

2009

STORIES FROM MEET THE PIONEERS

Living History tours presented in Jacksonville, Oregon's Pioneer Cemetery

2009 – Year Four

Jesse Applegate Applegate

Robert Vinton Beall, Ann Maria Riddle Beall, and their son Robert Vinton "Vintie" Beall Jr.

Louisa B. Boddy

Theodric (Todd) Cameron and Mary (Mollie) Bilger Krause Cameron

Robert Sargent Dunlap

Alice Eliza Hanley and her niece Florence Claire Hanley

James Sullivan Howard and Martha Bridget Snuggs Howard

William Pernoll and Nancy Miller Pernoll

Casper (Cap) Mitchell Ruch and Anna Boylan Ruch

Lieutenant Colonel George Herbert Howland Sargent and Alice Carey Applegate Sargent

Mrs. Vogel and the Pauper Section of the Cemetery

MEET THE PIONEERS

2009



Character

Jesse A. Applegate
Ann Maria Riddle Beall
Robert Vinton Beall
Robert Vinton Beall Jr.
Louisa B. Boddy
Mollie Bilger Cameron
Theodric Cameron
Alice Hanley
Claire Hanley
James S. Howard
Martha Snuggs Howard

Player

Larry Smith
Constance Jesser*
Wes Hartman
Jake Hartman
Sandy Phoenix*
Shirley Blaul*
Dan Winterburn*
Carolyn Kingsnorth*
Ann Wilton*
Steve Carlson*
Mary Ann Carlson*

Character

Mary Pernoll
Myra Pernoll
Nancy Miller Pernoll
William Pernoll
Anna Boylan Ruch
Casper (Cap) Ruch
Alice Applegate Sargent
Col. Herbert H. Sargent
Col. William Thompson
Mrs. Vogel

Player

Amelia Barrett*
Erika Barrett*
Marcy McQuillan*
Robert Hight*
Anne Peugh*
Steve Casaleggio*
Lora Barrett*
Arild Barrett*
Josh Phoenix*
Margaret LaPlante*

Character/Player in Shuttle Boarding Area: (picture not shown) Kelly Hershey as Amanda Bilger;
Robert Heltberg as Peter Britt; Tony Hess as Sexton Robert Dunlap

*Indicates Player in picture.

[\(Return\)](#)

Jesse Applegate Applegate

Jesse was the son of Lindsay, and nephew of Jesse, the more famous Applegate brothers. His relatives called him "Jesse A., or Jess" to distinguish him from his uncle Jesse. Young Jesse was born on November 14, 1835, in St. Clair County, Missouri and crossed the plains with his family in 1843. It was during this trip that Jesse witnessed the deaths of his older brother Warren and his cousin Edward when the two drowned in a whirlpool on the Columbia River. Also lost was a family friend Alexander McClellan. It is said that Jesse's father Lindsay and his Uncle Jesse, were inspired by the deaths of their sons to find an alternate route for pioneers to use and avoid the Columbia River. They were successful and the Applegate Trail, which is also known as the Southern Route, was named for them.

On arriving in the Oregon Territory Jesse's family first settled in the Willamette Valley where they farmed. Approximately seven years later they moved on to the Umpqua Country, an area that Jesse's father and uncle Jessie had come to admire following their 1846 explorations. Their new home was only a half mile from the Yoncalla Indian village, and the Indians were frequent visitors to the Applegate home.

During the summer of 1853 the Rogue River Indians started attacking unprotected settlements in Southern Oregon. Jessie's father organized a Company of Mounted Volunteers to help fight off the attacks. Jessie and his brother Elisha, age seventeen and twenty, joined their father's volunteer company.

In 1858, Jessie along with his brother Elisha and father Lindsay, contracted to build a portion of a toll road across the Siskiyou Mountains. They purchased the rights the next year and began collecting tolls. They lived in a very crude cabin and charged twenty-five cents for a man on horseback and a dollar and fifty cents for a wagon with a team. Two years later they built a two-story tollhouse replacing the cabin. The three manned the toll road until 1871.

Jesse married Virginia Watson on May 25, 1858, in Ashland, Oregon. They had a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters.

He pursued a career as a teacher, rising to the position of Superintendent of Schools for Polk City, Oregon. He studied law and was admitted to the bar and was a practicing attorney for thirty years in Salem.

Jesse Applegate Applegate died on January 4, 1919 and is buried in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 231, Plot 5. His headstone simply says: "Jesse A. Applegate Pioneer of 1843".

[\(Return\)](#)

Robert Vinton Beall, Ann Maria Riddle Beall and their son Robert Vinton "Vintie" Beall Jr.

