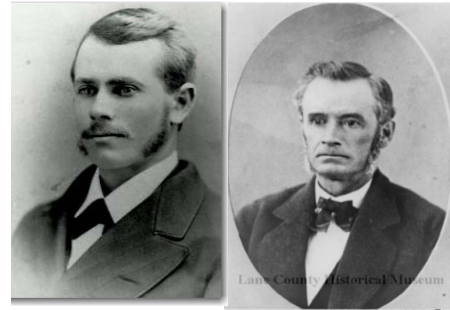


# Short Biographies M-R

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



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

<p><b>Major, Daniel George</b> <i>1832-1889</i> Astr USS USDS Special Instructions (Oreg.) (4/23/1863) (with John J. Major and Frederick G. Hesse as Assistant Astronomers)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">to</p> <p>Special Instructions (Oreg.) ) (with John J. Major as Assistant Astronomer)</p>	<p>1863</p> <p>1867</p>	<p>Born in Ireland, the son of a printer and lithographer, Daniel came to New York with an uncle and his family in 1834. He attended Holy Cross, as did his brother, graduating as an astronomer, and received his Masters at Georgetown in 1859. He was taking observations at the U. S. Naval Observatory at Washington, D. C. with Professor James Major in 1851-52. James was his uncle, and had served as a Navy Professor of Mathematics at sea for 8 years before being assigned to the Naval Observatory in 1846. James served until 1860 when he resigned to become a Jesuit Priest, and taught at Boston College and Holy Cross. Daniel was the astronomer for the surveyors, Jones and Brown, on the 1858 survey of the 98th Meridian, the Western boundary of the Chickasaw Nation. They were threatened by Comanches, but finished anyway.</p>
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Daniel postponed the astronomy for the beginning point of the 100th Meridian between Texas and Oklahoma until the next year, however. The monument he created on the Red River in 1859 was determined to be 3700 feet West of the true 100th Meridian by survey in 1902. He was a Naval Officer from 1861-1863, living in Washington, D. C. with 2 aunts and two sisters, occupying the position of Acting Master at the Observatory.

Congress appropriated \$4500 for the survey of the 46th Parallel, the Oregon and Washington Border, in 1860, but the amount was too small. No one would survey it until Daniel accepted in May 1863, with 6 adjacent fractional township surveys thrown in. They were all adjacent to the State Line, and much of the time they worked under Army security. His brother, John, was with him the whole Contract, in charge of monumenting the line, and Frederick Hesse of the Naval Observatory was an Assistant Astronomer.

His notes of the townships were reviewed in 1865, and many corrections were requested. When out West and not surveying, he lived in Alameda or San Francisco. In October, 1867, Daniel was awarded the State Line Surveys of Oregon/Idaho and Oregon/California by the Commissioner in Washington, D. C. The OR/ID Border began at the intersection of the Owyhee River and the Snake River, and ran due South to the 42nd Parallel. He finished by June of 1868, and was in San Francisco when he finished his notes.

He began the OR/CA survey in 1868 by astronomically determining the intersection of the 42nd Parallel and the 120th Meridian without the aid of accurate time. The monument he set was 2.4 miles West of the one set by Ives and Houghton in 1863, and he did not note that monument's existence or location in his survey. A subsequent survey by Von Schmidt set a new point 3.3 miles East of Major's corner, and that stood the test of time, a resurvey by USCGS in 1892, and a lawsuit in the 1970's.

His survey of the OR/CA Border, West to the Pacific Ocean, from 1868-69 varied 500-600 feet North and South of the 42nd Parallel. According to Bud Uzes, Daniel only took three sextant readings for latitude on the way to the Pacific Ocean. He surveyed the South boundary of Idaho and Oregon with brother John, from Utah to California in 1871-73, setting a monument that ended up 3700 feet East of the Southeast corner of Idaho, even though he had accurate time. He ended his survey in 1873 at the NE corner of California and closed on both his original monument and also that of Von Schmidt, finishing 260 feet North.

Daniel, John J. and their father, John, were all in San Francisco from 1875-78, with Daniel and John as surveyors, and their father, John, as a paper hanger. Daniel and John J. were living with their aunts in Washington, D. C. in 1880. He surveyed the Ute Reservation in Colorado, and subdivided it into allotments in 1880-81. He was a GLO Surveyor in Utah in 1882.

Daniel determined the MT/ND boundary in 1885, beginning by making astronomical observations using telegraph signals near the NPRR location on the Missouri River, in cooperation with the Washburn University Observatory at Madison, Wisconsin. He and his brother, John, surveyed North and South from that position in 1885, reaching the Canadian Border in December, 1885. His line is 500-1000 feet West of the statutory meridian. His notes indicate he was plagued by clouds, unstable setups, and passing trains. He took observations on 18 days in August and September, 1885. Daniel, John and Aunt Mabel were living in Washington, D. C. in 1886. Mabel died in 1890 in D. C., and Daniel and John both died in New York in 1889. It appears that neither Daniel, John or the two aunts ever married.

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### **Major, John J.**

*1842-1889*

Astr

Comp

USDS

Special Instructions 1863  
(Oreg.) (4/23/1863)

(as Assistant

Astronomer to Daniel

G. Major)

to

Special Instructions 1867  
from GLO (as

Assistant Astronomer

to Daniel G. Major)

John was born in New York, the son of a lithographer, and ten years younger than his brother Daniel. Both Daniel and John graduated from Georgetown in surveying and astronomy, Daniel in 1859 and John in 1864. John was a Clerk with the U. S. Boundary Commission in the Bitterroot Valley in 1860. He surveyed the following boundaries: 1864, Washington and Oregon as assistant to Daniel; 1868-69, Northern boundary of California as assistant to Daniel; 1871, Utah and Idaho, as assistant to Daniel; 1872, West boundary of Kansas; 1872-73, North boundary of Nevada, as assistant to Daniel; 1873-74, South boundary of Colorado; and 1873-74, East boundary of New Mexico. Daniel, John J. and their father, John, were all in San Francisco from 1875-78, with Daniel and John as surveyors, and their father, John, as a lithographer.

Daniel and John J. were living with their aunts in Washington, D. C. in 1880, and with just Aunt Mabel in Washington, D. C. in 1886. Mabel died in 1890 in D. C., and Daniel and John both died in the Spring of 1889 in New York, but all are buried in Holy Rood Cemetery, Washington, D. C., with Daniel and John having unmarked graves. It appears that neither Daniel, John or the two aunts ever married. John was slightly less than 5' 7" tall. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

**Mallory, Rufus**

1831-1914

Rep

USDS

Contract ? 1873

to

no more

1867 - Congressional  
Portrait

The Oregon City Enterprise reported in the Dec. 19th and 25th, 1873 issues that Rufus Mallory received a survey Contract recently in someone else's name. He was the Oregon Speaker of the House at the time. No record so far has been found of that Contract, but at least two other contemporary Legislators that were mentioned in the article received Contracts, in spite of having no surveying experience. Before the end of 1873, Rufus was named United States Attorney for Oregon. This record is a placeholder until this is determined this one way or another.

Rufus was born in New York, attended Alfred University part time, and moved to Iowa, where he taught school, before coming to Oregon via Panama in 1858. He arrived in Roseburg where he again taught school before marrying Lucy A. Rose in Oregon in 1860. She was the daughter of Aaron Rose, the founder of Roseburg. Rufus studied law and passed the bar in 1860 before serving as the shared District Attorney of Douglas, Josephine, and Jackson Counties from 1860-62. Rufus switched to be the District Attorney for Oregon's Third District out of Salem, where he secured notoriety by convicting and hanging two murderers in 1866.

He was elected to the Oregon House in 1862 from Douglas County and then to Congress for one term, 1867-69, a result of his notoriety. He declined to run again. While in Congress, he voted against the impeachment of Andrew Johnson the first time, but later gave a speech from the floor, and voted for impeachment. Rufus returned to his law practice in Salem and was elected to the Oregon House again in 1872, being named Speaker. Just after he received his Contract in someone else's name in 1873, he was appointed U. S. Attorney for Oregon in 1874 serving until 1882. At that time, he accepted a position with the Treasury Department as a Special Representative to British Malaya. He finished his assignment in Singapore and came home, continuing around the world for 78 days, arriving back in Portland where he joined a new law firm.

Rufus was one of the incorporators of the company that built the Morrison Bridge in 1887, and they operated a streetcar that served Sunnyside and eventually Mt. Tabor. He was one of the founding members of the Oregon Bar Association in 1889 and built the Hotel Mallory in 1912, still in existence as a hotel on the National Register. He is also the namesake of Mallory Avenue in Albina.



Lucy A. Mallory

Lucy A. Mallory, Rufus' wife, was born in Oregon in 1843, and lost her mother during that childbirth. She married Rufus in 1860 and accompanied him to Washington, D. C. in 1867 when he was in Congress. In 1874 in Salem, she was the only one that would teach 45 Black students in Salem, since they were prohibited from entering the public schools. In 1886, she used her earnings from that teaching assignment to purchase a printing plant and began a new monthly magazine, "World's Advanced Thought".

She continued it and another magazine for about 30 years, with Judge Horatio N. Maguire as assistant editor for part of the time. It was a spiritual magazine and circulated among the advanced thinkers of the world. Tolstoy was a subscriber, and called Lucy the "Greatest Woman in America". Lucy maintained a reading room in Portland, was active in the women's suffrage movement, and was always a vegetarian.

**Maloney,  
Hundley Sevier**

1849-1927

Dem

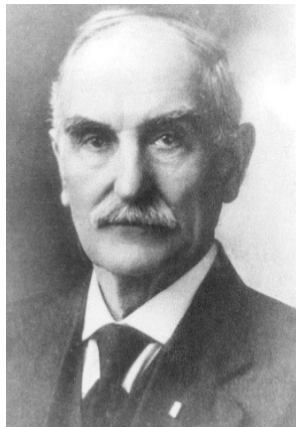
Rep

USDS

Contract 531 (with 1887  
Jefferson Fenton)

to

Contract 539 1889



Born in Tennessee, the son of a surveyor, Hundley enlisted in the Civil War from Greene County, Tennessee in 1864 at age 15. After the war, he served as a 2nd Lt. in the 15th US Infantry during reconstruction from 1867-70. He had a brother that served with the Confederacy and later was a Captain in the Oregon Militia. Hundley married 17 year old Laura Francis Hale in 1870 in Alabama, and they had one daughter before Laura died in 1872.

Hundley attended Tusculum College in Greenville, Tennessee for a period, came to the Northwest in 1873 via the Oregon Trail, and married Mary Frederick Metzger in 1873 in Umatilla along the way. He first settled in Linn County before going to Eastern Oregon for three years where he farmed and taught school. Hundley returned to Linn County where he again taught school.

Hundley came to Yamhill County in 1877 and worked both as a farmer and a surveyor. He was elected Yamhill County Surveyor in 1880-84, and continued at that from 1889-90 and 1896-98, when he was elected County Recorder until 1912. He received two Contracts in Western Oregon in 1887 and 1889, the first of which was on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation as a Joint Contract with Jefferson Fenton. They surveyed most of the Reservation Boundary, section subdivisions, and many 40 acre allotments, and shared the work. The next Contract in 1889 was by Hundley on his own, also on the Grand Ronde Reservation. He surveyed section subdivisions and both 40 acre and 80 acre allotments, using one consistent crew.

Hundley also received Special Instructions in 1890 for more allotments in T6S R7W on the Reservation. He served in the Oregon Legislature in 1892-93, and Mary died in 1893 after 5 children. He remarried to Lucy Scruggs in 1896, and had seven more children. At some time he was Mayor of McMinnville and McMinnville City Recorder for 18 consecutive years, retiring just before he died of a stroke. He was 5' 4" with black hair and black eyes.

**Martin, Henry**

**Bascom**

1833-1913

Dem

SES

Special Instructions 1886

to

Special Instructions 1888



Born in Indiana, Henry was raised on the family farm until 18 years old. He attended the Cloverdale Seminary for awhile, and self-educated himself in Latin, Greek, higher mathematics and surveying. He surveyed for railroads until 1854, when he went to Iowa, where his family had moved, still working as a surveyor. While in Iowa in 1857-59, he served as a Captain in the Indian wars. Returning to Cloverdale, he married Sidney Victoria Ellen Hart there in 1858.

He enlisted in the army and was mustered in as a private, but was soon commissioned as a Second Lt. His first battle was Barbersville, where he was shot through the thigh, but returned a year later. He served in many campaigns until Chickamanga, where now a Captain, he was shot in the wrist and was disabled again. Henry returned and fought with Sherman on his march.

He returned to Cloverdale, where he was a farmer, lawyer, and surveyor. He eventually moved to Greencastle to educate his children. In 1871, he was elected to the Indiana Legislature. Henry was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1885 for Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and New Mexico, by the recently elected Grover Cleveland Administration, and continued at that until 1889 when the Democrats were defeated. There are records of 16 Contracts in Oregon and 13 Contracts in Washington being examined by him, including 3 Benson Syndicate surveys, of David P. Thayer, Harry A. Clarke and James L. Mann, two of which he called "palpably fraudulent".

In partnership with his son, in 1892 he founded a newspaper, the Greencastle Democrat, and in 1893-95 he received a request by the second Grover Cleveland Administration to do examination surveys on members of the Benson Syndicate in California. One of those was of 8 townships in Death Valley of Benson surveyor J. W. Fitzpatrick in 1893. Soon after his son died, he sold the Democrat in 1897, and went to San Bernardino, CA, to help his children start a newspaper. His whole family but one was there in 1900, and after four years, he retired to his large farm in Indiana. Most of his surviving children ended up in California, but Henry and his wife, Ellen, died in Cloverdale. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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### **Martin, Nathaniel "Nate"**

1828-1908

Rep

USDS

Contract 188 (with 1873  
portions by James A.  
Warner as  
compassman)

to

Contract 599 (with a 1892  
portion by Ulysses G.  
Martin as  
compassman)

Nate was born in Indiana, moved with his family to Missouri, and married Elenore "Nellie" Allen in Missouri in 1847. She was orphaned the day of her birth and was adopted by the mother of Nate. Nate was born six weeks earlier and was also being nursed by his mother. Nate and Nellie lived together all their lives. They were in Missouri in 1849 and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1857 to California, before moving to the Rogue Valley, Oregon in 1858, where he was a blacksmith, and then moved to Lane County, Oregon in 1860, continuing as a blacksmith. He was the first Postmaster of Cottage Grove in 1865 in his blacksmith shop. Nate was a Justice of the Peace and a member of the State Legislature in 1872. He received a Contract for 6 townships in 1873, including five at Summer Lake in Lake County on the East side, on which he used James Warner as compassman and three sons as crewmen.

The sixth township was a fractional one West of Dexter that he surveyed himself with William Cathcart as a crewman. The Oregon City enterprise charged the Contract was awarded, among others, to Nate only because he was in the Legislature. Nate purchased 160 acres West of Cottage Grove in 1868, and established a Post Office on it called Royal, keeping it until at least 1893.

His second Contract did not come until 1892, and he used his son, Ulysses, as a chainman, and also as an undisclosed compassman for portions. He was examined by William Bushey, resulting in field corrections in 1894 of eleven miles of line. Ulysses was the compassman for those corrections. After another exam, he was approved in 1895. Nate lived in the Cottage Grove vicinity until he died there in 1908, a year after celebrating his 60th wedding anniversary. He is the namesake of Martin Creek a few miles South of Cottage Grove running along I-5.

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**Martin, Ulysses S.  
Grant**

1862-1948

Comp

Contract 599 (as           1892  
compassman for  
Nathaniel Martin)  
to  
no more



Born the son of Nathaniel Martin in Oregon, Ulysses attended school through the fifth grade near Cottage Grove. He filed on a Homestead about ten miles West of Heppner and married 15-year-old Emma Jane Cox there in 1882. They patented the Homestead in 1891. He was acknowledged as a compassman for his father on Contract 599 for part of the work of T20S R10W in 1892 and surveyed 11 miles of corrections on that survey in 1894 as compassman.

Ulysses was a furniture dealer in Cottage Grove in 1900 and later a funeral director. He moved to Seattle in 1905 to take over the Georgetown Funeral Home, lasting until 1907. He then became a carpenter and contractor in Seattle in 1910, a carpenter in Seattle living with a daughter in 1920, and a carpenter in Long Beach, California living with a brother in 1930. He was in Seattle in 1940 living with a grandson, and died there in 1948. Emma had died in Seattle in 1925.

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**Marye, William  
Bolivar**

1857-1931

USDS

Contract 560           1890  
to  
no more

CA PLS 340. William was the grandson of William W. Chapman, an Oregon Surveyor General, and nephew of Huston, Thomas, Arthur and Winfield Chapman. His father, Simon Bolivar Marye, graduated from William and Mary in 1847, served in the Mexican Revolution in 1848, became a judge in San Francisco in 1850, was a lawyer and Mayor of Portland in 1852, and returned with the family to the South before 1855. William's mother, Sarah Chapman, died of T. B. in 1858, and Simon died while on a trip to Montana in 1868, after remarrying in 1859.



William and his sister went to live with their grandparents in Portland, where William attended the Portland Academy. William was East Portland City Surveyor in 1882 and Multnomah County Surveyor 1884-85. He was a chainman for his uncle, Winfield S. Chapman on Contracts at Coos Bay and Altoona, Washington in 1875-76, where he may not have had the best tutor. He married Ella De Clerk in 1882, and she died of TB in 1886, leaving him the care of his two young daughters.

He accompanied Maj. John Brockenbrough of the GLO to study the timber resources of the Northwest in 1889. That year he was arrested for falsely claiming to show timberland at Nehalem to 30 men, and charging them \$45 apiece. He was also charged with embezzling money from a woman. He was a GLO Surveyor in Oregon with a small Contract West of Vernonia in 1891. William was out on bail for a criminal charge in 1890-91, jumped bail, and was sought by bondsmen. Marye partnered with his uncle, Arthur Chapman, as financier and bondsman, for WA Contract 397 in 1892, involving 4 townships West of Mt. St. Helens. Arthur paid off the bail bondsmen so William could get to work. William finished the field work in 1893, partly with the help of William Elwell as a chainman, and submitted the notes.

They were returned for corrections, and a field examination was ordered by the Commissioner. There were significant errors in the two townships that were examined, and the survey was suspended in late 1894. T15N R4E needed the North tier redone, and T9N R3E needed to be completely resurveyed. Marye realized that there was no more money in this for him, and he left for California and "threw up the work". Arthur Chapman had a bond for double the amount of the Contract and had to arrange for the resurveys. He hired Albert C. O'Neel to do the work in 1896, acting as Compassman.

William was living in San Francisco in 1896 as a civil engineer, and in 1900, Marye was awarded California PLS License No. 340 in San Francisco. His cousin, George T. Marye, was living in San Francisco at that time, was member of the Board of Trade, was a Chancellor of the University of California, and later became Ambassador to Russia. The census of 1900 showed William in Kings County, Lemoore, California. He was 5' 10" with blue eyes and brown hair. (old biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

Postscript 2021: Desert Station was a stage relay station on the Ben Holiday Stage line through Idaho. It was built on the edge of Rock Creek Canyon and was the last water for 18 miles to the West. Charles S. Walgemott wrote his recollections of this area in Idaho in 1936, just before he died, in a book titled "Six Decades Back" The station had gone to rubble and was barely discernable as a former building. Renard Mee, son of Judge Mee, stopped to examine the ruins, and found a bottle in the rock wall with a paper in it. It read as follows:

*To all whom it may concern, that I, William Bolivar Marye, the son of Simon Bolivar Marye, French Huguenot, and First Family of the State of Virginia, have undertaken to set forth certain facts pertaining to my life and travels, and to seal them within the bottle on the fifth day of November, A. D. 1903 (sic) at 10:35 a. m. I was at this old Fort or stage eating house of the Utah-Idaho-Montana and Oregon stage road.*



*At this time I was on my transcontinental trip "Mission" afoot as a doer of the works of the Evangelist from San Francisco, California to Maine to New York City, N. Y., leaving San Francisco, California, March A. D. 1903, and reaching New York City January 4, A. D. 1910, returning from New York City to Kentucky, then back to New York City, N. Y., then to the northwest corner, leaving that place May 29, A. D. 1911, on the return trip to San Francisco, California "afoot" from New York City, N. Y., Washington, D. C., Salt Lake City, then to this rock house July 22, 1912, then to Boise, then to Seattle, Washington, then to Portland, Oregon, then to San Francisco, California.*

*At this time the whole country was of wild nature, covered with sage brush, and its inhabitants were jackrabbits, sage hens, and coyotes. I was a boy 9 years old in A. D. 1869, and was a passenger on the overland stage which rolled into this place for supper.*

*-William Bolivar Marye*

*Doer of the works of the Evangelist*

Knowing what to look for, the author found many newspaper articles across the U. S. from 1903-1913 about William and his evangelical work. He did walk 20,000 miles, with no money, and finished in San Francisco. William was in Mendocino State Hospital in 1930, which is where he died in 1931. William is probably buried in the mass grave of hospital residents at Ukiah Cemetery. It was not surprising to some of us that he ended up in a State Hospital.

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**Mather, James  
Henry**

1853-1916

Dem

USDS

Contract 587

to

no more

1891

James was born in Ohio, the son of a farmer, and was still in school in Ohio at age 17, and was attending Marietta College in Ohio in 1871. . He was a civil engineer in Kansas in 1884-85, where he was a deputy Ford County Surveyor. James travelled to Washington, D. C. in the winter of 1885 to watch the inauguration ceremonies of Democrat, Grover Cleveland. He was noted as having a new surveying office in Wallace, Kansas in November, 1895-96, having plenty of work. He married Annette "Nettie" Dibble in 1886 in Eldon, Iowa, eventually producing five children.

He lived in Nevada County, California in 1890 as a civil engineer before he came to Oregon by 1891 to survey a Contract for one township in the Coast Range Southeast of Tillamook in the fall of 1892. He was examined by J. C. C. Lewis and was approved in 1893. This probably was far different terrain and brush than Kansas or Nevada. James was in the 1892 and 1893 Directory of Portland, first as a chainman for the City and then as a civil engineer, and returned to Nevada County by 1896 as a surveyor and civil engineer. One of his children was born while they were in Oregon. Sometime around 1900, he was an engineer for the Los Angeles and Salt Lake RR that went through Las Vegas.

James was in Pacific Grove, California in 1901. In 1902 he was surveying the Imperial and Gulf RR from Imperial, California to the SPRR Mainline at Old Beach. In 1903, James was named a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in California and was awarded the Contract for the GLO resurvey of the sections in the Imperial Valley because the prior survey was erroneous. The Contract was challenged because it failed to use the public bid process, and it appears that he did not do the survey. He was a civil engineer in Los Angeles from 1904-07 and also in Belvedere, California in 1910. James died in Riverside in 1916, and Nettie was a widow in 1920 and 1930 in Los Angeles. James was 5' 9 1/2" tall with dark hair and dark eyes.

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**Maxon, Hamilton  
Jordon Goss**

1813-1884

Dem

USDS

Contract 50 WA (with 1860  
Jared Hurd)

(2/2/1860) (with  
portions by David P.  
Thompson as  
compassman)

to

no more

Hamilton was born in Kentucky, married his wife, Arabelle in Missouri in 1841, and came across the Oregon Trail in 1845. He was accompanied by his family, his brother and his family, and at least one of his wife's brothers. They first settled near Salem, and he commanded a Company in the Indian Wars of 1848, before going to CA to seek gold in 1849. Upon returning he filed a Claim that included the present City of Camas, Washington. Maxon was a member of the Oregon Territorial Legislature in 1850-51, a Clark County Commissioner in 1853 and the Postmaster of Washougal in 1853. From 1851-1852, he and his brother operated a sawmill on Lacamas Creek near Camas. Quoting from the press at the time, "...more belly than brains," and "...a flamboyant horseman with a mustache as big as a snowplow and a voice that would stampede buffalo."

As a Major in the Indian Wars in 1855-56, he led several battles. His muster papers said he was 5' 11", had grey eyes, light hair and light complexion. Hamilton is memorialized in Washington history as the leader of a Company that slaughtered 8-30 Indian women and children near the confluence of the Nisqually and Mashell Rivers in March of 1856, known as "Maxon's Massacre". His orders came from Governor Stevens. He also commanded a Battalion of 67 officers and men that crossed over Natches Pass in the spring of 1856 to pursue the Indians, under Col. Shaw.

On the way, he was openly insubordinate to Colonel B. F. Shaw by allowing his men to fire their rifles, keeping his men separate from the rest of the troops, and was placed under arrest, even though not restrained. Only when they ran out of provisions, did he join the rest of the Company. His Battalion was placed under the leadership of a Lieutenant, and Maxon was still considered under arrest. When the forces reached the Grand Ronde River, they met the Indians, and Maxon and several of his men were separated from the rest. He eventually got back to the fort and led supplies back to the main force. The enlistment of he and his men were about up, and they left soon thereafter, taking many of the captured horses. His estate was still pursuing a claim for pay and expenses from 1855, 1856 and 1871 in 1885.

Under orders from Stevens, he had arrested the "Muck Creek settlers", who were former Hudson's Bay employees that were living peacefully with the Indians and had been accused of aiding and abetting. He was one of the right hand men to Isaac Stevens and James Tilton in the detention of both the Muck Creek settlers and a Supreme Court Justice. The settlers were prosecuted, and when the Washington Supreme Court declared their detention unconstitutional, Stevens had Maxon and Tilton imprison the Supreme Court Justice and declare Marshal Law. Maxon and Jared Hurd were appointed as members of a military tribunal to try the settlers. Based on a decision by Supreme Court Justice Chenoweth that they did not have jurisdiction, the tribunal dismissed the charges. Hamilton was a Member of the Washington Territorial Council (Senate) from 1857-59.

Even though he had no known surveying experience, he was awarded two Contracts by Tilton a short time later. They were both in the prime East side, and Contract 50, a joint Contract with Jared Hurd, comprised many miles of well paying township lines, standard parallels and the Columbia Guide Meridian. In all cases Maxon had experienced compassman listed in the crew, including Jared Hurd, David Thompson, and John Tennant. Thompson ran the Columbia Guide Meridian on his own, and he had just finished the portion of that Meridian in Oregon under his own Oregon Contract. He had begun that survey before Maxon and Hurd arrived in the area. During the Snake crossing, Thompson made an error of 7 chains North and 15 chains East, that is perpetuated today.

Maxon also signed the notes for the Second Standard Parallel North, West to almost Mt. Adams. Hurd signed the notes for the rest of the Contract. Hamilton was awarded Contract 60 in July 1861, shortly before Tilton was replaced. It was for 8 townships between The Dalles, Oregon and Goldendale, Washington, and Northeast of Roosevelt, Washington, all in sagebrush country. He used David Thompson as compassman for about half the work, and surveyed the other half in his own person, per the notes. David Thompson would go on to become Mayor of Portland, Governor of Idaho, and Minister to Turkey.

By 1863 Maxon had sold his DLC and moved to Idaho, where he worked as a miner at Baird's Gulch and Pine Creek. He also owned a hotel called Junction House on the stage line West of Boise, and a retail liquor store in Boise. Hamilton served in the Idaho Legislature in 1877. The censuses of 1870 and 1880 listed him as a farmer near Boise, which is where he died in 1884. Just before he died, he helped to survey the Dry Creek Cemetery, where he is buried. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information. (biography)

**Maxwell, Frank****Dillin**

1874-1945

Dem

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1908

to

no more



Frank was born in Iowa, the son of a farmer, and was on the farm in 1885 with his family and widowed mother. By 1900 he was a recent arrival and a hired hand at a dairy farm in Boise, Idaho. He was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor and received a Joint Contract with A. N. Kimmel for eight townships in North Idaho near Harrison in 1903, another Contract in Idaho in 1906 on his own, and a large Contract in Montana in 1907.

He had moved to Weiser, Idaho by 1907 and continued there until 1910, operating Weiser Engineering Company. He was one of two Deputy Surveyors surveying about 500,000 acres of irrigation land between Twin Falls and Bruneau, Idaho in 1908. His Contract was a Joint Contract with Walter Tolboy. He was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and surveyed one Mining Claim in Baker County, Oregon in 1908. Frank married Ann Ruth "Ruth" Pence in Boise in 1909, and they had a daughter in 1910 and a son in 1914. He was selling subdivision lots in Boise on a dozen occasions from 1905-1910.

He received a Contract in Idaho for one township Southeast of Boise in 1909, another for one township in Seven Devils Country, and another in 1910. Frank was listed as a civil engineer in general practice in Boise in 1910. He signed on as a transitman in the Direct System in 1911 out of Boise, and was a U. S. Surveyor in 1914. He was a surveyor for the Forest Service in 1918, and a Cadastral Engineer for the General Land Office in 1920 and 1930. He retired in 1936 and ran for Ada County Surveyor as a Democrat in 1938 and 1940 and lost by a small margin both times. He ran again in 1942 and 1944 against a different candidate and lost by a larger margin. He purchased a farm in 1936 10 miles West of Eagle, and farmed there until he died in 1945.

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**Mayhugh, John S.***1834-1902*

Rep

IAA

Special Instructions 1891

from OIA

to

no more



1881

John was born in Pennsylvania, educated in a college in the East and came to Grass Valley, California in 1850. He went to Virginia City, Nevada in 1859 for one year before locating to Esmerelda County, Nevada. While there he was political and pro-Union, a correspondent for the Sacramento Daily Union, and was elected to the Legislature from 1864-69.

He came to Elko, Nevada in 1868 and married Julia A. Cavanaugh in Carson City in 1869. He was a Justice of the Peace in 1870, worked for the Indian Service in Nevada in 1871, was the Receiver in the Elko Land Office in 1872-77, and was a land agent in 1875. He was editor and publisher of the Nevada Tidings at Elko, and was elected to the Legislature again in 1878 from Elko. He was an accountant in Elko in 1880 and was the Agent for the Shoshone Duck Valley Reservation in 1882-84. He was the Special Allotting Agent on the Siletz Reservation in Oregon in 1891, where he behaved in a pro government and anti Indian manner in carrying out his duties. Agent Buford at the Siletz and Mayhugh fought so hard that Mayhugh was transferred to the Hopi Reservation and then the Moquie Reservation in 1893 to do allotments.

John was appointed the Indian Agent for the Shoshone Reservation in 1898, and that ended when several of the staff, including John, were involved in a shooting scrape amongst themselves. He announced as a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Nevada in about 1899 and died in a fall from his horse in Elko in 1902.

## McCall, Jesse Applegate "Red"

1871-1934

Rep

Comp

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1899

to

Mineral Surveys 1905



1908

CA PLS 1932. Jesse was born in Oregon, the grandson of U. S. Deputy Surveyor, Jesse Applegate, and the son of U. S.; Deputy Surveyor, Martin L. McCall, and was raised in Ashland. His nickname was "Red" for his red hair. An individual named J. A. McCall was the assistant compassman to Albert Wilson in 1891 in T2S R7W Southeast of Tillamook, and the signature was close but not a perfect match. Jesse was elected Ashland City Surveyor in 1895-96. Jesse married Orliena Ora Rogers in Ashland in 1898, a 22 year old lady with a one year old son born out of wedlock.

In 1899 Jesse was an incorporator of the Oregon Midland Company that proposed to build a RR from Klamath Falls to the SPRR line South of the Oregon Border. Deputy Surveyor Rufus Moore was also one of the incorporators. Jesse made the survey of the RR in 1900. Jesse was listed in the Ashland Census in 1900 as a surveyor, living with his mother, siblings and Orliena, and he was also in Malheur County as a civil engineer living next to one of his future chainmen. In 1901 he was contracted to survey 4 1/2 miles of new RR from the SPRR track at Tolo to a proposed sawmill at Woodville, including a crossing of the Rogue River at Bolt. The client was the Rogue River Mining and Lumber Company controlled by W. H. Stansill.

He surveyed 27 Mining Claims in Josephine and Jackson Counties from 1900-05, using a large five man crew in each instance, including his brother Guert McCall on most. He was named a USDMS in California in 1902. Jesse built a new house at 550 Main Street in Ashland in 1902 that is now a B & B on the Historic Register. in 1903, he surveyed an extension of the Weed RR running North From Weed, California Northerly ten miles to Keno, Oregon. Jesse was the surveyor in 1906 for the 15 mile RR from Butte Falls Milling Company to Eagle Point. The next year Jesse continued the route to Medford under the name of Crater Lake RR. Shortly the RR would go into receivership, and it is unknown whether Jesse was paid. Jesse was an engineer for a railroad in Plummer, Nevada in 1910, about the time he and Orliena divorced.

Orliena kept her original son and the two children of Jesse and soon remarried to the father of her first son. Jesse sold the house to his next door neighbor and was noted in Idaho in 1914. He remarried to Lula May Thorp in 1920 in San Rafael, California. She had two children and they had one son together. He was listed as divorced by 1930 as a civil engineer in Santa Clara, California and died in Santa Rosa in 1934.

