The Rev. Dr. David McDonald, CGSM, is immediate past president of the Board for Certification of Genealogists® and a former director of the National Genealogical Society. A past editor of the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society's Newsletter, he has published articles in genealogical journals and magazines since the 1980s. With nearly 40 years’ research experience, and more than 30 years as a genealogical lecturer throughout the United States and England, Dave brings a wealth of experience to his presentations. His research interests include New England, the Midwest, Germanic Europe, the British Isles, and migration paths and patterns; his lecturing specialties include churches and their records, English research, Presidential genealogy, and techniques for beginning and intermediate genealogists.

Outside the genealogical realm, Dave is a pastor in the United Church of Christ holding advanced degrees from Eden Seminary in Saint Louis and a doctorate from Christian Seminary in Indianapolis. His wife, Dr. Jennet Shepherd, is an optometrist. They have three adult children and live near Madison, Wisconsin.
Transcontinental Migration: How American Families Became Bicoastal

Using a case study of a family's movements as it traversed the continent from New England to the Pacific coast, beginning in the Revolutionary era and concluding with the turn of the last century, we'll examine the types of records available to researchers from this period. Consideration of travel routes and methods and methods for reconnecting with families who “fell off” the trail along the way—and those who may have turned back as well—will be made.

Reach for the Power Tools: Record Transcription & Analysis

Genealogical researchers seeking to become more adept at extracting available clues and information from the records they encounter are well-served by the transcription of materials researched along the way. Practice in transcription of documents, including handwriting techniques and forms and analyzing the clues contained therein, and suggestions for developing effective research practices and plans.

The Other Side of the Courthouse: Criminal & Civil Court Records

Family legend, lore, and unspoken secrets affect how we approach research efforts. Conducting thorough research sometimes goes beyond what we “know” is true, based on the family stories. We'll examine a farmhand's death in a hayfield for matters of property and murder and a family feud, a flock of sheep, and a meddlesome brother-in-law as we examine records from the *other* side of the courthouse.

Lutherpalians & Presbygationalists: Where Did Grandma's Church Go?

Did Grandma play cards? Was alcohol banned in the household? Was the Sabbath celebrated on Sunday or Saturday? We'll consider cultural clues for determining a family's religious heritage, how their tradition may have changed through the years, and strategies for finding records of various churches and denominations.

Genealogical Forum of Oregon Fall Seminar 2013

Event Schedule

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Lunch

Buffet lunch in the Elks dining room with payment of $11 includes pot roast, baby red potatoes, and several salads.

Coffee, hot tea, and cold drinks are included.

Breaks

Snacks and drinks are included with admission and are available during the breaks.

Refund Policy

For cancellations received after 12 October 2013, refunds will be made in the amount of the registration fee less a $10.00 cancellation fee. Lunch fees are non-refundable if cancelled after 12 October 2013.

David McDonald Fall Seminar Sign-Up Form

| Members | $43 received by 10/12/13 | $48 received after 10/12/13 | $53 at the door |
| Non-Members | $48 received by 10/12/13 | $53 received after 10/12/13 | $58 at the door |
| Lunch | $11 must be received by 10/12/13 |

Total $_______  □ Payment enclosed  □ Paid online at PayPal.com using email address payments@gfo.org

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Email ___________________________ Telephone __________

Address ___________________________

City ___________ State ________ Zip+4 ________

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Attn: Fall Seminar, GFO, 2505 SE 11th Ave, Ste B18, Portland OR 97202-1061

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Bulletin Editorial Team: Susan Olsen LeBlanc, Judith Beaman Scott,
Carol Ralston Surrency.
Column Editors: Susan Olsen LeBlanc, Judith Beaman Scott, Harvey Steele, Carol Ralston
Surrency, Lyleth Winther, Loretta Welsh
Proofreaders: Elsie Deatherage, Toby Hurley,
Bonnie LaDoe.

Deadline for submissions to the BULLETIN:
September issue - June 15; December issue - September 15
March issue – December 15; June issue – March 15

Send submissions to:
gfobulletin@gmail.com

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put this issue together

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THIS PERIODICAL IS INDEXED IN PERSI
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of the
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Letter From The Editor

This issue of The Bulletin is a collaborative one. We three editors, Carol Surrency, Susan LeBlanc, and I, each contributed something that is important to us. Sue took on the task of surveying all the past periodicals of the GFO, from its beginning and sharing the history and content. Carol, who lives in Hillsboro, shares several stories of Washington County. Two were written by GFO member Judy Goldmann. For me, events at two cemeteries in Kentucky involving my ancestors have been on my mind for the past two years. I have concerns about anonymous people making doubtful genealogical decisions without proper knowledge.

Once again Bonnie LaDoe took top honors in the annual GFO writing contest. Bonnie comes up with amazing topics for her stories. This one features a house, and came about because of her curiosity over a photo in her mother’s picture album. Then Harvey writes about another house, one close to his heart, the Pittock mansion and its contents.

GFO member John Shaw sent us an article about locating the missing ashes of cremated relatives, an article that might be helpful to the family members of the unclaimed ashes of 2,000 people at Portland Memorial Funeral Home, Mausoleum and Crematory.

We encourage all of you to submit articles you think might be of interest to our members. All members of the GFO should have information to share. Isn’t it time to do so?

Judi Scott

Submission Guidelines and Copyright Agreement

The Bulletin staff welcomes submissions of original material. Submissions are accepted in electronic format only. By submitting material the author gives the GFO permission to publish. The editors of The Bulletin reserve the right to make changes if the submission is accepted.

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(Contact the editors at bulletin@gfo.org.)
The Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) was organized in 1946 and the first publication of the monthly Bulletin was in September 1951. As a relatively young member of GFO, having joined about ten years ago, there is so much history that is unfamiliar. For this article all of the sixty-two bound volumes, located in the GFO library, were reviewed. The first twenty-nine volumes contain ten monthly publications, September through June, except for volume seventeen which were quarterly publications. Volumes thirty through sixty-two are quarterly, published in September, December, March and June. An interesting point about the early issues is that most volunteers were women and they usually were identified as Mrs., with their husband’s name. Occasionally their first name would be shown in brackets. For those who were presumably unmarried they would be listed as Miss with their full name.

Over the years the page count for the monthly issues grew from four to sixteen, and finally to twenty. There are some early months where either some issues were not published or were lost. The quarterly issues were usually fifty pages, so most volumes are about two hundred pages. Calculating the pages, the entire sixty-two volumes contain approximately 12,400 pages of very insightful reading material. Now, you may be wondering what was discovered in all those pages of printed material. In honor of the sixty-two plus years of publication this article will highlight some of the discoveries made during this review. While the issues may be referred to by volumes, for this article the month and year of publication will be indicated.

Mrs. William Irvine (Esther), was the first editor for the new publication, and filled that role for about ten years. In the May 1971 issue it was noted that she remarried to Charles Colyn. She was the first president of GFO and served for five years. One comment in encouraging her to serve as president was that it was not a life-long commitment. The membership under her tenure rose from a dozen to almost 300 members. Being editor proved to be a longer commitment of service. She typed the first Bulletins herself, and later hand-cut it for single page mimeograph. It is noted that she was editor for seven years, but the years when no editor is listed would indicate she carried on until a replacement was found.

The title of the first few publications was The Exchange, and then, The Forum Exchange. Volume one contains information on meetings, general information, exchanges with other groups, book lists, census records, Ancestral Charts and Queries. Those early indexes to census records were a treasure in that time period. The published Ancestral Charts, from the members from February 1952 to June 1953, can still be found within the GFO library today. Queries were very popular as a means of locating people researching on similar lines.

Volume two includes new policies, established mailing lists to other larger libraries as part of the exchange, information on library resources, and a series of short articles. Those articles were:
- First Things First, Sep. 1952
- Let’s Look at Books, Oct. 1952
- Group Vital Statistics, Nov. 1952
- Has a Book Been Written, Dec. 1952
- How to Get That Book, Jan. 1953
- What Libraries Can Do For You, by Mrs. Edna M. Howard, Feb. 1953
- Analyzing Your Problem, by Mrs. Edna M. Howard, Mar. 1953, continued in May 1953
- Vital Records/ County Records, Mar. 1953
- You and Who Else – Newspaper and Periodicals Query Services, Apr. 1953

Here are some notes of interest from volume two:
- May 1952 the cost of dues was $.90, with a total membership of fifty-five.
- December 1952 the dues for membership increased to $2.50, with $1 of each for the Bulletin.
- March of 1953 the GFO printing service was started, partially to subsidize the printing of the Bulletin. They voted to expand the printing of the Bulletin to 400 copies, as with printing more copies the cost for each was only $.10. Members were requested to provide lists of possible recipients of the Bulletin. May 1953 issue they announced their second open house to be held at the Oregonian Hostess House. The first book review
was published in this issue. A list of committee members, who were foundational to the life of the society, was included.

April 1953 there was a note that House Bill 647, raising the cost of Vital Records in Oregon from $1 to $2, had passed.

June 1953 issue it was announced that 600 May Bulletins were printed and sent out, 200 to libraries and historical societies in Oregon and the U.S. This vast outreach to potential members was a marvelous advertisement strategy. The end of year report showed the mailing list included 79 members, 10 library board and 51 libraries in exchange. The budget showed $70.00 from members, expenditures of $76.53 and sales of $16.90. Scrapbooks for the GFO were started at this time.

Volume three brought new changes to the format and a new name, Genealogy Bulletin. The editor was Mrs. W. S. Kirby. New books and miscellaneous, and queries were in each issue. The first posting for a major indexing project, The Oregon Donation Land Claims with over 13,000 entries, were in the September 1953 – June 1954 issues and March 1957, with about three pages of material in each. In April 1954 the first column on Family Reunions was added. Mrs. William Irvine began writing articles for each issue which included: The Very First Step, Jan. 1954 A Survey of Genealogical Literature, Feb. 1954 A Check List for the Genealogist, Mar. 1954 The Use of Bibliographies, Apr. 1954 and continued in May 1954 How to Keep Your Record, June 1954

Volume four brought more changes, including the name change to, Genealogical Forum and a publications committee of eight was formed to assist the editor. There appear to be no issues for September, October or November. Family Associations and Bible Records became ongoing columns with those for Accessions (lists of new books for both GFO and Portland Central Library) and Queries. Articles by various authors were regular features. Advertisements began appearing in the March 1955 issue, costing $1 per column inch, 1 x 3 ½ . This issue also announced the all-day monthly meeting at the Portland Central Library. There was a May open house which has been an annual event since this time. Indexes for the volumes are included at the conclusion of the issues beginning with this volume.

Following these years of establishing a basic format for the Bulletin, the monthly issues were very similar in content. The contents included news and letters from the President and the Editor, New Books, Oregon Family Associations and Reunions, Queries, an Article, and Bible Records. Not listed in this overview are the monthly articles or family collections contributed, as these may be found in the various indexes for the Bulletin. The annual yearbooks were started in about 1955. These contained contact information for members, while the monthly issues listed new members, those reinstating and life members. The first records of members who were recently deceased were included in the “In Memorium” column. In the January 1956 issue there was an article about the Microfilm Drawers and a push was on to build this collection. The extracts of Civil War Records by Spencer Leonard were in this issue. In the November 1956 issue it was noted that the Bulletin was now included in the Jacobus Genealogy Periodical Index. In June of 1957 the Early Settler Registration program was initiated and the requirements for recognition are included in that issue. In September 1957 dues were increased to $3 and the Bulletin increased to eight pages.

In September 1958, the Bulletin was published under new editors, Mrs. E. E. Brockett (Evelyn B.) editor and Mrs. Clarence. W. Carey assistant editor. They would serve for over five years. The Oregon Centennial was celebrated the next year, and various articles focused on the history of Oregon and activities involving GFO. A new Bulletin Insignia was designed by Mrs. C. F. Dickinson of Montezuma, Iowa and it would grace the cover of many issues. The all-day monthly meetings at the Portland Central Library continued and had the following sections: the Beginner’s Group, the State Study Group, the Beginner’s Advisors, a Business Meeting and a Panel Discussion or Speaker.

Associations with other local societies were shared through columns of news of the Oregon Historical Society, The Clackamas County Historical Society, The Washington County Historical Society and the Clark County Washington Genealogical Society. News of the activities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) included openings of the local Family History Centers, were published in occasional articles. The local Daughters of the American Revolution, the Sons of the American Revolution, Civil War Societies and other heraldry groups shared their news. The Ancestral File Index of the GFO was explained by Harriette Park in the June 1959 issue.

December 1959 notice was given of the intent to incorporate as a non-profit organization; following a vote of the members this was formalized in January 1960. These would later be amended in November 1962. Necrology was the new title for the column relating the passing of GFO members. An excellent article on State Census Records in the Oregon State Archives is found in
the September 1961 issue. This was followed by an article on “Location of Oregon County Records” by Delia A. Paterson in March 1962.

In September 1963 Mrs. Clarence W. Carey became editor and Miss Jessee Brown assistant editor. A Speakers Bureau was formed in December 1964 to provide contacts for those willing to offer presentations to the public, generally focused on doing genealogy research and promoting the GFO Library. There was an index for the 1850 and 1860 Federal Census for Oregon in the March 1965 issue. In April of 1965 dues were raised to $4.50. The Board for Certification of Genealogists incorporated in June 1964 and an article about certification was published in June 1965, with a follow up article in the April 1967 issue. The fee was $35 and there were two categories - Certified Genealogist and Genealogy Records Specialist. By September of 1965 the Bulletin had grown to twelve pages

A long term project for the GFO was the publication of the Pioneer Families of Yamhill County, Oregon by Mrs. Mercedes J. Paul and Mrs. Ralph W. VanValin for the Champoeg DAR, from March 1965 thru June 1989, over twenty-four years. These are not found in every issue, but appear sporadically as more information was compiled. They contain a few pages on a few families and include census information and other details about a family. When reading through them it makes one wish that their family lived in that county.

In September 1966 Mrs. A. T. Brownlow became editor and she served until September 1968. The Bulletin format was updated and it was expanded to sixteen pages. At this time there were twelve positions for the volunteers who assisted the editor. Mrs. Wallace S. Hobbs (Harriet) became editor for the Bible Records. For Volume 17, September 1967 to June 1968, the Bulletin was published as a quarterly of twenty-four pages. This was an attempt to control publication costs as the budget was $1,000 and $1,700 was spent. The estimated cost of the quarterly was $1003. The GFO Library opened at 1709 SE Ladd Avenue, in the Brewer home. By December of 1967 they were looking for a place for the library. An update of the GFO Bylaws occurred in October 1966. Of interest, the Oregon Historical Society Museum opened in February 1967 and their library in September 1966. At the monthly meeting in April 1967, local research groups were organized; they were the beginning of Special Interest Groups.

In September 1968 Mrs. A. M. Nady took over with a new title of Bulletin Staff Manager. Editors for Vital Records were Mrs. Alice I. Carlson and Mrs. J. M. Balfour (Sue), for Bible Records Mrs. W. S. Hobbs (Harriet) and for Cemetery Records Mrs. E. V. Elkins. The budget for that year included $5 for the Editor, $350 for the Bulletins, $185 for mailings. There were about 350 members, with a total of $1507.50 membership dues paid and dues remaining at $4.50. It was decided at this time to purchase a mimeograph machine for $240 for the printing their publications. They also found rental space at the Governor Building at SW 2nd and Stark in Portland. The library would be open six days a week, with thirty-two volunteers as library aides. There was a list of items wanted for the library in October 1968. Guests were welcome for one visit with a member. The Bulletin would include mini-ads for members only. In December 1968 it was noted that Mrs. Dale Stoddard donated a Telephone Book Collection of 2,000 books. The official opening of the library was December 9, 1968 and there were about ninety attendees. For the first time the annual open house was held on May 12 at the GFO headquarters, with about 145 attendees. At this time the membership dues were raised to $6 and the Bulletin consisted of about 24 pages. In April 1969 the Bylaws were amended and the budget committee was reorganized.

The eleven year period from 1958 to 1969 saw six different editors/managers and there were periods of time when this position went unfilled. From this time forward the years of service of the editors were considerably longer. The continuity of service provided more control of the publication and the types of material included.

In September 1969 Mrs. Campbell Park (Harriette) became Bulletin Coordinating Editor and held the position for ten years, with a one year lapse in 1972/1973. Under Harriette’s leadership the Bulletin once again was published monthly and consisted of about twenty-four pages. All eleven of the volunteer staff remained the same. An advertising editor was added and Mrs. Clifford Greenstreet (Evelyn D.) filled that position. Book Reviews, overseen by Lois E. Finn, became more consistently included. The books were provided by authors and publishers for free to the GFO with the agreement that they would be reviewed and promoted to the membership. A major advertiser with the Bulletin, The Genealogical Publishing Company was a consistent contributor.

In September 1970 membership dues were increased to $9. The Bulletin was now included in the Genealogical Periodical Index (GPAI) done by Heritage Books. The page count was down to about eighteen per monthly issue. Queries, Bible Records, Book Reviews, Additions to the GFO Library, Exchanges of Periodicals with over 150 other genealogical societies, and several extracts of indexes were the regular items. There were fewer general articles included. The youngest member recorded for
the GFO was three-year-old Michael Gordon Livermore, whose grandmother enrolled him as noted in December 1970.

