

LATAH LEGACY

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE LATAH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

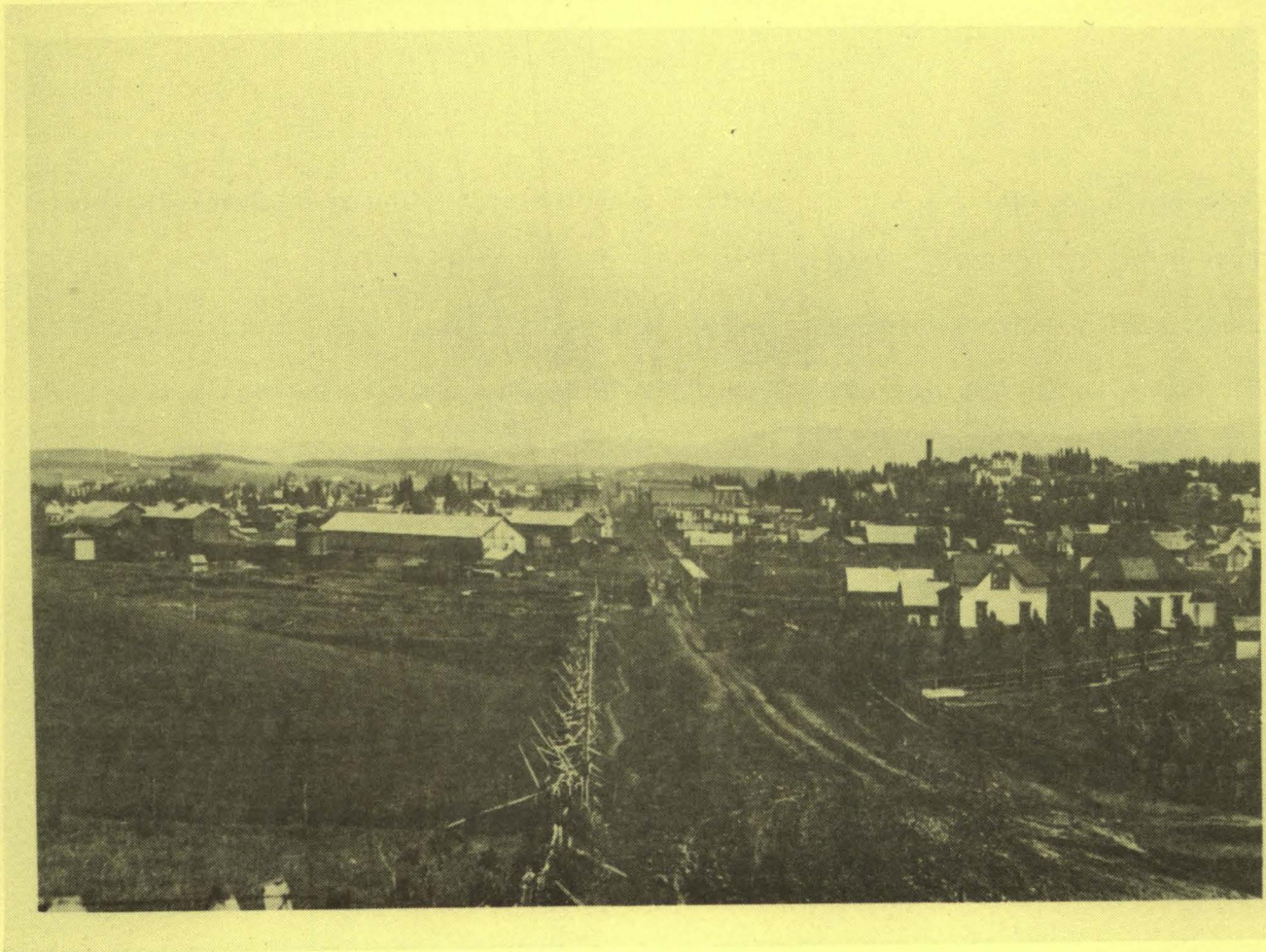
Inside:

Moscow elite (concl.)

Twenty years in Potlatch

Tom Tierney, pioneer

Emma Fair, homestead claim

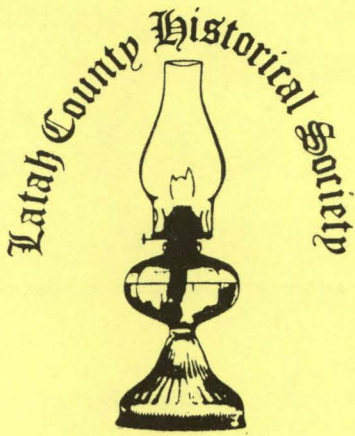


Moscow, looking north, c. 1910

1986

Summer

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MOSCOW ELITE ON THE EDGE OF THE FRONTIER (Conclusion)

by Joann C. Jones

In 1901 Dr. William A. Adair purchased the vacant McConnell mansion at 110 South Adams Street. He and his family had arrived in Moscow in late 1893. Dr. Adair was the son of a physician who, when struck with the mining fever, left his family in Iowa and headed for Colorado. Young Adair, along with his mother's sister and her family, moved to Amity, Oregon. He graduated from Rush College and married Losina Warner, a farm girl from Swan, Indiana. Mrs. Adair suffered from tuberculosis and since she was in poor health her husband decided to move the family to a more healthy location in the West. She was happy to leave the Midwest and its electrical storms. When the Adairs arrived in the Palouse, Mrs. Adair wanted to live in a populated area and chose Moscow over Pullman:

And Mother stood up there on the hill and looked down over Pullman from College Hill, down on it, she says, "Dad, I can't take it." She said, "You'd be at your office; your office would have to be downtown, and you would be at your office and I would be sitting up here on this hill with three little girls and no means of getting in, out or away. I simply can't take it." So Daddy said, "Alright, let's go to Moscow and see what." So then they drove over to Moscow. And Third Street was the highest hill there was in Moscow that you could travel on, and they traveled on Third Street and around this part of town here and back and down on Main Street and Dad says, "Well, what do you think of Moscow?" She said, "I'll take Moscow anytime to Pullman."³⁶

The purchase in 1901 of the mansion followed a timely meeting at the First National Bank.

My father was in the bank. . . . The cashier said to him, "Doctor, how'd you like to have a big house?" And Dad

and, "I'd like to have a big house." He said, "My wife's been wanting one. The little cottage we're in is much too small for the family." We were living up on Third Street at the time. And he said, "I would like to have a larger one." But he said, "I can't afford to make a change." And there was a man standing right near him and he said, "Doctor don't you have a homestead up near Bovill?" And dad said, "Yes, I took up a homestead when the Homestead Act went through." He said, "We've been spending our summers out there at least every summer since then." And Mr. Pearson says, "I'm Mr. Pearson from the Madison Lumber Company." That was the beginning of the Potlatch timber company in this part of the country. . . . Mr. Pearson said, "I'll go out and look at your place. If it's anything I think we can use, would you like to sell it?" My father said, "Yes, I would." He said, "I'll buy it for [sic] you on one condition. If you get a larger house, would you let me have a room? I'm so tired of living in hotels. I'd just like to have a room in a home." Dad said, "I think my [sic] mother can take care of that all right." She had plenty of room up there. So that's the way it was.³⁷

Mr. Pearson was the first of many to room at the large home on Adams Street. Losina Adair was a good business woman, according to her daughters, and she took on the renting of rooms to "people with some position" as her own project. She was proud to be contributing even though her husband was making a good living.³⁷ Many Moscow families with large Victorian homes have rented rooms to members of the university faculty and students since the opening day of the school in 1892. These roomers proved to be quite helpful to the Adair family. Mrs. Viola Guernsey, in a letter to the Latah County Historical Society, recalled:

. . . my late husband was at home with Dr. and Mrs. Adair for the four years he was attending U of I. He had many "pleasant memories" of chopping the wood and toting it upstairs to keep eleven stoves going during the winters; he often accompanied Dr. Adair when he made house calls out in the country. Evan would wait outside and hold the horses while Doctor made a call of a few minutes which was sometimes an hour. During this time he could do some of his studying.³⁸

The Adair daughters did not feel the addition of extra people in their home changed the family's lifestyle but their stories of the various people who roomed there indicate they did make an impression on the girls. Miss Belle Sweet, librarian at the University of Idaho from 1905 to 1948, roomed at the mansion for at least ten years and got Bernadine interested in books.³⁹

Dr. Jackson Cogswell, a professor of music, enjoyed inviting the family up to his room on Sunday afternoons for cakes and tea. During his ten year stay he composed a piece of music for Bernadine. Another roomer, Dr. Gurney from the Physics Department, was an avid Victrola player and often listened to operatic records. Bernadine, who had a lovely voice according to her sister, Ione, often sang in church during her youth and went on to study music throughout the country.⁴⁰ Dr. Cogswell and Dr. Gurney certainly must have influenced this young musician greatly but it was her parents who encouraged her to learn more. Her mother was quite musical and often sang as she worked, there was an "atmosphere of music and books in the house." When Bernadine was around ten a man came from Spokane to form a mandolin club, Moscow's first. Bernadine's father, who must have wanted to give her every opportunity to pursue music, bought her a mandolin and scheduled lessons with the man, but "she didn't like it and the club didn't last long either."⁴¹ Her father also made sure she had voice and piano lessons getting her started on a career which included recitals in Boston, Chicago and San Francisco.

Bernadine also had practice at being "on stage" in her childhood home. As a youngster she would go behind the red velvet draperies on the large bay windows of the mansion "and draw them together and open them up and bow. And sing a song. Mother would come in and sit and listen."

Bernadine and her younger sister, Marjorie, it seems learned a lot of important lessons living in the large mansion.

. . . . when we were little girls, my youngest sister and I--there's quite a jump between my two older sisters and Marjorie and myself--and we came home from school one day just puffing our feathers and Daddy says, what's going on, or something that way, and Marjorie spoke up and she said, "We're the richest people in town. We live in the biggest house." And Daddy sat us down on the davenport, it was a couch then, and explained to us that we were not rich because we lived in the biggest house and there were other kinds of riches besides money. To be rich inside and beautiful inside regardless of the kind of place we lived, and on the mantel we had two little figurines that were just beautiful, about this high, bisque figures of a little boy and a little girl. The girl with little muff. And my younger sister took this so seriously she picked up the fireplace poker and hit that little statue off the mantel and said, "You naughty little rich girl." Broke it into a thousand pieces. And now we just have the little boy. . . . No, my father never got angry. He was the smoothest man. He could correct you kindly and make you never want to do something again, but he never got angry.⁴³

The girls learned to know many Moscowites, not only those in their "social class." Young girls from farms outside of Moscow often worked for families in town learning housekeeping and cooking skills.⁴⁴ Many of the hired girls in the Adair home were like members of the family and continued to be good friends with Ione later in life.

We had a little old uncle, . . . And Uncle Stiner had the misfortune to lose one eye. . . . But, at any rate, he used to come over, and when he would come Daddy would always ask Uncle Stiner to say grace. My father always said grace at the table, and Uncle Stiner had a way, he talked perfectly natural ordinarily, but when he started to say grace, his voice trembled, and he'd say, "Ooouurr Hheeaavveennllyy Ffaatthheerr" and so forth. And I looked up at one time and Uncle Stiner's glass eye didn't turn down, and this was before the days where they attached it to the muscle, and they now open and close the same as the other, but Uncle Stiner's eye didn't turn down and that glass eye stayed straight ahead. Well, before we went to the table I said to the hired girl, Bertha, "You know, Uncle Stiner's eye doesn't turn down, and when he says grace it will look straight at you." "Oh, no," she said. I said, "Yes, it is, that's true." So we all sat down to the table and Uncle Stiner started in with his wobbly grace and Bertha looked up and that eye was looking right straight at her; she just began to swell up, funny, funny, funny, she began to swell, hold her breath, tried to stop it and couldn't. And she pushed her chair back quietly and slid out the back door over there and down on the back porch and down into the woodshed. And all the time she was going that laugh of hers, it was just pitched way high, it was "Te he he he." . . . And she just kept it up. And you could hear her out in the back of the woodshed, and she [sic] try to come in and she'd get part way up the back steps, turn and go back to the woodshed and laugh her head off again. Well, she finally got to the table--where she could bring the things in and put them down and eat with us. She just went out and every time she'd think of Uncle Stiner looking at her that way she'd start off in peals of laughter again. . . . Oh, she was funny. We just loved 'em.⁴⁵

Ione and Bertha remained friends for many years, going places and doing things together and laughing.

