

# Bethel Cemetery Near Ellis, SD

## The Burial Location of Satina Bates Tupper

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## The Burial Location of Satina Bates Tupper

### Summary

Rhoda Satina Bates (1827-1890) is a second great grandmother of mine on my maternal side. She was born in Pennsylvania and moved with her family to Illinois. There she married Jerome Tupper (1821-1899). Their first child was born in Illinois. They later moved to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, where their other children were born. I am a descendant of one of those children (Charles Bates a.k.a. Clarence Tupper). Research has led me to the following information about Satina's death and burial. The work has led me to a theory of a chronology of the life of Satina that ties all of the known facts together. However, it does not explain how/if there was a relationship between Satina and the Julius C. Eldredge family on whose farm she likely died. Hers does not appear to have been an easy life.

Rhoda Satina Bates Tupper was buried at the Bethel Cemetery on Jan. 4, 1890, in grave 1 of lot 26, block 2. I believe that her grave is just south of the graves of Margaret and Sylvester Clark, who are in graves 2 & 3 of lot 25, block 2. Satina's grave is just east of the marker for John Foster (d.1892) which is at grave 1 of lot 41, block 2. So, Satina's grave should be 16 feet due east of the marker for John Foster. Satina's grave is flanked on the south by the marker for Avis Leao. There is a tree/bush very close to the SW of the location of Satina's grave.

In October, 2024, I was able to place an engraved granite marker at a location consistent with the information above. Many thanks to my son who helped in this effort. An image of the marker follows.



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### References

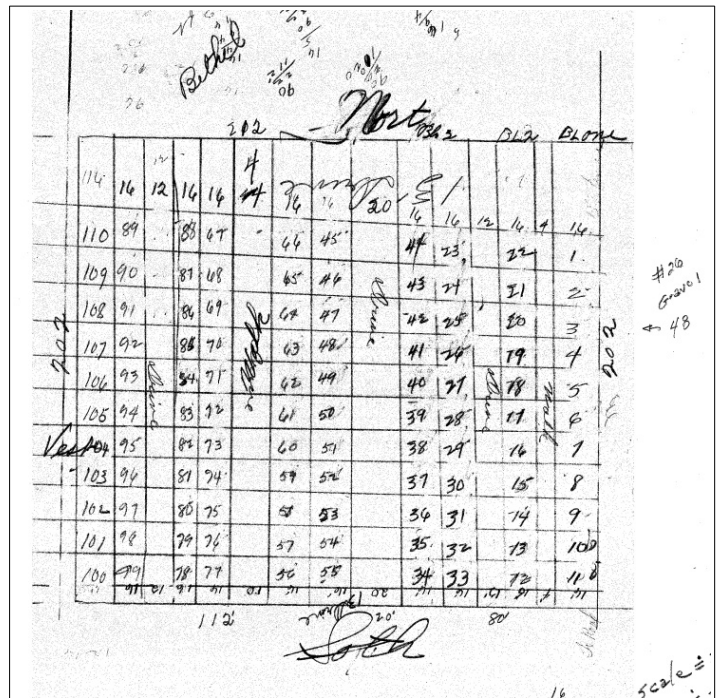
The information above comes from these sources: "Grave Records of Minnehaha County Cemeteries", page 249, as compiled by the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society; information at <https://findagrave.com> for Bethel Cemetery (<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/96810/bethel-cemetery>); the WPA graves registration project; other sources noted at my website (<https://281connections.us>). Some images follow.

### From the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society

"Grave Records of Minnehaha County Cemeteries", page 249

TUMA, Tony H.	1874	1914	28
TUPPER, Mrs. R. S.	1880	1935	28
TURNER, Charles F.	1922	1/4/1890	62y, 4m, 19d Len Eldridge Farm
TURNER, Edna V.	1926	1972	50
TURNER, John C.	1922		11
			11

Bethel Cemetery layout.

