

WILLIAM LOGAN WHITLOCK (1849-1887)

The following article was sent in by Bonnie Jane (Rosenberg) Evans and was written from information she and her cousin Donald H. Rosenberg put together about this part of the family.

William Logan Whitlock was from Missouri where his parents owned a plantation with slaves. Family stories relay that he was against slavery and left home to become a miner in Ouray, Colorado where Bertha Haines' father, William B. Haines, owned a store (?). They married and moved south to La Plata County and the Mancos River valley (Rio Mancas in those days) where they became wheat ranchers and store owners. Their four children were born there. Records from the courthouse in Cortez chronicle their quest to successfully prove up on the homestead. Another story relays how they had to haul their goods from Durango by wagon and team of horses. While living in Mancos, the children would go up into the hills to hide in caves when the "bad" Indians came to town, but when the "good" ones came they could stay at the store.

Logan was tragically killed only six months after receiving his homestead documents signed by Grover Cleveland. Their youngest child, Dollie, told the following story. "My father was killed by a young Negro boy that he had hired to work in the wheat harvest in Colorado. Wouldn't let him eat with the other white men. Mama fed him in the kitchen the night before the shooting. He was refused to play cards with others. Mama said he brooded all eve and wouldn't eat breakfast that morning. And at the noon hour the men were all practicing shooting a pistol. My cousin Johnnie had the gun and the Negro asked him if he could try it. Johnnie handed him the gun and he raised it and shot my father in the heart. He dropped dead and Mama and we youngsters were all there and saw it."

A Mancos news article relays that Bertha attempted to run the ranch for several years with the help of her neighbors. One story told how her neighbor gathered up Bertha and her children during an Indian uprising and took them to safety in the local livery stable.

After Logan was killed, Bertha was remarried to Lemuel Washington Parkhurst and they had three sons. Bonnie did find a La Plata County, Colorado Marriage Record for Lamont W. Parkhurst and Bertha A. Whitlock for February 4, 1889. Durango is in La Plata County. If Lemuel is Lamont, she married him before heading north to Washington. The family traveled from Bloomfield, New Mexico to San Francisco by train and to Seattle by ship in 1889. The 1900 US Census also verifies that the Parkhursts lived in Union City, Washington with Lemuel as head of household and wife Bertha with three sons: Albert C. born in December 1889 in New Mexico, Howard born May 1895 in Washington, and Leslie born August 1897 in Washington. Four stepchildren also lived with them: Jessie Hale, Dora Whitlock, William Whitlock, and "Dolla" Whitlock.

As of 2006 the original Whitlock homestead on Road 38 west of Mancos was still run as a ranch with the original irrigation ditches. There is a three-acre inholding owned by the Baker family with an old log cabin that may prove to be the cabin where the Whitlocks lived.

William Logan Whitlock is buried in the Cedar Grove Cemetery, Mancos, Colorado, Block 14, Lot 4, Space 5. His four great-grandchildren (Donald, Douglas, Ron, and Bonnie) placed his first grave marker there in April 2007.

Bertha Adelia Haines is buried in the East Cemetery in Elma, Washington.

This family is detailed on the WHITLOCK25 chart and a Main Line for Bonnie Evans is included with the June 2007 issue of the Newsletter. Logan Whitlock's father was Richard P. Whitlock who was born in North Carolina Feb.9,1800 and died in Greene Co., Missouri Oct.23,1867. Richard married Margarete Mullins Green about 1825. We think Richard's father Thomas Whitlock was first married to Catherine Steelman in Rowan Co., North Carolina Apr.2,1794. William Steelman sells Thomas Whitlock land on Dutchman Creek in Surry Co., North Carolina in 1795.

Nov.9,1795

(R78/427)

State of NC, Surry County, Deed Book G, page 66

Date of Deed - Nov.9,1795; recorded, or proved - Nov. Term 1795

From WILLIAM STEELMAN of Rowan Co., NC to THOMAS WHITLOCK of Surry Co., NC

Consideration - £100 current money; 138 acres

Description - on the north fork of Dutchman's Creek, running to a post oak in Rowan Co. line

WILLIAM STEALMAN (seal)

Thomas Whitlock then appears on the Tax rolls from 1796 to at least 1800.

It is assumed that Catherine Steelman died and on May 17, 1799 in Surry Co., North Carolina Thomas marries Mary Ponsonbay.

Our thanks to Bonnie and her cousin Donald for sharing their research.

SOURCES: X6196; R78/427; R78/392