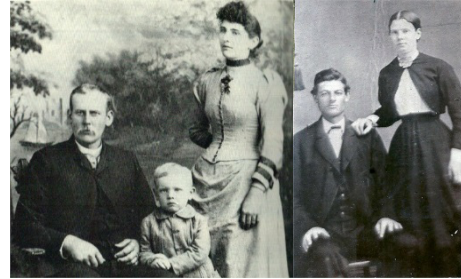


# Short Biographies A-E

## of All of the Surveyors and Individuals Associated with the Surveyor General's Office in Oregon 1851-1910



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| Typical Format                     | Photo<br>(if available with permission<br>to post)                      | Short Biography  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Born-Died</i>                   |   | (biography) means that there is a collected<br>biography of some kind available in the<br>Biography Section. |
| Political Affiliation, if<br>known | Credits and sources for photos<br>can be found in the Photo<br>Section. |  |
| Type of Surveyor                   |   |  |
| First Contract or<br>Engagement    | Year  | See the end of this section for a list of<br>abbreviations.  |
| to                                 |   |  |
| Last Contract or<br>Engagement     | Year  |  |

### Abbott, James

#### Whitin

1846-1915

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1898

to

no more



c. 1910

William was born in Massachusetts and graduated from Yale in 1869 with a B. S. in Civil Engineering. He went on to Sheffield Scientific School in 1870, and received a Masters at Yale in 1871. He practiced engineering at Brooklyn and New Jersey, and established the firm of Abbott and Abbott in San Juan County in 1875. He married Florence Sarah Wood in 1877 in Colorado, and worked as a Mining Engineer for 10 years at Ouray, Colorado, including time as Clerk of the District Court.

James became manager of Ybarra Gold Mining Company from 1895-96 in Lower California, Mexico, and in 1897 was representing a syndicate purchasing mines in California. He surveyed 7 Claims in the Wolf Creek Mining District in Josephine County, Oregon in 1898. By 1900, James was the Western States Representative for the Good Roads Association, working for the Department of Agriculture. That lasted at least 7 years, and he travelled a lot.

James was living in Lake City, Colorado in 1900, with his brother, no wife, and listed as married. In 1907 Florence left Denver for a years visit to the East, leasing out her home. In 1910-1913, James was in Pioche, Nevada as a mining and civil engineer, with his son and daughter-in-law living with him, but no wife, even though he was still listed as married. Florence was living in Boise in 1915. James died in 1915 and is buried with his parents in Massachusetts.

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### **Adair, Elias**

### **Coleman**

1829-1869

Rep

Comp

Contract 34 (as 1853

compassman for  
Joseph Latshaw for  
portions)

to

no more



Elias was born in Warren, Ohio and came to Placerville, California during the gold rush. He travelled overland to Oregon in about 1851, coming first to Southern Oregon and then Salem by 1852. He was educated as a physician and became a chainman for Joseph Latshaw on Claim Contract Number 1 in 1852, and then Claim Contract 7 in 1853. When Joseph received Contract 34 near Eugene, he named Elias as his compassman. Elias married Martha Marie Kemp aboard the steamer Gazelle on its maiden voyage to Corvallis on March 20, 1854.

This was two weeks before that steamer exploded at Canemah, killing twenty passengers and injuring many more. Elias lived in or near Salem the rest of his life, listed as a farmer and physician. He died in 1869 at age 40 after a quick bout with TB, leaving his wife and young children behind.

**Adams, Wilbur****Edward***1877-1910*

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1902  
to

Mineral Surveys 1907



ID PLS 30. Born in Iowa as an only child, Wilbur attended The University of Michigan from 1896-97 and graduated from the Colorado School of Mines in 1900. He was in Lewiston, Idaho from 1903-1910, but also in Denver in 1901, 1905 and 1906, all as a mining engineer, living with his mother and stepfather. He surveyed one Claim as a Deputy Mineral Surveyor near Elk city, Idaho in 1901. In 1903, he was surveying the townsite of Eureka, near Imnaha, Oregon, and was also locating a wagon road to a timber supply.

Wilbur surveyed 76 Mining Claims near the Snake River in Wallowa County in or near the Imnaha Mining District between 1902 and 1907. Wilbur made a topographic survey of the Post Office site at Lewiston in 1908, and by 1910 he was the engineer of an irrigation project of 40,000 acres in Southeast Kansas, with his residence listed as Lewiston. He was in Lewiston in the 1910 census, but he got a job at Ouray, Colorado that year, and died late in 1910 of pneumonia at Ouray. His funeral was at the home of his mother, and he shares a tombstone with William and Eva Gabbert at Fairmount Cemetery, Denver, Colorado. His stepfather was Chief Justice Gabbert of the Colorado Supreme Court.

**Aiken, James**

**"Jim"**

1832-1894

Dem

USDS

Contract 133

1870

to

no more



Born in Pennsylvania, James came West on the Oregon Trail in 1853 with two brothers, first to Washington on the first wagon train over Naches Pass, then to Albany, and then to Coos County in 1854. He discovered coal East of Coos Bay in 1854, and filed a Donation Claim. James and his brother spent some time working for the coal company, and then took up logging. Both brothers served in the Indian War. James was Coos County Surveyor in at least 1867, 1870, and 1890. He received Contract 133 for five townships in Coos County in 1870, surveying only two of them.

He used future Deputy Surveyor John Fitzhugh as a flagman on both townships. He was also active in the Democrat Party and owned a race horse that he was proud of. James died in Empire City (Coos Bay) in 1894 and appears to have never married.

**Angell, Homer**

**Daniel**

1875-1968

Rep

USDS

Contract 720

1900

to

Contract 746

1902



1909

Homer was a short man, but played football for the U. of Oregon and Columbia University. He was born in Oregon and received his early education in the Wasco Independent Academy in The Dalles, Oregon. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1900, and besides football, he was captain of the track team and the school's debate competitor. Homer worked as an axeman and chainman for William E. Campbell on four Contracts from 1891-99, and on one Contract for Ed Sharp in 1895.

He became a U. S. Deputy Surveyor just after receiving his degree from the University of Oregon. He received Contract 720 for one township East of Cave Junction, Oregon in 1900 and used classmate, and future Deputy surveyor, George R. Campbell, as a chainman. Also in 1900, he received Contracts 725 and 726 for two townships East of John Day. His last Contract in Oregon was for three townships, two east of Roseburg, and one North of Goose Lake in 1902. The work was examined and suspended, but later accepted. He had graduated from Columbia Law School in 1901, and performed Contracts in 1904 and 1905 in WA and ID.

Four were Joint Contracts with Clyde W. Riddell, who was a childhood schoolmate and played football at the University of Oregon with Homer. Robert Omeg, another schoolmate, was a chainman on several townships and Contracts, and they held a Joint Contract in 1904 in Oregon. Homer was a U. S. Transitman under Group 5 with the Direct System in the summer of 1910. Homer practiced law the rest of his career and became a Republican Oregon State Representative from 1929-1936, Oregon State Senator in 1937, and U. S. Congressman from Oregon from 1938-1954, losing a primary to Tom McCall. Growing up near The Dalles, OR, he was a neighbor and uncle of U. S. Deputy Surveyors, W. A. B., Charles L., George R. and Roy T. Campbell. (biography) This is the maintained information.

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## **Applegate, Daniel Webster**

1846-1896

Comp

USDS

Contract 137 (as 1870  
compassman for Jesse  
Applegate for portions)  
(Martin McCall as  
compassman for Jesse  
Applegate for portions)  
(with Peter S. O.  
Applegate and B. F.  
Myer as compassman for  
portions)

to

Contract 351 1880



Born in Oregon, the son of Jesse Applegate, Daniel lived in Benton County with his parents in 1850. He was in Yoncalla in 1860 and 1863 when he was proposed by his father to be a candidate for West Point. He was a 2nd Lieutenant for one year from 1865-66 in Oregon as a result of the Civil War. He married Virginia Estes in about 1867, and they had seven children. Along with his brother-in-law, Martin McCall, Daniel joined Jesse on Contract 137 in August of that year for 11 townships issued by Surveyor General Elijah Applegate, Jesse's nephew.

Another Contract on his own was awarded him in 1880 for one township near Cottage Grove. All of this work was in very Southern Oregon on the West side. He was a farmer in 1870-80 in Yoncalla, and died of a heart attack while mining at Central Point in 1896.

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## Applegate, Elisha Lindsay "Lish"

1832-1896

Rep

Peoples

Dr/Clerk

S G

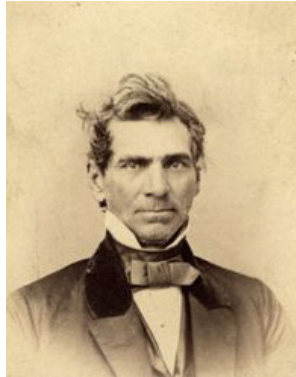
Clerk

1863

to

Surveyor General

1865



Elisha was born in Missouri and came across the Oregon Trail with his family in 1843. He was the son of Lindsay Applegate and the nephew of Jesse Applegate, a pioneer surveyor. He survived an accident on the Columbia River involving an overturned boat that drowned his brother, a cousin, and a friend. In 1863 he was a Brigadier General in the State Militia. He was editor of the People's Free Press, a Republican paper, influential in the election of Abraham Lincoln.

Elisa worked in the U. S. Customs Service in Portland, and for a brief time was the Indian Agent on the Klamath Reservation, before he had disagreements with the department. He came within one vote of being elected U. S. Senator from Oregon. His appointment as Oregon Surveyor General came just before Lincoln was assassinated in 1865 and lasted until 1870, well into the term of U. S. Grant.

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## Applegate, Peter Skene Ogden

1851-1916

Rep

Comp

USDS

IISDMS

Contract 137 (with 1870

Daniel Applegate,

Martin McCall, Peter

S. O. Applegate and

B. F. Myer as

compassmen for Jesse

Applegate for

portions)

to

Contract 657

1896



Born in Yoncalla, Oregon, the son of Jesse Applegate, Peter received a rudimentary education in the pioneer school district, but studied under his father, and was a judicious reader. He was a compassman for his father and family in Contracts 137 and 144 in 1870-71 in the Southern Oregon Cascades and near the State line between Ashland and Klamath Falls. He married Josephine Estes in 1872 in Drain, Oregon, and they were blessed with nine children. Taking up civil engineering in 1879, he was a compassman for William P. Wright on Contract 514 for three townships near Roseburg in 1884.

Peter received Contract 571 for two townships near Grants Pass in 1891, being examined by James DeWitt in 1891 and Rufus Moore in 1892. Peter was elected Jackson County Surveyor from 1890-92, and received two Contracts shortly thereafter for three townships all over the state. He served as Jackson County Recorder from 1898-1904. He surveyed 5 Mining Claims in Jackson and Josephine Counties in 1895-96, and surveyed two more Contracts for two townships in 1896 in the same vicinity. Many of his crewmen were family members.

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## **Applegate, W.**

### **Jesse**

1811-1888

Rep

S G

USDS

Contract 137 (With 1870

Martin McCall, B. F.

Myer and Daniel

Applegate and Peter

S. O. Applegate as

compassmen for Jesse

Applegate for

portions)

to

Contract 144 (with 1871

Daniel Applegate and

Jesse Applegate)

(with Charles Putnam

and Peter S. O.

Applegate as

compassmen for

portions)



Jesse was born in Kentucky and moved to Missouri with his family in 1823. He was a Clerk in the St. Louis Surveyor General's Office at age 16, and a U. S. Deputy Surveyor at age 19. He self studied surveying and law while in Missouri, and curious about the West, he interviewed explorers, William Clark, and Wilson Price Hunt, the founder of Astoria. He boarded at the Old Green Tree Tavern, where members of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company met in the winter, including Jedediah Smith. He helped them "with his pen," and listened to their stories.

During this time, mostly through self study, he obtained an education in literature, history, and science, which led to him being one of the best read men on the Pacific Coast. He "...gained familiarity in Latin, became highly proficient in mathematical subjects, and developed a literary style which was singularly pure and graceful as well as virile and distinguished". Jesse also apprenticed to Edward Bates, a distinguished lawyer and future member of the Lincoln Cabinet.

Jesse was named a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Missouri and Illinois in 1830, and continued at that until 1843 when he left for Oregon. He married Cynthia Ann Parker in 1831 and settled on a fine tract of land in the Osage Valley. He eventually became the wagon train captain of a group in 1843, including his brothers Lindsey and Charles and their families. The train had split, and Jesse was the Captain of the "Cow Column", which travelled slower, and inspired a Jesse essay. He brought along his compass and his entire Osage Valley herd of stock. He lost his oldest son, Edward Bates Applegate, from drowning on the Columbia, floating down the river West of The Dalles, when a boat capsized. Jesse settled in Polk County first, doing farming and surveying.

He began doing notification surveys for the DLC claimants, and was the first Surveyor General of Oregon, named by the 1844 Provisional Legislature. Jesse was elected a member of the 1845 Legislature and personally authored a new form of government and constitution, getting it adopted, not only by the new claimants, but also the Methodists, Catholics, and The Hudson's Bay Company, which effectively ended that influence. Jesse was appointed a member of the Commission to settle The Hudson's Bay Treaty Claims. Since his wagon train lost some children by drowning in the Columbia River in 1843, Jesse was motivated in 1846 to find a new trail. He discovered and promoted the Applegate Trail that runs from the Oregon Trail at Fort Hall, Idaho to Yreka, California, and then to the Rogue Valley.

Jesse moved his farm to a 640 acre Claim at Yoncalla in 1849. He and his brother Charles built a school house in the Yoncalla area and spent \$1000 of their own money to purchase a library from Harper's Publishing Company. Jesse was known as "the sage of Yoncalla". Jesse named the settlement for a nearby mountain. When John Preston showed up in 1851, Jesse told him that he had been a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Illinois and Missouri, but instead he sought out Deputy Surveyor James Freeman to "serve his apprenticeship". He asked about purchasing a solar compass, and said he had never seen one. Though he tried, he didn't receive an Oregon Contract until 1870. During the interim, he had written sharp, well written, letters in the newspaper, critical of the Surveyor General's Office.

On his first Contract in 1870, he was cited by Surveyor General William Odell for using M. L. McCall and Daniel Applegate as Deputies or compassmen on their own. He received the Contract on his own, and when he became ill for a month, turned the work over to Martin and Daniel as Deputy Surveyors or compassmen. Jesse had used B. F. Myer and his own son, Peter Applegate, as compassmen also. The Contract had been awarded by Jesse's nephew, Surveyor General, Elisha Applegate, and administered by the new Surveyor General, William Odell. Jesse appealed to Odell and the Commissioner, who finally gave them a new Joint Contract with those compassmen, but this time as Deputy Surveyors. The Contract covered the same townships as the one in 1870, but added a few more.



They used the notes from the previous work, and they were signed by Daniel Applegate and M. L. McCall as Deputy Surveyors. The work covered 23 townships in all, near the State Boundary and also East of Ashland. Charles F. Putnam and Peter Applegate were compassmen on the survey. M. L. McCall surveyed T37S R4E, but it was not in the first written Contract, even though it showed up on the diagram given to Jesse. The Commissioner refused to pay for it, even when included in the second Contract. M. L. McCall did not get T37S R4E approved and paid until 1875.

Jesse was a strong antislavery Republican, and in 1862 and 1866, he placed the name of his friend, Samuel May, on the Republican ticket for Oregon Secretary of State. At both times when May was elected, Jesse joined with others in signing a bond required for the office. Jesse signed the first bond with Samuel May, Orange Jacobs and James Kilgore. The second was signed with Samuel May, and a lawyer from Medford, B. F. Dowell.

A legislative committee began an investigation in 1871, and determined that May had embezzled \$3600 in his first term, and \$8524 in his second. Jesse sought council from Judge Deady, and was told he had no responsibility. The criminal prosecution of May quit after three trials. May was declared insolvent, Jacobs left the state, and Kilgore never appeared, leaving Jesse on the hook for the first term. Jesse was broke at this time, with his farm as his only asset.

Dowell fought his part in the second bond, and Jesse left the decision up to the referee of the Court, Judge Deady. The legislature was willing to pass a bill for the relief of Jesse, but he told them to withdraw it. Dowell paid the whole claim, and came after Jesse with a vengeance. He filed a suit in 1874 to invalidate the transfer of real estate to his children in 1867, per a long standing agreement Jesse had with them. Jesse had already lost his house, livestock furniture, and an unknown number of acres to the State. He had debts owed to him not paid, with 1800 sheep and other livestock killed in a severe winter, and his life was reduced to poverty. Jesse and Cynthia built a three room house on 40 acres, their children saved for them, and they grew grapes.

Jesse did not get any more Oregon Contracts, with Surveyor General Odell giving Jesse's interest in swampland as the reason for the rejection. Jesse continued surveying, and in 1872 he moved to California, with a letter of recommendation from Surveyor General Odell, and worked as a surveyor and ranch manager. He made enough money to return to Yoncalla by 1880, and remained there growing grapes until he died.

Cynthia died in 1881, and Jesse never did live in their home after that. He drifted from one of his children to another, and in 1886, he was committed to the State Mental Hospital. He stayed there for a year, and lived again with his children for another year before he died. Peter and Daniel Applegate were his sons, and Elisha Applegate was his nephew. Charles Putnam and M. L. McCall were his sons-in-law. Jesse is the namesake of the Applegate Trail and the Applegate Family Cemetery at Yoncalla.

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## **Armstrong, Ambrose Newton**

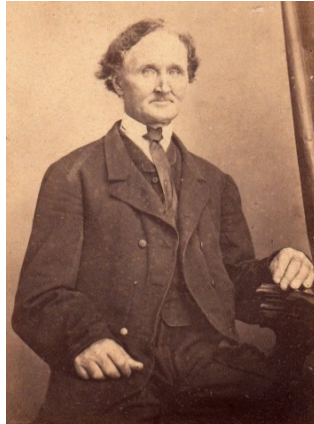
1802-1883

USDS

Contract 46 (with ?? 1854  
Hay) (by Anson Henry  
as compassman)

to

Contract 60 (with 1855  
Thomas H.  
Hutchinson)



Ambrose was born in Tennessee, married his first wife, Martha, before 1831, and had 8 children. Martha died in 1851, and Ambrose had his sister living with them after that. Ambrose came West to Oregon by 1854 when he received Joint Contract 46 with unknown "Hay" in August of that year for 4 townships near Lafayette. Anson Henry was compassman and William Odell was a chainman. Ambrose had been a Deputy Surveyor in the Midwest.

Joint Contract 55, again with "Hay" in early 1855, was for 3 townships in the Coast Range West of McMinnville, and he used compassmen, William Odell and Thomas Lovelady, and crewman, Allen F. Thompson. The existence of "Hay" is not documented in the records, and he may be an archival error. Ambrose and Anson were both from Illinois, and seemed to know each other. His third and last Contract was number 60 for 9 townships South of Eugene. A letter from D. Hathorn noted that "Major" Armstrong had a large error in the South Boundary of T22S R3W.

Ambrose fought in the Indian War in 1856 in the Rogue Valley, where his brother, Pleasant W., was killed on Table Mountain by a bullet through the heart. He returned to Henderson County, Illinois by 1857 and married Ellen Curry there. A publisher requested him to write of the Oregon Territory, and he created a very good book on the subject in 1857. There are papers of his at OHS. He and Ellen had another 5 children, and Ambrose was a farmer in 1860 and 1870 in Henderson. He was a surveyor in Benton County, Arkansas in

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**Armstrong, John  
Franklin**

1852-1928

IAA

Special Instructions 1901  
to  
no more

John was born in Iowa and soon moved with his family to New Jersey. They had moved to Kelsey, California by 1864 where a sister was born. John married his wife, Eva, in 1897 and was a deputy county clerk for El Dorado County in Placerville in 1900. He was a Special Agent for the Office of Indian Affairs on the Grand Ronde Reservation in Oregon in 1901, paid to determine if the land after allotments should be ceded by the Indians. John was appointed the Register for the Sacramento Land Office in 1902, and continued at that until about 1910. In 1911, he was a Special Allotting Agent in the Western United States, working in at least North Dakota, Montana, and Arizona. By 1920 he was the Registrar in the Land Office in Sacramento, serving 14 years through three administrations. He died in Placerville in 1928.

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**Armstrong, Kate  
A. Neilson White**

1853-1905

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1885  
to  
no more

Kate was born in Oregon, the daughter of pioneer settler Wellington Wright Neilson. Her father filed a Donation Claim in Lane County, and the family was living in Portland in 1860. In 1870, they were still in Portland, but her mother had died, and Kate was the lady of the house. By 1880, Kate was married to W. Lynn White, the owner of the National Business College. they had a daughter, but in 1881, her husband died of a heart attack. She served as a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman in 1883.

Kate remarried to Anderville Plymale Armstrong in 1884, and was still a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman in 1885. Her new husband was the long time former Principal, and now new owner of the Business College, now called Portland Business College. Kate died in 1905, and was buried with her parents, and eventually her second husband, in Riverview Cemetery.

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**Arnold, John****Calvin**

1842-1896

USDS

S G

Contract 551 (with 1890

George E. Waggoner  
as compassman)

to

Surveyor General 1894



1896

John was born in Iowa and came across the Oregon Trail in 1853 with his parents. They settled on the Tuality Plains, and John was teaching school at age 16. He married Sarah Anna Price in 1860 at Umpqua, but they divorced after 1864 after one son. John remarried to Margaret J. "Maggie" Gilchrist in 1870, and they had eight children, with four not reaching adulthood.

He taught school at various places in Western Oregon, and was instrumental in the founding of the University of Oregon in 1872. He went to Pendleton in 1874 to be School Superintendent of Umatilla County, which lasted for 7 years. He then was elected County Surveyor sometime after that for 10 to 15 years. John compiled a commercial map of Umatilla County in 1890 that was drafted by F. H. Brigham.

John had one Contract for three townships near Pendleton in 1890, and he used George E. Waggoner as compassman for two of those townships. During 1890, John became ill, had to have surgery, and was granted an extension of time. That was probably why he was allowed to use a compassman. He was appointed Oregon Surveyor General in 1894, but he was in poor health when appointed, and delayed the start of his duties. He recovered, but illness returned, and he died of stomach problems in 1896 while Surveyor General.

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**Atkisson, Horace****L. B.**

1867-1938

SES

Special Instructions 1897

to

Special Instructions

Horace was born in Georgia, and worked for the General Land Office in Washington, D. C. in 1890. He graduated from Georgetown University in 1894 with a degree in law, and the next year received a Masters in Law. He then did postgraduate work at Columbian College, and while at Georgetown, he was a champion debater. He married his wife, Daisy Gunnell, in 1892, was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1897, and examined 7 Contracts in Oregon.

He was a Clerk in Washington, D. C. in 1900, a lawyer in 1903, and a Special Agent for the Department of Treasury in 1910. Horace was Associate Council to the Special Trust Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives in 1911-12, and for the Money Trust Committee in 1913-14. He was a lobbyist for the Manufacturing Association in 1920, and retired in D. C. in 1930. He wrote two books, one in 1917 for the government, called *Constitutional Sources of the Laws of War*, and one for the Manufacturing Association in 1919.

Horace was indicted by a Grand Jury in 1919 in Washington D. C. for embezzlement of client funds kept in trust, and the case was still ongoing in 1920. The Washington D. C. Court of Appeals submitted a motion for his disbarment in 1925. Results are unknown. He was in Officers Training Camp in 1917, and was treated in a military hospital several times in the 1920's for heart disease. Horace died in Washington in 1938, and Daisy died in Fairfax, Virginia in 1957. He was 5' 10" tall with brown eyes.

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**Averill, Henry  
James Cropsy**

1809-1897

USDS

Claim Contract 21      1854

to

Contract 90            1860



Born in Saratoga, New York, Henry married Hulda Ann Warren in Illinois in 1840. He was a farmer in Illinois in 1850 and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1852 with 4 small children to the Willamette Valley. Henry surveyed two Claim Contracts in 1854, one Claim Contract in 1859, and Regular Contract 90 in 1860 for one township. He used his son William as chainman on Contract 90. All of the work was nearby in the Willamette Valley.

After 4 more children, Hulda died in 1859 and Henry married widow Sarah Liggett Bilieu in 1861. Each had several children, and they had one child together. Averill was an insurance agent in Brownsville in 1870 and a Justice of the Peace there in 1880, and their house, that they occupied from 1874 until their death, is on the National Historic Register. Sarah died in 1894 and Henry in 1897, both in Brownsville.

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**Baldwin, Layton  
Samuel**

1837-1906

Rep

USDMS

Mineral Surveys      1903

to

Mineral Surveys      1903

Idaho PLS No. 12. Layton was born in New York, and served as a Captain in the 10th New York Calvary. He was dishonorably discharged in 1863 after he was found to have rendered fraudulent accounts as adjutant. After the war, he was engaged in civil and mining engineering in the coal fields of Pennsylvania before coming West. From 1889-1901, he surveyed 180 Mining Claims and one Contract out of Ruby in Okanogan County. Baldwin was listed as an attorney in Ruby, WA, in about 1890 and won at least one election for County Surveyor at that time. He qualified for an Invalid Pension in 1891 at age 54.

Layton had a placer claim above Conconully with others, but moved to Boise in 1902 where he worked as a Civil and Mining Engineer in partnership with his son. He surveyed 13 Mining Claims in Grant and Malheur Counties in Oregon in 1903. He died in 1906 of a heart attack while surveying a Claim at Idaho City. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained information.

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## Ball, George W.

1850-1919

Rep

SES

Special Instructions 1898

to

Special Instructions 1898



Born in Connecticut, George was educated in civil engineering in Colorado. He first worked in Pueblo, Colorado on the sewer system, sidewalks, and a viaduct, before coming to Boise in 1888. He was elected Ada County Surveyor at Boise in 1893. Beginning in 1892, he was a Special Examiner of Surveys in Idaho, continuing in that for five examinations through 1893, in addition to ten examinations in 1898 and two in Oregon in 1898.

George also began as a U. S. Mineral Surveyor in Idaho in 1896, and continued until 1905. He received Contract 190 in Idaho in 1900, when he was listed as a civil engineer in Boise. He surveyed five Mineral surveys in Idaho from 1896-1905. He formed an engineering partnership with Elmer Forshay in 1907, who had recently been in the Surveyor General's Office. He ran for County Surveyor twice more, success unknown, and was considered for Idaho Surveyor General in 1908. It appears George never married, as he maintained a practice of civil engineering, drafting and photography in Boise until he died there in 1919 of bronchitis. He had wintered in California and Arizona in 1914-17 for health reasons.

