

THE BULLETIN

of the
Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc.
Portland, Oregon



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GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

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THE BULLETIN

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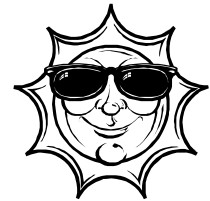
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We Remember...

FRANCES MAY CASKEY (1913-2010)

Frances May Caskey was 96 when she died Friday, March 12, 2010, in Portland. Frances was born July 7, 1913, to Orin B and Anna Elizabeth Coldwell in the family home in the West Hills of Portland. She graduated from Lincoln High School and attended Oregon State University and the University of Washington. On Jan. 18, 1944, Frances married Frank Edward Caskey. They built a home next to her parents' home in the 1950s where they raised their family.

Frances worked in the travel industry. She loved to travel and worked for a number of years for the Union Pacific Railroad in their ticket office. In later years she was able to travel to Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania. Frances was very involved in researching her family's history especially when it came to the Oregon Trail and Oregon pioneers. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Portland, P.E.O., the Multnomah Athletic Club, the Oregon Historical Society, the Genealogical Society of Oregon (the Gen. Forum), and was a life member and former president of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers.

Frances is survived by her son, Steven; grandson, Jon Fish; and great granddaughters, Clair and Feona Fish. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank; sister, Ruth; brother, William; and her daughter Linda.

Memorials may be sent to the First Presbyterian Church or the Oregon Historical Society. (A Memorial service was held on March 26, 2010 at the First Presbyterian Church)

VERLIE JOHNSTON (1920-2010)

Verlie Lenore Johnston, 89, of La Grande and formerly of Portland, died April 4 at Grande Ronde Hospital. A graveside service will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Riverview Cemetery in Portland.

Verlie was born Aug. 30, 1920, to Harold Frederick and Myrtle Elizabeth (Franklin) Warner in Monitor. She was raised and educated in Portland. In 1945 she married Emerald Vincent Gilmore. He preceded her in death in March, 1957. In September 1958 she married William Harold Johnston in Portland. He preceded her in death in September, 2005.

Verlie worked as a seamstress doing alterations. As a lifetime member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, she was interested in genealogy and Oregon history. Many of her hours were spent volunteering at the Genealogical Forum Library in Portland. She was also a member of the Oregon Historical Society and enjoyed gardening.

Survivors include her son, Bob Gilmore of La Grande; daughter, Beth Gilmore of La Grande; stepson, Jeff Johnston of Bend; stepdaughter, Janet Estes of Washington state; sister, Betty McKennon of Raymond, Wash.; two cousins; and other relatives. She was preceded in death by son James Jay Gilmore in 1990.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in care of Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, 1502 Seventh St., La Grande 97850.

GFO NOTES: Former Co-Library Director Emily Reding remembered that Verlie worked on the desk for several years, held offices and served on committees. Former GFO President & Program Chair Stanley Clarke also remarked on Verlie's contribution to the Forum. She will be missed. Ellen Collins said she and Verlie worked on the GFO desk every Monday for 20 years, but she and Verlie had lost contact over the past years, which seemed surprising since they were quite close. But she said Verlie moved over to Bend, after her husband died, to be near a daughter years ago.

Contact for this column is Lyleth Winther. Please contact her when you hear of one of our members passing. Lylaw1@verizon.net or 503-658-8018

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Letter from the Editor . . .

Long before other ethnic groups made Oregon their home, the French Canadians had trapped and hunted in the territory. Their history is a long and enduring one in Oregon with the names of parks, towns, streets, rivers, and other landmarks bearing witness to their presence and enduring legacies. The featured stories in this issue of the Bulletin provide a look at the French Canadian presence in Oregon. First, George Thomas Brown in his article “French Canadian Footprints” highlights some of the historical French Canadians. Subsequent articles by George T. Brown and Susan LeBlanc feature two French Canadian families the “Laframboise” and the “Gedeon Senecal”. Along with historical perspectives, the articles provide a blueprint for genealogical research and sources for those researching similar families.

Harvey Steele in his column on “Relics” continues the French Canadian theme by describing the plank wall framing method of construction favored by the French Canadians. His article gives us an archeological insight into life in the earlier days of Oregon. We also gain an understanding of why some structures have endured and others did not survive.

Connie Lenzen offers her exceptional expertise in genealogical research, providing helpful information on researching online newspaper sources. She starts with some interesting local newspaper articles highlighting the French Canadians, then moves on to list several online sites that our readers may find of interest.

If you’ve ever wondered how historical homes are moved, Alene Reaugh’s article on the McLoughlin house move will give you a real appreciation for the difficulties in both moving and restoring a large structure. The politics involved in this particular move parallel similar situations we’ve seen in modern times involving relocating homes of historical significance.

We continue our articles on genealogical research in other states with Peggy Baldwin’s article on Virginia research. Judi Scott tells a delightful story of her grandparents in the Story

Teller column. We hope these stories in the Story Teller awaken memories and inspire you to write your own stories for your families.

Carol Surrency describes the meaning behind the symbols portrayed in the cemetery headstones of our ancestors. We’ve all seen many of these and wondered what they mean. Her article helps us to see beyond the names in stone and get an idea of the personality, quirks and foibles of our ancestors.

The next two issues of the Bulletin will include extracts of the Multnomah County probate records covering 1856-1866. These records were compiled by this editor in 1998-1999 and give a fascinating look at county history.

We hope you find this issue of the Bulletin informative and interesting. We always welcome your comments and suggestions – and articles! Thanks to all the volunteer writers, editors and proofreaders who worked to bring out this issue.

Mickey Sieracki

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BOOK REVIEWERS WANTED!

The *Bulletin* staff is looking for people to write book reviews. Our goal is to get 6 to 10 people, who are willing to write one book review each quarter. We have established a new book review format that guides book reviewers through the process.

The GFO Library gets many books donated by authors and publishers, with the agreement that we will review the donated books, so you will be helping the GFO in a meaningful way. We want this to be fun and light work, by getting lots of people involved. If you want more information or want to volunteer, contact Susan LeBlanc, book review editor, dsleblanc@aol.com.

French Canadian Footprints The Oregon Country

by George Thomas Brown.

Pervasive, yet frequently ignored, best describes the historical record of the Francophone Canadian. In the geographic area particularly references are found. Was there any place in the Northern Great Plains or the Pacific Northwest not first known to them queried the noted Jesuit Pierre-Jean Desmet. The human element, less publicized, is significant.

Their presence is best known through the governance of John B. McLoughlin, Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Co. at Fort Vancouver. Known as the Father of Oregon, he was also a son of Québec, born October 1784 near Riviere-du-loup on the St. Lawrence estuary, baptized shortly thereafter at St. Louis de Kamouraska. He was given the ubiquitous first name of Jean-Baptiste, son of John McLoughlin and Angelique Fraser. Half-Irish as both his paternal grandparents came from the Emerald Isle; he is also claimed as a Fraser Scot as his maternal grandfather was the well-known Malcolm Fraser. The Fraser Highlanders were instrumental at the Battle of Québec where the conquest was largely determined. Angelique was the daughter of Marie-Louise Allaire, the first of Malcolm's three liaisons. In general, the name Jean-Baptiste is a touchstone for francophilia in Canada perpetuated by the Société de St. Jean Baptiste whose feastday is a Canadian holiday. Jean-Baptiste McLoughlin later anglicized his name to John B. His contributions to Oregon history are well-known. John B. McLoughlin was married to Marguerite Wadin McKay, métisse, daughter of Jean-Etienne Wadin, a fur trader, Swiss by birth, on November 19, 1842 by Father Francois Blanchet. John B. and Marguerite were originally buried alongside the former Cathedral church in Oregon City. Their bodies were later moved to graves outside their home in Oregon City, now the historic McLoughlin House Museum.¹

However, French-Canadians were here before McLoughlin. The much-maligned (mostly wrongful) Toussaint Charbonneau wintered, with others, at Fort Clatsop, Columbia mouth, with the

Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805-06.² Husband of the famed Shoshone Sacagawea, he was also the father of Jean-Baptiste Charbonneau, buried in the SE corner of Oregon. Two Lewis and Clark figures, Francois Rivet and Philippe Degré were to become Oregon residents. Private Rivet was probably enrolled near Kaskaskia, IL, and then discharged at Fort Mandan. Degré was a fellow traveler and companion of Rivet. Both are buried in the old St. Paul, OR cemetery, Rivet at age 95 and Degré at 108 to the astonishment of Fr. Modeste Demers, one of the first Catholic missionaries to the Pacific Northwest.³ Julia, daughter of Rivet, became the wife of Peter Skene Ogden.⁴

Following Lewis and Clark came John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company at Astoria, later Fort George, with two installments. First was the ill-fated sailing vessel, the Tonquin, bearing the historical figures of Michel Laframboise, California brigade leader, and Francois Payette after whom Payette, Idaho is named. Payette later retired to Québec. The ship also bore Charles August (Augustin) Roussil, oldest member of the group, the Northwest's first blacksmith and father of Catherine by Madeline Chinook.⁵ He later returned to Terrebonne, Québec, his birthplace. Catherine became the wife of a steersman (boute) André Chalifoux earlier at Fort Vancouver. Upon André's retirement she made a round trip to Sorel, Québec where she was baptized and married in the church. Catherine bore a child on the trip to Sorel, and another some time later on the return trip to Oregon. André returned to service. The return brigade brought the first Québec priests: François Norbert Blanchet and Modeste Demers.⁶ Since Catherine had been baptized in Sorel, she was now one of the few Christian women in the territory. She therefore became the godmother to many of the children born in the area. According to this author she could rightfully be called the "Godmother of the West" due to her numerous godchildren.⁷

Etienne Lucier and Joseph Gervais with others

came on the overland Astor trip led by Wilson Price Hunt. Lucier is reportedly the first settler on French Prairie though this might be challenged. He and Gervais gave the Pudding River (Boudin) its name.⁸ Lucier was born in Boucherville, Gervais in Maskinongé, both in Québec. Joseph Gervais is reputed to be the first planter of apple trees in the Willamette Valley.⁹ Gervais, Oregon is named for the family. Marie Dorion, wife of Pierre Dorion, Jr., a trapper and interpreter with the Lewis and Clark expedition, gave birth to the first United States child, west of the Rocky Mountains. She was possibly a Kiowa Indian. He was likely a métis. Gervais, Lucier, and Jean-Baptiste Dubreuil were among the first non-natives to settle in the area above Willamette Falls. Dubreuil, a member of the Hunt party, died in the California gold fields. Narcisse Cornoyer was appointed guardian for his children. Joseph Gervais is buried in the Old Cemetery in St. Paul.¹⁰

Astor's Pacific Fur Company's post was sold by his partners against his wishes to the Northwest Company. With the merger of the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821, greater development began. Fort George was virtually abandoned except as a marine post to favor Fort Vancouver established by George Simpson, a governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, and John McLoughlin, who came from the Northwest Company. Coastal posts were established as far as Russian Alaska. An inland water route to Puget Sound via the Cowlitz River led to settlement at Cowlitz Landing, now Toledo, WA, by a number of French Canadians. Noteworthy is Simon Plamondon born at St. Francois-du-Lac, Québec on March 28, 1801. He managed the farm at Cowlitz. The last of his

three spouses was Louise Henriette Pelletier, niece of the bishop-brothers Blanchet. The cemetery at St. Francis Xavier Mission in Toledo has his and other Canadian tombs. St. Francis is also the site where



The Catholic Ladder

Francois Norbert Blanchet, missionary priest, created the "Catholic Ladder", a valued missionary tool for teaching religious concepts. The Indian term for the Catholic ladder was the "sahale stick" which means "divine", "from the heavens" or "mystic". St. Francis Xavier Mission was the first planned Catholic mission in western Washington.¹¹

French Prairie, Grand Prairie and Fort Vancouver became centers for French Canadian settlement, although Father Blanchet had been sent by Bishop Signay of Québec with the intent to establish the first parish at Cowlitz. The log church built by the Willamette settlers before the priests' arrival was to become the first dedicated to St. Paul, June 7, 1839. The first Mass there was celebrated January 6, 1839. Etienne Lucier and others led Father Blanchet there.

Increased settling in the Willamette Valley by unofficially retired Hudson Bay Company employees, then by United States migrants, led to a desire for some form of government, culminating after some feeble efforts, in the Champoege Convention of May 1843. It is historically recorded as at the Hudson's Bay Company granary at Sand Encampment; the first Champoege site was likely Willamette Post. Etienne Lucier's claim was between the two. The frequent claim as well as the memorial shaft asserting that only two French Canadians voted for government (Francois-Xavier Mathieu and Etienne Lucier) has been clearly repudiated. John A. Hussy, Champoege:

Place of Transition, posits at least seven likely voted for establishment. Also, this writer, following the observation of Rev. Henry Harmon Spalding that Charles Campo (Campeau), mystery man of the Convention, was born in Canada and raised in Indiana, holds that Charles Campo was actually French Canadian. Documents show that Campo was the son of Charles Campeau and Marie-Louise Borde, born and baptized at Ste Anne du Détroit, August 12, 1773. Detroit was British Canada till it was ceded to the United States by the Treaty of Peace in 1783. The Treaty of Peace ceded the old Northwest to the United States. The Old Northwest was first known as Indiana-Indian territory. This area included Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois and Ohio.¹² A sister of Campo was baptized at Vincennes, Indiana. The cession was in 1783. This lends credence to the fact that he was a French Canadian and did vote positively for government. At the time, most did not know where Campo had come from.



Francois Matthieu : Courtesy of Salem (Oregon) Public Library Historic Photograph Collections.”

Susan M. Colby of Vancouver, WA proposes an intriguing thesis: the Québec Patriots Rebellion of 1837-38 may have made Oregon a part of the United States.¹³ This stems largely from Francois Xavier

Mathieu, a native of Terrebonne Canada, who fled Canada during the revolt, possibly becoming a mountain man, and arriving in Oregon about 1843. The flight to Oregon implies that he was free from Canadian authority by an unexercised British authority. Indeed this journey south became an ideal means of escape for those involved in the revolt. A companion of Etienne Lucier, founder of Butteville, he was also an early champion of women’s rights. He was a sheriff of Marion County. His birthplace was Terrebonne, Québec where John McLoughlin received his medical training. He brought his father Francois Xavier to Oregon. The father is buried in the old St. Paul Cemetery, the son at Butteville.

Narcisse Cornoyer should also be named who had two terms as sheriff of Marion County and later was Indian agent at Umatilla. One of Cornoyer’s responsibilities as sheriff was that of executions. Cornoyer stepped down as sheriff after being obliged to execute a friend. This disturbed him

greatly and he eventually accepted a position as Indian agent in Umatilla in eastern Oregon. He is credited with maintaining the loyalty of reservation natives during the Bannock uprising. Born and baptized at Maskinongé, Québec, November 11, 1822, he came to Oregon via Illinois. He is buried in the Catholic section of the Walla Walla, WA cemetery under a handsome monument with his wife, Sophie Bellique-Belec. She had been a student at the school in St. Paul run by the sisters of Notre Dame de Namour of Belgium. Her father was Pierre Bellique, one of the Willamette Valley California Argonauts, who,

returning by boat died and was buried at sea. Pierre Bellique and his wife, Genevieve St. Martin, resided in the vacated Fort Willamette post in the Champoeg area.¹⁴

Additionally, Jean-Baptiste Gagnier-Gagné-Carnier, trader for the Hudson's Bay Company, and his wife Angelique Umpqua, managed a precarious relationship between their Native Americans and swarming United States travelers and settlers at the Fort Umpqua regional trading center, near Reedsport in the lower Umpqua area that they established for the Hudson's Bay Company. The post was destroyed in 1851, though a replica is in the process of being built near Elkton, OR. Angelique was baptized at Grande Ronde October 19, 1869 by Father Adrian Croquet. Jean-Baptiste was born and baptized November 8, 1804 at Saints-Anges de Lachine on the Island of Montreal. Fort Umpqua had major significance as not only a trading post, but also as a center for teaching agricultural concepts, and cattle raising.¹⁵

Several terms used in this article require some explanation. First, the term *métis*, *métisse* if referring to a woman, is used in several places in this article as well as throughout histories of the area. In order to provide some background and clarity, an explanation of the original meaning of the term and its subsequent derivatives is offered. The word comes originally from the French, meaning mixed. The term is often used as the uppercase *Métis* and in the lower case *métis*. Some scholars believe the use of the uppercase *Métis* refers specifically to the offspring of Europeans, primarily French and a Cree native; the lower case *métis* referring to offspring of a European and any native American. In some cases, unfortunately, the term *métis* has been indiscriminately applied to all mixed races. The second term is that of "country wife", or as in the French, "à la façon du pays". This was usually a native woman, or *métis*, taken as a "wife" by the early settlers and traders, many times in order to foster better relationships with the native tribes. Also there were very few European women available in the territories. These were not legally binding or church sanctioned marriages, and many of these wives were later displaced by the European wives of the men. In some cases, as in that of Catherine Roussil, she was later married in the church to Andre Chalifoux. Similarly, John McLoughlin married the former country wife of Tom McKay, Marguerite.

Deserving more recognition, the French-

Canadian, Native American, and *métis* peoples are scattered across the West; beyond the places cited include Roseburg, Chinook and Ilwaco, WA, Brooks and St. Louis, OR. Many other locations can be found in Montana, Idaho, and of course British Columbia. The writer's compilation of related genealogies, more than 200, can be obtained from the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc., Portland, OR.

