



YAMHILL COUNTY
April 5/1
**HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

Yamhill County Museum, 6th and Market Street, Lafayette, Oregon

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY APRIL 14, 1981 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: YAMHILL-CARLTON HIGH SCHOOL MULTI PURPOSE ROOM, YAMHILL, OREGON
POTLUCK: BRING YOUR OWN SERVICE
PROGRAM: RUTH STOLLER AND IONE KILGORE WITH SLIDES ON EARLY COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS OF McMINNVILLE AND MORE!

(Directions to meeting- BEHIND the high school, turn on north side of school and drive behind the building)

MUSEUM NEWS

We have a folding dentist chair that was used by Leon Beal's father in Idaho. It is very clever how it folds down to 9 X 40 X 30" with handles to carry the box like case. He had three offices where he practiced, 10 miles in each direction.

We have had several calls of groups to visit the museum. Have had letters also of group tours to set dates later.

Mr. Tom Roe purchased a book on Mt. St. Helens history by Mr. Kenneth Holmes who spoke at the Amity meeting, for our book collection at the museum. Thanks, Mr. Roe.

We have the history of Mrs. Ivan Shields family of Amity- also Ohio Watts letter of the first school- 1849- of Amity., where it was and how the town got its name. Also, a letter to Miss Judy, teacher in Amity in 1905, with student list. There is lots of history in Amity. There is a move on to write a book of the families and progress of the area like the Carlton school children did a few years ago. There is a lot of old photos and families around to do a fine article. Dundee is planning a celebration in June. A book of the early families, businesses, etc.

We at the museum have several publications to sell. Among them are "Old Yamhill", cemetery records, genealogy quarterly, and several other smaller booklets.

In April we meet at the Yamhill High School Multi-purpose Room behind the high school. Turn on the north side of the building and drive behind. There are plenty of parking spaces. A pyrex baking dish was left at Amity. I have it and will bring it to Yamhill meeting. Call 472 - 7935 for museum appointments.

ROMA SITTON

The sites of some of Yamhill County's earliest post offices have been almost impossible to locate. Our one clue in most cases has been to find where the first postmaster of an office was living at the time of its establishment. Small outlying post offices were nearly always located in the homes of the postmaster. With this in mind we can make probable locations for all our early post offices.

One of the most elusive of the early Yamhill County post offices has been one named Yam Hill, with Thomas Bailey as the first and only postmaster. This post office was established September 4, 1856 and was in use for about a year, closing out on September 25, 1857.

Little is known about Thomas Bailey, partly because his Donation Land Claim is not listed in the Portland Genealogical Forum's "Land Claim" books. However, the Metzker township maps, which show the location of some donation land claims,

does show a land claim for Thomas Bailey in Clackamas County along the Willamette River near Wilsonville. Up until 1860, this part of Clackamas County was in Yamhill County.

Yamhill County, at one time, extended as far east as the Pudding River. It was then altered to extend as far as the meridian line that divided the east and west meridians. Today, Yamhill County extends only far enough east to include Range 2 West. All the donation land claims along the north bank of the Willamette River in Range 1 West, which today are in Clackamas County, are officially listed as being in Yamhill County. Their early land records are still in our courthouse. Also, the 1869 census of Yamhill County still included many of these people.

Bailey's short-lived Yam Hill post office would have been on his land claim, which was directly across from Jesse V. Boone, who owned and operated Boone's Ferry on the Willamette River. The northern terminus of Boone's Ferry would have been on Bailey's land and is the probable site of his Yam Hill post office, so named not because it was on the Yamhill River, but in Yamhill County.

In 1857 Bailey sold his claim to Boone and moved to McMinnville, where he is listed in the 1860 census as a merchant, living near Sebastian Adams and Elbridge Edson. Edson was living near the grist mill and was its miller. In 1860 Bailey is listed without a wife but has a family of several children ranging in ages from nine to twenty. By 1870 he is gone from Yamhill County, but his oldest son, Ambrose, is a baker in Oregon City, and Thomas Bailey is nowhere to be found.

RUTH STOLLER

MEMORIAL GIFTS

If you would like to honor a friend or relative who has recently passed away, what better way than with a donation to the Yamhill County Historical Society? All gifts are tax deductible and can be sent to Y.C.H.S., P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, Oregon 97127.

1981 Dues

For those of you who have not yet paid your 1981 dues, your \$3.00 per membership can be sent to: Mrs. Evelyn Nieman
1501 S. Baker Sp. 49
McMinnville, Oregon 97128

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