**Sanderson, Edward Wavell**  
*1844-1913*  
*Dem*  
*Rep*  
*USDS*  
*Contract 368 to Contract 417*  

Born in England, Edward came to the U. S. in 1851 as a youth, and became a citizen when his father was naturalized. His family settled in Tennessee, and in 1870, Edward was County Surveyor of Blount County, Tennessee. He was a stock farmer in Butte Creek, Wasco County, Oregon in 1880, the Sheriff of Gilliam County in 1889, and married Angie B. Hamilton in San Jose, California in 1883. He received two Contracts in Umatilla County in 1880-81. By 1890, he was in Santa Clara, California, and was listed as an orchardist in there in 1892, a surveyor in 1900 in Gilroy, California and a carpenter in Oakland in 1910. Angie died in Oakland in 1911, and Edward in 1913. He was sued by a sister for the collection of a $125 promisory note, maybe left over from his Contract.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth-Death</th>
<th>Contract Details</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sartwell, Dugald</td>
<td>1823-1910</td>
<td>USDS Contract 241 to no more</td>
<td>Dugald was born in New York, the son of a physician. He was a jeweler in New York in 1850, and always was listed as a watchmaker in 1860 and in the California voter registers. He came to California in 1852 via Panama, and by 1860, Dugald was in Crescent City with an 18 year old Indian girl named Betsey Tatausi and a half Indian 3 year old son. He would sire two more half Indian sons in the next three years. From 1859-62 he was the lightkeeper at Battery Point Lighthouse, and was an elected Supervisor of Del Norte County in 1864. Dugald stayed near Crescent City the rest of his life, was listed as a surveyor in 1870, a civil engineer in 1880, and from at least 1870-75 was Del Norte County Surveyor. Dugald received Contract 241 for one township in Oregon just across the border in Curry County. Dugald was a widower, living with his two youngest sons in 1910, and died later that year. His oldest son, Henry, died in a rescue attempt of stranded Sailors on the shipwrecked schooner Elvinia in 1882.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewart &quot;D. S.&quot;</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth-Death</th>
<th>Contract Details</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saunders, William N.</td>
<td>1829-1901</td>
<td>USDS Contract 322 to no more</td>
<td>Born in Ireland, William came to the U. S. in 1851. By 1863 he was the Josephine County Assessor, lasting until 1865. By 1874, he was the Josephine County Surveyor, and held that office nearly continuously until 1888, living in Kirby, Grants Pass and Althouse. He received Contract 322 for one fractional township in 1879 in Curry County. A national publication noted him as the Josephine County Superintendent of Schools in 1884. William was simply listed as a widower and a surveyor in Grants Pass in 1900. He was single in the previous census in 1880.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy, Roy &quot;Roy&quot;</td>
<td>1881-1910</td>
<td>USS Special Instructions 1906 to no more</td>
<td>Roy was born in Wisconsin and attended the University of Wisconsin from at least 1900-1902. After school he went to work for the U. S. Reclamation Service out of Pendleton and then moved to Hermiston when the office moved. He received Special Instructions to survey some farm tracts along the ORN RR from his agency. They were surveyed in 1909 and approved both by USRS and the GLO. He was an engineer in Hermiston in 1910 and died at age 29 at the sanitarium at Hot Lake on July 27, 1910 of poliencephalitis, a year after his survey.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Schiller, Eugene**

*1855-1917*

USDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract 648</th>
<th>to</th>
<th>Contract 673</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td></td>
<td>1896</td>
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</table>

Born in Germany, Eugene was in Oregon by 1886 when he married Anna Maria Jenne Mueller, a recent widow with five children, ten years his senior. Anna had immigrated to the U. S. in 1866, from Germany also, and they had one son together. He received Contract 648 for one township in Wallowa County and Contract 673 for one township in Jackson County, also in 1896. Eugene was an engineer for a RR at Klamath Falls in 1899, and surveyed the bay at the Port of Toledo in 1910. He was divorced in Beaverton in 1910, and died in Sylvan in 1917. Anna was living separately in 1910, died in 1919, and is buried next to Eugene, and is memorialized on the same tombstone.

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**Scholfield, Socrates**

*1831-1914*

Whig

USDS

Dr/Clerk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claim Contract 93</th>
<th>to</th>
<th>Clerk</th>
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<td>1859</td>
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<td>1859</td>
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Socrates was born the first son of Nathan Scholfield, a cotton and woolen mill operator, machinist, civil engineer, and mathematician. In 1833 Nathan wrote an article for the Franklin Institute on the use of a sextant in measuring distance between two points by observations from both ends using mirrors. It was a well documented premise, with ample calculations to back it up. He patented a governor for water wheels that was used throughout the milling industry. In 1845 Nathan wrote a three-volume book on advanced geometry and trigonometry for college level study.

He travelled to Oregon in 1850 as part of a group of investors from San Francisco that wanted to profit from the settlement of the Territory. They hoped to find gold, identify harbors, survey townsites, and promote them. They were headed for the Klamath, first explored the Rogue where they found hostile Indians which made it not suitable for settlement, and then moved on to the Umpqua. They surveyed the harbor, and surveyed the townsites of Umpqua City, Scottsburg, and Elkton. Nathan published a map of Southern Oregon and Northern California in 1851, that showed potential harbors and rivers in detail.

Socrates does not mention his connection with the surveyors and explorers in his lengthy article in the Oregon Historical Quarterly, nor does he state when Nathan returned to Rhode Island. Socrates was elected Umpqua County Surveyor in 1855 and later that year he was given charge of the containment of 250 Umpqua Indians at Empire City (Coos Bay) in the position of Temporary Indian Agent. He continued that for about 1 year until they were moved North.
Socrates and his father both filed Donation Claims on Umpqua Harbor. Nathan claimed 620 acres with two miles of harbor frontage on the East side of the entrance, and Socrates filed a claim on the North Shore. Schofield River that flows through Reedsport is named for Socrates. He received Claim Contract 93, for surveying DLC's on the Umpqua River, in March, 1859 from the Oregon Surveyor General, and under that Contract, only surveyed both his and his father's Claims. Nathan received his patent in 1885 after his death, and Socrates received his in 1878. Socrates was a Draftsman in the Surveyor General's Office of William W. Chapman in Eugene in 1859, continuing at least into 1860.

Socrates was a surveyor back in Norwich, Connecticut in 1861, and married Abbie Smith in 1864. He was a producer of water wheel regulators in 1864, and from 1865-68 he was a teacher of engineering at Scholfield College. From 1869-78, he manufactured water wheel regulators, and from 1880-1900+ he was a patent solicitor, all in Providence, RI. He wrote several books, including "The Object of Animal Existence" in 1896, and "The Doctrine of Mechanicalism" in 1907. The latter dealt with the soul and cognitive abilities of animals, and needed a second edition.

He was also issued several patents, including: patent for improved life preserver, 1863; patent for improved method of teaching swimming, 1863; patent for improvements to twist drills, 1869; patent for cigar machines, 1873; patent involving reciprocal and crosscut saws, 1873; and a patent for a lock on removable bay windows, 1889. His last patent in 1914 was for "an illustrative device to demonstrate the relationship between the Supreme Being and his creation." It was for two springs, one shorter and one longer, wound together. Not until 1953 did science determine that the basic structure of human DNA was a double helix, similar to that described by Socrates. However, to this day, this patent is referred to by some as "the most absurd patent ever issued". He died in Providence. This is the maintained version of this information.

**Scoggins, George R.**  
*1872-1925*  
**USDS USDMS**  
Contract 737 (with William Elliott)  
1901 to Mineral Surveys  
1901

OR PE 279. George was born in Oregon as the son of a stock raiser, lived in Portland in 1880, and graduated from Portland High School in 1881. He was a civil engineer in Portland in 1900, living with his mother, and received Joint Contract 737 with William Elliott in 1901 for two townships on the Oregon Coast. George declined a job with the Forest Service in Portland in 1901, and by 1904, they had not begun the Contract. He surveyed 11 Mining Claims in Linn County in 1901 and 10 Mining Claims in Grant and Baker Counties, also in 1901.

William Elliott was the City Engineer of Portland in 1904, and George was his Principal Assistant, probably the reason for the lack of progress on their Contract. William and George formed an engineering partnership called Elliott and Scoggins, and they worked in Portland and Southwest Washington from 1905-1920. George married his wife, Lillian L. D. Kelly, in 1906, and they were living in Portland in 1910 and 1920. William and George lost a court case in 1924 and had a judgement imposed. George died in Portland in 1925.
Scrafford, Eleanor J. Seaman
1847-1940
Dr/Clerk
Clerk to no more 1883

Eleanor J. Seamon Scrafford was born in Canada in 1847 and first showed up in the records in the 1870 Census in Benton County, Oregon, where she was listed as Eleanor J. Scrafford, with a three year old daughter named Diana, born in Iowa. She was living with an extended Scrafford family, consisting of Diana's grandparents, and three uncles and an aunt, which suggests she was married to a Scrafford son, or had a child by one. The 1880 Census had Diana living both with James B. Scrafford at one time, referred to as a niece, and living with her grandparents at another. Eleanor worked for the State Legislature in 1882 and from 1883-85 served as a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman. Marshal Scrafford was a politician and ran for the Legislature, and probably helped her secure this work. She married someone named Pierce from Wales in 1886 and had two more daughters. She was living with her two daughters in Tuolumne, California in 1900, but noted as married. Eleanor was a widow in Oakland in 1910, and from 1920 on in San Francisco, residing in the old folks home there from 1930 until she died in 1940. She had a grandson named Edgar A. Klippel, Jr., who was the nephew of one of the ladies she worked with in the Surveyor General's Office. He was the son of her first daughter, Diana, and was born in 1895. Diana died before 1905.

Sears, James Manford
1854-1929
USDS
Contract 764 (with Andrew Porter) to no more 1905

Born on a farm in Iowa, James came to Polk County Oregon with his family by 1870. He was working on the farm of his sister in Polk County in 1880, but later that year married Ella S. Whitley, a local girl. Ella died in 1889, and he remarried to Mary L. "Mollie" Dale in 1890. He was a saloon keeper in Dallas in 1900, but received Joint Contract 674 with Andrew Porter in 1905 for two townships in Northwest Oregon.
They were examined by William Douglass in 1907 and Scott Harrison in 1908 and 1909. Corrections were made, Supplemental Instructions were issued, the work was suspended, and a portion was rejected. James was listed as a surveyor on government land in 1910. He was a laborer on a farm near Dallas in 1920 at the time Mollie died. Molly had gone to California, but to no avail, returning to die in Dallas. James died in San Diego in 1929. His youngest son, Clarence Earl Sears became a hardened armed robber.

**Seymour, Allan M.**

1833-1883

Whig

Dr/Clerk

1853

Clerk to no more

Allen was born in Fort Covington, N. Y., the son of a stove manufacturer who was affluent enough to have servants. He was a Clerk, living at home in 1850 in Cortlandt. His sister married a lawyer, Thomas Nelson, and Thomas was appointed to be the Chief Justice on the new Oregon Territorial Supreme Court. Allen was hired as a crewman for the surveys under John Preston in 1851, and travelled to Oregon via Panama with the Preston family, the Nelson Family, and several surveyors. He began on James Freeman's crew in June of 1851, and then worked for George Hyde later in the fall.

It was on this survey that Allen became seriously ill with cholera-like symptoms. He was temporarily the Assistant Clerk to the Oregon Territorial Council in the fall of 1851. Sometime before 1853, he transitioned to being part time Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office, and part time as Assistant Clerk to the Supreme Court. The Whigs lost and the Democrats won in 1853, and there was a new Supreme Court. Allan Millar, the Chief Clerk to the Court, and a former Clerk in the Surveyor General's office, left for home, leaving instructions for Allen Seymour to not give the Court files to anyone without receiving a receipt. They were stored in the Surveyor General's Office.
Sharp, Edward Franklin
1865-1954
USDS
Contract 562 1891 to Contract 756 1904

Edward was born in Oregon and came to Lower Three Mile in Wasco County in 1871 with his family. His father, brother, son, and Edward all operated farms on Three Mile. Edward graduated from California Military School at Benicia, California in 1884. By 1885 he was in Wasco County surveying roads and the fairgrounds. He was Wasco County Surveyor from 1886-1896, and married Kathleen Ferrely in 1891.

In that year he began as a GLO Surveyor in Oregon with two fractional townships just West of Rainier, using his younger brother and future USDS, Frank H. Sharp, as axeman. He wrote to the Surveyor General that he had finished T6N R3W, and the "the boys" were all in the sack sleeping. His Oregon career as a USDS involved 9 Contracts between 1891 and 1904. They were all examined and he fared fairly well except for his last, Contract 756 West of Bend, which lasted 4 years and had corrections in the field. A Joint Contract with his brother, Frank, was surveyed by Frank in 1892. His Contracts were usually very small, and he used future Deputy Surveyors Charles L. Campbell, Homer Angell, George Campbell, W. A. Burt Campbell and Robert Omeg fairly regularly as crewmen, they were all from Wasco County.

From 1895-1900, he designed and built three houses on Fourth St. at the Dalles, all of which are on the National Historic Register. He lived in one of them, 404 E. 4th St. He acted as a representative of the Eastern Oregon Land Company in 1900, and surveyed a cemetery at Grass Valley in 1904.

Edward's first Contract in Washington was Number 588 in 1901 for two townships Northeast of Colville and one at Rice, all in Stevens County. The one at Rice was normal and approved right away after an exam. The two Northeast of Colville had the perimeters surveyed by David Thayer of the Benson Syndicate, and had major distortions. The North line of T37N R40E was short by half a mile and out of alignment by 2000 feet. The south Boundary was also short by half a mile. Edward succeeded in avoiding returning to the field, but he redid the field notes several times, getting approval in 1908.

Edward next surveyed 3 townships at Longmire on the slopes of Mt. Rainier in a Joint Contract with his chairman, Robert Omeg. They shared the work and were examined by M. P. McCoy without problems. Frank next received a Joint Contract with Henry Porak for 11 townships, between Omak Lake and Brewster, on the Colville Reservation in 1908. After an exam by Fred Rase in 1906 and corrections to the plat, the survey was approved in October of 1908. Washington, D. C. noted a portion was suspended, and field corrections were made, but there are no notes indicating that.
Edward was a government surveyor in 1910, Wasco County Road master in 1915, a civil engineer in 1920, and a farmer in 1930. He raised Purebred Hereford cows on his ranch, with his son Arthur running it. Edward died in The Dalles at age 89. This is the maintained version of this information.

**Sharp, Frank Howland**

1868-1893

USDS

Contract 59 (with Edward F. Sharp) to Contract 618

1892 to 1893

Frank was born in Grant County, Oregon, and was the brother of Edward F. Sharp. He moved with his family to lower Three Mile in Wasco county in 1871, and they were living in The Dalles in 1880. Frank attended four years of College someplace, and was a chainman for his brother in 1891. Frank received his own Contract for two townships on the Oregon Coast in 1893, and another for two more townships on the West side in Southern Oregon in 1893.

He married Carrie E. Parker in Wayne, Indiana in 1895. He lived in Indiana for a few years, but by 1900, he was a salesman in New York. He continued that career for nearly 40 years, mostly out of Buffalo, New York, much of the time as a traveling salesman.

**Sherlock, Thomas Henry**

1850-1918

USDS

Contract 286 to no more

1878

Born in County Cork, Ireland, Thomas went to New Zealand with his brother, Richard, where another brother was farming. Thomas and Richard left New Zealand, and came to Lake County, Oregon in 1872, where other brothers were homesteading, settling near Summer Lake. The brothers joined forces in farming and sheep raising. Thomas received a very small Contract to survey 3/4 mile of meanders of Summer Lake in 1878 under Special Deposits. A settler about 10 miles from the Claim of Thomas needed his patent, and put up the deposits. All that was involved was to compass and chaim from one meander corner to another. He finished and was approved right away. Thomas sold his property at Summer Lake in 1904, and purchased a farm on Davis Creek near Alturas, California.

Thomas married Lillian M. Scott in 1890, and they had two sons, but were divorces by 1918. Thomas suffered from dementia and confusion in 1918, and was committed by his son to the California State Hospital in Mendocino. He had been wandering about trying to buy property and mortgage his farm. He was sent home on leave, but had a severe cold. It turned into pneumonia he died quickly. There is no hard evidence connecting this Thomas Sherlock to this survey, except for proximity and lack of other candidates.
Shipley, William J.  
1838-1915  
Dr/Clerk Clerk  
1872
Born in Missouri, William came to a farm in Corvallis, Oregon with his family in 1853. He enlisted in the Army in 1864 in the Oregon Infantry Volunteers, where he was a First Lieutenant in charge of Company H at Fort Vancouver, and then Quartermaster at Fort Yamhill. He married Anna Maria McAfee in 1865, and was a school teacher in Benton County in 1870. William was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William Odell in Eugene in 1872, and then continued in the Office of Benjamin Simpson until at least 1875, during which time, the Office was moved to Portland in 1874. He was a bookkeeper in Portland in 1880. William left Portland to become Commandant of the Old Soldiers Home at Roseburg, Oregon until at least 1900. He retired to San Jose, California by 1910, and died in Oakland in 1915.

Shoenberg, Peter  
???

Shook, Robinson Smith  
1828-1884
Born in Tennessee, Robinson was in Oregon by 1859 when he was a Compassman for Robert Wilcox on Claim contract 102. He married Juliaette by 1868, and they had one child. Juliaette died in 1881, and Robinson in 1884, both in Newberg. Robinson was a farmer.
Short, Robert Valentine  
*1823-1908*

Dem  
Rep  
USDS

Claim Contract 16  
1853

to

Special Instructions  
1863

Born in Pennsylvania, Robert attended Ohio Wesleyan University and self taught himself in the Davis System of surveying. He came across the Oregon Trail in 1847, driving an ox team for Joseph C. Geer. Robert ended up in Oregon City, where he temporarily opened up a tailor shop. He married Mary Geer in 1848, the daughter of Joseph Geer, and aunt of future Governor T. T. Geer, and soon left for the gold fields in California.

He took a sailing ship from the mouth of the Willamette, and a rowboat from San Francisco to Sacramento, but mined for only three months. After Robert returned to Oregon, he surveyed the town of Portland and made the first plat. He then moved to Oregon City and bought an interest in a steam sawmill. He filed on a Donation Land Claim on the Willamette in Yamhill County in 1851, organized a militia, of which he was Captain, and was elected both the first County Surveyor of Yamhill County and a Justice of the Peace in 1855. He received three Claim Contracts from 1853-56 near Yamhill, and another at an unknown location in 1859.

After he served in the Oregon Constitutional Convention in 1857, the Legislature moved his Claim from Yamhill to Clackamas County, where he was elected County Assessor in 1862. In 1888, Robert was elected to the State Legislature, and he retired in Portland in 1891. Mary died of a stroke in 1899, and Robert in 1908, both in Portland.

Simmons, Alfred H. 
*1832-1881*

Dem  
USDS  
Comp

Contract 176 (as compassman for George Williams)  
1872

to

Contract 327  
(canceled)  
1879

Alfred was born in New York, and attended West Point, per his obituary, but he does not show up in their records. He married Susan Irby in Clark County, Washington by 1858. In 1859-60 he served in the Washington Territorial House of Representatives, and was a census taker in Cowlitz, Clark and Skamania Counties in 1860. He was listed as a farmer in Lake River in Clark County in 1860, and patented a 160 acre Military Warrant claim on the West side of Lake River near Shillapoo Lake in 1866. In 1867 he moved to Klickitat where he was first named Sheriff by the Legislature, and then elected as a Representative to the Washington House from 1867-69.
In February of 1867, he was awarded Contract 94 to survey the exteriors of 11 townships. Eight of them were along the Columbia River from Priest Rapids to Vantage, and the other 3 were at Hanford. He was awarded Contract 96 in 1867, a Joint Contract with Henry Cock, for two townships at Lyle, 3 townships just East of Goldendale, and 2 townships between Prosser and Benton City. Alfred did all of the surveying. While surveying this Contract in Yakima County in 1867, he was bitten by a rattlesnake and almost died. Another Joint Contract with Henry Cock, Number 104, was issued in 1868 for 4 townships North of Prosser. Again, Alfred did all of the work.