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## Barber, Amherst Willoughby

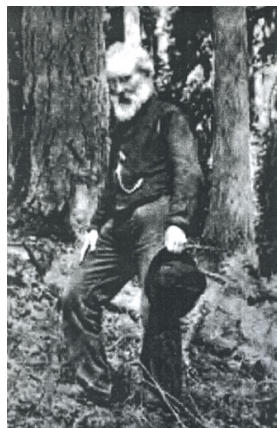
1841-1920

SES

Special Instructions 1904

to

Special Instructions 1904



Born in Vermont, Amherst was nominated for West Point twice, but not selected. His older brother, Augustus, was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Wisconsin, and another older brother, Joel Allen, was in the Wisconsin State Legislature. Augustus also had interests in copper mines and drowned in the Montreal River in 1856. Amherst ended up in Wisconsin, and enlisted in the Wisconsin Infantry, serving for the duration of the War.

After the war, Amherst studied law, worked as a U. S. Deputy Surveyor, owned a newspaper in Yankton, Dakota, served as a clerk in the Treasury Dept. in Washington, D. C. from 1877-79, and became a Yankton County, Dakota Territory Superintendent in 1880. In 1885, he was a GLO Surveyor in Colorado and became embroiled in a dispute with the corrupt S. G. Office there at the time. His survey was suspended, and he countered by having a letter of his published in the Congressional Record as part of the Benson investigations. He pursued the issue for 34 years, and finally received his extra money in 1919, the year before he died. Ambrose next was a surveyor of jetties for the Corps of Engineers in Florida.

By 1893 he was a Clerk in the General Land Office in D C., a Special Agent for the GLO in Oklahoma in 1895 in a survey of the "neutral strip", and was an Inspector in Florida. In 1901 Barber performed a Special Survey for the GLO in Michigan. In 1903 he was named a Special Examiner of Surveys, and Barber was the government surveyor for the prosecution in the Puter land fraud trial in 1904 in Oregon. He did 11 examinations in Washington and one in Oregon in 1903. In 1907 he surveyed 55 islands in Vilas County, Wisconsin for the government.

Amherst was the author of the 1902 "Manual of Surveying Instructions", written while a Clerk at the Washington, D. C. office of the GLO, a position he held until at least 1910. While a Clerk, he critiqued the notes and plats that came in, including the controversial ones from the rival USGS from the Fairbanks Meridian and Baseline in 1910. He severely criticized the work and editorialized on the notes.

During the time he lived in Washington, D. C., he was: author of "The European Law of Torture.", published in 1894; author of "The Benevolent Raid of General Lew Wallace, How Mexico was saved in 1864, The Monroe Doctrine in Action", 1914; author of "My Brief Statement of Official Wrong Continued Thirty Years, Who Perpetrated It?", published by Beresford, Washington, 1919; author of "Light on the Origin of American Rectangular Surveys.", 1918; author of "Okonook, Idaho, to Francis Hodgman, Letters: 1899-1901." He died in Washington, D. C. and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for maintained information.

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## **Barin, Louis**

### **Theodore**

1842-1904

Rep

Contract 198 (with  
Nicholas Walden)

to

no more

1873

Louis was born in Rhode Island, and went to California to mine in 1858. He came to Oregon in 1862 and spent 3 years in the Army in Indian country. He took up a Claim near Oregon City, farmed and studied law, and in 1872, he was admitted to the bar and elected to the Legislature. The Joint Contract he received in 1873 with Nicolas Walden appears to have been all surveyed by Walden, and Louis' only role may have been to obtain the Contract. The Oregon City Enterprise charged that that was the case and that money changed hands. Louis was elected City Attorney in 1875, Mayor in 1877, and was appointed Director of the Land Office at Oregon City in 1878.

Louis was elected to the Senate in 1886, and then Chairman of the State Republican Central Committee in 1888. President Harrison appointed him U. S. Marshal for Oregon in 1890, and after that he practiced law in Portland. His son became a famous Naval Aviator in World War I, but was killed in a crash in 1920. Louis bred fine cattle and horses on a farm up river to the South, and died on a boat returning to Oregon City one trip.

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**Barnes, Edmund**

**S.**

1820-1884

Comp

Claim Contract 18 (as 1853  
compassman for  
William Logan)

to

no more

Edmund S. Barnes was the axman for Anson Henry on Claim Contract 12 in Oregon and the compassman for William Logan in Oregon in 1853 on Claim Contract 18, in both instances where Alleck C. Smith, Anson Henry's son-in-law, was a chainman. E. S. Barnes was also on the tax rolls in Yamhill County, Oregon in 1853. He was noted in the voter list of Chehalis County in 1860 with \$175 in worldly possessions. He became the compassman for Alleck C. Smith on three townships north of Montesano and Hoquiam in 1859.

There are two possible candidates for Edmund S. Barnes. The first was a cooper in Sangamon County, Illinois, born in Ohio in 1820, noted in 1842 when he married Caroline Inslee. They had two children by 1848 and were in the 1850 census in Sangamon County. Nothing is recorded about the family until 1860 when the census had the two children, now teenagers, living with an unrelated couple in St. Louis, Missouri. His first survey was for Anson Henry, who came from Sangamon County to Oregon in 1852. Anson noted that Sanganmon County residents had preceded him to Oregon and had reserved a Claim for him. Edmund also signed an affidavit certifying Anson's qualifications to receive this patent under the Donation Act.

The second individual may even be the same person as the first individual. He was born in Ohio in 1820 and is noted in the records in Eldorado County, California in 1861, when he married Elizabeth Melinda Benson Waters, a widow with six children. They had three children of their own and moved to Nebraska by 1866, and then to Beaver, Utah by 1880. Edmund patented a 160 acre Homestead in 1884 and died there in 1885. Elizabeth remarried. There is no known survey history or specific connection to Oregon for either of these individuals. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.



**Barr, William****Boise Sr.**

1848-1914

Rep

USDS

Contract 294

1878

to

Contract 516 (with

1884

Horace A. Eaton as  
compassman)

Born in Massachusetts in 1848, the son of a music teacher, William graduated from the engineering department of Harvard University in 1868. He came to Salem, Oregon via Panama in late 1868, and married Sarah E. Cromwell in Salem in 1873. They had two children. William worked as a construction engineer on the O & C RR in the 70's, and then opened a music store in Albany in 1875. He was a musician and sold musical instruments, sheet music and stationery. Becoming involved early in the Masons, he wrote the Masonic History of Oregon in 1876.

William began surveying Contracts for the Oregon Surveyor General's Office in 1878 and received 11 Contracts in Oregon for the GLO from 1878-1884. He surveyed two townships East of Sweet Home in 1878, three townships East of Florence in 1879, two townships East of Baker City in 1880, and eight townships in 1881 generally East of La Grande and Baker City.

Another Contract in 1882 for eight townships, also East of Baker City, was mostly surveyed by Horace A. Eaton as compassman. Contract 477 in 1883 for one township East of Sweet Home, was surveyed by George Mealey as compassman, a carpenter from Sweet Home, who prior to that was a chainman. That same year Mealey surveyed another eight townships in Malheur County as compassman for Barr. William surveyed seven townships West of Sumpter in 1883 on his own. James A. Russell, a school teacher in Cove, was a compassman for two townships on the South side of the Wallowas in 1884.

William's last Contract in 1884 was surveyed in 1885 and reached into the time that examinations were beginning. He had used Horace A. Eaton again as compassman. William surveyed five townships East of La Grande and Baker City, and Henry B. Martin, appointed out of Washington, D. C., made a field examination. Two of the townships were rejected and three were approved, and there is no mention of William attempting to correct. Special Examiner Martin wrote describing his work, "...surveys executed with reckless carelessness and willful neglect...". Modern GIS mapping shows frequent distortion in Barr's work, and comments from surveyors note he did a lot of stubbing with up to 15 chains of error, which is reflected in the mapping.

William was on the Republican Convention ballot for Linn County Recorder in 1884, but lost by a wide margin in the vote. William built the first streetcar railway in Salem in 1888, and in 1889 was the engineer, in reconnaissance only, for a RR from Albany to Tillamook. As an owner and incorporator of the Company promoting the RR, William formed a 15 man crew in the summer of 1889 to investigate alternative routes to Tillamook. There was a competing effort beginning in Salem, and William made frequent reports to the newspapers of the success of his efforts.

He was a civil engineer in Albany from 1874-1902, including some years as City Engineer and Surveyor, before they moved to Portland. In 1900, he loaned a solar compass to Deputy Surveyor James A. Warner, who broke it and failed to return it. William sued and took it clear to the Oregon Supreme Court, who ordered a new trial. William died of throat cancer in 1914 in Portland, and Sarah died there in 1926.

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### **Barrows, Herbert**

1859-1939+

USDS

Contract 628 (with  
Osceola E. M.

Howard)

to

no more

1894 Herbert was born and raised the son of a farmer in Farmer, Ohio. He was a civil engineer in Portland in 1894 during the Panic, the year he received his Joint Contract with Osceola Howard for two townships in Oregon, which were surveyed by Osceola. By 1900 he was in San Francisco as a civil engineer, and in 1910 he was listed as a civil engineer for the railroad both in Shaniko and Redmond, Oregon. He was in Denver as a civil engineer for the RR in both 1920 and 1930. He applied for Social Security in 1939, and that is the last record. He never married.

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### **Baumhoer, Herman**

1842-1911

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

Clerk

1883 Born in Germany, Herman was in the United States in time to serve in the Civil War with the Minnesota Volunteers, where he was wounded, resulting in total paralysis of his right arm.. He was a Messenger in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman in 1883, continuing in that through the term of Douglas W. Taylor and William Byars until at least 1893, although noted as a Clerk in 1889. He was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of Robert Habersham in 1898-99, and again a Transcribing Clerk for Surveyor General John Daly in 1905, and George Westgate in 1909-10. It is unknown how much of this employment was continuous. His wife Annie died in 1907, and Herman died in Portland in 1911.

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### **Beezley, Benjamin Franklin**

1875-1951

Rep

USDS

Contract 792

to

no more

1910 OR PE 420. Born in Missouri, Benjamin came to Oregon with his family to Whitman County, Washington in 1888, and then to Polk County, Oregon in 1889. His father was a nurseryman and moved his family and business again to Falls City in 1893. Benjamin was educated at Dallas College by working to support himself. He taught school for a year in 1900, and filed a claim on the Siletz River in that same year, intending to prove up on it. At that time he was in business as a land locator and timber finder. He was a chainman for William Douglass at Multnomah Falls in 1906.

Alonzo and Frank Gesner received Contract 740 for the W 1/2 of T7S R8W in 1903 on the Siletz River. They had problems with the names of the settlers, and the Contract was rejected in 1908. But they may have been paid anyway due to political pressure. Benjamin received Contract 792 for the same work in 1910, and he surveyed it that year. He was examined three times by A. C. Horton in 1911, resulting in Special Supplemental Instructions and then approval.

Benjamin had to return to the field and retrace five miles of line on the East side of his survey. He used local settlers for his second crew, and it is unknown if he was paid for the retracement. It is probably more than a coincidence that the only survey Contract he received was very near his Homestead Claim that is not in the records. He was a witness affirming residence to several Claimants in the Siletz Valley. By 1918, he was an employee of the Federal Government in Federal Road Construction, living in Portland.

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**Belden, George**

**Hubertus**

1819-1894

Dr/Clerk

Clerk (OR)

to

Chief Clerk in the  
Oregon Surveyor  
General's Office

1852

1861

George was born in Connecticut and arrived in Oregon by early 1852, when he was hired by John Preston as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office. He was retained by Democrat Charles Gardner that year and promoted to Chief Clerk in 1855 when Wells Lake received his own Contract. In 1857, he was in Minnesota locating a military road for the U. S. Engineers, and married his wife, Elizabeth, there in 1858. George worked in Eugene as Chief Clerk for B. J. Pengra when he signed on as co-engineer with S. G. Elliott on the survey of a RR from Marysville, CA to Jacksonville, OR in 1863, but ended the survey there in a dispute with Elliott. He did continue the survey as assistant to Joseph Gaston and A. C. Barry in 1864, completing the survey to Portland. This was to become the "West Side Line" through Corvallis, Gaston and Hillsboro that Joseph Gaston ultimately built.

From 1867-1868 he was City Surveyor of Portland, an engineer in Portland in 1870, and a civil engineer in New York City in 1880, living in Brooklyn. That year he was the beneficiary of a \$100,000 bequest from a deceased uncle, but it proved to be an exaggeration, as there were few funds in the estate. George was the namesake of Lake Hubert in Minnesota while there in 1857. He died in New York. (biography) This is the maintained information.

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## **Bell, Peter Wilson "Wilson"**

*1828-1910*

Union

Rep

Comp

Contract 94 (portions 1860  
as compassman for La  
Fayette Cartee)

to

Contract 96 (portions 1860  
as compassman for  
Lafayette Cartee)

Wilson was born in Pennsylvania, and came to Oregon by 1859 when he was a compassman for his brother-in-law, La Fayette Cartee. When La Fayette moved to Idaho in 1862, Wilson followed him, and was elected to the Idaho Territorial Legislature. When La Fayette became Idaho Surveyor General in 1867, he chose Wilson for Contract Number 1 to set the Initial Point. Under that Contract in the Spring of 1867, he also ran the Baseline West almost to Oregon, the Baseline East for 102 miles, the 1st Standard Parallel South West for 36 miles, and the Boise Meridian South for 102 miles. He was stopped to the South Short of the State Line by the flooding, raging Owyhee River. Wilson's sister-in-law, Henrietta Bell, was taking care of the Cartee children after their mother, Mary Bell, died in 1862, and Wilson and Deputy Surveyors Allen Thompson and Darius Baker were living in the Cartee house in 1870.

Allan Thompson was awarded Contract 2 to run the Meridian North and run two Standard Parallels. Allan was the Notary for part of the Meridian South, and may have helped run one crew for a portion. Future Deputy Surveyor Darius Baker, Henrietta's brother, was a chainman on most of the early work for Wilson. Wilson received Contract 4 two months later for the exteriors and subdivisions of 20 townships along the Snake River generally East of Boise. Contract 6 came in 1868 for four townships near Boise followed shortly by Contract 8 for one township that had been part of Contract 4.

Contract 9 in 1868 was for the exteriors of 33 townships generally South of Boise, and the subdivision of three townships somewhat near Boise. Contracts 12 and 13 in 1869 were for the first 164 miles of the 1st Standard Parallel South East and the whole 294 miles of the 2nd Standard Parallel South East to the State Line. Contract 15 was for seven townships near Boise, 4 of which were surveyed in the Winter of 1879, and the other three were postponed to another Contract. Contracts 19 and 22 were for 24 townships in the valley near Boise, and were surveyed in 1870.

His last Contract in 1872 was for 14 townships along the Snake River between Twin Falls and Burley. Wilson ran for Ada County Surveyor in 1868, 1869, and 1870, and was probably elected. He obtained a passport in 1871 for some reason. He was a miner in Elk City, Idaho in 1880 and a surveyor in Lewiston, Idaho in 1900. Wilson was living with a sister in his home town in Ceres, Pennsylvania in 1910, just before he died. He never married.

**Bell, William****Hawley**

1863-1934

Comp

Contract 728 (as  
Compassman for  
George Pershin)

to

no more

1904

OR PE 808. William was born in Iowa, and first showed up in the records in 1903 in Portland, when he married Minnie Shuitleff Lister. He was working for the Arlington and Pacific Coast RR in 1903 as the civil engineer for a RR from Arlington to Condon. He went to work for the OR&N Co. in 1904 and took the plans for the RR he had been working on with him. William was hired as compassman to finish and correct T32S R10W as surveyed by George Pershin in July 1904. He was sued by his former employer, along with OR & N Co. for \$750,000 in 1906 for the theft of the plans, outcome unknown. He was a civil engineer on RR work at Garibaldi in 1910, and Minnie died in 1917. He was a civil engineer in Portland from 1915-17, and a long shoreman in 1920, living with "good friend", widow Mary M. McLean, in Portland, and was retired in Washington County in 1930.

**Blakeslee,****Williard Bates**

1855-1915

USDS

USDMS

Contract 707

to

no more

1899

Born in Michigan, Williard married Lydia Elizabeth Jackson in 1877 in Baker County. He served briefly in the Nez Perce Indian War in 1878, and was working in a shingle Mill in Union, Oregon in 1880. Several Children were born to them. He received Contract 707 for three townships in Baker County in 1899. they were surveyed and then examined three times. Two were eventually approved after field corrections in 1901, and the third was rejected. Williard was a Surveyor in Union, Oregon in 1900, and between 1902 and 1907, he surveyed fifty Mining Claims in Union and Baker Counties, using two of his sons on the crew most of the time. He was a civil engineer in Iron Dyke District of Baker County in 1910, and died at Halfway, Oregon in 1915.

**Bloomfield, John****Talbert**

1826-1915

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1866



John was born in Indiana, the son of a wholesale dry goods merchant. His father was killed in a buggy accident, and John crossed the Oregon Trail in 1849 to Yuba, California, where he began mining. He lived in Marysville until 1858, when he again went mining in the Frazer River country for one summer.

He returned to Portland until 1861, when he went mining again until 1862, when he returned to Eugene. John married Fannie M. Hall from Eugene in 1862. From 1866-1868+, he was a Draftsman for Elisha Applegate in the Surveyor General's Office. He was after that a draftsman for the O & C RR in Eugene and Portland from 1869-76. He then went to Oakland, Oregon, where he was engaged in the contracting and building business, and served as a Justice of the Peace. He took a Contract to clean up the maps in the Roseburg District of the Land Office in 1892, for which he was paid \$1200. He had a farm at Oakland, Oregon and resided there until he died.

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**Blossom, Maria**  
**Louise "Louise"**

1858-1931

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1883

to

no more



Louise was born in Oregon, the daughter of a prosperous merchant. Her father died young, and she lived at home with her mother until her mother died in 1901, and then lived with her brother until he died in 1923. She was a spinster, clerked in a store, and taught music. Louise was a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman from at least 1883-85. She always lived in Portland until 1930, but died in Alameda, California in 1931.

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**Blout, Sidney**  
**Edwin**

1872-1929

SES

Special Instructions 1904

to

Special Instructions 1904



Born in Illinois, Sidney was in Laramie, Wyoming as a clerk in 1900 and partnered with J. Frank Warner for a Contract in 1899. He married in Denver and ran a leveling crew under the USGS at Needles and Mohave in 1902-03. In 1903 he surveyed part of the boundary of Mt. Rainier Park as a U. S. Surveyor under the USGS and examined 4 Contracts in Oregon from 1904-05.

In 1907 Sidney was an examiner for the GLO out of Wyoming, then surveyed Contracts in Arizona, where he was listed as a civil engineer in the 1910 census. He continued for the GLO in Arizona, under the direct system, for the rest of his career until he died in 1929. There is a story of him bailing out of a runaway wagon in 1916, holding his Buff And Buff solar transit, but to no avail, for it was damaged. He finished a survey of the Fort Mohave Indian Reservation shortly before he died in White River, Arizona. See WA Glow Surveyors for maintained information.

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**Bonser, Robert  
Clinton**

1859-1941

USDS

Comp

Bonser, Robert

1897

Clinton

to

no more



OR PE 103. Robert was born in Oregon, the son of a farmer, and raised on Sauvies Island, near John A. McQuinn, his uncle. He attended school in Portland and graduated from Portland Business College in 1881. He studied civil engineering under William Gilbert, and in 1887 joined the firm of McQuinn and Hurlburt, surveying railroads and subdivisions. He was an axeman for John McQuinn in 1887 at Warm Springs and a chainman for engineer Eugene Schiller in 1896 at Wallowa on Contract 648.

Robert received Joint Contract 667 in 1897 with William C. Elliott for two townships in Northwestern Oregon. They shared the work with each surveying one township. They were examined in 1898 by David Kinnaird and in 1900 by William Lightfoot. He received two Contracts in Idaho in 1899, one a Joint Contract with Frederick Riem. Robert was given a survey in Oregon as Compassman to correct a survey by Samuel Lackland that had been surveyed some three years earlier. Robert resurveyed about three Sections in the Northwest corner of T27S R9W, noting the corners in error by Lackland, and setting new ones.

Robert formed a partnership with Philo Holbrook in 1902, until Philo was elected Multnomah County Surveyor in 1905, at which time Robert became Deputy County Surveyor. He continued at that until elected County Surveyor in 1914, a position he held until 1933. Robert lived in Portland from at least 1889-1933 and married Minnie Preston in 1898. He was always a civil engineer or surveyor.

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**Booth, Arthur****Allen***1858-1951*

USDMS

Mineral Survey

1905

to

no more

Member ASCE. Born in Wisconsin, Arthur came to the Northwest in 1879 as an engineer with NPRR. He was working as a Mining Engineer in Spokane from 1897-1907 when he surveyed 44 Claims in 1897-99 near Republic. He was inactive for 4 years, and then surveyed 51 Claims north of Spokane, and one in Oregon, from 1903-1907. While at Spokane, he filed suit claiming he was defrauded in a mining stock scheme in 1902. He continued to live there until at least 1930, except in 1920 when he was living with his first wife in California.

She died in 1922 in Spokane, and in 1923 he married Daisy Riblet, the divorced ex-wife of Royal Riblet of the Riblet Tramway Co. They travelled to Havana, Panama, and Europe from 1928-1930. Arthur was a director of several mining corporations, and died in Los Angeles, preceded in death by his wife Daisy by two years.

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**Bowman, Elliott****Newman***1826-1900*

Dem

Comp

USDS

Claim Contract 24 (as 1854  
compassman forNathaniel Ford for  
portions)

to

Claim Contract 64 1855  
(with Josiah Burnett)

Born in Tennessee, Elliott moved with his family to Covington, Indiana and graduated from Indiana Asbury College (now DePauw) with a Masters in 1849. He soon started the practice of law, but tired of that and started over the Oregon Trail in 1852 with some friends. He received Claim Contract 53 in 1854, West of Salem, and Joint Claim Contract 64 in 1855, South of Roseburg with Josiah Burnett. Those Contracts dribbled on until about 1860. He returned to Covington, Indiana in 1865, married Harriett Ann Spinning Jarvis in 1866, a Civil War widow with three children, and engaged in the mercantile business. Elliott was elected Fountain County Clerk in 1870 and 1874, serving eight years on the second term.

He was elected a State Legislator in 1891, and in 1893 received a Presidential appointment from the Cleveland Administration as an Auditor for the Navy. He returned to Covington in 1897 and purchased the Colonial Hotel, which he ran until his death. (biography)



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**Bowser, Aaron***1830-1912+*

USDS

Claim Contract 68 1856

to

no more

One likely candidate for Aaron Bowser would be a 1847 graduate of LaGrange Collegiate Institute in Theology that was born in Ohio in 1828. Aaron was single in 1850 as a clergyman for the United Brethren Church, and received Claim Contract 68 in 1856 near Roseburg, Oregon. He had been a chainman for Addison Flint in Oregon the year before in the same township, and showed up in the 1857 census of Oregon in Douglas County. Aaron married Kessiah A. Chubb in 1858 in Michigan and was a leader at Michigan Collegiate Institute in Leonia, Michigan in 1859. He died in Michigan in 1861. There is no evidence he ever came West.

The most likely candidate would be Aaron Bowser from Greenfield, Ohio, b. 1830, who was both a farmer in Greenfield and a "gold hunter" in Irish Creek, California in 1850. He returned to Ohio to live with his widowed mother as a farmer in Vernon, Iowa in 1860 and in Spring Valley, Kansas in 1870. He was a widower farmer in Kansas in 1880, 1885, and 1912. At least he was out West at the right time. These were the only two found that weren't disqualified for some reason. There is a signature of surveyor Bowser to eventually compare to one of these.

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**Brand, Edgar E.***1842-1886*

USDS

Contract 290 ( as 1878

possible compassman

for John Campbell)

to

Contract 326 (with 1879

Samuel Caudle)

Edgar was born in New York as the son of a constable. He enlisted in the Union Army in 1861 as a private, married Louise Lawson in 1863, and reenlisted in 1864 as an officer, commanding C. H., 90th New York Infantry. He was wounded in the leg in 1864, and released with a disability in 1865 as a Captain. By 1878 he was in Columbia County, Oregon as a compassman for John Campbell, although his name was crossed out. In 1879, he received a Joint Contract with Samuel Caudle in Northwestern Oregon, which was surveyed partly by Edgar, with Samuel acknowledging the oaths.

Edgar was a laborer in Nehalem, Oregon in 1880, at the time he remarried to widow Hannah S. Bennett Van Blaricorn, who had several children. He had at least one child by Louise and three by Hannah. Edgar broke his leg in a sawmill in Albina in 1885 and died in a RR accident in 1886 in Hillsboro, Oregon. He was also known as Edward E. Brand in later years.

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## **Branson, Charles E. "Colonel"**

*1864-1906*

Rep

USDS

Contract 687

1897

to

Contract 735 (with  
Andrew Porter)

1901

Charles was born on Mill Creek in Polk County, Oregon in 1864. He was educated in the local schools and then at the predecessor of Western Oregon University at Monmouth. He was County Surveyor of Yamhill County as a Republican from 1890-1905, minus two years, and left when his health failed. He married his wife Lucy in 1899, and in 1900 they were living with his grandfather in McMinnville. After that he worked for the City of Portland Engineering Department until 1905. He had received Contract 687 in 1897 for a fractional township at Siletz and another at Tillamook. He surveyed the one near Tillamook in 1898 and had to return for corrections in 1899. He then surveyed the one near Siletz in 1900, which he reported that it took him 50 days to survey 60 miles.

Future Deputy Surveyor, Ivan Oakes, was a chainman. An examination caused him to return in 1901 for corrections. In 1901 he received a Joint Contract near Enterprise with Andrew L. Porter, and both signed the oaths. On June 29, 1901, both Deputies and all the crew were staying at the St. Charles Hotel in Portland, probably ready to leave on a train. Everyone but Charles was from Dallas, Oregon.

After leaving his job as Yamhill County Surveyor in 1904, he was a transitman for the City of Portland, when on Jan 1, 1905, a regime change in Portland government caused massive layoffs, including Charles. He died in 1906 at age 42 of tuberculosis. He signed his oath as "Charles E. Branson", but may have been known as "Ellsworth C. Branson", "Calvin Ellsworth Branson", or Colonel E. Branson.