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**McCall, Martin  
Laurence  
Alexander "Red"**

1840-1895

Rep

USDS

Comp

SES

USDMS

Contract 132 (with 1869  
Henry Stevenson)

to

Mineral Surveys 1893

Born in New York, Martin probably served in the Civil War before being listed as a miner in Yuba, California in 1866. He was in Oregon by 1869 when he received Joint Contract 132 with Henry Stevenson for one township in the rugged Coast Range East of Tillamook. They shared the work, and both signed the final oaths. Martin was listed in the 1870 census as a civil engineer in Portland, and had obviously gotten to know Jesse Applegate before them. He married Jesse's 16-year-old daughter Ailena Ellen Applegate, on June 13, 1870 in Douglas County. Along with Daniel Applegate, Jesse's son, Martin joined Jesse on Contract 137 in August of that year for 11 townships in the Southern Cascades and along the California Border issued by Surveyor General Elijah Applegate, Jesse's nephew.

At age 59, Jesse became ill and turned the work over to Martin and Daniel Webster Applegate as Deputy Surveyors without first getting the permission of the Surveyor General. By the time they turned in the notes for the work in 1870, William Odell had become Surveyor General and rejected at least all the work of Martin and Daniel and some of Jesse's.

After a lot of political negotiating and letters to the editor, Odell gave the three of them a new Joint Contract, including the work of Martin and Daniel in 1870. Several townships were thrown in also, now totaling 23 townships. Seven townships were East of Ashland, and the others were near the State Line between Ashland and Klamath Falls. Another problem was that Jesse surveyed a township that was not in his Contract, but he claimed it was in the diagram given to him by his nephew. They included that one in the new Contract, but refused to pay Martin for it until 1875.

Martin continued to live in Ashland until he died there in 1895 of influenza. He received a Joint Contract with J. H. Chitwood in 1880 for 12 townships between Lake Albert and Warner Valley in Lake County. All were surveyed by Martin, using a consistent 6 man crew. He ran for County Surveyor as a Republican in 1880, 1884 and 1886, losing at least twice, although he did get elected to the Ashland City Council in 1883. The RR was being built near Ashland in 1883, and Martin was hired to lay out a town of 130 acres adjacent to Ashland. In 1885, he made a preliminary location and cost for a bridge across the Rogue River at Bybe's Ferry. From 1879-1888, he made five maps of Ashland.



Martin was the Land Agent for the new Town of Medford out of Ashland in 1885. William Byars appointed him to be an Examiner of Surveys in 1892, and he made four examinations in Southwest Oregon. Martin was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in 1893 and examined three Mining Claims as such without making a survey. After Martin died, his widow moved to Council, Idaho with her family, where their son Guert was a County Surveyor.

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**McCautland,  
Elmer James**

1864-1941

USDMS

Mineral Surveys            1891

to

no more



1907

Member AIME. Member ASCE. Born in Wisconsin, Elmer was in Oregon to survey the Dry Gulch Mining Claim and flume in 1889 near Quartzville, working out of Albany. Elmer married Cora S. Holland in Salem, Oregon in 1890, but she died in 1891 two weeks after giving birth to a stillborn baby. Elmer surveyed the Bohemia Mine in Douglas County, Oregon in 1891 as a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and replaced Alonzo Gesner temporarily as City Surveyor of Salem the same year.

He married Annie Gwynne in Salem, Oregon in 1893, the daughter of his minister, and they had a son in Oregon in 1894 and a daughter in 1901 in New York. Elmer was a professor of mathematics at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Oregon from 1894-96, before going back to college at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He received or held the following: BSCE from Cornell College in Iowa in 1892; MCE Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 1897; Instructor of Civil Engineering at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. 1900-07; and Head of Mining Engineering at University of Alabama, 1907.

Elmer was appointed Professor of Municipal and Highway Engineering at the University of Washington from 1908-14, and while there took a leave of absence to study the Hydrology of the Deschutes River in 1912 for the USGS. While in Seattle, he was the President of the State Board of Health. Elmer was the acting Dean of the School of Engineering in 1912, and his son Gwynne graduated from the school in civil engineering in 1915. He moved to Missouri to become the Dean of the School of Engineering at the University of Missouri 1914, continuing until 1935. Annie died of cancer in 1921, and Elmer remarried to Elinor Gertrude Hamilton in 1923. He was retired in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1937 and died there in 1941. He is buried in Salem, Oregon with Cora and the baby, but also has a crypt in Missouri with Annie.

**McClung, John****Henry**

1837-1923

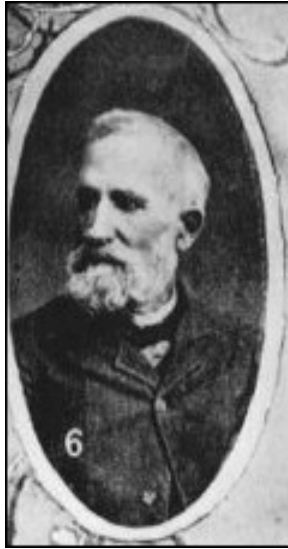
Rep

USDS

Contract 127, (with 1869  
John Meldrum)

to

Contract 173 1872



John was born in Ohio, the son of a carpenter, and moved with his family to Indiana in 1845. He stayed there until he went West to Kansas in 1850. He was a chainman on GLO Surveys in Kansas in the early 1850's on three Indian Reservations. He came to Eugene, Oregon in 1856 via Panama, and was a survivor of the train wreck over the Isthmus that killed 72. He purchased a farm six miles West of Eugene near his grandfather and was the Captain of a Company in the old Oregon Militia. His family, including step father Bell Jennings, came in 1858 to the farm John had purchased.

John sold his interest in the farm in 1858 and went back to school in Eugene before purchasing a drug store with an uncle, Thomas Belshaw. John and Thomas sold out their shares in 1862 to Bell Jennings to go mining at Salmon River, and after a short time of not much luck, returned with John buying his share back. John married 17 year old Katherine Henderson in 1863, the daughter of James Henry Dickey Henderson, the Republican Congressman from Oregon. John was early into Republican politics, attending many county and state conventions. From 1866-69, John and Bell owned 400 acres of farm land near Creswell that they had purchased. John was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of Elisha Applegate in 1868-69 before he began surveying a series of five Contracts from 1869-72. Bell also began as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office in 1869.

John's first Contract was a Joint Contract with John Meldrum for 13 townships along the Deschutes River North of Bend. They shared the work, and John used a small, stable crew, while Meldrum used his brother Henry as a chainman on most townships. John received another Contract with John Meldrum in the same year in the same place using the same pattern. An exception was that Henry Meldrum was a compassman for one of John Meldrum's townships, where Rufus Moore was a chainman.

John was awarded a Contract of his own for about 9 townships in the same area North of Bend in 1870. This work facilitated some of the land grant to the Santiam Wagon Road. Another Joint Contract, this time with William Pengra for 16 townships, came his way in 1870. They shared the work, and half of the fractional townships were just North and East of Eugene. The rest were on the East side at Silver Lake in Lake County.

His last Contract was on his own for six townships in 1872 just Northwest of Cottage Grove on the Siuslaw and at Marcola on the McKenzie in Lane County. He built a house and was appointed a Judge in Eugene in 1873-74 and was elected to the State Legislature in 1874. John was the Treasurer for the University of Oregon Board of Regents at the beginning in 1875. He was nominated by the Republican Party as the Candidate for the State Senate in 1876, but lost by 68 votes in the election.

After 1872 John opened a drugstore and a dry goods store, and occupied himself in that way through various iterations until he retired in 1902. He built the McClung Building in 1901 at 8th and Willamette. John was Mayor of Eugene from 1891-93 and a member of the City Council for many years. In 1894 he was elected to the State Senate and served from 1894-97. John was also on the School Board for many years. He moved to Portland in about 1904, where he was a member of the Commercial Club and died there in 1923.

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### **McClure, Andrew**

#### **Samuel**

1829-1898

Union

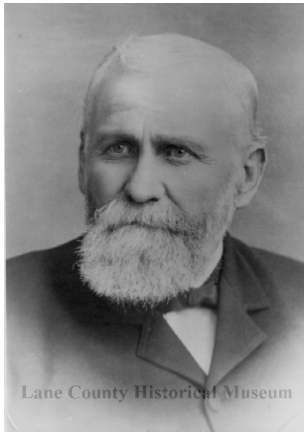
Indep

Dr/Clerk

Transcribing Clerk 1871

to

no more



Born in Illinois, Andrew came across the Oregon Trail in 1853 with his cousins and their families at age 24. Under guide Elijah Elliott, they left the Oregon Trail at the Malheur River on September 1 and headed West across the center of Oregon. After Burns, they wandered South to avoid Indians, wasted precious time, consumed food, and strained their draft animals. By fall, their situation was grave, and they became "The Lost Wagon Train of 1853".

On September 13th, near Burns, Andrew and seven other young men were dispatched with seven days rations to reach the Willamette Valley to send aid back to the wagon train. He and B. F. Owen kept diaries that have since been published, and Andrew's diary is on file at OHS. They reached the Deschutes on September 25th. They crossed the Cascades between the South and Middle Sister, mistaking the South Sister for Diamond Peak, the location of present Willamette Pass. They waded cold rivers, ate three of their horses, abandoned the other nine, and were nearly dead when rescued by settlers sent back to help them.

Andrew quit his diary on October 13th, having filled it up. They ate the last of their dried horse meat on October 15th and survived on a few grouse and squirrels until they were rescued by a relative from Eugene on Oct 23rd. The settlers in the Willamette valley rallied a rescue, and went East over the Emigrant Road to rescue the wagon train. All eventually made it to the Willamette Valley in the fall of 1853.

Andrew settled on a Claim at Pleasant Hill, just Southeast of Springfield, served as a Captain in the Rogue River Indian War of 1855-56, married Sarah Jane Dillard by 1859, and eventually sired eleven children. He was a merchant in 1860 and 1870 in Eugene and was elected Lane County Treasurer in 1862 from the Union Party. He ran for Lane County Commissioner in 1874 as an Independent with unknown results. Andrew served a few months as a Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William Odell in Eugene in 1871-72.

An A. S. McClure declared bankruptcy in the bankruptcy court in Portland in 1874, and there is no mention of his dry good business after 1875 in Eugene except for the instance that he was in the grocery store business in Portland in 1887. Andrew was listed as a teamster in 1880 in Eugene. A biography notes that he lived in Portland and Eastern Oregon for some time after 1880. Six of his sons and one daughter graduated from college and went on to professions.

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**McClure, Henry Franklin**

*1860-1931*

Rep

Comp

USDS

Contract 439 (as 1882  
compassman for  
Ewing K. Henderson  
for portions)

to

Contract 480 1883



1885

Born the oldest son of Andrew S. McClure, Henry graduated from the University of Oregon in 1885, and then stayed for three more years for a Masters and for Law School. While attending school in 1881, he was a chainman for James Currin in the very Southeast corner of the State, and in 1882, Henry and his brother, Charles, were crewmen for Ewing Henderson on a Contract Southeast of Burns. Henry was promoted to be compassman for four townships on that job.

Also while attending school in 1883, Henry received his own Contract for 11 townships East of Burns. He used a small consistent crew, and a subsequent BLM surveyor noted he probably stubbed the 1/4 corners on the E/W section lines. After graduation from law school, he read law with Judge Edward Deady in Portland before moving to Seattle in 1888. He had just got an office going in downtown Seattle when the Great Fire of 1889 happened. Henry was in his office and hauled all of his books and furniture out into the street barely before the fire burned his building to the ground. He wrote a letter to his brother Edgar in Eugene describing the 80 acres of destruction and chaos, and asked for some money. There were no stores and only one bank left in downtown Seattle

He entered into the practice of law with Laban H. Wheeler, a University of Oregon graduate and fellow Deputy Surveyor. By 1892 Henry was in partnership with Daniel W. Bass, another U. of O. classmate, and then with his brother Walter in 1897. He married Elizabeth A. Hoffman, a German immigrant slightly older than he was, at age 41 in Seattle in 1901, and they had no children. Brother William joined the firm in 1901, and they would continue that arrangement until Henry died of a heart attack in Seattle in 1931.

They were joined in Seattle by two other brothers in the 1890's who worked for the Press Times, and all lived together until Henry was married. Another brother, Edgar, was the Chair of the Chemistry Department at the University of Oregon when he died in the first recorded climbing fatality on Mount Rainier in 1897 on Muir Glacier at what is now known as McClure Rock (named for Edgar). He was responsible for making an accurate barometric height determination of Mt. Rainier that was the best available for some time. Brother Charles was a physician, brother Horace was a newspaperman, and sister Jennie was a teacher, all in Seattle.

Henry was a Special Federal Judge at one time, a Member of the Arctic Club, and President of the Bar Association. He was active in business, participating in several corporations, and dealing in real estate. Henry was active in Republican politics early in his career, but backed out later in life, becoming disenchanted.

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**McCornack,  
Eugene P.**

*1851-1916*

Rep

USDS

Contract 261                      1877

to

Contract 398                      1881



Eugene was born in Illinois, came to Washington on Puget Sound with his family in 1852 over the Oregon Trail, and then moved to Oregon by 1859. He was a student in Eugene in 1870 where his father was a State Legislator, but graduated from Pacific University in 1874. His father was killed in a runaway incident in 1872 near his farm. Eugene was a chainman for John Kincaid in 1873 at Mitchell, on a Contract that was surveyed by Henry Perkins as compassman.

From the beginning, Eugene was involved in Republican politics, attending most of the county and state conventions and serving as the Secretary of the State Central Committee. He was awarded WA Contract 239 for fractional T3N R8E at Carson, WA in 1878.

Eugene was also a GLO Surveyor in Oregon, surveying six Contracts from 1877-1881, totaling 28 townships, all on the East side. His first four Contracts were for five townships total, East of Maupin and at Arlington. Joint Contract 320 in 1879 with Henry Thatcher North of Baker was surveyed by Thatcher. Contract 398 on his own in 1881 was for 70 miles of Standard Parallels and Meridians and 23 townships of exteriors, all just East of John Day. He generally used small, consistent crews. BLM surveyors report his bearings to witness trees were only to the nearest 5 degrees, but his distances were accurate. From 1878-1887 he served as the executive secretary of the State Land Board of Oregon.

Eugene somehow made a lot of money and was a partner in a 12,000 acre cattle ranch with his brother Frank. In 1893 he purchased the Reed Opera House on Liberty Street in Salem, and built the McCornack Building next to it. He also owned the First National Bank of Salem. Steven Puter, in his book "Looters of the Public Domain", written from jail, accuses McCornack of selling the rights to purchase State Indemnity Lands in the Corvallis School Lands Fraud. As Secretary to the State Land Board, he would personally charge an additional \$1.25 per acre for the rights to purchase lands and pocket that amount. The payments would go to his bank, and the State Treasury would be paid by the bank, with no accounting. Eugene also kept privately the only record of which school lands were available, and sold that information at a high price.

In 1899, he married Edna Moody, the daughter of Governor and U. S. Deputy Surveyor, Zenas Moody. She died of typhoid in Salem 6 years later, having no children. Eugene and Edna were living in the Moody home in 1900, where Eugene was listed as a lawyer. He was still living with the Moodys in 1910 after Edna died, and he reported no occupation. He was also the brother-in-law of USDS Charles M. Collier and the brother of Clerk Walter Ross McCornack. Just before he died in 1916, he had reclaimed 8000 acres of tule next to Upper Klamath Lake. Eugene died in Salem, still living at the Moody residence, and left an estate of about \$800,000. He is the namesake of a building at Collier State Park Logging Museum North of Klamath Falls. This is the maintained version of this information.

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**McCornack,  
Walter Ross**

1845-1903

Rep

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1872

Born in Illinois, Walter came first to Olympia, Washington in 1853, and then to Lane county, Oregon in 1858, both times with his family. He had eleven brothers and sisters, all of whom survived him in 1903. One of the Brothers was Deputy Surveyor Eugene P. McCornack. Walter was a Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William Odell from at least 1872-73. From 1871-80 he was a Lane County deputy sheriff, and a deputy county clerk for several terms until 1890. He was a bank director in 1886, ran for Clerk in 1890 but lost, and was a Legislative Committee Clerk in 1893.

Walter married Elizabeth E. Hazelton in 1874, and made his permanent home on a 700 acre stock and dairy ranch on the North Fork of the Siuslaw River near Florence in 1893. He was one of the first farmers to purchase a cream separator. He remained there with his family until he died, with two sons continuing the ranch.

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**McCown,  
Malcolm  
Sunshine**

1876-1941

USDS

Contract 732 (with 1901  
Rufus Moore)

to

no more



1900

Malcomb was born in Oregon City, the son of lawyer Ferdinand McCown and Sarah Meldrum, the sister of John and Henry Meldrum. Malcom was the nephew of four Deputy Surveyors in the Meldrum family. He attended one year of high school and left for Alaska in the winter of 1898. He received Joint Contract 732 with his uncle, Rufus Moore, in 1901 for one township at Crater Lake, another at Klamath Lake, and 11 townships East of Warner Lakes in Lake and Harney Counties.

Henry Meldrum had created a group of Deputy Surveyors and Notaries to facilitate the fraudulent applications for surveys. Henry created 21 of the applications and forged the signatures of 23. Stephen Hungate created one application and forged the signatures on three. Rufus created three and did not forge any. The field notes were in the Benson purple mimeo or stamped field note format, and the land was in fact arid and unusable. John Hamaker notarized the Klamath Falls surveys, and George Brownell notarized the others of Malcomb McCown. Rufus Moore, McCown, Hamaker, Henry Meldrum and George Wagoner were all charged with fraud. Near completion, Surveyor General Henry Meldrum urged the appointment of David Kinnaird as examiner (complicit) because he was nearby and ready.

Two chainmen testified before the Grand Jury and were later charged with perjury. Rufus and Malcomb were examined by David Kinnaird (indicted in 1902) in 1901 and A. W. Barber in 1904, who was involved investigating the land fraud cases. The plats were withheld from filing until 1909 while the investigation was ongoing. Newspapers reported that this had been going on for a period of time, with Henry, Rufus and John Hamaker being involved. They would split the profits after supposedly turning in fictitious survey notes and plats. The investigation did not charge this, but it was hinted at in the evidence, stating that the field notes were in the handwriting of Henry Meldrum and his son, Don Meldrum.

Moore surveyed the two at Crater Lake and Klamath Lake, and Malcomb surveyed the rest. He used a four man consistent crew on all, and the notes were on preprinted mimeo forms. They were examined by David Kinnaird and approved in 1903 by Henry Meldrum, his uncle, after a short suspension and supplemental instructions. John Hamaker notarized the work of Moore and George Brownell notarized the work of Malcomb. All of these individuals except Malcomb were indicted in 1903 for survey fraud, including these surveys. Included in the indictment were: Henry Meldrum, Surveyor General; George Waggoner, Chief Clerk; Rufus Moore, Deputy Surveyor; David Kinnaird, Examiner; John Hamaker, Notary; George Brownell, Notary; and Frank Van Winkle, Notary.

Two of the chainmen used by Malcomb on this Contract 732 perjured themselves at the urging of Henry Meldrum. The newspaper articles were vague enough to not be able to link this specific Contract to the indictment, except for the crewmen, but the team was the same. S. A. D. Puter in Looter of the Public Domain did link this Contract to the indictments. Henry Meldrum received another indictment in 1904 for falsifying survey notes with intent of fraud.

Amherst Barber, out of the General Land Office in Washington, D. C., was involved in the investigation of Contract 732, and all of the plats for Contract 732 were withheld from filing with the Land Office until 1909 when all of the indictments were either tried or dismissed, including Rufus Moore, who was probably paid for Contract 732 at that time. Henry Meldrum was convicted of fraud and sent to McNeil Island Federal Prison, and Rufus Moore appealed his indictment, using the Governor of Oregon as his lawyer, but was ordered back to a trial that never happened. So far, Malcomb has not been mentioned in the indictments, but he must have been complicit.

Malcomb spent much of the time after 1901 in Canada in mining, covering most nearly all of the time from 1911-1935. He had a wife in 1911 in Yukon Territory, but was not listed as married in Eagle, Yukon Territory when he was listed as a self employed laundryman in 1918. He was married to Ollise Smith (Alice Bertha Smith) in Seattle in 1927. He was in San Francisco in 1931 and was a divorced mine owner in Winnemucca, Nevada in 1940. He had divorced Alice in 1936, although his death certificate listed Alice Bertha McCown as his wife. He died of a stroke and sclerosis of the liver. Alice sued the estate, consisting of mining property, for one third of the value and lost.



**McCoy, Marion****Poe**

1860-1944

SES

USDS

Special Instructions 1903  
to

Special Instructions 1903



WA PLS 1365. Marion was born and raised in Ohio, and at 20 years of age he was still working on his father's farm in Van Wert County. He completed 4 years of college, and in 1885 he was a deputy county surveyor in Iowa. He returned to Van Wert County and was elected County Surveyor from 1885-88. By 1890 Marion lived in Watonga, OK, being elected as a director of a church. He married Frances Teubner in 1890 in Ohio, filed a Homestead within the city limits of present Watonga, and eventually patented it in 1894.

Marion surveyed about 200 townships in Oklahoma from 1895-1898, mostly as a U. S. Surveyor for the USGS. He was elected as a Representative in the Third Oklahoma Territorial Legislature in 1895 from Blaine County, serving on several committees. He was in the Dakotas surveying for the USGS in 1898 on Forest Reserves. McCoy was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys out of Washington, D. C. in 1899 for several Western states, continuing at that for the next ten years, examining 5 surveys in Oregon and 209 surveys in Washington alone. His work in Oregon on the exams of Contract 747 of George Waggoner and of Contract 748 of Klaetsch and Minton were suspicious. He also performed small original surveys as a U. S. Deputy Surveyor as needed, including a survey of Fort Sherman in Idaho. His home town in 1900 was Highland, Iowa.

While assigned to Seattle he also had the title of Special Disbursing Agent, which allowed him to make out checks from the Federal Treasury, including on his own account. It was too tempting, and he was caught making out false expense checks to fake vendors, and cashing the checks himself, beginning in 1907. He also started paying himself for work he did not perform such as examinations in Montana. The amount is unknown, but later an amount of \$15,000 was said to be a small part of it. The newspapers said he spent the money on "wild speculation". Federal Investigators caught him in 1909, and he was convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to three years at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary, beginning September 1909, and ending when paroled in March of 1911. He performed examinations until 1909, but the official record stops at 1908.

In 1920 he was a civil engineer for the State Highway Department in Spokane, and District Engineer in Brewster in 1925. He then was elected Okanogan County Engineer from 1926-1937. In 1937 at age 77, a newspaper article talked of him supervising the running of level lines in Okanogan County for the future irrigation from Grand Coulee Dam. He and his wife were still in Okanogan in 1940, but he died in Georgia in 1944. His only son was a college graduate and a chemical engineer for a petroleum plant in New Jersey in 1940. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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## McFall, George

1829-1908

Comp

Contract 32 (as  
compassman for  
Joseph Hunt and  
Butler Ives for  
portions)

1853

to

Contract 47 (as  
compassman for  
Butler Ives and  
George Hyde for  
portions of the work)

1854



c. 1900

Born in Ohio and raised in Wisconsin after 1844, George came to Oregon City in 1851 via the gold fields in California. He was hired by Butler Ives in the fall, in whose employ he stayed until he left Oregon, working much of the time as compassman. One exception was when he worked as a compassman for Anson Henry for one township near Gresham. George began as a crewman for Butler Ives on Butler's first Contract in 1851. He continued as a chainman for 3 more Contracts until Contract 28 in 1852 when he was promoted to compassman.

In 1853 Butler Ives and Joseph Hunt were awarded Contract 32 which was for several townships along the Columbia River on both sides, and for several townships near Chehalis, Washington. George was the compassman for Butler on his portions. When Butler received Contract 39 for many exteriors and township surveys in the Rogue River Valley from Ashland to Grants Pass, again George was the compassman for Butler's portion.

After finishing this survey in October, 1854 in the Rogue Valley, Oregon, McFall travelled South to San Francisco and then back East to Wisconsin. He married first in 1858 and then again in 1880 after his first wife, Laura, died in childbirth in 1873. George sold his original 107 acre farm in 1875. He had farmed for awhile, raised 9 children, and was an elected a County official in many offices. He was: County Treasurer of Harrison Twp. from 1863-67 and 1869-1876; County Surveyor 1871-74; County Clerk 1878-82; Board of County Supervisors 1876, 1882-86, 1894-95, and 1897-99; and Superintendent of the Grant County Poor Farm 1880's to 1892. He was exempt from the Civil War because of poor eyes. He has a diary at the Oregon Historical Society.

Here is a story from "Chaining Oregon" by Kay Atwood: "Ives and his crew pushed on through a wet, miserable January (1853). The company narrowly escaped tragedy when McFall, balancing across the Willamette River on a log, tripped on a limb and fell in. The current quickly sucked him under and, as he grabbed for overhanging branches, he dropped the compass and tripod in the fast moving river. Keen and Potter scrambled out on the log and, one holding on to the other, twisted under the water to free their trapped colleague."

"Relieved that McFall was safe, but frustrated at the loss of equipment, Butler Ives went to Oregon City for another instrument. In the meantime, the remorseful McFall searched the icy waters until he found the tripod. He waded back into the cold river the next day to look for the compass, triumphantly pulling it out only damaged. Equipment in hand, the company resumed the survey rather than wait for Ives' return. Unaware that McFall had found the instrument in usable condition, Ives bought another solar compass from draftsman Dubois for \$250." This is the maintained version of this information.

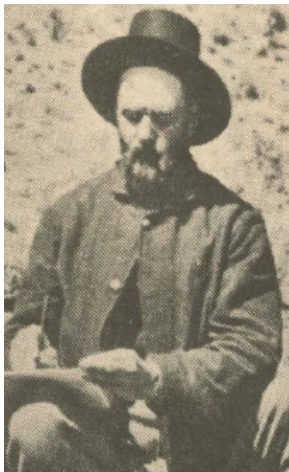
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## **McKay, Alexander**

1837-1912

Comp

Contract 199 (as            1873  
compassman for  
James C. Tolman for  
portions)  
to  
no more



1872

Born in Rhode Island in 1837, Alex was in San Francisco by 1866 with no job. He received a Contract from the California Surveyor General to survey the 9th Standard Parallel just South of Klamath Falls, and lived in Yreka during that time. The survey was completed in 1871, but because of disputes with the Surveyor as to the location of the Meander line of at least Lower Klamath Lake, he was suspended. It was not resolved until 1880 when he resurveyed portions.

Alex was a surveyor in Yreka in 1872 when the Modoc Indian War broke out. He was hired to represent the San Francisco Evening Bulletin and the Yreka Herald as a reporter to cover the War on their behalf and had many articles with his byline. James C. Tolman received Contract 199 in July, 1873 and used four compassmen for the work, including Alex. The others were J. S. Howard, Chandler Watson, and Horace Hurlburt. The work was along the California Border, with five townships near Brookings, and three near Klamath Falls and two West of Summer Lake. Three were left unsurveyed, and Hurlburt survey the ones near the Coast. Alex surveyed the two near Summer Lake, And the rest were covered under blanket oaths.

Alex finished his townships in September 1873. The newspaper reported in November, 1874 that Alex had a number of townships in the Lower Klamath Lake area, and would start soon. In an interview with Jesse Applegate, Alex reported that he never received the money directly from his California Contracts, but that he was paid \$100 per month for his services. The Contract was in his name though. Alex was awarded another California Contract in 1878 for one township near where he had surveyed the others. He appears to have finished his GLO career in 1879 by making Corrections to the Standard Parallel across Lower Klamath Lake. The Registers showed him as a surveyor in Modoc County in both 1878 and 1880,

From 1882-1890, Alex was a surveyor in Alameda County California, but by 1894 he was a laborer. He was living in San Francisco in 1900 as a hotel keeper and in 1910 in the Home for the Aged and Infirm, noted as a widower in both censuses. He died at the Home in 1912.

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**McKenzie,  
Thomas T.**

1831-1889

Rep

Peoples

USDS

Contract 328 (with A. 1879

O. Eckelston)

to

no more



1872

A Joint Contract was issued to T. T. McKenzie and Albert Eckelson in 1879 for five townships and a Standard Parallel in the Goose Lake Forest Reserve. Four were surveyed by Eckelson and the fifth by others. The Standard Parallel was surveyed in 1880, signed by Eckelson but probably surveyed by Bamford Robb. Albert was a civil engineer in Jacksonville for a long time, and the likely candidate for T. T. McKenzie would be Thomas T. McKenzie, the Sheriff of Jackson County from 1872-74.

He was an early settler in 1855 and a businessman, born in Scotland. He does not show up in the notes of the survey, except for being noted as the Joint Contractor, and was probably a financial partner. The newspaper in 1879 did mention Thomas "returning from his survey." Also, one of the chainmen was a business partner of Thomas. Thomas married Rebecca Hopwood in Jacksonville in 1866, and they had a daughter that died at Bear Creek in 1868. He had a flour mill in at least 1870-72, and rented it out, probably to fulfill his duties as Sheriff.

In 1880, Thomas was again noted as a miller, and moved a steam grist mill from Central Point to Holman Gulch. He sold the mill in 1880 just before he ran for County Clerk on the Peoples Ticker, when he lost to Henry Klippel. He purchased a saloon in the U. S. Hotel in 1883 and ran that until at least 1886. Thomas died of typhoid in Jacksonville in 1889, and he and two children are buried in Jacksonville Cemetery. Rebecca died in Seattle in 1939

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## McLeod, John D.

*1860-1938*

Rep

SES

Special Instructions 1899

to

Special Instructions 1900



1920

John was born the son of Scottish immigrants on Prince Edward Island, Canada in 1860 on a small homestead. He attended college in the winter for four years, studying civil engineering and surveying. In 1883 he went to the Dakotas, surveying townsites, and then railroads in Montana and Washington. He married Luella Shoquist in 1885, who became ill by 1899. John took Civil Service Examinations, quit his job as County Surveyor, and accepted a position as Special Examiner of Surveys in Oregon to give Luella a change of climate.

John left for Oregon, temporarily leaving his wife in Helena. While he was 150 miles from the nearest telegraph office out of Burns, Oregon, Luella died in Helena, and he could not be reached. John's brother arranged for a service to be held, and left Luella in the funeral home until John's return. It is unknown when John found out about his wife's death. From 1899-1900, John examined 13 Contracts in Oregon. He also surveyed the North Boundary of the Klamath Reservation and the meanders of Wood River in 1899 as an Examiner of Surveys under Special Instructions. His mother-in-law was taking care of the two young children in Helena. He remarried in 1902 to Mattie Farquhar, and they had three more children.

When John came back to Montana after his Examination Contracts, he apparently obtained a job as Chief Draftsman for the Montana Surveyor General. He was indicted and arrested in 1908 for fraudulently creating and signing survey notes and for forging the signatures of U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyors. His fellow conspirators were the Chief Clerk, Oliver C. Dallas and U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and former Clerk, A. S. Hovey. Hovey pled states evidence and was dismissed after testifying, and John and Dalles' trial ended in a hung jury in 1908. John was never-the-less elected County Surveyor in Helena, Montana 1908-1910. He was a Helena City Commissioner 1920-22, and Helena Fire Chief in 1923, after removing the former Fire Chief while he was a Commissioner. John was County Surveyor again from 1926 until his death in 1938.

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**McQuinn, John  
Anderson**

1855-1928

Dem

Comp

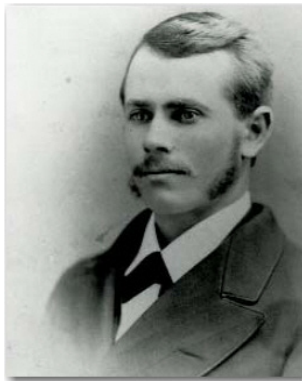
USDS

USDMS

Contract 411                      1881

to

Special Instructions            1910



John was born and raised on Sauvie Island, Multnomah County, Oregon. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1879, and in 1881 married another classmate, Nancy Caroline Cornelius. By 1881 he was a Deputy Surveyor in Oregon at Bridal Veil, and also the Multnomah County Surveyor. He received Oregon Contract 466 for at least 4 townships near Glide, and surveyed them between April and June 29, 1883 with George Collier as compassman.

There were errors and distortions of over 1300 feet in his work, as disclosed by subsequent surveys. Benson Surveyor James K. Hull, probably fictitious, listed John as the compassman for all 7 townships under WA Contract 290 in 1883, Northeast of the Spokane Indian Reservation. It is John's signature on the oaths. Either he did the work, or he signed several pages of blank oaths to be later filled in by the Syndicate. There were gross distortions of over one half mile in the East Boundary of the Reservation that were corrected in a later survey. He began this survey one week after finishing the previous one in Oregon, and continued into December. This association with the Benson Syndicate and the gross distortion in Oregon Contract 460 place a dark cloud on his legacy.

The year 1884 brought him Contract 103 in Idaho for 8 townships 100 miles East of Boise. It was finished by the end of the year, but he was still in Boise in 1885. He was not paid until 1888 because the Surveyor General lost the oaths, and the Commissioner would not accept the survey without them. The oaths in the field notes are not original signatures, so he must have prevailed. John is most known for the "McQuinn Line", the result of an 1886-89 Oregon GLO Resurvey of the West and North boundaries of the Warm Springs Reservation. In the middle of this survey, he received a Joint Contract with Frank Campbell to survey the townships adjacent to the North boundary. The new line added about 80,000 acres to the Reservation from the previous survey.

