

# PIONEER RECORD



## MIDLAND'S PIONEER FAMILIES

This month we are continue printing some of the series of articles with interviews of Midland pioneers which appeared in the Midland Sun newspaper February through May, 1924.

Mar. 13, 1924 - Mrs. LANPHIERD. Mrs. H. Lanphierd came to Midland county and settled on a homestead in Lincoln township in 1868, and has been a resident of this county continuously for the past 55 years. Averill was the terminus of the Flint and Pere Marquette railroad at that time.

The little settlement was then known as "Red Keg". Two hotels, a store, blacksmith shop and a saloon made up the business section of the town. The saloon was conducted by Elliot Moore; the Averill Hotel by Alfred Averill and the Lincoln House by Burt Sites(?). This hotel was located a few rods southeast of the town proper on the banks of the river. Averill was typical of all Michigan lumber towns and the store served as a supply house for the lumbermen. It later became the headquarters for the surrounding camps and was a busy place.

The wagon road ran parallel with the river and three families, George Postal, George Allswede and Jacob Hager lived on the road between Averill and Sanford. Harrison Averill owned a farm on what was then known as the Averill flats.

George Postal was killed in the fall of '69 by a pile driver while he was working on the river.

Although Mrs. Lanphierd is almost 79 years old, she wrote the Sun a very interesting letter in which she tells of attending quilting and logging bees in those early days and said that the jolly good times were much enjoyed.

She related an experience that she and some relatives had with a lynx one evening while they were returning home from church. They heard a noise in the brush and later by the light of a lantern which Mrs. Lanphierd carried, discovered a lynx on a fallen tree only a few feet from them. It followed through the swamps and woods to their home and prowled around their cabin for some time, later coming up on the porch. Within the next day or two a lynx was killed by a hunter and she has always believed it was the one that followed them through the woods.

She well remembers the mammoth rollway on the banks of the Tittabawassee river just below Averill. It is said that this was the largest rollway in the history of the Michigan lumber woods.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope you all enjoyed the holidays as much as Pat and I did. We were pleased to have all three children, their spouses and our grandchildren (five plus) with us. We even took advantage of this occasion to have a family portrait taken.

There was one note of sadness during the holidays ... Dorothy Wilson, our only Life Member and one of the group that founded our society, died on December 23, 1990. She was a highly respected genealogist ... always searching for the truth. Although her health in recent years prevented her from coming to our meetings, those of us who knew Dorothy will miss her sparkling eyes and ready smile. The Society will be donating a book to the Library in her memory.

Many of you attended the November meeting at the LDS Family History Center where Jan Kohlbrand gave us an introduction to their computer and its exciting ability to access genealogical information on CD-ROM disks. Unfortunately, the disk reader, which is the key to all that information, has since "gone down" and been sent in for repair. The CD-ROM technology is relatively new and, therefore, subject to things of this sort. When the reader is working again, you will be able to access their newest CD-ROM addition ... the SOCIAL SECURITY DEATH INDEX. On four CD's are 39.5 million records of persons whose SSA death benefit was claimed (mostly between 1962 & 1988). A limited amount of information is shown, but it may be helpful.

The January 16th meeting was sobered by news of war starting in the Persian Gulf. The average turnout included a large number of guests interested in using their computers for genealogy. I used the large screen TV as a monitor for my computer and in the middle of the demonstration, I switched over to CNN to hear the President speak. After those historic words, it was difficult to return to a subject so insignificant by comparison.

This year's Book Selection Committee is made up of Ruth Ann Casadonte, Ralph Hillman, and Nancy Lackie. They will be working toward a list worth \$1200, since the Library Director, Rose Marie Byers, confirmed to me that she will be able to match our budgeted amount of \$600.

Perhaps our most exciting future activity is the "First Families of Midland County" project. We hope to gain a substantial amount of local genealogy by offering recognition certificates to anyone proving lineage to an ancestor who lived in the county in 1894 or earlier. Maxine Mc Cullen, Pat Worden, and Gayle Hanna started the work, but they will need a lot of help! This kind of thing has been very successful in Ohio and New York, to name a few areas. In addition to the information gained, we hope to earn some money for our other projects such as the Genealogy Collection.

