

# Stevens Family History

A History of the Children  
of Hanson and Lavina

Published by the Stevens Family

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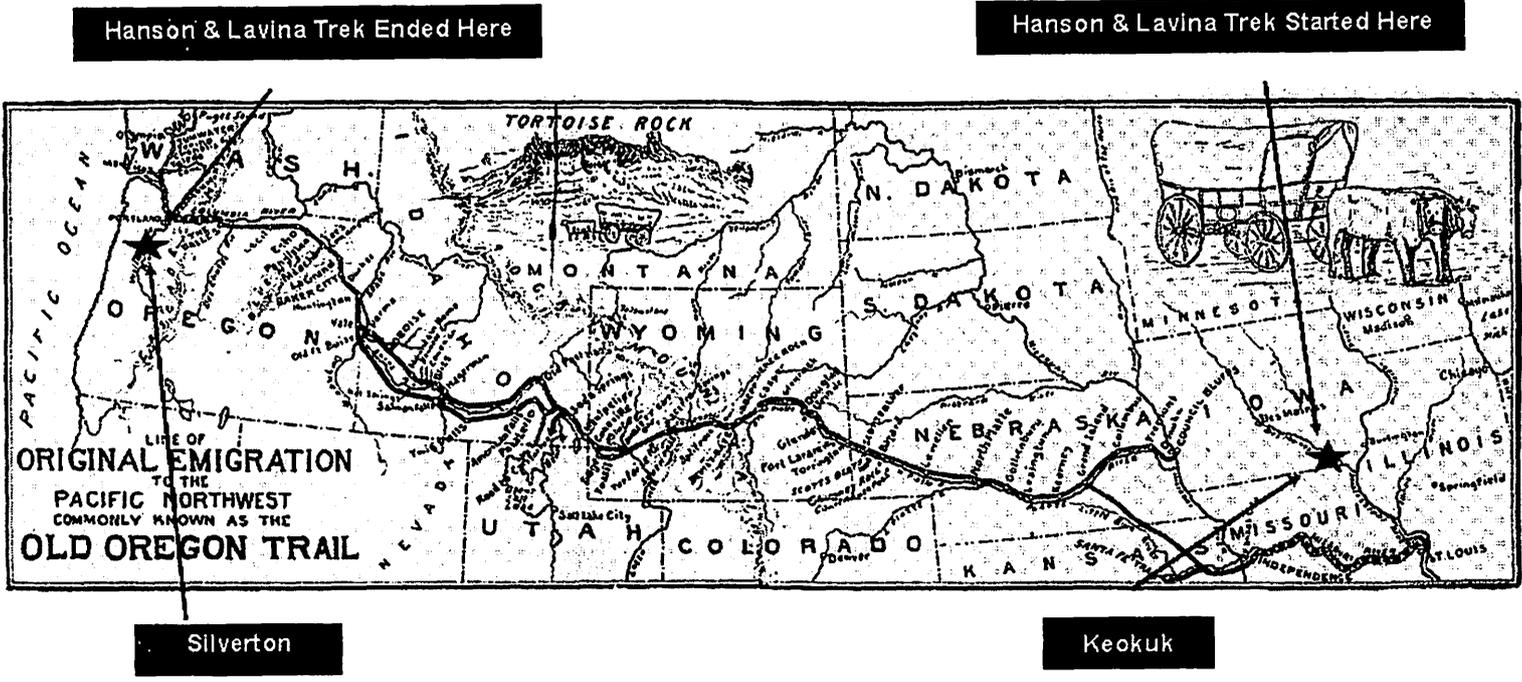
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OREGON TRAIL MAP - HANSON AND LAVINA'S TREK



**STEVENS FAMILY HISTORY:  
A HISTORY OF THE CHILDREN OF HANSON AND LAVINA**

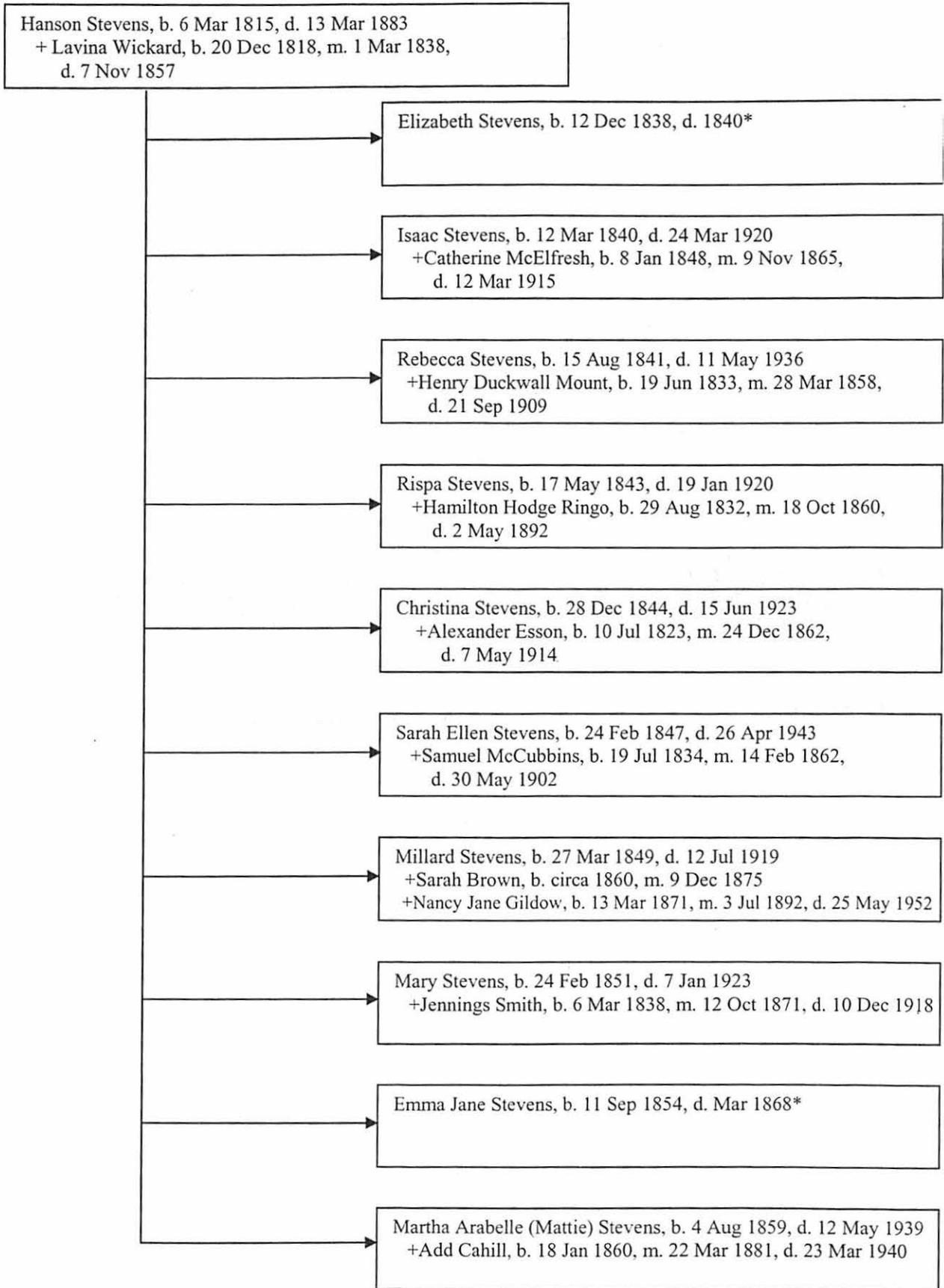


Stevens siblings at 25th annual reunion, July 19, 1916 at the home of Ellis Stevens, North Howell

Standing L-R: Millard Stevens, Sarah (Stevens) McCubbins, Mary (Stevens) Smith,  
Martha Arabelle "Mattie" (Stevens) Cahill

Seated L-R: Isaac Stevens, Rebecca (Stevens) Mount, Rispa (Stevens) Ringo,  
Christina (Stevens) Esson

## Hanson and Lavina and Their Children



\*Denotes no narrative.

## STEVENS FAMILY HISTORY CHAPTER 1: HANSON AND LAVINA STEVENS

*By Dorothy Clevenger*

### *HANSON STEVENS IN INDIANA*



Hanson Stevens

Hanson Stevens was born March 6, 1815, in Ripley County, Indiana, on a farm close to the county line. The farm lies not far from the town of Milan, in southeastern Indiana. Hanson's father Obediah Stevens had only recently arrived in Indiana by 1813, so we must travel elsewhere, to Pennsylvania, to explore Obediah's roots.

Obediah was born in Pennsylvania on October 9, 1787, where he probably spent his childhood and grew to manhood. During the early 1800s he moved westward to Indiana and likely married around 1810 or 1811, for his first child, a son named Sylvester, was born there in 1812. We have no record of the name of Obediah's first wife, but some sources identify her as Mary. How did Obediah travel to Indiana? We do not know, but the most common route would have been by flatboat down the Ohio River, or overland through Kentucky.

Shortly after Sylvester was born, Obediah served the United States during the War of 1812, ordered into service to protect the frontiers of Dearborn County—as were many other able-bodied men of the time. The British had aroused the Indians against the Americans at this time, as they had during the Revolutionary War. Obediah is listed on the muster roll of Colonel McFarland under Captain Justus Sartwell's Company 3, Regiment of Indiana Militia in Lawrenceburg, 1813. Lawrenceburg is on the banks of the Ohio River, in Dearborn County, not far from Cincinnati, Ohio. Obediah served from April 3 to June 17, 1813, attained the rank of First Sergeant and was paid \$27.50 for his two months' service.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Company Pay Roll Record for Obediah Stephens [*sic*], of Col. McFarland's detachment. Copy acquired from the National Archives and reproduced in Clark, Joe M., *THE STEVENS FAMILY TREE* (Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Co., no date), 17, microfilm no. XL1B7-102, Call No.1033893, Item #3, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

This area of the nation, the Northwest Territory, was newly opened to settlement. The Northwest Territory included all of the land west of Pennsylvania, north of the Ohio River and westward as far as the Mississippi River. It was ceded to the United States by Britain in 1783 and was the scene of fierce battles during the War of 1812. Ultimately, the Northwest Territory was opened to settlement in the relentless westward flow of American settlers. It was not free land, as were Oregon's Donation Land Claims and the homesteads of the later years; rather, the government sold large blocks of land to speculators who resold it in small lots for a profit.

With the end of the War of 1812, Obediah settled on a farm on the banks of Hogan Creek in Ripley County, near the Dearborn County line. Inasmuch as there were few, if any, roads in those days, he probably followed a tributary of the Ohio River northward from Lawrenceburg until he arrived at his chosen spot on Hogan Creek. It was there on Hogan Creek that he built a house and mill. Perhaps the mill was a sawmill used to cut the huge hardwood trees into slap siding for other settlers' homes. It could also have been a gristmill, to grind wheat and other grains into flour. The records don't tell which it was.

Here on this beautiful farm Obediah's family grew, with the arrival of four more children: Hanson (1815),<sup>2</sup> Lucinda (1816), Lucretia (1818), and Priscilla (1820). Shortly after Priscilla's birth, Obediah's wife died, and left him with five small children. Sylvester was eight years old, Hanson was five, and on down to baby Priscilla. So at age 33, Obediah found himself a widower with five young ones. It comes as no surprise that Obediah remarried—to a Kentucky girl named Mary—soon after his first wife's death.

Perhaps this is where the confusion about Obediah's first wife's name arose. If both mothers were named Mary, small children might have been confused in their early memories between their two mothers named Mary. In any event, Obediah's family continued to grow as he and his second wife had seven more children.

Obediah prospered during this time. Records in the Ripley County Court House show that he acquired many acres from 1820 through the 1830s.<sup>3</sup> Some of this land may have been granted to him as a result of his military service.<sup>4</sup> Records also show that both Sylvester and Hanson acquired land in Ripley County as the children of a man who served in the War of 1812.

Eventually Obediah built a fine, sturdy two-story house to replace the original, smaller house down in the bottomland on the banks of Hogan Creek. The limestone foundation

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<sup>2</sup> Hanson's tombstone records his date of birth as Mar. 6, 1815. Clark, *op. cit.* at 24, cites his date of birth as "6-3-1815." This discrepancy may be explained if Mr. Clark transposed the first two numbers of the date in a typographical error.

<sup>3</sup> Numerous federal land patents misspell his name as "Obadiah."

<sup>4</sup> Clark, *op. cit.* at 3.

still shows where the original house stood. The larger two-story house stands today, and is even still known as "The Old Obed Stevens House."

Hanson's half-sister Fidelia left a written account of the house, describing it as so well built that even in winter she could wear short sleeves while snow was on the ground. She spoke of many outbuildings with closed sheds leading from the house to the barn so that her father and brothers could feed the stock without stepping into the snow. Fidelia also told of two large apple orchards on the farm. The apples were stored in barrels in a large cellar. There were also maple trees, from which the family made sugar and maple syrup.

In 1988, Dalton Ashcroft, the then-current owner of the farm,<sup>5</sup> showed us an old cemetery plot. It was on a knoll some distance from the old limestone foundation and in the woods behind the house. The cemetery is known as "The Hull Cemetery on the Old Obed Stevens Farm." When we visited the cemetery we found that it had grown back to huge trees—hickory, maple, and others—and was surrounded by the remnants of the barbed wire that had enclosed it. The owner told us that his Boy Scout Troop cleaned the weeds from the graves each spring.

I feel certain that Hanson's mother was laid to her final rest in the Old Hull Cemetery. Although no marker bears her name and cemetery records made in 1930 do not include her, the cemetery is clearly where most family members were buried. There are also fifteen unmarked graves still visible, with some older stones strewn about the area.

Many members of the local Daughters family were also buried at the Old Hull Cemetery, and were associated with the Stevens family during their lifetimes. Several members of the Daughters family intermarried with Stevens children: after Sylvester's first wife died of scarlet fever he married Caroline Daughters. Lucretia married Calvin Daughters and Obediah Jr. married Mary Ann Daughters. The Stevens and Daughters families were probably close neighbors. New markers were set in 1986 to replace weathered stone, marking the graves of Gillis (1793-1834) and Sarah (1801-1872) Daughters. Perhaps the cemetery plot lay between the two farms.

The Daughters family was not the only one to intermarry with the Stevens family: Hanson married Lavina Wickard and his sister Lucinda married Lavina's brother Isaac Wickard. It appears that one did not travel far to find a spouse in those days.

The 1840 census places the whole Obediah Stevens family in Ripley County, Indiana. During this time Obediah expanded his operations to include river commerce. He apparently planned to open a chain of stores beginning in Cincinnati, down the Ohio, up the Mississippi into Iowa and Illinois, then south to New Orleans. No doubt Hanson and the other Stevens children were to be part of this venture.

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<sup>5</sup> Rt. 1, Box 765, Moores Hill, Ind. 47032. When the author visited Indiana and had trouble finding the cemetery, she went to the Post Office in Milan, Indiana, showed the clerk her map, and asked him if he knew where the cemetery was. He exclaimed, "That's on my father's farm!"

Closely connected to river commerce, Hanson learned the trade of barrel making: he was known as a “cooper.” Wooden barrels were in high demand on the frontier to transport such cash crops as hard cider. The two apple orchards on the Old Obed Farm no doubt supplied ample material for cider, so the family had their hands in all stages of production: apple growing, barrel-making, pressing cider, and shipping the cider to market.

In 1840 or 1841, Obediah began to execute his plan to open a chain of stores down the river. Obediah traveled with his wife and younger children down the Ohio River and up the Mississippi, leaving Sylvester and Hanson in Indiana to tend to the family businesses there. We have found no record of their intended destination. They headed up the Mississippi River past the growing town of Independence, Missouri—still traveling north—but the steamboat hit a sandbar near Keokuk, Iowa, just north of the Missouri border. Obediah, his wife and all of the children escaped in a boat.

Although they were blessed to escape with their lives, all of the family possessions were lost except the clothes on their backs and several hundred dollars in Obediah’s wallet. The family made their way to Keokuk, where Obediah decided to make his home and begin his new businesses. He eventually built three stone buildings in downtown Keokuk and called them the Stevens buildings. They stood for many years. Apparently the chain of stores ended there.

Back in Indiana, Hanson Stevens and Lavina Wickard had married on March 1, 1838, in Ripley County;<sup>6</sup> she was 19 and he was a few days shy of his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. Lavina was the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Watson) Wickard. The adventures of the Wickard family as they traveled to Indiana are described later in further detail.

Hanson and Lavina’s first child, Elizabeth, was born December 12, 1838, but she died at age two. Isaac was born next (1840), followed by Rebecca (1841), Rispa (1843), and Christina (1844). Records show that they were all born in Dearborn or Ripley County, Indiana. (Remember that the Stevens farm was near the county line.)