The January, February, March and May 1971 issues celebrated the Silver Anniversary of the GFO with histories of the organization’s first twenty-five years. The founders Mrs. Edward F. Smith (Daisy), Miss Caroline Higley and Mrs. W. F. Van Pelt (Rachel) were remembered and a picture taken of them February 13, 1967 when they received GFO Life Memberships was included. In the May issue Mrs. William Irvine (Ester Lillian Hulpieu Irvine) was recognized for her lengthy service. Information on the GFO Advisory Council is found in the February 1971 issue. The May 1971 open house was held at the Meier and Frank Auditorium in downtown Portland to accommodate a larger group. The open house in May 1972 was held at the Multnomah County Library. The October 1972 issue included a list of Rules of Use for the Library.

In September 1973 there was an update to the Bylaws included. That December Mrs. Campbell Park returned to work as Editor. The Governor building was being remodeled and there was no elevator for three months, thus limiting access to the membership. By April of 1975 the GFO required the services of Linda Cone as a typist. She worked for many years preparing the Bulletin and other items for printing. In June 1977 a list of GFO committee positions or jobs was published. An interesting article “Etiquette in Using Our Library” by June Harrison was in the March 1978 issue. The May 1978 open house was held at the Neighbors of Woodcraft Building in Portland. During much of 1977 and 1979 there was no GFO librarian or Bulletin Queries Editor.

Besides the monthly membership meetings, new opportunities for genealogy education were available locally. In May of 1958 there was a Genealogy Convention sponsored by three Stakes of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS). The LDS Genealogy Seminar in October of 1976 was a two day event costing $6 for two days or $3 for one day. Speakers included BYU Genealogy Professors: David H. Pratt, Norman E. Wright, Carl-Eric Johansson, and Larry O. Jensen. In September 1978 there was a New England Historic Genealogical Society seminar in Portland, which cost $10 to attend. The Clark County Genealogical Society (CCGS) extended invitations to their seminars in the March 1979 issue. That fall CCGS hosted an all-day seminar, held at the Red Lion Hotel at Jantzen Beach, costing only $12. This was followed in March 1980 CCGS New England Workshop. In August of 1980 the World Conference on Records was held in Salt Lake City with about 10,000 participants expected. The previous such conference was held in 1969. GFO members eagerly participated.

In September 1979 Miss Ruth C. Bishop was recruited to be the Bulletin editor and would fill that position for fourteen years. Her first year the publication was monthly, and then changed to a quarterly in September 1981, which it has been ever since. The page count went from 20 pages monthly to 50 pages each quarter. She often struggled with the demands on her time to produce the issues on schedule, but she persevered. One critical part to her service as editor was the two GFO typists Linda Cole and Doris Arnell.

Working with Ruth as Bulletin Staff were: Mrs. Leonard W. Mars (Lillian) as Queries editor, Mrs. Jay Balfour (Sue) and Mrs. Roscoe Porter (Mildred) as Publication Committee, Mrs. Maurice Merrick (Doris) and Mrs. George Sittner (Penny) as Membership Committee, Mrs. Wallace Hobbs (Harriet) Bible Records editor, Mrs. Eldon Stroup (Mary Lou) and Mrs. Joseph Reding (Emily) as Librarians, Wilfred Burrel as Advertising editor, Betty Gibson as Book Review editor, and Betty Porter as Cemetery Records editor. Emily Reding wrote an article in October 1979 entitled, “The Forum Library”, to encourage members to make better use of this wonderful resource. In April 1980 the GFO had the following Interest Groups: Canadian, German, Irish, Scandinavian and Scottish. The library had problems with books being returned and resorted to listing missing books in the Bulletin. They changed in 1980 to a new Library Card File System. Dues were raised to $12 in July 1981. For the GFO there was a list of twenty-nine committees in the September 1981 issue.

In 1982 Ruth began focusing on a theme for each issue. The columns included: Periodical Review, Book Reviews, New Books, occasional Articles, Bible Records, Family Reunions, Queries and more extracts or lists. The budget found in the September 1982 issue included the Bulletin $848.76 and the Bulletin’s Editorial Staff $606.30. Most of the staff cost was for the typist who took the handwritten manuscripts and converted them to typed text for printing. A listing of Oregon Historical Society programs encouraged use of that library. In the fall of 1982 the seminar programs were initiated with a day of classes by Val D. Greenwood. These presentations by well-known and respected nationally genealogists were opportunities not to be missed.

The September 1985 issue containing the budget showed an increase of dues to $15, with funds for printing the Bulletin $1023.73 and Mailing $349.55. Two
special interest groups were added, the Computer Group and the Roots Users Group. In the fall of 1985 Arlene H. Eakle, PhD., was the seminar presenter and in the following months she contributed these articles:


Genealogy Indexes, September and December 1986.

The June 1986 issue has a list of all past GFO presidents from 1946/47 thru 1965/66. By September 1986 the budget for Bulletin included $1380 for printing, $1032 for mailing and $646 for typing. There was a long list of GFO positions and a list of Life Members included in that issue. In June 1987 there is a list of those recognized in the GFO Hall of Fame. The September 1987 issue notes an increase of dues to $15 and the budget included for the Bulletin $1500 for printing, $1200 for mailing and $700 for typing. The issue included a list of GFO Positions including a Bulletin Index Compiler and a review of the Bylaws. Mrs. Kaleen Beall took over the position of Bible Records editor in December 1987.

The May 1989 issue notes another dues increase to $18 and the budget included for the Bulletin $2200 for printing, $1350 for mailing and $600 for typing. These were substantial increases, over $1,000, and when combined with other rising costs explain why the need for additional funds. In the September 1989 issue members were notified that the FGS Newsletter was a part of the GFO membership. An interesting note about the Oregon Death Index 1903-1970 being stolen, no mention later if it was ever found. Today there is a copy in the microfilm collection in drawer four under Oregon.

September 1990 marked ten years for Ruth as editor with a five person committee. The focus changed again as the newsletter the Insider was established. It was overseen by Mary Howard as editor and she had a committee of eight. The budget for the Bulletin that year was the same as the previous year and included Bulletin Advertisements expected to raise about $300. The National Genealogical Society (NGS) was held in Portland in May 1991. This event was truly a highlight in the GFO history. In June 1991 Ruth became a NEHGS Trustee and her time was even more in demand. The Cemetery Committee chair Janice M. Healy requested help in collecting and compiling information about Oregon cemeteries. There was an article on “Queries the Write Way” by Evelyn D. Greenstreet and Ruth C. Bishop instructing members on how to write a query, as many were being submitted that required editing. By September 1991 the dues increased to $21 and the Bulletin cover was blue.

In the December 1991 issue there was an article on Funeral Homes in Oregon. This was followed by two articles in the March 1992 issue: “Oregon Church Records” by Connie Lenzen, CGRS and “Some Locations of Oregon Cemetery Records” by Lois L. Lehl. Certainly there was a focus at this time on locating more of these resources for vital death records. This time period also was the beginning of articles about Computer Genealogy by Jim Casto, as the resources online were greatly multiplying. The June 1992 issue had information on the Portland Area Personal Ancestral File Group (PAPA-FUG). This group originally focused on the PAF personal computer database and then branched out to classes on doing general genealogical research. In September 1992 Ruth began including nice pictures of people from GFO and the first ones were of the three founders and one of Stanley Clark. For the September 1993 issue the tree emblem was on the cover of the Bulletin and we continue to use it today. In June 1994 Ruth C. Bishop resigned as the Bulletin editor, but for years afterwards she continued contributing information on Family Associations and Reunions.

The inclusion of Bible Records in the Bulletin was a long term focus beginning in December 1954 issue. In March 1993 Janice M. Healy chair of the Bible Records Committee requested that members share Bible records in their possession or accessible to them and provide copies of those pages to the GFO. The copies should include the Title page, Copyright page and the family records pages. For the Bible Records printed in the Bulletin there was a collection made and they are found in fifteen volumes with an index compiled by Janice M. Healy in 1994, covering forty years of records. The index is now available on the GFO website and the books can be found on the library shelves. In the future a nice project would be a continuation of this format. Bible Records did appear in the June and September 2006 issues.

In June 1993 Julie Ann Kidd became the Bulletin editor and she held that position for about twelve years. Again, the format of the Bulletin changed under her direction. Julie shared many of her extracted records during her tenure and the extraction committee worked on many Oregon records. She designed the logo for the new cover and it was now gray. At this time the GFO moved to 1505 SE Gideon St. in Portland and there was a membership of 865 people and it continued to grow: 920 in 1994, 1128 in 1995, and 1400 in 1996. Connie Lenzen, CGRS, began contributing articles regularly in 1993. One of her first
was, “Genealogical Research in Libraries” in which she encouraged members to become better acquainted with local resources.

The September 1994 issue page count was fifty-two. The columns for this issue were: Book Reviews by E. Ann Wendlandt, Editor’s Corner by Julie, Excerpts from Membership Meeting by Joyce C. Estebrook, Secretary, Family Reunions by Ruth Bishop, Necrology, New in the Library by Patricia Craig-Waldrip, New Members Welcomed by Donna Eatherton, News and Notes from the President by Eileen Chamberlin, Queries by Dick Crockett and Schedule of Classes by Pat Barrs. The December 1998 issue provided an article on the set up of the GFO library. In December 1999 the cover for the Bulletin changed and each issue thru June 2008 had a different picture.

The May 13, 2000 Family History Fair was held at Parkrose High School in Portland. Then the Oregon Historical Society held “Reconnecting with your Family Roots in Eastern Europe” on April 9, 2000. Several GFO members were presenters. Connie Lenzen, CGRS, wrote an article on this topic, as well as an article on “Early Portland Cemeteries”, for the March 2000 issue. As noted in this issue the following special interest groups were offered through GFO: British, Computer, Irish, Illinois, Forum Round Table, Roots Users, Computer and TMG Users. The December 2000 issue was the last in which the queries were printed in the Bulletin. Times were changing and online connections were becoming more popular.

There were two histories about GFO published in the March 2001 issue. “GFO What Is It and Where Did It Come From” by Ellen Collins and Eileen Chamberlin, provides a good review of the past. “History of the Hall of Fame” by Joyce Estebrook, provides information on this award and the recipients. May 16-19, 2001 The National Genealogical Society (NGS) was again held in Portland. It was a great event and local volunteers were very involved. The “Oregon Burial Site Guide” advertisement is first placed on the back of the Bulletin in September 2002 and it is still there today. At this time the Bulletin was cut to forty pages. The December 2003 issue noted the beginning of the “All Nighters” where members could work all night on research and enjoy a pizza break with their friends.

In June 2004 the first GFO writing contest was held and winners were announced at the monthly membership meeting. The articles were published over the next two Bulletin issues, September and December. The winners that year were Jane McDowell first place, Steve Hanks second place and Susan LeBlanc third place. This has been an ongoing contest, and is now under the direction of Peggy Baldwin. She started the Writer’s Group at GFO to encourage participation.

In September 2005 Lyleth Winther became the Bulletin editor. Again the content and format of the publication changed. Some of the columns were: African-American Heritage, Ancestor’s Stories, Book Reviews, Celebrities with Oregon Connections, Connie’s Corner, Early Oregon Settlers, Harold’s Picks, Queries, Traveler’s Tales, and Writing Contest Stories. Besides the columns, there were many articles written by GFO members. An article in this issue, “Looking Back Some 60 years – GFO History” was an overview of the many contributions by individuals over the years. There also was an article, “GFO Manuscript Collection”, to encourage members to use these resources. In the December 2005 issue the starting of mini classes was announced.

The June 2006 issue cover design of September 1998 was incorporated with the 60th Year Celebration and the slogan “The Family Tree People.” Pictures of the three founders with brief biographies for each were included. In December 2006 there was the announcement that electronic mailing of the GFO publications was now an option for members. This change would greatly reduce the costs of printing the publications. An article, “Early GFO Members”, is found in this issue. In December 2007 Sandi Whiteman became the library director. She worked diligently to improve the collections of the GFO library.

In September 2008 Lyleth was ready to resign as editor. A group formed to discuss the future of publications for GFO and after several meetings of 20+ interested officers and members new formats for the Bulletin and the Insider were agreed upon. The Bulletin would contain articles and columns, while the Insider was only for news, events calendar, and the New Book list. An editorial team was put in place at this time consisting of: Peggy Baldwin, Julie Kidd, Judi Scott, and Carol Surrency, with Diane Wagner doing the layout. (Julie dropped out soon after.) The responsibility as editor was rotated through the group with each issue. At this point the formats of the publications changed dramatically. The writing contest was still a part of the Bulletin and those stories are published within the calendar year. With the new focus on more scholarly content, the Bulletin reflects the type of content found in well-known genealogical periodicals. The editorial team was expanded in March 2009 with Susan LeBlanc, and in June 2009, with Mickey Sieracki becoming issue editors. Peggy resigned after the June 2009 issue and Mickey moved shortly after her issue in June 2010. Judith Scott took over the layout.
when Diane resigned. Recently the three remaining editors decided to make one issue per year a collaborative one. The page count of the Bulletin was reduced from fifty to forty-four during these years to cut costs.


Feature Articles and Regular Columns were the basis for the new Bulletin format. Columns for the issues were “Book Reviews” by Sandi Whiteman, (then Janis Bowby and since September 2009 Susan LeBlanc), “Educate Yourself” by Susan LeBlanc, “For the Record” by Judith Scott, “Oregon County Research” by Alene Reaugh, “Out and About” by Peggy Baldwin, “Record Extracts” by Eileen Chamberlin, “Relics” by Harvey Steele, “State by State” and “Story Teller” by Judith Scott, “Tech Tips” by Rex Bosse, and “Written in Stone” by Carol Surrency. “In Memoriam”, edited by Lyleth Winther, is the column where recently deceased members of the GFO are remembered.

In the years since the current editorial team took responsibility for the Bulletin we have grown and learned so much about publishing a genealogy quarterly. With great pride we are recognized for interesting and valuable content. We reach out to writers who are beginners, seasoned, and others nationally known in the field of genealogy. Each of our regular column editors provides ongoing information in their specialties. The forty-four pages of content are the results of hours of labor, and we are grateful for the proof-readers, copy and layout editor Judith Scott, publisher Loretta Welsh, printers Loretta Welsh and Jim Morrow who also oversees the labeling crew as they prepare the issues for mailing, and post office delivery by Ray Ashman.

The costs of publishing the Bulletin revolve mostly around the printing, postage and addressing the paper copies sent out to members through the post office. There is little cost to the email version, which can be enhanced with color pictures, and corrections made as needed. Once something is in print all we can do is include a correction in the following issue.

The costs between 1989 and 2013, about a 24 year difference, are interesting to compare.

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As of July 2, 2013 the GFO membership includes 889 members, with 801 having memberships, including joint memberships. Those receiving the Bulletin by mail are 348 and those by email 419, with 12 who do not wish to receive it and a total of 779. Those receiving the Insider by mail are 331 and those by email 482, with 17 who do not wish to receive it and a total of 830. There are 26 active exchanges with other societies and 16 with other libraries, who receive the Bulletin and/or the Insider. Comparing these with the membership of 865 people in 1993, 920 in 1994, 1128 in 1995, and 1400 in 1996, there has been some decline in the last twenty years. The continuing concern over growing our membership is very important to the GFO and the publications published for those members.

A particularly interesting comment by Connie Lenzen, CGRS, who was GFO president from 1995-1998 appeared in the March 1996 issue. She noted in her article “Planning for the future questions: Where will the Forum be in the next 50 years? “How many members will we have? Where will our library be located? … In the future will there be indexes to all the censuses? What will these look like? Will they be printed on paper, microfilm, CD, or in some new media?” With the year 2046 seeming a long way yet into the future, some of these questions already have answers. Where will the GFO, the Bulletin and the field of genealogy be in thirty-three years?
Washington County Stories

The following series of articles about early Washington County have appeared in the Washington County Genealogical Society’s publication, The Genealog, and are reprinted here with permission.

David Hill, the Man who Gave Hillsboro its Name
Millie O’Connor

The name was deHull in Normandy in the 13th century, but when the first emigrant from England or Scotland came to America, his name was changed to (William) Hill. (Moore) (Mary Dunn in her book said his name was Abner.) William/Abner had four sons and a daughter Polly that married Mr. Mitchell. His sons were Joab, Thomas [not confirmed], James and William. Joab was born in North Carolina, but where the others were born is not known at this time. William’s second son, Thomas, was said to be the father of our man, David Hill [also not confirmed]. It is said David was born in 1809 in Connecticut, but no records have come to light confirming or disproving this. Although his uncle Joab was born in North Carolina, all Joab’s children were born in Tennessee. In the 1790’s there was an emigration from “the lower” states up as far north as Vermont. Perhaps the Hills went North at that time. No known photos are available for David Hill, but there are many of Joab’s clan. Those Joab Hill descendants that came to Oregon, lived south of Salem and many lived in Jacksonville, one lived in Clatsop County. Numerous interesting booklets written by them, which are also on line, have nothing to connect to David Hill.