He moved to Walla Walla in 1869, where he was City Surveyor 1869-70, County Surveyor from 1870-71, and owned a newspaper. His last Contract was Contract 122 in 1871 for 5 townships just East of Walla Walla. Future Deputy Surveyor, Francis F. Loehr, was an axeman. None of his Contracts were examined. He surveyed four townships as compassman for Oregon Deputy Surveyor, George Williams, in 1872 East of Milton Freewater. Alfred was plagued by financial problems in the 1870's in Walla Walla, being sued for money at least 8 times. He had deeded some property into his wife’s name, and had judgments filed against him. He was awarded Contract 327 in 1879 in Oregon, North of Elgin, but it was cancelled for unknown reasons.

Alfred was a surveyor in Umatilla, Oregon in 1880, and surveyed the plat of Grange City on the Snake River in Columbia County in 1881. He was living at Simmons Landing on the Columbia River East of Umatilla in 1881, where a wagon road was being built to the South. He died in 1881 in Umatilla County at age 49. Alfred had eight children, all born in Washington. His wife was living with family in Lapwai in 1900 and died in Clarkston in 1828. His son, Isaac J. Simmons was an Oregon U. S. Deputy Surveyor. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

Simmons, Isaac
James "Ike"
1861-1920
USDS
Contract 624 (rejected) 1893
to
no more

Born at Weldon's Point, Clark County, Washington, the son of U. S. Deputy Surveyor, Alfred H. Simmons, Isaac was with his family in Walla Walla in 1870 and Umatilla, Oregon in 1880. He received Contract 624 for two townships Northwest of Jordan Valley in 1893, and surveyed them in 1894. He was examined and after failing to correct, the Contract was rejected in 1898. He was always single and died of emphysema in Clarkston, Washington in 1920, where he was living with his sister, Margaret Case. His mother died in 1928, and is also buried in Vineland Cemetery.
Simons, Nelson
1861-1920
USDS
Claim Contract 32 1854
Born in New York, Nelson married Mary Ann Wise in Illinois in 1844, and was still there in 1850. He received Claim Contract 32 in 1854 for Claims in Linn County, but no surveys were found in the record by Nelson. He ran a store at Sand Ridge and owned a drug store in Lebanon, selling herbs. He was listed as a Physician in Harrisburg in 1860, with no family. He was known as Doc Simons.

Simons, Benjamin Franklin
1818-1910
SG
Surveyor General 1874
Born in Tennessee, Ben moved to Missouri in 1820 with his family, and married at age 17 to Caroline Gordon in 1835. He remarried to Elzira Jane Wisdom in Missouri in 1839 and they had one son. Elzira died in 1841 and Ben remarried again to Nancy June Cooper in 1843. Ben, Nancy, three children and Ben's parents came across the Oregon Trail and Barlow Pass in 1846, with Ben as Captain of his wagon train. He settled on French Prairie in 1847, North of Salem.

Ben built sawmills on several rivers and sent lumber to California during the gold rush. He fought in the Indian wars, owned stores, and built a warehouse on the Willamette. Ben went to the Legislature 4 times from 4 different Counties and was the Indian Agent on the Siletz Reservation for eight years. He built a military road over the Cascades and the lighthouse at Yaquina Bay. From 1874-78 he was Surveyor General of Oregon, responsible for moving the Office to Portland, and then was Oregon's Postal Inspector for two years. Nancy died in 1883, having given Ben ten children. He was then assigned to the Postal Department in Alabama in 1883 and returned to Portland in 1895. He was living in Portland with his daughter Dora in 1910 when he died.

Simpson, Elnora Thurston
"Nora"
1852-1925
Dr/Clerk
Clerk 1877
Born in Oregon, the daughter of Benjamin Simpson, Nora attended enough school to become a teacher by 1870. She was named as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of her father in 1874, and was still living at home in 1880. She was the enrolling Clerk for the Oregon House of Representatives in 1882, and married in 1894 to William Thomas Burney, a widower lawyer with five children. She continued teaching school, and they moved to California where both Nora and William died in 1925.
**Simpson, Grover**

**Benjamin**

1858-1934  
Dr/Clerk  
Clerk  
1874  
to  
no more  

Born in Oregon the son of Benjamin F. Simpson, Grover was a Messenger in the Surveyor General's Office of his father from at least 1874-76. He was a mailman in 1880 in Portland, and married Alma C. Beasley in 1885. Grover and his family were in Chicago in 1900-1910, where he was an official with an express company. Alma died in 1912, and he remarried to Mabel Dowse Fleming in Chicago in 1916. He was the General Manager of Wells Fargo Express Company in 1920, and retired in 1930, still in Chicago. He died in 1934, and Mabel was living with one of her daughters in 1940.

**Simpson, Samuel**

**Leonidas**

1846-1899  
Dr/Clerk  
Clerk  
1874  
to  
no more  

Sam was born in Missouri, and came across the Oregon Trail with his father, Ben Simpson, and family in 1846. His father had many enterprises in Western Oregon, including 4 terms in the State Legislature. Sam attended Willamette University from 1861-66, and graduated with an A. B., and then studied law and passed the Bar. At that time, he married Julia Humphrey, and in 1871 quit law and purchased the Corvallis Gazette.

That failed, and by 1874, he was a Clerk for his father in the Surveyor General's Office. After the Gazette, he wrote for many enterprises, from newspapers, to books, to editing readers. He helped to compile Bancroft's "History of the Pacific Coast" for some time. He began writing poetry at the University, publishing most, and had a wide following. "Beautiful Willamette" was one of his most famous poems. He became Oregon's 19th Century Poet Laureate, writing beautiful poems and prose about Oregon. Unfortunately, he was an alcoholic for the last 29 years of his life, and died from injuries in a fall in 1899.

**Simpson, William Milton**

1856-1927  
Dr/Clerk  
Clerk  
1875  
to  
no more  

Born in Oregon, the son of Benjamin F. Simpson, William married Mary L. Dickinson in 1879. He served as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of his father in Portland in 1875. He worked as a real estate agent in 1900 in Portland, and a publicity agent in 1920. He died in Portland in 1927.
In 1849 Alonzo was named a prosecutor in a murder trial of six Indians. He was part of a three-member-commission in 1850-51 that negotiated the Willamette Valley Indian Treaties. He then served as Indian Agent in 1851 for the Rogue River Tribes. He had an unsuccessful run for U. S. Congress in 1852, losing to Joseph Lane. Alonzo married Elizabeth Hopkins Lincoln in Lane County in 1853, and they taught school at Astoria before moving to Willamina and then Eugene. She had been one of five school teachers that came West in 1851 via Panama to teach school in Oregon, sent by Vermont. At Eugene, Alonzo practiced law, served as a Clerk in the Surveyor Generals Office in 1866, and was City Recorder and Lane County Clerk.

At the beginning of the Civil War, he was provost marshal, supervising the Draft in Oregon. Upon the death of a Justice, he was appointed temporarily to the Oregon Supreme Court in 1866. In 1870, he was appointed Collector of Customs at Coos Bay. Alonzo and Elizabeth had four children living with them at different times, whose surnames were not Skinner. Poor health caused Alonzo to go to Santa Barbara, California, which is where he died in 1877, and is buried in an unmarked grave. Elizabeth died in 1894, and is buried in Masonic Cemetery in Eugene.

Born in Minnesota, the son of a Norwegian immigrant farmer, Charles was still there in 1905. By 1907 he was an axeman and moundsman for George and Burt Campbell, East of Omak, and an axeman for their brother, Charles, in Idaho. He was also a helper in a mill in 1907, a clerk for the Spokesman Review in 1909, and attended Spokane College in 1909-10. In May of 1910, he received a Joint Contract with Clarence Payne of Spokane to survey 4 townships East of Chewelah and 3 townships West of Metaline. They shared the work. Charles also received Contract 793 in Western Douglas County, Oregon in 1910 for three sections. The Oregon Contract was examined by Albert Horton and approved without issue. The Washington Contract was not examined until 1912 by Fred Rase, and a portion was suspended.
Charles had left for Canada in 1911, and the 7-10 miles of corrections were up to Clarence. They were reexamined in 1913 and ultimately approved, after getting a Senator involved. Charles lived in Red Deer, Alberta, farming with his parents in 1916, and was in Hamilton, Alberta in 1918 on a farm which he had homesteaded. Charles married Zella Mae Wolfe in about 1920, a school teacher in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, and became a naturalized Canadian Citizen in 1923, when he was a grain buyer in Manitoba. By 1940, he and his wife had moved to Victoria, and he worked at odd jobs. From 1957 until when he died in 1987, he was retired there. Zella died in 1984. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

Born in Pennsylvania, Thomas lied about his age in 1862, and enlisted in the Union Army. He served until he was mustered out in 1865 as a noncommissioned officer, and began attending college. After he graduated, Thomas came to the Willamette Valley, where he was a teacher. He went to Wasco County and took up a homestead in 15 Mile Valley, and continued teaching for a while.

He was elected Wasco County Surveyor in 1872, and again in 1876. Thomas received Contract 284 in Wasco County for two townships in 1878, and surveyed them the same year, noting himself as compassman. He married Arrabelle Hannah Dufur in Wasco County in 1878, and together they had eight children. Their house burned down about four miles above Dufur in 1881, and an old man lost his life. Thomas was named the Receiver in The Dalles Land Office in 1886 when the Grover Cleveland administration took office, and at about that time named a newborn son. "Grover Cleveland Slusher".

In 1890, Thomas was still the Receiver when he died of a "lingering illness" at his home leaving a wife and many small children. At the time of his death, he left an estate with over 800 acres of prime farmland in the 15 Mile Valley. Arrabelle remarried to William Staats in order to raise her family, but is buried with Thomas.
Alleck was born in Kentucky and graduated from Transylvania University with a degree in Law, before crossing the Oregon Trail in 1852. He filed a claim near Lafayette, OR, adjacent to Anson Henry, and married Anson's oldest daughter, Margaret. Anson received Claim Contract 13 under Whig John Preston in OR, with Alleck as chainman, and Alleck returned the favor under Democrat Charles Gardner in OR by using Anson's sons on his Contract. Alleck was also a chainman for William Logan for 25 Claims near Lafayette.

Claim Contract 22 was Alleck's first Contract in his name. There were eight townships of DLC surveys near Amity, McMinnville and Yamhill. He appears to have used local settlers for most his crew. He next surveyed Contact 65 in 1856 for 8 townships in the foothills, three West of Gaston, and 5 from Dallas to Corvallis. Gordon Henry and Francis Henry were chainmen, and Milton Robbins was an axeman. In 1858, they both received Contracts from James Tilton in Washington for the survey of the Coast Guide Meridian and several townships adjacent. Alleck's Contract included the Coast Guide Meridian, North to the present Quinault Reservation, and a row of 7 townships from Montesano to the Pacific Ocean, all North of Grays Harbor and the Chehalis River. Alleck made an error in the triangulation across Grays Harbor.

Anson Henry, Gordon Henry, and Milton Robbins were crewmen on the Guide Meridian. Alleck surveyed the townships West of the Meridian in 1858, and Anson surveyed at least two of his townships also in 1858. Alleck was a chainman on a Contract for William Logan in Oregon, where E. S. Barnes was the chainman, and Alleck used E. S. Barnes as a compassman for this Contract. James Tilton ordered Matthew Murphy to examine Anson's work and it was rejected. Anson tried bribing Tilton, Chief Clerk Hall, and Murphy, but to no avail. Anson did not return personally in 1859, but used Alleck and George House as compassmen to do the corrections of two townships.

Alleck returned in 1859 to survey the townships East of the Meridian and to resurvey one of Anson's townships. He used compassmen, Milton Robbins and E. S. Barnes on all four townships. In running the North line of T18N R7W, he closed about 10 chains North of the Northwest corner of the township. Instead of correcting the whole line, he put all of the error in the North line of Section 6.
Alleck meandered the whole length of the Washkah River in T18N R9W, but it was corrected in 1875 by Charles Byles because the location as surveyed by Alleck was up to a mile off. He had decided to stay in Washington, and was living on some property on the Chehalis River. As early as 1859, Anson knew he was going to be the Surveyor General of Washington if Lincoln was elected. Alleck was practicing law, and ran for Prosecuting Attorney in 1860. Alleck received a Contract from the Office of Indian Affairs to survey the first boundary of the Quinault Reservation in 1861, and surveyed it in 1862.

Anson Henry was appointed Washington Surveyor General in 1861, and Alleck became a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office until 1863, when he resigned to take the position of a Supreme Court Justice in Idaho. Anson Henry had been in Washington, D.C. to arrange this with Lincoln. His District was the one including Lewiston, the Capital. Alleck ruled for Lewiston as Capital of Idaho in a fight with Boise, with Boise eventually stealing the State Seal and the records. Alleck's successor ruled for Boise. Alleck was replaced after three years, and came back to Chehalis, Vancouver and Kalama, to practice law and work for the NPRR. He died of TB in Kalama in 1875. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

Smith, Clark

1843-1920

Born in Illinois, the son of future U. S. Deputy Surveyor William E. Smith, Clark came to Oregon with his family in 1864. Clark had attended Marshall College and Illinois State Normal School before heading to Oregon, but finished at Willamette University with a Masters of Arts in 1869. He married Anina Royal, a school teacher, in 1872, and they had four children. He ran a drug store in Cornelius in 1875 and received a Contract to survey four townships in the Northern Coast Range in 1878.

There were errors, and he had to go back in 1879 and correct some lines, accompanied by a "confidential agent" from the Surveyor General's Office. Another Contract followed in the same year for three townships near Yaquina Bay. His father notarized all the oaths as a Judge. Clark graduated from Texas Medical School in Galveston, Texas in 1879; practiced medicine in Texas; engaged in educational work in various colleges; spent a year as Superintendent of Instruction and teacher at Tule River Indian Reservation; and was pastor of the Methodist Church at Tulare City, California. He was sent to Africa as a medical missionary, but Anna died there in 1885.

Clark returned to Cornelius in 1886 to practice medicine and remarried to Regina Stadler in 1888. He was elected Washington County Superintendent of Schools in 1888 and 1890, and created over 20 new districts. He was a Physician in Santa Cruz, California in at least 1900-02, a physician in Berkeley in 1910, and a surgeon in Berkeley in 1920 when he died there.
Smith, Columbus

1852-
Comp
Contract 153 (as Compassman for William E. Smith) to no more 1871

Born in Illinois, the son of Deputy Surveyor William E. Smith and the brother of Deputy Surveyor Clark Smith, Columbus came to Washington County, Oregon with his family in 1864. They settled four miles North of Cornelius on a farm, and the family stayed there until 1892. He was a student, living with his brother in Vancouver, Washington in 1870. Columbus was a Compassman for his father on Contract 291 in Columbia County in 1871-72. He was the Republican nominee for Washington County Surveyor in 1872. Nothing more is known for now.

Smith, Hiram Wesley

1812-1876
Comp
Contract 67 (as compassman for Samuel D. Snowden for portions) to no more 1856

Hiram was born in Ohio and married Mary Bevins in 1834 for his first wife, and he remarried to Sarah Jane Marshall in 1843 in Illinois. He took his family of many children over the Oregon Trail in 1852, and settled on a Claim in Tillamook, staying there until he died. He was a compassman for Samuel Snowden when Samuel was surveying in Tillamook County, and then was a house carpenter in 1860.

Smith, Lewis D.

1846-
Dem
USDS
Contract 426 to Contract 505 (portions † 1884 1881

Lewis was born in New York and was in Oregon by 1870 as a farmer, married to Hulda, and was living as a farmer in Willamette Forks, in Lane County in 1880. He was active in Democrat politics, and when Grover Cleveland was elected President, Lewis was awarded Contract 426 for two townships West of Eugene. Experienced Deputy Surveyor Laban Wheeler had just finished the adjacent townships, and notarized both the preliminary and the final oaths. The work was finished by 1884 when Lewis received another Contract near Eugene. Charles E. Hill was the compassman for that township. Lewis co-owned a hardware store in Eugene in 1884, and ran for the House of Representatives as a Democrat in 1894 from Gervais. Hulda was a widow in 1900, living with her daughter in California.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smith, Robert</td>
<td>Born in Oregon, he graduated from high school in Jacksonville and was living with Surveyor Tolman in 1880 in Portland, where he served as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office at age 16. He returned to Klamath County to teach school, but moved to Grants Pass and studied law while working as a clerk in a store, passing the bar in 1888. He practiced law for the rest of his life, and was elected to the State Legislature in 1894.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glenn &quot;Rob&quot;</td>
<td>1864-</td>
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<td>Rep</td>
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<td>Dem</td>
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<td>Dr/Clerk</td>
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<td>Clerk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1881</td>
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<td></td>
<td>to no more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith, William</td>
<td>Born in England, William travelled to Oregon in 1847, and married Nancy Adeline Luckey in Eugene in 1851. He was a farmer near Eugene in 1860, 1870, and 1880. In 1863 he served as the Messenger for the Surveyor General's Office of Bynon Pengra in Eugene and died in Eugene in 1899.</td>
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<td>1826-1899</td>
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<td>Dr/Clerk</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1863</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to no more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith, William</td>
<td>Born in Ohio, William had ten children in Illinois before coming to Oregon in 1864, bringing along nine of his children. He purchased a farm four miles North of Cornelius, and he lived there until 1892 when he moved to Hillsboro. He had married Nancy Adams in Illinois in about 1839, and she died in Washington County in 1871. William received a Contract for ten townships in Columbia County in 1871, and used his youngest son, Columbus, as compassman. The author notes that he barked scribed only, but left a distinct chaining notch on his witness trees. It was finished in 1872. He was Washington County Surveyor sometime and also elected a Judge from 1878-82. He remarried to his second wife, May, in 1880, 33 years his junior. He was also a Methodist Minister along the way, and died in Hillsboro in 1902.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmund</td>
<td>1817-1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USDS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contract 153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to no more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Smith, William P.

USDS
Contract 675 (rejected) 1897

William P. Smith received Contract 675 in 1897 for T16S R11W. The Oregonian reported that he was from Portland at that time. He surveyed the work and it was inspected by William J. Lightfoot in 1900 and David Kincaid in 1902. He was ordered to redo the survey in 1903, while he was living in Salt Lake City, or hire a compassman to redo it. He was given a new exam by William Douglass in 1905, and after his report, the Commissioner rejected the survey and went after the bondsmen. No individual can be tied to this surveyor at this time. Charles M. Collier received a new Contract to survey the township in 1907.

### Smyth Hugh

1877-1917
USDS
Contract 698 (with Hezekiah Johnson) 1899
to no more

Born in Nova Scotia, the son of an engineer, Hugh came to the United States with his family to Boston. He was in Oregon city, Oregon, where his brother Sidney was an engineer, by 1899 when he received Joint Contract 698 with Hezekiah Johnson for seven townships in Malheur County. They shared the work, and both signed the oaths and finished in 1899. Hugh joined the Army in November 1899, served at Vancouver Barracks, and was discharged in January of 1900. They were examined by John McLeod in 1900, resulting in minor corrections in the field, and the work was approved in 1901. Hugh was living in Portland with his brother in 1899 and 1900, but returned to Boston to marry Bertha Christine Fellmeth in 1912. He died there in 1917.

### Smyth, Sidney

1864-1934
USDS
Contract ?? (with James F. Case) 1896
to Contract 682 (with Stephen H. D. Hungate) 1898

OR PE 85. Born in Canada, the son of an engineer, Sidney came to Oregon City in the late 1880's. He was naturalized in 1881 in Boston with his occupation noted as a surveyor. He returned to Boston to marry Bessie M. McGraw in 1890, and they returned to Oregon City. He was both Clackamas County Surveyor and Oregon City Engineer in 1891. He received an unknown Joint Contract with James F. Case in 1896 that was reported in the Oregonian.
He received Joint Contract 682 with Stephen Hungate in 1898 for four townships in Malheur County, and they shared the work and both signed the oaths. After finishing in 1898, they were examined by David Kinnaird in 1899 and John McLeod in 1900, receiving approval in 1900. Sidney returned to Oregon City and moved his family to Portland. He lived there as a civil engineer and contractor until he died in 1934. At his death he was a consultant to the Los Angeles Flood Control District and the Northwest Roads Company.