Old Jim Chinaman and Mamma Crissman (from the only Negro family in town) also helped Mrs. Adair with the upkeep of the mansion and were considered friends of the family.

And one night when we were all at the table, sitting around, and the lights went off and we heard the kitchen door open and old Mrs. Crissman stuck her head in the door and she said, "I'm just as good looking as the rest of you folks now!" And Bernadine wouldn't eat biscuits because Mrs. Crissman's hands were pink on the inside but they were black on the outside, she didn't like the fact that the black hands were probably on the biscuits so she ate bread instead of biscuits!⁴⁶

Bernadine's reason for this had nothing to do with racial prejudice, but rather the misconceptions of a young child:

I was brought up with this idea of cleanliness. Never use anything that Mother had used, be very careful of utensils and things--germ conscious, really--and when I saw Mammy Crissman's pink hands and the backs were black, I thought that was not clean.⁴⁷

Losina Adair, like Louisa McConnell, put a great deal of emphasis on cleanliness. Even though there was hired help, the Adair sisters were expected to do their share of the cleaning. Ione recalled that it was her duty to sweep the stairs. They owned the first, she thought, vacuum cleaner in town, a Duntley. It was tall, heavy, and noisy and she had to carry it to the top of the twenty-one steps and down one at a time. Before getting the Duntley, they brought buckets of snow in to sprinkle on the carpets to keep down the dust as they swept them with the broom. Bernadine's job was to clean the ornate banisters the McConnell's had shipped from San Francisco.⁴⁸

Calling card visits continued after the turn of the century. Every week Mrs. Adair was dressed and ready for friends, acquaintances and some strangers, "people liked to see the mansion, liked the looks of the old place, curiosity brought a good many of them in."⁴⁹ Women from the



Early 19th century garden party at the yard adjacent to the Adair (McConnell) house

university side of town would receive visitors one day and businessmen's wives another day.

It would seem there was a fair amount of social entertaining in Moscow in the early years of the 20th century. More than once Mrs. Adair and her neighbor, Mrs. Hanna, felt they were indebted to a number of people in town "so they would go together and serve an afternoon tea in the garden." Ione and Bernadine described one such party at which nearly 100 people were seated in the garden and on the sidewalk behind the mansion. A round bed of cannas and geraniums and a long bed of snapdragons were in bloom but the girls thought they needed some more decorations. They had no idea where to get them so they drove the carriage out to the country and picked "great big armfuls" of bouquets of something like tansy along a stream. They put them in umbrella stands and jardinières around the yard. A long serving table was placed outside the basement door.⁵⁰

At one of the garden teas each guest was served a plate with a piece of lettuce, a slice of pineapple and a slice of banana with salad dressing. "Pineapple! No one had had pineapple before. . . . Didn't know what they were eating." This was the first canned pineapple in Moscow, fresh pineapple didn't come until many years later. Bernadine told this story:

And the first time we ever saw pineapple--my father was always eager to get something different, so one day he came home with this wild looking thing, and we didn't know what it was; it was a fresh pineapple and we didn't know how to attack it, because there was all those thorns and leaves and things. So I think Miss Sweet knew how to approach it with a butcher knife. . . . She had seen it served somewhere, I don't know where, but she said you had to slice it down under the peeling. What is that little part--a core that goes in that you had to slice it down this way, then turn it over and cut it in small slices

the other way. And that's the way you served your pineapple. We've learned long since a much easier way of doing pineapple than that.⁵¹

The Adair garden must have been a favorite spot for the family over the thirty-three years they lived in the mansion. Ione and Bernadine described how it changed over the years. A wall with wild bleeding heart, ferns and such from the woods was added along with gravel paths that went up and down and around star and crescent shaped beds. A double row of box elder trees on the west and south and a row across the north with two large walnut trees kept it quite cool and shaded. Dr. Adair added a swing with two seats and a birdbath with a statue of a boy and a goose made of Willard pottery. Ione recalled that her mother made a special trip to the garden every evening to bring the statue in for fear someone would walk off with it.⁵²

The elite of Moscow were not the only ones to come to the mansion's back yard. The large house seemed to be a calling card for the many tramps and hobos coming through Moscow on, what was after the 1880s, the Union Pacific and the newer Northern Pacific Railway trains. They would come to the back door and ask for handouts and Mrs. Adair never refused them.

One man took out a little whisk broom out of his pocket and he whisked his suit all off and his trousers and his shoes before he sat down to his dinner on the porch. . . . Dad went out and the man looked up at him and he says, "Do you have any socks that I could wear?" Dad had had these hunting socks and Mother had washed them and hung them on the line out there by the side of him, and Dad reached over and he took down the hunting socks and he said, "These are all I have. Can you use these?" And the man looked at him in surprise and he said, "'What, those things?" . . . He wanted better socks than that.⁵²

The mansion's shuttered windows attracted another sector of the population to the

home one evening. It seems a group of Indians had brought a man who had committed a crime to town and they thought the "bars" on the windows meant this was the jail.⁵⁴

Moscow, in the first decade of the 20th century, was still very close to the frontier. At least once a year groups of Indians camped east of what is now East City Park during the week of the Presbytery, a church meeting sponsored by the Presbyterians. Dr. Adair took his family to the camp to initiate them into the ways of the Indians. They visited them in their teepees furnished with folding chairs (an innovation at the time) and blankets, saw how they lived and cooked their food. "Dad loved to chew away at that jerky they gave him."⁵⁵

Dr. Adair must have been quite familiar with the Northern Idaho frontier. Indians and homesteaders as well as the social elite came to his office for medical help. He made housecalls to the outlying districts, including the numerous lumber camps, as county health officer.⁵⁶

The Adairs, for a few months out of the year, were homesteaders themselves near Collins, in eastern Latah County. The deal the doctor made with Mr. Pearson allowed them to continue using the homestead he sold to the lumber company. Because of his practice, Dr. Adair could only spend weekends there but his wife and daughters started spending summers there when Ione and Lula were in high school and Bernadine and Marjorie were six and three, to meet the requirements of the Homestead Law. One of the many amendments to the Homestead Act of 1862 made proof of residence and cultivation of a portion of the 160 acre plot necessary.⁵⁷

Ione especially seemed to enjoy these summers and described the horseback riding, hunting, fishing, walking, berry picking, and swimming with fond memories in later years. Mrs. Adair, however, was not quite as enamored with homestead life as her daughters. She found her Moscow home to be much more convenient but she seemed to have made the best of it and was quite

self-sufficient. She, like most homesteading women, was quite a good shot when it came to getting a ruffed grouse for dinner. She often took a hired girl or friend with her for company and she knew many of the other families around Collins who were also part-time homesteaders from Moscow.⁵⁸

A 1901 county map located the properties of John Pearson, W. F. Kehl, Jas. M. Price, Mrs. Albert Cady, J. L. Naylor, O. P. Herge and N. Branch, P. B. Diedrich, Mrs. E. H. Shaver, C. C. Carlson, A. N. Ziegler, Mrs. Nelli DeVine, M. E. Mowery, D. H. Robinson, and Jacob Trei, Jr., as neighbors in Collins. Homesteading for many of these people, especially the women, was a method of land speculation. Dr. Adair years later encouraged his daughter, Ione, to take up a homestead in the Fortynine Meadows area and a timber and stone claim on Ruby Creek.⁵⁹

Dr. Adair made the inside of their cabin as comfortable for his family as possible. Rather than leaving exposed chinked log walls, he covered them with house lining (an unbleached muslin type of material) tacked up in strips one yard wide. This must have made the cabin much brighter and cheerier. It also offered a home to some other residents of the cabin:

. . . Frank [Wallen] was going out one spring, and dad said to him, Frank, "I want you to take a sack of potatoes out and put [them] in the cabin for me for my family when they come out. Just put it inside the cabin, I think it will be all right." And Frank said why, yes, he'd take it and put it out there and leave it in the cabin. So he took the potatoes, and put them in the cabin and when we went out, we began to look around for potatoes. Only, we didn't see anything that looked like potatoes. We didn't know what to think about it. And all of a sudden we noticed little bumps . . . in the lining along the wall. We began investigating and we found that the packrats had packed all the potatoes that we had, and carried them in and put them along the chinks in the cabin. We got most of our po-

tatoes back and they were still usable, but we had to steal them back from the packrats.⁶⁰

The upstairs loft was tall enough to stand up in. There were two or three beds with gunny sack mattresses filled with bear-grass. Pine boughs were placed under the mattresses to make them springy.⁶¹

One summer when Ione was a teenager, she, her sister, Lula, and their friend, Carrie McConnell, were invited to the Trumbull cabin for the 4th of July weekend. The Trumbulls had established their homestead above Elk Creek. According to Mr. Trumbull, there were no fish in the upper portion of the stream when he settled there so he ordered stocking fish from his home state of Pennsylvania. When the girls came for the 4th he gave them "a real treat." He fixed up lines and let them fish for all the fish they wanted. They "were the first to fish from Elk Creek."⁶² The Trumbulls had a wayhouse at the present site of Elk River, which consisted of a store, eating house, and rooms for rent. The rooms included a bunkhouse and loft for sleeping and an array of tents. The wayhouse was a sportsman's lodge and served the backwoodsmen and miners as well. Numerous Moscow families "with considerable money" were among their patrons because of the fabulous fishing. John B. Miler, in his book The Trees Grew Tall, explained why the fishing was so good:

This was because of an accident of nature, followed by somebody's foresight. The flow of lava which formed the Columbia River Basalt or some later event, not understood, had left Elk Creek above Elk Falls completely barren of fish. The creek descended vertically over the basalt, at the fall, impeding any new fish migration. Therefore, the earliest visitors had found no fish at all above the fall. It was probably the State of Idaho that brought in a planting of trout, of the Eastern Brook type.⁶³

Ione Adair's account (above) tells who that person with foresight really was.

The summer of 1910 was especially remembered by Ione Adair. She was at the homestead when the huge forest fire broke out, her parents were in Moscow. She and a neighbor woman were recruited to cook for the fire fighters. They cooked many pots of tomatoes in big kettles in the fireplace. Canned tomatoes were especially good tasting to these men along with bannock, a bread made with a sourdough starter. "Sometimes you could fry it flat in a big frypan and brown it on both sides, cook it till it was thoroughly heated and done through."⁶⁴

Newspaper accounts that summer told of many people losing their homes and many being burned to death. The fire extended over a vast amount of timbered land in North Idaho and Montana. Naomi Boll Parker, who could not have been much more than four at the time, remembered her mother burying the sterling silver in the garden of their homestead along with two diamond rings and other family valuables. Although she did save them from the fire they must not have been well hidden for when she returned the rings and the silver had been stolen.⁶⁵

Mrs. Boll, like many homestead women, was not prepared for the life she had to live on the frontier. She was raised in Wisconsin and attended a girls' school where she was educated to be a lady. She knew how to do fancywork and go to musicals. She adjusted to western life, the other women teaching her how to bake and put up the fruit. She learned how to shoot birds and to fish.

Her husband had been lured west by big stories of getting rich quick. They came to Palouse and he got a job with the lumber company. When they moved to the homestead he continued to work for the company--weekdays in Bovill and weekends improving the homestead in Elk River. They lived in the house as they built it; they didn't believe in borrowing. The first thing they did was to cover the outside with lap siding to keep the home warm in the winter months. They then finished the inside room by room as they could afford to. During the summer months Mr.



Dr. and Mrs. Adair enjoying the outdoors

Boll broke land and planted a subsistence farm. Water had to be hauled from a nearby spring. He built a place where his wife could wash close to the stream, putting a cookstove in it so she could boil the clothes. He did what he could to make life easier for her but since he worked away most of the responsibility for running the homestead fell on her shoulders. Life was not often easy on the frontier, especially for women brought up in fine Victorian homes.⁶⁶

The Bolls, like many other families in Latah County, sank everything they had into the homestead instead of making the fortune they had come for. Others, like the Adairs, saw homesteading timbered acreage as a method of land speculation and did manage to make money from it.

