

The Sarah 'Sally' Winn Graham Ingram Story

Compiled by Ed, Don and Ron Guenther

Minor H. Winn(1775-1840), 4th Great Grampa

Starting in South Carolina, Minor married Leodicia Bedford and they continued the trek West. They moved to Tennessee by 1810 where James and Zadok were probably born. Sally may have been born here as well. They may have been one step ahead of the fertility of the land playing out, as was the tendency with non-German farmers. No question about it, the Germans knew about soil conservation and others simply played out the land. You see that in Wisconsin where Germans prevailed in their understanding of the land and keeping it productive.

The South's crops required large tracks of land and cheap labor. In the north we see industrialization and life got real interesting. Many left the farms and moved into dirty cities.

The early Winns were builders, they always built schools. The Middle School was on James Winn's farm in West Fork, Arkansas. The Winns were intellectuals. They were also city builders, and surveyors. These guys weren't your dirt farmers. To characterize them as stupid dirt farmers moving west as the land played out isn't correct. Zadok and James stayed in West Fork and the young took off west to get cheap land.

Agriculture in the United States dates back to the food-raising activities of American Indians, and over half of the value of our current crops comes from plants such as corn, cotton, potatoes, and tobacco that were first domesticated by Indians in South and North America. In the early 1600s when the colonists were making their way to America, agricultural methods in England and other parts of the world were still primitive. Fields were dug by oxen pulling wooden plows, seeds were broadcast by hand, and grains were harvested with scythes just as they had been for the previous 2,000 years. From the Indians the first American settlers learned how to clear land, till the fields, and grow the corn that was crucial to their initial survival.

Although Indians taught the colonists to plant fish with their corn, fertilization of other crops was not a common practice. The native fertility of the relatively acid and nutrient-poor eastern soils was rapidly exhausted, and pioneering families commonly abandoned their farms and moved on to homestead the still fertile virgin lands to the west. By 1850 one traveller wrote, "Eastern Virginia appeared to have suffered the ravages of a great war or an attack by another horseman of the Apocalypse. I traveled for 50 miles on horseback and could find nothing but abandoned farms and plantations with buildings in decay and fields overgrown with nettles and brush. Mother Nature is reclaiming that which for 200 years has been giving food and clothing to man."

The mid-1800s began an era of great change in American agriculture, an Agricultural Revolution. It was influenced by the British agricultural revolution, which brought advances in

cultivation methods, breeding of improved crop varieties, and use of fertilizers and crop rotations to maintain soil productivity. Crop fertilization was introduced to the American colonies in the 1850s when ships were used to import guano, the droppings from seabirds living on islands off the coast of Peru. A vigorous market soon developed for soil amendments such as guano, manure, crushed bone, and lime; and by 1860 seven factories had been established in the United States to manufacture mixed chemical fertilizers.

The use of pesticides also began in the mid 1800s, when it was discovered that dusting of grape plants with sulfur provided a cure for powdery mildew. Soon afterwards, an arsenic-containing compound called Paris green was introduced for control of the Colorado potato beetle, an insect native to the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, which became a serious agricultural pest because of its appetite for domestic potatoes grown by pioneers. Chemical control of agricultural pests expanded rapidly after these initial discoveries, and by 1893 there were 42 patented insecticides offered by several manufacturers.

The South was mainly populated by the English and soil conservation was unheard of in early America, but in the North, spearheaded by Germans, the land was replenished. In the North they did it without slaves. The South was geared for the 'Gentry' and the gentry required someone else to do the work. Since no one would do it willingly and they would not pay to have it done, they sought out the slave market, mostly from Africa. Africans were bought and sold as merchandise. Other Blacks in Africa would capture members of warring groups and sell them to the slave traders, who found a big market in the South of early America.