### Snowden, Samuel D.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1811-1882</th>
<th>USDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claim Contract 6 to Claim Contract 98</td>
<td>1853 to 1859</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Born in London, England, Samuel was in Oregon by 1847 when he filed a provisional claim on the South side of Newberg. He went to the gold fields of California in 1849. He filed again after the Donation Act was adopted, and patented a Claim of 324 acres in Yamhill County in 1873, with a mile of river frontage on the Willamette River, just Southeast of Newberg. He was a life long batchelor, and was living in Gervais in 1880, still as a surveyor. His obituary notes how orderly and meticulous he was, down to boxes labeled "this box contains 23 8-penny-nails" He died in Gervais.

### Soehren, William Lloyd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1879-1968</th>
<th>USDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract 750 (with Marion Wilkes, and Lincoln Wilkes) to no more</td>
<td>1902</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

William was born in Klickitat, Washington and attended school through two years of high school. He was the brother-in-law of Lincoln Wilkes. From 1910 until he died in 1968, William lived in the same house on Main Street in Dallas, Oregon. He shared a Joint contract for one township near Roseburg with Lincoln and Marion Wilkes in 1902. He married his wife, Clarissa, in about 1902, and was the superintendent of the water works in 1910, owned a warehouse in 1930, and headed the city Water Department in 1940.

### Sparks, Harriett Ella, Mrs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1870-1936</th>
<th>Rep Dr/Clerk Clerk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>to no more</td>
<td>1895</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Ella was born in Clark County Washington, the daughter of Jacob Proebstel, a pioneer of 1852, that made a Claim a few miles East of Orchards, at a location now called Proebstal, named for the family. Ella moved with the family to Weston, Oregon in Umatilla County, where her father had a flour mill. He was successful and by 1877, they were living in Portland. The family moved to Tacoma by 1887, and continued there until at least 1891. In 1895, Ella was the Minute Clerk for the Washington State Senate, and later that year was a temporary Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of John Arnold. Her father had prospered, and was elected to the State Senate by 1901, accompanied by some influence.
Ella married someone by the name of Sparks, but either he died or they were divorced. While in the Surveyor General's Office, she met John W. Rowland, another Clerk, and they were married in 1895 and were living with her parents in 1900. Her father lobbied for Henry Meldrum to dismiss Chief Clerk George Waggoner and replace him with John Rowland. This was accomplished, and John was the Chief Clerk for many years. John died in 1927, and Ella remarried after that to someone named Leaman, but is buried with John in Old City Cemetery, Vancouver, Washington.

**Sperry, Edwin**

**Anson**

*1857-1935*

USDMS

Mineral Surveys to no more 1899

Edwin was born a twin, as the son of Anson Sperry and attended Northwestern University in Illinois, Class of 1880. He spent many years working as a mining engineer in Colorado and several Western states, including Oregon in 1899. He married Emma Bradley in 1887, and they had a son in 1897, born in Denver. Edwin took a staff position at Pei-Yang University, Tientsin, China in 1911, where he taught as a Professor of Metllurgy. He taught for 24 years, and they lived out the rest of their lives in the University Compound until they died there.

**Sprague, Elisha W.**

*1841-1873*

Comp

Mineral Survey to no more 1873

Born in Maine, Elisha was in Coos County by 1866 when he married Mary Catherine Loose. He acted as the compassman for the survey of the Sprague and Norman Gold Mine in Coos County in 1873. Mary died after one daughter, and he remarried to Mary E. Clinkinbeard, the daughter of John Clinkinbeard, in 1877. They had two daughters. Elisha was a truckmaker in 1884, owned a saloon with his brother, Andrew, and they opened a restaurant with his wife in 1884. He died before 1900, and Mary moved to San Francisco.
Stanley, Frank
Dennis
1854-1925+
USDMS
Mineral Surveys 1901
to
Mineral Surveys 1904

Born in either Canada or New Hampshire, Frank graduated from Dartmouth in 1879 with a degree in civil engineering. He married his first wife, Mary Carleton, in 1880 in Vermont, and then worked in Michigan until 1886. After three children, Mary died in 1886. He remarried to Caroline Adams in 1887, and after a brief stay in Missouri, he came to Spokane in 1889, where he formed a partnership in engineering with first Wilbur Waltman, and then Ulysses Hough.

In 1893 Frank operated a shingle mill with Albert O'Donnell, and from 1895-1905 he was a civil engineer and surveyor on his own in Spokane. He surveyed 33 Mining Claims in Eastern Washington from 1898-1904, and 34 Mining Claims in Grant and Baker Counties in Oregon from 1901-04. By 1900, Frank had sired 9 children. Caroline died in 1901 in Spokane, and he married again in 1907 to Anna Swett in Iowa. They were living in Baker, Oregon from 1908-12 with Frank's youngest son, where Frank worked as a civil engineer. By 1920 Frank and Anna were in Hermiston where Frank was a farmer. The Oregonian reported that in 1925 that Anna filed for Divorce. SeeWA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

Stearns, Sidney
Sumner
1856-1923
Comp
Contract 483 (as compassman for William B. Pengra)
to
no more

Sidney was the son of the brother to both the wives of Bynon and William Pengra. Sidney signed both the preliminary and final oaths for Contract 483, T20S R2E, and had his signature acknowledged, but his signature is crossed out both places. He was the nephew of William and Bynon Pengra by marriage.
Stevenson, Henry John  
1838-1926  
Wkngmn  
USDS  
Contract 132 (with M. L. McCall)  
1869 to  
Contract 218  
1874  

CA PLS 1145. Born in Canada, Henry attended Washington County Seminary and Collegiate Institute in New York from 1861-62. From 1862-64 he was a chainman and axeman for George House and George Sloan in Port Angeles. He received his own Contract in 1864 for T20,21N R4E. He corrected the South Boundary for George Sloan, did the subdivisions, and surveyed 17 DLCs. He was awarded Contract 85 in 1866 near Yakima, but did not do the survey.

Henry was listed as a surveyor in the censuses in Los Angeles in 1900, 1910 and 1920, and was noted as surveying several large ranches into developments over the years in Southern California. There was a Henry J. Stevenson in Riverside, California convicted of selling obscene photographs in 1894, who served 150 days in jail. By 1900 Henry and Sarah were not living together, but did not divorce. Sarah died in Monrovia in 1923 and Henry in Los Angeles in 1926. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.
John was born in Vermont, and was in the Northwest by about 1870 when he was working for the Corps of Engineers in Portland under General Nathaniel Michler. He was in both Tacoma and Kalama in 1874, and may have been working on the NPRR construction at that time. He finished his survey Contract in 1875 and returned to Portland to marry Emma J. Phillips. Operating as Grant and Stone with William Grant, he was awarded a contract for rock removal in the Columbia River in 1876. John was involved in land and timber speculation in Skamania County in 1879. He was a contractor in Portland in 1880 and ran the sawmill at for NPRR at Ainsworth in 1881.

He lived in Spokane the rest of his life, becoming a wealthy man. He was continuously in court involving money, debts, and contracts. John was charged criminally with stealing federal timber in 1892, and after a long trial was acquitted. He had purchased timber from entrymen who had not proved up on their claims. The federal government then sued him in civil court, but the outcome is unknown. In 1905 the newspapers in Spokane ran a story about how his son Harry had abandoned his wife and child in Northport. Harry had been sent back east to study music and was very talented. The wife and child were reported to be destitute, being helped by a frail mother-in-law.

Stoner worked for the USGS for several years before switching to the GLO in 1907. He had married Marjorie Sprague in Florida in 1901. He was the topographer for the Troutdale quadrangle in Florida.

In 1908-09 he was an investigator in the Cunningham coal lands investigation in Alaska, where several investors and surveyors in the Pacific Northwest were involved, and lost their Claims. He lived in both Portland and Seattle. By 1910, he went back to the USGS in California until at least 1927, living much of that time in Sacramento and Oakland. He transferred to Florida and worked there until his death in 1951.
By 1909 they had four children and continued living in various places in Western Oregon until 1932 when Columbus died while they were living in Pringle. Mary was still in Pringle in 1940 and died in Berkeley, California in 1971.

Stout, Ray Lewis

1885-1984
USDS
Contract 753
1904
or more

Born in Oregon, Mary grew up on her family's farm at Mehema, near the farm of William Henry Byars. Mary was the niece of William Henry Byars and the sister of Ray Lewis Stout. She attended college for four years, and when her uncle became Surveyor General, Mary was appointed a Transcribing Clerk at age 18 in 1893, a full time position. She was back on the farm at Mehema in 1900, but married Columbus Mulkey in 1901.

That fall in 1900, Ray entered Oregon Agricultural College, without a high school diploma. In 1903, Ray helped his uncle on the corrections of the previous survey near Mount Rainier. In 1904 he was the successful bidder for Oregon Contract 753 South of Jacksonville. His uncle came along as an advisor. He was examined in 1906, and after corrections, again in 1908, resulting in rejection. They then travelled to Newport, Washington where his cousin, William F. Byers, had received Contracts 609 and 613. They worked on them until Ray went back to school. William F. was already trying to get out of the Contract, and in 1905, Ray and William H. were appointed compassmen to do the survey. Ray was listed as a compassman in the notes, but with no date. They were examined by M. P. McCoy in 1905 and 1906, Scott Harrison in 1908, and Morris Chubb in 1910.

OR PE 160. Ray was born and raised in Mehama, Oregon, graduating from the public schools there in 1900. That summer he obtained a job as compass carrier for William H. Byars, his uncle, for Contract 560 in the Washington Cascades. They surveyed 5 fractional townships, from Eagle Gorge to the mouth of the Cispus River. William was examined by T. M. Hurlburt in 1902 and M. P. McCoy in 1905, and required corrections in the field in both 1903 and 1905.
Ray returned in the summer of 1909, after graduating from OSU and obtaining a job with the Marion County Engineer. Both Contracts 609 and 613 had multiple corrections, the final ones being done in 1909. The work was approved and paid in 1910. Ray was an engineer for a contractor in 1910, and married Mabel Vantress in 1911. He spent the rest of his career until 1950 as head of right-of-way surveying for Pacific Power and Light Co, headquartered in Portland. After retirement, he worked on a large electrical transmission system in Greece from 1950-1953. He died two months shy of his 100th birthday. There is a long autobiography and an oral history at the Oregon Historical Society, and a photograph collection at the Oregon State University Library. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

### Stowell, Abert

1841-1907

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ch Clerk</th>
<th>1871</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief Clerk</td>
<td>to</td>
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</table>

Born in Indiana the brother of George Stowell and the son of a surveyor and farmer, Albert moved with his family to California in 1856, and then to Eugene, Oregon in 1858. He began his career as a clerk in a store in Eugene, and the opened a store of his own. Alfred married Blandina E. Thurston, the daughter of the first U. S. Congressman from Oregon in 1867. He was appointed Chief Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William ODell, and continued until ODell was replaced in 1874. Alfred moved to Portland in 1882 and opened a retail business on Front Street with A. H. Morgan. He entered the brokerage business with R. A. Frame in 1888, and continued that until he retired. He also had a farm in Clark County, Washington, and died in Portland.

### Stowell, George

1838-1919

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dr/Clerk</th>
<th>1871</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draughtsman</td>
<td>to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcribing Clerk</td>
<td>1881</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Born in Indiana, the brother of Albert Stowell and the son of a surveyor and farmer, George moved with his family to California in 1856, and then to Eugene, Oregon in 1858. He was a draftsman in the Surveyor General's Office of Elisha Applegate in 1869 and married Janette McCalley in Eugene in 1870. He continued under the regime of Surveyor General William Odell until 1874, and then under Benjamin Simpson in Portland, until he was replaced in 1878 by John Tolman. George continued again under James C. Tolman, and then was named Chief Clerk under Douglas Taylor in 1889. He had participated in a Washington County map in 1889. George was a draftsman in Sitka, Alaska from at least 1900-1910. Janette became ill in Alaska, and died in Portland in 1916. George died in the Portland Sanatorium in 1919.
Stowell, Janette McCalley  
1847-1916  
Dr/Clerk  
Clerk 1883  
to  
no more  

Janette McCalley was born in Scotland, and came to the U. S. as a child in 1851, and was in Salem, Oregon by 1861, where she was a student at Willamette University. She married George Stowell in 1870 in Springfield, where George was a draftsman in the Surveyor General's Office. She had four children through 1889, and was appointed a Copyist in the Surveyor General's Office of James C. Tolman in by 1883, where her husband was the draftsman.

The family moved to Sitka Alaska in 1899, where George was again a draftsman. They lived in Juneau in 1910, where Janette became ill, and later died in Portland in 1916.

Stowell, Percy Eldon  
1872-1959  
Dr/Clerk  
Clerk 1893  
to  
no more  

Percy was born in Oregon, the son of Chief Clerk George Stowell and his wife, Janette Stowell. He attended college for five years before being appointed a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William H. Byars. In 1894, where his father was also serving. He married Alice Lee Wells, the daughter of a physician, in Portland in 1900.

He was a salesman in 1910, a manager in a wholesale company in 1920, a sales manager in 1930, and retired in 1940, all in Portland. They lived in Astoria in 1953, and Alice died in 1957 and Percy in 1959, both in Coos Bay, where their daughter resided.

Stratton, Horace Fitch  
1835-1906  
Rep  
Dr/Clerk  
USDS Clerk  
1863  
to  
no more  

Born in Pennsylvania, Horace moved with his family to Indiana by 1838 and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1853. He served as assistant quartermaster in the Indian War in 1855-56. He was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of Byron Pengra in 1863, married Marilda Ferris Dunn in 1869 in Eugene, Oregon, and was a merchant from 1860-79 in Eugene. Horace received a Joint Contract with William Pengra for ten townships West of Summer Lake in 1869, but they were all surveyed by Pengra using Henry Gilfry as compassman.
Horace was a member of the Oregon State Legislature in 1879. He sold dry goods in Farmington, in Whitman County, Washington from at least 1880-87, where he was elected to the Washington Territorial Legislature in 1881. He then moved to Seattle where he was a lawyer in 1892 and a mining broker in 1900. He went to Alaska in about 1898, and had been an enthusiastic amateur geologist all of his adult life. He died in 1906 in Seattle.

David was born in Ohio and crossed the Oregon Trail in 1845, and settled at the foot of Writsman Peak in Polk County, Oregon, about six miles South of Monmouth. He married Catharine Elizabeth Chamberlin in Polk County in 1850. David had been a surveyor in Iowa and received Claim Contract 20 in 1854 in Western Polk County, during which he used his brother Jesse Stump as chainman. He paid for 800 sheep to be brought overland in 1854, of which 400 arrived in Oregon. David was elected to the Oregon State Legislature in 1874. He built a fine home at the corner of Jackson Street and College Avenue in Monmouth in 1878.

David donated land to begin Christian College, the predecessor of Western Oregon University. His daughter, Cassie Stump, graduated from Christian College in 1876 with a Masters Degree, and then attended Wellesley College in Boston in 1881. She returned and taught at what was to become Western Oregon University until 1886 when her father died. Mary Stump Campbell also graduated from Christian College in 1872, and became the publisher of Monmouth's first newspaper before she married. When her husband died, she returned to Monmouth to live with her mother and Cassie.

Abraham was born in Pennsylvania in 1820 and was in Oregon as a Merchant in 1850. He surveyed one Claim Contract near Portland in 1854, but was back in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by 1860 as a very prosperous merchant. It appears that he and two sisters had come into an inheritance, with each having $19-26,000 in assets in 1860.

Abraham was a member of the scientific organization in Philadelphia in 1880, The Franklin Institute.
Sweitzer, Nelson
Bowman Jr.
1869-1958

Member ASCE. Nelson was born in Nebraska, the son of Brevet Brigadier General Nelson B. Sweitzer, Sr. His father was an Aide de Camp to George McClelland during the War, and was brevetted to Brigadier General at the end of the War. Nelson, Sr. was mustered out as Aide de Camp in 1863, and served in line command until the end of the war. Nelson, Jr. followed his family around the Western U. S. on dozens of assignments.

The last assignment for his father was in command of Fort Walla Walla. Nelson, Jr. was in his third year at Whitman College in Walla Walla in 1888. He worked for the Corps of Engineers on the Mississippi, the Gulf Coast, and in D. C. until 1898, publishing an article in the ASCE Journal on jetties in 1898. In 1898 he was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in Washington and other western states, serving until at least 1904 in Oregon. He completed 12 examinations in Washington in 1898-99, and 5 examinations in Oregon in 1903. He married his wife Maria in 1898. He was in Minnesota in 1900 as a civil engineer, and again as an Examiner in 1909. He promoted the direct system of surveys and in 1911 was named the head of that system for Nebraska and South Dakota, serving in that position until 1929, when the post was eliminated, and he retired.

From his post in Nebraska, he pioneered some of the dependent resurvey philosophy to guide the agency in the future. By 1833 Nelson had purchased a house in Pasadena that he lived in until he died. Nelson and his wife, Marie, funded an endowed Professor of Law post at Stanford, which continues until present. He died in Los Angeles in 1958. The birth and baptism records of Nebraska show his name as Nelson McGregor Sweitzer, taking his mother's maiden name. He went by Nelson Bowman Sweitzer from adulthood on. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.
**Swope, Florence A.**

*1876-1930+
Dr/Clerk

Clerk to no more

Born in Pennsylvania, Florence was with her parents in Portland, Oregon by 1880. She was hired as a Transcribing Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of Robert Habersham by 1897, but was furloughed for lack of work a short time later. However, Ethel Cotter, a part-time Clerk was kept on, which caused Florence to file a civil service complaint in 1898. By 1899, the position was declassified, and Ethel kept the job. Florence married Harry K. Sargent in 1899, an attorney from Canada, and they kept living in Portland. They had a son in 1906, and separated in 1912. Florence filed for divorce in 1915, but Harry was still listed as married, but was living alone in 1920. Florence was single in Portland in 1920, working as a law stenographer, and unemployed there in 1930.

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**Taft, Walter Dewitt**

*1832-1917
Dem
Comp

Contract 120 (as 1867 to no more

Walter was born in New York and soon moved with his family to New Hampshire and then to Vermont. He is the only Walter Taft that can be found to venture West of the Mississippi, first listed in Colorado in 1870. He came there in 1860 and hauled freight from the Missouri to Denver for three years, amassing 10,000 miles by ox-team in that time.

His obituary noted he went to Montana after that for a period of time before returning to Colorado and marrying Eliza Caroline Frazer in Georgetown, Colorado in 1870, where he was listed as a miner. He was a farmer near Fort Collins after that. He was nominated for Laramie County Surveyor in 1877 and 1879, noting he had been a surveyor. Walter may have ventured to Baker, Oregon, where he was the compassman for George Gray for Contract 120 in 1867. He is the namesake of Taft Hill and Taft Hill Road in Fort Collins, Colorado. His younger brother Louis lived with him all the time in Colorado.
Tallman, Samuel
Wells
1817-1902
Dem
USDS
Contract 356
1880
Tatum, Seth
Sledge Jr.
"Sledge"
1871-1916
Dem
USS
Special Instructions
1898

Samuel received Contract 356 in 1880 at age 63 to survey fractional township T8N R8W, about four miles West of his DLC. It amounted to 23 miles of line. He made his last purchase in 1882, the same year he ran for Clatsop County Surveyor on the Democrat Ticket. He sold his Wauna property in 1885 for $10,000. Entrymen recruited him in 1890 to survey two townships in Clatsop County because the examinations of the current Deputies were taking too long, but Surveyor General William Byars refused to speed up the process. By 1900, he was an old man living with a nephew in Illinois and died there in 1902. He never married, reported himself as a government surveyor for 40 years, and left an estate of $9000.

Sledge was off up to six degrees in bearing, and up to six chains in distance, and did an awful job, apparently stubbing. The township was resurveyed by George Rigby and Otis Gould under the Direct System in 1932, and those parcels that were patented by that time were held in their original location, in some cases creating "Tracts" to accommodate the bonafide rights. The land still under federal ownership was resurveyed. After the first draft of this biography, Chuck Whitten pointed out the "rest of the story" on T3S R7E.