It was not settled until 1972, with the basic result of affirming McQuinn's line, and deeding most of the area to the Warm Springs Indians. There is no record of any of his work being examined up to this point, but this work was examined by Henry Martin and Alonzo Gesner. He continued to receive small Oregon Contracts from 1891-96, and all were examined. John maintained a survey practice in Portland until 1928 when he died, forming partnerships along the way with Tom Hurlburt in 1887, Herman Gradon in 1889, Eugene Schiller and Robert Bonser in 1897, C. G. Powers in 1928, and others. He had 3 children, with one son dying as a child. He was separated from his wife by 1892, and ultimately divorced. She worked as a teacher until at least 1930, and never remarried.

The one Contract in Washington was in partnership with Ralph Hardenbrook, who lived with John and his second wife for awhile afterwards. It was for 4 fractional townships in 1897 at the very Southeast corner of the state. They were inspected by A. W. Morris, and the survey needed correction of the notes. Both McQuinn and Hardenbrook were in Alaska at that time (1898), and the corrections were done through their attorney by David P. Thompson, a former Deputy Surveyor. After two sets of corrections, they were approved in 1899.

John was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor and U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in Alaska until at least 1907, and remarried in 1907 to Mary. In 1904 he acquired land on Cook Inlet for a colony of Finns, maybe something to do with the reindeer experiment. John received two Contracts in 1910. The first had a huge crew, and Ralph Hardenbrook was listed as an axman. The second was canceled for unknown reasons. He received Special Instructions from the Surveyor General to serve as compassman for John Wherry, who had refused to do a 14 mile survey East of Seaside under Contract 778. John also failed to perform.

John and his new wife sailed to Ketchikan in December 1912 for some reason. Later comments on the quality of McQuinn's work have been negative, claiming that search areas for his corners are very large, although he only used an acknowledged compassman on his second Contract. One of his original field books is at OHS. Mary died in 1926, and John died in Portland in 1928. Both are buried in Riverview Cemetery, a cemetery he surveyed in 1883. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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**Mealey, George  
Frank**

1857-1904

Comp

Contract 477 ( as  
compassman for  
William B. Barr)  
toContract 481 (as  
compassman for  
William B. Barr)

1883

1883

Born in Oregon, George was the son of a tavern keeper in Albany in 1860. His father was a cabinet maker in 1870, and George worked in the shop. A 19 year old girl was living in Albany to go to school, and she managed to get pregnant by George, age 17. George's father took her to Portland to live in a Catholic Home, but she secured someone that would give her an abortion. She got an infection and soon died, and George's father was charged as an accomplice, results unknown. George married Hulda R. Edwards shortly before 1880. The extended family was both in Sweet Home in 1880, and also living with a brother in Prineville, where George was a carpenter. George had been a chainman at Florence for William Barr in 1879, before working as his compassman on Contract 477 in 1883 for one township East of Sweet Home.

Later that year he was again the compassman for William Barr for eight townships Northeast of Malheur Lake. George died at age 48 in 1904, and is buried in Sweet Home.

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**Meldrum, Don  
Edwin**

1884-1947

USDS

Comp

Contract 730 (with  
Stephen Hungate)

to

no more

1901

WA PLS 1496. WA PE. OR PE 402. CA PE. Don was born in Oregon, the son of Henry Meldrum, and attended Pacific University and the University of Oregon, followed by San Francisco Law School. He received his only Contract at age 17 in 1901, a Joint Contract with Stephen Hungate for ten townships in very Southeastern Oregon, awarded by Surveyor General Habersham just before his father took over as Surveyor General. Hungate obviously had something going on and needed another Deputy to get more townships in the survey. Hungate surveyed all of the work. The notes were submitted in the mimeo format in 1901, and between 1901 and 1913, it was examined by D. W. Kinnaird in 1901, Henry L. Chandler in 1902, N. B. Sweitzer in 1903, S. E. Blout in 1904, D. D. Kirkpatrick in 1907, W. B. Douglass in 1908, and J. Scott Harrison in 1909.

The Contract was suspended in 1903 and soon questioned by Senator Fulton and Senator John H. Mitchell, later indicted, advocating for Hungate. Six out of the ten original townships were rejected, and the plats for the other four were not filed in the Land Office until 1913 for settlement. Henry L. Chandler was hired as compassman to fix the survey, but that did not happen, and the six townships were surveyed by the Direct System in 1912. Don was charged with survey fraud for knowing of the filing of false applications for survey of this Contract



Don was a compassman for Rufus Moore for 17 townships in Contract 744 in 1902 South and West of Harney Lake. In 1910, Examiner Scott Harrison noted that the work of Moore was done by "young man by the name of Meldrum". Harrison found two townships with significant errors, but in general the work was well done. All were approved after the indictments were dismissed in 1909.

This was going on at a time that Don's father was being indicted and convicted of fraud connected with his surveys. Don married Doris Parker in 1903 in Baker City, Oregon. He was a forest engineer in timber in 1920 in Portland and was in Seattle in 1930, working as land and timber supervisor for Crown Willamette Paper Company. He was a senior land appraiser for the Corps of Engineers and the War Department from 1933 until he died in 1947. He was noted as a civil engineer on a government project in 1940 in Portland. In addition to his surveying and engineering registrations, he was a member of the California Bar.

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**Meldrum, James  
Henry "Henry"**

1852-1928

Rep

Comp

USDS

USDMS

SFS

Contract 129 (as 1869

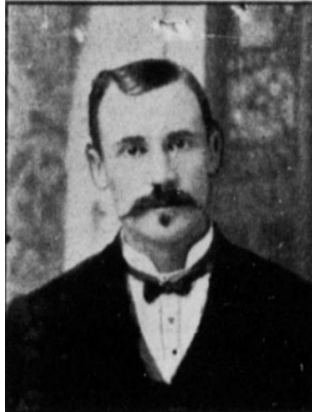
compassman for John

Meldrum and John

McClung for portions)

to

Surveyor General 1901



Henry was born in Pacific County, Washington, where his family had a Donation Claim. He was the brother of John W. Meldrum, the father of Don Meldrum, the brother-in-law of David P. Thompson, and the uncle of Rufus Moore and Malcomb McCown. At age 17 he was a chainman for his brother John and John McClung in 1869 near Bend, and was the compassman on one township. He attended Pacific University and went on to survey 20 Contracts involving 129 townships over a 30 year period.

Henry was a chainman for Samuel Campbell in Idaho in 1871 received his first Contract on his own in 1872 for two townships East of Sandy and five townships West of McMinnville. He surveyed T1S R6E East of Sandy in 1872, but made errors and had to redo the subdivisions in 1873 with a different crew, which included future Deputy Surveyor and nephew, Rufus S. Moore. The other townships West of McMinnville were surveyed in 1873 with Charles S. Moore, Rufus' brother, as a chainman. Henry's brother John Meldrum surveyed the exteriors as a compassman. Henry surveyed five townships on the Coast Indian Reservation as compassman for his brother, John, in 1872.

Henry married Eugenia "Jennie" LaForest in Oregon City in 1874. He received Contract 205 for six townships just West of Ontario in 1874 and Contract 226 for six townships at Ironside in Malheur County in 1875, again using teenage Rufus Moore as a chainman for both. Henry and Rufus were awarded a Joint Contract for 24 townships East of Malheur Lake in 1876 that were all surveyed by Henry in 1877. This was the first Contract for Rufus, who had just graduated from Willamette University.

Henry had two Contracts on his own in 1879, with five townships at Pacific City and nine East of Chemult in the big pine country. Next in 1879 came a Joint Contract with Rufus Moore and Frank Campbell for 27 townships from Bend, South to Fort Rock Valley. They shared the work. Henry and Rufus were awarded another Contract the same day for 15 townships in the same vicinity, and they also shared the work. Henry and Jennie were living with Jennie's mother in 1880 in Oregon City, with Henry listed as a surveyor.

Henry's last Joint Contract for 14 years was Contract 380 with Frank Campbell for nine townships Southeast of Heppner and six townships Northeast of Enterprise. They shared the work. It appears that they surveyed T1,2N R47E overlapping 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.

Contract 436 in 1882 for one township at Bull Run and ten townships South of Rowena were surveyed by Robert Hays as compassman. Another Contract for five townships at Elgin was surveyed by Henry, also in 1882. Nine townships on the Wilson River in Tillamook County were surveyed in 1884, again by Robert Hays as compassman. One township at Christmas Lake in Eastern Oregon was his last Contract for six years, probably because the Democrats were in control. He was elected Clackamas County Surveyor in 1884-86. Henry resumed in 1890 for two townships on the upper Clackamas River. Fellow Deputy Surveyor William Odell gave him his first examination without issues.

Henry was awarded Contract 583 in 1891 for five townships in the Nehalem River Valley in Tillamook County. His crew included future U. S. Deputy Surveyor and Assistant Supervisor of Surveys, Ernest P. Rands, and he was examined by his nephew Rufus Moore. According to S. A. D. Puter, Henry had surveyed this Contract in 1889, but because the funds had been spent, he had to resurvey it in 1891. There is nothing in the record to back this up. Stephen Puter approached Henry and offered him \$5 per person to show Puter's paid entrymen in his notes and on the plats of T3N R7,8W. Henry agreed and showed all 80 of them on 160-acre Claims in prime old growth fir.

Puter was cheated out of the scheme by his partner, Willard Jones, and F. P. Mayes, the U. S. Attorney for Oregon, and Puter asked Henry if he had been paid. Henry said no; the partner, Willard Jones, said I am not paying; and Henry threatened their scheme and got paid by Jones and Mayes. Puter managed to salvage some of the Claims he had arranged. The names are all on the plats and in the notes of both townships. When Puter was asked about Mayes pushing him out of the "3-7" deal, he said, "That rascal stole three jacks off my knee". Contract 590 for five townships on the upper Clackamas River was surveyed in 1892 using future Deputy Surveyor Ernest Rands as a chainman and future Deputy surveyor S. A. D. Hungate as an axeman. Henry was examined by Alonzo Gesner who also used future Deputy Surveyor S. A. D. Hungate as a crewman for the exam.

Henry was Clackamas County Surveyor from 1894-96 and surveyed nine Mining Claims in a cluster East of Stayton in 1895. S. A. D. Hungate was a chainman, and future Deputy Surveyor George Nickerson was the Notary. Later that year he received a Joint Contract with Rufus Moore for 14 townships North of Klamath Falls, partly on the Reservation. They shared the work, and Henry used S. A. D. Hungate, and future Deputy Surveyor and nephew Malcomb McCown as crewmen and George Nickerson as Notary.

Henry received Joint Contract 645 with George Waggoner in 1896 for nine townships Northeast of Summer Lake in Lake County. They shared the work and also shared the same crew, but were not there at the same time. They were examined by T. R. Hinsdale in 1897 and again by C. J. Hayes in late 1897. All townships except two of Henry's townships had been suspended until approval in January, 1898. Henry was a special Examiner of Surveys in Minnesota and North Dakota in 1897-98 and surveyed the Blackfoot boundary in 1897 in Montana. Joint Contract 704 with Rufus Moore was all surveyed by Henry. There were four townships North of Christmas Valley and four townships at Summer Lake.

Joint Contract 713 with Rufus Moore in 1899 was also all surveyed by Henry, for four townships Southeast of Newberry Crater and eight townships at Lake Albert. Gustave Klaetsch was a chainman on the crew of both Contracts and was later indicted along with Henry and others. Henry apparently had forged false applications for the survey from fictitious entrymen with Senator Brownell as the Notary. Brownell was later indicted for those notarial seals, but cleared a few years later when Henry admitted he forged Brownell's signatures. This Contract was examined by David Kinnaird in 1900, and he reported the work was "executed as first class." His notes showed that Meldrum's corners fell within a few links of his under nearly all situations. Henry surveyed 18 Mining Claims Northeast of Madras in 1900, and that was his last activity as a Deputy Surveyor.

From 1900-03, Henry Meldrum had created a group of surveyors and notaries to forge entryman applications for surveys to create the need for survey Contracts in arid worthless areas. A Contract would then be awarded out of the group, and the Notaries would be paid. Contract 714 to George Nickerson and William Elliott was one of those Contracts, with 18 applications for survey for 10 townships. George created 14 of those applications and forged the signature of the applicant on at least one. Frank Van Winkle also forged one. Nickerson, Elliott, George Wagoner, and Henry Meldrum were all charged with criminal fraud for this Contract.

In April, 1901, Henry was appointed Surveyor General of Oregon, and started issuing some Contracts that would be his downfall. Contract 730 by his son, Don Meldrum and Stephen Hungate had been just awarded, as was Contract 732 to his nephews Rufus Moore and Malcomb McCown. Contract 730 to Stephen Hungate and Don Meldrum followed a similar pattern with Henry creating 19 applications for survey and forging the signatures on 20. Hungate created 12 applications and forged one. At the same time was Contract 732 to Rufus Moore and Malcomb McCown in 1901. Henry created 21 applications and forged 23. Rufus created three and Stephen Hungate forged four. The field notes were in the mimeo format and in the handwriting of Henry and Don Meldrum.

	<i>N 89°56'E on a random line bet. secs. 26 and 35-</i>
<i>4000</i>	<i>Set a temp. ¼ sec. cor.</i>
<i>8000</i>	<i>Intersect N and S line 5' lks.</i>
	<i>N of the cor. of secs. 25, 26, 35 &amp; 36</i>
	<i>Thence I run</i>
	<i>S 89°58'W on a true line bet. secs. 26 and 35-</i>
	<i>Over rolling land, through undergrowth of sagebrush.</i>
<i>39,50</i>	<i>Descend hill across N and S,</i>
<i>4000</i>	<i>Set a basalt stone, 13 x 8 x 6 ins., 8 ins. in the ground, for ¼ sec. cor., marked ¼ on N face; and raised a mound of stone, 2 ft. base, 1½ ft. high, N of cor.</i>
	<i>Pits impracticable</i>
<i>43,80</i>	<i>Scram led across N, 75 ft below top of hill + ascend 75 ft to:</i>

Both of those were under the investigation of the Land Fraud Division for nine years, eventually being partially accepted in some form. On those Contracts occurred the first noted use of the Benson style mimeo notes in Oregon. Henry awarded 17 Contracts during his two years as Surveyor General, including Contracts 739 to Stephen Hungate, Contract 748 to Gustave Klaetsch and Benjamin Minton and Contract 744 to Rufus Moore, for which all involved were indicted. The mimeo note style shows up in all three Contracts.

Contract 739 had a dependent survey done in 1987 by BLM that showed the marked stones were found in relatively the correct positions. Henry forged five applications while Hungate forged one. For Contract 744, Henry created one application and forged one also. Frank Van Winkle created 16 and forged five on this Contract. John Hamacker notarized most of the applications, with the Clerks in the Surveyor General's Office saying it was not his signature. Henry was caught with a desk drawer full of semi-completed forms. J. Scott Harrison examined the Contract in 1910 and noted the survey had been done by "young Meldrum", most likely Don Meldrum, Henry's son, acting as compassman.

Contract 748 to Klaetsch and Minton followed the same pattern. George Waggoner created three applications, Henry Meldrum three and Stephen Hungate three. George Waggoner forged four signatures, Henry three, and Stephen Hungate four. The investigation determined that all the field notes were written by Henry Meldrum on the mimeo forms. The Contract was in the very Southeastern part of Oregon, with several townships in the Owyhee Desert, having no value.

Henry proposed David Kinnaird as Examiner, but was overruled by the Commissioner, who chose Marion McCoy. In 1904, McCoy stated the following at the close of his exam: "This survey is almost perfect in every particular and should be accepted." McCoy was convicted of fraud while an Examiner of Surveys in Washington State in 1909 and also served time at McNeil Island. There have been no subsequent dependent resurveys by GLO to verify the work. All of this activity with the forged applications may have had something to do with the "Panic of 1893" and its aftermath, with surveyors looking for work.



Henry Meldrum  
at trial

The Oregonian reports that Henry was following the Benson Syndicate style of creating phony applications for surveys, not doing the work, making up notes on mimeo note forms, and bribing Examiners and Notaries to play along. They reported that this had been ongoing for a period. The discussion in the examination file of Contract 748 of Klaetsch and Minton noted an expert reporting that all the field notes filled in were in Henry Meldrum's handwriting. Henry was convicted in 1904 of 21 counts of forgery for the phony applications for survey on Contract 732 and others, and sentenced to three years in McNeil Island Penitentiary in 1906, after losing in an attempt for a new trial at the Court of Appeals.

Rufus Moore appealed his indictment before trial to the U. S. Court of Appeals and after losing was remanded back to District Court for trial in 1909. The prosecutors were tired and ready to quit, and the trial never happened. His case was dismissed, because the prosecution had been picking on the big names and the rest of the individuals were never tried. The only fraud mentioned at the Court of Appeals was that of forging the signatures of survey applicants, awarding and accepting a survey knowing that had happened, defrauding the government by making said survey, knowing that it was unauthorized because the land was worthless, and remaining silent for the others involved. There was no mention of falsifying notes.

Henry came out of prison briefly in 1908 to testify against Senator John Mitchell. During that testimony, he also admitted that he forged the notarial signatures of State Senator George C. Brownell, which dismissed Brownell's indictment. Coincidentally, Brownell had been Henry's defense attorney at his trial. In 1909, Henry was pardoned so that he could testify against Congressman Binger Hermann. Henry admitted that he was addicted to drink, and that he would be absent from office for several days. He was a civil engineer and surveyor in private practice in 1910 and a surveyor in 1920 in Oregon City. Jennie died in 1911 and Henry in 1928. (unfinished)

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**Meldrum, John**  
**William III**  
**"Jack"**

1839-1919

Rep

USDS

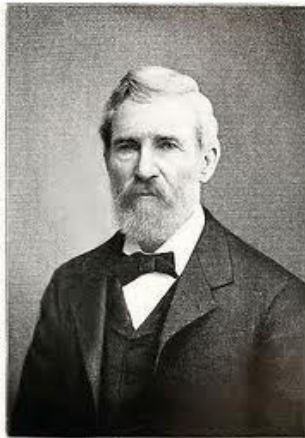
Comp

Contract 115 (with 1866

Bynon J. Pengra and  
 David P. Thompson)

to

Contract 662 1883



John was born in Iowa, and crossed the Oregon Trail with his family in 1845 to Oregon City. His father filed a Claim at Ilwaco, Washington, but returned to Oregon City in 1856. John was the brother of Henry Meldrum, the brother-in-law of David P. Thompson, and the uncle of Rufus Moore and Malcom McCown. John taught school, read law, and worked a little at mining. After returning to Oregon City in 1857, he taught school and read law for two years, before spending four years in the mines at Florence.

He began surveying in 1865 as a chainman for David Thompson, and spent the next 20 years mostly as a Deputy Surveyor in Oregon and Idaho. He received his first Contract in 1866, a Joint Contract with brother-in-law, David Thompson, and former Surveyor General, Bynon Pengra. John and Thompson shared the 27 townships, but left eight of them unsurveyed. The work was in Northern Klamath County. Thompson began the surveying heritage of the family by surveying Contracts just after the appointment of John Preston as Surveyor General in 1851. John was awarded a Contract on his own for 11 townships at Coos Bay in December, 1866.

From 1868-70, John was awarded several Contracts, all but two as Joint Contracts, with various individuals for a total of 113 townships. He surveyed his share with only one township of his surveyed by Henry Meldrum as compassman. All but three townships were on the East side. John was the compassman for David Thompson in 1871 for two townships South of Biggs, and two townships West of Willamina. Henry Meldrum was his compassman for the boundary of the Coast Indian Reservation, and for surveys for allotments in 1872 near Cape Lookout. He married Georgiana Pope in 1872, a niece of the Governor. Their son, D. Thompson Meldrum was a long time Clackamas County Surveyor.

John continued with 21 Contracts in the next nine years, with many using Henry Meldrum, Rufus Moore, Nicholas Walden and George Grace as compassmen. All but three were on the East side. From 1880-1883, nine of those Contracts involved George Grace, with George acting as Joint Contractor on one and as compassman on five. John was elected Clackamas County Surveyor in 1888, and two years later he was elected as a Judge, and as such, served as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. Together with another Commissioner, he changed the road tax system to improve County roads in 1892. He was a delegate to the National Republican Convention that nominated McKinley.

For some reason, 13 years later in 1896 he was awarded a Contract for one township 20 miles East of Coos Bay. The newspaper reported this as a Joint Contract with Ira Hoffman, but that is not reflected in the records. Ira was a chainman then, but became a Deputy Mineral Surveyor later. It was a beehive of activity, for William Heydon had a Contract to the East, and Haskell and Lackland had a Contract to the West, all awarded at the same time. John did not have control of the common boundaries. Future Deputy Surveyor, Edward Heydon was a chainman, and was also a chainman for his father on the adjacent work.

John was examined and had to do corrections in the field the next year, mostly with a different crew. Ira was gone but Edward Heydon was still the chainman. The record said John retraced the East line, but William Heydon did that also. The Contract was approved in 1897 after unknown miles of corrections. John was 57 when he was awarded the Contract and this was tough terrain. He may have used Ira as a compassman the first time, and Edward on the corrections.

John was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys, in 1898-99, working in Wyoming, Idaho and Nevada, and in 1902 he was elected Clackamas County Surveyor again. He was Oregon City Engineer in 1908. John had his home on the banks of the Willamette River, just downstream from the Clackamas River. He is the namesake of Meldrum, a village near Milwaukie, Oregon, Meldrum Avenue, Meldrum Bar (on the river), Meldrum Bar State Park, Meldrum Bar Park Road, and of Meldrum Station, a transit stop. Surveyors later retracing his work reported him as a conscientious surveyor. There are diaries and manuscripts of John Meldrum on file at OHS.

**Mensch, Fred****Taylor**

1872-1932

Rep

USDS

USDMS

HFC

Contract 751 (with  
Henry Perkins and  
Albert Keating)

to

Mineral Survey

1902

1910

Fred was born near Grants Pass, Jackson County, Oregon, and his mother died there in 1880. Fred became editor of the Rogue River Courier from at least 1899-06. He received a Joint Contract with Albert Keating and Henry Perkins in 1902 for nine townships North of Diamond Lake in the Southern Cascades. These were townships which included the route of the Oregon Central Military Wagon Road Land Grant (by Pengra), and deposits had been posted by Booth Kelly Lumber Company, who had purchased the land. Perkins signed all the oaths but Mensch and Keating were on the crew as chainmen all the time. Fred married 25-year-old Clara Agnes York in Grants Pass in 1904, the same year he received a Contract on his own. The Contract was for a small survey of a fractional township near the State line 30 miles East of Klamath Falls.

In addition, there were three fractional townships near Canyonville, and one fractional township North of Drain. The township near the State line had only six miles of survey, but Fred surveyed another five miles of retracement to prove his survey. He was suspended and had to return in 1908 to correct two miles of line. The three townships near Canyonville were similar, covering a half a township, 8 miles of line and six miles of line. He had to return in 1907 and correct six, one and one miles of line respectively. Again Fred was retracing existing surveys to probably prove his own, whether he was paid for them or not. He was elected Josephine County Surveyor in 1908-10, after losing in 1906.

His third Contract in 1906 for eight townships in Southwestern Oregon from Brookings to Madras had similar results. All were fractional, and most were for less than 20 miles of line. They were "cleanup" of infill townships of areas skipped by previous surveys, usually mountainous. He retraced most of the existing adjacent surveys, whether required or not is unknown at this time. Even considering that, the Contract was examined and suspended, requiring corrections. His last two Contracts in 1908 and 1910 went well and included three townships in the Cascades and one near Grants Pass. One in the Cascades was a full township and the rest were fractional. There is a note on the plat of T38S R3W that there are rejected notes of Fred for the OR/CA border in a drawer at BLM with the Ray Stout rejected notes.

Fred surveyed the townsite of Three Pines, North of Grants Pass, in 1909. He surveyed a Homestead Entry Claim in 1910 and one Mining Claim in 1910. He went on to survey 24 more Mining Claims in Josephine County in 1912-13. Fred resigned as County Surveyor in 1910, and was replaced by his long time chainman, Robert A. Dean. He joined the Direct System in 1911, and became an Employee of the General Land Office in 1912. While there, his surveys included resurveying the Oregon /California Border in 1915, receiving an assignment in Arizona in 1916, and resurveying the disputed Warm Springs Indian Reservation Boundary in 1918.



Fred surveyed based in Oregon at least until 1925 when he was with Groups 96 and 114. He was then assigned to Washington, D. C., which is where he died in 1932. Clara died in Portland in 1943. Clara was listed as married, but living alone in 1920 and 1930 in Portland, and is buried in Portland. They were living together in Portland in 1919 during the winter when Fred was in the office.

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## **Mercer, George**

1829-1914

Rep

Union

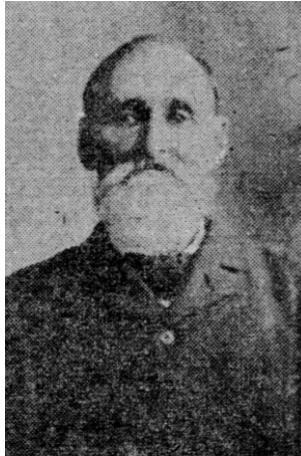
USDS

EX

Contract 113                      1865

to

Special Instructions            1885



George was born in Ohio the son of a farmer, but was orphaned at a young age. He crossed the Oregon Trail in 1853 in a train that included the Starr Family, and was in Benton County, Oregon by 1854, where he filed a Claim near Bellfountain. He married Elizabeth Hileman Starr in Benton County in 1857, the young widow of Joseph Starr with a small child. He was a merchant and taught school, even though he "was not favored with schooling," and then was elected County Surveyor of Benton County in 1858.

George served as the County Surveyor, consistently but not continuously, for almost twenty years, beginning in 1858. He received a Contract to survey the Second Standard Parallel South, North of Florence in 1865. He was among a group of individuals that received a 60,000 acre grant of land to build a military wagon road from Corvallis to Elk City in 1865. They were reporting on construction expenditures and tolls from 1868-1873. The existence of the 60,000 acre grant is unknown. He was living in Eddyville in 1870 on this route, listed as a surveyor.

In 1867 he surveyed one DLC at Corvallis and six townships around Newport, followed by another DLC South of Corvallis and three more townships at Newport in 1870. George shifted to the East side in 1871 with a survey of the perimeter of the Klamath Indian Reservation, followed the same year with surveys of four townships in the same place. The next year he surveyed allotments on three townships on the Klamath Reservation. He surveyed a lighthouse reservation for Cape Foulweather in 1872 and was named to do the preliminary survey of the Corvallis and Yaquina Bay RR also in 1872.

George surveyed two DLCs South of Corvallis in 1873 and one fractional township at Alsea in 1877. He received a Contract for nine plus townships and a Standard Parallel North of Florence on the coast in 1878. Albert Buttolph, Herman Gradon and Victor Hurt were chainmen, and Herman Gradon was the compassman for both the Standard Parallel and the exteriors. A small Contract for one township just North of Corvallis was surveyed in 1882. He received his last Contract in 1883 for five townships West of Junction City and one at Yachats. The townships West of Junction City and the one at Yachats were surveyed by Victor Hurt as compassman. Some twenty years later, Victor, his wife, daughter and son would become involved in the sensational "Holy Roller Sect" and murders in Corvallis.

George was still being elected County Surveyor in 1896 and 1898. He continued his residence in Benton County until he died at his farm at Bellfountain in 1914. He was selling a house in Corvallis in 1879 and was living on a farm South of Philomath from at least 1893-1900. Elizabeth died in 1910. He was the namesake of Mercer Lake and Mercer Creek a few miles North of Florence.

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<p><b>Merryman,</b> <b>Herbert Eugene</b> <i>1869-1947</i> USDMS HES Mineral Surveys to Special Instructions</p>	<p>1907 1909</p>	<p>Herbert was born in Illinois and lived there until 1883, when he went to Denver, Colorado. He graduated from Ashland High School and Colorado School of Mines in 1895. That year he married Mary Putman in Denver in June. He was an assayer in Durango in 1894, a surveyor in Smuggler, Colorado in 1896, and a mining engineer in Cripple Creek, Colorado in 1900. He relocated to Wallowa County, Oregon in 1907, where he surveyed eight Mining Claims in the Imnaha Mining District. Herbert was in Enterprise, Oregon in 1908 and was Wallowa County Surveyor in 1910. He was back in El Paso, Colorado by 1920, in Colorado Springs in 1922, in Montrose, Colorado in 1930 as a surveyor, in Montrose in 1940 as a draftsman for the State Highway Department at age 71, and died there in 1947.</p>
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**Meserve, William  
Nelson "Will"**

1867-1953

Rep

USDS

Special Instructions 1897

to

no more



1923

Born in Ohio, the son of a physician, William moved with his family to Iowa and then Nebraska by 1880. It is unknown when they came, but they were in Delena, Columbia County Oregon by 1892, with William arriving about 1880. William was surveying city lots in Rainier in 1892, proving up on a Homestead in Columbia County in 1894 and surveying two DLCs as a Deputy Surveyor by Special Instructions in 1897. He was the County Surveyor from 1894-98, doing a good job according to this author.

William ran for Columbia County Sheriff in 1898, and probably lost, because in January, 1899 he was the contractor building the Grays River logging railroad. He married Harriet Alta Smith, a 22-year-old college graduate, in Wahkiakum County in 1900. In partnership with his brother, Lincoln, he had purchased the general store in Grays River, including 400 feet of river frontage at the head of navigation. William was operating a general store and post office in Grays River from 1899 to 1922 and was elected to the Washington State House of Representatives in 1920 and 1922. By 1908 William had constructed a wharf and a dance hall, and was a merchant at Grays River in 1930 and 1940. Alta died in 1951 and William in 1953 in Vancouver, Washington. He was the brother-in-law of Special Examiner of Surveys, A. B. Little. There are papers of William on file at OHS.

**Metcalf, Robert****B.**

1825-1905

USDS

Special Instructions 1855

to

no more



Robert was the son of a farmer, but attended Jefferson College for two years and Medical School for one year. Along with his father and brother, he travelled the Oregon Trail to California in 1849, and had modest success in gold mining. By about 1853 he became the common law husband of Kitty Applegate, who was the daughter or granddaughter of Chief Applegate of the Shasta Indians. He had filed his Claim in T35S R2W, but the U. S. government took all or some of it in 1853 for the Table Rock Reservation, for which he received \$350.

He was appointed an Indian Sub-Agent in 1854, and surveyed the Fort Lane Military Reservation by Special Instructions in 1855. His brother James was in Jackson County at the time, and provided some of the details in the probate of Robert's estate in 1906. Robert was mining most of the time on Jackson Creek, and James noted that was where his Claim was located. During the Indian War, he served as a go-between between General Lane and the Indians. Robert was appointed the Indian Agent at Siletz from 1856 until he resigned in September 1859, noting he was going to Texas. He commanded the soldiers that moved the Shasta Indians from the Rogue to the Siletz Reservation, including Chief Applegate.

Kitty and Robert had three small children, which were left with relatives or friends without Kitty's consent, by giving them each a \$1000 in gold. The Shastas were on the Siletz Reservation, and Kitty died shortly after that. The Table Rock Reservation was voided, and Robert's improvements in T35S R2W appear to have been patented by an Edward C. Pelton. Robert did go to Texas and was living with his mother's relatives in 1860, before serving with the Texas Cavalry in the Confederate Army, with the rank of Colonel. He married Anne E. Montgomery in 1863 in Texas, and they had no children together.

He was living in New Mexico for awhile before he remarried to Vienna Phillips Berry in 1877 in Kentucky, and they had three children. When he died intestate, he left a 300 acre farm in his estate, worth a lot of money. The three children of Kitty showed up to claim their share, and the newspapers reported it all. It appears they were unsuccessful.

**Millar, Allan P.***1824-1904*

Whig

Rep

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1851

to

no more



Allan was born in Genesee County, New York, the son of a tanner. He was educated in the district schools in Buffalo, New York, until he and his wife joined the party of John Preston on the way to Oregon as the new Surveyor General. Allan was a family friend, and Preston promised him a job as a Clerk at Oregon City. They travelled via Panama, and he started at work upon arrival. In 1852 Allan was appointed the Clerk to the Territorial Supreme Court at Oregon City, with fellow Survey Clerk, Allen Seymour, as his assistant.

Allan returned East in 1853, never to return, and left Seymour in charge, with orders not to turn the records over to anyone until Allan got back. Seymour had to go to jail before he relinquished the records, which were hidden in the Surveyor General's Office.

Allan was in Buffalo in the leather business in 1860, married to Betsy, but she died there that year. Somehow, he had a son, Frank, born in 1862. He married again to school teacher, Emily Arnold, in 1863, who was childless, and they, and his business, moved to Chicago in 1867. He stayed and prospered there in the tanning and leather business until his death in 1904 in New Mexico, while on his way to vacation in California. He belonged to many social clubs and was affiliated with the Chicago Board of Trade. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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**Miller, Edwin****Silias**

1859-1924

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1883

to

no more



Born in Iowa, Edwin was a teacher, living with his parents in Iowa in 1880. He was a Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman in 1883 in Portland, and married teacher Ella Tout Dickinson in Portland in 1886. His mother's maiden name was Tolman. Edwin was bookkeeper for the Portland Savings Bank in 1887 and a Real Estate Broker with his brother, Charles, in Portland in 1891, just before the Panic of 1893. His occupation from 1897 until 1914 was that of a salesman, at all times living in Portland.