(Endnotes)

- 1 Dictionary of Canadian Biography, University of Toronto, 1851-1860 (Volume VIII)
- 2 <http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/inside/tchar.html>
- 3 <http://www.oregonpioneers.com/missions.htm>;
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- 5 http://www.astoriaoregon.com/astoria_john_jacob_astor.php
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- 7 Brown, George Thomas, *The Hand of Catherine, Columbia's Daughter, Catherine Roussil-Chalifoux-Comartin*, Nov 1998
- 8 History of Oregon, Charles Henry Carey, The Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, 1922, page 418
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- 14 http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM17VR_Willamette_Pos t
- 15 <http://www.elktoncommunityeducationcenter.org/currentfortumpqua.html>

Additional References

- L'Ancêtre*, Vol 19, #7, Bulletin de la Société de généalogie de Québec
 Beaver Briefs, Vol. 39, #3 Willamette Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. Vols 40, #3 and 41 #2

The Vancouver LaFrambois(e)

by George Thomas Brown

A road, La Frambois, branching northwest from Fruit Valley near the latter's southern terminus with Fourth Plain retains the memory of one François Laframboise, one-time Hudson Bay Company's engage who had a donation land claim bordering Vancouver Lake.¹ He had previously filed an Oregon Provisional Land Claim for 640 acres "on the road leading through Second Plain behind Fort Vancouver", but this was never perfected and had been held without occupancy.² On his donation claim he raised timothy hay for the market.³

Better known of two Fort Vancouver employees of the Hudson Bay Company is Michel Laframboise, the California Brigade leader. Michel settled in the Willamette Valley opposite Champoeg. In both cases the Laframboise was a "dit" or nickname. For Michel the true family name was Senecal.

Who then was the "other" or "Vancouver" Laframboise? The Hudson Bay Company work record indicates he was from Montreal and was born in 1810. His service began in 1831 in the Columbia Department but his duties are not described until 1836 when he was named middleman, then to become a steersman in 1837 assigned to New Caledonia. From 1840 on he was a "boute" (corruption of the French word bout or end) which could be either a bow- or steer – man. The boutes were paid more than the middlemen. In 1846 he was transferred to Vancouver General Charges and filed his Oregon Provisional Land Claim the same year... part of the Hudson Bay Company's plan to anchor those lands around the fort as he was holding the land without occupancy. He retired in 1850 shortly after filing his Donation Land Claim.

One of his first assignments when he arrived in the Columbia Department was to burn three native villages on Sauvie Island on the orders of Dr. McLoughlin after a measles epidemic had nearly exterminated the Indian population.⁴

Shortly after being assigned to Fort Vancouver

he married on June 26, 1846, a native woman from the Cascades region of the Columbia (Tomwata-Tumwater), Marie Marguerite, daughter of Poahawotosh and Shiopa. The celebrant was Pierre de Vos, SJ, who gave the groom's age as 32 which would place his birth at about 1814. Named parents were Joseph Laframboise and Catherine de la Madeleine, and birthplace at River of the Signe (Signe in the original French = sign).⁵ Munnick in Catholics Records, etc. translated this as the equivalent of cygnet (Swan): thus River of the Swan as they are pronounced the same. No River of the Swan is found in Quebec, although there is a Swan Lake. Sign as a river name is quite unlikely. After Signe, Father De Vos, a Belgian, left a gap or blank indicating possible confusion on his part. The Quebec patois or dialect may offer an explanation. Current standard French pronounces "chene" (oak) as "shenn" while many Quebecers say "shane" which is close to "seen" (signe). Munnick may also have concluded "Swan" since the Hudson Bay Company had a large administrative district named Swan in present day Manitoba. Riviere du Chene is a tributary of the Riviere Mille Iles in the Monteregion (Montreal region) near the parishes of St. Eustache and St. Benoit where siblings of François were married. Both found in the county of Deux-Montagnes where many of this Laframboise family group are found. His parents were married in St. Laurent parish in Montreal, January 12, 1808.

His first wife, Marie Marguerite, died November 15, 1850 at Vancouver. Their first child, Marguerite, died December 14, 1849. The second, Joseph, was born November 18, 1848. ⁶ Joseph married Sophie Du Val; this union yielded six children: Pearl, Olive, Joseph II, Peter, Nellie and Elizabeth. Joseph, the father, was buried September 12, in the Post cemetery.⁷

François' second marriage was to Denise Dorion, November 27, 1851, daughter of Jean-

Baptiste Dorion and Josephine, a Cayuse. She was also a granddaughter of Madame Dorion.⁸ The first baptism of this marriage is recorded at St. James, Vancouver, Jeremie, born February 7, 1855.⁹ During the Indian Wars, 1855-56, François was a private under Captain William Kelly in the Clark County Rangers, 2nd Regiment, Washington Volunteers. Other recorded children of the second marriage are Isabel, born 1857, and Esther, born 1859.¹⁰

A third marriage is sometimes attributed to François to one Cana or Dana, born c. 1831.¹¹ However, this may be due to confusion over the pronunciation of Denise. In Williams' *Chinook by the Sea*, Denise was spelled "Inez".¹² The 1860 Federal census for Clark County (continuation) lists François and Dana.¹³ The family later lived at Chinookville.¹⁴ François is presumed to have died in the Lower Columbia area, perhaps at Cathlamet. There are considerable descendants in the Pacific Northwest to this day.

The move downriver was not the end of the family in Clark County. The 1880 census included at the House of Providence one Rosa Laframboise, age 9, and a Moses Laframboise (sic), age 8, both described as homeless.¹⁵ Some 1880 mortality schedules listed Cecelia Laframboise, age 15, dead of consumption, father identified as Canadian and the mother of Washington birth.¹⁶

One of the neighboring land claims of François on Vancouver Lake belonged to Joseph Petrain who purchased it from Henry Van Allman, the latter filed for it in 1847.¹⁷ Also a portion of François' claim covered another by Robert Hunt filed in 1853 but failed to meet the necessary requirements.¹⁸

The Laframboise nickname arises from at least 13 patronyms. There were two others, and likely more, notable family groups active in the fur trade. Perhaps the greatest in numbers were the Fafards-Laframboise – there was one François in this group who was an important figure in the old Northwest (Michigan and Wisconsin). Then, of course, there was the Senecal-Laframboise family including Michel. A likely great-uncle of François, Andre Franche was engaged to go to Niagara in 1758. The group of our François is most commonly known as Franche-Laframboise. However, Franche is a misnomer. The first Canadian ancestor of our settler,

his great-grandfather, was Joseph-Andre Fry, the son of Adrian Fry and Hannah Sarah White of Boston, Massachusetts or Kittery, Maine. Joseph or Andre had been taken prisoner by Indians in a raid on Kittery on July 6, 1695. He was then 15 or 18. Natives in the Montreal region held him until he was about 30. He completed a pre-nuptial contract with Therese Varin on June 20, 1707, annulled before a church marriage. He became a French citizen in May 1710 and married Marie-Louise Bigras at Pointe-Claire, Island of Montreal on October 10, 1713. In 1716 he received a concession from the vast signory of the Sulpician order between Pointe-Claire and Lachine. Their union gave birth to 12 children.¹⁹

Although the most usual family root is given as Franche, Fry also became Fray, Frey, Fraye, French and Frinche as well as Laframboise. It should be noted that Laframboise was used at the first marriage at Pointe-Claire. It was not used in his annulled contract with Therese Varin, rather Andre Fry, English by nation. Although framboise means raspberry, the only recorded crop at Vancouver Lake was timothy hay.

(Endnotes)

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Family of Gedeon Senecal

By Susan LeBlanc

Several years ago, a client wanted to create a family history to present to her husband, a descendent of the Senecal family, for a 50th birthday present. This was a fun adventure through early Oregon and French Canadian records. The first generation settler in Oregon was Gedeon Senecal. He was a contemporary of Etienne Lucier, the first documented French Canadian settler, in Oregon in about 1830. In 1871, Gedeon's daughter Thais would marry Pierre Lucier, the son of Etienne. According to Harriet Duncan Munnick, a noted historian of early French Canadian settlement in Oregon, "Senecal came relatively late, 1840, to the Prairie. He may have been with the Company much earlier, however, for he retired in 1842 to a claim on the road south of Butteville. After the death of his wife Marie Grenier in 1850, he married Lucie DuCharme. He moved to Wasco County about 1880, where he died in 1896, leaving many descendents."¹ In the "Mantle of Elias", from the extracted record of the marriage of Gideon Senecal and Marie Grenier, we learn that he was the eldest son of Jacques Senegal and Josephite Chrysolphe of the Prarie de la Madeleine, Canada.² In this article, there is a variety of spelling of names and these reflect how they were recorded in the sources cited for each event.

For this research, we first looked to the closest ancestor of the descendent, Lawrence Keith Senecal. He was born 21 August 1928 in Oregon, to Lawrence Senecal and Huereka Juanita Poole. He died 16 December 2000 in Long Beach, Los Angeles, California.³ In the 1930 Census this family is recorded as living in The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon; family members being Lawrence age 29, wife Juanita age 18 and son Lawrence K. age 1 and 2/12.⁴ An unfortunate accident claimed the life of Lawrence Sr. in 1948. This information, discovered in an Internet search of the name, resulted in the finding of this newspaper article describing the accident.

Walla Walla Union Bulletin (Walla Walla, Washington) 1948 February:

Six Drown in Auto Mishaps

...Two men- identified as Lawrence Senecal, 47, of Florence, Ore., and William Pruitt, 20, of Rocky Gap, Va., a crew member of the heavy cruiser U.S.S. Columbus now docked at Bremerton, Wash. - were victims of another Sunday morning highway-river accident. Police said Mrs. Senecal and a son, Keith Senecal, 19 - the latter a shipmate of Pruitt - escaped from the car after it plunged into a deep pool of the Siuslaw river near Cushman on the Oregon coast.⁵

Lawrence Sr., was born 22 August 1899 in St. Louis, Marion County, Oregon, to Vital Senecal and Mary Agnes Vandale.⁶ He served in the military and in the 1920 Census his location is Mayen, Germany, Military and Naval Forces.⁷ His death date is listed as 31 January 1948 in the Oregon Death Index.⁸ Huereka Juanita Poole, was born about 1911 in Portland, Oregon, to James H. Poole and Anna Evans.⁹

Vital Senecal, was born 25 August 1864 in St. Louis, Marion County, Oregon, to Gedeon Senecal and Lucille Ducharme.¹⁰ He married Mary Agnes Vandale on 3 July 1893 in St. Louis, Marion County, Oregon.¹¹ Mary Agnes Vandall was born on 9 November 1874 in St. Louis, Marion County, Oregon, to Jean Baptiste Vandall and Clementia LaChappelle.¹²

Vital and Agnes, with their family, are recorded in the 1900, 1910, and 1920 Census in Ramsey, Wasco County, Oregon. In the 1900 Census, he was listed as a farmer, renting property, with his wife, four children and five siblings.¹³ By 1910 he owned his farm and lists "farmer" as his occupation. There are nine children living with Vit and Agnes, who the record shows has given birth to nine children. In the 1910 Census, there are several other family members on the page, Cyline his sister, her husband William Walker and their son Karl with Cyline's siblings John B. and Emma.¹⁴ Marcell, Vital's brother, and his family are living in Beaver Creek, Crook County, Oregon and the census includes:

Marcell and Mary with grandson Floyd, George his son and his wife Annie, and another son Al Goodin next door. Marcell, George, and Al all work as Stock farmers and own their own property.¹⁵ Joseph Senecal, his brother, the only one still living in Dufur, was single and a laborer on a farm.¹⁶

In 1920, Vit was a farmer and they have a mortgaged farm. There are six children living at home.¹⁷ In the 1930 Census, he was age 64 and living as a lodger at a farmhouse in Rosebud, Grant County, Oregon. He was listed as married, 28 years, yet there are no family members living with him. His occupation was Sheep Herder on a Stock Ranch. Agnes was not located, but she was still living.¹⁸

Vital died 3 September 1946 and Mary Agnes died 20 June 1932, both in Wasco County, Oregon.^{19,20} Vital and Agnes were the parents of eleven known children. Their children were:

- Raymond, was born 26 July 1894, Oregon and his baptismal sponsors were Pierre Lucier and Thais Lucier.²¹ He died 1 January 1974, Wasco County, Oregon. He married Dolly in 1929 in Hood River, Oregon.²² Two adopted sons.
- Herman Charles, was born 11 March 1896, in St. Louis, Oregon.²³ He died 24 June 1964, Oregon, buried at Eagle Point National Cemetery, Eagle Point, Oregon.²⁴
- Lucia (Lucy) Blanche, was born 7 April 1898, in St. Louis, Oregon.²⁵ She died 14 July 1991, Wasco, County, Oregon.²⁶ She married Fred R. Gibson about 1920.²⁷ One known child.
- Lawrence, was born 22 August 1899, in St. Louis, Oregon.²⁸ He died 31 January 1948, Cushman, Lane County, Oregon.²⁹ He married Huereka Juanita Poole about 1928.³⁰ One known child.
- Eva C, born about 1901, Oregon.³¹
- Mary, born about 1903, Oregon.³²
- Thomas, born 17 February 1904, Oregon, died 25 February 1979, Morrow County, Oregon. He married Elsie.³³
- James, born about 1906, Oregon.³⁴
- Jennie A., born about 1908, Oregon.³⁵
- Frederich G., born 13 January 1912, Oregon, died 22 February 1981, Portland, Oregon.

buried at Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, Oregon.³⁶

- Eugene, born March 1916, Oregon.³⁷

Gedeon Senecal, was born 11 September 1811 in Laprairie, Montreal, Canada, to Jacques Senegal and Anne Josette Bode “Christophe”.³⁸ The earliest record of him is as the godfather of Thomas Roy, son of Thomas Roy a farmer and Marie Lafleur on 10 April 1842.³⁹ He married Marie Anne Grenier on 27 February 1843 in St. Paul, Marion County, Oregon Territory.⁴⁰ Marie Anne was baptized the day before her marriage at the age of 17 and her parents are listed as Pierre Grenier and Therese Spokane.⁴¹ She died 25 March 1850 in St. Louis, Marion County, Oregon.⁴² There are four probable children of this marriage.

- Marie, infant baptized at birth, burial 1845 in St. Paul, Oregon.⁴³
- Thais, infant baptized at birth, burial 2 August 1846 in St. Paul, Oregon.⁴⁴
- Unknown, infant baptized at birth, buried 20 November 1848 in St. Paul, Oregon.⁴⁵
- Pierre was born 27 November 1849 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁴⁶ He died 17 June 1850 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁴⁷

Gedeon married Lucille Ducharme 8 August 1850 in St. Louis, Oregon Territory.⁴⁹ Lucille was born about 1836 in the Oregon Territory and she was baptized on 28 June 1840 in St. Paul, Marion County, Oregon Territory. She was the daughter of Jean Baptiste Ducharme, who was born in St. Genevieve de Berthierville, Canada.⁴⁹ In Sandra Bisset’s file on Genealogy.com, she notes that Gedeon Senecal was a French Canadian fur trapper in the early community of Champoeg. Lucille was a Salish Indian. Her mother was a woman of the Flathead Nation.⁵⁰ They lived in St. Louis, Oregon until about 1880, when they moved to Wapinitia, east of the Cascades, and to nearby Dufur in 1884, where they died and are buried. Many descendents remain. Lucille died in 1895 and Gideon died in 1896.⁵¹ The surname for Gedeon Senecal in these records has a variety of spellings, including Senechal and Senegal. The Catholic Church and census records indicate that they had eighteen children born between 1851 and 1884. There may be some discrepancies, but based on these records

the following are listed as their children.

- Marcellina was born 19 December 1851 in St. Louis Oregon.⁵² She died 28 October 1870 at age 19, in St. Louis, Oregon.⁵³ This was shortly after the birth of her daughter Louise Eugenie on 21 October 1870, in St. Louis, Oregon. Her daughter's baptismal sponsors were Peter Luysier and Thais Senecal.⁵⁴ Marcellina married Jean Baptiste Vandall 25 July 1868.⁵⁵ Two known children.
- Thais was born 10 November 1853 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁵⁶ She married Pierre Lucier, on 9 October 1871 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁵⁷ Pierre was the son of Etienne Lucier and his second wife Marie Marguerite Chinouk.⁵⁸ Five known children.
- Marcel Joseph was born 7 September 1855 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁵⁹ He died 14 June 1933 in Suplee, Crook County, Oregon. He married Maria Anne Delard in 1874.⁶⁰ Four known children.
- Gedeon was born 10 August 1857 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶¹ He died 2 November 1857, St. Louis, Oregon.⁶²
- Basillesse was born 28 November 1858 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶³ She died 12 February 1860 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶⁴
- Alfrede was born 16 November 1860 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶⁵ He died 20 May 1861, age 6 months, in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶⁶
- Dalbert was born 4 May 1862 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶⁷
- Vital was born 25 August 1864 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁶⁸ He died 3 September 1946 in Wasco County, Oregon.⁶⁹ Married Mary Agnes Vandale on 3 July 1893 in St. Louis, Oregon. Eleven known children.
- Remy was born 9 November 1866 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁷⁰
- Prosper was born 20 January 1867 in St. Louis, Oregon. Her godparents were Andre Lachapelle and Adrienne Lucier.⁷¹
- James was born about 1869 in Oregon.⁷²
- Batis was born January 1872 in Oregon.⁷³
- Joseph Avila was born 23 March 1874 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁷⁴

- Paulina Celina was born 23 March 1874 in St. Louis, Oregon.⁷⁵ She died 6 November 1961 in Multnomah County, Oregon,⁷⁶ married William C. Walker, about 1894 in Oregon.⁷⁷ Two known children.
- John B. was born April 1875 in Oregon.⁷⁸ He died 22 June 1958 in Wasco County, Oregon.⁷⁹
- Helen Lena was born March 1880 in Oregon.⁸⁰
- Pauline was born April 1882 in Oregon.⁸¹
- Emma J. was born January 1884 in Oregon.⁸²

The census records provide limited information about Gedeon. In 1842 he appears in the following list of extracted names of interest as related to this family.