We know that Hanson and his family joined Obediah in Keokuk between 1845 and 1847 because his next child, Sarah, was born there in early 1847. Millard (1849) arrived next, followed by Mary (1851), both born in Keokuk.

Hanson probably made the move to Iowa to further the family business, as there were now two barges operated by family members, running as far south as New Orleans. The business had expanded so much by 1850 that Sylvester and his family were the only ones left in Indiana. Hanson’s sister Priscilla and her husband William J. Hamilton also moved to Keokuk between 1847 and 1849, as shown by the birth records of two of their children. William and Priscilla stayed in Keokuk for quite some time, presumably to continue the business begun by Obediah, and added seven more children to their family.

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<sup>6</sup> Ripley County Marriage Book 2: 166, County Clerk’s Office, Versailles, Indiana.

Meanwhile, Obediah and Mary moved to Indianola, Texas, with several of their younger, unmarried children in 1845. Fidelia, one of Hanson's younger half-sisters, recorded that Obediah sought a warmer climate because of poor health. Joe Clark, in his book *The Stevens Tree*, opined that Obediah's hunger for land and profit, not his health, motivated his move south. In any event, after they moved to Texas, Obediah died during an epidemic of dengue fever, "bone ache" as it was called then, on November 11, 1852. He was buried in Indianola.<sup>7</sup> As it happened, Hanson and Lavina arrived in Oregon shortly before Obediah's death in Texas.

At last this answers a question that the family has pondered for several years: why did Hanson and Lavina leave for Oregon from Keokuk, Iowa, on the banks of the Mississippi River, instead of the more popular starting place of Independence, Missouri? All because a steamboat ran aground on a sandbar and sank there, thus establishing the Stevens families in Keokuk.

The politics of the time increases our understanding of what was happening in Obediah's family. Although the Civil War did not begin until 1861, the slave issue dominated American political life. The 1840 census lists Sylvester, living in Ripley County, Indiana, as having no slaves. Obediah's estate filing in Texas in 1853 listed two slaves. Texas was a slave state, while Iowa and Indiana were not. The Texas relatives fought for the South during the Civil War while the Indiana relatives fought for the North.

Hanson and Lavina's choice for the name of their sixth child, Millard, adds to the intrigue: Millard Fillmore became Vice President of the United States in 1848 and was opposed to slavery. Millard Stevens was born March 27, 1849. Millard is not a family name. Hanson named him Millard instead of giving his second son his own father's name of Obediah who, of course, was a slave-owner. Did Hanson and Lavina move west to distance themselves from the turmoil of the slave issue and from slave-holding family members?

Speculation aside, the big question remains unanswered: what motivated Hanson to leave possessions and extended family behind, pack his wife, seven small children, and essential belongings into one covered wagon to make a difficult and dangerous six-month trek across the wilderness to start a new life in Oregon? Perhaps it was to escape the turmoil of the slave issue. Perhaps it was the call of adventure that seemed to move the family ever westward. Perhaps it was the desire for more land to farm. Perhaps it was the idea of the era that it was a citizen's patriotic duty under "Manifest Destiny" to extend the United States from "Sea to Shining Sea." Perhaps it was a combination of all of these things.

Before we begin the story of Hanson and Lavina's journey across the plains, we pause to explore Lavina's family history.

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<sup>7</sup> The town of Indianola, Tex., was destroyed by hurricanes in 1875 and 1886 and was abandoned by 1887.

*LAVINA WICKARD'S FAMILY*

We know little about Lavina Wickard's distant ancestors. Most of our information comes from *A Wickard Family History*, by Carter L. Hilsabeck.<sup>8</sup> Our earliest information about the Wickard family places them in County Cork, Ireland, where Lavina's great-great grandfather, Shawn Michael Wickard, was born in 1715. Shawn and his wife, Mary, had a son, Patrick Sean Wickard, who was also born in Ireland in 1738. Patrick's son, Bartholomew, was Lavina's grandfather.

There is conflicting information about where Bartholomew was born: Pennsylvania or Germany. In any event, although we have no birth certificate, family references agree that he was born in 1764 and married Rosanna Tice in 1790. The paper trail appears in 1799, with the earliest documentary information we have about Lavina's ancestors in America: court records in Morgantown, West Virginia (then Virginia). These records show that Bartholomew purchased 310 acres of land for £310 on June 1 of that year. The farmland lay on both sides of Aaron's Creek, which empties into the Monongahela River south of Morgantown. Bartholomew sold about 75 acres a few days later and the remaining land in December 1808.

It is helpful at this point to take note of the lay of the land. Morgantown is about five miles south of the Pennsylvania border and less than 30 miles west of the Maryland border. The Monongahela River flows north from Morgantown to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a distance of about 60 miles as the crow flies. (The winding river probably takes twice the distance to make the journey.) At Pittsburgh, the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers join to form the Ohio River. The Ohio River flows northward for about another 50 miles before it turns westward and a bit southward, as it forms the southern borders of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, where it joins the Mississippi River at Cairo, Illinois.

Although we do not know why, it appears that the Wickard family moved to Maryland for a short time before beginning their journey to Ohio.<sup>9</sup> Hilsabeck surmised that they then took a trail westward over Laurel Ridge, down into the Cheat River Valley and across the river, up and over Chestnut Ridge, and down to the east bank of the Monongahela River. Regardless of how they traveled to the Monongahela River, family tradition then records that in the fall of 1809 they boarded a flatboat there and headed upriver to Ohio.

In 1809 the Wickard family consisted of Bartholomew, Rosanna, and their eight children: Joseph Bartholomew (our ancestor—Lavina's father—born in 1792), Hannah Rose (1794), John Dennis (1797), Margaret Mary "Peggy" (1799), Sarah Ann (1802),

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<sup>8</sup> Carter L. Hilsabeck, *A Wickard Family History: Also a History of Allied Families* (Austin, Texas: privately printed, 1974). *A Wickard Family History* may be found in the archives of the Historical Society of Ripley County, Indiana.

<sup>9</sup> When Bartholomew completed the paperwork to acquire his land in Ohio, he listed Maryland as his place of residence, leading family historians to believe that he may have lived there for a short time.

Catharine<sup>10</sup> Marie (1804), Elizabeth Susan (1806), and Jacob Shawn (1808). (Another daughter, Susannah Colleen, was born in 1810, after the family settled in Ohio.) Consider that at the time of the river trip the children's ages would have been approximately 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, and 17.

The Wickard family's transportation for their long river journey was a flatboat: a 40'x16' raft with square sides and a partial roof. It carried a stout cable to tie up with and a canoe for trips ashore. A cabin was built at one end of the boat, with a fireplace, two small windows and a trap door to the roof. Livestock were kept at the other end. A flatboat was outfitted with four oars. The steering oar had a wide blade and was fastened to a post near the rear of the boat, to be used as a rudder. Two more oars, known as "sweeps," were positioned on each side. The oar in front was the "gouger," used to avoid sawyers, planters<sup>11</sup> and sandbars. Bartholomew would have needed at least two more strong men to help him operate the flatboat; at 17 years old, Joseph was likely up to the task. We do not know who the other person may have been.

According to family tradition,<sup>12</sup> the boat capsized as they neared their journey's end. Miraculously, they lost only possessions. The family—with four children younger than ten—was safe and Bartholomew had his savings. He also had his occupation as a shoemaker to fall back on if needed. In any event, despite the loss of all of their worldly goods, Bartholomew was able to purchase land shortly after he arrived.

In November of 1809, Bartholomew bought 160 acres of land in Butler County, Hanover Township, Ohio.<sup>13</sup> Butler County is northeast of Cincinnati, adjacent to the Indiana state line. In the summer of 1814 Bartholomew expanded the farm by buying 100 acres of adjoining land.

Bartholomew and Rosanna evidently sent at least some of their children to school. A Butler County, Ohio, history declares that in 1820, in Hanover Township, "A school was held in a log house without a floor...Some of the scholars were...the Wickards, who came from Pennsylvania."<sup>14</sup>

Bartholomew most likely died in late 1825, for on August 24 of that year he signed a deed to his son John and on November 21, Rosanna was appointed administratrix of his estate.<sup>15</sup> Rosanna died in 1828.

<sup>10</sup> Some records use the alternate spelling "Catherine."

<sup>11</sup> A sawyer is a tree trunk, one end of which is stuck in the riverbed so that the other end moves up and down with the current. A planter is a log hidden beneath the water.

<sup>12</sup> Hilsabeck, *A Wickard Family History*, 10.

<sup>13</sup> Butler County Deed Records, Book 18: 694, Hamilton, Ohio.

<sup>14</sup> Hilsabeck, *A Wickard Family History*, 11.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.* at 10.

Within a few years after the Wickards had arrived in Ohio, the United States was at war with Great Britain in the War of 1812. Young Joseph Wickard served as a private in Captain Joel Collins' Company of Ohio Volunteers from August 1812 through February 1813.<sup>16</sup> Ohio Militia payroll records show that he was paid \$5.00 per month for his service. Joseph's children also benefited in years to come from their status as the children of a veteran of service in the military of the United States, as further detailed below.

Joseph married Elizabeth Watson on January 5, 1816, in Butler County, Ohio. The family quickly grew and they eventually had 10 children: Isaac (1817), Lavina (1819), John (1821), Joycy (1823), Sarah (1826), Elsie (also spelled Elcy, 1828), Joseph (1830), Joel (1832), Jacob (1834) and Catharine (1836).

Throughout this period the family acquired land in southeastern Indiana. United States patent records show that Joseph purchased 80 acres of land in Decatur County in 1822.<sup>17</sup> (Decatur County abuts Ripley County on the northwest.) Joseph had also been included as an heir of his father's estate in 1825, and he and Elizabeth moved to Ripley County, Indiana at some point in the 1820s, where the family remained until 1840. There Joseph bought 80 acres of land from Isaac Watson (Elizabeth's brother) in the fall of 1835 and purchased another 80 acres from the United States in 1838.<sup>18</sup>

Tragedy struck the young Wickard family in 1840, as both Joseph and Elizabeth died, Elizabeth at age 40 in February and Joseph at age 49 in June. Family records do not reflect the cause of their deaths and we do not know where they were buried. Although Hilsabeck cites records showing that four of the children were minors at the time of their parents' death, actually seven of them were. Hilsabeck's statement may be based on a record from the Butler County Court of Common Pleas dated February 19, 1844, stating that Joseph's brother, John Wickard, was made guardian of four minor children; Elcy, Joel, Jacob and Catharine. Elcy's guardianship was to terminate when she turned 18. A later sworn statement by John Wickard, dated October 21, 1850, contains conflicting information, reciting that he was made guardian of Catharine on February 19, 1844, Joel on May 18, 1847, and Jacob on June 3, 1850.<sup>19</sup> The 1850 census lists then 22-year-old Elcy as being in the household of her mother's brother, Isaac Watson, St. Clair Township,

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<sup>16</sup> Letter from the Treasury Department, Third Auditor's Office, Jan 20, 1851, signed by B.A. Gallaher confirms Joseph Wickard's rank, company, and dates of service.

<sup>17</sup> Deed granting 80 acres of land in Decatur County, Indiana, to Joseph Wickard from the United States of America Mar 1, 1822. Bureau of Land Management Serial #: IN NO S/N, Accession/Serial # IN0360-440, Brookville Land Office.

<sup>18</sup> Deed granting 80 acres of land in Ripley County, Indiana, to Joseph Wickard from the United States of America Sept 1, 1838. Bureau of Land Management Serial #: IN NO S/N, Accession/Serial # IN2650-208, Jeffersonville Land Office.

<sup>19</sup> The 1850 statement also notes that Joseph and Elizabeth only had nine children on the dates of their deaths, implying that one of them may have died before 1840.

Butler County, Ohio. Perhaps other relatives took on guardianship responsibility for the other minor children. In any event, family tradition indicates that relatives took in all of the minor children (how ever many of them there were).

John's statement was made less than a month after the United States Congress passed a law granting free land to the minor children of veterans of the War of 1812.<sup>20</sup> John's application for land for the children was apparently successful, for Land Bounty Warrant No. 1064, issued February 8, 1851, granted 80 acres each to Joel, Jacob, Catharine and Elcy. (By this time neither Elcy nor Joel was a minor.) Joseph's service during the War of 1812 thus provided enduring benefit to his children.

John Wickard's statement also misstated Catharine as being two years old in 1843 (she would have been seven) and recited that Joseph was a resident of Dearborn County when he died. The latter was either an error, or Joseph's farm encompassed land in both Ripley and Dearborn Counties, Indiana.

More clues about the family appear in a letter that Carter Hilsabeck sent to the Ripley County Historical Society inquiring about his line of the Wickard family. A portion of the letter reads as follows:

Joseph Wickard, son of Bartholomew and Rosanna Wickard, married Elizabeth Watson on January 4, 1816 in Butler County, Ohio. They came to Ripley County, Indiana in the 1820s. The two died in 1840 in January [*sic*]<sup>21</sup> or June and February, either one month or five months apart. Eight children were left as orphans and taken in by their uncles. One was Isaac Watson, who had bought land from Joseph about 1835 near Elrod. One of the eight children was Lavina, who married Hanson Stevens. I don't believe Isaac Watson lived very long in Ripley County, as he shows up in the census in Butler County, Ohio in the following years. It appears that the two families may have gone back and forth between the two counties.

The orphaned children of Joseph Wickard took Veterans Land Grants from their father's service in the War of 1812. I have a copy that is very explicit in naming the minor children and several of Joseph's brothers and sisters who cared for the children. However, nothing was mentioned of Isaac Watson. I found one of Joseph's children, Elsie Marie, in the 1850 census in the home of Isaac Watson, St. Clair Township, Butler County, Indiana. The land grant record stated that Joseph Wickard died in Dearborn County, Indiana. I am wondering if his farm was partly in Ripley and Dearborn Counties, Indiana, or maybe he was taken to his brother's home where he died. The cause of the two deaths was not preserved in our family records. Joseph was 49 years of age and his wife Elizabeth about 40. We suspect Cholera or TB.

<sup>20</sup> "Bounty Land Act," 28 Sept. 1850, chapter 85, 31<sup>st</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session.

<sup>21</sup> We know that one of them died in June, not January; thus they died four months apart.

I am trying to find out where the graves of Joseph and Elizabeth Wickard are from 1840. Also, I am hoping to find the parents of Elizabeth. Isaac Watson was her brother and likely so were a James and Henry Watson.

Mr. Hilsabeck pointed out that the late Secretary of Agriculture, Claude Wickard<sup>22</sup>, had detailed research conducted of the Wickards, who entered and settled Ripley County in 1818.

Thus by the time Lavina left Indiana for Iowa with Hanson in the mid-1840s, her immediate family had been scattered upon the death of her parents, although apparently the younger children were cared for by her extended family. We finally arrive, then, at the beginning of a new era for Hanson and Lavina and for all of their descendants to come, as they joined the great migration westward to Oregon.

### ***HANSON AND LAVINA ON THE OREGON TRAIL***

Hanson and Lavina started for Oregon over the, by then, well-traveled Oregon Trail in the spring of 1852. Their close friends, Wesley and Elizabeth Shannon, had already made the trip and sent back word for the Stevens family to join them in the "Promised Land."

Getting to this land of promise was no mean feat; it was an extraordinary undertaking. In the spring of 1852, Hanson was 37 and Lavina was 33. They had seven children: Isaac, who was 12 years old, Rebecca, who had her 11<sup>th</sup> birthday on the trail, Rispa (9), Christina (7½), Sarah (5), Millard (3), and little Mary, who was probably 15 months old when they began and still nursing. Although clearly Isaac was a help on the trail and the older girls probably did the best they could in light of their maturity and ability, certainly Millard and Mary would have needed constant supervision. The dangers of the trail were legion. Indeed, being run over by the wagon, accidentally shot, and killed by disease were all significant risks. Historians estimate that the mortality rate on the Oregon-California Trail was 4%-6%.<sup>23</sup> Nevertheless, the pull westward was more powerful than fear of the risks involved.

Because practically all of the food necessary for the six-month trip had to be carried with them, Hanson and Lavina would have begun their preparations well in advance. The contents of the wagon would have been given careful attention. The End of the Oregon Trail Museum (in Oregon City, Oregon) provides the following list of essential provisions, along with commentary and their prices in the 1840s and early 1850s.

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<sup>22</sup> Claude Wickard was the Under Secretary of Agriculture under Henry Wallace. Wallace was Claude's mentor. When Wallace resigned to run for vice-president under Franklin Roosevelt, he recommended Wickard to take his place. Claude Wickard was appointed Secretary of Agriculture by Franklin Roosevelt on 5 Sep 1940. Truman asked for his resignation after he became president. He resigned 29 Jun 1945.

