

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

(Hadley, Headley, Hadlee, Hadly, Hadleigh, etc and their related kin)

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Hadley migration to the Pacific Northwest: (In four parts)

Many of the Hadleys currently living in the Pacific Northwest can trace their lineage back to our patriarch George. They arrived in that region in three unrelated migrations during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Part 1. Three brothers: **Henry Gardner Hadley** (1815-1906) and his wife Loretta Cox (ca. 1824-1909); **Melville F Hadley** (1830-1861) and **Samuel Bradley Hadley** (1821-1891) and his wife Amelia (Emily) (Hammond) Shinn (1825-1886) moved to Oregon – all arriving in 1851. Another brother, **Robert Gibson Hadley** did not come in 1851 but was in Oregon by 1855 and joined in regiments for the Indian Wars that year with his brother, Samuel B., in Roseburg. Even though Samuel and his brothers were born in New England and Amelia in Ohio, Samuel met, married, and moved from Illinois to Oregon, first settling near Myrtle Creek, Douglas County and then Paisley, Lake County, Oregon. Henry and Loretta settled near Eugene, Lane County, Oregon. Robert married Martha Jane Brattain in Eugene, Lane County, Oregon in 1866. He died in 1870.

Part 2. Benjamin Orson Hadley, Sr. (1914-2004) who moved from Illinois to Portland, Oregon

Part 3. Solomon Orser Hadley (1842-1927) moved from Ontario into Alberta, Canada

Part 4. Summary

Even though both Samuel (**Part 1**) and Benjamin (**Part 2**) lived in Illinois, they lived in a different timeframe and location. They were 4th cousins 2 x removed and it is likely they never even knew about each other.

For the next several months, the *Hadley Newsletters* will present an overview of each of these family migrations.

This month, we are devoting the entire *Hadley Newsletter* (**Part 1**) to Samuel and Amelia Hadley and their extended family. Some may also remember the fine presentation on this family given by **Craig and Janie Hadley**, jnchadley@yahoo.com at the Hadley reunion in Danvers, MA in 1999.

Part 1: by [Diana Lynn Hadley](#)

Paisley, Oregon

April 20, 1851, Galesburg, Illinois. Samuel Bradley Hadley and Emily Amelia Hammond Shinn, a widow originally from Ohio whose husband and year old son had died the previous winter of fever, married. Four days later, they joined a wagon train with their horse driven wagons to head west on the Oregon Trail which left Council Bluffs on May 5. Quite the honeymoon, eh? The distance they traveled, by horse drawn wagon, was over 2,200 miles!



Samuel B Hadley



Amelia "Emily" Hadley

Their party included Sam's brother, Melville, and another brother, Henry and his wife Loretta (although Amelia doesn't identify him as such in her diary, he is listed on the 1851 emigrant rolls as part of their train.). It also included Aaron Rose, the founder of Roseburg, in Douglas County, OR, and Dr. James Cole, for whom a valley close to Roseburg would be named. The Dennys and Borens journeyed with this party to Oregon (and later Washington) (mentioned in Amelia's diary). (The Dennys founded Seattle (Arthur and David). As step-siblings who crossed the plains together married, Louisa Boren married David

Denny and became known as the Sweetbriar Bride - the first wedding of whites in the area. Her sister, Mary Ann married Arthur.)

Taking the Barlow Trail over the Cascades and arriving at the Foster Farm on Eagle Creek, just east of Portland, on August 23, 1851 (interestingly enough, my sister's birthday over 100 years later), Sam and Amelia did not linger in that area long. Instead, they followed Rose south and took up a Donation Land Claim along the South Umpqua River, just north of Myrtle Creek in December 1851 (records show it was recorded Dec 1). Interstate 5 now runs through the center of that claim, a vineyard and winery abuts it to the west. It is beautiful land. I can imagine it being quite bountiful. The first three children were born in this Oregon Territory - Albert (1852), Margaret (1854), and my great grandfather, Samuel Gibson, in 1856. Sam B was a county commissioner in 1853, six years before Oregon became a state.

Around 1857(?), Sam and Amelia packed up their growing family and journeyed even farther south, over mountains not quite as treacherous as the Rockies, but almost, to become store owners in Yreka, Siskiyou County, CA. There, other children joined the family - twins: Melville and Melvina ("Dolly") (1858), John (1860), Kitty Emmeline (1862), Henry ("Hank") (1866). I have been unable to discover anything about this sojourn of the Hadleys in Yreka. There is a former post station in Humboldt County, CA, named Hadley, but from my research, I have traced that back to Henry G., Sam B's brother. My father, Gerald, says his grandfather (Sam G) would tell him stories of his childhood but never mentioned the years in Yreka and they lived there for almost a decade, judging by the years of the children's births.

Back to Oregon and the Myrtle Creek area! Again, according to the oral history passed down, my great grandfather enjoyed spending time with the Chinese along the river, learning bits of their language and sharing meals. The Hadleys were also friendly with the Native Americans in the areas in which they lived. They adopted a young Native American boy whom Sam B named Joe Bowers, while in California. According to accounts, he very much loved Amelia. He is buried in the Paisley, OR cemetery along with many of the family.

Then came the Modoc Indian Wars ((1872-1873). I have a certain pride in being part of such an adventurous family. I know this land well. It is not an easy place, although Sam definitely had a knack for choosing prime real estate. I think of Amelia and her brood of children and NO indoor plumbing, easy access supermarkets, etc., and I marvel. On the flip side, I struggle with the fact that my family and others like them had a part in the displacement of the indigenous population. It helps me to know, via my father via my great grandfather who was actually there, that our family, in particular, wanted to live in harmony with the natives. They befriended them. That being said, Sam B and the older boys were conscripted into the army. (Sam B. and his brother, Robert, participated in the Indian Wars in 1855-1856.) They did not, according to account, engage in fighting, instead taking on other jobs which allowed them to help as they could.