David Hill Chapter (DAR) member Hattie (Hill) Brownhill proclaimed she was a distant cousin of David Hill. Her great grandfather was Joab Hill. This is verified. We have found census for Joab and several of his children and grandchildren here in Oregon, but we have not found any proof of relationship to David. Another DAR member, Margaret Mooberry, as well as others, said that David Hill went to Virginia first, then to Ohio, before coming to Oregon. There does not seem to be confirmation of this information either. Several authors mention his leaving a wife and small family in Ohio when he came to Oregon, but they offered no proof nor documentation, except the fact that they knew them or at least the sons.

The year after he arrived, David settled in Tuality district. (Humphries) An old book said “This valley is a valley within the Willamette Valley shaped like an elongated, inverted triangle, stretching along the Columbia River 75 miles east and west, with its sides, perhaps 200 miles long, defined by the gradually converging Cascade and Coast Ranges. It has been said that there was room for 5000 farms of 320 acres.” Now those measurements are said to be somewhat different.

The Cascade Range was originally called the President’s Range with Mt. Hood as the highest peak at 11,253 feet and first called Mt. Washington. Later it was named for Alexander Arthur Hood, Lord Brinport of England, a friend of Captain Vancouver’s.

There were three accounts written about the 1841 wagon train migration that David Hill was in. One was by Father DeSmet. Another was by Rev. Joseph Williams, a Methodist preacher, and a much later one was written by John Biddell. (Bourke pg. 314-315)

Rev. Joseph Williams, Narrative of a Tour from the State of Indiana to the Oregon Territory in the Years 1841-1842 (Cincinnati, OH, 1843 p29) reported on the company that included Richard Williams, and Isaiah Kelsey. He complained constantly in his diary of the profanity, swearing, cursing, violin-playing, dancing in the evenings and Godlessness of the company. (Bourke-p 314-315)

According to information on the Pioneer cards at the Oregon Historical Society Library, David Hill was a Congregationalist in faith, so, possibly, he wasn’t one of those Rev. Williams painted or else he changed after arriving in the Oregon country.

Different sources say that David Hill came to Oregon in 1841, 1842, or 1843. Typically, wagon trains left Missouri in the spring or early summer and arrived in Oregon, in the fall or early winter, if they were lucky. His Land Claim Record says he “took up” and improved claim #74 in June 1842, which was recorded July 11th, 1847. If he took the claim up in June of 1842, then he certainly was here in 1841 giving him time to locate, survey and mark his claim. He surveyed and staked his land himself, which took time.

Also on this wagon train were Isaiah Kelsey, Ralph Wilcox, and Richard Williams, along with David Hill. (Hillsboro’s Old Leaders, Final Edition, Oregon Journal.
Feb. 12, 1957 pg1.) They all settled on adjoining claims in Tualatin district. In fact, these claims were in Township # 1 of the Willamette Meridian. They were all clustered close, where the four sections of Township 1, North and South, Range 2 & 3 join together. Others like Rev John Griffin, Elam Young, Michael Moore and Joe Meek were near-by. These men not only lived near each other, but they signed documents for each other, did jury duty, and held provisional and territory offices beside each other. They were friends and Oregon builders along with many other settlers.

W. H. Gray in his book, A History of Oregon 1792-1849, had quite a bit to say about the prominent people living in Oregon in the very early days. He mentions Hill in different places in his book. Gray lived in Oregon before and after Hill and knew Hill and most of the other pioneers. He was a young lay missionary with high ideals of the time. He gave both a personal plus a political view of Hill.

Gray said; “David Hill, of Tualatin District, was from Ohio. He was a tall, slim man of sallow complexion, black hair, with strong prejudices, having no regard for religion or morality. He left an interesting wife and family in Ohio, and passed himself off in Oregon as a widower or bachelor. He was favorable to all applications for divorce, and married a second wife, as near as we could learn, before he obtained a divorce (if he ever did) from his first wife. He early took an active part in the provisional government, and was a decided opponent of the HBC, as also of all missionary efforts in the country. This rendered him popular among the settlers, and secured his election as a representative for that district for several years, although his education was quite limited. As a citizen he was generally respected. Though intimately acquainted with two of his sons, we could never learn that he was anything but kind and affectionate as a husband and father. The fact of his leaving a wife and young family in Ohio, coming to Oregon, and remaining for years without making any provisions for them, is evidence of guilt in some one. The friends of his wife and family spoke of them as being highly esteemed by all who knew them. But it is of his public acts, as connected with the history of Oregon that we wish particularly to speak.

The social standard adopted by the people of Oregon was peculiarly adapted to favor men of Mr. Hill’s morality, and aid them in rising from the effects of any former misconduct they may have been guilty of in any other country. This standard was, to receive as fellow citizen all who came among us; to ignore their former actions, and give them a chance to start anew, and make a name and character in the country.” (Gray -p 375)

Mr. Chapman’s book, written in 1909 said, “W. H. Gray was a fine young man without much education, but with good natural gifts. His History of Oregon shows that he knew what was going on around him and had his own opinion of events.” (Chapman-p83)

A letter excerpt, written by Albert Tozier to Harriett C. Long, where he wrote: It is doubtful if there are any pictures in existence except one somewhere of Alanson Beers, taken when he was about 19, which was about 1819. His son, Wm. Beers and I worked on Anthony Avet??’s newspaper fifty and more years ago and we had in a case a picture of his father. One of the old style, taken in New York. What became of it I know not. He has been dead ten years. A brother died in Salem. His brother John, with whom I talked 3 weeks prior to John’s death had no knowledge of the whereabouts of the picture. John died in Oregon City, and I think his widow is living there. Have not heard from her in five years.

David Hill had none taken in the Oregon Country. David Hill died May 9, 1850, in his cabin near where the Oregon Electric [train] depot now is. I know the exact spot where the log cabin stood, in fact, the log cabin still stands, but in another spot and is weather boarded and painted. It has been in use continually since 1847. Besides my sister, myself and the woman who lived in the cabin, and still uses it for a store house, not three other people know that the David Hill cabin - probably the oldest Jail in Oregon, still stands.

I knew Mrs. Wheelock Simmons, who was the widow of David Hill, and she gave me much information concerning that early Oregon historic Character. She was the second wife of David Hill. Mrs. Simmons had been twice married before she married Hill. Sod widow. When Mrs. Hill Simmons died, Wheelock Simmons married the daughter of his wife’s daughter, whose maiden name was Ellen Moore. [Mrs. Lucy Ellen Burgan according to 1880 census.] They had one son. What relationship he _____ and to whom ___ [word’s gone from edge of paper] [They really had two sons. MEO].

David Hill had two sons by his first wife. The sons came to Oregon about 1850, but there has been no trace of them in 60 years. David Hill
was of sallow complexion, Tall, Slim, 6 feet 1 inch. Black hair Very positive [?]” (Oregon State Library in Salem)

Albert Tozier lived with his parents just 10 homes before Michael Moore’s in the 1880 Census as a 21 year old. He never knew David Hill as he was too young.

Although a Congregationalist, David resented any interference in his life from the clergy. He voted like a Southerner when it came to slaves and black people being allowed in the new country, either as slaves or on their own.

David Hill’s political life seems to have started in May of 1843. This would have been after he cleared his land and built his cabin. The settlers held the “general meeting” where they voted to organize a settlers or Provisional Government (Organic Law). His name is listed as one of the 52 that voted for it. At this same meeting, Hill was elected to the Legislative Committee. He nominated the Honorable Robert Moore (the elder) for Speaker of the House. At the July 5th meeting, Alanson Beers, Joseph Gale, and David were elected as the Executive Committee with Hill as Chairman, a position they only held for ten months, until May 1844. The Honorable Hill wrote the official letter to organize volunteer riflemen which was passed. In 1845, he was part of a five man special committee to draft a memorial petition to send to Congress. The other members were, W. H. Gray, Jesse Applegate, H.A. G. Lee, and John McClure. It stated how things were in the Oregon country and what the settlers wanted. On June 27th it was reported, adopted, signed and given to Elijah White to take to Washington D.C. He was repeatedly elected as the delegate for the Tualita District. By 1848, Oregon was a Territory of the United States. Due to the Gold Strike in 1849, Hill had a special session called at Oregon City. That was the last Provisional Legislature.

David’s claim of 640 acres was in Tualita district, now known as Washington county, on the east side of Dairy Creek including what is now known as Pioneer Cemetery [He and Lucinda are both buried there] and south of the current courthouse location. Part of what is now called Hillsboro, originally was called Columbia by David, then later it was changed to Hillsborough, then to Hillsboro. Jacob Hampton was on the west side of his [Hill’s] land with Isaiah Kelsey on the north and Michael Moore on the east. He was a single man when he cleared his land to build the cabins, barns, other buildings and garden space, which were all surrounded by forests. (Lipschat pg.1) [I did not find Jacob Hampton anywhere on the early plats. MEO]

David Hill had a double cabin on his property. It was sold in 1848, to the county for $200 and used for several years to hold court. The money was not paid until after he died, when the Probate court ordered the $200 to be paid to his widow, Lucinda Simmons. Another of his cabins was used for a jail. His claim is near the first recording of a bridge built in Oregon, crossing Dairy Creek. In 1852, Isaiah Kelsey donated twelve acres as a site for a new, lumber not log, courthouse, which is north of Hill’s property. The extra land, became lots and a city was born. (Moore pg. 2) This courthouse was where the earliest laws of that large county, Tualita were made and the “books” from there, now in the Oregon Archives are the oldest in the state. (OR. Hist. Society, SB 251, p 78) E.J. Lyons bought Kelsey’s old courthouse building. The plat of Portland was filed at Hillsboro in 1851. A brick courthouse was built in 1871 and remodeled in 1891. (Humphrey).

In 1843 he became the unofficial postmaster. All mail came by steamship to Oregon City, the biggest town in Oregon. Then application was made for the mail to come to Tualita Valley twice a month. The mail traveled by boat up the Tualatin River to Bridgeport, later called Farmington and now just a crossroad. Phillip Harris was the Bridgeport’s second ferryman and also was the postmaster for about a year and a half. David Hill rode horseback or drove a wagon on certain days to fetch all the mail to his home. He made the application for a Post Office to the government, but died before it was granted, thus he is not listed as the first postmaster. During this time, the Willamette and Tualatin Rivers were the main highways of transportation from the Columbia River south through the Willamette valley. Post offices did not appear in most towns until the 1850s, and stage coaches and express companies were just beginning to operate. When gold was discovered in Southern Oregon during the 1850s, the government opened more roads.

On June 4, 1846, Rev. J. S. Griffin, who also lived in Tualita, not far from David’s place, married David Hill and Mrs. Lucinda Wilson. William Wilson, Lucinda’s 2nd husband died October 9 1845 in The Dalles, from overeating. They were on their on their way to Oregon. She, her daughter and Williams’ two children continued on to the Willamette Valley where she met David Hill.

It is said that David and Lucinda were married in the Tualita Plains Church now called the Old Scotch [Presbyterian] Church north of Hillsboro. This is not correct, as that church was not organized until 1873. It is more likely they were married at Rev. Griffins home as he was a neighbor. [He later invested in the Portland Plank road.]
David became step-dad to Lucinda’s 16 year old daughter, Mary Helen McWilliams, from her first husband, John McWilliams, and her two step-children, Margaret Wilson, age 16 and William Lewis Wilson, age 14.

A year later on May 10, 1847 in Forest Grove, Margaret Wilson, age 17, married John S. Catching. He was brother to Benjamin H. and William Catching who held DLCs nearby. Five months later, in October of 1847, Mary Helen McWilliams, age 17, married Michael Moore, another early pioneer and neighbor. Their son Edward W. Moore married Carrie L. Read, who was a member of the David Hill chapter DAR. David Hill most probably gave the two earlier brides away. After David Hill passed away, William L Wilson, Lucinda’s stepson married for the first time in 1854 to Hudda Mynatt. In 1861 he married Harriett Haskins. William ended up south, in Douglas county near his sister, Margaret (Wilson) Catching. (Lockley, 1924)

It was on November 29, 1847, that the Whitman’s and up to twelve others (sources differ) were massacred by the Cayuse Indians. Measles had broken out in the latest wagon train and the Whitman mission children, which also included Indian children, came down with the dreaded disease. Dr. Whitman treated all with the same medicine, but some died including the native children and their fathers were told, and believed, that Dr. Whitman had deliberately poisoned them. The Jesuits were said to have done the telling.

Most of the survivors of the massacre ended up in the Forest Grove area. It was a quieter, Christian village easily frightened about Indian attacks, while, Hillsboro in comparison, was considered the sin-bed of the valley. There was a fort built around the Pacific Academy after William Catching built one around his place, a little west of Harvey Clark’s land and the school. It took until the spring of 1850 for five of the accused Whitman murderers to be captured. Then another 3 months before they were hanged at Oregon City, by Sheriff Joe Meek on June 5, 1850. David Hill died between these two events. Not everyone believed they were the guilty men.

David is listed on the March 1849 Tualia County, Oregon Territorial Census. Listed before him are:

J. S. Griffin, F. Wilcox, I. Kelsey, and R. Williams. With R. Wilcox, M. Moore, Jno. Passons and Jas. Robison following Hill. David’s family has one male under the age of 21, one male over the age of 21 and two females, all white. William Wilson, the step-son, was probably the under 21 male, but who the other female was is unknown. Lucinda’s daughter Mary Helen, and husband Michael Moore were living at the next place. They had one male and two females, themselves, and their first child, Sarah Moore.

On March 6th, 1850 David Hill is listed with 23 “named persons (being duly selected by the Hon. Probate Court) appointed Grand Jurors for the body of the County of Washington for the next term of Circuit Court.” Some of the named are: Stephen Coffin, Benj. H. Catching, Ralph Wilcox, and Phillip Harris. There were men selected for the Petit Jury of the Circuit Court at the same time. (Probate Journal NO1 1849-1852 for Wash. county, pg. 17-18, located at 1/14/2/7 in Oregon Archives, Salem, on July 2008) Two of these men were Michael Moore and Peter Shul (Scholl?)

A note of interest: In Forest Grove is a hill, a road and a winery named David Hill, but not named after the David Hill of Hillsboro. They are named for Mr. Frederick W. David who had a place on Thatcher road north of town. His daughter married a Thatcher son.

David Hill lived in Oregon less than nine years before his death, but he was consistently busy, preparing his land, building his log cabins, getting married and serving on the provisional and executive committees to which he was appointed or elected. He was still a member of the legislature when he died. A death resolution was issued that both houses would be in recess one day in his honor. He died intestate which is surprising after all the trouble the country had when Elam Young died intestate, leading to the provisional government. To see David’s political history, see “Timeline of Oregon’s Early Government”.

In February 1850, just three months before his death from unknown causes, David was appointed guardian of five Dunlap children. (See Wash Co Probate Records II & III 1847-1858, February 6, 1850 on page 26-27, also Probate Journal NO.1, 1849-1852, pg. 8-10.) They were Arnold, William, Ellen, Clark and Harriet Dunlap. There are a number of court orders in the Probate Book and Journal about David’s estate. Lucinda was appointed the administratrix with Robert Moore, Michael Moore and Ralph Wilson appointed appraisers. (Probate Journal NO. 1 1849-1852 for Wash. county, located at 1/14/2/7 in the Oregon Archives, Salem, Ore on July 2008).

The Court also ordered the $200 owed to David Hill for the property the Court bought from him, (the double log cabin to use for a court house) to be paid to Lucinda.

After Hill’s death, James M Moore was appointed guardian of the Dunlap children. (See Wash Co Probate Records II & III, 1847-1858, February 6, 1850 on page 38-39. Also Probate Journal NO1 1849-1852, pg. 8) See Dunlap page later in this booklet.

Pioneer Cemetery now belongs to the city of
Hillsboro. David Hill Chapter of DAR, holds a small service, each Memorial Day weekend at his grave site. We chose this time as we have been unable to find his actual date of birth in 1809, but he died in May of 1850.

The money for David Hill’s gravestone was gathered together by the school children of Washington County and bears this inscription, ”David Hill, 1809-1850, Came to the Oregon country 1842 - Voted for the Provisional Government at Champoeg May 2, 1842 - Chairman of the Executive Committee which virtually made him the first Governor of Oregon Territory. Pioneer of Hillsboro - Erected by the school etc. etc. May 30, 1930”. A bronze plate attached to the stone by Multnomah Chapter DAR read “To honor one of those Patriots who on May 2, 1843 at Champoeg saved the Regional Territory to the Nation.” That plaque is no longer there.

The oldest grade school in Hillsboro is named David Hill in his honor. It faces 2nd street off Walnut, on part of David Hill land that later became Wheelock Simon’s. The last David Hill School is scheduled to be used for something else in the near future.