<sup>23</sup> Olch, Peter D., "Treading the Elephant's Tail: Medical Problems on the Overland Trails," *Overland Journal*, vol. 6, No. 1 (1988): 25-31.

Although a typical farm family would already have owned some of the items needed for the trip, many more would have been purchased especially for the rigors of the long journey.

<b>ESSENTIAL COVERED WAGON PROVISIONS</b>		
<b><i>DRAFT ANIMALS</i></b>		
Oxen	\$30-35	Minimum of 4-6.
Milk cow	\$70-75	
Cattle	\$8-20	Priced by age (typically 1-3 years old).
Mule	\$10-15	
Pack horse	\$25	
Riding horse	up to \$75	
Bridle & blinders	\$3	
Tack & harness	\$5	
Mule collar	\$1.25.	
Horse blanket	\$2	
Whip	\$1	
Pack saddle	\$2.50	
Saddle & saddle bags	\$5	
<b><i>WAGONS</i></b>		
Covered wagon	\$70	
Wagon bows	\$3/set	For converting a farm wagon to a covered wagon.
Cloth cover	up to \$1/yard	Some emigrants bought heavy canvas sailcloth; others wove their own linen wagon covers and waterproofed them with beeswax or linseed oil.
Grease	Potentially free	Before petroleum could be distilled, animal fats were used as lubricants; the tallow was usually mixed with pine resin, or sometimes beeswax thinned with turpentine.
Bucket	\$1	"Tar buckets" for storing axle grease had tight-fitting tops to keep flies out.
<b><i>SUNDRIES &amp; CAMP EQUIPMENT</i></b>		
Woolen blanket	\$2.50	
Tent	\$5 - 15	Prices varied with size.
Nails	\$0.07/pound	
Soap	\$0.15/pound	
Sheet iron stove	\$15 - 20	
Coffee mill	\$1.00	
Coffee pot	\$0.75	
Frying pan	\$1.50	
Stew kettle	\$0.50	

<b>ESSENTIAL COVERED WAGON PROVISIONS</b>		
Bread pan	\$0.25	
Butcher knife	\$0.50	
Tin table settings	\$5	Flatware, plates, and cups for a family of 8.
Candles	\$0.15/pound	
10-gallon wash tub	\$1.25	
Bucket	\$0.25	Contrast to the "tar buckets" listed above.
Axe/shovel/hoe	\$1.25	
Hand tools	\$2.50	Such as augurs, planes, and saws.
Rope	\$2.50	50' - 75' coil of 3/4" hemp rope.
<b>WEAPONS</b>		
Rifle	\$15	Double-barreled rifles were sometimes seen on the frontier, for repeating rifles were not widely available until after the Civil War.
Shotgun or musket	\$10	There were also double-barreled shotguns, as well as hybrids fitted with one rifled barrel and one smooth-bore shotgun barrel.
Colt revolver	\$25	
Single-shot pistol	\$5	
Powder & shot	\$5	Shot was generally sold by the pound.
Hunting knife	\$1	
<b>FOOD (with amount recommended for each adult)</b>		
Flour (150 lb.)	\$0.02/pound	
Corn meal (20 lb.)	\$0.05/pound	
Bacon (50 lb.)	\$0.05/pound	
Sugar (40 lb.)	\$0.04/pound	
Coffee (10 lb.)	\$0.10/pound	
Dried fruit (15 lb.)	\$0.06/pound	
Salt (5 lb.)	\$0.06/pound	
Pepper	\$0.08/pound	
Lard	\$0.05/pound	
Vinegar	\$0.25/gallon	
Saleratus (baking soda) (1/2 lb.)	\$0.12/pound	
Tea (2 lb.)	\$0.60/pound	
Rice (5 lb.)	\$0.05/pound	
Beans (15 lb.)	\$0.06/ pound	

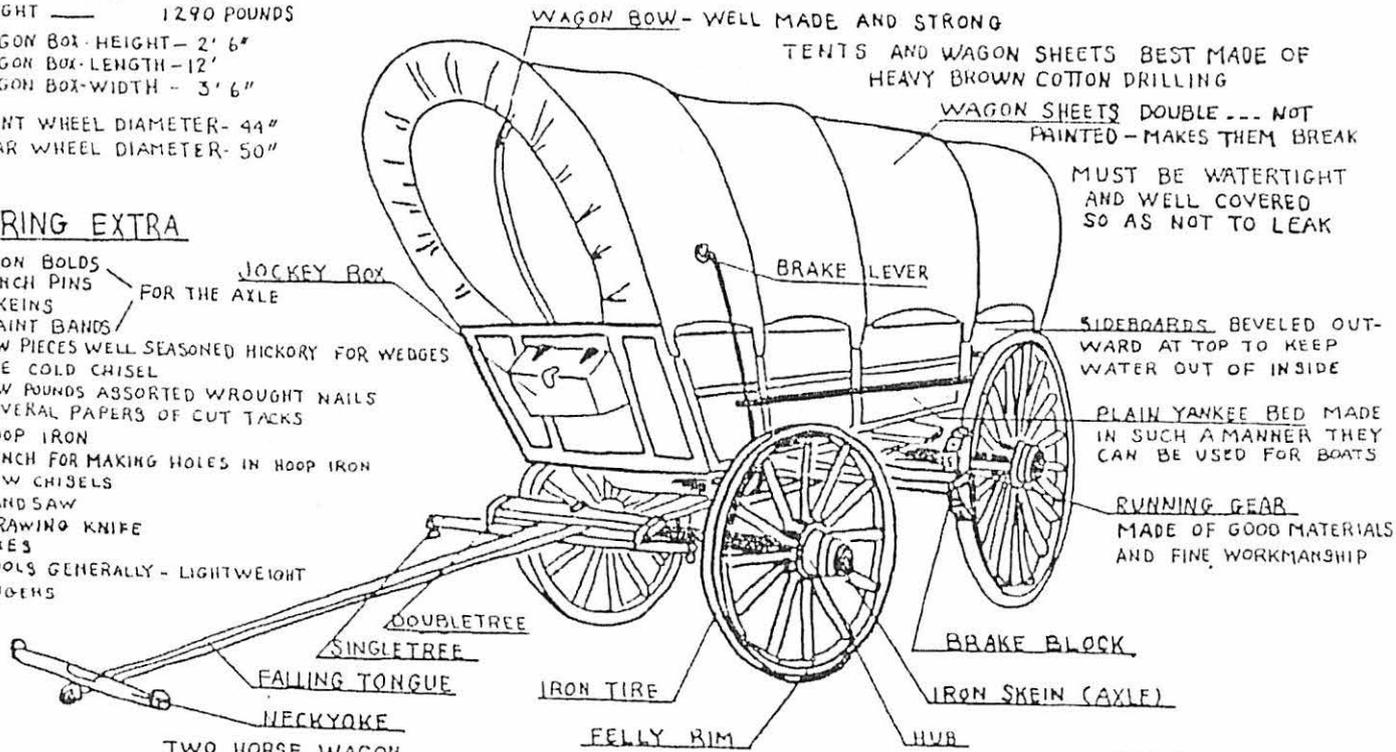
DIMENSIONS

TOTAL LENGTH — 23 FEET  
 TOTAL HEIGHT — 10 FEET  
 WIDTH OF TRACK — 5' 2"  
 WEIGHT — 1290 POUNDS  
 WAGON BOX HEIGHT — 2' 6"  
 WAGON BOX LENGTH — 12'  
 WAGON BOX WIDTH — 3' 6"  
 FRONT WHEEL DIAMETER — 44"  
 REAR WHEEL DIAMETER — 50"

ALL IN GOOD STATE OF REPAIR, WELL PREPARED WAGONS  
 ARE AS SECURE, ALMOST, AS A HOUSE

BRING EXTRA

IRON BOLDS  
 LINCH PINS  
 SKEINS  
 PAINT BANDS  
 FEW PIECES WELL SEASONED HICKORY FOR WEDGES  
 ONE COLD CHISEL  
 FEW POUNDS ASSORTED WROUGHT NAILS  
 SEVERAL PAPERS OF CUT TACKS  
 HOOP IRON  
 PUNCH FOR MAKING HOLES IN HOOP IRON  
 FEW CHISELS  
 HANDSAW  
 DRAWING KNIFE  
 AXES  
 TOOLS GENERALLY - LIGHTWEIGHT  
 AUGERS



TEAMS

OXEN BEST 3-5 YEARS OLD,  
 WELL SET AND COMPACTLY BUILT - NOT TOO HEAVY  
 YOUNG COWS - REQUIRES MORE - EXCEEDINGLY USEFUL  
 MULES - INFERIOR - NOT EASILY MANAGED  
 HORSES - MUST BE USED TENDERLY OR  
 WILL NOT STAND TRIP

(Wagon design - Courtesy University of Oregon)

NEED 2 OR 3 PAIR  
 SHOES FOR EACH

BWARE OF HEAVY WAGONS  
 AS THEY BREAK DOWN YOUR  
 TEAMS FOR NO PURPOSE

EMIGRANT WAGONS TO OREGON  
 1843 - 1860

*Nettie B. Strickland*

The food alone would have weighed almost a ton if they brought the recommended amounts. If we assume that Hanson, Lavina, and Isaac each counted as one adult and other six children ate the equivalent of three adults (noting that Mary was probably still nursing), they would have packed the following amounts of food:

Flour	900 lb.	Salt	30 lb.
Corn meal	120 lb.	Saleratus	3 lb.
Bacon	300 lb.	Tea	12 lb.
Sugar	240 lb.	Rice	30 lb.
Coffee	60 lb.	Beans	<u>90 lb.</u>
Dried fruit	90 lb.		1875 lb.

Inasmuch as the conventional wisdom of the time was to begin by carrying no more than 1800 pounds of cargo in one wagon,<sup>24</sup> packing would have been difficult.

In addition to these standard supplies, some family anecdotes tell how Hanson and Lavina prepared. Daisy (Lewis) Bump remembered her grandfather, Isaac Stevens, talk about how they got ready for the trip. They butchered a fairly large flock of chickens. The chickens were all fried, ready-to-eat. Then they were packed in crocks or barrels and melted lard was poured over the chickens to seal them in. While the family was on the trail, both the chickens and the lard were used as long as they lasted. Farming and carpentry tools were placed in the bottom of the wagon with wooden handles removed to save space and lighten the load. (More handles could easily be made when they reached Oregon.) Tucked in among the tools were a few shoots of a favorite rose or lilac bush, in hopes they would survive the long trip. Small packets of vegetable seeds and a few flower seeds were added. Lavina packed her spinning wheel which she considered a true necessity. Clothing for seven children, as well as for Hanson and Lavina, was packed next. On top of all of this, the bedding was spread out as smoothly as possible to make a place for Lavina and the children to sleep. (Hanson and Isaac slept under the wagon.) This did not leave much room for non-essentials, and probably is the reason that there are no prized pieces of furniture among the present family members with the label attached, "This came to Oregon in the covered wagon." The family Bible was considered essential and made the trip, although efforts to locate its present whereabouts have been futile.

When conditions were right to begin the journey, Hanson and Lavina joined the Dickson<sup>25</sup> wagon train, along with 21 other wagons.<sup>26</sup> As a skilled craftsman—a

<sup>24</sup> "Provisions for the Trail," End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, online (10 Apr. 2002).

<sup>25</sup> Some sources identify the wagon train as the "Dixon" train.

<sup>26</sup> Loris Stevens wrote that there were more than 50 wagons in the train, in *The Hanson Stevens Farm*, unpublished manuscript found at the first two (unnumbered) pages of *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891*, vol. 1. Rebecca Stevens Mount recounted that there were a total of 22 wagons in the train. *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891*, vol. 1: 94 (1922) and 159 (1935). It is highly unlikely that there were 50 wagons, for the train would have been much too large. We conclude that there were probably the 22 or 23, partly because the number is more reasonable and partly because Rebecca was an eyewitness to the event.

cooper—Hanson was called upon to repair broken wagon wheels on the long trip. Isaac was a strong lad of 12 and was known on the trail as “the boy with the dog;” he was no doubt a great help with the loose livestock and the ox team. The family also had at least one milk cow. Both Isaac and Rebecca recalled that they put the morning’s milk in the butter churn, which was then tied to the outside of the wagon. By the end of the day, after shaking and bumping along the trail, the cream had churned into butter. Any milk that soured was used for cooking. One favorite food was “dough gods,” a kind of bread fried in a skillet over a fire of buffalo chips. Dough gods were made of flour, soda, salt and sour milk, and fried in lard. Of course there was butter to spread on the biscuits, too. The buttermilk and milk lasted as long as the poor cow gave milk on the long and difficult journey, with little grass to feed on during that dry year.

We have stories recounted by Mary, the youngest of the children to make the trip, that she recalled hearing from her older brothers and sisters. The wagon camp was awakened at the break of dawn. The families lit their campfires and prepared breakfast. Then the wagons rolled out in line, and the women and children climbed aboard. (Along the way, many of the women and children walked alongside the wagons and gathered wild flowers.) At noontime they looked for a place to water the cattle and oxen. The afternoon sun was terribly hot and dust covered the people, animals, and wagons. In the late afternoon, before the sun sank into the west, they began looking for a camping place for the night. They drew the wagons close together to form a circular barricade against Indian attack. Guards were stationed around the camp from dusk to daylight. After the evening meal, camp members with musical instruments played, and soon soft music floated across the dark prairie. Some sang; some danced; others just listened.

Other family accounts relate that Isaac and the older girls walked a great deal of the time to lighten the load for the oxen. As the girls walked along, their task was to gather the dried buffalo chips to be used for a fire to cook the evening meal and the morning breakfast<sup>27</sup> (not quite the same as gathering wildflowers!). At night Hanson and Isaac slept under the wagon, while Lavina, Millard, and the five girls slept inside the wagon, the little girls sleeping cross-wise.

One day, while driving along, the party saw a big cloud of dust, and through the dust they imagined hundreds of Indians riding toward them. They stopped the train, circled the wagons, and got ready to defend themselves. When the cloud of dust came near they discovered that it had concealed not Indians, but a large herd of buffalo. The men went out on horseback and killed enough buffalo to supply the traveling families with fresh meat for a long time.<sup>28</sup>

When the Dickson wagon train reached the point on the Oregon Trail near Fort Bridger, where the California Trail branched off to the southwest in Wyoming, all of the wagons

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<sup>27</sup> Historians estimate that it took two to three bushels of chips to heat a meal. Mattes, Merrill J., *PLATTE RIVER ROAD* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1988), at 57.

<sup>28</sup> Story modified from Lockley Interview, Appendix 5.

except Hanson and Lavina's turned toward California and the gold fields. Some of the men had been quarreling among themselves and had already split off from the train. This left the Stevens family alone as they continued on to Oregon. Hanson decided that the mining camps were no place for a family man to raise his seven children. He preferred to settle in the Willamette Valley, prove up a land claim, and become a farmer.

Before they parted ways, Hanson bought the cattle of many of the other families of the Dickson train, intending to bring them with him to Oregon. He had been told that cattle could winter over on the native grass in the Willamette Valley without requiring extra feed. Sad to say that winter was an extraordinarily severe one, with deep snow. Some said it was two feet deep and lay on the ground for quite awhile. Most of the already weakened cattle died during the winter after they arrived in Oregon, ending Hanson's plan of being a cattle baron.

While they were camped one night near Umatilla, Sarah accidentally stepped into the campfire and was badly burned. Rebecca, Christina, and Mary were already sick with mountain fever.<sup>29</sup> According to family tradition, Sarah made up a song with the words, "Tina's sick, Mary's sick, and Becky's sicker too."<sup>30</sup> Imagine, if you can, traveling in a covered wagon with ill children who are 11, 7, 5, 3 and a toddler who is barely 18 months old.

Soon after the Umatilla incident, the family arrived at the banks of the Deschutes River—the last swift, dangerous river the immigrants had to cross. The Salem *Statesman Journal* of August 28, 1852, reported that the first ferry over the Deschutes River was established in 1851. In that year the ferry carried 270 wagons across the river at a cost of \$5.00 per wagon. Before the ferry was up and running, the Deschutes had to be forded. The ferry toll was reduced to \$3.00 per wagon by 1852, probably because of competition from other ferries. The ferries helped the immigrants travel as far west as The Dalles along the Columbia River.

The family has often discussed and debated how Hanson and Isaac got the herd of cattle to Oregon City and eventually to the Willamette Valley. Those who arrived at The Dalles with livestock had four choices: leave them in the paid care of a local citizen to be taken over the mountains in the spring, take them down the Barlow Road over the mountains south of Mount Hood, take them over Lolo Pass to the south of Mt. Hood, or take them on one of the routes down the Columbia River. We know that Hanson did not leave the cattle in eastern Oregon and that he met Lavina with the younger children and belongings at the mouth of the Sandy River. Which of the other alternatives did he use? He most likely used a Columbia River route.

