

A Compendium of People and Places for the North Fork Eel River Region during the Homesteading Era

Part of an ongoing Research Project on the Cultural and Environmental History of the North Fork Eel River Watershed, Trinity County, California

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Introduction

Refer to the *Introduction-Contents-Index* for a list of abbreviations and information on the kinds of subjects and information included in this section. All locations--unless otherwise noted-- can be found on the Base Maps in Appendix 1.

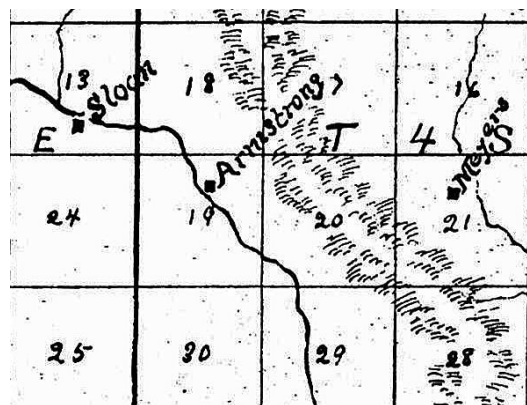
AA

Armstrong Place

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

Armstrong was one of the earliest settlers in southwestern Trinity County. It appears from the map below that the Armstrong place was on a tract of land to the west of the NFERW along Kekawaka Creek—outside the study area. It was eventually acquired by Dr. H. P. Merritt (see entry). Today it is part of the Dean Witter Lone Pine Ranch. See Robb (1981: 346-347) and Carranco and Beard (1981) for more on Armstrong.

The Armstrong place shows up on one of the earliest Trinity County maps.



Lowden's c. 1880 -1885 map showing the Armstrong place along Kekawaka Creek (A2: 04)

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Arthur, Ben/Ben Arthur Ranch

Not Plotted on the Base Map: T4S, R6E, S. 8

The Ben Arthur Ranch was situated immediately to the west of the NFERW (see Keter 1990, 1994a). According to Robb (1978) "this ranch was homesteaded April 6, 1874; however, the ranch was in use as early as 1870."

Ben Arthur was one of the earliest settlers in the Yolla Bolly country. Robb (1981:344) notes that he came from Ohio to California in 1843. After arriving in Round Valley in 1856--history has recorded that he brought in a "drove of hogs"--Arthur built the first house in Covelo. [Given the arrival of George White earlier or at about the same time this statement is questionable.]

Arthur eventually moved north to Trinity County where he purchased property along the main the Eel River previously owned John Duncan who then moved to Long Ridge (see B06). By the late 1870s Arthur began to buy parcels of land around the ranch and in the Ruth area. By the 1880s Arthur's ranch was over 3,000 acres and he owned thousands of sheep. Along with Pitt White and Charles Fenton, he owned one of the largest ranches in SW TC.

The Ben Arthur Trail (HTNF-19) was used by Arthur to move his sheep to summer range east of the Mad River on the crest of South Fork Mountain each summer. Due to financial problems related to his possible involvement in the killing of George Erickson (see entries below for George White and Erickson, see also Carranco and Beard 1981, and Robb 1981: 345) he lost the ranch. In 1897 when the German Savings and Loan Society (now the Bank of Hibernia) took over the ranch it was sold to Pitt White. This ranch is now part of the Lone Pine-Dean Witter Ranch.

Asbill, Brothers Frank and Pierce

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

Frank and Pierce Asbill are believed to be among the first Euro-Americans to enter the NFERW. They eventually established a ranch in Summit Valley. Given their importance to the history of the NFERW an edited summary of Keter 1990 1994a on the Asbill brothers is presented below.

1854 to 1859 the Early Years

The first Euro-Americans to enter the North Fork of the Eel River region were brothers Pierce and Frank Asbill traveling with Jim Neafus and the Kelsey party in May of 1854. Heading north from Sonoma County, they first passed through and "discovered" Round Valley (Carranco and Beard 1981: 41). They continued north into the North Fork of the Eel River basin crossing over Long Ridge on an Indian trail (HTNF-12) spending the night of

People and Places

May 16 at Soldier Basin (Asbill ms n.d.: 27). They traveled north along the East Fork of the North Fork towards the headwaters of the North Fork basin and crossed over the low divide which leads into beautiful Hettenshaw Valley in the Van Duzen River drainage. The Kelsey Party, commissioned by a group of Petaluma merchants who hoped to open a trail to the mines around Weaverville, continued on (Tassin 1887: 1.2). The Asbill brothers along with mountain man Jim Neafus remained in Hettenshaw Valley. They planned to spend the winter hunting deer and tanning hides which were in great demand in the booming mining districts of California.

There was a large deer population in the Yolla Bolly country (Keter 1988: 9, Maps 1 and 2]. Throughout the winter large numbers of deer were taken. This was often accomplished by driving the deer herds up canyons into the deep snow where entire herds could be killed at one time (Asbill n.d.: 29). In one day Jim Neafus killed 35 deer with a muzzleloader and skinned the hides.

In April of 1855 Pierce Asbill left Hettenshaw Valley with a number of pack horses carrying carefully packed bundles of tanned deer hides sealed in bear skins and headed east across the upper reaches of the Mad River drainage and into the South Fork of the Trinity drainage. He then climbed to North Yolla Bolly Mountain and traversed its south facing slope crossing into the Sacramento drainage at the headwaters of Cottonwood Creek on a route which later became known as the Humboldt Trail (HTMR-27) (Asbill n.d.: 32-35).



Pierce Asbill n.d.
(Anonymous 1880: 109)

People and Places

Asbill was not sure exactly where he could sell the hides, but did know there was a demand in the gold mining centers of the state. In the central valley he encountered a Spanish vaquero who directed him to Kingsley's trading post near the present town of Red Bluff. Here he sold the one thousand pounds of tanned hides for three dollars a pound. Pierce left his pack horses at Kingsley's and headed south and then west to Bodega Bay to visit his parents. He then returned to the trading post and bought three of the famous Kingsley rifles and provisions and returned via the Humboldt Trail to Hettenshaw Valley. Upon his return the three hide hunters again headed south through the North Fork basin (this route became the earliest historic trail through the basin--see trails HTNF-12 and HTNF-15) to Round Valley (Asbill n.d.: 35-38).

By 1857 Captain James Willburn and his brother Hiram David Willburn (see B05) had settled in Hettenshaw Valley (Robb 1978: 11). When the Asbills returned to the valley in 1857, they found it occupied by the Willburns who were living with Indian women. Several Indians were also working for them. Like the Asbills, the Willburn's planned to sell deer hides to Kingsley's trading post (Carranco and Beard 1981: 173). The Asbills then headed south and west about 20 miles to Island Mountain and Bell Springs. They spent three years in this area hunting and taking hides and selling them to Kingsley's trading post.

Pierce Asbill's son, Frank Jr. (see entry below), recorded many of his father's and uncle's exploits in a lengthy manuscript *THE LAST OF THE WEST*; Asbill (with his usual hyperbole) writes that George White:

by 1881, had in that vast domain of free range, all with the exceptions of the seven or eight thousand acres the two Asbill boys owned and controlled in the Summit Valley region....Thirty or forty thousand head of the wildest cows on earth ran along the high mountains, ridges, deep canyons, hell-holes and roughs, along with many thousand head of Spanish marrino [merino] sheep, and many Indian sheep herders." (Asbill Ms. Vol. 2: 130)

Summit Valley (see entry), which lies on the divide with the Middle Fork Eel River watershed at the southern edge of the basin about sixteen miles north of Round Valley, was the earliest place to be settled in this area during the historic era. The Asbills settled in this small picturesque valley of about 60 acres in 1864 by filing a "squatter's claim" (Carranco and Beard 1981: 183). This and other early land entries in this area prior to their being surveyed were most likely under the Preemption Act of 1841.

The ranch continued to grow in size and by 1879 it is estimated that the Asbills had 15,000 sheep, 200 head of cattle, and about 150 head of horses (Carranco and Beard 1981: 183). The Asbills also controlled some lands just to the east of the North Fork and slightly to the north of its confluence with Hull's Creek in the vicinity of the future Travis Ranch (F05). Because of the generally high price of wool during the 1870s, the Asbills prospered and were considered wealthy. They could afford to have Indian sheep herders take care of their animals and do most of the work on the ranch. Their long hair and beards were trimmed in the latest style and the brothers dressed in expensive hand-made boots and tailored clothes (Carranco and Beard 1981: 186).

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The Asbills lost most of their sheep in the record winter storms of 1890/1891 that devastated the sheep ranching industry in Humboldt and Trinity Counties (see Keter 1994a 34-35). After a number of other earlier setbacks, they were financially ruined and lost the ranch to the bank in Mendocino County which held the mortgage they had placed on the ranch to pay off a debt to Benjamin Blockenburger (see Carranco and Beard 1981: 200).

Pierce Asbill left the Yolla Bolly country for a while and when he returned he was broke except for a few horses and pack animals. He traveled up to Hettenshaw Valley that he had first entered nearly forty years earlier with his brother and Jim Neafus. He stopped to visit his close friend Jim Willburn [at the southern end of the valley]. When Willburn came out to greet his old friend he said "wall Pierce, wich way ye travlin?." Pierce replied, "by gad-a-mity Jim, rite back whar hi started from almost forty yer ago." Willburn pointing out to his collapsed barns [from the heavy winter snows] said, "Pierce, if ye'll look around a bit, it looks like I'd better start with ye" (Carranco and Beard 1981: 210).

Refer to Carranco and Beard (1981) and Keter (1990, 1994a) for more information on the Asbill brothers.

Asbill, Frank (Jr.)

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

See Keter (1990, 1994a) and Carranco and Beard 1981.

Frank Asbill was the son of Pierce Asbill. Frank Asbill is sometimes referred to as "Frank Asbill Jr." to avoid confusion with his uncle. He was convicted of murdering his common-law wife in Garberville in May of 1936. He was sentenced to prison and while at San Quentin he wrote *The Last of the West* chronicling the exploits of his father and uncle (see the Asbill Brothers entry above) in Yolla Bolly County. A copy of the ms. has been included in the hard copy files for this project.

Atkinson, Wade and Grace

See **HF13** Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 29

Wade Atkinson was the son of William E and Ellen N Atkinson.

Atkinson William E. and Ellen N.

See **HF13** Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 29

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BB

Barkdull Place

F21 Map 3: T3S, R6E, S. 24

There is a problem with the plotting of the location of this ranch on the Base Map (A1) as a result of problems with the original GLO survey. It has been plotted as a homestead tract —there may be a homestead entry record on file at the SNRF HR office. The 1907 TNF map shows the tract as being in the eastern portion of Section 24, while Garcelon (A2: ms01 map) places it further to the west in Section 23. The tract has been plotted on the Base Map in Section 24 since the “ A. Barkdell” place shows up at about this location on the TNF 1907 map. The HV 15' USGS 1931 map also shows a structure at this location (see below). Note that the mapping of the trails (HTNF-21 and HTNF-21 Spur A) is also problematic--see the trail entries for more comments on this problem.

There were virtually no references except for Garcelon. Garcelon (A5: 01) spells it as "Barkdull." The 1920 census also spells it "Barkdull." Garcelon (A2: 01) noted that:

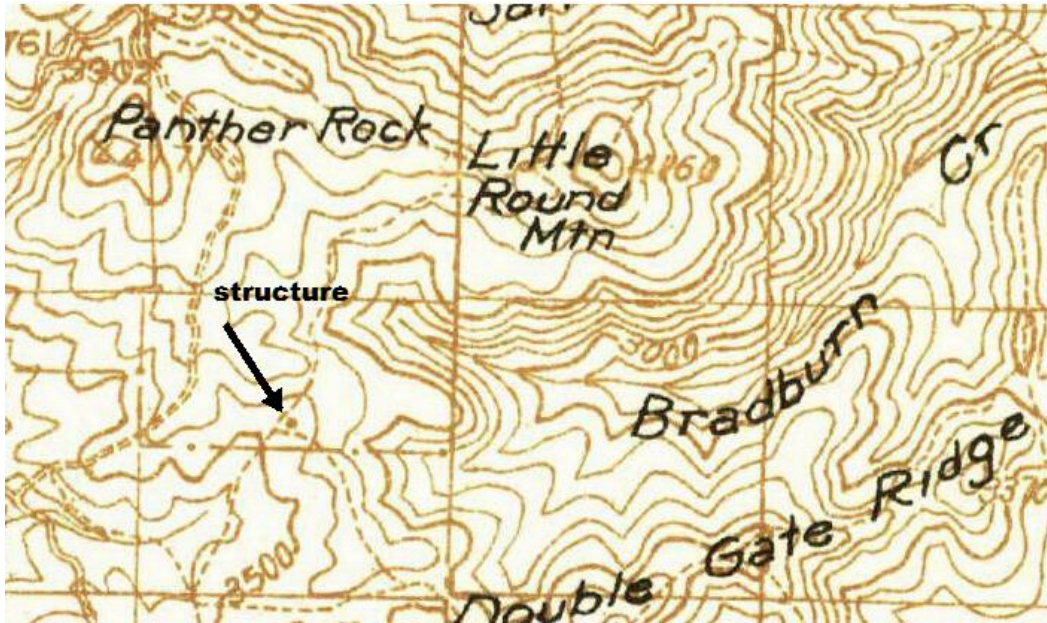
This was the Barkdull ranch. They settled here about the same time as the other homesteaders in the early 1900's. They also raised turkeys as told by one of the daughters, Mrs. Charlotte Niskey of Eureka. A large barn was still standing after the 2d war. This area was then known as the Cow Camp---- owned by the Whites.

May Burgess wrote that the Barkdull's lived at "Big Glades" (A6: I#186).



1907 TNF map showing the “Barkdell” homestead tract.
(A2: 06)

People and Places



There is a structure shown near trails HTNF 21 Spur A and HTNF 23-23 Spur A. HV 15' USGS 1931 (A2: 23)

The Barkdull family shows up on the 1920 census but not the 1910 census. They may not have lasted long in this area as no family members show up on the 1930 census.

77	80	Barkdull, Wm R.	head	10	7	7	11	41	39	7	11
		"	Mabelle F.	wife		7	11	41	33	7	11
		"	Rose C.	daughter		7	11	12		7	11
		"	Mabelle	daughter		7	11	11		7	11
		"	Raymond E.	son		7	11	9		7	11
		"	Alana W.	son		7	11	7		7	11
		"	Wilma W.	daughter		7	11	6		7	11
		"	Leah J.	daughter		7	11	4		7	11
		"	Curtis A.	son		7	11	4		7	11

Census 1920-9

Bear Wallow Lake Guard Station

See NF02.

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Bean Family, Peter and Leonard Bean Families

F18 Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 31 and S. 32.

See also the George Gray and Mary Wells entry.

This tract is plotted based on the 1977 SRNF map that shows the tract as being private property. Robb noted (1981: 354) that the Peter Bean family was among the earliest to settle in southwestern Trinity County. Although not entirely clear, it appears they settled in the vicinity of Zenia. A member of the extended Bean family shows up in the Zenia area on the Belcher Title and Abstract map (A2: 26a; T3S, R6E, S 28).

Members of the extended Bean family show up on the 1880 Long Ridge Census as living in the Zenia area, given their placement on the census listing. Eleven year old Leonard Bean (F18) is listed on the census.

Bean Peter	M	W	49		1	Raising Cattle, Horses, & Hogs.
— Emma	M	F	44	Wife	1	Keeping House
Becker Alice	M	F	21	Daughter	1	at home
— Martin	M	W	18	Grand son	1	at home
Bean—Edward	M	W	14	Son	1	
— Leonard	M	W	11	Son	1	
— Grace	M	F	7	Daughter	1	
— Ralph	M	M	2	Son	1	

1880 census listing the Bean family
(A03: 1880-8)

This tract is plotted as a homestead based on Garcelon (A5: ms01) and the TNF 1909 map (A2: 08a). It appears, given the chronology, that Leonard Bean acquired the tract of land sometime in the late 1910s—from Gilbert (see entry below).

There are few other references in the historic record concerning the Bean family. Of note is the fact that Leonard Bean sat on the coroner's jury in October of 1895 impaneled in Weaverville to investigate the murder of Jack Littlefield. They visited the site of the murder later that month (see the Littlefield entry below).

Census Data

Bean and his wife show up on the 1900 and the 1910 census; placement on the census role suggests that at that time they were living in the Zenia area. Bean also shows up on the 1920 census—probably living at the old Gray place by that time. Bean and his wife along with a niece and nephew also show up on the 1930 census. Only 72 year old Leonard Bean

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(widower) shows up on the 1940 census—his residence at that time is not clear. It is listed in section with people living in the Zenia area to the west of the NFERW.

30	30	Bean Leonard C.	Head	W	M	May 1861	31	M	2
		Alma C.	Wife	W	F	Apr 1870	26	M	2
		Horley L.	Son	W	M	Mar 1899	1	S	

Census 1900-2 (A03: 1900-2)

46	47	Bean Leonard C.	Head	M	77	40	M	11
		Cathern A.	wife	F	77	37	M	11
		Harold L.	Son	M	77	10	S	
		Herbert C.	Son	M	77	7	S	

Census 1910-3 (A03: 1910-3)

114	134	Bean, Leonard C.	Head	1	7	511	11	50	711
		" Catherine E.	wife		7	W	44	711	
		Rice, Jennie P.	mother-in-law		7	W	69	W	

Census 1920-10 (A03: 1920-1)

52	55	Bean Leonard C.	head	0		X	M	59	M	28
		Catharine A.	wife	X		X	F	54	M	23
		Rice Nancy J.	niece	X		X	F	22	S	
		Leah	nephew	X		X	M	21	S	

1930 census (A03: 1930-1)

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Bean Leonard C.	Head	0	M	W	72	Mar	M	8

Bean on the 1940 census (A3: 1940-6)

Garcelon (A5: ms01) indicated that at the headwaters of Wood Creek (just to the west of the NFERW divide:

There was an old time mill and cabins before 1930 Leonard Bean lived here. I don't know who owned the mill. There was an old steam boiler here for years. I first saw it in 1938. There was another mill across the road after the war in the 1950's owned by Wheelock. All signs of this mill are now gone. This area is just south of the Zenia-Hoaglin School on the Zenia-Covelo Rd. and just north of French Lake on Yew Wood Creek.

Garcelon (A5: ms01) also noted that:

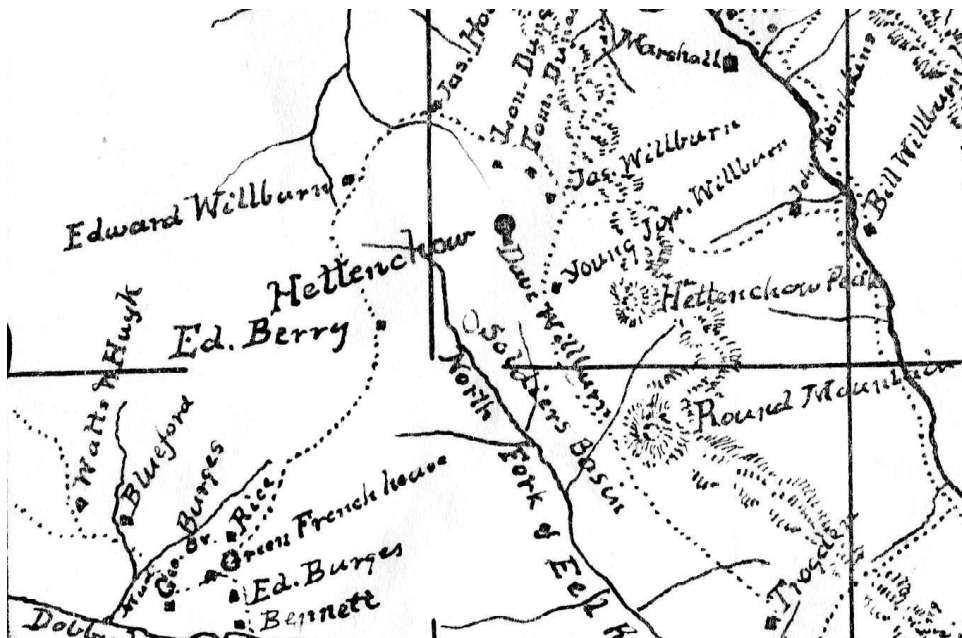
People and Places

Tom Duncan (HF05) and Leonard Bean would travel each year to Deerlick Springs for the mineral waters. Leonard Bean had a Model T with about 2 of the steering wheel cut away to make room for his stomach as he was rolly polly. On their last trip they had a wreck and were upside down. Leonard was still conscious and he called to Tom and asked him if he was okay. Tom had some broken bones but he told Leonard he was all right. Leonard then passed away. He bled to death. My wife and I and her folks- Ila and Otis Hardin- attended the funeral at Zenia-- this was about 1940 plus or minus. Tom lived for many years after this accident.

Berry/ Berri (first name unknown possibly Ed Berry)

Not plotted on the Base Map.

The name "Ed Berry" appears on some of the earliest maps of the NFERW region. He was probably living here by the early to mid-1870s. He lived near Hettenshaw Valley along or near the trail to Zenia (HTNF-24). Given his location near the Willburn place in Hettenshaw Valley where Rose lived (she was among the first African Americans to live in SWTC) with the Willburns (see B05), it is likely that he was her first husband and that May Berry was their daughter. See the Rose and Augustus Russ entry and IF02, HF08, and HF12 for more information on Rose Russ and May Berry.



Lowden's C1888-1890 map showing the Ed Berry Place.

(A2: 02)

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Irene Willburn Stapp (A6: I#448) indicated that:

Rose first married a man named Berri (from the Mad River area) and had a daughter May Berri. *May Berri married Reautus Doolittle*, Frank's son. Frank was married to Becky Doolittle. Rose later married Joe [Augustus] Russ and they had a daughter Maybel who today is 91 and lives in Covelo. Irene Stapp A06: I#448). [Emphasis added.]

Berry, May (May Berry Doolittle)

Map 4: T3S, R8E, S.31 and T4S, R8E, S6

See HF16 May Berry Homestead. See also Berry entry above.

May Berry was ½ African American-- Berry was the step daughter of Augustus Russ. —refer to the Augustus Russ entry HA08 and Mabel Russ entry IF02 for more information on this subject. She married Reatus Doolittle (see HA01).

Also see the James S. Willburn extended family (B05) entry for more on the first African Americans to enter southwestern Trinity County.

Betts, Charles E. / Charles Betts Place

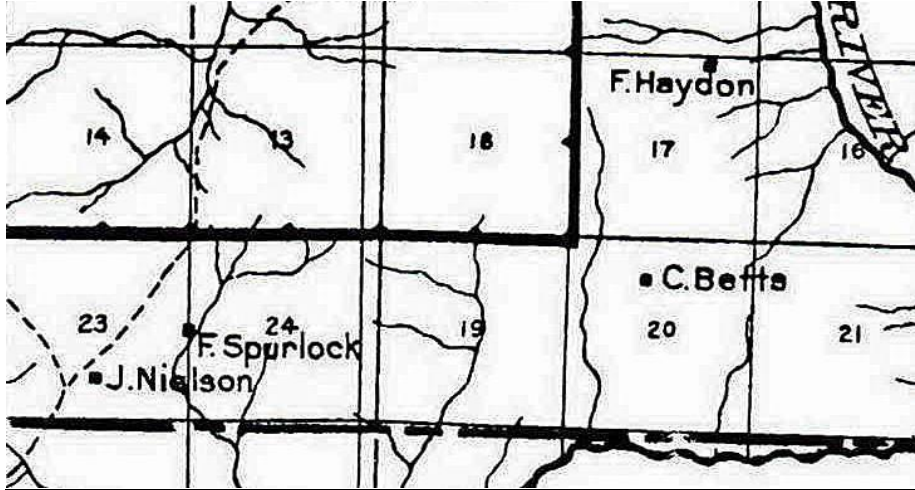
F02 Map 6: T5S R7E S. 25

See also the Betts School entry.

Background

There is not much information on the Charles E. Betts. It appears that over the years he lived at two and possibly three different locations. It appears that Betts, at one time (possibly first), owned and lived on a tract of land near the south end of Long Ridge. Note that the 1922 TNF map shows "C. Betts" in Section 20. This tract (see Lowden's 1894 map) was at one time owned by George White who lost it in his divorce settlement with his third wife Frankie White (see those entries for more information on this subject).

People and Places

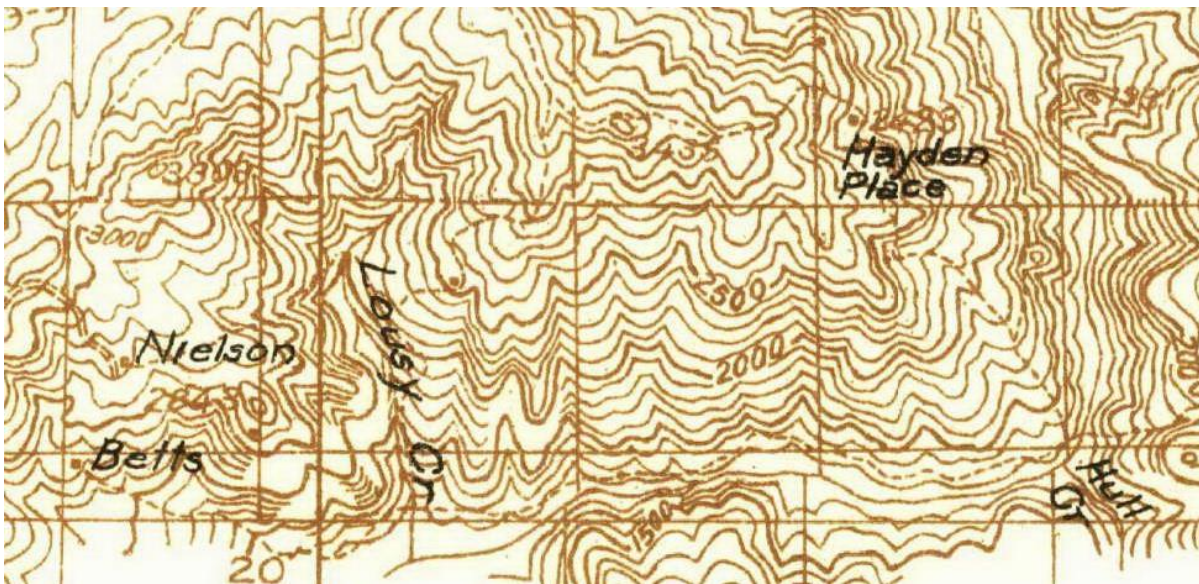


The Betts place in Section 20.

TNF 1922

(A2: 11)

The homestead identified by consultants and in the literature clearly places Betts at F02-- see 1931 HV 15' USGS map below.



The Betts place at F02 shows up on the 1931 HV 15' USGS map. Note this map shows the Spurlock/Betts cabin (unlabeled) on the trail just to the east of the "Lo" in "Lousy Ck" on

the map

(A2: 23)

F02 Information

It appears that before Betts acquired the tract at F02, he and his family (see below) may have lived to the east of Nielson on a tract of land previously owned by F. Spurlock (see entry). Tom Duncan (A5: ms05), in 1951, wrote that Spurlock first acquired land to the east

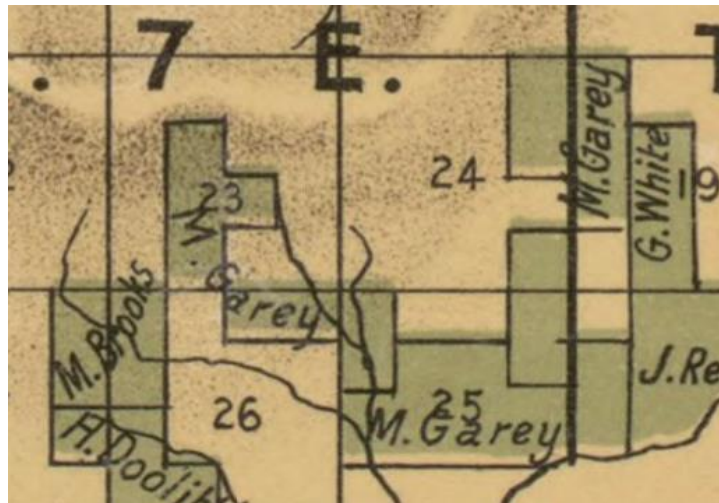
People and Places

of the Neilson place (see 1931 HV map above). This tract does not match with the location of the tract mentioned above in Section 20 on the TNF 1922 map that was owned by Betts or the location of F02. Rather a third tract of land in addition to F02 was at some point owned by Betts.

Duncan indicated in his interview that:

There was a homestead across the Lousy to the *east* [emphasis added--note that it shows up on the 1931 HV USGS map above] of the Neilsen place [F03] near the bottom of the hill. The only thing left there were signs of fences, etc. The people's name could have been Spurlock. This was the area *the [Betts] first moved to, then got from Chris Norgaar what is known now as the Betts place* [Emphasis added]. This place was first lived on by Jerry Geary, then the Hall Brothers and Hank owned it and ran sheep there for quite a number of years. After they left there the place went to pieces, the improvements. Chris Norgaar finally bought it, then Spurlock, lastly Betts.

Lowden's 1894 map clearly shows that this tract was originally owned by M. Garey.



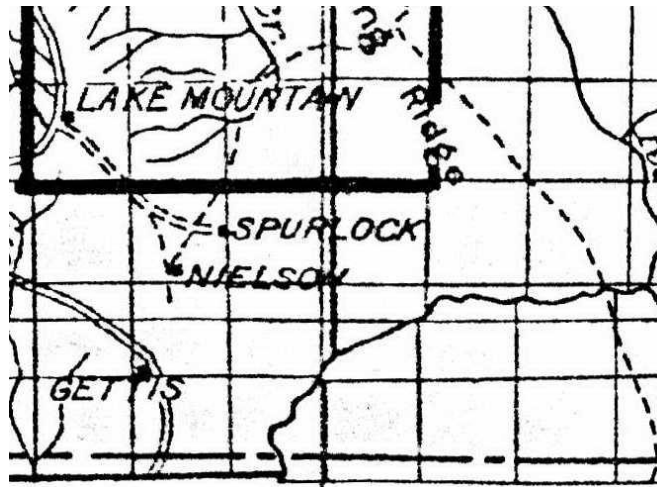
Lowden's 1894 map
(A2:05)

Garcelon (A5: ms01) wrote that:

The Homestead now known as the "Betts" place was first settled by Jerry Geary then passed to the Hall brothers then to Chris Morgan then to Spurlock, on to S. S. Gettis who settled there in 1905 or 1906. The next owners of this property were Ross and Leona Betts.

The 1934 Map shows the locations of the "Nielsen (F03)," Spurlock, and Gettis places. This appears to be inaccurate given that Betts shows up as owning the Gettis tract on the 1931 HV 15' USGS map (above).

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1934 TNF Map
(A2: 14)

It is beyond the scope of this study to further clarify this situation. What is clear is that by about 1931 the Betts family was living at F02.

Census data

The 1920 census lists Betts as "widowed."

160	Nelson, Thomas P.	head	1	7	74	W	58	W
	" , Vida	wife			7	W	45	W
161	Betts, Chas. E.	head	1	7	71	W	38	W
	Cherry, Fred. M.	head	2	11	71	W	25	W

1920 census listing Betts
(A3: 1920-8)

Betts was married with five children by the time of the 1930 census. Note that he married an Indian woman and his children were listed as "Indian" on the census. At that time they were either living at F20 or the Spurlock place (F03) discussed above.

54	77	Betts, Charles, E.	Head	9				yes	m	20	47	m	38	no	yes
		" , Esther H.	wife	H		X	F	9	m	28	m	18	no	yes	
		" , Ruth E.	Daughter			X	F	9	m	6	S		no		
		" , Eileen M.	Daughter			X	F	9	m	4	S		no		
		" , Ethel F.	Daughter			X	F	9	m	2	S		no		
		" , Carol J.	Daughter			X	F	9	m	0	S		no		

1930 census listing the Betts family
(A3: 1930: 8)

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The 1940 listed Betts with nine children who were now listed as white along with his wife Esther.

Betts Edward C	Head	0	M	W	52	M	W	8
— Esther	wife	1	F	W	39	M	W	8
— Ruth	daughter	2	F	W	16	S	W	H
— Eileen	daughter	2	F	W	14	S	W	H
— Ethel	daughter	2	F	W	12	S	W	6
— Irene	daughter	2	F	W	10	S	W	6
— Arletta	daughter	2	F	W	9	S	W	5
— Edward	daughter	2	F	W	7	S	W	1
— Ross	son	2	M	W	6	S	W	0
— Leona	daughter	2	F	W	4	S	W	0
— Ida	daughter	2	F	W	3	S	W	0

1940 Census for Edward Betts family
(A3: 1940-8)

With so many children, it appears that sometime in the late 1930s or early 1940s a school was opened for a short time on the Betts property (see Betts School entry).

The Betts family was not traced beyond their listing on the 1940 census. As of 2006, there were still people living on this tract of land.

Betts School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Blue Jay Mine

F19 Map 5: T26N, R12W, S. 17

A document on the Tungsten mine (T3S. R8E. SRNF HR: see BLM folder) notes that the owner of the Blue Jay Mine was a "Mr. Scott. Over the years there were a number of owners (see the Mining Report below). Trail HTMR-25 passes by the mine. The area was burned during the Travis Fire of 1997 (see images below).

The California state publication *Mineral Commodities of Ca.* (Bulletin 156: 327) notes that:

The Blue Jay Mine, which since its discovery in early World War II has yielded nearly 5,000 tons of Manganese ore, has been the largest producer in the Trinity County area.

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The probable reason for mining at this time was the increase in value of “strategic” materials for the war effort (for a discussion of this topic see Keter 2011a). In about the early 1940s Ivan Jeans noted (TCHS 1987:18) that:

"Chrome and manganese mining became important with the start of the defense effort. Sizeable manganese oxide deposits were opened in the Haydon Roughs area near the head of Mad River. Mines such as the "Blue Jay," the "Lucky Sunday," the "Iliff," and others started the movement of heavily laden ore trucks out of the area to stockpile locations near the coast.

For copies of the two mining report discussing the Blue Jay Mine see the end of this section.

At one time (see Homestead and Special Use files SRNF HR) a road was proposed to cross the NFER directly to the west of the mining area so that trucks from the Blue Jay Mine could have a direct access to the coast. It is probable that the end of the war and the profitability of the mine ended this proposal.

The following images were taken by the author. See more images and information on the mine at the F19 Features folder for the Blue Jay Mine.



F19 Image 1

View west from Jones Ridge: note trail HTMR-25 on the divide with Mad River watershed to the right. Photo taken in 2002.

People and Places



F19 Image 2

Close up of trail HTMR-25. Photo was taken in 2002.

The following two photographs were taken just after the Travis fire in the fall of 1987. Note the pattern of burning and regrowth above when compared to the photos above post fire.



F19 Image 3

Note the burning pattern of the 1987 Travis Fire.
The Blue Jay Mine was to the left on the ridge in the foreground

People and Places



F19 Image 4

View from Jones Ridge Road to Haydon Roughs.
The road/trail was used as a fire line in the 1987 Travis fire.

Blue Jay Mine Geology and Mining Reports

The following two reports discuss the Blue Jay Mine.

Mines and Mineral Resources of Trinity County Report 4, California Division of Mines and Geology, San Francisco, 1965 Pages 43-44.

Blue Jay (Blue Bird, McKnight) Mine

Location: Secs. 8, 17, T.26 N., R 12 W., MD about 16 miles southeast of Ruth.

Ownership: F. A. Stockel , Garberville, California, and associates.

The Blue Jay mine has been one of the principal producers of high-grade hump manganese ore in California. The property has been mined by a number of lessees on a royalty basis. In March 1942, the James I. Scott Company of Fortuna, California, obtained a lease on the property. An access road about 4 ½ miles long was built to the deposit from the Three Forks on the Mad River road. Equipment included a Clestrac Bulldozer, a portable air compressor, Koehler 600-watt generator, rock drills, drill steel, and hand tools. Number 3 Adit was driven for a length of 165 feet on a lens of manganese 30 inches to 6 feet in width striking N. 10' W., and dipping 60° NE between chert walls. The ore was stoped [?] to the surface above this adit. Number 2 adit was located about 30 feet south of Number 3 and was driven N. 55° W., 130 feet in ore. The ore was 30 inches to 4 feet thick and slipped 70° NE. with both walls a mixture of black manganese oxides and red chert. The ore was stoped

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to an average height of 30 feet. The manganese minerals were chiefly psilontelane and pyrolusite, but included some hausmanite, rhodochrosite and bementite. Some copper minerals including native copper, cuprite, and malachite were observed on the surface southwest of the manganese ore bodies. The James I. Scott Company shipped about 3,000 tons of ore averaging 50 percent manganese up to October 1943.

In October 1943, the lease and operation was taken over by J. P. Warren, 605 Market Street, San Francisco, California. Warren stripped an average thickness of 30 feet of sandstone and banded chert from the manganese lenses and converted the operation into an open pit mine. On the ridge west of the old adit portals, a flat lens of ore about 5 feet thick was mined from an area 60 feet wide and 75 feet long. The sorted ore averaged about 53 percent manganese and 10 percent silica.

The Blue Jay mine was idle from 1946 to 1952 when the Lincoln Gold Dredging Company, E. M. Clark, and Raymond Pearson mined and shipped some ore from the open pit.

In December 1952, the K.P.F. and F. Mining Company was organized with Mike Kassis, James D. Fiske, and Leland Pearson of Redding as limited partners, and Raymond Pearson of Igo and Edward Fulton of Fortuna as general partners. They took over the lease and operation of the Blue Jay, Bonanza, and Lucky Sunday deposits owned by Frank Sockel and associates. The open pit operation at the Blue Jay mine was continued, and sorted lump ore was hauled in trucks about 130 miles to the railroad at Redding. Some high-grade ore was shipped in carload lots to consumers in the east, but most of the ore was shipped to the government depot at Wenden, Arizona. The Blue Jay mine was idle in May, 1954, but a lens of ore about 4 feet thick was exposed in the west face of the pit which had been mined to a depth of about 30 feet over an area about 175 feet wide and 200 feet long. The last production from the Blue Jay mine was in 1955.

Mineral Commodities of California Bulletin 156, 1960. Division of Mines, Ferry Building, San Francisco. Link:

<https://ia902706.us.archive.org/3/items/mineralcommoditi00calirich/mineralcommoditi00calirich.pdf>

[Blue Jay Mine page 327](#)

Localities

Of the 675 manganese bearing localities described in California Division of Mines Bulletin 153 production has been recorded from about 170. Approximately 80 percent of the manganese produced in California has been obtained from deposits in the Coast Ranges. These are grouped largely in four areas: (1) The Mad River Valley in eastern Trinity County; (2) east-central Mendocino County and the adjoining;

People and Places

part of Lake County; (3) the mountains southwest and south of Tracy in San Joaquin, Alameda, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus Counties; and (4) the western part of San Luis Obispo County.*

Previous to 1943, thirteen mines in these areas had each produced more than 1,000 tons of manganese ore. The mines in the area south and southeast of Tracy, of which the Ladd and the Buckeye are by far the largest, have yielded approximately 63,000 tons of ore. This is about one-third of the total output for the state. ...

The Blue Jay mine, which since its discovery early in World War I has yielded nearly 5,000 tons of manganese ore, has been the largest producer in the Trinity County area.

Bluff Creek R.S. FS Administrative Site

See NF04

Brown, Larry and Craig

Not plotted on the Base Map.

In the 1980s Larry Brown was the owner of the Flying Double A Ranch. He had acquired a significant number of tracts in the eastern portion of the NFERW including the Travis Ranch. At his death his son Craig Brown took over the ranching operation. During the late 1980s a land exchange between Brown and the FS resulted in a number of tracts being acquired by the FS including Red Mountain House (HA01). See the Brown Land Exchange: CRIR 05-10-472.

Burgess Extended Family

Not plotted on the Base Map.

The Burgess family was one of the earliest and most prominent families to settle in southwestern Trinity County and today, many of their descendants are still living in the Zenia area. Their homesteads were mostly located in the main Eel River watershed just to the west of the NFERW. For that reason, only limited information is provided; see A5: ms07 (Burgess family history) and A6: I#186 (May Burgess interview) for more information. See also Keter 1994a.

Members of the Burgess family discussed or mentioned in relation to the NFERW.

People and Places

George Burgess
Andy Burgess
May Burgess (A06: I#186, A5: ms076))

Martha Burgess Martin: (F34) Map 3: T3S, R6E, S 1 (location of the Martin homestead)
Daughter of Ralph and May Burgess. See Interview I#395 Appendix 6 Wayne and Bertha Burgess Martin. See also Wayne Martin and Martha Burgess Martin entry.

The following is summarized from Keter 1994a: 11.

George Burgess along with several other men (including James Howe, Green French, Commodore Peabody, and Abe Rogers) first visited the region in the late 1850s camping near a spring. A manuscript containing the Burgess family history indicates that Steve Fleming and Jim Willburn were also with this group. If that was the case, it is likely that these men visited the area sometime in the year 1856 or 1857 and explains how Willburn, Fleming, and Howe ended up in Hettenshaw Valley at this early date. The men named the area Poison Springs after several of the oxen that they had brought with them died from eating the poisonous larkspur (also known as poison weed). They were eventually forced to leave due to troubles with the local Indians.

In about 1865, Burgess, French, Rogers, and Peabody returned from the Trinity mines and settled in the vicinity of Zenia. George's brother Ed took up a homestead in the Zenia area in 1882 (Robb 1978:22). When Mrs. Burgess moved into the area she did not see another white woman for three years (Burgess MS). At that time, there were only two other white women in the region stretching south all the way to Round Valley; Mrs. Charlie Fenton and Mrs. Pitt White (Robb 1978:10).

Numerous members of the extended Burgess family show up on the census records (A03) beginning in 1880 to the present.

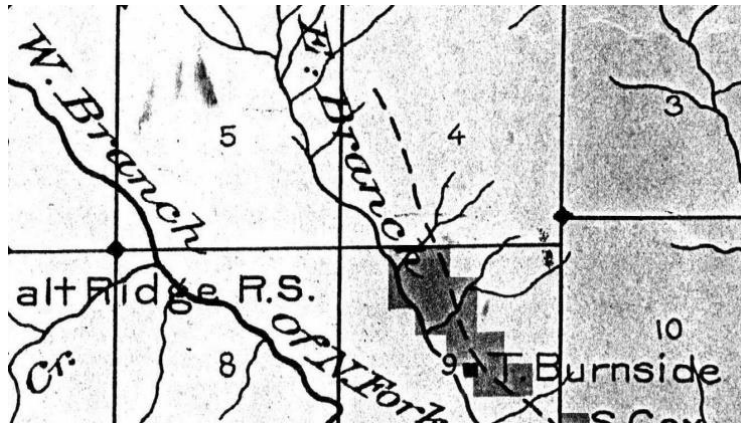
Burnside Place

F13 Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 9

This tract is plotted on the Base Map as an HA entry. It is clear that it was withdrawn from public lands sometime prior to 1907. It is possible that there is a homestead entry record in the SRNF HR files.

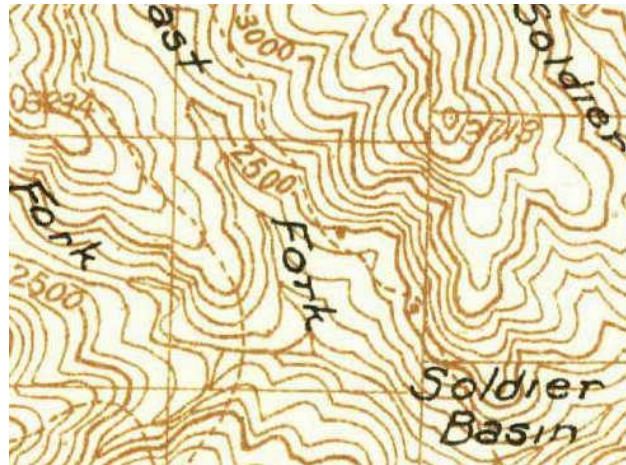
This tract appears to have been settled early and shows up on the 1907 TNF Map. The exact location of the improvements is unknown. The "X" on the Base Map marks the approximate location of the cabin. The map below shows the house near the river. The second map, however, shows it to the east trail HTNF-15 (see also the Garcelon below).

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1907 TNF Map

This map shows the structure between trail HTNF-15 and the river.
(A2: 06)



The Burnside house--in center of the map—is plotted on the east side trail HTNF15.
To the SE along the trail is the likely location of the S,B. Cox place (HA09).
(HV 15' USGS 1931 A2: 23)

Garcelon (Appendix 5: ms01) noted the following for this location:

This is a cabin or possibly 2 as there are remnants of three buildings and 2 cook stoves. They are on the trail from Soldier Basin to Hettenshaw. I don't know who first settled here but think someone by the name of Burnside now owns it. The cabins [are] set on top of a bluff above the East Fork of the North Fork of Eel River. This trail was wide through here. There used to be an old mowing machine and hay rake in a field nearby

The T. [?] M. Burnside and family shows up on the 1910 census and their placement on the census rolls suggests that they were living at this location at the time the census was taken.

People and Places

37	32	Raymond A	Son	M	W	6	J		
		Burnside T. M.	Head	M	W	28	M	5	
		Martha E	Wife	F	W	29	M	5	2 2

		children born since April 10, 1910.			5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
38	32	Burnside Walter D	Son of T. M.	M	W	4	S		
		Chauncy E.	Son "	M	W	2	S		
26	25	Hil...	71-1/2 + 20	71 H	1	2	2	2	

Census A3:1910-1

No members of the Burnside family show up on the 1920 census. It is not clear when they abandoned their homestead but it is likely that it was between 1910 and 1920. The SRNF 1977 map (a2: 21b) still shows this tract as private property.

People and Places

CC

Caution Post Office

See *Post Offices in the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Caution School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Climbing Spring

F26 Map 7: T4S, R8E, S. 21

This spring is located at the head of Lightfoot Creek in Section 21. The tract with the spring is shown on the 1894 Lowden TC map (A2: 05) as being owned by George White. As is common in this area, the original GLO survey was inaccurate. It is clear that White claimed this tract in order to control the spring for his livestock (see entry below and Keter 1994a). The 1977 SRNF map (A2: 21b) shows the parcel as still private property.

In 1985 I recorded site 05-10-54-278 with a historic component at this location. At the time the site was recorded it was on national forest lands. It appears that it was acquired by the FS in a land exchange sometime between 1977 and 1985. There was an effort at this time to acquire the privately held lands in this area (see the Brown Land Exchange CRIR and Lightfoot Timber Sale CRIR on file HR SRNF).

It may very well have been the location for the improvements on this parcel of land. There were stove parts, broken glass, a 6' whip saw, possible tobacco tin (no label but usual shape), and a metal container with a soldered top.

The only historic artifacts remaining on the site were things that do not decay in less than 50 to 75 years. I would suggest this site dates back to the 19 century. Given its strategic location adjacent to a spring it may have also been used as a hunting camp or sheep camp (by George White) at one time.

At the time I recorded the site, I noted that the northern portion had been logged, and a haul road had been constructed. However, the portion containing the historic component is undisturbed. I noted at the time that this area was a mixed stand of a few mature Douglas fir and oaks that were being overgrown by pole-size Douglas fir with an undergrowth of immature Douglas fir and poison oak.

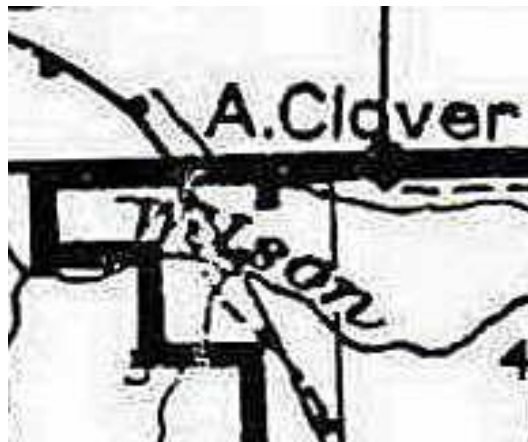
People and Places

Clover, Abe (Clover Place)

F08 Map 3: T4S, R7E, S. 4

There were significant problems plotting this tract on the Base Map. See *Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land* entry (F10-7) below for a discussion of this problem. That entry includes a discussion related to the difficulties plotting private tracts in this area on the Base Map.

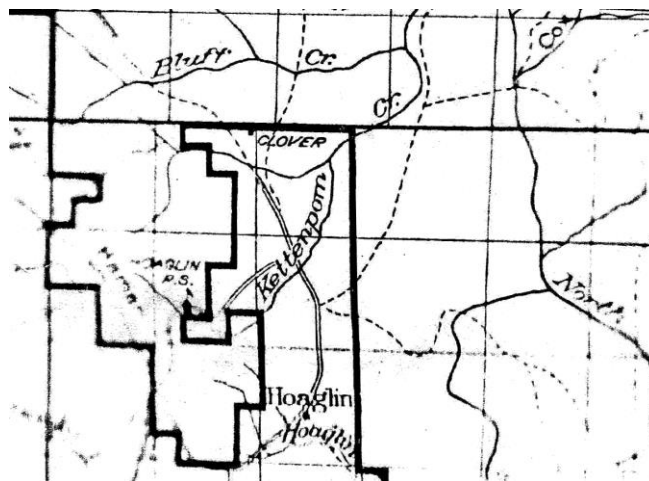
It is not clear if this was an HA or HF, who first declared entry on this tract, and—due to the problems with the original GLO survey--exactly where it was located. Given the early settlement of this immediate area it is plotted on the Base Map as an HA --however, this has not been confirmed. Most maps like the TNF 1922 and 1931 maps show the "Clover Place" located just to north of Wilson Creek.