1842 Census:⁸³

Male over 18, Female over 18, Children

Ettiene Lucier or Lussier 1-3-4

Michael (Senecal) LaFrombais (e) 1-1-3

Andrew LaChapelle 1-1-1

F Vandall 1-1-3

J Sneckal 1-1-0

B Ducharm or Ducherme 1-1-3

In the 1850 Census, he is a farmer with about \$3,000 in real estate in Marion County, Oregon Territory, listed as Senecal.⁸⁴ In the Oregon State Census of 1853 he is in Marion County, listed as Senegal.⁸⁵ In the 1860 Census, he is a farmer with about \$5,000 in real estate and \$1,975 in personal estate, in Butteville, Northern Precinct, Marion, Oregon, listed as Snakall.⁸⁶ In the 1870 Census, he is no longer at Butteville and no other location has been determined. In the 1880 Census, he is a farmer in Oak Grove, Wasco County, Oregon listed as Sneckall.⁸⁷ By the 1900 Census both parents are deceased, and five of the younger children are living with their brother Vital in Dufur Village, Ramsey, Wasco, Oregon.

Thus ends this portion of the family history research on the Senecal family. To round out the information on the family there are many avenues for future research. First, and foremost, it is important to verify all extracted and indexed records by locating the original Catholic Church documents of the St. Paul and St. Louis church registers, of

the Archdiocese of Oregon, which are available as microfilms at the Oregon Historical Society. The Oregon State Archives, Oregon Historical Records Index, indicates there are an estate file for Gideon dated 1901, two land claims dated 2 September 1846 and 19 February 1849 both in Champoege County, Oregon, and early Census and Tax records.⁸⁸ An Oregon Donation Land Claim record is available at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.⁸⁹

This article is dedicated to the descendants of the Senecal family. It provides the very basic information about a substantial early Oregon family who intermixed with the very founding of this state. Gideon Senecalle, who was married 27 February 1843 in St. Paul, was against the 2 May 1843 agreement for the provincial government voted on in Champoege, as were most of the French Canadians. Etienne Lucier voted for it. Understanding the history of the time period will further build the history of the Senecal family

(Endnotes)

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For the Record

I Saw It in the Newspaper

By Connie Lenzen CG

This article is the fourth in a series about “commonly-used” genealogy sources. The other articles covered compiled sources (September 2009), vital records (December 2009), and censuses (March 2010). This issue of the GFO Bulletin features Oregon’s French Canadians, and it is my pleasure to include newspaper articles about Oregon pioneers who were born in French-Canada.

Newspapers have always been the place where we find news of the day, notices of vital events, gossip, weather, and advertisements. Newspapers can be likened to a “one-stop” shopping trip for information about the lives of our ancestors. There are numerous Internet sites where we can find digitized newspapers; several of these are listed at the end of this article.

The first Oregon newspaper, the Oregon Spectator, was published in 1846 in Oregon City. The Free Press, also published in Oregon City, and then the Western Star in Milwaukie, followed it. The Oregonian’s first issue came out in December 1850.

Newspapers promoted the political views of the owners. The 16 February 1861 issue of the Oregonian (page 1, col. 1), included the following notice, “We have completed our arrangements for publishing the Daily Oregonian. We are aware of the fallacy of making great promises in commencing its publication. We shall aim to make the paper useful and acceptable to our people. We earnestly ask our fellow citizens to extend to it a living patronage in the way of advertisements and subscriptions... We need scarcely speak of the politics of the Daily and weekly Oregonian. It will be unflinchingly republican; —yet in the defense of its principles, it will desire not to wantonly injure the feelings of its political opponents.”

Advertisements paid for the printing of newspapers. The four pages of the 16 February 1861

issue of the Oregonian included advertisements on every page, and the fourth page was filled with ads: Ayers Pills; Sands’ Sarsaparilla; Mrs. Winslow’s Soothing Syrup; Blackwood’s Magazine and the British Review; Clove Anodyne Toothache Drops; Sanford’s Liver Invigorator; Fruit Trees; Hostetter’s Celebrated Stomach Bitters; Eclectic Medical Dispensary (Mercury and Mineral Poisons Not Used); Roman Eye Balsam; Day’s Aromatic Valley Whiskey; Boardman’s Challenge Yeast Powder; Railroad House; and Armes & Dallam Wooden Ware, Brushes, Etc., all shared space with a probate notice for the Estate of Ramson Clark, and a partnership notice for Mr. P. C. Schuyler. These advertisements provide a vivid description of Oregonian’s health needs!

Archbishop F. N. Blanchet

Oregon’s French-Canadians were seldom mentioned in Oregon’s early newspapers. Most French-Canadians were married to Indians, and they were Catholic. Those two qualities made the French-Canadians “different” and subject to prejudice and discrimination. A few French-Canadians escaped this designation. Archbishop F. N. Blanchet, one of the first two Catholic missionaries to the Oregon Territory from Canada, was a witness to and a participant in Oregon’s early history. As such, his testimony about early events was considered important enough to print. An example of this is his letter in the 22 October 1874 Morning Oregonian about the spelling of the Willamette River (page 1, col. 6).

The knowledge, then, I have in the case, forces me to declare that ‘Willamette,’ as it is now written, was formerly a name unheard and unknown at Fort Vancouver where the early Catholic missionaries, Father Demers and myself, arrived Nov. 24, 1838; and that ‘Wallamette’ is the only name which they heard

spoken of, and learned, on their arrival, from the H. B. Co's officers, the employees, and from the Indians themselves, which name they received and adopted, making use of it henceforth in their correspondence at home and abroad, until about 1850, when the name of 'Willamette' did generally prevail.

F. X. Matthieu and Etienne Lucier

On 2 May 1843, 102 male Oregon Territory inhabitants voted 52 to 50 to establish an American government rather than a British government. Etienne Lucier and F. X. Matthieu were the swing votes. Both were French-Canadians.

F. X. Matthieu was often mentioned in the Oregonian newspaper. The following sketch from the 16 June 1893 issue of the Oregonian (page 8, col. 2) suggests the reason that he was newsworthy, he knew his way around the political system.

F. X. Matthieu was born in Canada in 1818 and went to New York in 1838 for political reasons, having been one of the insurrectionary party in 1837. He soon went into the employ of the American Fur Company, and made two trips to the Rocky Mountains in 1840-44. In 1843 he came to Oregon and settled in the northern part of Marion County among the French Canadian inhabitants of that locality. His presence among them was beneficial to the American cause, for his influence was on the side of republican principles. He is spoken of in highest respect and gratitude by those familiar with the stirring times just prior to the provisional government of Oregon, and was probably the most influential of the people of his nativity in Oregon at that time. He was deputy quartermaster in the Cayuse war, and was in the legislature in 1874 and 1878. His occupations have been merchandising and farming, and he still resides on his original donation claim a short distance from Butteville.

Etienne Lucier was seldom mentioned in newspapers except as the deciding vote for American government and the first farmer in Oregon. An article in the 9 June 1926 issue of the Oregonian (page 79, col. 5) told the story behind the story.

Among historians and among early Oregonians there has been some dispute as to whom belongs the credit for first cultivating the soil of the Willamette valley, but all seem agreed that Etienne Lucier established the first farm south of the Columbia since the Winship and Astor ventures. This was some time between 1826 and 1828. The farm was located in what became East Portland, on the plot of ground, which was afterwards the Irvington race track.

Various reasons are advanced for Lucier's abandonment of this farm after a few months of cultivation, one being, according to the son of another settler, Louis Labonte, as quoted by Lyman in the Oregon Historical Quarterly, that Dr. McLaughlin himself wanted this parcel of ground and requested Lucier's removal. Another, advanced by Carey, is that Lucier, being a devout Catholic and of a social nature found himself too distant from religious services and his fellow man.

Lucier was a type of the better-class French-Canadian trapper, many of whom joined him in establishing a settlement shortly after at what became known as French prairie. He had a native wife and was devoted to her and their children, so when his contract with the Hudson's bay company expired, wishing to establish for them more of a home than was possible to a roving trapper, and at the same time insure his own old age and their future against want, he applied for discharge and permission to settle in the country. This latter was contrary to the company's rules, they being required by the British government to discharge their servants only at the place where engaged. How Dr. McLoughlin, wishing to assist him, avoided the enforcement of this regulation he himself tells: 'In 1828 Etienne Lucier, a Willamette trapper, asked me if I thought this would become a settled country. I told him wherever wheat grew he could depend it would become a farming country. He asked me what assistance I would afford him to settle as a farmer. I told him I would loan him seed to sow and wheat to feed himself and family, to be returned from the produce of his farm, and sell

him such implements as were in the Hudson's bay company store at 60 per cent on prime cost. In 1829 he again applied to begin a farm. Lucier himself, as we shall see, sets the date somewhat earlier. I told him that since he had spoken to me I had heard that several of the trappers would apply for assistance to begin to farm, and that it was necessary for me to come to a distinct understanding with him, to serve as a rule for those who might follow, That the Hudson's bay company were bound under heavy penalties to discharge none of their servants in the Indian country, and bound to return them to the place where they engaged them; that this was done to prevent vagabonds being let loose among the Indians and incite them to hostility to the whites. But as I knew he was a good man . . . I would assist him to settle. But I must keep him and all of the Hudson's bay company servants whom I allowed to settle, on the Hudson's bay company book as servants, so as not to expose the Hudson's bay company and me to a fine, but they would work for themselves and no service would be exacted from them.

"Lucier himself, according to two witnesses, believed this second farming venture of his was commenced in 1827, which would establish him as the first Willamette valley settler, but others dispute his title, notable among them being Louis Labonte, previously mentioned, who claims this honor belongs to Joseph Gervais, who according to Labonte's recollections, settled on French prairie in 1828."

However, neither McLoughlin nor Labonte were as vitally interested as was Lucier and the testimony of the latter's witnesses would seem to settle the matter definitely. Donald Manson, who according to Lyman's 'History of Oregon,' arrived at Vancouver in 1825, says: 'I married Felicite, the eldest daughter of Etienne Lucier in October, 1828. Her father was then living on his land claim two miles above Champoeg, where he settled in the fall of 1827.' A man should not be mistaken as to his wedding day."

St. Mary Female Academy in Portland

Education is always a priority in pioneer

communities. In 1859, Archbishop F. N. Blanchet requested that members of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary in Montreal be sent to Portland to start a school. Twelve French-speaking sisters, aged 18 to 33, travelled by boat to Portland and started the first Holy Names mission in the United States. They set up their home in the vacant Lownsdale house on S. W. Fifth. The Sisters opened St. Mary's Academy at the beginning of November 1859 with six students – three Catholic, two Jewish, and one Anglican. The first orphan arrived a few days later, and the boarding school was started. By the end of the school year, 112 students were enrolled.

The 4 July 1863 issue of the Daily Oregonian (page 3, col. 1) allowed half of a column for coverage of the end-of-the year celebration at St. Mary's Academy.

Annual Exhibition at St. Mary's Academy. The annual exhibition of St. Mary's Academy in this city, took place on Wednesday last, in presence of a large concourse of citizens. The exercises comprised vocal and instrumental music, embracing solos, duets, trios, and quartets, - the several branches of English and French languages, declamations, dialogues, examinations in history, geography, philosophy, and the entire range of Academical studies, from simple arithmetic to the more complicated and sublime study of Astronomy. A portion of the exercises embraced, also, a moral drama, 'The Two Regrets,' the characters of which were admirably performed by the young ladies. Another feature of the exhibition was a description of a voyage through the United States and Canada, with descriptors of all the remarkable places, which are scattered throughout both countries. The perfection and promptness exhibited by the pupils who recited this composition was also highly commended. Many other pleasing features were introduced upon this occasion, but want of space precludes the possibility of noticing them severally. The recitation hall was suitably decorated with specimens of drawing, painting

and embroidery, executed by the scholars. At the conclusion of the exercises the following premiums were awarded: First Ribbon of Merit, Miss Jane Kinney; Second ditto Misses A. Luelling and E. Plamondon; Third ditto, Miss Augusta Mulkey; Fourth ditto, Misses M. Fleurot and E. Frumblay. The first premium for astronomy, arithmetic, writing, drawing, vocal music and embroidery was awarded to Miss Adda Luelling. First premium for good conduct and for excellence in the studies of botany, composition, grammar and writing was awarded to Miss Josephine Mott. Premium for good conduct and excellence in drawing and sewing awarded to Miss Jane Kinney. First premium for music and housewifery awarded to Miss Elmina Plamondon. Premium for diligence and the study of astronomy was awarded to Miss Anna Davis. Second premium for writing, diligence, and the study of botany, awarded to Miss Clementine Mayer. The following young ladies were awarded first premiums in the branches enumerated: familiar science, Miss M. Ferguson; arithmetic, Mary Backenstos; analysis, Susan Collins; grammar and definitions, F. Sonman; reading Misses Emma Norwood and E. Barlow; spelling, Martha Grooms and Mary Ebinger; dictation exercises, Kate Monastes; philosophy, A. Richardson and Louisa Beck; regular attendance at school, Caroline Neibur; sacred history, Hattie Bacon; geography, Mary White; good conduct, Josephine Roberts; housewifery, Sarah J. Black. Second and third premiums were also awarded to a number of pupils in the above branches, but whose names we are compelled to omit for the reasons before stated.

When the young ladies had received the wreaths and prizes awarded them, Miss Jane Kinney delivered a farewell address, which was responded to by Archbishop Blanchet, after which the audience dispersed, expressing themselves highly pleased with the progress of the pupils and the interesting character of the exercises promoted.

Where can I find historic newspapers on the

Internet?

A number of companies are digitizing historic newspapers and placing them on the Internet. They use Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software that identifies letters and converts them to words that are fully searchable. They are searchable as long as the OCR work is good, and that is not always the case. Some newspapers have faded or blotted ink or the microfilm copy is blurry. When the OCR software does not identify letters, the conversion to digital format and the indexes is less than perfect. That is something we take into account when we search and don't find something that we expect to be there. GenealogyBank.com does some of the best work, and yet a search for [Illegible], the word used to indicate something was not readable, in the online Oregonian newspaper resulted in 91,606 hits.

My three favorite subscription websites are GenealogyBank.com, Ancestry.com's newspaper collection, and Footnote.com's Smalltown newspaper collection. By using one or the other, I can usually find useful material for my genealogy.

Free newspaper websites

The conversion of historic newspapers for the Internet is expensive. This usually means we have to pay for the service, but there are several free sites that offer a quality product, and they are a good place to begin newspaper research.

"Chronicling America" is a joint project of the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities. (Online at <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/pages/>.) The project currently includes newspapers from 1880 to 1922 for the following states: Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington. The search fields allow you to select a year or date range and to search for a word or an exact phrase. I searched for "Joseph Lenzen" because I knew he lived and died in Minnesota. Only one hit was returned, but it was a winner. "Probate Court, before Judge Ueland In the matter of the estate of Joseph Lenzen, deceased. Petition for settlement and distribution filed. Hearing Dec. 27." Source: Daily Globe (St Paul, Minn.) 19 November 1882,

page 6, col. 2; digital image, Chronicling America (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> : accessed 15 March 2010).

Free Newspaper Archives in the US, online at <http://freenewspaperarchives.us/default.aspx>, says that it offers 250 years of US newspaper archives – free of charge. They do not have the newspapers themselves, but they provide links to websites that have the digitized newspapers. There's a link for national collections, geographic areas, and special collections. Even though I didn't find anything on this search, the website is a definite keeper.

The Multnomah County Library includes online newspapers in their database collection for library patrons. Except for the historical New York Times, these are all rather current newspapers offered through "NewsBank, America's Newspapers." To access these, go to the Multnomah County Library website, <http://www.multcolib.org>, and select "Databases."

For further newspaper websites, see the "Newspapers" section on Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet, <http://www.cyndislist.com/newspapr.htm>.

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OREGONIANS OBITUARIES ARE WHERE YOU FIND THEM

The following article is reprinted with permission from Oregon Historical Society. It is done to show you that you can locate vital records for family members in various locations. OHS has a very large collection of manuscript information on the people who lived here and how they lived. If you have not recently visited, you should make the effort to see what they have available. The GFO has the indexes to the OHS quarterlies and all of the following are listed in those indexes. We have a number of the quarterlies, though not all. They all, however, are at OHS. OHS also has a pioneer file with a large number of vital information on early Oregon pioneers.

Oregon Historical Quarterly, Vol 31, March 1930, No. 1

Obituary

Oregon's Death roll for the mid-winter of 1929-30

contains an unusually large number of notable names. Conspicuous among them are:

ISAAC L. PATTERSON, governor of Oregon, Dec. 21, 1929 at Eola near Salem, 70 years.

JOHN GILL, Dec. 28, 1929, at Portland, 78 years, director of Oregon Historical Society.

HARRIET SCOTT McCORD PALMER, Jan. 2, 1930, at Seattle, 89 years.

CHARLES B. MOORES, Jan. 5, 1930, at Portland, 80 years; to Oregon in 1852; director of Oregon Historical Society.

A. G. RUSHLIGHT, Jan. 6, 1930, at Portland, ex-mayor of Portland.

EDGAR W. WRIGHT, Jan. 26, 1930, 67 years; editorial writer, historian and marine expert; author of *Marine History of the Pacific Northwest*.