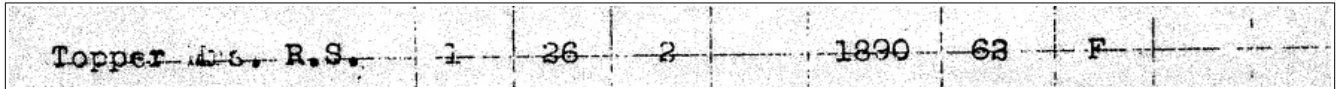


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### From the WPA graves registration project

This excerpt shows grave number (1), lot (26), and block (2) for Satina.



Following is the entry for the grave at the South Dakota Archives website.

First Name	Last Name	Death Date	Lot Number	Block Number	City	County	Name
R S	TOPPER	1890	26	2	ELLIS	MINNEHAHA	BETHEL

\*This searchable database includes records that were cataloged as part of the WPA Cemetery Project (pre-1940s) plus any cemetery updates that our office has received. It is not a complete listing of all the burials in South Dakota.

### From 281connections.us

More information about the Tupper/Bates family can be found in this document:

[https://281connections.us/281connections\\_Wiki/South\\_Dakota\\_Families/Bates-Moodie/Charles-and-Agnes-sourcedata.pdf](https://281connections.us/281connections_Wiki/South_Dakota_Families/Bates-Moodie/Charles-and-Agnes-sourcedata.pdf) .

### From findagrave.com

- for John Foster: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/46161319/john-foster>
- for the Clarks: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/46161117/margaret-clark> and <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/46161163/sylvester-clark>
- for Avis Leao; <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/62289254/avis-leao>
- for the Alguire, who may be paternal great grandparents of Avis Leao: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/62289230/mary-jane-alguire>
- for Satina: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/173386347/rhoda-satina-tupper>

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## The Burial Location of Satina Bates Tupper

### Cemetery Images from 2018

I first visited the cemetery in 2018. Subsequently, I had an engraved marker made to place on Satina's grave. The COVID pandemic intervened and kept me from placing the marker until 2024. Here are some photos from the 2018 trip.

Looking SW from near the NE corner of the cemetery.



Looking ESE from just NE of the plaque that explains deaths of children in the 1873 blizzard. See for example . . .

<https://www.waymarking.com/gallery/default.aspx?f=1&guid=dcdf4643-f1ec-4281-9111-ed793f222827&gid=2>



Looking ESE again from near the plaque. Wider view.



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## The Burial Location of Satina Bates Tupper

Here is a Google Maps view of the cemetery. See <https://goo.gl/maps/Ge2H5ySWH7C2>



Satina's grave is near the small bush/tree pointed to here..



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## The Burial Location of Satina Bates Tupper

### The Julius C. Eldredge Family and a Theory

#### Eldredge Farm Information




Note: In what follows, I use the surnames Eldridge and Eldredge interchangeably. Pertinent records can be found with either spelling. However, I suspect that the current spelling in use is Eldridge.

The information from the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society indicates that Satina died at the farm of “Len Eldridge.” I have not found such a person, but I have located the farm of Julius C.

Eldridge/Eldredge. Not knowing when the note was added about the death of Satina, I am tempted to speculate that it was added years after her death, and that it may refer to the son of Julius whose name was Lynn S. Eldridge. Information about the Julius C. Eldredge family can be found at <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/9K66-PPH>. The farm included three homestead tracts recorded with the BLM. See <https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/results/default.aspx?searchCriteria=type=patent|st=SD|cty=|ln=eldridge|fn=julius|sp=true|sw=true|sadv=false> for the information pictured below.