Early in January, I spoke to the Bay County Genealogical Society in return for our October program by their president, Bob Luce. My subject was "Researching in Midland" including the LDS Family History Center. They had between fifteen and twenty members in attendance. Jan Kohlbrand supplied me with her FHC handout to go with my information about Midland County Records. In compiling the latter, I improved my knowledge of local sources.

Come and BRING A FRIEND to hear about New England on Feb 20 ...

Bill Worden

Mar. 20, 1924. - Mrs. HELEN FRANSEN. Mrs. Helen Fransen aged 78 years, has lived in Jerome township, Midland county, about 42 years. She tells of being frequently kept awake at night during the first and second winters after she came here, by the howling of wolves and on one occasion after one of the nocturnal concerts she found the remains of a deer which had been slain by them, in a berry swamp, near her home. Mrs. Fransen also tells an amusing story of seeing a young deer leap the fence into a pasture, close to the house and play with the horses also there, chasing them about for some time, before returning to the forest.

Mar. 20, 1924 - CHARLES H. JEFFERS. Charles H. Jeffers, aged 80 years, came to Midland county in 1871. Residing in Coleman about five years, and in Sanford since 1876. The county at that time was covered with an almost unbroken forest, and deer were plentiful. Mr. Jeffers was a section forman, and the section men habitually carried a gun on the hand car, being able to keep themselves well supplied with venison. At one time they captured a full grown deer alive. It had been run by dogs until it was exhausted. Bears were also frequently seen. There were only seven buildings in Sanford in 1876, five dwellings, Wells & Stones's store, and a surveyor's office. There were no highway bridges, but a ferry ran across the Tittabawassee river, near where the Salt river bridge is now. The cemetery had just been laid out, and there were only three graves in it.

Mar. 20, 1924 - Mrs. THEODORA ALLSWEDE. Mrs. Theodora Allswede, aged 84, came to Midland county, in 1859. Living in Jerome township, - then called town 16 - until 1864, when she and Mr. Allswede moved onto a farm near Averill, and lived there and in the village of Averill, until 1907, when they moved to Sanford. Mrs. Allswede now makes her home with her son, Fred W. Allswede. While living on the farm Mr. Allswede once shot and killed a deer, from the kitchen door of his home.

Mar. 20, 1924 - THEODORE F. TUTTLE. Rev. Theodore F. Tuttle, age 30 years, has lived in Midland county 30 years, was in Edenville township, for four years and since then in Jerome township - is now living in the village of Sanford.

Mrs. T.F. Tuttle age 77, has lived in Midland county for 45 years, 36 years in Jerome township.

W E L C O M E   N E W   M E M B E R S

Babcock, Sid & Orene	1190 W. Stewart Rd.	835-5925
Errat, Jan	2152 Lynn, Sanford, MI 48657	687-2932
Hamlin, Marjorie	2205 E. College Ave., Visalia, CA 93277	
Breault, Gwen	578 Peterson, Dr., Sanford, MI 48657	687-2587
Court, Lida & Rolland	416 Center St., Coleman, MI 48618	
Ward, Gilbert	1007 Balfour	835-6292
Hayes, Lee	6331 W. Elmhurst, Littleton, CO 80123	

COMING MEETINGS

Feb. 20. Will be "Searching in New England" by Ralph Hillman

Mar. 20. Ruth Ann Casadonte will present a program on genealogical research using the U.S. Census

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SALT LAKE CITY TRIP POSTPONED

Pat Worden regrets to inform us that the trip she was attempting to organize to Salt Lake City must be postponed. At the planned time in April, there are several other conventions that have filled the local hotels. She will try to reschedule it for the fall.

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MISSING REFERENCE

Diana Butcher informs us that she is missing one of her references. The missing reference is Issue # 15 of the Genealogical Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Historical Society, April., 1976. If anyone has the newsletter please contact her at Ph. 835-4528.