Other Deaths

ALLEN, GREENBURY W., San Diego, California, Nov. 10, 1929, 78 years.

APPLEGATE, MALINDA MILLER, Roseburg, Jan. 31, 1930, 89 years, pioneer of 1852.

ARNOLD, W. E., Albany, Jan. 12, 1930, 85 years, pioneer of 1852.

BAKER, MAY MARTIN, McMinnville, Nov. 29, 1929, 69 years, born in Ballston, Polk County, Feb. 16, 1860.

BARKER, HANNAH PHILLIPS, near Zena, Jan. 3, 1930, 67 years, born Aug. 21, 1862, on the Phillips donation land claim.

BEAN, Dr. HAROLD C., Portland, Jan. 2, 1930, 39 years, born in Eugene Dec 28, 1889, son of Judge Robert S. Bean.

BICKEL, FREDERICK, Portland, Nov. 9, 1929, 97 years, came to Portland 1853.

BELLINGER, GRANT, Lebanon, Jan. 26, 1930, 64 years, born near Berlin, Linn County, May 9, 1865.

BOGUE, MARY ANN, near Corvallis, Jan. 29, 1930, 76 years.

BRADY, JAMES F., Portland, Jan. 31, 1930, 93 years.

BROOKS, JOHN W., Independence, Feb. 12, 1930, 81 years.

BRYAN, SARAH RAMSEY, Carlton, Jan. 19, 1930, 81 years, born on Ramsey donation land claim near Newberg, 1849.

BRYANT, MARY MURRAY, Clatskanie, Dec. 28, 1929, 75 years, born in Aurora May 17, 1854.

CARLE, FRANK A., Minneapolis, Minnesota, January 22, 1930, 79 years, managing editor "The Oregonian" Oct. 11, 1889 to Sep. 5, 1897.

OHS Obits continued on page 22:

Oregon Snapshots

The McLoughlin House

By Alene Reaugh

Recently a good friend gave me the book "Classic Houses of Portland, Oregon 1850-1950." While looking through the book I was curious about what happened to some of these houses, specifically the houses of our founding fathers. Unfortunately, many of them were in the downtown area and were torn down to make room for a growing city. The good news is that many more were saved, including one of the first and best known: the McLoughlin House in Oregon City.



Dr. John McLoughlin, who became known as the "Father of Oregon," was born in Quebec, Canada at Riviere Du Loup on the St. Lawrence in 1784. At the age of 19, he was a towering figure of 6'4" and was considered by many to be a skilled physician and surgeon. He was adventuresome and had the desire to be out in the wilderness rather than in an office so, with the help of his uncle, he was appointed medical officer for the North West Fur Company. At the age of 28 he headed West across the Rocky Mountains to Fort George (Astoria) at the mouth of the Columbia River where he began his career as a great leader. Early in 1825, when the Hudson Bay Company absorbed the North West Fur Company, he went to Fort Vancouver where he served as the Chief Factor until he retired in 1845.

The Hudson Bay Company was for the benefit of the British trappers in the Oregon Country, which was occupied by both citizens of Great Britain and the United States. Dr. McLoughlin, who was a British citizen, unofficially governed the Northwest for twenty years before the great migration in the

mid 19th century. His job was to "create a mercantile arm of the British government; to monopolize the fur trade; maintain peace upon the numerous tribes of Indians, and to prevent agricultural settlement of the region."¹ He had mastery of the Chinook Jargon, and as a peaceful man gained the distinction of maintaining complete peace with the Indians for the twenty-one years he was in charge of Fort Vancouver. They called him the "White-Headed

Eagle."

He believed, however, that the American farmer would soon replace the British trappers in the Oregon Country. He liked the American immigrants and helped them whenever he could by giving them supplies with the promise of later payments. Even though he knew that many would not be able to pay later, he was concerned that they would perish without the supplies they needed to survive their first winter. This act of kindness caused him to clash with the British Governor of the Hudson Bay Company and eventually brought about his forced retirement. He personally re-paid the Hudson Bay Company out of pocket for this entire debt.

After leaving the Fort in 1846, he moved his family to the land he had claimed for the Hudson Bay Company in 1829. He paid them \$20,000 for the land and established a Lumber Mill at the place he called Oregon City near the Willamette Falls. He built his home from the lumber he milled and located it facing the river. The house was grand with high ceilings, big rooms, many windows and an

eloquent staircase. It was "...an open-hearted house where homeless newcomers often found a bed for the night – or rolled up in a quilt on the floor of the upstairs hall, if all the rooms were full."²

By 1849 when Oregon became part of the United States, his neighbors turned against him stating he was not entitled to the land claim because he was British even though he had applied to become a U.S. citizen. In 1851, he became an American citizen but still eventually lost title to his land. Even after this, he remained a prominent citizen and won majority vote to become Major of Oregon City. He continued to live in his house, but before the dispute could be resolved, he died in 1857. Three years later his wife died. In 1862, the State of Oregon released the property to his heirs who in turn sold it.

The house then began a long and varied history of its own. First, it became a bordello known as the Phoenix Hotel, which was expanded to house the mill workers, and then it became an apartment house. By 1906 it was in disrepair. Having been largely ignored, and flooded more than once, it was foul smelling and home to stray animals with its view of the river blocked by a large woolen mill.

Finally, the Hawley Pulp and Paper Mill purchased the house with the intention of tearing it down, but instead offered it free to anyone who would move it away. The city could not afford to move it, but offered a piece of land in a beautiful park high up on the bluff. There was a lot of opposition to the idea of moving the house and a group of people put out a pamphlet stating their reasoning:

McLoughlin's former home has been for past decades a haunt of shame and disgrace on South Main Street. It has been used for the vile and disreputable purposes so long that no decent, purity loving citizen can associate it with any good purpose. In a state of decay and dissolution it was dumped upon the city to disgrace a park block and destroy the most beautiful park site in our city – a whited sepulcher, a wolf in sheep's clothing.³

There was another group of dedicated people who wished to preserve the important historical landmark that marked the beginning of the Oregon Territory. They wished to keep it from further harm

and preserve it for the legacy of Dr. McLoughlin. They formed the McLoughlin Memorial Association and put the idea to move the house into motion. Moving a house is an extremely large task and in 1909 it was especially hard and came with its own set of problems. The first obstacle, of course, was money and the other was the route they would need to take - up Singer Hill. This was a narrow road, bordered on one side by a black basalt cliff and on the other a sheer drop off to the river below. Then they had to consider how to physically move the large two story rectangular structure that appeared it would break apart of its own weight. At one point, the road was half the width of the house so they needed to figure how to get it past that point. They could build a trestle to widen the road or somehow counterbalance the house.

They finally decided on some solutions to these obstacles and by the spring of 1909, began the historic move:

Collected a thousand dollars, took off the roof, took off the chimneys, took off the addition, jacked up the original house, put it on support beams. They made rollers from trees of the surrounding forest, improvised a system of pulleys and cables attached to a winch, hired men at twenty-five cents per day to carry rollers from the rear, after the house had passed, and lay them at the front. For power the workman hitched up a single horse, which led the way, turning the winch, turning the pulleys and worming the massive structure along, eight inches ahead for every slow circuit of the animal.⁴

At the narrow place on Singers Hill, the movers implemented their plan. The house was 'sound and well built; the timbering hewed and very heavy.' So they modified the arrangement of timbers and jacks, and 'loaded the inside of the house next to the cliff with sand, gravel and cement until the weight counterbalanced the overhanging and proceeded with it to the top of the grade.' People scarcely breathed as it was rolled cautiously up the slope; but the road held firm and the structure did too reaching solid ground in safety.⁵

The house was placed facing the river as it had

in its original location so the back of the house now faced the street. The large main front door framed in multi-pane sidelights was now on the backside of the house. The house had been saved and stood at its new location in a city park, but over the next twenty years it was not adequately cared for and again was in need of repairs and general upkeep. During the Depression in the early 1930's, a government program was started known as the Civilian Works Administration (CWA). The CWA was charged with restoring the old house and that work was completed in 1935. The McLoughlin Memorial Association then opened it as a museum with many of the original furnishings. In 1941 it became the eleventh house in the nation to be designated a National Historic Site.

Due to his key role in establishing Oregon's history, the State of Oregon named Dr. McLoughlin the "Father of Oregon." in 1957. Judge Matthew P. Deady said of Dr. McLoughlin "At the call of

humanity he always forgot all special interests and was always ready to help the needy or unfortunate... His good deeds shall in due time cause his name to be written in letters of gold in Oregon history." 6

In 2003 the McLoughlin House in Oregon City was added to the National Parks System.

(Endnotes)

- 1 A Place Called Oregon, Dr. John McLoughlin, <http://gesswhoto.com/mcloughlin.html>
- 2 Dorothy Nafus Morrison, *Outpost, John McLoughlin and the Far Northwest* (Portland, Oregon: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1990), Prologue ~xv~
- 3 Morrison, *Outpost*, Prologue ~xvi~
- 4 Morrison, *Outpost*, Prologue ~xvi~–xvii~
- 5 Morrison, *Outpost*, Prologue ~xix~
- 6 Dr. John McLoughlin

Oregon Historical Quarterly Obituaries continued from page 19

CAVE, JOHN RILEY, Amity, Dec. 26, 1929, 76 years, born in Polk County.

CHAPIN, WILLARD H., Oswego, Jan. 10, 1930, 67 years, one of the organizers of the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club, February 1891.

CHURCHILL, JOHN S., Marcola, Dec. 16, 1929, 83 years, born Dec. 31, 1845, pioneer of 1851.

COCHRAN, SARAH DILLARD, Cottage Grove, Dec. 23, 1929, 23 years, born Jan. 13, 1846, pioneer of 1853.

COOMBS, MARY E., May Park, Union County, December 2, 1929, 82 years.

CRABTREE, NEWTON, Scio, Nov. 28, 1929, 84 years, born on the Oregon Trail near The Dalles, 1845.

CRAM, REBECCA ANN, Hillsboro, Nov. 17, 1929, 69 years.

CUNNIFF, DENNIS, Gold Beach, Nov. 27, 1929, born at Gold Beach.

DE HAVEN, WILLIAM, McMinnville, Feb. 11, 1930, 66 years.

DEVINE, HENRIETTA, Portland, Dec. 3, 1929, 87 years, pioneer of 1847.

DIXON, JAMES RILEY, Pasadena, California, Jan. 24, 1930, 81 years, pioneer of 1852.

DREW, CALIF NEWTON, Pendleton, Jan. 26, 1930, 84 years, pioneer of Tillamook County.

DRESSER, FRED, Portland, Feb. 9, 1930, 74 years.

DIXON, EMELINE BETHERS, Oregon City, Feb. 9, 1930, 75 years, born in Benton County, Jan. 1, 1855.

EARHART, GEORGE FRANKLIN, McMinnville, Feb. 5, 1930, 93 years.

EGBERT, J. C., Olympia, Washington, Feb. 6, 1930, 91 years.

EHLEN, CATHERINE GIESY, Portland, Dec. 20, 1929, 74 years, born in Willapa, Washington, daughter of Christian Giesy, one of the founders of the Aurora colony.

EILERS, FREDERIC, Portland, Jan. 27, 1930, 84 years.

ELLIS, ISAAC DANIEL, near Ocosta, Washington, Jan. 7, 1930, 83 years.

FAULCONER, OSCAR M., Sheridan, Jan. 20, 1930, 70 years, born in The Dalles Sep. 2, 1859.

FAUSEL, PHOEBE, Portland, Jan. 26, 1930, 79 years, born in Milwaukie.

FENTON, HENRY LEE, Dallas, Jan. 10, 1930, 67 years, born near Lafayette Feb., 1863.

FIELDS, LILLIE HOSFORD, Portland, Feb. 12, 1930, 73 years, born Scio Apr. 1, 1856.

FLOOK, MRS. JALEY THOMAS, Mill City, Jan. 11, 1930, 90 years, born Dec. 3, 1839, pioneer of 1845.

Written in Stone

Iconography and Symbolism Reading a Tombstone

by Carol Ralston Surrency



The rose on this headstone was chosen for appearance

(There is a) fundamental truth about the nature of grave markers. In a very real sense, memorials erected to the dead are the material representatives of those now departed, and we...often draw our impressions of what these persons must have been like from the things we find upon them.¹

Cemeteries are the one place where you can be closest to your ancestors, both physically and culturally. It is a place where we can literally walk where they walked and know that we are looking at the same tombstones and surroundings that they looked at during their lifetime. So, what can we learn about our ancestors from their markers? To understand, one needs to have some knowledge of the shifts in culture and perception that have occurred in this country during the last four hundred years.

During colonial times, the basic symbols, skulls, skeletons, scythes and hourglasses, were meant to tell us that life was uncertain and death was imminent. By the time the Victorian Period arrived, a different kind of imagery had emerged, reflecting a focus on resurrection and everlasting life. Examples of this are: weeping willows, clasped

hands, flowers, fingers pointing up, draped urns, and for children, lambs, doves, tree stumps and winged cherubs. It is this softer reflection of mourning that we find most often in our historic cemeteries in the western part of the United States. More recently, symbols have moved away from the spiritual to focus on the individual, often denoting occupations, hobbies, and organizational affiliations.

Those of us who frequent cemeteries often refer to them as outdoor museums, full of art and history and, surely, they are. But it is the connection to personal history – to your people - which has the strongest appeal to genealogists. And a sense of what some of the symbols may mean can provide clues about their personality and that of other family members that can take us beyond the mere collection of dates from the marker. A look at different authors of books about cemeteries will tell you that there are various interpretations of the icons. Some are obvious, and there are general conclusions that can be drawn from others. Following is a list of some common symbols and meanings.

Weeping Willow - grief, sorrow, immortality

Corn, Sheaves of wheat — ripe old age

Olive Tree or Branch— soul is at peace with God

Flowers with buds — life cut short to
Palm branch — triumph over death, blossom in the afterlife
Oak leaves — strong faith
Clouds, gates opening — transition to
Laurel leaf — spiritual Victory, heaven
Tree — tree of life
Garlands, Crown — victory in death
Tree fallen, Cut Branch or Stump — life cut short
Broken Column, drapes, Urns — mortality,
Ivy — immortality, fidelity, longevity, mourning
Bouquet — a tribute
Urn with flame atop — soul arising from ashes
Book — knowledge, scriptures
Tree Stump, Axe — Woodman of the World
Handshake — God's welcome to heaven, farewell to earth
Hatchet with T.O.T.E. — Improved Order of Redmen
Forefinger pointing up — soul has gone to heaven
Forefinger pointing down — God reaching down for soul
Star, five pointed rounded tips — Grand Army of the Republic
Angel — guardian, resurrection
Chain Links, three — International Order of Odd Fellows
Anchor — faith, maritime occupation
Compass and Square, G in middle — Masons
Shoes, one overturned — loss of child

Star, five pointed inverted — Eastern Star
Lilies — resurrection
Eagle with F.O.E — Fraternal Order of Eagles
Iris — hope, purity

We can learn a great deal about the beliefs and attitudes of our ancestors in the cemetery, and we may learn something very specific about an individual as a result of our observations. I would be remiss, however, if I did not issue a word of warning. As with any other aspect of genealogical research, be cautious with assumptions. A rose may symbolize beauty, motherhood, Christian virtue, purity or Paradise. It may also mean that the individual particularly loved roses or was a good gardener. Or, it may have, as in the case of my mother's marker, been chosen because it was pretty and fit on the stone. On the other hand, the biplane on my father's gravestone represents his life in the 1930's, when he barnstormed throughout Central and Eastern Oregon.

I hope this inspires you to take a walk in a cemetery, look at the carvings on the stones, and consider the beauty and meaning reflected there.

(Endnotes)

1 Douglas Keister, *Stories in Stone. A Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography*, (Gibbs Smith, Salt Lake City, 2004) P. 7.

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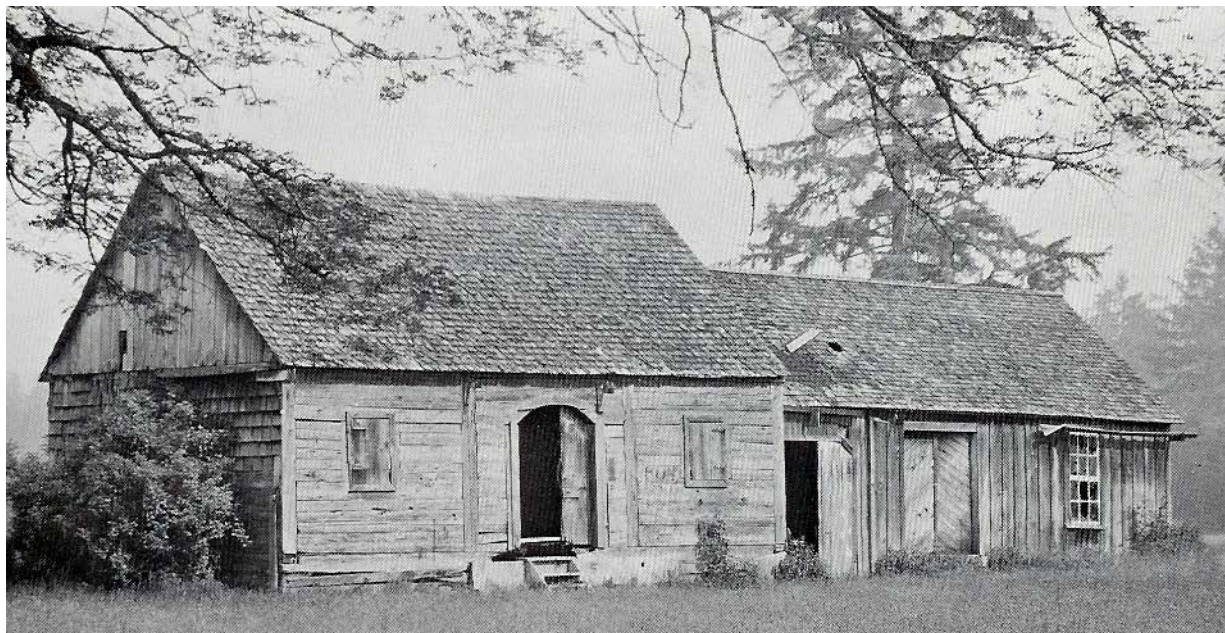


This biplane represents James Ralston's barnstorming days.