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<sup>29</sup> "Mountain fever" began with pronounced and prolonged chills, followed by three episodes of fever lasting roughly 48 hours separated by two to eight days of seeming good health. Other symptoms included "constipation, severe muscle and chest pains, particularly in the back and loins, and joint pains, headache and retro-orbital pain." Olch, "*Treading the Elephant's Tail*," 25-31.

<sup>30</sup> *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891*, vol. 1: 193 (1940).

The Barlow Road route is unlikely because there is no record of them in the Barlow Trail toll records. It is also unlikely that he would have used the Lolo Pass route because it ended up at Zig Zag, and he would have had to travel out of his way to return to meet Lavina and the children at the mouth of the Sandy River.

We also have a clue from Isaac himself: at the family reunion in 1912 he described a trip he had recently made up the Columbia River from Portland to The Dalles by steamboat or train, "remembering many things that happened when he first was among those scenes,"<sup>31</sup> perhaps referring to driving the cattle along the banks of the Columbia in the autumn of 1852. Although some people questioned the Columbia River route in later years as nearly impossible, many contemporaneous sources describe pioneers using that route. Remember that because they traveled in late fall the water would have been at its lowest level. Furthermore, the many dams on the river that maintain a high water level in modern times had not yet been built.

If Hanson did take the Columbia River route, like the many other emigrants who traveled down the river, he would have disassembled the wagon at The Dalles and put it on a flatboat (a replica of a flatboat carrying a wagon is on display at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles). These boats, some paddled by Indians, took people, belongings, and wagons to a spot east of the Cascade Rapids, where they disembarked on the north side. Because Hanson was driving the cattle and could not take the boat himself, he would have hired Indians to take Lavina, the younger children, and their belongings on the flatboat. The Cascade Rapids, which have since been submerged by Bonneville Dam, were located near the current town of Cascade Locks. The rapids were impossible to run by boat and the people, boats, and belongings had to be portaged. The only portage at the time was on the north bank of the river. (The south bank portage did not open until 1855.)

In 1852, there were three methods of portage at the Cascade Rapids: the men in the party took the belongings around the rapids on a rough road, using the family's livestock; the party hired Indians to perform the labor; or they used the portage railway, built in 1851, which was powered by mule.

Accounts from Hanson's contemporaries also support the family's historical account of the cattle drive along the river. Col. John C. Fremont relates many interesting accounts of the Oregon Trail in his journal, *Narrative of Adventures and Explorations*. Fremont was Chief of the Corps of Topographical Engineers for the United States Army at the time and was sent out to survey the interior "Great West" and the Columbia to the Pacific Ocean. Fremont followed the Oregon Trail, but did not make it to the Pacific Ocean, stopping at Fort Vancouver. He followed close behind the Applegate Wagon Train of 1843, to which he made many references in his journal, noting their routes, campsites, and the availability of water, grass, and fuel. Upon his departure from The Dalles, Fremont recorded on November 3, 1843:

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<sup>31</sup> *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891*, vol. 1: 48. Note that Milton Esson and one unattributed source recounted that Hanson took the cattle on the Barlow Road. *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891*, vol. 1: 185-6 (1939); 293 (1955); and 329 (1961).

The last of the emigrants had just left The Dalles at the time of our arrival, traveling some by water and others by land. Making ark-like rafts on which they had embarked their families and households with their large wagon and other furniture, while their stock was driven along the shore.... On leaving The Dalles one of their boats overturned and two of the Applegate children and a man drowned.

He later recorded from Fort Vancouver, on November 10, 1843:

The party which had crossed over the Cascade Mountains were [*sic*] reported to have lost a number of their animals; and those who had driven their stock down the Columbia had brought them safely in, and found for them a ready and very profitable market.

Another historical reference favoring a Columbia River route comes from Daniel Strickland (1852): "At the [*sic*] Dalles this company, like many others, took their household goods and human freight down the Columbia River on rafts, while their stock were driven over the mountain trails."

There were three possible Columbia River routes that Hanson might have taken: travel on the south bank to the Cascades, then crossing there and taking the north bank to Vancouver, to return to the south side there; crossing to the north bank at The Dalles and traveling there to Vancouver, where he would have returned to the south side; and traveling entirely on the south bank.

Tom Ewing (Esson) believes that Hanson took the route first described, running from The Dalles along the south side of the Columbia River, crossing in the vicinity of today's Cascade Locks, then down the northern bank of the Columbia to the mouth of the Sandy River, where there was a ferry and animal crossing.

Tom relates his reasons here:

*I do not dispute the fact that there were cattle trails leading directly from The Dalles into the Willamette Valley. The problem is how emigrants were able to portage their wagons five miles around the rapids over an especially rough road. This was impossible without animals. Emigrants like Hanson had no choice but to drive their animals across the river to the north to meet their families waiting for them at the place of disembarkation. There, the animals were hitched to the reassembled wagons and the wagons were then pulled to the steamboat landing. The landing lay 50 to 150 feet (sources vary) below the road, requiring men to lower their wagons and belongings with ropes (something Lavina and her girls could not have done alone). At the landing, emigrant families split up again, the men continuing to drive the cattle down the north bank of the river and the rest of the families finding transportation to the Sandy River*

or beyond. The cattle trail west of the rapids was somewhat easier than that east of the rapids. They came to a point opposite the Sandy River, where in the fall of 1852 two ferries operated to transport cattle from the north to the south sides. Families were now reunited on the bank of the Sandy River. The best description I have found of this route—driving cattle from The Dalles, crossing at the Cascade rapids, down to the Sandy River, and then crossing again to the south—comes from the diary of Reverend John McAllister (1852), excerpted in my "composite diary." Several other diarists refer to the north crossing at the Cascade rapids to reunite with families, for example Hugh Cosgrove (1847), John Spencer (1852), Willis Boatman (1852), Jane Kellogg (1852), Origen Thomson (1852), Stuart Richey (1852), Celinda Hines (1853), and Maria Belshaw (1853). The historian G. Thomas Edwards also describes the route from The Dalles to the Sandy River along the north side of the Columbia River in "The Oregon Trail in the Columbia Gorge, 1843-1855: The Final Ordeal," *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, v. 97, pp. 134-75 (1999) at pages 160-171.

The second and third routes, traveling entirely on the south bank of the river or traveling entirely on the north bank until Vancouver and crossing there, are mentioned by John McLoughlin in his reminiscences (1843):

These came to The Dalles, on the Columbia River, with their wagons, drove their cattle over the Cascades by the same route as those of last year to the Wallamette [*sic*], and when the road was blocked up by snow, along the north bank of the Columbia to Vancouver, where they crossed the river and proceeded to the Wallamette, and brought down their wives and children and property on rafts, in canoes which they hired from the Indians...<sup>32</sup>

The route entirely on the south bank of the Columbia River is described in *East of the Sandy, The Columbia River Highway* by Clarence E. Mershon. Clarence Mershon was a descendant of settlers in the Corbett area and his book is an account of an ancient Indian trail that connected The Dalles to the Sandy River on the south side of the Columbia. Local tradition maintains that it was used by settlers, guided by Indians, to bring cattle and livestock from The Dalles to the Willamette Valley:

<sup>32</sup> McLoughlin, John, "A Narrative by Dr. McLoughlin," *The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*, Vol. I, No. 2, Jun. 1909, 199-200.

According to pioneer lore, an Indian trail came through the Gorge on the south side of the Columbia River. This trail connected two important Indian trading sites: Celilo Falls east of The Dalles and the Oregon City Falls on the Willamette (Multnomah) River.<sup>33</sup>

From the description, the trail is traced west to east. The trail came down a gap (still visible today) to the Sandy River 150 yards south of the current Troutdale Bridge from the bluff above. On top of the bluff the contour of the land is gently rolling terrain, and the ancient trail followed a southeasterly direction. The trail was eventually called "the wire trail," because a telegraph line was built from Portland to The Dalles along the ancient trail. This ancient route ran nearly parallel to Mershon Road until it reached the present route of the Columbia River Highway about a mile west of Corbett. The Columbia River Highway followed the ancient pathway rather closely until it reached Chanticleer Point (now Portland Women's Forum State Scenic Overlook). At the Overlook, the trail (now a forest service access road) followed the contour of the cliff in gradual switchbacks to Rooster Rock.

From Rooster Rock [the trail] continued eastward along the river bank to Latourell, Bridal Veil, Warrendale and beyond. From Latourell eastward, it is certain that [the Columbia River Scenic Highway]... intercepted the trail at many points. In 1855, according to observations of Lieutenant Henry L. Abbot of the [Army] Corps of Engineers, two 'pack trails' followed the south shore of the Columbia, one of which was 'not passable during high water'. On January 14, 1856, legislation establishing a territorial road from the Sandy River (Troutdale) to The Dalles passed. Construction commenced on a wagon road between Bonneville (the lower Cascades) and Cascade Locks (the upper Cascades) almost immediately.<sup>34</sup>

In later use this "ancient trail" became known as "the military road."

Partially obliterated by the construction of the Oregon Washington Railroad and Navigation Company line in 1883, this military (or county) road also suffered extensively from the high water and flooding of 1894. Traces of this road were found by crews when the survey of the Columbia River Highway was completed in Hood River County during the winter of 1913-14.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Mershon, Clarence, *EAST OF THE SANDY, THE COLUMBIA RIVER HIGHWAY*, (Portland, Oregon: Guardian Peaks, Inc., 2001), at 1.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.* at 3.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.* at 4.

Oregon pioneer historian Fred Lockley also mentions the route on the south bank of the Columbia River in his *History of the Columbia River Valley*.<sup>36</sup>

For contemporaneous sources, the diary of John Minto, pioneer of 1844, mentions the southern route:

At The Dalles our party divided: Crocket, Ferguson, and myself taking the horses across the Cascades via the trail the missionaries had used to bring the cattle from the Willamette—the only one used until S.K. Barlow and others forced their way through on the south side of Mount Hood in 1845-56. The original trail passed close to the mountain on its north side. We camped one night in the dense timber without grass for our horses, and reached Oregon City of the evening of October 18, in three days from The Dalles; and it began to rain that night.<sup>37</sup>

The editors of this book believe Hanson may have taken any one of the Columbia River routes. If he traveled entirely on the north bank of the Columbia, he could have assisted with the portage of his family and belongings. If he traveled entirely on the south bank of the river, Lavina might have used Indians or the portage railway to transport her family and belongings. Hanson would have had myriad reasons for deciding which route to take, most of which we will never know. We also will never know which route Hanson and Lavina took and leave it to the reader to draw his or her own conclusions.

Returning to Hanson and Lavina's story, in late October of 1852, friends of Hanson and Lavina were awaiting their arrival, perhaps they were Wesley and Elizabeth Shannon.<sup>38</sup> According to family tradition, when the Stevens family did not arrive, they became concerned and Wesley said to his wife, "Something is wrong. I must go look for them. Bake up a batch of bread for me to take." Then he started out on horseback, the loaves of bread in a sack. He finally found Lavina and the children on the shore of the Sandy River beside the covered wagon. Hanson and Isaac had not yet arrived with the cattle, the wheels were still off of the wagon, and there were no oxen to pull it. Needless to say, they were all very hungry and discouraged. Those loaves of home-baked bread were greatly appreciated. After the family had finally gathered, Hanson and Lavina continued on to Silverton, arriving with only \$5.00 in cash.

*The History of Silverton Country*, by Robert Horace Down (1926), records the arrival of the Stevens family, and describes local efforts to mount rescue parties for late-arriving pioneers, in his chapter on "The Immigration of 1852."

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<sup>36</sup> Lockley, Fred, HISTORY OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER VALLEY: FROM THE DALLES TO THE SEA (Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1928), Vol. 1 at 831.

<sup>37</sup> Minto, John, "Reminiscences and Experiences on the Oregon Trail in 1844," *The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*, Vol. II, No. 3, Sep. 1901, 229.

<sup>38</sup> Dorothy Clevenger believed the friends were Wesley and Elizabeth Shannon. She had heard the story from her mother, Daisy Bump, who was raised by Daisy's grandfather Isaac.

Indians killed by emigrants on the Oregon Trail between 1840 and 1860.<sup>42</sup> Furthermore, records show that a fair number of raids and murders were committed by “white Indians,” white men who were thinly disguised as Indians and who committed acts of particular brutality.<sup>43</sup> Indeed, “[o]ne 1852 emigrant suggested that there were so many ‘white Indians’ infesting the route that since ‘all the blacklegs in the universe’ seemed to be trailing west, crime in the east must surely be at low ebb.”<sup>44</sup> By contrast, approximately 5,000 emigrants died on the Oregon Trail in 1850 alone, the most disastrous year, mostly from cholera.<sup>45</sup>

In any event, the Stevens family finally made it. Now was the time to get down to the serious work of beginning a new life. Hanson soon discovered that the money he had left would not go far, as wheat was \$5.00 a bushel and potatoes \$3.00. Eight months after his arrival—on June 15, 1853—Hanson chose a plot of land on the west bank of the Pudding River, about five miles from Silverton and less than three miles from Mt. Angel. After building a cabin to live in, he went to work splitting rails to earn enough money to feed his family.

In the law providing for donation land claims, settlers paid no money, but there were certain requirements they had to fulfill:<sup>46</sup> they had to be an American white male and occupy and cultivate the land for four years. Married men received 320 acres (640 acres if they arrived in Oregon before December 1, 1850), half of which would be taken in the wife’s name in her own right. Hanson established the Stevens family homestead on the Pudding River and filed his claim in Oregon City at Donation Land Claim (DLC) No. 3059, with 308 11/100 acres. Later surveys record that the land was 320 acres, but an Oregon City Land Office document, notification number 3887, dated April 30, 1867, lists the same at 308 11/100 acres. The 1867 document assigns “the North half to Hanson Stevens and the South half to the heirs at law of his late wife, Lavina Stevens, deceased.” A third handwritten document submitted to Yamhill County, Oregon, dated June 23, 1874, reads, “Mr. H. Warren, Sir, Please let Isaac Stevens have the Patent to my Donation Claim and oblige. your Respectfully Hans Stevens.”

There remain only a few reminiscences of early life on the farm. In one story, Lavina was reportedly alone in the cabin when she noticed some Indians at the window. They indicated that they were hungry, so she opened the door and gave them some of her freshly baked bread. The next morning Hanson opened the door to find a newly killed

<sup>42</sup> Unruh, John D., *THE PLAINS ACROSS: THE OVERLAND EMIGRANTS AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI WEST, 1840-60* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1993) at 185.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.* at 193-197.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.* at ch 5, fn 177, citing Lem. Newell Doty letter to Editors dated 29 Jun. 1852, published in the *New York Daily Tribune*, 14 Oct. 1852.

<sup>45</sup> Mattes, *PLATTE RIVER ROAD* at 2-5.

<sup>46</sup> “Donation Land Claim Act,” 27 Sept. 1850, chapter 76, 31<sup>st</sup> Congress, 1st Session.