Patents

**Note:** An *Italic* entry denotes data that has not been indexed against the land patent document, and has no image.

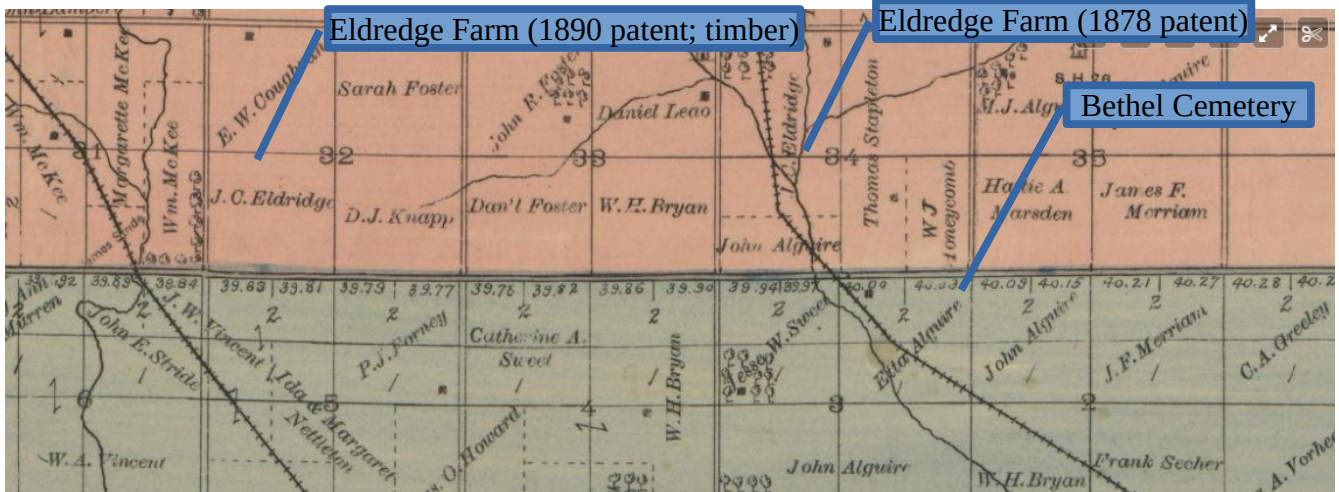
Image	Accession	Names	Date	Doc #	State	Meridian	Twp - Rng	Allquots	Sec. #	County
	<a href="#">TC-0140-028</a>	ELDRIDGE, JULIUS C	6/25/1890	486	SD	5th PM	102N - 050W	SW¼	32	Minnehaha
	<a href="#">SD1090_168</a>	ELDRIDGE, JULIUS C	8/20/1878	1958	SD	5th PM	102N - 050W	NW¼	34	Minnehaha
---	<a href="#">SDMTAA.079125</a>	<i>ELDRIDGE, JULIUS C</i>	<i>6/25/1890</i>	<i>486</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>5th PM</i>	<i>102N - 050W</i>	<i>SW¼</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>Minnehaha</i>
	<a href="#">7235</a>	ELDRIDGE, JULIUS F	8/10/1908	5686	SD	5th PM	108N - 079W	NE¼	18	Lyman

The oldest tract is presumably where the farm was located. The other two are timber patents. These three tracts are the ones that I assume Lynn took over from his father sometime between about 1893 and 1900.

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A map from 1893 helps to visualize the relative locations of the Eldredge farm and Bethel Cemetery. The map can be found here - <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4183m.la000862/> . An image of part of the map follows. It shows part of the boundary between Benton and Wayne townships.



Further support for the theory that the farm being referenced was that of Julius at the time of Satina's death comes from the 1900 Federal Census that shows Lynn farming in Benton Township (Minnehaha County). See "United States Census, 1900", , FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMRZ-TNH> : Thu Apr 11 20:05:23 UTC 2024), Entry for Lynn S Eldridge and Marcia A Eldridge, 1900.

The 1900 census also shows that Julius has moved to Sioux Falls. See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMR8-4TB> .

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### A Theory

Working on this assumption about the Eldredge farm, one then wonders why Satina was at that farm, and if there was some connection between the Eldridges and Satina. Here is a list of considerations.