1922 TNF map

This map shows the Clover structure to the north of Wilson Creek.

(A2: 11)

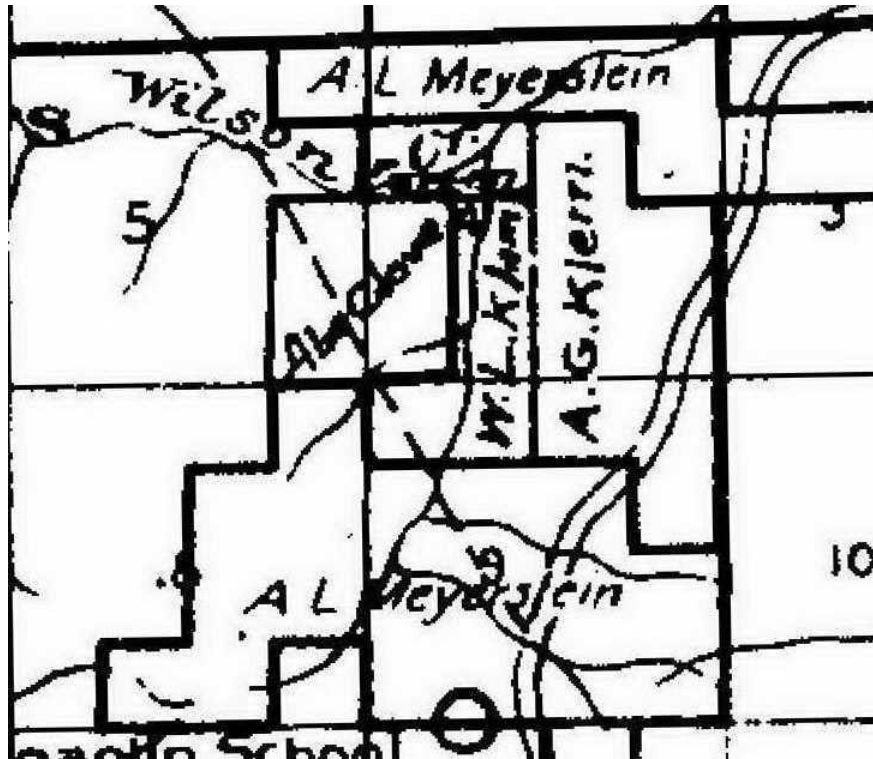


The 1931 TNF map also shows the location of the Clover place to the north of Kettenpom Valley and Wilson Creek.

(A2: 13)

People and Places

The 1915 map, however, places the 160 tract much further to the south with the entire tract now south of Wilson Creek—given the terrain this appears to be more accurate.



The 1915 TNF map shows the entire tract to the south of Wilson Creek.
(A2: 28)

For this reason, the location plotted with dashed lines on the Base Map as it is approximate due to problems with the original GLO survey and it is beyond the scope of this study to clarify this issue any further. .

I could not find the name "Clover" in the 1900, 1910, 1920 census records. Abe Clover (and family?) may have lived here for a short time before selling out to William Shannon (Garcelon A5: ms05).

The Clover Place does not appear to be anywhere near the location of the Clover School. (F25). However, Garcelon said that they were at the same location (Garcelon A2: ms05). This information conflicts with the TNF 1922 (A2: 11) map and the TNF 1931 (A2: 13) maps. On these two maps note that the Clover Place (F08) is located just to the north. That location does not match the location of the Clover School (see also the Hoaglin School entry below). Further research will be needed to clarify this issue. There may be a homestead entry record on file for this tract at the SFNF HR office.

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Clover School

See the Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region entry.

F25 Map 3: T4s, R7E, S. 9

Cox, S. B.

See HA09.

Cox Family, William

Map 4: T3S, R7E, S10 and S. 15

See HA09.

The Cox family came to the area in about 1895--there is a Cox Creek nearby (A05: ms7 Burgess Ms.). Refer to HA09 for more on the Cox family.

William Cox sold squatter's rights to tract HA09 for \$400 to Harry Prescott (HF09). It appears that at that time he moved to the Blocksburg area.

Crabtree Fred

Map 4: T3S, R7E, S. 35

See HA07.

The "X" on the Base Map on this tract is the approximate location of the homestead improvements. Fred Crabtree was the brother of Robert and Thomas Crabtree. He married Jane Duncan the daughter of Lone Duncan (of Hettenshaw Valley).

Crabtree, Robert

Robert Crabtree was the brother of Fred and Thomas Crabtree. See HA07.

People and Places

Crabtree, Thomas D.

Thomas Crabtree was the brother of Fred and Robert Crabtree. See HA07 for information on Tom Crabtree.

People and Places

DD

Davis, Dudley

Minnie Rice Davis, and Andrew Davis (extended family)

F16 Map 3: T4S, R6E, S.1.

The location plotted on the Base Map for this point of interest is approximate due to problems with the original GLO survey and the fact that various FS maps do not plot this feature at exactly same location. Portions of this tract are located along the watershed divide between the NFERW and the main Eel River. Further research is needed to confirm the location of where the county road was in the past as described below.

The Davis family moved to the area in 1902. Andrew Davis in 1967 (Appendix 8) wrote the following description of their move to southern Trinity County:

My father, Dudley L. Davis, and mother, Minnie Rice Davis and five sons and one daughter—in—law and one grandson came to Trinity County from Riverside County in covered wagons. We arrived at the homestead on my birthday May 25, 1902. I, Andrew, was eight years old and the youngest of the five sons. My family built a log house 48' X 26' 11/2 stories high with shake roof, also a barn 36' X 36' with sheds on two sides. They named the place 7 Cedars as there were 7 large Cedars in a group nearby where the house stood. 7 Cedars is located about 1 mile east of Kettenpom Peak at a large spring that used to be an old camping grounds of the Indians.

Interestingly, only Dudley Davis and his son Andrew show up on the 1910 census.

Davis Dudley D	Head	19	74	51	115
Andrew E	Son	11	74	15	5

A3: 1910-4

Rowley (A: 11) wrote that:

Dudley Davis was also elected Trinity County supervisor in 1905. He served from 1905-1909, representing the territory southeast of the South Fork Mountain. At the same time, he became the judicial judge of southeastern Trinity County. Dudley's offices were located in his home at Seven Cedars. Many citizens gathered here to discuss problems and political issues with their supervisor. Judge Davis also held court at intervals, issued warrants, levied fines, and settled disputes between settlers. He held the office of judge until his death in 1914. [Note that Andrew Davis gives a date of 1912—see Seven Cedars entry.]

People and Places

Rowley (A: 11) also indicated that by 1915, with the deaths of several family members, the store was closed and the rest of the Davis family moved away:

...in 1913. Eltha and her newborn infant both died during childbirth at home in the shadow of Kettenpom Peak. Eltha was survived by her husband Lorenzo and six young children, Hobert, Minnie, Lorena, George, Nellie, and Calvin. Eltha was 29 years old when she passed away in 1913.

Heartbroken over the loss of Eltha and mother Minnie some years prior, the Davis business venture began to decline. Without the expert assistance and comfort of a woman's touch, interest was hard to maintain. More sorrow was to follow when the father, Dudley, died the next year in 1914 at the age of 65. The remaining sons completely lost all interest in the once thriving commercial business. In 1915, they gathered up the children, closed down, locked up and abandoned Seven Cedars. In time the sons, Louis, Leroy, Arthur, and Andrew settled in Humboldt, Mendocino, and Siskiyou counties, leaving the memories of Seven Cedars, their mother Minnie, father Dudley, Eltha, and her stillborn infant. Seven Cedars remained abandoned and lonely. At the 4,000-foot elevation, without maintenance, the structure collapsed from the weight of heavy snows. Years went by and the downed buildings eventually were burned, erasing most all of the visible signs of the once bustling settlement.

About 25 years later, around 1936, the Davis heirs sold Seven Cedars to Theodore and Beatrice Kellner, who were from San Francisco. The Kellners, along with their son, Karl, used the property for a vacation retreat from city life.

In 1954, ownership of the Seven Cedars transferred to Otis Hardin, a longtime resident and cattleman from Zenia.

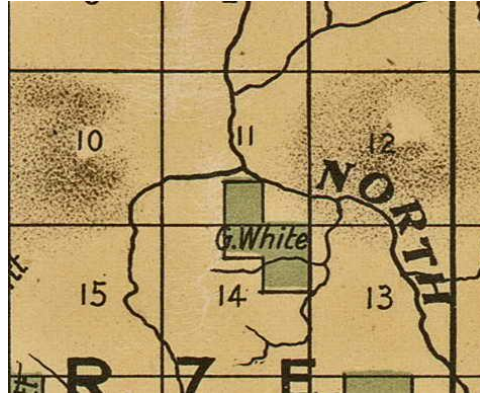
In 1956, Winnie and Louise Garcelon, and children Juleen and Dennis, from Eureka and formerly from Kettenpom, acquired Seven Cedars. The historical site is used primarily for agriculture and recreation by the Garcelons. Nearly 100 years old, the apple orchard planted by the Davis family is still maintained and harvested annually by the Garcelons.

Refer to the entry on the Seven Cedars store for more information on the homestead and the Davis family.

People and Places

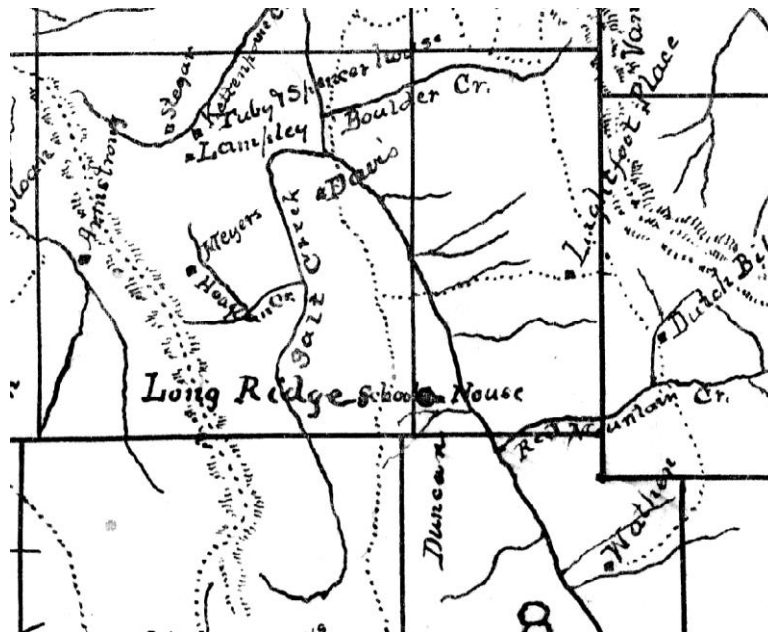
Davis, William

William Davis was the father of Hattie Davis Meyers Hoaglin and was one of the earliest settlers on Long Ridge—see map below. This location has been plotted on the Base Map as being owned by George White as shown on Lowden's 1894 map.



Lowden's 1894 map.
(A2: 05)

Refer to IF04 for more information on Davis and his daughter who after the death of Albert Meyers married William Hoaglin and settled on Long Ridge just to the south of this location at what became known as the Willie Hoaglin place. Note that an earlier version of a Lowden map shows this as being owned by Davis.

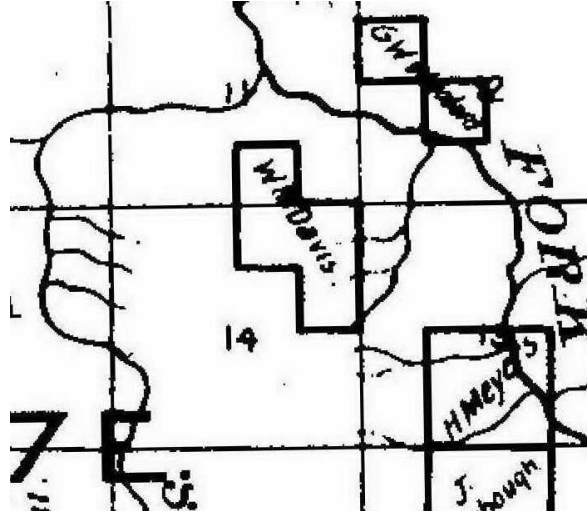


Lowden's Trinity County map c. 1880s showing the
Davis place at the north end of Long Ridge..

(A2: 02)

People and Places

The sequence of the ownership of this tract is unclear as the 1915 TNF map shows the tract as still being owned by Davis.



1915 TNF map showing the Davis tract.
(A2: 28)

This tract is still private property surrounded by NF lands. More research will be needed to clarify the chain of ownership for this tract. Much of this information should be in the Land Office at SRNF.

Diggins, Charles

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

Charles Diggins was one of the earliest settlers in the NFER region.

Andrew Scheubeck (A8) indicated that:

Charlie Diggins raised a family here, but I never knew them, a daughter, Mary, was Frank Doolittles first wife. She was drowned in the Eel River at the mouth of Bear Canyon trying to cross the river, that crossing was still known as the Larry Diggins Crossing. [From the original.]

It appears that the Diggins family lived along the Zenia to Covelo Road just to the south of the project area and the Mendocino County line as according to Andrew Scheubeck (A8):

In the Spring of 1935, my parents took over the five claims in the area that were owned by John S Rohrbaugh. These were the Diggins place-- where I

People and Places

now live -- The Hiram Scott claim-- the James Pullen claim -- the Robinson place and Frank Doolittles homestead. My parents and I moved on to the Diggins place. Hannah was going to High School in Covelo.

In a letter located in the Hattie Meyers Hoaglin Indian Allotment entry (IF04) there is a letter dated December 31, 1914 from the district ranger to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Washington. This letter indicates that Hattie Meyers Hoaglin is the half-sister of Augustus Russ (see respective entries).

Augustus Ruse of Hoaglin, Calif., a half-brother of Hattie Hoaglin (nee Myers) who made application for Indian Allotment, Act of June 25, 1910, for lands in section 13, T 4 S, R 7 E, R.14., advises as follows: That his sister's maiden name was Hattie Diggins. *The father Charles Diggins was a white man, and a citizen (he is now deceased).* Chas. Diggins entered lands under the public land laws in Mendocino County, Calif., but Mr. Russ is not sure as to whether the lands went to patent.... [Unedited--emphasis added.]

Dobie (Dobey), Nancy

See HF14 and Unnamed Feature F31a.

Nancy Dobie was a principal informant for Kroeber, Essene, and Merriam. The following information was provided by Irene Stapp Willburn (Appendix 6: I#448).

When I inquired on whether Lee had seen the site north of Raglan with the stone foundation (F31a, 05-10-54-201) he indicated that it was probably on the Dobie Indian Allotment. Nancy Dobie (Dobey in ethnographic records) lived there at one time. Irene is an apparent heir and somehow is related to her (the connection appears to be via her great grandmother. The subject of this Indian Allotment came up in the 1960's in relation to a timber company trying to buy land in the area. It appears that under Indian Allotments--unlike homesteads--the title can revert to the Government in the case of no heirs. In the 1950's the Government investigated a number of Indian Allotments in the area and those with no heirs reverted back to the government.

She eventually moved to Round Valley. See *Unnamed Features* F31a for a description of a feature that may be the structure that was inhabited at one time by Dobie. The paper at Appendix 7--Keter 2017--provides additional information on Nancy Dobie.

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Doolittle, Frank and Rebecca (The Frank and Rebecca Doolittle Place)

F32/HA12 Map 6: T5S R7E S. 26

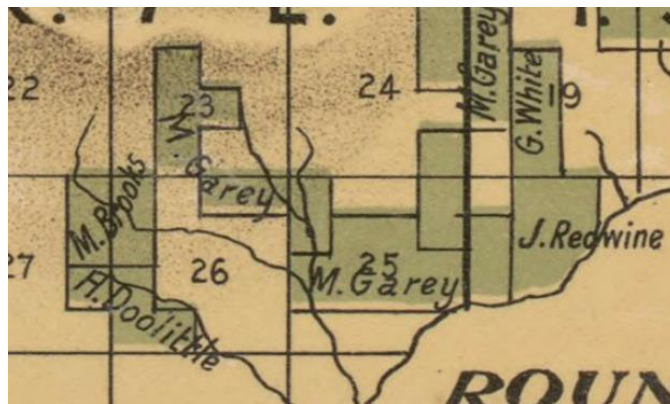
See also HA01.

The plotting of this tract on the Base Map was problematic. See the discussion below on the problems related to plotting this tract. See HA12 for a copy of the homestead entry report.

This section discusses the period after Frank Doolittle and his family left RMH in about 1903. At that time they appear to have moved to this tract about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north of the Mendocino/ Trinity County line that (according to Lowden's 1894 map) had been owned by his late father. This tract of land is located to the south and east of Lake Mountain--just to the south of the study area. Given Doolittle's link to the history of this area, however, a brief overview following his move is presented below.

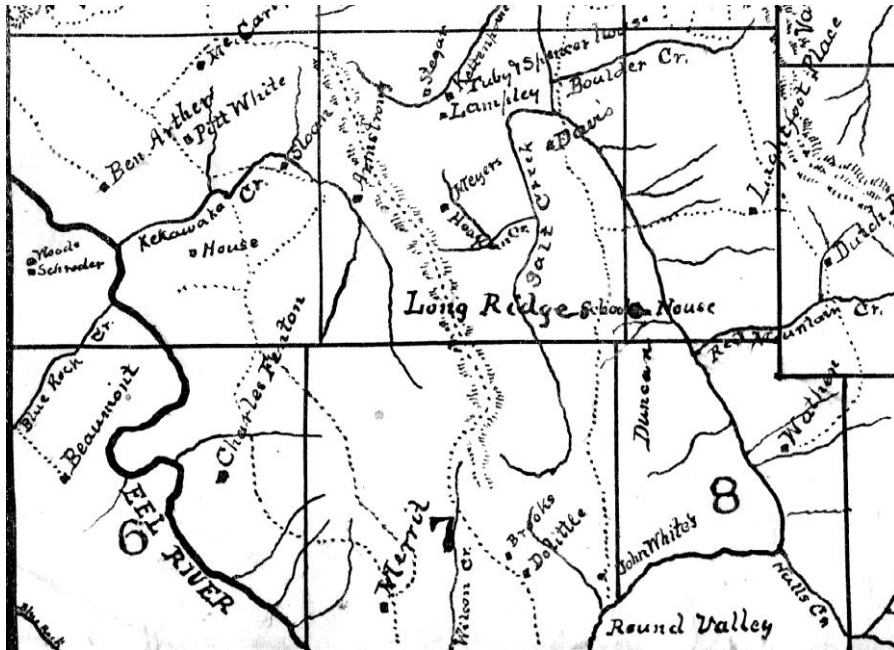
The *Report on Agricultural Settlement* (H.E. #5248) notes that Doolittle and his family "settled on this land in the summer of 1903 and have since that time maintained a continuous and unbroken residence on the claim. He filed [for entry] on August 5, 1904." Given the problems with the original GLO survey, the plotting of this parcel was problematic. The location is plotted on the very early Lowden's map dating to the late 1890s (below). As indicated below, even the configuration of the 160 acre tract is not the same on Lowden's 1894 map and the 1915 TNF map. Note the layout of the tract on Lowden's 1894 map that recorded this tract as being owned by "H. Doolittle." Based on the 1915 map (assuming it is somewhat more accurate), this tract has been plotted on the Base Map as an HA entry with dashed lines to indicate that the survey lines are not accurate due to the problems related to the original GLO surveys.

The tract was along (on both sides apparently) of the Zenia to Covelo historic trail/road (HTNF-04). It is not clear when or how H. Doolittle originally acquired this tract, but given its location on the main trail from Zenia to Covelo, it was possibly prior to moving to Red Mountain Fields (HA01).



Lowden's 1894 Map showing the H. Doolittle tract
(A2: 05)

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"Doolittle's" place (lower center) shows up on Lowden's c1888 to 1890 map near the Zenia-Covelo Trail (HTNF-04). It also shows the Doolittle place at HA01.

This map is not very accurate see the discussion on historic maps in Appendix 2.

(A2: 02)



On the 1915 TNF the Frank Doolittle tract does not match the way it is plotted on the 1894 map above for H. Doolittle.

(A2: 28)

In 1894 when the Lowden map was published, Frank Doolittle was living with his family at Red Mountain House. After his father, Hull (W.H.) Doolittle, died in the late 1890s, he continued to live there operating Red Mountain House. Refer to HA01 for more details. That section has the biographical information on Frank Doolittle and family when they lived at Red Mountain House (RMH).

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To add to the confusion, Frank Doolittle, according a homestead entry application, declared entry in 1903 for a tract of land (T5S R7E S 26 & 25), in the same area near the southern end of Long Ridge. Given the problems with the GLO surveys, it is not clear if this is two different but adjacent tracts or not.

Interestingly, a sworn statement by local resident Augustus Russ (see HA03 and IF02) contained in Doolittle's homestead entry application for the above tract of land report dated June 22, 1910, indicated that Doolittle had been living on the land: "the past six or seven years and *possibly longer*" (emphasis added). The chain of title on this tract is unclear and further research is needed to resolve this issue. A review of the records in the Lands Office at SRNF might help to clear up this confusion.

Frank and Rebecca Doolittle show up on the 1910 Long Ridge Census. Given their placement on the listing (they are surrounded on the listing by people living in the southern Long Ridge area) it is clear they were living at this location. Note that on the 1910 and 1920 census Rebecca is listed as "White" but on the 1900 census (see HA01) she is listed as "Indian" (see image below).

55	88	Doolittle Frank	Head	74	74	41	77-2-13
		Rebecca	Wife	38	77	38	77-2-13

Image HA01-4
1910 census record.
(A3: 1910-6)

Sometime between 1910 and 1920 Frank Doolittle died. The 1920 census (Image HA01-5) shows that Rebecca Doolittle--at that time a widow--was still residing on the homestead. Living with her were two nephews and Seward McVay (see HF10) who was listed as a "farm hand."

54	55	Doolittle, Rebecca	head	1	W	74	W	54	W
		Potter, Lawrence	nephew			74	W	13	S
		" Clarence	nephew			77	W	9	S
		McVay, Seward	farm hand			77	W	42	S

Image HA01-5
1920 census record.
(A3: 7)

Rebecca Doolittle does not show up on the 1930 census. No information was found that indicates if she left the area or died subsequent to the 1920 census.

Consultant Interviews

Andrew Scheubeck (A8) noted that:

People and Places

In the Spring of 1935, my parents took over the five claims in the area that were owned by John S Rohrbough. These were the Diggins place-- where I now live -- The Hiram Scott claim-- the James Pullen claim -- the Robinson place and Frank Doolittles homestead. My parents and I moved on to the Diggins place. Hannah was going to High School in Covelo.

Additional Information

There are some additional documents that appear to be related to this tract of land but do not seem to "fit" with Lowden's maps or the census records based on chronology.

A homestead report in the files (HR SRNF) indicates that in 1903 Frank Doolittle filed for H.E. #5248. Unfortunately, only a few notes were found relating to this homestead entry.

The Report on Agricultural Settlement notes that Doolittle and his family "settled on this land in the summer of 1903 and have since that time maintained a continuous and unbroken residence on the claim. He filed [for entry] on August 5, 1904." Improvements included a two story house, a barn and out buildings--including a hop house. The report also notes that from 1904 to 1910 about 10 to 15 acres were cultivated. This date would fit with when Doolittle sold the RMH tract to the Willburns—see HA01.

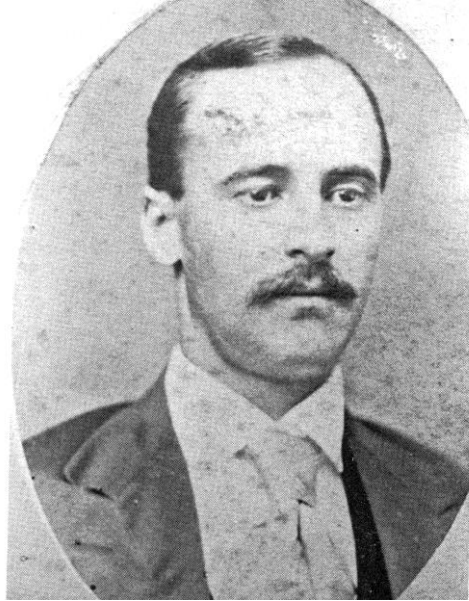
The parcel was determined eligible for entry and patent (168686) was issued on January 9, 1911. It is recommended that the original documents be reviewed before making any definitive statements about this tract of land.



Charles Yeats (R) Frank and Rebecca Doolittle (her dress is made of rabbit skins) and two unidentified men--location and date of photograph unknown.

People and Places

(Bauer and Barney 1997: 281, MCHS; Bill Lee Collection)



Frank Doolittle: no date.
(Bauer and Barney 1997: 287)

Doolittle, Reatus and May Berry

Not plotted on the Base Map --see HA01 and F32. See also May Berry entry HF12.

Reatus Doolittle (see image at HA01) was the son of Frank Doolittle and his first wife who drowned in Bear Creek (HA01). Irene Willburn Stapp (A06: I#448) indicated that:

Rose first married a man named Berri (from the Mad River area) and had a daughter May Berri. *May Berri married Reatus Dolittle*, Frank's son. Frank was married to Becky Doolittle. Rose later married Joe Russ and they had a daughter Maybel who today is 91 and lives in Covelo. Irene Stapp. [Emphasis added.]

Doolittle, William Hull and Josephine

Map 7: T26N, R12W, S. 19

See HA01 for a biography of W. H. Doolittle and family and a history of the Red Mountain House.

People and Places

W. H. Doolittle was one of the earliest settlers to homestead within the NFERW. It appears—given their ages listed on the 1880 census data (see HA01) -- that he and Josephine were already married when they moved here. This would make her one of the first women to move into this remote area. They lived at Red Mountain House.

Duncan, Ben

Map 6: T5S, R7E, S3

See HF17. See also the John Duncan family biography B06.

Duncan Family, John and Polly

Map 7: T4S, R8E, S. 31

See HF05 and the John Duncan family biography B06.

Duncan, Thomas G.

Map 7: T5S, R7E, S3

See HF05. Tom Duncan was the son of John and Polly Duncan. See B06 for more information on this location and biography of Tom Duncan.

Duncan, Leonidas and Mary

Not plotted on the Base Map.

The Leonidas Duncan family settled in Hettenshaw Valley just to the north of the NFERW. This extended family is not related to the John and Polly Duncan extended family that lived on Long Ridge.

A note in my files from the L. P. Duncan homestead application (HA H-5U-9) states that: "in 1908 4 families live in the [Hettenshaw] valley and are engaged in stock raising. A wagon road has been built to this valley [from Mad River]...."

People and Places

The 1880 census confirms that he is unrelated to the Duncan's living on Long Ridge. He was born in Denmark according to the 1880 census; his wife was listed as "Indian" as were his children ("1/2 Indian").

36	66	Duncan Leonidas P	W	Mej			1	Raising Horses - Cattle
		Mary	I	7 26	✓	Wife	1	Keeping House
		Louisa	P	4 4	✓	Daughter		
		Leonidas P.	P	1 1	✓	Son		

1880 Census for Hettenshaw Valley showing Leonidas Duncan's father was born in Denmark and the he was born in Arkansas.

(A 3:1880-7)

Duncan Maude

Maude Duncan (descendant of John and Polly Duncan) was the wife of H. M. Gilman (A6: I#186).

See HA11 and B06.

Duncan, Sun

Not plotted on the Base Map.

An article in the *TCHS Journal* (1978: 12) mentions Sun Duncan as an early settler of Hettenshaw Valley--probably in the mid-1860s--and that he was from Oklahoma and part Cherokee. No other references to this individual were found in the written record and it is included here for informational purposes. He was not listed on the 1880 Hettenshaw Valley census. It is possible that he was somehow related to Leonidas Duncan whose family lived in Hettenshaw Valley. Leonidas Duncan, as noted above, was listed as "white," born in Arkansas, and his parents were born in Denmark. Further research will be needed to clarify this issue.

People and Places

Mr. Espie was found frozen to death near a large pine tree--was presumably on his way home. It was very cold--he was almost home but couldn't make it.

The 1910 census for Mad River lists a Louis Espie born in France living in the NFER region.

24 24	Espe Louis	Head	M	W	44	S.	-
-------	------------	------	---	---	----	----	---

Census 1910 (A3: 1910-11)

People and Places

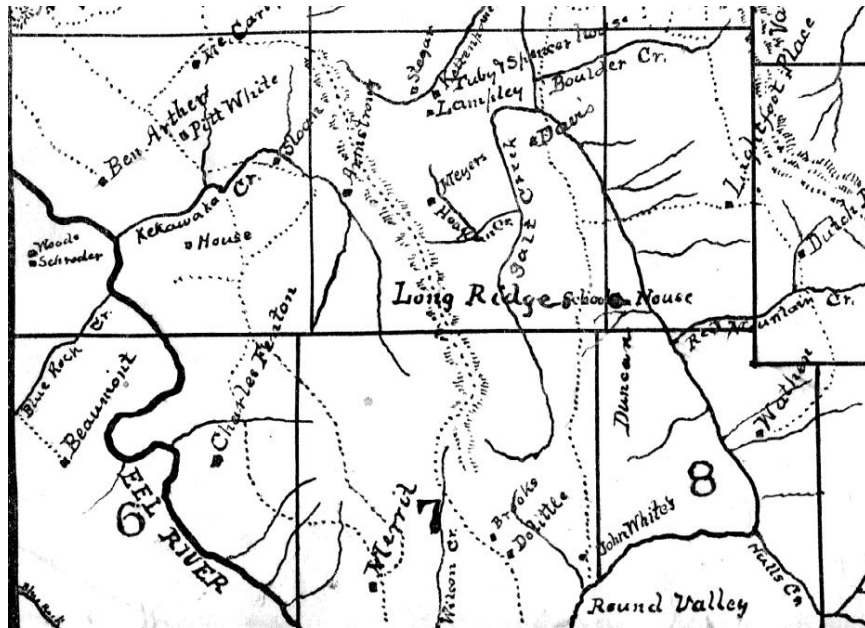
FF

Fenton, Charles

Not plotted on the Base Map.

Fenton Ranch (Adapted from Keter 1994a:15)

The Fenton Ranch (now part of the Lone Pine Ranch) was one of the earliest of the large sheep ranches to be established along the west facing slopes of the main Eel River just to the west of the NFERW. It appears that Charlie Fenton may have acquired the parcel of land containing the ranch house from one of the Asbill brothers (Robb 1981: 346). It was located on the main Eel River several miles to the north of the mouth of the North Fork (see map below).



Charles Fenton Ranch on Lowden's TC map probably dates between about 1885 and 1890.
(A2: 02)

Fenton owned numerous tracts of land in the area (Lowden 1894 map, A2: 05). At one time Fenton ran 30,000 sheep which were tended to by Indian herders. In the summer, the sheep were driven through the NFERW and summered on South Fork Mountain (Gummer Ms.). He also ran a pack train of 35-40 mules (Robb 1978: 346).

The 1880 census lists "Fenton, Chas" as "Single" and his occupation was listed as "Sheep Farmer."

Fenton employed a large number of Indians to work on his ranch. The Indians working for Fenton had a large encampment near his ranch (refer to 1880 census for a listing of the Indians working on the ranch) and another group of Indians who worked for him lived in Hull's Valley (A06: I# 378). Following his name on the 1880 census is a list of Indians with a

People and Places

notation by the census taker that "all of this list of Indians are in charge of Fenton and work on his sheep ranch." The 1880 census lists sixty-two Indian men, women, and children as living in one or more encampments adjacent to his ranch—see Keter 1994a for more information on this subject.

11	17	Fenton, Chas	W. M.	30		1		Sheep Ranch
		Capt Jim	M	30	✓	1		all of this
		Sally	F	25	✓	1		list of Indians
		Julia	F	13	✓	1		are in charge
		Ida	F	5	✓	1		of Fenton
		Jan	M	2	✓	1		and work on
								his sheep Ranch

1880 Census (A3: 1880-4)

The 1900 census shows Fenton, now married, still living in the area.

41	41	Fenton Charles	Head	W	M	Jan 1824	76	M
		Ada	Wife	W	F	Dec 1854	45	F
		Deerfield Charley T	Boarder	W	M	May 1861	39	S
		Smith William	Boarder	W	M	Unk	Unk	S

1900 Census (A3: 1900-2)

Eventually the ranch was purchased by Doc Merritt who sold the place to Armstrong and then Sam Hill. After several more land transfers the property became part of the Dean Witter Ranch—see Robb (1978: 347) for more on this subject. See also Carranco and Beard 1981 for more information on Fenton.

There were Wailaki dancehouses on the Fenton Ranch see Keter 2017 Appendix 7.

Fort Rascal

T2S, R7E, NW ¼ NE ¼ S. 19

Not plotted on the Base Map—the location is in Hettenshaw Valley. It is also sometimes referred to as Fort Rowdy.

References to Fort Rascal are found in various articles and interviews on the history of southern Trinity County. Irene Willburn Stapp (A6: I #316a) noted that:

People and Places

In the mid-1800s there was a Calvary fort at Hettenshaw Valley. The consultant believes that it was called "Fort Rascal." This could have been a nickname. Apparently, the Indians camped and lived there before the army set up their fort. The consultant's house is located within the confines of the old army stockade. There was an old fireplace there and a root cellar was located in a dirt bank by her house. This bank has been filled in. The fort was probably an outpost of Fort Humboldt. The Indians were rounded up from here and taken partially to the reservation at Hupa and partially to the Round Valley Reservation in Covelo.

This location is also referenced in Robb (1978: 360). It appears, however, that there was never a formally established military fort at this location, but it may very well have been a place that the military gathered the Wailaki that they captured in the region during the early 1860s before sending them to Humboldt Bay or Round Valley. This location would have been close to the Willburn Ranch located at the southern end of the Valley (see B05 and Keter 1990).

The information on the "fort" was given by several consultants--it is not clear where this information came from, but a fort—or structure of any kind--is not mentioned in the *War of The Rebellion* (USWD Vols. 1 and 2). It is very unlikely that there was a substantial military structure at this location, although there may have been a primitive camp and stockade to hold the Wailaki captured by the army during their activities in the area in the early 1860s--see Keter 1990 and U.S. War Department 1897a and 1897b..

Fort Rowdy

See Fort Rascal entry.

French, Greenlief

Not plotted on Base Map.

Greenlief (sometimes referred to as Green) French was one of the earliest residents of the Zenia Area. He along with George Burgess, James Howe, Commodore Peabody, and Abe Rogers travels from the gold mining region of Trinity County to Poison Camp in the mid to late 1850s. The name was later changed to Zenia (see Zenia entry below). See Keter 1990 and George Burgess entry.

People and Places

2	2	French Greenleaf G	W	M	53
---	---	--------------------	---	---	----

1880 Census Hettenshaw Valley
(A3: 1880-1)

French, Jack (Yellowjacket)

See Yellowjacket B02.

He was more commonly known locally as Yellowjacket.

French, Jack A.

Not plotted on Base Map.

Jack French (he was not related to Greenleaf French) was a white man who adopted Yellowjacket. Robb (1981:359) presents what is considered the somewhat questionable story of how French came to adopt a young Indian boy who became known as Yellowjacket or Jack French (see Merriam for information on his language as it relates to the local Athabascan speaking Wailaki). French is listed on the 1900 census along with his wife and four children—given Yellowjacket's age it is clear that he would have lived with French sometime in the 1880s or 1890s. There is a lack of reliable documentation on the relationship between Jack French and Yellowjacket. See B02 for a discussion of Yellowjacket and his wife Sally Jacket.

16	16	French Jack G.	Head	W	M	Sept 1848	52	M
		— Adeline	Wife	W	F	June 1863	36	M
		— William C	Son	W	M	Sept 1885	14	S
		— Fred L.	Son	W	M	Dec 1889	10	S
		— Ray L.	Son	W	M	July 1891	8	S
		— Harry	Son	W	M	Jan 1893	7	S

1900 Census listing the Jack French family
(A4: 1900-1)

People and Places

Fulwider, John

Not plotted on Base Map.

John Fulwider was one of the first settlers to homestead within the NFERW and by the end of 1859 he, along with several other men had moved to Kettenpom (Kettenchou) Valley and nearby Hoaglin Valley. The *Humboldt Times* February 23, 1861, noted that:

By the end of January 1861, most of the settlers in Kettenpom Valley had left due to the cold winter and only John Fulwider remained. In February, Fulwider's house was robbed by Indians and he left the valley leaving it deserted; at least temporarily.

Fulwider it appears was eventually killed by Indians. His bloody hat with "a bullet hole in the lower portion of the crown" was found along the banks of the Mad River and "he was given up for dead" (Carranco and Beard 1981: 177, Bledsoe 1885:338). For more on Fulwider refer to the Kettenpom Valley entry.

People and Places

Gebhart, H. Stanley

HF 10 Map 6: T5S, R7E, S 13.

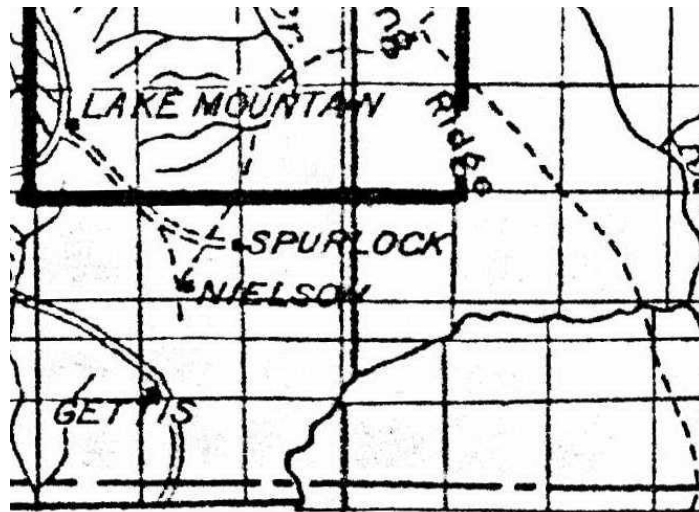
This location is within the Lousy Creek drainage just to the south of the study area. See the homestead file at HF10 for a copy of the homestead entry record.

Gettis, Samuel E. and Mary S.

F02 Map 6: T5S R7E S. 25

This tract is located just to the south of the NFERW study area.

There is not much in the historical record concerning the Gettis family (sometimes spelled “Gettis” by consultants). This tract was first acquired by M. Garey (see entry) and was owned by several different individuals. See the Betts entry from more information. Clearly, Gettis was in possession of this tract in 1934.



1934 TNF Map Showing Gettis at F02.
(A2: 14)

The Gettis family shows up on the 1910 census (A3: 1910-6). Their placement on the census list indicates they lived in southern end of Trinity County in the Long Ridge/Lousy Creek area—most likely they were living on their homestead at the time of the census.

People and Places

11200000	11200000	11 20 11 21 12 13
Gettis Samuel E.	Head	M 77 49 M-1 22
Mary S.	wife	F 77 49 M-1 22
Pauling Lawrence	boarder	M 77 19 S.
Gettis Mabel E.	daughter	F 77 21 S.

1910 Census

Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that:

The homestead now known as the "Betts" place was first settled by Jerry Geary then passed to the Hall brothers then to Chris Morgan then to Spurlock, on to S. S. Gettis who settled there in 1905 or 1906.

Garcelon's statement appears to be somewhat in conflict with other historical data given the trial dates in the entry for the Norgaar family that indicated that they were then living on this tract of land in 1910.

Gilbert, Sherman

Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 31, 32

See F11.

This tract is depicted on the Base Map as having been patented as a homestead. A homestead entry file may exist at the SRNF HR office.

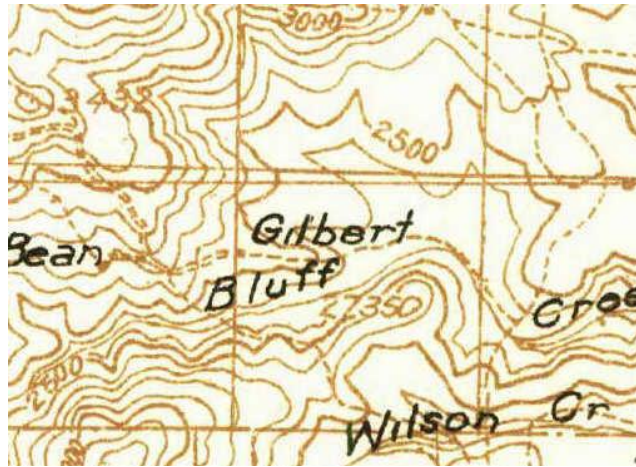
The plotting of this tract and location of the structures (the "X" on the Base Map) are approximate due to problems with the GLO original survey.

The location of the structure shows up on the 1931 HV 15' map below. The tract shows up as private on the 1977 SRNF map (below) and is plotted based on that map. The location of the original structures due to problems with the original GLO survey may no longer be on the tract of land as shown on the map. There is not much information on this location. Check the Homestead entry records at the SRNF HR office as there may be paperwork for this tract of land.

Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that:

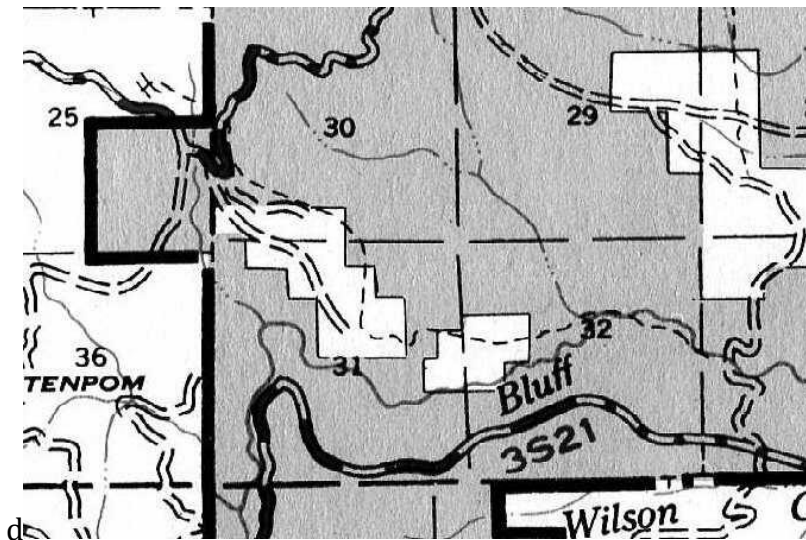
The Gilbert place was separated to the east [from the Bean Place F18] by about a mile of USFS. The place is surrounded by national forest. There was an orchard planted and several sheds and barns. This was known as the Nelson Place in later years.

People and Places



Map F11-1

Hoaglin Valley USGS 1931 15' map shows the Gilbert Place.
(A2: 23)



Map F11-2

Gilbert Place appears to have been in Sections 31 and 32
(A2: 21b)

Garcelon (A5: ms01) also noted that:

The Gilbert place was on a flat near Bluff Creek. It is surrounded by USFS. The road takes off of the Zenia/Covelo road at the south end of French Lake. This used to be the mail trail from Zenia across Bluff Creek to Hoaglin P.O. I asked Mr. Gilbert onetime how he made a living. His answer was--"You work a little, steal a little, grow a little (not pot then) and neighbors give a little. This was in 1939. This flat is now overgrown with Manzanita, etc.

People and Places

Note that Sherman Gilbert and his son are the only Gilberts that show up on the census rolls. The placement of the listing appears to be in the general area of the Gilbert homestead. There is no listing on the 1900, 1910, or 1920 rolls for a Gilbert--just in the 1930 census. That listing places him most likely on the homestead (he is listed just before H. Bean). It is not clear if this is the individual is linked to this property. Further research will be needed to confirm or rule out this possibility.

1	1	Gilbert Sherman	head	0	500	no	M	W	46
		Quille E	son			1	M	W	17
		25		26					
		Fire guard		National Forest					
		Labourer		Ranch					

The 1930 census lists Gilbert as a Fire guard working for TNF .
(A3: 1930-02)

Gilman, Herbert and Maude Duncan Gillman

Maps 3 and 4: R7E, T3S, S.15

See HA11, see also B03.

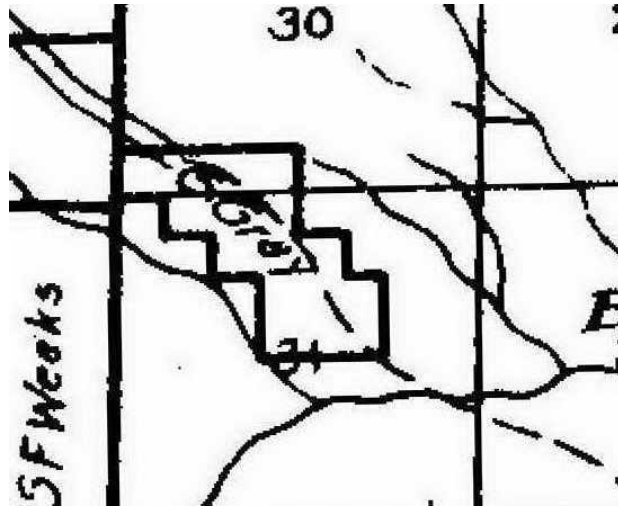
The tract is located just to the south of the confluence of Soldier Creek with the NFER. There may be a homestead entry for this tract at SRNF HR. Maude Duncan was the wife of H. M. Gilman (A6: I#186)—see B06 Duncan family history

Gray, George and Mary Wells Gray

F18/F39 Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 31

See also the Leonard Bean entry. The 1915 TNF map shows that Gray was in possession of tracts F18 and F39 at that time. Both tracts were plotted on the Base Map as HA entries. F39 is somewhat more questionable in this regard and is plotted with dashed lines. There was no other information located regarding F39.

People and Places



The 1915 TNF Map shows Gray owned F18 and F39.
(A2: 28)

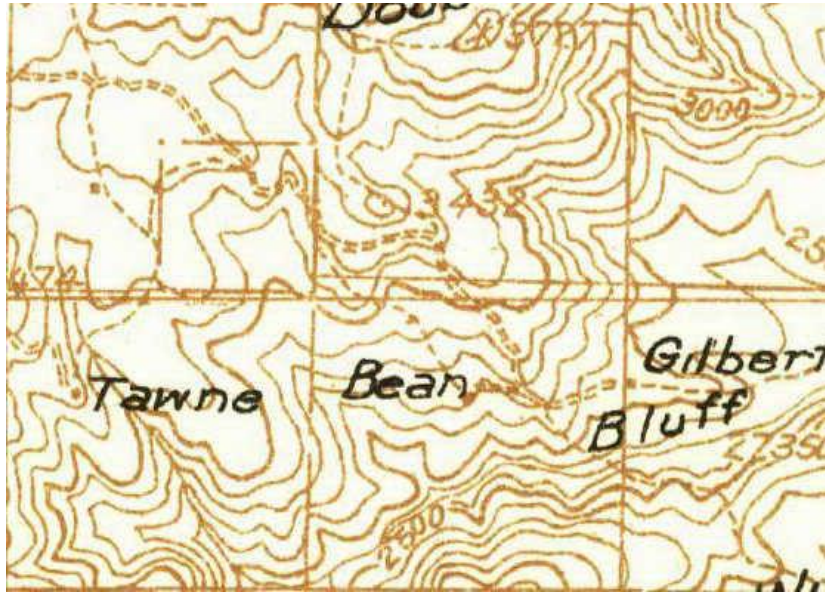
Given the problems with the original GLO surveys; the boundaries as plotted on the Base Map for these tracts are approximate. No homestead records were available but may exist in the homestead files at the SRNF. Garcelon (below) indicated that the Grays settled on this tract in 1902 (mapped as F18). Therefore it is plotted as an HA on the Base Map. The location of the improvements--shown as an "X" on the Base Map-- is approximate. Tract F18 tract is plotted as a homestead based on Garcelon's map (A5: ms01) and the TNF 1909 map.



F18: note the "G. Gray" Homestead (upper left) plotted on the 1909 TNF map.
(A2:08b)

People and Places

The HV 15' USGS 1931 map (below) shows the parcel as being owned by the Bean family.



1931 Hoaglin Valley USGS Map showing the tract (F18) as being owned by the Bean family..
(A2: 23)

It appears, given the map and census chronology, that Leonard Bean acquired this tract of land from Gray sometime in the late 1910s (see the Leonard Bean entry). May Wells, the daughter of George Gray indicated that he died in 1914 and: "is buried in the Hoaglin Cemetery. Mother sold the home in 1915 and then moved to Oakland, where she passed away in 1919" (May Gray Wruck Appendix 8).