The deal Dr. Adair made in 1901 with the Potlatch lumber company was a fortunate one. In 1909 the lumber company along with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad ordered abstracts on all their properties as well as those along the right of way. They planned to put a connecting link between St. Maries and Bovill

by taking over the Washington, Idaho, and Montana Railroad.⁶⁷ Shortly after this the federal government ordered inspections of the homestead claims in the area. The inspector sent from the East did not find the homesteads to be "suitable living conditions" and many, including Ione Adair, lost their claims. Some felt this was a method used by the companies to make land available for them.⁶⁹

Railroads continued to change the landscape and lifestyles of the Palouse. On January 7, 1909, Moscow's Star Mirror announced that the promised parlor car service on the Inland Electrified Railroad had been inaugurated the previous day. The front page announcement explained that there would be one northbound and two southbound trips one day and one southbound and two northbound trips the next, between Moscow and Spokane. A second car was to be ready in about thirty days. The adding of the parlor car service furnished the most luxurious means of travel "afforded" to residents on any electric railroad in the United States, according to the write-up. Within the first forty years of the town's history, its residents were enjoying the latest innovations of the country's Industrial Revolution.

Moscow represented one of the last frontiers of the American West. Because of this, its early population make-up was somewhat different from that of the popular image. Its location between established cultural centers of the East and West was unique. Typically frontier towns developed on the edge of the westward expansion and were settled by people looking for adventure and a new place to begin. Many of Moscow's early settlers, such as the McConnells, were elites from western cities and came for the purpose of expanding their wealth and influence. Moscow's founding just prior to the surge of railroad building across the country allowed it to be connected with these centers during its infancy. The railroads played a major role in the commerce and growth of the community. Comfortable railroad travel was also responsible for the influx of many families who would not

have otherwise moved to such a town. The material goods and cultural activities these people were accustomed to traveled along the same railroad lines.

Moscow, at the same time, was on the edge of the frontier. Many more of its settlers and those who settled nearby were true pioneers looking for a new start in life. Many of the "elites" often came in contact with them and other evidences of the frontier and some, like the Adairs, experienced for themselves homestead life at least part of the year.

Today, Moscow continues to be a commercial as well as a social and cultural center for the Palouse and Northern Idaho, but yet it, and the small rural communities to the east, north, and south, retain much of the earlier flavor. In the 1980s Moscow is still on the edge of the frontier--giving this modest town a unique and wonderful quality.

Notes (Cont.)

³⁶Ione Adair, No. 3, p. 11.

³⁷Ione Adair, No. 1, p. 23.

³⁸This letter is on file at the Latah County Historical Society. It was not dated.

³⁹Ione Adair, No. 4, p. 13.

⁴⁰Ibid., p. 14.

⁴¹Ibid., p. 39.

⁴²Ibid., p. 43.

⁴³Ibid., pp. 46-7.

⁴⁴Nelson, E., p. 41.

⁴⁵Ione Adair, No. 3, pp. 41-3.

⁴⁶Ione Adair, No. 4, p. 53.

⁴⁷Ibid.

- ⁴⁸Ione Adair, No. 3, p. 52.
- ⁴⁹Ibid., p. 25.
- ⁵⁰Ione Adair, No. 4, pp. 1-6.
- ⁵¹Ibid.
- ⁵²Ibid.
- ⁵³Ibid., p. 54.
- ⁵⁴Ione Adair, No. 3, p. 26.
- ⁵⁵Ibid., pp. 28-9.
- ⁵⁶Ibid., pp. 44-7.
- ⁵⁷Johansen, p. 373.
- ⁵⁸Ibid., pp. 1-7, and John B. Miller, The Trees Grew Tall (Moscow, ID: The News Review Publishing Company, 1972), pp. 66-7.
- ⁵⁹Ione Adair, No. 2, p. 19, and No. 5, p. 27.
- ⁶⁰Ione Adair, No. 1, p. 10.
- ⁶¹Ibid.
- ⁶²Ibid., p. 4.
- ⁶³Miller, p. 74.
- ⁶⁴Ione Adair, No. 1, p. 13.
- ⁶⁵Naomi Boll Parker, No. 1, pp. 1-8.
- ⁶⁶Ibid., pp. 9-13.
- ⁶⁷Star Mirror, 7 January 1909, p. 3. In a conversation with Winifred Moorer, Moscow Title Company, I learned that the abstracts were legal descriptions of the locations and characteristics of the properties.
- ⁶⁸Ione Adair, No. 2, pp. 37-42.

Additional references used for background and/or writing style:

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Idaho: An Illustrated History (Boise: The Idaho State Historical Society, 1976).

Donald Neraas, "Form Follows Function," The Pacific Northwesterner, Vol. 29, No. 3, 1985.

Keith Petersen, "Medical Care in Latah County," Idaho Folklife: Homesteads to Headstones, ed. Louie W. Attebury (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press and Boise: Idaho State Historical Society, 1985), pp. 160-170.

Mary Reed, "Folklore in Regional Literature: Carol Brink's Buffalo Coat," Idaho Folklife: Homesteads to Headstones, ed. Louie W. Attebury (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press and Boise: Idaho State Historical Society, 1985), pp. 216-222.

Carlos A. Schwantes, "The Iron Horse Reaches Moscow," Daily Idahonian, September 21 and 22, 1985.

Fred R. Yoder, "Pioneer Social Adaptation in the Palouse Country of Eastern Washington, 1870-90," Research Studies of the State College of Washington, 6 (December 1938), pp. 131-59.

The Latah County Historical Society oral history collection is housed at the University of Idaho Special Collections Library and the Latah County Historical Society. In order to simplify citations in this paper, reference to the collection will be cited only by the name of the interviewee, the number of the interview, and the page of the transcript (Ione Adair, Naomi Boll Parker, which see).

TWENTY YEARS IN POTLATCH, IDAHO
1931-1951

by Alta O'Connell

Editor's Note: James J. O'Connell moved to Potlatch in 1931, the same year that the Potlatch Lumber Company merged with the Edward Rutledge Lumber Company and the Clearwater Timber Company to form Potlatch Forests, Inc. In 1933 he replaced R. E. "Jack" Irwin as manager of PFI's Potlatch Unit, overseeing activities at both the mill and company town. He remained in this position until 1951, longer than any of his predecessors. First Potlatch Lumber Company general manager William Deary served from 1903 to 1913, his successor Allison Laird from 1913 to 1931, and Irwin from 1931 to 1933. By the time O'Connell left Potlatch for another PFI position at Lewiston, the company had already begun selling its town, so he was the last manager to have control over both mill and community. The house Alta O'Connell refers to is located on Nob Hill at 310 Cedar Street, and is commonly known as the Laird house, since Allison Laird and his family lived there from 1906 until his death in 1931. It is the largest home in Potlatch. This reminiscence was donated to the Historical Society's library, one of several about Potlatch that have come in as a result of the Society's current "Potlatch at 80" celebration project.

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My two oldest children and I were in my former home, Spooner, Wisconsin, visiting my parents when my husband Jim O'Connell called to say we were moving to Potlatch, Idaho.

We had lived in Coeur d'Alene for nine wonderful years. We had made many friends and anyone who has lived in beautiful Coeur d'Alene would hate to leave it. But we were in the midst of the Depression and my husband was to be the office manager of Potlatch Lumber Company--a step up from woods auditor.

Jim said he had been to Potlatch and we had a very nice house and his salary was more, probably \$25 or \$50 more. That was the way things moved in 1931. How we managed on \$250 a month I'm sure I don't know. But we were a happy family and all our friends were in the same financial situation.

I left Wisconsin, and my parents, to return home by train to Spokane. Our house was sold and we drove to Potlatch, a nice little town surrounded by hills and forests. Mr. Laird, who had been manager for 25 years, had died and Mr. Iriein replaced him. After 9 months Mr. Iriein was transferred to New Jersey and my husband was made manager.

We moved into the home built for the manager's family 20 years before, a very comfortable and lovely house. I well remember how my live-in maid and I would move breakables on Dan's wagon each day. The house had 75 built-in drawers and innumerable cupboards.

We had our clothes in the closets and drawers and cupboards filled. One evening four men carried my grand piano down the street (a block away). My husband had wooden horses placed along to rest the men carrying the piano. One was a pianist (John Wagner). When they stopped, he played a tune, right out in the road.

The day the furniture was moved by truck all could be placed and we were at home, all settled. This impressed me as a perfect move, never to be repeated.

My husband had a company car as well as our own car in a steam heated garage. The house was steam heated as well as heating the water tank, assuring us constant flow of hot water, no furnace, the steam from the mill and we had old fashioned radiators.



This house at 310 Cedar St., Potlatch, originally occupied by A. W. Laird, was occupied by the O'Connells from 1931 to 1951

I am really getting way ahead of my story. My first impressions were of a very unique town. All of the houses, stores and property was owned by the Lumber Company, except the Chevrolet garage, which was owned by Felix Stapleton. The largest center in town was the Potlatch Mercantile Company. You could buy anything you needed at that store managed by Bert Ferguson whose sartorial perfection would have been expected in a store like Marshall-Fields. In fact, he had traveled for Marshall-Fields before he came to Potlatch. Each department in the store was capably handled: Mrs. Fredrickson in Ready-to-War, Earl Compton in Hardware, etc.

My first impression as we came into Potlatch was the board sidewalks. I hadn't seen them since I was a little girl in the early 1900s. Then my husband told me the streets were named after trees, the slogan--Potlatch Lumber Company owns everything: Pine, Larch, Cedar, Oak, Elm, and Maple.

We lived on Nob Hill, a block having four holes of golf in the center, houses surrounding it. The downtown was in a valley. You passed the mill as you came into town and then to the right a two-

story office building. All downtown was heated by steam from the mill. On the left, a good sized gymnasium, turn the corner to go to the confectionary. Most of the years we lived there it was owned by two families who were friends of ours, the McMillans and later the Wardrups. Up the hill was the hospital, Dr. Gibson and Dr. Thompson and a few nurses and one floor of rooms for the ailing and surgery.

There were several nice homes further up that street, a brick home where the Eagons lived and also a dormitory for Japanese workers. At that time there were about 20 Japanese. Some lived in that vicinity in small homes. My daughter Patty (Mrs. Robert McLaughlin) told me they had outdoor toilets and a wagon came at night and emptied the drawers in back of each out-house.

Coming back to Main Street, there were a few neat little houses and pretty yards, then the Library and then the hotel. Across the street was the "Potlatch Mercantile." The second floor was the Furniture department managed by Joe Cada and a beauty parlor. In the front were two large apartments. One of the apart-

ments was at one time rented to the Johnson family, the father was with the highway department. Their daughter Rita was studying violin and later played with symphonies. Later the Wakemans moved there from their house on Nob Hill and still later the Hegerstons. Matsons moved into the Wakeman house and the Hudsons into the Hegerstons, which was next door to our home.

The war took many of the young men to enter the service of our country. They employed many women to keep the orders filled, among them my friend Eva Tobin.

My two children, Patty and Dan, were growing up. Patty played the drums in the band. Dan was in the third grade and in March 1935 we had a dear little girl, Kathleen, now Mrs. William Kramer who lives in Spokane. In July 1936 we were blessed with a precious little boy, Jerry. Jerry lives in Portland and has two sons to carry on our name. Patty lives in Mountain Home, Idaho. Her husband is an attorney and one son is practicing with him. Two other sons include Jim, an architect, and John, with Ford Motor Company of Seattle. Two daughters: Mary teaches at the air base school in Mountain Home and Ann is a senior at the University of Idaho.

Our oldest daughter Patty went to St. Paul's school in Walla Walla. A lovely year for Patty, she decided she liked Walla Walla and would like to go to Whitman College, which she attended for two years. She then decided to transfer to the University of Idaho at Moscow to be nearer home as I was not too well. In her senior year the war was over in August and she met and became engaged to Bob McLaughlin, just returned from the South Pacific as a Captain. They were married in Moscow the day after Patty graduated from the University and we had the reception at the Delta Gamma Sorority house. Bob still had college to finish and law school so they lived in Moscow for four years in the veterans' village and then Bob started his law practice in his home town of Mountain Home, Idaho, where they still live.

Every summer for a number of years there would arrive a number of boys who had graduated from Eastern colleges to work in the mill and eventually become lumber salesmen. Some perhaps went on to be successful in that endeavor but my husband said they did not know how to work, such as is required in a saw mill.