1. In 1890, Satina's husband (Jerome Tupper) was in a veterans home in WI – possibly because of a disability associated with the Civil War. See <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K8SH-T1Y> . He was admitted to the veterans home in WI in 1886, and listed Bigpatch, WI, as his most recent residence. In 1890 he was about 68 and Satina was about 62. Jerome was from a part of NY that is just west of the finger lakes area. He died in 1899 and was buried in Jamestown, WI. I have never determined his whereabouts during the period between 1870 (the census) and 1886 (admission to veterans home).
2. Satina and her family were in Elkhorn, WI, perhaps during the war as far as I can tell from the 1860 federal census. Jerome was in the cavalry from 1861-1862. After the war and Jerome's return, the family relocated westward to near Jamestown, WI, where they appear in the 1870 federal census. See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MN9F-NZS> .
3. Julius C. Eldredge was born in NY in about 1844, but in 1860 he was living with his parents and siblings in the vicinity of Union in Rock County, WI, according to the 1860 federal census (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MW98-J8R> ). Julius Eldredge enlisted in the Union Army in 1864. He is shown as being from Evansville, WI.
4. Julius' wife (Laura Allen) was from NY – in an area from which the Eldredges had come to WI. This is quite distant from the place in NY from which Jerome Tupper originated. (Franklin Co., NY, versus Livingston County, NY.)
5. Elkhorn, WI, and Evansville, WI, are just over 40 miles apart. The Tuppers and the Eldredges were not too far apart.
6. Perhaps there is some connection between Jerome Tupper and a much younger Julius C. Eldredge through the Civil War. They were in different regiments, but maybe they encountered each other upon return from the war.
7. Perhaps one of Satina's children, all of whom were a little younger than Julius, were in SD with their mother and their spouse. Perhaps they were visiting or employed by Julius C. Eldredge. Candidates are . . . Clara Tupper Cole and Ada Tupper Williams. (This excludes other children who had died or were otherwise clearly not involved with their parents in 1890.)

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- 7.1. I have not found a death date for Clara, but her husband is in Waterloo, IA, and widowed in 1900. Presumably she has died before 1900. The 1880 census shows that in 1880, Satina was living with Clara and her family in Osage, IA. See the image associated with this record: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MDLQ-KR2> . This shows that Satina was already living away from Jerome in 1880. Was she just visiting? To reinforce the idea that she was separated from Jerome at the time, I have found that Ada is also in Osage, IA, in the 1880 census in the home of Guy Stickney. See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MDLQ-N25> . So, Ada and her mother Satina are shown in pages 37 and 40 of the census for Osage.
- 7.2. Ada was living in Iowa (Cerro Gordo County) in 1895, 1898, and 1900 as evidenced by the birth of a son in 1898, presence in the 1900 census, and presence in the 1895 Iowa Census. In 1888 Ada had been married for about a year and gave birth to a son in the vicinity of Jamestown, WI. Then in December of 1889, Ada gave birth to a daughter named Jessie in Minnehaha County, SD! See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QKD8-56ZT> and <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LHW3-XWG> . So, here is circumstantial evidence that Satina was in SD with her daughter Ada, who gave birth about a month prior to Satina's death. We still do not know why Ada's young family was in SD, but this is the best hint that they (with Satina) were in SD in the same county as the Julius C. Eldredge family. Ada and her family moved to Cerro Gordo County, IA, before the 1900 census is taken in June. See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M92Z-SZP> .

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This evidence leads to the following theory about Satina and how she came to be in Minnehaha County, SD, in the winter of 1889-1890.

After the civil war, the family of Jerome Tupper and Satina Bates resettled from Elkhorn, WI, to the vicinity of Jamestown, WI. Some time after the 1870 census, Jerome moved into a home for disabled soldiers. That left Satina and her children on their own. In 1870, the living children were my great grandfather (Charles Bates, a.k.a. Clarence Tupper), Mary, Ellen, Clara, and Ada. Charles/Clarence did not marry until 1886, but his whereabouts are not clear between 1870 and 1886.

In about 1870-71 Mary married Edward Burns.

Ellen married in 1871 to James Ward. Clara married in 1872 to Clinton Cole.

Clara married Clinton Cole in 1872 in WI. By 1880, Satina and Ada had followed Clara and her husband to Osage, IA. At some point after 1880, Clara died.