Relics

Plankwall Framing: The French-Canadian Legacy In Oregon History

By Harvey Steele



This grainery was new when John Felts arrived at Fort Nisqually in November, 1811. He was probably given seed here for his first planting of grain.

Genealogists need all the help they can get for interpreting the culture and lifeways of our ancestors. For many settlement groups, an often overlooked clue is in how they built their log structures. The French-Canadians who were the earliest settlers in the Willamette Valley had a unique system, plankwall framing, which was used in constructing houses and barns from about 1830 to 1860. The story begins with wheat.

For over 180 years wheat has been grown in Oregon. Wheat was the first commercial crop grown in the state and its growers were French-Canadian trappers retiring from Fort Vancouver. Encouraged by Chief Factor John McLoughlin, the trappers exchanged their fur trade work (using beaver traps, axes, adzes, saws, canoes, and flintlock weapons), for farming tools. However, one skill they had acquired as engagees (employees of the fur trading companies), log house building, may have been

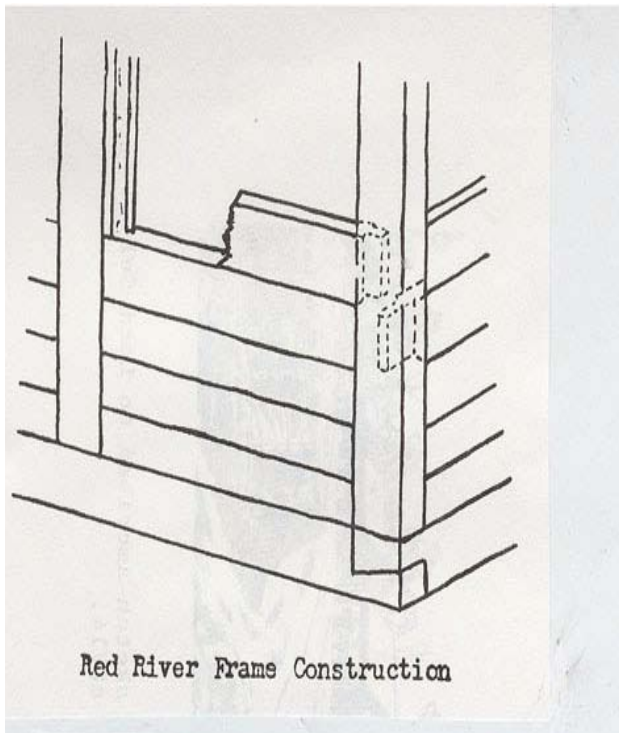
their most important contribution to early Oregon history.

Etienne Lucier may have been the first documented wheat farmer, but he would have called himself “un cultivateur de bel” for he spoke only two languages, French and the Chinook jargon. He and the other French-Canadians had lots of experience in building construction, using the only method they knew, plankwall framing, for their farm buildings and most of the buildings at Fort Vancouver and other fur trade posts. ¹

Lucier was born near Montreal in 1793. He came to the Oregon Territory in 1812, as a fur trade trapper. Others who came that year to work for John Jacob Astor’s Pacific Fur Company included Louis Lebonte, Joseph Gervais, Lucier, and William Cannon, the last-named the husband of a French-Canadian. After a few years with the Northwest Company, the group became

“engagee” trappers for the Hudson’s Bay Company. They trapped for several of the over 150 forts and trading posts of that company and also helped to construct hundreds of buildings in the process. Within the stockaded enclosure of Fort Vancouver alone there were 35 buildings, constructed using the plankwall method.² Except for a brick powder magazine, buildings within the fort were constructed of wood. An 1844 visitor to the fort described the method:

“Posts are raised at convenient intervals with grooves in the facing sides. In these grooves planks are inserted horizontally, and the walls are complete. Rafters raised upon plates, in the usual way, and covered with boards, form the roof.”³



The style he described was known by several names at the time. “Hudson’s Bay Style”, “Red River Frame”, and “French-Canadian Style”, were the most popular names, but more precise designations included “poteaux et piece coulissante” (posts with grooves into which a log was slipped) and “poteaux sur sole” (posts on the sill). Recent archaeology at Fort Nisqually, Fort Langley, and Fort Victoria, has clarified its use in the region. For example, in 1974, the author directed the excavation of a very large plankwall framed structure at Fort Vancouver,

the Sale Shop (the first retail store in the Oregon Territory) and in 1984, the author directed the excavation of a smaller plankwall framed structure at Fort Vancouver, the first jail in the Oregon Territory.⁴

The origins of the style are obscure. The method had first come to Québec with the French-Canadian settlers of the 17th century. Before that, it can be traced back to France and from there ultimately to Denmark, where it seems to be of Viking origin. The name “Plankwall Framing” has been applied by modern architectural historians although the modern use of the method employs sawmill lumber and steel wire nails in large quantities, completely unlike the 19th century practices, in which the axe, adze, chisel, and very few metal fasteners were standard equipment.⁵

In his excavation of Fort Spokane, archaeologist John Combes has a good description of the system as it was practiced in the Pacific Northwest, but he names it “Log Columbage”, illustrating the difficulty of interpretation even when archeological remains were observed. Combes wrote of: “A building system by which vertical posts are erected at corners and at doorways, each post having a vertical groove running its full length to accept the sharpened ends of small horizontal logs. These horizontal logs extend from post to post, forming the wall surface. Thus the weight of the upper structure of the building is carried to the ground through the vertical posts... (such) construction reflects the influence of French Canadian techniques of the day; the resulting log structure differs from the common visual conception of log buildings built from unfinished horizontal logs interlocking at corners, a method of construction popularized in the New World by Scandinavian settlers.”⁶

The plankwall system (under various names) has been described frequently by chroniclers of the French-Canadians who grew wheat on French Prairie and nearby areas in Oregon. For example:

The barn built by (Joseph) Gervais, and probably his other buildings, including the house, was made by setting up a framework of squared timbers in which tenon grooves had been run by auger and chisel. Split Douglas Fir planks three inches thick were set in the posts to form the walls. Like the

other French Prairie settlers Gervais has chosen a claim with plenty of timber for raw material.⁷

At Champoeg, even the wood statehouse which followed the 1843 state government meetings, was built by the French-Canadians:

“A primitive State House was built with posts set upright, one end in the ground, grooved on the sides and filled in with split timber.”⁸

This is a little surprising considering that the Champoeg meetings were dominated by farmers who were not French-Canadians. Also surprising is that the posts were set in the ground (in the “poteaux ex terre” manner) a method only used for small sheds and outbuildings by the Hudson’s Bay Company. The 1861 Champoeg flood swept away this building, but not the much larger company warehouse, for which the posts were located on large flat basalt boulders which did not yield to the flood waters.⁹

By that time, several factors were contributing to the end of the old method of plankwall framing in Oregon: (1) sawmill limber; (2) nails; (3) the popularity of the Chicago balloon-frame method of building; and (4) the discovery (at Fort Vancouver and elsewhere)

that the wetter climate of the Pacific Northwest shortened the use-life of plankwall buildings. As early as 1832 (at Norway House in Canada) Donald Ross had noted:

“The greatest evil...attending wooden buildings in this country is the necessity of using green and unseasoned timber – which shrinks to such a degree that the proper bearings of every part of the building very soon gets disordered however well laid at first. This is more particularly the case with such as have

upright posts in the walls...in a very short time the whole weight and pressure from above rests entirely on these posts alone.”¹⁰

Sawmills thrived in Oregon after 1860, the year the Hudson’s Bay Company vacated Fort Vancouver. The abundance of sawmill lumber in Champoeg, Oregon City, Milwaukie, and Portland, ended the need for the time-consuming labor-intensive hand work with adze and chisel of the old plankwall system. The old square wrought-rod blacksmith

nails were always expensive and scarce, but the new machine-cut rectangular iron nails were cheap and abundant. Both of these factors facilitated the new balloon-frame method of construction, in which the total frame was formed by two-by-fours and two-by-sixes of precise lengths using lots of nails.¹¹

In 1867 the British and American Joint Commission in Washington City (now D.C.) held hearings to settle the claims of the Hudson’s Bay Company after they left the territory in 1860. Several of the witnesses commented

on the building practices noted at Fort Vancouver. One witness, W.W. Buck, a sawmill owner, noted that “They (the buildings) were not so built as to preserve the building from going to decay by the action of the weather” and “They cannot be kept in repair; the frame and sills were so exposed to the weather that they necessarily rotted in a few years”.¹² Most of the witnesses at the hearings, which included Ulysses Grant, concluded that plankwall framing might work in a drier climate but not in the



The building of Cumberland House, first Company post in the interior

Pacific Northwest.¹³

In the second half of the 19th century, most of the French-Canadian plankwall buildings were replaced by balloon-frame houses and barns. At all of the Hudson's Bay Company sites administered by the National Park Service in the United States or Parks Canada, modern replicas of the plankwall system have been assembled. Only one original French-Canadian plankwall site remains in the Pacific Northwest, the 1843 Granary at Fort Nisqually, located in Point Defiance Park, Tacoma, Washington. The 167-year old building is maintained using expensive precision conservation methods despite the wet climate of the Puget Sound area.

The legacy of the French-Canadian style of building was short-lived in Oregon, lasting from the original 1825 construction of Fort Vancouver to about 1861, when the Willamette River Flood necessitated widespread rebuilding in the French Prairie area. The introduction of balloon-frame construction in North America displaced all of the other forms of wood construction. A modified version of grooved post wall construction (now called plank-wall construction) has become popular in Québec. The newer method employs machine-cut wire nails instead of tenoned grooves to hold the horizontal members in place and all of the wood is dimension stock standardized circular sawmill-made. With the new technology, plankwall style continues to be popular in Québec and parts of the United States upper Midwest.

The other legacies of the French Prairie material culture are in museums, ranging from the visitor centers at Fort Nisqually (Tacoma), Fort Victoria, Fort Langley (near Vancouver, B.C.) and Fort Vancouver, and also in two Midwestern museums, the Minnesota Historical Society at St. Paul, Minnesota, and Museum of the Fur Trade, Chadron, Nebraska. Here, the visitor can see the axes, adzes, chisels, canoes, and even construction dioramas of the French-Canadian plankwall construction method.

(Endnotes)

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- 4 Ritchie 1971; Harvey W. Steele, Lester A. Ross, and Charles H. Hibbs, Fort Vancouver Excavations XII OAS Sale Shop Excavation (Vancouver, Washington: National Park Service) July 1975:129ff.
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- 13 British and American Joint Commission in the Matter of the Hudson's Bay Company. Testimony on part of the United States. Part First. Evidence Taken in Oregon. (Washington City: McGill & Witherow) 1867 209-227. Also compare Steele, Ross and Hibbs 1975:157-173

Story Teller

Beaman Keepsakes The Letters of Oscar Wakefield Beaman and Sally Maud Minton

by Judith Beaman Scott



Oscar and Maud Beaman

The letter began, “My dear darling girl.” It was dated October 15, 1909, and had been mailed from Bartlesville, Oklahoma. It was written on stationary from the Plaza Hotel in Bartlesville where the rates were proudly listed on the letterhead, \$1.25 per day, with the slogan “We can, we will, Bartlesville.” It was addressed to Miss Maude Minton, Mayodan, North Carolina. Oscar Beaman, the writer, goes on to tell his “little darling” how much he misses her, how he can’t wait to see her again this Christmas.

In May, 1909 Oscar told Maud he had been to a race that day and there was an ice cream dinner at the hotel that evening. He wishes she were there “to take dinner with me.” He was in Deer Trail, Colorado, purported to be the home of the first rodeo. One might wonder how much Oscar really missed Maud when you look at the other letters stacked neatly in the old green and yellow nail box; postmarks from Virginia, Oklahoma, even Oregon

and Washington, over a two year period. From the tone of the few letters from Maude to Oscar, she was wondering as well. It seems she was tired of waiting for him to come home and marry her.

There were probably many more letters but this small stack is all that have survived. The paper the letters are written on is no longer white. It is permanently creased and almost unreadable where it has been folded and kept in the envelopes for a hundred years. But the handwriting on many of them I would recognize anywhere. It is the same spidery writing that covers a stack of envelopes I have saved since I was a little girl. They were written by my “Poppy,” my grandfather, in response to the childish letters I wrote to him. He never failed to answer, always in pencil which he would wet with his tongue, on lined linen paper. Just looking at that writing transports me right back to my childhood, watching him as he opened the drawer

in the dining room where he kept those tablets and sharpened a pencil with his pocketknife.

When I was a little girl visiting my grandparents I vaguely remember Poppy telling me about his trip to the “wild west” when he was young. He told me he had met some of the notorious Dalton gang, and he talked about a beautiful Indian princess. Sure enough, Emmett Dalton, the youngest of the brothers was married in Bartlesville on August 31, 1908, and settled down there. Emmett had just been pardoned by the governor of Kansas after serving 14 years in prison for murder after the infamous shootout at Coffeyville.¹ I haven’t found the Princess yet.

I have often wondered how Mom and Pop met. Pop’s family was from the Piedmont region of North Carolina, about 70 miles from Mayodan where Maud lived. Oscar Wakefield Beaman, Poppy, was born in Montgomery County, North Carolina on January 16, 1888, to Hansel Beaman and Amy Ann Hurley. The Beamans had been farmers in this region of North Carolina for many generations. Earlier generations of Beamans were Quakers who migrated from Nansemond County, Virginia, into North Carolina. Francis Beaman patented land in Nansemond County, Virginia in 1733.² Then, in 1764, according to Quaker records, Francis and wife Mary were received by the Rich Square Monthly Meeting in Northampton County, North Carolina. In 1777 they moved to Randolph County and attended the Contentnea Monthly Meeting. Francis and Mary had ten children mentioned in Quaker records: Francis, Ozias, Abraham, James, David, Martha, Keziah, Josiah, Polly and Cornelius.³ Francis Beaman [Jr.] was enumerated in the 1800 Montgomery County census and by 1810 more Beaman sons were there, including Abraham, Oscar’s ancestor.

Economy in the south suffered after the Civil War but new cotton mills were opened in the Piedmont area, often operated as company towns. There were cotton mills in Mayodan and in the Winston area.⁴ In the 1900 U.S. census for Mayodan, most everyone had a connection to the mills. On sheet 2A for Mayodan Village, which includes the Minton family, of the 50 people listed 25 worked for the mill; only two adults had other jobs. Those not at the mill were six mothers with young children, four infants, five boys under 12 and eight girls under the age of

14. Two 12 year old boys were listed as working at the mill.⁵

Oscar’s family moved to Winston, probably in search of work, and his mother Amy Ann died there on February 5, 1897.⁶ The 1900 census from Forsyth County shows Hansel, Oscar’s father, working as a dyer at the cotton factory, son Charles, age 21, is a house painter and Oscar who is 13, is still in school. Sixteen year old Frank works at a carriage shop, Mittie (Mary Elizabeth, age 17) is working at the mill, Anna, who is 7, is in school, and the youngest child Robert is four years old. Oscar’s older brothers Baxter and William were not living with the family, but Grandmother Mary Hurley is.⁷ Soon after, Hansel married Ella Reynolds Vuncannon, a widow from Montgomery County. Until Oscar goes adventuring, he is living within 30 miles of Mayodan, Maud’s hometown. Maud’s brother Giles may have been working in Winston; perhaps that’s how my Grandparents met.

Sally Maud Minton was born in Mayodan, Rockingham County North Carolina. Her birthday might be February 15, 1890 if you want the truth, or February 15, 1892 which is what she told the folks at the Social Security office when she signed up. It caused a bit of a problem until someone, my father I think, finally told them she sometimes subtracted a couple of years from her age when it suited her. There was another stir about her name. Apparently she didn’t like Sally and insisted it wasn’t her real name, although she is listed that way in official records. Maud, or Mom as we all called her, was the true example of the southern belle. She was always the gracious lady, and expected adoration from everyone. You could just imagine her holding out her hand to be kissed. She never left the house without being dressed to the tee. Beautiful knit suits pulled out of the huge “chiffarobe” in her bedroom, lovely tiny high heel shoes, and always a matching hat and pocketbook. She had the most beautiful soft white skin, maybe because she creamed her face with Ponds cold cream every night before retiring.

Why Pop went on his adventure I do not know. I suppose he wasn’t quite ready to settle down. All the while Maud was waiting, not so patiently, for him to come home and marry her. There are, however, letters from another suitor, one C. W. Wilkerson,

professing his undying love for my grandmother. I must confess, I think she made the right choice. Mr. Wilkerson seems to be a bit pompous. He writes from Thomasville, NC, "If I could just be there to set out on the porch with you I would be one more happy kid." Then later on "You said you was going fishing did you...Well, how many did you catch haha, not any that is to bad. I didn't think you did you don't know how to fish. I will bet you didn't have any bait on your hook." He talks about having a difficult time writing because "they [his roommates] are talking to me all the time. You can go to a room to your self and write and nothing to Bother you But I can't." It is signed "Yours only, Charles W Wilkerson, Thomasville NC, SWAK."

