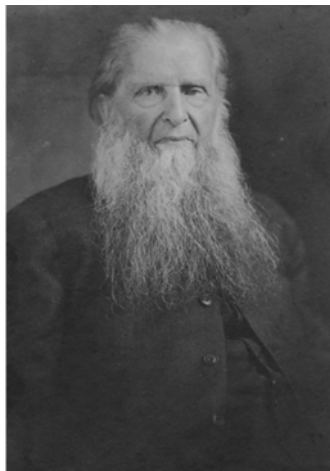


Elizabethtown College 125th Anniversary
National Historic Preservation Trust This Place Matters Campaign & Campus Historic Building Survey
Based on the National Parks Service Historic American Building Survey
2024 Summer Creative Arts and Research Program SCARP
Ava Barton Class of 2027 and Shawn Gipe Class of 2027
Jean-Paul Benowitz, Director of Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships and Public Heritage Studies



Samuel R. Zug (1832 - 1926)

At the first public meeting of the College, the question “What kind of School do we want?” was open for discussion and Samuel R. Zug said, “We need a co-educational school for our young people.”¹ The second public meeting took place on April 5, 1899, in the Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, with Samuel R. Zugg as the Moderator of the meeting.

After Falkenstein spoke on the anti-higher education sentiment in Eastern Pennsylvania and contended for the training of youth under Christian influences, moderator S.R. Zugg opened the meeting for discussion on these questions: “Shall we have a school?” and “What kind of School do we want.” After some discussion, the meeting voted to appoint a Locating Committee of ten to determine where the College would be built. S.R. Zugg was one of the ten members elected to the Locating Committee.²

The next meeting of the Locating Committee was held on May 24, 1899, at the Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, Virginia. Of the ten members on the Locating Committee, six attended this meeting, including S.R. Zugg. A motion was passed during this meeting requiring a majority of the committee in order to decide the location of the College.³

¹ Ralph Schlosser, *History of Elizabethtown College 1899 - 1970*. (Lebanon, PA: Sowers Printing Company, 1971), 5.; Danielle Phillips et al., “Samuel R. Zug” (Landmarks and Legends Essay, Elizabethtown College, 2017) 2.; Jean-Paul Benowitz, Peter J. DePuydt, “Elizabethtown College” (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2014), 11.

² Ibid., 13-14.

³ Ibid., 16.

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At the sixth Board Meetings at the home of Joseph H. Rider in Elizabethtown on April 12, 1900, S.R. Zugg was a visitor in the meeting.⁴ The opening day program for Elizabethtown College was held on Tuesday, November 13, 1900, and S.R. Zug started the program with Scripture Reading and Prayer.⁵ The dedication of Alpha Hall was held at two o'clock on Monday afternoon, March 4, 1901. S.R. Zug gave a Dedication Sermon during the program.⁶

On June 6th, the day before the third and final public meeting, there was still notable contention when it came to the location of the College, featuring protests from J.G. Francis for Pottstown, Royer for Ephrata, and H.E. Light for Mountville. On the other hand, Samuel Zug continued to champion for Elizabethtown, as it had been all but been unanimously decided on except for Royer, by giving an exhortation in favor of Elizabethtown during this meeting.⁷

At the second public meeting of the College at 9:30 A.M. on April 5th, S.R. Zug was elected as moderator.⁸ At this meeting, a motion was passed to elect ten members to a committee for selecting the College's site, writing a constitution, and creating by-laws. Samuel R. Zug was one of the ten people to be elected onto the committee.⁹

In early 1945, the Reverend John C. Zug donated \$20,000 to be used for a room in the new library as a memorial for his father, founder Samuel R. Zug.¹⁰

Information about Zug Memorial Hall:

The Zug Memorial Library was dedicated on October 20, 1950.¹¹ The total cost was \$160,000 and the library had three-tiered stacks for 50,000 volumes, which was seemingly more than needed since the College only owned around 16,500. This library would serve the College for the next forty years.¹² After a fundraising campaign of President McAuley, the Zug Memorial Library received an enlargement in 1965. The Library had the addition of two new large wings to either side of the main building. The day after the additions were dedicated, the College also found itself with a new building, the Brinser Residence Hall for Men.¹³



⁴ Ibid., 31.

⁵ Ibid., 39.

⁶ Ibid., 43.

⁷ Chet Williamson, *Uniting Work and Spirit: A Centennial History of Elizabethtown College* (Elizabethtown, PA, Elizabethtown College Press, 2001), 16.

⁸ Ibid, 13.

⁹ Ibid., 14.

¹⁰ Ibid., 161.

¹¹ Benowitz et al., 24.

¹² Ibid., 169.

¹³ Ibid., 216.; Phillips, 2.

