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Studio 1  
Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

## Ermold Mausoleum

### Introduction

The Ermold mausoleum is located on Heather plot at Woodlawn Cemetery. It was initially commissioned by Frederick W. Jockel Jr. to C. E. Tayntor Granite Co. a year after his father's death in May 1909. It housed his father and infant son with his wife Catherine for a short time. However, in 1935 shortly after his wife Elise died, Edward Ermold purchased the mausoleum. The bodies buried there were moved to another plot within Woodlawn cemetery, and the interior was redesigned. Currently, the mausoleum houses Edward Ermold and his family.

### Biography

Edward Ermold was born in Göttingen, Prussia (now Germany), on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1852. In August 1880, when he was 27 years old, he migrated on board a ship named The Pervy to New York City<sup>1</sup> alongside his 23-year-old wife Elise and their two-year-old daughter Emma. The family moved into a modest building in the East Village on 57 1<sup>st</sup> avenue (figure 1).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ancestry.com. *U.S., Passport Applications, 1795-1925* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Ancestry.com. *1880 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010. 1880 U.S. Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Edward was a machinist and started a machine dealer company, the Edward Ermold Company, which would give him his fortune after his arrival. In 1885 patented his first "Bottle Corking Machine"<sup>3</sup> (figure 2) followed by a total of thirteenth patented machines between 1885 and 1909. Including "Envelope Machines" (figure 3), "Bottle Labeling Machines" (figure 4), and "Compressors for Bottle Corking Machines" (figure 5). During 1903 the company operated from 652-664 Hudson Street<sup>4</sup> (figure 6) and as it gained recognition in the packaging and bottling sector, grew to occupy the whole block by 1941.<sup>5</sup> Advertisements were published in a series of magazines such as *The Wine and Spirit Bulletin* (figure 7), *The Canning Trade* (figure 8), and various issues of *Modern Packaging* (figure 9). The Edward Ermold company continued to grow until 1951 when it was purchased by Barry-Wehmiller machinery company of St. Louis,<sup>6</sup> that operates until today. Edward Ermold died of cancer, a year after his wife Elise,<sup>7</sup> in 1936 at the age of 83 at his apartment on 225 West 86<sup>th</sup> street<sup>7</sup> (Figure 10).

### Exterior

The mausoleum is located mid-row facing Prospect Avenue in Heather plot. Various mausoleums surround it with similar exterior features (figure 11). After Edward Ermold

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<sup>3</sup> Ancestry.com. *U.S., Patent and Trademark Office Patents, 1790-1909* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.

<sup>4</sup> Edward Ermold Advertisement. *The Wine and Spirit Bulletin*. v. 17. Bulletin Publishing Company, 1903.

<sup>5</sup> "Machinery Firm Acquires Control of 3-Sided Block." *New York Times*, Apr 29, 1941.

<sup>6</sup> "B. & O. to Spend \$1 Million Improving Baltimore Pier." *Wall Street Journal*, Jul 19, 1951.

<sup>7</sup> Ancestry.com. *New York, New York, U.S., Index to Death Certificates, 1862-1948* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT. USA: 202

bought the mausoleum from Frederick Jockel, a lawyer of German descent,<sup>8</sup> who was probably affected economically during the Great Depression, he only did minor modifications to the original exterior design conceived by C. E. Tayntor Granite Company.<sup>9</sup> Its general massing is rectangular, symmetrical along the central axis, and has the prominent appearance of a Greek temple (figure 12).

The exterior ashlar masonry comprises 10" thick barre granite blocks with a rock face finish.<sup>10</sup> The pediment, columns, and stairs have a polished finish. The entrance is characterized by four Ionic columns of equal size and spacing between them, topped by an entablature and a triangular pediment. The only things that Ermold changed on the exterior were the carved family name above the door frame from JOCKEL to ERMOLD and the bronze double-paneled door, which now includes the letter "E" on its geometric ornaments (figure 13).

### Interior

Originally the mausoleum's interior was a vast space covered entirely with marble, with two stained-glass windows facing each other in the middle of the longer opposing walls, framed by two Doric *colonettes*. It had four more *colonettes* on each corner of the space.

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<sup>8</sup> Ancestry.com. *1900 United States Federal Census*[database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.

<sup>9</sup> Woodlawn Cemetery (New York, N.Y.). "Woodlawn Cemetery Records, 1863-1999." Dept. of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, 1909. Drawer MM 2.2 Folder 71. Major Monuments.