According to Garcelon the Gray family moved into the area in 1902. Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that:

The Gray homestead was settled in 1902 by Geo. W. Gray and wife Mary Wells. They were married at Ferndale in 1875 ---8 children. The mail trail went by their place on the Zenia-Hoaglin mail trail via Bluff creek. The place is approximately 3 miles off Zenia-Covelo Road from south end of French Lake. This road was for years was called the Nelson Place Road but is now called Bluff Creek Road. Children went to Hoaglin School--3 miles to walk on mail trail. Most of supplies came from Fortuna. The place was sold to Nelson then to Bean--then to Otis Hardin, my wife's stepfather. We bought the place from Otis and after the war sold it to the Klems, formerly of Kettenpom Valley. They still own it. This place is on the north side of Bluff Creek. The Gilbert place (F11) was separated to the east by about a mile of USFS. The place is surrounded by National forest. There was an orchard planted and several sheds and barns. This was known as the Nelson Place in later years.

The Gray family (including two "boarders") shows up on the 1910 census.

People and Places

39	39	Gray	George W.	Head	M	W	62	M	35
			Mary	Wife	F	W	52	M	35
			William J.	Son	M	W	33	S	
			George W.	Son	M	W	32	S	
			Charles A.	Son	M	W	30	M	14
			Herbert J.	Son	M	W	28	S	
			Arthur E.	Son	M	W	24	S	
			Mary E.	daughter	F	W	18	S	
			Annie J.	daughter	F	W	16	S	
			Nellie E.	daughter	F	W	13	S	
		Murphy	John	boarder	M	W	12	S	
		Murphy	Effie J.	boarder	F	W	7	S	

1910 Census (A3: 1910-2)

For more information see Appendix 8 George Gray Family ms. by May Gray Wruck daughter of George and Mary Gray dated April 19, 1967.

Gray, John T.

Not plotted on the Base Map.

John Gray was Assistant District Ranger and then District Ranger on the Mad River Ranger District. He inspected many of the homestead and Indian Allotment entry's in the NFER. Many of the HA and HF entries were inspected by Gray.

For more on John Gray see the section on Forest Service Administrative History.

Grizzly Mountain

NF03 Map 1: T2S, R6E, S 34

Grizzly Mountain was named after James St. Clair Willburn (Sr.) (see B05). He was a veteran of the Mexican War from Texas, known for his encounter with a grizzly bear in October of 1857 on what is now called Grizzly Mountain (TCHS *Journal* 1987: 12).

An unsourced note from an interview with a local resident indicated that:

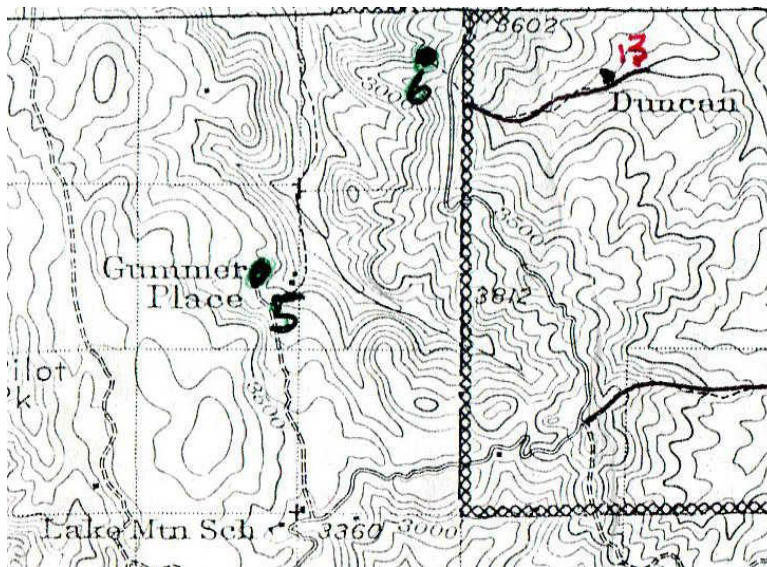
People and Places

Cy Hull and Osbourne used to run goats by Grizzly Mountain. Osbourne stayed at Goat Camp, Signal Peak (Mt. Lassic), Red Rock, Black Lassic, and Red Lassic. Between the two men over 3,000 goats were brought into the area in late May to early June, depending on the weather. The goats would graze in the mountains until late August to early September. At that time they would be driven down the mountains back to the Mule Ridge--it used to have a trail down the length of it. The Murphy Cutoff went from Grizzly Mountain to the Mule Ridge Trail and on down to Murphy Glades. There was also a trail along Big Meadow Creek. The consultant used to herd cattle right up the creek. The Big Meadow area was usually used for cattle grazing by ranchers from the Blacksburg area

Gummer Family

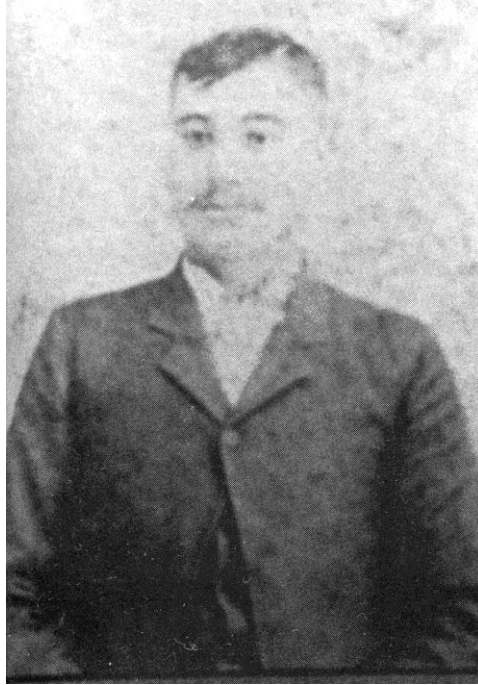
Not mapped--outside the NFERW.

The Gummer family lived just to the west of the NFERW in the Kekawaka Creek watershed. Garcelon (A5: ms01) has identified the location on his map (below). They were part of the local community and Jesse E. Brown Gummer left a very detailed account of their move to the region in 1898 (a copy of her account is located in Appendix 5.: 1951 letter collection Gummer ms.). This manuscript also includes a lot of general information on the local community and social gatherings at Zenia. It dates to about 1951--the original is located at the TCHS. Other subjects mentioned include post offices, cattle and grazing information, wild pigs, and local ranches, etc.--very detailed information. There is some census data on the Gummerts see Appendix 3.



Location of the Gummer Place (#5) on the 15' USGS map supplied by Garcelon (A5: ms01).

People and Places



Thomas Haydon: no date.
(Bauer and Barney 1997:287)

Garcelon (Appendix 5: ms01) provided the following information on the Haydon Place (spelling it "Hayden").

On the south eastern end of Long Ridge was the old Hayden place. The south end of Long Ridge was mostly grassy. They could have traveled the trail out Long Ridge or maybe from Covelo thru Hulls Valley. Hayden Roughs near the Blue Jay Mine on Jones Ridge was named for him. They are just north of Red Mountain in a good grazing area. Hayden bought this place from Johnnie Wathan [sic]. Hayden and a man named Harris Norgard [sic] got into an argument over some horses and Hayden shot and killed Norgard [sic] and wounded little Chris Norgard Jr [sic]. He spent some time in the county jail.

Census

Thomas P. Haydon and his son Frank M. and their wives show up on the 1910 census roll in the section listing other residents of southern Long Ridge.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	15	Haydon, Bertha E.	Wife	W	27	26	1912	2		
		Thomas P.	Father	M	57	1928				
11	11	Eugenia C.	Mother	F	77	1928	3	3		

1910 census (A3: 1910-1)

People and Places

The Murder of Morris Norgaar

See also the Chris and Morris Norgaar entries

Thomas Haydon who was involved in the murder of Jack Littlefield (see B07 and Keter 1994a for a discussion of Hayden's part in one of the most notorious murders in the history of Trinity County), was later convicted for the murder of his neighbor Morris Norgaar (see Morris Norgaar entry for details of the murder and trial).

Ivan Jeans MS (Appendix 5 ms02, hard file copy only) wrote that:

On Wednesday of last week near the Wathen place [Wailaki John] on Long Ridge, Thomas Haydon shot and killed Morris Norgaar and wounded Norgaar's younger brother [Chris], shooting him through the arm.

As noted in the section for Frank and Chris Norgaar, Thomas Haydon was convicted and sent to San Quentin in May 1912. He got TB and was pardoned in June 1913; he returned home and died soon thereafter. According to Robb (1981: 364): "Hayden died on June 10, 1913: his wife and son Frank continued the cattle business."

In Elmer Bauer's and Floyd Barney's Book *Families* (1997) he includes a description of Tom Haydon by a local doctor who wrote about his time in living Round Valley from 1895 to 1920:

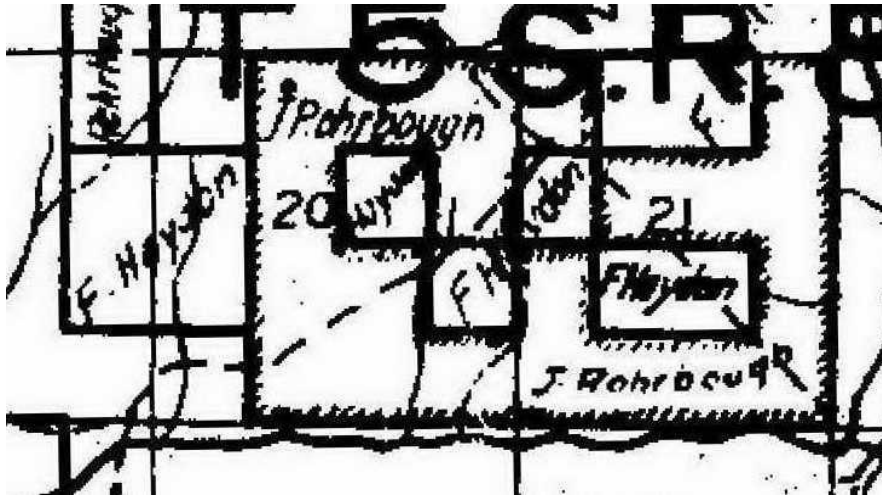
A number of those connected with the Littlefield lynching were serving terms in San Quentin, the numerous trials almost bankrupting Trinity County. The last to be convicted was Tom Haydon, who I think died in prison after serving a portion of his time. No one would have suspected Tom of being a bad man, as he was the jolliest, best-natured man in all that county. He was a mighty hunter and scores of panthers and bears fell to his unerring rifle. No one was his equal at big game hunting with the exception of his brother Ben who lived in Covelo.

Frank Haydon

Trinity County records reveal that on August 5, 1911, some 2 months after the Tom Haydon trial, Chris Norgaar sold his 600 acre ranch on Long Ridge to Frank Haydon (Book of Deeds, p. 104). The deed is from Chris Norgard (sic) to Frank Haydon; it describes the 600 acre parcel in sections 16, 19, 20, and 21, in T.5 S. R. 8 E.HBM.-- known as the "Norgaar Ranch" on Long Ridge.

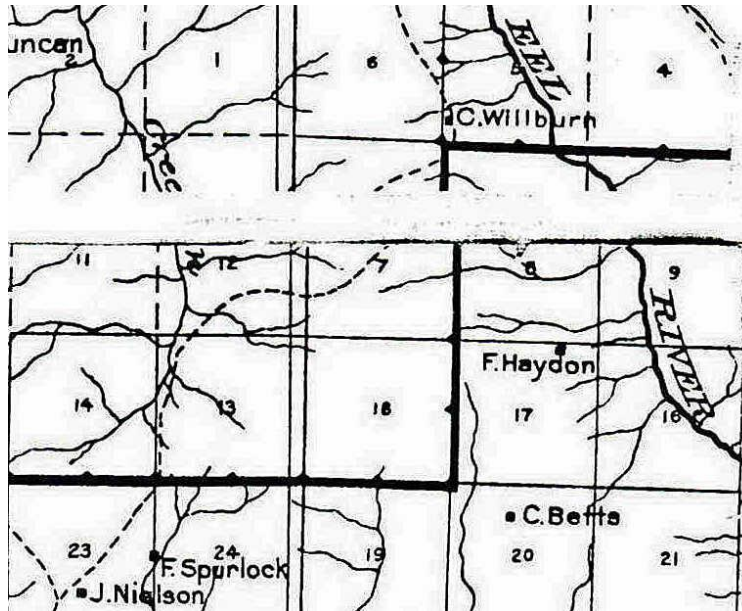
The 1915 TNF map shows that by that time Frank Hayden had acquired several 160 acre tracts in the southern Long Ridge area. Most of these tracts at one time had been owned by George White (see Lowden's 1894 map A2: 05) and were part of the Frankie White divorce settlement (see entries).

People and Places



1915 TNF map.
(A2: 28)

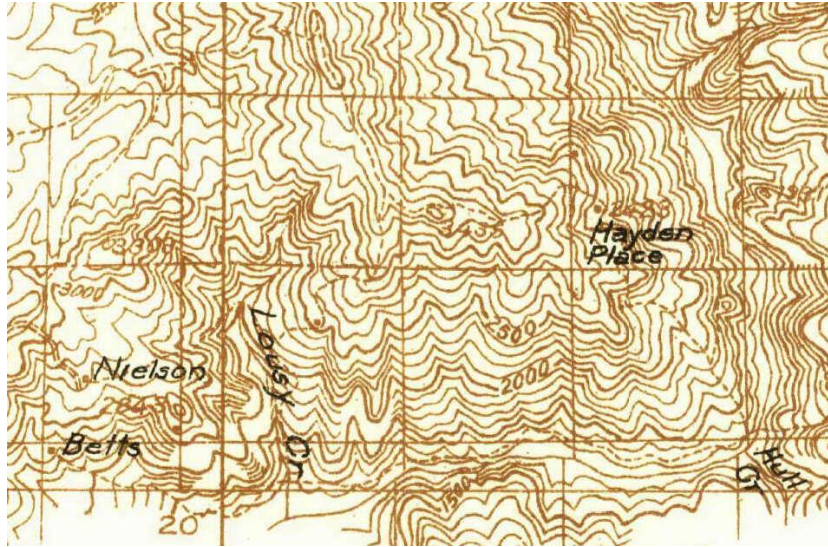
The Frank Haydon ranch house shows up on the 1922 TNF map.



1922 TNF map: note location of the Haydon Place here in Section 17 versus the USGS map.
(A2: 11)

The tract is poorly mapped due to the inaccurate GLO survey and movement of the Section lines on subsequent surveys--note the difference between the location of the cabin on the 1927 and 1931 maps.

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1931 HV 15' map showing the Nielson (F03), Betts (F02), and Frank Hayden (F04) Places
(A2: 23)

Hayden Roughs

Not plotted on Base Map.

Named after Thomas Haydon, it is plotted as “Hayden” on USGS, TNF, and SRNF maps. The Blue Jay Mine is located in the Hayden Roughs area. There are photos of Hayden Roughs in the Blue Jay Mine (F19) entry.

Hettenshaw Valley

Map 2: Not plotted on the Base Map.

Hettenshaw Valley is located just to the north of the NFERW in the headwaters of the Van Duzen River watershed. The valley was also called *Kettenshaw* or *Kettenchou* during the first few decades after the Asbills and Jim Neafus --the first Euro-Americans to enter the valley— spent the winter of 1854/1855 here hunting deer in order to sell their hides. It was the first area to be settled in the Yolla Bolly country (see Keter 1990). It appears that James Howe was the first white settler in Hettenshaw Valley, which at that time was called Kettenshaw by the locals. Soon thereafter, (some say before) the Willburn (B05) family arrived and not much later the Leonidas Duncan family settled there, to be followed by others (see Keter 1990). During the 1860s, a small number of extended families (quite likely the Willburn, Duncan, James Howe, and Steve Fleming families) lived in or adjacent to the valley (Robb 1978: 13). Most of the families living in Hettenshaw Valley hunted deer in order to market the

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hides, raised a few head of livestock, and maintained small gardens and orchards (Keter1994a:11).

Hettenshaw Valley during the Indian Wars of the early 1860s

The following information is quoted from Page 34 *War of the Rebellion*: Note at that time it was referred to as Kettenshaw Valley.

FORT BAKER, CAL., July 20, 1862.
First Lient. JOHN HANNA, Jr.,
Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Humboldt Mu. Dist., Fort Humboldt, Gal.:

Sir: I have the honor to report that Stephen Fleming (citizen) this afternoon brought into camp and turned over to the military eleven Indians taken by a party of citizens near Kettenshaw. There is one buck, six squaws, and four children. The detachment sent out under Sergeant Jones on the 15th instant has not yet returned. They were under orders to strike over to Eel River; from thence to Kettenshaw by the way of Fort Seward; from thence back to the post. I expect that they will succeed in bringing Las-sics band in with them.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TELOS. E. KETCHAM,
Captain, Third Infantry California Vols., Comdg. Fort Baker.

Hettenshaw Valley School

See the Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region entry.

Hoaglin, Charles

Not Plotted on the Base Map. See Hoaglin Valley entry and B08.

Hoaglin Guard Station (Ranger Station)

See NF01.

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Hoaglin, Robert and George

IA12 Map 6: T4S, R7E, S24, 25

See also IF04, HA02, B01, and B08.

Silas Hoaglin was one of the first Euro-Americans to enter this region; probably in the 1860s. His wife Susan was Wailaki. The family shows up on the 1880 census (A3) for Blocksburg (Powellville). In some documents (see 1880 census below) the name is spelled Hoaglen (see B08).

Silas and Sue Hoaglin's sons —George and Robert—were among the first to settle on Long Ridge. Given the fact that the Hoaglin children were listed as "Indian" on the 1900 census for Long Ridge, and that they moved here prior to passage of the HF or IF, the tract is plotted with dashed lines on the Base Map as an IA. It needs to be stressed that this has not been confirmed. For that reason, the tract is plotted with dashed lines. Many of the IA tracts in this area are noted on the 1915 TNF map. This map, however, has a number of errors and may be incomplete. Also, there is a conflict between tracts IA09 and IA12 that are both plotted on the Base Map under the name Robert Hoaglin (only one allotment was permitted per individual). A review of the files in the Lands Department at SRNF might clarify this issue.

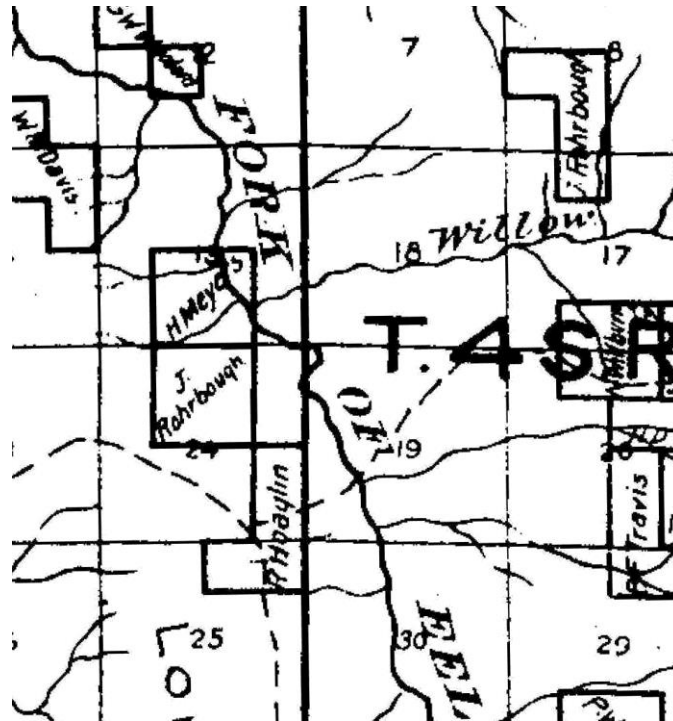
Garcelon (A3: ms05 also refer to his map) indicated that:

This could be what they called the Bob Hoaglin place. The cabin was about 1/2 way down Long Ridge to the North Fork of Eel River. A trail [HTNF-13] went near the cabin then across the river and up towards tub springs.

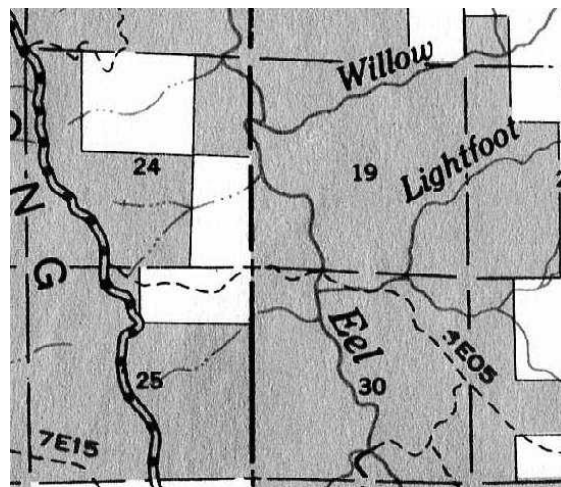
As far as the location of the homestead on Long Ridge, maps provide some insight to just when the Hoaglin brothers moved to Long Ridge. Lowden's 1903 map shows "Caution" (HA01)--this should date the map to sometime after 1903. Lowden's 1894 map does not show the tract on Long Ridge so it may be the tract was settled between 1894 and 1903—the exact date remains unknown at this time.

This tract is plotted on the Base Map from the 1915 TNF map and the 1977 SRNF map. Note the changes in the Section lines. For that reason the tract is plotted as a compromise between the two and is only approximate. The contemporary Long Ridge 7.5' USGS map (including the Base Map) labels the location of the improvements the "Bob Hoaglin Place."

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1915 TNF map showing the "R Hoaglin" tract at IA12.
(A2: 28)



1977 SRNF map showing the Hoaglin tract.
(A2: 21b)

Census Data

The 1880 census shows that Robert was 15 years old in 1880 and George was two years old.

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109117	Hoaglin Silas	30 3m 07
	- Susan	25 49
	- James B.	23 22
	- Henry L.	21 17
	- Robert E L.	20 15
	- Sally A.	18 12
	- Mark P.	16 8
	- Charles	14 6
	- George	12 2

1880 Census Powellville (Blocksburg).

Note that George and Robert are classified as "1/2" Indian.

(A3: 07 Powellville)

Unrecorded	Head	1855 21 0
Hoaglin George	Head	1855 22 11 1
Wife	Wife	1855 19 11 1
Robert L.	Brother	1863 34 11 1
Effie L.	Sister-in-law	1870 37 11 1

1900 Census Long Ridge

Note that George and Robert show up on the 1900 census for Long Ridge.

Now classified as "Indian" on the census roll and that George is listed as "Head" of the household.

(A3: 1900-7)

Hoaglin, Silas and Susan

See B01 and B07.

Hoaglin Post Office

See *Post Offices in the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

People and Places

Hoaglin School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Hoaglin-Zenia School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Hoaglin Valley

Not plotted on the Base Map. See F10 for the plotting of private tracts in the valley on the Base Map.

Hoaglin Valley was named after a member of the extended Hoaglin family. There are two different spellings of the family name—Hoaglin and Hoaglen--see B08.

It appears that Silas Hoaglin, who settled in Powellville (Blocksburg) well before 1880, had a brother Charles who settled in Hoaglin Valley at about the same time. Charles does not show up on the 1880 census, Claude Hoaglen (B08 appendix 1--note spelling!) indicated that:

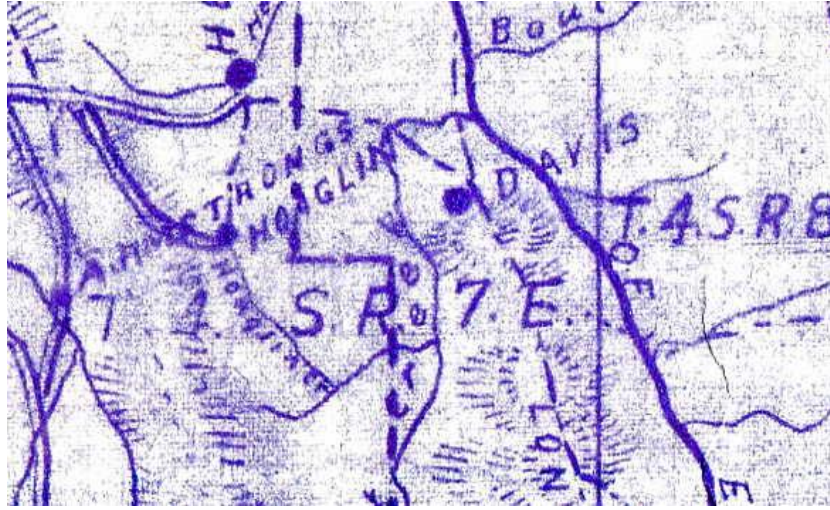
My grandfather Charles and his brother Silas, the two Hoaglen brothers, came from Ohio in a covered wagon. Silas's wife died on the route out and he had the two kids sent back to the family in Ohio. The two Hoaglen's settled in Blocksburg and Hoaglin Valley. Charles moved into Covelo and then he married a Wailaki Indian from out at the North Fork on the river, out by Kekawaka. She called herself Susan, but that wasn't her name. They had, I don't know, probably about twelve kids. They were half Indian and half white.

Charles Hoaglin (or Hoaglen) was not listed on either the 1880 census for Long Ridge and no other documentation was found—this is likely due to the fact that he may have spent only a short time in Hoaglin Valley before moving to Covelo. This would explain the naming of the valley. Lowden's 1903 map shows the Hoaglin place at the head of Hoaglin Creek—not on Long Ridge—this may very well have been the location of the Charles Hoaglin place (in the area of F10-4 on the Base Map).

One early settler, John Holtorf (A5: ms05), indicated that in the mid-1870s W. Earl joined Meyer and that Meyer's homestead was the first in Hoaglin Valley to be patented in 1878. Henry Holtorf, John Holtorf's father, was another early resident. It appears (or can be surmised) that Charles Hoaglin, since he settled before the GLO surveys were accomplished,

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never declared entry and abandoned (or sold) his "squatters rights" to Henry Holtorf or simply abandoned the tract when he moved to Covelo.



Lowden's 1903 map.
(A2: 01)

Garcelon (A5: ms01) supports this contention noting that:

The Hoaglin Place in Hoaglin Valley was owned by H. H. Holtorf--Louis Meyers and D. W. Osborn were also there. Meyers was the first--about 1870. The Post Office was in the south end of the valley about 1893. Holtorf was the first mail carrier; Osborn, the first Postmaster. The buildings are now gone but the orchard still stands. In 1938 Ward Pawlus had the place. He sold to Merlin Goodwin.

Garcelon's input would seem to support the idea that Charles Hoaglin was one of the earliest settlers in the valley—hence the valley name—but very early on moved to Covelo. See the Henry Holtorf entry. See also the *Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land* entry below. That entry includes a discussion related to the problems mapping private tracts (F10-1 to F10-11) in this area on the Base Map.

Hoaglin Valley and nearby Kettenpom Valley are the largest areas of flat land within the NFERW. These two valleys, connected by a narrow gentle slope up to the divide between the Kettenpom Creek watershed and the Hoaglin Creek/Salt Creek watersheds were important subsistence resource gathering locations for Native Americans. See the Kettenpom Valley entry for more on the importance of this region to Native Americans. See Keter 1987, 1990, 1991, 1994a for more on the use of this area by the Wailaki and Wailaki Lassik.

Hoaglin Valley along with Kettenpom Valley--with lots of flat land good water--was a highly desirable location for homesteading. For that reason, most of the land within these two valleys was claimed by the late 1870s. See the Kettenpom Valley entry for more on the

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settlement of these two valleys. Although it is likely that some settlers were “squatting” in the valley by the end of the 1860s, Hoaglin Valley was first permanently settled in about 1870 by Louis Meyer (some sources say 1875).

The TCHS *Trinity* (1978: 22) noted that:

Louis Meyer was in Hoaglin Valley in the early 1870s, followed by D. Osborne, an early postmaster, and Henry Holtorf in 1888. The Holtorfs were a thrifty German family, excellent farmers and owners of a thresher. They build a large long house that later housed the post office. The Holtorf family sold to Ward Paullus in 1933. The Hoaglins school, although rebuilt after a fire in 1915, stands at its original location. Other early families in the Hoaglin area were the Shannons, the Davises and the Grays.

A number of individuals in the extended Myers family settled in the area (see the Myers entry below). John Holtorf (A5: ms05) writes that:

Hoaglin valley was named after a settler, Hoaglin but, it was not [the] Hoaglins that lived on Long Ridge. These Hoaglins lived in Blocks. They might have been some relation. Some settlers might have been there before 1875 but not very long. I have a map of that township and it was surveyed 1875 and it gives who it was patented to and a few dates and the earliest one is 1878. That was W. Earl he joined Meyers and his was patented in 1882. but Meyers was there in 1875 as he told me he was there when it was surveyed. We settled in 1888 and Osborn was about the same time. Osborn was no relation to Dr. Osborn. [From the original.]

It appears, based on the above information, that in addition to Charles Hoaglin (who did not stay long), Myers and Earl were followed by D. Osborn--an early postmaster--and Henry Holtorf in 1888. Other early settlers in the area were the Ted Shannon family, The Davis family and the John Gray family (see respective entries).

By the late 1800s the Hoaglin/Kettenpom Valley area was the center of a small isolated rural community that included the homesteads on Long Ridge and extended to the east all the way to the NFERW/ Mad River divide.

By 1909 Hoaglin Valley was a settlement of 7 or 8 families with a post office and school. Wayne and Bertha Martin (A6: I#395) noted that:

In the 1930's and early 1940's Hoaglin valley was a small settlement with its own school and Al Clem had the post office and a small store and then the post office was moved to the Holtorf ranch.

In 1910 there were 33 voters in Hoaglin precinct; this included men from Lake Mountain, Long Ridge, Hoaglin, with no one voting from Island Mountain.

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Hoaglin Valley Lumber Company

Not plotted on the Base Map.

The Hoaglin Valley Lumber Company sawmill in Kettenpom Valley was one of the many small sawmill operations that sprang-up in southern Trinity County during the past World War II decade (see Keter 2011a). It is not clear if this is the mill referred below, but Zelma Benninghoven (A6: I#390) noted that:

...Willie Hoaglin lived out on Long Ridge but moved to Hoaglin Valley in about 1936 to work for Ted Shannon taking care of his stock. There was a mill in the valley after World War II run by Merlin Goodwin and Shannon did much of the logging. They trucked the timber out to Alderpoint and Fortuna.



Kettenpom Valley in the 1950s: Typical lumber mill in southern Trinity County.
Hoaglin Lumber Mill Company July 1950:
(P. Snyder on file SRNF HR)

Hoaglin, William (Willie) and Hattie Hoaglin Place

Map 4: T4S, R7E, S 13

See B08 for family history. See IF04 for information on his marriage to Hattie Meyers and their homestead on Long Ridge. See also IA05.

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Holtorf, Henry and Mary

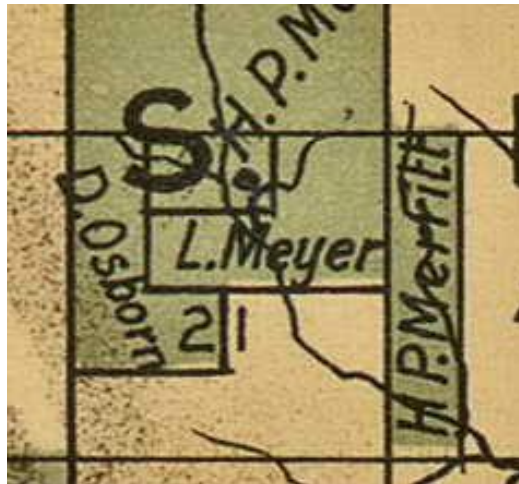
See F06 and F37. See also F10-2 and F10-4.

Henry Holtorf and his family settled in Hoaglin Valley in 1888. He may have first settled on a tract of land previously owned by Charles Hoaglin (see entry). The Holtorf family eventually acquired a number of contiguous tracts in this area.

Robb (1978: 22) noted that:

Louis Meyer was in Hoaglin Valley in the early 1870s [Meyers shows up on the 1880s census], followed by D. Osborne, an early postmaster, and Henry Holtorf in 1888. The Holtorfs were a thrifty German family, excellent farmers and owners of a thresher. They build a large long house that later housed the post office. The Holtorf family sold to Ward Paullus in 1933.

Since this is considered the Holtorf place, it appears that at some point Albert Meyers sold the place to Holtorf but remained living on the homestead. Meyers shows up on the 1880 census and then on the 1900 census. Given the placement of his name on the census form, he was living close to the Holtorfs. It is apparent at 65 years old and still single that he was living on his original homestead. Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that Holtorf acquired his land from Meyers who is shown as the owner of this tract on Lowden's 1894 map. Note the Section lines have moved in this area since the original GLO survey. For a discussion of this problem see the *Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land* entry below. Given the GLO survey problems, the tract may have been owned by either "H.P. Meyer" or "L. Meyer." It appears that eventually Holtorf acquired both (see F10-2 and F10-4).



Lowden's 1894 map shows the tract.)
(A2: 05)

The Holtorfs were from the Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valleys. They crossed the mountains—Mendocino Pass-- by way of Covelo with cattle, horses and wagons. They settled first in Blocksburg and spent some time there. Then they moved to Hoaglin. The

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children were named Lena, Has, Tina, Otto, Elsie and Amanda. The older ones were soon moved away. They went to school or work. They brought with them a few cattle and horses. Holtorf ran a small farm and even owned a thrasher. The Holtorf's daughter, Amanda, was the first white child to be born in the valley (A05: Holtorf Ms.). In the 1890s, he also had the first contract for carrying the mail from Alderpoint to the Hoaglin post office (Keter 1994a: 30, Appendix 8: May Gray Wruck1967).

John Holtorf Interview

The following quotes are from letters in 1951 to Leona Miller (A5: ms05) from John Holtorf (son of Henry Holtorf) who was living in San Jose, CA.

H. Holtorf settled in Hoaglin Valley in 1888, there were two other settlers at the time, Lewis Meyers and D. W. Osborne. Meyers came in about 1870. The post office was established in the south end of the valley September 21, 1893, with David Osborne as the first postmaster. H. Holtorf was the first carrier, it came from Alderpoint, which was known at this time as Eel...The post office was the first on south of South Fork Mountain.

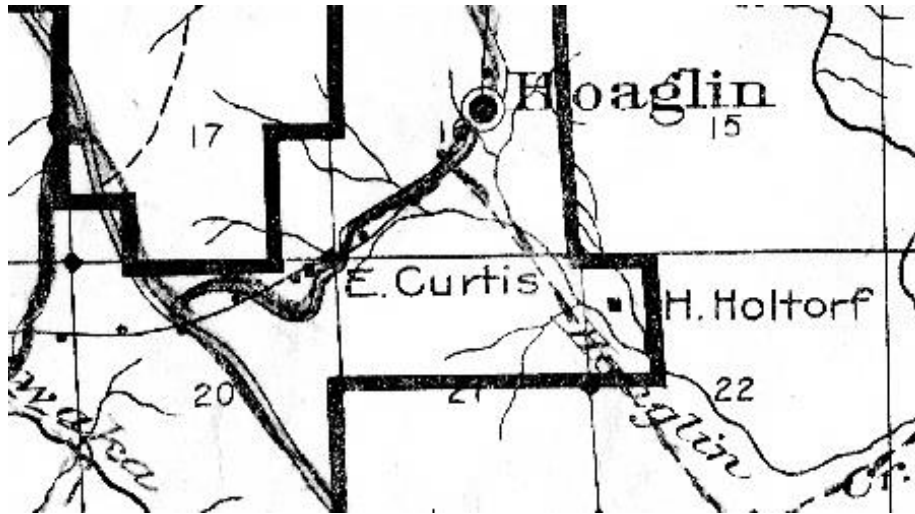
[Second letter]

Mr Holtorf was my father and the first white child born in Hoaglin was my youngest sister Amanda she was the only one of our family born there. There were 8 in our family. Our log house was built 1899 but that was the second house the first was a log house. There was a bunk house built in 1888 and it burned with second don't know when that was. Merritt could not have settled before 1880 as the land was surveyed in 1875.

About the saw mill the first lumber was sawed by hand power with what was called a whip saw the log was put on a flat form one on top and one below. The first saw mill at the ranch at the Armstrong[s] was run by horse power and later got a boiler that was the mill you had. I don't know that we had any hard times we had plenty to eat raised wheat & ground flour on a coffee mill & had plenty milk, butter cheese, and plenty of meat such as venison, pork, grouse, quail, squirrels, trout and salmon. That would be a treat to many people now days wouldn't it?

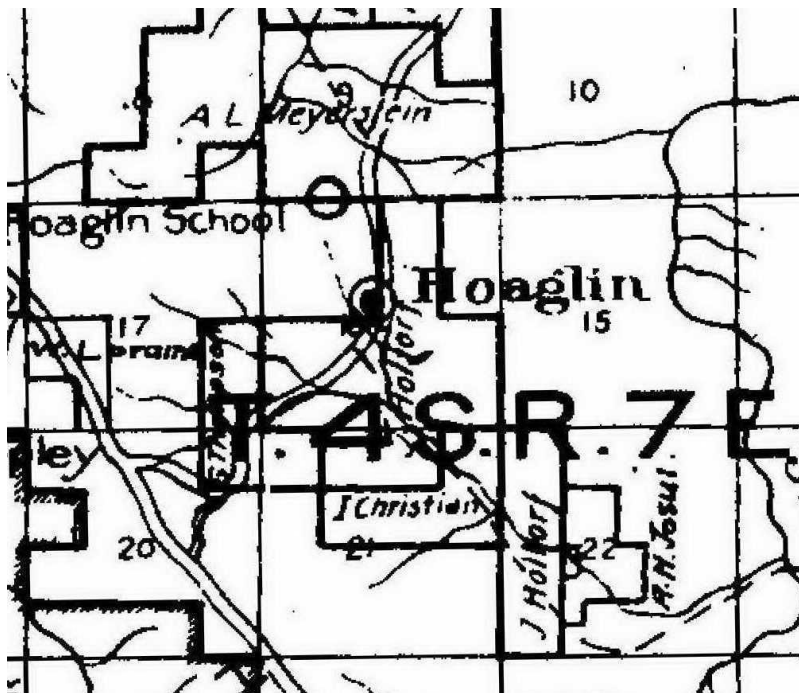
It is likely that F37 was the location of the original ranch. Note that on the map below, the H. Holtorf ranch (F37) and the tract of land with the Hoaglin Post Office and ranch house (F06) are not located in the same spot. Given the problems with the original GLO survey, the tract (at F37) in Section 2 on the 1909 TNF map was probably the location of the original Charles Hoaglin tract.

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1909 TNF Map showing the location of the Holtorf ranch F37
and the site of "Hoaglin" F06 to be at different locations
(A2: 08b)

As noted in the entries on the Hoaglin Post Office and at F10-2 and F10-4, it is clear the Holtorfs acquired more than one tract of land. According to the 1915 map (used for plotting the F10 tracts in this area on the Base Map), at this time J. and H. Holtorf owned most of the valley.



1915 TNF map
(A2: 28)

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Census Records

The 1900-1920 census records list members of the Holtorf family living in Hoaglin Valley during that time.

Holtorf Henry	Head	W	M	Feb	1840	60
Mary	Wife	W	F	Aug	1846	53
Hansel	Son	W	M	Oct	1875	24
John	Son	W	M	Sep	1879	20
Otto	Son	W	M	Dec	1882	17
Elsie	Daughter	W	F	June	1886	13
Amanda	Daughter	W	F	Mar	1891	9

1900 Census listing the Holtorf Family
(A3: 1900-3)

73	75	Holtorf Henry	Head	M	W	70	M
		John	Son	M	W	31	S
		Otto	Son	M	W	27	S

1910 Census showing the Holtorf family
(A3 1910-5)

72	73	Holtorf, Otto	Head	10	M	W	37	M
		" Mary E.	Wife		F	W	28	M
		" Henry	Father		M	W	79	W

The 1920 Census show Henry Holtorf (a widower) living with his son Otto.
(A3: 1920-8)

Note that on the 1930 census the only Holtorf listed is 9 years old and was living with the Wruck family. Given their placement on the census form it is not clear if they were living in Hoaglin Valley at that time.

Wruck, Maria E.	Mother-in-law		X	F	W	62	W	19	no	yes	S
Wruck, Joseph D.	Head	0	yes	M	W	37	M	29	no	yes	Ra
Wruck, May E.	Wife-H		X	F	W	39	M	26	no	yes	C.
Wruck, Keith D.	Son		X	M	W	17	S		no		Ca
Holtorf, Jean E.	Step-Daughter		X	F	W	9	S		yes	yes	Ca

(A3: 1930-6)

Robb (1981:351) has substantial information on the Holtorf family. It is summarized below.

The early 1870's brought settlers to the Hoaglin Valley. Louis Meyers was one of the first, followed by D. Osborne (an early postmaster) and Henry Holtorf in

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1888. Other early families were the Davises, the Grays and the Shannons. Holtorf and other early settlers are buried in the Hoaglin cemetery—a cemetery located on a peaceful knoll in the valley.

Holtorf's ranch was located on the Kettenpom Valley road. A large one and one-half story gable barn still stands. The barn has a central hayloft with aisles on each side; its siding is of vertical planks. The site of the original log house built by Holtorf in 1899 is east of the barn and orchard. Holtorf was an excellent farmer and he owned a thresher; he ran the post office from time to time. Henry Holtorf also had the first mail contract between Hoaglin and Alderpoint. The trees in the old orchard just east of the barn were transplanted by Holtorf from the Brooks place located on the Covelo road. Brooks had homesteaded, and planted trees, but then soon left the place. Holtorf, being a thrifty German, went over, dug them up, and transplanted them to his place.

Holtorf sold his property in 1933. According to Robb (1981 351):

The ranch was sold to Ward Paullus in 1933 and Merlin Goodwin became a later owner. Goodwin has sold most of the ranch acreage to the Louisiana-Pacific Company but he has retained the present ranch house, which had been built on the other side of the barn from the original house, as well as a small piece of ground that includes the other ranch buildings.

Robb (1981: 350) also includes a photo the barn constructed by Holtorf in about 1888 that was still standing in the early 1980s.



Holtorf barn in the early 1980s.
(Robb 1981: 350)

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Holtorf, John and Annie Gray Holtorf Truitt

See F06 and F37, F10-2, F10-4

John Holtorf was the son of Henry and Mary Holtorf (see entry). Leona Miller noted that the letter below was not signed but presumed from the writing to have been written by J. Holtorf (A5: MS05). See also: Appendix 8: Annie Gray Holtorf Truitt to reference the following information.

Annie Gray married John Holtorf in 1912. They owned the first automobile in the valley. It was a Ford with gravity feed [?]. Sometimes on the steep hill everyone would have to help push it up the grade.

May Gray, myself, married Otto Holtorf in 1917. We lived a short time at the Horse Ranch. Then we moved to Humboldt County for a while and then back to Hoaglin in 1919. John and Annie Holtorf moved to Oakland. Our daughter Jean was born there on April 14, 1920. Otto passed away the next year in April. John came back to the ranch after that.

Howe, James

Not plotted on the Base map--See also Hettenshaw Valley.

Howe was apparently among the first group of men to come over the South Fork Mountain from the gold mines of Trinity County to Poison Camp in the 1850's, returning to settle in the early 1860's. The 1860 tax roll shows him owning property in Hettenshaw, but he did not settle there until the 1880's. He does not show up on the 1880 census.

According to one source, James Howe was the first white settler in Hettenshaw Valley which was called Ketten-chow, or Ketten Valley by the Indians, (TCHS *Trinity* 1959: 17). Other sources indicate that it was James St. Claire Willburn (B05) who first settled in the Valley (See also Keter 1990: 5, and Carranco and Beard 1981).

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they would come up the river to fish and mine up the river until they would get straight over the mountain over here and then they would come over the mountain here and the old Chief's name was White Lily and his wife she was White Lily too but she was an Indian doctor and they spent the fall and winters here and right over here where the gulch is is where they had their little wickiups and they just stayed for the winter but then they'd get Ketten bulbs and they would build these big kilns and down, pretty deep just like you would barbecue a pig and they would build a fire in there for day or two until it got good and hot and lots of coals. Have you ever eaten them. Are they good. Kinda nutty? No more like a potatoe like. Like a dry potato.....

Then they put in the coals and grape fern that grows around in layers and then they put the ketten bulb all over that and sort of steam them then they would put another layer of grape fern and then more fire, coals and then just keep layering until it was filled. Then they just banked dirt over it and go off and leave it.

The homesteading of these valleys would have had a major impact on the "seasonal round" of the local Athabascans as this was not only a major food resource location, but was a social gathering area during the spring (see Keter 1989: 6,14 and 1990: 7).

By the end of 1859, several settlers, including John Fulwider, had moved to Kettenpom (Ket-en-chou) Valley and nearby Hoaglin Valley. By the end of January 1861, most of the settlers living in Kettenpom Valley had left due to the cold winter and only John Fulwider remained. In February, Fulwider's house was robbed by Indians and he left the valley (*Humboldt Times* February 23, 1861) leaving it deserted; at least temporarily.

A. J. Bledsoe in his *Indian Wars of the Northwest* (1885) wrote one of the earliest descriptions of Kettenpom Valley:

East of the redwood forests on Eel River and its tributaries is a beautiful little valley called Ketinshou. A solitary settler lived there in the Spring of 1861. In the beginning of the previous Winter the settlers besides himself had, to avoid the loss of stock by cold and snow, moved down on Eel River. In February the Indians robbed the house of the remaining settler, John Fulwider, and drove him from the place. He went to the nearest settlement. It was deserted. The few families had been compelled to leave everything and seek a safer locality. In the same neighborhood was the ranch of a stock-raiser named Larabee, and here a murder had been committed and the dwelling burned. Ann Quinn, the cook at the ranch, was killed and burned in the building. David King was plowing in a field near the house, and when he heard the firing started towards it. The Indians fired at him and compelled him to retreat. Fulwider was given up as dead. His hat was found on the bank of Mad River with a bullet-hole in the lower portion of the crown, and on it [with] clots of blood.

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With the end of the “Indian Wars” in January of 1865, it appears more settlers began moving into the region. Despite the lack of historical data, it is likely given the desirability of the flat open land in this valley, that several families were living here by the 1870s. During the late 1870s or early 1880s Doc Merritt, who had purchased a ranch to the west on the main Eel River, began to buy up the tracts of land in Kettenpom Valley from the earliest settlers, and by about 1890, he owned most of the private land there (see Base Map and A2: 02; Lowden’s 1884: Map A2: 05).

Several of the homesteads in the vicinity of Kettenpom Valley are identified Lowden’s map below.



Lowden’s map dated about the mid 1880s showing homesteads in the Kettenpom/Hoaglin Valley area.

(A2: 02)

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Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land (Includes Hoaglin Valley Private Tracts)

Map 3: T4S, R7E, S 4, 5, 8, 9, 15, 16. See F10-1 to F10-11 on the Base Map.

F10 List of private tracts on the 1915 Map as plotted on the Base Map

Refer to respective entries on the Base Map unless otherwise noted.

F10-1	S.Thompson* (??? name partly illegible)
F10-2	J. Holtorf
F10-3	I. Christian*
F10-4	J. Holtorf
F10-5	A.M. Josu--// rest illegible*
F10-6	A. L. Meyerstein
F10-7	Abe Clover
F10-8	W. L. Klem
F10-9	A. G. Klem
F10-10	illegible*
F10-11	A. L. Meyerstein

* No entry for this property. None of these names were found on the 1910 and 1920 Long Ridge Census.

Mapping the homestead entries in Hoaglin and Kettenpom Valleys

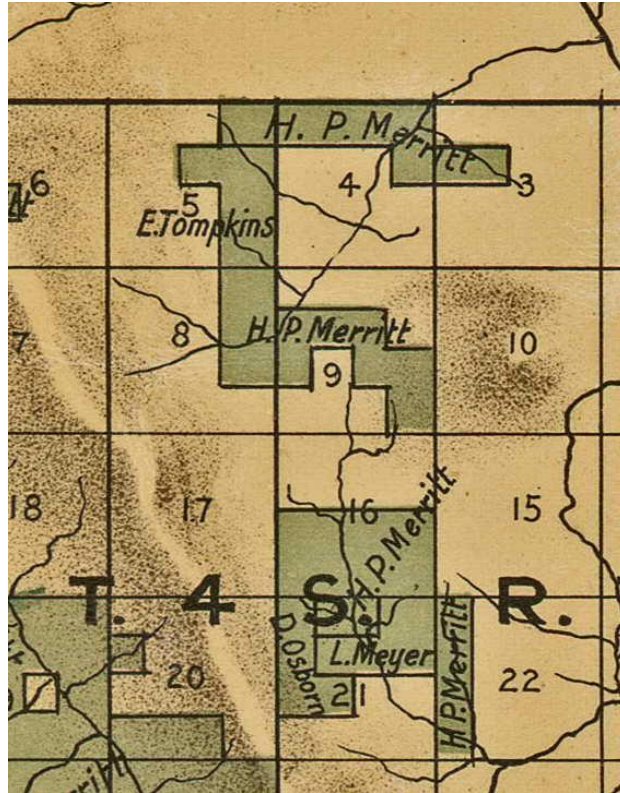
There were significant problems mapping the private tracts of land in the Kettenpom and Hoaglin Valley areas. Given their flat terrain, these valleys were among the first areas—if not the first—within the NFERW to be settled during the historic era. For that reason, the tracts in these valleys were settled long before the first GLO surveys—most likely under the Preemption Act and/or the 1862 Homestead Act. Moreover, given the inaccuracy of the original GLO surveys the Section lines have been moved up to ¼ mile in this area in subsequent years—this has affected the property boundaries for FS and private lands to the point that it is almost impossible to establish a reasonably accurate Base Map of property ownership in this area. The Shannon homestead (HF16) illustrates the above problem—basically a later survey placed Shannon's improvements on FS lands and he had to abandon his homestead.