For a period, he was the Manager for the Russell Milling Co. and the J. A. Campbell Co. from at least 1914-18. Edwin and Ella had one daughter that died as a child in 1898, but they adopted a daughter, Marjorie, in 1909 and a son, Edwin, in 1914. In both adoptions, they legally changed both the given names and surnames in court. Ella died in 1919, leaving Edwin to care for two young teens, and Edwin died in 1924, leaving the two children on their own.

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**Miller, John S.**

Special Instructions 1910

(cancelled)

to

no more

The reason for placing the name of John S. Miller on this list is temporarily unknown. Morton Island at Ontario was surveyed by USDS Paul Jones, Oregon two months after the date of the cancelled survey of John Miller in 1910.

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**Miller, William L.**

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1907

to

no more

Born in Minnesota. William was appointed a Clerk for the Chief of the Field Division of the Special Agents of the General Land Office in June, 1907. Not necessarily the Surveyor General's Office. A William L. Miller was accepted by the Portland Police Department as an officer in 1910.

**Minthorn, Henry****John "John"**

1846-1922

IAA

Special Instructions 1888

to

no more



John was born in Canada, the son of a farmer, and came with his family to Iowa in 1857. He enlisted in the Iowa Volunteers in 1864. He graduated from the University of Iowa College of Medicine in 1874 and Thomas Jefferson Medical College in 1877. He married Laura Ellen Miles in about 1878. The Quakers were pretty much given charge of the Indian Schools, and John was at the Mission near Arkansas City. He was then transferred to the Indian School at Forest Grove, Oregon, but moved to Chenawa near Salem when the school was moved.

John facilitated the move in 1885, but did not take charge. Instead he was named the first President of Pacific Academy, the predecessor of George Fox University. John was named an Indian Allotting Agent on the Warm Springs Reservation in 1888, but accomplished little because of Reservation boundary problems, and the fact that most Indians were working off the Reservation. In 1888, his sister Hulda died, leaving an orphan named Herbert Hoover, and John volunteered to raise him. Herbert attended Pacific Academy for three years before attending and graduating from Stanford University. He became a mining engineer and would become President of the United States long after John died.

John Left Pacific Academy about 1890 and developed thousands of acres of prune orchards in partnership with B. S. Cook. John and his partner built a hotel at Hot Lakes, near Union, Oregon in about 1900. They ran it as a sanitarium and served about 1500 patients until they sold out. Since 1900, John made many trips to Alaska as physician to Duncan's Mission, sometimes staying for years. Newberg always remained his home, but he did live in Newport, Oregon where he conducted a bible class. Laura died on a return trip from Alaska in 1916, and he remarried to Matilda Atkinson in 1918, a Quaker missionary worker with an impressive resume. John's home in Newberg is known as the Hoover-Minthorn Home and is a National Historic Site. After John died, Mathilda continued his work in Alaska for many years.

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**Minton,  
Benjamin F.  
"Ben"**

1866-  
USDS

Contract 748 (with  
Gustave Klaetsch)

to

no more

1902

Born in Wisconsin the son of a farmer, Ben worked on the farm until at least 1880. He was a U. S. Government Surveyor in Minnesota in 1900, living next door to Nelson B. Sweitzer, and received Joint Contract 748 with fellow Wisconsin surveyor, Gustav Klaetsch, in 1902 in far Southeastern Oregon. Klaetsch had been a chainman for Surveyor General Henry Meldrum prior to this. The Oregonian reported that Surveyor General Henry Meldrum had arranged many fictitious requests for surveys in these townships, and arranged for Ben Minton and Gustav Klaetsch to just sign the oaths without doing a survey.

From 1900-03, Henry Meldrum had created a group of surveyors and notaries to forge entryman applications for surveys to create the need for survey Contracts in arid worthless areas. A Contract would then be awarded out of the group, and the Notaries would be paid. Contract 748 was one of those Contracts, with 23 applications for survey for 12 townships. Henry created at least three of them and forged the signatures on at least three. Hungate created three applications, and forged four. George Waggoner created four and forged four. Local postal employees had no knowledge of any of the applicants. Klaetsch, Minton, Don and Henry Meldrum, and Chief Clerk George Waggoner were all charged with criminal fraud for this Contract.

Henry reportedly would make up the notes, and Chief Clerk George Waggoner, and the Examiner would do their part. The notes were in the Benson Syndicate mimeo style. Marked stones were called at nearly all the corners, but there are no BLM resurveys to show whether they were really placed. Stephen Hungate surveyed some of the exteriors a few months earlier, using the same field crew as Minton.

Meldrum notified the commissioner that the survey was ready for examination in September, 1902, and the Commissioner appointed David Kinnaird (complicit) to the job. Meldrum supposedly sent the survey data to Kinnaird in October. In March, the Commissioner changed examiners, and asked that the data be sent to Marion McCoy. In April, Meldrum informed McCoy that he has no notes from the Deputies yet. In May, McCoy became impatient, and Meldrum sent him crude diagrams. The first returns of the notes were recorded as received in August, 1903, in mimeo format, all written by Henry Meldrum, who was no longer Surveyor General, having been replaced for fraud. Both Minton and Klaetsch were requested to come in to the Surveyor General's Office to sign all documents, and then the package was sent to the Commissioner.



Special Examiner of Surveys, Marion P. McCoy, examined several of the townships in 1904 and reported, "This survey is almost perfect in every particular and should be accepted. The country is almost dead level with scattering sage brush from 1 to 3 ft. high...except for Owyhee Canyon" McCoy was sent to Federal Prison in 1908 in Washington State for defrauding the government as Examiner. Special Agent Sidney Stoner took over in 1907 in a criminal investigation. Apparently the signatures of the field crew were also forged. All were indicted in 1904, and Henry was convicted and sentenced to 34 months hard labor at McNeil Island Penitentiary and fined \$5200 for similar crimes on a previous Contract survey.

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### **Mitchell, Israel**

1796-1873

USDS

EX

Claim Contract 3

1852

to

Special Instructions

1857

Israel was born in Kentucky, graduated from a college, and studied but did not pursue, both medicine and law. He married Elizabeth Howard there in 1817. They had two children in Kentucky, but Elizabeth died in 1838. He remarried to widow Mary Arnold Ross in Iowa in 1845, and she brought four children along with her. They had one daughter born to them before they crossed the Oregon Trail in 1847. Another son was born in Oregon in 1850. Israel was a surveyor at least in Iowa and Oregon. He surveyed the townsites of Newark, Iowa and Vancouver, Washington among others.

He first lived on the Willamette, at the present position of the East end of the Ross Island Bridge, where he had a horse powered ferry, but soon moved to Milwaukie, where he had a decent house. He was a probate judge in 1850, was elected to the Oregon Legislature in 1852 and was appointed Multnomah County Surveyor in 1854. He filed a 640 acre Claim at Mount Sylvania, just Northeast of Tigard, near I-5 and the Community College. The first township corner South of the Initial Point was on his Claim. Israel received two Claim Contracts for 21 Claims in Northern Washington County. In 1853 he was awarded Claim Contract 10 for 85 Claims covering most of Washington County. He received Special Instructions to correct or resurvey 12 Claims under Claim Contract 46 for Abraham Sulger about 1855.

In 1855 he was given Claim Contract 62 for 16 Claims and also the job of fixing or resurveying 17 Claims of Reuben Ford, all in Washington County. He examined the Claim Contract of Abraham Sulger in 1857 and surveyed two more Claims in 1859. The family had moved to Mount Sylvania by 1852, and Israel spent the rest of his life there, at one time being the Postmaster of that place. Mary died in 1858, and he remarried to Ann Stewart Willis in Lane County in 1863. Israel was a Trustee of Willamette University. He left an autobiography and other papers at OHS.

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**Mohr, August****Walter**

1867-1920

Fusion

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1904

to

Mineral Surveys 1904

OR PE 241. Born in Ohio the son of a distinguished scientist and geologist, August graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in Ontario, Canada in 1883. After surveying for RRs in the East for 6 years, he came West to survey for the Seattle Lake Shore & Eastern RR in 1889-91, and then for the NPRR at Grays Harbor from 1891-93. He had the contract to slash the R/W and grade 25 miles of RR South from the Canadian Line. August married Jesse Rice in Bellingham in 1890. He came to The Dalles in 1893 as engineer for the Paul Mohr (brother) Portage RR.

The Panic of 1893 caused him to become the superintendent of a fish hatchery at Bellingham until 1900, when he returned to finish the RR at the Dalles. The RR went bankrupt when the Celilo canal was constructed in 1915, and then became part of the SP&S RR. He ran for Klickitat County Surveyor in 1896 on the Fusion ticket, lost to Jacob Richardson, and later was the County Surveyor there in 1902. August surveyed 11 Mining Claims in Baker and Grant Counties in 1904, proposed on a city water system for Condon, Oregon in 1905 and was billing Condon for surveying in 1908. In addition, he designed water systems in Wasco and Bellingham. While City Engineer of Hood River in 1908, he surveyed a road from The Dalles to Mosier.

He was County Surveyor of Wasco County in 1914 and replaced Deputy Surveyor Roy Campbell as County Surveyor in 1917. August owned the Harrison's Auto Camp at Lindsey Creek West of the current Starvation Rest Area in 1916. He enlisted in the Marine Service for World War I, serving from 1917-1919. August was recently reelected as Wasco County Surveyor in 1920 when he died, having served a total of 16 years. He was listed in The Dalles as a surveyor in 1910 and 1920.

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**Moody, Albert J.**

1835-1883

Comp

Mineral Survey 1875

to

no more

Born in Maine, Albert was in Coos County by 1862. He was elected Assessor of Coos County from 1862-63 and then served as Sheriff until 1870, when he was named U. S. Marshal for Coos and Curry Counties. He owned a gold mine in the Hinchey Mining District North of Bandon in 1870-74 and was listed in the 1870 Census as having a personal net worth of \$15,000. He acted as a compassman for Simon B. Cathcart when his Claim was surveyed in 1874. By 1880 he moved to Florence on the Siuslaw, where he had the only store and was Postmaster. He died there in 1883 with no relatives, leaving an estate to three friends and an orphan's home. It appears he was never married.

## Moody, Zenas Ferry

1832-1917

Whig

Rep

Comp

IJSDS

Contract 16 (as  
compassman for  
James Freeman for  
portions of the work)

1852

to

Contract 245 (by  
George W. Renoe as  
compassman)

1875



Zenas was born and raised in Grandby, Massachusetts until he was 16, when he went to Chicopee to attend Union School for three years. He was the cousin of U. S. Senator and future acting Vice President, Thomas W. Ferry, which probably secured him a position with John Preston's staff on the way to Oregon in 1851, traveling with Preston and James Freeman, among others. He was an axeman for Freeman on the Southern leg of the Willamette Meridian in June 1851. Moody worked with Freeman until James left for California, and then lived on his Claim near Brownsville, marrying there in 1853 to school teacher, Mary Stephenson.

He formed a survey partnership with Origen Thomson and kept a general store until 1856. He received Claim Contract 39 in 1854, and Origen was his compassman. In 1855 he was awarded Oregon Contract 51 for 6 townships along the Santiam River that included the future city of Sweet Home, and again, Origen was the compassman. At that time he was appointed Inspector of United States Surveys in California, maybe because Freeman was there, or because of his political connections back East.

After a year, he left for Illinois for four years, where for part of the time he was County Surveyor for Morgan County, and then went to Washington, D. C., where he resided when the war broke out. Zenas defended D. C. briefly as a volunteer, and then returned to Oregon, settling at The Dalles in 1862 in the Mercantile business.

Zenas opened a store in Umatilla in 1863 to serve the expanding mining business. He built the steamer Mary Moody in 1866 to operate on Pend d'Oreille Lake, and then organized the Oregon and Montana Transportation Company which built two more steamers, constructed portage roads, and in general tried to divert Kootenai mining business to the Columbia River. Zenas founded Pend Oreille City at the Southerly end of the Lake. He lost money. In 1867 he opened a store in Boise for 2 years, and then disposed of all his Idaho interests, and returned to The Dalles to act as Wells Fargo agent there. In 1871 Zenas received two Contracts in Oregon near Umatilla involving the Boundary of the Umatilla Reservation and 40 nearby townships.

They were surveyed in 1871 with his son Malcomb and future Deputy Surveyor, Ewing Henderson, working as chainmen. He also received Contract 144 in Washington in Washington to survey 102 miles of Standard Parallels and 6 townships, and that was surveyed in 1872. This included the entire North line of Adams and Whitman Counties. The 6 townships were just South of Oakesdale. He received three more Contracts in Oregon through 1875, totaling 23 townships in Eastern Oregon, and using George W. Renoe as compassman for the Contract in 1875. He quit Wells Fargo in 1874 when he received the mail contract from Portland to The Dalles, establishing a line of steamers, but sold that and returned to running his store at The Dalles in 1875.

He ran unsuccessfully for the State Senate in 1872, but was elected to the Oregon House in 1880, and also elected Speaker of the House. The Republican Party nominated him for Governor in 1882, and he won, serving one term until 1887. Moody returned to Eastern Oregon, where he became a leading wool shipper and president of The Dalles National Bank. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1888, nominating Benjamin Harrison. He lived off and on in Salem, Oregon and died there in 1917. His son Malcomb was a U. S. Congressman from 1899-1903. Zenas is the namesake of Moody Island at the mouth of the Deschutes River, and of the Moody Covered Bridge over the Luckiamute River in Benton County. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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### **Moore, Charles**

**E.**

1861-1957

USDS

Contract 561

to

no more

1890

CA PLS 174. Born and raised in Maine, Charles only graduated from high school per the 1940 Census. He was in California by 1890 where he married Alice Augusta Boyd. Charles received Contract 561 for one fractional township in 1890 in Lake County at Lake Albert and surveyed it in 1891. He received CA PLS 174 in Santa Clara in 1894 and was living in Lakeview, Oregon in 1900-05 as a surveyor. By 1907, he lived in Alameda, California and was a civil engineer in Los Angeles in 1910. Nearing retirement, he continued in Los Angeles as a janitor in a church in 1920, a repairer in 1930 and was retired in 1940. Charles patented 480 acres in Central California in 1924. Alice died in 1943, and Charles died in 1957 in Los Angeles at age 96.

## Moore Rufus Scudder

1855-1931

Rep

USDS

Comn

Contract 253 (with 1876  
Henry Meldrum)

to

Contract 744 (by Don 1902  
Meldrum as  
compassman)



Rufus was born near Mount Angel, Oregon and moved with his family to Salem at age 7. His father was a millwright, and the family moved to Klamath Falls in 1874, where his father and brother built a sawmill. Rufus stayed in Salem and attended Willamette University, until he also moved to Klamath Falls in 1877. Between 1876 and 1891, Rufus received ten Contracts, all on the East side. His first Contract in 1876 was a Joint one with Henry Meldrum for 20 townships in Malheur County that was surveyed by Henry.

That same year he was a compassman for his uncle, John Meldrum, for 5 townships South of Burns. In 1879 he was part of a Joint Contract with Henry Meldrum and Frank Campbell for 20 townships, and they shared the work. In 1881 he shared 18 townships at Bend with Henry Meldrum. His uncle, David Thompson held a Joint Contract with Rufus for 18 townships with five at Ukiah and 13 at Elgin. Rufus surveyed them all. He cleaned up a Contract for Jacob Cooper for 28 townships East of Pendleton and was a compassman for William Turner at Ashland in 1882. Also included were the extension of the Baseline, a Standard Parallel, and an Auxiliary Meridian. From 1882-84 Rufus surveyed 18 townships on his own in Three Contracts, all on the East side, near Klamath Falls and Southeast of La Grande.

Contract 504 in 1884 for one township at Klamath Falls and six townships South of Grants Pass were surveyed by Rufus except for the one at Klamath Falls that was surveyed by John Hamaker as compassman. Rufus was Klamath County Surveyor from 1884-86.

Rufus bought out his father's interest in the sawmill in 1887, and Rufus and Charles continued the sawmill until 1910, eventually accumulating 20,000 acres of timberland. They sold most of the timberland to Weyerhaeuser Land & Timber Company, and temporarily owned the Klamath Falls Light and Power Company. Rufus was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1892, and examined seven Contracts in 1892-93, including one done by Henry Meldrum.

Rufus resumed surveying Contracts in 1895 with Contract 637 for 2 townships near Klamath Falls and Contract 639 for 13 townships North of Klamath Falls. He was examined by T. R. Hinsdale with no negative results. A Joint Contract in 1900 with Henry Meldrum in Central Oregon was surveyed by Henry. They were examined by David Kinnaird and had two sets of Supplemental Special Instructions issued. Rufus' brother and partner, Charles S. Moore, was elected State Treasurer in 1898. Teddy Roosevelt appointed Henry Meldrum to be the Oregon Surveyor General on April 26, 1901. Rufus had received Joint Contract 732 from Surveyor General Robert Habersham with cousin Malcomb McCown on March 13, 1901.

There were 13 townships, with two near Klamath Falls, and 11 East of the current Hart Mtn. Antelope Refuge. Rufus surveyed the ones near Klamath Falls, and Malcomb surveyed the rest. Henry Meldrum had created a group of Deputy Surveyors and Notaries to facilitate the fraudulent applications for surveys. Henry created 21 of the applications and forged the signatures of 23. Stephen Hungate created one application and forged the signatures on three. Rufus created three and did not forge any. The field notes were in the Benson purple mimeo or stamped field note format, and the land was in fact arid and unusable. John Hamaker notarized the Klamath Falls surveys, and George Brownell notarized the other of Malcomb McCown. Rufus Moore, McCown, Hamaker, Henry Meldrum and George Wagoner were all charged with fraud.

Two chainmen testified before the Grand Jury and were later charged with perjury. Rufus and Malcomb were examined by David Kinnaird (indicted in 1902) in 1901 and A. W. Barber in 1904, who was involved investigating the land fraud cases. The plats were withheld from filing until 1909 while the investigation was ongoing. Newspapers reported that this had been going on for a period of time, with Henry, Rufus and John Hamaker being involved. They would split the profits after supposedly turning in fictitious survey notes and plats. The investigation did not charge this, but it was hinted at in the evidence, stating that the field notes of some townships were in the handwriting of Henry Meldrum, when not even on his Contract.

Henry awarded Rufus Contract 744 for 29 townships West and Southwest of Harney Lake in 1902. Henry had forged one application for that survey from fictitious entrymen, and Frank J. Van Winkle had forged five applications. In fact the land was arid and nearly uninhabitable. Again the Oregonian reported that Henry made up the notes in his office, and the notes were in the mimeo or prestamped format.

Special Examiner of Surveys, J. Scott Harrison, examined the survey in 1909. He reported no problems except for gross errors in two townships. Also, the work had been done in the field by "young Meldrum." Rufus and the Notaries signed the notes and notarized the crew signatures. Everyone involved was indicted, and Rufus appealed his indictment to the Court of Appeals. Clerk Charles Dustin and newly appointed Chief Clerk John Rowland assisted in the prosecution with testimony.

The only fraud mentioned at the Court of Appeals was that of forging the signatures of survey applicants, awarding and accepting a survey knowing that had happened, defrauding the government by making said survey, knowing that it was unauthorized because the land was worthless, and remaining silent for the others involved. There was no mention of falsifying notes. Henry received 34 months at McNeil Island Federal Prison for 21 forged applications, accumulated from previous Contracts. Rufus used Governor Lord as his attorney, and the Court of Appeals denied his appeal and directed the case back to District Court for trial in 1909. The prosecutors were tired and did not do a trial, and the survey was ordered approved.

Rufus married Clara A. Shaw, a native of England, in 1900 in Portland. He was active in Republican Politics, served on the local committee, the State Republican Committee, and attended the National Republican Convention in Philadelphia in 1900 that nominated Teddy Roosevelt. He accumulated great wealth through investments in real estate, and travelled in Europe with his wife. Rufus and his brother Charles are the namesakes of Moore Park in Klamath Falls.

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**Moore, Isaac  
Ross, Jr.**

1831-1884

Rep

USDS

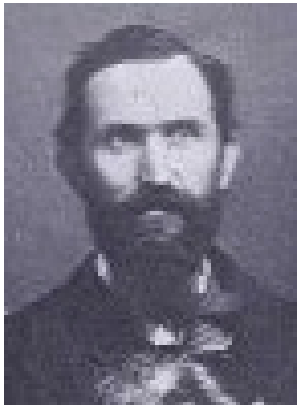
Claim Contract 27      1854

(with William Logan)

to

Claim Contract 45      1854

(with William Logan)



Isaac Moore, Sr. was born in Illinois, clerked in a store in Danville. He served in the Seminole War, commanded a regiment in the black Hawk War, and took part in the Mexican War. He crossed the Oregon Trail for gold in 1850 to California, and after returning, crossed it again to Oregon in 1852 with his family. He was in El Dorado County, California in 1850, mining with his future brother-in-law, Robert Lamon.

Isaac settled in Yamhill, and was a chainman on 25 Claims for William Logan, where E. S. Barnes was the compassman and Alleck C. Smith was a chainman. He received two Joint Claim Contracts with William Logan for a total of 87 Claims in 1854-57, all in the Willamette Valley. They were all signed by both, using only two consistent 2-3 man crews. Isaac moved to Salem and married Ellen R. Lamon in 1861. In the same year Isaac signed up with the Oregon Volunteers and served as a Colonel, though he remained in Oregon. He was a Trustee for Willamette University, a Salem City Councilman for several terms, an Oregon Legislator in 1863-65, and the Oregon Speaker of the House in 1864-65. His father and two brothers also served in either the Oregon House or Senate.

Isaac was appointed Clerk to the State Board of Land Commissioners 1867-70. He was an original Director and the first President of the Oregon Central Railroad, that became the O & C RR under Ben Holiday. He served as an O & C Land Commissioner from 1870-84 and died of a stroke in Salem in 1884.

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**Morrill, Alfred**

**Alonzo**

1850-1927

Rep

USDS

Contract 755

to

no more

Born in Clairmont, New Hampshire, Alfred came to Oregon in 1879 and married his wife, Julia B. Orr, in about 1880 in Washington County, and they had five children. He operated a photographic studio in Corvallis from 1880-81, and was listed as a resident of both Roseburg and Glenwood, Washington County in 1889. He was a chainman for Lincoln Wilkes on the coast at Otis in 1896. Alfred was the Washington County Surveyor in in 1898-1900, 1902-06, 1909-11, and 1921-24, and was a deputy county surveyor in 1920.

Alfred received Contract 755 in 1904 for two townships near Fiona in Northeastern Willowa County on the State line. He was examined in 1906 by William Douglass, and the survey was suspended. He made field corrections in 1907 of 30 miles of line, and was reexamined by J. Scott Harrison. He had to return to the field in 1908 to resurvey 4 more miles of line, and was approved in 1909. One of his sons was on the crew in 1904, and the other two sons were on the crew for corrections in 1907. Alfred was noted as working under the Direct System in Oregon in 1911.

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**Morris, William**

**T.**

-1878

USDS

Special Instructions 1869

to

no more

William first showed up in Portland records in 1867 as assistant city surveyor under City Surveyor George Belden. William became Portland City Surveyor from at least 1868-69 and during that time received a Contract under Special Instructions to survey Toe Island in the Willamette River just South of Portland in 1869. He was a civil engineer in Portland in 1874, boarding in the Clarendon Hotel and was in Pendleton, Oregon in 1878 as a civil engineer when he was found dead in his bed of an apparent heart attack.



**Moulton, Herbert****George**

1883-1967

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1905

to

no more



1905

National President of AIME. Member ASCE. Born in Idaho the son of a prospector, Herbert would accompany his father prospecting when growing up. Herbert was listed at school in 1900 in Baker City, where his father was in mining and a County Commissioner. Herbert graduated from the University of Oregon in 1905 in Mining Engineering and surveyed 7 Mining Claims at Wolf Creek in Josephine County in 1905. He was a mining engineer in Baker City in 1906 and also a civil engineer in Portland in 1906.

Herbert married Alice Edith Merryman, a recent University of Oregon graduate, in New York in 1906. From 1908-1910 he worked in mining and railroad work in Oregon, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Ontario. During the War, he served on the War Industries Board and later was Chief Examiner for the War Finance Corporation, carrying the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Herbert lived in Manhattan as a consulting mining engineer from 1910 until at least 1943. In 1942, he was hired by Henry Kaiser to help in the refining of chromium for airplanes. Herbert examined and reported on many types of mining properties, including metal, coal, petroleum and nonmetallics. He was widely known as a valuation expert on railroads. Herbert consulted on subway construction as it related to tunnels, and later in his career concentrated on copper mining. He made trips to at least Puerto Rico and Argentina. It was in 1940 when he was elected President of AIME, and he travelled all around the country giving speeches. He died in New York at age 86, and Alice died in Oregon at age 90.

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**Murphy, Andrew  
Daniel**

1826-1896

Comp

Contract 71 (with  
portions as  
compassman for  
Daniel and Matthew  
Murphy)

1857

to

Contract 72 (with  
portions as  
compassman for  
Daniel and Matthew  
Murphy)

1857

Born in Illinois of Irish immigrant parents, Andrew came West with Daniel Murphy and his family to Oregon in 1852 via Panama. He was the nephew of Daniel and the cousin of Matthew and Daniel Raphael Murphy. He was a chainman for Robert Elder and Kimball Webster in 1852 in Washington County. Andrew was a chainman for Daniel and Mathew Murphy in 1853-54 in the Willamette Valley before he was promoted to compassman by those two in 1857 on the survey of the Coast Meridian and adjacent townships South of Coos Bay. He married Elizabeth Cosgrove in Salem in 1856 and had 10 children, while living in St. Paul and Champoeg. He was a carpenter in 1860 and a farmer in 1870, 1880 and 1895.

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**Murphy, Daniel**

1789-1866

USDS

Claim Contract 12

1853

to

Contract 93 (with  
Matthew O. Murphy  
as Compassman)

1860

Daniel was born in Ireland, and came to the United States in 1799 with his family. He was in St. Louis by 1828, when he married Catherine Dillon, 21 years younger than he was. He had been a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Illinois, and then was a surveyor for a military road to Santa Fe. From 1832-1845, he suffered from ups and downs in business, but in 1845 Daniel obtained a Contract for government surveying in Missouri. He was in law enforcement until at least 1849. Son Matthew returned from California, and in 1851 Daniel and his family left for Oregon with Matthew and nephew Andrew via Panama.

Daniel soon found work as a surveyor, receiving Claim Contract 12 in 1853 for 60 Claims in T3,4S R4W from McMinnville to Yamhill. He used Mathew and Andrew as chainmen for the whole Contract. The same year he received another Contract for five townships South of Willamina, and Matthew was a compassman for two of those, and Andrew was a chainman on all. Eight townships were surveyed by both in 1854 North of Springfield. With the calming of the Indian hostilities in 1857, Daniel received two Contracts South of Coos Bay. One was for the extension of the Coast Guide Meridian for 66 miles, and he used nephew Andrew as compassman for that work. Also another Contract was given for seven adjacent townships. Andrew continued as compassman for four of those, and Matthew was compassman for the rest.

Daniel was 70 years old when he received a Contract for six townships surrounding The Dalles in 1859. He also received Special Instructions for 25 DLC surveys near The Dalles, including those of Justin Chenoweth, the Catholic Mission and the Methodist Mission. His last Contract in 1859 was for the Deschutes Guide Meridian South from about Wasco to near Prineville and a Standard Parallel just North of Prineville. Considering Daniel's age, Matthew was the compassman for all the work at The Dalles and for the Guide Meridian. Catherine died in 1864, and Daniel died a little over a year later in 1866 at age 77

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**Murphy, Daniel  
H.**

1833-1913

Dem

DS in WA

Clerk

to

no more

1858 Daniel was born in Louisiana and came to Oregon with his family in 1851, via Panama. He was a chainman near Eugene for his father, Daniel, and brother, Matthew, in 1854 along with a cousin, Andrew. He was a chainman for Claim Contracts 43 and 55 for Matthew in 1854 and 1855. James Tilton awarded him a Joint Contract with his brother, Matthew, of 4 townships between Chehalis and Tenino. They were surveyed in 1855 and examined by A. M. Poe. Andrew again was a chainman. Daniel was listed as an examiner of Dominick Hunt for his Contract 22 on Whidbey Island in 1856. That Contract was postponed until 1858, due to the Indians. Daniel was a Clerk in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office in Salem from 1858-1860, and married his wife, Susan, at that time.

He served on the State Democrat Central Committee in 1870, was elected Marion County Court Clerk from 1872-78, and then moved to Portland with Susan and children by 1880, where he was a liquor dealer. He was living with his daughter, Marion, in Portland in 1910, with both of their spouses having died. He died in Portland in 1913 at age 80. Genealogy sources indicate his name was Daniel Raphael Murphy, but in Oregon he always went by Daniel H. Murphy. The second oldest son of Matthew is named Daniel Raphael Murphy. The truth is unknown at this time. This is the maintained version of this information.

**Murphy,  
Matthew  
O'Connell**

1830-1906

Dem

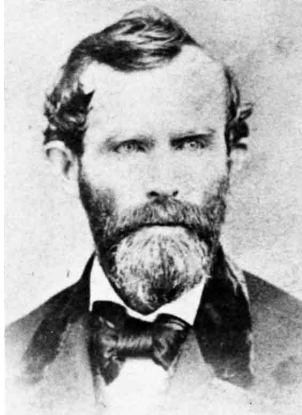
USDS

EX

Comp

Contract 36 (as  
compassman for  
portions for Daniel  
Murphy) 1853

to  
Contract 122 (with 1867  
portions as  
compassman for  
Bynon Pengra and  
David Thompson)



Matthew was born in Illinois, the son of Daniel Murphy, an Irish immigrant and a Deputy Surveyor. He had to quit school at age 14 to support the family, and went to California in a small party in 1849. He had moderate success, and returned to St. Louis. He then came West in 1851 with his parents and siblings via Panama, and staked a claim next to his father's at Champoeg, one mile North of St. Paul, Oregon, on the Willamette River. Matthew worked as a chainman for Robert Elder in 1852, ending up by managing the compass on Joint Contract 20 for Robert Elder later in the year. Beginning in June of 1853, his father Daniel received a Claim Contract in the Willamette Valley and used Matthew and his nephew, Andrew, as chainmen.

In September, Daniel was awarded another Contract, and this time Andrew was still a chainman and Matthew was compassman. The Oregon Surveyor General gave a Joint Contract to Daniel and Matthew in April, 1854 for eight townships near Eugene, with Andrew and brother, Daniel H. Murphy, as chainmen.

Some of the work had been originally awarded to Joseph Hunt who was killed when the Gazelle exploded. The report stated that one of the Murphys was severely injured, but it is unknown which one. They both worked on this Contract and both signed the oaths. The Washington Surveyor General, James Tilton, gave a Joint Contract to Matthew and his brother, Daniel H., for 4 townships between Chehalis and Tenino in 1855. Again, Andrew was chainman. They shared the work and both signed the notes. The exteriors had been surveyed from the wrong corner by Joseph Latshaw, and they were redone by the Murphys.

Matthew married Mary Ellen Costello in early 1856, and later in the year, the first of his 14 children was born. One of them, Daniel R., graduated from St. Mary's in San Francisco, became a lawyer, and eventually State Attorney for Oregon, 1893-97. Matthew was awarded Contract 41 in 1858 to finish the surveys of Dominick Hunt on Whidbey Island after Hunt had been killed by the Indians.

Matthew received Claim Contract 55 in 1855 for several Claims on French Prairie, near St. Paul, including the Claims of Daniel and Matthew Murphy. He used Andrew and Daniel H. Murphy as chainmen. Claim Contract 77 in 1855, in the same location, was surveyed by Matthew with Andrew as one of the chainmen. Joint Contracts 71 and 72 with his father were to survey the Coast Guide Meridian, T26S to T36S, and several townships adjacent. Andrew served as both a chainman and as a compassman for some of the work. Daniel the father, shared the work with Matthew. Daniel the father also received two Contracts in 1859-60 for six townships surrounding The Dalles and for the Deschutes Guide Meridian. Now 60 or 70 years old, he used Matthew as compassman for the work.

Matthew was living on the farm with his father and mother in 1860. On December 12, 1861, the Willamette River crested 55 feet above normal level and washed away all of Matthew's possessions and farm animals, along with the town of Champoeg. His wife, Ellen, had to be rescued on a mattress from a second story window with her two-day-old child. He spent the next 30 years on the farm, moving to Portland on Macadam Avenue in 1890. He died in Portland but is buried in St. Paul with most of the Murphys. He sired 14 children, with 11 achieving adulthood. Two of the sons went to St. Marys in San Francisco, another to Stanford, and the girls went to St Marys Academy in Portland. Two daughters became Sisters. This is the maintained version of this information.