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## **Briggs, William Fernando**

*1837-1913*

Rep

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

1875

to

Mineral Surveys

1877



William Fernando. was born in Ohio and moved to Iowa as a child. He came across the Southern Route of the Oregon Trail in 1851 to Canyonville with his parents, and lived there his entire life, except for a portion of the last three years in the Old Soldiers Home in Roseburg. His father took up a Donation Claim two miles Northwest of Canyonville, subsequently buying an adjoining Claim. His father erected the first sawmill in Douglas County, served as County Commissioner for a few terms, and was a Justice of the Peace for several years.

William Fernando lost his right eye as a youth. He served in the Rogue River Indian Wars and was wounded in 1855. After that he took up civil engineering and was Douglas County Surveyor from about 1872-74 and 1876-78. He had married Elizabeth Veach in 1860, an 1854 pioneer, and they had eight children. He was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor, and surveyed five Claims in Douglas and Curry Counties from 1875-77.

William also built the Overland Hotel in Canyonville and ran it until he was admitted to the Soldiers Home in 1909 for blindness and disability. He and Elizabeth voluntarily separated in 1909. He was discharged sometime later and was living near Glendale with a son, when he died in 1913. He was the father of William Francis Briggs and was 6' 3" tall with blond hair and blue eyes.

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### **Briggs, William**

**Francis**

1863-1935

USDMS

USDS

SES

Mineral Surveys 1886

to

Special Instructions 1892



William Francis Briggs was born in Canyonville, Oregon, the son of the future County Surveyor, William Fernando Briggs. William Francis spent his entire life in Canyonville as a surveyor. His father came across the Oregon Trail in 1851 with his family to Canyonville, and also lived there his entire life, except for a portion of the last three years in the Old Soldiers Home in Roseburg. William Fernando was Douglas County Surveyor from 1872-74 and 1876-78.

William Francis married Mary J. Briggs in 1887 and was Douglas County Surveyor from 1887-94 and 1900-02. He received Contract 588 in 1891 for a small fractional township at Grants Pass and was examined by M. L. McCall in 1892, resulting in approval. He also surveyed 35 Mining Claims in Douglas and Josephine Counties from 1886-1902. William Francis was named a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1892 and examined three Contracts in 1892-93. He listed himself as a road laborer in 1910 and a farmer in 1920 and 1930, all in Canyonville.

**Brigham, Frank****Hawley**

1850-1936

Rep

Ch Clerk

Special Instructions 1897

to

no more



Born in Massachusetts, Frank received his early education there, and enlisted in the Navy in 1867. His parents had moved to Minneapolis in 1865, and he joined them in 1869, and was in the employ of the government as an engineer and surveyor for 12 years. He then went to Nebraska as a surveyor by 1876, when he married 16-year-old Isabella Flett in 1876, two months after her first child was born, who had a surname of "Corp".

Frank remained there as a surveyor until 1888, when he moved to Spokane, and then to Pendleton, OR, where he remarried to 17-year-old Sarah Elizabeth Adams in 1891, 24 years his junior, after Isabella had died in Nebraska in 1890. Isabella is buried at Ingleside Cemetery, Adams County, Nebraska, which was the cemetery for the "Asylum for the Incurably Insane". She was listed as "patient number 88", and has no marker, as is the case with most other burials there. Some sources note that Frank sired a son by Christine Flett, the 23-year-old sister of Isabella, in 1889, that was born in New Mexico. In 1891 he was appointed Chief Clerk in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office, lasting 2 years, but in 1895, Surveyor General John Arnold reinstated him to that position.

In 1897 Frank was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys, working in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho until 1904, when he settled in North Bend, OR, eventually becoming City Engineer by 1912. Frank surveyed 25 examinations in Washington, 22 in Idaho, and one in Oregon from 1897-1899. At sometime he was employed by the Mexican government as an engineer for 4 years before 1912. He had a family by both wives, and died in North Bend, Oregon. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for maintained information.

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**Bristow, Elijah****Lafayette Jr.****"Lafe"**

1832-1887

Dem

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1859

to

no more



Born in Illinois, Elijah came over the Oregon Trail with his family in 1848, settling in Pleasant Hill. His father, Elijah Bristow, Sr. was the first settler in Lane County, the founder of Pleasant Hill, the namesake of Bristow Prairie and the namer of many local geographic features. Lafe married Minerva Jane Jones in about 1852, with which he had four children. He had a farm near Pleasant Hill, and was a Justice of the Peace from 1857-59.

Lafe was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William Chapman from 1859-60 before starting a mercantile business in Eugene. Minerva died in March 1862, and Lafe remarried to Harriett Eugenia "Hattie" Hill in 1865 and had two more children. He sold his business in 1874 and moved to Salem, where he was the owner of the newspaper, "Salem Daily Mercury". He became a partner of John G. Wright in the grocery business, and then was assistant warden at the Penitentiary. He was offered a job as Special Agent investigating swamp lands fraud in 1887, but was too ill to accept.

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**Broughton,****Robert H.**

1830-1859

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1853

to

no more

Born in Massachusetts, Robert Broughton was in Boston at home with his family in 1851, and showed up in the Surveyor General's Office in Oregon in 1853. He was the Clerk, and also generous volunteer, for the Congregational Church in Oregon City from 1856-57. Robert was ill with TB in 1857 and left for Boston, where he died of TB in 1859. This is the maintained version of the information.

**Browne, Arthur Benjamin**

1866-1922

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

to

no more

1903

Member AIME. Member SAE. Born in Massachusetts, Arthur graduated in chemical and mining engineering from MIT in 1888. He was an mining and metallurgical engineer in Boston, Massachusetts from 1889-1897, during which time he discovered and patented the original electrolytic process for the extraction of white lead, receiving international recognition. He married his wife, Anna, in 1895 in Boston. He was a mine manager in Montana in 1898-99, and was in Baker City, Oregon by 1903 as a consulting engineer and the surveyor of one Mining Claim. He drifted towards the specialization in internal combustion engines as they applied to mining and railroading. He was the general Superintendent of the Central Railway of Oregon at Baker City in 1908.

Following a prolonged illness in 1911, Arthur spent two years in the study of gasoline and oil, giving particular attention to constant pressure or Brayton type. He was living in Branford, Connecticut at the time, and spent 1913-17 in the study of carburation. In 1916, he published the well known "Carburation Handbook", still in print, and was a national expert on fuel economy. He enlisted in the Army as a Captain at the onset of the World War as an engineer, eventually becoming the chief of the motor and vehicle division of the Dept. of Purchase, Storage and Traffic in Washington, D.C. Following his discharge in 1919, Arthur became chief engineer and consultant to various automotive companies, receiving several patents. He died at Cambridge in 1922 at age 55.

**Buchanan, Manius**

1835-1914

USDS

Contract 565

to

Contract 654

1891

1896



c. 1864

Manius was born in Ohio, the son of a farmer, and moved with his parents to Indiana by 1850. He was Dekalb County Surveyor in Indiana in 1860, enlisted in the War early, but was discharged for disability. He then enlisted in the Indiana Volunteers as a Captain of Company D in 1863, married Emma Childs in 1864, the 20 year old daughter of a neighbor. He was a surveyor in Missouri in 1870. Emma died in 1879 in La Center, Washington, and he was remarried to widow Anna Bell that same year.

Manius was living in LaCenter, Washington as a civil engineer for the U. S. Land Office in 1880-83 with Anna and a son. He received Contract 565 in 1891 for one township in the Northwestern Oregon coastal forest. It was examined by James DeWitt and Rufous Moore and approved. Three more Contracts for 6 townships were awarded him from 1891-1893 in the same vicinity as the first. Two were examined by Emery Oliver and William Bushey with no apparent problems. In 1905 he sold 350 acres in T4N R9W, which was involved in his first three Contracts.

Manius received Contract 635 for 8 townships in Northeastern Washington in 1895. It was examined by T. R. Hinsdale in 1896, Charles J. Hayes in 1897, F. H. Brigham in 1897, and A. B. Little in 1898. Portions were rejected, and portions were accepted. Carl S. Nicklin, who would become a U. S. Deputy Surveyor the next year, was a chainman on much the work. His next Contract in 1896 was for 4 townships in South Central Oregon and one township East of Oregon City. He was examined by Henry Newby and A. B. Little, and was accused of moving an old corner by a settler. His last Contract in 1896 was for two townships near Roseburg, and was not surveyed by Manius. He was sued and foreclosed upon in 1899 for debt probably incurred while waiting for payment from the GLO in the late 1890's.

Manius was living unmarried and with his daughter, Cora, his son, Manius, and daughter, Pearl, in Portland as an agent of timberlands. He married for the third time to Mary Ann Davis in 1904, and he was living alone in Silver, Lake County, Oregon as a farmer in 1910. Manius died of a stroke in Lake, Oregon in 1914, while visiting his son, but is buried in Portland.

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### **Burch, Albert**

*1867-1943*

Rep

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

to

no

OR PE. Member AIME. Born in Nebraska, Albert studied at the State Normal School 1877-80, Pawnee City Academy 1880-81, and York College 1882-83. He married Mary Louise Aylesworth Stewart in 1891, and performed the following: 1896 surveyor in Utah 1889-92; U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor, 1890-97, part in Oregon; supv. mine in Utah 1893-94; supv. more and then mngr. Bunker Hill and Sullivan Mine, Idaho, 1897-1903; member of various engineering firms involved in supervision of construction, mostly out of San Francisco.

Albert ended up in Medford, Oregon, where he owned Black Oak Ranch, and was president of the Fruit Grower Association. Mary died there in 1931, and Albert remarried to Margarita Adaline Dinsmore Backus in 1932. Albert was on the Governing Board for the State Division of Geology in 1941. He was a member of the Oregon State Board of Engineering Examiners and the Board of Higher Education in Oregon 1929-32. He died in Medford in 1943.

---

**Burch, Samuel  
Townshend  
"Sammy"**

1831-1927

Dem

USDS

Comp

Claim Contract 96 1859

(with Nathaniel Ford)

to

no more

Samuel T. was born in Missouri and crossed the Oregon Trail with his family in 1847. They settled in Polk County, where his father filed a Claim. His father, Samuel C. Burch, was a member of the Provisional Legislature' and a Trustee and Original Incorporator of Willamette University. Samuel T. filed a Donation Claim in 1847 near Monmouth, and patented it in 1858. He went gold mining in 1850 to California, to Yreka in 1851, on the Jackson River in 1852, and at the mouth of the Rogue River in 1853. He fought with General Joe Lane in 1853 in the Rogue Indian War. His father was killed in 1854 by the explosion of the steamer, Gazelle, at Canemah on the Willamette River.

Samuel was a compassman for Nathaniel Ford in 1855 for 13 townships near Grants Pass and points further South. They left a few townships unsurveyed, probably due to the developing Indian hostilities. Deputy surveyor Nathaniel Ford had a Claim a short distance away from the Burch Claim, and in 1856 Samuel married Sarah Elizabeth Ford, his daughter. Samuel ran as the Democrat candidate for Polk County Surveyor from 1858-1866. Nathaniel and Samuel received a Joint Claim Contract in 1859, mostly in Polk County, and they both signed the notes and finished the Contract in the same year. Samuel again sought gold in the Caribou in 1862, and in Idaho in 1863-65.

Nathaniel died in 1870, along with Samuel T.'s mother, and a short time later Samuel and Sarah obtained title to the East half of the Ford Donation Claim, and lived and farmed there at Rickreal the rest of their lives. During that time, Samuel served as Polk County Surveyor, Sheriff, and a Judge. Sarah died in 1899, after giving birth to thirteen children, and Samuel died in 1927 at age 96. They are buried in Burch Cemetery on the family farm of Samuel's father.

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**Burke, John  
Thomas "Tom"**

1874-1961

USDS

Contract 801 (not 1910

approved) (the last  
Oregon Contract)

to

no more



1901

Member ASCE. Born in Illinois, John attended four years of college in civil engineering at the University of Idaho, graduating in 1901. He went to work for the Bureau of Reclamation and was involved in irrigation projects in Minidoka and Cassia Counties. He joined the Army in Latah County, Idaho in 1898 as soon as the call for Volunteers was issued for the Spanish American War, served in Manila, and was discharged in 1899.



He married Isabella Alvira Powers in Idaho in 1903, and was in Caldwell, Idaho in 1910 as a civil engineer in private practice. It was in Caldwell where he received Contract 801 in Oregon for a township on the Snake River. This was the last Contract in Oregon under the Contract System, and it was cancelled for some reason and surveyed the next year under the Direct System, John and his family were in Rupert, Idaho in 1920 where John was a farmer. He received a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Idaho in 1925, and was professor there for a time.

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## **Burnett, Josiah**

### **Adolphus**

1828-1875

USDS

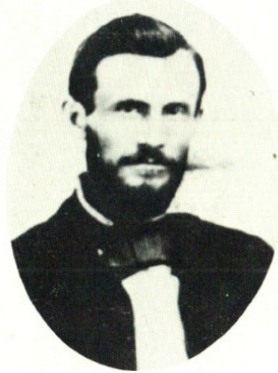
Comp

Claim Contract 64      1855

(with Elliott Bowman)

to

Contract 92              1860



Born in Missouri, Josiah crossed the Oregon Trail in 1853 with his father and siblings. He received Joint Claim Contract 64 with Elliott N. Bowman in 1855 for Claims in eleven townships in Douglas and Coos Counties. They both signed all the oaths. Josiah married Lucy Ann Foster in Eagle Creek, Oregon in 1857, and lived the rest of his life in Eagle Creek. Josiah received three more Claim Contracts on his own in Southwestern Oregon from 1856-59.

Several letters on file at BLM, circa 1857, indicate that he was a friend of Surveyor General John S. Zieber. Josiah used future Deputy Surveyor John Fitzhugh as a chainman on some of the work. He continued with a Contract for two townships in Clackamas County in 1860 and a Contract for two townships near Pendleton, also in 1860. Matthew Murphy was a compassman for one of those townships near Pendleton. Josiah was a strong Democrat, and the Democrats were out in 1860. The only work he had with the GLO after that in Oregon was that of compassman for Jason Owen in Bend for eight townships in 1873. Lucy died of TB in 1878 in Walla Walla, three years after Josiah died of pneumonia in Eagle Creek. He is buried in a small cemetery on the family farm of his wife, and she is buried near Walla Walla. The children were living with the Foster grandparents in 1880.

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**Burrage, Charles  
Webster**
*1830-1899*

Rep

Indep

USDS

Special Instructions 1861

to

Special Instructions 1867

Born in Massachusetts, Charles attended Norwich University from 1849-51, Brown University from 1851-53, and married Sarah Jane Hills in 1854. From 1853-58, he co-owned a sawmill and chair factory with his brothers until it burned, causing their bankruptcy, and Charles returned to school. He attended and graduated from the Sheffield School of Yale University in Civil Engineering in 1861. Charles and Sarah came to Portland in 1861 via Panama, and he became Multnomah County Surveyor in 1862 and then Portland City Surveyor in 1865. Between 1861 and 1867, he surveyed four Donation Claims at different times and under different Special Instructions from three Surveyor Generals, all in Multnomah County. Charles and Sarah very soon joined the effort to found the First Unitarian church of Portland.

Due to a change in politics, he was replaced as City Surveyor in about 1868 by George Belden, but continued as County Surveyor for 18 years. During the time as City Surveyor, he employed David D. Clarke as assistant, and Clarke wrote very highly of Burrage as an engineer, and as an employer. Charles spent several years as an engineer for the O&C RR and the OR&N RR, surveying the line from Portland to Roseburg. Charles was a civil engineer in Portland in 1870 and a surveyor in Portland in 1880-84. By 1870, he had paid back the creditors he owed in 1858 by his bankruptcy.

Charles' son died of TB in 1887, and the family moved to Spokane from 1887-89, and then to Canyon City, Colorado in 1889, where he ended his practice of civil engineering. He had moved to drier climates because of the health another son, but still lost him in 1890, due to TB. Charles died in Canyon City, Colorado in 1899 of pneumonia. All accounts of his professional career note that he placed integrity and accuracy above financial gain at all times.

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**Burtch, Laurence  
W.**
*1849-1929*

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1901

to

no more

Born in Indiana, Laurence was a carpenter in Indiana in 1870, living with his widowed mother. His brother, Wesley, had arrived in Union County by 1894, and Laurence was a civil engineer in Copper Butte, Union County, Oregon in 1900. He was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in Malheur County in 1901, and during that report, he was asked to comment on the mineral value of certain lands so that they could be excluded from entry. He said it was possible that there was oil there, just West of Nyssa. He lived in Vale as an engineer in both 1910 and 1920, and was an assayer in Baker City in 1928. Laurence died in 1929 in Baker, and it appears that he never married.

**Bushee, James P.***1857-1893*

IAA

Special Instructions 1891  
from OIA  
to  
no more

Born in Massachusetts, James went to California in 1859, and then to Oregon in 1859. He married Esther J. Coffin in Pendleton in 1867. He engaged in packing, mining, merchandising and sheep raising, and was Wells Fargo express agent at Baker City four years. In 1882 he was elected County Clerk and reelected in 1884. In 1892 James was appointed a Special Allotting Agent for the Umatilla Reservation. Upon returning home just before Christmas in 1893, as the train was approaching Pendleton, he stepped between cars, fell between, and was run over and killed.

**Bushey, William Michael***1852-1926*

Rep

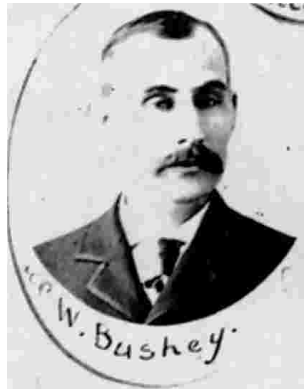
USDS

SES

Comp

Contract 573 1891  
to

Contract 674 (rejected 1897  
as surveyed by Robert  
Waln in 1902) (As  
compassman for  
Robert Waln in 1903)



OR PE 667. William was born in Pennsylvania, but moved with his family to Keokuk, Iowa as a baby in 1853. His father raised a Company for the War in 1861, but was shot and killed soon by a pro-slavery local. His mother closed his business and returned to Pennsylvania, where they lived until 1872. William and his brother Allen were living with their grandparents in West Virginia in 1870. His younger brother was educated at the State Normal School in Iowa, but it is unknown if William went to college.

William taught school in Kansas and Idaho before working as a public school teacher in Sublimity, Oregon in 1880. He lived in Mehema in 1891-1902, but also was a civil engineer in Salem in 1892, with an office downtown. He received Contract 573 for one township near Roseburg in 1891, and surveyed it that year. For some reason, there were two separate field crews in the notes. Later that year he was awarded Contract 576 for two townships East of Salem, and again there were eight crewmen listed for T10S R5E.

Contract 591 in 1892 for T10S R7E East of Salem was surveyed the same year. Four townships in the Coast Range were included in contract 613 in 1893, and he began using future Deputy Surveyor Robert H. Waln as a crewman. William returned to correct the markings on the posts and bearing trees for one township line as required by the Surveyor General.

Contract 620 was for four townships near Grants Pass, and again Robert Waln continued as a crewman. His last Contract was for T11S R7E West of Mount Jefferson. He surveyed the exteriors and subdivisions in the summer of 1894, and he was examined by Thomas Gerdine in 1895 and suspended. His alignment was good, but his distances were poor, resulting in misalignment in the E-W lines. William returned to the field in 1896 to do a new survey, exteriors and all. Robert Waln was the compassman on both crews, in 1894, and in 1896. After examinations by David Kinnaird in 1898 and 1900, it was finally approved.

William was deputy county surveyor, deputy county assessor, and was recording assistant in 1895. He passed the Bar in Oregon in 1898, after graduating from Willamette University in Law. In 1902, he published a complaint in the newspapers against the State Land Office, and specifically William H. Odell, starting a chain of articles between William, then governor T. T. Geer, and William H. Odell. For several years the Land Office had been deep in fraud and personal enrichment. William was disappointed in not being chosen Clerk to the committee investigating the Land Office.

William was noted as a judge in 1905, a surveyor in 1909, and a judge in 1910, but was officially elected Marion County Judge in 1908. He married Iva Belle Little in Salem in 1906, and she outlived him many years and remarried. Genealogy sources note they had a son, born in 1898, named Bert John Mehl, and he may have been adopted.

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### **Bussey, Plumer F.**

*1849-1921*

SES

Special Instructions 1890  
to

Special Instructions 1890

Plummer was born in Iowa and graduated from the University of Iowa in 1881 with a degree in Law. He was a lawyer in South Dakota in 1885 and married Caroline Helm in 1886. By 1890 he was a Special Examiner of Surveys in Nevada and continued into Oregon in 1890 with 9 examinations. He recommended that Deputy Surveyor Andrew Todd be rejected. Plummer was City Marshal of Huron South Dakota in 1900, Postmaster of Bovina, Colorado in 1910, and retired in Boulder, Colorado in 1920.

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### **Buttolph, Albert**

**Russell**

*1828-1902*

USDS

Claim Contract 107 1861  
to

Contract 550 1889

Born in Canada and naturalized in the United States, Albert attended school through the Academy in St. Albans, Vermont until he was 18. He went to California in 1848, and then to Oregon in 1853 where he filed a DLC in Lane County. He was in Jackson County in about 1855 and surveyed a townsite in Coquille Valley in 1861. That same year he received Claim Contract 107 for Claims in Coquille Valley. He was a chainman for George Mercer in 1867 and then a surveyor in Nebraska from 1871-74. He was in Mountain, California as a surveyor in 1876, but returned to Oregon where he settled on the North Fork of the Siuslaw, North of Acme, and stayed there the rest of his life as a surveyor and Notary Public.

Albert received Contract 550 for one township just South of Florence in 1889, and was examined by William Odell and approved. He married Mrs. Sarah Akerly in 1898 and was listed in Florence, Oregon in 1900 as a farmer, Sarah died in 1901, and Albert in 1902.

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**Byars, William  
Fleming "Will"**

1871-1949

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1894

to

no more



1921

William F. was born while his father, William H. Byars was principal of Wilbur Academy in Wilbur, OR. He helped his father in the newspaper business in Salem, setting type and working as a reporter as a youth, and when the father became City Surveyor of Salem, he was a rodman and chainman. At Willamette University, he met and married Ada Catharine Nesbit from Goldendale, WA, and moved there in about 1893.

William performed the following: Superintendent of Schools for Douglas County; Douglas County Surveyor in 1870; U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Oregon 1871-1906 for 29 Contracts; editor and publisher of the Roseburg Plaindealer 1875-1884; State Printer in 1882-85; part owner and editor of the Salem Statesman; a founder of the Salem Journal; owner of a 1000-acre farm at Mehema, OR; City Surveyor of Salem in 1888; Mineral Surveyor in Marion County, Oregon in 1890; and appointed Oregon Surveyor General in 1890-94.

The Oregon GLO career of William began with Contract 153 in 1871 in Douglas County. He had just been an instructor at the Umpqua Academy, and used many of his students as crewmen going forward. He continued with four more Contracts in Douglas County until receiving a Contract on the East side in 1874. There were many more Contracts in Douglas County until he was awarded Joint Contract 329 with Joseph G. Gray in Malheur County in 1879, surveyed by William. Another Joint Contract with Richmond Dickerson in 1881 in Malheur County was surveyed by both. Three Contracts in Jackson county in 1881-82 were surveyed by Dickerson as compassman.

After his time as Surveyor General from 1890-94, he returned to surveying Contracts in 1897-99. He examined two Contracts in 1899 before receiving Contract 727 in 1900. He was examined but was able to finish without going back to the field. His last Contract in Oregon was Contract 745 in 1902 for five fractional townships on the coast. They were very small, but caused him to return to the field on nearly all of them to do corrections or retracements in 1904-06, sometimes twice. He was approved in 1907. Ray L. Stout, his nephew and a Deputy Surveyor, helped him with the corrections, sometimes being the only crewman. It is possible that he did not go into the field for some of the work, considering he was 67 years old at the end.

William was awarded Washington Contract 560, a Joint Contract with his son, William F., in the Western Cascades foothills in 1900. It was mostly surveyed by William F. as compassman, and John Rex Byars, another son, as a second compassman. T13N R9E was surveyed in 1903, and T15N R8E was surveyed in 1905, both by William H. All of these townships were in the rugged, steep country surrounding Mount Rainier.

William F. received Washington Contracts 609 and 613 in 1904, but immediately said he wanted to use a compassman, and was refused. He asked again in 1905, and this time was allowed to use his father, and Ray Stout, a cousin, as compassmen. They performed the surveys from 1904-1909, finally receiving approval in 1910. W. H. was still in the field as compassman at 70 years old. Along with his son, he surveyed the first sewer system for Goldendale, WA. William H. was the namesake of Byars Creek and Byars Mountain in Marion County, Oregon and named Ana River at Summer Lake for his daughter. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of the information

**Byars, William  
Henry "Henry"  
"Billy"**

1839-1922

Dem

S G

USDS

USDMS

Comp

Contract 153

1871

to

Contract 745

1902



Born in Iowa, William H. came across the Oregon Trail with his family in 1853. W. H. attended Columbia College in Eugene 1859-60, graduated in the first class of the Umpqua Academy in Roseburg in 1864, and then served in the First Oregon Cavalry. He was a Pony Express mail carrier on the route from Oakland, Oregon to Yreka, California from 1856-58, and at the time was known as Billy Byars. This was 175 miles each way through very rough country and hostile Indian lands, and he made one round trip every two weeks. He married Emma Slocum Reed in 1868.

William performed the following: Superintendent of Schools for Douglas County; Douglas County Surveyor in 1870; U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Oregon 1871-1906 for 29 Contracts; editor and publisher of the Roseburg Plaindealer 1875-1884; State Printer in 1882-85; part owner and editor of the Salem Statesman; a founder of the Salem Journal; owner of a 1000-acre farm at Mehema, OR; City Surveyor of Salem in 1888; Mineral Surveyor in Marion County, Oregon in 1890; and appointed Oregon Surveyor General in 1890-94.