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OBITUARY INDEX PROJECT

The Society is attempting to make plans for the final formatting and publishing of the Obituary Index Project. Most of the information from the Midland Sun and Times Newspapers from the period 1872 through 1927 have now been typed up and listed. Unfortunately more work needs to be done to combine files and put the text into a common format which will make the result into a publishable final form. Also, although all of the printed data was put into computer files, a number of the computer disks containing the data have disappeared. To obtain a final coherent whole, some of the data may have to be typed in again to be able to recover the data on the missing disks. Since the data now exists as a number of organized files, the recovery work will be somewhat simplified compared to the original work. We believe we know of all the persons still working on part of the remainder, but would like to hear from all who may still be working on some of it. Will all still working in it contact Ora Flaningam, Ph. 835-3227. We still need to select a final format and a common computer method which will make combination of the present nine "Times" and four "Sun" files into a single file for each as painless as possible. If anyone has computer capabilities and would like to help with this work, please also contact Ora Flaningam.

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TEN-YEAR SUBJECT AND ARTICLE INDEX OF THE PIONEER RECORD

Pages 9, 10, and 11 of this issue contain the final three pages of the nine page subject and article index for the first TEN years of the PIONEER RECORD, VOLUMES I-X. Pages 1-3 were published in the Sept. 1990 issue (XI#1) and pages 4-6 were in the Oct. 1990 issue (XI#2). It should be pointed out that the Index is organized in three parts. Part 1 on page 1 is the index to the subject of all the Midland Genealogical Society meetings. Part 2 on pages 2 & 3 is an index of the officers of the society for the years 1980 through 1989 (the list for 1987 is missing). Part 4 of the index on pages 3-9 is the article title index of all the articles published in this time period. We have Pat Worden to thank for keeping the Index up for these ten years and allowing us to publish it here.

## RESEARCHING MIDLAND COUNTY RECORDS

Midland County Clerk - County Services Bldg, 220 W. Ellsworth

Hours: 8AM to 12 noon and 1PM to 5PM, Monday thru Friday

Birth, Death and Marriage Records -- 1867 to present

Death and Marriage indexes available for public inspection at any time. Copies of the records can be obtained by anyone (\$.50 for Xerox or \$7.00 for certified copy). If someone demonstrates a legitimate research interest, they can go thru the original records. Genealogists are o.k.; insurance salesmen, Credit Bureaus are not.

Birth indexes are not available for public inspection. Birth Record books are not available for public inspection for any reason. If an individual is eligible to receive a copy of a Birth Record, they may inspect an individual record to copy down information or obtain a CERTIFIED COPY for \$7.00 (NO \$.50 COPIES). Eligible persons include the subject individual, a parent named in the record, a legal representative or legal guardian (must have proof), a court of competent jurisdiction or an heir (any living relative of a deceased person). An heir must fill out and sign an affidavit to receive a Certified Copy of Birth.

Karen Holcomb, the secretary to the County Clerk, is very helpful.

Register of Deeds - County Services Bldg, 220 W. Ellsworth

Hours: 8AM to 12 noon and 1PM to 5PM, Monday thru Friday

Land Records -- 1855 to present

Record books open to researchers. If copies are needed, the fee is \$1.00 each.

Bev Thayer, Deputy Register of Deeds, is very pleasant.

Probate Court Records - Court House, 301 W. Main

Hours: 8AM to 12 noon and 1PM to 5PM, Monday thru Friday

Estates, Guardianships, Conservatorships -- 1856 to present

They request that you call for an appointment (832-6880) to look at the records. Space is limited.

Secretary Deb Hawk is very nice.