One young man recently married, from Boston, came and his wife followed later. I shall never forget them as they were really unsuited to the life in a western lumber town. Jack wanted to be a lumber salesman and I believe he still is but his wife had the idea he would be able to accomplish that feat in a matter of a few weeks. My husband gave them one of the prettiest houses on Nob Hill and what did they do! Buy some second hand (or 10th hand) furniture, just enough to get along. Sort of like camping out. The bed, just springs and mattress, was put on the floor. Nancy had lived all her life on Beacon Hill in Boston and met Jack, who was in the Navy, at the Service Club where she was hostess. It was love at first sight, and they were married shortly after and he was out of the Navy and came to Potlatch. All Nancy could cook were brownies and she made a batch each day. Jack came home and fixed hamburgers. Honest! Once or twice a week they would get a sitter for their little girl and drive to Moscow and have dinner at the Hotel. Finally they went to the coast and eventually to the Chicago area where he was a salesman for Weyerhaeuser Sales Company. The marriage did not last. Jack is in Baltimore. Nancy still lives near Chicago. I did stay overnight with them when they lived in St. Paul and she had taught each of her three children to care for their rooms and learn to do duties around the home. As she said--she wanted them to be more prepared for the menial tasks about a home than she had been.

After the Dr. Gibsons and the Thompsons left Potlatch--the Gibsons to the coast and the Thompsons to Moscow; they were at retirement age--we had a Dr. Murphy for several years. He had a young wife and

two daughters. One daughter married a local boy and the other was an airline stewardess and died in a crash near San Francisco. The Murphys were divorced but later remarried and I believe the doctor is dead. I do not know where Kay is.

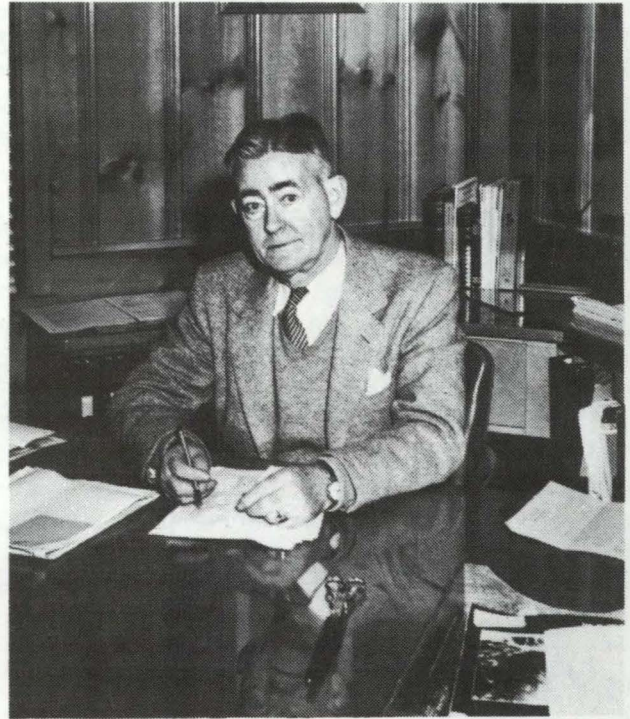
On the road out of Potlatch on your way to Moscow was a nice row of houses. The Hearn had a lovely old house with a beautiful flower garden and a spring in the backyard. Mr. Hearn was originally from England and came to Canada and was employed by the railroad. He was ticket agent for a little railroad that came into Potlatch. One could never meet a more charming host and hostess than the Hearn. They had two fine boys and also raised Setsua Matsura, who learned to help Mrs. Hearn about the house. He is now a dentist in Detroit, Michigan. Roddy died young and Philip lives in Virginia.

The Stapletons had a nice home not far from the Hearn and several others on the same road.

We had regular Saturday night get-togethers. There were four couples: the Fergusons, Wakemans, Stapletons and O'Connells. The men played pinochle and women played bridge, always followed by a lunch about 11 o'clock.

When the teachers came to town they were immediately members of a club called "Polida"--Po for Potlatch, the 'l' for Latah County, and Ida for Idaho. The town people were invited to join. We met once a month and put on amateur plays, followed by an evening lunch.

Speaking of the Mercantile, there was a jewelry department separate from the store, a fine hardware run by Earl Compton. Fred Schnurr was head of the meat department. Mr. Ferguson went to market in Seattle and San Francisco and the ready-to-wear was quite nice. Mr. Stapleton was the druggist. In fact it was a very complete and well run store. Next to the store was a lodge auditorium. I remember the Eagles were very prominent as well as Eastern Star and Masonic Lodges.



J. J. O'Connell seated at his office desk

Then came the Chevrolet garage and a block further the Community Church. It was a beautiful church, all paneled, and a full basement for church suppers and weddings, funerals, and high school graduations all were held in the spacious church. This lovely church burned to the ground about 1942.

The schools in Potlatch were very good. The teachers could not apply unless they had two years of experience. There was a dormitory for the women teachers and also one for the men. They employed a cook, but did their own housework. A very fine inducement, also I understand the company paid good salaries.

At the height of the Depression the lumber market was very low and the mill was closed due to lack of orders. I'll never forget the kindness of the Board, everyone could stay in their home, rent free, until the mill started again, also given credit at the Mercantile. Nearly everyone stayed and knew there would be money coming in later.

There were some very ambitious men who bought farms in outlying districts; they did their farm work before coming in to work at the mill. They have long since retired or died and their families live on the land they worked so hard to acquire.

There were many Scandinavian families that came to the Northwest to work in the lumber mills or logging. They were very energetic and made good citizens, raising large families that went on to college or businesses elsewhere.

A few miles away was Onaway, a general store and quite a nice settlement of Italians. One family, the Guernseys, had a store and I well remember the girls. One went on to college and is married and living in Grangeville. One married Joe ---, his parents bought the dairy, formerly owned by the Gambles' son-in-law, who is now sales manager in Los Angeles with Carnation Milk Company. Yes, our milk was homogenized and we had chlorinated city water.

There was the townsite department that kept the houses painted and plumbers to take care of the plumbing problems, all salaries paid by the company.

Also the bank was owned by the company. My husband was vice-president at the time they sold the bank to Idaho First, which has banks all over the state. Hart Hanson was the manager for many years. His father-in-law owned the barber shop in the hotel.

One interesting thing I did not know until we left Potlatch in 1951 was that my husband hired some men who had been in prison. I do not know who they were but Jim told me they became fine workers and good citizens and never committed a crime in our little town.

We were fortunate in having some local musicians who added much to the culture of our town. Betty Hegersten and Gerry Anderson had fine voices and put on some splendid programs. Pauline Jacobs, whose husband was doing his first job as a young doctor, for several years played

piano as I did. Also Vera Alsterlund who still lives there sang at many funerals, weddings, etc. Then the school added greatly by giving plays and having a good little band with green and white uniforms, with a large P on the sweater.

My children used to bring some of the country children home for lunch on a cold, snowy day when their sandwiches were frozen. I really did get the idea of a hot lunch program. I had read the government would match what the children paid and as I recall it cost each child 10¢ and they had a 20¢ lunch. Mrs. ---, a farm lady who was an excellent cook, took over and it was indeed a success, believe me we had to have a well balanced meal and always fresh milk. I hope it is still active. The lunch was on the second floor of the gymnasium.

One Sunday as I was coming from church, the Community one, Mrs. Ferguson came running out to tell me that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. My husband was in Chicago and he called to say he would take the evening train. He arrived a few days later and some of the men working in the mill were very much against the Japanese that were good workers. One night someone killed a Japanese man, hitting him with a pipe. I remember Jim went to each house that night and said they must leave as soon as possible. They were such kind people but their lives were in danger. Most had relatives in Spokane. One family had two attractive daughters, one was to be married soon to a young Japanese who has just graduated from pharmacy at Washington State University. They were on their way to Hawaii to be married and her father had used up all his savings to give her a lovely wedding. Several people have been to Hawaii and have seen Kemi. Her father-in-law owns many drug stores in Hawaii.

We all went to the town beauty shop. I recall sitting at a meeting in the back row and looking at everyone's hairdo. Exactly the same, the days of the marcel waves. We all looked just alike.

My son Dan was in college, Patty and Bob

were married and all in Moscow. Dan went on to law school and Jerry and Kathleen went away to boarding schools for their last two years of high school. Jerry went to Shattuck as Dan did and Kathleen to the Doinican Convent in San Raphael, California. The year both children were away to preparatory schools, Jim and I were alone and lo and behold we were transferred to Lewiston, Idaho, in 1951. Thus ended my twenty years in Potlatch.

I still say they were the best and the happiest of my life. I was 34 and my husband was 38 when we came to Potlatch. I think all historians will agree that those years are the best of our lives. We had comfortable living, a really charming home which we shared with others. Our New Year's Day parties were special. Many friends from Moscow came over icy roads to our annual party. It started by singing carols around the piano.

We were richer by two more children than when we arrived in 1931. I lost both my parents in 1936 and Jim lost a beloved brother. So we had joy and sadness which after all is what makes living a reality. I can still see us all singing around the piano and the joy of the radio. We made

our own bread and ice cream and the children brought college friends home with them. Patty and Dan were in college those years.

I have only the dearest memories of those years and I hope some still remember the O'Connells because we loved our neighbors and the little town was always there to do for others in their time of need.

Now I am 80 and sitting here on a gloomy Saturday, October 1977, and remember those wonderful years. One thing I failed to mention and that was that we were a very loving family. My husband loved me dearly and that is something very special in one's life. Not everyone has that precious love day after day.

[Mrs. O'Connell now lives in Boise, at the Chateau de Boise, 7250 Poplar Dr.]

TIERNEY FAMILY HISTORY

by Agnes (Healy) Jones

Ed. note: The files of the Historical Society hold several reminiscences written by Latah County residents. This one by the late Agnes Healy Jones gives some interesting sidelights on life in the Thorn Creek area in the 1870s and later.

Mrs. Jones lived all of her life in the Genesee/Thorn Creek area, and was a past president of the Latah County Pioneer Association. She died in 1979 at the age of 89.

This article appeared previously in Vol. 3 of the Latah County Museum Society Quarterly Bulletin.

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When Tom Tierney came to Thorncreek district, there was nothing but wild flowers and fine bunch grass and lots of thorn bushes along the creek, so they named the district Thorn Creek.

Tom Tierney built his first hideout, a small cabin of logs and mud, and it was put together with wooden pegs. The roof was made of hand-made cedar shakes. They stored their belongings and provisions here. They used tripods to hold iron kettles over an outdoor fire to do their cooking. They roasted potatoes in the fire built outside.

He built a second log cabin consisting of one large room and one room upstairs in 1871. The kitchen had a pantry and a washroom on one end, and the little bedroom at the other end. The inside of the rooms were lined with rustic lumber. This was considered a nice home for a homesteader.

The Tierney cabin was a stopover place for many people who were on their way from Palouse, Washington, to Lewiston, Idaho. The pony express rider brought mail in saddle bags. The Tierney place was known as Thorncreek, Idaho Territory, and for

four years the new settlers came for mail. After Mrs. Tierney passed away in 1874, the mail was brought to the Beeman place, presently Nordby's home near Genesee, and the rest of the mail was taken to Moscow or "Paradise Valley."

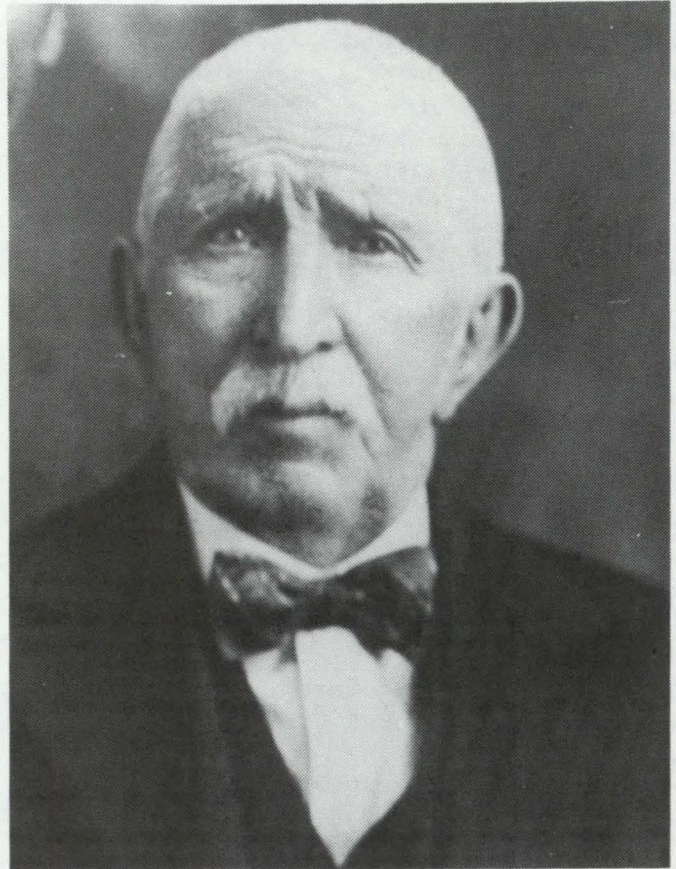
The Tom Tierneys had three sons and one daughter when the mother passed away leaving the youngest of the sons seven days old. The snow was very deep and it was cold that winter. Neighbors were very kind, taking some of the children to care for. The daughter was cared for by different families until 11 years of age, then she was taken to Desmet Mission, when she was taken by Father Cataldo to the Desmet Mission School, north of the present town of Potlatch. It was 4½ years before she came home.