Robert was born on June 15, 1831, in Montgomery County, Maryland and was of Scotch ancestry. His family moved to Springfield, Illinois a year later and it was while living there that Robert learned the trade of a carpenter.

In 1852 Robert and his brother Thomas Fletcher Beall made the trip west and crossing the plains in a reportedly mere seventy-eight days, which was the shortest time on record at the time. They traveled with two mule teams and since there were only six wagons in the entire train, it made for a faster trip.

Robert and Thomas mined for a time in Josephine County then settled in what is now known as Central Point. Robert claimed that the first time he came over the hill after leaving Josephine County and arriving in Jackson County that it was the most beautiful sight he had ever seen.

The brothers took adjoining Donation Land Claims and went about farming and raising stock. They also operated a pack train until 1856 with routes from Jacksonville to Oregon City and Crescent City.

On April 19, 1864, Robert Beall married Ann Maria Riddle in Riddle, Douglas County, Oregon. Robert was thirty-three, and Ann was just seventeen. A cousin of Ann's, Annie Hall was already married to Roberts' brother Thomas Fletcher. They married a few years earlier on November 10, 1859.

Ann Maria Riddle was born on April 19, 1847, in Buffalo Heart, Illinois. She and her cousin Annie Hall came overland from Springfield, Illinois with her parents in 1851. Their crossing took a little over five months. The family settled on the very first Donation Land Claim in the Cow Creek Valley in Douglas County. Years later the town of Riddle, Oregon was named for her family.

Robert and Ann had two children born to them, a daughter Mary and a son Robert. Robert built a beautiful home which over the decades has been admired as a place of beauty amongst the splendid trees that he planted. One of the black walnut trees that he planted in 1866 reached 125 feet tall, had a canopy of shade that stretched 110 feet from side to side, and with a diameter of twelve feet.

Over time Robert and his brother Thomas continued to acquire property bringing their holdings to 2,548 acres at one time. Robert also owned a thousand-acre ranch in the Cascades near present day Butte Falls.

The Beall brothers were known for their wheat growing and were reportedly the largest wheat growers in the county. Robert also raised Jersey cattle and Poland-China hogs. He was known for keeping up with the most modern farming equipment and introduced the first threshing machine in the county.

Robert Vinton “Vintie” Beall Jr.

Robert and Ann's son, Robert Vinton Jr., was born on April 27, 1878, at the family home. He attended local schools and showed a gift for musical abilities. When he was eleven years of age Vintie was stricken with spinal meningitis which sadly left him totally deaf. He went to Salem and attended the School for the Deaf and was able to finish high school there. He then attended the University of Oregon for three years before returning home to help his father running the farm.

In 1892 Vinton learned of a school in Berkeley, California that taught lip reading, so he immediately enrolled in order to maintain some communication with the world.

In an attempt to fill the void that music had left in his life, he began to study art and became an accomplished artist. Inspired by that success he next began to study photography and went back east to enroll at the College of Photography in Illinois. Vinton graduated in 1900 and became a very successful photographer on the east coast. His work was well received and written up in the Illinois newspapers praising his abilities.

Eventually the old homestead and Southern Oregon called him home. He set up a studio on the ranch and, later on, he had one in Central Point.

After his father died, he took over the operation of the farm. He diversified a little and planted forty acres of pears. The farm continued to do well but with Vinton approaching the age of eighty, he sold 160 acres that surrounded the family home but kept the house.

With his passing, Vinton left a sizeable fortune to the University of Oregon with the stipulation that the money be used to create a memorial to honor pioneer women. The remodeled recital hall, along with a magnificent new organ placed in it, was later named the Beall Concert Hall.

Robert Vinton Beall died on July 17, 1915, Ann Maria Riddle Beal died on March 20, 1924, and Robert Vinton “Vintie” Beall Jr. died on October 7, 1961.

They are all buried together in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 409.

[\(Return\)](#)

Louisa B. Boddy

Louisa was born in Ireland in May of 1829. She was twenty-three years old and living in Australia when her daughter Katherine (Kate) was born in Sydney on November 19, 1852. Two sons would follow, Richard was born on April 29, 1854, and William was born on April 6, 1858. Their last names were registered as Cravigan. William Cravigan was born in Ireland in 1833 and, living in Australia, may have been Louisa's first husband and the father of her three children.

In 1868 Louisa and her three children, Kate, Richard and William arrived in San Francisco having left Australia to start a new life in America. Louisa met and married William Boddy and, in 1872, along with her sons and now married daughter and her husband, Nicholas Schira, moved to Tule Lake just outside of Linkville, Oregon which is now called Klamath Falls.

The climate could be difficult with its dry hot summers and snow filled winters, but the soil was rich for farming. The family didn't worry too much about the local Indians as they felt secure with the knowledge that there were soldiers stationed at nearby Fort Klamath.