<sup>10</sup> Woodlawn Cemetery (New York, N.Y.). "Woodlawn Cemetery Records, 1863-1999." Dept. of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, 1909. Box 9 Folder 67. Major Monuments.

The catacombs were placed below grade with a capacity of eight people. With a covering marble block wholly aligned with the floor level.<sup>11</sup> After Ermold bought the mausoleum, he commissioned Robert Caterson to restyle the interior, who, as shown in his 1905 catalog,<sup>12</sup> had done numerous mausoleums, including many examples of Greek temples at Woodlawn cemetery.

The new design included the construction of four stacked catacombs at the bottom of the space (figure 14), making it shorter but still very ample. Additionally, all the ornamental features, including the marble columns, were removed, and replaced with large smooth pink marble slabs. Nevertheless, the below-grade catacombs were left unchanged. Probably only the covering marble slabs were replaced to match the new ones on the walls.

The new owner wanted to appropriate the space by changing the interior tone of the mausoleum. It was left almost unornamented, giving it a sober, solemn feeling. The only ornamentation consists of two small bronze rosettes incrusting on each catacomb's walls. And the moldings create a coffered ceiling with a similar bronze rosette placed in the middle of the central square whenever two faux beams encounter each other (figure 15). Finally, two colorful stained-glass windows face each other (figures 16,17). It is unclear if Ermold changed them or if the pieces were part of the original design.

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<sup>11</sup> Woodlawn Cemetery (New York, N.Y.). "Woodlawn Cemetery Records, 1863-1999." Dept. of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, 1935. Drawer MM 1.3 Folder 78. Major Monuments.

<sup>12</sup> Caterson, Robert (firm). "Monumental Work of Robert Caterson." New York : Robert Caterson, 1905. Columbia University Libraries.

On the eastern side, the windows depict a human-like male angel holding a palm leaf, which in religious iconography often symbolizes the Christian's triumph over death, and a sword, which represents the weapon of the Christian martyr. On the western side, a human-like female angel is holding a white dove, which, when depicted resting on a woman's hand, represents the soul rising to heaven and a wreath which is another symbol of the Christian martyr.<sup>13</sup>

### Current condition

Today, the Ermold mausoleum is in overall good condition, probably due to some maintenance works done after Edward's granddaughter Elsie died in 1970 by her husband, Karl Kemm.<sup>14</sup> However, there are some deterioration issues to be considered like the presence of biological growth at the mausoleum's crepidoma (figures 18,19), some overgrown trees leaning over the roof that could cause damage to the structure (figure 20), and the loss of mortar in the two joints of the central piece of the raking cornice on the pediment, which is causing water infiltration on the interior and creating marks on the ceiling's pink marble (figure 21,22).

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<sup>13</sup> Hall, J. (2008). *Dictionary of Subjects and Symbols in Art* (2nd ed.). Routledge.

<sup>14</sup> Woodlawn Cemetery (New York, N.Y.). "Woodlawn Cemetery Records, 1863-1999." Dept. of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, n.d. Box 5: Folder 36. Mausoleum Owners Correspondence. Accessed September 30, 2022.

Conclusion

The Ermold mausoleum can be considered part of a series of monuments that share similar architectural features within the landscape of the Woodlawn cemetery. Visible on the neighboring structures and in the catalog of the firm that redesigned the interior of Ermold's mausoleum, Robert Caterson, which had various similar Greek temples erected in Woodlawn Cemetery. Furthermore, the monument offers a glimpse of the story of the people who are and were buried there. It is also part of the history of the time when it was built and the cultural, social, and religious factors that converge to create the mausoleum.



Figure 1

17-47511  
A. PANWART & E. ERNOLD  
CORRIGING MACHINE.  
No. 311,634. Patented Feb. 3, 1885.

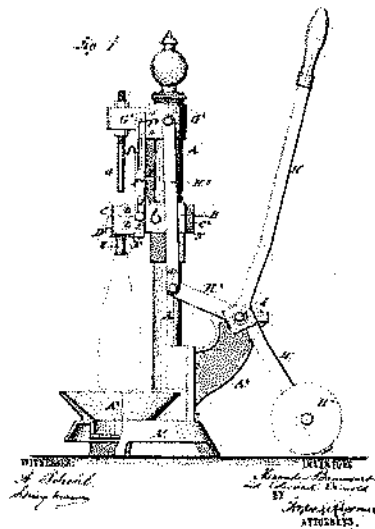


Figure 2. source: Ancestry.com. U.S., Patent and Trademark Office Patents, 1790-1909 [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.