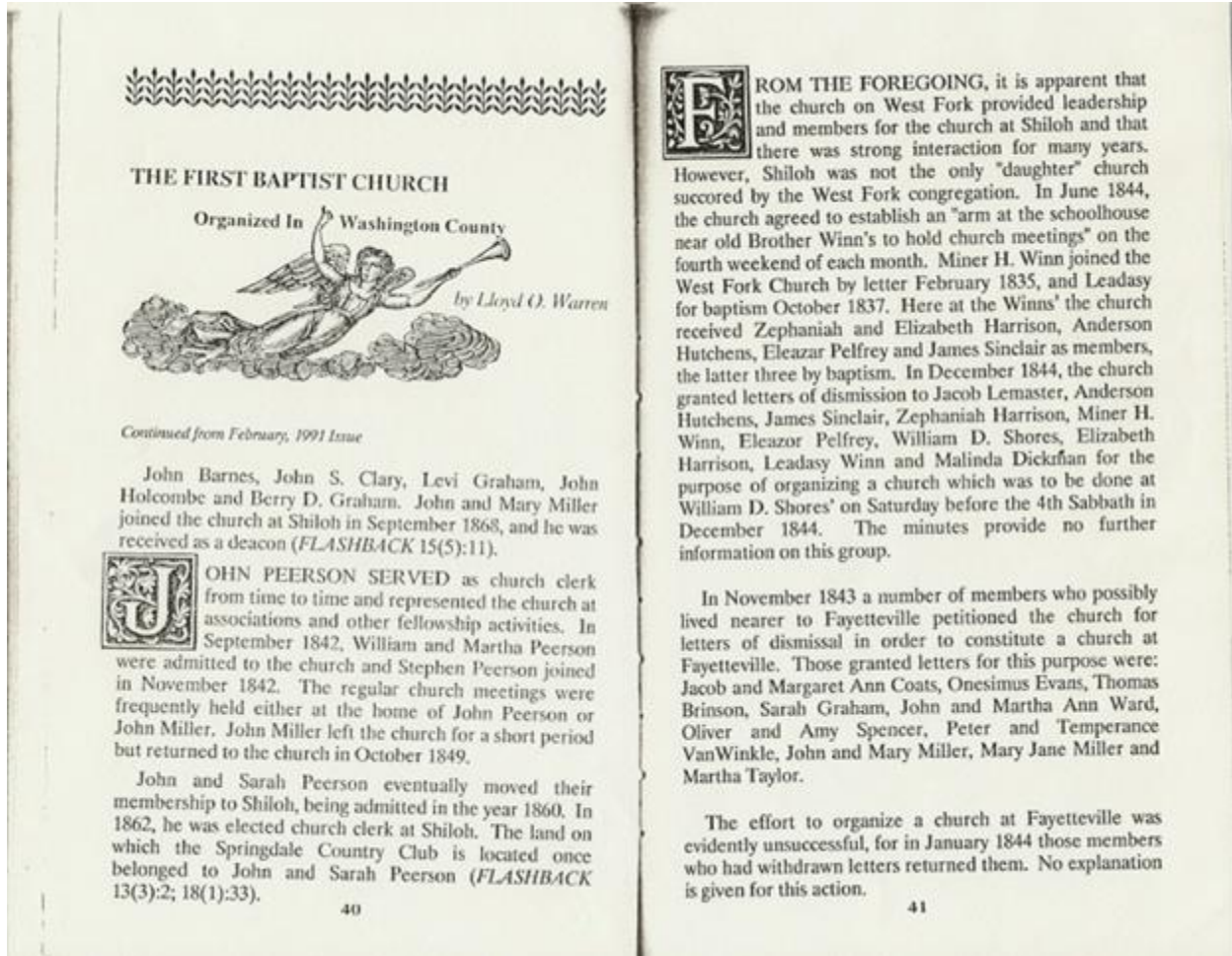
The early Winns were slavers but as the descendants came west, slavery was left behind. It was a new day.

Minor Winn married Matilda Leodicia 'Dicey' Bedford(1778-1870) in 1796. They had sons James and Zadok and daughter Sarah Sally. Sally was born around 1816, likely in Tennessee. By 1836 Minor and Dicey had followed their sons James and Zadok to Washington County, Arkansas.



1. West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas

County records show the Winns as land barons in Arkansas. Land was cheap. Minor and Dicey both died and were buried in Woolsey, Washington County, Arkansas. Minor H. Winn considered an old brother in the West Fowk church.



2. First Baptist Church of Washinton County

West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas



3. Modern Day Winn Farm in Arkansas

***Sarah Sally Winn(1816?-1881), 3rd Great Gramma**

Sarah Sally married Moses Graham in 1830, apparently at age 14. Probably between 1832 and 1836 they moved to Washington County, Arkansas, where Sally's brothers had gone. Moses died in 1840. They had 3 daughters: Minerva(1834-1897), Elizabeth(1837-1884), and Nancy(1840-1852). Sarah married William Ingram in 1846. All three Graham daughters came West with Sally and her second husband William Ingram in 1852. Nancy died on the Oregon Trail at age 12 and was buried near the Trail. Sally and William also had their children with them which included Leodicia(1847) and James(1850).

State of Arkansas
County of Washington
just Clerk
I do hereby certify that I did
celebrate and solemnize a marriage contract between
William Ingram of the county of Union to Sally Graham
of the County of Washington and give them together as
man and wife his age being 33 years and her age being
30, On the 15th day of March 1846 Given under my hand
this 20 day of March 1846 John Robinson JP
The foregoing certificate was filed for record on the 20th
day of March 1846 and recorded on this 26th March 1846
J. P. Pollman Clerk
Clerk of the Court

4. Sarah Sally Winn Graham Marriage to William Ingram in 1846

Sarah Sally's Brother James Winn, 3rd Great Uncle, 1870

Sarah Sally's brother James married Nancy Bloyed in Washington County, Arkansas. This was something of a merger between two land rich families.