Member ASCE. Born the son of a farmer, Sledge graduated from high school and received private instruction after that. In 1886 he worked for Macon and Birmingham RR and then in private engineering and surveying work. He was elected to the Georgia Legislature in 1894 at age 23. Sledge was appointed a Surveyor in the USGS in 1895, first surveying in Oklahoma. He received Special Instructions to survey fractional township T3S R7E in 1898 at Welches, Oregon as a United States Surveyor, working for USGS. Two years prior, Manius Buchanan confirmed that the land in this township was worthless and did not survey it. Sledge surveyed portions of the North and East Boundary and the Northeasterly one third of the sections. The rest had been surveyed by Samuel Lackland in 1881, who did a reasonably good job.
Sledge was promoted to a Topographer in 1899, and worked in many states. He made the first ascent of Hozomeen Mountain in the North Cascades of Washington in 1904. In 1905, he was transferred to the Panama Canal Zone as a surveyor, and was promoted rapidly, eventually being in charge of all the survey parties on the Canal Zone Boundary. From 1908-09 he was in charge of all surveys for the Gatun Dam on the Panama work before requesting a transfer back to USGS. He married Sarah Richardson in 1909 and was put in charge of the Rocky Mountain Division of USGS in 1910, comprising 10 states. In 1915, as a Democrat, Sledge was named Acting Chief Geographer of the United States Geological Survey, succeeding R. B. Marshal, but served only one month until he died in January, 1916 at age 45 of stomach problems.

Born in California, Alice married Douglas William Taylor in Portland in 1879. She had two small children at home when she was noted as a Special Clerk in the Surveyor General's office of her husband, Douglas W. Taylor. She was making $4.00 a day. They lived at 605 South First Street in Portland at least until Douglas died in 1918. Alice died in the Masonic Home in Forest Grove in 1949.

Born in Iowa, Douglas came to Portland via Nicaragua in 1854 with his mother, after his father had already travelled here in 1852. He graduated from Portland Academy in 1868 but learned civil engineering and surveying through experience. He was on the survey crew for the City of Portland, and then became a surveyor for the O&C RR in 1872 and 1874. Douglas was named Portland City Engineer from 1874-78 and 1881-83. In this timeframe he laid out River View Cemetery.
Douglas married Alice F. Carr in Portland in 1879, and when he was Oregon Surveyor General from 1886-1890, he hired Alice as a Clerk. He had been elected to the Oregon State Legislature in 1886, but had to be disqualified because of his appointment as Surveyor General. He was Portland Superintendent of Streets 1891-93. He served as superintendent of Trinidad Asphalt Paving Company in 1905 before again being named Portland City Engineer from 1905-1909. His son, Douglas W. Taylor Jr., graduated from the University of Oregon in Civil Engineering and became associated with his father in consulting in Portland. Douglas Sr. died in Portland in 1918.

**Taylor, Lincoln**

1861-1929

Citizens

USDS

Contract 690 (with Harvey Taylor) 1898

Born in Oregon the son of a farmer, Harvey received a scholarship to the University of Oregon in 1878. He was noted as returning to school in 1883. He married Sarah Matilda Powell, "Tilla", in 1896 and received Joint Contract 690 in 1898 with his younger brother, Harvey, for one township in Lake County. It does not appear that they surveyed the township. He was a surveyor in Oakland, Oregon in 1900, the same year that he ran for Lane County Surveyor on the Citizens ticket. He was a civil engineer in Cottage Grove in 1910, an unemployed civil engineer in 1920, and died in Cottage Grove in 1929.

**Taylor, William Harvey**

Born in Oregon the son of a farmer, Harvey attended school through the eighth grade and received Joint Contract 690 in 1898 with his older brother, Lincoln, for one township in Lake County. It does not appear that they surveyed the township. He ran for Lane County Surveyor in 1898 on a Fusion, free silver ticket. He married Belle C. Baughman in Cottage Grove in 1900, and they started a family. Harvey and Belle lived in or near Cottage Grove until Harvey's death in 1943. He was listed as a surveyor in 1900, civil engineer in 1910, a farmer in 1920, a surveyor for a timber company in 1930, and retired in 1940.
Terwilliger,
Lewis L.
1833-1893
Comp
Contract 67 (as compassman for Samuel D. Snowden for portions) 1856

Born in Pennsylvania, Lewis was born in Pennsylvania, and was still a student in 1850. He served as a compassman for Samuel Snowden on Contract 67 in Tillamook County in 1856, and was a teacher in Portland in 1860. He moved to Delaware, in Leavenworth County, Kansas by 1865 and married 17 year old Clementine Abshire there in about 1868. He had been boarding in the Abshire home since at least 1865. By 1865 he was listed as a physician, and practiced medicine the rest of his life in Delaware.

Thatcher,
Everett A.
1849-1929
USDS
Contract 243 ( With Alonzo Gesner) 1875 to Contract 325 1879

Born in Illinois, the son of Deputy Surveyor Henry M. Thatcher, Everett crossed the Oregon Trail with his family, first to California in 1853 and then to Oregon by 1857. He married Mary A. Croft in 1869 in Salem, an immigrant from England, noting himself as a surveyor, and was a druggist in 1870. He received Joint Contract 243 with Alonzo Gesner for six townships in Eastern Oregon, which was signed by Alonzo. From 1877-79 Everett received three Contacts on his own in Eastern Oregon for a total of 23 townships. He was a surveyor in 1880, an attenant in the Oregon State Insane Asylum in Salem in 1900, a druggist in the Asylum in 1910, and a Commissary for the State in 1920. Mary died in 1922, and Everett in 1929 in Salem.

Thatcher, Henry Martyn
1826-
Rep
USDS
Contract 320 (with Eugene McCornack) 1879

Born in Pennsylvania, Henry moved with his parents to Illinois in 1837. He married Sarah Little there in 1846, where his son, Deputy Surveyor Everett Thatcher was born, the first of an eventual eight children. Leaving his wife and newborn son in Illinois, he crossed the Oregon Trail to California in 1850 to hunt for gold. With modest success, he returned to Illinois via Panama in 1852.
He crossed the Oregon Trail with his family this time to Utah in 1852, teaching school during the winter. He continued to California in 1853 where he bought a 160 acre farm near San Jose, and then relocated to Oregon in 1857, settling in Albany in 1859. He was a livery stable owner in 1860 in Salem, and a stage agent there in 1870. From the beginning, he was involved with the Republican Party. Henry was appointed Postmaster of Salem in 1876, continuing until he received Joint Contract 320 with the very political Eugene McCornack in 1879. There were six townships in Baker County, and Henry surveyed the only three that they surveyed and finished in 1879. He was a stock raiser in Salem in 1880.

There was a biography of Henry M. Thatcher in a Boise book in 1899. The subject was this Henry with the same parents and wife, although the birth date was wrong. He was noted as living in California, Albany and Salem as described above. However, the biography states he married Lou L. Hart of Portland in 1878 and bought a stage line out of Boise, running it for three years. He had two more children by his new wife, and owned a ranch in Cassia County from 1881-90. He then bought a 440 acre ranch just East of Little Wood River, which he owned until he died. He was a elected a Justice of the Peace in 1894, and still held the position in 1899. He was involved in an irrigation project in 1899.

An obituary in the Oregonian in 1900 confirmed that in fact, Henry had gone to Idaho as described and died in 1900 in Hailey, Idaho. There was no mention of the second wife or children. Sarah died in Salem in 1910, and William is not in Salem Pioneer Cemetery with Sarah and some of their children.

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**Thiel, Oscar F.**

1868-1954  
USDS  
Contract 658 1896  
to  
Contract 729 1900

OR PLS 4. Born in Oregon, the son of William Theil. William spent his youth on the farm at Oakland. He was educated at East Oakland and Oregon Agricultural College and served at least one term as Douglas County Surveyor 1898-99. He married Grace May Reed before 1910 in Douglas County. Being the son of William Thiel, he was taught surveying at an early age and lived his entire life in Douglas County, mostly near Yoncalla. He was a surveyor and farmer,

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**Thiel, William**

1837-1903  
Dem  
USDS  
SES  
Contract 260 1877  
to  
Special Instructions 1893

William was born in Germany and was educated there in the discipline of surveying. He came to the U. S. in 1853 and soon left for Oregon in 1855 via Panama. He married local girl, Mary Delia Watkins, in 1868, and together they had eleven children. Future Deputy Surveyor Oscar Thiel was their first child. William was twice Douglas County Surveyor in 1874-76 and 1884-86, a Justice of the Peace, and a Member of the State Legislature.
William surveyed five Contracts for seven total townships near his home from 1877-79. A few years later in 1887, he surveyed the boundary of the Klamath Reservation by Special Instructions. William held a Joint Contract with Oscar in 1891 for four townships in the Coast Range. He wrote the Surveyor General that he was suffering from a hernia during this Contract but he kept going until his bowels escaped in late November. He examined one Contract in 1893 for the Surveyor General. He moved with his family in 1889 to a larger farm a mile out of Yoncalla, which is where they lived until both William and Mary had died. He still had nine children at home in 1900.

**Thompson, Allen**
M. "Al"  
1837-1889  
Comp  
USDS  
Contract 94 (portions as compassman for Lafayette Cartee)  
1860  
to  
Contract 119 (with Bynon J. Pengra and David P. Thompson)  
1867  


**Thompson, David Preston**  
1834-1901  
Whig  
Contract 50 (as compassman for John and Joseph Trutch for portions)  
1854  
to  
Contract 382 (with Rufus Moore)  
1881  

David was born in Cadiz, Ohio, the son of a miller, was trained as a blacksmith, and walked across the Oregon Trail in 1853. He financed his trip on the Oregon Trail by shepherding a flock of sheep all of the way to Oregon. After cutting wood and working as a blacksmith's assistant, he obtained a job in the winter of 1854 as a chainman for La Fayette Cartee, surveying DLCs along the Willamette River between Portland and Oregon City, and surveying the exteriors of the township at Camas.

He received his first Contract in Oregon, a Claim Contract, in 1856, and surveyed claims and townships nearly continuously until 1872, receiving 23 Contracts. When La Fayette Cartee, the old friend of David and his brother Allen, was appointed Surveyor General of Idaho in 1867, both of them started surveying Contracts there. David surveyed Contracts in Idaho from about 1869-1875, totaling about 65 townships, with many of them Indian Allotments.
He used compassmen on much of his work, including USDS John David, USDS John Meldrum, USDS Allen Thompson, USDS Matthew Murphy, and USDS George Newman. David stopped surveying when he was appointed Governor of Idaho in 1875, but Allen continued until at least 1883. David held a Joint Contract with his brother-in-law, John Meldrum and nephew, Rufus Moore in 1879, but did not take to the field himself. Nearly all of David's Contracts were on the East side.

In 1859 he extended the Baseline East to the Blue Mountains, and surveyed the Columbia Guide Meridian North, almost to the Columbia River. Right after that, he was a compassman for Jared Hurd and Hamilton Maxon as part of WA Contract 50 to continue the Columbia Guide Meridian North to the Big Bend of the Columbia River in Eastern Washington. At the crossing of the Snake River, he made an error of 7 chains North by 15 Chains East, that is perpetuated today. He returned in 1861 to again be a compassman for Hamilton Maxon on Contract 60 in Washington. David surveyed portions of 8 townships along the Columbia, across from The Dalles and Boardman. As a Republican, he was the wrong political party to get his own Contract in Washington until after 1861.

His political activities included: Oregon State Senator 1866-72; Governor of Idaho Territory 1875-76; Oregon Legislature 1878, 1882, 1889; Mayor of Portland 1879, 1881; Elector and Delegate to the Republican National Convention 1884; Republican Candidate for Governor 1890; Ambassador to Turkey 1892-93; and ten years a Regent for the University of Oregon.

David was an active and industrious businessman, and those ventures included: built the first RR in Oregon, around Willamette Falls at Oregon City; manager of Oregon City Woolen Manufacturing Co. 1866-68; member of the Willamette Falls and Locks Co., which built the locks in 1873; President of the Oregon Construction Co., which built much of the ORN RR; V. P. and a director of ORN RR; mail contracts 1872-78; organizer and President of Oregon Saving Bank; President of Commercial National Bank; and Director of 15 other banks.

In addition to a luxurious house in downtown Portland, David and Mary maintained a large farm at Fishers Landing in Clark County, WA, where their epileptic son, Ralph, spent much of his time until he died there in 1945. David had just started on a trip around the world, when he became ill, returned to Portland, and died there a short time later of anemia, due to stomach issues. The stock of the D. P. Thompson Company would later be valued at more than $500,000.

His son, Ralph managed the farm at Fishers Landing in Washington. Daughter Bessie was, among other things, the European correspondent for Outlook Magazine, and married a prominent attorney. Daughter Genevieve went to several colleges, mostly in Europe, and passed the bar, being qualified to practice before the Supreme Court. He has two statues in Portland in his honor, and claimed the naming of Bully Creek in Malheur County because of his crew shouting "Bully, Bully!" when he fell into the creek. David was 6' 2" tall with black hair. (biography) This is the maintained version of this biography.
### Thomson, Origen

1829-1882

Rep Comp

Claim Contract 39 (as compassman for Zenas Moody) 1854 to Contract 51 (as compassman for Zenas F. Moody) 1855

Born in Indiana, Origen came West over the Oregon Trail in 1852. He filed a Claim in Linn County and proved up on it in 1858, before returning to Indiana. While in Oregon, he surveyed Claim Contact 39 near Albany and much of the Umpqua country as Compassman for Zenas Moody. During that time, he was listed as a civil engineer, and was involved in forming the Republican Party in Linn County. Back in Indiana, he married Arzilla McCoy in 1860, and was listed as a surveyor in 1863 and a civil engineer in 1870. Arzilla died in 1879, and Origen in 1882.

### Thorn, William

Henry "Bill"

1863-1963

SES Special Instructions 1908 to Special Instructions 1908

Born in Iowa as the son of a farmer, William was in Iowa in 1870 and 1880; lived in Oklahoma Territory in 1890 and in about 1896; surveyed the Black Hills Forest Reserve in 1899 as a U. S. Surveyor; lived in Clifton, Wyoming as a civil engineer in 1900, living in a tent with his crew; was stationed out of Redlands, California beginning in 1902; and surveyed townships in Montana in 1904.

William married Jessie Grant Emmons in Tacoma, WA in 1908, both for the second time. He surveyed the South and East boundaries of Mount Rainier National Park in 1906 as a U. S. Surveyor. Two of Jessie's cousins were on the Rainier survey crew. He finished the Boundaries started by Abner Dunnington in 1908, acting as an Examiner of Surveys. His survey of the Park was acknowledged by the Surveyor General of California. William was a Special Examiner of Surveys for the GLO in 1908-10, in Washington, Oregon and California at least. He made 26 examinations in Washington from 1909-10.

From 1910 until 1912, he worked for the GLO surveying townships on the Fairbanks Meridian, following the controversy between the USGS and the GLO, where the GLO criticized the work of the USGS for using triangulation. It appears he found no discrepancies in the township exteriors surveyed by the USGS. He writes of his trip to Fairbanks from Seattle as taking a month; via Whitehorse, pulling sleds on the ice over Lake LaBarge, where they had to overnight on the ice without shelter; and via the Yukon River to Dawson, and then to Fairbanks. A boat he was on sank below Lake LaBarge, and they were picked up by a steamer.
From 1912 until 1963 when he died, William lived in Redlands, CA, and from at least 1921-1947 he lived in a house with citrus trees in the back yard. He was retired by 1930. He is the namesake of Thorn Point, Thorn Meadows, and Thorn Meadows Campground, all in the mountains of Ventura California. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

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**Thurston, George H.**  
1846-1927  
USDS  
Contract 157 to Contract 191  
1871 to 1873

George was born in Iowa and crossed the Oregon Trail with his parents as a baby in 1847. His father was U. S. Congressman form Oregon, Samuel R. Thurston, who died in 1851, returning from back East. His mother remarried to William H. Odell, U. S. Deputy Surveyor and future Surveyor General. George was educated in Willamette University. He began surveying as a chainman on a Contract, and then surveyed for William H. Odell and B. J. Pengra, who were locating their Military Road to Idaho. He attended school in the winter until 1870, when he bought an 800 acre ranch near Springfield. From 1871 to 1873, he received three Contracts for 39 townships on the East side, all of which were awarded by his step-father.

George married Marietta Henderson in 1872, built a new house on the farm, which is the subject of a recent historical project, and continued ranching and surveying until 1879. At that time he began reading law and passed the bar in 1882, although he never did actually practice law. He was involved with the management of the Willamette Valley and Cascades Mountain Wagon Road until 1885, when he left Portland for his ranch at Springfield. He began raising sheep in Lake County in 1880, but quit when he lost 10,000 head in a bad winter in 1887. He kept the 3700 acres in Lake County. He is the namesake of an area in East Springfield, Oregon, an area that once had its own Post Office, and of Thurston Elementary School and Thurston High School.

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**Tichenor, William Clinton**  
1813-1887  
Rep  
USDS  
Contract 236 to Contract 248  
1875 to 1875

William was born in New Jersey in 1813 and went to sea at age 16. He married Elizabeth Brinkerhoff in New Jersey in 1834, and they had several children. He was in Illinois in 1848-51 as a State Senator, and at that time was a friend of Abraham Lincoln, who roomed with him for a while and gave speeches with him. He was a Captain on the Oregon Coast in 1850, sailing from San Francisco to Portland on his ship, the Sea Gull, before he was appointed a harbor pilot on the Columbia in 1851.
William knew the Oregon Coast and desired to found a colony at Port Orford harbor. He hauled 9 men to the beach there in 1851, and when they landed, they were confronted by Rogue River Indians. The men demanded arms from Tichenor, and he gave them the signal cannon from the ship and four old muskets. When the ship left to get more supplies, the men retreated to Battle Rock, a fairly defensible position on the beach at Port Orford. The Indians attacked with a force of 150, and the men held out and escaped during the night, after killing 23 Indians. They all made their way through the wilderness some one hundred miles to the nearest civilization in the Umpqua Valley. Historians state that William was either very stupid or very greedy to put those men in that position. William immediately filed a Donation Claim at Port Orchard as soon as he came back to the Columbia River.

William brought 60 more men to Port Orford later in 1851 by promising them gold mining opportunities and a route to the Rouge River gold fields. These men started up a mountain, they called Tichenor's Humbug (later shortened to Humbug Mountain), and were disappointed in their instructions and Tichenor. He had promised they could see the route to the gold fields from the top of the mountain. Tichenor moved to his Claim himself in 1851, built blockhouses, and brought his family in 1852, after securing some military support.

That military support led to a long controversy, in which William prevailed in 1882. The Army built some log buildings on William's Claim, and after the Indian War was over, abandoned them except for the one housing one agent as caretaker. When William was appointed Customs Collector in 1864, he used the buildings for his work. When he asserted his Claim and ejected the agent in 1864, he was arrested and imprisoned in Alcatraz in San Francisco, and was released only when he promised to let the Army stay. When William returned to Oregon, he immediately proved up on his Claim and received his patent for the entire 640 acres with no mention of the military. In 1880, the Army filed a suit in Federal Court to void the patent, at least to the 230 acres they were claiming. The U. S. Circuit Court dismissed the suit.

William received two Contracts in Curry County about 15 miles East of Port Orford in 1875, and surveyed 18 regular Sections in two townships in a sea of distorted surveys. Although he had no known survey experience, his identity as a Deputy Surveyor is confirmed by his signature. Elizabeth died in 1880, and William had a stroke in 1881 before remarrying to Elizabeth Romanes shortly thereafter in San Francisco. He married again in 1884 to Arietta A. Lansingh and died in San Francisco in 1887.

William is buried in Tichenor Cemetery at Port Orford with his first wife, overlooking the ocean, and his gravestone is a flat slab of concrete with the markings etched in by hand when the concrete was wet. His wife has a tall beautiful tombstone. He is the namesake of Tichenor Rock, Tichenor Street, Tichenor Bay, Tichenor Cemetery Road, and Humbug Mountain, all in or near Port Orford.
Todd, Andrew
1845-1908
USDS
Contract 541 1889

Born in Looking Glass, Oregon, the son of a circuit riding preacher, Aurelius grew up in Douglas County. He was the Brother of Thomas E. Todd, and married Sarah Maggie Fouts in 1877 in Coquille, Oregon. His occupation in 1880 was "peddler", and that is the last census where he is shown. After three children, Maggie died, and Aurelius remarried to Delilah A. Bristow at Pleasant Hill, Oregon in 1882. They had one son that went on to become a physician. Aurelius was a chainman for Thomas E. Todd West of Roseburg in 1891.