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Elder Samuel R. Zug of Elizabethtown recalled this about the Church of the Brethren: “About 1870, the brethren used occasionally to have a preaching service in the old United Brethren Church in Elizabethtown. At that time there were not over a dozen members in town.”¹⁴ A committee met throughout 1884 to set up principles for a new bank so that it could operate as a national bank. On February 25, 1885, stockholders in the Elizabethtown National Bank met for an organizational meeting. At this meeting, Samuel R. Zug was one of men elected to the Board of Directors.¹⁵

The first public meeting for the College was held to discuss the need for a brethren school on November 29, 1898, in Reading, and a committee was then formed to visit possible locations for the site. In the meantime, Elder Samuel R. Zug began inviting Brethren from all across eastern Pennsylvania to meet at Elizabethtown in April 1899 to plan the next steps of the college. During this meeting, S.R. Zug was elected as chairman, and a committee of ten was appointed to finalize the College’s location.¹⁶ At a special council meeting for the Church of the Brethren in May, 1902, it was decided that the Chiques territory would be divided to organize a new Elizabethtown Congregation with 160 members. Samuel R. Zug was appointed elder in charge of the new church.¹⁷ Elder Zug resigned from his position in 1904.¹⁸

Information from History of the Church of the Brethren of The Eastern District of Pennsylvania:

Samuel R. Zug’s ancestry traces back to Ulrich Zug and his wife, whose maiden name was Bachman. They came from Switzerland around 1727 and settled in Lancaster Co., Pa., raising a total of six sons and two daughters. Originally a Mennonite, Ulrich Zug became baptized to the brethren church in 1742. Ulrich Zugg passed away in 1758. One of Ulrich’s sons, John/Hannes Zug, was born in 1731, baptized in 1749, and married to Anna Heffelfinger around 1758. Hannes Zug was elected to the ministry in 1770 and was ordained as an Elder in 1780 by Martin Uner and Christopher Saur. Hannes died at age 90 in 1821. Anna and Hannes had four sons and four daughters. One of their sons, Joseph, died in 1821 at age 51 due to a sickness caused by a cold plunge bath. Joseph was married to Barbara Eby, with whom he had four sons and four daughters. One son was Benjamin Zug, born on July 12, 1802, and married Elizabeth Ruhl in 1824. Around 1828, the couple was baptized in the Church of the Brethren, and in 1848 Benjamin was elected to the office of deacon. Benjamin Zugg died in 1886 at age 83 and his wife died in 1892 at age 90. From their marriage, five sons and two daughters were born. One son born from the couple was Samuel Ruhl Zug, born February 29, 1832, on a farm. At the time, farmer boys were not expected

¹⁴ Richard Kerwin MacMaster, *Elizabethtown: The First Three Centuries* (Morgantown, PA: Mastof Press, 1999), 125.

¹⁵ Ibid., 139.

¹⁶ Ibid., 164.

¹⁷ Ibid., 200.

¹⁸ Ibid., 201.

to go to school before the holidays when they could be working.¹⁹ When it was winter and frost set in, the farming work turned into wood gathering for a supply of firewood that would be made ready for the stove by hand with axes and saws. Threshing at the time required the slow process of treading out grain on a barn floor with horses. This would continue for weeks and rye was thrashed with flails.

As a child, Samuel R. Zug's school privileges were few and far between. In 1850, Samuel attempted to ask his father if he could learn blacksmithing, however, his father said, "No, not this summer; we want to build a house, but if you stay at home, and help us until fall, you may either learn a trade, or go to school at Lititz, Pa." This was a fortunate compromise for Samuel and quite the surprise because at the time, Brethren were opposed to high schools. On October 1, Samuel went to Mr. Beck's school in Lititz, Pa. The following March, he contracted typhoid fever and then never went back to school, though, he taught school for four successive winters. In 1852, S.R. Zug married Fannie W. Shelly. In 1861 both him and his wife converted to the Church of the Brethren, receiving baptism on the farm of Samuel Graybill near Manheim, Pa., at a love feast.

In October 11, 1865, S.R. Zug was called to the ministry. During 1868, the Chiques Church was cut off from the old White Oak congregation. The new congregation was organized with about 200 members and three ministers, one of whom was S.R. Zug. In 1871 Brother Zug advanced to the second degree. On Thanksgiving Day in 1885, Zug was ordained as an Elder and given oversight to the church. At the time, most of the older ministers had passed, though membership was up to 400.²⁰ During the fall of 1867, Through S.R. Zug's effort, the first series of meetings in the Chiques house were held, which would continue the following years. In 1878, S.R. Zug gained permission to organize a Sunday School, but it was not to be held in the church. During the spring of 1879, Samuel once again received permission to organize a Sunday school and took up doing so in the meeting house, therefore creating the first Sunday School among Brethren in the County.