Patent Map
 T14-N R30-W
 5th PM Meridian
 Map Group 27

Township Statistics

Parcels Mapped	402
Number of Patents	270
Number of Individuals	200
Patentees Identified	196
Number of Surnames	134
Multi-Patentee Parcels	10
Oldest Patent Date	5/3/1844
Most Recent Patent	1/31/1925
Block/Lot Parcels	0
Parcels Re-Issued	1
Parcels that Overlap	3
Cities and Towns	3
Cemeteries	2

Washington county,
 Arkansas

Winn's
 Bloyed's

	JOHNSON Orrial 1857	GILBREATH Cyrus G 1854	GILBREATH Cyrus G 1854	MCKNIGHT Thomas 1851	BLOYD William 1841	WINN James 1852	WINN James 1841	ROBINSON Alexander C 1837	WHITE Gideon S 1850	WHITE Gideon S 1850	THORNHILL Jaffra 1854
ANDERSON William 1854	WILLIAMS Nancy A 1861	WILLIAMS Nancy A 1861	WINN James 1860	WINN James 1854				WINN Zach 1868	4		BLOYD James 1876
THORNHILL Jaffra 1850	6	FRAMER Worford B 1854	WINN James 1861	WINN James 1861	BLOYD Peter 1844	5		WINN Zach 1868			MCDANIEL Hugh F 1862
CAUGHMAN Abner N 1854	PAINTER George A 1852		BLOYD Peter 1861	BLOYD Peter 1861	BLOYD Peter 1854		BLOYD El 1844	KARNES Sidney W 1890	KARNES Sidney W 1890	KARNES Sidney W 1890	STOUT Joseph A 1861
IMMONS Albert M 1810	HOLLISTER Moses 1859	HOLLISTER Moses 1859	HOLLISTER Moses 1859	COLLESSER Samuel 1865	BLOYD El 1844	BLOYD Jesse D 1844	HARRIEN Erns 1844	HARRIEN Erns 1844	KARNES Falls G 1854	KARNES Andrew 1885	QUINTON Atlas R 1855
HANN John W 1861	HAJIN John C 1866	7	MILLER Henry 1863		BLOYD El 1866	8					MCDANIEL Hugh F 1861
HANN John W 1861	HAJIN John C 1866	MILLER Henry 1863		CURTIS Franklin F 1865	CURTIS Franklin F 1865		CRAIG Ewing J 1844	SMITH Francis 1844	9	GILBREATH Herderson 1876	WOODS Joseph B 1865
	LOFTON Giles 1876	LOFTON Giles 1876			BLOYD James 1860	KARNES Daniel H 1876					MCDANIEL Hugh F 1862
FITTS John H 1861	LOFTON Giles 1876	LOFTON Giles 1876	SMEDLEY George E 1860	SMEDLEY George E 1860	BLOYD James 1860	KARNES Daniel H 1876	STRICKLAND Jacob 1864				
	MILLER William 1869	MILLER George E 1869	SMEDLEY George E 1862	SMEDLEY George E 1862	FITTS John W 1869	17	COMBS Jesse D 1876	NOTT William H 1875			16
OXENDINE James R 1868	18	OXENDINE Franklin F 1868	CURTIS Franklin F 1865	WINN Zadock C 1860	FITTS John W 1869	COMBS Jesse D 1876					
WINN El 1863	WINN El 1876	WINN John 1876			BLOYD William 1860	FITTS John W 1869	COMBS Jesse D 1876				
WINN Zadock C 1861	WINN El 1876	WINN John 1876		WINN Zadock 1858		BLOYD William 1876	KARNES George W 1867	KARNES George W 1867	ROBINSON John 1849	HUTCHENS John 1860	HUTCHENS Anderson 1844
HUTCHESON John P 1864	WINN El 1863	19	BLOYD John M 1868	BLOYD John M 1868	BLOYD William 1876	20	BLOYD El 1863	SCHOLLER Eva May 1914	ROBINSON Cherry 1867	21	HUTCHENS John W 1866
	RAJMER Charles E 1920	JOHNSON Wm A 1901	BLOYD John M 1868	FULLBRIGHT John F 1860	BLOYD El 1869		BLOYD El 1863	STOCKBURGER Jacob W 1869	CANTRELL Pakey 1862	HUTCHENS John M 1866	JOHNSON Robert S 1862
LITTLE Angus 1875	FANN Ruben A 1901	FANN Ruben A 1904		BLAYEA William 1861	SHAW Nathan J 1862	SHAW Nathan J 1862	GLOTFELTY Nelson 1862	CANTRELL Pakey 1862	PURSER Joshua 1878	MCCLAIR George W 1862	
		HUTCHESON William H 1876	FANN Ruben A 1901	GLOTFELTY Nelson 1862	CAUDLE Mary 1869	CAUDLE Mary 1869	CAUDLE Samuel W 1869	CAUDLE Samuel W 1869	PURSER Joshua 1878	PURSER Joshua 1878	MCCLAIR George W 1862
KARNES John 1862	HUTCHESON William H 1876	30	HUTCHESON William H 1876	GLOTFELTY Nelson 1862	JOHNSON Marion 1861		CAUDLE Samuel W 1869		28	GOFF Albert M 1914	PURSER Peter 1877
KARNES John 1862	GLOTFELTY Nelson 1862	47	GLOTFELTY Nelson 1862	DOYLE Thomas J 1864	DOYLE Thomas J 1864	DOYLE Thomas J 1864	CANDLE John H 1868	CANDLE John H 1868	CAUDLE Sam R 1862	GOFF Albert M 1914	PURSER Peter 1877
HUTCHESON George W 1869	LANDELIUS Carl F 1814	LANDELIUS Carl F 1814	GLOTFELTY Nelson 1862	DOYLE Thomas J 1864	DOYLE Charles A 1917	CANDLE John H 1868	CANDLE John H 1868	MARTIN William M 1857	CAUDLE Sam R 1862	CAUDLE Sam R 1862	PURSER Peter T 1869
	HUTCHESON George W 1869	HUTCHESON George W 1869	SMITH Ira N 1902	SMITH Ira N 1909	BROCK William H 1869			MARTIN William M 1857	CAUDLE Sam R 1862	CAUDLE Sam R 1862	PURSER Peter T 1869
								ARNOLD	CHANDLER	CHANDLER	BIRD [6]

