

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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SCHUYLER HAZARD 1867-1948

“When men are rightly occupied, their amusement grows out of their work, as the color petals out of a fruitful flower. When they are faithfully helpful and compassionate, all their emotions are steady, deep, perpetual and vivifying to the soul as in the natural pulse to the body”.

----John Ruskin

Schuyler Hazard was born in Georgetown, South Carolina and graduated from Indigo Academy there in 1883. The following year he completed a course at Thayer Academy in Braintree. He then entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1890. The next twenty years were spent as a civil engineer for various railroads in Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania. He was resident engineer during the building of Pennsylvania Station in New York City. Other accomplishments as a civil engineer include a six-track mainline on the New Haven - Hartford R.R., rebuilding a R.R. bridge across the Hudson River and the construction of a passenger station in Albany and a large power plant in South Carolina.

In 1910 he came to Albion as general manager and chief engineer for the Orleans County and Medina Sandstone Companies then operating eight quarries in the county. From 1920-1930 Mr. Hazard was President, general manager and principal owner of the Albion Cold Storage. Following this until 1933 he worked on developing better freezing techniques. Between 1934 and 1940 he conducted a private practice which undertook projects at Camp Bowie in Texas and the Oak Ridge facility at Kingsport, Tenn. Throughout his residency in Albion he was vitally interested in the conservation and beautification of the community.

In 1915 he purchased the Hazard Parkway property, laid out the street which originally had a green down the center and gave it to the village. Prior to this in 1912 he had made plans for the first Arnold Gregory Memorial Hospital. In 1935 through his planning, design and supervision Rock Springs Glen Park was created. We know it today as Bullard Park. In 1937 Mr. Hazard laid out Lafayette Beach Park for children which once was the site of a school building on West State Street. His numbering system and maps of the Village of Albion are also still being used today.

Schuyler Hazard was active in the politics of the Democrat Party. He served as Mayor of the Village of Albion from 1915-1918. In 1936 he was a candidate for County Treasurer but was defeated by the Republican candidate Roy Posson of Medina.

He was a life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Engineers Club of New York and a long time warden of Christ Episcopal Church in Albion. He was also instrumental in establishing the Albion Chapter of the American Red Cross in 1917.

He married Adelaide Perry in 1893 and they had three children: Schuyler and Eloise who are both deceased and Mrs. E. Earl Harding (Marguerite). Credit is due Mrs. Eleanor Weeks Wilder for research of many facts contained in this article.