Ada married in 1887 to Harry Williams in WI. In 1888 Ada gave birth to a son named Raymond in WI. By 1889 Satina had probably followed Ada and her new family to SD, where she died shortly (one month) after the birth of a daughter to Ada. Ada and her family relocated to Iowa and settled in Cerro Gordo County some time before 1895. Why they were in SD is not clear. Did they know someone there like the Eldredge family or a relative of William? Or, perhaps there was another reason.

Hopefully some new discovery will shed some light on the issue.

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## The Burial Location of Satina Bates Tupper

### A Chronology

It is still not clear how the family of Julius C. Eldredge fits into this story of Satina's life except at the point of her death. However, following is a tabular chronology of some of the key players. At some point it may be useful in exploring the theory that Satina was in SD with her daughter Ada when she died.

Date	Tupper/Bates Family							Eldredge Family
	Satina	Jerome	Mary S.	Ellen	Clara A.	Charles J.	Ada E.	Julius C.
1821		birth; NY						
1827	birth; PA							
1830s								
1844								birth; NY
1849	marriage; IL	marriage; IL						
1850			birth; IL					
1852				birth; WI				
1856					birth; WI			
1858						birth; WI		
1860	living in Elkhorn, WI	living in Elkhorn, WI	living in Elkhorn, WI	Winnebago County, IL	living in Elkhorn, WI	living in Elkhorn, WI		living in Rock Co., WI
1861		in Civil War; 4th WI (Cavalry?)						
1862		in Civil War; 4th WI (Cavalry?)						
1863								
1864								in Civil War; 40 <sup>th</sup> WI infantry
1865								
1867								marriage; NY
1868							birth, WI	
1869								birth of son Allen; WI
1870	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	?	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	
1871			marriage to	marriage to				

(continued)

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Date	Tupper/Bates Family							Eldredge Family
	Satina	Jerome	Mary S.	Ellen	Clara A.	Charles J.	Ada E.	Jullius C.
1868							birth, WI	
1869								birth of son Allen; WI
1870	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	?	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	living in Jamestown, WI	
1871			marriage to Edward Burns; WI (est)	marriage to James Ward; WI				
1872			birth of son Frank; WI		marriage to Clinton Cole; WI			
1873				birth of daughter Mary; WI				birth of son Lynn; WI
1874					birth of daughter Mable; WI			
1875				birth of daughter Ada; WI	birth of son Albert; IL			birth of son Fred; SD
1876								
1877				birth of son Willie; WI	birth of daughter Alta; IL			
1878					birth of son Charles; IA			birth of daughter Flora; SD
1879				birth of daughter Nellie; WI				birth of daughter Elsie; SD
1880	in IA at Clara's house				birth of son Frances; IA		in IA near Clara's house	
1881				birth of son Fred; WI				
1882								birth of son Allen, SD
1884				birth of son James; IA				
1885				death; IA				

(continued)

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Date	Tupper/Bates Family							Eldredge Family
	Satina	Jerome	Mary S.	Ellen	Clara A.	Charles J.	Ada E.	Julius C.
1884				birth of son James; IA				
1885				death; IA				
1886		enters soldiers' home; WI	birth of son Clifford; WI			marriage to Agnes Moodie; WI		
1887						birth of son Harry; WI	marriage to Harry Williams; WI	
1888					birth of daughter Lillian; IA	birth of daughter May; WI	birth of son Raymond; WI	
1889							birth of daughter Jessie; SD	
1890	death; SD	still in soldiers' home; WI						
1891						birth of son Frank; WI		
1893						birth of son John; WI		name appears in LOC map of Minnehaha Co., SD
1895						birth of daughter Libbie; WI	residing in Cerro Gordo Co., IA	
1898						birth of daughter Sue; WI	birth of son Oscar; IA	
1899		death; WI						
1900						death; WI	birth of son Frank; IA	residing in Sioux Falls, SD
1901						birth of daughter Grace; WI		
1905							divorce; IA	
1913			death; IL					
1920								residing in CA
1924								death; CA
1936							death; CA?	