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### **Murray, Lillie**

**Cora**

1857-1923

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1883

to

no more



Lillie was born as Lillie Johnson, the daughter of Orlena Cardwell Williams and Charles F. Johnson. Orlena remarried to George W. Murray in 1863, and both had existing children, but it is uncertain whether George adopted Lillie. Orlena was a widow in 1880, and she and Lillie were living with Orlena's mother, Mary Cardwell. Lillie listed herself as Lillie Johnson in the 1880 Census.

Orlena's brother was Byron P. Cardwell, one of the most influential Republican politicians of the time in Oregon, and Byron's wife was the sister of U. S. Deputy Surveyor David D. Clarke. Lillie was appointed a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of Republican James C. Tolman in 1883, which was understandable, since Lillie needed a job. She married Physician James M. P. Chalmers in 1887, eight years her junior, and they had a daughter, Louise Cardwell Chalmers. They were all together in Vancouver, Washington in 1900, but they divorced in about 1905 and James remarried in 1907 to Edna Barton, age 31. He had been elected to the Washington State Senate in 1901, and Louise was living with James and his new wife in 1910. Nothing is found about Lillie from 1906 until she died in Portland in 1923.

## Myer, Benjamin Franklin "Frank"

1821-1896

Rep

Comp

USDMS

USDS

Contract 137 (as 1870

compassman for Jesse

Applegate for

portions) (Daniel

Applegate as

compassman for Jesse

Applegate for

portions) (with Peter

S. O. Applegate and

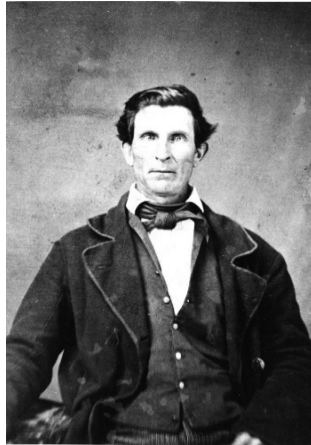
B. F. Myer as

compassmen for

portions)

to

Contract 316 1879



Born in Ohio, Benjamin came across the Oregon Trail with his parents and siblings in 1853. He had married Dorathea Perkins in Iowa in 1849. His father was a millwright and surveyor and filed a DLC near Ashland, becoming a farmer and rancher. Benjamin joined in the family farm and was regularly a surveyor near and in Ashland. He was a compassman for one township in 1870 for Jesse Applegate West of Klamath Falls. He advertised his new appointment as a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and surveyed 6 Mining Claims in the Coyote and Galice Creek Mining Districts from 1872-74 in Jackson and Josephine Counties. Benjamin also surveyed two small Contracts near Ashland in 1878 and 1879, using Robert A. Emmitt as flagman for one of the surveys. The "town house" he built in 1881 at 142 Main Street in Ashland is on the National Historic Register.

Benjamin was involved in Republican politics in the 1870's, was a Bankruptcy Commissioner in Auburn, California in 1870, a delegate to the Oregon State Republican Convention in 1872, the Klamath County Surveyor in 1880 and the Jackson County Surveyor at some time. He fell off a roof while shoveling snow in 1880, breaking a leg and ankle. He drew a map of Ashland in 1883 and incorporated an irrigation ditch building company in Ashland in 1884. Benjamin suffered a stroke in 1896, recovered somewhat, but had another that killed him in January, 1897 while he was helping his son in his hardware store.

**Myers, Joseph D.***1840-1929*

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1869

to

no more



Joseph was born Switzerland, came to Oregon by 1867 and was naturalized in 1869. He was a chainman for Bynon Pengra and David Thompson in Wasco County in 1867 and then was appointed as Messenger in the Surveyor General's Office of Elisha Applegate in 1869. He married recent German immigrant, Rosina R. Metzger, in 1869, and they had eight children. He lived in Eugene from at least 1869-1910 as a gardener, and died there in 1929.

**Neal, John Henry***1857-1837*

Rep

USDS

Contract 529

1887

to

Contract 634

1895



1923

John was born in Ohio and moved from California to Oregon in 1876, where he opened a newspaper in Washington County. Two years later he then purchased the Grant County News at Canyon City and ran it for several years. He married Dorcas Nina Johns in Grant county in 1885 and served two terms as Grant County Surveyor. John then moved to Burns, helped set up the first government of Harney County, and was County Surveyor in 1892-96. He ran again but lost.

He received Contract 529 in 1888 for 13 townships Northeast of Lakeview at Warner Lakes, where he extended the subdivisions and meanders around the lakes. He was examined by H. B. Martin out of Washington, D. C. with the comment that his survey was unusually good. At the same time John was awarded another Contract for four townships on the North shore of Malheur Lake. In 1895 he was awarded Contract 634 for 12 townships to resurvey the meander line of Malheur Lake further towards the Lake and to subdivide the new area into lots for the Court of Appeals. He was examined by Henry W. Newby, and the survey was protested by citizens, probably because of the relocation of the meander line.

John was a sheep farmer in Harney County in the censuses of 1900 and 1910, and founded a Post Office called Folly Farm Southeast of Burns, named for his lack of success in irrigating. He had moved to Portland by 1920, and in 1923 he and Dorcas requested a passport to travel to Europe, China and Japan, leaving from New York. He was a farmer again in Aloha, Oregon in 1930. John died in 1937 in Aloha, and Dorcas died in 1943, with both being buried in Burns, Oregon.

**Neill, Catherine  
C. Miss "Cassie"**

1865-1947

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

Clerk

1895

1902

Catherine was born in Oregon, the daughter of Irish immigrants and attended college for four years. Catherine's brother had attended St. Michael's College in Portland. By 1895 she was a Temporary Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of John Arnold, with the job of facilitating the allotment process on the Klamath Reservation. She continued in the position for Robert Habersham until about 1898. She was replaced by Ethel A. Cotter, a temporary Clerk, in about 1898 and filed a civil service complaint along with fellow Clerk, Florence Swope. Civil Service declassified the position in 1899, and Ethel kept the job under Habersham.

Catherine was a bookkeeper, living with her widowed mother in Portland in 1900, and returned to the Surveyor General's Office in 1902 as a Clerk for Henry Meldrum. Her mother died in 1909, and Catherine moved to Seaside, Oregon by 1920 and lived there until her death in 1947, living with her single brother until he died in 1934. She apparently never married.

**Nelson, DeWitt  
Clinton**

1851-1945

Rep

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

to

no more



1912

Born in Illinois, Dewitt came to Oregon over the Oregon Trail to Portland in 1852 when still a baby. They lived there until 1865 when the family moved to LaGrande and then to Baker City in 1867. His father was a trustee and director of the Baker City Academy, and it is likely that DeWitt attended at some time. He finished high school before working at bookkeeping in Portland and Astoria. He married Mary McNutty in Portland in 1877 and then began a career as a civil and mining engineer in Baker in 1878.



DeWitt continued his engineering and surveying work for 67 years until his death in 1945, always in Baker. The Oregon Department of Geology published a short obituary that said he was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor along the way. He was a stockholder of the Baker Iron and Supply company for a time and was a practicing Christian Scientist for much of his life.

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**Neville, Thomas  
W.**

USDMS  
Mineral Surveys  
to  
no more

1900

The Morning Oregonian on May,11, 1900 reported the following: "Surveyor General Robert A. Habersham has commissioned the following named persons as Deputy Mineral Surveyors for Oregon: Thomas W. Neville, of Portland, who will operate in the Bohemia district Mr. Neville is lately from Colorado";...(lists others). No individual in Oregon or Colorado has been found that can be linked to this individual at this time. The closest is a bookkeeper in Grand Forks, North Dakota that came to Portland in 1913 and died there of diabetes in 1915. He had been selling tons of coal in North Dakota. This surveyor also looks a lot like USDMS Herman L. Neville of Washington State, who was from Colorado and came to Portland in 1900.

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**Newby, Henry  
Ward**

1858-1905

SES

Special Instructions

1895

to

Special Instructions

1896

Henry was born and raised in Warrentown, Fauquier County, Virginia, the son of a wealthy merchant. He was a law student in 1880, and the Commandant of Cadets of the St. Johns Academy in Alexandria, Virginia in 1883. From 1886-1887 he was City Surveyor for Alexandria, VA and surveyed subdivision plats in Alexandria and Washington, D. C. He married hometown girl, Sally English, in 1887, and they had a daughter in 1888. In 1891 Henry was the secretary for the Virginia Assn. of Engineers and Architects, and was listed as the Construction Engineer for the Roanoke and Southern RR.

In July of 1893, he received an appointment as a Special Examiner of Surveys out of the Washington, D. C. office of the General Land Office from the second Grover Cleveland Administration. Headquartered in Spokane, he examined 37 surveys through 1897. He provided accurate examinations, and many of the surveys he examined were suspended or rejected. He was doing examinations in Arizona in 1895, in Oregon in 1896-97, and then was a Deputy Surveyor in Nevada in 1900, living in Elko. In 1902 he defaulted on a Contract for 11 townships, and they were finished by a compassman. His wife and daughter were living with her sister in Maryland.

From 1902-1905 he was Humboldt County Surveyor in Winnemucca, NV. He died there in November of 1905, at age 47 of some illness. His wife and daughter were in San Francisco in 1930, and his wife lived until 1945. He was listed as single in the 1900 census, but his wife was listed as married. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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## **Newman, George**

**W.**

1842-

Rep

Comp

USDS

Contract 141 (by John 1870

Meldrum as

compassman)

to

no more

Born in Iowa, George was in Oregon by 1864 when he was a chainman for Daniel Chaplin at Pendleton. The next year he was a chainman for David Thompson, also at Pendleton. From 1866-68 he was a chainman for David P. Thompson and John Meldrum for several Contracts East of Upper Klamath Lake, East of Florence, South of Boardman, South of Coos Bay, and East of Klamath Lake. In 1869, George worked for John David at Irrigon as a chainman and at John Day as a compassman. He received Contract 141 on his own in 1870 for six townships East of Eugene. In a bizarre fashion, he used John Meldrum as the compassman and future Deputy Surveyor Rufus Moore as a chainman for all of this work. George was listed in the 1870 Census in Portland as single and as a watchman.

He worked again for John David in Portland in 1871 as a chainman for one DLC. He was reported in the newspapers as having served the surveying season in Idaho in 1872, returning to Portland in late November. George received Contract 37 in Idaho in August, 1872 for four townships in Southeastern Idaho. In 1874 he received Contract 43 and Contract 49 for 12 townships in East-Central Idaho that was partially along the Snake River.

George surveyed Contract 52 in Idaho between July and November in 1874. David Thompson used him in 1875 as a compassman on his survey of the Fort Hall Reservation in Idaho. He was paid \$4861 in 1876 for Contract 63 in Idaho. A letter to the editor in Idaho in 1877, critical of Surveyor General Lafayette Cartee, noted George was given some employment by the Governor as a prison guard.

One family tree notes that George came across the Oregon Trail in 1845 and married Adeline Foster in 1875 in Oregon. His father was killed by Indians in 1848, and his mother soon remarried. He was living with an older brother and sister in 1850 and next to his mother's new family in 1860 with a younger brother in Marion County. The tree noted that he died in 1879 in Portland. A George Newman, right age, was killed in a construction accident in Portland in 1869. In contrast, the 1880 census shows another George W. Newman as a prison guard in Boise. There was a chainman for Henry Meldrum in Oregon in 1890 with the same name, but the signature was somewhat different. Nothing is found after that.

**Newsom, John****David**

1879-1942

USDMS

Mineral Surveys      1903  
    to  
 no more



Born in Prineville, Oregon, the nephew of John William Newsom and the son of a surveyor and realtor, John graduated from the local schools at age 11. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1898 and enlisted in Company C of the Volunteers in the Spanish American War from Lane County. He served 15 months in the Philippines and returned to Prineville before graduating from Law School in Portland in 1902.

While in his Senior year, he caused a professor to discipline him, and the whole Junior and Senior Classes rallied to strike if necessary. He was the Crook County Surveyor living with his parents in Prineville in 1900, and was listed as a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in 1905. He purchased a new solar compass in 1902 and used it to survey the townsite of Bend.

He married Nellie Day in Prineville in 1905, but they were separated by 1914 after two children and divorced by 1920 when Nellie remarried. John and Nellie were in Denver in 1910 where he was a practicing civil engineer. John was an engineer in Portland for Pacific Railway, Light and Power Co. on the construction of a large power plant, and in 1912 he was promoted to chief engineer for field construction. He left for Detroit Michigan in 1916, where he became Plant Superintendent for Detroit Steel Products, a manufacturer of auto parts. This lasted until at least 1920.

John admitted himself to the Old Soldiers Home in Roseburg in 1926 and stayed there until 1933. He was in Bend from 1935-42 which is where he died. Nellie remarried and lived until 1967, and his one daughter committed suicide two weeks after her mother died. His son was a doctor and served in the Medical Corps in WWII as a Lt. Colonel.

**Newsom, John****William**

1828-1902

Rep

Comp

USDS

Special Instructions 1872

to

no more

John was born in Monroe County, Virginia, and moved with his family as a baby to Springfield, Illinois, where they lived for 23 years. His father, David Newsom, was a friend and client of Abraham Lincoln, who later honored him with an appointment with the Department of Agriculture in Oregon. The family lived on a 375 acre farm in Illinois, and David platted part of it into 42 lots called Newsomville, which later became part of Springfield. The family crossed over the Oregon Trail in 1852 and settled on Howell Prairie, East of Salem, OR, where David purchased a 325 acre claim. John's education is unknown, but he was trained in surveying, and started out as a chainman in Oregon and Washington early in the public land surveys. His father was an intelligent man that wrote letters about Oregon to newspapers back in Illinois that are now published as a book by OHS.

John was a chainman and compassman for John Trutch for several townships North and South of Battleground, WA in 1857, and a chainman and compassman for William Strong and Lewis Van Vleet in 1857-58 near Cathlamet. He had Joint Contracts with Lewis Van Vleet in 1858 surrounding Silver Lake in Cowlitz County and in 1859 along the Columbia River between Washougal and Stevenson.

His brother Sam was a chainman on the crew for the townships near Silver Lake. Sam graduated from Linfield College and became a surveyor, rancher and realtor in Prineville, OR. U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor John David Newsom was his son. John and Lewis shared the work and both signed the oaths. Matthew Murphy of St. Paul, OR was the examiner of the surveys near Silver Lake. In 1861, John went to Idaho to mine, and returned by 1864 to Oregon, where he married his wife, Olive Greenwood, the daughter of a neighboring pioneer, in 1865.

John patented a Claim South of his father's Claim on Howell Prairie, just East of Salem in 1866. When he married, his father gave him some of his farmland as well. John was Marion County Surveyor from 1868-88 with some minor gaps. During this period, he had a Contract with the Surveyor General of Oregon in 1872 by Special Instructions for \$20 worth of work. He was not well the last 15 years of his life and moved to South Salem. He suffered a stroke in 1897 which disabled him, and another in 1902, which killed him. His will left 1028 acres of farmland, divided between his son and daughter, with the balance of the estate left to his wife. He was described as "tall, broad-shouldered and of rugged construction, which served him well for the long and tiresome stretches of Donation Claim surveys." (biography)

**Nickerson,  
George Sumner**

1857-1926

Rep

USDS

Contract 714 (with  
William Elliott) (12  
people involved in  
fraud) 1899

to  
Contract 752 1902



George was born in New York, the son of a Methodist clergyman. His family moved to Virginia by 1868 and then Klamath Falls, Oregon by 1879. George came to Oregon as a young man, studied law, and practiced for ten years in Klamath Falls. He switched careers, studied engineering, and abandoned law. He married Jennie Rebecca Anderson at the Klamath Indian Reservation in 1883, and they had their first of four daughters 9 months later in San Bernardino, California.

George was there as a druggist until at least 1888. His family was back in Klamath Falls both in 1895 and in 1900 while George was off surveying. In 1895 and 1900 he was noted as an assistant prosecutor and an attorney respectively, and a delegate to the State Republican Convention in 1896. He received Joint Contract 714 with William Elliott in 1899 for ten townships South of Harney Lake, and they were all surveyed by George during the season in 1900. He used two distinct crews with his brother Will as a chainman for one of the crews. The newspapers noted he arrived with 12 assistants, but finished the work with seven, the number in the field notes. There were no compassmen listed. He was examined in 1902 by David Kinnaird and the Contract was suspended, although probably not because of the exam.

Kinnaird noted it as good work, and the corners were marked well. In the ten townships examined, the corners fell within links of where Kinnaird showed them. A dependent resurvey of one township in 1940 showed good work. He returned in 1902 to make a few miles of corrections in the field, but he was not approved until 1907, probably after the criminal charges were dismissed. The examiner, David Kinnaird was also one of the co-conspirators. Between 1901 and 1905, the government identified six Contracts in which they claimed that the applications for survey by entrymen were fictitious and fraudulent. George and the other alleged forgers were charged with conspiracy to defraud the government by forging applications for surveys of lands that were totally worthless, against the law, and at that time being arid and desert. The intent was to enrich themselves with profitable Contracts.

This was the only one of the six to not use the mimeo style of field notes. Of the 20 listed applications, George forged one signature, Henry Meldrum forged another, and Deputy Surveyor Frank Van Winkle forged two. This was verified by two handwriting experts. Of those 20 applications, the body was in the handwriting of Notary Charles Umbach for one, Frank Van Winkle for one, and George Nickerson for 14. The handwriting of the others was unknown. He received another Contract on his own in 1902 for one township at Lakeview. He was examined by Carl Caudle and again told to do corrections. He retraced seven miles of line in 1905 and was examined again by William Douglass in 1906. He was approved in 1907 after George got an attorney involved, and the charges were probably dismissed.

He had transitioned his residence from Klamath Falls to Lakeview between 1900-1903, and began surveying a large cattle ranch and an irrigation canal. He was again a Deputy District Attorney in Lakeview in 1903. George and his family were in Winnemucca, Nevada in 1910, where he was a civil engineer in general practice. Shortly after that, he moved to Sacramento, where he operated as a civil engineer until he died there in 1926 of a heart attack. During that time he worked for and represented the water project interest in the Sacramento Valley. During his whole career, he was blessed with musical talent and played several musical instruments, sang, and gave recitals with his sister Caroline.

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### **Nicklin, Arthur**

#### **Ingram**

1828-1902

Rep

USDS

Claim Contract 99      1859  
to

no more

Arthur was born in Virginia, the son of a physician. The family moved to Iowa in 1842 and then came to Oregon in 1850 over the Oregon Trail, where they settled on a Claim in Polk County on Salt Creek. After six years they moved to Salem. Arthur enlisted in 1855 in Oregon for the Indian hostilities, for which he eventually received a pension in 1900. He began studying medicine in Virginia and Iowa and attended Willamette Medical School in Salem, graduating in 1872 even though he was officially in the Class of 1868.

Arthur received Claim Contract 99 in 1859 in Polk County. The only Claim involved was the family Donation Claim of his father John H. Nicklin in 1860, and that was the only survey he did as a GLO Surveyor. He operated the Rector sawmill with his father until 1866 and was a merchant in East Salem in 1870. After graduating from Medical School in 1872, he was named the physician for the Klamath Indian Reservation during the Modoc War, and then set up private practice in Eugene until 1883.

He had married Lavina C. Draper in 1862, and after several children, she died in 1870. He remarried to Nancy J. Harris in Eugene in 1873, but she died there in 1876 after one son and is buried in Eugene in an unmarked grave. Arthur remarried to 19 year old America A. Calloway in Eugene in 1876, and she died in 1879 after one son in 1877. There was an A. I. Nicklin indicted for assault with a deadly weapon in 1876 in Eugene, but the case was dismissed. Arthur moved to Portland in 1883 and for one year was the physician for the Oregon State Insane Asylum in East Portland. He married Sarah C. Cleveland in Eugene in 1885 and continued his practice of Medicine in Portland until a few years before he died in 1902. He was an original Member of the Oregon Medical Society.

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**Nicklin, Carl**

**Shirley**

1875-1966

USDS

Contract 653 (with  
Winfield Chapman)

to

Contract 664 (with  
Winfield Chapman)

1896  
1896

Carl was born in Oregon, the son of a dentist and attended two years of high school. He was a chainman for Manius Buchanan East of Pendleton in 1895 before he received two Joint Contracts in 1896 with Winfield Chapman. Chapman had not had a Contract in 20 years, but had just endured the Panic of 1893, wiping out most of his assets. He was now 46 years old, and used his history as a Democrat to get the Cleveland administration to award two Contracts. He made a deal with 21 year old Carl Nicklin to do the work. The first was for one township near the Southern Oregon Border near Klamath Falls, which was surveyed by Nicklin and examined with apparently no negative consequences.

The second was in the Cottage Grove vicinity for nine townships, also surveyed by Nicklin. It was examined by H. L. B. Atkinson in 1897, J. S. Howard in 1897, and David Kinnaird in 1898 and 1899, and Supplemental Instructions were issued twice for corrections, with Carl returning to the field twice. In addition, he was awarded three miles of line by Special Instructions in 1897 which were paid for. In 1895, he was 5' 8", 130 lb., and had light hair. He was in Real Estate in Portland in 1910-15 and the same in Seattle in 1920-1940, dealing in real estate loans and mortgages. Carl opened a real estate trust company in Portland in 1909 with his sister. He died in San Diego and is buried with his sister, Lelo, in Bonita, California. It appears that neither ever married.

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**Noland, James****Elias**

1861-1940

USDS

Special Instructions 1887  
(with James Currin)

to

no more



c. 1890

James was born in Oregon on a farm, near Creswell. Along with his older brother, George, he became a chainman for James Currin South of John Day, beginning in 1880 at age 19. He was a farmer most of his life, and married Clara M. Stanbury in 1886. About that time he became Lane County Surveyor, before being elected Lane County Sheriff from 1890-94. While sheriff, he was charged with diverting money from tax collections to the Sheriff's office, until he proved the law required just that, contrary to what the Commissioners were doing.

James received a Joint Contract with James Currin in 1887 to survey the Boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, survey 16 townships within the Reservation, and survey 40-acre allotments in at least three of those townships. They discovered that there were 10,000 too few agricultural acres to satisfy the allotment promises to the Indians. Currin received another Contract to create those allotments and expand the Reservation. Both signed all the oaths, and they used Laban Wooley as compassman for all except the allotments. James returned to Creswell as a farmer, where he lived the rest of his life.

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**O'Connor, James**Comp  
Contract 20 (as  
compassman for  
Robert Elder and  
Kimball Webster)

1852

to

no more

Kimball Webster, in his autobiography "Gold Seekers of 49", noted that his crew for his Joint Contract 20 in 1852 with Robert Elder used James O'Conner as the compassman. Kimball noted James was a young man and a resident of Oregon. The field notes of Contract 20 listed no James O'Connor. No James O'Connor of the right age has been found living in Oregon at the time. Robert Elder had a chainman named Nicholas O'Connor during this Contract. There was a carpenter living in New Orleans in 1850 named James O'Connor, born 1808 in Ireland, with a son named Nicolas who was born in Ireland in 1832. Also a college student, Nicholas O'Conner born 1831 in Ireland, was attending Cape Cinque Theological Seminary in Perry County Louisiana in 1850, and likely died there in 1863.



A Nicholas O'Connor was listed in Clackamas County in the 1850 Census, born 1831, Ohio. He had a carpenter father named John, born in Ireland, also living in Clackamas County. These are the likely candidates for compassman James O'Connor. Kimball was relying on memory for his names. Nicholas was on the crew and may have been promoted to compassman, or his father John was the compassman and his name was incorrectly remembered.

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## **Odell, William**

### **Holman**

1830-1922

Comp

USDS

S G

SES

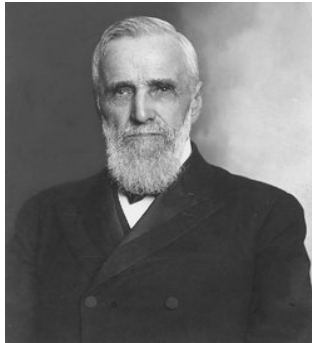
Contract 55 (as 1855

Compassman for  
Ambrose N.

Armstrong for a  
portion)

to

Special Instructions 1893



William was born in Indiana, one of eleven children. They all crossed the Oregon Trail in 1851 and settled in Dayton. In 1853, he entered Willamette University for two years to study civil engineering. He was a chainman for Ambrose Armstrong in 1854, and a compassman in 1855. William received a Contract to resurvey seven Donation Claims in Yamhill County in 1860 that had been erroneously surveyed by William Logan. William married 39 year old Elizabeth McClench Thurston in 1855, the widow of Congressman Samuel Thurston, 14 years his senior.

They had charge of Santiam Academy in Lebanon for three years, then moved to Albany to be School Superintendents there, before moving to Eugene in 1864. William received 12 Contracts from 1863-1880, many as Joint Contracts with prominent Deputy Surveyors and politicians. During that string of Contracts, he served as Oregon Surveyor General from 1871 to 1874. Contract 105 for the Grand Ronde Guide Meridian' between R39,40E, running about 100 miles South from Baker, was surveyed in 1864.

William assisted B. J. Pengra in surveying the route of the Oregon Central Wagon Road in 1864. It began at Eugene and followed the route of the present highway to just South of Willamette Pass, at Pengra Pass. The route went then to Klamath Falls, to Lakeview, to Alvord, to a crossing of the Owyhee River at Rome, and finished at Silver City, Idaho. The Company received a Grant for some 2,000,000 acres in 1865, and Pengra began construction. A biography of William noted that he superintended construction from Crescent Lake, East to Idaho. B. J. and William named landmarks along the way of their survey, naming a few after themselves.

Contract 108 for two townships just East of Eugene was in 1865 as was Joint Contract 110 with William Lewis. They shared 20 townships Southwest of LaGrande with Odell using Walter W. Johnson as compassman for his portion. William extended the Baseline for 42 miles in 1867 in Wallowa County and surveyed 10 townships Northeast of Pendleton. The same year he teamed with Joseph Gray for ten townships at Wallowa, and they shared the work.

His last Contract before being appointed Surveyor General was for 28 townships with John Meldrum, Joseph Gray and William Pengra. William's share was 30 miles of Standard Parallel and eight townships. He also had a Joint Contract with David Thompson six months after he was appointed Surveyor General, and he let Thompson do the work. William took his share of assault from the partisan press, the most serious of which was their claims that he gave Contracts to Legislators and politicians, who then sold the rights to the Contract. They charged that John Meldrum, as an example, paid \$2000 for a Contract under Odell. The press reported that a Legislator could sell a \$5000 Contract for \$1500.

Shortly after leaving office, new Surveyor General Ben Simpson awarded him a Contract for six townships Southwest of John Day. He used Henry C. Perkins as compassman for all the work. Six townships in the same vicinity followed the next year. William was elected a Presidential Elector in 1876 in a statewide vote, going to Washington D. C. for the winter of 1876-77, and he attended the inauguration of President Rutherford Hayes. Vanison Gesner was his compassman in 1879 for a Contract for five townships East of Prineville. James Currin was his Joint Contractor in 1880 for four townships North of Madras and 11 townships Southwest of John Day. They shared the work and William used Levi Walker as compassman for his share.



**Carrie Bright  
Taylor Odell**

William purchased the Salem Statesman newspaper in 1877, and was elected State Printer until he sold the paper in 1884. At that time he was named the Postmaster of Salem until 1888. Elizabeth died in 1890, and he began surveying allotments on the Siletz Reservation. While there, he was made a Commissioner for the sale of the remainder of the Reservation Lands by the Indians to the government. He was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in Oregon from 1890-93, examining 11 Contracts in Oregon during that time. William remarried to widow Carrie Bright Taylor in 1894, a graduate and instructor from Columbia University. William was President of the Board of Trustees for Willamette University at the time, and remained on the Board until his death.

In 1895, William was appointed Clerk to T. B. Geer of the State Board of Land Commissioners. Geer was a half brother to the Governor. From then until 1900, William was selling the right to purchase State School Lands, and pocketed nearly \$100,000 according to Oswald West, his successor. The land was worth up to \$5.50 per acre and was sold for \$1.50 per acre with another \$1-2.00 per acre going to Geer and Odell, if not more under the table. He left office in 1900, and soon after he left office, a dispute arose as to what happened to the "base". Whenever township plats were created, all of the Sections 16 and 36 in the survey belonged to the State, subject to some restrictions, such as Indian Reservations and mineral lands.

The state was allowed to select from other Federal lands to replace those Sections. That pool of many thousands of acres was called the "base". It was sometimes sold unselected to speculators, who then found the best Federal land to choose from. The charge was that Odell sold about 50,000 acres of the "base" to a syndicate for \$1.25 per acre before he left office in 1900, collecting his fee of \$1-2.00 on each acre because he had the only current list. His predecessor, William Davenport, had left a large inventory of "base" when he left office in 1895. If the State had made selections, they would have averaged \$2.50 in value, but Odell said that he had been unable to get the Feds to allow that. Stephen Puter bought some "base" from Odell, but he found out it had already been sold. He did not get his money back and was offered no substitutions.

William later went into the mineral land adjudicating business in Eastern Oregon. A competitor claimed he stole the only copy of the State database of potentially available lands when he left. There was some process that if it was shown that lands were mineral, they could be substituted by the State and put into the "base". Some 73,000 acres of Land in Oregon went through this process through Odell, but eventually 72,000 acres were rejected by the Commissioner. William caused the end of the loophole when he attempted to sell land already owned by settlers, who then appealed to the Commissioner of the GLO. Former Deputy Surveyor, lawyer, and wannabe Judge, William M. Bushey, wrote an article very critical of Odell in the press in 1902, asking questions about his private list and the fees he charged.

A legislative investigation was initiated, and Odell denied all charges, calling the investigation, "A legislative farce, conceived in envy, prosecuted with malice, and executed with criminal stupidity". A small class action suit was brought by the rejected purchasers in 1905 of Odell mineral lands that had unknown results. They had the \$1.25 per acre to the State refunded, but not the Odell fee. William was a strong Republican, attending conventions and serving on the state central committee and outlived his wife. He contributed regular articles to the Oregonian in his later years. He was the namesake of Odell Butte, Odell Lake and Odell Creek at Willamette Pass, and named Crescent Lake in the vicinity.

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**Odeneal, Arthur  
Johnson**

1861-1945

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1883

Born in Oregon, the son of a Judge, Arthur attended good schools, including Willamette University in 1873. He had many political connections, for his father was the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon under President Grant; he was a nephew of Senator Doff of Oregon; and was a cousin of Senator Mulkey, also of Oregon. Arthur was appointed to West Point in 1877, but declined because he didn't think his grades were good enough. He served at least from 1883-85 as a Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman.

Arthur worked for the government the rest of his life, working at Tacoma in 1889-92, before getting a job in Washington, D. C. as a government clerk by 1899. He married Alice Hall in about 1910, and was an immigration agent in New York in 1915 before moving to Norfolk in 1917 and working as an inspector of immigration, evolving to Assistant Director of Immigration for the Hampton Roads Area of Virginia. He had held various positions in the U. S. and Europe of a secret nature and was associated with the Consular General's office of Belgium in 1926. He was still working in Norfolk in 1930, but was retired there with Alice and two daughters in 1935 and 1940. He died in Norfolk in 1945.

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**Oliver, Charles E.**

1857-1944

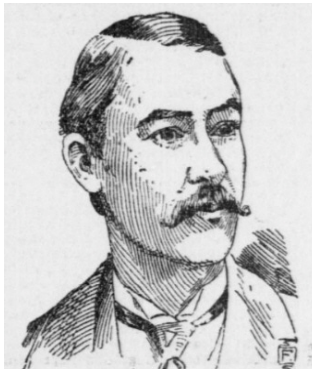
Dr/Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1889



OR PE 479. Born in Iowa, Charles came to Oregon with his parents by 1864 via the Oregon Trail. He attended 5 years of college, and his obituary noted that he had studied business and engineering. He was working as a bailiff in Portland in 1880, and was a chainman, rodman and assistant City Surveyor under W. S. Chapman and D. W. Taylor from 1880-84. From 1884-86, he was a reporter and sold ads for the Daily Standard.

Charles began working for the City of Portland Water Bureau in 1886-87, when he surveyed the route for the Bull Run Conduit, and continued nearly continuously until his retirement in 1942. He married Josephine Ramsey in Oregon in 1889, the same year he was working part time as a Special Clerk in in the Surveyor General's Office of D. W. Taylor. From 1890, when the go-ahead was given for Bull Run, until at least 1940, he was an assistant engineer in the Portland Water Bureau. Charles wrote an article on "The Portland Water supply" in "The Pacific Engineer" in 1930. His son Edward, who, was a teller in a bank, was still single and living with Charles and Josephine in 1930-40. Josephine died in Portland in 1943, and Charles in 1944. He was the brother of USDMS Emery Oliver and Idaho USDS Albert Oliver.

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### **Oliver, Emery**

1863-1954

SES

USDMS

Special Instructions 1893

to

Mineral Surveys 1900



Member ASCE. Born in Iowa, Emery crossed the Oregon Trail in 1864 as a baby with his family to Eastern Oregon, and then to Portland in 1865. He had a position in the Portland City Surveyor's Office in 1882. He graduated from the Vander Nellen School of Engineering in Portland and then took a job as an axman on a government survey for Henry Cook, South of Celilo.