SHELF SIDE

Compiled by Maxine McCullen

- Recent Additions to the Genealogical Collection of G.A.Dow Library
- 973.7016 "The Union"-A Guide to Federal Archives Relating to the Civil War" by Munden and Beers,1986
- 976.8 "Tennessee Cousins"-A History of Tennessee People" by Worth S.Ray,1950 Donated by Wilma Diesen
- 973.016 "The Library of Congress"-A Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research,1990 by James C.Neagles
- 929.373 "The Complete Book of Emigrants in Bondage-1614-1775" by Peter Wilson Coldham,1988
- 929.3 "Passports of Southeastern Pioneers 1770-1823" by Dorothy Williams Potter,1982
- 929.373 "American Wills and Administrations in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury,1610-1857"--Peter Wilson Coldham
- 929.373 "Early Ohio Settlers"-Purchasers of Land in East and East Central Ohio 1800-1840" Compiled by E.and D.Berry
- 929.3771 "Washington County Ohio Marriages 1789-1840" Compiled by B.Graham and E.Cottle,1976
- 929.1 "Our Quaker Ancestors" Ellen T.Berry and David A.Berry
- 971.5 "New Brunswick Loyalists,A Bi-Centennial Tribute",1983
- 929.3742 "New Hampshire 1732 Census" Jay Mack Hollbrook,1981
- 929.1 "Guide to County Records and Genealogical Resources in Tennessee" Compiled by R.C. Fulcher,1987
- 929.3768 "Tennessee Genealogical Records:Records of Early Settlers from State and County Archives"E.R.Whitley,1980
- 977.595 "A History of Shenandoah County Virginia"-J.W.Wayland
- 929.3755 "Early Virginia Immigrants 1623-1666" G.A.Greer,1989
- 929.3 "Child Apprentices in America from Christ's Hospital, London 1617-1778" by Peter Wilson Coldham,1990
- 929.3416 "Irish Emigration Lists 1833-1839" Brian Mitchell,1989
- 929.3415 "Land Owners in Ireland 1876" Gen.Pub.Co.,1988

- 929.3415 "A Guide to Irish Churches and Graveyards"-B.Mitchell  
 929.3415 "A Guide to Irish Parish Registers"-B.Mitchell,1988  
 974.8 "Notes and Queries Relating to Pennsylvania" W.H.Egle  
 Relating chiefly to Interior Pennsylvania(12 Vols.)  
 "Index to Egle's Notes and Queries"(see above)  
 071.3 "Newspaper Indexes:Vol.3" by Anita Milner,1982  
 974.005 "New England Hist.and Gen.Register Index of Persons,  
 Subjects,and Places,for Vol.1-50"(1845-1895)repub.1989  
 971.423 "History of Counties of Argenteuil,Quebec;and Prescott,  
 Ontario"by C.Thomas,1896  
 974.7 "New York Gen.and Bio.Record,Master Index 1870-1982"  
 (Surname,Subject) by Jean Worden  
 026.9291 "Going to Salt Lake City to do Family History Research"  
 by J.Carlyle Parker,1989  
 929.3774 "Marriage Returns for Oakland County,MI.-1836-1884"  
 Pub.by Oakland Co.Gen.Society  
 929.3747 "Nineteenth Century Apprentices in New York City"  
 Abstracted by Kenneth Scott  
 974.841 "History of York County,Pennsylvania 1729-1834"  
 by W.C.Carter and A.J.Glassbrenner  
 929.3755 "Will and Estate Records in Virginia State Library"  
 by John Vogt and Wm.Kethley,jr.,1987  
 973.94 "Personnel of the Civil War"Vol.1 and 2 by T.Yoseloff  
 929.1 "New York City Court Records 1760-1797",Kenneth Scott  
 973.7474 "United States Civil War Soldiers Living in MI.in 1894"  
 Pub.by Clinton Co.Hist.Society  
 \*\*\* "Finding Your Past Using Cemeteries" -MI.Gen.Council  
 \*\*\* "Through These Doors"-The Families of Washington School,  
 Romeo,MI. Donated by Helen Lee.  
 \*\*\* "Genealogical History of Some Early Midland Pioneers"  
 Compiled by Diana Eaton Butcher for Lorelei M.Rockwell  
 (Large Green Notebooks) Vols.1 and 2  
 \*\*\* "Hartford Times Index" Microfiche  
 RM 973.774 "Seventh MI.Vol.Cavalry"-Personal and Hist.Sketches  
 RM 973.774 "A Hundred Battles in the West"-Second MI.Cavalry

SHELFSIDE

- 929.3 "Peirce's Colonial Lists-Civil,Military and  
Professional Lists of Plymouth and Rhode Island "
- 977.279 "History of LaGrange Co.,Ind." F.A.Batthey (1882)
- 929.3772 "LaGrange Co.Ind.Marriages-1832-1880"- Ruth Slevin
- 977.279 "History of LaGrange Co.,Ind."1920  
With Bio. Sketches from Steuben,Noble and Dekalb Cos.
- 929.3744 "Vital Records of S.E. Mass.Vol.3 "
- 929.3747 "Baptismal and Marriage Registers of Old Dutch  
Church of Kingston,Ulster Co.,New York-1660-1809"