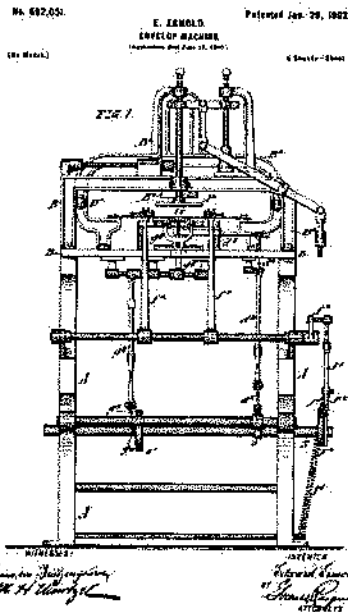
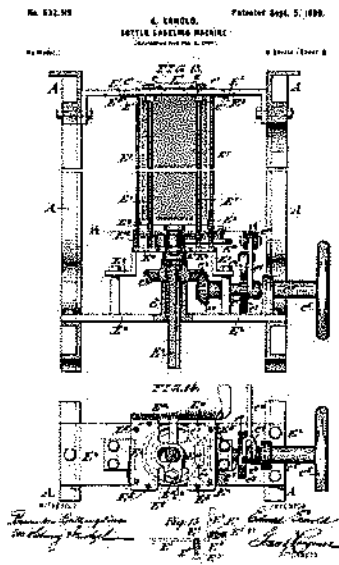
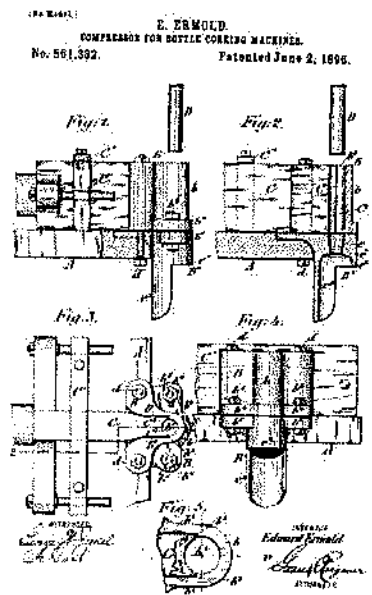


Figure 3. Source: Ancestry.com. U.S., Patent and Trademark Office Patents, 1790-1909 [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.



**Figure 4.** Source: Ancestry.com. *U.S., Patent and Trademark Office Patents, 1790-1909* [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.



**Figure 5.** Source: Ancestry.com. *U.S., Patent and Trademark Office Patents, 1790-1909* [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.





**Figure 6.** Source: Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy, The New York Public Library. "Manhattan: 13th Street (West) - 9th Avenue" New York Public Library Digital Collections. Accessed October 8, 2022. <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47dc-f817-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

# EDWARD ERMOLD,

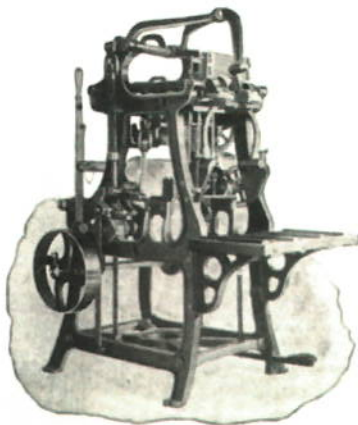
652-664 Hudson Street, New York.

Manufacturers of Patented and Improved

## BOTTLERS' MACHINERY, SUPPLIES, ETC



Ermold's Improved Patent Automatic Steam Power Corking Machine.



Ermold's Bottle Labeling Machine.