On November 29, 1872, a small Army detachment had attempted to return Captain Jack, the Modoc leader, to the Fort Klamath Reservation. While a small battle ensued near the Lost River, a small group of Modocs set off seeking revenge against the white settlers.

The first sign of trouble at the Boddy and Schira homestead was when Nicholas Schira's wagon and team of horses returned without Nicholas. After calming the horses, Kate found the seat covered with blood and dripping from the reins. Assuming her husband had fallen from the wagon she screamed for her mother and began running down the road. Louisa grabbed a shawl and some water and followed after her daughter. Just as she reached Kate and saw the lifeless body of Nichols lying on the ground six Indians on horseback rode out of the brush. They were looking for more white men and after giving a loud war call, rode off toward the house. Seeing that Nicholas had been shot in the head, Louisa knew there was more trouble to be had. She and Kate took off to warn her husband William and two sons. They soon came across the body of son Richard who had been stripped naked and slumped over his wagon. With a group of Modoc Indians still in the area, Louisa led Kate up into the hills and hopefully to safety. They were rescued the next afternoon and taken to Klamath Falls. A week later, Louisa returned with four volunteers and recovered three of the four bodies. Four days later the body of her youngest son William was also recovered.

Louisa was furious that the Army had not warned them of pending trouble. "The Indians had told us, time and again, that if the soldiers came to take them upon the reservation...they would kill every white man," she said. "They said they wanted to be friends." The settlers had asked the Army not to send any soldiers without first warning them. The Boddis never received any type of warning.

Six months after the attack, Kate and Louisa were asked to come to Fort Klamath to identify the Modocs who had killed their husbands, sons and brothers. Visibly shaken and crying Kate pulled a pistol and rushed toward one of the Indians while Louisa pulled a knife and lunged at another. Both were stopped before killing any of the Indians that were present, but not before an Army General's hand was cut by Louisa's knife.

In 1881 when Klamath Falls officials were setting up a new cemetery, Louisa Boddy had the remains of her loved ones exhumed and reburied in the Jacksonville Cemetery.

In March 1884, Louisa was awarded \$5,400 from the United States Government for the loss of her husband and sons during the Modoc Indian uprising of 1872. She became a citizen of the United States on May 5, 1890.

Louisa later married Michael Hartery, a Tule Lake cattle raiser. She died on December 31, 1904 in Hayward, California and was laid to rest in the Jacksonville Cemetery next to her husband William Boddy, her sons Richard and William, and son-in-law Nicholas Schira.

They are buried in the City Section of the cemetery in Block 29.

[\(Return\)](#)

Theodric (Todd) Cameron and Mary (Mollie) Bilger Krause Cameron

Todd was born in Peterboro, Madison County, New York, on June 21, 1829, of Scotch ancestry. In 1839 the family relocated to Van Buren County, Iowa where the family farmed.

In 1852 Todd and his brother Robert crossed the plains with ox teams following the Platte River route and arrived in Oregon's Clackamas County on August 14, 1852. From there they made their way south to Jackson County and immediately began mining on Jackson Creek. They engaged in mining for the next two years.

In 1853 Todd took on a 160-acre Donation Land Claim near the present-day city of Eagle Point and began farming. He continued to farm until 1858 when he moved to the Applegate area and opened a bakery in Sterlingville. With all those hungry miners in the area needing to be fed, there was a good profit to be made. Todd leased his Eagle Point land to Peter Simon who started an early Farmer's Market by selling his produce to the miners in the area. In 1860 Todd purchased forty acres, built a cabin and opened a store. He also farmed on the land.

Todd ran his mercantile in the Applegate and continued to farm both in the Applegate and on his land in Eagle Point. Todd, as well as his brother Robert, felt great sympathy for the north during the Civil War. Their beliefs were so strong that they named their newly formed town in the Applegate, "Uniontown" and Todd served as the Postmaster.

In 1872 Todd opened up the Sterling mine which proved to be most productive and a profitable investment. He sold the mine to a Portland company in 1875 for \$25,000. He then developed the Old Channel mine in the Galice district, the Simmons Cameron mine in the Waldo district and others.

In the mid 1880's Todd got involved in politics. First, he was elected State Representative in 1885 and then elected State Senator in 1890 and reelected in 1896. As a senator he served on committees dealing with mining and railways. Todd also served as a Jacksonville City Councilman and was active in a number of local fraternal organizations.

On March 3, 1892, Todd married Mary (Mollie) Bilger Krause. Mollie, as she was known, was born in Burlington, Iowa on February 16, 1859, and came overland with her Uncle John Bilger and his family. The family settled in the Jacksonville area and on March 5, 1879, Mollie married Mr. Frank Krause, proprietor of the Oregon Sentinel. Three children were born to them, two daughters and one son. Sadly, Frank died on November 28, 1886, at the age of thirty-five.