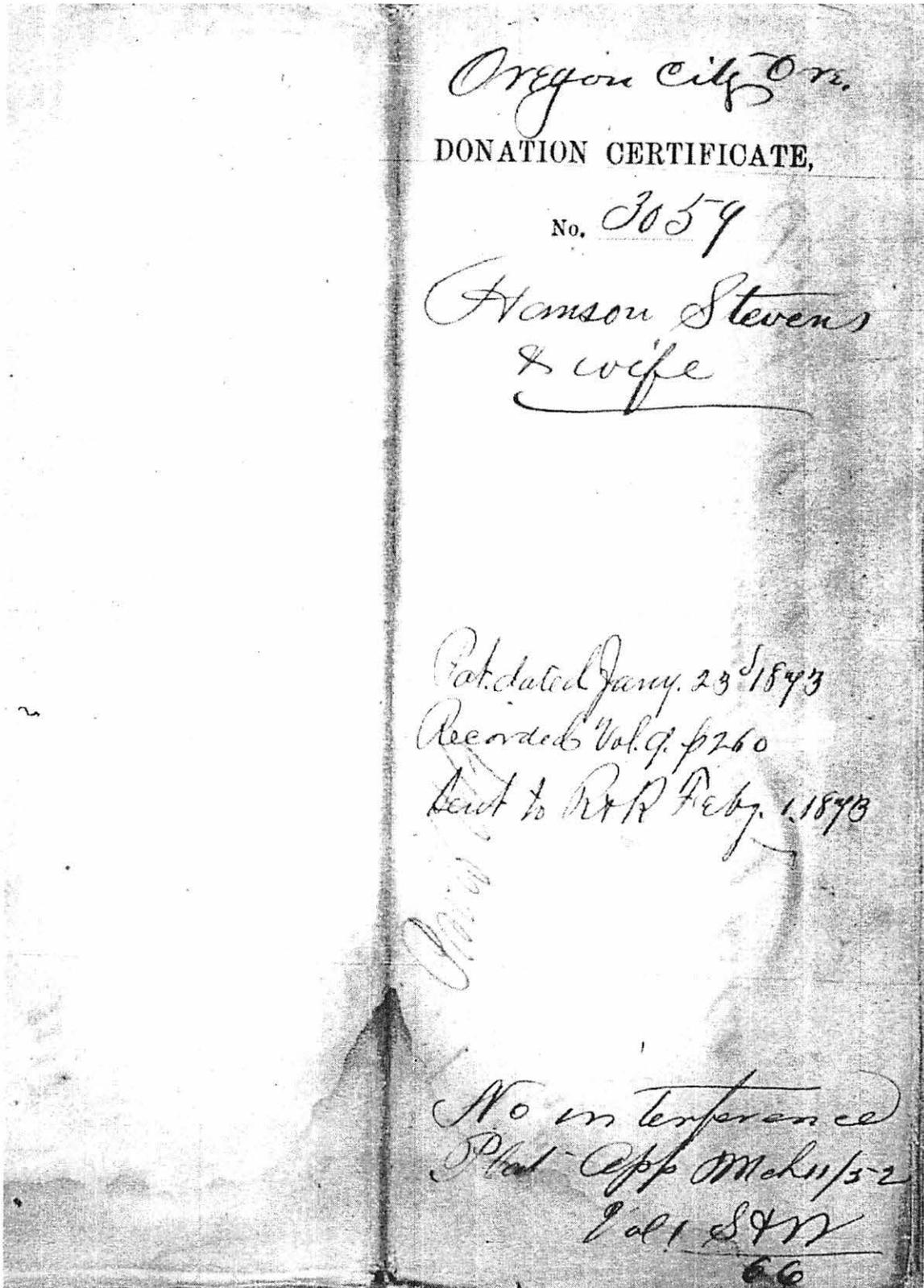


Hanson, Lavina and Emma grave stone (Front)  
The Bethany Rose is just beginning to bloom (branch on right)



Hanson, Lavina and Emma grave stone (Back)

**APPENDIX 1:  
DONATION LAND CLAIM: HANSON STEVENS AND WIFE**



DONATION.

CERTIFICATE, }  
No. 3059 }

NOTIFICATION,  
No. 3887

Whereas, In conformity with the provisions of the 7th Section of the Act of Congress, approved September 27, 1850, entitled "An act to create the office of Surveyor General of the Public Lands in Oregon, and to provide for the survey, and to make donations to settlers of the Public Lands," and the amendments thereto,

*Nelson Stevens*

of the county of *Marion* in the State of *Oregon* claiming a Donation right, in virtue of the Act aforesaid, to the following tract of Public Lands known and designated in the Surveys and Plats of the United States as the

*Wife of the Sps and Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Section 17 and Lots 4 and 5 of section 18, all in T. 6 S. R. 1 N. containing 308 1/2 acres.*

*The North half to Nelson Stevens and the South half to the Heirs at law of his late wife Lavina Stevens deceased*

15000  
3000  
494  
267  
267  
1576  
308.110

having proven to the satisfaction of the Register and Receiver of *Willamette District Ore* the fact that such settlement was commenced on the *15<sup>th</sup> day of June 1853* four years prior to the date hereof; and having, in pursuance of the requirements of the 7th Section of the act aforesaid, established by *two* disinterested witnesses, the fact of continued residence and cultivation required by the said act:

Now, therefore, be it known, That we, *Edwin Wade and Henry Warren* REGISTER AND RECEIVER of Public Lands in said *District*, do hereby, and pursuant to the 7th Section of the act aforesaid, certify to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE the facts aforesaid, accompanied by the evidence thereof, in order that a patent may be issued to said claimant, for the tract of land described, as required by the 7th Section of the act aforesaid:

Provided, That the said Commissioner shall find no valid objection thereto.

Given under our hands at the LAND OFFICE at *Oregon City Oregon* this *30<sup>th</sup>* day of *April*, 18*57*

*Edwin Wade*, REGISTER.  
*Henry Warren*, RECEIVER.

No. 2887

Notification to **SURVEYOR GENERAL OF OREGON** on the settlement of  
Public Land in Township *6 S. R. 1 W.*

**PURSUANT** to the Act of Congress, approved on the 27th day of September, 1850,  
entitled, "An Act to create the office of **SURVEYOR-GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC**  
**LANDS IN OREGON**, and to provide for the Survey and make Donations to Settlers of  
the Public Lands"—

I, *Hanson Stevens* a married man  
of *Marion county*  
in the *Territory of Oregon* hereby give notice of my claim to

**DONATION** of *three hundred and twenty acres*  
of LAND, known and designated in the Surveys and Plats of the United States as the *parts*  
of *Sections 17 & 18 T. 6 S. R. 1 W.*

*bounded and described as follows:*

*Beginning at a point 32.17 chains South*  
*of the N. W. corner of said Sect. 17 and*  
*running thence East 46.80 chains*

"	"	<i>North 26.85</i>	"
"	"	<i>East 3.20</i>	"
"	"	<i>South 34.68</i>	"
"	"	<i>East 30.00</i>	" <i>To Sect. line</i>
"	"	<i>South 19.50</i>	" <i>on Sect. line</i>
"	"	<i>West 30.00</i>	"
"	"	<i>South 13.00</i>	"
"	"	<i>West 65.00</i>	"
"	"	<i>North 32.50</i>	"
"	"	<i>East 15.00</i>	" <i>and</i>
"	"	<i>North 7.83</i>	" <i>on Sect. line</i>

*to place of beginning containing 320*  
*acres.*

*Hanson Stevens*

*Oregon City, O. T. 3,*  
*2nd February, 1854. 3*

No. 3887

Hanson Stevens of Marion County, in the Territory of Oregon being first duly sworn, says that he is a white settler on public lands in the said Territory that he arrived in said Territory on the ~~some~~ day of October, 1852, that he was a resident thereof between the ~~27th day of September, and the 1st day of December, 1850, and~~ above the age of 18 years, on the 1st day of December, 1850. That he is a citizen of the United States of America

and that he was born in Dearborn Co, Indiana, in the year 1816 or '17; that he has personally resided upon and cultivated that part of the public lands in the said Territory - particularly described in notification No. hereunto annexed, continuously, from the ~~fifteenth~~ day of June, - 1853, to the second day of February, 1854. And he further says that he is intermarried with Lavina Wickard - his wife, and that he was legally married to her on the first day of March 1838, in Ripley county, Indiana.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, in Oregon City,  
this second day of February, 1854,

Hanson Stevens

C. K. Gardum  
Auc. Com. of Oregon

No. 3887

Silas V. Miller of Marion County in the Territory of Oregon being first duly sworn, says that he is in no way interested in the tract or tracts of land claimed as a donation by Hanson Stevens and particularly described in notification No. hereunto annexed; that he is personally acquainted with the said Hanson Stevens and knows that he has personally resided upon and cultivated said tract or tracts of land continuously, from the 18th day of June, 1853, to the second day of February, 1854.

Subscribed and sworn to before me in Oregon City, Silas V. Miller this second day of February, 1854.

C. K. Gardner  
Surv. Gen. of Oregon

No. 3887

Elisha Vesey of Marion County, in the Territory of Oregon being first duly sworn, says that he is in no way interested in the tract or tracts of land claimed as a donation by Hanson Stevens and particularly described in notification No. hereunto annexed; that he is personally acquainted with the said Hanson Stevens and knows that he has personally resided upon and cultivated said tract or tracts of land continuously, from the 15th day of June 1853 to the 20th day of March 1854.

Subscribed and sworn to before me in Oregon City, Elisha Vesey this 20th day of March 1854.

C. K. Gardner  
Surv. Gen. of Oregon

No. 3887

~~FORM OF~~ SETTLER'S OATH.

Claiming by virtue of Settlement and Cultivation commenced subsequent to 1st December, 1850.

I, *Hanson Stevens* of *Marion* County in the Territory of *Oregon* am a claimant of the Public Land described in the annexed notification of the SURVEYOR-GENERAL of PUBLIC LANDS IN OREGON, number \_\_\_\_\_ under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved the 27th day of September, 1850, entitled "An Act to create the office of SURVEYOR-GENERAL of the Public Lands in OREGON, and to make donations to settlers of the said Public Lands;" and I do solemnly swear \_\_\_\_\_ that I am not acting directly or indirectly as an agent for, or in the employment of others in making such claim, but that the land so claimed by me, is for my own use and cultivation, and that I have made no sale or transfer, or any arrangement or agreement for any sale, transfer, or alienation of the same, or by which the said land shall inure to the benefit of any other person.

Subscribed and sworn before me, in *Oregon City,*  
this *second* day of *February, 1854,*

*Hanson Stevens*

*C. K. Gardner*  
Surv. Gen. of Oregon

No. 3887

*Silas W. Miller* of *Marion* County, in the Territory of *Oregon* being first duly sworn, says that he is personally acquainted with *Hanson Stevens* the person who claims a donation right to the tract or tracts of land described in notification No. \_\_\_\_\_ and *Levina* \_\_\_\_\_ his wife; and that he has known them to live together as man and wife from *11th January, 1853,* to *2nd February, 1854,* and that they are and were reputed by their neighbors as such during said period.

Subscribed and sworn before me, in *Oregon City,*  
this *second* day of *February, 1854,*

*Silas W. Miller*

*C. K. Gardner*  
Surv. Gen. of Oregon

No. 3887

Hanson Stevens, of Marion County,

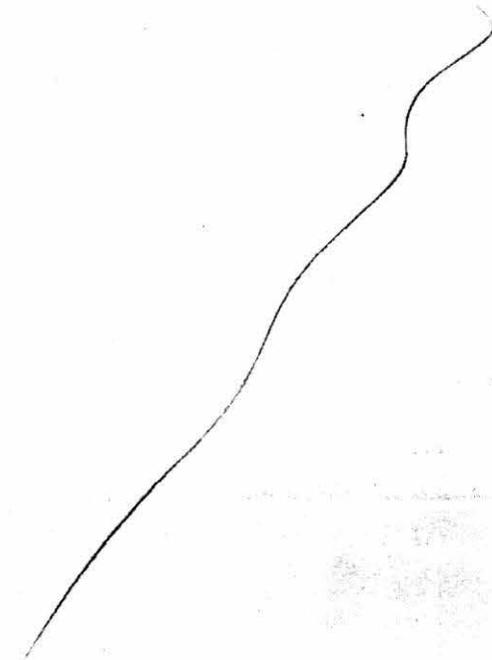
in the Territory of Oregon, being first duly sworn, says that he is a white male settler on the public

lands in Oregon; that he arrived in said Territory on the 15th day of October,

1852; ~~that he was a resident thereof between the 27th day of September, and the 1st day of~~

~~December, 1850~~; and was above the age of 21 years on the 1st day of December, 1855, that he is a

native citizen of the United States.



and that he was born in Indiana in the year 1813; that

he has personally resided upon and cultivated that part of the public lands in Oregon particularly described in his Notification on file, continuously, from the 29th day of November, 1852,

to the 6th day of April, 1858. And he further says that he is intermarried

with Lavina \_\_\_\_\_ his wife, and that he was legally married to her on

the 1st day of March, 1837, in Indiana.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 6th

day of April, 1858

at Salem, O. T. Hanson Stevens

*Sp. to wife*  
*J. L. Lieber*  
*Sur. Gen. of Oregon*

No.

*Elisha Veazey*, of *Marion* County,  
 in the Territory of Oregon, being first duly sworn, says that he is in no way interested in the tract or  
 tracts of land claimed as a donation by *Hanson Stevens*  
 and particularly described in his Notification on file; that he is personally acquainted with said  
*Hanson Stevens* and knows that he has personally resided upon  
 and cultivated said tract or tracts of land, continuously, from the *1st* day of *December*  
 1853 to the *6th* day of *April*, 1858. *Elisha Veazey*  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me, this *6th*  
 day of *April*, 1858,  
 at Salem, O. T. *John S. Zieber*  
*Sheriff of Oregon*

No.

*Isaac Headtick*, of *Marion* County,  
 in the Territory of Oregon, being first duly sworn, says that he is in no way interested in the tract or  
 tracts of land claimed as a donation by *Hanson Stevens* and particularly  
 described in his notification on file; that he is personally acquainted with said *Stevens*  
 and knows that he has personally resided upon and cultivated said tract or tracts of land, continuously,  
 from the *1st* day of *September*, 1853, to the *6th* day of  
*April*, 1858. *Isaac Headtick*  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this *6th*  
 day of *April*, 1858,  
 at Salem, O. T. *John S. Zieber*  
*Sheriff of Oregon*

Welfoot Yamhill County Oregon June 23<sup>d</sup> 1874

Mr J. H. Warren

Sir Please let Isaac Stevens have  
the Patent to my Donation Claim and  
oblige  
your Respectful Servant  
Isaac Stevens

*Oregon City*  
DONATION CERTIFICATE,

No. *3059*

*Amson Stevens*  
*Wife*

**P&M delivered by B.L.**

*Patent delivered to*  
*Isaac Stevens*  
*Dec: 30. 1874*

# DONATION.

CERTIFICATE, }  
No. 3154

{ NOTIFICATION,  
No. 3887

Whereas, In conformity with the provisions of the 7th Section of the Act of Congress, approved September 27, 1850, entitled "An act to create the office of Surveyor General of the Public Lands in Oregon, and to provide for the survey, and to make donations to settlers of the Public Lands," and the amendments thereto,

Hanson Stevens

of the county of Marion in the State of Oregon claiming a Donation right, in virtue of the Act aforesaid, to the following tract of Public Lands known and designated in the Surveys and Plats of the United States as the

North 1/2 of the South 1/2 and Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Section 17 and Lots 4 and 5 of Section 18 all in T. 6 S. R. 1 N.

containing 308 1/2 acres

The North half to Hanson Stevens and the South half to the Heirat Law of his late wife Lavina Stevens deceased

having proven to the satisfaction of the Register and Receiver of Wiltonville District Oregon the fact that such settlement was commenced on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 1853 four years prior to the date hereof; and having, in pursuance of the requirements of the 7th Section of the act aforesaid, established by two disinterested witnesses, the fact of continued residence and cultivation by the said act:

Now, therefore, be it known, That we, Owen Wade and

Henry Mason REGISTER AND RECEIVER of Public Lands in said District, do hereby, and pursuant to the 7th Section of the act aforesaid, certify to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE the facts aforesaid, accompanied by the evidence thereof, in order that a patent may be issued to said claimant, for the tract of land described, as required by the 7th section of the act aforesaid:

find no valid objection thereto.

Provided, That the said Commissioner shall

Given under our hands at the LAND OFFICE at Oregon City, Oregon this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1857.

Owen Wade, REGISTER.

## STEVENS FAMILY HISTORY CHAPTER 6: SARAH ELLEN (STEVENS) MCCUBBINS

*By Dorothy Clevenger (with later additions)*

### *SARAH ELLEN (STEVENS) MCCUBBINS*

Sarah Ellen Stevens was born in Keokuk, Iowa, in 1847. She was five years old when her parents, Hanson and Lavina Stevens, made the long trek to Oregon in 1852. During the trip across the plains and while they were just east of The Dalles, Sarah stepped into the campfire as the family's supper was cooking and badly burned her feet. By this time several of the children were ill and, according to family tradition, Sarah made up a song with the words, "Tina's sick, Mary's sick, and Becky's sicker too."<sup>316</sup> She grew up on the Donation Land Claim farm in North Howell. Sarah became a member of Bethany Christian Church at the age of 13 years.

Samuel McCubbins, Sarah's future husband, was born in Kentucky in 1834. He came to Oregon with his family in 1852. According to Samuel's gravestone, he served in the Indian Wars between 1847 and 1856. Although he did serve in the Indian Wars, we know that the dates are incorrect because he was 12 years old in 1847 and did not travel to Oregon until 1852. Indeed, Sarah later received a pension from the federal government as the widow of an Indian War veteran.

Sarah and Samuel married in her parents' home in 1862 and lived in the Willamette Valley until 1875. By that time they had five children: Alice, Henry, Elva, Emma and Mary. The family then moved to Eckler Mountain, near Dayton, Washington, where Samuel and his brother Andrew both acquired land from the federal government. It appears from the purchase documents that Samuel acquired 149 44/100 acres without payment under the Act of Congress approved May 20, 1862, "To secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain."<sup>317</sup> Andrew apparently paid for his 79 41/100 acres under the Act of Congress of April 24, 1820, "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands."<sup>318</sup> Samuel soon bought Andrew's land.

