

Romaine Hayward Lusk

Romaine Hayward Lusk, one of the founding members of the Pittsford Political Equality Club, hosted the Club's meeting at her home on South Main street on December 2, 1902. This meeting followed the sudden death of the Club's first President, Mary Helen Shepard Light.

At the meeting "letters from Mary Anthony (*sister of Susan B. Anthony*) expressing sympathy for us in our great loss were read and remarked upon. It was cordially agreed that each member would contribute a share of the flowers sent to Mrs. Light's funeral in the name of the PEC."

Romaine Lusk's life reflects the hardships women faced at the turn of the 20th century. Her husband died in 1891, leaving her to raise their only surviving child, 5-year old son Stephen, on her own. She and Stephen lived on South Main Street for many years.

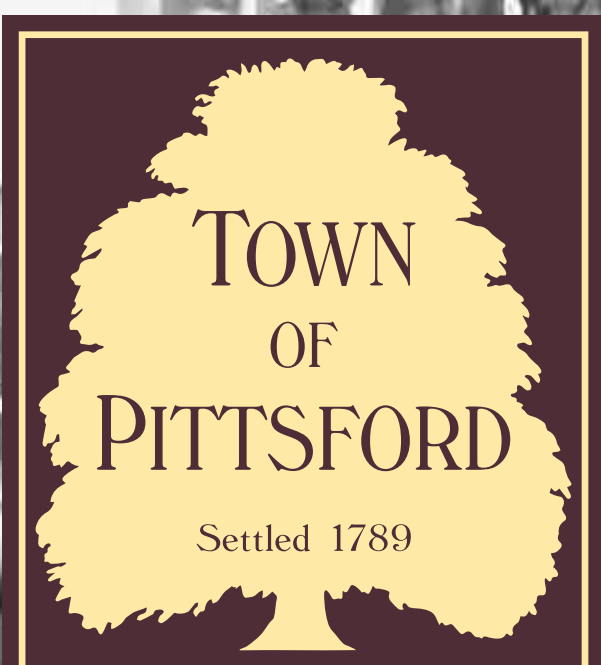
Romaine Lusk spent her time in a quest for knowledge, taking classes on china painting and physical culture and participating in a Pittsford book club. Following Stephen's untimely death at age 33, she needed to support herself and did so by working as a housekeeper in various homes in Rochester. Romaine Hayward Lusk died in Brockport in 1945 and is buried in Pittsford Cemetery.

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"As part of the ninth generation of my family to call Pittsford home, I am proud of the contributions that all my ancestors made to making our community a special place to live. I am proud that Romaine Lusk was part of the effort to bring women a voice in the political system, including the right to vote—a right I recently exercised for the first time."

—Riley Jane Lusk



Early Lusk family homestead