The Oregon GLO career of William began with Contract 153 in 1871 in Douglas County. He had just been an instructor at the Umpqua Academy, and used many of his students as crewmen going forward. He continued with four more Contracts in Douglas County until receiving a Contract on the East side in 1874. There were many more Contracts in Douglas County until he was awarded Joint Contract 329 with Joseph G. Gray in Malheur County in 1879, surveyed by William. Another Joint Contract with Richmond Dickerson in 1881 in Malheur County was surveyed by both. Three Contracts in Jackson county in 1881-82 were surveyed by Dickerson as compassman.

After his time as Surveyor General from 1890-94, he returned to surveying Contracts in 1897-99. He examined two Contracts in 1899 before receiving Contract 727 in 1900. He was examined but was able to finish without going back to the field. His last Contract in Oregon was Contract 745 in 1902 for five fractional townships on the coast. They were very small, but caused him to return to the field on nearly all of them to do corrections or retracements in 1904-06, sometimes twice. He was approved in 1907. Ray L. Stout, his nephew and a Deputy Surveyor, helped him with the corrections, sometimes being the only crewman. It is possible that he did not go into the field for some of the work, considering he was 67 years old at the end.

William was awarded Washington Contract 560, a Joint Contract with his son, William F., in the Western Cascades foothills in 1900. It was mostly surveyed by William F. as compassman, and John Rex Byars, another son, as a second compassman. T13N R9E was surveyed in 1903, and T15N R8E was surveyed in 1905, both by William H. All of these townships were in the rugged, steep country surrounding Mount Rainier.

William F. received Washington Contracts 609 and 613 in 1904, but immediately said he wanted to use a compassman, and was refused. He asked again in 1905, and this time was allowed to use his father, and Ray Stout, a cousin, as compassmen. They performed the surveys from 1904-1909, finally receiving approval in 1910. W. H. was still in the field as compassman at 70 years old. Along with his son, he surveyed the first sewer system for Goldendale, WA. William H. was the namesake of Byars Creek and Byars Mountain in Marion County, Oregon and named Ana River at Summer Lake for his daughter. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of the information

**Byers, William****Newton**

1831-1903

Rep

Comp

Contract 30 (as  
compassman for  
Joseph Hunt)

to

no more

1852



William was born on a farm in Madison County, Ohio, and spent his youth working there, before graduating from the Academy at West Jefferson, Ohio. In 1850 he moved with his family to Iowa, but soon joined a survey crew and became a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Iowa in 1851. He traveled to Oregon and worked on Survey crews in 1852-53, including acting as compassman for Joseph Hunt in Hazel Dell, La Center, and Tenino, WA, in 1853.

After finishing that job he went to California, staying only a few months before going back East. He worked in railroad surveying for a while, but when Kansas and Nebraska opened up, he went to Omaha when it had only one house. He became: County Surveyor for Douglas County; the first U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Nebraska; the surveyor for the first town plat of Omaha; a member of the first City Council of Omaha; a member of the State Constitutional Convention; and a member of the first Territorial Legislature in 1854-55. William married Elizabeth Sumner in 1854, the granddaughter of Governor Lucas of both Ohio and Iowa. In 1859 he purchased a printing press from the defunct Bellevue Gazette and hauled it to Denver to start the "Rocky Mountain News", a daily paper. His press was the only one West of Omaha, and this was at the start of the Pike's Peak Gold Rush.

He was co-author of "Handbook to the Gold Fields of Nebraska and Kansas" in 1859. William owned and ran the "Rocky Mountain News" until 1879, when he sold it, but it continued until 2009. In those 18 years that he owned it, he promoted the assets of Denver, wrote against crime and corruption, advanced schools, scientific farming, and was a leading citizen of the town. He was a member of two State Constitutional Conventions, and Postmaster of Denver twice.

In 1876, William had political aspirations to be the first Governor of the State of Colorado. That ended when he tried to end an affair he was having with a married woman, Sallie Holcomb. She confronted William in front of his home with a pearl-handled revolver and fired at him. Elizabeth took the family carriage and rescued William unharmed, but the scandal was rampant. The competing newspaper covered it fully, including the publishing of love letters between them. He was the namesake of Byers Peak in Colorado; the town of Byers, Colorado; Byers Branch of the Denver Library; Byers Junior High School; the SS William N. Byers in 1943; and the Byers Peak Wilderness. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained information.



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**Campbell,  
Charles Lois**

1878-1916

USDS

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Contract 718 (with<br>William E. Campbell) | 1900 |
| to   |      |
| Contract 747                               | 1902 |



William Brackett Campbell was one of the patriarchs of the Campbell surveying family, along with his brother Samuel Learned Campbell. William B. was the father of USDS William Ellis Campbell, who was the father of U. S. Deputy Surveyors, George Raymond, Charles Lois, Roy Thomas and William A. Burt Campbell. They were also neighbors and nephews of Homer Angell. William E. Campbell and Roy Campbell were GLO Surveyors in Oregon only, and Roy Campbell worked as a direct employee after 1910.

William Ellis Campbell had married the sister of Homer Angell, and everyone but William B. grew up at Fifteen-Mile Creek in Wasco County, OR. Charles was boarding at the Chemawa Indian School near Salem with his brother Roy in 1895. He was a chainman and axman for both Ed Sharp and his father from 1895-98 for several Contracts. He went on to graduate from the University of Oregon in civil engineering. Charles received Joint Contract 718 with his father in 1900, and his father, surveyed two of the townships in Baker County that year. The third township in Baker County was cancelled in 1904 for unknown reasons and given to another deputy. He used Charles and his brother Roy as crewmen.

They received another Joint Contract in 1901, and they surveyed several townships that year. William died at the end of the survey of T3S R44E, in the Wallowa Mountains, West of Wallowa Lake, on October 18, 1901. That is the date of the final oaths, and the date of the end of the field work. Charles signed all the oaths for the whole Contract, and it is hard to know what role William played. Charles returned the next spring to finish the last two thirds of the Contract. There were ten townships all across the East side, and it was examined by David Kinnaird in 1902 and approved. Burt and Roy Campbell and Clyde Riddell were regular crewmen. He retraced many of the existing lines on fractional townships, whether instructed to or not.

Charles had his own Contract in 1902 in Oregon, for one townships on the Southern Coast, one near Grants Pass, and one in Baker County. He turned in the notes in 1903, and he was examined on all of them. It appears that the survey issues were resolved by 1904, and there were no correction surveys in the record. There was an investigation by Special Agent S. N. Stoner in 1907, and the maps had been withheld from filing since 1904. T5N R45E was released, but the others were still withheld, and not all were filed until 1909 for unknown reasons. It is unknown when Charles was paid.

Charles received WA Contract 594 by bid in 1903 mostly in the Northeast part of the state with one township Southeast of Dayton, and he surveyed it in the summer, during a school break. His brothers Roy and Rex were chainmen. He returned to the University of Oregon and graduated in 1904 with a B. S. in Civil Engineering. While there, Charles was a charter member of the local chapter of Kappa Sigma fraternity, along with Ivan Oakes. The notes for Contract 594 were corrected several times, and approved in 1905. Charles received Contract 250 in Idaho in 1904 for 6 townships Southwest of Grangeville, surveyed it in 1907, and had it rejected in 1908 by the Commissioner. Charles resurveyed part of it in 1911, and that part was approved in 1912-13. The remainder apparently remained rejected, with the unapproved notes on file.

He was in Payson, AZ in 1905 and also worked as a chainman for Milton Germond on Contract 632 in 1906. Charles teamed up with John Penland for a Joint Contract in 1906, which was finally approved in 1908. He married Elsie M. Tong in Spokane in 1908, was a civil engineer there in 1910, helped his brother Roy on Oregon Contracts from 1908-10, helped his brother George on corrections near Yakima in 1910, and worked as a civil engineer in the shipyards in Bremerton in 1912. Charles died in 1917 at age 39, and his wife was living with her parents in Spokane in 1920, with three young children, the youngest less than 4 years old. See Oregon GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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### **Campbell, Frank**

**W.**

1855-1889

USDS

Contract 344 (with 1892  
Henry Meldrum and  
Rufus Moore)

to

Contract 530 (with 1887  
John McQuinn



The father of Frank, Samuel Learned Campbell, was born in Massachusetts and came to Oregon via the Oregon Trail in 1846 and 1849. He was the brother of William Brackett Campbell, the patriarch of the Wasco County Campbell family, and therefore the uncle and great uncle of several GLO surveyors. Sam was a trustee of the University of Oregon City in 1856, and the Clackamas County Surveyor from 1867-1881. A native Oregonian and resident of Oregon City, Frank Campbell worked in the Clackamas County Surveyor's office from 1875-1888, serving one term as Clackamas County Surveyor from 1882-84.

Frank married Sarah Athay in 1878, and they had three children. He received Joint Contract 344 in 1879 with Henry Meldrum and Rufus Moore for 22 townships South of Bend. They divided the work and Frank surveyed 7 townships. The next year he shared 17 townships in Umatilla and Wallowa Counties with Henry Meldrum.

There were nine townships Southeast of Heppner and six townships Northeast of Enterprise. They shared the work. It seems that they surveyed T1,2N R47E into the townships to the West by 1/4 mile as surveyed by Joseph Gray in 1867. Gray had a 1300 foot error in his work leaving a jog in the range line on the West boundary of T1,2N R47E. Henry had retraced that line and found no corners North of the Southwest corner of Section 18, T1N R47E. BLM stepped up in 1913 and made whole those who had patented land in good faith. They obliterated the old Range line and created metes and bounds tracts to give the existing patentees the land they thought they owned.

Frank was a compassman for Rufus Moore in 1881 in Wallowa County. His next Contract in 1882 was for two townships East of Salem. The next four Contracts for many more townships on the East side from 1883-1884 occupied him for a great part of each year. He used consistent small crews each year, with some overlap. His father and brother, Herbert, spent the summer of 1884 helping him in Wallowa County, but neither are mentioned in the notes. Frank was part of the first examinations in 1885 by Henry Martin and passed. His last Contract was a Joint Contract with John McQuinn for 15 townships on the Warm Springs Reservation, and four townships were surveyed by Frank.

His two Contracts in Washington, 318 and 320, South of Asotin, were both awarded and then suspended in 1885, along with most other Contracts, following the Benson and Special Deposits Scandals. Frank was an Oregon City Councilman and City Engineer in 1889 when he died. He was helping to move electric poles from the Willamette River in January, 1889, slipped between the poles in the raft, and drowned. (biography) This is the maintained version of the information.

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## **Campbell, George Raymond**

1874-1932

USDS

Contract 699 (with 1899  
William E. Campbell)  
to  
Contract 724 1900

Member ASCE. William Brackett Campbell was one of the patriarchs of the Campbell surveying family, along with his brother Samuel Learned Campbell. William B. was the father of USDS William Ellis Campbell, who was the father of U. S. Deputy Surveyors, George Raymond, Charles Lois, Roy Thomas and William A. Burt Campbell. They were also neighbors and nephews of Homer Angell. William E. Campbell and Roy Campbell were GLO Surveyors in Oregon only, and Roy Campbell worked as a direct employee after 1910. William Ellis had married the sister of Homer Angell, and everyone but William B. grew up at Fifteen-Mile Creek or Eight Mile Creek in Wasco County, OR.

George was born and raised in Wasco County, Oregon and graduated from the University of Oregon in 1901 with a B. S. in Civil Engineering. He had been a crewman for his father on three Contracts from 1891-97 and a crewman for Ed Sharp and Homer Angell in 1898 and 1900. Before he graduated, he surveyed two Oregon Joint Contracts with his father, William E Campbell in 1899 and 1900. One was North of Elgin, and the other was East of Springfield. They used Clyde Riddell, Homer Angell, Charles Campbell and Roy Campbell as crewmen, and both signed the oaths. He surveyed his next Contract right after graduation, East of John Day, using Charles Campbell as chainman.

Another was surveyed entirely within the Quinalt Indian Reservation, and he used fellow University of Oregon students, and future GLO Surveyors, Alfred Geddes and Milton Germond, as chainmen. The rest of his 5 contracts between 1904 and 1907 were on the East side, and in partnership with Milton Germond, and sometimes Walter Long. For Contract 610, the crew included brothers Roy and Rex as chainmen, and fellow University of Oregon Student, and future GLO surveyor, George X. Riddell. Roy, Rex, and George Riddell also helped on Contract 614, along with future GLO Surveyor Nathan Hubbs. Contract 632 on the Yakima Reservation in 1906 included Roy, Rex, and future GLO Surveyor Charles A. Slang as crewmen for the portion surveyed by George. An exam by Louis Dent resulted in field corrections for all three in 1907-08.

They were reexamined by Van Winkle, and George was back in the field in 1910. In 1922 they were seeking relief from Congress to get paid for part of the work. George was in Spokane as a civil engineer in 1910, in Olympia in the GLO office as a direct employee in 1918 and 1920, in Yakima as a civil engineer and fruit grower in 1925, and was surveying for the RR in 1930. He was named an Associate Member of ASCE in 1915 and died in Yakima in 1932. He was of medium build with brown eyes and dark hair. This is the maintained version of the information.

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### **Campbell, John**

*1818-1904*

USDS

Contract 254 (by  
Clark Smith as  
compassman)

1876

to

Contract 290

1878



Born in New York, John married his first wife, Julia, in 1842, and was living in Illinois from at least 1845-54, where he was acquainted with Abraham Lincoln. He was a civil engineer in Batesville, Arkansas in 1860. He remarried to Sarah Welch in 1866 in Batesville, and lived there until at least 1874. He received Contract 254 for two township near Vernonia, Oregon in 1876, which were surveyed by Clark Smith as compassman.

The next year, Clark Smith received a Contract to survey the subdivisions of one of those townships, and reported finding errors in the exteriors that he had surveyed the previous year. John was reported as a chainman in the new survey under Clark. Clark noted he made assumptions in the field about how to fix the errors, and turned in his notes. He returned to make some corrections later in the year.

John received Contract 290 for two townships in the same area in 1878. Edgar Brand was listed as a compassman for one township, but his name was crossed out, reasons unknown. John was a surveyor in Portland in 1880 with his family. At some point, he was City Engineer of East Portland for 4 years. He purchased a large homestead in Vernonia, and spent many years there. Sarah died in 1897, and John was a widower living with a daughter in Portland in 1900.

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## **Campbell, Roy**

**Thomas**

*1887-1966*

Rep

USDS

Contract 780

1908

to

Contract 796

1910



1905

Roy was born the son of William E. Campbell, and the younger brother to William A. B. Campbell, George R. Campbell, and Charles Lois Campbell, and grew up at 15-Mile Creek in Wasco County Oregon. In 1895, Roy and his older brother Charles were boarding at the Indian School at Chemawa, near Salem. He began as a crewman for his father at age 14, and continued for his father and brothers until he received his own Contract in 1908.

His experience as a chainman or axeman covered twelve Contracts from 1899-1907, in both Oregon and Washington, including the one in the Wallowas in 1901 where his father suffered a heart attack and died. Roy attended the University of Oregon, as did his brothers, but it is unknown whether he graduated. He received his own Contract, No. 780, on the Snake River in Hells Canyon, Oregon in 1910. Deputy Surveyor and brother, Charles, was a crewman. He next surveyed the North and West Boundaries of the Warm Springs Reservation in 1909, South to the summit of Mount Jefferson. This was the old Boundary, before the recent court cases. Brothers Charles and 14-year-old Fred were on the crew.

Contract 789 in 1909 included four townships on the West side, and Contract 796 in 1910 had one township on the East side and one Northwest of Santiam Pass. T12S R7E was deep in the National Forest and only has four surveyed sections. Per Chuck Whitten, Sections 31-33 had been surveyed by Ernest Rands and Hezekiah Johnson in 1895, and Roy received his Contract to survey Section 28 in 1910, probably because of the existence of a settler in the Section. He discovered that the previous work was out of compliance, but may not have discovered in reality that it had actually all been stubbed. Roy retraced the South line of Section 28, and spent 7 days surveying the four miles. He only had a crew of two, and commented on the difficulty and brush. Brother Rex was a chainman. A 1972 resurvey showed his work as being good.

He was examined on all his Contracts at a time the GLO was trying to sell the Direct System, and the record shows he never had to return to the field. Roy was living at home in 1910 in Wasco County, and married Ruth Disbrow there in 1912. He was appointed a U. S. Transitman in Group 2 in the Direct System in August, 1910 to survey several townships near Frenchglen, Oregon. Again, Rex was his chainman. He served as Wasco County Surveyor until 1917, but moved to Olympia in 1918, where he had been assigned as a U. S. Transitman. He spent his career headquartered out of Olympia, travelling to survey jobs all summer, and then retired there in 1941.

His house is on the National Historic Register, and was continuously occupied by the Campbell family from 1922-2007, when his daughter Bette died. Bette graduated from the University of Washington and was widowed twice while living in the house. Ruth died in 1940, and Roy retired and moved to an apartment in 1941, after deeding the house to Bette. He remarried to Emily Thawley in 1947, 21 years his senior, and she died in 1959. Bette's husband died in 1964, and Roy moved back for his remaining days until he died in 1966. Bette stayed in the home until she died in 2007.

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## **Campbell, Samuel Learned**

*1824-1902*

Comp

USDS

Contract 97 (as 1861

compassman for  
Andrew Patterson)

to

no more



Samuel was born the son of Hector Campbell in Hampden County Massachusetts. His father taught school and had been a Member of the Legislature. He was the brother of William B. Campbell, and the father of Frank W. Campbell and George Curtis Campbell. Samuel graduated from the State Normal School and survived typhoid in 1843-44. His brother William's wife died, and Samuel and William left for Oregon in 1846, by train and boat to Independence, Missouri, and then across the Oregon Trail.

Samuel has written a detailed narrative of his trip. He made it to the Whitman Mission at Walla Walla, but William went ahead to Oregon to find some Claims. Samuel worked in the Whitman sawmill over the winter, less than a year before the massacre. William came back from Oregon in February, heading home, but Samuel persuaded him to return to Oregon. They filed two Claims near Forest Grove and built cabins. After posting the required notice, they headed home to Hampden County in September. They convinced their father and the rest of the family to return to Oregon with them in 1849, which was accomplished again over the Oregon Trail. They arrived in September of 1849 and settled in Milwaukie, with all filing Claims there. Their Claims at Forest Grove had been jumped because they were gone too long.

Samuel and William cut shingles, and Hector became the first school teacher. Samuel built the first hotel in Oregon City in 1849, married widow Amanda H. Matlock in 1851, and was elected Clackamas County Surveyor in 1852, continuing for 17 years. He was a chainman for his brother William in 1860 near Hermiston. William was hired as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William Chapman in 1860. Andrew Patterson received Contract 97 for seven townships near The Dalles in 1861, just as he left office as Chief Clerk. He used Samuel as compassman for all the work. Samuel was also the compassman for the corrections the same year, and for the corrections of the adjacent Contract of La Fayette Cartee. Samuel had gone to California for gold in 1852 and to Florence, Idaho for the same in 1862.

While Samuel was in Idaho, Amanda became seriously ill with TB, and died in 1864, leaving three sons. He then remarried to Sarah Jane Moffett Cox in 1864, a widow with one child, with this union producing another four children. For some reason, Samuel traded his farm on the Clackamas for a farm in Missouri, sight unseen. He returned to the West four years later by buying a farm three miles East of Moscow, Idaho, where he remained until he moved to Seattle in 1901.

While near Moscow, he cut wood, sold quarry rock, and was elected Latah County Surveyor in 1888. He had been doing private surveys since arriving. His son Frank asked for his help for two Contracts in Wallowa County, Oregon in 1884, and Samuel spent the summer there. Neither he or his son Herbert were mentioned in the notes. Samuel received Contract 151 in Idaho at age 69 in 1893 for one township North of the Palouse River. He used his nephew William A. B. Campbell and his son, George, as crewmen on the survey. It was approved by the Idaho Surveyor General, but after examination, it was rejected by the Commissioner and never finished. He died in Seattle at the home of his son, George, and left a 250+ page autobiography that can be found through interlibrary loan.

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**Campbell,  
William Brackett**

1815-1879

Dr/Clerk

USDS

Clerk

to

Contract 95

1853

1860

William Brackett Campbell was one of the patriarchs of the Campbell surveying family, along with his brother Samuel Learned Campbell. His brother, Samuel, would be a future USDS, and the father of two USDS. William B. was the father of USDS William Ellis Campbell, who was the father of U. S. Deputy Surveyors, George Raymond, Charles Lois, Roy Thomas and William A. Burt Campbell. They were also neighbors and nephews of Homer Angell. William E. Campbell and Roy Campbell were GLO Surveyors in Oregon only, and Roy Campbell worked as a direct employee after 1910. William Ellis had married the sister of Homer Angell, and everyone but William B. grew up at Fifteen-Mile Creek or Eight Mile Creek in Wasco County, OR.

William B. was born in Massachusetts and married there in 1844. His wife died two weeks after their first child was born. He came across the Oregon Trail in 1846 with his brother Sam to recon, returned, and then travelled with his parents and siblings to Oregon in 1849, and remarried there in 1850 to the widow Frances Prigg. His father was the school teacher at Milwaukie and was elected to the Territorial Legislature in 1850. William was hired by Charles K. Gardner as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office from 1853-60, and received a Contract from W. W. Chapman in September of 1860 near Hermiston, using his brother Samuel as a chainman. He was a chainman for David Thompson at Umatilla in 1859, Lafayette Cartee in 1860, and for his son in 1873. By 1866 William was living on his Claim on Eight Mile Creek in Wasco County, which he patented in 1873.

He was defeated by a small margin for Wasco County Surveyor in 1872. In September, 1876, one day after his daughter's wedding, he attempted suicide at his home on Eight Mile Creek by slashing his leg and throat with a pocket knife. He barely survived, and was committed to an insane asylum in Portland in November, along with his wife Frances, who had been an "imbecile" for many years. They both died there and are buried in Lone Fir Cemetery in Portland. This is the maintained version of this information.



**Campbell,  
William Ellis**

1851-1901

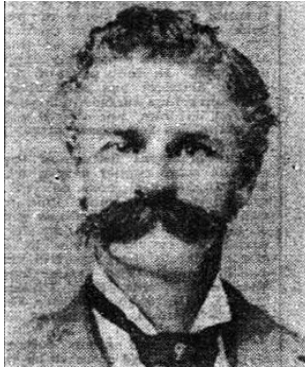
Dem

USDS

Contract 177 (with 1872  
Mason?)

to

Contract 733 (with 1901  
Charles L. Campbell)



William E. Campbell was born in Clackamas County, Oregon, the son of William Brackett Campbell, and the father of George R., Charles Lois, William A. Burt, and Roy T. Campbell. He was also the brother-in-law of Homer D. Angell, the nephew of Samuel L. Campbell, and the cousin to Frank W. and George C. Campbell. His father and the family moved to a homestead on Eight Mile in Wasco County about 1867.

He married Sarah Angell, the sister of Homer Angell in 1872 in Wasco County in the same year he received Contract 177 for four townships in Wasco County. He used his father as a chainman on this survey. Sometime William served as Wasco County Surveyor, and was a farmer in 1880 in Wasco County. After an absence of 19 years, he was awarded Contract 563 in 1891 for 10 townships in the Cascade foothills East of Salem and used his sons Charles, W. A. Burt, and George and brother-in-law Homer Angell as crewmen, and they finished in 1892.

He was living in The Dalles by 1900, and may have quit active farming. He sold at least part of the farm in 1892 and filed his final proof for 80 acres in 1896. Between 1892 and 1895, William surveyed Indian Allotments on the Warm Springs Reservation for Indian Allotting Agent Hartwig and the plats were filed in 1895. William was awarded Contract 644 for three townships on the East side of Mount Jefferson in 1895, but did not use any of his sons on the crew. There were corrections to the plat, and it was approved.

Contract 652 for four townships in Umatilla and Baker Counties was awarded in 1895 but not surveyed until 1896, using Homer, Charles, and George again as most of the crew. Contract 668 for one township near Mt. Hood and one in Baker County were surveyed in 1897 using most of the same boys. It was suspended but later approved. Two townships just Northwest of Burns were surveyed in 1898 with Charles on the crew. Two Joint Contracts with son, George, in 1899 were surveyed by George, but William did sign the preliminary and cosign the final oath for T3N R41E. Two of the boys were crewmen. Joint Contract 718 in 1900 with Charles was signed by William, but Charles and Roy were on the crew. There were two townships in Wallowa County. He was in The Dalles with all his sons in 1900 and filed as the Democrat candidate for Wasco County Surveyor.

The last Contract for William was Joint Contract 733 with Charles for ten townships on the East side. One Southeast of Hood River was surveyed in May 1901, and two in the Blue Mountains were surveyed in June and July. All of these were signed only by Charles. They began T3S R44E on September 18. This was entirely within the Wallowa Mountains, and what is now the Eagle Cap Wilderness. It ranged from 7-13 miles West of Wallowa Lake, and included features such as Lime Mountain, Marble Mountain, Hurricane Creek, James Lake, Tunnel Mountain, and Little Granite Lake. William had a heart attack on October 18, as they completed the job, and died. Coincidentally, the final oaths and the end of work in the field notes were also on October 18, 1901. Charles signed the oaths and finished the remaining townships the next year.

**Canfield, Rolla J.**

1860-1938

Rep

Dem

USDS

Contract 554

to

no more

1890

The family of Rolla arrived in Curry County in 1868. His educated mother was a school teacher, County School Superintendent, and Postmistress of Port Orford. The family settled on a claim 6 miles upriver from Gold Beach. He ran for County Surveyor in 1884 as a Republican. Rolla received Contract 554 for one fractional township in Curry County in 1890, located at the mouth of the Rogue River. He was a miner in 1900, the County Surveyor of Curry County in 1904, and a civil engineer at Big Bend in 1910. He sold the Bonanza King Extension, a copper mine, in 1912 in the Collier Creek District. He was County Surveyor of Curry County in 1918-20, living in Agness, and owned a bee farm in Agness in 1930. He was for awhile the step-son of John Fitzhugh in 1882. He never married.

**Carr, Archibald**

1836-1913

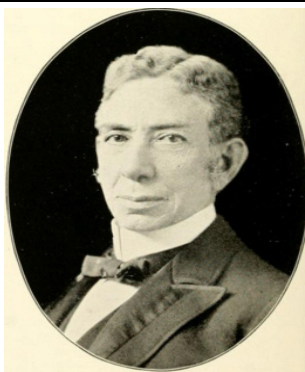
Rep

SES

Special Instructions 1891

to

Special Instructions 1891



1900

Archibald was born in Pennsylvania, the son of a farmer and married Mary Elizabeth Kane in 1858 in St. Louis. He was on the Board of Education for St. Louis in 1863. He held miscellaneous jobs until he was named a deputy sheriff in St. Louis from 1878-1885, before being appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1889, serving in Oregon in 1891 for 10 examinations.