My grandfather always treated women with respect, and never patronized. Maud was a very confident, almost haughty woman - I don't think she would tolerate someone talking to her the way Mr. Wilkerson did. She acted as though she was meant to be adored, always. Apparently Oscar knew about this other "fella" as he called him, because he asked Maud if she had heard from him again. It is somewhat disconcerting to have evidence of my grandparent's romances, I confess. One's grandparents are not supposed to be romantic!

Oscar continues to woo Maud and put her off as he made his way all the way to Washington State. Finally, in 1911, there is some indication of progress. Oscar is working closer to home, first in Richmond, Virginia, then in West Virginia, and plans are being made for what seems like an elopement, which was a great surprise to me. On November 28, 1911 Oscar writes from Cinderella, West Virginia:

The ring I was having fixed for you is now ready....Well Maud, I have bad news to tell you about our furniture. I had a letter from the company and they told me the goods which I had ordered was now out of stock, some of them and they could have the order made inside of sixty days but I wrote and told them not to bother as I wanted the goods at once or not at all.

He goes on to say he has written another company but he doesn't really know what to do. He and his brother Chas are not getting along, he says, they

"can't seem to get along for more than three months at a time....But if you say so I will come down and we will marry and go some place else."

On December 11, Oscar talks about where they will live. Apparently he will only be working in his present location, Cinderella, West Virginia, for about two more months. He discusses the pros and cons of boarding, which will cost \$40 a month, or furnishing their own place for \$150, and then finding someone to move them after two months without "busting it all up when it is moved." He will do whatever she wants, he says, and reminds her he will see her on the 23rd. "Only ten more days," he tells her, "you have to meet me at the depot and we will go see the magistrate. Send me the name of the magistrate and I will send him the money for the license."

He did take the train to Mayodan that December and they married there on December 26, 1911. A marriage license dated December 25, 1911 was issued to J. H. Ault, Justice of the Peace, for a marriage between Oscar W Beaman age 21, son of H. Beaman (living) and Annie Beaman (deceased), resident of Winston-Salem, and Maud Minton age 21, daughter of John Minton (deceased) and Susan A. Minton, a resident of Mayodan. The marriage was performed by J.H. Ault. ⁸

Hattie Shreves, a friend of Maud's, was listed as a witness on the license. On January 24, 1912, Hattie wrote to Maud "Dear Maud, I will take much pleasure in answering your dear little letter," she says "I hope you are still enjoying life as you were when you wrote," Hattie goes on to say she "saw Kate last night at the rink...she certainly was surprised when she heard you was married. Lessie (Maud's sister) said tell you hello from her." A letter from another friend, in January 1912, reports "We haven't been to your house since you left but Lessie says Mrs. Minton is not mad with you."⁹

After they married Maud and Oscar moved to West Virginia. The next few letters go back and forth between Mayodan and Kimball, where Oscar was working as a painter with his brothers Frank and Charles. On January 24, Susan Minton writes to Oscar:

My dear son, I know that you are good to dear little Maud...but I can't help missing my

dear child. I love you for I know you have a good kind heart and Maud says you are so kind to her....Don't go any farther away but come back this way please. To my Dear Son O.W.

Maud's brother writes from Mayodan in February. He opens "Dear Bro" It goes on to say "they had a big burn out at Winston last night" then "Giles (another brother) has quit and is going to leave Saturday. He is going to Norfolk to hunt him a job." Giles did leave Mayodan, and ended up in Utica, New York working in a mill in 1917.¹⁰ "I am going to leave shortly. I can't make anything here but I don't where I would go." John asks Oscar if there is any work there. He says "tell Maud we certainly was glad to hear of her getting so fat." He mentions his children-"Troy says tell Maud he is going to school every day and learning fast but old Thomas is as mean as ever Maud. I wish you could see Ercell she is just as fat and smart as she can be." Ercell was an infant then, Troy was six, and Thomas was about four.¹ He signed it Your Bro J.W. Minton. John and his family didn't leave Rockingham County; they are there for both the 1920 and 1930 census.¹¹

Later the Beaman family moved to Huntington, West Virginia. Oscar's brother Frank had a successful paint and wallpaper business there for many years, and Pop worked with Frank until he retired.

Their house sat up on a little hill overlooking the road and had a wonderful porch wrapping around three sides with a beaded board half wall topped with a wide white ledge. Standing on the porch you looked out over a small valley ringed by hills covered with oak, sugar maple, sassafras and other beautiful trees. You could stand there and call to the "bobwhites," and they would answer, watch rattlesnakes cross the road and sometimes hear bobcats screaming in the hills. It was "almost heaven;" in the fall there is no place more beautiful. During the the summer, the ledge along the length of the porch was crowded with pots of begonias and other colorful flowers interspersed with pots of greenery. The bank below the porch was a mass of pink and purple sweet peas and across the road was a wall of fragrant yellow honeysuckle, good for a sweet drop of honey on your tongue. On one side of the house, the porch opened up into a large

square area with a wooden swing. There was a big old heavy Mission Oak rocker with a leather seat across from the swing and a couple of wicker basket chairs. Mom would sit out on the porch in a chair or gently swing in the heat of the afternoon, after her midday nap.

I haven't read all the letters in the nail box. I found them years ago when I was cleaning out the family home. I looked at the envelopes, opened a few, and put them away for many years. I remembered them when I was doing some research on the family, and again I looked at a few of the letters, but I felt like a voyeur intruding into their private lives. Later, I scanned a few of the letters, looked at the postmarks and envelopes, got even more curious, and read a few more. I learned a great deal just doing that. That's how I learned my Great-grandmother's name, Susan Alice. S. A. Minton is how she signed her letters, to her "sweet daughter Maud."

Susan was the daughter of Jonathon Bainbridge Farrington and Mary Giles, of Rockingham County, North Carolina, a farming family whose ancestors had been in this part of North Carolina for decades. She married John R. Minton, son of William E. Minton of Virginia on October 12, 1881 at the home of Thomas Moon, Justice of the Peace in Simpsonville, North Carolina.¹² John and Susan had eight children: Ann Boyd and Lessie Alice in 1882, John William in 1883, Mary Elizabeth, 1885, Thomas Giles, 1887, Sally Maud, Plummer born in 1895, and Charles Willard, in 1897.¹³

The love Oscar and Maud had for each other was unwavering. My grandfather adored my grandmother 'til the day he died. I guess he learned on his adventure that she was all he needed. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary when I was a little girl, with a big cake trimmed in gold frosting, all of us gathered around the dining room table. They had been married 60 years when Mom died in August 1972. When she died the light went out of Pop's life; he lived three years longer, until June 1975, but his joy was gone. I sure do miss them. I am so thankful I had Oscar Wakefield Beaman and Sally Maud Minton for my Grandparents, I really was blessed.

(Endnotes)

- 1 Mark S. Pannell Dalton Outlaw Gang Historical Research. <http://www.iqcisp.com/branden/d-gallry.htm> accessed March 25,2009
- 2 Virginia Colonial Land Office Patents 1623-1774, Land Office Patents No 17, 1735-1738, p 409 (Reel 15) Library of Virginia http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=409&last=&g_p=P17&collection=LO Accessed 2005
- 3 William Wade Hinshaw *An Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy Vol 1 North Carolina* (Baltimore 1936) Pages 229,299,314,709,207-08,279,301.
- 4 Winston became Winston-Salem officially in 1913.
- 5 1900 U. S. Federal Census (Population Schedule), Madison, Rockingham, North Carolina.Roll: T623_121; Page 2A <<http://www.ancestry.com/>>, accessed March 15, 2009.
- 6 Family information.
- 7 1900 U.S. Federal Census (Population Schedule) Salem, Forsyth County, North Carolina Roll T623_1195; Page: 15B;
- 8 Marriage license of Oscar W. Beaman & Maud Minton, Issued Dec. 25, 1911. Office of Register of Deeds, Rockingham County North Carolina, Book 1 p 1813.
- 9 Lessie was Maud's sister.
- 10 1930 U.S Federal Census (Population Schedule)Utica, Oneida County,New York Sheet 18A, Line 30
- 11 1920 U. S. Federal Census, Madison, Rockingham County, North Carolina. : Roll T625_1317; Page: 10A; Image: 602.
- Troy 14, Thomas 12, Ercelle 8. Madison Twp., Rockingham Co, NC, Ancestry.com March 28, 2009. n
- 12 Marriage license of John R Minton & Susan A Farrington, Issued Oct 11, 1881. Office of the Register of Deeds, Rockingham County, North Carolina Book 8, pg 962

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Tell Your Family Stories in The Bulletin

Why not consider submitting your story for publication in The Bulletin. Anything from a small vignette to a more comprehensive family history is suitable; some of the selections we use in The Bulletin are part of a larger work. For submissions or ideas for the Story Teller column contact Judi Scott at RB5522@aol.com.

OHS Obituaries continued from page 22:

- FLOOK, MRS. JALEY THOMAS, Mill City, Jan. 11, 1930, 90 years, born Dec. 3, 1839, pioneer of 1845.
- FREDERICK, KATE QUIGLEY, Portland, Jan. 31, 1930, 65 years, born at Sauvie Island May 17, 1864.
- FREEMAN, MARGARET E., Portland, Jan. 31, 1930, 80 years, born in Salem Dec. 16, 1849.
- FULP, JAMES R., Cove, Jan. 31, 1930, 78 years.
- GALE, ELIZABETH KINCAID, Eugene, Feb. 7, 1930, 87 years, born Feb. 16, 1842, pioneer of 1853.
- GENTRY, JOHN L., Brownsville, Feb. 3, 1930, 68 years.
- GEROULD, PERLIE E., Grants Pass, Feb. 4, 1930, 79 years.
- GOIN, CHARLES T., near Green's Bridge, Linn County, Dec. 29, 1929, 74 years.
- GOLTRA, KATE REYNOLDS, Salem, Feb. 6, 1930, 65 years.
- GRADON, WILLIAM R., Portland, Nov. 7, 1929, 69 years, born in Portland Nov. 7, 1860.
- GRAVES, FRANK, Sheridan, Feb. 9, 1930, 68 years.
- GWINN, JAMES A., Salem, Feb. 3, 1930, 66 years.
- HAMILTON, THOMAS S., Ashwood, Dec. 8, 1929, 79 years, pioneer of 1853.
- HANDEAKER, SARAH CANNON, Eugene, Dec. 19, 1929, 92 years, pioneer of 1854.
- HARDY, ALICE, Vancouver, Washington, Dec. 9, 1929, 75 years, born in Portland.
- HARRIS, ADDISON H., Tillamook, Jan. 14, 1930, born in Tillamook County 1870.
- HATFIELD, JOHN NATHAN, Spokane, Washington, Dec. 18, 1929, 87 years, pioneer of Oregon, 1852.
- HAWLEY, MARTHA FREED, Corvallis, Dec. 24, 1929, 86 years, pioneer of 1852.
- HICKMAN, MARY E. S., Yamhill, Feb. 10, 1930, 60 years.
- HOLDEN, MARGARET ELLEN, Tillamook, Nov. 21, 1929, 79 years.
- HOLMAN, ELIZA E., Albany, Feb. 6, 1930, 67 years, born in Benton County.
- HOLMES, EDWARD B., Portland, Dec. 18, 1929, 67 years, born in Peoria, Linn County, Oct. 21, 1862.
- HOSFORD, J. B., Salem, Jan. 15, 1930, 69 years.
- HOWARD, EMALINE WILLINGHAM, Heppner, Jan. 24, 1930, 97 years, pioneer of Morrow County.
- HUGHES, ELIAS JAMES, Oregon City, Dec. 1, 1929, 77 years, born in Brownsville, Feb. 6, 1852.
- HUG, HENRY H., LaGrande, Feb. 11, 1930, 70 years.
- HUGHES, JUNE WILSON, Beaver Creek, Jan. 29, 1930, 73 years, born in Clackamas County Jun. 17, 1856.

Continued on page 36

State by State

Virginia Research: the Ridiculous and the Sublime

by Peggy Baldwin, MLS

Virginia was the oldest and largest English colony, beginning with the settlement of Jamestown in 1607. It has a rich, long history, and was the home of many people who would migrate from there in the 18th and 19th Century. From Virginia to Missouri and out on the Oregon Trail was a typical migratory route for the ancestors of many current day Oregonians.

Virginia research is a combination of the ridiculous and the sublime. The ridiculous, or the difficulty, is that many records have not survived, leaving us with large holes in our ancestor's lives. Without marriage records and court records, how do we find our ancestors? You will hear over and over again that Southern research, including Virginia, is difficult because of all those courthouse fires. There is also a sublime! You will also find, partly because of the dearth of records, many of the surviving records have been abstracted and books of these abstracts are available in many libraries.

Understanding the history and the geography will go a long way toward helping you understand where your ancestry may have come from or where they went when they suddenly disappear. Geography made certain migratory paths more common, because they were easier, with waterways to help get where they were going, or at the very least, fewer mountains to climb. An ancestor is also more likely to migrate to an area that supports the way of life they knew; a climate similar to the area they came from. To understand migration within and out of the state of Virginia, read David Hackett Fischer and James C Kelly's *Bound Away*.

A genealogist's friend is always the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City and the local Family History Centers, where you can view microfilm rolls ordered from the FHL. But of equal value to genealogists doing Virginia research is the

Library of Virginia (LVA) in Richmond, Virginia. The LVA web site is rich with research guides and, increasingly, online documents. I've taken the time to make really bad photographs of documents off of LVA microfilm on-site at the LVA, only to find that much better copies of those same pages were available on the LVA web site. In my defense, the LVA web site was very difficult to navigate a couple of years ago when I did that. In the last few months, the LVA web site has been through a complete revamping and is much easier to navigate. You will find a menu of items that are the most pertinent to genealogists on the left side of the LVA website home page.



Library of Virginia ~ www.lva.virginia.gov

USING THE COLLECTION

"Using the Collections" offers you a good start at using their web site, as well as a greater understanding of Virginia research in general. One of the best offerings on this page is a link to their "guides and indexes." They are organized by topic, which helps you locate just the one you need. One of the advantages of getting these on the web site is that you know it is the most current version. One guide that is particularly useful is the one for County and City Research in Virginia. It will link you to a complete list, by county, of microfilmed records. Many of these rolls are available at the

onlinecatalog
LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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The 1939 World's Fair Collection has moved! It has been reprocessed and is now available with our newer [digital collection](#)

Full Catalog Books & Journals Archives & Manuscripts Images & Indexes

Basic Search: Full Catalog

The LVA Catalog combines the "Books & Journals" catalog, the "Archives & Manuscripts" catalog, and the "Images & Indexes" databases search these catalogs simultaneously by using the "Full Catalog" page. You may also search each catalog separately by clicking on the name or by using the navigation tabs above.

Search Type:

Words Anywhere
Title begins with...
Words in Title
Author (last name first)
Words in Author
----- Scroll down for more choices -----

Search For: Search tips

lee county deeds
lynchburg news advance
roads reports virginia

Family History Library and can be sent to local Family History Centers. The Library of Virginia will also provide microfilm rolls via interlibrary loan to public libraries.

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

The "Digital Collections" to the Virginia Memory page is the gateway to the LVAs digital collection. I prefer to access them from the Collections by Topic page. Spend some time browsing there and select a resource to search. I have found quite a few court records related to my Southworth ancestors in the Chancery Records Index, which links to the pages of the actual records. Take the time to read about the indexes and records you access, so you know how to interpret what you see.

SEARCH THE LVA CATALOG

The LVA Catalog combines the "Books & Journals" catalog, the "Archives & Manuscripts" catalog, and the "Images & Indexes" databases. You can search these catalogs simultaneously by using the "Full Catalog" page. Or, you can click on the appropriate tab to search them separately. For the most part, you will be searching items that you will need to get physically from the LVA in Richmond, but even the index entries can give quite a bit of information.

There still seems to be a disconnect between the LVA web site and Virginia Memory, so you will want to use your back arrow when a convenient

link is not obvious. Some of the pages have links to the LVA home page and the Virginia Memory home page at the bottom of your current web page. It's easy to put aside the still present navigation problems of this site when you take the time to explore and get excited about the ever increasing content on this web site. Beginning your Virginia research with the LVA catalog and Virginia Memory will help you get off to an efficient start.

You will also find the Virginia Genealogical Society web site (<http://www.vgs.org/>) to be helpful, as it has some of their newsletters available for free online. You might also want to join this society in order to get the newest copies of the Magazine of Virginia Genealogy and Virginia Genealogical Society Newsletter mailed to your home. The issues of the Magazine of Virginia, formerly known as the Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, from 1963 to 1997, are available on Ancestry.com.

Merrill Hill Mosher, who was a Coos Bay, Oregon genealogist, wrote an article for the Virginia Genealogical Society Newsletter about Virginia research from a distance (<http://www.vgs.org/vgsn2305.pdf>). It was written in 1997, and there are many Internet resources that didn't exist then, but this article does have a few good tips, especially for beginners.

Another good source of information about

Virginia genealogy is the Institute of Historical & Genealogical Research at Samford, University in Birmingham, Alabama offered for one week in June each year. <http://www4.samford.edu/schools/ighr/>). The Institute offers two courses in Virginia genealogy, designed and coordinated by Barbara Vines Little.