5. The Winn/Bloyed Land Sections

Years later, after the death of Nancy, James married Eliza Hancock. They had 4 children: Martha in 1865, Walker in 1866, George in 1867, and James in 1869. All the children were born in West Fork, Washington Co., AR. Son James Winn was born four months after his father's death in April of 1870.



6. James Winn



7. Eliza Hancock Winn

After James' death, and being left alone with four small children at one of the most critical times in the history of the U.S., the Reconstruction days immediately following the Civil War, Eliza Winn was able to keep her young family together with the help of a devoted ex-slave girl, Emaline, who chose to cast her lot with the safety of the farm where she was born. The two held the family intact during those trying times, the widowed mother managing the large farm near what is now the town of West Fork, Arkansas, while the teen-age black girl assumed the responsibility of looking after four lively children. Emaline has gone down in the historical records of this family as a heroine.

In 1877, Eliza Hancock Winn married another widower, Daniel Howry Karnes, the owner of a nearby farm. Daniel Karnes was 50 years of age when he married the 33 year old Eliza. Winn-winn situation.

Though Arkansas sided with the Confederacy some of the Arkansans fought for the North and for Freedom. Sally's brother Zadok fought for the Union army from 1863-1865 in Company E, Arkansas Cavalry.

Zadok Winn(1798-1852), Sarah Sally's Brother, 3rd Great Uncle

Sally's brother Zadok married Elizabeth Breechen(1803-1869). They had a farm in Washington County, Arkansas, on Winn's Creek. In 1852, during the great flood, the creek rose to treacherous levels and Zadok was carried away. His wife anxiously awaited his return, but only his body would return.

Zadok and Elizabeth had a son named Jesse, born in South Carolina about 1799. Jesse came to Oregon with three of his siblings following the Civil War and married Ann Grazelle Taylor who had come to Oregon from Iowa in 1852.



Jesse Z. N. Winn's home on Dry Creek at Weston, Umatilla Co., OR. From left: Iley Miles, Ann Grazelle holding Bessie, Jesse, Henry, Ada Loretta (Lillian), George, Albert, Clarence. Source: Nancy Kibbey <newinnk@comcast.net>

8. Jesse Winn's Home on Dry Creek

The Tigard-Galbreath Wagon Train and Ingram Wagon Train, 1852

They were attracted to Oregon for the Oregon Donation Land Claims, pioneers looking for a homestead in green state with rich soil. A man could get 320 acres and if he had a wife, together they could homestead 640 acres. It was an attraction to get Oregon settled and gain statehood. William and Sally would be part of this great trek.

"The cost of traveling over the Oregon Trail and its extensions varied from nothing to a few hundred dollars per person. Women seldom went alone. The cheapest way was to hire on to help drive the wagons or herds, allowing one to make the trip for nearly nothing or even make a small profit. Those with capital could often buy livestock in the midwest and drive the stock to California or Oregon for profit. About 60 to 80 percent of the travelers were farmers and as such

already owned a wagon, livestock team, and many of the necessary supplies. This lowered the cost of the trip to about \$50 per person for food and other items. Families planned the trip months in advance and made many of the extra clothing and other items needed. Individuals buying most of the needed items would end up spending between \$150–\$200 per person."³

It appears that the Tigard train of about 120 persons merged with the Ingram train and together they made up over 400 people, all coming from Arkansas. In Tigard's letters he records much death on the Oregon Trail, including the crippled little Nelson girl who was accidentally shot while moving a loaded rifle. There was sickness and delirium on the trip as well as trouble with Indians.