ERMOLD'S BOTTLE LABELING MACHINE is in use by the following concerns, to whom I refer:

Patet Brewing Co., Milwaukee, Wis., and branches; (2) Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co., Milwaukee, Wis., 16; Wm. J. Long Brewing Co., St. Louis, Mo., 14; Jacob Ruppert, New York, 6; John Gund Brewing Co., La Crosse, Wis., 4; Altsopp & Sons, Birmingham, England, 2; Wilson Distilling Co., Baltimore, Md., 2; Grand Rapids Brewing Co., Grand Rapids, Mich., 2; John Rapp & Son, San Francisco, Cal., 2; Eickler Brewing Co., New York, 2; Chattanooga Brewing Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., 2; Duquesne Brewing Co., Pittsburg, Pa., 2; Anheuser Busch Brewing Assn., St. Louis, Mo., 1; Durban Breweries & Distillers Ltd., Natal, So. Africa, 1; Sapporo Brewing Co., Sapporo, Japan, 1; Seattle Brewing Co., Seattle, Wash., 1; Nick Kessler Brewery, Helena, Mont., 1; Wm. Lanahan & Sons, Baltimore, Md., "Hunter Eye Whisky," 1; G. J. Hamack, Pittsburg, Pa., 1; Edward Trainer, Philadelphia, Pa., "Old Reserve Whisky," 1; P. Ballantine & Sons, Newark, N. J., 1; A. E. Norris & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., "Gar-



Ermold's Improved Patent Hand Corking Machine.

Evansville Brewing Ass'n., Evansville, Ind., 1; P. Ballantine & Sons, Newark, N. J., 1; A. E. Norris & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., "Garlick Club Whisky," 1; Etc., Etc.

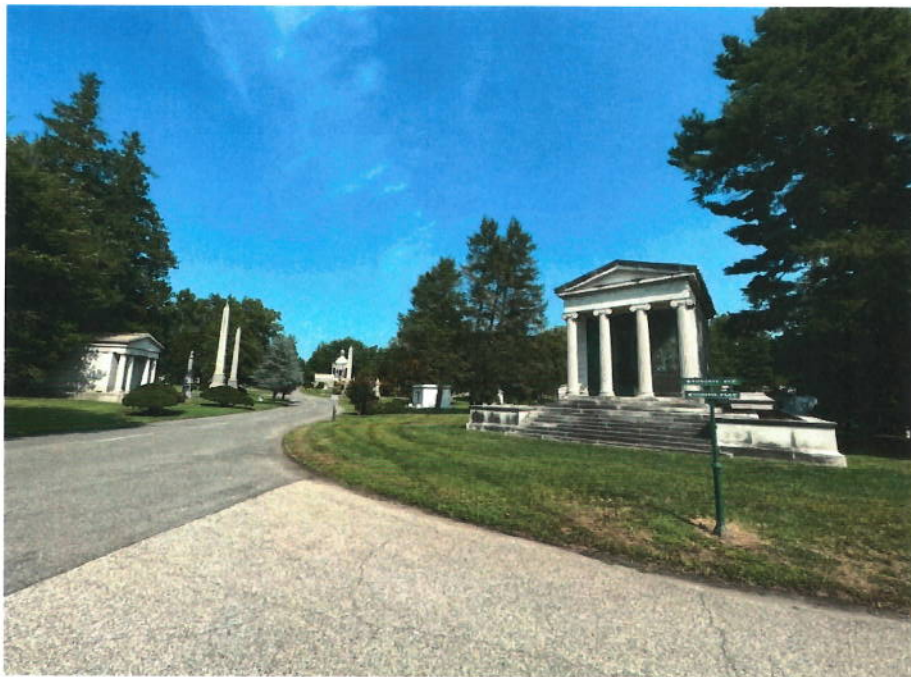
DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR, PRICES AND FURTHER INFORMATION ON APPLICATION.

**Figure 7.** Source: "The Wine and Spirit Bulletin." v. 17. Bulletin Publishing Company, 1903. <https://books.google.com/books?id=8hRQAAAYAAJ>.