He transitioned into Clerk for the Circuit Court from 1895-1903, until he became an insurance agent for the rest of his working life. During all this time, he was heavily involved in Republican politics. There is no record of surveying experience before his appointment.

**Cartee, La****Fayette**

1823-1898

Dem

USDS

Ch Clerk

Claim Contract 5      1853  
to

Special Instructions      1863



Lafayette was born in New York, and graduated from St. Johns College, before becoming the Chair of the Mathematics Department. He came to Oregon City in 1849 via a short stay in California, and opened a surveying and engineering office. Soon he was a member of the Oregon Territorial Legislature in 1853 and Oregon Speaker of the House in 1854. Cartee worked as a Deputy Surveyor from the start, beginning with Claim Contract 5 in 1853 with Ezra Fisher as a chainman.

He used both Ezra Fisher and Lewis Van Vleet as chainmen on Claim Contract 9 in 1854. Contract 42 crossed the Columbia River to Washington in T1N R3E in 1854, and Ezra Fisher was the compassman. Ezra continued as compassman for another Contract in 1855 in Multnomah County.

Lafayette made a trip back to Pennsylvania in 1855 to marry Mary Belland had a brief term as Chief Clerk for Surveyor General William Chapman in 1859. He began surveying again in 1860 with two Contracts, one near Hood River, and another in Umatilla County. His brother-in-law, Peter Bell, and Allen M. Thompson, the brother of David Thompson were chainmen. Later that year, Peter and Allen were promoted to compassmen for two more Contracts involving a township at Hood River, a township at Umatilla, and several townships South of Hood River. Democrat Surveyor General, William W. Chapman had to leave office in June of 1861 when he was replaced by strong Republican Bynon Pengra. He gave his departing Chief Clerk, Andrew Patterson a Contract for several townships from the Dalles to Rufus.

A few days later, he gave Democrat La Fayette Cartee another Contract in the same vicinity. Bynon took over as the Contracts were signed. When both turned their notes in in September, there must have been differences, because Bynon required field corrections for both, involving remeasurements and better corner monuments. Samuel L. Campbell was the Deputy Surveyor that made the corrections, working for both, and he had been the Compassman for Patterson. La Fayette promoted axman Josephus Tomkins to compassman part way through his Contract. That was La Fayette's last Contract, and he took the job as engineer for the Portage RR on the south side of the rapids at The Dalles and Celilo in 1862.

While he was away from home, his wife died in 1862, and his children were cared for by his wife's sister-in-law, Henrietta Bell, who was living in The Dalles at the time. They took the children to Boise in 1863 where Henrietta's brother was living. LaFayette followed and took up residence there, where they were all living in 1870, along with USDS Allen M. Thompson and Darius Baker. Lafayette built a sawmill in 1866 and became Idaho's first Surveyor General in 1866, serving through several political transitions until May, 1878. There was a gap from April, 1869 to March, 1870, where Edward Ruger was the Surveyor General. Family members and friends worked in his Office.

Two years after he left office, Lafayette was awarded a Joint Contract with John David for 14 townships in the Southeast corner of the State. Two had no oaths, and David surveyed the rest. While in Boise, Lafayette was well known for his horticultural skills and fruit trees. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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### Case, James

#### Francis

1868-1929

USDS

Contract ?? (with 1896

Sidney Smyth)

to

no more



Member ASCE. Born in Wisconsin, James completed high school and then graduated from the University of Wisconsin in Civil Engineering, Class of 1887. He was an engineer for the Duluth and St. Paul RR on a route to Omaha before coming to Portland in 1888, where he worked as an engineer for NRR Terminal Company.

James held the following assignments: government work at The Dalles, engineer for the Madison Bridge in Portland, engineer for the Metropolitan Street RW, engineer for the Eastside Suburban RW, and engineer for the Oregon City Electric RW. James began working as an engineer during the construction of the Bull Run Water System for Portland in the early 1890's, continuing until its completion in 1894. He had charge of one section of the pipeline, and was in charge of three reservoirs at Washington Park. After Bull Run, he was associated with the City Surveyor's Office. He married to a Wisconsin classmate, Helen Smith '89, in 1893.

The Oregonian reported that a J. P. Case received a Joint Contract with Sidney Smyth in 1896, but there are no records of that Contract in the indexes. Also there was no J. P. Case to be found in the records, and a logical alternative was this James F. Case, a prominent young engineer and surveyor in Portland, who had just finished an assignment at Bull Run.

During his time in Portland, James was an officer in the Oregon National Guard, and not long after his Contract, he was called to active duty for the War in the Philippines and Cuba, serving about three years as a civil engineer, ending with the rank of Major. After the War, he was hired by American International Corporation as their representative to live in Italy. He was a practicing civil engineer in New York City in 1920, and died there of a heart attack in 1929.

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**Caspary, Charles****G.**

1857-1906

Rep

USDMS

Mineral Survey

1900

to

no more

Charles was born in Germany, immigrated in 1873, and was in Grant County by 1890 where he was naturalized. He was elected County Surveyor on the Republican ticket in 1893. He married 19 year old Lillian Loretta Elizabeth Green in 1894 at age 37 in 1894, and they had two children. He was Postmaster of John Day in 1898, a surveyor there in 1900, and a surveyor in Canyon City, Oregon in 1900. He was elected Umatilla County Surveyor in 1892 and was also the County Surveyor in 1903-04. George was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and surveyed Claims in Grant County, beginning in 1893, and continuing until 1901. He and Lillian divorced in 1903, and she remarried in 1904. George patented some property in 1904, but died in John Day in 1906 on Christmas Day.

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**Casson, William****Eddy "Will"**

1865-1943

IAA

Allotting Agent

1904

to

no more

Born in Wisconsin, the son of the long time County Clerk, William attended three years of high school and married his wife, Clara Tongue, there in 1889. They had one child that died young before William was named a Special Allotting Agent for the Office of Indian Affairs in 1893 in Carson City, Nevada. He held that appointment into 1907, working on many reservations across the West, continuing to live in his home town, Vernon, Wisconsin, until at least 1900. That census strangely noted him as a grocer. William was allotting on the Yakima Reservation in 1897-98. He was allotting on the North Half of the Colville Reservation from 1899-1900, when he was dispatched to deal with the Wenatchee Indians.

He spent much of 1900-1902 by first creating a Census of the Wenatchee. From an authorization of 24,000 acres, he only created 18 allotments for 2800 acres. Instead of issuing the patents in trust, he created them in fee, which made them susceptible to taxes. All were soon foreclosed, resulting in no allotments of the Wenatchee. William had much correspondence with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs over the Wenatchapam Fishery Reservation, described more fully under the biography of Oliver Iverson. In 1900, he recommended that the Winto and Yana Indians not be given the farming tools and livestock that they were promised, because the allotments were worthless for farming.

He was also in Susanville and Redding, California in 1901, where he surveyed and created allotments. He also rescinded many, because the Indians were of white fathers and not eligible. He was in Nevada in 1903, reallotting existing 80-acre allotments into 5 or 10 acre allotments. William was in Roseburg, Oregon on allotments in 1904, and wrote that the Indians are taking an interest in educating their children. He was in Nevada procuring relinquishments of patents for the Carson-Truckee Project in 1906, and then created 10-acre replacement patents. He moved to Nevada in 1910, where he engaged in mining, while living in Reno, Ormsby, and finally Carson City, where he died in 1943. This is the maintained version of this information

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### **Cathcart, Simon**

#### **Bolivar**

1842-1932

Rep

USDS

USDMS

Comp

Contract 331                      1879

to

Contract 677                      1897



OR PE 127. Born in Indiana, Simon came to Oregon in 1853 with his family, where they settled on a Claim near Roseburg. They were the first and only wagon train to cross from Crooked River over the pass and down the McKenzie River. They had to be rescued. Simon enlisted in the First Oregon volunteers in 1865 and served on the Plains for a year, doing escort duty. He came to Coos Bay in 1871 and located on a farm on North Coos River.

He devoted himself to the study of geometry and trigonometry with the purpose of becoming a surveyor. He was appointed a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in 1873 to survey Claims in the Hinches Mining District in T27S R14W, and surveyed several Claims. An odd circumstance was that he named mine owners as compassmen in three of the surveys, apparently without regard to their survey experience. He was elected Coos County Surveyor from 1874-75, and married Coretta Dora Landrith in 1879, the daughter of a neighboring homesteader. Simon received Contract 331 for one township East of Coos Bay in 1879. In 1883, he was the compassman for William Hall for seven townships East and South of Coos Bay. He was elected Coos County Surveyor again in 1886, and served nearly continuously until 1902. He moved to Marshfield in 1890.

A Contract by Special Instructions was awarded him to survey the South boundary of the Cape Arago Lighthouse site in 1888. From 1889-1897, he received four Contracts for six townships, all near Coos Bay. Three of them were examined, and it appears he did not have to return to the field. Two of his brothers-in-law were crewmen for some of the work. A patent by cash sale was issued to Simon in 1883 on the top of a hill nine miles East of Coos Bay in T24S R11W. He must have bought it for the timber or minerals. He was the Namesake of Mt. Cathcart, USGS Station Cathcart, and Mount Bolivar.

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**Cathcart, William****W.**

1852-1924

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1899

Born in Indiana, William came across the Oregon Trail in 1853 to Douglas County. He was the nephew of Simon Cathcart and was a clerk in a store in Cottage Grove in 1880. William was the owner in 1886 and married Fanny J. Rouse in 1885. William was the Messenger in the Surveyor General's Office of Robert Habersham in 1900-01, a copyist in the Surveyor General's Office in 1902, and a clerk in a store in Portland in 1910. He was a witness for Congressman Binger Hermann, the namesake of his son, in Hermann's fraud trial in 1910. William was into Real Estate in 1918 in Portland and living alone and retired there in 1920, while Fanny was in Modesto with their son.

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**Catlin, Seth**

1872-1924

Dem

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1905

Seth was the son of a pioneer attorney and Judge in Portland and attended Bishop Scott Academy. He was listed as a draftsman in the 1900 Census, and as a draftsman in the Office of Surveyor General John Daly in 1905. He owned a blueprint company in 1910 in Portland, and threw his hat in the ring for Surveyor General in 1913 with the election of a Democrat President. He developed real estate, maintained an insurance business in the later years, and died in Portland in 1924. He was an officer in the Portland Yacht Club and involved in society and golf.

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**Caudle, Carl  
Raymond**

1875-1942

Rep

SES

Special Instructions 1903

to

Special Instructions 1903



c. 1900

Carl was born in Missouri and moved with his family to South Dakota by 1900, where they were farmers. He attended four years of high school. Carl was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Arizona with his brother, Marvin, as chainman in 1900, surveying two Contracts. He was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys from at least 1901-03, and examined six Contracts in Oregon in 1903, causing several to be suspended.

In 1903, he surveyed the North and East Boundaries of Crater Lake National Park as a Special Examiner of Surveys and donated all of his notes to the Park. During that survey, he used a nine-man crew. Carl had begun his career with the USGS, travelling extensively in the Western United States. He was lured by his brother, Marvin, to participate in the development of the water system and irrigation works of Honey Lake at Stacey, California, in which he invested a lot of his time and \$20,000. He lost it all, but stayed as a surveyor and died in the vicinity in 1942. Stacey has long been abandoned.

Carl ran for the California Legislature in 1913 and lost. He was a surveyor in 1920 in Lassen, and a civil engineer living with his parents in Honey Lake in 1920. Carl ran for County Engineer in 1936, and was a surveyor for the government at the time of his death, living with his spinster sister, Mamie, in Honey Lake. He is buried with his family in the very tiny, nearly obliterated, cemetery at Honey Lake, near Stacy. He never married.

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### **Caudle, Samuel**

**G.**

1830-1893

Dem

USDS

Contract 326 (with  
Edgar E. Brand)

to

Contract 419

1879

1881

The most likely candidate for Samuel G. Caudle was born in Virginia in 1830, and lived in Wasco County in 1870 as a farmer. He was in St. Helens, Oregon in 1873 when he explored the country from St. Helens to Astoria overland, looking for property. In 1874 he was the County Surveyor of Columbia County and received 5 Contracts in Northwest Oregon from 1879-81. He was noted in the newspapers of Columbia County and Astoria up to 1887. In 1885 he was examining swamp lands along the Columbia River for the government. Samuel does not show up so far in any other genealogical records. A Samuel G. Caudle had a will probated in 1893 in Cowlitz County, Washington.



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**Caviness, Wesley  
Walker**

1846-1931

Rep

S G

Surveyor General 1921

to

no more



Wesley was born in Indiana and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1852 with his family, where they settled in Forest Grove, and later in Linn County near Harrisburg. He attended the public schools, and as a young man followed the gold rush to Jacksonville, and then to John Day. He was subsequently engaged operating pack strings for several years and surveyed a road in Umatilla County in 1885. He conceived and constructed several irrigation projects, and was a railroad contractor, including building the RR between Pendleton and Walla Walla for James J. Hill.

He was involved in an irrigation project Southeast of Vale in 1912. Wesley was a land locator for Robert N. Stanfield, and was instrumental in his election to the U. S. Senate. Senator Stanfield appointed him to be Surveyor General of Oregon in 1921, over the objections of the Engineers Association because he was not an engineer. He was the last Oregon Surveyor General, and the office was abolished in 1925. Wesley was the brother-in-law of Seth Catlin by marriage.

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**Chandler, Henry  
Lawson**

1863-1929

USDS

SES

Comp

Contract 602 (with Herman Gradon) 1892

to

Special Instructions 1903

OR PE 99. Henry was born in Polk County, Oregon, the fifth of twelve children, and moved with his family to Cove, Oregon by 1880. He married Barbara Elizabeth Nirmaire in 1887 in Union County, and was living in Pierce County, Washington as a butcher in 1891. He soon returned to Oregon and was a chainman for Gradon and Oliver in 1891-93. He received Joint Contract 602 with Herman Gradon in 1892 for 16 townships in the Cascades, Southeast of Roseburg. They shared the work, but were examined in 1893 by William Bushey and W. Theil and suspended, but later accepted. Henry received three more Contracts on his own from 1893-99. The first was for four townships Southwest of Cottage Grove.

He was examined, suspended and later accepted. BLM notes that he may not have surveyed all the lines in his Contract in T23S R1W, and modern GIS shows significant distortion. T24S R2W also shows distortion of up to a half mile. T24S R8W is fairly regular, but he had bearings over three degrees off cardinal, and distances two chains short per half mile. The same exists with T23S R2W with evidence of stubbing. He was noted as returning from Idaho in 1901, where he had been working on a government Contract.

The last two Contracts of Henry were for the same two townships. He surveyed them the first time in 1895, and he was examined and rejected. He tried to argue and appealed, but to no avail, with his last rejection occurring late in 1898. Surveyor General Robert Habersham however did give him a new Contract for the same work in 1899, and he did resurvey it. In 1990, Robert Dahl of BLM, was speculating about what lines he did run, and what lines he didn't in the resurvey. Robert stated that many lines were not surveyed in the first version. GIS shows distortion of up to two chains per half mile, and bearings off up to ten degrees, even in the correction survey.

Henry was apparently an inspector for the Tanner Creek Sewer project in 1904 for the City of Portland, and was subsequently indicted for bribery, along with the City Engineer, William C. Elliott, and several others. Henry had performed a private survey for the Contractor during the course of the Contract, at another location. His case was dismissed after the trial of the Contractor because the prosecutor said that Henry was ordered to sign the approvals by City Engineer, William C. Elliott. The contractor was convicted.

Henry was hired by Surveyor General George Westgate to redo the survey of Contract 730 given to Stephen A. D. Hungate and Don Odell. He apparently did not do the survey. Henry was listed as a surveyor in the 1900-1920 Censuses in Portland, until he died there in 1929. By 1896, Henry and Barbara were living at 267 E 35th Street in Sunnyside, which now may be under the West end of Laurelhurst Park, and they continued living there until they died. Henry became a deputy County Surveyor for Multnomah County by 1910, remained with the County as a surveyor and engineer until at least 1927, and was grandfathered in as an Oregon Professional Engineer in 1919.

**Chaplin, Daniel**

1822-1887

Comp

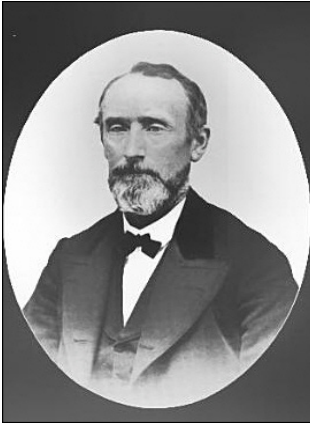
USDS

Claim Contract 59 (as 1855  
compassman for  
Luther D. Kennedy)

to

Contract 107

1864



Daniel was born in New York and educated in the schools there, becoming a surveyor. He married Hannah Arnold in Michigan before he came across the Oregon Trail in 1854, settling on a Claim in Champoeg. He was hired in 1855 as compassman for Luther Kennedy for 10 DLC surveys around Willamina and Sheridan under Claim Contract 59. He then moved to Sheridan, and finally Dayton, where he operated a warehouse until 1861.

In 1861 he moved to La Grande, Oregon, where he first staked a Claim at what would be the townsite, and then was appointed the first Receiver in the La Grande Land Office in 1862, holding that position for 15 years. Daniel surveyed the "old town" of La Grande in 1862 on his Homestead becoming the father of La Grande, and was elected to the Oregon State Legislature in 1864. Daniel was very generous, contributing to the Blue Mountain University. He received one Joint Contract with David P. Thompson in 1864 for 10 townships near Pendleton and 9 townships near Baker under Contract 107 in 1864 near La Grande on his own. Future U. S. Deputy Surveyor George W. Newman was a chainman for all the work. David P. Thompson had just surveyed the exteriors in the same year under his Contract 106.

## Chapman, Arthur Inghram "Ad"

1838-1905

Dr/Clerk

Part

Clerk

1860

to

no more



The son of W. W. Chapman, the Surveyor General of Oregon, a brother of Winfield Chapman and Huston Chapman, and an uncle of William B. Marye, Arthur was born in Iowa and came across the Oregon Trail with his family in 1847. He was a paperboy in 1850, delivering the Oregonian by horseback, as far as Corvallis 80 miles away. He was a messenger in the Indian War from 1855-56, between Walla Walla and The Dalles. In 1860 he was living at home in Eugene as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of his father. He went to Idaho County, ID with his brother Tom, squatted on Chapman Creek at White Bird, and ran a ferry across the Salmon River.

In the fall of 1862 he killed "Brockey", a notorious outlaw, by "cleaving his skull to the chin" with an ax. He was acquitted of the murder, and most folks thought he had done society a favor. He sold that farm, and bought another North of Mount Idaho, ID on Cottonwood Creek. While there he had an Indian wife, at least one child, and 400 horses. He was a Captain in the Nez Perce War in 1877, being a guide and interpreter for General O. O. Howard. Arthur interpreted Chief Joseph's quote at his surrender, "...I will fight no more forever."

His family claims they have the peace pipe, and Arthur represented and helped Chief Joseph in Indian Territory and Washington, D. C. Arthur was back in Idaho in 1877, at Fort Spokane for the Army in 1879, acting as Indian interpreter for George Goethals in 1883, and working for the Army at Fort Vancouver in 1888 as a packer. He married Jennie, a much younger woman, in Vancouver and had three children.

When his wayward nephew, William B. Marye, came to him in 1892 seeking help, they formed a surveying partnership, where Arthur would supply money and William would survey. Arthur had received a lump sum payment of \$14,000 as a pension and for services rendered to the Army. To begin with, he had to pay off William's bail bondsmen, which he did not know about in the beginning. They received Contract 397 near Mount St. Helens, and William used up all the budget on the initial survey, incurred an inspection, and was ordered to do major resurveys in the field. According to Arthur, William "threw up the work" and left the country.

As a surety, Arthur had to hire a compassman, Albert C. O'Neel, to complete the survey. A battle with the Surveyor General ensued to determine who would receive the money when the survey was approved, Marye or Arthur. It seems it went to Marye, who was in California by 1900. Arthur was found on the street in Portland in August, 1902, wandering around aimlessly, not knowing his name or where he lived, and was temporarily placed in the County jail. Friends said that he was worried about losing the money. He was declared insane, and Jennie was appointed guardian. He was in the Oregon Insane Asylum in 1902 and died there in 1905. He is the namesake of Chapman Creek near White Bird, ID. This is the maintained version of this information.

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**Chapman,  
Thomas "Tom"**  
1836-1904  
Dr/Clerk  
Clerk  
to  
no more

Thomas was born in Iowa, and came over the Oregon Trail with his family in 1847. His father was the future Surveyor General of Oregon, William W. Chapman, and three of his brothers were U. S. Deputy Surveyors. He delivered some of the first editions of the Portland Oregonian in 1850, and studied law enough to pass the bar in Oregon in 1858. Thomas fought in the Indian war of 1855-56, for which he later received a pension.

He was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of his father, William Chapman in 1859 and a chainman for Lafayette Cartee in 1860. He was listed as a lawyer in Eugene, OR in 1860, but gave up law to pursue mining in Idaho. He shot and killed a man in Deer Lodge, Montana in 1867 in self defense, and was acquitted by a jury. He participated in the Nez Perce War with his brother Arthur in 1877, and was still with his brother in Idaho in 1880 on a ranch.

Thomas was in Portland from 1885-88 as a rodman in the City Surveyor's office of his brother Winfield. He was with Winfield as Assistant Supervisor of Streets in 1891, and worked for the American Bridge Co. part time 1892-95 while Winfield was Manager there. He was admitted to the Old Soldiers Home in Roseburg, OR in 1898, and resided there off and on through 1902, being discharged twice, once for being drunk with whiskey in his room. He died in Portland of meningitis and heart trouble, but had been despondent and attempted suicide two weeks before his death. He was 5' 8" tall with blue eyes, and never married. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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**Chapman,  
William Williams**

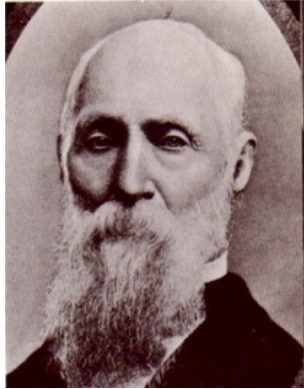
1808-1892

Dem

Surveyor General      1859

to

no more



Born and raised in Virginia, he was appointed U. S. Attorney for Wisconsin in 1836, and in 1838 was elected U. S. Congressman for Iowa. In 1844 he was elected a member of the Iowa Constitutional Convention. William came across the Oregon Trail in 1847 with his family, locating in Marysville first, and then to Salem in 1848. Learning of gold in California, he went there for a brief time, returning in 1849.

He was elected to the House of representatives in 1849, before he moved to Oregon City and then to Portland in 1850. William founded "The Oregonian" in 1850. He purchased an interest in land and became the co-developer and co-founder of Portland, OR along with Coffin and Lownsdale in 1850, and helped to get Canyon Road built. William moved to a ranch at Umpqua in 1853, was a Colonel in the Indian War, and was appointed as Surveyor General from 1859-1861. He returned to Portland in 1861, where he was involved in many business interests until his death in 1892. William returned to the legislature in 1868 and is the namesake of Chapman School in Portland, Chapman Street, and Chapman Square in the Plaza Blocks in downtown Portland. (biography) This is the Maintained version of this information.

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**Chapman,  
Winfield S.**

1850-1928

Rep

USDS

Contract 234      1875

to

Contract 664 (with      1896  
Carl Nicklin)

OR PE 200. Winfield was born in Portland, the son of W. W. Chapman, a Surveyor General of Oregon, and was the brother of Huston, Arthur and Thomas Chapman, and an uncle of William B. Marye. He graduated from the Portland Academy in 1868 and went to work in the City Surveyor's office off and on, becoming City Surveyor twice, Superintendent of Streets from 1884-1891, and City Engineer 1904-1915.

He founded and edited the "Daily Bee" in 1878 and also a literary magazine called "Native Son." Winfield organized the Jefferson Street Ferry and the East Portland Water Company. His help for his father in surveying RR's up the Gorge was instrumental in getting a RR to Portland. He invested in speculative real estate projects in Oregon and Alaska all along, but was wiped out in the Panic of 1893, although he recovered most of his assets before he died in Portland. He is the namesake of Chapman Point, on the north side of Cannon Beach, OR where he held property.

Winfield received a Contract in Oregon in 1875 for six townships between Coos Bay and Roseburg. He surveyed them and they were not examined. The next year he received a Contract in Washington for one township at Altoona on the Columbia River. His nephew, William B. Marye, was a chainman on both, and Samuel J. Spray was also a chainman on the Oregon survey. Dependent resurveys of T9N R7W at Altoona showed gross errors of up to 1000 feet exist in Chapman's work of 1876 per Jerry Olson.

John Farmer also showed 300 ft. and 7 degrees of distortion in T28S R9W in Chapman's 1876 survey in Oregon. He also received a Joint Contract with Carl Nicklin 20 years later in 1896 near Cottage Grove that was surveyed by Nicklin. Winfield suffered a stroke in an elevator in May, 1928 in Portland, and died two days later. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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**Chenoweth,  
Justin**

1825-1898

USDS

WA Contract 1                      1855

to

no more



1888

Justin was born in Illinois, the 10th of 11 children of a farmer. He studied civil engineering, and ventured to Texas for a year of surveying. Along with two of his brothers, he developed a scheme in 1849 to load a barge with 3000 bushels of produce and float it to New Orleans to sell to finance a trip to California. He received only enough to reach Ft. Leavenworth, KS where he joined the Mounted Rifles as an employee on the way to Oregon.

Justin came across the Oregon Trail in 1849 to Oregon City. He started teaching school at Linn City and surveying claim notifications and new townsites in 1850. Among his clients were John McLoughlin of Oregon City and Pratt and Couch of the City of Portland, and for one session, as a Democrat, he was Chief Clerk to the Legislature.