The Chiques congregation continued growing, eventually being comprised of over 700 members. With the increasing membership, Samuel Zug submitted a plan at as special council held March 28, 1902, suggesting the church be divided into four congregations. The plan was adopted and gave each church a lovefeast house, with the smallest congregation containing 125 members. The four churches were called Chiques, West Green Tree, Fairview, and Elizabethtown. Samuel Zug remained Elder in charge to all the churches except Fairview. When S.R. Zug was originally elected to the ministry, there was only two organized churches in Lancaster County, three ordained ministers (one of which died three weeks later), ten ministers in the first and second degree, totaling to about 1000 members. By 1913, there were fourteen organized churches, 20 Elders, 38 ministers in the first and second degree, and 3,000 plus members. When Zug was originally called to the office, there was no series of meetings, Sunday Schools, English preaching, other than at funerals

¹⁹ Church of the Brethren. *History of the church of the brethren of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania* (Lancaster: New Era Printing Company, 1915), 429.

²⁰ Church of the Brethren. 430.

or by special requests. During that time, members of the Church of the Brethren were against anything more than a common education, and the above-named things were generally unheard of. However, Samuel Zug's innovations contributed to making these things not just acceptable, but indispensable to the Church of the Brethren. Elder Zug held oversight of the Chiques church until his retirement in 1910.²¹ He also resigned from heading the Elizabethtown Congregation in 1912. Additionally, he was relieved from the West Green Tree Church in 1905.

On July 23, 1891, the West Conestoga Church decided that Lancaster city, which was part of the church, should be an organization of its own. On October 29, 1891, the church was organized with 31 members but was lacking when it came to a resident official. On the same day, Elder S.R. Zug was chosen as their Elder in Charge, but had to rely on ministerial help from other churches for a time. On July 12, 1899, Elder Zug was relieved of his position by T.F. Imler who had been ordained. However, on July 20, 1895, the York City Church was organized with a membership of about 160 and Samuel Zug was chosen as their elder. He was in charge of the church until 1899 when Jos. A. Long was ordained and took up the position as Elder in charge. In two days, Elder Zug was relieved the charge of two city churches. Before Elder Zug had left the York Congregation, a project was in the works to erect a larger church to accommodate the growing membership, which at the time was around 230 members.

On the evening of November 19, 1895, this project came to a head with the creation of the church of Harrisburg, which initially had 15 members and no resident official. Elder Zug was chosen to oversee the church, during which he once again had to rely on ministerial help from other churches and the use of reunited halls. In 1899, a lot of land with a one-story building was bought for \$3,000 and was converted into a place of worship. This building was used until 1904, when a large new brick building was erected and dedicated on May, 1905. Many ministers temporarily move into this building, but would usually stay for no more than a year.²² Elder Zug once again resigned in 1911 when Elder G.N. Falkenstein was chosen as his successor.

Elder S.R. Zug was involved in evangelist work at Ridgely, Md., for several years. Additionally, in the fall of 1883, Zug attended the first love feast ever held on the eastern shore of Maryland, which took place in an old sawmill. On August 2, 1884, Elder Zug and Wm. Hertzler helped in organizing the Ridgely Church, containing 22 members. Samuel Zug was put in charge of the church's oversight, which is position he held for several years. Around 1902, Zug was also chosen as Elder of the congregation in Philadelphia under supervision of the Committee from Annual Meeting.

From the start, Elder S.R. was a leading spirit for the missionary effort within eastern Pennsylvania. In 1879, he was elected as a member on the Home Mission Board and was continuously reelected until 1849. During this time, Zug provided his help, opinions, and service in the field for the missionary. Eventually Zug resigned from the Home Mission Board due to being

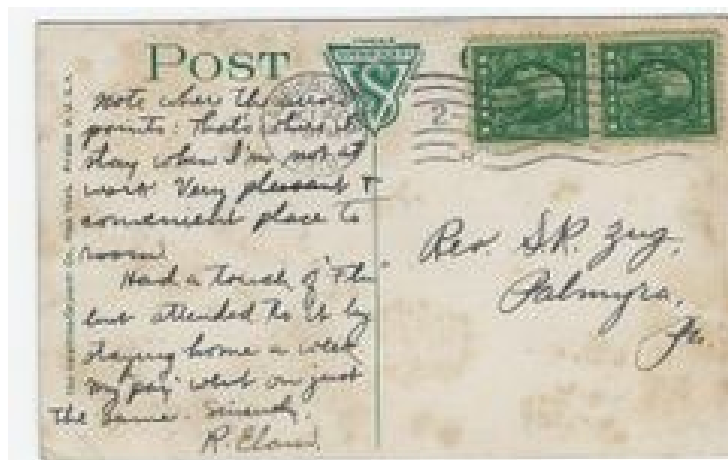
²¹ Ibid., 431.