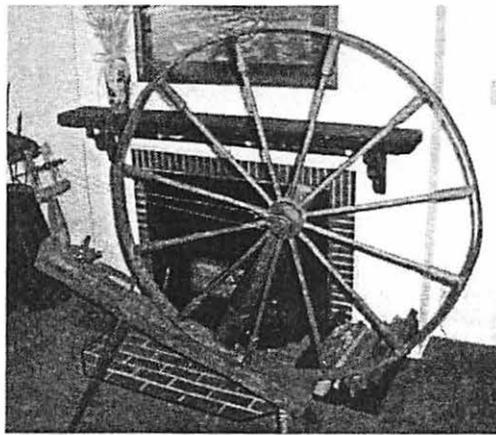
After Samuel and Sarah settled in Columbia County, Bertha, Arthur, Rosina and Ada were born. In 1898 their son Arthur purchased a portion of their land, possibly because of Samuel's health, inasmuch as Samuel died in 1902. In 1907 Arthur sold the land back to Sarah. Sarah had moved into Dayton after Samuel's death.

<sup>316</sup> *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891* vol. 1:193 (1940). The minutes say that Becky was burned, but family oral history says it was Sarah and that Becky had mountain fever.

<sup>317</sup> Homestead Certificate No. 923, Application 1172, recorded June 20, 1884, vol. 2 at 399, and filed for record May 4, 1885, Book A of Records of Patents of Columbia County, WA, at 19.

<sup>318</sup> Certificate No. 2119, recorded June 30, 1884, vol. 4 at 298, filed May 4, 1885 in Book A of Records of Patents of Columbia County, WA, at 20. The Patent certificate indicates that it was filed at the request of S. McCubbins.

Sarah was famous around Dayton for her crocheting and needlework. Her home was filled with pieces made by her nimble fingers. She was truly an artist in her day with the spinning wheel—not the foot-propelled type, but the older style, which was operated by one hand turning a huge wheel. Her yarn was exceptionally strong and uniform. Sarah's spinning wheel originally belonged to her mother Lavina. The family believes this came to Oregon on the Stevens' wagon in 1852. Karna Bruton, who lives in Salem, Oregon, inherited Sarah's spinning wheel from her grandmother Lena Parsons (Sarah's granddaughter). Lena was raised by Sarah from the age of 18 months. Sarah was a member of a local Christian Church, which she attended regularly.



The McCubbins family believes this spinning wheel came with Lavina on the Oregon Trail.

Sarah McCubbins outlived all of her brothers and sisters and became the matriarch of the Stevens Family. She took great pleasure in attending the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 1940 in Oregon City, Oregon, when she was 93 years old. According to reunion minutes, "Aunt Sarah" enjoyed attending reunion and being "queen of the reunion" at the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion. She loved to travel in her later years, as shown in a 1931 newspaper article:

**Sees Sister First Time in 25 Years: Mrs. S.E. McCubbins attends Golden Wedding of Daughter.**

Not only did Mrs. S. E. McCubbins, pioneer woman of Columbia county attend the golden wedding of her daughter, Mrs. Alice Cross in Lodi California, during her trip from which she recently returned, but she visited a half sister, Mrs. Alice Dixon, whom she had not seen for about 45 years.

The wedding anniversary was celebrated at the home of her daughter November 15. Mrs. McCubbins, who is 84 years young, visited Mrs. Dixon at San Jose and a niece at Morgan Hill, California, before returning. She states that she enjoyed the trip very much, and although members of her family worried over her going alone, she had not the

slightest trouble and would like to make the trip again sometime.  
[sic]<sup>319</sup>

The McCubbins family home in Dayton, Washington, was featured in *Sunset* magazine in 1987 as an excellent example of Victorian style architecture.

The married names of Sarah and Samuel's daughters are Alice Cross, Elva Flanagan, Bertha Frahm, Rosina Douglas and Ada Wortman. Emma and Mary both died young, with Mary sharing a gravestone with her parents. Arthur married Eva Coe.

Sarah and Samuel's son Henry married Rosa Gosney. They were listed as living with his parents in the 1889 Census.<sup>320</sup> Henry spent the greater part of his life farming on Eckler Mountain and became one of the community's most substantial citizens. When Henry retired from active farming he bought a house in town, where he lived until his health failed. At the time of Henry's death, his son Don was living on Eckler Mountain. Don lived out his life as a farmer until he died at the age of 47 in 1950.<sup>321</sup>

Sarah, the last remaining member of the Stevens family to cross the plains to Oregon, died in 1943 at the age of 96. She is buried in Dayton, Washington.

The Columbia Complex Fire of August 2006 burned all of the crop land and out grounds of the McCubbins farm and the adjoining Cahill farm. The area was evacuated, but a renter farming the Cahill property borrowed the McCubbins tractor and a disc to make a fire-guard around both the McCubbins and Cahill homes and farm buildings, saving them from the fire. The big loss to the McCubbins farm was about 1,000 small ponderosa pine trees planted between three and five years ago on six acres. Gary Gasaway, a great-great grandson of Samuel and Sarah through Elva Flanagan and Edward and Lena Parsons, currently owns a portion of the McCubbins farm and cultivates much of the original land, having purchased plots from descendants who did not wish to farm and renting cropland from those who did not wish to sell.

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<sup>319</sup> Columbia County Newspaper Abstracts: 24 Dec 1931, newspaper and page unknown.

<sup>320</sup> Refers to the Washington Territorial Census of 1889.

<sup>321</sup> Dayton Chronicle-Dispatch, Feb. 16, 1950.



L-R, standing: Emma, Elva, Ada, Alice, Henry, Rosie, Bertha, Arthur.  
L-R, seated: Sam and Sarah, *circa* 1890s



**Sarah McCubbins with grandson, Reverda Cross  
and granddaughter, Helen Frahm Nordling**

## Matron Dies



Mrs. Sarah A. McCubbins, 96, of Dayton died Monday night at her home.

## Aged Woman Answers Call

DAYTON — Mrs. Sarah A. McCubbins, 96, longtime resident of Columbia county, died at her home here Monday night. She had been seriously ill for several days.

She was born in Keokuk, Iowa and came across the plains in 1852 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hapton Stevens when she was five years old. The family settled in Silverton, Ore. and there Sarah Stevens was married to Samuel McCubbins in 1861. They remained in the Willamette valley until 1875 when they moved to Columbia county, taking land on Eckler mountain.

McCubbins died in 1902 and Mrs. McCubbins had made her home in Dayton since.

She leaves four children, Arthur of Dayton, Bertha Frahm of Twin Falls, Idaho, Ada Workman of Portland and Ross Douglas of Butte, Mont.

Sarah A. McCubbins - 1943

## Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins Descendant Chart

Sarah Ellen Stevens, b. 24 Feb 1847 at Keokuk, IA, d. 26 Apr 1943 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

+Samuel McCubbins, b. 19 Jul 1834 at KY, m. 14 Feb 1862 at Marion County, OR, d. 30 May 1902 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— Alice McCubbins, b. 2 Jan 1864 at Marion County, OR, d. 6 Oct 1942 at San Joaquin County, CA

+Micajah Cross Jr, b. 26 Mar 1861 at Wayne County, IA, m. 15 Nov 1881 at Columbia County, WA,  
d. 18 Mar 1945 at Alameda County, CA

— Reverda Lester Cross, b. 13 Aug 1882 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA, d. 14 Apr 1946 at Eugene, Lane County, OR

+Estella Harless, m. 4 Jan 1903 at Columbia County, WA

+Leona L. Barber

— Lester H. Cross, b. Nov 1909 at San Joaquin County, CA

+Mamie Dolores Foote, b. 10 Jul 1898, m. circa 1918, d. 20 Sep 1973 at Pacific Grove, Monterey County, CA

— Alice June Cross, b. 22 Jun 1921, d. 6 Sep 1989 at Nice, Lake County, CA

+ (--?--) Tilley

— Ramona Mae Cross, b. 9 May 1923 at Taft, Kern County, CA, d. 13 Oct 1944 at Richmond, Contra Costa, CA

+Richard Caskey

— Reverda Lester Cross Jr, b. 30 Apr 1925 at Redding, Shasta County, CA, d. 9 Jun 1988 at Eugene, Lane County, OR

+Alice (--?--)

— Geraldine Cross, b. 19 Jun 1926 at San Joaquin County, CA, d. 29 Jun 1926

— Gerald Cross, b. 19 Jun 1926 at San Joaquin County, CA, d. 29 Jun 1926

— Verda Rey Cross, b. Jun 1927 at Lodi, San Joaquin County, CA

+Charles Baldinger

— Royal Ellsworth Cross, b. 14 May 1929 at Los Angeles County, CA, d. 10 Mar 1977 at Sacramento, CA

+Joel (--?--)

+Lillian (--?--)

— Marceline Elaine Cross, b. 9 Aug 1931 at Monterey County, CA, d. 15 Apr 1988

+James Baker

— Dolores Carmel Cross, b. Sep 1932 at Monterey County, CA

+Roy Buchanan

+Bertha Wells, b. 23 Sep 1879 at Salene, IL, m. 1939 at Santa Cruz, CA, d. 1 Feb 1957 at Eugene, Lane County, OR

— Eleanor Cross, b. 29 Jul 1884 at WA, d. 9 Feb 1968 at San Bruno, San Mateo County, CA

+Fred Stine, b. circa 1875 at MO

— Arthur Cross

— Henry Cross, b. 29 Dec 1885, d. Feb 1964 at Portland, OR

— Grover W. Cross, b. circa 1889, d. 8 Sep 1962 at Douglas County, OR

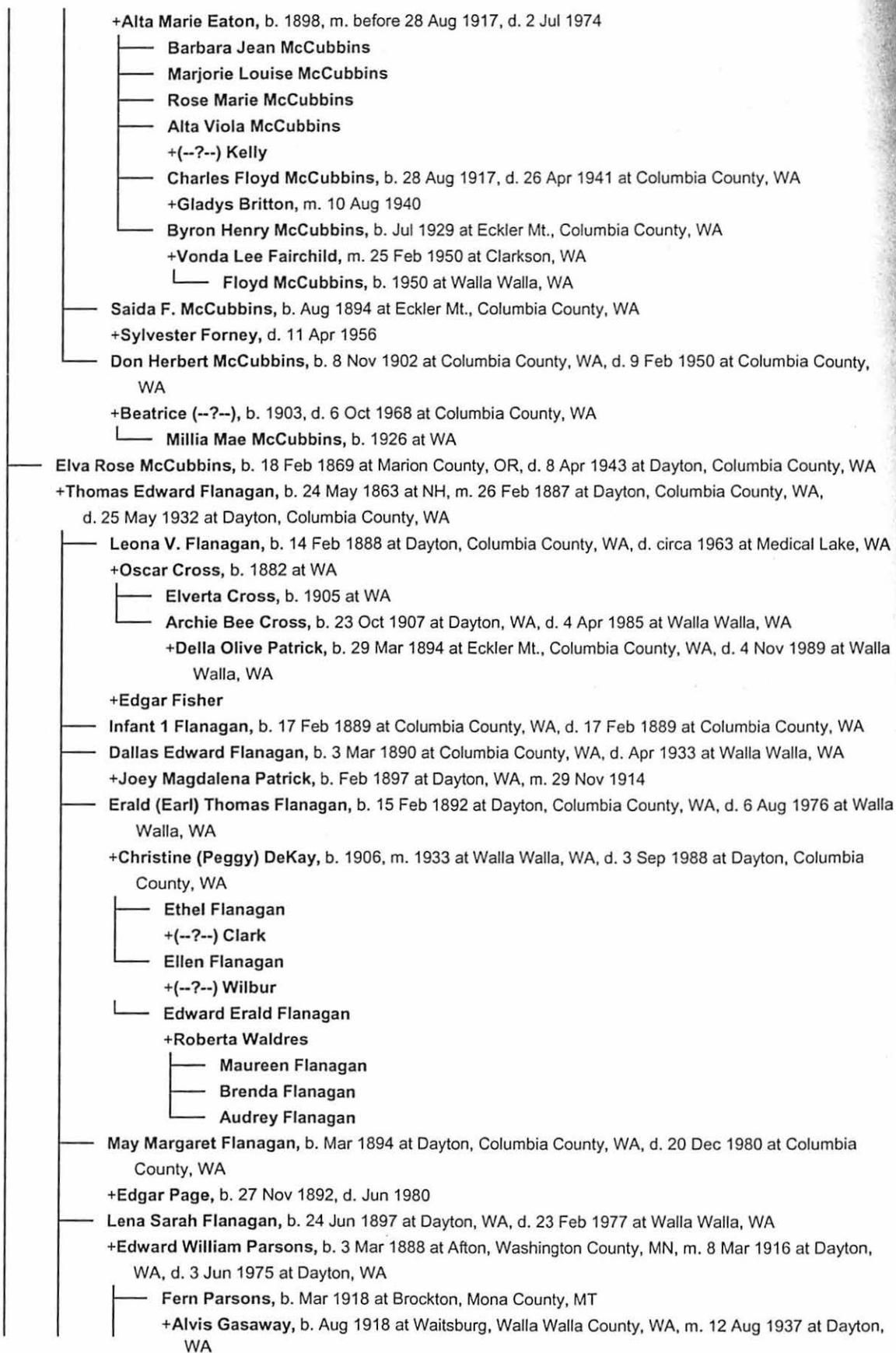
— Henry McCubbins, b. 28 Feb 1866 at Silverton, Marion County, OR, d. 13 Sep 1937 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

+Rosa May Gosney, b. 10 Jan 1873 at Cherokee County, KS, m. by 1889 at Columbia County, WA,  
d. 22 Mar 1932 at Columbia County, WA

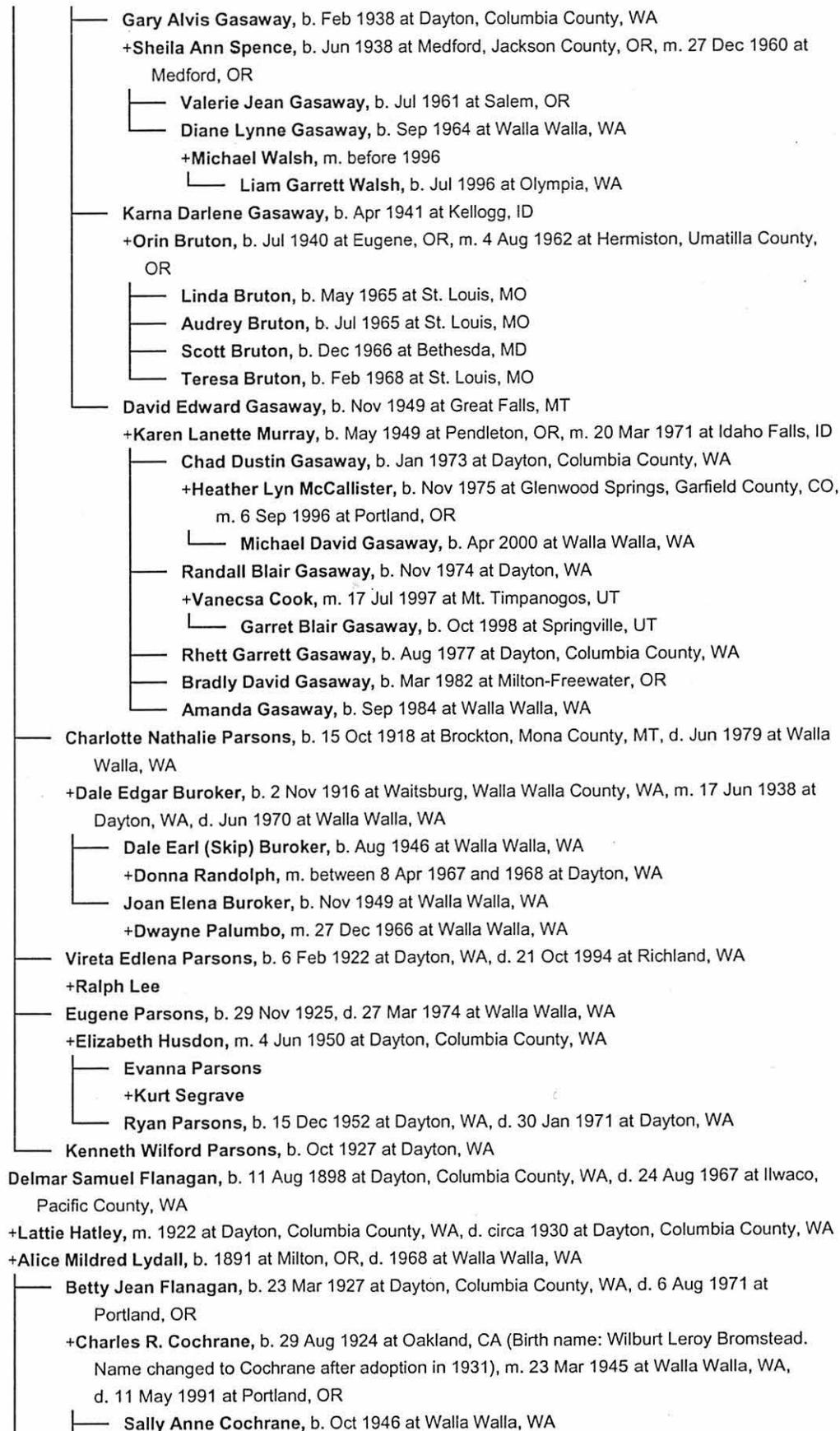
— Ina May McCubbins, b. 2 May 1891 at Columbia County, WA, d. 23 Feb 1898 at Columbia County, WA