Andrew was born in England, and graduated from Glasgow University with a BA and MA in Civil Engineering. He went to New Zealand for a few years before he married Blanch Jones, and then came to America with their two children in 1883. Their first home was in Silverton, barely habitable, and then they bought 160 wooded acres at Elliott Prairie near Hubbard.

He worked hard to transform that land into a farm and succeeded. He received Contract 541 for five townships in the Nehalem Valley in 1889. They were examined by P F. Bussey in 1890, and then rejected by the Commissioner. The Commissioner noted that he had failed to make an objection. Andrew continued farming for 25 years and raised seven children on the farm, trying to tutor them in a classic education. In 1908, he was hauling a load of straw, and when the rack gave way, he fell beneath the heels of the horses, causing the wagon wheels to pass over his neck.

Todd, Aurelius
Abbott
1857-1929
USDS
Contract 594 1892

Contract 629 1894
He received Contract 594 for two townships on the coast near the California Border in 1892, but he did not do the survey. for some reason. He received another Contract in 1894 for one township West of Roseburg, surveyed it in 1894, and was examined and approved in 1896. Aurelius was an optician in Cuba in 1898-1905, living with Lila. He stayed in Cuba until 1912, when he traveled in Central America for two years. He lived in Frontera, Mexico from 1912-1915 as a dentist, and sometime along the way, he and Lila were divorced. Aurelius visited the U. S. in 1917, but returned to Mexico at Colima, where he married 26 year old Maria Louisa Urtiz De Casarez in 1918. They had two children, and Aurelius returned to Crescent City with his son and daughter in 1928, and died there in 1929.

Thomas was killed in an accident shortly thereafter in 1895 in Fallbrook, San Diego County, California, while visiting his brother. He was hauling a wagon load of wood, when in attempting to apply the brakes on a steep grade, he fell forward and under and was run over. The newspaper article noted him as a civil engineer and accomplished musician, and he was headed to town to play with the Fallbrook Band.

Born in Looking Glass, Oregon, the son of a circuit riding preacher, Thomas was raised in Douglas County. He was the younger brother of Aurelius Todd, and was educated enough to be a teacher. He received Contract 574 for one township West of Roseburg in 1891, and used his brother, Aurelius and Aurelius' son, Jesse, as chainmen. He was finished in 1892, signed the oath, and was examined by W. F. Briggs.

Thomas was killed in an accident shortly thereafter in 1895 in Fallbrook, San Diego County, California, while visiting his brother. He was hauling a wagon load of wood, when in attempting to apply the brakes on a steep grade, he fell forward and under and was run over. The newspaper article noted him as a civil engineer and accomplished musician, and he was headed to town to play with the Fallbrook Band.

Born in Oregon, Emma was raised in Jacksonville until her father was appointed Surveyor General of Oregon in 1878, and the family moved to Portland. She was working as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of her father in 1881 at age 15, earning $1200 per year, a very good salary for an adult. She married Otis O. Helman in Ashland in 1896. He was the proprietor of a Sulphur bath in 1910 and 1920, and Emma died in Ashland in 1924.
Tolman, James
Clark
1813-1902
Whig
Rep
USDS
SG
Contract 199 (with portions by Alexander McKay, Chandler B. Watson, Horace G. Hurlburt, and James S. Howard as compassmen) 1873

He bought a Claim and started raising stock, but sold them in California for fear of Indian hostilities. He left for Coos Bay and founded the town of Marshfield, but returned to the Rouge River Valley in 1854 to raise stock again by purchasing a ranch with the stock. When the Indians became a problem again, he took his stock again to California and sold them. After the war he purchased and raised blooded horses and cattle. James was elected a Judge in Jackson County in 1858, and reelected in 1864. James received Contract 199 in 1873 for 5 townships in Jackson County and five townships in Curry County. He may not have participated in the survey, for he used Alexander McKay, Chandler B. Watson, Horace G. Hurlburt, and James S. Howard as compassmen.

James was the Republican Candidate for Governor in 1874, but lost because of a third party. President Hayes named him Oregon Surveyor General in 1878, and President Arthur reappointed him in 1882. While living in Portland in 1880 as Surveyor General, he was lodging 3 of the Clerks in his office in addition to his children.

Tolman, John
Crittenden
1859-1929
Dr/Clerk
Clerk
1879

Born in Oregon, John was raised as a youth in Jacksonville until his father was appointed Surveyor General of Oregon in 1878 and the family moved to Portland. He was a Clerk for his father in the Surveyor General's Office from 1879-80 at age 20-21, making $1200 per year. He married Mary Hannah Anderson in Jackson County in 1884, and they had three children. Mary died in 1895 in Ashland, and John and their children moved back in with his parents. In 1910 he was a Deputy U. S. Marshal in Kenai Alaska, living with one of his
**Tomkins, Josephus**

1839-1928

Comp

Contract 98 (as compassman for Lafayette Cartee) to no more

Born in Ohio, Josephus came to Oregon over the Oregon Trail with his family in 1847, first going to Oregon City, where they occupied a farm there until 1899. He attended McMinnville College (Linfield College) in 1859, but did not finish. He began as an axman for Lafayette Cartee in 1861 on Contract 98 near Hood River, and soon was promoted to compassman, finishing the Contract in that capacity for several townships. The work was examined by the very political Republican Bynon Pengra, and Josephus was a chainman for Samuel Campbell, who was charged with the corrections. At some time near 1880, Josephus was the first County Surveyor of Grant County, and also taught school. He married Oregon Native, Sarah Hunsaker, in 1873, and they first lived for eight years on a large cattle ranch in Grant County, Oregon. In 1906 they moved to Grand Island in Yamhill County, where he remained as a farmer until his death.

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**Truax, Sewell**

1830-1894

Comp

USDS

Contract 38 (as compassman for Anson G. Henry for portions) to Contract 80

Born in Canada of American parents, Sewell moved with his family to Vermont in 1850, where he attended Norwich University for three years, and graduated in civil engineering. He left in 1851 to engage in surveying for railroads, until 1853 when he came across the Oregon Trail. He worked as a chainman for Ives and Hunt in 1854 in Washington and as a compassman for Anson Henry in 1853 in Oregon.

Sewall then became a compassman for Ives, Hyde and Lake in the Rogue Valley from 1854-55, and after that surveyed three Claim Contracts and four Contracts on his own in Oregon from 1855-58, in the Rogue Valley and the Southern Oregon coast. He served as a Major in the Oregon Cavalry during the Indian hostilities in 1855-56. At one time he was County Surveyor of Jackson County. He was a survey examiner for four Contracts on the Oregon coast in 1857-58. Sewell used small crews from a consistent pool of crewmen, and did the work himself on the surveys.
Sewell returned East to marry Sarah Chandler from Canada in 1861, and returned with his new wife to Jacksonville via Panama. In that year he raised a Company of Volunteers for the Civil War, the First Oregon Cavalry, and was named Captain. He was transferred to Fort Walla Walla as Major in charge, and then to Lapwai, Idaho until 1864. He left the Army and owned a store at Lapwai for several years with his brother Charles.

He was awarded a small Contract in Idaho on the Snake River in 1868. He returned to Walla Walla in 1870 and spent two years as Superintendent of Construction of the Walla Walla and Columbia River RR as surveyed by James Tilton, the first RR in Washington. He then moved to a farm North of the high bluffs above the Snake River, where he invented a grain chute to move his crops to the Snake River from the high prairie, ending at the bottom of the steep bluff, where he maintained warehouses on the Snake River.

From 1865-67 Sewall was the engineer for Wellington Bird for the Lewiston, Idaho to Virginia City, Montana Wagon Road. Lewiston was the Idaho State Capital in 1865, and Sewell was twice dispatched to seize the State records to spirit them away to Boise. His nephew Edson Briggs arrived in 1873, and he and Sewall surveyed several joint contracts until 1880. Sewall also partnered with Levinus Swift and John Snow, and surveyed some on his own. In all, Sewell would be involved in 13 Contracts, totaling 247 townships and approximately 14,000 miles of line. They were almost all in Southeastern Washington, surrounded by Clarkston, Spokane, Moses Lake, and Pasco. His joint Contracts were shared in a checkerboard manner, and there is no record of him ever using a compassman. He notarized all of the oaths.

For some reason his last Contract, Number 270, has copies of rejected plats of 40 township exteriors at the National Archives. Sewell's half-brother, Stephen Truax, came to Washington briefly in 1880 and received a Contract. Sewall was a Member of the Washington Territorial Council from Walla Wall in 1883-84, serving as President, and by 1889 he was living in Spokane. He was appointed an Examiner of Surveys by the GLO in 1893, and he examined 9 Contracts in Washington. Sewall died in Spokane in 1894 of cirrhosis of the liver. His children were well educated. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.
John was born on St. Thomas Island, Jamaica, where his father was a landowner and government official. The family returned to England in time for John and his older brother Joseph to attend school there, including Mount Radford College in Devonshire. Joseph left for California, and then Oregon in 1850, and encouraged John to follow, which he did in 1851. Together they surveyed Milton and St. Helens, OR, and a coal railroad. Joseph accepted the job as Chief Draftsman for John Preston in 1852 and John was named a Clerk for Charles Gardner in 1853.

John surveyed as a compassman for Harry Gordon and Josiah Preston in 1854, probably because he was trusted with the neophyte Josiah, the brother of the previous Surveyor General. John was awarded a Claim Contract in 1853 which was only for a few Claims in the City of Portland, probably politically motivated. In 1854, he was the first to survey Claims in Washington, on the Columbia at Woodland and St. Helens, and near Toledo.

While up in Lewis County, Washington, John was the compassman in 1854 for George C. and Charles T. Gardner, the inexperienced sons of Charles K. Gardner, again taking care of the neophytes. Joseph resigned his position so that he and John could accept a Contract together in 1854, including 13 townships between Forest Grove and Rainier, in which they employed compassmen for portions of the work. John generally surveyed his portions in his own person, while Joseph used David Thompson as compassman for all his work.

Another Joint Contract was given them in Oregon in 1856, including an offset Standard Parallel to the Coast between Rainier and Astoria, the Coast Guide Meridian, 36 Donation Claims, and 15 townships along the way. They employed three compassmen: Charles T. Gardner, the son of the Surveyor General; David P. Thompson; and Henry S. Gile, all existing or future Deputy Surveyors. Charles Gardner wrote to the Commissioner in Washington, D. C. of the struggles of the Trutches, having to pack all their supplies for 100 miles of line on the backs of their crew, because of the vegetation and steepness. Before the end of this Contract, Joseph married Julia Hyde, the sister of George Hyde and the sister-in-law of John Preston, and moved back to Illinois with John Preston.
John continued his GLO career in Washington under James Tilton in 1857 with Contacts 23 and 24 for 8 townships centered on Battleground. That was soon followed with Contract 28 for 2 townships at Yacolt and Chelatchie Prairie. John noted all the settler cabins that were deserted because of the Indian hostilities. Somehow, John surveyed the Saanich Peninsula Northeast of Victoria in 1858 for the British Columbia Government, dividing it into tracts, reserving some for Indians.

John next received Contract 32 in 1858 for 6 townships on Hood Canal near Port Ludlow, and Contract 33 and 42 for the exteriors of 9 townships at Sequim. He continued in 1858-59 with 12 townships near Bangor and Port Gamble. It appears he did all the work himself, with a varied but consistent crew, and notarized all the oaths. Alexander Coffey and John Newsom were occasional chainmen. In the meantime, Joseph had returned to England to lobby for a position in British Columbia, and returned with prospects for significant work. In July, 1859 he was awarded Contracts to do the Public Surveys in British Columbia at $20 per mile. He asked John to join him, and they started the survey operation in British Columbia, beginning at the Initial Point near the present site of the Peace Arch at Blaine.

In 1889 John was named Land Commissioner for the Esquimalt and Nanaimo RW. He stayed in Victoria until his wife died in 1894, and by 1896 he was living at Willett House in Somerset, England. John and Joseph were both living at Willett House in 1901, with John's daughter Charlotte, a niece, Josephine Pender, and 6 servants. Joseph died there in 1904 and John in 1907.

The Trutch Bros. set a quarter corner in Clatsop County Oregon very near Fort Clatsop of Lewis and Clark. The corner was remonumented in 1882 with new bt's and rp's, one of which was a corner of a settler house. That settler noted the relationship of his house to Fort Clatsop. The corner was determined lost by a private surveyor in 1905 and set in error by measurement, with a 75 ft. error. The Fort was searched for in the interval with inconclusive results, until in 1993 when a private surveyor found the accessories to the 1882 reestablishment, and all the pieces fell into place. The Trutch's corner would have been within a very small search area, and the reestablished corner in error was illogical. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.
Joseph was born in England, and then moved to Jamaica where his father was a land owner and government employee, but returned to England to attend school, graduating ultimately from Mount Radford College in Devonshire in civil engineering. He apprenticed as an engineer to Sir John Rennie, a prominent British engineer, assisting on the Great Northern and Great Western Railways.

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He left for California in 1849, and after becoming discouraged there by the vulgar society after four successful months of business, moved on to Oregon. He surveyed the mouth of the Columbia, the townsites of Milton and St. Helens, and a coal RR on the Puget Sound at Skookumchuck. His younger brother John came to Oregon at Joseph's urging in 1851. In 1852 Joseph was named a Clerk and Draftsman in the Surveyor General's Office of John Preston at Oregon City, and continued into the regime of Surveyor General Charles Gardner. He resigned in 1854 to take Contract 50, with his brother John, to survey several townships between Forest Grove and Rainier. They shared the work, and David P. Thompson was a compassman for Joseph on this Contract for all his work.

They received another joint contract in early 1856 to survey an offset Standard Parallel to Astoria, Oregon, the Coast Guide Meridian, and several townships along the way. They again shared the work, and Joseph used the following compassmen: Charles T. Gardner, the son of the new Surveyor General; David P. Thompson; and Henry S. Gile, all future Deputy Surveyors.

Joseph married Julia Hyde, the sister-in-law of John Preston, in June, 1856 while working on the previous Contract, and left for Illinois in late autumn. While there, he developed land with John Preston, and worked as a senior engineer on a canal, again under John Preston. He went to England to arrange for an inheritance of 1000 pounds after his father died, and returned to Illinois to bring Julia back to England. While there, he lobbied for positions in British Columbia, and sailed there in 1859, where he received the Contract to survey the rural lands of the Lower Fraser River Valley, British Columbia at $20 per mile. He requested John to come help him. Joseph completed a contract in about 1861 for the construction of the Harrison-Lillooet Road.
Joseph was awarded a contract in 1862 to survey and construct the Caribou Road across the Fraser River and up the East side of the river to Boston Bar. He was to receive the tolls for the road for 7 years. The 268-foot-span Alexandria Suspension Bridge was the gemstone of this project. Costing $40,000 to build, it spun off $10,000 to $20,000 in tolls each year. He was elected a member of the Vancouver Island House of Assembly in 1861, and named Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for mainland British Columbia in 1864. As a condition, he had to dissolve himself of his interest in the bridge, and gave it to his brother John. One of his titles was Surveyor General of British Columbia, and he also obtained that title for Vancouver Island in 1866. He built Fairfield House on 10 acres on the outskirts of Victoria, which became a social hub.

Joseph and John's mother and sister came to stay from England, and sister Caroline married Peter Reilly, a minister in the government. John married the Governor's sister, Zoe Musgrave in, 1870, and at that time, Joseph began representing British Columbia in the negotiations for entry into the Commonwealth. He did well enough to be named the first Lieutenant Governor of B. C. in 1871. One of the promises was for the Canadian Government to build the Canadian Pacific RR to connect B. C. with the rest of Canada. Joseph would have more power if B. C. stayed alone, but he was afraid B. C. would join the United States.

When in 1876, the Conservative Party was not in power, Joseph was not reappointed as Lieutenant Governor, and he and Julia returned to England until 1878, when the political situation changed. In 1880, he was named Dominion Agent for British Columbia, the agent of the Queen. This gave him the supervision of the construction of the Canadian Pacific RR, and control over the distribution of government lands. He retired from that position and all work in 1889, and was knighted by Queen Victoria at that time. Sir Joseph went back to England after that, but came back with his sick wife before she died in 1895, and then returned to England where Joseph died in 1904 at Hartrow Manor in Somerset.

In 1901, Joseph and John were living at Willett House in Somerset with John's daughter, a niece and 6 servants. Joseph was the namesake of Trutch, B. C., Trutch Mountain, Mount Trutch, Trutch Island, and Trutch Street in Victoria. Julia was the namesake of Lady Trutch Passage on the B. C. coast. Julia is buried in Ross Bay Cemetery in Victoria, and Joseph is in the Lydeard St. Lawrence Churchyard in Somerset. They had no children. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.
Alfred was born in New York and was an educated man according to his granddaughter. He married Harriett R. H. Parker in New York in 1856 and they soon moved to Hortonia, Wisconsin. Alfred was a farmer and teacher there, at least in 1862. The family moved West, living in Santa Clara, California by 1879. They were in Klamath Falls in 1880, and also arrived in The Dalles in 1880, where Alfred was listed as a farmer.

The family talks of them residing a short time in Portland before The Dalles, where Harriett made a painting of Rooster Rock, and of travelling up the Columbia to The Dalles in a boat, making portages, transporting Harriett's organ. While at The Dalles in 1881, Alfred was hired by Deputy Surveyor Thomas Lang to be one of four compassmen on the survey of an extension of The Dalles townsite into lots and blocks within The Dalles Military Reservation. He worked 18 days in that effort. He always had horses and a wagon, and made a living as a teamster wherever he was. He was in or near Arlington in the 1880's, hauling goods and crops to and from Arlington. He also filed a Claim and borrowed money to raise sheep. A railroad was built to Heppner, taking away most of his business, also, the price of wool dropped, and they decided to move.

He took the horses, wagons, and family overland to Seattle, through Yakima and Snoqualmie Pass. He hoped he could use his horses to pull street cars up the hills in Seattle, but an electric motor had been invented to do the job. He still had a livery business, and was a grading contractor in the Seattle regrade. Harriett died in 1901 and Alfred in 1903. Harriett was the President of the Federation of Seattle Women's Clubs at her death, and their son Orville was a member of the State Senate. Just before he died, Alfred asked Orville to lead his funeral procession up to Queen Anne Hill with a wagon with his finest horses, cautioning him to not let them run. He loved his horses.
Turner, William Mclean  
1828-1887  
Rep  
USDS  
Contract 142 (with James S. Howard) to Contract 393  
1870 to 1881  

He received Joint Contract 142 in 1870 with James S. Howard, an experienced surveyor, for five townships in Southern Oregon, and they shared the work. Between 1871 and 1881, William received five more Contracts in Southern Oregon, two as Joint Contracts with James Howard, one as a Joint Contractor with Nathaniel Langell and two on his own. Langell had no survey experience, but he was in the State Legislature. They used James Howard as the compassman, with Nathaniel as a chainman and William as the axman.

William was still the manager of the Western Union Telegraph Office in Jacksonville in 1877. In that capacity he participated in the transfer of several thousand dollars in a Democrat bribery scheme. He was summoned to Washington, D. C. to testify before Congress, but declined to answer any questions. He was named Agent for the Malheur Indian Reservation in 1877, and was appointed United States Gauger and Storekeeper for Southern Oregon from 1883-86. He was ill for a year before he died in Jacksonville in 1887.

Underwood, James Benson  
1838-1882  
Rep  
Dr/Clerk  
USDS  
Clerk to  
Contract 111 (with Walter Forward)  
1863 to 1865  

James was born in New York and came to Oregon in 1859, and soon asked his fiancé, Maggie Charles, to join him. He studied Law and was a practicing attorney all his short life. James lived next door to Jesse Applegate in Umpqua County as a School Teacher in 1860 and then was a Clerk in the Office of Surveyor General Bynon Pengra from 1861 to at least 1863, before he was admitted to the bar in 1864. He received a Joint Contract with Walter Forward for five townships in Eastern Oregon, but does not appear to have been involved in the survey. He was a Eugene Mayor and Councilman, served in the State Legislature, and was appointed Postal Agent for Oregon, Washington and Idaho. James was involved in many business ventures, and became wealthy, building the finest house in Eugene. He died young at age 44 of dropsy and "too free use of strong drink".