Justin's cousin Asbury (Francis A. Chenoweth) came to Oregon about the same time, and they teamed up to develop a RR around the Cascades on the Columbia, although Justin abandoned this effort as a partner. After filing on three claims, he settled on one at The Dalles, on which he resided while hauling mail from Cascade Locks to The Dalles by skiff, twice a week. He married Mary Vickers in 1852, an orphaned immigrant and a simple girl that was no threat to Justin. Soon thereafter, he built a large warehouse at The Dalles, and he and Mary lived in a part of it while he served the immigrants coming down the river. When at the Dalles, he was elected Probate Judge, School Superintendent, and County Surveyor of Wasco County.

His cousin Asbury was appointed a Supreme Court Justice of Washington Territory, and Justin received Contract 1 in Washington in 1855. The surveys in Clark County were well done per Jerry Olson, although that may be expected because his compassman was Lewis Van Vleet, and Justin had purchased a solar compass for the work. He began part of that survey on the East line of T1N R4E in Oregon as surveyed by Lafayette Cartee, and carried North across the Columbia. While working on the mail route, he was aboard a raft of lumber that was swept over the rapids, and he barely survived.

After Justin's wife died in 1862, his life deteriorated. He was a stage driver to Salt Lake City in 1863, a Notary Public in Shelton, WA in 1863 and a chainman for Alex M. Adams in 1872. Adams had no survey experience, and Justin may have been a compassman. In addition, Justin was listed as the geologist on the crew, and gave a lengthy, somewhat credible report in the field notes.

Justin was the recipient of a charge of criminal obstruction in Lewis County, and was guilty of criminal timber trespass in Thurston County. He went job to job, ending up working in a cannery in British Columbia, living with his son in California, and then with his daughter in Portland, where he died. He was the namesake of Chenoweth School, Chenoweth Creek, Chenoweth Butte, and the Chenoweth District at The Dalles. Justin loved to read, and subscribed to several papers. He wrote letters to the editor and to others, which some historians called "nonsensical". Acquaintances thought him intelligent, overbearing, and slightly crazy. His letter books and diaries are at OHS. (biography)

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**Chitwood,  
Johnathan  
Hampton**

1824-1887

USDS

Contract 360 (with M. 1880  
L. McCall)

to

no more

Jonathan was born in Indiana and was in Eola, Oregon by 1860 as a peddler of medicine. He had married his wife Sarah Jane Gaskill in 1848, and in 1880 he was living in Ashland, Oregon as a physician. He received a Joint Contract with M. L. McCall for the exteriors of 9 townships Northeast of Lakeview in 1880, and they appear to have been surveyed by McCall. A son of Jonathan was an axeman. Jonathan died in Ashland in 1887.



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**Clark, Newton***1838-1918*

Rep

USDS

Contract 302            1878  
to

Contract 515            1884



Newton was born in Illinois and graduated from Bronson Institute at Point Bluff, Illinois. Clark served in the Civil War for four years, ending as a First Lieutenant. He became a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Dakota Territory from 1869-1876 while managing a farm. He was in the Dakota Territorial Legislature in 1873, and in 1877 he crossed the Oregon Trail with his parents and settled on a farm in Hood River, OR.

His wife and family followed the next year. Newton practiced farming and surveying for 11 years at Hood River, receiving his first Contract near Hood River in 1878. He had two Contracts across the river in Washington in 1881 and 1882, before receiving two more Contracts near Hood River in 1884. He was appointed Grand Recorder of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, which position he held at Portland until he died.

He was the namesake of Newton Clark Glacier, Newton Creek and Clark Creek on the East slope of Mt. Hood, and for Clark County and the city of Clark in South Dakota. He also named Surveyor's Ridge just south of Hood River during a survey. His son William, who had worked as an axman at 17, graduated from Point Bluff Institute as an engineer and practiced civil engineering in Oregon, being Hood River City Engineer for several years. Newton's grandson, Newton Clark, graduated from Stanford in civil engineering, and was a surveyor in Hood River. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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**Cleveland, Albert****Haran***1847-1911+*

USDS

Contract 312            1879  
to

Contract 350            1880

Born in Michigan, the son of an engineer from Canada, Albert was with his family in Michigan in 1850. He married his wife Emily Betterton in Indiana in 1875 and soon followed his parents to Crescent City, California. He was the County Surveyor of Del Norte County, California in 1880-85, and a house painter in Pleasant, Indiana in 1900. Albert received two Contracts in 1878-80 for two small, fractional townships in the Southwest corner of Curry County, just across the Oregon border and near the ocean. His daughter, Emily, married Joseph Ure in about 1904, and they moved to Victoria District, Alberta and filed a Homestead. Albert and his wife, Emily, followed in 1909 and 1910 respectively. Albert filed a Homestead, and they were living in Victoria District in 1911, next to their daughter, just North of Marwayne. (Section 10, T53, R3W)

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**Clingman, Cyrus***1823-1899*

USDS

Special Instructions 1862  
to  
no more

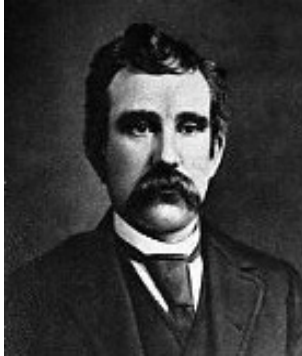
Born in Ohio, the son of a County Surveyor, Cyrus married Lavina Haughey in Illinois in 1851 and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1852 with his wife to California. Before he left, his father gave him a good compass and carved a case for it out of wood. He mined at first and then started surveying, taking Contracts in the mountains with large crews. They came to Oregon City in about 1858, and then to Peoria, where Cyrus taught school. Cyrus was a civil engineer and school teacher and combined both activities for a number of years. His wife, Lavina, would substitute for him in the classroom when he was away surveying.

He was elected Linn County Surveyor in about 1860 and held it for several years. It was about this time that Cyrus was asked to amend the boundary of the Brooks DLC as a U. S. Deputy Surveyor. He also surveyed a small island in the Willamette River by Special Instructions. Cyrus was also the surveyor of the Philomath to Yaquina Bay Wagon Road, and this kept him busy for quite a while. They bought a 180 acre farm at Peoria, and lived there the rest of their lives.

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**Clinkinbeard,****John Jay***1852-1918*

Comp

Contract 197 (as 1873  
compassman for a few  
days for William H.  
Byars)  
to  
no more

Born in Oregon, John was on the family farm in Wilbur, Oregon in 1870, and served as a chainman for William H. Byars in Douglas County in 1872, in Jackson county in 1872 and on the Eastside for two Contracts in 1873. He served as a compassman during an illness of William on the last Contract. John graduated from Umpqua Academy, where William Byars had been a teacher.

Many of the crewmen on those Contracts were Umpqua Academy students of Byars. John married Philura Vandenburg in Coos County in 1875. They lived and farmed on Coos River the rest of their lives, and had nine children. Unfortunately, their first three children died as babies in their first year of life.

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**Coad, Chester  
Gilbert**

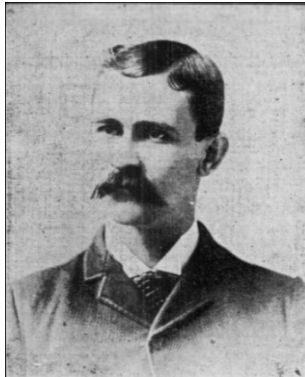
1861-1930

Rep

Comp

Contract 446 (as 1882  
compassman for  
William P. Wright)

to

Contract 514 (as 1884  
compassman for  
portions for William  
P. Wright))

Chester was a State Fire Warden in 1913 and lived in Dallas, Oregon nearly all his life. Chester graduated from the La Creole Academy near Dallas in 1878 with high honors. He worked as a compassman for William P. Wright on three Contracts in 1882-84 and married Jennie Rowell in Dallas in 1888. He was elected Clerk of Polk County in 1888 and 1890, after which he was Cashier at Dallas Bank. He was business manager of Dixie Flouring Mills in Rickreall for several years.

In 1899, he was appointed Assistant Sergeant of Arms to the United States Senate, and was soon appointed Dallas Postmaster from at least 1901-1910. Chester was a laborer in a lumber mill in 1920, but had regained his position as Postmaster by 1930, and was living with his two spinster school teacher daughters. Jennie had died in 1927, and Chester died in 1930. (biography)

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**Coffin, Lester  
Fitzgerald**

1863-1918

Rep

Comp

Special Instructions 1881  
(as compassman for  
Thomas S. Lang for  
portions)

to

no more

Lester was born in The Dalles, the son of Laban Coffin, the Register of The Dalles Land Office. He was a crewman for the survey of The Dalles Military Reservation in 1877 by Henry Pershin. That was resurveyed by Thomas S. Lang in 1881 and at age 18, Lester was a chainman on the boundary survey to begin with. He was promoted to the equivalent of a compassman to survey an extension of the townsite of The Dalles within the Reservation. His duties as compassman were in the laying out of lots and blocks, physically making the monuments and setting them in the proper positions for lot and block corners. He spent 20 working days in that effort in addition to the 60 working days as a chainman.

Lester was a stockman in Klickitat, Washington from at least 1887-1892, and married Nellie Ross Levins in Portland, Oregon in 1895. Along with his brothers, Arthur and Stanley, he formed Coffin Bros. and began opening stores. They eventually covered at least Arlington, Yakima, Lapwai, Nez Perce, Kamiah, Twin Falls, Cottonwood, and Forest. Lester and Nellie were in Lewiston, Idaho from 1900 to 1902, where Lester was a merchant. They had three children, including a set of twins, before Nellie died in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1902, where she was being treated for TB. Lester married Clara Stoops in Alameda, California in 1904, living in Alameda for awhile.

Coffin Bros. had also purchased property, amassing the largest stock ranch in North Central Washington, covering 150,000 acres. They sheared 40,000 sheep at one time. They sold 110,000 acres in 1908 because the land they sold had greater value for wheat. Lester was reported in the newspapers as travelling constantly, and he had a stroke in 1911 at age 48. He was treated at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, and temporarily recovered. He became ill in 1918 and died at the hospital in Wenatchee at age 55. He had just built a beautiful house on the Columbia on the ranch.

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**Cole, William P.**  
**"Willie"**

1868-1908

USDS

Contract 605

to

no more

1893

Willie was born in Nebraska, the son of a farmer, and moved to Cove, Oregon with his family in 1879. He received Contract 605 to survey three sections of land in Wallowa County in 1893. Willie used his brother John as a chainman and his uncle Henry as an axeman. He was a farm laborer at Baker in 1900. He married Elenora Parker in 1904, and owned a farm at Flora. He died of typhoid in 1908, leaving a wife and two babies.

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**Colebrook,**  
**Frederick**  
**William**

1816-1889

USDS

Special Instructions

to

Contract 219

1874

1874

Frederick was born in Scotland and came to Curry County about 1858, He lived in Pleasant Hill in Curry County in 1880, and was County Surveyor of Curry County. In 1874 he received Special Instructions for a survey of an island in the mouth of the Rogue River and Contract 219 for 2 townships in Curry County just South of Port Orford. They were near Ophir, which he surveyed in 1875. At age 57 in 1875, he married Mary Schmitt and had 6 children by 1886, plus one from his wife's first marriage. They lived on a 500 acre sheep ranch North of Ophir. He was the namesake of Colebrook Butte, Northeast of Ophir and about 1 mile East of his ranch. Frederick died in 1889, near the time he was building a new home.

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**Collier, Arthur****James***1866-1939*

USDS

unkn

1884

to

no more



The Lane County Historical Museum has two photographs of Arthur J. Collier, noted as being a Deputy Surveyor. This inclusion in this list is based on that notation only. He was a chainman for his brother Robert Collier in 1884 in Oregon. In 1888 Arthur was a member of a surveying party surveying the lands of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company from Lebanon to Santiam Pass.

He was the brother of Deputy Surveyors Charles M. and Robert H. Collier and Compassman George Collier and the uncle of Ethan Collier. He was a surveyor for the U. S. Geological Survey in the West and in Alaska for many years and a professor at the University of Portland and the University of Oregon.

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**Collier, Charles****Morse***1857-1934*

USDS

USDMS

HES

Contract 545 (with Robert O. Collier)

1889

to

Special Instructions 1910



1910

Son of a professor of physics and mathematics, Charles was the brother of Robert O. Collier and the father of Ethan A. Collier. He graduated from Oberlin in 1879. His parents were on the faculty at Wheaton in 1860, and his father was a professor at Pacific College in Forest Grove by 1870. Charles studied law in Colorado, was admitted to the bar in 1883, and then joined the family in Eugene in 1886 where his father was a professor. He was Lane County Surveyor most of the time from 1886-1913, in which capacity he surveyed much of the McKenzie Highway.

He married Jane Maria "Nettie" McCornack in 1886, a U of O graduate and the sister of Eugene and Walter McCornack. She taught school, was President of the U of O Alumni Association, and was the first female member of the Eugene School Board. The first two Contracts of Charles were Joint Contracts with his brother Robert for two townships at Florence and one East of Springfield, all surveyed by Robert. He had a Contract of his own at Cottage Grove, followed by two again with Robert for two townships at Globe and another at Yachats, all surveyed by Charles.

From 1892-98, he had three Contracts on his own on the West side for five townships. From 1898-1906 Charles surveyed 85 Mining Claims, mostly in the Bohemia and Blue River Mining Districts. While attempting to survey the Helena Mine at Bohemia for an absentee owner, he was threatened and attacked by the current possessors of the Claim. They displayed a rifle and smashed his transit with the rifle. He later sued them for \$10,000 with unknown results. From 1907-08, he received three Joint Contracts with George Waggoner for 12 townships, nearly all in the Southern Oregon Cascades.

All were surveyed by Charles, and interestingly, the third Contract was to fix the errors and survey retracements for the first Contract. George had recently been replaced as Chief Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office. In the next two years, he surveyed two Homestead Entry Claims, twelve Mining Claims and one township in Southwestern Oregon. He died at age 76 by falling from a tree in his yard in Eugene. Charles and Janet are the namesake of the Collier Memorial State Park just North of Upper Klamath Lake, donated by their children. All of their children graduated from the University of Oregon.

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### **Collier, Ethan**

#### **Alexis**

1887-1970

USDS

Contract 798 (with 1910  
Charles Collier)

to

no more



1904

OR PE 645. Ethan was born the son of Charles M. Collier and the nephew of Robert Collier. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1909, and later MIT, and received a Joint Contract with his father in the very Southwest corner of the State on the coast in 1910. All the work was surveyed by Charles. At that time Ethan was a deputy county surveyor under his father in Eugene, and married Jeanette Southmay in Florence in 1916.

He was a dredge contractor in 1918 at Nehalem and worked for the Oregon State Highway Department in 1919-20 in St. Helens, 1930 in Salem, 1940 in Portland, and 1942 in Salem. He worked as a Division Engineer in 1940 and Chief of Maintenance at his retirement.

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**Collier, George***1860-1948*

Comp

Contract 466 (as  
compassman for John  
A. McQuinn)

to

no more

1883

The most likely candidate for compassman George Collier would be George Collier from Eugene, the son of Professor George Haskell Collier and the brother of Deputy Surveyors, Charles and Robert Collier. George was born in Wheaton, Illinois and came to Oregon with his parents in the 1860's. He was a compassman for University of Oregon graduate, John A. McQuinn, on a Contract near Cottage Grove in 1883. There were errors and distortions of over 1300 feet in his work, as disclosed by subsequent surveys. His father was teaching Chemistry and Physics at the University in Eugene at the time and John and George were probably acquainted.

George was living in Forest Grove, Oregon in 1870, and in Eugene, Oregon in 1880. His father was a professor in both instances. Clara Electra Andrews, from Perry, New York, arrived by train in Portland in 1885, and she and George were married the next day in Portland. A son was born at Eugene in 1887, but by 1900, they were back in Perry, New York. Clara's parents had recently died, and George was a fruit farmer and apiarist until he and Clara both died in 1944 in Perry.

---

**Collier, Henry  
Latimer***1853-1925*

SES

Special Instructions  
to

Special Instructions

1893

1894

Born the son of a Judge, Henry graduated from the University of Georgia in 1872 in civil engineering. From then until 1889, he was a surveyor and engineer for railroads in the Southeast, working up to Chief Engineer of the Atlanta and Florida RR. He was then engaged in contracting and granite quarries until 1892, when he was appointed an Examiner of Surveys in several states in the West from 1893-98, performing 21 examinations in Oregon in 1893-94. One of his tasks was to examine the corrections of the Benson surveyors after they did the corrections promised in the great compromise after 1894.

They never did the corrections, but Henry was dismissed for taking too long to approve the surveys. The Benson surveys were approved, and they were paid the money due them for the fraudulent surveys. He returned to railroads in 1898 as Chief Engineer for the Tifton and Moultrie RR in Georgia, and then the Georgia and Florida RR. He was appointed a Commissioner of Public Works in Atlanta in 1901, and consulting engineer for the Yellow Pine Manufacturing Association in 1911.

---

**Collier, Robert  
Haskell Orville**

1864-1921

USDS

Contract 506

1884

to

Contract 581 (with  
Charles Collier)

1891

Robert was born in Illinois, where his parents were professors at Wheaton. By 1869, they had moved to Forest Grove, Oregon where his father was a professor, and then moved permanently to Eugene, Oregon by 1880 where his father was on the faculty of the University of Oregon, teaching physics and mathematics. Robert attended the University and graduated in 1884 with an B. A.. During the summers of 1881 and 1882, he was a chainman for fellow student, Thomas Judkins, on five Contracts on the East side. He was a medical student in 1886 and a surveyor in 1890, both in Eugene.

Robert received his first Contract in 1884 for three townships in the Cascades East of Eugene. He used his brothers, Charles M. Collier and Arthur Collier on the crew. He had two Joint Contracts with his brother, Charles, in 1889 for one township East of Eugene and two townships at Florence. Robert received a Masters in 1891, married his wife Julia C. Caswell in 1893, and was in San Francisco by 1896, where he was a tea merchant.

He lived in San Francisco and Vallejo as a merchant for the rest of his life in partnership with his brother-in-law. Julia left on a tour of Europe the year after he died. Robert was born and educated as Robert Haskell Collier, but signed his survey oaths as Robert Orville Collier. This persisted until he arrived in San Francisco, when he soon resumed the identity of Robert Haskell Collier, but overlapped his names at the same address for awhile. Signatures show that they were the same person.

---

**Collins, Edward**

1824-1905

IAA

Special Instructions  
from OIA

1888

to

no more

Born in Massachusetts, Edward was first noted as a soldier in the Mexican War, fighting in the Battle of Cerro Gordo. He married Rachael Bordman Lemman in 1861, and stayed in the Army through the Civil War. He was a Captain at Standing Rock, Dakota Territory, in 1876 after the Battle of Little Big Horn, and made a census of the remaining Indians. He found 5412 Indians in four days, and made a report. He was a Captain at Fort Pembina, Dakota Territory, in 1880 and the Commander of Fort Laramie, Wyoming, in 1887 as a Lt. Colonel.

He requested retired status from the Army, and per the request of Grover Cleveland was assigned as the Special Allotting Agent on the Grand Ronde Reservation in Oregon in 1888, completing his work in 1889. At that time he was relieved of his Indian duties. Rachael died in 1891, and Edward was listed as retired in 1900 in Boston. He died in Dorchester in 1905, and is buried in his home town of Milton, Massachusetts. He spent his personal time researching and excavating Indian archeological sites in the Southwest, including burial mounds. He had many artifacts, including Pottery, human bones and a mastodon tusk.



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**Cooke, Henry  
Wayland**

1848-1893

USDS

Contract 381

to

Contract 593

1881

1892

Henry W. Cooke was born the son of Joseph C. Cooke, a carpenter, and lived in Putnam, Connecticut in his childhood. He was a carpenter in Connecticut in 1870, and worked in canning in Rainier, Oregon in 1880. By 1880 he was an axman for Bamford Robb for several townships near John Day, and was listed as a surveyor in the Portland Directory in 1883. He began surveying Contracts on his own in Oregon in 1881 for 11 townships in the Steens Mountains and near Malheur Lake, and continued at that until 1892 for a total of 15 Contracts. Several were examined with no negative results. From 1881-84, he surveyed 8 Contracts for 60 townships between John Day and Baker. He surveyed on the West side twice, on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation in 1883-84, by Special Instructions for the East line of the Reservation and for six DLCs.

From 1884-86, Henry surveyed 2 townships South of Wasco, and 11 townships back near Baker. He was appointed a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor, and from 1886-1890, he surveyed 19 Mining Claims in Baker and Union Counties, mostly out of Baker City. His last three Contracts in 1891-92 were for five townships, one at Adrian on the Snake River, one just North of John Day, one adjacent to Harney Lake, and the two most Northeasterly townships in the State, on the Snake River. He finished in September and received approval in January, 1893. On all his work, Henry used small, consistent crews, with no hint of Compassmen, and signed all the oaths himself.

He was in Baker City in May of 1893, when he was injured in a fall at the train depot. He suffered a strangulated hernia, endured great pain, went through two operations, but died ten days later during the second operation at The Dalles. The newspaper article indicated he was from Portland. His remains were sent to Putnam, Connecticut, where he is buried in the family plot. He left his estate of \$20,000 to a surviving sister in Massachusetts. There was a sheep farmer in Shanico named Henry W. Cooke and a policeman in Oregon City named William Henry Cooke, but the circumstances of dying in Baker City and the activities of the other two indicate that the Henry Cooke buried in Putnam is the Deputy Surveyor.

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**Cooper, Jacob  
Calvin**

1845-1937

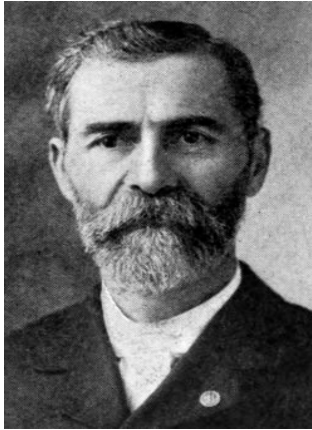
Rep

USDS

Contract 397                    1881

to

no more



Jacob was born in Missouri and served in the Civil War as a bugler for Co. C, 14th SW Missouri Cavalry, for one year in 1862. He crossed the Oregon Trail in 1866, partly working as a driver for a mule team, and partly walking the route from Helena, Montana to Walla Walla. His parents and family had preceded him in 1863, and he taught school the first winter. He made a round trip back to Missouri via Panama in 1868 to marry Melzena Spilman. He was a merchant in Polk County, Oregon in 1870, and an architect and census enumerator in McMinnville in 1880.

Jacob was awarded Contract 397 for 16 townships in the very Northeast corner of the State in 1881, and surveyed most of it. He used young college student, Jefferson Fenton, as a chainman for the summer. Several townships and Parallels were left to be reassigned to Rufus Moore the next year under Contract 437. He surveyed the initial townsite of Newberg for Jesse Edward in 1883 near the future Friends Academy. Jacob was: Yamhill County Surveyor 1884-86 and 1888-89, Postmaster of McMinnville in 1889, a surveyor in 1900, an architect and surveyor in 1910, a surveyor in 1919, a printer in 1920, and retired in 1930. Zena died in 1930, and Jacob in 1937, all of the above in McMinnville.

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**Cooper, Lucius  
Franklin**

1840-1909

USDMS

Mineral Surveys                    1878

to

no more

CA PLS 114. Born in Maryland, the son of a prosperous merchant, Lucius was in California by 1859, a lawyer and surveyor in Santa Barbara, California in 1870, and married his wife, Kate, in 1871. He was in Waldo, Oregon in Baker County in 1879, when he was bonded as a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor, but he never finalled a plat. He lived in Crescent City, California in 1880, and spent the rest of his life there, again as a surveyor, miner, and lawyer. Lucius received California PLS 114 in 1891, and was a USDMS in California, beginning in 1872 in Yreka.

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**Corwin, Samuel****E.**

1832-1886

Rep

USDS

Contract 183 (with C. 1873

J. Handley)

to

no more

Samuel was born in Ontario, mined in California in the early 1850's, and married Emeline Ann Richardson in Union County, Oregon in 1865, a 16 year old girl, 17 years his junior. While residing on a homestead near Nehalem by 1870, he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1872, and introduced the first women's suffrage bill in the Oregon Legislature, losing the vote by one vote. He was the first Postmaster of Nehalem from at least 1871-76 and received a Joint Contract with C. J. Handley near where he lived. The work was performed by Handley, with no mention of Samuel. In 1873 he was peddling a smallpox cure in the newspaper. He was a musician in Astoria in 1880, and died in Oregon in 1886. So far there is no evidence of surveying experience.

---

**Costello, John**

1835-1903

Dem

EX

Contract 93

1861

to

no more

Born in Maryland, John was the older brother of Ellen Costello by one year. They moved to Indiana by 1838, and his father died in 1847. His mother remarried to Henry Gearin, and the new family came across the Oregon Trail in 1851 and settled near St. Paul, Oregon. Ellen married USDS Matthew O'Connell Murphy in 1856, the son of USDS Daniel Murphy. John was elected Assistant Clerk to the Territorial Council in 1856-57. He received Special Instructions to examine Contract 93 of Daniel Murphy in 1860, and was paid in 1861.

This was the survey of the Deschutes Guide Meridian, and Matthew was the Compassman for that survey. John was Multnomah County Assessor in 1868, Clerk to the House of Representatives in 1870 and participated in Democrat politics for some time. He ran for Multnomah County Assessor in about 1886 and died in Portland of pneumonia in 1903. There were several John Costellos in Oregon and California at this time, and everything after his survey projects may have been done by another John Costello. He could have moved to California by 1874 where he married and stayed there until 1888.

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**Cotter, Ethel  
Annette, Miss**

1880-1918

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1897

Born in Oregon, the daughter of a barber that died when she was eight years old, Ethel worked as a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of Robert Habersham from September 25, 1897 until at least 1900 for \$2 per day. This was a temporary position outside of civil service, and she received a civil service complaint in 1898 because she had replaced two existing Clerks that were classified, Catherine Neill and Florence Swope. The Surveyor General declassified those positions, and Ethel kept her job for awhile. She married Arthur Buxton Loder, a salesman, in Indiana in 1904, and died in Chicago in 1918 while still married to Arthur.