The 1894 map and the 1915 TNF map when compared to the 1977 SRNF map illustrate some of the problems in mapping this area today. It is clear from historical documents and interviews that a number of individuals were living on tracts of land in this area well before Lowden's 1894 map was published. For some reason only the Merritt, Meyer and Osborn tracts show up on the 1894 map. Examples of homesteaders known to be living in the valley at that time include members of the Klem and Holtorf extended families (see

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respective entries). Doc Merritt (see entry) had also acquired a number of tracts in this area and owned a ranch to the west on the main Eel River. It appears that at some point, several of these tracts were acquired (possibly purchased from Merritt) by the Klems and Holtorfs but this is yet to be confirmed.

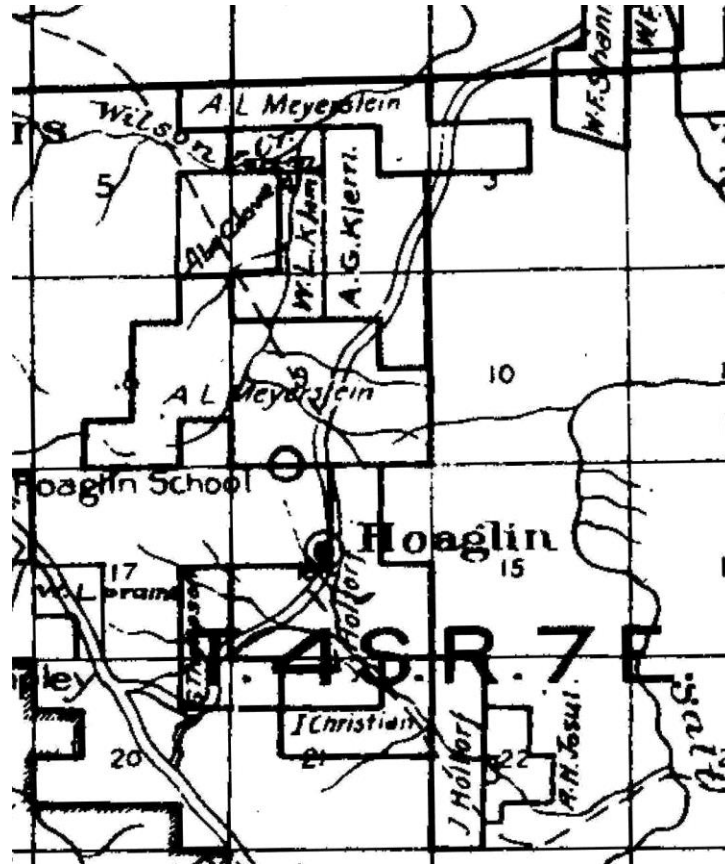
Lowden's 1894 map shows the private tracts in the Kettenpom and Hoaglin Valley area. Note the shape of the Section lines compared to the 1915 TNF and 1977 SRNF maps below. Note also that the area immediately to the north of Kettenpom Valley remains unsurveyed.



Lowden's 1894 map.
(A2: 05)

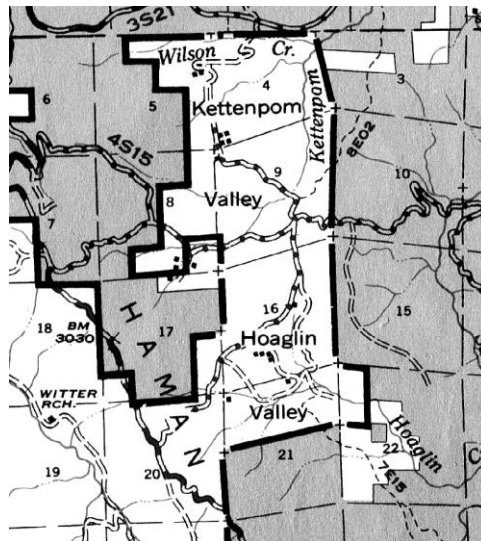
The most detailed map available was the TNF 1915 map. This map is fairly accurate--given the problems with the original GLO surveys--in showing the homesteads in the area. The Base Map HA layer 8 has been plotted from the TNF 1915 map. These tracts—given how early this area was settled—are classified as being acquired under the 1862 Homestead Act since it is clear that most—if not all—of these tracts were settled on prior to the 20th century

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Note that the Section lines have changed very little from the 1894 map,
(A2: 28)

As result of subsequent surveys, the Section lines and property boundaries were dramatically redrawn--refer to the 1977 SRNF map below.



1977 SRNF Map.
(A2: 21b)

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Given both the inaccuracy of the original survey and the numerous maps (see Appendix 2) for this area the plotting of these tracts on the Base Map should be considered approximate. For that reason they were plotted with dashed lines("-----"). In most instances they were plotted conforming to the topography and the location of the creeks on the 1915 map—not the section lines-- since the section lines are off significantly from more contemporary maps. Further refinement of these property boundaries is beyond the scope of this study. The SRNF Lands Office in Eureka should be the best bet on finding more information

Kindred, George/George Kindred Jr.

Not plotted on the Base Map.

See HF16b for more on Kindred.

The Kindred family probably lived at what is identified as the "Shannon Place" on USGS maps along the eastern bank of the NFER at the location shown with an "X" on the Base map for tract HF16b. He was one of the earliest settlers in the area. Garcelon (A5: ms01) indicated that:

The Shannon place [F10a] was taken up by William Frederick Shannon and his wife Gertrude. **The place [F10a] was next to the North Fork of Eel River near Shannon Buttes.** There was an orchard across the river. This place could have been the old George Kindred place. They homesteaded this place in 1902 and built a two story house. Portions of this house still stood after the 1964 flood. [Emphasis added]

It appears that George Kindred (Sr.) and his family were living at this location during the last decades of the 19th century. He was considered one of George White's "buckaroos." According to Carranco and Beard (1981:231) he was involved with the killing of the Packwood Brothers (see entry).

George Kindred Jr.—age 31-- shows up on the 1900 census—most likely living along the NFER. At that time his father was listed as 73 years old and living on the homestead.

43	43	Kindred, George W.	Head	W	M	July	1869	31	29	9									
		Ettie E	Wife	W	M	Nov	1872	28	11	9	5	5							
C-60 3																			

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—	Lulla E.	daughter	W	F	July 1891	7	S
—	Elvia A.	Son	W	M	Jan 1895	6	S
—	Joash T.	Son	W	M	Jan 1896	4	S
—	Vivian G.	daughter	W	F	Feb 1898	2	S
—	Mable E.	daughter	W	F	Feb 1900	2	S
Kindred	George W.	Father	W	M	Apr 1827	73	M

1900 census
(A3 1900-3 and 4)

It appears the Kindred Sr. had died by the time of the 1910 census. The placement of the Kindred family on the census rolls suggests that he was no longer living along the NFER. This seems to confirm that in about 1902 William Shannon acquired tract 16b from Kindred.

66	67	Kindred George W.	Head	W	W	41	M	20
		Ethie E.	Wife	W	F	38	M	20
		Joshua F.	Son	M	W	14	S	
		Vivnie M.	daughter	F	W	12	S	
		Mable E.	daughter	F	W	10	S	
		Myrtle L.	daughter	F	W	8	S	
		William A.	Son	M	W	6	S	
		George W.	Son	M	W	4	S	
		Roy W.	Son	M	W	2	S	
		Roy L.	Son	M	W	2	S	
66	68	Patton Roy L.	son in law	M	W	29	M	1

Census 1910
(A3: 4)

Klem, Walter (The Klem Place)

F28 Map 3: T4S, R7E, S 9

See also the Clover School entry and William Shannon HF16.

There is not much information on the Klem family. The reference material below is what could be found in the historic records.

Klem (A8) served for some years as the postmaster for the Hoaglin Post Office (see entry).

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There is a letter on file from Walter Klem 1966 (A8) on family history summarized and edited for clarity below. It is not clear where Klem was living at this time.

I will try and tell all that I know about why we went to Hoaglin Valley in 1916.

We quit the milk peddling and went to Eureka to take up some land. We asked about it at the hotel, two men Abe Clover and Riley Smith , the land locater, had just come in that day from taking up 160 acres in Hoaglin Valley and said there were three more claims there, so we went out the next day, looked them over and came back to Eureka and filed on the two claims.

We bought 2 horses and a wagon-- beds and a stove -saw , axe and hammer -- went back and sawed down trees for three cabins. We staid there that winter, in the spring we worked on the road, then in the summer of 1917 worked in the woods. In October 1917 I enlisted in the army at Eureka, went from Mare Island to Washington D.C. Bert Nelson was living there and they had two boys.

That's about all. .Walter L Klem Jan 27, 1966

Garcelon (A5: ms01) wrote that:

The third place that Ted [Shannon] bought was the Kiem Place. Ted lived there until his death. During the 60's when I was still a building contractor I completed their house for them but it burned down several years later. They rebuilt on the same spot.

Walter Klem and his brother show up on the 1920 census (below) but not their families. They do not show up on the 1930 census but may have moved out of the area after they were bought out by Shannon.

73	75	Klem, Walter L.	head	1	07	71	W	29	S
74	76	Klem, Abner G.	head	1	07	71	W	32	W

1920 Census
(A3: 1920-9)

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The Lampley place in Kettenpom Valley is on Lowden's undated map c1888-1890. Since Lampley moved here in 1887, it is likely the map dates to after that date.

(A2: 02)

The placement of Frank Lampley and family on the 1900 census suggests that they were still living in Kettenpom Valley at that time. It is not known when they left the valley but several of the extended Lampley families show up on the Long Ridge (SW TC) 1910 census listing--see A3: 1910-5.

Lamplcy Frank	Head	W M	Jan	1857	43	M	
Ollie S	Wife	W	X	Aug	1864	35	W
Edith M	Daughter	W	X	July	1874	25	S
Roy A	Son	W	M	June	1886	13	S
Jessie J	Son	W	M	Apr	1888	12	S
Alroy P	Son	W	M	Feb	1893	7	S
Nellie A	Daughter	W	X	May	1895	5	S
Tom	Daughter	W	X	Dec	1899	5	S

Census of 1900 (A3: 1900-4)

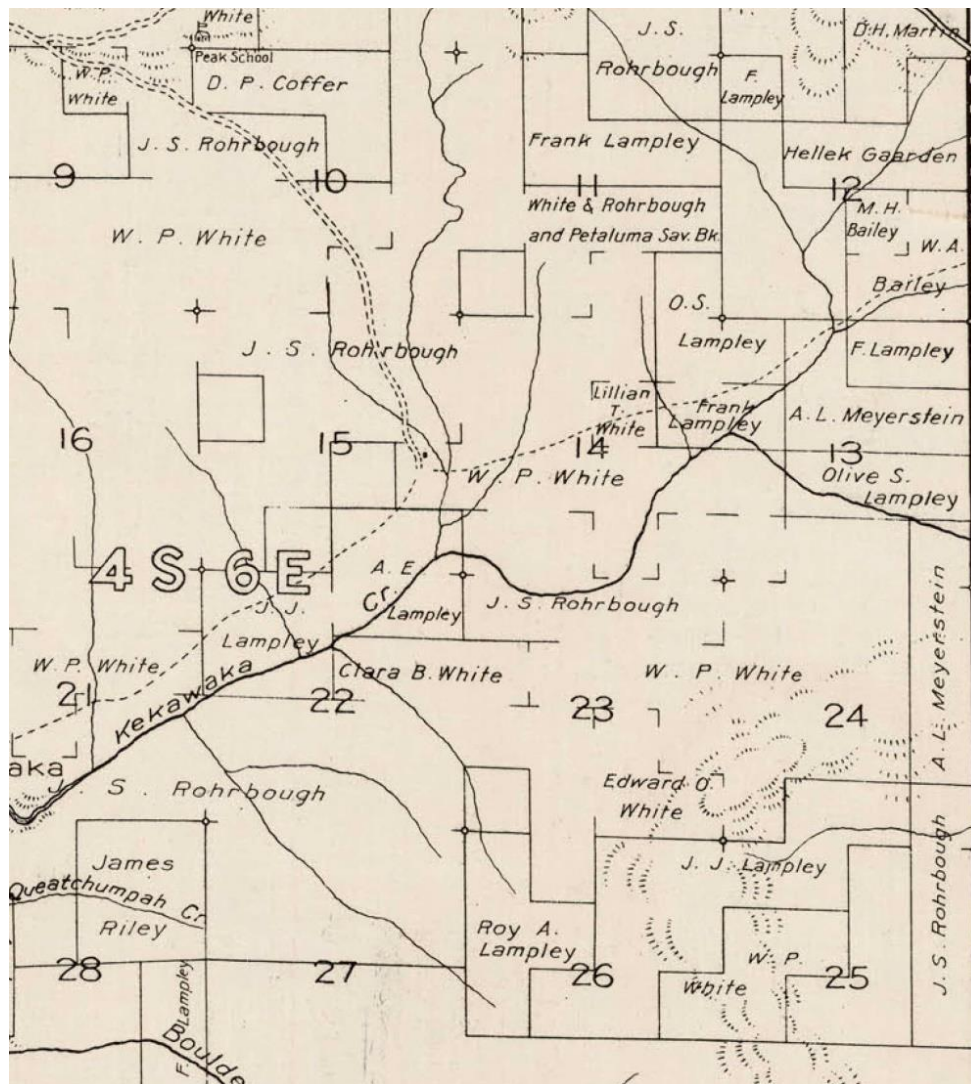
It should also be noted that Robb (1981: 347) includes a photograph of a barn owned by Frank Lampley and notes that it is located on "one of several Lampley family holdings." It is not clear at which location the photo was taken. As noted above, several of the Lampley

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properties were located just to the west of the NFERW and were eventually incorporated into the Lone Pine Dean Witter Ranch (see entry).

The Extended Lampley Family

Although early maps and documentation indicates members of the extended Lampley family first settled within the NFERW in the late 1880s, by the 1920s (given their placement on the 1920 census listing (A3: 1920-9 and 1920-10), most members of the extended Lampley family were living just to the west of the NFERW. Refer to the map below for the location of several tracts owned by the Lampley family in the Kekawaka Creek watershed--just to the west of the NFERW. See Robb (1981: 351) for more details on the extended Lampley family.



The location of several tracts of land owned by members of the extended Lampley family.

(A2: 26b)

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Ledgerwood, Sam

Not plotted on Base Map.

Sam Ledgerwood was an early resident of the Zenia area. He was listed as single and was living alone in 1900 according to the census that year. He is mentioned here given his importance in southwestern Trinity County history. See the *TCHC Journal* (1978: 24) and Robb (1981) for more on Ledgerwood.

Ledgerwood was county supervisor for two terms--1913-17 and 1921-25--and is mentioned in Bartlett's annotations to Cox's Annals as a "worthy successor to the early road builders of Trinity County." He was instrumental in the construction of the wagon road from Ruth through Hettenshaw Valley and Zenia and on to Alderpoint, often referred to as the Ledgerwood road....Ledgerwood was recalled during his third term in office and replaced by Ralph Burgess (*TCHS Journal*: 24).

Ledgerwood shows up on a number of the census listings in the section for residents living in the Zenia area--see below.

Ledgerwood Samuel	Head	W	M	Indo.	1859	40	S
-------------------	------	---	---	-------	------	----	---

1900 census
(A3: 1900-1)

Ledgerwood Samuel C.	Head	M	W	15	S	
William	brother	M	W	56	M	10
James M.	brother	M	W	52	S	
Thomas O.	brother	M	W	52	S	

1910 census
(A3: 1910-2)

Ledgerwood, Samuel E	head	1	O	W	M	W	61	S
Ambrose, W. Lloyd	head	2	R	W	W	39	S	

1920 census
(A3: 1920-14)

Ledgerwood Samuel E	head	0		yes	M	W	71	S
Ambrose W Lloyd	nephew			x	M	W	50	S

1930 census
(A3: 1930-7)

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Lightfoot, Joseph

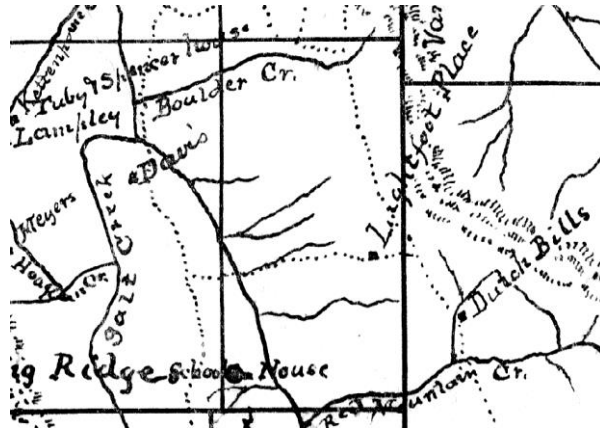
General area--exact location unknown: possibly at F26 Map 7: T4S, R8E, S20 or S21

See the Lightfoot Timber Sale CRIR (HR SRNF) for additional information and sites recorded in this vicinity.

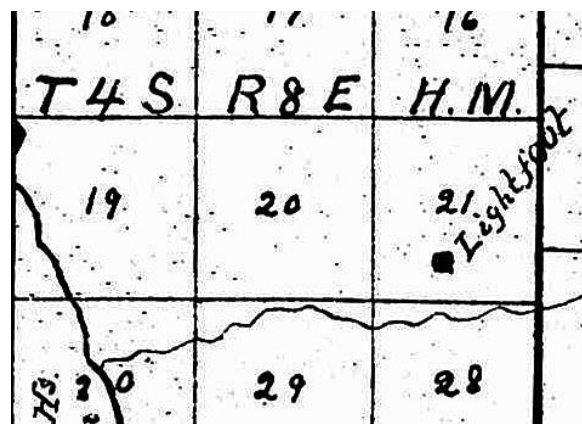
The Lightfoot cabin appears to have been located near the headwaters of Lightfoot Creek--most likely on a flat with good water. This description fits Climbing Spring.

Lightfoot appears, along with W. H. Doolittle (HA01), to have been one of the earliest residents to settle to the east of the NFER. It is clear—given the quote below—that Lightfoot was living here by 1879. His name shows up on some of the earliest TC maps. He may have been a squatter as he does not show up on the 1880 census--it is possible, however, the census taker in 1880 simply missed him.

Some of Lowden's earliest maps show the Lightfoot place.



Lowden's c1886-1890 map showing the "Lightfoot place."
(A2: 02)



Lowden's map c. 1880 to 1890 shows the Lightfoot place but lack of detail and a highly inaccurate GLO survey makes the exact placement of the homestead problematic.
(A2:04a)

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The tract in the general area of Lightfoot's homestead—given the GLO survey mapping problems- appears to eventually have been acquired by either Frank Doolittle or George White according to Lowden's 1894 map. Given White's reputation (see entry), it is possible that Lightfoot was driven out of the area. The following quote is from Keter (1994a:16) and it is one of the few references found on Lightfoot:

Some of the homesteaders settling in or adjacent to the basin during this decade included Bill Nowlin, George Kunz, and Pete Haman. Two other settlers, who were living in the basin in the 1870s, were identified through an account of one of the most famous manhunts in the annals of California law enforcement (Keller 1974). After committing a number of crimes, including murder, near the town of Mendocino, lawmen chased a gang of outlaws for over three months, tracking them over hundreds of miles of northern California back country, finally apprehending them in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. The gang was pursued by a posse, which, at times, included John Wathen and Jim Willburn; they passed through the North Fork basin in late October or early November of 1879. They apparently passed near the cabins of a John White living near the headwaters of Wilson Creek which is adjacent to Long Ridge (quite possibly John P. White who was a second cousin of George White) and a Joseph Lightfoot living in the vicinity of upper Lightfoot Creek about two miles to the west of Red Mountain Field. It was noted that the Lightfoot cabin was to the "north of Wylackie Ridge [Hill] where John Wathen resided at a place called the 'oat patch'."

Littlefield, Alfred Delos "Jack"

The main information in this study is related to his burial along the Covelo-Weaverville Trail (HTNF-11) and can be found under that entry and at B07. See also the Packwood Flat entry.

After George White, Jack Littlefield is perhaps the most written about individual who lived in the NFERW during the late 19th century. His murder in September of 1895 marked the end of the stranglehold that White had on this region and resulted in an influx of new settlers into the region (see Keter 1994a).

Carranco and Beard (1981: 261) indicate that Littlefield was born in Eureka and acquired property in the Mad River area. He is listed as "Littlefield of Mad River" on the bill for a horse race in Hayfork in 1889 (he won the race).

Max Rowley (A5: I#444) indicated that Jack Littlefield had a cabin at the mouth of Rock Creek. This was before 1895 (when he was murdered). This was passed down by Ted Shannon who learned it from his father. When the interviewee's cousin (Garcelon A5:

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ms01) passed the spot in the 1930s signs of the cabin still remained. Ken Wilson (FARCH SRNF) and I during a visit to the mouth of Rock Creek in 1985 found no evidence of historical activity at this location and the flat was not very large, so this information needs to be further verified. The 1955 or 1964 floods may have impacted the area. There was evidence of use during the ethnographic period.

It should also be noted that no homestead claim for this location shows on Lowden's 1894 map but it was not unusual for men to build a primitive cabin in this country to use when they were running stock. No other sources could be located to confirm the information on this cabin site.

For more information on the murder of Littlefield see Appendix 10 *SF Call* articles, Keter A7: 1994a, Carranco and Beard 1981.

Lone Pine Dean Witter Ranch

Not mapped. See entries for Ben Arthur, Doc Merritt, Pitt White, and Charles Fenton.

The 40,000 acre Lone Pine Dean Witter Ranch is located to the west of the NFERW and is one of the largest ranches in Trinity County. It is made up of a number of the earliest ranches to be settled in this region. See Robb 1981: 346-347 for more information on the Lone Pine Ranch.

Long Ridge

Maps 4, 6, and 7: not plotted on the Base Map. See also the Long Ridge Trail entry (HTNF-12).

Long Ridge was one of the most remote regions of Trinity County. It was one of the last refuges of the Wailaki living in the area after 1865. One elderly Wailaki informant (A06: I#378) when asked about the Long Ridge area at that time replied:

Long Ridge? yeah there were white men living out there with Indian wives-- pretty ones too! A lot of us Indians feel sorry for these women cause as soon as white women showed up many Indian wives were put aside with their half-breed kids with no place. We always took them in.

The 1880 census (A3: 1880-3 and 4) for Long Ridge lists numerous Native Americans as living on or in the vicinity of Long Ridge. In addition, many more Native Americans that were listed on the census as working at the Fenton Ranch (see Keter 1994a for a discussion of this subject).

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1880 Census (A2: 1880-3) listing Native Americans living in the Long Ridge area.

The 1880 census listed numerous Native Americans living on Long Ridge (see census page below) and working at the Fenton Ranch. For a discussion and demographic information on the Wailaki living in this area in the 1880s refer to Keter 1994a.

35	Shlopyed Old Man	M	45	✓						Laborer	✓
	Squatty	F	45	✓	Wife						
36	Long Old Man	M	60	✓						Herds sheep	✓
	Rachel	F	55	✓	Wife						
37	Thick Headed Pete	M	25	✓						Farm Laborer	✓
	Sara	F	30	✓	Wife						
	Fanny	F	5	✓	Daughter						
	Margaret	F	2	✓	Daughter						
	Boy	M	3/2	✓	Son						
38	Buck Shot	M	17	✓						cattle herder	✓
	Eunice	F	14	✓	Wife						
39	Long Charley	M	28	✓						Farm hand	✓
	Mary	F	28	✓	Wife						
40	Dead Eye	M	40	✓						"	✓
	Polly	F	40	✓	Wife						
	Kitty	F	19	✓	Daughter						
41	Pete	M	30	✓						"	✓
	Liz	F	30	✓	Wife						
42	Finn Lerow	M	40	✓						"	✓
	Squaw	F	40	✓	Wife						
	Girl	F	10	✓	Daughter						
43	Woodby Jack	M	30	✓						Cuts wood	✓
	Milly	F	30	✓	Wife						
	Bill	M	10	✓	Son						
44	Fanny	F	20	✓							
	Boy Doc	M	2	✓	Son						
	Charley	M	13	✓	Lives With						

1880 census listing Native Americans living in Long Ridge area.
(A3: 1880-3 Long Ridge)

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The following section is summarized and edited from Keter 1990 and 1994a; there have been some minor changes from the original paper due to new information.

The first Euro-Americans to enter the North Fork of the Eel River region were brothers Pierce and Frank Asbill traveling with the Kelsey party in May of 1854. Heading north from Sonoma County, they first passed through and "discovered" Round Valley (Carranco and Beard 1981: 41). They continued north into the North Fork of the Eel River basin crossing over Long Ridge spending the night of May 16 at Soldier Basin (Asbill n.d.: 27).

Long Ridge was isolated and far from the county seat (and the sheriff) in Weaverville and from the beginning of white settlement until the turn of the century, it was associated with outlaws and lawlessness. During the 1870s this region grew slowly due to the control that George White exercised over this region with his gang of thugs known as "White's Buckaroos" led by Wylackie John Wathen (see respective entries). Towards the end of the decade, Wylackie John moved from his homestead on the east side of the North Fork to the southern end of Long Ridge, establishing a ranch in partnership with George White. Some of White's buckaroos also spent time in this area working at the ranch and at the various sheep camps and cattle corrals that he maintained throughout the region. Because of Long Ridge's notoriety as the home of Wylackie John and White's buckaroos, all of the approximately 19 murders that took place during this period throughout southwestern Trinity County were referred to in the county and state newspapers as "the Long Ridge Killings" (Appendix 10, Jones 1981: 357).

During the 1870s a few homesteaders began to settle in Long Ridge country. After selling out to Ben Arthur, John Quincy Duncan (B06) and his wife Polly and their family moved to Long Ridge in 1871. They settled about midway down the ridge (just to the east of the "Long Ridge School Section 36." William Davis and his family (see entry) settled at the northern end of Long Ridge at about the same time. Somewhat later, Church Willburn (see entry) established a homestead near the southern end of Long Ridge on its eastern slope. Two other homesteaded tracts--one labeled "White" (John P. White) and the other "Brooks" --were situated to the south and east of Long Ridge in the Wilson Creek area (Lowden's 1894 map A2: 05).

By the late 1870s, several families with children were living in the Long Ridge/Hoaglin Valley region. Around 1879 local homesteaders built the first school in the North Fork basin out on Long Ridge (at Schoolhouse Springs in Section 36, T.4 S, R.7E, HBM).

For more see the Long Ridge School entry (F07). Supplies for Long Ridge and the rest of the North Fork region were brought in by stock animals from either Covelo to the south or from Red Bluff about 75 miles to the east via the Humboldt Trail (HTMR-27) (Duncan Ms.).

The killing of the leader of "White's Buckaroos"-- Wylackie John--in 1888 and the murder of Jack Littlefield in 1895, and the ensuing trial of George White's henchmen, marks the end of

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White's stranglehold over the area. As a result a number of additional homesteads were established on Long Ridge during the late 19th century.

It was difficult making a living in this remote region. A. E. Davis (A8) in 1967 wrote that:

In 1906 my brother Lorenzo, filed on a homestead on the south end of Long Ridge. Everything had to be packed on pack animals for a distance of 20 miles as there were no roads. In the fall of 1910 Lorenzo had raised over 200 head of turkeys and Bill Kelly, across the river near Summit Valley put 200 more turkeys with them and I had bought 90 head from Church Wilburn that I put with them making a total of approximately 500 turkeys. We started to drive these 500 turkeys to Eureka a distance of 110 miles. Our first night out we camped at Grouse Spring. It started to snow and by morning the snow was 14 inches deep.. We had 4 pack horses and 3 saddle horses so we broke trail with them and moved out, then it started to rain and by the time we got to Salt Creek the water was up to the saddle skirts on the horses. We tried flying the turkeys across the creek but about half of them landed in the creek and swam on across. We were three days getting to 7 Cedars, from there on we had a wagon to haul grain for the turkeys. It took us 14 days to get to Eureka, (I never knew before that a turkey could swim).

In 1906 when the Trinity National Forest was establish all of the remaining public lands in the area were included within its boundaries. See the trails section—HTNF-12—for information concerning the construction of the county road leading from Hoaglin Valley to the southern end of Long Ridge.

Long Ridge School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Lousy Creek

Not mapped: see Maps 6 and 7.

Lousy Creek is the drainage directly to the south of Salt Creek. The divide marks the southern boundary of the NFERW Study Area.

Tom Duncan (A5: ms05) noted that: "places getting their names were taken from incidents happening, also from persons, hence Lousy Creek being named from an old mare ranging there and getting very near ate up by lice".

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Martin, Wayne and Bertha Burgess Martin, Martin Family Ranch

F34 Map 3: T3S, R6E, S 1.

The Martin Ranch was located just to the west of the NFER/Eel River watershed divide. Therefore, only limited information is provided.

Wayne was born on the Martin Ranch in 1913; his father had homesteaded the tract in 1912. See Interview Appendix 6: I#395 with Wayne and Bertha Burgess Martin.

Fred Martin (A8) was the brother of Wayne Martin and wrote that (summarized):

My father and mother came to Trinity County to homestead in the year 1912, the same year that I was born. They had left their home state of North Carolina about 1910 and came west to California. After living for a while at Oroville, California, they went to San Francisco and traveled by ship to Eureka, where dad met another man that was interested in homesteading. They went with a homestead guide or locator by the name of Carter. The party included dad, Mr. William Pierce, Mr. Archie Bailey and Mr. John Crank. I don't know if there were any more men in the party. The four of them all took homestead claims of 160 acres each and all of them lived on their homesteads for many years, except for John Crank who was shot in a hunting accident.

My brothers and I walked about four miles to Hoaglin School over in Hoaglin Valley. Mother would set the alarm for 5:00 A. M. and get breakfast on the wood burning kitchen stove and we would milk the cow, then leave for school at 7:00 A. M. Our school vacation was during the winter months and every winter, we cut stove wood from the trees, enough to last all year, for both cooking and heating. We didn't have any power saws, just hand—powered cross cut saws.

Our nearest neighbors were the Archie Bailey family who lived about 1 ½ miles away by foot trail. Dad and Mother liked to visit and have company. Sunday was considered a day for visiting. We would visit the Frank Lampley family quite often. It was about 1½ miles over a steep hill by trail to their house.

My brothers and I walked about four miles to Hoaglin School over in Hoaglin

Note that Jim Burgess (TCHS tape) indicated that his parents were buried on the Martin Ranch along with some siblings and other members of the Burgess family and there is a small graveyard there. Hank and Blanche Martin are also buried there as are a number of other people. This cemetery is plotted on the 7.5' Zenia USGS map.

People and Places

McVay, Seward

Map 7: T5S, R7E, S 13

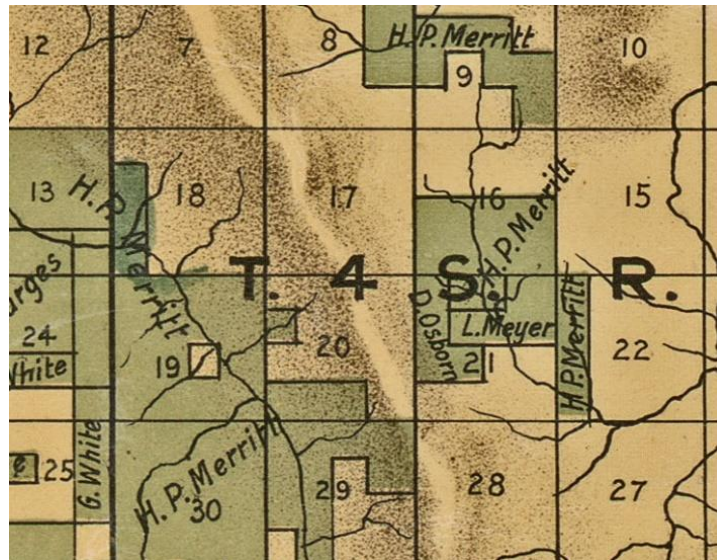
See HF10.

Merritt, Doctor H. P.

Tracts of land that were at one time owned by Merritt within the NFERW are plotted on the 1894 Base Map layer 3. See also Armstrong, Charles Fenton, and Dean Witter Ranch entries.

The mapping of tracts of land in this area is problematic--refer to the Kettenpom Valley entry and the Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land entry for a discussion of plotting private tracts on the Base Map of land in this area.

The Merritt ranch house and most tracts of ranch land are located to the west of the NFERW. There were, however, several tracts of land that show up as being owned by Merritt in the Kettenpom Valley and Hoaglin Valley area on Lowden's 1894 map. These tracts of land as mapped by Lowden have also been plotted on the Base Map.



Lowden's 1894 map showing Kettenpom and Hoaglin Valleys with the tracts owned by Merritt in Sections 8, 9, 16, and 22.
(A2: 05)

This ranch was first owned by the Asbill brothers (Robb 1981:346) but it was acquired in the latter part of the 1870s by "Doc" H. P. Merritt; who, at the time, lived in Round Valley. It was located to the west of Lake Mountain along the west facing slopes of the Eel River drainage. It

People and Places

appears that Merritt had substantial financial resources and put his ranch together by buying up a number of smaller ranches and homesteads.

Merritt, like other ranchers in the region during this era, ran mostly sheep. Eventually the Fenton ranch and (by 1894) the Armstrong place were also purchased. He also bought out several of the homesteaders in Kettenpom Valley beginning in the late 1870s or 1880s and by about 1890 owned much of the private land there (see above map). According to Robb (1981: 346):

Sometime before his death in 1893...Merritt sold his holdings to A. Myerstein, a prizefighter. Myerstein, in turn, sold to Shelton Potter... In 1942 Potter sold to the well-known businessman, Dean Witter, and the ranch has remained in the Witter family since that date.

Today, the Dean Witter Lone Pine Ranch, at about 45,000 acres is the largest ranch in Trinity County.

Meyers, Albert and Hattie

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

See IF04, Hoaglin Valley, Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land, the Louis Meyers and Willie Hoaglin entries.

The Meyers family is listed on the 1910 census. Given the lack of data, it is not clear Albert Meyer's relationship to Louis Meyers who according to census never married (see entry).

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Myers Albert	Head	M	71	26	M	1	5	
		Hattie	wife	F	71	32	M	1	5	1
		Elmer	son	M	21	4	J			

(A3: 1910-7)

After the death of Albert Meyers in August of 1912, Hattie Meyers Diggins married Willie Hoaglin and applied for an Indian Allotment (IF04) in her name. It is plotted with dashed lines on the Base Map as it was never patented. She was the half-brother of Augustus Russ-- see HA08.

People and Places

Myers, Hosea

Map 7: T26N, R5E, S31 MDM

See HA04.

Meyers, Louis

Map 6: T7E, R4S, S 21.

It appears that due to problems with the original GLO surveys that the current mapping of this tract of land does not match the location as plotted on Lowden's 1894 map (note the Section lines in this area on the 1894 map below and contemporary USGS maps). The tract is only shown on the Base Map as plotted on Lowden's 1894 map.

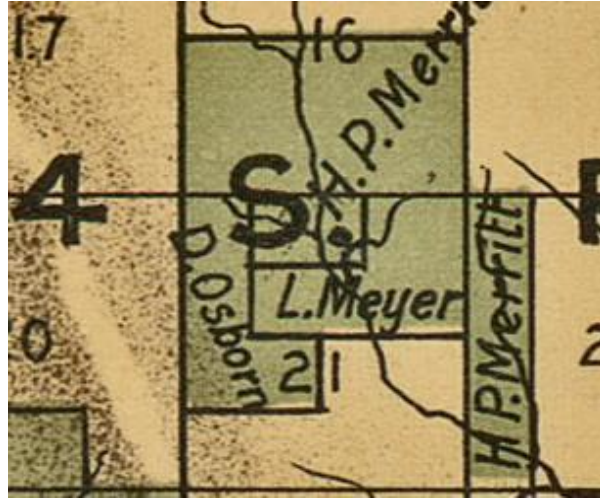
For a discussion of problems mapping tracts on the Base Map in Hoaglin and Kettenpom Valleys see the Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land entry.

Louis Meyer was one of the earliest residents of Hoaglin Valley moving there in the 1870s (see Kettenpom and Hoaglin Valley entries). Meyers shows up as living at the head of Hoaglin Creek on a TC 1880s map and Lowden's property map for 1894 (See also Base Map).



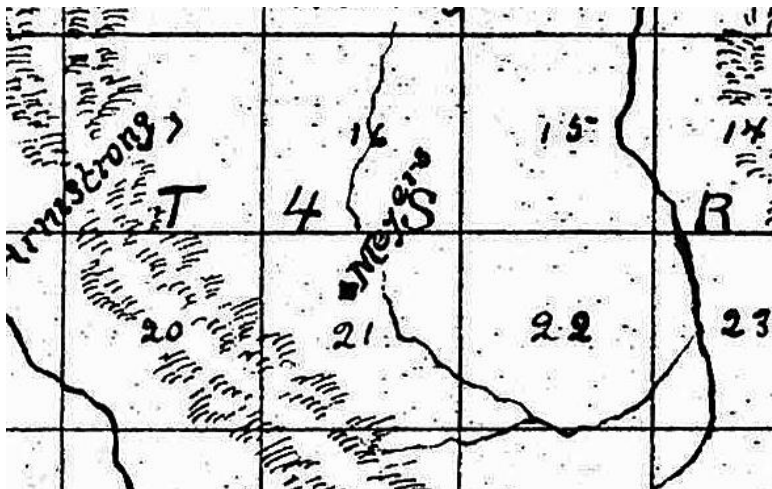
Lowden's c mid 1880s map
(A2: 02)

People and Places



Lowden's 1894 map showing "L. Myer"
(A2:05)

The Meyers place—in Section 21--also shows up on an undated Lowden Map c 1880s; again, note the perfectly squared section lines versus today's USGS maps. That is the reason tracts of land here are so difficult to plot.



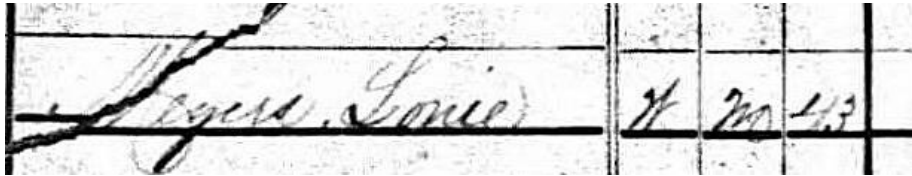
Lowden's map c. 1880-1885.
(A2: 04)

There were few references to Meyers in the historical record. One thing of note is that Meyers was a member of the coroner's jury empaneled in Weaverville to investigate the Jack Littlefield killing (see entry). On October 15, 1895 they visited the site of the murder. They dug up and examined the body and reburied it at its present location (B07) along the Covelo to Weaverville Trail (HTNF-11) (Carranco and Beard 1981: 276, see also Keter 1994a).

Meyers shows up on the 1880s census. He was still single and apparently living alone when he was 65 years old and the 1900 census was taken. Since this is also considered the

People and Places

Holtorf place (see entry) it appears that at some point Meyers sold the place to Holtorf but remained living on the homestead. Meyers shows up on the 1880 census and then on the 1900 census; given the placing of his name on the census--next to Holtorfs--it is apparent that he was still living on or near his original homestead. Giving this further credence is that Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that Holtorf acquired his land from Meyers.



1880 Census showing Meyers living alone.
(A3: 1880-9)

40	40	Meyers Louis	Head	H	M	June	1838	65	3		
41	41	Holtorf Henry	Head	H	M	Feb	1840	60	11	28	
		Mary	Wife	H	F	Aug	1846	53	11	28	10

1900 Census
(A3: 1900-3)

Consultant Interview

Garcelon (A5: ms01) that:

The Hoaglin Place in Hoaglin Valley was owned by H. H. Holtorf--Louis Meyers and D. W. Osborn were also there. Meyers was the first--about 1870. The Post Office was in the south end of the valley about 1893. Holtorf was the first mail carrier; Osborn, the first Postmaster. The buildings are now gone but the orchard still stands. In 1938 Ward Pawlus had the place. He sold to Merlin Goodwin.

It is not clear Louis Meyer's relationship with the other Meyers families living in this area.

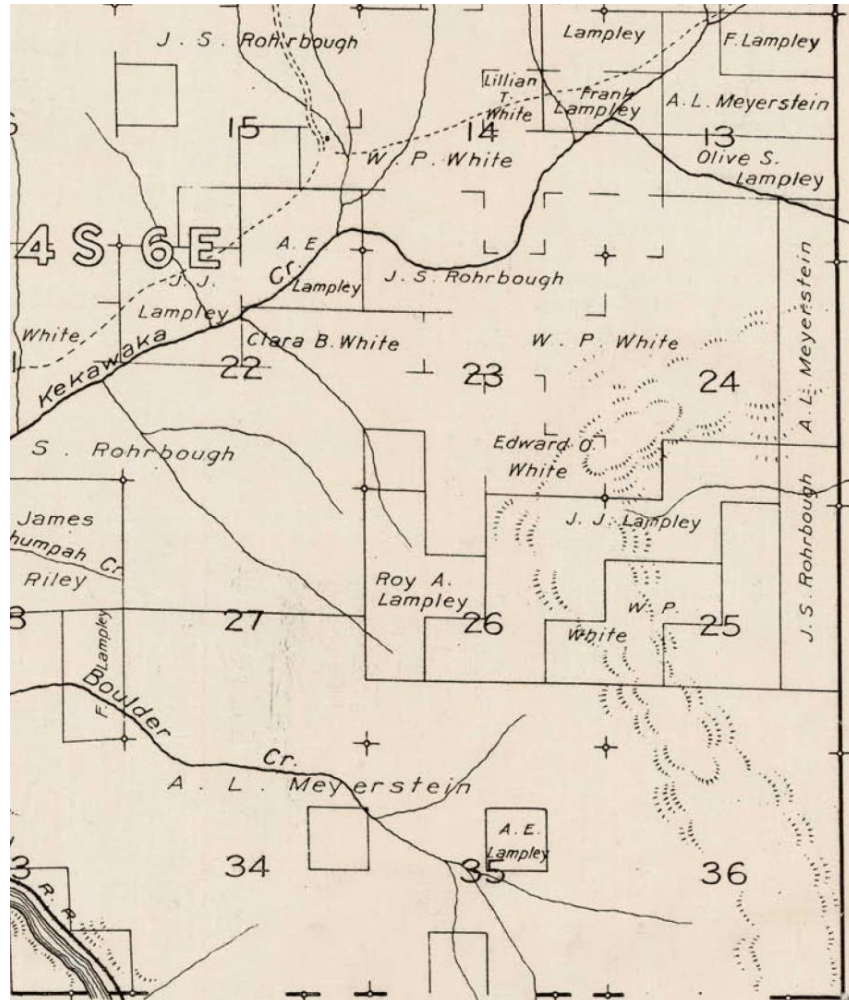
Myerstein, A. L.

Map 3: T4S, R7E,

For a discussion of the problems mapping these tracts of land on the Base Map see Kettenpom Valley Private Tracts of Land entry.

People and Places

There was very little information on Myerstein/Meyerstein (there are two spellings in the historic documentation). According to Robb (see below) he was a professional boxer. He must have been good as he purchased a number of tracts of land in southwest Trinity County. Most of these tracts are to the west of the NFERW and show up on the 1922 Belcher Title and Abstract Map.



(A2: 26b)

According to Robb (1981: 346):

Sometime before his death in 1893...Merritt sold his holdings to A. Myerstein, a prizefighter. Myerstein, in turn, sold to Shelton Potter... In 1942 Potter sold to the well-known businessman, Dean Witter, and the ranch has remained in the Witter family since that date. [Note spelling of the name.]

Meyerstein's name does not show up in the census records. Give the lack of consultant comments, it appears (but is not confirmed) that he never lived within the NFERW; although he acquired a number of the tracts in Hoaglin Valley from the Holtorf family.

People and Places

Miller Ranch, Leona and Ralph Miller

F29 Map 6: T5S, R8E, S21

Also known as the Lake Mountain Ranch

The Miller ranch was a well-known community gathering place during the 1920s and 1930s. There are several interviews in the Appendixes.

Appendix 4: Ralph and Leona Miller Newspaper article

Appendix 5 ms06 collection of letters by L. Miller

Appendix 6 Interviews with Leona and Ralph Miller I#003 and I#372

I interviewed Leona Miller in October of 1984 when she was 94 years old (A6: I#372). Kathy Heffner McClellan also interviewed the Millers later that year. That in-depth interview (cover is the photo below) is included in Appendix 6 (I#003).

THE MILLERS
FROM GOODING, IDAHO
TO
LAKE MOUNTAIN, CALIFORNIA
1909 - 1985



BY
KATHY HEFFNER
SIX RIVERS NATIONAL FOREST
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY, 1985

People and Places

After Leona Miller and her son Ralph passed away, the house was left empty. It burned to the ground on Sept. 17, 1988. Garcelon (A5: ms01) notes that: "All of the buildings were destroyed and lots of history lost.

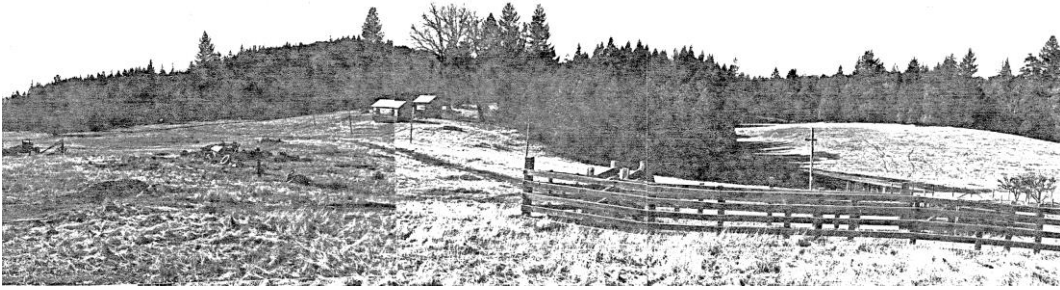
There is also a cemetery at the Miller Ranch. The Stanley's (Appendix 8) noted that their grandfather" is buried in the little cemetery on the Miller Ranch at Lake Mountain."

The following is taken from Robb's *Trinity County Historic Sites* (1981:349):

In southern Trinity, single ranches often carry the responsibility and identity or a whole area, either because of the character of the people or the location of the ranch or both. They are, or were, centers of activity and community affairs. Such is the case with Lake Mountain. It has had a school and a post office, and Leona Miller served as Deputy County Clerk for many years. The schoolhouse still stands on a part of the ranch; teachers used to board at the house. The ranch is a fine example of the homestead era in southern Trinity. Leonard and Leona Miller, in response to an ad and with the help of a locator, Packed up all their belongings and left the San Francisco Bay Area, arriving in Trinity County in 1919. Their original cabin of shake and pole construction, and known as "The Sunshine Shanty", still partially stands on the ranch. The Millers were not cattlemen; the ranch has been used instead for timber and wood-related production. Leonard Miller ran a sawmill near the schoolhouse and did carpentry and shop work for other ranchers in the area. The first sawmill was destroyed by fire but was rebuilt in 1945. Generally speaking, most homesteaders were primarily concerned with being self-sufficient. This is still true at Lake Mountain where the orchard, garden, and income from the trees re the means of survival. A Pelton wheel on a drainage from one of the lakes provides electricity, and wood is still the only source of heat. Lake Mountain is an inspiration to all who know it, not only for its strikingly beautiful location and immaculate upkeep, but because it is an authentic example of the self-sufficient American homesteader and of what, with a family's hard work, can be accomplished.

For more on the life of the Miller family, including the trip north from the Bay Area to their new home in Trinity County see the interviews cited above. Below are some images included in the Appendix 6 Interview with Leona and Ralph Miller (I#003). All photos were taken by Kathy Heffner McClellan and originals may be on file in the SRNF HR office.

People and Places



View to south showing winter lake and open meadow area.



View northwest to the main ranch buildings on the Miller Ranch.

Mina Post Office

See Post Offices in the North Fork Eel River Region entry.