Tom Tierney decided to build a new house of finished lumber in 1886. Mr. John S. Sullivan came in 1883 and proved on land adjoining the Tierney land. Sullivan built a fine basement, to begin with, for the new Tierney home for the price of a cow. Sullivan's trade in Ireland was a stone mason. His family arrived in 1886.

After Tierney was settled on 160 acres, he proved on a timber claim right, and he had to plant 10 acres of trees. The valley was very productive with camas. When the Indians were ready to gather camas they would camp in or near the timber culture and pick all the camas, and would roast them on a heated rock. This timber culture was later owned by a grandson, Tom Jr., and in the early 20s he built a small house near this culture to spend part of the time in the summer months. He later sold it to some insurance company.

All of the buildings made by Tierney were placed where the present buildings are.

He always said the finest soil for a garden was east of the house, below where the present barn is now. The first cabin was built of logs. He planted a few fruit trees which later were a delight to the children.



Tom Tierney, original settler of the Thorn Creek area, west of Genesee

In 1870 Michael Evitts arrived. He did carpenter work and other work; he always had a kind helping hand for someone. His brother came later. Mr. Evitts filed for his land claims two years later. His wife was a faithful companion at his side at all times. She could seed a field of 160 acres, so neighbors say, by hand from the back of a wagon. According to Idaho History, he purchased parcels of land at different times until he accumulated a large acreage. Later he divided land to his children and moved to Genesee, then to Uniontown. For better climate he settled at Clarkston, Washington, where his wife passed away.

My grandfather, Thomas Tierney, was the first pioneer to settle in the Thorn Creek area in September of 1870. My grandfolks came across Kansas and Utah, then travelled up into Idaho. They were married in Kansas.

Grandfather Tierney rode a horse up from Lewiston to the Thorn Creek area and Moscow to look the country over. He talked to Mr. Buchanan, one of the first settlers in Moscow, before he made his choice of a place to settle.

He said the Thorn Creek had two to three feet of clear water in it at that time, with lots of thorn bushes along the sides. There were also many wild berries and wild flowers of all kinds. The creek was so clear and clean then, he thought it was the most attractive land for miles around, so they settled there and took up 160 acres and an 80 acre timber claim. Later he planted trees and cultivated 10 acres of it, which was the requirement in those days. You had to be a citizen before you could get title to any land. The government used round rocks for markers. You would plow to it, then it was yours to file on.

At that time there wasn't a town of Uniontown, just lots of grass and sunflowers, and a few Indian tepees, cattle and horses scattered around.

Some of the Indian cattle would get mad at the least thing, and were not safe to be around at that time.

The Indians (near the Tierneys) would come to the timber culture and stay there till they harvested the camas. They had some big rocks and would roast the camas on the rocks when they were heated.

Copied from the book First White Women Over the Rockies, by Drury:

The camas root was an edible tuber somewhat like an onion. This was one of the main items of food for the Nez Perces and the other Indians of that area.

The camas grow here in abundance and it is the principal resort of the Cayouses and many other tribes to obtain it, of which they are very fond. It resembles an onion in shape and color, when cooked is very sweet, taste like a fig. Their manner of baking them is very curious. They dig a hole in the ground, throw in a heap of stones, heat them to a red heat, cover them with green grass,

upon which they put the camas and cover the hole with earth, when taken out it is black. This is the chief food of many tribes during winter.

In the early days the Indian women would do all the driving while their man would sit on the wagon seat beside them. They would often get off the wagon and have their babies by themselves, off the trail.

When my grandfather Thomas Tierney first started farming, the sod had to be broken up before it could be seeded, and this was not an easy task. A walking plow (foot plow) was first used to break the sod. The small children could hardly reach the top of the handles.

The first crop was cultivated by a home-made harrow, made with 4 x 4's. The ground was rolled by a big log to pack down the soil. They would hand sow the wheat. They cradled the first crop.

The first thing they raised was a vegetable garden. My grandfather was the first one to break up the ground. He liked garden produce and had a fine yield. The first crop was produced in the summer of 1871.

He would raise flax one year, wheat the next. The flax fields would be blue in color, when in bloom, and very colorful. Finally he gave up raising the flax as the soil was too rich and it all grew to stems--then wheat was grown.

The men hewed all the rails cut down for the fences. They hauled them from near Cornwall, Idaho. The fences were called "worm" fences.

My mother's name was Annie Tierney. She was the first white baby born south of Moscow on the fifteenth of October 1871. She was baptized by Father Cataldo in their home on Thorn Creek. She was a very pretty woman with small features, and a 19" waist. Michael Evitts was her Godfather.

In 1873 Uncle Will was born. Grandmother Tierney died in January 1874, and was buried at Moscow.



House built in 1886

At that time there was deep snow and the horses would be belly deep in the snow most of the way to Moscow. Rocks would be heated and wrapped to put in the straw for heat. It would take three to four hours to travel to Moscow in bad weather.

The older men would all wear thick felt boots under their high boot shoes when it got real cold in the winter.

After Grandmother's death, the teacher (Mr. Monroe) stayed with Grandfather and helped raise the children for a while and others helped.

Grandfather kept my Grandmother's saddle pony for a long time after she died.

Nowadays a young man often gives his "best girl" a gift of candy, flowers, or even a car. But in the early times the young men would sometimes give their girls a saddle pony.

I remember one time a young man gave his girl a gray pony for a gift. Then he heard she was dating another fellow so he slipped into their barn and recovered the pony out the back of the barn!

The second cabin that my Grandfather built was also made of mud and logs, shakes for the roof, and put together with square nails used at that time. The inside was lined with rustic lumber. The shakes for the roof were made with a draw-knife.

In the first cabin my Grandfolks had a potbellied cooking container over a tripod and Grandmother would roast the spuds in the open fire. They boiled all the food in the pot and liked everything cooked that way. They never liked to fry foods.

My Grandfather would go to the town of Palouse once a year for supplies. The families would buy barrels of dried apples, sugar and three-gallon "jackets" of syrup. They also bought green coffee beans to be roasted and ground for their use. Spuds and barrels of sauerkraut (size) were kept in the cellar.

The women used to make all of their soap out of lye from wood ashes. The prairie chickens were very abundant in the early days. Indians used to cover them with a mud batter and cook over a bonfire. They would pull them out of the fire, strip off the mud and feathers, and eat the meat.

My Grandfather had the finest of horses. I remember two white horses called "Mag" and "Lucy." He raised horses and traded with the Indians. He was also a great horseman and rode with my Grandmother many times. She used a side-saddle, as was the custom of that time. The Clearwater River was low then and they could ford it with their horses.

The mail was delivered to Thorn Creek in those days. It was carried by horses, in the saddle bags, from Palouse by way of the Tierney farm. A post office was established in the Tierney home. In earlier times my Grandfather Tierney hired out to ride in the famous Pony Express for six months. He also freighted with ox teams for the government during the Civil War.

There used to be "Cuckoo" and "Curlew" birds but you don't see them any more. They would lay their eggs out in the squirrel holes. They were cute, about the shape of a barn owl. They would "cuckoo" in the morning and call just as plain. There were also lots of squirrels. The children made pets out of young things, even chicken hawks. We had a buckskin cayuse and we would all see how fast we could ride her up the hill.

In 1901 my Grandfolks moved to Moscow and lived in the first brick house built there. It was located where the Safeway Store parking lot is now situated. [This is the northwest corner of 6th and Jefferson, presently (1986) occupied by Sunset Sports.]

My Grandfather Tierney had good health right up to the last. He walked down into his garden a few days before he died. He lived to be 94 years of age. (1924)

My father, Dan Healy, came to San Francisco from Ireland and around the Horn in 1870. He never missed coming into Genesee for St. Patrick's Day once in fifty years. He was small of build but did lots of hard work all his life. He was wise in choosing the land he homesteaded.

My folks had cayuses and lots of hogs and

cattle. They had self-feeders for the hogs and also dug wells for the water supply.

They would haul wheat to town for ground flour, and bran and shorts to bring back for hog feed when the mills were built close to town. My folks used to cook potatoes for their hogs if they had lots of spuds that year. They would put the spuds in the vat with wheat over them, and cook them in this way.

I was three years old when my folks moved to Genesee. There were a lot of saloons, stores and livery stables there at the time.

My Father, Dan Healy, ran the Grand Central Hotel in Genesee. They charged \$5.50 a week for board and room at that time. I remember the drummers coming in with their samples. They always kept a sample room where they would show their merchandise. They would go around through the country and also show in the homes. Then they would send the orders back to the mail order house to be filled.

There were two Chinese laundries in Genesee at this time. St. Joseph's School was also started at Genesee, 1896, for the Catholic children. The first school of logs was built in 1875, and set on the place now farmed by Louis Herman. Later it was moved within a quarter of a mile from Tierneys and it was close for settlers who had children in the Thorn Creek District.

The Genesee Valley, about 7 miles east of Genesee, was called "Cow Creek" in those days.

The railroad came first to Genesee in 1888. The old town was built in the east end. Enormous prices were paid for the land for the railroad so they winched some of the buildings over to this site at the time the railroad was built. When the railroad was built into Lewiston in 1898, it marked the beginning of the end for much of the shipping of livestock and grains from Genesee.

EMMA FAIR
HOMESTEAD CLAIM ON BIG BEAR RIDGE

by Fred Charles Rathbun

Ed. note: Hundreds of our area pioneer ancestors were enabled to come West and settle by virtue of using the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862, and subsequent modifying legislation. Many descendants of these hardy people will still have in their possession a copy of the original deed to the quarter section (160 acres) settled and cultivated by their grandparents. Mr. Fred Rathbun, former local resident now living in Denver, has transcribed one of these documents, and we are able to learn at first hand the legal technicalities of ownership that the settlers were obligated to acknowledge in order to successfully meet the requirements of permanent ownership of these lands.

Pressured by the influx of Irish and German immigrants of the 1840s and 50s, Congress had several times considered Homestead legislation, but it had been defeated by the Southern block of Senators, who were dissatisfied with the small size of the land allotments. With the southerners absent in 1862, the Homestead Act became law.

This act allows anyone 21 years of age and a citizen, or who had applied for citizenship, to make a claim on 160 acres of government surveyed and owned land in the Midwest and West. For a fee of ten dollars, they were able to secure title to 160 acres of their choice, and agree to live on it and cultivate the land for five years. At the end of this time they could claim ownership, and pay for the land at \$1.25 per acre.

Many acres were secured in this fashion by hard-working, conscientious settlers. Unfortunately, their choice of lands was restricted by the timber magnates, cattle barons, railroad promoters, and unscrupulous speculators who cornered the prime

acreage and left the pioneers to discover what remained. It is a tribute to their everlasting perseverance, patience, and plain hard work that they were able to successfully develop and create attractive homes and farms for their descendants.

* * *

John H. Fair and his wife Emma, with their four children aged four months to eight years, arrived in Nez Perce (now Latah) County, Idaho Territory, in the fall of 1883. They had migrated from their home in Butler County, Pennsylvania, where John and Emma had been married in 1874, when they both were 22 years of age. Emma was Emaline Wilhelmina Crocker, daughter of William Crocker and Scottish immigrant Allis Sprott. Their route from Butler County to Latah County had been by way of Virginia, Missouri, southern Idaho Territory, and Montana Territory. In Missoula, Montana Territory, the youngest child, John Leroy Phayer (as the name Fair came to be spelled) was born in June of 1883.