On February 10, 1893, Mollie and Todd welcomed their son Donald into the world. Their home on 5th Street in Jacksonville was a happy one. They were a prominent family in Jacksonville's social circle at the time.

In March 1904 Mollie was called to Klamath Falls as her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Otis Krause, was very ill. Shortly after arriving, Mollie herself took ill and was diagnosed with intestinal trouble. The treating doctor felt an operation was necessary. Mollie, who was just forty-five years old never recovered following the operation and died on March 19, 1904. Happily, her daughter-in-law and son's wife made a full recovery.

Todd raised their son Donald by himself following Mollie's death. Donald attended local schools and even worked as a page in the Oregon State Senate at a young age. He would go on to become a State Senator from 1959 to 1961.

Theodric (Todd) Cameron died on June 9, 1914, at the age of eight-five. He is buried in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 470, Plot 9. Mary (Mollie) Bilger Krause Cameron is buried next to Todd in Plot 10.

[\(Return\)](#)

Robert Sargent Dunlap

Robert, or Sargent as he preferred to be called, was born near Fulton, Missouri on October 8, 1827. His father, James Dunlap, died when Robert was only twelve years old. Being the eldest child, he and his younger brothers and sisters helped their mother with the farm.

At the age of eighteen he answered the call from the Missouri governor for volunteers to fight in the war against Mexico which was declared in May 1846. Robert enlisted on June 14, as a Private with Company H of the First Regiment of the Missouri Mounted Infantry. At the end of his one-year enlistment he and his comrades sailed from Mexico to New Orleans where they arrived on June 17, 1847. He received an honorable discharge and then set off for home.

Robert farmed for a few more years before he and his brother John decided to head west. John settled in California and Robert continued on to Oregon. He spent some time in Portland but by 1855 he was in Southern Oregon. Like so many others he most likely tried his hand at mining but was known to be a carpenter in the Applegate Valley by the early 1860s.

In late 1862 he purchased land in Jacksonville on North Oregon Street where he would eventually build a house and call it home for the next thirty-six years.

In 1867 Robert Sargent Dunlap became the first Sexton of Jacksonville's Cemetery. He immediately went to work assessing the cemetery's condition and determining its financial status. He saw that the final survey of some 150 lots in the cemetery was completed. Robert was instrumental in getting the City Board to pass an Ordinance authorizing issuance of deeds for plots purchased and that they be filed with the City Recorder. He saw to the improvement of the cemetery access road which had been receiving complaints long before Sexton Dunlap took on his duties.

Editor Frank Krause wrote: "Mr. Dunlap has taken great pains in keeping the grounds in order and otherwise improving them...We claim to have the prettiest cemetery on the coast and the city authorities surely know that they have the sanction of the public for any expenditure they may make in beautifying the grounds." Robert was loved by all, old and young alike, and celebrated on numerous occasions.

In addition to his Cemetery Sexton position Robert also served as Street Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, and had a number of business interests that he attended to. He was also a long-standing member of the Masonic Lodge.

In March 1904 after serving as Jacksonville's Cemetery Sexton for thirty-seven years he retired. Now seventy-six years of age he announced he would be soon moving to the Soldiers Home in Roseburg, Oregon.

Following a very large city-wide farewell party Robert departed for Roseburg. He was content and well taken care of for the final four years of his life. He died on April 29, 1908, and is buried in the Roseburg National Cemetery.

Alice Eliza Hanley and her niece Florence Claire Hanley

Alice was born on February 27, 1859, the same year Oregon became a state. Her parents Michael and Martha relocated from Douglas County, Oregon in 1857 where they met and were married. Michael purchased a Donation Land Claim just outside of Jacksonville which became known as the Hanley Farm. The original owners of the land were the related Clinton and Welton families who homesteaded and developed the property in the early 1850's.

Alice's father began farming and raising stock, cattle, pigs, horses and cows, which brought him great success and allowed him to purchase additional land. Michael was an entrepreneur and was involved in other business dealings: the Ashland Woolen Mills, supplying meat to Fort Klamath, and a saw mill in Prospect that supplied lumber to the Rogue Valley.

The original family home that Michael built in the early 1870's was expanded out and up, to accommodate the large family. It was completed in 1875 and still stands today on Hanley Road just outside of Jacksonville.

Following her mother's death in 1887, Alice, who was teaching school in Jacksonville, was also caring for her father who was also quite ill. He died in 1889, and the six surviving Hanley children divided the very large estate consisting of thousands of acres of land in the valley in addition to the family homestead. Alice inherited the home and the surrounding one hundred and eleven acres.