— Floyd Henry McCubbins, b. 21 Aug 1892 at Eckler Mt., Columbia County, WA, d. 25 Feb 1936 at Columbia County, WA

Stevens Family History Chapter 6: Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins  
Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins Descendant Chart



Stevens Family History Chapter 6: Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins  
Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins Descendant Chart



Stevens Family History Chapter 6: Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins  
Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins Descendant Chart

+Randy Eggers, m. 1970 at Walla Walla, WA

└─ Jason Todd Eggers

+Leila Lara (--?-), b. Mexico, m. before 1999 at Walla Walla, WA

└─ Jason Dominique Eggers, b. 1999

└─ Ysabelle Lexana Eggers, b. 2003

— Nancy Lee Cochran, b. Sep 1949 at Salem, Marion County, OR

+Frederick Lindsay Diess Jr, b. Aug 1949 at Eugene, OR, m. 25 Aug 1967 at Portland, OR

└─ Dorenda Dawn Diess, b. 30 Dec 1967 at Milwaukie, OR, d. 31 Dec 1967 at Portland, OR

└─ Lisa Marie Diess, b. Jul 1969 at Phoenix, Maricopa County, AZ

+Keith Wilson Bone, b. Mar 1968 at Vancouver, WA, m. 25 Aug 1990 at Warren, Columbia County, OR

└─ Brittany Nichole Bone, b. Oct 1990 at Portland, OR

+Robert Douglas Brown, b. Jul 1967 at Stayton, Marion County, OR, m. 1 Jul 1996 at St. Helens, OR

└─ Cierra Robin Brown, b. Sep 1997 at Longview, Cowlitz County, WA

+Ryan LeFebvre, m. 19 Nov 2005 at Scappoose, Columbia County, OR

— Frederick Lindsay Diess III, b. Sep 1970 at Milwaukie, Clackamas County, OR

+Tanja Michaela Clark, b. Jan 1971 at St. Ingbert, Germany, m. 2 Sep 1997 at St. Helens, OR

└─ Frederick Lindsay Diess IV, b. May 1998 at Portland, OR

└─ Braden Joseph Diess, b. Nov 2004 at Beaverton, Washington County, OR

— Christina Lee Diess, b. Jan 1976 at Portland, OR

+Erich Csaba Schloegl, b. Apr 1974 at Victorville, San Bernardino County, CA, m. 24 Sep 1995 at St. Helens, OR

└─ Emme Christina Schloegl, b. Jun 2000 at Pensacola, Escambia County, FL

└─ Lily Belle Schloegl, b. May 2005 at Cherry Point Military Base, NC

+Dean Duane Adams, b. Oct 1940 at Lawton, Comanche County, OK, m. 22 Jun 2002 at St. Helens, OR

— Charles Delmar Cochran, b. 28 Jan 1951 at Salem, Marion County, OR, d. 17 May 2005 at Portland, OR

+Wendy McGreggor

└─ Elizabeth Cochran

+Judy Emery

└─ Anastasia Patricia Cochran, b. 1972 at Portland, OR

+Marcy (--?-), m. 21 Mar 2005 at Long Beach, WA

└─ Cody Charles Cochran, b. 1990 at Portland, Multnomah County, OR

└─ McKenzie (--?-) (step-daughter)

— Beverly Jean Cochran, b. Apr 1953 at Salem, Marion County, OR

+Steve White, b. 1953 at Portland, OR, m. before 1971 at Portland, OR

└─ Steven Charles White, b. Nov 1971 at Portland, OR

+Michele Renay Whitlock, b. Mar 1971 at Portland, OR, m. 1 Dec 1991 at Portland, OR

└─ Brandi Jean White, b. Jul 1988 at Portland, OR

└─ Jonathan Charles White, b. Apr 1997 at Portland, OR

+James Russell, m. before 1982

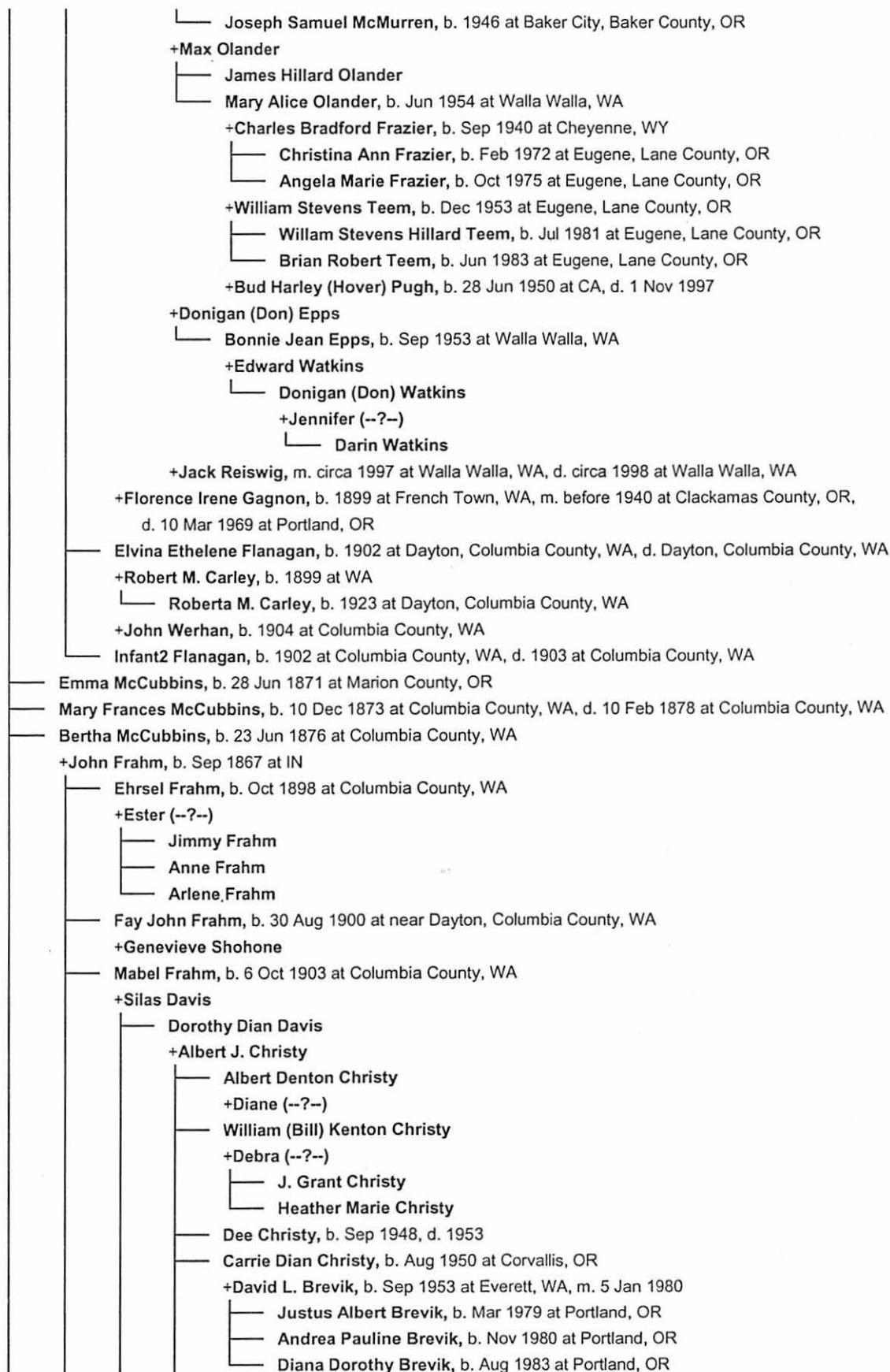
└─ Casie Jean Cochran, b. Feb 1982 at Portland, OR

+Melvin Woolford, b. Aug 1942 at Clackamas County, OR, m. 1984 at Portland, OR

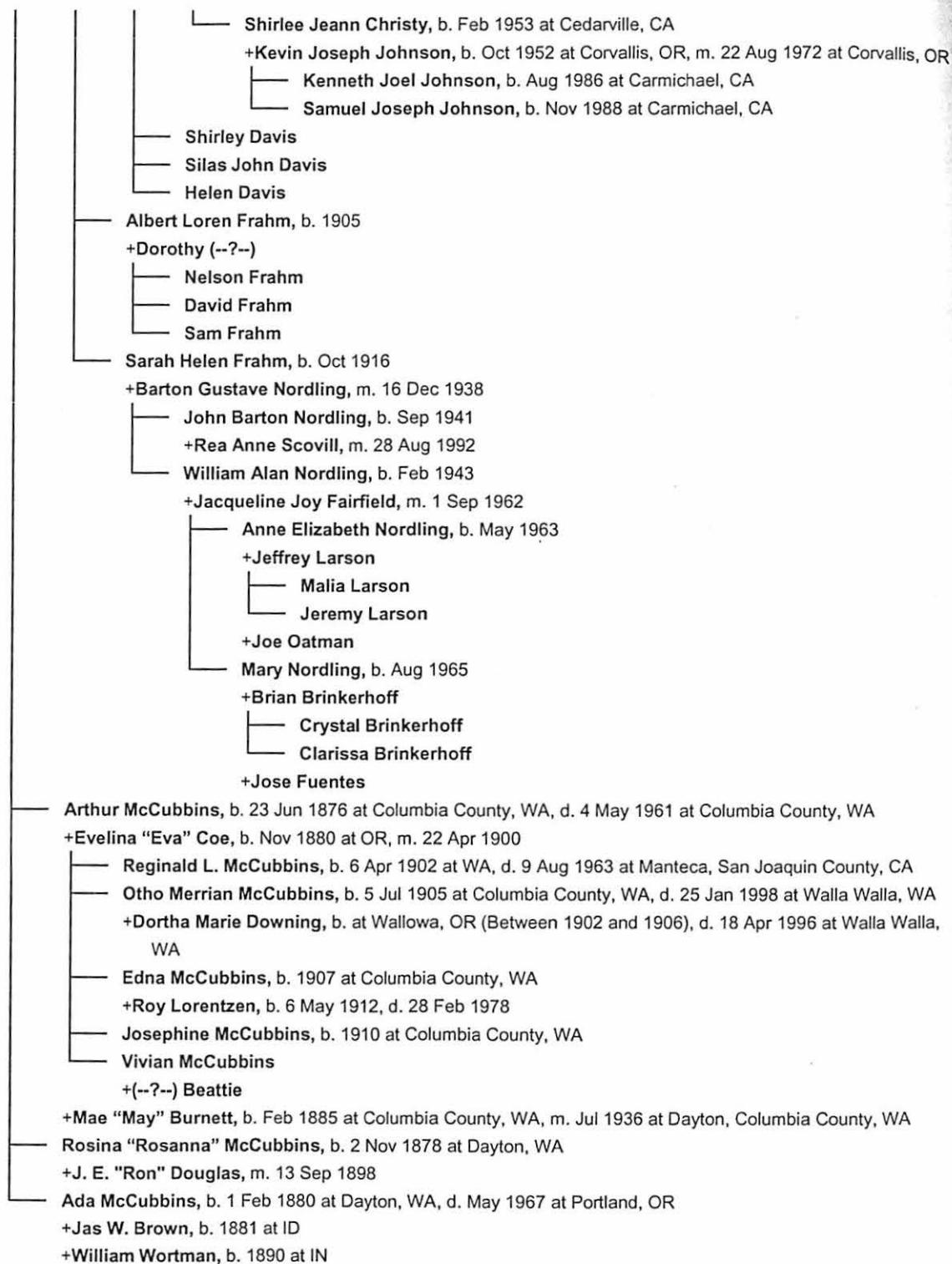
— Bonnie Lou Flanagan, b. 28 Nov 1928 at Milton-Freewater, Umatilla County, OR, d. 27 Feb 2006 at Walla Walla, WA

+Cecil McMurren, b. Feb 1922 at Baker City, Baker County, OR

Stevens Family History Chapter 6: Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins  
Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins Descendant Chart



Stevens Family History Chapter 6: Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins  
Sarah Ellen (Stevens) McCubbins Descendant Chart



Prepared by Jane Olsen and Nancy Cochrane Adams

## STEVENS FAMILY HISTORY CHAPTER 9: MARTHA ARABELLE (STEVENS) CAHILL

*By Becky Leventis*

### *MARTHA ARABELLE (STEVENS) CAHILL*

Martha Arabelle,<sup>333</sup> or Mattie as she was affectionately called, was born at the family home near Silverton, Oregon, in August of 1859, the same year Oregon became a state. She was Hanson and Lavina's youngest child. Lavina died in November of the same year, when Mattie was only three months old.

Like her sisters, Mattie left home at an early age—most likely because of problems with her stepmother—moving to Eckler Mountain, near Dayton, Washington, to live with her sister Sarah McCubbins.<sup>334</sup> There she met a fine young man of Irish descent, Add Cahill. The Cahill and McCubbins families were neighbors. Add's father had emigrated from Dublin, Ireland, and, with his wife and family, came west to the Dayton area in 1878. One of Add's first paying jobs was breaking up dirt clods for farmers on their plowed land; he earned 25 cents an hour.



Martha Arabelle Stevens, age 17

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<sup>333</sup> Mattie's granddaughter Charlotte Smith, who was 34 when Mattie died, reported that Mattie's middle name was Arabelle, although Mattie's family in Oregon referred to her middle name as Annabelle. Telephone interview by Jane Olsen with Becky Leventis and Charlotte Smith, May 20, 2002.

<sup>334</sup> Jane Olsen note: The 1880 U.S. Census for Columbia County, Wash., notes that a 22-year-old Rebecca Stevens lived with Samuel and Sarah McCubbins. Yet the same census for Marion County, Ore., shows Rebecca Mount living in Marion County with her husband Henry. The Columbia County record is almost certainly incorrect and the Marion County correct, given what we know of Mattie and Rebecca's ages and living circumstances at the time.

Mattie Stevens and Add Cahill were married in March 1881 and had a homestead on Eckler Mountain. They sold their land in the spring of 1888 and went to Oregon, looking for a new location. Not finding what they wanted they then went to Spokane, but returned to Eckler Mountain in the fall of 1888 and purchased Add's father's place, which they added to from time to time. They lived on Eckler Mountain until they moved into Dayton in 1896. Add continued to farm until 1912.

Mattie was a petite woman of five feet, two inches tall, with brown hair and blue eyes. She was clever and handy: she tatted, made bead flowers, and did many other crafts. She also raised beautiful flowers. In later years Mattie suffered from arthritis. Add was not allowed to smoke cigars in the house, but was sent to the front porch when he indulged. Add and Mattie had three daughters: Lulu, Lida and Bessie.

The family has likened Mattie's life on the homestead with her three small daughters to *The Little House on the Prairie* story. The girls walked through the woods to a little country school. Indians came by occasionally and asked for food, which Mattie would put out on the porch steps for them. We have no indication that the Cahills were ever threatened by Indians, but there is a story that Mattie took the girls and hid with them in the cornfield once when the Indians came. Add had given Mattie a gun for protection. We do not know if she ever used it.

Mattie died in May of 1939 and Add died 10 months later in March 1940.

### ***Lulu (Cahill) Beckett***

Add and Mattie's first child, Lulu, was born at the farm in 1881. Although her parents discouraged Lulu from spending time developing her artistic abilities, she persisted with drawing. When she finished school, Lulu learned to make hats at a millinery school in Portland. Back in Dayton she worked at the local dry goods store making hats for the local ladies.

Lulu married Harry Beckett in 1910 and they had one daughter: Charlotte. Harry died of a heart attack when he was in his early 30s. Lulu stayed on the farm, many miles from town, for a short time, but at the urging of her parents moved into town and bought a home on South First Street. Lulu had the home, originally across the street from where it stands now, moved on logs pulled by horses to its present location. To support herself and her young daughter, Charlotte, she took in boarders. She preferred teachers as she felt they were a good influence on her daughter (and, much to Lulu's delight, Charlotte did become a teacher). Only a couple of teachers could stay at the house, but as many as seven or eight more came each day to eat their meals (to "board"). When Charlotte was in college, Lulu married one of these boarders, Harry Newton, an accountant from California, who had come to Dayton to assist a relative in their store's bookkeeping. Lulu was chosen the First Senior Citizen of the County for all the volunteer work she did. She was known as "Aunt Lulu" by the neighbor children and was famous for her "candy drawer." The children were allowed in the drawer and they always found Black Jack

gum. When she died, the funeral was attended by many children, which would have made her proud.