Emery then went to the engineering department of ORN and UPRR in 1887, and worked there off and on for 18 years, working in four states on railroads and bridges. He was in charge of locating the California Midland RR to Bakersfield in 1892 and later surveyed a RR from Salt Lake to San Francisco that was never used. Emery is credited with discovering the pass used by Southern Pacific on its RR from California to Klamath Falls. In 1892 he partnered in an engineering firm with H. D. Gradon, the Portland Superintendent of Streets at the time.

Emery became assistant engineer on many portions of the Bull Run Construction in the 1890's. He was a Deputy Surveyor in Idaho in 1898, where he surveyed two Joint Contracts. One was with his brother, Albert Oliver, and the other with Henry Klippel. He was also the brother of Charles E. Oliver, a Clerk in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office in 1889. Emery was an Examiner of Surveys for one Contract by Manius Buchanan in Oregon in 1893, and surveyed seven Mining Claims in Crook County in 1900.

He married his first wife Annette Elma Sylvester in 1893. He was one of many to have surveyed a route from Skagway to Lake Bennett in 1897. In 1905 Virgil Bogue hired him to locate the \$12,000,000 RR down Feather River to Marysville. He was a civil engineer in Portland, Oregon in 1900 and moved to Sacramento in 1910 to be the chief engineer for the Natomas Company, involved in reclamation and irrigation. Emery continued at that until his retirement in 1929. Anna had died in 1915 at Oroville, after four children, and he remarried to Mary Gabriel Lindsey of Sacramento in 1930. They made a trip around the world in about 1932. Emery was the namesake of Oliver Street in Oroville. Mary died in Sacramento in 1940, and Emery died there in 1954.

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**Omeg, Robert  
Fred**

1879-1973

USDS

Contract 761	1905
to	
Contract 786	1909



Born in Oregon, Robert was the son of a Prussian immigrant that first came to Pennsylvania, moved to North Dakota, and then filed a Claim on 8 Mile Creek in Wasco County, Oregon. Robert was raised in Wasco County near the Campbells, Riddells, Sharps and Homer Angell, fellow Deputy Surveyors. He was an axman for Ed Sharp in 1895 and 1898, and a chainman for him 1898, 1899, 1904 and 1908 all over the state. Robert received a Joint Contract with Edward Sharp in 1903 for three fractional townships Southwest of Mount Rainier.

Robert was a chainman for Homer Angell and Clyde Riddell in 1904 and 1905 in Washington. Robert received his own Contract in 1907 for three fractional townships in Northeastern Washington. He received very small Contract 761 in Wallowa County in 1905, but had to return for corrections in the field in both 1906 and 1907. Another Contract in 1909 in Malheur County for one township was surveyed successfully. He worked as a surveyor out of The Dalles and Portland under the Direct System until he graduated from dental school in 1912.

Robert was a bachelor until he married in 1925 to Lora F. Foster, a spinster school teacher that had graduated from Pacific University. They lived in the Laurelhurst neighborhood in Portland until he retired as a dentist in 1950. His 1942 draft card noted he was working for the William Burns Detective Agency in Portland. His wife, Lora, died in Portland in 1958. His sisters, Lucy Lindsay and Ida Omeg lived in Camas or Washougal, WA. Ida died there in 1967 and Lucy in 1982. Robert moved to Camas in 1961 and died in Washougal in 1973. He was 5' 11" with brown hair and blue eyes. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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### **ONEEL, Albert C.**

*1865-1943*

Rep

USDS

SES

Contract 575                      1891

to

Special Instructions            1894



Oregon PE 285. Albert was born in Iowa, the son of a farmer, and he completed grammar school and at least one year of high school before leaving for Oregon. His sister, Lucy, had married in Iowa and moved to Oregon by 1870, and was living in Oregon City. Albert came to Oregon in 1884, locating in Eagle Creek where Lucy lived at that time, and in 1888 he married Lucy's step daughter, Olive Glover.

In 1886 while teaching country school, he purchased all of the books for the curriculum for Civil Engineering at the University of Oregon and "mastered the subjects himself". He was teaching geometry, trigonometry and calculus in Lents, OR from 1887-89. By 1890 he was the principal of Russellville School in East Portland, and was a GLO Surveyor beginning in 1891, with Oregon Contract 575 for two townships near Marys Peak, West of Corvallis.

Albert was in charge of location and construction of the Portland, Chicago and Mt. Scott RR in East Portland 1891-92. He was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in Idaho in 1892 and Oregon in 1893-94. He was after that a construction engineer for the Vancouver & Yakima RR heading towards Battle Ground, WA in 1896 and 1898. He worked as a deputy county surveyor in Clackamas County from 1891-93, and a deputy county surveyor in Clark County, WA 1895-96. A volume containing some of his boundary surveys exists in Clark County.

While in Vancouver in 1895, he was asked to complete the Contract of William Marye South of Eatonville, WA, with another portion just South of Mossyrock. Arthur Chapman, who lived in Vancouver, had partnered in a survey with his nephew, William Marye, with Chapman being the financier and surety. Marye failed his examination and had to redo the survey, but instead he quit and fled to California, leaving Chapman to finish the survey, by hiring Albert as compassman. Albert surveyed T11N R2E and retraced the North line of T15N R4E in 1895. He turned in the notes in December and the next March was notified that his survey of T11N R2E was incorrect.

Since the South township line as surveyed by Samuel Lackland in 1892, and as disclosed by Albert, was long by about .5-1.5 chains per mile, Albert should have set new corners at 40 and 80 chains, etc. and subdivided his township from those corners. He returned in 1896 to resurvey the entire township, but it is uncertain whether Chapman paid for the resurvey or not. An inspection by F. H. Brigham in 1898 was satisfactory. Albert was awarded Contract 497 on his own for a township adjacent to the one he had just surveyed South of Mossyrock. F. H. Brigham examined it in 1898 and reported no issues.

Albert was a locating engineer for ORN in the Palouse from 1898-1900, and was Vancouver City Engineer in 1901. The current BNSF RR in Fruit Valley in Vancouver was laid out by Albert as chief engineer for W&O RW, and he designed and built the existing steel bridge over the Lewis River. Albert made the tests and studies for the foundations for the existing RR bridge over the Columbia. He lived in Vancouver until about 1904 when he got a job with SPRR and returned to Portland, where he lived until he died. He went back to W&ORW from 1906-08 as Bridge Engineer.

Albert was a civil engineer in private practice in Portland from 1904 to 1920 when he was not employed by a RR, including being one of the 12 selected, but unsuccessful, bidders for the design of the Interstate Bridge. He formed a development company with fellow surveyor Fred Schuele, and created a placer mining company.

Albert was in Cordova, Alaska in 1908-12 as Steel Bridge Construction Superintendent for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway line from Cordova to Kennecott, Alaska. This was a 196 mile RR built in four years involving 129 bridges, many of them very long. J. P. Morgan and the Guggenheim family built this RR to the copper mines at a cost of \$20 million, but hauled out \$200 million of ore.

The most famous bridge was the Miles Glacier Bridge across the Copper River, known as the "Million Dollar Bridge", costing \$1.4 million to build at that time, or about as much as the Interstate Bridge over the Columbia River. It was 1550 ft. long, included 4 spans, and had piers that were solid concrete and steel, 85 feet in diameter and buried 65 feet to withstand the icebergs from the glaciers floating down the river. It could only be built in one place on the river, with Childs Glacier flowing into the river on the Northwest, and Miles Glacier flowing into the river on the Southeast, leaving only less than a mile to squeeze in a bridge.

The piers were built in 1909, and the superstructure was constructed in the winter of 1909-10. A forest of falsework was placed on top of the frozen river to hold up the bridge during fabrication. Span 3 was lowered into place hours before the melting ice carried the falsework down the river in the spring breakup. Span 4 was out of the threat of icebergs, and was completed soon thereafter. He took his wife, daughter, and sister-in-law to the bridge for the dedication in 1910. Nearby Mount O'Neel, overlooking the bridge, is named for Albert.



Between 1913-17 he was the contractor for a cantilever RR bridge over the Monroe Street bridge and the Spokane River at the lower falls. It was built in 1914, and removed in the 1970's for EXPO 74. He indicated he worked for the OWRN from 1917-1931. The 1920 census showed him as a civil engineer for the USRR Administration. By 1926 he was an engineer for OWR&N, lasting until 1929, when he was an engineer for the UPRR. He was back at OWR&N in 1931, and from 1935-36 was an assistant engineer for construction at Bonneville Dam. In 1936-37 he was chief engineer for construction work at the Portland-Columbia Airport. He retired in 1937 for health reasons.

Albert was the model for a character in the novel by Rex Beach , "The Iron Trail", and was featured in another book by George Whiting, "Grit, Grief and Gold", a biography of M. J. Heney. He was featured in another book, "The Copper Spike", a story of the Copper River RR. His five children all attended at least 2 years of college, with three graduating, two of which as civil engineers from the University of Washington. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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### **Osborne, John**

#### **Thomas Jr.**

1856-1921

Rep

Comp

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

to

no more

1881 John was born at Fort Vancouver in 1856, the son of soldier, John Thomas, Sr. The father, who was a veteran soldier, was killed by a drunken soldier on the parade grounds at Fort Vancouver in 1858 while he was trying to restrain him. The man named Sweeney was court marshalled and shot. John's mother, Martha, remarried to Henry Whitmore, a stone mason, and they moved to The Dalles and lived inside the Fort. Henry helped build many of the sandstone buildings, some of which are still existing in The Dalles. Martha was a nurse who worked for the benefit of the early residents. John Jr. was listed as an apprentice engineer in The Dalles in 1880 in two residences, one with an architect, and one with his family.

Thomas S. Lang of The Dalles received a Contract by Special Instructions in 1881 for the resurvey of The Dalles Military Reservation and the creation of an extension of the townsite of The Dalles into lots and blocks within the Reservation. John was one of four named a compassman under Thomas to survey a portion of the townsite extension. He worked 16.5 days in that effort. John was a laborer in The Dalles in 1900, an engineer for a railroad in 1910 and died in Wasco County in 1921. It appears that John never married.

**Owen, Jason****"Jase"**

1828-1886

Rep

USDS

Contract 179 (by  
Jeremiah B. Welsh as  
compassman)

1900

to

Contract 194 (by  
Josiah Burnett as  
compassman)

1873

Jason was born in Missouri, and was a hunter in Yuba City California in 1850. He filed a 160 acre Donation Claim just West of Eugene, South of Coyote Creek and married 16-year-old Mary Ann Kinney in Benton County in 1860. Jason announced a stock raising and wool growing business with two partners out of Eugene in 1866. He was elected Eugene City Councilman in 1867, Lane County Recorder in 1868, and in 1878, was referred to as a "wheelhorse in the Republican Party in Lane County for years". The 1870 Census noted him as a farmer in Eugene, before he sold his house and reported on his farming success in Jackson County the next year. Jason received Contract 179 in 1872 for four townships North of Upper Klamath Lake and two townships South of Grants Pass. They were all surveyed by Jeremiah B. Welsh as compassman who signed a final oath for all six townships.

Three of the townships North of Upper Klamath Lake have no notes on file, with one being rejected, and the other two were likely the same. An individual, J. W. Owen, was a chainman for the two townships South of Grants Pass. Jason was noted as returning from a surveying expedition in Eastern Oregon in late September, 1873. He received Contract 194 in 1873 for seven townships West of John Day, and used Josiah Burnett as compassman for all of the work, using a consistent crew. By 1875 Jason had moved to San Diego for family health reasons. He returned to Benton County, Oregon in 1878 before moving back to his Claim West of Eugene in a few months. He was still a strong supporter of the Republican Party and served as a Delegate to the State Convention. He was living in Crook County by 1886 when he was ill, and died in October of inflammation of the liver.

**Owen, William****Octavius "Billy"**

1859-1947

Rep

SES

Special Instructions 1900  
to

Special Instructions 1900



Born in Utah, Billy's parents separated when he was a child because his mother refused to join the church. He lived with his grandparents in Utah for three years. His mother accumulated enough money to take the family to Wyoming on a wagon train in 1868, where the family ran a restaurant and a store. Billy became acquainted with two Deputy Surveyors, Mortimer Grant and William Downey, who owned a surveying business in Laramie and were city and county surveyors.

Billy was a crewman for both Downey and Grant, along with Thomas Medary, and was admitted to West Point in 1877, continuing at Wyoming State University in 1890. He received 20 Contracts, his first in 1881, and his last in 1894, including a Contract in 1891 for the Jackson Hole Valley going West to the state line. Retracement surveys note that he used petrified mastodon bones as corner monuments on one survey in 1881. He toured Yellowstone on a high wheeled bicycle in 1883, and won a race with a stagecoach to Cheyenne. Billy was elected State Auditor in 1894 and served until 1899. He was County Surveyor of Albany County, Wyoming for 12 years, and a Special Examiner of Surveys from at least 1899-1914. He was also a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in Wyoming. He examined five Contracts in Oregon in 1900, and served as an employee of the GLO until 1914.

He was the leader of a party to make the first documented ascent of the "Grand Teton" in 1894, and had a nearby peak named after him, "Mount Owen." He had tried twice before, and was nearly killed in his second attempt. The claim about "the first" has been in question, but the members of the Haydon Expedition in 1872 possibly only reached a saddle, short of the final ascent, and did not document their summiting in 1872, if they did. Billy again summited Grand Teton in 1924, 25 years later.

His nickname, "Billy", came from his small stature, only five feet tall. He married his wife in 1888, Emma M. B. Wilson, the daughter of surveyor Downey, and they had no children. She weighted 250 pounds and baked him cakes. Billy and Emma moved to Los Angeles by 1920, and lived there until they died, sometimes spending the summer in Wyoming. In 1929, probably with Billy's encouragement, Emma gifted to the Governor of Wyoming a plaque commemorating the first ascent of Billy of the Grand Teton, after which causing it to be placed on the mountain. Emma died in 1935 and Billy in 1947. His personal solar compass, with his name engraved on it, was for sale on eBay in 1921 for \$18,000.

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## Palmer, Mary Belle "Maymye"

1872-1958

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1892

to

no more



The Special Instructions to Steven L. Lovell in 1892 for two DLCs in Oregon contain the note at the beginning, "copied by Miss Palmer". This is in obvious reference to a copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of William H. Byars. There were Jessie Palmer, the daughter of Willis Palmer, the publisher of a paper and the four daughters of Peter P. Palmer, a hotel keeper and legislator out of Scottsburg in Douglas County as contenders.

Peter was the brother-in-law of Surveyor General William H. Byars, and one of the daughters, Maymye Palmer, had a four year degree from the State Normal School at Drain, Oregon, would become a stenographer for the Customs Inspector for the Port of Portland, and lived in Portland at the time.

Until more is known, this is the biography of Maymye. William had also appointed another niece as a Clerk. Maymye was born in Oregon, the daughter of Oregon Trail Pioneers, and was raised in Scottsburg on the Umpqua River until she left for Portland. She graduated from the State Normal School at Drain. By 1892 at age 20, she was a copyist as described, and by 1900, she was a stenographer in Portland.

Maymye married Frank Schlegel, a Democrat attorney in Portland in 1903 at age 31, and they had one child. She was active in Republican politics for years, and in 1948 filed the name of Thomas Dewey for President in the Oregon 1948 primary election. Frank died in 1930, and their son died in Military service in North Africa in 1951. Maymye died in Portland in 1958 at age 86, survived by only two siblings.

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**Parsons, William  
Walter**

1840-1873

Dr/Clerk

Clerk

1868

to

no more



Born in Ohio of a bookseller, he crossed the Oregon Trail with his family in 1854, ending up in Eugene, Oregon. Over time, his father also was a justice of the Peace, Collector of Customs, and Postmaster, suggesting some political activity. William was a Clerk in his father's bookstore in 1860, and married Phoebe E. Martin in 1860, with whom he had seven children. He was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of Elisha Applegate in 1868.

The 1870 Census noted him as a farmer in Mohawk, Lane County, Oregon. About this time he was diagnosed with TB and eventually sought treatment at McKenzie Hot Springs in Eastern Lane County. William died of TB there in 1873, two months before his last son's birth. Phoebe remarried to Alvin Hughes in 1876, a blacksmith, and had two more children.

**Patterson,  
Andrew Wilson**

1814-1904

Dem

USDS

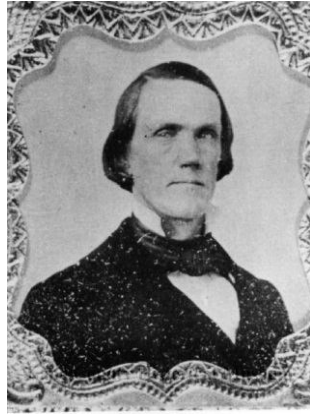
Ch Clerk

Claim Contract 36 1854

to

Contract 97 (By 1861

Samuel L Campbell as  
compassman)



Andrew was born in Pennsylvania, attended Western University of Pennsylvania, and graduated from Pennsylvania College of Medicine in 1841. He practiced medicine in Indiana and Pittsburg, worked as a travelling salesman for surgical instruments, and published the "Northwest Literary Magazine." His bindery burned down, and his wife and baby died after only a year of marriage. Wanting a new start, he came across the Oregon Trail in 1852 on horseback and settled at Eugene, OR, where he filed a Claim about a mile West of town.

Andrew platted the City of Eugene in 1853, and received a Donation Claim Survey Contract North of Eugene in 1854 from Democrat C. K. Gardner, using Joseph Latshaw as compassman for part of the work. Later that year he was awarded a Contract by Gardner for 6 townships East of Cottage Grove, OR, and again used Joseph Latshaw as compassman for part. Contract 64 for 6 more townships near Oakridge in 1856 was mostly surveyed by Ebenezer Haft as compassman. Andrew served in the Territorial Legislature from Eugene in 1854.

He received Contract 6 from James Tilton in Washington in July of 1855 for the 2nd Standard Parallel North, running from Longview to Cathlamet. Also included was the 3rd Standard Parallel from Onalaska to Mossyrock. There are no notes in the records for either of those surveys, but he did survey them, and the exterior plats exist. His second Contract in Washington was for T12N R1E, South of Onalaska, which he surveyed in August of 1855, just before the start of the Indian hostilities. He went back to Eugene and formed a Company of Volunteers for the Rogue Indian War, with himself as Lieutenant. In April of 1856, he was named the Surgeon for the Volunteers.

Andrew was married to Amanda Olinger in 1859, who had arrived in Oregon in 1843, and William Chapman named him his Chief Clerk from 1859-1861 in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office. In 1861 he was given a good Contract on the East side for 6 townships at Wasco, and he used Samuel Campbell as compassman. Andrew returned to his profession as a doctor in 1862 and continued practicing medicine until a few years before he died. He was an incorporator of the Oregon Military Road Company, which obtained a generous land grant to construct a wagon road from Eugene to Boise via Klamath Falls and Lakeview. Andrew was elected to the Oregon Senate in 1870-74, where he was instrumental in the locating of the University of Oregon at Eugene in 1876.

Andrew wrote a set of school readers and wrote a book of poetry. His house in Eugene was ultimately used in the movie, "Animal House." He was the namesake of Patterson School, Patterson Street in Eugene, Patterson Mountain in the Cascades, and Patterson Island in the Willamette. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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**Patton, Francis R.**

**"Frank"**

1861-1947

Rep

USDS

Contract 526

(cancelled by new  
Commissioner)

to

no more

1885

Frank was born in Oregon, the son of a farmer at Sublimity. He was educated in Oregon and attended four years of college. Frank was an axeman for Henry Cooke on two townships South of John Day in 1884. He received Contract 52 South of Baker in 1885, but it was cancelled by the Commissioner for Special Deposit Reasons and was reissued two years later to Henry Cooke. The Pattons and Cookes were related by marriage. Frank married Maud Saffarrans in Newberg in 1891, a lady that had attended the University of Oregon. Her sister, Juliette S. Saffarrans had married Deputy Surveyor John David in 1871. Frank was in Astoria to participate in organizing the Astoria Savings Bank in 1889, and was Cashier and Manager from the start.

In 1893 Frank and H. C. Thompson sold the Astoria and South RR and equipment for \$137,000 after purchasing it at a sheriff's sale the year before for \$52,550. Frank built a new sawmill in 1895 at the mouth of the Nehalem River on an island, but it burned to the ground very soon after it began production, causing an uninsured loss of \$25,000. It was unusual that the Bank survived the Panic of 1893, but Frank continued as Cashier and Manager of the Bank until at least 1921, promoting the interests of the Bank and Astoria.

Frank built a very large house overlooking Astoria and the river in 1902, trying to outdo a neighbor, and lived there until he died. That house is now on the Historic Register and is currently a drug treatment center. He was named to a seven member board to redo State Government in 1917 and was a Port Commissioner and the Treasurer of the Port of Astoria in 1921. The bank burned to the ground in the great fire in Astoria in 1922, but was rebuilt in the same location in 1923. Frank was named President of the Bank by 1925, continuing until at least 1930. Frank was also co-owner in 1925 of the Freeland Table Company, a furniture manufacturer.

The bank failed after the stock market crash in 1929, which caused a run on the bank, and non-preferred depositors appear to have received about 35 cents on the dollar. The building was converted into Astoria City Hall in 1936-39, continuing to present. Frank was also a Director of Northwestern Pulp and Paper, another company that went bankrupt in 1930 mostly due to fraud, and Frank was sued, along with the other directors, by investors citing mismanagement. Maud died in 1936, and at age 76 Frank remarried in 1937 to 36-year-old Hazel Jewel Leshar Thompson, a lady with two children. The Thompson surname was also that of a former business partner of Frank. Frank died in 1947 and is buried in Warrenton, Oregon.

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**Payne, Dolphus  
Skinner**

1831-1894

Union

Rep

USDS

Contract 100

1861

to

no more



1895

Born in New York, Dolphus was a teacher in German Flats, New York in 1855 in his home county. He paid his way to attend Fairfield Seminary and Union College, and after studying law, he was admitted to the bar in New York in 1867. He was first in California in 1859, and then in Oregon when he was named a proxy for the Republican Convention in 1860 from Yamhill County.

He received a Contract for three townships between Pendleton and Hermiston in 1861. William B. Pengra, the brother of the Surveyor General and a future Deputy Surveyor, was a chainman on the crew, and Dolphus had no known surveying experience. Dolphus was in Eugene in 1862, but was noted as returning from the East Coast in May, 1863, when he was appointed State Marshal of Idaho Territory from 1863-65. One of his first duties for the newly appointed Territorial Governor Wallace was to organize the Territory East of the Bitterroots in what is now Montana and to take a census. That did not go well, because the locals began to distrust Dolphus. He was caught manufacturing several hundred votes from Fort Laramie when he was in charge of the vote count in 1864. Dolphus had aspirations to be Governor when Governor Wallace was elected Congressman, but that ended after his scandal.

He continued his term of office, although he never was in Idaho after December 1863, by some accounts. The Union Party had basically booted him out by 1864. He did receive \$8800 in 1865 for the Census he completed in 1863. Before his term was up, he traveled to New York and married Rosa Dow in 1864, and they had five children. They immediately moved to Santa Rosa, California, where Dolphus practiced law and eventually became a Superior Court Judge of Santa Cruz County from 1871-80. In 1871, he was elected a Director of the San Jose and Santa Cruz RR. Dolphus was a Delegate to the 1880 Republican convention that nominated James Garfield. Dolphus also advocated an anti-Chinese agenda on the Resolutions committee. Rosa died in March, 1894, of a spell of unconsciousness while visiting the office of Dolphus.

Dolphus was feeling ill that year, and a doctor told him to take an ocean voyage. He died on a sailing ship, the S. S. Wilder, between San Francisco and Hawaii in December, 1894, tended to by a daughter. A Mary Irvin filed a claim against his estate, claiming that when acting as her attorney, Dolphus hypnotized her into deeding him property and signing some notes that no longer existed. In a biography of him in 1893 in the San Francisco Chronicle, he completely forgot about the years in Oregon and Idaho. He owned a 165 acre fruit ranch 12 miles South of San Jose.

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### **Pearson, Horace**

#### **Greeley**

1858-1910

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

to

no more

1902

Born in Springdale, Iowa, the son of a Quaker farmer, Horace was trying to pay for a homestead in Kansas in 1888, the same year he moved to Pasadena, California. He married his wife Eliza M. Howells in 1898, a school teacher who had attended two years of college. He was in Baker City, Oregon by 1902 where he began surveying Mineral Claims, totaling 64 in the next eight years, all out of Baker City. He was listed as a Director in at least three mining corporations locally. In 1905 he was an engineer and draftsman for the Eagle Valley RW, out of Baker City.

Horace was in Pendleton in early 1910 at a time he was an engineer for the Western Land and Irrigation Company. Horace died in September of 1910 at age 52 of unknown causes at this time, leaving a wife and two children. He is buried back in Iowa with his parents and brother. Eliza stayed in Baker City, working as a school teacher, and then ran for Baker County Treasurer in 1916 and won. She was elected County Clerk in 1918, but reverted to County Treasure in 1920, continuing until at least 1930. She remained in Baker until she died in 1945 and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery there. Besides her two children, she cared for her parents for several years.



**Pengra, Bynon****Johns "B. J."**

1823-1903

Rep

S G

USDS

Surveyor General 1861

to

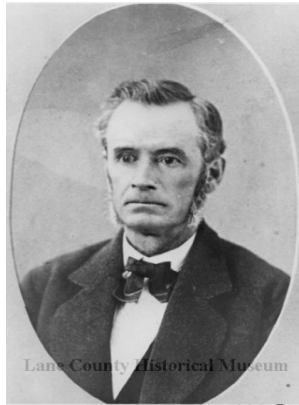
Contract 131 (with 1869

John David and David

P. Thompson, with  
portions by George W.

Newman as

compassman)



Bynon came over the Oregon Trail in 1853 with his wife, daughter and brother, and settled Southeast of Springfield, OR at Natron. He was known as the first Republican in Oregon when he started the first Republican newspaper in 1860, the Oregon State Journal; canvassed the state for the Republicans; and became a Presidential Elector for Lincoln and Hamlin. He returned and campaigned for Col. Baker for the U. S. Senate and won the fight, receiving the appointment of Surveyor General as a reward. After four years as Surveyor General, he went to the State Legislature where he was a "dominant spirit, stubborn and immobile."

He secured a grant for the Oregon Central Military Road, from Eugene Southeast, crossing the Cascades near Willamette Pass, at Pengra Pass, and then running through Southeastern Oregon to Idaho. He had surveyed the road in 1864 with William H. Odell, a future Surveyor General of Oregon, and was the superintendent of construction until being named President of the Company.

Bynon received a Joint Contract with David Thompson and John Meldrum in 1866 from strong Republican Oregon Surveyor General Elisha Applegate. It was for 30 townships in the Klamath Valley area, through which his wagon road was located. The survey was completed by Thompson and Meldrum, with no apparent surveys by Pengra. He was part of five more Joint Contracts with several competent Deputies in the next three years. The only work under his signature were three townships in Contract 119, surveyed by Matthew Murphy as compassman and seven townships in Contract 122 in 1867 where he used Deputy Surveyor John Meldrum as compassman.

The road was eventually built and certified by 1874, and for payment the owners received three square miles of adjacent land for every mile of road they built, totaling more than 2 million acres. The road meandered through the most valuable land they could find, through the valleys of Klamath Falls and Lakeview, crossing the Owyhee and Rome and ending at Silver City, Idaho. Reports noted it wasn't much more than a trail, and the Oregon Legislature conducted an investigation, 15 years after it was constructed and sold, to determine if it was really built. Bynon was part owner of a flour mill and a sawmill in Springfield in the 1860's and 1870's.

He lobbied for the O & C RR to use his route to go to California, but they refused, and Congress adopted the Medford route, making Pengra very angry. Later on, another party helped Bynon with a RR on his route, and actually constructed a portion, but then sold out themselves for a lot of money. Pengra went insane and spent at least a year in the insane asylum in 1891. Charlotte divorced him in 1889, and he married two more times. The Salem Capital Journal wrote in November, 1898: "B. J. Pengra, a former Lane County man, now 75 years old, and Mrs. Lucretia Begelow, were married in Portland last week. They had never heard of each other until a few days before, Pengra having gone to Portland after a wife. He has been married twice before."

Bynon died at the residence of his son at Coberg, OR. He would have been satisfied that in 1926 the mainline railroad from Oregon to California would be built by Union Pacific over Pengra Pass on the route he had selected. Bynon is the Namesake of Pengra Road, Pengra Mountain, Pengra Pass, Pengra Lake (now called Waldo Lake for probable political reasons), and the Pengra Covered Bridge in Lane County. He also named Crescent Lake and Odell Lake. Bynon is buried in an unmarked grave in Laurel Grove Cemetery, Springfield, Oregon. There are letters of Bynon on file at OHS. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information. He has papers at OHS.

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### **Pengra, William Burnham "Billy"**

1834-1895

Rep

Contract 130 (with  
Horace F. Stratton)  
(by Henry H. Gilfrey  
as compassman)

to

Contract 483 (by  
Sidney S. Stearns as  
compassman)

1869

1883

Born in New York, William followed his family to Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Illinois before he crossed the Oregon Trail in 1853 with his brother Bynon. He lived with his brother in Springfield, and then went to Jackson County in 1854, where he built a sawmill. He engaged in mining in Yreka, California until 1858 when he returned to Lane County and Springfield, where he remained, owning a sawmill and flour mill. Bynon was appointed Oregon Surveyor General for Oregon from 1860-64. Along with three other Deputies, including William Odell, Joseph Gray and John Meldrum, he received Contract 123 in 1867 for 40 townships in the Klamath Falls/Lakeview area near his brother's wagon road. This survey was intended to facilitate the wagon road land grant. William surveyed 11 of them.

Another Joint Contract with Horace Stratton for 19 townships followed the next year in the same area. Except for seven left unsurveyed, they were all surveyed by William using Henry Gilfry as compassman and Joseph Gray as an axeman. Joseph was a Joint Contractor on the previous Contract. William married Louise S. Stearns in 1871, the sister of Bynon's wife. Contract 143 in 1871 was a Joint Contract with John McClung, with the work shared individually and together just Northwest and Northeast of Eugene. Contract 216 in 1874 was for one township in Fort Rock Valley and six townships at Lake Avery, all in Central Oregon.

Contract 223 for 28 townships and 42 miles of Standard Parallel at the Hart Mountain Game Reserve in 1875 was surveyed by a crew that included Deputy Surveyors Joseph Gray as a chainman and James Evans as the Notary. Both had Contracts of their own in the vicinity at the time. There were liberal substitutions of townships on the Contract. Contract 239 in the same place in the same year for 13 townships continued with the same crew. Eight years later he used his nephew, Sidney S. Stearns, as compassman for a Contract with one township near Oakridge.

The final notes of that survey included the notarized signature of Sidney, but there was a strike-through over his signature on both the preliminary and final oaths. William always used consistent three man crews, and it appears none of the Contracts were examined. He and his brother were noted as controlling the principal interests in Springfield in 1878, a town of 100-150 residents. William was the co-owner of a flour mill in Springfield with his brother and A. Wheeler in 1885. In a separation of ownership, William became the owner of the grist mill in 1888. William was a Springfield Alderman in 1888, and was elected Lane County Surveyor in 1894, but became ill with bladder problems and performed little of his duties before he died. He was the namesake of Billy Creek near Sinker Mountain in the Cascades, where he had mining interests.

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**Perkins, Henry  
Clay "Clay"**

1844-1918

Rep

Populist

Dem

Comp

USDS

Contract 155 (with 1871  
William R. Walker)

to

Mineral Surveys 1910

Henry was born in Indiana, the son of Joseph Perkins, and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1844 as a baby with his family. They stayed in Portland for a year, then went to Albany, and then to Lane County, where they took up a Donation Claim. Henry was a farmer and nurseryman in 1860 and 1870 on the Claim of his father. He was a chainman for George Mercer in 1867 and then received two Joint Contracts in 1871 with William Walker, one for 6 townships in the Coast Range of which two were surveyed by Henry and the rest unsurveyed, and another for three townships in the Cascades which were surveyed by both. Henry also was a compassman for John Kincaid for two Contracts in 1871-72 for 12 townships at Monument and Mitchell. These seven townships were surveyed by Henry Perkins as compassman, using future Deputy surveyor, Eugene McCornack, as chainman for portions.

He married Lillias Llewellyn Bristow in 1873 in Eugene, and they were together for 43 years. She was the postmistress and namesake of the Llewellyn Post Office West of Eugene. They had a son, Charlton Bristow Perkins that travelled the world and died in Shanghai in 1925. A Contract on his own came to him in 1873 for three townships near Bend. Henry teamed up with Joseph Perkins, probably his father, for a Joint Contract for five townships in the Central Coast Range in 1874, and Henry surveyed them all.

Henry was a compassman for William Odell for five townships North of Riley in 1874, and one week later received his own Contract for the adjacent five townships. The crew was the same. Henry surveyed nine more Contracts between 1874 and 1882, totaling 59 townships, with all but one township situated between Malheur Lake and Christmas Valley in nearly desert conditions. Former compassman Robert Pritchard was a crewman on four of those Contracts, and future Deputy Surveyor T. Cy Judkins was a crewman on five Contracts. He testified in a lawsuit later about the location of the shore of Malheur Lake.