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**Cradlebaugh,  
George W.**

1845-1875

Comp

Contract 235 (as  
compassman for John  
H. Stone)

to

no more

George was born in Ohio, the son of John Cradlebaugh. John was a lawyer, and became a non-Mormon Supreme Court Justice for Utah Territory. He was instrumental in the separation of the Territory of Nevada from Utah Territory, and was the first Delegate to Congress from Nevada in 1861. George enlisted in the Union Army in 1862 as a Sergeant, and was a clerk in the Illinois Infantry, where his father was the Colonel. When his enlistment was over, he secured an appointment to West Point in 1864 from Nevada, and graduated in the Class of 1867. After serving in New Mexico and Arizona, George ended his Army career in 1871, and came to the Northwest.

George was a chainman for Ross Shoecraft just Northwest of Olympia in 1874 and a compassman for John H. Stone in 1875, just South of La Grande. During this same time, he was an Assistant Engineer and Surveyor under Major Michler for the Portland District of the Corps of Engineers, making examinations and surveys on the Chehalis River in Washington. He died in Portland less than a month after signing his final oath as compassman at 30 years old.

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**Crawford, John  
Davis**

1824-1877

Rep

USDS

Contract 196 (with A. 1873

S. Rinearson as

compassman)

to

no more

John was born in New York, came across the Oregon Trail in 1847, was in the commissary department in the Cayuse War in 1848, worked as a printer in Oregon City, and married Agnes McEwen Barnhart in 1857. John went to California for gold before he became half owner of the Hoosier, the first steamboat on the Willamette River from 1852-61, during which time he was involved in the mercantile business at Champog. That ended when the flood of 1861 destroyed and eliminated the town of Champog and all of John's possessions. He had purchased a farm on the West side of the Willamette at Butteville. From early on, John was a lawyer, continuing until at least 1870.

He was elected to the State Legislature in 1872, and in 1873 received Contract 196 for three townships near the Idaho border, for which he used engineer Abraham L. Rinearson as compassman . He was in Butteville in 1870, and lived in Portland, but died on his farm at Butteville in 1877 from an accidental self inflicted gunshot wound.

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**Crawford, Peter  
W.**

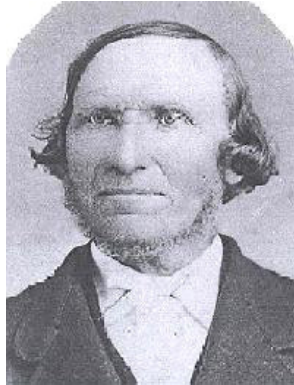
1822-1889

USDS

Claim Contract 51 1854

to

Special Instructions 1863



Peter was born and educated in Scotland, and emigrated to the U. S. in 1843. He crossed the Oregon Trail with his solar compass in 1847 and filed a Donation Claim in Cowlitz County on the Cowlitz River. Henry Williamson hired him to make the first survey of Vancouver City in the spring of 1848, but Williamson abandoned his claim, and Amos Short jumped it and hired Israel Mitchell to resurvey it into Columbia City in 1850.

Amos had killed one of the men hired to guard Williamson's Claim. Israel enlisted Peter to help with the survey, since it was the same one that Peter had done. This same survey was also perpetuated in the survey of East Vancouver by Levi Farnsworth in 1872. The gold in California lured Peter in 1849, but he came back and started the settlement of his claim in the same year. Peter surveyed both the notifications and the official surveys (Claim Contract 51, Oreg.) of the Claims on Sauvie Island in Oregon in 1854-56. He surveyed one Claim by Special Instructions at Clatskanie in 1862. He platted several early towns along the Columbia, namely: Milwaukie, Milton, St. Helens, Monticello, and additions to Oregon City.

Peter received Contract 114 for a small survey in Clark County and a township at Skamokawa in 1870. Alexander McAndrew surveyed the one at Skamokawa as compassman in 1871. Peter received another Contract for two townships West of Kelso in 1872, and surveyed them both himself.

Other positions he held were: Cowlitz County Surveyor 1881-82, Vancouver City Surveyor 1883, and Clark County Surveyor 1884-86. Peter founded and surveyed the town of Kelso, WA on his DLC in 1884, named after his home town in Scotland. Among the experiences described in his narratives on file at the Bancroft Library at Berkeley was that of a chainman dying of hypothermia near Vernonia, OR. He was the namesake of Crawford Street and Peter Crawford Bridge in Kelso. The small park on the corner of South Pacific and Oak is dedicated to his honor. Before the town of Kelso, the RR stop was called Crawford. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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## Cross, Caleb

### Erastus

1851-1928

Rep

Comp

Contract 240 (as 1875

compassman for John  
Q. A. Hurlburt for  
portions)

to

no more



Caleb was born in Illinois, the son of a carpenter and came across the Oregon Trail with his parents in 1852, taking a Claim on the South side of Canby. He grew up in Clackamas County and was living in Oregon City in 1873, when he was hired as a chainman by John Hurlburt for three townships at La Grande and two more the next year West of Forest Grove. He was again a chainman for two townships in 1875 at Sandy before being promoted to compassman for several townships on the Siletz Indian Reservation in 1875-76, all for John Hurlburt.

Caleb surveyed the exteriors and/or subdivisions of eight townships and created 20 acre allotments on four of those for that Contract. He married Laurette E. Nichols in early 1876, and they had their first son in December of that year. He filed an 80 acre Homestead two miles East of Sandy and proved up on it in 1883. By 1890 he was living in Oregon City again, and was listed as a carpenter there in 1900 and 1903, actively involved with the fire fighters. His brother, Harvey, was a State Senator from 1890-1898. Caleb and his family were reported several times as working a copper mine in the Bald Mountain District on the upper Clackamas River from 1902-06. He was at least temporarily appointed as a Judge in Oregon City in 1906.

In 1909, the City of Oregon City decided to move the historic John McLaughlin house from near the river to the upper level of the city onto the Public Square. Caleb fought that move in court to the end, but lost. Caleb and Laura were living with their first son in Crook County at Powell Butte in 1910, where Caleb patented 160 acres from 1912-15. Their two sons also patented 160 acres each in the same township from 1911-15. They returned to Oregon City in about 1917 when they sold their 80 irrigated acres at Powell Butte and Caleb's health started to deteriorate. Caleb was retired in Oregon City in 1920 and died there in 1928, two months after the death of Laura.

**Culver, William  
James "Jimmie"**

1867-1929

Rep

USDS

SES

Contract 558                      1890

to

Special Instructions            1893



OR PE 418. Jimmie was born and raised in Oregon in Marion County. He attended Willamette University, and then worked in the County Surveyor's Office at Salem, becoming County Surveyor from 1888-94. He received Contract 558 in 1890 in Clatsop County for three townships and surveyed them in 1891. The first crew included future Deputy Surveyors Byron Herrick and William F. Byars, the son of the current Surveyor General. A newspaper article noted that his brother Frank was also a crewman, but not in the notes.

The County Surveyor position was up for election in 1894, and his chainman, Byron Herrick, was elected, serving continuously for 42 years after that. Jimmie married Estella Sherman in 1906, was a deputy county surveyor and Roadmaster in 1902, and was Marion County Sheriff from 1904-08. While surveying for the new County Hospital in 1912, Jimmie discovered an error he had made previously in the survey of the State Asylum, causing a problem and a lot of press. He was noted as a Prospector in Prospect, Oregon in 1900, a surveyor in 1910 and 1920 in Salem, and died of a stroke in 1929.

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**Cunningham,  
Joseph Hooker**

1864-1920

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

to

no more

1900

Member ASCE. Joseph was born in Illinois, probably graduated from college, and lived in Portland by 1892 when he married Caroline May Boys. They had two sons by the time Caroline died in 1906. He was an engineer for the Corps of Engineers for at least 1894-95 when he was the surveyor mapping the Willamette River from Portland to Eugene. He was a civil engineer in Portland in 1900 when he was appointed a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor for Oregon. He soon had ads out promoting the new title, but there are no surveys of his in the BLM records.

He was named on a small committee in 1904 to examine the corruption charges on the Tanner Creek Sewer Project. Joseph was very critical of the contractor and the City Inspection, noting the extremely shoddy construction practices and the overpayments to the contractor. Joseph was named an Associate Member of ASCE in 1899 and a Member in 1904. By 1910 he was listed as a Consulting Hydraulic Engineer, and was the engineer for the Gold Hill Development Company at Medford for a large hydro-power project to produce power and to facilitate dredging. He confirmed the estimates of Ebenezer Pickler at LaGrande for a water project.

Developers proposed a woolen mill near Bridal Veil, using hydro power from Gordon Creek Falls, and Joseph was the engineer. He appraised the private Salem Water Company's assets for the purpose of a City of Salem purchase in 1909. He made estimates for Portland to construct its own power facilities on Clackamas tributaries in 1913 and designed a Ridgefield, Washington electric power system in 1914. Joseph remarried to Jane E. Markel in 1913 in Portland, but he was living in a hotel in Portland in 1920, and Jane was living in California. He died of a heart attack in 1920 in Portland.

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**Curley, James**
**Michael**

1828-1870

Dem

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1858

Born in Ireland, by 1858 James was appointed a Draftsman in the Office of Oregon Surveyor General, John Zieber in Oregon, and in 1859 a draftsman in the Surveyor General's Office of James Tilton in Washington. He went back to Oregon in 1859, and was the draftsman for Surveyor General Bynon Pengra in 1863. He was also the draftsman for the Lane County Map, commissioned in 1863. By 1870 he was a hopeless drunk, and died of acute alcoholism. James was an excellent draftsman, and "never hurt anyone but himself." He died in Salem. This is the maintained version of this information.



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**Currey,  
Providence  
Montz, Jr.**

1845-1839

USDS

Special Instructions 1893

to

no more



Prove was born in Indiana, the son of a farmer. He came with his family to Oregon before 1862 and married Sarah Clementine Lee in Cottage Grove in 1869, with whom he had 7 children. For some reason, he and a brother were boarders in Eugene in 1860 as teenagers. He lived in Cottage Grove in 1870, and was a merchant in Malheur in 1880.

He ended up in Lakeview, where he ran for County Surveyor in 1892 and lost, won over Charles Moore in 1894, and lost to Charles Moore in 1900. During this time in 1893, he was awarded a Contract by Special Instructions for two sections in T38S R19E, but he did not do the survey. He was a surveyor in 1900 and 1910 in Lakeview, but by 1920 Prove was retired in Lakeview, and living with a son in Eugene in 1930. He died of senility at age 94 in Harney in 1939.

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**Currin, James**

**Knox Polk**

1845-1920

USDS

Contract 348 (with 1880

William Odell) (with  
portions by Levi  
Walker as  
compassman)

to

Contract 693 1898



1870

James was born in Virginia, the son of a farmer, and moved with his family to Missouri, and then again with his family to Oregon. He graduated with a degree in Pharmacy with the first graduating class of Oregon Agricultural College in 1870, the same year he married Amelia Campbell. His first Contract was a Joint Contract with William Odell in 1880 for 16 townships, all on the East side. Four of the townships were on the Deschutes River just below Warm Springs and were surveyed by Odell.

The rest were Southwest of Burns, and they shared the work. Levi Walker was the compassman for Odell on his work, and James Nolan was a chainman for Currin on some of his work. The next Contract on his own in 1881 was for 11 townships in the very Southeastern corner of the state, and continued into Contract 412 in the same vicinity for five more townships in 1881. James finally surveyed on the West side in 1882 for five townships Southeast of Cottage Grove. After the suspension of surveys in 1885-87, The Surveyor General appointed him under a Joint Contract with his former chainman, James E. Noland, by Special Instructions to facilitate the allotments on the Umatilla Reservation in 1887.

They mapped the topographic features, surveyed the Boundary of the Reservation, and surveyed 16 exteriors and subdivisions of townships within the Reservation. They both signed the oaths and used Laban Wooley as compassman for all but the allotments. After making the allotments, it was determined that there was not enough good land in the Reservation to complete the task by 10,000 acres, and James was called out in 1889-90 to go back and expand the boundary of the Reservation under Contract 537 for five more townships.

His last Contract came ten years later with the subdivisions of T5S R42E Southeast of La Grande. He surveyed it in 1898, was examined by David Kinnaird, and was directed to do field corrections. He retraced the West boundary of the township, and was examined again and approved. By 1900 he was a druggist and a farmer in Cottage Grove, which he continued until he died. He was named for James Knox Polk, the President of the United

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### **Daly, John D.**

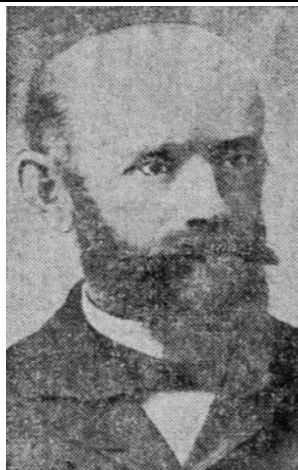
1837-1907

S G

Surveyor General      1903

to

no more



1907

Born in New York, John went to San Francisco as a young man, became a waiter, and moved to Stockton where he was a successful merchant. He married, and lost his wife and fortune. John came to Oregon in about 1887, and settled in Newport, where he founded a newspaper. He worked for various railroads, and was in charge of the Elgin and La Grande branch and also worked for SPRR. He was elected to the Oregon Legislature from 1894-98 from Lincoln and Benton counties, and was later elected a State Senator for Benton County, serving two terms.

Born in New York, John went to San Francisco as a young man, became a waiter, and moved to Stockton where he was a successful merchant. He married, and lost his wife and fortune. John came to Oregon in about 1887, and settled in Newport, where he founded a newspaper. He worked for various railroads, and was in charge of the Elgin and La Grande branch and also worked for SPRR. He was elected to the Oregon Legislature from 1894-98 from Lincoln and Benton counties, and was later elected a State Senator for Benton County, serving two terms.

John was a Regent to OAC in 1898 and a delegate to the Republican Convention in 1896. He testified that he had a Claim in the infamous T11S R7W and had squatted on it in the summer months, but did not know of all the other settlers supposedly living there. His support for Senator Fulton resulted in Fulton's election in 1903, and also resulted in Fulton's appointment of John to the position of Surveyor General in 1903. Right after he heard that he was not being reappointed as Surveyor General in 1907, he fell down a flight of stairs in a strange apartment building, resulting in a skull fracture. It was also investigated as a murder.

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**Dame, John  
Wesley**

1841-1927

Comp

Mineral Survey

to

no more

1873

Born in Ohio, John discovered a valuable gold claim in California in 1861, but soon sold his interest. The new owner prospered and retired on the income. John was the co-owner of the Dame and Ferry Gold Mine in T27S R14W in 1873 in Coos County, and acted as compassman on the survey of his Claim by Simon Cathcart. He was in Coos County in 1866 and was last noted as a miner in the 1880 census at Randolph, Coos County and the 1893 tax assessment rolls in Coos County.

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**Davenport,  
Timothy W.**

1826-1911

Rep

USDS

Comp

Contract 33 (as

1853

compassman for

Josiah Preston and

George Hyde for part)

to

Contract 162 (with W. 1871

H. Jackson as

compassman)



**"The Sage of Silverton"**

Timothy was born in New York, the son of a physician. He was tutored in algebra and geometry in Ohio and spent one year at Sterling Medical School, but taught school until he crossed the Oregon Trail with his family in 1851. His father filed a claim in Waldo Hills, South of Silverton. He came West to be a surveyor, and with his education, he soon found employment.

George Hyde and Josiah Preston, the brother-in-law and brother of Surveyor John Preston respectively, obtained a Contract near Olympia in April, 1853. Besides 12 townships, the survey included the extension of the Willamette Meridian across Nisqually Reach, Anderson Island, and Drayton Passage, to end at Penrose Point temporarily. The survey of the 4th and 5th Standard Parallel included crossings of Nisqually Reach again, Henderson Inlet, Dana Passage, Peale Passage, and Totten Inlet. John Preston made sure that there was an educated professional involved, to do the calculations involving trigonometry to calculate the triangulation for obtaining distances for all those crossings. The work was done in 1853, and Timothy was Compassman for the Meridian and Parallels but was not named in the 12 townships.

Timothy married Florinda Geer, a second cousin and the 15 year old daughter of a nearby claimant in 1854. She was a gifted artist and gave him 5 children, only two of whom survived childhood. Timothy was an early adopter of Republican politics in 1856, and supported Lincoln in the 1860 presidential election. When B. J. Pengra was appointed Surveyor General by Lincoln, Timothy soon received a Contract in 1861 for 4 townships on the eastside near Hermiston. Lincoln named him the Indian Agent for the Umatillas from 1862-1863, and he received two more Contracts in 1863 and 1867 for one township on the eastside each year, although there is no evidence he surveyed them. From 1864-68 he was Marion County Surveyor, and from 1868-72 he served in the State Legislature. Florinda died of smallpox in 1870, and before she died, she urged him to remarry

He moved from the farm to Silverton in 1870, where he owned a general store, and in 1872 Timothy married Nancy Gilmour, a widow who bore him 5 children, all of whom lived past adolescence. He ran for the U. S. Congress as an Independent in 1874, losing in a three way race to the Democrat. In that year he was the surveyor of a road up the Santiam to the Metolius, and in 1880 of a more Southerly pass, to which the railroad was surveyed. He was elected to the State Senate from 1882-1886, and in 1895 was named State Land Agent.

While State Land Agent, he implemented a per acre fee for all Land Purchases that was to fund the salary of the Land Agent. This fee was abused in later years by Land Agents involved in fraud using dummy entrymen, although Timothy was honest. All of the time in Silverton, he continued writing. He contributed many lengthy articles to the Oregonian and other papers, and several articles for the Oregon Historical Quarterly. His topics were on slavery, politics, society, and life in general. He died while visiting his children in Pasadena.



Homer Calvin Davenport may be Timothy's most important accomplishment. Florinda had a premonition that Homer would be an artist, and he was drawing at age three. Timothy continued to cultivate that talent, but efforts to send him to formal education failed. But he could draw. Homer could not confine himself to traditional art, but would revert to sketches and caricatures. His talent for capturing the essence of a situation or person in a simple sketch ultimately made him the nation's most popular cartoonist. He went to San Francisco and ultimately came under the care and friendship of William Randolph Hearst, who made him the cartoonist for the Hearst chain of newspapers at a salary higher than most managing editors.

Homer purchased a farm in Morris Hills, New Jersey and with the help of Teddy Roosevelt, became the first American to directly import Arabian horses from the Middle East to the USA. He developed a love of Arabians from the label of a medicine bottle, and first saw them at the Chicago World Fair in 1893. His imports were part of the founding of the breed in America. He visited the Middle East for the purchase in 1906 and rode camels in the desert to find the horses.

In 1904 he left the Hearst papers for "The Evening Mail", a Republican newspaper, and began supporting Teddy Roosevelt. After Roosevelt was elected, he began to devote large amounts of time to other activities. His marriage suffered in 1909, and caused him to suffer a nervous breakdown. He rejoined Hearst in 1911, and sought guidance from the Theosophical Society at Lomaland, San Diego and from a new girlfriend, spiritualist Mrs. William Cochran.

On assignment concerning the survivors of the Titanic, he developed pneumonia and died two weeks later in May, 1912. Hearst paid for the team of doctors to try to save him, and also for his burial in Silverton Cemetery. In 1923, funds were raised to create a monument at his gravesite. Included on the monument is a copy of one of his drawings, depicting "The Journey Across" to the other side. To this day, Silverton honors Homer with Homer Davenport Days every August and two murals in downtown. Orla Falls near Mt. Marion is named for the oldest daughter of Timothy Davenport. A book, "Timothy Woodbridge Davenport, The Collected Works" was published by the University of Oregon in 2014. This is the maintained version of this information.

## David, John Benton

1841-1908

Rep

Comp

USDS

Contract 126                      1868

to

Contract 697 (with              1899  
Harold Rands)



1868

Born in Illinois, John moved with his family to Wisconsin in 1847, where his father was a prosperous merchant and farmer. He attended Lawrence University of Wisconsin for an unknown time. His father formed a Company for the Civil War, and was named Captain. John was a Sergeant in the Wisconsin Infantry from 1861-64, and was part of the Iron Brigade. He fought at Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, South Manassas, Gettysburg, South Mountain, Gainesville, and Blackburn Ford.

He was wounded and captured at Gettysburg, and was held at Belle Island and Andersonville for 18 months. After the war, John came to Oregon City with his father and brothers in 1867 over the Oregon Trail. He was a compassman for David Thompson in 1867 for five townships South of Boardman on Joint Contract 122. That was followed up by seven townships as compassman, again for David Thompson, on Joint Contract 124 Southwest of Bend. He married Mary Etta Wright in Oregon City in December of 1868. John received Contract 126 on his own in early 1869 for five townships at Oakridge, and used surveyors William Pengra and George Newman as chainmen.

John was awarded Joint Contract 131 with David Thompson and Bynon Pengra in June, 1869, and his share was 20 townships and 96 miles of Standard Parallel, with part East of Boardman, and part West of John Day. He used George W. Newman as compassman. While he was on this Contract, Etta died after childbirth in September. John remarried to Juliette Saffarrans in 1871, and they had five children. John was a compassman for David Thompson in Idaho in 1870 on the Fort Hall Reservation survey, and surveyed a small Contract on his own in 1871 in Wasco County.

John continued surveying in Idaho as a Deputy Surveyor from 1870 until at least 1884, with 24 Contracts involving approximately 418 townships. Along with Wilson Bell and Allan Thompson, John pretty well dominated the Contracts in Idaho for the first 15 years. On one in 1880, he continued the Boise Meridian North from the Clearwater River, somehow creating a 20+ chain error in the Meridian. On his last two Contracts, he used Hezekiah Johnson as the compassman. John and his family were listed in the Oregon City, Oregon Census in 1880, with John as a Surveyor. He also had at least one Contract in Utah in the early 80's. His last Contract in 1884 was just before Commissioner Sparks imposed the severe reforms to the Contract System.

While surveying in Idaho, he consistently used a three man crew except where the Manual required more. He maintained his relationship with David Thompson and became a contractor to build the ORN Railroad from Pendleton to Huntington, and later was also the contractor for the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia River. He bought a 347 acre farm two miles North of Spring Brook, near Newberg and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1876. In 1888 John and two others built the Portland and Vancouver Railway, a narrow gauge RR from East Portland , through Albina, to the ferry dock across from Vancouver. They sold it in 1892.

John returned to GLO work in Oregon in 1898 to survey Joint Contract 684 with Hezekiah Johnson for four townships South of Boardman. Next came Joint Contract 697 with Harold Rands in 1899 for eight townships Southwest of Ontario. Both were examined but there does not appear to be any corrections in the field. He lived with his family in Newberg, Oregon in 1900. John was 6 feet two inches in tall and of sturdy stature. He was living in a room on Second Street in Oregon City when he died in 1898. John is buried in an unmarked grave in Oregon City.

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**Davis, Lorenzo A.**

1827-

USDS

Claim Contract 78

to

Special Instructions

1857

1860

Lorenzo was born in Vermont and came to Oregon by 1857, where he was awarded Claim Contract 78 in 1857. He received Claim Contracts 88 and 95 in 1858 and 1859, and was single and a surveyor in Corvallis in 1860. His last Contract was for 24 Claims by Special Instructions in 1860. All of his work was in Benton and Linn Counties, totaling 52 Claims in all. One of the last Claims he surveyed was that of the controversial Nimrod O'Kelly, who had killed his neighbor over a dispute over the Claim Boundary. Lorenzo's father died in Vermont in July of 1860, and Lorenzo left for the East Coast in April, 1859, noting he was first going to Washington, D. C. He registered for the draft for the Civil War in Athens, Vermont in 1863, noting his occupation as a surveyor. It appears that he enlisted with the New York Engineers and mustered out in 1865. Nothing for sure is known about him after that.

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**Derrick,  
Zachariah  
Madison "Jim"**

1870-1943

Dem

USDS

Contract 691 (with  
Andre L. Porter) 1898

to

Contract 779 1908



1894

OR PE 910. Zachariah was born in Oregon, and spent his life in Benton and Lincoln Counties. He graduated from the 8th grade, but went on to be issued a license as a Professional Engineer, although his whole life was spent surveying. He received his first Contract on the Northern Oregon Coast for one township in 1898, but did not survey it. His second Contract in 1899 for one township near Roseburg was a Joint Contract that was surveyed by Andrew Porter. Zachariah was awarded another Joint Contract with Morris Wygant for one township on the Central Oregon Coast, and they both signed the oaths.

A Contract in 1901 on the Coast for two townships was surveyed by Zachariah. His last two Contracts in 1908 were for one township on the Nevada Line and another South of Roseburg. He turned the notes in in 1909 and they were suspended, citing gross errors. A Congressman got him an extension, and the two Contracts were finished by Morris Wygant as compassman in 1911-12. Zachariah was still living in Toledo in 1940 as Lincoln County Surveyor.

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**DeWitt, James  
Robinson, Jr.**

1861-1918

SES

Special Instructions 1891

to

Special Instructions 1892

James was born and educated in Pennsylvania and attended West Point from 1880-1881. His father was a successful merchant. James received a Contract as a Special Examiner of Surveys in Washington and Oregon in 1891, and made several examinations, mostly in the rain, including 13 in Oregon and 5 in Washington from 1891-92. He was in Wyoming in 1900 as an engineer; in both Indiana and Missouri in 1910 as an engineer and superintendent of construction; and was a foreman on the Panama Canal construction from 1908-09. He married Nancy Elizabeth Teal in Indiana in 1905, listing his address as Mexico. They were the parents of twins in 1911, but one died as a baby. James was noted as returning from Mexico in 1907 and from Panama in 1916. He died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1918. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.



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**Dezendorf, James****N.**

1872-1940

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1897

Born in Virginia, James attended 1-2 years of college at Lehigh University. He was a Clerk in the Land Office at Los Angeles in 1895, and joined the Surveyor General's Office of Robert Habersham in Oregon by 1896 as a Draftsman. He continued at that until 1906 when he transferred to Washington to replace Ira Otis for one year as Chief Draftsman. By 1909, he was a salesman in Portland. James built the 18-unit, 4 story Dezendorf Apartments in 1911, located at SW 16th and Taylor in Portland. He was listed as the manager of an apartment house in 1920, and retired and then dead in 1940, always in Portland.