The wagon train of 1852 set out from Washington County, Arkansas, in early to mid May probably. Most Oregon trail travelers started in St. Louis, Missouri. As with many of the Oregon Trail travelers they experienced disease, death, and tragedy. They traveled by ox team, the surest way when encountering difficulties such as mud and mountains. It was necessary to get through the mountains before snowfall, which started sometime in November usually.

Sally's daughter Minerva Graham, was 18 when she traveled with Sally in 1852. She married in Oregon to John Vinson in 1854. Minerva's obituary states that she was a good Christian and a courageous woman.

Minerva Graham Newton.

Minerva Graham **Newton** was born in Washington county, Arkansas, July 19 1834, and died at St. Vincent's Hospital, Portland, Oregon, July 30th, 1897, aged 63 years and 11 days.

With her parents she came to Oregon, crossing the plains in 1852, by ox team, and settling near the Harris bridge, now known as Farmington. In this county she lived from the day of her arrival to the time of her death.

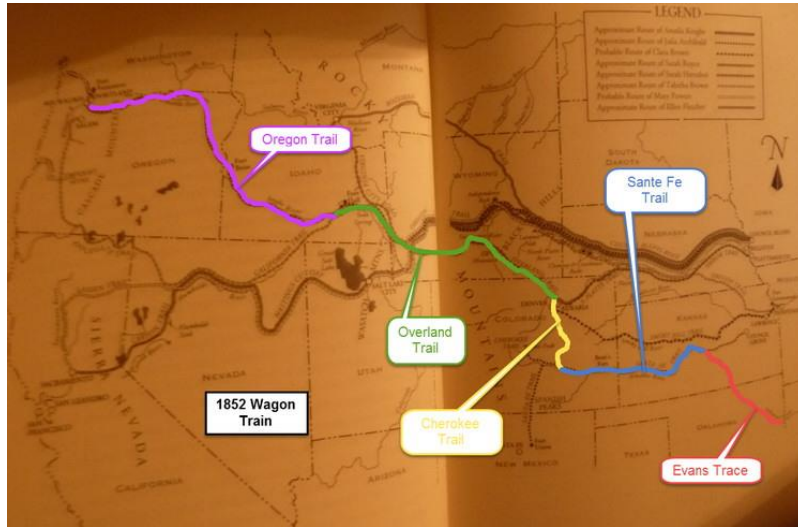
May 16th, 1854, she was married to John H. Vinson, a good man, who died about 14 years later. In 1870 she was married to Elias Newton, who died in 1894. Mrs. Newton was a most exemplary Christian and a courageous woman. She had a large circle of friends. For the last two years she was a constant sufferer from nervous prostration, but was gently nursed by her daughters, Mrs. Chapman and Miss Vinson, who were unceasing in their devotions. Her funeral took place from the family home in Hillsboro and was attended by a large concourse of friends. Truly a good woman is gone to rest.

9. Minerva Graham's Obituary

Cherokee Trail

In 1852 about 400 people set off for Oregon from Washington County, Arkansas. William and

Sarah Sally Ingram came with Sarah's three children from her first husband Graham, and two children from William, Leodicia age 5 and James age 2. They traveled Evans Trace into the Santa Fe Trail. From there they merged into the Cherokee Trail and on into the overland Trail. Finally, in Idaho, they continued on the well known Oregon Trail.



10. Washington County, Arkansas, to Oregon

James Ingram(1821-1826), William's brother, and James' wife Minerva(1824-1904) came in the Wagon Train of 1852. With them was their 5 year old son Louis. Louis' Obituary says that he remembers they encountered and fought Indians on the trip. With them were their children Berry, Green, Louis, and Matilda Jane. Their daughter Charolette died in infancy in 1851. James and Minerva to a land claim just north of Harrisburg, Oregon, in 1853, it is thought along the Big Muddy River.



11. James and Minerva Ingram

Birth: May 3, 1847
Washington County
Arkansas, USA
Death: Jan. 31, 1924
Gravelford
Coos County
Oregon, USA

Here is an obituary passed on by his great-granddaughter Toni, source unknown, but thought to be a local Coos Co., newspaper:

Obituary- Louis Ingram was born in Arkansas, May 3, 1847, and died at Gravel Ford, January 31, 1924 at the age of 76 years, 8 months, and 28 days.

As a child of five years his parents took him across the plains to the great western land of promise, settling in the Willamette valley. He was too young to tell of the battles with the Indian tribes along the way, yet in a way they remained in his memory. He knew both good and bad Indians and owed his life and that of his sister to some of a tribe, the time when the children were floating down the Deschutes river in a wagon box and were rescued by some of the redskins. There were 400 in the immigrant train in which his parents came out to the west and many memories of this stayed with the five-year old lad.