The examinations of Contract Surveys began in 1884 with the appointment of Commissioner Sparks, and Henry's Contract in 1884 for four townships at Waldo Lake was examined by Henry Martin and rejected in 1887. He did not survey another Contract for 16 years. Henry was Lane County Surveyor for six years as a Republican and moved to Grants Pass in 1896, where he was Josephine County Surveyor for another six years as a Populist. Henry ran again in 1902 as a Democrat. He was elected a Grants Pass City Councilman in 1902.

Henry received a Joint Contract with Albert Keating and Fred Mensch in 1902 for nine townships North of Diamond Lake in the Southern Cascades. These were townships which included the route of the Oregon Central Military Wagon Road Land Grant (by Pengra and others), and deposits had been posted by Booth Kelly Lumber Company, the successor to a portion of those grants. Perkins signed all the oaths but Mensch and Keating were on the crew as chainmen all the time.

His last Contract was in 1905 for one townships with 12 miles of line right on the outskirts of Grants Pass. It was examined by William Douglass, suspended, corrected by Henry for two miles, reexamined, and approved in 1908. While in Grants Pass, he surveyed 38 Mining Claims over a 14 year period, using Deputy Surveyors Fred Mensch and William P. Wright frequently on the crew. Henry and Fred Mensch were reported returning from Briggs Creek, where they had surveyed six Mining Claims, on December 14, 1910, and they had to traverse two to three feet of snow and cold winds to get home.

Henry suffered a stroke in about 1912, and the partial paralysis plagued him the rest of his life, with Henry being confined to bed the last five years of his life. Henry's tombstone in Granite Hill Cemetery, Grants Pass, Oregon is unique. All of the lettering is crudely done, except for the death date. It is like Henry did it himself, using the techniques he would use to carve a stone, or embellish a witness object. There is no other stone like it that this author has seen, certainly from the 20th Century. The death date is tidier and slightly different, and may have been added after the original work.

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### **Perkins, Joseph**

1806-1894

USDS

Contract 203 (with  
Henry C. Perkins)  
to  
no more

1874 The most likely candidate for the Joseph Perkins that shared a Joint Contract with Henry Perkins would be his father, Joseph Perkins, but he would have been 68 years old at the time. There was a younger farmer near Cottage Grove that was also named Joseph Perkins. The answer will wait for research into the Contract documents. Joseph did not officially participate in the survey, so left no signature. The survey was in the vicinity of the father's Donation Claim, West of Eugene.

This biography will for now be of Joseph Perkins, the father of Henry Clay Perkins. Joseph was born in Ohio, and as a young man moved to Indiana, where he stayed until he travelled to Oregon in 1852. Joseph had married Mary Charlton by 1833, and they took up a Claim on the Long Tom River near Smithfield. for many years he ran an extensive nursery business, selling trees all over Oregon, Washington and California. He lost a son, William, in the sinking of the Brother Jonathan off California in 1865. He was living on the nursery in 1870 with his wife and two children, including Henry. Mary died in 1872, and Joseph was living with Henry in Llewellyn.

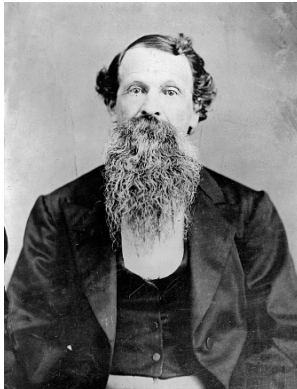
In 1874, Henry devised a plan to have Joseph become his Joint Contractor for five townships in the Central Oregon Coast Range. Henry surveyed them all, and Joseph did not participate officially in the survey, but may have supplied funding and logistics. Joseph was an inventor late in life and died at the home of Henry in 1894 at age 88.

**Pershin, George****S.***1833-1910*

USDS

Contract 154 (with 1871  
George Williams)

to

Contract 728 (part 1900  
finished by William  
H. Bell as  
compassman)

George was born in Pennsylvania and was still there in 1860. He graduated from California Normal School in San Jose in 1865, noting his residence had been Humboldt County, and was teaching at San Bruno School in San Francisco the same year. He was the only male in the graduating class of fourteen. His next job was as the first Principal of North School in North Portland, which he continued for two years. He was a merchant as part of Dolan and Pershin in Portland in 1869.

He received a Joint Contract with George Williams for six townships in Umatilla County in 1871. It appears that Pershin did all of the work and was running the compass on his own crew. George was an axeman for Samuel Spray near White Salmon, Washington in 1874. He continued by surveying 18 small Contracts for 50 townships between 1873 and 1882 on both the East and West sides of the Cascades. The latter half of that work had a heavy emphasis in Umatilla County. He used consistent small crews for each Contract, frequently using them for multiple Contracts. Young future Deputy Surveyors were sprinkled in along the way, including Pierce Gearhart, William Gradon, and Herman Gradon.

George married Zerrildea "Zerra" Jane Gossett in 1883, the sister of engineer, Chauncey Gossett, with whom he would later share a Contract. They lived in Portland, with no children born to them, until George died in 1910. In the ten years after their marriage ended, George was an engineer in Portland, and at some time was a surveyor employed by the State of Oregon, working on the boundaries of State Lands. Zella was a real estate agent in Portland from at least 1890-1910. George resumed surveying Contracts from 1893-1900 into the examination era, but struggled with endless examinations and corrections, although all were eventually approved, sometimes involving the intervention of two Senators.

George received Joint Contract 606 with his brother-in-law, Chancey Gossett, for three townships East of Silverton and one township East of Lebanon at Green Peter Lake. All were in steep country and were surveyed by George. He was examined by B B. Herrick and made field corrections before approval. Two townships on his own North of Cascadia were examined by T. R. Hinsdale, suspended, and then approved. Three townships at Suttle Lake were examined in 1896 by Charles J. Hayes and T. R. Hinsdale in 1897 and approved. By the time George took his last Contract in 1900, he was 67 years old. It was Contract 728 for three townships in the rugged, isolated Coast Range East of Port Orford on the upper Coquille River. These townships were paid for by Special Deposits from the O & C RR.

He was examined by David Kinnaird in 1901, H. L. Chandler in 1902, N. B. Sweitzer in 1903, Sidney Blout in 1904 and William B. Douglass in 1905. There are many references to letters from U. S. Senators John Mitchell and U. S. Charles W. Fulton in the Journal. Oregon Surveyor General Henry Meldrum approved the Contract in 1902, but not the Commissioner. Meldrum hired William R. Bell as a compassman, working for the Surveyor General under Special Instructions in 1905 to make 14 miles of corrections, and after that, the Contract was approved in Washington, D. C. in 1906. Other than the corrections, the notes on file are those of George.

George was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in Alaska in 1900. George and Zerra divorced sometime after 1900, and in 1904 George was living with his brother Harvey and his family. Harvey petitioned the court for guardianship over George in 1906, saying he was incompetent, was an invalid for some time, and was about to come into some money. George died in 1910 at the St. Joseph Home for the Aged in Portland. Zerra resumed her Maiden name, died many years later in the Napa State Hospital, was cremated, and is buried in a common plot with many others at Napa Valley Memorial Park.

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### **Philbrick, Arthur**

*1864-1932*

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

1892

to

Mineral Surveys

1903

Born in Massachusetts, the son of a newspaper editor, Arthur attended the schools in Massachusetts and then attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating at age 17 in 1881. His paternal uncle was the author of the noted book, "American Sanitary Engineering" and was a leading sanitary engineer. After graduation Arthur went to California to be an engineer for California southern RR for four years. He surveyed subdivisions and irrigation works in the real estate boom of Los Angeles and San Bernardino in the 1880's, before locating in San Francisco briefly.

Arthur moved to Portland in 1887 where he was an assistant engineer on the UPRR line in Southwest Washington for 1 1/2 years, before transferring to Astoria for another year. He married Hetty Ione May Hudson in Portland in 1889, and they had a daughter in Walla Walla in 1890. He moved to La Grande in 1891 where he was a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and the City Engineer of La Grande. As City Engineer he superintended water works, a pumping plant, and a reservoir at La Grande. Among others, he surveyed 18 Mining Claims in the Wallawas while at La Grande. He was a Mineral Surveyor in Idaho, Baker City and Sumpter, Oregon by 1899, and moved to Portland in 1902 while still maintaining a partnership with Charles H. Fenner as Philbrick and Fenner.

Overall, Arthur surveyed 101 Claims while living in La Grande, Baker and Sumpter, between 1892 and 1904. He usually used a different crew on each Mineral survey, but occasionally carried over a crew while working in the same vicinity. He was still operating as Booker, Philbrick and Fenner in Tonopah, Nevada in 1907. Hetty died in Los Angeles in 1908, and their daughter was living in Los Angeles in 1910. By 1920 Arthur was an engineer for the government in Galveston, Texas and had a wife named Catherine that was born in Texas. Arthur was an inmate in the San Antonio State Hospital for the insane in Bexar County, Texas in 1930, and died there in 1932 of tuberculosis.

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### **Pickler, Lemon**

**Albert**

1852-1921

Dem

USDS

Special Instructions 1898

to

no more



Born in Indiana, Lemon moved with his family to Iowa, and then Missouri by 1867. He enlisted in the Army in 1870, serving until 1872 when he deserted. Lemon married Ella Minerva Wilkes in Missouri in 1874. They were in Elko, Nevada in 1875 and Resting Springs, California in 1879-83, where Lemon worked nearly two years for the Geological Survey in Death Valley. He also worked on the Folsom Canal at Sacramento and other ditches in the state.

They moved to Paradise, Clark County, Nevada in 1884, staying until at least 1886. Lemon was an incorporator of Vale, Oregon in 1891, and was elected County Surveyor of Malheur County in 1892 and 1894, running as a Democrat without opposition. He had charge of the Malheur Ditch, and the plans were his. Lemon received a Contract by Special Instructions from the Oregon Surveyor General to survey Duncan Island in the Snake River at Ontario in 1898. He was in Battle Ground, Custer County, Idaho as a civil engineer in 1900, and the family was living in Mineral City, Idaho, a really isolated mining town. They lost two daughters in Mineral City in 1900, ages 21 and 18. A son was born in Portland in 1902. Lemon was a civil engineer in Weiser, Idaho just before he moved to La Grande.

Lemon was living in La Grande from 1905-09, advertising as a civil engineer in the newspaper. In 1906, he surveyed the townsite of Minam. While in La Grande, he was appointed City Engineer and City Surveyor. He surveyed, designed and constructed a new water system for the city, including a 14 mile water line and a reservoir. He also surveyed an irrigation canal from near La Grande in 1908, beginning near the Oro Dell reservoir.



They were all in Portland in 1910, where Lemon was a civil engineer for a railroad. Later he owned a meat market with his son in St. Johns and a liquor store at 6th and Stark. He was retired in Portland in 1920 and died there of skin cancer in 1921. He was 5 ft. 11 1/2 in. tall with blue eyes and brown hair. At least two of the children attended college. Both Lemon and Ella were buried without grave markers, but Lemon's family installed a gravestone 97 years later at his grave.

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**Porter, Andrew  
Lee**

1865-1946

USDS

Contract 578                      1891

to

Contract 764 (with              1905  
James Sears)



1894

OR PE 455. Born in Oregon, the son of a farmer that arrived after 1862, Andrew was raised on a farm in Kings Valley, Benton County, only attending six grades. His first job was carrying mail from Corvallis to Elk City. He was an engineer for the Corvallis and Eastern Branch of SPRR at age 16 in 1881, and was Benton County Surveyor from 1888-1890. He married Felicia Philista Aikey in Lincoln County in 1888 and they had two daughters.

Andrew received ten Contracts for 23 townships, all but one in Western Oregon, from 1891 to 1905, including three Joint Contracts. His first Contract was for two townships East of Lincoln City in 1891, and he was examined twice. From 1892-94, he received three Contracts for three townships in the same vicinity and was examined on all three. There is a photo of Andrew and his seven man crew in 1894 on Contract 630, including Deputy Surveyor Zachariah Derrick, but his official notes only lists three of them, leading to suspicions of a second crew and a compassman. Obviously, one of the crewmen is a cook.



**Field Crew of Contract 630 of Andrew L. Porter, T8S R8W, 1894. From Left: Jime Hume, Dick Derrick, Hubert Derrick, John Allen, Cine Young, Jim Derrick, Andrew Porter and Jim Fowler. Based on the scribing on the post, it appears they are at a closing corner and chopped a face that penetrated the bark of the tree on the BT. (Thanks to John Waffenschmidt, Lincoln County Surveyor)**

A Joint Contract with Zachariah Derrick in 1898 in the same place was not surveyed but was surveyed by Andrew the next year in another Contract. Another Joint Contract with Zachariah Derrick in 1899 was for one township Southeast of Cottage Grove and was surveyed by Andrew with two examinations. He had charge of the L. V. & W. RW from Falls City to Dallas in 1899.

Another township was surveyed by Andrew, again East of Lincoln City, in 1900 and was suspended but later accepted after the survey of five miles of corrections. A Joint Contract in 1901 at Enterprise with Charles Branson was surveyed by both with corrections to the plats only. A Contract in 1902 for ten townships at Oakridge was accepted after two examinations. His last Contract was a joint one with James Sears in 1905 and it was surveyed by both. They left Lincoln County with enough crewmen for two crews, including County Surveyor John Van Orsdel. T11S R4E was officially surveyed in 1906 and had two miles of correction surveys in 1908 before being accepted.

T12S R4E was surveyed in 1906, and had several examinations and attempts at correction, but was finally rejected in 1911. Polk County Surveyor John Van Orsdel was listed in the newspapers only, and probably was involved in T12S R4E, for which there are no notes. Fred Mensch redid the survey in 1912, showing the gross distortion of over 1000 feet left over from Ernest Rands, the previous surveyor in the township. Mensch surveyed a Sectional Correction Line and created closing corners nearly surrounding the work. Andrew had managed to survive ten Contracts during the years of the most aggressive examinations, and completed all but one township. Andrew surveyed for the Coast RR in Tillamook county in 1906 and surveyed a logging RR in 1909, West from Philomath up Woods Creek. He was a civil engineer for a RR in 1910, living in Lincoln County.

Andrew continued as a civil engineer off and on until he died in Newport, Oregon. He was appointed Lincoln County Roadmaster in 1916 and constructed many Siletz and Lincoln County bridges. Andrew was employed by the Spaulding Logging Co. in 1917, was the Lincoln County Engineer in 1921-22, and at sometime built the South Jetty at Yaquina Bay. He qualified as an Oregon Professional Engineer in 1921. One of his other accomplishments was the steel bridge across the Willamette River at Corvallis. He was a surveyor in Newport in 1930 and was retired in Newport in 1940.

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### **Porter, David**

#### **Arthur**

1871-1903

USDMS

Mineral Surveys      1902

to

Mineral Surveys      1902



1894

Born in Massachusetts, David's father died in the Battle of Little Big Horn when David was a child, and David was living with his mother in his grandparents house in 1880. David graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1894 in Civil Engineering. He was a mining engineer in Kellogg, Idaho in 1896, married a fellow Berkeley student and the daughter of a California rancher, Augusta Lawton Nye, in 1898, and they had two children.

He was a mining surveyor in Wardner, Idaho by 1899, living with his mother, wife and child. He surveyed 19 Mining claims near Susanville in Grant County, Oregon in 1902 and was elected County Surveyor of Shoshone County, Idaho. His life was cut short when he was found dead in his bed at age 31 in the bunkhouse of the New Jersey Mine in April, 1903 three miles below Wallace, the cause presumed to be a heart attack. He is buried in Palo Alto, California, next to his parents. Augusta never remarried and is buried in Colma, California in Cypress Lawn Memorial Park, sharing a gravestone with unknown individuals.

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**Porter, William****Miller**

1865-1940

Rep

USDS

Contract 768

to

no more

1905

William was born in Missouri, completed four years of high school, came to Oregon after 1899, and was a teacher in Camas Valley, Douglas County, Oregon in 1900. He had married Mary Jane "Jennie" Smith in 1888, and they eventually had six children. He purchased a 160 acre Timber Claim South of Camas Valley in 1902 and was the Republican nominee for County Commissioner for Douglas County in 1906. William received Contract 768 for one township in the Coast Range West of Camas Valley in 1907, and his wife Jennie notarized all of the crew oaths. After it was examined by J. Scott Harrison in 1908, Surveyor General George Westgate challenged the exam as defective, asking Harrison to do a new examination.

Harrison did not do a new exam, but William reconsidered, and "in accordance with the suggestions of the Commissioner" he returned to the field by himself and replaced eleven posts with stones at those corners. The survey was then approved with corrections to the plat and notes. In 1910, William was a Land Agent for a timber company in Eugene, at which time he closed a timber deal for \$500,000 in Coos and Douglas Counties, where he was part owner. In 1920 he was a dairy farmer in Waterford, California. He operated a sawmill back at Camas Valley, Oregon in 1930, and was a farmer near Eugene in 1940.

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**Powers, Albert****Smith**

1833-1909

Rep

Contract ??

to

no more

1873

The Oregon City Enterprise reported in the Dec, 26, 1873 Issue that A. S. Powers received a Contract recently. He was the Speaker of the House. No record so far has been found of that Contract, but at least two other contemporary Legislators that were mentioned received Contracts, in spite of having no surveying experience. This record is a placeholder until the facts prove this one way or another. Albert was born in New York and at 19 years of age in 1852 crossed the Oregon Trail with his family.

They came to Lane County, where his father and all four sons filed individual Donation claims. Albert was first in Springfield, where he was a cabinet maker, and married Rachael Harris there in 1869. His father was also a cabinet maker. In the 1860's he was Captain of the McKenzie Rangers, a military unit at Camp Creek, near Thurston.

With the opening of the McKenzie Road, Albert was a mail contractor and toll collector. He had been an officer of the Road Company, and moved to McKenzie Bridge by 1880, where he lived for many years. His son was a prominent merchant at McKenzie Bridge. Albert served in the Oregon State Legislature in 1872, and was named Speaker of the House. He moved to Eugene in 1903 where he died while working in his garden.

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**Pownall, J.****Addison**

1820-1860

Dem

USDS

Comp

Claim Contract 35 1854

to

Claim Contract 82 1857

Addison was born in Indiana and was a college student in Montgomery County, Indiana in 1850, possibly Wabash College. He came to Oregon by 1851 when he was a chainman for James Freeman in the Willamette Valley. Soon, he was a chainman for Joseph Hunt in 1852 from Vancouver, Washington to Molalla, Oregon. He received Claim Contract 35 in 1854 for 60 Claims between Portland and Molalla and finished them that year. Compassman Robert S. Short was a chainman on portions of the work. His next Claim Contract was number 61 in 1855 for 12 Claims between Woodburn and Silverton, and he used Deputy Surveyors Ezra T. T. Fisher and Isaac Moores as chainmen.

Addison was an Assistant Quartermaster in Oregon in the Indian Hostilities in 1856, and was criticized for not accounting for all the horses and provisions at the end. He sold 430 horses, 48 cows, and 10 oxen for a total of \$1323 without appraisal, deemed by most to be a very cheap price.

His last Claim Contract was for 34 Claims near Gresham in 1858. He was a Delegate to the 1857 State Constitutional Convention and was elected Clackamas County Surveyor in 1858, serving until his death in 1860. Addison was a chainman for David Thompson on the Columbia Guide Meridian near Umatilla in 1859 and a compassman for Nathaniel Gates for three townships nearby in the same year. Future Deputy Surveyor Alan Thompson was his chainman. Addison produced an Oregon Map for sale in 1859. He had contracted tuberculosis and died from it in March, 1860 in Oregon City. It appears he never married.

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**Preston, John****Bower**

1817-1865

Whig

S G

Surveyor General 1851

to

no more



Born and raised in New York, John studied bookkeeping, mathematics and surveying before moving with his family to Illinois. He married Lucy Hyde in 1838 and inherited her siblings as part of his family. He worked as an engineer for the Illinois-Michigan Canal in Lockport from 1839-1843 and 1845-48. In 1845 he was back in New York, where he surveyed a subdivision in Albany. When the Canal was finished, he went into business at St. Louis until December, 1850 when he received his appointment as the first Surveyor General of Oregon.

He brought his wife Lucy, his daughter, Lucy's brother, George Hyde, and Lucy's sister, Julia Hyde, with him to Oregon, arriving in May, 1851. They travelled via Panama before the railroad, and were packed by mules over the isthmus. Samuel Thurston, Oregon's U. S. Congressman, was on the trip North from Panama, and died before reaching Acapulco. Just before arriving at Oregon City, their small boat went aground on a bar on the Willamette, causing the women and children to overnight on the river. All had to walk the last portion of the journey.

He was a Whig appointee in a Democrat Territory, and was scorched relentlessly by the press while he occupied the office. Soon after arriving in Oregon City, he was allowed to practice law in the local court. His brother, Josiah, arrived a year later, after graduating from college, and received Contracts. John was Surveyor General for two years before being politically removed in April, 1853. His replacement, Charles Gardner, did not arrive until August, 1854, and John occupied the office until then. John stayed in Oregon until February, consulting and protecting his family. George was by then a U. S. Deputy Surveyor, and Julia had married Joseph Trutch, another Deputy Surveyor. John formed a partnership with John and Daniel O'Neill in the wholesale grocery business in Oregon City from at least May, 1854 until February, 1855 when he left Oregon.

John returned to Lockport, Illinois, where he first published a map of Oregon that he had been compiling. He then became principal engineer for the Illinois Canal, owned a founding interest in a flour mill in Joliet, was a Secretary for the Chicago and Joliet RR, and was a Commissioner of the Illinois State Penitentiary. Joseph Trutch followed him to Lockport and worked on the canal as assistant engineer. John was elected President of the Lockport Board of Trustees by 1860. He finished his canal work, and moved to St. Louis as a commercial broker in 1864. He was visiting his parents in Lockport, and drowned at age 48 at night in the Illinois-Michigan Canal on April 13, 1865, the night Lincoln was assassinated. This is the maintained version of this information.

## **Preston, Josiah Walker**

1832-1886

Whig

Comp

USDS

Contract 26 (as 1852

Compassman for

Robert Elder)

to

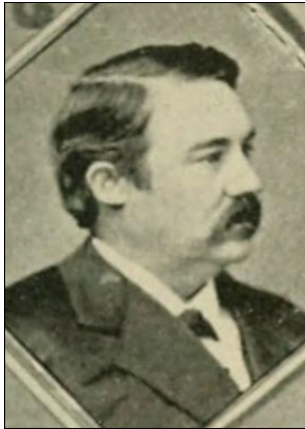
Contract 40 (with 1854

Harvey Gordon) (with

John Trutch and

Francis M. Wheatley

as compassmen)



Born in New York, Josiah moved to Illinois with his family in 1838. He was a student at Shurtleff College in 1850, graduated from there in 1852, and later that year travelled to Oregon to work for his brother, John Preston. After getting some experience as a compassman for Robert Elder in the winter of 1853, he received a Joint Contract with George Hyde in April, 1853 to extend the Willamette Meridian North from the South end of Puget Sound. They were to extend it for 11 miles, survey 36 miles of Standard Parallels, and survey 12 adjacent townships around Olympia.

They brought along Timothy Davenport, a medical doctor converted to surveyor, to be Compassman for the Willamette Meridian and the Standard Parallels. This may have been to help triangulate across the several lengthy crossings of the Sound. Davenport would go on to have several Contracts of his own in Oregon. Included in the 12 townships were surveys of Anderson, McNeil, Hartstene, and Squaxin Islands, along with the townships around the cities of Olympia and Tumwater. They both were present and shared the work somewhat equally.

Josiah received another Joint Contract near Corvallis with Harvey Gordon in 1854. It was for the exteriors and subdivisions of 6 townships in the Willamette Valley, and they shared the work. John Trutch was the Compassman for Josiah and Lewis Van Vleet was a chainman for a portion of the exteriors. By 1855 Josiah was back in Alton, Illinois, where he married in December, 1855 to Emma Clawson.

By 1862 he was a prosperous merchant in Chicago, and in 1865 represented the company John Preston was working for in St. Louis. He was President of the Board of Trade in Chicago in 1872 after the Chicago Fire and again in 1875. Two of his brokerages went bankrupt in 1881 when one of his investors in Cincinnati failed to make his calls on margins. Josiah continued as a commercial broker in Chicago until he died of a stroke at age 54. Emma later moved to California. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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**Prichard, R. W.**

Comp  
Contract 195 (part as 1873  
compassman for  
Jeremiah Dick)  
to  
no more

There were no persons in the 1870 or 1880 censuses in Oregon that fit this individual, although his name is correct per his signature in the oaths. He was a chainman for John David East of Cottage Grove in 1869 and for William Pengra in 1871 near Eugene, and was a compassman for Jeremiah Dick East of Florence in 1874. R. W. Prichard was an axeman for Henry Perkins on four Contracts from 1875-77 between Malheur Lake and Christmas Valley. He was an axeman for William Pengra in Fort Rock Valley in 1875. Signatures verified that these were all the same person.

There was a R. W. Prichard that was committed to the State Asylum in 1885 from Umatilla, but was released several days later. He returned to Umatilla, but remained despondent, gave away his money, and went to the river to end his life. They apparently found him and put him in jail until the judge returned to act. He was returned to the asylum and the outcome is unknown.

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**Putnam, Charles  
Frederick Jr.**

1848-1908

Comp  
USDS  
Contract 144 (with 1871  
Daniel Applegate and  
Jesse Applegate)  
(with Charles Putnam  
and Peter S. O.  
Applegate as  
compassmen for  
portions)  
to  
CA Contract ?? 1879



Charles F. Putnam, Sr. arrived in Oregon from the trail in 1847, where he met and soon married 15 year old Rozelle Applegate, the daughter of Jesse. Charles was a printer and taught Rozelle to set type on the small paper Charles published, making her the first female typesetter in Oregon. Charles F. Jr. was the first of their nine children. Charles Sr. had a farm in Polk County, but moved to a new farm near Yoncolla with Jesse and his family. It was in Putnam Valley, his namesake. Rozelle's sister died of TB, and Rozelle eventually contracted it. She was sent to be nursed by Jesse's family, but she died in 1861. Charles Jr. and his siblings were mostly raised by Jesse and Cynthia Applegate, with apparently some help from Charles Sr.'s mother.



Charles Sr. and his Applegate brothers-in-law went to the Idaho gold fields in 1862, taking Charles Jr. along. Charles Jr. was in the regular Army fighting Snake Indians in Eastern Oregon from 1864-66, and was back at Yoncalla in 1870, living with his father.

Jesse finally received Contract 137 in 1870 for 14 townships in Klamath County. He began his survey, using Charles Jr. as a chainman for part, but became ill and went home. He turned the work over to his son, Daniel Applegate, and his son-in-law, Martin McCall, as compassmen. The Surveyor General threw a fit, asking "Who authorized this?" Everything was rejected but the part surveyed by Jesse. The Commissioner finally relented and gave new Contract Number 144 for the same work to Daniel and Martin, plus a few bonus townships. They mostly refiled the existing rejected notes. Charles was a Compassman for Daniel Applegate, setting closing corners on the State Boundary.

It is unclear if this work was performed by Charles the son, age 23, or Charles the father, age 47. The father was a printer and practically lived with the Applegates, while Charles, Jr. did live with the Applegates. The signatures of record show it was only one person that signed all the oaths. The Surveyor General's report to the Department of Interior in 1887 listed the identified Benson Syndicate Surveyors in California, and C. F. Putnam was noted as an associate or employee, who had received six Contracts for \$38,000 from 1878-83. This was likely this Charles F. Putnam, which would point to the son, who had been living in California. The California field notes burned in the San Francisco fire, and there are no signatures or oaths to compare.

One of the Contracts in California was for a fractional township adjacent to one he had already surveyed on the State Line just Southwest of Klamath Falls. Another was for at least one township between Alpine Meadow and Squaw Butte Ski Areas at Tahoe where White Wolf Ski Area was proposed. One corner was called as a large rock buried 22" in the dirt, in an area that was flat bedrock with no dirt. No surveys from 1931 to 2012 were able to verify the property's boundary lines. The corner now set is affectionately referred to as "barstool station".

Charles Jr. married Elizabeth A. Hutchinson in 1874 and named his first son, Jesse Applegate Putnam. He was: in Modoc, California in 1875, where he was also a scout for General Davis in the Modoc War; a farmer at Klamath Falls in 1880; the first Sheriff of Klamath County 1881-84; and a carpenter in Redlands, California in 1900, after moving there in 1890. His father died in 1903, and Charles had a stroke in 1908 and another a month later that killed him.

**Rands, Ernest****Paul***1868-1940*

Rep

USDS

USDMS

Contract 641 (with Hezekiah Johnson) 1895

to

Special Instructions 1913



Ernest was born in Iowa, the son of a farmer, and came to Oregon with his parents in 1877. His oldest brother, Edward M., owned newspapers, the Oregon City Enterprise and later the Vancouver Independent. He was very active in Republican politics in both states, and served in the Washington Legislature. The family first settled in Beaver and then moved to Oregon City in 1886. Ernest attended Pacific University at Forest Grove, OR.

Ernest was in the Clackamas County Surveyor's Office off and on as a deputy from 1890-1898. By 1895 Ernest did his first GLO survey, when he teamed with fellow Oregon City surveyor Hezekiah Johnson for Idaho Contract 174 for 4 townships Northeast of Moscow. They were examined by H. P. B. Hollyday. He received Joint Contract 641, again with Hezekiah Johnson, for 8 townships East of Albany, and they shared the work. Part of that was the South 2 miles of T12S R4E as surveyed by Rands. He left the North line of that work 1200 feet out of alignment, causing the ultimate rejection of a later survey by Andrew Porter in 1905. Ernest received Oregon Contract 677 for two townships in Malheur County, on Succor Creek on the state line.

He continued in Idaho: Contract 191 for 7 townships Southeast of McCall in 1897; Contract 200 for 9 fractional townships Southeast of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation in 1899; Contract 209 for 3 townships Northeast of Moscow in 1900; and Contract 226 for 2 townships North of Lake Pend Oreille, which was examined by Oregon City resident, Thomas Hurlburt. He teamed again with Hezekiah Johnson for 9 townships in Southeastern Oregon in 1900 in Contract 731, sharing the townships, and both signed the oaths on the state line. Future Deputy Surveyor Norman White was a chainman on Contract 765 for one township East of Albany in 1901.

Ernest was elected Clackamas County Surveyor from 1898-1902, and Oregon City Engineer from 1902-06. He continued in Idaho with 13 townships in Contract 231 in 1902, and 15 townships in Joint Contract 251 with his brother, Harold, in 1904 in the very Northern tip of Idaho. His only Washington Contract was Contract 639 with his brother, Harold, in 1906. They shared the work, and both signed the oaths. There were plenty of crewmen to have two crews, including 3 nephews. He surveyed seven Mining Claims East of Molalla in 1908. He was appointed a compassman in 1909 to perform Contract 775, that had been awarded to Geary Kimbrell, after Geary did not perform for reasons unknown. He surveyed it in 1911, and it was examined and approved. Contract 790 in Oregon in Douglas County in 1909 was surveyed in 1910 and included Norman White as moundman.

Ernest was elected Oregon City Councilman in 1906. His last Contract was Joint Contract 800 with Norman White in June of 1910. They did not do the work, and it was probably cancelled by the Commissioner, and ultimately given to Charles Collier the next year. He lived with his parents in Oregon City until 1903, when he built his house. He married Clara Fisher in 1906. With his brother, Harold, he ran a surveying and engineering business out of Oregon City, called Rands Bros., up until 1909. He was named Surveyor for the Blackfoot Indian Reservation in Montana in 1909 and a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1910, at least serving in Oregon from 1912-23.

When the direct system of government surveys came into effect in 1911, Ernest was appointed to head the Field Survey Division for Oregon and Washington for the GLO, with the title, Assistant Supervisor. Ernest continued in this role, through various transformations, until at least 1938 when he received congressional approval to go beyond the mandatory retirement age. At some time before 1917, he was also given the charge of classification of the O & C timber lands. He died in Oregon City in 1940. This is the maintained version of this information.

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## Rands, Harold

### Alva "Hal"

1871-1952

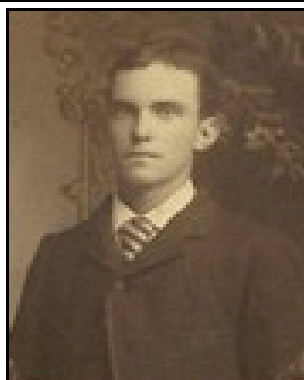
Rep

USDS

Contract 697 (with 1898  
John David)

to

Contract 791 (with 1909  
Ernest Rands)



OR PE 525. Member ASCE. Harold was born in Iowa, the son of a farmer, and came to Oregon with his parents in 1877. His oldest brother, Edward M., owned newspapers, the Oregon City Enterprise and later the Vancouver Independent. He was very active in Republican politics in both states, and served in the Washington Legislature. The family first settled in Beaver and then moved to Oregon City in 1886.

Harold's first Contract was a Joint Contract in 1897 with Hezekiah Johnson, South of McCall, Idaho, and they shared the work on 5 townships, with both signing the notes. Harold entered Cornell University in 1897 and graduated in Physics in 1901, taking many civil engineering electives. He was in graduate school at the University of California at Berkeley in Chemistry in 1902.