Murphy, Edith Van Allen

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

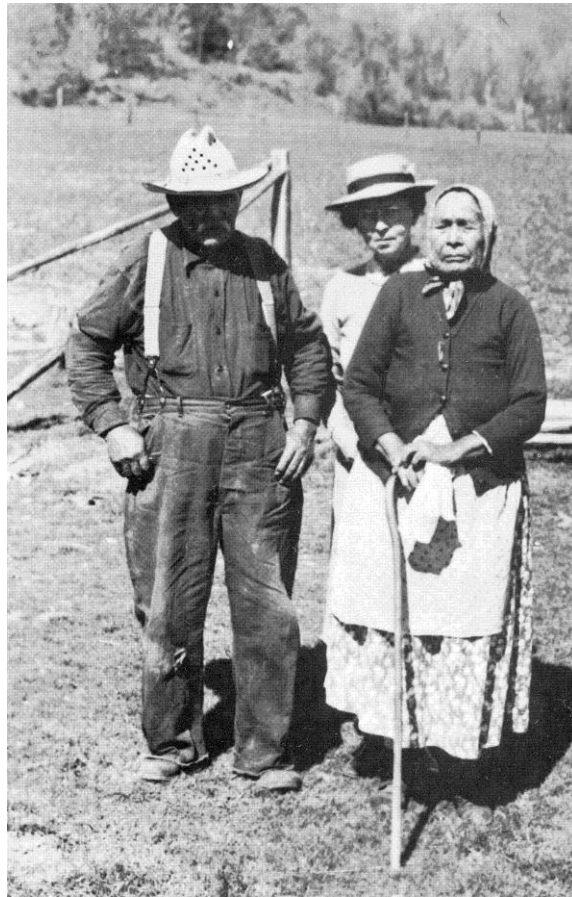
Edith Murphy, a botanist who worked for the Indian Health Service at the reservation in Round Valley became a close friend of Lucy Young (B03). Murphy is referenced here only in relation to her links with Trinity County. See Keter 2009 for more on her and Lucy Young. Irene Stapp (A06: I#448) knew Edith Murphy and in an interview she remembered that:

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...that one time her and her sister were sent to Ukiah to get their tonsils out. On the return trip they were placed on the train and it was set up so that they could get off at Dos Rios. Edith was also going to Round Valley on the same train. B who was eight years old at the time remebers that her and her sister saw a counter with newspapers and candy on the train. They had never seen anything like this. The finally decided that you just help yourselves and they took a paper to read the funnies and some candy. When the conductor came by they were busy eating candy and looking at the paper the conductor by now knew that they did not understand that you pay and he was laughing as he asked them for the money. Edith said that she would pay for the goodies. The other thing she remembers about this trip is that the conductor was the first black person that she had ever seen.

Edith also used to come to her house to visit. Irene also remembered that Sam and Lucy and Edith often traveled to the Yolla Bolly Country during the summer. This happened almost yearly for a number of years.

She published several articles on Lucy Young (see References Cited) and there is a recorded interview with her located at the MCHS in Ukiah.



Edith Murphy standing between Sam Young and Lucy Young (see B03).
Round Valley, C 1941.

(Mendocino County Historical Society, Bill Lee collection)

People and Places

After getting out of prison in 1891 (see the Asbill m.s. *Last of the West* for how he ended up in prison) he moved to Idaho to the goldfields. He became sick and on January 21, 1897 as 65 years of age he shot himself in the head with his own rifle; "a victim of despondency" (Carranco and Beard 1981:213).

Nielson (Neilson), Thomas (The Neilson Place)

F03 Map 6: T5S, R7E, S. 24

This location is still identified on the 7.5' USGS Long Ridge map. The name is spelled as "Neilson" on the 1920 census. USGS and FS maps as well as the consultants spelled it as "Nielson." That is the spelling used here. The question remains which spelling is correct.

There is not a lot of information on the Nielsons: they were listed on the 1920 census. They were not listed on the 1930 or 1940 census.

A handwritten census form with two rows. The first row contains the name 'Neilson, Thomas P', the word 'head', the number '7', and the date '7/4/58'. The second row contains the name 'Neilson, Vida', the word 'wife', the number '7', and the date '7/4/58'. The handwriting is in cursive and somewhat faded.

Neilson, Thomas P	head	7	7/4/58
Neilson, Vida	wife	7	7/4/58

1920 census listing Neilson and his wife note the correct spelling of the last name.
(A3: 1920-8)

A form in the Stanley Gebhart file (HF10 hard copy file) indicates that Neilson was living here in April of 1919 as he served as a witness for Gebhart when he proved up.

Tom Duncan also noted that: "Neilson first located near Geary Gulch, then moved to the Jonny Griffith place where Hamilton lives."

Garcelon (Appendix 5: ms.01) wrote that:

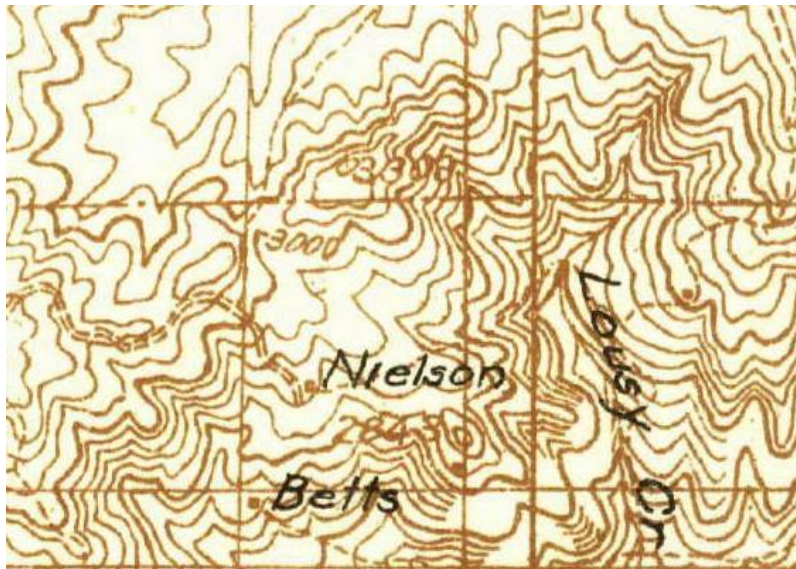
The Neilsen place was around the ridge from the Betts place to the N.E. at about the same level on the side of the hill above Lousy Creek. When I was there only a few remnants of the homestead showed. I do not know how they got to the place. The Neilsen Mail Trail [HTNF-14] started off Haman Ridge Road at the same place the Betts road started. It went down a ridge on opposite side of Betts Rd. ---almost parallel to a fork of Salt Creek. There now is a forest access road to Salt Creek Basin and it travels in the same area as the trail went. Parts of the old forest trail are still visible along with the old forest trail blazes on the trees. I travelled this old trail many times with the horses. Neilson could have branched off this trail and followed a trail up one of the forks of Salt Creek and over the dividing ridge between the heads of Salt Creek and Lousy Creek.

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The Neilsen place was about the same level as the top of this ridge. This place is now owned by some modern people. I don't feel safe in this area now. There have been several Camp raids [Campaign Against Marijuana Planting] there. Draw your own conclusions! John Griffith owned the place before Neilsen. The Neilsen Mail Trail went from Hamon [Haman] Ridge to Salt Creek and up to the top of Long Ridge and on.

There was a homestead across the Lousy to the east of the Neilsen place near the bottom of the hill. The only thing left there were signs of fences, etc. The people's name could have been Spurlock. This was the area they first moved to.

The Neilson place shows up on a number of historic maps (see Appendix 2).



1935 USGS Hoaglin 15' map--note the spelling.

(A2: 23)

Norgaar, Chris and sons Morris and Elmer

F02 Map 6: T5S R7E S 25. See also Haydon, Thomas F04.

This homestead is located just to the south of the Salt Creek divide—the exact boundaries of the homestead entry tract are not known. A portion of what was the Norgaar ranch is known today as the Betts place. This tract was owned first by John Geary, then Hall Brothers Ben and Frank, then Chris Norgaar, and lastly Betts. The Betts place shows up on the 15' HV 1934 map (A2: 23). Norgaar did not show up on the 1900-1930 census lists.

People and Places

Tom Duncan (A5: ms05) noted that:

Spurlock first acquired land on Long Ridge, then got from Chris Norgaar what is known now as the Betts place. This place was first lived on by Jerry Geary, then the Hall Brothers... [who] owned it and ran sheep there for quite a number of years. After they left there the place went to pieces... Chris Norgaar finally bought it, then Spurlock, lastly Betts.

Morris and Elmer Norgaar were the sons of Chris Norgaar—they did not show up on the 1900 or 1910 census lists. Ivan Jeans (Appendix 5: ms02, hard file copy only) wrote that:

On Wednesday of last week near the Wathen place [Wailaki John] on Long Ridge, Thomas Haydon shot and killed Morris Norgaar and wounded Norgaar's younger brother, shooting him through the arm. The particulars have not been received. It is reported that Haydon had taken up a tract of land adjoining Chris Norgaar's land and was grazing his horses there. The two boys were on horseback and were driving Haydon's horses off his land when the shooting occurred. Haydon opened fired and shot the oldest boy through the heart. He then shot at the younger boy, first hitting the horse, which plunged and threw the rider. The boy ran and another shot pierced his arm. The boy ran a mile and a half to his home just across the Mendocino County line. (*Trinity Journal* December 31, 1910)

June issues of 1911 carried accounts of the trial, and there seemed to be quite a few witnesses who either testified to the bad character of the accused, or the same for the deceased. The *Journal* stated the following about 7 of the defense witnesses:

On cross examination, nearly all the witnesses showed bias and enmity. Brewer (Chas. E. Brewer) especially showed his feeling because a complaint had been filed against him by Chris Norgaar on account of his shooting at his two sons, Morris and Elmer, about 4 years ago."

Haydon was convicted, sent to San Quentin in May 1912. He got TB and was pardoned in June 1913, returned home and died soon thereafter.

Trinity County records reveal that on August 5, 1911, some 2 months after the Tom Haydon trial, Chris Norgaar sold his 600 acre ranch on Long Ridge to the defendant's brother Frank Haydon (Book of Deeds, p. 104). The deed is from Chris Norgard (sic) to Frank Haydon, describes the 600 acre parcels in sections 16, 19, 20, and 21, in T5 S. R. 8 E.HM.--known as the "Norgaar Ranch" on Long Ridge (Ivan Jeans Appendix 5: ms02, hard file copy only).

This land deal suggests that Norgaar had acquired a number of private tracts in the southern Long Ridge area. Further research at the Trinity County courthouse would

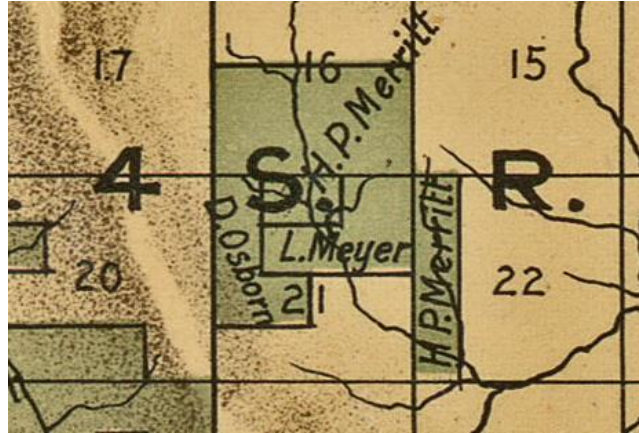
People and Places

help to clarify this matter and how it relates to the Betts tract of land. The input here concerning the Betts place as it relates to Norgaar should be viewed with some skepticism until further historical documentation is found.

Interestingly, despite not being listed on the census in 1910 or 1920 and having appeared to sell his ranch, Chris Norgaar shows up in a TNF 1921 range report that was located in the MRRD Range files (MRRD SRNF: from Mark Lane). It contains the following notation:

"Chris Norgaar's band of goats, being too loosely herded did some damage on adjoining cattle range. Mr. Norgaar states that he will see that they are confined to their range in the future.....John T. Gray Ranger, Ruth, California, July 8, 1921.

People and Places



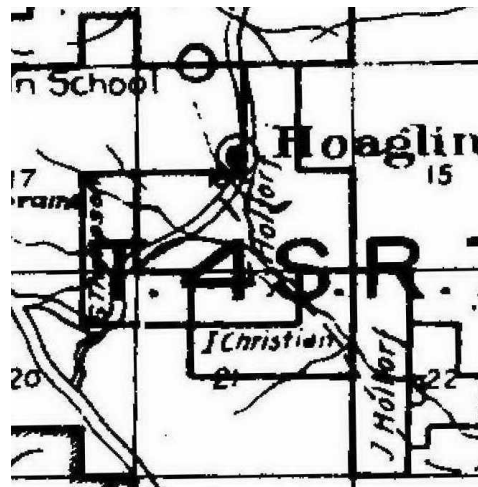
(A2: 05)

The Osborn family shows up on the 1900 census and his occupation is listed as “postmaster.”

Osborn David W ¹	Head	W	M	Nov	1825	74	M	SD
Mary E ²	Wife	W	F	Feb	1837	53	M	SD
McDonald Walter	Boarder	W	M	Nov	1895	4	S	

1900 Census
(A3: 1900-3)

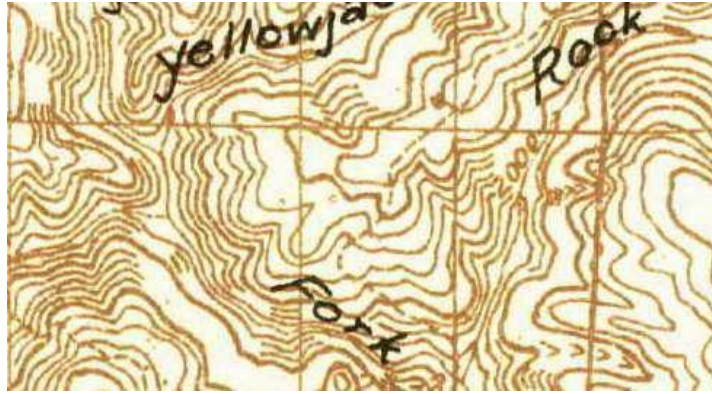
The 1915 TNF map shows this tract (given the survey problems) as being owned by I. Christian and is plotted as 10-3 on the Base Map.



1915 TNF map.
(A2: 28)

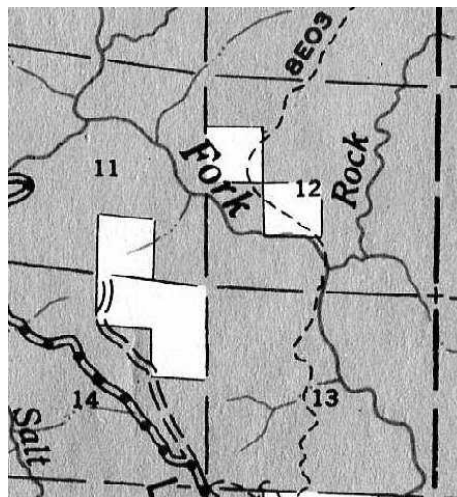
People and Places

The 1931 HV 15' USGS map shows a structure at this location.



The 1931 15" HV map (upper center) shows a structure along the trail.

Portions of this tract still show up as private on the 1977 SRNF map. By the publication of the 1987 SRNF map this tract had been acquired by the FS. Much of it is located within the NFER Wilderness Area.



(A2: 21b0)

Ken Wilson (SRNF FARCH) and I first hiked this trail in May of 1985, from the Willie Hoaglin Place (IF04) east to its junction with HTMR-10. We recorded the cabin (F40) on Packwood Flat (54-279) that appeared to be under 50 years old—see images below. Although Robb (1981:358) indicated that Packwood Flat: "still bears the remains of a cabin built around 1880"—given its condition—that is unlikely. Rather, the structure appears to have been built more recently probably within the last 50 years--refer to the site record for photos and dimensions of the cabin.

Robb (1981:359) noted that Jack Littlefield is buried along the Packwood Flat Trail. This is incorrect; he is buried along the Round Valley to Weaverville Trail (HTNF-11). See B07 and Trail HTNF-47 for more information on the grave site and information on Jack Littlefield.

People and Places

Images of Packwood Flat—All photos Keter 1985



Packwood Flat cabin: Ken Wilson in photo.



Packwood Flat view to west from eastern side of the flat.

People and Places



Packwood Flat view to east from eastern side of the flat.

Palmer, Ves

F33 Map 7: T4S, R8E, S16

Ves Palmer and his wife Ellen Anthony (the widow of Wylackie John Wathen) and family lived at the southern end of Long Ridge on a tract of land that was first owned by Wathen and that she inherited after his death at the hands of Clarence White in January of 1888 (see respective entries). Palmer then married Wathen's widow Ellen Anthony Wathen. The exact location of the ranch could not be confirmed so the location of F33 is approximate. For more on the location see the John Wathen entry.

Palmer was born September 2, 1867, in Mississippi and the family then moved to Greely Colorado. Palmer entered Round Valley in the spring of 1887. He initially went to work for White but they had a falling out.

The tract of land on Long Ridge owned by the Palmers was surrounded by lands owned by George White and he immediately began to conspire to get rid of Palmer. Refer to the Littlefield entry and the citations in Keter 1994a and Carranco and Beard 1981 on the killing of Jack Littlefield for more on Palmer. See also Appendix 10 as the San Francisco Call covered the "Long Ridge killings" extensively.

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The book *Genocide and Vendetta* (Carranco and Beard 1981) covers the conflict between White and Palmer in great detail. Between 1891 and September of 1895 (when Jack Littlefield a friend of Palmers was murdered) Palmer was arrested four times as a result of charges by George White for cattle stealing—each time he was acquitted. The following is taken from Keter 1994a (136-137) and discusses White's vendetta against Palmer.

Littlefield had actually worked for White briefly when he first moved to the Yolla Bolly country from Eureka but he eventually went to work for Ves Palmer. Palmer had married the widow of Wylackie John, Ellen Wathen, and she had brought a lawsuit against George White to get an equitable share in the 600 head of cattle the Wathen's had held in partnership with White on a ranch in southwestern Trinity County. Ves Palmer pressed the case and he would not back down despite White's threats. For this he gained the animosity of George White, as did Littlefield who had quit working for White to become the foreman on Palmer's ranch. Palmer was a good businessman and his ranch began to grow in size but he knew that he was in a dangerous situation as his ranch was surrounded by the lands of George White. He moved his wife and family to Round Valley as a precaution but continued to operate his ranch with the help of Littlefield (Carranco and Beard 1981:264).

It was at this time that, as Carranco and Beard (1985: 264) state, "White began his vendetta to frame the two men." False warrants were sworn out against the men (Ves Palmer was tried and acquitted four times for stealing cattle) and several other incidents involving attempts to either frame or kill Palmer and Littlefield took place. In one incident, Littlefield was shot in the back and nearly killed when heading back to Long Ridge from Covelo in September of 1894. Later that year, he got in a fight with one of White's men, Joe Gregory, and nearly died when his throat was slashed.

After all this effort by White, Palmer and Littlefield were still continuing to operate their ranch. In August of 1895, Gregory asked Frank Hanover, a Trinity County Deputy, to help him:

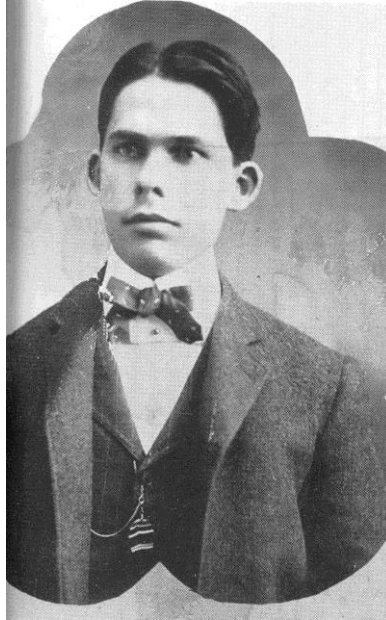
assemble a mob to lynch Palmer and Littlefield, and that White, who would pay five thousand dollars, and others would stand to assist them in escaping the penalty of the crime....The die was cast: Littlefield and Palmer had to be killed (Carranco and Beard 1981: 267-268).

Bauer and Barney (1997 A11: 27) include the following quote from a doctor in Round Valley who treated Palmer.

Mrs. Wylackie John Wathen subsequently married Ves Palmer, another reckless daredevil whom I shall not be likely to forget, as I put in a couple of very unpleasant hours with him soon after my advent in Round Valley. Ves had been using Giant Powder to blast out stumps on his mountain ranch and

People and Places

a premature blast tore off several of his fingers. I had to chloroform him, and after trimming up the stubs and sewing them into shape I awaited his return to consciousness. When he came to he became a raving maniac and it took six men to hold him on the bed, which was a wreck before he finally became normal again.



Ves Palmer: no date.
(Bauer and Barney 1997: 291)

Despite the fact the Palmers were said to live at the southern end of Long Ridge, it appears that by the late 1880s Palmer had moved the family to Round Valley as it was too dangerous given White's threats to remain. It is for that reason they did not show up on the 1900 and 1910 Long Ridge census, nor is the name "Palmer" plotted on any of the TNF maps in Appendix 2. It is likely that they show up on the Round valley census as that is apparently where the family was living until 1914 when they moved to Dixon near Sacramento where Ves Palmer died on September 2, 1943 at the age of 87.

Peak School

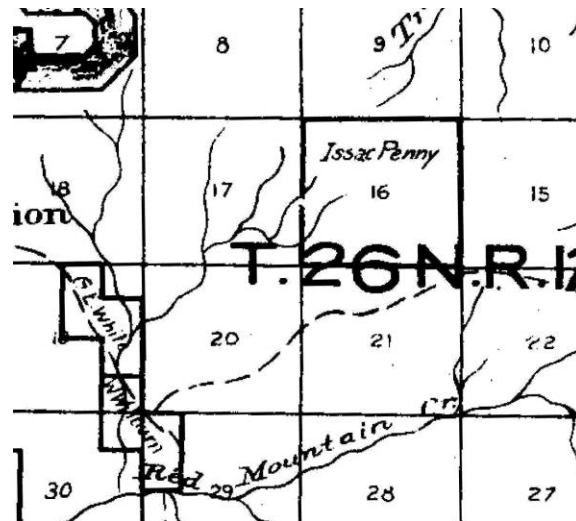
See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

People and Places

Penny, Issac

F14 Maps 5/7/8: TT26N, R12W, S. 16

This 640 acre tract owned by Penny shows up on the TNF 1915 Map. Penny Ridge in the Yolla Bollys is probably named after him. It is unclear how he acquired this tract, but there are some springs on this land on both sides of Jones Ridge (personal observation). Jones Ridge is also the location of the Junction of trails HTNF-11 and HTMR-31.



(A2: 28)

This tract still shows up as private on the 1977 SRNF map (A2: 21b) but not the 1988 SRNF map. It was probably acquired in relation to construction of the Jones Ridge Road (when it was paved) during the numerous timber sales that took place in this area during the 1980s. It is not known at this time who owned the tract of land when it was traded to the FS.

Post Offices in the North Fork Eel River Region

Background

Post offices in the remote back country were an important link with the outside world. During the late 1800s and even in the early 20th century many of the post offices located within the NFERW were accessible only by trail. Most of the time, the post office was located in the home of a local resident. Mail was carried in from Alderpoint via Blocksburg to Zenia, and from there, it was carried to the post offices located within the NFERW by a local resident (see below) under contract.

People and Places

The following information provides an overview that focuses primarily on the various locations of post office within the NFER region. The TCHS has some additional information in their files on this subject.

Caution Post Office

During its existence the Caution Post Office was at three different locations within the NFERW.

Location #1 F20a; Map 7: T26N, R12W, S19. MDM (site record 05-10-54-308)

Location #2 F20b: Map 7: T4S, R8E, S20 (site record #05-10-54-314)

Location #3 F20c: Map 7: T4S, R8E, S31

Although the Caution Post Office moved three times it was always a community gathering place. The name Caution was suggested by John S. Reid (see Reid entry) who later became Trinity County district attorney (TCHS *Trinity* 1971: 24).

Caution Post Office F20a Location # 1

The Caution post office was established at Red Mountain House August 31, 1901 (*Trinity Yearbook* 1971: 24), with Georgia Ann Willburn listed as postmaster --refer to HA01 for more information on this location. The trail from Hoaglin Valley to this location, according to consultants, was known as the Tom Duncan Mailbox Trail (HTNF-05)--the last portion is labeled trail HTNF-23 on the Base Maps.

Beginning in 1904 until 1912, William Shannon carried the mail from Hoaglin to Caution. The mail was brought in from Hoaglin twice a week. For his services Shannon was paid \$30 a month. Ted Shannon (Appendix 5: ms05) writes that his father:

...carried the mail from Hoaglin to Caution for eight years [1904 to 1912]. There was a cable crossing the main North fork [sic] branch of Eel River near Bob Hoaglin [sic] place. When the river was too high father tied the horse and walked the four miles to Caution and carried the mail on his back.

Note that the description above of the route to Caution from Hoaglin Valley does not match that described by other consultants for the Tom Duncan Mail box Trail (HTNF-05)—the Bob Hoaglin place (IA12) was just over a mile to the north. Garcelon (A5: ms01), for example, indicated that the trail to Caution passed the Duncan homestead on Long Ridge via the Tom Duncan Mailbox Trail.

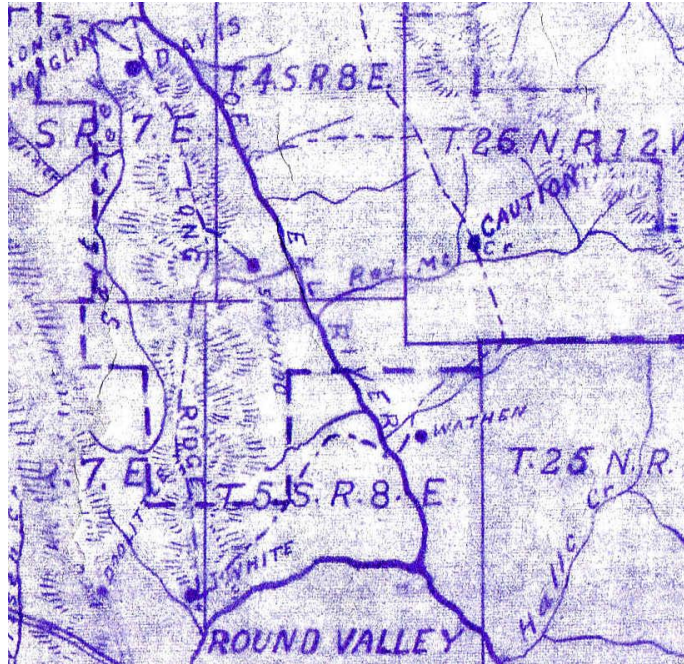
Since the trail passing by the Hoaglin place (HTNF-13) also connected west to Hoaglin Valley and east to Caution, this trail may also have been used.

People and Places

Robb (1981:363) noted that:

William F. Shannon was the carrier between 1904 and 1912 and during that time he failed only once to get the mail through on schedule. On that occasion the water was so high in Salt Creek that his horse could not buck the current to reach the opposite shore.... The Caution Post Office was a community gathering place and mail delivery was an important event.

The Caution Post Office Location #1 shows up on Lowden's 1903 map (below).



Caution Post Office Location #1 (F20a)
Lowden 1903 (A2: 01)

Caution Post Office F20 b Location #2

In about 1905 the post office was moved to the Hiram Willburn Place and his daughter Mary L Willburn was the new postmaster—with H. Willburn recorded as “Assistant Postmaster” on the 1910 census.

TNF ranger Gray's H.E. Report for Hosea Meyers (HA04) noted that:

H.D. Willburn of Caution Calif. who has acted as Assistant Postmaster at this place since 1905 and who has lived in this neighborhood since the summer of 1903, states...that the claimant or his family have resided continuously on these lands and has annually cultivated some portion.

People and Places

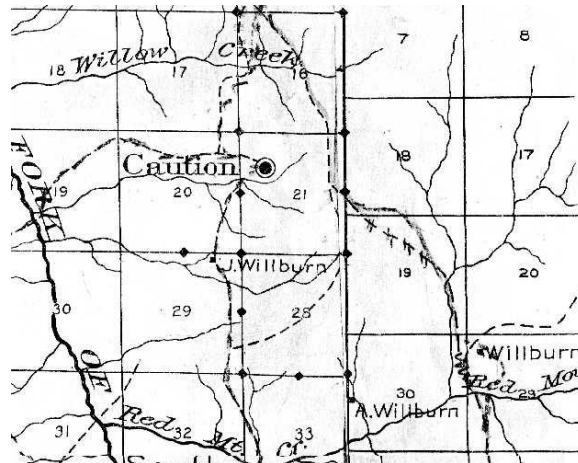
This seems to help confirm the fact the post office was only at Red Mountain House about four years before it was moved to Hiram Willburns (HF11) about 2 miles to the west (location #2).

The 1910 census (A3: 1910-7a) recorded Mary's age as 21 and her occupation as "post mistress." It was located here for about a decade before it was moved to Long Ridge (location #3) in about 1915 (*Trinity County Yearbook 1956:25*).

96 98	Willburn Hiram S.	Head	74	27	13	M	24
	Maucy J.	Wife	45	27	13	M	77
	Mary E.	daughter	21	21		S.	
	Lillian	daughter	14	21	19	S.	
	Martha E.	daughter	11	21	14	S.	
	Alice E.	daughter	7	21	12	S.	

1910 census (A3: 1910 7a)

The post office at this second location shows up on the TNF 1909 map (see below). I recorded this site in about the mid 1980s (05-10-54-314) as the Hiram Willburn place (HF11). The nearby Caution School was recorded separately as a site 05-10-54-278. See trail HTNF-11 and the Caution School entry below for more information.



1909 TNF map showing location #2 of the Caution Post Office (F20b).
(A2: 8b)

Garcelon (A5: ms01) provided the following information on the Caution School and Post Office that were located on the Hiram Willburn place (HF11).

It had the Post Office and school in same building. I was by the site years after it burned down. The picket fence was still in place about 1960 or a little later. I was told the post office was then moved down stream on the same side of the river where it also burned down. I was at this site and there were a couple of out buildings still standing. Caution was then moved across the

People and Places

river, upon Long Ridge about 1915. There was the school and Post Office and a blacksmith shop. This last building also burned down. The only way to any of these sites was by trail as far as I know. The trail was from Long Ridge to the east--Red Mountain-Shell Mountain and you could go on over to the Yolla Bolly and on down Cottonwood Creek to Red Bluff. Many of the cattle drives were over these trails.

The above information has not been confirmed but appears to be worth including due to the limited existing historical data about this location. According to other information (see Caution School entry) there were two separate locations with the post office being located in the Willburn house and the school further to the southeast—a review of the site records will be necessary to clarify this discrepancy.

The post office was here for almost a decade before it was moved to Long Ridge (location #3) in about 1915 (*Trinity County Yearbook* 1956:25).

Caution Post Office F20c Location #3

There are some inconsistencies in the date when the post office was moved to Long Ridge. According to Robb (1981: 363) it was closed July 31, 1913 and reopened at location #3 on Long Ridge in 1915. This corresponds with a ranger's homestead entry report in 1914 on Long Ridge for Thomas Duncan (HF05 Appendix) stating that the nearest post office was in Hoaglin Valley at that time.

See also the TCHS *Trinity* (1971:24) publication; it notes it was reestablished Jan 8 1915. According to Garcelon (A5: ms01):

Caution was then moved across the river, upon Long Ridge about 1915. There was the school and Post Office and a blacksmith shop. This last building also burned down. The only way to any of these sites was by trail as far as I know. [See the Long Ridge School entry.]

Jim Burgess (TCHS Tape: 2005) indicated that the Church Willburn place (HA05) was also the location of the Caution Post Office (Location #3). This input is somewhat confusing, however, as the 1922 TNF map, (A2: 11) shows the location of the Caution Post Office #3 as being to the north of the Willburn place at the junction of trails HTNF-43 and HTNF-43 Spur A.

As it stands, it is unclear if the post office on Long Ridge moved from one of these places to the other or it was mapped wrong by the FS. This seems unlikely, however, as the USGS 1931 HV 15' map (A2: 23) also shows it at the same location—well to the north of the Willburn place at the trail junction. This was tract of land was actually the location of the John Duncan/Tom Duncan (his son) family ranch (see HF05). There were problems plotting this tract on the Base Mao due to the inaccuracy of the original GLO survey. See HF05 and IF03 for a discussion of the problem of where the Duncan tract

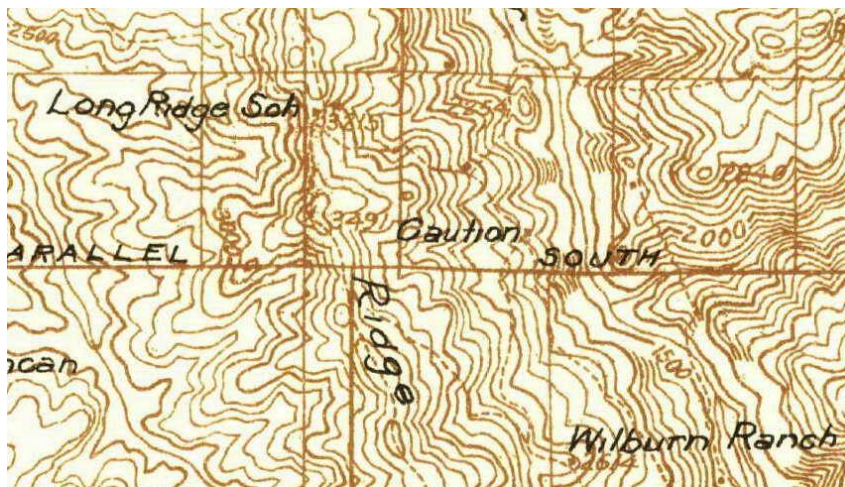
People and Places

was located. The upshot of this being recorded as the site of the Caution Post Office is that it appears although a Willburn was postmaster the building may have been located on the Duncan place!

The maps and consultant interviews seem to add to the confusion; making the plotting of Location #3 very difficult and tenuous. This location as plotted on the Base Map is based on several TNF maps--see the 1915 TNF below. The 1922 TNF map and the usually very accurate 1931 USGS map (below) also show the location of the post office on Long Ridge as being almost one mile to the north of the Willburn place



1922 TNF map showing Caution Post Office location #3 in Section 31.
(A2: 11)



1931 HV USGS 15' Map showing the location
of the Caution Post Office on the Duncan Ranch
(A2: 23)

What is clear is that the 1920 census lists Willburn's 17 year old daughter, Esther, as "postmaster." It is unclear just why neither Church nor his wife Lulu were recognized as being in charge of the post office given the young age of their daughter.

People and Places

Willburn, Charles W.	head	7	7	W	45	W
" Lulu F.	wife		7	W	35	W
" Esther R.	daughters		7	W	17	S
" Carrie	daughter		7	W	15	S
" Hazel L.	daughter		7	W	13	S
" Edna F.	daughter		7	W	8	S
" Muriel R.	daughter		7	W	3	S
" Allen W.	son		7	W	1	S
farmer	general farm	CA				
none						
postmaster	Caution, Cal W					
none						
none						

The 1920 census shows Esther Willburn as postmaster of the Caution Post Office.
(A3: 1920-1)

The Caution post office was discontinued and moved to Lake Mountain July 15, 1938.

Further research will be needed to clear up why the Willburns had the contract but that the post office may have been located on the Duncan place (at least for a period of time since it shows up there on FS maps) and to insure that the opening and closing dates for location #3 of the post office are confirmed.

Additional Consultant Information from Jack Willburn

The following information is quoted from an unpublished ms. *Voices and Dreams* Sally Russell and Bruce Levene (1991—see the References Cited for a link to this web site).

I was born in Alder Point, California in 1924 [It appears that he is listed as "John" age six on the 1930 census—A3-06). Alder Point's in Humboldt County, but we were living in Trinity County. That's just east of Alder Point, a few miles, twenty miles or thirty miles. My mother was born in Fort Bragg. Her name was Irene Campbell. My dad was born right near Alder Point. My father was Clarence Wilburn. I think they met in Riverside, the Sherman Institute; they both went to school down there. There was seven of us, four boys and three girls. My mother was postmistress at Caution. We had the Post Office in our house.

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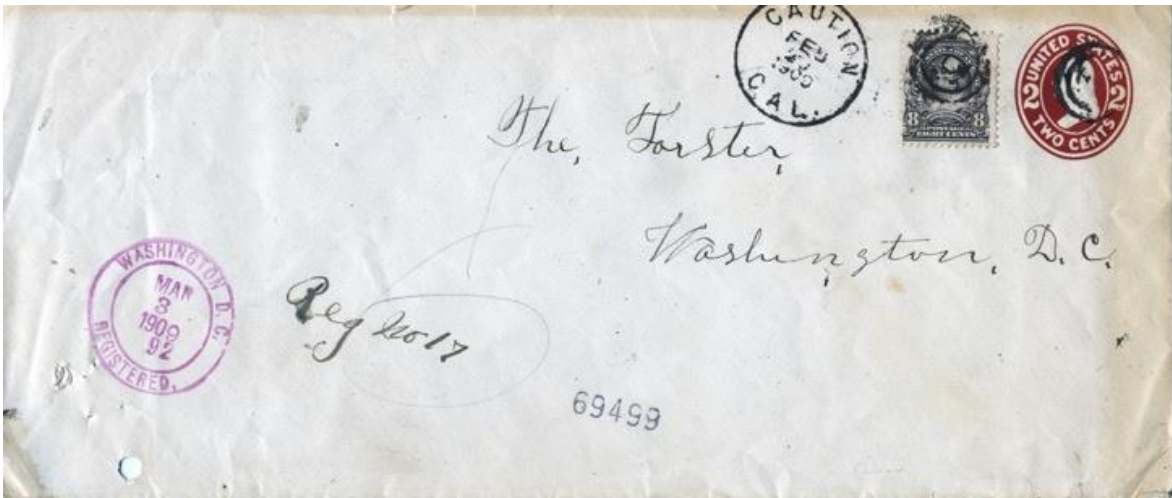
Interestingly, in the 1930 census neither Church Willburn nor any member of his family is listed as postmaster and neither is any member of the Clarence Willburn family. A review of the 1930 census (A3: 1930) has no listing for a postmaster. It is obvious that many unanswered questions remain about the location of the Caution Post Office on Long Ridge.

Images of envelopes post marked Caution

Image 1 was post marked at Location #2 in February of 1909.

Image 2 was post marked with a December 29, 1933 showing that it was still open at location #2 that time.

The images with the Caution cancelations were provided by the TCHS.



People and Places

Hoaglin Post Office

F06 Map 3: T4S, R7E, S 16

See the discussion below for the problems with mapping this feature since it was located at several places over the years.

For over four decades there was a post office located in Hoaglin Valley or at times in nearby Kettenpom Valley. The post office was established on Sept 21, 1893 (TCHS *Trinity* 1971:25). It was moved several times over the years. The Hoaglin Valley Post Office was discontinued to Lake Mountain Sept 1, 1936. Information from consultants on the subject of the various locations and chronology of the post office is somewhat conflicting and the information provided below is not definitive.

The Post Office was first established at the south end of Hoaglin Valley in 1893. Mail came from Alderpoint (then called Eel) via the trail to Zenia from Blocksburg. According to some records, D. Osborn (F09) was the first postmaster—it is likely therefore his ranch was the location of the first post office (this needs to be confirmed). John Holtorf (the son of Henry Holtorf) was the first mail carrier.

It appears, that at some point, according to Garcelon (A5: ms01), the Holtorfs (F37) also acquired the tract of land directly to the north (at F06) where the location “P.O. Hoaglin” is shown below on the TNF 1922 map. Due to the problems with the early GLO surveys, note that it is plotted as being located in Section 9 on the 1922 TNF map -- as compared to contemporary USGS maps—in Section 16—and as it was plotted on the Base Map.

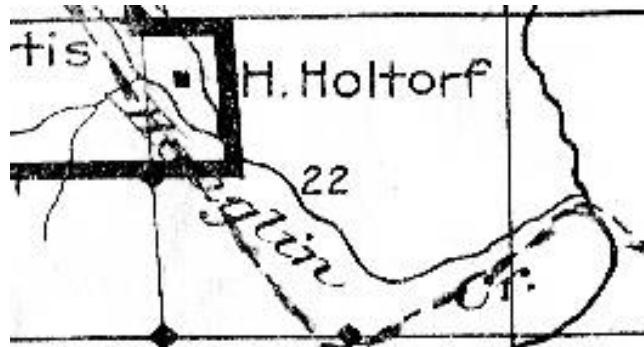


TNF 1922 map showing the post office at location F06 on Base Map.
(A2: 11)

The 1909 TNF map shows the Holtorf place (F37) on Hoaglin Creek—note the inaccuracy of this map as it shows the location in Section 22. Contemporary USGS maps show this

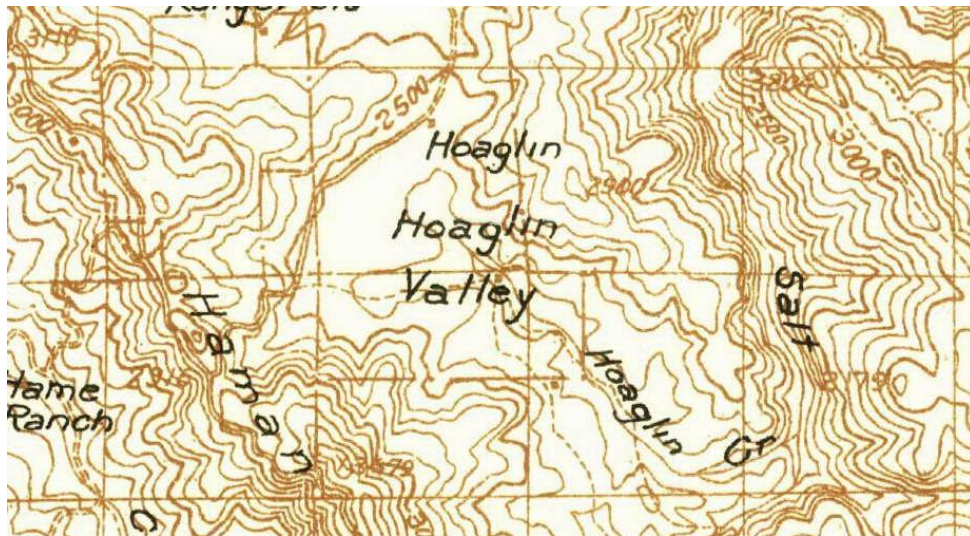
People and Places

tract as being located in Section 16 and it mapped (see 10-2 and 10-4) accordingly on the Base Map.



1909 TNF showing the Holtorf place F37.
(A2: 08 B)

What was known as the community of "Hoaglin Valley" and "Hoaglin" the site of the post office are shown—and mapped more accurately--on the 1931 HV USGS map.



The post office is located just above and to the left of the "H" in "Hoaglin."
Note how much the Section lines vary from contemporary USGS maps.
(A2: 23)

One of the locations for the post office (date of operation unclear) was in Kettenpom Valley at a house located on the Ted Shannon place (probably F28 since Shannon purchased the Klem place--see also the William Shannon entry HF16c). This seems to be confirmed by May Gray Wruck (A8: Gray family) in 1967, who wrote that: The post office was moved to Mr. Al Klems (F28) residence for a few years and then back to the Holtorfs.

Walter Klem (A08) wrote that:

People and Places

Mr Alphonse G Klem a brother of Walter Klem was appointed Postmaster of Hoaglin Post Office January 22, 1919 one of the above mentioned houses was the old house where the Post Office was located on what is now known as the Ted Shannon place and the attached report was found in that house by Mrs Belle Shannon... Mr. C.B. Hunt at that time lived near the present house on the Horse Ranch and was a very fine carrier through all kinds of weather.

Walter Klem (A08) --see entry and Base Map F28--wrote that a "Monthly Report" (February 1913) for the Hoaglin Post office (see image below): "was found in that house by Mrs. Belle Shannon and loaned to us for this article, thank you Mrs. Shannon."

Form dated January 8 to 15, 1922; provided by Walter L. Klem in 1966 (A8).

STAR ROUTE SERVICE
MONTHLY REPORT OF PERFORMANCE OF SERVICE

Postmasters must fill out the heading of this report at the beginning of the month for which the report is rendered, and the entries in the body of the report showing irregularities must be made on the date the irregularity occurs. (See blank oath and instructions on reverse side of this sheet.)

Post Office: Hoaglin State: Cal Month of: Feb, 1913
 Route No. 26087 from Hoaglin to Forest Park
 Number of round trips required each week _____ Mode of carrying mails: Forest Park
 Official schedule: Arrivals: 12 M Departures: 1 P M
 (Use standard railroad time.)

REPORT OF FAILURES TO PERFORM FULL SERVICE

Dates.	Miles omitted each trip.	Reasons in detail.

REPORT OF FAILURES TO OBSERVE OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

Dates.	Schedule actually observed.	Reasons for failure.

Report of miscellaneous irregularities, such as poor stock, unsatisfactory service, damaged mail, unusual road or weather conditions, change of contractor's address, etc.

Bad roads

NAMES OF CARRIERS SERVING ROUTE

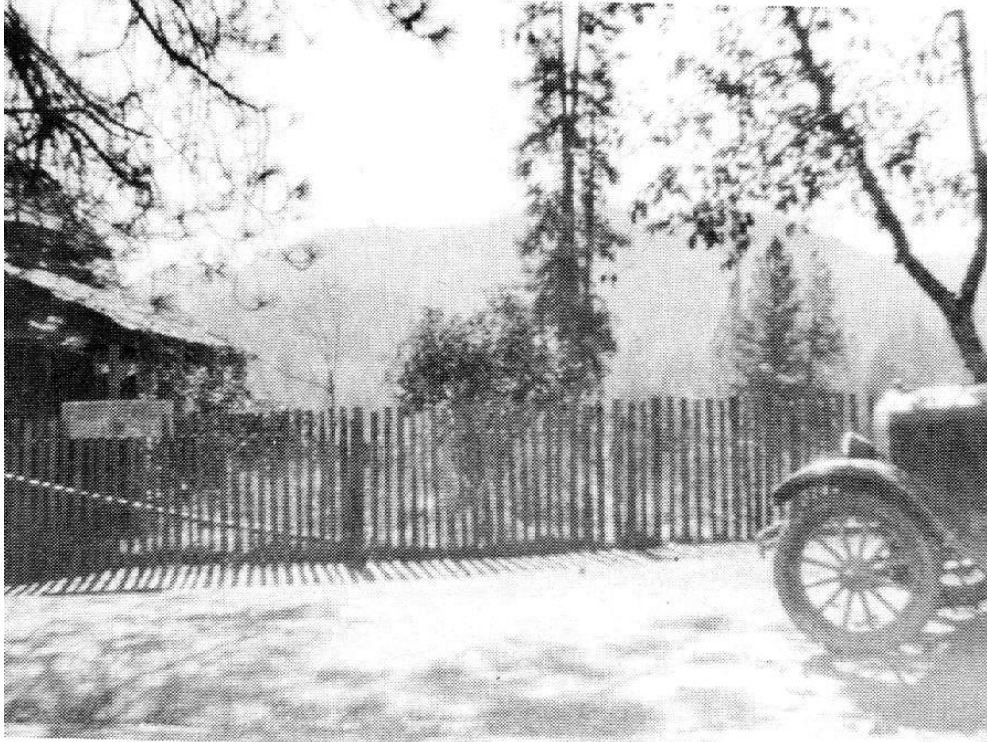
Name.	Dates of service.
<u>C. B. Hunt</u>	<u>1-8-15-22</u>

I certify that with the exceptions which I have reported above, the service on the route above described was properly performed in accordance with the schedule stated, by trustworthy and temperate carriers, to whom the prescribed oath was administered, whose employment was not in violation of section 1161, P. L. and R., with satisfactory stock and equipment, by or under the direction of the person providing the service under the contract, who has not removed from the locality of the route.

Elmer D. Halton
Postmaster.

FORM 2861 4-21

People and Places



Hoaglin Valley Post Office specific location and date unknown—possibly at the Holtorfs given that the northern end of Long Ridge is in the background. (Bauer and Barney 1997:255)

The following information is summarized from consultant interviews

John Holtorf (A5: ms05) wrote that:

H. Holtorf settled in Hoaglin Valley in 1888, there were two other settlers at the time, Lewis Meyers and D. W. Osborne. Meyers came in about 1870. The post office was established in the south end of the valley September 21, 1893, with David Osborne as the first postmaster....The post office was the first one south of South Fork Mountain.

Dave Martin (A5 ms05) noted that:

Mail came from Blocksburg to Zenia two or maybe three times a week by mule team or pack mule via Jeans Ranch road. Hoaglin was an old established post office, was supplied from Zenia, saddle horse and pack horse, via French Lake, Double Gates, Bluff Creek, Hoaglin School. Post office was at the Holtorf place in the big old ranch house.

May Gray Wruck (A8: Gray family) in 1967 wrote that:

The first post office at Hoaglin was established in 1894 or 1895. Henry Holtorf had the first contract to carry mail from Alderpoint to Hoaglin, twice

People and Places

a week by pack horse. Mr. Osborn was the first postmaster in Hoaglin Valley, now known as the Thompson [? somewhat illegible] place. The Wright family bought the Osborn Ranch. Mrs. Wright then became the postmistress. They had three children; ???rette [illegible], Edward and Genevieve, who also attended Hoaglin School. They moved to Fortuna and I have lost track of them. At that time the post office was moved to the Holtorf residence and Elsie Holtorf was appointed postmistress. When she married Walter Stewart of Petrolia, John Holtorf became postmaster in 1912. The post office was moved to Mr. Al Klems residence for a few years and then back to the Holtorfs.