Last, but definitely not least, the National Genealogy Society has a publication that gives an overview of Virginia genealogy, part of the *Research in the States Series, Virginia* by Eric G Grundset. Available for purchase on the National Genealogical Society (www.ngsggenealogy.org) web site in print or as a downloadable PDF. Originally published in the NGS Quarterly in 1994, this publication was revised and expanded in 2007. It gives some history, a guide to the archives and libraries in Virginia, and the resources available.

Genealogy can be difficult in Virginia, due to lost records, but a lot of effort has been put into resources that give you some help. As Eric Gundset says, "The many record losses in Virginia localities create a difficult necessity for many 'burned county research.' Despite these losses, researchers must be skeptical of the claim that everything was destroyed--always check further because some records did survive or were in other locations than the clerk's office." Learning something about what records you have access to, and creatively using them, you should be able to solve your Virginia genealogy mysteries.

Bibliography:

Fischer, David Hackett and James C Kelly. *Bound Away: Virginia and the Westward Movement*. Charlottesville, Virginia: University of Virginia Press, 2000.
 Gundset, Eric G. Virginia. 2nd edition, *Research in the States Series*. Arlington, Virginia: National Genealogical Society, 2007.

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OHS Obituaries continued from page 33:

FOREN, SARAH PRINE, Prineville, Jan. 1, 1930, 91
 HUNT, ELIZABETH ELLERSON, Oakland, California, Jan. 26, 1930, 77 years, pioneer of Oregon, 1852.
 HUSTON, LYDIA ANN, Elmira, Nov. 27, 1929, 79 years, pioneer of 1852.
 ISOM, SEWEL T., near Brownsville, Feb. 4, 1930, 90 years.
 JAMES, MARGARET WYATT, near Dallas, Jan. 21, 1930, 99 years, born Feb. 14, 1830.
 JACKSON, AUGUSTA ENGLE, Portland, Nov. 10, 1929, 76 years, born at French Prairie Jul. 13, 1853.
 JAMES, ROSALIE, Newport, Jan. 15, 1930, 77 years, pioneer of Baker County.
 JONES, DEWITT H., Portland, Dec. 12, 1929, 82 years, pioneer of 1856.
 KENNEDY, HARRIET TIBBETS, Walla Walla, Washington, Nov. 19, 1929, 86 years, pioneer of 1847.
 KILHAM, HOWARD D., Portland, Nov. 19, 1929, 63 years.
 KIRCHEM, WALTER P., near Oregon City, Jan. 19, 1930, 72 years.
 KUYKENDALL, ROBERT B., Eugene, Jan. 15, 1930, born in Drain, son of Dr. William Kuykendall.
 LATOURETTE, CHARLES D., Portland, Jan. 14, 1930, 75 years.
 LAYMAN, FRANK B., Newberg, Feb. 9, 1930, 50 years.
 LEVERICH, ANNA R., Corvallis, Jan. 28, 1930, 86 years, pioneer of 1852.
 LEWIS, ROBERT W., Princeton, New Jersey, Feb. 6, 1930, 57 years, born in Portland Dec. 5, 1872, son of C. H. Lewis.
 LONGSWORTH, MARTHA COOK, Hillsboro, Jan. 23, 1930, 86 years, pioneer of 1852.
 LOWER, JOHN M., Kelso, Washington, Dec. 11, 1929, 87 years, to The Dalles, 1864.
 McCLAIN, MAE UNDERWOOD, Spokane, Washington, Jan. 31, 1930, 65 years, born in Eugene; member of first graduating class of the University of Oregon.

To be Continued...

**Abstracts of Probate Case Files
Multnomah County 1856-1866
Oregon State Archives**

by Mickey Sieracki

The first probate record for Multnomah County recorded in 1856, concerned the estate of Ebenezer Creswell, deceased in the same year. Probate records give an interesting and historical picture of the past. Estates, guardianships, adoptions of our ancestors are chronicled, sometimes in great detail. I became interested in the early history of Multnomah County when I first moved to Portland in 1998, and began a project extracting information from the early probate files. As I progressed, the history of Portland unfolded year by year. As I drove around the county the street names had a background. The county and city became more familiar and its history more intriguing. All of the information below came from the original files at the Oregon Archives. My project covered 10 years of Multnomah county records, from 1856 – 1866. I eventually sent a copy of my research to the DAR library in Washington DC since many individuals use that library to help in family research. The Bulletin staff thought the GFO members might find this helpful as well.

Probate Case File Number: 1

Creswell, Ebenezer: Estate: 1856

Creswell, Ebenezer, deceased in 1856

Creswell, John C. son, heir, administrator

Creswell, George Washingtonson, turned 17 years of age January 1856

George described as “being a cripple and unable to earn a living....”

Creswell, Rufus Miltonson, to be 7 years of age in November 1856

Creswell, Avis Maria, widow of deceased, remarried to Edward Long

Long, Edward, guardian of minor heirs, second husband of Avis Creswell

Long, Avis wife of Edward Long

Probate Case File Number: 2 - Missing

Probate Case File Number: 3

Watson, Margaret: Estate: 1873

Watson, Margaret, deceased, 30 April 1869

Watson, Jemima minor heir, aged 13, described as only child

Kennedy, Michael, brother of deceased, guardian of minor, executor - residing in

Washington Co. OR

Watson, John Andrew, brother-in-law of deceased

Watson, Thomas L. husband of Margaret,

predeceased her

Probate Case File Number 4 - Missing

Probate Case File Number: 5

Hays, John: Estate: 1860

Hays, John, deceased, no issue

O’Hara, Bernard, administrator

Hays, Jeremiah, brother

Probate Case File Number: 6

Lownsdale, Nancy: Estate: 1861

Lownsdale, Nancy, deceased, 14 April 1854

Lichtenchaler, D.W., administrator

Ross children, minor heirs of deceased, 4 children

Lownsdale, Daniel H.h, husband of deceased, administrator

Probate Case File Number: 7

Loomis, James: Estate: 1857

Loomis, James, deceased

Loomis, Sarah, widow and administratrix

Probate Case File Number: 8

McMullen, James H.: Estate: 1856

McMullen, James (also McMullin,) deceased, 11 March 1856

McMullen, Mary, widow and heir, remarried to

David Monastes
 Monastes, David, second husband of Mary
 McMullen, married 12 October 1857
 McMullen, Elza (Eliza) mentioned as heir, residing
 in Oregon, aged 4 in 1856
 McMullen, William H., mentioned as heir, residing
 in Oregon
 McMullen, Elizabeth M., mentioned as heir,
 residing in Taswell Co., IL
 McMullen, John L., mentioned as heir, residing in
 Taswell Co., IL

Probate Case File Number: 9**Redman minors: Guardianship: 1860**

Redman, Joseph, minor
 Redman, Martha, minor, 14 years of age
 Redman, Margaret, minor, 12 years of age
 Redman, Frances, minor, 10 years of age
 Redman, Reuben, father of minors, guardian
 Redman, Margaret, mother of minors, deceased
 Thomas, Joseph, deceased, late of Champaign Co.,
 IL

Probate Case File Number: 10**Spangler, James A.: Estate: 1858**

Spangler, James A., deceased, 15 April 1858
 Ankeny, Alex P., administrator

Probate Case File Number: 11**Savage, Flora and Jasper: Guardianship: 1858**

Savage, Flora, minor, aged 10
 Savage, Joseph (also Jasper) minor, aged 8
 Savage, C.W., father of minor children
 Savage, Phebe A., deceased, mother of minor
 children
 Walling, Albert G., guardian of children

Probate Case File Number: 12**Spencer, William: :Guardianship: 1857**

Spencer, William, minor, 13 years of age
 White, William, guardian

Probate Case File Number: 13**White, Matthew: Estate: 1856**

White, Matthew, deceased, 15 March 1856
 White, Jurretta, widow, administrator, remarried to
 Richard Thompson

White, Williamson and heir
 White, Matthew L., Jr., son and heir
 White, John P., son and heir
 White, Elen E., heir
 White, Polly Ann, heir
 White, Shallom, P.
 Bybee, Hulda M., daughter and heir
 Thompson, Richard, husband of Jurretta White

Probate Case File Number: 14**Watson, John: Estate: 1862**

Watson, John, deceased, 22 June 1862
 Bacon, Charles P., administrator
 Burton, Jane, sister of deceased, residing in
 Yamhill Co., OR
 Burton, James J., husband of Jane Burton
 Statement of administrator: Deceased left "no wife
 or children in the country, but possibly a wife in
 England, and a brother in Australia..."

Probate Case File Number: 15**Warriner, Ella: Estate: 1862**

Warriner, Ella (also Warrener,) deceased, summer
 of 1862
 Warriner, Elizabeth Conde, widow of deceased,
 living in Milroy, Rush Co., IN, married 10 May
 1827
 Dolson, Charles, administrator
 Tompkins, Mary Ann, daughter of deceased,
 residing in Columbus, Bartholomew Co., IN
 Tompkins, Nathan, husband of Mary Tompkins,
 deceased
 Whiteman, Emily E., daughter of deceased,
 residing near Milroy, Rush Co., IN
 Whiteman, William, husband of Emily Whiteman
 Conde, Isaac, brother, aged 58 in 1864, of
 Elizabeth Warriner

Probate Case File Number: 16**Shaffer, Samuel S.: Estate: 1862**

Shaffer, Samuel S., deceased,
 "died at or near John Day's River in Oregon, on or
 about the 20th of February 1862..."
 Hoffman, J.J., administrator
 Hamilton, Nancy A., heir, of Albany OR
 O'Morrow, Samuel, mentioned in estate papers as
 possible heir

Probate Case File Number: 17**Squires, Ida, Emma: Guardianship: 1862**

Squires, Ida, minor heir of Daniel H. Lowndale, aged 9, residing in Covington, KY

Squires, Emma, minor heir of Daniel H.

Lowndale, aged 13, residing in Covington, KY

Cooper, William E., guardian, died on 4 March 1872

Lamb, John R., husband of Emma Squires

Lowndale, Daniel H., deceased, grandfather of minor heirs

Squires, Sarah M., deceased, daughter of D.H.

Lowndale, mother of Ida and Emily

Probate Case File Number: 18**Skidmore, Sarah: Estate: 1862**

Skidmore, Sarah (also Skidmor), deceased

Skidmore, Stephenson, executor

Skidmore, Charles, minor son, heir

Skidmore, Adeline, minor daughter, heir

Skidmore, Martha, minor daughter, heir

Preston, Mary, daughter and heir, residing in

Vancouver, Washington Territory

Preston, B.F. husband of Mary Preston

Probate Case File Number: 19**Skidmore, minor heirs: Guardianship: 1862**

Skidmore, Stephen, guardian

Skidmore, Sarah A. deceased mother of minor heirs

Skidmore, Martha, minor heir

Skidmore, Adeline, minor heir

Skidmore, Charles, minor heir

Probate Case File Number: 20**Shea, Michael: Estate: 1878**

Shea, Michael, deceased, 4 May 1878, resident of Vancouver, Washington Territory

Shea, Francis Edward, son and heir

Shea, Thomas Henry, son and heir

Shea, Walter Daniel, son and heir

Shea, Catherine, daughter and heir

Shea, Milton Owen, son and heir

Shea, Bridget M. wife of deceased, executor, heir

Probate Case File Number: 21**Paynter, Purnell J.: Estate: 1858**

Paynter, Purnell J. deceased, 22 January 1857

Gibson, Edward, guardian

Paynter, Purnell J. minor heir

Paynter, Margaret, widow of deceased, remarried to Edward Gibson

Gibson, Margaret, formerly Margaret Paynter

Holmes, Thomas J., administrator

Clinron, James, administrator

Probate Case File Number: 22**Ross, Stephen: Estate: 1858**

Ross, Stephen, deceased, 21 July 1858

Ross, Sherry, administrator

Ross, Mary, daughter of deceased

McMahan, Emily, daughter of deceased, residing in Fulton Co., IL

Ross, Stephen Evans, son of deceased

Ross, Elizabeth A., daughter of deceased

Ross, Rebecca, daughter of deceased

Ross, Lorenzo M., son of deceased

Barr, Samuel E., guardian ad litem

Shattuck, E.D., guardian

Goddard, Nancy Jane, widow of deceased, remarried to Goddard

Probate Case File Number: 23**Backenstos, Jacob B.: Estate: 1860**

Backenstos, Jacob B., deceased, 26 September 1857

Backenstos, Edwin D.

Backenstos, Mary V.

Backenstos, James S.

Backenstos, Charles A.

Backenstos, Eugene G.

Backenstos, Sarah Lavinia, widow of deceased, remarried to Bartlett

Bartlett, Sarah L, formerly Sarah L. Backenstos, widow

Holmes, Thomas J., administrator

Probate Case File Number: 24**Reeves, Henry: See Probate Case File Number 65 (Neeves, Henry)**

Reeves, Henry (see Neeves, Henry)

Probate Case File Number: 25**Clark, Ransom: Estate: 1859**

Clark, Ransom, deceased, 24 May 1859, late of

Walla Walla, Washington Territory
 Slater, Seth S., administrator
 Clark, Lettice Jane, widow
 Clark, Charles, minor heir, aged 13
 Clark, William, minor heir, aged 4
 Clark, Elizabeth Ransomminor heir, infant
 Riskey, Orville, administrator

Probate Case File Number: 26**Ball, Charles A.: Guardianship: 1859**

Ball, Charles A., minor heir, aged 15
 Burton, E.M., guardian
 Ball, Lester A., deceased father, died in 1849, of
 Jefferson Co., NY

Probate Case File Number: 27**Wilson, General A.: Estate: 1862**

Wilson, General A., deceased
 Switzler, John, administrator, guardian, father-in-
 law of deceased
 Wilson, Sarah, wife, also deceased
 Wilson, Sarah, child, heir
 Wilson, Minerva, child, heir
 Wilson, John, child, heir
 Wilson, James, child, heir
 Switzler, Jehuadministrator, brother-in-law of
 deceased

Probate Case File Number: 28**Stump, Mortimer: Estate: 1858**

Stump, Mortimer, deceased, killed by wife's father,
 Danforth Balch, 18 Nov 1858
 Brown, Anna, widow of deceased, administratrix
 Stump, Cathburt (Cuthbirth), administrator
 Stump, Adam
 Morrill, Eli (Morel), husband of Anna Brown

Probate Case File Number: 29 - Missing**Probate Case File Number: 30****Gladwell, Thomas: Estate: 1860**

Gladwell, Thomas, deceased, from County Dublin,
 Dublin, Ireland
 Was 30 years old at time of writing his will in
 January 1859
 Gladwell, Richard, brother and heir, resident of
 Dublin, Ireland

Address: No. 14 Bolton St., Dublin
 Crosby, Alfred, executor
 Cree, William, executor

Probate Case File Number: 31**Hicks, Laban: Estate: 1857**

Hicks, Laban, deceased, 14 October 1857
 Hicks, Catherine A., widow, administratrix

Probate Case File Number: 32

Weatherbee, William: Estate: 1858
 Weatherbee, William (also Weatherby), deceased,
 3 December 1857
 Miles, Jesse, administrator, guardian
 Weatherbee, children, 4 orphan children left

Probate Case File Number: 33**Reddick, Shadrack (Shadrack) : Estate: 1860**

Reddick, Shadrack, deceased
 Reddick, Margaret Anne, widow
 Reddick, Christina, child, aged about 6 years
 Reddick, boychild, aged about 4 years
 Reddick, girlchild, aged about 3 months
 Bybee, James, administrator

Probate Case File Number: 34**Balch, Danford (Danforth): Estate: 1861**

Balch, Danford, deceased, executed for the murder
 of his son-in-law, Mortimer Stump
 Cook, Horatio, Sr., administrator
 Balch, Mary Jane, widow, remarried to Confer
 Balch, Annie, daughter, aged 17, married Morel
 (Morrill), , widow of Mortimer Stump
 Balch, Hosia, child, aged 13
 Balch, Thomas, child, aged 12
 Balch, Celesta, child, aged 10
 Balch, Celinda, child, aged 9
 Balch, Danford, child, aged 8
 Balch, John, child, aged 5
 Balch, Emma, child, aged 4
 Balch, Lewis, child, aged 2
 Confer, John A., second husband of Mary Jane
 Balch

Probate Case File Number: 35**Reed, Calvin: Estate: 1856**

Reed, Calvin, deceased, died 11 February 1856

Powell, Jackson, administrator
 Ham, William, administrator
 Gibbons, A.M., guardian ad litem
 Reed, Benjamin, minor heir, aged about 10
 Reed, Rupert, minor heir, aged about 12
 Reed, Julia Ann, minor heir, aged about 19, now married and wife of William Ham
 Reed, Robert Bruce, minor heir, aged about 21
 Reed, Harriett, minor heir, aged about 16

Probate Case File Number: 36**Whaland, John: Guardianship: 1860**

Whaland, John, minor, in 1860 lived in Priest Rapids, Washington Territory
 Quinn, John, guardian, appointed in 1855 when minor was 18 years old

Probate Case File Number: 37**Wilbur, James H., Jr.: Guardianship: 1860**

Wilbur, James H., Jr., an insane person
 Wilbur, James H., Sr., guardian, uncle

Probate Case File Number: 38**Thompson, Robert: Estate: 1867**

Thompson, Robert, deceased, 22 June 1860
 Cree, William, administrator
 Goudy, Jane Thompson, sister of deceased, of Ballycullen, County Down, Ireland
 Goudy, William, husband of Jane Thompson
 Moore, Ann, mother of deceased, formerly Ann Thompson, died July 1861
 Resided in Ballyburns, County Down, Ireland
 Thompson, John, father of deceased, also deceased