The three older children were Philip William, born in 1875, Margaret Effie "Maggie," born 1876, and Alice Viola, born 1878. Margaret was later married to Charles "Charley" Weaver, and Alice was married to William Joseph "Ned" Totten; both Weaver and Totten were early settlers from Marshall County, Kansas.

On 21 November 1883, at Lewiston, Idaho Territory, John H. Fair, as a resident of Nez Perce County, filed homestead application 1385 for a 160-acre tract, NW₄ Section 21, T39N-R2W BM, on Big Bear Ridge six miles south of Taney (now Deary). J. W. Howe was the Land Office Register. Rich McGillivrae was the receiver of John's \$16 entry fee.

In May 1885 John H. Fair was engaged in clearing his homestead when he was killed by a falling tree.

On 26 November 1888 the final affidavit for the homestead proof was filed at Lewiston by "Emma Gladen formerly Emma Fair and widow of John H. Fair deceased." Charles M. Foss was Receiver. Witnesses were Oscar V. Morey, John J. Gibson, Edward Jones, and Rodney Drury, all of Taney, Idaho. A neighbor, mentioned in witness testimony, was Olaf Anderson.

Following is the transcription of Emma's testimony as recorded on the homestead affidavit, an official government form printed in question and answer format. I have abbreviated some of the more cumbersome printed questions, but Emma's answers are given in their entirety, retaining the recorded spelling and punctuation, or lack thereof.

Q1 What is your correct name...age... occupation? Employed...by whom.

A Emma Gladen. I am 36 years old, I live on this land with my present husband John J Gladen not employed by anyone.

Q2 ...post-office address?

A Taney Idaho

Q3 Are you the identical person who made...[Homestead Entry 1385]...at the Lewiston, Idaho, land office on...21 Nov 1883, and what is the true description of the land now claimed by you?

A I am the widow of John H Fair now deceased who did make the entry you mention. Since his death which occurred 3 years ago last May, I have married my present husband John J Gladen. it is NW4 Sec 21 Tp 39N R2W BM

Q4 Where did you live before settling on this land, and what was your occupation?

A We lived in Montana Territory my husband was a miller.

Q5 Are you a citizen of the U.S...?

A Yes sir I am born and raised here

my husband John Fair was also born and raised in U.S.

Q6 Are you interested in any other entry...?

A No sir

Q7 Have you ever made a pre-emption filing...or...any other homestead entry?

A I never made any entry or filing of any kind whatever. My husband John H Fair made a pre-emption in Montana but he didn't get any good of it for it was jumped by another man. He never made any other entry or filing except this

Q8 Is your...claim within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used...for trade or business?

A No sir no sir no sir

Q9 What is the character of the land? ...State...for what purpose it is most valuable.

A It is tolerable fair land. Considerable timber rather rolling, mostly valuable for farming.

Q10 Is the land valuable for coal, iron, stone, or minerals...? Has...coal or... minerals...been discovered...or known...? Are there indications of coal, salines, or minerals...?

A No sir No sir No sir Nothing of the kind that I know of.

Q11 If the land is timber land, state the kind, quality and amount thereon at date of initiating your claim, the amount still standing, how much...cut and removed,...by whom...also whether any other person...has any interest in the timber ...

A It had timber over all of it, some places thicker than others, the bigger part would not make saw timber it is mostly pine. The timber has been cut from 25 or 30 acres it was cut from land I was clearing for the purpose of cultivating. Some of it was put into a house & barns and the rest was burned. None sold or removed from land. Nobody has any interest in the timber.

Q(handwritten) When did the death of your husband John H Fair take place Also give date of your marriage to your present husband John J Gladen?

A My 1st husband died in May 1885. I married Mr Gladen in April 1887.

Q12 If the land is used for grazing... state how and by whom...and whether it is within any stock range or other inclosure, and who owns or controls the range...

A Peoples stock run on the uninclosed part. it is not within any stock range, no fences or inclosures except mine. I control it.

Q13 When did you first make...personal settlement on this land? State what you did...and the character and value of the improvements...

A We (husband and I) settled there a few weeks before he filed he fixed for building hauled some logs & cut about [crossed out] value \$3.00 or \$4.00.

Q14 Was the land occupied by any other person?

A No sir

Q15 When did you actually move on the land and commence living permanently thereon?

A Some time in January 1884, previous to that we lived in a tent on the land.

Q16 Where has been your actual personal residence and home...since...filing...?

A Right on this land

Q17 Has your residence...been actual... continuous or at intervals? Explain what you mean by actual continuous residence.

A It has been actual and continuous. I mean by that that I have lived there un-interruptedly

Q18 Have you resided or boarded elsewhere...since commencing...residence...?

A No sir

Q19 Where have you voted since establishing residence...?

A I have never voted.

Q20 How many times have you been absent from said tract since you commenced... residence...?

A I have never been absent at all I believe I have spent a few nights away with sick folks

Q21 Have you a family...?

A Yes sir by my first husband I have 2 boys and 2 girls

Q22 Has your family resided with you on the claim...?

A Yes sir all the time went there when we did and have lived there all the time

Q23 If your family has ever been absent ...

A Have never been absent.

Q24 When and by whom was your house built? Is it habitable at all seasons...?

A In the fall of 1883 built by my first husband and is habitable at all seasons of the year

Q25 Did you and your family live in said house during all of each winter since... filing...?

A We lived there all of each winter

Q26 If your family has not lived with you...

A My family has lived there with me all the time

Q27 Do you own any other residence house ...?

A No sir

Q28 Describe...the house...giving value ...; also...improvements...

A Hewed log house 1 story high, chinked and daubed. 16x24 feet shake roof 2 rooms lumber floor 2 doors & 3 windows, value \$60.00, barn value \$80.00 wood house value \$30.00 about 18 acres of breaking, value (including clearing) \$135.00, 5 acres clearing besides, value \$20.000 mile of fencing 3 rails wired to posts value \$100.00 Total \$425.00

Q29 What farm implements do you own and use on this claim? State kind and number, and how long you have owned the same.

A Plow Harrow Wagon set double harness. We had them when we first went there.

Q30 What domestic animals and live stock ...?

A 3 head of horses, 5 head of cattle, and 2 doz. chickens

Q31 State what articles of furniture... you keep and use on this claim, and how long you have had them there.

A 3 beds & bedding cooking stove heating stove 5 chairs cupboard, dishes buckets & a sewing machine had everything except sewing machine since I have been on place

Q32 Have you any personal property or live stock...elsewhere than on this claim?

A No sir

Q33 How many seasons have you raised crops on this land, and what kind...?

A 5 seasons wheat oats barley and garden

Q34 How many acres have you put in crops each year, and how much did you raise?... in bushels...

A 1st year 1884 had about 6 acres Every year since have had 18 acres. I don't remember the yields most of the time I cut the grain for hay. one year I thshed 25 bushels of barley

Q35 Have you the land in crop this year ...?

A I did have

Q36 Do you carry on any trade, profession, or business elsewhere than on this land?

A No sir

Q37 If you have been employed in working for others away from this claim...?

A No sir I have never worked away

Q(handwritten) How much was your husband John H Fair absent from this land after filing?

A I can't exactly say but not a great deal, but I was there all the time. The longest time he was ever away was 2 weeks

Q38 Where are you assessed for taxes...?

A Now in Latah Co, used to be in Nez Perce Co. Paid in Nez Perce

Q39 Are the improvements...assessed for taxes;...? Have such taxes been paid?... when and by whom?

A Yes sir I don't know the valuation Taxes for this year not paid yet

Q40 What use is made of this land, and who, besides yourself and family, uses it ...?

A I farm it, Nobody else

Q41 Have you sold, transferred, or mortgaged this land, or offered or agreed to sell...?

A No sir nothing of the kind

Q42 Do you make this entry in the interest...of anyone else, or has any other person...any interest...in this entry?

A 1st I do not 2nd None whatever

Q43 Has any person paid your expenses for making this entry...with the understanding that you will deed the land after entry is made?

A No sir nothing of the kind

Q44 Do you make this entry...for the exclusive purpose of a home for you and family?

A Yes sir

(signed) Emma Gladen

Final Certificate 759, granting Emma's patent, was issued on 26 November 1888 by Francis F. Patterson, Land Office Register.

Johann Jacob Gladen was born in Germany in 1846. He was naturalized a U.S. citizen in Solano County, California, on 21 August 1871. When he arrived in Nez Perce County in 1883 he was known as John J. Gladen, a widower, who had a son in school in California. In June 1883 he filed a pre-emption on entry on 160 acres in the east half of section 21, T29N-R2W BM. IN November 1883 John H. Fair filed his homestead entry on the northwest quarter of that section, and in January 1884 John Gladen filed a homestead entry for the remaining 160 acres in the east half of the same section. Both Gladen claims were patented, one in June 1888 and the other in October 1890. As we have seen, John Gladen married Emma (Crocker) Fair in April 1887.

Emma and John J. Gladen (later Gladden) had five children: Mary Ethel, born 1888, married Bill McGillivray; Hanna Catherine, born 1890, married Charles Schultz; Frederick Thomas "Fred," born 1892, married Ella Whitcomb; Otto Hans, born 1894, married Grace Harlan; and Theresa "Res," born 1896, married Ira Altig. A short history of the Gladen family was published in Gerald Ingle (1982) Gleanings from Big Bear Ridge, Latah County Historical Society, p. 99-100.

Some of Emma's descendants, from both Fair (Phayer) and Gladen (Gladden) families, still reside in Latah and Nez Perce Counties.

Emma's older brother, John Selby Crocker, brought his family to Latah County in 1893, from Cass County, Missouri. Some of his descendants now reside in Nez Perce County. A short biography of John S. Crocker appeared in the recently reprinted Latah County section of the 1903 History of Northern Idaho. Other articles about the John S. Crocker family can be found in Anna Smith Mitchell (1978) Pioneer Families of the Cedar Creek Ridge Area, Latah County Historical Society Local History Paper #5.

Emma died on 17 October 1938, a resident of Latah County for 55 years. Her granite marker, which stands in Wild Rose Cemetery, on the road between Deary and Kendrick, reads simply

GLADDEN
1852 Emma 1938

Near Emma's stone in Wild Rose Cemetery are two other markers: that of her son John Leroy "Roy" Phayer, 1883-1967, and that of Jennie L. Crocker, 10 August 1863-29 September 1889.

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In 1968 interested individuals organized the Latah County Historical Society to collect and preserve materials connected with the history of Latah County and to provide further knowledge of the history and tradition of the area. Every person, young or old, who is interested in the history of Latah County and who would like to assist in its preservation and interpretation is cordially invited to become a member. Subscription to this journal and a discount on books published by the Society are included in membership dues. Dues for the various classes of membership are as follows:

	Member	Friend	Contributor	Sustainer	Sponsor	Patron
Individual	\$ 7.50-15	\$16-30	\$ 31-75	\$ 76-150	\$151-499	\$500 up
Family	12.50-25	26-50	51-100	101-250	251-499	500 up
Business	25-50	51-100	101-250	251-350	351-499	500 up

Privileges are identical for all classes; the higher dues represent a much needed donation to help the Society's work. Dues are tax deductible.

The Society's services include conducting oral histories, publishing local history monographs, maintaining local history/genealogy research archives and the county museum, as well as educational outreach. The Society wishes to acquire objects, documents, books, photographs, diaries, and other materials relating to the history of Latah County. These are added to the collections and made available to researchers while they are preserved for future generations.

The Society is housed in the William J. McConnell Mansion, 110 South Adams, Moscow. The museum is open from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Visits to the museum or research archives are welcomed at other times and can be arranged by calling (208) 882-1004.