Alice remained busy with her involvement in the Grange, the Chautauqua in Ashland, the Eastern Star and the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs. She lived alone and operated the farm. She could be found working in the fields alongside her workers and kept up on the latest farm machinery. Alice supported the rights of female farm workers and traveled to Salem in support of their cause. She was an early member and served as an officer of the Society of Southern Oregon Pioneers. The organization met annually in Jacksonville or Ashland with a goal of their Pioneer history being preserved for future generations. Alice was an expert on local history and helped to document pioneer families through reciting stories she heard and events she witnessed as a child. Her home was filled with possessions that she collected and purchased in order to save them for a future museum.

In 1904 Alice's brother John's wife died. John had died just a few years prior, so with Mame's passing, four children were now orphans. The four children were divided amongst relatives to be cared for. Alice took in Claire who was just six years old. Alice raised Claire and instilled in Claire and Claire's sisters, Martha and Mary, who frequently visited the farm, a love for agriculture, horticulture and history.

Alice had lived in an exciting era and witnessed many changes in the Rogue Valley. Born shortly after the gold rush that brought the settlers and miners to the area, she also saw airplanes flying overhead and cars and trucks driving by her circa 1875 farmhouse.

Alice Eliza Hanley, who never married, died on July 3, 1940, at the age of eighty-one. She left Hanley Farm to her three nieces, Claire, Martha and Mary.

Florence Claire Hanley

Florence, Claire (preferring to be called by her middle name) Hanley was born on October 13, 1897, to John Alexander Hanley and Mary Harris Love Hanley. When her parents both passed away, she along with her brother Alex and sisters Martha and Mary were orphaned. Relatives took the children in to raise them, and Claire who was six years old went to live with her "Aunt Allie", Alice Hanley.

Following Alice's death, Claire invited her two sisters Martha and Mary to join her and live at the farm with her. All single women they followed in their Aunt Allie's footsteps and assumed management of the farm, living together in the old farmhouse. Surrounded by Alice's passion for the past they continued to work for the preservation of the belongings and history of the local pioneers. Claire sold eighty acres of the homestead to the Oregon State University so they could create the Southern Oregon Experiment Station.

Claire and Mary attended a meeting in 1946 to formally organize the Southern Oregon Historical Society. The society was very interested in the abandoned old Jackson County Courthouse in Jacksonville to house a museum. At a meeting of the Southern Oregon Historical Society on May 10, 1949, Claire was elected as the new President of the society. She would hold that position and serve the community until her death in 1963. Her sister Mary, who supported Claire's nomination, became quite involved in the internal affairs of the Society. She served as curator of the Jacksonville Museum from 1955 until 1967. Sister Martha also joined the society in 1950.

Administrative responsibilities, as well as parties and receptions, were arranged and hosted by the three sisters, many of which were held at the farm. The spirit and continuity of the Southern Oregon Historical Society was held together in the hands of the Hanley sisters.

Mary out lived both her sisters. Claire died on June 23, 1963, and Martha died on December 11, 1975. Both left their portions of the inherited Hanley farm to Mary. In 1982 Mary deeded the Haney farm to the Southern Oregon Historical Society.

Alice Hanley and Florence Claire Hanley are buried in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery. Alice in Block 362, Plot 11 and Claire in Block 363, in Plot 2.

[\(Return\)](#)

James Sullivan Howard and Martha Bridget Snuggs Howard

James was born on April 21, 1832, in Hillsboro County, New Hampshire. His father was Captain Sullivan Howard who was the head of the state militia at Mason, Hillsboro County. When James was four years old, he, his parents and *seven* siblings moved to Kewanee, Illinois. Captain Sullivan was instrumental in settling the new town which had been a wilderness prior to the family's arrival.

Upon graduating from high school James attended an academy where he studied surveying and engineering. At the age of twenty-one he embarked upon an independent career as a furniture dealer in Kewanee.

On December 21, 1855, James married Martha Bridget Snuggs. Martha was born in England on March 7, 1831 and came to America with her family in 1850. They settled in Stark County, Illinois where her father worked a farm.

In 1859 James, Martha and their three children, Charles James, age four, George Sullivan, age one, and Martha, a baby in arms, along with his surveying tools, were packed into a couple of ox drawn wagons and headed for Pike's Peak, Colorado. Somewhere along the way they decided to go all the way to Oregon and joined a train headed that way. They arrived in Jacksonville in the autumn just as the rains were starting and the weather was beginning to turn colder. James used the remaining fifty cents he had to his name to buy supper for his family. The next day he found work as a carpenter and Martha traded her prized gold watch for a lot on which James quickly built a cabin to shelter the family from the winter. Between working odd jobs, he found time and money to erect the first planing mill in Jacksonville. His cabin and mill stood as undeniable evidence that James Howard was a skilled and speedy carpenter, and he had no difficulty acquiring work building houses.