**Figure 10.**



**Figure 11.**



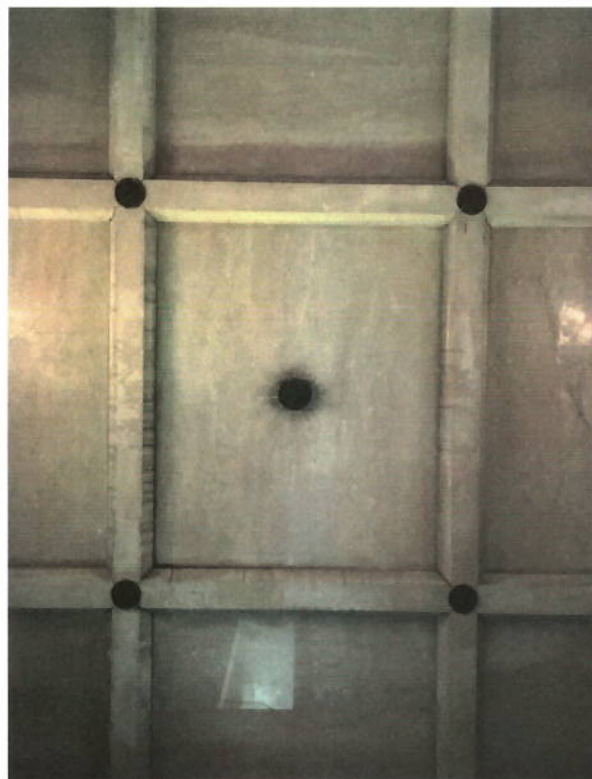
**Figure 12.**



**Figure 13.**



**Figure 14.**



**Figure 15.**

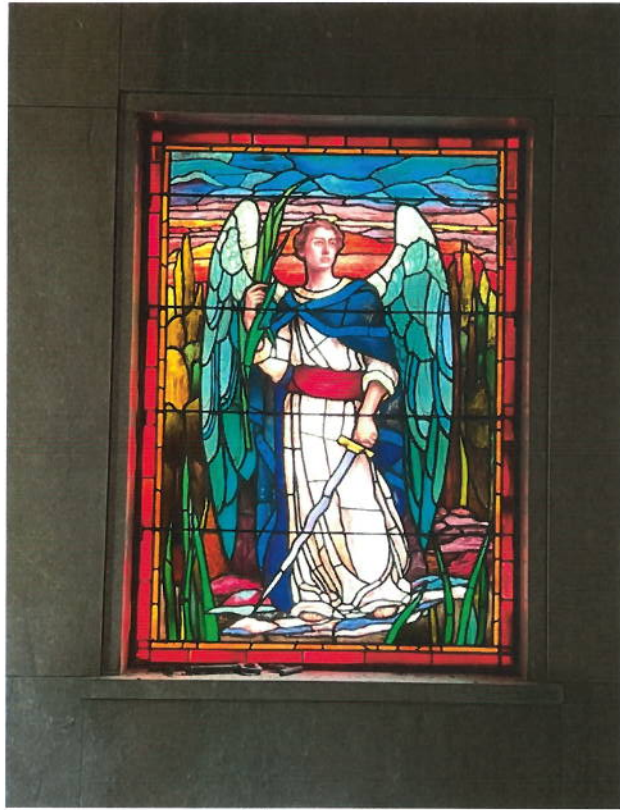


Figure 16

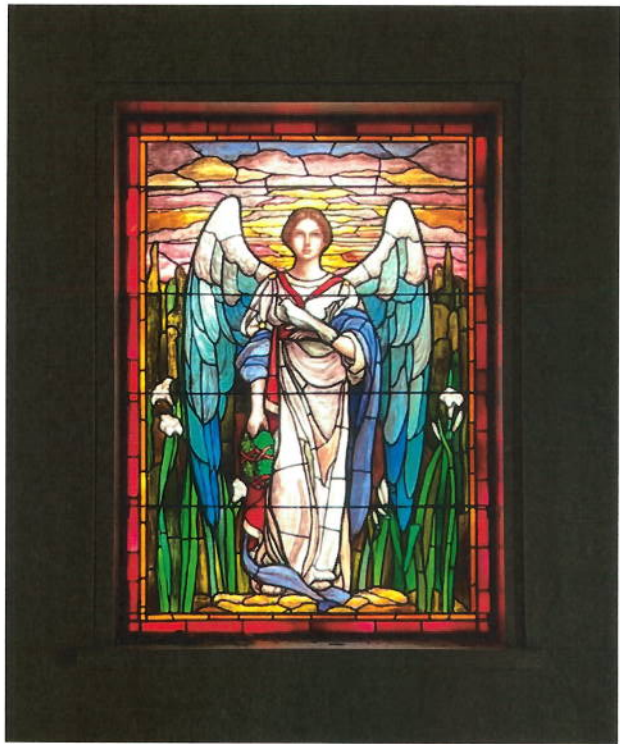


Figure 17.



**Figure 18.**



**Figure 19.**



**Figure 20.**



**Figure 21.**





**Figure 22.**

### Bibliography

- Ancestry.com. *U.S., Passport Applications, 1795-1925* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007.
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