Hillsboro became the county seat of a large body of land, called Tuality at that time. It consisted of what is the top northwest corner of the state. Hill came up with the scheme for the commissioners to file on part of his claim, which the law allowed. It was the top-eastern corner of his land. This was done because people were afraid when this large county was divided the “seat” would go to Portland or to Forest Grove. The county didn’t get the patent for years, and David Hill had died in the meantime, but the “seat” stayed, and Tuality was divided into Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah and Washington counties.

During David Hill’s time in Oregon, with his part in the political arena, he probably had a hand in the provisional government’s agreeing to mint the now rare $5 and $10 Beaver Coins in Oregon City in 1849. He may have had a hand in the Portland and Valley Plank Road (Canyon Road) that same year. He certainly was aware that, earlier in 1842-1843, Jacob P. Lease drove the first sheep up from California and that in 1844 Joshua and A.C.R. Shaw drove the first sheep across the plains to Oregon, and that same year Thomas H. Smith took the first census in Oregon. Then in 1849 Astoria had the first Custom-House on the Pacific Coast with General John Adair as the first Collector. Also May 1849, the US War Ship Massachuset brought US troops to Oregon, arriving at Vancouver. David Hill may have seen the first thresher and separator brought to Oregon by way of Cape Horn to a hill farm north of Hillsboro owned by Thomas Otchin in 1850.

Note: Between 1840-1860, these people arrived in Oregon, got married, had children, applied for DLCs, built cabins and barns, cleared many acres of land, logged acres of huge trees and built sawmills and other mills, including flour mills, all by hand, then created a government, surveyed townships, started farms and businesses, built roads and bridges, schools and churches, held offices in the new provisional government, fought in the Indian Wars, and built ships. They made a name for themselves. And some died. All in twenty years!

Things don’t Change Much.

The Hillsboro Independent
February 24, 1911
Nude Man Once More
Evidently Demented, He Reappears
And insults Passing Women

An individual who during the past three years has appeared partly nude and made insulting gestures to passing women was seen again late Saturday afternoon near the bridge north of the city. The wife of a prominent resident of the north plains accompanied by a young woman were driving homeward when their attention was attracted by the man, who stood almost without clothing on a cross road near the bridge. They drove rapidly on, but taking a short cut. The man intercepted them and leaned upon the fence as they passed. He made no attempt to molest the women, the elder of whom upbraided him and stated that had she a gun with her she surely would have filled him with lead.

After passing the spot the woman met ex-County Judge Goodin, who was driving into Hillsboro and told him of the occurrence. As Mr. Goodin had in his buggy Mr. Rowe, the man injured in North Plains, whom he was bringing in for medical attendance, he could not stop, but reported the matter upon reaching town. Sheriff Hancock went at once to the scene, but a thorough search through the woods was without result. The man evidently is demented, and from the fact that each appearance is near the same place leads many to believe he lives somewhere in that locality. Each time he is seen he is either entirely or partly nude, and Saturday despite the chilly atmosphere he wore nothing but a portion of his underwear.
HILLSBORO ARGUS AUGUST 8, 1895

The Mystery Solved

Express Robbery of June 14th is at last Cleared up

HARRY CORBIN SECLUDES HIMSELF

And While the Agent is Absent After Mail, Loots the Tills of $90--

Youthful Depravity

Mystery Solved

On the evening of June 5th the store and express office of L.L. Williams in this city was robbed while the proprietor was at the 6:00 o’clock train, after the mail and express. Mr. Williams left some $90 in the till, and upon returning and looking for it, found the depository empty. An arrest followed, but no evidence being brought to bear, a discharge was entered. The whole affair was shrouded in mystery, but the unexpected, which occurs every day, arrived Monday, in the shape of a lame man who went to Sheriff Ford, said he knew the party who had robbed the express office, knew where he was and all about it. Ford was disinclined to believe him, but when the fellow said the robber had lain for some time up in the loft in the back room, to which he had made an entrance through a very small aperture, waiting for Williams to leave for the train to complete his work, and that the officers would find some butter and a box of crackers up there. The officer investigated and found things exactly as he had stated. The informer said he would go and take him for the officers, if there was any reward, but he alone would have to go for the fugitive would run upon the approach of anyone else and get away. Accordingly, Deputies Bradford and J.W. Morgan, accompanied by the fellow started for a point near Dilley where the two were to meet that evening. Just before reaching the station the officers let the man out and lost sight of him in a very few moments. After a short while Officer Morgan perceived a young fellow sitting by the track, apparently waiting for someone, and after a short consultation, they placed him under arrest. The informer did not show up, and the captive was brought to this city. The youth talks very coolly about his predicament and seems to be the embodiment of depravity. It is evident both were concerned in the robbery, and they must have had a disagreement of some kind, the informer giving the matter away to get even. McMinnville was telephoned to look out for the informer, who escaped after having been with the officers, and the lad was nabbed Monday night as he got off the train at that point.

The boy arrested is Harry Corbin who has relatives in this city and it seems he was acquainted with every nook and cranny in the Williams establishment. Last Saturday, the young Corbin again entered the store and while Williams was across the street extracted $12.05 from the tills, making good his escape before the proprietors return. A term in the “pen” now stares both in the face, and thus another mystery is solved. Whilst no money is likely to be recovered, Mr. Williams is much pleased because it settles forever any suspicions and the guilty partner will now come to grief.

Each has had his preliminary hearing before Judge Knight and both have been held to answer. George Stewart, the one who informed, had a large array of witnesses from Portland in his behalf, but inasmuch as the circumstances in many instances corroborated the evidence of Corbin, as to Stewart’s complicity, he was held on $1000 bonds in each charge, in default of which he remained in jail. It is said that his brother, of Portland, will endeavor to raise the bonds so he may have his liberty.

THE LADD and REED FARM, REEDVILLE, OREGON

Judy Goldmann

There are still some big fields in Washington County that have been farmed for 150 years. The land has seen crops, livestock, orchards, and some will soon be growing houses. An unusually big field, some 500 acres at Reedville will be changed forever within the next few years.

For us, the history of a piece of farm ground begins with the arrival of European settlers. The millennia before that can be only surmised by historians with the geological and climate changes. It is likely that the Kalapuya Indians traversed the Tualatin Valley and kept portions cleared by burning.

NATHAN AND MARY ROBINSON

The parcel claimed by Nathan Robinson and his wife Mary Dorland was listed as Number 736, settled 1 March 1849. They arrived in Oregon in 1847, having been married in Richland County, Ohio 1 June 1834 (or 1839). They lived in Missouri before leaving for Oregon, as their first two daughters Nancy J. and Rebecca E. were born in Missouri according to the 1850 census. Also in their family were Mary E. born 1847; and James born 12 November 1850 in the Oregon Territory. James W. Robinson became a doctor and a pharmacist, gaining his education in Portland, and living out his life in Jacksonville. The farm, on modern maps, is found between Hillsboro and Aloha, in the area called Reedville. It was almost perfectly one mile square. His neighbors to the west were the brothers Thomas and Charles Stewart and, on the east, Andrew I. Masters, who signed affidavits for the Robinsons. To the north was Richard White and on the south was Butternut Creek with boggy land that was...
not claimed as a Donation. The location is in Sections 10, 11, 14 and 15.

Graves

According to neighborhood lore, there are burials in the southeast quadrant of the DLC. There is no sign of these burials left, but a few gravestones are recalled by neighbors as late as 1941. This is corroborated by several living persons who recall those grave markers. Vincent Dobbin and son of Hillsboro have rented and farmed here since 1956 and he has found a piece of marble or two without inscription as he has cultivated over the fields. He was not informed by the owners of any such burials in 1956. He has recently taken divining rods to the site and found indications that there is something under-ground that make the rods cross, tracing out a pattern. Further investigation may ascertain the existence of graves. In 1859 Nathan Robinson conveyed 1 1/2 acres to School District #29 for school purposes. That lot is shown in the extreme Northeast corner of the donation and is now the location of Reedville School.

The Robinsons were living here in 1860 at the time of the census. He was listed as a farmer and his property valued at $7600 in real estate, and $3000 of personal property. Mary’s real estate is listed at $6000, making their holding considerably higher than their neighbors. He had two hired men. Nathan Robinson moved his family to Portland where they went to school, and later lived in Marion County, where he died at Gervais 13 November 1881.

On some early maps the name is mistakenly given as Robertson. James Robinson’s biography in Hines History of Oregon mentions his father farmed and later was in Real Estate in Portland.

New Owners

In the 1860s new owners are recorded for parts of the square mile, notably George Kellogg, who acquired a strip along the east line and Clay Oliver, who bought the 150 acre portion that lay to the north of the present Tualatin Valley Highway. J. T. Williamson of Yamhill County acquired the portion to the south. It would seem that Williamson did not stay on the property long, for the most colorful owner, Simeon G. Reed came along in May of 1871 according to Deed Records.

The railroad came from Portland in the 1870s, a process that was slowed by the competition of barons of commerce Joseph Gaston and Ben Holladay. Holladay won out, and the Southern Pacific Railroad was built along the Tualatin Valley road that ran across the northern part of the Simeon G. Reed property. The town of Reedville was platted, and established in the corridor that is just north of the Tualatin Valley road, where Cornelius Pass Road now connects.

Simeon G. Reed and His Trotting Horses, The Kelly Family and How the Sisters of St. Mary’s became landlords.

The October Genealogical Forum of Oregon carried a story on the property called The Ladd and Reed Farm. This farm, at present day Reedville has had a list of very interesting owners in the recorded history of land ownership.

The claimant of the Donation Land Claim, Nathan Robinson and his wife Mary Dorland soon moved on into Portland. His son gave an interview to Fred Lockley of the Oregon Journal, July 8, 1927. He gives an outline of the family. Nathan Robinson was born in Ohio, and married in Ohio Mary Dorland, also a native of Ohio. They traveled the Oregon Trail in 1847 with two daughters Ellen, and Jane. Mary and James W. Robinson were born in the Oregon Territory. James states that he was born on the Donation Land Claim on November 12, 1850. His father sold this claim to Mr. Clay, who later sold it to Simeon Reed and W. S. Ladd. He tells of his personal history, giving an interesting view of education in the new city on the Willamette [Portland].

James says: “I attended the Portland Academy 1862, ‘63 and ‘64. Among my fellow students were Ben Selling and Eugene Selby. Before that I had attended a private school next to the Congregational Church, taught by Mrs. Hodgkin. We lived on Fifth Street between Columbia and Clay. W. S. Ladd’s home was a block from our house, as was Senator Dolph’s - one block north. I used to play with Willie and Charlie Ladd. We moved to East Portland near the Odd Fellow’s Hall, catty-corner from the Methodist Church. Later I worked at the drugstore owned by my brother-in-law Charlie Woodard, at Front and Alder Streets. He put in one of the first soda fountains installed in a drug store in Portland. I entered Willamette University Medical College in 1874, graduating in 1878. Neither Medford nor Grants Pass was then in existence. The railroad came as far south as Roseburg. At Roseburg Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Bancroft, R.A. Miller (who was born in Jacksonville) and myself hired a rig to drive to Jacksonville. The trip took us two days. Mr. Bancroft was securing material for a history of Oregon. Mr. Miller was a struggling young attorney. When I started practicing in Jacksonville I used to make trips clear to Grave Creek. I used to charge $1 a mile plus my regular fee. When I started practicing in Jacksonville my fellow practitioners were Dr. Vrooman, Dr. Kohler, and Dr. Aiken. I was married May 17, 1882 to Matilda Miller. She was born at Burlington, Iowa. December 15, 1859. We have had three children - William, Leah and Dorland. Our daughter Dorland was an artist of rare
ability. She studied art in Philadelphia. She died at the age of 25 in California. We have given a collection of her paintings to the University of Oregon. I have seen most of the old pioneers who were here when I came pass on. I attended C.C. Beekman, Peter Britt and Tom Reams in their final sickness. I am 77, and for the past few years have not been in active practice.”

The paintings mentioned in the Lockley article are now at the Southern Oregon Historical Society in Roseburg. Ninety five color plates of these paintings have been featured in a recent book published by the Southern Oregon Historical Society. More information can be seen at www.sohs.org.

A Lasting Impression: The Art and Life of Regina Dorland Robinson represents the largest compilation of Dorland Robinson artwork ever published. With 95 images and Dorland’s compelling life story, it is sure to appeal to history buffs and art lovers alike. Written by Dawna Curler, it presents an array of Dorland’s work—from the earliest known examples to masterfully produced oils and pastels created just before her death.

Bestowed with a regal name, Dorland Robinson showed signs of artistic talent a young age. Her father was an amateur painter, and friends with Peter Britt, famed photographer of Jacksonville. The parents gave her the advantage of art training in Northern California, Portland and at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. She worked in pencil, watercolor and oil paints. She enjoyed recognition in her early twenties, and she took up residence in San Francisco. It was during this time that she met and married Charles Henry Pearson of San Francisco. But within a short time she suffered a nervous breakdown, and the marriage failed. Seemingly on the way to recovery in the spring of 1917, her mother Mary Robinson moved her to San Mateo, California and Dorland turned back to her art. It was a shock to all when she took her own life on April 7, 1917 at age 25 years. She has left a small body of work, beautifully colored portraits and landscapes that give only a glimpse of the things that might have been.

Maps and Records for the Reedville DLC

The Bureau of Land Management map of 1852 shows Township one South, Range Two West with blocks of cultivated land and rudimentary paths and roads of the day. The road from Hillsborough to Oregon City wanders along the up lands and passes through the northern one third of Nathan Robinson’s claim. At this time this claim seems to be a major cross roads, with a north-south road on the eastern edge. Another route to the southwest that makes its way across to Abraham Sulger’s ferry over the Tualatin is labeled “road from Portland to Lafayette”.

This map, drawn in the very early years of the white man, shows surprising detail of sparse settlement as well as notes about thick brush and timber. These valuable sources are available at the Bureau of Land Management Offices in Portland as well as on film at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon Library. The older maps describing properties in Washington County can be found at the Washington County Museum. Complete documentary maps are filed at the County Surveyor’s Office in the County’s Public Services Building in Hillsboro.

The Recorder’s Office, also in this building contains the Deed Records. These records of transfers of ownership give identification to the settlers who came in a steady stream, some staying only a while before moving on. Nathan Robinson first gave one and one-half acres to the School officials of District 29, Norah Mull and Edward Barton, in February of 1859, for the sum of $1.00. This deed states that a house shall be built for school and religious purposes within seven months. Robinson in 1862 sold to George Kellogg a strip of land off the east side of his claim containing 102 acres. This is the location of SW 209th Avenue now. Kellogg, age 30 years, was living with the Robinson family in the census of 1860. He could not pay for the property, so it eventually became part of the parcel sold to Jacob T. and Sarah Williamson of Yamhill County. Recorded in March of 1867, Williamson sold to Charles C. Lane of San Francisco, and “Now of Portland” in May 1870. Lane must have been a speculator for he is living in Vancouver, BC in 1871. Living then on the property are Oliver Clay and wife Jane who had come to Oregon in 1859. They farmed after Nathan and Mary Robinson had moved to Portland, and their names also appear in the Deed Records in 1865. Clay went into the livery business in Portland where a west side street bears his name. The deed records contain many valuable details and can be read on microfilm at the County Public Services Building in Hillsboro.

In 1869 the Oregon Central Railroad entered the picture with a condemnation suit against Jane Clay. The railroad did not build for a few years.

The Reed Farm

Now comes Simeon Gannett Reed in 1871 who sets up a model farm with the grand plan of raising the finest of livestock, and the improvement of crops.

Reed was born in Massachusetts in 1830, he married there in 1850 to Amanda Wood and established a grain and flour business in Quincy Massachusetts. By 1852, he traveled to San Francisco. He came on to Portland and there bought flour which he sold in San Francisco. Thus began his career in the west as a businessman. He
returned to Oregon in 1853. He first conducted a small
general merchandise store at Ranier, Oregon. By 1855
he was at work as a clerk for W. S. Ladd Company. The
Oregon Steam and Navigation Company became the
basis of his fortune. Some of that fortune was invested in
the Robinson claim, and other smaller adjacent parcels
which became known as Reedville. He wrote extensive
letters and directives to his managers which are preserved
in the Reed College (Portland) Archives. The following
is from an article compiled by Dorothy Johansen, a
professor at Reed College.

“Am quite extensively interested in farming and
fine stock. Have one farm of over 3000 acres in the
Willamette Valley in high cultivation with over 15
miles of Osage Orange Hedge and well stocked with
Imported Clydesdale Stallions and mares, Cleveland
Bays, Shorthorn Cattle, Cotswold and Leicester Sheep
and Berkshire Pigs.”

This is a rather off hand statement of one of Mr.
Reed’s greatest personal interests - purebred livestock.
Organized in the seventies in cooperation with William
S. Ladd, under the firm name of Ladd and Reed Farm
Company, Mr. Reed was part owner of seventeen farms in
the Willamette and Tualatin Valleys. The two great farms
with the ones mentioned, Brownsmeads, chiefly devoted
to cattle, (3,054 acres, located near Amity, in Yamhill
and Polk counties) and Reedville, near Hillsboro, where
Mr. Reed indulged his hobby for race horses. He built a
covered mile track there and housing for some of the finest
horses in the country in truly elaborate style. He brought
horses in Canada, Eastern United States and England. On
his last trip to England in 1892, he purchased a string of
horses for his California ranch, the Carmelita Stud Farm.
He brought into this country expert agriculturalists and
breeders; he experimented with grass seeds from all over
the world, with the steam-plow, with modern methods
of irrigation and land drainage and sought to interest the
whole region in quality stock. He was actively interested
in the Oregon Agricultural Society of which he was an
officer and he never missed a showing at the State Fair, if
a trip across country would get him here in time.

