

By 1920, Margaret had moved to the Astor Apartments at 230 W 76th Street with her daughter Ruth.²⁰ Both Margaret and Ruth were often mentioned in society columns, participating in parties and events often, including events benefiting the Children's Hospital for Deformities of New York.²¹ In 1921, Margaret commissioned the Gregory Mausoleum along with her daughter to be designed by H. K. Keller Co., with the construction scheduled for 1922.²² In 1923, both women lived at The Apthorp, and Margaret continued to live there until she moved closer to her daughter before her death on September 15, 1950.²³

Ruth Gregory married Clifford Stuart Condon on April 18, 1925, and subsequently moved with him to Joplin, Missouri, where he ran the Ramsay Dry Goods store.²⁴ Clifford was born in Oswego, Kansas, on September 28, 1888.²⁵ He worked at Ramsay Dry Goods stores for

¹⁸ US Census Bureau, *1910 United States Federal Census* [database on-line], Manhattan Ward 22, New York, New York; Roll: T624_1048; Pg 10B. *Ancestry.com*. "Society's Season Formally Begins To-morrow Night," *New York Tribune*, Nov 14, 1915, 23.

¹⁹ "Deaths." *New - York Tribune (1911-1922)*, Aug 02, 1917. "Obituary," *Asbury Park Press*, July 31, 1917, 2.

²⁰ US Census Bureau, *1920 United States Federal Census* [database on-line], Manhattan Assembly District 7, New York, New York; Roll: T625_1198; Page 9A. *Ancestry.com*.

²¹ "Society will work for Red Cross at Flower Show," *New York Herald*, Mar 10, 1918, 30. "Miss McAleenan Injured," *New York Times*, Aug 8, 1915, 4.

²² Architectural Drawings for the Gregory Mausoleum, 1921, DWR 2.2, Folder 59, Woodlawn Cemetery Records(1863-1999), Avery Drawings & Archives, New York, NY.

²³ *U.S., Passport Applications, 1795-1925* [database on-line]. Pg 21-23. "Obituary I -- no Title." *New York Times (1923-)*, Sep 17, 1950, 105.

²⁴ "Condon -- Gregory." *The New York Herald, New York Tribune (1924-1926)*, Apr 19, 1925, 20. "C. S. Condon Accepts a Position in East," *Joplin Globe*, Sep 13, 1927, 5.

²⁵ "St. Louis, Missouri; World War II Draft Cards (Fourth Registration) For the State of New York; Record Group Title: Records of the Selective Service System; Record Group Number:

20 years, until he moved with Ruth Gregory (now Condon) to New York City in 1927.²⁶

Throughout their time in Missouri, Ruth continued to participate in events as she had done in New York.²⁷ Their daughter, Margaret, was born January 7, 1928 in New York City.²⁸ Clifford continued as a dry goods salesman in 1930, but by 1940 he joined the banking industry as a salesman.²⁹ By 1942 the family moved from New York City to Scarsdale, New York, and by 1950 Clifford had become a proprietor of a retail store selling infant clothes.³⁰ The family went on two separate trips across the Atlantic in the 1950's, both in order to visit France.³¹ Ruth Condon passed away on December 15, 1964, and Clifford followed five years later on May 22, 1969.³² Nothing is known about the current status of their daughter Margaret.

The Gregory mausoleum is overall in good shape for a 100 year old building, as all notable deterioration does not appear to be affecting the structure of the mausoleum itself thus far. The grounds and building itself have had upkeep over the years, showing that the family has put effort and funds into maintaining the building. The family has not neglected the monument to their past, instead keeping it presentable for future generations to see.

147; Box or Roll Number: 115," *U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: *Ancestry.com*.

²⁶ "C. S. Condon Accepts a Position in East," *Joplin Globe*, Sep 13, 1927, 5.

²⁷ "Social and Personal," *Joplin Globe*, Dec 3, 1926, 5. "Society and Club News," *Joplin Globe*, Apr 3, 1927, 13.

²⁸ "Social and Personal," *Joplin Globe*, Jan 10, 1928, 5.

²⁹ US Census Bureau, *1930 United States Federal Census*; US Census Bureau, *1940 United States Federal Census*.

³⁰ *U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: *Ancestry.com*. US Census Bureau, *1950 United States Federal Census* [database on-line], Scarsdale, Westchester, New York; Roll: 135; Pg 74. *Ancestry.com*.

³¹ "Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels and Airplanes Departing from New York, New York, 07/01/1948-12/31/1956," *U.S., Departing Passenger and Crew Lists, 1914-1966* [database on-line], Pg 76, 155. *Ancestry.com*.

³² "Obituary 1 -- no Title." *New York Times (1923-)*, Dec 17, 1964, 41, May 24, 1969, 35.

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