James and his wife, Hattie May Corkish, were involved in society all their life in Portland, and their son, James C. was a local attorney and continued in that tradition. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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**Dick, Jeremiah****M. "Jerry"**

1818-1902

Rep

USDS

Claim Contract 66

1855

to

Contract 403

1881

Born the son of a Minister in Pennsylvania, Jeremiah graduated from Western University of Pennsylvania in Theology and came to Oregon in 1852. He filed a Donation Claim at Camp Creek in 1853, and received Claim Contract 66 for the survey of 65 DLCs near Eugene in 1855, including his own. He surveyed them with a consistent crew. He lived his whole life on his DLC at Camp Creek, first as a preacher and school teacher, and then as a farmer. Some ten years after his Claim Contract, he was given Special Instructions to survey one more DLC near the others.

Contract 150 in 1871 was for seven townships and a Standard Parallel at Paulina, up the Crooked River. His next Contract in 1873 was for two more townships in the same vicinity, and eight townships at the Coast at Waldport. Most of the surveys at the Coast were done by R. W. Pritchard as compassman. About 2/3 of T14S R9W was rejected by the Commissioner in 1885. Jeremiah's last Contract in 1881 was for two fractional townships near his Claim. He was a strong Republican and ran for Lane County Surveyor in 1864 and for the Senate from Lane County in 1883 with unknown results. Interestingly, newspapers indicated that in his Senate race, he was seeking support from the saloon keepers. It appears he never married and is buried with his parents in Pennsylvania.

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**Dickerson****Richmond S.**

1843-1915

USDS

Comp

Contract 391 (with 1881  
William Henry Byers)

to

Contract 474 1883

Richmond was born in Pennsylvania, the son of a farmer, and enlisted in the Civil War and was discharged in 1869 in Texas. He was a clerk in a grocery store in 1870 in Lockhart, Texas, and came to Oregon in 1880, where he was a farmer in Elkton. Richmond received a Joint Contract in 1881 with William H. Byers for 14 townships Northeast of Goose Lake in Southeastern Oregon, and surveyed six of them himself. He was a compassman for William H. Byers for two Contracts for three townships in 1881-82 East of Port Orford. His last Contract was for one township and a Standard Parallel East of Port Orford in 1883.

He married a widow, Mrs. Susan Gardner Sawyer, in Douglas County on April 4, 1884. By 1900, Richmond was a day laborer in Shingle Creek, Florida, as married and living alone, and died there in 1915. His Find a Grave memorial noted him as being involved with the Theosophical Society.

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**Dixon, Edward****W.**

1857-1919

SES

Special Instructions 1907

to

no more



Born in New York, Edward W. Dixon was first noted in Seattle as a Special Agent for the General Land Office, and by 1905, he was in charge of the office in Seattle. In 1907 he was somehow involved in investigating and examining Contract 740 of Alonzo and Frank Gesner in Oregon. He was in charge of the Spokane Office in 1908, and then the Portland Office in 1910. While there in 1912, he made a Special Investigation of the management of Crater Lake National Park and also the Crystal Springs Sanitarium in Portland.

He died in a room at the Perkins Hotel in 1919 a age 61, and was buried with his mother and siblings in Preston, Maryland. It appears he never married, and always lived as a roomer.

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**Dobbins, Joseph***1832-1917*

Rep

USDS

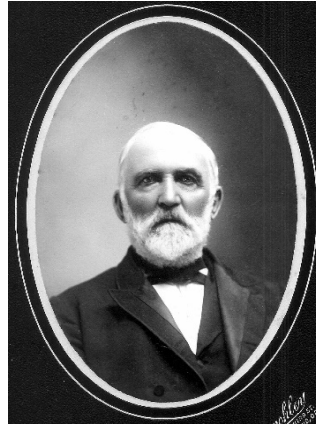
Contract 433

1882

to

Contract 472 (by  
Samuel L. Lovell as  
compassman)

1883



Joseph served in the 15th Illinois Infantry from 1861-1864. He married Sarahett Newcomb in 1864 in Michigan, and came to Oregon in 1869, first in Forest Grove, and then settling near Clatskanie in Columbia County. He was nominated to run on the Republican ticket for the State Legislature in 1882, but resigned when he received a Contract. Joseph surveyed two Contracts near his farm in 1881-82. Sarahett died in 1886 in Columbia County, and after her death he went to California and then Josephine County, Oregon.

By 1900 he was in Milwaukie, Oregon. He was living with his son near Coos Bay in 1910, but checked in to the Old Soldiers Home at Hot Springs, South Dakota in 1912 for a brief stay. He returned to living with his son in Chehalis, Washington, and died there in 1917.

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**Donegan,  
Margaret Mary  
"Maggie"***1859-1887*

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1883

to

no more

Born in Oregon, Maggie was living in Jacksonville with her family until at least 1880, except that her mother died in 1875. She was appointed a Copyist in Portland in 1883 in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman, who was from Jacksonville. Maggie married Lawyer Henry McGinn in Portland in 1885, and Henry practiced in Astoria where he was Prosecuting Attorney. Maggie died in 1887 of a long illness of pulmonary problems (tb?), and is buried in Portland with Henry.

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**Douglas,  
Benjamin  
Pennybacker***1821-1904*

SES

Special Instructions

1889

to

no more

Born in Virginia into a very political family, Benjamin moved with his family to Harrison County, Indiana in 1834 where they settled on a farm. His mother's brother was a U. S. Representative from Virginia and a U. S Circuit Court Judge. Benjamin was educated by his father, a fine classical scholar, for many years, until he was elected Harrison County Auditor in 1849. His mother died in 1843 and his father in 1849, He married Annie Pope in Louisville in 1855, but she died after two children. He was elected to the Indiana State Legislature in 1857, where he served one term.

Benjamin remarried to Queen Victoria Boone in 1863 and had two more children, including SES William Boone Douglass. From 1858-67 he was in the mercantile business, and then practiced law in Corydon until 1889. He was an officer and on the Board of Directors of two local Railroads. He was appointed a Special Agent of the Land Office in 1889, with headquarters in New Mexico. His appointment was from his former law partner, Strother Stockslager, who had been appointed Commissioner of the GLO in 1888. While in that position, Benjamin examined two surveys of Indian Allotments by Currin and Noland in Oregon at Umatilla in 1889. After his work as an Agent, he continued as a lawyer in Corydon until shortly before he died in 1904.

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**Douglass, William  
Boone**

1864-1947

SES

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Special Instructions | 1906 |
| to                   |      |
| Special Instructions | 1908 |



William was born in Indiana, the son of Benjamin Pennybacker Douglass, who was a lawyer, Judge, politician and Special Agent for the GLO. William finished high school and four years of college. During his career, he was a lawyer, engineer, surveyor, genealogist, and anthropologist. He married Alvira "Allie" Luckett in Corydon, Indiana in 1890. William was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in at least Oregon from 1906-08, where he performed 25 examinations.

Besides his examinations in Oregon, he surveyed part of the boundary of Crater Lake in 1905 and Multnomah Falls in T1N R6E under Special Instructions in 1906, using future U. S. Deputy Surveyor Benjamin Beezley as a chainman. He had moved to Washington, D. C. by 1900, and continued to reside there until at least 1940. Working out of D. C, he was first an Examiner, and then a U. S. Cadastral Engineer in the Direct System for an unknown number of years. While a Federal Surveyor in Utah in 1909, he discovered the "Rainbow Natural Bridge", and achieved some notoriety. He wrote about the Indians and the Southwest for many years. For much of the time in D. C. he was listed as a clerk for various departments, and was retired by 1930. He died on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina in 1947 at age 84, less than two months after the death of Allie.

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**Dubois, Nathaniel****S.***1826-1910*

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1852

to

no more



Nathaniel came to Oregon in 1851 and worked as a surveyor and draftsman in Milwaukie, OR before being appointed a Clerk in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office in the spring of 1852. He was the Secretary to the Treaty signing with the Lower Band of Chinook for Anson Dart in August, 1851. Nathan mustered in to the Volunteers in Oregon in 1855, and returned to be married in 1856.

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**Dudley, Frederick***1806-1886*

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1871

to

no more

Born in Connecticut, Fred married Olive Martin there in 1833, but she soon died. He remarried to Nancy Fowler in Missouri in 1840, and they traveled to California by 1852 where Fred was a farmer in the Napa Valley. They came to Oregon in about 1856. He was a ships carpenter in 1860, and sometime was the proprietor of the ferry across the Coast Fork of the Willamette. He was the Postmaster of Eugene from 1861-65 and the Messenger in the Surveyor General's Office of William Odell in 1871. Nancy died in 1878, and Fred was the janitor for the University of Oregon after that until too old to do the job.

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**Dustin, Charles****Earl***1865-1939*

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1897

to

no more

Charles was born in Oregon, and by 1880 he was an apprentice printer in Canyonville. He married in 1888 to Mary Anne Gilchrist, and they had three children before divorcing by 1900. By then he was married to a lady named Edith, and noted that it was their second marriages. He was appointed a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office in 1897, and continued until at least 1910. Charles cooperated with the prosecution in the investigation of Henry Meldrum by giving them his discharge letter as an example of Meldrum's handwriting. He also described Meldrum filling the in the applications for survey that Meldrum forged.

By 1920 he was divorced again and working as a salesman for a grocery store. Charles resided in the Masonic Old Folks home in Forest Grove in 1930, noting himself as a widower, because Mary Anne had died in 1929. He died in 1939 and is buried in Forest Grove.

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**E., E. S.**

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1908

"E. S. E." are the initials at the top of the page on the cover of the field notes to Contract 755, corrections of subdivisions, for T4N R41E, noting that they were copied on June 8, 1908. This would make this person a transcribing clerk in the office of Surveyor General George Westgate.

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**Earhart,  
Rockingham  
Preston "Rockey"**

1836-1892

Rep

Ch Clerk

Chief Clerk

to

no more

1874



Born in Ohio, Rockey came to Oregon in 1855 via Panama. He was in the Quartermaster's Department of the Army at Yamhill from about 1855-61, under Phillip Sheridan. He married Nancy Ann Burden in Polk County in 1863. He was a merchant in Yamhill and Polk Counties 1861-64, the Indian Agent at Warm Springs, a Special Indian Agent of the Oregon Office of Indian Affairs until 1868, and a representative of the government for a treaty with the Klamath and Modoc Indians.

Rockey was then in business in Salem until 1872, where he was elected to the Legislature in 1870. He moved to Portland and worked for the Portland Bulletin from 1872-74 and was the Chief Clerk in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office of Ben Simpson from 1874-78. Rockey was elected Secretary of State in 1878 and served until 1887. He was Adjutant General from 1885-87, and in 1888 was elected to the Legislature from Portland. He died in Portland in 1892, and at the time of his death was U. S. Collector of Customs and President of Union Bank. He has papers at OHS.

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**Eaton, Horace****Allen**

1859-1943

Comp

Contract 443 (as  
compassman for  
William B. Barr)  
toContract 516 (as  
compassman for  
William Barr)

1882

1884

Horace was born in Ohio, the son of a lawyer. He finished the eighth grade in Maine, and moved West when his parents died in 1880. He was in Union County, Oregon in 1880, and then worked as a chainman near La Grande for William Barr in 1880 and 1881. He became Compassman on the survey crew of William Barr on T6N R40E. His brother, Charles, was a chainman on that crew also. Horace married his wife, Ida, in 1884, and they had one son, Everett. He was a carpenter in Los Angeles in 1896, a gold miner in Etna, California in 1910 and a farmer in La Center, Washington in 1920. Ida died in 1922 after they had moved to Douglas County, Oregon. Horace was a farmer there in 1930, with Everett still living at home. He was in Medford by 1940, and died there.

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**Eckelson, Albert****Osborn "Eck"**

USDS

Contract 328 (with T. 1879  
McKenzie)

to

Contract 366 (with 1880  
Bamford Robb)

Albert was born in Ohio in about 1845. He served in the Civil War with the Illinois Infantry from 1861-64 before working as an engineer for NPRR. He was noted as camped on Heart River for NPRR in 1872 and was Assistant Principal Engineer for the Yellowstone Expedition in 1873 for NPRR under General Rossiter. He came to Jackson County, Oregon after that as a civil engineer for Northern Pacific RR and others. He also mined on the Applegate River. Albert received Joint Contract 328 in 1879 with Thomas McKenzie for five townships Northwest of Lakeview and 30 miles of Standard Parallel South of John Day. The townships were surveyed in 1879, and the Standard Parallel was surveyed in 1880, probably by brother-in-law, Bamford Robb.

Future Deputy Surveyors Samuel Lackland and Henry Cooke were crewmen on the survey of the Standard Parallel, and the crew was the same as used by Robb in their Joint Contract in 1880. Albert's Joint Contract with Bamford Robb in 1880 in the John Day country was surveyed by Robb. He had been working on a RR survey for NPRR South of Lake Pend Oreille in 1880.

He married Sophie Q. Nickell in Jacksonville in 1881, and they had three children, one of which became a civil engineer. Sophie was a graduate of St. Marys Academy, and was 15 years his junior. Albert was with NPRR again at Tacoma Pass in Washington in 1882, and was Division Engineer for the Oregon Pacific RR out of Corvallis in 1889. They moved to Portland in 1892, and Albert was by himself, but still married, as a civil engineer in Albany, Oregon in 1900. Sophie and the children were with her mother in Jacksonville. He was 5' 9" tall with blue eyes and light hair. He was a resident of the Old Soldiers Home in Roseburg in 1902 when he died. Albert is the namesake of Eckelson, North Dakota, and also of a nearby lake. They were named when he was an engineer for NPRR, and was surveying the townsite.

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**Eddy, James B.**  
 1855-1913  
 IAA  
 Special Instructions 1891  
 to  
 no more

Born in England, James came to the U. S. in 1870. He edited a newspaper in Nevada and later in Roseburg, Oregon. He married Annie Elizabeth Lee in 1879, and was a Deputy Sheriff in Umatilla County for four years in 1881 and editor of the Pendleton Tribune. James was a Special Agent in 1883 to investigate 200 Homestead Claims in New Mexico, of which he found only 65 complied with the regulations. He was named a Special Allotting Agent for allotments in the Umatilla Reservation in about 1891. He was also appointed a commissioner to evaluate the residual value of the diminished Reservation in about 1891.

For several terms he was employed as a reading Clerk in the State Legislature, beginning in 1893. That same year he was elected Railroad Commissioner. James was president of the Republican Club in Pendleton for four years and was a member of the Governor's Staff, with the rank of Colonel. After these engagements, he worked in the R/W department of the OWR&N.

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**Elder, Joshua**  
 1825-1891  
 Comp  
 Contract 66 (as  
 compassman for  
 Samuel Snowden for  
 portions)  
 to  
 no more

Born in Pennsylvania, Joshua arrived in Oregon in 1848 over the Oregon Trail and qualified for a 320 acre Donation Claim as a single person. He was living with the Raymond family at Clatsop in 1850, including future Deputy Surveyor, Nathan Raymond. His Claim was west of Warrenton along Ridge Road, and he taught school in Clatsop County in 1848-49. Joshua served as a compassman for Samuel Snowden in 1856 on Contract 67 on the extension of the Willamette Baseline from R7W to R10W, ending at Tillamook Bay. He had been paid \$105 for services rendered on the territorial road from Astoria to the Willamette Valley in 1854, and a similar claim in 1859 for surveying services on the same road was denied by the Legislature.

Joshua was taken through a guardianship procedure in 1858, and S. H Smith was named his legal guardian by the court. Smith sold Joshua's 320 acre Claim at public auction in 1861. Joshua was noted in the 1860 census in Clatsop Plains as a farmer, but was also listed as insane. He was in the Portland Insane Asylum in 1870, again listed as insane. His Claim patent was finally issued in 1873 to someone, and Joshua was apparently living on his former Claim in 1880 as a servant and laborer for divorcee Charlotte Hodges. Her young son Henry Ingalls would later sell 100 acres of the Claim in 1890. Joshua died in the Oregon State Insane Asylum in Salem in 1891.



**Elder, Robert**

1813-1872

Whig

Ch Clerk

USDS

Chief Clerk

1851

to

Contract 31 (with

1853

Henry Gile) (with

Kimball Webster as

compassman on

nearly all)

Robert was born in Orwell, Kincross, Scotland, and immigrated to the U. S. with his parents and brothers in 1827. From 1837-1849 he was an assistant engineer under John Preston on the Michigan-Illinois Canal in Lockport, IL, before going to California to the mines at Marysville. Instead of mining, Robert surveyed townsites, "paper plats", in California. From there, he arranged to go to Oregon with John Preston to take a position as Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office. After arriving and while waiting for the position to open up, he surveyed on the plat of Oregon City until he started as Chief Clerk in 1851. In April 1852, he resigned to take his own Contract. Robert used Kimball Webster as compassman, who was his assistant in CA and at Oregon City. Elder and Webster then garnered a Joint Contract in the Northwestern Willamette Valley for 13 townships in June, 1852.

They shared the work, and Matthew Murphy was the compassman for Robert Elder. Robert was given a Contract to train Josiah Preston, the brother of John, and used him as compassman on five townships west of Salem. He received another Joint Contract in the Spring of 1853 with Henry S. Gile, his former chainman. Robert asked Kimball Webster to join them and Kimball was compassman for about half the work, training Henry Gile. This was in the Umpqua Valley, and Jesse Applegate, who had been denied by Preston, criticized their work. Robert left for the East in the fall of 1853, for Preston had been replaced by Gardner by then.

Robert obtained a passport in 1858 (He had been naturalized in 1856.) to travel to Scotland and back. He was living with his brother, James, in Illinois in 1860 as a farmer. In 1870, both he and his brother John were living with James in Olmsted County, Minnesota. He was listed as a civil engineer. Robert died of TB in Cascade Township, Minnesota in 1872, and apparently never married. He was described as 5' 9" tall and having brown hair, a long oval face, high forehead, prominent nose, large mouth and an indented chin. Kimball Webster wrote that he was eccentric and kind. This is the maintained version of this information.

**Elliott, William****Cecil**

1866-1934

Rep

USDS

Contract 667 (with 1897  
Robert Bonser)

to

Contract 737 (with 1901  
George Scoggin)

OR PE 296. Born in Oregon, William C. Elliott graduated from Pacific University in civil engineering and married Addie Roberts in 1897. He was a chainman for Albert Hammond in 1894. He received Joint Contract 667 with Robert Bonser in 1897, and they shared the two townships in the Cascade foothills. William made the section ties for all the boundary of the Klamath Indian Reservation in 1898. A Joint Contract with George Nickerson in 1899 was all surveyed by Nickerson.

William surveyed a small Contract East of Lincoln City in 1900, and another small Joint Contract with George Scoggin on the Siletz Reservation was not surveyed by either and cancelled. William was elected City Engineer of Portland from 1902-05. From 1902 until at least 1905, Elliott and Scoggins were City Engineer and Assistant City Engineer in Portland, with many civil works projects under construction.

The first thing to blow up was the cement specifications, which prohibited one of the competitors from selling cement. They were sued, and the newspapers reported all. The Tanner Creek Sewer project was constructed very poorly, and the engineering office was charged with not paying attentions and signing off on shoddy work. A commission investigated and charged those involved, including Elliott and Scoggins, with "Gross Negligence". Both were either dismissed or resigned their public jobs. This process was going on at the time they were to be working on their Contract. The Surveyor General gave up and issued it to others. William was indicted in 1905 for bribery during the Tanner Creek Sewer Project, but he plea bargained, and his indictment was dismissed after testifying against the General Contractor.

William had formed a partnership with George Scoggin that continued until at least 1923. It transformed into Elliott, Scoggin and Pacquet by 1923. By 1914, he became a contractor, building the steel bridges of Portland, including the Morrison Bridge, the bridge at Willamette Heights and two bridges in South Portland. William built Terminal No. 4, the Ochaco National Forest Highway, the Yamhill State Highway, and the paving of Willamette Boulevard. He lived in Portland until he died there in 1934. He named Cripple Creek and Dinner Creek on the Clackamas River during a survey.

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**Elmer, William  
Wells**

1872-1957

Rep

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

1904

to

Mineral Surveys

1907

Member AIME. Born in Walla Walla, Washington, Elmer was living with his family in Baker City, Oregon in 1880. He attended college for four years and married Mary Eleanor Knapp in Silver City, Idaho in 1899. Mary died of causes associated with childbirth in 1900, but the baby girl survived. He was bonded as a USDMS in Idaho in 1902. William married in 1903 in Portland to Clementine Catlin, the daughter of Judge John Catlin and the sister of Seth Catlin. She was a graduate of the Oregon Normal School and a member of Portland society in 1903, and they had three children, all born in Oregon. His daughter, Clemy, continued in the tradition of her mother in Portland.

William surveyed 41 Mining Claims out of Sumpter from 1904-1907, and by 1907, he was the general manager for the Hinds Consolidated Mining Company in Mexico, living there with his family. William returned to Oregon, and from 1914-1923 he surveyed 14 Mining Claims in Crook, Baker and Lane Counties and was listed as a consulting engineer in mining in Portland in 1916 and 1930. He was one of the founders of the Portland City Club in 1923, and in 1924 he was chairman of the Oregon Section of AIME and ran for the State Legislature. William returned to mineral surveying to survey one Claim East of Prineville in 1951 and one near Applegate in 1953 at age 81, verified by signature.

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**Emmitt, Robert  
Albert**

1850-1905

Rep

USDS

Contract 702

1899

to

Contract 787 (with  
Eugene Henry)

1909

Born in Logan County Illinois, Robert came across the Oregon Trail in 1852 with his family, settling in Douglas County. His father lived there until he died, serving as a State Senator from 1890-94. Robert attended the school in Douglas County, getting at least enough education to teach school. He married Flora Leslie in Douglas County in 1875, and they had five children. He moved to Klamath Falls in 1875, where he first purchased a 160 acre farm and built a log cabin, before buying a larger one nearby at Keno, 12 miles Southwest of Klamath Falls. Robert ended up owning 1200 acres with 500 acres under cultivation. He was elected as a Justice of the Peace for 20 years, and served as a Klamath County Commissioner from 1886-88.

Robert was a Member of the State Board of Equalization in 1898, was elected to the Legislature in 1900, and reelected in 1902. He received Contract 702 for one township West of Goose Lake in 1899 and another Contract Northwest of Maupin in 1901. Both were examined by David Kinnaird and approved. Contract 743 in 1902 for four township was ultimately rejected in total after examinations in 1903 and 1905. There was one township North of Brookings, two townships at Summer Lake, and one township South of Bend. He received no pay for any of this work.

Contract 754 by Robert was awarded in 1904, examined in 1906 and 1908 and finally approved. Joint Contract 787 with Eugene B. Henry in 1909 was all surveyed by Henry, with no mention of Robert. So far there is no record of his surveying experience, but he is the only candidate for these Contracts, and he was educated, talented, and politically active.

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**Eriksen, Erik  
Theodore**

1863-1947

USS

Special Instructions 1906

to

no more



Erik was born in Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1890. He was an engineer for the Chicago Drainage Canal in 1901 and for the Chicago Sanitation Department in 1904. He then worked for the U. S. Reclamation Service in Umatilla, Oregon 1913-1916, and in Glenn, California in 1920 and 1930. While in Umatilla, Erik surveyed one Section in 1913, under Special Instructions dated 1906, as an Engineer for the U. S. Reclamation Service. He was in Corvallis, Oregon in 1935, and died in Portland, Oregon in 1947.

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**Evans, James H.**

1843-

USDS

Contract 149

1871

to

Contract 247

1875

James was born in Maryland in 1843, and his father died before 1850. His mother died in 1868, and by 1869, he was in Eugene, Oregon. He received Contract 149 for 16 townships near Bend in 1871, and it was surveyed in that year. R. W. Prichard was a chainman that would later become a compassman for Jeremiah Dick three years later. His next Contract in 1872 was for 10 townships near Lakeview. Contract 186 in 1873 was for 7 townships near the State line in Malheur County. He teamed up with Joseph G. Gray for a Standard Parallel and 7 townships in Malheur County in 1874, and all were surveyed by James.

Also in 1874 was another Standard Parallel and 20 townships in Malheur County. His last Contract was for 7 townships in 1875, again in Malheur County. James used consistent small crews on all his work, using only one crew for each Contract. James married his wife, Margaret in Eugene in about 1876. He had gotten into Republican politics, and in 1877 he was appointed the Register in the Lakeview Land Office.

James purchased a newspaper, the State Line Herald, at Lakeview in 1881, and then purchased its rival, the Lake County Examiner, in 1882. He merged the two papers into the Lake County Examiner. Business must have been slow at the Land Office, for he reported that in 1881 he had also put up 800 tons of hay. He was reappointed in 1882, but initially failed confirmation in the Senate. He was confirmed in 1883. However, James was replaced as Register in 1885 and took a job with the California Land Company. An investigation into Swamp Lands shortly thereafter alleged bribery and fraud, including the famous Peter French. He was noted in San Francisco in March 1886, either permanently or temporarily, and that is the last noted of James Evans.

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**Evans, William T.**

1871-1943

USDS

Contract 784

to

no more

1909

Born in Wisconsin, by 1900 he had received two years of college and was a typewriter in the Land Office in Oklahoma. He married his wife Marie in 1901, who was also from Wisconsin. In 1909, he received a Contract for two townships in Malheur County and another township on the State Line in Wallowa County. They were examined and approved in 1913, but since the appropriation had expired, he had to wait for Congress to appropriate money to pay him. He was a Clerk in the Land Office in The Dalles in 1910, and in 1930 he was a surveyor for the government in Las Cruces, New Mexico, living alone as a lodger, but still married. He resided there until he died in 1943.

## Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Name  |
|--------------|---|
| USDS =       | United States Deputy Surveyor                                 |
| USDMS =      | United States Deputy Mineral Surveyor                         |
| USS =        | United States Surveyor (Employee of another agency)           |
| Astr =       | Astronomer  |
| IAA =        | Indian Allotting Agent (Employee of Office of Indian Affairs) |
| Comp =       | Compassman  |
| SES =        | Special Examiner of Surveys (Hired by the Commissioner)       |
| EX =         | Examiner of Surveys (Hired by the Surveyor General)           |
| S G =        | Surveyor General  |
| Ch Clerk =   | Chief Clerk in Surveyor General's Office                      |
| Dr/Clerk =   | Draftsman/ Clerk in Surveyor General's Office                 |

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| Rep       | Republican  |
| Dem       | Democrat    |
| Whig      | Whig        |
| Peoples   | Peoples     |
| Union     | Union       |
| Ind       | Independent |
| Prohib    | Prohibition |
| Free Soil | Free Soil   |
| Fusion    | Fusion      |
| Greenback | Greenback   |
| Populist  | Populist    |
| Socialist | Socialist   |