His parents lived in different parts of the states of Washington and Oregon, but he spent the larger part of his life in this state. At many of the festive gatherings of those earlier days his violin rang forth giving pleasure to all who heard.

12. James and Minerva's Son Louis' Obit

Also on the 1852 wagon train was Sarah's nephew, John Winn. This is believed to be Sally's nephew, her brother Zadok's son. At some point on the trip, according to the Tigard letters, John Winn became captain of the train. he ended up settling on a farm on Ferguson Creek off the Long Tom river. John is buried in Monroe, Oregon, with his wife Elizabeth.

In Wyoming, the train would have passed by Fort Bridger, established around 1843 by the famous mountain man Jim Bridger. Fort Bridger was located on Black's Fork of the Green River and was established to serve the wagon trains coming west. Bridger was known as "Blanket Chief" by the Flatheads and Crows after his Flathead wife made a beautiful and unusual multicolored blanket that he wore and had for special occasions. The name meant little at first but as he became known for the qualities the Indians admired, the name became greatly respected and honored." There is a good chance that Sally's train of 1852 met Blanket Chief, unless they took Sublett's cut-off through 50 miles of the water-less Green River desert, a route that had become preferred because it cut 46 miles off the trip.



13. Sublett's Cut-off

The road to the left was Fort Bridger, the right was Sublett's Cut-off

On the trip they fought Indians. They were also helped by Indians. Two children wandered off and were lost. They were found and rescued by Cayuse Indians who cared for the children overnight. One of the children was William and Sarah's son James, age 2. However, soon after arrival in the Dalles little James died, probably of pneumonia, never having recovered from their wondering in the wilderness. Little James was buried the Dalles.

The Oregon Trail was full of danger and difficulty. Estimates of death on Oregon-California-Mormon Trail is as follows:

Cause	Estimated deaths
Disease	6,000–12,500
Native American attack	3,000–4,500
Freezing	300–500
Run overs	200–500
Drownings	200–500
Shootings	200–500
Miscellaneous	200–500
Scurvy	300–500
Totals	9,400–21,000

The Ingram Train arrived in Oregon on November 12, 1852, almost 6 months after starting out. From The Dalles, they came down the Columbia River via barge and landed in Oregon City.

Hillsboro, Oregon

William and Sarah Sally settled in Farmington, Oregon, near the Harris Bridge. Here they took a land claim, presumably 640 acres. Both are buried in the Lewis Pioneer Cemetery in Hillsboro, Oregon.



14. Sarah's Grave



15. William's Grave

Leodicia Ingram(1847 – 1909), 2nd Great Gramma

Leodicia Ingram was born in 1847 to William Ingram and Sarah Sally Winn Graham in 1847. Leodicia was 5 years old when they traveled the Oregon Trail. In 1862, at the age of 15, she was married to John Landess(1823-1904), age 39. John had taken a donation land claim near Scholls, 320.03 acres according to the land patent of 1850.

PIONEER LANDESS DEAD.

John Landess, the last descendant of a famous Kentucky pioneer family, died Thursday evening, September 29, 1904, at his home in this city, aged 81 years. Deceased was born in Kentucky, January 25, 1823, and with his parents, came to Oregon in 1847, the train having several fights with Indians. The party reached this county, in the fall, and young Landess took up a donation land claim near Scholle, embracing several hundred acres. He was one of family of ten children, and he was the last to pass away. He was married to Miss

Disa Ingram, in this county, in 1862. He has resided in this county continuously since 1847, with the exception of the year 1849, when he went to California gold fields, for eleven months. He was a member of the Christian Church, and had been an affiliate since he was 25 years of age, a period of 54 years. The following children, with the wife, survive him: Grant, of Hillsboro; Ruban-an Prosser, Farmington; Rona Stahl, Hequiam, Wash; Etta Williams, Scappoose; Gertha Larsen, Hillsboro, and Mamie Landess at home. The funeral took place Saturday, interment being at Farmington.

16. John Landess Obituary

A Bible page displays Leodicia's hand written testament of the birth of her children, including

Corena in 1873. John and Leodicia had 8 children all together. There was Ulyseus(1865-), Rhuma(1866-1951), Elmer(1869-1872), Corena Maylena(1873-1931), Marietta(1873-1920), Girtha(1885-1964), and Mamie(1887-1968).



17. Leodicia's Handwriting, Bible Page

Leodicia and John are both buried in Lewis Pioneer Cemetery in Hillsboro, Oregon. John died first in 1904. His headstone reads:

Gone home:
 By the side of his beautiful darling.
 He's sleeping the sleep of the dead.
 And I know that they both shall awaken.
 For Jesus that promise has made.