It is evident from his diaries and notebooks and
his business correspondence that he was a man of most
meticulous care in detail, and the diversity of his interests
was astounding. Neither the wages of the humblest wood-
cutter on the place, the household accounts, the latest
popular song, the track time of some far distant trotter,
the mileage between growing centers of commerce, the
reminiscences of a pioneer concerning an eruption of Mt.
Hood, nor finding strawberries in November in Eastern
Oregon were incidents too slight to merit his attention
and space in his numerous notebooks.”

The Ladd and Reed Farm

It seems from those note books and other articles
in the Reed College collection, that the investment in
expensive breeding stock went on for a few years until
Simeon Reed realized that no profit was coming from the
grand farms. His books indicate that William S. Ladd
became a partner, and a cadre of managers ran the day to
day operations in the late 1870s. The advent of building
the railroad must have been an important factor, in the
transport of valuable cattle and horses.

An article for the Oregon Historical Quarterly
“Trotting Horses and Races of the Pioneer Period” ran
in 1945. Written by former governor Oswald West, it
mentions race horses - trotters owned by Simeon Reed
and Thomas H. Tongue of Hillsboro. Tongue lived west
of Hillsboro, and also had a track and stables in the
vicinity of the shopping center across from Hillsboro
Pioneer Cemetery.

There are scholarly examinations in the Reed College
Library that assess the influence and effect on Oregon’s
agricultural economy and betterment that Reed’s
introduction of new seed and pure blooded livestock
had. It is concluded by some of these opinions that Reed,
and his partner W. S. Ladd should be credited, especially
since the enormous wealth amassed in transportation and
mining was spent on ideas and projects that resulted in
benefit to the public.

In 1892 Reed and wife file a plat, in sections 14 and
15, the southern part of the farm, laying out Reedville
Addition #2. The twenty seven parcels would have been
transected by the extension of Kinnaman Road west.
This map was of particular interest, but did not show or
mention the reported burials in that area. None of these
plans were ever initiated, and 1924 Ladd and Reed Farm
Corporation requested vacation of the plat by petitioning
the Washington County Court. The mistaken spelling of
Nathan Robinson’s name as Robertson is carried on to
these documents.

Simeon Reed moved on, though his farm continued
operating as a corporation. By 1881, his farm affairs
were handled almost exclusively by Martin Winch,
Reed’s nephew, and William Mead Ladd, son of W. S.
Ladd. Reed’s interests turned to California where he
raised horses and began to build a home. He was in
Pasadena when he died February 7, 1895. He and wife
Amanda are buried in Riverview Cemetery, in Portland.
It was not until after his death that Mrs. Reed announced
the plans to found and endow the institution of higher
learning in Portland that we now know as Reed College.
Deed records of Washington County reveal that the Ladd & Reed Corporation sold the Reed Farm to Patrick J. Kelly, recorded on the 1 October 1925, 482.63 acres, for $106,171.60. In the time of Reed ownership, the railroad had come through, and the town of Reedville had been established with a post office, and an economy based upon the agricultural and timber activities of the surrounding neighborhood. The story of Pat Kelly and his family will be told in later GeneaLogs. His sisters Mary Kelly Ross and Anna Kelly Algesheimer owned the farm until Anna’s death in 1957. Anna, the survivor willed the property to the Sisters of Saint Mary of Oregon.

An interesting obituary was turned up while doing research for the Reed Farm story.

Samuel Moon
The Hillsboro Argus November 22, 1917  p 3, col 3

Samuel Moon, a well-known resident of the county, died at his home in East Hillsboro November 20, 1917, shortly after midnight. He had been uptown a few days prior and was not considered dangerously ill. He was born in Cornwall, England, July 13, 1845 and came to America in 1872, first working for the Ladd and Reed Co. as a horseman. Later he came to Hillsboro. Mr. Moon was instrumental in inaugurating the famous horse shows which were annually given in Hillsboro years ago; he and the late Riley Cave worked together along this line.

In 1881 he was united in marriage to Lillie M. Wren, daughter of the late Michael and Mrs. Wren, pioneers of the (eighteen) thirties. Mrs. Moon and two children survive - Mrs. Elizabeth Swanson, wife of George Swanson, now East on business, and Samuel M. Moon of Centerville. Mr. and Mrs. Moon lived for many years on their place near Centerville, where Mr. Moon engaged in dairying, having always the finest herds of dairy cows. He was a fine farmer, and took an active interest in placing the dairy industry on a high level.

In politics Mr. Moon was a Republican, but he never allowed partisanship to bias his vote. He was a warm supporter and friend of Senator George Chamberlain, and always gave him ardent support, as governor and senator.

Deceased was the soul of integrity, and had a large circle of friends in Washington County, who deplore his death.

The funeral took place at the Donelson Chapel this afternoon. Interment was at Cornelius.

Some of the sources used in compiling this article
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Washington County Cultural Resource Inventory
The Mountain Flowers
Judy Gates Goldmann

Written for the Bulletin, GFO, January 1965
Printed in the GeneaLog, January 2011

Among the earliest settlers of the Tualatin Valley were three sisters from the Rocky Mountains. They were the Nez Perce Indian wives of former mountain men who had come to Oregon to try their fortunes after the decline of the fur trade. Their Indian names are not recorded, only the English names that their respective husbands bestowed upon them are known. They were the daughters of sub-chief Kowesota, of the White Bird Band of Central Idaho. Mrs. Robert Newell was called Kitty, Mrs. Caleb Wilkins was called Catherine and Joe Meek named his wife Virginia after his native state.

As the fur trade waned, this group, with their children and a few other persons, made their way from Fort Hall by wagon under the leadership of Robert Newell. Leaving the wagons at Whitman Mission, they arrived in the Tualatin Valley in the winter of 1840 and erected shelters in which they spent the rest of the winter. Joe Meek's wife Virginia had been reluctant to leave her homeland. She remembered the warnings of other Indians that the region toward the Pacific was the land of sickness. They would point to their chests and cough. She had not been anxious to marry the rough edged trapper, but had been persuaded by her aunt who pointed out to her that her two sisters had white husbands. Being Joe's third wife, she had obediently gathered up her baby Courtney and Joe's daughter Helen Mar. Helen Mar had been left motherless by the death of her Indian mother, Joe's second wife. His first Indian wife Umentucken, had died by the arrow of a rival tribe. They left Helen Mar at the Whitman Mission to be educated in the white man’s manner. This was a source of sorrow for Virginia in later years for the little girl was to die in 1847 as a result of the massacre at the mission.

It was Robert Newell who taught the women to make light bread and cautioned his wife and her sisters’ "Be neat, lots of white women will soon come to settle.” Virginia related to her daughter in law that they couldn’t help it, traveling like that, but we wanted to laugh at Newell, and asked him if this was his nice white women.” Joe told her that they had come a long way and that she should give them what she could. Over the years she gave the newcomers what she could spare and some she couldn’t. They even stole from the garden, and on one occasion some children returned to her door saying that the two chickens she had given them were lonely, could they have some more.

Robert Newell’s wife Kitty had brought her two sons, William 7, and Francis, 5. After staying in the Tualatin Valley only a short time they took up a donation land claim near Champoeg on the Willamette River and built a home there. In late 1845 while Newell was serving in the Provisional Legislature, he requested a leave of absence so that he might return home to nurse his sick wife. He cared for her until her death sometime in 1846. They had, at that time, five sons. Kitty is buried at Champoeg, not far from the main camp ground.

Robert Newell was born March 30, 1807 at Putnam, Ohio. In 1847 the widower married Rebecca Newman who bore him several more children. His store and warehouse was swept away in the flood of 1860. He shared with those less fortunate what remained at his house on the hill. Rebecca died in 1867, again leaving him alone. At that time he was Indian Agent at Lapwai, Idaho. In 1869, he married a Mrs. Ward who was a teacher at the Indian School. He died of heart failure in November of that year. He and Rebecca are buried in the Normal Hill Cemetery, Lewiston, Idaho.

Not much is known of Caleb Wilkin's wife Catherine except that she died in childbirth about December 1848. I believe that she is buried, along with four of the younger Meek children, in an unmarked burial ground, north of Hillsboro by what was known as the Methodist Meeting House site. Death from childbirth was a rare occurrence among Indian women. She left five children. Caleb Wilkins was born in Zanesville, Ohio in 1810, and was a hatter by trade. He died October 5, 1890. After the death of his Indian wife he married Mrs. Marian Enyart March 28, 1850. Caleb and Marian are buried at the West Union Baptist Church Cemetery. He, along with Joe Meek, had a land claim on the Tualatin Plains.

Virginia Meek’s second child arrived in the newly
erected log cabin on the farm they had claimed. There happened to be an overnight guest sleeping in the other bed that night, and he awakened after an undisturbed night’s sleep to see Virginia preparing breakfast the next morning and a baby in the bed. He was flabbergasted. She informed him with sober amusement that women who stayed in bed a long time were “just fooling.”

She had five children the summer that her brother came from the Rocky Mountains to visit her. His urgings and her own homesickness of years of duration made her decide to return with him to her homeland. She figured Joe could obtain a divorce from the legislature and could now find a white wife. She would leave the two older boys with their father and she would take the three younger children. So she informed Joe of her plans. He contemplated this a minute then hit his fist upon the table saying, “Virginia, you are my wife, we have got children, we have to live together and take care of them.”

She did stay and over the years bore him seven more children. Sadness came to her often as she was destined to lose six of these before they reached adulthood, and others before her own demise. The children were:

One son


Three daughters. They lived at Craigmont, Idaho on the Nez Perce Reservation.

2. Hiram Meek born 1840, died 1858 of pneumonia.

3. Olive M. Meek born 1844, died 1928, married William J. Riley, 1 son, two daughters


5. Dallas Meek born 1847, died 1858 of accident with hay wagon.

6. Mary Lane Meek born 1850, died 1878. Married/1 James Beaston, married/2 John Shinn, had two sons.

7. Jennie Meek born 1852, died 1919, married Charles Newhard, 5 sons, 1 daughter.

8. Unnamed infant, died soon after birth.


12. Elizabeth Meek born 1861, died 1875.

Their father, Joseph Lafayette Meek, was born in Washington County, Virginia February 9, 1810. He was the fifth child, in a family of 14, of James Meek and first wife, Spicy Walker. He died June 20, 1875, of stomach trouble. Virginia went to keep house for her two sons, Joseph Jr., and Steve, who had bought a farm in partnership. After Joe married and moved to Idaho, Virginia made her home with her youngest son, Steve and his new wife Gertie Pasley, after 1896.

Gertie was my maternal grandmother, and it is to her that I owe most of the stories and facts in this account. She left a collection of stories and anecdotes accumulated over years of her marriage to Steve Meek, and recorded many of the exact words of Virginia Meek. It was she who wrote, “The loss of Courtney by drowning in 1896 caused Mrs. Meek (Virginia) grief as sharp as that for a babe in arms.” Virginia took sick New Year’s Day, 1900, and died quietly March 5, of that year, at about the age of 80. She spent her last few years in the memories of her childhood, often crooning the Indian songs of her native people. She is buried beside Joe in the Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

References

Manuscript of Gertie Pasley Meek.
Revision and enlargement of that same manuscript, by Dorothy Johansen. Lucky Joe. The Taming of the Mountain Man. 1948.
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Men of Champoeg by Caroline Dobbs.
Perpetuating Genealogy Myths

Judith Beaman Scott

In this era of “if it’s on the Internet it must be true” we’re told to click on a little green leaf to learn our family history. Conscientious genealogists try to publish material that meets current standards of proof, but in this age of Internet and instant information there are many who, from lack of knowledge or just plain laziness, spread genealogical information that is at best misleading. Unfortunately, once the information is out there, it can be nearly impossible to correct. As a result, new family myths are being created almost daily, it seems.

Two such problems involve one surname, Eastham, and two cemeteries in Boyd County, Kentucky. Edward Eastham and his wife Christiana Chandler migrated to Greenup County, Kentucky, from Halifax County, Virginia, early in the 19th century and settled on land on the East Fork of the Little Sandy River. Edward and Christiana’s eleven children helped populate Eastern Kentucky; they still have descendants in the area. Edward died 13 March 1828 and was buried in McCormick Cemetery, Summit, Kentucky. His, tombstone with a Masonic symbol at the top reads:

TO THE MEMORY
OF EDWARD
EASTHAM
DEPARTED THIS
LIFE MARCH
THE 13 1828
AGE 57
The stone has deteriorated severely in the past ten years and is no longer readable. However, a posting on Find A Grave shows an unblemished tombstone for Edward.4 I assumed the picture of the new stone was simply a “Photoshop” picture, but I was proven wrong when I visited the cemetery. Someone purchased a new monument for Edward, and unfortunately, it has incorrect information on it. This one says:

EASTHAM
EDWARD
AUG 23, 1771
MARCH 15, 1828
WIFE CHRISTINA CHANDLER
BURIED FIELDS CEMETERY5
(Emphasis added)

It is possible the discrepancy of the birth date is due to a published Bible record. The actual Bible page is not available, only the published version.5 However, any serious researcher or informed descendant of this family knows the correct name of Edward’s wife is Christiana (nee Chandler).7 Several descendants of the couple were given her name. She is named in her son's family Bible and is identified in numerous records in Halifax County, Virginia and in Kentucky. Her tombstone, at the Eastham-Fields cemetery in Boyd County, has the correct spelling of her name. It is difficult to accept the idea that the person who went to the expense of placing a new stone in the cemetery would not bother to include the correct information. It probably won’t be long, before “Christina” is added to those little green leaves. The tombstone in Summit Cemetery will last for decades; Christiana’s actual stone in the Eastham-Fields Cemetery (which says Christiana) is broken and faded - the pieces probably won't survive much longer.8 And the Eastham family will have gained a “Christina”.

The second problem involves the cemetery where Christiana is buried, along with some of her children. A phone call from my sister in November, 2011, alerted me to changes at the Eastham-Fields cemetery in Boyd County, Kentucky. She was calling from the cemetery, asking if I knew anything about some new markers placed there. I did not, and as I discovered, neither did many local genealogists.

The cemetery is located on what was once the land of Hartwell Chandler Eastham, son of Edward Eastham and Christiana Chandler, and his wife Isabella McGuire.7 The crypt at the back of the cemetery is that of the Eastham family. Most of the tombstones that fit in the slots on the walls are broken or gone; each time I visit the more stones are broken, more pieces have disappeared, and some stones have even been moved. Buried near Christiana are at least three of her children; son Hartwell and daughter Elizabeth are in the Eastham section next to their mother.9 Her daughter Mary Ann Fields and husband James Fields are buried in another area of the cemetery.10 There are rocks protruding from the ground all over the cemetery; it has long been rumored, as it is with many old cemeteries, that the rocks peeking out of the grass in the old part of the cemetery are the graves of slaves. I don’t know of any evidence to support this idea, but neither do I have reason to refute the claim entirely. However, even if these are the graves of deceased slaves, there are no known records of their deaths and burials. Nevertheless, someone decided to place metal markers near some of the protruding rocks, identifying various rocks as the burial place of slaves. Some of the markers
Chart 1: Number of Slaves Attributed to Eastham Heads of Houshold - Kentucky Tax Lists 1839-1864

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<th>1839</th>
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<td>Ibby wife of Hartwell</td>
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<td>Robert son of Ibby</td>
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<td>James son of Ibby</td>
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<td>Edward</td>
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<td>Sally widow</td>
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<td>Heirs Edward</td>
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<td>John admin Ed.</td>
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<td>Hartwell (heir)</td>
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<td>Mary Ann (heir)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert W. (heir)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sources: “Greenup County Kentucky Tax list, 1803-1856”; Kentucky Historical Society, microfilm. “Boyd County Kentucky Tax lists, 1860-1875” Kentucky Historical Society microfilm #35. All available tax lists were consulted; some were unreadable and no entries were found for some years. 1850 U.S. census, Greenup County Kentucky, slave schedule, District 2, 243 & 245, (penned); Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com : accessed May 2013) citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 202. 1860 U.S.census, Boyd County Kentucky, slave schedule; digital image, Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com : accessed June 2013) citing NARA microfilm M353, roll 656.

say “Eastham slave” and others have actual names on them.

I have no problem with marking graves in a cemetery, provided of course that you have permission to do so - this is a private cemetery. I do have some concerns about marking a grave as if it were, in fact, the burial place of a particular person, when there is no evidence to support that. In this instance there is actually evidence to the contrary. Those markers will remain there after the person who placed them is gone, and some day descendants will visit that cemetery and believe that it is the grave of their ancestor.