LATAH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

110 South Adams St., Moscow, Idaho 83843
(208) 882-1004, Tues.-Sat.

Volume 9, Number 2

August 1986

FOR A NEW MUSEUM - WE NEED YOUR HELP!
EVERY MEMBER OF LCHS WHO IS A MOSCOW
RESIDENT NEEDS TO VOTE YES ON A
SPECIAL BOND LEVY, NOVEMBER 18.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

Moscow and Latah County Residents are going to be hearing a lot about a new Centennial Hall project in the months to come. This is the capital project of the Moscow Centennial and it will restore the "Old Post Office" building to a new Civic Center and City Hall. The renovated building will include spaces for us - permanent and temporary exhibits, a visitors center, library and reading room, and offices. Most of our members remember previous efforts to renovate the building and place the Historical Society in the basement which would become the first story. Even though the bond election failed, the idea of finding suitable quarters for a museum that could do justice to our collections and exhibits and other professional services remained alive. Individuals have given generously to a building fund and to our endowment that will generate funds for operating a new facility. Special projects, like Potlatch at 80 and the Centennial Club also are raising money for the endowment. In addition, last year a special committee explored various options in acquiring a museum facility. Their prognosis was not very positive, as they found it would cost a considerable amount of money to buy or lease a building, and additional funds to operate it.

The centennial project - Centennial Hall - now offers us the opportunity to find the space we so desperately need. Just as important, it will place our museum, library and staff offices in the heart of Moscow at 3rd and Washington and make our services much more accessible to our members, community and county residents, and other visitors. We will be more visible and

be in closer contact with other city offices and services, like the Arts Commission. The McConnell Mansion will be restored more fully to a historic house museum, with bedrooms, kitchen, and other rooms interpreted to the turn-of-the-century.

The Centennial Hall, as envisioned by the architect, will have a main plaza opening onto the north side, making the former basement area the first floor. The Historical Society with its exhibits, visitors center and other spaces, will occupy the third level containing the original courtroom and offices. The architect, Northwest Architectural Company, and the selection committee agreed that the courtroom was too beautiful and historically valuable to change to city offices. To them it seemed the appropriate quarters for a historical society and museum, and we agree. The third floor contains offices and other space for our needs, and the building will have an elevator to bring everyone up to visit us. An L-shaped, one-story wing will be built on the north and east sides for the police department. The city offices, senior citizens, and other city groups will occupy spaces within the main building.

In order to make this a reality, the voters of Moscow will be asked to pass a special bond levy on November 18. The Centennial Commission, LCHS, and other community groups will be working hard to inform voters of the project and solicit their help. This is a large project. Every effort will be made to secure additional funds and grants to contribute to the costs. But we need the help of every member and friend in order to insure passage of the levy. A slide presentation will be given to groups and at sites throughout Moscow. Just as important, we need the informal, word of mouth to inform people about the project and, in particular, why a new museum is needed and how it will benefit Moscow, county residents, and other visitors.

This is a great and unique opportunity to realize our own dream for a really top-notch museum, to be able to restore the McConnell Mansion, and to see the Federal Building, alias the Old Post Office and the Community Center, become a showplace of Moscow. It will commemorate the recognition of our heritage by finding a new use for a historic building, and it will also be our legacy to future residents and for a new century.

Please help make this happen! Call us if you are interested in becoming involved in the publicity efforts, or if you need more information or have ideas on how to get the word out. Talk to your neighbors, friends, and family members. Bring them by to meet us, see the resources we have, our exhibits, and what we are capable of doing. You can also arrange with the city to take a group through the Community Center or to take a tour yourself. The person to call is Jim Wallace. He also has information on the architectural plans, and the drawings are at the city hall.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE CENTENNIAL HALL AND A NEW MUSEUM POSSIBLE.
THANKS!

STILL MORE CENTENNIAL NEWS

We are halfway through the first of five centennials we will help celebrate. As you know we are in the midst of commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the McConnell Mansion. There is more to come, in particular the Victorian Christmas celebration in December. You will be receiving information about these events.

The Centennial Club project has been very successful. We have 32 members already and hope the number will increase. If you are still thinking about joining, there is still time. Many who contributed have designated honorary members for one year, and many have also made their donation a memorial. It was very appropriate that the first memorial was for Dr. Frederic Church. A list of contributors is included in the last pages of the newsletter. By the way, if you were curious who the person with Dr. Church is in the photo in the Centennial Club brochure, it is Dr. Robert Bessey, a professor of physics who lived in the house as a roomer around 1941. Thanks to Henrietta Gustafson for providing the identification.

As part of the centennial and the Centennial Club projects, the Collections Committee has been raising funds for a restoration project in the parlors. We have enough money for one half of one carpet, which means that we need one and one-half more in time for our gala Christmas party. Although gifts have been solicited for one yard (\$42) or a half yard (\$21), all contributions are welcome and needed.

MOSCOW CENTENNIAL CALENDAR

Another exciting project has been a historic calendar to commemorate Moscow's centennial. A committee worked diligently early this year to select the photographs, write the captions and historical information, and then to see the calendar through the printing stages. In addition, 12 Moscow businesses sponsored each calendar page with a donation. The completed project was delivered to the Mansion just before the ice cream social, and already it is receiving excellent reviews. We hope that it will be a major fundraiser for us as well as become a lasting souvenir of the centennial. Copies are available here at the Mansion. The price for members is \$6 and for non-members, \$6.95. It is being sold in bookstores and will be at other places in Moscow. LCHS members will soon receive a brochure about the calendar and how to order copies to be mailed in time for Christmas. This should be a very popular gift item for the holidays.

SUMMER CELEBRATION

This year's ice cream social was a special celebration of the McConnell Mansion's 100 year birthday. It featured a special exhibit in honor of the McConnell family and other early Moscow families like the Lieuallen's. There were all the usual events, of course. Crafts demonstrations, live music by Clarence and Ole Johnson, Ed Dawson, the Old Time Fiddlers, and Lisa O'Leary, and horse and wagon rides around the neighborhood with Dean and Cathy Nygard's matched pair of Belgian draft horses. Vintage cars and a historic clothing contest added to the old-fashioned atmosphere. The house was beautifully decorated with flower bouquets, and hosts and hostesses greeted visitors. And, homemade cake and Rogers' ice cream were served by a hard-working crew.



There were, as usual, hundreds of volunteer hours dedicated to the event which is one of our major fundraisers and certainly our busiest and largest one. A significant part of the money raised this year came from the donation raffle. Although it is impossible to thank everyone who contributed, we would like to acknowledge those who made and donated the raffle prizes: Steve Talbott, for an ingenious folding table and picnic benches; Dorothy Schell for a beautiful watercolor painting; Kathy Probasco for a hand-crocheted shawl; Jeanette Talbott, for an enlarged color print of a photograph by John Talbott; and, Herman Ronnenberg for two free dinners at The Brewery Restaurant in Troy. For all those who helped set up, bake cakes, serve food, keep the kitchen clean, and carry out so many tasks - please accept a warm and hearty thank you from all of us!

PLAN FOR A SUNDAY HAM DINNER NOVEMBER 9

We are gearing up for the annual ham dinner which is a very popular event as well as raising funds for our operating budget. Our tentative plans for this year are to have our musical expert, Stan Shepard, provide the music. His special area is the Big Band Sound, and you can expect the mellow notes of Glen Miller, Tommy Dorsey, and the Andrew Sisters to accompany an excellent meal served in convivial company. Any requests? Just send them along and we'll forward them to Stan.

THREE NEW GRANTS RECEIVED THIS SUMMER LHCS is proud to be the recipient of three grants. The award from the Institute of Museum Services of \$6,200 in operating support was one of 409 grants given to historical societies, zoos, museums and other museum-related groups. Only 30% of the total 1,345 grant applicants were funded in this very competitive program. In Idaho, the Boise Art Gallery was the only other institution to receive this grant.

Emphasis on improving educational programs resulted in a \$500 grant from the Spokane Inland Empire Foundation. Although the Foundation has been in existence since 1974, this was the first year that grants have been awarded to organizations in the ten North Idaho counties on a competitive basis. The grants were made possible by a generous bequest from Henry L. Day of the Day Mines in the Wallace area. With the grant we purchased a Bell and Howell sound/slide projector. The machine will make it possible to take slide/tape programs to community groups, libraries, and schools, as well as being used in the McConnell Mansion for visitors and school tours. We took the equipment to Potlatch for their 80th anniversary on July 26, and it attracted a continuous audience.

The third grant, also from the Institute for Museum Services, will fund a project to install a ventilating fan and venting in the attic. This space contains a large part of our museum collection, and during the summer temperatures are excessively high. The equipment will help stabilize temperatures and prevent ice buildup during the winter.

NOTICES

We said goodbye in June to Lorraine Micke who was our curator, housekeeper, and volunteer for the past several years. She has moved to Springfield, Oregon, and we thank her for her many years of dedicated service both as a staff member and volunteer. Best wishes for the future, Lorraine!

Our new curator is Joann Jones who brings an expertise in historic interiors to our operations. Joann was on the faculty of the Home Economics School, and is now pursuing her doctorate in public history from Washington State University. She has been hard at work since July 1 with exhibits and the ice cream social. She was a member of the Board of Trustees until she joined the staff and has been an active volunteer for many years.

Members who know Joann and her husband Dick probably have heard the tragic news of their son, Ethan, who drowned while they were on vacation in Oregon. We extend our condolences to the family, and we would like to inform their friends that a scholarship has been set up in his name at the Bank of Pullman, E 300 Main St., Pullman, Washington, 99163. Contributions can be sent to that address.

Filling in the housekeeper's slot is Carol Randall, a student from the U of I School of Home Economics. We're very glad and fortunate to have Carol and Joann on the staff.

If you notice something different about the newsletter, it may be the computer we processed it on. After months of deliberation and discussion, the staff and board decided it was time to invest in a computer-word processor-printer combination. As our activities have increased over the last few years, it has become apparent that we cannot keep up without some help. This equipment will be a tremendous time-saver as well as helping us organize our collections, maintain a more up-date picture of our budget, and quickly prepare our numerous letters, brochures, grant applications, etc.

Another much needed piece of equipment is our new telephone answering machine. Because we cannot staff the museum everyday or must often leave on errands, the machine will make sure everyone gets our message and has the opportunity to leave their own. We can also put information about our events, exhibits, and other activities.

LCHS Member Janet Fiske brought us this interesting announcement of an event in Harvard commemorating the 350-year anniversary of the town's namesake, Harvard University. Just as important, it is the 80th anniversary of the Latah County Town. The cere-

mony will take place on Saturday, Sept. 13, at noon in the city park with the dedication of a sundial. Afterwards, the ladies of Harvard as sponsoring a picnic lunch as a fundraiser. The public is cordially invited.

THE McCONNELLS AND THEIR TIMES

This is the theme of the new exhibit at the McConnell Mansion which many members saw during the ice cream social. It features two bustle dresses from our collection, a variety of artifacts from the 1880-1900 period, and historic photographs, including a new one of Louisa McConnell. The other two exhibits are "The Outdoor Life in Latah County," and "Historic Handtools." All three will remain through Christmas. In the planning stages are the traditional Christmas exhibit and one for Moscow's centennial that will interpret different decades.

POTLATCH AT 80 A GREAT SUCCESS

On July 26 LCHS staff and volunteers joined with residents, former residents, friends and neighbors of Potlatch to help celebrate their 80th anniversary. We set up exhibits of historic photographs, artifacts, and a variety of items that have been donated to us as part of our Potlatch at 80 celebration. In addition there was a continuous showing of slides on our new slide/tape machine. Hundreds of people came to the gymnasium to enjoy the historical exhibits, as well as to meet old friends and neighbors. Many visitors came long distances to celebrate this occasion. We were proud to be a part of Potlatch Days and thank the many who have generously donated photographs; reminiscences and other artifacts to our collection. Special exhibits are scheduled to be at the Potlatch bank and school, Deary, Elk River, and Bovill during the coming year. A large exhibit will be at the McConnell Mansion approximately in January and February 1987. The dates will be announced in our newsletter and in the newspapers. Please call us for more information. Remember, too, that the book on Potlatch will be available in summer 1987, and you can reserve a copy by notifying us.