Lake Mountain Post Office

F29 Map 6: T5S, R8E, S21

The Hoaglin Valley Post Office was closed and on April 26, 1936, a post office was established at Lake Mountain with Leona Miller as Postmistress. The Millers deeded the right-of-way to the county because public access to the ranch was needed and the road entrance into the Miller Ranch (see entry) was paved and maintained by the county. The county still keeps the road up leading up to the ranch area where the post office was located (that was in 1980s—it has since been closed down).



The post office building on the Miller Ranch in 1936.

(A6: I#003)

People and Places

The Lake Mountain Post office was discontinued and moved to Covelo July 31, 1953 (*History and Happenings* web link for Trinity County).

Mina Post Office

Not plotted on the Base Map.

This post office was located in Mendocino County about one mile south of the Trinity County line along the road from Round Valley to Zenia. According to the National Archives Washington D.C. the first Post Office was established at Mina June 26, 1914, with Mrs. Veda Roberts Wilson postmaster (A8: Scheubeck ms.).

One consultant noted that: "Our Post Office was named Mina after my sister Mina." (Appendix 8: Reed, Calla Caldwell c.1967). It was discontinued to Covelo August 31, 1938.

Almar Noyes Reed was Postmaster as of November 29 1919 and Russell Cummins was Postmaster June 30 1926 to August 31 1938.

Zenia Post Office

The post office is located to the west of the Study Area and was not Plotted on the Base Map.

The section below is summarized from Keter (1994a: 12).

In the late 1890s, in an effort to get a post office established, the residents of Zenia had to offer to deliver the mail free for six months from Blocksburg (via the old road past Pine Mountain). The Post Office would not accept the name Poison Camp. At that time the town was renamed Zenia after a little girl who was living in Blocksburg. One early resident recalled (Burgess Ms.) that in order to get the post office established there had to be a certain number of letter cancellations so "everyone wrote to everyone they knew--who says 'political maneuvering' is only a part of our modern way of life."

The post office was established April 24, 1899, and Mr. George Croydon was the postmaster--his wife the first mail carrier (TCHS *Trinity* 1971: 25)..

Croydon served as postmaster until June 22, 1907--then Sam Ledgerwood until 1933--Mrs Mary Elizabeth Parker until 1943 and then Mrs Blanche Smith—after that Rumley (date of service unclear). Later Thomas Record got the contract and the mail came to Zenia, then over the mountain through Hettenshaw Valley to Ruth.

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Today [2016], there is a new building across from the Zenia store--location of the old post office (actually it has been here for about two decades). It is the only remaining post office in southwestern Trinity County.

Powell, James

Not plotted on the Base Map.

Limited information is provided here based on interviews with Irene Stapp (A6: I#448).

James Powell was one of the earliest white men to enter this region of Humboldt County settling in the Blocksburg area. He was from Kentucky. He married Ellen Tom; who like Lucy [Young] was Wailaki. He gave her the name Ellen. Blocksburg was at first called Powellville—it was a small trading post at the head of Dobbys Creek. They had five children one of the girls who survived was Irene's grandmother Fannie Willburn (see B05).

Powell, Robert

Not plotted on the Base Map.

Irene Stapp Willburn (see entry) told a story about the "troubles" in the area {ie. the conflict with George White). At that time (early 1890's) Robert Powell the brother of her grandmother (Fanny Willburn Powell) was shot in the back and killed. It was rumored that he was mistaken for Jack Littlefield and was shot when he was riding to Zenia. He owned about 160 acres down along the North Fork (near Salt Creek) the exact location is unknown. There are interviews with Irene Stapp in Appendixes A4 and A6: I# 448.

Ellen Tom Powell

Not plotted on the Base Map.

Ellen Powell was the mother of Fannie Powell Willburn who married James S. Willburn (Jr.). See B05 for a Willburn family history. She was the great grandmother of Irene Stapp (A6: I#361, I#448). See the Powellville (Blocksburg) 1880 census (A3: 1880). See also Fannie Willburn entry and Lucy Young entry at B03.

People and Places

James Powell was one of the earliest white men to enter this region of Humboldt County settling in the Blocksburg area. He was from Kentucky. He married Ellen Tom; who like Lucy [Young] was Wailaki. He gave her the name Ellen. Blocksburg was at first called Powellville—it was a small trading post at the head of Dobbys Creek. They had five children one of the girls who survived was Irene's grandmother Fannie Willburn (see B05).

Prescott Homestead, Harry

Map 3: T3S, R7E, S. 16

See HF09.

Pumpkin Center

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

People and Places

Red Mountain House

Map 7: T26N, R12W, S. 19.

See HA01.

Reed, Henry

Not plotted on the Base Map.

The mail was first carried in from Alderpoint to Zenia, then to the Hoaglin Post Office, and finally to the Caution Post Office (see entries). The mail from Zenia to Caution was first carried by Henry Reed (see the Tom Duncan Mailbox Trail HTNF05). Reed, who was born in Sweden, lived in the Zenia area. e shows up (single with no family) on the 1900 and 1910 census. Note that Robb (1981: 363) spells the name Reid.

Reed Henry	Head	M	W	57	S
------------	------	---	---	----	---

1900 census (A3: 1900-3)

Reed Henry	Head	M	W	71	Md
------------	------	---	---	----	----

1910 Census (A3: 1910-5)

Reid, John S.

Not plotted on the Base Map. .

It appears that John Reid may have lived in the Zenia area—this needs to be confirmed—he is only discussed here in relation to the NFERW. It appears that he was a teacher at the Caution School (see entry). Tom Duncan (A5: ms05) indicated that:

John S. Reid did not live on Long Ridge, he only taught school on the east side of the Eel River as on that side were the most children, namely the children of Jim, Hiram, Sid, Aaron Willburn, Herman Meyers, and Gus Russ.

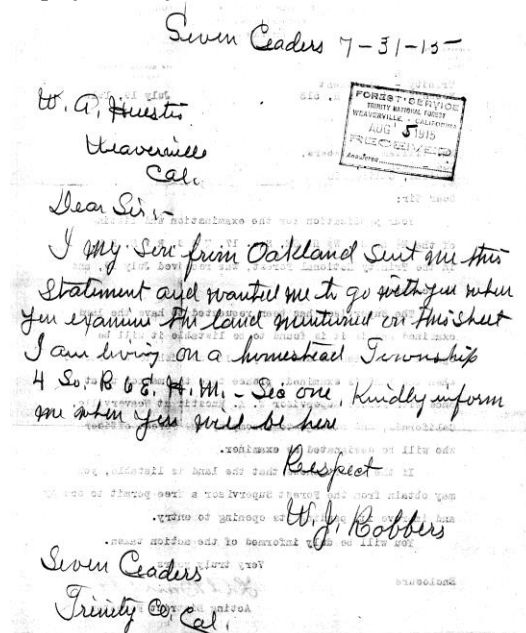
...He later became District Attorney.

People and Places

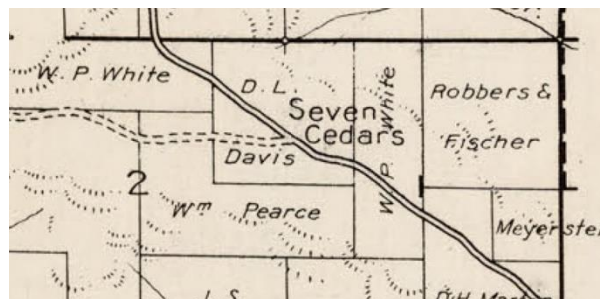
Robbers Roost/W. J. Robbers

F15 Map 3: T4S, R6E, S.1

The location is approximate. Robbers Roost appears to be mapped in several places on TNF and SFNR maps. Robber also declared entry on July 19th, 1915 on a tract of land to the west of HV and KV in T4S, R7E S 17. It was not listed and HE application 313 was withdrawn by Robbers on September 2, 1916. There is a hard copy file with several documents on this issue. There is a letter (the only relevant documentation on this tract) from Robbers to the TNF in the hard copy file dated July 31, 1915 requesting an examination for his HE for the tract in Section 1. The tract was located just to the west of the NF boundary. The actual location is somewhat problematic--I am using the 7.5' USGS map and the Garcelon map and notes (A5: ms01) where the location is shown as being just to the east of the Haman Ridge Road. However, some maps show it just to the west of the watershed divide—for example it is mapped incorrectly on the SRNF 1977 map (A2: 21b) as being to the west of the county road—at about the actual location of the Martin Ranch. The location is not clearly depicted on the 1931 HV 15' USGS map (A2: 23).



The tract shows up on the Belcher Title and abstract map for 1922—usually quite accurate—as being to the east of the county road.



Robbers tract
(A2: 26b)

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Robb (1981: 353) noted Robbers lived there from about 1915-1919 and that after 1919:

...it was used as a summer camp, hunting headquarters, and general recreation area. Buildings were still standing as late as 1951. Traditionally the area has been known as Alexander Flat as a man named Alexander used it for a sheep camp for the Armstrong Ranch.

Garcelon ms (Appendix 5: ms01) wrote:

Robbers Roost was settled in 1915 **across the road from the Martin ranch**, by a Mr. W. J. Robbers who lived there until 1919. The maps all show Robbers Roost about 1/2 mile west at a large rock which is known as Government rock. This is wrong. The name Robbers Roost came from a conversation with Mr. Martin and others when they were out working and at the end of the day Mr. Robbers stated that he was going back to his roost. Hence---Robbers Roost. It was used by settlers passing through or new comers until they made other arrangements for their own homesteads. [Emphasis added.]

Ivan Jeans (TCHS 1957: 94) indicated that the [Lloyd] Huber Mill was located near Robbers Roost. Dave Martin (A5:ms05:1951) wrote that:

Robbers established Robbers Roost and he lived there until 1919. "The "Roost" was use a great deal during the next dozen years by Robbers relations and friends as a summer camp, hunting headquarters and general outing place. It still has some of the building standing [1951] though the timber is crowding in hard."

Rowley A6: I#444 noted that:

Huber and Garsland [spelling possibly incorrect] ran a mill at Robbers Roost. The original owner of the mill was Pitt White. At that time his sons Floyd and Willis White ran the mill

Rogers, Abe

Not plotted on the Base Map. .

See Lucy Young B03.

According to Robb (1981: 354), Rogers lived to the west of Zenia at what also known as the Allan place located on the bluffs road to Alderpoint. [That is the route of the current county road build by the WPA during the depression—it may not have gone through all the way to Alderpoint before that date. See Keter 2011b.] Rogers along with George Burgess, James Howe, and Commodore Peabody traveled from the gold mining region of Trinity County to Poison Camp in the mid to late 1850s. They camped near a spring. A manuscript containing

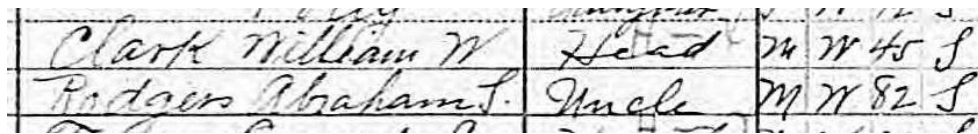
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the Burgess family history indicates that Steve Fleming and Jim Willburn were also with this group (Keter 1994a).

The name Poison Camp (the poisonous larkspur near the spring where they were camped killed some of their livestock) was later changed to Zenia (See Zenia entry). In about 1865, Burgess, French, Rogers, and Peabody returned from the Trinity mines and settled in the vicinity of Zenia. George's brother Ed took up a homestead in the Zenia area in 1882 (Robb 1978:22).

Rogers was living with (but not it appears legally married) Lucy Young for about 30 years and they had four children together [see B03 Lucy and Sam Young]. Census records for Hayfork 1860 list Abe Rogers age 27 birth Place "Missouri" (dated 7/7/1860), occupation "farmer" and that he was married to "Mary" age: "15" who was listed as "Indian." This may very well have been Lucy Rogers Young given her age (Lucy was born in 1844 according to family records (personal communication Tichetsa Thelili: Keter 2009 and B03).

Rogers was still living in the Zenia area at his nephew's place at the time of the 1910 census.



Clark William W.	Head	74	W	45	M
Rodgers Abraham J.	Uncle	77	W	82	M

On 1910 census Rogers was living with his nephew the Clark family.

(A3: 1910-3)

Rohrbough, J. H.

Not plotted on the Base Map.

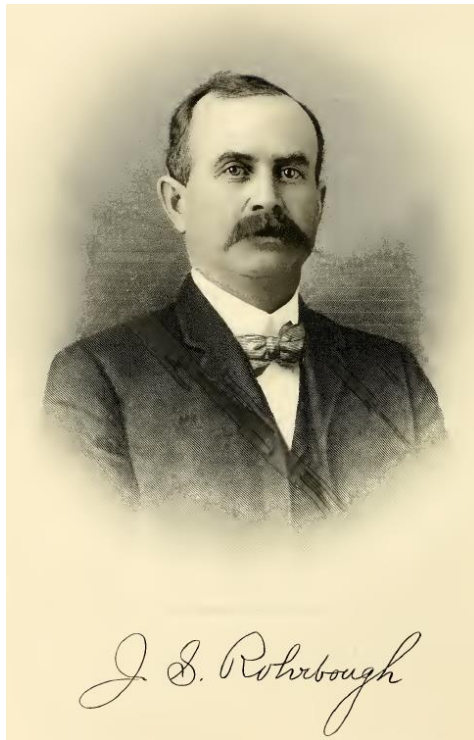
John Rohrbough was the nephew of George White. He was born in West Virginia in 1859 (C&B 1981: 372). He moved to Round Valley in 1876 to visit White and then worked on his ranch. The following information on Rohrbough from the *History of Lake and Mendocino County* (Carpenter and Millberry 1914: 205) is provided as he became one of the largest land holders within the NFERW by about 1915.

The presence of an uncle, G. E. White, in Mendocino county was the factor governing his removal from the east and his arrival here during 1876, after which he was engaged as an employee on the ranch of his uncle in Round valley at a salary of \$20 a month. Industry and energy were apparent in his earliest associations with agriculture. An innate spirit of frugality enabled him to save his first earnings to be used in the purchase of property, his first purchase being the flour mill in Covelo, where he has manufactured that product ever since by the steam full roller process, with a capacity of fifty barrels. He also engaged in the stock business, renting land and as he was able purchasing small ranches, thus becoming the owner of several thousand acres. And when his uncle G. E. White's large holdings were offered for sale by various banks and insurance companies on foreclosure of mortgage he

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took over all of them, going into debt for the larger part. Continuing to raise wheat and manufacture it into flour, which he shipped as far as Ukiah, and engaging in the raising of hay and feeding of cattle, he was enabled to settle the obligation, his different ranches now embracing in all some twenty-five thousand acres of tillable land in Mendocino, Humboldt and Trinity counties, over two thousand acres being level valley land nearly in the center of Round valley, forming one of the richest and most fertile tracts in the county, a small agricultural empire reflecting credit upon the ability of its owner and forming a source of merited pride on his part. He makes a specialty of raising large herds of cattle, which range on his different ranches, his brand being 55. For some years he has been breeding full-blooded roan Durham cattle on his home ranch, and these bulls are turned loose on his different ranges. He has also sold more than a score of these full-blooded animals to stockmen in the county, so contributing greatly toward bringing the quality of the cattle to a high standard. He also owns large flocks of sheep, breeding French Merinos, and has raised a large number of horses and mules. In the operation of his ranch he uses the latest machinery, using the largest traction engine manufactured, a Rumely oil pull 30x60, for plowing as well as pulling the combined harvester. He is rapidly converting different fields into alfalfa and rents some of his lands for dairy purposes, which is rapidly taking a lead in intensified farming.

... For a number of years he has been a director of the Bank of Willits, in which he holds a large block of stock. [Emphasis added.]



(Carpenter and Millberry 1914: 204)

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It is clear from the above quote that Rohrbough had a talent for making money and over the years he became one of the wealthiest men most respected in northern Mendocino County. Carpenter and Millberry (1914: 99) wrote glowingly of Rohrbough in their *History of Mendocino and Lake Counties* :

Although highly successful, the fact that his character is free from self-seeking and self-aggrandizement enables him to wield a more than temporary influence in affairs of the valley and county.

They (Carpenter and Millberry (1914: 99) noted that "North of Round valley is another large range, a remnant of the George E. White principality, that of J. S. Rohrbough, containing 4300 acres, of fine grass country." Much of this property was within the NFERW

The story of how Rohrbough acquired much of this land paints a much less glowing picture of him as an upstanding citizen. Rohrbough figured prominently in the infamous George White divorce trail of his third wife Frankie White (see entry). He was falsely accused by White of committing adultery with Frankie White in order to divorce her (one of the few grounds for divorce at the time). What is even more surprising is that Rohrbough in the divorce trail perjured himself to support White's accusation. During the trial, White paid off so many witnesses to perjure themselves that the judge in the case, in his ruling, wrote he had never in his entire career on the bench seen a case where so much perjured evidence and testimony was introduced: "it appeared that every one of the witnesses who testified in behalf of White either had received his reward or expected to get it" (C&B 1981: 251). The judge placed Rohrbough at the top of his list of the miscreants writing that: "the meanest of the perjured witnesses would scarcely change places with him, for he did not only assent to it, but paid some of the witnesses [sic] money and helped them out of town."

To make matters worse this individual of such moral "character," after the judge's ruling, secretly entered into a conspiracy with George White to keep Frankie White from getting any of the properties awarded to her in the divorce settlement—this is relevant since much of this property were the tracts of land owned by White in the NFERW.

Carranco and Beard (1981: 252:258) give a complete overview of the divorce settlement, White's conspiracy with Rohrbough to deny Frankie White any property, and the subsequent actions of the court to enforce their viaduct against White—including, at one time, sentencing both White and Rohrbough to five days in jail in San Francisco for contempt of court.

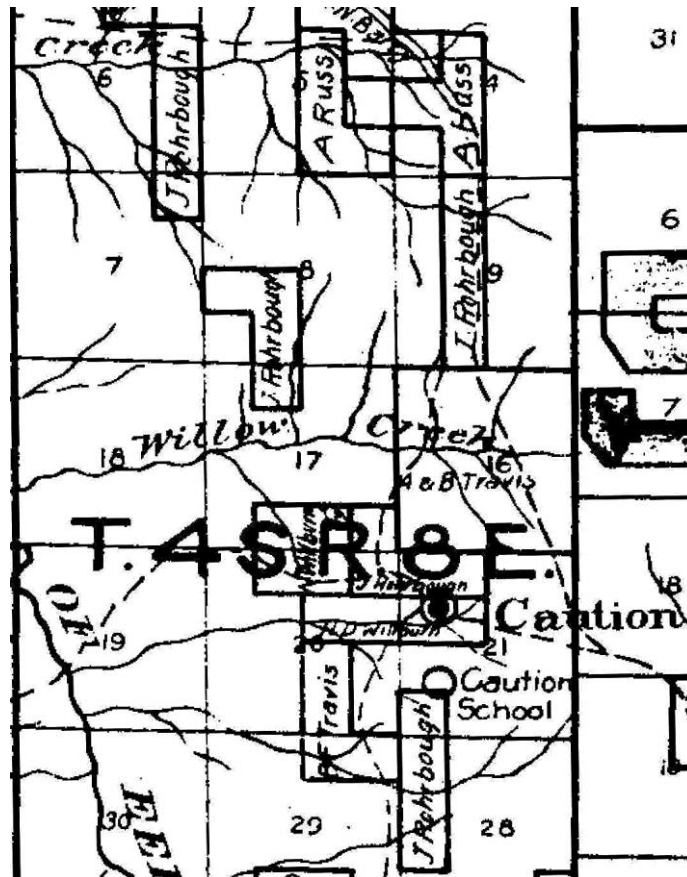
The trail and the subsequent verdict in the divorce case resulted in Frankie White acquiring a substantial number of the tracts of land owned by White—including about 2,000 acres in Trinity County—much of it within the NFERW including tracts of land that later became the Travis Ranch (see F05, J. Rae, and Travis Brothers entries).

As a result of the conspiracy, Rohrbough acquired a number of tracts of lands in Trinity and southern Humboldt County (see maps A2: 26b and 29). He later purchased a number of

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other tracts of land until he became one of the largest land holders in northern Mendocino, southeastern Humboldt and southeastern Trinity Counties.

In addition to the tracts of land Rohrbough acquired from White, he also began to buy up tracts of land within the NFERW that were being abandoned by homesteaders who simply could not make a living on their remote homesteads. The TNF 1915 map section below shows a number of tracts of land formerly owned by members of the Willburn extended family on the east side of the NFER north of Red Mountain Creek as already being owned by Rohrbough at that time. Refer to the Base Map and the respective homesteads in this area from more on this subject.



Note the number of homesteads that Rohrbough had acquired by 1915 just to the north of Red Mountain Creek.
(A2: 29)

Consultant Information

Andrew Scheubeck (A8) noted that:

In the Spring of 1935, my parents took over the five claims in the area that were owned by John S Rohrbough. These were the Diggins place-- where I now live -- The Hiram Scott claim-- the James Pullen claim -- the Robinson

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place and Frank Doolittle's homestead. My parents and I moved on to the Diggins place. Hannah was going to High School in Covelo.

After a few years it was apparent that my Father's latest deal with John S Rohrbough had failed financially. John S. Rohrbough was dead and his son John D. being a trusting soul turned the Diggins-- Scott and Pullen--Claims over to me and let Terrill Reed have the Doolittle and Robinson claims. In 1945 I paid the Rohrbough Family off and got a clear title to the place. During this time my parents lived here.

Rutledge, Arthur Elmer

Not plotted on the Base Map.

See B03 Lucy and Sam Young. Rutledge lived in the Zenia area.

Birth: 16 Apr 1865. Death: 27 Feb 1953 buried at Lakeport, Lake County.

Russ, Augustus (Gus)

See HA08

Russ, Rose

See HA08 and IF02.

Rose Russ was the wife of Augustus Russ. She along with her two "uncles" (this relationship is not confirmed) were the first African Americans to live within the NFERW.

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Basically, the problem is twofold; the exact location of some of the schools is unclear as are the dates that they were open. For example, as discussed below, often a school within the NFERW was recorded as being located within the "Long Ridge School District." However, this does not indicate the exact location of the school. One clue to the location of the school can be the census data. For example, the page from the *Register of School Trustees* presented below clearly shows that this record ("Caution" from 1935-1937) is probably related to the school on Long Ridge since it refers to individuals who live in this immediate area (the Duncan family, the Church Willburn family, and Frank Travis).

Image 1

TRUSTEES	CLERK OF BOARD	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	APPOINTED ELECTED	DATE OF ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT	TERM ENDS	REMARKS
1935 Duncan, Thos. G.		Caution				
Willburn, C.D.		Caution				
Willburn, Mrs Irene		Caution	X	Mar. 31, 1933	May 1, 1936	
Willburn, John	Mrs Irene Willburn	Caution	X	Apr. 18, 1934	May 1, 1937	Resigned Apr. 22, 1937
1936 Willburn, C.D.		Caution				
Willburn, Mrs Irene		Caution	X	Mar. 29, 1935	May 1, 1938	
Travis, Frank	Mrs Irene Willburn	Caution	X	May, 15, 1935	May 1, 1936	
		Caution	X	Apr. 18, 1934	July 1, 1937	
		Caution	X	Mar. 29, 1935	July 1, 1938	
1937 Willburn, Mrs Irene	Mrs Irene Willburn	Caution	X	June 15, 1936	July 1, 1939	
Travis, Frank		Caution				
Willburn, C.D.		Caution	X	Mar. 29, 1935	July 1, 1938	
		Caution	X	June 15, 1936	July 1, 1939	
1938 Travis, Frank		Caution				
Willburn, C.D.		Caution	X	Mar. 29, 1935	July 1, 1938	
Betts, Mrs Esther		Caution	X	June 15, 1936	July 1, 1940	
		Lake Mountain	X	June 18, 1936	July 1, 1939	
		Lake Mountain	X	June 4, 1937	July 1, 1940	
1939 Willburn, C.D.	Mrs Esther Betts	Lake Mountain	X	July 1, 1938	July 1, 1941	
Betts, Mrs Esther	Mr C.D. Willburn	Lake Mountain	X	June 4, 1937	July 1, 1940	
Travis, Frank		Lake Mountain	X	July 1, 1938	July 1, 1941	
Duncan, Nancy		Lake Mountain	X	June 2, 1939	July 1, 1942	Died Aug/39
		Zenia	X	Oct. 11, 1939	July 1, 1942	
1940 Willburn, Church D.	Church D. Willburn	Lake Mountain	X	July 17, 1940	July 1, 1943	
Betts, Mrs. Esther		Lake Mountain	X	July 1, 1938	July 1, 1941	
Duncan, Mrs. Nancy		Zenia	X	October 11, 1939	July 1, 1942	

Page from the record book on southern Trinity County Schools
(Provided by Jim French)

The earliest schools established within the NFERW were often accessible only by trail and were so isolated that teachers often boarded with a nearby family during the school year. Classes were sometimes held in a ranch house, but often a small building, and more often than not an outhouse, were was constructed by local residents. These buildings were fairly primitive, since classes were held during the summer months little was needed in the way of insulation or weather proofing. Figures seem to vary, but between 5.5 and 6 or 7 students were needed to hire a teacher and establish a school. As noted in the Pilot Ridge

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study (Keter 2014) it was not unusual to hire a teacher with children to help meet the minimum number of student required by the county to fund a school.

The schools taught all grades up to the eight grade (this needs to be further confirmed but was the usual case in the backwoods). Often children were sent to high school in Covelo, Fortuna, and Weaverville. Jim Burgess (TCHS tape) indicated, for example, that Wayne Martin (see entry) attended high school in Weaverville and lived with a local family, while Zelma Benninghoven's mother moved to Fortuna so that she and her sister and a cousin could attend school (A6: I#390).

Betts Family School

Nothing in the historical literature was found related to the fact that a school was established at some point—perhaps it lasted for only a year or two--on the Betts Place (F02). The information on a school at the Betts place was provided by Jim Burgess (TCHS tape: 2005) in an interview with Jim French (recording on file TCHS). Given his knowledge on the area and the census data presented below, this appears to be a valid assertion although it would be useful to further research this subject.

Burgess indicated that Betts "put up a building and they [the county] hired a school teacher to come in because he had eleven children I think. There was other kids who went there too." [Nine Betts children are listed on the 1940 census—see below.]

Since there are two tracts of land identified that Betts owned just to the south of Long Ridge divide in the Lousy Creek area, the Betts School is not plotted on the Base Map. See the Charles Edward Betts entry for a discussion of where this school may have been located. Given the fact that the 1940 census (below) shows six of their nine children as being of school age, it is likely that if indeed school was held at the Betts place it was at about this time.

Betts Edward C.	Head	0	M	W	52	M	Mo	8
Esther	wife	1	F	W	39	M	Mo	8
Ruth	daughter	2	F	W	16	S	Mo	H
Eileen	daughter	2	F	W	14	S	Mo	H
Ethel	daughter	2	F	W	12	S	Mo	6
Irene	daughter	2	F	W	10	S	Mo	6
Arletta	daughter	2	F	W	9	S	Mo	5
Edward	daughter	2	F	W	7	S	Mo	1
Ross	son	2	M	W	6	S	Mo	C
Leona	daughter	2	F	W	4	S	Mo	C
Ida	daughter	2	F	W	2	S	Mo	C

1940 Census for Edward Betts family
(A3: 1940-8)

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No other consultants mentioned the Betts School and Jim French who worked for the TC school district also had never heard of it (see Burgess tape: 2005). It is suggested that further research in the TC School District records may shed more light on this subject.

Caution School

F20b Map 7: T4S, R8E, S.20

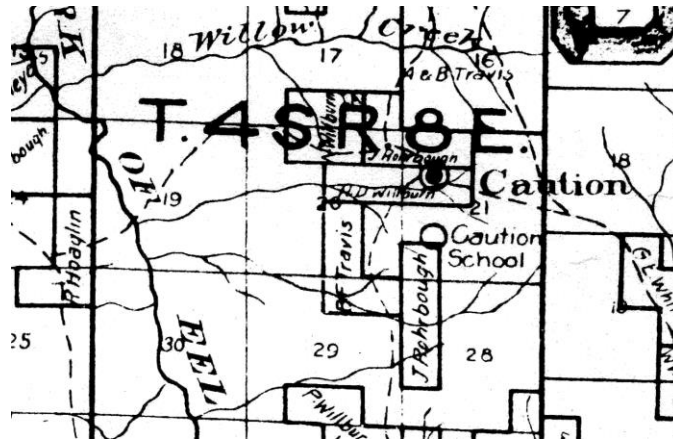
There is some confusion over the location, the name, and the years that this school was open, and as discussed below, this is reflected in the historical literature. The Caution School is usually identified as that school situated on the east side of the NFER (F20b on the Base Map) adjacent to the Hiram Willburn place. That school has also been referred to as the "North Fork School" and "Pumpkin Center." However, as indicated in the TC School District Records, during the 1935-1937 school years, and after the Caution/North Fork School was closed, the school was moved to Long Ridge (originally referred to as the "Long Ridge School," see below). After that move, it appears that the Long Ridge School became referred to as the "Caution School". This may very well be because by that time the Caution Post Office had been moved (in 1915) to Location #3 (F20c) on Long Ridge.

During the archaeological survey for the Lightfoot Timber Sale (in about the mid 1980s)--at this location--I recorded a prehistoric/historic site (05-10-54-278). It was situated in a young pole-sized stand of Douglas fir on an old logging flat. The site record notes that some of the historic artifacts found at this location suggest that it was the location of the Caution School. The most notable artifact was the wrought-iron curved side of an old time student desk. There should be some B&W photographs in the site record.

The actual location of the school is not provided on the Base Map as it is also the location of a prehistoric flake scatter. F20b is actually the possible location of the post office and the Hiram Willburn Place (HF11). The school was located to the south and east of the Willburn cabin. Although the school may have been intended to be located on the Hiram Willburn place, when the school site was recorded it appeared to be mostly or all on national forest lands as it was located along the edges of a proposed Lightfoot Timber Sale (CRIR on file SRNF by Keter) timber harvest unit. As is often the case in this area, due to problems with the original GLO surveys, this may very well be the result of the property lines having been resurveyed. Given it has been over three decades since this site was recorded, it is recommended that the site record be reviewed to insure the accuracy of the above statements. Note that the map below shows separate locations for the school and post office.

Note that the Caution School shows up as TNF lands and is in a different location than the Post Office located on the H.D. Willburn place. Also note that by then 1915 J. Rohrbough and the Travis brothers had acquired the Willburn tracts just to the south and west of the Caution School--see HF06 and HF07.

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1915 TNF map.
(A2: 28)

Prior to 1915, the tract of land borders the Hiram Willburn property to the south was owned by James E. Willburn (HF01) the son of Fannie Willburn who quite likely lived there. She filed homestead entry claims just to the south see HF06 and HF07.

Tom Duncan (A5: ms05) mentioned the names of some of the children attending the school and wrote that one of the teachers at the Caution School was John S. Reid (see entry):

John S. Reid did not live on Long Ridge, only taught school on the east side of the Eel River as on that side were the most children, namely, children of Jim, Hiram, Sid, Aaron Willburn, Herman Myers, Gus Russ. [See respective entries.]

No definitive information was located to determine just when this school was open. The bulk of the evidence based on census and homestead records--outlined below--suggests that the Caution School dates to the second decade of the twentieth century. There is strong evidence that the Caution School was actually open only for a few years sometime during the period from about 1905 to about 1920.

Members of the extended Willburn family (with young children) did not begin to file for homestead entries in this area until about the first decade of the 20th century; in addition to the Hiram Willburn entry (HF11) see also HF01, HF02, HF06, HF07, and HF08. Given the number and ages of the children on the various Willburn homesteads (also the nearby Russ family and the Meyers family), it was only during the period from about 1905 to about 1915 or 1920 when there would have been enough children in this area to need a school. As indicated on the map above, by 1915 although the school was still identified on the map, the tracts of land owned by the Willburn family to the south of the H.D. Willburn place had been sold.

In addition, an interview with Irene Willburn Stapp (see below) also indicates that the school was open in the period from about 1905 to 1915. When I mentioned to Irene Stapp

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(A6: I#448) that I had located the old school site on the east side of the North Fork near (to the north) Fanny Willburn's place, she indicated that it was called "Pumpkin Center" and that her mother Francis Willburn (she was 8 years old in 1900) used to go to school there. Her Grandmother was Fanny Willburn. She said that: "A Mrs. Dearing taught school at Caution."

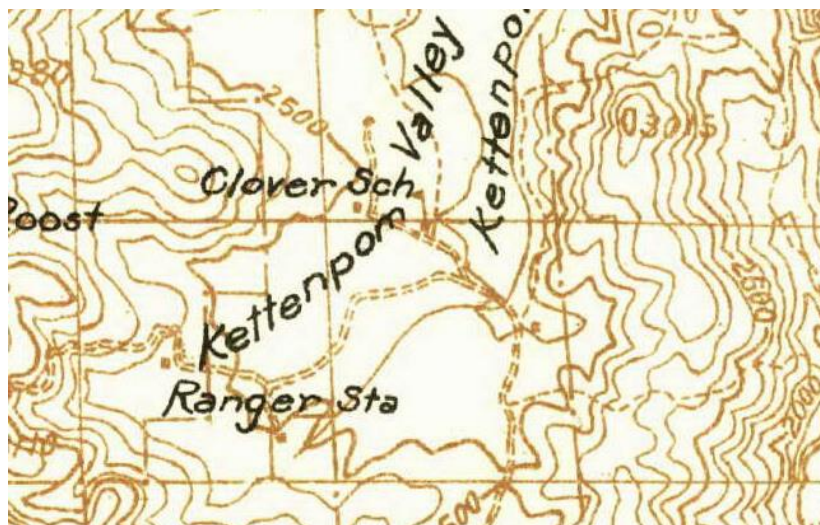
Fannie Willburn filed for entry on two separate tracts of land in this area—see HF06 and HF07. She was most likely living on her son James homestead at that time. It was not unusual in this area for extended families to "block up" several contiguous 160 acre homesteads by having family members file for entry.

As noted earlier, it is not clear when the school was closed, but at that time a 200 pound bell was taken to Long Ridge by Tom Duncan for use at the Long Ridge School. See that entry for more on when the North Fork/Caution school was closed and information on the school bell.

Clover School

F25 Map 3: T4s, R7E, S. 9

Some information (Garcelon A5: ms01) indicated this was the Abe Clover Place that however, does not comport with other data concerning the Clover Place (see F08). Other than its showing up on a number of maps (see below for an example and the 1967 Zenia 7.5' USGS map) there are no references to the "Clover School" in the literature or interviews. This location (near the Shannon landing strip) appears to have been better known as the Hoaglin School--see that entry below for more information. See also the Ted Shannon entry HF16 for more information on this area.



Hoaglin Valley USGS map showing the Clover School located in Kettenpom Valley in 1931.

(A2: 23)

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Hettenshaw Valley School

Not Mapped on the Base Map.

There was a school located just to the north the NFERW in Hettenshaw Valley. For information on this school see Robb 1981. Since this school is to the north of the project area, only pertinent information acquired in interviews is provided here. Irene Stapp (A; 6: I#448) noted that:

There was a school in Hettenshaw Valley at one time probably in the late 1800's. It was located on Shop Hill just to the NW of the old Wilburn place. The location is to the east of the county road along the west side of Hettenshaw Valley where it goes up and over a small rise in the road. It was a one room school. Irene's mother was born in 1889 and went to school there with the older Frank Wilburn. At that time there was no school at Caution and Long Ridge and the children from the North Fork basin often boarded with relatives in the Valley.

Quite a few people lived in the valley most were part of the extended families of the Willburns or the Duncans. [The Leonidas Duncan extended family.]

As noted in the sections below on the Caution/North Fork School and the Long Ridge School the bell from this school, after it was closed due to lack of students—eventually ended up at the Long Ridge School.

Jim Burgess (TCHS tape: 2005) discusses this school in an interview with Jim French that is on file at the TCHS.

Hoaglin School

F06/F25 Map 3: T4s, R7E, S 9. See also the Clover School.

The Hoaglin School was located at several different places over the years. Between the problems with the original GLO surveys, the lack of historical data, and the exact location of the school over the years, the following chronology is incomplete and problematic. There may be records in Weaverville that would help to clarify this situation.

In about 1890, the school was voted from Long Ridge (see entry below) to Kettenpom Valley. It was named *Hetten pom* [Kettenpom] and was located about a mile north of Hoaglin Valley (apparently in the southern end Kettenpom Valley) for a short time; it was then moved Hoaglin Valley.

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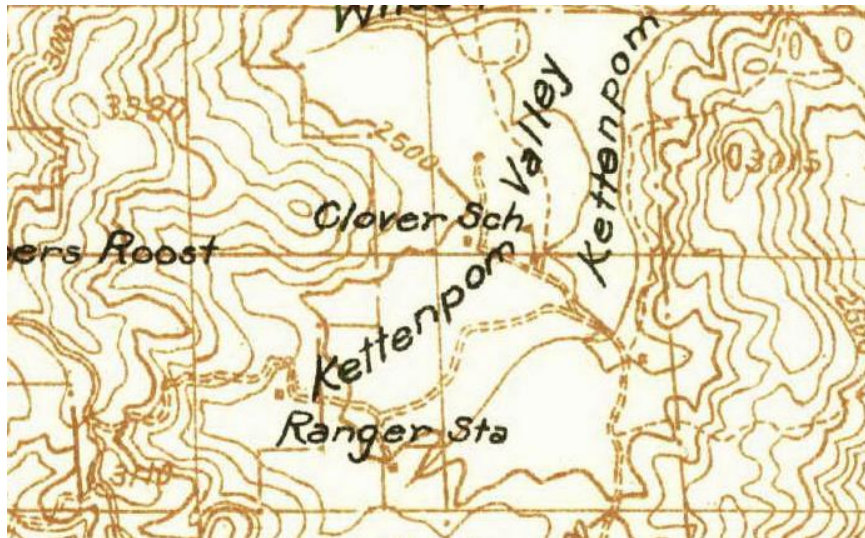
Over the next several decades the Hoaglin School moved a number of times. The data below provides a less than definitive timeline and the various locations for the school, but is all the data that was found on this subject. It appears that in Hoaglin Valley the location of the school was on the H. Holtorf ranch—possibly at F06 (see Robb 1981: 351).

Wayne and Bertha Martin (A6: I#395) noted that:

In the 1930's and early 1940's Hoaglin valley was a small settlement with its own school and Al Clem had the post office and a small store and then the post office was moved to the Holtorf ranch. [Bertha Martin] taught school on Forest Service land along the Mad River in 1935-36 in a tent it was an "emergency school". For one boy of 13 it was the first time that he had attended school. She then moved to the Hoaglin School where she taught for five years (until 1941).

Robb (1978) (referring to its location on the Holtorf place--see below) noted that: "The Hoaglin school, although rebuilt after a fire in 1915, stands in its original location." This, however, conflicts with information, as noted above, that indicates the Hoaglin School at some point it was moved to Kettenpom Valley for a period of time. For example, the 1931 USGS map (below) indicates that the school shown as —"Clover Sch."-- (F25) was located in Kettenpom Valley. It is unclear just how this school was named the Clover School, since documents indicate that the Clover homestead was located just to the north of Kettenpom Valley—see F08 and the 1931 TNF map (A2: 15).

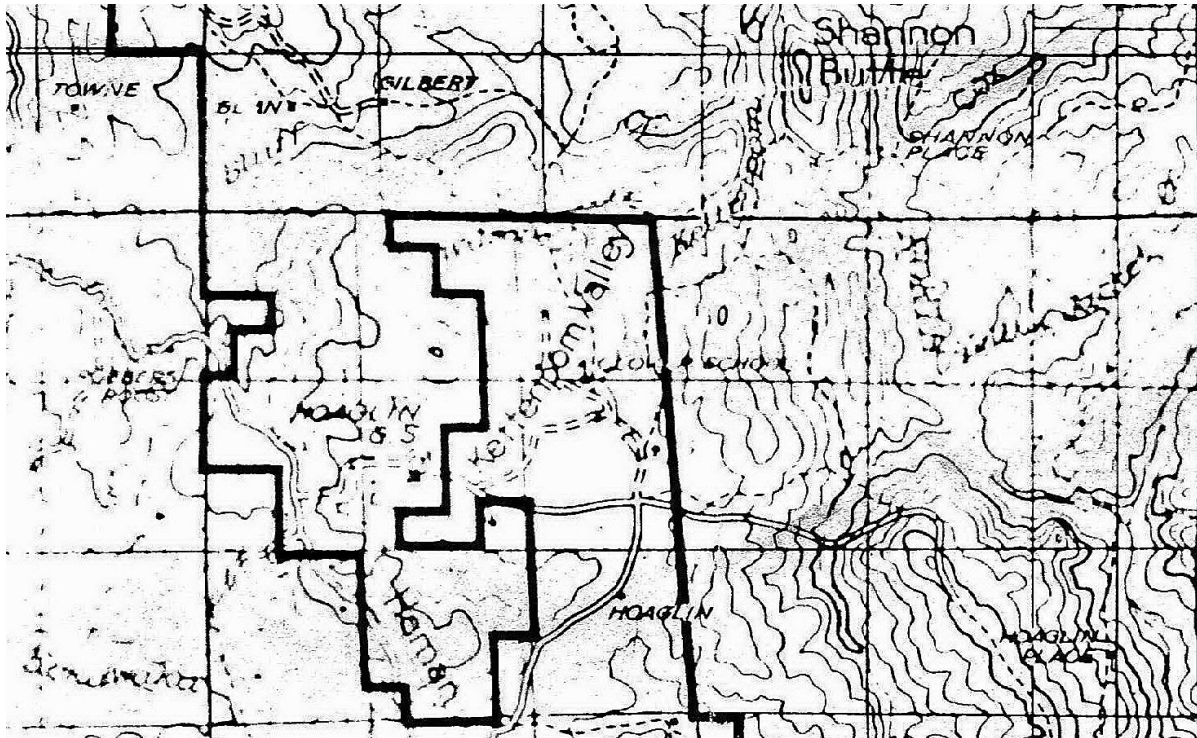
To confuse things even further, Jim Burgess (TCHS tape 2005) indicated that when he was young the schoolhouse was located "right off from Shannon airport"—this actually looks like the location of the Clover School on the map below.



1931 USGS map showing the Clover School as being location in Kettenpom Valley.
(A2: 25)

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Also, it appears from other interview data that the tract where the Clover School was located may have been owned by William Shannon (HF16a, b, c). Shannon may have purchased the tract from Clover (or Klem) as he bought up several old homesteads in the area. This, however, is not confirmed.



The 1941 TNF Map also shows the location of the "Clover School"
(upper center crossing the dark boundary line).

(A2: 15)

In Hoaglin Valley, the school was at some point located on the Holtorf Ranch (at F06). The following information was provided by Robb (1981: 351) on the Hoaglin School.

Sitting in the middle of a large overgrazed field is the old one-room Hoaglin schoolhouse. It looks like a classic example of an abandoned prairie schoolhouse. It was built in 1915 after an earlier school had burned. The use of this building as a school was not regular, for the doors were sometimes closed for lack of students. The original part of the school is a one-story medium gable structure. A cross-gable has been added to the rear and the entire building rests on wooden blocks. The roof's original shingles are exposed in large patches where newer tin has been torn off. A hip roof entry porch and the use of a dental molding are exceptional features of this building which is located in a very rural, functionally oriented area.

People and Places

Consultant Interviews

May Gray (A8: Gray) wrote that:

We girls attended Hoaglin School, a three mile walk from our home on Bluff Creek. It's a beautiful country and our memories of school days are very pleasant. Most of the children came from greater distances, riding horseback to school. As I remember, eighteen was the largest attendance while we were there. The schoolhouse was built of hand hewn logs. It burned in 1917 and was rebuilt the same year. [This would have most likely placed the school at that time in Hoaglin Valley.]

The school was the center of much of the social life, old fashioned dances, etc., being held there. Whole families attended from miles around. The brought quilts to put the small ones to sleep on, in a corner of the room. Everyone brought sandwiches and cakes. They made coffee in a five gallon can for a midnight supper. It was an all-night affair beings it was too dark to travel the rough trails home on horseback. There was always plenty of food for a snack in the morning before leaving for home at sun up. The music was a violin with a guitar accompaniment and a caller to call changes for quadrills.

When we first attended Hoaglin School, it was in session only seven months of the year. Winter was too stormy for traveling.

Zelma Benninghoven (A6: I#390) noted that:

During the 1950s there was an increase in logging in the area and many small mills opened providing employment. Also, due to the logging, the roads were improved reducing their isolation. Due to the influx of people into the area related to logging the school hired an extra teacher and there were 40 students attending class in two session morning and afternoon. At that time there were about 20 students in Hoaglin Valley.

It is not clear just when the Hoaglin School was closed—most likely as the timber industry declined and people moved out of the area. At that time it was replaced by the Hoaglin-Zenia School. It is suggested the further information on dates this school was open can be found in the school records archived at the TCHS.

People and Places

Hoaglin-Zenia School

Not mapped on the Base Map

This school is still in operation. It is located just to the west of the NFERW along the road from Zenia to Round Valley. For more information on this school see the TC school records in Weaverville. Also refer to the Jim Burgess interview (TCHS tape: 2005). After this school was established it eventually became the only school in SWTC.

One consultant, Zelma Benninghoven (A6: I#390), indicated after the school was established:

During the 1950s there was an increase in logging in the area and many small mills opened providing employment. Also, due to the logging, the roads were improved reducing their isolation. Due to the influx of people into the area related to logging the school hired an extra teacher and there were 40 students attending class in two session morning and afternoon. At that time there were about 20 students in Hoaglin Valley.

Lake Mountain School

F29/F29a Map 6: T5S, R8E, S21.

The Lake Mountain School was located just to the south of the project area. There is not much information on this school and the area was not visited. It appears from the interview below that the Lake Mountain School was established in 1929. Leona Miller (A6: #003) noted that:

"There was no school in the area so we helped to form the Lake Mountain School District and with the kindness and cooperation of Miss Lucy Young we were allowed to hold school in one of the homesteader's houses, Mr. Carl Reynolds, until our new house was completed. The school moved there the Fall of 1929 with Mrs. Georgina Huffman as teacher. She was a wonderful person as well as teacher and gave our children a good substantial foundation with principle to guide them all their lives. We owe much to her wise counseling and fair handling of every situation."

"Mrs. Huffman was also a certified High School teacher so Mrs. Clara Van Mater allowed her to teach that too. Arthur had three years here then went to Vallejo and graduated there.

It appears from the above statement that school was first held in the Reynolds residence then at the Miller place. This needs to be confirmed as a third location was provided by Jim Burgess (TCHS tape: 2005). He indicated that there was another location for the Lake

People and Places

Mountain School further to the south near the "Hotchkiss place." He gave no dates for when this school was open. The approximate location of the school is plotted on the Base Map as F29a based on his input.

Long Ridge School

F07 Map 6: T4S, R7E, S. 36 (School Section)

By the late 1870s, so many families with children were living in the Long Ridge/Hoaglin Valley region that a school was needed. In about 1879 local homesteaders built the schoolhouse on Long Ridge near a perennial spring (Schoolhouse Spring on USGS maps) about half-way down Long Ridge. Billy Malone was the first teacher (Tom Duncan A5: ms05). At that time, it was the only school south and west of South Fork Mountain in Trinity County (TCHS *Yearbook* 1956: 25). Most of the students were members of the extended Willburn and Duncan families.

John Holtorf (A5: ms05) provided the following information on the Long Ridge School:

I have a register of Trinity Co. of 18?? [illegible] and they gave their ages at that time Tom Duncan was one of the oldest children he was 7 years old at 1880 [listed as 8 in the 1880 census]. This school was voted from Long Ridge to Hoaglin in about 1890 and was named *Hetten pom* [Kettenpom] that valley is about a mile north of Hoaglin and later was changed to Hoaglin same as the P. O.

At some point after the school closed in about 1890, it was reopened as a number of homesteaders on Long Ridge had large families during the early 1900s. Further research will be needed, but it is clear that the school was open during portions of the 1920s and 1930s. Jim French who worked for the Trinity School District and lived in SWTC provided the following information (personal communication) on when the school was open.

The earliest record I found was from 1900 from school warrants collection, interesting, there were no warrants issued for Long Ridge from 1902-1914, which would lead me to believe they were not in operation during those years. The district lapsed into the Hoaglin district in 1955 as shown below.

This would tend to agree with the information discussed earlier that suggests the school was reopened—possibly in the 1920s. Refer to the 1920 census pages one and two in the Appendix (A3: 1920-1 and 2)--it is clear that there were a number of families at that time living in the Long Ridge area (the listing was first labeled "Caution Precinct" and later changed to "Mad River Twp."

Jim Burgess' (TCHS tape: 2005) sister Addie taught school there from 1929 to 1932. During the school week she stayed at Church Willburn's house (HA05) "they called that Caution." Burgess indicated that it was two miles from the Church Willburn place to the school. An

People and Places

old trail goes west from the school down across Salt Creek to Hoaglin Valley (HTNF-05). Burgess indicated that it took his sister about 2½ hours to travel to the school from Hoaglin Valley where she lived and spent the weekends. Burgess also indicated that the Willburn place was also the location of the Caution Post Office—this does not agree with other historical information—see Caution Post Office Location #3 entry for a discussion of this issue.