Above books were donated by Dorothy Wilson

- 929.3 "Marriages of Centre Co.,Penn,1800-1850"- H.O. Thomen  
Donated by Evelyn Fagley
- 973.7092 "Our Civil War Ancestors"-Wilbur Thomas Lanphierd  
Chapter-National Society Dghtrs.of the Union 1861-1865  
Donated by the Chapter

- 929.1 "Kinship-Its all Relative" J.S.Arnold
- 929.3 "Mayflower Index,Society of Mayflower Descendants"  
Vols.1 and 2
- 929.3755 "Cavaliers and Pioneers"-Abstracts of Virginia  
Land Patents and Grants. Vols.2 and 3-Nell M.Nugent
- 929.2755 "Virginia Colonial Soldiers"--Bockstruck
- 929.1 "Ethnic Genealogy"-A Research Guide--Jessie C. Smith
- 929.749 "New York City Court Records-1684-1760" Kenneth Scott
- 929.3747 "New York City Court Records-1797-1801" Kenneth Scott
- 929.3 "Complete Book of Emigrants-1661-1699" Peter W.Colham
- 347.02 "County Courthouse Book"(Who to Contact and Cost)Bentley
- 929.3774 "Marriage Records of Monroe Co.,MI. Vols. land 2
- 917.7464 "Index to New Atlas and Directory of Grand Traverse Co.-  
1895"
- 929.37747 "Death Records AuSable-Oscoda MI.-1867-1950"
- Micro-fische "Index to 1860 Fed.Cen.Barry Co.MI. Donated by F.Wise  
Also:"The Frugal Gourmet on Our Immigrant Ancestors"by Jeff Smith  
Receipes you should have gotten from your Grandmother(Found upstairs)



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Oakland County Cemetery Records	-	-	-	VIII#4 Apr 88
Obituaries Being Indexed	-	-	-	IX#2 Nov 88
Obituaries From Midland Sun [Abbey-Bishop]	-	-	-	IX#2 Nov 88
Obituaries From Midland Sun [Bishop-Card]	-	-	-	IX#3 Feb 89
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Obituary Index [13Jan1872-19Aug1874]	-	-	-	VII#1 Oct 86
Obituary: Pioneer Resident Dead At 92 Yrs	-	Stephen	Dolan	VII#3 Feb 87
Offers Of Research Given by Society Members	-	-	-	IX#1 Sep 88
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Old & New Books At The Library	-	Marion	Berry	VI#4 Apr 86
Old Checks POUND [Civil War Soldiers]	-	-	-	VIII#3 Feb 88
Old Family Bible Records	-	-	-	IV#3 Feb 84
Old Obituary, Death of a Native Pioneer	-	-	-	V#3 May 85
Oldest Residents of Midland County - 1924	-	-	-	X#4 Apr 90
Organization of Midland County Townships	-	-	-	II#2 Sep 81
Orphan Train Children, The	-	-	-	X#3 Feb 90
Orphan Train Heritage Society of America	-	-	-	IX#3 Feb 89
Palatinate	-	-	-	IX#3 Feb 89
Passport Records	-	-	-	IX#3 Feb 89
Paymaster's Register	-	-	-	IX#3 Feb 89
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President's Corner	-	Willie	Diesen	VI#3 Feb 86
President's Corner	-	Willie	Diesen	VII#1 Oct 86
President's Corner	-	Willie	Diesen	VII#2 Nov 86
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Reunion Under a Family Tree	-	-	Brinkerhof	VI#3	Feb 86
Revolutionary Records	-	-	-	V#1	Dec 84
Rose/Roose Research	-	Christine	Rose	I#4	Feb 81
Salt Lake City - A Researcher's Dream	-	Pat	Worden	VI#1-2	Nov 85
Samuel O. Odell, Mrs. Ida Coons County's Oldest	-	-	-	VI#4	Apr 86
San Francisco [Earthquake]	-	-	-	V#1	Dec 84
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Sault Area Chamber of Commerce, letter	MI, Sault Ste. Marie	-	-	IV#4	May 84
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Our society meets on the 3rd Wed. of Sept.  
Oct., 4th Wed. of Nov., 3rd Wed. of Jan.  
Feb., Mar, Apr., May in the lounge of the  
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Membership dues are \$10.00 for single and  
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