Asleep in Jesus



18. John Landess Headstone

Leodicia died in 1909. She was John Landess' "beautiful darling" on his headstone, and on her stone has the inscription:

Wife of John Landess:
A precious one from us has gone
A voice we loved is stilled
A place vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.



19. Leodicia's Headstone

***Corena Maylona Landess(1873-1931), Great Gramma**

Corena Maylona Landess was the 4th child of John Landess and Leodicia Ingram. In 1889, at the

age of 16, she married Wilbur Wiley(1856-1909). They had 3 children: George(1890-1962), Wilda(1891-1960), and Dora(18920-1944).



20. Corena



21. Wilbur

By 1898 the marriage had gone sour and Corena divorced Wilbur. She remarried in 1899 to August Stahl. Somewhere in the mix little Wilda was placed with her grandparents, John and Leodicia Landess. At some point Wilda was placed in a private school. She appears to have had an unstable life, perhaps never really recovering from her parents' divorce.

Corena may have found contentment in the clothing shop of her second husband Stahl.



22. Corena in Stahl's Shop

Corena was noted for her poetry. In 1924 she wrote the following poem in memory of her father's old age and death. Perhaps her poetry reveals her emotional personality, possibly suffering from mental duress throughout her life:

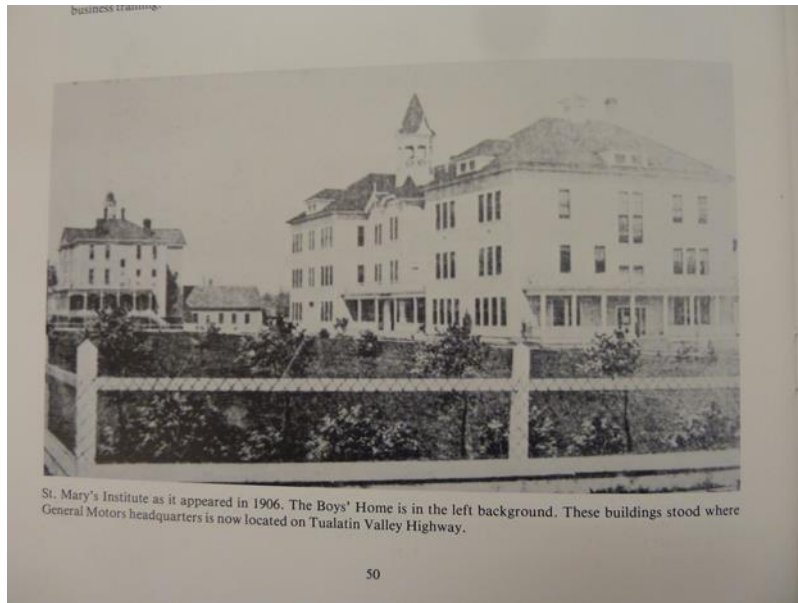
Some 20 years ago today
They took our papa away
Never more his smile to see
Yet he's ever dear to me

Gone to that far distant shore
Where we'll see him never more

How we need to sit and watch him
As he sat beside the fire
He would sleep and dream of childhood
Then he'd wake with a smile

***Wilda Ruth Wiley(1891-1960), Gramma**

Wilda was born to Corena and Wilbur in Hillsboro, Oregon. Wilda was only 3 years old when her parents divorced. Soon after she went to live with her grandparents. It is uncertain why this was so, but it is likely that Wilda's Grandparents became her emotional parents. Her grandfather John Landess died in 1904 when Wilda was 13 and Leodicia died when she 18. At some point in there Wilda became the ward of Wilbur's brother W. D. Wiley. This is an odd thing because Wilda's mother Corena was still alive. Apparently Wilbur's brother controlled anything financial of Wilda's until she was 19, when she married Joseph Delsman. It is uncertain what part of the Richard Wiley estate that Wilda actually got from her father Wilbur.



23. St. Mary's School
Wilda and her sister Dora attended here



24. Wilda with her daughter Louise

Wilda collected knick knacks and used them to make a putty jar. She applied putty to a jar and then attached the knick knacks onto the putty. The finished project took years to dry but in the end the jar itself became a knick knack jar. For years it could be seen on Wilda's daughter Geraldine's counter, full of knick knacks. Geraldine gave it to her daughter Mary who still has it to this day and in fact makes knick knack jars of her own. Geraldine's son Ed got on board and made a knick knack jar with his grandchildren.



25. Wilda's Putty Jar

Wilda and Joe had 3 children: Louise(1913-1927), Geraldine(1916-2012), and Richard(1917-1943). Wilda struggled with depression throughout her married life and suffered severe blows when her daughter Louise died of TB at age 14 and her son Richard went down in the Mediterranean in WWII in 1943, and was eventually declared dead. Wilda's husband Joe died in 1943 from brain cancer and Wilda married Fred Meier in 1948. She is buried next to Fred in Portland, Oregon. Wilda's daughter Geraldine was not a happy camper about this last thing.