How did they decide what names to place there? It seems they might have found some names of enslaved persons on the Internet, and arbitrarily placed markers in a cemetery. Unfortunately, they have chosen the wrong cemetery.

Some of the Eastham family members buried there were slave owners, but there are far more rocks than any number of slaves associated with the families. A survey of Kentucky tax and census records for Eastham families in Greenup, then Boyd County, Kentucky, yielded the results shown in Chart 1.

In 1839, the first surviving tax list for Greenup County, Hartwell Eastham was listed with three slaves. The number increased to four in 1841, and reverted to three by 1843. This might indicate the death of a slave, or simply a mistake in the tax form. After his death they were enumerated with his widow “Ibby” on subsequent tax lists and the 1850 slave schedule for Greenup County. Following Isabella Eastham’s death two of her sons are in the tax list as slave owners with a combined total of three. The ages of the slaves enumerated with sons Robert and James align with the ages of the slaves enumerated with Ibby Eastham in the 1850 slave schedule. The given names of these three were listed in the slave schedule and the three names do coincide with three of the names on markers in the cemetery. None of the other children of Hartwell and Christiana appear to be slave owners. If the 1843 tax list was indicative of a death, it could account for one slave who might be buried in the Eastham cemetery. No other information pointing to the death of a slave for this family was located. (See Chart 1)
A sibling of Hartwell’s, Edward, is enumerated in the tax lists, beginning in 1839 with five slaves. The slaves attributed to this Edward Eastham, son of Edward and Christiana, can be followed throughout the tax lists, and census schedules of Greenup and Boyd County, Kentucky. The number steadily increases to ten in 1847, the last time he appears in the tax lists. In 1848 his widow Sally is enumerated with appears to be seven slaves, with another six credited to Edward’s heirs. By 1855, John H. Eastham, brother to, and administrator of Edward’s estate is recorded with seven slaves. The number decreases as the minor heirs of Edward come of age and receive their share of the estate. (See chart 1.)

After Edward’s death the slaves are accounted for as part of his estate. In an 1860 civil suit in Greenup County, one of Edward’s heirs petitioned the court to divide the remainder of the estate. The youngest heirs, some still minors, were named in the suit: Robert W. Eastham, Cynthia Payne wife of Hiram Payne, Henrietta Eastham, Mary Ann Eastham and Hartwell S.S. Eastham. The names of the seven slaves remaining as part of the estate were also listed: Juda, David, Nathan, Jenny, Sarah, Jacob and Isaac. These are seven of the names placed on markers in the cemetery. Another name on listed is Ploce; a birth record was located in neighboring Lawrence County for Ploce, a slave, born 2 April 1867, owner H.E. Eastham. There are several Eastham cemeteries throughout Greenup and Boyd County. Neither Edward Eastham, the owner of these slaves, or his children are buried in the Eastham-Fields cemetery where the markers were placed. This Edward, son of Edward and Christiana, is buried at Oak Grove Cemetery in Greenup County, possibly with two of his sons. John H. Eastham, Edward’s brother and estate administrator, is buried in another cemetery with his family. There is no reason to believe that any slave connected to them would be buried in the Eastham-Fields Cemetery.

The most compelling argument to question the burial of these people in this cemetery, however, is their ages at the time these records were created. Most were young people who would likely live until granted their freedom. Although Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on 1 January 1863, which declared all slaves in the rebel state were free, five slave-holding border states, including Kentucky, were exempt. It wasn’t until the 13th amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified on 6 December 1865 that 65,000 Kentucky slaves were legally emancipated.

A comparison of the list of names from the records above and the list from the cemetery is a match, with the exception of minor spelling changes and the duplication of two names. (Chart 2.) All the slaves listed here were alive in 1857, 1860, or 1864. It seems highly unlikely that all of them died before 1865, as slaves, and were buried in a cemetery they had no relationship to.

A little research would have shown the markers do not belong in that cemetery. The deaths and burials of those persons named should be properly acknowledged with factual information. Further research into their lives might determine where they lived, died, and were buried. It is very likely that at least most of them died as free persons, not as slaves.

And now, images of the cemetery markers have been posted on Find A Grave with Hartwell’s memorial. A few people have probably visited the Eastham cemetery and seen the markers, especially since I mentioned it to several genealogists, researchers, and librarians in Boyd County. A few more may have read my blog, or posts on local mail lists. But how many are going to see those

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Age</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ploce</td>
<td>Lawrence County Births-1857</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George</td>
<td>Two Georges on markers</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule- Robert</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenny</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob</td>
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<td>x</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>David</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaac</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juda</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule-Robert W</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule-Robert W</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule-John H</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule-John H</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule-Robert</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George</td>
<td>1860 slave schedule-John H</td>
<td>x</td>
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Chart 2. Names in the Court column are from the estate records of Edward Eastham.
pictures on *Find A Grave*? How many will eventually see the Eastham-Fields Cemetery as the final resting place of those named? It is a disservice to descendants of those named to arbitrarily place markers in a cemetery, and then post it on the internet.

What seems clear is that those rocks in the Eastham section of the cemetery are not the burial places of numerous slaves. Are there slaves buried there? Possibly. But, even if there are some graves, it is not likely that the people named on the markers are buried there. The majority of them had no connection to the Eastham family in this cemetery. Most importantly, most, if not all, of them were still alive in 1865 and probably died as free people. They deserve the respect the truth will give them.

(Endnotes)

1. Greenup County, Kentucky, Deed Book C:455-6, George Johnson and John Young to Edward Eastham, 18 July 1820; County Clerk, Greenup.
2. The Eastham property and McCormick cemetery were in Greenup County until 1860, when Boyd County was formed.
3. All photographs are the property of the author.
7. Halifax County, Virginia, Marriage Bond Register 1 (1753-1889); 82, Edward Eastham and Christiana Chandler, 28 September 1792; FHL microfilm 31918.
8. The family cemetery was established on this property after Edward’s death. Christiana lived with her son James and daughter Elizabeth until she died in 1852.
10. Survey and photographs of the cemetery by the author. Tombstones pictures of Hartwell and Elizabeth, children of Edward and Christiana, taken by author.
11. Tombstones pictures of Mary Ann Fields taken by author.
16. Further research in the tax records after 1865 might help locate the persons named; they have not been located in the 1870 Boyd and Greenup County, Kentucky, census records as yet.
The photo gracing my family photo album since the 1920s of the stately Tudor style home sitting on a large lot with a driveway lined with flowers is clearly not a residence my family could have afforded. Labeled by my mom as the “W. A. Tyler residence, Astoria Oregon”, the relationship to our family becomes clear with a companion photo showing my great aunt Clara Kessell with the Tyler’s child, labeled “Sally”. Clara, who lived across the Columbia River in Grays River, Washington, worked as a domestic for the Tylers.

Another photo shows the Tyler family on the wide veranda of this very elegant home. And yet another portrays a younger woman with Sally out on the lawn. It is obvious from the photos they all are enjoying a beautiful summer day.

A few years ago, while in Astoria with a cousin, I thought I spotted the house. But my cousin said as far as she knew the house I pointed to originally belonged to a Dr. Spaulding, and she had never heard of Tyler. I thought she should know since she had lived in Astoria all of her 70+ years.

So who were the Tylers and where is that house in Astoria?

Starting with census records, I found William A. Tyler, age 33, bank teller, wife Susan, age 33 and Susan’s sister, Sarah Irwin (s/b Erwin), 47, a widow, in the 1920 US Census. They are shown at 704 – 16th Street, Astoria.

By the 1930 census, the Tylers have moved to Portland. William, age 43, is now president of a Bond Company making $30,000 per year. With him is Susan, his wife, age 46 (not consistent with the 1920 census) and daughter Sarah (known to be called Sally), age 7.

Feeling confident that I had found the correct family, I contacted Liisa Penner of the Clatsop County Historical Society. According to Liisa, the 1920-21 Astoria city directory shows William A. Tyler as Vice President of the Astoria National Bank, home address: 704 Grand Ave. The 1925 directory lists him as President of the Astoria National Bank, Sec-Cashier of the Columbia Trust & Savings Bank, and Treasurer of the Port of Astoria. Home address is shown as 15th & Madison Ave. (now known to be the old address of the Tudor in my photo album).

Liisa mentioned that the Historical Society had a photo of the house, but it was labeled as belonging to a Dr. Spaulding, probably a later resident. (So I did see the house with my cousin that day!)

Liisa also contacted John Goodenberger, a local historian in Astoria, who sent me the following information: William Tyler had purchased Simington Dry Goods and the Columbia Hotel, held stock in the Columbia River Packers Association, became Port Commissioner and by 1924, was President of the Astoria National Bank. In 1928, just before the Bank failed, he moved to Portland and resigned his commission from the Port of Astoria in 1929.

The stock market crash and bank closures of 1929 undoubtedly strained Mr. Tyler’s finances. By May of
1931, his financial dealings were apparently going very wrong. A Portland grand jury investigated his bond property and in early July, 1931, Tyler and his partner, Weber Hattrem were indicted on charges of embezzlement of over $95,000 from their firm, Municipal Reserve & Bond.3 (Hattrem was later convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to eight years in the state penitentiary.)4 Earlier, the IRS filed liens on all of Tyler’s Astoria properties for $277,356 in back taxes.5

Regretfully, on July 14, 1931, a page one headline in the Oregonian reads, “Investment Banker is Believed Suicide.” On July 13th, William Tyler drove to Roamer’s Rest, an auto camp on the Tualatin River near Tigard, rented a rowboat and a bathing suit, and left a note in his car. His body was found that evening floating down the river, shot through the heart. An automatic pistol was found in the boat along with several other scribbled notes.6 It was known that Tyler was aware of the impending indictment.7 A private service was held at his home at 158 Parkside Lane in Portland and he is interred at Riverview Abbey mausoleum.8

William’s wife, Susan Tyler died in Portland August 16, 1961.9 She was living at 1000 S. W. Vista, mother of Sally Tyler Brustad; aunt of Miss Susan Erwin; and 2 grandchildren. Her funeral notice states she was born December 21, 1882 in Mattoon, Ill. She was a member of the Town Club and the First Presbyterian Church. Commitment was at Riverview Cemetery crematorium.10

Sally Tyler Brustad, wife of George Brustad, died July 28, 2010 at age 87.11 She was survived by her daughters Susan Christensen and Carolyn Holmberg and is buried at River View Cemetery.

Armed with the above information, I decided to attempt contact with Sally’s daughter, Susan Christensen, who lived in the Portland area. So one rainy afternoon in February 2012, I picked up the phone and made a cold call to her. As luck would have it, Sue was home from work that day and although taken aback, she was very gracious and extremely interested in her family history I had found. We immediately made plans to meet.

Now the story of the Astoria house began to expand beyond anything I could have imagined. Sue brought to our meeting six old photo albums inherited from her mother, grandmother, and cousin and we began excitedly piecing together some of the Tyler family history.

Sue Christensen’s mother, Sally Tyler, is the pretty little girl holding my great aunt’s hand in the summer day photos. Born August 25, 1922 and adopted by William and Susan Tyler in Astoria, Sally’s formal name was Sara Bennett Tyler. Sue Christensen, also adopted, felt a special bond with her.

A series of photos in Sally’s old album show the land being cleared for the family’s new home. In one, her dad has posed her atop a large piece of equipment used to clear the land high on an Astoria hill. Here they would build a grand Tudor overlooking the Columbia River with a long driveway later lined with flowers.

Many photos followed showing the family and the house — in fact, some are the same photos that reside in my family album, including the one of my great aunt Clara. It became clear that it was the Tylers who owned the camera and most likely shared copies of these photos with my great aunt who apparently gave them to mom for safekeeping. (My mom was the “scrapbooker” in the family long before its current popularity).

One of the Tyler photo albums holds the photo a baby adopted before Sally. His name was John Hyland Tyler and apparently adopted only months before Sally. But sadly, although no records have been found so far, the little guy didn’t survive beyond a few months of age. Two undated newspaper stories found in the album tell of the adoption of the “bright baby boy” of “three and a half months old” who comes from a “good family in Portland”.

The naming pattern for the girls in Susan Tyler’s family follows the same pattern through the generations. The mother’s maiden name is passed down as the first daughter’s middle name. The names Sara and Susan are also represented through the generations.

Sara Bennett Tyler Brustad (called Sally) was the
daughter of Susan Cleaves Bennett Tyler, and she was the daughter of Susan Woodbury Cleaves Bennett. Susan Tyler’s sister, who is living with the Tylers in Astoria in 1920s, was Sara Erwin and her daughter was Susan Erwin. Susan Erwin, called “Cuz” by the family, was the adventurous one and her photo albums are filled with world trips. She was in the Navy during WWII and lived in Hawaii many years.

Sue Christensen and Bonnie LaDoe, at meeting February, 2012

As Sue Christensen and I visited and looked at those summer day photos that include members of both our families, Sue told how Susan Erwin, born in 1901 and never married, always played a big part in her family’s life. “Cuz” was the family’s grandmother figure after Susan Tyler’s death. In my family, Clara Kessell, my grandmother’s youngest sister, born in 1900 and never married, played a similar role in my family. Both women are in the summer day photos with little Sally and were undoubtedly acquainted, but worlds apart socially.

Sally Tyler, only age 9 when her father died, did not convey much information about the circumstances of his death to her family. But William must have cared about the welfare of his family even as he made the fateful decision about his own demise. He set up an irrevocable trust, not for his wife or daughter, but for his daughter’s children, with interest from the trust going to wife Susan and daughter Sally as long as they lived. He also purchased a $305,000 life insurance policy for their benefit, and there is some evidence that he may not have been involved in the embezzlement of funds. The receiver of the Municipal Reserve and Bond Company, where William Tyler was president and manager, sued the Tyler estate claiming that premiums for the policy were made with fraudulently obtained funds.12 But the judge ruled for the Tylers in 1934 saying, “evidence introduced did not convince the court that Tyler was guilty of embezzlement as charged”.13 Sad to think that William’s suicide might have been avoided if that evidence had come to light earlier.

William Anson Tyler was born in Iowa on October 26, 1886 to Myron F. and Anna Tyler.14 By 1900, the family was living in Fort Collins, Larimer, Colorado, and by May 1910, William Anson has moved to Longmont, Boulder, Colorado, shown as a single man employed as a salesman.15 It is here he meets his bride-to-be, Susan Bennett, and they marry on October 19, 1910 in Denver. An undated newspaper clipping in one of the Tyler albums tells of the “much anticipated marriage of this young couple”, which was expected to be a large affair, but instead, they were married in the “parlors of Plymouth Congregational Church in Denver, with only the most intimate friends and relatives present. The bride looked sweet and pretty in a traveling suit of brown”.

William and Susan moved to Astoria in 1915, and one of William’s first ventures was the purchase of the Simington Dry Goods Company, which was most likely destroyed by the Astoria fire on December 8, 1922.16 Several photos in the Tyler albums show the devastation of that fire to the Astoria business district.

Of the many old photos of the Astoria house in the Tyler family collection, the one I found most compelling is of little Sally, basket in hand, picking flowers along the driveway. In 2006, Sue took her mother back to the house and again took her photo standing in the driveway. It was to be Sally’s last view of the home where she spent her early childhood. This trip down memory lane was very special for them both.

Now after almost 90 years, that house in Astoria
has allowed a peak at its past. It was a house with love, wealth, happiness and tragedy. And also a house that brought two strangers together. Sue Christensen and I can now look at the same photos in our family albums and see our ancestors forever enjoying a 1920s summer’s day together.

Sally Tyler Brustad on the driveway of the home in 2006

Epilog

In August, 2012, I had the pleasure of meeting with the present owner of the Astoria house, Elizabeth Banholzer. She was kind enough to give me a grand tour, including the library, which was originally the maid's quarter. I could almost feel Aunt Clara’s presence. A grand stairway leads to the four bedrooms. One, decorated for a granddaughter, may have long ago been little Sally’s room. All the rooms at the back supply breath-taking vistas of the Columbia River. As my appreciation to Elizabeth for the tour, I gave her copies of some old photos of the house.

Elizabeth and her husband purchased the house in 1977 and did extensive remodeling as did the owner before Banholzer’s, Graham Barbey who purchased the house in 1945. Deed records show it was Susan Tyler who purchased the land from a John Dement on May 14, 1919 and sold the house she and William built to an Emma Anderson on July 16, 1928. In 1931, Emma Anderson sold to Lansford Spaulding, the doctor who was remembered by my cousin.17

As of this writing, Elizabeth Banholzer, recently widowed, has put the house on the market. The listing touts the headline: “Astoria’s Crown Jewel”, with an asking price of $1,300,000. A jewel indeed. And at the end of all the pictures of this grand house now posted on line by the realtor is one small black and white photo – a photo clearly labeled in mom's hand writing, “W. A. Tyler residence, Astoria, Oregon.”