In 1862 James and Martha's son Horace was born. He was not a healthy child and suffered from a rheumatic heart. In 1866 their second daughter Nettie was born and was a healthy and happy child. Sadly, in 1868 at the age of six, Horace died and was buried in the Jacksonville Cemetery. Their last child, also a daughter, Eliza, was born in 1872.

At long last James finally had need of all his prized possessions, his surveying instruments, as more and more opportunities came his way. He was devoting his entire energy to surveying and engineering and was given important commissions such as the preliminary survey of the Southern Pacific railway from the Rogue to the Klamath rivers, the Sterling mining ditch, some twenty-four miles in distance, and the Oregon mountain road from Waldo to Crescent City. Another project was to survey for a road from Jacksonville to Medford.

While his surveying projects required long absences from his home and family, and he was dedicated to his commissions, he still found time to establish a general merchandise store in Jacksonville. In 1878 the J. S. Howard's General Merchandise Emporium opened its doors. Skillfully operated by Martha and her daughters, it was well patronized by Jacksonville residents.

In January of 1883 a fire broke out in the New State Saloon on the corner of California Street and quickly spread from building to building. A dozen buildings, including the Post Office were destroyed. James Howard lost the building plus \$13,000 in inventory of which only \$4,500 was insured. Many thought he was finished, after all he was fifty-one years old and how could someone at that advanced age be expected to start over. The Howards also lost their ten-year-old daughter Eliza to scarlet fever early in 1883.

Well, James did just that and more. He looked at the new town of Medford a few miles away and, with the news of the railroad coming soon, he took advantage of an opportunity and opened a mercantile in this new and growing town. He and his sons set up a tent store and announced they were open for business. Soon he hauled the first load of lumber and built one of the first buildings in Medford. The permanent store opened, and James placed a cigar box on the counter which served as the post office and James became the first Postmaster. The cigar box was later replaced with a soap box as the volume of mail had outgrown the cigar box. His sons continued to help run the store along with their mother and sisters. James became instrumental in founding the town of Medford. He became president of the Town Board of Trustees and Medford's first mayor. He also served as a Wells Fargo agent for ten years and never missed a train despite the fact they came through during the night.

In 1898 James resigned from the U.S. Land Office to take charge of the survey of the Gold Hill highline ditch. This ditch one hundred and forty-five miles long, took a long time for completion. He was the engineer for the Condor Dam (Gold Ray) on the Rogue River which was used for generating electric power. In 1907 James became City Engineer for the City of Medford.

Martha Bridget Snuggs Howard died on April 14, 1917, at the age of 86.
James Sullivan Howard died on November 2, 1919, at the age of 87.

They are buried in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 385, Plots 1 and 2.

[\(Return\)](#)

William Pernoll and Nancy Miller Pernoll

William was born on November 24, 1828, in Hamburg, Germany. As a young man he signed on as a sailor and on one of his trips, from Denmark to Astoria, Oregon, he decided to jump ship! William had heard the stories of all the gold strikes in Oregon and decided it was far more appealing to mine for gold and strike it rich then returning to Europe by ship. William made his way down to the Rogue Valley where he began to mine.

In 1855 he served in Captain Harris' Company A 9th Regiment of the Oregon Militia during the Oregon Indian War of 1855-1856. William was wounded in action when he was shot in the knee at the Battle of Hungry Hill. He was carried off the battlefield by hand-litter and taken by wagon to a hospital in Jacksonville. Following his release from service he purchased land near old Williamsburg, just outside of Provolt, Oregon. There he raised stock, farmed the land and also worked as a butcher.

In 1874 William left old Williamsburg and purchased a ranch two miles from the Applegate Post Office. There he built a home and a store, which he operated as a grange store. Along with the help of some of his neighbors, William figured out a way to irrigate their land with water from the Applegate River by constructing ditches.

On July 9, 1876, William was married to Nancy Miller at the home of August Rehkoph, a business partner of William's. Nancy Miller, who was almost thirty years younger than William was born in Oregon on July 29, 1858. Her parents John and Lydia (Griffin) Miller crossed the plains in 1846, first settling in the Willamette Valley before coming to the Rogue Valley. They took a three-hundred-and-twenty-acre Donation Land Claim on Bear Creek.

The marriage of William and Nancy would produce eight children.

In 1890 William built a new store and closed the grange. The new store was called The Pernoll Store, which William operated until his death on June 28, 1900. He was seventy-two years old.