Born in Ireland, William came to New York with his parents at four years old. They moved to Pennsylvania, but in 1850 William joined the flood of miners to California. He worked in mining, clerking, and the newspaper business, and was a miner in Klamath, California in 1860. He was appointed by Lincoln as Assistant Federal Assessor for the Northern Counties of California, but resigned when he moved to Salem, Oregon in 1865, where he was the Assistant Clerk for the State Legislature. In 1866 he took over as manager of the Western Union Telegraph office and as editor of the Jacksonville Sentinel. In 1867 he married Emaline Morgan Overbeck, a widow with at least one child. He was very involved in Republican politics all his life.
Medders was born in North Carolina, and ended up in Missouri by 1819 when he opened up the first school in Ray County. He was County surveyor from about 1830-1846, surveying the town of Gallatin, and married Mary (Polly) Linville in about 1831. He remarried to Margaret Linville in 1842 and in 1846 headed across the Oregon Trail as the Captain of a wagon train consisting of local residents and relatives. They reached a point at about Fort Hall in Idaho, when they met Jesse Applegate, whom the knew as a land surveyor from Missouri. Jesse convinced them to take a Southerly route, later known as the Applegate Trail, and they completed thier journey to Oregon as one of the first wagon trains to use the new trail.

Medders settled in Parkers Station in Polk County, went to California briefly in 1849, and received two Claim Contracts in 1853 and 1854 near Polk County. He lived in Polk County in 1860 and 1870, Linn County in 1880, and died in Sodaville, Benton County, Oregon in 1898 at age 98. He was incapacitated the last two years of his life.
Lewis was born in New York and moved to Michigan as a child, and in both places his father was a farmer. Later he moved back to New York where he graduated from Oswego Academy, by working his own way through, and then came across the Oregon Trail in 1853. He was a chainman for La Fayette Cartee in 1853, for Anson Henry in 1854, and for Harvey Gordon and Josiah Preston in 1854, all in Oregon.

In 1855 Lewis was a compassman for Harvey Gordon in Douglas County, Oregon for three Contracts and for Justin Chenoweth in Clark County, WA, for Washington Contract Number 1. The Indian hostilities began in the fall of 1855, and Lewis served under William Strong's Company of Volunteers, participating in the non-battle of Battle Ground. He received a Joint Contract with William Strong in Washington in 1856 for 8 townships along the Columbia River from Woodland to Cathlamet. They both signed the oaths, and Lewis used John Newsom and his brother-in-law, Alexander Coffey, as chainmen. William Strong had been, and again would be, a Territorial Supreme Court Justice for Washington.

Lewis filed a claim on Fern Prairie for 160 acres in 1856 at a time when he was Clark County Surveyor. He also married Elizabeth Coffey in 1856, and they settled down on his claim in a log cabin. In the same year, Lewis was elected a member of the Washington Territorial Council, 1856-57, and in 1859 was elected a member of the House. A Claim Contract from James Tilton was awarded to Lewis in 1857 for 84 Donation Claims in Clark and Wahkiakum counties, and again he used Alexander as a chainman. He received two Joint Contracts with John Newsom in 1858-59 for 4 townships along the Cowlitz River at Castle Rock and 4 townships along the Columbia River between Washougal and Stevenson. They shared the work and both signed the oaths.

Six townships were surveyed in 1859 along the Columbia River in Clark County, including surveying Hudson Bay Property that had been bypassed earlier. Since Lewis was a strong Democrat, James Tilton gave him two more contracts at the end of his term for 4 townships at Goldendale and 5 townships at Touchet. Brother-in-law Terrel Coffey was a chainman, and also worked as a compassman for one township at Goldendale. With the Republicans coming into office, this ended the GLO career of Lewis for 12 years. While living in Vancouver, he constructed his classic farm house at Fern Prairie in 1861-62, with some of the parts shipped from Boston. He was a Justice of the Peace at Washougal from 1857-64, and superintended the construction of a bridge across the Washougal River in 1862.
The Legislature gave him a franchise for a ferry across the Columbia at Parkers Landing in 1864. He left his farm in 1868 and moved to Vancouver before moving to Kalama in 1871, where he stayed until 1878. For four and one half years of this time, he was a land grant appraiser for NPRR at Kalama, helping them with the million acres they owned. William McMicken was employed there from 1871-73, and obviously they worked together. While at Kalama, Lewis served again in the Territorial House in 1871. Even though McMicken was a Republican as Surveyor General beginning in 1873, he gave many Contracts to Lewis until William was replaced in 1886. Lewis had 23 contracts over a 30 year career, surveying about 100 townships.

He received his first Contract from McMicken in 1873 for 2 townships at Odessa and 4 townships at Sprague in Eastern Washington, with Terrel Coffey as a chainman for part of the work. Lewis surveyed allotments on the Swinomish and Port Madison Indian Reservations in 1884, with Ignatius Navarre as a chainman. From 1874-1878, he surveyed 27 townships on 4 Contracts generally near Sprague, and his crewmen were relatively consistent. He had purchased the David Parker Estate at Parkers Landing earlier, while acting as executor, and in 1878 built a fine home on the Columbia River there. Since he owned all the lots in Parkersville as platted by David Parker, he filed a new plat in 1878, changing the lot lines. In 1879-80, Lewis surveyed 13 townships in 2 Contracts generally Southwest of Ritzville.

Clark County surveyor Albert Blackwood was a chainman on all these townships. Lewis received Contract 262 in 1880 for 7 townships Southwest of Chewelah, again with Blackwood as chainman. The last Contract that he actually surveyed was for 5 townships in 1881 Southeast of Vantage. His last Contract was in 1885 for 11 townships at Grand Coulee, which was cancelled by Commissioner Sparks in 1886 because of its involvement with Special Deposits. Sparks cancelled many Contracts as a precaution against the rampant fraud in the GLO.

By 1880 Lewis and his wife had moved to Portland where they lived at 202 NE Graham St., which is now a historic landmark. His daughter, Louise, who graduated from Medical School at Ann Arbor, moved into the house at Parkersville. Lewis still owned the farm, and it remained in the family. Elizabeth died in 1905 and Lewis died in Portland in 1910. He began receiving a U. S. Veterans Invalid Pension in 1900. (biography) See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.
Frank was born in Weston, Oregon, just after his family arrived there in a covered wagon. He graduated from Weston Normal School, received a Bachelors Degree from Harvard, and from 1891-95 was President and Instructor of Mathematics at the Weston State Normal School. He received his first Contract in Oregon in 1898 for one township Southeast of Cove.

Frank was a Norary and began forging signatures of applicants for survey in 1899 for Rufus Moore and Henry Meldrum. Frank was a school teacher at Port Crescent, WA in 1900 and was awarded Contract 579 in Washington for 3 townships West of Raymond in April, 1901. He filed a patent for a 160 acre Homestead in 1903 just Northwest of Tollgate. Frank was indicted by the Federal Government in 1905 for "conspiring to enter into an agreement to defraud the Federal Government" in Oregon in 1902 in the Henry Meldrum/Rufus Moore Land Fraud Case.

As a Notary Public, he falsely certified the forged signatures of applicants for survey in 1899 for Rufus Moore and Henry Meldrum. Frank was a school teacher at Port Crescent, WA in 1900 and was awarded Contract 579 in Washington for 3 townships West of Raymond in April, 1901. He filed a patent for a 160 acre Homestead in 1903 just Northwest of Tollgate. Frank was indicted by the Federal Government in 1905 for "conspiring to enter into an agreement to defraud the Federal Government" in Oregon in 1902 in the Henry Meldrum/Rufus Moore Land Fraud Case.

Frank married 20-year-old Elzoa Steinmetz in 1908, but she died of peritonitis in 1910. While living in Portland he was a hypnotist, magician, mind reader, and wrote poetry for the Oregonian. He became involved with Emma Smith, a married woman, causing her to divorce her husband. After Emma died in 1918, there was a lawsuit brought by Emma's siblings against Frank. They alleged he hypnotized her and had her create a will giving everything to himself. He also had her deed him some property, and when she died four days later, he falsified the death record to try to avoid having the siblings find out that she had died. The estate was only worth $3500 plus the property.
Frank was a Civil Engineer in Portland in 1920, before moving to Modesto, where he married Emma Deeney in 1921. Frank worked for the Modesto Irrigation District from 1928-1936, serving as Irrigation Engineer from 1932-36. He died of a heart attack walking through a field in 1936. See WA GLO Surveyors for the maintained version of this information.

Born the son of a farmer in Coberg, Oregon, Benjamin lived on the farm through 1870. He received Contract 211 at age 22 in 1874 for four townships in Union County, and used future Deputy Surveyor Vanison Gesner and his brother, Oren Vaughan, as chainmen. He was living in Nez Perce, Idaho in 1879 as a farmer and returned to Coburg in 1886.

That same year he moved to Heppner, Oregon, and in 1893 he took a course in the American College of Dental Surgery in Chicago, and returned to Heppner to begin his practice. Benjamin was appointed Postmaster of Heppner in 1898, and reappointed in 1903, using his Republican ties. He died in Heppner on June 14, 1903, the same day as his wife, when a wall of water 50 feet high came through the town of Heppner. Inspired by thunderstorms, it destroyed 141 structures and took 247 lives, including the Vaughans. It is still today, the deadliest natural disaster in Oregon.

The marriage history of Benjamin is unclear, for records indicate that he married Elisabeth Stevens in 1878, and the 1880 Census from Idaho notes that he was in fact married to Elizabeth Stevens. He had several children from 1880-1892, but the 1900 census notes that he had been married to Nancy Brians for 31 years, and that she had seven children. Nancy died in the flood and is on his tombstone. She was noted as visiting her sons at OAC in Corvallis in 1902. Their oldest daughter was a student at a Catholic School in Pendleton as a child.
Leonard was born in Ohio and was living with his parents in Washington, Indiana in 1850. He crossed the Oregon Trail in 1852 and filed a Claim between Airport way and the Columbia, East of 148th Ave, which he patented in 1865. He was awarded Claim Contract 33 for Claims in four townships near Sandy and Gresham, but there are no surveys by Leonard in those townships. He had obviously undergone an evangelical religious conversion while in Oregon, and wrote two books published in Portland on his inner thoughts. The first in 1864 was called "The Loud Voice and Everlasting Gospel". He wrote: "On my way traveling overland, for to the West, I was much vexed by the wickedness of my companions, which drove me much from their society."

He wrote further, "...one like a man of African color, came and stood in the air some fifty feet from me, and twenty feet up from the ground...." The second book in 1866 was "Civil Theology and an Opening of Heaven; and Unlocking of the Book of Revelations and of Other Dark Figures by the Nature and Figurative Use of the Seven Spirits of God." It goes on for 311 pages, mostly analyzing all of the Book of Revelations. They must have some value for both have recently been reprinted. He left Oregon in about 1865 and travelled back East, with the California papers reporting his death by the hands of Indians on the return journey. The Oregonian reported on a letter in 1865 from Leonard that refuted that story, and that he was in New York.

Leonard was in Denver in 1890, when he was committed to the Pueblo Insane Asylum. He remained there for six years, until he quietly walked away. While at the asylum, he wrote critically at length about the conditions of the inmates, and was noted as a man of education. He was a trustee, and was given significant liberty, because his mania was mild. One would only have to read his writing in the 1860's to see that he had a troubled mind.

Emil was in Baker City, Oregon by 1889 and began Mineral Surveys in Oregon in 1890 in Union County in the Granite Mining District. He then worked as a mining engineer in Rossland, B. C. before coming to Princeton, B. C. in 1898. Emil was in Yale-Cariboo in the 1911 census. He was a mining engineer at Princeton, and he and his wife filed many Claims, becoming the "King of Copper Mountain". All 52 of his Claims were sold after his death at Princeton, but he had refused all sales while he was alive. In the next 70 years over six billion dollars of copper would be extracted from that Copper Mountain site.
George was born in Walla Walla, Washington, but grew up near Corvallis. He was a compassman for John Arnold 1891 at Pendleton, and started as a temporary Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of John Arnold in 1896. Arnold awarded him Contract 645 in 1896 for eight townships in Central Oregon. He became a draftsman before being appointed the Chief Clerk to Surveyor General Robert Habersham the same year. George continued in that role with Henry Meldrum, but was indicted with Meldrum for fraud in 1903 in the Puter series of land fraud charges. During this time, he was forced out of office by State Senator Jacob Proebstal, the father-in-law of John W. Rowland, who succeeded him.

Meldrum was sent to jail at McNeil Island for forging applications of survey on worthless land in order for a survey to be created. Waggoner would have participated for this to happen. Waggoner's indictment was still pending in 1909. George received three Joint Contracts with Charles M. Collier in 1907 and 1908, but all the townships were surveyed by Collier. He married Margaret Persham after 1900, and they had a son in 1909. They were living in Portland in 1914, but by 1929, Margaret was a widow living with her son.

Walden, Nicolas O. "Nick"
1834-1897
USDS
Contract 198 (with Louis T. Barin) 1873

Born in Sweden, the son of a lawyer, Nicholas was left a large estate at age 22 when his father died. He visited China, Australia, and Europe before retuning to Sweden. He soon left for the United States, arriving in Oregon in 1871, with his inheritance spent. He cut wood, and then engaged in building the locks at Oregon City. He had a good education, and received a Joint Contract with Louis Barin in 1873 for ten townships East of Baker City.
He was then a compassman for John Meldrum for at least one township near Huntington. He was awarded his own Contract in 1874 for six townships in Umatilla County. The next year he surveyed another six townships near Vale. Nicholas was the Chief Clerk in the Oregon City Land Office for several years. He was the co-organizer of the Willamette Transportation & Locks Company, which is the predecessor of Portland General Electric Company, for which he was a director at the time of his death. He was also a director of the Bank of Oregon, and had been one of the organizers. He built a house on the bluff at Oregon City, and it is now on the National Historic Register.

Levi was born in Forest Grove, Oregon in 1850, the son of a preacher, and married Sarah Isabelle Putman, a graduate of Pacific University in Amity, Oregon in 1875. He had graduated from Pacific in 1873 and taught Mathematics and Chemistry there for two years. Levi and Belle taught at the Chemawa Indian School and the Siletz school after that. His parents were early missionaries and pioneers of 1838. He was living in Bake Oven, Wasco County, Oregon in 1880 in the same town as Mark A. Fullerton and Alonzo Gesner.

He received a Contract in Wasco County in 1879 for one township, and another Joint contract in 1880 with Mark A. Fullerton for 10 townships. Contract 549 in 1889 was examined by P. F. Bussey and rejected. His last Contract was for 3 townships on the East side in 1905. Levi was a civil engineer in Forest Grove in 1900 and Washington County Surveyor 1909 at the time of his death. He had been County surveyor several times and Forest Grove City Recorder several times. He was reportedly one of the state's best mathematicians.

William was born in Missouri and came to Oregon with his parents in 1858 over the Oregon Trail. He was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office in 1870 and 1872-74. William received two Joint Contracts with H. C. Perkins in 1871 for 10 townships. He worked for Lane County Bank for several years, and then was Lane County Clerk for two terms. He apparently never married, and was living on the family farm with his mother in 1910, just before he died.
Waln, Robert H.
1873-1950
USDS
Contract 674 (rejected) 1897 (finished by William M. Bushey, compassman)

Robert was born, raised and educated through high school in Iowa. He was County Surveyor of Gilliam County, Oregon in 1900, living with a roommate. He was a chainman and axman for William Bushey for several townships on the West side from 1893-96. He received Contract 674 for one township on the Grand Ronde River North of Wallowa in 1897. After turning in his notes, it was examined by A. B. Little in 1898. He made corrections and had examinations by J. D. McLeod in 1900, and W. O. Owen in 1900. He was rejected in 1902, and the Surveyor General gave Special Instructions to William M. Bushey to finish the survey as compassman, paid for by the bondsmen.

Robert was a laborer in the woods at Goble in 1910, a logging engineer in Bear Valley in 1930, and retired in Portland in 1935 and 1940. It appears that he married a lady named Louella after 1940.

Ware, Joel
1832-1902
Dr/Clerk
Ch Clerk
Clerk

Born and educated in Ohio, Joel crossed the Oregon Trail in 1852 to California, where he was printer until 1857. He moved to Portland in 1857, and then Eugene in 1858, where he worked for the first newspaper there. He married Bettie Cochran in Oregon in 1859. He sold his interest when he was appointed a Clerk and Chief Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office in Oregon in 1861. He held the office of Lane County Clerk from at least 1870-88. Joel lived in Eugene much of his life, as a farmer, as Lane County Clerk, and as US Circuit Court Commissioner of Oregon in 1898. He engaged in the abstract and real estate business until he retired.

Warner, John
Frank "Frank"
1857-1924
SES
Special Instructions

Frank was born in Michigan in 1857, and married Mrs. Angelene "Jennie" Hollywood Ward in 1897 in Big Horn County, Wyoming. He was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in Wyoming in 1897, partnering with Sidney Blout, and was listed as a surveyor in Cheyenne, Wyoming in 1900. He was a Special Examiner of Surveys in at least Oregon in 1902, examining three Contracts. He moved on to Alaska in 1903, where he was again a Special Examiner of Surveys, and reported on the locations needing the extension of surveys.

Frank joined the Direct System in 1911, and spent a lot of time in Alaska, where he surveyed the boundary of Anchorage in 1915. Jennie and their daughter were living in Los Angeles in 1920, with Jennie listed as married, but no John. John died in Los Angeles in 1924, with Jennie eventually buried beside him, some thirty years later.
Chandler was born and raised in Illinois, and arrived in Ashland in 1871. He was a compassman for Ashland Judge, James C. Tolman in 1873, and graduated from Ashland Academy in 1875. Chandler married classmate Ella J. Chitwood, and they had two children. They were the ultimate civic pair, working for women's suffrage, a Carnegie library grant, and the Southern Oregon Chautuqua.

He studied law, ran unsuccessfully for State Representative in 1874, and received a Contract on his own in 1878 for nine townships near French Glenn. Chandler was the editor of the Oregon Sentinel in 1875, was a prosecutor in Lakeview, Customs Collector in Coos Bay, deputy district attorney in Astoria, Ashland City Attorney in the 1890's, and Jackson County District Attorney in 1897.

Chandler took an interest in natural and historic preservation in the second half of his career, supporting the Crater Lake Reserve, the Oregon Caves Monument, and a large natural park at Ashland. He wrote several books, including "Prehistoric Siskiyou Island and Marble Halls of Oregon" in 1909. He is the namesake of the entry grotto at Oregon Caves Monument. His tombstone at Ashland Cemetery is a granite rock, symbolizing his love of nature.
Watt, Ahio Scott  
1824-1909  
USDS  
Claim Contract 52  
1854  
to  
no more  
Ahio was born in Ohio and moved to Missouri with his family in 1838. He crossed the Oregon Trail in 1848 and settled near Amity, where Ahio and his brother Joseph founded the town. Ahio was the first school teacher and named the town. He filed a Claim, engaged in farming, and taught school for awhile. Soon after arriving, he was the first Clerk to the newly formed Territorial Legislature. He married Mary Elizabeth Kider in 1850, an 1849 pioneer, and to them were born seven children.

Watts, Alexander Innis  
1831-1912  
USDMS  
Mineral surveys  
1890  
to  
no more  
Born in New York but brought up in Sagamon County, Illinois, Alex left for Oregon in 1851 and was a miner in Williamsburg in 1860. He returned to Sagamon County in 1866 and married Alexina J. Lander in Jacksonville, Illinois in 1867. They left the same month for Oregon, but Alexina died in Applegate, Oregon in 1868. Alex was a miner in Jackson County, Oregon in 1870, and a miner in Williamsburg, Oregon in 1880. He remarried to Elizabeth Emily Daniels in Josephine County in 1881, and they had seven children. He surveyed three Mining Claims in Waldo Mining District in 1890 in Josephine County. He patented a 160 acre Homestead in Williams Valley in 1882, and lived there until he died in 1912.