NEW DONATIONS

Bob Hosack: men's 3 piece blue serge suit
 Lillian Otness: 2 towels, sewing box, check from First Trust & Savings Bank; bound volume of St. Nicholas Children's Magazine
 Julianne Peterson: pink bedspread
 Elliott Skolnick: hand-cranked root chopper
 Joanne Anderson: set of six curtains made by Sarah Cornwall for home on Third Street
 Stan Shepard: celluloid box containing 35 stereoptican views; mantel clock
 Chris Talbott: 6 Dutch Boy Dairy milk bottle caps
 Nancy Hosack: women's 1929 white knit striped teddy
 Miri Kennard Hargus and Pat Kennard Watson: leather collar bag; basket from the B&D Co. of Moscow; 3 fans; notebook from Washington Water Power Co.; McCall's patterns; advertising containers; black tin collar box; gold etched tie clasp; cufflinks; 11 collarbuttons
 Ken Hedglin: Parker Bros. Fish Pond game; transfer patterns; miniature glass hatchet; alphabet bowl; 15 assorted kitchen utensils; 2 insulated gallon jugs; 2 portable stoves; ice chest; gameboard; checkers; toy racing car; Amended Bylaws of the Latah Co. Grain Growers; checkbook from First Bank of Troy dated 1920's; 1941 Swamproot Almanac; 28 calendars advertising establishments throughout Latah Co.; hay knife; buck saw; Gilbert "Big Boy" tool chest; casserole serving dish; 1909 calendar plate; "American Model 8" typewriter; portable hand crank phonograph; 1920's "Comptometer" adding machine; 2 campstoves; glass jar humidifier; 1937 fish and game license; societal banners and collars; aluminum round lunchbox; vegetable steamer; cornmill; cherry stoner; foodmill; double-pointed pick; hay hook; children's clothes; and various advertising items
 Melva Hoffman: Christmas candles; 2 boxes of Christmas snow; Christmas tags and stickers; shopping bag
 Don McCabe: 1920's beaded dress and silk shirt and jacket; beaded purse; feather hat
 Catherine Gleave: souvenir plate with a picture of the daily train at Potlatch
 Noel Broenneke: hand powered jigsaw used by Moscow carpenter Henry Broenneke from the 1920's through the 40's
 Dorothy White: eye glass case from Dr.

J.F. Gray's office in Moscow
 Lorraine Micke: wild cherry bark found above Carter's Drug Store; thermometer-advertising Art Craig Coal; 3 metal milk bottle lids from Korter's Dairy in Moscow, Sawtooth Star quilt
 Tim Johnston: cloth satchel with artifacts relating to Oskar and Axel Svensson - "Bone-Out Brand Georges Codfish" box, 2 metal tobacco cans, and 4 sets of starched men's cuffs
 Jeanette Talbott: baby's comb and brush; Easter decorations

LIBRARY NEWS

In the last several months, there have been many interesting and historically significant items donated to the Society's archives which are listed below. But one donation in particular is especially noteworthy. A satchel and its contents, donated by Tim Johnston of Moscow, evoke images of a most interesting story and a fragment of America's past. In this centennial year for the Statue of Liberty, it is appropriate and timely that the Historical Society has received a collection of 1923 immigration papers of two brothers, Oskar and Axel Svensson. As they came from Sweden many of the items are printed in the Swedish language. Axel was sponsored by John Mortenson of Moscow, and apparently he came to Moscow to live. If you have any knowledge of any of these three people, please contact us at 882-1004. Collections like this become much more meaningful if there is more local information to add to our records.

INSPECTION CARD

(Immigrants and Storage Passengers)

Contract Ticket No. *36590*

S/S "STOCKHOLM"
 SWEDISH AMERICAN LINE

Date of Departure
 OCT 6 1923

Port of Departure GOTHENBURG

Name of Immigrant

Acel Svensson

Last Residence

Sweden

Inspected and passed at	Passed at Quarantine, port of	Passed by Immigration Bureau.
<i>Stockholm</i>	port of	
<i>Sweden</i>	S.S.	
(The following to be filled in by ship surgeon or agent prior to departure.)		
Ship's list or manifest,	Number of ship's list or manifest	
	<i>17</i> <i>19</i>	
Serial No.	Inspected	To be punched by ship's Surgeon at daily inspection
	11	12
	13	14

During the summer, Lina Gooley, our summer Youth Employment worker, was able to accomplish the none-too-small task of photocopying all the photographs in the individual and family files for a browsing copy to be used in lieu of browsing through the photographs themselves. This will aid the library user and also help better preserve the photos. Lina did numerous other library tasks as well. She matched up more negatives with their photos, but there are still more to do. We need a volunteer who will take on the job of finishing the negative identification project. There is also a need for a volunteer to clip obituaries and other items from local newspapers. Please contact the librarian, Chris Talbott, if you would be interested in helping.

DONATIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

- Margaret Longeteeig: "Our Jolly Grandpas," family history compiled by Mrs. Longeteeig.
- Ken Hedglin: 2 Potlatch High School diplomas; 1967 photo of Latah County Sheriff's Department employees.
- Edna Grovom: Photographs found in the former Charles Lilly home on Public Avenue.
- Rodd Wheaton: 1913 plat map of Moscow and an undated architectural rendering of the Moscow High School.
- Ed Chavez: Photos and other items relating to Davids' Department Store.
- Inez Rich: 1920 Potlatch High School Commencement program.
- Miri Hargus: Postcards.
- Helen E. Wilson: Two scrapbooks of Gritman Hospital history; Moscow aerial photos, 1930s.
- Fred Rathbun: Transcription of Emma Fair's testimony for her homestead claim on Big Bear Ridge, 1888, and genealogical summary.
- C.F. Meyers: Photo of Troy Volunteer Fire Department, 1930s.
- David and Shirley Sandquist: Book, Little Bear Revisited.
- Pat Bloomster: 3 original Troy record books: Minutes from First Bank of Troy, 1905-1914; Minutes of Troy Volunteer Fire Department, 1934-35; Election Register for South Troy Precinct, Nov. 4, 1924.
- Tim Johnston: Collection of papers related to the Svensson brothers' immigration from Sweden to the United States in 1923 (see Library News for more details).

- Frank Eveland: Collection of bank-related papers once belonging to I.C. Hattabaugh, 1890s Moscow Commercial Bank President.
- Ted Van Arsdol: Photo of a drawing of Moscow in the 1880s and article by Mr. Van Arsdol, "Pioneer of Travel Routes: The Story of C. C. Van Arsdol."

NEW MEMBERS AS OF 8/24/86

- Elna and Elbert Barton, Moscow
 David Beyer, Deary
 Ernie Brammer, Kendrick
 Dana Dawes, Moscow
 Karen Nelson Eggers, Bovill
 Susan Snow Flack, Pullman
 Virginia A. Francis, Moscow
 Lina Gooley, Moscow
 Stephen M. Griffith, Alexandria, VA
 Elizabeth P. Isaacson, Moscow
 Clifford and Alvina Jessup, Seattle
 Donna Jean Jones, Lake Oswego, OR
 Latah Care Center, Inc., Moscow
 Mrs. Roy R. Patchen, Headsburg, CA
 Elizabeth Paulson, Moscow
 Jack and Cathy Porter, Moscow
 Herman Schumacker, St. Maries
 Gary E. Strong, Carmichael, CA
 Mary L. Whetstone, Everett, WA
 Helen Wilson, Moscow
 Erma and Glen Wood, Bovill

CENTENNIAL CLUB MEMBERS

- Robert and Nancy Hosack, in memory of Dr. Frederic Church
 Mrs. Donald D. Sault, in memory of Donald D. Sault
 Vivian Snow, in memory of Harold Snow
 Helen Wilson, in memory of Joseph Wilson
 Kathleen and Robert Probasco
 Florence Cline
 Mirth Williamson, in memory of Frank N. Williamson
 Richard T. Bingham, in memory of Elizabeth E. Bingham
 Loris C. Jones, in memory of Donald L. Jones
 Mary N. Banks, in memory of William Carr Banks
 Mary Jo Hamilton
 Dorothy Schell
 Roland Portman
 Sophia Marineau
 Elna and Elbert Barton
 Duane and Phyllis LeTourneau
 Ralph and July Nielson
 Robert and Mary Ellen Bottjer, to honor Anna Bottjer, now 100 years old

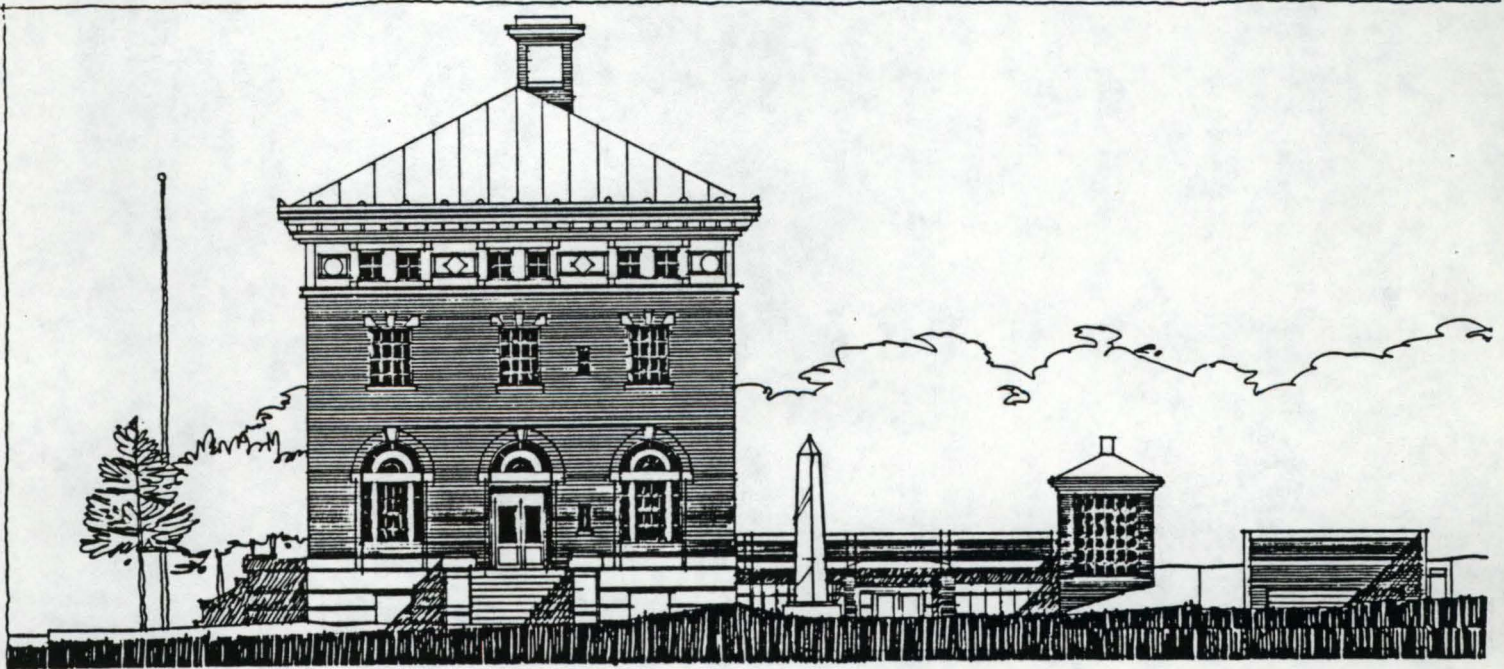
Mildred J. Humphrey
 Mary Williamson d'Easum, in memory of the
 Nathaniel Williamson family
 Herman Schumacker, in memory of Julius and
 Sophie Schumaker
 Clifford A. and Alvina C. Jessup
 John F. Williamson, in memory of N. William-
 son and his son, Frank
 Olive S. Fallquist, in memory of George E.
 Fallquist
 Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm E. Rossman, in memory
 of Blanche N. Rickert
 Lee Tyrrell
 Malcolm and Carol Renfrew
 Gladys Bellinger
 Jim and Doris Lyle
 Miri Hargus
 Mrs. William F. Schedler, in memory of Ollie
 McConnell Leudermann
 Harry and Shirley Caldwell
 Keith Petersen in memory of Leora Stillinger
 Glenn and Sandra Owen

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CARPET PROJECT

Kathleen Probasco
 Keith Petersen
 Dorothy Schell
 Miri Hargus
 Patricia Watson
 Janet and John Fiske
 Anne and Marc Klowden
 Lorraine Micke
 Clarence and Hazel Jenks
 James Jenks Family
 Rob and Dori Hudson
 John B. Miller

MONETARY AND OTHER DONATIONS

Asotin County Retired Teachers Ass'n
 Gem State Crystals
 Artframes of Idaho
 Kathy Old
 Leonard and Jean Ashbaugh
 Alfred Dunn



DESIGN CONCEPT FOR MOSCOW CENTENNIAL HALL
 Northwest Architectural Company