Following William's death Nancy applied for a Widow's Pension from the United States Government for William's service and injury during the Indian War of 1855-1856. On November 13, 1903, Nancy's request was granted, and she was entitled to a pension of eight dollars a month which commenced on June 27, 1902.

Nancy Miller Pernoll died on December 6, 1919, at the age of sixty-one.

William and Nancy are both buried in the Improved Order of Red Men Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 8, Plots 2 and 3.

The Pernoll's son John took over the store following William's death and called it the Applegate Store. He ran it until his death in 1938 at which time his wife Lora operated it until 1953. Her sister then kept it going for another year or two before it closed. While the store no longer exists, William's first store, the old Grange store is now the Applegate Museum.

[\(Return\)](#)

Casper (Cap) Mitchell Ruch and Anna Boylan Ruch

Casper was born on May 8, 1865, in Iowa. Casper's father Fredolin (Fritz) emigrated from Switzerland in the 1860's. While living in Iowa he met and married Anna who was also a native of Switzerland.

Fritz and Anna brought their family of five children, Fritz, Katherine, Casper, Elizabeth and Henry overland and arrived in Jackson County, Oregon around 1870. They settled in the Humbug Creek area and Fritz began mining for John Johnson. A son William would join the family.

In 1875 Fritz purchased half- interest in a mining claim and the necessary mining equipment. Reportedly a week before the purchase Fritz had an altercation with his partner, but it was supposedly amicably settled. For some unknown reason on the morning of May 2, 1875, Fritz took his own life by ingesting strychnine leaving his wife with six children. Less than two weeks later, on May 14, overcome with grief, Anna drowned herself along with five-year-old William. Peter Britt took guardianship of two of the Ruch boys, Casper age ten and Henry age six. Fritz the oldest at fifteen, found a home with Thomas Bayse, a farmer. The Kasper Kubli family raised the daughters, Katherine, age thirteen and Elizabeth, age eleven. Both Britt and Kubli were natives of Switzerland as well.

Casper received a grade school education and also learned the blacksmithing trade. In 1896 he purchased ten acres of land in the Applegate Valley where he built a blacksmith shop at the busy intersection of Uniontown and the Jacksonville-Crescent City Road. He added some shelves and sold tobacco, candy, a few nails and other supplies. As the community did not have a Post Office Casper applied for one. As was the custom at the time, he got to name it and the Ruch Post Office opened for business on May 4, 1897. Some say it was in honor of his parents. The following year he had a store built and sold general merchandise offering supplies for the country trade. Across the road he built a smokehouse where he cured hams and bacon to sell in the store. Business grew, and tending to the Post Office and store left him little time for blacksmithing so he gave it up.

Around 1912, Cap contracted with some carpenters to start construction of a modern frame bungalow to be built up on the hill and behind the store. Locals started wondering about why a bachelor would need such a fine house. The answer came when Cap Ruch married Anna Boylan on June 11, 1913. Anna was a local schoolteacher who taught at a nearby school.

Casper also built a large hall where dances, programs, elections and other meetings were held. The dances held at Ruch Hall were very popular in the early days. Sometime after World War One, Cap remodeled the store making it much larger. Cap and Anna kept up with the times adding a gas pump and other facilities.

As the area grew and traffic increased on the newly paved highways, so did competition, something that Ruch had not faced before. Around 1928 the Sunnyside Service Station opened with two gas pumps, and they sold tires, tubes, and other supplies. Two years later an addition onto the service station was added offering a full stock of groceries. Before long the Sunnyside Service Station had all the business they could handle.

Casper "Cap" Ruch was stricken with cancer and died on June 10, 1930. Anna continued to operate the store by herself and when the Post Office closed on July 15, 1939, and with business in a steady decline, she closed the store and retired. Anna passed away on April 1, 1945.

Both Casper "Cap" Ruch and Anna Boylan Ruch are buried in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 203, Plots 6 and 7.

[\(Return\)](#)

Lieutenant Colonel George Herbert Howland Sargent and Alice Carey Applegate Sargent

Herbert was born on September 29, 1858, in Carlinville, Illinois. He graduated from Blackburn College in 1878 and then attended West Point Academy graduating in 1883.

His first assignment as a new Second Lieutenant was with the 2nd U.S. Cavalry at Fort Klamath in Oregon. It was here that he would meet and marry the woman who would accompany him on all of his future assignments, no matter where it would take them. On August 11, 1886, 2nd Lieutenant Sargent married Alice Carey Applegate.

Alice was born on April 28, 1852, in Douglas County, Oregon. She was the daughter of Lindsay Applegate and niece of Jesse Applegate, both of the Applegate Trail fame.