²² Ibid., 432.

appointed as the General Missionary and part of the Tract Committee. He was chosen for this committee in 1893, and two years later he was reappointed for a three-year term., at which time the India Mission came into existence.

Samuel Zug attended the first District Meeting in 1866 and continued to attend these meeting successively for 47 years. Zug was also elected as the Writing Clerk, Reading Clerk, or Moderator of these meetings for a continuous 20 years. Zug was sent four times, as a member of the standing committee, to represent the local church at Conference for many years. Attending 11 Annual Meetings prior to 1883, Samuel Zug attended every meeting since that point on.²³ Samuel

R. Zug was also a great help in making the first Ministerial Meeting in Pennsylvania a reality, with the first one taking place in Elizabethtown during 1893. Since the first meeting, they have been held annually apart from 1894, with Zug attending every meeting. Through Samuel Zug and Elder B.Z. Eby's efforts, after obtaining permission of the District Meeting in 1895, the Home for the Homeless



was established with notable opposition. Zug was the Trustee of the institution from the beginning until 1912, then being relieved of his position due to his age. A farm of 75 acres was bought near Manheim for about \$4,500, and additional buildings were erected at a cost of around \$7,000. However, in 1909, the location of the Home was changed when a large brick building was erected near Neffsville, Pa., which Elder S.R. Zug was a prominent figure in. Despite all of S. R. Zug's accolades, he did have some notable financial problems. For one, from 1889 to 1894, Zug lost about \$10,000 due to misplaced confidence in a close friend. This blunder almost caused Zug to become bankrupt, but despite this mistake that could result in mental anguish for any man, he survived and still counted his blessings. Through God and the love of his wife and children, Zug made it through this hard time in his life. Certainly, Zug was blessed with an amazing wife who would even help him with his ministerial duties. Additionally, she traveled with him over 53 years during their marriage, with 40 of those years accounting for time in the ministry. Zug recognized that his wife should be accredited with much of the success that came to the church and the world through his work. In times of sorrow and loneliness, his wife would always encourage him to act as Christ would, and to not pout or shows signs of displeasure. On July 10, 1905, his wife passed away. Zug and his wife had four sons, the youngest of which S.R. Zugg would live with after his

²³ Ibid., 433.

wife's passing.²⁴ This son would be born on April 26, 1866, and was elected to the ministry in the Chiques congregation on November 25, 1905, advancing to the second degree at Elizabethtown, February 8, 1911.²⁵ He then moved to Palmyra in the fall of 1912 and was ordained to Eldership on September 6, 1913, where he still lives today and engages in ministerial duties.

When describing Elder Samuel R. Zug it is said, "he was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost, and of faith, and much people was added unto the Lord." S.R. Zug was a leader, wise counselor, and a man of conviction, though, he was always open to righteous change. Although, Zug did have an aggressiveness, which did bring him enemies at times. When it came to church work, Zug believed that a person should not rule with an iron fist and "neither as being lords over God's heritage. It was said Zug had a leniency and forbearance almost to a fault, with Zug apparently once making it clear he would rather be merciful and lenient as opposed to enforcing rigid discipline. At times when Zug would not get his way, he would exercise forbearance toward his opposition, only asking that they would do the same when the time came that he would get his way. Zug lived a long and self-sacrificing life, no doubt marked by blessing and great success.²⁶



Information from Find a Grave:

Find a Grave, database and images

(https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/117646585/samuel_ruhl-zug: accessed June 26, 2024), memorial page for Samuel Ruhl Zug (29 Feb 1832–22 Nov 1926), Find a Grave Memorial ID 117646585, citing Chiques Church of the Brethren Cemetery, Manheim, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, USA; Maintained by Bruce Speck (contributor 46873080).

Samuel Ruhl Zug

BIRTH: 29 Feb 1832 Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, USA

²⁴ Ibid., 434.

²⁵ Ibid., 344-345.

²⁶ Ibid., 435.

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DEATH: 22 Nov 1926 (aged 94) Palmyra, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, USA

BURIAL: Chiques Church of the Brethren Cemetery Manheim, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, USA

MEMORIAL ID: 117646585

Parents; Benjamin Zug 1802–1886 and Elizabeth Ruhl Zug 1802–1892

Spouse: Frenica W "Fanny" Shelly Zug 1833–1905

Siblings: Sarah Zug Witmer 1825–1890, Isaac R Zug 1827–1916, Elizabeth R Zug Witmer 1834–1898, Benjamin R Zug 1837–1915, Emanuel R Zug 1839–1908, and Abraham R Zug 1841–1925

Children: Edmund Henry Zug 1854–1917, Samuel Stephen Zug 1858–1942, Nathan S Zug 1860–1942, and Rev John C Zug 1866–1956

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