Consultant Ray Willburn (A5: I#316b) provided information that supports the assertion that the school was open in the late 1930s:

The Long Ridge Schoolhouse was in use at least 70 years ago when the consultant was a small boy. It was still being used in 1938 when he and his wife left the area. In the early 1900s, until the outbreak of World War II, dances were held on a regular basis in the southern part of the Forest. These dances would alternate in location between Zenia, Ruth, Hoaglin Valley, and Long Ridge Schoolhouses. The consultant and his wife used to travel to the dances by horseback, would dance all night, and return home at dawn.

Robb (1981: 358) wrote that the Long Ridge School was located:

...at the junction of five old trails on a small bench on the west side of the ridge near its crest. It is among a grove of oak trees and nearby is a natural spring that is still flowing. This is such a wild and remote country that it is almost inconceivable that there ever could have been need for a school here. But many old-timers recall hearing the school bell ring out early in the morning and walking the three to five miles of trail to school (Robb 1981: 358).

Tom Duncan who attended the Long Ridge School in the late 1870s wrote (A5: ms05) wrote that the ringing of the Long Ridge School bell (that he packed in by mule--see below) could be heard all the way to Haman Ridge. Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that:

The large school bell came from the Hettenshaw school district after that school closed and put up at Caution school [F20b] until that school was discontinued then packed by mule by Tom Duncan and hung in a large oak tree. It weighed over two hundred pounds and could be heard all the way to Hamon [Haman] Ridge. It was braced in this oak tree by some poles that finally rotted and the bell fell to the ground. Three men were seen stealing the bell but the Sheriff did nothing about it. The School House Spring was and is a real good spring. Relics of the school were still there when I first went into this area before the 2d war. Those same three men also stole part of the school organ. This happened approximately in 1946 or '47.

On interesting fact is that Jim French (TCHS) provided a page from the TC school records showing that because many of the children were part-Indian that the federal government supplied some funding for the school (see image below).

People and Places

Name of District Long Ridge
Address Caution

Federal Indian Aid Fund

DATE		COUNTY	STATE	LIBRARY	SPECIAL
Jan 1	Balance				
30	State School Fund Appmt (Jan)	27851			
30	State General Fund Appmt (Jan)		7359		8867
Feb 4	Balance 1933 - 34 Federal Indian Aid Tuition	1444	4415		
Feb 20	State Sch. Fund Appmt (Dec)				492
20	State Gen Fund Appmt (Dec)		7359		
Feb 22	State Sch. Fund Appmt (Feb)	1444	4415		
20	State Gen. Fund Appmt (Feb)		7359		
Feb 20	Fed. Ind. Tuition July-Dec/34	2944	4415		
Mar 28	State Sch. Fund Appmt (Mar)		7359		8318
28	State Gen Fund Appmt (Mar)	2944	4415		
Apr 30	State Sch. Fund Appmt (Apr)		7359		
30	State Gen Fund Appmt (Apr)	2944	4415		

Copy from TCHS archives of the Long Ridge School ledger showing a page stamped as "Federal Indian Aid Fund."

It is unclear when the school closed--possibly by the early 1940s with the beginning of World War II—by this time the population of the Long Ridge area had declined. It is recommended that the school records at the TCHS and county office be reviewed to further clarify the dates when the Long Ridge School was in session.

Various comments on the Long Ridge School from consultants

Zelma Benninghoven (A6: I#390) noted that her sister (Addie Burgess) taught school for one year out on Long Ridge and lived with the Church Wilburn family.

John Holtorf (A5: ms05) wrote that:

Mr. Hill was the teacher on Long Ridge when it was changed to Hoaglin, then Taylor, J.F. McKnight and Miss Isabel Fox, I do not remember the rest.

[It is not clear if Holtorf is referring to when the school was moved in the 1890s or later in time.]

People and Places

Tom Duncan was born in 1874 on Long Ridge and attended the Long Ridge School in 1879 or 1880 (when he was seven). Duncan, in 1951 (A5: ms05), stated that:

The old bell you spoke of was in the Long Ridge school house. It was gotten for the Hettenshaw school district when H. D. Willburn and family moved to Colorado for several years after there was no school there so the bell was brought down and put up in the school house on the other side of Eel River [Caution/North Fork School], [it] was there until that school was discontinued then brought over and used at the Long Ridge school. I packed it over on a mule, was quite a large bell weighing over two hundred pounds and could be heard on to Haman Ridge. We hung it by an oak tree and some poles which rotted and the bell fell so was put in the house, was there until stole by some parties, three men. They also took past [part?] of the organ. That happened I think four years ago this coming September. Two men and their wives named Turner from Red Crest, Humboldt Co. were camped near the house. The women heard the bell ring so they went up and three men had the bell loaded in a jeep, when they saw the women they took off in a hurry. The women told of it and the Mrs. who was a school trustee called up the School Superintendent who turned it over to the sheriff who said he would be right out but never came so nothing was ever done about it. We think we know who did it but what could we do if the officers won't act. Maybe it could be traced up yet for it was school property and in the school house, not a fallen down one.

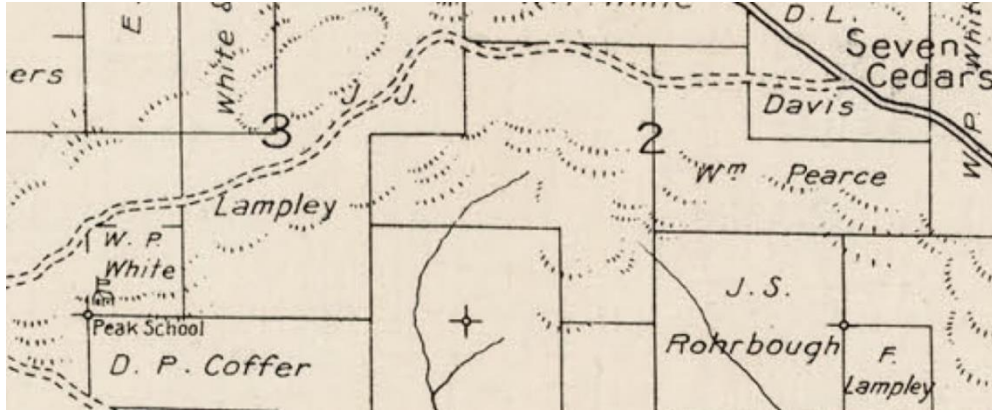
Peak School

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

The Peak School was located to the west of the study area about one and a half miles to the west of Kettenpom Peak according to the map and interview data. It was most likely located adjacent to the perennial spring that shows up on the contemporary Zenia 7.5' USGS map.

There were only few references found that referred to the Peak School. The Garcelon USGS map attached to his overview has "Peak School" labeled (A5: ms01). Significantly, the Belcher Title and Abstract map for 1922—usually very accurate—shows the location of the Peak School.

People and Places



The Belcher map shows the location of the Peak School (lower left).
A2: 26b

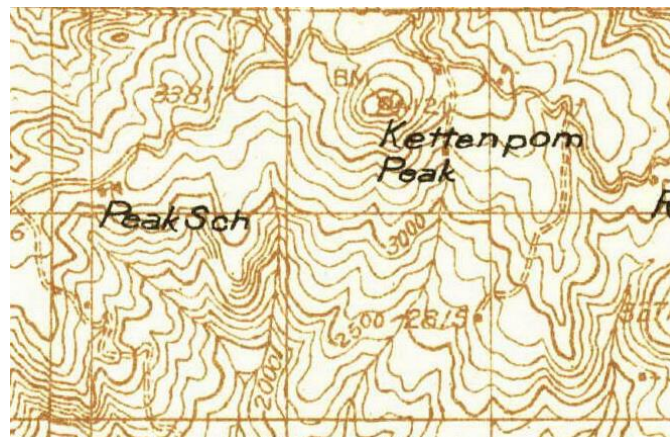
Rowley (A11) noted that:

From 1907 to 1909, school was held at the Davis home. Later on the Simpson brothers, who owned a homestead near Seven Cedars, put up a permanent log schoolhouse on the western slope of Kettenpom Peak, about one mile west of Seven Cedars.

Lillian White, from the Pitt White Ranch, taught at the Peak School for a number of years. Today, traveling west on the winding narrow road from Kettenpom to Alderpoint, scant remains of the old Peak School can be seen from the roadway.

The original Peak School was a log building about 12 x 18 +. The rotten logs are still in the shape of the building below the new road around the peak about one half mile to the west of the peak on a ridge. It can be seen as it is approximately 100 yards below the road.

The Peak School also shows up on the 1931 HV USGS map.



Peak School on the 1931 USGS map.
(A2: 23)

People and Places

Seven Cedars School

F16 Map 3: T4S, R6E, S.1. See also the Seven Cedars entry.

There is little information in the historical record on the Seven Cedars School—it was only open about two years before it closed and the Peak School (see entry) was opened.

Andrew Davis (A8) wrote:

My brother, Leroy, and I walked six miles to the Kettenpom Valley School, when Leroy left school I rode horseback until school was held in our house. School was held there from 1907 until 1909 when the Simpson brothers built a school house [the Peak School] about one mile northwest of Kettenpom Peak, then I went there.

Rowley (A11) noted that:

Kettenpom Valley, six miles east, had the only school close to Seven Cedars. Each day the Davis children and neighboring students walked or rode horseback the round trip of 12 miles to school. No school was held from December to March because of the heavy snowfall in those years. From 1907 to 1909, school was held at the Davis home. Later on the Simpson brothers, who owned a homestead near Seven Cedars, put up a permanent log schoolhouse on the western slope of Kettenpom Peak, about one mile west of Seven Cedars.

Zenia School

Not mapped.

The school is located to the west of the NFERW so minimal information is provided here. Additional information can be found at the TCHS on this school—for example, see the interview with Jim Burgess (TCHS tape: 2005).

The schoolhouse was built by Edward F. Burgess, George W. Counts, and Thomas C. Records. It was made of split sugar pine hauled down from Grizzly Mountain (NF03). Both the teacher's and student's desks were also made of split pine (TCHC *Journal* 1978: 24).

In July of 1897 the school opened with Henry M. Marvel as the first teacher. There were 18 students in the first class and ages of the students ranged from three years to about eighteen years. Marvel was followed by John S. Reid. Others who taught at the Zenia school were: Lillian T. White, Mrs. Deering, Mrs. Broderick, Ethel McRae, Elizabeth Golden Leah Guthrie,, Edward Burgess, Verna Marshal (now Reynolds), and Mary Louise Joseph

People and Places

(now Burgess).

In 1916 the school was relocated to land donated jointly by Sam Ledgerwood and Henry Miller (see map A2: 26a Section 15).

In the interview with Jim Burgess (TCHS tape 2005), he indicated that it was originally called the "Poison Camp School."

Schubeck, Andrew

Not plotted on the Base Map.

Schubeck was a lifelong resident who lived just to the south of the NFER project area --but within the greater NFERW. Appendix 8 contains a write up by Schubeck on the history of the general area.

From the Schubeck ms (A08):

In the Spring of 1935, my parents took over the five claims in the area that were owned by John S Rohrbough. These were the Diggins place-- where I now live -- The Hiram Scott claim-- the James Pullen claim -- the Robinson place and Frank Doolittles homestead. My parents and I moved on to the Diggins place. Hannah was going to High School in Covelo.

After a few years it was apparent that my Father's latest deal with John S Rohrbough had failed financially. John S. Rohrbough was dead and his son John D. being a trusting soul turned the Diggins-- Scott and Pullen--Claims over to me and let Terrill Reed have the Doolittle and Robinson claims. In 1945 I paid the Rohrbough Family off and got a clear title to the place. [From the original.]

Seven Cedars

F16 Map 3: T4S, R6E, S.1.

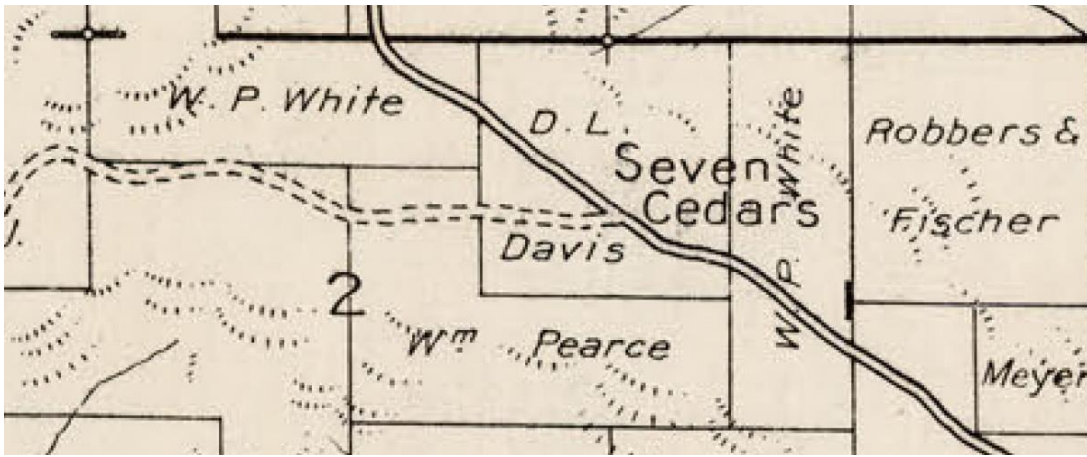
See the D. L. Davis entry. The "X" plotted on the Base Map is the approximate location of the improvements.

Garcelon (A5 ms01) noted that:

People and Places

Seven Cedars was situated half way between remote Zenia and Kettenpom Valley in southern Trinity County, on the road to Lake Mountain, Mina, and Covelo... The county road now goes from Zenia, by the Kettenpom store, on to Covelo on the east side of the place.

The old road used to be to the west of Sever Cedars (see map below). Seven Cedars shows up on the 1922 Humboldt County Belcher Title And Abstract Company map that extends somewhat into Trinity County. These maps are usually quite accurate; it shows the property is owned by D. L. Davis. It also shows up on several TNF maps as well as the 1947 SRNF map (A2: 20).



(A2: 26b)

In his memoirs, in 1967, Andrew Davis (A8: Davis Ms.) wrote:

In 1903 my father planted 12 acres in apples (some of the trees are still bearing) and also started a general store that he operated until his death in 1912.

Our place was a regular stopping place for every one coming through that country. The people in the back country used to come for supplies with 20 to 30 pack horses. We had long hitching racks and it was quite a sight to see them get the packs ready and load up, ready for the trip back. They always had a lead mare that wore a bell, therefore, this mare was called a lead bell mare. They would turn all of the pack animals loose and they would follow the lead bell mare back home. There were always from 2 to 6 men with the pack train and they always stayed overnight.

We used to haul our supplies for the store from Carlotta, a distance of 60 miles. I started making the trip when I was 12 years old, it took me six days to make the round trip with 4 horses. I hauled about one ton. When I was 15 I drove team for Pit White, six horses, hauled wool out and supplies back in, about one and one half tons per trip.

People and Places

Winston Garcelon in the mid 1990s (Appendix 5: ms01)—whose family eventually acquired the property wrote:

This is known as the Seven Cedars which my wife and I now own. We got the place in the 1950's. It was first homesteaded by Dudley L. Davis, his wife Minnie Rice Davis and their five sons, one daughter-in-law and one grandson on May 25, 1902. A log house 26' X 48' and 1 1/2 stories high was built. Also a barn 36' X 36' with sheds both sides. There are 7 large cedar stumps in the orchard. The old road was on the west side at that time. Twelve acres of apple trees (about 1000) were planted then also. Over half of the trees were pulled out by other owners. The trees that are left are still bearing. This place had a store and a Post office begun in 1909 and the mail from Alderpoint to Hoaglin via Seven Cedars. There were a lot of turkeys and hogs raised in the area at this time that had to be driven to Eureka on foot. Supplies were hauled in from Carlotta. Mr. Davis was Supervisor 1905-1909. Also Justice of the Peace [he held court at Seven Cedars], Mrs. Davis died in 1904, daughter-in-law and infant baby in 1911 and Mr. Davis in 1912. They are all buried in the Hoaglin cemetery in Kettenpom Valley. The county road now goes from Zenia, by Kettenpom store, on to Covelo on the east side of the place. There is more history on this place. There was also a school here 1907-1909.

Max Rowley a relative of Garcelon, Forest Service employee, personal friend of the author, and avocational historian wrote a history of Seven Cedars in 1999 that is attached as Appendix 11. The following is quoted from that article (note that some dates vary slightly from those provided by Andrew Davis in A: 8).

On May 15 [it was the 25th], 1902, the Davis clan arrived in Trinity County. Included in the migration were the parents, five sons, one daughter-in-law, Eltha, and a grandson, Hobert, all crowded into several wagons with their belongings. A 160-acre homestead was taken up near Kettenpom Peak.

This pioneering family built a log house 48 feet by 26 feet, one-and-a-half stories high, a large pole barn, corrals, several sheds, a root cellar, and a smokehouse. The family named their new haven "Seven Cedars," because of a cluster of seven large cedar trees growing near the site where the house was built. Nearby was a large spring with gravity flow to the house and outbuildings. The house and outbuildings were found to have been built over an extensive old Lassik summer village site on the northeast aspect of Kettenpom Peak. Woven wire and picket fencing was built around most of the 160 acres to hold horses, mules, cattle, hogs, and many turkeys.

Prior to 1900, the nearest trading posts to Seven Cedars were at Covelo, 40 miles to the south, Blocksburg, 27 miles to the north, or Hydesville, 60 miles farther northwest.

People and Places

In 1903, the Davis folk at Seven Cedars decided to construct a general store and supply it with the basic provisions needed for homesteaders and the sheep ranchers. Twelve acres of land were prepared for an apple orchard, consisting of 800 trees of several varieties, which were planted in 1903. Also a large garden was planted adjacent to a swampy spring area some 150 yards west of the dwellings. Supplies for the trading post were hauled by wagon from Hydesville and Carlotta in Humboldt County. From daylight to dark, the Davis boys, as young as 12 years old, would make the round-trip in six days, hauling about one ton of supplies with a four-horse freight wagon, in all kinds of weather, and fording dangerous river and creek crossings. Many times, however, wool was hauled out to Hydesville, making the trip pay both ways for the Davis trade business.

Wild pigs were numerous in the area. They were hunted down with dogs, slaughtered, and cured in the smokehouse at Seven Cedars. Delicious bacon and hams were a popular commodity sold at the store and helped make Seven Cedars a famous stopping place for settlers traveling south from Zenia to Covelo.

Seven Cedars Post Office

F16 Map 3: T4S, R6E, S.1. See Seven Cedars entry.

There is some disagreement on the dates that the Seven Cedars Post Office was opened—the 1909 date is more likely. In 1951, Dave Martin (A5: ms05) wrote:

Seven Cedars Post Office was established in 1913 and at the same time the mail route from Alderpoint to Hoaglin over the White Ranch road via wool Mountain, Mavis Peak, and Kettenpom Peak and Seven Cedars P.O. Mrs. Eltka Davis was postmaster at Seven Cedars. .

Andrew Davis (A8) in 1967, however, wrote:

In 1909 a Post Office was established at 7 Cedars-and a mail route from Alderpoint to Hoaglin Valley via 7 Cedars was started. The mail carrier was Mr. Hussey, the post mistress at 7 Cedars was my sister—in—law, Mrs. Eltha Davis, my brother Lorenzo's wife, the Postmaster at Hoaglin was one of the Holtorf's. Up to that time we got our mail on the route from Zenia to Hoaglin, our box was at French lake.

Max Rowley (Appendix 11: pages 10-11) mentioned the post office in his article on Seven Cedars:

People and Places

In 1909, a U.S. post office was established at Seven Cedars to coincide with the arrival of distant settlers who came to replenish their stocks and goods. Eltha Davis was the postmaster until late 1912. The post office was moved in 1912 from Seven Cedars to Alderpoint in Humboldt County, a distance of 15 miles west.

More definitive information is needed on the Seven Cedars Post Office and whether it was even a legally certified post office as it is basically unmentioned in the various lists of southern Trinity County post offices. This may be due to the fact that it somehow was directly linked to the Alderpoint Post Office located in Humboldt County.

Seven Cedars School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.

Shannon, Ted

For information on the extended Shannon family of Kettenpom Valley see William Shannon HF16a, 16b, and 16c.

Ted Shannon was the son of William Shannon. According to Robb (1981:359):

In 1919 Mr. [William] Shannon sold his place to Otto Holtorf and moved to Tulare County, but in 1952 his son Ted returned to farm the land and to live in Hoaglin Valley where he remained until his death in 1980.

Given that during this 1980s members of the Shannon family lived in Kettenpom Valley at HF16c this statement needs to be clarified and confirmed.

Shannon and Family, William

HF16/HF16a Maps 3/4: T3S, R7E, S. 34

HF16b Map 4: T3S, R7E, S 35

HF16c Map 3: T4S, R7E, S 9

F28 Map 3: T4S, R7E, S 9

Garcelon (A5: ms01) places the Shannon homestead at HF16b (place #1) -- along the west side of the NFER just below the mouth of Cox Creek:

People and Places

The Shannon place was taken up by William Frederick Shannon and his wife Gertrude. The place was next to the North Fork of Eel River near Shannon Buttes. There was an orchard across the river. This place could have been the old George Kindred place [see entry]. They homesteaded this place in 1902 and built a two story house. Portions of this house still stood after the 1964 flood.

Robb (1981: 359) indicated that the property just to the south of Shannon Butte was first owned by "a Mr. Shields" who homesteaded near here in 1902. This needs to be confirmed. See the entry for W. Shields below.

Location HF16c appears to be where the Shannons moved after purchasing a private tract in Kettenpom Valley (they first moved to the Klem place F28—see that entry). Descendants of the family were still living here in the 1980s. See Barbara Shannon interview (A6: I#342).

Shields. William and Sam Shields

F12 Map 3: T3S, R6E S 13, and T3S, R7E, S 18

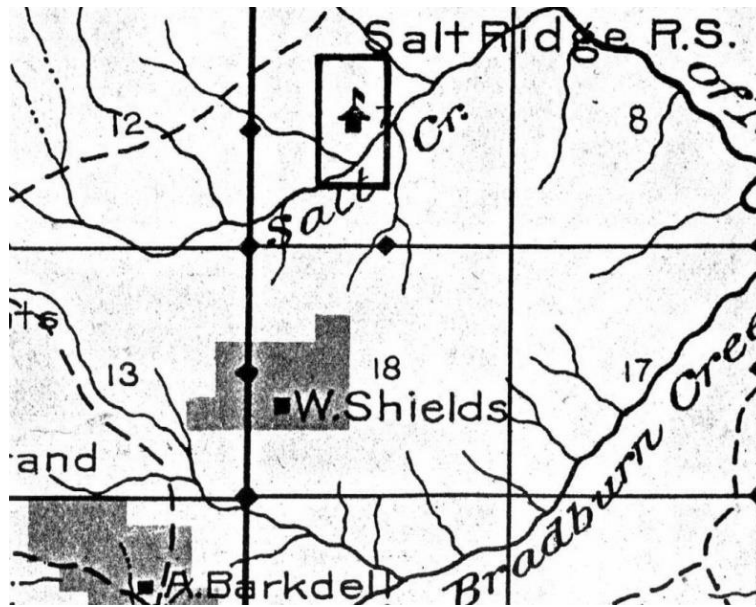
The tract F12 shows up as private and owned by "W. Shields" on the 1907 TNF Map (below). For that reason it is plotted as a homestead on the Base Map. It does not show up on the later TNF maps from the 1920s. It should be noted that the TNF 1922 map (A2: 11) has a tract shown under the name "L. Shields" to the west of the NFERW in the Zenia area.

There is not much information on the Shields family. Robb (1981:354) noted that Shields (he provided no first name) came into the Zenia area in about 1875. He does not show up on the 1880 census.

Robb (1981: 359) also noted that William Shannon acquired a tract just to the east of Kettenpom Valley that had first been owned by a member of the Shields family—the first name of this individual is not given and this statement needs to be further confirmed—see HF16.

The location of the homestead on the Base Map is approximate based on the TNF map and topography. There may be a homestead entry record on file at the SRNF HR office. The Shields place also shows up on the TNF 1915 map (A2: 09) but not the TNF 1922 map (A2: 11).

People and Places



W. Shields west of Little Round Mountain on TNF 1907 map.
(A2: 06)

The Samuel A. Shields family shows up on the 1910 census but not the 1900 or 1920 census. At that time W. Shields is living with his brother's family.

Shields Samuel A.	Head	M	W	32	M	1
———— Loucena H.	wife	F	W	30	M	1
———— Stella	daughter	F	W	6	S	
———— Burnice	daughter	F	W	4	S	
———— George	son	M	W	2	S	
———— Edith	daughter	F	W	3/2	S	
Golden Elizabeth	boarder	F	W	23	S	
Shields William	brother	M	W	42	S	

(A3: 1910-3)

Sam Shields, age 62, shows up on the 1940 census as a partner with three other men living on a ranch in southern Trinity County

130	1	Nelson James @	Head	6M	W	58	53	M	4	4	6
		Shields Sam @	Partner	6M	W	62	74	M	6	6	6
		Smith John @	Partner	6M	W	40	3	M	8	8	1
		Gandy Henry @	Partner	6M	W	33	3	M	11	9	1

1940 census
(A3: 1940-5)

People and Places

Soldier Basin R.S. Administrative Site

See NF07.

Soldier Basin

Map 4: T3S, R7E, S15.

See the Sam and Lucy Young entry at B03, the S. B. Cox entry HFA09, and the Gilman family entry at HA11 for more information on this important Wailaki Lassik village site.

Information here is related to the physical location of Soldier Basin and its early history. I recorded this site sometime in the late 1990s. For information on the prehistoric and ethnographic periods see Keter 1990, 2009, Goddard 1924, also Merriam, Essene, and Kroeber various articles and field notes.

Although Robb (1981: 359-360) discusses Soldier Basin some of his information is questionable. For example, it has not been confirmed that Yellowjacket was from this village (see B02); and despite local legends there was no "fort" at this location (see B03).

The following information was provided in a hand-written note to the TCHS by Estle Beard (lifelong rancher in Round Valley, avocational historian, and coauthor of *Genocide and Vendetta* (Carranco and Beard 1981)). The document is dated to the 1970s (the last digit for the year is missing on the copy).

I attribute the name Soldier Basin to the activities of Captain Henry Lynn in early spring of 1863 from Fort Baker; Captain William Hull from Fort Bragg in [the] spring of 1864, and Captain Simpson from Camp Grant in summer and fall of 1864. Captain Ketcham's activities from Ft. Baker do not seem to reach that far in 1862 although Steve Fleming, Jim Willburn and other Hettenshaw settlers did gather up a great many of Lassac's Band to whom Soldier Basin belonged to even the capture of Lassac himself was attributed to Jim Neafus in his obituary. [This is the first time that Lassac's band was captured and sent to the Smith River Reservation. The escaped and return to the Fort Seward area.]

Spurlock F.

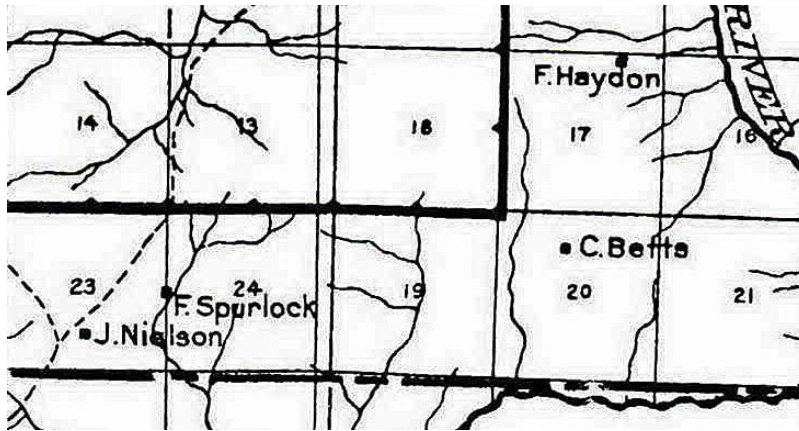
F02 Map 6: T5S R7E S 25. See Norgaar and Betts entries.

Tom Duncan (A5: ms05) in 1951 wrote that Spurlock first acquired land on Long Ridge--possibly the land in Section 20 referred to below by Garcelon. He noted that:

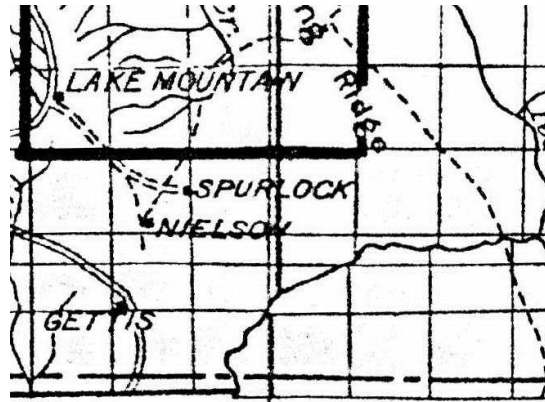
People and Places

There was a homestead across the Lousy to the *east* [emphasis added] of the Neilsen place [F03] near the bottom of the hill. The only thing left there were signs of fences, etc. The people's name could have been Spurlock. This was the area they first moved to, then got from Chris Norgaar what is known now as the Betts place. This place was first lived on by Jerry Geary, then the Hall Brothers and Hank owned it and ran sheep there for quite a number of years. After they left there the place went to pieces, the improvements. Chris Norgaar finally bought it, then Spurlock, lastly Betts.

The 1922 and 1934 TNF maps show the Spurlock place.



The Spurlock place in Section 20.
1922 TNF map.
(A2: 11)

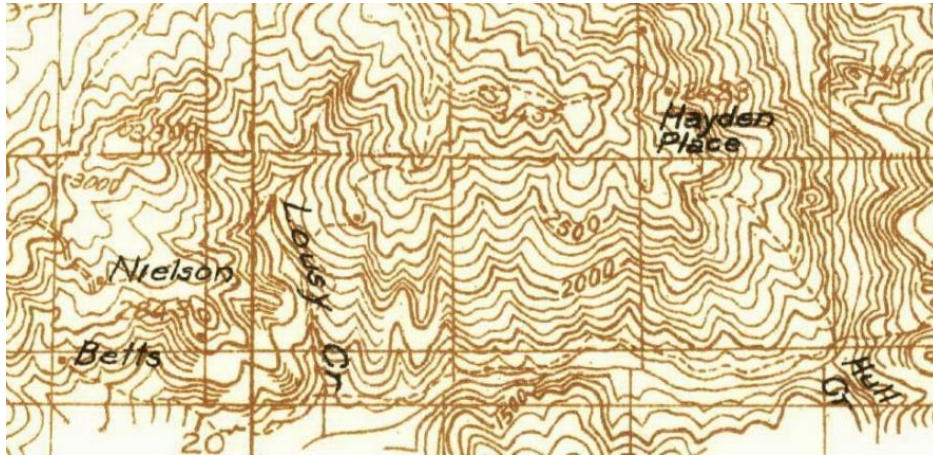


Spurlock place on the 1934 TNF Map
(A2: 14)

There are very few references to F. Spurlock—first name unknown. The name does not appear in the 1900, 1910, or 1920 census. He may not have lived here for long. There is some confusion over the tract of land owned by Spurlock and later Betts. The location of “F. Spurlock” on the TNF 1922 and 1927 maps is to the northeast of the “J. Nielson” place (F03).

People and Places

On the 1931 HV USGS map the Betts place—that Spurlock is also associated with—is located to the south of the Neilsen place (F02). It appears that Betts, in addition to the tract of land at F02, owned more than one property in this area by the 1920s (see Section 20 on the TNF 1920 map above).



1931 USGS map showing the Betts place that Spurlock acquired.
(A2: 23)

Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that:

The Homestead now known as the "Betts" place was first settled by Jerry Geary then passed to the Hall brothers then to Chris Morgan [it appears he meant Norgaar] then to Spurlock, on to S. S. Getts who settled there in 1905 or 1906. The next owners of this property were Ross and Leona Betts.

Further research is needed to clarify the chain of ownership of this tract of land.

It should also be noted that two other Spurlocks--William B. and Marshal N, show up on a report by MRRD ranger Gray in a form dated May 18, 1919 as living in Covelo. They were probably related to F. Spurlock.

Stapp, Lee and Irene Willburn Stapp

Not plotted on the Base Map. See also B05.

Lee Stapp was raised in Hettenshaw Valley and Irene was raised in Covelo. They lived at the SW end of Hettenshaw Valley. Lee and Irene Stapp were interviewed a number of times on the history of the NFERW. See A04, A6: I#361 and I#448.

People and Places

Lee Stapp was related to the Oscar Stapp family who homesteaded on Pilot Ridge--his father was the brother of Oscar Stapp (see Keter 2014). Lee Stapp is listed as being four years old on the 1920 census (A3: 1920-6) and living with his grandparents.

Irene Stapp was the great granddaughter of James St. Clair Willburn and was raised in Round Valley. Her mother was Francis Willburn and her grandmother was Fannie Willburn (see B05).

Summit Valley

Not plotted on the Base Map..

Limited information is provided on this location as it is well to the south of the study area in Mendocino County.

Summit Valley, which lies on the divide between the NFERW and Middle Fork Eel River drainage is located about sixteen miles north of Round Valley, was one of the earliest places to be settled in this region during the historic era. The Asbill brothers settled in this small picturesque valley of about 60 acres in 1864 by filing a "squatter's claim" (Carranco and Beard 1981: 183).

The following is taken from Keter 1994a: 12.

...White's close friends, Frank and Pierce Asbill, owned a ranch in the Summit Valley area (located on the divide between the North Fork and the Middle Eel drainages). This ranch continued to grow in size and by 1879 it is estimated that the Asbills had 15,000 sheep, 200 head of cattle, and about 150 head of horses (Carranco and Beard 1981: 183). The Asbills also controlled some lands just to the east of the North Fork and slightly to the north of its confluence with Hull's Creek in the vicinity of the future Travis Ranch. Because of the generally high price of wool during the 1870s, the Asbills prospered and were considered wealthy. They could afford to have Indian sheep herders take care of their animals and do most of the work on the ranch. Their long hair and beards were trimmed in the latest style and the brothers dressed in expensive hand-made boots and tailored clothes (Carranco and Beard 1981: 186).

Refer to Carranco and Beard (1981) for more information on Summit Valley.

People and Places



Summit Valley Ranch in the 1920s
(Bauer and Barney 1997: 233)

Surveyor Springs R.S. Administrative Site

See NF06.

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Garcelon (appendix 5: ms01) noted that:

The Towne ranch is on the east side of the Zenia-Covelo road east of the Kettenpom store above Bluff Creek. There were 3 step children Emmet, Wallace and Florence Stevens and one son Collin Towne who is a teacher at Fortuna.

Tom, Ellen

Not plotted on the Base Map. See also James Powell.

Limited information is provided here based on an interview with Irene Stapp (A6: I#448).

She was first married to James Powell of the Blocksburg area. He was from Kentucky. Ellen like Lucy [Young] was a Wailaki taken by a white man. He gave her the name Ellen. Blocksburg was at first called Powellville which was a small trading post at the head of Dobbyins Creek. They had five children one of the girls who survived was Irene's grandmother. Another child, Robert Powell, was murdered by George Whites men who mistook him for Jack Littlefield (the would have been in the early 1890's). James was much older and when he died Ellen married Wailaki Tom. This is how she got her name.

Her and Lucy Young were both taken by white men when they were about 14 (probably in the mid-1860's). They were taken to a camp. As the men were going hunting they told them to cook some beans for supper. They had never seen beans and did not know how to cook them. They finally found some beans and cooked them all day but when the men returned they found that they had been cooking green coffee beans all day! Lucy used to tell this story and laugh the her and Ellen "didn't know beans!"

Irene remembers that Lucy and Ellen and the other Indian women were very small and short. The men like Wailaki Tip and Yellowjacket were about 5'6" or 5'7" at the most. Irene Stapp (A6: I#448)

Towne Ranch

See the Tawne Place. F17 Map 3: T3S, R6E, S. 36

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Travis Ranch / Travis Brothers; John, Al, Frank

F05 Map 7: T5S, R8E, S. 14

See Appendix 5 ms08: *A Brief History of the Travis Brothers Ranch*.

See the Covelo-Weaverville Trail HTNF-11 Spur A.. For an in-depth description of the Travis Ranch and Travis family history see Appendix 8: Kemp 1967. See also Appendix 5: ms08: *Appendix IV: Brief Settlement History of the Travis Ranch and Site Evaluation* n.d.; pp4-10 Stephen Weed and Rand Herbert BLM Ukiah, Ca.

This was the largest ranch to be established within the NFERW. It was also one of the earliest locations to be settled in the area. There are very good springs at this location and it was also inhabited seasonally during the ethnographic period,

Lowden's 1894 map (A2:05) shows the tract as being owned by J. Rea a banker (see entry). It was said that a Swede first settled on the land very early and built a cabin but this needs to be confirmed. It is said that the parcel was first owned by the Asbill brothers (Robb 1981: 357).

The following is summarized from Keter 1994a: 9 and 44.

It appears that the original house on the ranch, that the Travis brothers acquired in this area in the mid-1890s, was built in the 1860s (probably the late 1860s) by "a Swede" (Robb 1978: 21), making him one of the earliest residents in the region. Other settlers who homesteaded at this time in the vicinity of the future Travis Ranch were Tom Hayden and John Vinton. Both of these men worked in some capacity for White (TCHS *Trinity Yearbook* 1978: 21). Also, at this time (or possibly in the early 1870s) John Wathen was homesteading on a quarter section of land just to the north of the present day Travis Ranch in the Wylackie Hill area.

...The Travis brothers, John, Frank, and Al, were sheepshearers from Forestville in Sonoma County and in 1895 bought a 2,500 acre tract of land located to the east of the North Fork just above its confluence of Hull's Creek. The Travis brothers bought the ranch from Nelson Rea, a Covelo banker and Mendocino County supervisor. Much of the land for this ranch was originally owned by the Asbills who acquired the lands in the 1860s. By the late 1880s, George White owned most of the parcels of land in the area (Lowden 1894: map A2: 05)). White lost this land a result of legal problems related to his divorce of Frankie White.

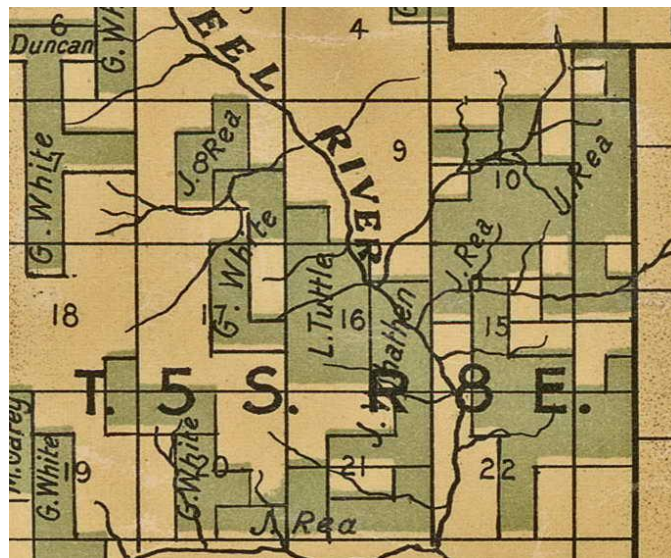
It was said that the Travis brothers were the first ranchers in the region to import white-faced Herefords. They brought in 1000 white-faced Herefords from Ukiah in 1895. Brothers Frank and Al took the most active part in running

People and Places

the ranch and immediately began to buy any of the 160 acre sized homesteads in the area that came on the market (Herbert et al n.d., Appendix 5 ms08).

They also convinced family members and friends to homestead in this area of Trinity County and once the land was "proved up" and title secured the brothers would add the land to their ranch. They also fenced these parcels to make access to public rangelands difficult for the smaller 160 sized homesteaders. Unable to make it on a 160 acre homestead without some use of public lands, the smaller ranchers were forced to sell to the Travis Brothers at rock bottom prices. By the time the last Travis brother died in 1940 the ranch was 14,000 acres in size and with 1,500 head of cattle, stretched along both sides of the North Fork of the Eel River from Hull's Creek north for several miles (Herbert et al n.d.: Appendix IV:5). The only access to the ranch was by pack trail until sometime in the 1940s (Southern Trinity County Files #:53).

In addition to the tracts of land that the Travis brothers acquired from J. Rea—refer Lowden's 1894 map below, as result of the Frankie White/George White divorce settlement, they also acquired a number of the old homesteads in the area as the residents began to move out of the area in the early 1900s.



Lowden's 1894 map.
(A2: 05)

By the mid-1980s most of this property of isolated private parcels surrounded by national forest lands was incorporated into the Flying Double A Ranch owned by Larry Brown. The following is from the TCHS *Trinity* 1978: 21.

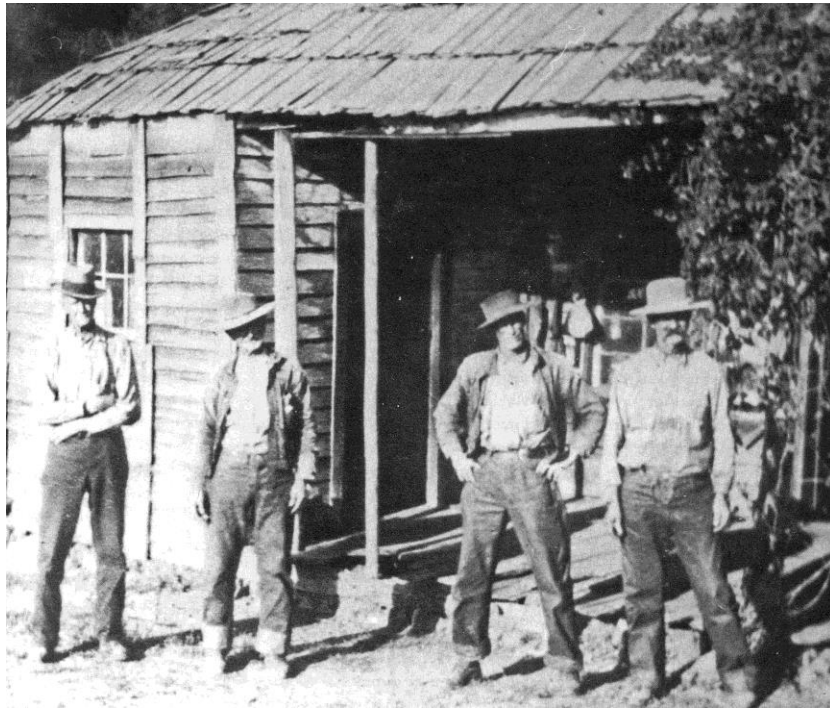
The Travis Brothers, John, Al and Frank, from Forestville, Sonoma County were relative late comers in the later part of 1895. However, John, the first to bring white-faced Herefords into the county, did not stay. Al and Frank bought up land south and east of the south end of Long Ridge to form their

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ranch, which eventually totaled 13,000 acres and including land rented from the government was over 50,000 acres. The house on the Travis Ranch was originally built by a Swede in the 1860's, and part of the Travis Ranch was presumably where Tom Haydon was living when he was mixed up in the Jack Littlefield murder. It also includes Vinton Flat where John Vinton, involved in the Littlefield shooting lived and ran a sheep camp for George White. It is still one of the largest tracts of private land in Trinity County.

Garcelon (Appendix 5 ms01) notes:

John married Anne Jones in 1902. They had two children- John Henry who died in 1930 and a girl, Florence Marguerite Travis McCulloch. About 1904 Al Travis joined his brothers. The ranch consisted of 13,000 acres. They rented other lands to bring the total to 50,000 acres. About August 1939 on a cattle drive to Covelo, Frank became ill and died later that year. Al then sent for Bill McCulloch. Al died in November 1940 [at the age of 88]. The ranch was left to Florence Marguerite McCulloch and her husband Bill. They owned 13,000 acres worth about three to six dollars an acre. Bill then fixed up the original log house for family living. When Louise, my wife, and I were married in April of 1941 Bill rode all the way from the Travis ranch to Zenia, where there was a chivarie for us, to attend the party. That was a long ride. Larry Brown of Ruth "A A" ranch now owns the Travis ranch. Bill built an airstrip just north of the house.



F05 Image 1

John Travis, Frank Travis, Frank Moore, Al Travis
(MCHS Bob Lee collection--in Bauer and Barney 1997: 33)

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Image F05-Image 2
Travis Ranch 1961
(George Ward: photocopy MCHS)

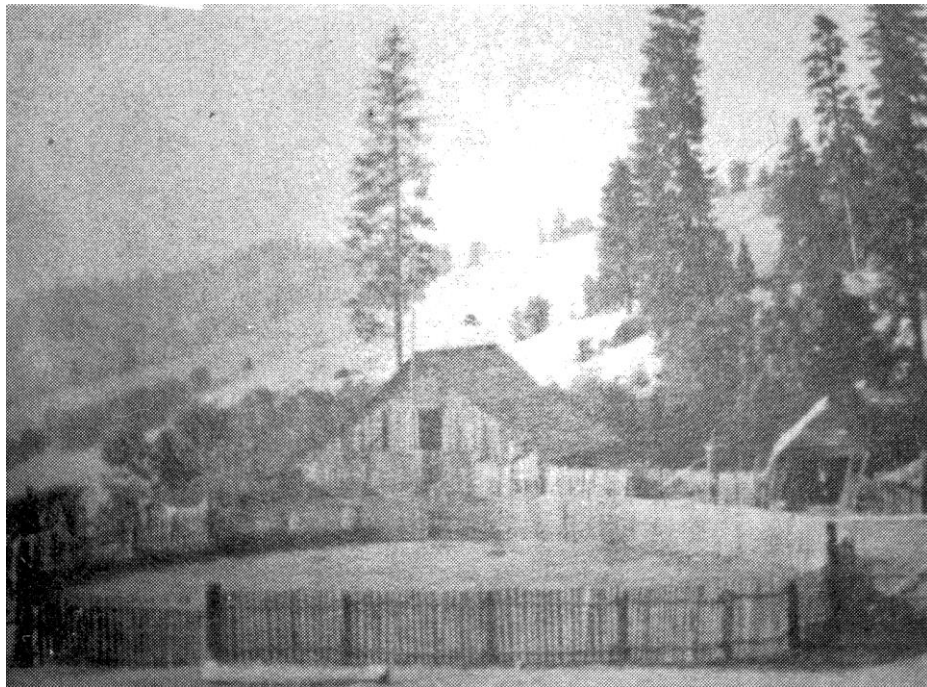


Image F05-3
View of the Travis Brothers Ranch--note the open hillsides and lack of small conifers.
No date.
(Bauer and Barney 1997: 292)

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In 1956 the ranch was sold to an Oregon lumber company during the height of the local logging boom. The McCullochs retained about 550 acres and some cattle with their son Travis running the ranch (Robb 1981:357). Although the date is not known the property--including the ranch house was eventually sold to Larry Brown owner of the Flying Double A Ranch who owned it during the 1980s and the early 1990s. When Larry Brown died his son Craig Brown took over operating the ranch.

Census

Brothers Frank and John Travis show up on the 1900 census. Also listed below are the census records through 1940 for the Travis brothers.

Travis Frank	2-1	Head	W	M	June	1863	26	S
John H	7-2	Partner	W	M	Mar	1853	47	S

1900 census (A3: 1900-5)

Travis Frank	Head	W	M	77	46	S
Stevens William M.	boarder	W	M	55	5	S

1910 (A3: 1910-7)

Francis, B. Frank	Head	Q	7	W	W	55	S
" , Albert	brother	Q	7	W	W	56	S

1920 census (A3: 1920-1)

Travis, Frank	Head	0	yes	M	W	65	S
" , Albert	Brother		x	M	W	68	S

1930 census (A3: 1930- 5)

Travis Albert	Head	0	M	W	81	S	No HI
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1940 census (A3: 1940-9)

People and Places

Trogdon Family (Trogsden)

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

The exact location of this possible homestead or squatter's cabin is unclear at this time. It appears that members the "Trogsden" extended family—the first names located in the historical documentation seem to indicate there was more than one individual-- were in the area sometime in the 1880s. The only reference was found in homestead records related to Thomas Raglin and Susan Hoaglin (B01).

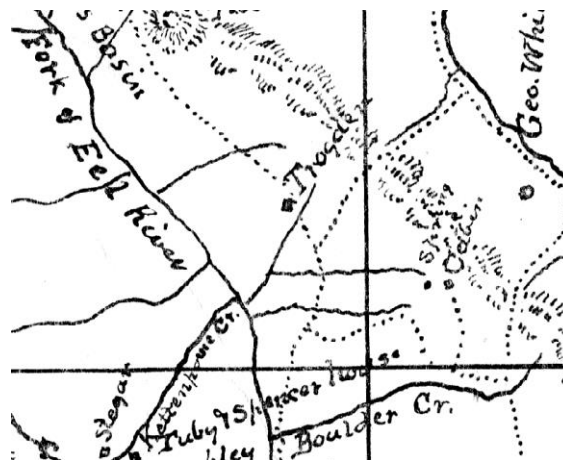
The following was taken from the Raglin entry (B01) appears to be related to a land deal in Humboldt County.