When the war ended in 1873, they decided to leave the lower Umpqua Valley again. This time, heading east over the Cascades to the Summer Lake Valley and a new settlement named Paisley. I have not been able to pinpoint the exact dates of their arrival in Lake County, but from various sources, I have pieced together that Kitty and Dolly made the first two marriages in the area in January and May 1875, respectively; Kitty to William Currier and Dolly to John A. Withers (According to puzzle pieces I put together, John's sister, Mary, married Henry G's son, Charles, in the Eugene, Oregon area, who also held land in Lake County by the Withers there. They lived in Lane County, Oregon. A Charles Hadley is frequently mentioned in the Roseburg newspapers in the early 1900s, but he could possibly be Albert's son, although Find-A-Grave has a headstone for someone whose dates match that of Charles as dying in 1890.). Any information you may have regarding Hadleys in Lane County, Oregon and along the Oregon and California coasts would be appreciated. More importantly, to me, is any information on the Hadleys in Lake County, Oregon.

According to the BLM GLO records, both Sam B and Albert filed claims in Lake County, but not until 1879 at the earliest. From what I have been told and could find in my research, their land abutted the Withers ranch and eventually most of it became part of it. Amelia is known for bringing the first organ into the area. She was a staunch Methodist and somewhat of a musician, playing the accordion and organ with some finesse. Although there is no longer a Methodist church in Paisley, my family were members there for many, many years. In the Paisley area, Margaret married John Hanan, Albert, and eventually Sam G, married local women. Henry went his own way, ending up in Idaho and Washington, where he married and stayed.

Samuel Gibson was my great grandfather. I have heard so many accounts of his raucous ways. There is a saloon still standing in what is now almost a ghost town but what, at the time, was a thriving community with at least three saloons, a mercantile, post office, hotel/restaurant, doctors, a bank, a newspaper, a board walk. From what I have heard, Sam G would ride his horse through the swinging doors of the saloon, right up to the bar, order, drink, and then ride out again. He was a hard worker, and played equally as hard. As he was approaching his mid-50s, Lillian A. Tucker Gaylord caught his eye, a widow with six children who had married her first husband quite young. They married in 1911 and had three sons, Herbert LaVerne, Lewis Gibson, Vinton Wade. Lewis Gibson is my grandfather. Their sons were much younger than the Gaylord children and eventually the only children left in the household.

I'm not sure if it was Sam G's wild ways or something else, but Lillian and he divorced in the early 1920s. Sam G still spent time with his sons, taking them up to Toppenish, WA to see his brother at least once a year. When I think of that, three young boys and their father traveling in the 1920s, it blows my mind. The distance is 328 miles one way via modern highways. How did they travel? Those newfangled automobiles? Horse alone or with a wagon? Granted, not nearly as far as the Oregon Trail trek, but far enough in those days. They must have been gone a month. I know my grandfather developed lasting ties with his cousins there. It is evidenced in the letters still kept in the house where my father grew up in Paisley. Lillian married and divorced once again, which included a brief time of living with the boys and her new husband in Idaho.

Evidently, he was a cruel man and after a short period of time, Lillian divorced him and moved back to Paisley. Sam G continued to work as a stockman. He purchased property in town, which my family still owns. Herb went to work for the Forest Service. While he married and had two children in Paisley, they eventually moved to Bly, OR, where he lived out the rest of his days. After World War II, Vinton ended up in Portland, OR, where some of his half brothers lived. My grandfather, however, stayed close to home. He met and married Laura Irene McKune in 1932.

Her family story is interesting as well. In 1935, my father, Gerald LaVerne was born in his paternal grandmother's home in Paisley. Victor Roland came along in 1938. My father's family lived in one of the houses on Sam G's property in town. When the couple renting the "big" house left, the family moved into it, their smaller house having been destroyed by fire. My father has fond memories of going next door and hanging out with his grandfather.

*I have learned so much through the oral histories passed down to me from him and my grandfather. The cemetery on the hill behind the houses is where I have done the most learning of my Hadley roots. I share family information with my daughter, encouraging her love of history and giving her a place to call home. Paisley remains constant for us. One of the buttes which were part of the ranches Sam B and Albert used to own is named for us. It is a popular hang gliding spot. There is a sno-park with our name on it. Dead Horse Lake was so named by Sam B for obvious reasons. Hadleys have made a mark on Paisley and the Summer Lake Valley which remains, even though Hadleys, in and of themselves, are only sporadically present. There are many holes in my story. If any of you has information which would add a few pieces to this puzzle, please contact me, **Diana Lynn Hadley**; ddsroots@yahoo.com*

Brad Hadley:

Many of you know that **Brad Hadley** has been a major contributor and researcher on the Hadley family. Brad is not well. You may wish to send him your good wishes and hold him in your prayers.

He can be reached at: bradh@bradhadley.com or 91 York Woods Rd., S. Berwick, ME 03908

Ella Jean (Hadley) Finch:

There was a surprise 90th birthday party held on Feb 9, 2014 for **Ella Jean (Hadley) Finch**, two days before her actual birthday in St. Aledo, Illinois, attended by many of her family and friends. We all wish Ella a happy birthday and many more to come.

"In a free society the state does not administer the affairs of men. It administers justice among men who conduct their own affairs." ~ Walter Lippmann

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