

John Love

Born in 1830 in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, John made his way to Oregon in 1853 and became a successful tin and hardware merchant in a partnership with John Bilger.

John was one of Jacksonville's first trustees and a Freemason. He served on committees responsible for securing plans to build the town recorder's office and fire station, and for adopting the 1862 town plat. He was also instrumental in establishing the cemetery.

Around 1867, he built the house at 175 N. 3rd Street for his growing family. Their stay, however, was brief — within months John succumbed to tuberculosis. A year-and-a-half later his wife, Anna Sophia Harris Love, and daughter Maggie died in the smallpox epidemic of 1869.

The three remaining children were raised by their grandmother, Mary Ann Harris Chambers.

John was preceded in death by his mother, Margaret Love, who had traveled to Oregon to live with her son. John received special permission to have his mother buried in the new Jacksonville Cemetery, as she died in 1859 shortly before the cemetery officially opened.