Webber, Wiliam T. "Will"  
1849-  
Rep  
Dem  
USDS  
Contract 258  
1876  
to  
no more  
Born in Iowa, Will was in Benton County Oregon by 1876 when he married Louella Stevens. He received Contract 278 for one township at Newport, and surveyed it in that year. He was a Notary Public in Dayton in 1878 and a civil engineer in Elk City in 1880. For the next 20 years, he was involved in railroad and development speculation near Newport, starting with being an incorporator of a RR from Newport to Cape Foulweather in 1886. That same year he incorporated a water Company to serve the City of Newport. In 1890, Will was also incorporating the Newport & King's Valley RR.

He received the political plum of Custom's Inspector at Yaquina Bay in 1893. He was on the Democrat Ticket for County Surveyor in 1894, and on the Republican Ticket for the same job in 1896. The Panic of 1893 apparently took its toll, and he had significant property sold at Sheriff’s sale in Newport in 1899. Will was a recorder on the survey crew for the Corps of Engineers at Newport in 1899. Louella was living with her children and her father in Medford in 1900, and Will was a consulting civil engineer and surveyor in Hood River in 1903-04. Louella lived in Portland in 1904, and was a widow there in 1930.
Kimball met up with Robert Elder again in 1851, after Robert had met with John Preston travelling through San Francisco, on his way to Oregon, and Robert asked Kimball to go to Oregon with him. He accepted, and began studying surveying and trigonometry. Soon after the two arrived in Oregon City, Robert was named Chief Clerk, and Kimball went to work for wages by building a sawmill up the Tualatin River, since there was no field work yet. Work was light in the Surveyor General's Office, and Robert was hired to make a new survey of the townsite of Oregon City, and hired Kimball to help him.

After finishing that survey, Robert arranged for Kimball to work on a Contract for Deputy Surveyor James Freeman near the Santiam River in the late fall of 1851. Future Deputy Surveyors, Zenas Moody and George Hyde, and Clerk, Seymour Hall were on the crew. Kimball started as axeman, but eventually graduated to doing the trigonometric calculations for Freeman for the river crossings. Before the end of the Contract, Freeman let Kimball run the compass. Freeman received another Contract in late 1851 for the subdivisions of the townships just surveyed, and Kimball soon became the compassman for most of the work through the winter. In his book, he goes into great detail about the difficulties of wading ice covered sloughs, and finding log cabin accommodations from settlers.

Robert Elder resigned his job as Chief Clerk in March, 1852, and he received a Contract for 10 townships in the Yamhill Valley. Kimball was his compassman, while Robert wrote up the notes. Kimball was named a U. S. Deputy Surveyor in April, 1852, and he and Robert Elder received a Joint Contract to survey 8 townships in Washington and Yamhill Counties. They formed two parties and shared the work. Kimball's party included future Deputy Surveyor Henry S. Gile, and Robert's party included Andrew Murphy, the nephew of Daniel Murphy, and James O'Conner as compassman. Kimball received his own Contract in December 1852 for five townships near Albany. He discusses the difficulty again of rain and wading flooded rivers.
On finishing the Contract he returned to find that Elder had secured another Contract in the Umpqua Valley, this time with Henry S. Gile as a joint contractor. Robert asked Kimball to help train Gile to run the compass and run a party. Kimball acted as compassman for about one half of the work. Kimball and Robert had another Contract in the Rogue Valley, but it was caused to be cancelled by the Indian uprising. Kimball received another Contract in late 1853 for 8 townships in Long Tom Valley in the Western foothills of the Willamette Valley. He finished the next April and was approached by a man to do a coal mine survey at Bellingham. He agreed, and went there, only to learn that at that time it was the site of an Indian war. He still did the survey.

Not having any suitable Contracts offered him by the new Surveyor General, Charles K. Gardner, Kimball returned to Hudson, New Hampshire in 1854 after an absence of five years. He got a job as surveyor and land examiner for the Hannibal and St. Joseph RR Company, and then worked in the granite quarries. He married Abiah Cutter in early 1857, and was listed as a farmer of increasing prosperity in 1860, 1870, and 1880. He was a surveyor part time all along, and was listed as a civil engineer in 1900 and on his death certificate. For many years Kimball served as a Justice of the Peace, and had a large probate practice. He wrote a book on the history of Hudson before beginning his own autobiography. Current surveyors rate his work as excellent.

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**Welsh, Jeremiah B. "Jerry"**

*1830-1906*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claim Contract 25 (as compassman for John P. Welsh)</th>
<th>1854</th>
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<tr>
<td>Claim Contract 179 (as compassman for Jason Owen)</td>
<td>1872</td>
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Born in New York, the younger brother of John P. Welsh, Jeremiah was listed as arriving in Oregon in 1852. He filed a Donation Claim in 1953 beside the one of his brother in the valley of the North Fork of Coyote Creek, Southwest of Eugene at Lorane. He was the compassman for several Claim Contracts for his brother John P. Welsh, in 1854-57 in the vicinity of their Claims, including their own. His father and three brothers went back to Kentucky to bring a heard of purebred trotter mares back to Oregon in 1864. His brother, Deputy Surveyor John Welsh, died on the way back at Fort Laramie, and Jeremiah found out of the death via a letter sent to Governor Gibbs, the sender not knowing how to contact the family.

In 1872 Jeremiah was the compassman for Jason Owen for six townships in Southern Oregon, of which three were rejected. After his surveying career, he became the postal agent for the RR route from Portland to Tacoma in 1873, lasting until at least 1881. In the 1870's, he was racing the family trotting horses along with a brother. He died in Tacoma in 1906.
## Welsh, John P.
**1826-1864**  
USDS  
Claim Contract 25 (by Jeremiah Welsh as compassman)  
1854 to  
Claim Contract 67 (by Jeremiah Welsh as compassman)  
1856

Born in New York, the younger brother of Jeremiah Welsh, John came to Oregon in 1853 via Wisconsin. He filed a Donation Claim next to his brother in 1853 on the North Fork of Coyote Creek, Southwest of Eugene at Lorane. He received three Claim Contracts from 1854-56, most of which were for 21 townships in the vicinity of his Claim, including his own. The rest were ten townships North of Salem. He used his brother, Jeremiah Welsh, as compassman on all the work. He began an organization, partly with USDS Timothy Davenport, to bring purebred animals to Oregon. He owned a Thoroughbred stud named Rifleman, that was bred in Kentucky. John was elected Treasurer of Lane County in about 1858.

He made at least one trip back to the East to buy purebred horses. John was returning to Oregon in 1864 with a string of purebred mares, accompanied by his father and two brothers, but died at Fort Laramie, Wyoming. The circumstances are unknown, but in that year there were significant Indian hostilities around Fort Laramie, and those horses would have been a prize.

## Westgate, George Allison  
**1870-1948**  
Rep S G  
Surveyor General 1907 to no more

Born in California, George was a clerk in 1889-90 and an accountant in 1896, all in San Francisco. He was a grain dealer in Albany, Oregon in 1900, and when he married his wife Henrietta in about 1901. He was an accomplished civil engineer and was the Republican Central Committee Chair in 1906, resulting in the election of Senator Bourne. George soon was appointed Oregon Surveyor General in 1907.

George served until the election of Woodrow Wilson in 1913, which is when he resigned. He went back to being a grain dealer in 1920, living in Portland. He had been elected President of the Merchant's Exchange Association in 1917. He was retired in Clark County, Washington in 1930, and died in Vancouver, Washington in 1948.
Wheatley, Francis M.
Comp
Contract 40 (as compassman for Harvey Gordon and Josiah Preston) to no more
1854

Wheeler, Harry Kreider
1863-1925
USDMS
Mineral Surveys to Mineral Survey
1900
1900

Wheeler, Laban Homer
1857-1952
USDS
Contract 375 to Contract 482
1880
1883

Francis F. Wheatley was a compassman and crewman in Oregon for Harvey Gordon in 1854-55. He signed his last oath on March 30, 1855, eliminating one of the three possible candidates. The other two, one from Indiana and one from Kentucky, were potentially available. They were farmers, and had no known survey experience. None were listed on the West Coast in 1850 or 1860.

CA PLS 358. Member AIME. Born in 1863 in California, the son of a judge, Harry lost his mother when he was a baby. He was a civil engineer in Baker, Oregon in 1901, the same year he was listed for a Mineral Survey. He was in Ely, Nevada in 1907. He had married Annie Robertson in 1897 in California, but they were divorced by 1910, when he was noted as married to Lillian Du Bois Wheeler, a graduate of Smith College, and a professional concert and choir singer in New York from 1891-97. Harry was also a civil engineer in Los Angeles in 1920, and died there in 1925.

Laban was born in Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Oregon with a B. S. in 1880. He was awarded Contract 375 for two townships West of Eugene in the Coast Range in 1880, and received three more Contracts between 1881-83 for about 17 townships on both the East and West sides. At sometime he received a Law Degree from Georgetown. He was an auditor for the Treasury Department in Seattle in 1887 and was living in Seattle with siblings in 1889-92, working as a lawyer, in partnership in 1890-91 with Henry McClure, another University of Oregon graduate and Deputy Surveyor.

Laban married in Corvallis to Claire Gatch in 1899, the daughter of the President of Oregon Agricultural College. They had one child that died as an infant. Laban continued to live in Seattle until at least 1940, always as a lawyer. Claire died in 1935, and Laban in 1952 in Sonoma, California.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wherry, John</th>
<th>Born in Iowa, John moved with his family to Oregon by 1865. They were in Polk County in 1870 and Clatsop County in 1880. John was still at school in 1880 in Clatsop County, where he finished high school, living with his widowed mother. He was in Elsie as a farmer and a widower in 1900, 1910, and 1920, and lived in Astoria from 1920-1940. John was a Republican and received County road and bridge contracts in 1906-09. He received survey Contract 778 in 1908, and it was cancelled in 1911 and given to Fred Mensch. John McQuinn was given the job of Compassman for Wherry in 1911, but apparently to no avail.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>John moved with his family to Oregon by 1865. They were in Polk County in 1870 and Clatsop County in 1880. John was still at school in 1880 in Clatsop County, where he finished high school, living with his widowed mother. He was in Elsie as a farmer and a widower in 1900, 1910, and 1920, and lived in Astoria from 1920-1940. John was a Republican and received County road and bridge contracts in 1906-09. He received survey Contract 778 in 1908, and it was cancelled in 1911 and given to Fred Mensch. John McQuinn was given the job of Compassman for Wherry in 1911, but apparently to no avail.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1862-1940</td>
<td>1908</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>no more</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDS</td>
<td>John Wherry married widow Elizabeth J. McKeever Larsen in 1923, and they were still married in 1940. There is no evidence that this John Wherry did this survey except for proximity. There is a signature on his marriage certificate to prove the point when compared to the Contract.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract 778</td>
<td>1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>John Wherry married widow Elizabeth J. McKeever Larsen in 1923, and they were still married in 1940. There is no evidence that this John Wherry did this survey except for proximity. There is a signature on his marriage certificate to prove the point when compared to the Contract.</td>
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<td>no more</td>
<td>John McQuinn was given the job of Compassman for Wherry in 1911, but apparently to no avail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Whipple, William R.</th>
<th>Born in Connecticut, Williams was on a farm with his parents in Iowa in 1870 and was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor Surveyor in Alpine, Colorado in 1880. He married his wife, Lilly by 1874, and they had 11 children. Williams received Contract 577 for one township near Roseburg in 1891 and used his brother Charles as an axeman. He surveyed two more townships near Roseburg in 1893. William was a Deputy Mineral Surveyor in 1903 in Josephine County. He was an engineer and a surveyor in Grants Pass in 1910 and 1920.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1846-1930</td>
<td>1891</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pop</td>
<td>to</td>
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<td>USDS</td>
<td>Mineral Surveyors 1903</td>
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<td>SES</td>
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<td>Contract 577</td>
<td>1891</td>
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<td>to</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>no more</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>White, Hiram Foster</th>
<th>Born in New York, Hiram lived at home until at least 1870, when he was a 20 year old student. He graduated from Williams College in 1871 and then taught school and worked for a newspaper in Wisconsin. He graduated from Auburn Seminary in 1879 before he married teacher Mary Louisa Chamberlain in 1879. They were in Nebraska in 1880, where he was a minister, and she was a teacher. Twins were born to them in Wisconsin in 1882, and a son in Hoquiam, Washington in 1885. Hiram was the postmaster of Wellpinit, Washington in Stevens, County from 1903-05. While there he probably ministered to the Spokane Indians and wrote articles on the treatment of Indians for journals.</th>
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<td>1849-1829</td>
<td>1907</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAA</td>
<td>no more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allotting Agent</td>
<td></td>
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<td>to</td>
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<td>no more</td>
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Surveying South of the River
He was named a Special Allotting Agent for the Klamath Reservation in 1907, continuing until 1910. When he left, he said that an engineer would probably finish the surveys. He was delayed because there were to be allotments for some Modoc Indians who were delaying their acceptance. It is doubtful those allotments were completed. While there, he completed a census of the Klamath, Pitt River, and other Indian Tribes. He wrote an article on the Mormon Road for the Washington Historical Quarterly in 1915, and another on Samuel Thurston for the Iowa Journal of History and Politics in 1916. He was a minister in Tacoma until 1928 when he died in Eugene, Oregon, but is buried in Lakewood, Washington.

**White, Luther**  
1815-1913  
Rep  
Prohib  
USDS  
Claim Contract 26  
1854 to no more

Luther was born in Ohio, and moved as a baby with his family to Illinois. He signed on with a survey crew in Mississippi at age 13, taught school, and then became a circuit preacher in Missouri. He resumed farming in 1843 when he married Martha Ann Mansfield, and they had 11 children. Then crossed the Oregon Trail in 1847 and filed a Claim eight miles East of Brownsville, which is where he lived until 1872. It was still worked by his son in 1903. Luther was in the Oregon Legislature in 1852, and was Linn County Recorder at some time. He moved to Brownsville in 1872. Luther was the namesake of White Cemetery, and White Creek near or on his Claim.
White, Norman Campbell
1887-1965
USDMS
Contract 800 (with Ernest P. Rands) to no more

Born in Oregon, the son of an architect, Norman lived in Oregon City in 1900. He completed three years of high school, and was a chainman for Ernest Rands on Contract 765 in 1905, and a moundsman on Contract 791 for Ernest in 1910. He received a Joint Contract with Ernest Rands in 1910 for five townships in Malheur County, but they were not surveyed. This was at the very end of the Contract era, and the Commissioner may have cancelled the Contract. The work was reissued the next year to Charles Collier under Group 7.

Norman was a farmer in Lake County in 1910, but had begun a career with the U. S. Forest Service by 1918 as a Forest Ranger in Lakeview and in Sprague River in 1920. He married Erma Sharps before 1915, and they were divorced by 1930. He was in Medford in 1930 and the District Ranger there in 1940. Norman remarried to his second wife, Faye, by 1940. By 1942, he was in Prineville for the USFS, and died there in 1965.

White, William F.
1851-1934+
USDMS
Mineral Survey to Mineral Surveys

Born in England, William immigrated in 1870 and was a surveyor in Grant County, Oregon in 1900, after surveying Mineral Survey 361 there in 1899, and before surveying four more Claims in 1902. He had married Anna M. Dunn in 1898, both for the second time. He was a real estate salesman in Portland, Oregon in 1920 and 1930. Anna was killed by a hit and run driver at 72nd and Foster in 1934, not far from their home. William was noted as being an invalid at that time.
William was born in Virginia, and both of his parents died when he was young. He was on his own, and served under Sam Houston in the Texas Rangers before marrying his cousin, Mary E. Partlow, in Tennessee in 1839. They moved to Texas first in 1839, and then to Missouri in 1841. He then crossed the Oregon Trail with his family in 1850 to Oregon City. William kept a hotel at Milwaukie, mined for gold in California, and then returned to keep a hotel at Canemah.

Born in Alabama, the son of General Nathan Whitfield, a confederate officer. He graduated from Chapel Hill College, now the University of North Carolina, and served in the Civil War as a Lieutenant for the Confederacy. He surveyed several RR in Oregon, including the RR to Yaquina Bay and one near Sheridan. From at least 1887-1891, Nathan was a Clerk and Draftsman under Douglas Taylor in the Oregon Surveyor General's Office.
He was in Alaska from at least 1902-10, where he was a both a U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor and a U. S. Deputy Surveyor. Nathan surveyed the town of Wrangell and located railroads. His son was a Dentist there at the same time. Nathan was injured in a streetcar accident in 1913, and died from those injuries in 1914 in Portland.

**Wightman, Willard Humphrey**  
1852-1889  
USDS 526  
1886  
Member ASCE. Willard was born in New York, and after being educated in the public schools and Mexico Academy, he graduated from Cornell in Civil Engineering in 1881. He was an engineer for UPRR in 1881-84 and NPRR in 1884-86. He then surveyed one Contract in 1887-88 before returning to UPRR in 1887, where he worked on the Kennewick Bridge. He used fellow Ashland RR Engineer Albert Hammond as compassman on the work. In 1888 he was Assistant Engineer on the Spokane and Palouse RW, continuing until he got the measles in 1889, which turned into pneumonia and caused his death in Ashland.

**Wilbur, William H.**  
1858-1931  
USDS  
Contract 542  
1889  
William was reported to have been born in Grand Rapids, Michigan and arrived at Port Orford in 1874. He was married to L. E. Wilcox and they had one son. He remarried to Emma Schimmel in Coos County in 1896. William received Contract 542 for two townships immediately North of Port Orchard in 1889 and finished the work. When he turned in the notes, they were examined and were found to be grossly erroneous. He was given a time extension, but failed to correct, and the Contract was cancelled by the Surveyor General and given to others.

**Wilcox, Ralph**  
1816-1877  
USDS  
Claim Contract 92  
1859  
Born in New York, the son of a physician, he studied medicine, and after he graduated from Geneva Medical College, moved to Missouri. While there he practiced medicine and married Julia Ann Fickel. He crossed the Oregon Trail in 1845, and tells of the guide becoming lost causing a loss of six weeks time. Upon arriving in November, Ralph took a 640 acre Donation Claim in Yamhill County, but disliking the isolation, he left it for work in Portland, becoming Portland's first physician and school teacher.
Ralph served in the Provisional Legislature in 1847-48, being elected Speaker, and then served in the Territorial Legislature in 1850-51, again elected Speaker. He was President of the Council (Senate) from 1853-54. President Buchanan appointed him Register of the Oregon City Land Office from 1856-58, during which time he also served as the Mayor of Oregon City. Ralph had purchased a farm in Washington County and was soon elected County Judge, which lasted until 1862, when he was again elected to the House of Representatives for two years. He was appointed Clerk of the U. S. District Court of Oregon in 1865 and U. S. Commissioner for Oregon, which he kept until his death.

Just after he had served as Registrar for the Oregon City Land Office, Ralph received two Claim Contracts in 1859. The first was for 60 miles of line in an undisclosed location, but the second Contact permitted analysis. He used Compassmen Robinson Smith Shook and William V. J. Johnson as Compassman for all of the work, without disclosing where each surveyed. He acknowledged the crewmen oaths as a judge, and his final oath was in 1865. Ralph committed suicide in 1877 by placing a derringer on his right temple and firing. He had just arrived at work as Clerk to the U. S. Court. He had been despondent and drinking heavily of late, and was remarked upon in town. He left a note assigning the cause to strong drink, but there was also a bottle of laudanum (tincture of opium) in his pocket, a very problematic unregulated drug in its time.

Wilkes, Francis
Marion
"Marion"
1880-1958
Rep
USDS
Contract 750 (with Lincoln Wilkes and William Soehren) 1902

Born the son of Thomas Scott Wilkes, Marion was living at home in Cornelius in 1900. He received a Joint Contract with his uncle, Lincoln Wilkes, and William southern in 1902 near Roseburg. He married L. Florence Maxfield in Corvallis in 1907, and at sometime attended Oregon State Agricultural College. He was a surveyor for Benton County in 1910. After school, he was hired by the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, and spent the rest of his career with them, starting as a forester for the Siletz Reservation in 1918-20. He was a civil engineer in Corvallis in 1920.