(Endnotes)

3. Oregonian, 25 July 1931, pg 6
4. Oregonian, 7 Nov. 1931 and 13 Jan. 1932
5. Oregonian, 20 June 1931, pg 9
6. Oregonian, 14 July 1931, pg 1
7. Oregonian, 15 July 1932, pg 6
8. Funeral Notice, Oregonian, 16 July 1931, pg 13
10. Funeral Notice, Oregonian, 19 August 1961, pg 11
17. Deed records on 1556 Coxcomb Drive, Astoria, Oregon obtained from the Clatsop County Clerk’s office, 16 Aug 2012.
ProGen study groups are a wonderful educational resource for genealogists. The purpose of the group is in-depth study of the book *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers and Librarians*, edited by Elizabeth Shown Mills. The groups are not structured for beginning genealogists; participants are expected to have good research skills. Although *Professional Genealogy* covers a variety of topics geared toward professional level genealogy, one does not need to be a professional to benefit, both from the book and the study group.

The book is a genealogy manual for anyone interested in advancing their practice of genealogy, professional or amateur. The twenty-nine chapters cover topics related to the business of professional genealogy, genealogical standards and ethics, writing and publishing, research and analytical skills, and teaching.

**The Table of Contents:**

Professional Preparation
1. Defining Professionalism, by Donn Devine, J.D., CG, CGI
2. Educational Preparation, by Claire Mire Betttag,

CGRS
3. Certification and Accreditation, by Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG; Paul F. Smart, AG; Jimmy B. Parker, AG; and Claire Mire Betttag, CGRS
4. The Essential Library, by Joy Reisinger, CG

Ethics and Legalities
5. Ethical Standards, by Neil D. Thompson, LL.B., Ph.D., CG, FASG
6. Executing Contracts, by Patricia Gilliam Hastings, J.D.

Career Management
7. Copyright and Fair Use, by Val D. Greenwood, J.D., AG
8. Alternative Careers, by Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, CGRS
9. Structuring A Business, by Melinda Shackleford Kashuba, Ph.D.
10. Setting Realistic Fees, by Sandra Hargreaves Luebking
11. Marketing Strategies, by Elizabeth Kelley Kersten\(^\text{S}\), CGRS
12. Business Record Keeping, by Helen F. M. Leary,
Reading and studying the book will enhance your genealogy education. But you will increase the benefit by participating in the ProGen study groups.

The first ProGen study group was organized in March 2008 by Lee Anders. Angela McGhie became administrator of the ProGen Study Program in November 2008.

Each new group has about 24 members, divided into three groups to participate in online discussions and assignment evaluations. Each ProGen group meets monthly for 18 months. Participants are expected to complete and post all assignments and receive a certificate of completion once all the assignments are done. Assignments include those aimed at improving business skill such as a resume and marketing plan, developing resources like a library list and locality guide, and advanced genealogy skills like evidence analysis and proof arguments.

Each month the group studies 1-2 chapters, completes a written assignment, and meets online to discuss the chapter and assignment. A project management software is used which allows online collaboration. The assignments are submitted to the ProGen site and are reviewed by the other members of the group. The evaluations are done in a safe and friendly manner, and provide feedback, with specific comments, not just “good job”.

Having a group of skilled genealogists constructively comment on your written assignment may be intimidating at first, but you soon realize how valuable it is. The great diversity of style among group members offers insight into varying methods for each assignment.

Each group has a mentor who is a professional genealogist, a coordinator to keep track of assignments, and a discussion group leader who posts questions and keeps the conversation flowing at the meetings.

Group members are asked to make the commitment, in time and effort to actively participate at each monthly meeting, to complete all assignments, and to offer feedback to other group members. For the online chat, discussion questions are provided in advance of the session. Written assignments vary in scope and length and cover a wide range of topics. They all serve to increase skills in both business and genealogy. Some of the assignments are optional, but most participants choose to do them. The assignments include:

- Business mission statement and resume
- Blogs
- Research plan for a problem you’re working on
- Locality guide
- Personal library catalog
- Time management plan
- Transcribe and abstract a document and create a research plan based on the document
- Presentations
- Evidence analysis
- Research reports
- Business contract
- Proof argument

Assignments are posted on the first of the month, and
are due the last day of the month. Many of the assignments can be completed in a few hours, but the more complex one, such as proof arguments may demand much more time. It is to your benefit to spend the time necessary to do a good job on each assignment. Once completed the assignments are posted to be reviewed by your group members—no one else has access to the files. A list of questions applicable to each reading and assignment is sent out before the group meeting. Participants discuss the month’s assignments, ask any questions, and often offer other resources. The mentor for the group participates as well; their comments and insights can be especially helpful and often provide additional resources.

The ProGen study groups would not be possible without all the volunteers. Claire Bettag, CG was the mentor for my group. Claire lives in Washington D.C. and has been certified since 1997. Most of her research is done at the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and the DAR Library. She lectures and teaches at many regional and national seminars and institutes including IGHR, NIGR, NARA, SLIG, NGS and FGS; is a past director of NIGR and past co-editor (with Tom Jones) of the NGSQ. Claire is a lovely person and offered sage advice to us. She was very encouraging. We were fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and helpful mentor. Nicole LaRue was our group coordinator. The coordinator posts assignment, tracks participation and provides support and information for the participants. Each discussion group has a group leader who moderates the monthly discussions, keeping the group on topic, posting the discussion questions during the meeting, sending reminder messages and so on.

The ProGen website is located at http://progenstudy.org/. The website has information about the groups, and a waiting list for new participants. There is also a checklist to help determine if the applicant is ready to participate in the group, and for you to evaluate your own level of experience. This is not a group for beginning genealogist; rather one for professional genealogist, those who are planning to become professional, and anyone who wants to sharpen their skills. There are questions about your experience level with various record types and repositories, citations, writing experience, research, and genealogy education. Once your application is submitted you are placed on the list for future groups. A copy of Professional Genealogy is required, and there is a fee to cover the cost of the website and software used for the groups. There are scholarships available for both these items.

The website has an alumni list, with their areas of research, a list of ProGen Bloggers, lesson samples, and some locality lists created by alumni.

One of the best aspects of the groups is the networks that are formed. Members are from diverse backgrounds, locations, and areas of expertise. Group members form lasting bonds with their group and become part of a large network of group members. There are ProGen events at most national genealogy seminars and institutes. I met Claire at SLIG where she taught a class on researching in the Serial Set. I also met Angela McGhie there. I made plans to visit with one of my group members when I was researching in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Participating in a ProGen group was a wonderful experience. My group maintains contact with each other through our own Facebook group. We share information, ask for help, and provide support. Other ProGen group members have written articles for the Bulletin, or plan to in the future. I encourage anyone interested to sign up. Participating in the ProGen Study Group was one of my best investments in genealogy education to date, and I encourage anyone to try it.
Written in Stone

Ashes Found and Buried After 86 Years

John Shaw

When my great uncle died in 1926, his body was cremated, and our family assumed his ashes had been buried in one of the local cemeteries. My cousin had tried for years but could never find the location of his ashes. She knew the name of the funeral home that handled the body along with the name of the crematory. Since she was unable to ever find where the ashes had been buried, she decided to start with the funeral home. Unfortunately, the funeral home (Miller/Tracy) was no longer in business. It had been either merged or bought out by a larger funeral home conglomerate. When she tried to get information from the current funeral home, they told her they had nothing on file and to try the crematory. She tried to contact the crematory (Mt. Scott Crematory) and found, just like the funeral home, the crematory no longer existed and was now Lincoln Memorial Funeral Home. Even though a cremation number was known, neither Lincoln Memorial nor the funeral home, were able to provide her with any information on the whereabouts of the ashes.

I contacted the Oregon State Board that over sees cremations and funerals. They informed me that in many cases, ashes were given back to the family to spread on their property. In this case, my relatives owned a very large parcel in Gresham, Oregon. At this point we assumed this is what happened as we were unable to locate the ashes.

While doing research, on our family at the Clackamas County History Society, my cousin and I met two wonderful ladies staffing the society. They were so helpful and were very knowledgeable about genealogy within this area. I mentioned that we had been looking for my great uncle’s ashes but had never been able to locate them and assumed they had been spread on the family property in 1926. One of them suggested that we try Portland Memorial (Portland Memorial Funeral Home, Mausoleum and Crematory) as a last resort. She informed us that she had located family ashes there that had been designated as unclaimed.

In the spring of 2012, I went to Portland Memorial and discussed with them my dilemma. While researching the books of unclaimed ashes they were able to find his name, cremation number and date, the name of the funeral home (Miller/Tracy), the crematory (Mt Scott Crematory), and the date on which they received the ashes. For reasons unknown, the ashes were never buried or returned to the family. From the discussion with the staff at Portland Memorial, unclaimed ashes, at that time, would be sent to Portland Memorial for storage. This practice continued until the mid to late 1930s at which time the individual funeral homes were then required to hold them for an unspecified time. I found the ashes had been transferred from Lincoln Memorial to Portland Memorial in 1966, which leads me to believe that because the death and the cremation was done prior to 1940, they were allowed to send them to Portland Memorial for storage.

Before the ashes would be released to me, I was required to provide proof of relationship through copies of birth and death certificates of family members. After providing this documentation, I was able to take possession of his ashes. They would then remain in the house until I could obtain permission from Metro to have his ashes buried. I had no worries about obtaining an urn, since the ashes were placed in a galvanized urn and sealed in 1926. In August of 2012, my great uncle was finally laid to rest with his father and mother at the Multnomah Park Pioneer Cemetery in Portland Oregon.

A special thanks to the wonderful lady at the Clackamas County Historical Society for leading us in the right direction. If you have been looking for ashes of relatives who died prior to 1940, check with Portland Memorial before giving up. They have approximately 2000 unclaimed ashes at this location. I discussed with them the possibility of indexing the unclaimed ashes with as much information as I could get from them and make them available to the GFO, Oregon Historical Society, and any other place where genealogy would be researched, but due to privacy laws, this was not possible. So again, before giving up, try Portland Memorial Funeral Home, Mausoleum and Crematory. They would love to work with family members on returning the ashes of family loved ones.
Relics

Henry Pittock’s Furnishings
Harvey Steele

When Henry Pittock died on January 28, 1919 he left what was then the largest probate estate in Oregon history, a total of $7,894,778.33. Henry was the publisher of the Morning Oregonian, the most successful newspaper in the state’s history and his home, now known as the Pittock Mansion, was his lasting legacy to the city of Portland.

The mansion, designed in 1909 and completed in 1914, today dominates an estate of 40 acres at 940 feet above sea level. It occupies 4000 feet on each of four floors and is now open to the public.

Henry and his wife Georgiana, who died in 1918, enjoyed the mansion for only five years but their children and grandchildren (and several other family members) continued to reside there until 1958 when the last family member moved out. After serious damage from the 1962 Columbus Day Storm a community conservation campaign culminated in the sale to the city of Portland for $225,000 in 1964.

Since 1968, furnishing the mansion has been the responsibility of the Pittock Mansion Society, a volunteer group. While the city of Portland owns the mansion and the surrounding estate, the Society owns most of the furnishings.

In 1995, I was invited to be the chairperson of the Furnishing Committee, serving for five years. Despite the best efforts of historian Janet Wilson and committee members, very little was known about how the Pittock family actually furnished the mansion. The objects now displayed were gradually accessioned by the group now known as the Interior Conservation and Development Committee. Using a mixture of 18th and 19th century antiques mainly donated by Portland citizens, they filled the rooms using plausible inferences of choices that Georgiana and Henry might have used.

In 1997, historian Janet Wilson discovered a five page typescript (appended to the Pittock will) of a list of the furnishings in all the rooms in 1919. Why the list had remained unnoticed has never been explained, but we committee members were elated and began to research the new list which had appraised values in parenthesis. There was never any attempt to replace the donated antiques and the Society was satisfied that the current furnishings interpretation would continue. Less than 1% of the original furnishings remain, of which the Steinway Piano in the Oval Drawing Room was the most significant.

The typescript is an important document in itself and,
except for brief excerpts in two articles I wrote, has never been published. Its importance is in its completeness for one of the most important structures in Oregon history and also because it symbolizes a change in interior decoration style in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. The list follows (numbers following items are appraised value in U.S. dollars):

CLOAK ROOM
1 Shade, 1 Circassian Walnut Dressing Table – 50.00
1 Circassion Walnut Dressing Table Chair – 10.00
1 Circassion Walnut Chair – 10.00
1 Chinese Umbrella Stand – 3.00

PORTE COCHERE LOBBY
1 Chinese Taborette – 7.50
1 Shade – 1.00
1 Pr Curtains – 3.00
1 Transom Curtain – 2.00
1 Pr. French Door Curtains – 2.00

HALL – FIRST FLOOR
1 Pr Curtains on Sash Door, and 1 on each side window – 5.00
3 Prs Mahogany Velvet Portieres – 100.00
1 Highbacked carved Oak Chair – 25.00
1 Chinese Carved Arm Chair – 40.00
1 Hexagonal Stand – 15.00
1 Oak Chest – 3.00
1 Pr Curtains on Elevator Doors – 3.00

ELEVATOR
1 Chinese Chair – 7.50

LIBRARY
1 Oriental Rug – 500.00
3 Shades 3.00
1 Pr Green Window Draperies with Lambrequin – 10.00
1 Oil Painting of H.L. Pittock – 10.00
1 Oil Painting of Mrs. H.L. Pittock – 10.00
1 Oak Library Table – 50.00
1 Writing Desk – 50.00
1 Cabinet containing 24 Vols. Americana – 40.00
1 Green Velvet Davenport, 3 loose cushions – 50.00
3 Couch with Pillows – 10.00
1 Green Velvet Arm Chair with seat cushion – 25.00
1 Upholstered Wing Chair – 30.00
2 Upholstered Arm Chairs – 50.00
1 Plain Upholstered Chair – 10.00
1 Pr Bronze Andirons 50.00

FRONT DOOR VESTIBULE
1 Chinese Table – 20.00
1 Curtain on Door and Transom Curtain – 5.00

PASSAGE HALL Bet. LIBRARY & MUSIC ROOM
1 Chinese Phone Table – 25.00
1 Chinese Chair – 15.00
2 Pr Green Velvet Portieres – 75.00
1 Pr Sash Door Curtains – 2.00

MUSIC ROOM
1 Piano Lamp with Shade and Cord – 50.00
1 Steinway Grand Piano & Bench – 750.00
1 Pr Bronze Andirons – 75.00
Fire Set (Stand and 4 pieces) 10.00
1 Oak Bench – Rose Velvet Upholstered – 75.00
2 Oak Arm Chairs – 100.00
1 Highbacked Oak Chair Velvet – 25.00
1 Arm Chair Tapestry – 50.00
2 Plain Chairs Tapestry – 40.00
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SMOKING ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Inlaid Taborette – 20.00</td>
<td>1 High-backed Chair – 25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Inlaid Arm Chair – 40.00</td>
<td>Brass tray and Bowl – 5.00</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSAGE HALL</strong></th>
<th><strong>Bet. MUSIC ROOM &amp; DINING ROOM</strong></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Pr Blue Velvet Portiers – 75.00</td>
<td>1 Pr French Door Curtains – 3.00</td>
<td>1 Wolf Rug – 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Mahogany Arm Chairs, Tapestry, Upholstered – 50.00</td>
<td>3 Shades – 3.00</td>
<td>1 Pr Chinese Curtains &amp; Lambrequins – 5.00</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DINING ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Blue Oriental Rug – 40.00</td>
<td>1 Mahogany Dining Table – 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Mahogany Serving Table – 25.00</td>
<td>2 Mahogany Chairs – 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Shades – 3.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BREAKFAST ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Walnut Table – 20.00</td>
<td>9 Walnut Chairs – 15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Shades – 3.00</td>
<td>1 Oil Painting Oregonian roses &amp; fruit – 15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Pr French Door Curtains – 3.00</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>KITCHEN</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Gas Range – 25.00</td>
<td>1 Table – 2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Chairs – 3.00</td>
<td>1 Waste Basket – 0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Towel Fixtures – 0.50</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>STAIR LANDING</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Pr Mahogany Velvet Portiers – 50.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>HALL</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Oil Painting (Roses) – 15.00</td>
<td>1 Bear Skin Rug – 25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Pr Elevator Door Curtains – 3.00</td>
<td>1 Chinese Table – 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Chinese Cabinet – 25.00</td>
<td>1 Chinese Arm Chair – 7.00</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>GANTENBEIN SUITE</strong></th>
<th><strong>BEDROOM</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Shades – 5.00</td>
<td>4 Pr Cretonne Curtains with 1 Lambrequin – 10.00</td>
<td>1 Wicker Arm Chair – 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wicker Armless Chair – 10.00</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>CHILD’S ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Pr Rose Curtains and Lambrequin – 10.00</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>MRS. PITTOCK’S ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Walnut Bed Mattress, springs &amp; 2 pillows – 35.00</td>
<td>1 Walnut Dresser – 20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Walnut Chiffoniere - 10.00</td>
<td>1 Walnut Wash-stand – 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Rug – 50.00</td>
<td>1 Walnut Rocker – Upholstered - 3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cherry Chair Upholstered – 2.00</td>
<td>1 Waste Basket – 0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pictures – 1.50</td>
<td>1 Clothes Box (in closet) 2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Shades - 3.00</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SEWING ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Shades – 6.00</td>
<td>1 Center Light – 2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Oak Telephone Stand - 2.00</td>
<td>1 Rocker – 2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Oak Am Chair – 2.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>MR. H.L. PITTOCK’S SUITE</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Brown Mahogany Bed, Springs, mattress, pillows – 100.00</td>
<td>Mattress &amp; 2 Pillows – 7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Brown finished Mahogany Chair - 3.00</td>
<td>1 Walnut Table – 3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Couch – 8.00</td>
<td>1 Clock – 3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wicker Arm Chair with cushions – 3.00</td>
<td>3 Shades – 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Pr Blue Curtains with Lambrequin – 10.00</td>
<td>3 Pr Blue Curtains with Lambrequin – 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Waste Basket – 0.25</td>
<td>1 Picture- 5.00</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DRESSING ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Brown Finished Mahogany Chiffoniere – 50.00</td>
<td>1 Clothes Basket – 2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Shades on Door – 1.50</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BATHROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Shades – 1.50</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>GUEST ROOM</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Enameled Beds, mattresses, springs, &amp; Pillows – 150.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Bulletin