26. Wilda's WWII Rationing Book

When Wilda's daughter Louise died in 1927 Wilda went to be with her Mom Corena in Portland, leaving little Geraldine to tend house. When she returned the name of Louise was never mentioned in the household again. It was too painful for Wilda. Geraldine had to bear the pain of it all alone, but Geraldine loved her father. Geraldine loved the farm in Coos River that her father had. In her 97 years of life it was not known if Geraldine ever expressed love for her mother. She did not understand her mother. Geraldine's father was always there for her.

After Joe's death Wilda tried living with her daughter Geraldine, but Wilda's alcohol abuse problem persisted, and this did not sit well with Geraldine, though Geraldine put up with it.

Wilda had a hard life from the get-go.

***Geraldine Clara Delsman(1916-2012), Mom**



27. Geraldine age 19

Geraldine was a fun adventurous girl growing up, taking after her father. She loved the outdoors and the farm and sports and gardening. At Coos River High School she was on the girls' basketball team. It was not thought that girls had the stamina to run up and down the court for a full game so they had rules which required players to stay on a certain half of the court. Girls' sports in those years were big and then sometime about 1940, there was a report from some medical doctors out that sports were bad for girls. The girls' sports' programs disappeared. It is strange, too. It was thought that too much sports was bad for a girls' body and made child bearing difficult. The Germans at the time under the Nazis came to a completely different conclusion and for the boys formed the Hitler Youth, the Hitler Jugend, because they thought the German boys were too soft and consequently were not good soldier material, and they formed the League of German Girls (Bund deutscher Maedel, the BdM) because it was their opinion that it made the stronger and better able to bear strong children. Girls' athletics did not make a comeback until the 1960's, which was too bad because Geraldine's three older daughters, Louise, Dory and Phyllis, were excellent athletes. Moreover, the Russian women always beat the American girls in all the athletic contests of the time and the Russians were considered Russian Amazons. Gradually, America saw the error and very quietly re-introduced girls' sports, but never mentioned the fact that there was a time when it was opposed. Geraldine played running center.



28. Geraldine on the far left

Geraldine is said to have been cute and fashionable. She was intelligent, athletic, and sociable.

She had it all. She decided to invest her time and energy in a large family. A decision she made because she said she wanted lots of kids so they wouldn't grow up lonely like she did. She took some hard stands and over her life realized she'd been wrong in some things and faced up to it. She also ran a business, a trailer park. She took care of old people. Her memory was impressive and at any given time she could reel off any number of events in her life, right up to age 97. She held tight to her children all her life, almost as if she could protect them from life's trouble. Geraldine greatly assisted and encouraged her children in education, convinced that a good education would get a person somewhere. She herself had a high school diploma, a good education for a woman of her day. She could keep good books and make good legal decisions. You might say that she wore the pants in the family as the saying goes.

John and Geraldine had 14 children, all living to adulthood! There is a window if a person will just look out.

Picture Credits:

1. West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas: <http://www.ancestor-rescue.com/Winn/Maps/mapAR.htm>
2. First Baptist Church of Washinton County:
3. Modern Day Winn Farm in Arkansas: Google EArth edited by Donald S. Guenther
4. Sarah Sally Winn Graham Marriage to William Ingram in 1846: Arkansas marriage records
5. The Winn/Bloyed Land Sections:
6. James Winn: <http://www.ancestor-rescue.com/Winn/WinnJamesMinor.htm>
7. Eliza Hancock Winn: <http://www.ancestor-rescue.com/Winn/WinnJamesMinor.htm>
8. Jesse Winn's Home on Dry Creek: <http://www.ancestor-rescue.com/Winn/WinnJesseZ.htm>
9. Minerva Graham's Obituary:
10. Washington County, Arkansas, to Oregon:
11. James and Minerva Ingram:
12. James and Minerva's Son Louis' Obit:
13. Sublett's Cut-off: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/wyoming/259801-official-wyoming-picture-thread-10.html>
14. Sarah's Grave: Guenther family photo collection
15. William's Grave: Guenther family photo collection
16. John Landess Obituary:
17. Leodicia's Handwriting, Bible Page: Guenther family record collection
18. John Landess Headstone : Guenther family photo collection
19. Leodicia's Headstone: Guenther family photo collection
20. Corena: Guenther family photo collection
21. Wilbur: Guenther family photo collection
22. Corena in Stahl's Shop: Guenther family photo collection
23. St. Mary's School :

24. Wilda with her daughter Louise: Guenther family photo collection
25. Wilda's Putty Jar: Guenther family photo collection
26. Wilda's WWII Rationing Book: Guenther family records collection
27. Geraldine age 19: Guenther family photo collection
28. Geraldine on the far left: Guenther family photo collection

Footnotes

1. Oregon Trail costs: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oregon_Trail#Costs

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