...a handwritten notes by an unknown researcher [these notes were acquired from the TCHS in the 1980s if memory serves me correctly] contains the following information. It suggests that at some point the Raglins moved to the Blocksburg area where the parcel discussed below is located-- T2S R5E Sec 17.

1889- Olive Trogsden [see census below]bought above property from Susan Hoglin (sic) for \$1800 on 4/4/1889:

The said lots and parcels of land was conceded by deed by **Hurbert L. Bower** to Thomas Raglan the 14th of January 1882 and by him to the party of the first part of the deed [Susan Hoaglin]. [Brackets included in original text.] Book 30 of Deed, pages 443-446 Humboldt County Recorder.

A homestead (possibly a squatter's cabin) was shown on an early Lowden Trinity County map as "Trogsden" (see below)—it was located along the trail from Kettenpom to Hettenshaw Valley (HTNF-15). Given the inaccuracy of this map, the location as shown on the map should be viewed with some skepticism.



Lowden's map dating from c. 1889-1893.

(A2: 02)

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Carranco and Bear (1981: 236) mention an "F.F. Trogdon" as being involved in the murder of George Ericson in September of 1886—the date fits with the above entry. A detective Lawson from San Francisco found evidence that:

...John Norris, F. F. Trogdon, George Orr, Ben Arthur, and Deputy Sheriff Geroge Kuntz had subscribed \$125 each to hire a man to Kill Ericson. George Orr was selected and the money was placed in Norris's hands, to be paid when earned. Orr and Kuntz waited along for Ericson on the trail, and Kuntz killed him. Later at the funeral, Kuntz furnished the boards for Ericson's coffin and charged his family \$250.

A handwritten census record from 1880, showing three entries for the Trogdon family. The first entry is for a man named Trogdon, age 40, born in 1829, with a profession of 'Sheep Raiser'. The second entry is for a woman named Olive, age 37, born in 1843, with a profession of 'Keeping House'. The third entry is for a child named David J., age 1/2, born in 1879, with a profession of 'Daughter'.

68	Trogdon	40	1829		1	Sheep Raiser
	Olive	37	1843	Wife	1	Keeping House
	David J.	1/2	1879	Daughter		

The 1880 census shows members of the "Trogdon" family living in the Hettenshaw Valley area.

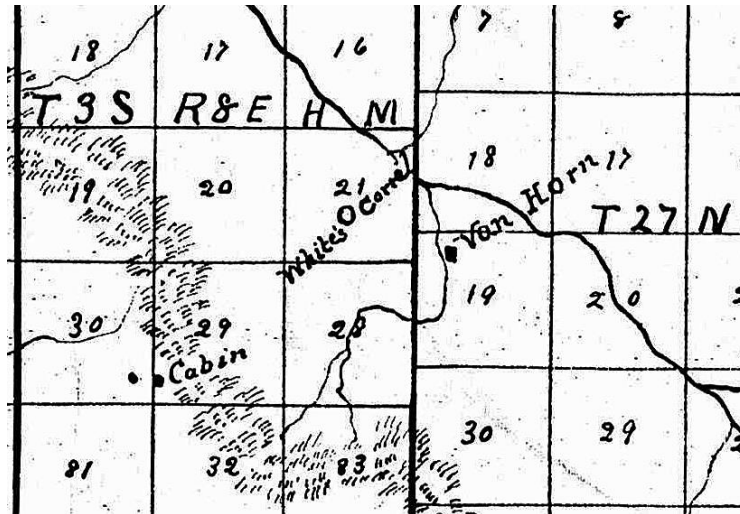
(A3: 1880-7c)

Tunsen Place

Map 4 T3S, R7E, S 14 and S 23

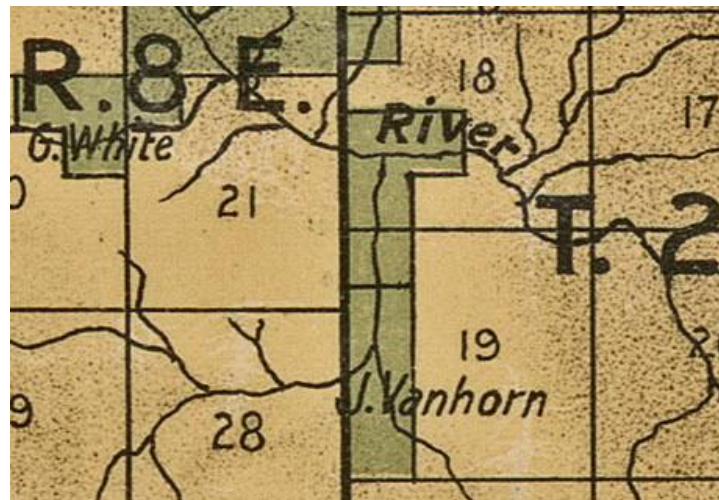
See HF14.

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Lowden's map showing the Van Horn place c. 1880-1885

(A2: 4)



Lowden's 1894 map showing the J. Van Horn tract
in the lower Van Horn Creek area.

(A2: 05)

Van Horn, W.

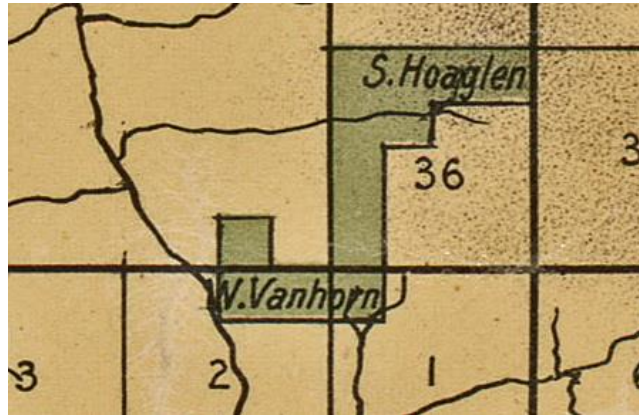
See Map 4: T3S, R7E, S. 35.

Not Plotted on the Base Map. See HA07.

The relationship was not established among the Van Horn's. A "W. Vanhorn" shows up as owning a tract of land in NFERW on Lowden's 1894 map. Note for the above reference to J.W. Van Horn—may or may not be the same individual as "W. Van Horn" referred to here.

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Major portions of this tract of land show up as a homestead entry for Fred Crabtree; see HA07. Given the problems with the original GLO surveys, it is likely that this problem is the result of subsequent more accurate surveys.



Lowden's 1894 map showing the "W. Vanhorn" place adjacent to the Silas and Sally Hoaglin tract (see B01).
(A2: 05)

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YY

Yellowjacket and Sally Jacket

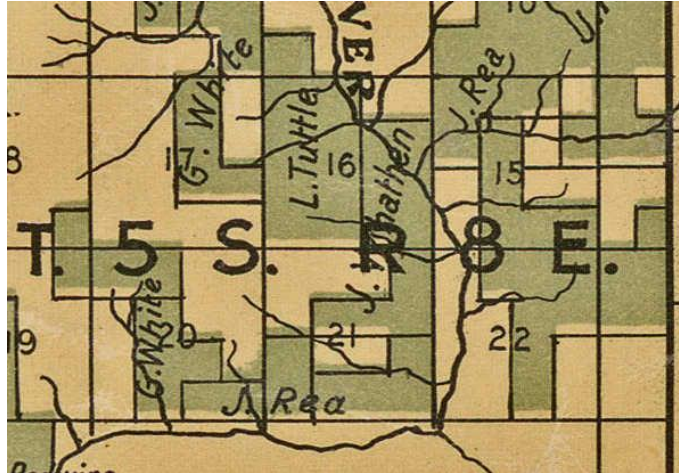
Map 4 T3S, R8E, S 20

See B02. Yellowjacket was also known as Jack French.

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the west of the NFER at the southern end of Long Ridge in Sections 16 and 21. This fits in more with the historical literature—that Wathen’s homestead improvements were located at the southern end of Long Ridge.

It appears from Lowden’s 1894 map that Wathen owned two 160 acre tracts (see also the Base Map F33). It is not clear how he acquired the property. Based on information provided in the next section; he acquired the land from George White probably as a reward for his service. A review of the land records at the Trinity County courthouse may shed some light on this matter.



Lowden’s 1894 map showing Wathen’s property lying mostly to the west of the NFER.
(A2: 05)

Overview of John Wathen

The following section—edited for clarity—is summarized from Keter 1994 and other sources. Note that some statements in the original documents cited below have been modified or changed due to further research. These changes are mostly related to the location of the tract of land. See Keter 1994a, the *San Francisco Call* (A10), and Carranco and Beard 1981 for more information.

George White the “King of Round Valley” and his gang of thugs, known as “White's Buckaroos” was led by John Wathen; known and feared far and wide as “Wylackie John.” There are many stories and legends but few facts related to his youth, and of his being raised, or of his having lived for years among the Wailaki—the last of the “wild Indians” of the Mad River country.

In October of 1895 a reporter working for the *San Francisco Call* Oct 21, 1895: 8 (A10) wrote about the by then late Wylackie John and of his devotion to his boss George White:

He was a remarkable man: he did not smoke or chew tobacco, he dressed well for the mountain country, he kept himself very neat, and he was suave and polite to the local people, always touching his hat and inquiring about their health.

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But Wathen's kind facade hid an unscrupulous man; he had no conscience for right or wrong. He was a robber, a poisoner, an arsonist, a perjurer, and a murderer. He was an absolute genius at planning evil, and he employed all his talents with tireless energy in the interests of his master, George E. White.

Wylackie John was handsomely rewarded for his service to George White. White made him a partner in his ranch out on Long Ridge. During the 1870s and early 1880s Wathen lived with his wife, Ellen, and their daughter on the ranch which was also headquarters for White's sheep ranching operation in the North Fork region.



Undated photograph of Wylackie John Wathen.
(Bauer and Barney 1997: 300, MCHS Bill Lee Collection)

Wylackie John also led a gang of men (probably some of White's buckaroos) who made raids into the Yolla Bolly Mountains running off with thousands of head of sheep from the summer ranges of ranchers from the Sacramento Valley region. It was estimated that the "Long Ridge Rustlers" were responsible for stealing over 400,000 sheep, cattle, and horses from northern California stockmen. The San Francisco *Examiner* (February 19, 1888) noted that the raids were so common it made sheep rustling "one of the recognized industries of that country."

In the late 1870s Wylackie John marshaled a gang of perjurers who blasted the good name of George White's first wife, thereby procuring the divorce he sought; he was preparing to do the same in the case of the second wife when she died. White [a distant cousin of Stonewall Jackson] married his third wife Frankie White (his second cousin and daughter of John White) in 1881 when he was fifty and she was twenty-four. [See also the George White entry.]

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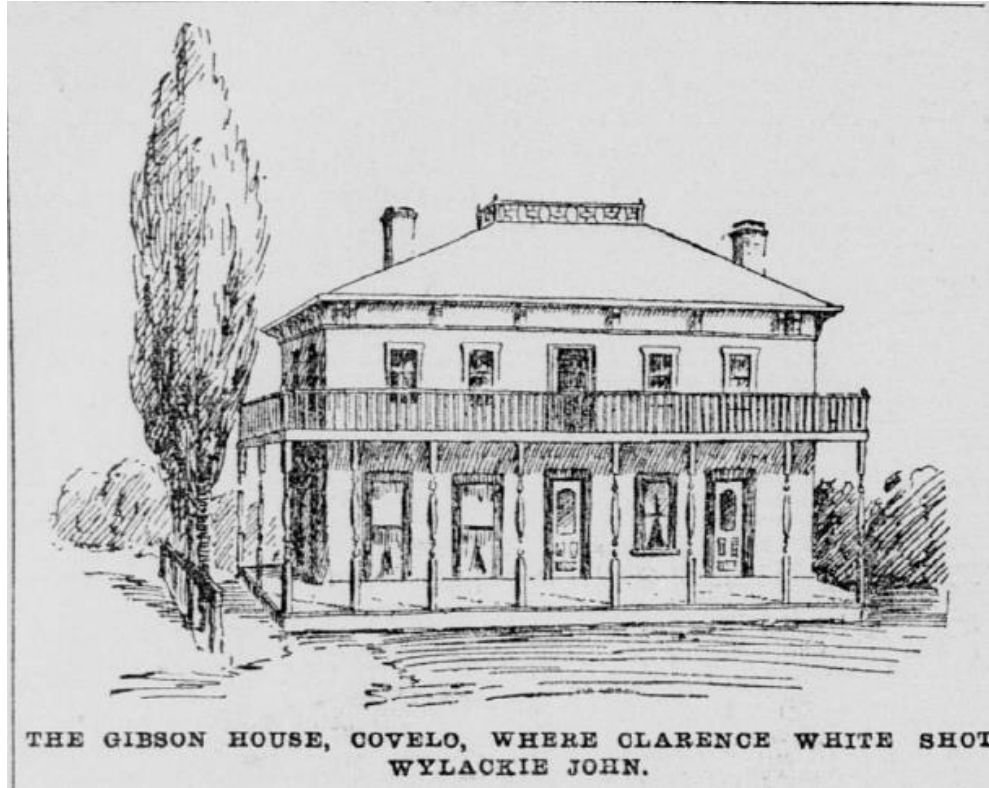
Carranco and Beard (1981: 240) write that it was not until after she had married White that "she discovered his cold, brutal, and selfish nature." Before too long, Frankie learned that he was dealing in counterfeit money. After registering her displeasure with that and a number of other things that White was doing (including setting up her sister as a "house keeper" at a place he owned in Berkeley), she "overheard her husband and Wylackie John plotting to kill her" (Carranco and Beard 1981:241). She went to Berkeley in an attempt to catch White with her sister but Wylackie John refused her entry (to the hotel). She moved to San Francisco after this incident fearful for her life if she returned to Round Valley. White then filed suit for divorce on grounds of desertion and adultery.

To avoid a costly trial, White tried to have Frankie murdered one more time. In San Francisco, he hired a man named McPherson and told him, "kill her, I don't care how; throw her in the bay, anything, so you get rid of her" (Carranco and Beard 1981:246). Frankie got word of this plot from McPherson himself who told her about it. Eventually, White ended up in court. He put Wylackie John to work spreading false rumors about White's "infidelity." He assembled over 50 persons who were promised money in return for swearing that they had relations with White or had seen her in compromising situations.

The trial began in San Francisco in December of 1887 and was headlined in all the San Francisco newspapers--it was also written up in other state and even the national newspapers. When the witnesses testified in court, the public, and even the judge, "reacted with revulsion at the lurid obviously contrived stories being repeated by rote" (Lynn 1977:33). During the Christmas holiday the trial was moved to Round Valley. When the trial reopened on January 2, 1888, nearly every resident of Round Valley was called to testify for one side or the other. Even White's first wife (Ann Elizabeth Welling whom White had divorced in 1860 with the help of perjured testimony by Wylackie John for her "infidelities") came into testify against White as a "cruel, cold man" (Lynn 1977: 33).

Frankie White's brothers were in the milling crowd outside the Gibson House in Covelo where the trial was being held. When Wylackie John refused to step aside to let Clarence White into the court room an altercation ensued. Wylackie John spoke his last words-- "I'll do you in right here." As he attempted to draw, his gun got hung up in the folds of his long jacket. White in the meantime drew his gun from his holster and shot Wylackie John through the left eye, killing him instantly. A hush fell over the crowd. Then someone yelled "hurrah!" and "inside the court room the judge broke into a jig as he dismissed the court for the remainder of the day" (Lynn 1977: 33). Everyone then headed to the saloon across the street to celebrate.

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A10: SF Call October 21, 1895

The divorce trial went on for eight years until 1895 when it ended in a \$103,000 settlement for Frankie White. During this period the trial took up much of White's energies and along with the killing of Wylackie John [finally] began to reduce White's power and influence in the NFER region

1880 Census

Wathen and his wife and child show up on the Long Ridge 1880 census along with two "laborer[s]" working for him—possibly helping to run his sheep ranch.

15	48	Wathen John P.	W.	20	21		1	1	Wife's Room
		Ellen C.	W.	F	21	Wife	1	1	Kitchen House
		Julia	D.	F	19	Daughter	1		at home
		Hansen Thos	W.	M	24	Laborer	1		Laborer
		Loensen John C.	W.	M	35	Laborer	1		Laborer

A3: 1880-6

People and Places

Watts Lake

F38 Map1 T2S, R6E, S33

Watts Lake is located just to the northwest of Grizzly Mountain (NF03) just to the west of the Van Duzen/main Eel River divide. Today there is a Forest Service campground at this location.

Prior to the 1930s there was not much logging going on in southern Trinity County. Ivan Jeans (TCHS 1957: 94) noted that the only sizeable operation, Pine Mills, was located at Watts Lake (F38) on Grizzly Mountain with an output of 40,000 bf a day. Jeans wrote that: [It] went broke at the end of the first war."

Other mills besides the Pine Mills operation at Watts Lake (F38) included much smaller mills capable of one to two thousand bf per day, the output being mainly used by the mill owners (or sold locally). Jeans noted that:

There was the Leonard Miller mill at Lake Mountain; Arthur Jeans' water power mill at Ruth, Art Gillman's rig in Hetten Valley; Huber Mill near Robbers Roost in the Zenia area; a small mill on the old Knockenhaur (now Rouse) place on Van Duzen operated for a few weeks in 1939 then gave it up; and a 1920s era steam mill owned by "Son" Duncan in Hetten Valley.

It was the site of local social gatherings during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and people came from as far away as Kettenpom, Zenia, and Hettenshaw Valley to celebrate holidays like the Fourth of July.

According to Andy Burgess (personal communication: 1987) before construction of the road (roughly paralleling the original trail) to the Lassics Peaks that runs just to the east and above slope from the lake, it was much larger and people took boats out on it during their picnics. Somehow, according to Burgess, it appears that the road-cut negatively affected the water flow from the high slope to the east.

Consultant interview information

Jim (or Bud??!) Willburn I#316b:

Watts Lake used to be at least eight feet deep in the middle. The consultant recalls that a dugout canoe used to be kept on the lake shore. One time he and a friend were in the canoe in the middle of the lake and the canoe capsized. He had to pull his friend to safety because he (the friend) could not swim. There used to be fish in Watts Lake, which was filled by a natural spring.

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Wedel, Ted Place

F23 Map 3: T3S, R7E, S 24

See also HF16 and HF16a.

There is virtually no historical documentation on the Wedel family. The location of the house (F23) is approximate based on Garcelon's map (A5: ms01). Given the lack of information and the scale of Garcelon's map there may very well also have been, in addition to Shannon's place, a second tract of land--the Wedel place (F23) -- just to the north of the Shannon homestead (HF16) --this needs to be clarified—given the mapping problems related to the original GLO survey. This location shows up as private on the 1977 SRNF map (A2:21b). As noted in the section for William Shannon (HF16), there were problems with the original GLO survey and it was found the Shannon's homestead was on national forest lands.

It is not clear at this time, therefore, if there may have been two homesteads in this area. Ted Wedel and family show up on the 1940 census so it is likely they moved into the area fairly late (sometime after the 1930 census). According to Garcelon (see below) they lived just to the north of the Shannon homestead and south of Shannon Butte. Further research is needed to resolve the question of ownership of this tract of land and where the Wedel place was located.

Wedel Theodor	Head	0	M	W	41	9	M	0	8	N. Dakota	67
Elizabeth	wife	1	F	W	37	7	M	0	4	N. Dakota	67
Donald	son	2	M	W	7	3	M	0	0	California	98
Susan J	daughter	2	F	W	5	5	M	0	0	California	98
Smith Harrison	Head	0	M	W	52	7	M	0	2	Missouri	116

1940 census (A3: 1930-8)

There were virtually no references to the Wedels in the historical record. According to the information provided by Garcelon (A5: ms01) the Wedels were living here in the 1940s. Garcelon wrote that:

There was **another homestead** on the south end of Shannon Buttes but I don't know who it belonged to. The house was still standing in 1940 and Ted Wedell [sic] and family lived there. Lloyd Huber, Les Majors and I were fishing in Kettenpom Cr.-Bluff Cr. and down to the North Fork of the Eel River. As we came back up the trail **by the Shannon homestead and by this house** we stopped by and gave the fish to Wedells. As we entered the house (she had cold drinks for us) we noticed a large hole about 6'-0" in Dia. in the kitchen floor which was about 6'-0" above the ground. Too much work to repair the floor so there was a rail fence built around it. You walked around the fence. Reminds me of the song "This Old House". I have often wondered if

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Stuart Hamblin got his idea for the song from this house as he often came to this area to fish. [Emphasis added.]

White, Clarence

Not plotted on the Base Map.

See also B07 Jack Littlefield and the entries on John Wathen and George White.

Clarence White, the brother of Frankie White George White's third wife, is the person who shot Wylackie John in Covelo. His death marked the beginning of the end of George White's control of the Yolla Bolly country. See John Wathen entry, Keter 1994a, Appendix 10, and Carranco and Beard 1981.



A10: SF *Call* October 21, 1895

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Clarence White: no date.
(Bauer and Barney 1997:291)

Frankie, White

Frankie White resided in Round Valley. She was the third wife of George White (see entry).

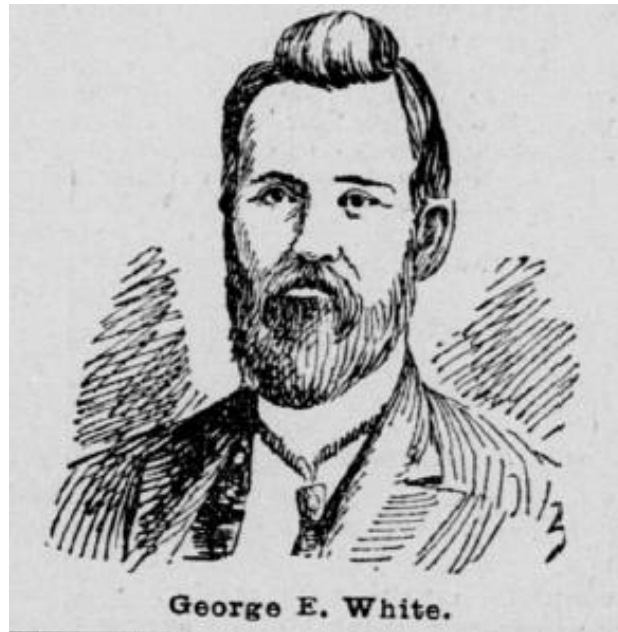
White, George E.

George E. White resided in Round Valley.

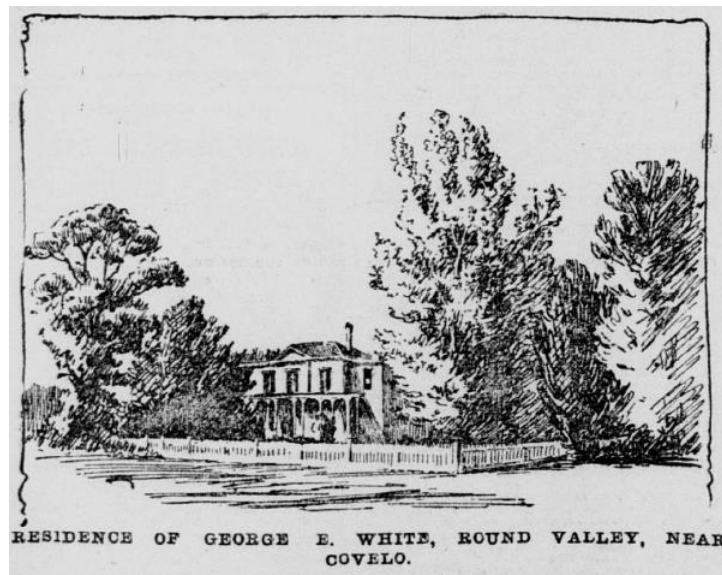
See HA02—White owned a tract of land at Red Mountain Fields. See also Lowden's 1894 map (A2:05) that shows numerous tracts owned by White within the NFERW. See Carranco and Beard 1981, and Keter 1994a for a complete history of George White. See also Appendix 10 for articles on George White from the *San Francisco Call*.

George White was known as "the King of Round Valley" and for several decades--despite most of the area being public domain lands--controlled much of the NFERW through intimidation and fear and when that did not work—intimidation and murder. His henchmen "White's buckaroos" were led by Wailaki John Wathen.

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A10: *SF Call* October 21, 1895



A10: *SF Call* October 21, 1895

Summary of George White the “King of Round Valley”

Given White’s importance to the development—or more precisely—lack of development within the NFERW during the late 1800s is summarized below from Keter 1994a. It has been edited for clarity and some minor revisions have been made to reflect new information collected since the original article was written.

During much of the Ranching Period (1865-1905) perhaps an even greater impediment to homesteading within the North Fork basin than its remoteness and rugged landscape was the determination of George White, a rancher living in Round Valley, to create a ranching empire

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in the Yolla Bolly country. Ultimately, he realized much of his goal. For several decades, White was a major force influencing the settlement, or more precisely the lack of settlement, within the North Fork Eel River basin. It was the "gilded age" and based on the socio-economic tenets of the time (Keter 2015), White and a few other closely allied ranchers, until almost the turn of the century, either directly controlled or substantially influenced to a significant degree the kinds and the intensity of land-use activities taking place within the NFER region.

At the height of his power and influence, White was known as the "King of Round Valley" and he maintained control over his empire through the use of intimidation and when that failed, violence--including murder. He bought-off politicians to pass favorable legislation, bribed lawmen to look the other way, and paid-off judges to provide favorable rulings. White often boasted that he controlled the judges in three counties and according to an article in the San Francisco *Call* (see Appendix 10), he was considered the richest rancher in Northern California. His "buckaroo's" led by the infamous "Wylackie John" managed to prevent a significant number of homesteaders from moving into the North Fork basin, thereby allowing White to graze his herds of cattle and bands of sheep unrestricted over vast regions of the public domain.



George White "King of Round Valley"
SF Call November 26, 1895

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George E. White
(Anonymous 1880: 59)

Only a few days after brothers Frank and Pierce Asbill and their friend Jim Neafus had passed through Round Valley on May 15th of 1854 (see Keter 1990), George White and a party of men traveling west from the Sacramento Valley in search of gold accidentally "discovered" the valley. White immediately recognized the potential for raising livestock as the rangelands of this region were some of the most productive in the state. The perennial bunchgrasses were high in nutrients and grew as tall as the men's horses and there was no underbrush since the Indians periodically burned much of their territory.

In 1856, two months before Indian Agent Simon Storms crossed over from the Nome Lackee Indian Reservation to claim Round Valley as an Indian Reservation, White preempted 1,000 acres at the southern end of the valley. White and some business partners bought about 700 head of cattle in Los Angeles and the cattle were driven north to the valley in 1857. In the meantime, White had also hired Charles Bourne, a former employee of the Nome Lackee Reservation, to purchase cattle in the Sacramento Valley area to the east of Round Valley. Bourne drove five hundred head of cattle over Mendocino Pass and into the valley shortly before the arrival of White with the cattle he had purchased in southern California. These cattle were the first to be brought into Round Valley (Carranco and Beard 1981: 219).

White's holdings grew at a steady rate and his ranching business prospered. By 1860 he controlled over 5,000 acres of land. During the late 1860s and early 1870s White continued to acquire land within the NFERW and elsewhere in the Yolla Bolly country. In some instances, White used his hired men to homestead on parcels of land containing perennial springs. Once

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they acquired the land, the title was then transferred over to White.

Under the Homestead Act of 1862, any American citizen could claim 160 acres of public lands by settling on the land and making improvements. A similar law, the Preemption Law of 1841, had been extended to California in 1853. It permitted settlers to "squat" on public lands and later buy them for about \$1.25 per acre after they had been surveyed. By filing a claim under both of these laws, each settler could claim as much as 320 acres.

White also loaned money to some of the homesteaders who were trying to make a go of it on small parcels of land in the back county. When their five years were up and they could claim the land, White would then purchase the land--usually having loaned the homesteaders so much money they could not pay up. Often, these men would then join White's infamous buckaroos (Carranco and Beard 1981: 222).

By controlling the water (most homesteads were situated near a spring or a water source), White was able to control much of the grazing land in the Yolla Bolly country. This strategy for controlling large areas of public lands was common during the late nineteenth century throughout the rangelands of California. In 1886, Hubert Visser (*in* Burcham 1981:195) noted that:

There are ranges covering thousands of acres which are controlled (not owned) by sheep men, their holdings simply covering strategic points of the range, possession of water sources generally sufficing in itself to attain the desired end. Holding these points, the balance of the range is of no value to anyone else, and his herds range undisputed over public lands. These lands are effectually excluded from settlement, the county and state governments deprived of legitimate sources of revenue, and at the same time valuable public property rapidly going to waste.

By the early 1880s, White controlled much of the Yolla Bolly country to the north of Round Valley and to the west of the Sacramento divide; including most of the NFER region and parcels of land (containing water) as far north as the Lassics region and as far east as the west facing slopes of South Fork Mountain (see Lowden's 1894 map A2: 05). Pierce Asbill's son, Frank, recorded many of his father's and uncle's exploits in a lengthy manuscript *THE LAST OF THE WEST* (much of it written while serving time at San Quentin for murdering his common-law wife in Garberville in 1936). Asbill (with his usual hyperbole) writes that George White:

by 1881, had in that vast domain of free range, all with the exceptions of the seven or eight thousand acres the two Asbill boys owned and controlled in the Summit Valley region....Thirty or forty thousand head of the wildest cows on earth ran along the high mountains, ridges, deep canyons, hell-holes and roughs, along with many thousand head of Spanish marrino [merino] sheep, and many Indian sheep herders." (Asbill Ms. Vol. 2:130)

Between 1881 and 1883 White acquired numerous parcels of land in southern Trinity County substantially increasing his holdings and tightening his control over the Yolla Bolly country.

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The Weaverville paper, the *Trinity Journal* (March 12, 1881), reported that:

Many deeds: no less than 36 transfers of real estate in the south-western portion of this county have been recorded here during the past week. Most of these deeds were for land sold to George E. White, with an occasional transfer to William Pitt White and to White & Wathen. That portion of our county is fast getting into a very few hands.

By 1890, through fraud, murder, arson, the filing of dummy homestead applications, the buying up of abandoned homesteads, and other land grabbing schemes--some of which were legal-- White owned about 150,000 acres; including approximately sixteen strategically located parcels (situated around perennial springs and varying in size from about 160 to 320 acres each) totaling more than 2,600 acres within the North Fork basin (Lowden 1894: map A2: 05). In 1890, he ran about 1,000 head of cattle and about 30,000 sheep and he marketed some 40 tons of wool (Ward ms., Hubert et al n.d.: Appendix IV).

White maintained his control of the Yolla Bolly country through intimidation and when that didn't prove effective, violent force. Lynwood Carranco and Estle Beard, who chronicled his activities in *Genocide and Vendetta* (1981: 220), noted that George White;

...had only two rules for the few homesteaders who had claims: that they should run no more stock on their land than their feed or water would permit and that they should keep their mouths shut no matter what they saw or heard.

His gang of thugs, known as "White's Buckaroos" led by John Wathen who was known and feared far and wide as "Wylackie John (see John Wathen entry above).

Throughout the NFER region during this period, an individual or family, occasionally, would attempt to homestead on a small parcel of land. Most often they would arrive with a few horses and a small number of livestock. In short order, the homesteader's springs were poisoned, their stock ran off or stolen--branded with White's Crop-and-Lop brand--and mixed in with White herds. In some cases, when an individual refused to be intimidated or to get out of the country, they were murdered.

The public record shows that there were fifteen and perhaps as many as nineteen murders in the Yolla Bolly country in which it was believed that Wylackie John was the planner and in some cases the perpetrator, but he was never charged despite the overwhelming evidence in many cases (Lynn 1977:30). One such case is that of Robert Grieves, a small-time rancher who homesteaded 160 acres along the main Eel River. He had been bribed to supply perjured testimony in an earlier murder case, the killing of one of the Packwood brothers, brought against some of White's men (See Packwood entry). Because Grieves was talking too much and because White wanted his land, he was shot and killed by White's second cousin John P. White. One of the witnesses to this killing (a man named Lloyd) was bribed by Wylackie John to leave the county before the inquest. After Lloyd took the money, Wylackie John followed him down the trail and despite a search of the area, he was never heard from again. Despite the strong evidence of premeditated murder and the fact that the victim was probably

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unarmed at the time of his murder, John White was acquitted (Carranco and Beard 1981:232).

In another instance, the Van brothers came to southern Trinity County and began to raise sheep on a small homestead. It was not too long before Wylackie John leading a party of men disguised as Indians attacked the Van homestead. The Van brothers escaped in the darkness but their homestead was burned to the ground, their livestock were killed, and they left the area (Carranco and Beard 1981:234).

By the 1870s George White was at the zenith of his power and controlled much of the North Fork basin. Despite the threats and intimidation, a few homesteaders moved into the region. Most of the homesteaders who made a go of it during this decade managed to either keep a low profile to not antagonize White or, as noted earlier, went to work on one of White's many ranches.

In the mid-1880s, Bill Nowlin and H.C. Hembree tried to stand up to White after settling on a small homestead in southern Trinity County to raise sheep. The homestead was patented on July 7, 1877. White, however, had been grazing sheep in this area and wanted their land. Nowlin and Hembree ordered some of White's buckaroos, who were driving some sheep to pasture, to remove the livestock from their homestead. When White's men refused the homesteaders drew their guns and ordered them off the land. White swore out a warrant and had Nowlin and Hembree arrested on weapons and assault charges. They were detained in Weaverville for a couple of months and eventually, "despite a fine assortment of perjury" by White's men (Carranco and Beard 1981:234)) both were acquitted. When they returned, their home had been burned to the ground, their fences destroyed, and their sheep most likely had been added to White's herd.

Next, White's henchmen tried to poison Nowlin by sending him a quarter beef laced with strychnine. When Nowlin gave a portion to his dog it died. Finally, one of White's buckaroos, Newt Irwin, approached Nowlin's cabin and tried to draw on Nowlin who was quicker on the draw and Irwin was shot and killed. Using the perjured testimony of several men including George White's brother, Pitt White, Nowlin was convicted of manslaughter for shooting an unarmed man and was sentenced to eight years in San Quentin. Later in relation to another murder case, it was learned that White's henchmen had removed Irwin's gun after he had been shot and then they had lined up several witnesses to supply false testimony at Nowlin's trial. Nowlin was finally released after having served several years in prison. When he returned to his homestead, everything had been burned to the ground (Robb 1978:18).

George White was, by this time, not only a major economic force in the Yolla Bolly country but in Round Valley as well. He was by far the wealthiest man in this part of northern California. One Trinity County historian (Robb 1978:18) wrote that by the early 1880s:

George and Pitt White had untold thousands of stock, unrecorded numbers of sheep and many prize horses, control of many of the transportation routes, hotels and saloons and over 150,000 acres in three counties.

White not only controlled large areas of the public domain—including lands within the NFER

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basin--he also grazed his livestock illegally on Round Valley Indian Reservation lands. White even traveled to Washington along with Charlie Fenton to try and lobby Congress to pass what became known as the Land Fraud Laws. In effect, this legislation further reduced the size of the Round Valley Reservation and insured that White could use Indian lands for free grazing (Robb 1978: 16).

During the 1880s the violence continued in the Yolla Bolly country--most of it in some way or another can be traced back to George White and his buckaroos lead by Wylackie John. Small-scale subsistence homesteaders were not the only ones White did not want on the portions of the public domain that he considered his "empire." In the early 1880s, George Ericson established a ranch in the Mad River country and soon he became too big for George White. White's buckaroos ran off his stock, tore down his fences, and filed so many false complaints against him with the Trinity County sheriff that he was almost ruined financially but he refused to leave. Finally, Ericson was shot and killed. Although a murder trial took place and one of the perpetrators, George Kunz, was convicted, he appealed and was given a retrial in which he was found not guilty (Carranco and Beard 1981: 236).

In another case, poison was used to kill a man named Skaggs who had rented some grazing land from White. Skaggs apparently had considerable property and money and about twelve hundred sheep. He was found dead in his bed a victim of poisoning and all his property was missing (Carranco and Beard 1985:337).

George White also wasn't above trying to cheat Trinity County out taxes that he owed. During the mid-1880s, the county passed a tax on sheep of five cents a head per year. White refused to pay. He was hauled into court and was fined for contempt of court. Next, he tried to have the southern part of Trinity County succeed from the rest of the county. He even tried to bribe the state legislature to make the southern portion of Trinity County a part of Humboldt County where there was no sheep tax.

During the last half of the decade, however, two incidents occurred which began a series of events that would eventually, in the mid-1890s, lead to the end of both George White's power and the lawlessness which infested the NFER basin. The first was his divorce from Frankie White his third wife and the second was the killing of his henchman Wylackie John.

[Portions of the following information are repeated from the John Wathen entry above.]

George White [a distant cousin of Stonewall Jackson] had married Frankie White (his second cousin and daughter of John White) in 1881 when he was fifty and she was twenty-four. Carranco and Beard (1981: 240) write that it was not until after she had married White that "she discovered his cold, brutal, and selfish nature." Before too long, Frankie learned that he was dealing in counterfeit money. After registering her displeasure with that and a number of other things that White was doing (including setting up her sister as a "house keeper" at a place he owned in Berkeley) she "overheard her husband and Wylackie John plotting to kill her" (Carranco and Beard 1981:241). She went to Berkeley in an attempt to catch White with her sister but Wylackie John refused her entry [to the hotel]. She moved to San Francisco after this incident fearful for her life if she returned to Round Valley. White then filed suit for

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divorce on grounds of desertion and adultery.

To avoid a costly trial, White had tried to have Frankie murdered one more time. In San Francisco, he hired a man named McPherson and told him, "kill her, I don't care how; throw her in the bay, anything, so you get rid of her" (Carranco and Beard 1981:246). Frankie got word of this plot from McPherson himself who told her about it. Eventually, White ended up in court. He put Wylackie John to work spreading false rumors about White's "infidelity." He assembled over 50 persons who were promised money in return for swearing that they had relations with White or had seen her in compromising situations.

The trial began in San Francisco in December of 1887 and was headlined in all the San Francisco newspapers--it was also written up in other state and even the national newspapers. When the witnesses testified in court, the public, and even the judge: "reacted with revulsion at the lurid obviously contrived stories being repeated by rote" (Lynn 1977:33).

During the Christmas holiday the trial was moved to Round Valley. When the trial reopened on January 2, 1888, nearly every resident of Round Valley was called to testify for one side or the other. Even White's first wife (Ann Elizabeth Welling whom White had divorced in 1860 with the help of perjured testimony by Wylackie John for her "infidelities") came into testify against White as a "cruel, cold man" (Lynn 1977: 33).

Frankie White's brothers were in the milling crowd outside the Gibson House in Covelo where the trial was being held. When Wylackie John refused to step aside to let Clarence White into the court room an altercation ensued. Wylackie John spoke his last words-- "I'll do you in right here." As he attempted to draw his gun got hung up in the folds of his long jacket. White in the meantime drew his gun from his holster and shot Wylackie John through the left eye, killing him instantly. A hush fell over the crowd. Then someone yelled "hurrah!" and "inside the court room the judge broke into a jig as he dismissed the court for the remainder of the day" (Lynn 1977: 33). Everyone then headed to the saloon across the street to celebrate.

The divorce trial went on for eight years until 1895 when it ended in a \$103,000 settlement for Frankie White. During this period the trial took up much of White's energies.

The final act that led to the decline in White's empire was the murder of Jack Littlefield in September of 1895 and the ensuing trials that took place in Weaverville. They were some of the most famous trials in the history of Trinity County--and some of the most expensive (the three trials had so drained the county of funds that it made it impossible to carry out any more prosecutions and trials for the rest of the conspirators). The Weaverville paper published front page stories everyday on the trial proceedings and the San Francisco papers (see Appendix10) closely followed the case. Eventually, the three men were found guilty of murder and all were sentenced to San Quentin Prison. John Crow and Joseph Gregory died in prison and Bayliss Van Horn served about 14 years before being pardoned on December 23, 1910 (Carranco and Beard 1981: 303). None of the other conspirators Laycock, Fred Radcliffe, John Vinton, Thomas Haydon, nor George White were ever brought to trial despite strong evidence of their involvement in the murder.

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The importance of this event in the development of the NFER region is that it focused the attention of the outside world on the illegal activities of George White and resulted in an increase in the presence of law enforcement in the area. Moreover, White was already beginning to lose his grip on the Yolla Bolly country. He had lost some of his property (including a number of parcels in the North Fork Basin to the east of Long Ridge) in the divorce settlement with his third wife Frankie White. He also began to spend more and more time in San Francisco and less time managing his ranch in Round Valley. The result of this combination of circumstances finally began to make it safe for homesteaders to move into the area without fear of losing their property or their lives.

For all practical purposes by early 1897, the iron grip that White had maintained on the NFER basin and in fact, much of the Yolla Bolly country was broken. George White married one more time. At sixty-seven years of age in February of 1898, he married Louise Bogan who was attending Ayer's Business College in San Francisco. This marriage only lasted a few years. The principal cause for the divorce was White's fascination with the occult and a medium named Mrs. J. J. Whitney whom he had been visiting on his many trips to San Francisco. The fourth Mrs. White stated that:

Mrs. Whitney was continually writing long letters to my husband and often he would leave me at the ranch and come to the city to be with her. We spent six months in the country and six months in this city, usually stopping at the house of Mrs. Whitney on O'Farrell Street. I could do nothing with these spiritualistic people, and as I am a Catholic they did not desire me around, I could not remain with them and my husband refused to reside elsewhere I decided to leave him (Carranco and Beard 1981:305).

Louise Brogan White filed for divorce on December 25, 1900. In the spring of 1902, White began to experience stomach pains and he was diagnosed as having cancer of the stomach. He died peacefully in his sleep on June 8, 1902 (see Appendix 10 San Francisco *Call* June 10, 1902).

[After having worked over 35 years researching the history of the North Fork Eel River region I have yet to encounter a single individual who has a good thing to say about George White. His house in Covelo burned to the ground in April of 1986.]

White Lilly

Not Plotted on the Base Map.

It appears that there were two individuals—a man and a wife—both Native Americans who were named White Lilly. See B03 for a discussion of their relationship and the time they spent living at Soldier Basin. See also Appendix 12—Patricia Burrell; she was a descendant of the couple.

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White Family, Pitt

The Pitt White Ranch is located to the west of the NFERW and to the southeast of Alderpoint. On some USGS maps it is referred to as the Jameson Ranch (Robb 1978).

Although Pitt White, the brother of George White, did not live within the NFERW, like his brother, he played a major role in the development (or lack thereof) of the Yolla Bolly country.

The following information is from Keter 1994a: 15:

Known as the Kekawaka Ranch (located on beautiful Kekawaka Creek), this ranch was actually owned by George White with his brother William Pitt White a silent partner (for legal reasons related to an outstanding judgment filed against him in Placer County) [Carranco and Beard 1981: 212].

Pitt White, his wife, Prudence, and their children moved onto the ranch in about 1875. Along with Arthur's place, it was one of the earliest ranches to be established in this part of southwestern Trinity County (Robb 1978: 16). This was a large ranch and it even had its own blacksmith shop (Carranco and Beard 1981: 212). No estimate could be found on the number of sheep Pitt White ran but it surely ran in the thousands.

The Pitt White family shows up on the Long Ridge the census lists (A3) and their ranch on early maps of the area (A2) as well numerous tracts of land on the Belcher Title and Abstract Map of 1922 (A2: 26a and 26b).

A brief biographical sketch provided by his daughter Lillian White in 1951 (A5: ms05) is included below.

William Pitt White was born in 1836 in Lewis Co., W. Va. Prudence Teresa Strader was born 1850 in Upshur Co., '7. Va. They were married at Clarksburg, Va. the last day of 1874 and started that day for Calif. arriving at the home of George R. White in Covelo in due time.

My father first came to California several years previous to his marriage, coming by the Isthmus and engaged in stock raising with his brother George in Round Valley. George White came earlier by ox team across the plains. My mother remained a short time in Round Valley while father came on out to the ranch to prepare a home.

On moving out to the ranch from Covelo by team, my parents camped one night at the Lone Pine Tree on Kekawaka Mountain. My mother felt that she

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needed some protection, so she made their bed under the wagon. The first home was a little one room sheep herder's cabin with a dirt floor. Father engaged in raising sheep, cattle, and horses. Also mules in later years.

Sheep were sheared twice a year by a 15 or 16 crew of Indians from Round Valley who always managed to eat up a beef by the time the job was finished. The wool was first hauled to Hookton by a six horse team usually driven by my father. Hookton was in the vicinity of the present town of Beatrice, Humboldt County.

Twice a year was round-up time with the marking and branding of calves and gathering of beef cattle. All fence and building materials were split out by hand.

Mail was first brought out from Covelo. After that Blocksburg was our post office, twenty miles distant.

There are three persons buried on our old home ranch. On the old Atkeson [Atkinson] place two or three miles north of Hoaglin or Hettennom Valley [this is what many of the old timers called Kettenpom Valley], are buried four, I believe it is, of the Atkeson family.

My father and mother, both passed away at the ranch, father in July, 1924 and mother in February, 1936. Both are buried in the cemetery in Round Valley.

Garcelon (A5: ms01) noted that:

The William Pitt White ranch was above Kekawaka Creek on the north side of the creek up the hill about 1/4 mile. Access was from the White hill road. Pitt White married Prudence Teresa Strader Dec. 31, 1874 then they started for the ranch on Kekawaka. He raised cattle, sheep and horses. There are 3 people buried on the home ranch. Pitt White came into the area first about 1854.

Robb (1981: 353) notes that "For a time the ranch was owned by the Jameson family, and in 1975 the 11,000 ranch was purchased by Cal and Wendy Stewart.

For more information see Carranco and Beard 1981, Keter 1994a, and Robb 1981: 353.

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Willburn, Aaron Francis

See HF02, IA01.

Aaron F/ Willburn was the son of James S. Willburn (Sr.) and was married to Minnie Willburn. They had three children (see 1880 census). Refer to B05 for discussion of his family and relationship to the extended Willburn family.

Wilburn, Church D. of Long Ridge

See HA05.

Refer to B05 for discussion of his family and relationship to the extended Willburn family.

The following information needs to be confirmed, but it appears that there was a Churchman Willburn (son of James Willburn Sr.) and apparently a Church Willburn who settled on Long Ridge. According to Jim Burgess (TCHS tape) he was a distant relative of the Willburns of Hettenshaw Valley and came "from Mississippi I think" and settle there. Burgess thought James Willburn (SR) may have been his uncle.

Willburn, Clarence S.

See HF19 also HF08

Clarence Willburn was the son of Aaron Willburn who was the son of James S. Willburn (Sr.). Refer to B05 for discussion of his family and relationship to the extended Willburn family.

Willburn, Edward and Extended Family

Edward Willburn was the father of James St. Clair Willburn and Hiram D. Willburn see B05 for a family biography.

Willburn, Emma Lee

See IF03 and B05.

She was the daughter of Aaron F. and Minnie Willburn.

People and Places

Willburn, Fannie Powell

See IA01, HF06 and HF07.

Fannie Willburn Powell was the wife of James S. Willburn (Jr.). The Powell family was from Blocksburg—see the 1880 Powellville census Appendix 3.

Willburn, Georgia E

See HA01 and HF18. She was the wife of William S. Willburn.

Willburn, Hazel

Hazel Willburn was the daughter of Church Willburn of Long Ridge.

See HA05 and B05.

Willburn, Hiram D.

See HF11

Son of James S. Willburn SR.

Willburn, James E.

See HF01.

Son of James S. Willburn (Jr.)—B05.

People and Places

Willburn, James St. Clair (Sr.)

See B05 the Willburn family biography.

James St. Clair Willburn was the first settlers (there is some disagreement on this matter-- see the Hettenshaw Valley entry).

Willburn, James S. (Jr.)

Son of James St. Clair Willburn see B05.

Willburn, Maude

See HF08, IA03, see also B05.

Daughter of James S. Willburn (Jr.).

Willburn, Richard

See HA06

Richard Willburn was one of the only African-Americans living in this region during the historic era of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He moved into this area with the Willburns—see B05.

Willburn, William S.

See HA03 and B05.

Williams, James R.

See HF04.

People and Places

Wylackie John

See John Wathen entry.

People and Places

YY

Yellowjacket and Sally Jacket; AKA: Jack French

See B02.

Jack French was more commonly known as Yellowjacket.

People and Places

Alderpoint, on what is known as the Allen place. It was here that George Burgess built the first cabin in Zenia, according to May Burgess.



Zenia Store and old post office in 2004.
(T. Keter)

The first Zenia store (it also served as post office for many years), a cabin built by Sam Ledgerwood in 1888 (it also served as his residence), was constructed of sugar pine milled at Grizzly Mountain. It contained an iron safe “which came around the horn on a clipper ship” (*TCHC Journal* 1978: 24). The building burned to the ground and was replaced in 1908 by the current store (Robb 1981: 355).

For more information on Zenia see Robb (1981: 354-355), Carranco and Beard 1981, and Keter 1994a.

Zenia Guard Station

See NF08.

Zenia Post Office

See *Post Offices of the North Fork Eel River region* entry.

People and Places

Zenia School

See the *Schools of the North Fork Eel River Region* entry.