With his brother, Ernest, he ran a surveying and engineering business out of Oregon City, called Rands Bros., up until 1909. While still in Cornell, he surveyed a Joint Contract for eight townships in Malheur County with 58 year old John David. They both signed all the oaths. He also surveyed 4 townships near Bonners Ferry, Idaho in the fall of 1900. Harold received Idaho Contract 221 for 3 townships along the North Boundary of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation in January, 1901, specifically to solve a boundary dispute with the town of Harrison. He surveyed it in that summer, and it was approved in 1902.

Oregon City resident, and future engineering partner, Thomas Hurlburt, was the Examiner. The next year he was awarded Idaho Contract 230 for 12 fractional townships South of the Reservation. Idaho awarded him Contract 236 in 1903 for 7 fractional townships North of Coeur d'Alene, a Joint Contract with his brother in 1904, Joint Contract 260 in 1905 with Herman Gradon, which appears to have been surveyed by Harold, and his last Idaho Contract, Contract 276 in July of 1906 South of Coeur d'Alene Lake. Harold's only Washington Contract, and his last GLO Contract was Joint Contract 639 with his brother Ernest on the Colville Reservation in November of 1906. They shared the work, and both signed all of the notes. There were plenty of crewmen for two crews, including three nephews.

The 12 townships took most of the seasons of 1907 and 1908. They were examined by Marion P. McCoy just before he was indicted and sentenced to McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary for fraud against the government. The Rand brothers were writing to the Surveyor General about how this might affect their examination, and when they would be paid. It appears that all of Harold's Contracts were obtained by competitive bid.

Harold lived with his parents until he married Florence Graham in 1911 in The Dalles, and soon moved to Estacada, where he designed and supervised the grouted cut-off wall of the Estacada Dam, a model to be followed across the nation. He was part of Hurlburt and Rands in Portland in 1914 and on the Oregon City School Board in 1915. In 1914-15 he surveyed and designed the 24 mile water line from the South Fork of the Clackamas River to Oregon City. He spent the winter of 1917 making tests and designing the foundations for the railroad bridge across the Tanana River in Alaska. He was an engineer for the State of Oregon in 1920, and for Portland Electric Power in 1925, where he was an engineer for the Clackamas and Oak Grove dams and powerhouses. In 1927 he was in Manifests, British Columbia working in mining.

He was with Crown-Willamette Paper Co. in 1928, and from 1929-1943, he was the senior hydraulics engineer for the Corps of Engineers in Portland, where he did basin studies of most of the Columbia Basin. He determined where the ultimate dams would be placed along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. Harold was a senior engineer for the construction of the Bonneville Dam and Powerhouse. He also had been an engineer for electric railways from 1909-11, and obtained a patent on a threshing machine in 1899. He was in Nome, Alaska for some time in 1925 & 1926. There are 7 ft. of his records at the University of Oregon, including diaries. He died in Portland. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

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## **Rankin, John**

### **Knox**

1837-1913

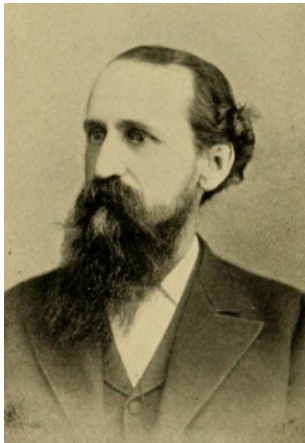
Rep

IAA

Indian Allotting Agent 1897

to

no more



John was born in Indiana, the son of a minister that died when John was three. He was raised by his mother, educated in Wabash College, and graduated from Iberia College, an anti-slavery school in Ohio, before coming to Lawrence, Kansas to join his brother in 1859. He came as a political helper to General James H. Lane, who was elected U. S. Senator in 1860.

John became Doorkeeper and then Enrolling Clerk to the Territorial Council and Journal Clerk to the first State Legislature. When the War started, he mustered in as a Second Lt. and did active fighting for two years until becoming an Aide-de-Camp for General Robert B. Mitchell. John was in Lawrence, KS in August 1863 when it was raided by Quantrill, killing 160 men and boys. He was only one of two that offered active resistance with his pistol. He went to Connecticut in 1865 to marry Laura Finney and returned in 1865 to be appointed Paymaster and Inspector General of the Kansas Militia by Governor Crawford, with the rank of Colonel.

He was: State Legislator 1866 and 1888, Postmaster of Lawrence 1867-71, Mayor 1874-76 and State Treasurer 1877. Laura died in 1875, and he remarried to Augusta Fischer in 1878. When the Sac and Fox Agency was moved to Oklahoma in 1869, John and R. S. Stevens bought 5000 acres of the best land. They platted Quenemo and sold the land in parcels. He was an officer and part owner of the Carbondale RR and the Pleasant Hill Line. He was Cashier and President of Lawrence Savings Bank. He was sued for improperly turning over to a railroad \$100,000 of bonds, held in escrow for Douglas County at his bank in 1873. The bank became insolvent in 1873. Under the name Rankin and Gibbs, he was authorized to trade with the Indians in Kansas and Oklahoma. They went bankrupt in 1879.

John served in the pension office in Washington, D. C., until he was named a Special Allotting and Dispersing Agent for the Office of Indian Affairs in 1889 in Oklahoma, and served for 19 years in Arizona, New Mexico, Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Nebraska. He was assigned to Washington in 1892. John Rankin, acting as Indian Allotting Agent, gave Special Instructions to Oliver B. Iverson while he was working on the Yakima Reservation in October, 1893, to survey two additional sections in his Contract. (Nunc pro tunc) After Grover Cleveland was elected in 1894, he studied law and was admitted to the Bar in Douglas County in 1896. When the Republicans returned to office in 1896, he returned to allotting and was the allotting agent on the Klamath Reservation.

His assignment to the Flathead Reservation in 1906 was anticipated to last a year, even though he was to use two ten-man survey crews for the work. He ran for County Attorney in Lehmi County, ID in 1910. He was back in Lawrence in 1910, where he owned an icehouse, and entered a heated argument with a disgruntled customer, which caused his death in 1913. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information. (biography)

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### **Rankin, Orville**

#### **Montgomery**

1832-1955

USDS

Contract 694

to

Contract 723

Born in Illinois, Orville came to Portland, Oregon in 1880 with his family. His father, Monroe Bennett Rankin, was for a time the partner of Governor Gibbs in real estate and timber interests, and operated a sawmill in 1872. He went bankrupt in 1883 and moved to Montana in 1884 to recoup his losses. 1898 While there he was milling and shipping lumber before he returned to Portland. He was a timber broker for awhile, but 1900 then acquired large timber tracts on his own. He sold 50,000 acres in Klamath County, and several others for 3000-20,000 acres until his debts were paid off, and then some.

Orville, the son, attended two years of college at Stanford before graduating from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1897. After graduation, he received three Contracts for a total of 6 townships from 1898-1900 in Southern Oregon. Five townships were in 1898 Northeast of Chiloquin in Klamath County. During this Contract, he interacted with John Knox Rankin and his son Carl, relationship to Orville unknown. John was the Allotting Agent on the Klamath and witnessed an Indian chainman's "X", and Carl served as a chainman on Orville's crew. The other township was just Northeast of Oakridge in 1900, and that one was examined in 1901 and 1902 by David Kinnaird without field corrections being required.

Orville married Marie Caroline Jubitz in 1899, and they were living with Orville's parents in Portland in 1900. He built a new house very near his father's at 19th and Clifton in SW Portland in 1906. He was a businessman in Portland in 1910, and Marie died after childbirth in 1916 at age 44, after giving birth to her fifth child. He remarried to widow Helena M. Koehler Rigler in 1922, the widow of the Portland School Superintendent, and they stayed together until Helena died in 1946. Orville continued as a businessman in Portland, and owned a coal and ice company, at first with his father and then on his own, until at least until 1940. He took a trip to the Philippines in 1940 to visit his two sons and died in Portland in 1952.

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**Ransom, David  
William**

1830-1905

Rep

USDS

Contract 175 (with 1872  
John Fullerton)

to

no more

David was born in New York, and was a millwright in 1850 in Jackson, Pennsylvania. He was a carpenter in Roseburg, Oregon in 1860, and married 16-year-old Charlotte Anne "Lottie" White in Douglas County in 1865. By 1870 he was a saloon keeper in Myrtle Creek with three children. He explored a road from Canyonville to Klamath Lake with John Fullerton in 1869. David received a Joint Contract with John Fullerton in 1872 that included 11 townships at the North end of Upper Klamath Lake. They were all exteriors, except for the subdivisions of three townships, and were all surveyed by David. He mentioned that all of the exteriors of one of the townships were in the Lake or Swamp.

Also included were four townships in the Coastal Mountains just Northeast of Port Orford, which appear to have been surveyed by both of them. There are no final oaths, and both of them are listed in the introduction and approval. John Fullerton was living in Canyonville, and David was a millwright there in 1880. John had been a Sheriff and Judge, and was powerful enough to have his son appointed Receiver in the Roseburg Land Office in 1873. David, in some capacity, arrested a thief in Canyonville in 1873 and sent him to the sheriff in Jacksonville.

The Douglas County Republicans nominated David to run for the state office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and he lived in Roseburg in 1882 when he was the millwright for a new flour mill. He was on the list of a group that purchased a sawmill and formed a socialist Colony near Bellingham in 1883, called the Washington Colony. It dissolved in 1885, and David was again a millwright in Vancouver B. C. in 1901. He died of old age in Ballard, Washington in 1905 with all of his family there at his death. He had sired 11 children.

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**Raymond, David****C.**

1832-1855

USDS

Claim Contract 23

1854

to

no more

David was born in Indiana, the son of a tavern owner, and worked in the tavern of his father in 1850 in Shanswick, Indiana. His parents came over the Oregon Trail in 1851, presumably with their six children including David. His father, Felix, filed a 320 acre Claim South of Salem, Northwest of Turner. David's younger brother, Phillip, attended Willamette University in Salem, and David may have done so also. There was a course in surveying available at that time. David was a chainman for Butler Ives on Contract 3 and for William Ives on Contract 4 near Portland in 1851.

In 1852 just two years from tavern ownership, David and his father were officers of the Pacific Division, Sons of Temperance, in Salem, and Felix was the leader. David received Claim Contract 23 at age 20 in 1853 for 57 Claim Surveys in Marion and Linn Counties, around Salem from Keiser to Albany. David only used a total of six crewmen on all of those Claims. He finished his surveys in 1853 and died in Salem in 1855. A younger sister died also later in the year. David is buried in Salem Pioneer Cemetery, along with other family members.

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**Reavis, David****Lewis**

1860-1924

Dem

USDMS

Mineral Surveys

1902

to

Mineral Surveys

1903

Born in Missouri, the son of a farmer, David was in Texas by 1870-80 with his parents on a cattle ranch. He married in 1894 to Ida Lee Womack, living in Crowell, Texas, and they had one daughter, born in Oregon in 1898. David's uncle, David Barton Reavis, had moved to Enterprise Oregon in 1877, and David's father moved with his family to Enterprise in 1887. His uncle became a state legislator and judge at Enterprise. David was a Surveyor in Crowell, Texas in 1889 and Foard County Surveyor there in 1891. He was in Enterprise by 1898, was the Wallowa County Surveyor in 1902, and surveyed two Mining Claim in Wallowa County

His father died in 1909, his mother in 1914, and David was a civil engineer back in Crowell, Texas again by 1909. He returned to Enterprise as a surveyor in 1911 and as a deputy County Clerk for Wallowa County in 1914, per the City Directory. By 1916 he was Foard County Surveyor in Texas again, keeping that position until near the time he died there in 1924.



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**Reese, Joseph D.**

1866-1934

USDMS

Mineral Surveys 1903

to

no more



Born in Ohio, Joseph came to Oregon in 1897 and lived in Baker as an assayer in 1900. While he was living in Canada, he married Annie LaViers in 1891, who was a native of England. Joseph was named co-manager of the Present Need Mine near Prairie City in 1900. Annie died in Prairie City, Grant County, Oregon in 1903 after three children. Joseph designed, built and leased a water system to Prairie City in 1904.

Joseph surveyed ten Mining Claims near John Day in 1903 and another nine Claims in 1906, also at John Day. His oldest son, Howard, was a chainman at age 15 on the last four Claims. Joseph was a civil engineer in Prescott, Arizona before moving to California by 1911. He remarried to Ina Mae Wren in 1910 in San Diego, who was the daughter of his landlady in Prescott at the time. They had two children. Howard died in California in 1911. Joseph was advertising in the newspaper in 1918 for a job in mining for himself. Joseph and Ina were in San Antonio in 1921 and in Austin, Texas in 1924, where he was working in operations in the oil business. He was a mining engineer in Inglewood in 1930, and died there in 1934.

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**Renoe, George W.**

1840-1923

Comp

245 (as compassman 1875  
for Zenas Moody)

to

no more

Born in Missouri, George grew up on a farm and came to Oregon in 1871 via San Francisco. He soon began surveying for Zenas Moody and in 1875 was his compassman for Contract 245 Northwest of Malheur Lake. He engaged in steamboating on the Columbia River between Portland and The Dalles, and for one winter, carried the mail on horseback, Pony Express style, between those cities. At times he had to use snowshoes instead of the horse. He married Esther Miller in 1874, and eventually turned to farming. Esther died in 1897 at their home in Mosier of TB. She was buried on the family farm at Mosier, but was reinterred and buried in Hood River in 1909.

There was a threatened Sheriff's Sale on several pieces of real estate within her estate in 1897. They lived all of their married life time in Oregon in Wasco County. George began living with his children by 1900, died in Grant County in 1923 at the home of a daughter, and is buried in Hood River, marked on a gravestone with Esther and several other family members.

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**Riggs, James****Berry, Jr.**

1848-1884

Rep

Contract 405 (with H. 1881  
Ferguson)

to

no more

Born in Oregon of James Berry Riggs, Sr. who was the Captain of a wagon train in 1845 to Oregon, James, Jr. was living in Polk County, Oregon in 1850. He continued in Polk county, and married Sarah Pinkney Hughes in 1868. They lived in Polk County and had seven children, three of whom died as children. James ran on the Republican ticket for Polk County Sheriff in 1872. He was a druggist in Dallas in 1880, and received Joint Contract 405 in 1881 with Harry Ferguson. It was for two townships in Curry County, but there are no notes of that work in the records, and they may have been only partners or sureties. They also cosigned a promissory note for \$300 in 1881 as H. J. Ferguson, M. M. Ellis, Nat Holman, and James Riggs, at the same time as their Contract.

Neither had known surveying experience, and their identification as the Deputies is circumstantial and by proximity, although their signatures exist on the note for future comparison. H. J. Ferguson was an insurance agent in Dallas in 1880. James owned a horse ranch in Lost Canyon in Wasco County in 1884, and was chasing a wild horse that had gotten away from a helper, still wearing a lasso. James tied the rope that was trailing the horse around his saddle, but the wild horse upset his horse, and James fell and broke his neck, killing him.

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**Rinearson,****Abraham Lewis**

1851-1930

Rep

Comp

Contract 196 (as 1873  
compassman for John  
Crawford)

to

no more

Abraham was born in Oregon, the oldest child of an early immigrant that had settled in Gladstone. He was still attending school at age 18 in 1870. He was hired as compassman for John D. Crawford for Contract 196 West of Ontario in 1873, probably because John was in the Legislature and had no survey experience. A subsequent resurvey noted it was done by a conscientious surveyor. Abraham was a surveyor in Boise by 1874 when he received his first Contract from the Idaho Surveyor General, LaFayette Cartee, originally a Deputy Surveyor from Oregon. Abraham was awarded another Contract in 1875, South of Boise, and was loosely affiliated with Deputy Surveyor Allan Thompson on that survey.

Abraham was bonded as a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor by 1880 and completed 15 Mineral surveys in Idaho from 1880-1908. He was the Mineral Draftsman in the Idaho Surveyor General's Office of William P. Chandler in 1882. Abraham married 14-year-old Martha Ellen "Mattie" Minor in Horseshoe Bend in 1882, and they had three children. He successfully sued Mattie for divorce in 1889. Mattie remarried a month later to Joseph Robbins in Boise County, but she died four years later after one child.

He drew a map of a 150,000 acre irrigation project out of the Payette River to irrigate lands near Boise City. Abraham remarried to Anna Woodland in 1892, by whom he had a daughter. He ran frequently as a Republican candidate for Boise County Surveyor, and served from at least 1888-92. He built a bridge across the Payette River at Horseshoe Bend in 1894. The Surveyor General awarded him at least two more Contracts in Idaho, one in 1892 for 13 townships North of Boise and another for Contract 233 with 9 townships North of Boise in 1901.

Abraham was a civil engineer in Horseshoe Bend, Idaho in 1900, and in 1903 he began a series of seven courses in Metal Mining through International Correspondence Schools, completing all. He ran again for County Surveyor of Boise County in 1908, was a civil engineer in Boise City in 1910 and was a surveyor in Jarbidge, Nevada in 1910. Anna and their daughter stayed in Boise. He was a divorced mining engineer in Jarbidge in 1920, the same year he filed a plat of the town. It was noted that the plat was based on a survey by his son Albert.

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### **Robb, Bamford**

*1835-1911*

USDS

Contract 357 (with  
Samuel Lackland)  
to

Contract 383 (with  
Herman Gradon)

1880

1881

Bamford was born in Athens, Ohio and attended a Presbyterian college at Athens. He married Maria Jane Eckelson in Ohio in 1858, and was in Jacksonville, Oregon in 1872 when his first son was born. He was in California from about 1875-78, and ran a stationery store in Stockton in 1876. Maria died in 1878 in California, and Bamford was in Portland by 1880 when he was awarded Joint Contract 357. It was with Samuel Lackland for 9 townships South of John Day, and they shared the work. Bamford used future Deputy Surveyor Henry Cooke as a crewman on all of his portion.

Joint Contract 366 in 1880 with Maria's brother, A. O. Eckelson, for nine townships Southwest of John Day was all surveyed by Bamford in two months using three different crews. Joint Contract 383 with Herman Gradon in 1881 was shared by both. The work was just East of John Day. Bamford lived in Portland until at least 1900, when he listed himself as a capitalist. At some time, he was named State Engineer for Oregon. His son, Bamford Albert Robb, graduated from Yale Law School in 1893, cum laude, and lived with his father in Portland until 1895, when he moved to Idaho.

Bamford, the son, was Chief Clerk in the Idaho Surveyor General's Office in 1897-1902 and served as an officer in the Idaho State Militia. Many Contracts in Idaho were awarded to Oregon Deputy Surveyors over the years, causing an issue with local surveyors at one time. Bamford, his son, and the Surveyor General of Idaho were officers of the Hartford and Helena RR, organized in Boise in 1900 to build a RR down the Snake River to the mouth of the Salmon River. Bamford was living with his son in Seattle in 1910, and died there in 1911.

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**Roberts, Charles  
Elmer "Charley"**

1867-1944

Rep

USDS

Contract 759

1904

to

no more



Born in Pennsylvania, Charles moved with his family to Iowa where he graduated from the eighth grade. They moved to Linn County, Oregon in 1885 and then to Douglas County in 1892, where Charles engaged in mining and lumbering out of Canyonville. He was appointed deputy county clerk in 1900 and was elected Douglas County Surveyor in 1902, keeping that position until 1910, minus two years when he was in Panama. Also, in 1902 he married Anna Graham in Roseburg.

Charles partnered with Milton Germond in 1903 to do a rural subdivision just outside Roseburg. He received Contract 759 in 1904 for one fractional township on Little River East of Roseburg. It only involved 14 miles of line, and he did the survey in 1905. Charles was examined in 1906 by William Douglass and in 1908 by J. Scott Harrison and had to return to the field in 1907 to do six miles of corrections. Anna died in 1914. He had been hired as a Douglas County Deputy Sheriff in 1916, when he remarried in Roseburg to Mary Swinney, an assessor's employee. He was a Director of Umpqua Valley Bank in 1923, a tax collector in 1930 and retired in Roseburg in 1940.

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**Robinson,  
Thaddeus Pulaski**

1812-1874

USDS

Special Instructions 1854  
(with A. W.  
Thompson and  
George H. Van Cleft  
as compassmen)

to

no more

Thaddeus was born in Laconia, New Hampshire in 1825, and he prepared for college at Lowell Academy and New Hampton Academy before entering Dartmouth. After graduating as a civil engineer with the Class of 1848, he took a job in Lawrence as a civil engineer. He left for California in 1849 and had mail waiting for him at San Francisco in 1851. Thaddeus settled down in Crescent City, where he was the County Surveyor of Klamath County, California, and while there, he surveyed the 350-acre townsite of Crescent City in 1853. The California Legislature appropriated \$3500 for a temporary survey of the Oregon/California Boundary in 1854. The California Surveyor General tried to find someone to survey that line, and found Thaddeus at Crescent City to do the work for the appropriation under Special Instructions.

He also appointed A. W. Thompson and George H. Van Cleft as Assistants, who were civil engineers and surveyors. Thompson had been a Deputy Surveyor in California, making a name for himself surveying Spanish Claims. Van Cleft was a surveyor and was currently serving in the Legislature. The reason for the survey was mostly political, because the residents of Sailors Diggings and Alt House Creek were ignoring both states. They voted in both states and paid taxes in neither. The budget was only for a survey to answer that question, but yet be credible.

The survey began at a C & GS monument at Crescent City and proceeded North to an Initial Monument on the South Bank of Fountain Creek. It then went East along the State Line for 80 miles to Pilot Rock. Topography along the line was also gathered by Thompson, along with the setting of occasional monuments. The results, including a technical report, determined the two settlements were in Oregon, but Yreka was in California. After Thaddeus finished the report on the State Boundary, he began a survey of the 40-mile plank and turnpike road from Crescent City to the Illinois Valley in Oregon, finishing in November. This road was for the purpose of hauling mining supplies, and was promoted by San Francisco Merchants.

Thaddeus returned to Massachusetts in 1857 and entered Harvard Medical School, graduating with the Class of 1860. That year in June, he married Rebecca Frances "Fanny" Smith, and they had one daughter. He set up his practice in Newton, Massachusetts, where he worked 14 years as a physician until he died there in 1874 at age 48 of kidney failure.

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## Rodolf, Frederick

**William**

**"Barney"**

1886-1966

SES

Special Instructions 1913

to

no more



1911

OR PE 1462. NV PE/PLS 1227.  
Fred Rodolf was a U. S. Surveyor under Groups 14 and 18 in the Direct System in 1913-15 when he was given Special Instructions to make an Examination of the Oregon-California Boundary and the conflicting surveys involved. The confusion had gone on for over 30 years under the Contract Era, in addition to the questions about the Daniel G. Major's survey of the State Boundary in 1858. Fred received Special Instructions on 6/14/1913 and reported on 1/24/1914 for Group 14 for the examination of several ranges.

Most of the surveys examined were within the bookmarks of the author of this work, "Surveyors Associated with the Oregon Surveyor General's Office of Oregon, 1851-1910." Based on that assumption, Frederick William Rodolf and his biography are included in this work. Born in Nebraska in 1886, the son of a carpenter, Fred moved with the family to Iowa in 1893 and lived in Washington, California by 1898.

Fred married Alvena Pearl Kerns in Portland, Oregon in June, 1907, and later that year he was advertising as a private surveyor in Portland in the newspapers. He worked as a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Arizona in 1909 on a Contract for two townships South of Kingman. He at sometime completed four years of college and was a member of Delta Phi fraternity at the University of Arizona in 1911, at the same time he was an Assistant in Civil Engineering for the School. He was noted as a U. S. Surveyor in Phoenix in 1911. By June 7, 1912, Fred worked under the Direct System in Oregon and received Special Instructions as a U. S. Surveyor, with others under Group 3, to make surveys in the center of Eastern Oregon.

His instructions of June 14, 1913 under Group 14 were to make examinations and retracements of conflicting surveys along the State Line through T41S R6E-12W. He finished the field work in October and filed his report on January 24, 1914. No record of the notes or report have been located yet. Another set of instructions on February 15, 1915 and later under Group 18 asked him to resurvey the Oregon and California state line from MP 145-107 and to resurvey fractional sections along the line, including T41S R12W-6E. Other instructions to him from 1916-18 would continue the corrections all the way to the West.

The notes and plats of these corrections are in the files online at BLM. They show that the State Boundary as surveyed by Daniel Major in 1863 was far from the quality of a job expected from an experienced astronomer. Going West from Klamath Falls to the Pacific, the line varied occasionally by three degrees of direction, both North and South. There was a ten degree variation for two miles South of Cave Junction. and a few other of five to seven degrees.

Notable Deputies corrected were, Jesse Applegate, Eugene B. Henry, Nathaniel Ford, Fred Mensch, Samuel Lackland, H. A. Harvey, James Howard, William Turner, James Tolman, Rufus Moore and Charles M. Collier. Nearly all of the corrected surveys were of a minor nature, with changes mostly to the plats. Those of Samuel Lackland were grossly fraudulent with errors of up to 26 chains (1700 feet), caused by Lackland not finding the State line and then reporting that he did. After a thorough search, the closing corners were not found by Rodolf, who stated that Lackland never ran the closing lines for T41S R3,4W.



1953

Fred continued in the Direct System out of Portland until at least 1919. For 5 years, Fred worked on an invention that he patented in 1917, called Addachine. At 3" x 3", it could very easily add and subtract, and sold for 50 cents. An article noted he was finishing a survey for the government out of Oroville, Washington in 1919 and was being transferred to another state. While on that job, he sponsored a charity dance for a new library for Loomis, and raised several hundred dollars. The census in 1920 listed him in Tacoma as an engineer, and a F W. Rodolf in Portland was taking over the offices of the W. A. Pittenger Company, dealers in logging equipment.

Fred was an engineer for the County in 1930, and in 1936 he was noted as leading a crew of 12 for the Army Corps of Engineers to survey the Umatilla River levee project. By 1939, he was in charge of the survey crew on the survey ship, Robert Gray for the Corps. He continued with the Corps until he retired in 1952, being noted as chief survey engineer in 1943. Fred took a leave of absence to go to Afghanistan with the giant construction company, Morrison Knutson. He had charge of soil tests and other ground work engineering for irrigation projects. Fred coauthored a book on the history, design and construction of jetties in 1951. He retired to Onalaska, Washington until he died there in 1966 at age 80.

**Rowland, John  
William**

1858-1927

Dr/Clerk

Ch Clerk

Clerk

to

no more

1899

Born the son of a farmer in Lane County, Oregon, John moved to Monmouth in 1872 with his family, where was a teacher in 1880, living with his parents. John graduated from the University of Oregon with a law degree in 1897. In 1895, he served as a Special Mining Clerk in The Surveyor General's Office of John C. Arnold. While there, he met and married another Clerk, Harriett Ella Proebstel Sparks. She was a widow, whose husband had recently died of tuberculosis. His father-in-law, Jacob Proebstel, was a Donation Claimant in Clark County, Washington, and in 1875 had moved to Weston, Oregon, where he operated a flour mill. By 1901, he was a State Senator, and was pressuring Henry Meldrum to fire Chief Clerk, George Waggoner, and promote his son-in-law to Chief Clerk. That happened, and the appointment of John was pending for an unknown time.

John was a reluctant witness for the prosecution against Henry Meldrum in 1904. He was appointed the Chief Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of John Daly after Meldrum was sent to prison. John was still Chief Clerk under Surveyor General George A. Westgate in 1910, under Edward G. Worth in 1920, and continued under Wesley Caviness through 1925. He obviously had a lot of political capital. John again testified reluctantly for the prosecution in the 1910 trials of Binger Herman and others involved in land fraud, because he had made special maps of new undisclosed forest reserves in advance for the defendants.

He was about to be dismissed without a hearing in 1913 for making maps on government time for profit and for letting his relatives profit, but Senator Chamberlin intervened and saved him. When the Surveyor General's position was abolished in 1925, John was still Chief Clerk, but his title was changed from Chief Clerk to Office Cadastral Engineer. John died in Vancouver, Washington in 1927. Ella remarried, died in 1936, and is buried next to John in Vancouver.

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## Rowland, William

**L.**

1860-1930

Comp

Contract 404 (as  
compassman for  
William P. Wright)

1881

to

Contract 442 (as  
compassman for  
William P. Wright)

1882



William L. Rowland was born near Coquille, Oregon, the son of William Barnabas Rowland, and an Indian girl, named Mala Jane. His father had created a family in Illinois that was mostly grown, and left them in about 1850 to come to Oregon. It is unknown whether they were abandoned, or whether he divorced his wife. She was listed as a widow in 1860. William Sr., settled on a Claim on Rowland Creek, in Section 27 and 34, T30S R12W.

The family story is that Mala Jane found William senior badly clawed by a bear in the woods, carried him to her home, and nursed him back to health. They were married by 1857 and had several children, the last in 1869. Beginning at age 16, and continuing for several years, William Jr. was a chainman and axman for William P. Wright, who surveyed mostly in Southwestern Oregon, on Contracts near Coquille. He was appointed as compassman on Contract 404 in 1881 for Wright, and continued again at that for three more Contracts until 1882. He was listed as a surveyor in the 1880 census, living with his sister in Coquille. William was in Humboldt County, California from 1892-96.



**Rudd, Arthur****Horace***1875-1928*

Dem

Rep

HES

Special Instructions 1909

to

Special Instructions 1910



1900

OR PE 354. Born in Illinois, Arthur was in Colorado in 1885 with his family. He attended the University of Chicago, graduated from the Colorado School of Mines in 1900, married school teacher Jessie Sarrell in Golden, Colorado, and ran for City Engineer there as a Democrat in 1905. He was a surveyor in Wallowa County, Ore and surveyed 15 Homestead Entry Claims and 44 Mining Claims out of Enterprise and Joseph.

While there, Arthur supervised the long pipeline of the Joseph Light and Power Company. He was elected Wallowa County Surveyor in 1912, served three terms, and was a surveyor for the Highway Dept. in Wallowa County in 1918. He was also the same in Pendleton in 1919, at a time he was sick for several months. Because of his illness, the family left Pendleton for Portland in 1921, before going to Golden, Colorado in 1921, where Arthur had a job with the Colorado School of Mines. He was a Republican Candidate in Golden for County Surveyor in 1922.

The newspaper noted him returning from Hill Top, Nevada in 1923 where he had been working for several months. The school reported his work on behalf of the school and the Geological Museum. Arthur died in California in 1928 of pneumonia and complications from a fall on ice he took at the Engeis Copper Mine. Jessie died in Golden, Colorado in 1961. His daughter graduated from college, and his two sons were attending college when he died. (name pronounced Rude)

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**Rumsey, James  
Llewellyn**

1852-1933

USDS

Contract 447            1882

to

Contract 487            1883



Born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the son of a farmer in 1851, James graduated from the University of Michigan in 1876 in civil engineering. He was in Oregon as a chainman for Henry Perkins in 1877-79 for three Contracts between Malheur Lake and Christmas Valley. James would later claim in his University Annual that he was a USDS on this work, and he could have been the compassman since there was an extra chainman.

James was the Superintendent for construction of a RR in Oregon from 1878-82. He received three Contracts on his own for 26 townships from 1882-1883, all in Eastern Oregon. The first Contract was for four townships just Southeast of Government Camp and five townships just inside the North line of the Warm Springs Reservation. The next one had eleven townships at Warner Lakes, North of Hart Mountain. The last Contract was for six townships South of Wagontire. He used a consistent three of four man crew each year. A BLM surveyor noted that James surveyed the exteriors, but may have neglected some of the interiors.

James was single in 1880 in Portland, and a widower in 1900, when he was back living with his aged parents in Grand Rapids. He married Flora May Newton, in 1908 in Syracuse, New York, and they had no children. Flora was a graduate of Cazenovia Seminary in Syracuse, and her sister, also a graduate of Carvenovia, had earlier married James' brother in Grand Rapids. James spent the rest of his career as a civil engineer in Grand Rapids, Michigan until he died there in 1933. James and his siblings donated land for a park in Grand Rapids, then named Rumsey Park before a name change to Clemente Park 50 years later.

**Russell, James****Allen***1861-1931*

Dem

Comp

Contract 503 (as 1884

compassman for

William Barr)

to

no more



Born in Iowa the son of a blacksmith, James crossed the Oregon Trail in 1862 to La Grande. He was teaching school in Cove while living at home in 1880, and in 1881 began attending Scotts Academy. He was hired as Compassman for Contract 503 in 1884 by William Barr for two townships East of Cove. The work was not examined. In 1885 he took charge of a large cattle ranch for three years until he helped the owner sell it.

James married school teacher Adalade "Addie" Ellsworth Whitmore in 1886. He was the Postmaster in Cove, contracted on RR construction in 1892, and ran a butcher shop in Cove until 1896 before moving it to La Grande and Island City. He was a stock driver in Union County in 1900, a retail butcher in 1910 and 1920, and a buyer for a packer in 1930, all in La Grande. in 1910 James was an officer of a company subdividing irrigation land at Enterprise. A son was killed when hit by a train in 1907, and he owned the Grande Round Meat Co. in 1912. James died in La Grande in 1930, and Addie in 1934.

## Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Name</b>
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