Lt. Sargent was next assigned to the University of Illinois to teach Military Science. He said the scholarly life appealed to him and most likely inspired him later in his career to write half a dozen books on military history as he went from one assignment to another.

Assignments after teaching at the University took both he and Alice to Northern California, then a five-hundred-mile three week horseback ride to Fort Walla Walla in Washington State.

Another assignment took them to the southwest. When the United States declared war on Spain following the sinking of the U.S.S. Maine in 1898, Lt. Sargent was appointed Colonel of the 5th U.S. Volunteer Infantry and headed to Santiago, Cuba with an army regiment. His wife Alice also accompanied him, sleeping in a tent just like the soldiers. Given the hot and sticky tropical climate along with all the bugs and diseases, it was not surprising that both Alice and Herbert came down with yellow fever. They were most fortunate to have survived as so many died and were cremated.

Following Herbert's recovery, they were sent to the Philippines to oversee the insurgency resulting from Spain ceding Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippine Islands to the United States. Of course, Alice went along and worked as a correspondent for an Illinois newspaper reporting what living conditions were like in Manila. A few more assignments and teaching posts followed.

The Sargents retired to Medford in 1911, and both became active in local civic affairs. In 1915 they purchased the "Casa Grande," more commonly known as the Nunan house. They did not get too long to settle in as, in 1916, Herbert was recalled to active duty during the Great War, World War 1, serving in the Quartermaster Department in San Francisco, teaching at Princeton University, and then on the general staff of the Army War College. During this time, Alice attempted to enlist in the Nurse Cadet Corps but was rejected for being too old.

After the Armistice in 1918 they returned to retirement and life in Jacksonville where once again they got involved in local organizations and causes, including keeping the Jackson County Courthouse in Jacksonville.

On September 16, 1921, while rushing to put out a grass fire on his property, Herbert collapsed and died from a heart attack. He was buried in the Jacksonville Cemetery and received full military honors. The stone wall that lines the road leading up the hill and into the cemetery grounds was constructed in his memory by Alice.

Alice, who lived another thirteen years, remained very involved in Jacksonville and the community. She was active in the Native Daughters of Oregon and a founder of their Jacksonville Museum, a forerunner of the Southern Oregon Historical Society.

When she died on March 1, 1934, and was buried next to her soldier, she was recognized for her years of service by the Army. The Spanish American and “Great War” Veterans buried her with military honors, as a full comrade – a tribute rarely paid to a woman.

Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Sargent and Alice Applegate Sargent are buried in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 231, Plots 6 and 7.

Lieutenant Colonel Sargent wrote a number of books on the military including one on the Napoleonic Wars and one on the Spanish – American War. The last book that he wrote, “The Campaign of Santiago”, received great praise from President Roosevelt who congratulated him in person in Washington, DC.

Alice Applegate Sargent also wrote a book called “Following the Flag”, about her life as an Army wife. Alice also wrote poetry.

[\(Return\)](#)

Mrs. Vogel and the Pauper Section of the Cemetery

Little is known of poor Mrs. Vogel, and for that matter, most of those who were buried in the Pauper Section of the Cemetery. This area, which is actually a part of the City of Jacksonville's Section of the Cemetery, is also referred to as the Potter's Field. It was once called the County Section, which brings us back to Mrs. Vogel. She was born in 1817 and came to America from Germany. Mrs. Vogel died on the Jackson County Poor Farm in 1910, at the age of ninety-three and was buried at the County's expense. She was the last, or one of the last individuals to be buried there as in 1910 burials in this area of the cemetery were discontinued and the ground undisturbed since.

Not only the poor were buried in the Pauper Section, strangers traveling through Jacksonville who took sick and died in the County Hospital or on the street, also ended up in the Pauper Section. Criminals, murderers and those who committed less serious or minor crimes are also buried within its grounds.

Others buried in this area of the cemetery were Native Americans, Chinese, Hawaiians, and Blacks. Discrimination prevailed here among the various groups with a dirt roadway separating them from the white race, including the criminals. Even those, and there were some, who could afford to purchase a grave in another part of the cemetery were prevented from doing so because of their race or National Origin.

None of the grave sites were ever marked with a headstone or any other form of identification. On January 5, 1997, a large granite Memorial Marker was placed and dedicated to all those buried within the Pauper Section. The names of 130 men, women, and children known to have been buried are inscribed on the memorial. Not listed are the Chinese, Hawaiians, most of the Native Americans, and Blacks. Also missing are the names of those whose records were lost or those who were buried before 1870, the first date recorded on the memorial.

As William M. Miller, author of "Silent City on the Hill" states, "Although we may never know all their names, the Memorial reminds us that they are there, and ensures that they won't be forgotten in their long rest in potter's field."

[\(Return\)](#)