Probate Case File Number: 39**Story, James G.: Estate: 1860**

Story, James G., deceased, 1858
 Lent, Oliver, administrator
 Story, Charles, brother, heir, residing in CA
 Story, William B., brother, heir, residing in Rutherford, CA

Probate Case File Number: 40**Carson, D.R.: Estate: 1860**

Carson, D.R., deceased, died 14 July 1860
 Carson, Elvira A., executrix, widow, remarried to A.E. Rhodes

Carson, Minette, daughter, heir of deceased, aged 2 in 1860

Rhodes, A.E., guardian of Minette, husband of Elvira Carson

Henry, Anson B., executor

Probate Case File Number: 41**Kaul, John: Estate: 1855**

Kaul, John, deceased
 Had previously been a soldier in the service of the United States and in Captain Hill's Company M, first regiment of Artillery. Served in the War with Mexico. Came to Oregon in 1847 as a soldier.
 Gibson, O.B., administrator

Probate Case File Number: 42**Dalton, Emily Amelia: Guardianship: 1860**

Dalton, Emily Amelia, aged about 5
 Dalton, Edwin M., aged about 3
 Dalton, Edwin, deceased, father of minor children
 Dalton, Catherine, mother of minor children, now remarried to James Stewart
 Stewart, James, husband of Catherine, guardian of children

Probate Case File Number: 43**Dalton, Edwin: Estate: 1857**

Dalton, Edwin, deceased, 21 July 1857
 Dalton, Catherine, widow, administrator
 Dalton, Edwin M., son and heir
 Dalton, Emily Amelia, daughter and heir

Probate Case File Number: 44**White, James Edward, Albert H., and Richard: Guardian: 1860**

White, Caroline, deceased, mother of minors, formerly Rider, Caroline
 White, Richard, husband of deceased, father of minors, guardian
 White, Martha, daughter of deceased, married to Woods, Joseph M.
 White, Matilda, married to Graham, John
 White, James Edward, minor child, aged about 19 in 1860
 White, Albert H., minor child, aged about 15 in 1860
 White, Richard D., minor child, aged about 11 in

1860

Rider, Martha, grandmother of minor heirs,
deceased, late of England

Rider, Charles, great-uncle of minor heirs, late of
England

Probate Case File Number: 45

Buckalew, Mary A.: Guardianship: 1860

Buckalew, Mary Ann, minor heir of Garrett
Buckalew

Buckalew, Garrett, deceased, father of Mary Ann
Gibbs, Addison, guardian

Probate Case File Number: 46

Caruthers, Finice: Estate: 1857

Caruthers, Finice, deceased

Thomas, Jane Elizabeth, deceased, formerly
Caruthers

Coffin, Stephen, administrator

Silver, C.S., administrator

Probate Case File Number: 47

**Reed, Benjamin & Rubart: Guardianship:
1860**

Ham, William S., guardian

Reed, Benjamin, minor heir, aged 16

Reed, Rubart, minor heir, aged 14

Reed, Calvin, deceased parent

Probate Case File Number: 48

Kruspe, Fred: Guardianship: 1875

Kruspe, Frederick, insane person

Kaehler, William, Dr., appointed guardian, refused
to serve

Davis, Perry W., guardian

Dekum, Frank, guardian

File includes a naturalization declaration of
intent to become a US citizen: Gottfried Kruske,
renouncing allegiance to the King of Prussia,
Fredric William, of whom he was a subject. Dated
6 April 1857.

Probate Case File Number: 49

Humphrey, Lydia C.: Estate: 1859

Humphrey, Lydia C., deceased, 40 years old in
1858

Humphrey, Homan M., husband, executor

Humphrey, children, not named individually

Probate Case File Number: 50

Delschneider, Joseph: Estate: 1859

Delschneider, Joseph, deceased; ...died on the
steamer Northerner, on or about 5 January 1860.

Delschneider, Dinah (Delia), widow,
administratrix

Davidson, Jacob, administrator

Holbrook, A. guardian ad litem of minor heirs

Buchanan, Rosa, married daughter of deceased

Buchanan, D.E., husband of Rosa

Delschneider, Frederick, son of deceased, aged
about 20 in 1860

Delschneider, Sizisette (Lisette) daughter, aged
about 13

Delschneider, Hannah, daughter, aged about 6

Buchanan, Emiline

Delschenider, Joeson, died in 1863

Probate Case File Number: 51

Ross minors: Guardianship: 1861

Ross, Stephen, deceased

Ross, Stephen Evans, child of deceased, heir, aged
16 in 1860

Ross, Loren D.W., child of deceased, heir, aged 11
in 1860

Ross, Elizabeth Ann, child of deceased, heir, aged
13 in 1860

Ross, Rebecca Frances, child of deceased, heir,
aged 9 in 1860

Ross, Mary Alice, child of deceased, heir, aged 6
in 1860

Shattuck, E.D., guardian

McMahan, Thomas, husband of eldest Ross
daughter, Emily

McMahan, Emily, daughter of deceased, heir
Goddard, Nancy Jane, widow of deceased,
remarried

Goddard, L.A. husband of Nancy Jane

Levins, Elizabeth Ann, formerly Ross

Levins, Henry T., husband of Elizabeth Ann Ross

Wigington, Mary, formerly Ross

Wigington, John G., husband of Mary Ross

Washburne, Frances Rebecca, formerly Ross

Washburne, J.E. husband of Frances Ross

Probate Case File Number: 52

Morrison, Elizabeth M.: Guardianship: 1860

Morrison, Elizabeth M. F., minor heir
Craft, Elizamother of Elizabeth, remarried
Dodge, A.E.guardian

Probate Case File Number: 53

Ingles, D.C.: Estate: 1860

Ingles, D.C. (also Ingalls), deceased, died in
Washington Territory in 1860
Ingles, William S., aged 20, residing in CA
Ingles, Benjamin R., resident of Portland
Ingles, Caroline,aged 16, residing in Washington
Co. OR
Letz, Catharine J., aged 22
Ingles, Adelia, aged 14
Ingles, Margaret, aged 6, residing in Polk Co. OR
Holmes, Thomas J., administrator

Probate Case File Number: 54

Ingles, Benjamin R.: Guardianship: 1860

Ingles, Benjamin R., minor heir of D.C. Ingles
Ingles, D.C.deceased
Silver, C.S.guardian

Probate Case File Number: 55

Quinn, Mary: Guardianship: 1869

Quinn, Mary, minor heir of deceased mother
Placed with the Sisters of Charity (orphan
asylum) in San Francisco, CA for maintenance
and education
Quinn, Mary, mother, deceased
Quinn, Terence, father of minor, guardian
Quinn, John, guardian

Probate Case File Number: 56

Backenstos, E.D.: Guardianship: 1860

Backenstos, E.D.minor, heir of Jacob
Backenstos
Ankeny, Alex P.guardian
Backenstos, Col. J.B., deceased father of E.D.
Backenstos

Probate Case File Number: 57

Keith heirs: Guardianship: 1861

Keith, Andrew, deceased

Keith, Nancy Ellen, aged 14 in 1861
Keith, James Riley, aged 13 in 1861
Keith, George Washington, aged 11 in 1861
The minors“... lost their father on the plains in the
year 1853...”

Probate Case File Number: 58

Brady, John: Estate: 1861

Brady, John, deceased, 1860
Brady, Bernard, administrator, brother
Brady, George Andrew, aged 2 in 1861

Probate Case File Number: 59

Brinkman, Philip F.: Estate: 1862

Brinkman, Philip F., deceased, 1861
Brinkman, Catherine, widow of deceased
Saxer, Henry, administrator
A sister of the deceased was living in Galveston,
TX

Probate Case File Number: 60

Southmayd, Daniel Starr: Estate: 1861

Southmayd, Daniel Starr, deceased
Southmayd, Ailcy, administratrix, widow,
remarried Potter

Probate Case File Number: 61

Millard, Emma E.: Guardianship: 1858

Millard, Emma E, minor heir under 14 years of age
Millard, Marshall B., appointed guardian
Millard, Justin, deceased parent
Holmes, Thomas J., administrator of estate of
Justin Millard

Probate Case File Number: 62

Neeves, Henry W., Jr.: Guardianship: 1861

Neeves, Henry W., Jr., insane person
Shattuck, E.D., appointed guardian
Wilkinson, John, administrator of estate
Neeves, Henry, deceased parent

Probate Case File Number: 63

McNulty, Honora: Estate: 1861

McNulty, Honora M., deceased
O'Neil, James, executor
McCormick, Stephen J., executor

Book Reviews

Drew Smith, *Social Networking for Genealogists*, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 2009, 129 pages. ISBN: 9780806317953

Audience: This book is important for genealogists who utilize the Internet in their research, as well as other individuals who desire to learn about current applications to computer tools for general use.

Purpose: Drew wrote the book to assist fellow genealogical researchers more fully use current computer applications in their research, collaboration, and social networking.

Author's qualifications: Drew Smith earned a Masters in Library Science and is an academic librarian with the University of South Florida in Tampa. He is an expert in digital genealogy and has a lifelong interest in family history research. Drew is a Director of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and President of the Florida Genealogical Society of Tampa. He is also a regular contributor to Digital Genealogist magazine and is co-host of the weekly Genealogy Guys Podcast.

Organization: This book describes the wide array of social networking services that are now available online and highlights how these services can be used by genealogists to share information, photos, and videos with family, friends, and other researchers. Each chapter guides you through a unique category of social networking services using genealogy-related examples. From blogs and wikis to Facebook and Second Life, author Drew Smith shows you how to incorporate these powerful new tools into your family history research.

Accuracy: This book is a carefully compiled work, with a focus on detail and presentation.

Content: Chapters are devoted to the following social networking services: blogs, collaborative editing, genealogy-specific social networks, general social networking (Facebook), message boards and mailing lists, photos and video sharing, podcasts, RSS feeds, sharing personal libraries, social bookmarking, tags, virtual worlds,

and wikis.

Conclusion: This book is a very useful tool in learning about online computer applications. It is about the type of social networking that has been made possible by the development of international computer networks, the availability of network access to most homes (especially broadband access), the creation of websites dedicated to particular kinds of networking (posting photos, viewing and commenting on videos, seeing what books friends have in their libraries, etc.), and the ease of participating in these sites without having to be a computer expert. More to the point, this book is intended to identify those kinds of social networking sites and services that will be of the most interest to genealogists.

<http://www.genealogical.com/products/Social%20Networking%20for%20Genealogists/5446.html>
SL

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Norma Crowley Reynolds, *A Houck Family History: A German Family From Baden to Pennsylvania, Ohio and Oregon, 300 Years*, Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2008, 277 pages. Book Orders to Norma Reynolds, P.O. Box 91161, Portland, OR 97291-1161.

Audience: This book is of special interest to those researching the Houck family of Baden, Germany who traveled to Pennsylvania, Ohio and Oregon. It is also of interest to those whose families have a similar background.

Purpose: The author compiled the book to share a vast amount of information and research accumulated in the Houck family genealogy.

Author's qualifications: Norma Crowley Reynolds has dedicated years of research into the Hauck family. She has consulted a wide variety of resources and experts in the research process.

Organization: The book separated into chapters, with the first half covering each generation of ancestry and in the second half a collection of Family Group Sheets. Each of the first nine chapters

begins with a lineage page, and has sources, with endnotes at the end of the chapter. Each Family Group Sheet has sources, with endnotes attached. In the back of the book is a complete list of sources that includes: books and reference works; articles and periodicals; public records; online resources; personal interviews and correspondence; manuscripts, family papers and miscellany. This is followed by the index, with photographs indicated with bold page numbers.

Accuracy: It is a very carefully researched work, with a focus on detail and presentation.

Content: Martin Haug was born in 1683 in Germany, and was the founder the Hauck family in the small village of Schollbronn. Four of his great-great children came to the United States in 1829 and settled in Philadelphia and Ohio. The name is now spelled Houck or Hauck. This book contains 300 years of Houck family stories; over 75 photographs, maps and documents; biographies; family group sheets; deeds, immigration records, marriage certificates and newspaper articles; full documentation with complete sources; complete name and place index. Other surnames included: Bauer, Becht, Becker, Boone, Farnan, Gage, Garrity, Gunter, Hanes, Horton, Ingram, Knoll, Kunz, Lang, Lauinger, Lenz, Lonsway, Lump, Neumeier, Ochs, Osburn, Rapolt, Schneider, Sellinger, Sweney, Weber, Wipfler, Young, Younger, Zierolf and others.

Conclusion: The book, [A Houck Family History](#), is presented in a high quality format. There is much attention given to the visual presentation as well as the wealth of knowledge it contains. For those researching families in this time-period, or from similar backgrounds, it provides the methodology needed for successful family history research. It is also a fine example of how to publish a family history.

SL

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Susan Imswiler, *Thomas B. Rickey, Pioneer Nevada Cattleman*, Rickey Family Association, donated by Dan Frost, Private Publication, 2008, 60 pages.

Audience: The book is limited to the

Rickey family of California and Nevada and their associates. There may be interest in general pioneer travel and ranching in these states.

Purpose: To provide a short and concise history of Thomas B. Rickey and his family.

Author's qualifications: Susan Imswiler has lived most of her life in Nevada. She has a M.A. in History from the University of Nevada, Reno. Susan teaches for the College of Southern Nevada and Truckee Meadows Community College. She has worked with the Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society and the University of Nevada Oral History Project. The author is not related to the subject of the book.

Organization: The book is divided into two parts, the first Thomas B. Rickey: Pioneer Nevada Cattleman, The Trek West, and the second Thomas B. Rickey: After The Trek West. The Foreword in the book is written by Dan Frost, the grandson of Thomas B. Rickey. He dedicates the book to his mother Alice Brinley Rickey. The book includes six photographs.

Accuracy: The book seems fairly accurate, though the sources cited are limited.

Content: The books content is based on the following sources: the diary of Cordelia Ann Rickey, *Rickey Diary of Crossing the Plains* 1852; *Rickey Roots and Revels*, Vol. 4, Issue No. 11, May 1993; a typewritten family history outline in possession of Bud Rickey; *the Story of William "Bill" Henry Shirley 1887-1949, A Narrative of Bishop, California*; Ella M. Cain, *Story of Bodie*, 1956; personal letters, newspaper articles and court documents. There are some additional sources that provide basic general information of the time-period.

Conclusion: This very short book provides a glimpse into the life of Thomas B. Rickey and his family. It is easy to read, however, there are no family charts or index, so to glean information one must read the book.

-SL

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The Stevens Family Members, "*Stevens Family History; A History of the Children of Hanson and Lavina [Wickward] Stevens.*" TRICOLOR Print

Communications, 7931 NE Halsey St., Suite 101, Portland, OR 97213. 2006, Volume 1, 438 pages. Direct all correspondence to; Barbara Bodine, 6038 N. Detroit Ave., Portland, OR 97217; Phone: 503-289-1348, Email: bodinebb@comcast.net Stevens Family Yahoo Group: [http:// groups.yahoo.com/group/Stevens Family 1852](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Stevens%20Family%201852).

Audience: The authors "...mission was to produce a valuable history of Hanson and Lavina Stevens, and each of their children, that their descendants will want to read."

Author's Qualifications: The authors parceled out the work of the central committee to specific individuals for each chapter of the book. An editing committee was appointed to create continuity throughout the work. Direct descendants of the subject family member did the chapter work for each. Many had been doing family history work for years. Others had been participating in genealogical research. Others were experienced family historians.

Content: The first chapter was developed by an individual who had been working on the history of the family for several years. This chapter dealt with the Hanson and Lavina Stevens family formation in the Midwest and coming over the Oregon Trail in 1852. Additional children were born in Oregon after their arrival.

A chapter follows the first chapter for each of the eight of ten children who lived and married. Lavina died soon after the birth of her youngest child, Martha Arabelle, in 1859. Lavina was only 40 years old. About two years later, Hanson married a second time and had three more children. These three children are not detailed in this book.

There appeared to be alienation between Hanson and his children by Lavina that brought these children closer together. Since the children settled primarily in Marion County, Oregon, they intermarried with several other early Oregon families.

A Descendancy Chart that comes down to very late generations follows each chapter after the second chapter. All known descendants for that Stevens child are included in each chart.

Writing Style: Since there was a committee appointed to edit all sections of the book, the text reads very clearly and concisely. There are footnotes in each chapter, but the number of footnotes varies greatly between chapters. Each family group bases much of the detailed writing on memory and recollection.

Organization: The chapter lengths vary based somewhat on how large the family developed for the Stevens child. They are discussed in chronological order. Eleven Appendixes that cover about 80 pages follow the chapters in the end. The longest is a review of several wagon train diaries that crossed the Oregon Trail in 1852. These narratives are interwoven for emphasis and clarification. This provides a decent recreation of travel on the Oregon Trail in 1852. Appendix eight is a brief history of Oregon that puts the family in context of the times. There is a substantial index that details the women by their maiden names as well as by their married names.

Accuracy: The Stevens family left no diary, and also left no written record of their journey. Each year, at the family reunions, which began in 1888, someone would recite the trek for those attendees. Any written record has been lost.

Conclusion: This book should satisfy the authors mission to provide history of each of the children of Hanson Stevens and Lavina Wickward which each of the descendants would want to read. This reviewer was intrigued by the book and read each chapter thoroughly.

This book deserves placement in the biography section of each library that focuses on early emigrants to Oregon before the coming of the railroad to the Willamette Valley. This is a very good read.

Gerald S. Lenzen

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Susan LeBlanc, dsleblanc@aol.com

Correction

There was a spelling error in the review of the book entitled "The Life of Amos Safford Warner" by Teddie Allison, in the March Bulletin. The name was printed as Amos Stafford Warner, instead of Amos Safford Warner.

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