Genealogical Forum of Oregon

1 Dressing Table – 50.00
1 Desk – 25.00
1 Chiffoniere – 40.00
1 Dressing Table Chair – 5.00
2 Chairs 10.00
1 Wicker Chair with cushions – 8.00
1 Pr Crétonne Curtains with Lambrequins – 5.00
1 Green Rug – 40.00
1 Clothes Box (in closet) & enamelled waste basket – 2.50

MRS. HEBARD’S SUITE

BATHROOM – 1 Shade-1.00
DRESSING ROOM – 1 Shade-1.00

THIRD FLOOR

MAID’S ROOM # 1
1 Iron bed, springs, mattress & pillows – 20.00
1 Walnut Dresser – 7.50
1 Walnut Chiffoniere – 20.00
1 Coa Wood Rocker – 7.00
1 Coa Wood Chair – 3.00
2 Shades & Curtains – 1.50

MAID’S ROOM #2
1 Iron bed, springs, mattress, & pillows – 20.00
1 White enamelled Dresser – 10.00
1 White Enameled Rocker – 3.00
1 White Enameled Chair – 2.00
1 Shade & curtains – 2.00

LARGE ROOM
1 Walnut Book Case and Misc. Books – 25.00

BASEMENT

BILLIARD ROOM
1 Coa Wood Table – 15.00
1 Coa Wood Armless Chair – 3.00
1 Coa Wood Arm Chair 10.00
1 Coa Wood Taborette – 2.00
1 Walnut Side Board – 25.00
1 Walnut Dresser – 10.00
3 Chairs – Walnut (out of repair) – 1.00

LAUNDRY
1 Patent Ironing Board – 5.00
1 Electric Iron – 2.00
1 Washing Machine 50.00
1 Granite Bucket – 0.50
1 Gas Laundry Stove – 10.00

At the time Georgiana and Henry were planning and building their new home (the last quarter of the 19th century) a revolution in the philosophy of interior design was taking place. Instead of the Victorian ideal of house decoration with abundant ornamentation and curtain darkened rooms, new standards stressing color and light and coordination of architectural structure with room design were proposed. 3

The new traditions were exemplified by the tone of printed works like The Decoration of Houses, by Edith Wharton and Ogden Codman and new influences like the magazine Good Housekeeping. How did this influence the Pittocks? Henry himself may have been aware of the new design trends from several articles in the Morning Oregonian feature section.

Georgiana was an avid reader of Good Housekeeping and no doubt read the column in the magazine by Elsie de Wolfe. The articles over several years were collected and published as the best-selling book The House in Good Taste (1913).4

Clues in the 1919 list show possible influences. For example in the inventory list for the library there is clear preference for the color green. Among the items listed is one pair of green window draperies with lambrequins, one green velvet davenport with three loose matching cushions, and one green velvet arm chair with separate matching seat cushion. Henry himself was born in England and may have been familiar with Jacobean English libraries of the time, notoriously dour and colorless.5

An even more surprising feature of the 1919 furnishings list is the relatively large number of Chinese objects indicated (12), everything from an umbrella stand in the cloak room, a taborette (stool) in the lobby to a phone table in the hall and one pair of curtains and lambrequins in the dining room. This is significant because, in the donated antique furnishings now shown at the mansion there are no Chinese objects. The Wharton-Codman philosophy (and the Elsie de Wolfe Good Housekeeping columns) are notable for publicizing Asian designs.

By contrast, French design elements are represented in the 1919 list by only two sets of door curtains. Since the mansion style was clearly Renaissance Revival, it was common at the time to match the architecture with 18th century French furniture. In the donated antiques there are several classic French 18th century items, mostly in the Oval Drawing Room. For comparison, a similar Renaissance Revival mansion, that of Frederick and Louise Vanderbilt (located on the Hudson near Hyde Park) the interior furniture is exclusively 18th century French.6

In comparing the Pittock inventory with the Vanderbilts, we soon notice the comparatively high prices on the purchases made by Stanford White in Europe for the Vanderbilts. Clearly, the Pittock inventory was not made overseas (in England or France). By comparison, when Janet Wilson and I first pondered the low prices on
Pittock list, there were murmurs of disbelief. Were the Pittocks buying their furnishings at secondhand stores?

We noted that it would be hard to find a fifty dollar Oak library table or a thirty dollar upholstered wing chair even at thrift stores. Where were the Pittocks buying their furniture?

One does not have to look very far to see the probable Pittock furnishings source. A study of Oregonian advertisements in the first quarter of the 20th century makes the 1919 inventory list understandable and probably explains the buying strategy of Henry and Georgiana. In one Powers Furniture 1919 advertisement a dining suite of American walnut finish is priced at $238.75. The suite includes a 54-inch buffet with triplicate mirror, china cabinet, six-foot extension table and six leather-seat dining chairs.

A Jennings Furniture advertisement of the same date (July 13, 1916) permits direct comparisons. The ad features a solid mahogany chiffoniere at $47.50. Compare this with the 1919 list inventory for the dressing room chiffoniere ($50). The Jennings ad also includes Circassian walnut dressing tables in the cloak room (listed at $50) and two chairs of the same material at exactly $10 each on the 1919 list. Maybe Stanford White should have done some of his shopping for the Vanderbilts at the furniture stores in Portland.

For the brief period the Pittocks lived in the mansion, furniture prices advertised in the Morning Oregonian were virtually unchanged and often the 1919 list prices were exactly the same as those listed for ads of Meier and Frank, Jennings, Olds, Wortman and King, Powers, and others.

It is obvious that the Pittocks were not purchasing their furnishings at the Sothebys and Christies auction houses, where furniture of fashionable taste was sold for prices many times higher than the Portland merchants. Many Portland buyers did travel in Europe at the same time as Henry Clay Frick, J.P. Morgan, and the Vanderbilts (or their buyers, like Stanford White) during the early 20th century but at least one, Henry Pittock, probably did not. His primary interest was not in conspicuous consumption of antique furniture styles as the popular economist Veblen noted in the Gilded Age homes in New York and Philadelphia. Henry valued his Oregonian advertisers and did his shopping there.

The most costly item listed on the Pittock inventory is still at the mansion. It is a $750 Steinway Piano in the Oval Drawing Room, purchased from Sherman Clay in Portland for his daughter. The Oval Drawing Room was called the Music Room by the Pittock family. It exemplifies the simple approach of Henry and Georgiana.

It is very brightly illuminated by large picture windows affording an unsurpassed panoramic view of the city of Portland. The suite also includes oak furniture and highback oak velvet chairs and bronze andirons, a simple statement, befitting Henry and Georgiana. Henry himself was remembered as a man of few words and often, when others talked themselves out, he would stand quietly and tap a pencil on the oak table. His portrait, now in the Library (beside the portrait of Georgiana) shows him with that pencil in hand.

The mansion’s 1919 furnishings reflect that simplicity.

(Endnotes)

1. Mary C. Weber, A Guide’s Guide to the Pittock Mansion, unpublished typescript, 1994. This is a useful compendium of all kinds of information on the mansion and the Pittocks
2. No author, Household furnishings as contained in the residence of the late Henry L. Pittock on Imperial Heights, 1919. This is a typescript list of furnishings in each room and living area.
3. Edith Wharton and Ogden Codman, The Decoration of Houses (New York:W.W. Norton and Company) 1897
8. Numerous other furniture advertisers, including Lipman Wolfe and Company and Olds Wortman and King, and Edwards and Company, also had full page advertisements with objects similar to those listed on the Pittock 1919 list, but those listed above had the same nomenclature and prices as the Pittock list.
Extracts

Bulletin Extracts and Indexes 1953-2013 compiled by Susan LeBlanc

Extracts and Indexes were included in the Bulletin on a regular basis for a variety of collections. They include:

- Oregon Donation Land Claims with over 13,000 entries, were in the September 1953 – June 1954 issues and March 1957.
- Early Marriages of Roy County, Missouri 1820-1844 by Elma Franklin Hiebert, January 1957 thru April 1957.
- The Church of the Brethen in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and some of its Early Settlers by Jacob David Wane, September thru October 1957.
- Naturalization Papers in Multnomah County, Oregon by Mrs. William Irvine, Index to Vol. 7, June 1958
- School Census Records for Oregon from County School Superintendents Records, October 1960.
- Oregon Resident Veterans of the War of 1812 by Mabel C. G. Root, May 1959.
- Company F, 50th Missouri Infantry, Civil War records, September 1962.
- Muster In Roll Missouri State Militia, Captain Henry O. Clark, April 29, 1865, November 1962.
- Orange County, Virginia Personal Property Taxes for 1810, March thru April 1966.
- Southwest Virginia Militia Roster, John Bullman, Captain, July 28, 1776, from Mary Brewer, September 1966.
- Register of Marriages of Henry County, Virginia, 1786-1790, June 1967.
- Early Yamhill County Marriages by Mrs. Harry Youngberg, September 1967.
- Oregon City Land Claims by Mrs. Rex Lee, June 1967.
- Changes of Names in Oregon 1903 and 1905 and Changes of Names and Adoptions in Oregon in 1905, November 1969.
- Changes of Names and Adoptions in Oregon 1909, December 1969.
Pioneer Names from Register Cliff, Wyoming, Marc and April 1970.

Changes of Names – Laws of Oregon 1887, April 1970 and was updated to include 1893 in December 1972.

More Records from the Lewis Thompson Book, California, June 1970.

Multnomah County, Oregon Marriage Record Book 1, January 1855 to August 1865 by Harriette Ward Park, September thru June 1971 and October 1971 thru April 1972.


“From the Plains” 1852 List of Deaths, September thru November 1970.

Rock Creek Camp, Idaho, October 1970.

Names from Illinois, October 1970.

Names of Some of the People Killed in Tennessee During the Indian Raids by Ellen M. Cox, October 1970.


Obituaries from the Hillsboro Independent, August 4, 1893 thru August 9, 1894, by Jay and Sue Balfour, September thru October 1971.


Church Records, Methodist Episcopal Church, Sherman County, Oregon by Mrs. Larry Kaseberg, March thru June 1972.


Baker County, Oregon Register of Marriage Certificates, May and June 1972.

Wasco, Sherman County, Oregon, Circuit Court Record Books by Sherry Kaseberg 1971, May and June 1972.


Provisional Land Claims Book 2, Oregon City, Territory of Oregon by Mrs. Wayne E. Gurley, February thru May 1974.


Provisional Land Claims Book 6, Oregon City, Territory of Oregon by Mrs. Wayne E. Gurley, February thru December 1978,


Marriage Licenses Issued by the Clerk of Umatilla County, Oregon, 1881, October 1974.


1860 Census Mortality Schedule for Oregon by Judy Goldmann, September thru December 1975.


Teachers in the City of Portland 1885, November 1976.


1870 Census Mortality Schedule for Oregon by Judy Goldmann, March and September thru November 1977.

Index to the Benton County, Oregon Brand Book by Harriet Moore, January and February 1978.


Polk County, Oregon Jury List for 1869 and 1870, September 1984.

Polk County, Oregon Misc. records, Marriage Licenses 1868-1870 by Phyllis Koch, December 1984.


Early Portland Births Index 1864-1917 by Connie Lenzen, CGRS, June and September 1986.


Union Pacific Railroad Company Seniority Roster, California Division, Engineers, Road, January 1, 1950, June and December 1990.


Multnomah County Marriage Affidavits and Certificates at GFO, September 1993.


Clatsop County, Oregon Voters in 1914 Who Were Naturalized or Declared Their Intention in Other Counties by Lisa Penner, June 1995.

IRS Assessment for the Portland District, Oregon January 1867, September 1995.


1966 Roster Columbia River Pensioner’s Memorial Association, September 1996.

Indian Roll Diaries of the Painter Brothers, Muster Roll for Co. D, 1st Regiment commanded by Thomas R. Cornelius, September 1996.


1895 Fireman’s Mutual Relief Association, March 1997.


Some 1848 Emigrants to Oregon, September 1997.


Oregon Indian War Pension Files by Julie Kidd, Sep-

Clatsop County Temperance Petition 1847, June 1999.

Board of Fire Commissioners Report 1900 by Julie Kidd, September 1999.

1900 Census for Bridal Veil and Brower Center District, Multnomah County, September 1999.


Emigrants from Kristiansund, Norway 1882-1930 to Oregon, Norwegian national Archives, September 2000.


Index to WWI Draft Registrations for Oregon, Portland District #2 S-Z, June 2001.

Masonic Causalities in the War (1946), September 2001.


Multnomah County 1862 Delinquent Tax Sales, December 2001.


Residents of Sellwood, Fulton and Mt. Tabor 1885, March 2002.

Residents of Sellwood, Multnomah County, Oregon, September 2002.


Multnomah County Homesteaders, September 2003.


Sellwood and Willsburg 1888, September 2004.

Yamhill County Company 1885, September 2004.

Jurors for the Year 1900, December 2004.

Prisoners Received at the Oregon State Prison from January 1, 1875 to January 1, 1876, December 2004.

Prisoners Discharged from Oregon State Prison from January 1, 1875 to January 1, 1876, December 2004.

1876 Local and General Events of the Year, March 2005.


Benton County Pioneers by Patti (Ronson) Waitman- Ingebretson, June 2005.


Wakefield Hotel Registry at Waldport, May 1915 to June 1916 by Roberta Hudson and Jim Rogers, December 2006 and June 2007.


Partial List of Military Casualties and MIAs from the State of Oregon during World War II by Elaine Chamberlin, March 2009.

1874 Columbia County Land Assessments by Jim Rogers, Part I June 2009 and Part II September 2009.

1943-1945 Naturalization in Multnomah County, Oregon by Loretta Welsh and Jim Rogers, December 2009.

Grant County, Oregon Marriage Licenses Issued, Small Book November 29, 1864 to June 2, 1882, #1 to #287, March 2010.

Abstracts of Probate Case Files, Multnomah County 1856-1866, Oregon State Archives Part I by Mickey Sieracki, June 2010.

Abstracts of Probate Case Files, Multnomah County 1856-1866, Oregon State Archives Part II by Mickey Sieracki, September 2010.


In Memoriam

William “Bill” Ryland Beall, III
19 February 1933 to 6 October 2012

William was born to William Ryland Beall, Jr. and Alice Carr on 19 February 1933 in Washington, D.C. After completing schooling he worked as a cataloger at the Library of Congress where he met his wife Kaleen Everett. In 1969 they moved to Portland, Oregon with their son Robert.

Bill was active in the National Genealogical Society while in Washington, cataloging their book collection using the LC Classification system. He was also a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the Society of Genealogists, London, and the Foundation for Medieval Genealogy. After moving to Portland they joined the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, where he and his wife co-chaired the Periodicals. They expanded the collection through exchanges with other societies. The two were also the co-chair of the registration committee of the 1991 NGS Conference in the States in Portland.

Bill was an authority in Medieval and Royal lineages. He and his wife were the co-editors of the 8th edition of Ancestral Roots of Certain American Colonists who came to America before 1700, and The Magna Charta Sureties, 1215, 5th edition.

He also edited and published the Beall Family News for 18 years.

While editor of the Beall Family Association Newsletter, he and his wife, edited and published Descendants of Alexander Beall (1649-c1744) Immigrant to Maryland, 1999.

Bill also self-published a booklet, Kotchoubey de Beauharnais Ancestry, and an index to “Frank Leslie’s Illustrated Newspaper”. He also advised and assisted Arnold McNaughton on The Book of Kings; a Royal Genealogy, Garnstone Press, 1973.

He traced his Beall ancestry back to Alexander Beall of St. Andrews Parish, Scotland.

Memorials may be sent to the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Book Fund.
Honor your Union Veteran during the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War by becoming a member of:

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865

If you are a female descendant of a Union Veteran, please contact:

Perri Pitman Parker
Oregon Department President
pitt1842@aol.com

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Janice B. Heckethorne
Organizing Colony President
JBHeckethorne@gmail.com

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Co-compiled by Stanley R. Clarke
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