Marion and Florence divorced after 1920, and by 1930 Marion was a forester in Washington D. C. for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, remarried to a lady name Marie. He was listed as a road engineer in 1937 in Phoenix, and the same in Albuquerque in 1935 and 1940. Marion retired to California in 1942, and died in Riverside in 1858.
Wilkes, Lincoln
Ellsworth
1865-1944
USDS
SES
Contract 598  1892
to
Special Instructions 1910

Lincoln and his brother Thomas received a Joint Contract for one township near Port Orford in 1898, using help from two brother-in-laws and the son of Thomas. Lincoln received another Joint Contract in 1902 with his brother-in-law, William Soehren, and F. Marion Wilkes, the son of Thomas. The work was four townships West of Crescent Lake, and they shared the work and all signed the oaths. Again, several relatives were on the crew. Lincoln and brothers, Thomas and Bruce, were running a business called Wilkes Bros. in 1901 in Hillsboro as surveyors and abstractors.

Lincoln was appointed a Special Examiner of Surveys in 1905, and continued in that until at least 1911, examining 22 surveys in Washington in 1911. After the Contract System ended in 1911, Lincoln continued in the Direct System until he retired in 1927, all of the time based in Hillsboro. He had worked all over the Western United States, including the Pacific Islands. Right after retiring, he was elected to the State Legislature as a Republican in 1929, and secured a job as deputy county surveyor in Washington County. He continued surveying until he died in Hillsboro in 1944. Elizabeth died in 1939, and he remarried to Cora Hyer by 1940, who died in 1943. This is the maintained version of this information.

Wilkes, Thomas
Scott
1858-1936
USDS
Contract 689 (with 1898
Lincoln E. Wilkes)
to
no more

OR PE 723. Thomas was born in Oregon and was the brother of Lincoln and the father of F. Marion Wilkes. He was still living at home in Washington County with his new wife, Nancy Jane Northrup, in 1880 and was a farmer in Cornelius in 1900. He received a Joint Contract with his brother Lincoln Wilkes in 1898 on the Southern Oregon Coast, and after some corrections, it was approved in 1899.
Somewhere along the line he formed a surveying partnership called Wilkes Bros., with Lincoln and J. Bruce Wilkes, and was elected Washington County Surveyor by 1901. After eight children at age 42, Nancy died in 1901. Thomas remarried to Louise by 1920, and she had one child by her previous marriage. Thomas was living with his daughter in Corvallis in 1930, which is where he died.

Wilkins, F. Mitchell
1818-1904
Rep Indep Dr/Clerk Clerk
1872

Born in North Carolina, Mitchell's father died when he was nine, and he was ambitious all of his life. He moved to Missouri, married Permelia Ann Allen in 1844, and then crossed the Oregon Trail in 1847. He and his wife stqyed near Oregon City for the first winter, and then they filed a 641 acre DLC near Coberg. Mitchell was a prosperous farmer, active in the State Farm Convention, became a member of the Legislature in 1862, and was a third party candidate for Governor in 1878. His son, Jasper was a U. S. Deputy Surveyor, and Mitchell was a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of William Odell for a few months in 1872. William suffered a stroke in 1893, and died in 1904, not completely recovered.

Wilkins, Jasper W.
1850-1907
USDS
Contract 174 1872
Contract 189 1873

Jasper received Contract 174 in 1872 for two townships near Eugene and four townships near Bend. He also received Contract 189 for two townships near Eugene and two townships near Bend in 1873. Future Deputy Surveyor Alonzo Gesner was a chainman on this survey. For the next several years, he worked on the farm and did odd job at surveying.
Jasper went to Spokane in 1878, but returned and was elected a delegate to the State Republican Convention from 1880-86, and in 1884, assisted in the election of Benger Herman to the U. S. Senate. He married Carrie A. Seavey in 1888, and they had four children. He was elected to the Oregon Legislature in 1893. He contracted TB and was sick a few years before his death in 1907. He was still living in Coberg and left a sizable estate.

### Williams, George

1839-1910

USDS

Contract 154 (with George S. Pershin) 1871 to Contract 176 (by Lewis H. Judson and Alfred H. Simmons as compassmen) 1872

Among the candidates for George Williams was Major George Williams of Salem, Oregon, who was determined to be the Deputy Surveyor by the fact that his father, Elijah Williams and step father, S. C. Adams were the bondsmen on his Contract 176. George was born in Ohio, the son of a lawyer, and came to Oregon in 1851 with his family. His mother had died in 1844, and his father remarried to Lucia Lorain Bigelow in Ohio in 1845.

George was living at home in Salem in 1860, but enlisted in the Civil War in 1861 with the rank of Lieutenant and then Captain. He was shot in the foot at Gettysburg, requiring the amputation of his leg, and then returned to Salem. He received a Joint Contract in 1870 with George Pershin at Heppner that was all surveyed by Pershin.

George married Emma E. Mahala Adams in April, 1872 in Salem just before receiving Contract 176 in July. That was for four townships, again at Heppner, that were surveyed by Lewis Judson as compassman and his father-in-law, S. C. Adams, as a chainman. Also included were for four townships East of Milton Freewater that were surveyed by Alfred H. Simmons as compassman. George was a banker in real estate in 1880, operating as Williams and England; the Treasurer of State Insurance Company in Salem in 1885; a merchant in Salem in 1900; a real estate dealer in 1910 in Portland which is where and when he died.
Tichenor created two parties to attempt to find a route through the hills. The first gave up quickly and returned to Port Orford. Loren was assigned to a party led by William T'Vault. They started near Humbug Mountain, but soon became hopelessly lost. Half the men returned but the rest continued. They lost their horses and were attacked on the Coquille River in hostile Indian country. Loren and Silas Hedden escaped, but Loren received an arrow through his abdomen. He broke it off and kept it in until he made it to civilization. Silas led and carried him some 40 miles to the Umpqua River where they found help. Loren recuperated for years, and it wasn't until 1859 that both the arrowhead and shaft worked its way out. Silas had been in the original group that fought at Battle Rock at Port Orford the month before. They were friends for life.

Loren performed many surveys along the Southern Oregon Coast, including the Port Orford area, Coos Bay, and the mouth of the Rogue. He enlisted in the Army in the Oregon Volunteers as a Captain in 1865, and was stationed around the Pacific Northwest. He saw significant fighting against the Indians and named several features and Army camps in Eastern Oregon. He mustered out in Vancouver in 1866, and spent most of his remaining years in Roseburg.

He served as Douglas County Treasurer and Clerk for several terms. He was a Clerk in the Roseburg Land Office in 1870, and received Joint Contract 151 with Addison Flint for 7 townships near Roseburg and three South of Coos Bay in 1871. Addison was his neighbor in Douglas County, and one of his chainmen was related to the family he was boarding with in 1870. They shared the work, but left three township unsurveyed. However, one of those townships, T29S R4W, does have rejected notes by them on file. Loren married late in life, had one child and died in San Francisco.
**Wilson, Albert P.**

<table>
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<th>USDS Contract 552</th>
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<td>to Contract 568</td>
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Albert first showed up in the records as Tillamook County Surveyor 1890-92. He received Contract 552 for five townships North of Tillamook on the Oregon Coast in 1890. He also received Contract 555 in 1890 for two townships on the Coast South of Tillamook. His last Contract was in 1892 for two townships in the Coast Range Northeast of Tillamook, and after an examination, he had to go back and rechain some line. He used J. A. McCall as "asst. compassman" for part of the work. There is a notarized affadavit in the notes stating that Mr. O Rood wanted to "knock Mr Wilson out of his survey". Alfred was the Tillamook County Republican Central Committee Chair in 1895-96, and that is the last record for him.

**Withycombe, John, Sr.**

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<td>to Clerk</td>
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Born in England, John immigrated to a farm at Hillsboro, Oregon in 1871 with his family and was elected Washinton County Surveyor in 1874. He was the brother of Oregon Governor James Withycombe, who developed agricultural practices on the family farm. John married Anna Lena Williams from Wales shortly before 1878, and remarried to Mary Thomas from Wales in 1885 in the home of Governor Zenas Moody. John was a civil engineer and secured the job of a Special and Mining Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office of John Arnold in 1895, and by 1897 he was the Chief Draftsman. He continued that until at least 1910 and died in Portland in 1915.

**Woodworth, Cyrus Solender**

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<td>Contract 240 (as compassman for John Q. A. Hurlburt for portions)</td>
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Cyrus was born in Vermont, crossed the Oregon Trail in 1849 to California, and then went overland to Salem, Oregon in 1852. He married Sarah Buckingham in Salem in 1858, and they had four children. He moved to Portland in 1861 where he associated with the merchant, Griswold, for many years. He remained there until he was appointed Chief Clerk in the Indian Agency Office of J. W. P. Huntington and A. B. Meacham, Superintendents, from at least 1867-71. Cyrus acted as a pilot on one of the first steamers on the Columbia and was a civil engineer and an expert accountant. He reclaimed Lake Labish at the South end of French Prairie from a worthless swamp to fertility.

Cyrus was noted in a newspaper article as leading a crew in 1875 on the Siletz Reservation with a compass for John Hurlburt. Cyrus' son William was a crewman. This may have been under the authority of the Office of Indian Affairs. Sarah took a trip to Japan and China on a sailing ship with Lillian Applegate in 1888 for her health, but died in 1890 of a stroke. Cyrus died in 1901 of a stroke.
**Wooley, Cary Allen**  
*1836-1915*  
USDS  
Contract 414  
1881 to no more  

Born in Kentucky, Cary moved with his family to Missouri when quite young. He was ordained in 1859, married Elizabeth Ann Huston in 1859, and headed West on the Oregon Trail in 1863, driving Missouri mules. Illness of his wife forced him to stop for two years in Colorado, but he completed his journey in 1865 to the Willamette Valley. He taught school, and for many years was a circuit riding preacher, having a following in at least a dozen small towns. Cary received Contract 414 for one township in the Coast Range West of Eugene in 1881. He was his own compassman and completed it without issue, but BLM questioned whether he ran the lines in rough terrain.

Cary organized the Fairmont Church at Eugene, and for many years was its pastor. He almost accomplished the formation of a Presbyterian College at Sodaville, but the consolidation of the churches ended that. He died at his home in Eugene in 1915.

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**Wooley, Laban Franklin**  
*1849-1923*  
Comp  
Special Instructions (as Compassman for James Currin and James Noland)  
1887 to no more  

Born in Missouri, the son of minister Cary Allen Wooley, Laban came west with his family across the Oregon Trail in 1863. His mother became ill, and then stayed in Colorado for two years before completing the journey in 1865. They lived in Benton County in 1870, and Laban was a student in Eugene in 1880. His father continued his ministry, and Laban Married Amelia in 1881. Laban was an axman for his father on Contract 414 in 1881 for one township West of Eugene. There were enough helpers for two crews, and Laban may have been compassman for portions. Laban was the compassman for James Currin and James Nolan on the Umatilla Reservation doing allotments in 1887. After that he was a home builder in Cottage Grove until he retired.

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**Worden, Charles Elmer**  
*1849-1923*  
Dem  
IAA  
Special Instructions  
1896 to no more  

Born in Ohio the son of a Physician, Charles completed grammar and high school in Ohio. At age 19, he went to the Indian Reservations in Michigan to trade furs and buy timberlands from the Indians on their allotments. He married Emma C. Crowley in 1871 and started the first drug store in Isabella County, Michigan in that year. After a year, he sold out and returned to Delta, Ohio, where he engaged in buying West Indian slaves for a firm in Portland, Maine. He then went into the real estate, loan and brokerage business until 1894, the time of the "Panic of 1893". From 1890-94 he served as the Democrat State Congressional Committee Chairman in Ohio.
Charles then secured an appointment as Special Alloting Agent to the Klamath Indian Reservation from 1894-1897, where he surveyed 775 allotments. This was at a time that the allotments were challenged by the California and Oregon Land Company. In addition to the allotments, during his time at the Klamath Reservation, he laid out the Agency, named all lots, platted the Agency, named all streets, laid out parks and the cemetery, set apart school lands, named and numbered all Indians, and perfected a Census Roll.

Charles continued to reside and prosper in Klamath Falls after his Agency days. He platted the Klamath Addition to Linkville, Fairview Addition to Klamath Falls, and Mountain View Addition, all in 1903-04. In 1909 he was the President of The American Bank and Trust Co. in Klamath Falls. He had moved to Portland by 1919 when Emma died, and Charles remarried to 43 year old Elizabeth M. Frick in January, 1922 in Vancouver, Washington. He married again to Martha E. Cottier in June, 1923 in Vancouver, but died five months later.

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**Worrick, Elmer**  
**Oscar**  
*1859-1940*  
USDS  
Contract 632 (with Alonzo Gesner) to Contract 669 (with Alonzo Gesner)  
1894  
1897  
Born in Illinois, Elmer was in Salem, Oregon by 1894 when he received his first Contract, a Joint Contract with Alonzo Gesner, which had corrections. He married Henrietta Fetterhoff in Salem in 1896. His second Contract in 1896 in the Willamette and Umpqua Vallies, was also with Alonzo Gesner. They struggled through six examinations over a period of 15 years before getting part of it approved. Before the first two Contracts were done, the pair received a small Contract in 1897 in Clackamas County. It was examined once by David Kinnaird apparently without issue. In 1899, Oscar joined the Army Infantry as a Captain, and served in the Philippines. He stayed in the Philippines until at least 1929, when he was noted traveling with three children, leaving Manila. Henrietta had divorced him in 1908, but he had a daughter born in the Philippines in 1910.

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**Worth, Edward G.**  
*1863-1948*  
SG  
Surveyor General to no more  
1913  
Edward was born in Oregon on the family Donation Claim, and he was educated through high school. His father died when he was four years old, and he was raised by his mother in Linn county. He was a civil engineer in Portland in 1900, and a merchant in Portland in 1910, always living with his mother. He was the Surveyor General of Oregon from 1913-1921, living with his mother in Portland in 1920, and living with a sister in Portland in 1930. Edward was still in Portland in 1935, and was on a farm in Polk County in 1940. It
Worthington, Irving
1868-1928
USDMS
Mineral Survey
1904
to
no more

Wright, William P.
1839-1920+
Dr/Clerk
USDS
Contract 249
1876
to
William was born in New York, the son of a sailing Captain, and travelled to Oregon in 1855. He was in Olympia by 1865 and married Maria L. Willard there in 1866. He worked as an accountant in 1870, an auctioneer from 1871-73, and then was appointed as Assistant Draughtsman in the Surveyor General's Office of William McMicken, serving until at least 1875. While in Olympia, he was the defendant in several collection suits, and one foreclosure in 1876. William received his first Contract in Oregon in 1876 for one fractional township at Myrtle Point, near Coquille. He was living at Coquille and received one Mineral Survey and 13 Contracts from 1876-80 for 21 mostly fractional townships from, Coos Bay South to Cape Blanco, East to I-5.

William used small, 3-4 member crews of a limited selection, and included a beautiful map of his work in the field notes. He was living at Coquille, and many Contracts were near there and Myrtle Point. William was active in Republican politics, serving on the State Central Committee for Oregon in 1876. In 1880, his 11 year old son, John, died, and he moved to Dallas, Oregon, where he ran for Polk County Surveyor in 1882. While living in Dallas, he surveyed 15 more Contracts for 53 townships in the coastal areas of Western Oregon from 1880-1885. He began using compassmen in 1881, beginning with William L. Rowland, a half Indian, living near Coquille, who had been a crewman for several townships.

Contract 513 was examined by Henry Martin from the Commissioner's Office in D. C., who was examining Special Deposit work. It was rejected, and William's work was not accepted or paid. Henry Martin said he "found the work defective and erroneous". Martin stated that Wright used compassmen, using simple compasses with folding sights, and that of Wright, "at the time of the Contract, he was a resident of a citizen and at the hotel at Port Orford." He was debarred from further GLO work. Martin stated that on Contracts prior to 513, Wright blackmailed settlers for more money to perform the survey, threatening to leave them out of the survey if they did not pay.

The two townships in Contract 486 were both surveyed by compassman, Chester C. Coad, from Dallas, Oregon. Of the 6 townships in contract 514, three were surveyed by Compassman Peter Applegate, one by compassman Chester Coad, and two by William. He used his teen aged son, Willard, as a chainman after 1883. He surveyed another Mining Claim in Curry County in 1885.
By 1898 William was a civil engineer in Grants Pass, OR, where he produced many maps for sale of Southwest Oregon and the various Counties. He was in private practice and also the City Surveyor of Grants Pass in 1910, and was still there in 1916. Maria died in Elko, Nevada in 1916, and William was living with his son in Elko in 1920 as a widower. William left papers at Oregon Historical Society. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

**Wygant, Morris**

1856-1902

USDS Contract 742 (with Zachariah Derrick) to Contract 773

Born in New York, he was a farmer in Albany, Oregon in 1900, and a surveyor in Salem in 1910 and 1920. He was a widower, living with his son in Astoria in 1930, and died there in 1935.

**York, Aaron**

1850-1881

USDS Contract 309 to Contract 394

Born in Indiana, Aaron married Alice Springer by 1874, and had a son, Aaron York. He was a chainman for Alonzo Gesner West of Burns in 1877, a surveyor in Marion County, Oregon in 1880, a surveyor in Kittitas, Washington in 1887-89, a surveyor in Liberty, Washington in 1900, and also a surveyor in public work in 1910 in Liberty. Aaron was a chainman for Ernest Anderson for Mineral survey 342 at Liberty in 1895. He was married, living alone, in 1887, married to A. R. York from California in 1889, and was a widower by 1900.

**Zahner, Peter**

1835-1891

USDS Special Instructions to no more

Peter was born in Mifflin, Ohio and graduated from Princeton in 1861. He was an engineer for UPRR out of Omaha in 1866, and later worked for the Denver and Rio Grande Road. He was with the ORN by 1875, and was an engineer for several branches of the RR out of Walla Walla. The Oregon Surveyor General hired him to survey a 640 acre addition to Pendleton in 1883 on the adjacent Umatilla Indian Reservation, and it was completed in 1884 for $2000. In 1888 he was Chief Engineer of the Washington and Idaho RR Company on a line from Tekoa to Mullen, Idaho, and also of a line from Farmington, Washington to Spokane.

To quote from his memorial in the Princeton Annual Report, ".A tall, spare man, Zahner was of quiet and unpretending demeanor, but used to bring down the house in uproarious stamping and cheering with his recitations in mathematics…" He died in Pendleton, and his wife moved to Spokane where she died in 1920. His son, Joseph was a civil engineer and surveyor.
John S. Zieber Jr. was born in Illinois and came over the Oregon Trail with his family in 1851. He was listed as the Messenger in the Surveyor General's Office of William Chapman in Eugene, OR in 1859. John was a bookkeeper in Salem, OR in 1860 and played in the first string band in Salem in 1862. He married Cornelia Coon in 1862 and died of a "continuing illness" (probably TB) in 1864 in Salem after one child. Cornelia remarried to James W. Cooke, but died in 1867. This is the maintained version of this information.

Born in Pennsylvania, John became a printer, and by 1827 he was the editor and proprietor of the "Village Herald", a weekly newspaper in Princess Anne, Maryland, continuing until 1838. He married Eliza Sloan in 1925. In 1838 he owned a steam mill, and in 1840, he sold a newspaper, the People's Press, and moved to Peoria, Illinois, where he started the Peoria Democratic Press, another partisan paper. John was elected to the 14th Illinois Legislature in 1844, sold his paper in 1846, and was the public printer until 1848.

John, his wife Eliza, and their children came across the Oregon Trail in 1851, with Eliza keeping an extensive diary, which has since been published. He came to Salem where he bought the rights to a claim just north of Kaiser, called Fernhazel, which he kept until both he and his wife died there. John was named as a Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office Charles K. Gardher.
In 1853 his daughter Eugenia married Asahel Bush, the editor and publisher of the Oregon Statesman, the Democrat paper of the state. John would be his printer. The Statesman was very critical of John Preston, a Whig, and even of Charles Gardner, a Democrat, for not being partisan enough. In 1856 John was appointed Oregon Surveyor General, serving until 1859 in a very partisan manner. He kept printing until he retired to his farm, where he died of a stroke while working in the fields. (biography) This is the maintained version of this information.

### Abbreviations

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