Lulu's daughter Charlotte Beckett married Vernon Arthur Smith in 1936. Vernon was the neighbor boy who walked her to school. They had one child: Becky Jean, born in 1943, and they lived in Dayton. Charlotte and Vernon celebrated 50 happy married years before he passed away.

Becky met Lynn Mantz at a Campfire Girls summer camp near Dayton. Lynn lived ten miles from Becky in Waitsburg. They became great friends and played together. At a reunion years later, Becky heard a relative talking about Lynn's family and discovered that Lynn is the great-great-granddaughter of Rebecca Mount, one of Mattie's older sisters. The girls had had no idea that they were related.

Becky is married to Alex Andrew Leventis. They have two children: Minda and Andy. Minda and her husband, Pat Gruenhagen, have twins: William and Christina. Andy and his wife, Laura, have a son, Reed, and a daughter, Samantha.

Becky and her husband retired to Dayton and bought her grandmother Lulu's home, built in Dayton in 1870. It is the oldest known home still standing in town. They have christened it "Cahill Cottage." Because all of the Cahills had either girls or no children, no one named Cahill remains in the area. The only Cahill name in the county is the little-known Cahill Mountain.

#### *Lida (Cahill) Jackson*

Add and Mattie's middle daughter, Lida, was born in 1883 on the farm. Her hair was so long when she was a young woman that she could sit on it. Lida was graduated from Dayton High School in 1906 and married George W. Jackson soon afterwards. They had three children: Hugh, Anabelle and Frank. George owned a hardware store in downtown Dayton and was active in civic affairs. On South First Street at one time there were four different Cahill homes within a block or so of each other. Most of the descendants still live in eastern Washington.

#### *Bessie (Cahill) Fouts*

Mattie and Add's youngest child, Bessie, was born in 1884, also on the farm. She moved to Walla Walla upon her marriage to Roy Fouts. Her family remembers Bessie as a fun-loving and cheery person who enjoyed reading books. Bessie and Roy had four children: a son Bob and three daughters, Rosalind, Cleora and Ulrica. Rosalind has one daughter, Barbara, who lives in Everett with her husband. The family has lost contact with Cleora and Ulrica. One moved to Paris and New York and became a model.<sup>335</sup>

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<sup>335</sup> C. Clark Leone note: At the time of Bessie's death in 1952, daughter "Mrs. Cleora Fouts Blake" lived in New York City, and daughter "Mrs. Ulrica Fouts" lived in Portland, Ore. *Reunion: Stevens Family: 1891*, vol. 1: 246 (1948).

Mattie and Add's great-grandson Merle Jackson (Lida's grandson; Hugh Jackson is Merle's father) and his wife, Joelle, live in the home on South First Street in Dayton that Mattie and Add moved into when Add retired in his 30s. It has some of the most interesting architecture in the area.

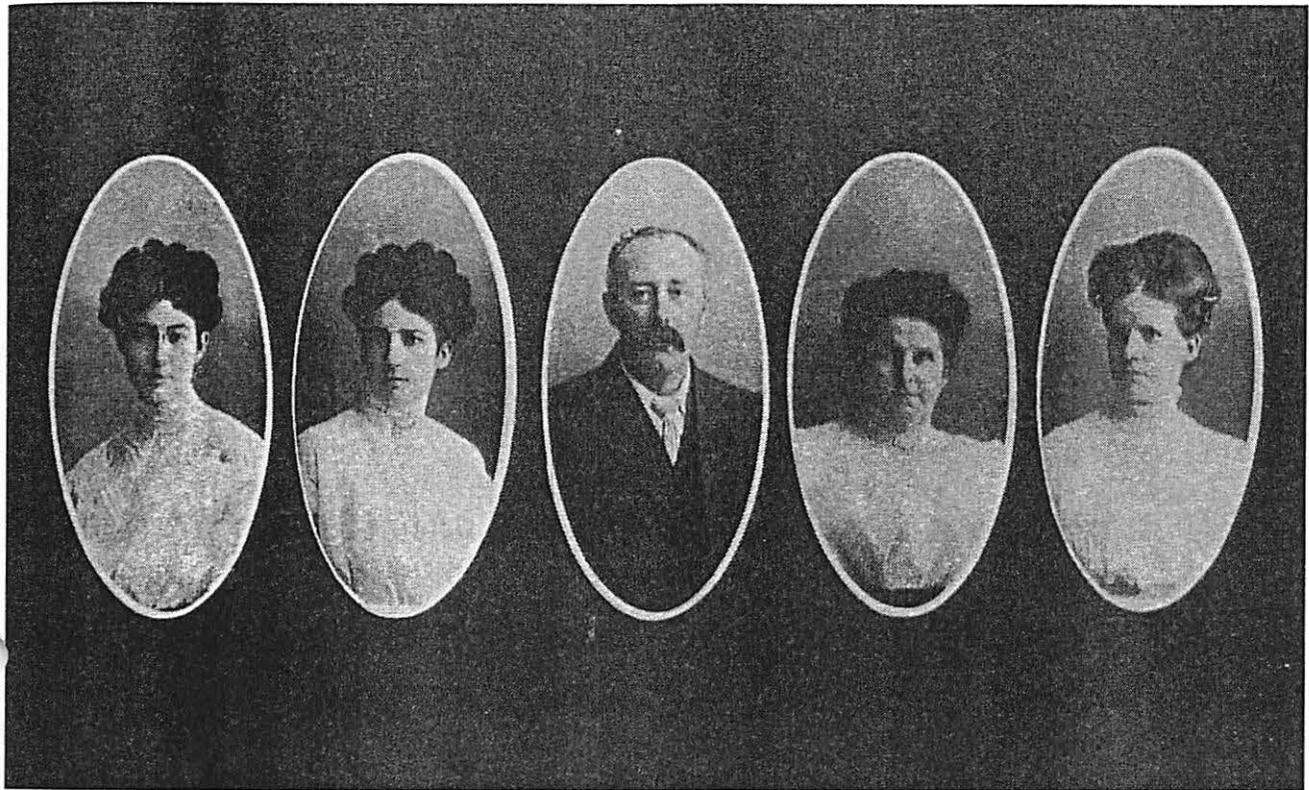
Several descendants share ownership of the original homestead high up on Eckler Mountain. The farm is rented out, used primarily to grow wheat, and provides a tremendous view of the surrounding area. The original home is still standing and is in remarkably good shape. The Columbia Complex Fire of August of 2006 burned the wheat crop and several newly planted trees, as well as the old grove of trees that Add and Mattie's girls walked through on their way to school. Fortunately, the renter plowed around the house and barn, saving them from the fire.



Add



Mattie



Lulu, Bessie, Add, Mattie and Lida

## Martha Arabelle (Stevens) Cahill Descendant Chart

**Martha Arabelle (Mattie) Stevens**, b. 4 Aug 1859 at Near Silverton, Marion County, OR, d. 12 May 1939 at Dayton, WA  
+**Add Cahill**, b. 18 Jan 1860 at Markesan, WI, m. 22 Mar 1881 at Dayton, WA, d. 23 Mar 1940 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— **Lulu Cahill**, b. 21 Dec 1881 at Eckler Mt., Columbia County, WA, d. 26 Aug 1971 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— +**Harry Edward Beckett**, b. 17 Dec 1882 at Dayton, WA, m. 17 Dec 1910 at Walla Walla, WA, d. 23 Oct 1916 at Dayton, WA

— **Charlotte May Beckett**, b. 5 May 1914 at Dayton, WA, d. 5 May 2004 at Dayton, WA

— +**Vernon Arthur Smith**, b. 3 Nov 1913 at Waitsburg, Walla Walla County, WA, m. 19 Aug 1936, d. 16 Oct 1987 at Dayton, WA

— **Becky Jean Smith**, b. Jan 1943 at Dayton, WA

— +**Alex Andrew Leventis**, b. Oct 1939 at Arahova, Greece, m. 22 Sep 1963 at Dayton, WA

— **Minda Michelle Leventis**, b. Oct 1967 at Richland, WA

— +**Patrick Gruenhagen**, m. 7 Nov 1992 at Bellevue, WA

— **Christina Marie Gruenhagen**, b. Feb 2000

— **William (Will) Alexander Gruenhagen**, b. Feb 2000

— **Vernon Andrew Leventis**, b. Jan 1971 at Vancouver, Clark County, WA

— +**Laura Malowane**, m. 3 Aug 1997 at Aloha, Washington County, OR

— **Reed Malowane Leventis**, b. Feb 2000

— **Samantha Malowane Leventis**, b. Apr 2002 at Washington DC

— +**Harry Wesley Newton**, m. 10 Aug 1932, d. 25 Aug 1941

— **Lida Cahill**, b. 9 Jan 1883 at Eckler Mt., Columbia County, WA, d. 23 Aug 1964 at Dayton, WA

— +**George Jackson**, b. 15 Sep 1882 at Columbia County, WA, m. 20 Jun 1906 at Walla Walla, WA, d. 12 Feb 1963 at Walla Walla, WA

— **Hugh Cahill Jackson**, b. 29 Feb 1908 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA, d. 24 Jun 1986 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— +**Phyllis Maxine Knox**, m. 17 Mar 1938

— **Merle David Jackson**

— +**Joelle Faye Michaelis**,

— **Michael George Jackson**

— **David Joseph Jackson**

— **Donald Lee Jackson**

— **Annabel Jackson**, b. Feb 1913 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— +**Vyrl McQuary**, b. 17 Jul 1913 at Canada, d. 9 Jan 1984 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— +**Willard Raymond Rogers**, b. 18 Apr 1908 at Beggs, Okmulgee County, OK, m. 5 Nov 1930, d. 27 Sep 1988 at Portland, OR

— **Betty Ann Rogers**, b. Sep 1932 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— +**Cecil D. Fletcher**, b. Mar 1930 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA, m. 16 May 1952 at Dayton, WA

— **Kathleen Ann Fletcher**, b. May 1954 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— +**Walter A. Bird**, m. 9 Sep 1972 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— **Travis Christopher Bird**, b. May 1974 at Honolulu, HI

— **Derrick Justin Bird**, b. Feb 1980 at Richland, WA

— **Richard Dean Fletcher**, b. Jul 1956 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

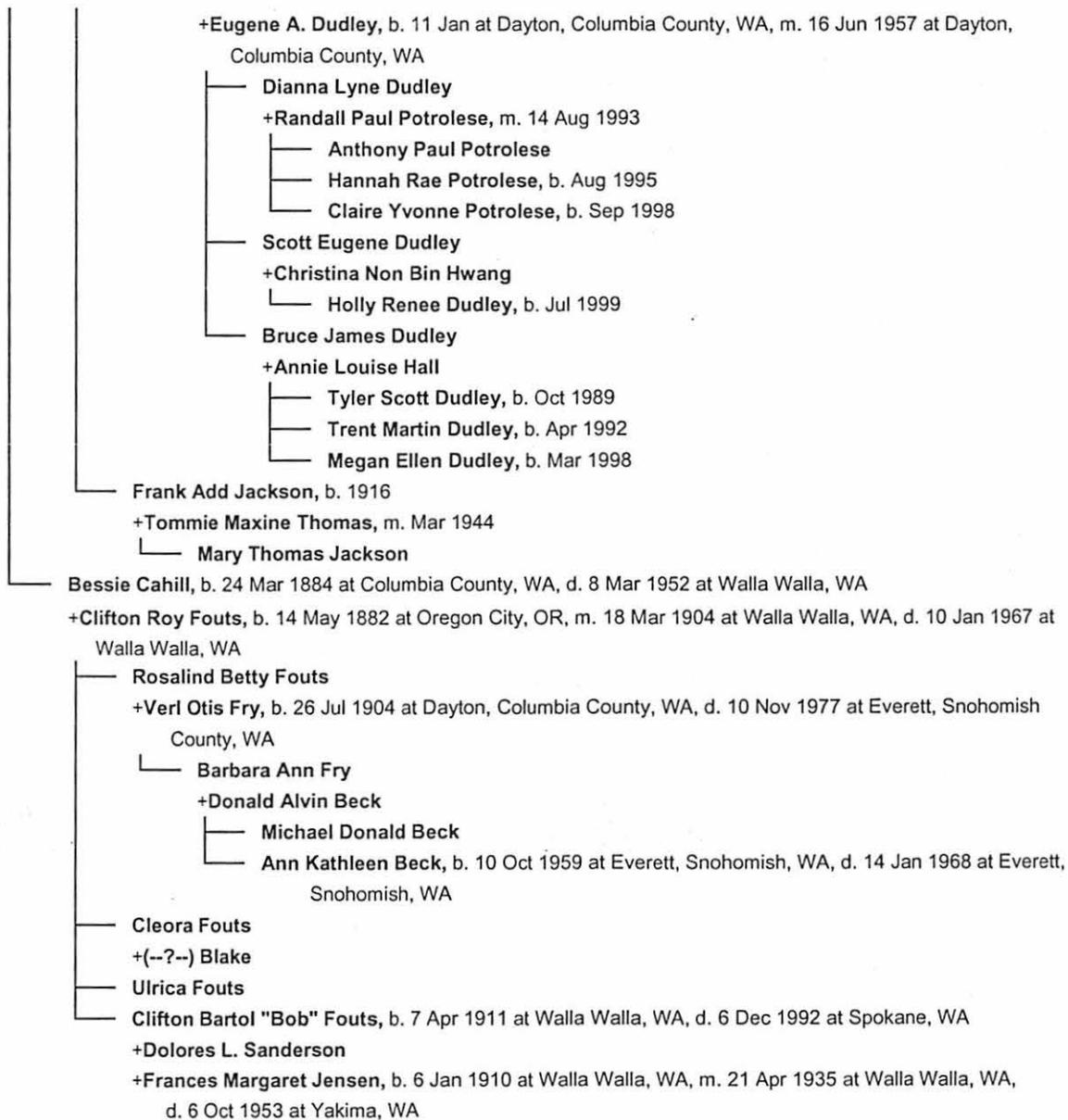
— +**Leslie Powers**, m. 23 Nov 1974 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— **Joshua Dean Fletcher**, b. Mar 1975 at Dayton, Columbia County, WA

— **Julie Lynette Fletcher**, b. May 1980 at Walla Walla, WA

— **Rita Rae Rogers**, b. Nov 1934

Stevens Family History Chapter 9: Martha Arabelle (Stevens) Cahill  
 Martha Arabelle (Stevens) Cahill Descendant Chart



**FAMILY GROUP No.**

**Husband's Full Name** *Z. Landon Steward*

*Steward*

This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data Day Month Year City, Town or Place County or Province, etc. State or Country Add. Info. on Husband

1# *Came west 1852*

Birth *6-3-1815* *near Milan* *Regency* *Ind*  
 Chr'nd  
 Mar.  
 Death  
 Burial

Places of Residence  
 Occupation

Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. *2nd Elizabeth Jane Bentley Foster*  
 Make separate sheet for each mar.

His Father *Phoebe* *Stevens* Mother's Maiden Name *Mary E*

**Wife's Full Maiden Name** *Louisa Weckard*

Wife's Data Day Month Year City, Town or Place County or Province, etc. State or Country Add. Info. on Wife  
 Birth *1819* *Buckey* *Ohio* *wid of*  
 Chr'nd *Conner*  
 Death *7-2-1859* *Oregon* *40 yrs*  
 Burial

Places of Residence  
 Occupation if other than Housewife

Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. *Joseph Battalmon*  
 Make separate sheet for each mar.

Her Father *Joseph Battalmon Weckard* Mother's Maiden Name *Elizabeth Watson*

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
M	<i>Isaac</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Rebecca</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Rebecca</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Christina</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Sarah</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
M	<i>Melvin</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Mary</i>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Emma Jane</i>	Birth			<i>1854</i>			<i>Oregon</i>	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
F	<i>Martha "Mattie" Archelle</i>	Birth			<i>1859</i>			<i>Oregon</i>	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

\*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

**FAMILY GROUP No.**

**Husband's Full Name**

This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth							
Chr'nd							
Mar.							
Death							
Burial							

**Places of Residence**

**Occupation**

Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.

*1st Maria*

**His Father**

**Mother's Maiden Name**

**Wife's Full Maiden Name**

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth							
Chr'nd							
Death							
Burial							

**Places of Residence**

**Occupation if other than Housewife**

Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.

**Her Father**

**Mother's Maiden Name**

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
	1	Birth			1863				
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
	<i>Eccles, Bolan</i>	Burial							
	2	Birth			1865				
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
	<i>Lynas Davis Hill</i>	Burial							
	3	Birth			1867				
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
	<i>Alice Fidelia</i>	Burial							
	4	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							
	5	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							
	6	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							
	7	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							
	8	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							
	9	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							
	10	Birth							
		Mar.							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Death							
		Burial							

\*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. Info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.